Know Your Municipality

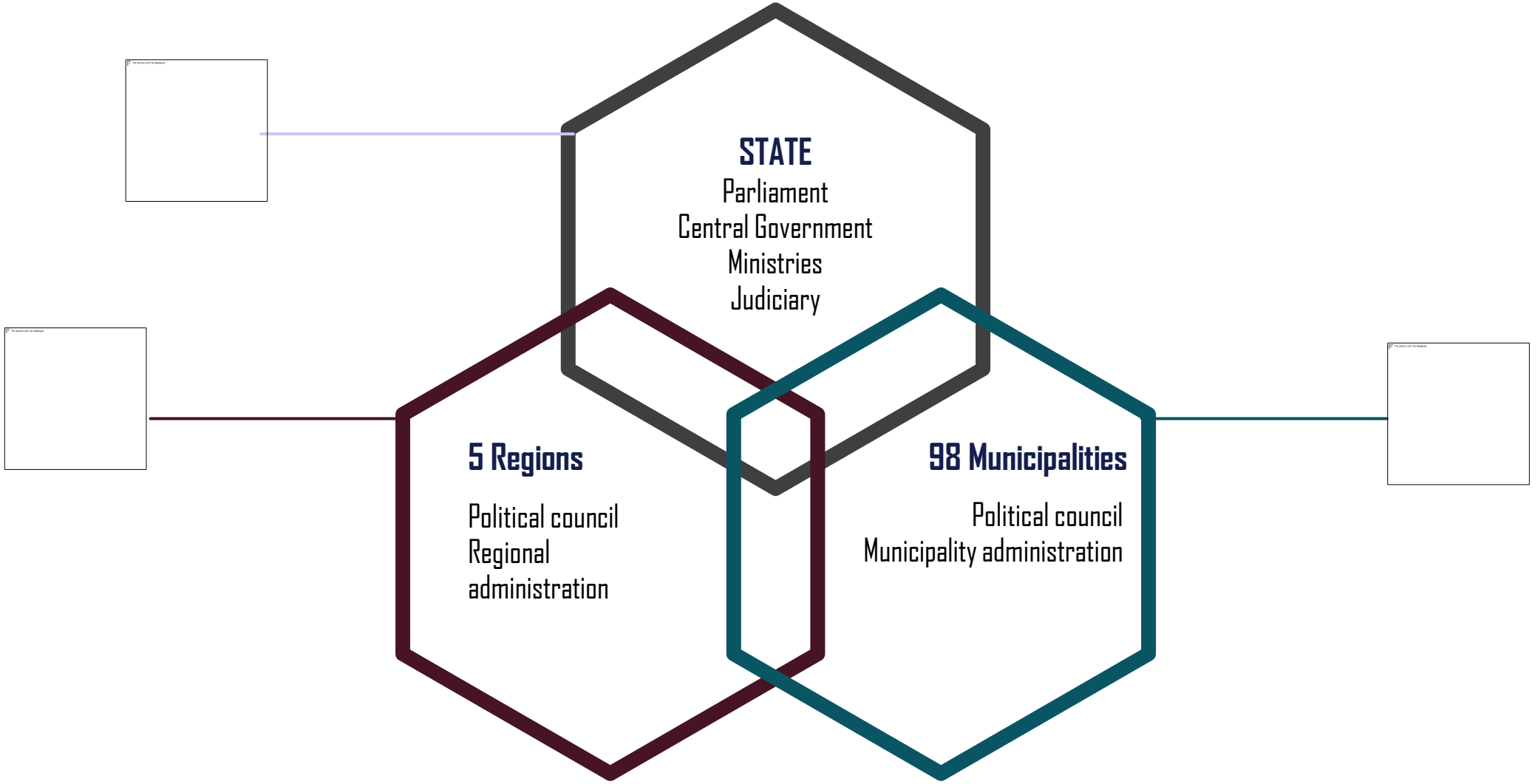
Municipal benchmarking as a driver of local performance dialogue in Denmark



