Paper

SDGs in the Netherlands

Status Report 2020

Edwin Horlings
Lieneke Hoeksma
Karin van der Ven
Albert Pieters

July 2020

Contents

Summary

In 2015, the 193 United Nations member states unanimously signed the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The SDGs provide a common agenda for sustainable development. The core of the 2030 Agenda comprises 17 goals, further divided into 169 targets. Progress towards these 169 targets is monitored using 244 precisely defined indicators. In the Netherlands, Statistics Netherlands is responsible for monitoring progress. This report provides a statistical update of progress towards the 17 Sustainable Development Goals in the Netherlands. It focuses exclusively on the so-called 'target' indicators.

This report borrows two aspects from the Monitor of Well-being & the Sustainable Development Goals. The first concerns statistical methods to determine the direction of change over time and the performance of the Netherlands relative to other EU countries. The second aspect concerns the dashboard used to visualise the results.

This SDG update concerns the set of indicators first assembled in 2016 (CBS, 2016) and extended in 2018 (CBS, 2018). Some indicators have been discarded because of quality issues. No new indicators have been added to the set. For each indicator, two metrics have been calculated: the direction of change over an eight year period (2012-2019) and the performance of the Netherlands relative to other EU.

The primary perspective is whether the Netherlands is moving closer to the targets of each SDG. For 23 indicators there is insufficient information to conclusively determine the direction of change over time. Of the remaining 148 indicators, 53 show that the Netherlands is moving towards the targets, 17 show that the Netherlands is moving away from the targets, and the remaining 78 show no significant change.

The 17 SDGs have been classified into five groups depending on the direction of change (indicators moving towards or away from the targets).

− *Clearly moving towards the targets*: SDG 6 Clean water and sanitation, SDG 7 Affordable and clean energy, SDG 12 Responsible consumption and production, SDG 13 Climate action, SDG 17 Partnerships for the goals
− *Mostly moving towards the targets*: SDG 2 Zero hunger, SDG 3 Good health and well-being, SDG 5 Gender equality, SDG 8 Decent work and economic growth, SDG 9 Industry, innovation, and infrastructure, SDG 16 Peace, justice and strong institutions
− *Neither moving towards nor away from the targets*: SDG 11 Sustainable cities and communities, SDG 14 Life below water, SDG 15 Life on land
− *Mostly moving away from the targets*: None of the SDGs fall into this particular category
− *Clearly moving away from the targets*: SDG 1 No poverty, SDG 4 Quality education, SDG 10 Reduced inequalities

1. Introduction

In 2015, the 193 United Nations member states unanimously signed the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The 2030 Agenda aims to eradicate poverty and other deprivations as "an indispensable requirement for sustainable development." The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are at the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The SDGs integrate the economic, social, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. The 2030 Agenda recognises that "ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests."[1]

The COVID-19 pandemic has proven to be a shock to the system. It is already evident that the pandemic will have considerable side effects. These side effects include an economic downturn; a rise in unemployment and poverty; inequalities in health and socio-economic status; political impacts, for example on privacy and civil rights; effects on educational outcomes due to the long closure of schools and universities; and psychological impacts.

The long-term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic are as yet uncertain. The year 2030 is, however, only ten years away. Consequently, the importance of monitoring progress towards the SDGs is greater than ever.

The SDGs provide a common agenda for sustainable development. The core of the 2030 Agenda comprises 17 goals, further divided into 169 targets. Progress towards these 169 targets is monitored using 244 precisely defined indicators. These indicators consist of 194 'target' indicators and 50 'means of implementation' indicators. 'Target' indicators monitor a nation's current performance with respect to a target of the 2030 Agenda. 'Means of implementation' indicators monitor the extent to which resources that can be mobilised to achieve goals are actually mobilised.

Each UN member state is responsible for implementing the 2030 Agenda and for monitoring progress towards the associated goals. The UN defined key roles for national statistical offices in measuring the implementation. In the Netherlands, Statistics Netherlands is responsible for monitoring progress. The first report on SDG indicators set a baseline for monitoring progress towards the SDGs in the Netherlands (CBS, 2016). In 2018, Statistics Netherlands published a second monitoring report (CBS, 2018).

In 2019, the SDG indicators were integrated into the Monitor of Well-being & the Sustainable Development Goals (CBS, 2019). The Monitor of Well-being & the Sustainable Development Goals is an annual statistical publication that serves as input for the annual accountability debate between parliament and government on central government's revenues and expenditures and on the effectiveness of the government's policies. The Monitor is set up according to the *CES Recommendations for Measuring Sustainable Development* (UNECE/Eurostat/OECD, 2014).

---

[1] https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs

In this status report, each SDG is monitored separately. The CES framework may provide insight into synergies and trade-offs among the 17 SDGs. The framework provides statistical offices with a 'common language' for the measurement and international comparison of well-being and sustainability. In the Monitor of Well-being & the Sustainable Development Goals, well-being is defined as the quality of life here and now as well as the extent to which this quality is achieved at the expense of future generations or of people in other countries. Hence, the Monitor distinguishes the three dimensions of well-being 'here and now', 'later', and 'elsewhere'.

In addition, the Monitor of Well-being & the Sustainable Development Goals presents statistical indicators for the SDGs. The SDG indicators are presented in a broader statistical context. For each SDG, the Monitor provides additional indicators on four aspects:
   – available *resources and opportunities* (including, for example, public expenditure, capacity of systems, and affordability);
   – the *use* of resources and opportunities (including indicators of behavioural choices);
   – relevant *outcomes* directly related to the use of existing possibilities; and
   – *subjective assessment* (such as satisfaction), in addition to the three 'objective' aspects.

This report provides a statistical update of progress towards the 17 Sustainable Development Goals in the Netherlands. It focuses exclusively on the so-called 'target' indicators. Unlike previous Dutch SDG reports, this report borrows two aspects from the Monitor of Well-being & the Sustainable Development Goals. The first concerns statistical methods to determine the direction of change over time and the performance of the Netherlands relative to other EU countries. The second aspect concerns the dashboard used to visualise the results.

Chapter 2 gives a brief introduction of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals. Chapter 3 provides a summary view of progress towards the SDGs in the Netherlands. This summary view includes a short assessment of the quality of the current set of SDG indicators as used by Statistics Netherlands. Chapter 4 presents the statistical results for each individual SDG.

2. The UN Sustainable Development Goals

In September 2015, the leaders of the 193 member nations of the United Nations signed a historic agreement on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (UN, 2015). This was the first time in the history of the UN that such a comprehensive and coherent agreement was reached to tackle the world's grand challenges. The objective is to achieve the targets of the 17 SDGs by 2030.

The Sustainable Development Goals are the successors to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). In 2000, the UN member states agreed upon a set of goals that would reduce by half the biggest problems of the least developed nations. These MDGs focused on extreme poverty and hunger, universal primary education, gender inequality and the empowerment of women, reducing child mortality, improving maternal health, environmental sustainability, and global partnership for development.

In three ways, the SDGs are broader than the MDGs were. The MDGs focused on the least developed countries, whereas the SDGs apply to all countries, developed and developing. The SDGs address a wider range of challenges related to sustainability, human development, human rights, equality and equity. Consequently, the SDGs involve a larger number of targets (169 compared to the 21 MDG targets) which require a larger number of indicators (244 compared to the 63 MDG indicators).

Although the 2030 Agenda is not legally binding, tThe SDGs represent an obligation to the global community. The nations that signed the agreement have committed to translating global goals – the 17 Sustainable Development Goals – into national goals and policies, thus contributing to justice, peace and security, and well-being in the world.

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals
Source: https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/

SDG 1 – No poverty: End poverty in all its forms everywhere.
SDG 2 – Zero hunger: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture.
SDG 3 – Good health and well-being: Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.
SDG 4 – Quality education: Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.
SDG 5 – Gender equality: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.
SDG 6 – Clean water and sanitation: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.
SDG 7 – Affordable and clean energy: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.
SDG 8 – Decent work and economic growth: Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.
SDG 9 – Industry, innovation and infrastructure: Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation.
SDG 10 – Reduced inequalities: Reduce inequality within and among countries.
SDG 11 – Sustainable cities and communities: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.
SDG 12 – Responsible consumption and production: Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.
SDG 13 – Climate action: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts by regulating emissions and promoting developments in renewable energy.
SDG 14 – Life below water: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.
SDG 15 – Life on land: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss.
SDG 16 – Peace, justice and strong institutions: Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.
SDG 17 – Partnerships for the goals: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

3. Progress towards the SDGs in the Netherlands

This chapter provides a summary overview of the statistical results for the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. The primary perspective is whether the Netherlands is moving closer to the targets of each SDG. The secondary perfspective is where the Netherlands stands relative to other EU-countries.

The dashboards in this chapter present the most recent statistic, the medium-term trend, and the position of the Netherlands in the EU ranking. This report does not discuss in detail the development of each individual SDG indicator.

3.1 An overview of targets and indicators

In this report, Statistics Netherlands provides an update of the SDG indicators. To understand what the latest figures mean, we need to start with a general overview of targets and indicators in the 17 SDGs.

