

DENMARK

2020



Budget : In 2020, Denmark spent 92.4 € per inhabitant on the implemented judicial system budget (well above the CoE median) and 0.17% of the GDP (lower than the COE median). Within judicial system budget, Denmark invested 50% on courts, 23% on prosecution and 27% on legal aid which represents one of the highest legal aid shares in Europe.

Professionals and gender balance

The number of professional judges per 100 000 inhabitants (6,6) has been mostly stable and stayed much lower than the CoE median value. The number of lawyers (117 per 100 000 inh.) has only slightly increased but not as much as the European median. The proportion of women among judges is 54% and among court presidents 41%. While the participation of women court presidents increased since 2012 from 28%, this ratio among heads of prosecution offices has slightly fallen from 35% to 32%.

ICT in judiciary

Even with the increase of 0,7 points compared with previous cycle, Denmark's ICT index of 4,9 is still much below the CoE median. However, the investments in ICT budget of 8.85% of the courts' budget are considerable and there is an ongoing process of modernizing the IT systems.

Legal aid

Since June 2020, Denmark has established a self-service solution for legal aid applications. A large majority of the applications are being received digitally and then automatically registered in the case management system. The decisions on granted legal aid are also sent electronically to the applicants.

Efficiency: In 2020, the most efficient are first instance courts, while the most efficient area of law, combined for all instances, was the criminal one. Data for administrative cases are included in civil and commercial litigious cases and cannot be analysed separately.

The highest Disposition Time is calculated in the highest instance of civil and commercial litigious cases and it is above the COE median.

The adverse influence of the COVID-19 pandemic did not influence much inflow and outflow in first and second instances but it had an impact in the highest instance. It caused a small decrease in efficiency, although there were exceptions such as highest instance criminal cases.

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Non-prosecutor staff 28.60 7.87 14.98 6.52 14,60 8.13 14.57 NA 14,56 NA 12,94

Absolute gross salaries



Lawyers 134,51 117.64 113.04 127,08 108.48 120,25 108.38 110.17 107.47 112,56 104.56 102.03

Ratio with the average annual gross salary

Salary at the begining of career



Salary at the end of career



ICT in judiciary (index from 0 to 10)

Index	Total	4.91	6,5
Deployment rate	Civil	7.59	6,6
	Criminal	5.84	5,7
	Administrative	3.51	• 6,1
Communication with courts	Civil	9.74	6,1
	Criminal	6.95	4,1
	Administrative	3.45	• 5,0
Courts and case	Civil	5.98	• 7,3
management	Criminal	5.02	• 7,3
	Administrative	3.89	• 7,4
Decision support	Civil	2.76	• 7,0
	Criminal	3.59	• 7,3
	Administrative	2.76	• 7,2

Gender balance



Courts (per 100 000 inhabitants)



General jurisdiction courts Specialised courts						
43	0,43	0,42	0,42	0,41	0,41	
04	0,04	0,04	0,03	0,03	0,03	
10	2012	2014	2016	2018	2020	
		ll courts (geog ● Denmark	raphic location) CoE median			
64	1,66	1,49	1,60	1,49	1,50	
52	0,52	0,51	0,50	0,50	0,50	
10	2012	2014	2016	2018	2020	

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CEPEJ efficiency indicators





Public prosecution services

Total number of criminal cases of 1st instance per 100 inhabitants Distribution of processed cases per 100 inhabitants



Discontinued during the reference year	3.55	:
		:0,88
Concluded by a penalty or a measure imposed or negotiated by the public prosecutor	0.81	0,11
Cases closed by the public prosecutor for other reasons	NAP	0,18
Cases brought to court	2.83	

Distribution of discontinued cases per 100 inhabitants



Note: There are different methodologies on calculating number of cases in prosecution statistics by event or by perpetrator. CEPEJ collects data per case (event) but some countries present it by perpetrator.

Judiciary related websites					
1. Legal texts	2. Case-law of the higher court/s	3. Information about the judicial system			
https://www.retsinformation.dk/	https://domstol.fe1.tangora.com	https://domstol.dk/om-os/organisation/			