COVID-19 **SDG** Barometer

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The COVID-19 pandemic is having a significant impact on the SDGs



Many countries have been experiencing and continue to experience widespread transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 virus among their population. While the trend in disease incidence is declining in the Netherlands, the effects of non-pharmaceutical interventions – the so-called 'intelligent lockdown' – have yet to be fully measured. The consequences of COVID-19 on society and the economy may be profoundly adverse also for the work being done in relation to the majority of SDGs. A UN publication from March illustrates the expected first and second-order effects of the pandemic on the status of the SDGs (figure 1).

While the pandemic has had a severe impact on societies at large, it also augments and aggravates the challenges that businesses and organisations face with respect to the SDGs. Major disruptions of operations and supply chains have a financial effect. At the same time, society expects business to contribute to the COVID-19 crisis response and the related environmental, social and governance issues that will inevitably follow.

PwC's COVID-19 SDG Barometer aims to provide quarterly insights into the effects of COVID-19 on the progress towards the SDGs in the Netherlands. As time lags and data gaps mean that official statistics do not fully reflect how progress will be affected for all SDGs, we base our observations on quantitative information wherever possible. The Barometer focuses on the eight SDGs shown in figure 2 (SDG overview) since their status is significantly affected in the Netherlands, and sufficient relevant data is available to draw meaningful conclusions.

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To SDG

UN publication from March 2020

'We are facing a global health crisis unlike any in the 75-year history of the United Nations. A virus that causes human suffering, and upending people's lives. But this is much more than a health crisis. It is a human crisis. The coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is attacking societies at their core.' (UN, 2020)

Aggravate backlash Loss of income, Food production Devastating GOOD HEALTH And Well-Being Schools for many PARTNERSHIPS For the goals NO Poverty 2 ZERO HUNGER QUALITY Education 3 against globalization; leading vulnerable and distribution effect on health closed; remote could be disrupted. but also highlight segments of society outcomes. learning less the importance and families to fall effective and not of international below poverty line. accessible for some. cooperation on public health. Women's economic gains GENDER EQUALITY 5 at risk and increased levels of violence against women. Women account for majority 6 PEACE, JUSTICE Conflicts prevent of health and social care AND STRONG effective measures workers who are more for fighting COVID-19; exposed to COVID-19. COVID-19 those in conflict areas pandemic are most at risk of Supply disruptions and **CLEAN WATER** 6 AND SANITATION inadequate access to clean suffering devastating water hinder access to clean loss from COVID-19. handwashing facilities, one of the most important COVID-19 prevention measures. Reduced commitment Population living in Economic activities Supply and personnel 13 CLIMATE ACTION DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH REDUCED INEQUALITIES SUSTAINABLE CITIE **AFFORDABLE AND** to climate action: but slums face higher suspended: lower shortages are leading AND COMMUNITIES less environmental risk of exposure to income, less work to disrupted access footprints due to COVID-19 due to high time, unemployment to electricity, further less production and population density for certain weakening health and poor sanitation transportation. occupations. system response and conditions. capacity.

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Figure 1

Official statistics show that COVID-19 has a substantial impact on the SDGs in the Netherlands

Figure 2



SDG 1: No Poverty

The economic lockdown and job losses caused by COVID-19 are expected to increase poverty. Government support measures have partly mitigated this impact to date.

Key findings

Household consumption was 17.2% lower in April 2020 than April 2019.

Household consumption in April 2020 was lower for clothing (-37.5%), shoes (-30.6%), restaurant and theatre visits (-24.6%) and sustainable consumer goods (-13.6%), but higher for home furnishings and decoration (+5.7%) and electrical equipment (+11.4%) compared to April 2019. 2

Household savings increased massively, with households saving 4.2 billion euros more in the first quarter of 2020 than the first quarter of 2019. 3



Household final consumption volume mutation (% change





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Household consumption volume mutation April 2020 (% change compared to April 2019)

Clothing and textiles Shoes and leather materials Consumption services by households Means of transports and parts Energy, water and motor fuels Sustainable consumer goods Other sustainable goods Other goods Consumption of goods by households Personal care and other goods Foods, drinks and tabacco Home furnishings and home Electrical equipment

2



NO Poverty

% change compared to April 2019

SDG 1: No Poverty

The economic lockdown and job losses caused by COVID-19 are expected to increase poverty. Government support measures have partly mitigated this impact to date.

