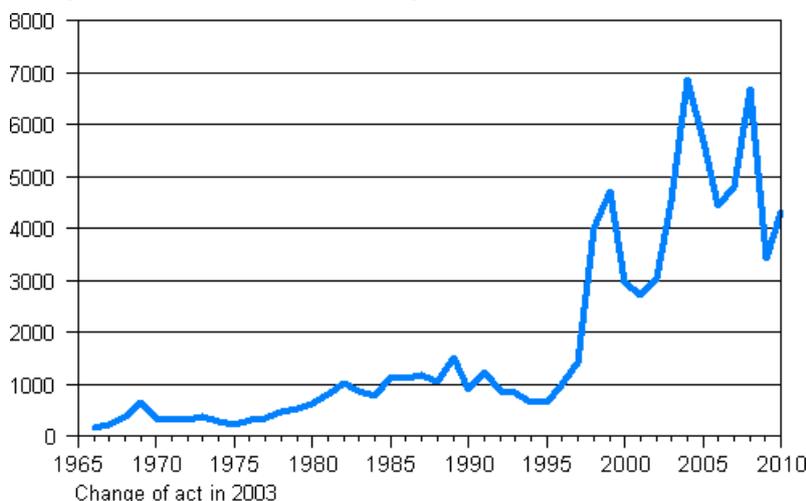


Citizenships granted 2010

Number of persons receiving Finnish citizenship grew slightly in 2010

According to Statistics Finland, in 2010 Finnish citizenship was granted to 4,350 foreign citizens permanently resident in Finland. The number was 900 higher than in 2009. Of the persons having received Finnish citizenship, 2,600 were women and 1,750 men. Among the recipients of Finnish citizenship, 1,000 were aged under 15 and 90 were older than 65.

Recipients of Finnish citizenship 1966–2010



Last year, Finnish citizenship was granted to 3,800 citizens of countries outside the European Union, which was 800 more than in 2009. In all, 550 of those having received Finnish citizenship were citizens of countries belonging to the European Union, which is 150 up on one year before.

Finnish citizenship was most often granted to citizens of Russia (1,930). The number was 900 higher than in the year before. Russian citizens were also the largest group having received Finnish citizenship in the previous year. Estonian citizens were the second largest group of recipients of Finnish citizenship (240). In the year before, 170 Estonians received Finnish citizenship. Of the citizens of Somalia resident in Finland, 130 received Finnish citizenship in 2010, whereas the respective number in the previous year was 290.

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Appendix table 1. Naturalized foreigners and foreigners by age structure 2010

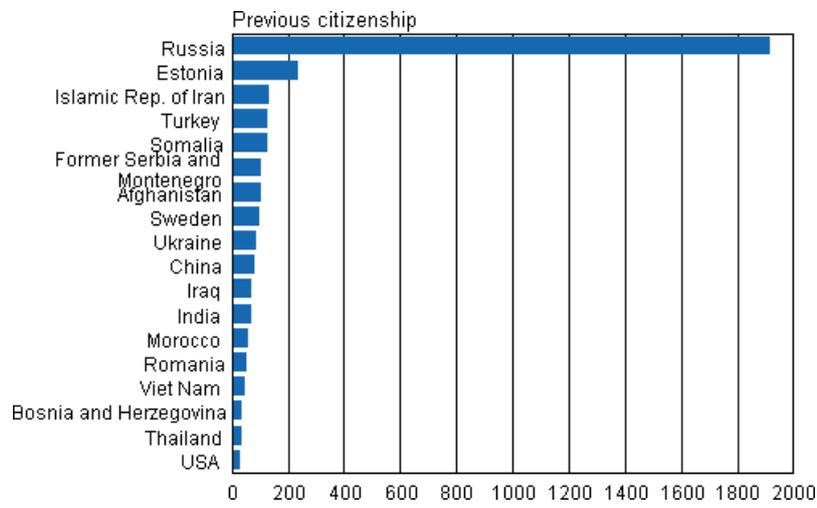
Age group	Naturalized foreigners	Naturalized foreigners %	Foreigners	Foreigners %
Age groups total	4 334	100,0	167 954	100,0
0 - 9	713	16,5	17 226	10,3
10 - 19	709	16,4	15 307	9,1
20 - 29	540	12,5	37 105	22,1
30 - 39	1 201	27,7	42 417	25,3
40 - 49	700	16,2	27 513	16,4
50 - 59	314	7,2	15 977	9,5
60 - 69	109	2,5	6 700	4,0
70 - 79	38	0,9	3 672	2,2
80 -	10	0,2	2 037	1,2

