

Netherlands

\$79bn

Cumulative output at risk, 2025-35

STEM dependence

13.1%

STEM Risk Ranking 2026



15

Scenario 2035

Upside Scenario 223.2bn

Baseline Scenario 206.3bn

Downside Scenario 190.4bn

The Netherlands ranks 23rd in the panel for STEM dependence, with STEM industries contributing 13.1% of total output in 2023, equivalent to \$143 billion. Technology is the largest component at 41.4%, reflecting a large and competitive IT and digital services sector as well as advanced manufacturing in electronics and semiconductors, most notably Advanced Semiconductor Materials Lithography (ASML) Holding, whose extreme ultraviolet lithography machines are critical to global chip production.

Under the baseline scenario, the Netherlands is forecast to reach STEM GVA of \$206 billion by 2035, with average annual growth of 2.6%. Cumulative output at risk over 2025 to 2035 amounts to \$79 billion, reflecting the potential losses if the future STEM pipeline weakens. At the component level, Technology is forecast to remain the largest contributor to Dutch STEM output, growing from \$59 billion in 2023 to \$89 billion by 2035 under the baseline scenario, with its share of total STEM GVA rising modestly from 41.4% to 43.0%. The share of Mathematics output is forecast to increase from 36.7% in 2023 to 42.6% by 2035.

Graduate intensity in the Netherlands is above the panel average at 11.0 per 1,000 people, but STEM enrolment is low at 18.6%, well below the EU average of 26.9%, potentially constraining the talent pipeline for advanced manufacturing and technology sectors. Recent graduate growth has been strong, averaging 2.2% per year, while government education and R&D spending remain above average, supporting skill development and innovation. Nonetheless, the Netherlands' reliance on key players like ASML leaves it exposed to global semiconductor cycles and geopolitical trade disruptions, making a robust domestic STEM workforce critical for sustaining future growth and economic resilience.