

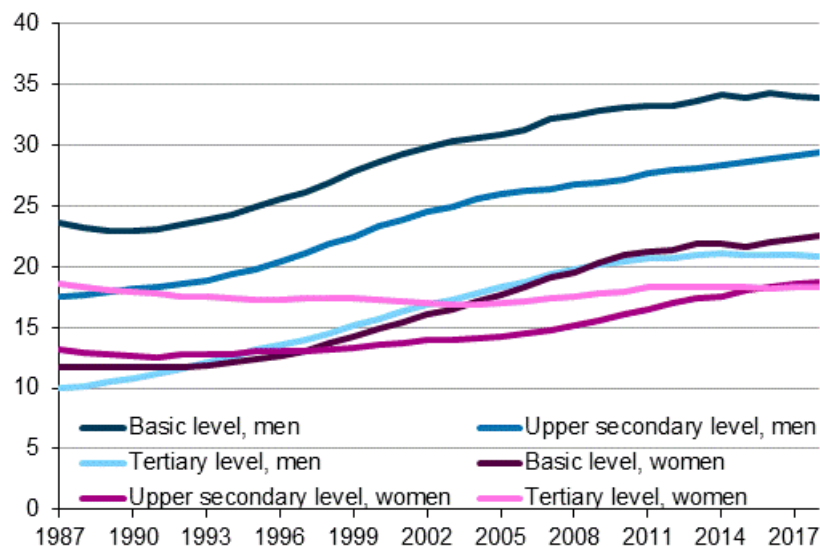
# Population Structure 2018

## Annual Review

### Childlessness becoming more common among people with a lower level of education

According to Statistics Finland's statistics on the population structure, 18.8 per cent of women aged 45 to 49 resident in Finland in 2018 and speaking national languages were childless. The share of childless women among those with basic level qualifications was 22.5 per cent, 18.7 per cent for those with upper secondary level qualifications and 18.3 per cent for those with tertiary level qualifications. Over ten years, the share of childless women among those with upper secondary level qualifications has increased by 3.6 percentage points and by 3.0 percentage points among those with basic level qualifications.

**Share of childless men and women aged 45 to 49 by level of education in 1987 to 2018, per cent**



### Childlessness also more common for men among those with a lower level of education

Among men aged 45 to 49 resident in Finland and speaking national languages 26.7 per cent were childless at the end of 2018. For men, the differences in the proportion of childless persons by level of education are clearly higher than for women. Among men with basic level qualifications one-third were childless,

29.4 per cent of those with upper secondary level qualifications and 20.8 per cent for those with tertiary level qualifications.

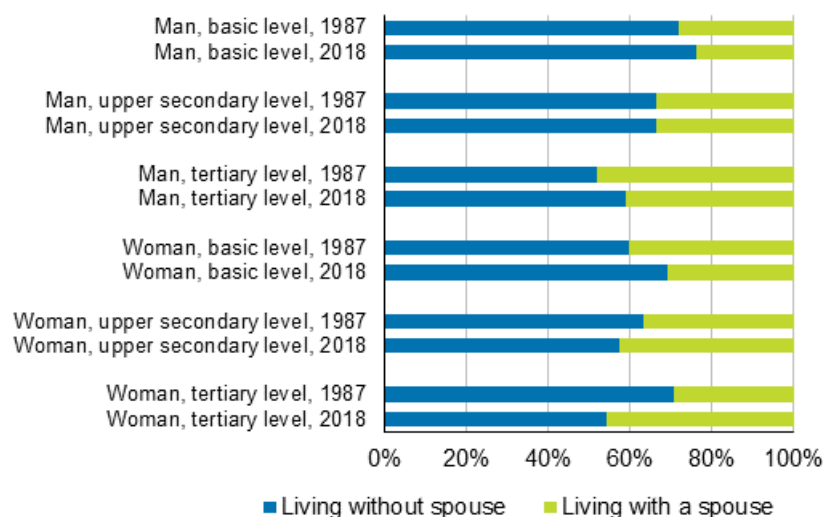
## Increasing share of women aged 45 to 49 living in a childless partnership

More childless men and women aged 45 to 49 with basic level qualifications were living without a spouse in 2018 than in 1987.

