

Finland and Helsinki between east and west – in the core of Europe

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Helsinki



Finland – from one of the poorest to one of the richest

Finland has the third least corruption in the world.

Transparency International, [Corruption Perceptions Index 2017](#)

Finland is the happiest country in the world.

Sustainable Development Solutions Network, [World Happiness Report 2018](#)

Finns' trust in other people is the highest in Europe.

European Commission, [Fairness, inequality and intergenerational mobility: Social Capital: Trust in people](#)

Finns' trust in the police is the highest and in the political system and in the legal system the second highest in Europe.

Eurostat, [Average rating of trust](#)

Finland is the most stable country in the world.

The Fund for Peace, [Fragile States Index 2018](#)

Finland ranks as one of the top OECD country in education.

OECD, [Better Life Index: Education](#)

The long history of Finland – characteristics still seen in politics and political culture

- Long time of **relative isolation** – tribal pagan society without central government before becoming part of Sweden (1150-).
- **Borderland between East and West** – Roman Catholic vs Greek Orthodox faith
- "*Northern Poland*": **between two greater powers** (Sweden and Russia) – resulted in that several wars were fought on Finnish territory.
- Finland an integrated part of Sweden
- **Relative latecomer to European/global trends** (Christian faith, later industrialism, nationalism, urbanisation, multiculturalism)

- But: **long tradition of relatively independent peasantry** – as opposed to Russian peasant serfdom – political rights developing
- **Protestantism**
- **Self-sufficiency as a value** (last major famines in Europe in Finland)
- Part of western sphere due to the Swedish reign.

Russian period 1809-1917 – autonomy and the idea of a nation

- Russia annexes Finland from Sweden in 1809 (Finnish War)
- Grand Duchy of Finland established, Russian Czar as the Grand Duke
- Autonomy and old laws – from Swedish/Western European periphery to the most advanced part of the Russian Empire.
- Trade and economic growth (Saint Petersburg)
- Loyalty to the troubled Czars (*"Leave the Finns in peace. It is my only province which hasn't produced me even a minute of worry."* Czar Nikolai I 1850)
- Finnish nationalism being born – but without major wishes to gain independence but to gain a more profound autonomy
- Radicalisation since 1890- when Russia tightens grip.
- General Strike 1905 and formation of the Parliament of Finland – the most modern voting legislation 1906 – women allowed to vote and to be candidates in general elections

Independence, civil war and difficult first years

- German influence during WW1 (Jägers) – starts the very influential German connection in Finnish history
- Russian revolution 1917, power vacuum leading to Finnish declaration of independence
- Sudden independence caused political distress. Combined with brewing societal disagreements, economic problems and famine caused by the loss of markets, radicalisation of the workers and outside pressure → **CIVIL WAR (war of freedom, term still politically debated) 1918 between Whites and Reds**
- Short and brutish war – summary executions, 80 000 POW's, 13 000 victims in the camps, political isolation of the "red" side.
- Deep scars to the newly-independent Finnish nation – divided nation
- Democratic society held all the time even though strong nationalistic currents. 1930's Social Democratic Party returned to power.

War wonder and national myths

- Molotov-Ribbentrop pact and Soviet pressure
- 1939-40 Winter War: ” – *105 days of glory*” – Finland had to give large areas to Soviet but keeps its independence. Casualties FIN 26000, Soviet figure even 10-fold.
- Key myths being born: **unified Finnish spirit**, ”**no friend left behind**”, **success against odds**, **war proves**, **innovativeness** and **Marshal Mannerheim**, **never trust anyone else for help**
- Continuation War 1941-44. German influence, alliance with Nazi Germany but separate war, idea of ”Greater Finland” and occupation of Eastern Karelia. Stalingrad 1943 → Soviet major offensive 1944 – Finnish success in defence and separate peace with Soviet Union → Lapland War against Germans – peace 1945.
- Peace treaty – war repayments (paid in full) and Karelia lost to the Soviets – **anxious relation to debt**

From *"Finnlandisierung"* to Europe and world

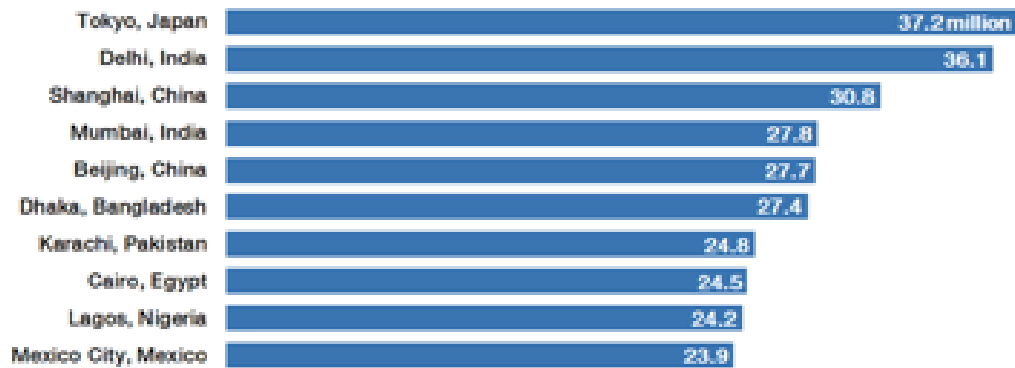
- New foreign policy doctrine (**Soviet interest taken always into account, neutrality**, good relations to Soviets, trust) → Finlandization.
- Nordic cooperation as means to modernise economy and internationalize also towards the West (European integration with Finnish characteristics) – using neutrality to gain international recognition (CSCE 1975 → OSCE).
- Fast economic growth – industrialisation, devaluations, building of the welfare state from 1960's onwards. **From the poorest to the richest.**
- Long reign of President Urho Kekkonen (1956-1982) – exceptional for Western democracies.
- Ripening of Finnish welfare state in the 1980's, industrial champions.
- Soviet disintegration 1989-91, deep economic recession 1991-94, Finland joining the EU in 1995 and euro in 1999. "Golden decade of the Finnish economy 1995-2008".
- Rise and fall of **Nokia** as a landmark of an era, OECD Pisa Survey and Finnish school.
- Star pupil of EU and German apprentice.

