

URBAN LIFE ACCOUNT

► TRENDS IN COPENHAGEN'S URBAN LIFE 2013

Copenhageners enjoy their access to taking a stroll on the grass, finding a seat in the sun or taking part in cultural events. Copenhageners walk more than the average Dane and often visit cafés, Nyhavn or the beach in the summer. Urban Life Account 2013 finds that nine out of ten Copenhageners are happy with the quality of urban life in Copenhagen.

Copenhagen's vision is to be a city with a diverse and unique urban life for all. A metropolis for people. We have three specific urban life goals for 2015: More urban life for all, More people to walk more and More people to stay longer.

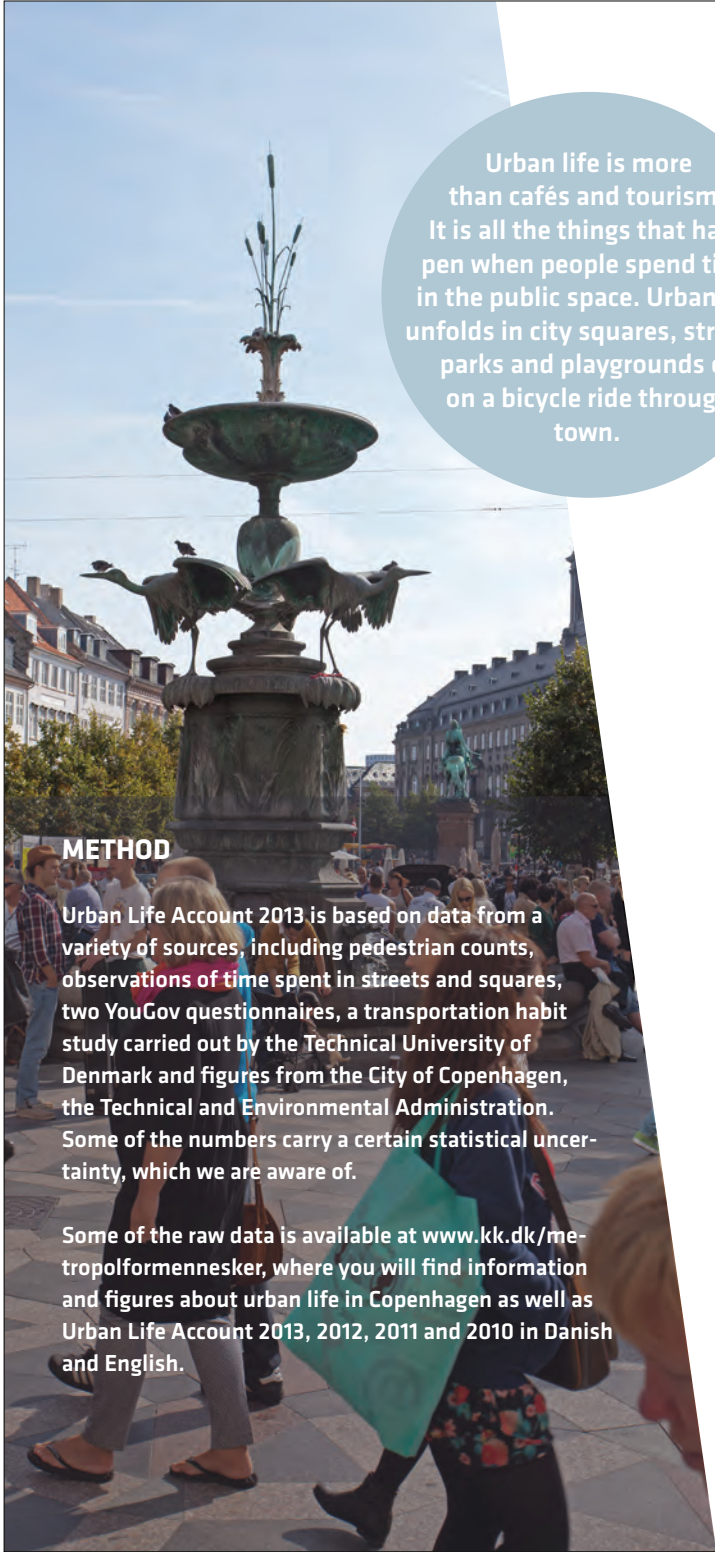
Urban Life Account 2013 outlines key trends and present surveys and figures for urban life as well as statements from local citizens about their experiences and opinions. We take stock of the three goals and look at the development of urban life, annual variations, the impact of weather etc. This helps us review our efforts and determine what works.

Urban Life Account 2013 repeats key surveys for a comparison with 2012. In addition, Urban Life Account 2013 specifically looks at children's use of the urban space. The theme Urban Life from a Child's Perspective offers a snapshot of the urban space according to some of the youngest Copenhageners. Figures and surveys are supplemented with qualitative statements and points of view from local residents.



**COPENHAGEN
TOGETHER**

CITY OF COPENHAGEN
The Technical and
Environmental Administration



Urban life is more than cafés and tourism. It is all the things that happen when people spend time in the public space. Urban life unfolds in city squares, streets, parks and playgrounds or on a bicycle ride through town.

METHOD

Urban Life Account 2013 is based on data from a variety of sources, including pedestrian counts, observations of time spent in streets and squares, two YouGov questionnaires, a transportation habit study carried out by the Technical University of Denmark and figures from the City of Copenhagen, the Technical and Environmental Administration. Some of the numbers carry a certain statistical uncertainty, which we are aware of.

Some of the raw data is available at www.kk.dk/metropolformennesker, where you will find information and figures about urban life in Copenhagen as well as Urban Life Account 2013, 2012, 2011 and 2010 in Danish and English.



1. MORE URBAN LIFE FOR ALL

2013 status

The general status is good

A vibrant and varied urban life is important for Copenhageners

The local areas have a vibrant and varied urban life

The city is a stage

Events for all

Copenhageners love their coffee al fresco

Copenhagen and local areas



2. MORE PEOPLE TO WALK MORE

2013 status

Copenhageners walk more than the average Dane

Means of transportation and the distribution of trips in 2013

Where do Copenhageners walk?

Safety

Women's streets and men's streets

Copenhageners enjoy being outdoors

Traffic and crowding in the city



3. MORE PEOPLE TO STAY LONGER

2013 status

Visits to city squares and shopping streets

The most popular spots to spend time

Street life on a pleasant day in Sønder Boulevard

What do we when we're out?

What might make Copenhageners spend more time in the urban space?

Seating in the urban space

Copenhageners like to visit the city's parks

Calm and peaceful zones in the city

Noise in the city



4. URBAN LIFE FROM A CHILD'S PERSPECTIVE

Room for play in the children's city

Families with children stay in the city

The city's playgrounds, family oases

The most popular playgrounds

What do we do when we visit the city's playgrounds?

Satisfaction with the city's playgrounds

Urban life from a child's perspective

Visits to the Tower Playground on a pleasant day

New urban spaces for children and their families

Guldbergs Byplads – play, movement and a place to relax

Urban life in Guldbergs Byplads on a pleasant day

PREFACE

A METROPOLIS FOR PEOPLE

Urban Life Account 2013 outlines how Copenhageners use, spend time in and move through the city. The account helps us see what we can do to expand and improve urban life.

Urban life is everything that happens when people travel through and spend time in city squares, streets and parks, in playgrounds or on a bicycle ride through town. Our vision is to preserve Copenhagen as a metropolis for people.

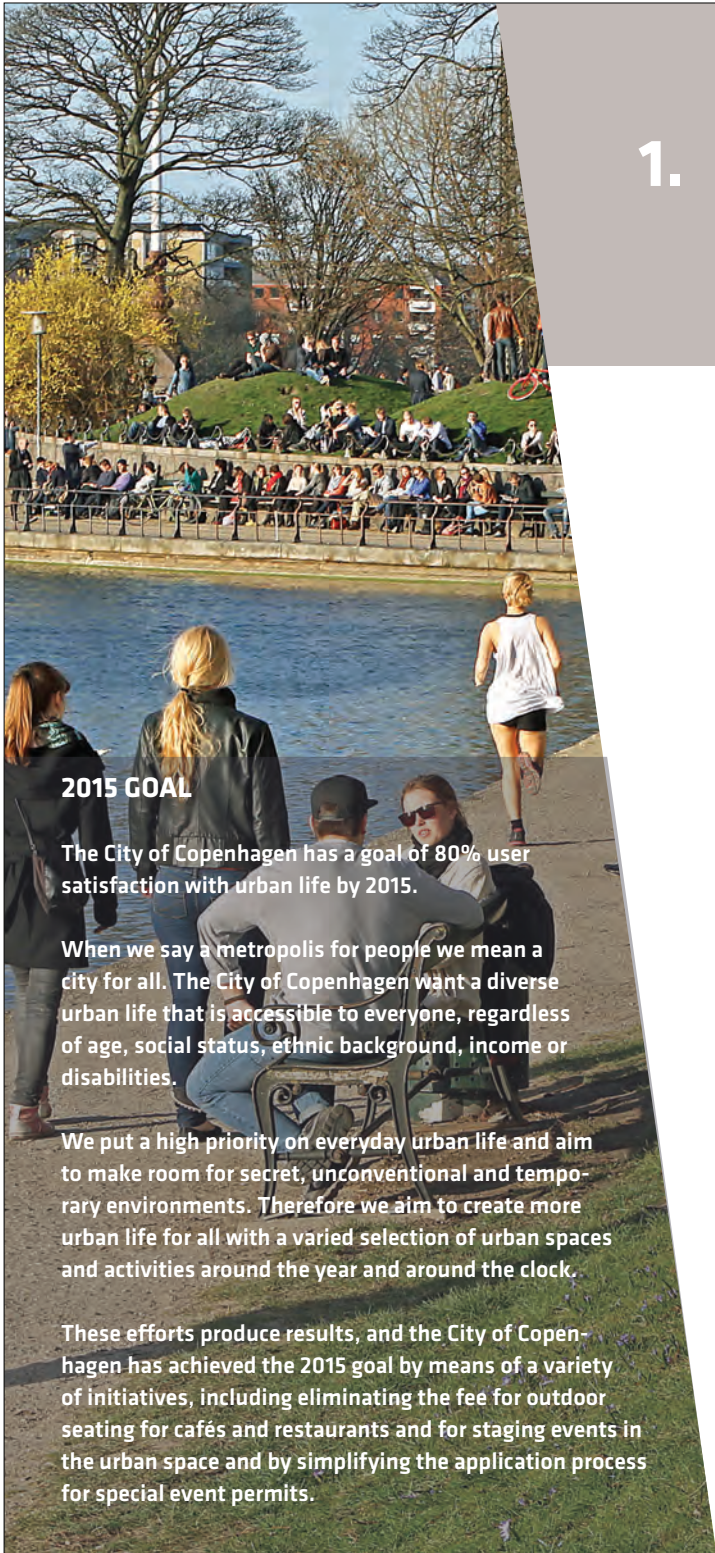
In 2009, Copenhagen's City Council passed the initiative A Metropolis for People. The initiative is guided by the following vision: 'We will become the world's most liveable city: a sustainable city with urban space inviting people to a unique and varied urban life. We will become a metropolis for people.' The initiative outlines three specific goals for urban life: More urban life for all, More people to walk more and More people to stay longer. Urban life in Copenhagen is of course a diverse affair, but the three goals reflect our ambition of enabling everyone to take part in urban life.

The Technical and Environmental Administration is already pursuing a variety of initiatives to promote the goals set out in A Metropolis for People, and we launch new activities continually. Urban Life Account 2013 provides a qualified basis for working with local citizens, home owners, business owners and professionals on targeted efforts to create the world's most liveable city.

