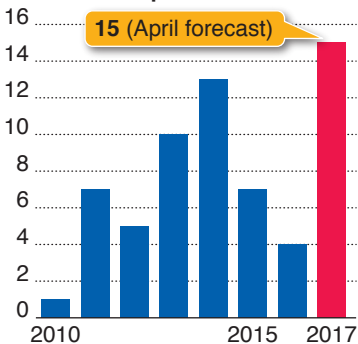


Oil firms embark on Barents exploration

Norwegian authorities expect oil and gas companies to drill a record 15 exploration wells in the Barents Sea this year

Number of exploration wells



Songa Enabler: Norwegian firm **Statoil** plans to use mobile rig to drill five wells

Oil and gas finds

Barents Sea could account for almost 65 percent of Norway's undiscovered resources

Gulf Stream: Ocean current responsible for area remaining largely ice-free, unlike other parts of Arctic such as Alaska and Greenland



Arctic Circle

100km
60 miles

