

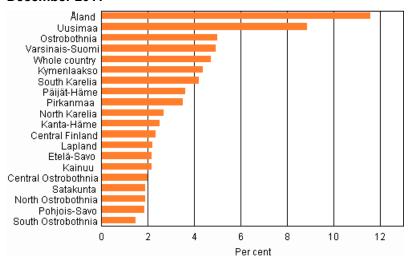
# Population Structure 2011

2011 Annual Review

# Finland's population includes 4.8 per cent of people with foreign origin

According to Statistics Finland's statistics on the population structure, there were 257,248 persons of foreign origin living in Finland at the end of 2011, which represents 4.8 per cent of Finland's population. There were 219,702 persons that have been born abroad, so-called first generation Finns with foreign origin, and 37,546 persons born in Finland with foreign origin, so-called second generation Finns with foreign origin.

# Share of people with foreign origin of the Finnish population on 31 December 2011



# The share of people with foreign origin is highest in Aland and the Helsinki area

The number of people with foreign origin was highest in the Region of Åland, where their share of the population was 11.6 per cent and second highest in Uusimaa, 8.9 per cent. Of the persons with foreign origin living in Åland, nearly half were of Swedish origin. The share of the population with foreign origin was lowest in South Ostrobothnia, 1.5 per cent.

#### Population of foreign origin by region 31.12.2011

Region	Origin						
	Population total	Foreign origin	1st generation	2nd generation	Proportion of poputation	Proportion of 1st generation	Proportion of 2nd generation
WHOLE COUNTRY	5 401 267	257 248	219 702	37 546	4,76	4,07	0,70
MAINLAND FINLAND	5 372 913	253 956	216 702	37 254	4,73	4,03	0,69
Uusimaa	1 549 058	137 678	115 100	22 578	8,89	7,43	1,46
Varsinais-Suomi	467 217	23 223	19 392	3 831	4,97	4,15	0,82
Satakunta	226 567	4 325	3 937	388	1,91	1,74	0,17
Kanta-Häme	175 230	4 443	3 968	475	2,54	2,26	0,27
Pirkanmaa	491 472	17 332	14 930	2 402	3,53	3,04	0,49
Päijät-Häme	202 236	7 406	6 481	925	3,66	3,20	0,46
Kymenlaakso	181 829	8 014	7 237	777	4,41	3,98	0,43
South Karelia	133 311	5 631	5 096	535	4,22	3,82	0,40
Etelä-Savo	153 738	3 386	3 041	345	2,20	1,98	0,22
Pohjois-Savo	248 130	4 697	4 195	502	1,89	1,69	0,20
North Karelia	165 906	4 527	4 131	396	2,73	2,49	0,24
Central Finland	274 379	6 521	5 736	785	2,38	2,09	0,29
South Ostrobothnia	193 735	2 950	2 640	310	1,52	1,36	0,16
Ostrobothnia	179 106	8 998	7 878	1 120	5,02	4,40	0,63
Central Ostrobothnia	68 484	1 382	1 218	164	2,02	1,78	0,24
North Ostrobothnia	397 887	7 583	6 505	1 078	1,91	1,63	0,27
Kainuu	81 298	1 784	1 610	174	2,19	1,98	0,21
Lapland	183 330	4 076	3 607	469	2,22	1,97	0,26
ÅLAND	28 354	3 292	3 000	292	11,61	10,58	1,03
Åland	28 354	3 292	3 000	292	11,61	10,58	1,03

Examined by municipality in Mainland Finland, the share of people with foreign origin was highest in Helsinki, 11.8 per cent, Vantaa, 11.2 per cent and Espoo, 10.5 per cent. The lowest shares were found in Rautavaara, Pelkosenniemi and Kiikoinen, 0.3 per cent.

Of all people with foreign origin, one-half lived in Uusimaa. Of the second generation Finns with foreign origin, 60 per cent lived in Uusimaa.

### The share of people with foreign origin is highest among young adults

The effect of immigration on the age structure of our country can be seen among young adults. The share of people with foreign origin among 25-34 year-olds was 8.7 per cent at the end of 2011. In he Region of Åland, one-fifth of 25-34 year-olds were of foreign origin. In Uusimaa the share was 14.3 per cent.

The share of people with foreign origin among under school-age children (aged 0-6) was 5.6 per cent. In Åland and Uusimaa, one-tenth of children under school-age were of foreign origin.

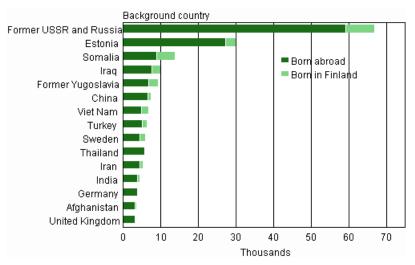
#### 59 per cent of people with foreign origin are of European origin

Examined by continent, 59 per cent of all persons with foreign origin were of European origin. The second largest group were people of Asian origin, whose share was 23 per cent, and the third largest were people of African origin, 12 per cent.