I look forward to seeing the continued impact of our efforts to improve urban life in Copenhagen.

Morten Kabell
Mayor, Technical and Environmental Administration





1. MORE URBAN LIFE FOR ALL

BY 2015, 80% OF COPENHAGENERS SHOULD BE SATISFIED WITH THEIR OPPORTUNITIES FOR TAKING PART IN URBAN LIFE.

2013-STATUS

IN 2012, 82% OF COPENHAGENERS WERE SATISFIED OR VERY SATISFIED WITH THEIR OPPORTUNITIES FOR TAKING PART IN URBAN LIFE.

2015 GOAL

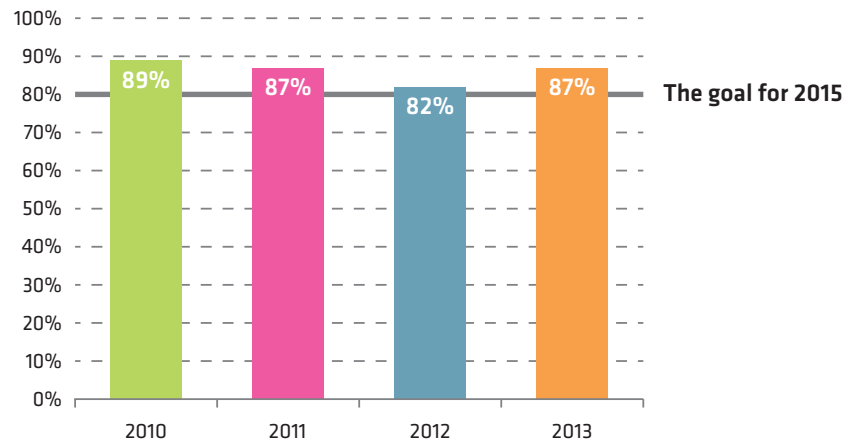
The City of Copenhagen has a goal of 80% user satisfaction with urban life by 2015.

When we say a metropolis for people we mean a city for all. The City of Copenhagen want a diverse urban life that is accessible to everyone, regardless of age, social status, ethnic background, income or disabilities.

We put a high priority on everyday urban life and aim to make room for secret, unconventional and temporary environments. Therefore we aim to create more urban life for all with a varied selection of urban spaces and activities around the year and around the clock.

These efforts produce results, and the City of Copenhagen has achieved the 2015 goal by means of a variety of initiatives, including eliminating the fee for outdoor seating for cafés and restaurants and for staging events in the urban space and by simplifying the application process for special event permits.

2013 STATUS



Source: YouGov

THE VAST MAJORITY OF COPENHAGENERS AGREE THAT COPENHAGEN'S URBAN LIFE IS VIBRANT AND VARIED AND THAT THE CITY OFFERS MANY EXCITING ACTIVITIES. 9 OUT OF 10 COPENHAGENERS ARE SATISFIED WITH THEIR OPPORTUNITIES FOR TAKING PART IN URBAN LIFE.



THE GENERAL STATUS IS GOOD

In 2013, we asked the Copenhageners how satisfied they are with their opportunities for taking part in urban life. We found that 87% are happy with their opportunities.

A more detailed look at findings reveals a positive trend. The 2012 survey found a drop since 2011 in the number of Copenhageners who agreed strongly that the city offers many exciting activities. 2013 shows a positive trend, as 37% agree strongly that Copenhagen offers many exciting activities.

A VIBRANT AND VARIED URBAN LIFE IS IMPORTANT FOR COPENHAGENERS

When we ask the Copenhageners, 93% say that they find it important that Copenhagen has a vibrant and varied urban life.

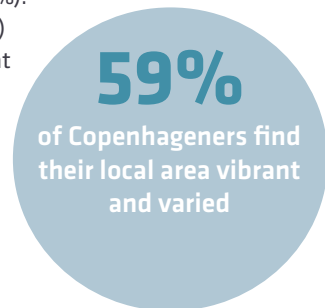
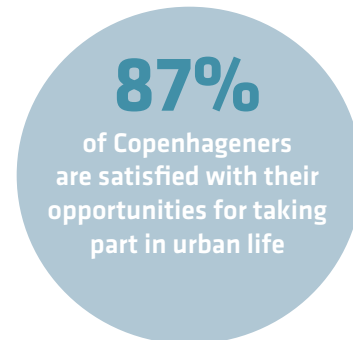
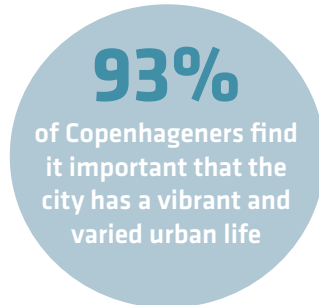
Compared with 2012, the trend is more or less unchanged, and the level is largely constant if the two categories 'very important' and 'important' are viewed as one. The main difference is that in 2013, even more Copenhageners agreed strongly that a vibrant and varied urban life is very important. (In 2012, 49% found it very important, compared with 57% in 2013).

THE LOCAL AREAS HAVE A VIBRANT AND VARIED URBAN LIFE

59% of Copenhageners find their local area vibrant and varied. This marks a positive change from 2012 to 2013, as 13% more Copenhageners in 2013 find their local area to be vibrant and varied.

The picture is largely the same across the local areas. 85% of Copenhageners living in the Inner City and Christianshavn, and 84% of Copenhageners in Nørrebro generally agree that their local area is vibrant and varied.

The share of Copenhageners who agree that their local area offers many exciting activities has remained stable from 2012 (44%) to 2013 (46%). Nørrebro (65%) and the Inner City and Christianshavn (65%) stand out with a larger share of local residents agreeing that their local areas offer many exciting activities.





COPENHAGENERS LOVE TO TAKE PART IN OR WATCH EVENTS IN THE URBAN SPACE. FROM 2012 TO 2013, THERE WERE 26% MORE EVENTS IN THE CITY, MAINLY IN THE INNER CITY AND IN NØRREBRO, VESTERBRO AND ØSTERBRO.

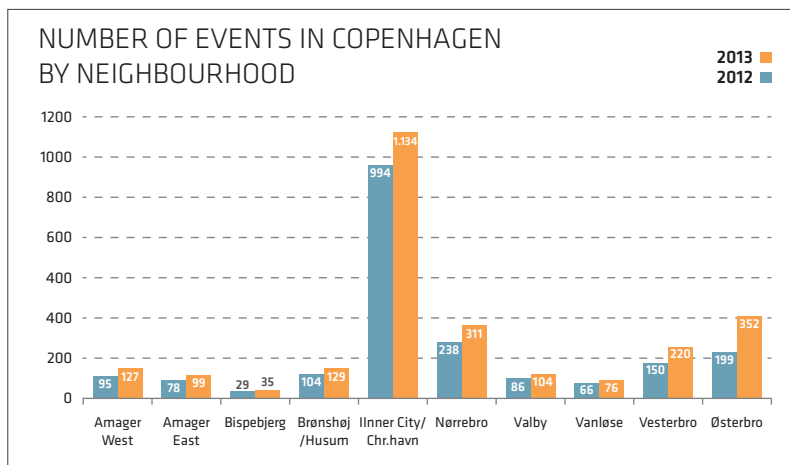


THE CITY IS A STAGE

Copenhagen has more and more street festivals, flea markets, art exhibitions and other outdoor events. The number of events is rising, and every year sees new festivals, sports and cultural events that offer Copenhageners of all ages an opportunity to take part or watch.

In 2013, the City of Copenhagen issued 2,671 special event permits, an average of seven a day. That marks an increase of 26% compared with the 2,118 permits issued in 2012. Since 2010, the increase is almost 39%, from 1,916 special event permits. This trend matches the Technical and Environmental Administration's strategy of improving conditions for urban life, including events in the outlying districts.

In 2013, a total of 1,134 special event permits were issued for the Inner City, including Christianshavn, which accounts for about half the special event permits issued in Copenhagen.



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration 2013

EVENTS FOR ALL

Compared with the 2012 survey, the frequency of Copenhageners' participation in events in the urban space is largely unchanged. As in the previous surveys, the most popular events in 2013 were markets, concerts, cultural events and exhibitions.

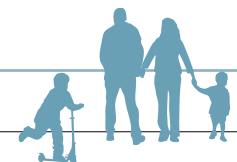
73% of Copenhageners say that they take part in or are spectators at an event in the urban space at least a couple of times a year. Of this group, 29% say that they take part in events at least once a month.

There are distinct differences among the neighbourhoods. The most pronounced trend is that the residents of Nørrebro attend local events, such as concerts, festivals and neighbourhood parties more often than other Copenhageners. Nørrebro residents, however, are also the least likely to take part in running events in their local area. Residents in Vanløse/Brønshøj-Husum/Bispebjerg are generally the least likely to attend special events in their neighbourhood.

URBAN LIFE FROM A CHILD'S PERSPECTIVE

When we ask Copenhageners about their attendance of local events, Copenhageners with children seem more likely to attend local events than Copenhageners without children. 68% of families with children, for example, are significantly more likely to go to market days than Copenhageners without children. 47% of Copenhageners with children are generally very satisfied with the availability of events for children.

Source: YouGov





89%

of Copenhageners are generally satisfied with the availability of cafés and restaurants with outdoor seating

FOUR OUT OF TEN COPENHAGENERS SIT OUTDOORS IN A CAFÉ OR RESTAURANT AT LEAST A COUPLE OF TIMES A WEEK IN SUMMER.

NOT EVEN WINTER CAN KEEP THE COPENHAGENERS INDOORS. IN WINTER, 37% OF COPENHAGENERS HAVE A CUP OF COFFEE AL FRESCO AT LEAST A FEW TIMES A WEEK.



COPENHAGENERS LOVE THEIR COFFEE AL FRESCO

Outdoor seating in cafés is spreading and has changed the use of the urban space profoundly. The availability of outdoor seating combines several attractions: having a cup of coffee, a seat in the sun, enjoying the view, observing activities in the urban space and people-watching. A total of 800 outdoor seating permits were issued in 2013, an increase of 28% since 2012. Between 2010 and 2013, the total number of outdoor seating permits increased by 78%. In 2013, there were about 19,000 outdoor seats in the city, and 89% of Copenhageners are generally satisfied with the availability of cafés and restaurants with outdoor seating. This is unchanged since 2012.

Copenhageners were asked to estimate how often and how long they use outdoor seating in cafés and restaurants. 48% of Copenhageners say that they spend between 20 and 59 minutes, and 40% estimate 1-3 hours. In summer, 42% use outdoor seating in cafés and restaurants on a weekly basis, and in winter, 37% sit outdoors in cafés and restaurants at least once a week. The number of Copenhageners who use outdoor seating in cafés and restaurants in the winter has more than doubled, with an increase of 208%, and it is increasingly common to see the furniture being set up as a signal all year round, whenever possible. Outdoor seating permits are free of charge but require an application to the City of Copenhagen

TIME SPENT OUTDOORS IN CAFÉS



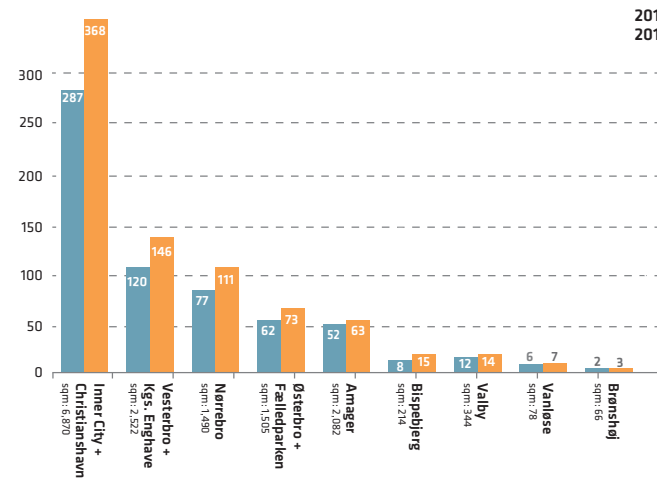
Source YouGov

COPENHAGENS DIFFERENT AREAS

From 2012 to 2013, there has been a substantial increase in the availability of outdoor seating in cafés and restaurants of 44% in Nørrebro and 22% in Vesterbro. In Bispebjerg, Valby, Vanløse and Brønshøj, the figure has remained stable. The number of permits is generally low in the latter four areas. Unsurprisingly, the highest availability of outdoor seating is in the Inner City, including Christianshavn.

