

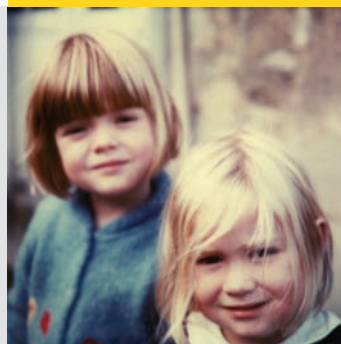
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**This is
NORWAY**

**What the
figures say**

Revised edition 2009



145



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. Finding the information is one thing, however finding a good description of phenomena or trends is something quite different. The figures must be compared, and differences, correlations and trends must be described and interpreted.

In *This is Norway*, Statistics Norway presents statistics on a range of areas in Norwegian society. 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 implies that the publication has many different types of users and areas of application.

The publication was written by Jan Erik Kristiansen, assisted by Gro Flatebø and Ingrid Modig. Siri Boquist and Marit Vågdal were responsible for making the presentation user-friendly, and all sections of Statistics Norway contributed to the statistical basis of the publication.

Oslo/Kongsvinger, February 2009

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Øystein Olsen'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Øystein' and the last name 'Olsen' clearly distinguishable.

Øystein Olsen
Director general

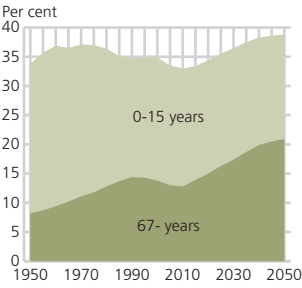
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An ageing society

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
2008	4 737 000	0.71
Projections		
2010	4 851 000	1.2
2020	5 382 000	1.0
2030	5 848 000	0.8
2040	6 221 000	0.6
2050	6 553 000	0.5

Percentage of children/young people and elderly in the population



High population growth...

The population of Norway exceeded 4.8 million in 2008; an increase of more than 1.5 million since 1950. In the immediate post-war years, the annual growth in the population was approximately 1 per cent, mainly due to the high birth rate. The population growth dropped to 0.3 per cent in the 1980s and has increased slightly since then. Today, net immigration is more important for population growth than the surplus of births.

...also in the years ahead

Population projections will depend on the assumptions we make. A prognosis based on medium fertility, life expectancy, centralisation and net immigration, indicates continued growth over the next 50 years. The population will exceed 5 million in 2012 and climb to 6.5 million in 2050, while population growth will approach 0.5 per cent.

Much of the future growth will probably be due to net immigration. If this is low, Norway's population will reach a maximum of approximately 6 million around 2050, while higher immigration can take the population figure up to almost 8 million.

The grey tsunami

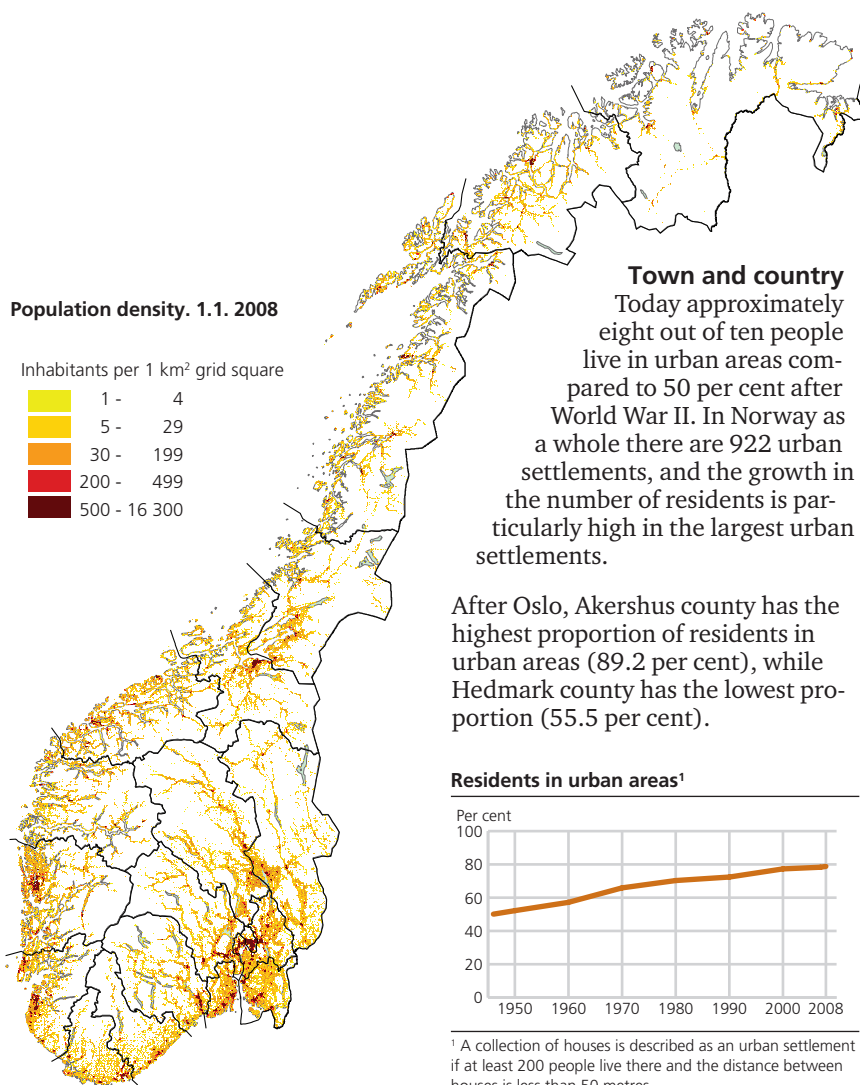
Much has been said about the expected growth in the elderly population. However, this is like a day at the beach, keeping a lookout for the big wave; we think we see one coming but usually it flattens out long before it reaches us.

However the grey tsunami will happen, and in some respects we could say that it has arrived already. In 1950 only 8 per cent of the population were aged 67 or over, while today the share is 13 per cent. Not until 2015 (when the post-war baby boomers become pensioners) will this proportion increase further, reaching 17 per cent in 2030 and 21 per cent in 2050. The share of children below the age of 15 will continue to fall and will be approximately 18 per cent in 2050.

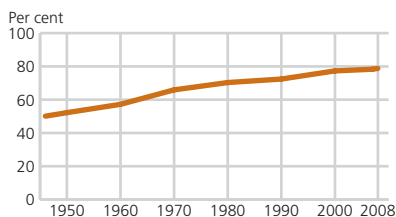
This senior citizen boom is only partly due to the fact that the population is growing older (more people at the top of the pyramid). Equally important is the low birth rate resulting in fewer people at the bottom. On the other hand, the share of elderly people has been offset by the relatively high fertility rate in Norway and also by the fact that the immigrant population is young.

Population by age and sex, registered and projections





Residents in urban areas¹



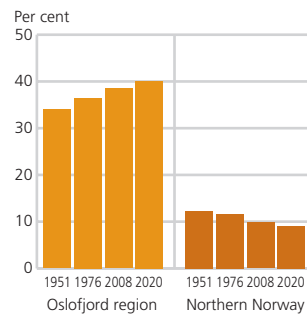
¹ A collection of houses is described as an urban settlement if at least 200 people live there and the distance between houses is less than 50 metres.

From far and near

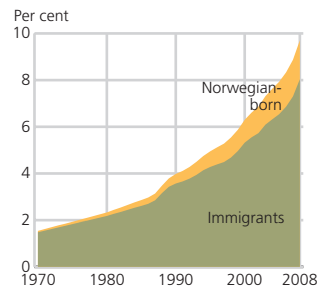
At the start of 2008, there were 460 000 immigrants and Norwegian-born to immigrant parents in Norway, which accounted for 9.7 per cent of the entire population. A total of 381 000 of these were immigrants born outside Norway, while 79 000 were Norwegian-born with immigrant parents.

In Oslo, 25 per cent of the population are either immigrants or born in Norway to immigrant parents, and a third of immigrants and Norwegian-born to immigrant parents in Norway live in Oslo. Including Akershus, the figure is 43 per cent.

Residents in the Oslofjord region¹ and Northern Norway. 1951-2008 and projections 2020



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



Country of origin of immigrants and Norwegian-born to immigrant parents. Main countries. 2008

Country	Number
Poland	32 069
Pakistan	29 134
Sweden	26 244
Iraq	22 881
Somalia	21 795
Vietnam	19 226
Denmark	19 220
Germany	17 472
Bosnia-Herzegovina	15 649
Iran	15 134

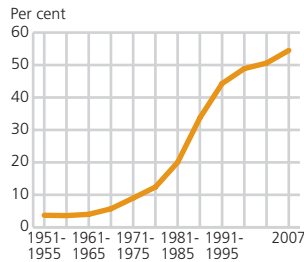
From generation to generation

Total fertility rate in selected countries. 2006

Iceland	2.08
France	2.00
Norway	1.90
Ireland	1.90
Sweden	1.85
United Kingdom	1.84
Finland	1.84
Denmark	1.83
Netherlands	1.70
Austria	1.40
Greece	1.39
Spain	1.38
Portugal	1.35
Germany	1.32
Poland	1.27

Source: Eurostat.

Percentage of children born out of wedlock



Percentage of children born out of wedlock in selected countries. 2006

Iceland	65.6
Sweden	55.5
Norway	53.1
France	50.5
Denmark	46.4
United Kingdom	43.7
Finland	40.6
Austria	37.2
Netherlands	37.1
Ireland	33.2
Portugal	31.6
Germany	30.0
Spain	28.4
Poland	18.9
Switzerland	15.4
Greece	5.3

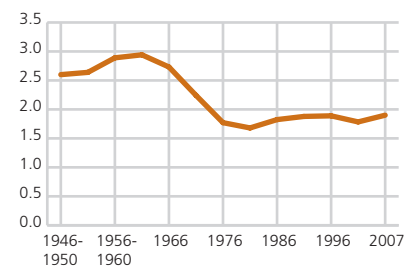
Source: Eurostat.

Low fertility rate...

The post-war baby boom, which lasted until the mid-1960s, was followed by a decline in birth rates that reached its lowest point in the beginning of the 1980s. Fertility then increased somewhat but now appears to be stabilised at a fertility rate of 1.9 children per woman.

If we disregard immigration and emigration, the fertility rate in a country must be approximately 2.1 in order to ensure the long-term natural replacement of the population. 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 in the period remains the same in the entire fertile period and no death occurs.

...but high compared to other countries

The fall in the fertility rate in the last decade is a general phenomenon in Europe, and Norway is actually one of the countries with the highest fertility rates in recent years. The average fertility rate in the EU, for instance, is now 1.5, with Italy, Spain and Greece down to 1.3. The highest fertility rates in 2006 were in Iceland and France.

More than half born outside marriage

More than 50 per cent of all children are now born out of wedlock, compared with just over 3 per cent in the 1950s. The greatest increase was registered in the 1970s and 1980s, but this increase has now evened out. The vast majority of these births are to parents who live together, while 11 per cent are born to single mothers. However, in the case of the first child, 52 and 16 per cent respectively are born to parents who live together or to single mothers. When the second child comes along, the parents are more likely to be married.

Most up north

Most births outside marriage are found in the three northern counties and the Trøndelag counties, with fewest in Vest-Agder.

A similar north-south divide is also found in Europe: Iceland heads the list, followed by Sweden and the other Nordic countries. Moving down the list we find the countries in Western Europe. In Southern Europe births outside marriage are still a relatively rare phenomenon.

Older mothers

With the growth in educational level and labour force participation, mothers are giving birth increasingly later in life. Since the beginning of the 1970s, the average childbearing age has increased by approximately four years to 30.3. The average age for the first birth is 28.1.

This trend is particularly prevalent among teenagers. Around 1970, teenage births amounted to 20 per cent of those giving birth for the first time, whereas today the figure is less than 5 per cent.

More multiple births

The share of multiple births (mainly twins) remained around 1 per cent for a long time, but started to increase at the end of the 1980s and is now 2 per cent. This development is probably due to the rise in childbearing age and the increase in the use of IVF treatment.

Abortion numbers stable

Abortion rates rose sharply at the beginning of the 1970s. Since the introduction of the Abortion Act in 1978, the numbers have stabilised between 14 000 and 16 000. In 2007, almost 15 200 abortions were carried out, a figure equivalent to about 25 per cent of all live births.

The frequency of abortions is particularly high among young women aged 20 to 24; every year almost 3 per cent in this age group have an abortion. Among those aged 15 to 19, there are now twice as many abortions as births.

Fewer adoptions from abroad

The annual number of adoptions has varied between 800 and 1 000 since the start of the 1970s. However, there has been a decline in recent years due to fewer children being adopted from abroad. The share of adoptions from abroad increased dramatically up to 2005, but has subsequently evened out. Part of the reason for this is that the waiting time to adopt children from China has increased. However, China is still the dominating donor country, followed by Colombia and South Korea. While there is a majority of boys from most countries, nearly all children adopted from China are girls, presumably because of China's one-child policy.

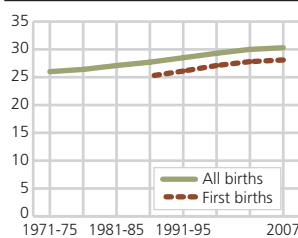
Simultaneous to the fall in the number of adoptions from abroad, the number of step children adoptions has increased. This is due to more registered partners adopting their partner's children.

What's in a name?

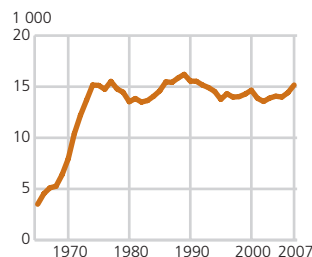
Whether the children are born in or out of wedlock, are twins or adopted, they all require a name. Linnea and Lucas were the most popular baby names in 2008.

Fashions in names change, and many of the names we find today were very popular about 100 years ago. Many of them are international and they head the list in other countries too. (A result of this fact is the disappearance of 'Norwegian' names containing the letters æ, ø and å.) A third trend is that double names and hyphenated names (e.g. Else Marie and Ole-Petter) are losing their popularity.

Average childbearing age. All births and first births

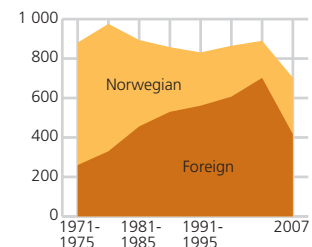


Number of abortions



Source: Statistics Norway and Norwegian Institute of Public Health.

Number of adopted children, Norwegian and foreign



Most popular first names. 2008

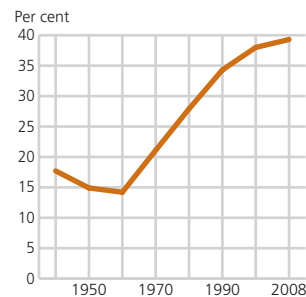
	Boys' names	Girls' names
1	Lukas/Lucas	Linnea/Linea
2	Mathias/Matias	Emma
3	Markus/Marcus	Sara/Sarah/Sahra
4	Emil	Thea/Tea
5	Kristian/Christian	Nora/Norah
6	Jonas	Ida
7	Magnus	Sofie/Sophie
8	Oliver	Ingrid/Ingerid/Ingri
9	Tobias	Leah/Lea
10	Alexander/Aleksander	Julie

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
2008	2 104 531	2.2

Percentage of one-person households



Number of married and cohabiting couples, with and without children living at home

	1990	2008
Couples, total	973 000	1 072 574
Married, total	871 000	831 937
Without children	467 000	489 519
With children	404 000	342 418
Cohabitants, total	102 000	240 636
Without children	52 000	100 475
With children	50 000	140 161

More people live alone...

The post-war period was the grand era of the nuclear family. More people got married, and the proportion of one-person households decreased slightly. From the beginning of the 1970s, there were fewer marriages, while the number of divorces increased. This development has resulted in more than twice the number of one-person households; 39 per cent altogether, equal to almost 18 per cent of the population.

In the population as a whole, there are no marked gender differences related to the share of persons living alone. While single women are in the majority in the elderly population, men are in the majority among the youngest.

One-person households are particularly common in the inner cities and in sparsely populated areas.

...and more cohabit

The decline in the number of existing marriages in recent years is not only caused by the increase in divorces and the number of persons living alone. In addition, a growing number of people prefer to live together without getting married.

Unmarried, cohabiting couples were included in the statistics as early as the end of the 1970s, but it is only in the last two decades that this form of partnership has become common. Couples living together accounted for 22 per cent of all couples in 2008, an increase from 10 per cent in 1990. Previously, cohabiting couples were usually childless, while today the majority have children.