Now, 43 per cent of childless women aged 45 to 49 with upper secondary level qualifications lived with a spouse, while in 1987 the share was 37 per cent.

The development for childless men and women aged 45 to 49 with tertiary level qualifications deviates from one another. An increasing number of men are living without a spouse while an increasing number of women are living with a spouse. While 70 per cent of childless women with tertiary level qualifications lived without a spouse in 1987, the share in 2018 was good one-half.

### Childless men and women aged 45 to 49 by education and family status in 1987 and 2018



## Share of childless persons highest in Uusimaa and town centres

At the end of 2018, the share of childless women aged 45 to 49 speaking national languages was highest in Uusimaa, 22 per cent. Ostrobothnia had the lowest share of 14 per cent. More than one-third of all childless women aged 45 to 49 speaking national languages lived in Uusimaa.

At the end of 2018, the share of childless women aged 45 to 49 speaking national languages was 40 per cent in inner urban areas. Two-thirds of all childless women aged 45 to 49 speaking national languages lived in core urban areas that consist of an inner and outer urban area.

[https://www.ymparisto.fi/en-US/Living\\_environment\\_and\\_planning/Community\\_structure/Information\\_about\\_the\\_community\\_structure/Urban\\_classification](https://www.ymparisto.fi/en-US/Living_environment_and_planning/Community_structure/Information_about_the_community_structure/Urban_classification)

## Sixty-one per cent of the population live in core urban areas

The degree of urbanisation has been discussed actively in recent years. Consolidation of municipalities into large regional centres has made it harder to follow the urbanisation development. As a result of administrative decisions, the population in the consolidated areas have become part of the urban population

without the persons actually changing their place of residence. Conventional statistical grouping of municipalities does no longer in this changed situation provide an accurate picture of the development.

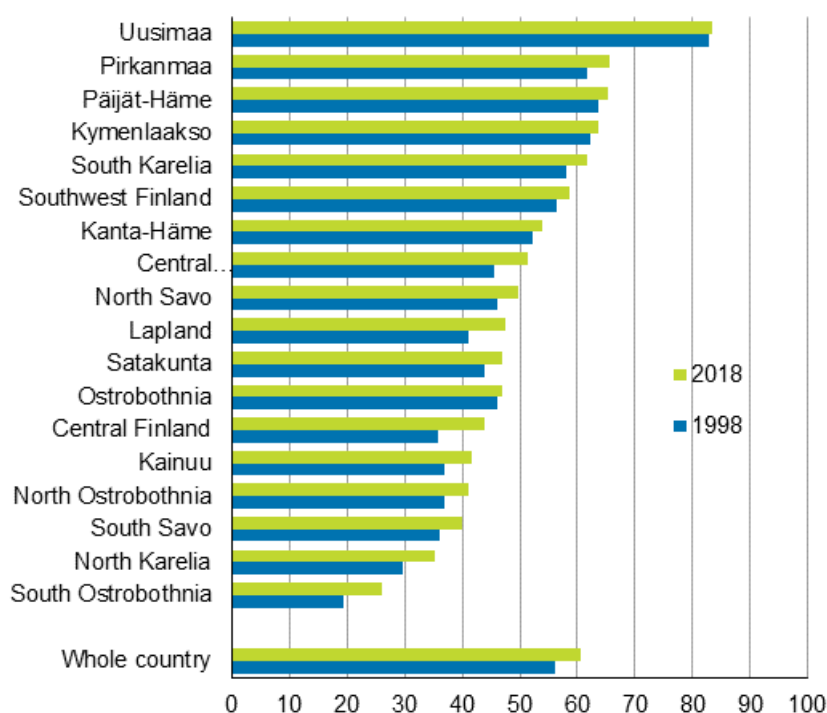
In total, 61 per cent of the Finnish population lived in core urban areas at the end of 2018. The core urban area consists of an inner and outer urban area. The outer boundary of the outer urban area refers to the outer edge of the built area with a street plan and describes the continuous built urban area.

Based on the conventional statistical grouping of municipalities, 72 per cent of the entire population was living in urban municipalities at the end of 2018.