The share of Europeans among first generation Finns with foreign origin was 61 per cent, that of Asians was 23 per cent, and the share of Africans was 11 per cent. The share of Europeans among second generation Finns with foreign origin was 48 per cent, the share of Asians was 25 per cent, and that of Africans was 21 per cent.

Examined by background country, the largest group by far among people with foreign origin are those whose background country is the former Soviet Union or Russia. There were 67,127 such persons in Finland at the end of 2011, representing 26 per cent of all people with foreign origin. The next biggest groups were people of Estonian origin, 30,250 persons, of Somalian origin, 13,930 persons, and of Iraqi origin, 10,072 persons.

# Largest groups of foreign origin among the Finnish population on 31 December 2011



### People of foreign origin are notably younger than the rest of the population

The age structure of people of foreign origin differs clearly from that of people of Finnish origin. The average age of the total population was 41.6 years at the end of 2011, and the average age of people of Finnish origin was 42.0 years. The average age among first generation Finns with foreign origin was 37.7 years, and the average age among second generation Finns with foreign origin was 11.8 years.

Among second generation Finns with foreign origin, 50 per cent were under school-age and 87 per cent were under the age of 18. The share of people of working age (aged 15–64) among the total population was 65 per cent. Among people with foreign origin, the share of people of working age was 77 per cent and among first generation Finns with foreign origin the share was 87 per cent.

### Origin and background country are new classifications

Statistics Finland is adopting new origin and background country classifications during 2012. Similar classifications are already used in the other Nordic countries. A person's origin and background country are usually determined based on their parents' country of birth. The determination of origin and background country is explained in more detail in the quality description of the statistics on the population structure.

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# Appendix tables

### Appendix table 1. Sizes of municipalities by region 31.12.2011

Region	Number of inh	abitant	s								
	Municipalities total	- 999	1 000 - 2 999	3 000 - 4 999	5 000 - 6 999	7 000 - 8 999	9 000 - 11 999	12 000 - 19 999	20 000 - 49 999	50 000 - 99 999	100 000 -
Whole Country	336	14	75	59	40	30	29	33	37	11	8
Uusimaa	28	-	4	1	4	1	2	2	11	-	3
Varsinais-Suomi	28	1	7	3	1	4	3	5	2	1	1
Satakunta	21	-	8	3	2	2	1	3	1	1	-
Kanta-Häme	11	-	2	-	2	2	1	2	1	1	-
Pirkanmaa	22	-	2	3	3	2	3	2	6	-	1
Päijät-Häme	11	-	1	4	-	1	-	2	2	-	1
Kymenlaakso	7	-	1	1	1	1	_	-	1	2	-
South Karelia	10	1	-	4	3	-	_	-	1	1	-
Etelä-Savo	17	-	5	4	5	-	-	1	2	-	-
Pohjois-Savo	21	-	5	5	3	1	3	-	3	1	-
North Karelia	14	-	3	2	2	2	1	3	-	1	-
Central Finland	23	1	8	5	1	1	3	1	2	-	1
South Ostrobothnia	19	-	4	4	2	1	3	4	_	1	-
Ostrobothnia	16	-	2	3	3	3	2	2	-	1	-
Central Ostrobothnia	8	1	2	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
North Ostrobothnia	34	-	9	3	5	5	4	6	1	-	1
Kainuu	9	-	3	2	-	1	2	-	1	-	_
Lapland	21	1	4	8	2	3	-	-	2	1	-
Åland	16	9	5	1	-	-	1	-	_	-	_
Inhabitants	5 401 267	8 380	157 235	235 334	236 417	240 026	291 662	524 288	1 113 878	771 146	1 822 901

