

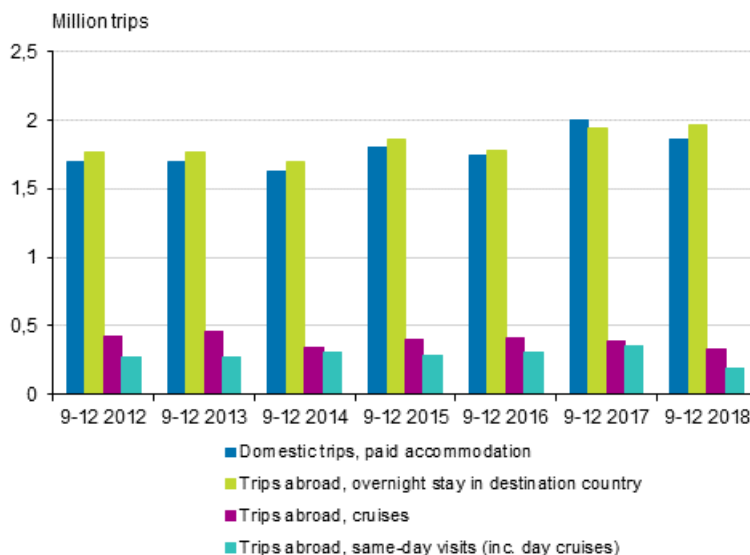
Finnish Travel

2018, Autumn (1 Sep to 31 Dec 2018)

Leisure trips abroad decreased in September to December 2018

According to Statistics Finland’s preliminary data, fewer leisure trips abroad were made in September to December 2018 than in the previous year’s September to December. In the autumn period 2018, clearly fewer trips were made to Estonia than in the corresponding period of the year before. Instead, more trips to other countries were made in the autumn period than in the year before. The number of domestic leisure trips remained on level with the previous year in September to December 2018.

Leisure trips by type of trip in September to December 2012 to 2018* (excl. domestic trips with free accommodation)



In the last four months of 2018, Finnish residents aged 15 to 84 made 17.9 million trips, when domestic and foreign leisure trips, as well as business and professional trips are included. In addition to trips with overnight stay, the number also includes same-day trips abroad and in Finland.

Altogether 7.8 million domestic leisure trips with overnight stay were made in the September to December period. Of these, 5.9 million were trips with free accommodation. Leisure trips with overnight stay at paid accommodation numbered 1.8 million and their most popular destinations were Uusimaa, Lapland and Pirkanmaa. Uusimaa kept its top position as the region of travel in the last four months of the year.

The number of same-day leisure trips in Finland was 5.5 million and Uusimaa, Pirkanmaa and Southwest Finland were the most popular destination regions for same-day trips.

Inclusive of trips with overnight stay in the destination country, cruises and same-day trips, leisure trips abroad numbered 2.5 million in the September to December period. The number of leisure trips abroad decreased compared to the previous year's autumn. October was the most popular month for travelling, when leisure trips were made abroad.

Leisure trips to Estonia decreased clearly from the previous year's autumn. November was the most popular month of the period to visit Estonia. Leisure trips to Sweden also decreased from the previous year's autumn. The most favoured month for travelling to Sweden in late 2018 was October.

Leisure trips to Spain and the Canary Islands increased in late 2018 and a total of 0.3 million trips were made.

The number of trips to Eastern and Western Europe increased slightly compared with the previous year's autumn. Germany was the most popular travel destination in Western Europe.

When examining only leisure trips with overnight stay in the destination country, their number was the same as in the previous year's September to December, 2.0 million. October was the most popular month for these trips, as then the number of trips abroad with overnight stay in the destination country was 0.6 million.

Of the trips with overnight stay in the destination country, only every fifth trip was headed to Estonia towards the end of the year. In the previous year, every fourth leisure trip with overnight stay in the destination country was still headed to Estonia. In turn, at the end of the year as many as every third leisure trip with overnight stay in the destination country was headed to Southern Europe and the Eastern Mediterranean, while in the previous year's September to October it was only every fourth trip.

In addition to leisure trips, 1.3 million business and professional trips with overnight stay were made in Finland during the latter part of the year. Business or professional trips abroad (inclusive of trips with overnight stay in the destination country, cruises and same-day trips) numbered 0.8 million. Domestic business trips increased clearly from the previous year, whereas business trips abroad remained unchanged.

