

Faroe Islands and Greenland

1. Population of the Danish Kingdom

If you want more information...

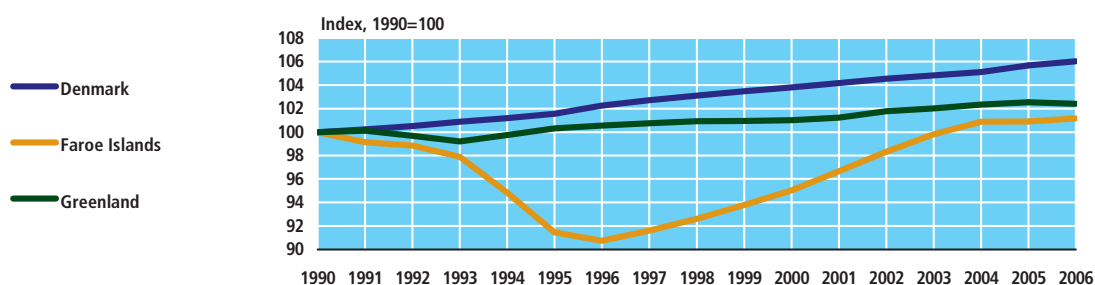
Since the first issue of the present Statistical Yearbook in 1896, Statistics Denmark has published figures for the Faroe Islands and Greenland. Today, the Faroe Islands and Greenland have their own statistical institutes, which can offer a far greater amount of figures and data than those presented 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.statgreen.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.

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 counties have gradually liberated themselves from Denmark and have today independent home rule. Home rule was established in the Faroe Islands in 1948 and in Greenland in 1979. The home rule authorities in the Faroe Islands and Greenland make legislation governing own conditions such as fishing, housing, schools, trade and industry, municipal conditions, 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 independent on Denmark, but still receive financial means from the Danish state. In 2003, the Faroe Islands received general grants of DKK 616 million, while Greenland received DKK 3,069 million. In addition to this, the Danish state pays the expenditure on operating, e.g. the legal system and defence.

Figure 1

Population trends in Denmark, the Faroe Islands and Greenland



Faroe Islands and Greenland

Small population in relation to the Danish population

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 5.4 million people, while the populations of the Faroe Islands and Greenland are 48,000 and 57,000 people, respectively. A medium-sized provincial town as Kolding has, for comparison, a population of 55,000.

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, which later on was reverted to debt owed by foreign countries. 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

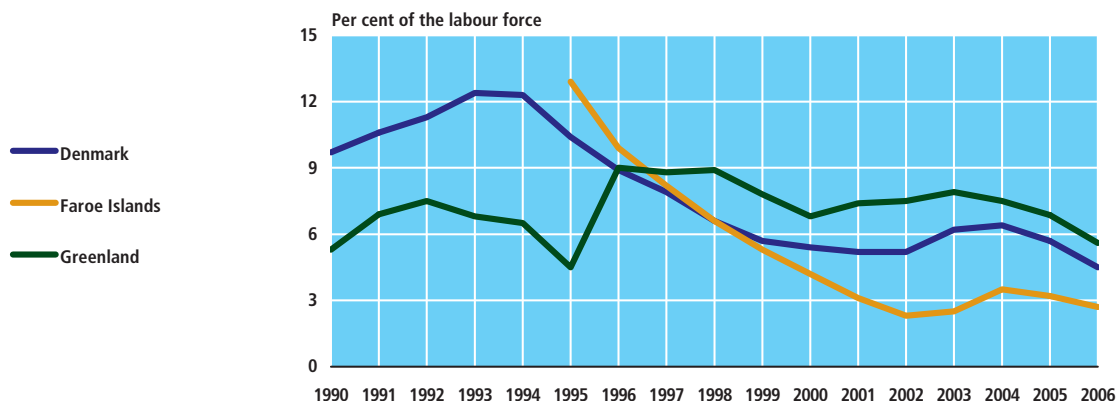
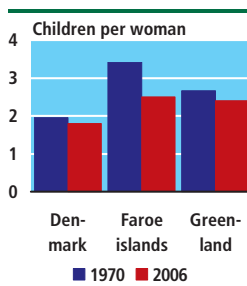


Figure 3
Fertility rates



More children born in the Faroe Islands...

