

GREENLAND IN FIGURES

2026



Aningaaq R. Carlsen - Visit Greenland

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 - * Provisional or estimated figures
- All economic figures are in Danish kroner (DKK)*

THE WORLD'S LARGEST ISLAND

Greenland is the largest island of the world with total area of 2.2 mio. km², of which 1.7 mio. km² is covered by the ice sheet.

The total population is just about 57,000. Comprised entirely of vast tundra, Greenland has the world's lowest population density. Counting the ice-free areas only, it is a mere 0.3 persons per square kilometer.

In terms of geopolitics, however, it is a part of Europe and is a self-governing region within the Kingdom of Denmark. In 1721, Greenland became a Danish colony, in 1953 a Danish County, and in 1979, home rule was granted. Self-government was established on June 21st 2009. Along with Denmark, Greenland was

an EU member from 1973 on. Following a referendum in 1982, Greenland left the union in 1985.

Most of the Greenlandic landscape is pristine tundra. All towns and settlements are located along the coast line. No roads exist between towns, and travel is by sea or air only. Most of the population lives on the southern west coast. This includes the capital Nuuk with over 20,000 inhabitants.

Greenland has its own national flag, and issues its own stamps, but does not have a national currency. Danish Kroner (DKK) is legal tender.

LARGEST DISTANCESE

North to south: 2,670 km

East to west: 1,050 km

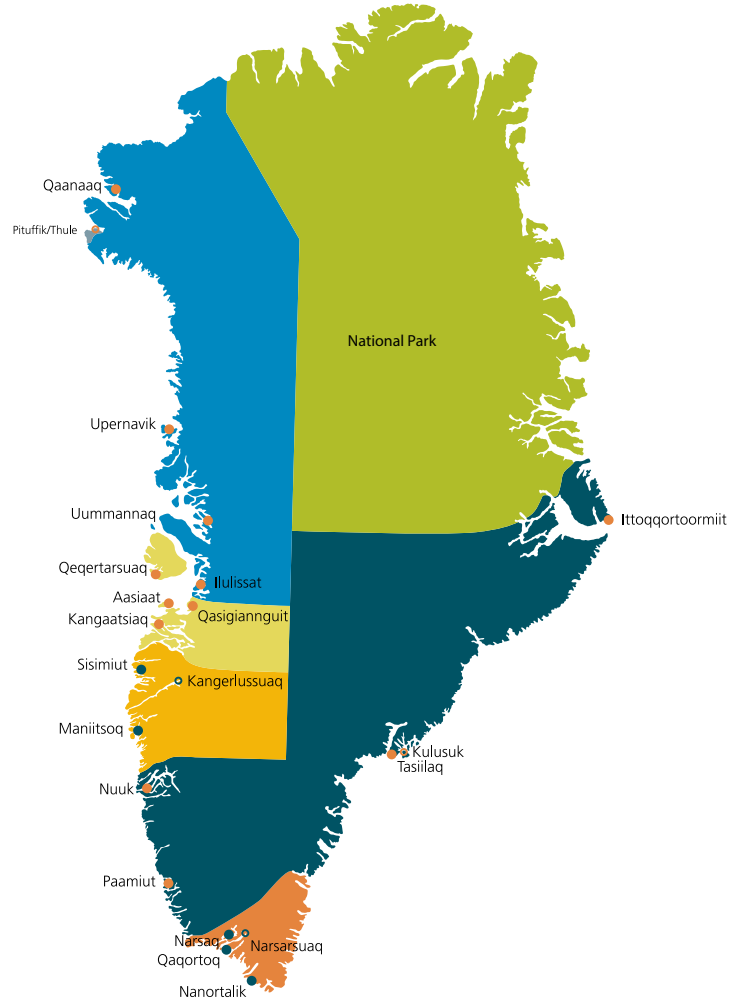
Coastline: 44,087 km

THE WORLD'S LARGEST NATIONAL PARK

The World's largest National Park is located in North East Greenland, with an area of 972,000 km². The only residents are the Sirius dog sled special force and weather stations staff.

Population in Greenland by January 1st, 2026

KOMMUNE KUJALLEQ		KOMMUNE QEERTALIK	
Narsaq	1,241	Aasiaat	2,945
Igaliku	31	Akunnaaq	59
Qassiarsuk	69	Kitsissuarsuit	58
Narsarsuaq	139	Qasigiannnguit	945
Qaqortoq	3,081	Ikamiut	84
Saarloq	23	Qeqertarsuaq	802
Eqalugaarsuit	68	Kangerluk	4
Qassimiut	10	Kangaatsiaq	469
Nanortalik	1,100	Attu	181
Aappilattoq	81	Iginniarfik	56
Narsarmijit	57	Niaqornaarsuk	207
Tasiusaq	37	Ikerasaarsuk	72
Ammassivik	23		
Alluitsup Paa	135		
KOMMUNEQARFIK SERMERSOOQ		AVANNAATA KOMMUNIA	
Nuuk	20,304	Qaanaaq	588
Qeqertarsuatsiaat	158	Savissivik	40
Kapisillit	49	Siorapaluk	32
Paamiut	1,205	Qeqertat	25
Arsuk	69	Upernavik	1,096
Tasiilaq	1,811	Upernavik Kujalleq	178
Sermiligaaq	158	Kangersuatsiaq	121
Isertoq	48	Aappilattoq	158
Kulusuk	204	Tasiusaq	258
Tiilerilaaq	83	Nuussuaq	170
Kuummiit	228	Kullorsuaq	390
Ittoqqortoormiit	329	Naajaat	44
		Innaarsuit	146
		Nutaarmiut	32
		Ikerasaarsuk	1
		Uummannaq	1,379
		Niaqornat	29
		Qaarsut	157
		Ikerasak	219
		Saattut	231
		Ukkusissat	145
		Ilulissat	5,150
		Oqaatsut	52
		Qeqertaq	101
		Saqqaaq	154
		Ilimanaq	56
QEQQATA KOMMUNIA		OUTSIDE TOWNS AND SETTLEMENTS	
Sisimiut	5,455	Stations	55
Itilleq	100	Unknown	13
Sarfannnguit	86		
Kangerlussuaq	381		
Maniitsoq	2,528		
Atammik	184		
Napasooq	60		
Kangaamiut	313		



Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/BEESTD>

CITIZENSHIP

As of January 1st 2026, 2,829 non-Danish citizens live in Greenland, 281 of which have citizenship in another Nordic country.

POPULATION

Greenland's population lives in towns and settlements on the coast. Over 65 per cent live in the five largest towns – Nuuk, Sisimiut, Ilulissat, Aasiaat and Qaqortoq. Most of the population is born in Greenland.

After the 1960's, the populations in the towns grew rapidly, as they absorbed the net population growth as well as the migration from the settlements. This trend has been continuing for the last 50 years.

Greenland has a total populace overweight of men. This goes for those born in Greenland, and especially for those born abroad, for which 2/3 are men and 1/3 are women.

Population by type of residence

	1986	1996	2006	2016	2026
Total population					
Total	53,406	55,863	56,901	55,847	56,740
Capital city	10,972	12,882	14,583	17,316	20,298
Main settlements	14,701	15,422	16,204	16,204	16,631
Larger settlements	14,965	15,226	14,416	13,073	12,095
Settlements	7,019	7,431	7,238	5,206	3,814
Smaller settlements	4,793	4,174	3,767	3,328	3,395
Smallest settlements	507	463	469	599	439
Other localities	449	265	224	121	68

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/BEESTA>

POPULATION FORECAST

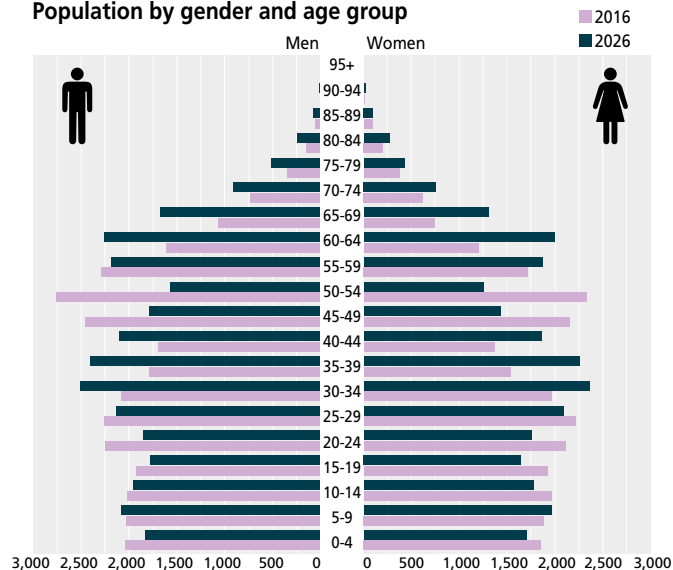
Towards 2050, Greenland's population will become older. Due to the large 1960's cohorts, and the subsequent drop in fertility, the elderly part of the population will increase during the next 20 years. Total populace will expectedly drop below 50,000, if no changes in fertility, mortality and migration take place.

Population born in Greenland, by type of residence

	1986	1996	2006	2016	2026
Born in Greenland					
Total	44,019	48,871	50,549	50,085	49,721
Capital city	7,560	9,723	11,397	13,705	15,987
Main settlements	12,522	13,756	14,718	15,005	14,870
Larger settlements	13,108	13,997	13,546	12,496	11,479
Settlements	6,120	7,008	6,882	5,008	3,621
Smaller settlements	4,296	3,905	3,512	3,268	3,306
Smallest settlements	409	436	434	578	431
Other localities	4	46	60	25	27

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/BEESTA>

Population by gender and age group

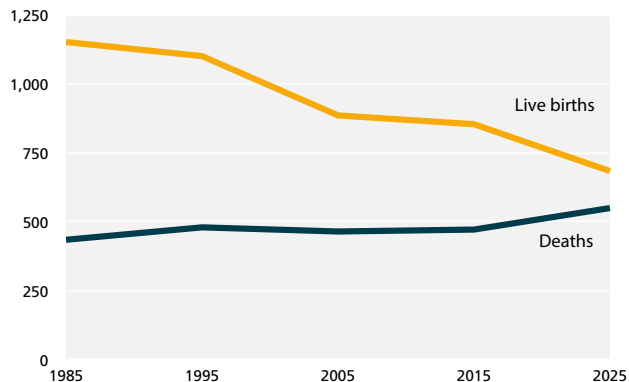


Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/BEESTA>

DEATHS AND BIRTHS

Around 700 persons are born every year, and 500 die. Men and women born in Greenland have a shorter life expectancy than the average of the western world. This is primarily due to a high mortality rate caused by accidents and suicide.

