

Regions and Cities at a Glance 2020 provides a comprehensive assessment of how regions and cities across the OECD are progressing in a number of aspects connected to economic development, health, well-being and net zero-carbon transition. In the light of the health crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the report analyses outcomes and drivers of social, economic and environmental resilience. Consult the full publication [here](#).

OECD REGIONS AND CITIES AT A GLANCE - COUNTRY NOTE

DENMARK

- A. Resilient regional societies
- B. Regional economic disparities and trends in productivity
- C. Well-being in regions
- D. Industrial transition in regions
- E. Transitioning to clean energy in regions
- F. Metropolitan trends in growth and sustainability

The data in this note reflect different subnational geographic levels in OECD countries:

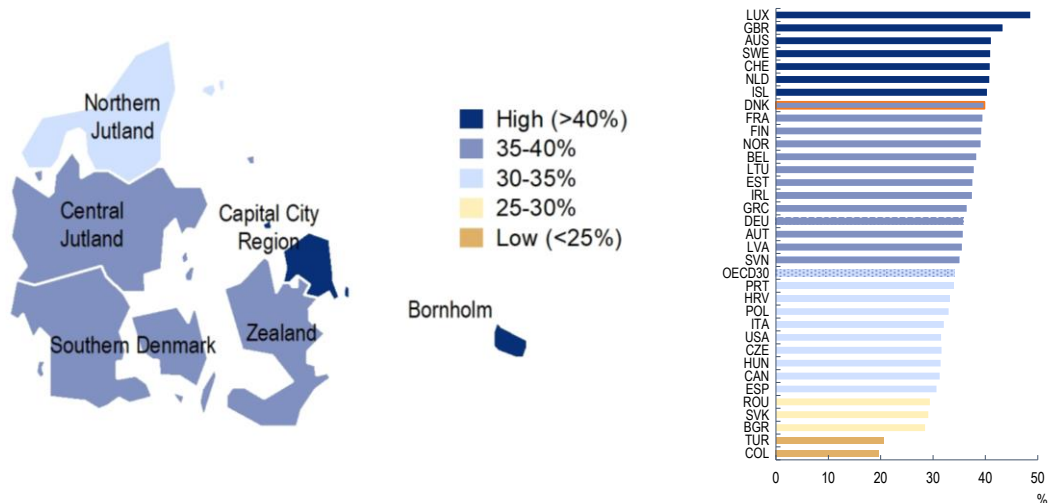
- **Regions** are classified on two territorial levels reflecting the administrative organisation of countries: large regions (TL2) and small regions (TL3). Small regions are classified according to their access to metropolitan areas (see <https://doi.org/10.1787/b902cc00-en>).
- **Functional urban areas** consists of cities – defined as densely populated local units with at least 50 000 inhabitants – and adjacent local units connected to the city (commuting zones) in terms of commuting flows (see <https://doi.org/10.1787/d58cb34d-en>). Metropolitan areas refer to functional urban areas above 250 000 inhabitants.

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Copenhagen has the highest potential for remote working

A1. Share of jobs amenable to remote working, 2018

Large regions (TL2, map)



The share of jobs amenable to remote working across Danish regions ranges from 47% in the capital region to 35% in Northern Jutland and Southern Denmark (Figure A1). Such differences depend on the task content of the occupations in the regions, which can be amenable to remote working to different extents. As for all other OECD countries, occupations available in cities tend to be more amenable to remote working than in other less densely populated areas.

In addition to the type of occupation, fast and efficient digital infrastructure is crucial to seize the opportunities offered by digitalisation. With less than 55% of the buildings covered by optic fiber in 2018, Zealand was the only region with comparatively low fiber optic availability in Denmark (Figure A2).