First, the indicators only relate to SDG targets that have not already been achieved, are considered relevant to the Netherlands, and for which statistics are available. There are 195 specific three-digit targets in the 17 SDGs. An example of a three-digit target is "renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption" (7.2.1). Out of these 195 targets, 42 targets (22 percent) have been achieved or are not considered relevant to the Netherlands. For 33 targets (17 percent) no indicator is available or can be produced.
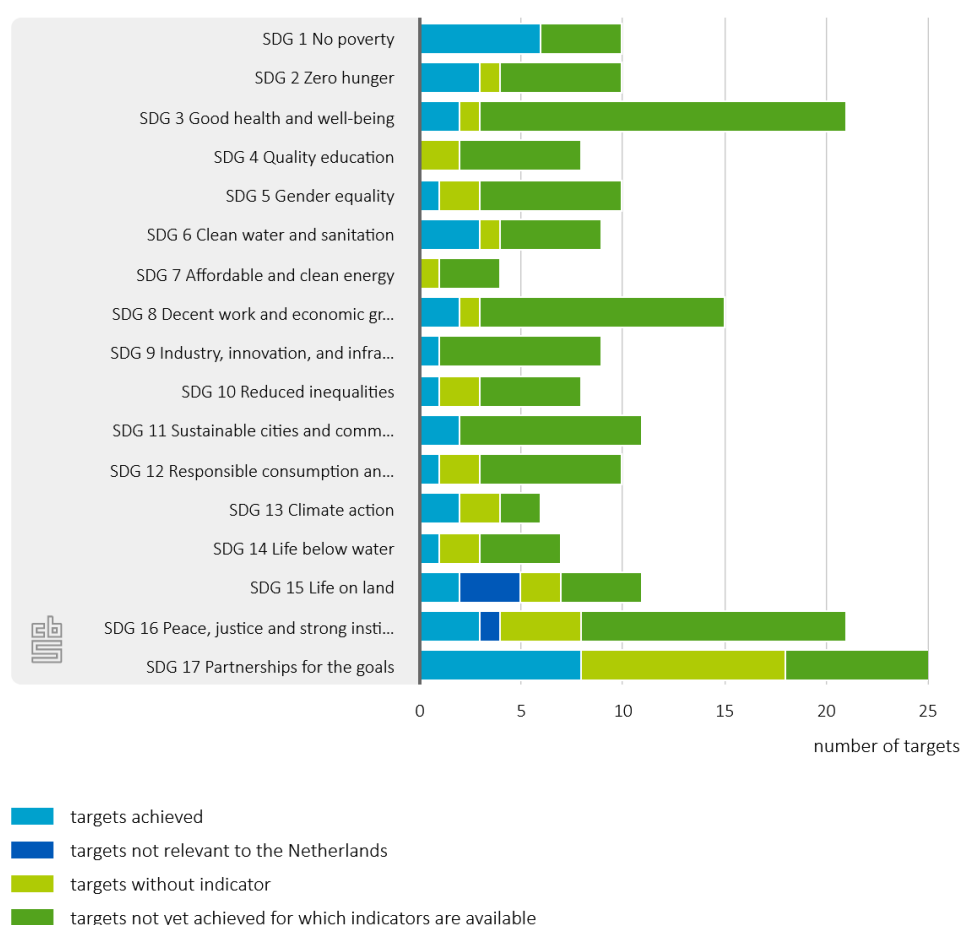
Figure 3.1 shows for each SDG the number of targets that have been achieved and the number of targets that have not yet been achieved and for which indicators are or are not available. This report presents statistics and analysis on the 120 targets that have not yet been achieved and for which indicators are available. These targets are monitored using 171 indicators; some indicators are used for more than one target and some targets are monitored using more than one indicator.

Figure 3.1 shows that:
- None of the targets in SDG 4 and SDG 7 have been achieved.
- SDG 1, SDG 15, SDG 16, and SDG 17 contain the largest number of targets that have been achieved or are not relevant for the Netherlands.
- In SDG 2, SDG 6, and SDG 13 roughly one in three targets has been achieved.
- The number of targets that have not yet been achieved and for which indicators are not available is highest in SDG 16 (4) and SDG 17 (10).

Figure 3.1 Number of SDG-targets by type, for each SDG

Legend:
- targets achieved
- targets not relevant to the Netherlands
- targets without indicator
- targets not yet achieved for which indicators are available

This SDG update concerns the set of indicators first assembled in 2016 (CBS, 2016) and extended in 2018 (CBS, 2018). Some indicators have been discarded because of quality issues. No new indicators have been added to the set. The only exception is that the Living Planet Index has been replaced by its component indexes: Fauna in freshwater and marshes and Fauna on land.

For each indicator, two metrics have been calculated. The direction of change over time is calculated by applying a linear regression model to all available data points in an eight year period (2012-2019). The performance of the Netherlands relative to other EU countries is calculated using the frequency distribution of the indicator values of EU Member States (including the United Kingdom) in the most recent year with data for at least ten countries. Methodological details are described in the technical annex.

The primary perspective is whether the Netherlands is moving closer to the targets of each SDG. For 23 indicators there is insufficient information to conclusively determine the direction of change over time.[2] Of the remaining 148 indicators, 53 show that the Netherlands is moving towards the targets, 17 show that the Netherlands is moving away

[2] For 17 indicators there is only a single observation. For 6 indicators there are only two observations. For the remaining 148 indicators three or more observations are available.

from the targets, and the remaining 78 show no significant change. Figure 3.2 presents a summary view of the direction of change, in the 171 SDG-indicators, for each SDG.

Figure 3.2 Number of indicators for each SDG that show movement towards targets, movement away from targets, or no significant change
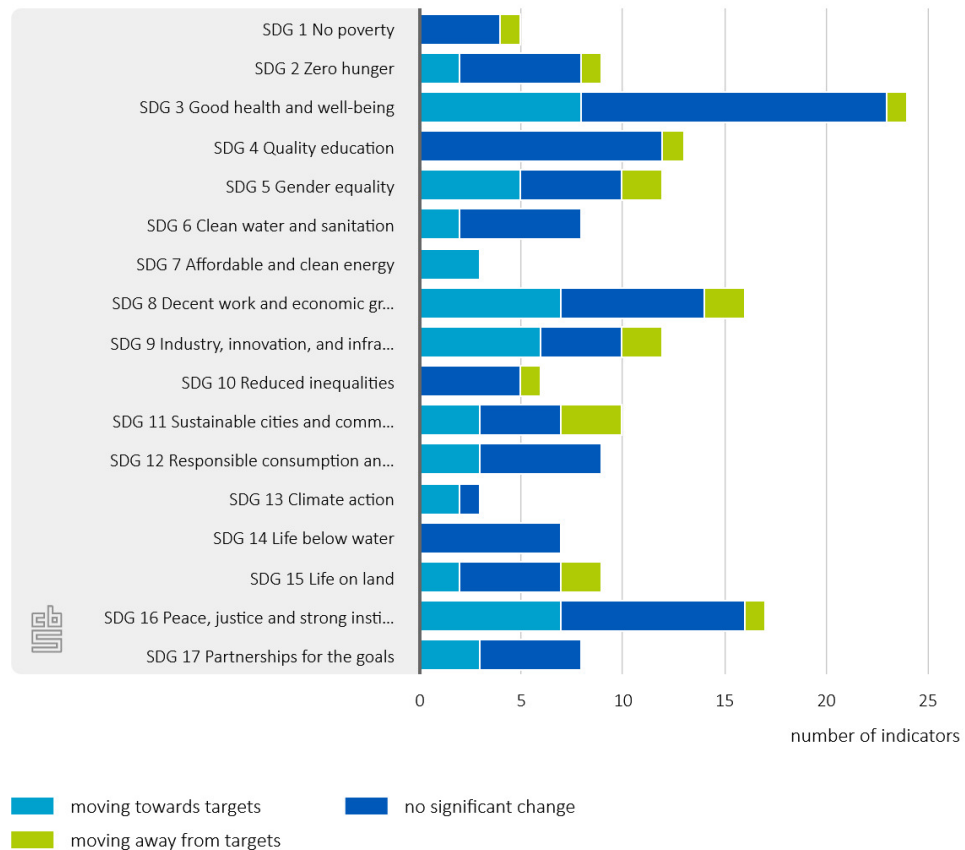
The secondary perspective is where the Netherlands stands relative to other EU countries. For 132 out of 171 indicators (77 percent) there is sufficient information on other EU countries to calculate the relative position of the Netherlands. For 58 of these (44 percent) the Netherlands is located in the top of the EU ranking. For26 (20 percent) the Dutch position is low in the ranking. For the remaining 48 indicators (36 percent), the Netherlands is located in the middle of the ranking. For 39 indicators there is only information on the Netherlands. The information on other EU countries is weakest in SDG 6 (3 out of 8), SDG 14 (2 out of 7), and SDG 16 (9 out of 17).

The 17 SDGs have been classified into five groups depending on the direction of change (indicators moving towards or away from the targets).

