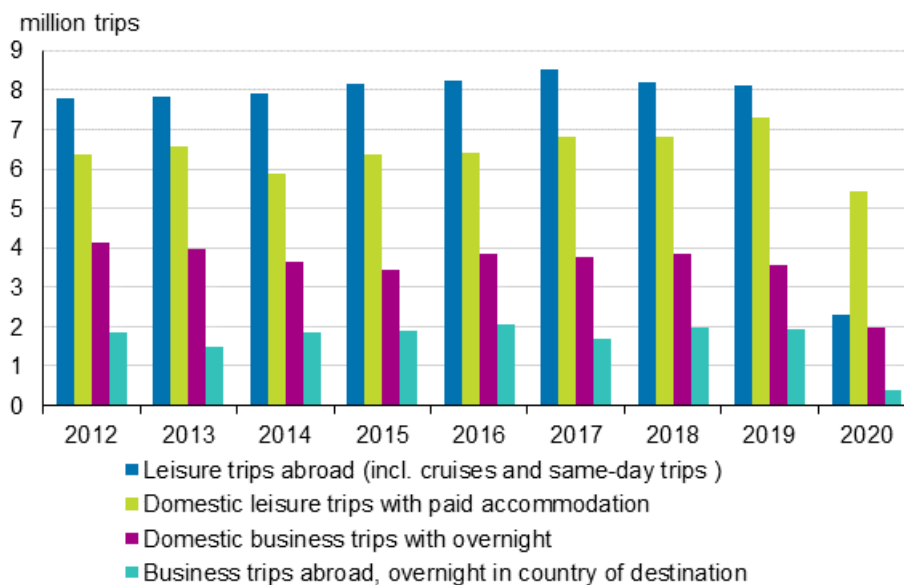


Finnish Travel 2020

Finnish residents' domestic trips to free-time residences increased in 2020

The travel phenomenon of 2020 was spending time at free-time residences in Finland and the number of overnight stays on domestic trips to free-time residences doubled compared with the previous year. In 2020, Finnish residents made a total of 2.3 million different leisure trips abroad, the number of which was only good one quarter compared to the year before due to the coronavirus crisis. Altogether 21.4 million different domestic leisure trips with overnight stay were made, which is nearly one fifth fewer than in 2019. However, trips were clearly longer in duration than in the previous year, for which reason the number of overnight stays increased by over 10 per cent. No significant change took place in the overnight stays of domestic leisure travellers outside Greater Helsinki compared with the previous year. By contrast, domestic leisure trips with overnight stay increased by nearly 50 per cent among residents in Greater Helsinki.

Finnish residents' travel in 2012 to 2020 (excl. domestic leisure trips with free accommodation)

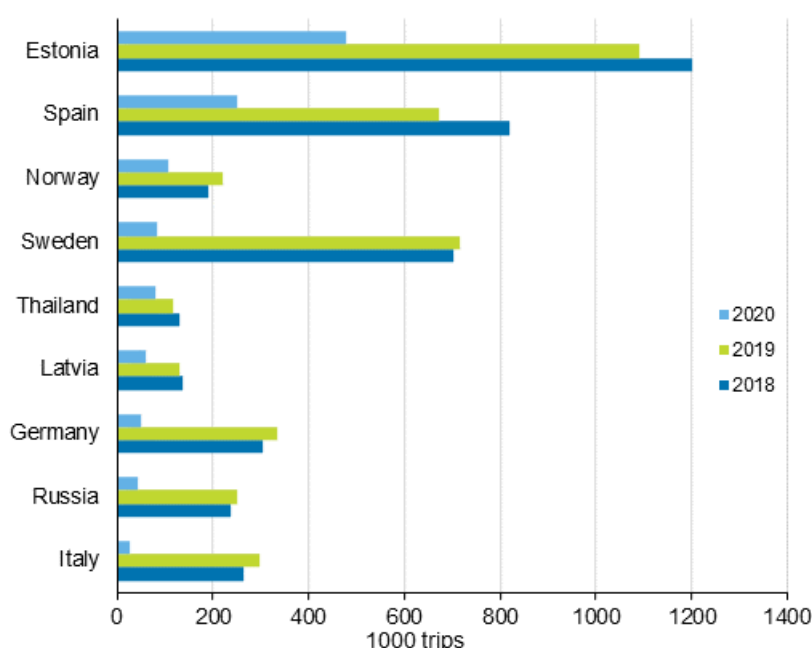


Finnish residents' leisure trips abroad plummeted in 2020 due to the coronavirus crisis. The number of all leisure trips abroad went down by 72 per cent.

Leisure trips to our southern neighbour Estonia decreased to under one half from the previous year and to our western neighbour Sweden they plummeted to under one fifth from the year before. The number of trips to Norway was one half of the previous year's figure. Among the neighbouring countries, the number of trips to Latvia decreased only by a quarter due to cruises.

The number of trips to Central Europe decreased by 82 per cent and those to Southern Europe by 80 per cent. The number of trips to Spain decreased by only 63 per cent despite the difficult pandemic situation. However, January and February 2020 had a strong impact on the number of trips to Spain, then travelling was completely normal.

