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# ECONOMIC ACTIVITY REPORT SEPTEMBER 2016

14 September 2016  
Kristoffer Eide Hoen  
Director of Analysis

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# WHAT IS DRIVING THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN NORWAY?

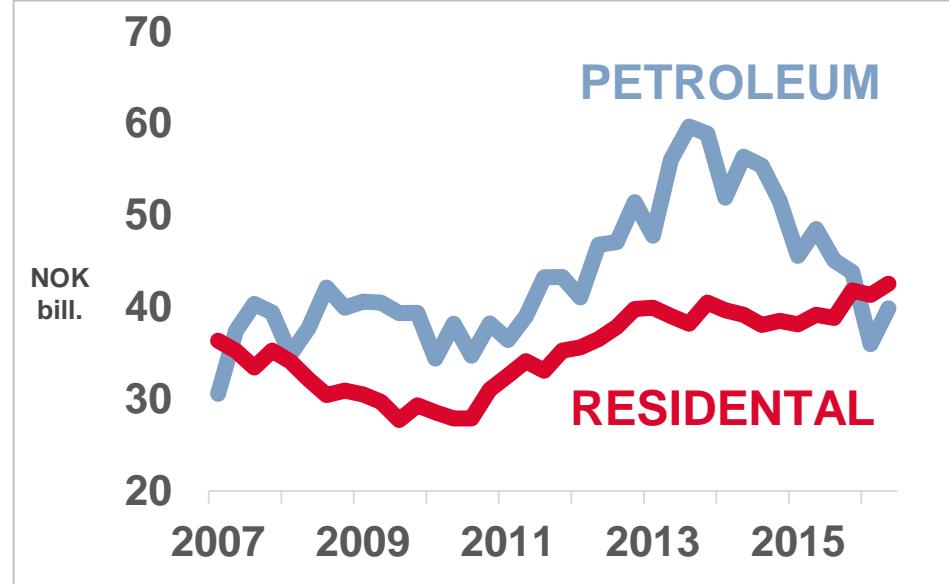
Facsimile from *Dagbladet* 25 August 2016



"Investments in housing take over as the main driver in the Norwegian economy"

## Boliginvesteringer tar over drajobben i norsk økonomi

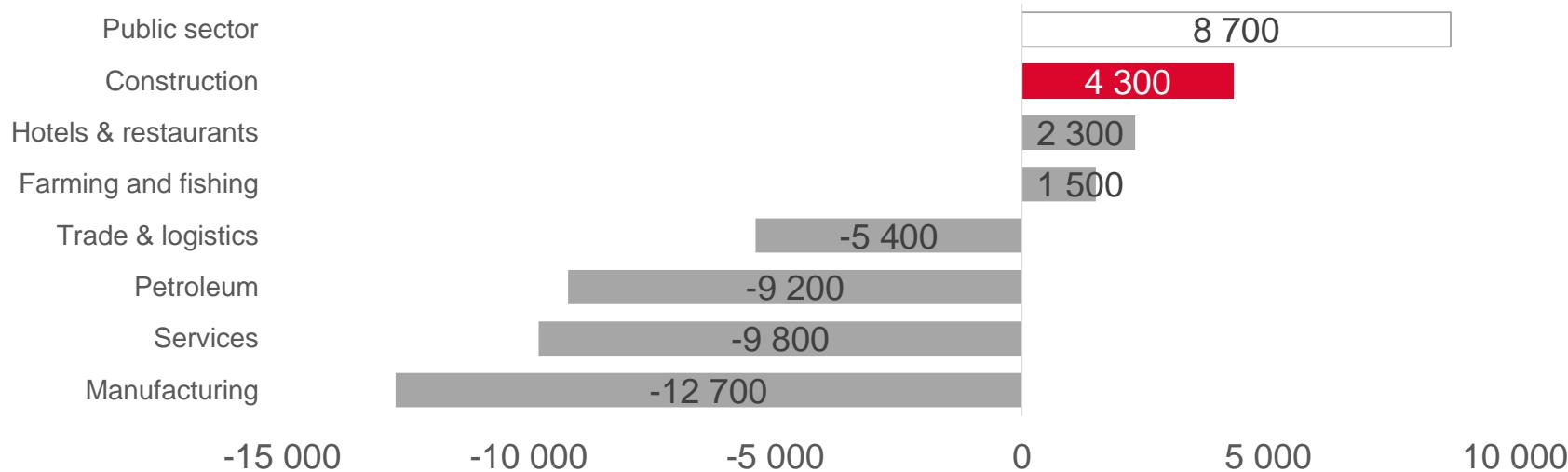
### INVESTMENTS 2007-2016



Kilde: SSB

# WHAT IS DRIVING THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN NORWAY?

## NET JOB CREATION LAST 12 MONTHS\*



\* Change in number of people employed in the last 12 months at end of Q2 2016

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# CONTENTS

- + Macroeconomic trends
- + Forecasts for investments in construction 2016 and 2017
- + Key markets



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**Konjunkturrapport**  
September 2016

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# HOW WE MAKE OUR FORECASTS:

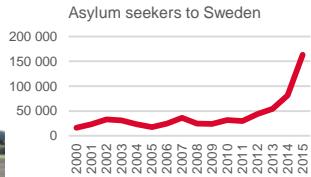
- + Macroeconomic forecasts based on consensus among recognized economic analysis institutions, such as:
  - IMF, Konjunkturinstitutet, SSB, the Danish Economic council, central banks etc.

- + Forecasts for construction are prepared by Veidekke on the basis of:
  - Our experience about correlations between the economy and the construction market
  - Internal "look-out points" across Scandinavia
  - Industrial reports



# GEOPOLITICS HAS A GREATER IMPACT ...

## THE REFUGEE CRISIS



## TENSIONS TO THE EAST



**Drama ved Bornholm: Russisk kampfly jagtede svensk militærfly**

## BREXIT – NOT QUITE AS EXPECTED



Facsimile from VG 8 September 2015 and from Berlingske 22 January 2016

# GEOPOLITICS HAS A GREATER IMPACT...

«From a macroeconomic perspective, the Brexit vote implies a substantial increase in economic, political and institutional uncertainty...»

*IMF, July 2016*

BREXIT – NOT QUITE AS EXPECTED



# INTERNATIONAL GDP FORECASTS ARE DOWNGRADED

GDP growth (%)	2013–2015	2016	2017
Eurozone	0.7	1.8 (0)	1.4 (-0.6)
Germany	1.2	1.8 (-0.1)	<b>1.4 (-0.6)</b>
UK	2.4	1.8 (-0.6)	<b>0.8 (-1.4)</b>
USA	2.2	1.5 (-1.1)	<b>2.2 (-0.4)</b>
China	7.3	6.5 (+0.1)	6.0 (0)
Global	3.3	3.1 (-0.4)	3.4 (-0.3)

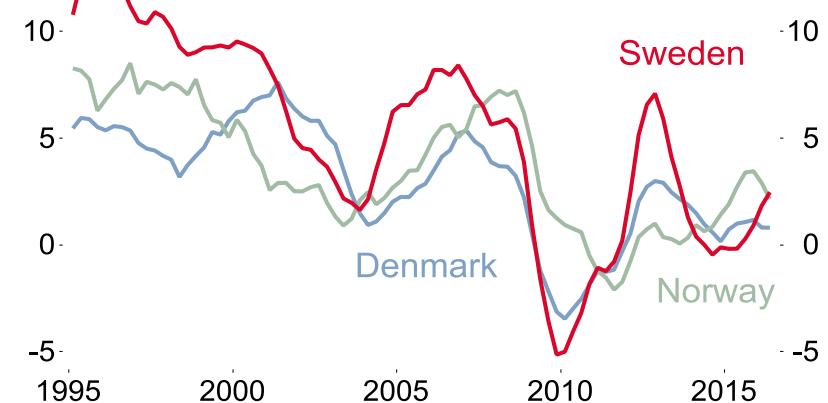
Change from the March 2016 Economic Activity Report in brackets

