



This is Norway 2015

What the figures say



What do the figures tell us?

Statistics and data on Norwegian society surround us from all sides, and are often just one (or a few) clicks away. However, finding the information is only one factor. It is not always clear as to what the figures are telling us and the figures must be compared and the differences, correlations and trends have to be described and interpreted.

In *This is Norway*, Statistics Norway presents statistics on a range of areas in Norwegian society in a user-friendly manner. Priority is given to ensuring that the publication is easy to read and understand. The first edition of *This is Norway* was published in 2003. The extensive feedback we have received is extremely positive and indicates that the publication has many different types of users and areas of application.

Oslo/Kongsvinger, July 2015

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Director General

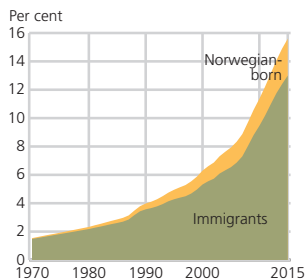
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Immigration and ageing

Population 1 January

	Population	Annual growth. Per cent
1950	3 250 000	
1960	3 568 000	0.94
1970	3 863 000	0.80
1980	4 079 000	0.55
1990	4 233 000	0.37
2000	4 478 000	0.56
2010	4 858 000	0.82
2015	5 168 000	1.27
<i>Projected</i>		
2020	5 450 000	1.1
2030	5 948 000	0.8
2040	6 324 000	0.6
2050	6 611 000	0.4

Immigrants and Norwegian-born to immigrant parents as a percentage of the total population



The 10 largest groups of immigrants and Norwegian-born to immigrant parents. 2015

Country	Number
Poland	99 424
Lithuania	39 305
Sweden	39 116
Somalia	37 631
Pakistan	35 192
Iraq	30 660
Germany	27 165
Vietnam	22 061
Denmark	21 736
The Philippines	21 098

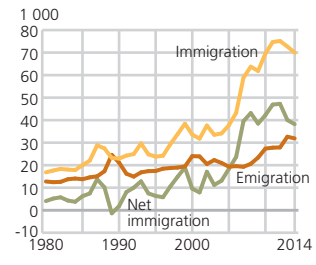
Immigration gives increased population growth ...

Norway's population passed 5 million in 2012, an increase of more than 1.7 million since 1950. In the immediate post-war years, the annual population growth was about 1 per cent which was primarily due to the high birth rate. Population growth fell to 0.3 per cent in the 1980s, however has since increased strongly. Today, net immigration is more important for population growth than an excess of births.

... also in the years ahead

Population projections will of course depend on the assumptions we make. A prognosis based on medium-level fertility, life expectancy and net immigration indicates continued growth over the next 40 years. The population will exceed 6 million in 2031 and in 2050 the number of inhabitants will climb to about 6.6 million, while population growth will again fall to less than 0.5 per cent.

Immigration, emigration and net immigration



Much of the future growth will probably be due to net immigration. If this is low, Norway's population will be about 6 million in around 2050, while higher immigration could increase the population to almost 8 million.

From far and near

At the start of 2015 there were 805 000 immigrants and Norwegian-born to immigrant parents in Norway who accounted for 15.6 per cent of the entire population. 669 000 of these were immigrants who were born abroad, while 136 000 were born in Norway to immigrant parents.

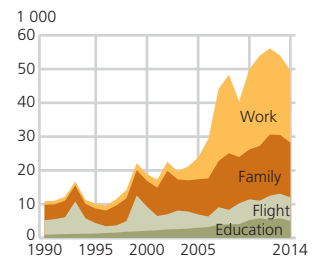
In Oslo, every third inhabitant is either an immigrant him/herself or born in Norway to immigrant parents and a quarter of all immigrants and Norwegian-born to immigrant parents in Norway live in Oslo. If Akershus is included, the figure is 40 per cent.

Work now the most important reason for immigrating

Family reunification and flight were for a long time the most common reasons for immigrating. However, from 2004 the number of migrant workers increased and now represents the largest group (43 per cent in 2014). Seven out of ten migrant workers came from the new EU countries.

Family migrants accounted for 33 per cent and people fleeing persecution 14 per cent.

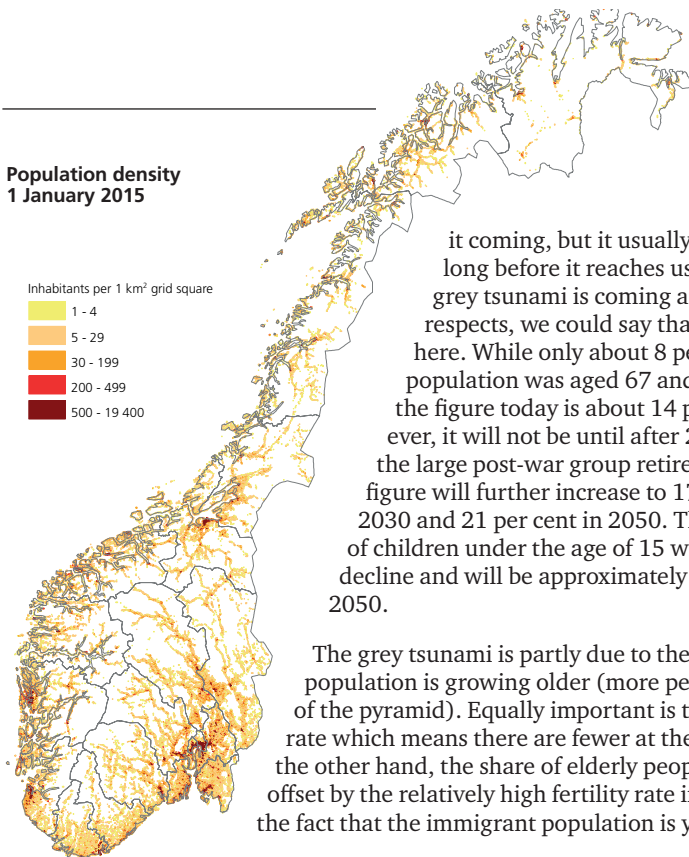
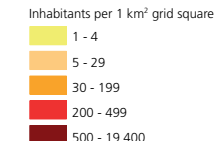
Immigrants by reason for immigrating



The grey tsunami

We have heard talk about the grey tsunami for a long time. However, the situation is a lot like a day at the beach, keeping a lookout for the big wave. We think we see

Population density 1 January 2015



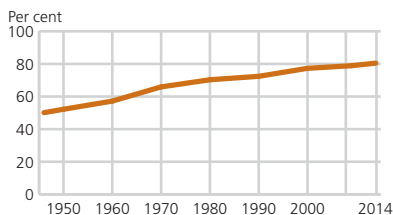
it coming, but it usually flattens out long before it reaches us. However, the grey tsunami is coming and, in some respects, we could say that it is already here. While only about 8 per cent of the population was aged 67 and over in 1950 the figure today is about 14 per cent. However, it will not be until after 2015 (when the large post-war group retires) that this figure will further increase to 17 per cent in 2030 and 21 per cent in 2050. The proportion of children under the age of 15 will continue to decline and will be approximately 17 per cent in 2050.

The grey tsunami is partly due to the fact that the population is growing older (more people at the top of the pyramid). Equally important is the low birth rate which means there are fewer at the bottom. On the other hand, the share of elderly people has been offset by the relatively high fertility rate in Norway and the fact that the immigrant population is young.

Town and country

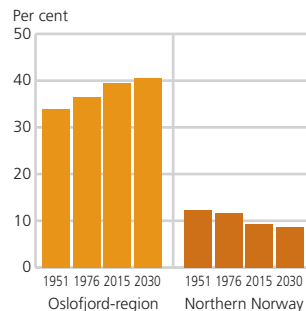
Eight out of ten people now live in urban areas. Following the Second World War this figure was only 50 per cent. There are 976 urban settlements throughout Norway and the growth in the number of inhabitants has been particularly high in the largest urban settlements.

Residents in urban areas¹



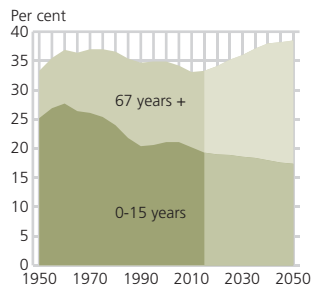
¹ A collection of houses is described as an urban settlement if at least 200 people live there and the distance between houses is less than 50 metres.

Percentage living in the Oslofjord region¹ and Northern Norway, 1951-2015 and projected for 2030

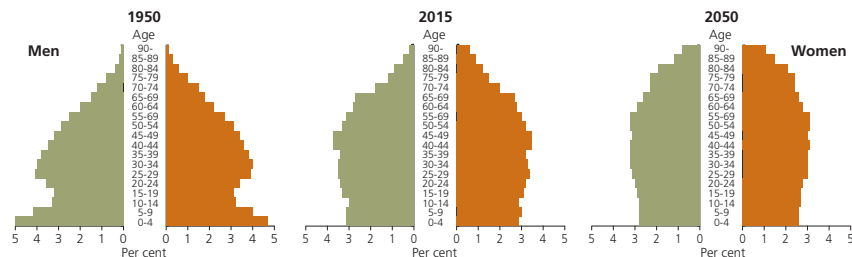


¹ Østfold, Akershus, Oslo, Buskerud and Vestfold.

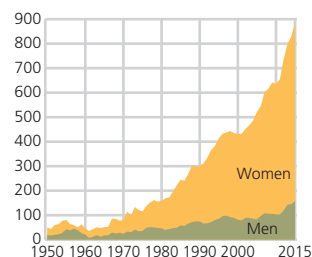
Percentage of children/young people and elderly in the population



Population. Men and women in different age groups. 1950 and 2015. 2050 projected



Number of men and women aged 100 years and older



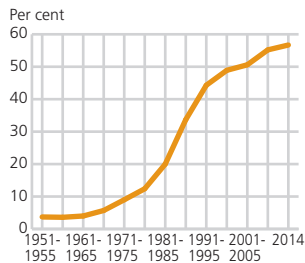
From generation to generation

Total fertility rate in selected countries. 2013

France	1.99
Ireland	1.96
Iceland	1.93
Sweden	1.89
United Kingdom	1.83
Norway	1.78
Finland	1.75
The Netherlands	1.68
Denmark	1.67
Austria	1.44
Germany	1.40
Italy	1.39
Greece	1.30
Spain	1.27
Portugal	1.21

Source: Eurostat.

Percentage of children born out of wedlock



Percentage of children born out of wedlock in selected countries. 2013

Country	Per cent
Iceland (2012)	66.9
Norway	55.2
Sweden	54.4
Belgium (2012)	52.3
Denmark	51.5
United Kingdom (2012)	47.6
Portugal	47.6
The Netherlands	47.4
Finland	42.1
Austria (2012)	41.5
Spain	40.9
Ireland (2012)	35.1
Germany	34.8
Italy	26.9
Switzerland	21.1
Greece	7.0

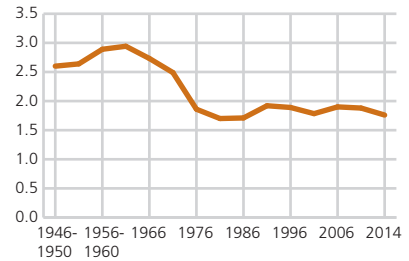
Source: Eurostat

Low fertility rate ...

The post-war baby boom lasted until the mid-1960s and was then followed by a decline which reached its lowest point at the beginning of the 1980s. Fertility then increased slightly and now appears to have stabilised at just under two children per woman.

If we disregard immigration and emigration, the total fertility rate in a country must be approximately 2.1 to avoid a decrease in population in the long term. Norway has remained below this level since the mid-1970s.

Total fertility rate¹



¹ Average number of live births per woman during her life-time, if the fertility pattern during the period remains the same in the entire fertile period and no death occurs.

... but high compared with other countries

The fall in the fertility rate in the past few decades is a general phenomenon in Europe and Norway is in fact one of the countries with the highest fertility rates in recent years. For example, the average fertility rate in the EU countries is now 1.6, with Spain, Portugal and Greece down to 1.3. The highest fertility rates in 2013 were in France, Iceland and Ireland. Also in these countries there are born less than two children per woman.

Almost six out of ten born outside of marriage

57 per cent of all children are now born outside of marriage compared with only about 3 per cent in the 1950s. The largest increase occurred in the 1970s and 1980s, but this increase has now subsided.

However, the vast majority of those born outside of marriage have parents who live together and only 13 per cent are born to single mothers. In the case of first-born children, 50 per cent are born to unmarried parents who live together and 18 per cent are born to single mothers. When the second child comes along, the parents are more often married.

Most up North

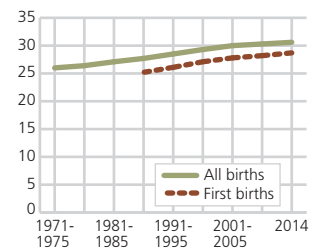
The majority of births outside of marriage are found in the three northern-most counties and Trøndelag. The fewest are found in Vest-Agder.

We also find a similar North-South divide in Europe. Iceland tops the list, followed by Sweden and Norway. Then come the Western European countries. Births outside of marriage are still a relatively rare phenomenon in many Southern European countries.

Older mothers

Due to longer periods of education and increased labour force participation, mothers are giving birth increasingly later in life. Since the start

Average childbearing age. All births and first births



of the 1970s, the average childbearing age has increased by approximately four years to 30.6. The average age for the first birth is 28.7 years.

This trend is particularly prevalent among the youngest. Around 1970, teenage births amounted to 11 per cent of all births while the current figure is less than 2 per cent. There are now more than twice the number of births among women who are aged 40 years and older.

More multiple births

For a long time the proportion of multiple births (primarily twins) was at about 1 per cent. This percentage began to increase from the end of the 1980s and reached almost 2 per cent in 2012. This figure has since fallen slightly. The increase is assumed to be associated with the increase in the childbearing ages of mothers and the greater prevalence of assisted fertility.

Abortion numbers stable

Abortion rates rose sharply at the start of the 1970s. Following the introduction of the Abortion Act in 1978, the figures have been relatively stable at between 14 000 and 16 000 per year and in 2014 just over 14 000 abortions were carried out. This is equivalent to 25 per cent of all live births.

The abortion rate is particularly high among young women aged 20-29. Each year approximately 2 per cent of women in this age group undergo an abortion. Among those aged 15 to 19, there is almost double the number of abortions as births.

Fewer adoptions

For a long time the annual number of adoptions was between 800 and 1 000. However, there has been a significant decrease in recent years. This is due to the fact that there are now fewer adoptions from abroad. The proportion of adoptions from abroad increased sharply until 2005, however has since decreased. Part of the reason for this is that there are fewer children in the world who are being put up for adoption. South Korea is the largest “supplier” country, followed by Colombia.

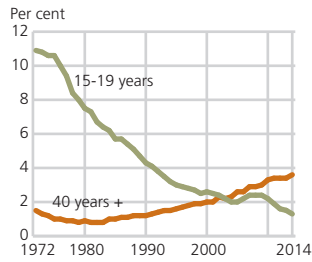
Of the adopted Norwegian children, the majority are step child adoptions, however foster children also make up a large group.

What's in a name?

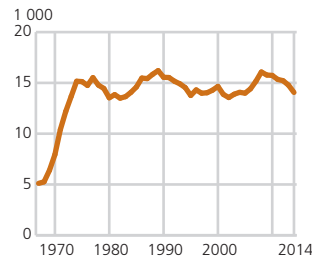
Less than 60 per cent of children are now baptised in a church. However, all children are given a name, regardless of whether they are born in or out of wedlock, are twins or adopted. Nora/Norah and Lucas/Lukas were the most popular names in 2014.

Fashions in names change and many of the current names were very popular about 100 years ago. In addition, many of the names are international, i.e. names that are also popular in other countries. Therefore, “Norwegian” names containing æ, ø and å are also disappearing. A third trend is that multiple names and double first names and hyphenated names (such as Else Marie and Ole-Petter) are losing their popularity.

Percentage of births by women aged 15-19 and 40+

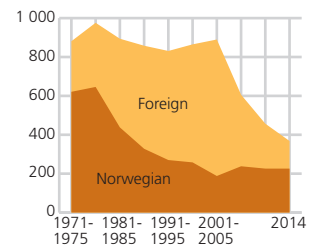


Number of abortions



Source: Statistics Norway and the Norwegian Institute of Public Health.

Numbers of adopted children, Norwegian and foreign



Most popular first names. 2014

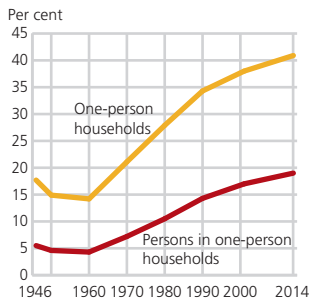
	Boys' names	Girls' names
1	Lucas/Lukas	Nora/Norah
2	William	Emma
3	Markus/Marcus	Sara/Sarah
4	Emil	Sofie/Sophie
5	Oskar/Oscar	Emilie
6	Mathias/Matias	Anna
7	Magnus	Linnea/Linea
8	Filip/Filip/Philip	Thea/Tea
9	Jakob/Jacob	Maja/Maia/Maya
10	Aksel/Axel	Sofia/Sophia

Single or cohabiting

Number of households and persons per household

	Number of households	Persons per household
1946	855 607	3.4
1950	959 310	3.3
1960	1 077 168	3.3
1970	1 296 734	2.9
1980	1 523 508	2.7
1990	1 759 363	2.4
2001	1 961 548	2.3
2010	2 170 893	2.2
2014	2 349 460	2.1

Percentage of one-person households and persons in one-person households (private households)



Married and cohabiting couples, with and without children living at home. Per cent

	1990	2014
Couples, total	100	100
Married, total	89.5	73.1
Without children	48.0	43.9
With children	41.5	29.2
Cohabitants, total	10.5	26.9
Without children	5.3	12.9
With children	5.1	14.0

More people live alone ...