71% of Copenhageners are generally satisfied with the availability of cafés and restaurants with outdoor seating in their local area. This is unchanged compared with 2012. 80% of the residents in Østerbro and 88% of the residents in the Inner City and Christianshavn have generally become more satisfied with the availability of outdoor seating in their local area. 45% of residents in Vanløse, Brønshøj- Husum and Bispebjerg have grown less satisfied with the local availability of cafés and restaurants with outdoor seating.

THE NUMBER OF OUTDOOR SEATING PERMITS BY AREA



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration 2013

2. MORE PEOPLE TO WALK MORE

BY 2015, PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC HAS INCREASED BY 20% COMPARED WITH 2010.

2013-STATUS

IN 2013, COPENHAGENERS WALKED FOR 14.94 MINUTES A DAY (CORRESPONDING TO 1.35 KM A DAY).

TRIPS THAT INCLUDE OTHER MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THIS FIGURE.

ALTHOUGH THE GOAL HAS BEEN ACHIEVED - AND EXCEEDED - THE CITY CONTINUES TO STRIVE TO IMPROVE ACCESSIBILITY.

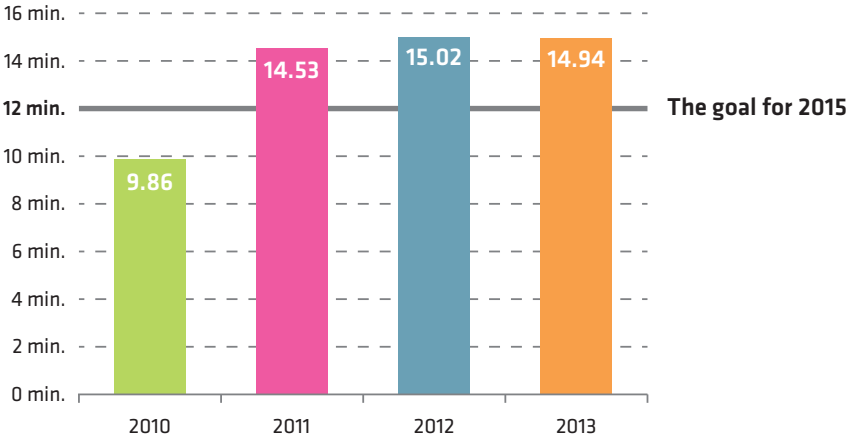
2015 GOAL

The City of Copenhagen has a goal of achieving a 20% increase in pedestrian traffic from 2010 to 2015 to an average of 12 minutes a day.

Every day, many different users share the street space, and one of the most important tasks for the City's traffic planners is to make room for everybody, keeping Copenhagen attractive, environmentally friendly, vibrant and easy to traverse. All trips begin on foot. We either walk to a bicycle, a car or the nearest bus, train or metro stop - or we walk all the way to our destination.

The City of Copenhagen aims to promote urban life and pedestrian traffic as part of the project A Metropolis for People. This effort includes a new pedestrian strategy with a long list of initiatives aimed at making Copenhagen even more attractive for pedestrians. The strategy specifies four focus areas: A development of pedestrian culture, Pedestrian routes and meeting places, Shopping streets and Traffic junctions.

2013 STATUS



Source: Transportation habit study, Technical University of Denmark
A 'walk' is defined as walking to or from a parked means of transportation, walking to and from end-destinations or recreational walks.



ON AVERAGE, COPENHAGENERS TAKE MORE WALKS ON WEEKDAYS THAN AT WEEKENDS, BUT THE WALKS ARE TYPICALLY LONGER AT WEEKENDS THAN ON WEEKDAYS.

COPENHAGENERS WALK FOR 14.94 MINUTES A DAY, CORRESPONDING TO 1.35 KM. THAT IS MORE THAN 5 MINUTES AND HALF A KM MORE THAN THE AVERAGE DANE, WHO WALKS 9.42 MINUTES A DAY, CORRESPONDING TO 0.85 KM.



COPENHAGENERS WALK MORE THAN THE AVERAGE DANE

Copenhagensers walk for 14.94 minutes a day, corresponding to a distance of 1.35 km. That is slightly over 5 minutes and half a km more than the average Dane, who only spends 9.42 minutes walking, corresponding to 0.85 km a day. The figures relate to trips that are strictly made on foot.

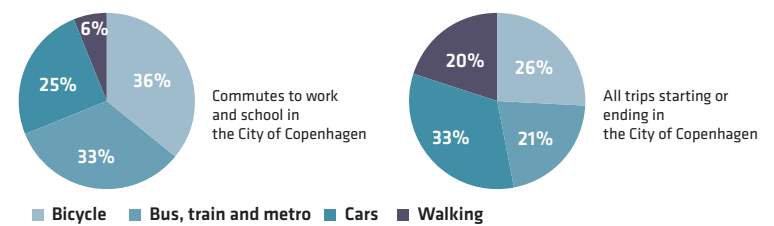
On average, Copenhagensers take 4.3 walks a day during the daytime, compared to an average of 3.8 walks a day during weekends and holidays, if we include all walking, also to get to a bicycle, a car or a bus stop. This means that the average Copenhagenser take more walks on weekdays than at the weekend, but that the weekend walks are typically longer. 37% of the surveyed Copenhagensers spend more than 1 hour walking on a typical day during weekends and holidays, compared with 16% on a typical weekday. Compared with the 2012 survey, there are no significant differences in the duration of walks on weekdays or during weekends/holidays.

	min./day	km/day
Copenhagensers walk	14.94 min./day	1.35 km/day
Danskeren går	9.42 min./day	0.85 km/day

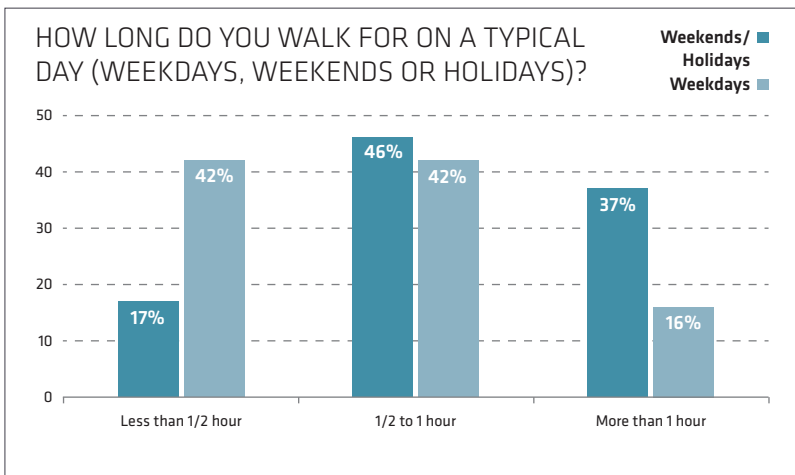
Source: Transportation habit study, Technical University of Denmark

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF TRIPS IN 2013

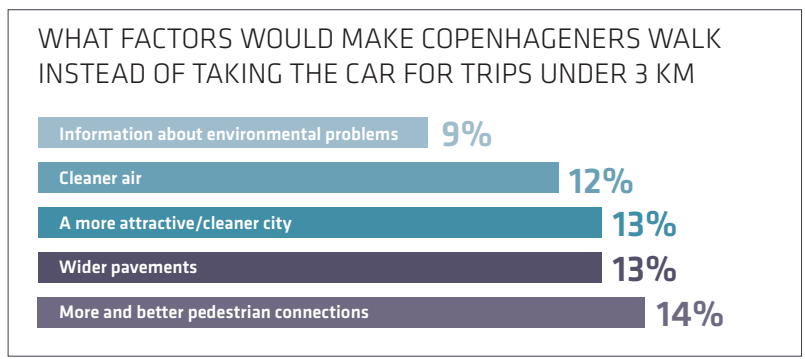
6% of commutes to work or school in Copenhagen are on foot. The preferred means of transportation for Copenhagensers is the bicycle, which accounts for 36% of all commutes to work or school, while 25% of all commutes are by car.



Source: Copenhagen Bicycle Account 2012



Source: YouGov



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration 2013



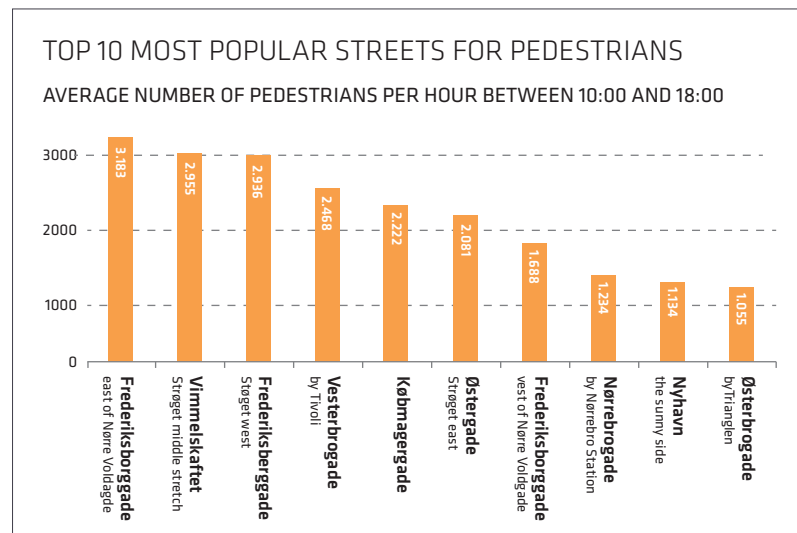
41% GENERALLY AGREE STRONGLY THAT THE NIGHT-TIME LIGHTING IN THEIR LOCAL AREA IS GOOD.



WHERE DO COPENHAGENERS WALK?

Also in 2013, the City of Copenhagen carried out full-day traffic counts in areas with many pedestrians. The survey found that the streets with the most pedestrians are the pedestrian streets in the Inner City. The 10 most popular streets for pedestrians only includes three that are not in the Inner City.

The most remarkable finding is that Frederiksborggade (Købmagergade) between Kultortorvet and Nørre Voldgade tops the list again this year, although the street has been partially impassable due to construction projects. Apparently, road work does not prevent pedestrians from using the street, although it will have affected the quality of the experience.



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration 2013

SAFETY

Pedestrians in Copenhagen generally feel secure outdoors in their local area and in the city in general.

The Safety Index 2013 found that Copenhagen is generally in a positive trend compared with both the initial survey in 2009 and the latest survey in 2012. Fewer Copenhageners report experiencing crime or perceiving crime to be a local problem. The number of reports to the police about burglaries and vandalism has also gone down since the latest survey in 2012. The number of areas in Copenhagen with a significant or intensified need for safety measures has gone down from seven in 2012 to five in 2013.

In addition to the Safety Index questionnaire, residents were also asked how they feel about being outside in their local area in the night-time. One in four (24%) feels safe travelling on foot in their local area at night-time.