Appendix table 2. Married women by duration and order of marriage 31.12.2011

Duration of marriage	Order of m	arriage						
	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6-	Unknown
Total	1 007 029	883 198	108 562	11 307	1 356	196	61	2 349
0	29 195	22 121	5 871	974	175	38	16	-
1	30 989	23 982	5 875	944	154	24	10	-
2	30 243	23 351	5 849	883	131	23	6	-
3	30 280	23 540	5 750	842	121	19	8	-
4	28 073	21 840	5 387	734	95	15	2	-
0–4	148 780	114 834	28 732	4 377	676	119	42	-
5	25 933	20 231	4 918	700	71	11	2	-
6	25 680	20 217	4 822	554	72	13	2	-
7	24 983	19 479	4 840	589	66	8	1	-
8	21 703	17 204	3 985	443	59	6	6	-
9	21 807	17 264	3 992	481	60	9	1	-
5–9	120 106	94 395	22 557	2 767	328	47	12	-
10	19 598	15 561	3 526	454	51	5	1	-
11	20 051	16 029	3 558	419	42	3	-	-
12	17 978	14 461	3 147	326	35	3	-	6
13	17 294	13 952	2 972	299	37	3	-	31
14	16 387	13 459	2 605	257	28	4	1	33
10–14	91 308	73 462	15 808	1 755	193	18	2	70
15–19	79 721	67 737	10 862	924	72	6	2	118
20–24	73 957	64 957	8 175	616	37	3	-	169
25–29	76 067	67 955	7 354	392	17	1	2	346
30–34	79 009	72 353	6 139	232	17	1	1	266
35–39	85 257	80 652	4 081	122	5	1	-	396
40–44	90 082	87 733	2 179	58	7	-	-	105
45–49	68 290	66 789	1 401	39	3	-	-	58
50–54	48 521	47 737	736	17	-	-	-	31
55–59	29 518	29 163	332	3	1	-	-	19
60–64	11 783	11 648	128	-	-	-	-	7
65–69	2 387	2 357	30	-	-	-	-	-
70-	137	137	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	2 106	1 289	48	5	-	-	-	764

### Appendix table 3. Women aged 15–76 by number of live-born children 31.12.2011

Age of woman	Number of live-born children									
	Women total	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8-
15–76	2 075 658	715 365	338 228	596 659	290 968	89 838	25 252	8 876	3 844	6 628
15–19	160 535	159 243	1 216	74	2	-	-	-	-	-
20–24	162 625	142 538	14 384	4 788	785	113	17	-	-	-
25–29	167 897	106 539	31 149	21 808	6 128	1 572	487	149	48	17
30–34	165 536	62 541	35 913	44 280	15 921	4 235	1 366	638	323	319
35–39	155 863	37 423	28 083	53 503	25 296	7 285	2 211	868	407	787
40–44	166 939	33 400	27 544	59 277	31 614	9 799	2 895	1 040	479	891
45–49	185 618	34 845	29 525	66 303	37 434	11 709	3 264	1 088	485	965
50–54	185 742	32 073	30 649	67 245	38 485	11 974	3 051	1 023	413	829
55–59	193 930	31 416	35 844	74 664	36 820	10 730	2 609	762	336	749
60–64	201 272	29 559	41 436	80 674	35 545	9 857	2 375	761	343	722
65–69	154 642	21 250	32 176	61 746	27 475	8 377	2 085	676	281	576
70–74	130 644	18 217	23 207	47 950	26 019	9 904	3 238	1 130	451	528
75–76	44 415	6 321	7 102	14 347	9 444	4 283	1 654	741	278	245

### Appendix table 4. Men aged 15–76 by number of live-born children 31.12.2011

Age of man	Number of	live-born	children							
	Men total	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8-
15–76	2 071 261	889 633	298 042	516 603	249 656	77 650	22 391	7 779	3 302	6 205
15–19	167 231	166 870	341	20	-	-	-	-	-	-
20–24	170 256	160 916	7 315	1 761	233	28	3	-	-	-
25–29	177 541	135 854	24 402	13 123	3 038	773	258	71	16	6
30–34	174 711	91 243	35 112	34 014	10 094	2 586	841	418	223	180
35–39	165 054	59 018	30 495	47 677	19 774	5 090	1 467	591	310	632
40–44	172 221	51 118	27 867	53 622	26 834	8 259	2 462	868	358	833
45–49	189 973	51 237	28 625	60 202	33 470	10 691	3 281	1 120	464	883
50-54	185 871	46 306	27 413	60 114	34 827	11 538	3 230	1 090	468	885
55–59	189 879	42 887	29 989	65 175	35 176	11 264	3 089	1 044	400	855
60–64	193 951	37 532	34 710	72 466	33 822	10 458	2 853	939	362	809
65–69	142 014	23 776	27 176	55 055	25 014	7 463	2 067	649	279	535
70–74	108 607	17 430	19 095	41 381	20 477	6 867	1 997	657	285	418
75–76	33 952	5 446	5 502	11 993	6 897	2 633	843	332	137	169

### Appendix table 5. Women by age, number of children and the proportion of birth 31.12.2011

Age of woman	Women total	Live-born children, total	Children per woman	Mothers, total	Percentage of mothers in the age group	Children per mother
15–76	2 075 658	3 037 118	1,46	1 360 293	65,5	2,23
15–19	160 535	1 370	0,01	1 292	0,8	1,06
20–24	162 625	26 852	0,17	20 087	12,4	1,34
25–29	167 897	103 246	0,61	61 358	36,5	1,68
30–34	165 536	204 828	1,24	102 995	62,2	1,99
35–39	155 863	266 489	1,71	118 440	76,0	2,25
40–44	166 939	313 099	1,88	133 539	80,0	2,34
45–49	185 618	357 500	1,93	150 773	81,2	2,37
50–54	185 742	361 386	1,95	153 669	82,7	2,35
55–59	193 930	366 568	1,89	162 514	83,8	2,26
60–64	201 272	375 372	1,86	171 713	85,3	2,19
65–69	154 642	294 007	1,90	133 392	86,3	2,20
70–74	130 644	268 217	2,05	112 427	86,1	2,39
75–76	44 415	98 184	2,21	38 094	85,8	2,58

