Report

Demographic trends in Nøjsomhed-Sydvej and three comparator areas during the period 2013-2021

Centre for Alcohol and Drug Research
Department of Psychology and Behavioural Sciences
Aarhus University

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Tobias Kammersgaard

Content

Introduction

This report describes the demographic development in the so-called "ghetto area" Nøjsomhed-Syvej (Helsingør), and three comparator areas, defined as "socially disadvantaged residential areas" (SUB areas): Sønderbro (Horsens), Ellekonebakken (Viborg) and Gammel Jennumparken (Randers). To delimit the areas, we have used the address list by the Danish Ministry of Transport and Housing, which is the one being used to prepare the official annual lists of ghetto areas and socially disadvantaged residential areas. The report is produced by Centre for Alcohol and Drug Research on the request of Open Society Justice Initiative.

1.0 Background

In 2004, the Danish government published its first strategy against so-called "ghettoization", aiming to prevent areas from separating from the rest of the society "physically, culturally and economically" (Danish government, 2004, p. 7). According to the government, "ghettoization" posed a significant barrier to the integration of immigrants and descendants of immigrants, especially in areas with a high number of ethnic minority residents and a high level of unemployment. The focus on so-called "ghettos" has remained in Danish policy, regardless of changing governments. While these policies have the stated purpose of preventing residential segregation and enhance social cohesion, they have been criticized by the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (2019) for resulting in ethnic discrimination and, also, further marginalizing ethnic minorities.

Since 2010, the Danish government has published a yearly "ghetto list" of neighborhoods that fulfill the criteria of socially disadvantaged residential areas, such as high unemployment rates, high rates of residents with a criminal record and low average incomes, but where simultaneously at least 50 percent of the residents are immigrants or descendants of immigrants from so-called "non-Western countries". A "hard ghetto" is an area that has fulfilled the criteria for being a "ghetto" the last four years. In 2020 there was 25 socially disadvantaged residential area, out of these 15 were also defined as "ghettos" and out of these 13 were defined as "hard ghettos".

Policy measures directed at "ghetto" areas, described in the government strategy from 2018, includes: 1) demolition of apartments in the areas and rehousing of residents, 2) mandatory preschool for so-called "ghetto children" from when they are one year old, 3) increased powers to housing associations, which permits them to evict or refuse residents, based on their criminal records, and 4) enhanced policing measures in "ghetto" neighborhoods (Danish government, 2018)

1.1/ Statistical concepts and definitions

In the report, definitions by Statistics Denmark of immigrants, descendants, country of origin and western/non-western countries have been used. These definitions are:

Immigrant: An immigrant is defined as a person born abroad whose parents are both (or one of them if there is no available information on the other parent) foreign citizens or were both born abroad. If there is no available information on either of the parents and the person was born abroad, the person is also defined as an immigrant.

Descendant: A descendant is defined as a person born in Denmark whose parents (or one of them if there is no available information on the other parent) are either immigrants or descendants with foreign citizenship. If there is no available information on either of the parents and the person in question is a foreign citizen, the person is also defined as a descendant.

Person of Danish origin: A person – regardless place of birth – where at least one parent is a Danish citizen and also born in Denmark.

Country of origin: Country of origin is defined as following:

When no parents are known, the country of origin is defined from the persons own information. If the person is an immigrant, it's assumed that the country of origin is equal to the country of birth. If the person is a descendant, it's assumed that the country of origin is equal to the country of citizenship.

When only one parent is known, the country of origin is defined as the country of birth of the parent. If this is Denmark, the country of citizenship is used.

When both parents are known, the country of origin is defined as the country of birth of the mother respectively country of citizenship.

Western/Non-western countries: Western countries: All 28 EU countries and Andorra, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Norway, San Marino, Switzerland, Vatican State, Canada, USA, Australia and New Zealand.

Non-western countries: All other countries.

(Statistics Denmark, 2017)

1.2/ Selection of comparator areas

To compare the demographic development of Nøjsomhed-Sydvej with other similar areas, three residential areas have been selected that are most similar to Nøjsomhed-Sydvej based on number of parameters that define a socially disadvantaged residential area, but without a high proportion of immigrants and descendants. In this connection, the following SUB areas have been selected: Sønderbro (Horsens), Ellekonebakken (Viborg) and Gammel Jennumparken (Randers). Below is an overview of the demographic data from which the areas have been selected, based on the information that the Ministry of Transport and Housing publishes annually about the areas. The figures are from the latest report from 1 December 2020. As can be seen, the proportion of descendants and immigrants from "non-western" countries in the SUB areas is not stated, as this is not included as a selection requirement to be included in the list of SUB areas.

Area	Municipality	Number of residents	Without employment > 40 pct.	Criminal record ≥ 2,27 pct.	Only primary education > 60 pct.	Average income < 55 pct.	Non-western immigrants > 50 pct.
Nøjsomhed-Sydvej	Helsingør	1,093	38.5	3	75.1	50.8	53.7
Sønderbro	Horsens	1,450	41.2	1.54	69.9	59.1	N/A
Ellekonebakken	Viborg	1,040	46.8	1.83	68.7	56	N/A
Gammel Jennumparken	Randers	1,351	47.9	1.95	68.5	58.6	N/A

1.3/ Aim of the study

The purpose of this report is to provide additional demographic data, which makes it possible to look at differences and similarities between the four selected residential areas. On the basis of a special data delivery from Statistics Denmark, this report will provide further information on the demographic development in the four selected residential areas, which goes beyond the data that the Ministry of Transport and Housing publishes annually on the areas. Specifically, this report will shed light on the proportion of immigrants and descendants in the areas, their countries of origin, the citizenship of the residents, and the gender and age composition of the residents of the four residential areas from 2013 to 2021.

1.4/ Anonymization

Statistics Denmark had to anonymize the data set on which this analysis is based. This means that some information is omitted to prevent it from being traced back to individuals. This means, for example, that a shared category has been created for a range of countries, as sufficiently few residents had these as their country of origin, that it would not be possible to maintain their anonymity. This category has been named: 'Middle East others'. The category includes: United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Algeria, Libya, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Middle East undisclosed, Jordan, Kuwait, Qatar, Israel, Oman, Bahrain.

