

Continued increase in R&D expenditure in Norway in 2008

According to final R&D statistics for 2008 the R&D expenditure in Norway amounted to 41.2 billion NOK¹ this year. This is a 3.8 billion NOK increase compared to 2007- which is 10 per cent increase in current prices and 4.5 per cent increase in constant prices. The increase is, however, lower than in the preceding year; the 2006-2007 increase was 14 per cent in current prices and slightly above 9 per cent in constant prices. (The real value increase was, however, a little lower owing to extension of the data basis in 2007.) Among the R&D performing sectors the 2007-2008 increase was highest in the institute sector² by 5.5 per cent (constant prices). The increase was below 4 per cent in the industrial sector and 5 per cent in the higher education sector.

The R&D expenditure as a percentage of the gross domestic product (GDP) had a minor decrease from 1.65 in 2007 to 1.64 per cent in 2008.

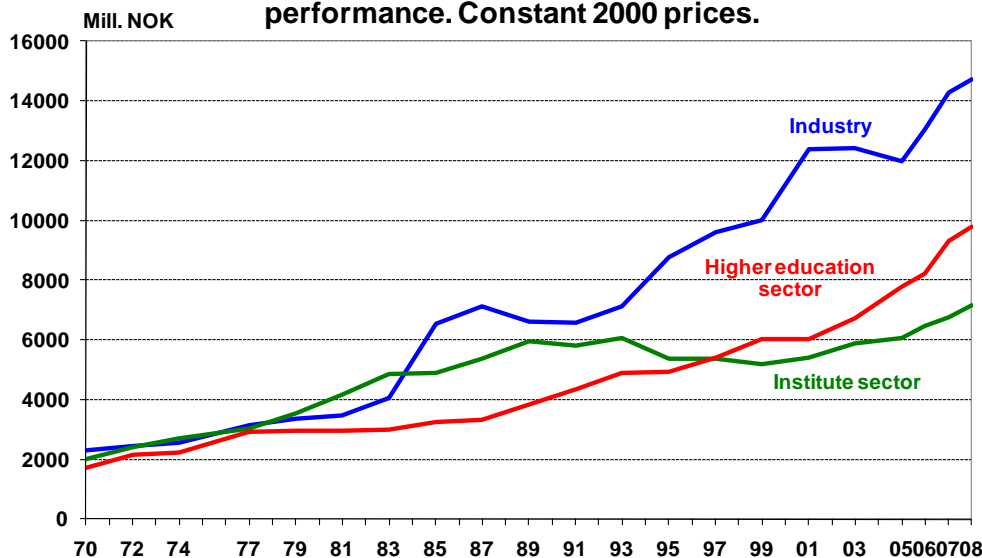
Intramural R&D expenditure in Norway in 2007 and 2008 by sector of performance. Billion NOK. Current prices.

Sector of performance	2007	2008	Diff. 2007-2008	% diff. in current prices	% diff. in constant prices
Industrial sector	17 382	18 974	1 592	9.2	3.7
Institute sector	8 310	9 267	957	11.5	5.5
Higher education sector	11 723	12 984	1 261	10.8	5.0
Total	37 415	41 224	3 810	10.2	4.5
GDP estimate	2 271 607	2 516 800	245 193	10.8	
R&D % of GDP	1.65	1.64	-0.01		

Source: NIFU STEP and Statistics Norway

The standard R&D statistics in the industrial sector include enterprises with 10 or more employees. In addition, a further 1.5 billion NOK in intramural R&D expenditure in 2008 was reported from enterprises with 5-9 employees, according to Statistics Norway. Including these enterprises the total R&D expenditure in Norway amounted to 42.8 billion NOK, and the percentage of GDP to 1.68.

R&D expenditure in Norway 1970-2008, by sector of performance. Constant 2000 prices.