Women (28%) are significantly more likely than men (11%) to dislike walking outside after dark.

More women (26%) than men (11%) are worried about being the victims of crime when they are outside in their local area during the night-time.

73%

of women spend more time looking at shops than men do

77%

of women go for walks in city squares and shopping streets der til at gå ture i

WHEN THE CITY OF COPENHAGEN HAS DONE FULL-DAY PEDESTRIAN COUNTS, 50% OF THE PEDESTRIANS HAVE BEEN WOMEN, 44% MEN, AND THE REST HAVE BEEN CHILDREN.



WOMEN'S STREETS AND MEN'S STREETS

More women than men walk in Copenhagen. In the full-day surveys carried out by the City of Copenhagen to count how many people walk in the city, 50% of pedestrians are women, 44% men, and the rest are children. However, men and women do not walk in the same areas. Some streets have such an over-representation of one gender that they can almost be characterised as women's streets or men's streets, respectively.

The largest proportion of men were found in Istedgade, Vesterbro between 7:00 and 19:00. Here, the count found 38% more male than female pedestrians. During the same hours, the survey found 12% more male than female pedestrians in Nyhavn.

Conversely, there were 41% more women pedestrians than men in Frederiksborggade, east of Nørre Voldgade (Købmagergade), and 43% more in Nordre Frihavnsgade in Østerbro. Strøget by Vimmelskaftet also had a substantial over-representation of women, 24% more than men, while there were as many as 71% more women in Østerbrogade by Trianglen.

At night-time, there are generally more male than female pedestrians in Copenhagen. From 19:00 to 24:00, the biggest gender differences are found in Nyhavn and on Strøget, which have, respectively, 35% and 17% more male than female pedestrians.

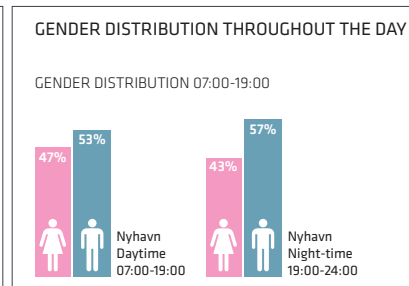
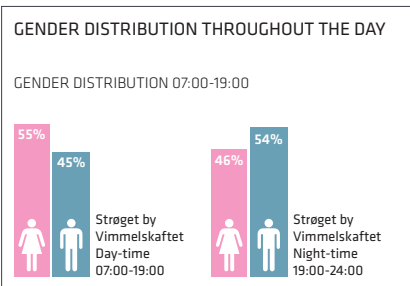
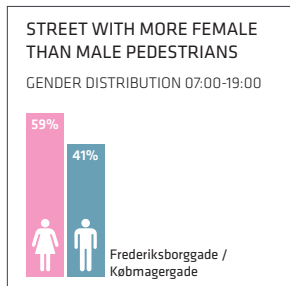
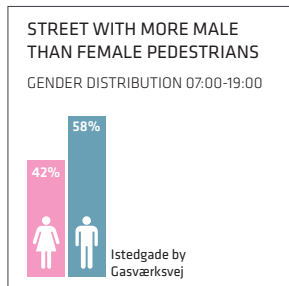
URBAN LIFE FROM A CHILD'S PERSPECTIVE

Of the many pedestrians in the city in 2013, 6% were children under 12 years of age. Istedgade (by Saxogade) had the largest proportion of pedestrians under the age of 12 years in 2013. (Average number of pedestrians/children under 12 years per hour at 10:00-18:00).

Source: City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration 2013



Copenhagen women walk more than the men, but Istedgade attracts more men – here, the survey found 38% more male pedestrians. Conversely, there were 41% more women than men walking in Frederiksborggade between Kulturvet and Nørre Voldgade in the Inner City.



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration 2013



SIX OUT OF TEN COPENHAGENERS VIEW MORE GREEN ROUTES AND PATHS AS THE MOST IMPORTANT MEASURE TO MAKE THEM TO WALK MORE.



COPENHAGENERS ENJOY BEING OUTDOORS

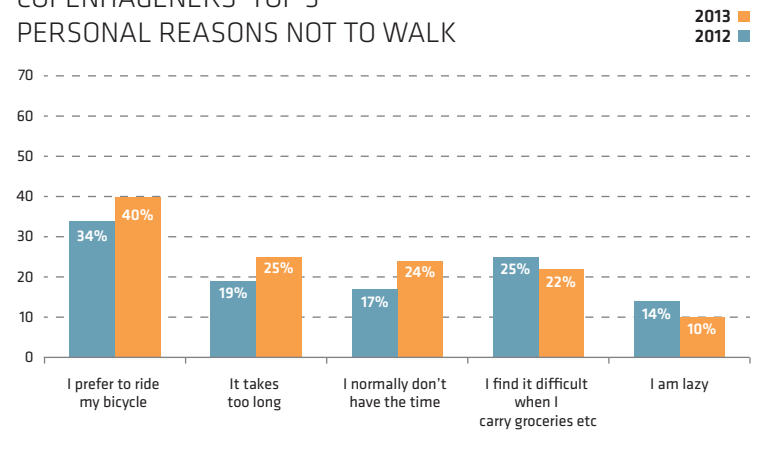
Walking is an important part of urban life in the city. We often walk as part of our daily commute, to the train, to go shopping and on Sunday outings.

The City of Copenhagen is dedicated to improving the urban environment, and the City's initiatives match the residents' responses about the environmental factors that reduce their inclination to walk in their local area. Compared with the 2012 survey, Copenhageners still focus on the same issues: More green routes and paths, greener spaces, improved air quality etc. would encourage more Copenhageners to walk more.

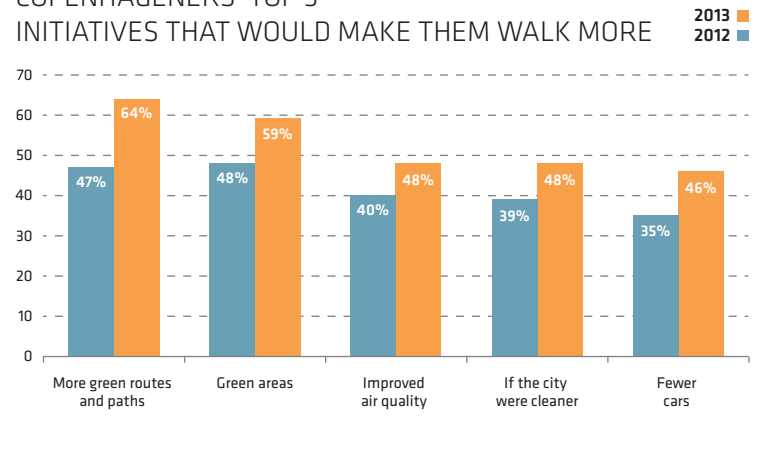
There are also no major changes in Copenhageners' views of the personal motivations that reduce their inclination to walk in their local area.

However, the survey found a 36% increase since 2012 in the number of Copenhageners who could be encouraged to walk more if there were more green routes and paths. Copenhageners generally find that green paths and areas would make Copenhagen a better city for walking. Thus, 64% say that more green routes and paths would make them want to walk more.

COPENHAGENERS' TOP 5 PERSONAL REASONS NOT TO WALK



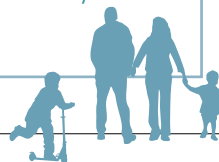
COPENHAGENERS' TOP 5 INITIATIVES THAT WOULD MAKE THEM WALK MORE



URBAN LIFE FROM A CHILD'S PERSPECTIVE

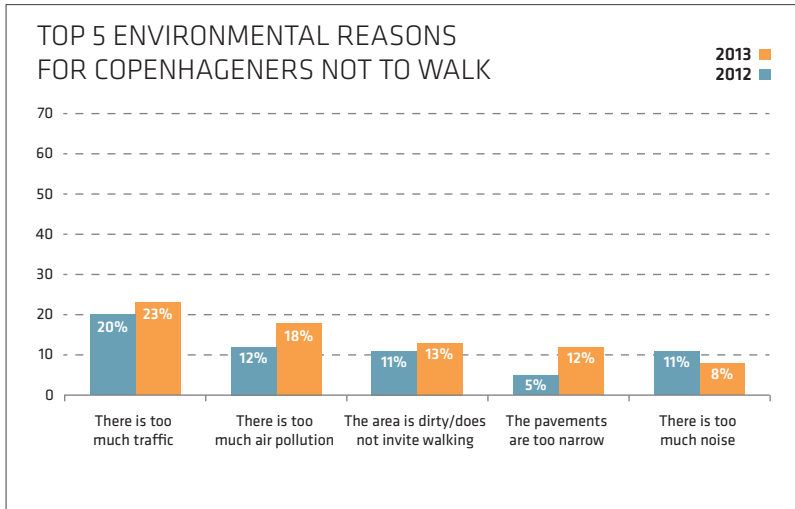
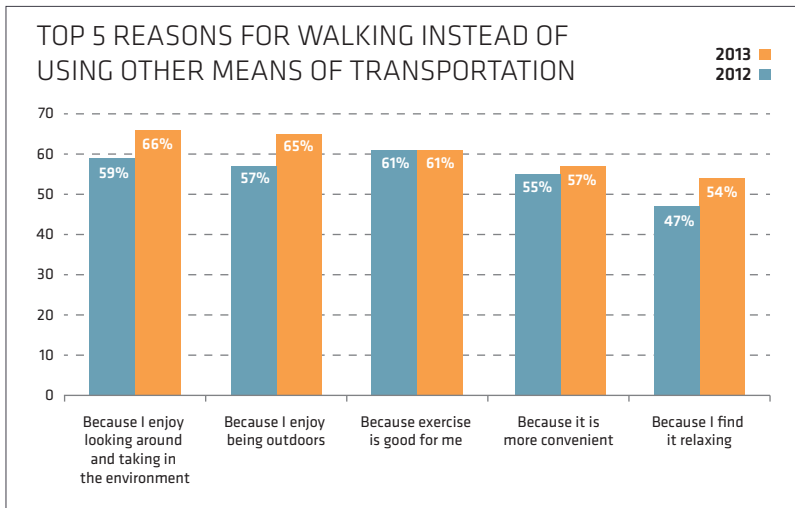
49% of Copenhageners with children are more likely to reply that they choose to walk because it is the fastest option

Source: YouGov



Source: YouGov. Top 5 selected replies, therefore the numbers do not add up to 100.

52% GENERALLY AGREE THAT THERE IS TOO MUCH TRAFFIC IN THEIR LOCAL AREA IN THE DAYTIME. THAT IS AN INCREASE OF 16% FROM 2012.



Source: YouGov. Top 5 selected replies, therefore the numbers do not add up to 100.

TRAFFIC AND CROWDING IN THE CITY

Too many cars is the reason most Copenhageners state as the primary environmental factor that limits their walking. Copenhageners find that there are too many cars in their local area, but in fact, the number of cars in local streets has not gone up; on the contrary. The perceived increase in traffic and congestion may be due to the amount of construction going on around the city, but we do not know whether this is the case.

Traffic counts clearly show a decrease in the volume of car traffic since 2007. A drop in car traffic and fewer cars coming into the city from other municipalities should mean less congestion in Copenhagen streets. However, there has been more construction work in recent years, especially due to the expansion of the Metro (which began in 2010-11) and the renovation of Nørreport Station.

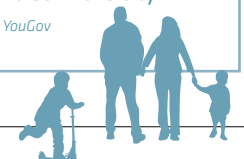
The transportation habit study charts traffic habits in Denmark by asking residents aged 10 to 84 years about the travel activity. Overall, driving has dropped from 36% of all trips in 2007 to 33% in 2013. During that period, the share of car trips for Copenhageners has dropped from 30% to 26%. This also suggests fewer cars and thus runs counter to the perception of increased congestion.

