Global Innovation Index 2025

Norway ranking in the Global Innovation Index 2025

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Norway ranks 20th among the 139 economies featured in the GII 2025.

The Global Innovation Index (GII) ranks world economies according to their innovation capabilities. Consisting of roughly 80 indicators, grouped into innovation inputs and outputs, the GII aims to capture the multi-dimensional facets of innovation.

Norway ranks 19th among the 54 High-income group economies.

Norway ranks 12th among the 39 economies in Europe.

Norway GII Ranking (2020-2025)

The table shows the rankings of Norway over the past six years. Data availability and changes to the GII model framework influence year-on-year comparisons of the GII rankings. The statistical confidence interval for the ranking of Norway in the GII 2025 is between ranks 20 and 22.

Year	GII Position	Innovation Inputs	Innovation Outputs
2020	20th	15th	28th
2021	20th	13th	28th
2022	22nd	14th	29th
2023	19th	15th	28th
2024	21st	16th	26th
2025	20th	11th	26th

Norway performs worse in innovation outputs than innovation inputs in 2025.

This year Norway ranks 11th in innovation inputs. This position is higher than last year.

Norway ranks 26th in innovation outputs. This position is the same as last year.

Norway has 1 cluster in the world's top innovation clusters of the Global Innovation Index.

Global Innovation Index 2025

> Global Innovation Tracker

The Global Innovation Tracker 2025 shows what is the current state of innovation in Norway, how rapidly is technology being embraced and what are the resulting societal impacts.

For Norway, 9 indicators have improved in the short-term and 3 indicators have worsened.

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Science and innovation investment

	Scientific publications	R&D investments	Venture capital deal numbers	International patent filings
Short term	▼ -1.8 % 2023 - 2024	▲ 19 % 2022 - 2023	▼ -21.9 % 2023 - 2024	▲ 4.7 % 2023 - 2024
Long term (annual growth)	▲ 3.6 % 2014 - 2024	▲ 2.7 % 2013 - 2023	▼ -4.2 % 2020 - 2024	▲ 0.4 % 2014 - 2024

Technology adoption

	Safe sanitation	Connectivity		Robots	Electric vehicles
		Fixed broadband	5G		
Short term	▲ 0.1% 2023 - 2024	▲ 0.6% 2022 - 2023	▲ 2.3% 2022 - 2023	▲ 13.5% 2022 - 2023	▲ 6.7% 2023 - 2024
Long term (annual growth)	▲ 0.1% 2014 - 2024	▲ 2.8% 2013 - 2023	n/a	▲ 8.8% 2013 - 2023	▲ 39.1% 2014 - 2024
Penetration	77.9 per 100 inhabitants in 2024	45.4 per 100 inhabitants in 2023	83.4 per 100 inhabitants in 2023	n/a	32 per 100 cars in 2024

Socioeconomic impact

	Labor productivity	Life expectancy	Temperature change
Short term	▲ 1.9 % 2023 - 2024	▲ 0.8 % 2022 - 2023	+ 1.9 °C 2024
Long term (annual growth)	▲ 0.6 % 2014 - 2024	▲ 0.2 % 2013 - 2023	+ 2.4 °C 2014
Level	157,672 USD in 2024	83.3 years in 2023	n/a

Notes: Not all indicators of the Global Innovation Tracker are used to calculate the Global Innovation Index. Long-term annual growth refers to the compound annual growth rate (CAGR) over the indicated period. For each variable, a one-year growth rate is set for the short run, and ten-year CAGR is set for the long run; time windows might differ when gaps exist in data availability. The end period corresponds to the most recent available observation, which may differ among countries. Temperature change is an exception: it indicates the change in degrees Celsius with respect to the average temperature in the countries. from 1951–1980. Figures are rounded.

