
DENMARK

Kongeriget Danmark

Area: 43,075 sq. km

Population: 5,145,000

Capital: Copenhagen [København]

Head of State: HM Queen Margrethe II

Minister of the Interior: Britta Schall-Holberg

Emergency Services: 000

Denmark is divided into the Copenhagen Metropolitan Area and 14 provinces in two areas (chief cities in brackets):

Oerne Land

Bornholms (Bornholm)	Roskilde (Roskilde)
Frederiksberg (Hillerød)	Storstrøms (Nykøbing)
Fyns (Odense)	Vestsjællands (Soro)
København (København)	

Jylland

Aarhus (Aarhus)	Sønderjylland (Aabenra)
Nordjyllands (Alborg)	Vejle (Vejle)
Ribe (Ribe)	Viborg (Viborg)
Ringkøbing (Ringkøbing)	

The Faroe Islands and Greenland (Grønland) are also Danish territory. Greenland has 15 communes in three regions (Nordgrønland, Ostgrønland and Vestgrønland).

INTRODUCTION

The first full-time police force in Denmark was created in Copenhagen in 1590. Many other large towns formed municipal police forces during the 17th century. Until 1911 the Danish police forces were raised and subsidized by the municipalities, although it was the Crown's privilege to appoint their chiefs. Thereafter the tendency for a centralized administration was officially recognized, culminating in the creation of a State Police (Rigspolitiet) in 1919. The existing municipal forces were absorbed into the State Police in 1938.

ORGANIZATION

The State Police is headed by a Chief of Police (Rigspolitichefen), who reports to the Minister of the Interior. Denmark is divided into 72 police districts (politidistrict), each one under a Director of Police. Personnel are allocated to divisions (politikammererne), commanded by a Police Master (Politimester), and stations (politikontorerne).

The State police comprises four main sections. The Civil Police (Civilpolitiet) is the municipal force; the Land Police (Landpolitiet) is the rural force; the Criminal Police (Kriminalpolitiet) is the crime-fighting force, and also conducts prosecutions in police courts; the Order Police (Ordenspoli-

tiet), with most personnel drawn from the provincial units, is in charge of public order, crowd control and ceremonial duties. There is also a Flying Squad (Rejseafdelingen), with a similar role to its British equivalent. The Police is also responsible for civil defence and has a special unit (Civilforsvarafdeling) for that purpose.

Police recruits must be Danish nationals, aged between 20 and 25, at least 1.72 m tall, of good character, healthy and reasonably educated. Following a ten-week training course at the Police College in Copenhagen, the recruit must complete a two-year probationary assignment, becoming a full police officer upon its successful completion.

Training is mainly conducted in State Police establishments; exchange trainees are also sent abroad, usually to the other Scandinavian countries. After four years in uniform, policemen may apply for a transfer to the Criminal Police, which is implemented after a six-month specialist course.

The current (1981–2) personnel strength is 6828 Order Police officers and 1797 Criminal Police officers. These figures compare well with a total of 6970 and 1666 (1977), and 6965 and 1698 (1979).

Rigspolitichefen, Københavns Vej 14, 2500 København (14 14 48)

Direktoratet for Kriminalforsorgen, Klarebodgade 1, København (13 57 83)

Kriminalforsorgens Personaleskole, Faengselsvej 1, Albertslund, København (64 43 00)

OPERATIONS

As in the other Scandinavian countries; certain types of crime – shoplifting, drug abuse and sexual offences – are on the increase. Civil disobedience is not uncommon, although serious riots are rare. Denmark can still be considered one of the more law-abiding countries of the world. The following statistics cover the 1978–81 period:

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total number of arrests</i>	<i>Violations of Penal Code</i>
1977	108,357	28,449
1978	113,271	30,581
1979	67,414	27,336
1980	87,645	35,567
1981	98,938	35,639

PRIVATE SECURITY

The main private security companies in Denmark are:

Dansk Firma Kontrol I/S, Blojhojvej 6B, 2450 København (30 42 02)

Dansk Sikkerhedsselskab A/S, Gammel Koge Landevej 105, 2500 København-Valby (17 10 88)

Handvaerker- & Servicecentralen A/S, Falkoner Alle 59, 2000 København (87 87 87)

PanSafe A/S, Fredericiagade 33A, 1310 København (11 17 77)

Protectas A/S, Norre Oldgade 82, 1358 København (13 77 13)