The post-war period was the golden age of the nuclear family. The marriage rate was high and the percentage of one-person households decreased slightly. From the start of the 1970s the marriage rate then declined, while at the same time the number of divorces increased. This development has resulted in more than twice the number of one-person households and 41 per cent of households now consist of people living alone, equal to 19 per cent of all persons in private households.

In the population as a whole, there is no significant difference between the percentage of men and women who live alone. However, while single women are in the majority in the elderly population, men are in the majority among those who are younger. One-person households are particularly common in the centres of the largest cities and in sparsely populated areas.

... and more cohabit

The decline in recent years in the number of existing marriages is not only due to more people getting divorced and living alone. There is also a growing percentage who choose to live together without getting married.

Unmarried, cohabiting couples were included in the statistics as early as the end of the 1980s, but it is only in the last two decades that this form of partnership has become more common. In 2014, couples living together made up 27 per cent of all couples, an increase from 11 per cent in 1990. Furthermore, while cohabiting couples were previously most often childless, the majority now have children.

Among young people (under 30 years of age) it is more common to live together than to be married. Oslo and the counties from Trøndelag and further north have the highest percentage of unmarried couples living together. Eight out of the ten municipalities with the lowest percentage of cohabitants are situated in Rogaland and Vest-Agder, whereas the ten municipalities with the highest percentage are in Nord-Trøndelag and northwards.

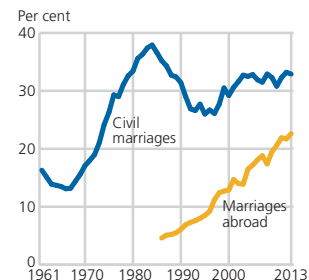
One in three marriages is a civil marriage

After the number of marriages reached a low point at the start of the 1990s, the number then increased for some years.

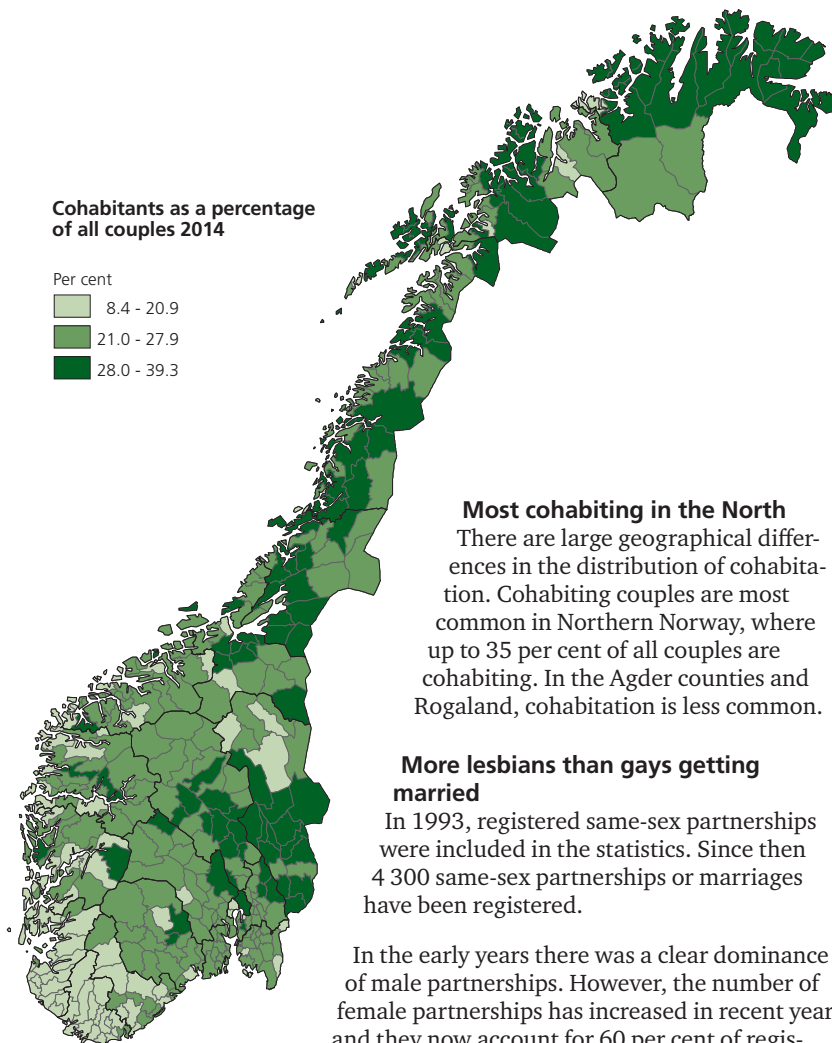
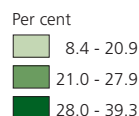
The percentage of civil marriages increased strongly in the 1970s and reached a peak at the beginning of the 1980s when 38 per cent of marriages were civil marriages. This figure subsequently decreased slightly, only to rise again.

With so many marriages now being civil marriages it must be assumed that this is due to, among other things, the fact that over 20 per cent are marrying for the second or third time. Another trend is to get married abroad. 23 per cent of all marriages take place abroad and the great majority of these are civil marriages.

Percentage of civil marriages and marriages abroad



Cohabitants as a percentage of all couples 2014



Most cohabiting in the North

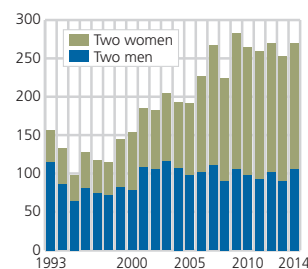
There are large geographical differences in the distribution of cohabitation. Cohabiting couples are most common in Northern Norway, where up to 35 per cent of all couples are cohabiting. In the Agder counties and Rogaland, cohabitation is less common.

More lesbians than gays getting married

In 1993, registered same-sex partnerships were included in the statistics. Since then 4 300 same-sex partnerships or marriages have been registered.

In the early years there was a clear dominance of male partnerships. However, the number of female partnerships has increased in recent years and they now account for 60 per cent of registered same-sex marriages.

Number of registered same-sex partnerships/marriages¹



¹ From and including 2009.

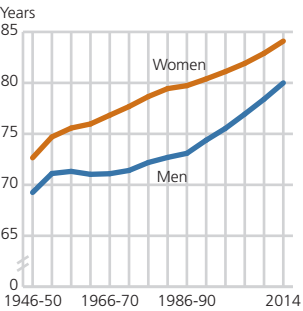
Divorces

Following a long-term and marked increase in the number of divorces up to the beginning of the 1990s, the figure now appears to have stabilised at approximately 10 000 annually. This means that about 40 per cent of all marriages may end in divorce.

However, because of the ever-growing numbers of cohabiting couples, the divorce figures will be of less relevance as an indicator of break-ups, since there are no figures for the number of break-ups involving cohabiting couples.

Life and death

Life expectancy at birth



Remaining life expectancy at different ages. 2014

	Women	Men
0 years	84.1	80.0
10 years	74.3	70.3
20 years	64.4	60.4
30 years	54.5	50.8
40 years	44.7	41.2
50 years	35.1	31.7
60 years	25.9	22.8
70 years	17.4	14.8
80 years	9.9	8.2

Life expectancy at birth in selected countries. 2013

	Women	Men
Japan	86.6	80.2
Spain	86.1	80.2
France	85.6	79.0
Italy	85.2	80.3
Iceland	83.7	80.5
Finland	84.1	78.0
Austria	83.8	78.6
Portugal	84.0	77.6
Sweden	83.8	80.2
Norway	83.8	79.8
Greece	84.0	78.7
Germany	83.2	78.6
Ireland	83.1	79.0
Belgium	83.2	78.1
The Netherlands	83.2	79.5
Denmark	82.4	78.3

Source: Eurostat and the World Health Organisation.

A long life

Life expectancy is often used as an indicator of the health of the population. Today, a new-born boy can expect to live to 80 years of age, while a new-born girl can expect to live to 84.1. This is a marked increase since the period from 1946-1950, when the respective figures were 69.3 and 72.7.

In the 1950s and 1960s the difference in life expectancy between men and women was increasing. This was primarily due to an increase in the male mortality rate from cardiovascular diseases. This gap has decreased in recent years.

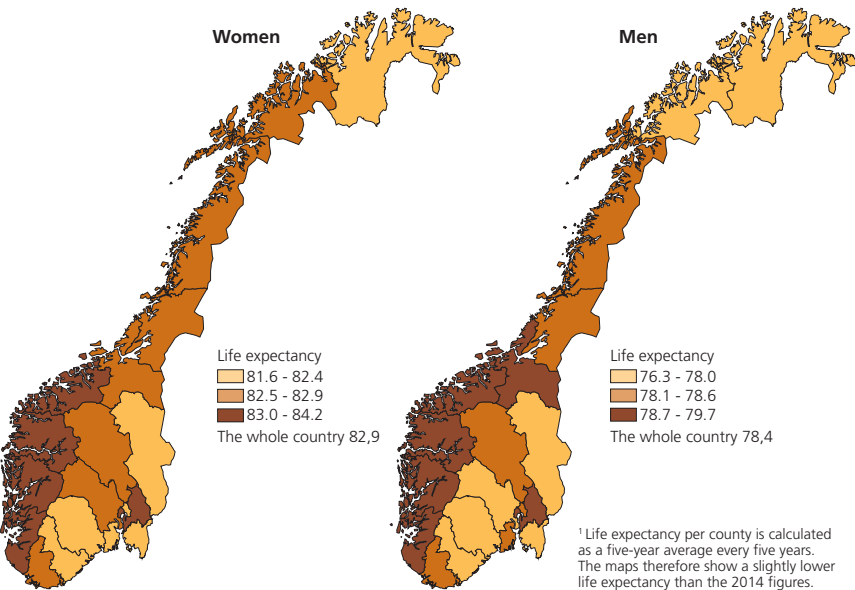
Norwegian women no longer live the longest

During some periods in history, Norwegian women have had the highest life expectancy in the world, however today women in a number of other countries can expect to live longer. At the top are Japanese women, with a life expectancy of almost 87 years of age. However, there are also many other (including Southern European) women who can now expect to live longer than their Norwegian counterparts.

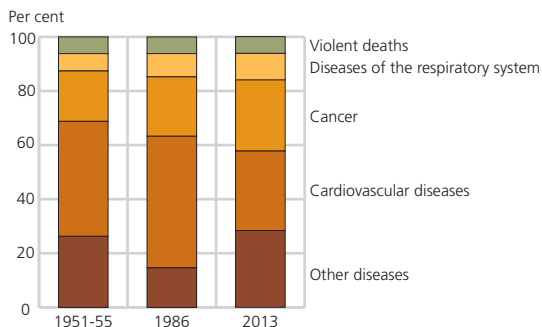
The gender differences in terms of life expectancy appear to follow a type of North-South divide. In the Nordic countries, women live only three-four years longer than men, while Spanish, French and Portuguese women live about six years longer.

Internationally there are large differences in life expectancy, and this is also the case for regions in Norway. For example, men in Sogn og Fjordane can expect to live for almost 80 years while in Finnmark a man can expect to live for only about 76 years.

Life expectancy at birth. 2006-2010¹



Causes of death



Causes of death

Immediately following the Second World War, cardio-vascular diseases were already the most common cause of death and during the 1960s and 1970s increasing numbers died from these types of diseases. In 1986 they were responsible for almost half of all deaths. However, the significance of these diseases has since fallen significantly.

In contrast, cancer deaths have been increasing for almost the entire period, however have now stabilised at about 26 per cent. Diseases of the respiratory system such as bronchitis, emphysema and chronic respiratory diseases are increasing.

The number of violent deaths has remained relatively stable in the post-war period. However, while death by drowning and accidents related to fishing and shipping previously dominated the statistics, today it is falls, traffic accidents and suicides that dominate.

Sickness absence

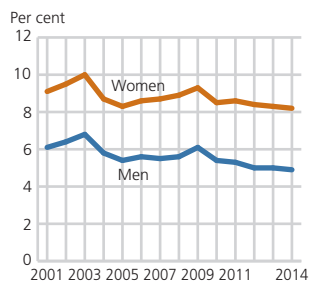
After the sickness absence rate reached a peak in 2003, it has fallen by almost 2 percentage points and slightly more for men than women. Long-term sickness absence (certified by a doctor) accounts for approximately 85 percent of total sickness absence. Women have a higher sickness absence rate than men, particularly because there is a higher rate of sickness absence certified by a doctor, which is, among other things, related to the fact that this also includes absence in connection with pregnancy and birth.

Fewer daily smokers

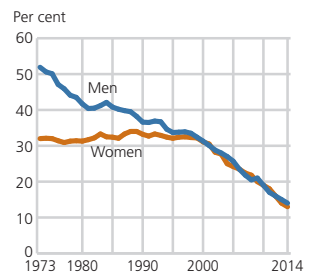
Since the beginning of the 1970s, the proportion of daily smokers has decreased considerably. For men, the percentage has fallen from over 50 to 14 per cent. For women, the figure remained stable at just over 30 per cent for a long period, however has now fallen to 13 per cent. In addition, 9 per cent say that they smoke occasionally.

While there has been a decrease in the proportion of men who smoke, there has in recent years been an increase in the percentage of those who take snuff. 15 per cent of men say that they take snuff daily and 6 per cent take snuff occasionally. While previously snuff was mostly used by older men, today it is most common among younger men. There is a small but growing proportion of women who take snuff.

Sickness absence rates



Percentage daily smokers aged 16-74



Wise women

Since 1955 the total number of pupils and students has increased from approximately 550 000 to about 1.1 million. This means that more than one in five Norwegians are now studying.

Primary and lower secondary school

With the transition from seven years to nine years of compulsory primary and lower secondary school, the number of pupils increased in the 1960s and the beginning of the 1970s.

The number of pupils fell until the mid-1990s, but then increased sharply when school attendance became compulsory for six-year olds in 1997 (Reform 97). In the autumn of 2014 there were 619 000 pupils at primary and lower secondary schools.

Upper secondary school

After a slight fall in the number of pupils (including apprentices) in upper secondary education in the 1990s, there has been an increase the past few years.

In 2014 there were 119 800 pupils studying general subjects and 78 400 studying vocational subjects. The majority of those studying general subjects were girls (56 per cent), while there were more boys (57 per cent) studying vocational subjects.

About 90 per cent of 16-18 year olds now attend upper secondary school compared with 65 per cent in 1980.

Universities and colleges

The marked growth in higher education levelled off at the end of the 1990s. The total number of students is 272 500 (including students abroad) and one in three 19-24 year olds is now enrolled in higher education.

Two out of ten drop out of upper secondary school

Nine out of ten Norwegian youths aged 16-18 are currently enrolled in upper secondary education, which can thus almost be regarded as compulsory. However, about two out of ten drop out before their education is completed and only seven out of ten complete their education in the course of a five year period. The highest drop-out rate is among pupils in vocational studies. There are also clear gender differences, with boys dropping out more often than girls.

Wise women

Since the mid-1980s, women have been in the majority among students, and today six out of ten students are women. The preponderance of women is particularly high at university colleges (65 per cent).

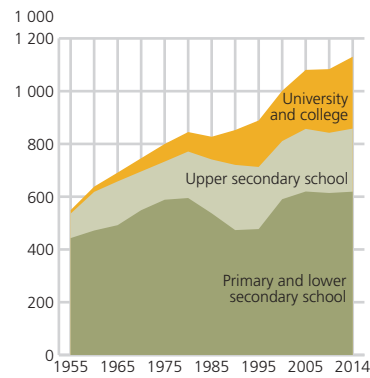
Women now also make up the majority (61 per cent) of graduates at universities and university colleges. Women make up 57 per cent of students at Master degree level and 63 per cent at Bachelor degree level. They are now also in the majority with regard to PhDs. In 2014, more than 50 per cent of doctorates were for the first time taken by women.

More women than men now have higher education

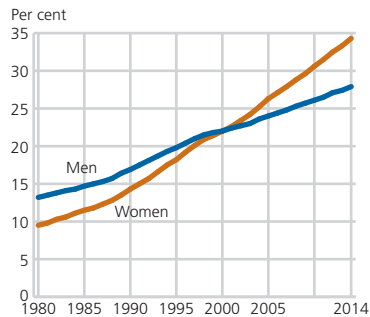
Almost three times as many Norwegians now have a degree from a university or university college compared with 1980. In addition, more women than men have higher education. However, men still have slightly longer higher education than women.

Among those under the age of 60 there are now far more women than men with higher education. The gender differences are particularly significant among the 25-29 age group in which 54 per cent of women have higher education, compared with 35 per cent of men. In the age group under 40 women now outnumber men with long higher education.