Sources: GDP-growth: Konjunkturinstitutet

Exports: Statistics Denmark, Statistics Norway  
and Statistics Sweden

## WEAKER EXPORT GROWTH THAN EXPECTED?

Annual percentage growth in exports\*



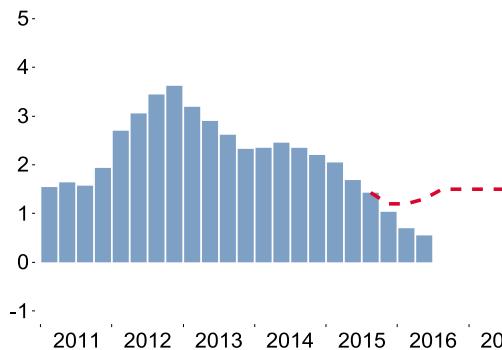
\* Not incl. petroleum for Norway

# ECONOMIC GROWTH: SWEDEN LEADING THE WAY



## GDP-growth, Mainland

Annual growth rate, trend adjusted



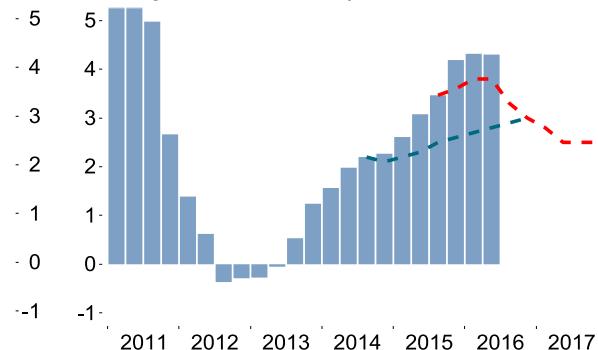
### Norway: weak growth in GDP

- Have we reached rock bottom?
- GDP-forecast at 1.5% in 2017



## GDP Growth

Annual growth rate, trend adjusted



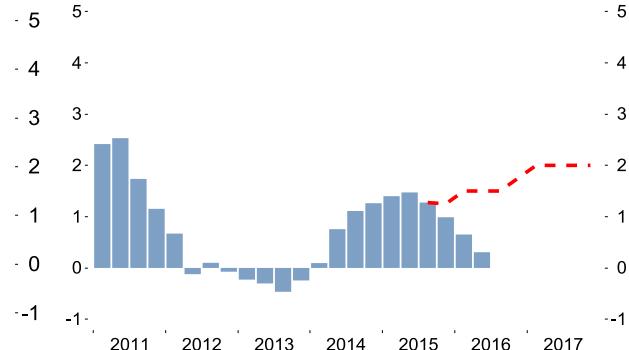
### Sweden: booming economy

- ...Though declining GDP-growth ahead



## GDP-growth

Annual growth rate, trend adjusted



### Denmark: disappointing GDP figures

- Declining growth rate
- ...but does not provide a complete picture

Source: Veidekke, Statistics Sweden, Statistics Denmark and Statistics Norway

#### Legend:

— Red dashed line shows forecast from our March 2016 Economic Activity Report



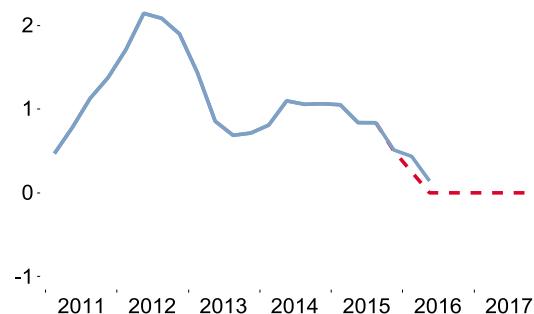
## LABOUR MARKET:

# STABILISING IN NORWAY, STRONG IN SWEDEN AND DENMARK



### Employment growth

Annual growth in percent



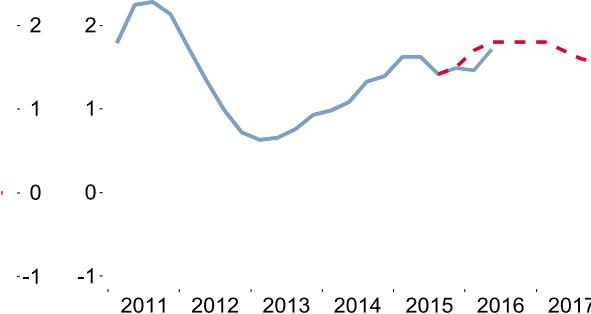
#### Norway: stabilising after decline

- Employment growth is weak
- ...but the growth in workforce has also declined, stabilising unemployment



### Employment growth

Annual growth in percent



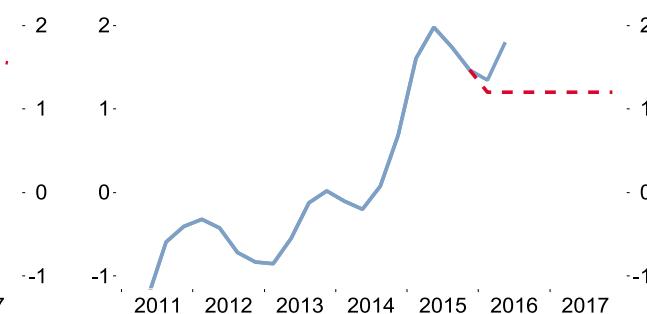
#### Sweden: strong growth

- Increased challenges in recruiting
- Unemployment declining



### Employment growth

Annual growth in percent



#### Denmark: strong growth

- Significant employment growth
- Unemployment declining

Source: Veidekke, Statistics Sweden, Statistics Denmark and Statistics Norway

#### Legend:

— Red dashed line shows forecast from our March 2016 Economic Activity Report

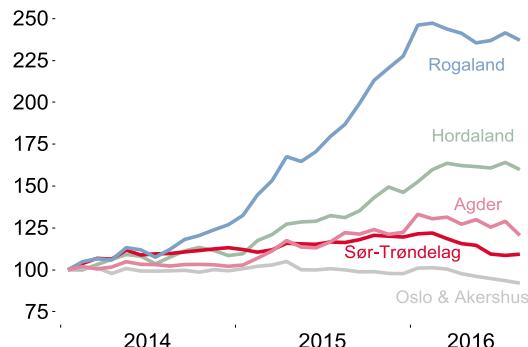
## LABOUR MARKET:

# STABILISING IN NORWAY, STRONG IN SWEDEN AND DENMARK



### Unemployment, selected regions

Index January 2014=100



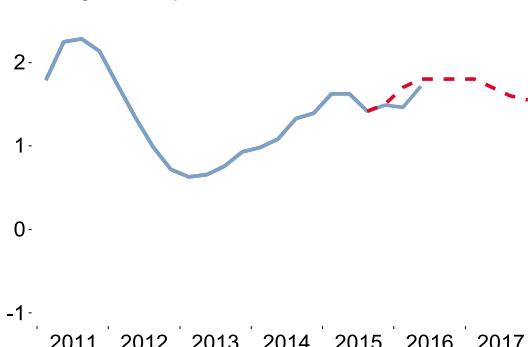
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### Employment growth

