



Linnéuniversitetet

Kalmar Växjö



Research in Regional Press

REGPRESS

Socioeconomics and Demographics



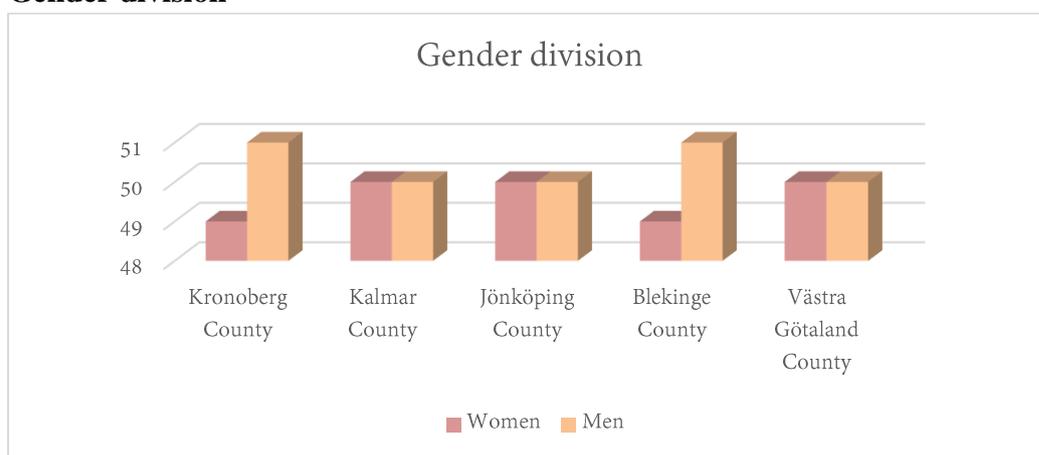
This section focuses on the socioeconomic population in the areas, the demographics and neighborhood data from SCB (statistical office, Sweden) and information of the political orientation of the areas.

Demographics

In the most recent census the population in the different areas were:

- Kalmar County (Småland, area around Kalmar): 237 027
- Kronoberg County (Småland, area around Växjö): 190 916
- Jönköping County (northern Småland): 347 076
- Blekinge County: 155 733
- Västra Götaland County (the County around Borås): 1 644 603
 - o Borås municipality: 108 083

Gender division



Source: SCB (2015)

The gender division in Kalmar County, Jönköping County and Västra Götaland County were close to 50 percent each for both male and female, differing in a few tenths. In Kronoberg County and Blekinge County men were slightly over represented, in both areas 49 percent of the population were women and 51 percent were men, in the latest census on record at SCB 2015. The information is from 31 December 2014.¹

Age division

	Age 0-6	Age 7-17	Age 18-24	Age 25-44	Age 45-64	Age 65-79	Age 80 -
Kronoberg County	8	12	10	24	25	15	6

¹ http://www.scb.se/sv_/Hitta-statistik/Statistik-efter-amne/Befolkning/Befolkningens-sammansattning/Befolkningsstatistik/25788/25795/Helarsstatistik---Kommun-lan-och-riket/159277/

Kalmar County	7	11	9	22	26	18	6
Jönköping County	8	13	9	24	25	15	6
Blekinge County	8	12	9	23	25	17	6
Västra Götaland County	8	12	9	26	25	14	5
(Borås)	9	12	10	26	24	14	5

Source: SCB (2015)

From the table above it is visible that the division of people within each age group were similar throughout the different areas. Borås is added to the table, even though it's a part of Västra Götaland County, but Västra Götaland contains a vaster population than the others and that's why Borås is added as well. Differences were prominent in Kalmar County and Blekinge County where the age group 65-79 were a few percent higher than the rest, Kalmar County also had the highest percent of people in the age group 45-64, while Västra Götaland had the highest percentage in the age group 25-44.²

Education division

The level of education in these areas shows that 48,5 percent of the people between the age of 25-64 have a secondary education (gymnasial utbildning). This is slightly above the national average which is 47 percent. This however had differed in the different areas and varied between 45-51 percent. 51 percent in Kalmar County and 45 percent in Västra Götaland County, both Kronoberg County and Blekinge County had 48 percent of the population that possess a secondary education. When it comes to post-secondary education, the average percentage of the areas was 35,4 percent, this is slightly less than the national average of 40 percent. This differed between 32-39 percent (32 percent Kalmar County, 39 percent Västra Götaland County). Common for all of the areas were that women had an over representation in the post-secondary school education, especially in post-secondary education of three years or more. More in depth statistics is visible in the table below.³