1. *Clearly moving towards the targets*: no indicators are moving away from the targets, and a substantial number of indicators are moving towards the targets.
2. *Mostly moving towards the targets*: some indicators are moving away from the targets, but more are moving towards the targets.
3. *Neither moving towards nor away from the targets*: an equal number of indicators are moving towards and away from the targets.

4. *Mostly moving away from the targets*: some indicators are moving towards the targets, but more are moving away from the targets.
5. *Clearly moving away from the targets*: no indicators are moving towards the targets, and one or more indicators are moving away from the targets.

1. Clearly moving towards the targets
− SDG 6   Clean water and sanitation
− SDG 7   Affordable and clean energy
− SDG 12   Responsible consumption and production
− SDG 13   Climate action
− SDG 17   Partnerships for the goals
2. Mostly moving towards the targets
− SDG 2   Zero hunger
− SDG 3   Good health and well-being
− SDG 5   Gender equality
− SDG 8   Decent work and economic growth
− SDG 9   Industry, innovation, and infrastructure
− SDG 16   Peace, justice and strong institutions
3. Neither moving towards nor away from the targets
− SDG 11   Sustainable cities and communities
− SDG 14   Life below water
− SDG 15   Life on land
4. Mostly moving away from the targets
− None of the SDGs fall into this particular category
5. Clearly moving away from the targets
− SDG 1   No poverty
− SDG 4   Quality education
− SDG 10   Reduced inequalities

3.2   Developments in each SDG

This section provides a brief summary of progress towards the SDGs in the Netherlands.

3.2.1   Clearly moving towards the targets
SDGs that are clearly moving towards the targets are those in which no indicators are moving away from the targets, and a substantial number of indicators are moving towards the targets.

SDG 6   Clean water and sanitation

The targets with respect to safely managed drinking water and sanitation services (6.1.1 and 6.1.2) and the proportion of transboundary basin area with an operational arrangement for water cooperation (6.5.2) have been achieved.

Water-use efficiency (6.4.1 and 6.4.2) is increasing. Water productivity and the level of water stress are both moving towards the targets.

The Netherlands is second in the EU ranking for the degree of integrated water resources management implementation (6.5.1), scoring 93 on a scale from 0 (not implemented) to 100 (fully implemented).

The signs appear to be positive. Three targets have been achieved and the results for water-use efficiency and integrated water resources management are positive. However, the statistical evidence on targets 6.3.1, 6.3.2, and 6.6.1 is not sufficient to draw hard conclusions on movement towards the targets and on performance relative to other EU countries. For five of the eight indicators in the dashboards only one observation is available, making it impossible to measure change over time. For the degree of integrated water resources management implementation, EU-level data are also only available for a single year.

SDG 7 Affordable and clean energy

No targets have yet been achieved.

All three indicators are moving towards the targets. Per capita gross inland energy consumption (7.1.1) and the energy intensity of the economy (7.3.1) are trending down, while the percentage share of renewable energy in total final energy consumption (7.2.1) is trending up.

However, these trends can be observed in most EU countries. In the Netherlands, energy consumption is still relatively high (23rd out of 28) and the share of renewable energy is the lowest of all EU28 countries.

SDG 12 Responsible consumption and production

One target has been achieved, namely that with respect to compliance with international multilateral environmental agreements on hazardous waste and other chemicals (12.4.1)

The indicators are either moving towards the targets or show no significant change. The amount of agricultural area used for organic farming is increasing (12.1.1), food waste is trending down (12.3.1), and an increasing proportion of municipal waste is recycled (12.5.1).

The Netherlands is located in the top of the EU ranking. There are two exceptions, one of which is notable: organic farming may be increasing, but the Netherlands is located in the bottom of the EU ranking.

SDG 13 Climate action

Targets related to the adoption and implementation of national and local disaster risk reduction strategies (13.1.2 and 13.1.3) have been achieved.

Greenhouse gas emissions (IPCC) per capita and greenhouse gas intensity of the economy are trending down towards the targets (13.2.1). While the trends are towards the targets of the SDG, the Netherlands does not perform well relative to other countries. Remarkably, in per capita greenhouse gas emissions the Netherlands ranks 24th out of 28.

About one third of the targets have been achieved or are considered not relevant to the Netherlands, including the proportion of domestic budget funded by domestic taxes (17.1.2), investment promotion regimes for least developed countries (17.5.1), promoting a universal, rules-based, open, non-discriminatory and equitable multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization (17.10.1), and targets 17.12.1 to 17.19.2 on free-market access for LDCs, global macroeconomic stability, sustainable development, and so on.

Of the eight indicators, three are moving towards the targets and five show no significant change. Remittances (17.3.2), the percentage of households with a fixed broadband Internet connection (17.6.2), and the proportion of individuals using the Internet (17.8.1) are all trending up. In 2019, virtually all households (98 percent) had a fixed broadband Internet connection and most individuals (93.5 percent) were using the internet. Where the internet is concerned the Netherlands belongs to the top of the EU.

The Netherlands is located in the top of the EU ranking for most indicators. The two exceptions are total general government revenues (17.1.1) and other development assistance from public and NGO sources (17.3.1), where the Netherlands is positioned in the middle of the ranking.

3.2.2   Mostly moving towards the targets

SDGs that are mostly moving towards the targets are those in which some indicators are moving away from the targets, but more are moving towards the targets.

SDG 2   Zero hunger

Undernourishment (2.1.1) and stunting (2.2.1) no longer occur in the Netherlands. The income of small-scale food producers (2.3.2) has increased sufficiently.

There is some progress towards the targets. Organic farming accounts for a growing proportion of agricultural area (2.4.1) and the number of plant genetic resources secured in the collection of the Netherlands Centre for Genetic Resources (CGN) is increasing (2.5.1). On the other hand, an increasing percentage of the population is overweight.

However, the Netherlands is generally located at the bottom of the EU ranking with the exception of agricultural production, where it ranks second.

SDG 3   Good health and well-being

Two targets have been achieved: births attended by skilled health personnel (3.1.2) and coverage of essential health services (3.8.1).

One indicator is moving away from the target (an increase in the mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisonings). On the other hand, eight indicators are moving towards the targets. New cases of tuberculosis and hepatitis B are trending down as are unhealthy behaviours (per capita alcohol consumption, the share of heavy drinkers among drinkers, and smoking). Teenage pregnancies are declining. And the percentage of people without health insurance and health insurance defaulters is also trending down.

Performance relative to other EU countries is mixed. For some indicators, such as alcohol consumption, smoking, traffic deaths, teenage pregnancies, and maternal mortality, the Netherlands has among the most favourable rates in the EU. For a few other indicators, most notably healthy life expectancy of women, the Netherlands belongs to the bottom of the EU ranking.

SDG 5   Gender equality

One target has been achieved: laws and regulations are in place that guarantee women access to sexual and reproductive health care, information and education (5.6.2).

Five indicators show progress towards the targets. The gender pay gap (5.1.1) is declining, as is physical and/or sexual abuse by an (ex-)partner (5.2.1). The percentage of men and women (aged 25 to 64) who have a higher education degree (5.6.2) is increasing. Also, these percentages are more or less similar for men (39.3 percent) and women (40.1 percent). In terms of this SDG, women and men should share work and domestic responsibilities equally (5.4.1). Developments in part-time work by men and women are contradictory. Part-time work by men is trending up, whereas part-time work by women is trending down. Taken together, these two developments could be seen as resulting in more equality between women and men.The share of women in parliament is also declining (5.5.1) while the share of women in management shows no significant change (5.5.2).

On average the Netherlands is positioned in the middle of the EU ranking. The Netherlands is in first place in part-time work by men and women and fifth for men with a higher education degree. On the other hand, the Netherlands is at the bottom of the ranking in sexual violence against women by a non-partner (5.2.2), women in management, and healthy life expectancy of women (5.6.2).

SDG 8   Decent work and economic growth

The targets with respect to the eradication of forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking, and child labour (8.7.1) and to national compliance of labour rights (8.8.2) have been achieved.

Seven indicators are moving towards the targets. The two that are moving further away from the targets, the number of automated teller machines and commercial bank branches per 100,000 adults (8.10.1), do not measure a negative development per se. Here, technological developments have made these particular targets obsolete. ATMs and commercial bank branches have been replaced by online banking, mobile phone apps, and other digital applications. The Netherlands appears to be one of the leading countries in these developments, considering that it is located at the bottom of the EU ranking in both indicators. In most of the other indicators the Netherlands is positioned in the top of the EU ranking.

SDG 9   Industry, innovation, and infrastructure

One target has been achieved, namely that with respect to the proportion of the rural population who live within 2 kilometres of an all-season road (9.1.1). This is probably due to high population density, a high degree of urbanisation, and good infrastructure.

Six out of twelve indicators are moving towards the targets. These are value added in manufacturing (9.2.1), value added of and employment in the environmental goods and services sector (9.2.1 and 9.2.2), SME access to finance (9.3.2), greenhouse gas intensity of the economy (9.4.1), and hours worked in R&D (9.5.2).

