

REVES. May 2008

**Lifetime in various health states
among the oldest-old
in Denmark**

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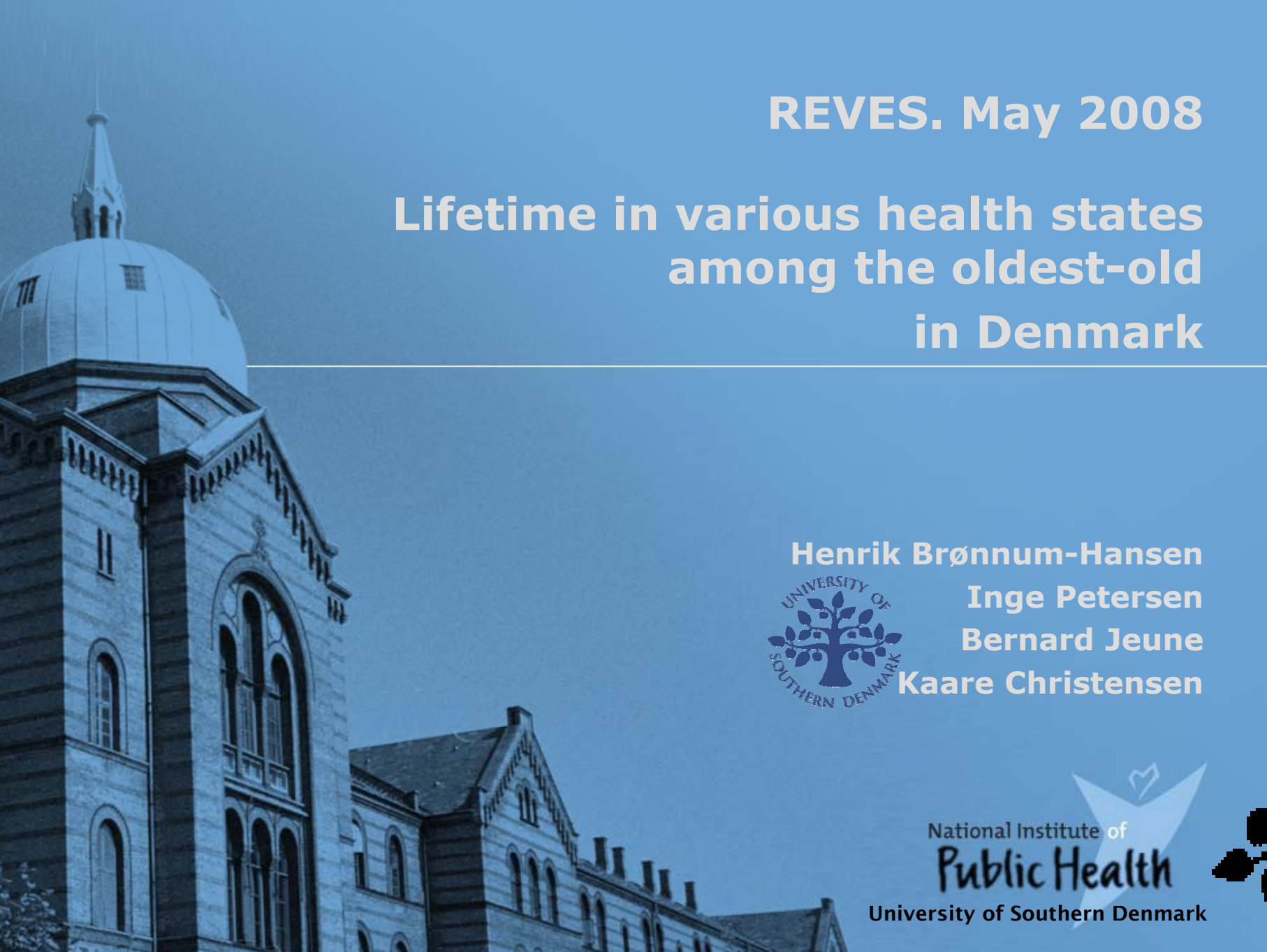
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Purpose

To quantify the average lifetime according to health status among the oldest-old in Denmark.

Data

**Survivors of the 1905 Danish birth cohort.
2259 participants (63% of all survivors)
were interviewed in 1998 and re-assessed
in 2000, 2003 and 2005.**

Self-rated health

Question:

'How would you rate your health in general?'

Answer categories:

'very good', 'good', 'fair', 'poor', 'very poor'

grouped into:

'good', 'fair' and 'poor'

Physically independent

If she did not require assistance to

- get up from a chair or a bed
- walk around in the house
- go to the toilet

If a person was too weak to participate, a proxy was asked to assist

Cognitive function

Measured by

the Mini-Mental State Examination

Scale 0-30

Score > 22: cognitively intact

If a person was too weak to participate, a proxy was asked to assist

Physical and cognitive functioning

Estimated as

**Physical independence without
cognitive impairment**

Interview plan

Intake survey in
1998.