Finnish residents' most popular destinations for leisure trips with overnight stay in the destination country in 2020, 2019 and 2018



The number of domestic trips with paid accommodation decreased by one quarter from the previous year. In 2020, the number of such trips was 5.5 million.

Short trips lasting under four nights decreased from the year before, but the number of trips lasting at least four nights increased a lot. July, August and October were the most popular times to travel in Finland.

The most popular destinations were located in the region of Lapland. The next most popular regions were Uusimaa and North Ostrobothnia. The most popular towns were Helsinki, Tampere, Kuopio, Turku and Kuusamo.

Compared with the previous year, nights spent at hotels decreased by one third, but nights spent at rented cottages increased by almost 50 per cent from the previous year.

Trips with free accommodation numbered 15.9 million and their most popular destination was Uusimaa. The next most popular destinations with free accommodation were Southwest Finland and Pirkanmaa. Of nights spent in free accommodation, overnight stays at own free-time residences increased most, as their number nearly doubled. By contrast, the number of nights spent at friends and relatives decreased by one fifth.

The number of business trips in Finland halved and business trips abroad remained under one fifth compared to the previous year.

Leisure trips of an average Finn in 2020:

- 1.2 domestic leisure trips with paid accommodation,
- 3.5 domestic trips with free accommodation,
- 0.4 trips abroad that included overnight stay in the country of destination,
- 0.1 same-day trips abroad or cruises to neighbouring areas.

Data collection

The data concerning travel were collected with a web questionnaire or interviews from 15,475 persons aged 15 to 84 permanently resident in Finland.

The numbers of persons who had travelled during the year were collected from 1,174 persons with additional questions asked in connection with the survey concerning travel in December.

Additional tables are found in the PX Web database at:

http://pxnet2.stat.fi/PXWeb/pxweb/en/StatFin/StatFin__li__smat/?tablelist=true

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1. Trips abroad

1.1. Travel abroad plummeted from the previous year

In 2020, Finns made 2.3 million leisure trips abroad. The number of trips with overnight stay in the country of destination was 1.7 million. Of them, 1.0 million were trips with at least four nights in the country of destination and 0.7 million were short trips with one to three nights. Cruises with overnight stays on board numbered 0.3 million. The number of day trips abroad was also 0.3 million. Of them, around 0.1 million were day cruises to Estonia.

The travel year 2020 began almost in the same way as previous years. In the early part of the year, it was not yet evident how far-reaching the effects of the coronavirus would be on travelling.

In January, people travelled as they had done in previous years. In February, schoolchildren started their winter holidays and families could then still go on their expected holiday trips. However, everything changed in March as in mid-month Finland's government ordered a state of emergency in the country. Finns were encouraged to avoid travelling both in Finland and abroad due to the prevailing coronavirus situation.

Finns adhered to the request and travelling abroad almost stopped. The number of infections increased throughout Europe, which led the Finns who spent their winter in the south to return in large numbers to Finland.

In summer the situation was slightly better and travel abroad also picked up slightly. However, many people did not venture to go further than the neighbouring areas. Estonia has been a major favourite for Finns for a long time, and Estonia's pole position was not threatened even by the difficult pandemic situation. During the summer months Finnish residents made 580,000 leisure trips abroad, and 54 per cent of these trips were made to Estonia.

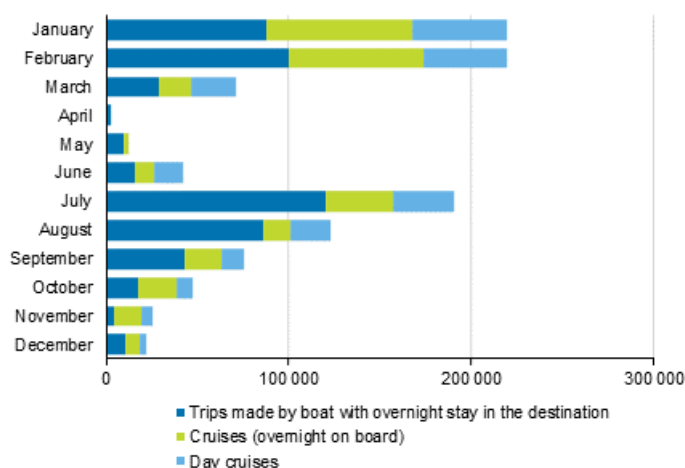
During 2020, altogether 0.2 million leisure trips were made to Central Europe, and 0.3 million to Southern Europe.

1.2. Nearly one half of the trips abroad in 2020 were made by boat

Last year, 1.0 million different leisure trips abroad were made by boat. Of all leisure trips abroad, 46 per cent were made on boats. Of the trips made by boat, 73 per cent were made to Estonia, 20 per cent to Sweden and five per cent to Latvia.

In 2020, Finns made 0.5 million trips with overnight stay in the destination country where a boat was used as the means of travel. Compared with the previous year, the number of such trips decreased by 65 per cent. A total of 0.3 million overnight cruises and 0.2 million day cruises were made.

Number of leisure trips abroad made by boat by month in 2020



1.3. Number of business trips abroad plummeted

In 2020, business and professional trips abroad involving overnight stay in the destination country numbered 0.4 million. The highest number of business trips abroad with overnight stays were made to Sweden.

