



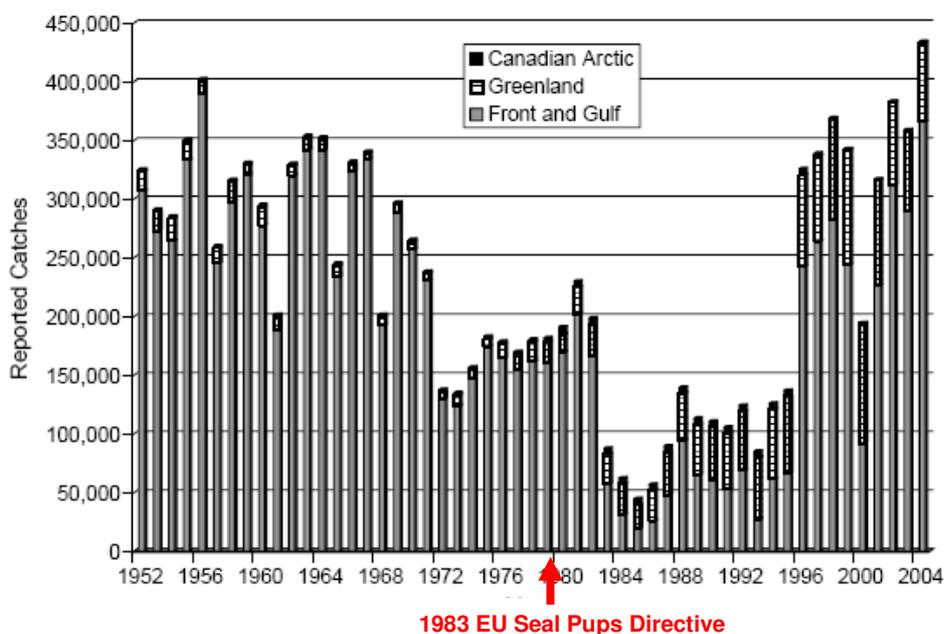
Some Statistics on Greenland's Commercial Seal Hunt in Relation to the Proposed Prohibition on Seal Product Trade in the European Union



Seal hunter in Saqqaq, Disco Bay 2007 Photo: Ecodivise.dk

Figure 1¹: Greenland's annual harp seal catches dramatically **increased** after the 1983 EU Seal Pups Directive—from 7000 in 1975, to about 50,000 throughout the late 1980s, to over 100,000 by 2000.

Harp seal kill levels 1952-2004 (Canadian Arctic, Greenland, Front and Gulf)



¹ Source: Stock Assessment of the Northwest Atlantic Harp Seals http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/csas/Csas/status/2005/SAR-AS2005_037_E.pdf

Figure 2²: Most seal skins available in Greenland (produced from seal hunts or imported) remain in Greenland. In the ten year period between 1995 and 2005, more than 1.5 million sealskins were not accounted for through exports from Greenland.

