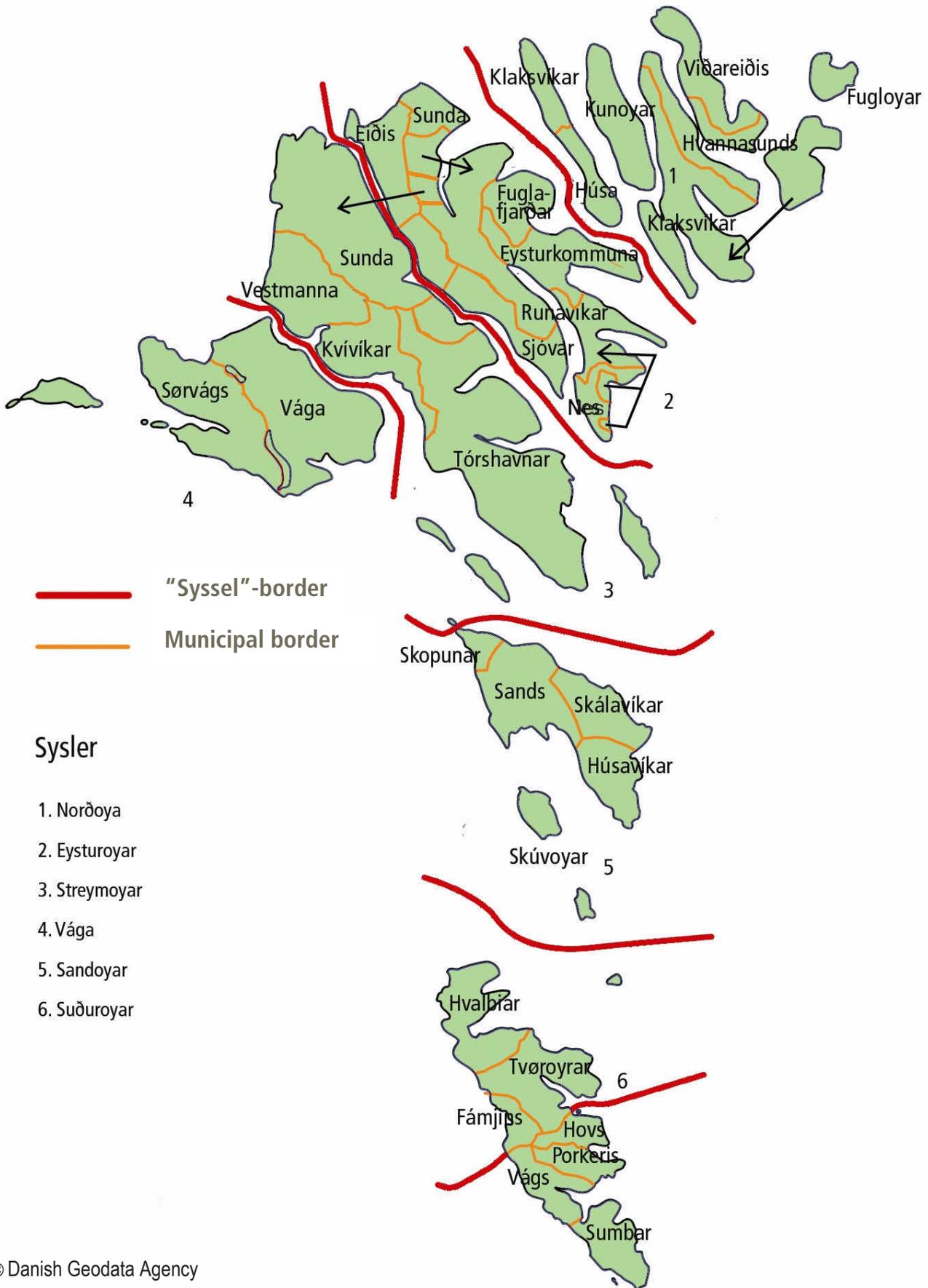
