



The Danish National Travel Survey

Fast sheet about cycling in Denmark 2016-19

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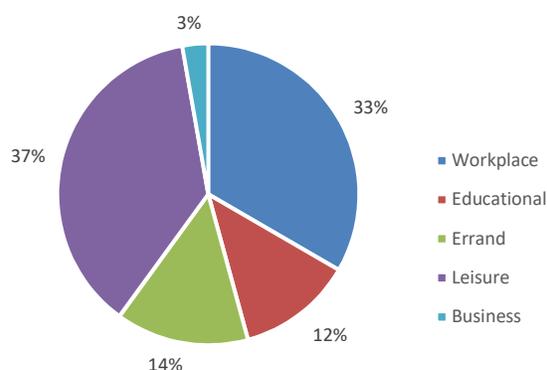


Bicycle traffic in Denmark

The bicycle plays an important role for transportation in Denmark, especially when comparing to other countries. On average over the years 2016-2019, Danes age 6 years and older had 0.43 bicycle trips per day, with an average length of 3.32 km, corresponding to 1.4 km per person per day. The calculations in the fact sheet are excl. commercial transport.

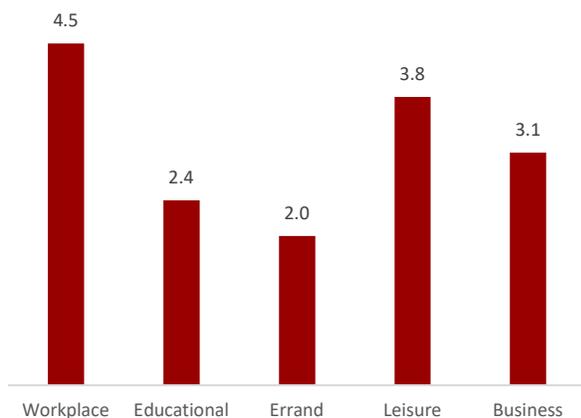
Purposes for bicycle trips

Leisure accounts for the greatest share of Danish bicycle mileage with 37% of the total. Workplace commuting accounts for 33% of the mileage. Errands and educational commute accounts for 14% and 12%, respectively and business purposes the remaining 3%.



Share of total bicycle mileage (km)

Regarding the average length, workplace commute trips have the greatest length at 4.5 km, followed by leisure trips at 3.8 km. The shortest trips are errand trips, averaging at 2 km.



Average length (km) of bicycle trips by trip purpose

Seasonal variation

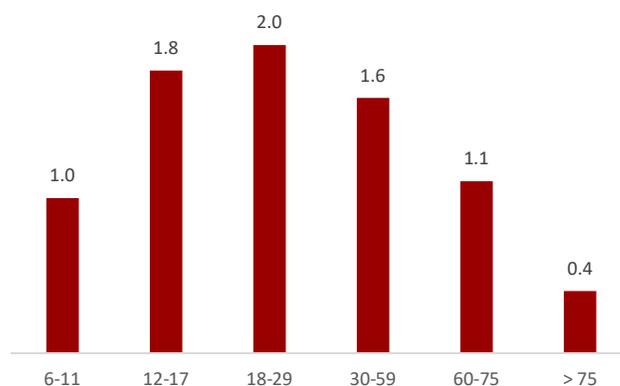
The general picture is that the Danes cycle more in the summer, compared to the winter. July is the primary vacation month in Denmark, causing a lower cycling activity, compared to May/June and August/September.



Average bicycle mileage (km/person/day) by month

More bicycle traffic amongst young people

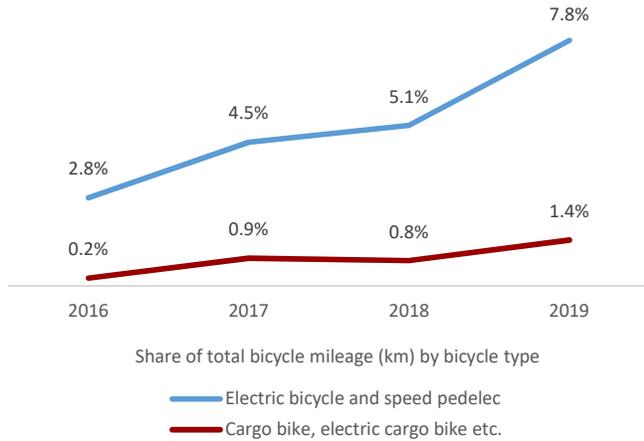
There is a clear connection between age and the average number of kilometres ridden on bicycles per day. The number increases in the years going from a child to an adult. Then, the ridden kilometres per day decrease by age. Young people between the age of 18 and 29 cycle the longest.