Live births and Deaths



Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/BEEBBL0> and <https://bank.stat.gl/BEEBDM1>

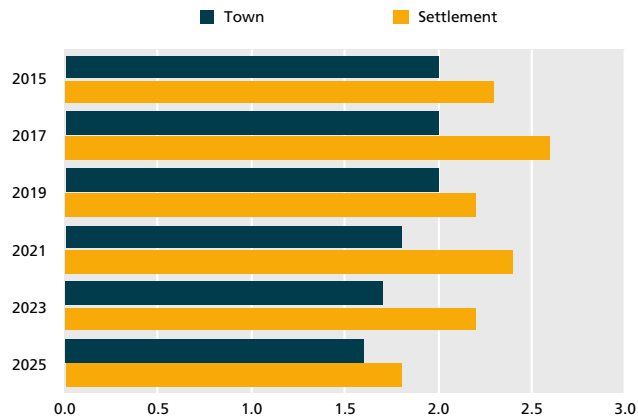
The fertility rate in settlements has always been higher than in towns, where the national average up to 2020 was around two children per woman. This has changed in the past five years, and the fertility rate has shown a declining trend.

In the start 1960's, the general fertility was very high, causing the Health Authority to launch campaigns for contraceptive pills and intrauterine devices in 1965. Even today, pregnancies more often result in legal abortions than in live births. Since the start 1970's, the fertility total has been constant, at around 2 births per woman.

First birth

In Greenland, women give birth to their first child 3-5 years earlier than in the other Nordic countries. The mean age for Greenlandic primiparae is 25.0 years.

Total fertility for women in towns and settlements



Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/BEEBBF>

In 2024, Inuk and Liam are the most popular names for boys.
Ivaana and Nivi are the most popular names for girls.

MIGRATION

Compared to the population size in Greenland, the internal migrations are significant, and have a big impact on the populace composition. An internal migration from outer districts to towns, primarily to Nuuk, has been going on for the last 50 years.

The majority of migrants are citizens of the Danish Kingdom, who move from Denmark to Greenland or vice versa. Greenland's constant need for summoned workforce requires the net emigration of foreign nationals to be continuously countered by immigration.

Internal migration

	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013	2015	2017	2019	2021	2023	2025
Same town	12,250	13,130	12,644	13,200	14,000	13,791	14,158	13,119	11,823	10,817	9,886
Same settlement	1,294	1,299	1,112	1,316	1,219	1,232	993	866	711	686	728
Between towns	4,361	4,561	4,548	4,507	4,672	4,875	4,919	5,006	4,437	4,355	3,817
Between settlements	279	312	337	370	332	363	417	290	351	265	210
From settlement to town	1,115	1,367	1,266	1,392	1,272	1,306	1,317	1,198	1,044	1,118	1,040
From town to settlement	1,047	1,041	1,096	1,124	1,150	1,242	1,082	1,081	979	950	767
Others	67	56	63	32	56	22	16	9	10	16	19

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/BEEBAF2B>

Migration abroad

	2005	2007	2009	2011	2013	2015	2017	2019	2021	2023	2025
Net immigration	-448	-566	-189	-159	-447	-511	-449	-300	-220	-281	-263
Immigrations, total	2,514	2,417	2,551	2,283	2,066	2,186	2,287	2,310	1,962	2,192	2,083
Born in Greenland	870	887	1,079	917	975	1,019	1,059	933	634	795	836
Born outside Greenland	1,641	1,517	1,461	1,364	1,088	1,158	1,224	1,374	1,328	1,395	1,246
Emigrations, total	2,962	2,983	2,740	2,442	2,513	2,691	2,736	2,609	2,184	2,473	2,346
Born in Greenland	1,252	1,395	1,354	1,220	1,311	1,544	1,373	1,363	914	1,248	1,045
Born outside Greenland	1,700	1,582	1,378	1,214	1,200	1,144	1,352	1,244	1,268	1,223	1,298

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/BEEBBIU2>

FOREIGN NATIONALS

Greenland's international twist is growing, now representing 5 per cent of population total. The largest immigrant groups are Philippines, Thais and Sri Lankans. In 2015, 15,845 Greenlandic born lived in Denmark. In 2025, the number has risen to 17,466.

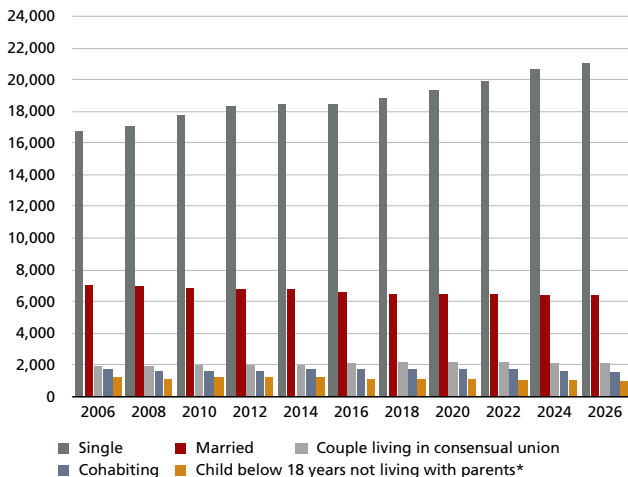


FAMILIES

In 2026, 21,057 persons live as singles, which is 26 per cent more than 20 years ago.

Stine Selmer-Andersen
- Visit Greenland

Number of families



* Children below 18 and not living with parents include those living with other relatives, in foster care, in social institutions or dorms.
Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/BEEFAM2>

The Greenlandic family structure has been changing during the last 50 years. Today, couples often live together without being married. The relations between persons in a household define family type. In brief, the family is defined as one or more persons from the same household, who are kin or couples.

Families

In general, we define three family types; couples, singles and children not living at home. The couple or single family type can have children or youngsters living at home. A family consists of two generations at max. For instance, three generations living at one household would count as two or more families.

HOUSEHOLDS

A household is defined as all persons living at the same address, regardless of how the persons are related. A household can consist of more than one family, while a family cannot be dispersed over more than one household.

Number of persons in households

	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016	2018	2020	2022	2024	2026
1 person	6,785	7,000	7,303	7,741	7,745	7,789	7,854	7,679	7,818	7,814	7,716
2 persons	5,175	5,142	5,389	5,387	5,553	5,582	5,621	5,576	5,626	5,657	5,558
3 persons	3,300	3,323	3,274	3,407	3,407	3,397	3,461	3,441	3,452	3,404	3,414
4 persons	2,666	2,723	2,717	2,695	2,720	2,629	2,586	2,567	2,703	2,595	2,603
5 persons	1,643	1,551	1,535	1,494	1,402	1,372	1,398	1,409	1,392	1,409	1,394
6 persons	765	769	712	706	673	666	578	596	576	565	651
7 persons	347	315	280	313	276	273	278	282	269	270	244
8 persons	158	143	115	122	126	116	144	129	116	114	113
9 persons	65	67	82	47	48	55	41	50	55	40	52
10 persons	37	30	40	20	17	15	21	34	22	35	35
11 persons	16	12	16	16	11	8	10	18	10	25	12
12+	49	42	41	45	47	50	44	58	69	75	68

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/BEEHUS1>

HEALTH

Along with the societal development, the health conditions in Greenland have also been changing. While there has been a positive improvement in the physical health conditions, such as longer life expectancy among the population, the development has also led to an increase in cases of lifestyle-related diseases resulting in death, including a high mortality rate from cancer. Of infectious diseases, tuberculosis remains a common public health issue, alongside sexually transmitted diseases, while the suicide rate has been higher than in the rest of the Nordic countries for a long period of time.

Today, the Greenlandic healthcare system is divided into five regions. There are regional hospitals in Nuuk, Qaqortoq, Sisimiut, Ilulissat, and Aasiaat. The hospital in Nuuk, Dronning Ingrid's Hospital, is also Greenland's national hospital. In each region, there are health centers, health stations, and rural consultations with or without tele medical equipment. As a basic principle, all healthcare services are free for the resident population. Prescription medicine and contraceptives are free of charge. Bigger towns have public dental clinics, and dental treatment is free for residents. In case of illness, citizens are transported to the nearest hospital for treatment. Patients in need of highly specialized treatment are transferred to Dronning Ingrid's Hospital in Nuuk or to a

hospital in Denmark. In case of serious emergency cases, patients can also be transferred to a hospital in Iceland.

In Greenland, men live to the age of 69.1 years on average, while women live to the age of 74.4 years.

Causes of deaths

	2003	2007	2011	2015	2019	2023
	Number of deaths					
Total	441	454	470	461	512	527
Infectious diseases	10	10	16	20	17	21
Cancer	118	122	127	102	134	157
Endocrine and metabolic	6	12	2	6	11	13
Heart diseases	49	58	65	57	67	60
Other circulatory system diseases	42	46	28	35	41	45
Respiratory system	35	37	22	38	51	44
Digestive system	15	19	13	20	24	23
Accidents	42	35	17	25	40	27
Suicide	43	38	55	32	46	40
Homicide	7	9	1	3	4	1
Other	74	68	124	123	77	96

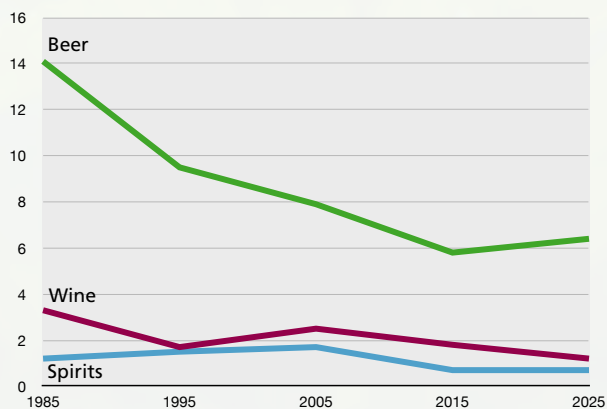
Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/SUELDA1>

Since the beginning of the new century, the health promotion efforts in Greenland have also been evolving, including with implementations of public health programs with national goals to promote physical and mental health among the population. The large-

est unit for social and health interventions is the department of prevention called PAARISA ("let's take care of each other"), which coordinates collaboration on health promotion across the public authorities and different sectors in society.