In all three communities of the Kingdom of Denmark, women give birth to fewer children today, compared to 30 years ago. In 1970, women in the Faroe Islands gave birth, on average, to 3.4 children, compared to 2.5 children today. In Greenland, women on average gave birth to 2.7 children, compared to 2.4 today, and in Denmark women gave birth to almost two children in 1970, compared to 1.8 today. Consequently, there has been a greater fall in fertility in the Faroe Islands, but women in the Faroe Islands still account for the highest number of births.

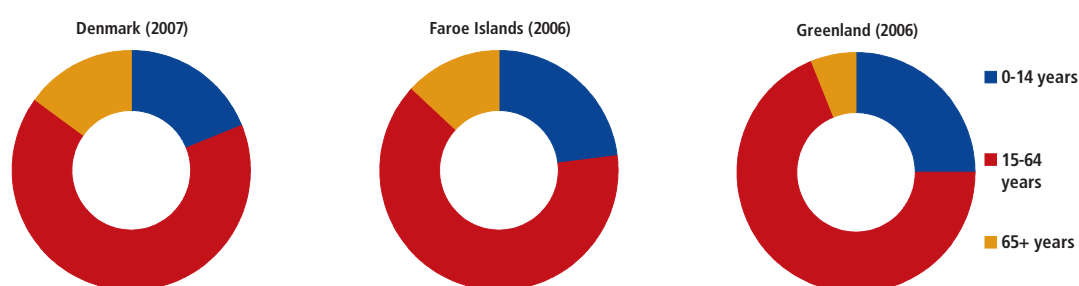
... and people in the Faroe Islands live longer

The Faroe Islands also account for the highest life expectancy. The average life expectancy of men in the Faroe Islands is 77 years, while that of Danish men is 76 years, and that of men in Greenland is 64 years. Similarly, women in the Faroe Islands live, on average, until the age of 81, while Danish women live until the age

Faroe Islands and Greenland

of 80, and women in Greenland until the age of 70 – i.e. on average. The considerably lower life expectancy in Greenland is reflected by the circumstance that there are relatively fewer old people in Greenland than in the other parts of the Kingdom of Denmark. However, in Denmark there is the lowest share of young people who can carry the future of Danish society. 19 per cent of Danes are 0 to 14 years old, while the share of young people in the Faroe Islands is 23 per cent and in Greenland 25 per cent.

Figure 4 Age composition in Denmark, the Faroe Islands and Greenland

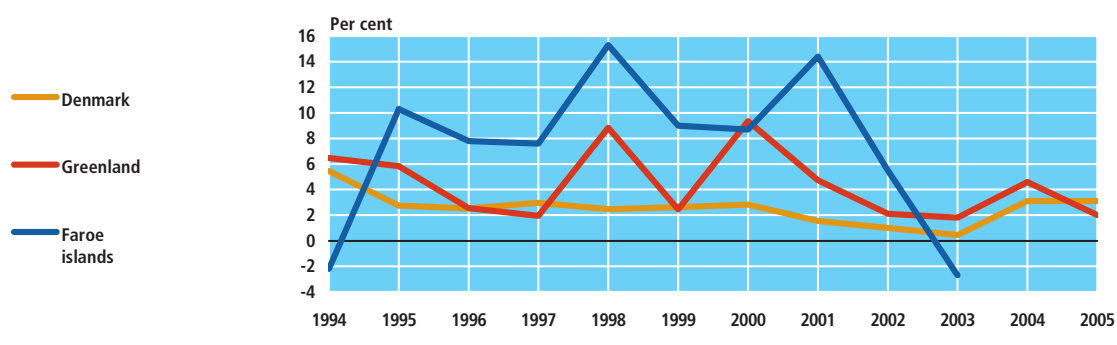


2. Economy of the Kingdom of Denmark

Small economies in relation to the Danish economy

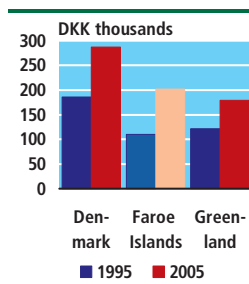
The economies of the Faroe Islands and Greenland are very small compared to the Danish economy. While the Danish gross domestic product (GDP) amounted to DKK 1,638 bn. in 2006, GDP of Greenland reached DKK 10 billion in 2005. In 2003, GDP of the Faroe Islands also reached DKK 10 billion.

