Introduction
Norway is a country in Northern Europe occupying the western portion of the Scandinavian Peninsula as well as the volcanic island Jan Mayen and the Arctic archipelago of Svalbard. Norway borders the North Sea, the North Atlantic Ocean, Finland, Sweden, and Russia. The geography of Norway is rugged with steep fjords and mountains. The government system is a parliamentary constitutional monarchy; the chief of state is the king, and the head of government is the prime minister. Norway has a mixed economic system with a combination of free-market activity and government intervention. Norway is a member of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA).

Key Economic Facts

- **Income Level (by per capita GNI):** High Income
  - **Level of Development:** Developed
  - **GDP, PPP (current international $):** $348.15 billion (2018)
  - **GDP growth (annual %):** 1.29% (2018)
  - **GDP per capita, PPP (current international $):** $65,510.59 (2018)
  - **Manufacturing, value added (% of GDP):** 5.90% (2018)
  - **Current account balance (BoP, current US$):** $31.37 billion (2018)
  - **Inflation, consumer prices (annual %):** 2.76% (2018)
  - **Labor force, total:** 2,809,515 (2019)
  - **Unemployment, total (% of total labor force) (modeled ILO estimate):** 3.97% (2019)
  - **Imports of goods and services (current US$):** $141.68 billion (2018)
  - **Exports of goods and services (current US$):** $166.90 billion (2018)

GDP Composition %

- **Agriculture:** 2%
- **Services:** 55%
- **Industry:** 32%
- **Manufacturing:** 6%

*Although Manufacturing is included in the Industry figures, it is also separately reported because it plays a critical role in economy.*

Risk Assessment (Provided by Coface)

- **Country rating:** A1 - The political and economic situation is very good. A quality business environment has a positive influence on corporate payment behavior. Corporate default probability is very low on average.
- **Business Climate rating:** A1 - The business environment is very good. Corporate financial information is available and reliable. Debt collection is efficient. Institutional quality is very good. Intercompany transactions run smoothly in environments rated A1.

Strengths
- Oil deposits
- Broad political consensus
- Well-capitalised banking system
- Large sovereign wealth fund (250% of GDP)

Weaknesses
- Budget deficit excluding oil and gas revenues
- High household debt
- Significant labour costs
- Shortage of skilled manpower

U.S. Embassy

U.S. Embassy Oslo
Morgedalsvegen 36
0378 Oslo

https://no.usembassy.gov

Country Memo Provided by: globalEDGE.msu.edu and EXPORT.GOV