### Appendix table 6. Men by age and number of children 31.12.2011

Age of man	Men total	Live-born children, total	Children per man	Fathers, total	Percentage of fathers in the age group	Children per father
15–76	2 071 261	2 635 395	1,27	1 181 628	57,0	2,23
15–19	167 231	381	-	361	0,2	1,06
20–24	170 256	11 663	0,07	9 340	5,5	1,25
25–29	177 541	64 732	0,36	41 687	23,5	1,55
30–34	174 711	153 555	0,88	83 468	47,8	1,84
35–39	165 054	224 354	1,36	106 036	64,2	2,12
40–44	172 221	276 825	1,61	121 103	70,3	2,29
45–49	189 973	327 660	1,72	138 736	73,0	2,36
50-54	185 871	333 450	1,79	139 565	75,1	2,39
55–59	189 879	344 344	1,81	146 992	77,4	2,34
60–64	193 951	354 028	1,83	156 419	80,6	2,26
65–69	142 014	263 929	1,86	118 238	83,3	2,23
70–74	108 607	210 969	1,94	91 177	84,0	2,31
75–76	33 952	69 505	2,05	28 506	84,0	2,44

### Appendix table 7. Religious affiliation of the population by age and sex 31.12.2011

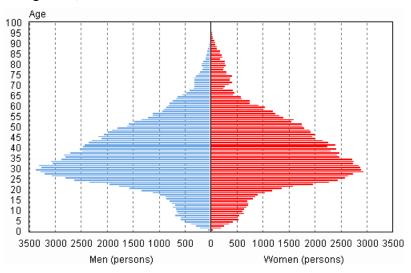
Religious community	Age							
	Total	0 - 14	15 - 24	25 - 34	35 - 44	45 - 54	55 - 64	65 -
Total	5 401 267	888 982	660 647	685 685	660 077	747 204	779 032	979 640
Lutheran National Church	4 175 443	751 867	522 327	463 215	470 935	547 562	594 141	825 396
Other Lutheran	1 317	192	153	168	172	200	182	250
Greek Orthodox Church in Finland	58 584	10 035	6 631	5 858	6 210	8 010	8 600	13 240
Other Orthodoxes	2 599	617	232	387	440	366	302	255
Jehovah's Witnesses	19 001	1 857	1 805	2 777	2 259	2 871	3 323	4 109
Free Church in Finland	14 789	1 973	1 725	2 053	1 861	2 320	2 425	2 432
Roman Catholic Church in Finland	11 091	2 693	1 513	1 699	1 891	1 496	954	845
Islamic congregations	10 088	3 206	1 765	1 775	1 545	1 055	429	313
Pentecostal Church i Finland	6 876	898	860	1 096	824	788	997	1 413
Adventist churches	3 553	220	320	371	365	540	653	1 084
Church of J.Chr. of Latter-day Saints	3 208	516	506	468	358	430	385	545
Baptist congregations	2 320	165	261	278	296	318	374	628
Methodist churches	1 342	168	110	132	178	214	237	303
Jewish congregations	1 198	167	150	150	139	165	180	247
Buddhist congregations	509	62	71	98	119	101	37	21
Anglican Church in Finland	84	9	9	7	7	13	13	26
Other	1 293	141	150	151	176	202	245	228
No religious affiliation	1 087 972	114 196	122 059	205 002	172 302	180 553	165 555	128 305