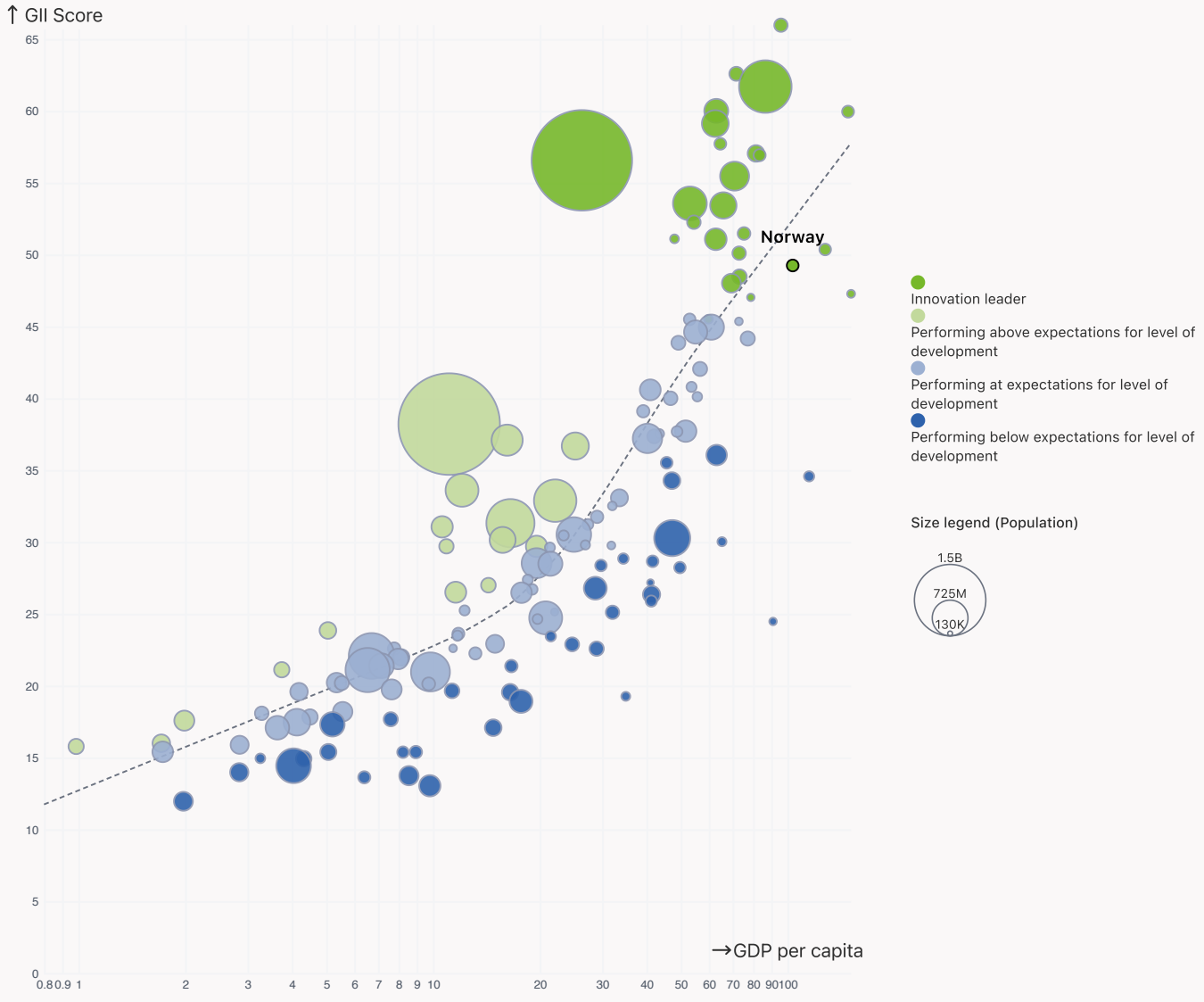
Global Innovation Index 2025

Expected vs. Observed Innovation Performance

The bubble chart below shows the relationship between income levels (GDP per capita) and innovation performance (GII score). The trend line gives an indication of the expected innovation performance according to income level. Economies appearing above the trend line are performing better than expected and those below are performing below expectations.

Norway is an Innovation leader, ranking in the top 25 of the GII.

> Innovation overperformers relative to their economic development



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Global Innovation Index 2025

Effectively translating innovation investments into innovation outputs

The chart below shows the relationship between innovation inputs and innovation outputs. Economies above the line are effectively translating costly innovation investments into more and higher-quality outputs.

Norway produces less innovation outputs relative to its level of innovation investments.

