

# **NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT DEBT**

**APRIL 2024** 

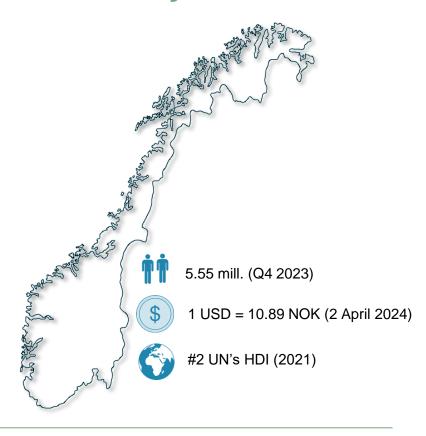


# **KINGDOM OF NORWAY**

#### An introduction to the Norwegian economy

	2023	2024 (proj)	2025 (proj)
GDP growth (mainland Norway)	1.1%	0.5%	1.2%
Household consumption growth	-0.5%	1.0%	2.1%
Unemployment rate (registered)	1.8%	2.0%	2.2%
Annual wage growth	5.2%	4.9%	4.3%
Core inflation (CPI-ATE)	6.2%	4.1%	3.2%
Key policy rate	4.50% (eoy)	4.29% (avg. Q4)	3.66% (avg. Q4)

Source: Norges Bank Monetary Policy Report 1/2024



# Kingdom of Norway – Sovereign ratings

	Long term	Outlook	Since
Moody's	Aaa	Stable	11 Aug 1995
Standard and Poor's*	AAA	Stable	27 Jul 1992
Fitch*	AAA	Stable	14 Dec 2005
DBRS Morningstar*	AAA	Stable	4 Jul 2014
Scope Ratings*	AAA	Stable	18 Aug 2017

<sup>\*</sup>Unsolicited rating

#### Fiscal rule

- Fiscal policy shall be geared towards a gradual and sustainable increase in petroleum revenue spending
- Over time, the structural, non-oil budget deficit shall correspond to the real return on the Government Pension Fund Global (GPFG), estimated at 3% (until 2017 estimated at 4%)
- This rule should not be applied mechanically, however, and considerable emphasis should be placed on stabilising economic fluctuations
- In the National Budget for 2024, the structural, non-oil deficit is estimated to be 2.7% of the value of the GPFG in 2024

#### The Petroleum fund mechanism

Petroleum revenues and return on investments



Government Pension Fund Global (GPFG)

Transfer to finance non-oil budget deficit

Fiscal rule (spend the real return on the GPFG over time, estimated at 3%) Non-oil revenues

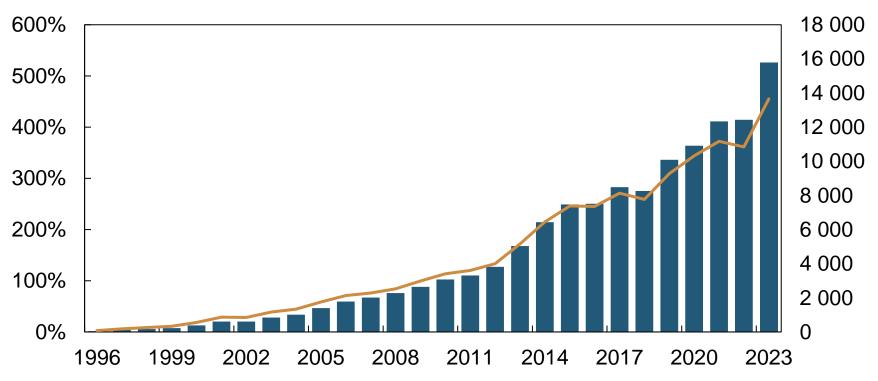


Central government budget



# A solid fiscal position

Market value of the GPFG in billions of NOK and as share of Mainland GDP. 1996 – 2023