### In Uusimaa, four out of five live in core urban areas, in South Ostrobothnia only around one in four

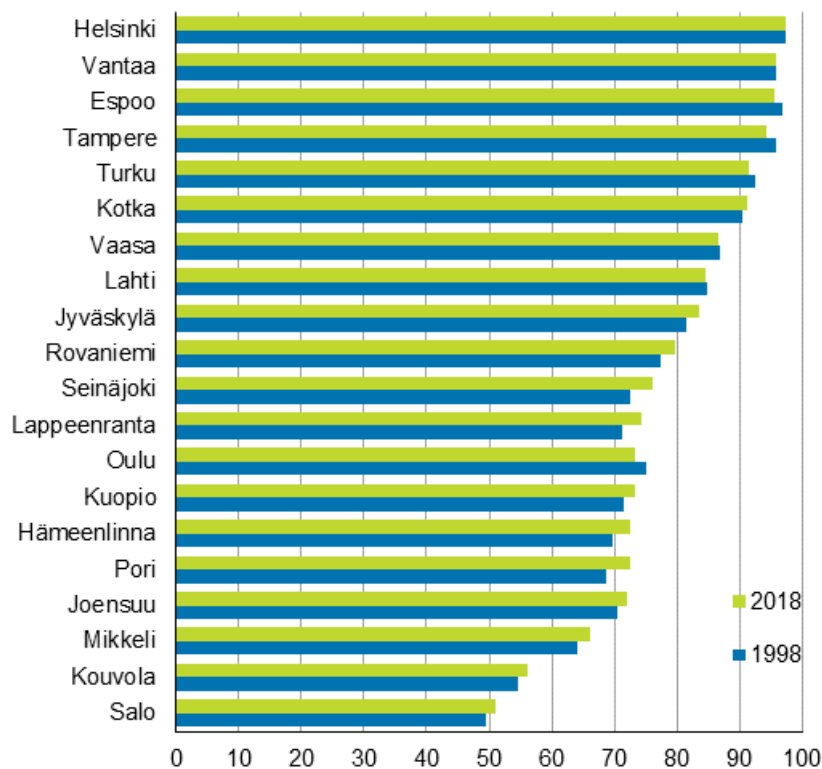
Examined by region, there is great variation in the share of the population living in core urban areas. In total, 83 per cent of the population in the region of Uusimaa lived in core urban areas at the end of 2018. In Pirkanmaa, Päijät-Häme and Kymenlaakso, two-thirds of the population lived in core urban areas. In 10 regions out of 19, less than one-half of the population lived in core urban areas.

**Share of population in Mainland Finland living in core urban areas by region in 1998 and 2018**



Examined by municipality, the share of the population living in core urban areas is highest in Greater Helsinki. Among the 20 largest municipalities, the share of the population living in core urban areas is lowest in Salo, 51.8 per cent, Kouvola, 56.8 per cent, and Mikkeli, 66.9 per cent. One-quarter of the population in Pori, Oulu and Kuopio live outside the core urban area. In the statistical grouping of municipalities and when examining the total number of population in the municipalities these persons living outside the core urban areas are included in the urban population which distorts the phenomenon.