2. Domestic trips

2.1. Domestic leisure trips shifted from hotels to rented cottages

In 2020, some 5.5 million leisure trips were made in Finland during which paid accommodation services, such as hotels, camping sites or rented cottages, were used at least once. The number of short trips with one to three nights decreased by around 40 per cent, but the number of trips with at least four nights increased almost by one fifth.

Examined by age group, domestic trips of those aged 65 to 84 with paid accommodation decreased by nearly one half, while in other age groups the decrease was only good one fifth.

Finns' favourite holiday destinations in Finland were Lapland, Uusimaa and North Ostrobothnia. The trips to Lapland numbered 740,000, or 14 per cent of all trips with paid accommodation. Thirteen per cent of trips were made to Uusimaa and 10 per cent to North Ostrobothnia.

More leisure trips with paid accommodation were also made to Lapland in 2020 than in the year before. September was the most popular month for travelling to Lapland. July and August were also popular times in Lapland.

During the summer months, the most popular destination was in Uusimaa, Lapland or North Ostrobothnia.

Trips with paid accommodation to large towns decreased significantly. Trips to Helsinki decreased to under one half from the previous year. Trips to Tampere and Turku fell by over 40 per cent.

The number of nights spent during domestic leisure trips involving paid accommodation totalled 16 million, which was as many as in 2019. Around one half of overnight stays were at rented cottages, one third at hotels and the rest at camping sites and in holiday villages. Overnight stays at hotels decreased by one third from the previous year but rented cottages and camping sites were winners in the coronavirus year, as the overnight stays in them increased by around one half.

In Finland, passenger cars were the most usual means of transport as 85 per cent of trips were made with passenger cars. Travel by public transport, such as train, bus or plane, decreased from the previous year.

2.2. Duration of trips with free accommodation lengthened

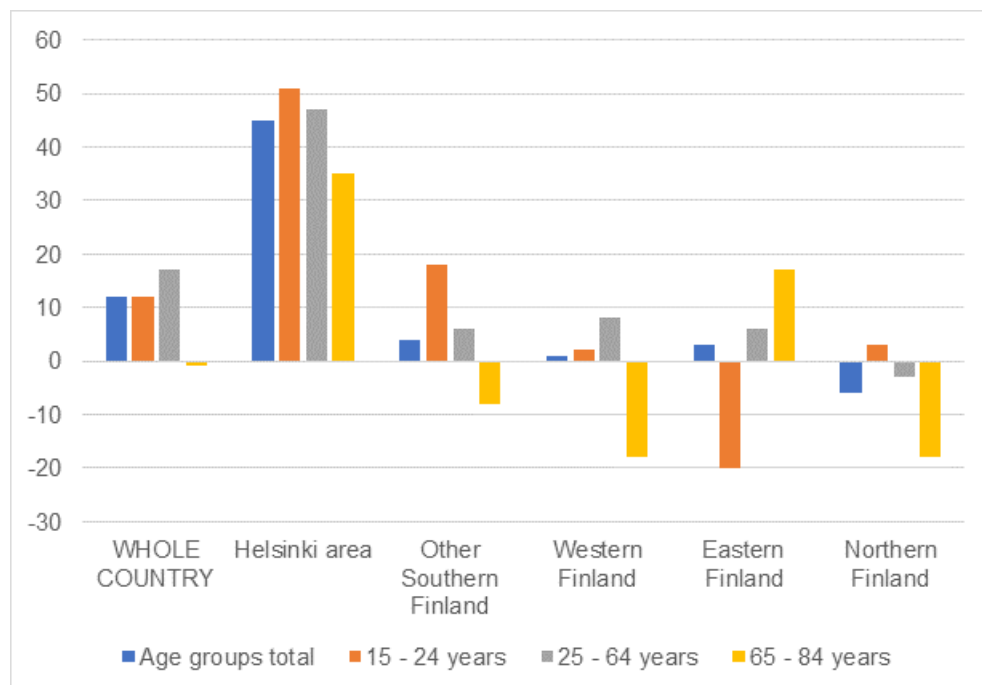
Altogether 15.9 million overnight leisure trips with free accommodation were made in Finland, i.e. to own free-time residences or to relatives or friends. The number of these trips with free accommodation decreased only slightly from the previous year. However, the duration of the trips lengthened by one night from the previous year, to 4.1 nights, on average. Therefore, overnight stays went up by 16 per cent. Of nights spent in free accommodation, overnight stays at own free-time residences increased most, as their number nearly doubled. By contrast, the number of nights spent at friends and relatives decreased by one fifth.

The most popular destination region for trips with free accommodation was Uusimaa. However, only close on one third of trips to Uusimaa were made to Helsinki, to which one half fewer trips were made than in 2019. The popularity of other large towns as free accommodation destinations also decreased clearly from the previous year. After Uusimaa, the next most popular destination regions for trips with free accommodation were Southwest Finland, Pirkanmaa and Lapland.

The high season for trips with free accommodation was the summer months, as 40 per cent of trips with free accommodation in 2020 were made in June to August.