Global trends and Finland

- Climate change
- Ageing and urbanisation
- Digitalisation, technological change and Globalisation
- Individualism and Multiculturalism

These will be the world's biggest cities in 2030

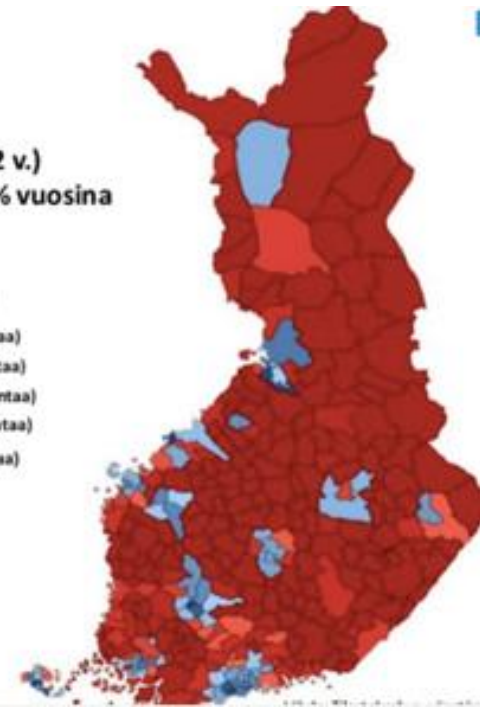
Forecast population, in millions, according to the UN World Urbanization Prospects, 2014 revision



Source: UN World Urbanization Prospects, 2014 revision

Helsinki

Työikäisen (22-62 v.)
väestön muutos% vuosina
2015-2030



Uber

The world's largest
taxi company, owns
no vehicles.

The world's most
popular media owner,
creates no content.

Facebook

Alibaba

The most valuable
retailer, has no inventory.

The world's largest
accommodation provider,
owns no real estate.

Airbnb

Something interesting is happening.

The time of threats?

- Democracy in crisis? Rise of populist/nationalist movements.
- Cyber threats; information war, fake news and hybrid warfare.
- Immigration and experience of “cultural warfare”
- Uncertain and unbalanced economic possibilities between population groups in the society.
- Current political institutions lack capability and competence to control these phenomena.

- All this combined – **lack of trust towards institutions, multipolar organisations (as EU) and each other.**

- Also traditional military threats – occupation in Europe.

Finland now and in the future

- Strongly part of EU, Finland wants European leadership – Macron?
- Brexit – UK has been a like-minded country – new partnerships?
- France – new bilateral defence agreement: Finland ready to participate in the intervention force.
- Can Europe be trusted? A successful Europe needs responsibility and leadership from France and Germany
- NATO-membership not a political option at the moment – strong relationship to USA emphasized in the defence sector, but for how long?
- Pragmatic relationship towards Russia – in favour of EU sanctions
- Strong own defence – procurement of 64 fighters, new corvettes to the Navy
- Extremely dependent on export – free trade and more EU in the right places
- Education, education and education key to success
- Safety has become a new topic of interest
- Politically dominated with long-term compromises and coalitions
- General elections in April 2019



Helsinki

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Success from around the world

9.

Most livable cities in the world

Economist Intelligence Unit 2017

2.

Most livable cities in Europe

8.

Cleanest capitals in the world

The Telegraph 2017

15.

Most popular congress cities in the world

Union of International Associations 2017

3.

Supporting innovations and entrepreneurship

CITIE 2015

4.

Best European cities in supporting digital enterprises and entrepreneurs

Nesta 2016

10.

Top 10 Smart City in Europe

Fastcoexist 2014

1.

Most content residents among the EU capital cities

European Commission 2015

3.

Best European cities in attracting skillful labour force

INSEAD 2017

3.