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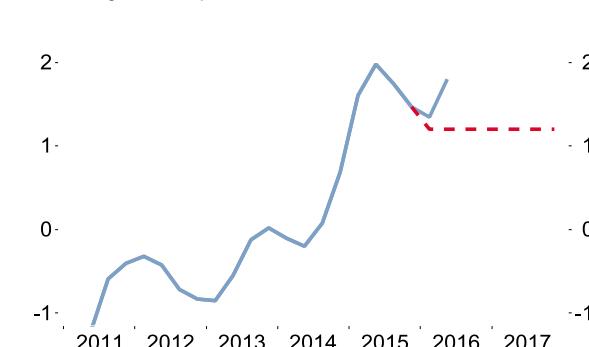
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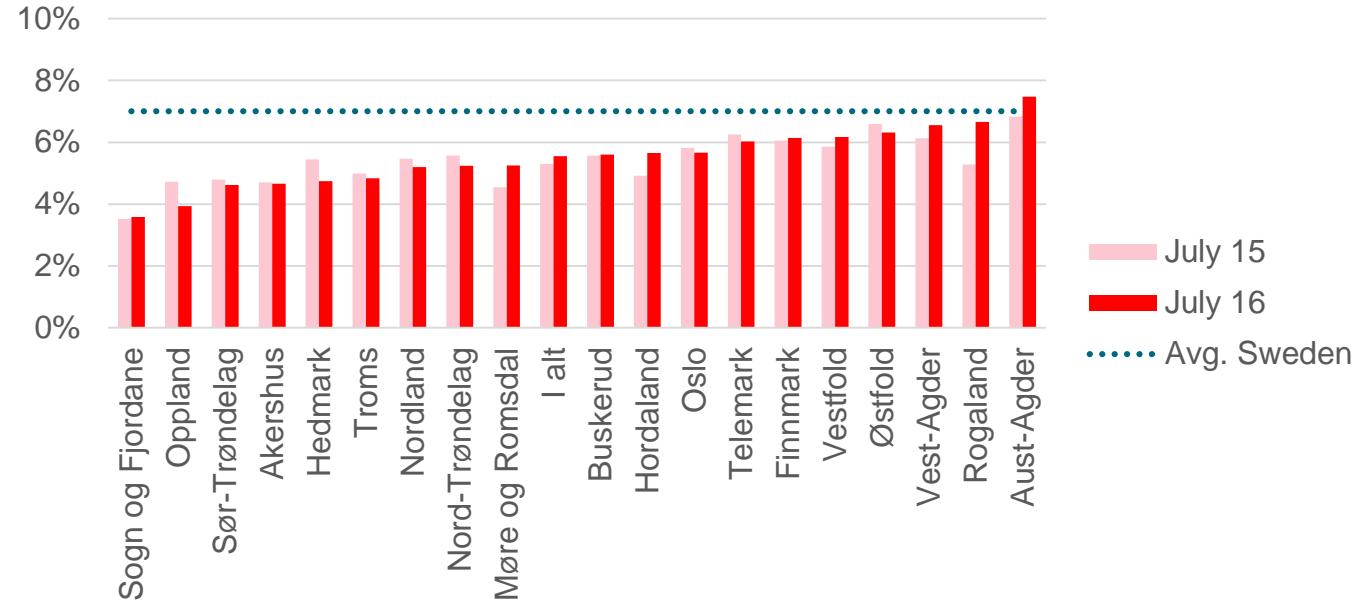
Source: Veidekke, Statistics Sweden, Statistics Denmark and Statistics Norway

#### Legend:

— Red dashed line shows forecast from our March 2016 Economic Activity Report

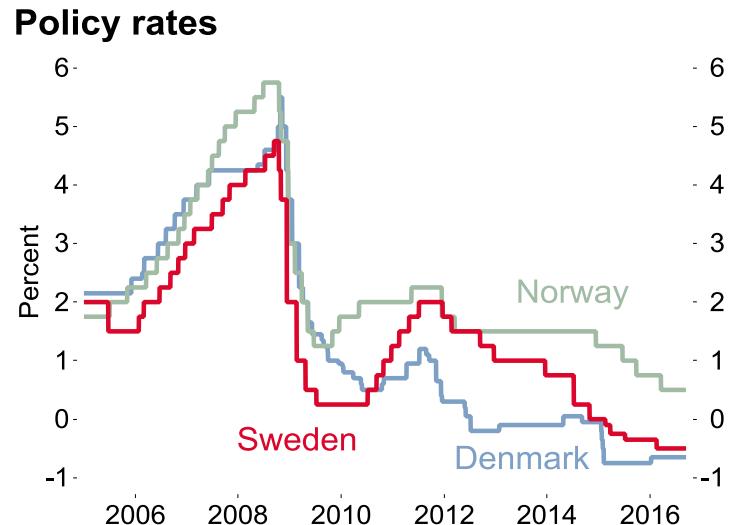
# UNEMPLOYMENT MODERATE IN ALL COUNTIES

## UNEMPLOYED AND PEOPLE ON LABOUR MEASURES, JULY 2016 AND 2015



Source: the Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration (NAV)

# CLOSE TO 0% INTEREST – AND NO IMMEDIATE PROSPECT OF CHANGE ...



- + Historically low interest rates during the forecast period
- + Households' interest rate expectations are even lower
- + Limited possibilities for further stimulus

Source: Norges Bank, Danish National Bank og Riksbanken

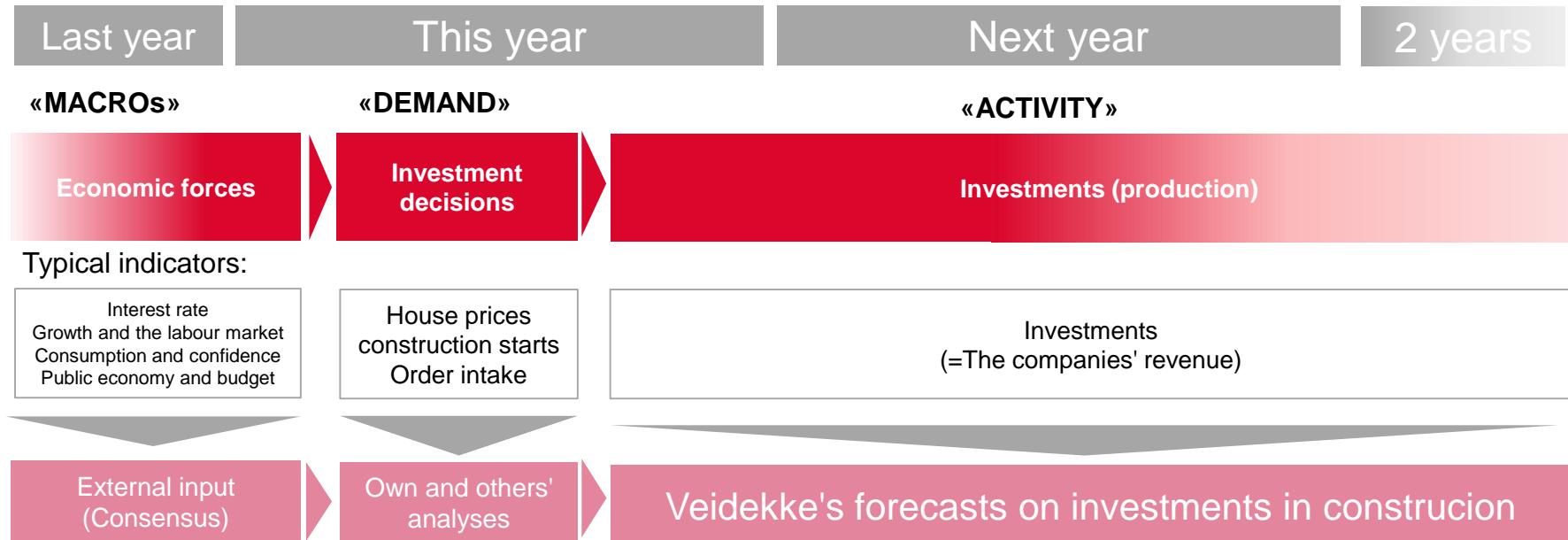
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# CONTENTS

- + Macroeconomic trends
- + Forecasts for investments in construction 2016 and 2017
- + Key markets



# OUR FORECASTS – LOGIC AND TIME FRAME:



# OUR FORECASTS FOR INVESTMENTS IN CONSTRUCTION

INVESTMENTS\* IN CONSTRUCTION. FORECASTED GROWTH IN VOLUMES FOR 2016 AND 2017

MARCH 2016



	2015 NOK bill.**	2016 growth	2017 growth		2015 NOK bill.**	2016 growth	2017 growth		2015 NOK bill.**	2016 growth	2017 growth
Residential	130	0 %	-1 %		150	5 %	2 %		61	5 %	10 %
Commercial buildings	55	-2 %	-2 %		102	4 %	4 %		21	3 %	7 %
Public buildings	35	3 %	3 %		42	5 %	5 %		27	5 %	5 %
Civil engineering	80	12 %	7 %		78	2 %	6 %		49	-2 %	-2 %
<b>Construction totals</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>3 %</b>	<b>1 %</b>		<b>372</b>	<b>4 %</b>	<b>4 %</b>		<b>158</b>	<b>3 %</b>	<b>5 %</b>

Source: Veidekke

\* Numbers of investments includes new buildings, upgrades and reconstruction. They do not include maintenance, eg. roads.