Follow-up interviews in
2000

2003

2005

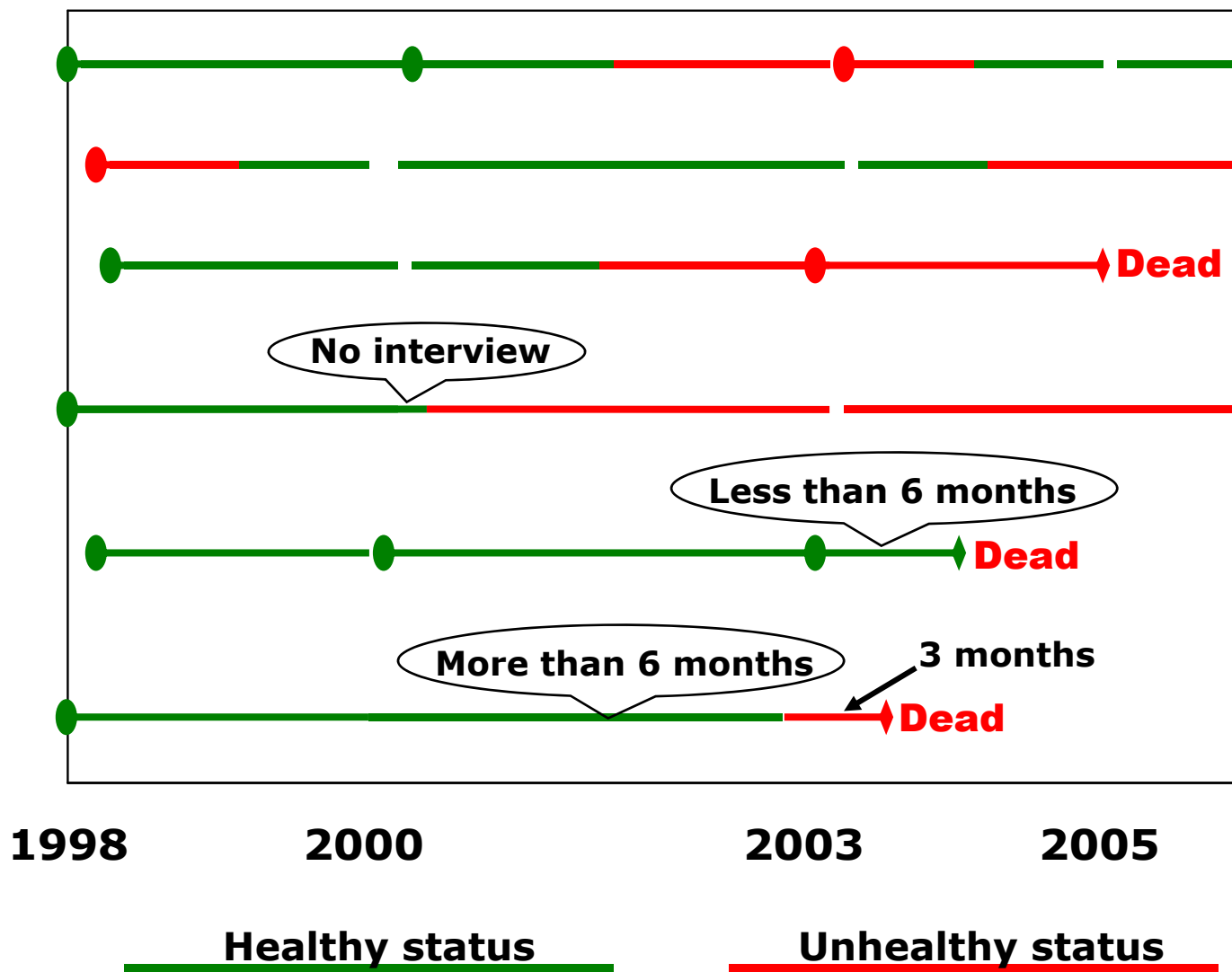
Register follow-up with respect to death
31 December 2005