### Share of population living in core urban areas in the 20 largest municipalities in 1998 and 2018

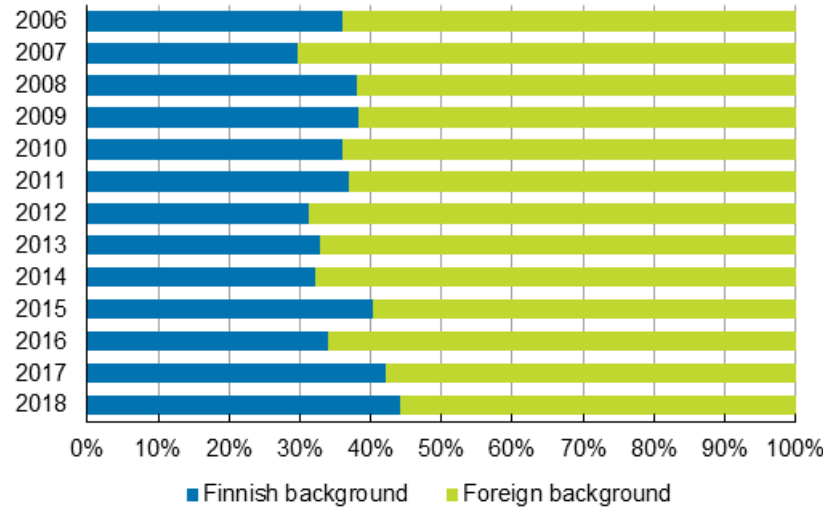


### Population in core urban areas growing due to persons of foreign background

The share of those living in core urban areas of the population of the whole country has increased by five percentage points in 20 years. Fifty-five per cent of persons of Finnish background lived in urban core areas at the end of 1998 and 59 per cent at the end of 2018. Eighty-three per cent of persons of foreign background lived in urban core areas at the end of 1998 and 85 per cent at the end of 2018.

Over the past 20 years, the population in urban core areas has grown by 450,000 persons. Of this growth, 258,000 persons or more than one-half are of foreign background. Over the same period, the share of persons of foreign background in the population of core urban areas has increased from three per cent to ten per cent.

**Migration gain of core urban areas by origin in 2006 to 2018**



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**Appendix table 1. Married women by duration and order of marriage 31.12.2018**

Duration of marriage	Order of marriage							
	Total	1	2	3	4	5	6-	Unknown
Total	989 943	854 797	118 030	13 248	1 656	284	83	1 845
0	23 312	17 492	4 784	840	144	38	14	-
1	27 079	20 427	5 500	956	145	35	16	-
2	25 106	18 973	5 106	859	136	29	3	-
3	24 757	18 990	4 838	772	122	25	10	-
4	23 757	18 574	4 379	666	108	23	7	-
0-4	124 011	94 456	24 607	4 093	655	150	50	-
5	23 603	18 537	4 356	591	101	12	6	-
6	26 246	20 474	4 954	712	79	17	10	-
7	24 892	19 535	4 589	653	95	15	5	-
8	25 218	20 083	4 410	625	89	10	1	-
9	24 416	19 283	4 487	561	70	14	1	-
5-9	124 375	97 912	22 796	3 142	434	68	23	-
10	24 734	19 660	4 436	567	57	13	1	-
11	23 084	18 313	4 201	506	53	9	2	-
12	21 325	16 945	3 842	482	51	4	1	-
13	21 426	17 172	3 828	367	51	7	1	-
14	20 779	16 493	3 813	424	43	5	1	-
10-14	111 348	88 583	20 120	2 346	255	38	6	-
15-19	85 684	69 238	14 673	1 585	168	15	2	3
20-24	70 927	59 652	10 199	871	82	7	1	115
25-29	65 450	57 634	7 177	508	31	4	-	96
30-34	66 127	59 641	5 969	334	15	1	-	167
35-39	71 328	65 418	5 345	206	7	-	1	351
40-44	72 842	68 657	3 789	101	5	1	-	289
45-49	77 569	75 494	1 844	35	2	-	-	194
50-54	60 387	59 400	922	18	2	-	-	45
55-59	36 547	36 105	408	5	-	-	-	29
60-64	17 094	16 939	143	2	-	-	-	10
65-69	4 559	4 534	19	1	-	-	-	5
70-	563	558	5	-	-	-	-	-
Unknown	1 132	576	14	1	-	-	-	541

**Appendix table 2. Females aged 15-83 by number of live-born children 31.12.2018**

Age	Number of live-born children									
	Females total	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8-
15-83	2 245 899	765 055	358 308	654 213	318 843	98 677	28 153	10 169	4 492	7 989
15-19	144 041	143 334	649	55	3	-	-	-	-	-
20-24	155 877	142 075	10 028	3 214	487	63	8	2	-	-
25-29	172 237	121 230	26 348	18 117	4 751	1 270	368	124	22	7
30-34	169 564	71 890	35 544	40 798	14 748	4 201	1 346	569	255	213
35-39	172 424	44 469	32 086	58 712	25 123	7 379	2 332	1 071	483	769
40-44	166 596	33 464	28 131	60 105	29 904	9 163	2 947	1 133	610	1 139