² http://www.scb.se/sv/_Hitta-statistik/Statistik-efter-amne/Befolkning/Befolkningens-sammansattning/Befolkningsstatistik/25788/25795/Helarsstatistik---Kommun-lan-och-riket/159277/

³ http://www.scb.se/sv/_Hitta-statistik/Statistik-efter-amne/Utbildning-och-forskning/Befolkningens-utbildning/Befolkningens-utbildning/

Population 2014 divided after level of education, County and gender, age 25-64

County	Gender	Population (quantity)	Elementary school (Förgym- nasial utb.) (%)	Secondary education (Gymnasial utb.) shorter than 3 years (%)	Secondary education (Gymnasial utb.) 3 years (%)	Post- secondary education (Eftergym- nasial utb.) shorter than than 3 years (%)	Post- secondary education (Eftergym- nasial utb.) 3 years or longer (%)	Graduate education (%)	Data not available (%)
Sweden Total	Men	2 513 561	14%	25%	22%	15%	20%	1,5%	2%
	Women	2 440 112	11%	21%	20%	16%	29%	1,0%	1%
	Total	4 953 673	13%	23%	21%	15%	25%	1,3%	2%
Jönköping County	Men	86 538	18%	28%	24%	14%	14%	0,5%	1%
	Women	82 202	12%	24%	23%	15%	25%	0,3%	1%
	Total	168 740	15%	26%	24%	14%	19%	0,4%	1%
Kronoberg County	Men	47 539	16%	28%	23%	15%	16%	0,7%	2%
	Women	44 768	11%	24%	21%	16%	26%	0,5%	2%
	Total	92 307	14%	26%	22%	15%	21%	0,6%	2%
Kalmar County	Men	58 244	18%	31%	23%	13%	13%	0,5%	1%
	Women	55 492	11%	27%	22%	15%	24%	0,4%	1%
	Total	113 736	14%	29%	22%	14%	18%	0,4%	1%
Blekinge County	Men	38 423	15%	30%	22%	15%	16%	0,6%	1%
	Women	36 195	11%	25%	21%	16%	26%	0,3%	1%
	Total	74 618	13%	27%	21%	16%	21%	0,5%	1%
Västra Götaland County	Men	423 671	15%	25%	23%	15%	20%	1,4%	2%
	Women	411 612	11%	21%	21%	16%	29%	1,0%	1%
	Total	835 283	13%	23%	22%	15%	24%	1,2%	1%

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Source: SCB (2015)

Profession division

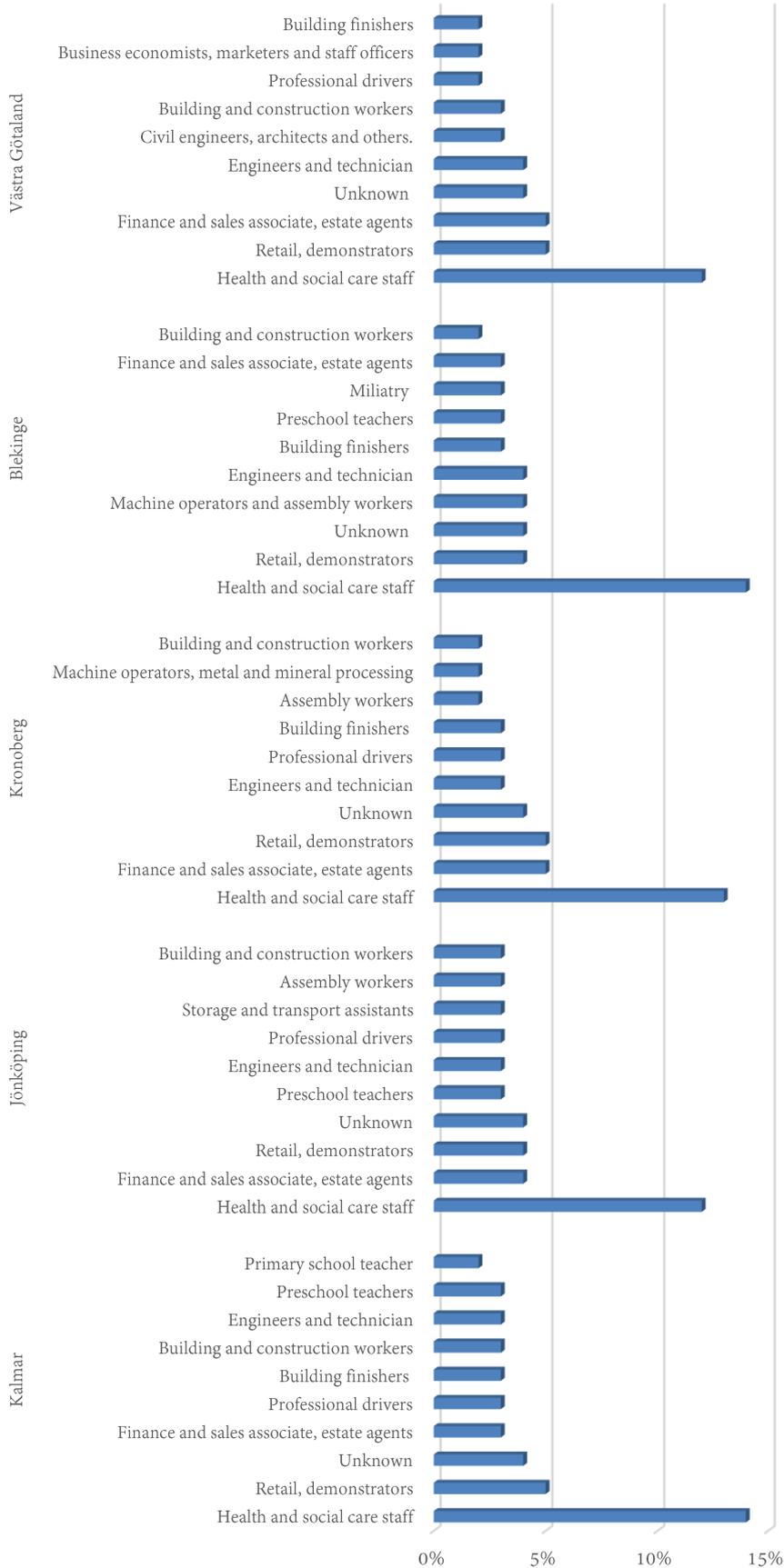
The information about profession division is from the 2013 SCB municipality facts profession index, which was the most recent available statistics.⁴

