



Press release

Statistics Netherlands

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High investment expectations for 2001

Entrepreneurs in manufacturing expect a rise in their investments of about 16% compared to the year 2000. This will bring the investments in 2001 to almost 23 billion guilders (10.4 billion euro), according to the latest figures by Statistics Netherlands.

Producers are less optimistic about 2002, foreseeing substantial drops in virtually all branches of industry.

Optimism in 2001

One explanation for the optimism in 2001 lies in the disappointing investments of 2000. In earlier surveys the producers still indicated they had great expectations for their investments in 2000. However, the growth rate in 2000 did not exceed 4%. This sluggish growth is partly explained by the fact that certain investments planned for 2000 were moved up to 2001.

Especially the chemical, and the food, beverages and tobacco industries moved their investments to 2001. For both branches of industry the expected high investment growth rates did not materialise in 2000. The high growth rates for 2001 in both the chemical and the food, beverages and tobacco industries indicate that the investment goods are now probably scheduled to come into operation in 2001.

Expected slowdown in 2002

Most producers are less optimistic about 2002. They are expecting a drop in investments of about 17% on 2001. This drop is foreseen in virtually all branches of industry.

The entrepreneurs in mining and quarrying and in the production of gas water and electricity also expect lower investments for 2002. In mining and quarrying the drop was already foreseen for 2001.

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