> Relationship between innovation inputs and outputs

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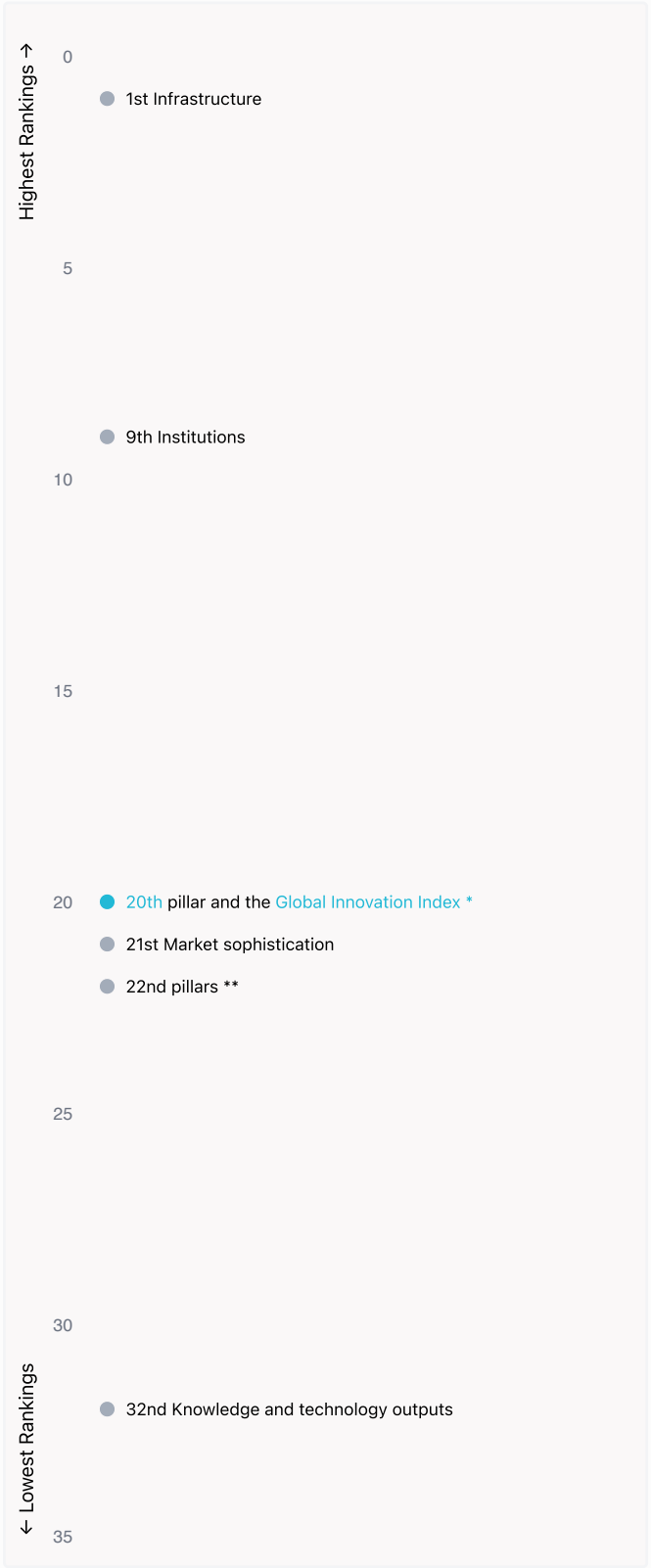
Global Innovation Index 2025

Overview of Norway's rankings in the seven areas of the GII in 2025

The chart shows the ranking for each of the seven areas that the GII comprises. The strongest areas for Norway are those that rank above the GII (shown in blue) and the weakest are those that rank below.



Highest Rankings

Norway ranks highest in Infrastructure (1st), Institutions (9th) and Business sophistication (20th).

Lowest Rankings

Norway ranks lowest in Knowledge and technology outputs (32nd), Human capital and research, Creative outputs (22nd) and Market sophistication (21st).

* Business sophistication
** Human capital and research, Creative outputs

The full WIPO Intellectual Property Statistics profile for Norway can be found on https://www.wipo.int/edocs/statistics-country-profile/en/no.pdf

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Global Innovation Index 2025

Benchmark of Norway against other economy groupings for each of the seven areas of the GII Index

The charts shows the relative position of Norway (blue bar) against other economy groupings (grey bars)

High-income economies

Norway performs above the High-income group average in Institutions, Human capital and research, Infrastructure, Market sophistication, Business sophistication, Creative outputs.

Europe

Norway performs above the regional average in Institutions, Human capital and research, Infrastructure, Market sophistication, Business sophistication, Creative outputs.

Institutions

- Norway | Score: 80.31
- Top 10 | Score: 78.63
- High-income | Score: 65.99
- Europe | Score: 59.42

Human capital and research

- Top 10 | Score: 59.30
- Norway | Score: 49.68
- High-income | Score: 45.45
- Europe | Score: 44.67

Infrastructure

- Norway | Score: 68.83
- Top 10 | Score: 61.36
- High-income | Score: 54.18
- Europe | Score: 54.13

Market sophistication

- Top 10 | Score: 61.82
- Norway | Score: 52.08
- High-income | Score: 47.12
- Europe | Score: 44.89

Business sophistication

- Top 10 | Score: 59.10
- Norway | Score: 49.30
- High-income | Score: 42.22
- Europe | Score: 40.79

Knowledge and technology outputs

- Top 10 | Score: 54.93
- Europe | Score: 34.99
- High-income | Score: 33.94
- Norway | Score: 32.19

Creative outputs

- Top 10 | Score: 55.98
- Norway | Score: 44.68
- High-income | Score: 38.68
- Europe | Score: 38.66

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Global Innovation Index 2025

Innovation strengths and weaknesses in Norway

The table below gives an overview of the indicator strengths and weaknesses of Norway in the GII 2025.

