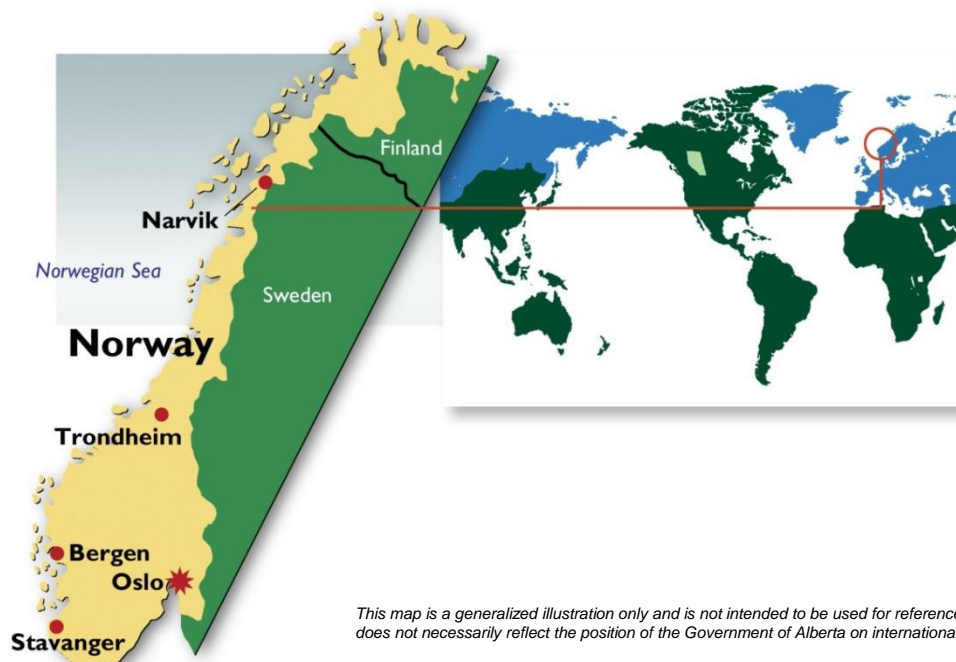


Norway - Alberta Relations



This map is a generalized illustration only and is not intended to be used for reference purposes. The representation of political boundaries does not necessarily reflect the position of the Government of Alberta on international issues of recognition, sovereignty or jurisdiction.

PROFILE

Capital: Oslo

Population: 5.23 million (2016)

Language: Norwegian

Government: Constitutional Monarchy

Head of State: King Harald (acceded in 1991)

Head of Government: Prime Minister Erna Solberg (since October 2013).

Currency: Norwegian Krone, CAD \$1.00 = 6.25 NKR, 1.00 NKR = CAD \$0.16 (October 2017)

GDP: USD \$370.7 billion (2016)

GDP (PPP): 310.3 billion current international dollars (2016)

GDP Per Capita (PPP): 59,302 current international dollars (2016)

GDP Growth Rate: 1.08 per cent (2016)

Inflation: 3.55 per cent (2016)

Unemployment: 4.68 per cent (2016)

Key Industry Sectors: petroleum and gas, food processing, shipbuilding, pulp and paper products, metals, chemicals, timber, mining, textiles, fishing.

Sources: World Bank, Bank of Canada

DID YOU KNOW?

- Norway is one of very few western European countries not to be a member of the European Union (EU). Norway has held a referendum on the issue of EU membership twice, first in 1972 and then again in 1994. On both occasions, the Norwegian population rejected membership.
- Norway has the highest concentration of fjords in the world. Sognefjorden is the largest fjord in Norway and third largest in the world. It stretches 127 miles (205 km) inland from the ocean.
- The Nobel Peace Prize laureate is chosen by the Norwegian Nobel Committee. The award ceremony takes place every year on December 10th in Oslo City Hall, the date on which Alfred Nobel died in 1896.
- Outstanding freshwater and deep-sea fishing makes Norway a special destination.