Figure 5 Trends in GDP at current prices



Faroe Islands and Greenland

Figure 6
GDP per capita at current prices



Fishing is of great importance for the economies of the Faroe Islands and Greenland

In addition to the general economic setback, 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, which have steadily fallen over recent years. This has resulted in receding growth in recent years. 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. Despite reasonably good growth rates at the end of the 1990s, the Faroe Islands saw negative growth in GDP in 2003. It is a general feature of the economies of the Faroe Islands and Greenland that they are vulnerable to fluctuations in a single industry, i.e. the fishing industry, and consequently experience greater fluctuations in growth rates than Denmark.

The Faroe Islands account for the highest rate of inflation

During the last ten years, the Faroe Islands have experienced the highest increase in consumer prices. While Denmark and Greenland have had an average rate of inflation of, respectively, 2.2 per cent and 1.8 per cent since 1995, the rate of inflation in the Faroe Islands has on average ranged at 2.8 per cent in the same period.

Figure 7

Annual changes in the consumer price index

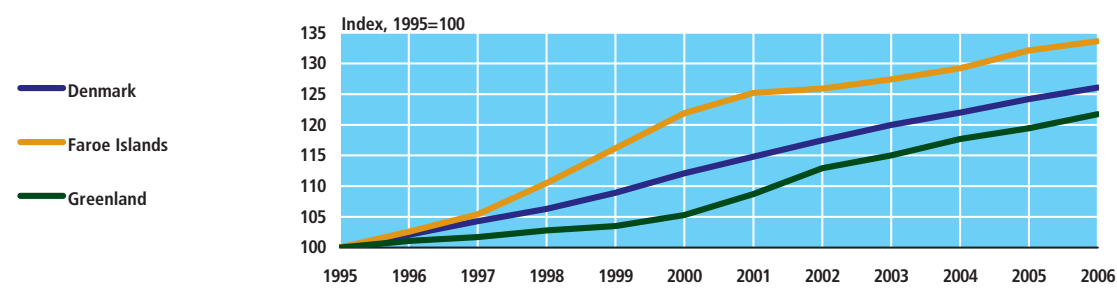


Table 458

Key figures for Faroe Islands and Greenland – correction

	Year	Denmark	Year	Faroe Islands	Year	Greenland
Geography and climate						
Total area km ²	2007	43 098	2007	1 396	2007	2 166 086
Highest point, metres	2007	171	2007	882	2007	3 693
Average temperature, January, Celsius ¹	1961-1990	0,0	1961-1990	3,4	1961-1990	-7,4
Average temperature, July, Celsius	1961-1990	15,6	1961-1990	10,3	1961-1990	6,5
Precipitation, mm.	1961-1990	712	1961-1990	1 284	1961-1990	752
Hours of bright sunshine	1961-1990	1 495	1961-1990	840	...	...
Population						
Population	2007	5 447 084	2007	48 350	2006	56 901
Inhabitants per km ²	2007	126,4	2007	34,6	2006	0,14
Fertility	2005	1,8	2006	2,5	2005	2,4
Average life expectancy, men, years	2005	75,6	2002-2006	76,5	2003	64,1
Average life expectancy, women, years	2005	80,2	2002-2006	81,3	2003	69,5
Population 0-14 years, per cent	2007	19	2006	23	2006	25
Population 65+ years, per cent	2007	15	2006	14	2006	6
Marriages per 1,000 inhabitants	2005	6,7	2006	5,7	...	...
Divorces per 1,000 inhabitants	2005	2,8	2006	1,3	...	...
Education						
Educational expenditure, DKK mio.	2005	123 365	2003	817	2004	1 316
Educational expenditure, per cent of GDP	2005	7,9	2003	8,4	2004	13,4
Educational expenditure per basic school pupil, DKK	2005	75 065	2003	40 083	2004	116 337
Labour market						
Labour force	2006	2 862 380	2006	29 400	2006	27 590
Total employed	2006	2 754 646	2006	28 900	2004	21 062
Unemployed, per cent of labour force ⁶	2006	4,5	2006	2,7	2006	5,6
Participation rate, women, per cent	2006	81,2	2006	90,9	2004	74,7
Participation rate, men, per cent	2006	75,3	2006	83,3	2004	70,1
Social conditions						
Social security and welfare expenditure, DKK mio.	2005	346 345	2004	1 981	2004	1 848
Social security and welfare, per cent of GDP	2005	22,3	2004	20	2004	19
Social security benefits, DKK per inhabitant	2005	63 813	2004	41 051	2004	32 471

