

207 Stockholm (Sweden)

1,7 million inhabitants according to the UN's *Urban Agglomerations 2003*.

1. Territorial Levels, Population and Area

Name	Population	% of total	Area, km ²	Density, people/km ²
Stockholm	765.044	8,49	188	4.069
Stockholm Metropolitan Agglomeration#	1.271.257	14,11	808	1573
Stockholm County	1.872.900	20,78	6.519	287
Stockholm-Mälars Region	2.971.459	32,97	34.523	86,1
Sweden	9.011.392	100	410.314	22,0

*Statistics Sweden 06/2004.

The Stockholm Metropolitan Agglomeration used was defined by *Institut d'Estudis Regionals i Metropolitans de Barcelona* in their work "*Grans Aglomeracions Metropolitanes Europees*" published at *Revista Papers*, number 37. This research defines 50 European Metropolitan Regions based fixed criteria on density, conurbation and total population.

2. Administrative Designation and Number of Municipalities

Name	Designation	Number of Municipalities
Stockholm	City of Stockholm <i>Stockholms Stad</i>	1 Municipality (<i>kommun</i>) 18 Districts (<i>stadsdelsnämnder</i>): Bromma, Enskede-Årsta, Farsta, Hägersten, Hässelby-Vällingby, Katarina-Sofia, Kista, Kungsholmen, Liljeholmen, Maria-Gamla stan, Norrmalm, Rinkeby, Skarpnäck, Skärholmen, Spånga-Tensta, Vantör, Älvsjö and Östermalm.
Stockholm Metropolitan Agglomeration#	It does not form a single political or administrative institution	12 Municipalities (<i>kommuner</i>): Danderyd, Huddinge, Järfälla, Lidingö, Nacka, Sollentuna, Solna, Stockholm, Sundbyberg, Tyresö, Täby and Upplands Väsby
Stockholm County	<i>Stockholms Läns</i>	1 County (<i>län</i>) 26 Municipalities (<i>kommuner</i>): Botkyrka, Danderyd, Ekerö, Haninge, Huddinge, Järfälla, Lidingö, Nacka, Norrtälje, Nykvarn, Nynäshamn, Salem, Sigtuna, Sollentuna, Solna, Stockholm, Sundbyberg, Södertälje, Tyresö, Täby, Upplands-Bro, Upplands Väsby, Vallentuna, Vaxholm, Värmdö and Österåker
Stockholm-Mälars Region	<i>Stockholm-Mälarsregionen</i>	5 Counties: Stockholm, Uppsala, Örebro, Södermanland and Västmanland. 62 Municipalities (<i>Kommuner</i>)
Sweden	Kingdom of Sweden, <i>Konungariket Sverige</i>	21 Counties (<i>Län</i>) 290 Municipalities (<i>Kommuner</i>)

3. Institutional framework and political powers

Stockholm

General Aspects

As a local government, the City of Stockholm has the following responsibilities: collecting income tax and operating public services including schools, assistance for children and the elderly, housing and cultural and leisure activities. Despite being highly discretionary by law, they have to provide a series of basic services. Provision is currently decentralised to the districts.

City Council

The city's maximum decision-making organ, responsible for guaranteeing the standard of municipal services and their compliance with the law. The Council approves the municipal budget, is able to establish municipal taxation and supervises the use made of funds both by the administration and public companies. It is made up of 101 councillors elected by direct proportional voting every four years. The elections are held at the same time as the other local elections and those of the counties and the parliament.

City Executive Board

This is an organ that represents the parties present on City Council. It prepares Council meetings and implements its resolutions. The Executive Board supervises the activity of the councillors responsible for finances and personnel; the work committees for assistance to the elderly, employment and integration, and the committee for the environment. The 13 members are elected in proportion to the composition of City Council.

Mayor and Council of Mayors (*Borgarråd*)

Both the mayor and the vice-mayors form part of the political majority of the City Council and have been appointed by it to lead the different areas of city government. They are responsible for preparing the activity of the Executive Board and preparing bills and drafts of legislation and budgets. The mayor and vice-mayors (currently 11) are elected by majority vote in City Council after elections.

Districts

The administration of the City of Stockholm is decentralised into 18 districts, responsible for the provision of essential municipal services such as pre-school, primary and compulsory education; social assistance; leisure and culture; trade and local industry and the environment. Each district has a District Council, the composition of which reflects that of the City Council rather than the wishes of the voters in each district.