A2- Internet infrastructure

Share of buildings connected, 2019

○ Fiber ○ Cable ○ xDSL

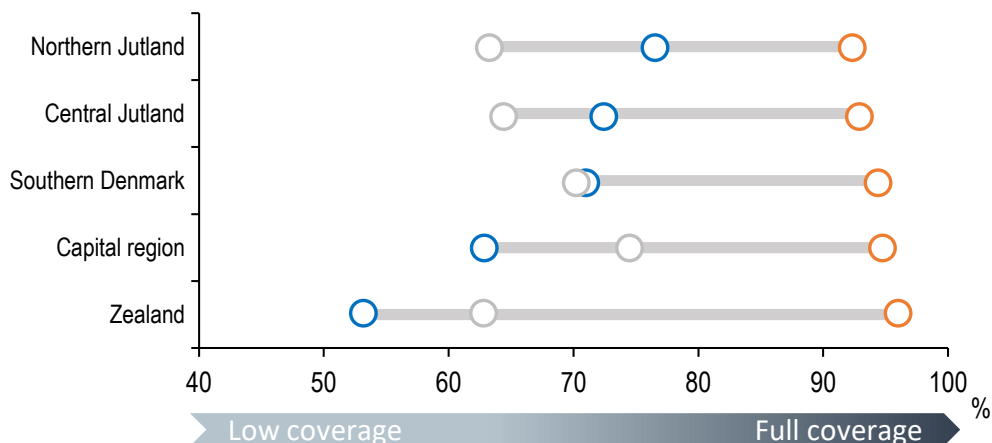
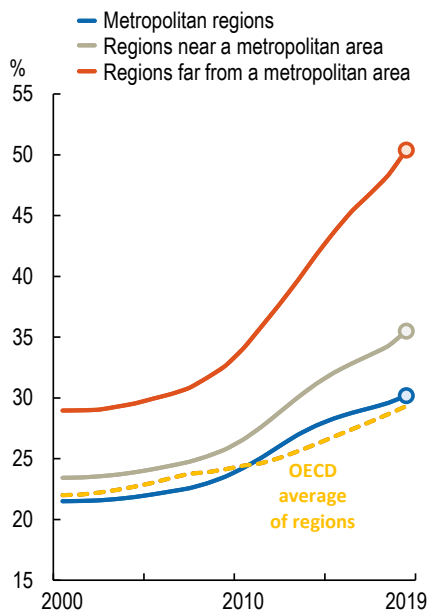


Figure [A1]: The lower percentage range (<25%) depicts the bottom quintile among 370 OECD and EU regions, the following ranges are based on increment of 5 percentage points. Further reading: OECD (2020), Capacity to remote working can affect lockdown costs differently across places, <http://www.oecd.org/coronavirus/policy-responses/capacity-for-remote-working-can-affect-lockdown-costs-differently-across-places-0e85740e/>

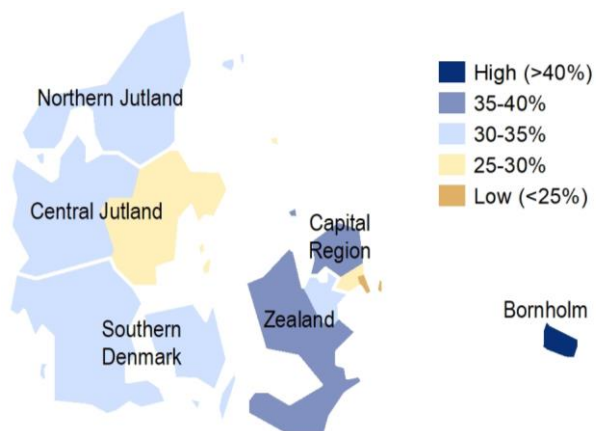
Ageing challenges regions far from metropolitan areas more strongly

The elderly dependency rate, defined as the ratio between the elderly population (65 years and over) and the working age (15-64 years) population, has increased in all types of regions in Denmark since 2010. Regions far from metropolitan areas show the highest elderly dependency rate (50%) among the three types of regions (Figures A3 and A4).

