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Contents

1	80	1
1.1	80.guide	1
1.2	80.guide/Finland	1
1.3	80.guide/Geography (Finland)	2
1.4	80.guide/People (Finland)	3
1.5	80.guide/Government (Finland)	4
1.6	80.guide/Government (Finland 2. usage)	5
1.7	80.guide/Economy (Finland)	6
1.8	80.guide/Economy (Finland 2. usage)	7
1.9	80.guide/Communications (Finland)	8
1.10	80.guide/Defense Forces (Finland)	9

Chapter 1

80

1.1 80.guide

Texified version of data for Finland.

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Finland

1.2 80.guide/Finland

Finland

Geography (Finland)
People (Finland)
Government (Finland)
Government (Finland 2. usage)
Economy (Finland)
Economy (Finland 2. usage)
Communications (Finland)
Defense Forces (Finland)

1.3 80.guide/Geography (Finland)

Geography (Finland)
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Location:

Northern Europe, bordering the Baltic Sea between Sweden and Russia

Map references:

Arctic Region, Europe, Standard Time Zones of the World

Area:

total area:

337,030 km²

land area:

305,470 km²

comparative area:

slightly smaller than Montana

Land boundaries:

total 2,628 km, Norway 729 km, Sweden 586 km, Russia 1,313 km

Coastline:

1,126 km (excludes islands and coastal indentations)

Maritime claims:

contiguous zone:

6 nm

continental shelf:

200 m depth or to depth of exploitation

exclusive fishing zone:

12 nm

territorial sea:

4 nm

International disputes:

none

Climate:

cold temperate; potentially subarctic, but comparatively mild because of moderating influence of the North Atlantic Current, Baltic Sea, and more than 60,000 lakes

Terrain:

mostly low, flat to rolling plains interspersed with lakes and low hills

Natural resources:

timber, copper, zinc, iron ore, silver

Land use:

arable land:

8%

permanent crops: 0%
 meadows and pastures:
 0%
 forest and woodland:
 76%
 other:
 16%
 Irrigated land:
 620 km2 (1989 est.)
 Environment:
 permanently wet ground covers about 30% of land; population concentrated on
 small southwestern coastal plain
 Note:
 long boundary with Russia; Helsinki is northernmost national capital on
 European continent

1.4 80.guide/People (Finland)

People (Finland)
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Population:
 5,050,942 (July 1993 est.)
 Population growth rate:
 0.37% (1993 est.)
 Birth rate:
 12.61 births/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Death rate:
 9.91 deaths/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Net migration rate:
 1.04 migrant(s)/1,000 population (1993 est.)
 Infant mortality rate:
 5.4 deaths/1,000 live births (1993 est.)
 Life expectancy at birth:
 total population:
 75.65 years
 male:
 71.85 years
 female:
 79.62 years (1993 est.)
 Total fertility rate:
 1.79 children born/woman (1993 est.)
 Nationality:
 noun:
 Finn(s)
 adjective:
 Finnish
 Ethnic divisions:
 Finn, Swede, Lapp, Gypsy, Tatar
 Religions:
 Evangelical Lutheran 89%, Greek Orthodox 1%, none 9%, other 1%
 Languages:
 Finnish 93.5% (official), Swedish 6.3% (official), small Lapp- and

Russian-speaking minorities
 Literacy:
 age 15 and over can read and write (1980)
 total population: 100%
 male:
 NA%
 female:
 NA%
 Labor force:
 2.533 million
 by occupation:
 public services 30.4%, industry 20.9%, commerce 15.0%, finance, insurance,
 and business services 10.2%, agriculture and forestry 8.6%, transport and
 communications 7.7%, construction 7.2%

1.5 80.guide/Government (Finland)

Government (Finland)

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Names:
 conventional long form:
 Republic of Finland
 conventional short form:
 Finland
 local long form:
 Suomen Tasavalta
 local short form:
 Suomi
 Digraph:
 FI
 Type:
 republic
 Capital:
 Helsinki
 Administrative divisions:
 12 provinces (laanit, singular - laani); Ahvenanmaa, Hame, Keski-Suomi,
 Kuopio, Kymi, Lappi, Mikkeli, Oulu, Pohjois-Karjala, Turku ja Pori, Uusimaa ←
 ,
 Vaasa
 Independence:
 6 December 1917 (from Soviet Union)
 Constitution:
 17 July 1919
 Legal system:
 civil law system based on Swedish law; Supreme Court may request ←
 legislation
 interpreting or modifying laws; accepts compulsory ICJ jurisdiction, with
 reservations
 National holiday:
 Independence Day, 6 December (1917)
 Political parties and leaders:
 government coalition:

