

# NETHERLANDS

## VOICELESS ANIMAL CRUELTY INDEX 2017

### Overall Rank 39

Despite having strong animal protection laws, The Netherlands was a very poor performer under the Voiceless Animal Cruelty Index (VACI) 2017 due to its high levels of production and consumption of animal products.

### Producing Cruelty

#### Rank 44

The Netherlands slaughters the most animals on a per capita basis than any other country, equating to 36 land-based animals slaughtered per person / year (compared with a global average of 9.7). The country's dependency on farmed animals is high, with around 7.3 farmed animals per person (compared with a global average of around 4). Large-scale and intensive factory farming is widespread, particularly in pig and poultry production.

### Consuming Cruelty

#### Rank 46

The Dutch diet contains the highest proportion of animal products than any other country, with around 65.7% of the average person's diet being made up of land-based animal protein (compared with a global average of 35.2%). This equates to each person consuming around 68.8g of land-based animal protein per day (compared with a global average of 26.7g). This said, average meat consumption per person declined from 80kg in 2005 to 75kg in 2015.

### Sanctioning Cruelty

#### Rank 5

The Netherlands was given a "B" under the Animal Protection Index (API) 2014, and was also a relatively higher performer under the Sanctioning Cruelty category. The Netherlands has statutory recognition of animal sentience and laws that prohibit animal suffering by acts of cruelty and neglect. Learn more about the quality of The Netherlands' legislative protections on the API here [[http://api.worldanimalprotection.org/sites/default/files/api\\_netherlands\\_report\\_0.pdf](http://api.worldanimalprotection.org/sites/default/files/api_netherlands_report_0.pdf)].



### Voiceless Animal Cruelty Index

This country profile is from the 2017 Voiceless Animal Cruelty Index (VACI). The VACI tracks the animal welfare performance of 50 countries selected among the largest producers of farmed animal products in the world. The VACI was first published in 2017, and updated in 2020. Please read the VACI Terms of Use (<https://vaci.voiceless.org.au/terms-of-use/>) and Voiceless Website Terms of Use ([Website Terms and Conditions | Voiceless](#)) for further information. Voiceless does not guarantee the accuracy, reliability or currency of the information. Questions about the VACI can be directed to: [info@voiceless.org.au](mailto:info@voiceless.org.au)

The 2020 VACI can be accessed here: <https://vaci.voiceless.org.au/>