NETHERLANDS

INTRODUCTION
The Dutch United Provinces declared their independence from Spain in 1579; during the 17th century, they became a leading seafaring and commercial power, with settlements and colonies around the world. After a 20-year French occupation, a Kingdom of the Netherlands was formed in 1815. In 1830, Belgium seceded and formed a separate kingdom.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
King WILLEM-AXELANDER
Head of Government
(Acting) Prime Minister Mark RUTTE
Government Type
parliamentary constitutional monarchy
Capital
Amsterdam; note - The Hague is the seat of government
Legislature
bicameral States General or Staten Generaal consists of the First Chamber or Eerste Kamer (75 seats) and the Second Chamber or Tweede Kamer (150 seats)

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 41,543 sq km
Land: 33,893 sq km
Water: 7,650 sq km
Climate
temperate; marine; cool summers and mild winters
Natural Resources
natural gas, petroleum, peat, limestone, salt, sand and gravel, arable land

as of January 2022

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
high-income European economy; core EU member; chemical, oil, and machinery exporter; some age-based income inequality; substantial amount of independent contractor employees; manageable public debt; key international aid funder.
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $945.5 billion (2020 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $54,200 (2020 est.)
Industries - agroindustries, metal and engineering products, electrical machinery and equipment, chemicals, petroleum, construction, microelectronics, fishing
Agricultural products - milk, potatoes, sugar beets, pork, onions, wheat, poultry, tomatoes, carrots/turnips, beef
Exports $719.8 billion (2020 est.)
refined petroleum, packaged medicines, broadcasting equipment, photography equipment, computers (2019)
partners: Germany 20%, Belgium 12%, UK 9%, France 7%, US 5% (2019)
Imports $622.7 billion (2020 est.)
crude petroleum, refined petroleum, broadcasting equipment, computers, cars (2019)
partners: Germany 15%, China 11%, Belgium 9%, US 8%, Russia 7%, UK 5% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
17.3 million (July 2021 est.)
Population Growth
0.37% (2021 est.)
Ethnicity
Dutch 75.4%, EU (excluding Dutch) 6.4%, Turkish 2.4%, Moroccan 2.4%, Surinamese 2.1%, Indonesian 2%, other 9.3% (2021 est.)
Language
Dutch (official); Frisian, Low Saxon, Limburgish, Romani, Yiddish
Religion
Roman Catholic 20.1%, Protestant 14.8% (includes Dutch Reformed, Protestant Church of The Netherlands, Calvinist), Muslim 5%, other 5.9% (includes Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish), none 54.1% (2019 est.)