Employment in manufacturing (as a percentage of total employment in hours worked) is trending down (9.2.2), while value added in manufacturing (as a percentage of GDP) is trending up. Developments in manufacturing reflect changing patterns of specialisation as well as productivity growth within manufacturing. The volume of passenger transport (relative to GDP) is also trending down (9.1.2).

The Netherlands is located in the bottom of the EU ranking for value added and employment in manufacturing. In all other indicators, except for patents (9.5.2), the Netherlands is located in the middle of the ranking.

SDG 16   Peace, justice and strong institutions

Three targets have been achieved, namely legal identity for all, including birth registration (16.9.1), and public access to information and protection of fundamental freedoms (16.10.1 and 16.10.2).[3]

For seven indicators, the results show that the Netherlands is moving closer to the targets, three for reducing all forms of violence and related death rates (16.1.3 and 16.1.4) and three for promoting the rule of law and ensuring equal access to justice for all (16.3.1 and 16.3.2). The percentage of the population that was victim of crime, in particular violent crimes, and the numbers of registered crime, offences encountered, and detainees all trended down. Also, fewer people feel unsafe in the area where they live.

The corruption perception index (16.5.1) is moving away from the targets. However, with a score of 82 on a scale of 0 to 100 (where 100 equals 'not corrupt') in 2019 the Netherlands was still 4th in the EU28 ranking.

In the EU, the Netherlands ranks high on trust in institutions (16.6.2), corruption, voter turnout (16.7.2), feeling safe, and on the number of detainees.

Data quality is an issue in SDG 16. For four indicators only one or two observations are available. For about half of the indicators no international comparison can be made, especially for abuse, exploitation, trafficking and violence against children (16.2.1, 16.2.2, and 16.2.3), rule of law and equal access to justice (16.3.1), and illicit financial and arms flows, stolen assets and organised crime (16.4.2). For these particular indicators, there is insufficient information to draw hard conclusions.

3.2.3   Neither moving towards nor away from the targets

SDGs that are neither moving towards nor away from the targets are those in which an equal number of indicators are moving towards and away from the targets.

---

[3] One target is not considered relevant to the Netherlands, namely the participation of developing countries in the institutions of global governance (16.8.1).

SDG 11 Sustainable cities and communities

The Netherlands has achieved two targets: to provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all (11.2.1) and to have a sufficient proportion of cities with a direct participation structure of civil society in urban planning and management (11.3.2).

The number of indicators moving towards the targets equals the number moving away. Overcrowding (11.1.1) is trending up, away from the target. In 2018, 4.1 percent of the population lived in a home that was too small. The area per person (11.3.1) is declining, although this can only ever decrease given population growth on a fixed area of land. The third indicator that is moving away from the target is government expenditure on environmental and cultural services (11.4.1). The three indicators moving towards the targets are municipal waste per capita (11.6.1), urban exposure to particulate matter (11.6.2), and victims of crime as a percentage of the population over 15 (11.7.2).

On average, the Netherlands is located in the middle of the EU ranking. It is in the top of the ranking for overcrowding and government expenditure on environmental and cultural services, which softens the conclusions with respect to their change over time. Given that the Netherlands is one of the most densely population countries in Europe, it should be no surprise that for area per person the country is in 27th place on the EU28 ranking.

SDG 14 Life below water

The target with respect to sustainable management and protection of marine and coastal ecosystems (14.2.1) has been achieved.

No significant change towards or away from the targets can be observed.

Within the EU, the Netherlands is 17th out of 23 countries on the Clean Water Index (14.1.1) and 5th out of 23 with respect to the coverage of protected marine areas (14.5.1). However, there is insufficient information to draw hard conclusions on the average position of the Netherlands within the EU, since there is no information for the other EU countries on the other five indicators.

SDG 15 Life on land

Two targets have been achieved, namely a fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources (15.6.1) and a reduction in the impact of invasive alien species on land and water ecosystems (15.8.1).[4]

A high and rising percentage of hotspots for terrestrial biodiversity and freshwater biodiversity are protected (15.1.2). In these indicators, the Netherlands is in first place within the EU with about 98 percent of hotspots for terrestrial and freshwater biodiversity protected. However, two of the three biodiversity indicators, the Red List Indicator and fauna in freshwater and marshes (15.5.1), are trending down, away from the target.

---

[4] Targets 15.4.1 and 15.42 with respect to the target "By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development" are considered not relevant for the Netherlands.

The Netherlands scores relatively low in the EU ranking for sustainable forestry (15.2.1) and phosphorus surplus (15.3.1), and is located at the absolute bottom of the ranking for nature and woodland areas (15.1.1) and nitrogen surplus (15.3.1).

3.2.4 Mostly moving away from the targets

SDGs that are mostly moving away from the targets are those in which some indicators are moving towards the targets, but more are moving away from the targets.

None of the SDGs falls into this particular category.

3.2.5 Clearly moving away from the targets

SDGs that are clearly moving away from the targets are those in which no indicators are moving towards the targets, and one or more indicators are moving away from the targets.

SDG 1 No poverty

Six targets are considered to have been achieved: eradication of extreme poverty (1.2.1), coverage of social protection (1.3.1), equal rights to resources (1.4.1 en 1.4.2), and adopting and implementing local disaster reduction strategies (1.5.3 en 1.5.4).

None of the indicators are moving towards the targets, while the poverty gap (the difference between the poverty threshold and the median income of poor people) is moving away from the target (1.2.1). Poverty still exists: in 2018, 13.3 percent of the population had an income below the risk-of-poverty threshold (60 percent of median income) and 16.7 percent of the population was at risk of poverty or social exclusion (1.2.1 and 1.2.2).

However, poverty is lower than in most of the EU. For most indicators the Netherlands is located in the top of the EU ranking.

SDG 4 Quality education

No targets have yet been achieved.

None of the indicators in SDG 4 show progress towards the targets. One indicator, participation in pre-school education (4.2.2), is trending down.

The Netherlands is generally placed high in the EU ranking, particularly with respect to indicators on participation (4.2.2 and 4.3.1) and skills (4.4.1 and 4.6.1). For pupil reading skills (4.1.1) and the gender parity indexes for achievement in mathematics and reading (4.5.1), the Netherlands is located in the middle of the EU ranking.

Also, for seven of the 13 indicators in this dashboard there is insufficient information (only one or two observations) to draw conclusions on the direction of change.

SDG 10 Reduced inequalities

One target has been achieved, namely to ensure enhanced representation and voice for developing countries in decision-making in global international economic and financial institutions (10.6.1).

The only one of the six indicators that shows any significant change is the share of compensation of employees in GDP, which is trending down, and is moving away from the target.

Within the EU, the Netherlands is in or near the top of the ranking, except for feelings of discrimination (12th out of 16) and the share of compensation of employees in GDP (11th out of 28).

3.3 The strength of conclusions

The strength of the conclusions that can be drawn on the basis of the results in this report depends on the quality of the statistical information. Can we conclusively determine that the Netherlands is moving towards or away from targets?

The SDGs lack a conceptual framework that governs the selection of indicators. As a result, some indicators have a stronger statistical foundation than others. Indicators that are produced based on an international statistical standard or guideline, such as the System of National Accounts or the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting, are relatively strong. These systems are continuously improved, are kept up-to-date, and are internationally comparable.

By contrast, many SDG indicators are less timely and less complete. The targets were set in 2015, to be achieved by 2030, but many of the indicators are not timely. Some even date back to before 2015. For some only a single observation is available, which means that it is impossible to measure change over time. For 33 targets an indicator has yet to be developed – if that is possible at all.

In order to qualify the results for each SDG, all indicators have been given a quality assessment based on the timeliness and completeness of data for the Netherlands and the EU. Quality can be good, acceptable or poor:
− *Good*: timely and complete data for the Netherlands and timely or somewhat older data for the EU.
− *Acceptable*: timely and complete data for the Netherlands but older or no data on the EU; timely data for the Netherlands but only one or two observations; older data for the Netherlands with either sufficient observations or data on the EU but not both.
− *Poor*: data for the Netherlands older than t-4 (2016 or earlier) or timely data but only one or two observations.

The results are presented in Figure 3.3. They show that for some SDGs the data are quite timely and complete. The best are SDG 1, SDG 7, SDG 10, SDG 11, SDG 13, and SDG 17. However, for other SDGs the data leave a lot to be desired. The worst are SDG 4, SDG 6, and SDG 16. The problems with timeliness and completeness in Figure 3.3 and the 33 missing indicators represent the research agenda for future SDG-reports.

Figure 3.3 Quality of indicators for each SDG

SDG 1 No poverty

SDG 2 Zero hunger

SDG 3 Good health and well-being

SDG 4 Quality education

SDG 5 Gender equality

SDG 6 Clean water and sanitation

SDG 7 Affordable and clean energy

SDG 8 Decent work and economic gr...

SDG 9 Industry, innovation, and infra...

SDG 10 Reduced inequalities

SDG 11 Sustainable cities and comm...

SDG 12 Responsible consumption an...