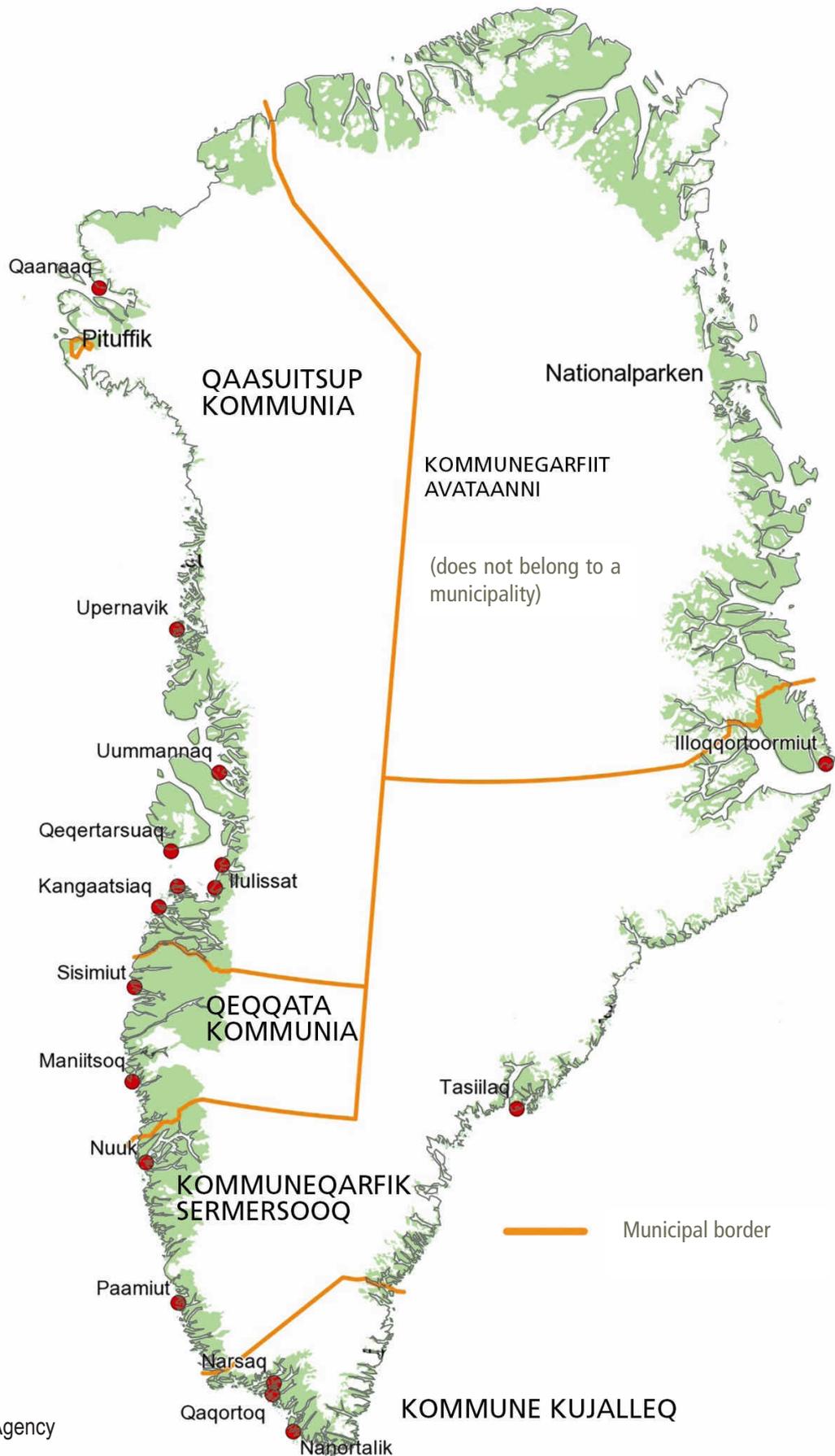