1998

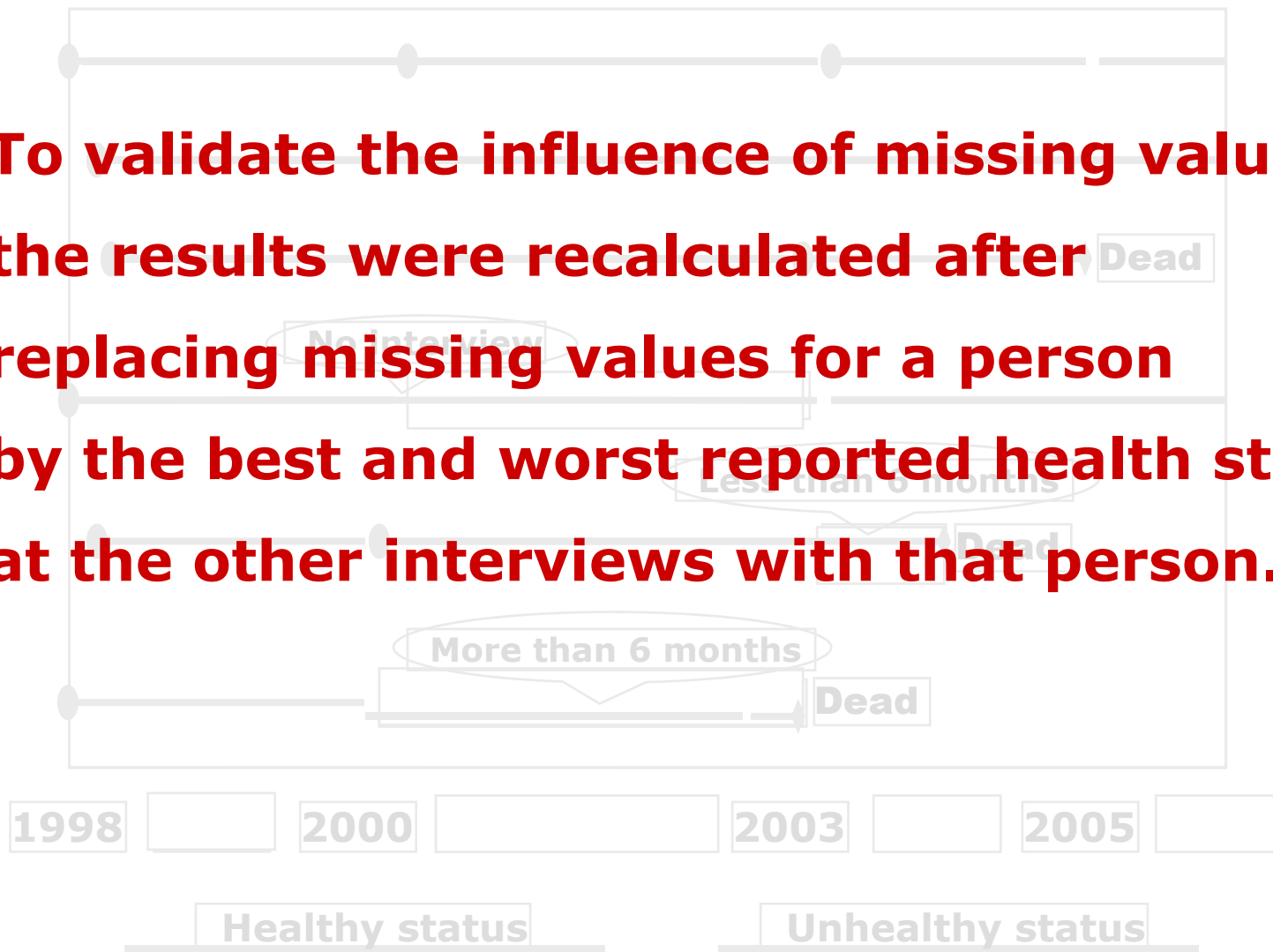
2000

2003

2005



To validate the influence of missing values the results were recalculated after replacing missing values for a person by the best and worst reported health state at the other interviews with that person.



Also the robustness of the assumptions about health state after the last interview were evaluated by recalculations after it was assumed that all persons who were interviewed more than 6 months before the end of follow-up or death had the worst health status during the last 6 months of their life.

1998

2000

2003

2005

Healthy status

Unhealthy status

Results

The Danish 1905 cohort

3600 alive in 1998

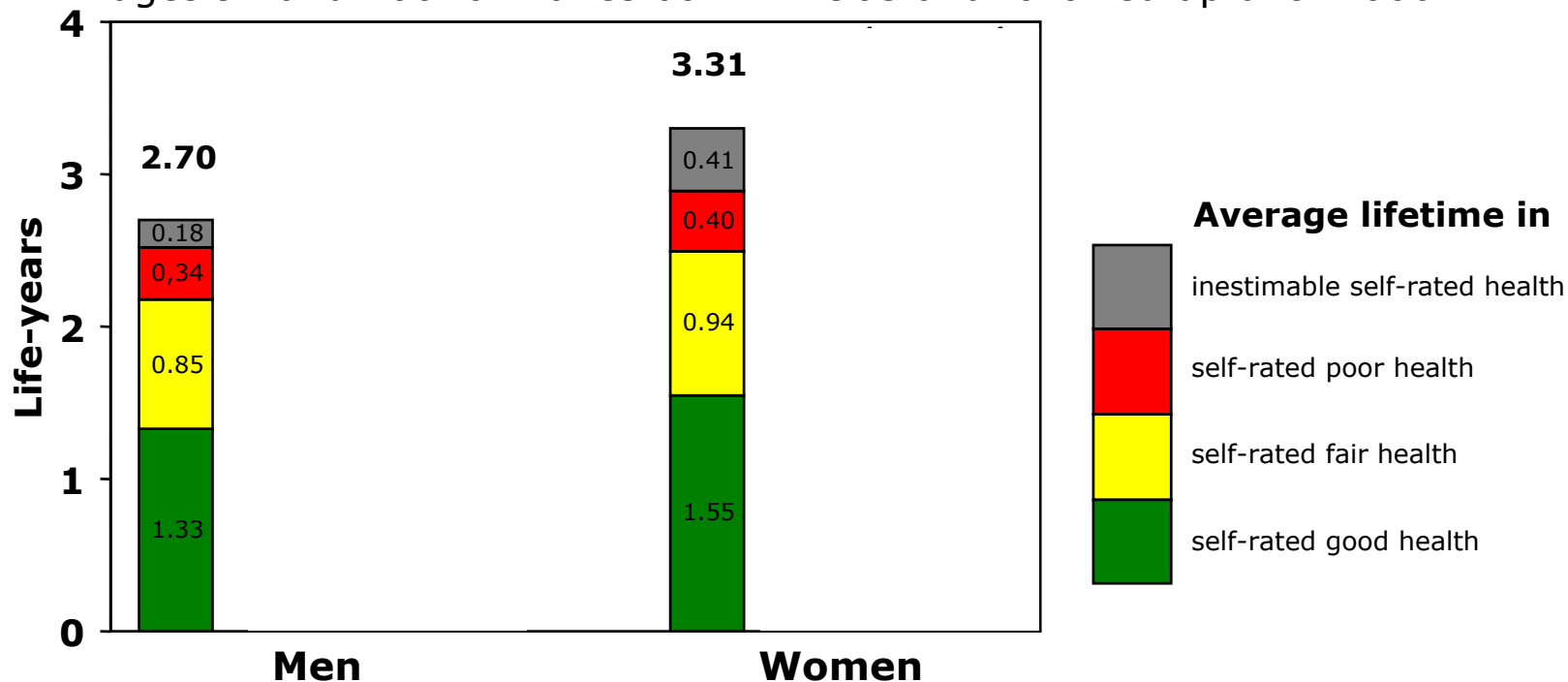
2259 (62.8%) participated

at the first interview 1998 (age 92-93)