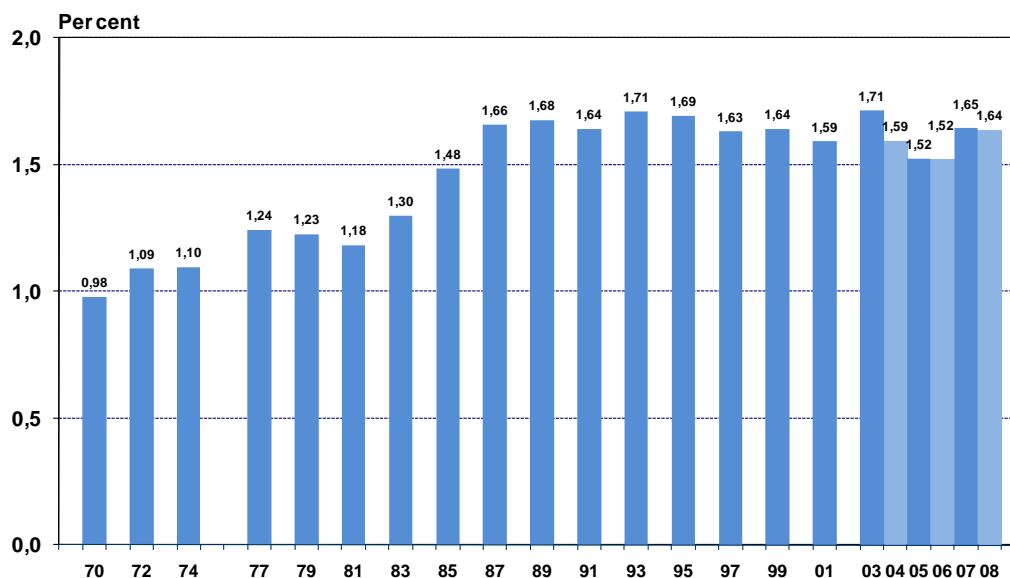


Source: NIFU STEP and Statistics Norway

¹ As of 5 November 2009 100 NOK is equivalent to 11.85 EUR or 17.62 USD.

² The Norwegian institute sector comprises government sector and research institutes serving enterprises.

Intramural R&D expenditure in Norway 1970-2008 as a percentage of GDP



Source: NIFU STEP and Statistics Norway

The number of R&D person-years amounted to 36 000 in 2008 (37 500 when enterprises with 5-9 employees are included). This is approximately 1.600 more than in 2007. More than half of the increase took place in the industrial sector. In the higher education sector and the institute sector the R&D person-years increased at about the same rate. Most of the R&D person-years were performed by researchers, while support staff (administrators, technicians etc.) accounted for a minor share and had a minor increase from 2007.

R&D person-years in 2007 and 2008.

Sector of performance	2007		2008		Diff. 2007-2008	
	Total	Of which: researchers	Total	Of which: researchers	Total	Of which: researchers
Industrial sector	15 299	10 790	16 478	11 467	1 179	677
Institute sector	7 796	5 523	8 165	5 796	369	273
Higher education sector	11 011	8 474	11 341	8 771	330	297
Total	34 106	24 787	35 984	26 034	1 878	1 247

Source: NIFU STEP and Statistics Norway

Additional detailed R&D statistics on the *institute sector* has also been published. For the higher education sector 2008 is an *intermediary* year limited to estimates of the main figures of R&D expenditure and R&D person-years. In this sector complete survey is undertaken every second year – 2009 is the next. The R&D statistics for 2009 will be published by the end of 2010.

The national R&D statistics for Norway are prepared and published annually on commission by The Research Council of Norway. NIFU STEP is responsible for the higher education sector and the institute sector, while Statistics Norway is responsible for the industrial sector. NIFU STEP is also responsible for compiling the sector data into the total R&D statistics for Norway and to report statistics to international organisations and agencies. The statistics are prepared on basis of the OECD guidelines published in the so-called Frascati manual. The R&D statistics are reported to the OECD data bases for Science & Technology as well as to Eurostat. Enquiries on the higher education sector may be addressed to Susanne.L.Sundnes@nifustep.no tel. ++47 22 59 51 60, on the institute sector to Bo.Sarpebakken@nifustep.no tel. ++47 22 59 51 63, and on the health trusts to Ole.Wiig@nifustep.no tel. ++47 22 59 51 85. Enquiries on R&D in the industrial sector may be addressed to Frank.Foyn@ssb.no, tel. ++47 21 09 46 88, Kristine.Langhoff@ssb.no, tel.: ++47 21 09 43 91 or Harald.Fondevik@ssb.no, tel.: ++47 21 09 47 51. The national R&D statistics for Norway are published by NIFU STEP <http://english.nifustep.no/> and the Research Council of Norway <http://www.forskingsradet.no/>. More information on the industrial sector is available on <http://www.ssb.no/english/>