Key findings

Unemployment rose sharply: 160,000 people lost their jobs in April and another 24,000 in May. 4

Number of people receiving unemployment benefits increased by 28.1% from February to April 2020. 5

Payments under the government's temporary NOW measure amount to €2,326,411,818 for 122,844 employers for April and June 2020. 6





€ 2,326,411,818.for 122,844 employees

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5



NO POVERTY

SDG 3: Good Health and Wellbeing

The impact of COVID-19 on health and wellbeing is severe, with over 50,000 registered patients, substantial excess mortality rates, and mental health issues related to fear, worry and stress.

Key findings

Registered COVID-19 patients exceeded 50,000 in June 2020.

The infection rate is higher among women (who represent 62%), but hospitalisation (61%) and death rates (55%) are higher among men. 2







GOOD HEALTH

AND WELL-BEING

3

SDG 3: Good Health and Wellbeing

The impact of COVID-19 on health and wellbeing is severe, with over 50,000 registered patients, substantial excess mortality rates, and mental health issues related to fear, worry and stress.

Key findings

The age group of 70 and above accounts for 89% of registered COVID-19 deaths. 3

Excess mortality of over 9,000 people in the first nine weeks of the crisis (9 March-10 May 2020). 4

Death rates among the economically active population show a relatively small increase. 5

Incidents of confused behaviour increased, while the number of suicides decreased by 20%. 6



Death by COVID-19 by age group and gender

Excess mortality; deaths per week for age group 0-65 years 5 (weeks 1-25 for 2017-2020)



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Excess mortality; deaths per week (weeks 1-25 for 2017-2020)

- 2017 - 2018 - 2019 - 2020

10

15

Week

4

Number of deaths

6000

5000

4000

3000

2000

5

confused behaviour

20

25

GOOD HEALTH

AND WELL-REING

9

SDG 5: Gender Equality

Women are more likely to be exposed to COVID-19 at work and more likely to work on flex contracts and in the informal economy, increasing the chance of unemployment. Experts think they also face higher risks of domestic violence, although this is not reflected in official statistics.

Key findings

Unemployment statistics suggest that more men than women have lost their job, with an increase in unemployment of 23.1% versus 17.5% over the period February to May 2020 respectively. **1** & **2**

The actual impact on incomes is likely to be the reverse, however, as unemployment statistics do not take into account the fact that women are more likely to work in the informal economy and on flex contracts.





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SDG 5: Gender Equality

Women are more likely to be exposed to COVID-19 at work and more likely to work on flex contracts and in the informal economy, increasing the chance of unemployment. Experts think they also face higher risks of domestic violence, although this is not reflected in official statistics.

Key findings

The health and welfare sector employs more women (84%) than men, and women therefore face a higher chance of COVID-19 infection at work. 3

Registered threats, abuse and sexual offences statistics do not show a significant increase, although experts think domestic and other violence against women has increased without being reported (Dutch government). The overall number of registered crimes has decreased dramatically. 4 & 5



Percentage of women employed within the Health and



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Number of registrered crimes

4



SDG 3: Gender Equality | 2/2

GENDER

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Reduced consumer spending and trade disruption is affecting almost all sectors, although some much more than others. Unemployment has risen sharply and government support measures for businesses and individuals are resulting in massive deficits and public debt.

Key findings

GDP dropped by 1.7% in the first quarter of 2020 compared to the last quarter of 2019. **1**

Inflation dropped sharply after December 2019, but shows a growing trend as of May 2020. 2

Inflation in the Netherlands

initially dropped more sharply than Eurozone inflation as a whole, but remains above Eurozone inflation and has also picked up again more quickly. 3







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Reduced consumer spending and trade disruption is affecting almost all sectors, although some much more than others. Unemployment has risen sharply and government support measures for businesses and individuals are resulting in massive deficits and public debt.

Key findings

Dutch government debt

increased by nearly 15% from €345 billion to €372 billion, which is the sharpest rise since the economic crisis of 2008. 4 & 5

Household consumption

dropped sharply in March and was 17.2% lower in April 2020 than April 2019. 6

Consumer confidence

experienced the biggest decline ever recorded in the period from March to May 2020. 7







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Reduced consumer spending and trade disruption is affecting almost all sectors, although some much more than others. Unemployment has risen sharply and government support measures for businesses and individuals are resulting in massive deficits and public debt.

Key findings

Entrepreneurial confidence dropped sharply from 6.4 in the first quarter to -37.2 in the second quarter of 2020. 8

Confidence in making it through the COVID-19 crisis varies across sectors, but increased from May to June, 9



Sentrepreneurs' expectations on company survival when COVID-19 crisis persists, by sector (May and June 2020)





Reduced consumer spending and trade disruption is affecting almost all sectors, although some much more than others. Unemployment has risen sharply and government support measures for businesses and individuals are resulting in massive deficits and public debt.

