



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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International trade up in January

The increase in the value of international goods trade continued into January 2001. The newest figures from Statistics Netherlands show that the total value of imports was 23% higher and that of exports 26% higher than in January 2000. The balance of trade with EU countries was 1.8 billion euro higher than in January 2000, while the trade deficit with non-EU countries was 1.1 billion euro up.

Imports and exports both up

The Netherlands imported nearly 18.8 billion euro worth of goods in January, pushing imports up by 23% on their level in January 2000. The value of exports was 26% up on one year previously at 20.4 billion euro. The increases in imports and exports are largely caused by higher prices. Moreover, January 2001 had one working day more than January 2000.

Last year imports rose by an average 19%, and exports by 22% compared with 1999.

Balance of trade with EU growing

The balance of trade with EU countries for January this year is 6 billion euro, up from 4.2 billion euro twelve months previously. The Netherlands imported 10.1 billion euro worth of goods from EU countries in January, 18% more than in January 2000. The value of exports to EU countries was 26% up on one year previously, at 16.1 billion euro.

Increasing trade deficit with non-EU countries

The trade deficit with countries outside the EU for January 2001 was 4.4 billion euro, compared with 3.3 billion euro in January 2000. The Netherlands imported 8.7 billion euro of goods from outside the EU in January this year, 30% more than in January 2000. The value of exports to non-EU countries was 29% up on one year previously at 4.3 billion euro.

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