Age	Number of live-born children									
	Females total	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8-
45–49	155 005	31 004	25 889	54 627	28 919	9 138	2 822	1 066	489	1 051
50–54	181 247	35 222	29 034	64 427	35 603	11 158	3 223	1 124	497	959
55–59	185 077	33 255	29 727	66 388	38 162	11 952	3 168	1 051	463	911
60–64	185 506	30 829	32 316	69 405	36 922	11 242	2 789	870	363	770
65–69	187 930	28 178	36 950	74 889	34 366	9 509	2 315	700	316	707
70–74	176 154	24 073	37 006	71 346	30 977	8 946	2 161	707	295	643
75–79	117 326	15 600	22 066	45 768	22 548	7 693	2 179	705	312	455
80–83	76 915	10 432	12 534	26 362	16 330	6 963	2 495	1 047	387	365

**Appendix table 3. Males aged 15–83 by number of live-born children 31.12.2018**

Age	Number of live-born children									
	Males total	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8-
15–83	2 216 573	949 437	310 910	556 079	269 983	84 614	25 150	8 999	3 901	7 500
15–19	152 126	151 881	235	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
20–24	164 499	157 863	5 209	1 258	152	14	3	-	-	-
25–29	182 635	150 028	19 297	10 171	2 284	603	190	49	12	1
30–34	180 832	104 616	33 183	30 075	9 220	2 324	792	361	140	121
35–39	183 327	70 810	33 613	50 468	19 700	5 456	1 616	719	374	571
40–44	175 769	52 510	28 828	56 085	26 061	7 638	2 378	850	463	956
45–49	160 573	44 918	25 475	50 904	25 903	8 212	2 689	1 005	438	1 029
50–54	183 302	49 018	27 840	57 759	31 757	10 742	3 389	1 244	528	1 025
55–59	183 156	46 317	26 658	58 830	34 069	11 277	3 419	1 184	486	916
60–64	177 055	40 457	26 753	59 453	33 832	11 145	3 108	1 034	412	861
65–69	174 278	34 310	29 336	63 963	31 886	9 874	2 804	944	384	777
70–74	154 506	25 610	28 852	60 718	27 356	8 257	2 130	702	279	602
75–79	91 933	13 512	16 822	36 674	17 105	5 301	1 450	462	203	404
80–83	52 582	7 587	8 809	19 711	10 658	3 771	1 182	445	182	237

**Appendix table 4. Women by age, number of children and the proportion of birth 31.12.2018**

Age	Females total	Live-born children, total	Children per woman	Mothers, total	Percentage of mothers in the age group, %	Children per mother
15–83	2 245 899	3 332 051	1,48	1 480 844	65,9	2,25
15–19	144 041	768	0,01	707	0,5	1,09
20–24	155 877	18 221	0,12	13 802	8,9	1,32
25–29	172 237	84 711	0,49	51 007	29,6	1,66
30–34	169 564	191 944	1,13	97 674	57,6	1,97
35–39	172 424	282 934	1,64	127 955	74,2	2,21
40–44	166 596	311 712	1,87	133 132	79,9	2,34
45–49	155 005	293 014	1,89	124 001	80,0	2,36
50–54	181 247	345 567	1,91	146 025	80,6	2,37
55–59	185 077	359 689	1,94	151 822	82,0	2,37
60–64	185 506	356 661	1,92	154 677	83,4	2,31
65–69	187 930	353 448	1,88	159 752	85,0	2,21
70–74	176 154	332 358	1,89	152 081	86,3	2,19
75–79	117 326	233 974	1,99	101 726	86,7	2,30
80–83	76 915	167 050	2,17	66 483	86,4	2,51