These data derive from Statistics Finland's Finnish Travel survey, for which altogether 4,618 Finnish residents aged 15 to 84 were interviewed in October, November and December 2018 and in January 2019.

Preliminary data for the whole of 2018

According to Statistics Finland's preliminary data, Finnish residents made 8.2 million different leisure trips abroad in 2018. Of the trips, 6.4 million were leisure trips with overnight stay in the destination country, 1.0 million cruises with overnight stay on board to neighbouring areas, and 0.8 million same-day trips or same-day cruises to neighbouring areas.

Estonia, Sweden and Spain were the most popular leisure trip destinations in 2018. Leisure trips to Estonia decreased clearly from the previous year while trips elsewhere increased.

Finnish residents made 25.7 million various leisure trips with overnight stay in Finland. In total, 6.8 million of the trips were trips with paid accommodation and 18.9 million with free accommodation.

The most popular regions were Uusimaa, Pirkanmaa, North Ostrobothnia and Southwest Finland.

Leisure trips in both Finland and abroad decreased slightly from 2017.

Preliminary data concerning travel derive from Statistics Finland's monthly Finnish Travel sample survey. In all, 13,537 persons aged 15 to 84 permanently resident in Finland were interviewed for the numbers of trips. Final annual data will be published on 28 March 2019.

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Appendix table 1.1. Trips of Finnish residents and changes in them in September to December 2018*

Type of trip			September	October	November	December	September-December, total	Year-on-year change, % 9-12/2018* - 9-12/2017
			1,000 trips					
Trips, total			4,680	4,460	4,270	4,490	17,900	..
Leisure	Domestic	Total ¹⁾	3,000	2,910	2,620	3, 250	11,780	..
		Paid accommodation	470	490	430	460	1,850	-8
		Free accommodation	1,670	1,380	1,180	1,710	5,930	2
		Same-day trips	860	1,030	1,020	1,080	4,000	..
	Abroad	Total ²⁾	600	670	600	620	2,480	-8
		Overnight stay in destination country	490	550	460	470	1,970	1
		Cruises	..	..	..	..	330	-16
		Same-day visits (inc. day cruises)	..	..	..	..	190	-46
Business	Domestic	Trips with overnight stay	380	370	340	260	1,340	-9
		Same-day trips	500	320	470	230	1,520	..
	Abroad	Total ²⁾	210	200	240	140	770	6

Symbols: [...] data not available or too uncertain for presentation, or subject to secrecy, [*] preliminary data. In some tables the sums do not amount to the totals shown because of rounding.

1) Includes trips with overnight stay and same-day trips

2) Includes same-day trips, cruises and trips with overnight stay in destination country

Appendix table 1.2. Trips of Finnish residents in September to December 2012-2018*

Type of trip			September-December						
			2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018*
Trips, total			12,530	12,290	12,140	12,360	12,790	12,720	12,380
Leisure	Domestic	Total ¹⁾	7,830	7,660	7,620	7,770	7,780	7,840	7,780
		Paid accommodation	1,700	1,700	1,620	1,810	1,750	2,000	1,850
		Free accommodation	6,130	5,960	6,000	5,960	6,030	5,830	5,930
	Abroad	Total ²⁾	2,470	2,500	2,350	2,540	2,500	2,680	2,480
		Overnight stay in destination country	1,770	1,770	1,700	1,860	1,780	1,950	1,970
		Cruises	420	460	350	400	410	390	330
		Same-day visits (inc. day cruises)	280	270	300	280	300	350	190
Business	Domestic	Total	1,530	1,430	1,450	1,350	1,630	1,470	1,340
	Abroad	Total ²⁾	690	690	710	690	870	730	770

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1) Nor including domestic same-day trips

2) Includes same-day trips, cruises and trips with overnight stay in destination country

Appendix table 2.1 Domestic leisure trips with overnight stay by destination region, in September to December 2016-2018*