Agenda

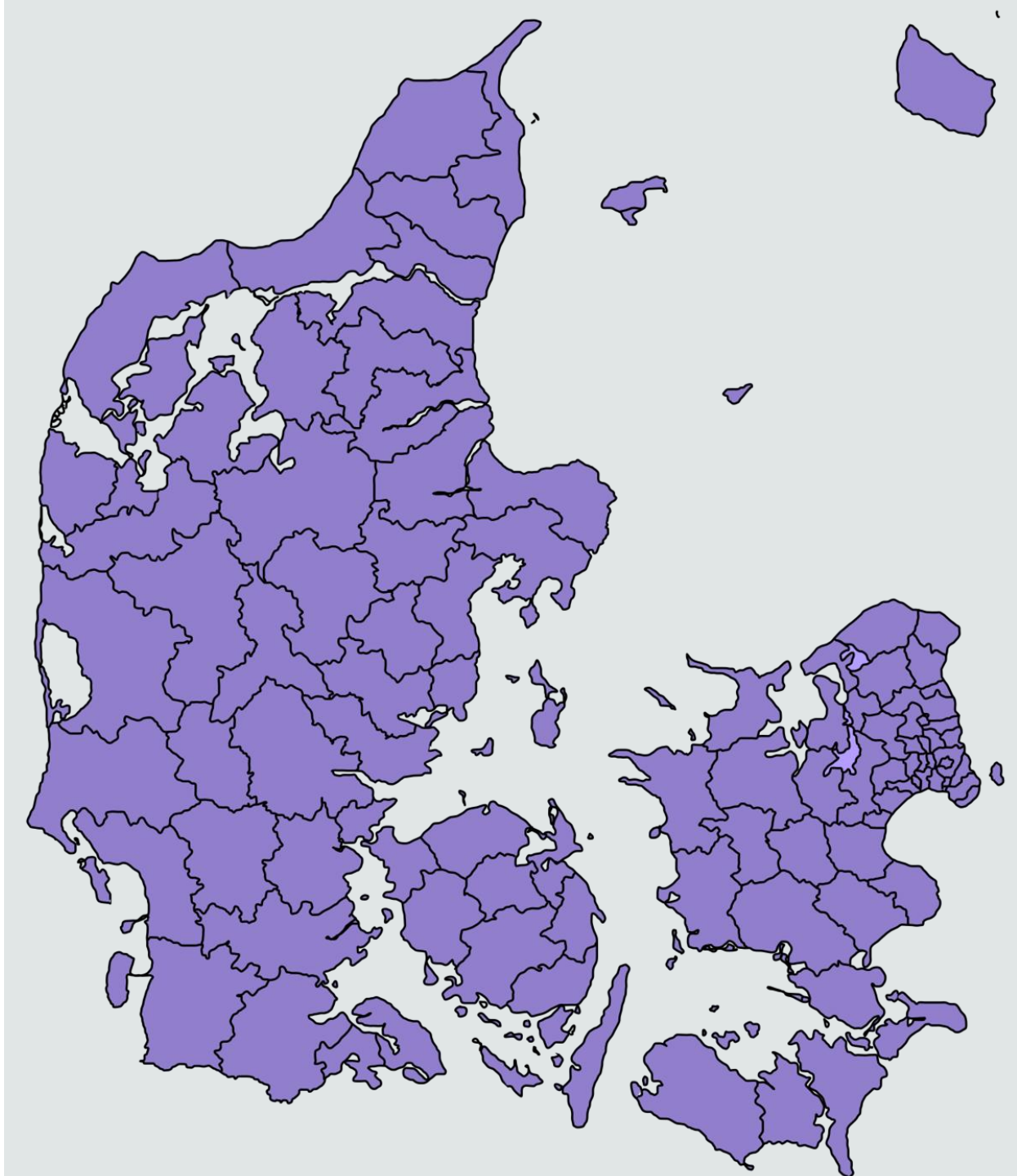
- Danish municipalities and the Danish public sector
- Know Your Municipality: purpose and format
- Inside the publication: examples of key indicators
- Beyond print: dashboards and data quality

Structure of public administration in Denmark



Danish Municipalities

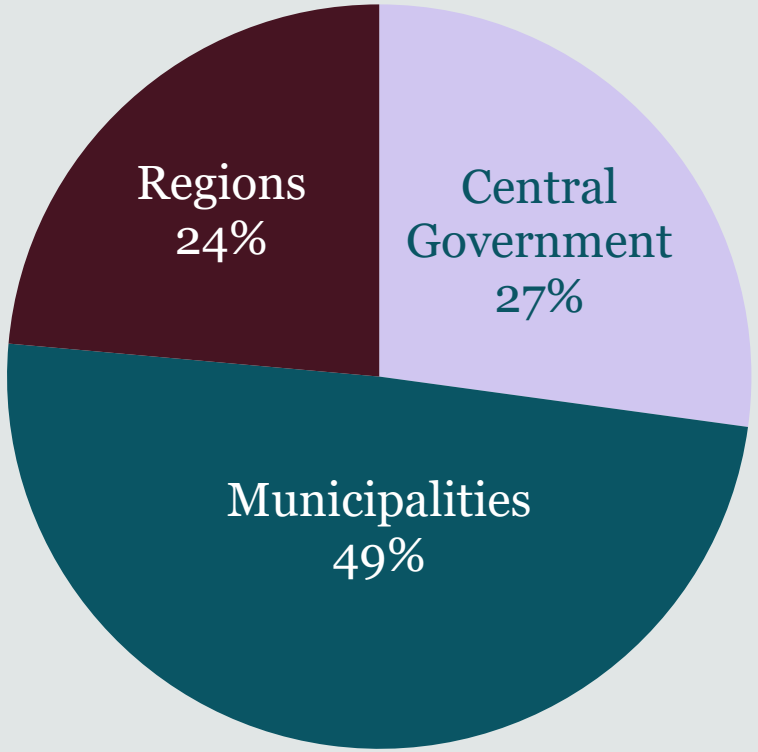
- 98 municipalities
- Average of 60.000 inhabitants
- Governed by politically elected municipal councils
- Approx 500.000 employees out of a total workforce of around 3.000.000