### Appendix table 8. Religious affiliation of the population 2003–2011

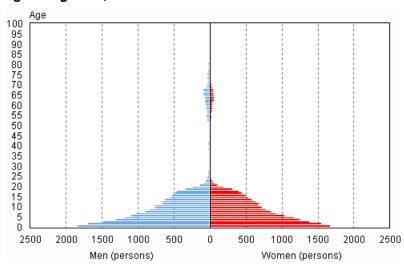
Religious community	Year								
	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Total	5 219 732	5 236 611	5 255 580	5 276 955	5 300 484	5 326 314	5 351 427	5 375 276	5 401 267
Lutheran National Church	4 396 813	4 386 336	4 373 556	4 355 949	4 334 586	4 299 186	4 273 425	4 207 192	4 175 443
Other Lutheran	1 019	1 012	1 031	1 032	1 017	1 076	1 196	1 292	1 317
Greek Orthodox Church in Finland	57 044	57 529	57 829	58 149	58 379	58 445	58 539	58 449	58 584
Other Orthodoxes	1 409	1 549	1 705	1 869	2 003	2 091	2 226	2 402	2 599
Jehovah's Witnesses	18 245	18 239	18 329	18 306	18 177	18 025	19 142	19 094	19 001
Free Church in Finland	13 443	13 565	13 711	13 895	14 022	14 233	14 292	14 485	14 789
Roman Catholic Church in Finland	7 897	8 094	8 446	8 783	9 184	9 672	10 090	10 640	11 091
Islamic congregations	2 748	2 833	4 239	4 944	5 689	6 822	8 230	9 393	10 088
Pentecostal Church i Finland	1 000	1 294	1 992	2 485	3 455	4 648	5 440	6 281	6 876
Adventist churches	4 099	4 031	4 015	3 986	3 821	3 751	3 688	3 648	3 553
Church of J.Chr. of Latter-day Saints	3 317	3 315	3 301	3 282	3 264	3 251	3 239	3 225	3 208
Baptist congregations	2 446	2 611	2 422	2 419	2 398	2 382	2 372	2 356	2 320
Methodist churches	1 244	1 250	1 256	1 281	1 267	1 279	1 301	1 301	1 342
Jewish congregations	1 189	1 203	1 184	1 194	1 181	1 230	1 236	1 208	1 198
Buddhist congregations	39	40	68	135	110	103	353	509	509
Anglican Church in Finland	99	97	93	88	89	88	89	88	84
Other	783	812	881	916	1 119	1 204	1 239	1 284	1 293
No religious affiliation	706 898	732 801	761 522	798 242	840 723	898 828	945 330	1 032 429	1 087 972

# Appendix figures

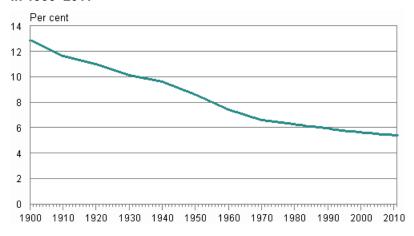
# Appendix figure 1. First generation Finns with foreign origin by age and gender, 31 December 2011



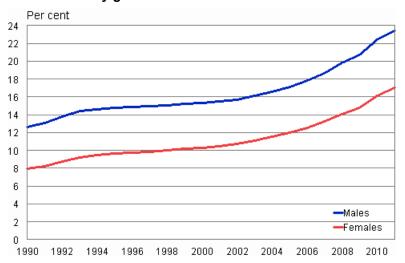
# Appendix figure 2. Second generation Finns with foreign origin by age and gender, 31 December 2011



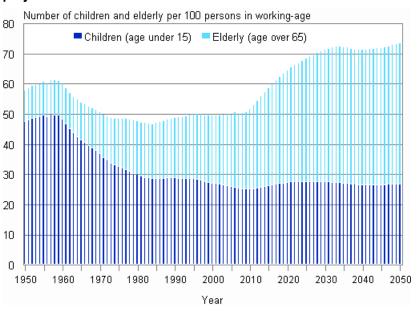
# Appendix figure 3. Swedish-speakers' proportion of the population in 1900–2011



# Appendix figure 4. Share of persons not belonging to religious communities by gender 1990–2011



# Appendix figure 5. Demographic dependency ratio in 1950–2011 and projection for 2012–2050



## Quality description: Population structure 2011

#### 1. Relevance of statistical information

The statistics on population structure describe the population resident in Finland on the last day of the year.

The Population Register Centre and local register offices maintain Finland's Population Information System. The last population yearly checking of domicile registers was carried out in Finland on 1 January 1989. After that the Population Information System has been updated by notifications of changes. The data stored in the Population Information System are specified in the act on the Population Information System and on the certificate services of the Population Register Centre (21 August 2009/661). Notifications on population changes for the past year are expected by the last day of January. At the beginning of February the Population Register Centre supplies to Statistics Finland the population data for the turn of the year.

Statistics Finland's function is to compile statistics on conditions in society (Statistics Finland Act of 24 January 1992/48). These also include demographic statistics. Statistics Finland's working order defines the Population Statistics unit as the producer of demographic statistics (Statistics Finland's working order, TK-00-1149-11).

#### Concepts

**Age** refers to the age of the person in full years on the last day of the year. The data are from the Population Register Centre's Population Information System.

Citizenship refers to a legislative bond between an individual and the State defining the individual's status in the State as well as the basic rights and duties existing between the individual and the State (Nationality Act, 359/2003). Persons with both Finnish and foreign citizenship will be entered in the statistics as Finnish nationals. If a foreign national living in Finland has several nationalities, that person will be entered in the statistics as a national of the country on whose passport he or she arrived in the country.

The ISO 3166 standard is used in the classification of citizenship.