\*\* Conversion to NOK uses exchange rates from H1 2016 New and updated figures for 2015 have been published since the last Economic Activity Report. We also converted the figures from 2013 to 2016 prices, drawing the level figures for 2015 up.

# OUR FORECASTS FOR INVESTMENTS IN CONSTRUCTION

INVESTMENTS\* IN CONSTRUCTION. FORECASTED GROWTH IN VOLUMES FOR 2016 AND 2017

SEPT. 2016



	2015 NOK bill.**	2016 growth	2017 growth
Residential	130	5%	5%
Commercial buildings	55	-2%	-2%
Public buildings	35	3%	3%
Civil engineering	80	7%	7%
<b>Construction totals</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>4%</b>

	2015 NOK bill.**	2016 growth	2017 growth
Residential	150	15%	2%
Commercial buildings	102	4%	1%
Public buildings	42	7%	5%
Civil engineering	78	3%	6%
<b>Construction totals</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>3%</b>

	2015 NOK bill.**	2016 growth	2017 growth
Residential	61	5%	10%
Commercial buildings	21	3%	7%
Public buildings	27	-2%	-2%
Civil engineering	49	3%	-2%
<b>Construction totals</b>	<b>158</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>4%</b>

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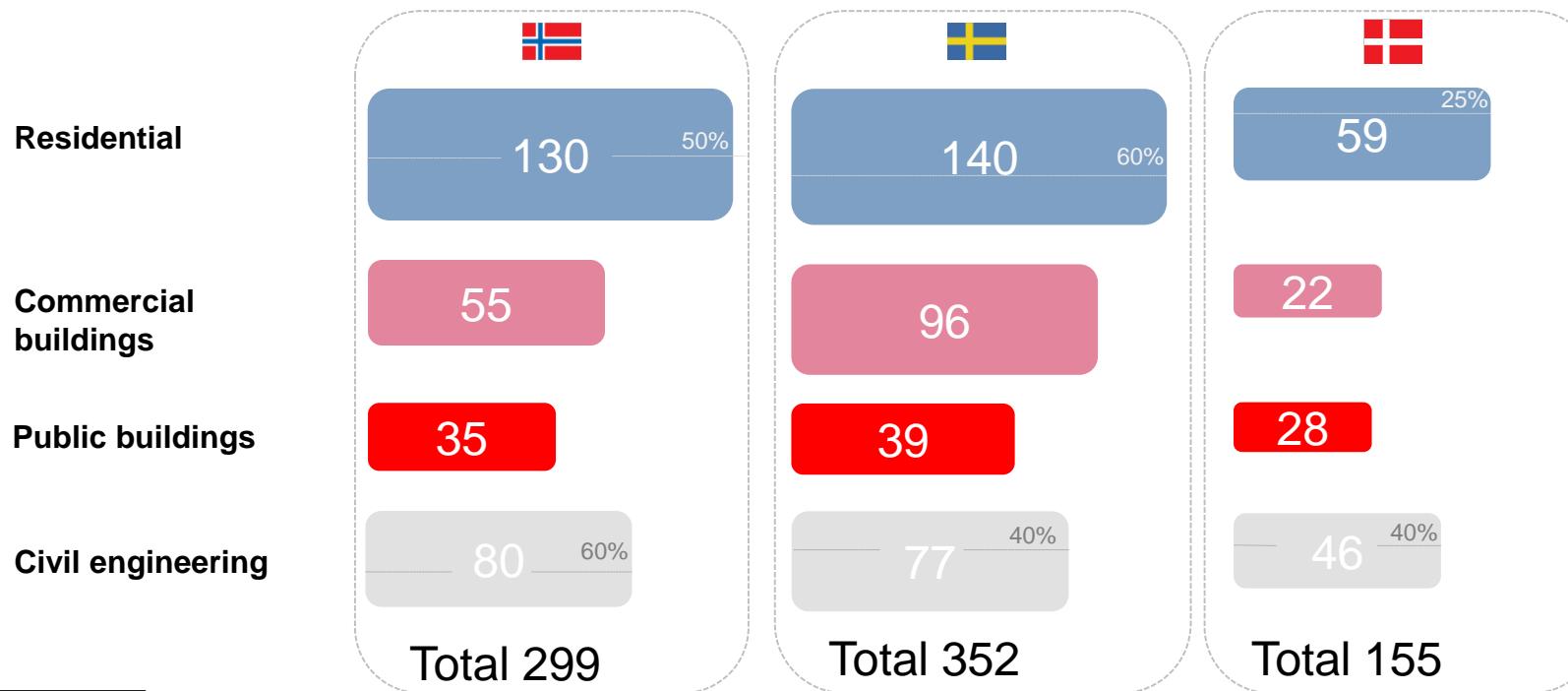
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# CONTENTS

- + Macroeconomic trends
- + Forecasts for investments in construction 2016 and 2017
- + Key markets:**
  - Strong demand for housing
  - Commercial buildings – weak recovery
  - Civil engineering – expanding markets



# INVESTMENTS IN CONSTRUCTION, NOK BILLION



Source: Veidekke, Statistics Sweden, Statistics Denmark, Statistics Norway and Norges Bank

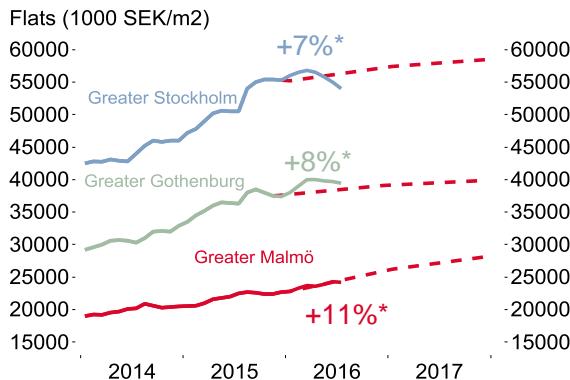
Share of new-build residential buildings  
Share of transport infrastructure



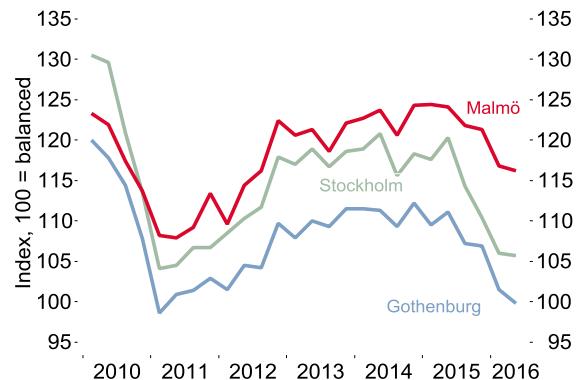
# 1. STRONG DEMAND FOR HOUSING

# SWEDEN: STRONG DEMAND IN 2017 AS WELL

## Residential prices, flats



## Boindex flats



\* Annual growth increase per July 2016

\*\* Measures the purchasing power of households after buying a home. A score of 100 indicates a healthy domestic economy. Lower scores indicate dangerously low purchasing power after buying a home.

Source: Statistics Sweden, Konjunkturinstitutet and Veidekke

+ Autumn residential markets off to a good start

- Positive sales starts in the industry
- Price recovery in Aug./Sept.\*\*\*

+ Price levels testing upper boundaries?

