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# The Netherlands, the gateway to Europe

A Report On The Dutch Start-Up Ecosystem

**4,311**  
Home-Grown Tech Companies

**€44 bn**  
Startup Value Created since 2013

**19%**  
Of Startups have Venture  
Capital Funding

**4#**  
The Netherlands ranks #4  
in Europe by ecosystem  
value created

# Introduction

Since 2013 Dutch startups have created 44 billion in value The Netherlands ranks 4 in Europe (by comparison, 7th economy and 9th population in Europe)

This created value is highly concentrated around a small number of companies, led by Adyen 20 bn) It's a distinctive feature of the global startup scene, where a small number of highly successful startups determine almost all the investment returns (also known as Power Law.



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# By the numbers

**23%**

Increase in start-up jobs 2016-2018

**€1 BN+**

Start-up created every year

**€2.4M**

Median VC investment

**€750M**

Venture Capital Raised in 2018

**109 000**

Jobs created in the startup sector

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# Why the Netherlands?

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## Talent

Easy access to talent in the region: 3 top 100 research universities; 5 universities of applied sciences

## Welcoming International Talent

Highly skilled immigrants can qualify for the 30% tax reimbursement ruling, international graduates get one year to find work or start a business post-graduation, and there are entrepreneur visas available.

## Corporate Connections

Almost 200 multinational corporations have their European headquarters stationed in Amsterdam including Salesforce and Tesla. It is no wonder that our 2019 Global Startup Ecosystem Report highlights Amsterdam-StartupDelta as #15 in the world among global startup ecosystems.

## Innovation Hubs

The region houses 7 Innovation Hubs within a 35-mile radius

## Market Testing

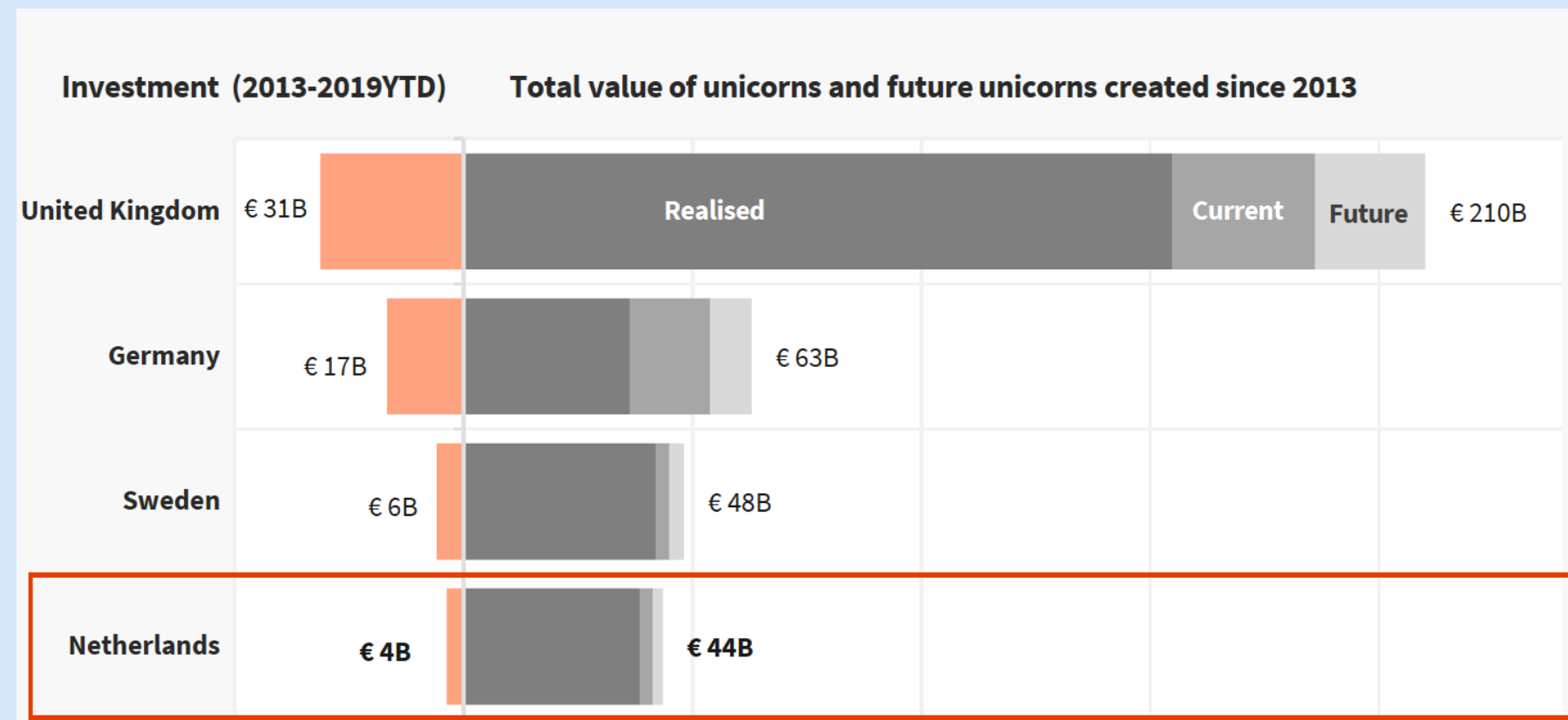
Excellent market for testing: it's a testbed for innovation and the Dutch are early adopters & internet savvy.