SDG 13 Climate action

SDG 14 Life below water

SDG 15 Life on land

SDG 16 Peace, justice and strong insti...

SDG 17 Partnerships for the goals

0   5   10   15   20   25

number of indicators

■ good   ■ acceptable   ■ poor

4. Statistical results for the 17 SDGs

This chapter presents a statistical dashboard for each SDG. Four pieces of information are presented for each indicator:

1. The most recent statistic.
2. The direction of change, indicated using an arrow that points in the direction in which the indicator has developed and a colour that indicates whether that development was away from the target (red) or towards the target (green). Where no significant change has occurred, no arrow is shown. The significance of change is determined using linear trend regression.
3. A graph of the EU ranking with a coloured bar that indicates the position of the Netherlands and light grey bars for the other EU countries for which data are available. The colour of the bar for the Netherlands indicates whether the Netherlands is located in the top quartile (green), the middle quartiles (dark grey), or the bottom quartile (red) of the ranking.
4. A statistic showing the position of the Netherlands and the number of countries that have been ranked.

Footnotes in the dashboards mean the following:

A. For the Monitor of Well-being & the Sustainable Development Goals, CBS has estimated an annual figure for the most recent year in order to facilitate the political debate. This is a provisional first estimate.

B. For this indicator, the number of data points in the 2012-2019 period is insufficient for calculating a trend.

C. For this indicator, the projection by PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency has been used for 2018 and 2019.

D. For the Monitor of Well-being & the Sustainable Development Goals, CBS has estimated an annual figure for 2018 and 2019 in order to facilitate the political debate. This is a provisional first estimate.

E. In contrast to chapter 2 of the Monitor of Well-being & the Sustainable Development Goals, in Chapter 4 of the Monitor of Well-being (SDG 17) this indicator is interpreted as being favourable or unfavourable in terms of well-being. This indicator is defined in the SDG agenda. Each SDG indicator has a desired direction. From this point of view, more spending is seen as increasing well-being.

F. For the Monitor of Well-being & the Sustainable Development Goals, CBS has estimated an annual figure for 2018 in order to facilitate the political debate. This gives an initial indication. The projection by PBL Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency has also been used for 2019.

G. The data quality is insufficient for determining a trend.

SDG 1 No poverty

1.2 People living in poverty

13.3% of the population had an income below the risk-of-poverty threshold (60% of median income) in 2018

At-risk-of-poverty rate

6th out of 28 in EU in 2018

18.3% difference between poverty threshold and median income of poor people in 2018 ↑

Poverty gap

7th out of 28 in EU in 2018

16.7% of the population in 2018

People at risk of poverty or social exclusion

5th out of 28 in EU in 2018

1.5 Resilience of the poor and vulnerable

2 per 100,000 of the population in 2019

Total number of people reported killed or affected by disasters G)

22nd out of 28 in EU in 2019

€ 0 per million euros GDP in 2019

Direct economic loss attributed to disasters G)

1st out of 10 in EU in 2019

SDG 2 Zero hunger

2.1 End hunger and ensure access to food

0.9% of the population received help in 2019

Customers of food banks

2.2 End all forms of malnutrition

51.0% of the population over 20 in 2019 ↑

Overweight population

10th out of 28 in EU in 2016

2.3 Agricultural productivity and incomes

€ 168 million euros (2010 prices) per 1,000 work years in 2019

Agricultural production

2nd out of 28 in EU in 2019

2.4 Ensure sustainable food production systems

3.2% of total utilised agricultural area in 2018 ↑

Organic farming

23rd out of 28 in EU in 2018

5.2 kg phosphorus per hectare utilised agricultural area in 2019

Phosphorus surplus A)

10th out of 16 in EU in 2017

162.9 kg nitrogen per hectare utilised agricultural area in 2019

17th out of 17 in EU in 2017

Nitrogen surplus A)

3.52 livestock units per hectare utilised agricultural area in 2019

28th out of 28 in EU in 2016

Livestock density index

2.5 Genetic diversity of plants and animals

23,219 accessions belonging to 329 species are secured in the collection of CGN in 2018 ⬆

Plant genetic resources secured in conservation facilities

85.3% of local varieties are threatened with extinction in 2017

16th out of 19 in EU in 2017

Local animal breeds classified as being at risk of extinction B)

SDG 3 Good health and well-being

3.1 Reduce maternal mortality

3.0 mothers per 100,000 live births in 2018

2nd out of 15 in EU in 2017

Maternal mortality

3.2 End preventable deaths of newborns and children

4.0 children under 5 per 1,000 live births in 2018

15th out of 28 in EU in 2018

Mortality rate, under-5

2.5 deaths per 1,000 live births in 2018

14th out of 23 in EU in 2018

Neonatal mortality rate

3.3 End epidemics of communicable diseases

4.8 positive lab tests per 100,000 population in 2018

11th out of 28 in EU in 2018

New HIV diagnoses

4.4 new cases per 100,000 population in 2019 ⬇

4th out of 28 in EU in 2017

New TB cases

1.5 new cases per 100,000 population in 2018

21st out of 26 in EU in 2018

New malaria cases

6.5 new cases per 100,000 population in 2018 ⬇

18th out of 25 in EU in 2018

New hepatitis B cases

0.1 per million of the population required treatment in 2018

9th out of 28 in EU in 2018

Neglected tropical diseases

552 deaths per 100,000 population in 2018   1st out of 23 in EU in 2017

Death rate due to non-transmittable diseases

63.2 years at birth in 2019   22nd out of 28 in EU in 2018

Healthy life expectancy of women A)

64.8 years at birth in 2019   16th out of 28 in EU in 2018

Healthy life expectancy of men A)

10.6 deaths per 100,000 population in 2018   14th out of 28 in EU in 2016

Suicide

72.3 years at birth in 2018

Life expectancy in good mental health of women

73.4 years at birth in 2018

MLife expectancy in good mental health of men

- -

3.5 Prevention and treatment of substance abuse

64,821 beneficiaries in 2015

Coverage of treatment interventions for substance use disorders

8.3 litres of pure alcohol per capita (over 15) in 2017 ↓   2nd out of 13 in EU in 2017

Alcohol consumption

10.8% heavy drinkers among drinkers (over 12) in 2019 ↓

Heavy alcohol drinkers

20.4% of the population over 12 smoked in 2019 ↓   4th out of 11 in EU in 2017

Smoking

- -

3.6 Deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents

39.3 per million of the population in 2018   5th out of 28 in EU in 2017

Traffic deaths

- -

3.7 Access to family planning services

1.85 births per 1,000 women aged 15-18 in 2018 ↓   2nd out of 28 in EU in 2018

Teenage pregnancies

- -

↓

↓

↓

3.8 Universal health coverage

0.14% of the population in 2019   ↓

Uninsured for health insurance

1.5% of the population in the corresponding category in 2018   ↓

Health insurance defaulters

3.9 Hazardous chemicals, pollution and contamination

0.2 per 100,000 population in 2016   **16th** out of 28 in EU in 2016

Mortality rate attributed to exposure to unsafe WASH services

1.1 per 100,000 population in 2018   ↑   **1st** out of 28 in EU in 2016

Mortality rate attributed to unintentional poisonings

SDG 4 Quality education

4.1 Free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education

48.0% of final-year primary pupils achieved target level in 2017   **2nd** out of 28 in EU in 2018

Pupil numeracy skills

65.0% of final-year primary pupils achieved target level in 2017   **14th** out of 27 in EU in 2018

Pupil reading skills

4.2 Childhood development, care and pre-primary education

96.9% of 4-year-olds in pre-school in 2018   ↓   **7th** out of 28 in EU in 2018

Participation in pre-school education

4.3 Equal access to tertiary education

64.1% of adults particpated in the previous twelve months in 2016   **1st** out of 28 in EU in 2016

Participation rate of adults in education and training [B)]

63.5% of women particpated in the previous twelve months in 2016   **2nd** out of 28 in EU in 2016

Participation rate of female adults in education and training [B)]

64.7% of men particpated in the previous twelve months in 2016   **1st** out of 28 in EU in 2016
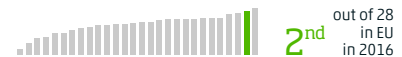
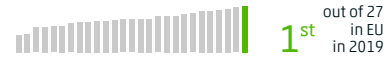Participation rate of adult males in education and training [B)]
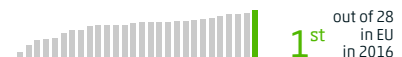
4.4 Skills for employment, decent jobs and entrepreneurship

79.0% of the population (16-74) have at least basic computer skills in 2019

Digital skills

1st out of 27 in EU in 2019

21.0% of the population (16-74) conducted at least 5 out of 6 internet related activities in 2013

Internet skills [B)]

3rd out of 28 in EU in 2013

4.5 Gender disparities in education and equal access

0.02 woman/man parity in 2018

Gender parity index for achievement in mathematics

14th out of 25 in EU in 2018

0.15 woman/man parity in 2018

Gender parity index for achievement in reading

14th out of 27 in EU in 2018

0.01 rural/urban parity in 2015

Rural to urban parity index for achievement in mathematics [B)]