Key findings

Unemployment rose sharply as 160,000 people lost their job in April and another 24,000 in May. **10**

The number of vacancies

dropped sharply in the fourth quarter of 2019 and vacancies were filled more quickly, indicating a flight to job security. 11

The number of bankruptcies has so far remained relatively stable, which may partly reflect the effect of the Dutch NOW regulations. 12

Internet sales from February 2020 increased sharply, even compared to the 2015 index level. **13**





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SDG 8: Decent work and Economic growth | 4/4

SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

From a health perspective, COVID-19 disproportionately affects older people and people with a migration background. It causes younger people to lose their jobs more often.

Key findings

Number of COVID-19 deaths is significantly higher amongst older people.

Excess mortality is higher for the highest income group than for the lowest income group, which may be explained by the correlation between income and age. 2

Excess mortality was higher among people with a migration background from western (49%) and non-western (47%) countries than among native-born Dutch people (38%) during the first six weeks of the pandemic. **3**







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SDG 10: Reduced Inequalities

From a health perspective, COVID-19 disproportionately affects older people and people with a migration background. It causes younger people to lose their jobs more often.

Maying

Key findings **Unemployment** increased

significantly more among younger people. 4

Unemployment data does not yet show different trends for people with a migration background compared to the native-born population. 5



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Period

2.8 2.7 2.7 ^{2.7} 2.6 2.5 2.3







REDUCED

SDG 13: Climate Action

While temporary CO₂ emission reductions seem to be the only tangible positive outcome of the crisis, CO₂ emission levels and mobility are showing upward trends again.

Key findings

CO2 emissions in the Netherlands were 8.7% lower in the first quarter of 2020 than the first quarter of 2019. **1**

CO2 emissions from the energy and waste sectors were 20.1% lower and emissions from the transport sector 6.9% lower in the first quarter of 2020 compared to the first quarter of 2019. **1** & **2**







CLIMATE

ACTION

3

SDG 13: Climate Action

While temporary CO₂ emission reductions seem to be the only tangible positive outcome of the crisis, CO₂ emission levels and mobility are showing upward trends again.

Key findings

Median CO₂ emission levels were 19.2% below the 2019 median at its lowest position. 3

Median CO₂ emission levels dropped the most for aviation and transport when compared to 2019 median levels. 4

Travel planning requests by Apple users in the Netherlands dropped sharply in March, specifically for public transport, and show an upward trend again from April. **5**









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CLIMATE

ACTION

3

SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Incidents of cybercrime have increased while total registered crime initially dropped but is showing an upward trend again. Dutch government debt rose sharply.

Key findings

Police reports of cybercrime gradually increased from December to April and peaked in May with 1,869 reports, compared to 408 in December. 1

The total number of registered crimes decreased substantially from 73,739 in January to 56,251 in April, but increased again in May. 2

Registered threats, abuse and sexual offences statistics do not show a significant increase, even though experts think domestic and other types of violence has increased while going unreported. 3





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Total number of registrered crimes



PEACE, JUSTICE

SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions | 1/2

SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Incidents of cybercrime have increased while total registered crime initially dropped but is showing an upward trend again. Dutch government debt rose sharply.



Key findings

Dutch government debt increased by 15% from €345 billion to €372 billion, an increase not seen since the economic crisis of 2008. 4 & 5











SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals

People in the Netherlands support the government and are satisfied with solidarity among EU member states in dealing with the crisis, but think the EU should have more competencies to deal with crises.

Key findings

Support for the government rose during the COVID-19 crisis, from 38.9% in January to 48.6% in June, indicating trust in the current government to deal with the crisis.

Satisfaction with solidarity between EU member states is

high in the Netherlands (ranked fourth in Europe), with roughly half of Dutch survey respondents being satisfied or very satisfied with the solidarity between EU Member states in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic in June 2020. 2

Survey results regarding EU competencies indicate that 57%

of the Dutch respondents think that the EU should have more competencies to deal with crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic, which is 12% below the EU average on this topic. 3



3 Agreement on following statement: The EU should have more competencies to deal with crisis such as the COVID-19 pandemic (%)