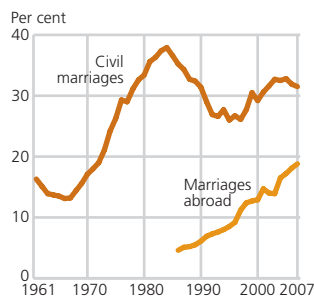
Among young people (under 30 years) it is more common to live together than to marry. Oslo, the Trøndelag counties and the northern counties have the highest percentage of unmarried couples living together. Eight out of the ten municipalities with the lowest percentage of cohabitants are situated in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

One out of three marriages are civil ceremonies

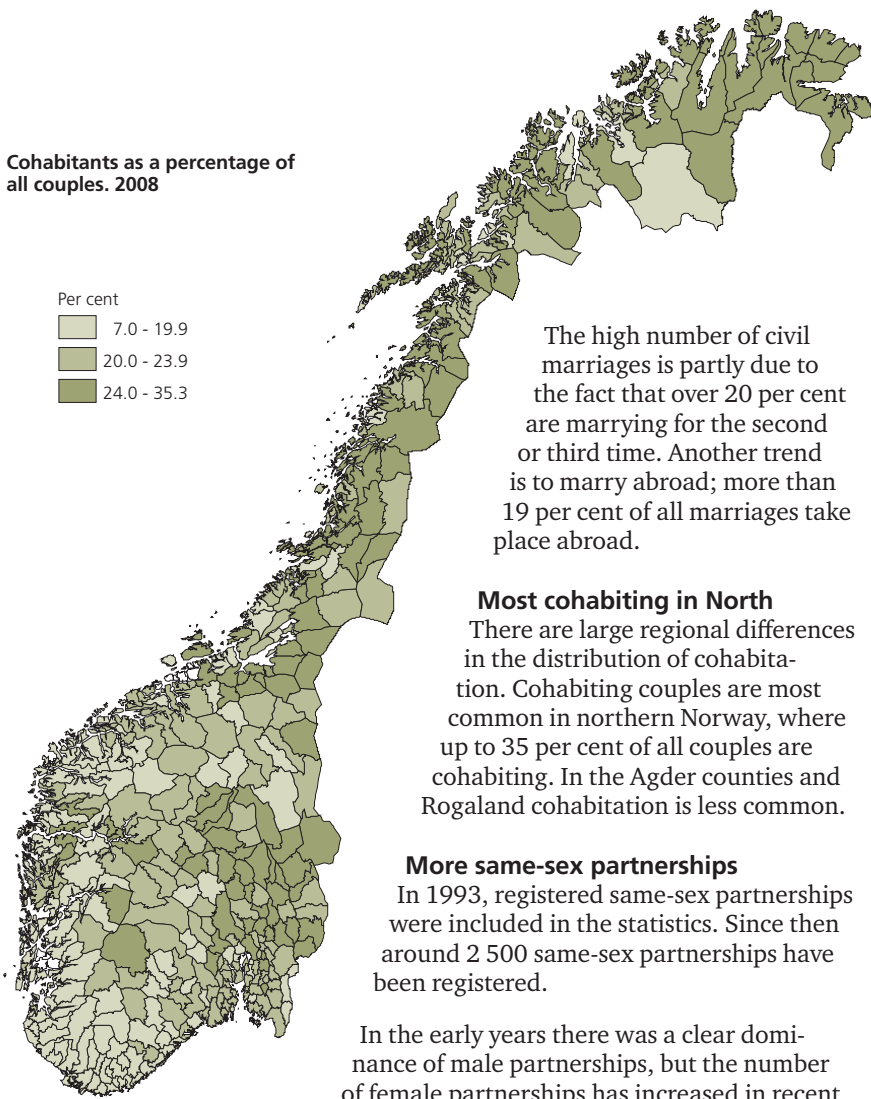
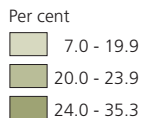
Following a record low number of marriages at the beginning of the 1990s, the number increased for some years.

The percentage of civil marriages rose sharply in the 1970s and reached a peak of 38 per cent at the beginning of the 1980s. The percentage subsequently dropped somewhat, only to rise again in recent years.

Civil marriages and marriages abroad



Cohabitants as a percentage of all couples. 2008



The high number of civil marriages is partly due to the fact that over 20 per cent are marrying for the second or third time. Another trend is to marry abroad; more than 19 per cent of all marriages take place abroad.

Most cohabiting in North

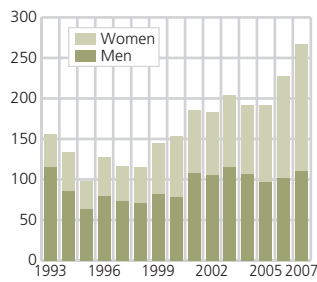
There are large regional differences in the distribution of cohabitation. Cohabiting couples are most common in northern Norway, where up to 35 per cent of all couples are cohabiting. In the Agder counties and Rogaland cohabitation is less common.

More same-sex partnerships

In 1993, registered same-sex partnerships were included in the statistics. Since then around 2 500 same-sex partnerships have been registered.

In the early years there was a clear dominance of male partnerships, but the number of female partnerships has increased in recent years and they are now in the majority.

Number of registered same-sex partnerships. Men and women



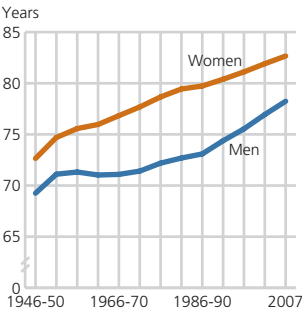
Divorces

Following a long-term and marked increase in the number of divorces up to the beginning of the 1990s, the figure appears to have stabilised at approximately 10 000 annually. Consequently, 45 per cent of all marriages will probably 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 on the break-ups of cohabiting couples.

Life and death

Life expectancy at birth for men and women



Remaining life expectancy at different ages. 2007

	Women	Men
0 years	82.7	78.2
10 years	73.0	68.6
20 years	63.1	58.7
30 years	53.3	49.2
40 years	43.5	39.6
50 years	34.0	30.2
60 years	24.9	21.4
70 years	16.5	13.7
80 years	9.2	7.4

Life expectancy at birth in selected countries. 2006

	Women	Men
Japan	85.8	79.0
Spain	84.4	77.7
France	84.4	77.3
Switzerland	84.2	79.2
Finland	83.1	75.9
Sweden	83.1	78.8
Norway	82.9	78.2
Iceland	82.9	79.5
Austria	82.8	77.2
Germany	82.4	77.2
Belgium	82.3	76.6
Portugal	82.3	75.5
Ireland	82.1	77.3
Netherlands	82.0	77.7
Greece	81.9	77.2
Denmark	80.7	76.1
Poland	79.7	70.9

Source: Eurostat and Statistics Bureau of Japan.

A long life

Estimated life expectancy often serves as an indicator of the population’s general health. Today a baby boy can expect to live until the age of 78.2 years and a baby girl to 82.7. This is a marked increase since the period 1946-1950, when the figures were 69.3 and 72.7 respectively.

In the 1950s and 1960s, there was an increasing gap between men and women as regards life expectancy. This was mainly due to the rising male mortality rate for cardiovascular diseases. This gap has decreased over the last ten years.

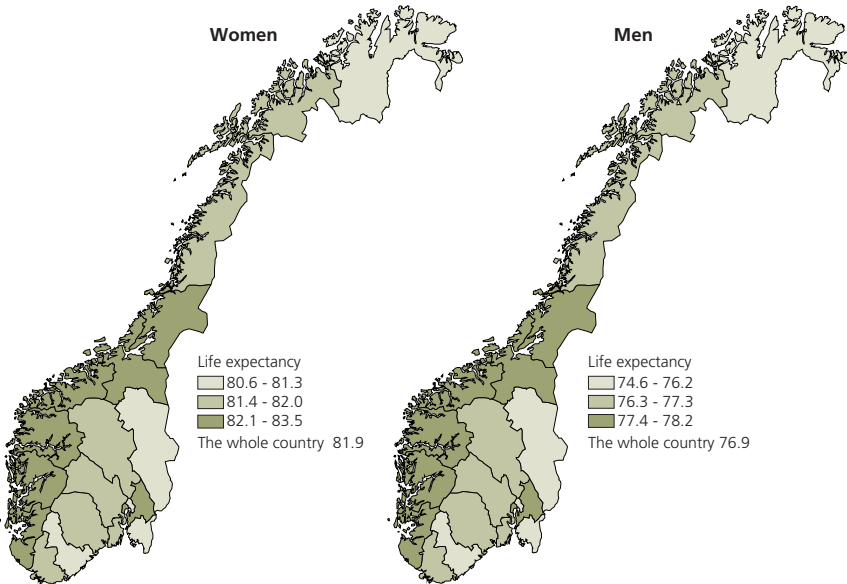
Norwegian women no longer live longest

Previously, Norwegian women had the world’s highest estimated life expectancy, while today women in several countries can expect to live longer; Japanese women top the list with a life expectancy of almost 86 years. Other women too, for example those from the south of Europe, can expect to live longer than their Norwegian counterparts.

There seems to be a north-south divide when it comes to gender differences in life expectancy. Whereas Icelandic and Swedish women only live four years longer than their men, Spanish, French and Portuguese women live around seven years longer.

Internationally there are large differences in life expectancy, and this is also the case for regions in Norway. For example, a woman in Sogn og Fjordane might expect to live for almost 84 years while in Finnmark the figure is around 81.

Life expectancy for men and women. 2001-2005



Causes of death. Per cent

	Women			Men		
	1951-1955	1971-1975	2001-2005	1951-1955	1971-1975	2001-2005
All causes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Violent deaths	3.7	4.4	4.3	8.6	7.5	7.0
Diseases:						
Tuberculosis and other infectious diseases	2.6	0.8	1.5	3.9	0.8	1.4
Cancer	19.2	19.1	22.6	18.1	18.6	27.0
Diabetes	1.0	0.9	1.7	0.7	0.5	1.6
Cardiovascular diseases	45.0	51.3	40.1	40.1	50.5	37.3
Respiratory diseases (e.g. pneumonia)	8.6	10.2	9.8	7.7	8.4	9.5
All other diseases	19.9	13.3	20.0	21.0	13.8	16.4

Causes of death

Before, during and immediately after World War II, tuberculosis and other infectious diseases were still common causes of death. After 1960, deaths caused by these diseases were less common, while cardiovascular diseases became more common and were the cause of more than half of all deaths at the beginning of the 1970s. The significance of these diseases was then somewhat reduced. In contrast, cancer deaths have increased throughout the whole period, especially for men.

The number of violent deaths has remained relatively stable in the post-war period. Earlier, death by drowning and accidents related to fishing and shipping dominated the statistics, while today falls, traffic accidents and suicides dominate. However, these causes of death have declined in recent years.

Sickness absence

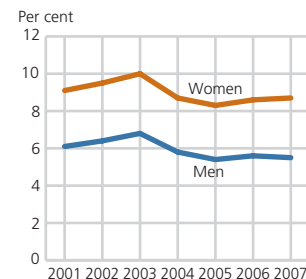
The sickness absence rate increased until 2003. After a decline in 2004, it has now stabilised. Women have a higher sickness absence rate than men, especially when it comes to sickness absence certified by a doctor, which is related to the fact that this also includes absence in connection with pregnancy and birth.

Fewer daily smokers

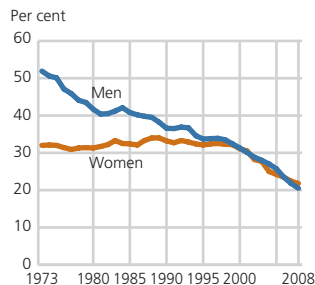
Since the beginning of the 1970s, the proportion of daily smokers has decreased considerably. For men, the percentage has fallen from over 50 to 21 per cent. For women, the percentage remained stable at just over 30 for a long period, while today the percentage has declined to 22. In addition, 10 per cent say that they smoke occasionally.

While there is 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; around 10 per cent of men aged 16-74 say that they take snuff daily and 5 per cent take snuff occasionally. Previously, snuff was mostly used by elderly men, while today it is most common among younger men. There are still very few women who take snuff.

Sickness absence rates. Women and men



Percentage daily smokers. Women and men 16-74 years¹



¹ Three year moving average.

Wise women

Since 1955 the total number of pupils and students has increased from approximately 550 000 to more than 1 million. This means that almost one out of four Norwegians are studying.

Primary and lower secondary school

With the change-over from seven years to nine-years compulsory primary school, the number of pupils increased from 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 2007 there were 616 400 pupils at primary and lower secondary schools.

Upper secondary school

After a minor decline in the number of pupils (including apprentices) in upper secondary education in the 1990s, there has been an increase the last years.

More than 90 per cent of 16-18 year olds 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 219 500 (including students abroad) and almost one out of three 19-24 year olds are now enrolled in higher education.

One out of four drops out of upper secondary education

Nine out of ten Norwegian youths aged 16-19 are currently enrolled in upper secondary education, which can thus almost be regarded as compulsory. However, about one in four drop out before their education is completed, with the highest dropout rate being found among pupils in vocational studies. There are also clear gender differences, with boys dropping out more often than girls.

Women in majority

Since the mid-1980s, women have been in the majority among students, and today six out of ten students are women. The share of women is particularly high at university colleges (64 per cent).

Women now also make up the majority (62 per cent) of the graduates at universities and university colleges. Women make up 56 per cent of students at Master degree level and 65 per cent at Bachelor degree level. With regard to PhDs, women are still in the minority: in 2007, almost 45 per cent of doctorates were taken by women.

More women than men with higher education

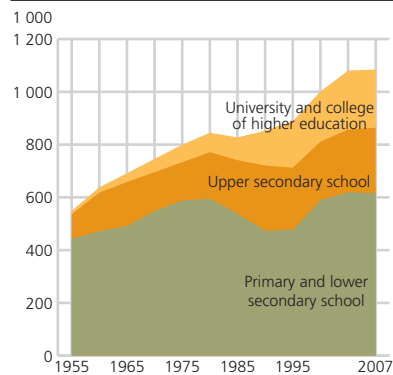
Three times as many Norwegians now have a degree from a university or university college compared with 1970, and more women than men now have a higher education. However, men still have a somewhat higher education than women.

There are now far more women than men with higher education in the age group under 50. The gender differences are particularly significant among those aged 25-29: 49 per cent of women have higher education, compared with 32 per cent of men. In this age group women now outnumber men in Master degree studies.

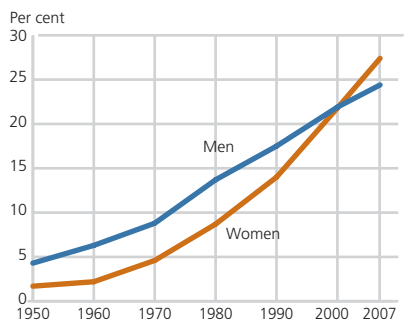
Fewer users of Nynorsk

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

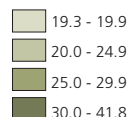
Number of pupils/students in primary and lower secondary education, upper secondary education, and university/college of higher education



Percentage of men and women with higher education



Percentage of the population 16 years and more with higher education. 2007. Per cent

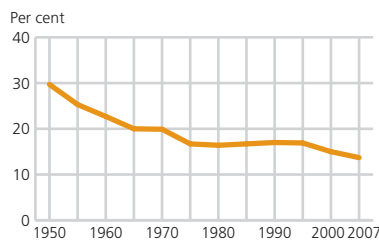


The whole country: 25.9

has continued to fall in the last ten years, and was less than 14 per cent in 2007.

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

Percentage of pupils in primary and lower secondary education using Nynorsk



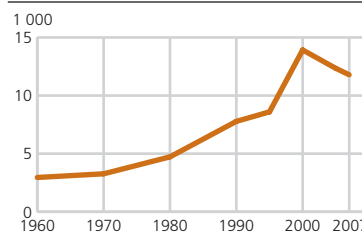
Studies abroad

More and more young people are studying abroad. The number of students has increased five-fold since 1960, with the largest increase in the 1990s, but has now dropped.

In 2007, there were 11 800 students studying abroad in addition to 6 700 exchange students and part-time students, representing about 10 per cent of the total student population.

A total of 66 per cent of part-time students abroad are women, while the share of women who complete their education abroad is 58 per cent.

Number of students abroad



Source: The State Educational Loan Fund.