Note: As far as possible, the table has been divided into the same subject areas as the remaining chapters in the yearbook. However, it has not been possible to acquire comparable figures for transport, manufacturing and financial markets.

¹ Meteorological information from Thorshavn on the Faroe Islands and Nuuk in Greenland. ² Per cent of ice-free area. ³ 1999-2003. ⁴ 2003. ⁵ 2002. ⁶ In Greenland, the unemployment rate is calculated as the number of medio unemployed as a percentage of the potential labour force.

Source: Statistics Denmark, Statistics Faroe Islands, Statistics Greenland, *Statistical ten-year review 2006* and *Nordic Statistical Yearbook*.

Table 458

Key figures for Faroe Islands and Greenland

	Year	Denmark	Year	Faroe Islands	Year	Greenland
Health						
Health expenditure, per cent of GDP	2005	6,9	2003	8,0	2004	9,0
Health staff per 100,000 inhabitants	2004	1 939	2004	1 330	2004	1 028
Of which doctors per 100,000 inhabitants	2004	304	2004	188	2004	153
Abortions per 1,000 live births	2004	235	2005	41	2004	1 009
Suicides per 100,000 inhabitants	2005	12	2001-2005	6,7	1998	70
Infant mortality per 1,000 liveborn boys	2005	5,1	2006	8,5	2004	15,3
Infant mortality per 1,000 liveborn girls	2005	3,6	2006	0,0	2004	6,9
Judicial system						
Reported Penal Code offences	2005	432 704	2006	1 081	2005	5 807
- sexual offences	2005	2 799	2006	24	2005	370
- crimes of violence	2005	18 777	2006	116	2005	813
of which homicide and attempted homicide	2005	53	...	...	2005	26
- theft	2005	168 120	2006	327	2005	1 688
- burglary	2005	76 865	2006	90	2005	986
Income, consumption and prices						
Consumer price index (inflation), annual growth, per cent	2006	1,9	2006	1,5	2006	2,3
Average personal pre-tax income, DKK	2005	240 200	2004	167 026	2005	184 769
Average post-tax family income, DKK	2005	252 000	...	...	2005	257 591
General business statistics						
Enterprises	2004	282 968	2005	1 700	2006	1 988
Persons employed by industry, total per cent	2004	100	2005	100	2004	100,0
Agriculture, fishing, mining and quarrying, per cent	2004	1,5	2005	13,4	2004	6,3
Manufacturing, electricity, gas and water supply, per cent	2004	17,4	2005	12,9	2004	13,6
Construction, per cent	2004	6,2	2005	8,2	2004	8,0
Wholesale and retail trade; hotels, restaurants, per cent	2004	15,7	2005	12,1	2004	13,9
Transport, post and telecom., per cent	2004	7,0	2005	7,0	2004	7,3
Finance and business activities, per cent	2004	12,4	2005	6,9	2004	5,0
Public and personal services, per cent	2004	39,8	2005	39,1	2004	45,9
Activity not stated, per cent	2004	0,1	2005	0,4	2004	0,1
Fishing						
Fishing vessels	2006	3 271	2006	158	2005	788
Total catch, 1,000 tonnes	2006	811	2005	565	2004	205
Shrimp catch, per cent	2006	1,3	2005	1,3	2004	61,2
Cod and pollack catch, per cent	2006	5,0	2005	19,8	2004	3,9
Industrial fishing and fodder fish, per cent	2006	64,0	2005	66,3	...	...
Seals caught	...	...	2006	-	2004	160 164

¹ 2003. ² 1998. ³ On the Faroe Islands, only enterprises paying wages of more than DKK 75,000. ⁴ 2001. ⁵ 2002. ⁶ 2004.

Source: Statistics Denmark, Statistics Faroe Islands, Statistics Greenland, *Statistical ten-year review 2006* and *Nordic Statistical Yearbook*.