A3. Elderly dependency rate
By type of small regions in Denmark (TL3)



A4. Elderly dependency rate, 2019
Small regions (TL3)



Danish regions have fewer hospital beds per capita than OECD average

All regions in Denmark have significantly less hospital beds per capita than the OECD average (Figure A5). Regional disparities in hospital beds are small in comparative terms, with Southern Denmark, the region with the lowest number of hospital beds per capita in 2018, having 1 bed per 1000 inhabitants more than the region of Copenhagen.

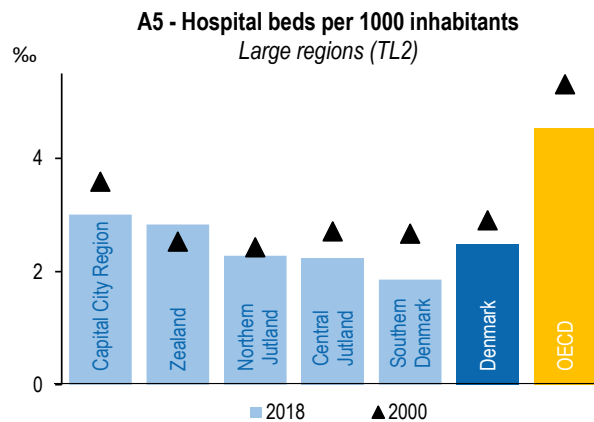


Figure notes. [A3]: OECD (2019), Classification of small (TL3) regions based on metropolitan population, low density and remoteness <https://doi.org/10.1787/b902cc00-en>. Two-year moving averages. [A4]: Small (TL3) regions contained in large regions. TL3 regions in Denmark are composed by 11 Landsdelere.

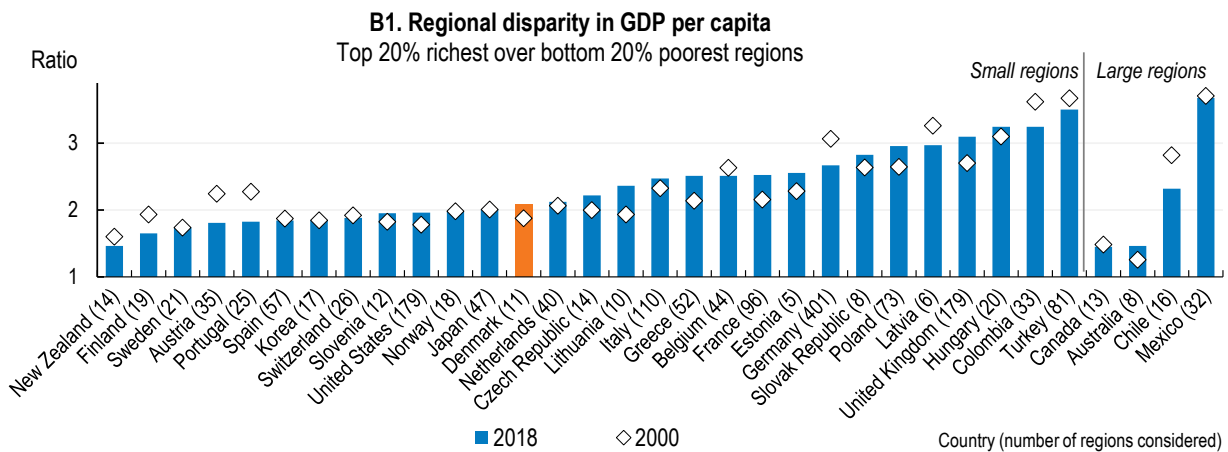
B. Regional economic disparities and trends in productivity

Regional gaps in GDP per capita have increased since 2000, with the region of Copenhagen experiencing the strongest economic growth