Four out of ten Oslo residents have higher education compared with 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. 2007

	Per cent
Highest	
Bærum	45.3
Asker	43.0
Oslo	41.8
Nesodden	36.8
Oppegård	35.8
Lowest	
Moskenes	9.7
Karlsøy	9.5
Torsken	9.1
Værøy	8.8
Røst	8.6

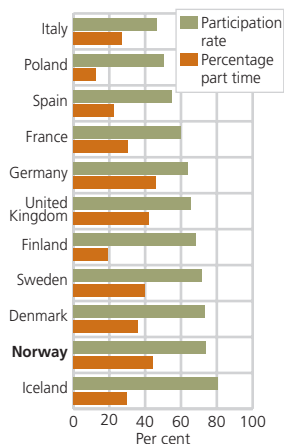
Pupils and students abroad: Most popular countries and subjects. 2007/2008

	Number of students
Country	
United Kingdom	2 498
Denmark	2 501
Australia	1 448
Sweden	1 051
USA	874
Poland	963
Hungary	680
Subjects	
Medicine	2 349
Business and administration	1 835
Art	964
Social sciences	818
Science and technology	638
Humanities	566
Physiatrics	458
Therapeutics	440
Journalism/media	407

Source: The State Educational Loan Fund.

Women at work

Labour force participation rate for women aged 15-64 and the percentage working part-time. Selected countries. 2007

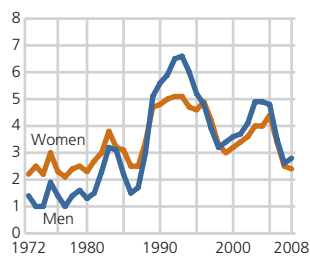


Source: Eurostat.

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 men and women 15-74 years. Percentage of the labour force

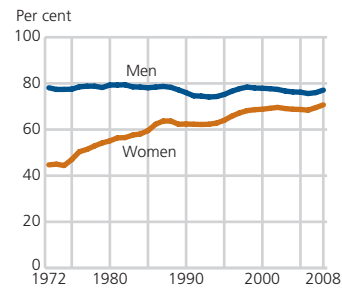


Labour force participation: Women almost equal to men...

In 2008, the number of people in employment reached approximately 2.5 million, or 50 per cent of the population. Women accounted for 47 per cent of the employed.

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 for men. Since 1993, labour force participation has again increased for both men and women, with the greatest increase for women. In 2008, the labour force comprised 71 per cent of women and 77 per cent of men aged 15 to 74.

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

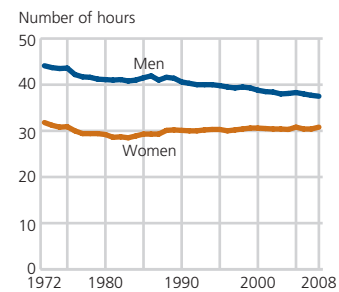


...but shorter working hours

Many women continue to work part-time, though the share of female part-time workers is declining. While 47 per cent worked full-time in 1980, the corresponding figure had increased to 58 per cent in 2008. The percentage of men in full-time employment remains steady at around 90 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 almost six hours, from 44 to 38. 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 a higher growth in full-time employment, and the average number of working hours for women has increased by approximately two hours, to 31.

Working hours per week for men and women in employment



Low 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, but one percentage point higher for women than for men.

When the 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.

More women in the public sector

Today, approximately a third of those employed work in the public sector; 48 per cent of women compared with 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 increased educational level, male and female career paths are still quite traditional. Typical female professions are primary and lower secondary school teachers, nurses, cleaners and secretaries. Typical male professions are craftsmen, building and construction workers, drivers and engineers.

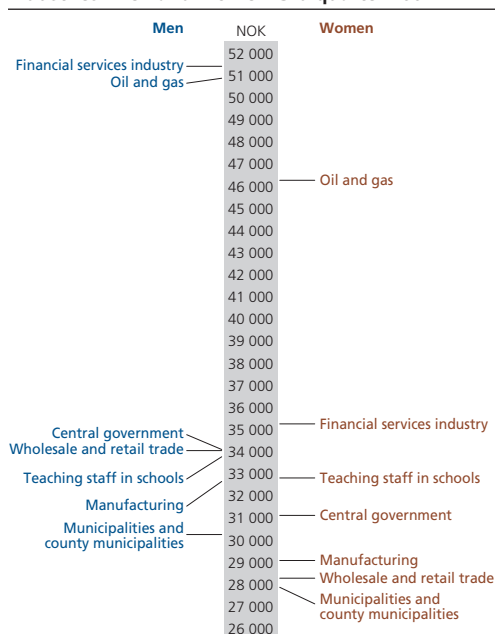
In some professions, e.g. mail carriers/marketing and advertising consultants, the numbers are approximately equal for men and women.

Considerable wage differences

Since 1970, wages for a normal man-labour year have increased from NOK 30 900 to NOK 399 500 in 2007. This represents an increase in real wages of more than 100 per cent adjusted for price inflation.

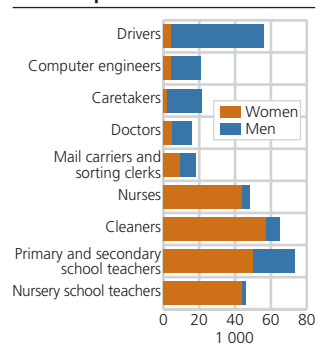
In 2007, the average monthly wages for men and women (calculated as full-time equivalents) were NOK 34 600 and NOK 29 100 respectively. In other words, a woman's pay amounted to 84 per cent of a man's salary. Although there has been little change in recent years, viewed in a longer perspective the difference has diminished. In 1960, a woman's wage was 60 per cent of a man's. However, this varies from one industry to another. In financial services a woman's salary is just 69 per cent of a man's, while in the education sector the figure is 97 per cent.

Monthly wages for full-time¹ employees in selected industries. Men and women. 3rd quarter 2007

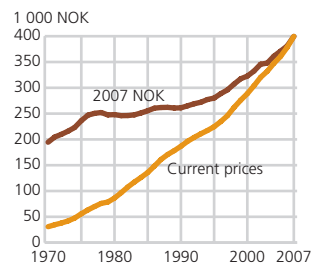


¹ Working hours agreed upon = 33 hours or more.

Number of men and women in selected professions. 2007

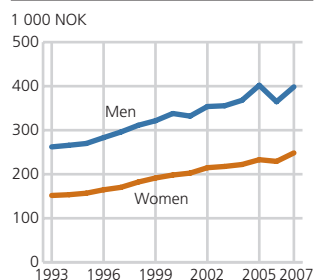


Wages per normal man-labour year. Current prices and 2007 NOK

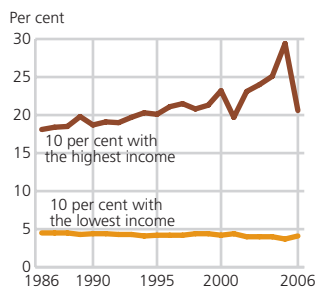


Rich and poor

**Average gross income. 2007
NOK**



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



¹ Students not included.

Transfers on the increase

The average income in Norwegian households was NOK 527 700 in 2006, more than double that of 1990. Almost 74 per cent of this is work-related (i.e. wages and income from self-employment). This proportion has fallen somewhat in recent years, while transfers such as pensions and family allowances today account for a larger proportion than previously.

Composition of household income

	1986	1990	1994	1998	2002	2006
NOK						
Total income	207 700	255 800	282 700	357 500	444 800	527 700
Wages and salaries	161 800	191 000	202 800	262 200	316 800	388 500
Property income	10 900	15 600	15 100	19 200	33 500	24 900
Transfers received	35 000	49 200	64 800	76 100	94 500	114 300
Per cent						
Total income	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Wages and salaries	77.9	74.7	71.7	73.3	71.2	73.6
Property income	5.2	6.1	5.3	5.4	7.5	4.7
Transfers received	16.9	19.2	22.9	21.3	21.2	21.7

Women's income 60 per cent of men's

In 2007, the average gross income for all adults was NOK 322 500, with average assessed tax amounting to around 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 represent approximately 84 per cent of men's, women's gross annual income is only 60 per cent of men's. In 1984, the corresponding figure was 47 per cent.

The differences in annual income are much larger than the differences in monthly earnings 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.

Greater differences in income

The 10 per cent of the population with the lowest household income has remained stable at 4 per cent, while the 10 per cent with the highest income increased their share from 18.6 to 29 per cent in 2005. The fall in 2006 is related to the new tax rules introduced in that year, which affected the withdrawal of dividends.

More people hold shares

The property account for households shows that real capital and financial capital have increased since 1986, but the main increase is in 'other financial assets' (shares, unit trust funds etc.).

Composition of household wealth. NOK

	1986	1990	1994	1996	1998	2000	2003	2006
Non-financial assets	147 900	182 900	202 000	226 400	240 200	260 600	289 700	388 500
Financial assets, total	135 800	176 300	192 800	217 000	284 200	352 800	391 400	579 400
Bank deposits	89 900	123 600	129 700	136 400	145 800	172 900	215 800	269 200
Other financial assets	45 800	52 700	64 100	80 600	138 400	179 900	175 600	310 200
Debts	217 800	284 200	281 500	316 200	353 900	415 000	536 100	771 900
Net wealth	65 900	75 000	113 400	127 200	170 500	198 400	145 000	196 000

These figures conceal large variations as do average figures generally, and the distribution of financial wealth is very uneven. In 2006, the 10 per cent of households with the greatest financial wealth owned more than two thirds of the total.

Heavy debt burden for many, but interest less important

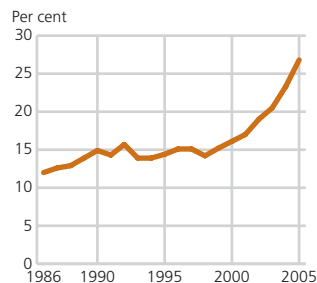
Average debt per household has soared in recent years, particularly since 2000, reaching NOK 772 000 in 2006. A total of 80 per cent of households had debt, and this share has increased somewhat in recent years. The share of households with a large debt burden – twice their income or more – rose to 16 per cent in 1992. This proportion then dropped somewhat, but has subsequently increased to more than 27 per cent. Furthermore, the share of persons in households with debt more than three times the household income was 13 per cent in 2005.

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

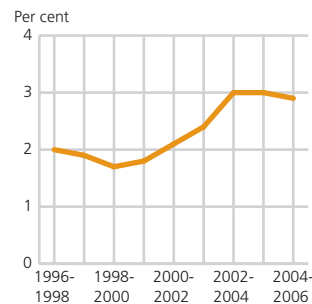
3 per cent with persistent low income

The proportion of people whose after-tax household income per consumption unit (OECD-scale) is below 50 per cent of the median income, is often used as a low-income threshold or poverty line. In 2005, this figure was 5.6 per cent and has increased somewhat. The share with a low income over a 3-year period was 3.9 per cent. Excluding students, the share is 3 per cent. The highest shares of persons with a low income are found in Oslo and non-central municipalities.

Percentage of households with debt twice the household income and more



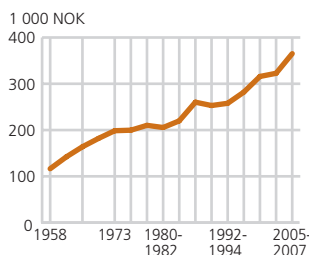
Percentage of people with persistent low income¹



¹ Students not included.

Big spenders

Consumer expenditure per household. 2007 NOK



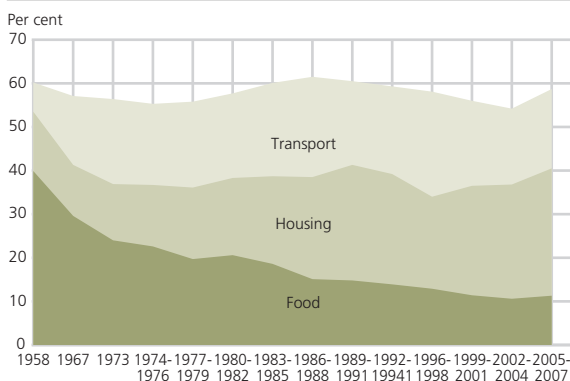
Consumption has more than tripled since 1958

In the period 2005-2007, the average annual total consumer expenditure per household was NOK 365 100. In 1958, the equivalent amount was NOK 11 088, which corresponds to approximately NOK 116 000 when converted to 2007 NOK. In the same period, household size has also declined, meaning that real consumption has more than tripled.

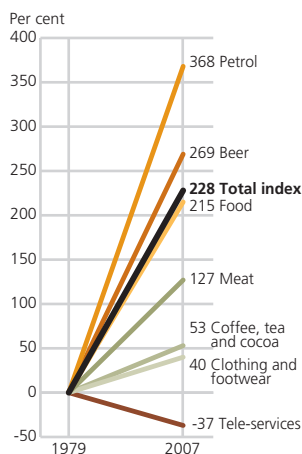
Less money on food...

Two main trends characterise the development in consumption pattern over the last 50 years. The proportion spent on food and beverages has been decreasing throughout the entire period (at the same time we are more concerned about food prices). The average household now spends approximately 11 per cent of their household budget on food, compared with 40 per cent in 1958.

Proportion of household expenditure spent on food, housing and transport



Growth in prices; selected goods and services. 1979-2007



...and more on housing and transport

On the other hand, we are spending an increasing amount on housing and transport; 29 and 18 per cent respectively. However transport and travelling expenditures have been decreasing for some years, while housing expenditures once again are increasing after a decline in the 1990s. Most of the money spent on transport goes towards buying a car, as well as maintenance and running costs.

Less on clothing and footwear

Surprisingly enough, we spend less than 5 per cent of the household budget on clothing and footwear, which is less than half of 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 of these items has been less than that of most other goods.

More on mobile phones

Prices of telecom services have also fallen in recent years. Nevertheless, the budget expenditure share has increased to more than 2 per cent, and we now spend an average of NOK 6 100 yearly on telecom services.

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 (not including tourist imports, contraband or alcohol produced at home).

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 evened out. Due to the increased consumption of wine there has been a growth in total consumption in recent years.

Despite this increase in consumption, we are not spending more of the household expenditure on alcohol. In the past 30 years, we have spent approximately 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 more than halved and now amounts to 32 kg per person (more than 5 kg being consumed as potato crisps, chips etc.). The consumption of butter, margarine and oils has also halved in this period.

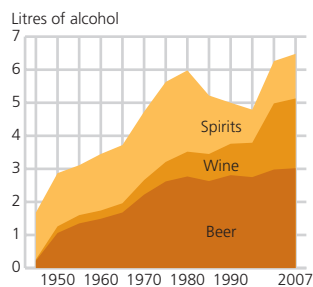
While the consumption of meat has remained stable for the past 25 years, we are eating more fruit and vegetables.

...and drinking habits

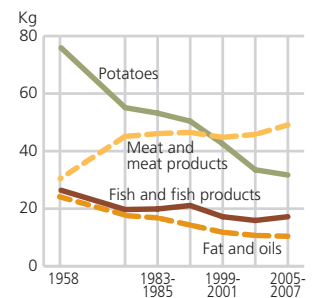
It is not only when it comes to alcohol that our drinking habits have changed. The consumption of milk has fallen from almost 170 litres per person to around 80 litres. Whereas most people used to drink whole milk, semi-skimmed and skimmed milk are most popular nowadays.

On the other hand, the consumption of non-alcoholic beverages (mineral water, juice and lemonade) has multiplied many times over since 1958, and we drink 100 litres annually on average. This increase roughly corresponds to the decline in milk consumption.

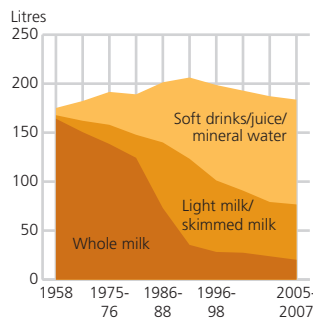
Consumption of spirits, wine and beer per inhabitant aged 15 and over



Consumption of selected food per person per year

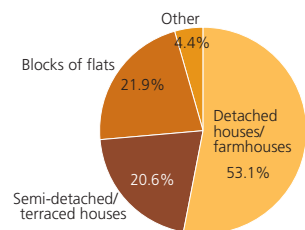


Consumption of milk and mineral water per person per year



My home is my castle

Dwellings, 2008



Eight out of ten in small houses

There are approximately 2 274 000 dwellings in Norway. This unsurprisingly corresponds roughly to the number of households (household = to hold a house together).

A total of 53 per cent of the dwellings are detached houses (or farmhouses), 21 per cent are semi-detached houses, terraced houses and other small dwelling houses, while 22 per cent are blocks of flats or apartment buildings.

Seven out of ten households have a house with a garden.

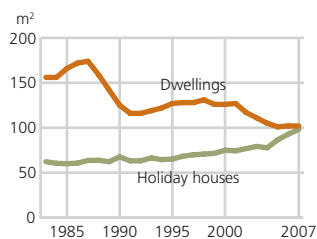
Eight out of ten own their dwelling

A total of 76 per cent of households own their dwellings, while 17 per cent are tenants. The share of tenants has increased since 1990, especially in the cities.