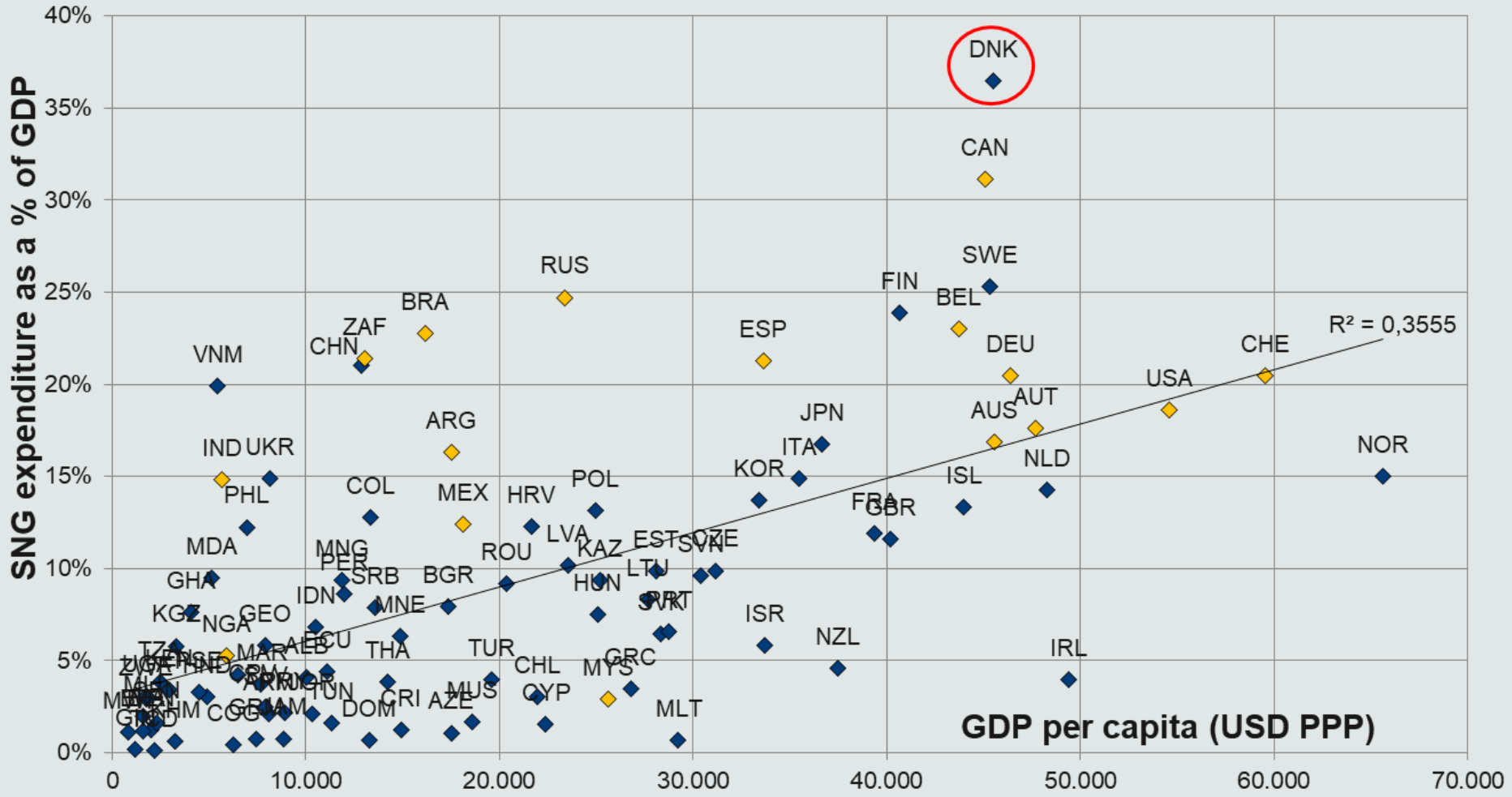
Danish public sector by distribution of tasks

- **Municipalities:** daycare, primary schools, care for the elderly and handicapped, social affairs, initiatives towards the unemployed, part of health care (prevention, rehabilition etc.), local infrastructure and planning/zoning, part of public transportation, environmental care etc.
- **Regions**: hospitals, general practitioners, psychiatrics, part of public transportation etc.
- **State:** high schools, universities, infrastructure on national level, police, military etc.