In order to be able to retain as much information as possible about the individual residents' countries of origin, Statistics Denmark has had to divide citizenship into three categories: 1) Denmark, 2) Western countries and 3) Non-Western countries. This has been done on the basis of a consideration that the variable "country of origin" contributes more information about the individual residents' background than the variable "citizenship" as a resident may have Danish citizenship but have a country of origin that is not Denmark. In addition, it is the "country of origin" that determines whether the residents are categorized as being immigrants/descendants from non-western countries. However, if information about country of origin has been anonymized, we have used information about the person's citizenship in order to most closely approximate the proportion of non-western immigrants/descendants in the housing area.

1.5/ Statistical uncertainty

The anonymization of the data also means that there is some statistical uncertainty in the analyses. In instances where 3 or fewer persons share immigrant status, country of origin and citizenship the exact number of persons has been anonymized by Statistics Denmark. In those instances, we have used the average for all of the anonymized cells. For this dataset the average used for estimating is 1.3. In that regard, the numbers reported in this publication should be considered close approximations rather than exact measures.
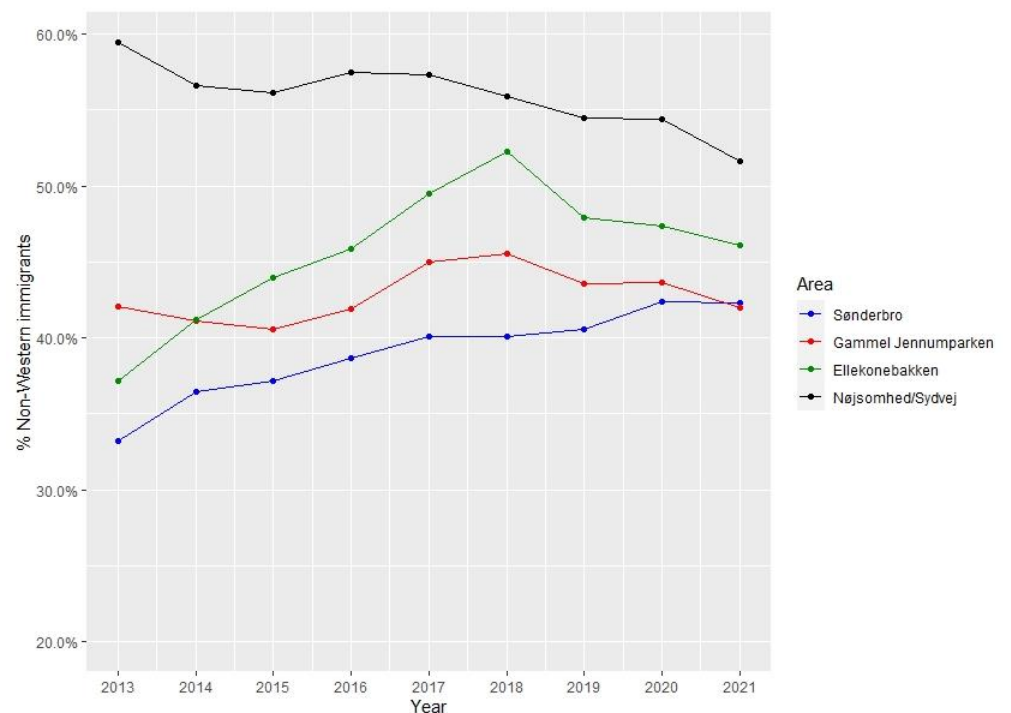
2.0 Immigrants and descendants

2.1/ Proportion of immigrants and descendants from non-western countries

Since the Ministry of Transport and Housing does not publish figures for the proportion of non-western immigrants and descendants in the so-called SUB areas, we will begin by looking at their distribution in the four housing areas.

From the graph below (figure 1), we can see that there were more immigrants and descendants from non-western countries in Nøjsomhed-Sydvej in 2013 encompassing 59.5% of the residents. However, since then the proportion of immigrants and descendants from non-western countries has decreased steadily, with a few fluctuations, to 54.4% in 2020 and then 51.6% in 2021. Meanwhile, in the other areas, the proportion of immigrants and descendants from non-western countries has either increased or remained stable from 2013 to 2021.

Figure 1: Proportion of immigrant/descendants from non-western countries

2.2/ *Proportion of immigrants and descendants from all countries*

From the figure below (figure 2), we can see that the proportion of immigrants and descendants from all countries has been higher in Nøjsomhed-Sydvej in all years from 2013 to 2021. However, the proportion has decreased in Nøjsomhed-Sydvej from 64.3% in 2013 to 57.3% in 2021, while the proportion has either increased or remained stable in the other areas.

Figure 2: Proportion of immigrants and descendants
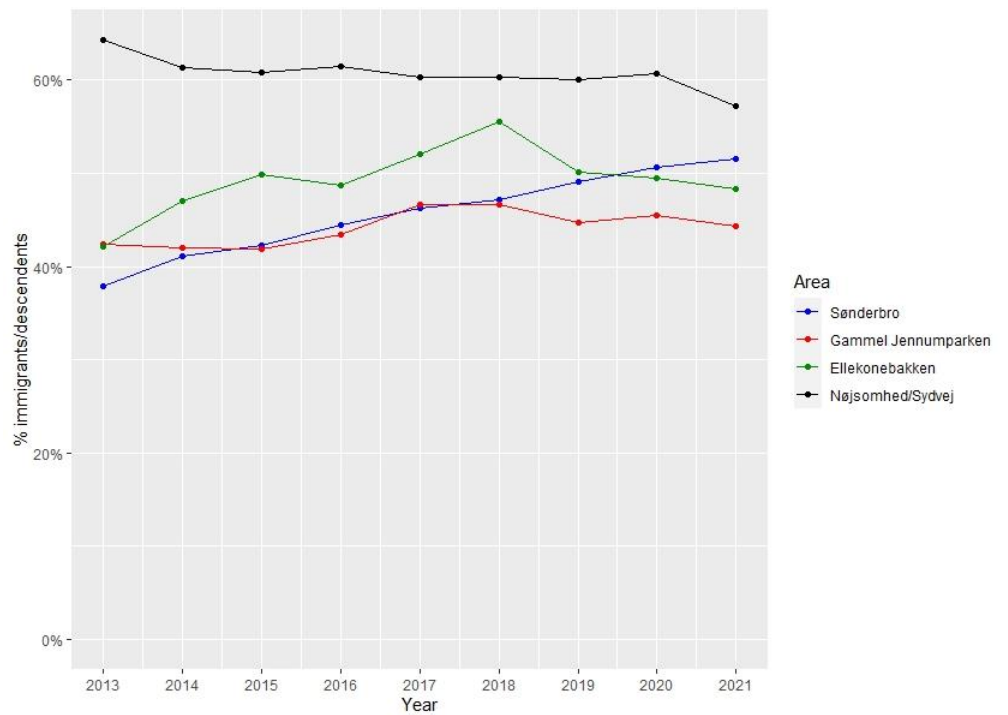
2.3/ Proportion of residents from Middle East and Africa