Young people and people living on their own are becoming increasingly likely to rent accommodation, partly due to high property prices – especially in the largest cities.

Compared to Denmark and Sweden, for example, Norwegians more often own their homes: in these countries only slightly more than 50 per cent are homeowners.

Average utility floor space new dwellings and holiday houses



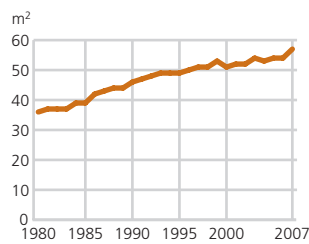
Smaller homes – larger cabins

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 share of apartment blocks. At the same time, the size of new holiday homes has increased considerably, and there is now little difference in the size of new homes and cabins.

More spacious dwellings...

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 gradually have become smaller (2.2 residents per dwelling compared to 2.7 in 1980), the dwellings are becoming more spacious. Assuming that those living in households with at least three rooms more than the number of persons in the household live very sparsely, this now applies to about one third of the population.

Living area per person



...and higher housing standards

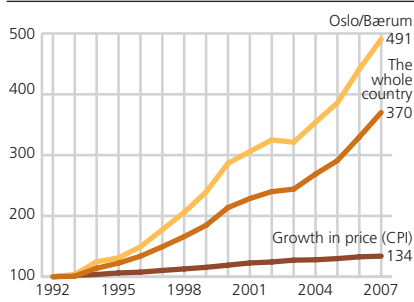
In 1980, 10 per cent of the population still lacked a bathroom or shower. By 1990 this figure was down to 1 per cent. At the same time the percentage with two or more bathrooms has risen from 18 per cent in 1988 to 33 per cent in 2007.

Housing prices almost quadrupled since 1992

The price of dwellings increased by more than 270 per cent from 1992 to 2007. By comparison, there has been a general price increase in the same period of approximately 34 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 dwellings has increased almost five-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. Four out of five households have a PC while only seven in ten households have a dishwasher.

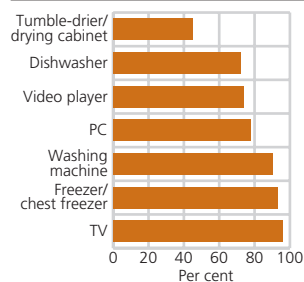
418 000 holiday houses

In 2008, there were 418 000 holiday houses (cabins and summer houses) in Norway. Most of these were situated in Oppland (44 400) and Buskerud (42 400).

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

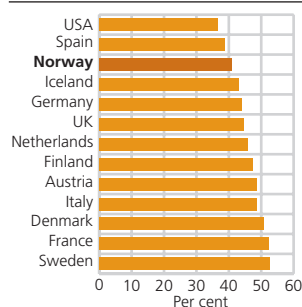
A total of 6 per cent of households own a caravan and 14 per cent have a sailing boat or motor boat.

Percentage of households with various durable consumer goods. 2005-2007



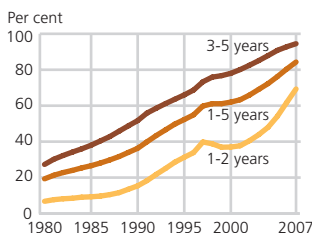
From cradle to grave

Public expenditure as a percentage of GDP in selected countries. 2007

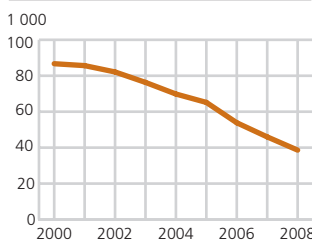


Source: OECD.

Kindergarten coverage

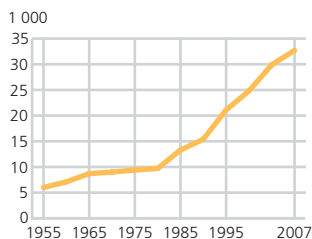


Number of children with cash benefit. Per 30 September



Source: Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration.

Number of children under protective care. Per 31 December



The growth of the welfare state

In addition to responsibility for the health and education of the population, the main 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) around 1960. This percentage increased gradually to over 50 at the beginning of the 1990s but has subsequently fallen somewhat. This decline is partly due to the strong growth in oil revenues and 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 soon?

There were approximately 6 600 kindergartens in Norway in 2007. Almost half of these were private, representing roughly 46 per cent of all kindergarten places.

Altogether 250 000 children attend a kindergarten. The kindergarten coverage for all children aged 1-5 is 84 per cent, which is more than four times the number in 1980.

More than nine out of ten children aged 3-5 have a kindergarten place. The kindergarten coverage is also increasing for the youngest age group after a decline and stabilisation since 1999 when cash benefits for parents with young children were introduced. There has been a marked decline in the number of children receiving cash payments; from 86 700 in 2000 to 38 600 in 2008. Almost 34 per cent of all children entitled to cash benefits received cash payments in 2008.

Child welfare service: no increase in children under protective care

During the last 50 years, the number of children receiving assistance from the Child Welfare Service has increased more than five-fold; from 6 000 to 32 700. An even greater number of children received support in one form or another during the year; 42 600 in 2007, or 3.5 per cent of all children aged 0-17.

Most of these children receive assistance in several ways; such as home visits, personal support contacts or kindergarten. Only about 20 per cent of the children are under the care of the child welfare service and most of these

are in foster homes. The number of children placed under protection has remained fairly stable in recent years, while the number of children subject to preventive measures has increased sharply.

Fewer receiving social assistance

The number of social assistance recipients rose steeply in the 1980s; from 60 000 in 1980 to a peak of 178 000 in 1994, then followed a decline up to 1999. Recent years have once again seen a fall to 116 000 cases, covering 109 600 persons, or 2 per cent of the population. If we include those who are dependent on social assistance recipients, around 4 per cent of the population receive – directly or indirectly – social assistance.

In 2007, the average recipient was on benefit for about five months and the average amount received was NOK 36 600.

The share of social assistance recipients in the population is particularly high among young people as well as single persons and single parents.

Growing number of disability pensioners

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

In 2008, a total of 335 800 people were in receipt of disability pensions – 194 300 women and 141 500 men. This comprises about 11 per cent of the population aged 18-67.

The marked increase in the number of female disability pensioners must be seen in connection with the strong growth in the number of women in employment in the same period. In particular, the number suffering from musculoskeletal diseases has risen.

Caring for the elderly: from institutions to homes

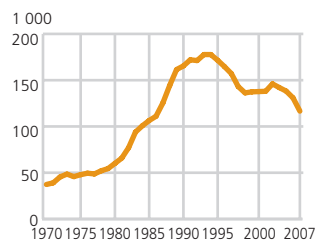
The public sector's care for the elderly services can be divided into three main types: institutions, dwellings for the aged and disabled, and home-based services.

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. More people receive nursing care at home, and at the same time the number of places in homes for the aged and disabled has grown sharply.

In recent years, the number of places in institutions (nursing homes and dwellings for the elderly) has decreased somewhat, partly as a result of renovations aimed at providing more single-bed rooms (which now amount to 95 per cent).

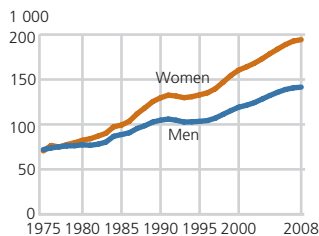
Statistics Norway

Economic social assistance¹. Number of benefit cases



¹ 2003-2004 including benefits to refugees and immigrants.

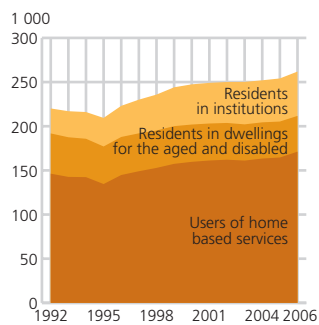
Number of disability pensioners.¹ Men and women



¹ From 2004 people with time limited disability benefits are included.

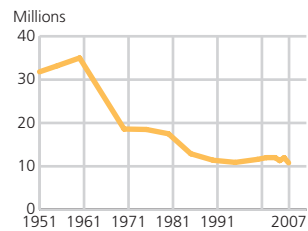
Source: Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration.

Users of various nursing and care services



A gender gap?

Number of cinema visits



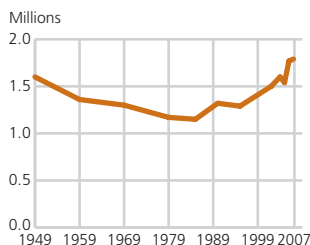
Cinema visits stable

The 1950s were the golden age for the cinema in Norway – as well as in the rest of Europe – and cinema visits peaked at about 35 million in 1960; almost ten 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 only saw a slight decrease. In the 1980s there was another decline, reaching a low in 1992, with some 9.5 million cinema visits. In recent years the number of cinema visits has been 11-12 million, and the share of visits to see Norwegian films has been around 16 per cent.

In 2007, 67 per cent of the population aged 9-79 had visited a cinema during the previous 12 months, which is an average of 3.7 cinema visits.

Number attending theatres and the opera



More people go to the theatre and opera...

Visits to the theatre and the opera also declined for a long period of time before increasing in the mid-1980s. Since the stagnation around 1990, visits have once again increased considerably in the past 5-6 years to almost 1.8 million visits.

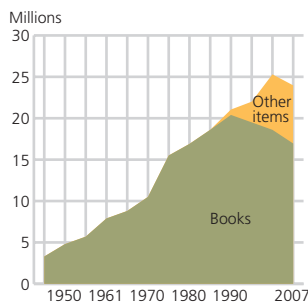
Half the population report that they have been to the theatre during a year, while 5 and 12 per cent have attended the opera or ballet respectively.

...as well as to concerts, exhibitions and museums

The number of concert-goers increased dramatically from 1991 to 2004: the share that had attended a classical music concert increased from 27 to 35 per cent, while for other concerts the percentage rose from 32 to 47 per cent from 1991 to 2004.

Approximately 40 per cent visited an art exhibition and/or a museum in 2004, which is a modest increase.

Number of loans from public libraries



Less people at sports events

Throughout the 1990s, between 50 and 60 per cent were spectators at sports events, but the number of visits has declined from 6.7 in 1994 to 5.9 in 2004.

Football is most popular, followed by handball. Most sports have a relatively stable number of spectators apart from skiing, where the percentage has halved since 1994 (which was a special year with the staging of the Winter Olympics at 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 17 million in 2007.

Persons aged 9-79 visiting cultural institutions during the previous year. Per cent

	1991	1994	1997	2000	2004
Cinema	58	61	60	65	68
Theatre/musical/revue	44	45	44	50	49
Opera/opera	5	5	6	6	5
Ballet/dance performance	8	9	8	11	12
Classical concert	27	34	37	37	35
Popular concert	32	38	38	39	47
Art exhibition	41	44	43	44	42
Museum	41	45	44	45	42
Public library	49	51	52	52	54
Sports event	57	59	54	57	55

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

More than 50 per cent of the population uses public library services during the course of a year.

Women and professionals most interested in culture

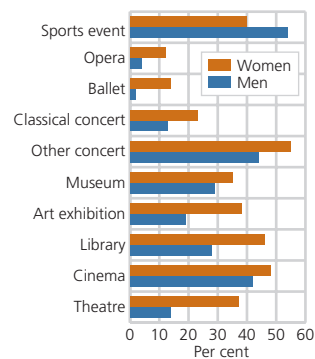
When asked how interested they are in various cultural activities, women are more likely than men to say that they are 'very or quite interested'. This is most obvious in the case of the ballet, opera and theatre, but also applies to classical concerts, art exhibitions and libraries. With regard to cinemas, museums and popular concerts, men are almost as interested. Only in the case of sports events, men are far more interested than women.

These gender differences correlate well with the numbers who actually participate in these activities, though these differences are somewhat smaller.

In addition to gender, the most significant differences are found among groups with different levels of education. People with a higher education participate far more frequently in a range of cultural activities.

The increase in cultural activities in recent years must be seen in connection with other social trends. A higher level of education leads to greater interest in various cultural activities, while at the same time people have more leisure time and money to spend on cultural activities. Moreover, a growing number of the population lives in cities and urban areas where the range of cultural activities is greatest.

Percentage of men and women aged 9-79 who report that they are 'very/quite interested' in going to... 2004



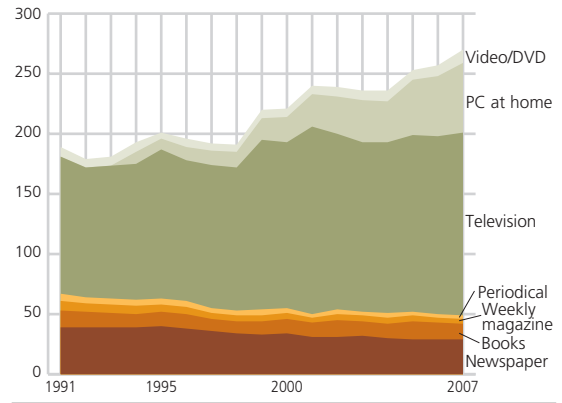
Books and bytes

Screen media take over

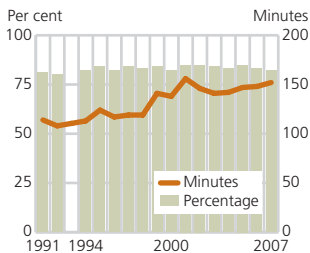
There is nothing new about television's dominating position: as early as 1991 we were spending almost twice as much time in front of the TV as on reading.

During the 1990s, the time spent on reading continued to decline while we spent much more time watching television. In addition, more and more people used a PC at home, and today we spend an average of 1 hour per day in front of a computer screen. This means that altogether we spend more than four times as much time at a computer or watching TV as on reading.

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

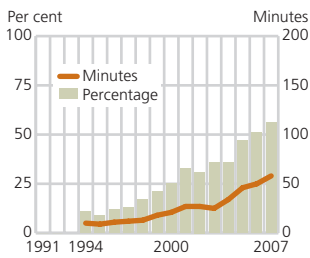


Percentage television viewers and time spent on an average day¹



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 publications, not just weekly magazines.

TV dominates

The proportion of television viewers was relatively stable in the 1990s at around 80 per cent, while the amount of time spent watching TV has risen to two and a half hours per day. In contrast, few people watch videos/DVDs, and this share has remained stable throughout the whole period.

The most avid television viewers are the elderly (67 years and over) and children (13-15 years), 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 daily has increased from roughly 10 per cent to 56 (the percentage with access to a PC at home is much higher, at 87 per cent). We use the PC for 1 hour per day.

There are wide variations in the use of PCs. For instance, three out of four young boys use a PC every day, while the corresponding figure for older women is one out of ten.

Radio = news

Over a ten-year period, the proportion of daily radio listeners dropped from 71 to 53 per cent. However, in recent years the amount of time we spend listening to the radio has apparently stabilised at around one and a half hours per day (in other words, people who listen to the radio spend more time doing so).

Above all, the news programmes are most popular. Six in ten persons listen to news programmes on an average day. In addition, entertainment and local programmes 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 – in the age group 45-66 the percentage of listeners is 60, and this group also spends most time listening to the radio.

Newspapers

The circulation of newspapers increased up to around 1990, but has since stabilised and subsequently fallen. At the same time the percentage of daily readers has fallen from 85 to 72 since the mid-1990s. We also spend less time reading newspapers; half an hour on average per day. Newspaper reading has become much less common in the youngest age groups in particular.

Books

Fiction publications doubled from 1983 to 1994 (from 900 to 2 000 titles), and have gone up again in recent years to 2 200. Loans from public libraries have fallen, from 4.7 per person in 1992 to 3.6 in 2007.

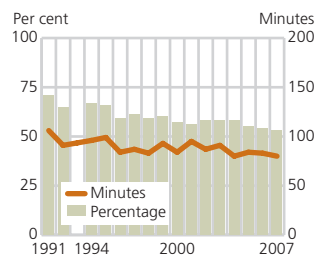
There is a different trend when it comes to those who read books in their leisure time. Following a decrease, there has now been an increase in the number of people who had read a book during the course of a day – to 23 per cent. More women than men read books every day; 27 and 18 per cent respectively.

Weekly magazines

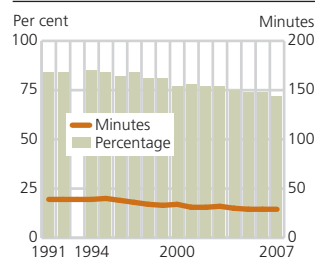
For weekly magazines, the percentage of readers has fallen in recent years. Today, 14 per cent of the population read a weekly magazine on an average day. This drop is not reflected in the circulation figures, which overall have shown a slight growth.