The share of heavy vehicles may affect the perception of the traffic volume. In 2011, lorries accounted for 2.3%, and buses accounted for 2.0% of the vehicles on week-days between 7:00 and 19:00. In 2012, these categories accounted for 2.4% and 1.8%, respectively, so the changes are marginal. The share of larger lorries, however, has grown from 0.8 to 1%, and that can make a difference.

URBAN LIFE FROM A CHILD'S PERSPECTIVE

24% of families with children find that traffic reduces their inclination to walk. 20% of Copenhageners with children also feel that noise in the city limits their walking.

Source: YouGov



3. MORE PEOPLE TO STAY LONGER

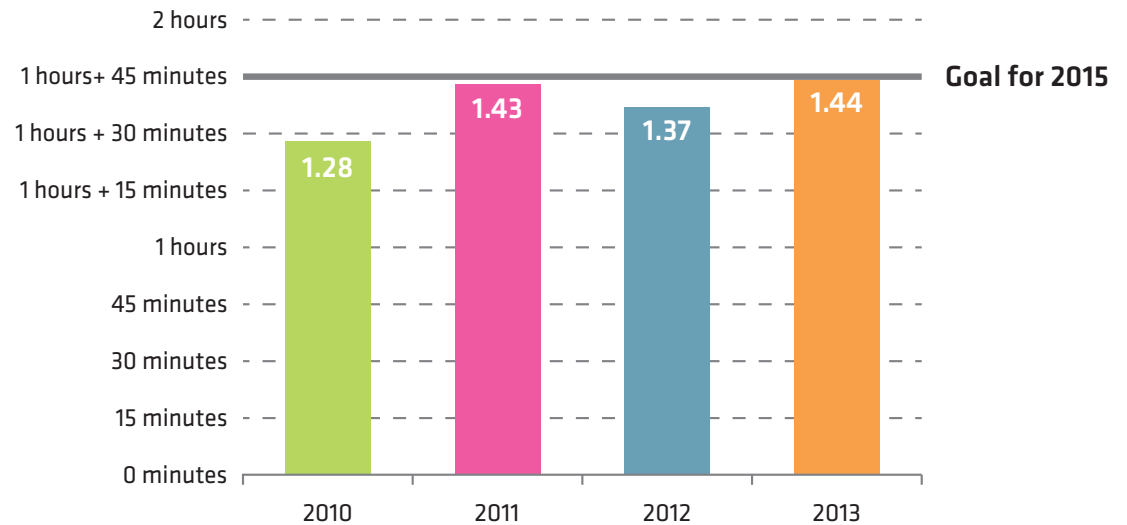
BY 2015, COPENHAGENERNE SHOULD SPEND 20% MORE TIME IN THE URBAN SPACE THAN IN 2010

2013-STATUS

IN 2013, COPENHAGENERS SPENT AN AVERAGE OF 1 HOUR AND 44 MINUTES A WEEK IN CITY SQUARES AND SHOPPING STREETS.

THE GOAL IS TO INCREASE THIS TO 1 HOUR AND 45 MINUTES A WEEK BY 2015. (2010 STATUS: 1 HOUR AND 28 MINUTES A WEEK).

2013 STATUS



Source: YouGov

The figures are averages based on questionnaires about frequency and duration.

2015 GOAL

The City of Copenhagen has a goal of seeing more people stay longer in the urban space. Specifically, the goal calls for Copenhageners to spend 20% more time in the urban space in 2015, compared to 2010.

Some urban life is a matter of necessity. We need to buy groceries, pick up the kids and commute to work and school. We do this regardless of the urban design. By contrast, the fun activities, the recreational urban life, the cultural events and playing only take place if the urban space is inviting. Therefore, the City of Copenhagen aims to design squares, parks, streets and waterfront areas that encourage more people to stay longer – downtown, in new neighbourhoods and where we live and go on a daily basis.

In relation to the goal, there is room for improvement, although the City has launched a wide range of efforts to encourage people to spend time in the urban space. This includes improved cleaning and maintenance, which has an immediate effect on people's inclination to spend time in the urban space. Adding recreational areas to streets and squares takes longer to implement, and it also takes a little time for people to embrace the new spaces. The City of Copenhagen also aims to identify and enhance existing calm zones and peaceful oases in the urban space. Another focus area is to make the city greener and provide easier access to green areas.



COPENHAGENERS ENJOY URBAN LIFE. FIVE OUT OF TEN COPENHAGENERS ESTIMATE THAT THEY SPEND MORE THAN 1 HOUR PER VISIT IN CITY SQUARES OR SHOPPING STREETS IN THE SUMMER.



VISITS TO CITY SQUARES AND SHOPPING STREETS

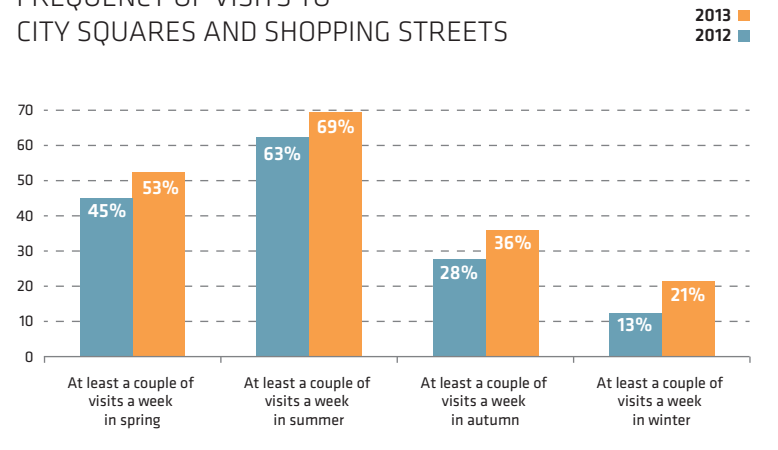
In 2013, Copenhageners were asked how often and how long they visited city squares and shopping streets.

The answer is 1 hour and 44 minutes a week. Compared with the 2012 survey, this marks a small increase of 7 minutes. The 2015 goal was almost reached in 2013 if we consider the average for the whole year. This illustrates that Copenhageners enjoy spending time outdoors in the city, but the fluctuations since 2010 also reflect the high degree of uncertainty associated with the measuring method. The findings are clearly influenced by external factors such as the weather, which varies from year to year.

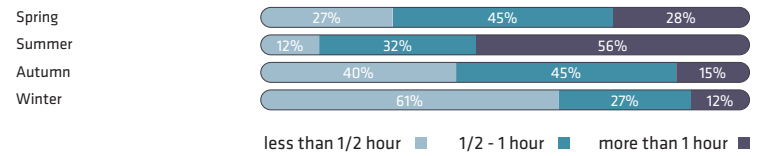
Copenhageners were also asked how long they spend in city squares and shopping streets over the four seasons. In this year's survey, 56% of Copenhageners estimate that they spend more than 1 hour per visit in city squares and shopping streets during the summer. Compared with the 2012 survey, this marks a small increase in frequency over all four seasons. The survey does not indicate the cause of the increase, but a guess would be the better weather overall in 2013 compared to 2012.

56%
of Copenhageners estimate that they spend more than 1 hour per visit in city squares and shopping streets during the summer.

FREQUENCY OF VISITS TO CITY SQUARES AND SHOPPING STREETS



AVERAGE LENGTH OF VISITS IN CITY SQUARES AND SHOPPING STREETS



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration 2013



THE MOST POPULAR SPOTS TO SPEND TIME

Throughout the summer of 2013, traffic counts were carried out in many of Copenhagen's squares and shopping streets where people spend time in the urban space.

On the Top 10 list of the most popular spots, Nyhavn is the urban space with the largest number of visitors. On average, there are 550 people per hour on a summer day. This are followed by the beach by Svanemøllebugten (an average of 480 people per hour) and Amager Torv in the Inner City (an average of 260 people per hour).

The recorded activities offer a snapshot of life in selected urban spaces: the extent of activities and the distribution of activities at any given time during a summer day. Thus, the count does not reflect how many people visit a given space over the course of a whole day but whether the urban space encourages people to spend some time there. Comparing the activities for the various urban spaces shows that Copenhageners engage in a wide range of activities in the urban space. The main categories include using the public benches, sitting in cafés and standing.

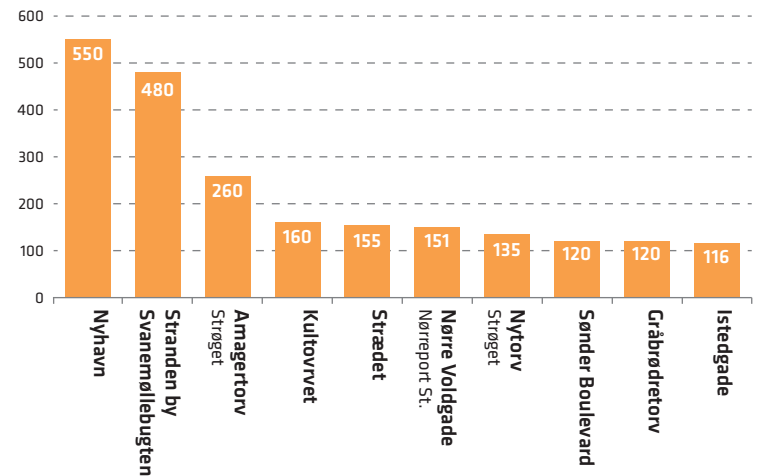
HERE, A VISIT IS DEFINED AS 'SETTLING IN FOR SOME TIME'

THE COLUMNS SHOW THE AVERAGE NUMBER OF PEOPLE SPENDING TIME IN THE URBAN SPACE PER HOUR BETWEEN 10:00 AND 18:00 IN 2013.



TOP 10 URBAN SPACES IN TERMS OF THE NUMBER OF VISITORS

Average number of extended visits per hour between 10:00 and 18:00





120

Sønder Boulevard

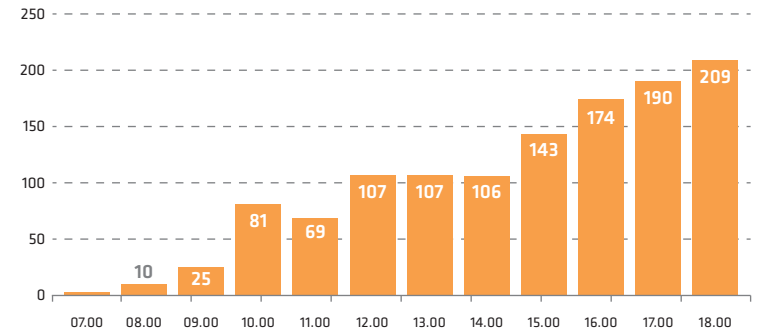


STREET LIFE ON A PLEASANT DAY IN SØNDER BOULEVARD

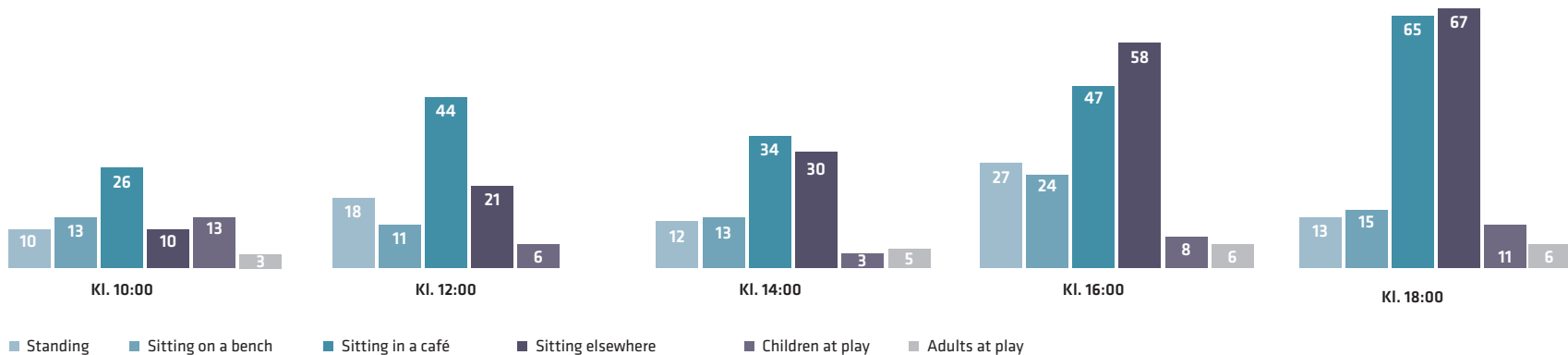
28 August 2013 was a partially sunny day with a temperature of 20 degrees Celsius. That was the day when we surveyed activities in Sønder Boulevard.