Danish public sector by share of total spending



Worlds most decentralized public sector?



Source: OECD

Local autonomy works when municipalities take responsibility

- **Large responsibility, little central control:** Danish municipalities have broad responsibilities and face less state control than in most other countries
- **Autonomy comes with an obligation:** Municipalities must take ownership of their own performance and act on it
- **KL provides data to benchmarking:** We give councils data and benchmarking they can use to set priorities and follow up



”Know your Municipality” (*Kend din Kommune)*

Purpose

- Gives councillors and managers a quick overview of their municipality’s key figures
- Compares each municipality with the other 97 and the national average
- A shared starting point for the council’s discussions and priorities
- Points to municipalities that do better and can serve as inspiration

Format

- Printed publication, launched every January at our major annual conference
- Dashboards with the same benchmarking indicators, available all year
- Also accessible as a pdf (“Kend din Kommune”)

Kend din Kommune

Brug nøgletal i styringen



2026

KL

5–6 key benchmarking indicators for each service area

Each chapter asks a few concrete questions and answers them with comparable municipal data.

1.1 Hvordan har serviceudgifterne udviklet sig i jeres kommune?

Udvikling i serviceudgifter pr. indbygger fra regnskab 2022-2024, 26-pl. pct.

Vallensbæk	-6,0 ▲
Vordingborg	-5,9 ▲
Brøndby	-5,1 ▲
Rebild	-4,9 ▲
Sønderborg	-4,0 ▲
Ringsted	-3,9 ▲
Faxe	-3,8 ▲
Rødovre	-3,5 ▲
Kerteminde	-3,5 ▼
Furesø	-2,9 ▲
Lejre	-2,7 ▲
Egedal	-2,5 ▲
Lemvig	-2,5 ▲
Lyngby-Taarbæk	-2,4 ▲
Frederikshavn	-2,4 ▲
Slagelse	-2,1 ▼
Struer	-2,0 ▲
Roskilde	-2,0 ▼
Bornholm	-1,8 ▲
Syddjurs	-1,8 ▲
Herlev	-1,8 ▲
Aarhus	-1,6 ▲
Tårnby	-1,6 ▲
Holbæk	-1,6 ▼
Høje-Taastrup	-1,5 ▼
Silkeborg	-1,4 ▼
Hørsholm	-1,2 ▼
Favrskov	-1,2 ▲
Ærø	-1,2 ▲
Ringkøbing-Skjern	-1,1 ▲
Viborg	-0,9 ▲
Ikast-Brande	-0,9 ▲
Horsens	-0,8 ▲
Middelfart	-0,8 ▲
København	-0,8 ▲
Svendborg	-0,7 ▼
Glostrup	-0,7 ▼
Odense	-0,6 ▲
Rudersdal	-0,6 ▲
Jammerbugt	-0,5 ▲
Hvidovre	-0,5 ▲
Mariagerfjord	-0,4 ▲
Helsingør	-0,4 ▲
Hedensted	-0,4 ▼
Sorø	-0,4 ▼
Fanø	-0,3 ▲
Samsø	-0,3 ▲
Aalborg	-0,3 ▼
Greve	-0,2 ▼
Tønder	-0,1 ▲
Brønderslev	-0,1 ▼
Kalundborg	-0,1 ▲
Randers	0,0 ▲
Thisted	0,0 ▼
Gladsaxe	0,0 ▲
Herning	0,2 ▼
Aabenraa	0,2 ▼
Frederiksberg	0,3 ▼
Solrød	0,3 ▲
Odder	0,5 ▼
Skive	0,5 ▲
Hillerød	0,6 ▼
Fredericia	0,6 ▼
Hjørring	0,7 ▼
Assens	0,7 ▼
Nordfyns	0,7 ▼
Esbjerg	0,7 ▲
Kolding	0,7 ▲
Vejle	0,8 ▼
Fredensborg	0,8 ▼
Ishøj	0,9 ▼
Morsø	0,9 ▼
Dragør	1,0 ▼
Nyborg	1,0 ▲
Frederikssund	1,0 ▼
Holstebro	1,1 ▼
Gribskov	1,1 ▲
Lolland	1,1 ▲
Gentofte	1,3 ▼
Norddjurs	1,3 ▼
Guldborgsund	1,3 ▼
Stevns	1,3 –
Vesthimmerlands	1,5 ▼
Faaborg-Midtfyn	1,5 ▲
Albertslund	1,7 ▼
Halsnæs	1,7 ▼
Haderslev	1,9 ▲
Langeland	2,2 ▼
Køge	2,2 ▼
Vejen	2,3 ▼
Allerød	2,3 ▼
Ballerup	2,6 ▼
Varde	2,6 ▼
Billund	2,7 ▼
Næstved	3,3 ▼
Læsø	3,5 ▲
Skanderborg	3,9 ▼
Odsherred	4,1 ▼

