

Facts & figures 2026



Norwegian Veterinary Institute (NVI)

NVI is a public-sector research institute under the Norwegian Ministry of Agriculture and Food, also carrying out tasks for the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Fisheries. We play a key role as a preparedness organisation, with research, advisory services, and diagnostics at the core of its mission.

Our values, vision and mission

- We work for good health in animals and humans
- We are scientifically ambitious, forward-looking and cooperative.
- We work toward sustainable agriculture and bioeconomy using One Health approach
- We give independent research-based expertise and support to the authorities.



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Key moments in 2025



Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) was detected in a commercial poultry flock, in wild birds, and in arctic foxes (from Svalbard) and red foxes. This highlights the need for increased surveillance to monitor developments related to the virus's potential adaptation to mammals.

The detection of bluetongue virus in 2024 led to extensive follow-up work in 2025. The institute has actively collaborated with the Norwegian Food Safety Authority (Mattilsynet), animal owners, the industry and veterinarians. This work will continue in 2026.



No Methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteria (MRSA) was detected in pigs in 2025, for the sixth year in a row. The monitoring program for MRSA in pigs shows that we manage to keep this under control in Norway.



Substantial efforts were made in the pink salmon project in the Tana River. On behalf of the Norwegian Environment Agency (Miljødirektoratet) and in dialogue with local stakeholders, the institute contributed to one of the most extensive operations against this invasive species in Norway.

The Fish Health Report for 2025 documented that over 90 million farmed salmon died in Norwegian aquaculture production.

Outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) in Europe led to an increased need for risk assessments and knowledge support in 2025.



Director General at NVI, Gun Peggy Strømstad Knudsen, delivers the Fish Health Report 2025 to Bård Skjelstad, Director of Inspection at the Norwegian Food Safety Authority.

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Key Figures in 2025

338 employees from over 140 nations	168 employees with PhD	123 scientific publications
6 locations in Norway	181 000 samples analysed	
612 MNOK in total income	Employees from over 40 nations	

Services

- Research, analyses, risk assessment and diagnostics
- Provider of knowledge for preparedness within animal health and welfare
- Over **40** national surveillance programmes
- National reference laboratory for more than **26** diseases of terrestrial and aquatic animals
- WOAH International reference laboratory for **4** diseases:
 - Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD)
 - *Gyrodactylus salaris*
 - Infectious Salmon Anaemia Virus (ISAV)
 - Salmonid Alphavirus (SAV)
- WOAH Collaborating Centre for:
 - Epidemiology and Risk Assessment for Aquatic Animal Diseases
 - Economics of Animal Health



Brazilian authority officials visited our office in Bergen in April 2026 to learn about our role as scientific authority advisor and disease surveillance.



Our Biobank is one of Europe's first fully automated biobank freezer systems within veterinary medicine.

6 FACTS & FIGURES

Research activities

The Norwegian Veterinary Institute is actively engaged in research with our 100 ongoing projects funded by both national and international agencies, including various EU programs. These projects lead to numerous scientific publications in respected international journals. The institute also plays an important role in academic development, contributing to PhD education and maintaining strong ties to global research communities.



From one of NVI's laboratories at Ås.



Examples of research areas

EU-PAH&W: The EU Partnership for Animal Health and Welfare. The project brings together 90 research institutions from 24 countries in a joint effort to improve animal health and welfare within the EU.

Economy of animal health: Focuses on aquaculture and aims to contribute with a more comprehensive knowledge base when authorities and industries make decisions about measures related to animal health.

EU-JAMRAI 2: Aims to lead the fight against Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) through joint and coordinated action across Europe. The project will promote interdisciplinary collaboration among countries, institutions and sectors, to safeguard the effectiveness of antimicrobials and protect public health.

Animal welfare: NVI has developed a strong research environment within animal welfare and shall highlight the need of knowledge within the society and industry, so that decisions and practices can be based on a solid and independent advice.

EMERGING CWD: The project aims to study Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in Norwegian cervids, with a focus on assessing pathogenesis, transmission, and zoonotic potential.

PARC: European project aiming to develop next-generation chemical risk assessment to protect the environment, as well as human and animal health. So far, NVI has studied the effects and uptake of mycotoxins in human intestinal cells and in a 3D model of the human intestine.

MyMatch: The project studies the effects of climate change on mold growth and mycotoxin levels in wheat, tomato, and maize. It will use AI and develop a data-driven tool for stakeholders in the affected industries to predict future levels of mycotoxins in crops as a result of climate change.

TransformDairyNet: Gathers and develops knowledge on cow-calf contact through so-called Living Labs in Europe that connect research and practice to create tested and applicable solutions in agriculture.



From lab training in Malawi.

International collaboration for a sustainable future

The Norwegian Veterinary Institute maintains a high level of international activity under various funding programs, including the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad). Our researchers contribute with expertise within epidemiology, surveillance, laboratory capacity, data systems, and One Health approaches in countries facing major public health challenges.



1. From lab training in Tanzania at TVLA headquarters in Dar es Salaam.
2. From workshop in Tanzania.
3. From workshop in Ethiopia.

- Strengthening sustainable Blue Food Systems in Coastal Kenya to enhance livelihoods, food security and nutrition.
- One Health – controlling zoonotic diseases and AMR in the milk value chain in Ethiopia, Malawi and Tanzania.
- Interventions for improved knowledge and awareness of antimicrobial resistance using a One Health approach in Tanzania.
- The OneHealthAfrica project aims to address the gaps in the training of One Health professionals in Ethiopia and Malawi.
- Fish Health Management in the Norad program «Fish for development» in Colombia and Ghana.
- Member of the International Dairy Federation (IDF) Norway, a network for science, standards, sustainability, nutrition and animal welfare in the dairy sector.
- Member of the WOAH Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission that develops global standards for bio-security, disease prevention and control in aquaculture.



