

## Country Information Guide



## The Netherlands

**A guide to information sources on the Kingdom of the Netherlands, with hyperlinks to information within European Sources Online and on external websites**

### Contents

Information sources in the ESO database .....	2
General information .....	2
Agricultural information .....	2
Competition policy information .....	2
Culture and language information .....	2
Defence and security information .....	3
Economic information .....	3
Education information .....	3
Employment information .....	4
Energy information .....	4
Environmental information .....	4
European policies and relations with the European Union .....	4
Geographic information and maps .....	5
Health information .....	5
Human rights information .....	5
Intellectual property information .....	5
Investment information .....	6
Justice and home affairs information .....	6
Living and working information .....	6
Media information .....	6
Political information (including Elections) .....	7
Public management information .....	7
R&D information .....	7
Regional and local information .....	7
Social information .....	8
Statistical information .....	8
Tourism information .....	9
Transport information .....	9
Weather information .....	9

To navigate around this Information Guide click on the 'Bookmarks' icon on the left

## Information sources in the ESO database

- [The Netherlands: External / Internal / Regions](#)

## General information

- Netherlands: [Government portal](#)
  - [Government homepage](#)
  - [Ministry of Foreign Affairs \(Ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken\)](#)
- Wikipedia: [Netherlands](#)
- UK: FCO: Country profile: [The Netherlands](#)
- US: CIA: The World Factbook: [The Netherlands](#)
- US: State Department: Background Note: [The Netherlands](#)
- BBC News: Country Profile: [The Netherlands](#)
- Find websites on The Netherlands through [Google](#)
- SearchEnginesoftheWorld: European Search Engines, Directories and Lists: [Netherlands](#)

## Agricultural information

- The Netherlands: [Ministry of Economic Affairs \(Ministerie van Economie en ondernemen\)](#)
- FAO: [Country Profiles](#) [choose country]
- FAO: Country profile and Mapping information system: [The Netherlands](#)
- OECD: Agriculture and Fisheries: [Netherlands](#)
- European Commission: DG Agriculture: [Agriculture and Rural Development](#)
- European Commission: DG Agriculture: Rural Development Plans 2000-2006: [The Netherlands](#)
- European Commission: DG Agriculture and Rural Development: Rural Development Plans 2007-2013: [The Netherlands](#)
- European Commission: European Network for Rural Development: [Country Information](#) [Select Country]
- Organic Europe: Organic farming in European countries: [The Netherlands](#)

## Competition policy information

- The Netherlands: [Netherlands Authority for Consumers & Markets](#) (Mededingingsautoriteit)
- The Netherlands: [Regulator of Post and Electronic communication in the Netherlands \(OPTA\)](#)
- OECD: Competition: [Netherlands](#)

## Culture and language information

- The Netherlands: [Ministry of Education, Culture and Science \(Ministerie van Onderwijs, Cultuur en Wetenschap\)](#)
- UNESCO: [World Heritage Sites](#)
- Council of Europe/ERICarts: Cultural Policies in Europe: [Country information](#) [choose country profile]
- Holland.com: [Dutch Culture](#)
- SIL international: Ethnologue: [Languages of the world: Netherlands](#)
- The Netherlands: [Cultural Holland](#)

## Defence and security information

- The Netherlands: [Ministry of Defence \(Ministerie van Defensie\)](#)
- The Netherlands: [Support Command \(Commando Diensten Centra\)](#) [in Dutch]

## Economic information

- ESO: The Netherlands: [Economic situation](#)
- The Netherlands: [Ministry of Finances \(Ministerie van Financiën\)](#)
- The Netherlands: [Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation \(Ministerie van Economische Zaken, Landbouw en Innovatie\)](#)
- The Netherlands: [National Bank of the Netherlands \(De Nederlandsche Bank\)](#)
- The Netherlands: [Euronext Amsterdam](#) (previously Amsterdam Stock Exchange)
- UNIDO: Country information: [The Netherlands](#)
- UNCTAD/WTO: International Trade Centre: Country information: [Netherlands](#)
- WTO: [The Netherlands and the WTO](#)
- World Bank: Data by country: [The Netherlands](#)
- European Commission: DG Economic and Financial Affairs: [The Netherlands](#)
  - [Stability and Convergence Programmes](#) [2011-2015]
- European Commission: DG Taxation and Customs Union: Taxation and customs duties in [The Netherlands](#)
- International Monetary Fund: [The Netherlands](#) and the IMF
- OECD: Documentation on [The Netherlands](#) [see 'Economics', 'Enterprise, Industry and Services', 'Finance', 'Growth' etc.]
  - [Economic Survey](#) [Latest edition, 2014.]
- Deutsche Bank Research: Country information: [The Netherlands](#)
- European Commission: DG Regional Policy: Europe 2020: Measuring performance: Country Factsheets: [The Netherlands](#)
- United States: US Commercial Service: Country Commercial Guide 2012: [The Netherlands](#)

