Research in Norway
Facts and figures 2017

Research is of decisive importance when it comes to ensuring that Norway is a knowledge-based and innovative society, well positioned for changes.

Norway spends 1.93% of its GDP on R&D

Amounting to USD 7 billion in 2015

Norway has 38 higher education institutions including 8 universities

In 2015 over 42,000 researchers and academic staff participated in R&D

In 2016 a total of 1,410 PhDs were awarded

38% of PhDs to foreigners and 48% to women

Priority Areas

The government has identified six broad priority areas in the Long-term Plan for Research and Higher Education (2015–2024):

- Seas and oceans
- Climate, environment and clean energy
- Public sector renewal, better and more effective welfare, health and care services
- Enabling technologies
- Innovative and adaptable industry
- World-leading academic groups

Strong Norwegian research fields

- Arctic research
- Climate change
- Public health
- Geology and earth sciences
- Marine and maritime activities
- Petroleum technology
- Public administration
- Renewable energy

Centres for Research and Development
Changing the R&D landscape through centres of excellence

- Norwegian Centres of Excellence (SFF) are dedicated to long-term basic research of high international calibre.
- Centres of Research-based innovation (SFI) are working in close alliance with innovative enterprises.
- Centres for Environment-friendly Energy Research (FME) are conducting focused long-term research of high international calibre in order to solve specific challenges.

R&D expenditure by type of institution in 2015

- Million USD
- Industrial sector
- Institute sector
- Universities and colleges
- Hospital trusts

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Co-authorship between Norway and other countries, 2006 and 2016
Proportion of the total Norwegian article production with co-authors from different countries¹

Norwegian researchers publish more internationally and collaborate more with international researchers than ever before.

Horizon 2020 & the EEA Grants
—
Norway participates in the Horizon 2020 programme on the same terms as EU member states.
▷ Norway participates (May 2017) in 4.7% of all Horizon 2020 projects.
▷ Horizon 2020 is our main platform for international cooperation.
▷ Horizon 2020 funding provides for interdisciplinary cooperation, high-quality research and innovation. RCN encourages researchers and companies who have not yet applied for Horizon 2020 funding to give it a try.
▷ Norway participates in research programmes with most of the countries that have entered into agreements for research cooperation using EEA funds.

The business sector
—
The business sector is the largest R&D-performing sector in Norway, counting for more than 50 per cent of total R&D investments. However, the sector’s relative size is somewhat smaller than what is common internationally. Norway has a high rate of industry related to raw materials, and a lower rate in the typical R&D-performing sectors. Nevertheless, Norway is among the countries with the highest R&D growth in the business sector over the past few years, with an increasing share of GDP related to R&D. There are large exporting companies investing actively in R&D particularly in ocean-based, energy, process, manufacturing and bio-based industries.

Norway has 8 universities:
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▷ Nord University
▷ Norwegian University of Life Sciences (NMBU)
▷ Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU)
▷ The University of Agder
▷ The University of Bergen
▷ The University of Oslo
▷ The University of Stavanger
▷ UiT The Arctic University of Norway

Bilateral research cooperation
Norway has developed roadmaps for research cooperation with eight countries outside of the EU/EEA

Norway participates in
4.7%
of all Horizon 2020 projects

Business sector
R&D increased
12%
from 2014 to 2015

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Proportion of the total Norwegian article production with co-authors from different countries¹

¹ Limited to the 25 most frequent collaborative countries in 2016.
Source: Data: Clarivate analytics. Computations: NIFU

For more information and assistance to mobile researchers, please visit EURAXESS Norway: www.euraxess.no