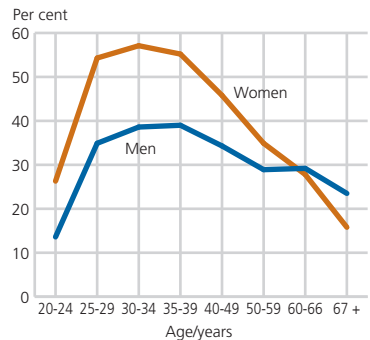
Number of students in primary and lower secondary education, upper secondary education, and university/college



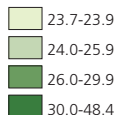
Percentage of men and women with higher education



Men and women in different age groups with higher education. 2014



Percentage of the population 16 years and more with higher education. 2014. Per cent



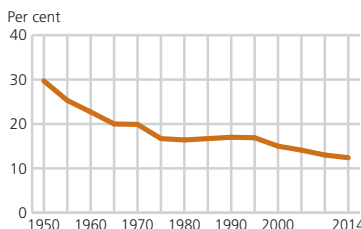
The whole country: 31.1

Fewer users of Nynorsk

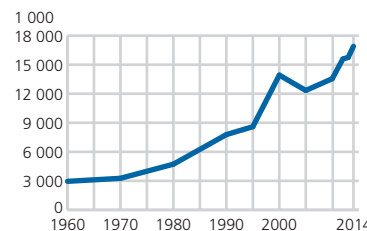
Following a marked decline from 1950 to 1976, the percentage of users of Nynorsk (one of the two official forms of Norwegian) in primary and lower secondary schools stabilised at around 17 per cent. However, the percentage has continued to fall in recent years and was slightly more than 12 per cent in 2014.

Almost nine out of ten Nynorsk pupils are found in the four counties in Western Norway. Sogn og Fjordane has the highest proportion of Nynorsk pupils with 97 per cent.

Percentage of pupils in primary and lower secondary education using Nynorsk



Number of students abroad



Source: The State Educational Loan Fund.

Almost five out of ten Oslo residents have higher education compared with about two out of ten in Hedmark and Oppland. The differences are even greater between municipalities:

Municipalities with the highest/lowest percentage of residents with higher education. 2014

	Percentage
Highest	
Bærum	50.2
Oslo	48.0
Asker	47.4
Nesodden	42.8
Stavanger	41.6
Lowest	
Røst	13.8
Roan	13.5
Torsken	13.5
Værøy	13.3
Beirarn	12.1

Number of graduate students abroad: The most popular countries. 2014

	Number of students
United Kingdom	5 182
Denmark	2 974
USA	1 837
Polen	1 571
Hungary	928
Australia	771
Sweden	727
Slovakia	488

Out in the world ...

More and more young people are studying abroad. The number of students studying abroad has increased five-fold since 1960, with a particularly large increase in the 1990s. The number then fell slightly only to increase once more.

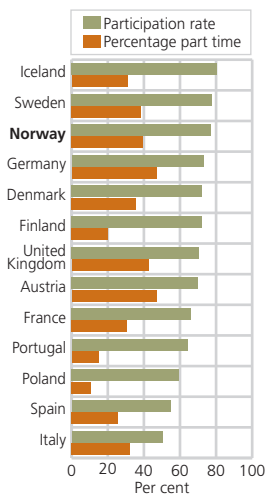
In 2014, there were 16 900 students studying abroad in addition to about 8 000 part-time students (students studying single subjects). This represents almost 10 per cent of the total student population. Women are also now in the majority among students abroad – more than six out of ten students abroad are women.

... and to Norway

Not only Norwegian students travel abroad. The number of foreign students in Norway has also greatly increased. There are now about 21 000 foreign students here in Norway, a three-fold increase since the start of the new millennium. The majority of students are from Europe, however there are also a high number from Russia and China.

Women at work

Labour force participation rate for women aged 15-64 and the percentage working part-time. Selected countries. 2014

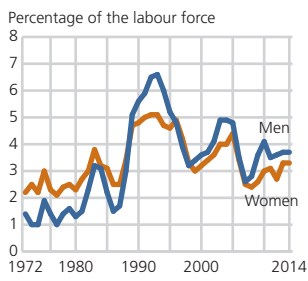


Source: Eurostat.

Labour force = the total of the employed and unemployed.

Working hours: Full-time = 37 hours and upwards, or 32-36 hours when stated that this is full-time.

Unemployed aged 15-74



There are almost the same number of women in the labour force as men ...

In 2014, the number of people in employment reached approximately 2.7 million, equivalent to about 50 per cent of the population. Women accounted for 47 per cent of the labour force.

Labour force participation for women grew significantly from the mid-1970s to 1986. During the economic recession from 1987 to 1993, the participation rate for women remained steady, but fell slightly for men. Since 1993, labour force participation has again increased for both men and women, however the greatest increase has been for women. In 2014 the labour force comprised 68 per cent of women and 74 per cent of men aged 15 to 74.

... but shorter working hours

Many women continue to work part-time, however the share of female part-time workers is declining. While 47 per cent worked full-time in 1980, the corresponding figure had increased to 62 per cent in 2014. The percentage of men in full-time employment remains steady at about 85 per cent, and those who work part-time are mainly students.

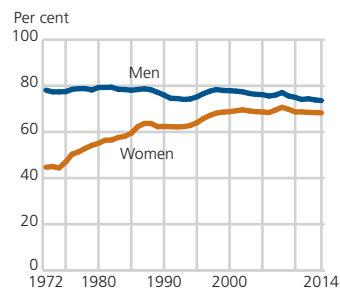
Since 1972, the number of actual working hours per week for men has fallen by seven hours, from 44 to 37. Weekly working hours for women fell slightly until 1983, as the growth in employment at that time was mostly in part-time work. Since 1983, there has been higher growth in full-time employment, and the average number of working hours for women has increased by approximately two hours, to 31.

... and lower unemployment

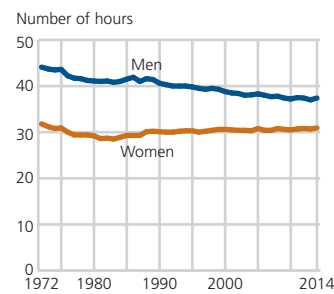
From the beginning of the 1970s and up to the recession of 1983-1984, the unemployment rate remained steady at just under 2 per cent of the labour force, however was always about 1 percentage point higher for women than for men.

When unemployment increased in the 1980s, the gender differences levelled out, and from 1988 to 1995 the unemployment rate was higher for men. The gender differences have subsequently narrowed, however have increased slightly in recent years.

Labour force participation rates for men and women aged 15-74



Working hours per week for men and women in employment



More women in the public sector

Today, approximately one-third of those employed work in the public sector; 47 per cent of women compared with only 19 per cent of men. Women are more often employed in local government while there is a more equal distribution of men between local government and central government.

Still male and female professions

Despite the increasing educational level, male and female career paths are still quite traditional. Typical female professions are preschool, primary and lower secondary school teachers, nurses and cleaners. Typical male professions are tradesmen, building and construction workers, drivers and engineers.

In some professions, for example, mail carriers and human resource managers, the numbers are approximately equal for men and women.

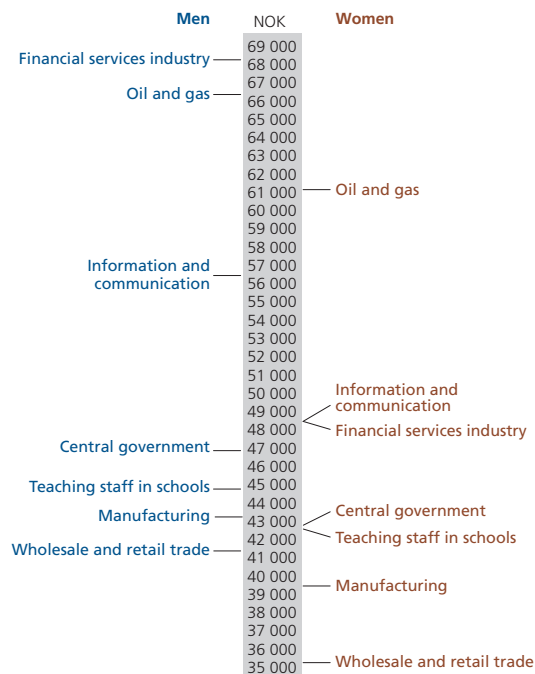
Mind the gap!

Since 1970, the annual wage has increased from NOK 29 700 to NOK 505 500 in 2014. This represents an increase in real wages of about 120 per cent when adjusted for price inflation.

In 2014, the average monthly wages for men and women (calculated as full-time equivalents) were NOK 44 900 and NOK 38 800 respectively. In other words, a woman's monthly wage amounts to 86.4 per cent of a man's monthly wage. This difference has not changed much in recent years. However, when viewed in a somewhat longer term perspective, the difference has become smaller. In around 1960, a woman's wage was 60 per cent of that of a man.

However, this varies from one industry to another. In financial services a woman's wage is just 71 per cent of a man's, while in the education sector the figure is 95 per cent.

Monthly wages in selected industries. Full-time employees¹. 3rd quarter 2014

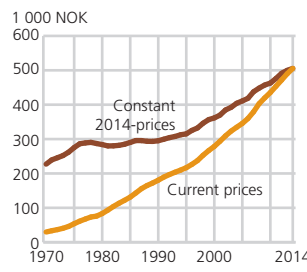


¹ Working hours agreed upon = 33 hours or more per week.

Percentage of employed women in selected professions. 2014



Annual wage. NOK

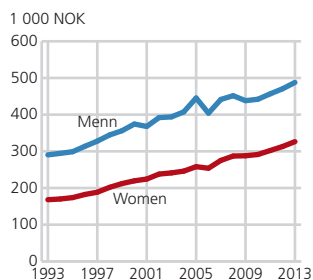


Rich and poor

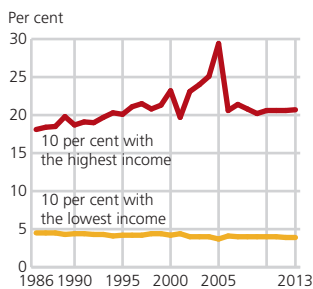
Median income

The income that divides the population in two. There will therefore be an equal number of people with an income higher than the median income to those with an income lower than the median income.

Average gross income. 2013 NOK



Proportion of total after-tax income per consumption unit which falls to those with the highest/lowest income¹



¹ People in student households not included.

Elderly couples with strong growth

Since 1990 the average income after tax in Norwegian households has increased in real terms by 66 per cent and was NOK 464 500 in 2013. The largest income growth is found among elderly couples, however elderly people living alone have also seen their income double. The lowest increase in income has been among people living alone and couples under the age of 45 and among single parents.

Median income after tax¹ for different types of households. NOK

	1990	2000	2005	2010	2013	Percentage change 1990-2013
All households	279 000	319 600	379 800	428 200	464 500	66
Persons under 45 living alone	186 800	220 200	232 100	250 800	267 800	43
Persons aged 45-64 living alone	177 800	216 900	244 200	275 500	299 800	69
Persons aged 65+ living alone	117 500	146 200	175 600	212 900	238 500	103
Couples without children. Eldest under 45	361 000	447 000	491 000	542 200	552 500	53
Couples without children. Eldest 45-64	372 400	454 500	527 400	604 200	679 700	83
Couples without children. Eldest 65+	230 700	295 000	360 600	444 200	511 500	122
Couples with children. Youngest child 0-6	407 500	513 400	576 700	654 900	699 900	72
Couples with children. Youngest child 7-17	447 700	564 200	639 700	735 700	803 500	79
Couples with adult children. Youngest child 18+	491 500	626 000	699 800	804 700	892 000	81
Single mothers/fathers with children 0-17	234 400	291 400	326 900	362 800	381 200	63
Single mothers/fathers with adult children 18+	312 300	382 400	405 700	460 300	498 200	60

¹ Fixed 2013 NOK. Student households not included.

Income for women two-thirds of that for men

In 2013, the average gross income for all adults was NOK 407 100 and the average assessed tax was approximately 25 per cent. The fall in income for men in 2006 was mainly due to a reduction in earnings from self-employment and dividends as a result of new tax rules.

While average monthly earnings for women in full-time employment are approximately 86 per cent of men's, women's gross annual income is only 67 per cent of men's. In 1984, the corresponding figure was 47 per cent.

The differences in income between women and men are much larger than the differences in wages primarily because there are fewer women in the labour force and they more often work part-time. Men also receive a relatively higher share of the capital income. In addition, the great majority of pensioners on a minimum state retirement pension are women.

Slightly higher differences in income

The income share of the 10 per cent of the population with the lowest household income has fallen slightly since 1986. At the same time, the 10 per cent with the highest income increased their share from 18.1 to about 21 per cent. Due to the notified changes regarding taxation of share dividends, extremely high dividends were taken out between 2002-2005. This caused a marked increase in the income

disparity. With the new tax rules in 2006, the payment of dividends has been significantly reduced and the income distribution has evened out.

NOK 2 million in net wealth

The wealth statistics was previously based on the assessed value of the property, however from and including 2010 this was replaced with the calculated market value. Therefore, the most important wealth component increases more or less in line with property prices.

Composition of household wealth. NOK

	2010	2011	2012	2013
Real capital ¹	1 952 300	2 098 400	2 279 700	2 378 000
Total gross financial capital	763 600	776 600	804 700	863 700
Bank deposits	335 000	357 500	380 300	402 100
Other financial capital	428 600	419 100	424 400	461 600
Gross wealth	2 715 900	2 875 000	3 084 400	3 241 700
Debt	991 600	1 048 200	1 106 700	1 175 000
Net wealth	1 724 400	1 826 800	1 977 700	2 066 700

¹ Including calculated market value of property(ies).

Large disparities

Like other average figures, these figures also conceal large disparities and the distribution of net wealth is very uneven. In 2013, the 10 per cent of households with the greatest wealth owned approximately half of the total wealth, with an average of NOK 10.2 million.

The distribution of wealth is far more uneven than the distribution of income primarily because wealth is accumulated over time (often over generations) while income refers to one single year.

Heavy debt burden for many, but interest less important

Average debt per household has soared in recent years and was NOK 1.2 million in 2013. Since the increase in debt has been greater than the increase in income, there are also more households with high housing expenses. The share of households with debt that is at least three times higher than the total household income is now 16 per cent. 4 per cent have debt that is more than five times their income.

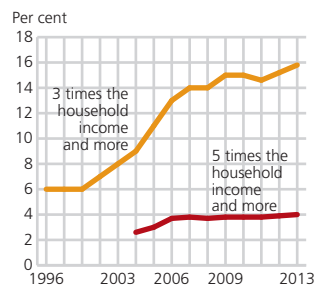
However, the significance of interest costs has declined. Up to the beginning of the 1990s, interest costs amounted to 13-14 per cent of household income. This proportion has subsequently fallen due to lower interest rates.

8 per cent with low income for more than 3 years

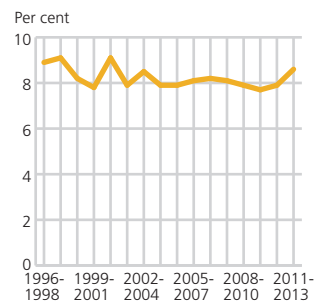
The percentage of people with low income largely depends on how this is defined. Using the EU definition, (which is the most frequently used), 12.2 per cent of the population had an income below the low-income threshold in 2013. According to the EU definition, low income is a household income per consumption unit that is less than 60 per cent of the median income for the population. Excluding students from the calculation, the share with a low income is 10.5 per cent.

If we calculate the share of people who have low income over a three-year period, the percentage is slightly lower. In the period from 2011-2013, 8.6 per cent had persistent low income according to the EU definition and the percentage has decreased slightly since the start of the new millennium.

Percentage of households with debt three times the household income and more, and five times the household income and more



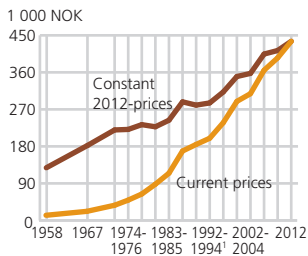
Percentage of people with persistent low income¹



¹ Students not included.

Big spenders

Consumer expenditure per household



Consumption has more than tripled since 1958

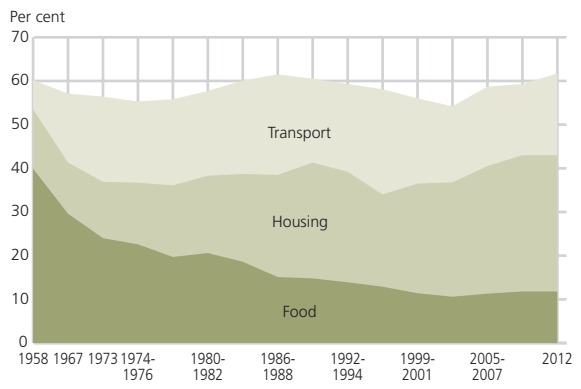
In 2012, the average annual total consumer expenditure per household was NOK 435 500. In 1958, the equivalent amount was NOK 11 088, which corresponds to approximately NOK 129 000 when converted to 2012 NOK. If it is also taken into consideration that household size has decreased during this period, real consumption has more than quadrupled.

Less money on food ...

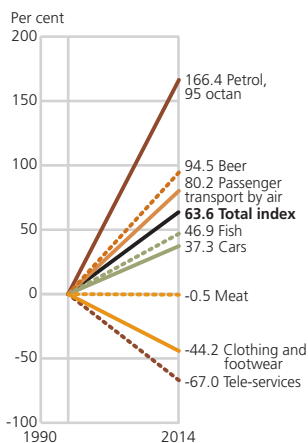
Two main trends characterise the development in consumption patterns over the last 50 years.

The proportion spent on food and beverages was decreasing until 2000 and has since stabilised (at the same time we are more concerned about food prices). The average household now spends just under 12 per cent of their household budget on food, compared with 40 per cent in 1958.

