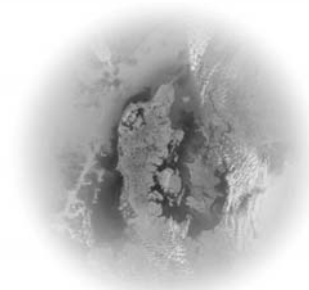


# Denmark: The Jutland-Funen Region



**Jysk-fynsk**  
erhvervssamarbejde

## REGIONAL CO-ORDINATOR

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## A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF REGIONAL CHARACTERISTICS

**Geographical size:** Jutland: 29,766 km<sup>2</sup>, Funen: 2.984 km<sup>2</sup>

**Inhabitants:** 2.924.000 in 1998 (DK: 5.295.000). Aging population: The number of the above 60 year old is growing faster than the number of younger people.

**Labour force:** 1,579,000 in 1998 (-1.4% since 1989) (DK: 2,868,000, -2.0%). A considerable decrease in the labour force is expected (1999-2020) in Southern Jutland, Mid-Jutland, Western Jutland, and parts of Northern Jutland.

**Working Frequency:** 77.8% in 1998 (DK: 77.5%)

**Employment:** 1,511,000 in 1998 (DK: 2,742,000)

**Unemployment rate:** 5.0% in 1998 (DK: 4%). Within the region the unemployment rate ranges from 4% in the western part in Jutland to above 7% in parts of Northern Jutland.

## CHARACTERISTICS OF THE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN THE REGION

There are four universities and a number of polytechnics and other educational institutions. The universities are:

- Aalborg University, Aalborg, Esbjerg: Engineering&Science, Social Sciences, Humanities. 13,000 students.
- Århus School of Business, Århus: Language and Business Communication, Business Administration. 5,500 students.
- University of Southern Denmark, Odense, Kolding, Esbjerg, Sønderborg: Health Sciences, Natural Sciences & Technology, Social Sciences, Humanities. 16,500 students.
- Århus University, Århus: Humanities, Health Sciences, Social Sciences, Theology, Natural Sciences. 22,000 students.

Some of the universities have departments in other sub-regions in Jutland and Funen.

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF HIGHER EDUCATIONS' ENGAGEMENT IN THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT: The Jutland-Funen Business Development Programme (JF-BDP)

The Jutland-Funen Business Development Programme is co-operation between the eight councils, 173 municipalities in Jutland and Funen, and the Ministry of Economy and Business. The co-operation started in 1998 with the aim of preventing unequal regional development in Denmark by strengthening the business conditions of growth in West Denmark.

The goal is to secure balanced development between the region surrounding the capital of Copenhagen and Western Denmark and also within the Jutland-Funen area. The vision is to strengthen the position of Jutland-Funen in the global knowledge-economy, and to secure the attractiveness of the region for future development and settlement with knowledge, competence/qualifications and innovation. The key areas of co-operation are:

- Education and competence
- Start-ups
- Innovation and research
- IT

JF-BDP initiates projects within these areas. Together with more than 1500 enterprises and more than 100 educational institutions, the co-operation has initiated 51 different projects. Examples of on-going projects:

- 4 IT-centres of excellence, where educational institutions and visionary companies have pooled their competencies in IT-centres. The aim is to bridge the gap between the IT research and business community for mutual benefit.
- The ResearchContact, which initiates projects in which researchers from the Universities in Western Denmark and enterprises meet and network. The purpose of the networks is to facilitate the companies' access to new knowledge and technology developed at the Universities in Western Denmark. In the long run the projects will promote commercialization of research results.

The projects are financed by participating companies, higher education institutions, other educational institutions, counties, municipalities and ministries.

There is a strong focus on the development of new clusters. In order to create innovative ideas, the co-operation arranges camps for knowledge persons in order to provide new projects. Two camps have been held, one dealing with start-ups and another with education. A health-camp is planned for 2005.

## **THE SCOPE AND LEVEL OF THE INVOLVEMENT OF REGIONAL STAKEHOLDERS IN THE PROJECT**

### **RESOURCES FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE REGION**