Sources: Norges Bank Investment Management and Statistics Norway

# **GOVERNMENT DEBT FRAMEWORK**

#### Government debt management in Norway

- The Ministry of Finance is responsible for managing government debt, but has delegated the operational responsibility to Norges Bank
- Under the mandate laid down by the Ministry, Norges Bank shall issue government debt in the name of the Ministry of Finance
- Norges Bank shall meet the government's borrowing requirement and manage government debt outstanding
- Borrow at the lowest possible cost within given risk limits
- Maintain a yield curve for government securities with a maturity of up to ten years that can serve as a reference for pricing in the market

#### **Government debt framework**

#### **Government borrowing in Norway**

- Finance net lending by state banks and other government lending programmes
- Cover redemptions of existing debt
- Promote well-functioning and efficient financial markets

#### **Government bond market**

- 500 billion NOK outstanding (April 2024)
- Issued a new 10-year bond every year since 2014
- New bonds issued through syndication
- Reopenings using mainly auction (uniform price)

#### **Government securities**

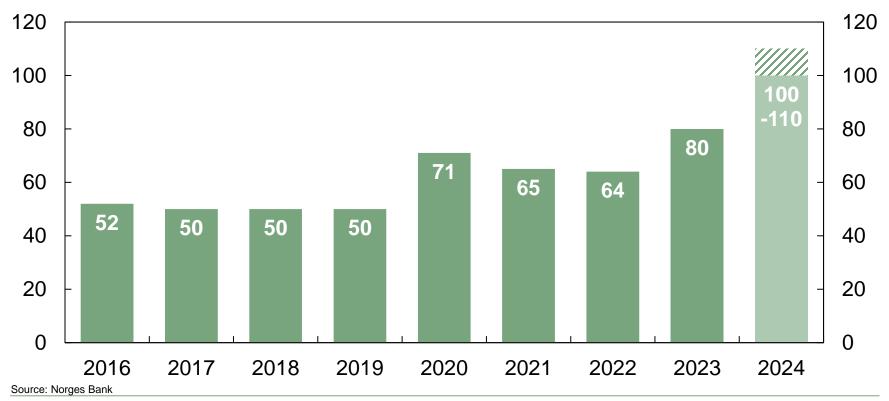
- Bills and bonds
- Issuance in NOK only
- Annual borrowing programme with auction calendar

#### Primary dealer arrangement

- 4 primary dealers (Danske Bank, DNB, Nordea, SEB)
- Obligation to quote prices
- Repo facilities
- Report turnover daily

# Issuance of government bonds

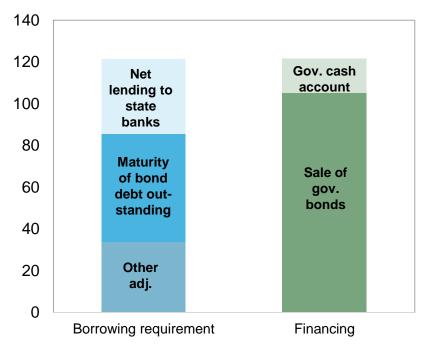
Issued to the market 2016 to 2023. Planned volume for 2024. In billions of NOK



# **Borrowing requirement in 2024**

- Planned borrowing is based on the government's estimated borrowing requirement in the central government budget for 2024
- Refinancing of maturing bond debt is the largest component behind the borrowing requirement
- Other adjustments is mainly borrowing to ensure the budgeted transfer from Norges Bank to the government is liquidity-neutral