Faroe Islands



© Danish Geodata Agency

Greenland



Faroe Islands and Greenland

The populations

The economy



The populations

One kingdom – three different communities

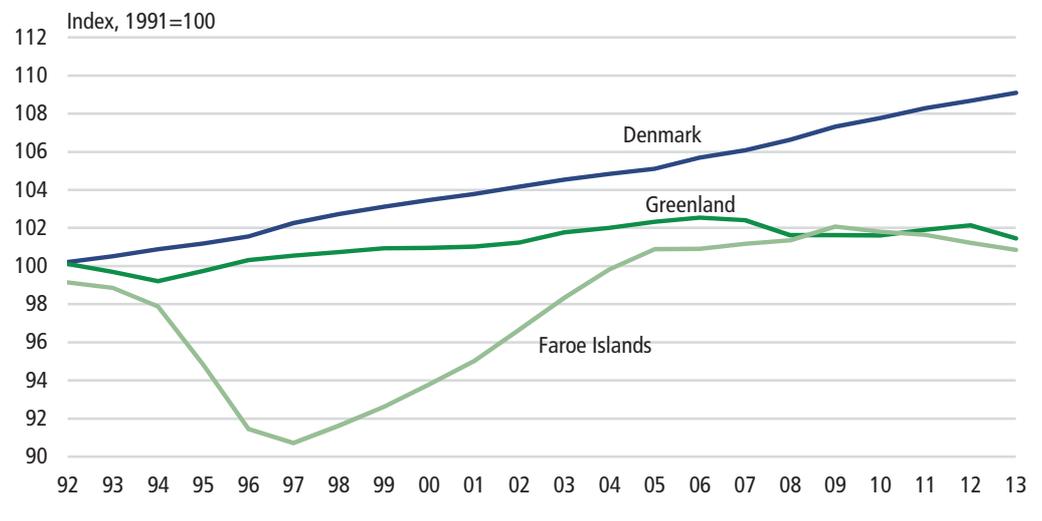
The Faroe Islands and Greenland are both part of the Kingdom of Denmark, going back as far as the Early Middle Ages. During the 20th century, the two countries have gradually liberated themselves from Denmark and have today independent extended home rule. Home rule was established in the Faroe Islands in 1948. In Greenland home rule was established in 1979 and further autonomy and self rule in 2009.

The authorities in the Faroe Islands and Greenland make legislation governing their own social and economic conditions, e.g. fishing, housing, schools, trade and industry, municipal matters, etc., whereas issues regarding foreign, security and legal policies are joint responsibilities governed in accordance with Danish legislation. Over the years, the Faroe Islands and Greenland have become financially less dependent on Denmark, but still receive financial means from the Danish state. In 2013 the Faroe Islands receive general grants of DKK 632 million, while Greenland receives DKK 3.662 million. In addition to this, the Danish state pays the expenditure on operating, e.g. the legal system and defence.

Small populations

The size of the Danish population is far greater than the population size of the Faroe Islands and Greenland. Denmark has a population of about 5.6 million people, while the populations of the Faroe Islands and Greenland are 48,000 and 56,000 people, respectively. A medium-sized Danish provincial town has, for comparison, a population of about 50,000.

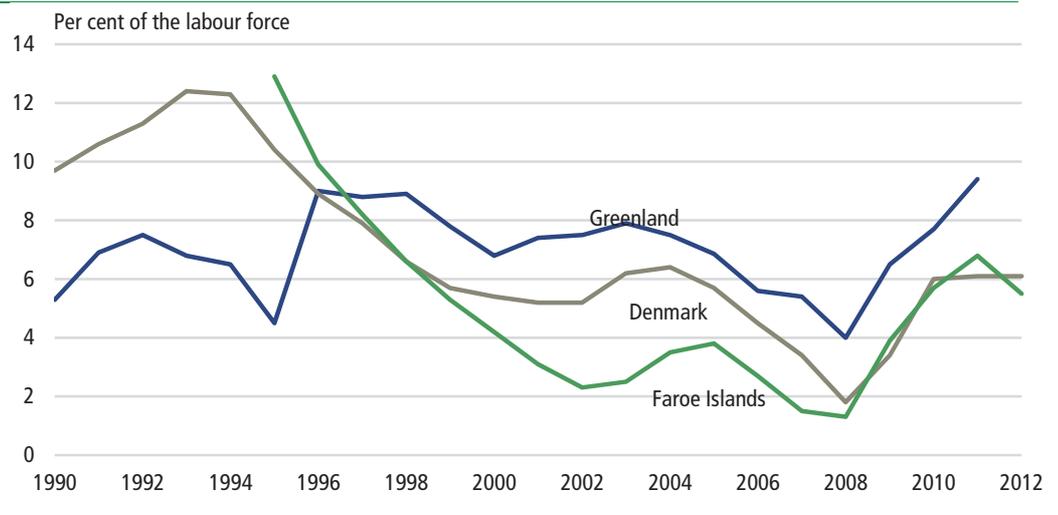
Figure 1 Population trends in Denmark, the Faroe Islands and Greenland



The economic crisis in the Faroe Islands in the middle of the 1990s

While Denmark and Greenland have seen a small increase in the size of their populations since 1990, the Faroe Islands experienced a sharp decline in the population size in the middle of the 1990s. The main reason for this was an economic crisis involving negative growth and a steadily increasing unemployment rate. Furthermore, the foreign debt of the Faroe Islands was nearly 150 per cent of GDP. Not until 2003 was the population size the same in the Faroe Islands as in 1990.