- Boindex close to 100 indicates an upper bound for households purchasing power
- Strong increase in houseprices and new regulation of amortization explains decline in index from autumn 2015

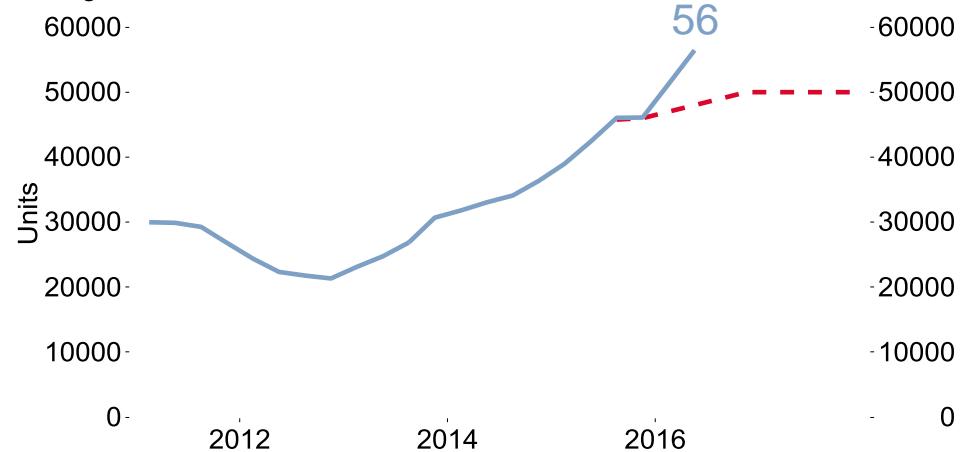
\*\*\* Source is "real-time" price and sales statistics from  
Booli



# SWEDEN: GROWTH IN NEW HOMES CONTINUES

## Residential Buildings started

Rolling 12 months



**Legend:**

Red dashed line shows forecast from our March 2016 Economic Activity Report

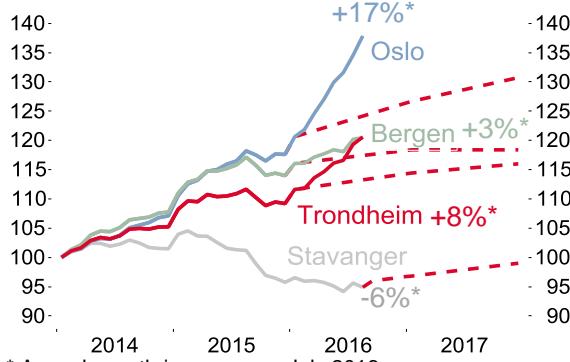
Source: Statistics Sweden and Veidekke

- + The annual rate for housing starts is close to 60,000 units
- + Recent figures show 17% growth in investments in the first half of 2016
  - Investment growth of 15% in 2016
  - Forecast for 2017 shows high level of activity but declining growth

# NORWAY: STRONG GROWTH IN PRICES

## Residential prices - flats

Index Jan. 2014 = 100

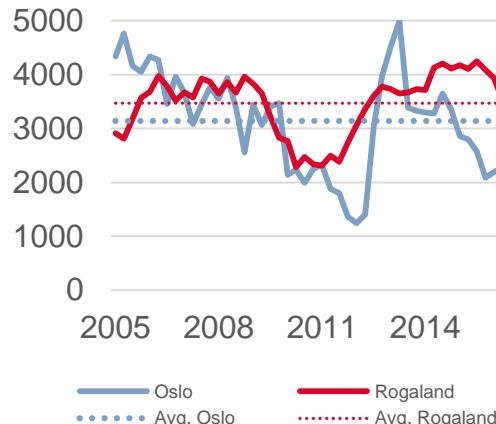


**Legend:**  
— Oslo  
— Bergen  
— Trondheim  
— Stavanger  
— Avg. Oslo  
— Avg. Rogaland

Source: Veidekke, Statistics Norway and the Norwegian Real Estate Association (EFF)

## Completed new homes per Q2 2016

No. of units, rolling sum of 12 months



+ Strong demand due to low interest rates and the stabilizing economy

- Unemployment levels out
- Household psychology
- Share of investor-related demand slightly increased, albeit at a low level

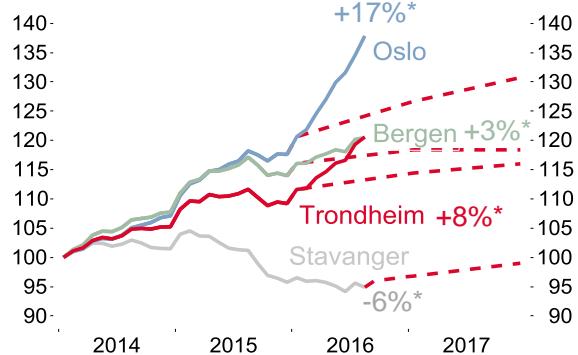
+ Imbalance last 12-24 months

- Supply is lagging
- Reinforcing effects
- Improvements next 12 months

# NORWAY: STRONG GROWTH IN PRICES

## Residential prices - flats

Index Jan. 2014 = 100

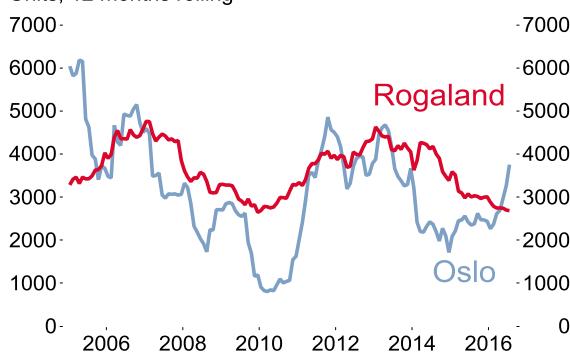


### Legend:

Red dashed line shows forecast from our March 2016 Economic Activity Report

## Residential start ups - Oslo og Akerhus

Units, 12 months rolling



+ Strong demand due to low interest rates and the stabilising economy

- Unemployment levels out
- Household psychology
- Share of investor-related demand slightly increased, albeit at a low level

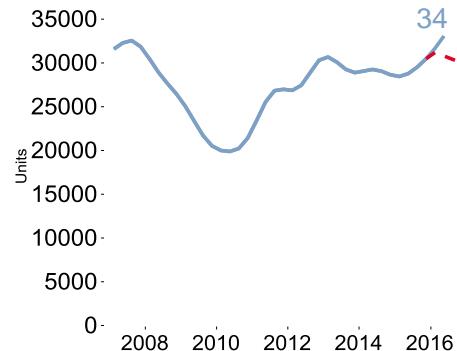
+ Imbalance last 12-24 months

- Supply is lagging
- Reinforcing effects
- Improvements next 12 months

# NOWRAY: STRONG GROWTH IN START UPS

## Residential Construction started

Rolling 12 months



## Growth in flats and terraced houses

Contribution to total annual growth in sq.m. per Q2 2016



- + Strong growth in activity past 12 months
  - Annual rate for new build housing is almost at 34,000 units
  - 22% growth in flats and terraced housing
  - Growth centered to central the Oslo-region
- + Westcoast: Stabilising after period of decline
- + Forecasts show 5% growth in investments in 2016 og 2017

### Legend:

Red dashed line shows forecast from our March 2016 Economic Activity Report

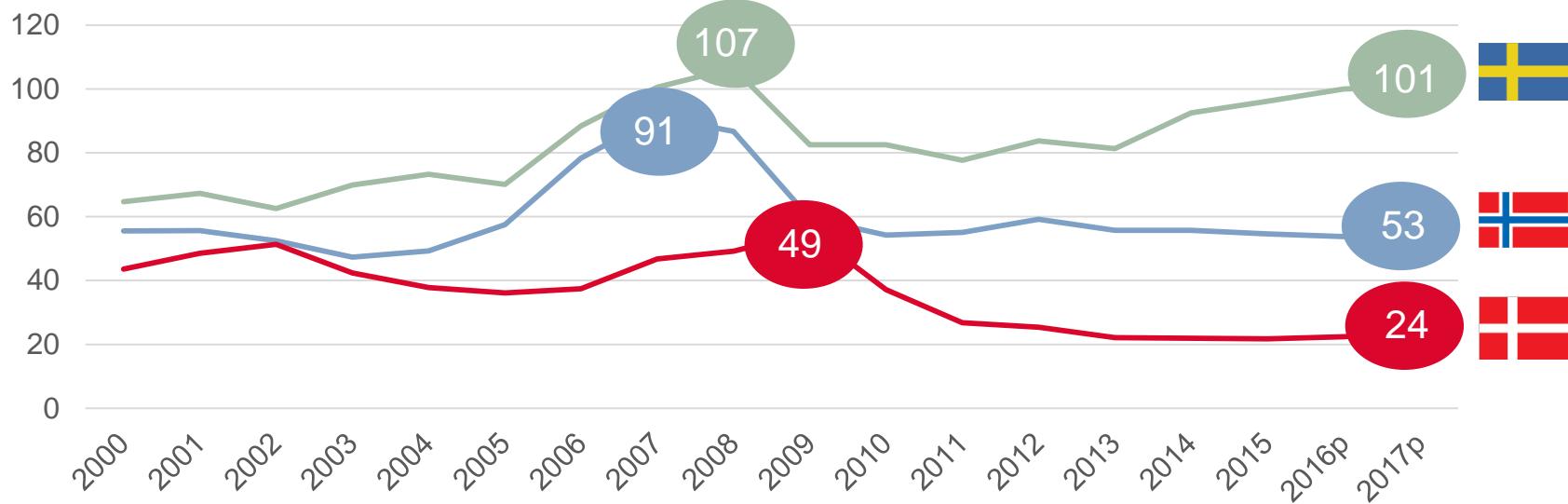
Source: Veidekke, Statistics Norway and the Norwegian Real Estate Association (EFF)

