



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

PR00-016
25 January 2000
9.30 hrs

International trade reached new record in November 1999

The value of foreign trade in goods rose to a new record in November. The new trade figures from Statistics Netherlands show that both imports and exports of goods were higher than ever before; both 13% up on November 1998, imports at 36 billion guilders, and exports as high 38 billion guilders. For the first eleven months of 1999, the balance of trade was just over 23 billion guilders.

Trade with the European Union continues to grow

The Netherlands imported 21 billion guilders worth of goods from EU countries in November 1999, 9% more than in November 1998. In October imports were 3% higher than one year previously.

Exports to EU countries were 12% higher in November at nearly 30 billion guilders. In October they too were 3% up on October 1998. Exports to the United Kingdom increased by as much as a quarter.

The balance of trade with EU countries for the first eleven months of 1999 was nearly 86 billion guilders.

Spectacular growth in non-EU trade

In November 15 billion guilders worth of goods were imported in the Netherlands from countries outside the European Union, 18% more than in November 1998. In October these imports were 8% up on the previous year. The largest increase in import value was for crude oil, but it was entirely accounted for by higher prices.

Exports to non-EU countries rose by 16% in November to just over 8 billion guilders. In October they were up 9%. Exports to the United States increased by as much as 36%.

The trade deficit with countries outside the EU for the first eleven months of 1999 was 62 billion guilders.

Statistics Netherlands
Press Office

P.O. Box 4000
2270 JM Voorburg
The Netherlands
tel. +31 70 337 58 16
fax +31 70 337 59 71
e-mail:
persdienst@cbs.nl

Statistics Netherlands
is a department of
the Ministry of
Economic Affairs

For further information, please contact
N. Philippens, tel. +31 45 570 67 17; e-mail:
aphs@cbs.nl