## Education information

- The Netherlands: [Ministry of Education, Culture and Science](#) (Ministerie van Onderwijs, Cultuur en Wetenschap)
  - [Education](#)
- The Netherlands: [Nuffic](#) (Organisation for international co-operation in higher education) [in Dutch]
- The Netherlands: [DUO – IB-Groep](#)
- The Netherlands: [Nederlands-Vlaamse Accreditatieorganisatie](#)
- World Bank: EdStats: [Summary Education Profile](#)
- OECD: Education: [Netherlands](#)
- Council of Europe/UNESCO/European Commission: ENIC: Country profiles: [Netherlands](#) [offers links to national education authorities and information sites]
- Council of Europe: Cultural Cooperation: Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights: [Country profile](#)
- UNESCO Institute for Statistics: [Education in the Netherlands](#)
- European Commission: Youth Partnership: [Youth Policy in the Netherlands](#)
- Eurydice: Eurypedia - The European Encyclopedia on National Education Systems: [The Netherlands](#)
- Nation Master: Education in the Netherlands: [Statistics](#)
- Wikipedia: [Education in the Netherlands](#)

## Employment information

- The Netherlands: [Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment \(Ministerie van Sociale Zaken en Werkgelegenheid\)](#)
- OECD: Employment: [Netherlands](#)
- European Commission: Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion: [Statistics and analysis](#) [choose country]
- European Commission: [European employment Strategy](#) [choose country]
- [European Industrial Relations Observatory online](#)
- Federation of European Employers: [Industrial Relations across Europe](#)

## Energy information

- The Netherlands: [Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation](#)
- International Energy Agency: [Country information](#)
- European Commission: DG Energy & Transport: [National Renewable Energy Action Plan](#) [browse by country]
- European Commission: DG Energy & Transport:
  - [Statistical Pocketbook](#) [2010 edition]
  - [Country Report 2014](#)
- United States: Energy Information Administration:
  - [Country information](#) [Find statistics, forecasts, analyses and reports]

## Environmental information

- The Netherlands: [Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment \(Ministerie van Infrastructuur en Milieu\)](#)
- The Netherlands: [National Institute for Public Health and the Environment](#) (Rijksinstituut voor Volksgezondheid en Milieu)
- FAO: [Specialised Country Profiles and Information Systems](#) [choose a thematic database]
  - FAO: Forestry Department: [Country](#) [Follow 'select a country' on the left-hand bar]
  - FAO: Water and Food Security Country Profiles: [The Netherlands](#)
- European Environment Agency:
  - European Environment Information and Observation Network (EIONET): [Country](#)
  - State of the Environment Reporting Information System (SERIS): [Country information](#)

## European policies and relations with the European Union

- Netherlands: Government: Issues: [European Union](#)
- Netherlands: [National Bank of the Netherlands \(De Nederlandsche Bank\)](#)
  - [The euro](#)
  - [SEPA: Single Euro Payments Area](#)
  - [European co-operation](#)
  - [European System of Central Banks](#)
  - [News](#)
  - [Publications](#)
  - [Acts and regulations](#)
  - [Research](#)

- European Commission: DG Economic and Financial Affairs: [The Netherlands](#)
  - [Stability and Convergence Programmes](#)
  - [The Netherlands and the euro](#)
- European Commission: DG Regional Policy: [The Netherlands](#)
- European Commission: [Representation in The Netherlands](#) [in Dutch]
  - European information networks: [Netherlands](#) [select from list]
- European Commission: Enterprise Europe Network: [The Netherlands](#)
- European Investment Bank: Finance contracts signed, 2011-: [The Netherlands](#)
- European Parliament: Information Office: [The Netherlands](#)
- Council of Europe: Member States: [The Netherlands](#) [select from list]

## Geographic information and maps

- FAO: Country profiles and mapping information system: [Country maps](#)
- European Union: DG Press and Communication: [Europe maps](#) [click on country]
- University of Texas: Perry Castañeda Library Map Collection: [Netherlands maps](#)
- MapsOfWorld.com: [Netherlands maps](#)

## Health information

- The Netherlands: [Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport](#) (Ministerie van Volksgezondheid, Welzijn en Sport)
- World Health Organisation: [Country Information](#)
- European Commission: DG Employment and Social Affairs: [Social Protection in the EU](#) [find country-related information on social security systems]
- European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drugs Addiction (EMCDDA)
  - Legal Database on Drugs: [Country profiles](#) [select country]
  - [Country overview](#) [select country]
  - [National Drug Strategies](#)
  - [National Reports](#)
  - [European Legal Database on drugs](#)