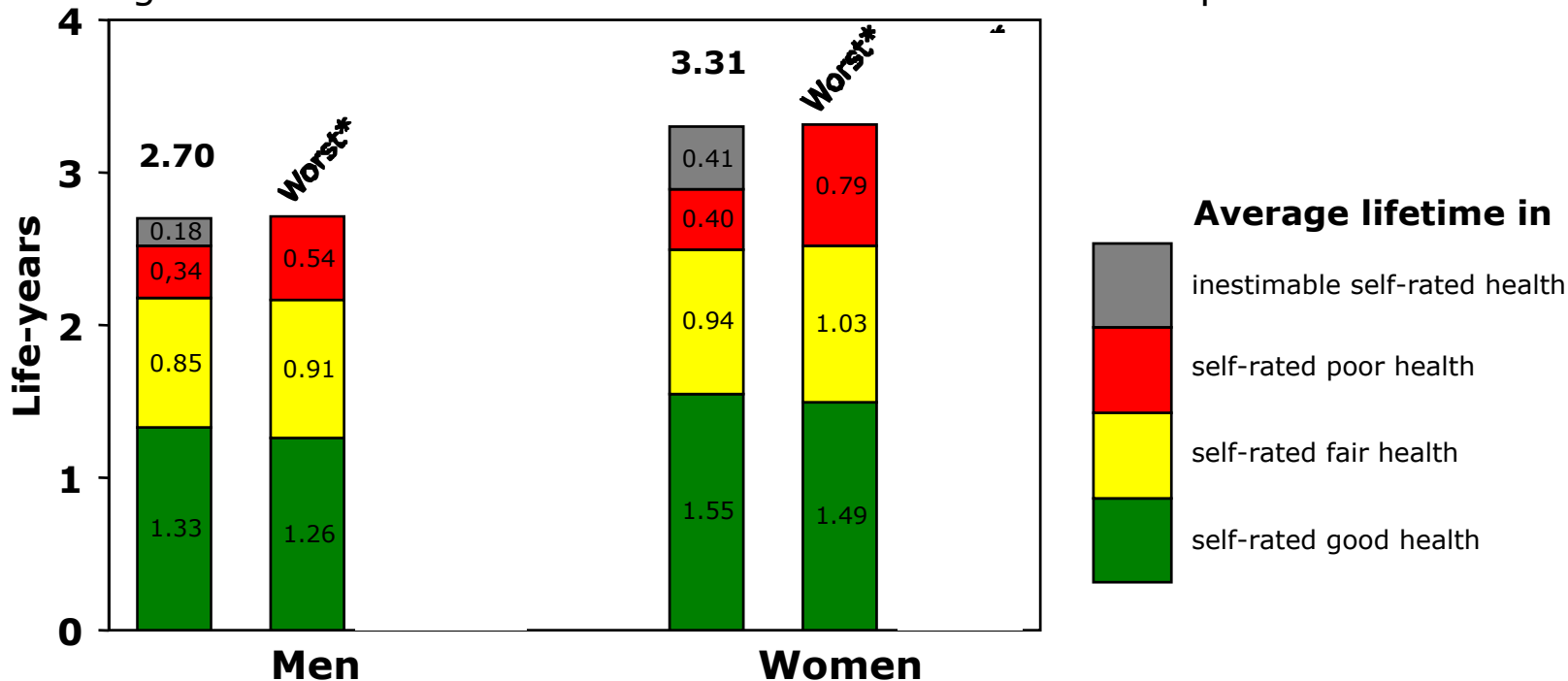
199 (8.8%) were still alive

on 1 January 2006 (age 100)

Average lifetime in self-rated good, fair and poor health between ages 92 and 100 for Danes born in 1905 and followed up until 2006