Norway's best-ranked innovation strengths are **Electricity output, GWh/mn pop.** (rank 1), **Entertainment and media market/th pop. 15–69** (rank 3) and **Rule of law*** (rank 3).

Strengths

Rank	Code	Indicator name
1	3.2.1	Electricity output, GWh/mn pop.
3	7.2.3	Entertainment and media market/th pop. 15–69
3	1.2.2	Rule of law*
3	5.2.2	University–industry R&D collaboration†
4	3.3.2	Low-carbon energy use, %
4	5.2.4	State of cluster development†
5	1.1.2	Government effectiveness*
5	1.1.1	Operational stability for businesses*
7	7.3.2	GitHub commits/mn pop. 15–69
7	5.3.3	ICT services imports, % total trade

Weaknesses

Rank	Code	Indicator name
103	7.1.2	Trademarks by origin/bn PPP$ GDP
100	5.1.3	Youth demographic dividend, %
95	5.3.2	High-tech imports, % total trade
87	5.3.1	Intellectual property payments, % total trade
80	6.2.1	Labor productivity growth, %
78	2.1.1	Expenditure on education, % GDP
71	2.2.2	Graduates in science and engineering, %
69	7.1.4	Industrial designs by origin/bn PPP$ GDP
67	7.2.4	Creative goods exports, % total trade
56	2.2.3	Tertiary inbound mobility, %

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Global Innovation Index 2025

Norway's innovation system

As far as practicable, the plots below present unscaled indicator data.

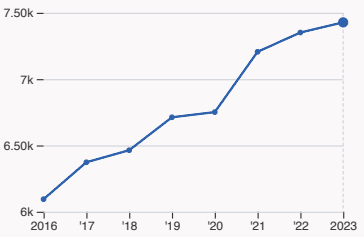
Innovation inputs in Norway

2.1.1 Expenditure on education

was equal to 3.97 % GDP in 2022, down by 2.99 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 78.

2.2.2 Graduates in science and engineering

was equal to 21.57 % of total graduates in 2022, down by 1.39 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 71.



2.3.1 Researchers

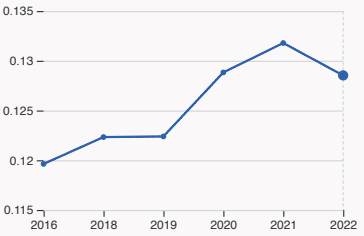
was equal to 7428.05 FTE per million population in 2023, up by 1.04% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 6.

2.3.2 Gross expenditure on R&D

was equal to 1.85 % GDP in 2023, up by 0.3 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 18.

2.3.4 QS university ranking

was equal to an average score of 44.1 for the top three universities in 2024, up by 2.39% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 29.



4.3.2 Domestic industry diversification

was equal to an index score of 0.13 in 2022, down by 2.47% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 47.

5.1.1 Knowledge-intensive employment

was equal to 51.9 % in 2024, down by 0.39 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 9.

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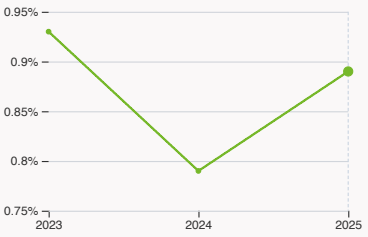
Global Innovation Index 2025

Innovation outputs in Norway

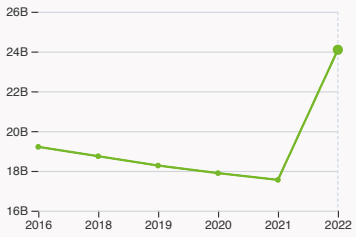
6.1.1 Patents by origin

was equal to 1.51 thousand patents in 2023, down by 0.66% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 23.



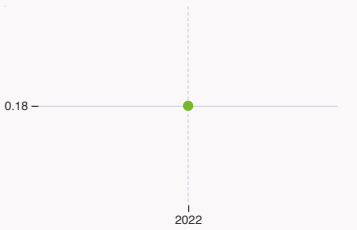
6.2.2 Unicorn valuation

was equal to 0.89 % GDP in 2025, up by 0.1 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 37.