An average of 120 people spent time in this urban space per hour between 10:00 and 18:00, and the right graph shows that the good weather attracted many people into the urban space, and that the number of visits rose steadily throughout the day. The graph below shows the distribution of activities in Sønder Boulevard throughout the day. A closer look at the activities over the course of the day reveals that many are recorded as 'sitting in a café', and that this type of activity follows the opening hours for the shops quite closely, increasing over the course of the afternoon. Sitting on a bench is a common activity throughout the day, with an increase around 16:00. A large number of people are recorded as sitting elsewhere, including stoops, steps, walls, railings, grass etc. That activity increases around 16:00 when people get off work and come out to enjoy an afternoon in the sun. It is worth noting that the survey found many 'children at play' and 'adults at play' in Sønder Boulevard, which is not surprising, as this particular urban space contains many invitations to play.

COUNT OF ACTIVITIES BY SØNDER BOULEVARD



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration 2013
Averaged sum of two counts per hour in Sønder Boulevard on a weekday between 10:00 and 19:00.



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration 2013
Distribution of activities in Sønder Boulevard on weekday in summer between 10:00 and 19:00.



FIVE OUT OF TEN COPENHAGENERS VIEW MORE GREEN SPACES AND FEWER CARS AS THE MOST IMPORTANT FACTORS TO MAKE THEM SPEND MORE TIME IN THE URBAN SPACE.



WHAT DO WE DO WHEN WE'RE OUT?

Copenhageners engage in a wide variety of activities when they spend time in city squares and shopping streets. The most popular answer to the question about the reason for going outside is to take a walk. But there are considerable differences in the stated reasons, based on gender and age group. The main gender difference is that women go window shopping far more than men do, and that men are more likely to mention people watching.

73% of the women respondents spend more time window shopping than men do (54%). 77% more women than men use the urban space to go for a walk (69%). 75% of the women visit cafés more than men do (65%). 53% of the women spend more time sitting on a bench than the men do (44%).

The 15-29-year age group generally uses the urban space more than the other age groups. A larger percentage of young Copenhageners say that they go to cafés, exercise, eat food they brought along, take part in events or go for a breath of fresh air.

COPENHAGENERS' PRIMARY PURPOSE WITH SPENDING TIME IN CITY SQUARES AND SHOPPING STREETS



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration 2013

WHAT MIGHT MAKE COPENHAGENERS SPEND MORE TIME IN THE URBAN SPACE?

Most Copenhageners would be motivated to spend more time in the urban space if the city were greener (56%) or had less traffic (48%).

TOP 5 FACTORS THAT COPENHAGENERS SAY WOULD MAKE THEM SPEND MORE TIME IN CITY SQUARES AND SHOPPING STREETS



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration 2013

This Top 5 does not imply that if we simply put in trees and benches everywhere, all Copenhageners would spend more time outdoors. Some groups prefer a different aesthetic and look for other urban qualities. To be a truly diverse city Copenhagen should not only offer urban spaces that appeal to the majority but also include secret, unconventional and unpredictable spaces.

48%

of residents aged 66+ years visit city squares and shopping streets to go to a café.

53%

of women spend more time sitting on a bench than men do.

32% OF COPENHAGENERS SAY THAT MORE BENCHES WOULD MAKE THEM SPEND MORE TIME IN CITY SQUARES OR SHOPPING STREETS

SEATING IN THE URBAN SPACE

Copenhageners say that more benches would make them spend more time in city squares and shopping streets. The City of Copenhagen wants the urban space to serve as a meeting place that invites visitors to enjoy urban life and qualities and, not least, a view of the city's social dynamics from a pleasant seat. Seating should be positioned to match the climate conditions – sunny, sheltered spots – to offer optimal conditions for recreational urban life. It is also important to offer appropriate and comfortable seats to enable all groups, including the elderly and people with special needs, to take part in urban life from a good seat. A well-equipped urban space offers a variety of seating options:

PRIMARY seats are benches and chairs that can be used by all groups in a reasonable number matching the size and general purpose of the space.

SECONDARY informal seats in the form of stoops, steps, railings etc. to be used when needed. These secondary seats can accommodate the varying need for seats in the urban space, supplementing but never supplanting the primary seats.

COMMERCIAL seating accounts for a growing share of seating in the urban space, as the café culture spreads. In addition to cafés and restaurants, many pizzerias, ice cream stores and bars are now setting a few chairs up in the street. Shop-owners have also begun to set up benches and chairs outside their shops. It is important to maintain a good balance between commercial and public recreational activities.

TOP 5 URBAN SPACES IN TERMS OF CAFÉS/OUTDOOR SEATING IN 2013
Nyhavn 3,290
Strædet 1,125
Amagertorv 900
Gråbrødretorv 895
Sankt Hans Torv 825

TOP 5 URBAN SPACES IN TERMS OF PEOPLE SITTING ON BENCHES IN 2013
Amagertorv 415
Kultorvet 410
Dr. Louises Bro 225
Nyhavn 195
Regnbuepladsen 165

TOP 5 URBAN SPACES IN TERMS OF PEOPLE USING ALTERNATIVE SEATING (STEPS, RAILINGS ETC.) IN 2013
Nyhavn 420
Sønder Boulevard 335
Dr. Louises Bro 260
Amagertorv 170
Christianshavns Kanal 120

*City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration 2013.
Averaged sum of two counts per hour in the urban space on a weekday between 7:00 and 19:00. The recorded activities offer a snapshot of life in selected urban spaces: the extent of activities and the distribution of various types of activities at any given time on a pleasant summer day. Thus, the count does not reflect how many people visit a given space over the course of a whole day but whether the urban space encourages people to spend some time there.*





67% OF COPENHAGENERS ARE GENERALLY SATISFIED WITH THE DESIGN OF GREEN AND BLUE SPACES IN THEIR LOCAL AREA

79% OF COPENHAGENERS ARE GENERALLY SATISFIED WITH THEIR DISTANCE TO GREEN AND BLUE AREAS IN THEIR LOCAL AREA



COPENHAGENERS LIKE TO VISIT THE CITY'S PARKS

The parks are the Copenhageners' shared oases and some of the most important recreational areas in the city. The diversity of the population, including age differences and urban life preferences, is reflected in the different ways of using public parks, beaches and nature areas. Across the categories, however, most people like to use the green areas to go for a walk, enjoy nature and get some fresh air.

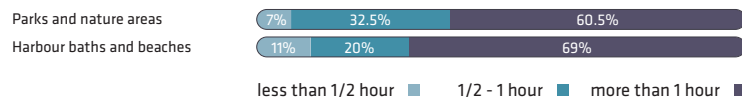
57% of 15-29-year-olds and 28% of Copenhageners above 66 years of age spend more than an hour in the city's parks and nature areas for each visit.

54% of 15-29-year-olds and 20% of Copenhageners above 66 years of age spend more than an hour at public harbour baths or at the local beaches for each visit.

It is hardly surprising that more Copenhageners spend time in parks, nature areas, harbour baths and at the beach in summer and spring compared to winter and autumn. Especially in the spring and summer months, many bring a book, a newspaper or some music along and enjoy being outdoors. However, even winter does not keep the Copenhageners away from the parks. 67% choose to visit parks, nature areas, harbour baths and beaches a couple of times a month or more in winter. In the summer, 25% of Copenhageners living in the Inner City & Christianshavn and 23% of residents in Østerbro visit the city's parks, nature areas, beaches and harbour baths once a day, which is more than residents in other areas of Copenhagen.

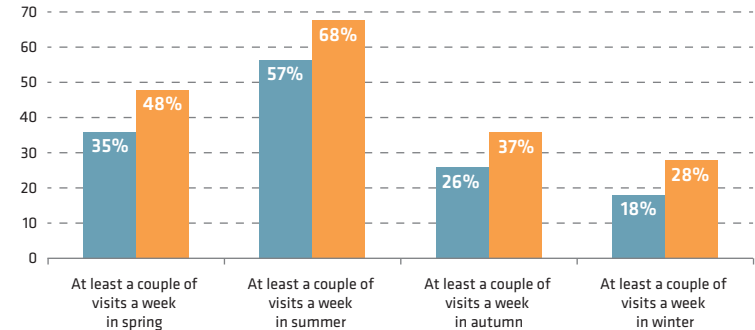
39% of Copenhageners living in Østerbro also visit the city's parks, nature areas, beaches and harbour baths a couple of times a week, compared to 29% for the average Copenhagenener.

AVERAGE LENGTH OF VISIT TO PARKS, NATURE AREAS, HARBOUR BATHS AND BEACHES

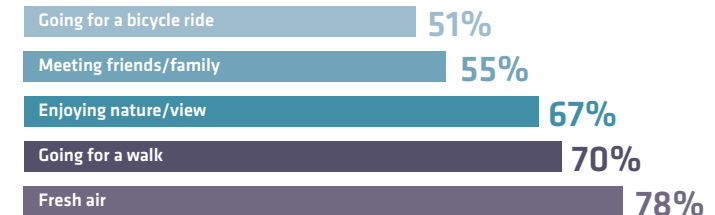


Kilde: YouGov

FREQUENCY OF VISITS TO PARKS, NATURE AREAS, HARBOUR BATHS AND BEACHES



COPENHAGENERS' TOP 5 REASONS FOR VISITING PARKS, NATURE AREAS, HARBOUR BATHS AND BEACHES



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration 2013

70%

of Copenhageners visit parks, beaches and nature areas to go for a walk

62%

of 50-65-year-olds use the green and blue spaces to go for a bicycle ride



60% OF COPENHAGENERS ARE GENERALLY SATISFIED WITH THE AVAILABILITY OF CALM AND PEACEFUL SPACES IN THEIR LOCAL AREA.



CALM AND PEACEFUL ZONES IN THE CITY

An attractive urban life also includes small, peaceful oases where one can read a book or use one's laptop outdoors or go for a walk to enjoy nature or clear one's mind.