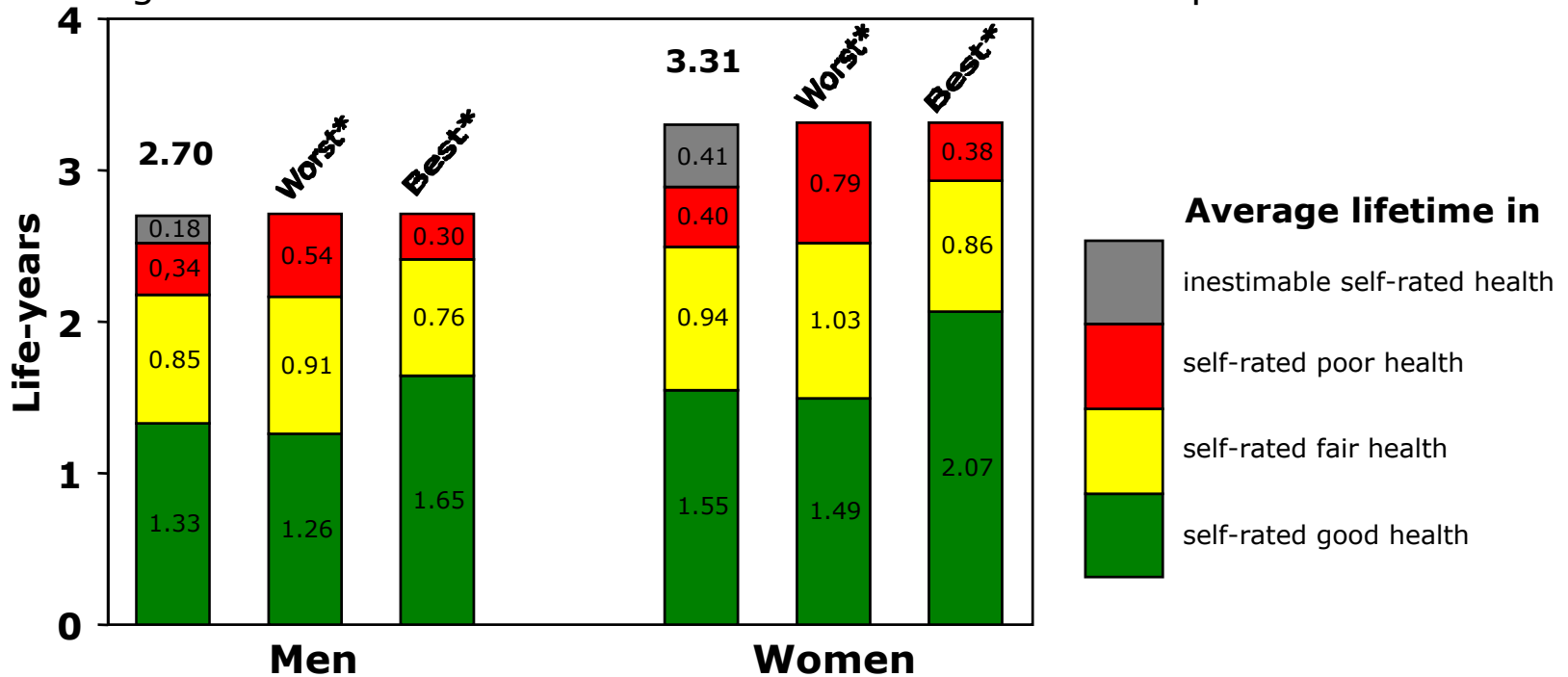


Average lifetime in self-rated good, fair and poor health between ages 92 and 100 for Danes born in 1905 and followed up until 2006



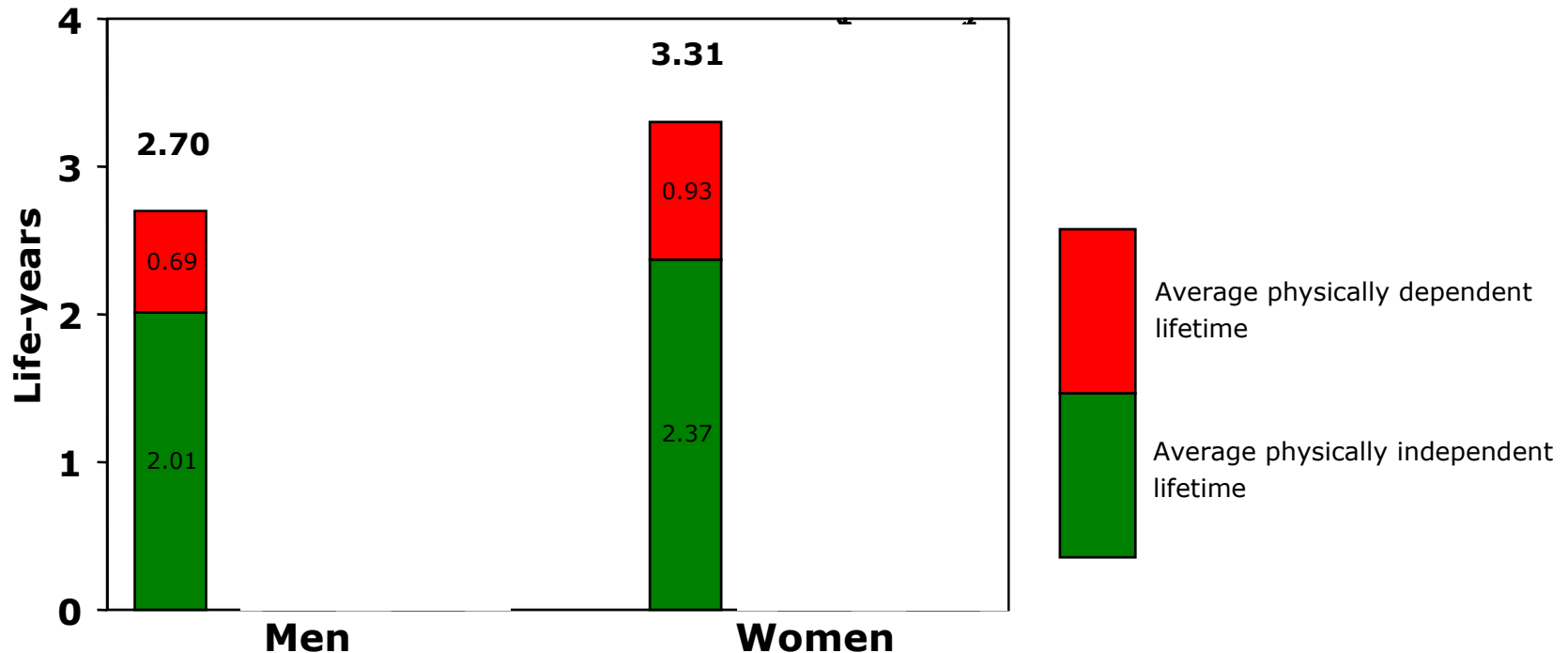
* Estimated by replacing missing values for a person by the worst reported health at the other interviews for that person.

Average lifetime in self-rated good, fair and poor health between ages 92 and 100 for Danes born in 1905 and followed up until 2006