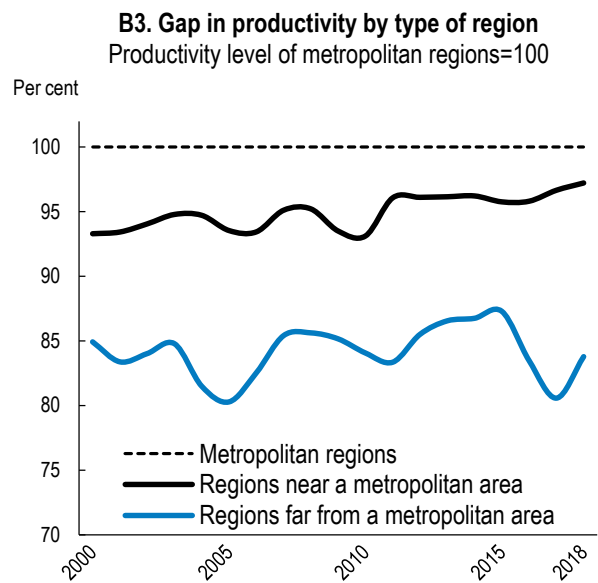
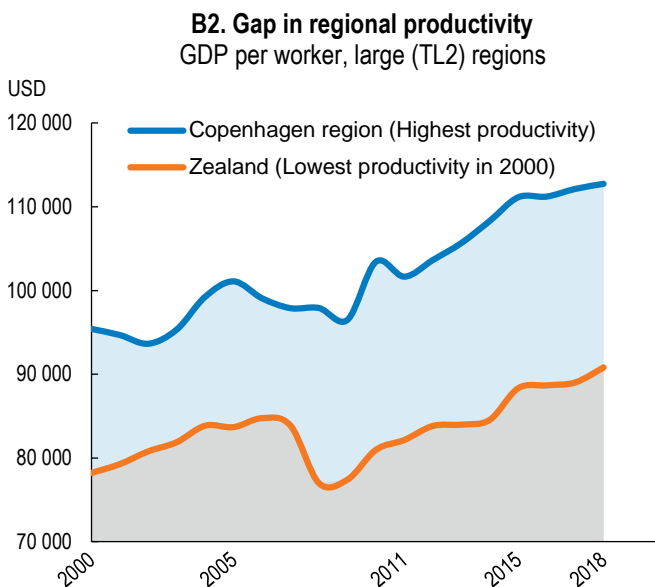
Regional disparities in GDP per capita have increased by 10% in Denmark over the last eighteen years. Behind such a trend is the economic growth of the Copenhagen region, whose GDP per capita growth by more than 20% between 2000 and 2018 was twice as high as in Zealand, the region with the lowest level of GDP per capita in the country. Denmark remains a country with regional disparities below the OECD median (Figure B1).

With a productivity growth of 0.9% per year over the period 2000-18, Southern Denmark has kept pace with Copenhagen, whereas Zealand, the Danish region with the lowest productivity, widened its gap with the capital region (Figure B2).

Overall, regions with access to a metropolitan area of at least 250 000 inhabitants have narrowed their productivity gap with metropolitan regions over the period 2000-18 (Figure B3).