Center Party, Esko AHO; National Coalition (conservative) Party, Pertti SALOLAINEN; Swedish People's Party, (Johan) Ole NORRBACK; Finnish Christian League, Toimi KANKAANNIEMI

other parties:

Social Democratic Party, Antero KEKKONEN, Acting Chairman; Leftist Alliance (Communist) People's Democratic League and Democratic Alternative, Claes ANDERSON; Green League, Pekka SAURI; Rural Party, Tina MAKELA; Liberal People's Party, Kalle MAATTA

Other political or pressure groups: Finnish Communist Party-Unity, Yrjö ← HAKANEN; Constitutional Rightist Party;

Finnish Pensioners Party; Communist Workers Party, Timo LAHDENMAKI

Suffrage:

18 years of age; universal

Elections:

President:

last held 31 January - 1 February and 15 February 1988 (next to be held January 1994); results - Mauno KOIVISTO 48%, Paavo VAYRYNEN 20%, Harri HOLKERI 18%

Parliament:

last held 17 March 1991 (next to be held March 1995); results - Center ← Party

24.8%, Social Democratic Party 22.1%, National Coalition (Conservative) Party 19.3%, Leftist Alliance (Communist) 10.1%, Green League 6.8%, Swedish People's Party 5.5%, Rural 4.8%, Finnish Christian League 3.1%, Liberal People's Party 0.8%; seats - (200 total) Center Party 55, Social Democratic Party 48, National Coalition (Conservative) Party 40, Leftist Alliance (Communist) 19, Swedish People's Party 12, Green League 10, Finnish Christian League 8, Rural 7, Liberal People's Party 1

1.6 80.guide/Government (Finland 2. usage)

Government (Finland 2. usage)

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Executive branch:

president, prime minister, deputy prime minister, Council of State (Valtioneuvosto)

Legislative branch:

unicameral Parliament (Eduskunta)

Judicial branch:

Supreme Court (Korkein Oikeus)

Leaders:

Chief of State:

President Mauno KOIVISTO (since 27 January 1982)

Head of Government:

Prime Minister Esko AHO (since 26 April 1991); Deputy Prime Minister Ilkka KANERVA (since 26 April 1991)

Member of:

AfDB, AG (observer), AsDB, Australia Group, BIS, CBSS, CCC, CE, CERN, COCOM (cooperating country), CSCE, EBRD, ECE, EFTA, ESA (associate), FAO, G-9, GATT, IADB, IAEA, IBRD, ICAO, ICC, ICFTU, IDA, IFAD, IFC, ILO, IMF, IMO, INMARSAT, INTELSAT, INTERPOL, IOC, IOM, ISO, ITU, LORCS, MTCR, NAM (guest),

NC, NEA, NIB, NSG, OAS (observer), OECD, PCA, UN, UNCTAD, UNDOF, UNESCO, UNFICYP, UNHCR, UNIDO, UNIFIL, UNIKOM, UNMOGIP, UNOSOM, UNPROFOR, UNTSO, UPU, WHO, WIPO, WMO, WTO, ZC

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Flag:
white with a blue cross that extends to the edges of the flag; the vertical part of the cross is shifted to the hoist side in the style of the ←
DANNEBROG
(Danish flag)

1.7 80.guide/Economy (Finland)

Economy (Finland)

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Overview:

Finland has a highly industrialized, largely free market economy, with per capita output two-thirds of the US figure. Its key economic sector is manufacturing – principally the wood, metals, and engineering industries. Trade is important, with the export of goods representing about 30% of GDP. Except for timber and several minerals, Finland depends on imports of raw materials, energy, and some components for manufactured goods. Because of the climate, agricultural development is limited to maintaining self-sufficiency in basic products. The economy, which experienced an average of 4.9% annual growth between 1987 and 1989, sank into deep recession in 1991 as growth contracted by 6.5%. The recession – which continued in 1992 with growth contracting by 3.5% – has been caused by economic overheating, depressed foreign markets, and the dismantling of the barter system between Finland and the former Soviet Union under which ←
Soviet
oil and gas had been exchanged for Finnish manufactured goods. The Finnish

Government has proposed efforts to increase industrial competitiveness and efficiency by an increase in exports to Western markets, cuts in public expenditures, partial privatization of state enterprises, and changes in monetary policy. In June 1991 Helsinki had tied the markka to the EC's European Currency Unit (ECU) to promote stability. Ongoing speculation resulting from a lack of confidence in the government's policies forced Helsinki to devalue the markka by about 12% in November 1991 and to indefinitely break the link in September 1992. By boosting the competitiveness of Finnish exports, these measures presumably have kept the economic downturn from being even more severe. Unemployment probably will remain a serious problem during the next few years - monthly figures in early 1993 are approaching 20% - with the majority of Finnish firms facing ←

a

weak domestic market and the troubled German and Swedish export markets. Declining revenues, increased transfer payments, and extensive funding to bail out the banking system are expected to push the central government's budget deficit to nearly 13% in 1993. Helsinki continues to harmonize its economic policies with those of the EC during Finland's current EC membership bid.