Available seal skins in Greenland compared to purchases and exports

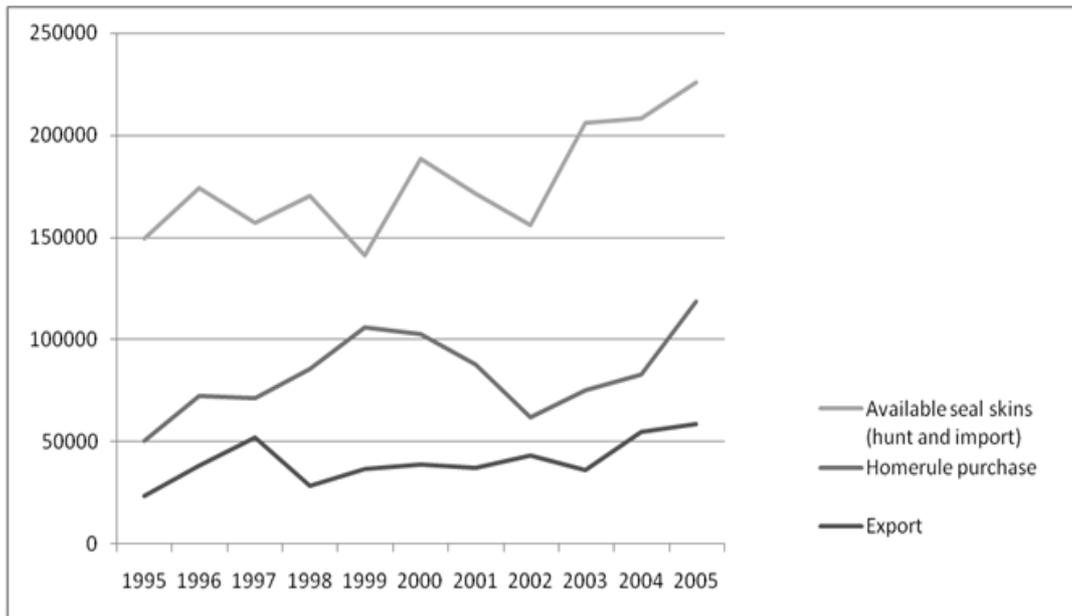
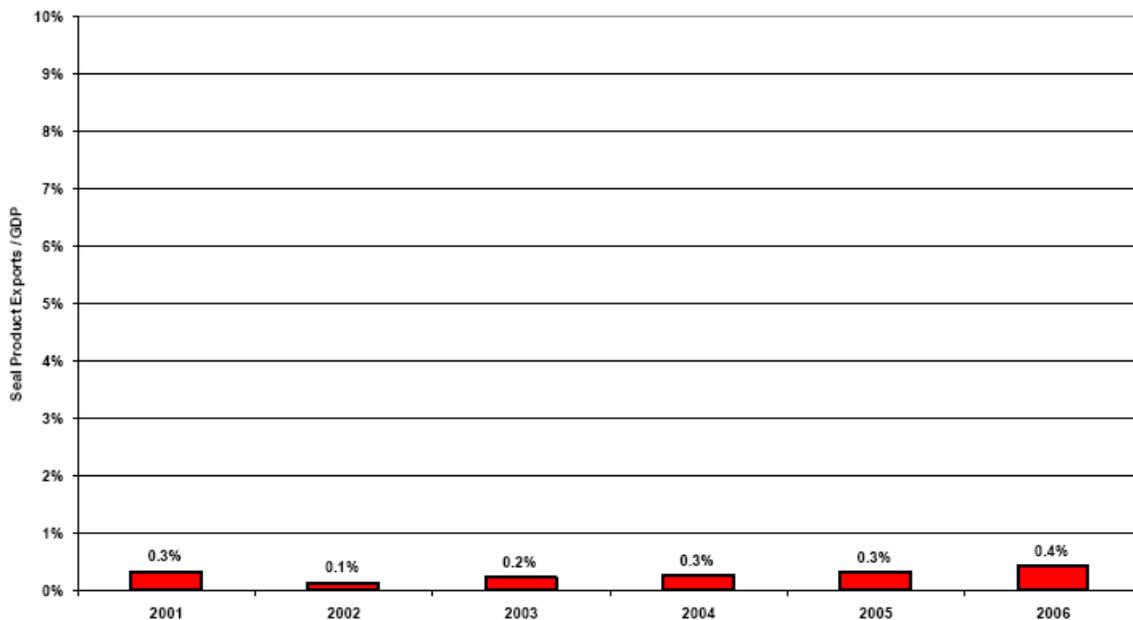


Figure 3³: Exports of seal products (globally) from Greenland account for less than one half of one percent of Greenland's Gross Domestic Product

Exports of seal products as a share of Greenland's GDP



² All data from Statistics Greenland

³ GDP and seal product export trade data from Statistics Greenland

Figure 3⁴: Seal products account for a small fraction of all purchases from fishing and hunting in Greenland.