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SDG	Figure	Link	Notation
	UN Figure of effects COVID-19 on the SDGs.	https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/sg_report_socio-economic_impact_of_ covid19.pdf	(UNDESA, 2020)
1	 (1) Household consumption volume mutation (% change compared to previous year) 	https://opendata.cbs.nl/#/CBS/nl/dataset/82608NED/table	(CBS, 2020)
	(2) Household consumption volume mutation (% change compared to April 2019)	https://opendata.cbs.nl/#/CBS/nl/dataset/82608NED/table	(CBS, 2020)
	(3) Household savings	https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/nieuws/2020/26/huishoudens-sparen-ruim-4-miljard-euro- meer-in-eerste-kwartaal	(CBS, 2020)
	(4) Unemployment by headcount	https://opendata.cbs.nl/statline/?dl=38A9E#/CBS/nl/dataset/80590ned/table	(CBS, 2020)
	(5) Unemployment benefits by headcount	https://opendata.cbs.nl/statline/#/CBS/nl/dataset/83483NED/ table?ts=1592550108638	(CBS, 2020)
3	(1) Number of COVID-19 patients reported by the GGD (by headcount)	https://www.rivm.nl/coronavirus-covid-19/grafieken	(RIVM, 2020)
	(2) Confirmed COVID-19 cases by gender	https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrljoiMmM0NGQyMTctYWM3Ni00Mml3LTk- wY2QtZDYzYTc3ZjM1MDk5liwidCl6lmVhZTFhNWZILWZIYTktNGQ3Yy1iMmM2LTkw- MjE1NTdlODYwOCIsImMiOjl9&refresh=1	(Kuijvenhoven, 2020)
	(2) Hospitalized COVID-19 cases by gender	https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrljoiMmM0NGQyMTctYWM3Ni00Mml3LTk- wY2QtZDYzYTc3ZjM1MDk5liwidCl6lmVhZTFhNWZILWZIYTktNGQ3Yy1iMmM2LTkw- MjE1NTdlODYwOCIsImMiOjl9&refresh=1	(Kuijvenhoven, 2020)
	(2) Deaths by COVID-19 by gender	https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrljoiMmM0NGQyMTctYWM3Ni00Mml3LTk- wY2QtZDYzYTc3ZjM1MDk5liwidCl6lmVhZTFhNWZILWZIYTktNGQ3Yy1iMmM2LTkw- MjE1NTdlODYwOCIsImMiOjl9&refresh=1	(Kuijvenhoven, 2020)
	(3) Deaths by age and gender	https://www.rivm.nl/coronavirus-covid-19/grafieken	
	(4) Excess mortality; deaths per week (weeks 1-25 for 2017- 2020)	https://opendata.cbs.nl/#/CBS/nl/dataset/70895ned/table	(CBS, 2020)
	(5) Excess mortality; deaths per week age group 0-65 years (weeks 1-25 for 2017-2020)	https://opendata.cbs.nl/#/CBS/nl/dataset/70895ned/table	(CBS, 2020)
	(6) Suicides and registration of confusing behavior	https://nos.nl/artikel/2334626-tot-20-procent-minder-zelfdodingen-in-coronatijd.html	(NOS, 2020)