Women, and especially elderly women, read weekly magazines more often than men. On an average day, 25 per cent of women aged 67 and over read weekly magazines compared to 11 per cent of men.

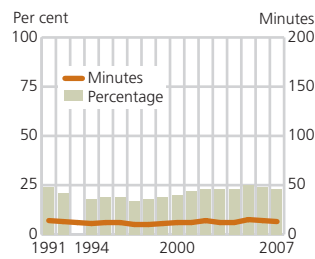
Percentage radio listeners and time spent on an average day



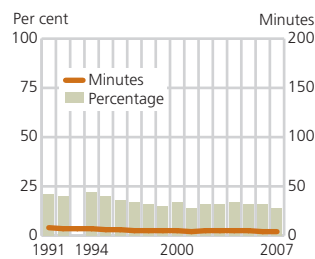
Percentage newspaper readers and time spent on an average day



Percentage book readers and time spent on an average day

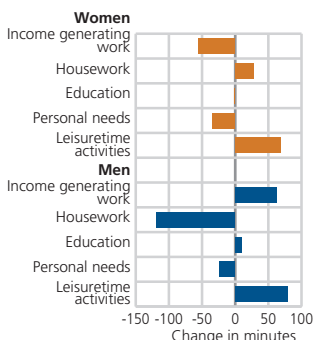


Percentage weekly magazine readers and time spent on an average day

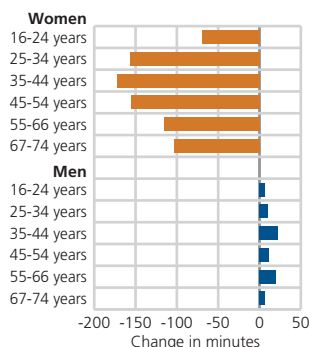


Around the clock*

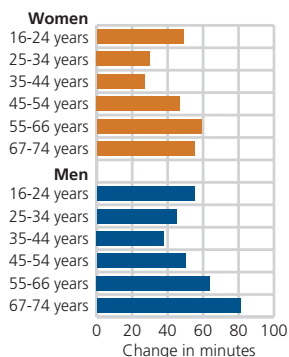
Changes in time spent on main activities from 1971 to 2000 in the 16-74 age group



Change in time spent on housework from 1971 to 2000, by gender and age



Change in time spent watching television from 1971 to 2000, by gender and age



More leisure time

From 1970 to 2000, Norwegians had an average of 75 minutes more leisure time per day, when we had almost 6.5 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 (50 minutes) and personal needs (30 minutes).

Women got slightly more leisure time than men, which was partly due to a two-hour reduction in housework. Of these 2 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 reduced the amount of time spent on housework, it was more common to pay for cleaning. A total of 4 per cent had a cleaner, which was approximately the same as at the beginning of the 1990s. Families with children where the parents had higher education dominate this group.

More time spent watching TV

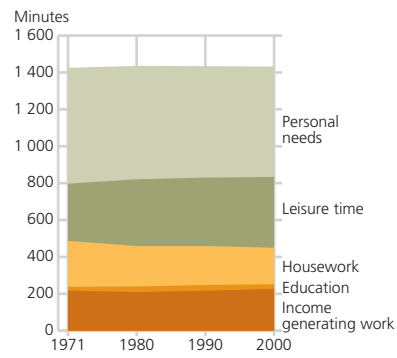
The extra leisure time was mostly spent watching television. Time spent watching TV increased sharply, and compared with 1980 our evening of television viewing started earlier and finished later.

Eight hours sleep

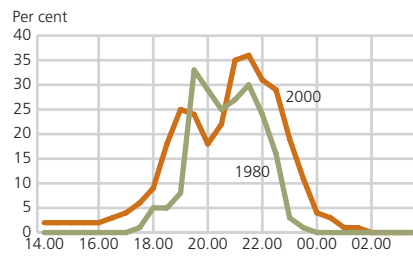
We slept 8 hours per night on average, which was a slight increase since 1970.

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 gender, education or where we live, most people sleep approximately 8 hours, with only the youngest and the oldest sleeping a little longer.

Use of time on an average day. Minutes



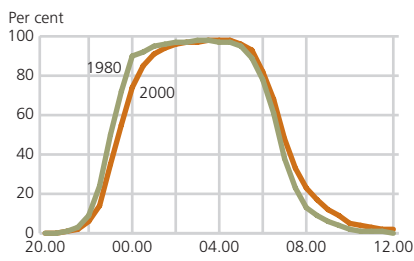
Percentage television viewers at various times of the day. Monday-Friday



* Use of time surveys are conducted every ten years and the next survey is planned for 2010.

However, our sleeping habits have changed: We went to bed later and got up later. For instance, in 1980, 72 per cent of the population were asleep by 11.30 pm. This figure had dropped to 62 per cent by 1990 and 55 per cent in 2000. A total of 6 per cent were still asleep at 9 am in 1980 compared with 12 per cent in 2000.

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

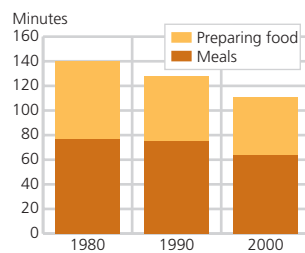


Fast food

The enormous interest in cookery books and television cookery programmes, did not result in more time spent in the kitchen. It is true that men did more cooking than before, but we spent 30 minutes less per day preparing food and on meals in 2000 than in 1980. This reduction was equally distributed between the two activities.

Another trend was that the main meal of the day was later. Even though most of us still had dinner between 3 pm and 5.30 pm, a growing number of people ate later.

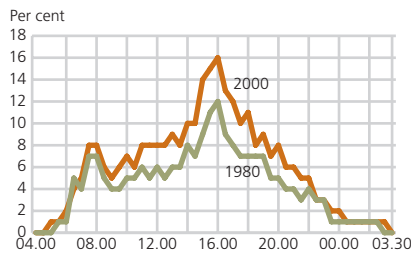
Time spent on preparing food and meals



Travelling

We are spending more and more time on travel. In 1980, we spent 1 hour and 6 minutes travelling, while in 2000 that figure had increased to 1 hour and 23 minutes on an average day. Men spent 15 minutes more on travelling than women, and young people travelled more than older people.

Percentage travelling at various times on an average day

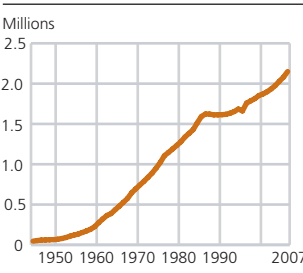


"... just popping out to the shops"

An increasing number of people spent time buying goods and services, but we spent less time in shops. On an average day, more than half of us made purchases of some kind in 2000, compared with four out of ten in 1980, when we spent an average of 54 minutes on purchases compared with 44 minutes in 2000. One out of three bought groceries on an average day, spending 24 minutes on such purchases.

On the road

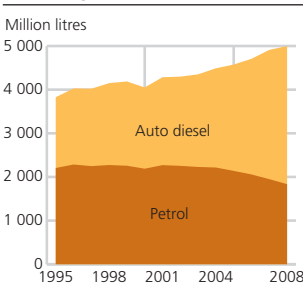
Number of private cars



Road length per vehicle in metres

1945	452
1960	97
1970	65
1980	48
1990	38
2000	33
2007	28

Sales of petrol and auto diesel



Mile after mile

In 1946, Norwegians travelled an average of 4 km per day (within Norway). Almost half of the journey (1.8 km) was by rail. Today we travel ten times further – 40 km. The main increase is in the use of private cars and planes, while figures for rail and sea transport have remained more or less the same in the past 50 years or so. In fact, we travelled just as much by rail in 1946 as in 2007. Today the number of domestic flights has stabilised while car use continues to grow.

Passenger kilometres per inhabitant per day

	Total	Private car	Other road transport	Air	Rail ¹	Sea transport
1946	4.05	0.93	0.88	0.00	1.83	0.40
1952	5.40	1.31	2.04	0.01	1.86	0.45
1960	8.94	3.65	3.51	0.08	1.99	0.49
1965	12.84	7.43	3.93	0.25	1.78	0.50
1970	18.31	12.61	3.44	0.45	1.37	0.45
1975	24.14	17.99	3.45	0.70	1.55	0.45
1980	27.30	20.41	3.61	0.99	1.84	0.44
1985	31.44	24.34	3.57	1.42	1.69	0.42
1990	34.80	27.58	3.49	1.72	1.57	0.45
1995	35.28	27.44	3.49	2.24	1.68	0.43
2000	38.29	28.57	4.47	2.69	2.05	0.52
2006	39.80	30.40	4.33	2.62	1.95	0.50

¹ Incl. tramways/suburban railways.

Bumper to bumper

The number of vehicles (including vans, trucks and buses) now totals 2.7 million, of which 2.2 million are private cars. From 1960 – when sales restrictions on cars were lifted – up to 1987 there was a continuous growth in the number of vehicles, with a strong increase again in the second half of the 1990s.

Today, 80 per cent of households own a car, and one out of four have two or more cars.

Car density is 450 private cars per 1 000 inhabitants and is highest in Hedmark (514) and lowest in Oslo (374) and Finnmark (415). Another way 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 car. Today that figure has been reduced to 28 metres. If all the cars in Oslo were on the road at the same time, each car would have a mere five metres of roadway.

Petrol was the main fuel used up to 2003. Diesel sales have been increasing however since 2004, and now make up 63 per cent of fuel sales.

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 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 a strong growth in moped sales in recent years. It is no longer the traditional moped that is popular, but mainly scooters and off-road mopeds.

The price of mobility

There is a price to pay for increased mobility: since 1940, more than 21 600 people have died on Norwegian roads. The number of fatal traffic accidents soared during the entire post-war period, reaching a peak at the beginning of the 1970s when almost 500 persons were killed annually. A marked decrease in the number of accidents was then seen. After an increase in the 1990s, the number dropped again only to increase in recent years. As was the case almost 70 years ago, the large majority (approximately 70 per cent) of fatal road accident victims are now men.

The number of people injured showed a similar increase up to around 1970. However, as with the number killed, the injury figures have not fallen again; they have remained fairly stable at around 11-12 000 a year.

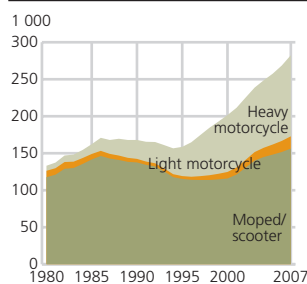
Greece and Poland come out worst

In Norway, 5 persons per 100 000 inhabitants are killed annually, which is similar to the other Nordic countries.

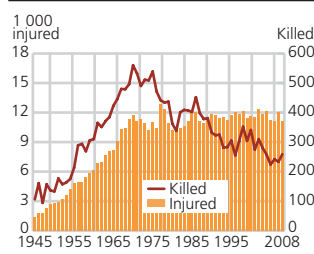
However, further south in Europe we find that the number of fatal traffic accidents increases. The figure is highest in Greece, with 15 killed per 100 000 inhabitants even though car density is far lower than in Norway. The figure for Italy, which has the highest car density in Europe, is close to the average. Poland on the other hand has low car density but a high number of fatal accidents.

Statistics Norway

Number of two-wheeled vehicles



Number killed or injured in road accidents

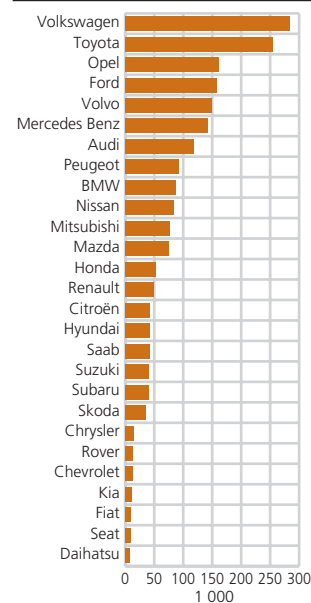


Road fatalities per 100 000 inhabitants in selected European countries. 2006

Greece	15
Poland	14
Portugal*	12
Italy**	10
Spain	9
France	8
Germany	6
Denmark	6
Finland	6
Norway	5
United Kingdom	5
Sweden	5
Netherlands	5

*2005. **2004.
Source: IRTAD.

The most common car makes. Registered private cars. 2007



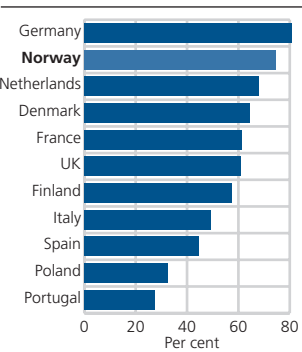
Private cars per 1 000 inhabitants in selected countries. 2006

Italy	607
Germany	565
Spain	517
Frankrike	477
France	475
Sweden	465
USA	454
Norway	450
Greece	415
Portugal	403
Denmark	365
Poland	330

Source: Norwegian Road Federation.

Going abroad

Percentage of people on holiday trips in selected countries. Ca. 2006



Source: Eurostat.

Percentage on holiday and number of overnight stays, in various income groups. 2007

Household income in 1 000 NOK	Per cent	Number of overnight stays
-99	76	22.7
100-999	52	17.1
200-299	63	20.2
300-399	79	19.6
400-499	78	21.7
500-	86	21.1

Four out of five on holiday

The percentage of people who go on holiday every year has remained very stable following an increase at the beginning of the 1970s. Every year, just less than 80 per cent of the population go on holiday. On average, we make 1.7 holiday trips annually, a figure that has remained stable in recent years.

The length of holiday trips has also remained constant at around 15-16 days. For those who do actually go on holiday, the average number of trips is 2.1 and altogether they spend 21 days on holiday, representing a slight increase in the last ten years.

The reason that these figures have not increased more is probably the growth in weekend trips, i.e. trips to cities with a two or three-night stay. Since holiday surveys only include trips with four or more overnight stays, such trips are not included in the statistics.

Germany and Norway top the list

Germans and Norwegians go on holiday most frequently, followed by the Dutch and the Danish. Less than half the population in Italy go on holiday every year and only a quarter of the population in Portugal.

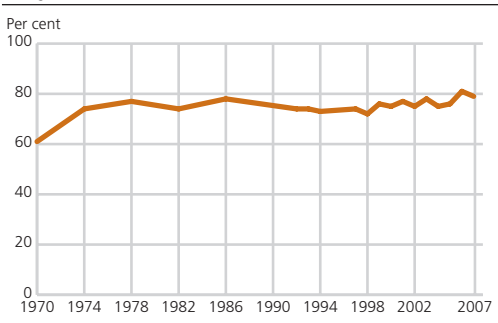
The well-off travel most

Going on holiday is expensive. Therefore, it is not surprising that household income has a bearing on our holiday habits. In households with an income between NOK 100 000 and 200 000, only five out of ten persons went on holiday during 2007, whereas in households with an income over NOK 500 000, nine out of ten went on holiday. Among those with the lowest income, however, some did go on holiday due to the fact that students belong to this group. A similar pattern is found concerning the number of holiday trips.

In other words, those with high incomes travel more often, but this does not mean that they have more overnight stays. On the contrary, those with the lowest incomes make the longest trips (with 23 overnight stays on average). One of the reasons for this is that we find many students and pensioners in this group, both staying away longer when they travel.

It is the elderly and persons with low incomes in particular that do not go on holiday.

Percentage of Norwegians on holiday trips during the year



Abroad more often

More and more people are going abroad on holiday. At the beginning of the 1990s, almost a third of all holidaymakers travelled to countries outside the Nordic region. This proportion is now close to 40 per cent.

Almost 60 per cent of all holiday trips were to foreign countries in 2007. Because trips abroad often last longer, they account for 60 per cent of all overnight stays. From that point of view, we are now spending more time on holidays abroad than in Norway.

In Europe as a whole, the Belgians, Irish, Danish, Austrians, Dutch and Germans are the keenest travellers to foreign countries, choosing destinations abroad for between 60 and 80 per cent of their holiday trips. By comparison, only 10 per cent of Greeks and Spaniards go on holiday abroad.

Women travel more often

Women go on holiday more often than men. This has been the case for a long time, however the trend appears to have been strengthened in recent years: In 2007, 82 per cent of all women were on one or more holiday trips, compared with 75 per cent of men. The women also went on slightly more holiday trips than the men.

Moreover, women had more overnight stays, partly related to the fact that women more frequently travel abroad. A total of 52 per cent of all holidays abroad were undertaken by women. One reason why women more often choose a foreign destination than men, might be due to the fact that men more frequently go on business trips abroad, thereby fulfilling their desire to travel.