Import and production of alcoholic beverages

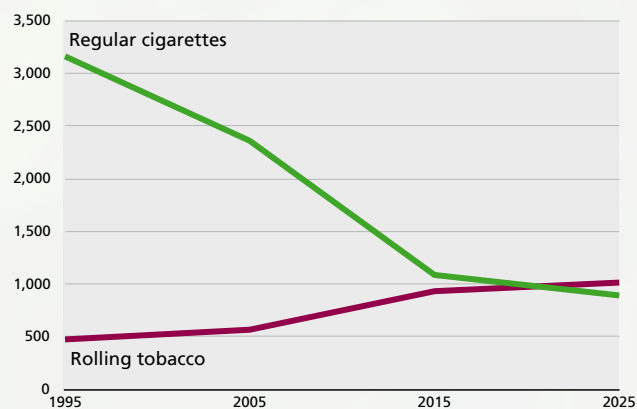
Litres of 100 pct. alcohol per person over 14 years



Source: <http://bank.stat.gl/ALEALK1>

Import of tobacco

Number of cigarettes per person over 14 years



Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/ALETOB2>

EDUCATION

Ten years of primary and lower secondary education is mandatory in Greenland. Children start primary school at the year they turn six. Children from small settlements need to leave their home and move to the nearest town in order to attend 8-10 grade. Danish is taught as a second language from the first grade and English is taught from the lowest grades. The children can do one year at a continuation school in Greenland or Denmark before pursuing an upper secondary education, after finishing elementary school. Many young people have to move to another town to start in an upper secondary education. Four towns have high schools, and most vocational educations are offered at ten main vocational colleges. The vocational educations alternate between theoretical classes and practical training in apprenticeships.

Greenland's University, Ilisimatusarfik, is located in the capital of Nuuk. It offers 12 bachelor programs and 4 master programs. Short-cycle higher educations are also offered at some vocational schools. As only a few higher educations are offered in Greenland, around 30 per cent of the students study abroad, the majority study in Denmark.

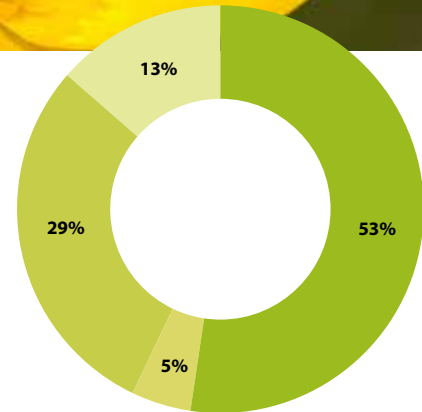
Education is free, and students receive a monthly student grant. Apprentices usually receive salary from the apprenticeship. Students that need to move to another town for studies are entitled to a dormitory room.

Educational attainment

Over half of the population of 25-64 years old has no education above the lower-secondary level, and educational attainment not only varies between generations but also depends on place of birth. For instance, immigrants from Denmark – the majority of

Educational attainment 25-64 years old, 2024

- Lower secondary school
- High School
- Vocational education
- Higher education



Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/UEISCPROD>

whom are men – generally hold higher levels of education than those born in Greenland.

Choice of education

Women attain an education above lower-secondary level more often than men. Women primarily choose educations within welfare, business or higher education, while men prefer educations in engineering, construction and transport services.

Number of educations completed

		Greenland	Abroad
High school	2015	346	31
	2020	281	29
	2025	238	22
Vocational education	2015	442	20
	2020	381	31
	2025	303	41
Higher education	2015	182	75
	2020	172	90
	2025	176	66

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/UEISC11D>

POLITICS



Naalakkersuisut (the Government) and Inatsisartut (Parliament of Greenland) which consists of 31 members are both located in the capital, Nuuk. The Head of Naalakkersuisut is termed "Naalakkersuisut Siulittaasuat". The remaining members are termed "Naalakkersuisut".

Elections for Inatsisartut are held at most every four years. A candidate can run for a party or as an independent. After each election, the Inatsisartut appoints the Naalakkersuisut members and the Naalakkersuisut Siulittaasuat.

Greenland is divided into five municipalities: Kommune Kujalleq, Kommuneqarfik Sermersooq, Qeqqata kommunia, Kommune Qeqertalik and Avannaata Kommunia. Elections for the municipal boards are also held every four years.

As part of the Kingdom of Denmark, Greenland has two seats in Folketinget, the Danish Parliament. These members are elected in conjunction with the Danish parliamentary elections. From time to time, referendums on political decisions are held. In 1979, Greenland voted for home rule, and in 2008, it voted for self-rule. In 1982, Greenland voted to leave the EU.

Latest election to the Greenlandic Parliament, March 11th 2025

	Votes	Per Cent	Mandates	Elected women
Parties	28,620	100	31	14
Atassut	2,092	7.3	2	-
Demokraatit	8,563	29.9	10	5
Inuit Ataqatigiit	6,119	21.4	7	5
Naleraq	7,009	24.5	8	3
Qulleq	305	1.1	-	-
Siumut	4,210	14.7	4	1

Source: www.qinersineq.gl

Election to the municipal Councils, April 1st 2025

	Greenland, total	Avannaata Kommunia	Kommune Qeqertalik	Qeqqata Kommunia	Kommuneqarfik Sermersooq	Kommune Kujalleq
	Distribution of votes					
Atassut	6.4	11.3	8.4	8.0	2.6	4.6
Demokraatit	25.0	25.7	26.4	21.1	21.0	38.9
Inuit Ataqatigiit	21.4	8.5	17.9	11.0	35.0	22.1
Naleraq	11.0	17.3	7.2	23.5	6.3	0.7
Qulleq	1.0	0.5	0.0	2.2	0.5	2.3
Siumut	33.6	36.2	39.1	33.2	31.7	29.7
Other	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.4	0.0

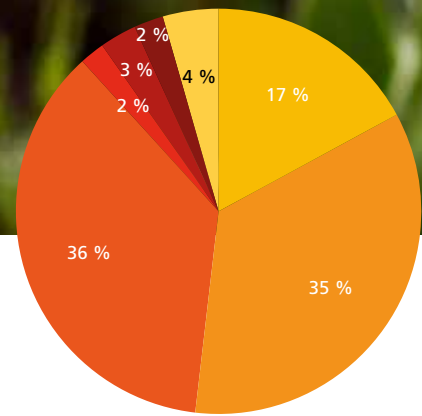
Source: www.qinersineq.gl

SOCIAL WELFARE

For social welfare, Greenland follows the Nordic Model. If certain requirements are met, citizens are entitled to income-replacing benefits in case of unemployment, disease and maternity. Persons with low or no income, who do not meet regularities, are entitled to public benefits.

Low-income families also have the right to housing subsidies and child benefits.

Residents with reduced work ability can apply for early retirement pension, if younger than 67 years. If 67 years or older, residents are always entitled to age pension. In addition, early retirees and senior residents may receive help and care in their home. If necessary, a nursing home place is offered.

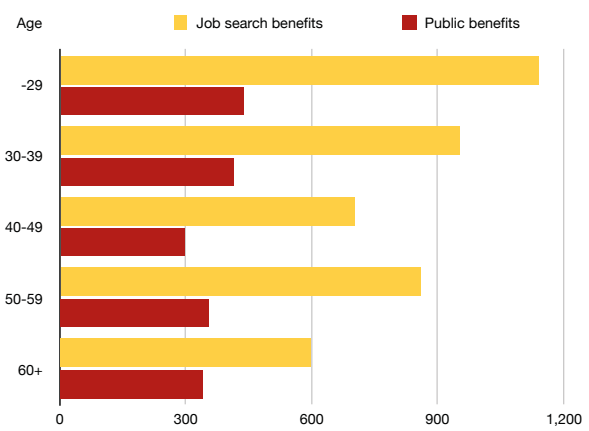


Social benefits, 2024

- Sickness and disability - 705 mio. DKK
- Family and children - 1,502 mio. DKK
- Housing - 121 mio. DKK
- Social protection etc. - 183 mio. DKK
- Old age - 1,433 mio. DKK
- Unemployment - 82 mio. DKK
- Social exclusion - 97 mio. DKK

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/OFEFUNK>

Recipients of public benefits and job search benefit, 2024



Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/SOEOHJ2>

Disabled residents are entitled to relief measures to compensate for the disability. The measures are highly individual. They may include help in daily life from a support person, being accompanied when travelling or full-time stay at a residential institution. Disabled residents may also be offered a protected workshop job.

Recipients of pensions

	2017	2019	2021	2023	2025
Number of persons					
Recipients of age pension	3,783	3,806	3,797	4,011	4,445
Recipients of early retirement pension	2,286	2,396	2,526	2,457	2,518

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/SOEAPE1> and <https://bank.stat.gl/SOEFPE1>

Recipients of housing subsidies and child benefits by time

	2016	2018	2020	2022	2024
Number of persons					
Recipients of housing subsidies	4,421	3,941	3,729	3,527	3,423
Recipients of child benefits	3,573	3,880	3,591	3,601	3,326

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/SOEB501> and <https://bank.stat.gl/SOEBT01>

CRIME

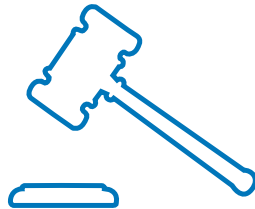
The Greenlandic court system is comprised of four District Courts and The Court of Greenland, together representing the first court level. The High Court of Greenland represents the second court level. As the Greenlandic court system is still a part of the Danish court system, the Supreme Court of Denmark is third court level for Greenland.

The justice system in Greenland emphasizes resocialization. Convicts are generally allowed to maintain some degree of everyday life during imprisonment. Five correctional facilities exist in Greenland, distributed in towns of Ilulissat, Aasiaat, Nuuk, Qaqortoq and Tasiilaq. Mentally deviant offenders are sentenced to time indefinite imprisonment in Nuuk.

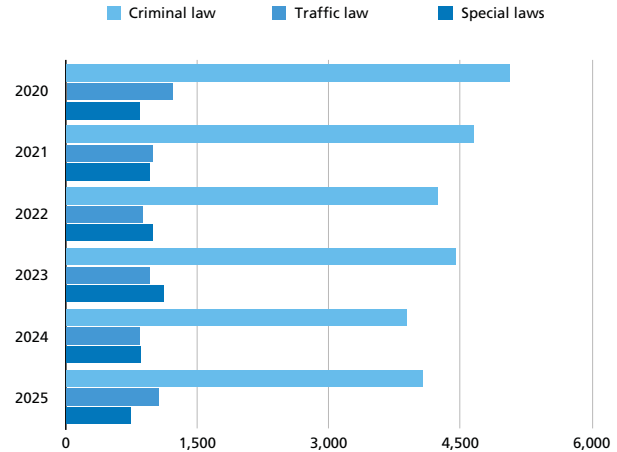
The crime statistics includes violations of the Greenlandic criminal law, plus a number of special laws including traffic law violations. The crime statistics is divided into subjects, mirroring the formal process in which a violation is handled, from initial report to charge, trial and verdict.