Destination region	Trips with paid accommodation			Trips with free accommodation			Domestic leisure trips, total		
	9-12/2016	9-12/2017	9-12/2018*	9-12/2016	9-12/2017	9-12/2018*	9-12/2016	9-12/2017	9-12/2018*
	1,000 trips			1,000 trips			1,000 trips		
Trips, total	1,750	2,000	1,850	6,030	5,830	5,930	7,780	7,840	7,780
Uusimaa	360	480	430	1,130	1,060	1,040	1,490	1,540	1,470
Varsinais-Suomi	120	160	110	480	560	420	600	720	540
Satakunta	..	..	..	220	210	210	250	240	240
Kanta-Häme	..	..	..	150	180	150	180	230	190
Pirkanmaa	250	250	220	510	520	540	770	770	760
Päijät-Häme	..	..	..	290	250	270	330	300	310
Kymenlaakso	..	..	..	200	150	190	220	170	220
South Karelia	..	..	..	220	140	190	260	210	240
Etelä-Savo	..	..	..	380	270	340	410	330	390
Pohjois-Savo	..	120	..	310	310	460	400	430	520
North Karelia	..	..	..	180	230	220	220	290	310
Central Finland	130	..	100	440	460	410	570	550	500
South Ostrobothnia	..	..	..	240	290	290	270	330	340
Ostrobothnia	..	..	..	120	120	160	170	160	190
Central Ostrobothnia	..	..	..	..	..	100	..	..	110
North Ostrobothnia	220	170	200	610	490	460	830	660	660
Kainuu	160	140	130	200	180	220
Lapland	190	240	240	350	390	320	540	620	560
Åland

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Appendix table 2.2 Domestic trips by destination region in September to December 2018*

Destination region	Trips with paid accommodation	Trips with free accommodation	Same-day trips	Domestic leisure trips, total	Business trips with overnight stay	Same-day business trips	Domestic business trips, total
	9-12/2018*	9-12/2018*	9-12/2018*	9-12/2018*	9-12/2018*	9-12/2018*	9-12/2018*
	1,000 trips						
Trips, total	1,850	5,930	4,000	11,780	1,340	1,520	2,860
Uusimaa	430	1,040	940	2,410	390	520	910
Varsinais-Suomi	110	420	430	970	..	..	160
Satakunta	..	210	210	450	..	..	110
Kanta-Häme	..	150	120	320	..	..	..
Pirkanmaa	220	540	480	1,240	200	230	440
Päijät-Häme	..	270	160	470	..	..	..
Kymenlaakso	..	190	140	360	..	..	..
South Karelia	..	190	100	340	..	..	..
Etelä-Savo	..	340	..	470	..	..	..
Pohjois-Savo	..	460	210	730	..	..	140
North Karelia	..	220	130	430	..	..	..
Central Finland	100	410	180	680	..	..	180
South Ostrobothnia	..	290	260	610	..	..	..
Ostrobothnia	..	160	..	280	..	..	..
Central Ostrobothnia	..	100	..	160	..	..	..
North Ostrobothnia	200	460	250	910	100	..	190
Kainuu	..	130	..	280	..	..	..
Lapland	240	320	100	660	..	..	110
Åland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

Symbols: [...] data not available or too uncertain for presentation, or subject to secrecy, [*] preliminary data. In some tables the sums do not amount to the totals shown because of rounding.

Appendix table 3. Means of transport used on domestic trips with overnight stay in September to December 2016-2018*

Means of transport	Leisure			Business		
	9-12/2016	9-12/2017	9-12/2018*	9-12/2016	9-12/2017	9-12/2018*
	1,000 trips			1,000 trips		
Trips, total	7,780	7,840	7,780	1,630	1,470	1,340
Passenger car	5,940	5,890	5,970	1,050	880	730
Coach	760	780	490
Train	900	970	1,140	360	330	350
Aeroplane	130	140	140	150	160	160
Other

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Appendix table 4. Leisure trips abroad (overnight in destination country) by destination in September to December 2016-2018*

		9-12/2016		9-12/2017		9-12/2018*	
		1,000 trips	Share, %	1,000 trips	Share, %	1,000 trips	Share, %
Trips total		1,780	100	1,950	100	1,970	100
Nordic countries	Total	210	12	250	13	270	14
	Sweden	170	10	170	9	220	11
Russia and Baltic countries	Total	520	29	630	33	440	22
	Estonia	420	24	510	26	350	18
Western and Eastern Europe	Total	370	21	390	20	430	22
	Western Europe	280	16	280	14	290	15
	Eastern Europe	..	..	120	6	140	7
	Germany	130	7	110	6	130	7
Southern Europe and East Mediterranean countries	Total	510	29	500	26	660	34
	Northern Mediterranean countries total	350	20	380	20	460	24
	Spain (without Canary Islands)	130	7	150	8	160	8
	Spanish Canary Islands	140	8	..	..	150	8
	Italy	100	6	..	..	..	..
America	Total	..	..	..	..	..	..
Africa	Total	..	..	..	..	..	..
Asia and Oceania	Total	..	..	..	..	..	..