Table 458

Key figures for Faroe Islands and Greenland

	Year	Denmark	Year	Faroe Islands	Year	Greenland
Construction						
Dwelling stock	2006	2 657 000	...	...	2006	21 302
Avg. no. of inhabitants per dwelling	2006	2,2	...	...	2006	2,7
Avg. floor space, m ²	2006	113,5	...	...	2006	65,0
Increase of dwellings	2005	27 617	2005	169	2005	192
Service industry						
Total number of nights spent by visitors at hotels, camping sites, etc.	2006	44 400 000	2005	105 848	2005	215 916
Nights spent by Danish visitors in per cent	2006	50	2005	32	2005	49
Nights spent by foreign visitors in per cent	2006	50	2005	68	2005	51
Of which Danish nights spent in per cent of total number of nights spent	•	•	2005	51	2005	62
Access to the Internet in per cent of population aged 16-74 years	2006	89	2005	36	2005	41
Mobile phones, per cent of population aged 16-74 years	2006	104	2005	127	2005	114
External trade						
Imports, DKK mio.	2006	505 379	2006	4 649	2005	3 591
Of which imports from Denmark in per cent	•	•	2006	30,0	2005	79,9
Exports, DKK mio.	2006	544 628	2006	3 745	2005	2 426
Of which exports to Denmark in per cent	•	•	2006	12,2	2005	86,7
Exports of fish and fish products in per cent	2006	3,1	2006	94,0	2005	87,0
National accounts						
Gross domestic product at current prices (GDP) DKK mio.	2006	1 637 603	2003	9 699	2005	10 210
Annual real growth in per cent of GDP	2006	3,2	...	...	2005	2,0
GDP current prices, per capita, DKK	2006	300 638	2003	202 239	2005	179 434
Balance of payments, current account, DKK mio.	2006	39 445	2003	-130	...	...
Balance of payments in per cent of GDP	2006	2,4	2003	-1,3	...	...
Public finance						
Surplus on public finance, DKK mio.	2006	69 072	2003	407	2005	565
Surplus on public finance, per cent of GDP	2006	4,2	2003	4,2	2005	5,5
General government net debt, DKK mio., end of year	2006	43 400	2003	3 052	2005	-2 439
General government net debt, per cent of GDP, end of year	2006	2,7	2003	31	2005	-24
General grants from the Danish government, DKK mio.	•	•	2003	616	2005	3 069

¹ 2004. ² 2003. ³ 2002.

Source: Statistics Denmark, Statistics Faroe Islands, Statistics Greenland, *Statistical ten-year review 2006* and *Nordic Statistical Yearbook*.

Table 458

Key figures for Faroe Islands and Greenland

	Year	Denmark	Year	Faroe Islands	Year	Greenland
Health						
Health expenditure, per cent of GDP	2005	6,9	2003	8,0	2004	9,0
Health staff per 100,000 inhabitants	2004	1 939	2004	1 330	2004	1 028
Of which doctors per 100,000 inhabitants	2004	304	2004	188	2004	153
Abortions per 1,000 live births	2004	235	2005	41	2004	1 009
Suicides per 100,000 inhabitants	2005	12	2001-2005	6,7	1998	70
Infant mortality per 1,000 liveborn boys	2005	5,1	2006	8,5	2004	15,3
Infant mortality per 1,000 liveborn girls	2005	3,6	2006	0,0	2004	6,9
Judicial system						
Reported Penal Code offences	2005	432 704	2006	1 081	2005	5 807
- sexual offences	2005	2 799	2006	24	2005	370
- crimes of violence	2005	18 777	2006	116	2005	813
of which homicide and attempted homicide	2005	53	...	...	2005	26
- theft	2005	168 120	2006	327	2005	1 688
- burglary	2005	76 865	2006	90	2005	986
Income, consumption and prices						
Consumer price index (inflation), annual growth, per cent	2006	1,9	2006	1,5	2006	2,3
Average personal pre-tax income, DKK	2005	240 200	2004	167 026	2005	184 769
Average post-tax family income, DKK	2005	252 000	...	...	2005	257 591
General business statistics						
Enterprises	2004	282 968	2005	1 700	2006	1 988
Persons employed by industry, total per cent	2004	100	2005	100	2004	100,0
Agriculture, fishing, mining and quarrying, per cent	2004	1,5	2005	13,4	2004	6,3
Manufacturing, electricity, gas and water supply, per cent	2004	17,4	2005	12,9	2004	13,6
Construction, per cent	2004	6,2	2005	8,2	2004	8,0
Wholesale and retail trade; hotels, restaurants, per cent	2004	15,7	2005	12,1	2004	13,9
Transport, post and telecom., per cent	2004	7,0	2005	7,0	2004	7,3
Finance and business activities, per cent	2004	12,4	2005	6,9	2004	5,0
Public and personal services, per cent	2004	39,8	2005	39,1	2004	45,9
Activity not stated, per cent	2004	0,1	2005	0,4	2004	0,1
Fishing						
Fishing vessels	2006	3 271	2006	158	2005	788
Total catch, 1,000 tonnes	2006	811	2005	565	2004	205
Shrimp catch, per cent	2006	1,3	2005	1,3	2004	61,2
Cod and pollack catch, per cent	2006	5,0	2005	19,8	2004	3,9
Industrial fishing and fodder fish, per cent	2006	64,0	2005	66,3	...	...
Seals caught	...	...	2006	-	2004	160 164

