

STATISTICS AND INFORMATION SERVICES



The task of the Unit for Statistics and Information Services is to use statistics to describe social phenomena in Helsinki. Statistics may describe the city's evolution and change on an annual, sometimes quarterly or even monthly basis, and are also used for forecasts and projections.

Quality, i.e. the reliability and freshness of the statistics produced, is foremost to the Unit for Statistics and Information Services.

Basic and theme statistics are produced on

- ◆ population structure and change
- ◆ living conditions and welfare
- ◆ housing and construction
- ◆ environment and sustainable development
- ◆ enterprise
- ◆ labour and employment
- ◆ municipal and private services
- ◆ economy and livelihood
- ◆ projections, forecasts
- ◆ districts and sub-districts
- ◆ differences and similarities between cities in Finland and abroad.



Varied urban statistics for various clients

Publications – history and present day

Statistics are published in the series *Tilastoja* (statistics) and *Verkköjulkaisuja* (web publications), and in special publications and compilations. The Statistical Yearbook of the City of Helsinki and the publication *Helsinki alueittain* (Helsinki by District) are among Helsinki City Urban Facts' most consulted compilations.

Helsinki by District provides a varied description of the peculiarities and living conditions in various parts of Helsinki. The Statistical Yearbook contains the most crucial statistical time series as well as regional and international comparisons. The Yearbook was first issued in 1905, and the 2005 volume is number 93.

Thus, the statistical authority of the City of Helsinki has old traditions. Some statistical time series reach back into the 19th century. These were of great use when a statistical history of Helsinki was issued in 2000.

Statistics describe public phenomena such as population, and changes in these. Averages, distributions and matrixes are typical tools and expression for statistics. Statistics that variedly combine several different phenomena are produced through censuses. The most recent ones describe living conditions and business and enterprise in late 2000.

Statistics may reveal rapid change

Statistics may describe societal change even over shorter periods of time. In many of the var-

ious fields of statistics, data can be produced on a quarterly or even monthly basis. Reviews of these rapid changes in the operational environment can be found in the bilingual (Finnish + Swedish) *Kvartti* quarterly and its annual English-language issue *Helsinki Quarterly*, as well as in *Helsinki Trends*, which is compiled through co-operation within the Helsinki Region.

Statistics on the web

Fresh statistics are issued quarterly or annually on the website of Helsinki City Urban Facts either as web publications or statistical databases.

Among the most important sources of electronic statistics on Helsinki are the *Helsingin seudun aluesarjat* (Helsinki Region Area Database), which can be accessed freely by Internet users. The database contains detailed statistics on Helsinki and the other municipalities of the Helsinki Region as well as the Scandinavian capitals.

- ◆ www.hel.fi/tietokeskus
 - >the *Helsingin seudun aluesarjat*, i.e. Helsinki Region Statistics database
- ◆ statistics on Helsinki
 - by sub-district
 - by district
 - by major district
- ◆ statistics by sub-district on the cities of Espoo and Vantaa
- ◆ municipal statistics on the rest of the Helsinki Region
- ◆ statistics on major Scandinavian cities and their urban regions



Statistics, information services, urban comparisons

The Unit for Statistics and Information Services produces

- ◆ basic statistics
- ◆ theme statistics
- ◆ urban comparisons
- ◆ information services

Information services are typically rapid and customer-oriented. The basic statistics, which are updated regularly, cover a wide range of vital living conditions in various parts of Helsinki and its urban region.

The idea of the theme statistics is to convey a comprehensive picture of phenomena of the day that promote the strategic needs of the city. Urban comparisons describe Helsinki's position in its region and its country – and internationally.

Statistics programmes aim at the future

The statistics are evaluated and developed in cooperation with its users and most important producers. Helsinki Statistics 2005, the latest programme for developing the city's statistical authority, was approved by the City Board in April 2001. Late 2003 saw the publication of an intermediary report on the programme.

Databases – a source of district data

The databases and basic registers are important sources of statistics and district data. Helsinki City Urban Facts offers its clients statistics not only on Helsinki as a whole but on its sub-

districts, too, in the form of databases and personal information services.

The library and the information service

The library of Helsinki City Urban Facts specialises in statistics and research on Helsinki. One of its special collections includes the total publications published by the offices and departments of the City of Helsinki. The public has the right to borrow from the library, the lending time being one month.

The experts of the library also respond to short enquiries by e-mail on the address tietokeskus.kirjasto@hel.fi

The library is open on workdays between 8.15 a.m. and 4.00 p.m.

Helsinki City Urban Facts Library

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