

## New data

Labour Force Survey  
3rd quarter 2014–  
2nd quarter 2016, panel file  
(Statistics Norway)

Norwegian Citizen Panel,  
rounds 4, 5 and 6 (UiB)

Data on courses of study, students,  
doctorates, staff, area and muse-  
ums for universities and colleges

Mid-2016 accounts for  
private colleges

Updated national indicators for  
university and college libraries,  
2015 figures

Norwegian part of the ISSP  
(International Social Survey  
Programme), “Work orientations”

ESS (European Social Survey),  
Round 7

Data can be ordered from NSD or  
downloaded from [nsd.no](http://nsd.no)

Follow NSD on  
Twitter @NSDdata  
#nyedata

## INTERVIEW SURVEYS: EUROPEAN SOCIAL SURVEY (ESS) OG INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SURVEY PROGRAMME (ISSP)

# People from 36 countries have been helping researchers to understand Europe for 15 years

“European Social Survey (ESS) is solid and systematic, and it delivers high-quality data. I am an ESS fan”, says Henning Finseraas, a researcher at the Norwegian Institute for Social Research.

Together with his colleagues Axel West Pedersen and Ann-Helén Bay, Finseraas is behind the latest contribution so far to the list of publications based on ESS data: *When the Going Gets Tough: The Differential Impact of National Unemployment on the Perceived Threats of Immigration*. For this article, which has been published in *Political Studies* (March 2016 vol. 64 no. 1 pp. 60-73), the researchers used data from the first five rounds of ESS. Their aim was to study the relationship between changing macroeconomic conditions and critical attitudes to immigrants.

### New data in 2016

The ESS data, which is archived and distributed by NSD, is one of the most comprehensive and widely-used social surveys in Europe. Ever since 2002, cross-national interview-based surveys have been carried out every two years, based on a core module of standard questions that are repeated in every round. The results of Round 7 were released in summer 2016. Besides the regular questions, which focus on socioeconomic conditions, demography, social capital, confidence, political sympathies and so on, specific mod-

ules covering health, inequality and attitudes to immigration were also covered in Round 7.

“Part of what makes ESS so good is that the interviews are carried out in a large number of countries, and include several identical questions from one round to the next. This enables us to follow up research questions over the course of time. A problem with many interview surveys is that the questions change. ESS also makes an effort to include other respondents than just those who are easiest to get hold of. This strengthens the representativeness of its surveys”, says Finseraas, whose academic background is the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) and who now operates at the interface between political science and economics.

### Sociology and epidemiology

Terje A. Eikemo is a professor at the Department of Sociology and Political Science, NTNU. His research is focused on variations in standards of health between different social groups within and between countries. Eikemo led an international group of researchers that was allocated an individual health module in ESS 7.

“This provides a unique opportunity to obtain the views of a representative sample of the population in several European countries. Although there already exist several high-

quality surveys of health factors such as lifestyle and chronic illnesses, none of these have focused on living conditions as such. Meanwhile, there are many surveys of living conditions that do not include questions of lifestyle and chronic illness. Our aim was to bring sociology into epidemiology, and we have actually done this by bringing epidemiology into sociology”, says Eikemo.

CHAIN, Eikemo’s research group, which is in the finals for status as a Research Council of Norway Centre of Excellence, has been looking at how inequalities in health status can best be reduced. It turns out that focusing on lifestyle, living conditions or work-related measures individually does not produce significant improvements. It is the combination of these elements that explains the differences.

“Measures aimed at improving health and reducing differences in health status thus need to be seen in the light of a number of conditions. For example, it is not sufficient to stop smoking or to become more physically active; we need to look at the whole picture. This is perhaps not very surprising,

but now we have data that confirms this point of view”, says Eikemo.

### Time for medicine

Like Finseraas, Eikemo refers to the length of time covered by the ESS as a value in itself.

