

Attachment 6: Case Study: Stockholm's Gender-Based Snow Clearing Analysis

In 2015, Stockholm brought a gender analysis to its snow-clearing policy, which made it easier for pedestrians, who in Stockholm are mainly women, to move around the city after snow accumulation. Statistically, more men commute by car, while women are more likely to walk, bike, or take public transit. Data analysis found that three times as many people are injured while walking in icy conditions in Sweden than while driving; most of them are women. Hospital care and lost productivity due to accidents and slippery conditions cost four times as much as winter road maintenance.

Stockholm City Officials decided that sidewalks, bike paths, bus stops, and the walkways to daycares would be plowed first, followed by the main roads. Daycares were given priority as they are often the first stop for parents commuting to work. Larger workplaces were second priority; but female-dominated workplaces such as hospitals and municipal facilities were also included. Pedestrian walkways and bike paths leading to schools were given third priority. Only when this essential network had been made accessible were the remaining streets and roads cleared of snow. Working in this order resulted in no extra costs for the municipality, and instead made the allocation of resources more gender-equal and made the City more accessible for everyone.