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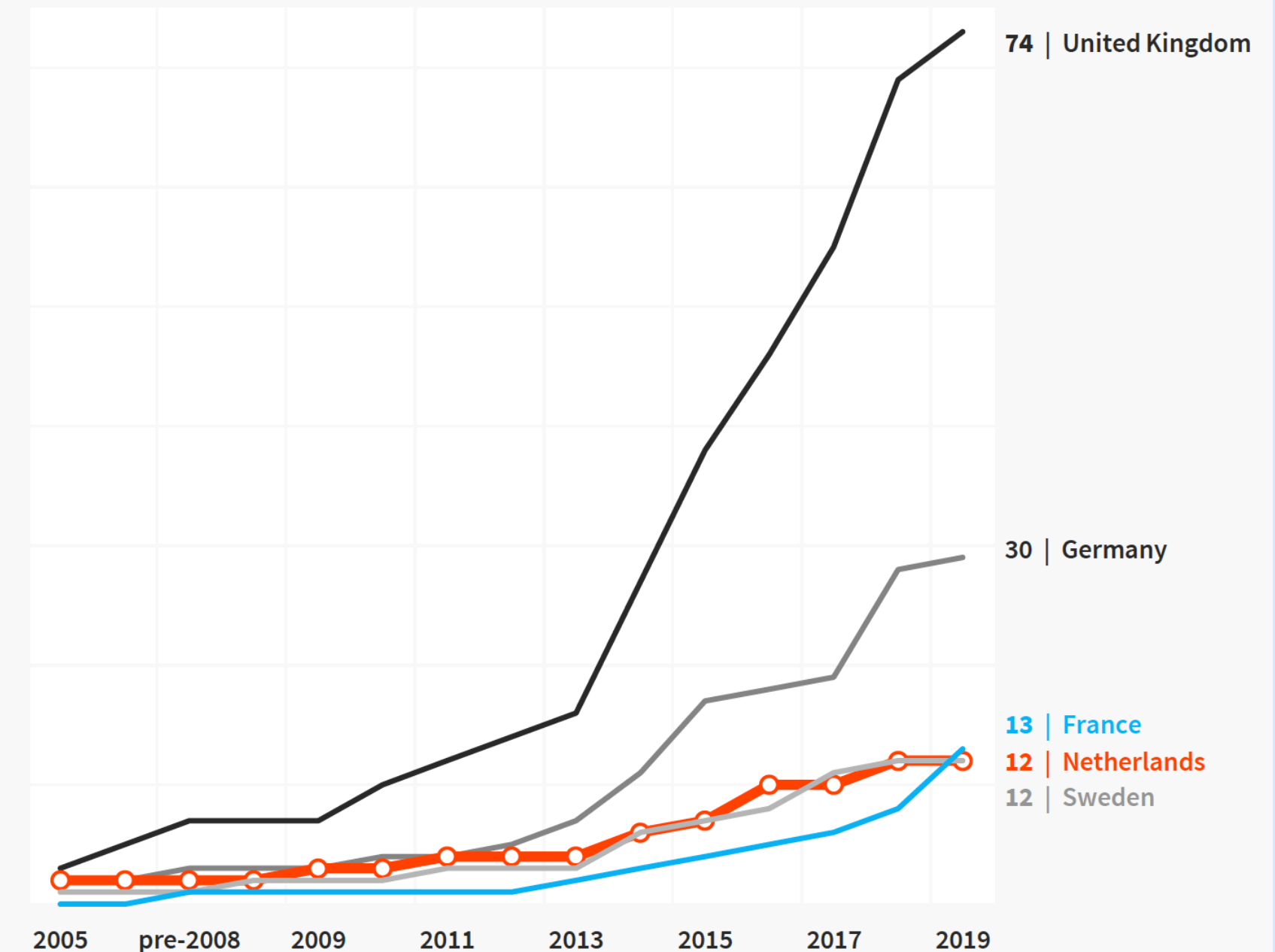
# Rankings

The Netherlands ranks #4 in Europe by ecosystem value created since 2013.



The Netherlands ranks alongside France and Sweden by number of \$1 billion+ companies.

Cumulative number of unicorns



Source: Dealroom.co.



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# #5

Global Innovation  
Leader (GII2020)

The Netherlands is #1 in DHL Global Connectedness Index 2020

The Netherlands is the world's most globally connected country – again! The country has ranked first in the DHL Global Connectedness Index 2020 (GCI).

