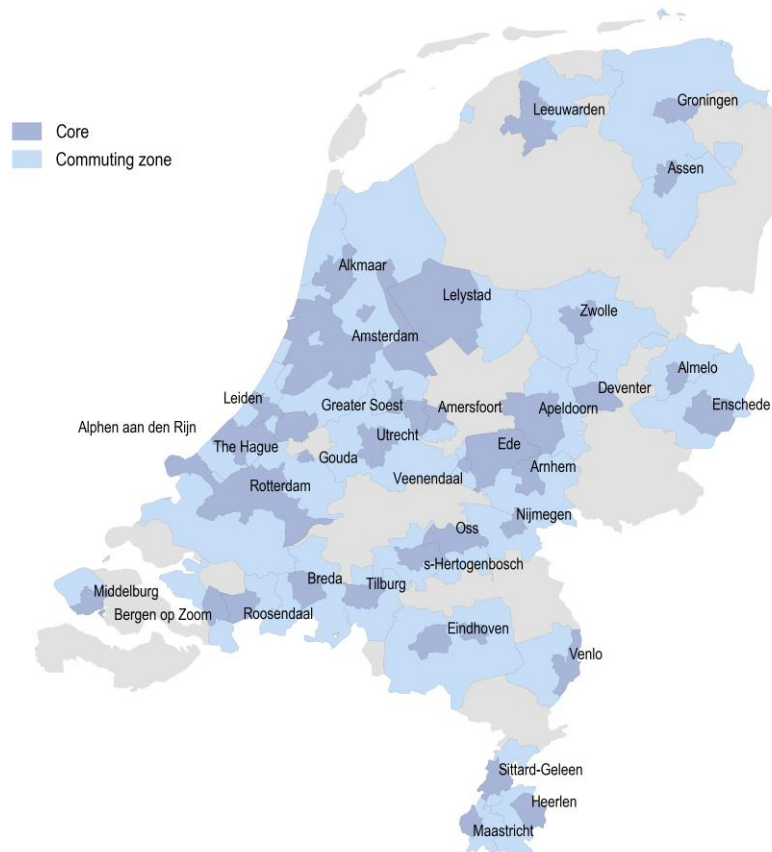


Netherlands



Note: This map is for illustrative purposes and is without prejudice to the status of or sovereignty over any territory covered by these maps.

The OECD, in cooperation with the EU, has developed a harmonised definition of functional urban areas (FUAs). Being composed of a city (or core) and its commuting zone, FUAs encompass the economic and functional extent of cities based on daily people's movements (OECD, 2012); (Dijkstra, Poelman, & Veneri, 2019). The definition of FUA aims at providing a functional/economic definition of cities and their area of influence, by maximising international comparability and overcoming the limitation of using purely administrative approaches. At the same time, the concept of FUA, unlike other approaches, ensures a minimum link to the government level of the city or metropolitan area.

FUAs are listed below by size, according to four classes:

- Small FUAs, with population between 50,000 and 100,000
- Medium-sized FUAs, with population between 100,000 and 250,000
- Metropolitan FUAs, with population between 250,000 and 1.5 million
- Large metropolitan FUAs, with population above 1.5 million

A city is a group of local administrative units (i.e. LAU for European countries, such as municipality, local authorities, etc.) where at least 50% of its population live in an urban centre. An urban centre is defined as a cluster of contiguous grid cells of one square kilometer with a density of at least 1,500 inhabitants per square kilometer and a population of at least 50,000 inhabitants overall.

The commuting zone is composed of the local administrative units for which at least 15% of their workforce commute to the city. Commuting zones of the functional areas are identified based on commuting data (travel from home-to-work). Commuting data are also used to define whether more than one city share the same commuting zone in a single polycentric functional urban area.

The list of functional urban areas takes into account the results of the consultation with the European National Statistical Institutes launched by Eurostat in June 2011 on the definition of cities and by the OECD with Delegates from the Working Party on Territorial Indicators. This list of functional urban areas may be reviewed on the basis of additional comments provided by countries. The OECD Metropolitan Database provides a set of economic, environmental, social and demographic modelled indicators on around 700 OECD metropolitan areas (functional urban areas with 250 000 or more inhabitants).

Additionally, interactive maps, histograms and summary profiles of each metropolitan area are available on the [OECD Regions and Cities Data Visualisation tool](#).

The population grid used to create the FUAs in the Netherlands is the 2011 Geostat grid. The geographic building blocks are the LAU-2 units. Commuting data comes from the 2011 Census.

Table 1. List of functional urban areas

FUA name	FUA code	Population in 2015 (GHS)	Share of population living in the city (%)
Alkmaar	NL514	290 000	61
Almelo	NL519	153 000	49
Alphen aan den Rijn	NL026	106 000	100
Amersfoort	NL504	184 000	84
Amsterdam	NL002	2 751 000	73
Apeldoorn	NL014	235 000	67
Arnhem	NL009	420 000	39
Assen	NL522	131 000	54
Bergen op Zoom	NL028	115 000	58
Breda	NL012	367 000	48
Deventer	NL513	119 000	85
Ede	NL512	151 000	100
Eindhoven	NL005	736 000	48
Enschede	NL008	401 000	60
Gouda	NL030	65 000	100
Greater Soest	NL529	66 000	100
Groningen	NL007	474 000	41
Heerlen	NL010	289 000	70
Leeuwarden	NL015	208 000	57

Leiden	NL507	339 000	75
Lelystad	NL520	122 000	65
Maastricht	NL505	181 000	66
Middelburg	NL032	109 000	80
Nijmegen	NL013	322 000	51
Oss	NL521	136 000	66
Roosendaal	NL020	129 000	60
Rotterdam	NL003	1 805 000	73
Sittard-Geleen	NL016	164 000	70
The Hague	NL001	1 052 000	79
Tilburg	NL006	310 000	67
Utrecht	NL004	875 000	48
Veenendaal	NL524	83 000	69
Venlo	NL515	197 000	49
Zwolle	NL511	350 000	36
s-Hertogenbosch	NL503	273 000	55

Note: This document includes information as of 2022.

References

Dijkstra, L., H. Poelman and P. Veneri (2019), "The EU-OECD definition of a functional urban area", OECD Regional Development Working Papers, No. 2019/11, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/d58cb34d-en>.

OECD (2012), Redefining "Urban": A New Way to Measure Metropolitan Areas, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264174108-en>.