

Introduction

The Netherlands is a constituent country located in Western Europe and with territories in the Caribbean. It is bordered by Belgium and Germany. The Netherlands is mostly low-lying, located at the mouths of three major European rivers (Rhine, Meuse, and Schelde). The government system is a parliamentary constitutional monarchy; the chief of state is the king, and the head of government is the prime minister. The Netherlands has a mixed economic system which includes a variety of private freedom, combined with centralized economic planning and government regulation. Netherlands is a member of the European Union (EU).



Location: Western Europe

Capital City: Amsterdam (+1 GMT)

Chief of State: King Willem-Alexander

Head of Govt.: Prime Minister Mark Rutte

Currency: Euro (EUR)

Major Languages: <p>Dutch (official) note: Frisian is an official language in Fryslan province; Frisian, Low Saxon, Limburgish, Romani, and Yiddish have protected status under the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages; Dutch is the official language of the three special municipalities of the Caribbean Netherlands, while English is a recognized regional language on Sint Eustatius and Saba and Papiamentu is a recognized regional language on Bonaire</p>

Primary Religions: <p>Roman Catholic 28%, Protestant 19% (includes Dutch Reformed 9%, Protestant Church of The Netherlands, 7%, Calvinist 3%), other 11% (includes about 5% Muslim and lesser numbers of Hindu, Buddhist, Jehovah's Witness, and Orthodox), none 42%</p>

Calling Code: 31

Voltage: 230

Key Websites

Main Government Page: government.nl

Investment Promotion investinholland.com
Agency:

Key Economic Facts

Income Level (by per capita GNI):	High Income
Level of Development:	Developed
GDP, PPP (current international \$):	\$978.24 billion (2018)
GDP growth (annual %):	2.67% (2018)
GDP per capita, PPP (current international \$):	\$56,772.04 (2018)
Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):	10.85% (2018)
Current account balance (BoP, current US\$):	\$98.51 billion (2018)
Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):	1.70% (2018)
Labor force, total:	9,147,479 (2018)
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):	3.88% (2018)
Imports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$660.56 billion (2018)
Exports of goods and services (current US\$):	\$757.57 billion (2018)

GDP Composition %

Agriculture Services Industry Manufacturing



**Although Manufacturing is included in the Industry figures, it is also separately reported because it plays a critical role in economy.*

Rankings

Index	Rank
Corruption Perceptions Index	8 / 178
EY Globalization Index	6 / 60
Global Competitiveness Index	6 / 139
Global Enabling Trade Index	2 / 136
Global Manufacturing Competitiveness Index (GMCI)	20 / 40
Index of Economic Freedom	12 / 179
International Logistics Performance Index (LPI)	6 / 160
Inward FDI Potential Index	13 / 139
KOF Index of Globalization	1 / 185
Networked Readiness Index (NRI)	6 / 139

Risk Assessment (Provided by Coface)

Country rating: A1 - The political and economic situation is very good. A quality business environment has a positive influence on corporate payment behavior. Corporate default probability is very low on average.

Business Climate rating: A1 - The business environment is very good. Corporate financial information is available and reliable. Debt collection is efficient. Institutional quality is very good. Intercompany transactions run smoothly in environments rated A1.

Strengths

- Port activity (Rotterdam is Europe's number-one port)
- Dense network of SMEs working with large groups
- Diversified exports and external accounts in surplus
- Attractive: high quality infrastructure and good living standards

Weaknesses

- Exposure to the European economy: exports to the United Kingdom generate 4% of the country's value added
- Household wealth concentrated in housing and pension funds, which are not very liquid
- Banks dependent on wholesale financing (loans/deposits = 136%) and the real estate sector
- Ageing population; second pillar of the pension system under pressure
- Labour market duality: prevalence of precarious work, especially among young people, and part-time work

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