Country of birth is determined on the basis of the mother's permanent home country at the time of birth. This means, for example, that the country of birth of Estonian immigrants born before Estonian independence is the Soviet Union. Similarly, the country of birth of people who were born in areas that Finland has subsequently ceded is Finland even though the area no longer is Finnish territory. The country of birth is indicated according to the form of government at the time of birth. The ISO 3166 standard is used in the coding of the country of birth.

Language is recorded in the Population Information System at the same time as parents register the name and religious denomination of their newborn. That language will be changed only upon separate application. For those babies born at the end of the year, for whom no name, language and religion have been registered in the Population Information System during January, the mother's language and religion are entered in the statistics for the end of the year. For the next year's statistics this information has become revised once notifications have been received. Language can change for children of bilingual families in case the father's language is entered for them in the Population Information System.

In the 2011 reliability survey of the Population Information System some 9,000 working-age persons were asked if the language registered for them in the Population Information System was correct. Language information was correct for 99.7 per cent of the respondents.

Since 1999 Statistics Finland has received from the Population Register Centre languages already coded (ISO 639-1) and non-coded languages in plain language. These plain language names include several names of languages written incorrectly or in Swedish that can be coded. Statistics Finland gives a code for these languages. In previous years Statistics Finland has coded all languages from plain language names and given a code for a language if it has around 15 speakers in Finland.

#### The **classification of marital** status is as follows:

- Unmarried
- Married
- Divorced
- Widowed
- Partner in a registered partnership
- Divorced from a registered partnership
- Widowed after a registered partnership

In 2011 the Population Information System included 38,400 persons without data on marital status. They are immigrants whose marital status could not be ascertained. The Population Information Act requires storing of data on marital status in the Population Information System only as concerns Finnish citizens. In the statistics childless persons were coded as unmarried and if they had children, their absent marital status was changed into divorced.

**Mean population** is the arithmetic mean of the population at the beginning and end of the year.

**Place of residence** refers to the location of the dwelling in which the person was registered on the last day of the year. The present Municipality of Residence Act gives people greater freedom of choice over the locality where they wish to be registered as permanently resident. For example, students may register in the locality where they are studying. Homeless people are also counted in the permanently resident population.

As well as a permanent place of residence, a person may have a temporary place of residence in a dwelling that this person says he or she occupies temporarily for at least three months. Statistics are compiled only on the basis of permanent places of residence. Data on the place of residence derive from the Population Information System of the Population Register Centre.

**Population** includes those Finnish citizens and foreigners living permanently in Finland even if temporarily residing abroad.

Foreign nationals are domiciled in Finland if their stay is intended to last or has lasted at least one year. The statistics do not include persons temporarily staying in Finland or asylum seekers, who have only a temporary residence permit or whose application for a residence permit is still under processing. An asylum-seeker is not granted a legal domicile and included in the statistics until his or her application has been approved.

The staff of foreign embassies, trade missions and consulates, their family members and personal employees included, are not counted among the resident population unless they are Finnish citizens. On the other hand, the Finnish staff of Finland's embassies and trade missions abroad and persons serving in the UN peacekeeping forces are counted among the resident population.

A Finnish citizen having entered the country must notify the register office if his/her intended stay in the country exceeds three months. The register office will update his/her data in the Population Information System (Act 661/2009). A foreign citizen may enter Finland provided he/she holds a required valid visa, residence permit or residence permit for an employed or self-employed person, unless he/she is an EU or EEA citizen or unless otherwise provided by an international agreement binding Finland (Aliens Act 301/2004). An EU or EEA citizen may stay in the country without a separate permit for three months, after which his/her stay in the country requires justifications and registration with the register office. The register office enters the reported information about the domicile of a foreign citizen into the Population Information System if the person receives a municipality of domicile and a permanent place of residence in it in Finland as defined in the Act on the Municipality of Domicile (201/1994). The length of employment or studying from entry into the country or the length of employment contract must be two years for a foreign citizen to receive the right to a place of domicile.

At a justified request, the information on a foreign citizen may also be entered after a short stay if he/she has, for example, a temporary place of residence in Finland as defined in the Act on the Municipality of Domicile and the entry is necessary for the realisation of rights related to employment or a similar circumstance (Act 661/2009). In statistics on population changes, a person's move into Finland from elsewhere is regarded as immigration only if a notation has been made into the Population Information System that he/she has received a permanent place of residence in Finland.

Persons emigrating from the country must submit a notice of change of address in the same way as persons who migrate within the country (Acts 661/2009, 201/1994). Persons who move to live abroad for more than one year are primarily regarded as emigrants. An exception to this are Finnish diplomats and persons working in development co-operation, etc. (Act on the Municipality of Domicile 201/1994). In accordance with an agreement between the Nordic countries, a period of residence of less than six months is not regarded as a move (Act on the Municipality of Domicile 201/1994, Decree and Treaty 96/2006).