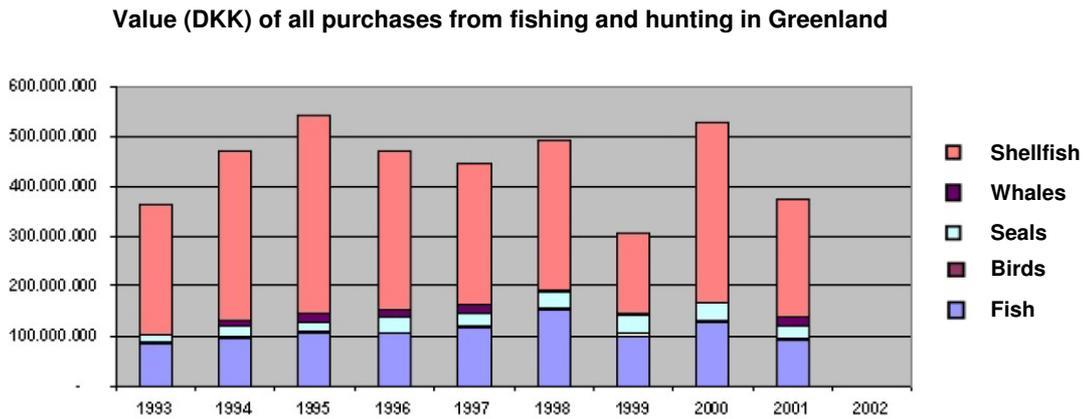


Figure 4⁵: The number of professional hunting license holders in Greenland is declining, while the number of leisure hunting licenses is increasing. Professional hunters earn more than 50 percent of their incomes from hunting and fishing, while leisure hunters earn 5-10 percent of their incomes from hunting and fishing activities.

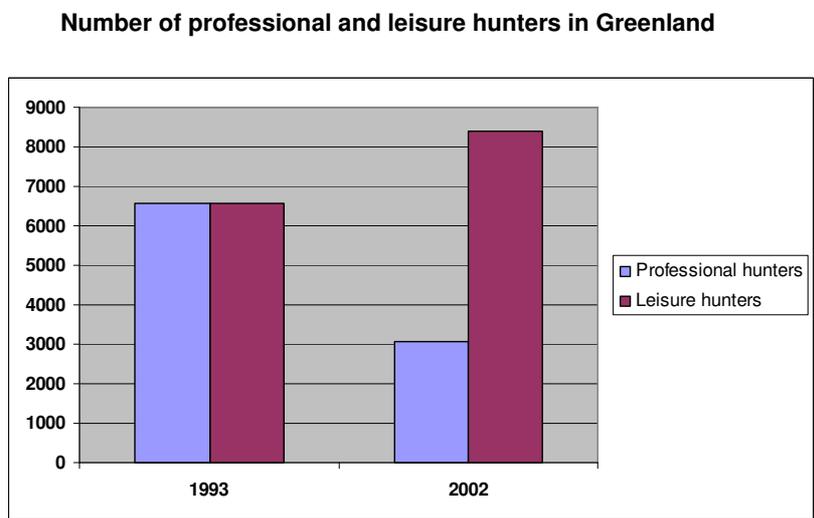
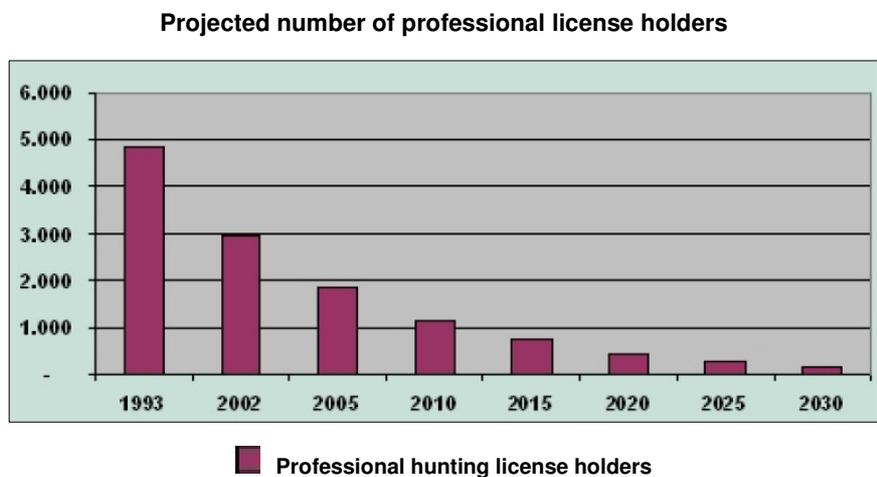


Figure 5⁶: The number of professional hunting license holders is expected to decline demographically to less than two hundred over the next two decades if the rates of decline experienced over past decade continue.



⁴ R.O. Rasmussen (2005): Analyse af fangererhvervet i Grønland. Report to the Home Rule Government of Greenland.

⁵ ibid

⁶ ibid