

SWEDEN IN A NUTSHELL

GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

Area: 173,654 sq.miles

Dimensions

Forests	50 %	Length:	977 miles
Cultivated land	10 %	Width:	310 miles
Lakes	9 %	Highest peak:	Kebnekaise
Other land	31 %		6,963 feet

Time: Central European, one hour ahead of Greenwich.

Sweden is Europe's fourth largest country in size after the Soviet Union, France and Spain, approximately the same as California or twice the size of the United Kingdom. The country occupies the same latitude as Alaska, but enjoys a rather favorable climate thanks to the Gulf Stream.

Weather

	Average temperatures Fahrenheit		Average yearly pre- cipitation inches	Hours of sunshine per year
	January	July		
Stockholm	26	64	22	1,700
London	41	64	23	1,500
New York City	34	77	44	2,500
Paris	37	66	23	1,800
Madrid	40	75	17	2,900

POPULATION

Population density in selected countries, 1969

	Area in 1,000 sq.miles	Inhab. per sq.mile
Sweden	174	46
Fed. Rep. of Germany	96	614
France	211	237
Spain	195	169
United Kingdom	94	585
United States	3,615	54

Population of Sweden: 8,129,000

Population of the three largest cities, 1972

Stockholm 1,352,000 Göteborg 685,000 Malmö 449,000

Aliens living in Sweden

411,000 in 1971

Finns	209,000	Germans	21,000
Danes	31,000	Greeks	14,000
Norwegians	28,000	Italians	8,000
Yugoslavs	37,000	Americans	6,000

About 120 nationalities are represented by the aliens living in Sweden. A peak in immigration was reached in 1970, when the net gain amounted to 50,000 persons.

Some vital statistics, 1970

	Sweden	German Fed. Rep.	France	U.K.	U.S.A.
Live births, per 1,000 inhabitants (1969)	13.5	15.0	16.7	16.6	17.7
Deaths, per 1,000 inhabitants (1969)	10.4	11.9	11.3	11.9	9.5
Deaths of infants under one year of age, per 1,000 of all live births	13.1	23.3	16.4	18.6	20.8
Marriage, per 1,000 inhabitants (1969)	6.0	7.3	7.6	8.1	10.6
Divorces, per 1,000 inhabitants	1.4	1.0	0.8	0.9	3.2
Children under 15 years of age, in thousands	1,671	13,468	12,480	13,310	59,304
Adults, 65 years of age and older, in thousands	1,086	7,019	6,263	7,034	19,471
Life expectancy					
male	72	68	68	69	67
female	77	74	75	75	74

1 Skr (Swedish krona) = US \$0.20 or £0.08 (approx.)

LIVING CONDITIONS

Some living standard indicators

Per 1,000 inhabitants

	Daily news-papers	Television receivers	Tele-phones	Passen-ger cars	Doctors
	(1969)	(1969)	(1970)	(1969)	(1970)
Sweden	528	302	537	253	1.1
German Fed. Rep.	331	262	204	192	1.6
France	243*	201	161	223	1.2
United Kingdom	488**	284	250	202	1.2
United States	305	399	564	408	1.5*

* 1968

** 1966

Budget for a family of 2 adults and 2 children, 1970

	Husband's earnings SKr 31,800 %	+ children's allowances SKr 61,800 %
Income taxes and social security charges	30*	41*
Housing, including heat	16	13
Household operation	33	23
Clothing, etc.	10	8
Recreation, health care, transportation, etc.	6	11
Insurance, savings, miscellaneous	5	4

* Children's allowances tax-free. Percentage of tax on salaries only, 32 and 43 % resp.

Direct and indirect taxes paid by single persons, 1971

	Income SKr 25,000	SKr 50,000
Local income tax	4,485	10,995
National income tax	2,285	9,760
National basic pension charges	995	1,500
Health insurance charges	475	580
Total direct taxes and charges	8,240	22,835
Average indirect taxes (value added tax, excises, etc.)	4,190	6,790
Total taxes and charges	12,430	29,625
Totals in percent of income	50	59

A Swedish industrial worker earned in 1971 SKr 12.50 per hour before tax reduction and has an annual paid vacation of four weeks.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Gainfully employed by sectors

3.9 million persons in 1970

Agriculture, forestry and fishing	7.4 %
Mining, manufacturing and construction	39.7 %
Trade, transportation and communications	21.5 %
General administration and professions	29.9 %
Unspecified	1.5 %

Working days lost due to labor disputes, 1965 and 1969

	In thousands		Per 1,000 inhab.	
	1965	1969	1965	1969
Sweden	4	110	0.5	13.8
German Fed. Rep.	49	250	0.8	4.3
France	980	2,220	20.0	44.1
United Kingdom	2,925	6,850	53.2	123.3
United States	23,300	42,900	119.5	211.1

Hours worked weekly per worker in manufacturing, 1970

Sweden	35.4	United Kingdom	
German Fed. Rep.	43.8	(1969)	45.7
France	44.8	United States	40.0

SOCIAL WELFARE

Expenditure for social services

SKr 35,000 million in 1972

Medical care and health insurance	43 %
Aid to retired and handicapped people	39 %
Aid to families with children	16 %
Miscellaneous	2 %

Social benefits

National health insurance provides free medical care at a hospital or clinic. The charges are SKr 7 for visiting a doctor in surgery and SKr 15 for a home visit. The insurance also covers the cost of medicines above SKr 15. During the time of illness, the patient is entitled to a daily tax-free cash benefit proportional to personal income and varying between SKr 6 and SKr 52. Every mother receives the amount of SKr 1,080 at each child-birth. For every child under 16 years of age there is an annual tax-free allowance of SKr 1,200.