¹ 2003. ² 1998. ³ On the Faroe Islands, only enterprises paying wages of more than DKK 75,000. ⁴ 2001. ⁵ 2002. ⁶ 2004.

Source: Statistics Denmark, Statistics Faroe Islands, Statistics Greenland, *Statistical ten-year review 2006* and *Nordic Statistical Yearbook*.

Table 458

Key figures for Faroe Islands and Greenland

	Year	Denmark	Year	Faroe Islands	Year	Greenland
Construction						
Dwelling stock	2006	2 657 000	...	...	2006	21 302
Avg. no. of inhabitants per dwelling	2006	2,2	...	...	2006	2,7
Avg. floor space, m ²	2006	113,5	...	...	2006	65,0
Increase of dwellings	2005	27 617	2005	169	2005	192
Service industry						
Total number of nights spent by visitors at hotels, camping sites, etc.	2006	44 400 000	2005	105 848	2005	215 916
Nights spent by Danish visitors in per cent	2006	50	2005	32	2005	49
Nights spent by foreign visitors in per cent	2006	50	2005	68	2005	51
Of which Danish nights spent in per cent of total number of nights spent	•	•	2005	51	2005	62
Access to the Internet in per cent of population aged 16-74 years	2006	89	2005	36	2005	41
Mobile phones, per cent of population aged 16-74 years	2006	104	2005	127	2005	114
External trade						
Imports, DKK mio.	2006	505 379	2006	4 649	2005	3 591
Of which imports from Denmark in per cent	•	•	2006	30,0	2005	79,9
Exports, DKK mio.	2006	544 628	2006	3 745	2005	2 426
Of which exports to Denmark in per cent	•	•	2006	12,2	2005	86,7
Exports of fish and fish products in per cent	2006	3,1	2006	94,0	2005	87,0
National accounts						
Gross domestic product at current prices (GDP) DKK mio.	2006	1 637 603	2003	9 699	2005	10 210
Annual real growth in per cent of GDP	2006	3,2	...	...	2005	2,0
GDP current prices, per capita, DKK	2006	300 638	2003	202 239	2005	179 434
Balance of payments, current account, DKK mio.	2006	39 445	2003	-130	...	...
Balance of payments in per cent of GDP	2006	2,4	2003	-1,3	...	...
Public finance						
Surplus on public finance, DKK mio.	2006	69 072	2003	407	2005	565
Surplus on public finance, per cent of GDP	2006	4,2	2003	4,2	2005	5,5
General government net debt, DKK mio., end of year	2006	43 400	2003	3 052	2005	-2 439
General government net debt, per cent of GDP, end of year	2006	2,7	2003	31	2005	-24
General grants from the Danish government, DKK mio.	•	•	2003	616	2005	3 069

¹ 2004. ² 2003. ³ 2002.

Source: Statistics Denmark, Statistics Faroe Islands, Statistics Greenland, *Statistical ten-year review 2006* and *Nordic Statistical Yearbook*.