Physical activity policy status in Denmark

MOVING policy index



This country snapshot presents detailed results of the **MOVING policy index** [1] for Denmark. It highlights strengths and weaknesses in the design of national government physical activity policies. This snapshot supplements the policy index results with an in-depth look at the quality of policy design in each country. Full policy index results are outlined in the MOVING policy brief, which compares Denmark to 29 other European countries.

Main messages

- 1 Denmark implements policy actions in all six policy areas of the MOVING framework. Two policy areas achieved a good assessment, specifically action at national government level on increasing physical activity through public communication which builds behaviour change skills (N) and initiatives that promote physical activity in schools, community, and recreation (M).
- 2 Within policy areas, weaknesses were identified in physical activity outside of school hours, community and mass participation initiatives and financial incentives to promote physical activity, which affected otherwise well-designed policy actions on physical activity in schools (M). Similarly, well-designed policies to promote physical activity in primary care were impacted by a lack of focus on outpatient settings and lack of training for healthcare professionals in this area (G). Further weaknesses in policy design were found on training in physical activity for professionals outside of healthcare and physical activity in the workplace (O), walking and cycling infrastructure (V) and road safety actions (I). Notable gaps were found on active design guidelines within and outside building (V) and policies promoting public transport (I).
- **3** Greater attention should be given to all policy actions within the four areas that received a fair or moderate assessment: structures and surroundings which promote physical activity (V), improving transport infrastructure to promote active societies (I), physical activity in the workplace (O) and training across for those within healthcare (G).

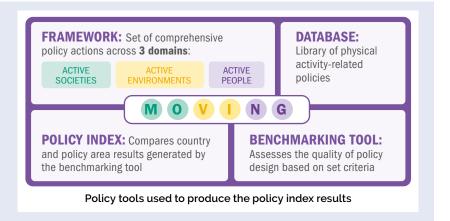
Overview of policy sta	NO POLICIES IDENTIFIED	POOR	FAIR	MODERATE	GOOD	EXCELLENT	
Make opportunities and initiatives that promote physical activity in schools, the community and sport and recreation					GOOD		
	Offer physical activity opportunities in the workplace and training in physical activity promotion across multiple professions					MODERATE	
V Visualise and en	Visualise and enact structures and surroundings which promote physical activity				FAIR		
Implement trans	Implement transport infrastructure and opportunities that support active societies				FAIR		
	Normalise and increase physical activity through public communication that motivates and builds behaviour change skills			GOOD			
Give physical activity training, assessment and counselling in healthcare settings					FAIR		

This snapshot is based on national level policies only. Policies issued by provincial, regional or local governments are outside the scope of this project.

Methods

The MOVING policy index methods are fully explained in the associated **policy brief**. In short, the policy index combines values for a) policy presence, and b) policy design for 23 benchmarks.

The benchmarks are applied to policies in the **MOVING database** [2], collected through a comprehensive scan in 30 European countries, including Denmark.



 No policy identified Meets up to 75% of policy design Meets up to 99% of policy design Meets up to 50% of policy design Meets all aspirational standards 	Breakdown of policy index results	(For full details on the policy design criteria, consult the policy brief)			
	X No policy identified	Meets up to 75% of policy design			
Meets up to 50% of policy design Meets all aspirational standards	Meets up to 25% of policy design	Meets up to 99% of policy design			
	Meets up to 50% of policy design	Meets all aspirational standards			

M	Physical activity in schools and PE	
	Physical activity in and outside of classrooms	
	Physical activity outside of school hours	
	Community and mass participation initiatives	
	Physical activity for people of all ages and abilities	
	Financial incentives to promote physical activity	
0	Training for professions outside of healthcare	
	Physical activity in the workplace	
	Design guidelines and regulations for buildings	×
	Active design guidelines outside buildings	×
W	Active design guidelines for open/green spaces	
V	Walking and cycling infrastructure	
	Integrated urban design and land-use policies	
	Access to quality public open space and green spaces	×
	Policies to support public transport	×
	Road safety actions including safety of pedestrians, cyclists etc	
	Mass communication campaigns to promote transport	×
	Policies to promote active transport	
N	Mass media campaigns and social marketing promoting physical activity	
	Develop and communicate physical activity guidelines	
G	Pre- and in-service training within health care	×
	Primary care (assessment, counselling and PA prescriptions)	
	Health care and outpatient settings	×

Note: The policy landscape in any country evolves over time. These findings reflect our knowledge as of May 2023. To see latest results and for further technical information on the policy indexes, please consult our website: wcrf.org/our-policy-work.

For feedback or suggested updates, please email policy@wcrf.org. More info in the CO-CREATE project can be found at co-create.eu

[1] Policy index: wcrf.org/physical-activity-policy-index [2] Policy database: policydatabase.wcrf.org





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