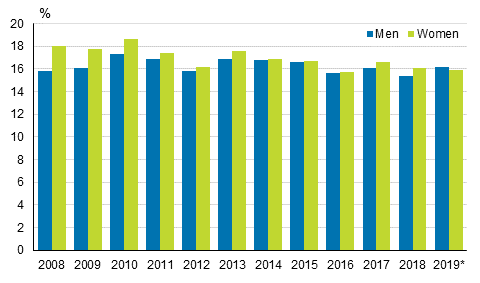
# Finland

Finland was inhabited around 9000 BC after the last glacial period. The stone age introduced several different ceramic styles and cultures, the bronze age and iron age were characterized by extensive contacts with other cultures in Fennoscandia and the Baltic region. Lying approximately between latitudes 60o and 70o N, and longitudes 20o and 32 o F, finland is one of the word’s northernmost countries. Of world capital only Reykjavik lies more to the north than Helsinki. The distance from the southernmost point – Hanko in Uusimaa – to the northernmost – Nuorgam in Lapland – is 1,160 kilometers (720 mi). much of the geography of finland is a result of the ice age. The glaciers were thicker and lasted longer in Fennoscandia compared with the rest of Europe. Their eroding effects have left the finnish landscape mostly flat with few hills and fewer mountains. The economy of finland has a per capita output equal to that of other European economies such as those of France, Germany, Belgium or the UK. The largest sector of the economy is the service sector at 66% of GDP. Followed b manufacturing and refining at 31%. Primary production represents 2.9%. with respect to foreign trade, te key economic sector is manufacturing. The largest industries in 2007 were electronics (22%); machinery, vehicles and other engineered metal products (21.1%); forest industry (13%); and chemicals (11%), the gross domestic product peaked in 2008, as of 2015, the country’s economy is at the 2006 level.

The unemployment reate was 9.4% in 2015, having risen from 8.7% in 2014. Youth unemployment rate rose from 16.5% in 2007 to 20.5% in 2014. A fifth of residents are outside the job market at the age of 50 and less that a third are working at the age of 61. In 2014, nearly one million people were living with minimal wages or unemployed not enough to cover their costs of living. As of 2006, 2.4 million households reside in finland. The average size is 2.1 persons; 40% of households consists of a single person ; 32% two persons and 28% three or more persons. Residential buildings total 1.2 million and the average residential space is 38 square meters (410 sq ft) per person. The average residential property without land costs 1,187 (in finlands currency rate) per sq metre and residential land 8.60(finland currency rate) per sq metre. 74% of households had a car. There are 2.5 milliion cars and 0.4 million other vehicles.

Statistics finlan’s preliminary data on statistics on livind condition show that 873,000 finns, or 16.0 per cent of the entire household population were at risk of poverty or social exclusion in 2019. The number of persons at risk grew by around 17,000 from the previous year. The change was primiarily due to growth in the number of low income households.

## Sher of persons at risk of poverty or social exclusion by sex in 2008 to 2019



Being at risk of poverty or social exclusion means that the perons is living in a low income houseold, a household with low work intensity or a household that experiences severe meterial deprivation. One of these risks materialising means that the perons is at risk of poverty or social exclusion, but the risks can also be simultaneous. There were 669, 000 persons living in low income households, 376, 000 persons with low work intesity and 139, 000 living in severe meterial depriavaition in 2019.

Most persons at risk of poverty or poverty or sicial exclusion are only members in low income households. They numbered 425, 000 persons or 7.8 per cent of the population and slightly under one half of all persons at risk of poverty or social exclusion. But the rsks can also be simultaneous. There were 669,000 persons living in low income households, 376,000 persons with low work intensity and 139,000 living in severe meterial deprivation in 2019.

Most persons at risk of poverty or social exclusion are only members in low income households. They numbered 425,000 persons or 7.8 per cent of the population and slightly under one half of all persons at risk of poverty or social exclusion. The second most common situation was to experience both low income and low work intensity, which affects around 182,000 persons or 3.3 per cent of the population. Mere low work intensity is the third most common, and that concerned approximately 127,000 persons, or 2.3 per cent of the Women’s risk of poverty or social exclusion diminished and men's grew in 2019. In all, 15.9 per cent of women or 438,000 persons and 16.2 per cent of men or 435,000 were at risk of poverty or social exclusion in 2019 (Figure). In the long term, the difference between women and men has narrowed especially due to the contraction of differences in low income among the oldest women and men. come among the oldest women and men. Experiences of low work intensity were somewhat more common among men (7.6%) than women (6.3%). Men also experience slightly more often than women a risk in more than one risk factor.

Living in low income households, low work intensity and severe material deprivation are all household-specific indicators. Thus observed gender differences in being at risk of poverty or social exclusion or its components mostly derive from differences between people living alone.

