

# **Schools and crime prevention**

**The role of Swedish schools in crime prevention and a Nordic comparison**

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# Government assignment

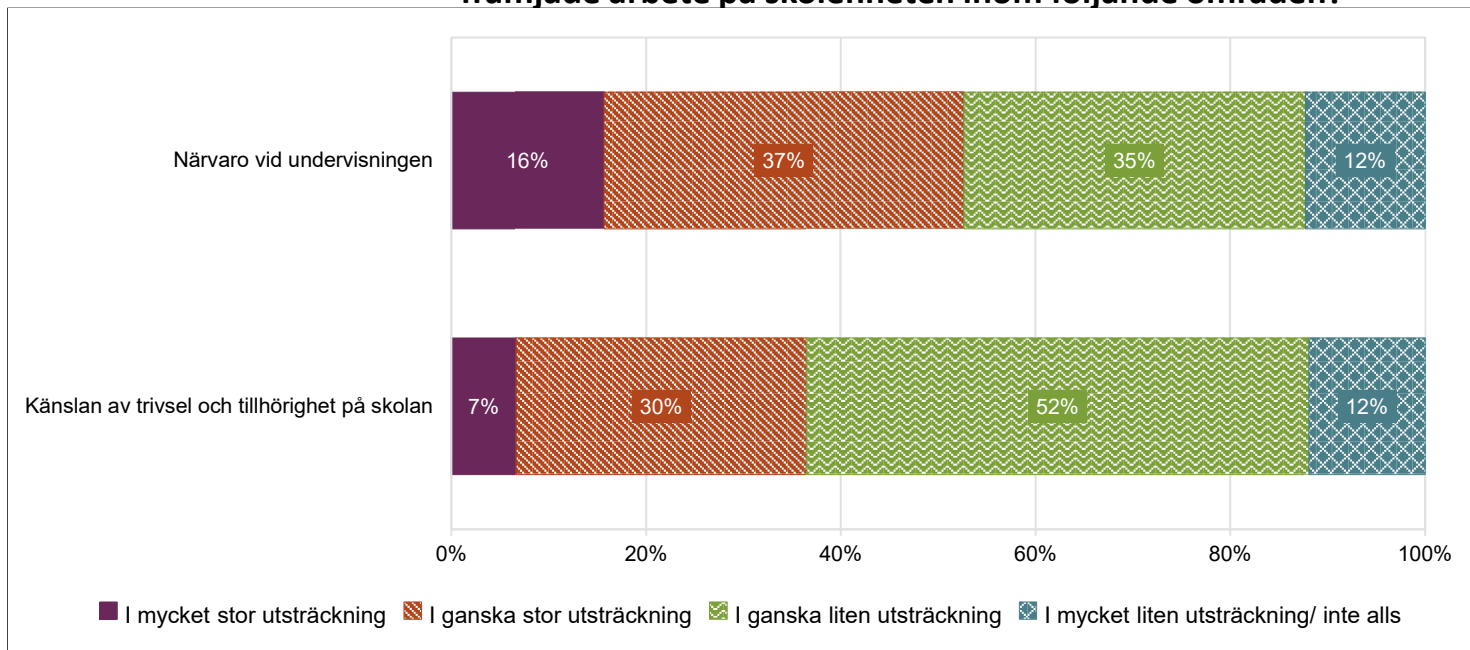
- Map out and describe the national school system's role in crime prevention in Sweden.
- Describe the corresponding picture in the Nordic countries and other comparable countries.
- Give examples of possible success factors.
- National online survey to principals in Sweden, desk research, meetings with national agencies and organisations in Sweden and Nordic countries.