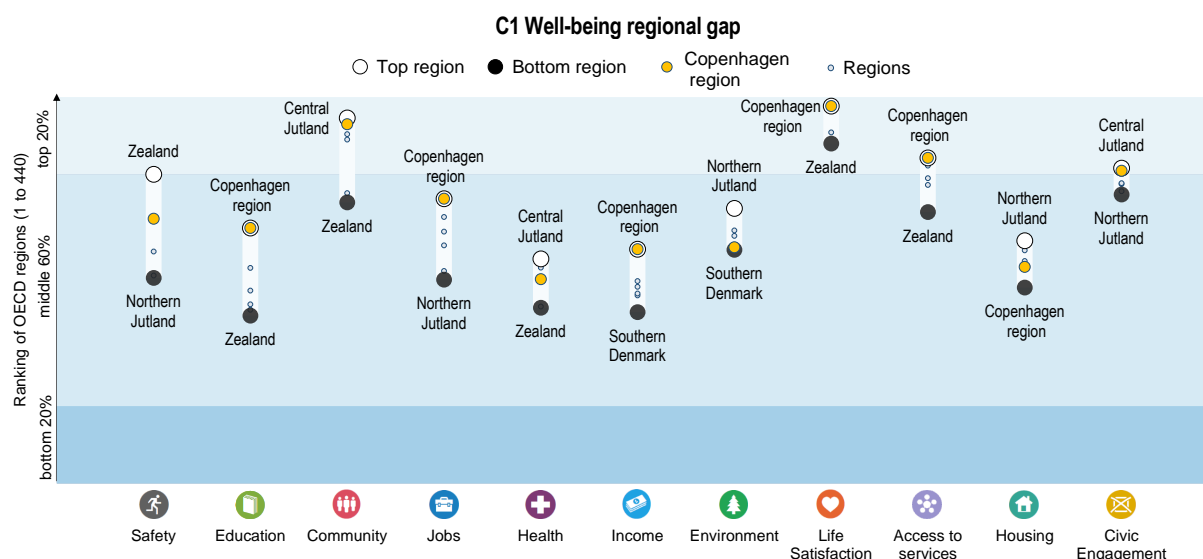


Note: A ratio higher than two means that 20% of the national population living in the richest regions have more than the double of GDP per capita than the 20% population living in the poorest regions.



C. Well-being in regions

The largest differences in well-being across Danish regions concern safety and education



Note: Relative ranking of the regions with the best and worst outcomes in the 11 well-being dimensions, with respect to all 440 OECD regions. The eleven dimensions are ordered by decreasing regional disparities in the country. Each well-being dimension is measured by the indicators in the table below.

While most Danish regions rank in the middle 60% of OECD regions in 9 out of 11 well-being dimensions – including jobs, environment and housing – they all perform among the top 20% of OECD regions in life satisfaction. In contrast, outcomes across regions are very unequal in the dimensions of safety and education. While Zealand is in the top 20% of OECD regions in terms of safety, Northern Jutland is in the middle 60% of OECD regions (Figure C1).

The top performing Danish regions rank above the average of the top OECD regions in 5 out of 13 well-being indicators, particularly in terms of life satisfaction and social support network (Figure C2).

C2. How do the top and bottom regions fare on the well-being indicators?

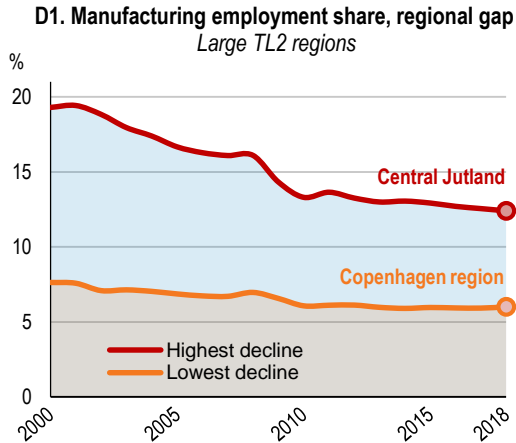
	Country Average	OECD Top 20% regions	Danish regions	
			Top 20%	Bottom 20%
Safety				
Homicide Rate (per 100 000 people), 2016-18	0.9	0.7	0.7	1.2
Education				
Population with at least upper secondary education, 25-64 year-olds (%), 2019	81.5	90.3	85.9	77.3
Community				
Perceived social network support (%), 2014-18	95.3	94.1	96.1	93.9
Jobs				
Employment rate 15 to 64 years old (%), 2019	75.0	76.0	76.8	73.2
Unemployment rate 15 to 64 years old (%), 2019	5.2	3.3	4.9	5.6
Health				
Life Expectancy at birth (years), 2018	81.1	82.6	81.3	80.5
Age adjusted mortality rate (per 1 000 people), 2018	8.1	6.6	7.8	8.4
Income				
Disposable income per capita (in USD PPP), 2018	20 257	26 617	20 257	20 257
Environment				
Level of air pollution in PM 2.5 (µg/m³), 2019	9.6	7.0	9.1	10.4
Life Satisfaction				
Life satisfaction (scale from 0 to 10), 2014-18	7.6	7.3	7.6	7.5
Access to services				
Households with broadband access (%), 2019	91.7	91.3	92.3	89.7
Housing				
Rooms per person, 2018	1.9	2.3	1.9	1.8
Civic engagement				
Voters in last national election (%), 2019 or latest year	83.7	84.2	84.7	82.6

