

Facts & figures 2025



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. It plays a key role as a preparedness organization, with research, advisory services, and diagnostics at the core of its mission. On January 1st, 2025, Mrs. Gun Peggy Strømstad Knudsen took over as the new CEO of the NVI.

Our values, vision and mission

- Work for good health in animals and humans
- Scientifically ambitious, forward-looking and cooperative
- Work toward sustainable agriculture and bioeconomy using a One Health approach
- Giving independent research-based expertise and support to the authorities.



Key moments in 2024



A major outbreak of the bluetongue virus was detected in Norway, for the first time since 2009. The institute has actively collaborated here with the Norwegian Food Safety Authority, animal owners, industry and veterinarians. The bluetongue outbreak of 2024 was an important topic in the Animal Health Report for 2024.

The institute is working with national and international partners to understand, prepare for, and manage Highly Pathogenic Avian influenza (HPAI). The outbreak in the United States is concerning, with infections in dairy cattle, spread to other animals, and a few transmissions to humans.



No MRSA detected pigs in 2024, for the fifth year in a row. The monitoring program for MRSA in pigs shows that we manage to keep this under control in Norway.



The Fusta watercourse was declared free of the parasite *Gyrodactylus salaris* by the Norwegian Food Safety Authority, following the world's largest and most complex rotenone treatment carried out over several years, followed by the reestablishment of fish populations.

The Fish Health Report for 2024 documented that over 100 million farmed salmon died in Norwegian aquaculture production.

Reindeer Health Service established as a permanent service. The aim is to strengthen the knowledge of good animal health and welfare in reindeer herding.



Researcher at the NVI, Ingebjørg H. Nymo, during field work in a semi-domesticated reindeer herd.

Key Figures in 2024

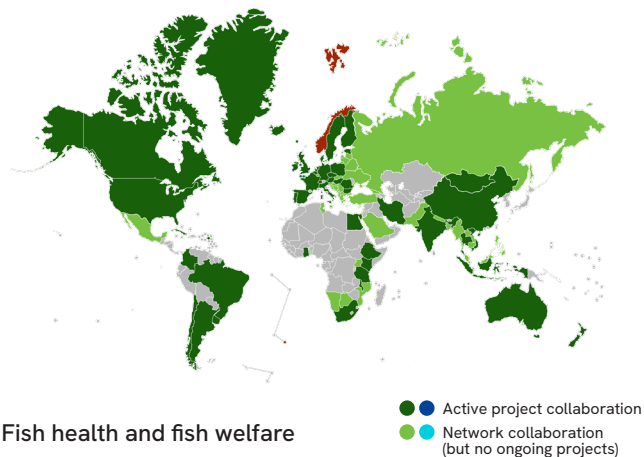
348 employees	140 employees with PhD	128 scientific publications
6 locations in Norway	172 000 samples analysed	
601 MNOK in total income		Employees from over 40 nations

Services

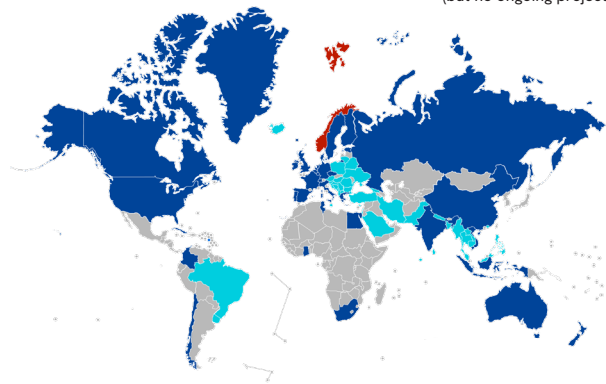
- Research, analyses, risk assessment and diagnostics
- Provider of knowledge for preparedness within animal health and welfare
- Over 40 national surveillance programmes
- National reference laboratory for more than 26 diseases of terrestrial and aquatic animals
- WOAH International reference laboratory 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

International cooperation 2024

Animal health, animal welfare and food safety



Fish health and fish welfare



Research activities

NVI is actively engaged in research, with around 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. Its international engagement is evident through active participation in networks and collaborations, and through co-publications with researchers from nearly 90 countries.