Spain most popular destination

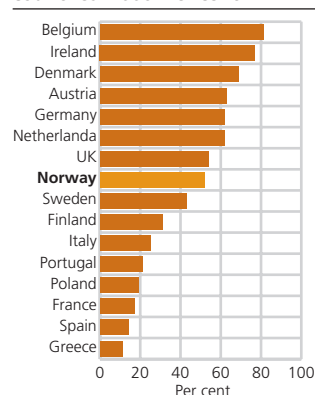
Spain is definitely the most popular holiday destination abroad, with more than 600 000 trips per year, followed by Denmark, Sweden and Greece. These four countries have long been the most visited (though with some variation in their relative popularity).

3.2 million foreign tourists

After several years of an increase in tourist numbers to Norway, a slight fall occurred in 2008, to 3.2 million. Most of these came from Sweden (25 per cent), followed by Germany (16 per cent) and Denmark (14 per cent). Moving down the list, we find the UK, the Netherlands and the USA.

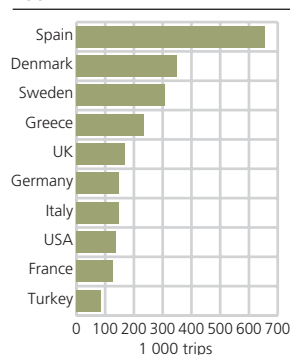
Foreign tourists spend seven days in Norway on average.

Percentage of holiday trips abroad in various European countries. 2006. Per cent



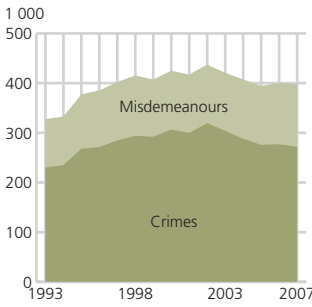
Source: Eurostat.

Number of holiday trips to most popular destinations abroad. 2007

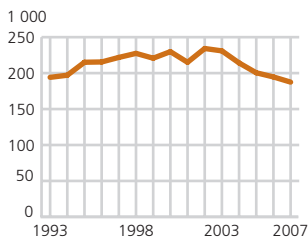


The short arm of the law

Number of offences reported, by type of offence



Number of offences for profit reported

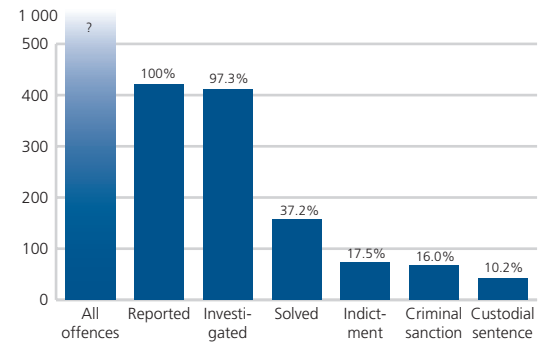


From crime to punishment

If we follow all offences reported to the police in 1997 through the legal system, we can check their status five years later: prosecution was dropped for 3 per cent because it was found that no criminal offence had been committed.

A further 60 per cent were dropped because they were unsolved (including 6 per cent where the decision was unknown). This gives a detection rate of 37 per cent. The majority of these cases ended in a decision not to prosecute or a fine (especially for minor offences/misdemeanours). Slightly more than 17 per cent of all offences resulted in prosecution; ending in penal sanctions in 16 per cent of the cases, and an unconditional prison sentence in 10 per cent.

From offence to sentence. Progress through the legal system



Almost 1 100 offences reported daily

Every year around 400 000 offences are reported. After an increase in the 1990s, the number of offences reported peaked in 2002 at 437 000. The number has declined every year since. 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 increased.

Of the 398 000 offences in 2007, 68 per cent were crimes and 32 per cent misdemeanours.

Sharp increase

In a longer perspective, the number of offences has increased sharply: for instance, the number of crimes investigated shows a ten-fold increase since the end of the 1950s. If we take into consideration that the population has risen by about 1 million in this period, this represents a six-fold increase. The number of crimes investigated now amounts to around 60 per 1 000 inhabitants.

This increase may be due to the fact that we are more inclined today to report some types of offences, for example theft, and that police routines for registering and reporting crimes have become more efficient.

Thefts dominate, but decline

The most common type of crime is theft; with 143 000 thefts reported every year. Crimes for profit now account for almost half of all criminal offences. At the same time it is precisely when it comes to crimes for profit that the reduction has been greatest in recent years. Theft from private homes and cars is showing a marked decrease in particular. 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 dwellings. Petty theft and pilfering are also decreasing.

More drugs

Drug-related crime accounts for approximately 15 per cent of all reported offences, a figure which has soared since the end of the 1960s – from 200 to almost 46 000 in 2001. The figure has subsequently fallen. In particular, it is the number of less serious drug-related crimes (use and possession) that explains the growth and decline: serious drug-related crime accounts for only 3 per cent of the total number of drug-related crimes, and has been relatively stable in the period.

No increase in serious violent crimes

After an increase in the 1990s, violent crimes have now stabilised and account for more than 6 per cent of all offences reported to the police. Again, the less serious crimes – threats and common assault – dominate.

In surveys, roughly 5 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 remained stable since the beginning of the 1980s.

One out of three crimes solved

In 1960, four in ten crimes were solved. The detection rate was more than halved up to the end of the 1980s, followed by an increase. In 2005, 35 per cent of all crimes were solved. With regard to minor offences, approximately eight in ten were solved.

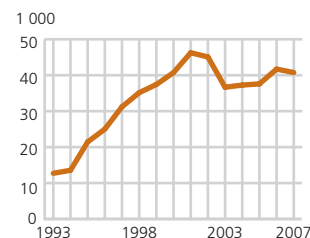
However, there are major differences in the detection rate for different types of crimes. While almost all murder cases and drug offences are solved, the detection rate for thefts is about 10 per cent.

Young men dominate the statistics

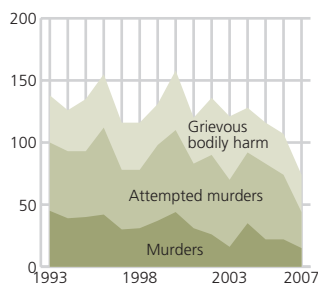
Those who are charged with offences are often young: in 2005, 39 per cent of all those charged were under the age of 25, with the majority in the 18-20 age group. A total of 6 per cent of the latter are charged with offences each year.

Most of those charged are men. Less than 20 per cent are women. The share of women varies considerably by type of offence and is especially high for crimes for profit, such as petty theft and pilfering, where young girls dominate. Also, fraud, forgery and embezzlement and use of drugs are 'typical' female crimes in the sense that the share of women charged is higher than for other types of offences.

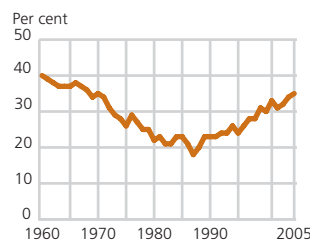
Number of reported drug related offences



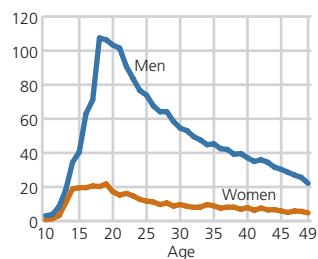
Number of reported murders, attempted murders and cases of grievous bodily harm



Detection rate

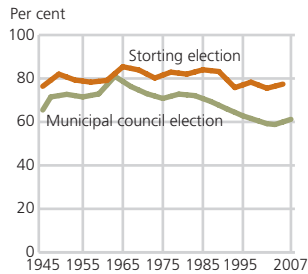


Number of people charged with offences. Women and men by age. Per 1 000 inhabitants. 2005

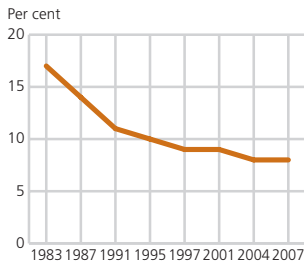


Promises, promises

Electoral turnout



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



Stable participation in Storting elections, decreasing in local

Participation in the Storting (parliamentary) elections peaked in 1965, when 85.4 per cent of those entitled to vote cast their votes. In 2001, this figure fell to 75.5, but then increased somewhat in 2005 to 77.4.

At the Sameting election the same year, the participation rate was 72.6 per cent. Among Norwegian citizens with an immigrant background, the participation in the Storting election was 52.9 per cent.

For a long time, there has been a decline in electoral turnout at municipal elections. In 2007, only six out of ten cast their vote, compared with almost eight out of ten in 1963; a 25 per cent decrease.

At county council elections, the election turnout is even lower. In 2007, only 57.5 per cent of those entitled to vote did so.

The apparent loss of interest in politics is confirmed by figures showing that the share of persons who are members of a political party is also falling. From 1983 to 2007, the percentage was halved – from 16 to 8 per cent.

Women exercise right to vote more often than men

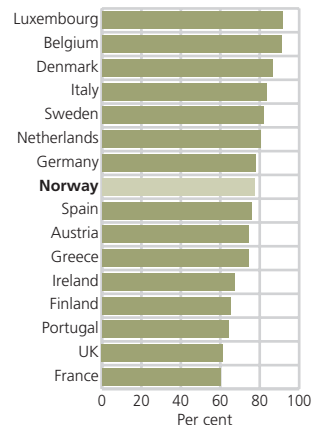
Traditionally, men have voted more often than women, and in the first post-war elections men had a 6-7 per cent higher participation rate than women. This difference had evened out by the 1980s and since then the voter turnout for women has been higher.

Average voter turnout in Norway

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

Compared with other European countries, Norway has an average turnout. The highest voting level is found in Luxembourg and Belgium (90 per cent) and the lowest in France (60 per cent).

General election turnout in selected European countries. Ca. 2006



Source: Eurostat.

Young people more often stay at home

Election turnout increases with age: only 55 per cent of first time voters cast their vote in 2005, in contrast to 83 per cent of those aged 60 and over.

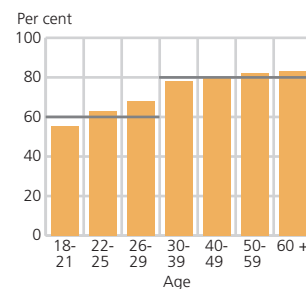
There appears to be a clear division in voter turnout around the age of 30. Those under 30 have an election turnout around 60 per cent, while for the over 30s the turnout is approximately 80 per cent.

More women – in the Storting and in municipal councils

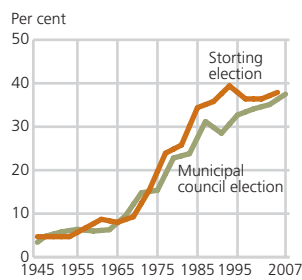
The proportion of women in the Storting and in municipal councils rose sharply from the beginning of the 1970s. In recent years, the proportion of women in the Storting has been just below 40 per cent, while in municipal councils the proportion of women has continued to grow. A total of 50 per cent of parliamentary (Storting) representatives from the Labour Party are women, and from the Socialist Left Party, the Centre Party and Christian Democratic Party around 45 per cent. In the case of the Conservative Party the share of female representatives is approximately 20 per cent, and in the Progress Party 16 per cent.

In comparison with other countries, however, Norway is almost top of the list. It is only in the other Nordic countries that we find an equal or greater share of female members in legislative assemblies, with Sweden at 47 per cent, Finland at 42 and Denmark at 37 per cent. In comparison, Germany has 32 per cent, United Kingdom 20 and France 19 per cent.

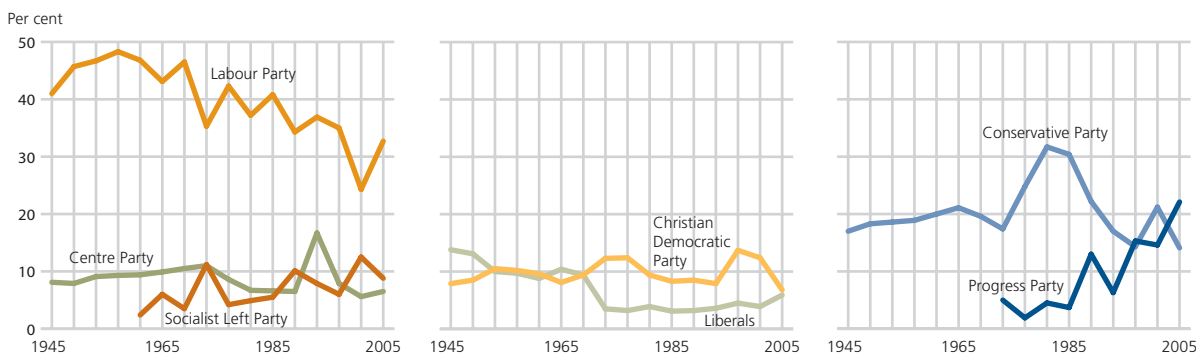
Electoral turnout in various age groups. The Storting election 2005



Percentage of female representatives in the Storting and municipal councils

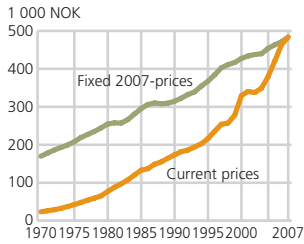


Percentage of votes cast for the main parties at the Storting elections



Growth and prosperity

GDP per capita. Current and constant prices (2007 NOK)

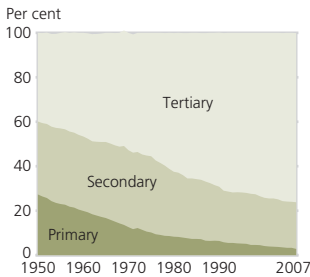


GDP per capita in selected countries. Adjusted for price level. 2007. EU27=100

Luxembourg	278
Norway	184
Ireland	149
Switzerland	140
Netherlands	133
Iceland	129
Austria	127
Sweden	126
Denmark	123
Belgium	120
United Kingdom	118
Finland	117
Germany	113
France	111
Italy	101
Greece	97
Portugal	75
Poland	54

Source: Eurostat.

Employees by industry¹



¹ Primary industries are: agriculture, forestry, fish and aquaculture.

Secondary industries are: industry, 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.

2 277 000 000 000

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 2007, the total value added amounted to NOK 2 277 billion.

A total of 41 per cent was spent on household consumption and non-profit organisations, 20 per cent on general government consumption and 23 per cent was invested. The remaining 16 per cent represents the export surplus and indicates that the value of what we produce is greater than what we consume and use for investment.

The GDP in 1970 totalled NOK 23 500 per capita. In 2007, this figure had risen to NOK 483 600; a twenty-fold increase in 37 years. However, a large part of this increase is due to the general growth in prices – converted into 2007 prices, the GDP in 1970 amounted to NOK 169 900. Thus the real growth was approximately 180 per cent, i.e. an average annual growth of 3 per cent.

High GDP

Norway has gradually become one of the richest countries in the world. In comparison with other European countries, Norway has a GDP that is 84 per cent above the EU average (allowing for price differences in the different 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.

In Europe, 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 but they are not included in the 'per capita' calculation.

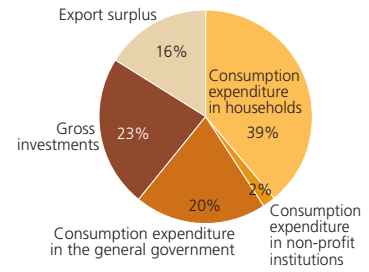
Structural changes in business and industry

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.

Primary industries now comprise a mere 3 per cent of employees and secondary industries around 21 per cent, while the tertiary industries account for a total of 76 per cent of the employment figure.

The picture is slightly different if we look at the significance of these industries in light of their contribution to the GDP. The primary industries con-

GDP expenditure. 2007



tribute around 1 per cent, secondary industries 43 per cent (with petroleum activity contributing far more in economic value than in employment) and the tertiary industries contributing 56 per cent.

Export surplus since 1979

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

Only when petroleum export started at the end of the 1970s did Norway gradually build up an export surplus. We have had a surplus in external trade in commodities since 1980, apart from 1986-1988, and in 2008 the surplus was NOK 434 billion.

Exports of oil and gas totalled NOK 560 billion in 2008, indicating that there was an external trade deficit in other goods. Even though the service industries dominate as regards both employment and economic value, the export of services is relatively modest. In 2007, the total export of services amounted to NOK 247 billion, which comprises almost a quarter of total exports.