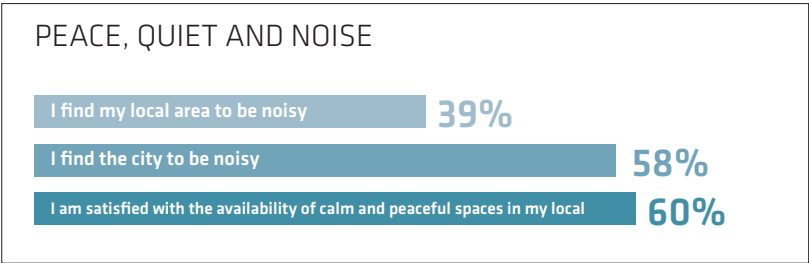
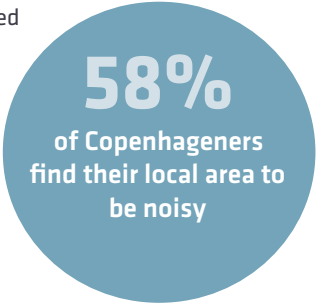
But where to go if we want a refuge from the hustle and bustle of urban life and take a break in a tranquil space? Most Copenhageners state a strong need to use the city to relax, and generally they are fairly satisfied with the opportunities available both in their local area and throughout the city. 60% of Copenhageners are generally satisfied with their access to calm and peaceful zones in their local area. The City of Copenhagen is working on initiatives to identify and enhance existing calm and peaceful areas and tranquil oases in the urban space.

NOISE IN THE CITY

Compared with the 2012 survey, more Copenhageners now find the city and their local area to be noisy. This number has gone up by 18% from 49% in 2012 to 58% in 2013. 39% of Copenhageners find their local area to be noisy, compared with 31% in 2012. Residents in Vesterbro and Kgs. Enghave/Valby are slightly more likely to find the city noisy than residents in other parts of Copenhagen.

Generally, the share of homes exposed to noise (above 58 dB) has dropped by 17% between 2006 and 2011. Noise-dampening asphalt is now in use on 50 km of municipal streets and roads – more than twice as much as in 2007. In this period, traffic volumes have also decreased, and cars have become less noisy due to technological advances. This spread of noise-dampening asphalt and quieter vehicles is expected to continue in the coming years.

The survey does not reveal whether the perception of added noise is due to traffic noise or other sources. All indicators point to a reduction in traffic noise in recent years. Thus, the perception of increased noise may be due to other factors, for example Metro construction work and the related debate or more urban life/revelry in the street. The City is looking into this issue.



Source: YouGov

URBAN LIFE FROM A CHILD'S PERSPECTIVE
 74% of Copenhageners with children find the city to be noisy.

Source: YouGov



4. URBAN LIFE FROM A CHILD'S PERSPECTIVE



ROOM FOR PLAY IN THE CHILDREN'S CITY

Children learn about life through play. Play engages a child's imagination, they move their arms and legs, and the game can begin. The urban space, especially the playgrounds, are very and indispensable oases for Copenhagen's children, preschools and families.

But the urban space in general is also a playground for Copenhagensers. Sites or equipment in the urban space that we accidentally come across on our way through town are a source of play and urban life for children and adults alike. Water is a magnet for most children, gravel is good for playing boule, and city squares can be used for soccer, skateboarding or dancing. The car-free streets, squares and parks offer rich opportunities to motivate biking, jumping, climbing and balancing.



COPENHAGEN IS GROWING

Given Copenhagen's projected growth of just under 100,000 inhabitants between now and 2015, the number of children is expected to rise by 22%.

This large population increase is due in part to a bigger share of younger people and fewer elderly people. In turn, this means an increase in the number of child births and children in Copenhagen.

Another source of population growth is that more people move to Copenhagen, and more of the newcomers stay here. In 2012, some 40,000 moved to Copenhagen from other parts of Denmark, and some 16,000 moved here from other countries. Most of them are young people who come to Copenhagen to study. More than half the new Copenhagensers from other parts of Denmark are in the 20-29-year age group.

TOP 5 URBAN SPACES IN TERMS OF CHILDREN AT PLAY

- Sønder Boulevard
- Sankt Hans Torv
- Vester Voldgade
- Dr. Louises Bro
- Sankt Annæ Plads

Over the course of summer 2013, traffic counts were carried out in city squares, parks and shopping streets in Copenhagen to record how many children were playing in the urban space.

Sønder Boulevard and Sankt Hans Torv are the urban spaces with the largest number of 'children at play', but that is hardly surprising, since these urban spaces hold many invitations to play.



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration 2013



FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN STAY IN THE CITY

The number of families with children in Copenhagen has gone up by almost 16,000 since 1995. The number of families with one child has increased by 6,000, while the number of families with two children has increased by 7,300. The biggest growth is seen among families with three children, where the number has almost doubled, to 5,200, during this period.

The share of households with children has risen from 16% to 21%, and the growth in the number of families with children is especially pronounced in co-op flats and in homes with more than three rooms. The growing number of families with children in Copenhagen is due in part to a growth in the number of bigger homes. From 1995 to 2012, the number of three-to-four-room flats grew by 14,000, and in 2012, this category made up 46% of the housing stock compared to 43% in 1995. The growth in the number of larger flats is mainly in new buildings, while some are the result of smaller flats being combined and converted into larger flats.

The number of playgrounds per 1,000 children in 2012 was 0.8. By 2025, that number will have dropped to 0.6, as the number of children grows while the number of playgrounds remains unchanged.

Copenhagen's 125 public playgrounds have been systematically renovated in recent years. That has made them attractive sites for families and preschools and has affected everyday life for families with young children and others who visit the city's playgrounds with children.

URBAN LIFE FROM A CHILD'S PERSPECTIVE

Copenhageneers with children and grandchildren were asked to review a wide range of aspects of outdoor urban life in Copenhagen aimed at children and families. 76% of Copenhageneers with children are generally satisfied with the options for outdoor play in their local area, and 76% of Copenhageneers with children are satisfied with their distance to a playground.

Source: YouGov



THE CITY'S PLAYGROUNDS, OASES FOR FAMILIES

Although many Copenhageneers never or rarely visit one of the many playgrounds, the playgrounds are a natural and necessary part of everyday life for many families.

Copenhagen's playgrounds are popular with families. When parents and children are home from work and school/preschool, they can choose among more than 125 public playgrounds. Copenhagen's playgrounds differ in size and design, ranging from art playgrounds, electronic playgrounds and green nature playgrounds to basic playgrounds with classic equipment like swings, sandboxes, slides and climbing racks. In addition, there are dedicated excursion playgrounds for adventurous souls keen to try something new and different. Most families choose a playground close to their home. Playgrounds are also used as a destination for excursions, with the most popular featuring water games, wading pools and petting zoos.

A good playground has proper safety features and offers fun, sturdy, quality equipment. But playgrounds are also a place where adults spend time while they play with their children and meet other adults. Today, playgrounds are important social spaces for both the children and their parents. When we ask the Copenhageneers, quality playground equipment is not the only important factor. The setting and the atmosphere also affect one's choice of playground. It can be difficult to define exactly what makes for a good atmosphere, but many respondents mention a cosy, relaxed mood and a safe setting as key elements. Overall, parents look for a place with room for play in a safe setting.

76%
of Copenhageneers with children are generally satisfied with the options for outdoor play in their local area

There are 125 public playgrounds in Copenhagen across the different parts of the city. Nørrebro and Valby have the most playgrounds, each featuring 14, while Bispebjerg and Vesterbro/Kongens Enghave each have 8 playgrounds.



55%

of parents generally agree that the design of the playgrounds is creative

76%

parents with children are satisfied with their distance to a playground

77%

of parents generally agree that the playgrounds have a high level of safety

65%

of parents generally agree that the cleaning standards of the playgrounds are good

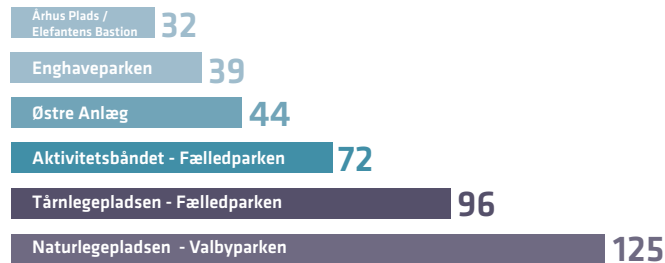
THE MOST POPULAR PLAYGROUNDS

In the course of summer 2012 and 2013, traffic surveys were carried out in some of the city's playgrounds to count the number of visitors and observe what sort of activities took place.

The Top 6 most popular playgrounds are the Naturlegepladsen in Valbyparken, Tårnlegepladsen and Aktivitetsbåndet in Fælledparken, Østre Anlæg on Østerbro, Enghaveparken on Vesterbro, Elefantens Bastion on Christianshavn and Århus Plads on Østerbro.

TOP 6 MOST VISITED PLAYGROUNDS

Average number of visits per hour between 10:00 and 18:00



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration

Staying activity was counted on following playgrounds : Bispebjerg Parkallé, Blågårds Plads, Bopa Plads, Brønshøj Torv, Elefantens Bastion, Enghaveparken, Enghave Plads skaterbane, Fælledparken - ved Serridslevvej, Fælledparken - Kunstgræsplænen, Fælledparken - Trafiklegeplads, Fælledparken - Sænehaven, Fælledparken - Tårnlegepladsen , Grøndahlsparken, Guldbergs Plads, Hauser Plads, Havneparken, Hulgårds Plads, Husum Parken, Kastrup Fort, Nikolaj Plads, Nordhavnsgården, Nørager Plads, Odinsgade, Sankt Annæ Plads, Sankt Hans Gade, Silkeborg Plads, Skaterbanen Jyllingevej, Skotland's Plads, Skydebanen, Sundby Torv (Filisparken), Sundbyøster Plads, Sundby Vester Plads, Trekronergade, Udbygade, Utterslevmose ved Pilesvinget, Vestvolden ved Bystævnet, Vestvolden ved Mørkhøjvej, Østre Anlæg , Århus Plads, Valbyparken - Naturlegeplads



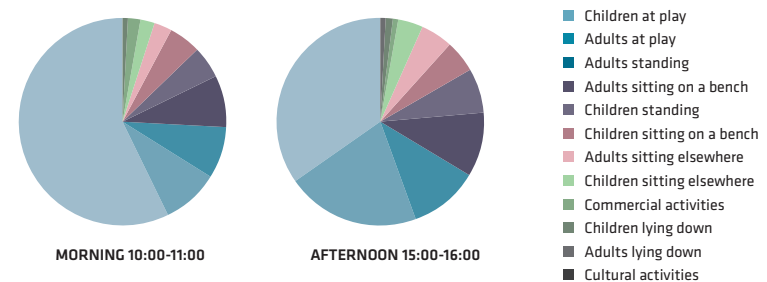
WHAT DO WE DO WHEN WE VISIT THE CITY'S PLAYGROUNDS?

The city's playgrounds have the most visitors before noon. Already from 8:30 the number of visitors rises substantially, and the intensity remains high until 11:30. This shows that the main target group is day care facilities such as private child-minders, nurseries, preschools and schools, which use the playgrounds as an alternative to their own playground, the school yard. Naturally, the size and location of the playground are some of the factors that influence the number of visitors in the surveys and the general use of the playground.

The recorded activities offer a snapshot of life in selected urban spaces: the extent of activities and the distribution of various types of activities at any given time on a summer day. Thus, the count does not reflect how many people visit a given space over the course of a whole day but whether the urban space encourages people to spend some time there.

The prevailing activity in all the surveyed playgrounds, unsurprisingly, is 'children at play' (46%) and 'adults at play' (13%). In addition, the survey found 9% 'adults standing' and 7% 'adults sitting on benches'. The actively 'adults at play' doubles from the pre-noon slot to the afternoon.

DEVELOPMENT IN THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN THE PLAYGROUND



City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration



WE LIVE CLOSE TO THE PLAYGROUND ... IT'S IMPORTANT THAT IT'S CLOSE TO THE PLACES WHERE WE COME ON A DAILY BASIS.