Appendix table 2. Citizenships granted according to country of previous citizenship 2009 - 2010

Previous nationality	2009	2010
Total	3 413	4 334
Russian Federation	1 026	1 925
Estonia	166	243
Iran, Islamic Republic of	180	137
Turkey	94	132
Somalia	290	131
Former Serbia and Montenegro	154	109
Afghanistan	186	108
Sweden	126	104
Ukraine	53	92
China	53	85
Iraq	207	78
India	27	73
Morocco	22	65
Romania	25	58
Viet Nam	42	54
Other	762	940

Appendix figures

**Appendix figure 1. Naturalized foreigners by previous citizenship
2010**



Quality description, naturalized foreigners

1. Relevance of statistical information

The main source used when producing Finnish population statistics is the Population Information System of the Population Register Centre. Changes in the data on the vital events of the resident population are updated into the Population Information System continuously by local population register authorities. From 1975 Statistics Finland has obtained population data from the Population Register Centre.

The last population registration was carried out in Finland on 1 January 1989. After that the Population Information System has been updated by notifications of changes. The data stored in the Population Information System are specified in the act on Population Information System and the certificate services of the Population Register Centre (21 August 2009/661). Notifications on population changes for the past year are expected by the last day of January of the following year.

Statistics Finland's function is to compile statistics on conditions in society (Statistics Finland Act of 24 January 1992/48). These also include demographic statistics. Statistics Finland's Rules of Procedure defines the Population Statistics unit as the producer of demographic statistics (Statistics Finland's Rules of Procedure, TK-00-1469-10).

In accordance with the Act on the Municipality of Domicile, the municipality of domicile and the place of residence of individuals are recorded in the Population Information System. The municipality in which a person lives or the one construed by the inhabitant as the municipality of domicile on the grounds of residence, family ties, livelihood or other equivalent circumstances, or to which the inhabitant has close links due to the aforementioned circumstances is deemed the municipality of domicile. (Act on the Municipality of Domicile, 201/1994.) The population registered in the Population Information System is divided into those present and those absent. Those present are permanent residents of Finland, either Finnish nationals or aliens. Those absent are Finnish nationals who when emigrating from the country have reported that they intend to be absent from Finland for more than one year, with the exception of Finnish nationals who are diplomats and those working in development co-operation (Act on the Municipality of Domicile, 201/1994.) Only changes in the population resident in Finland on 31 December are taken into account when compiling statistics on vital events. Persons moving to Finland from abroad are classified in the population statistics if the place of residence they have declared as their municipality of domicile is later confirmed as their place of residence.

Citizenship

Citizenship refers to a person's legal nationality in a certain country. Citizenship is usually determined at birth, but it may be changed upon moving to live in another country. A person may also be a citizen of more than one country (see Nationality Act, 359/2003). Persons with both Finnish and foreign citizenship will be entered in the statistics as Finnish nationals. If a foreign national living in Finland has several nationalities, that person will be entered in the statistics as a national of the country on whose passport he or she arrived in the country. Persons having received Finnish nationality by both proceedings initiated upon petition and by declaration procedure are included in statistics on recipients of Finnish nationality.

The Population Register Centre has adopted the ISO 3166 standard in its nationality classification.