The pension scheme consists of a national basic pension and a supplementary pension (ATP). The former is payable to all persons from the age of 67, and in January 1972 amounts to SKr 7,029 a year for single persons and SKr

11,218 for a married couple. The combined basic and supplementary pensions will equal roughly $\frac{2}{3}$ of average earnings during the pensioner's "fifteen best-paid years". All pension amounts are adjusted from time to time to compensate for changes in the consumer price index.

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Percentage of age groups in education

Age group	1940	1950	1960	1965	1970
7—15	79	85	92	98	99
16—18	10	25	34	44	75
19—24	5	10	17	21	60

Circulation of dailies by political coloring, 1970

Conservative	17.8 %
Liberal	53.8 %
Center	3.0 %
Social Democrats	21.0%
Other	4.4 %

Some cultural indicators, 1970

Daily newspapers	
average weekday net circulation	4,547,600
Book production by number of titles	8,480
Public libraries	1,484
Total number of titles in public libraries	24,410,500
Total book circulation in public libraries	52,203,500
Study circles	179,690
Students in study circles	1,774,200
Cinemas	1,483
Cinema attendance	28,200,000
Operas	3
State-supported theaters	14
Symphony orchestras	7

GOVERNMENT

Government budget 1972/73

SKr 59,110 million

Total expenditure		100 %
Education and research	18 %	
Basic pensions, etc.	17 %	
Support to families with children	6 %	
Health service and social security	4 %	
Defense	12 %	
Total receipts		100 %
Direct taxes	38 %	
Indirect taxes	48 %	

Geographical distribution of Swedish development assistance, 1970

In mill. SKr

Africa	127.5	
Tanzania		36.4
Ethiopia		34.6
Tunisia		20.1
Asia	133.5	
India		38.1
Pakistan		52.1
Europe	5.8	
Latin America	9.2	
Not distributed by country	50.6	
Total	326.6	

Results of election to Parliament, 1970

	Percent of votes	Distribution of seats
Conservatives	11.5	41
Liberals	16.2	58
Center Party	19.9	71
Social Democrats	45.3	163
Communists	4.8	17
Other parties	2.3	—
Total	100	350

Sweden is a constitutional monarchy with a parliamentary system. The Parliament consists of a single chamber with 350 members who are elected directly at general elections for a period of three years. Up to 1971 there were two chambers. Since 1921 suffrage has been universal. Voting age is 20.

ECONOMY AND INDUSTRY

Distribution of GNP by sectors, 1970

Agriculture and forestry	5 %
Mining and manufacturing	32 %
Construction	9 %
Electricity, gas, water, etc.	3 %
Commerce	11 %
Transportation and communications	7 %
Services	32 %

Balance of resources for 1971

In 1,000 mill. SKr

Consumption	139.7
of which	
private	97.3
public	42.4
Gross investments	38.5
of which	
private, excl.	
housing	15.4
public, excl.	
housing	14.6
housing	8.5
Stockbuilding	1.4
Miscellaneous	1.7
GNP	181.4

Some economic comparisons, 1970

	Sweden	German Fed. Rep.	France	U.K.	U.S.A.
GNP per capita, US \$	3,873	2,928	2,704	1,998	4,531
GNP growth rate, per year, 1965—70	3.9	4.5	5.6	2.3	3.4
Private per capita consumption, US \$	2,025	1,662	1,603	1,259	2,890
Private consumption as a percentage of GNP	52	57	59	63	64
Gross investments as a percentage of GNP, 1969	23	24	25	17	17
Average increase in con- sumer prices, 1963—69	26	16	24	27	20

Share of value added by all industries, 1969

Mining	2.9 %
Metalworking and engineering	44.5 %
Shipbuilding	2.5 %
Stone, clay and glass	4.6 %
Timber, pulp and paper	15.2 %
Printing	5.6 %
Textiles and apparel, leather and furs	6.4 %
Rubber products	1.4 %
Foodprocessing	9.8 %
Chemicals	7.1 %

Per capita net consumption of electric energy, 1969
(kWh)

Norway	12,980	German Fed. Rep.	3,320
Canada	8,200	Belgium	2,670
United States	7,010	France	2,410
Sweden	6,800	Denmark	2,410
Switzerland	3,890	Italy	1,810
United Kingdom	3,680	Spain	1,240

FOREIGN TRADE

Composition of Sweden's foreign trade, 1970

	Exports %	Imports %
Food	2.3	10.7
Forest industry products	24.0	2.2
lumber and wood products	6.7	1.1
pulp, paper and board	17.3	1.1
Fuel	0.9	10.6
Iron ore	3.4	—
Iron and steel, other metals	11.4	11.1
Metal products, machinery and instruments	28.3	24.4
Cars and trucks	8.7	5.5
Ships	5.2	1.1
Textiles and footwear	2.9	9.6
Other goods	12.9	24.8

Direction of Sweden's foreign trade, 1970

	Exports %	Imports %
EFTA	33.6	37.8
United Kingdom	12.5	13.8
Denmark	9.8	7.7
Norway	10.8	5.8
Finland	6.3	5.1
EEC	27.6	33.9
German Fed. Rep.	11.7	18.9
France	5.0	4.1
Eastern Europe	5.0	4.7
United States and Canada	7.4	9.5
Latin America	3.5	4.3
Other countries	11.9	9.8

The Swedish Institute publishes Fact Sheets on different aspects of Sweden. For information contact the Swedish Institute, Box 7072, S-103 82 Stockholm 7, or the Swedish Information Service, 825 Third Ave, New York, N.Y. 10022, or the Swedish Embassy or Consulate in your country.