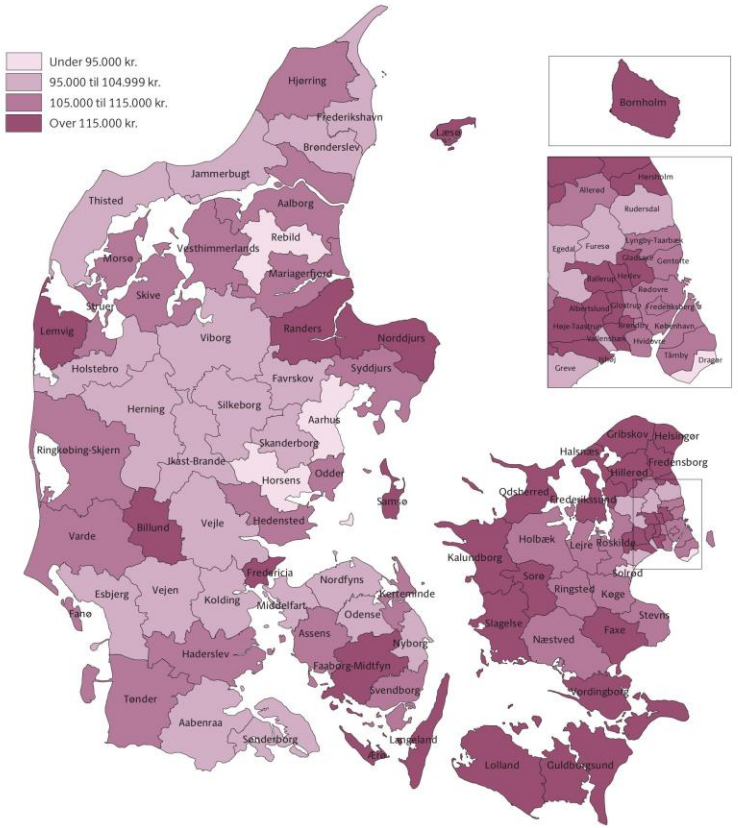
▲ Angiver ændring i kommunens placering i forhold til året før