1. Director General Gun Peggy Strømstad Knudsen (right) delivers the Animal Health Report 2025 to Marit Kolle from the Norwegian Food Safety Authority at an event in Sandnes in April 2026.

Key historic dates

1891	Established as the first diagnostic laboratory for animal diseases in the Nordic countries
1914	Moved to Adamstua in Oslo
1937	The last major outbreak of anthrax in Norway
1952	Contagious veal casting and foot-and-mouth disease eradicated
1960	Started working on fish diseases and aquatic health
1963	Bovine tuberculosis eradicated in Norway
1998	The TSE disease in sheep - Nor 98 - was diagnosed for the first time
2003	The first annual Fish Health Report published by NVI
2015	Aquatic biosecurity and emerging aquatic diseases became new initiatives

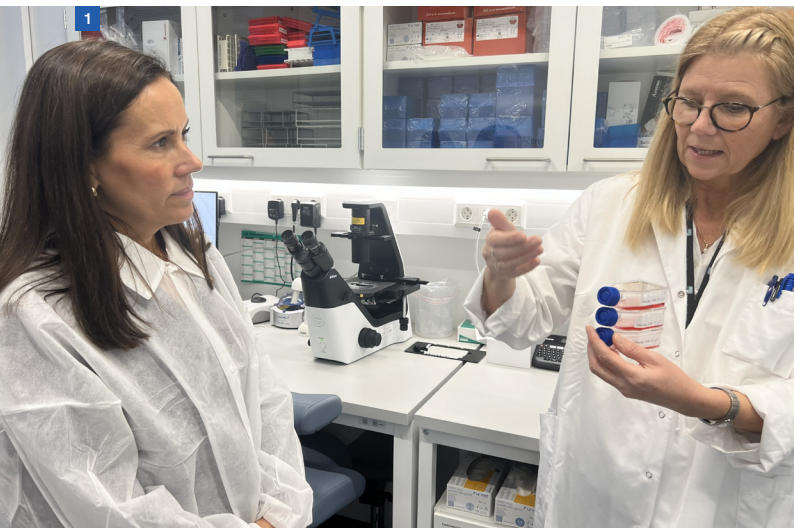


2. NORM-VET, the Norwegian monitoring program for antimicrobial resistance in microbes from feed, animals, and food, celebrated its 25th anniversary. This was marked with an event attended by representatives from authorities, partners and the industry.
3. In 2026 wild reindeer will be reintroduced in Nordfjella, where the very first case of CWD among wild reindeer was discovered in 2016. Since then, NVI has analysed 200 000 samples.

2016	CWD detected for the first time in Europe and for the first time in wild reindeer
2017	Contributing to the Traffic Light System for more sustainable aquaculture production
2018	NVI designated as WOH International Reference Laboratory for CWD in Europe
2021	Moved to new headquarters at Ås, officially opened with H. M. Queen Sonja present
2023	Fish Health Economics as a new initiative
2024	The NVI Biobank – Automated sample storage system (-80) with capacity for approx. 3,000,000 samples installed at Ås
2026	The seventh Animal Health Report and the second Wild Fish Health Report published by NVI

Great opportunities

The Norwegian Veterinary Institute is a powerhouse for knowledge, diagnostics and preparedness against health threats to animals and humans.

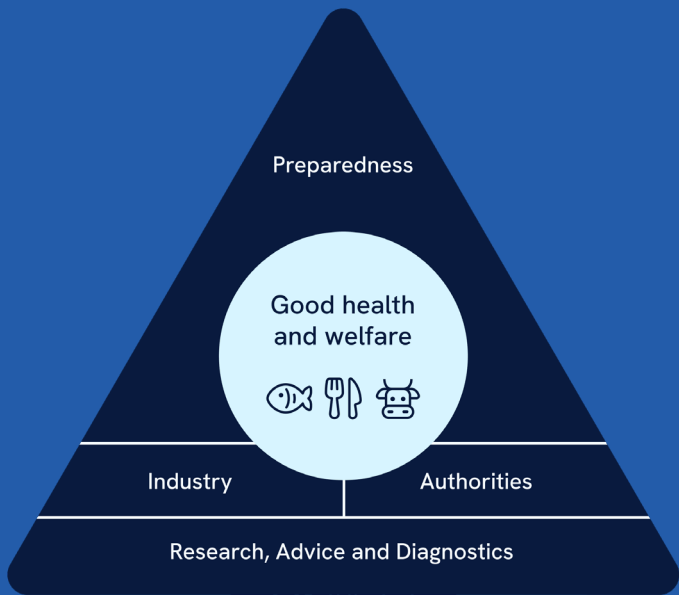




Where we are in Norway



1. Minister of Fisheries and Ocean Policy, Marianne Sivertsen Næss (to the left) visited NVI's headquarters in Ås in December 2025. She was given a tour of our laboratories and briefed on various aspects of the institute's work in the marine sector.
2. Colombia's new ambassador to Norway, Luis Antonio Dimaté Cárdenas, was given a presentation on the institute's fish health work and on our collaboration in Colombia during a visit in February 2026.
3. Representatives from NVI at the Veterinary Days at Hamar in March 2026.



Norwegian
Veterinary Institute



Photos: AHRI, Annette Kampen, Asle Haukaas, Bente Paulson, Bryndis Holm, Colourbox, Eivind Röhne, Gun Peggy Knudsen, Gunnar Molland, Ingunn Ruud, Shimaa Ali, Siv Klevar, Tom Haavardstun, TVLA

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