6.2.4 High-tech manufacturing

was equal to 24.09 high-tech manufacturing output in billion USD in 2022, up by 37.26% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 53.

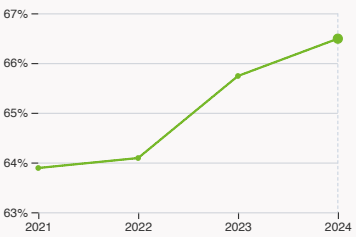


6.3.2 Production and export complexity

was equal to a score of 0.18 in 2022 – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 54.

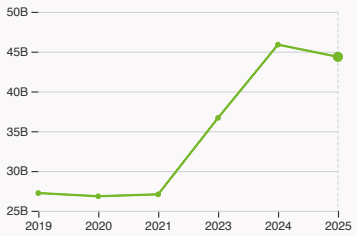
6.3.3 High-tech exports

was equal to 6.46 billion USD in 2023, up by 11.19% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 47.



7.1.1 Intangible asset intensity, top 15

was equal to 66.49 % for the top 15 companies in 2024, up by 0.75 percentage points from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 19.



7.1.3 Global brand value, top 5,000

was equal to 44.35 billion USD for the brands in the top 5,000 in 2025, down by 3.33% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 20.

7.2.2 National feature films

was equal to 35 films in 2023, up by 45.83% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 12.

7.3.3 Mobile app creation

was equal to 269.13 million global downloads of mobile apps in 2024, down by 6.89% from the year prior – and equivalent to an indicator rank of 36.

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Norway's innovation top performers

Disclaimer: This section contains only the top performers per country. For the complete list, please visit the GII Innovation Ecosystems and Data Explorer website.

2.3.3 Global corporate R&D investors from Norway

Rank	Firm	Industry	R&D [mn EUR]	R&D Growth [%]	R&D Intensity [%]
1	VISMA	Software & Computer Services	501	17	21
2	EQUINOR	Oil & Gas Producers	283	1	0.3

Source: WIPO, based on European Commission's Joint Research Centre (https://iri.jrc.ec.europa.eu/scoreboard/2024-eu-industrial-rd-investment-scoreboard) and Orbis database (https://www.moodys.com/web/en/us/capabilities/company-reference-data/orbis.html).
Note: Data is based on the 2024 EU Industrial R&D Investment Scoreboard from the European Commission's Joint Research Centre, which ranks the top 2,000 firms by R&D investment annually. For countries not represented in the Scoreboard, companies from Orbis with R&D expenditure above USD 50 million were identified and used to complement the dataset.

2.3.4 QS university ranking of Norway's top universities

Rank	University	Score
119	UNIVERSITY OF OSLO	56.10
264	NORWEGIAN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	39.10
291	UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN	37.10

Source: QS Quacquarelli Symonds Ltd (https://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/world-university-rankings/2024).
Note: QS Quacquarelli Symonds Ltd annually assesses over 1,200 universities across the globe and scores them between [0,100]. Ranks can represent a single value 'x', a tie 'x=' or a range 'x-y'.

5.2.3 University industry and international engagement, top 5 universities

Rank	University	Score
1	UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN	77.05
2	UNIVERSITY OF OSLO	76.10
3	NORWEGIAN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY	69.30

Source: Times Higher Education (THE), World University Rankings 2025.
Note: Rank corresponds to within economy ranks. The score is calculated as the average of the International Outlook score (encompassing international staff, students, and co-authorship) and the industry score (reflecting industry income and patent citations). The 2025 ranking corresponds to data from the academic year that ended in 2022.

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6.2.2 Top Unicorn Companies in Norway

Rank	Unicorn Company	Industry	City	Valuation, bn USD
1	COGNITE	Industrials	Lysaker	2
2	GELATO	Consumer & Retail	Oslo	1
2	DUNE ANALYTICS	Enterprise Tech	Oslo	1

Source: CBInsights, Tracker – The Complete List of Unicorn Companies: https://www.cbinsights.com/research-unicorn-companies.

7.1.1 Top 15 intangible-asset intensive companies in Norway

Rank	Firm	Intensity, %
1	EQUINOR ASA	43.72
2	AKER BP ASA	95.55
3	KONGSBERG GRUPPEN ASA	93.39

Source: Brand Finance (https://brandirectory.com/reports/gift-2024).
Note: Brand Finance only provides within economy ranks.