Top 3 tourist destinations

*National Geographic 2017
Lonely Planet 2016*

City of Design since 2014

Unesco Creative Cities

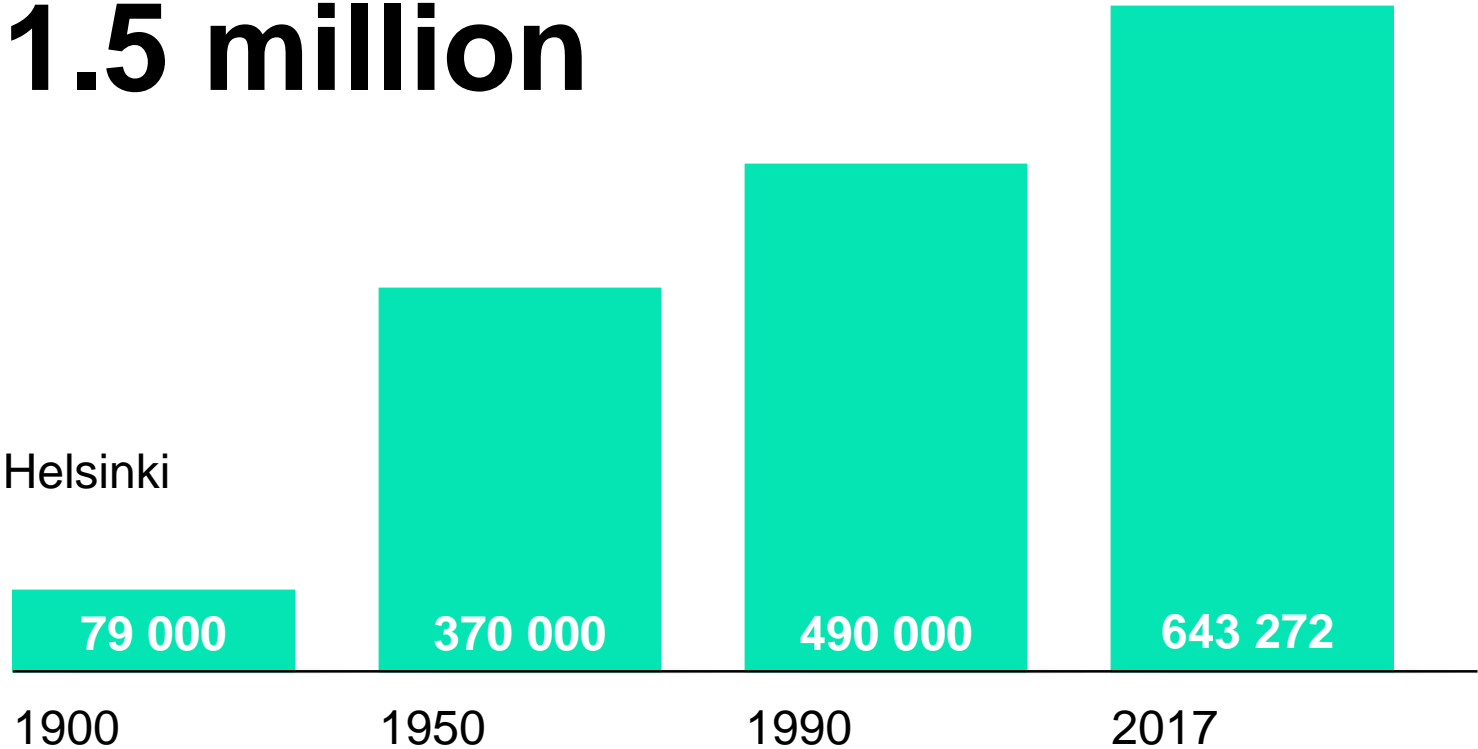
World Design Capital 2012

ICSID

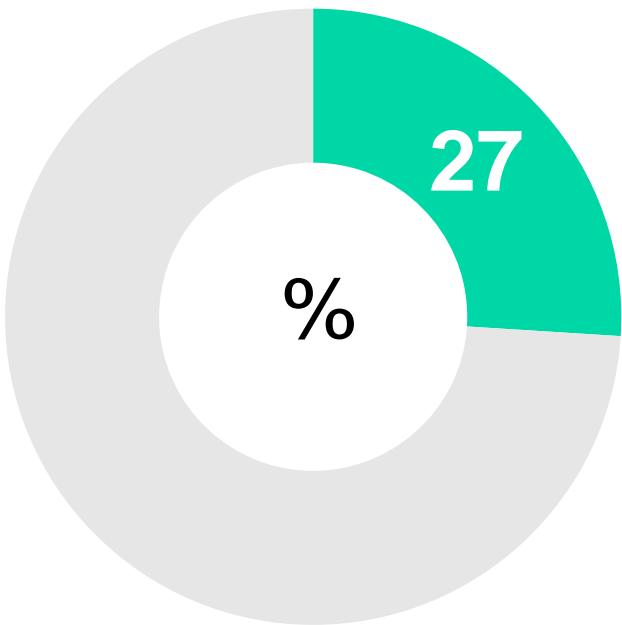
Population of Helsinki

Total of Helsinki region

1.5 million



Percentage of Finnish population

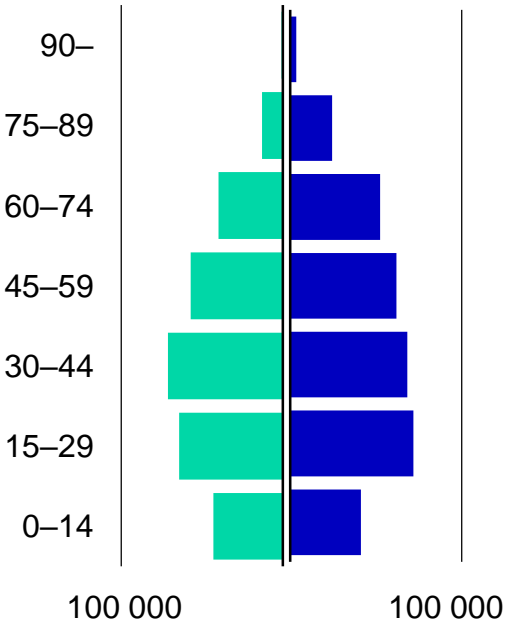


Population of Helsinki

Total population
31 December 2017

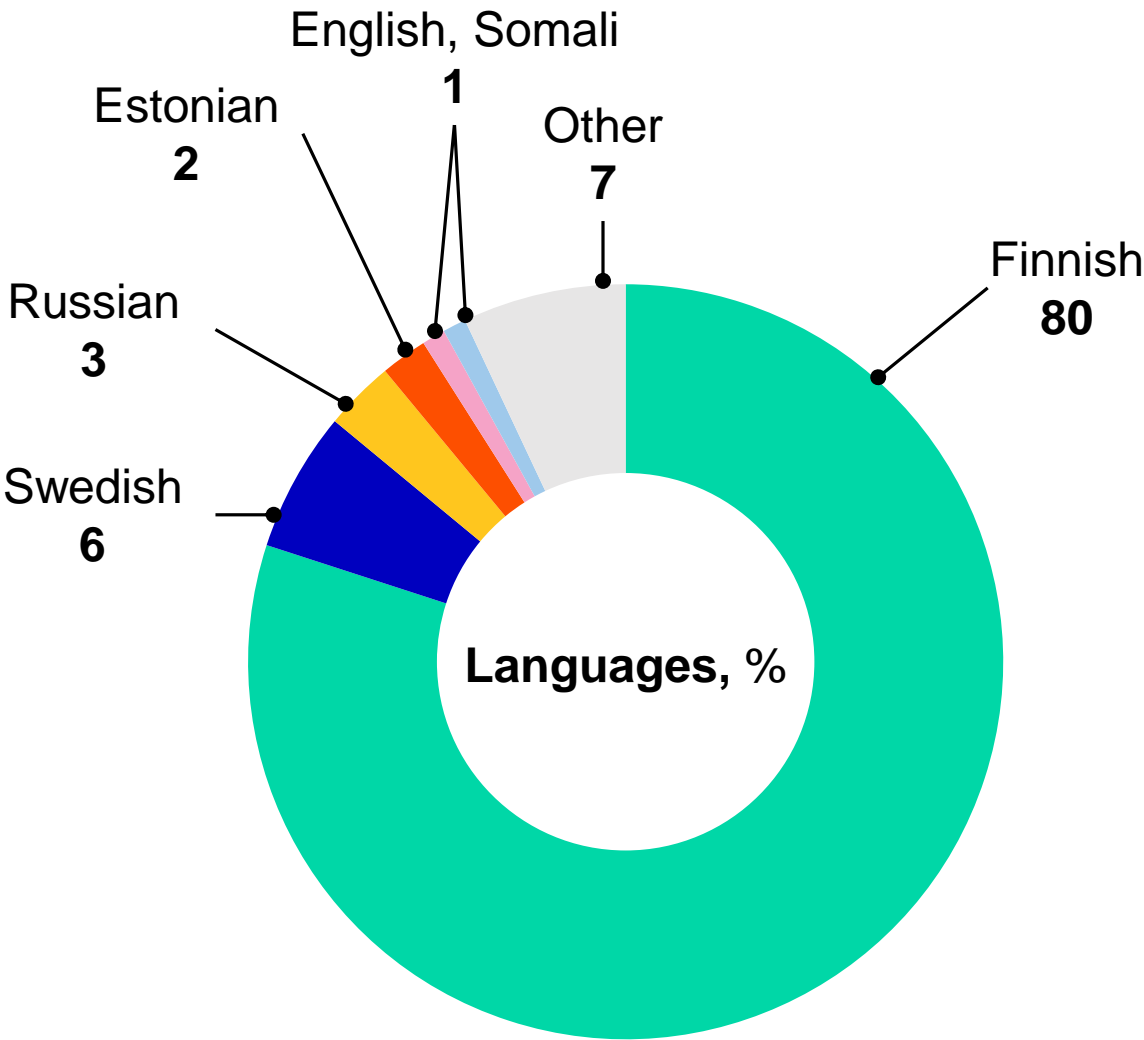
643,272

By age



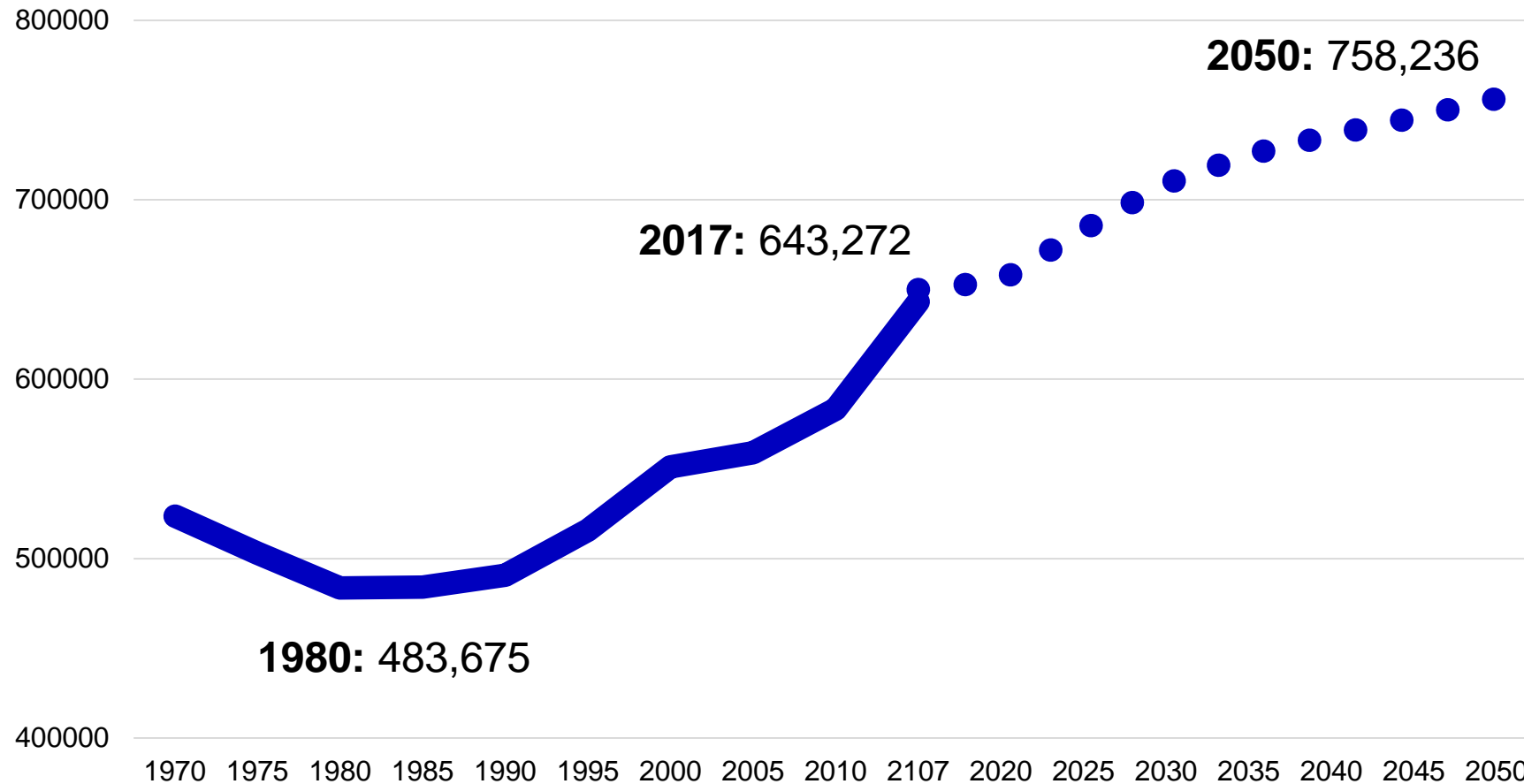
Helsinki

By gender, %



Helsinki is a fast-growing city

Helsinki population 1970–2017 and forecast to 2050



Employment

Total jobs, 2017

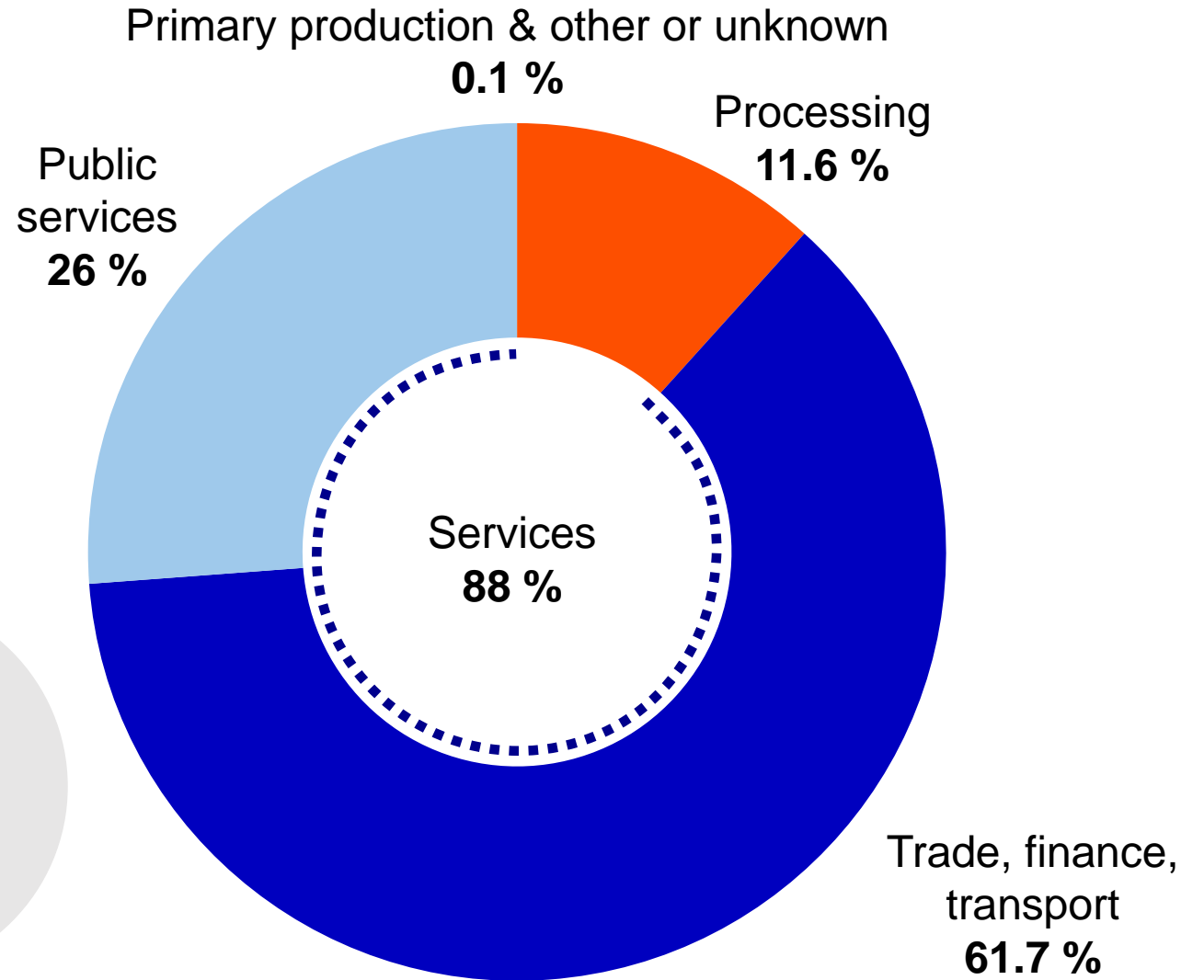
426,500

Employment self-sufficiency

130 %

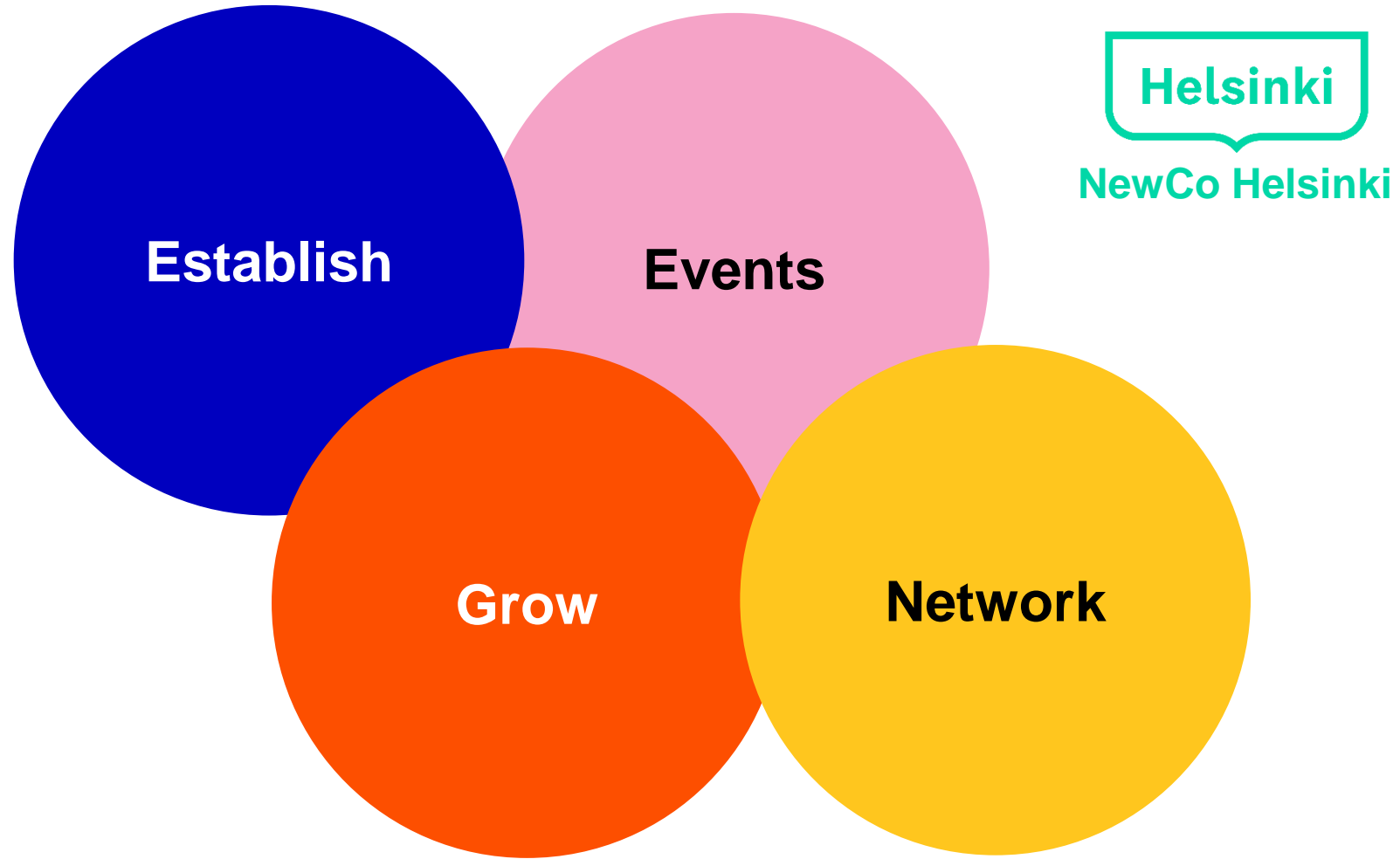
Unemployment rate

8.4 %



Business-friendly Helsinki