Public Companies

Stockholms Stadshus AB

Parent company of 16 companies that provide municipal public services in the following sectors: the renting of public housing; the management of over 100,000 flats and 15,000

commercial premises; the management of public schools, commercial centres, water and sewerage, ports and logistics centres, economic promotion and local economic development, technological infrastructure, stadiums and insurance companies.

AB Fortum Värme

A semi-public company that provides electricity, gas, heating and air-conditioning services to the city.

Stockholm County

General Aspects

In Sweden, the counties have two institutional functions: political and administrative. The first is carried out by the democratically elected County Council and the second, representing the central state and co-ordinating policies, is carried out by the Administrative Committee.

Stockholm County Council (*Stockholms Läns Landsting*)

The County Council is the local organization responsible for guaranteeing the access to and provision of health services in all the municipalities in the county (including primary health, hospitals, specialties and public health), as well as public transport services, including the underground system operated by the company *Storstockholms Lokaltrafik SL* and the ferry system that connects the different parts of the city.

The Council also works in the area of regional planning, although it can only influence municipal decisions. It also has other, lesser powers in areas such as secondary education, culture, international co-operation and research. The public elects the 149 councillors every four years, at the same time as the other Swedish elections.

Stockholm County Administrative Board (*Länsstyrelsen i Stockholms län*)

The Board is the State's representative in the county and acts as a link between the public and the municipalities on the one hand and the central government and parliament on the other. Its function is to co-ordinate the central administration in the county's territory, in accordance with the objectives of the central government's national policies. It also has authority over assessment, supervision and the granting of licenses in the fields of traffic, the environment, social assistance, housing, hunting and fishing. The Board is currently made up of 12 members elected in a representative fashion by the parties present on the County Council.

Governor of Stockholm County (*Landshövding*)

Leads both the Board and the public administration of the county and is the maximum institutional representative. The Governor is directly appointed by the central government to develop these responsibilities for a six-year period.

Stockholm-Mälars Region

General Aspects

This is an association that groups together five counties and their corresponding municipalities and whose main aim is to promote the economic development of the region. It works as a regional network of public agents (municipalities, counties, universities) and private organisations (companies and NGOs). Co-operation is established through four committees: Planning and Traffic; Trade, Industry and Research and Development; Culture and Tourism, and Environment.

Government Board

The Board works as the maximum organ of government and co-ordination in the region and is also responsible for the work of the four committees and for establishing the co-ordination elements between the municipalities and counties. It is made up of 18 regular members and 18 substitutes, appointed every four years following the elections by the representatives of the municipalities and counties. It has a president elected by the Board after local elections.

Sweden

Monarch: King or Queen

Sweden is a constitutional monarchy and the head of state is the King or Queen. His or her functions are symbolic and representative, as the figure of the monarch has been stripped of all major political powers. It is a hereditary and lifelong position.

Parliament or Diet (*Riksdagen*)

Parliament is the single-chamber organ of popular representation which has legislative power, establishes the budgetary framework of the State and exercises control over the government activity. It elects the Prime Minister after parliamentary elections. The Parliament has 349 elected MPs who serve four-year terms and are elected in a proportional system in multi-member districts.

Prime Minister and Government

The Government has executive power and is thus responsible for the implementation of state laws and policies. The government prepares bills and leads 300 government agencies and organisations of the public administration. The Prime Minister is elected by majority vote in the *Riksdagen*.

4. Relevant websites

City of Stockholm: <http://www.stockholm.se/>

Stockholm County Council: <http://www.sll.se/>

County Administrative Board of Stockholm: <http://www.ab.lst.se/>

AB Fortum Värme samägt med Stockholms stad <http://www.fortum.se>

Stockholms Stadshus AB <http://www.s-husab.stockholm.se/>

Stockholm County Association of Local Authorities <http://www.ksl.se/>

Council for the Stockholm-Mälardalen Region <http://www.malardalsradet.se/>

Office of Regional Planning and Urban Transportation of the Stockholm-Mälardalen Region
<http://www.rtk.sll.se/>

Government Offices of Sweden <http://www.sweden.gov.se/>

Riksdagen (Parliament) <http://www.riksdagen.se/>

Statistics Sweden: <http://www.scb.se/>

National Board of Housing, Building and Planning is the Swedish government
<http://www.boverket.se/>

Sweden's County Administrations website <http://www.lst.se/>