

Faroe Islands and Greenland

1. Population of the Danish Kingdom

If you want more information...

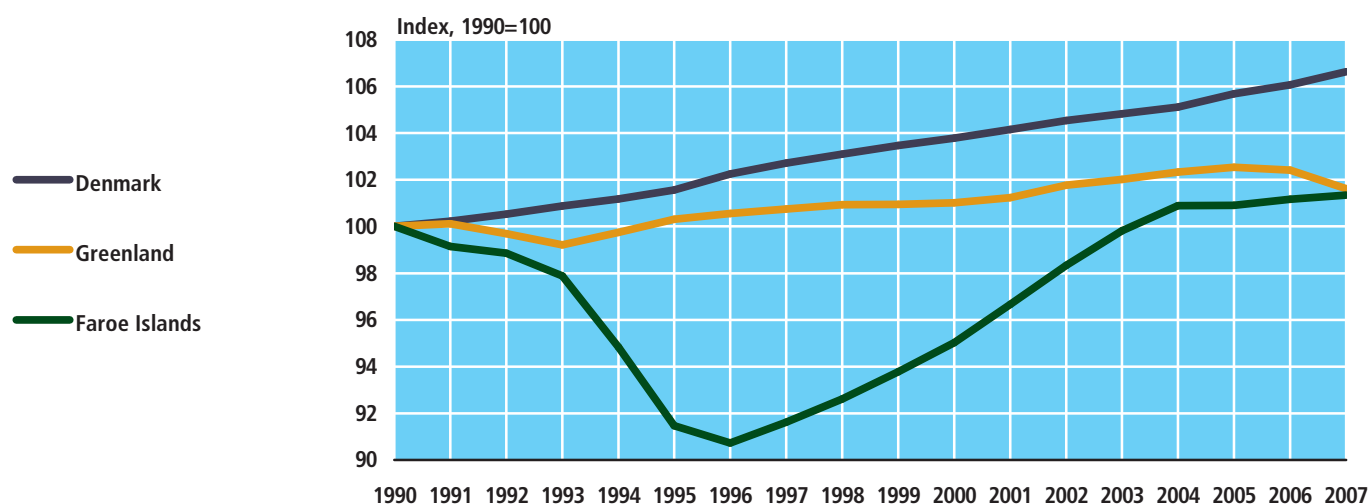
Since the first issue of the *Statistical Yearbook* in 1896, Statistics Denmark has published figures for the Faroe Islands and Greenland. Today, the Faroe Islands and Greenland have their own statistical institutes, which can offer a far greater amount of figures and data than those presented in this yearbook. The statistical institutes of the two countries can be found at the websites: www.hagstova.fo for the Faroe Islands and www.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 2007, the Faroe Islands received general grants of DKK 616 million, while Greenland received DKK 3,120 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



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Small population in relation to the Danish population

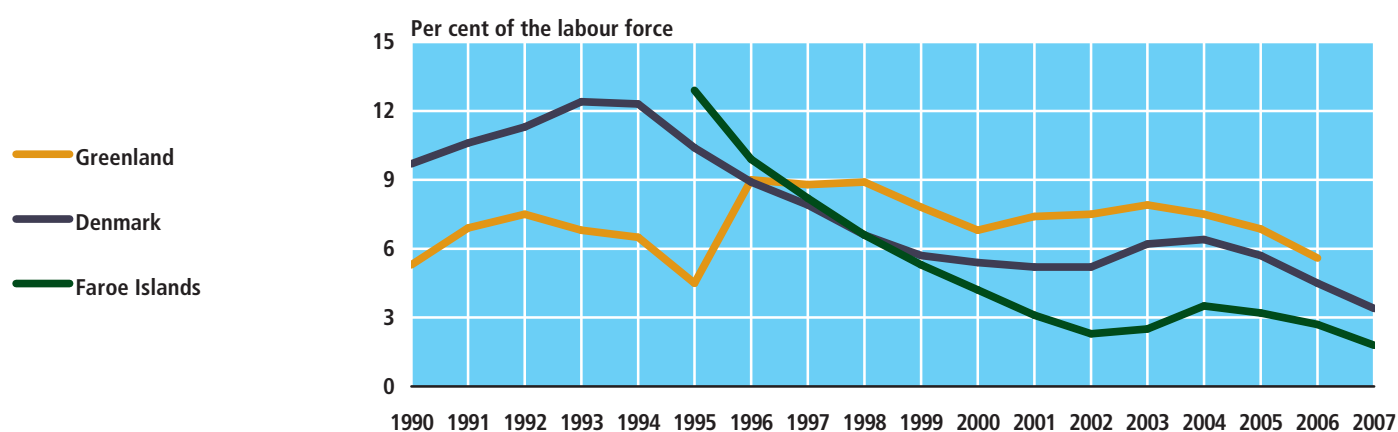
The size of the Danish population is far greater than the population size of the Faroe Islands and Greenland. Denmark has a population of about 5.5 million people, while the populations of the Faroe Islands and Greenland are 48,000 and 56,000 people, respectively. A medium-sized Danish provincial town has, for comparison, a population of about 50,000.