7.1.3 Top 5,000 companies in Norway with highest global brand value

Rank	Brand	Industry	Brand Value, mn USD
1	EQUINOR	Oil & Gas	15,722
2	DNB	Banking	4,759.6
3	TELENOR	Telecoms	2,896.6

Source: Brand Finance (https://brandirectory.com).
Note: Rank corresponds to within economy ranks.

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Norway

GII 2025 rank **20**

Output rank	Input rank	Income	Region	Population (mn)	GDP, PPP$ (bn)	GDP per capita, PPP$
26	11	High	Europe	5.6	576.2	103,446

	Score / Value	Rank	
Institutions	**80.3**	**9**	
1.1 Institutional environment	**88.3**	**6**	
1.1.1 Operational stability for businesses*	89.3	5	●
1.1.2 Government effectiveness*	87.3	5	●
1.2 Regulatory environment	**90.2**	**8**	
1.2.1 Regulatory quality*	83.6	13	
1.2.2 Rule of law*	96.8	3	●
1.3 Business environment	**62.4**	**31**	
1.3.1 Policy stability for doing business†	66.4	30	
1.3.2 Entrepreneurship policies and culture†	58.5	20	
Human capital and research	**49.7**	**22**	
2.1 Education	**63**	**25**	
2.1.1 Expenditure on education, % GDP	4	78	○
2.1.2 Government funding/pupil, secondary, % GDP/cap	23.6	26	
2.1.3 School life expectancy, years	18.6	11	
2.1.4 PISA scales in reading, maths and science	474.4	33	
2.1.5 Pupil–teacher ratio, secondary	8	8	
2.2 Tertiary education	**35.2**	**48**	
2.2.1 Tertiary enrolment, % gross	95.1	11	
2.2.2 Graduates in science and engineering, %	21.6	71	○
2.2.3 Tertiary inbound mobility, %	4.5	56	○
2.3 Research and development (R&D)	**50.8**	**19**	
2.3.1 Researchers, FTE/mn pop.	7,428.1	6	
2.3.2 Gross expenditure on R&D, % GDP	1.9	18	
2.3.3 Global corporate R&D investors, top 3, mn USD	57.7	27	
2.3.4 QS university ranking, top 3*	45.2	29	
Infrastructure	**68.8**	**1**	
3.1 Information and communication technologies (ICTs)	**90.9**	**19**	
3.1.1 ICT access*	98.5	20	
3.1.2 ICT use*	84.9	35	
3.1.3 Government's online service*	89.4	18	
3.2 General infrastructure	**70.4**	**3**	
3.2.1 Electricity output, GWh/mn pop.	27,734.7	1	●
3.2.2 Logistics performance*	72.7	18	
3.2.3 Gross capital formation, % GDP	24.3	60	
3.3 Ecological sustainability	**45.2**	**8**	
3.3.1 GDP/unit of energy use	13.8	43	
3.3.2 Low-carbon energy use, %	71.1	4	●
3.3.3 ISO 14001 environment/bn PPP$ GDP	2.4	40	
Market sophistication	**52.1**	**21**	
4.1 Credit	**55.7**	**21**	
4.1.1 Finance for startups and scaleups†	62.2	29	
4.1.2 Domestic credit to private sector, % GDP	126.8	14	
4.1.3 Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP	n/a	n/a	
4.2 Investment	**22.1**	**28**	◇
4.2.1 Market capitalization, % GDP	68.2	27	
4.2.2 Venture capital (VC) received, deal count/bn PPP$ GDP	0.4	18	
4.2.3 Late-stage VC deal count, % global VC	0.2	23	
4.2.4 VC investors, deal count/bn PPP$ GDP	0.6	22	
4.2.5 VC investor co-participation/bn PPP$ GDP	0.3	24	
4.3 Trade, diversification and market scale	**78.4**	**37**	
4.3.1 Applied tariff rate, weighted avg., %	1.6	56	
4.3.2 Domestic industry diversification	87.2	47	
4.3.3 Domestic market scale, bn PPP$	576.2	47	

