



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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International trade continues to grow

The growth rate of the value of Dutch foreign trade in goods was again substantial in November 2000. The newest figures from Statistics Netherlands show that the total value of imports was 23% higher and that of exports 21% higher than in November 1999. A large part of the growth can be attributed to price increases. Trade with countries outside the European Union rose more strongly than that within the EU.

Imports and exports both up

Just as in the preceding months, foreign trade continued its strong rise in November. In November 2000, 20 billion euros worth of goods were imported into the Netherlands, pushing imports 23% up on their level in November 1999. The value of exports was 21% up on November 1999, at 21 billion euros. In the first ten months of last year imports rose by an average 20%, exports by 21%.

Both imports and exports hit new record values in November according to Statistics Netherlands, breaking the previous records of October 2000 by 1 billion euros in both cases.

For the first eleven months of 2000 the balance of trade was 12 billion euros.

Trade with the European Union

The Netherlands imported 11 billion euros worth of goods from EU countries in November, 14% more than in November 1999. In the first ten months of 2000 imports from EU countries were 13% higher than in the same period in 1999.

Exports to EU countries were 18% up in November than one year earlier, at 16 billion euros. In the first ten months of 2000 these exports were 20% higher than in the same period in 1999.

The balance of trade with EU countries for the first eleven months of 2000 was 53 billion euros.

Non-EU trade

In November 2000, 9 billion euros worth of goods were imported in the Netherlands from countries outside the European Union, 34% more than in November 1999. These imports increased by just over 30% in the first ten months of 2000.

Exports to countries outside the EU were worth 5 billion euros, nearly

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30% up on one year previously. In the first ten months of 2000 exports to non-EU countries rose by 26%.

The trade deficit with countries outside the EU for the first eleven months of 2000 was 41 billion euros.

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