Ranking of the 98 municipalities from lowest to highest growth

1.1 How ha… developed …ur municipality?

3.1 Hvad koster en elev i jeres kommune?

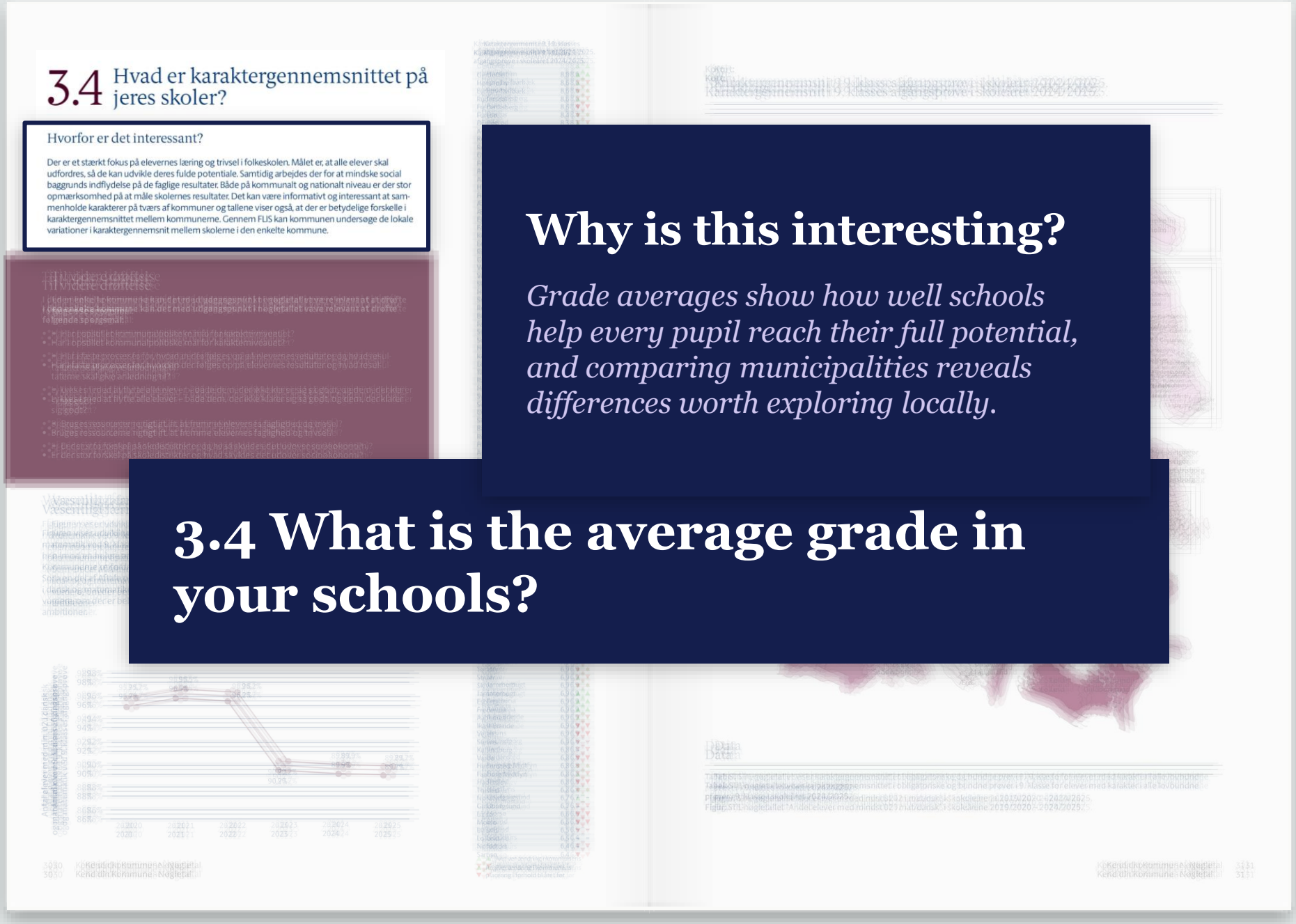
Kort:
Udgifter pr. elev inkl. specialundervisning i 2024, 26-pl



Data

Tabel: Kommunens samlede nettodriftsudgifter på funktioner 3.22.01-3.22.04 og 3.22.06-3.22.09, dranst 1 og 2 uden hovedart 0, i 2024 delt med det gennemsnitlige antal elever i folkeskoler, specialskoler og dagbehandlingstilbud i 2024. 26-PL. Danmarks Statistik
Figur: Egne beregninger på baggrund af Danmarks Statistiks registre, Statistikbanken (BUDK32, FRDK124) og spørgeskemadata indhentet af KL.

Geographical map showing the municipalities' values


3.4 Hvad er karaktergennemsnittet på jeres skoler?
Hvorfor er det interessant?
Der er et stærkt fokus på elevernes læring og trivsel i folkeskolen. Målet er, at alle elever skal udfordres, så de kan udvikle deres fulde potentiale. Samtidig arbejdes der for at mindske social baggrunds indflydelse på de faglige resultater. Både på kommunalt og nationalt niveau er der stor opmærksomhed på at måle skolernes resultater. Det kan være informativt og interessant at sammenholde karakterer på tværs af kommuner og tallene viser også, at der er betydelige forskelle i karaktergennemsnittet mellem kommunerne. Gennem FLIS kan kommunen undersøge de lokale variationer i karaktergennemsnit mellem skolerne i den enkelte kommune.
Why is this interesting?
Grade averages show how well schools help every pupil reach their full potential, and comparing municipalities reveals differences worth exploring locally.
3.4 What is the average grade in your schools?