	Score / Value	Rank	
Business sophistication	**49.3**	**20**	
5.1 Knowledge workers	**54.6**	**21**	
5.1.1 Knowledge-intensive employment, %	51.9	9	
5.1.2 Females employed w/advanced degrees, %	29.1	7	
5.1.3 Youth demographic dividend, %	28.2	100	○
5.1.4 GERD performed by business, % GDP	1.1	24	
5.1.5 GERD financed by business, %	44.6	36	◇
5.2 Innovation linkages	**55.5**	**20**	
5.2.1 Public research–industry co-publications, %	3.2	24	
5.2.2 University–industry R&D collaboration†	73.1	3	●
5.2.3 University industry & international engagement, top 5*	56.8	31	◇
5.2.4 State of cluster development†	92.3	4	●
5.2.5 Patent families/bn PPP$ GDP	1.5	24	
5.3 Knowledge absorption	**37.9**	**31**	
5.3.1 Intellectual property payments, % total trade	0.3	87	○ ◇
5.3.2 High-tech imports, % total trade	6.3	95	○
5.3.3 ICT services imports, % total trade	4.2	7	●
5.3.4 FDI net inflows, % GDP	2.8	61	
5.3.5 Research talent, % in businesses	54.4	21	
Knowledge and technology outputs	**32.2**	**32**	◇
6.1 Knowledge creation	**41**	**21**	
6.1.1 Patents by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	2.7	23	
6.1.2 PCT patents by inventor origin/bn PPP$ GDP	1.2	20	
6.1.3 Utility models by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	-	-	
6.1.4 Scientific and technical articles/bn PPP$ GDP	26.5	21	
6.1.5 Citable documents H-index	42.3	21	
6.2 Knowledge impact	**34.9**	**37**	
6.2.1 Labor productivity growth, %	0.6	80	○
6.2.2 Unicorn valuation, % GDP	0.9	37	
6.2.3 Software spending, % GDP	0.6	11	
6.2.4 High-tech manufacturing	23.7	53	
6.3 Knowledge diffusion	**20.7**	**60**	◇
6.3.1 Intellectual property receipts, % total trade	0.2	44	◇
6.3.2 Production and export complexity	52.8	54	◇
6.3.3 High-tech exports, % total trade	3.4	47	
6.3.4 ICT services exports, % total trade	2.2	57	
6.3.5 ISO 9001 quality/bn PPP$ GDP	3.9	66	
Creative outputs	**44.7**	**22**	
7.1 Intangible assets	**37.7**	**42**	
7.1.1 Intangible asset intensity, top 15, %	66.5	19	
7.1.2 Trademarks by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	14.5	103	○
7.1.3 Global brand value, top 5,000, % GDP	8.8	20	
7.1.4 Industrial designs by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	0.8	69	○
7.2 Creative goods and services	**32**	**25**	
7.2.1 Cultural and creative services exports, % total trade	0.5	57	
7.2.2 National feature films/mn pop. 15–69	9	12	
7.2.3 Entertainment and media market/th pop. 15–69	68.8	3	●
7.2.4 Creative goods exports, % total trade	0.5	67	○
7.3 Online creativity	**71.2**	**8**	
7.3.1 Top-level domains (TLDs)/th pop. 15–69	61.7	12	
7.3.2 GitHub commits/mn pop. 15–69	80.7	7	●
7.3.3 Mobile app creation/bn PPP$ GDP	71.2	36	

NOTES: ● indicates a strength ○ a weakness ◆ an income group strength ◇ an income group weakness * an index † a survey question ◔ that the economy's data is outdated. Square brackets [ ] indicate the the data minimum coverage (DMC) requirements were not met at the sub-pillar or pillar level, n/a represents missing values, a dash - indicates an indicator which is not relevant to this economy and thus not considered for DMC thresholds.

Data Availability

The following tables list indicators that are either missing or outdated for Norway.

Norway has missing data for two indicators and outdated data for two indicators.

Missing data for Norway

Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year	Source
4.1.3	Loans from microfinance institutions, % GDP	n/a	2023	International Monetary Fund, Financial Access Survey (FAS)
6.1.3	Utility models by origin/bn PPP$ GDP	n/a	2023	World Intellectual Property Organization; International Monetary Fund

Outdated data for Norway

Code	Indicator name	Economy year	Model year	Source
2.1.1	Expenditure on education, % GDP	2022	2023	UNESCO Institute for Statistics
4.2.1	Market capitalization, % GDP	2019	2022	World Federation of Exchanges; World Bank

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Global Innovation Index 2025

Top innovation clusters in Norway

Norway has 1 cluster in the world's top innovation clusters of the Global Innovation Index

The table and map below give an overview of the top innovation clusters in Norway.

