

## State of the Nordic Region 2020



*Photographer: Tina Bosse, Unsplash*

The State of the Nordic Region 2020 gives you a unique look behind the scenes of the world's most integrated region, comprised of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, along with Greenland, the Faroe Islands and Åland.

### A comprehensive overview of the Nordics

The Nordic Council of Ministers has a vision to make the Nordic Region the world's most sustainable and integrated region by 2030. A closer look at the regional and local level reveals how the Nordic Region is developing and moving towards this target. This unique publication is a valuable tool in detecting and analysing the short-term and long-term changes within and between the countries: How are we realizing the vision? And what more should be done?

[🔗 Read the digital report State of the Nordic Region 2020](#)

The State of the Nordic Region 2020 presents a series of facts and figures showing the current state of play within core socioeconomic sectors. This includes three overall themes. Immerse yourself in the topics you find most interesting:

### Demography

The total Nordic population has grown by 18% since 1990. But urbanisation, decreasing fertility rates and increasing life expectancy are changing the

demographic make-up of Nordic regions and municipalities. These long-term trends are expected to shape the Nordic societies and test the Nordic welfare model in the years to come.

- [Introduction: Demography](#)
- [Births, children and young people](#)
- [Migration and mobility – more diverse, more urban](#)
- [Ageing as a major demographic trend](#)
- [Labour market](#)

## Labour market

Employment rates has increased in all Nordic countries during the last two years. Full employment is one of the cornerstones of what is known as the Nordic model and, historically, the Nordic countries have enjoyed comparably high employment rates, particularly for women and older workers.

- [Introduction: Labour market](#)
- [Geographies of Labour](#)
- [The Nordic Labour markets in 2040](#)

## Economy

The Nordic countries have relatively small wage gaps, high employment and high taxation, combined with good quality education and social security, all of which contribute to relatively low income inequality, below the OECD average. However, as in most countries, the income gap is growing in the Nordic Region.

- [Introduction: Economy](#)
- [Increasing income inequality](#)
- [Promoting regional innovation – the role of smart specialization](#)
- [The Biobased Circular Economy – employment and other outcomes](#)

In addition, you can read about:

- [Wellbeing in the Nordics](#)
- [Energy pathways towards a carbon neutral Nordic Region](#)
- [The Regional Potential Index – a socioeconomic ranking of all regions in the No...](#)

State of the Nordic Region 2020 is produced by Nordregio and published by our parent organization, the Nordic Council of Ministers.