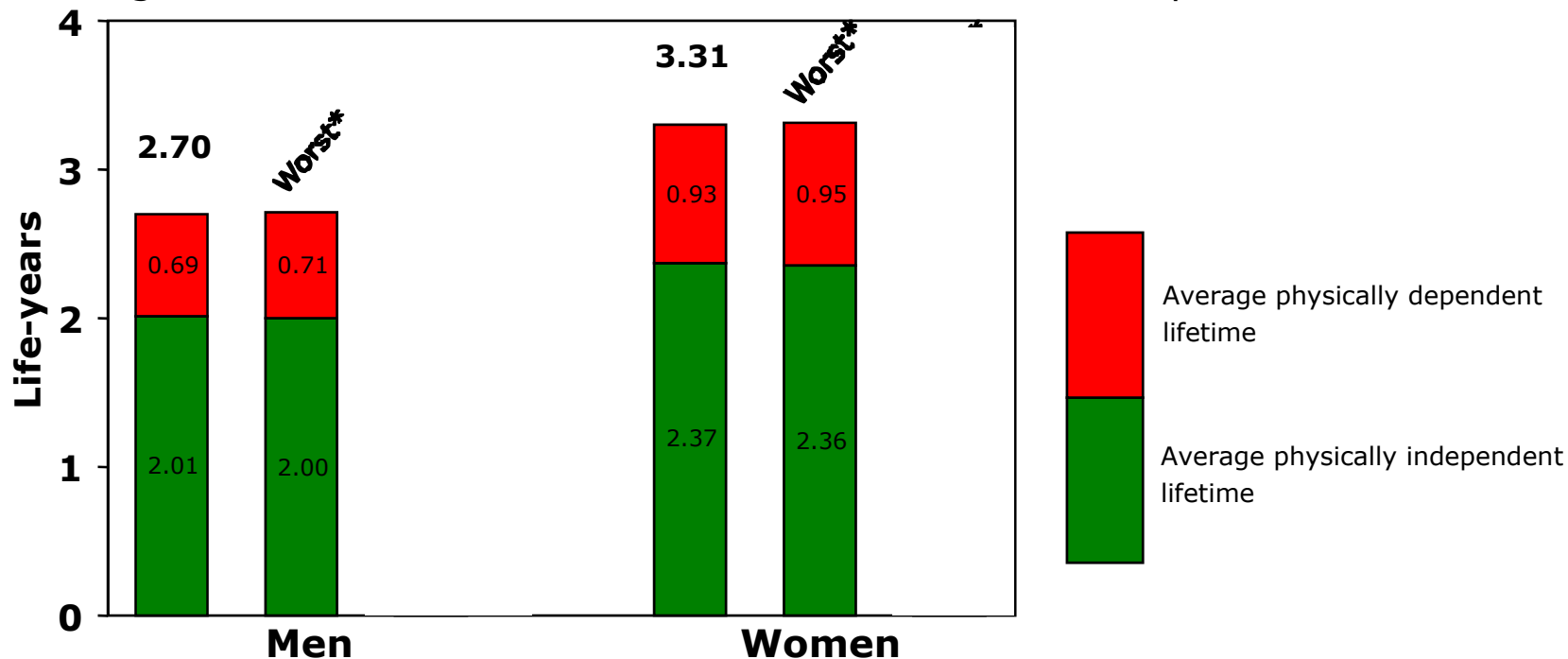


* Estimated by replacing missing values for a person by the best and worst reported health at the other interviews for that person.

Average lifetime in physical independence and dependence between ages 92 and 100 for Danes born in 1905 and followed up until 2006

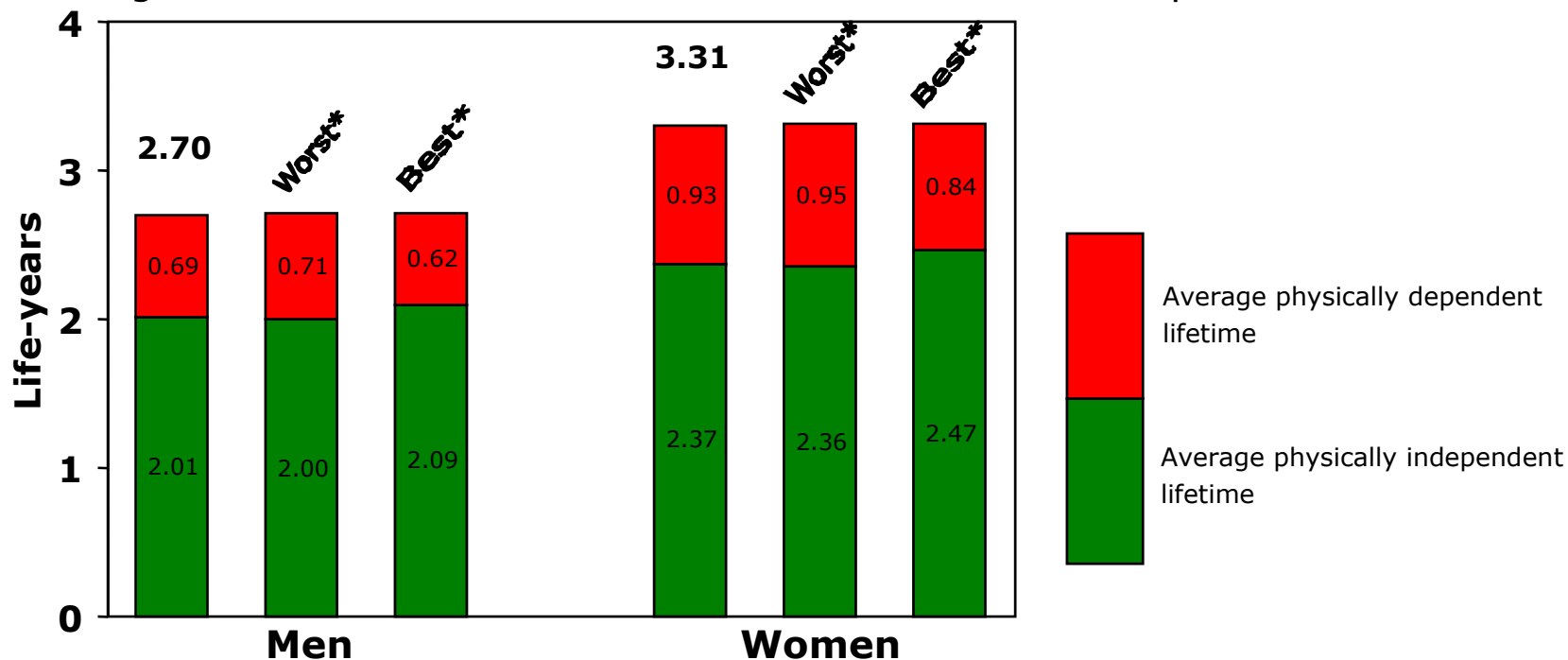


Average lifetime in physical independence and dependence between ages 92 and 100 for Danes born in 1905 and followed up until 2006