Percentage of household consumption expenditure spent on food, housing and transport



Growth in prices; selected goods and services. 1990-2014



... and more on housing

On the other hand, we are spending an increasing share of the budget on housing – 31 per cent in 2012. This has more than doubled since the 1960s. Transport expenditures (purchase, maintenance and running of motor vehicle) also increased until around 1970, however have fallen slightly in recent years.

Less on clothing and footwear

It is perhaps somewhat surprising that we also spend a smaller share of the household budget on clothing and footwear. We now spend about 5 per cent on clothing and footwear which is less than half the amount we spent in 1958.

This does not mean that we buy less clothing and footwear than before, only that these products have become relatively cheaper, because the price growth for these items has been much lower than that of most other goods.

First more, then less on mobile phones

The share of consumer expenditure spent on telephone equipment and services was increasing for a long time, from just over 1 per cent in 1967 to 2.5 per cent in 2005. Since then the share has fallen to under 2 per cent, and in 2012 we spent an average of almost NOK 8 000 per year.

Increased wine consumption

Since 1945, the total consumption of alcohol has more than tripled, and an adult now drinks on average six and a half litres of pure alcohol annually.

The consumption of alcohol increased steadily up to around 1980, primarily because of the increasing consumption of beer and spirits. The consumption of spirits then fell by more than 50 per cent while the consumption of beer stabilised. After an increase until 2011, total consumption has fallen slightly in recent years, something that is again due to decreasing consumption of beer and spirits. However, these sales figures do not include either tax-free sales at airports or cross-border trade, both of which have also increased in recent years. The Norwegian Institute for Alcohol and Drug Research (SIRUS) estimates the sale per person to be about 1 litre more than Statistics Norway's figures and characterizes the development as a flattening rather than a decrease.

Despite this increase in consumption, we are not spending more of the household budget on alcohol. In the past few years, we have spent just under 2 per cent on beer, wine and spirits.

Changing eating habits ...

Not only do we spend less money on food, but we also buy different kinds of food.

Norway is no longer a country of "potato eaters". Since 1958, the consumption of potatoes has fallen to almost one-third, to 27 kg per person (more than 5 kg being consumed as potato crisps, chips etc.). The consumption of butter, margarine and oils has also halved during this period.

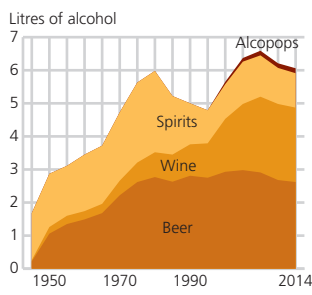
While the consumption of meat has remained largely stable for the past 25 years, we are eating more fruit and vegetables.

... and drinking habits

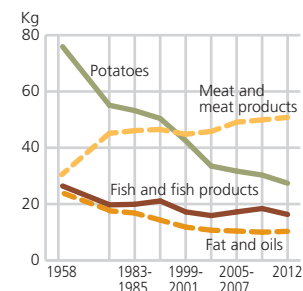
It is not only when it comes to alcohol that our drinking habits have changed. The consumption of milk has fallen from almost 170 litres per person to around 70 litres. Whereas most people used to drink whole milk, semi-skimmed and skimmed milk are most popular nowadays.

On the other hand, the consumption of non-alcoholic beverages (mineral water, juice and soft drink) has multiplied many times over since 1958, and we drink almost 110 litres annually. This increase roughly corresponds to the fall in milk consumption.

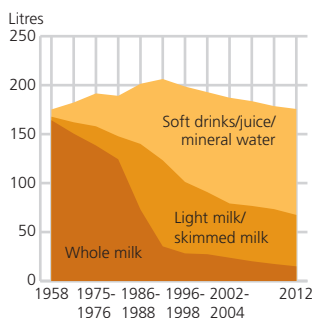
Alcohol sales per inhabitant aged 15 and over



Consumption of selected food items per person per year

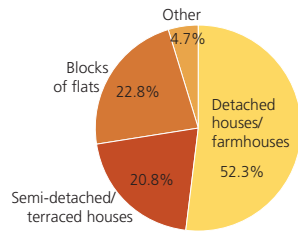


Consumption of milk and mineral water per person per year



My home is my castle

Dwellings. 2014



Eight out of ten live in small houses

There are approximately 2 466 000 dwellings in Norway. This unsurprisingly corresponds roughly to the number of households (household = to hold a house together).

52 per cent of the dwellings are detached houses (or farmhouses). 21 per cent are semi-detached houses, terraced houses and other small houses, while 23 per cent are blocks of flats or tenements.

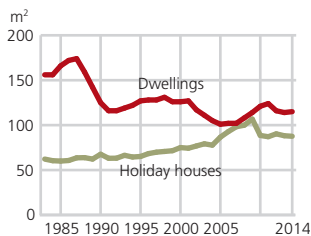
More than eight out of ten households have a home with a garden or a site.

Eight out of ten own their own home

A total of 78 per cent of households own their homes, while 17 per cent are tenants. The share of tenants has increased since 1990, especially in the cities. Compared with, for example, Denmark and Sweden, the percentage of home ownership in Norway is high.

Young people and people living on their own are becoming increasingly likely to rent accommodation, a development that is partly due to higher property prices, especially in the large cities.

Average utility floor space for new dwellings and holiday homes



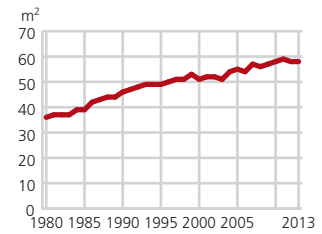
Smaller homes – larger cabins

In the mid-1980s, newly-built dwellings were almost three times bigger than new holiday houses. Housing sizes were subsequently reduced due to the increasing proportion of apartment blocks. At the same time, the size of new holiday homes has increased considerably, and in 2007 we built cabins that were about the same size as our homes. The difference has increased again in recent years.

Plenty of room ...

Despite now building smaller homes, the average dwelling has four rooms, an increase from 3.6 in 1980. Due to the fact that the households during the same period have also become smaller (2.1 residents per dwelling compared to 2.7 in 1980), in relative terms the dwellings are also becoming more spacious. Assuming that those living in homes with at least three rooms more than the number of persons in the household live very spacious, this now applies to about one-third of the population.

Living area per person



... and higher housing standards

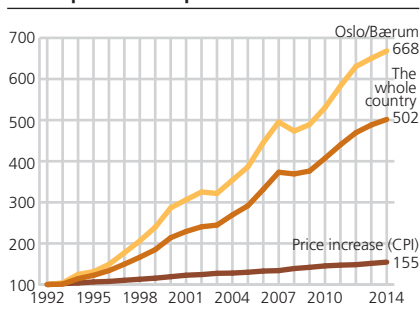
In 1980, 10 per cent of the population still lacked a bathroom or shower. By 1990 this figure was already down to 1 per cent. At the same time, the percentage of people with two or more bathrooms in the home rose from 18 per cent in 1988 to 39 per cent in 2012.

Housing prices have increased five-fold since 1992

The price of homes increased by 400 per cent from 1992 to 2014. By comparison, the general price increase during the same period has been approximately 55 per cent.

The price of flats has risen far more than the price of detached houses, and the increase has been particularly high in the Oslo area. In Oslo and Bærum the price of homes has increased more than six-fold.

House price development. Index 1992=100



Well-equipped homes

Norwegian homes are not only spacious and of a high standard, but also very well equipped. "All" households have a TV, nine out of ten have a freezer and almost as many have a washing machine. Nine out of ten households have a PC. However, only eight in ten households have a dishwasher.

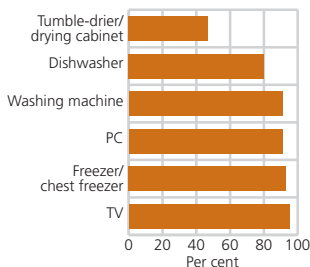
452 000 holiday homes

In 2015, there were 452 000 holiday homes (cabins and summer houses) in Norway. Most of these were situated in Oppland (48 900) and Buskerud (45 300). The number of holiday houses per square kilometre was highest in Vestfold (6.6) and lowest in Finnmark (0.24).

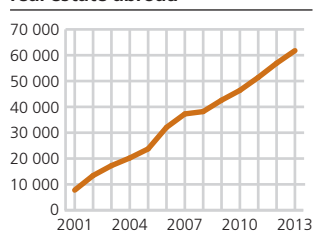
Just over 20 per cent of all households report that they own a holiday home, and this proportion has remained almost the same since 1980. In addition, very many people have access to a holiday home, meaning that four out of ten now own or have access to a holiday home.

A relatively new trend is that many are now purchasing holiday homes abroad. Since 2001, the number of people who own real estate abroad has increased more than eight-fold and was 61 800 in 2013. Spain and Sweden are the countries that have attracted the majority of buyers, followed by France and Turkey.

Percentage of households with various durable consumer goods. 2012

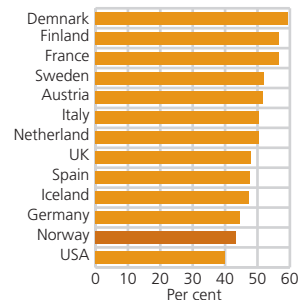


Number of persons who own real estate abroad



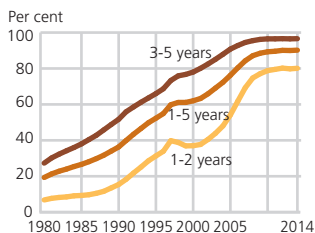
From cradle to grave

Public expenditure as a percentage of GDP in selected countries. 2012

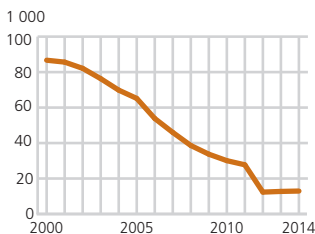


Source: OECD.

Kindergarten coverage

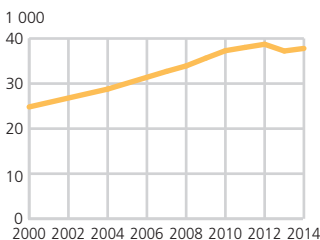


Number of children with cash benefit. As of 30 September



Source: Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration.

Number of children under protective care. As of 31 December



The growth of the welfare state

In addition to responsibility for the health and education of the population, the primary tasks of the welfare state are the care of children, the elderly and others in need of care, as well as the provision of economic security for the individual. The growth in the welfare state is a reflection of how the public sector has taken over responsibility for care and welfare services that were previously undertaken by the families themselves.

The development of the welfare state is reflected in various ways in the statistics; for example when we look at public expenditure as a percentage of the gross domestic product. Public expenditure accounted for approximately 30 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP) in around 1960. This increased gradually to over 50 per cent at the beginning of the 1990s, but has subsequently fallen somewhat. This decline is partly due to the large oil revenues and high GDP in recent years.

The bulk of public expenditure is spent on education, health care, social benefits and welfare. By comparison, in countries such as Sweden and Denmark the percentage of GDP that is made up of public expenditure is more than 50 per cent.

Kindergartens for all children?

There were approximately 6 200 kindergartens in Norway in 2014. Over half of these were private and accounted for 48 per cent of all kindergarten places.

A total of 286 000 children now have a kindergarten place and the kindergarten coverage now appears to have stabilised. 90 per cent of children aged 1-5 now have a kindergarten place, which is more than five times the number in 1980.

Almost all of the eldest children (aged 3-5) have a kindergarten place. The kindergarten coverage for the youngest children decreased for a few years after 1999 when cash benefits for parents with young children were introduced, however this has since increased to 80 per cent.

In recent years there has been a marked decline in the number of children receiving cash payments; from 86 700 in 2000 to 27 700 in 2011. In 2012 cash payments to two year olds were stopped and in September 2014, 12 900 children received cash payments, which amounts to 23 per cent of all one year olds, the same share as the year before.

Child welfare service: More children under protective care

During the last 50 years, the number of children receiving assistance from the Child Welfare Service at the end of the year has increased more than six-fold from 6 000 to 37 800. An even greater number of children received support in one form or another during the year – almost 54 000 in 2014. This is equivalent to about 4 per cent of all children aged 0-17.

Most of these children receive different forms of assistance, such as visit homes, personal support contacts or kindergarten. About one-third of the children have been placed outside the family, the majority in foster homes. The use of emergency homes has increased sharply in recent years.

Fewer receiving social assistance

The number of social assistance recipients rose steeply in the 1980s and peaked at 166 000 in 1994. The numbers then decreased until 2008 – and then again increased to the current 125 400. This represents just over 2 per cent of the entire population and almost 4 per cent of the population aged between 20-66.

In 2014, the average recipient was on benefits for five months and the average amount received was NOK 8 680 per month.

The share of social assistance recipients in the population is particularly high among young people as well as single persons (especially men) and single parents. There are also an increasing number of immigrants among the recipients, and immigrants and Norwegian-born inhabitants with an immigrant background made up more than one-third of social assistance recipients in 2014.

The number of disability pensioners remains stable

In the mid-1970s, around 140 000 people received disability pensions, with men and women equally represented. The number then increased dramatically in the 1980s, especially among women. At the beginning of the 1990s, this growth levelled off and the number fell for some years before increasing again after 1995.

In 2014, a total of 312 000 people were receiving disability pensions – 181 000 women and 131 000 men. This represents approximately 9 per cent of the population aged 18-67. Among people up to the age of 35, slightly more men than women receive disability pensions, however as the age increases women become the majority.

The marked increase in the number of female disability pensioners must be seen in connection with the strong growth in female labour market participation during the same period. In particular, the percentage suffering from musculo-skeletal diseases has risen.

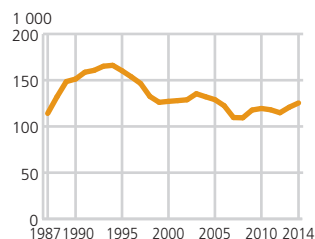
Caring for the elderly: From institutions to homes

The public sector's care for the elderly services can be roughly divided into three main types: Institutions, homes for the aged and disabled, and home-based services.

Since the mid-1990s, there has been a clear rise in the number of users of municipal government nursing and care services, primarily as a result of the growth in home care. There has been a particular increase in the number of people receiving nursing care at home. The number of places in homes for the aged and disabled has also grown sharply.

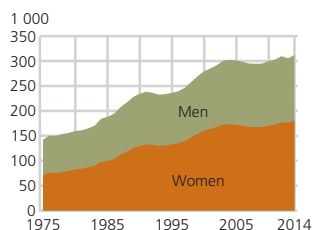
In recent years, the number of places in institutions (nursing homes and homes for the elderly) has decreased somewhat, partly as a result of renovations aimed at providing more single-bed rooms, which now amount to 97 per cent of rooms provided. This means that almost 6 per cent of residents live in double rooms.

Economic social assistance¹. Number of recipients



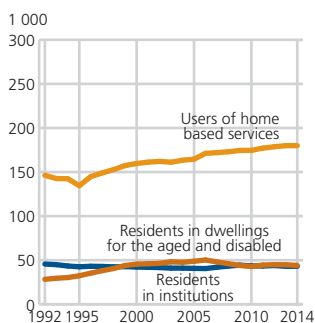
¹ Figures for 2003-2004 including benefits to refugees and immigrants.

Number of disability pensioners¹



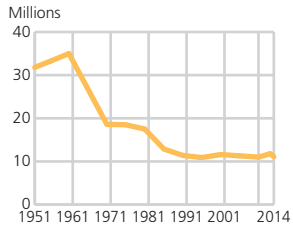
¹ From and including 2004 people with time limited disability benefits are included. Source: Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration.

Users of various nursing and care services



Hall and stage

Number of cinema visits



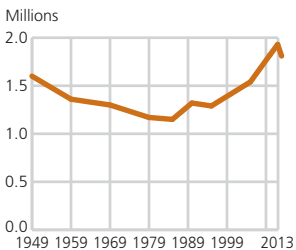
Cinema visits stable

The 1950s were the golden age for cinema in Norway – as well as in the rest of Europe – and cinema visits totalled about 35 million in 1960, which is the equivalent to almost 10 cinema visits per capita.

With the arrival of television in Norway at the beginning of the 1960s, figures for cinema visits had almost halved by 1970. The 1970s saw only a slight decrease. In the 1980s there was another decline, reaching a low in 1992, with approximately 9.5 million cinema visits. In recent years the number of cinema visits has been 11–12 million, and the share of cinema visits to see Norwegian films was 24 per cent in 2014.

There are two different trends hidden behind the stable figures for cinema visits. The proportion of people who had been to the cinema in the past year increased to 67 per cent in 2012. However, at the same time the average number of cinema visits has decreased from about 4 visits to 3. This particularly applies to young people who now go to the cinema less often.

Number attending theatres and the opera/ballet



More people going to the opera ...

Visits to the theatre, ballet and the opera were also declining for a long period of time. However, numbers increased from the mid-1980s and after a period of stagnation around 1990, visits have once again risen considerably in the past few years to about 1.8 million.

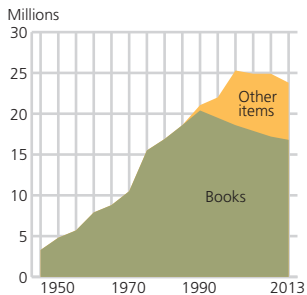
The visitor numbers for opera and ballet in particular have increased markedly in recent years. Almost half the population report that they have been to the theatre during a year, while 8 and 14 per cent have attended the opera or ballet respectively.

... as well as to concerts

The number of concert-goers increased significantly from 1991 to 2008; from 48 to 61 per cent. This percentage has since remained stable.