2.3. Increase in overnight stays during domestic leisure trips was due to people living in Greater Helsinki

Change in the number of overnight stays during domestic leisure trips by the person's area of residence and age group in 2020



Persons resident in Greater Helsinki stayed overnight a total of 27.6 million nights during domestic leisure trips, which was 45 per cent more than in the year before. By contrast, no significant annual change is visible in the number of overnight stays of persons resident outside Greater Helsinki.

Examined by age group, overnight stays increased clearly among young people (aged 15 to 24) and especially among people of working age (aged 25 to 64). Overnight stays in these age groups increased by 12 to 17 per cent from the previous year. By contrast, the number of overnight stays among people of retirement age (aged 65 to 84) did not grow. This is particularly due to overnight stays in paid accommodation, which among people of retirement age decreased by around one quarter from the previous year. In other age groups, the number of overnight stays with paid accommodation was slightly higher than in 2019.

2.4. Factors influencing the selection of the domestic travel destination

Domestic leisure trips in which holiday was given as the reason numbered 11.8 million in 2020. Of them, 4.2 million were trips with paid overnight stay and 7.6 million with free accommodation.

In the survey it was possible to mention at most two reasons for selecting the domestic holiday destination. The most significant factor in selecting the travel destination was nature and it had an effect on selecting the travel destination in four out of five trips with free accommodation, which are such as trips to free-time residences and trips to friends and relatives.

Concerning trips with paid accommodation, nature was also the most important reason for selecting the destination and was selected by 56 per cent, while in the previous year only 37 per cent mentioned that nature affected the selection of the destination. The next most important reasons were well-being and physical exercise, while the share of culture and shopping decreased clearly from the year before.

2.4. Domestic business trips

A total of two million business trips with overnight stays were made in Finland in 2020. Forty-five per cent fewer domestic business trips were made than in 2019.

Domestic business trips were typically very short. Of the trips, 47 per cent lasted one night and only 11 per cent five nights or more.

Domestic business trips were usually made by own car, as 66 per cent of the trips were made by passenger car. Seventeen per cent of business trips were made by train and four per cent by plane.

3. Travel reservations

3.1. Accommodation and tickets for leisure trips are mainly booked online

Using the Internet in reserving accommodation and means of travel for leisure trips was also very popular in the exceptional circumstances of 2020. Of those that booked their ticket or accommodation in advance, the majority had made the reservation online.

Concerning trips with paid accommodation in Finland, 69 per cent of the accommodation was reserved online. Ninety-eight per cent of tickets for domestic flights and 94 per cent of train tickets were reserved online.

Eighty-two per cent reserved their accommodation for leisure trips abroad on the Internet. Ninety per cent of persons that flew on leisure trips abroad booked their tickets online. For boat trips, the corresponding figure was 73 per cent.

Of cruises with overnight stay only on board, 80 per cent were reserved in advance on the Internet.

3.2. Number of leisure package tours contracted in the exceptional year

In February 2020, when travelling was still carefree and permissible, 23 per cent of leisure trips abroad with at least one overnight stay in the destination country were package tours. Many trips booked by Finns for early summer were cancelled, but in August, plenty of package tours were made again. Also 23 per cent of the leisure trips abroad in August were package tours.

Of the 480,000 leisure trips with overnight stay in the destination country made to Estonia in 2020, altogether 21 per cent were package tours.

The popularity of package tours grows along with the age of the traveller. Of trips with overnight stay in the destination country among those aged under 35, altogether 12 per cent were package tours, while the corresponding percentage for those aged over 35 was 23.

Package tours are not as popular in domestic travel as they are when travelling abroad. Of the 5.5 million domestic trips including paid accommodation, only around one per cent were package tours. One per cent of trips to Lapland and two per cent of trips made to Uusimaa were package tours.

The price of a package tour includes at least the travel and accommodation. The package may also include meals, admission tickets, excursions, programme services, treatments, etc.

4. Seventy-one per cent of Finns made at least one leisure trip in 2020

A total of 3.1 million, or 71 per cent of Finnish residents aged 15 to 84, made at least one leisure trip that included an overnight stay during 2020. Included are all domestic and outbound leisure trips, as well as trips to free-time residences and visits to friends and relatives.

As many as 79 per cent of those living in the Helsinki region made some leisure trip with an overnight stay. The level of education also had an impact on how actively people travel, because 80 per cent of those with the highest level of education made a leisure trip with an overnight stay. Examined by age group, the most eager travellers were persons aged 35 to 44, as 88 per cent of them made a leisure trip with an overnight stay. Families with children also made more trips than others, because 75 per cent of households of more than two persons made a leisure trip with overnight stay. Nearly one third (29 per cent) of the population did not make any leisure trips with overnight stays outside their usual environment during 2020.

In 2020, around 1.6 million Finnish residents aged 15 to 84 made at least one leisure trip in Finland with paid accommodation. This is 36 per cent of all those belonging to the age group. At least one leisure trip abroad with overnight stay in the destination country was made by 17 per cent of all persons belonging to this age group.

Every tenth Finnish resident aged 15 to 84, or 0.5 million persons, made a business trip in Finland which involved staying overnight or a business trip abroad during which a night was spent in the destination country.