“Its relevance grows with every round. Now that health has been included, this will also be the case for medicine and the health sciences. ESS is already a goldmine for social research, but it is important that researchers in other disciplines, including the humanities, should also realise this. It is now possible for subjects such as social medicine, social epidemiology, public health and the health sciences to find data relevant to their research interests. ESS has provided, and will continue to provide, a basis for a great deal of interdisciplinary research”, says Eikemo.

Eikemo is currently working on a special issue of the *European Journal of Public Health*, which will appear early in 2017 and will contain 16 articles about the ESS. His research group has already published a study in the *European Sociological Review*.

### From research to action

So what actually were the conclusions of the article by Finseraas and his colleagues at the Department of Social Research?

“We found that many people, particularly the less well-educated, regard immigration as an economic threat when the economy is not going well. High levels of unemployment and concerns regarding immigration are often associated, but only in countries in which the proportion of immigrants was already high. On the other hand, we have seen that negative cultural attitudes to immigrants are not necessarily affected by economic conditions”, says Finseraas.

This sort of research can be of importance when the authorities are dealing with integration. Successful integration requires recognition of economic vulnerability and of measures that directly target vulnerable groups, conclude the researchers in their article.

“ESS equips researchers like us with data to understand and explain things”, says Finseraas. “We hope that our research will help decision-makers to improve society.”

*europeansocialsurvey.org*

### ESS AND NSD

- The *European Social Survey (ESS)* has been carried out every second year since 2002. In 2014 – 2015, 22 countries took part in Round 7. A total of 36 countries have participated in ESS. The ESS bibliography currently contains around 2500 publications based on data compiled by the survey.

- NSD archives, processes and disseminates data from ESS and also runs ESS’s official website. All ESS data are available under the Open Access principle.

- Data from ESS are used in research and teaching all over the world, and are accessed by almost 100,000 registered users. Norway ranks seventh in the list of countries with most registered users.

## MY NSD

**LINDA HOLEN MOEN**, is special teacher and researcher at the Norwegian Centre for Violence and Traumatic Stress Studies (NKVTS). She has used data in a national survey of the range of treatments available to children who have been both victims and perpetrators of acts of violence and sexual abuse (Report 6/2016).



“Together with three other NKVTS researchers (Tonje Holt, Lisa Govasli Nilsen and Ingunn Rangul Askeland), I have mapped the range of treatment options available to children who have

suffered from, and themselves committed, acts of violence and sexual abuse. We collaborated closely with NSD in the design of the questionnaire in a format suitable for the Internet (WebSurvey). NSD has also been an important contributor and supporter throughout the project, which was

also evaluated and approved by NSD’s Data Protection Official for Research. In our study the treatment agencies reported that they possess more expertise in the treatment of children who have suffered from acts of violence and abuse than in treating those who have carried out such acts themselves. It also emerged that four out of five felt they did not have the capacity, or only in part, to give the treatment they wanted to give the children. The treatment agencies prioritised greater capacity and resources to enable them to provide a better range of services, while the units that deal with young people who display problematic or harmful sexual behaviour called for more knowledge and expertise. This is not the first time I have used NSD, and I do not expect it to be the last, given the good help and cooperation we were given in this project.”

# ISSP takes the pulse of the world

With data from 45 countries, the International Social Survey Programme (ISSP) offers researchers possibilities to study Norway in a global perspective. The number of member countries has risen steadily from 1984 to 2015.

“ISSP is a unique source of data about the attitudes and values of many countries outside Europe. It offers the possibility of placing Norway and Europe within a wider perspective”, says Knut Kalgraff Skjåk, Associate Director at NSD.

NSD has been a member of ISSP since 1989, and is responsible for the Norwegian segment of its activities. During its first year of membership NSD carried out “Work Orientations”, a survey of working life, and in 2015 the study was repeated for the fourth time. The results of the latest round will be ready for publication in autumn 2016.

Several of the ISSP surveys performed by NSD have been repeated three or four times over a period of at least 20 years. They include studies of family life and changing gender roles, national identity, social inequality and religion.