Rank	Cluster name	Top patent field	Top academic subject
85	Oslo	Pharmaceuticals	Technology

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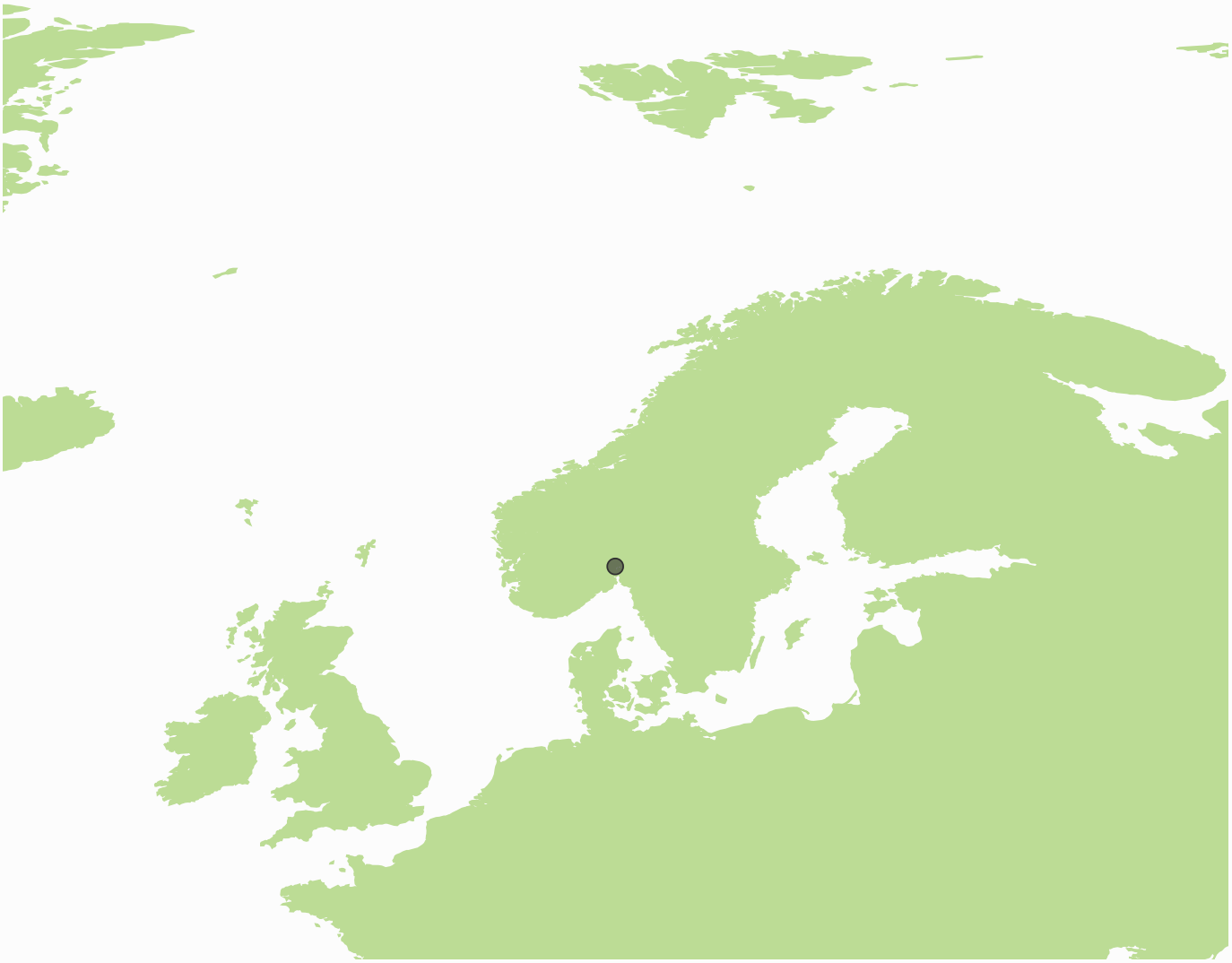
Global Innovation Index 2025

The table and map below give an overview by intensity of the top innovation clusters in Norway.

Rank	Cluster name	Top patent field	Top academic subject
21	Oslo	Pharmaceuticals	Technology



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Global Innovation Index 2025

About the Global Innovation Index

- The Global Innovation Index (GII) is published by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), a specialized agency of the United Nations.
- Recognizing that innovation is a key driver of economic development, the GII aims to provide an innovation ranking and rich analysis referencing around 140 economies. Over the last decade, the GII has established itself as both a leading reference on innovation and a "tool for action" for economies that incorporate the GII into their innovation agendas.

The Index is a ranking of the innovation capabilities and results of world economies. It measures innovation based on criteria that include institutions, human capital and research infrastructure, credit, investment, linkages, the creation, absorption and diffusion of knowledge and creative outputs.

The GII has two sub-indices: the Innovation Input Sub-Index and the Innovation Output Sub-Index, and seven pillars, each consisting of three sub-pillars.

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