Approximately 40 per cent visited an art exhibition and/or a museum in 2012.

Number of loans from public libraries



Fewer spectators at sporting events?

Between 50 and 60 per cent of the population are spectators at sporting events during the year. However, since 1994 the number of visits to these types of events has declined from 6.7 in 1994 to 5.8 in 2012.

Football is the sport that attracts the most spectators, followed by handball. Most sports have a relatively stable number of spectators apart from ski sports for which the percentage of spectators has halved since 1994 (which was a special year with the staging of the Winter Olympics in Lillehammer).

Libraries offer more than books

The number of books borrowed from public libraries increased throughout the post-war period and up to the beginning of the 1990s: from 3.3 million loans in 1945–46 to around 20 million. Since then loans have decreased to barely 17 million in 2013.

Percentage of people aged 9-79 who visited various cultural institutions during the previous year. Per cent

	1991	1994	1997	2000	2004	2008	2012
Cinema	58	61	60	65	68	70	67
Sporting events	57	59	54	57	55	56	55
Public libraries	49	51	52	52	54	51	49
Museums	41	45	44	45	42	43	41
Theatre/musical/revue	44	45	44	50	49	53	45
Art exhibitions	41	44	43	44	42	42	38
Concerts	48	55	57	58	61	62	61
Ballet/dance performances	8	9	8	11	12	13	14
Opera/operaetta	5	5	6	6	5	7	8

At the end of the 1980s, libraries started to loan out music, audio books and DVDs, and these now account for over 7 million loans annually, bringing the total number of loans to almost 24 million.

Almost half of the population uses public library services during the course of a year.

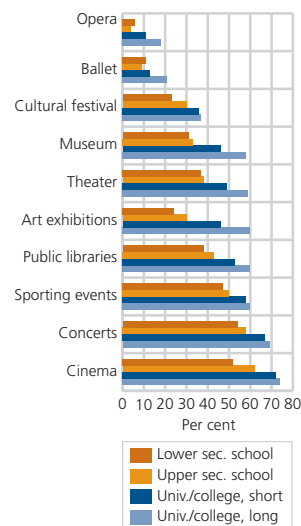
Culture: Mostly for women – and the highly educated

More women than men make use of the traditional cultural offerings. Women more often go to the theatre, ballet and dance productions, art exhibitions and public libraries. Men on the other hand much more often attend different sporting events. Men and women visit the cinema and cultural festivals, museums, concerts and the opera/operaetta to about the same extent.

In addition to gender, the most significant differences are found among groups with different levels of education. People with higher education participate far more frequently in most cultural activities. The differences are particularly evident when concerning the “narrow” cultural activities such as art exhibitions, theatre, ballet and opera.

People with higher education also more often make use of the more popular cultural offerings such as cinemas and libraries and, perhaps somewhat surprisingly, they also more often attend sporting events.

Percentage who attended different cultural events in the previous year 2012



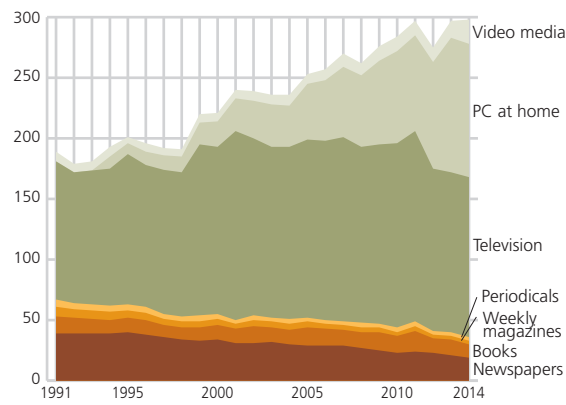
Books and bytes

Screen media is taking over

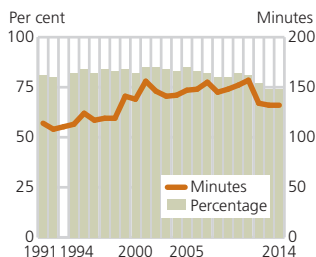
There is of course nothing new about television's dominant position and as early as 1991 we were spending almost twice as much time in front of the TV as on reading.

During the 1990s, the time spent on reading continued to fall while we spent much more time watching TV. In addition, more and more people used a PC at home, and today we spend an average of two hours per day in front of a computer screen. This means that altogether we spend more than seven times as much time in front of a computer or watching TV as on reading.

Number of minutes spent on screen and paper media on an average day

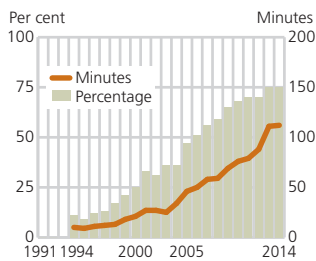


Percentage television viewers and time spent on an average day¹



¹ The increased use of time spent in 1999 is partly due to changes in the survey methodology.

Percentage using a PC at home and time spent on an average day



A paradox perhaps, is that the higher the educational level, the less we read. This applies to all kinds of paper-based publications, not just weekly magazines.

Television dominates

The proportion of television viewers was relatively stable in the 1990s and 2000s at around 80 per cent, while the amount of time spent watching TV increased. From and including 2011 the percentage of viewers and time spent in front of the screen has fallen slightly. In contrast, only a small minority watch video medias. However, since paid streaming services were included in the survey, the share has increased the last two years.

The most avid TV viewers can be found among the elderly (aged 67-79) and teenagers (aged 13-15), and the elderly in particular spend a great deal of time in front of the screen.

The PC revolution

Since the mid-1990s, the proportion of people who use a PC at home on a daily basis has increased from approximately 10 per cent to 75 per cent and we now use the PC for almost two hours per day (the percentage with access to a PC at home is much higher at 95 per cent).

There are wide variations in the use of PCs. For example, more than eight out of ten young boys use a PC every day, while this applies for only half of elderly women.

Radio = news

From 1991 to 2009 the proportion of daily radio listeners dropped from 71 to 53 per cent. However, in recent years this percentage has been increasing and the time spent listening to the radio has increased as well.

Above all, the news programmes are most popular. Four in ten people listen to news programmes on an average day. However, entertainment and local programmes also have many listeners. Weather forecasts, classical music and programmes for children and young people have lost many listeners.

The radio is the most preferred medium for middle-aged people and the elderly. In the age group of 45 years and over, the proportion of listeners is 70 per cent, and this group also spends the most time listening to the radio. In this age group we also find the highest share with a DAB radio.

Fewer reading printed newspapers

The circulation of newspapers increased up to around 1990, but has since stagnated and fallen somewhat. At the same time, the percentage of daily readers has fallen from 85 to 49 since the mid-1990s. We also spend less time reading newspapers; 20 minutes on average per day. Newspaper reading has become less common among the youngest age groups in particular.

While the reading of printed newspaper decreases, the share of people reading newspapers on the Internet increases – the share in 2014 was 54 per cent.

Books: From borrowing to buying?

Fiction publications (both Norwegian and foreign) doubled from 1983 to 1994 (from 900 to 2 000 titles), and have increased again in recent years to 3 400. Loans from public libraries have fallen from 4.7 per person in 1992 to 4.1 in 2013.

There is a different trend when it comes to those who read books in their leisure time. Following a slight decrease in the 1990s, there has now been an increase in the number of people who have read a book during the course of a day – to 25 per cent. The proportion who read books on a daily basis is clearly higher among women than men and the respective figures are 31 and 18 per cent.

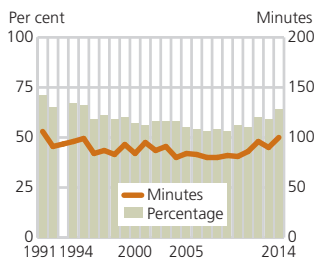
Only 2 per cent read an electronic book in 2014, the same as the previous year.

Weekly magazines

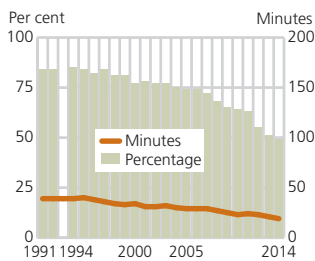
For weekly magazines, the percentage of readers has more than halved since 1991 and now 8 per cent of the population read a weekly magazine on an average day.

Women, and especially elderly women, read weekly magazines much more often than men. On an average day, 24 per cent of women aged 67 and over read weekly magazines compared to 5 per cent of men.

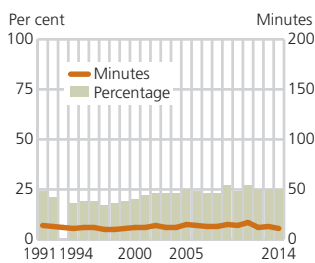
Percentage radio listeners and time spent on an average day



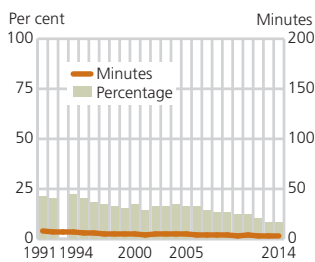
Percentage newspaper readers and time spent on an average day



Percentage book readers and time spent on an average day

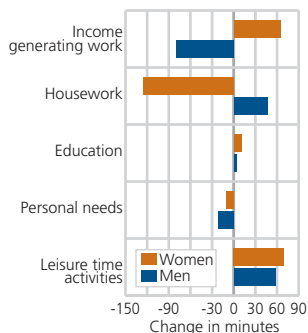


Percentage weekly magazine readers and time spent on an average day

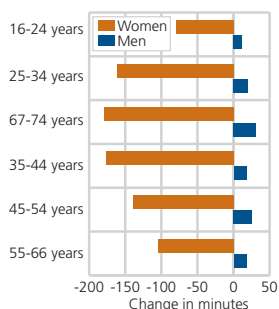


Around the clock

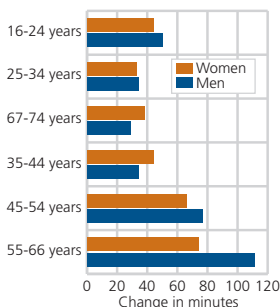
Changes in time spent on main activities from 1971 to 2010 in the 16-74 age group



Change in time spent on housework from 1971 to 2010, by gender and age



Change in time spent watching television from 1971 to 2010, by gender and age



More leisure time

From 1970 to 2010, Norwegians had an average of just over one hour more leisure time per day, and we had about 6 hours at our disposal for various leisure activities. There was little change in the amount of time spent on education and work, and the increase in leisure time was mainly a result of less time spent on housework (45 minutes) and personal needs (15 minutes).

Leisure time increased slightly more for women than men, which was partly due to a two-hour reduction in housework. Of these two hours, one was spent on income-generating work, whereas the other was additional leisure time. In contrast, men spent less time on income-generating work while increasing their participation in housework.

Despite the fact that women worked more and this reduced the amount of time spent on housework, it did not become more common to pay for cleaning. A total of 5 per cent had a cleaner, which was approximately the same as at the beginning of the 1990s. Families with children in which the parents had higher education dominate this group.

More time spent watching TV

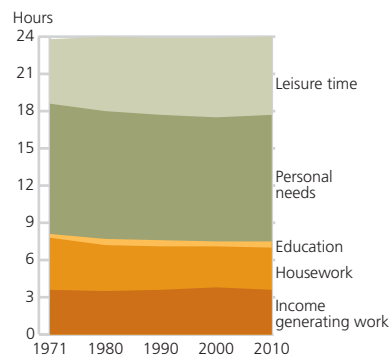
A large part of the extra leisure time was spent watching television. Time spent watching TV increased sharply, and in 2010 we spent on average one hour and forty-five minutes in front of the TV. Furthermore, compared with 1980, our evening of television viewing started earlier and finished later.

Eight hours sleep

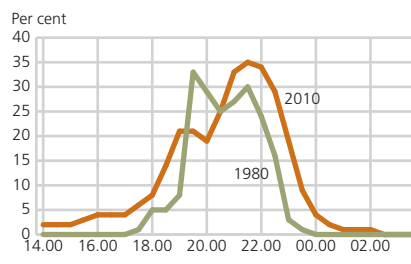
We slept just under eight hours per night on average, which was only a slight increase since 1970.

The need for sleep seems to be fairly constant, both over time and among various groups in the population. While other activities often vary considerably according to, for example, gender, education or where we live, most people sleep approximately eight hours, with only the youngest sleeping a little longer. Younger people also now sleep almost half an hour longer than they did in 1970.

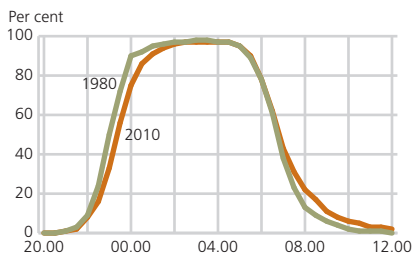
Use of time on an average day. Hours



Percentage television viewers at various times of the day. Monday-Friday



Percentage asleep at various times of the day. Monday-Friday



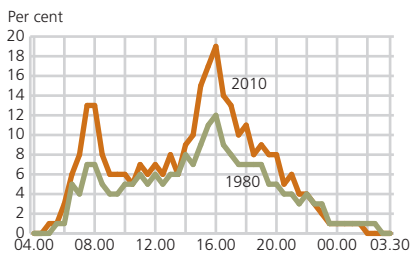
However, our sleeping habits have changed. We go to bed later and get up later. For instance, in 1980, 72 per cent of the population were asleep by 11:30pm. This figure dropped to 62 per cent by 1990 and 56 per cent in 2010. The same applies to the morning. A total of 6 per cent were still asleep at 9 am in 1980 compared with 11 per cent in 2010.

Fast food

The major interest in cookery books and television cookery programmes did not result in more time spent in the kitchen. It is true that there was a slight increase in 2010, but we spent 25 minutes less per day preparing food and on meals in 2010 than in 1980.

There was also a trend to move the main meal of the day to later in the evening. Even though most of us still had dinner between 3 pm and 5:30 pm, a growing number of people ate later.

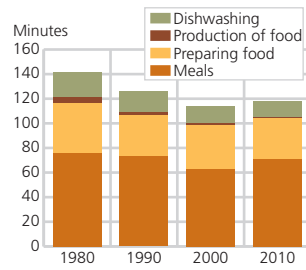
Percentage travelling at various times on an average day



Travelling

We are spending more and more time on travel. In 1980, we spent 1 hour and 6 minutes travelling, while in 2010 that figure had increased to 1 hour and 23 minutes on an average day. Men still spent slightly more time on travelling than women, and young people travelled more than older people

Time spent on preparing food and meals

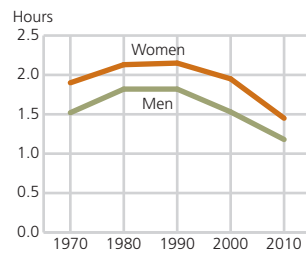


Less social?

Even though we have gained considerably more leisure time in recent years, in the past two decades in particular we have spent less and less time socialising with, for example, relatives, friends or neighbours. Compared with 1990, the time spent socialising has fallen by about 40 minutes to 1 hour and 20 minutes. In particular, time spent on this type of socialising on Sundays has fallen sharply. Perhaps family dinners have become less common?

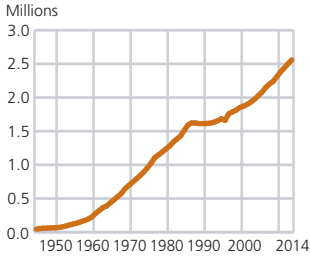
Women still spend 30 minutes more than men socialising with people outside the household.

Time spent socialising



On the road

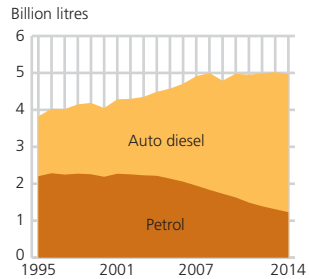
Number of private cars



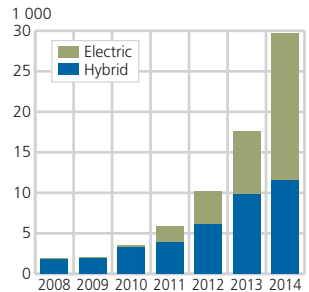
Meters of road per vehicle

1945	452
1960	97
1970	65
1980	48
1990	38
2000	33
2014	25

Sales of petrol and auto diesel



Newly registered electric and hybrid cars



Source: OFV.

Mile after mile ...

In 1946, Norwegians travelled an average of 4 km per day (within Norway) and almost half of the journey (1.8 km) was by rail. Today we travel ten times further – 41 km. The main increase is in the use of private cars and planes. Figures for rail and sea transport have remained more or less the same in the past 50 or so years. In fact, we travelled just as much by rail in 1946 as in 2013. Today, it also appears that the number of domestic flights has stabilised while car use continues to grow.

... bumper to bumper

The number of vehicles (including vans, trucks and buses) now totals 3.1 million, of which 2.6 million are private cars. From 1960 – when sales restrictions on cars were lifted – and until 1987 there was continuous growth in the number of vehicles, with a strong increase again in the second half of the 1990s.

Today, 82 per cent of households own a car and 29 per cent have two or more cars.

Car density is 491 private cars per 1 000 inhabitants and is highest in Hedmark (574) and lowest in Oslo (425) and Hordaland (444). Another method of measuring “car density” is to consider the number of cars in relation to the total road length. In 1945, there was almost half a kilometre of roadway for each vehicle. Today that figure has been reduced to just 25 metres. If all the cars in Oslo were on the road at the same time, each car would have a mere 3.5 metres of roadway.

