

4.8 shows that life expectancy for persons born in Greenland has increased by 11.2 years for men and 12.7 years for women during the period from 1954-1958 to 1996-2000. Mean life expectancy during the last period has increased by one year for men, but only by 0.1 year for women.

Both men and women who were born in Greenland have a considerably shorter life expectancy than people in the Western countries. There are two important reasons for this difference. Greenland still has a relatively high infant mortality, and the mortality rate due to accidents and suicide is still very high, especially among men. As these deaths typically take place in the age group of 15-35 years old men, they contribute, as do the infant deaths, to a considerable loss of years of life, which is much higher than the increasing loss of life from cancer and cardiac diseases which takes place later in life. Table 17.2 shows the causes of death.

Key Table 4.9 shows the differences in men's and women's risk of dying by age group. For certain biological reasons boys are somewhat less capable of

surviving, even as a foetus, than girls, a fact which was also observed in Greenland in 2000.

4.2.3 Removals

Removals in Greenland influence - due to their numbers seen in relation to the size of the population - the distribution of the population between municipalities and settlements to an extent which is much larger than the effect of births and deaths. A removal may be said to have a double effect as it influences the composition of the population in the place people move from as well as in the place they move to.

In 2001 18,341 domestic removals were registered involving 13,837 different persons. This corresponds to approx. 24 per cent of the population changing their place of residence in the course of the year. The great majority of the removals took place within the same town or from one town to another, while in 5,410 cases people moved from one municipality to another.

The increase in the number of removals in 2001, as seen in relation to the preceding years, should be

Key Table 4.7 Central mortality measures 2000

	Total	Men	Women
Number of deaths	458	256	202
Summary quota of deaths	8.2	8.5	7.7
Mean life expectancy	-	62.8	68.0
Stillborn	-	-	-
Infant mortality	13.6	13.3	13.8
Percentage of non-natural deaths	17.5	22.2	11.4
Percentage of suicides	9.2	13.3	4.0

Source: Statistics Greenland

Key Table 4.8 Mean life expectancy for newborn infants following mortality experiences. 1954-2000. Persons born in Greenland

	1954-58	1961-65	1971-75	1976-80	1981-85	1986-90	1991-95	1996-00
Men	50.5	56.7	59.0	57.2	58.5	58.7	60.7	61.7
Women	55.2	63.2	65.4	66.6	66.0	67.9	67.8	67.9

Source: The ministry of Greenland and Statistics Greenland.

Key Table 4.9 Deaths per 1,000 distributed by sex and age. 2000. Persons born in Greenland

	Total	0	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85-89	90+
Men	9.4	14.5	0.5	1.5	1.3	6.2	3.2	6.8	3.2	3.4	5.5	7.4	13.5	21.6	33.8	49.7	74.0	172.2	197.0	0.0	727.3
Women	8.2	12.7	0.0	0.4	0.0	1.1	2.7	4.4	3.4	3.2	3.8	4.3	6.1	10.5	27.9	38.3	54.1	98.5	220.6	222.2	518.5

Note: Per 1,000 live-born by Greenlandic mothers.

Source: Statistics Greenland.