

Stockholm County Council in brief

Stockholm County Council's activities affect over one fifth of Sweden's population. The geographical area covered by the council includes 26 municipalities of various sizes and characters, with a total population of 1.9 million.



The county in figures

Millions of inhabitants

County 1.9

Country 9.0

Inhabitants/sqkm

County 289

Country 22

Number gainfully employed

County 942,000

Country 4,234,000

Number of dwellings
(including single family homes)

County 890,000

Country 4,232,000

Focus in the period 2003 – 2006

Healthcare Services

The health care of the County Council is organised as follows:

- Primary care
- Local emergency wards
- Hospital care
- Psychiatric care
- Geriatric care
- Dental care

The County Council is responsible for health care activities on a variety of levels, spanning services such as a healthcare hotline to highly-specialised care at the university hospital.

County residents have the right to choose their doctor and hospital.

The County Council engages the services of both private and public care providers. About half of healthcare services are provided by establishments directly owned by the County Council, one quarter by County Council-owned companies and one quarter by private care providers.

Equality and Environment - from a sustainable perspective
A perspective of equality must be integrated in all activities and all decisions. The County Council should be a shining example in this area. Equality means that men and women should have the same opportunities, rights and obligations regarding power, responsibility and influence, at work, in the family and in public life.

The County Council aspires to be a role model in environmental and sustainability issues. Before taking any major decision about changes in its activities, the County Council evaluates the environmental impact and the extent to which the decision will lead toward ecological, economic and socially sustainable development. The County Council works actively to reduce its impact on the environment.

Mandate

Stockholm County Council's mandate is to ensure that its residents have access to health care and public transport. The county focuses resources to preventing health problems and to making culture accessible to all of its residents. Important elements of the County Council's operation include long-term traffic planning, regional growth and development and environmental issues.

From countryside to metropolis

Greater Stockholm is a green metropolitan area. Only one seventh of the land is built on and large water surfaces such as lake Mälaren and Saltsjön offer expansive views and invaluable nature. The archipelago adorns the region with its 30,000 islands, islets and skerries. Some 14,000 residents live year-round on about 150 of these islands. Another few hundred thousand people enjoy the archipelago for recreation and holidays.



Research and development

The Stockholm region has a strong focus on research. In the year 2005 the County Council invested SEK 1,2 milliard (Euro 120 billions) in research and development and education in the Stockholm County Council region. It is responsible for one third of the country's total research and development projects, mainly within the fields of medicine and biomedicine.

In 2004 the Stockholm County Council took a major step forward by signing a cooperation agreement with Karolinska Institutet, known as the ALF agreement. Karolinska Institutet is the only medical university in Sweden. The agreement promotes a broader, integrated collaboration within research, development and education, with a focus on health care.

Public transport

On land

Both people and nature benefit from people choosing public transport rather than taking the car into the city.

Each weekday public transport is boarded 2.3 million times. A total of 622,000 travellers use the buses, underground, commuter and local trains for which SL is responsible.

As a key component in the focus on renewable energy sources today, both biogas buses and fuel cell buses are operating in Stockholm. The other 250 buses in downtown Stockholm run on ethanol. SL has the world's largest ethanol bus fleet.

Public transport by water

The archipelago offers unique opportunities to experience nature to both Stockholm residents and tourists. The Waxholmsbolaget ferry company is responsible for regular traffic in Stockholm's archipelago and harbour. A total of 33 lines of ferries transport about 1.8 million passengers and ship 7,000 tonnes of goods. In summer boats stop at 270 jetties in the archipelago and in winter 145.

Culture

The County Council stimulates and creates conditions for a rich and versatile selection of culture in the county. Financial support of the county's cultural activities and associations is one important element; other important cultural activities include county handicraft consultants, Culture in Healthcare and artistic decoration of County Council premises. The County Council is also the main financial sponsor of the Stockholm Concert Hall.

On an ordinary day in Stockholm county

- 60 children are born
- 32,300 people are taken care of by the healthcaresystem
- 17,200 people visit a doctor
- 490 people have surgery
- 13 patients are given emergency treatment for a heart attack
- 745 patients are hospitalised
- people board some form of public transport 2,259,000 times
- transport services for the disabled make 10,000 journeys.

Regional planning and development

Wherever you are in the Stockholm region, you are always close to green area. This is not just a matter of chance. The County Council coordinates land use throughout the region. The same applies to residential and traffic planning. The aim is to achieve a balance among the different parts of the region. Another priority is to encourage development of the business community. The County aspires to be a model among European urban regions in terms of health, quality of life and the environment.

The Office of Regional Planning and Urban Transport is responsible for issues related to energy, rural areas, the environment, the archipelago and conservation of natural resources.

Real estate

The County Council has 2.4 million square meters of real estate, which premises account for 2.2 million. The County Council commissioned Locum to manage County Council-owned properties. The responsibilities include leasing, maintenance, operations, care and financing.

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