Of men at risk 65 per cent were of working age and only 15 per cent pensioners, while around 58 per cent of women at risk were of working age and 26 per cent pensioners. The lower number of female pensioners living in low income households has narrowed down the differences between women and men at risk of poverty or social exclusion compared to 2008, when 18 per cent of women and 15.8 per cent of men were at risk of poverty or social exclusion.

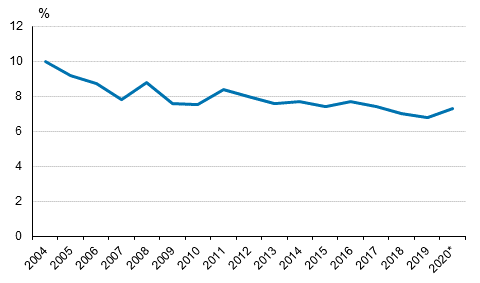
The so-called AROPE indicator (At Risk of Poverty or Social Exclusion) that measures the risk of poverty or social exclusion is part of the monitoring of the objectives of the Europe 2020 Strategy. It aims to reduce the number of persons living at risk of poverty or social exclusion in the EU by 20 million by 2020 compared with 2008, when there were 116 million people at risk of poverty or social exclusion. In 2018, altogether 108 million persons were at risk in 28 EU countries.

## Households’ difficulties in making ends meet became slightly more general in 2020

In 2020, there were slightly more households experiencing difficulties in making ends meet than in the year before 1) . In all, 7.3 per cent of households had difficulties or great difficulties in making ends meet, while in the previous year, the share was 6.8 per cent (Figure). The share of households experiencing difficulties in making ends meet has been under eight per cent throughout the 2010s except for 2011).

In addition, around 72 per cent of households said that they could face unexpected expenses without outside help. The best prepared were pensioner households of two adults around 91 per cent of whom could face unexpected expenses. The least prepared were one-supporter households (around 47%) and young one-person households (about 56%). Unexpected expenses refer to the sum corresponding to the monthly at-risk-of-poverty threshold for a one-person household, which in recent years has been around EUR 1,200.

## Share of households with difficulties or great difficulties in making ends meet in 2004 to 2920, %



Even though Finland has one of the highest quality of life scores in Europe. Its score of 8.2 out of 10 is higher than the average 7.4 rate in the European Union as of 2016. People are generally happier in Finland and the number has stayed consistent since 2003. 2. Finland’s unemployment rate was approximately 7% as of 2018. This is a huge improvement over the last couple of years, where the unemployment rate was close to 10% in 2014. Since then, the unemployment rate has dropped to a little more than 6% as of January 2020. This number is significantly lower than Finland’s youth unemployment rate which was close to 17% in 2017, but it is a huge improvement from its 2016 youth unemployment rate of nearly 20%. The probability of someone becoming poor in Finland is actually lower than the probability of them becoming poor in all of Europe. In 2016, the chance of someone in Finland being at risk of poverty was approximately 16% compared to 22% in the European Union as of 2019. Finland also has one of the highest Human Development Indexes (HDI) with a placement of number 12 out of 189 countries. Its HDI has been increasing for nearly two decades now and sits at a .925 as of 2018. One can attribute Finland’s success as a country to an increased life expectancy at birth since 1990, an increased number of expected and mean schooling since 1990 and an increase in its Gross National Income (GNP) per capita since 1990. These five facts about poverty in Finland show that overall, Finland is one of the most prosperous countries in Europe due to the exceptional education system, low poverty rate and an expanding economy.

# VNR Process

Finland’s second VNR focuses on the progress achieved between 2016 and 2020. The VNR builds on existing institutional, follow-up and monitoring mechanisms and relies on data, evaluations, research and reports.

The VNR was prepared by the Prime Minister’s Office in close cooperation with all ministries, Finnish civil society and other stakeholders, such as municipalities and businesses. The VNR includes chapters written by stakeholders and institutions. The assessment of the progress in each SDG consists of two independent assessments: one by Government officials and one by civil society actors.

The Governments of Mozambique and Switzerland supported Finland in the preparation of the VNR by reviewing the draft report and sharing their views.

# SDG progress 2016 – 2020

Finland is at the forefront of many international sustainability comparisons and studies. Finland is close to reaching many of the SDGs related to social and economic sustainability.

Finland’s key challenges are related to consumption and production patterns, climate action and the state of biodiversity. Obesity is an increasing problem. Gender equality challenges, such as genderbased violence and labour market disparities, including a gender pay gap, still remain.

Finland bears global responsibility by, for example, contributing to international crisis management and supporting developing countries. However, Finland has not been able to restore ODA to the level preceding the cuts in 2016. Spillovers need more attention.

**Referrencing**

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