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.

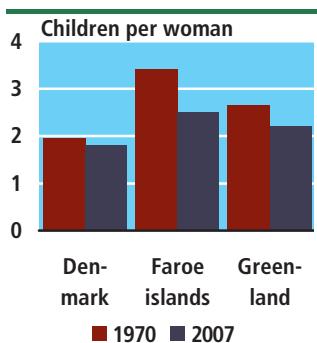
Figure 2

Unemployment in Denmark, the Faroe Islands and Greenland



Note: Valid figures for Faroe Islands were available from 1995. 2007-figures for Greenland not available.

Figure 3
Fertility rates



Note: 2006-figures for Greenland.

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 almost 40 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 2.2 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 compared to the other communities, but women in the Faroe Islands still account for the highest number of births.

... and people in the Faroe Islands live longer

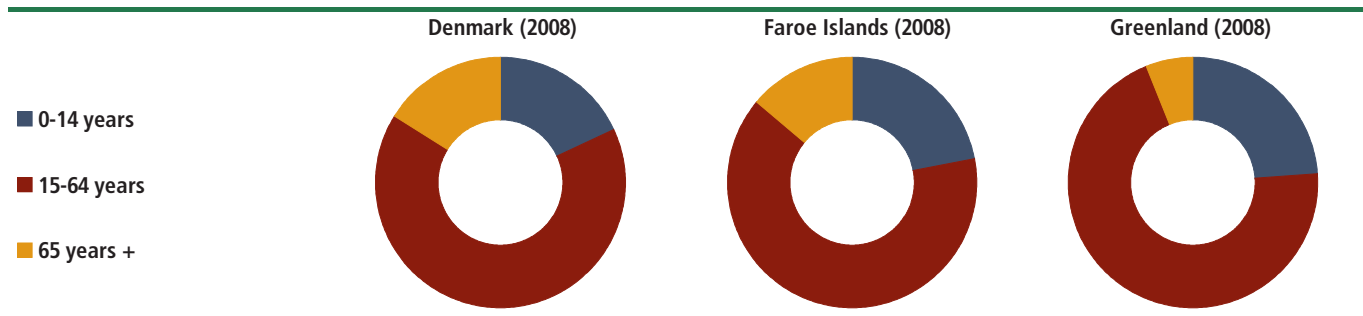
The Faroe Islands also account for the highest life expectancy. The average life expectancy of men in the Faroe Islands is 77 years, while that of Danish men is 76 years, and that of men in Greenland is 66 years. Similarly, women in the Faroe Islands live, on average, until the age of 82, while Danish women live until the age of 81, and women in Greenland until the age of 71. The considerably lower life expectancy in Greenland is reflected by the circumstance that there are relatively

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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. 18 per cent of Danes are 0 to 14 years old, while the share of young people in the Faroe Islands is 22 per cent and in Greenland 24 per cent.