THE PROBATION SERVICE

The Probation Service in Greenland oversees convicts who have been sentenced to probation terms, community service or legal psychiatric placement. The Probation Service also participates in crime prevention, in cooperation with the police, schools and Social Services.

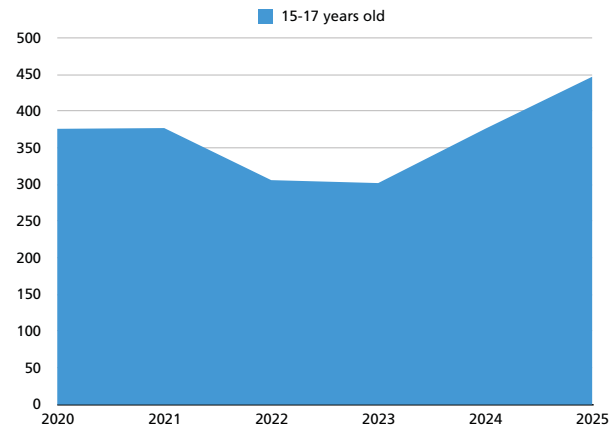


Reported offences by type of law



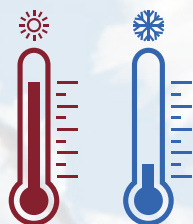
Source: Greenlandic Police. Annual Statistics 2024 and Annual Statistics 2025.

Juvenile delinquency by the criminal law



Source: Greenlandic Police. Annual Statistics 2024 and Annual Statistics 2025.

CLIMATE



Greenland is located in the Northern Polar region. The winters are cold and the summers mild with a local variation.

In North Greenland, the climate is High Arctic. Here, the summers are cool with midnight sun, while the winters are harsh and the polar night lasts one to five months. Mid and South Greenland generally has a Low Arctic climate. However, in the deep fiords of South Greenland, the climate is Sub Arctic, allowing for a few trees to grow.

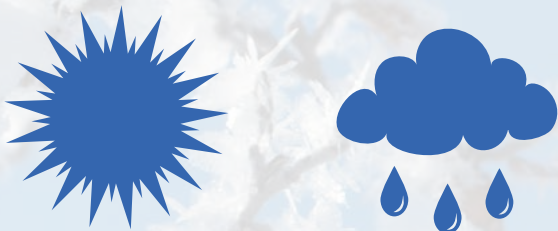
The highest temperature measured in Greenland is 25.9 degrees Celsius on the West Coast of the country in July 2013. The coldest temperature is measured on the Ice Cap, and is down on -69.6 degrees Celsius.

Due to the cold climate, Greenland has a large need for heating. Since the 1990s, five hydropower plants have been built, supplying Nuuk, Qaqortoq/Narsaq, Sisimiut, Ilulissat and Tasiilaq. Before hydropower plants were introduced, power was produced from fossil fuels only. Smaller towns, settlements and outer districts still rely entirely on fossil fuels. A small amount of heating is produced from incineration of waste in treatment plants.

Average air temperatures in 2025, selected towns

	Ilulissat (North)	Kangerlussuaq (West)	Nuuk (West)	Narsarsuaq (South)	Tasiilaq (East)
Degrees in Celsius					
Maximum temperatures					
January	5.3	3.8	8.0	9.1	0.9
February	6.8	7.5	10.8	9.6	3.6
March	8.0	10.0	11.0	13.9	3.8
April	11.8	10.9	16.9	14.3	6.1
May	14.2	19.9	12.3	20.1	8.5
June	13.4	18.7	11.1	17.8	10.6
July	18.6	19.9	19.0	21.2	17.3
August	16.1	16.8	14.3	22.9	13.7
September	11.6	16.7	15.1	17.3	10.8
October	9.5	7.7	8.8	13.2	10.1
November	9.0	10.2	10.8	15.1	6.8
December	7.3	9.3	8.5	13.2	6.4
Minimum temperatures					
January	-24.5	-35.5	-14.7	-27.1	-17.8
February	-26.1	-34.6	-14.5	-23.2	-21.6
March	-22.2	-29.4	-15.7	-17.2	-12.2
April	-18.9	-23.3	-10.2	-10.1	-12.1
May	-8.6	-10.0	-7.1	-5.3	-3.0
June	0.2	2.2	-1.9	1.9	-4.1
July	2.0	2.7	1.5	4.1	1.4
August	0.2	0.0	-0.2	2.8	0.9
September	-3.1	-4.1	-0.1	-2.3	0.6
October	-12.2	-17.3	-6.2	-5.8	-6.3
November	-13.8	-17.6	-6.8	-7.6	-10.3
December	-16.2	-27.8	-9.9	-15.3	-8.9

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/ENE1MID>



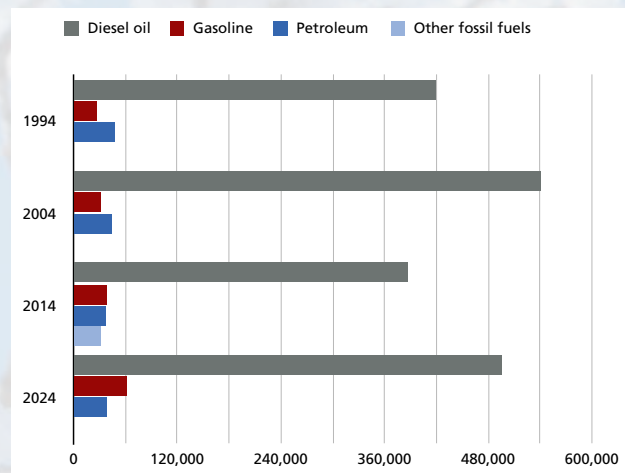
Actual energy consumption

	1994	2004	2014	2024
	Tera Joule			
Gas oil	5,713	7,187	5,091	6,758
Gasoline	374	459	556	866
Kerosene / Jet Fuel	650	600	503	542
Diesel Fuel Arctic	0	177	167	0
LPG	12	7	3	3
Aviation Gasoline	0	3	2	1
Fueloil	0	0	407	0
Wasteoil	9	9	9	9
Waste heat	108	89	92	72
Hydropower	561	691	1,384	1,714

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/ENE1ACT>

Emission of Greenhouse Gases from consumption of fossil fuels

Co₂-equivalents in tonnes



Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/ENE2CO2e>



CULTURE

Greenland's cultural identity is a mixture of globalism and tradition. Towns have a vibrant atmosphere with sports facilities and leisure activities, while life in rural areas remains more traditional. Most towns have their own museum, which tells the story of their local history. Additionally, there are a few art museums and cultural centers across the country that exhibit Greenlandic art and culture.

Nuuk houses Greenland's national theater, Nunatta Isiginnaartisarfi, and the cultural center, Katuaq Kulturip Illorsua. Nunatta Isiginnaartisarfi produces stage art based on Greenlandic culture and tradition while also serving as the country's acting school. Katuaq Kulturip Illorsua hosts cultural events in collaboration with artists, organizations, and companies from Greenland, Canada, Alaska, and the Nordic countries. The center has facilities for film screenings, concerts, theater performances, art exhibitions, and conferences.

Kalaallit Nunaata Radioa (KNR) is Greenland's national public service TV and radio station, offering a range of news, sports, and entertainment programs. In addition, there are several local TV and radio stations, as well as two national newspapers, Atuagagdliutit (AG) and Sermitsiaq, which are published weekly. Some towns have local newspapers, and there are also a handful of smaller publishing companies.

Many towns have their own choir and folk dancing is popular. The traditional dances (kalattuut) are of European origin, introduced by whalers in the 17th century and early colonists in the 18th century, while drum dancing and singing (qilaatersorpeq) represent the original Inuit musical tradition, and has been on UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage list since 2021.

Language

Greenland's main language is Greenlandic, which belongs to the Eskimo Aleut language family. There are a number of dialects, but West Greenlandic is the official language in orthography.

One of the longest words in Greenlandic has 153 letters, and goes:

"Nalunaarasuartaateerangualioqatigiiffissualioriaataallaqqisupilorujussuannngortartuinnakasinngortinniamisaalinnnguatsi-araluallaqqooqigaminngamiaasiinngooq".

This means:

"There were reports that they apparently – God knows for how many times – once again had considered whatever I, my poor condition despite, still could be considered to be quite adept and resourceful as initiator to put a consortium together for the establishment of a range of small radio stations".

Visits to National Museum of Greenland

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Number of visits					
Total*	9,274	11,108	11,885	11,244	10,811	10,163
Children	2,974	2,891	3,125	3,165	2,933	3,596
Adults	6,300	8,217	8,760	8,079	7,878	6,567

* Numbers do not include visits in entrance

Source: Greenland National Museum

Broadcasts by KNR (Greenlandic Radio/TV)

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	Hours per year					
Radio, total	3,377	3,013	3,063	2,976	2,857	3,033
TV, total	910	634	846	824	852	848

Source: KNR

LABOUR MARKET

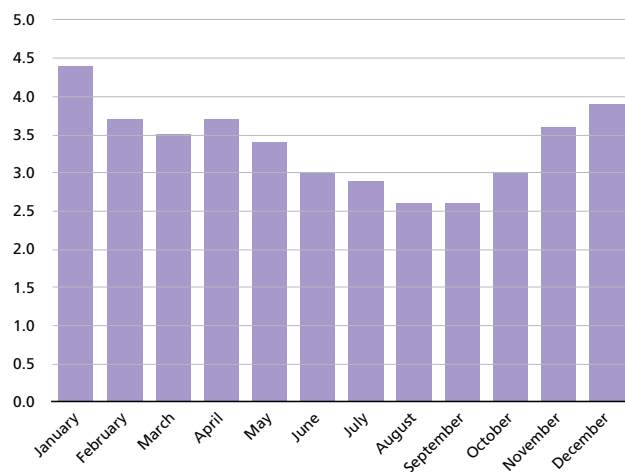
PROFESSION

Over 40 per cent of all jobs are found in the public sector. More than 60 per cent of employed women are working in the public sector, while the number for men in the public sector is over 20 per cent.