Services and support to new and already existing companies.



Business-friendly Helsinki

43 %

The Helsinki region's share of the turnover of all companies in Finland is 43 %.
(2016)

Companies generally see Helsinki as a good location:

- Skilful work force.
- Extensive market.
- Good connections. Helsinki Airport.
- 92 % of the companies want to collaborate with the City of Helsinki.
- Especially research, development and innovation collaborations with the City interests.

Source: Taloustutkimus Oy's corporate interview study 2016.

The City of modern climate responsibility

- Helsinki takes its responsibility in the prevention of climate change seriously and prevents climate change ambitiously.
- Helsinki brings forward its carbon neutrality objective from 2050 to 2035.



The most functional smart City in the world

- The Helsinki region is the world's best test platform for interesting and profitable smart and cleantech innovations.
- The best solutions create successful business activities in Finland and are exported abroad.
- New services for movement and housing improve the quality of living and curb climate change.



Helsinki is placed

1st

Combined Heating & Cooling System

Global District Energy Climate Awards 2015

6th

Global Destination Sustainability

GDS Index 2017

8th

The Cleanest Cities In The World

The Telegraph, 2017

Three priority areas for Helsinki's economic policy 2018–2021

Internationally attractive Helsinki

We strengthen Helsinki's international recognition and advance the export of Helsinkian know-how to the world. During the strategy period, the tourism to the city grows sustainably, and foreign investments generate new job opportunities.