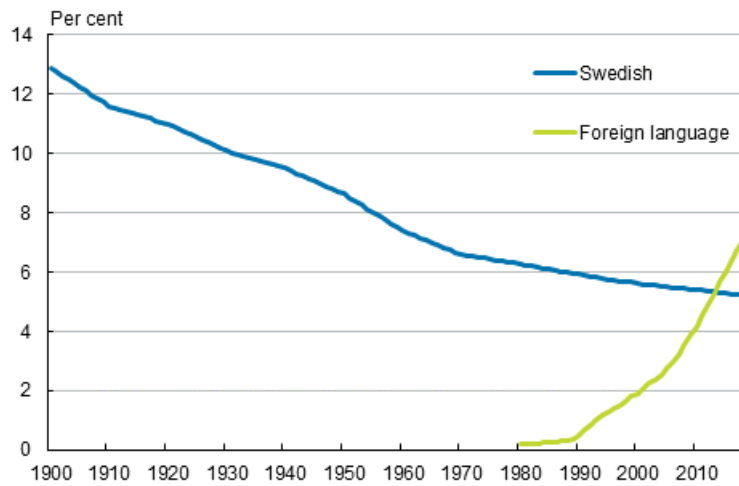


**Appendix table 5. Males by age and number of children 31.12.2018**

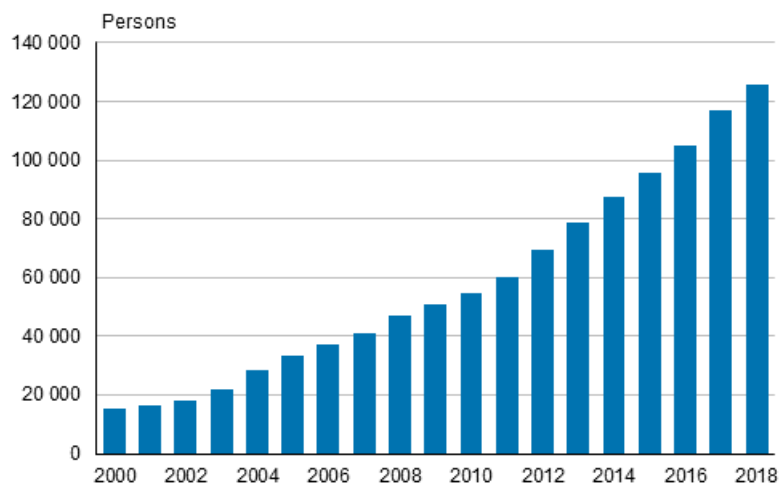
Age	Males total	Live-born children, total	Children per man	Fathers, total	Percentage of fathers in the age group, %	Children per father
15–83	2 216 573	2 854 690	1,29	1 267 136	57,2	2,25
15–19	152 126	255	0,00	245	0,2	1,04
20–24	164 499	8 252	0,05	6 636	4,0	1,24
25–29	182 635	50 240	0,28	32 607	17,9	1,54
30–34	180 832	138 422	0,77	76 216	42,1	1,82
35–39	183 327	235 685	1,29	112 517	61,4	2,09
40–44	175 769	279 293	1,59	123 259	70,1	2,27
45–49	160 573	270 737	1,69	115 655	72,0	2,34
50–54	183 302	320 237	1,75	134 284	73,3	2,38
55–59	183 156	328 790	1,80	136 839	74,7	2,40
60–64	177 055	325 305	1,84	136 598	77,2	2,38
65–69	174 278	323 026	1,85	139 968	80,3	2,31
70–74	154 506	288 633	1,87	128 896	83,4	2,24
75–79	91 933	178 337	1,94	78 421	85,3	2,27
80–83	52 582	107 478	2,04	44 995	85,6	2,39

## Appendix figures

**Appendix figure 1. Swedish-speakers' and foreign-language speakers proportion of the population in 1900–2018**



**Appendix figure 2. Finnish citizens with dual nationality in 2000 to 2018**



# Quality description: Population structure 2018

## 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 and Social Statistics unit as the producer of demographic statistics (Statistics Finland's working order, TK-00-954-18).

## 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 what the person's mother's permanent home country was at the person's time of birth. The country of birth is typically indicated according to the form of government at the time of birth. This means, for example, that the country of birth of Estonian immigrants born before Estonian independence is usually 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 areas no longer are Finnish territory.