From the figure below (figure 3), we can see that the proportion of residents with a country of origin located in the middle east or in Africa is higher in Nøjsomhed-Sydvej in every year. However, it has decreased from 45% in 2013 to 40.3% in 2021. Meanwhile, it has generally been steadily increasing in the other housing areas during the period.

Figure 3: Proportion of residents from Middle East and Africa
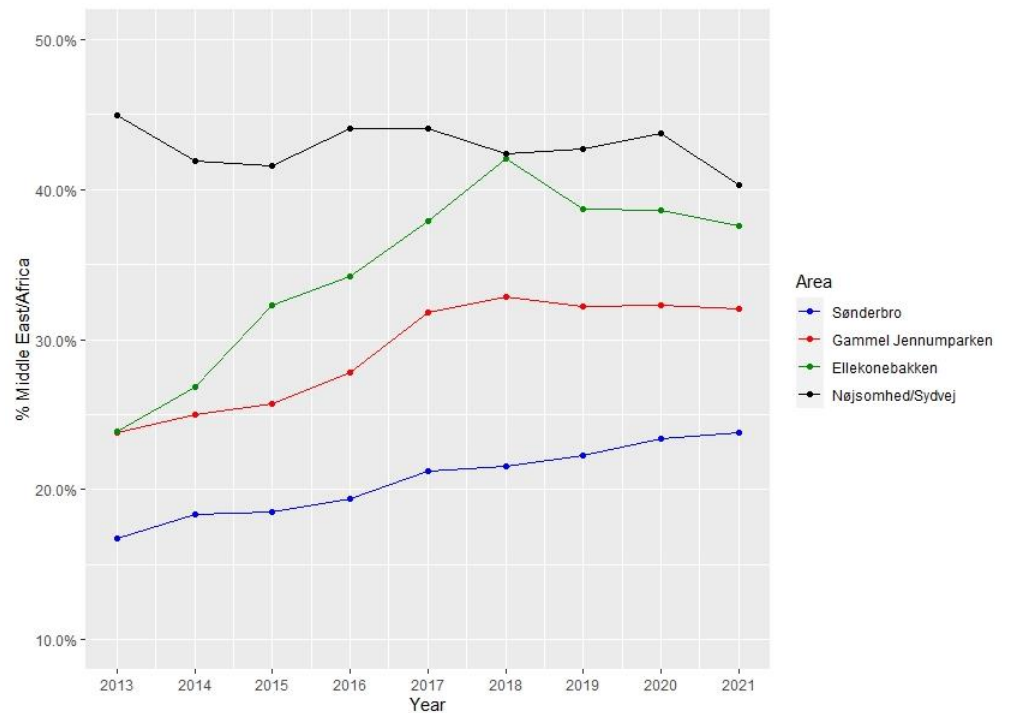
2.4/ Proportion of residents with Danish origin

From the figure below (figure 4), we can see that the proportion of residents with Danish origin (see definition in the introduction), has been lower in every year in Nøjsomhed-Sydvej. However, the proportion has been increasing from 32.6% in 2013 to 40.2% in 2021. In the same period, the proportion of residents with Danish origin has generally decreased in the other housing areas.

Figure 4: Proportion of residents with Danish origin
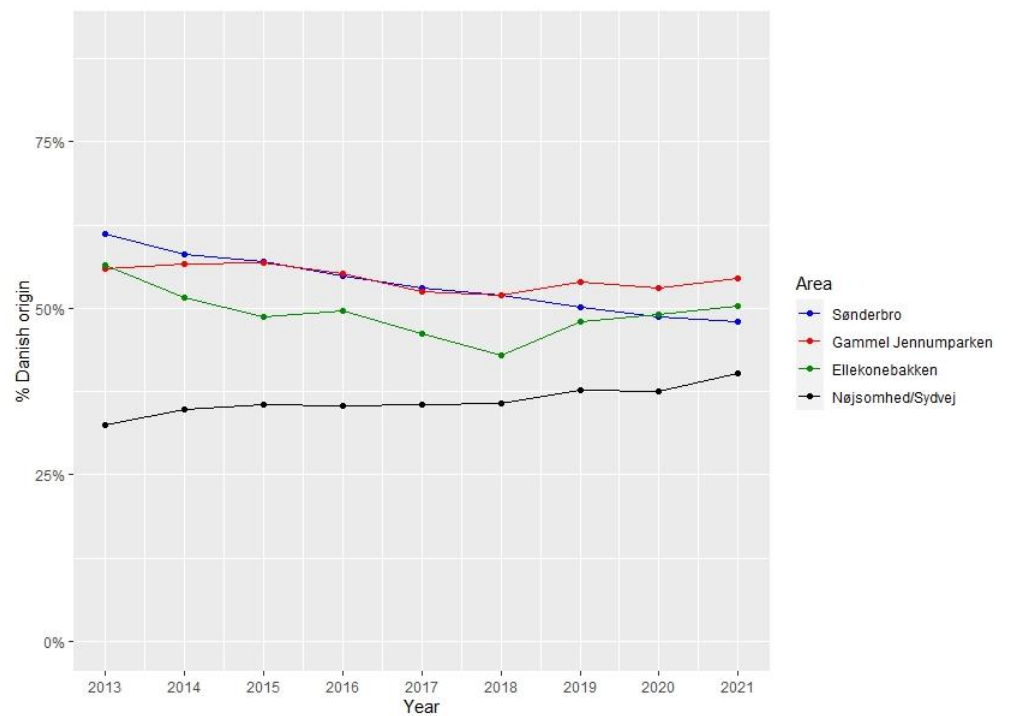
3.0 Countries of origin

In this section we will explore which countries of origin the residents in the four housing areas had in 2020 (figure 5) and 2021 (figure 6).