Figure 4

Age composition in Denmark, the Faroe Islands and Greenland



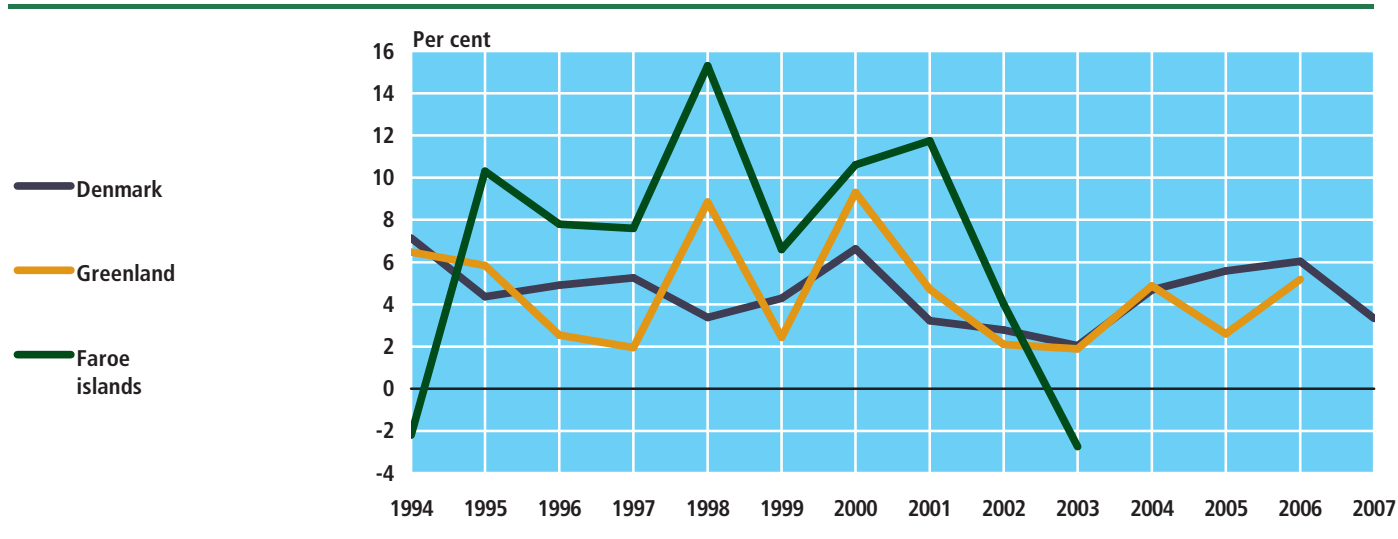
2. Economy of the Kingdom of Denmark

Small economies in relation to the Danish economy

The economies of the Faroe Islands and Greenland are very small compared to the Danish economy. The Danish gross domestic product (GDP) amounted to DKK 1,696 billion in 2007 and GDP of Greenland was about DKK 11 billion in 2006. In 2003, GDP of the Faroe Islands almost reached DKK 10 billion.

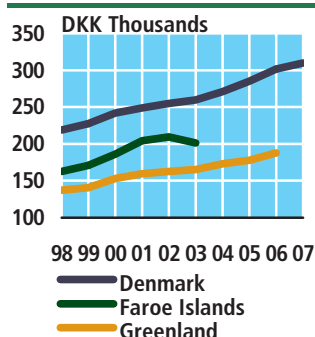
Figure 5

Trends in GDP at current prices



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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. 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

In recent 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, 2.3 per cent and 2.1 per cent since 1995, the rate of inflation in the Faroe Islands has on average ranged at 3.1 per cent in the same period.