5. More than 3 million of the trips reserved before the pandemic were cancelled

In addition, in the surveys concerning trips in April to October it was asked about trips in April to December that were reserved prior to the restrictions set in mid-March due to the pandemic. One in five respondents had such reservations for trips abroad and according to their estimate at the time of the survey, almost all trips would either be cancelled or postponed to a later time due to the coronavirus situation. Correspondingly, around one in seven respondent had reservations for domestic trips with paid accommodation, and around one in three of these trips were estimated to be realised as planned.

During April to December, altogether 2.1 million such trips abroad and one million domestic trips with paid accommodation, for which Finns had made reservations before the restrictions imposed in mid-March due to the pandemic, were cancelled or postponed. Close on one half of the cancelled or postponed trips were to take place in April to May, 34 per cent in June to August and 18 per cent in September to December.

Appendix tables

Appendix table 1. Overnight stay trips by Finnish residents in 2013 to 2020

Type of trip				2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	
				1,000 trips								
Trips, total				39,040	37,570	38,060	38,910	38,490	38,580	38,670	25,670	
Leisure	Domestic	Total	Total	26,530	25,210	25,720	25,930	26,380	25,680	25,690	21,380	
			1-3 nights	21,220	20,070	20,500	20,640	21,200	20,280	20,600	14,760	
			4 or more nights	5,310	5,140	5,220	5,290	5,190	5,400	5,090	6,620	
		Paid accommodation	Total	6,550	5,890	6,370	6,420	6,820	6,830	7,290	5,450	
			1-3 nights	5,180	4,690	5,100	5,090	5,540	5,330	6,000	3,830	
			4 or more nights	1,370	1,200	1,270	1,330	1,290	1,500	1,290	1,620	
		Free accommodation	Total	19,970	19,320	19,350	19,510	19,560	18,850	18,400	15,930	
			1-3 nights	16,040	15,380	15,400	15,550	15,660	14,950	14,600	10,930	
			4 or more nights	3,930	3,940	3,950	3,960	3,900	3,900	3,800	5,000	
	Abroad	Total	Total	6,990	7,030	7,250	7,240	7,570	7,390	7,340	1,960	
			1-3 nights	3,600	3,430	3,600	3,610	3,830	3,210	3,290	930	
			4 or more nights	3,390	3,600	3,650	3,620	3,740	4,180	4,050	1,030	
		Overnight stay in destination country	Total	5,720	5,880	6,160	6,100	6,520	6,440	6,250	1,660	
			1-3 nights	2,340	2,280	2,510	2,490	2,780	2,260	2,210	630	
			4 or more nights	3,390	3,600	3,650	3,620	3,740	4,180	4,040	1,030	
Cruises		Total	1,270	1,150	1,090	1,140	1,050	950	1,090	300		
Business		Domestic	Total	Total	3,950	3,640	3,430	3,860	3,780	3,440	3,580	1,960
				1-3 nights	3,690	3,330	3,140	3,440	3,410	3,050	3,090	1,500
	4 or more nights			260	300	290	420	370	400	490	460	
	Abroad	Total	Total	1,580	1,700	1,660	1,890	1,760	2,060	2,050	370	
			1-3 nights	1,090	1,220	1,100	1,270	1,240	1,440	1,460	210	
			4 or more nights	480	480	560	620	520	620	590	160	

Symbols: [...] Data not available or too uncertain for presentation, or subject to secrecy.

The sums in the tables do not always amount to the totals shown because of rounding.

1) Trips with paid accommodation include at least one overnight stay in a hotel, holiday village, campsite, rented cottage or other paid accommodation.

Appendix table 2. Leisure trips abroad (overnight in destination country) by most popular destinations in 2015 to 2020

Destination		Total						Average duration	Median
		2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2020	2020
		1,000 trips						Nights	Nights
Trips, total		6,160	6,100	6,520	6,440	6,250	1,660	12,8	5
Nordic countries	Total	890	970	1,030	1,030	1,070	210	5,0	4
	Denmark	..	100	130	130	110	..	..	..
	Norway	190	150	180	190	220	110	4,9	4,5
	Sweden	610	710	700	700	710	..	..	..
Russia and Baltic countries	Total	1,830	1,850	1,950	1,600	1,500	600	3,8	2
	Estonia	1,530	1,480	1,520	1,200	1,090	480	3,8	2
	Latvia	..	..	120	140	130	..	..	..
	Russian Federation	240	270	290	240	250	..	..	..
Western and Eastern Europe	Total	1,250	1,180	1,360	1,300	1,340	230	9,0	5
	Austria	..	..	..	120	..	..	..	..
	Czech Republic	..	100	130	..	..	..	..	..
	France	180	100	130	140	160	..	..	..
	Germany	330	270	290	310	340	..	..	..
	Poland	..	110	120	130	160	..	..	..
	United Kingdom	200	210	250	220	200	..	..	..
Southern Europe and East Mediterranean countries	Total	1,580	1,520	1,640	1,890	1,730	340	25,3	8
	Spain (without Canary Islands)	380	420	470	470	430	160	38,4	8
	Spanish Canary Islands	270	320	310	350	250	100	12,4	10
	Greece	240	180	250	250	250	..	..	..
	Croatia	..	..	120	140	130	..	..	..
	Italy	230	260	230	260	300	..	..	..
	Portugal	100	..	..	100	110	..	..	..
	Turkey	210	100	..	160	130	..	..	..
America	Total	180	210	160	170	150	..	..	..
	United States	120	140	100	130	100	..	..	..
Africa	Total	..	..	..	..	100	..	..	..
Asia and Oceania	Total	380	310	330	390	360	180	22,1	15
	Thailand	120	130	100	130	120	..	..	..
	United Arab Emirates	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Symbols: [...] Data not available or too uncertain for presentation, or subject to secrecy.
The sums in the tables do not always amount to the totals shown because of rounding.