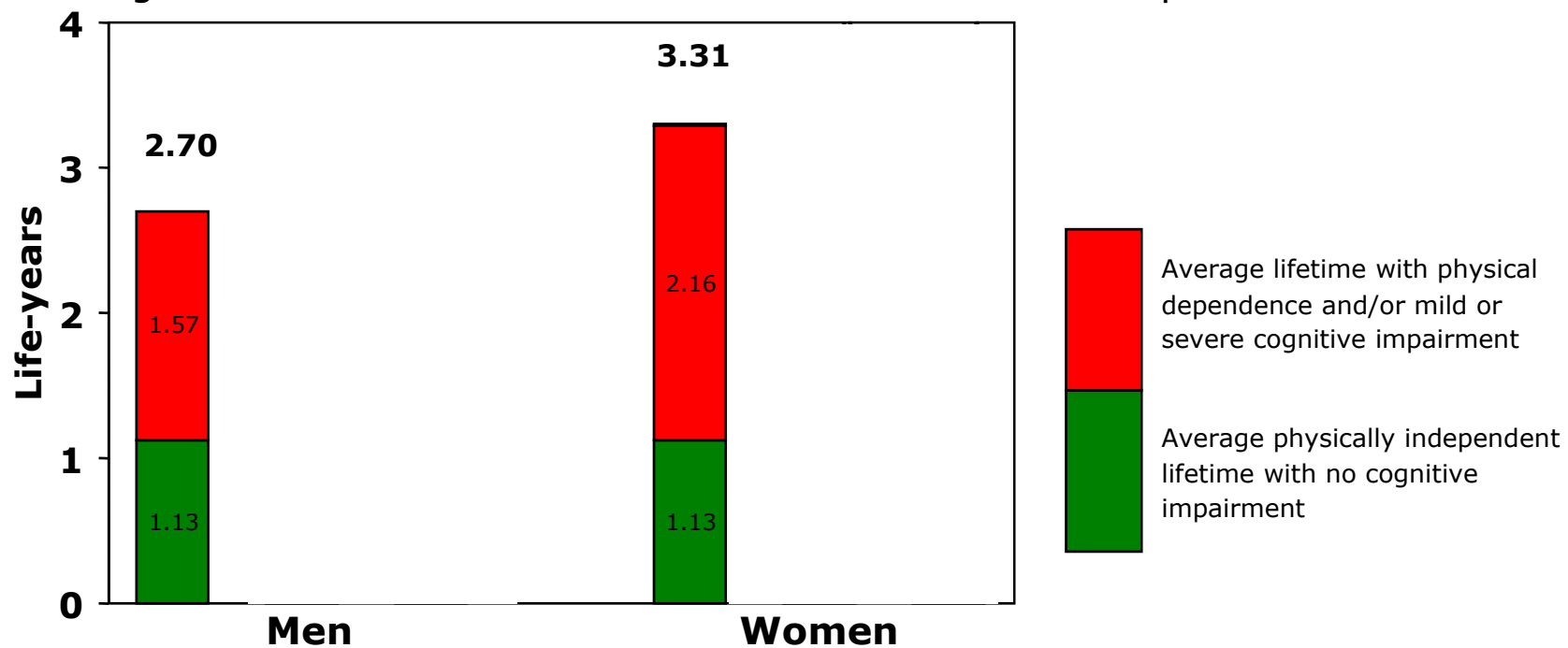
* Estimated by replacing missing values for a person by the worst reported health at the other interviews for that person.

Average lifetime in physical independence and dependence between ages 92 and 100 for Danes born in 1905 and followed up until 2006