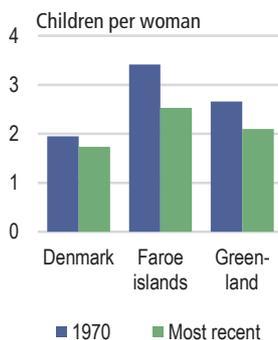
Figure 2 Unemployment in Denmark, the Faroe Islands and Greenland



Women give birth to fewer children...

In all three communities of the Kingdom of Denmark, women give birth to fewer children today, compared to almost 40 years ago.

Figure 3 Fertility rates



Note: Figures from Denmark and Faroe Islands are from 2012 and Greenland from 2011.

In Greenland, women on average gave birth to 2.7 children, compared to 2.1 today. In 1970, women in the Faroe Islands gave birth, on average, to 3.4 children, compared to 2.2 children today and in Denmark women gave birth to almost two children in 1970, compared to 1.7 today.

Consequently, there has been a greater fall in fertility in the Faroe Islands compared to the other communities, but women in the Faroe Islands still account for the highest number of births.

... and live longer

The Faroe Islands also account for the highest life expectancy. The average life expectancy of men in the Faroe Islands is 80 years, while that of Danish men is 78 years, and that of men in Greenland is 73 years.

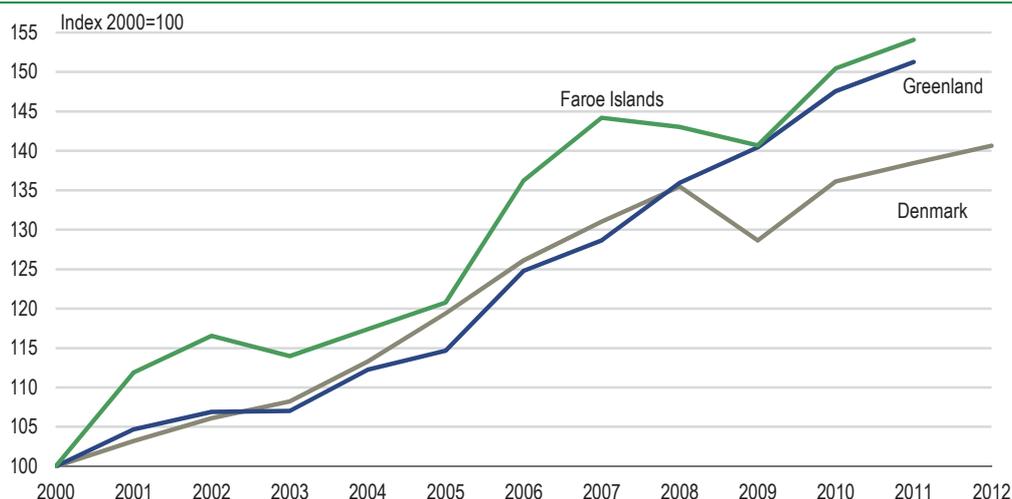
Similarly, women in the Faroe Islands live, on average, until the age of 85, while Danish women live until the age of 82, and women in Greenland until the age of 73.

The economy

Small economies in relation to the Danish economy

The economies of the Faroe Islands and Greenland are very small compared to the Danish economy. The Danish gross domestic product (GDP) amounted to DKK 1,820 billion in 2012 and GDP of Greenland was about DKK 13.1 billion in 2011. In 2011, GDP of the Faroe Islands almost reached DKK 13.2 billion.

Figure 4 Trends in GDP at current prices



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Fishing is of great importance for Faroe Islands and Greenland

In addition to the general economic development, developments in the economy in the Faroe Islands and Greenland have been influenced by the fishing industry. The economy of Greenland is especially vulnerable to prices for prawns.

The economy of the Faroe Islands is also highly dependent on the fishing industry, including number of fishing days, developments in farmed salmon and prices for, e.g. prawns and cods.

If you want more information ...

Since the first issue of the *Statistical Yearbook* in 1896, Statistics Denmark has published figures for the Faroe Islands and Greenland.

Today, the Faroe Islands and Greenland have their own statistical institutes, which can offer a far greater amount of figures and data than those presented in this yearbook.

The statistical institutes of the two countries can be found at the websites: www.hagstova.fo for the Faroe Islands and www.stat.gl for Greenland. A yearbook containing detailed statistics is also published by Greenland.