Appendix table 3. Business trips abroad by destination country in 2018 to 2020

Destination		Total			Overnight in destination country			Cruises, overnight on board only			Same-day visits (incl. day cruises)		
		2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020	2018	2019	2020
		1,000 trips											
Trips, total		2,300	2,290	400	1,980	1,950	360	..	100	..	240	250	..
Nordic countries	Total	830	610	180	600	460	140	..	..	..	170	120	..
	Denmark	120	130	..	..	120	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Norway	130	..	..	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Sweden	570	410	130	390	270	100	..	..	..	110	110	..
Russia and Baltic countries	Total	320	430	..	240	270	..	..	..	..	..	110	..
	Estonia	190	230	..	130	130	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Western and Eastern Europe	Total	660	720	..	660	700	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Germany	190	270	..	190	260	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	United Kingdom	100	110	..	100	110	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southern Europe and East Mediterranean countries	Total	240	260	..	240	260	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Spain (without Canary Islands)	..	120	..	..	120	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	Italy	100	..	..	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
America	Total	120	100	..	120	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	United States	100	..	..	100	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Africa	Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Asia and Oceania	Total	110	140	..	110	140	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Symbols: [...] Data not available or too uncertain for presentation, or subject to secrecy.
The sums in the tables do not always amount to the totals shown because of rounding.

Appendix table 4. Trips abroad by cause and destination in 2020 and its change

Destination		Leisure trips					Business trips	
		Visiting friends or relatives	Holiday	Other personal reason	Leisure trips, total	Year-on-year change (2019/2020)	Business trips, total	Year-on-year change (2019/2020)
		1,000 trips				%	1,000 trips	%
Trips, total		360	1,660	270	2,290	-72	400	-82
Nordic countries	Total	..	330	..	440	-76	180	-67
	Norway	..	110	..	130	-49	..	..
	Sweden	..	210	..	300	-80	130	-63
Russia and Baltic countries	Total	..	760	140	990	-57	..	..
	Estonia	..	610	..	780	-56	..	..
	Latvia	..	..	..	110	-13	..	..
Western and Eastern Europe	Total	..	120	..	240	-83	..	..
Southern Europe and East Mediterranean countries	Total	..	270	..	340	-81	..	..
	Spain (without Canary Islands)	..	120	..	160	-68	..	..
	Canary Islands	..	..	..	100	-62	..	..
America	Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Africa	Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Asia and Oceania	Total	..	120	..	180	-55	..	..

Symbols: [...] Data not available or too uncertain for presentation, or subject to secrecy.
The sums in the tables do not always amount to the totals shown because of rounding.

Appendix table 5. Bookings of transportation via internet in 2020

Type of trip			Means of booking the transport			Booked transport
			Via Internet	By other means	Unknown	Total
			Share, % ¹⁾			1,000 trips
Trips, total			84	7	9	5,460
Leisure	Domestic	Total	91	5	4	2,730
		Airplane or helicopter	98	0	2	180
		Boat, ferry	85	4	11	..
		Train	94	3	2	1 700
		Bus or coach	84	7	8	630
	Abroad	Total	80	8	12	1,910
		Airplane or helicopter	90	8	2	830
Business	Domestic	Total	76	11	12	450
		Airplane or helicopter	78	13	10	..
		Train	88	10	2	290
		Bus or coach	62	16	23	..
	Abroad	Total	64	10	25	370
		Airplane or helicopter	66	10	24	290
		Boat, ferry	63	9	29	..

The sums in the tables do not always amount to the totals shown because of rounding.

1) Trips that include a reservation made for means of transport; including domestic trips in paid or free accommodation, and same-day trips abroad, cruises and trips with overnight stay in the destination country.

Appendix table 6. Bookings of accommodation via internet in 2020

Type of trip		Booking of accommodation			Booked accommodation
		Via Internet	By other means	Unknown	Total
		Share, % ¹⁾			1,000 trips
Trips, total		67	22	10	7,730
Leisure	Domestic leisure trips in paid accommodation	69	23	8	4,580
	Cruises abroad, overnights on board	80	7	13	300
	Leisure trips abroad, overnight stay in destination country	83	12	6	1,170
Business	Domestic	52	32	17	1,380
	Abroad	48	21	31	300

The sums in the tables do not always amount to the totals shown because of rounding.

1) Trips with paid accommodation and cruises that have been booked in advance.