#### **Borrowing requirement and financing 2024**



#### The strategy for 2024 in brief

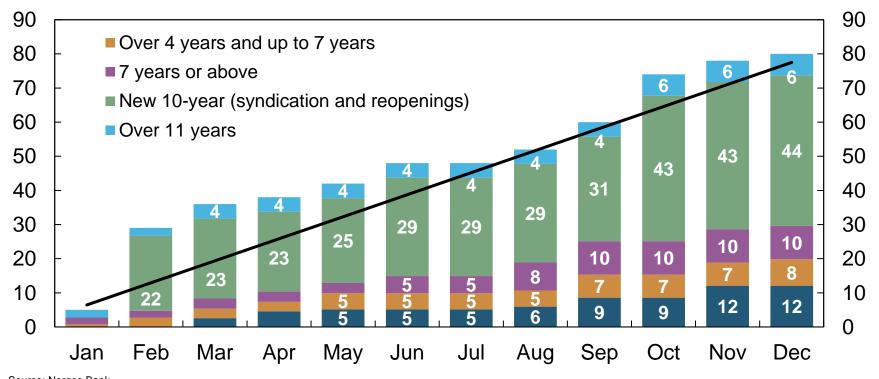
Published 15 December 2023

#### Government Debt Management will

- Issue government bonds worth NOK 100-110bn
- Issue a new 10-year bond in February through syndication
- Issue a new 15-year bond in May or June through syndication
- Reopen an existing bond in the second half of 2024 through syndication
- Offer to buy back bonds maturing in March 2024 and March 2025
- Consider entering into new interest rate swaps if term premiums remain positive over time and if otherwise warranted by circumstances

#### Bond issuance split by maturity in 2023

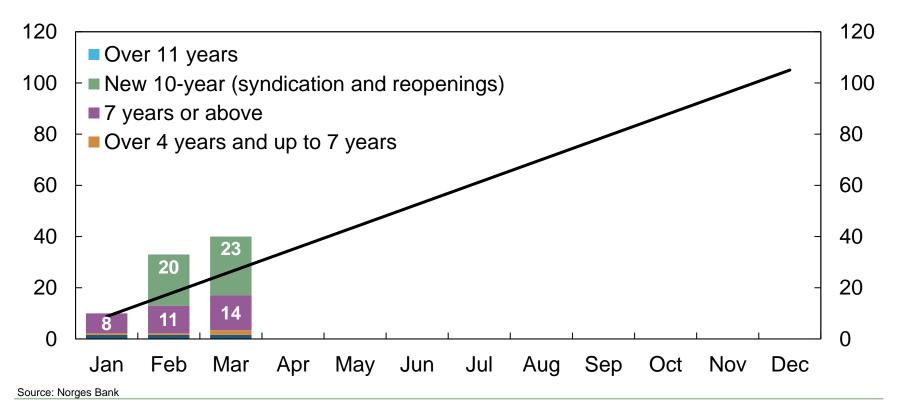
#### In billions of NOK



Source: Norges Bank

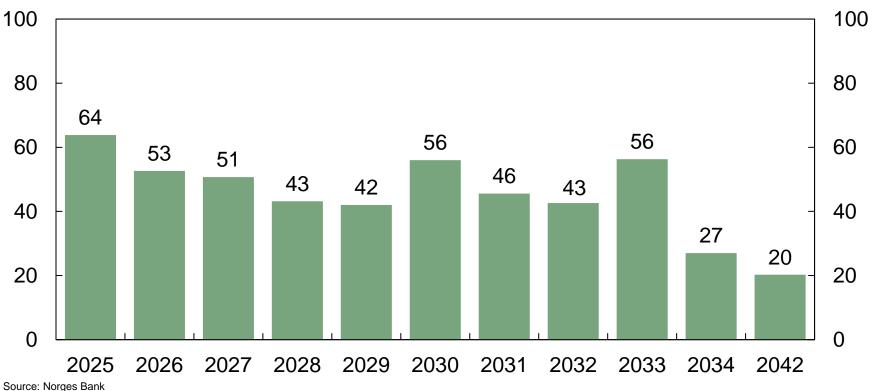
# Bond issuance split by maturity in 2024

#### In billions of NOK



## Maturity profile of government bonds

Principal. Including the government's own holdings. In billions of NOK. By April 2024