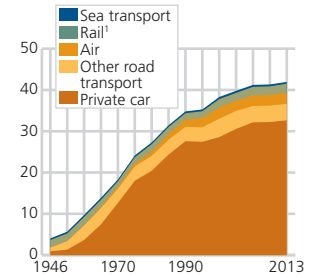
Petrol was the main fuel used up to 2003. However, diesel sales have been increasing since 2004, and now make up 77 per cent of fuel sales.

Sales of electric and hybrid cars have taken off in the past two to three years. In 2014, these types of cars accounted for more than 20 per cent of newly registered private cars.

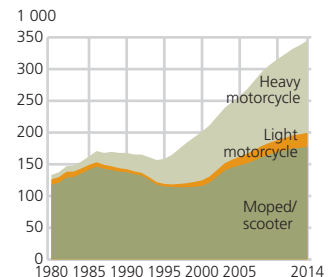
On two wheels

Not only is the number of cars on the increase, the number of two-wheeled vehicles is also rising. Sales reached a current peak in the mid-1980s and then levelled out. At the same time, the number of heavy motorcycles rose while mopeds declined in popularity. However, there has been strong growth in moped sales in recent years. It is no longer the traditional moped that is popular, but primarily scooters and off-road mopeds.

Domestic passenger transport. Passenger kilometres per inhabitant per day

¹ Incl. tramways/suburban railways.

Number of two-wheeled vehicles



The price of mobility

There is a price to pay for increased mobility. Since 1940, more than 22 800 people have died on Norwegian roads. The number of fatal traffic accidents increased during the entire post-war period, reaching a peak at the beginning of the 1970s when almost 500 people were killed annually. A marked decrease in the number of accidents was then seen. After an increase in the 1990s, the number has dropped in recent years. As was the case almost 70 years ago, the large majority (approximately 70 per cent) of fatal road accident victims are men.

The number of people injured showed a similar increase up to around 1970. However, the injury figures did not fall in the same manner as the number of fatalities and for a long time remained fairly stable at around 11 000-12 000 a year. However, in recent years the number of injuries has also decreased. Of the 6 600 people injured in 2014, less than 10 per cent were very seriously or seriously injured.

Poland and Greece the worst

In proportion to the population, almost 4 people per 100 000 inhabitants are killed in Norway each year, which is similar to the other Nordic countries.

Traffic fatalities in Europe show a North-South divide (lower fatality rate in the north than in the south) and an East-West divide (higher fatality rate in the east than in the west).

Wanderlust: Long and far

The famous Norwegian writer Bjørnson once wrote "Norsemens, they will roam". We could perhaps add: "...and particularly abroad." Even though the total number of trips (with at least one overnight stay) we take in the course of a year has been relatively stable at just over 20 million, the travel destinations have changed. The vast majority of the trips (19 million) involve vacations. While the number of domestic vacations has fallen in the past decade, trips abroad have increased dramatically from about 4 million to 7.5 million. If we look at overnight stays the picture becomes even clearer. The number of domestic overnight holiday stays remains stable, while overnight stays abroad have increased by 130 per cent and represent almost 60 per cent of all overnight stays. Therefore, it appears we now are holidaying more abroad than in Norway.

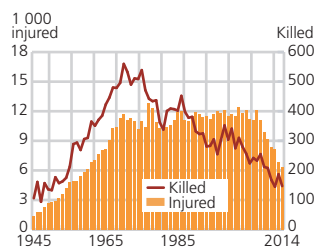
The increase in travel abroad appears to have been especially high among older people, a trend that is most likely due to the relatively significant increase in income this group has experienced in recent years. In 2012, an average household spent NOK 8 400 on holiday travel. In households in which the main income earner was aged 67 or older, NOK 12 200 was spent. Women travel more often than men. Women who live alone have a holiday budget that is twice that of men.

Road fatalities per 100 000 inhabitants in selected European countries. 2013

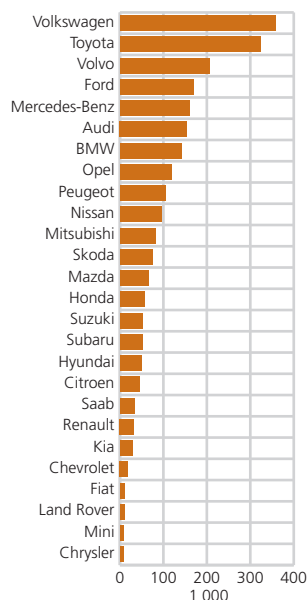
Poland	8.8
Greece	7.9
Belgia	6.5
Hungary	5.9
France	5.1
Finland	4.8
Germany	4.0
Norway	3.7
Denmark	3.4
The Netherlands	3.4
United Kingdom	2.8
Sweden	2.7

Source: CARE.

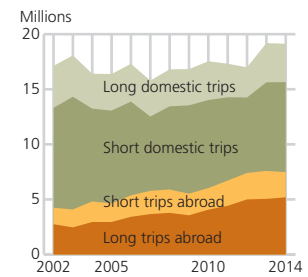
Number killed or injured in road accidents



The most common car brands. Registered private cars. 2014



Number of holiday trips



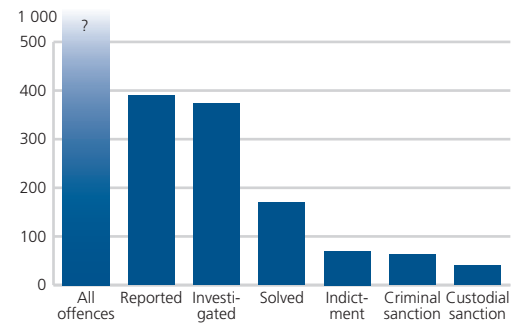
The short arm of the law

From crime to punishment

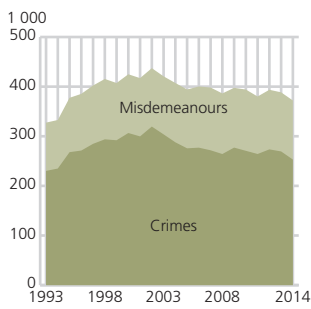
If we follow all offences reported to the police through the legal system for one year, we can check their status a few years later. Prosecution was dropped for a small number because it was found that no criminal offence had been committed.

About 50 per cent were dropped because they were unsolved (including some for which the decision was unknown) which means that just under 50 per cent of criminal offences are solved. The majority of these cases ended in a decision not to prosecute or a fine (especially for minor offences/misdemeanours). Slightly less than 20 per cent of all criminal offences resulted in prosecution with almost all of these resulting in penal sanctions. 8 per cent of criminal offences resulted in unconditional prison sentences.

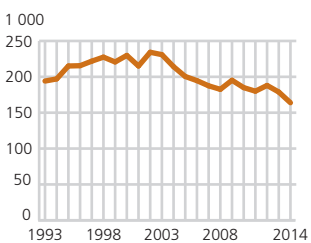
From offence to sentence: Schematic presentation of the progress of offences through the legal system



Number of offences reported, by type of offence



Number of crimes for profit reported



About 1 000 offences reported daily

After an increase in the 1990s the number of offences reported peaked in 2002 at 439 000. This number has since fallen to 372 000 in 2014. It is mainly the number of crimes (in general, offences that can result in prison sentences of more than three months) that has decreased, while the number of misdemeanours (e.g. traffic offences) has been stable since 2002.

68 per cent of the offences in 2014 were crimes and 32 per cent were misdemeanours.

Sharp increase then a fall

In a longer term perspective, the number of offences reported has increased sharply. For instance, the number of crimes investigated shows an almost ten-fold increase since the end of the 1950s. If we take into consideration that the population has also risen during this period, this represents a five-fold increase.

Since 2000 there has, on the whole, been a significant fall in the number of crimes registered and we would most probably have to go back more than 20 years to find a period in which there was less crime than there is today. The number of crimes investigated now amounts to around 50 per 1 000 inhabitants.

Many instances of theft, but fewer homes and cars broken into

With 156 000 instances of theft and other crimes for profit, this is a major category of criminal offence. Crimes for profit now account for 42 per cent of all criminal offences. However, at the same time, it is precisely when it comes to crimes for profit that the reduction has been greatest in recent years. In particular, theft from private homes and cars has shown a marked decrease. One of the

reasons for this decline might be the increased use of various security systems (e.g. locks and alarms) both in cars and homes. However, the number of instances of theft from people in public places, cafés, restaurants and forms of transport has been significantly higher in recent years than it was before.

More drugs

Drug-related crimes accounted for almost 20 per cent of all reported offences in 2014 and since the end of the 1960s the number of such crimes has soared from 200 to almost 46 000 in 2001 and close to 50 000 in 2014. In particular, it is the number of less serious drug-related crimes (use and possession) that explains the increase. Serious drug-related crimes account for only between 2 and 3 per cent of the total number of drug-related crimes.

No increase in serious violent crimes but more sexual offences

After a slight increase in the 1990s, violent crimes have now stabilised and account for 7 per cent of all offences reported to the police. Again, it is the less serious crimes, i.e. threats and common assault, that dominate. In surveys, roughly 4 per cent of the population say that they have been the victim of violence or threats of violence during the past year. This proportion has fallen slightly in recent years, particularly for young men.

The number of sexual offences has more than doubled to 4 800 in the course of twenty years. The number of reported rapes has tripled and is now more than 1 100.

One out of three crimes solved

In 1960, four in ten crimes were solved. The percentage of crimes solved was then more than halved up to the end of the 1980s. It has since increased again and in 2013, 35 per cent of all crimes were solved. With regard to misdemeanours, approximately eight in ten were solved.

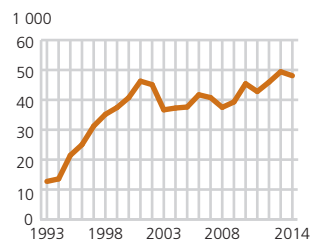
However, there are major differences in the percentage of crimes solved for the different types of crimes. While most murder cases and drug offences are solved, only about 20 per cent of rape cases and 10 per cent of thefts are solved.

Young men dominate the statistics

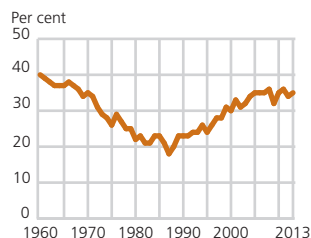
Those who are charged with offences are often young and in 2013, one-third of all those charged were under the age of 25, with the majority in the 18-20 age group. Approximately 5 per cent of this group are charged with offences each year.

In addition, the majority of those charged are men and women still account for only 16 per cent of people charged with criminal offences. The percentage of women is especially high for crimes for profit, such as petty theft and pilfering. Young girls in particular dominate these statistics. In addition, fraud, forgery and embezzlement and use of drugs are “typical” female crimes in the sense that the proportion of women charged is higher than for other types of offences.

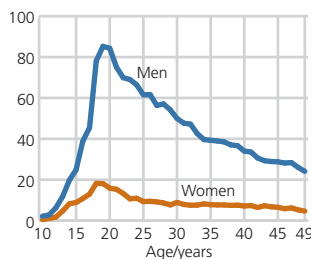
Number of reported drug-related offences



Percentage of crimes solved

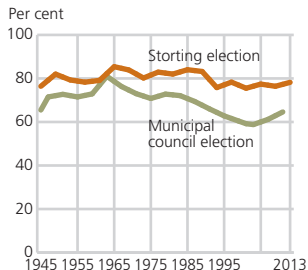


Number of people charged with offences. Per 1 000 inhabitants by age. 2013

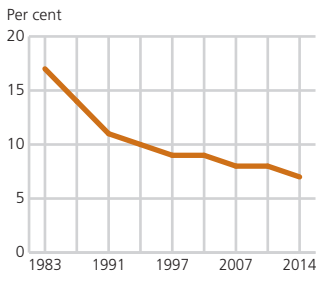


Promises, promises

Electoral turnout



Percentage of persons aged 16-79 who are members of a political party



Stable participation in Storting elections

Participation in the Storting (parliamentary) elections peaked in 1965, when 85.4 per cent of those entitled to vote cast their votes. This figure fell to 75.5 per cent in 2001, but then increased to 78.2 in 2013.

At the Sameting (Sami parliament) election the same year, the participation rate was 66.9 per cent. Among Norwegian citizens with an immigrant background, the participation rate at the Storting election was 53 per cent.

There has long been a decline in electoral turnout at municipal council elections. In 2003, barely six out of ten cast their vote, compared with almost eight out of ten in 1963. However, turnout increased again at the two most recent elections.

At county council elections, the election turnout is even lower and in 2011, only 59.9 per cent of those entitled to vote did so.

The apparent loss of interest in party politics is confirmed by figures showing that the proportion of people who are members of a political party is also falling. From 1983 to 2014, the percentage was more than halved – from 17 to 7 per cent.

Average voter turnout in Norway

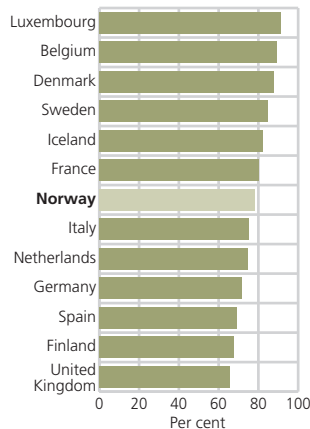
Participation in Norwegian parliamentary elections is not particularly high in an international context. Our Nordic neighbours Denmark, Sweden and Iceland have election turnouts of more than 80 per cent. Finland is the only Nordic country with a lower turnout than Norway.

In a European context, Norway has about an average turnout. The highest voter turnout is found in Luxembourg and Belgium (approximately 90 per cent) and the lowest in the United Kingdom (65.5 per cent).

Increased voter turnout among young people

Despite a strong increase in voter turnout for both first and second time voters in 2013, the participation rate was still much lower than that of older voters. From the age of 26, voter turnout increases with age and then falls dramatically after 80 years of age.

General election turnout in selected European countries. Last election



Source: Eurostat.

Women exercise right to vote more often than men

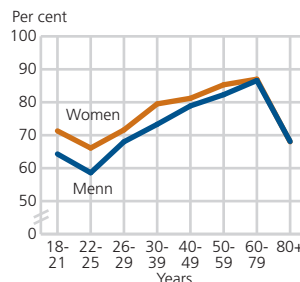
Traditionally, men have voted more often than women, and in the first post-war elections men had a 6-7 per cent higher participation rate than women. This difference had evened out by the end of the 1980s and since then the voter turnout for women has been slightly higher than for men. Young women in particular have higher participation rates.

More women – in the Storting and on municipal councils

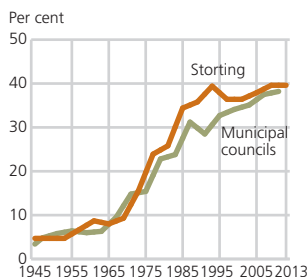
The proportion of women in the Storting and on municipal councils rose sharply from the beginning of the 1970s. In recent years, the proportion of women in the Storting has been just below 40 per cent, while for municipal councils the proportion of women is still slightly lower. In the Storting, the proportion of women in the Centre Party is 70 per cent, about 50 per cent for the Labour Party, 40 per cent for the Conservative Party, 30 per cent for the Socialist Left Party and Christian Democratic Party, 16 per cent for the Progress Party and about 20 per cent for the Left Party.

Compared with other European countries, Norway is high up on the list. It is only in the other Nordic countries that we find an equal or greater proportion of female members in legislative assemblies. Sweden has 44 per cent, Finland 43 per cent and Denmark 41 per cent. In comparison, France has 26 per cent and the United Kingdom only 23 per cent.

Electoral turnout. The Storting election 2013



Percentage of female representatives in the Storting and municipal councils

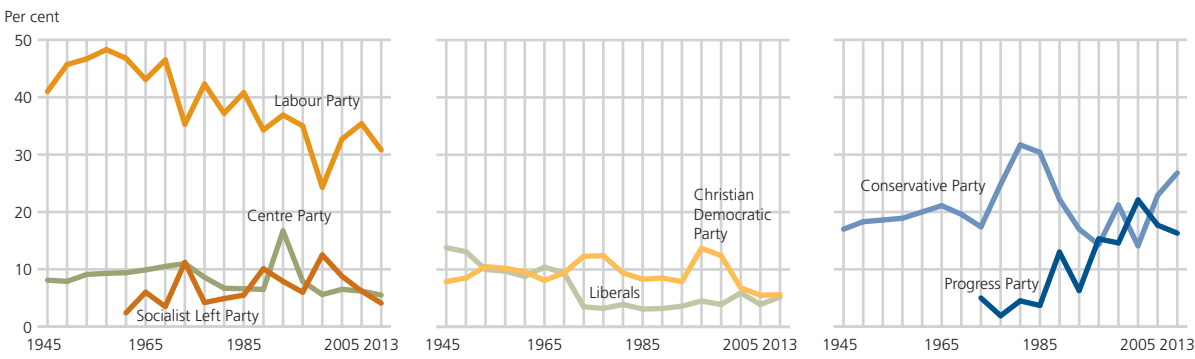


Percentage of women in the national assemblies of selected countries



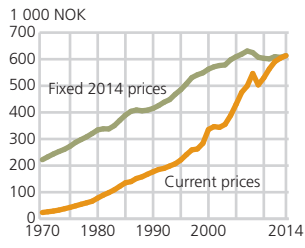
Source: Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).