National product:

GDP - purchasing power equivalent - \$79.4 billion (1992)

National product real growth rate:

-3.5% (1992)

National product per capita:

\$15,900 (1992)

Inflation rate (consumer prices):

2.1% (1992)

Unemployment rate:

13.1% (1992)

Budget:

revenues \$26.8 billion; expenditures \$40.6 billion, including capital expenditures of \$NA (1992)

Exports:

\$24.0 billion (f.o.b., 1992)

commodities:

timber, paper and pulp, ships, machinery, clothing and footwear

partners:

EC 53.2% (Germany 15.6%, UK 10.7%), EFTA 19.5% (Sweden 12.8%), US 5.9%, Japan 1.3%, Russia 2.8% (1992)

Imports:

\$21.2 billion (c.i.f., 1992)

commodities:

foodstuffs, petroleum and petroleum products, chemicals, transport equipment, iron and steel, machinery, textile yarn and fabrics, fodder grains

1.8 80.guide/Economy (Finland 2. usage)

Economy (Finland 2. usage)

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partners:

EC 47.2% (Germany 16.9%, UK 8.7%), EFTA 19.0% (Sweden 11.7%), US 6.1%, ←
 Japan
 5.5%, Russia 7.1% (1992)
 External debt:
 \$25 billion (1992)
 Industrial production:
 growth rate 7.6% (1992 est.)
 Electricity:
 13,500,000 kW capacity; 55,300 million kWh produced, 11,050 kWh per capita
 (1992)
 Industries:
 metal products, shipbuilding, forestry and wood processing (pulp, paper),
 copper refining, foodstuffs, chemicals, textiles, clothing
 Agriculture:
 accounts for 5% of GDP (including forestry); livestock production,
 especially dairy cattle, predominates; forestry is an important export
 earner and a secondary occupation for the rural population; main crops –
 cereals, sugar beets, potatoes; 85% self-sufficient, but short of ←
 foodgrains
 and fodder grains; annual fish catch about 160,000 metric tons
 Economic aid:
 donor – ODA and OOF commitments (1970–89), \$2.7 billion
 Currency:
 1 markkaa (FMk) or Finmark = 100 pennia
 Exchange rates:
 markkaa (FMk) per US\$1 – 5.4193 (January 1993), 4.4794 (1992), 4.0440
 (1991), 3.8235 (1990), 4.2912 (1989), 4.1828 (1988)
 Fiscal year: calendar year

1.9 80.guide/Communications (Finland)

Communications (Finland)

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Railroads:
 5,924 km total; Finnish State Railways (VR) operate a total of 5,863 km
 1.524-meter gauge, of which 480 km are multiple track and 1,445 km are
 electrified
 Highways:
 about 103,000 km total, including 35,000 km paved (bituminous, concrete,
 bituminous-treated surface) and 38,000 km unpaved (stabilized gravel,
 gravel, earth); additional 30,000 km of private (state-subsidized) roads
 Inland waterways:
 6,675 km total (including Saimaa Canal); 3,700 km suitable for steamers
 Pipelines:
 natural gas 580 km
 Ports:
 Helsinki, Oulu, Pori, Rauma, Turku
 Merchant marine:
 87 ships (1,000 GRT or over) totaling 935,260 GRT/973,995 DWT; includes 3
 passenger, 11 short-sea passenger, 17 cargo, 1 refrigerated cargo, 26
 roll-on/roll-off, 14 oil tanker, 6 chemical tanker, 2 liquefied gas, 7 bulk
 Airports:

total:
160
usable:
157
with permanent-surface runways:
66
with runways over 3,659 m:
0
with runways 2,440-3,659 m:
25
with runways 1,220-2,439 m:
22
Telecommunications:
good service from cable and microwave radio relay network; 3,140,000
telephones; broadcast stations - 6 AM, 105 FM, 235 TV; 1 submarine cable;
INTELSAT satellite transmission service via Swedish earth station and a
receive-only INTELSAT earth station near Helsinki

1.10 80.guide/Defense Forces (Finland)

Defense Forces (Finland)

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Branches:

Army, Navy, Air Force, Frontier Guard (including Coast Guard)

Manpower availability:

males age 15-49 1,323,381; fit for military service 1,091,613; reach
military age (17) annually 33,828 (1993 est.)

Defense expenditures:

exchange rate conversion - \$1.93 billion, about 2% of GDP (1992)