8.2 Hvor gode er I til at få A-dagpenge-modtagere i selvforsørgelse?

Til videre drøftelse

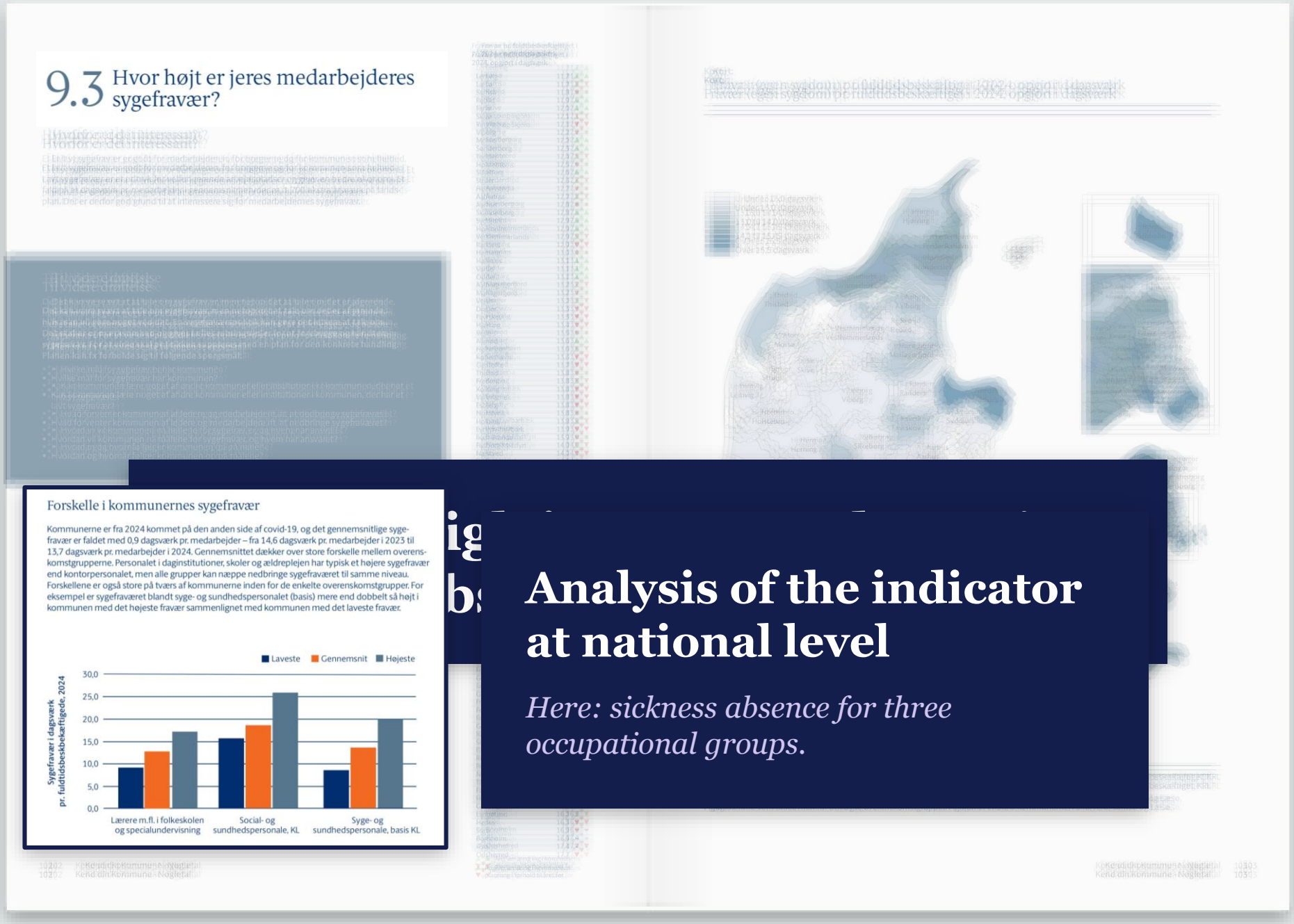
Med udgangspunkt i nøgletallet kan det være relevant at drøfte følgende spørgsmål:

- Har kommunen overblik over virksomhedernes efterspørgsel efter arbejdskraft – både på kort og lang sigt?
- Sikrer kommunen, at der er et effektivt samarbejde med det lokale arbejdsmarked?
- Anvender kommunen data aktivt til at følge op på beskæftigelsesindsatsen?
- Søger kommunen inspiration hos de kommuner, der klarer sig bedre end kommunen selv?

8.2 How good … unemployme… self-sufficiency?

Inspiration questions for discussion in the municipal council

Example: "Does the municipality have an overview of businesses' demand for labour, in both the short and long term?"