# **SYNDICATIONS**

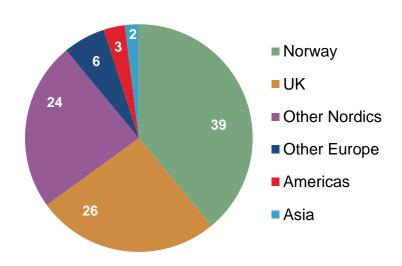
#### New 10-year government bond issued in February 2024

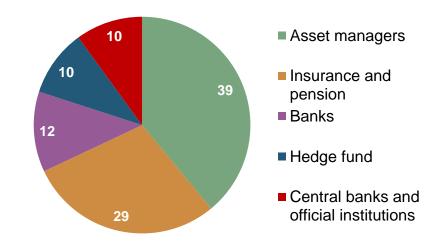
- The Kingdom of Norway issued NOK 20bn to the market of a new bond maturing on 13 April 2034
- The bond attracted an order book in excess of NOK 120bn (excluding Joint Lead Managers) from close to 70 investors
- Joint bookrunners were Danske Bank, DNB Markets, Nordea and SEB
- NGB 04/2034 was priced at MS flat implying a reoffer yield for investor of 3.705%. The bond pays an annual coupon of 3.625%

## New 10-year government bond issued in February 2024

Allocation by region Percent

Allocation by investor type Percent

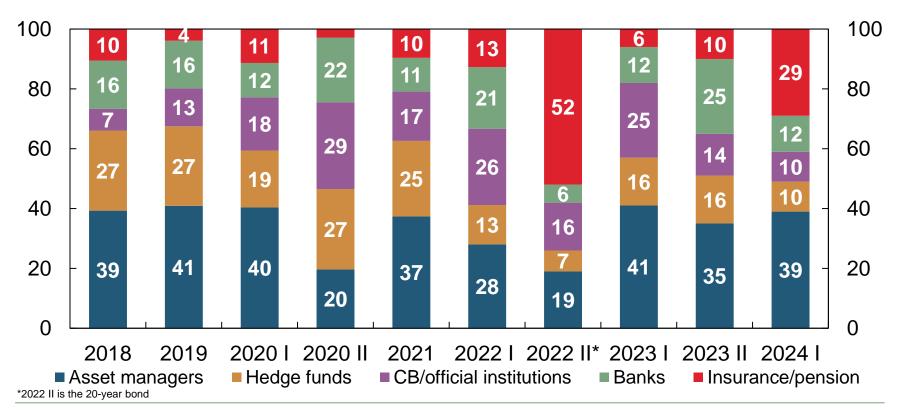




Source: Norges Bank

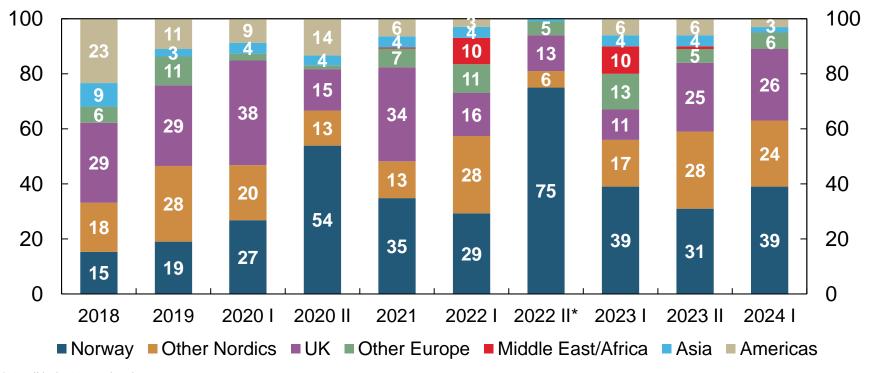
# Allocation by investor type in syndications