3.1/ Countries of origin in 2020

From the figure below (figure 5), we can see that Denmark was the most prevalent country of origin in all of the four housing areas. Aside from Denmark, the most prevalent country of origin was Lebanon with 21% of the residents in Nøjsomhed-Sydvej having this as their country of origin in 2020. Aside from this, countries like Syria, Somalia and Turkey are prevalent as countries of origin in some of the housing areas.

Figure 5: Countries of origin, 2020
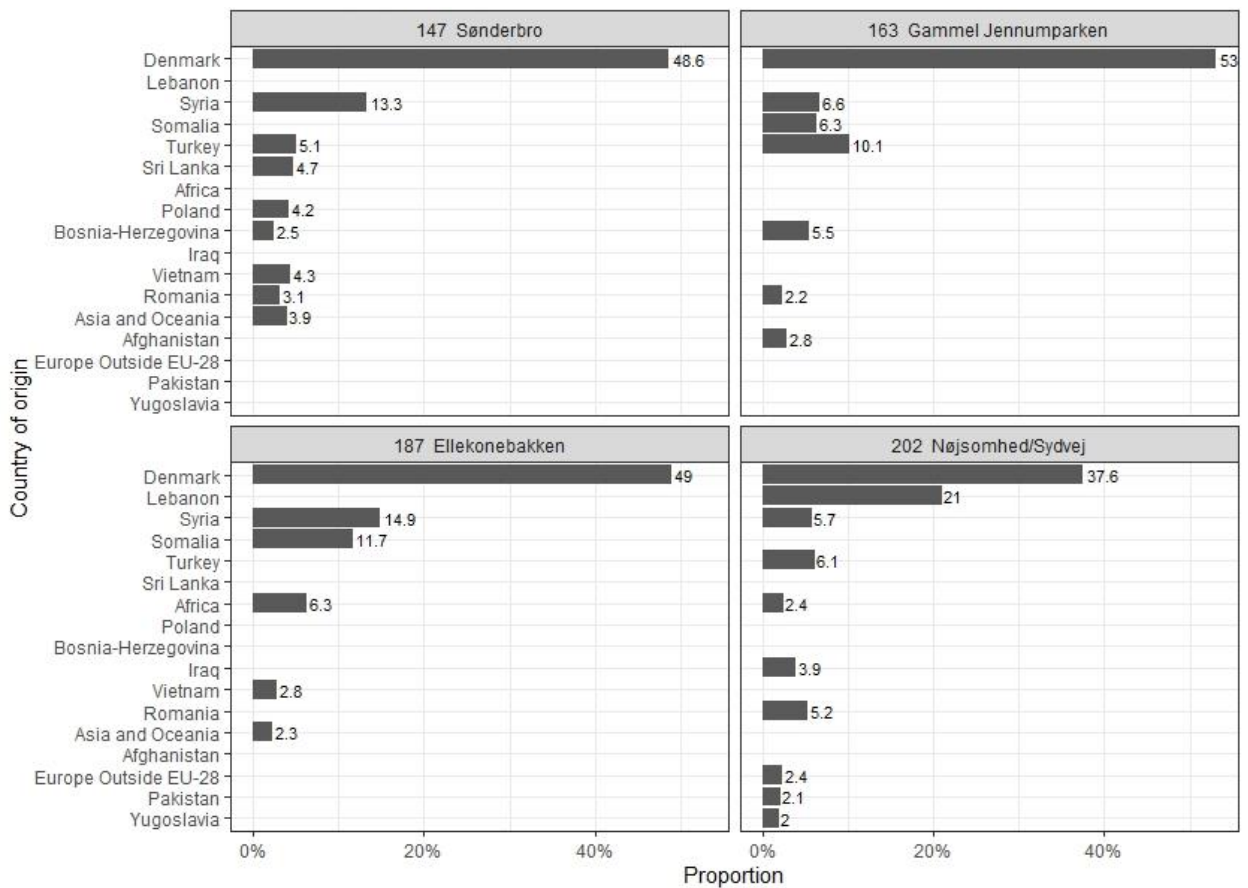
3.2/ Countries of origin in 2021

From the figure below (figure 6), we can see that the countries of origin in the four housing areas mostly have stayed the same from 2020 to 2021. However, most notably we can see that the proportion of residents with Denmark as their country of origin has increased in Nøjsomhed-Sydvej from 37.6% in 2020 to 40.2% in 2021. In addition to this, the proportion of residents with another country of origin has likewise decreased, e.g. in 2020 there was 21% with Lebanon as their country of origin, while in 2021 there was 19.5%.