In all of the regions the most common professions were occupations which don't need past secondary degree education. Health and social care staff without a past secondary degree education was the profession which was the most common occupation in all of these counties. This followed the national trend in Sweden where it also was the most common occupation. In the focused counties this profession varied between 12-14 percent of the population, which is a few percentages higher than the national average which was 10 percent. The second most common professions in these counties were retail workers, finance and sales associates and real estate agents, this was also coherent with the national average.

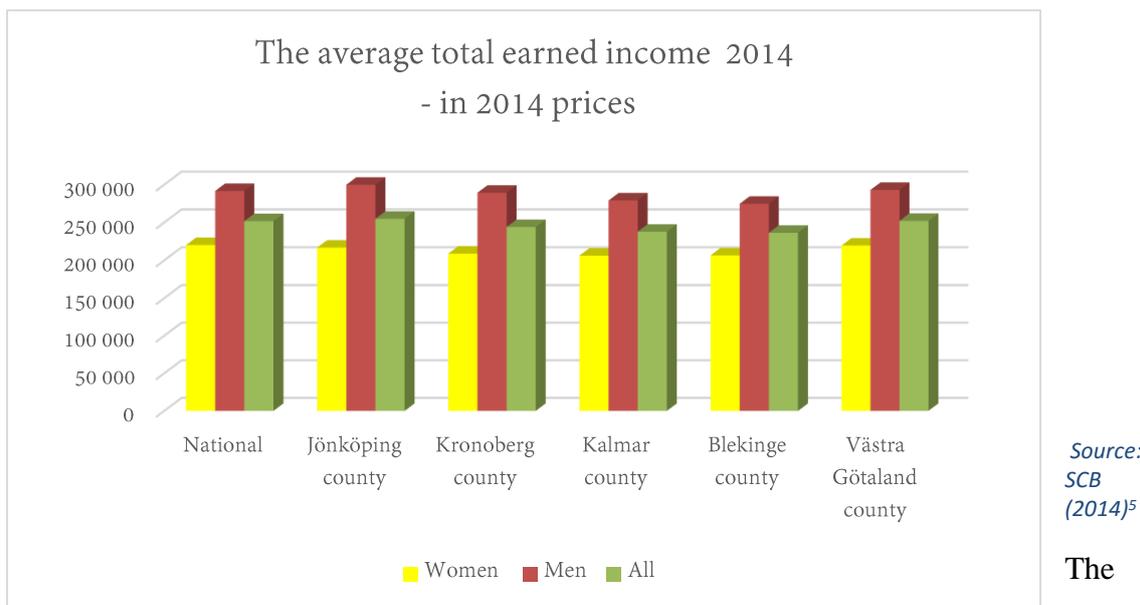
Seen to all of these regions the top 10 professions had close similarities between the regions. The majority of the professions were the same within the counties, particularly in Småland and Blekinge. Västra Götaland County had a higher rate of the top 10 professions which required a past secondary degree education and university education. The statistics of the top ten professions in the different counties is available in the table below.

