

The Norwegian Prison System

"Who do you want as your neighbor?"

The CT Reentry Collaborative
Institute for Municipal & Regional Policy
Central Connecticut State University, Downtown Campus
185 Main Street, Suite 212 & 215
New Britain, CT 06050

Email: ctreentry@ccsu.edu Website: www.ctreentry.org



So, Where is Norway?





Norwegian Population Statistics and Prison Locations

Norway Population Statistics

• **Total Population:** 5,413,492

• **Population Density**: 35 people per sq/mile

• Largest City: Oslo 580,000 people

• **Median age**: 39.7 yrs

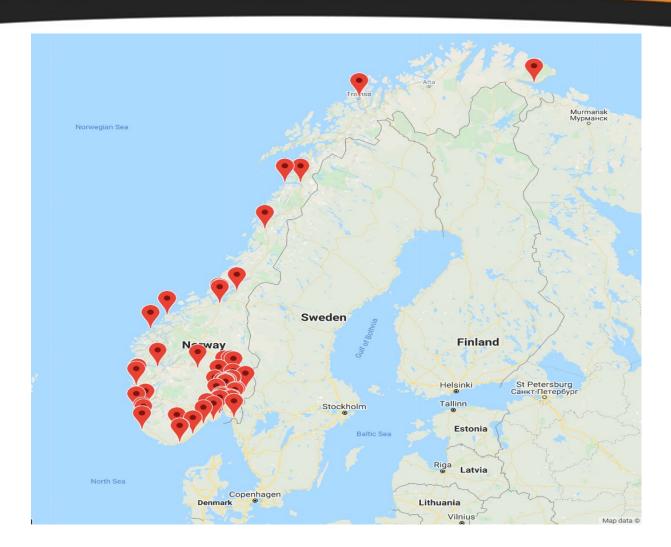
• **Gender**: 49.9% female and 50.1% male

<u>Demographics</u>:

Norwegian 83.2% (includes about 60,000 Sami)

• European 8.3%

• other 8.5% (2017 est.)





Connecticut Population Statistics and Prison Locations

Connecticut Population Statistics

• Total Population: 3,563,077

• **Population Density**: 738.1 people per sq/mile

• Largest City: Bridgeport 143,628 people

• Median age: 40.6 yrs

• **Gender**: 51.2% female and 48.8% male

Demographics:

• White: 76.36%

Black or African American: 10.56%

• **Other race**: 5.17%

• Asian: 4.43%

• Two or more races: 3.17%

• Native American: 0.27%

• Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander: 0.03%





Prison rates

Country	Prison population	Population per 100,000	<u>Un-sentenced</u> <u>prisoners %</u>	Women prisoners <u>%</u>
US	2,193,798	737	21.2	8.9
CONNECTICUT	11,100	300	27.3	6.9
ENGLAND/WALES	80,002	148	16.4	5.5
GERMANY	77,166	94	17.1	5.3
FRANCE	52,009	85	31.5	3.6
NETHERLANDS	21,013	128	30	8.7
NORWAY	3,048	66	15.9	4.8



About the Norwegian Correctional Service

The task of the Directorate of Norwegian Correctional Service is to ensure a proper execution of remand and prison sentences, with due regard to the security of all citizens and attempts to prevent recidivism by enabling the offenders, through their own initiatives, to change their criminal behaviour.

In pursuant to the Execution of Sentences Act, a sentence shall be executed in a manner that takes into account the purpose of the sentence; that serves to prevent the commission of new criminal acts, that reassures society, and that within this framework ensures satisfactory conditions for the prisoners. Thus the activity of the Correctional Service is based on due consideration to security, purpose and the general sense of justice. Furthermore, all activities within the Correctional Service are to be in accordance with our values:

Openness

Respect

Professionalism

Commitment



Principle of normality in the Correctional Service

The punishment is the restriction of liberty; no other rights have been removed by the sentencing court. Therefore the sentenced offender has all the same rights as all other who live in Norway.

No-one shall serve their sentence under stricter circumstances than necessary for the security in the community. Therefore offenders shall be placed in the lowest possible security regime. During the serving of a sentence, life inside will resemble life outside as much as possible.

The possibility to implement the principle of normality is of course limited by security reasons and the framework of the correctional management, the differences in the prisons and personnel, infrastructural and financial resources. Yet the basic principle is there, and deviation from it will need to be based on argumentation. You need a reason to deny a sentenced offender his rights, not to grant them.



Import model

Crucial services for reintegration are delivered to the prison by local and municipal service providers. Prisons do not have their own staff delivering medical, educational, or library services. These are imported from the community. Also different faith and clergy services are provided through the import model

The advantages are:

- A better continuity in the deliverance of services the offender will already have established contact during his time in prison;
- Involvement from the community with the prison system more and better crossconnections and an improvement of the image of prison and prisoners
- The services in questions are financed by other bodies as they are part of the rights of any inhabitant of Norway.



Progression towards reintegration

In accordance with the principle of normality, progression through a sentence should be aimed at reentering to the community. The more institutionalized a system is, the harder it will be to return to freedom. Therefore, one will proceed towards release gradually from high security prisons to lower security prisons, through halfway houses and finally execution of the sentence outside of prison unless security reasons dictate otherwise.

Probation is stimulated and the correctional services will try to arrange for a process where serving the sentence is adjusted to individual risks, needs and resources, unless security reasons predict otherwise.



Inner Østfold prison, Eidsberg department

Inner Østfold prison, Eidsberg department, is a unit with a high level of security for men. The prison has an ordinary capacity of 102 seats The prison has an organized service for 25 to 40 young inmates between the ages of 18 and 25, an intoxicant ward according to the Stifinner model and will, in addition, receive all categories of inmates.





Inner Østfold prison, Eidsberg department