Trade with Sweden

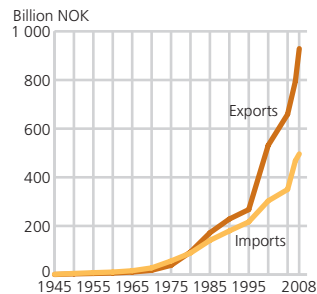
Sweden is our most important trading partner both with regard to the imports and exports of goods. Imports from Sweden now stand at almost 15 per cent and exports at 12 per cent. This is followed by Germany, where Norway also has an import surplus. It should be noted that China is now our fourth most important trading partner for imports as well as one of the export countries.

Approximately 80 per cent of our exported goods go to EU countries and almost 70 per cent of imports come from these countries. A total of 14 per cent of the import is from developing countries.

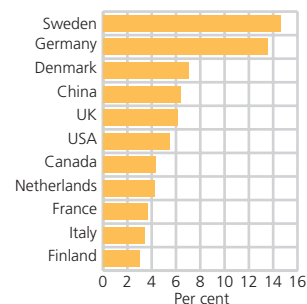
Oil and vehicles

As regards exports, oil and gas are the clear leaders, followed by metals (especially aluminium) and fish. For imports, motor vehicles (cars and buses) and other means of transport (planes and ships) dominate.

Exports and imports of goods (including oil and gas)

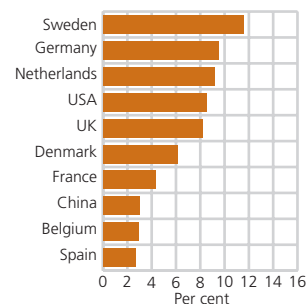


Imports of goods¹. 2008



¹ Excl. ships and oil platforms.

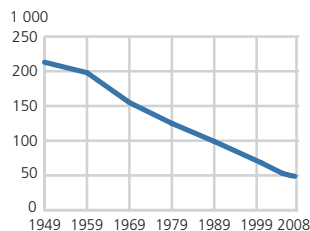
Exports of goods¹. 2008



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

From agriculture to aquaculture

Number of farm holdings



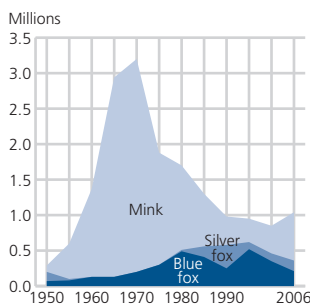
Major structural changes in agriculture

Since 1949, the number of farm holdings has fallen 75 per cent; from 213 000 to 48 800 in 2008, which is an average loss of eight farms every day.

Nevertheless, the total agricultural area is 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 quadrupled during this period, from 50 decares to 210.

Employment in agriculture has also fallen sharply. Whereas more than 20 per cent were employed in agriculture in 1950, the proportion in 2007 was 2.3 per cent. Today, agriculture's share of the GDP is 0.5 per cent.

Number of fur-bearing animals



Fewer horses and cattle – more fur-bearing animals

The horse has practically disappeared from Norwegian farm holdings and the number of cattle has more than halved (311 000 animals in 2008). On the other hand, milk yield per cow has increased substantially from 2 000 litres in 1949 to 6 800 litres. Sheep and pig stocks have also seen a reduction.

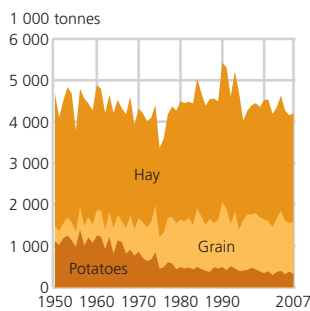
The golden age for the fur-bearing animal industry was at the end of the 1960s, when there were 3.2 million animals altogether, 95 per cent of which were mink. After a dramatic decline, an increase has taken place in recent years in the number of mink, and the total stock of fur-bearing animals is more than a million.

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 a third, while grain production has quadrupled.

The Ministry of Agriculture's target is that at least 15 per cent of the agricultural area should be used for organic farming by 2015. However, holdings with organic farming account for a mere 4 per cent of the agricultural area, compared with between 5 and 8 per cent in the other Nordic countries.

Agricultural yields



Norwegian wood

The economic importance of forestry has been greatly reduced. In 1950, forestry made up 2.5 per cent of the GDP, while in 2007 this figure had fallen to 0.2 per cent. The quantity of timber cut for sale varied between 6.6 and 11 million cubic metres per year in this period. In 1950, all roundwood was felled and hewed manually with an axe and saw, but the chain saw has gradually taken over. Today felling machines dominate, thus leading to a substantial decline in forestry employment.

Fewer fishermen – increased production

Around 1950 there were approximately 100 000 fishermen in Norway, whereas in 2007 the number was 13 300. Out of these, fishing was the main occupation for 10 700.

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 2.4 million tonnes in 2007.

Norway is number eleven on the list of the world's largest fishing nations. China heads the list (17 million tonnes), followed by Peru, the USA, Indonesia and Japan.

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

Salmon: our new domestic animal

The production of farmed fish has grown sharply since it began in the 1970s, amounting to 814 000 tonnes in 2007.

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

However, other species are also becoming of greater interest: cod is growing in popularity, with more than 9 600 tonnes.

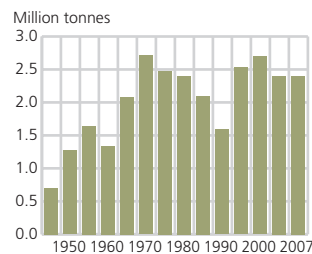
Few employees – economically important

The aquaculture industry employs around 3 800 people, working in some 1 500 fish farms. However, its economic significance is far greater. The first-hand value of the fish farming industry now totals far more than the traditional fisheries – NOK 17 and 12 billion respectively.

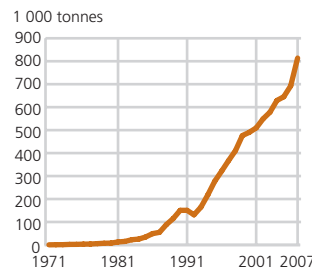
The total export value of fish and fish products was approximately NOK 39 billion in 2008. Exports of fish therefore account for almost 5 per cent of total export revenues. Exports of farmed fish represent about half of all fish exports.

More than 50 per cent of fish exports go to EU countries, but the largest single market is Russia, followed by France.

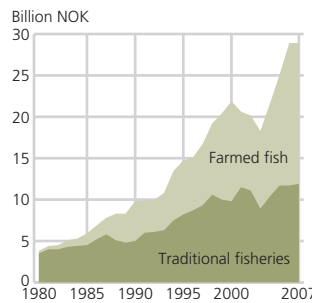
Catch quantity for Norwegian fisheries



Farmed fish. Total sales of salmon and trout

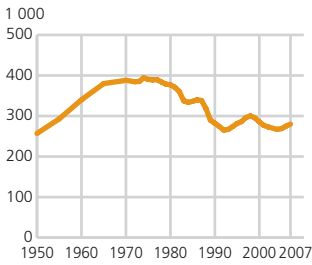


First-hand value of the farmed fish industry and traditional fisheries

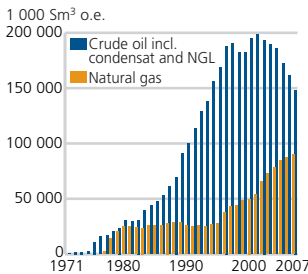


From manufacturing to oil

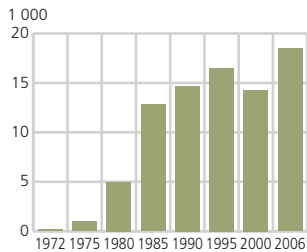
Number of employees in manufacturing and mining



Total production of oil and gas



Employment in oil and gas extraction



The rise and fall of manufacturing

Seen as a whole, secondary industries (manufacturing, mining and quarrying, oil extraction, building and construction, electricity and water supplies) have seen a slight decline in employment over the last 30 years, to 513 000 employees today. Relatively speaking however, the decline is far greater, and secondary industries today account for 21 per cent of the employed, compared with almost a third until around 1970.

Since 1974, which was a record year, the number of jobs in manufacturing and mining has fallen by almost a third, from 400 000 to 280 000. This decline occurred at the end of the 1970s and in the 1980s. After an upturn in the 1990s the number has remained at just under 300 000. Today some 11 per cent of all employees work in manufacturing.

Despite a decrease in employment, the production value in manufacturing has increased and now amounts to NOK 700 billion.

Oil and gas: high production continues ...

Oil production has fallen since 2001, but since the mid-1990s gas production has increased and today makes up around 40 per cent of the total production, a share that is expected to increase in the years ahead, as the oil production diminishes.

... but relatively few employees

From modest beginnings in 1972, employment in oil and gas extraction has gradually increased to 18 500 employees today. In addition, 13 000 are employed in activities related to the petroleum industry.

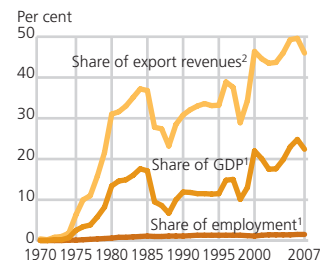
If we include employees in various supply services, the total number of employees in oil and gas-related activities amounts to approximately 75 000.

Substantial values

However, the significance of petroleum activities is far greater than indicated by the employment figures. It is Norway's most profitable industry and makes up more than 20 per cent of the GDP. Furthermore, the petroleum sector's share of total export revenues has reached almost 50 per cent.

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

Oil and gas extraction. Share of GDP, export and employment



¹ Including services.

² Only oil and gas.

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 2 dollars. At the beginning of the 1970s however, the price increased and almost tripled in connection with the first oil

crisis in 1973-74. During the second oil crisis in 1978-79 there was a further increase. From the mid-1980s until 2003 the price fluctuated between 15 and 30 dollars per barrel. Once again there was a sharp increase in the price of oil after 2004. Despite a major price reduction in 2008, the average price for the year as a whole was still the highest ever.

Oil prices. Brent Blend



Source: Norges Bank.

Short life of oil reserves?

The remaining oil and gas reserves on the Norwegian Continental Shelf are estimated at 9 billion Sm³ oil equivalents. By comparison, the total production up to 2007 amounts to more than 4.8 billion Sm³ oil equivalents.

Norway's share of the world's oil and gas reserves is just below 1 per cent, but we now contribute 4.3 and 2.8 per cent respectively to the annual oil and gas production. The lifetime of Norwegian reserves is relatively short with regard to oil, but Norway has the potential to be a major gas exporter throughout this century.

Money in the bank

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 (the former Government Petroleum Fund), administered by Norges Bank (the Central Bank of Norway), was therefore established, 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 NOK 2 000 billion at the end of 2007. This corresponds to around NOK 430 000 per capita.

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

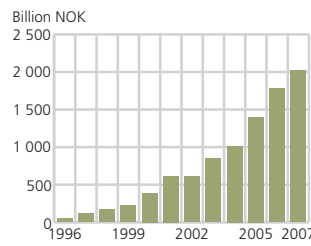
1 barrel = 159 litres

Largest oil producing countries. 2007. Million barrels/day

Saudi Arabia	10.4
Russia	10.0
USA	6.9
Iran	4.4
China	3.7
Mexico	3.5
Canada	3.3
United Arab Emirates	2.9
Kuwait	2.6
Venezuela	2.6
Norway	2.6

Source: Fact Sheet. Ministry of Petroleum and Energy.

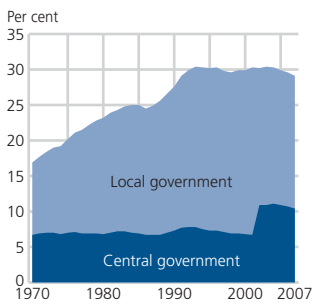
Government Pension Fund – Global



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 1 860 000 today, representing almost 76 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 many diverse industries, e.g. commodity trade, hotels and restaurants, transport, financial services and tourism. However, the largest service sector is the public administration – i.e. local and central government administration – including social services, health, education and administration.

Strong growth in the public administration

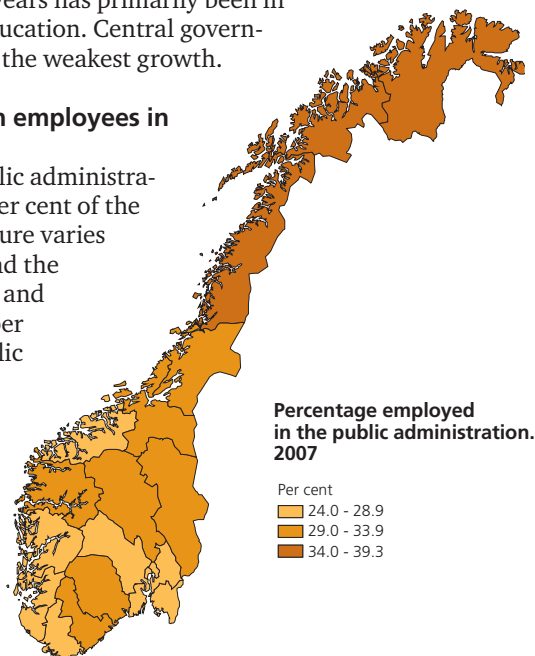
In recent decades, public administration has experienced strong growth and now employs almost 800 000 people, compared with only 200 000 in 1962. Its share of employment has increased from 13 to approximately 30 per cent, which corresponds to 25 per cent of the hours worked (part-time work is somewhat more common in the public sector).

Two thirds of those employed in public administration work in local government administration. When the central government took over the county municipal 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 almost 30 per cent of the total employment, but the figure varies from county to county. We find the highest proportions in Troms and Finnmark, where almost 40 per cent are employed in the 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 high number of employees to maintain the range of municipal services.)



Rogaland, Oslo and Akershus have the lowest share of central and local government employees at just 24-26 per cent. In Oslo, there are many employees in the central government administration but fewer in local government.

ICT: a new sector

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

The ICT sector employment increased until 2001. In 2006, 73 600 people were employed in this sector. If we include the so-called content sector, which comprises publishing activities, information services, radio and television and film and video, more than 106 000 people are currently employed in the information sector.

Important in daily life

Despite the increased economic significance of the ICT sector, its importance for the user, both at work and at home, is far more visible. During the 1990s, modern means of communication such as PCs, mobile phones and the Internet became important ingredients both at work and home.

Nine out of ten enterprises (with over ten employees) now have access to the Internet, compared with four out of ten in 1998. Around 70 per cent have their own website. In this respect, it seems that Norwegian companies are lagging behind their Nordic neighbours.

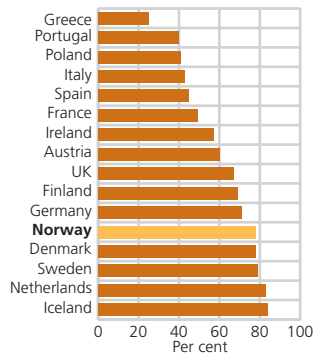
However, the significance of modern communication technology is perhaps most striking when we look at households. In 2007, 87 per cent had access to PCs at home, while 83 per cent had access to the Internet at home.

Norway, together with the other Nordic countries, is at the forefront as regards access to and use of ICT equipment, e.g. Internet access. This is also the case when it comes to the use of PCs at home and mobile phones.

Number of employees in the ICT sector

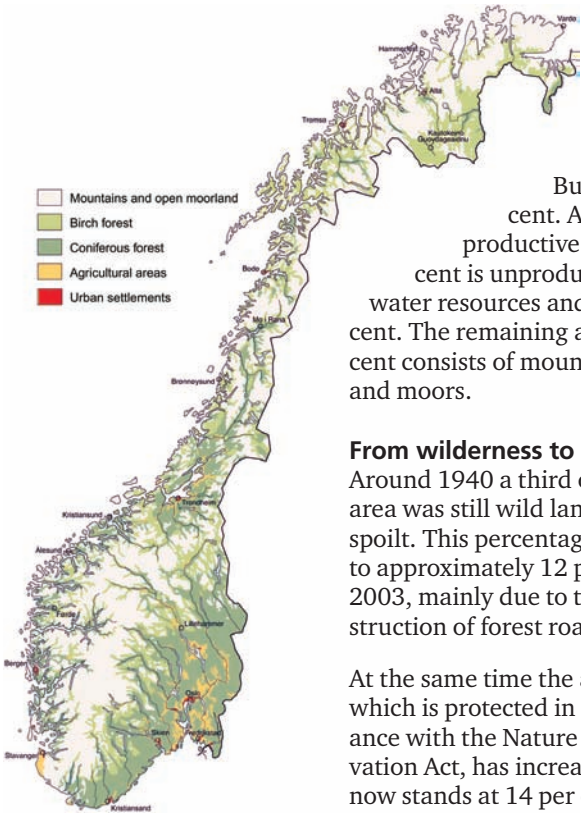
1995	59 500
1996	63 230
1997	68 100
1998	73 700
1999	80 300
2000	85 500
2001	88 700
2002	86 900
2003	71 500
2004	69 100
2005	69 600
2006	73 600

Percentage of households with access to the Internet in selected countries. 2007



Source: Eurostat.