⁴ <https://www.h5.scb.se/kommunfakta/yrken/index.asp>

Profession division



Income division



national total average earned income, 2014, in year 2014 prices was 251 885. Out of the regions in focus the average income varied between 236 452 (Blekinge County) and 254 955 (254 955) a year. The County with the closest approximately to the national average was Västra Götaland County (252 197). All of the counties had a close approximately to the national average though Kalmar County and Blekinge County had the lowest in this spectrum. Kronoberg County was also below the national average while Jönköping and Västra Götaland were above. In all of the counties and on a national level women earned significantly less than men, in some regions their income was almost 100 000 less a year. ⁶

Other demographic information

In the areas of Kalmar County, Kronoberg County, Jönköping County and Blekinge County the most common form of living for the population is owning their own house (Jönköping County 60,6 percent, Kronoberg County 66,3 percent, Kalmar County 63,4 percent, Blekinge County 59,9 percent). It was also the most common way of living in the Borås municipality, though with a significantly lower percentage (39,2 percent).

⁵ http://www.scb.se/sv/_/Hitta-statistik/Statistik-efter-amne/Hushallens-ekonomi/Inkomster-och-inkomstfordelning/Inkomster-och-skatter/Aktuell-pong/302201/Inkomster--Individer/LanKommun/303220/

⁶ http://www.scb.se/sv/_/Hitta-statistik/Statistik-efter-amne/Hushallens-ekonomi/Inkomster-och-inkomstfordelning/Inkomster-och-skatter/

Overall the second most common way of living was renting an apartment in an apartment building, followed by owning an apartment in an apartment building.

Political division

The information of the political division is from the election authority website (Valmyndigheten).⁷ The election participation on a Swedish national level in the latest governmental election, the election of 2014 was 85,81 percent. In the areas of focus here the election participation varied between 85,73-87,18 percent, thus it varied from just below the national average up to a little more than one percent over the average. The social democratic party was the party which gained the most votes in these regions and on a national level as well. In these regions (Kalmar County, Blekinge County, Kronoberg County, Jönköping County and Västra Götaland County) the percentage of votes for the social democratic party varied between 27,05 and 37,5 percent. In all of the regions the votes for the social democratic party was slightly above the national average, from a few tenths to 6,4 percent.

The social democratic party also received the most number of votes in the County council election of 2014 in these areas, this is coherent with the result on a national level.

County council election 2014		
	Social demokraterna (social democratic party)	Moderaterna (liberal)
Kalmar County	40,88%	15,74%
Blekinge County	39,34%	19,03%
Kronoberg County	35,17%	20,93%
Jönköping County	34,25%	18,62%
Västra Götaland County	30,16%	21,68%

In the table above the percent of votes is shown between the two largest parties (regional and national).

The social democratic party also received the highest amount of votes in the municipality election of these areas. In Blekinge County, Jönköping County and

⁷ <http://www.val.se/>

Kronoberg County the social democratic party received the highest amount of votes of all parties in the separate municipality elections. In Kalmar County one exception was found where the social democratic party did not receive the most votes in the municipality election. There were also a few municipalities in Västra Götaland where the social democratic party didn't receive the most votes (Essunga, Grästorp, Hjo, Härryda, Partille, Sotenäs, Öckerö) but in a majority of the municipalities in all of these areas did the social democratic party receive the most votes.

Conclusion

The areas vary in population size, from the smallest County Blekinge of 155 733 to Västra Götaland of 1 644 603. The population size of Blekinge County is more comparable to the population of Borås municipality, than to the County. The population was close to 50 percent each for the division female versus male, Kronoberg County and Blekinge County had a slim over representation of males. The age division of the population was similar in the different areas, although Kalmar and Blekinge had a higher percentage of an older population and Västra Götaland County had a higher percentage in the age group 45-64.

In regards of education these areas show a somewhat higher percentage than the national average of those who have a secondary degree education as the highest form of education; highest percentage in Kalmar County and lowest in Västra Götaland County. In regard of post-secondary degree education these areas showed a lower percentage than the national average, all of the areas were below the national average.

In the top professions, the professions which didn't require a post-secondary degree education had a majority, in all of the counties. The counties of Kalmar, Blekinge, Kronoberg had a lower income than the national average, while Jönköping County and Västra Götaland County were above the national average; although all were in close approximately to the national average.

The political landscape in the latest election was similar between the different counties, with a few deviations. The social democratic party gained the most votes both in the municipalities, counties and on the national level.