## 2. COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS – SLOW RECOVERY

## 2. COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS – SLOW RECOVERY

### INVESTMENTS IN COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS. NOK BILLION, 2016 PRICES

The highest recorded level and Veidekke's forecast for 2017



Source: Veidekke, Statistics Sweden, Statistics Denmark and Statistics Norway

# SWEDEN: LEVELLING OFF AFTER TWO YEARS OF GROWTH?

## INVESTMENT FORECASTS FOR SELECTED INDUSTRIES:

As of February in the respective years:	For 2015	For 2016	Change
Manufacturing	5.9 bill.	7.7 bill.	+30%
Retail	3.7 bill.	4.1 bill.	+12%
Transport and storage	9.1 bill.	8.7 bill.	-5%
Commercial property – development companies	40 bill.	42 bill.	+5%

- + Underlying drivers have been positive in recent years
  - Positive forecasts for 2016 with 4% investment growth
- + Levelling off at a high level in 2017
  - Household demand remains positive
  - Slowdown in export growth and manufacturing production
  - Banks expect more moderate growth in corporate lending

# SWEDEN: LEVELLING OFF AFTER TWO YEARS OF GROWTH?

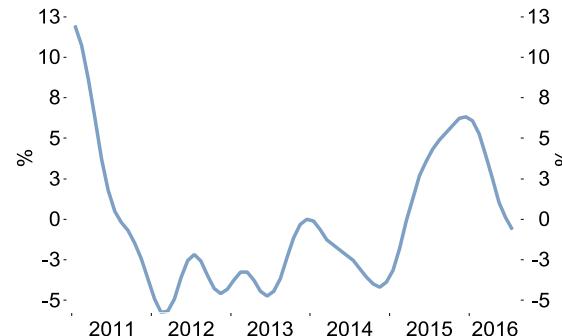
## Retail trade

Annual growth rate



## Industrial production

Annual growth rate



+ Underlying drivers have been positive in recent years

- Positive forecasts for 2016 with 4% investment growth

+ Levelling off at a high level in 2017

- Household demand remains positive
- Slowdown in export growth and manufacturing production
- Banks expect more moderate growth in corporate lending

# NORWAY: STRUCTURAL FACTORS?

## + Weak forecasts:

- Forecasts of 2% decline remains for 2016 and 2017

## + Structural changes in the demand for new buildings?

- Growth in logistics
- Warehouses remains at low levels
  - Weak growth in retail trade
- Offices – new decline in 2016:
  - ...low supply for several years should curb growth in vacancy

### COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS START UPS

Rolling 12 months



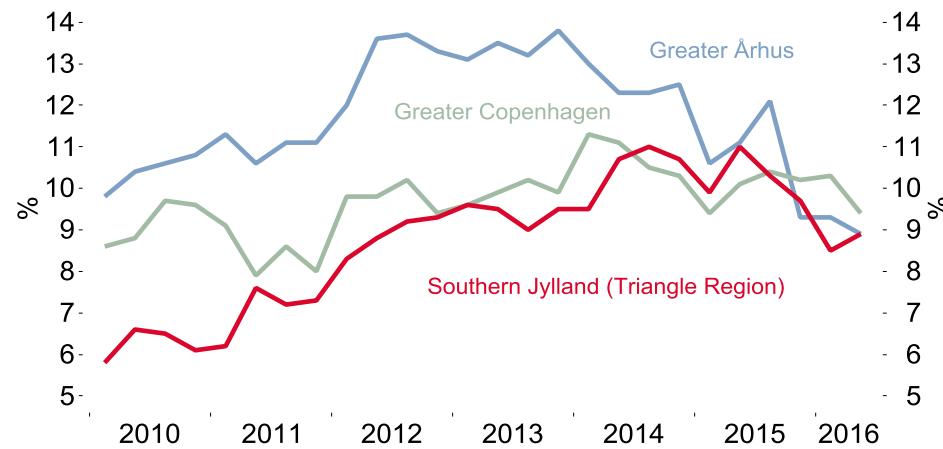
\* Annual growth (%) at end of Q2 2016



# DENMARK: ON THE RIGHT TRACK, BUT STILL HIGH VACANCY RATE

## Sadolin & Albæk Market Barometer

Vacancy rate offices



Source: Sadolin og Albæk

31 14.09.2016

- + Growth from a very low level
  - Forecasts of 3% investment growth in 2016 and 7% in 2017
- + Positive development in underlying driving forces:
  - Employment growth
  - Household consumption
  - Manufacturing production
- + ... but capacity utilization in existing buildings is still too low

## 3. CIVIL ENGINEERING – EXPANDING MARKETS

## TRANSPORT INVESTMENTS:

- Several large projects are due for tendering in 2016/17
- The projects amount to more than NOK 120 billion for Norway and Sweden combined\*



\*Projects above NOK 700 million

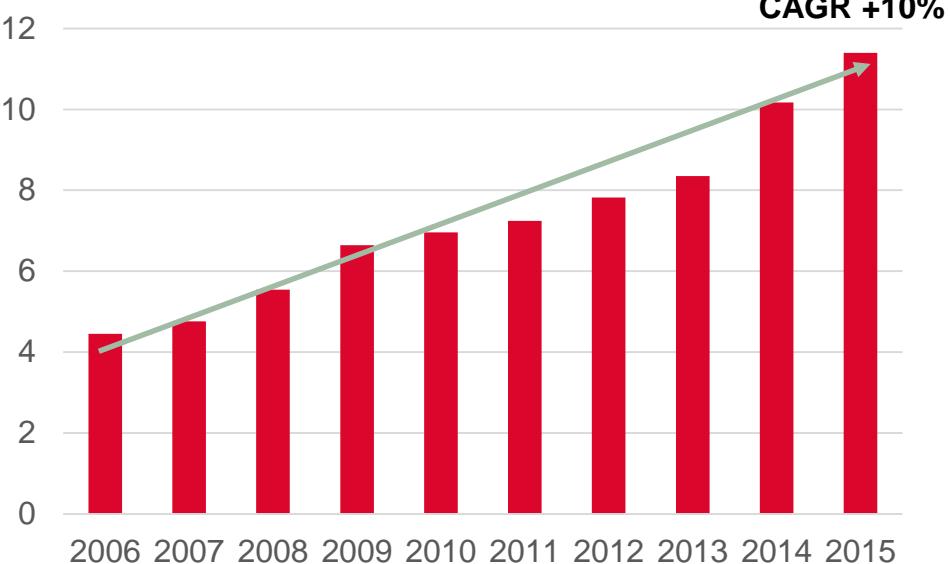
# INCREASING VOLUMES IN WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE

VEIDEKKE PROJECT OHARA\*, OS MUNICIPALY, HORDALAND



\* Os main sewerage tube facility

MUNICIPAL INVESTMENTS IN WATER AND SEWERAGE  
NOK billion (current prices)