In some cases, a person's country of birth can be revised to correspond with the current form of government. This requires the person's own activeness and a notification to the local register office. The ISO 3166 standard is used in the coding of 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 2012 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 2018 the Population Information System included 74,300 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. An asylum seeker is included in the official population and other Statistics Finland's statistics only if, in addition to a positive residence permit decision, he/she is granted a personal identity code and a municipality of residence. A person is not included in statistics if he/she does not have a personal identity code and/or a municipality of residence. The term right of residence in a municipality used in public discussions is not the same as a municipality of residence. Asylum seekers that have not been granted a residence permit or whose application process is ongoing are not included in Statistics Finland's statistics.

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).

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 Finns born abroad and born in Finland 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 persons with Finnish background 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 persons with Finnish background. The background country for all persons with Finnish background is Finland.

Persons whose both parents or the only known parent have been born abroad are considered to be persons with foreign background. Persons who have been born abroad and whose parents' data are not included in the Population Information System are also considered to be persons with foreign background. Persons born in Finland before 1970, whose native language is a foreign language have been considered to be persons with foreign background, 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 a person with Finnish background 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 2018, 85 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 and by municipality with at least 20 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 2018 based on the data on boundaries of urban settlements.

An **urban settlement** is a cluster of dwellings with at least 200 inhabitants. The delimitation is based on the population information at the end of the previous year. Urban settlements are defined and delimited in co-operation with the Finnish Environment Institute using geographic information methods that utilise the building and population data of Statistics Finland's 250 m x 250 m grid data. The population size of grids containing buildings and their neighbouring grids, as well as the number of buildings and their floor area, are reviewed in the definition. From the uniform clusters of dwellings generated in the defining stage, the ones with at least 200 inhabitants are selected.

## 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 2012 survey, the address was correct for 99.0 per cent of the respondents. The non-response of this survey was 16.9 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 92.3 per cent and as incorrect for 5.9 per cent of the persons included in the non-response. The address of 1.8 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.

A total of 12,215 persons who have probably moved abroad have been removed after analyses from the population data derived from the Population Information System for the end of 2018. These persons are mainly foreign citizens whose address is unknown and who have not received wages and salaries, capital income, entrepreneurial income, unemployment benefit, pension income, income support or compensation from sickness insurance between 2016 and 2017.

## 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.

[http://tilastokeskus.fi/til/vamuu/index\\_en.html](http://tilastokeskus.fi/til/vamuu/index_en.html)

[http://pxnet2.stat.fi/PXWeb/pxweb/en/StatFin/StatFin\\_\\_vrm\\_\\_vamuu/?tablelist=true](http://pxnet2.stat.fi/PXWeb/pxweb/en/StatFin/StatFin__vrm__vamuu/?tablelist=true)

## 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://pxnet2.stat.fi/PXWeb/pxweb/en/StatFin/StatFin\\_\\_vrm\\_\\_vaerak/?tablelist=true](http://pxnet2.stat.fi/PXWeb/pxweb/en/StatFin/StatFin__vrm__vaerak/?tablelist=true)

The chargeable information service contains more specified information about the population by sub-area of municipality, for example. More information about Statistics Finland's chargeable services is available at: [http://www.stat.fi/tup/tilastotietokannat/index\\_en.html](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 1972. [http://pxnet2.stat.fi/PXWeb/pxweb/en/StatFin/StatFin\\_\\_vrm\\_\\_vaerak/?tablelist=true](http://pxnet2.stat.fi/PXWeb/pxweb/en/StatFin/StatFin__vrm__vaerak/?tablelist=true)

Population data by municipality are available in electronic form from 1972 onwards. [http://pxnet2.stat.fi/PXWeb/pxweb/en/StatFin/StatFin\\_\\_vrm\\_\\_vaerak/?tablelist=true](http://pxnet2.stat.fi/PXWeb/pxweb/en/StatFin/StatFin__vrm__vaerak/?tablelist=true)

Population statistics from 1750 onwards have been digitised into PDF format in the National Library's Doria service.

[Publications on Population structure and Vital statistics in Doria \(in Finnish\)](#)

[Publications on Population censuses in Doria \(in Finnish\).](#)

## 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.



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Source: Population Structure 2018, Statistics Finland