7th out of 21 in EU in 2012

4.6 Literacy and numeracy

284.0 average PIAAC score (16-65 years) in 2012

Overall literacy [B)]

2nd out of 17 in EU in 2012

280.3 average PIAAC score (16-65 years) in 2012

Overall numeracy [B)]

3rd out of 17 in EU in 2012

SDG 5 Gender equality

5.1 Discrimination against women and girls

14.3% difference in hourly wage between men and women in 2019

Gender pay gap [A)]

12th out of 20 in EU in 2018

5.2 Violence against all women and girls

1.3 in every 1,000 women aged 15 or over suffers abuse in 2019

Physical and/or sexual abuse by (ex-)partner

12.0% of women (over 15) were sexually abused by others than their partner in 2012

Sexual violence against women by a non-partner

27th out of 28 in EU in 2012

5.3 Eliminate all harmful practices

0.0% of women under 18 in 2018

Married women under the age of 18

5.4 Unpaid care and domestic work

73.1% of working women have a part-time job in 2019 ↓   **1st** out of 28 in EU in 2019

Part-time work by women

26.0% of working men have a part-time job in 2019 ↑   **1st** out of 28 in EU in 2019

Part-time work by men

5.5 Participation and opportunities for leadership

31.3% of seats in parliament are held by women in 2019 ↓   **11th** out of 28 in EU in 2019

Women in parliament

24.8% of management positions are held by women in 2018   **25th** out of 26 in EU in 2018

Women in management

5.6 Access to sexual and reproductive health and rights

63.2 years at birth in 2019   **22nd** out of 28 in EU in 2018

Healthy life expectancy of women [A)]

64.8 years at birth in 2019   **16th** out of 28 in EU in 2018

Healthy life expectancy of men [A)]

40.1% of women aged 25-64 have a higher education degree in 2019 ↑   **14th** out of 28 in EU in 2019

Women with a higher education degree

39.3% of men aged 25-64 have a higher education degree in 2019 ↑   **5th** out of 28 in EU in 2019

Men with a higher education degree

SDG 6 Clean water and sanitation

6.3 Improve water quality

52.2% has good quality for nature in 2014

Total water bodies with good water quality for nature [B)]

53.2% has good quality for nature in 2014

Lakes and open water with good water quality for nature [B)]

47.2% of rivers have good quality for nature in 2014

Rivers with good water quality for nature [B)]

87.0% of groundwater has good quality for nature in 2014

Groundwater with good water quality for nature

6.4 Increase water-use efficiency

€ 88 value added per m³ (2015 prices) in 2018 ↑   10th   out of 20 in EU in 2016
Water productivity

15.4% fresh water extracted from total amount of fresh water in 2018 ↓   15th   out of 28 in EU in 2017
Level of water stress

6.5 Integrated water resources management

93 score on scale 0 (not implemented) to 100 (fully implemented) 2017   2nd   out of 28 in EU in 2018
Degree of integrated water resources management implementation [B)]

6.6 Water-related ecosystems

3,628 square kilometers in 2015
Water-related ecosystems [B)]

SDG 7 Affordable and clean energy

7.1 Universal access to energy services

4,282 kg oil equivalents per capita in 2018 ↓   23rd   out of 28 in EU in 2018
Gross inland energy consumption

7.2 Share of renewable energy

7.4% of total final energy consumption in 2018 ↑   28th   out of 28 in EU in 2018
Renewable energy

7.3 Energy efficiency

124.1 kg oil equivalents per 1,000 euros of GDP (2010 prices) in 2018 ↓   11th   out of 28 in EU in 2018
Energy intensity of the economy

SDG 8 Decent work and economic growth

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

8.1 Sustain economic growth

1.1% year-on-year volume change in 2019 ↑   17th out of 28 in EU in 2018
Volume growth of GDP per capita

€ 43,673 per capita (2015 prices) in 2019 ↑   3rd out of 19 in EU in 2019
Gross domestic product

8.2 Achieve higher economic productivity

€ 50 gross value added per hour worked (2015 prices) in 2019 ↑   3rd out of 16 in EU in 2019
Labour productivity

8.4 Improve resource efficiency

224 kg per 1,000 euros GDP in 2017
Raw materials footprint (GDP)

9,379 kg per capita in 2018   4th out of 28 in EU in 2018
Domestic material consumption

8.5 Full and productive employment and decent work

€ 26.29 per hour (2015 prices) in 2019   4th out of 27 in EU in 2018
Wages and salaries of employees [A)]

3.4% of the labour force in 2019 ↓   4th out of 25 in EU in 2019
Unemployment

1.0% of the labour force had been unemployed for one year or more in 2019   8th out of 28 in EU in 2018
Long-term unemployment

8.6 Youth not in employment, education or training

4.3% of the population aged 15-24 in 2019 ↓   1st out of 28 in EU in 2019
Young people neither in employment nor in education and training

8.8 Labour rights and safe and secure working environments

0.78 standardised incidence in 2017   2nd out of 28 in EU in 2017
Fatal accidents at work

1,452 standardised incidence per 100,000 workers in 2017   17th out of 28 in EU in 2017
Non-fatal accidents at work

↑

↑

8.9 Promote sustainable tourism

4.4% of total value added in 2018 ⬆

Value added of tourism

7.2% of total employment in 2018 ⬆

Employment in the tourism industry

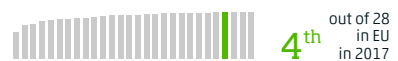### 8.10 Access to banking, insurance and financial services

41.1 ATMs per 100,000 adults in 2018 ⬇ 24th out of 25 in EU in 2018

Automated teller machines

11.0 bank branches per 100,000 adults in 2018 ⬇ 24th out of 26 in EU in 2018

Commercial bank branches

99.6% of the population over 15 in 2017 4th out of 28 in EU in 2017

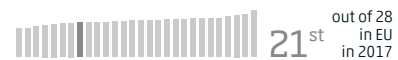Accounts at financial institutions

SDG 9 Industry, innovation, and infrastructure

9.1 Quality, reliable, sustainable and resilient infrastructure

90.1 volume relative to GDP, index (2010=100) in 2017 ⬇ 21st out of 28 in EU in 2017

Passenger transport

98.8 volume relative to GDP, index (2010=100) in 2017 14th out of 28 in EU in 2017

Freight transport

9.2 Inclusive and sustainable industrialisation

11.1% of gross domestic product in current prices in 2018 ⬆ 20th out of 25 in EU in 2018

Value added in manufacturing

9.2 Inclusive and sustainable industrialization

2.3% of gross domestic product in current prices in 2019 ⬆ 11th out of 24 in EU in 2016

Value added of the environmental goods and services sector [D]
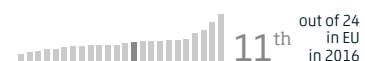
9.6% of total employment in hours worked in 2018 ⬇ 23rd out of 27 in EU in 2018
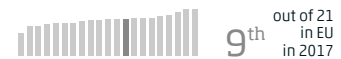
Employment in manufacturing

2.6% of total employment in 2019 ⬆

Employment in the environmental goods and services sector [D]
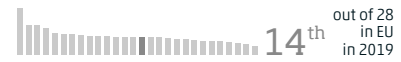
⬇

9.3 Access to financial services

61.9% of value added of the non-financial sector in 2018

9th
out of 21
in EU
in 2017

Value added of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)

7.9% experience access to financing as the main problem in 2019 ⬇

14th
out of 28
in EU
in 2019

SME access to finance

9.4 Sustainable infrastructure and industries

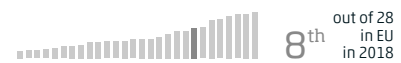**0.29** kg CO₂ equivalents per euro of GDP (2015 prices) in 2019 ⬇

10th
out of 28
in EU
in 2018

Greenhouse gas intensity of the economy A)
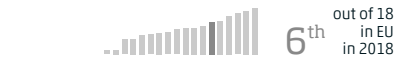
9.5 Scientific research and technological capabilities

2.2% of GDP in 2018

8th
out of 28
in EU
in 2018

R&D expenditure

3.7 hours worked per capita in 2019 ⬆

6th
out of 18
in EU
in 2018

Hours worked in R&D A)

240 PCT patent applications per million population in 2018

5th
out of 28
in EU
in 2018

Patents

SDG 10 Reduced inequalities

10.1 Income growth of the bottom 40 percent

4.15 income ratio of highest quintile to lowest quintile in 2018

7th
out of 28
in EU
in 2018

80/20 ratio

10.1 Income growth of the bottom 40 per cent

0.28 value between 0 (complete equality) and 1 (complete inequality) in 2018

8th
out of 28
in EU
in 2018

Gini coefficient
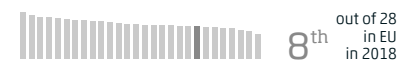
10.2 Empower and promote the inclusion of all

13.3% of the population had an income below the risk-of-poverty threshold (60% of median income) in 2018