Percentage of total volume allocated. 2018-2024



# Allocation by region in syndications

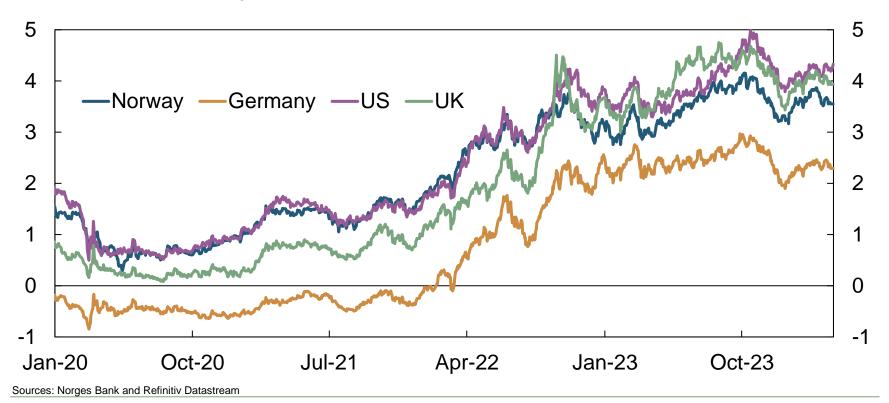
Percentage of total volume allocated. 2018-2024



# OVERVIEW OF THE NGB MARKET

# 10-year yields in selected countries

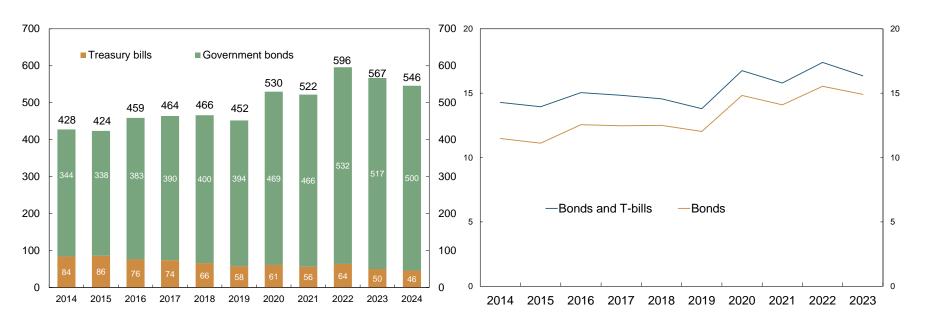
Percent. 2 Jan 2020 - 2 April 2024



# **Government bonds and T-bills outstanding**

Outstanding volume
In billions of NOK. 2013 – April 2024

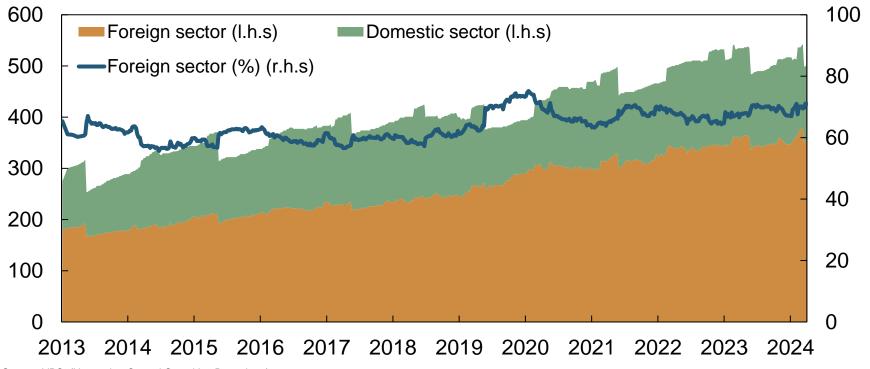
Outstanding volume
As a percentage of GDP. 2013 – 2023