Note: OECD regions refer to the first administrative tier of subnational government (large regions, Territorial Level 2); Denmark is composed of five large regions. Visualisation: <https://www.oecdregionalwellbeing.org>.



D. Industrial transition in regions

Manufacturing employment has declined in all Danish regions since 2000 although manufacturing gross value added has increased in Copenhagen and Zealand



Between 2000 and 2018, all large regions in Denmark experienced a decline in the share of manufacturing employment. The share of manufacturing employment declined at the fastest pace in Central Jutland, with almost 7 percentage point reduction (Figure D1).

The decline in manufacturing employment coincided with a reduction in manufacturing gross value-added in the Danish regions, except in Copenhagen region and Zealand. (Figure D2).

D2. Manufacturing trends, 2000-18

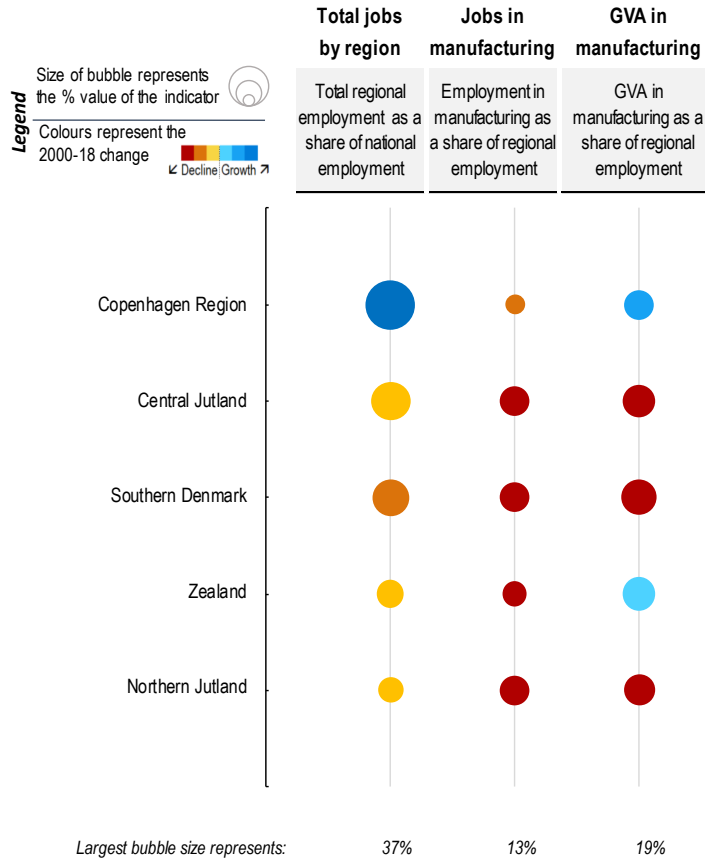


Figure [D.2]: Regions are ordered by regional employment as a share of national employment. Colour of the bubbles represents the evolution of the share over the period 2000-18 in percentage points: red: below -2 pp; orange: between -2 pp and -1 pp; yellow: between -1 pp and 0; light blue: between 0 and +1 pp; medium blue: between +1 pp and +2 pp; dark blue: above +2 pp over the period.



