

# Denmark

## Geography

Location: Northern Europe, bordering the Baltic Sea and the North Sea, on a peninsula north of Germany

Area:

total area: 43,070 sq km

land area: 42,370 sq km

note: includes the island of Bornholm in the Baltic Sea and the rest of metropolitan Denmark, but excludes the Faroe Islands and Greenland

Land boundaries: total 68 km, Germany 68 km

Coastline: 3,379 km

Maritime claims:

contiguous zone: 4 nm

continental shelf: 200-m depth or to the depth of exploitation

exclusive fishing zone: 200 nm  
territorial sea: 3 nm

Climate: temperate; humid and overcast; mild, windy winters and cool summers

Terrain: low and flat to gently rolling plains

Natural resources: petroleum, natural gas, fish, salt, limestone

Land use:

arable land: 61%

permanent crops: 0%

meadows and pastures: 6%

forest and woodland: 12%

other: 21%

Irrigated land: 4,300 sq km (1989 est.)

Note: controls Danish Straits linking Baltic and North Seas; about one-quarter of the population lives in Copenhagen

# People

Population: 5,199,437 (July 1995 est.)

Age structure:

0-14 years: 17% (female 430,598; male 451,993)

15-64 years: 68% (female 1,731,531; male 1,780,083)

65 years and over: 15% (female 473,537; male 331,695) (July 1995 est.)

Population growth rate: 0.22% (1995 est.)

Birth rate: 12.38 births/1,000 population (1995 est.)

Death rate: 11.14 deaths/1,000 population (1995 est.)

Net migration rate: 0.96 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1995 est.)

Infant mortality rate: 6.8 deaths/1,000 live births (1995 est.)

Life expectancy at birth:

total population: 76.11 years

male: 73.23 years

female: 79.16 years (1995 est.)

Total fertility rate: 1.69 children born/woman (1995 est.)

Nationality:

noun: Dane(s)

adjective: Danish

Ethnic divisions: Scandinavian, Eskimo, Faroese, German

Religions: Evangelical Lutheran 91%, other Protestant and Roman Catholic 2%, other 7% (1988)

Languages: Danish, Faroese, Greenlandic (an Eskimo dialect), German (small minority)

Literacy: age 15 and over can read and write (1980 est.)  
total population: 99%

Labor force: 2,553,900

by occupation: private services 37.1%, government services 30.4%, manufacturing and mining 20%, construction 6.3%, agriculture, forestry, and fishing 5.6%, electricity/gas/water 0.6% (1991)

# Government

## Names:

conventional long form: Kingdom of Denmark

conventional short form: Denmark

local long form: Kongeriget Danmark

local short form: Danmark

Capital: Copenhagen

Independence: 1849 (became a constitutional monarchy)

National holiday: Birthday of the Queen, 16 April (1940)

Constitution: 5 June 1953

Legal system: civil law system; judicial review of legislative acts;  
accepts compulsory ICJ jurisdiction, with reservations

Suffrage: 18 years of age; universal

Flag: red with a white cross that extends to the edges of the flag;  
the vertical part of the cross is shifted to the hoist side, and that

design element of the DANNEBROG (Danish flag) was subsequently adopted by the other Nordic countries of Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden

## Economy

Overview: This thoroughly modern economy features high-tech agriculture, up-to-date small-scale and corporate industry, extensive government welfare measures, comfortable living standards, and high dependence on foreign trade. Denmark is self-sufficient in food production. Although unemployment is high, it remains stable compared to most European countries.

Industries: food processing, machinery and equipment, textiles and clothing, chemical products, electronics, construction, furniture, and other wood products, shipbuilding

Agriculture: accounts for 4% of GDP; principal products - meat, dairy, grain, potatoes, rape, sugar beets, fish

## Transportation

### Railroads:

total: 2,838 km (494 km privately owned and operated)

### Highways:

total: 71,042 km

Inland waterways: 417 km

Pipelines: crude oil 110 km; petroleum products 578 km; natural gas 700 km

Ports: Alborg, Aarhus, Copenhagen, Esbjerg, Fredericia, Grenaa, Koge, Odense, Struer

### Airports:

total: 118

## Defence Forces

Branches: Royal Danish Army, Royal Danish Navy, Royal Danish Air Force, Home Guard