6th
out of 28
in EU
in 2018

At-risk-of-poverty rate

10.3 Equal opportunity and inequalities of outcome

8.7% of the population over 15 say they are discriminated against in 2018

12th
out of 16
in EU
in 2018

Feelings of discrimination

10.4 Achieve greater equality

47.9% of gross domestic product in 2019   ↓   **11**th   out of 28 in EU in 2019

Share of compensation of employees in GDP

10.7 Migration and mobility of people

61 score on a scale 0-100 (100 = best integration policy) in 2014   **6**th   out of 28 in EU in 2014

Migrant integration policy index

SDG 11 Sustainable cities and communities

11.1 Access to housing and basic services
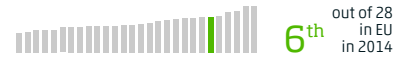
15.8% of the population lives in a dwelling with basic deficiencies in 2018   **18**th   out of 28 in EU in 2018

Population living in a dwelling with basic deficiencies

4.1% of the population live in a home that is too small in 2018   ↑   **4**th   out of 27 in EU in 2018

Overcrowding

11.3 Inclusive and sustainable urbanisation

2,404 m² per capita in 2019   ↓   **27**th   out of 28 in EU in 2018

Area per person

11.4 Cultural and natural heritage

1.8% of gross domestic product in 2018   ↓   **3**rd   out of 28 in EU in 2018

Government expenditure on environmental and cultural services

---
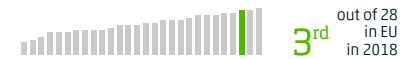
11.5 Human and economic losses caused by disasters

2 per 100,000 of the population in 2019   **22**nd   out of 28 in EU in 2019

Total number of people reported killed and affected by disasters [G]

€ 0 per million euros GDP in 2019   **1**st   out of 10 in EU in 2019

Direct economic loss attributed to disasters [G]

11.6 Adverse environmental impact of cities

554 kg per capita in 2018   ↓   **18**th   out of 25 in EU in 2018

Municipal waste

12.0 microgram PM2.5 per m³ in 2018   ↓   **8**th   out of 25 in EU in 2017

Urban exposure to particulate matter (PM2.5)

↓

11.7 Access to green and public spaces

35% of total space within built-up areas in 2017

Publicly accessible open space within built-up areas

13.7% of the population over 15 are crime victims in 2019 ↓   11th out of 16 in EU in 2018

Victims of crime

SDG 12 Responsible consumption and production

12.1 Sustainable consumption and production

3.2% of total utilised agricultural area in 2018 ↑   23rd out of 28 in EU in 2018

Organic farming

12.2 Use of natural resources

224 kg per 1,000 euros GDP in 2017

Raw materials footprint (GDP)

9,379 kg per capita in 2018   4th out of 28 in EU in 2018

Domestic material consumption

12.3 Food waste

127 kg per capita in 2017 ↓

Food waste

12.4 Chemicals and wastes

301 kg per capita in 2016   22nd out of 28 in EU in 2016

Hazardous waste

67.5% of total processed industrial waste in 2016   6th out of 27 in EU in 2016

Recycled hazardous waste

12.5 Reduce waste generation

81.1% of total waste processed in 2016   3rd out of 28 in EU in 2016

Recycled waste

55.9% of total collected municipal waste in 2018 ↑   4th out of 25 in EU in 2018

Recycled municipal waste
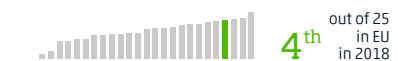
12.6 Sustainable business practices

82% of top 100 companies reported on CSR in 2017

Corporate sustainability reporting in annual report

6th out of 21 in EU in 2017

SDG 13 Climate action

13.1 Climate-related hazards and natural disasters

2 per 100,000 of the population in 2019

Total number of people reported killed or affected by disasters [G]

22nd out of 28 in EU in 2019

13.2 Climate change measures

10.5 tonnes CO_2 equivalents per capita in 2019 ⬇

Greenhouse gas emissions (IPCC) per capita [A]

24th out of 28 in EU in 2017

0.29 kg CO_2 equivalents per euro of GDP (2015 prices) in 2019 ⬇

Greenhouse gas intensity of the economy [A]

10th out of 28 in EU in 2018

SDG 14 Life below water

14.1 Prevent and reduce marine pollution

50.0% is potentially eutrophic in 2018

Potentially eutrophic coastal waters [B]

43.0% of water is eutrophic in 2018

Eutrophic coastal waters [B]

7.0% of water is non-eutrophic in 2018

Non-eutrophic coastal waters [B]

45.4 score on a scale of 0-100 (100 = completely clean) in 2019

Clean water index

17th out of 23 in EU in 2019

14.3 Ocean acidification

8.0 average pH value in 2017

Marine acidity of the North Sea basin

14.4 Overfishing, illegal and unreported fishing

5 out of 6 fish species for consumption are above sustainability level in 2018

Stocks of fish

14.5 Coastal and marine areas

27.0% of the area is protected in 2018

5th out of 23 in EU in 2018

Coverage of protected marine areas B)

SDG 15 Life on land

15.1 Freshwater ecosystems

14.8% of total land area in 2015

26th out of 26 in EU in 2015

Nature and woodland areas B)

97.9% is protected in 2019 ↑

1st out of 28 in EU in 2019

Protected sites for terrestrial biodiversity

98.3% is protected in 2019 ↑

2nd out of 27 in EU in 2019

Protected sites for freshwater biodiversity

15.2 Sustainable management of forests

46.5% of woodland is independently certified in 2019

17th out of 25 in EU in 2019

Sustainable forestry

15.3 Desertification and land degradation

5.2 kg phosphorus per hectare utilised agricultural area in 2019

10th out of 16 in EU in 2017

Phosphorus surplus A)

162.9 kg nitrogen per hectare utilised agricultural area in 2019

17th out of 17 in EU in 2017

Nitrogen surplus A)

15.5 Natural habitat degradation and biodiversity loss

60.9% of non-threatened species in 2019 ↓

Red List Indicator

85 index (trend 1990=100) in 2018

Fauna on land

140 index (trend 1990=100) in 2018 ↓

Fauna in freshwater and marshes

SDG 16 Peace, justice and strong institutions

16.1 Violence and related deaths

0.6 deaths per 100,000 population in 2018

Deaths due to homicide

9th out of 28 in EU in 2017

2.0% of the population over 15 are victim in 2019 ↓

Victims of violent crimes

13.7% of the population over 15 are crime victims in 2019 ↓

Victims of crime

11th out of 16 in EU in 2018

14.4% of the population over 15 sometimes feel unsafe in 2018 ↓

Feeling safe in in the area where you live

4th out of 16 in EU in 2018

16.2 Abuse, exploitation, trafficking and violence against children

2.1% of 15-18 year olds think the risk of being abused is high in 2019

Likelihood of child abuse

4.5 reported victims per 100,000 population in 2018

Victims of human trafficking [G]

11.0% of women aged 12-25 experience sexual violence in 2017

Young women experiencing sexual violence [B]

2.0% of men aged 12-25 experience sexual violence in 2017

Young men experiencing sexual violence [B]

16.3 Rule of law and equal access to justice

47.3 offences per 1,000 population in 2019 ↓

Registered crime

237.0 per 1,000 population in 2019 ↓

Offences encountered

25.8% of the total prison population in 2017

Unsentenced detainees

21st out of 27 in EU in 2017

↓

↓

63 detainees per 100,000 population in 2017   ↓   **4**th out of 25 in EU in 2017

Detainees

16.4 Illicit financial and arms flows, stolen assets and organised crime

7,431 confiscated in 2017

Seized firearms

16.5 Reduce corruption and bribery

82 score on a scale of 0-100 (100 = not corrupt) in 2019   ↓   **4**th out of 28 in EU in 2019

Corruption perception index

16.6 Effective, accountable and transparent institutions

1.8% of GDP in 2018   **11**th out of 28 in EU in 2018

Government expenditure on public order and safety

63.1% of the population over 15 have sufficient trust in 2019   ↑   **2**nd out of 16 in EU in 2018

Trust in institutions

16.7 Responsive, inclusive, participatory and representative decision-making

81.9% of the electorate voted in general election in 2017   **6**th out of 28 in EU in 2019

Voter turnout in parliamentary elections [B]
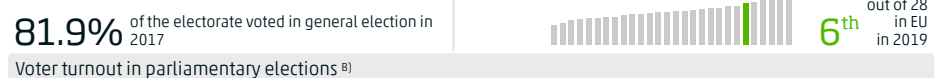
SDG 17   Partnerships for the goals

17.1 Domestic resource mobilisation

43.6% of GDP in 2019   **14**th out of 28 in EU in 2019

Total general government revenues

17.2 Official development assistance

0.6% of gross national income in 2018   **6**th out of 25 in EU in 2018

Official development assistance [E]

17.3 Financial resources for developing countries

-0.02% of gross national income in 2018   **15**th out of 20 in EU in 2018

Other development assistance from public and NGO sources

1.5% of gross domestic product in 2018   ↑   **4**th out of 28 in EU in 2018

Remittances [E]

↑

↑

17.6 Science, technology, innovation, and knowledge sharing

98% of households use a fixed broadband Internet connection in 2019 ↑

1st out of 28 in EU in 2019

Households with a fixed broadband Internet connection

17.8 Technology and innovation capacity-building for LDCs

93.5% persons over 12 used the Internet in the previous 12 months in 2019 ↑

4th out of 28 in EU in 2019

Proportion of individuals using the Internet

17.11 Increase exports of developing countries

€185 per capita (current prices) in 2019

2nd out of 28 in EU in 2018

Total imports from LDCs [A]

17.0 tonnes CO_2 equivalents per capita in 2019

Greenhouse gas footprint [A]

References

CBS (2016). Measuring the SDGs: an initial picture for the Netherlands. The Hague/Heerlen/Bonaire: Statistics Netherlands.