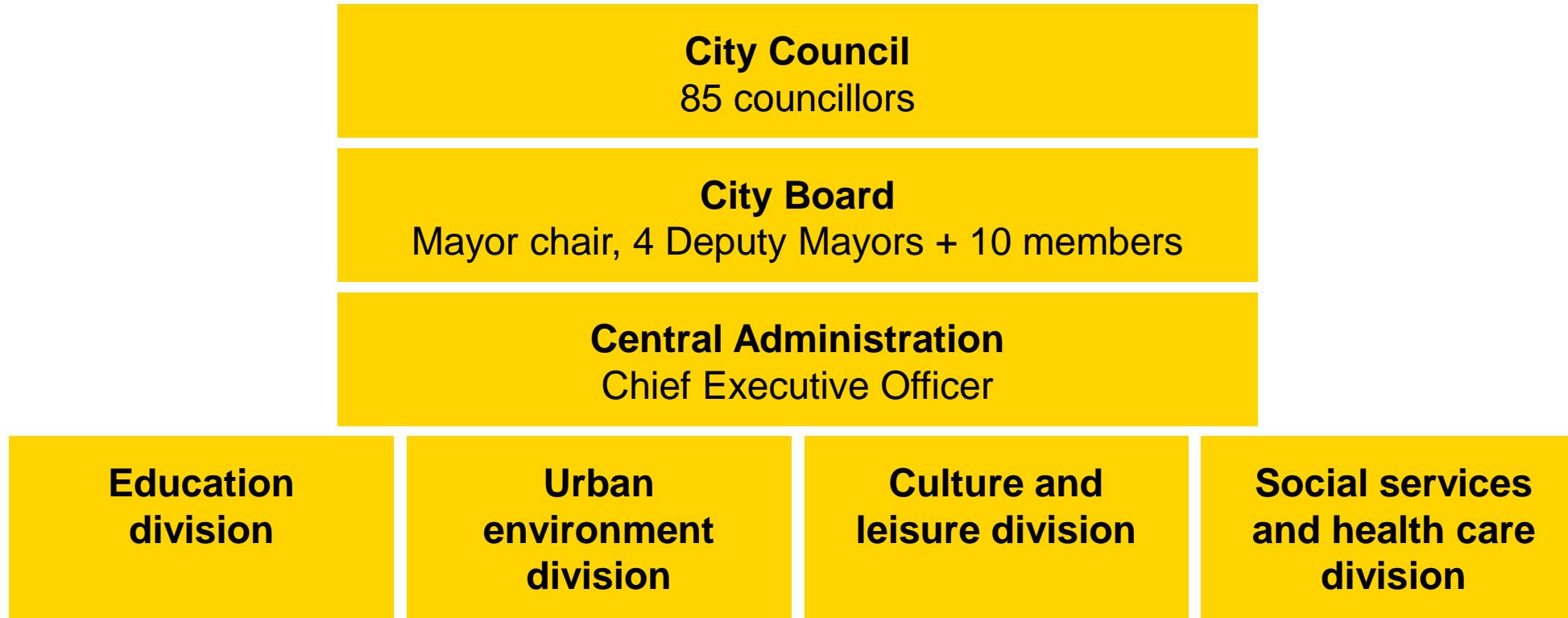
City with a skillful work force

We meet the skill needs of the changing labour market of the future, make Helsinki an attractive place for the world's leading experts, and increase the Helsinkians' ability to work. During the strategy period, education leads to employment in Helsinki, and work-related immigration allows for Helsinki-based companies to grow.

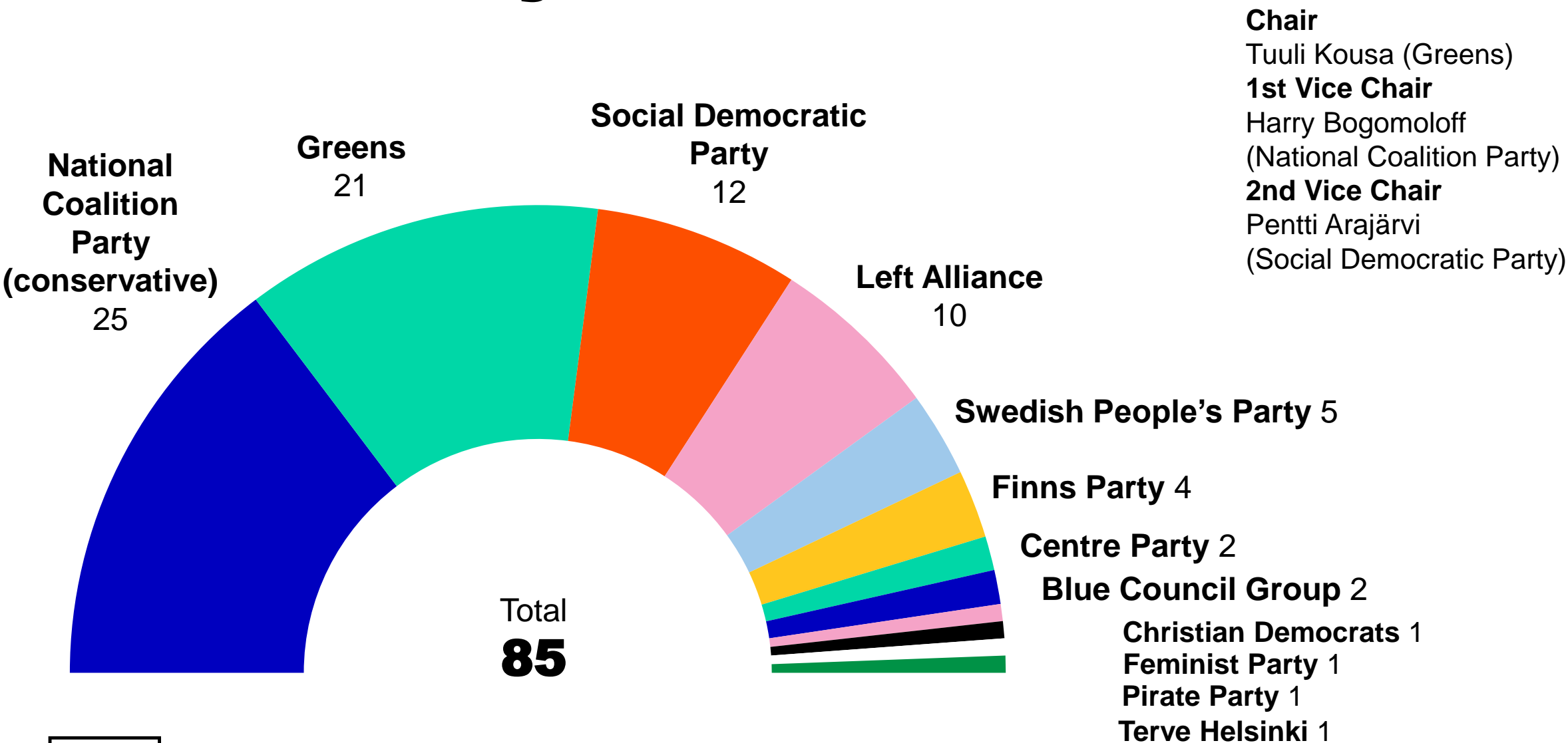
Platform for new and growing business activities