E. Transitioning to clean energy in regions

Central Jutland which accounted for 40% of Danish electricity in 2017, produced most electricity through renewable sources and with limited use of coal

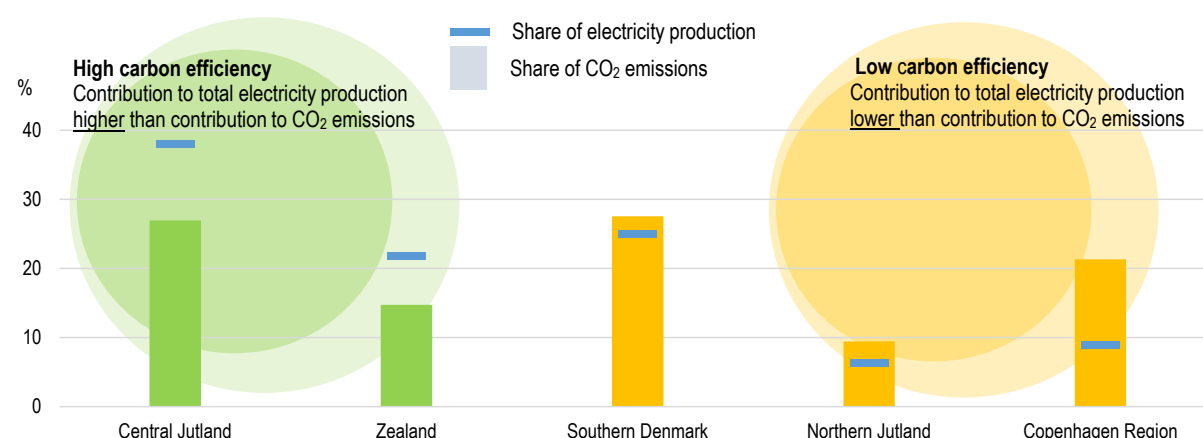
In 2017, Central Jutland – which contributes to almost 40% of the country's electricity – is making progress towards the transition to clean electricity production. While stopping the use of coal remained an important challenge in the region, Central Jutland generated 91% of its electricity using renewable sources in 2017 (Figure E1).

E1. Transition to renewable energy, 2017

	Total electricity generation (in GWh per year)	Regional share of renewables in electricity generation (%)	Regional share of coal in electricity generation (%)	Greenhouse gas emissions from electricity generated (in Ktons of CO ₂ eq.)	
Central Jutland	11 174	91%	9%	2 073	Gen.
Southern Denmark	7 330	58%	23%	2 122	Sou.
Zealand	6 434	80%	20%	1 133	Zea.
Copenhagen Region	2 635	12%	53%	1 642	Cop.
Northern Jutland	1 844	53%	47%	727	Nor.

Carbon efficiency in the production of electricity is very unequal across Danish regions. While Copenhagen Region emitted 620 tons of CO₂ per gigawatt hour of electricity produced in 2017, Central Jutland releases only 185 tons of CO₂ per gigawatt hour. Relative to total national levels, Central Jutland produced 38% of electricity in the country, but it emitted 27% of total CO₂ emissions related to electricity generation (E2).

E2. Contribution to total CO₂ emissions from electricity production, 2017



Note: These estimates refer to electricity production from the power plants connected to the national power grid, as registered in the Power Plants Database. As a result, small electricity generation facilities disconnected from the national power grid might not be captured. Only 95% of the total country's electricity production is covered. Electricity production from Hydro, Waste power plants is missing. See [here](#) for more details.