Couple with children aged 3 and 5 years, Guldbergs Byplads, Nørrebro

THERE IS A LOT OF MOTOR PLAY HERE. THE CHILDREN ARE ABLE TO SPIN AND TURN. THEY'VE PUT SOME THOUGHT INTO IT; THAT'S GREAT.

Mother with daughter aged 1 1/2 years, Trekronergade playground, Valby



WE REALLY LIKE THE RENEWAL THEY'VE DONE OF THE PLAYGROUNDS IN FÆLLED-PARKEN.

Father with three children, Aktivitetsbåndet, Østerbro



SATISFACTION WITH THE CITY'S PLAYGROUNDS

In 2013, we asked the Copenhageners how satisfied they are with the city's playgrounds, and how often and for how long they use the playgrounds.

66% of Copenhageners with children and grandchildren visit a public playground every week. The children's age is a key factor for the amount of time spent in public playgrounds.

72% of Copenhageners with children aged 0-9 years visit a public playground every week, compared with only 10% of Copenhageners with children aged 10-18 years. 42% of parents with children aged 0-9 years spend 1-3 hours in a playground with their child, compared with 5% of parents with children aged 10-18 years.

Of the people who visit the playgrounds, 24% stay between one and three hours per visit with their children. 29% spend less than an hour.

66%

of Copenhageners with children and grandchildren visit a playground every week

URBAN LIFE FROM A CHILD'S PERSPECTIVE

To take a closer look at Copenhageners' needs and satisfaction with playgrounds in the city we carried out a user survey that offers a snapshot of the status of the urban space according to the Copenhageners. Figures and other data are supplemented with qualitative descriptions and statements. The surveys were based in part on user counts, questionnaires and qualitative interviews in the playgrounds. The qualitative interviews aim to get the story behind the figures we collected and to get close to the Copenhageners. Most interviews were carried out in autumn 2013.

Playground equipment that offers multiple options for play

When we ask the users of the playgrounds, they highlight innovative, multi-purpose playground equipment. They focus on the capacity of this equipment to promote movement and challenge both the body and the mind, and the children love the challenges and are good at finding creative ways of using the equipment.

Wild activities are fun activities!

When we ask the users of the playgrounds, they appreciate playground equipment that promotes their creativity, and which is slightly 'wild and dangerous'. They like to be surprised, challenged, move fast, stand on their heads, hide and generally push their own boundaries, provided it is safe. Challenging equipment is great, as long as the safety standards are in place.

WHEN YOU GET INTO THE COBWEB YOU CAN ALMOST STAND ON YOUR HEAD!

Selma, 5 years old, Skydebanhaven

Classic playground equipment still appeals

When we ask the users of the playgrounds, they also highlight the classic equipment like swings and slides as popular options.

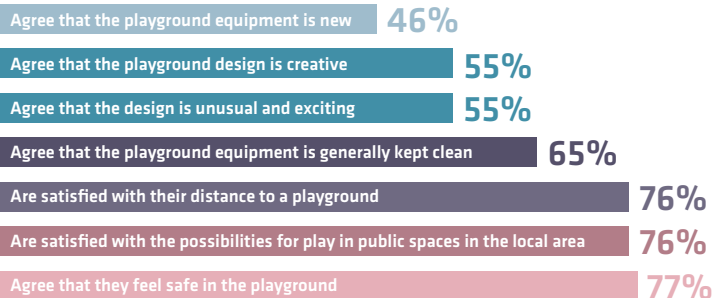


THE AEROPLANE IS EXCITING, AND YOU CAN GO REALLY HIGH.

Clara, 9 years old, the playground in Nørrebroparken



SATISFACTION WITH PLAYGROUNDS



Source: YouGov



THE TALL CLIMBING THINGS ARE GREAT FUN...
Mum, Mira, and Linus, 6 years old, Tårnlegepladsen

THE PLACE HAS GOOD FACILITIES WITH MANY TABLES ... AND TOILETS.
Gundy, Christian and Embla, 4 years old, Tårnlegepladsen



THERE ARE LITTLE THINGS HERE WHERE THE GROWN-UPS CAN'T GET IN. THE SCALE IS FOR KIDS, THAT'S A GOOD FEATURE.

Grandmother and Andrea 3 1/2 years old, Tårnlegepladsen



WE WALKED FOR 10 MINUTES TO GET TO THE PLAYGROUND.

Dad and Naja, 3 years old, Tårnlegepladsen



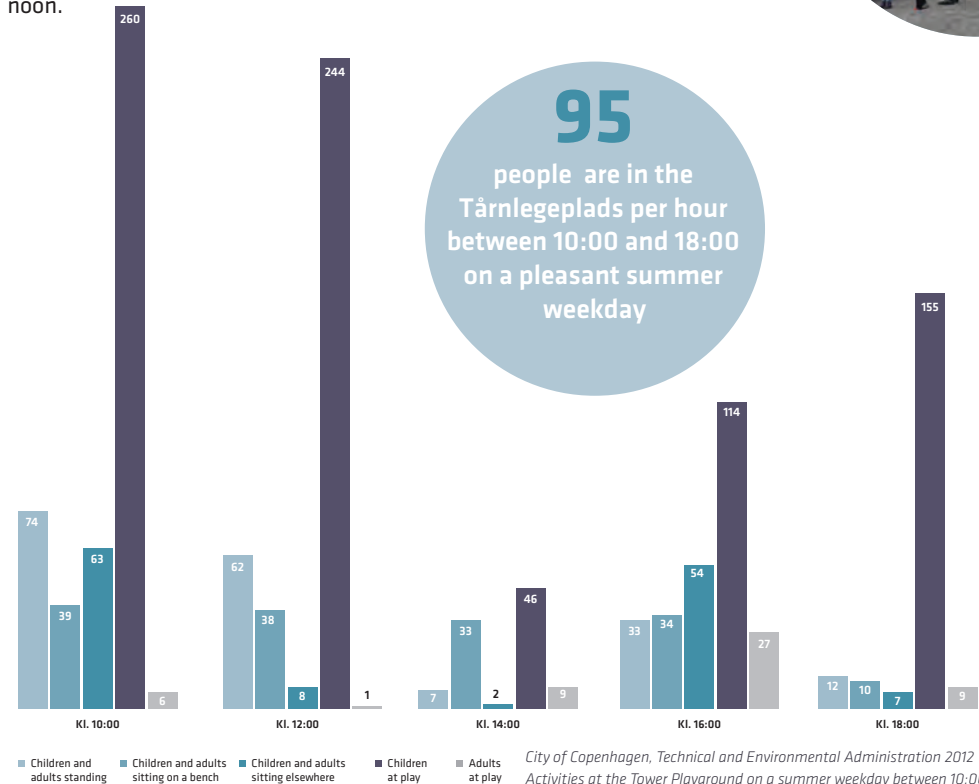
NOAH REALLY LIKES THE TOWERS WITH LED* PRINT WITH SOUNDS AND LIGHT.

Mum and Noah, 1 1/2 years old, Tårnlegepladsen
 *LED = light-emitting diode



VISITS TO THE TOWER PLAYGROUND ON A PLEASANT DAY

On 19 June 2012, the temperature was 20 degrees, it was sunny all day with light showers in the afternoon. That was the day when we surveyed activities at Tower Playground. An average of 95 people spend time in this urban space per hour between 10:00 and 18:00, and when we compare the activities for Tower Playground we see the distribution of activities throughout the day, as illustrated in the graph below. A closer look at the number of children at play reveals that the numbers peak in mid-morning and then again in the afternoon.





THE SUSPENSION BRIDGE IS 'DANGEROUS', AND YOU CAN USE IT IN MANY DIFFERENT WAYS. YOU CAN CLIMB UP ON IT AND JUMP ON IT. IT HAS MANY DIFFERENT SHAPES, AND I LIKE IT.

Rosa, 9 years old, Guldbergs Byplads

ALL OF IT'S FUN HERE, EXCEPT FOR THE TOWER, BECAUSE I'M SCARED OF HEIGHTS.

Alma, 8 years old, Guldbergs Byplads



THE ROOF AND THE SLIDE ARE MY FAVOURITE PLACE. YOU CAN HIDE OUT HERE, AND THE VIEW IS GOOD.

Alvin, 8 years old, Guldbergs Byplads



NEW URBAN SPACES FOR CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES

The City of Copenhagen has launched initiatives to identify and enhance existing school playgrounds that can supplement the recreational facilities in the local areas by being opened to public access in the evening and weekends.

Schools and preschools serve as natural meeting places when parents pick up and drop off their children. Therefore they hold a potential as an addition to the local network of urban spaces. They are venues for some of the 'necessary' activities for children – activities that are part of our everyday life regardless of the quality of the physical setting. Here, new urban spaces and functions in connection with the schools can provide a local connection and a setting for local urban life, for example by placing a bench in the sun in front of the preschool or establishing a café close to the school.

GULDBERGS BYPLADS – PLAY, MOVEMENT AND A PLACE TO RELAX

Guldbergs Byplads is a good example of a playground by a school that supplements the recreational facilities in a local area. The City of Copenhagen's urban renewal project 'New urban life around Guldberg School' aimed to create a diverse and welcoming urban space with good opportunities for passing through and a venue for events, activities, a meeting place and quiet contemplation.

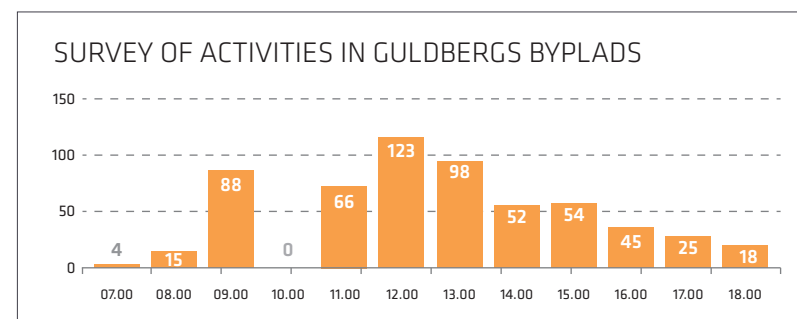
Guldberg Byplads in Nørrebro is both school yard, city square and public playground. The 2011 project fuses the school yard and the rest of the urban space with the surrounding buildings and creates a new and modern urban space with room for play, movement and relaxation. The urban space invites the local residents to make more active use of their neighbourhood than before, as the new space combines multiple functions.

58
people spent time in Guldbergs Byplads per hour between 10:00 and 18:00 on a pleasant weekday in summer

URBAN LIFE IN GULDBERGS BYPLADS ON A PLEASANT DAY

An average of 58 people spent time in Guldbergs Byplads per hour between 10:00 and 18:00. The recorded activities offer a snapshot of life in selected urban spaces: the extent of activities and the distribution of various types of activities at any given time during a summer day. Thus, the count does not reflect how many people visit a given space over the course of a whole day but whether the urban space encourages people to spend some time there.

On Tuesday, 17 September 2013, the temperature was 15-18 degrees Celsius with partial rain. On that day we surveyed activities in Gulbergs Byplads. The survey reveals how the activities unfold over the course of the day, as illustrated in the graph below.



*City of Copenhagen, Technical and Environmental Administration 2013
Averaged sum of 2-4 counts per hour in Guldbergs Byplads on a weekday between 7:00 and 19:00.*

URBAN LIFE ACCOUNT

- Trends in Copenhagen's urban life 2013

The purpose of the Urban Life Account is to measure the quality of and satisfaction with urban life in Copenhagen. The City of Copenhagen is currently pursuing a variety of strategies and initiatives aimed at improving urban life. Additional information about these efforts can be found in *A Metropolis for People and City for All*.

The Urban Life Account was prepared by the Technical and Environmental Administration, City of Copenhagen

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