Figure 6: Countries of origin, 2021
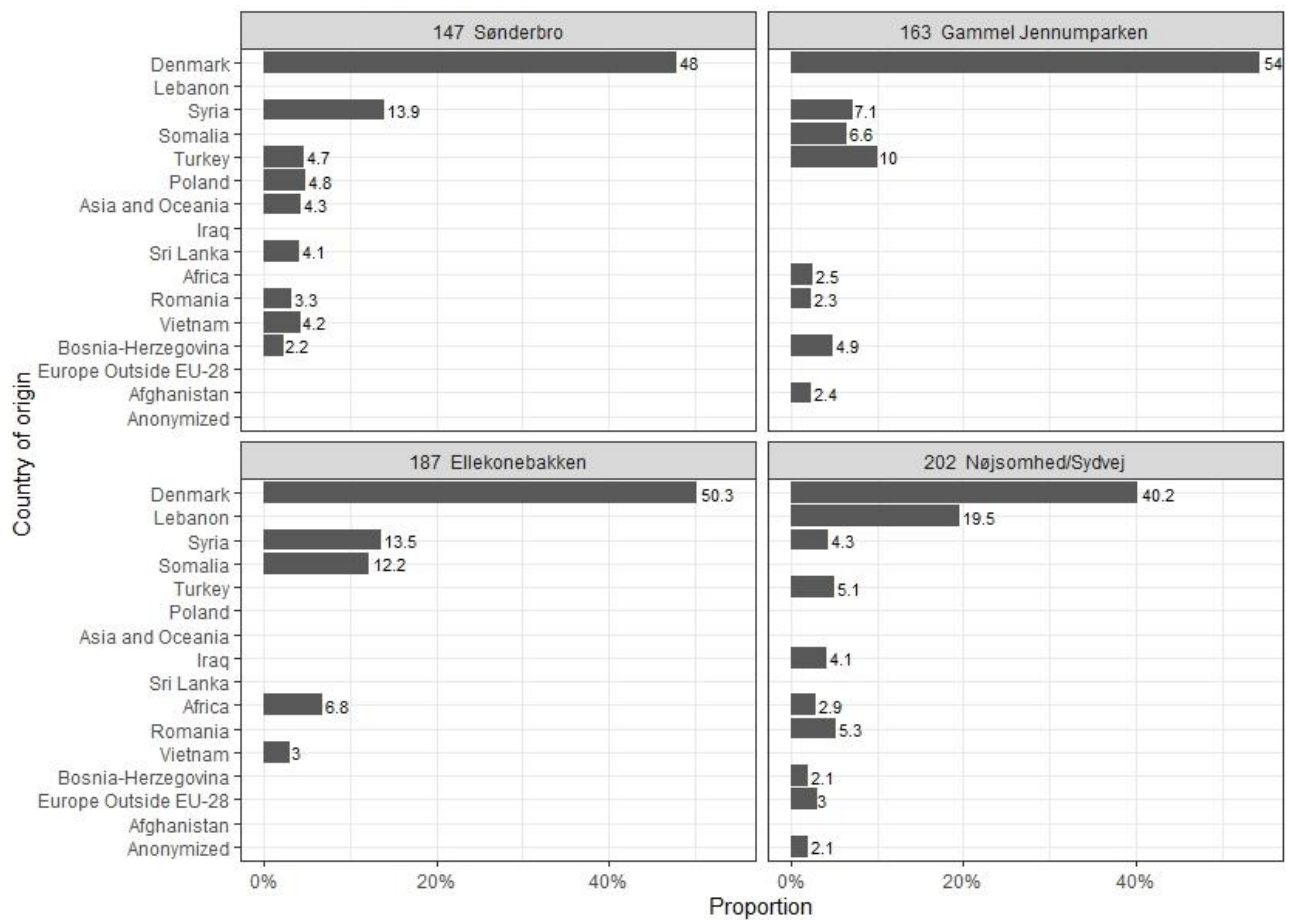
4.0 Citizenship

4.1/   Danish citizenship

The figure below shows the proportion of residents with different types of citizenship in the four housing areas (figure 7). Most of the residents in the four housing areas have a Danish citizenship. The proportion of residents with a Danish citizenship Nøjsomhed-Sydvej has consistently been one of the highest throughout the years (together with Gammel Jennumparken). In 2013, all of the housing areas had around 70% residents with a Danish citizenship, however the proportion with a Danish citizenship decreased in Ellekonebakken and Sønderbro, while it remained relatively stable in Nøjsomhed-Sydvej and Gammel Jennumparken, with a few fluctuations. However, from 2020 to 2021 we see an increase in the proportion of residents with a Danish citizenship in Nøjsomhed-Sydvej.

4.2/   Citizenship – other western country

The proportion of residents with citizenship from a western country other than Denmark is relatively low in all of the housing areas throughout the years. There have not been above 10% residents with a citizenship from a western country other than Denmark in any of the housing areas in any of the years. In Nøjsomhed-Sydvej the proportion increased a bit from 7.8% in 2013 to 9.6% in 2021.

4.3/   Citizenship – non-western country

The proportion of residents with a citizenship from a non-western country was roughly the same in the four housing areas in 2013. From 2013 and onwards the proportion of residents with a citizenship from a non-western country has remained relatively stable in Nøjsomhed-Sydvej and then slightly decreased from 2020 to 2021. In the other housing areas, the proportion of residents with a citizenship from a non-western country has generally increased, with a few fluctuations, especially in Ellekonebakken and Sønderbro the proportion has increased noticeably. In 2021 there were fewest residents with a non-western citizenship in Nøjsomhed-Sydvej (20.4%), compared with the other three housing areas.

Figure 7: Proportion of residents with a Danish, western and non-western citizenship
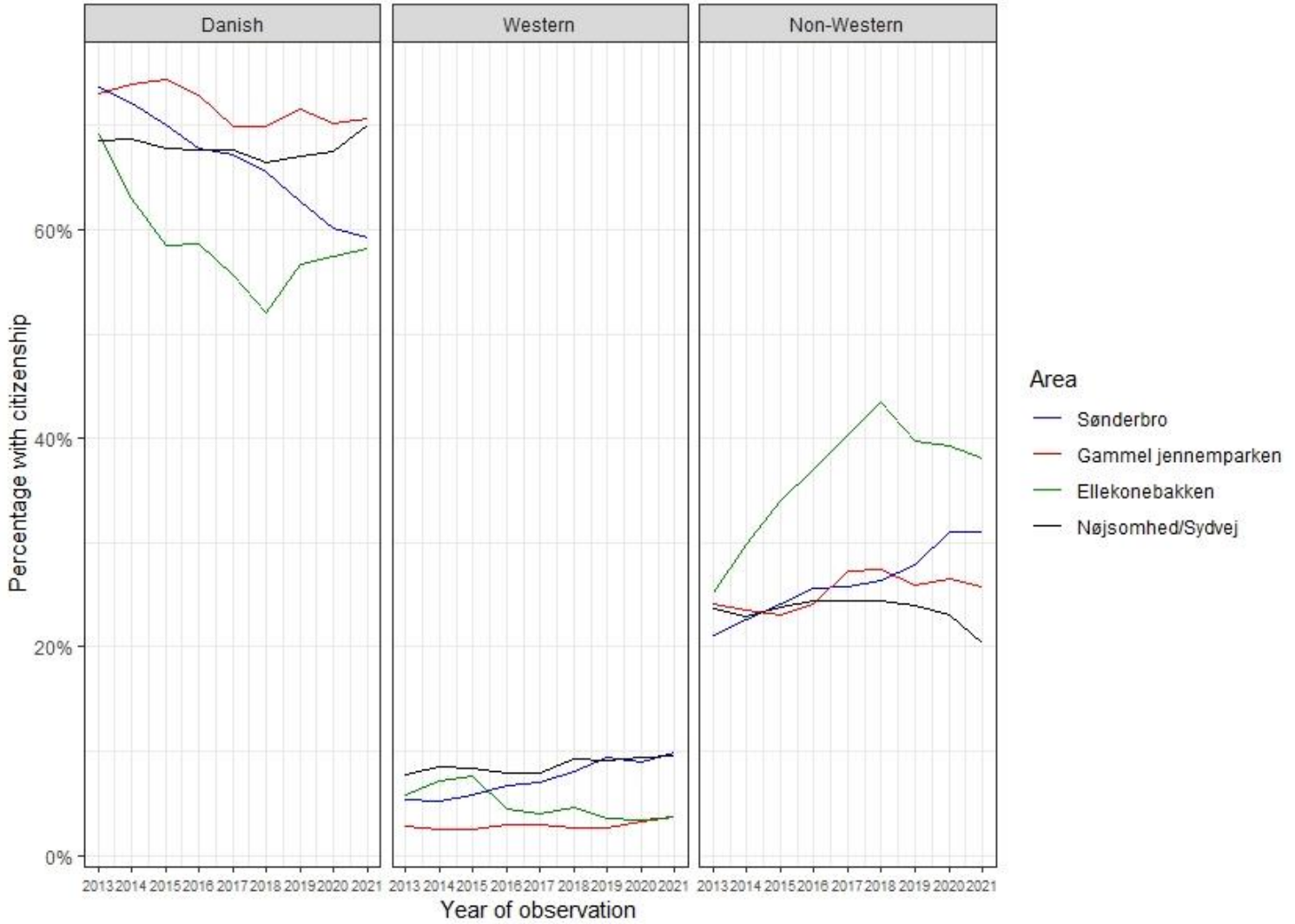
5.0 Other demographic data