Percentage of votes cast for the main parties at the Storting elections

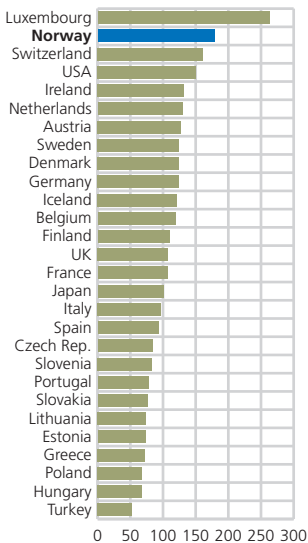


Growth and prosperity

GDP per capita. NOK



GDP per capita in selected countries. Adjusted for price level. 2014¹. EU28=100



¹ Preliminary figures.

Source: Eurostat.

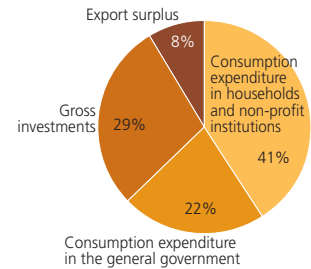
31 149 681 000 000

The gross domestic product (GDP) is a measure of a country's total production of goods and services and is often used as an indicator of the growth in prosperity. In 2014, the total value added amounted to NOK 3 150 billion.

A total of 41 per cent was spent on household consumption and non-profit organisations, 22 per cent on general government consumption and 29 per cent was invested. The remaining 8 per cent represents the export surplus and indicates that the value of what we produce is greater than what we consume.

In 1970, GDP per capita was NOK 23 500. In 2014, this figure had risen to NOK 613 000, i.e. a more than twenty-fold increase. However, a large part of this increase is due to the general rise in prices and, converted into 2014 prices, GDP in 1970 was NOK 222 100. Thus, real growth was 176 per cent.

GDP expenditure. 2014



High GDP

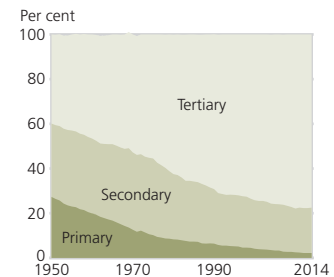
Norway has gradually become one of the richest countries in the world. In comparison with other European countries, Norway had a GDP per capita that was 79 per cent higher than the EU average in 2014 (allowing for price differences between the countries). It should also be added that parts of the value of the oil and gas production are not strictly speaking added value, but involve bleeding off a resource asset.

Only Luxembourg has a higher GDP per capita, largely due to the fact that many of Luxembourg's workers live in neighbouring countries. These workers contribute to the added value, however they are not included in the "per capita" calculation.

Structural changes in business and industry

During the last 50 years, Norwegian business and industry has seen some dramatic structural changes. Generally speaking, there has been a move from primary and secondary industries towards tertiary industries. Agriculture and manufacturing have lost out to service industries, with the result that we are less likely to work on farms and in factories, and more likely to work in shops and offices.

Employees in primary, secondary and tertiary industries¹



¹ Primary industries are: agriculture, forestry and fisheries.

Secondary industries are: manufacturing, oil extraction and mining, building and construction, electricity and water supplies.

Tertiary industries include the other industries such as: retail trade, hotels and restaurants, transport and communication, public and private services.

While primary industries now comprise only about 2 per cent of employees and secondary industries around 20 per cent, tertiary industries account for a total of 78 per cent of employment.

This picture is slightly different if we look at the significance of these industries in light of their contribution to the GDP. The primary industries contribute less than 2 per cent, secondary industries 28 per cent (with petroleum activities contributing far more in economic value than in terms of employment) and the tertiary industries contribute 70 per cent.

Export surplus since 1978

The post-war era was characterised by rebuilding and reconstruction, with the result that the import of goods was higher than exports for a considerable period of time.

Only when petroleum exports started at the end of the 1970s did Norway gradually build up an export surplus. With the exception of 1986-1988, Norway has had an external trade surplus for goods and services since 1978 and in 2014 the surplus was NOK 266 billion.

Exports of oil and gas totalled NOK 540 billion in 2014, which means that there was an external trade deficit for other goods and services. Even though the service industries dominate with regard to both employment and economic value, exports of services are relatively modest. In 2014, total exports of services amounted to NOK 304 billion, which comprises one-fifth of total exports.

Trade with Sweden

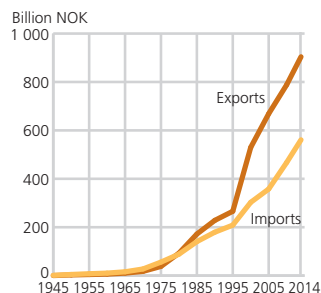
Trade with Sweden is not just what takes place across the border at Svinesund. Sweden is an important trading partner both with regard to imports and exports of goods. Imports from Sweden now stand at almost 13 per cent and exports at 9 per cent. It should be noted that China is now our third most important import country and has also entered the list of export countries.

Approximately 80 per cent of our exported goods go to EU countries and about 60 per cent of imports come from these countries. 18 per cent of imports are from developing countries.

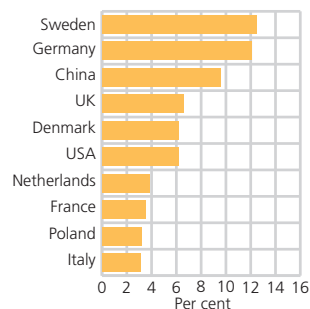
Oil and industrial machinery

With regard to exports, oil and gas are the clear leaders. These are followed by fish and fish products and metals (especially aluminium). With regard to imports, industrial machinery, computers and electronics and motor vehicles (cars and buses) dominate.

Exports and imports of goods (including oil and gas)

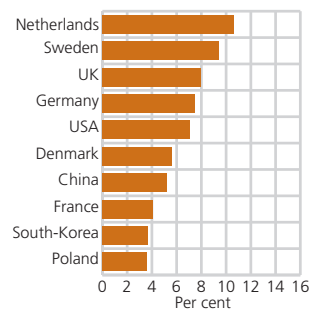


Imports of goods¹. 2014



¹ Excl. ships and oil platforms.

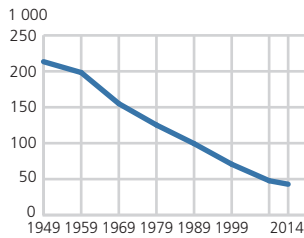
Exports of goods¹. 2014



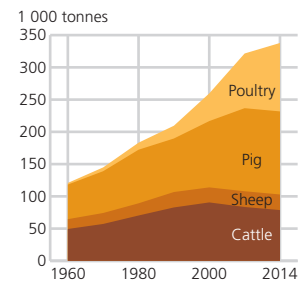
¹ Excl. ships, oil platforms, crude oil, condensates and natural gas.

From agriculture to aquaculture

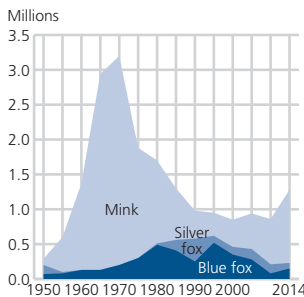
Number of farm holdings



Meat production

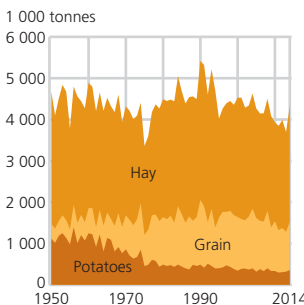


Number of fur-bearing animals



Source: Norges pelsdyrslag (Norwegian breeders of fur-bearing animals).

Agricultural yields



Major structural changes in agriculture

Since 1949, the number of farm holdings has fallen by 80 per cent, from 213 000 to 42 900 in 2014, which is an average loss of seven farms every day.

Nevertheless, the total agricultural area remains almost unchanged because the land belonging to these abandoned farm holdings has been taken over by other farms. As a result, the average farm holding area has more than quadrupled during this period from 50 decares to 230 decares.

Employment in agriculture has also fallen sharply. Whereas more than 20 per cent were employed in agriculture in 1950, the proportion in 2014 was less than 2 per cent. Today, agriculture's share of GDP is 0.4 per cent.

Less than 30 per cent of the farmers' income is entrepreneurial income from agriculture. The rest is wages and salaries, income from other entrepreneurial income and pensions, capital income etc.

Fewer horses and cattle, however more mink

In addition to the horse having practically disappeared from Norwegian farm holdings, the number of cattle has more than halved (300 000 animals in 2014). On the other hand, milk yield per cow has increased substantially from approximately 2 000 litres in 1949 to 7 100 litres. Stocks of sheep and goats are also declining, while the number of pigs and chickens is increasing. This is reflected in the development in meat production and there has been a marked increase in white meat, particularly poultry.

The golden age for the fur farming industry was at the end of the 1960s, when there were about 3.2 million animals in total. 95 per cent of these were mink. After a dramatic decline, there has been an increase in recent years in the number of mink, and the total stock of fur-bearing animals is now just under 1.3 million animals.

Less potatoes – more grain

Agricultural crops vary considerably from year to year, but the long-term trend is clear. Since 1950, the production of potatoes has dropped to almost one-third, while grain production has tripled.

The agricultural authorities have the goal of least 15 per cent of the agricultural area being used for organic farming by 2020. Today, holdings with organic farming account for about 5 per cent of the agricultural area, compared with between 7 and 14 per cent in the other Nordic countries.

Norwegian wood

The economic importance of forestry has been significantly reduced. In 1950, forestry made up 2.5 per cent of GDP, while in 2014 this figure had fallen to only 0.2 per cent. The quantity of timber cut for sale varied between 6.6 and 11 million cubic metres per year during this period. In 1950, all lumber was felled and hewed manually with an axe and saw, however the chain saw gradually took over. Today felling machines dominate, thus leading to a substantial decline in forestry employment.

Hedmark is the county with by far the largest forested area (almost 20 per cent of the area), followed by Nord-Trøndelag and Oppland.

Fewer fishermen – increased production

Around 1950 there were approximately 100 000 fishermen in Norway. In 2013 that number was 11 600. Out of these, fishing was the main occupation for 9 600.

The fisheries' catch varies considerably from year to year. From 1945 to 1977, which was a record year, the catch more than quadrupled from 0.7 to 3.4 million tonnes. Since then the catch has declined to 2.3 million tonnes in 2014.

In economic terms, the cod catch has the highest value, followed by mackerel, herring and saithe.

Salmon: Our new domestic animal

The production of farmed fish has grown sharply since it began in the 1970s, and amounted to 1.3 million tonnes in 2014.

Salmon dominates the fish farming industry, while in recent years the production of trout has been stable.

Norway is number six on the list of the world's largest fish farming nations after China (38.6 million tonnes), India, Vietnam, Indonesia and Bangladesh.

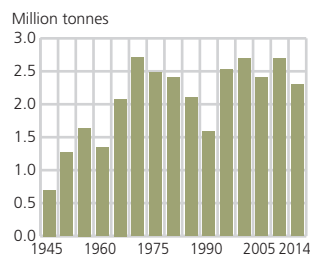
Few employees – economically important

The fish farming industry employs about 5 700 people, working in some 1 200 fish farms. However, the economic significance of the industry is far greater. The first-hand value of the fish farming industry now far exceeds the traditional fisheries – NOK 43.6 billion versus NOK 14.2 billion.

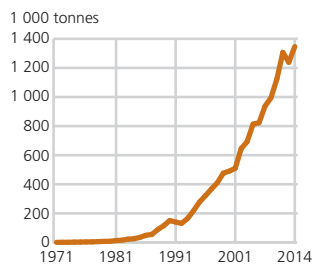
The total export value of fish and fish products was approximately NOK 67 billion in 2014. Exports of fish therefore account for just over 7 per cent of total export revenues. Exports of farmed fish represent about two-thirds of all fish exports.

More than half of all fish exports go to EU countries, and the largest single market is Poland, followed by France and Denmark.

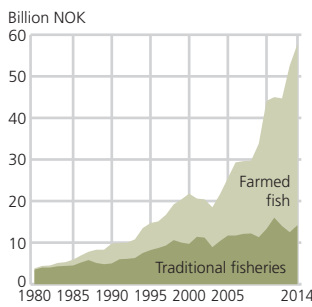
Catch quantity for Norwegian fisheries



Farmed fish. Total sales of salmon and trout

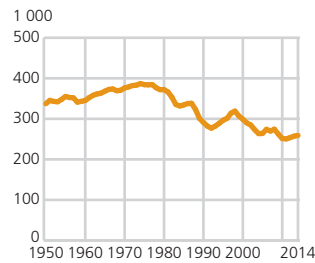


First-hand value of the fish farming industry and traditional fisheries



From manufacturing to oil

Number employed in manufacturing and mining



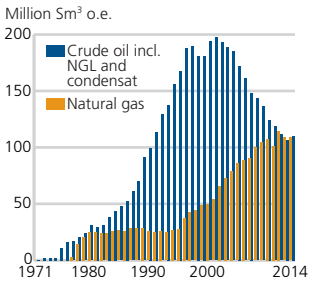
The rise and fall of manufacturing

When viewed as a whole, secondary industries (manufacturing, mining, oil extraction, building and construction, electricity and water supplies) have seen an increase in employment over the last 20 years and today there are 535 000 people employed in secondary industries. Relatively speaking however, there has been a decline. Secondary industries today account for approximately 20 per cent of people employed, compared with almost one-third until around 1970.

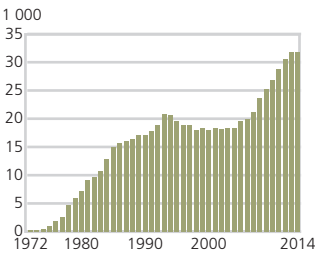
Since the peak year of 1974, the number of jobs in manufacturing and mining has fallen by almost one-third, from 387 000 to 259 000. This decline occurred at the end of the 1970s and in the 1980s. After an upturn in the 1990s, the number has again fallen. Today, less than 10 per cent of all employees work in manufacturing. Despite a decrease in employment, the production value in manufacturing has increased and is now almost NOK 800 billion.

A generally high level of activity on the Norwegian continental shelf means that Norwegian industry is often referred to as being “two-speed”. Strong growth in petroleum-related investments in recent years has led to significantly better growth in companies in oil-related industries than in manufacturing in general.

Production of oil and natural gas



Employment in oil and gas extraction



Oil and gas: High production continues...

Oil production has fallen since 2001. However, since the mid-1990s gas production has increased and today makes up half of the total oil and gas production, a share that is expected to rise in the years ahead, as oil production diminishes.

... but relatively few employees

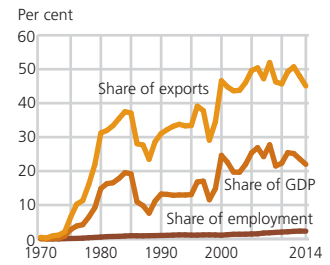
From modest beginnings in 1972, employment in oil and gas extraction has gradually increased to the present figure of 32 000 employees. In addition, the same number of people is employed in activities related to the petroleum industry.

Substantial values

However, the significance of petroleum activities is far greater than what the employment figures indicate. While the number of people employed in this sector amounts to just under 3 per cent of the total number of people employed in Norway, in terms of value petroleum activities constitute the largest industry and currently make up more than 20 per cent of Norway's GDP. Furthermore, the petroleum sector's share of total export revenues is now 45 per cent. In comparison, the manufacturing and mining sectors contribute 8 per cent of GDP, while the proportion of total export revenues is slightly less than 25 per cent of GDP.

Naturally, the economic significance of oil relates to the production volume, however the oil price during the period is also a contributing factor.

Oil and gas extraction. Share of GDP, exports and employment¹



¹ Incl. services.

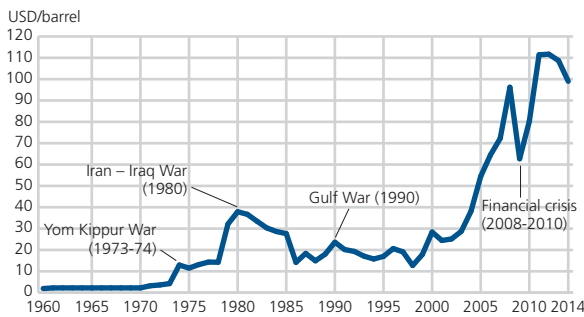
Oil price

The graph shows that Norway started producing oil at a very favourable time. Throughout most of the 20th century a barrel of oil cost approximately 2 US

dollars. However, the price increased at the beginning of the 1970s and then almost tripled in connection with the first oil crisis in 1973-74. There was a further increase during the second oil crisis in 1978-79. From the mid-1980s until 2003 the price fluctuated between 15 and 30 US dollars per barrel before it increased sharply again after

2004. The price of oil reached its highest level to that point in 2008. After a fall in 2009 it passed 100 US dollars per barrel in 2011, but has then fallen again the last two years.

Oil prices. Brent blend



Source: Norges Bank.

Short life of oil reserves?

The remaining (proven) oil and gas reserves on the Norwegian Continental Shelf are estimated by the Norwegian Petroleum Directorate at approximately 5 billion Sm³ oil equivalents (o.e.). By comparison, the total production up to and including 2014 amounts to just over 6 billion Sm³ o.e.

The lifetime of the Norwegian reserves is comparatively short for oil, however Norway has the potential to be a significant exporter of gas for the whole of this century.

Money in the bank

Because oil revenues will gradually decrease, and the increase in the number of elderly people will lead to higher pension, nursing and care expenditures, the Government Pension Fund – Global (formerly the Government Petroleum Fund), has been established. The fund is administered by Norges Bank (the Central Bank of Norway) and is funded by oil revenues that are not allocated in the national budget. This fund has increased from NOK 48 billion in 1996 to approximately NOK 6 400 billion at the end of 2014. This corresponds to approximately NOK 1.3 million per capita.