The electric society



Mountains and forests

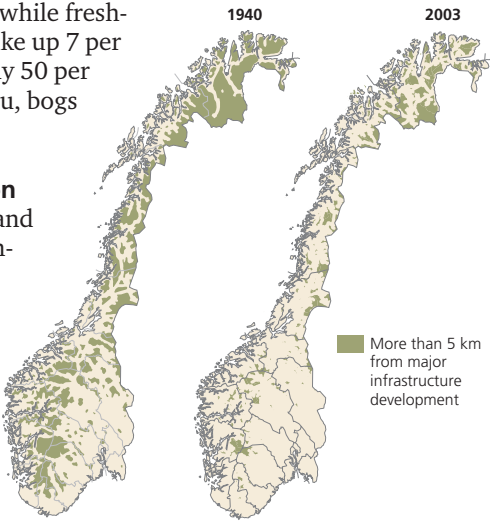
With a total area of 324 000 km² and 4.8 million inhabitants, Norway is the least densely populated country in Europe after Iceland, with 16 inhabitants per km².

Built-up land (including roads) amounts to just over 1 per cent. A total of 3 per cent is agricultural land and 24 per cent productive forest. A further 14 per cent is unproductive forest, while fresh-water resources and glaciers make up 7 per cent. The remaining approximately 50 per cent consists of mountains, plateau, bogs and moors.

From wilderness to conservation

Around 1940 a third of the total land area was still wild landscape or unspoilt. This percentage had fallen to approximately 12 per cent by 2003, 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 14 per cent.



Source: Directorate for Nature Management and Centre for GIS & Earth Observation.

Electricity consumption per inhabitant in selected countries. kWh. 2006

Iceland	31 306
Norway	24 295
Finland	17 178
Canada	16 766
Sweden	15 230
USA	13 515
France	7 585
Germany	7 175
Denmark	6 864
Poland	3 586

Source: IEA.

High electricity consumption

Electricity is an important energy source in a mountainous country like Norway with large hydropower resources. Norway has the world's second highest electricity consumption per capita: 24 295 kWh. This is almost three times greater than the OECD average, which is approximately 8 400 kWh. This figure includes the electricity consumption in all sectors, not just the household sector.

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 2007, the price per kWh for households was still low compared to many other European countries.

Price¹ of unleaded petrol (95 octane) and household electricity in selected countries. 2007

	Petrol (NOK/litres)	Electricity (NOK/kWh)
Norway	11.68	0.77
Denmark	10.49	2.02
Finland	10.41	0.85
Netherlands	11.70	1.67
Italy	10.41	1.51
UK	11.04	1.28
Switzerland	8.22	0.80
Austria	8.99	1.25
Poland	8.92	0.88

¹ Including all taxes.

Source: IEA and Statistics Norway.

Average energy consumption

The high electricity consumption, however, does not mean that Norway has a particularly high total energy consumption.

Energy consumption has increased by more than 40 per cent since 1976 – from just over 600 petajoules to around 850 in 2006. Per capita, Norway is slightly above the average for western countries, but at a lower level than Sweden and Finland.

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. 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.

Growth in emissions to air ...

Increased production of oil and gas and more road traffic lead to increased emissions to air. Norwegian emissions of greenhouse gases increased by 10 per cent from 1990 – which is the basis year for the Kyoto Protocol – to 2007. The growth in emissions was lower than the economic growth (measured as the GDP in fixed prices) during the period.

CO₂ accounts for about 80 per cent of all emissions of greenhouse gases. The most important sources of CO₂ emissions are road traffic, oil and gas extraction, industrial combustion and process emissions from the manufacture of metals.

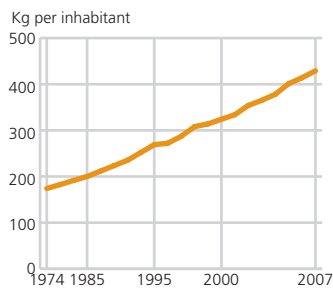
According to the Kyoto Protocol, Norwegian emissions – taking into account the so-called Kyoto mechanisms – can only increase by 1 per cent more than the 1990 emissions for each of the years 2008-2012.

... and more waste

Economic growth and increased prosperity also generate huge amounts of waste. In 2007 we produced a total of 10.7 million tonnes of waste; in other words, almost 2 tonnes per person. Since 1995, there has been an increase of more than 3 million tonnes. The increase in the volume of waste in recent years has been greater than the growth in the GDP.

A total of 36 per cent of the waste is from manufacturing while the other industries generate about 40 per cent. The remainder is household waste, which represents the biggest increase. In 2007, each person produced on average 429 kg of household waste. In 2007, about half of all household waste was sorted for recycling.

Household waste

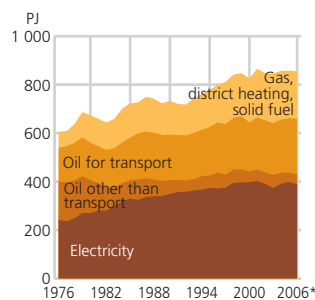


Energy consumption per inhabitant in selected countries. Toe. 2006

Iceland	14.2
Canada	8.3
USA	7.7
Finland	7.1
Sweden	5.7
Norway	5.6
Netherlands	4.9
France	4.3
Denmark	3.9
Poland	2.6

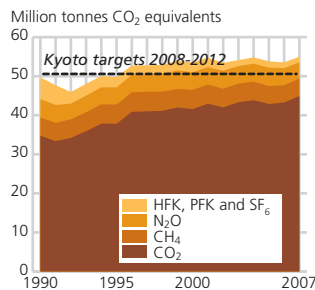
Source IEA.

Energy by type¹. Petajoules



¹ Excluding the energy sectors and ocean transport.

Emissions of greenhouse gases

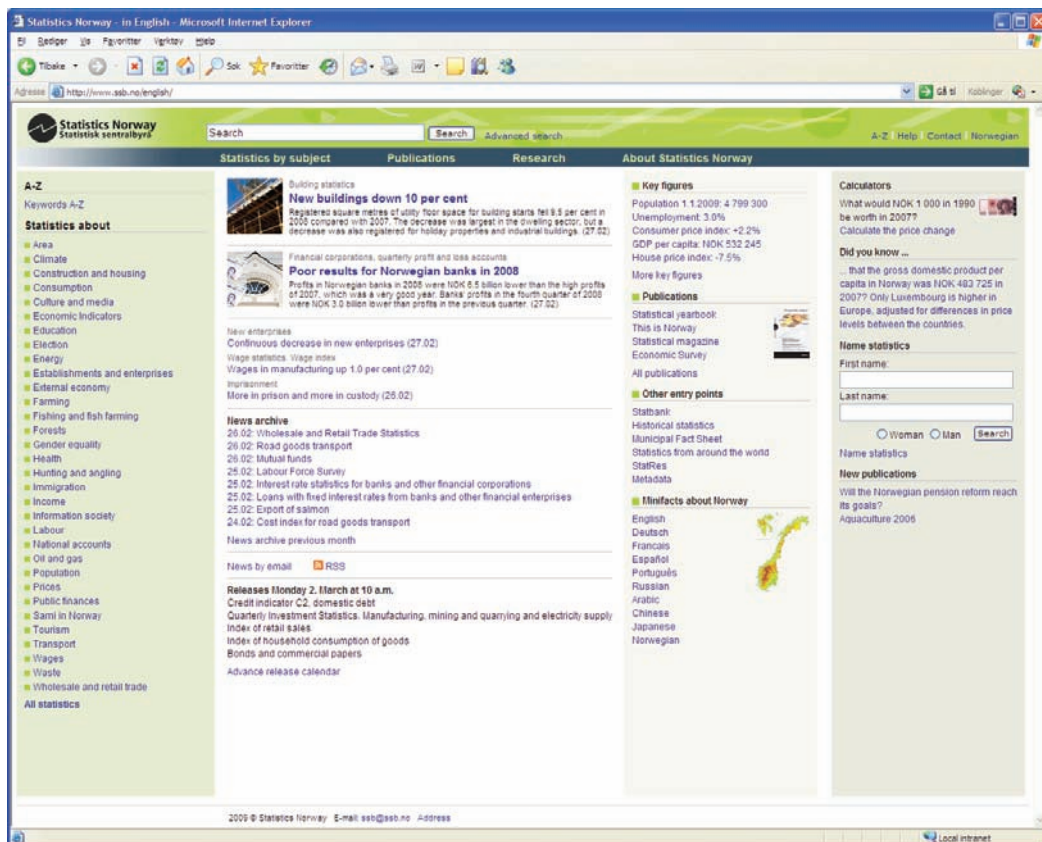


Source: Emission inventory, Statistics Norway and The Norwegian Pollution Control Authority.

More statistics?

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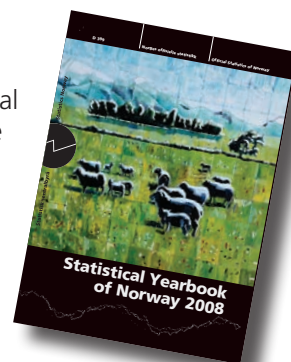
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Publications

Statistical Yearbook

Statistical Yearbook of Norway is published annually and presents the main features of official statistics in most areas of society. The Statistical Yearbook is a useful reference book - an encyclopaedia of figures. The list of tables and graphs and an alphabetical index enable you to find relevant information easily. The information of sources provided in the tables also makes the Statistical Yearbook a good starting point for those who wish to find more detailed statistics. The Statistical Yearbook is published in English and Norwegian and both versions can be found on ssb.no.



Natural Resources and the Environment

Statistics Norway compiles statistics on important natural resources and environmental issues, and develops methods and models for analysing trends in the extraction and use of natural resources and changes in the state of the environment, focusing particularly on relationships between these factors and other socio-economic developments. The annual publication *Natural Resources and the Environment* gives an overview of this work.



Immigration and Immigrants

The publication describes the scope of immigration to Norway, and some aspects of the immigrants' and Norwegian-born to immigrant parents' situation in Norway. Emphasis has been put on presenting time series that illustrate the development within some aspects of living conditions. The statistics are presented as key figures and tables in order to make the information easily understandable. The publication includes chapters on demographic aspects (with focus on structure and change), education, labour market participation, income and electoral turnout.



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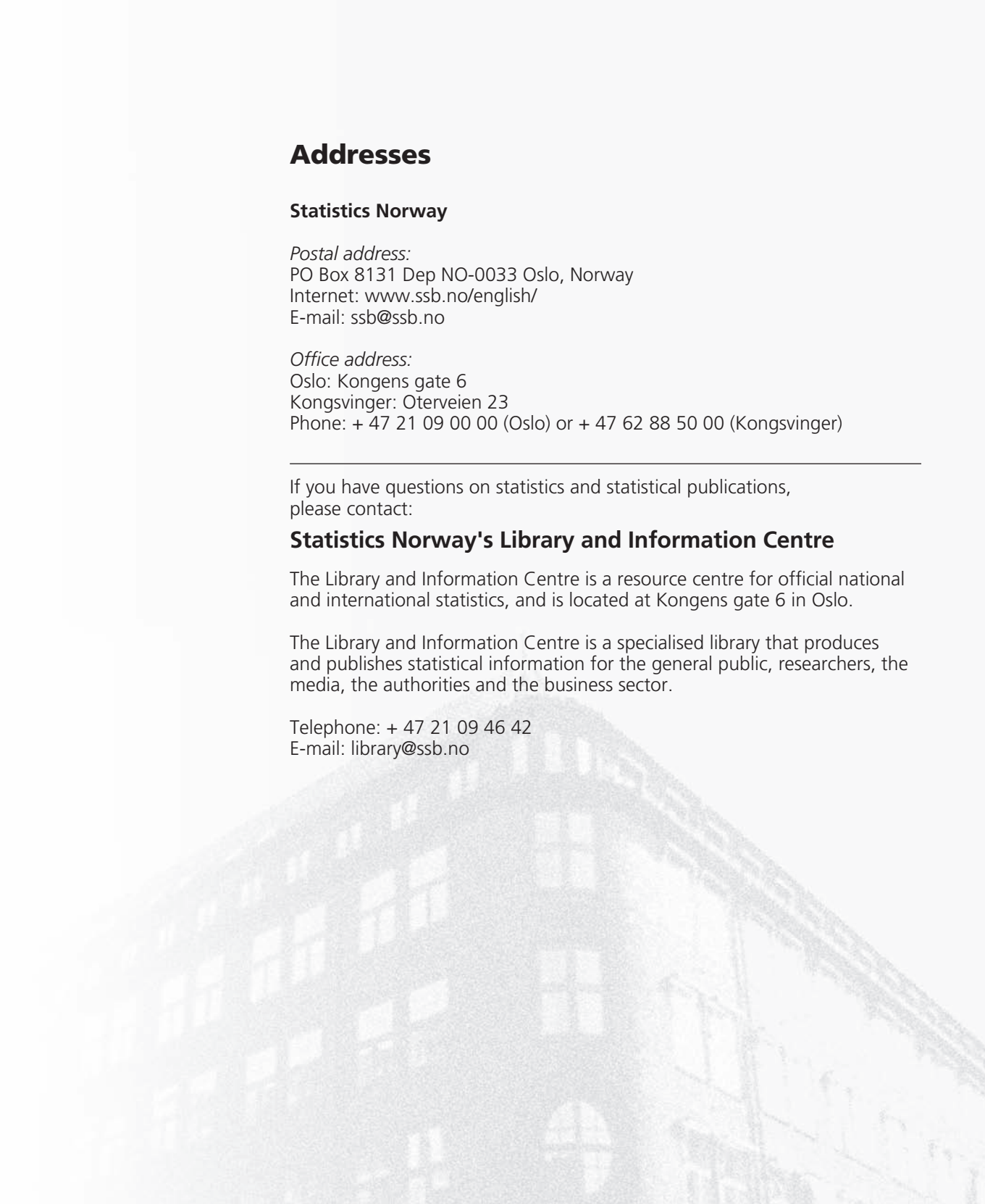
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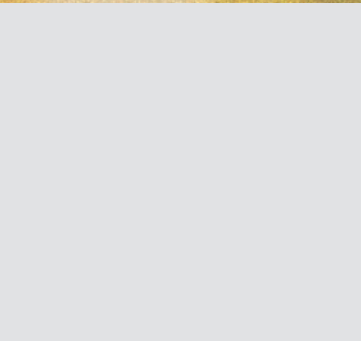
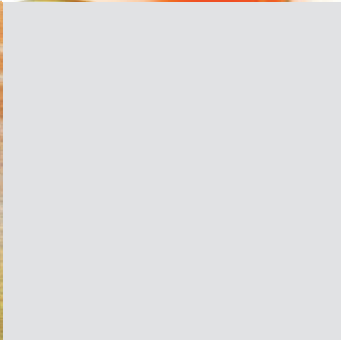
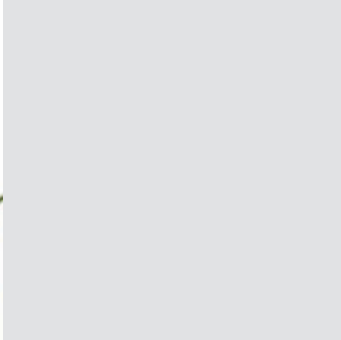
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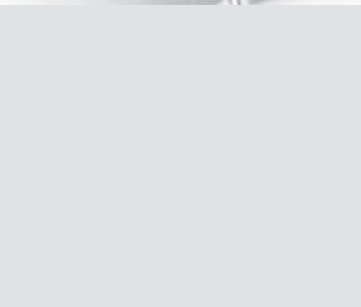
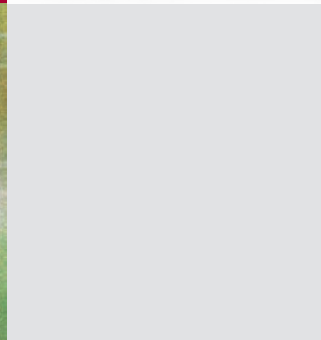
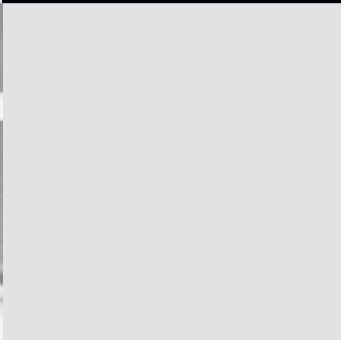
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