In the previous sections we have looked at Nøjsomhed-Sydvej and the three comparator housing areas according to the proportion of immigrants/descendants and countries of origin. In this section we will explore whether Nøjsomhed-Sydvej is different from the other housing areas according to other demographic variables. In that regard, we investigate the gender and age distribution in the four housing areas.

5.1/   Gender distribution

From the figure below (figure 8), we can see that the proportion of women is higher in Gammel Jennumparken than in the other three areas. In that regard, there is a slight overrepresentation of women in in Gammel Jennumparken and a slight underrepresentation in the other three housing areas. Nøjsomhed-Sydvej was average in the proportion of women living in the area and did not differentiate itself from the other areas.

Figure 8: Proportion of women
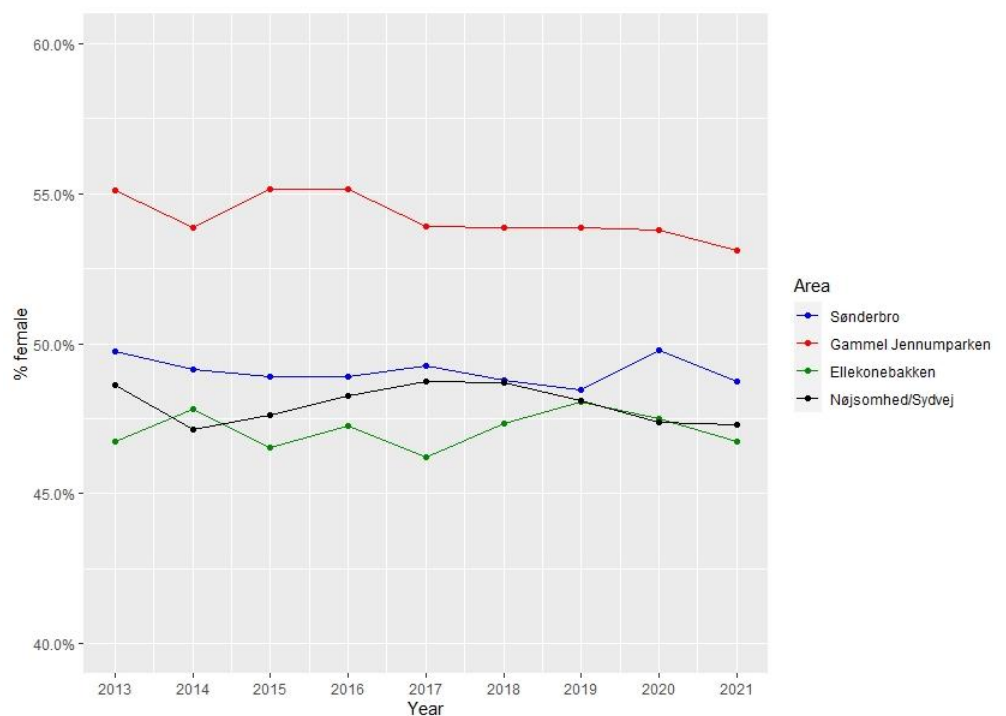
5.2/   Age distribution

From the figure below (figure 9), the most noticeable difference between Nøjsomhed-Sydvej regarding age distribution is the increase in 20–29-year-olds from 14.4% in 2014 to 21.4% in 2018, and then a slight decrease to 19.6% in 2021. In that regard, there were more residents in this age group in Nøjsomhed-Sydvej than in the other areas. However, at the same time there has been a decrease in the residents aged 10-19 years in Nøjsomhed-Sydvej, and thus this was the area (together with Sønderbro) with the fewest in this age group with 10.5% in 2021. Other than that, the housing areas have mostly followed the same pattern regarding age distribution through the period.