RELATIONSHIP OVERVIEW

- Alberta and Norway have a strong trade and investment relationship built on similar resource endowments, climates, level of development, shared interests and values.
- In January 2008, Canada signed a free trade agreement with the four countries of the

European Free Trade Association (EFTA): Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein, which came into force in July 2009.

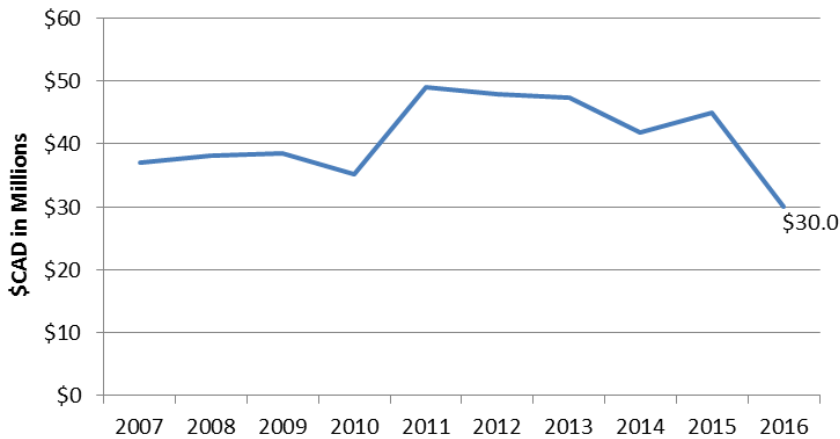
- Statoil Canada Ltd., a subsidiary of the Norwegian energy company Statoil, donated CAD \$500,000 to the Red Cross to assist flood affected communities in Alberta in 2013.

- Alberta and Norway both celebrated their Centennials in 2005.

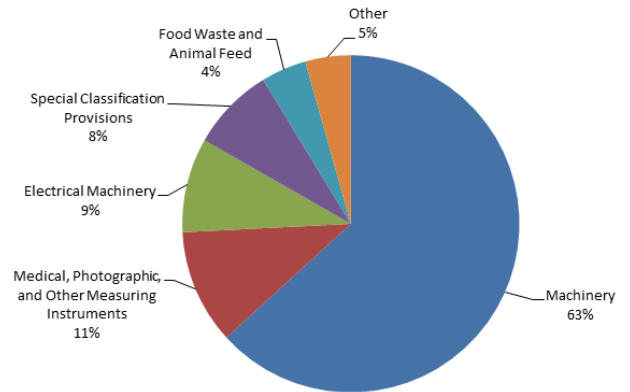
TRADE AND INVESTMENT

- From 2012-16, Alberta exports to Norway averaged CAD \$42.4 million per year, consisting mostly of machinery (CAD \$26.8 million), medical, photographic and other measuring instruments (CAD \$4.7 million), electrical machinery (CAD \$3.8 million) and special classification provisions (CAD \$3.4 million). This does not include trade in services (e.g. tourism, architecture and engineering, or information technology services).
- Alberta's direct imports from Norway averaged CAD \$33.9 million per year from 2012-16. This mostly comprised of fuel and oil (CAD \$13.5 million), iron and steel products (CAD \$4.0 million), electrical machinery (CAD \$3.3 million) and medical,

Alberta's Exports to Norway (2007 to 2016)



**Alberta's Merchandise Exports to Norway 2012 to 2016
(Total Average CAD \$42.4 Million)**



photographic and other measuring instruments (CAD \$3.3 million). This figure does not include goods sold in Alberta that have arrived via distribution hubs in other provinces.

- Foreign direct investment stocks in Canada from Norway were CAD \$3.9 billion in 2016. Canadian direct investment stocks in Norway reached CAD \$1.6 billion in the same year.
- There are 73 Norwegian companies operating in Canada, including 18 firms within the oil and gas sector.

