



# Finland



<b>Background</b>	Finland was a province and then a grand duchy under Sweden from the 12th to the 19th centuries and an autonomous grand duchy of Russia after 1809. It gained complete independence in 1917. During World War II, Finland successfully defended its independence through cooperation with Germany and resisted subsequent invasions by the Soviet Union, albeit with some loss of territory. During the next half-century, Finland transformed from a farm/forest economy to a diversified modern industrial economy; per-capita income is among the highest in Western Europe. A member of the EU since 1995, Finland was the only Nordic state to join the euro single currency at its initiation in January 1999. In the 21st century, the key features of Finland's modern welfare state are high-quality education, promotion of equality, and a national social welfare system, although the system is currently facing the challenges of an aging population and the fluctuations of an export-driven economy. Following Russia's invasion of Ukraine in 2022, Finland opted to join NATO; it became the organization's 31st member in April 2023.
<b>Capital</b>	name: Helsinki
<b>Government type</b>	parliamentary republic
<b>Area</b>	total : 338,145 sq km land: 303,815 sq km water: 34,330 sq km
<b>Climate</b>	cold temperate; potentially subarctic but comparatively mild because of moderating influence of the North Atlantic Current, Baltic Sea, and more than 60,000 lakes
<b>Natural resources</b>	timber, iron ore, copper, lead, zinc, chromite, nickel, gold, silver, limestone
<b>Population</b>	total: 5,626,414 (2024 est.)
<b>Population growth rate</b>	0.2% (2024 est.)
<b>Ethnic groups</b>	Finnish, Swedish, Russian, Estonian, Romani, Sami
<b>Religions</b>	Lutheran 66.6%, Greek Orthodox 1.1%, other 1.7%, none 30.6% (2022 est.)
<b>Languages</b>	Finnish (official) 85.9%, Swedish (official) 5.2%, Russian 1.7%, other 7.2% (2022 est.)
<b>Executive branch</b>	chief of state: President Alexander STUBB (since 1 March 2024) head of government: Prime Minister Petteri ORPO (since 20 June 2023)
<b>Legislative branch</b>	legislature name: Parliament (Eduskunta - Riksdagen)
<b>Diplomatic representation in the US</b>	chief of mission: Ambassador Leena-Kaisa MIKKOLA (since 18 September 2024)
<b>Diplomatic representation from the US</b>	chief of mission: Ambassador Howard W. BRODIE (since 13 November 2025)
<b>Economic overview</b>	high-income, export-based EU and eurozone economy; major timber, metals, engineering, telecom, and electronics industries; emerging from recession triggered by inflation, weak consumer and export demand, and lower private investment; labor market reform plan to address structural rigidities
<b>Real GDP (purchasing power parity)</b>	\$313.591 billion (2024 est.) \$314.075 billion (2023 est.) \$317.078 billion (2022 est.)
<b>Real GDP per capita</b>	\$55,600 (2024 est.) \$56,200 (2023 est.) \$57,100 (2022 est.)
<b>Exports</b>	\$124.531 billion (2024 est.) \$127.098 billion (2023 est.) \$129.389 billion (2022 est.)
<b>Exports - partners</b>	USA 11%, Germany 11%, Sweden 10%, Netherlands 7%, China 5% (2023)
<b>Exports - commodities</b>	paper, refined petroleum, steel, wood pulp, ships (2023)
<b>Imports</b>	\$122.644 billion (2024 est.) \$126.175 billion (2023 est.) \$135.119 billion (2022 est.)
<b>Imports - partners</b>	Germany 14%, Sweden 12%, China 9%, Norway 8%, Netherlands 5% (2023)
<b>Imports - commodities</b>	crude petroleum, cars, refined petroleum, packaged medicine, broadcasting equipment (2023)

## Population Pyramid