Source: Norges Bank
Sources: Statistics Norway and Norges Bank

# Foreign and domestic ownership of government bonds

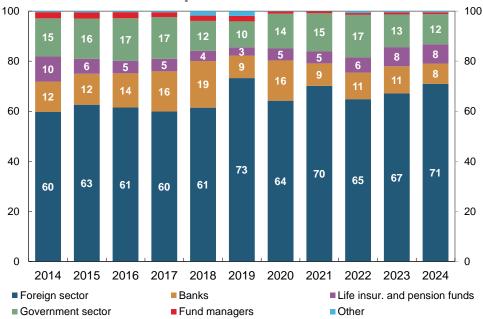
In billions of NOK and as a percentage of total outstanding volume. 2013 – April 2024



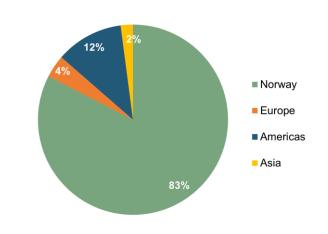
Source: VPS (Norwegian Central Securities Depository)

## Ownership shares for government bonds

#### Ownership shares by investor group Per cent. 2013 – April 2024



# Allocation in auctions By region in 2023. Per cent



Source: VPS (Norwegian Central Securities Depository)

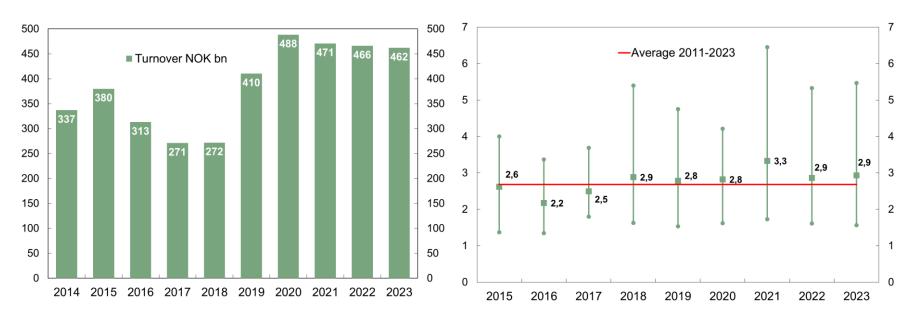
#### Liquidity in the government bond market

#### **Turnover Norwegian government bonds**

Trades reported to OSE until 2017. Transactions reported by PDs since 2018. 2014 - 2023

