

Netherlands

Trilemma Rank
21

Trilemma Score
76.6

Balance Grade
BAB

The Netherlands ranks 21st globally, showing a very strong performance in the Energy Equity Index. Equity scores are high across the board, with managed affordability metrics. The Security index follows a slightly decreasing trend with a comparatively low score because of an increasing dependency on energy imports. Limited diversity of electricity generation sources impacts the Security Index and in particular, the lack of low carbon electricity sources impacts the Sustainability Index. The balance grade of the Netherlands is BAB.

Population
17.2 (millions)

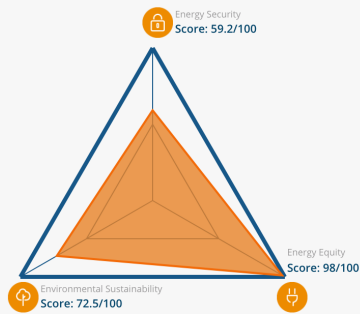
Land Area
33.7 (thousand sq. km)

GDP Per Capita
53,024 (PPP US\$)

Industrial Sector
17.9 (% of GDP)

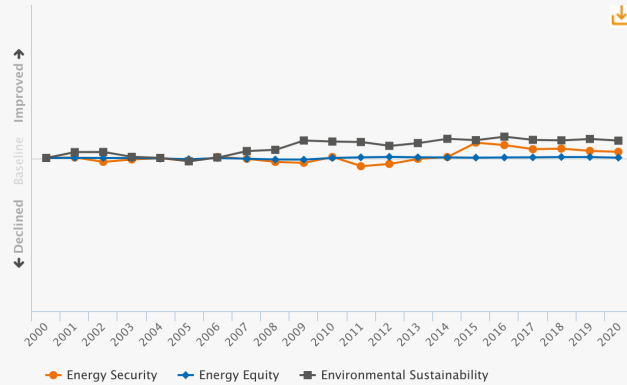
GDP Growth
2.6 (annual %)

Balance



Historical Trilemma Scores

Trend lines track the country's performance in each dimension, beginning with a baseline of 100 in the year of 2000



Trends and Outlook

The Netherlands currently imports 76% of its total primary energy. The majority of its net energy imports are crude oil, petroleum products and natural gas. Electricity production reached a new record level with a 6% increase compared to 2018 and is shifting from coal to natural gas. These two energy sources account for 73% of electricity generation. Renewable energy sources account for 19%.

Consumption of renewable energy has been on the rise. In 2019 the consumption of renewable energy sources increased substantially by 16%. This was mainly driven by the increased use of biomass. However, the capacity of solar power installations also increased by 51% in only one year. The Netherlands is aiming to reach a share of 27% renewable energy by 2030.

In May 2019 the Senate approved the Climate Act, which enshrines the long-term objectives of climate policy up to 2030 and 2050. A Climate Plan will be compiled every five years, covering the main priorities of climate policy for the next ten years. Additionally, a Climate and Energy Report and the climate memorandum will be submitted to the House of Representatives on an annual basis. Societal awareness of the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions has increased due to media attention and a number of sustainability initiatives were launched recently. However, there is also resistance to the emergence of renewable power plants such as wind farms, which indicates a split in society.

In its Coalition Agreement, the government has committed itself to reduce greenhouse gas emission by 49% by 2030 compared to 1990 levels. For 2050, the Netherlands must have reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 95%. Electricity production must be 100% CO2 neutral by 2050. Measures to reach these goals include the greening of the tax system, shutting down coal power plants by 2030, recycling raw materials in the industry, making the buildings sector more sustainable and the pursuit of 100% zero emissions from new cars as of 2030. Also, parcels for offshore wind power will be increased. The government has stated that the reduction target of 49% must be achieved in a way that is feasible and affordable for everyone. As the country is working actively to manage these various challenges, a more balanced country profile can be expected in the future.

The COVID-19 crisis is expected to delay the expansion of renewable energy sources in the short term, as many construction projects have been delayed due to disruptions in the supply chain and substantial delays in the permitting process.

Key metrics

Metrics are determined relative to other countries, with a full bar representing a score of 100.