A large proportion of the Greenlandic labour market is public jobs in municipalities or the Government of Greenland. In towns, most people work as employees. In settlements, a large proportion are mainly huntsmen and fishermen. In general, the Greenlandic labour market follow the Scandinavian model having employee- and employer organizations, wage agreements and an extensive legislation for worker protection, arbitration, vacation and workers compensation. Persons without Danish or Nordic citizenship can achieve a residence and work permit.

The unemployed part of the work force has a high proportion of unskilled workers. Around 83 per cent have no education, apart from primary school. For the highly educated, the unemployment rate is very low.

Unemployment rate (pct.) in average per month, 2024



Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/ARELED8>

The distinct feature in the Greenlandic labour market is a large seasonal variation in employment, due to the climate and the geographic dispersion, which limits mobility.

Main Employment by industry and nationality, 2024

	Total	Greenland	Denmark	Europe	Outside Europe
— Number of employed persons in average per month —					
Total	29,131	25,218	2,633	184	1,096
Fishing, hunting & agriculture	4,411	4,004	166	14	228
Mining and quarrying	93	65	22	6	0
Manufacturing	227	205	16	2	5
Electricity and water supply	431	369	59	2	1
Construction	2,185	1,689	323	43	130
Wholesale	3,115	2,676	215	3	220
Hotels and restaurants	922	512	102	10	299
Transportation	2,069	1,830	189	21	29
Business activities	1,844	1,360	361	19	104
Public administration and service	12,733	11,644	993	53	43
Other industries	315	260	32	1	21
Activity not stated	787	606	155	11	15

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/AREBFB07>

BUSINESS

Greenland's business sector is dominated by large publicly owned companies. The largest companies with 100 per cent ownership by the Self-government are Royal Greenland A/S (fishing industry), KNI A/S (retail and oil sales), Royal Arctic Line A/S (shipping), Air Greenland (air traffic), and Tusass (telecommunications).

In Greenland, the economic activity is dominated by a few major industries. About 1/3 of the turnover created by companies

comes from fishing and the related industry and trade. The other major industry is wholesale and retail trade, which also accounts for nearly a 1/3 of the total turnover in companies.

The value added created in the companies is greatest within the fishing industry, where it represents more than 1/3 of the total value added.

	Value added					Turnover				
	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
	DKK million					DKK million				
Fishing and other related industries	2,695	2,796	1,917	2,582	3,118	6,495	6,782	5,928	6,331	7,756
Mining	-55	-85	-27	-426	-293	99	92	142	169	86
Manufacturing	172	164	167	165	157	417	430	433	479	484
Construction	1,020	1,111	1,246	1,448	1,369	2,426	2,747	3,558	4,169	4,092
Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles	1,236	1,231	1,251	1,326	1,543	6,476	6,466	6,566	6,525	7,641
Transportation and storage	1,333	1,363	1,333	1,455	1,390	2,673	2,618	2,521	2,781	3,227
Accommodation and food service activities	198	209	148	202	271	431	422	328	433	545
Information and communication	615	573	623	595	624	1,100	1,094	1,083	1,112	1,130
Financial and insurance activities	310	349	302	358	329	489	507	521	456	561
Real estate activities	340	363	468	528	457	449	477	537	607	1,016
Professional, scientific and technical activities	187	205	206	185	243	292	329	347	410	428
Administrative and support service activities	180	171	169	131	202	475	311	288	486	934

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/ESERESBAL>, <https://bank.stat.gl/ESENGL>

BUSINESS STRUCTURE

The dominant form of business in Greenland is the mode of operation proprietorship. Under this mode of operation are registered fishermen fishing in the coastal sea. The second most common mode of operation is other types of companies (especially known as the limited companies).

About half of the total salary is paid by limited companies.

Number of enterprises

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Proprietorship	2,974	3,006	2,760	3,016	2,855
Limited companies	136	137	135	132	128
Other types of companies	503	521	503	573	571
Funds etc.	163	178	166	165	156
Foreign branches	57	53	61	64	68
No information given	129	92	79	113	136
Total	3,962	3,987	3,704	4,063	3,914

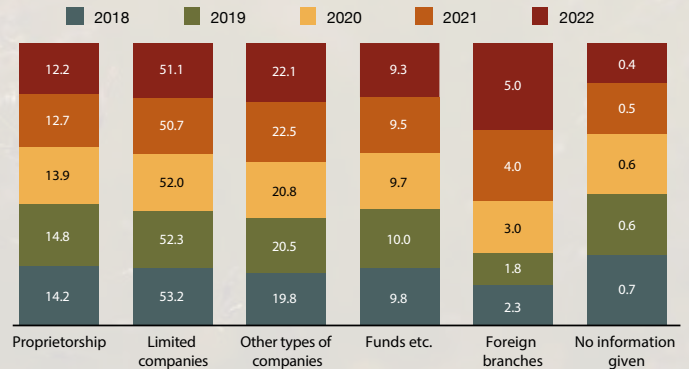
Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/ESE2A>

Business statistics

Business statistics is the basis for analysis of the business structure in Greenland. The focus is on Greenlandic companies outside public administration, defense and social insurance. This means that the company's share of companies and government-controlled companies are included in the survey, but that large parts of the public sector are generally not included.

The main sources of business statistics are Statistics Greenland's employment and income registers, both derived from Tax Agency data.

Percentages of salaries



Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/ESE2A>

FISHING

Fishing is Greenland's single most important trade. Fishing for prawns and Greenlandic halibut and some other species is regulated by quota and license regulations decided by the government. Fishing comes in two breeds; coastal - and offshore fishing. Coastal fishing supplies land-based factories, while the offshore fishing fleet primarily consists of factory vessels with on-board production.

Sled dogs

Greenlandic dogs from the North- and East Greenlandic sled areas, in which the dogs are primarily used for fishing, hunting and tourism, require a special permit to be moved to West- and South Greenland. Likewise, it takes a special permit to move dogs from West- and South Greenland to North- and East Greenland. This is enforced to prevent mix-breeding of the Greenlandic sled dog.

The land based fishing industry is dominated by two companies; the government-owned Royal Greenland, and the private owned Polar Seafood. Royal Greenland is Greenland's largest company. In recent years, a number of private seafood enterprises have appeared on the scene.

Greenland has bilateral or trilateral fisheries agreements with the Faroe Islands, Norway and Iceland, and has a general fisheries agreement with the EU. Greenland has the legal authority regarding the fisheries sector, and Greenland's Fishery Control authority (GFJK) often deploys observers on Greenlandic and international vessels, primarily on shrimp trawlers.



Total Landing of fish and shellfish in coastal and offshore fishing, selected species

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Tonnes					
Shellfish, total	56,969	58,367	57,095	57,219	49,273	50,937
Snow crab	2,510	2,808	2,722	2,714	2,208	1,719
Northern prawn	54,459	55,559	54,373	54,505	47,065	49,218
Fish, total	60,784	58,974	56,871	65,552	63,907	61,602
Greenlandic halibut	30,590	33,774	34,297	34,471	26,892	26,548
Atlantic cod	20,149	19,690	17,106	24,903	30,141	29,898
Lumpfish	8,976	4,547	4,893	5,640	6,074	4,405
Capelin	617	355	257	280	567	438
Wolffish	232	251	166	123	130	119
Redfish	98	189	69	75	55	41
Chars	10	10	2	8	15	6
Polar cod	48	87	32	20	12	124
Greenland cod	54	59	40	22	10	9
Atlantic halibut	10	12	9	10	11	14

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/FIE012>

Total catch of fish and shellfish by offshore and coastal fishing, Greenlandic vessels

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
	Tonnes					
Shellfish, total	110,691	111,562	114,670	114,205	98,573	92,690
Snow crabs	2,681	3,076	2,893	2,871	2,276	1,697
Northern prawn	107,470	107,917	111,211	110,706	95,472	90,272
Icelandic scallop	540	569	566	628	825	721
Fish, total	145,388	167,684	189,641	220,228	160,569	176,223
Greenlandic halibut	42,816	45,393	45,362	45,202	40,598	37,361
Atlantic cod	37,629	42,245	43,694	54,088	58,665	64,631
Lumpfish	8,985	4,548	4,896	5,640	6,036	1,093
Blue whiting	19,551	19,340	22,878	25,987	28,643	28,983
Mackerel	26,539	33,360	17,623	29,089	15,234	33,960
Capelin	617	14,282	44,106	46,711	567	3,468
Wolffish	221	244	161	119	129	128
Redfish	2,537	1,915	1,026	2,648	2,294	2,722
Haddock	945	1,101	755	665	510	658
Saithe	451	449	444	410	562	248
Herring	3,201	2,864	6,164	7,333	5,656	1,198
Other species	1,896	1,943	2,532	2,336	1,675	1,773

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/FIE010>



HUNTING

Huntsmanship has been a way of life in Greenland for generations. Even today, hunting provides an important supplement to the economy of the families. Hunting is regulated by means of seasons and permissions. A hunting license is mandatory for anyone, who wants to hunt. The general license comes in two breeds; professional and recreational. In addition, a specific license is needed when hunting species limited by quota. The quota system regulates the number of animals available for hunting.

Professional hunting license holders usually do not make a full living from hunting. In addition, they will often do dinghy fishing in summer and ice fishing in winter.

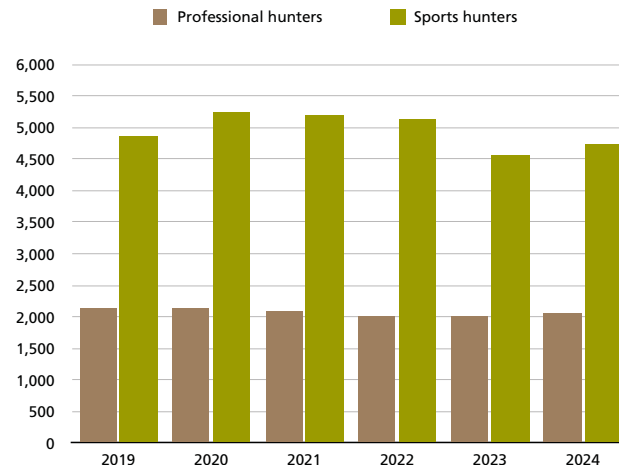
Seal still plays an important role. The sealskin is usually traded, while the meat is consumed or used for dog fodder in sled dog districts. About 50 per cent of traded sealskin is tanned by Great Greenland, the country's only tannery.

A number of whale species have hunting quota. The meat and the skin are consumed in Greenland only. Reindeer and musk ox are the most important land species. Primarily sheep and lamb are butchered at Neqi A/S. Skin of land mammals are traded as well. Bird hunting is regulated by means of quota. A number of species are not quota-regulated. In general, the police enforce the hunting regulations.