## Human rights information

- United Nations: Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights: [The Netherlands](#) [Documents, ratifications and reservations]
- Council of Europe: ECRI: [Country report](#)
- Council of Europe: European Committee for the Prevention of Torture: [State documents and visits](#)
- Council of Europe: Venice Commission: [The Netherlands](#)
- United States: State Department:
  - [Human Rights Report](#) [2013]
  - [Previous versions](#)
  - [Religious Freedom Report](#)
  - [Previous versions](#)
- Amnesty International: [Country Report](#) [2014/15]
- Human rights Watch: [The Netherlands](#)
- The International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights: [The Netherlands Helsinki Committee](#)

## Intellectual property information

- The Netherlands: [The Netherlands Patent Office](#) (NL Octrooi Centrum)

- World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO): Member States: [The Netherlands](#)
  - Collection of Laws for Electronic Access (CLEA): [The Netherlands](#) [Find full texts of national legislation]

## Investment information

- The Netherlands: [Netherlands Foreign Investment Agency](#)
- The Netherlands: [Foreign Trade Agency](#)
- United Kingdom: Foreign and Commonwealth Office: [Country profile](#) [see also 'detailed country information']

## Justice and home affairs information

- The Netherlands: [Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations \(Ministerie van Binnenlandse Zaken en Koninkrijksrelaties\)](#)
- The Netherlands: [Ministry of Security and Justice \(Ministerie van Veiligheid en Justitie\)](#)
- The Netherlands: de Rechtspraak: [The judiciary system in the Netherlands](#)
- The Netherlands: [National Coordinator for Counter terrorism \(Nationaal Coördinator Terrorismebestrijding\)](#)
- The Netherlands: [National Prosecutors Office \(Openbaar ministerie\)](#)
- The Netherlands: [Research and Documentation Office, Ministry of Security and Justice](#)
- European Commission: DG Justice and Home Affairs: European Judicial Network in civil and commercial matters: [Country information](#)
- [European Court of Justice](#)
- United States: Law Library of Congress: Law online: [The Netherlands](#)

## Living and working information

- The Netherlands: [overheid.nl](#) [links to governmental and other authorities]
- The Netherlands: [Taxation \(Ministry of Finance\)](#)
- European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions: [Homepage](#)
- European Commission: DG Employment, Social Affairs & Inclusion: EURES: Living & Working: [The Netherlands](#)
- European Commission: DG Press and Communication: [Your Europe](#) [Find factsheets with specific information on individual Member States]
- European Working Conditions Observatory (EWCO): [6<sup>th</sup> European Working Condition Survey](#) [2015]
- Foreign & Commonwealth Office: Travel and Living Abroad: [The Netherlands](#)
- United States: State Department: Post Reports: [The Netherlands](#)

## Media information

- The Netherlands: [Dutch Media Authority \(Commissariaat voor de Media\)](#)
  - [National reports](#)
  - [Report Regulation of the Dutch commercial television market](#)
  - [Media monitor](#) [in Dutch]
- [Netherlands Public Broadcasting system \(Publieke Omroep\)](#) [in Dutch]
- EBU: [Broadcasting organisations](#)
- EJC: Media Landscape: [The Netherlands](#)
- ENPA: Country members: [The Netherlands](#)

- Agora Political resources on the Net: [Media in the Netherlands](#)
- Guardian Newspaper Ltd.: Guardian Unlimited: World News Guide: [Netherlands](#)
- Dutch press institutions in English:
  - [Expatica.com](#)
  - [NRC Handelsblad](#) [archive]
  - [NIS News Bulletin](#)
  - [DutchNews.nl](#)
  - [Radio Netherlands World Wide](#)

## Political information (including Elections)

- ESO: The Netherlands: [Political situation](#)
- The Netherlands: [Government portal](#)
  - [Government system](#)
  - [Links to Dutch government websites](#)
- UN:HCR: [Constitution of the Netherlands](#)
- The Netherlands: [The Senate \(Eerste Kamer der Staten-Generaal\)](#)
- The Netherlands: [The Dutch House of Representatives \(Tweede Kamer der Staten-Generaal\)](#)
- The Netherlands: [The Dutch Royal House \(Het Koninklijk Huis\)](#)
- The Netherlands: [National Elections Commission \(Kiesraad\)](#)
- IFES: Election Guide: [The Netherlands](#) [search country]
- ESO: Netherlands: Political situation: [Elections](#)
- Wikipedia: Elections in [The Netherlands](#)
- Parties and Elections in Europe: [The Netherlands](#)
- United States: Law Library of Congress: Law online: [The Netherlands](#)
- Political resources on the web: [The Netherlands](#)