#### **Government bond auctions**

Bid-to-cover. 2015 - 2023

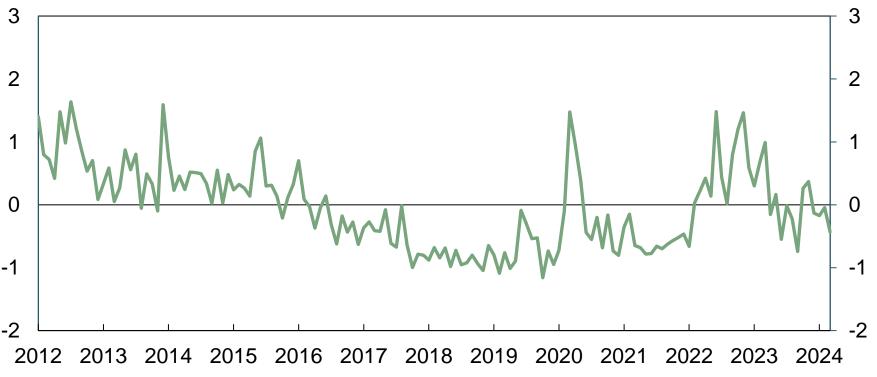


Sources: Oslo Stock Exchange and Norges Bank

Source: Norges Bank

#### Liquidity in the government bond market

Norges Bank Liquidity Index. 2012 – April 2024



Sources: Oslo Børs, Bloomberg and Norges Bank

# TREASURY BILLS

# **Management of Treasury bills**

#### **Framework**

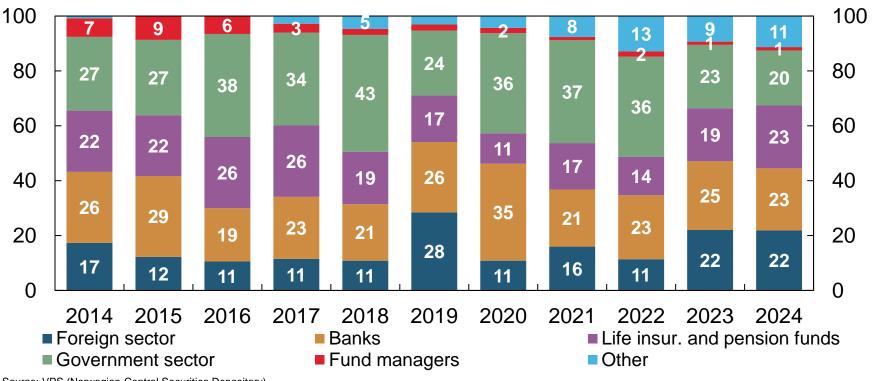
- Uniform price auctions
- Listed on Oslo Børs (Oslo Stock Exchange)
- Primary dealer arrangement
- Four outstanding bills at any given time
- A new 12-month zero coupon bill issued on every IMM date
- Reopenings of existing bills between IMM dates

#### Strategy for 2024

- Issue 6bn NOK when introducing new bills on every IMM date
- Issue 2bn NOK in all other auctions
- Total issuance volume 52 bn NOK
- 18 auctions

# Ownership shares by investor group in Treasury bills

Percent. End of year. 2013 - April 2024



Source: VPS (Norwegian Central Securities Depository)

#### www.debtnorway.no

# **NFORMATION** ERAL

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- Mandate
- Terms and conditions
- Sales methods
- Auction results

# **UBLICATIONS**



- Annual borrowing programme
- Auction calendar
- Quarterly report
- Quarterly borrowing volume (range)
- Analyses



- Key indicators (quarterly)
- Daily and monthly data on yields
- Monthly turnover data

# **TATISTICS**

#### **Contact information and links**

#### **Contact information**

- www.debtnorway.no
- debtmanagement@norges-bank.no

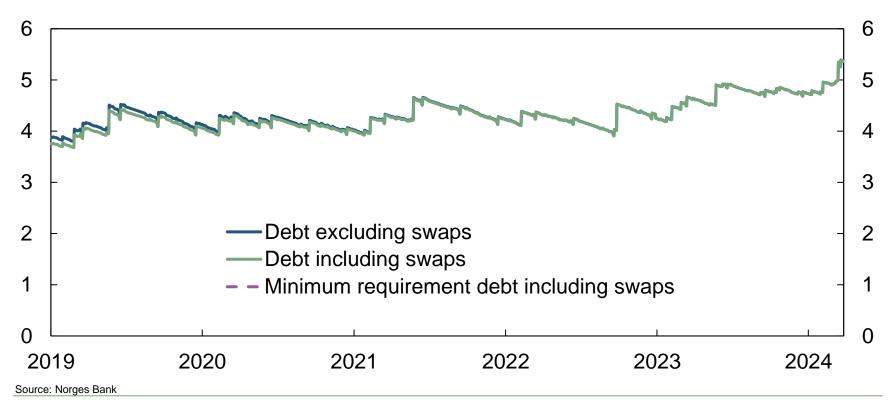
#### **Useful links**

- Norges Bank
  - www.norges-bank.no
- Ministry of Finance
  - <u>www.finansdepartementet.no</u>
- NewsWeb
  - <u>www.newsweb.no</u>
- Statistics Norway
  - www.ssb.no