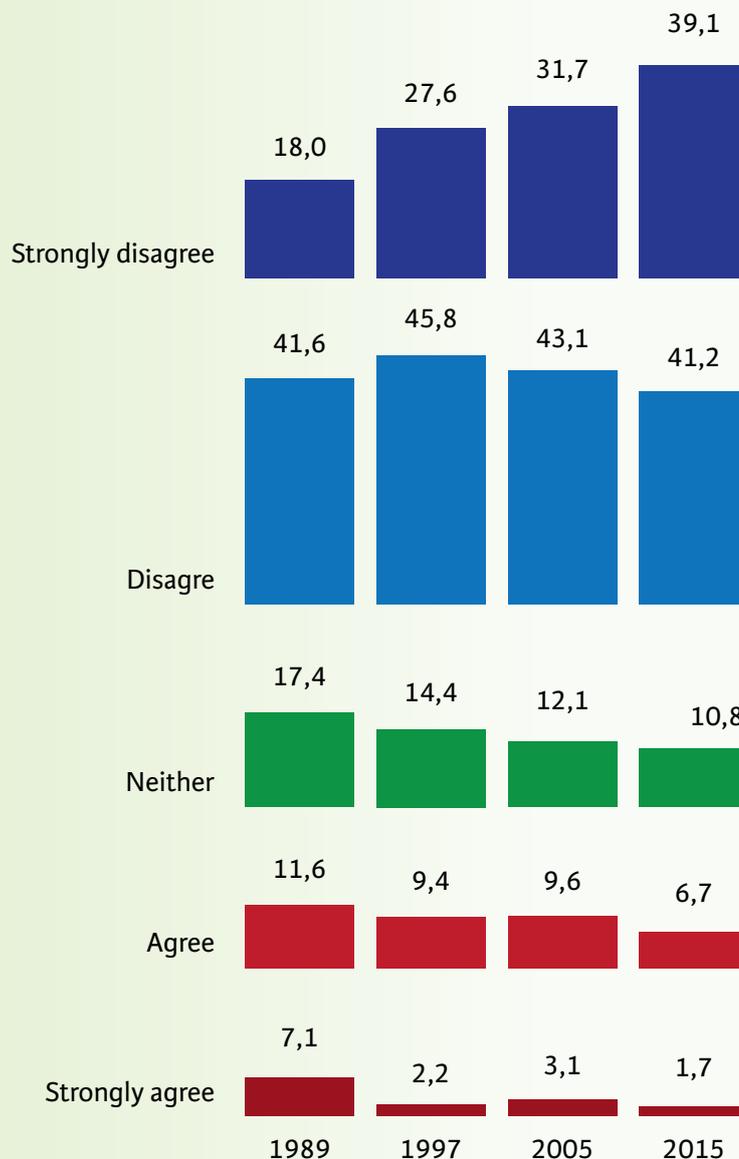
*issp.org*

## NSD AND ISSP

- ISSP is an international organisation that performs annual surveys within its member countries, mostly in the areas of political science and sociology. NSD became a member in 1989 and has been carrying out surveys in Norway ever since.
- The topics vary, but are repeated at intervals of a few years, so that changes in patterns of activity and differences between individual countries can be measured over time.

2015 ISSP module on work orientations IV (Norway)

## A job is just a way to earn money



SOURCE: NSD/International Social Survey Programme

### DATA SEARCHES TO BE SIMPLIFIED

A new search portal is under development as part of NSD’s NORDi (Norwegian Open Research Data Infrastructure) project. NORDi will make it easier to find, use and share research data.

“Providing access to all our data through a single portal will make it easier for researchers and students to find their way to relevant and applicable data through a system based on Open Access. We hope that an advance launch will help us in further development of the search portal”, says Associate Director Vidgis Kvalheim. NORDi is financed by the Research Council of Norway.

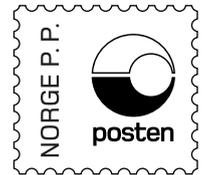
*nsd.no/nordi*

### FINDING FIGURES FOR ACADEMIC LIBRARIES

In autumn 2016, NSD published the third edition of its statistics for university and college sector library services.