Figure 9: Age distribution in the four housing areas
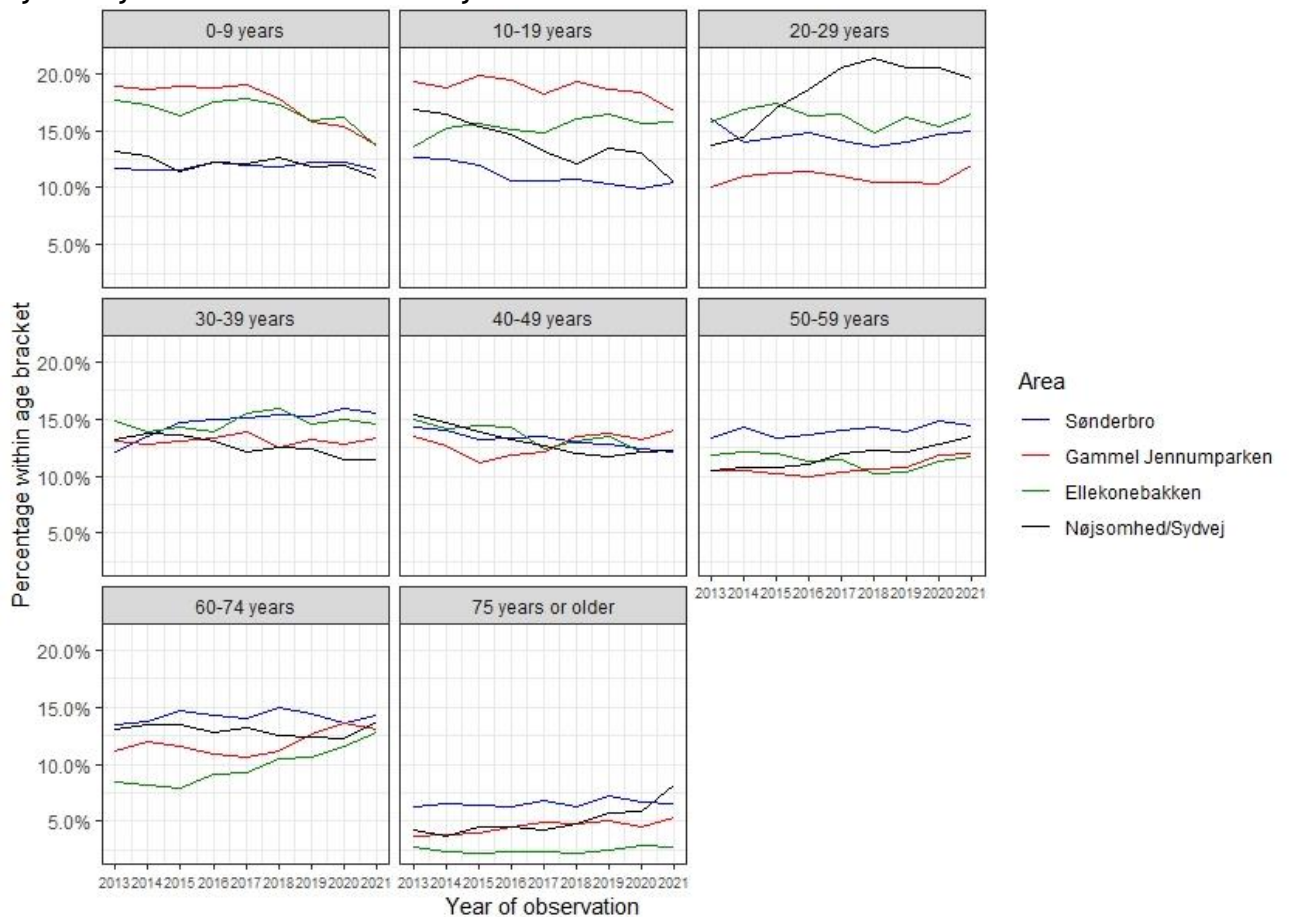
6.0 Conclusion

The purpose of this report has been to explore differences and similarities between Nøjsomhed-Sydvej and three SUB areas. To do this, the report has specifically examined what the composition of the residents in the four residential areas looks like in relation to immigrant status, countries of origin, gender, and age.

The report shows that there are generally more immigrants and descendants in Nøjsomhed-Sydvej, as well as more non-western immigrants/descendants, compared to the three other areas. However, while the proportion of (non-western) immigrants and descendants in Nøjsomhed-Sydvej has been decreasing in recent years, it has either been increasing or remained stable in the three other housing areas. The most prevalent country of origin for the immigrants/descendants in Nøjsomhed-Sydvej was Lebanon with 19.5% residents having this as their country of origin in 2021. However, at the same time Nøjsomhed-Sydvej was the housing area where the fewest residents had a citizenship from a non-western country with 20.4% having this in 2021, compared to 25.8% in Gammel Jennumparken, 31% in Sønderbro, and 38.1% in Ellekonebakken.

Aside from the proportion of immigrants/descendants, Nøjsomhed-Sydvej is not markedly different from the other housing areas on the two other demographic variables: age and gender. The only thing that stands out is the increase in 20-29-year-olds in Nøjsomhed-Sydvej from 13.7% in 2013 to 19.6% in 2021. Other than that, Nøjsomhed-Sydvej looks more or less like the other housing areas according to the demographic data, which forms the basis of this analysis.

References

Danish Government (2018). *Ét Danmark uden parallelsamfund: Ingen ghettoer i 2030.* Danish Government.

Statistics Denmark (2017). *Documentation of statistics for Immigrants and Descendants 2017 Month 01.*

UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (2019). *Concluding observations on the sixth periodic report of Denmark.* E/C.12/DNK/CO/6

7.0 Appendix

Non-western immi-grants/descendants (%)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Sønderbro	33.2	36.5	37.2	38.7	40.1	40.1	40.6	42.4	42.3
Gammel Jennumparken	42.1	41.1	40.6	41.9	45.0	45.5	43.6	43.7	42.0
Ellekonebakken	37.2	41.2	43.9	45.8	49.5	52.2	47.9	47.3	46.1
Nøjsomhed-Sydvej	59.5	56.6	56.1	57.5	57.3	55.9	54.5	54.4	51.6

Immigrants/descendants (%)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Sønderbro	37.9	41.1	42.2	44.5	46.3	47.2	49.2	50.6	51.6
Gammel Jennumparken	42.4	42.1	41.9	43.5	46.7	46.7	44.7	45.5	44.3
Ellekonebakken	42.1	47.0	49.9	48.7	52.1	55.5	50.1	49.4	48.3
Nøjsomhed-Sydvej	64.3	61.3	60.8	61.5	60.2	60.3	60.0	60.7	57.3