Average bicycle mileage (km/person/day) by age groups

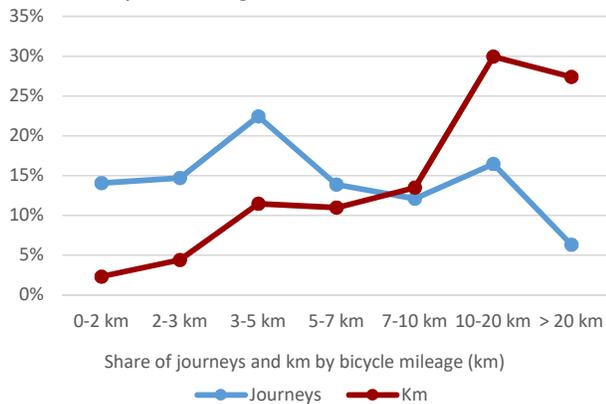
Types of bicycles

The majority of all bicycle rides are on regular 2-wheel bicycle. However, the number of trips on electric bicycles shows an increasing trend and other types of bicycles are used to a greater extend.



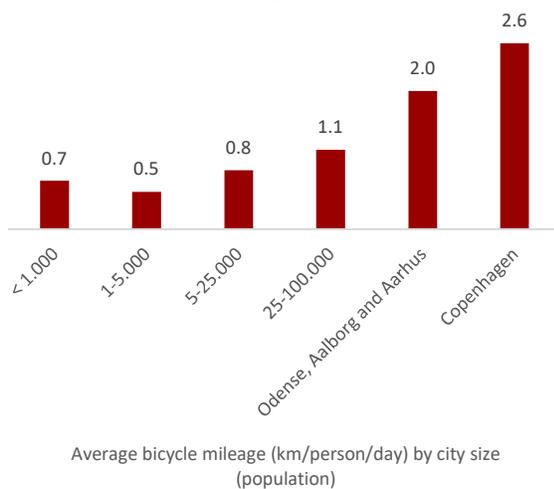
Most cycling on journeys shorter than 5 km

The figure below shows the distribution of bicycle journeys and kilometres according to the length of the journey. More than half of all cycled journeys are shorter than 5 km but these only account for 18% of the total bicycle mileage.



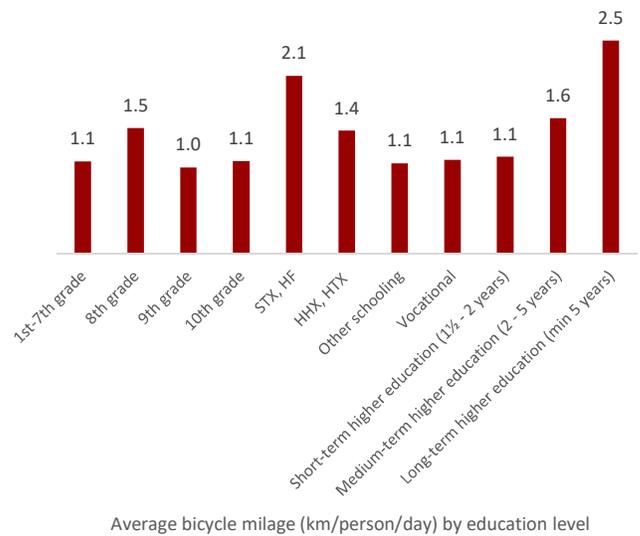
More bicycle traffic in larger cities

We clearly see more cycling activity in larger cities than in small towns. The average bicycle mileage in smaller/medium towns is less than half of the distance ridden in Copenhagen.

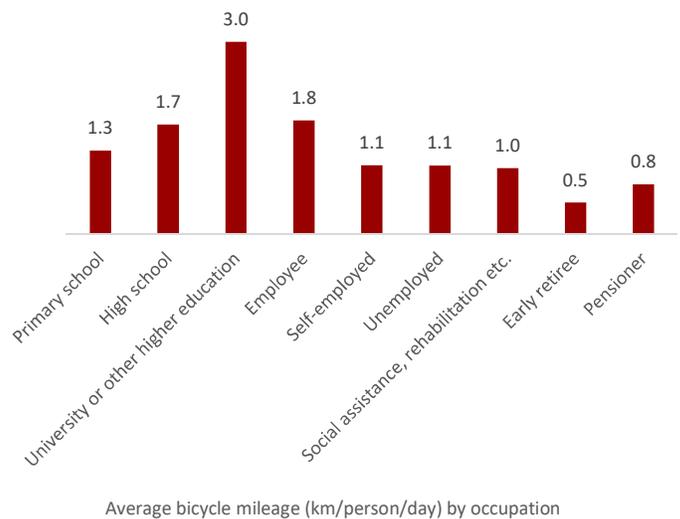


Education affects cycling

In the figure below we see that there are clear differences in the cycling activity among individuals with different types of education. People with a regular high school diploma (STX, HF) ride an average of 2.1 km per day, and those with long-term higher education ride the most kilometres.



When separating by employment, the most cycling activity is clearly amongst the students, while early retirees are cycling the least.



The Danish National Travel Survey

The National Travel Survey maps the transport patterns of the Danish population. The survey was first conducted in 1975, and has been conducted continuously since 2006, from 2016 with persons over 6 years old. With about 10,000 interviews every year, the National Travel Survey is the most comprehensive source for analysis of transport behaviors and habits in Denmark. Read more about the National Travel Survey at www.tudata.dk