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE

Aasivissuit – Nipisat at Kangerlussuaq is a unique cultural landscape, stretching from the Ice Cape, by the vast reindeer hunting grounds, to the fiords and islands of the coast. The area holds a plethora of prehistoric remains, which testify to 4,500 years of human history.

Hunting licenses



Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/FIEBEVIS>

Catches of mammals and birds, selected species

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024*
	Numbers of catch					
Seals'	98,885	92,690	93,815	86,305	85,292	61,461
Whales''	4,315	5,302	5,862	5,572	5,611	4,770
Landmammals'''	17,707	16,028	15,448	16,787	15,879	12,127
Birds''''	77,177	89,581	97,166	84,334	69,287	34,586

*Preliminary figures

' Ringed seal, harp seal, hooded seal, bearded seal, harbour seal and walrus

'' Beluga whale, narwhale, killer whale, harbour porpoise, pilot whale, atlantic white-sided dolphin, minke whale, bowhead whale, humpback whale and fin whale

''' Polar hare, reindeer, musk ox, arctic fox and polar bear

'''' Guillemot, eider, king eider, squaw, mallard, fulmar, theist, little auk, black-legged kitti, canada goose, barnacle goose, short nest goose and ptarmigan

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/FIEFANGST>

AGRICULTURE

Agriculture in Greenland is mainly based on sheep farming with summer grazing of sheep and lamb. A modest number of poultry, bees, horses, cattle and domesticated reindeer are held. Winter feed for animals is grown, along with potatoes and vegetables for the home market. Agriculture exists almost only in the deep fiords of South Greenland, due to the sub-arctic climate of this region.

In a historical context, Greenlandic agriculture dates back to the Late Viking Age, where Norse settlers colonized Southwest Greenland in 982 and lived there up til mid-15th century. In 1782, today's sheep farming tradition was founded in Igaliku, literally on the ancient Norse fields as a hobby business. In 1924, the first full-scale farm was established at Erik the Red's old settlement in Qassiarsuk.

Over the last decades, sheep farms have become fewer and bigger, often two or three generations join forces on running a farm.

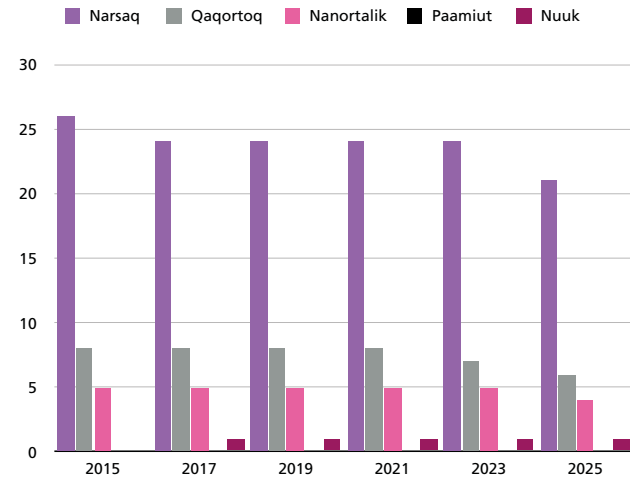
Livestock

	2015	2017	2019	2021	2023	2025
	Number of animals					
Sheep	17,501	17,785	17,785	18,184	17,268	14,280
Tame reindeer	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	1,190
Cows	146	193	300	356	373	73
Horses	151	152	129	146	139	110
Fowls	165	168	189	219	260	229
Beehives	6	6	-	-	-	-

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/FIEHDYR>

Upernaviarsuk is South Greenland's experimental farm. Here, an arctic climate test program is carried out for the most common crops and winter feeds. Upernaviarsuk also runs an agricultural school, offering educations in sheep farming, production gardening and greenhouse gardening.

Farms by location



Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/FIEHEKBEDD>

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE

350 sq. km² cultural and agricultural Kujataa landscape in South Greenland was inscribed as UNESCO World Heritage in 2017. Kujataa consists of five areas around the Tunulliarfik and Igaliku Fiords.

TOURISM

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE

The Ilulissat Icefjord (Ilulissat Kangerlua) has been UNESCO World Heritage since 2004. The icefjord produces massive icebergs from the Sermeq Kujalleq glacier, which is one of the most productive glaciers in the world.

Aningaaq R. Carlsen
- Visit Greenland

Tourists enter Greenland via international flights to Ilulissat, Kangerlussuaq, Nuuk, Narsarsuaq, Kulusuk, and Nerlerit Inaat in Ittoqqortoormiit, or by cruise ships, primarily from the USA, Canada, and Europe. Today, the airport in Nuuk has become a central international gateway to Greenland. In addition, there are regional airports, heliports, ports, and harbor facilities that connect towns and settlements for domestic travelers. Accommodation standards vary from hotels and bed & breakfasts to private lodgings. Camping is an option but requires thorough preparation.

Due to the climate and its location within the Arctic Circle, tourism in Greenland is primarily centered around nature experiences and outdoor activities. Travelers often seek unique experiences such as dog sledding, the northern lights, whale safari, and hiking in the Arctic wilderness.

North Greenland, particularly the area around Disko Bay, has a high Arctic climate, making it one of the country's primary tourist destinations. The tourism industry is well-developed in this area, with the highest number of tourism operators. West Greenland is home to the capital region and has the most developed infrastructure in the country. Here, tourism offers a combination of modern city life, culture, and nature. South Greenland stands out from the rest of the country due to its subarctic location, offering historical experiences in nature in a milder climate than the rest of Greenland. This region is also home to the country's largest agricultural operations. East Greenland is the most isolated region of the country and, like the northern region, has a high Arctic climate. A large part of the region is an untouched wilderness and is known for its well-preserved Inuit culture, which remains in a more traditional form than in other parts of the country.

Outdoor tourism primarily takes place during the summer season, though there is also some activity in winter. The cruise season generally extends from spring to autumn. A small number of trav-

elers cross Greenland's Ice Sheet, typically between Kangerlussuaq and Tasilaq, which, however, requires special permission from the Self-Government.

Number of international passengers by airport

	2017	2019	2021	2023	2025
Total	83,487	86,989	39,293	96,362	114,431
Kangerlussuaq	64,574	68,655	37,345	75,522	8,179
Narsarsuaq	4,594	4,831	0	5,931	4,333
Kulusuk	5,219	4,700	355	4,713	4,032
Nerlerit Inaat	851	924	246	789	892
Nuuk	4,534	4,799	1,347	6,220	93,753
Ilulissat	3,302	3,080	-	3,187	3,242

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/TUEUPAX>

Hotel guests by nationality

	2017	2019	2021	2023	2025
	Number of guests				
Greenland	60,957	53,884	48,388	74,258	84,215
Nordic countries	24,768	30,519	17,139	44,473	44,952
Germany	3,180	3,239	335	3,682	4,247
France	1,291	1,434	84	1,336	1,750
Italy	550	399	100	672	1,235
The Netherlands	337	407	134	564	663
Great Britain	1,830	1,070	431	2,050	2,281
Rest of Europa	3,477	3,182	461	3,830	6,495
USA	2,192	2,124	468	4,109	7,251
Japan	431	279	17	159	292
Canada	932	682	238	758	1,449
Other countries	3,496	3,400	250	3,771	9,654
Unknown	4,177	5,095	11,636	6,936	4,882

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/TUEHOT>

TRANSPORTATION

NORTH- AND EAST GREENLAND

In the outer districts of North and East Greenland, snowmobiles and dog sleds are used for local transportation when the sea is covered by ice in winter. In summer, dinghy boats and similar vessels are used for travel by sea.

Transportation in Greenland differs significantly from the rest of the Nordic countries. Due to the climate and geography, there are no railways or roads between towns and settlements. All passenger and freight transport takes place by ship, plane, or helicopter. Most towns have paved roads and cars, while smaller towns and settlements typically have gravel or dirt roads. Buses operate in larger towns, and taxis are available in most towns.

Number of registered motor vehicles by January 1st, 2026



	Buses	Taxis	Cars and vans	Snowmobiles	Other motor vehicles*
North Greenland					
Qaanaaq	1	1	27	21	87
Upernavik	2	-	70	233	134
Uummannaq	2	4	142	460	175
Ilulissat	28	19	806	438	336
Qasigiannuguit	2	-	97	112	82
Aasiaat	1	4	275	181	122
Kangaatsiaq	-	-	2	16	11
Qeqertarsuaq	1	-	53	205	66
West Greenland					
Sisimiut	22	4	994	819	787
Maniitsoq	3	6	256	88	131
Nuuk	39	43	5,004	386	1,201
Paamiut	2	-	103	25	75
South Greenland					
Narsaq	1	6	126	33	148
Qaqortoq	8	11	360	22	212
Nanortalik	1	2	71	10	61
East Greenland					
Tasiilaq	4	1	97	187	186
Ittoqqortoormiit	-	-	5	116	86

*ATV and 4-wheelers, construction machineries, trucks, motorcycles, emergency vehicles and other unspecified vehicles.

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/ENEMO2DI>

Greenland's airline company, Air Greenland, operates international routes to Denmark, Iceland, and Canada, as well as all domestic flight and helicopter routes. Greenland's shipping company, Royal Arctic Line, has a monopoly on freight routes to towns and settlements. Arctic Umiaq Line's passenger ship, Sarfaq Ittuk, maintains passenger routes on the West Coast most of the year. Several minor passenger routes also exist.

In addition to the existing international flight connections to Greenland, the opening of Nuuk's international airport in 2024 has created new opportunities for foreign airlines to establish routes to the country for some part of the year, thereby strengthening Greenland's connections to the outside world. However, the maritime conditions are different. Beside Greenland has no international routes for passenger ships, transportation to the northernmost regions of North Greenland and East Greenland is impossible in winter due to sea ice.

TRANSPORT BY AIR GREENLAND

Air Greenland's fleet consists of various types of aircraft. The company's largest aircraft, the Atlantic aircraft Tuukkaq, flies to and from Greenland. Fixed-wing planes are used for domestic flights and helicopters for transportation between towns and settlements. In addition, the company has aircraft for emergency response and SAR operations.

TRANSPORT BY ROYAL ARCTIC LINE

The fleet of Royal Arctic Line consists of ships tailored for the Arctic waters. In addition to the passenger ship Sarfaq Ittuk, the company has four larger Atlantic vessels as well as six smaller vessels for transportation to the settlements, built to operate in all kind of ports.