Quality description: Finnish Travel 2020

Relevance of statistical information

The statistics on Finnish Travel contain information on trips made by Finnish residents and on the number of persons having travelled during the year. The statistics describe trips in Finland and abroad including overnight stay and same-day trips abroad.

The data of the statistics are used for monitoring domestic travel and trips abroad made by Finnish residents. The data are intended particularly for the use of central government, tourism enterprises and organisations and researchers. Within central government, the data are mainly used for the balance of payment calculations. The data from the statistics are also reported to Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities in accordance with the Regulation on European statistics on tourism (EU) No 692/2011.

Statistics Finland collects the data of the statistics as a so-called mixed-mode data collection, that is, with a self-filled web questionnaire or alternatively as a telephone interview. The survey persons represent the population aged 15 to 84 permanently resident in Finland.

The data are collected on voluntary basis. Survey data on individual persons must be kept confidential by virtue of the Statistics Act (280/2004, Section 12).

The concept of usual environment is essentially connected to the definition of tourism. According to the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), tourism comprises the activities of persons travelling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for not more than one consecutive year.

Statistics Finland's classifications of municipalities and countries for the statistical reference year are used for classifying destinations of trips.

Methodological description of the statistics

The data for the statistics are collected with an inquiry consisting of two parts. The monthly inquiry collects data on trips made by Finnish residents during the past three months, their numbers and characteristics. In 2019, data were exceptionally collected about trips during three previous months.

In addition to the last monthly inquiry of the year, a so-called annual inquiry is made, where yes/no questions are used to establish the numbers of persons having made different types of trips during the statistical reference year.

The data collection is a sample-based inquiry conducted with a web questionnaire or alternatively as a telephone interview. The target persons are primarily asked to respond to the inquiry with a web questionnaire. If data are not obtained, the statistical interviewer will contact the target person by telephone. The data are collected between the February of the statistical reference year and the January of the year following it. The data for each monthly inquiry are collected during the following month. The data for the annual inquiry on persons having travelled are collected in connection with the last monthly inquiry of the year.

The population of the statistics comprises people aged 15 to 84 permanently resident in Finland according to the Population Information System. However, persons permanently living in institutions are excluded from the population. The samples are drawn with systematic sampling, and they represent the population comprehensively with respect to age, sex, area of residence and native language. Working-age people (aged 25 to 64) are drawn to the sample slightly more often than young people (aged 15 to 24) and pensioners (aged 65 to 84) because the highest number of trips is made by working-age people.

The sample size of the inquiry is 28,200 persons per year, that is, 2,350 persons per month. In 2019, the sample size was 16,000 persons per year. Until 2012, the same sample was also used in the data collection of the monthly statistics on consumer confidence.

The response data are expanded to the whole population with weighting coefficients. From 2012 onwards, the weighting coefficient for each month is expanded to the population of the month (preliminary data on

population structure). The strata used are the respondent's age group, sex and area of residence (major region). Before 2012, only sex was used as the stratum.

Correctness and accuracy of data

The data content of the statistics was extended particularly in the years 1995 to 1997 to correspond to the requirements of the EC Directive on tourism statistics (95/57/EC). In 1996, same-day trips abroad were included in the statistics in addition to trips with overnight stay, so in its present extent the statistics present a fairly comprehensive picture of travelling by Finnish residents. Only same-day trips in Finland are excluded from the statistics.

After the questionnaire reform of 2012, the respondent no longer decides the type of trip her/himself, but it is deduced from the responses given. All modes of overnight stays used during a trip are included in the questions, in order to ensure that trips with paid accommodation automatically get grouped correctly. This reduces errors and enables more accurate compilation of statistics.

The non-response rate for the survey is on the annual level 45 per cent. Non-response is one of the main sources of errors, as the size of non-response has an immediate effect on the size of the weighting coefficients. The larger the non-response rate, the greater the weighting coefficients.

Random variation caused by sampling is described by means of confidence intervals calculated for the annual estimates of trips and persons having travelled.

Table 1. Confidence intervals of numbers of trips by type of trip in 2020

Type of trip	N	Sum	Standard deviation	95% Confidence Limit for Sum	
				Lower	Upper
1,000 trips					
Domestic leisure trips with paid accommodation	1,555	5,450	130	5,210	5,700
Domestic leisure trips with free accommodation	4,563	15,930	150	15,620	16,230
Domestic business and professional trips	556	1,960	80	1,810	2,120
Same-day leisure trips abroad (incl. day cruises)	93	330	30	260	400
Leisure cruises abroad	87	300	30	240	360
Leisure trips abroad, overnight in country of destination	482	1,660	70	1,510	1,810
Business and professional trips abroad	115	400	40	330	480

Table 2. Confidence intervals of numbers of persons by travelling activity in 2020

Travelling activity	N	Sum	Standard deviation	95% Confidence Limit for Sum	
				Lower	Upper
1,000 persons					
Didn't make leisure trips with overnight stay	335	1,270	60	1,160	1,380
Made leisure trips with overnight stay	827	3,140	60	3,030	3,260
Made domestic leisure trips with paid accommodation	422	1,160	60	1,490	1,730
Made same-day leisure trips abroad (incl. day cruises)	327	1,010	50	910	1,100
Made leisure cruises abroad	116	440	40	360	520
Made leisure trips abroad with paid accommodation, overnight in country of destination	55	200	30	150	260
Made business and professional trips, domestic and abroad	117	460	40	380	530

The results are presented at the accuracy of ten thousand. Prior to 2012, figures below 10,000 were not published, but they were entered as uncertain data. From 2012 to 2015, figures under 50,000 were entered as uncertain data. Starting from 2016, figures under 100,000 are entered as uncertain data.