## 1. IT and Tech

Major players like IBM, Microsoft, Google, NTT, and Oracle chose the Netherlands for their European headquarters, customer service centers, R&D facilities, and more. The Netherlands' technological environment is anchored by a robust digital infrastructure. The Dutch rank No. 2 in the world for online connectivity, with 98% of households having broadband connection.

## 2. Life Science and Health

Government spending and incentives of €2 Billion in Life Sciences and R&D a year. This ongoing commitment to innovation pays off: the Dutch currently rank No. 4 worldwide in patent applications for MedTech, No. 6 for biotechnology patents, and No. 8 for pharmaceutical patents.

## 3. Chemicals

The Netherlands is also right in the middle of the greater Antwerp-Rotterdam-Rhein-Ruhr Area (ARRRA), one of the top 5 chemical clusters in the world hosting 30-40% of the chemical turnover in Europe. This ideal location brings the sector's end markets in automotive, construction, agriculture and consumers products in a similar close reach.

## 4. Finance

Ranked the 3rd best European city for startups and 5th for scale-ups, Amsterdam is just the tip of the iceberg. The Netherlands as a whole ranks 2nd as biggest fintech nation of the EU and ranks 3rd in VC funding in Europe. With fintech and financial services providers finding a stable base to serve European markets in Amsterdam post-Brexit, the Dutch capital is quickly becoming a prominent financial hub connecting all of Europe.

# Key Industries

The Netherlands is one of the ten largest exporters in the world. The economy of the Netherlands is highly developed. In fact, its economy ranks as the 17th largest in the world and plays an important role in the European economy. In 2017, the Swiss International Institute for Management Development ranked the Netherlands the fifth most competitive economy in the world.



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# Business Cultural Factors

The Netherlands is strategically located at Europe’s front door, with 95% of Europe’s most lucrative markets just 24 hours away from Amsterdam or Rotterdam.

The Netherlands ranks among the world’s top countries for both economic and talent competitiveness. The Netherlands is not only an internationally competitive location for workforce, but it’s renowned for welcoming, developing and nurturing talent. The welcoming and supportive culture attracts an influx of internationals and multilingual workers from all around the world.



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FACTOR	BENEFIT	OUTCOME
Language	Some 90% of Dutch speak top-level English	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Easier customer conversion &amp; adaptation</li><li>• Effective collaboration</li></ul>
Location	On the continent, with direct access to Europes 500 million consumers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Expand to the rest of Europe with ease</li><li>• Close to consumers with strong purchasing power</li></ul>
Innovation Leader	Being in one of Europes most innovative countries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Connect with the right people in tech</li><li>• Be where the future is being created</li></ul>
Ease of doing Business	Business-friendly regulatory environment and great indrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ease to start a business</li><li>• Top connectivity with digital and physical infrastructure</li></ul>



# Success Stories

**Idag:** Chiquelle lanserar europeiskt lager: "Har arbetat dygnet runt"

INTERNATIONELLT | LOGISTIK | 7 JAN 2020, 10:11



Bilder från det nya lagret i Nederländerna.



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## INDUSTRI nyheter.se

### SaaSbolag skalar upp med kontor i Nederländerna

SYDSVENSKAN

MALMÖ 20 januari 2020 10:41

#### Skånskt vårdbolag expanderar till Brasilien och Holland

Det skånska vårdbolaget Engaging Solutions har fått sina första internationella kontrakt. Sedan slutet av förra året finns kunder i både Brasilien och Nederländerna.

DAGENS MEDIA

Digitalt

#### Ready till Nederländerna

Publicerad: 29 November 2018, 07:50

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2019-04-03 15:35 PRESS RELEASE

## Budbee expanderar till Nederländerna

BREAKIT



NYHETER

PREMIUM

ANNONSERA

WEBBKURSER

### Fundedbyme expanderar till Nederländerna – ska öppna kontor under kommande år

FUNDEDBYME

affärs  
världen

SÖK LOGGA IN

### Lime öppnar kontor i Nederländerna

Företaget som säljer kundhanteringssystem menar att det finns likheter med den nordiska marknaden.

LIME TECHNOLOGIES  
27 december 2019 09:14

Direkt  
Affärsvärlden



Börsvärlden

## Plejd lanserar första produkterna i Nederländerna och expanderar utanför Norden

NYHETER

### Coala Life inleder samarbete med Luscii för lansering i Nederländerna

REDAKTIONEN

2019-09-02 | COALA LIFE, DAN PITULIA, LUSCII



# Contact

We thank you for reading this brief report on the dutch start-up ecosystem.

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## Sources

(GII2020) Global Innovation Index  
 Startups: job growth engine in the  
 Netherlands, TechLeap  
 Investinholland.com



<https://swedishchamber.nl/>



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<https://www.linkedin.com/company/swedish-chamber-of-commerce-for-the-netherlands>