INCOME

INCOME AND TAX

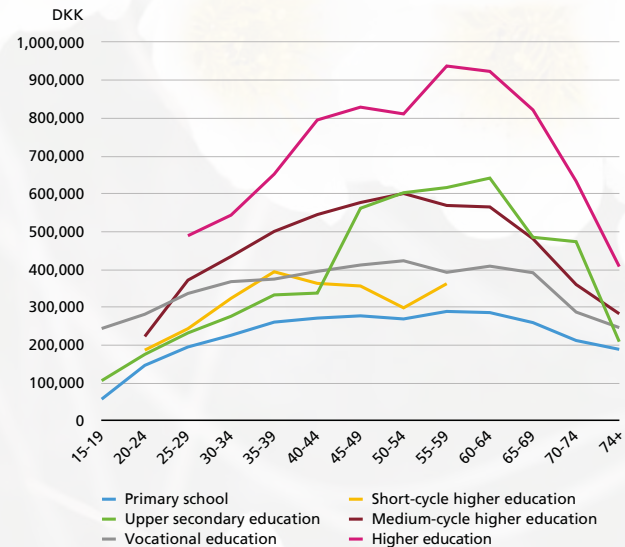
In Greenland, residents pay 42-44 per cent tax from personal income, depending on the municipality. Base tax credit is 5,833 DKK monthly.

In settlements, income level is considerably lower than in towns. However, the size of this difference depends on the municipality. The difference in average gross income between settlements and towns is most significant in Kommuneqarfik Sermersooq. Here, the average income of a Nuuk resident is more than twice the average income of a settlement resident.

In 2024, women had an average gross income of 271,000 DKK, while men held an average gross income of 327,000 DKK. Hence, on a national level the average man had an income 21 per cent higher than the average woman. However, men are overrepresented in the typical economically active groups, and women are overrepresented in the oldest age groups. This may in part cause the difference in income.

In Greenland, income correlates with education level. When the level of education increases, the level of income increases as well. The income inequality in Greenland is higher than the Nordic average.

Average gross income by educational background and age, 2024



Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/INEPI104>

Average gross income by municipality and place of residence, 2024

	Greenland total	Kommune Kujalleq	Kommuneqarfik Sermersooq	Qeqqata Kommunia	Kommune Qeqertalik	Avannaata Kommunia
Town	316,901	269,903	365,082	303,692	245,856	272,808
Settlement	215,273	220,013	194,113	299,899	186,277	194,203

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/INEPI101>

PRICES

Price is a measure for living costs, and the indexes are primarily used to track the inflation. The consumer price index is a measure for actual prices paid by consumers for goods and services. It mirrors the sum of changes in consumer prices, including those caused by changes in taxes, duties and subsidies. Hence, it is a compound expression of pure market changes and legislative price changes.

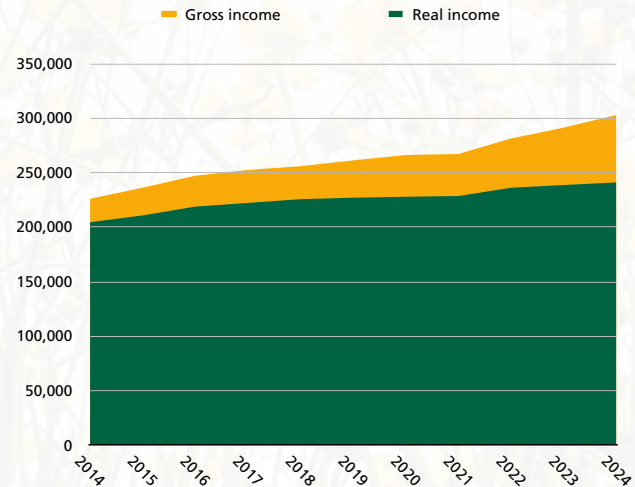
Consumer price index (Jan. 2008=100)

	Jan. 2021	Jan. 2022	Jan. 2023	Jan. 2024	Jan. 2025	Jan. 2026
Consumer price index, total	123.3	123.6	127.0	129.8	134.4	139.4
Food and beverages	139.3	142.0	147.5	151.1	156.5	162.3
Alcohol and tobacco	128.0	129.4	133.0	135.5	141.0	146.2
Clothing and footwear	90.4	89.6	90.6	92.2	98.8	95.8
Gross rent (dwelling)	129.1	125.5	127.7	130.1	138.2	144.8
Furniture, household, equipment etc.	117.4	114.4	122.7	117.8	114.2	117.4
Medical care and health expenses	127.8	128.3	131.5	132.5	132.3	133.9
Transportation	127.2	125.8	128.5	132.6	133.4	139.0
Communication	83.7	85.3	85.5	85.6	85.6	85.6
Recreation and entertainment etc.	103.9	108.6	114.2	119.6	122.6	124.7
Restaurants and hotels	134.0	134.5	137.9	142.4	145.1	154.4
Miscellaneous goods and services	115.6	117.6	119.5	123.3	126.9	133.1

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/PREPRISV>

The population's actual spending power is called purchasing power or real income. Spending power is closely related to the balance between income level and price level. Real income increases if income growth is higher than price growth.

Real income trends 2010=100



Source: Statistics Greenland

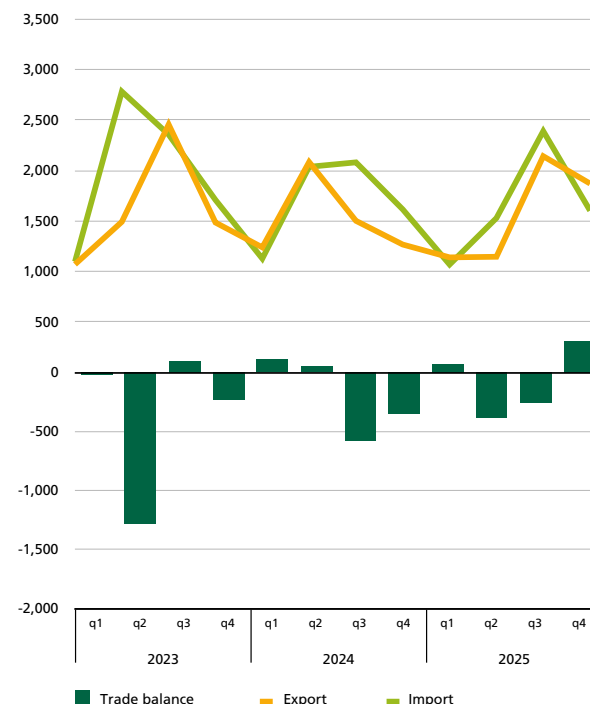
FOREIGN TRADE

Greenland has a one-sided production and demands a wide range of goods, which necessitates extensive foreign trading. Apart from fishing and hunting, Greenland has a very limited domestic production of commodities. This causes import to include more or less all goods necessary in households, businesses and institutions.

As the majority of Greenland's exports consist of fish and shellfish, Greenland is very dependent on the fishing sector and the international buyer prices. The fishing industry provides over 90 per cent of Greenland's export. The most important species are Codfish, Greenland halibut, mackerel, crab and prawn.

Trade balance is a measure of export value minus import value of goods.

Trade balance, DKK million



Values of import and export by SITC

	2023		2024*		2025*	
	Import	Export	Import	Export	Import	Export
	DKK million					
Total	7,945	6,504	6,861	6,092	6,591	6,299
Provisions and livestock	1,154	5,865	1,110	5,079	1,248	5,992
Alcoholic beverages and tobacco	216	0	333	0	372	0
Raw materials, inedible	53	11	48	13	46	67
Mineral fuels and lubricants etc.	1,453	0	1,456	0	1,239	0
Animal or vegetable fats and oils	8	4	6	0	6	0
Chemicals and chemical products	445	1	411	3	426	2
Manufactured products mainly semi-manufactured products	1,136	21	1,133	11	917	16
Machinery and transport equipment	2,667	557	1,666	956	1,606	79
Manufactured products	708	27	654	25	706	18
Miscellaneous articles and transactions	104	19	44	5	24	125

* Preliminary figures

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/IIESITC>

PUBLIC FINANCES

Public finances consist of activities in the general government related to administration and services. The general government consists of three sectors: the municipal sector, the self-government sector, and the State of Denmark. The general government finances are allocated annually through the appropriation law.

The central government sector includes activities that continue to be managed and financed directly by the State of Denmark. In compliance with international guidelines, only expenses incurred in Greenland are accounted for.

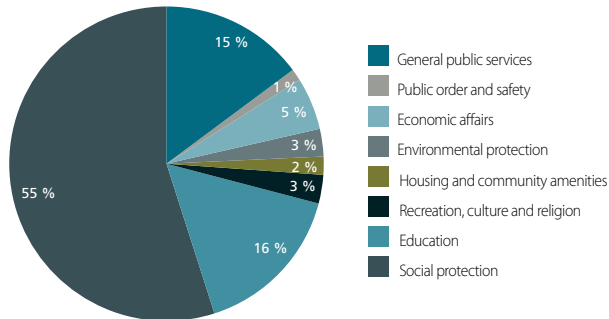
DENMARK'S BLOCK GRANTS TO GREENLAND

As part of the Realm Community with Denmark and the Faroe Islands, Greenland receives an annual block grant from the State of Denmark. The grant is intended to cover expenses related to the areas of responsibility Greenland has taken over from Denmark. In 2024 the grant was *4,323.7m DKK. *Preliminary figures

The general government of administration and services includes authorities and institutions that predominantly provide non-market services and redistribute income and wealth.

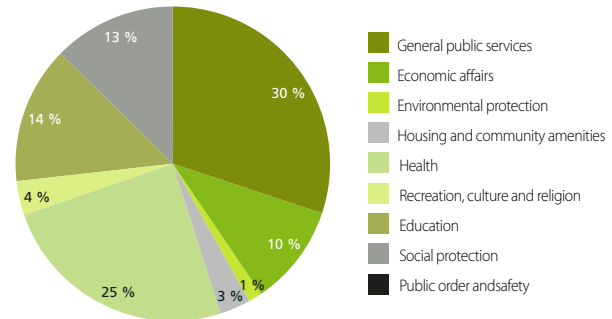
Most public services are available free of charge for citizens and enterprises. Public expenditures are mainly financed through taxes and block grants from Denmark, while a smaller portion is covered by duties or user fees.