1 Sm³ (standard cubic metre) oil equivalents (o.e.) = 6.29 barrels

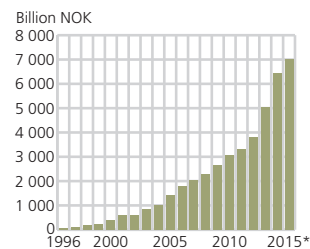
1 barrel = 159 litres

Largest oil producing countries 2013. Millions of barrels per day

Saudi-Arabia	11.53
Russia	10.79
USA	10.00
China	4.18
Canada	3.95
The United Arab Emirates	3.65
Iran	3.56
Nigeria	3.32
Iraq	3.14
Kuwait	3.13
Mexico	2.88
Venezuela	2.62
Brasil	2.11
Qatar	2.00
Norway	1.84

Source: BP Statistical Review of World Energy 2014.

Government Pension Fund – Global

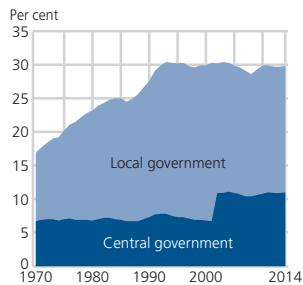


* 1st quarter.

Source: Norges Bank.

At your service!

Employees in the public administration as a percentage of total employment



Three out of four work in the service sector

Overall, employment in the tertiary or service industries has grown from 750 000 at the beginning of the 1960s to 2 100 000 today, representing about 77 per cent of all employees. The dominance of the tertiary industries has encouraged many general characterisations of modern society, such as “the post-industrial society”, “the information society” and “the service society”.

This sector comprises of many diverse industries, such as commodity trade, hotels and restaurants, transport, financial services and tourism. However, the largest service sector is public administration, i.e. local and central government administration, including social services, health, education and administration.

Strong growth in the public administration

The number of people employed in public administration increased strongly until the beginning of the 1990s and today almost 820 000 people are employed in the public service compared with only 200 000 in 1962. The percentage of people working in the public sector has also increased from 13 per cent to approximately 30 per cent, which corresponds to 25 per cent of the hours worked (part-time work is somewhat more common in the public sector).

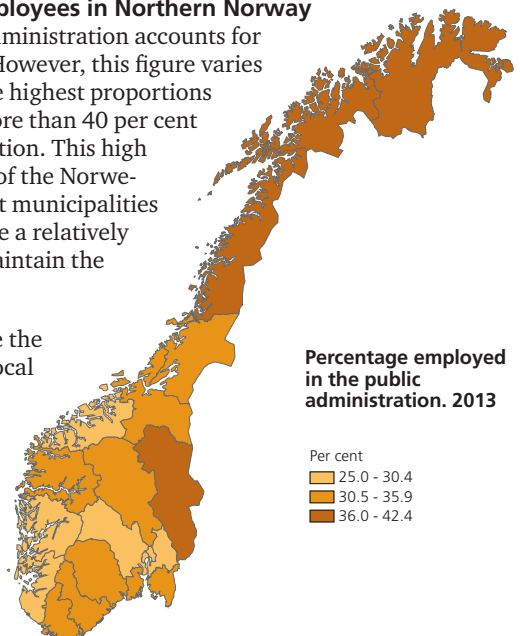
Two-thirds of public employees work in local government administration. When the central government took over the county hospitals, the number of employees in the central government sector increased significantly in 2002.

The strong growth in recent years has primarily been in health and social care and education. Central government administration has had the weakest growth.

Many public administration employees in Northern Norway

As mentioned above, the public administration accounts for 30 per cent of total employment. However, this figure varies from county to county. We find the highest proportions in Troms and Finnmark, where more than 40 per cent are employed in public administration. This high percentage is due to the presence of the Norwegian armed forces and the fact that municipalities with a scattered population require a relatively higher number of employees to maintain the range of municipal services.

Rogaland, Oslo and Akershus have the lowest proportion of central and local government employees at just 25-27 per cent. In Oslo, there are many employees in the central government administration but fewer in local government.



Growth industries

The number of people employed in service industries has more than doubled since 1970. However, some industries have grown much more. The number employed in the health and care sector has increased more than five-fold during the same period and is now 560 000, which accounts for 20 per cent of total employment.

In some smaller industries the growth has been even higher. Business services (which include, among other things, employment services, travel agencies and cleaning companies) have grown from 13 000 to 132 000 employees, i.e. a ten-fold increase. Sales and management of real estate have also experienced equivalent growth. In a large sector such as education, the number of people employed has grown in line with the average for all tertiary industries, which is about 100 per cent.

From letters to email

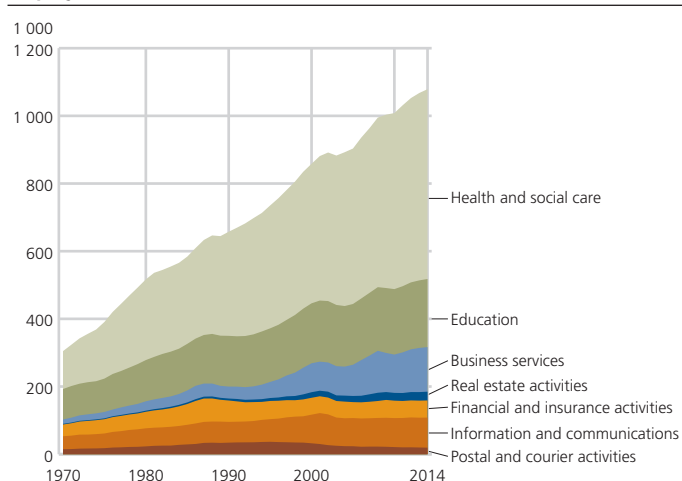
Some service industries have, however, also experienced a drop in employment. In the past 20 years, the number of people employed in postal and courier services has halved. This is of course due to the growth in the ICT sector and the use of new technology by both business and households.

During the 1990s, modern means of communication such as PCs, mobile phones and the Internet became both an important part of daily work and, not least, home life. In 2014, 95 per cent of households had access to a home PC and the same percentage also had Internet access at home.

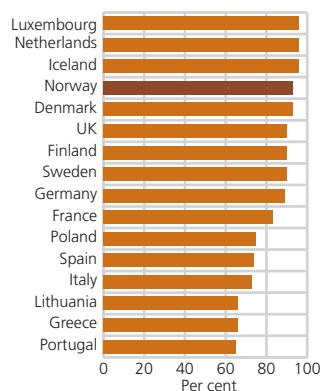
The ICT sector consists of a number of industries which are primarily involved with information and communication technology, such as the manufacturing of computers and computer equipment, electronic trade, telecommunications and consultancy services. In other words, this sector cuts across the traditional division of industries and includes the production of both goods and services.

Employment in the ICT sector was increasing up to 2001 and has since fallen slightly to the present figure of 76 000. If we include the so-called content sector, which comprises publishing activities, information services, radio and television and film and video, more than 100 000 people are currently employed in the information sector.

Employees in selected industries

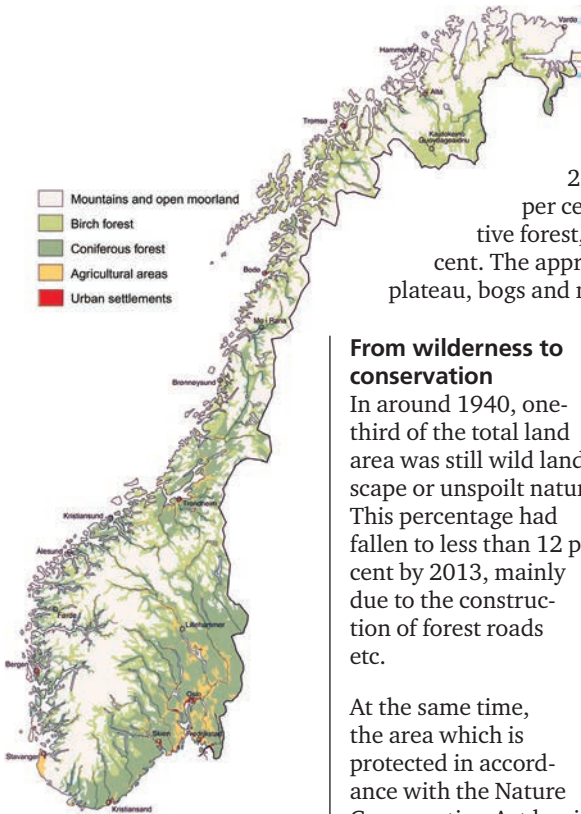


Percentage of households with access to the Internet in selected countries. 2014



Source: Eurostat.

The electric society



Mountains and forest

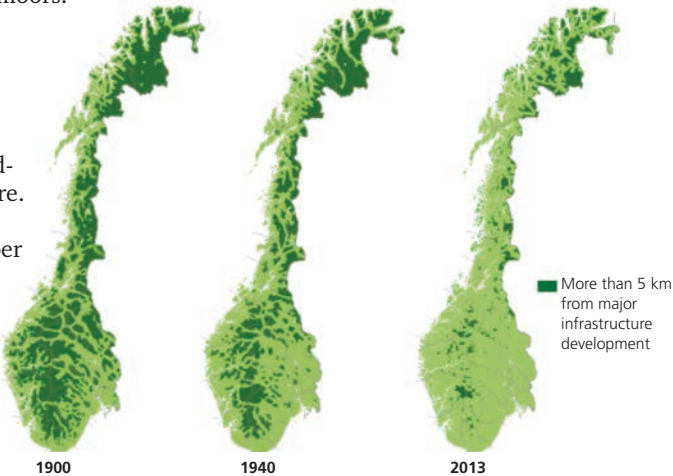
With a total area of 324 000 km² and 5.2 million inhabitants, Norway is one of the least densely populated countries in Europe, with 17 inhabitants per km².

Built-up land (including roads) amounts to only about 2 per cent. A total of 3 per cent is agricultural land and 24 per cent is productive forest. A further 13 per cent is unproductive forest, while fresh-water resources and glaciers make up 7 per cent. The approximately 50 per cent that remains consists of mountains, plateau, bogs and moors.

From wilderness to conservation

In around 1940, one-third of the total land area was still wild landscape or unspoilt nature. This percentage had fallen to less than 12 per cent by 2013, mainly due to the construction of forest roads etc.

At the same time, the area which is protected in accordance with the Nature Conservation Act has increased and now stands at 17 per cent of the total area.



Source: <http://www.miljostatus.no/Tema/Naturmangfold/inon/>

Electricity consumption per inhabitant in selected countries. kWh. 2012

Iceland	53 156
Norway	23 656
Finland	15 687
Canada	15 558
Sweden	14 289
USA	12 947
France	7 367
Germany	7 138
Denmark	6 040
Poland	3 851

Source: IEA.

Norway among the highest consumers of electricity

Electricity is an important energy source in a mountainous country like Norway with large hydro-electric resources. Norway has the world's second highest electricity consumption per capita: 23 700 kWh. This is almost three times higher than the OECD average, which is approximately 8 100 kWh. This figure includes electricity consumption in all sectors, not just household consumption.

Compared with other countries, electricity accounts for a relatively high share of Norway's energy consumption – almost 50 per cent. This is obviously related to the fact that electricity has traditionally been relatively cheap. In 2013,

Price¹ of unleaded petrol (95 octane) and household electricity in selected countries. 2013

	Petrol (NOK/litre)	Electricity (NOK/kWh)
Norway	14.72	0.87
Italy	13.66	1.80
The Netherlands	13.56	1.51
Denmark	13.23	2.32
Finland	12.74	1.19
United Kingdom	12.33	1.35
Switzerland	11.25	1.20
Austria	10.86	1.60
Poland	10.19	1.15

¹ Including all taxes.

Source: IEA and Statistics Norway.

the price per kWh for households was still low compared to many other European countries.

Average energy consumption

However, the high electricity consumption does not mean that Norway has particularly high total energy consumption.

Energy consumption has increased by almost 50 per cent since 1976 – from just over 600 petajoules to approximately 890 petajoules in 2013. When measured per capita, Norway is slightly above the average for western countries, however is lower than, among others, Iceland and the USA.

Paradoxically, while Norway's production of oil has steadily increased, there has been a transition from oil products to electricity use, which now accounts for slightly less than 50 per cent of total energy consumption. However, while there has been a substantial decline in the stationary oil consumption (e.g. for heating), the amount of oil used for transport has increased somewhat. The use of gas, district heating and solid fuel has also increased.

Minor changes in air emissions ...

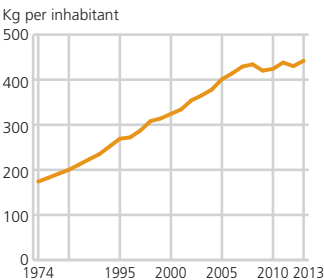
Increased production of oil and gas and more road traffic led to increased greenhouse gas emissions up to 2007 when emissions were more than 10 per cent higher than in 1990 (the basis year for the Kyoto Protocol). Emissions then fell by approximately 6 per cent, however the changes in recent years have been minor.

The largest reduction has taken place in manufacturing which is no longer the largest source of emissions. The reduction is due to technological improvements, less use of oil and plant closures. In addition, oil and gas operations have reduced their emissions since 2007, however remain the largest source of emissions. Emissions from road traffic have remained stable since 2007.

... but more waste

Economic growth and increased prosperity also generate huge amounts of waste. In 2013, we produced a total of 11.2 million tonnes of waste, i.e. about 2 tonnes per person. Since 2000, there has been an increase of 3 million tonnes. The increase in the volume of waste in recent years has been greater than the growth in GDP.

Household waste



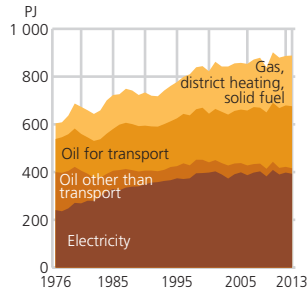
23 per cent of the waste is from manufacturing, while the other industries together generate about 50 per cent. The remainder is household waste, which has increased more than waste from the other sources. In 2014, each person produced an average of 438 kg of household waste. Almost 40 per cent of all household waste in 2014 was sorted for recycling or biological treatment.

Energy consumption per inhabitant in selected countries. toe. 2013

Iceland	16.7
Canada	7.1
USA	6.9
Norway	6.5
Finland	5.9
Sweden	5.0
The Netherlands	4.6
France	3.8
Denmark	3.1
Poland	2.5

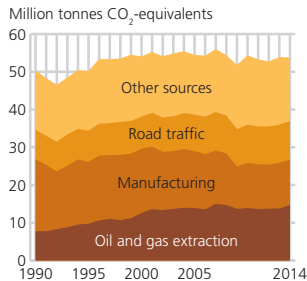
Source: IEA.

Energy consumption by type¹. Petajoule



¹ Excluding the energy sector and sea transport overseas.

Emissions of greenhouse gases¹



¹ Does not include ocean transport and international air transport.

1 petajoule (PJ) = 0.2778 TWh

This is Statistics Norway

Statistics Norway has the primary responsibility for preparing and disseminating official statistics on Norwegian society. Official statistics are the nation's shared factual basis and are essential for a living democracy. Statistics are vital to effective planning, evaluation, debate and research. Official statistics are a public good that everyone shall have equal access to.

Statistics Norway reports to the Ministry of Finance and the Statistics Act, but is a professionally autonomous organisation with a mandate to determine what it publishes, as well as when and how the publishing takes place.

From where do we collect data?

Statistics Norway's statistics are mainly prepared using raw data from two sources: administrative registers and survey questionnaires. An increasing amount of information is collected directly from businesses and local authorities' own computer systems. If data is not available in an administrative register, the information can be collected through electronic reporting. In addition, interviews are conducted, either by phone or door-to-door.

Ssb.no

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New statistics are released every day at 10 am. All information published at ssb.no is free of charge.

The screenshot shows the homepage of Statistics Norway (statistisk sentralbyrå). The header includes the logo, navigation links (AAA, NORSK, KEYWORDS A-Z, CONTACT US), a search bar, and a main menu (STATISTICS, RESEARCH, DATA COLLECTION, ABOUT STATISTICS NORWAY, MY PAGE). Below the header, a banner reads "Statistics Norway - official statistics about Norwegian society since 1875". Five key statistics are displayed with icons: Population (5 176 998), GDP per capita (613 016 NOK), Unemployment (4.2%), Consumer price index (2.1%), and Net migration (38 155). A "SEARCH FOR STATISTICS" bar is present. At the bottom, three boxes offer additional services: "PRICE CALCULATOR" (How much does 5 NOK equal in today's prices? Adjust the rent? Calculate price changes with CPI), "NAME STATISTICS" (Do you wonder how many people have the same name as you? Search by name), and "STATBANK" (Find detailed tables with time series, and create your own tables. Go to StatBank).

Questions about statistics?

Statistics Norway's information service answers questions about statistics and assists you in finding your way at ssb.no. If required, we can assist you in finding the right expert and we also answer questions regarding European statistics.

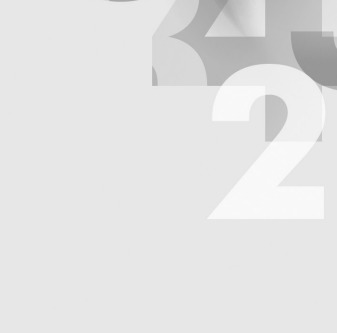
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