When a person moves from one Nordic country to another, he/she must report his/her move to the local register authority of the country of entry, which will decide whether or not the person is registered as resident in the country of entry. The register authority of the country of entry informs the person concerned and the register authority of the country of exit about its decision. The date when the person has been entered into the local population register of the country of entry is recorded as the date of emigration in the population register of the country of exit (Act on the Municipality of Domicile 201/1994, Decree and International Treaty 96/2006).

#### Origin and background country

During 2012, Statistics Finland has adopted a new origin classification. A similar classification is already used in the other Nordic countries. The origin and background country are determined based on the country of birth data of the person's parents. Using the origin classification it is easy to distinguish between first (born abroad) and second (born in Finland) generation Finns with a foreign background.

Data on persons that died before 1964 have not been entered into the Population Information System of the Population Register Centre. There are nearly 900,000 persons among the Finnish population who have been born in Finland and both parent's country of birth is unknown because the parents of these persons have died before the Population Information System was established. People born in Finland before 1970, whose parents' background is not known, have been concluded to be of Finnish origin if their native language is a national language (Finnish, Swedish, Sami). All such persons who have at least one parent who was born in Finland are also considered to be of Finnish origin. The background country for all persons of Finnish origin is Finland.

Persons whose both parents or the only known parent have been born abroad are considered to be of foreign origin. Persons who have been born abroad and whose parents' data are not included in the Population Information System are also considered to be of foreign origin. Persons born in Finland before 1970, whose native language is a foreign language have been considered to be of foreign origin, as have persons born in Finland in 1970 or after this, whose parents' data are not included in the Population Information System.

If both parents of a person have been born abroad, the background country is primarily the country of birth of the biological mother. If a person only has knowledge of a father that was born abroad, the background country is the country of birth of the father. If either parent's country of birth is unknown, the background country for persons born abroad is their own country of birth. For persons born in Finland, whose parents' data are unknown and who have been deducted to be of foreign origin, the background country is unknown.

For children adopted from abroad, the adoptive parents are regarded as the biological parents. Thus a child adopted from abroad by persons born in Finland is of Finnish origin and their background country is Finland.

Data on **religious community** are derived from the Population Register Centre's Population Information System. Religious denomination is reported to the Population Information System for every child when given a name. That information will be changed only upon separate application.

The new Freedom of Religion Act (453/2003) entered into force on 1 August 2003. The new act allowed simultaneous membership to several religious communities after a three-year transition period. The transition period ended on 1 August 2006, after which religious communities can self decide whether their members can also belong to other religious communities. If a person is a member of more than one religious community, the person is included in Statistics Finland's statistics on religious communities in the number of members of the religious community which he or she first joined. These persons are missing from the number of members of the religious community they had joined while they already belonged to some other religious community.

Statistics on religious communities are compiled only on persons belonging to religious communities included in the register of the National Board of Patents and Registration. A religious community can be established in Finland by at least 20 adult persons (Freedom of Religion Act 453/2003).

For those babies born at the end of the year, for whom no name, language and religion have been registered in the Population Information System during January, the mother's language and religion are entered in the statistics for the end of the year. For the next year's statistics this information has become revised once notifications have been received.

The information on religious community does not represent foreigners accurately. Not all their religious communities are included in the register of the National Board of Patents and Registration and not all those practising a religion belong to parishes. At the end of 2011, 83 per cent of foreign-language speakers did not belong to any registered religious community according to the Population Information System.

Data on religious communities are defined as very sensitive. Data can be released by region on religious communities with at least five cases and by municipality on those with at least ten cases.

**Statistical grouping of municipalities** is a classification developed by Statistics Finland that replaces production of statistics on municipalities as towns and other municipalities. The classification has been in use since 1989. The classification allows for more accurate distinctions between urban and rural areas than did the administrative classification into towns and other municipalities.

The grouping of municipalities divides municipalities into three categories according to the proportion of people living in urban settlements and the population of the largest urban settlement:

- Urban municipalities
- Semi-urban municipalities
- Rural municipalities

*Urban municipalities* include those municipalities in which at least 90 per cent of the population lives in urban settlements or in which the population of the largest urban settlement is at least 15,000.

*Semi-urban municipalities* are municipalities in which at least 60 per cent but less than 90 per cent of the population lives in urban settlements and in which the population of the largest urban settlement is at least 4,000 but less than 15,000.

Rural municipalities include those municipalities in which less than 60 per cent of the population lives in urban settlements and in which the population of the largest urban settlement is less than 15,000; and those municipalities in which at least 60 per cent but less than 90 per cent of the population lives in urban settlements and in which the population of the largest settlement is less than 4,000.

The now used classification is based on the data for 2010 based on the data on boundaries of urban settlements. The classification will be updated on the basis of the 2011 data in the course of autumn 2012.