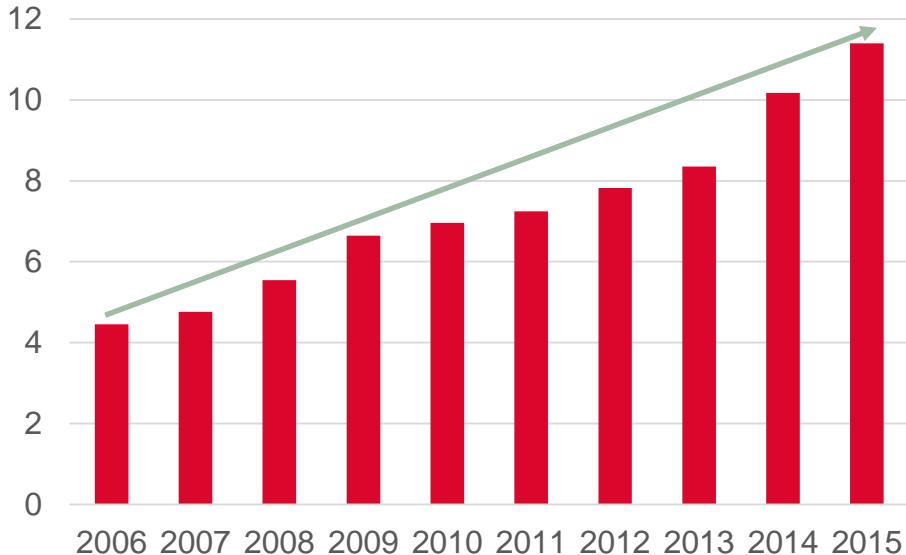


# INCREASING VOLUMES IN WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE

Holmen, Akershus August 6 2016

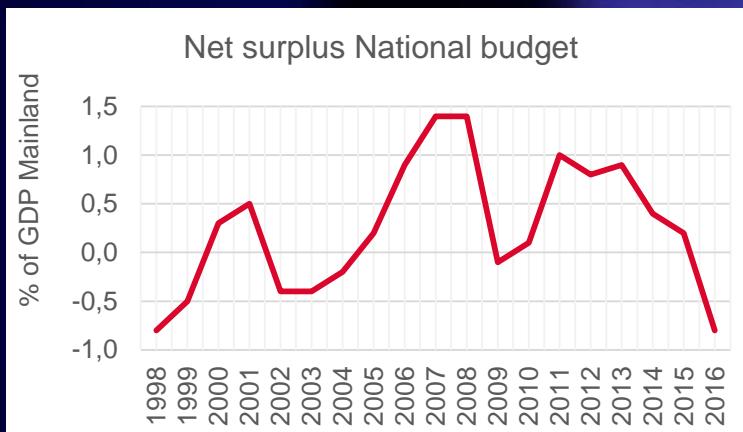


**MUNICIPAL INVESTMENTS IN WATER AND SEWERAGE**  
NOK billion (current prices)





# TIGHTER PRIORITIES OR...?



Source: National Budget for 2016



Norwegian Finance Minister: Siv Jensen

Høyre om!



# Høyre-Torbjørn freder formuesskatten



KUTTESTOPP: Kunnskapsminister Torbjørn Røe Isaksen, her under et Høyre-arrangement på Kanalplassen i Arendal torsdag.  
Foto: TERJE BENDIKSBY, NTB SCANPIX

# PLANNING BASIS ON NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN 2018-2029: «BETTER AT MAINTENANCE...» - NEW POLITICAL RETORICS?



“We must look after what we already have”

Vi må ta vare på det vi allerede har

- Drift og vedlikehold ivaretar samfunnets investeringer
- Prioritet før investeringer
- Ta igjen etterslep og hindre nytt
- Økt trafikk og nye anlegg gir økt behov
- Klimaendringer gir nye utfordringer



- Operation and maintenance safeguard society's investments
- Priority before investment
- Catch up on backlog and prevent new one
- More traffic and new infrastructure will mean greater needs
- Climate change will pose new challenges



# Vil ikke kutte i oljepengebruken

Finanskomiteens leder Hans Olav Syversen (KrF) ser ingen grunn til å bremse oljepengebruken.

## POLITIKK

Tore Gjerdstad og Kristian Skard  
Oslo

**A**llerede nå, en måned før statsbudsjettet legges frem, varsler finansminister Hans Olav Syversen (KrF) at regjeringen har latt forsvinne den sterke oljepengebrukene.

- Hver viktig bil det å begrense oljepengebruket i statsbudsjettet?

- Jeg tror det 2017 at kontinuertene fortsatt er slik at det ikke er året for det, sier Syversen.

Finansminister Siv Jensen bruker nå 70 milliarder mer oljekrone enn hun overtok i 2013. Det strukturelle, oljekorrigerte underskuddet i statsbudsjettet er på 206 milliarder.

## Stimulerende trøngs

Hver åttende kronen som brukes over offentlige budsjettet, hentes fra Oljefondet. Og for første gang i historien har oljekorrigerte oljekorrigerte underskuddet et større enn statens oljekontrakter. Det vil si at det nå skjer en netto overføring fra fondet til statsbudsjettet. Men Syversen vil vente med å starte innstrammingen.

- Jeg tror det er vanskelig for vi ser maktkontrollene og budsjettet fra regjeringen å sette en krittstrek, men ut fra alt det vi hører fra ulike kilder regner vi med det kan snu i

## Handlingsregelen

• Bestemmer hvor mye oljepenge som kan brukes over statsbudsjettet. Over tid skal den ørlige bruken tilsvare fire prosent av oljekontraktene. Det er ikke et faste prisnivå.

• I gode tider skal det brukes mindre enn fire prosent, mens i dårlige tider skal brukes mer.

• Basert seg på at avlastningsfondet er ansatt til

skrives i tillegg til statsbudsjettet, sett under et virker den økonomiske politikken nå svært eksplosivt.

• Vi nærmer oss en fastig grense for at man gjennom statsbudsjettet tilfører så mye midler at det ikke blir et positivt virkning og rentenivå negativt, sier Breivik.

**Professor advarer**

Økonomiprofessor Ragnar Torvik ved NTNU, advarer regjeringen mot å forsvinne den sterke oljepengebrukene.

«No cuts in the use of petroleum revenues»

Hans Olav Syversen (KrF), Chair of the Finance Committee



**Det som er problematisk med oljepengebruken er at delvis er et resultat av at regjeringen kanskje ikke har evnet å prioritere**

**Det som er problematisk med oljepengebruken er at delvis er et resultat av at regjeringen kanskje ikke har evnet å prioritere**

**Ragnar Torvik, professor i samfunnsøkonomi ved NTNU**



KrF's finanspolitiske talsmann Hans Olav Syversen tror ikke den økonomiske tilstanssjonen i 2017 vil tilsi mindre oljepengebruk.

Foto: Gorm K. Gaare

Facsimile from Dagens Næringsliv 10.9.2016

2017 investment financing secured?

oljepengebruket kontrahenter til andre så de bruker til å stimulere oljekontraktene. Men regjeringen har på alt bruker