By 2025, we open up Helsinki and make it Europe's leading platform for experimentation and innovative entrepreneurship. During the strategy period, the experiment platforms are established as the city's way of working with enterprises and other organisations developing new solutions.

Helsinki administration



Helsinki City Council





Helsinki grows strongly

Helsinki is carrying out some of Europe's largest construction projects.

Housing production targets and project development

- A goal of building 6,000 housing units annually. Furthermore, work will be done to enable a raise of the goal to 7,000 housing units.
- A major part of the construction carried out in the major project development areas: Länsisatama, Kalasatama and Kruunuvuorenranta. Other significant sites in Pasila, Kuninkaantammi and Honkasuo.
- The target is that 40 % of the construction will be carried out as complementary construction.

Helsinki

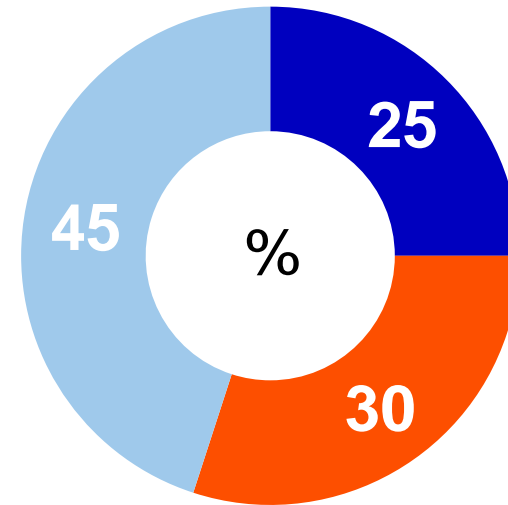


Housing policy objectives

Well-balanced urban development and diverse housing alternatives for different life situations.

The City cares for the condition of its housing stock and, through its measures, promotes e.g. energy-efficient residential construction, construction of elevators in the old housing stock and carrying through different kinds of housing concepts.

Objectives for forms of ownership and financing in annual housing production:



- ARA rental housing (including student and youth housing) 25 %
- Intermediate housing (e.g. Hitas and right-of-occupancy housing) 30 %
- Non-regulated owner occupied and rental housing 45 %

City of Helsinki Urban Development Areas

Helsinki

Kuninkaantammi

2009–2025
5,500 residents
1,000 jobs

Honkasuo

2009–2025
2,000 residents

Pasila

2010–2040
30,000 residents
50,000 jobs

In the future, more than 120,000 public transport passengers per day on Pasila station

City Centre

200,000 jobs
1.6 million m² of office, retail and customer service premises

Along the Joker light rail line²

Further constr. over 20 yrs
25,000 residents
10,000 jobs

Koivusaari

2012–2030
5,000 residents
4,000 jobs

Lauttasaari

Further constr. over 10 yrs
1,400 residents

Hospital areas

Infill development by 2025
3,000 residents

Siltamäki–Suutarila– Tapulikaupunki

Further constr. over 10 yrs
1,900 residents

Malmi airport area

2019–2045
25,000 residents
2,000 jobs

Alppikylä–Jakomäki

Further constr. over 10 yrs
1,600 residents

Viiikki–Kivikko

1989–2020
23,500 residents
9,000 jobs

Östersundom¹

2020–2060
80–100,000 residents
15–30,000 jobs

Mellunkylä–Kontula

Further constr. over 10 yrs
5,500 residents

Myllypuro

2007–2030
10,000 inh. to new housing units
5,800 jobs

Vuosaari

1989–2027
40,000 residents
6,000 jobs

Herttoniemi

Further constr. over 10 yrs
5,500 residents

Länsisatama

2009–2030
25,000 residents
10,000 jobs
Even 17,000 passengers/day

Kalasatama

2009–2040
25,000 residents
10,000 jobs

Kruunuvuorenranta

2013–2030
12,500 residents
800 jobs

Laajasalo

Further constr. over 15 yrs
6,000 residents
300,000 m² housing development, service and commercial

1. Figures for Östersundom taken from the new Helsinki city plan proposition (Sipoo, Vantaa, Helsinki).

2. Around 30 % of the number of residents for the Rail Joker are also included in the number of residents announced for Viiikki and Myllypuro.

Updated 20.10.2017, City of Helsinki/City Executive Office

The most satisfied passengers in Europe

- Extensive, reliable and fast public transport
- 88 % of passengers rate public transport either *good* or a *very good*
- Helsinki is also a cycling-friendly city with a cycling path network of 1,200 km

Public transport 2015
Journeys, million



Schools and universities

Aa

48,700 students in
132 comprehensive schools
7–16-year-olds

$(x+y)^2$
 x^2

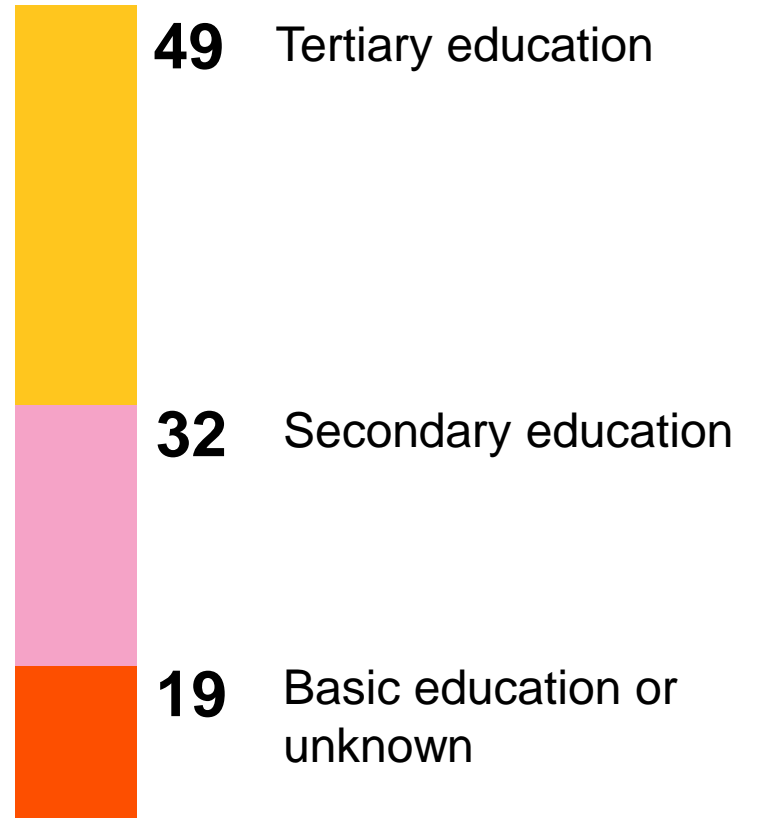
59,000 students in
59 upper secondary schools
High schools and vocational schools

