

KEY QUESTION



How much ODA does the Netherlands provide?

ODA was inflated in 2015 due to increased costs for hosting refugees

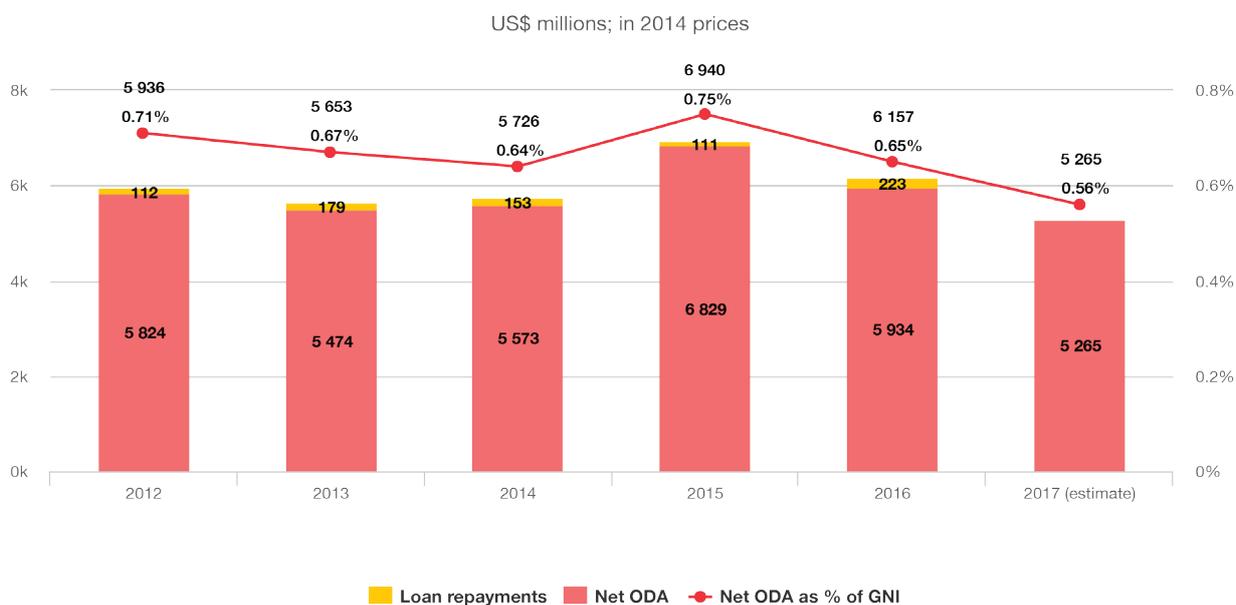
In 2016, the Netherlands was the sixth-largest donor country among members of the OECD’s Development Assistance Committee (DAC), spending US\$5.0 billion on net ODA (in 2016 prices; US\$5.9 billion in 2014 prices).¹

Dutch ODA stood at 0.65% of gross national income (GNI) in 2016 (seventh among DAC countries), a share expected to decrease to 0.56% in 2017. In 2012, the government decided to maintain ODA spending at €750 million below the 0.7% target for 2014 to 2016, and at €1 billion from 2017 onwards. These plans may be revised when a new coalition government is formed following the general elections that were held on March 15, 2017.

The Netherlands takes the costs incurred to host refugees in their first twelve months in the country from the ODA budget. This has reduced the funding available for ‘regular’ development programs. The ODA-reportable costs for hosting refugees peaked at €1.2 billion in 2015. In 2016, these costs (US\$549 million) were lower than expected, which has resulted in a reallocation of US\$610

million that was originally budgeted for refugees to the development assistance budgets for 2016 and 2017. On top of this, another US\$64 million that had previously been budgeted to cover costs associated with hosting refugees has also been reallocated to the Emergency Relief Fund, which supports victims of conflict and natural disasters and runs from 2014 to 2017. For 2017, costs for hosting refugees are budgeted at €900 million. The Labor Party (PvdA), the Green Party (GroenLinks), and the Reformed Party (SGP) all call for ‘pure’ ODA, which neither includes refugee costs in-country nor climate financing. The Christian Democratic Party (CU) would like to cap refugee costs at a maximum of €250 million of ODA.