Expenditures in municipalities, 2024



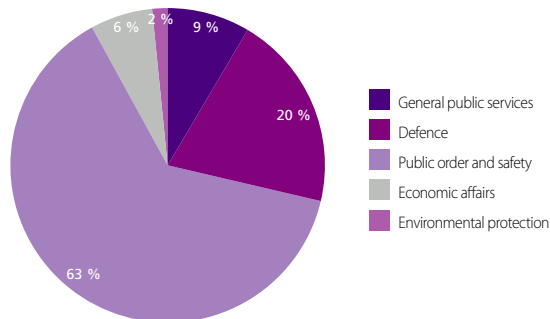
Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/OFEFUNK>

Expenditures in Selfgovernment, 2024



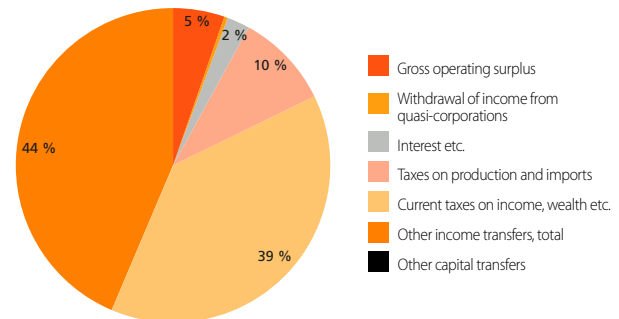
Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/OFEFUNK>

Expenditures in Central government, 2024



Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/OFEFUNK>

Revenue of general government, 2024



Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/OFEREA1>

NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

National accounts provide an overall picture of Greenland's economy. The National Accounts system is a set of definitions and classifications, without which it would not be possible to obtain an overview of the immense number of financial transactions, which take place in Greenland's economy.

The key figures for the annual national accounts show the main results for Greenland's economy. The balance of demand and supply shows the supply in the form of Greenlandic production (GDP), imports and demand in the form of household consumption, government consumption, gross investments and exports.

National accounts are compiled according to international guidelines, which make them comparable between countries.

GDP

The National Accounts are calculated from constant prices (chained values) and from current prices. National accounts in constant prices (chained values) have been adjusted for price developments. Accordingly, the development in real GDP (chained values) expresses the real economic growth.

Trends in GDP

	2018	2019	2020	2021*	2022*	2023*
	Current prices					
GDP, million DKK	19,296	19,990	20,213	20,707	22,306	22,919
Per capita, 1,000 DKK	346	358	361	367	395	405
Annual growth in percent	2.5	3.6	1.1	2.4	7.7	2.7
	2010-prices, chained values					
GDP, million DKK	15,084	15,511	15,550	15,804	16,121	16,260
Per capita, 1,000 DKK	270	277	278	280	285	288
Annual real growth in percent	0.6	2.8	0.3	1.6	2.0	0.9

* Preliminary figures
Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/NRE10>



Supply and demand

	2018	2019	2020	2021*	2022*	2023*
	Current prices, mio.DKK					
Gross Domestic product	19,296	19,990	20,213	20,707	22,306	22,919
Imports of goods and services	8,745	10,225	9,438	10,277	11,728	11,710
Supply	28,042	30,215	29,651	30,984	34,034	34,629
Household consumption	6,944	7,005	6,892	7,083	7,286	7,469
Government consumption	8,325	8,755	8,816	9,165	9,209	9,560
Gross investment	4,195	6,251	6,673	7,684	8,441	8,250
Exports of goods and services	8,578	8,205	7,270	7,052	9,099	9,351
Final demand	28,042	30,215	29,651	30,984	34,034	34,629
	Period to period real growth in per cent					
Gross Domestic product	0.6	2.8	0.3	1.6	2.0	0.9
Imports of goods and services	2.4	15.1	-2.1	6.0	5.7	-0.1
Supply	1.2	6.7	-0.5	3.0	3.2	0.5
Household consumption	1.5	0.5	-0.3	3.2	0.6	0.1
Government consumption	3.0	4.0	-2.9	2.3	-1.7	2.2
Gross investment	-6.9	46.9	7.0	13.7	1.8	-3.6
Exports of goods and services	3.6	-5.4	-4.0	-6.0	13.9	3.0
Final demand	1.2	6.7	-0.5	3.0	3.2	0.5

* Preliminary figures.

Source: <https://bank.stat.gl/NRE11>

Real growth in GDP in Greenland, Nordic countries and OECD-countries



Source: <https://stats.oecd.org>

KEY FIGURES

Geography

Location	The world's largest non-continental island, located on the North American continent between the Arctic Ocean and the North Atlantic Ocean, north east of Canada. The northernmost point of Greenland, Oodaap Qeqertaa, is only 706 km from the North Pole. The southernmost point is Cape Farewell which is at about the same latitude as Oslo in Norway
Geography	Greenland dominates the North Atlantic between North America and Europe. The population lives in towns and settlements along the coast
Geographical coordinates	72 00 N, 40 00 W (the geographical centre of Greenland)
Area	2,166,086 km ² (the largest island in the world - 12th largest country in the world)
Ice-free area	410,449 km ²
Coastline	44,087 km
Geographic extent	North-South 2,670 km, East-West 1,050 km
Highest point	Gunnbjørn Fjeld 3,700 m in East Greenland
Terrain	The flat, gradually sloping icecap covers all but a narrow, mountainous, barren, rocky coast. The ice cap is up to 3 km thick and contains 10 per cent of the world's resources of fresh water
Climate	Arctic to subarctic; cool winters and cold summers in which the mean temperature does not normally exceed 10° C (the traditional definition of polar climate)
Mean temperature, January	Nuuk -5.2° C, Kangerlussuaq -15.3° C, Ilulissat -8.5° C, Kulusuk -7.5° C (2025)
Mean temperature, July	Nuuk 7.9° C, Kangerlussuaq 10.7° C, Ilulissat 7.6° C, Kulusuk 8.4° C (2025)
Natural resources	Zinc, lead, iron ore, coal, molybdenum, gold, platinum, uranium, copper, nickel, rare earth metals, hydropower and possibly oil and gas
Plant life	Low-growing mountain and tundra plants, mosses, lichens, heather, crowberry, bog, whortleberry, and dwarf birch

Animal life

Fish, seals, walruses, whales, polar bears, arctic foxes, arctic wolves, reindeer, musk oxen, Greenland collared lemmings, snow hares, and a rich bird life which comprises some 50 breeding species. Livestock in South Greenland are following, sheep, tame reindeer, cows, horses, dogs and fowls. In North Greenland and East Greenland dogsleds are used for hunting and fishing purposes

National parks	The national park of Greenland comprises approximately 972,000 km ² in the north eastern part of the country
Area conservation acts	Melville Bay and Sarfartoq (The Paradise Valley) by Maniitsoq are under conservation acts. The Ilulissat icefjord, Aasivissuit - Nipisat and Kujataa landscapes are UNESCO world heritage

Population

Population	56,740 (Jan. 2026)
Density	0.14 per km ² of ice-free area (Jan. 2021)
Population in the capital	Nuuk: 20,508 (Jan. 2026)
Population in towns	50,407 (Jan. 2026)
Population in settlements	6,255 (Jan. 2026)
Population growth rate	-0.04 per cent (2025)
Death rate, total	9.7 deaths per 1,000 inhabitants (2025)
Net migration	-263 (2025)
Infant mortality rate, total	11.2 deaths per 1,000 live births (2023)
Life expectancy	Women 74.4, men 69.1
Total fertility rate	1.6 per woman aged 15-49 years
Demonym	Noun: Greenlander(s). Adjective: Greenlandic
Ethnic groups	Born in Greenland: 88 per cent. Born outside Greenland: 12 per cent (Jan. 2026)
Religions	The majority of the population is evangelical Lutherans
Languages	Greenlandic (Kalaallisut), Danish

Government

Government type	Parliamentary democracy within a constitutional monarchy
Dependency status	Part of the Kingdom of Denmark. Home-rule since 1979. Self-governing region since 2009
Capital	Nuuk
National holiday	21 st June (the longest day of the year)
Legal system	Danish
Suffrage	18 years of age; universal
Membership of the EU	From January 1 st 1973 to February 1 st 1985
Head of state	HMS King Frederik X of Denmark
Head of government	Jens-Frederik Nielsen (Demokraatit)
Legislative branch	Inatsisartut (the parliament with 31 seats)
Judiciary	Kredsret/Court of Greenland, High Court of Greenland and Supreme Court of Denmark
The Greenlandic flag	The sun (red) ascending over the horizon and the ice cap (white) in the flag's upper half, mirrored in opposite colors in the lower half

Economy

GDP	DKK 16,260 million (preliminary figures 2023)
GDP - real growth rate	0.9 per cent from 2022 to 2023 (preliminary figures)
Average gross income per household	1 st decile: DKK 50,030. 10 th decile: DKK 1,380,438 and Average: DKK 452,781 (2024)
Inflation rate (consumer prices)	3.7 per cent (January 2025 - January 2026)
Labour force	28,884 permanent residents, aged 18-66 (monthly average 2024)
Unemployment rate	3.4 per cent on average per month of permanent residents aged 18-66 (2024)
Budget	Income DKK 14.8 billion. Expenditure DKK 14.3 billion including capital expenditure of DKK 1.2 billion (2024)
Industries	Fish processing (mainly prawns and Greenland halibut), handicrafts, hides and skins, small shipyards, tourism and mining

Electricity - consumption	889 TJ (2024)
Agriculture - products	Sheep, cows and reindeer
Exports	6,299 DKK million (preliminary figures 2025)
Exports - commodities	Fish, shellfish and fish products
Exports - partners	Denmark, Island
Imports	6,591 DKK million (preliminary figures 2025)
Imports - commodities	Machinery and transport equipment, manufactured goods, food and beverages, petroleum products
Imports - partners	EU (primarily Denmark and Sweden)
Block grant	4,141.5 DKK (2023) and 4,323.7 DKK (2024) million in subsidies from Denmark
Currency	Danish Kroner (DKK)
Exchange rates	USD 100 = DKK 638.49 EUR 100 = DKK 747.16 (May 1 st , 2026)

Communications

Telephones - mobiles	66,790 (2024)
Country calling code	299
Television broadcast stations	Kalaallit Nunaata Radioa (national television) and some local television stations
Newspapers	Atuagagdiutit/Grønlandsposten (AG) and Sermit-siaq

Transportation






Railways	0 km
Ports and harbours	13 towns have ports and most of the settlements on the coast have port facilities
Airports	14 airports, 43 helipads

Source: Greenland Airports, Tusass and Statistics Greenland





More information
about greenland

-  Mount Gunnbjörn
-  Melville Bay
-  Valley of Paradise
-  UNESCO world heritage
-  National park

