Skåne
World class quality of life
Skåne offers world class quality of life

Skåne forms the link between Sweden and Europe. It has universities and unique industries. Skåne has the best agricultural land in Sweden and extensive, modern food production. The beautiful, welcoming region of Skåne with its genuine rural areas and modern urban environments attracts many visitors from both Sweden and other countries.

Region Skåne is a self-governing administrative region, funded by taxes, which is governed by a Regional Council of 149 members who are directly elected by the inhabitants of Skåne. Region Skåne is responsible for healthcare and public transport, business development, culture, infrastructure, social planning and environmental and climate-related issues in Skåne. With 32,000 employees, Region Skåne is one of Sweden’s biggest employers.

The overarching vision for Region Skåne is “World class quality of life”. Together with the municipalities in Skåne, institutes of higher education, organisations and trade and industry, Region Skåne operates on a broad front to create health, development and sustainable growth in Skåne.

Collaboration and sharing across boundaries are a prerequisite for the creation of a successful, sustainable region. Skåne’s geographical location and proximity to Copenhagen has naturally led to intensive collaboration across the Öresund, and the labour markets in Skåne and on Zealand are becoming increasingly integrated.

Region Skåne also has wide-ranging involvements with other regions, both near and far. There are partnerships in various areas with places including Hamburg and Schleswig-Holstein in Germany, Western Pomerania in Poland and the Guangdong region and the metropolis of Tianjin in China.
Region Skåne is responsible for public transport in Skåne. Commuter trains and bus routes connect up Skåne together with the Öresundståg trains, which also cover the rest of Southern Sweden and Eastern Denmark.
Region Skåne in figures

About Region Skåne

Established in ................................................................. 1999
Number of members in Regional Council ......................... 149
Annual turnover ............................................................. EUR 4.4 billion
Number of employees ...................................................... 32,000
Female .............................................................................. 26,000
Male .................................................................................. 6,000

Healthcare visits per annum ........................................... 8.3 million
Visits to doctor in Skåne per annum ................................. 3.7 million
Patients per annum at public dental service in Skåne ....... 470,000
Journeys per annum with Skånetrafiken ......................... 140 million
Visitors per annum to Malmö Opera and Skånes Dansteater .. 190,000

Revenues

- Healthcare sales
- Patients’ fees
- Ticket income from public transport
- Other income

Expenditure

- Hospital care
- Dental care
- Regional development
- Primary care
- Psychiatric care
- Other healthcare
- Skånetrafiken Public transport

Tax revenues and government subsidies
Healthcare is Region Skåne’s dominant area of activity. 80 per cent of Region Skåne’s employees are directly involved in healthcare or dental care.
Health in a broad perspective

Healthcare is the dominant activity in Region Skåne. Together with work to improve public health, outstanding research and a major Skåne industrial sector in the fields of pharmaceuticals and medical devices, it forms the broad spectrum of health with which Region Skåne works.

**Healthcare** Region Skåne makes ultimate decisions on healthcare. There are more than 200 surgeries in various fields in the local healthcare sector in Skåne. Region Skåne coordinates public and private healthcare in Skåne, and operates both primary care and highly specialised hospital care.

**Public health** The objective of work on public health is to achieve good health on equal terms for the entire population in Skåne. By means of various initiatives, Region Skåne finds out how well people are and strives to achieve good, equal physical and social health in Skåne.

**Life science** There are close links between the highly specialised healthcare in Region Skåne and medical research at Lund University. Together with the Copenhagen region, Skåne constitutes one of the fastest-growing regions in Europe for companies and research in the field of life science, Medicon Valley.

**Dental care** Region Skåne coordinates publicly financed dental care in Skåne, which is provided by both private and public organisations. Folktandvården Skåne provides dental care for children and orthodontics, and offers dental care for the whole of Skåne.

Growth and sustainable development

Economic growth and sustainable development are prerequisites for the residents of Skåne to enjoy a good quality of life. Region Skåne plays a leading role in work to develop the infrastructure, strengthen trade and industry and create a sustainable, attractive Skåne.

**Trade and industry** Region Skåne coordinates and works together with many other public and private players to develop trade and industry and to increase growth in Skåne.

**Social planning** The population in Skåne is becoming increasingly mobile, and for many people their home, work and leisure activities are in different municipalities. Region Skåne provides support for municipalities and coordinates physical social planning at a regional level.

**Infrastructure** Roads, railways, ports and airports combine with broadband to create accessibility and the preconditions for positive development in Skåne. Region Skåne plans and coordinates future initiatives in infrastructure in Skåne.

**Public transport** Region Skåne has total responsibility for public transport in Skåne in the form of city buses, regional buses and regional rail transport.

**Environment and nature** As Skåne’s biggest employer, Region Skåne attaches great significance to its internal environmental work. Together with extensive work aimed at the outside world, it strives to create a good, sustainable environment throughout the whole of Skåne. Region Skåne is also responsible for about 1,200 kilometres of hiking trails in Skåne, and supports the management of more than twenty recreational areas.

**Culture and tourism** Region Skåne coordinates the development of culture in Skåne and distributes regional and government funds to municipalities, cultural institutions and free cultural life. In broad-based collaboration with municipalities and other players, Skåne is marketed as a region for visitors and events.
Current issues

Research facilities
In the next few years, two major research facilities of international interest will be built in Lund. The European Spallation Source (ESS) will be a multidisciplinary research centre based on the world’s most powerful neutron source, and Max IV will be a world class synchrotron light facility. The construction process and the future research jobs at these facilities will result in a need for competent labour, development opportunities for companies in Skåne and the movement to Skåne of both companies and people. Region Skåne is working in the long term together with municipalities, institutes of higher education, companies and other organisations in order to best meet these new needs and development opportunities.

Europe’s most innovative region 2020
Region Skåne is leading work on the international innovation strategy for Skåne, which has as its vision that Skåne shall be Europe’s most innovative region in 2020. A large number of players from both public and private sectors are involved in this work, which means among other things that innovation is an overarching political objective for Region Skåne. The strategy includes an open attitude and broad-based international collaboration in the area of innovation, and initiatives in open arenas for innovation where innovative companies share experiences and competence and have an opportunity to develop their ideas.

The patient chooses the care provider
Region Skåne strives to ensure that patients themselves are given good opportunities to choose their care providers, and that more money is given to healthcare providers that attract more patients. Region Skåne makes sure that the surgeries involved comply with special requirements in areas such as quality and safety. Residents of Skåne are offered greater diversity as a consequence of Region Skåne actively encouraging different operating methods for healthcare. Developing opportunities to run healthcare activities privately, cooperatively or with other forms of ownership results in alternatives for patients, career paths for staff and development opportunities for healthcare providers.
This is Skåne

About Skåne
Population: 1.3 million
Area: 11,027 square kilometres

Biggest cities and populations
Malmö: 300,000
Helsingborg: 140,000
Lund: 110,000
Kristianstad: 80,000

Airports
Copenhagen Airport (Denmark)
Malmö Airport
Ängelholm Helsingborg Airport
Kristianstad Österlen Airport

Institutes of higher education
Lund University
Malmö University
The Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Alnarp
Kristianstad University

Skåne’s main industries
Agriculture and food
Pharmaceuticals and medical devices
Trade and visitors
Healthcare
Research and education