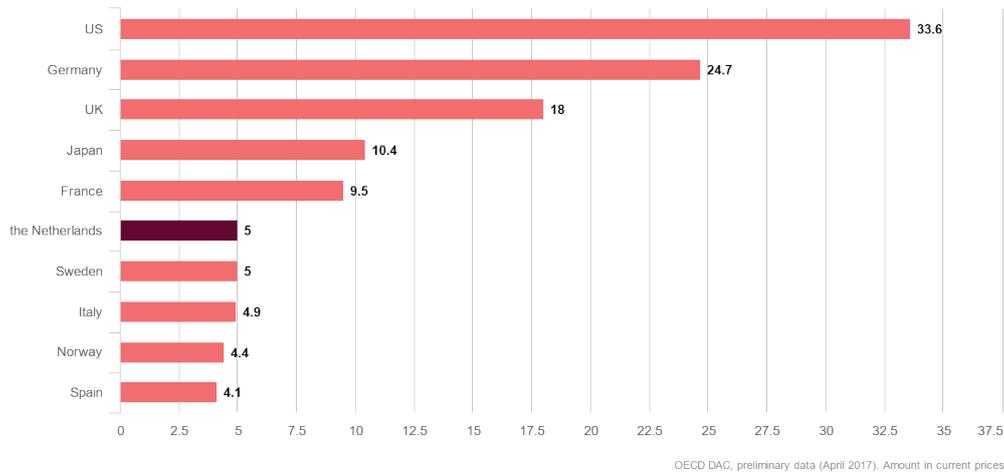
The Netherlands' gross/net ODA disbursements



OECD DAC. 2016 data according to OECD preliminary data (April 2017). ODA estimates for 2017 are based on government data.

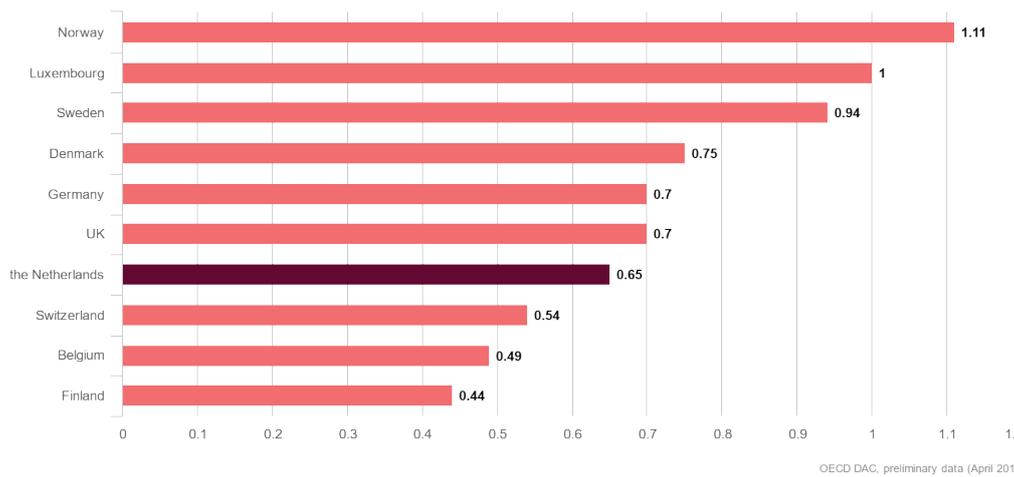
TOP 10 DAC DONOR COUNTRIES, 2016

Net ODA disbursements; US\$ billions; 2016 prices



TOP 10 DAC DONOR COUNTRIES, 2016

Net ODA as % of GNI



¹ '2016 prices' refers to the actual ODA amount disbursed in 2016. This figure is commonly used when comparing ODA across donors in 2016. To compare ODA levels in 2016 with ODA levels provided in previous years, figures need to be measured in constant prices. This means that the ODA amounts for each year are adjusted to take into account the effect of inflation and of exchange rate fluctuations. In this profile, we generally state ODA figures in '2014 prices', meaning that we use 2014 as a base year, to ensure data is comparable over time.