CBS (2018). The Sustainable Development Goals: the situation for the Netherlands. The Hague/Heerlen/Bonaire: Statistics Netherlands.

CBS (2019). Monitor Brede Welvaart & Sustainable Development Goals 2018. The Hague/Heerlen/Bonaire: Statistics Netherlands.

CBS (2020). Monitor Brede Welvaart & Sustainable Development Goals 2019. The Hague/Heerlen/Bonaire: Statistics Netherlands.

Sachs, J., Schmidt-Traub, G., Kroll, C., Lafortune, G., Fuller, G. (2018): SDG Index and Dashboards Report 2018. New York: Bertelsmann Stiftung and Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN).

UNECE, Eurostat, OECD (2014). Conference of European Statisticians Recommendations on Measuring Sustainable Development. New York/Genève: United Nations.

Abbreviations

%pt	percentage point
CBS	Statistics Netherlands
CES	Conference of European Statisticians
CGN	Netherlands Centre for Genetic Resources
CO2	carbon dioxide (greenhouse gas)
COPD	chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
COVID-19	infectious disease caused by coronavirus SARS-CoV-2
CPB	Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis
CSR	corporate social responsibility
EC	European Commission
EEA	European Economic Area
ECN	Energy Research Centre of the Netherlands
EMU	European Economic and Monetary Union
ETS	Emissions Trading System
EU	European Union
EU28	28 member states of the EU (from 1 July 2013)
FTE	full-time equivalent
GALI	Global Limitation Activity Index
GDP	gross domestic product

GNI	gross national income
ha	hectare
HICP	harmonized index of consumer prices
ICT	information and communication technology
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
ISCED	International Standard Classification of Education
kg	kilogram
LDCs	least developed countries
LPI	Living Planet Index
m2	square metre
m3	cubic metre
MDG	Millennium Development Goal
mln	million
Mtonne	megatonne
N2O	nitrous oxide (laughing gas)
NL	Netherlands
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
PBL	Netherlands Environmental Assessment Agency
PCT	Patent Cooperation Treaty
PIAAC	Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies
PJ	petajoule
PM2.5	fine particles with a diameter of 2.5 micrometres or less
R&D	research and development
RIVM	National Institute of Public Health and the Environment
SCP	Netherlands Institute for Social Research
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
SMEs	small and medium-sized enterprises
TNO	Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research
UN	United Nations
VMBO	preparatory secondary vocational education
VWO	pre-university education
WCED	World Commission on Environment and Development
WHO	World Health Organization
UNECE	European Economic Commission of the United Nations

Statistical annex

Table A1. Number of specific targets per Sustainable Development Goal

	total number	achieved	not relevant	without indicator	not yet achieved, indicator available
SDG 1	10	6	0	0	4
SDG 2	10	3	0	1	6
SDG 3	21	2	0	1	18
SDG 4	8	0	0	2	6
SDG 5	10	1	0	2	7
SDG 6	9	3	0	1	5
SDG 7	4	0	0	1	3
SDG 8	15	2	0	1	12
SDG 9	9	1	0	0	8
SDG 10	8	1	0	2	5
SDG 11	11	2	0	0	9
SDG 12	10	1	0	2	7
SDG 13	6	2	0	2	2
SDG 14	7	1	0	2	4
SDG 15	11	2	3	2	4
SDG 16	21	3	1	4	13
SDG 17	25	8	0	10	7

[1] An example of a three-digit target is "renewable energy share in the total final energy consumption" (7.2.1).

Table A2. Number of indicators for which statistical analysis indicates movement towards targets, movement away from targets, or no significant change per Sustainable Development Goal

	total number of indicators	movement towards targets	movement away from targets	no significant change [1]
SDG 1	5	0	1	4
SDG 2	9	2	1	6
SDG 3	24	8	1	15
SDG 4	13	0	1	12
SDG 5	12	5	2	5
SDG 6	8	2	0	6
SDG 7	3	3	0	0
SDG 8	16	7	2	7
SDG 9	12	6	2	4
SDG 10	6	0	1	5
SDG 11	10	3	3	4
SDG 12	9	3	0	6
SDG 13	3	2	0	1
SDG 14	7	0	0	7
SDG 15	9	2	2	5
SDG 16	17	7	1	9
SDG 17	8	3	0	5

[1] No significant change includes indicators for which trend analysis was suppressed due to inconsistencies in the data.

Technical annex

Direction of change

The objective of this report is to determine progress towards the SDGs in the Netherlands, to the best of our statistical knowledge and up to the most recent year (2019). The first and most important criterion to determine progress is the direction of change over time.

The direction of change over time of an indicator is determined by calculating a linear trend through all available data points in the most recent reference period. In this report the reference period is 2012-2019. The objective to determine progress relates to the SDGs, not to the individual indicators. Not all indicators are equally timely; for some indicators the data lag behind considerably. This is why for all indicators the same reference period has been used.

The linear trend has been calculated by applying a linear regression model to all available data for the years 2012 to 2019 (the reference period), even if no data are available for the year 2019 and knowing that the timeliness and completeness of data for the Netherlands are different for each indicator.

The regression equation is $y = ax + b$ where y is the value of the indicator, x is the year to which the value refers, a is the direction in which the trend is moving (the angle of inclination) and b is the point where the trend line intersects the y axis (the intercept). There is a significant change (a rising or falling trend) if parameter a is significant ($p<0.05$). There is no significant change if parameter a is not significant ($p≥0.05$). The minimum number of data points for a trend calculation is three.

Depending on the target, some indicators move towards a target as the trend rises (for example: participation in education, waste recycling) and other indicators as the trend declines (for example: particulate matter in the air, the poverty rate). The direction of the trend is indicated by an arrow in the dashboards. The arrow points up when the trend is going up and down when the trend is going down. The colour of the arrow shows whether the indicator is moving towards or away from the target. The colour of the arrow is green when the indicator moves towards the target and red if it moves away from the target.

The trend is determined using a simple linear regression model that draws a straight line through an observed time series. The least squares method makes no assumptions about the data, which means that the method is valid if no conclusions are drawn from the significance of the parameters. When hypotheses are tested regarding the significance of intercept and slope, it is assumed that the residuals of the regression model are independent normally distributed variables with equal variance. However, when applying linear regression to time series, this assumption is often violated, which means that the test may no longer be valid. Despite this shortcoming, the least squares method is useful for determining trends in the development of indicators. The method is easy to understand, provides comparable results for each indicator, and takes into account all observations during the reference period.

Position in the EU ranking

The position of the Netherlands in the EU ranking was determined using the frequency distribution of the indicator values of EU member states (including the United Kingdom) in the most recent year with data for at least ten countries. The available values are divided into quartiles (groups of 25 percent). The colour of the position is green if the indicator value of the Netherlands belongs to the top 25 percent of the distribution, red if the indicator value belongs to the bottom 25 percent, and grey if the indicator value belongs to the middle 50 percent.

The ranking is constructed as is customary in sports. Determining the ranking starts at the top. In the event of a tie, all countries with the same value receive the same highest place in the rankings. The colours are determined in the same way, that is, from above. For example, if all countries have exactly the same value, they all share first place in the EU ranking, and the position colour of all countries is green.

Quality assessment of indicators

In order to qualify the results for each SDG, all indicators have been given a quality assessment based on the timeliness and completeness of data for the Netherlands and the EU. Quality can be good, acceptable or poor:
— *Good*: timely and complete data for the Netherlands and timely or somewhat older data for the EU.
— *Acceptable*: timely and complete data for the Netherlands but older or no data on the EU; timely data for the Netherlands but only one or two observations; older data for the Netherlands with either sufficient observations or data on the EU but not both.
— *Poor*: data for the Netherlands older than t-4 (2016 or earlier) or timely data but only one or two observations.

Explanation of symbols

Empty cell	Figure not applicable
.	Figure is unknown, insufficiently reliable or confidential
*	Provisional figure
**	Revised provisional figure
2019–2020	2019 to 2020 inclusive
2019/2020	Average for 2019 to 2020 inclusive
2019/2020	Crop year, financial year, school year, etc., beginning in 2019 and ending in 2020
2017/18–2019/20	Crop year, financial year, etc., 2017/18 to 2019/20 inclusive

Due to rounding, some totals may not correspond to the sum of the separate figures.

Colophon