A list of all municipalities according to grouping of municipalities formed on the basis of the boundaries of urban settlements is included in Statistics Finland's publication Regional Divisions Based on Municipalities. The publication also contains a list of municipalities, types of municipalities and changes in them.

#### 2. Methodological description of survey

Population data are total data. They include the entire population living in Finland drawn from the Population Information System.

#### 3. Correctness and accuracy of data

In general, the Population Information System of the Population Register Centre can be considered very exhaustive as regards persons. In order that a person obtains a personal identity code, he or she has to be registered in the Population Information System. It is practically impossible to live in Finland without a personal identity code. A personal identity code is needed so that one can work legally, open a bank account, have dealings with authorities and so on. It can be safely assumed that Finland cannot have any substantial numbers of 'moonlighters' who receive their pay in cash for periods of over one year, for example. Staying in Finland for at least one year is the prerequisite for registering into the population of Finland.

After abolishment of yearly checking of domicile registers in 1989, the Population Information System has been maintained only by notifications of changes to population information. Their correctness is determined by a reliability survey made on the addresses in the Population Information System.

The Population Register Centre charges Statistics Finland with the task of conducting yearly a sample survey on the correctness of the address information. Around 11,000 people are asked whether their address in the Population Information System is correct. In the 2011 survey, the address was correct for 99.0 per cent of the respondents. The non-response of this survey was 15.2 per cent. As regards the non-response, attempts were made to check the addresses from other sources. The address could be ascertained as correct for 93.6 per cent and as incorrect for 3.9 per cent of the persons included in the non-response. The address of 2.5 per cent of the persons in the non-response could not be checked. If we assume that all the unchecked data of persons in the non-response are incorrect, the final proportion of correct addresses would be 98.1 per cent.

Incorrect addresses influence population statistics by municipality only if the incorrect address is in a different municipality than the correct one. Only some of the incorrect addresses are in the wrong municipality.

In connection with municipal elections, returned notifications of voting sent to foreigners usually reveal around 1,000 persons who have moved from the country without giving notice and are thus still included in the Finnish population. The Population Register Centre removes them from the resident population in the Population Information System before the following turn of the year.

### 4. Timeliness and promptness of published data

Statistics Finland dates the population at the turn of the year as at the last day of the year. Since 1999 the regional division used has been that of the first day of the following year. Thus the municipalities that unite on the first day of the new year are already combined in the statistics on the last day of the previous year. Information on the population sizes of the united municipalities before the unification is available, where necessary.

Preliminary population data by municipality are available by month.

### 5. Accessibility and transparency/clarity of data

Basic population data are available in electronic form by municipality or with larger regional divisions than municipality in Statistics Finland's free 'Population' online service (Statistical databases) at: http://pxweb2.stat.fi/database/StatFin/vrm/vaerak/vaerak en.asp

The chargeable information service contains more specified information about the population by sub-area of municipality, for example. The Altika statistical service also includes municipality-specific population

data from 1975 onwards. More information about Statistics Finland's chargeable services is available at: http://www.stat.fi/tup/tilastotietokannat/index\_en.html

#### 6. Comparability of statistics

Until 1998 population statistics by municipality for the turn of the year were compiled according to the regional division of the last day of the year. From 1999 the regional division used has been the first day of the following year. When calculating the change in the population size of a municipality, the previous population numbers of the unifying municipalities are taken into account.

When producing tables on regional time series of the population the tables can be made either according to the regional division of each year or by updating the regional division retrospectively to correspond to the statistics of the last year. The tables always indicate which regional division is used.

Population data are available from 1749 onwards. The number of population has been made public by parish from 1865 and by municipality from 1920 onwards. The ten-year tables of the clergy provide information about the population's age, marital status and language by parish until 1940. From 1950 onwards these data are available by municipality every ten years on the basis of population censuses. Annual population data by municipality on age, marital status and language can be obtained starting from 1970.

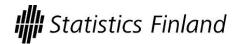
Population data by municipality are available in electronic form in the Altika information service from 1975 onwards. The population time series in the free 'Population' online service begin from the year 1865, by municipality from 1980.

#### 7. Coherence and consistency/uniformity

Statistics Finland's other statistics use the data of demographic statistics as basic information on population. Consequently, Statistics Finland's other statistics correspond to demographic statistics.

The Population Register Centre publishes the number of inhabitants in Finland at the turn of the year on its Internet pages at the turn of February and March. The figure is the same as given in Statistics Finland's statistics at the turn of the year.

In addition, the Population Register Centre releases the number of inhabitants by month. The figures differ from Statistics Finland's monthly preliminary statistics. The Population Register Centre makes public the register situation at the end of each month. Statistics Finland waits for notifications of changes for two weeks from the end of the month before compiling preliminary statistics on the situation at the end of the previous month.



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Source: Population Structure 2011, Statistics Finland