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## **Petroleum resources**

Discovered and undiscovered resources on the NCS are put at roughly 13.2 bn scm oe (with an uncertainty range from 10.7-16 bn scm oe).

Discoveries totalled 8.6 bn scm oe at 31 December 1999. Improvements to the recovery factor for fields and discoveries are expected to add another one bn scm oe, bringing total estimated recoverable resources in fields and discoveries to 9.6 bn scm oe.

A total of 7.3 bn scm oe has been found in the North Sea. Resources in fields approved for development amount to 4.9 bn scm oe, with remaining reserves amounting to 2.3 bn scm oe. Of this, about 50 per cent is oil.

The Norwegian Sea has so far yielded 1.9 bn scm oe, with remaining reserves totalling 0.7 bn scm oe. About 50 per cent of this is oil.

Discoveries in the Barents Sea total 0.3 bn scm oe. None of these resources have been produced.

Table 7.1 presents remaining resources and reserves on the NCS. These figures are supple-

mented by the future potential for improved oil recovery, put at about one bn scm oe. This has not been broken down by region.

Undiscovered petroleum resources on the NCS are put at about 3.7 bn scm oe, with an uncertainty range of 1.0-8.9 bn scm oe. Thirty-two per cent of this total is thought to lie in the North Sea, 41 per cent in the Norwegian Sea and 27 per cent in the Barents Sea.

Cumulative output since petroleum production began off Norway in 1971 comes to 2.7 bn scm oe, or about 21 per cent of total expected recoverable resources. Of producing fields at 31 December 1999, 41 were in the North Sea and only five in the Norwegian Sea.

Remaining discovered resources declined by a total of 34 mill scm oe in 1999. Gas resources increased by 83 bn scm, while oil resources were reduced by 123 mill scm.

Overall production in 1999 amounted to 227 mill scm oe. Five discoveries were made during the year,

**Table 7.1** Discovered and remaining resources on the Norwegian continental shelf  
(Source: Norwegian Petroleum Directorate)

		Oil mill scm	Gas bn scm	Condensate scm	NGLs mill tonnes	Total oe mill scm
North Sea	Remaining discovered resources	1 638	2 176	102	72	4 009
	Of which reserves	1 162	982	43	46	2 247
Norwegian Sea	Remaining discovered resources	406	884	190	59	1 558
	Of which reserves	340	231	49	30	659
Barents Sea	Remaining discovered resources	28	235	19	6	289
	Of which reserves	0	0	0	0	0
Total	Remaining discovered resources	2 072	3 296	311	137	5 856
	Of which reserves	1 502	1 214	92	76	2 906

**Table 7.2** Change in remaining discovered resources (Source: Norwegian Petroleum Directorate)

	Oil mill scm	Gas bn scm	Total oe mill scm
New discoveries	42	57	99
Adjustments to discoveries and fields (including fields shut in)	17	73	90
Production	(182)	(45)	(227)
Change for 1999	(123)	85	(38)

with total resources in the order of 42 mill scm of oil and 57 bn scm of gas. Upgraded estimates for existing fields and discoveries as a result of better reservoir understanding or improved

recovery technology came to 90 mill scm oe. These changes are shown in table 7.2. Figure 7.1 presents the distribution of produced and remaining reserves on the NCS.

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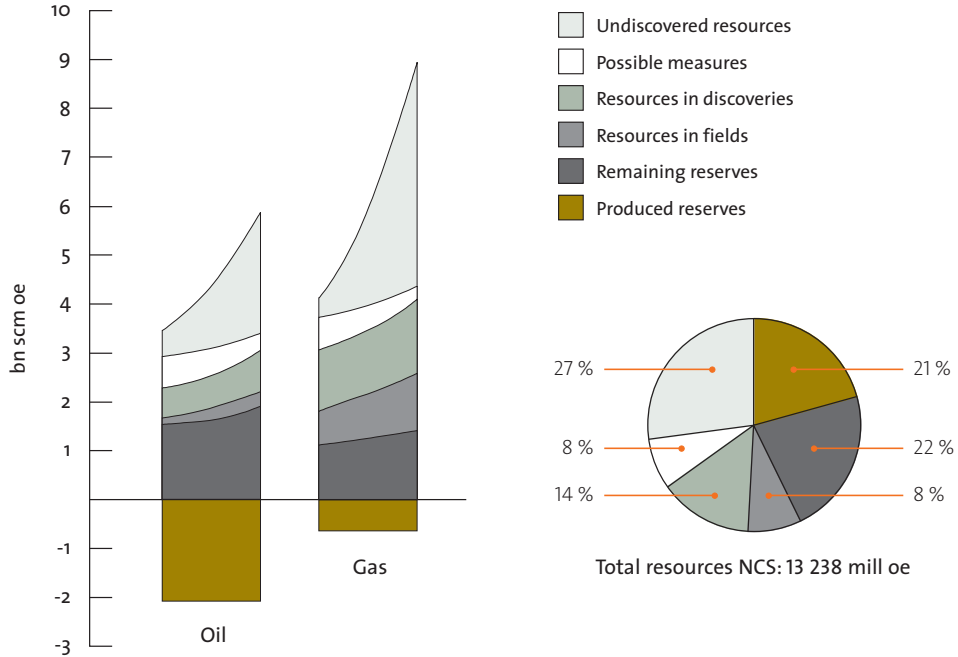


Figure 7.1 Total resource estimate (Source: Norwegian Petroleum Directorate)