Timeliness and promptness of published data

Until 2011, data on the numbers of trips were published monthly six to seven weeks from the end of the statistical reference month. From 2012 on, preliminary data are released at four-month intervals six to seven weeks from the end of the period, but preliminary data for 2020 are exceptionally released four months from the end of the period.

Annual data are published on the website of the statistics on Finnish Travel around three months after the end of the year.

The data are published only on Statistics Finland's website. The annual Finnish Travel publication was produced as a printed copy until the statistical year 2008.

Annual data on trips are available by group of trips and destination area in Statistics Finland's StatFin database. The time series by group of trips start from 1991 and by destination area from 2000.

Comparability of statistics

The statistics have been made regularly since 1991. From 1991 to 1994, Statistics Finland produced the statistics on assignment of the Finnish Tourist Board. These years are mutually comparable, because uniform methods were used. In 1995, the statistics were transferred completely to Statistics Finland. The content and methodological changes started in the same year have had an effect on the comparability of data between 1995 and 1999. The data content and the calculation and data collection methods remained unchanged from 2000 to 2009. Due to changes made to the data collection in 2010 and 2012, the figures are not fully comparable with previous years.

Starting from the beginning of 2000, the survey has been made centrally every month together with the Consumer Survey (now Consumer Confidence). Prior to this, the data were collected in connection with those for Statistics Finland's Labour Force Survey, quarterly between 1996 and 1999 and before that three times a year.

In 2000, the maximum length of a trip changed from 90 to 365 days according to the guidelines of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO). The fact that starting from the statistical reference year 2000, target persons have been asked about trips that ended during the survey period instead of trips that started, has also weakened the comparability of the data somewhat.

The data collection was changed in 2010 so that the survey period of the interview month was shortened from two months to one month, that is, the inquiry concerns only trips ended during the month immediately before the interview month instead of the two previous months as before. Previously, final data on the numbers of trips in each month were obtained as an average for two samples, after the change the figures are based on one sample.

From 2012 onwards, the statistics on tourism are compiled in accordance with the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council (EU) No 692/2011. At the same time, the population was extended from people aged 15 to 74 to those aged 15 to 84, more accurate weighting coefficients were introduced and significant changes were made to the interview questionnaire. On account of the revision, the data are not fully comparable with previous years. The extension of the *age group* increased the sums by group of trips by two to five per cent. The specification of the *weighting coefficient* increased the sums by group of trips by two to three per cent. It is difficult to define the effect of changed questions on the results obtained. The deduction of the type of trip from the responses given (instead of the respondent's own classification) has moved part of the trips to another group. The revised instructions aim to lower the amount of travelling belonging to the usual environment in the statistics.

In the 2019 survey, the reference period of the monthly survey was extended from one month to three previous months. The aim of the change was to obtain more travel observations from each respondent

than before. At the same time, however, fewer trips were obtained by month. This is assumed to be because either not all trips during three months were remembered to be reported or their reporting was felt too heavy especially for those who travelled much. This sub-reporting concerned especially short trips, business trips, and various trips made with guest and other free accommodation.

In order to maintain the comparability of the annual numbers of trips, the weight coefficients of trips were raised by type of trip and for trips abroad by country-specific coefficients. Source data outside the statistics describing annual level change were used to determine these inflating coefficients. Statistics Finland's accommodation statistics were used especially for trips with paid accommodation in Finland. For Finnish residents' trips abroad, statistical data based on data on telecommunications operators were used on visits by destination country, statistics on package tours of the Association of Finnish Travel Agents, passenger statistics on sea transport, and for Estonian tourism, statistics on the number of passengers published by the Port of Tallinn.

Data on persons having travelled are comparable between different years. The annual survey on persons having travelled was made in connection with the Labour Force Survey between 1991 and 2011 and after that as annexed to the Finnish Travel Survey.

Coherence and consistency/uniformity

Finnish travel compiles statistics on the demand for tourism. The supply of tourism in Finland is described in Statistics Finland's monthly and annually published **Accommodation statistics**. The statistics contain data on the accommodation capacity of hotels and its use and overnight stays at accommodation establishments broken down by the visitors' country of residence.

Tourism satellite account (TSA) is a statistical system in which the economic effects of tourism are described in a versatile and comprehensive manner. The figures for tourism accounts are published on the web pages of **Visit Finland's** statistical service Rudolf.

Statistics on passenger transport between Finland and foreign countries are compiled in Statistics Finland's statistics on international sea transport and air transport. However, these statistics do not report the country of residence of the passengers. The **Association of Finnish Travel Agents (AFTA)** publishes yearly on its website statistics on leisure package tours made by air and their market shares, which provide information about the number of trips bought through travel agencies by country of destination.

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