2. Methodological description of survey

The main source used when producing Finnish population statistics is the Population Information System of the Population Information Centre. Local register office updates a Population Information System with information it gets from persons experiencing vital events and parishes of the Evangelical-Lutheran and Greek Orthodox churches. Hospitals send information of births in machine-language format to maintenance of Population Information System. Local courts take information of decisions of adoptions and divorces dealt in the court into the Population Information System. The Finnish Immigration Service decide about the granting of Finnish citizenships (the Nationality Act 359/2003) and enters data about the decisions

into the Population Information System. Statistics Finland receives the updated data on vital events in machine-language format on a weekly basis.

The deadline for delivering data to Statistics Finland on vital events in the statistical year is the end of January of the following year. The exception to this is the data on stillbirths, which were expected by the end of August. Data on population changes in statistical year delivered to Statistics Finland after this date are included in the data of the following year.

3. Correctness and accuracy of data

In general, the Population Information System of the Population Register Centre can be considered very exhaustive as regards persons. In order that a person obtains a personal identity code, he or she has to be registered in the Population Information System. It is practically impossible to live in Finland without a personal identity code. A personal identity code is needed so that one can work legally, open a bank account, have dealings with authorities and so on. It can be safely assumed that Finland cannot have any substantial numbers of 'moonlighters' who receive their pay in cash for periods of over one year, for example. Staying in Finland for at least one year is the prerequisite for registering into the population of Finland.

After abolishment of yearly checking of domicile registers (January 1) in 1989 the Population Information System has been maintained only by notifications of changes to population information. Their correctness is determined by a reliability survey made on the addresses in the Population Information System.

The Population Register Centre charges Statistics Finland with the task of conducting yearly a sample survey on correctness of address information. Around 11,000 people are asked whether their address in the Population Information System is correct. In the 2009 survey, the address was correct for 99.2 per cent of the respondents.

In connection with municipal elections, returned notifications of voting sent to foreigners usually reveal around 1,000 persons who have moved from the country without giving notice and are thus still included in the Finnish population. The Population Register Centre removes them from the resident population in the Population Information System before the following turn of the year.

4. Timeliness and promptness of published data

Final vital statistics are published yearly in May to June, except for those on stillbirths, which are released in September. Since 1999 the regional division used has been that of the first day of the following year. Thus the municipalities that unite on the first day of the new year are already combined in the statistics on the last day of the previous year. Information on the vital statistics of the united municipalities before the unification is available from 2003 onwards.

5. Accessibility and transparency/clarity of data

Basic population data are available in electronic form by municipality or with larger regional divisions than municipality in Statistics Finland's free Statistical Database on the internet.

The chargeable information service contains more specified information about the population by sub-area of municipality, for example.

The Altika statistical service also includes municipality-specific population data from 1975 onwards.

6. Comparability of statistics

Comparable regional vital statistics series are available from 1987. The tables always indicate which regional division is used.

Compilation of statistics on immigrants based on lists of passports began in 1900 and continued until 1984. From 1945 there are data on the total volume of migration between Finland and foreign countries

derived from statistical materials of other countries. The migration statistics between the Nordic Countries improved in 1969, when the so-called Inter-Nordic Migration Form was introduced. Production of statistics on migration outside the Nordic Countries improved further in 1985, when the obligation to notify was extended to emigrants.

Population data by municipality are available in electronic form in the Altika information service from 1975 onwards. The population time series in the free “Väestö” online service begin from the year 1980 or 1987. Vital statistics time series for the whole country is available from 1749.

7. Coherence and consistency/uniformity

Statistics Finland’s other statistics use the data of demographic statistics as basic information on population. Consequently, Statistics Finland’s other statistics correspond to demographic statistics.

Inquiries

Matti Saari (09) 1734 3401

Director in charge:

Jari Tarkoma

vaesto.tilasto@stat.fi

www.stat.fi

Source: Population and Cause of Death Statistics. Statistics Finland