NORWAY

INTRODUCTION
Two centuries of Viking raids into Europe tapered off following the adoption of Christianity in 994. In 1397, Norway was absorbed into a union with Denmark that lasted more than four centuries. Rising nationalism throughout the 19th century led to a 1905 referendum granting Norway independence from Sweden.

GOVERNMENT
Chief of State
King HARALD V
Head of Government
Prime Minister Erna SOLBERG
Government Type
parliamentary constitutional monarchy
Capital
Oslo
Legislature
unicameral Parliament or Storting (169 seats)

GEOGRAPHY
Area
Total: 323,802 sq km
Land: 304-282 sq km
Water: 19,520 sq km
Climate
temperate along coast, modified by North Atlantic Current; colder interior with increased precipitation and colder summers; rainy year-round on west coast
Natural Resources
petroleum, natural gas, iron ore, copper, lead, zinc, titanium, pyrites, nickel, fish, timber, hydropower

ECONOMY
Economic Overview
high-income non-EU European economy; aging labor force; large state-owned energy company constrains budget and spending; largest oil sovereign wealth fund; major fishing, forestry, and extraction industries; large welfare system
GDP (Purchasing Power Parity) $342.1 billion (2020 est.)
GDP per capita (Purchasing Power Parity) $63,600 (2020 est.)
Industries - petroleum and gas, shipping, fishing, aquaculture, food processing, shipbuilding, pulp and paper products, metals, chemicals, timber, mining, textiles
Agricultural products - milk, barley, wheat, potatoes, oats, pork, poultry, beef, eggs, rye
Exports $117.1 billion (2020 est.)
crude petroleum, natural gas, fish, refined petroleum, aluminum (2019)
partners: UK 18%, Germany 14%, Netherlands 10%, Sweden 9%, France 6%, US 5% (2019)
Imports $119.1 billion (2020 est.)
cars, refined petroleum, broadcasting equipment, natural gas, crude petroleum (2019)
partners: Sweden 17%, Germany 12%, China 8%, Denmark 7%, US 6%, UK 5%, Netherlands 5% (2019)

PEOPLE & SOCIETY
Population
5.5 million (July 2021 est.)
Population Growth
0.8% (2021 est.)
Ethnicity
Norwegian 81.5% (includes about 60,000 Sami), other European 8.9%, other 9.6% (2021 est.)
Language
Bokmal Norwegian (official), Nynorsk Norwegian (official), small Sami- and Finnish-speaking minorities
Religion
Church of Norway (Evangelical Lutheran - official) 67.5%, Muslim 3.1%, Roman Catholic 3.1%, other Christian 3.8%, other 2.6%, unspecified 19.9% (2020-2021 est.)