ENERGY

- Norway's electricity generation is 97 per cent renewable and is comprised of 2,000 companies and 50,000 employees.
- North Sea oil and gas were first discovered in the late 1960s. Its political stability and proximity to major European markets have allowed the North Sea to play a major role in world oil and gas markets.
- Norway had 5.497 billion barrels of proven crude oil reserves as of January 1, 2015. This is the largest oil reserves in Western Europe.
- In 2016, Norway was the eighth largest exporter for crude oil. The export value of crude oil, natural gas and condensate that year was around NOK 350 billion (CAD \$53 billion). This amounts to approximately 47 per cent of the total value of Norway's export of goods. With the addition of pipeline transportation, the total export value was NOK 385 billion (CAD \$58 billion).
- The United Kingdom is the top destination for oil deliveries, making up 26.8 per cent of total 2016 exports, followed by the Netherlands (21.2 per cent) and Germany (7.4 per cent). At 2.5 per cent of total exports, Canada was the largest non-European destination.
- The Norwegian oil sector, characterized by

extensive public ownership, has undergone restructuring. The government still retains 67 per cent of Statoil, which controls 80 per cent of Norway's crude oil and gas production.

- Natural gas production has increased nearly every year since 1993, except for a small decline in year-over-year production in 2011 and 2013.
- Total oil and gas production was about 231 million Sm³ o.e in 2016.
- In 2011, following a 40-year dispute, Norway and Russia fully ratified an agreement dividing the Barents Sea into two equal parts. The agreement requires the two countries to jointly develop oil and natural gas deposits that cross over their boundary.
- Calgary-based Talisman Energy operates in oilfields in the Southern North Sea Area, off the Norwegian coast. In 2014, production averaged 17 mboe per day across nine fields, accounting for approximately five per cent of the company's production worldwide.
- Statoil Canada operates on the Kai Kos Dehseh Steam Assisted Gravity Drainage (SAGD) project in the Athabasca region to develop Alberta's oil sands.
 - Statoil Canada's Heavy Oil Technology Centre, located in Calgary, is Statoil's first technology center outside Norway focusing on research and technology development for heavy oil and the development of new technologies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Statoil aims to use as little energy and water as possible to recover in-situ bitumen with a target rate of 10 - 15 per cent. The company is expected to test 14 technologies over the next five to ten years to achieve this goal. The company's individual environmental performance targets include a reduction in CO₂ intensity by 25 per cent by 2020, 40 per cent by 2025, and a 45 per cent reduction in water intensity by 2020.

EMERGING OPPORTUNITIES:

- Information and Communications Technology (ICT):** Norway is one of the world's top per-capita users of ICT.
 - Most ICT expertise has been built around Norway's traditional industries such as sustainable fisheries and the oil and gas industry as well as communication technology. There is also strong local expertise in niche areas of food tracing, mobility, financial technology, micro-payment and location-based services.
- Norway was ranked second worldwide in the 2016 Data Center Risk Index. The country has 23 data centers as of 2017, most of which are located in the southern region.
- Clean Energy:** Norway is a leader in Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) initiatives and CCS forms a key part the Norwegian government's policy on energy and the environment.
 - The Technology Center Mongstad is the world's largest test center for carbon capture, and companies from around the world are welcome to test their technologies here.
- Norway has a solid base of expertise in renewable energy and environmental technologies. There are 11 Centres for Environmentally-Friendly Energy Research across the country in addition to strong regional clusters.
- Electric Mobility:** Norway is the biggest European market for electric vehicles, making up almost 20 per cent of new cars in 2015. The density of electric vehicles per inhabitant is ten times higher than most other countries.
 - Norway offers consumers many incentives to adopt electric vehicles, including low taxation, no/reduced road toll, free parking, free charging at public stations, and an allowance to drive in the bus lane.

- **Life Sciences:** Norway has leading expertise in oncology and neuroscience research. Over 40 companies have emerged from research stemming from the Norwegian Radium Hospital.
- Norway excels in medical imaging technology, including in vivo imaging, ultrasound and magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).

AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

- In 2016, Alberta agri-food exports to Norway totaled CAD \$3.8 million. The top export was prepared animal feeds (CAD \$3.6 million).
- The free trade agreement between Canada and the EFTA reduced tariffs on a wide range of processed foods exported to Norway.
- Approximately one-quarter of Norway's area is covered by forests, contributing nearly one per cent to GDP and almost three per cent employment to the economy.

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

- From 2012-16, 93 foreign students from Norway were issued a permit to study in Alberta.
- For the academic year of 2015/2016, 36 citizens of Norway had international study permits for Alberta.
- The University of Calgary (U of C) has a university wide linkage agreement with the University of Oslo. The U of C also has agreements with the University of Stavanger, including the Faculty of Nursing Practicum Exchange and a research and student exchange with the School of Engineering, and a cooperation agreement with the Norwegian School of Economics.
- Universities of Calgary, Alberta and Saskatchewan, Oslo and Tromsø are part of a consortium (CaNoRock), with the aim to provide student access to Andøya Rocket Range for space instrumentation and rocket mission training.
- The Arctic Institute of North America (AINA) is a non-profit membership organization and a multi-disciplinary research institute of the U of C, which advances the study of the North American and circumpolar Arctic. AINA provides opportunities for Alberta/Canada and Norway collaborative research.
- The University of Alberta (U of A) also has various agreements with universities in Norway including the University of Oslo, the

Norwegian School of Sport Science, and Telemark University College.

- The U of A is a leader with its Canadian Institute for Nordic Studies. The U of A's Augustana Campus is the only institution in Canada teaching the Norwegian language.
- Concordia University of Edmonton has signed a MOU and international agreement for research and program cooperation in Information Systems Security Management with Gjøvik University College.
- Concordia University's partner, Gjøvik University College, has merged with other post-secondary institutions in 2016 and has since become the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU).
- Mount Royal University has partnerships with Oslo and Akershus University College and Hedmark University College.
- Advanced Education supports the Campus Alberta Grant for International Learning (CAGFIL) program enabling post-secondary institutions to develop study and research collaboration involving Norway.

IMMIGRATION AND COMMUNITY

- From 2012-16, 58 citizens of Norway became Permanent Residents of Canada, with Alberta as their intended destination. Approximately 36 per cent were economic immigrants, including principal applicants, spouses, and dependents.
- In the same time frame, 25 citizens of Norway had Temporary Foreign Worker Program (TFWP) work permits come into effect for Alberta.
- There are over 144,580 Albertans of Norwegian descent, making them the eighth largest ethnic group in Alberta.
- Norwegian settlers first arrived in Alberta in 1880. Between 1894 and 1914, a large influx of Norwegians settled in Central Alberta following the completion of the Calgary-Edmonton railroad in 1891. Camrose became a major center for Norwegian settlement.
- New Norway is a small rural village located in the central prairies of Alberta. It was named in 1895 due to the large influx of Norwegian families who settled in the area.

RECENT VISITS

- June 2016: Ambassador Anne Kari Hansen Ovind made her official visit to Alberta.
- November 2015: Ambassador Mona Elisabeth Brøther was in Alberta as part of a Nordic Baltic Joint Heads of Mission visit.
- March 2013: Her Excellency Mona Brøther, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Norway, made an official visit to Alberta.
- March 2012: A delegation of 13 parliamentarians and officials, which included Her Excellency Else Berit Eikeland, the Ambassador of Norway, visited Alberta. During this trip they met with the Alberta Ministers of Environment and Sustainable Resource Development, Finance and Justice.
- November 2011: Norwegian Minister of Petroleum and Energy, Ola Borten Moe, visited Alberta and toured the oil sands facilities of Statoil.

DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION

- Norwegian Ambassador to Canada is Her Excellency Anne Kari Hansen Ovind.
- Canada's Ambassador to Norway is Mr. Artur Wilczynski.
- Mr. Bjorn Morisbak is the Honorary Consul in Edmonton, with jurisdiction for Alberta, excluding Calgary.
- Mr. Egil Bjørnsen is the Honorary Consul in Calgary.



For more information, contact:
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