# **APPENDIX**

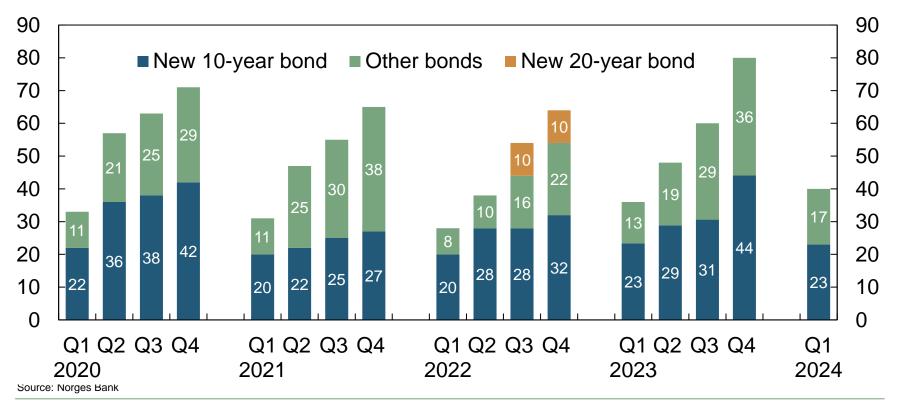
# Average time to refixing

Years. 2018 - April 2024



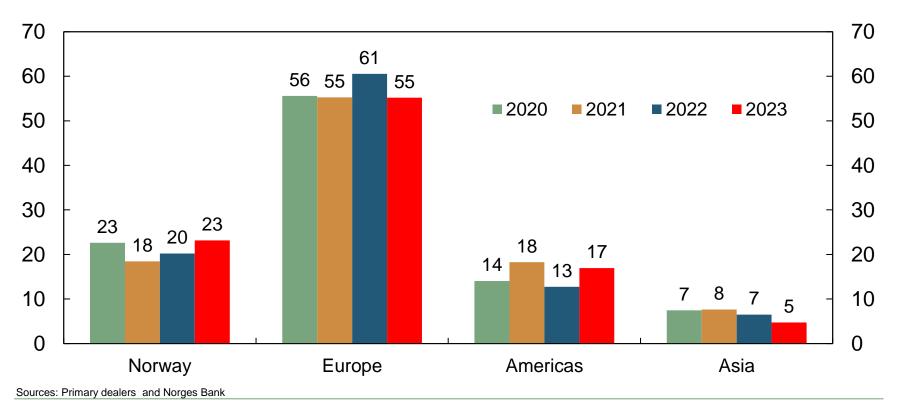
#### Issuance volume of new bonds

Cumulative. In billions of NOK. 2020 – 2024 Q1



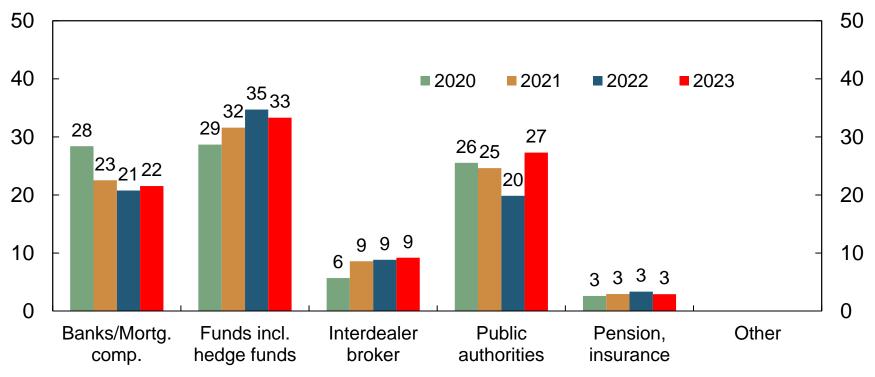
# Turnover in the secondary market by region

Government bonds. Percent. 2020 – 2023



# Turnover in the secondary market by counterparty

Government bonds. Percent. 2020 – 2023



Sources: Primary dealers and Norges Bank

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