11,000
students in
vocational training

23,000
students in
polytechnics

42,000
students in
universities

Educational structure,
% of 25–64-year-olds





A living urban culture

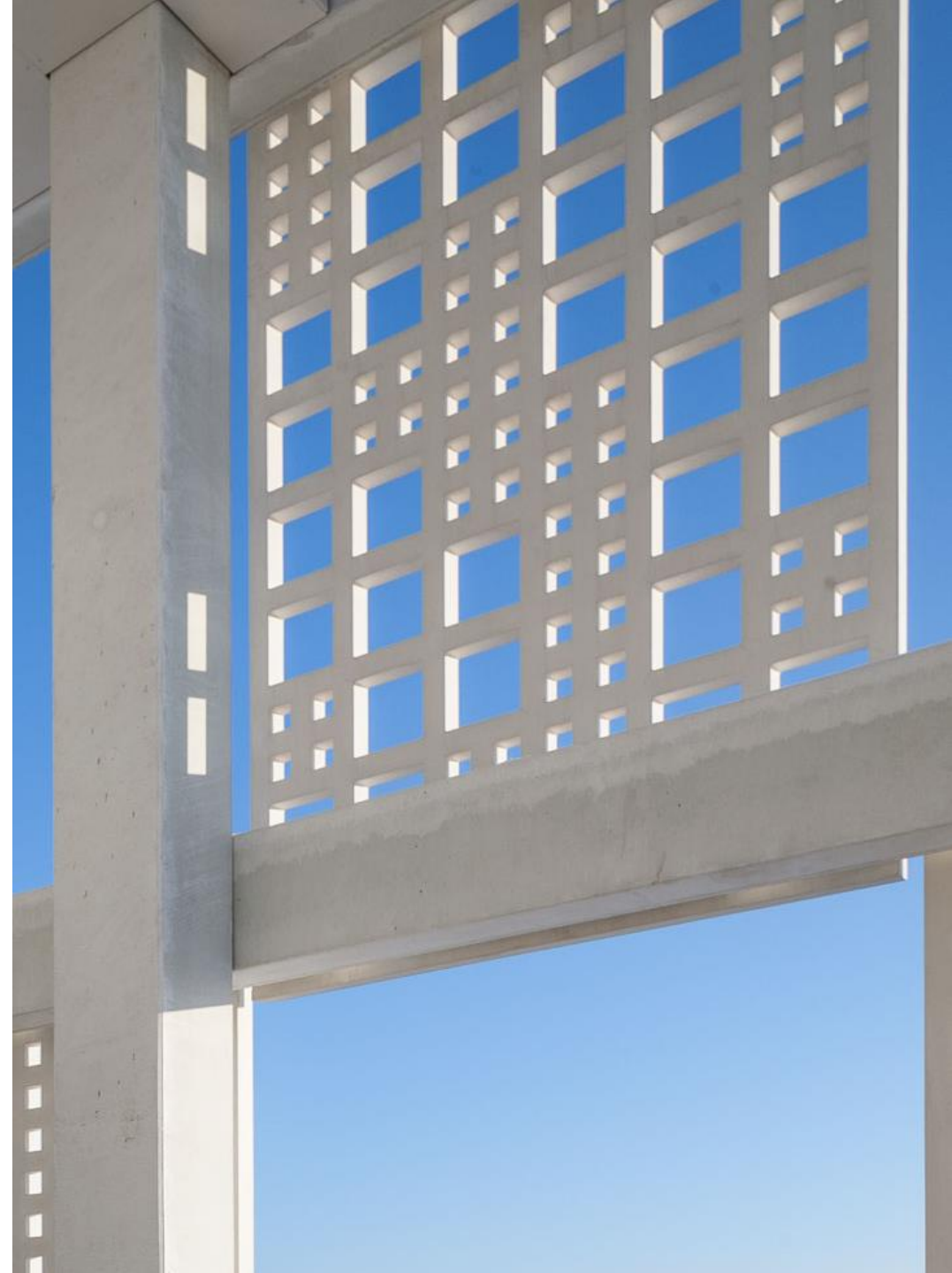
The urban culture in Helsinki has taken some giant leaps during the last few years. This change has been visible especially in the food and restaurant culture.

Helsinki

**Rugged
Capital
by the Sea**

Transparency and democracy

- By law, municipal records are public in Finland. Anyone can request any public document.
- The City's policy is to communicate proactively and anticipatorily about decision-making.
- Finland ranked 3rd in World Press Freedom Index (2017)
- Finland ranked 3rd by Transparency International



Local democracy and participation

Tools and measures:

- Digital channels for participation and interaction: “Kerro kantasi” - “Have Your Say”, Service Map, feedback, Ruuti.net, social media
- Resident evenings and city planning events for the residents
- Initiatives from residents
- Borough Liaisons and participatory budgeting
- Co-operation with the third sector and neighbourhood associations
- Development of local democracy

Helsinki

Helsinki is increasing local democracy and promoting resident participation.



Open data

www.hri.fi



Open data

Easy access

Free of charge

No limitations

R&D activities

Decision making

Visualization

Data journalism

Apps development

Helsinki

Helsinki in the future?

- Though international competition – knowledge about Helsinki to be increased.
- Bridge between east and west – Russia, growing traffic to Asia.
- High education and knowledge.
- New traffic investments; tunnel to Tallinn, rail-link between the Arctic Ocean and Berlin – via Helsinki?
- Housing prices growing rapidly, problem for economic development
- Segregation, especially in the eastern parts of Helsinki; positive segregation
- Young men in the risk zone to be socially excluded.

Thank you!

Helsinki