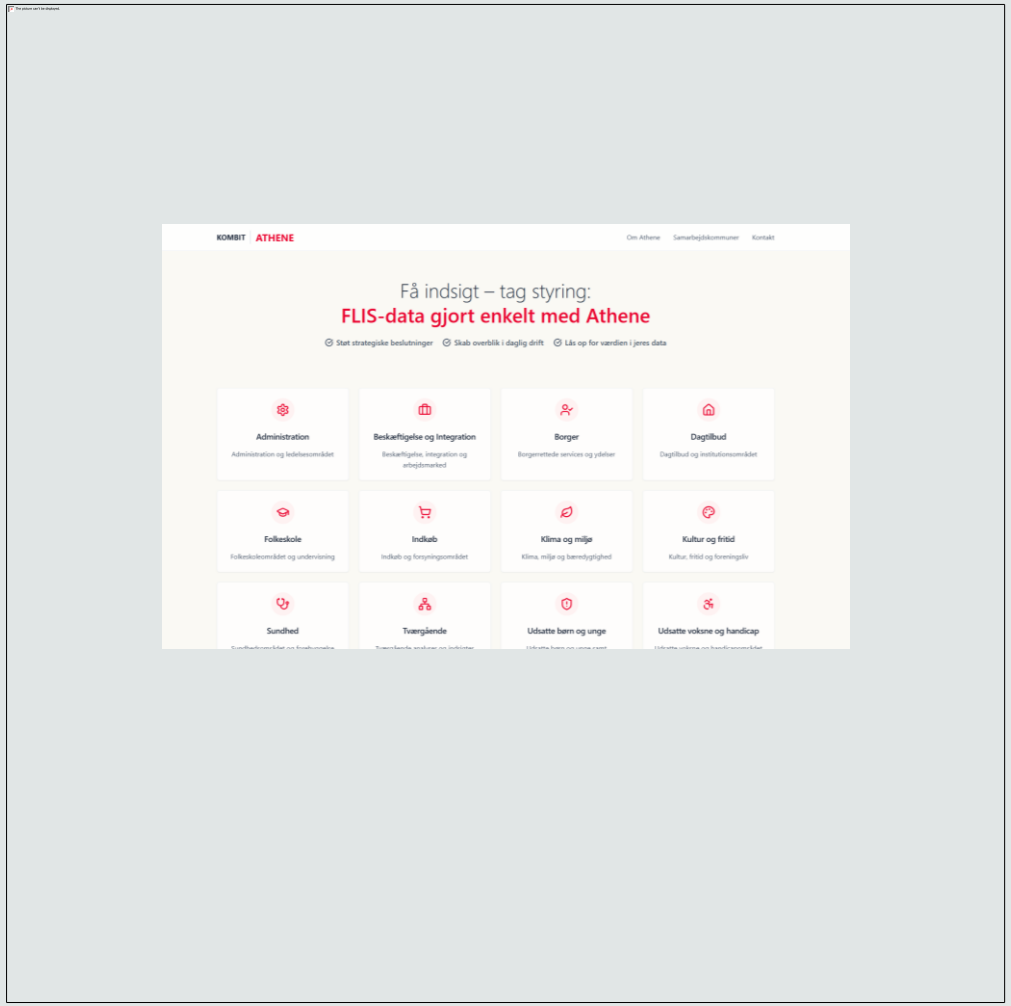
Analysis of the indicator at national level

Here: sickness absence for three occupational groups.

Dashboards keep the data current

- **Printed publications date quickly:** the figures are out of date soon after release

- We **deliver dashboards to the municipalities** with the latest data
- **Development and trends** over time are the focus
- **Deep dives by area** let municipalities go beyond the publication

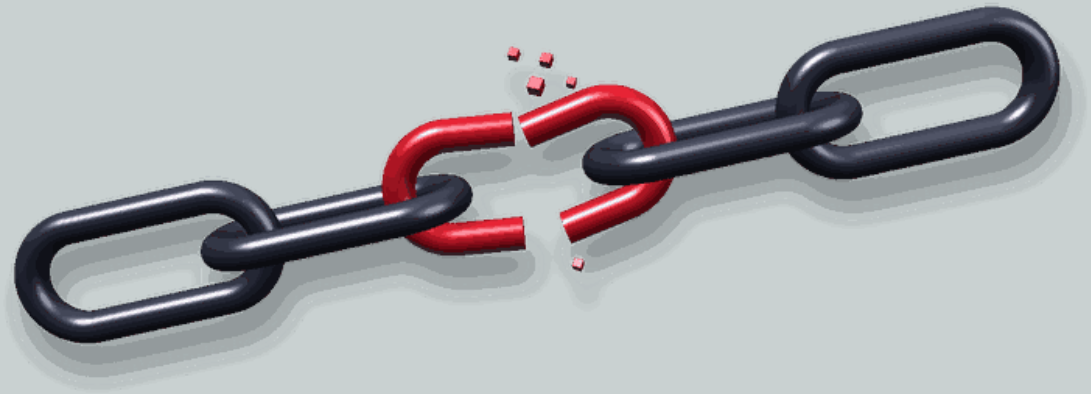


Data quality and comparability are essential

- **Quality assurance** ensures users can trust the figures
- Data from **several sources** is combined in one place
- Municipalities must use the **authorised chart of accounts** in both budgeting and accounting
- The **Ministry of the Interior** sets and maintains the rules in dialogue with KL

Data sources

- Data feeds from municipal systems
- Statistics Denmark
- Key figures from ministries



Thank you for your time!

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