Figure 7

Annual changes in the consumer price index

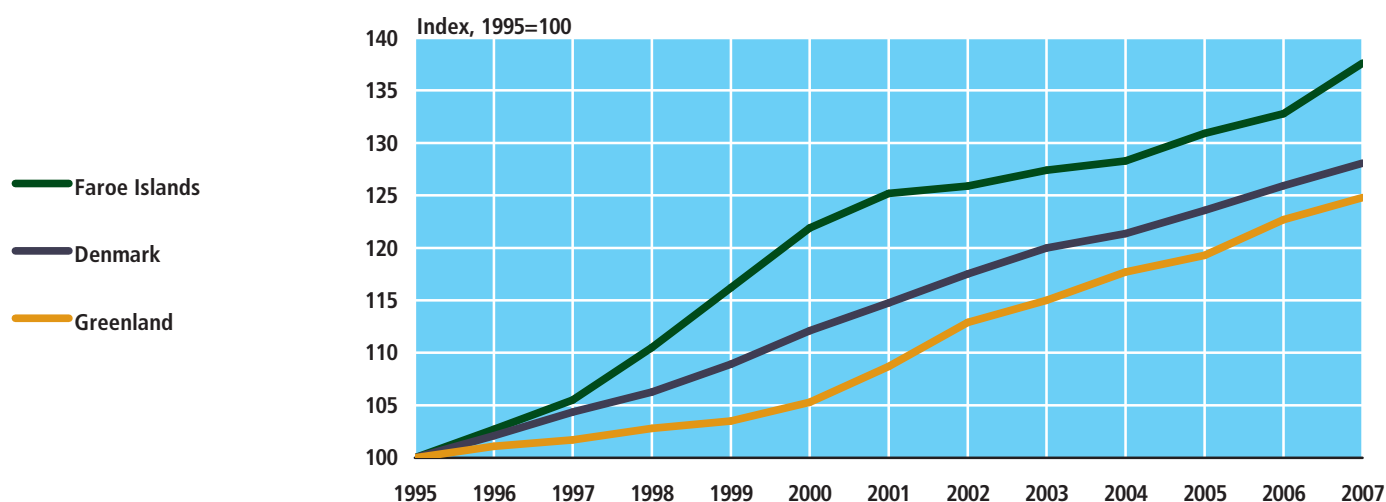


Table 452 (page 1 of 3) **Key figures for Faroe Islands and Greenland**

	Year	Denmark	Year	Faroe Islands	Year	Greenland
Geography and climate						
Total area km ²	2008	43 098	2008	1 396	2008	2 166 086
Highest point, metres	2008	171	2008	882	2008	3 693
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
Hours of bright sunshine ¹	1961-1990	1 495	1961-1990	839	...	...
Population						
Population	2008	5 475 791	2008	48 433	2008	56 462
Inhabitants per km ²	2008	127.1	2008	34.7	2008	0.14
Fertility	2007	1.8	2007	2.5	2006	2.2
Average life expectancy, men, years	2006-2007	75.9	2003-2007	76.5	2006	65.8
Average life expectancy, women, years	2006-2007	80.5	2003-2007	82.0	2006	71.2
Population 0-14 years, per cent	2008	18	2008	22	2008	24
Population 65+ years, per cent	2008	16	2008	14	2008	6
Marriages per 1,000 inhabitants	2005	6.7	2007	5.0	...	...
Divorces per 1,000 inhabitants	2006	2.6	2007	1.3	...	...
Education						
Educational expenditure, DKK mio.	2006	125 865	2006	961.6	2006	1 477
Educational expenditure, per cent of GDP	2006	7.7	2006	8.8	2006	13.9
Educational expenditure per basic school pupil, DKK	2006	78 240	2003	40 083	2006	135 730
Labour market						
Labour force	2007	2 901 911	2007	29 500	2006	27 590
Total employed	2007	2 821 641	2007	28 960	2005	22 045
Unemployed, per cent of labour force ²	2007	3.4	2007	1.8	2006	5.6
Participation rate, women, per cent	2007	81.8	2007	86.8	2005	76.0
Participation rate, men, per cent	2007	76.2	2007	81.2	2005	71.7
Social conditions						
Social security and welfare expenditure, DKK mio.	2006	353 172	2006	2 133	2006	2 074
Social security and welfare, per cent of GDP	2006	21.5	2006	19.6	2006	19.5
Social security benefits, DKK per inhabitant	2006	64 497	2006	44 197	2006	36 538

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 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* and *Nordic Statistical Yearbook*.