Examples of research areas

EU-PAH&W

A key participant in 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.

Antimicrobial resistance

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) is a prioritised research area, and focuses on prevention, reduction, development, occurrence, and spread of resistance in a One Health perspective.

Jekyll & Hyde

The project investigates whether plastic waste can act as a vector for harmful microorganisms, and explores whether some of the associated mold species can be used to degrade plastic waste.

Animal welfare

The NVI has developed a strong research environment in the field of animal welfare to meet the growing need for knowledge. This work covers many livestock species and a wide range of issues.

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.

CRC-3p

Documenting the cause and effect between processed foods and colorectal cancer in humans. The project will look at the effect of protein source, processing and dietary patterns.



International collaboration for a sustainable future

The primary function of the NVI is preparedness and competence development to prevent health threats to animals and humans. Ensuring the health of animals and humans in Norway, in the global world we live in today, is highly dependent on international collaboration.



We contribute to research and development support worldwide through:

- 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.
- Improving implementation and operation of a One Health platform to combat rabies in Malawi.
- Participation in the Norad program «Fish for development» in Ghana and Colombia (Fish Health Management).
- Collaboration with Worldfish on fish health, epidemiology and health economics in Sub-Saharan Africa and southern Asia.
- Collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in developing the Progressive Management Pathway for Aquaculture Biosecurity concept.
- Leadership of the working group of *G. Salaris* of the NASCO (North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization).
- Participation in WOAH's Collaborating Centre for the Economics of Animal Health to develop and promote systematic use of financial data related to animal health in EU.



From the launch of the Fish Health Report 2024 at the Frisk Fisk Conference in Tromsø on March 11, 2025.



From the launch of NVI's first-ever Wild Fish Report on April 10, 2025.

Key historic dates

1891	Established as the first diagnostic laboratory for animal diseases in the Nordic countries
1914	Moved to Adamstua in Oslo
1924	The first doctoral degree in fish health in Norway awarded
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
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 WOAH 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

Great opportunities

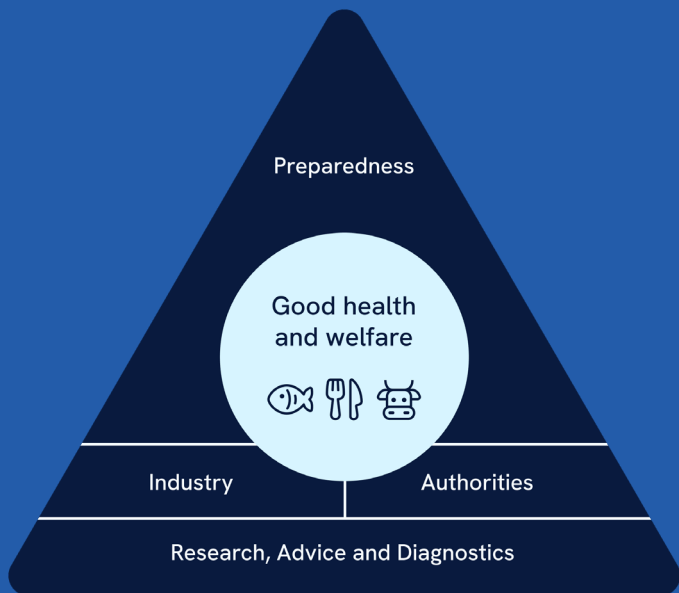
The Norwegian Veterinary Institute is a powerhouse for knowledge, diagnostics and preparedness against health threats to animals and humans.



Where we are in Norway



1. From NVI event at "Arendalsuka" in August 2024 where the situation in the aquaculture was the topic.
2. From PhD defence that was arranged for the first time at our facilities at Ås in March 2025.
3. In 2024, researcher Saraya Tavornpanich was elected as a member of the WOAH Fish Health Commission.



Norwegian
Veterinary Institute

vetinst.no



Photos: Asle Haukaas, Bente Paulson,
Bryndis Holm, Eivind Rohne, Grim
Rømo, Haitham Tartor, Ingebjørg H.
Nymo, Mari M. Press, Mary Shrestha,
Rudolf Svensen, Shima Ali