## Public management information

- The Netherlands: [overheid.nl](#) [links to governmental and other authorities]
- OECD: Public Governance: [Netherlands](#)
- Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Tokyo, Japan: [Investing in the Netherlands](#)

## R&D information

- The Netherlands: [Ministry of Education, Culture and Science](#) (Ministerie van Onderwijs, Cultuur en Wetenschappen)
  - [Science](#)
- The Netherlands: [Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research \(Nederlandse Organisatie voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek\)](#)
- The Netherlands: [Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research](#) (Nederlandse Organisatie voor Toegepast Natuurwetenschappelijk Onderzoek)
- European Commission: DG Enterprise: [CORDIS](#)
  - R&D Gateway: [Map-based search](#)
  - [The Netherlands](#)

## Regional and local information

- The Netherlands:citypopulation.de: [The provinces \(Provincies\) and Municipalities \(Gemeenten\)](#)

- The Netherlands: Foreign Investment Agency: [Provinces and major cities in the Netherlands](#)
- Council of Europe: Congress of Local and Regional Authorities: National delegations: [The Netherlands](#)
- Eurostat:
  - Portrait of the Regions: [The Netherlands](#) [search region]
  - [Country Profile](#) [search for country]
- Regions of the Netherlands:
  - [Drenthe](#) [in Dutch]
    - [Drenthe tourism](#)
  - [Flevoland](#)
    - [Flevoland, a European Province](#)
  - [Fryslân](#) (Friesland)
  - [Gelderland](#) [in Dutch]
  - [Groningen](#) [in Dutch]
  - [Limburg](#) [in Dutch]
    - [Europa](#) [in Dutch]
  - [Noord Brabant](#)
    - [Noord-Brabant and the EU](#)
  - [Noord Holland](#) [in Dutch]
    - [Europa](#) [in Dutch]
  - [Overijssel](#) [in Dutch]
    - [Europaloket](#) [in Dutch]
  - [Utrecht](#)
    - [Europa](#) [in Dutch]
  - [Zeeland](#) [in Dutch]
  - [Zuid Holland](#) [in Dutch]
- Committee of the Regions:
  - [Europe in my Region](#) [choose region]

## Social information

- The Netherlands: [Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment \(Ministerie van Sociale Zaken en Werkgelegenheid\)](#)
- World Bank: [Gender Statistics](#) [search by country or by topic]
- OECD: [Documentation on the Netherlands](#)
  - [Social Issues](#)
- European Commission, Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion:
  - [Pension system](#) [browse by country]
  - [Healthcare system](#) [browse by country]
  - Social Protection Systems in EU Member States and the European Economic Area: [MISSOC-Info Bulletin](#)
- United States: SSA: Social Security Programs Throughout the World: [The Netherlands](#) [2010]

## Statistical information

- The Netherlands: [National Bank of the Netherlands \(De Nederlandsche Bank\)](#)
  - [Statistics](#)
- The Netherlands: [National Statistical Institute \(Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek\)](#)
  - [Themes](#)
  - [Figures](#)
  - [Publications](#)
- Eurostat: Country profiles: [Netherlands](#) [select from list]
- World Bank: Key data and statistics: [The Netherlands](#)



- OECD: Statistics on [The Netherlands](#)
- UNESCO: Institute for Statistics: [The Netherlands](#) [Select Country]

### Tourism information

- The Netherlands: Netherlands Board of Tourism/Foreign Trade Agency: [holland.com](http://holland.com)
- Guardian Newspaper Ltd.: Guardian Unlimited Travel: [The Netherlands](#)
- Tripadvisor.co.uk: [The Netherlands](#)
- Iamsterdam.com: [The city of Amsterdam](#)

### Transport information

- The Netherlands: [Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment \(Ministerie van Infrastructuur en Milieu\)](#)
- European Commission: DG Mobility and Transport: Road Safety Management Profile: [The Netherlands](#)
- European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions: [The Netherlands](#)

### Weather information

- The Netherlands: [Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute](#)
- World Meteorological Organization: [The Netherlands](#)
- BBC Weather Centre: Climate Guide and five day weather forecast: [The Netherlands](#)

### Josephine Hebestreit ESO Editorial Assistant

Original compilation: 2001 (Thomas Pritzkow)

Revised: 2005 (Aleksandra Kulas), 2010 (Christopher Langen), 2011 (George Gurescu), 2012 (Lucas Goetz)

Latest revision: March 2015



European Documentation Centre  
Canolfan Ddogfennau Ewropeaidd