The statistics are based on figures reported to the National Library of Norway by university and college libraries. The figures are sent on to NSD’s Database for Statistics on Higher Education (DBH), for processing and publication.

The National Indicators for University and College Libraries details the numbers of primary users per librarian work-year and loans, downloads and the annual cost of purchases per primary user.



# Open Access as an academic publishing requirement



**KRISTIN GÅSEMYR**  
is Head of NSD's Section  
for Higher Education and  
Research Statistics.

**Editor-in-chief**

Bjørn Henrichsen

**Editor**

Njord V. Svendsen

**Design**

Geir Goosen



NSD is the national archive for research data in Norway and one of the largest of its kind, providing data to researchers and students in Norway and abroad. It is also a resource centre assisting researchers with regard to data gathering, data analysis, and issues of methodology, privacy and research ethics.

By 2020, all academic publications are to be based on the *Open Access* principle; in other words, they are to be freely accessible. This decision has been made by both the European Union via its Horizon 2020 Research Programme, and by the Norwegian authorities.

The Brekke Commission, set up by the Ministry of Education and Research, has followed up this aim and studied the consequences of open access to academic publishing.

The commission submitted its report "National Guidelines for *Open Access* to Research Results" on July 14, 2016. The report recommends that NSD's Norwegian Register for Scientific Journals, Series and Publishers should be given more resources to work with *Open Access* journals: "In order for open access publication to be considered legitimate, it is important to have a register where researchers can find an overview of high-quality open access publication channels. The Norwegian Centre for Research Data (NSD) is doing important work to ensure the researchers have such a register. The working group recommends that this work be strengthened financially, to assure the allocation of sufficient resources to NSD in order to continue the work, while also ensuring high quality and short processing time," says the report.

The report is currently being circulated for comments in the research community, with a deadline for responses of November 1, 2016. The Brekke Commission has suggested that *Open Access* should be one of the quality criteria for academic research.

## Highly important for researchers

NSD has developed and is responsible for running four registers and web-sites of great importance for researchers in Norway, Scandinavia and Europe. The Norwegian Register for Scientific Journals, Series and Publishers was set up in 2004, and currently includes more than 30,000 active publication channels, i.e. journals, series and publishers. The register is used as a model by several other countries, for example as a standard for the allocation of research funding in

South Africa. Since 2014, NSD has indicated whether a publication channel is *Open Access*.

In collaboration with the Norwegian Association of Higher Education Institutions (UHR), NSD has recently launched a web-site for the Norwegian Publication Indicator (NPI) ([npi.nsd.no](http://npi.nsd.no)). NPI is intended to ensure transparency in the process of nominating Norwegian publication channels, which in turn will have effects on financing research. The information contained in the NPI is based on the Norwegian Register.

## International lists

The European ERIH PLUS register is a list of journals in the humanities and social sciences. ERIH PLUS was adopted by NSD in 2014, and is based on the former ERIH Register (European Reference Index for the Humanities), which was run by the European Science Foundation (ESF). This register comprises around 10,000 journals and is closely associated with the Norwegian Register. Information about the journals can be sourced by merging the lists in the two registers. A further goal of ERIH PLUS is that *Open Access* journals should be marked in the future. There is a great deal of interest in ERIH PLUS, and for the time being, it has limited its selection of submitted journals for European research.

The collaborating Nordic countries wish to support *Open Access* as they are in the process of forming a new Nordic register of academic channels at NSD. The register will include cross-referenced lists from existing national registers, which will make it easier to quality-assure publication channels for the entire Nordic region. Several European countries that lack their own national registers are following developments with great interest. The Nordic register is expected to be ready for use in 2017.

NSD is working with *Open Access* in all four registers, and *Open Access* will be introduced and practised in these registers. This work will have a widespread effect and will affect registers of importance not only for Norwegian but also for European and international researchers.

## Cold facts

Følg NSD på Twitter @NSDdata

1970:

"Do you or do you not believe that parents should be allowed to physically punish their own children, for example by spanking or slapping them?"

Should be allowed: 73%, Should not be allowed: 27%