# Results

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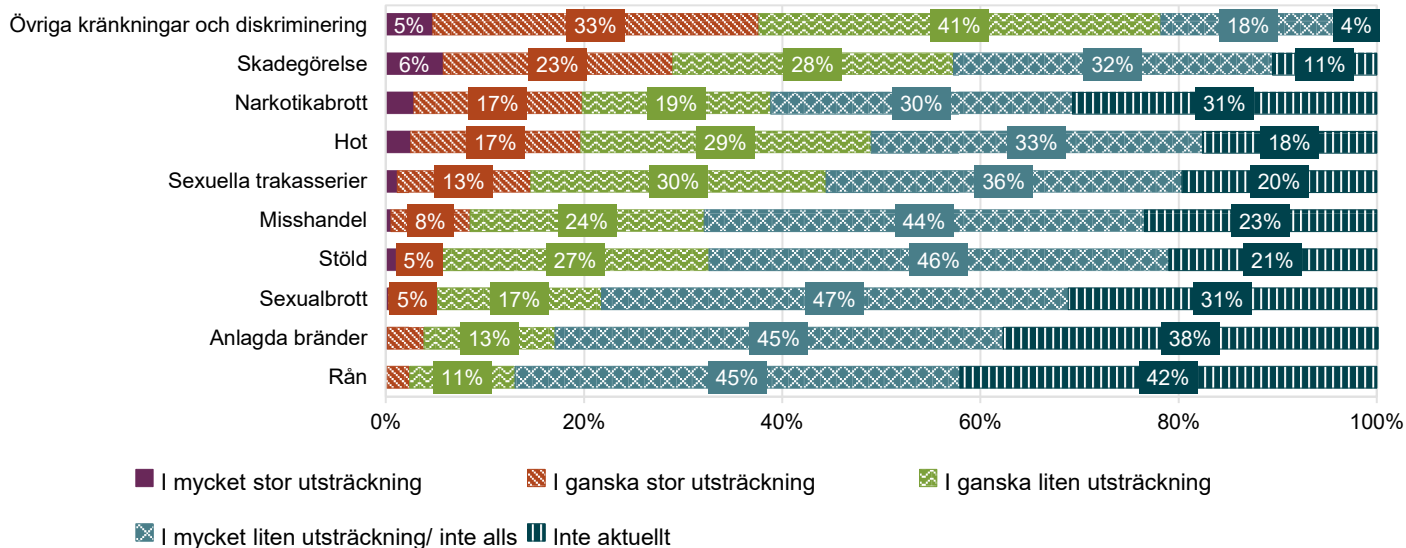
# Need to improve school attendance and sense of belonging

I vilken utsträckning bedömer du att ni har behov av att stärka ert främjade arbete på skolenheten inom följande områden?



# Need to strengthen crime prevention work in harassment, discrimination, drug offence and threats

I vilken utsträckning bedömer du att ni har behov av att stärka ert brottsförebyggande arbete på skolenheten inom följande områden?



# Results vary between schools

- Greater need to strengthen school attendance, ability to concentrate in class and sense of belonging in schools with low-educated parents.
- In Compulsory Schools, schoolyards and common areas are deemed less safe.
- In Upper Secondary Schools, the need to prevent drug offences is deemed higher.
- In School for pupils with Intellectual Disabilities, the need to prevent harassments and threats is deemed higher.

# Collaboration is a success factor

- 50 % of schools collaborate with social services.
- Principals encourage more collaboration with Police, Social Services and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.
- Access to staff is an important factor.
- Difficulties in exchanging information.

# Nordic comparison

- Many shared features in Norway, Denmark and Finland.
  - The school is responsible for ensuring that pupils are safe at school.
  - Similar forms of collaboration as in Sweden.
- Denmark stands out.
  - Parents' responsibility for their children's behavior.
  - Youth Crime Boards (Ungdomskriminalitetsnævnet).
  - Organized leisure activities for young people.



# Conclusions

- Swedish schools have no formal responsibilities in crime prevention.
- Education can prevent juvenile delinquency.
- Support from the organiser is important.
- Success factors include
  - school attendance
  - supportive adults
  - early and systematic interventions
  - knowledge of crime prevention measures in schools.

# A new inquiry proposes regulation of crime prevention efforts in schools

- <https://www.regeringen.se/rattsliga-dokument/statens-offentliga-utredningar/2024/03/sou-202417/>



# Questions?

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