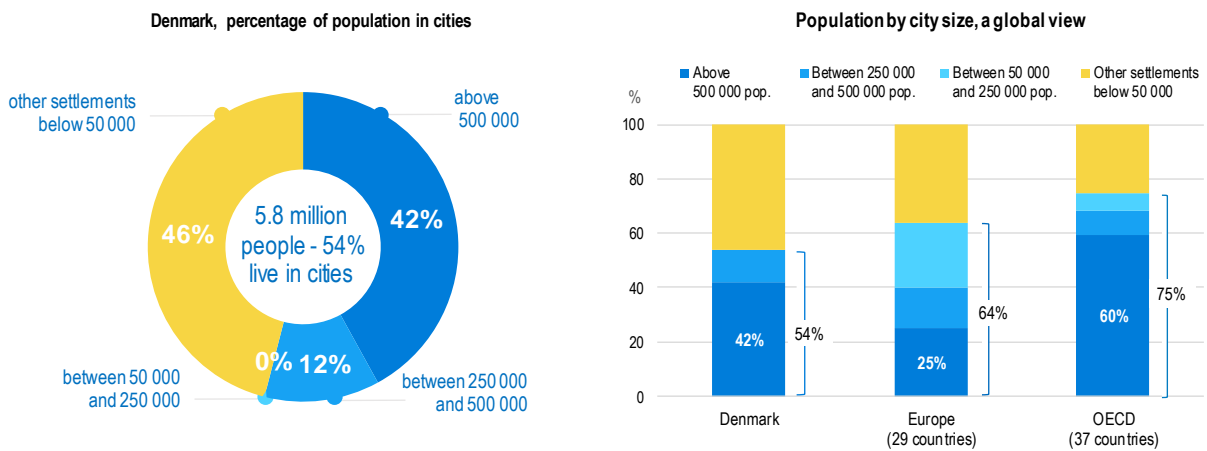


F. Metropolitan trends in growth and sustainability

Compared to the OECD average, a higher share of population in Denmark lives outside cities and their commuting areas

In Denmark, 54% of the population lives in cities of more than 50 000 inhabitants and their respective commuting areas (functional urban areas, FUAs), 21 percentage point below the OECD average. The share of population in metropolitan areas over half a million inhabitants is 42% in Denmark, much below the OECD average of 60% (Figure F1).

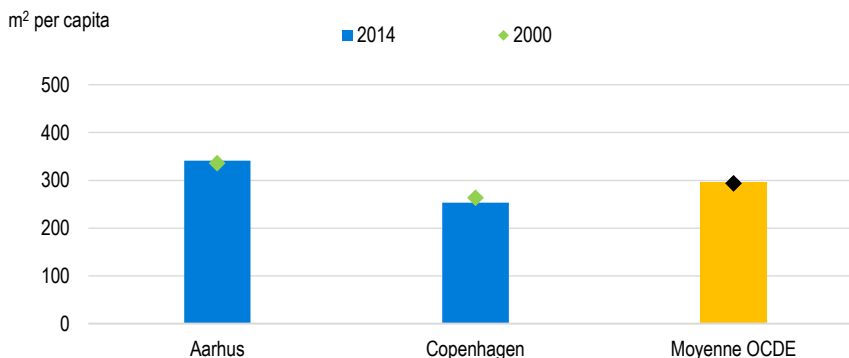
F1. Distribution of population in cities by city size
Functional urban areas, 2018



Built-up area per capita decreased slightly in Copenhagen metropolitan area since 2000

Built-up area per capita in Danish metropolitan areas ranges between 340 and 250 square metres per inhabitant, respectively higher and lower than OECD average of about 300 square metres per inhabitant. In the metropolitan area of Copenhagen, population has grown at highest pace than built-up area since 2000 (Figure F2).

F2. Built-up area per capita
Functional urban areas with more than 500 000 inhabitants



Source: OECD Metropolitan Database. Number of metropolitan areas with a population of over 500 000: two in Denmark compared to 349 in the OECD.

Copenhagen metropolitan area ranks among the top 20% of OECD metropolitan areas in terms of GDP per capita

In terms of GDP per capita, Copenhagen metropolitan area is among the top 20% of OECD metropolitan areas – with more than 500 000 people, and ranks between Helsinki and Oslo (Figure F3).

F3. Trends in GDP per capita in metropolitan areas
Functional urban areas above 500 000 people