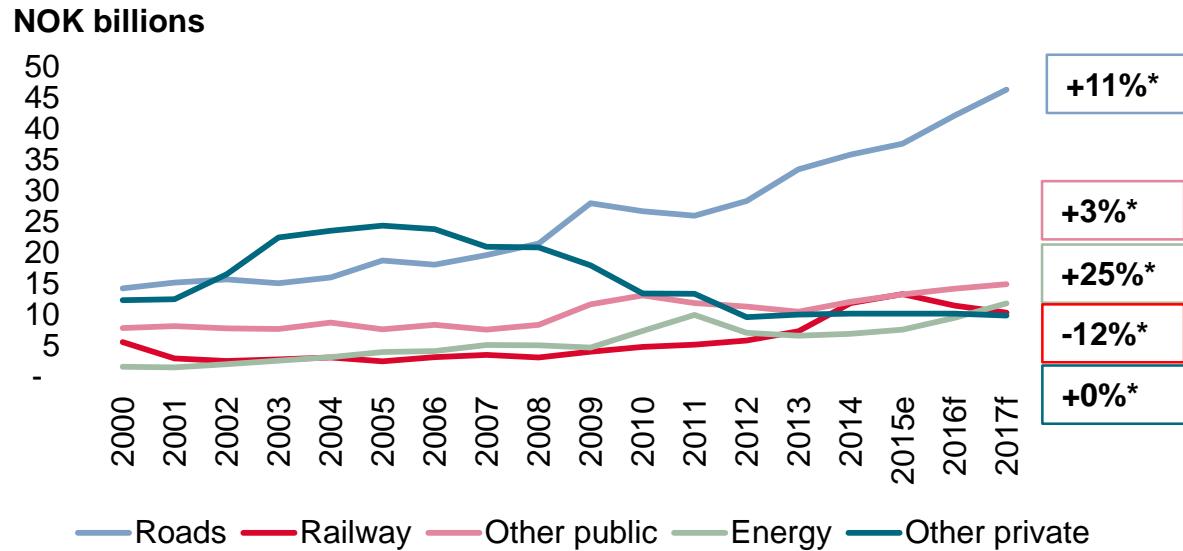


NHH EXECUTIVE KORTPROGRAM

INNOVATION & LEADERSHIP

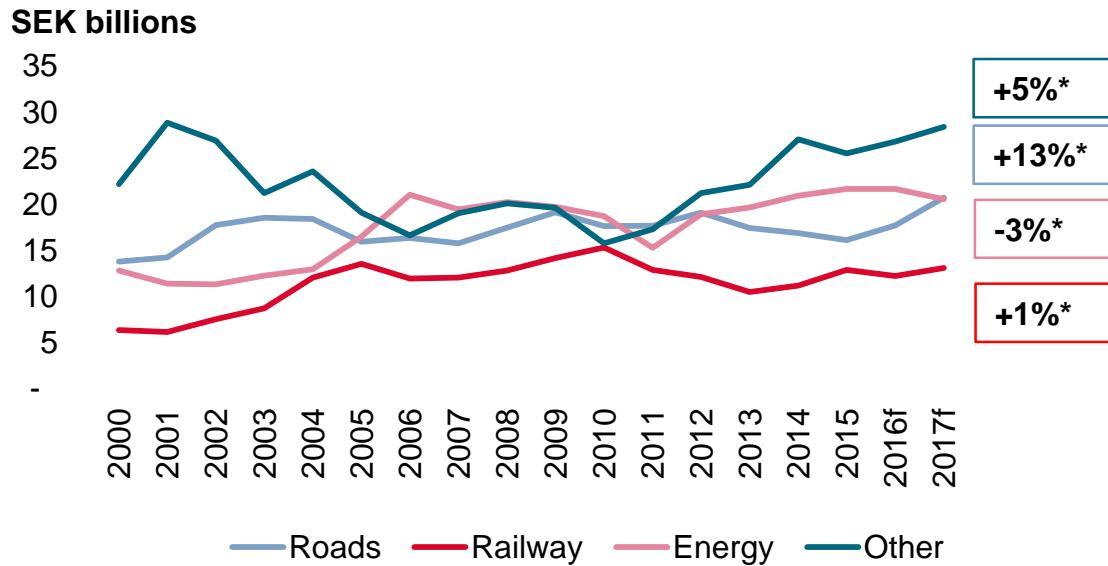


# NORWAY: HEADING FOR HIGHER ACTIVITY LEVELS



- + Continued growth in Roads
  - Although some projects are postponed
- + High levels in railway
  - But new projects will not provide growth until after 2017
- + Growth continues in Energy
  - Upgrading lines is the primary driver of growth
- + Positive development in water and sewerage

# SWEDEN – BOOM IN PUBLIC DEMAND



- + Roads growing after years of stagnation
- + Railway sector «taking a break» in 2016 and 2017
- + Positive development in water and sewerage
  - New requirements – climate and water quality
  - Infrastructure for residential development
- + Energy levelling off



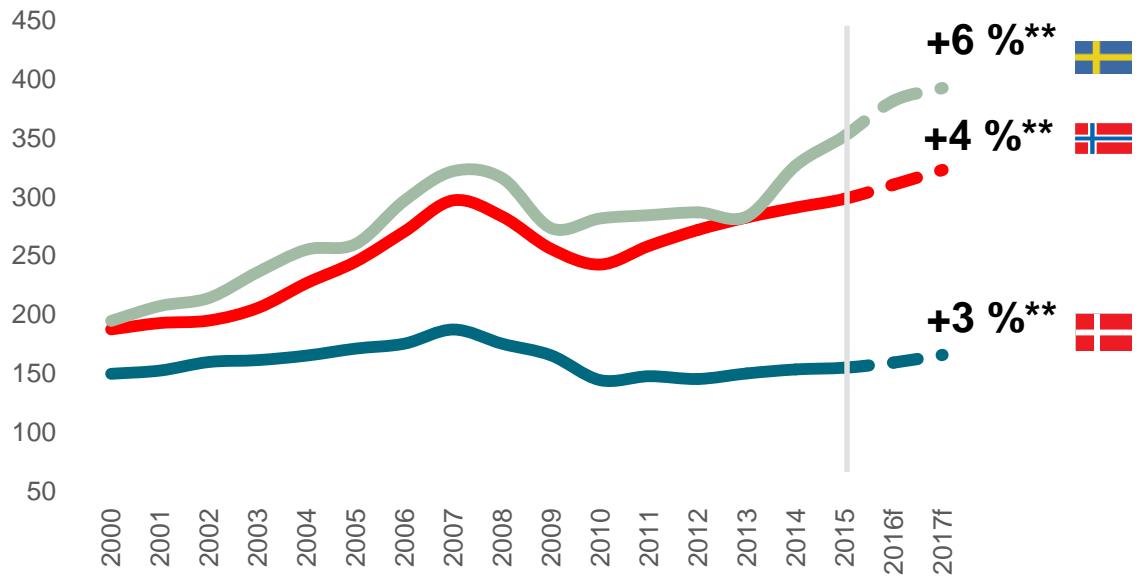
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# SUMMARY

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# ACTIVITY GROWTH CONTINUES

## INVESTMENTS IN CONSTRUCTION. NOK\* BILLIONS 2016-PRICES



- + Mainly positive outlooks for the Economies
- + High level of activity in the forecasting period
- + Residential and public infrastructure are the main drivers of growth

Source: Veidekke, Statistics Sweden, Statistics Denmark and Statistics Norway

\* Exchange rates for H1 2016

\*\* Compound annual growth rate (CAGR)



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## APPENDIX – FORECASTS

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# FORECASTS – LOCAL CURRENCY

	Level 2015 NOK bill.	2015 growth	2016 growth	2017 growth	CAGR 2015-17
Residential	130	2% 	5% 	5% 	5% 
Commercial buil.	55	-2% 	-2% 	-2% 	-2% 
Public buil.	35	3% 	3% 	3% 	3% 
Civil engineering	80	7% 	7% 	7% 	7% 
Total	299	3% 	4% 	4% 	4% 

Housing starts, units	31.000	34.000 	35.000 
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Legend:  Forecast unchanged  
from March 2016 EA  
Report   Forecast downgraded / revised  
upwards from March 2016 EA  
Report

# FORECASTS – LOCAL CURRENCY

	Level 2015 SEK bill.	2015 growth	2016 growth	2017 growth	CAGR 2015-17
Residential	149	17% 	15% 	2% 	8% 
Commercial buil.	102	4% 	4% 	1% 	2% 
Public buil.	42	1% 	7% 	5% 	6% 
Civil engineering	78	0% 	3% 	6% 	4% 
Total	370	8% 	9% 	3% 	6% 

Housing starts, units	46.000	58.000 	60.000 
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Legend:  Forecast unchanged  
from March 2016 EA  
Report   Forecast downgraded / revised  
upwards from March 2016 EA  
Report



# FORECASTS – LOCAL CURRENCY

	Level 2015 DKK bill.	2015 growth	2016 growth	2017 growth	CAGR 2015-17
Residential	48	0% ●	5% ●	10% ●	7% ●
Commercial buil.	17	-1% ↑	3% ●	7% ●	5% ●
Public buil.	21	6% ↑	-2% ↓	-2% ↓	-2% ↓
Civil engineering	39	0% ↓	3% ↑	-2% ●	0% ↑
Total	125	1% ●	3% ●	4% ↓	3% ↓

Housing starts, units	14,500*	17,000 ↑	19,500 ●
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Legend: ● Forecast unchanged  
from March 2016 EA  
Report

↓ ↑ Forecast downgraded / revised  
upwards from March 2016 EA  
Report

Source: Veidekke and DST

\* Estimates from the Danish Construction  
Association as at February 2016