The reports prepared by the Chief Administrative Officer in the Faroe Islands and Greenland are also useful sources for your information.

Table 415 Key figures for Denmark, Faroe Islands and Greenland

	Year	Denmark	Year	Faroe Islands	Year	Greenland
Total area, km ²	2013	42 916	2013	1 396	2013	2 166 086
Average temperature, January, Celsius ¹	1961-1990	0.0	1961-1990	3.4	1961-1990	-7.4
Average temperature, July, Celsius ¹	1961-1990	15.6	1961-1990	10.3	1961-1990	6.5
Precipitation, mm. ¹	1961-1990	712	1961-1990	1 284	1961-1990	752
Population	2013	5 602 628	2013	48 197	2013	56 370
Fertility	2012	1.7	2012	2.5	2010	2.3
Average life expectancy, men, years	2011:2012	77.9	2011:2012	79.6	2006:2010	67.8
Average life expectancy, women, years	2011:2012	81.9	2011:2012	84.6	2006:2010	72.8
Educational expenditure, per cent of GDP	2011	3.9	2009	9.2	2011	6.4
Labour force	2012	2 795 801	2010	27 010	2011	26 791
Unemployed, per cent of labour force ²	2012	6.1	2010	6.8	2011	9.4
Participation rate, women, per cent	2012	76.7	2010	85.3	2006	78.3
Participation rate, men, per cent	2012	72.7	2010	81.4	2006	73.3
Social security and welfare, per cent of GDP	2011	25.2	2009	22.7	2011	17.5
Health expenditure, per cent of GDP	2011	8.2	2009	8.2	2011	10.1
Health staff per 100.000 inhabitants	2010	348	2007	189	2009	167
Abortions per 1.000 live births	2010	258	2012	55	2010	747
Infant mortality per 1.000 liveborn boys	2012	3.4	2012	9.6	2012	10.3
Infant mortality per 1.000 liveborn girls	2012	3.4	2012	17.5	2012	7.6
Suicides per 100.000 inhabitants	2011	11	2007-2010	4.1	2 010.	34.4
Reported Penal Code offences per 1.000 inhabitants	2012	95.7	2012	22.7	2011	85.1
Of which theft and burglary	2012	59.1	2012	9.0	2011	11.8
Of which sexual offences	2012	0.6	2012	0.6	2011	5.5
Consumer price index (inflation), annual growth, per cent	2012	2.4	2012	2.1	2012	1.7
Total catch, 1.000 tonnes	2012	496	2011	355	2011	104
Of which shrimp catch, per cent of total catch	2012	1.0	2011	2.1	2011	53.1
Access to the Internet in per cent of 16-74-year-olds ³	2012	92	2012	49	2006	69
Mobile phone subscriptions, per cent of 16-74-year-olds	2011	148	2012	174	2012	140
Imports, DKK mio.	2012	533 333	2012	6 660	2011	4 822
Of which imports from Denmark in per cent	•	•	2011	26.4	2011	40.5
Exports, DKK mio.	2012	611 862	2012	5 493	2011	2 541
Of which exports to Denmark in per cent	•	•	2011	7.5	2011	92.0
Exports of fish and fish products in per cent	2012	2.7	2012	91.3	2011	92.5
Gross domestic product (GDP) at current prices, DKK mio.	2012	1 820 247	2011	13 254	2011	13 060
Annual real growth in per cent of GDP	2012	-0.5		...	2011	3.2
GDP current prices per capita, DKK	2012	324 892	2011	273 843	2011	230.681
Balance of payments, current account, DKK mio.	2011	101 197	2011	1 043	2006	1 720
Balance of payments in per cent of GDP	2011	5.6	2011	7.9	2006	16.2
Surplus on public finance, per cent of GDP	2011	-2.0	2011	-2.1	2011	3.5
General government net debt, per cent of GDP, end of year	2011	3.5	
General grants from the Danish government, DKK mio.	•	•	2013	632	2013	3 662

¹ Meteorological information from Thorshavn on the Faroe Islands and Nuuk in Greenland. ² In Greenland, the unemployment rate is calculated as the number of medio unemployed as a percentage of the potential labour force. ³ Internet subscriptions in Faroe Islands.

Source: Statistics Denmark, Statistics Faroe Islands, Statistics Greenland, *Statistical ten-year review* and *Nordic Statistical Yearbook*.