Middle East or Africa (%)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Sønderbro	16.7	18.4	18.5	19.4	21.2	21.5	22.3	23.4	23.8
Gammel Jennumparken	23.8	25.0	25.7	27.8	31.8	32.8	32.2	32.3	32.1
Ellekonebakken	23.8	26.9	32.3	34.2	37.9	42.0	38.7	38.6	37.6
Nøjsomhed-Sydvej	45.0	41.9	41.6	44.1	44.0	42.4	42.7	43.8	40.3

Danish origin (%)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Sønderbro	61.2	58.2	57.0	54.8	53.1	51.9	50.1	48.6	48.0
Gammel Jennumparken	55.9	56.6	56.9	55.2	52.5	52.0	53.9	53.1	54.4
Ellekonebakken	56.5	51.6	48.7	49.6	46.2	43.0	48.0	49.0	50.3
Nøjsomhed-Sydvej	32.6	34.8	35.6	35.4	35.5	35.7	37.7	37.6	40.2

Women (%)

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Sønderbro	49.7	49.1	48.9	48.9	49.2	48.8	48.5	49.8	48.7
Gammel Jennumparken	55.1	53.9	55.2	55.2	53.9	53.9	53.9	53.8	53.1
Ellekonebakken	46.7	47.8	46.5	47.3	46.2	47.3	48.1	47.5	46.7
Nøjsomhed-Sydvej	48.6	47.1	47.6	48.3	48.7	48.7	48.1	47.4	47.3

Citizenship (%)

		2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Sønderbro	Denmark	73.6	72.2	70.1	67.8	67.3	65.5	62.8	60.2	59.2
	Western Countries	5.3	5.2	5.8	6.6	6.9	8.1	9.3	8.9	9.9
	Non-Western Countries	21.1	22.7	24.2	25.6	25.8	26.4	27.9	31.0	31.0
Gammel Jennumparken	Denmark	73.1	74.0	74.5	73.0	69.9	69.9	71.6	70.2	70.6
	Western Countries	2.8	2.5	2.5	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.6	3.3	3.6
	Non-Western Countries	24.1	23.6	23.1	24.1	27.2	27.4	25.8	26.5	25.8
Ellekonebakken	Denmark	69.2	63.0	58.5	58.6	55.6	52.1	56.7	57.4	58.3
	Western Countries	5.8	7.2	7.6	4.5	4.0	4.6	3.6	3.4	3.7
	Non-Western Countries	25.1	29.9	34.0	37.0	40.4	43.4	39.7	39.2	38.1
Nøjsomhed-Sydvej	Denmark	68.6	68.7	67.9	67.6	67.7	66.5	67.0	67.6	70.1
	Western Countries	7.8	8.5	8.3	7.9	7.9	9.2	9.1	9.4	9.6
	Non-Western Countries	23.6	22.9	23.9	24.5	24.4	24.4	23.9	23.0	20.4

Age distribution (%)

		2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Sønderbro	0-9 years	11.7	11.5	11.5	12.3	12.0	11.8	12.2	12.2	11.6
	10-19 years	12.6	12.6	11.9	10.6	10.6	10.7	10.4	9.9	10.5
	20-29 years	16.1	13.9	14.4	14.9	14.1	13.6	14.0	14.6	15.0
	30-39 years	12.2	13.5	14.6	14.9	15.1	15.4	15.2	15.9	15.5
	40-49 years	14.3	14.1	13.2	13.3	13.4	12.9	12.7	12.4	12.1
	50-59 years	13.4	14.2	13.3	13.5	14.0	14.3	13.8	14.8	14.4
	60-74 years	13.5	13.7	14.7	14.2	14.1	15.0	14.4	13.6	14.3
	75 years or more	6.3	6.5	6.4	6.2	6.8	6.3	7.2	6.6	6.6
Gammel Jennumparken	0-9 years	18.8	18.6	18.8	18.7	19.0	17.8	15.8	15.4	13.7
	10-19 years	19.2	18.7	19.8	19.4	18.2	19.2	18.6	18.3	16.8
	20-29 years	10.0	11.0	11.3	11.5	11.0	10.4	10.4	10.4	12.0
	30-39 years	13.1	12.7	13.1	13.4	13.8	12.5	13.2	12.7	13.3
	40-49 years	13.4	12.7	11.2	11.8	12.1	13.5	13.7	13.2	14.0
	50-59 years	10.5	10.5	10.3	9.9	10.4	10.6	10.8	11.8	11.9
	60-74 years	11.2	11.9	11.6	10.8	10.6	11.2	12.6	13.7	13.0
	75 years or more	3.7	3.8	3.9	4.5	4.9	4.8	5.0	4.6	5.3
Ellekonebakken	0-9 years	17.6	17.2	16.3	17.5	17.9	17.3	15.9	16.1	13.6
	10-19 years	13.6	15.2	15.6	15.1	14.8	16.0	16.5	15.7	15.7
	20-29 years	15.7	16.8	17.4	16.3	16.5	14.8	16.1	15.4	16.5
	30-39 years	14.8	13.9	14.3	13.9	15.5	15.9	14.5	15.0	14.6
	40-49 years	15.0	14.1	14.4	14.3	12.4	13.1	13.5	12.2	12.3
	50-59 years	11.9	12.1	11.9	11.3	11.4	10.2	10.3	11.3	11.8
	60-74 years	8.5	8.2	7.9	9.2	9.3	10.5	10.7	11.5	12.8
	75 years or more	2.8	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.5	2.8	2.8
Nøjsomhed-Sydvej	0-9 years	13.2	12.8	11.5	12.2	12.1	12.6	11.9	12.0	10.8
	10-19 years	16.8	16.5	15.4	14.6	13.2	12.1	13.5	13.0	10.5
	20-29 years	19.6	14.4	17.0	18.6	20.5	21.4	20.5	20.5	19.6
	30-39 years	13.2	13.8	13.6	13.1	12.1	12.5	12.3	11.4	11.4
	40-49 years	15.4	14.7	13.8	13.1	12.6	11.9	11.8	12.2	12.2
	50-59 years	10.5	10.7	10.8	11.0	12.0	12.3	12.1	12.8	13.5
	60-74 years	13.0	13.5	13.4	12.8	13.2	12.5	12.4	12.3	13.8
	75 years or more	4.2	3.7	4.5	4.5	4.2	4.8	5.7	5.9	8.2