Table 452 (page 2 of 3) **Key figures for Faroe Islands and Greenland**

	Year	Denmark	Year	Faroe Islands	Year	Greenland
Health						
Health expenditure, per cent of GDP	2006	7.0	2006	7.9	2006	8.9
Health staff per 100,000 inhabitants	2005	2 027	2005	1 330	2005	1 025
Of which doctors per 100,000 inhabitants	2005	321	2005	188	2005	156
Abortions per 1,000 live births	2006	232	2007	67	2005	899
Suicides per 100,000 inhabitants	2005	11	2002-2006	3.4	2006	102
Infant mortality per 1,000 liveborn boys	2007	4.6	2007	6.2	2006	16.9
Infant mortality per 1,000 liveborn girls	2007	3.4	2007	2.9	2006	14.0
Judicial system						
Reported Penal Code offences	2007	445 271	2007	1 098	2006	5 998
- sexual offences	2007	2 602	2007	27	2006	488
- crimes of violence	2007	19 419	2007	93	2006	851
of which homicide and attempted homicide	2007	232	...	...	2006	20
- theft	2007	175 337	2007	339	2006	1 846
- burglary	2007	78 787	2007	94	2006	921
Income, consumption and prices						
Consumer price index (inflation), annual growth, per cent	2007	1.7	2007	3.6	2007	5.4
Average personal pre-tax income, DKK	2006	261 909	2006	181 815	2005	184 769
Average post-tax family income, DKK	2006	279 686	...	...	2005	257 591
General business statistics						
Enterprises	2005	293 885	2007	2 550	2006	1 988
Persons employed by industry, total per cent	2005	100	2007	100.0	2005	100.0
Agriculture, fishing, mining and quarrying, per cent	2005	1.4	2007	12.0	2005	4.9
Manufacturing, electricity, gas and water supply, per cent	2005	16.8	2007	13.6	2005	5.0
Construction, per cent	2005	6.6	2007	8.5	2005	7.3
Wholesale and retail trade; hotels, restaurants, per cent	2005	16.0	2007	12.6	2005	19.7
Transport, post and telecom., per cent	2005	6.7	2007	6.6	2005	8.7
Finance and business activities, per cent	2005	12.9	2007	9.1	2005	4.6
Public and personal services, per cent	2005	39.3	2007	36.2	2005	47.0
Activity not stated, per cent	2005	0.3	2007	1.5	2005	2.7
Fishing						
Fishing vessels	2007	3 138	2006	158	2006	863
Total catch, 1,000 tonnes	2007	595	2006	623	2004	192
Shrimp catch, per cent	2007	1.7	2006	0.7	2004	70.8
Cod and pollack catch, per cent	2007	5.5	2006	17.7	2004	3.2
Industrial fishing and fodder fish, per cent	2007	58.2	2006	70.5	...	...
Seals caught	2007	...	2006	-	2005	188 068

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

Table 452 (page 3 of 3) **Key figures for Faroe Islands and Greenland**

	Year	Denmark	Year	Faroe Islands	Year	Greenland
Construction						
Dwelling stock	2007	2 684 000	...	...	2007	22 075
Avg. no. of inhabitants per dwelling	2007	2.1	...	...	2007	2.6
Avg. floor space, m ²	2007	110.2	...	...	2007	65.5
Increase of dwellings	2007	28 314	2007	357	2006	225
Service industry						
Total number of nights spent by visitors at hotels, camping sites, etc.	2007	46 035 605	2006	116 236	2006	245 432
Nights spent by Danish visitors in per cent	2007	51	2006	26	2006	42
Nights spent by foreign visitors in per cent	2007	49	2006	74	2006	58
Of which Danish nights spent in per cent of total number of nights spent	•	•	2006	51	2006	72
Access to the Internet in per cent of population aged 16-74 years	2007	86	2007	44	2006	69
Mobile phones, per cent of population aged 16-74 years	2007	110	2007	155	2006	125
External trade						
Imports, DKK mio.	2007	537 549	2007	5 300	2006	3 491
Of which imports from Denmark in per cent	•	•	2007	29.9	2006	58.2
Exports, DKK mio.	2007	555 839	2007	4 023	2006	2 349
Of which exports to Denmark in per cent	•	•	2007	12.8	2006	86.1
Exports of fish and fish products in per cent	2007	3.0	2007	94.0	2006	86.9
National accounts						
Gross domestic product at current prices (GDP) DKK mio.	2007	1 696 237	2003	9 699	2006	10 636
Annual real growth in per cent of GDP	2007	1.8	2003	...	2006	2.6
GDP current prices, per capita, DKK	2007	309 770	2003	202 239	2006	187 341
Balance of payments, current account, DKK mio.	2007	18 777	2003	-130	2005	790.3
Balance of payments in per cent of GDP	2007	1.1	2003	-1.3	2005	7.8
Public finance						
Surplus on public finance, DKK mio.	2007	75 560	2003	407	2006	383
Surplus on public finance, per cent of GDP	2007	4.5	2003	4.2	2006	3.6
General government net debt, DKK mio., end of year	2007	-42 760	2003	3 052	2006	-2 251
General government net debt, per cent of GDP, end of year	2007	-2.5	2003	31.0	2006	-21.2
General grants from the Danish government, DKK mio.	•	•	2007	616	2006	3 120

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