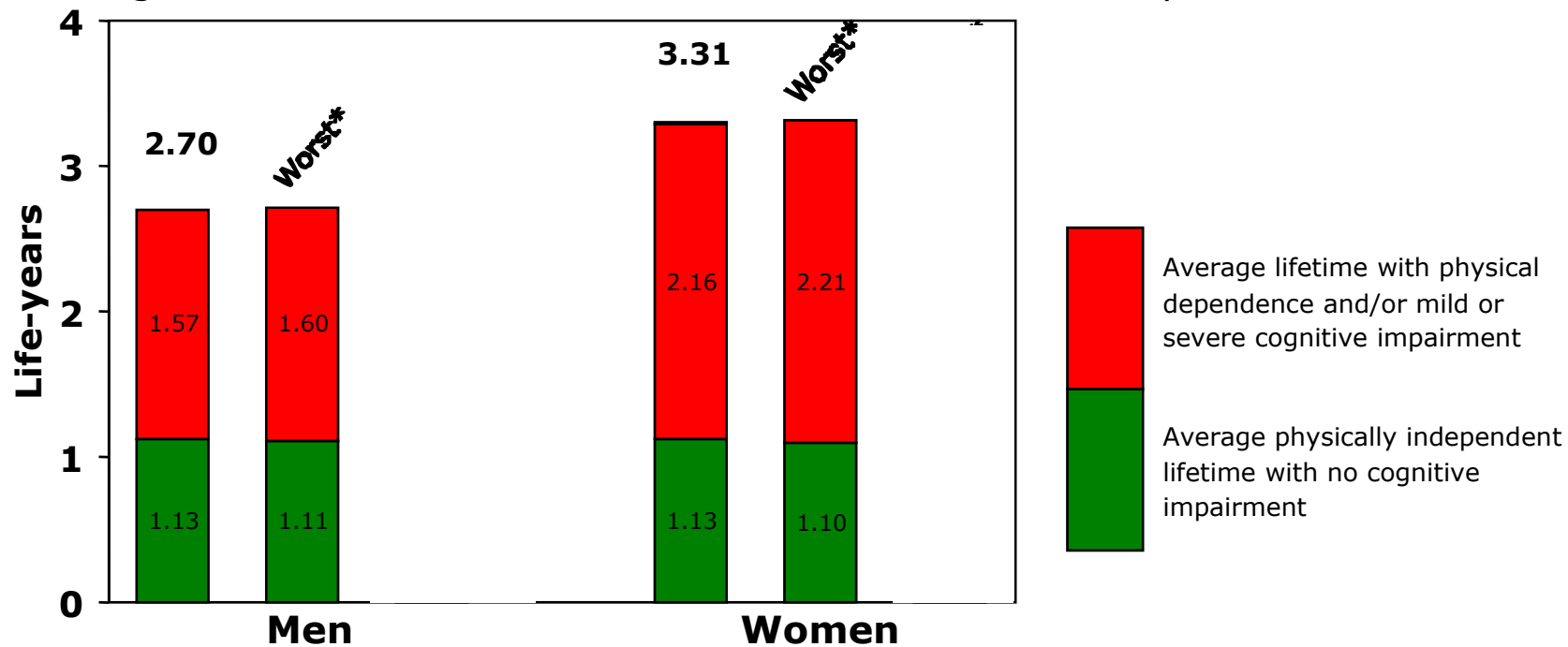


* Estimated by replacing missing values for a person by the best and worst reported health at the other interviews for that person.

Average lifetime by physical and cognitive functioning between ages 92 and 100 for Danes born in 1905 and followed up until 2006

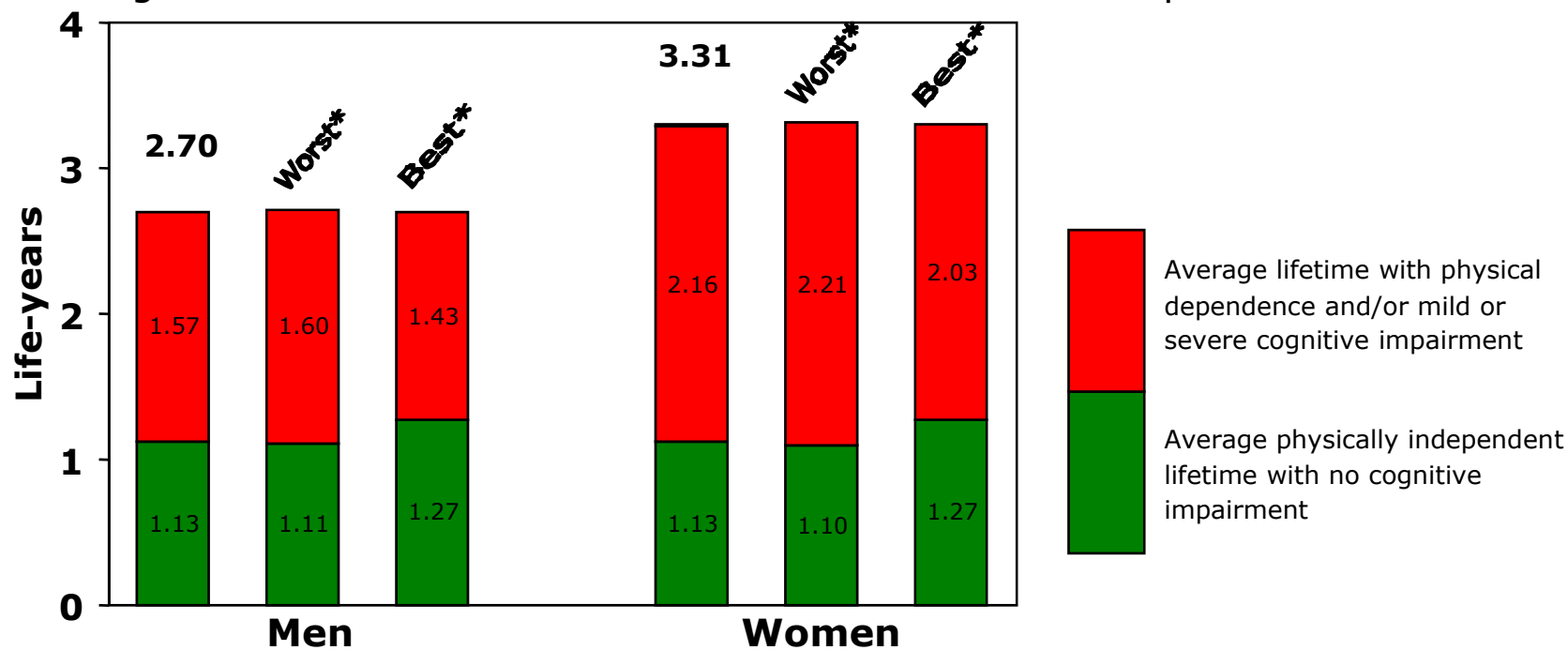


Average lifetime by physical and cognitive functioning between ages 92 and 100 for Danes born in 1905 and followed up until 2006



* Estimated by replacing missing values for a person by the worst reported health at the other interviews for that person.

Average lifetime by physical and cognitive functioning between ages 92 and 100 for Danes born in 1905 and followed up until 2006



* Estimated by replacing missing values for a person by the best and worst reported health at the other interviews for that person.

Conclusion

The average lifetime between ages 92 and 100 was about 3 years, of which

- 50% in self-rated good health
- 75% in a state of physical independence
- 33% (at least) in a state of physical independence without cognitive impairment

**Healthy
ageing?**

**Happy
ending!**



Thank you!