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SDG	Figure	Link	Notation
5	(1) Unemployment by gender (by headcount)	https://opendata.cbs.nl/statline/?dl=38A9E#/CBS/nl/dataset/80590ned/table	(CBS, 2020)
	(2) Unemployment by gender (by % of active population)	https://opendata.cbs.nl/statline/?dl=38A9E#/CBS/nl/dataset/80590ned/table	(CBS, 2020)
	(3) Share of women employed within the Health and Welfare sector	https://opendata.cbs.nl/statline/#/CBS/nl/dataset/84164NED/ table?ts=1593007483340	(CBS, 2020)
	(4) Number of registered crimes	https://data.politie.nl/#/Politie/nl/dataset/47013NED/table?ts=1594150375870	(Politie, 2020)
	(5) Number of registered threat, abuse or sexual offences	https://data.politie.nl/#/Politie/nl/dataset/47013NED/table?ts=1594150375870	(Politie, 2020)
1	(1) GDP change (in % compared to previous quarter)	https://opendata.cbs.nl/statline/#/CBS/nl/dataset/84106NED/ table?ts=1593868397307	(CBS, 2020)
	(2) CPI Netherlands (in % compared to previous year)	https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/nieuws/2020/28/inflatie-stijgt-naar-1-6-procent-in-juni	(CBS, 2020)
	(3) Harmonized CPI Eurozone and The Netherlands (in % change compared to previous year	https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/nieuws/2020/28/inflatie-stijgt-naar-1-6-procent-in-juni	(CBS, 2020)
	(4) National government debt	https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/maatwerk/2020/26/maandindicatoren-overheidsfinancien	(CBS, 2020)
	(5) National government debt	https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/maatwerk/2020/26/maandindicatoren-overheidsfinancien	(CBS, 2020)
	(6) Household consumption volume mutation (in % change to previous year)	https://opendata.cbs.nl/#/CBS/nl/dataset/82608NED/table	(CBS, 2020)
	(7) Consumer confidence score	https://opendata.cbs.nl/#/CBS/nl/dataset/83693NED/table	(CBS, 2020)
	(8) Entrepreneurial Confidence	https://opendata.cbs.nl/#/CBS/nl/dataset/84303NED/table?ts=1595234657759	(CBS, 2020)
	(9) Entrepreneurs' expectation	https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/nieuws/2020/28/in-meeste-sectoren-minder-zorgen-over- voortbestaan	(CBS, 2020)
	(10) Unemployment (by headcount and as % of active population)	https://opendata.cbs.nl/statline/?dl=38A9E#/CBS/nl/dataset/80590ned/table	(CBS, 2020)
	(11) Vacancies across all economic activities	https://opendata.cbs.nl/statline/#/CBS/nl/dataset/80472ned/table?ts=1588319674232	(CBS, 2020)
	(12) Corporate bankruptcies	https://opendata.cbs.nl/#/CBS/nl/dataset/82522NED/table	(CBS, 2020)
	(13) Retail developments adjusted turnover	https://opendata.cbs.nl/statline/#/CBS/nl/dataset/83868NED/ table?ts=1588764277619	(CBS, 2020)
	(13) Retail development internet sales	https://opendata.cbs.nl/statline/#/CBS/nl/dataset/83867NED/ table?ts=1588764241336	(CBS, 2020)



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SDG	Figure	Link	Notation
10	(1) Deaths by age and gender	https://www.rivm.nl/coronavirus-covid-19/grafieken	(RIVM, 2020)
	(2) Relative excess mortality per week	https://www.cbs.nl/-/media/_pdf/2020/20/oversterfte-tijdens-de-coronaepidemie.pdf	(CBS, 2020)
	(3) Excess mortality, by background and period	https://www.cbs.nl/-/media/_pdf/2020/20/oversterfte-tijdens-de-coronaepidemie.pdf	(CBS, 2020)
	(4) Unemployment by age group	https://opendata.cbs.nl/statline/?dl=38A9E#/CBS/nl/dataset/80590ned/table	(CBS, 2020)
	(5) Unemployment by background	https://opendata.cbs.nl/statline/#/CBS/nl/dataset/82809NED/ table?ts=1594151981237	(CBS, 2020)
13	(1) CO2-emissions by sector	https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/nieuws/2020/26/uitstoot-co2-fors-lager-in-het-eerste- kwartaal-van-2020	(CBS, 2020)
	(2) CO2-emissions contribution by sector (2020 Q1)	https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/nieuws/2020/26/uitstoot-co2-fors-lager-in-het-eerste- kwartaal-van-2020	(CBS, 2020)
	(3) Estimate median change in daily CO2 emissions (%)	https://www.icos-cp.eu/gcp-covid19	(Le Quéré, et al., 2020)
	(4) Estimate median change in daily CO2 emissions (Mtonne)	https://www.icos-cp.eu/gcp-covid19	(Le Quéré, et al., 2020)
	(5) Mobility Trends	https://www.apple.com/covid19/mobility	(Apple Maps, 2020)
16	(1) Police reporting of cybercrime	https://data.politie.nl/#/Politie/nl/dataset/47013NED/table?ts=1594150375870	(Politie, 2020)
	(2) Total number of registered crimes	https://data.politie.nl/#/Politie/nl/dataset/47013NED/table?ts=1594150375870	(Politie, 2020)
	(3) Number of registered threat, abuse and sexual offences	https://data.politie.nl/#/Politie/nl/dataset/47013NED/table?ts=1594150375870	(Politie, 2020)
	(4) National Government debt	https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/maatwerk/2020/26/maandindicatoren-overheidsfinancien	(CBS, 2020)
	(5) National Government debt	https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/maatwerk/2020/26/maandindicatoren-overheidsfinancien	(CBS, 2020)
17	(1) Coalition Support	https://peilingwijzer.tomlouwerse.nl/p/laatste-cijfers.html	(Peilingwijzer, 2020)
	(2) Satisfaction with solidarity between EU member states	https://www.europarl.europa.eu/at-your-service/files/be-heard/eurobarometer/2020/ plenary-insights-june-2020/en-plenary-insights-june-2020.pdf	(European Parliament, 2020)



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