Northern Mediterranean countries: Continental Spain and the Balearic Islands, Monaco, Italy, Malta, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Albania, Greece, Turkey and Cyprus.

Symbols: [..] data not available or too uncertain for presentation, or subject to secrecy, [*] preliminary data.

In some tables the sums do not amount to the totals shown because of rounding.

Appendix table 5. Trips abroad by type of trip and destination in September to December 2015-2017*¹⁾

Destination		Reason for trip abroad					
		9-12/2016		9-12/2017		9-12/2018*	
		Leisure trips, total	Business trips, total	Leisure trips, total	Business trips, total	Leisure trips, total	Business trips, total
		1,000 trips		1,000 trips		1,000 trips	
Trips, total		2,500	870	2,680	730	2,480	770
Nordic countries	Total	600	230	630	190	550	260
	Sweden	560	170	530	130	490	170
Russia and Baltic countries	Total	840	200	990	130	680	..
	Estonia	720	150	810	100	550	..
	Russian Federation	100	..	140	..	..	..
Western and Eastern Europe	Total	370	300	390	300	430	220
	Germany	130	110	110	100	130	..
Southern Europe and East Mediterranean countries	Total	510	..	500	..	660	100
	Spain (without Canary Islands)	130	..	150	..	160	..
	Spanish Canary Islands	140	..	..	..	150	..
	Italy	100	..	..	..	..	..
America	Total	..	..	..	..	..	..
Africa	Total	..	..	..	..	..	..
Asia and Oceania	Total	..	..	..	..	..	..

Symbols: [...] data not available or too uncertain for presentation, or subject to secrecy, [*] preliminary data. In some tables the sums do not amount to the totals shown because of rounding.

1) Includes same-day trips, cruises and trips with overnight stay in destination country.

Appendix table 6.1. Trips to Sweden and Estonia by type of trip in September to December 2016-2018*

Type of trip		Estonia			Sweden		
		Trips 9-12/2016	Trips 9-12/2017	Trips 9-12/2018*	Trips 9-12/2016	Trips 9-12/2017	Trips 9-12/2018*
		1,000 trips			1,000 trips		
Trips, total¹⁾		860	910	610	730	660	660
Leisure	Total ¹⁾	720	810	550	560	530	490
	Overnight stay in destination country	420	510	350	170	170	220
	Cruises	120	110	110	290	270	220
	Same-day visits (inc. day cruises)	180	190	100
Business	Total ¹⁾	150	100	..	170	130	170

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1) Includes same-day trips, cruises and trips with overnight stay in destination country

Appendix table 6.2. Trips to Sweden and Estonia by reason in September to December 2015-2017*

Reason of trip		Estonia			Sweden		
		Trips 9-12/2016	Trips 9-12/2017	Trips 9-12/2018*	Trips 9-12/2016	Trips 9-12/2017	Trips 9-12/2018*
		1,000 trips			1,000 trips		
Trips, total¹⁾		860	910	610	730	660	660
Leisure	Total ¹⁾	720	810	550	560	530	490
	Visiting friends or relatives	..	..	..	..	..	130
	Holiday	610	660	490	400	410	310
	Other personal reason	..	..	..	..	..	..
Business	Total ¹⁾	150	100	..	170	130	170

Symbols: [...] data not available or too uncertain for presentation, or subject to secrecy, [*] preliminary data.
In some tables the sums do not amount to the totals shown because of rounding.

1) Includes same-day trips, cruises and trips with overnight stay in destination country

Appendix table 7. Trips of Finnish residents in January to December 2012-2018*

Type of trip			January-December						
			2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018*
			1,000 trips						
Trips, total			40,890	40,010	38,630	39,180	40,070	40,650	39,600
Leisure	Domestic	Total ¹⁾	26,770	26,530	25,210	25,720	25,930	26,380	25,680
		Paid accommodation	6,380	6,550	5,890	6,370	6,420	6,820	6,800
		Free accommodation	20,390	19,970	19,320	19,350	19,510	19,560	18,870
	Abroad	Total ²⁾	7,800	7,810	7,930	8,140	8,220	8,530	8,180
		Overnight stay in destination country	5,840	5,720	5,880	6,160	6,100	6,520	6,440
		Cruises	1,270	1,270	1,150	1,090	1,140	1,050	960
		Same-day visits (inc. day cruises)	700	830	900	890	980	950	790
Business	Domestic	Trips with overnight stay	4,140	3,950	3,640	3,430	3,860	3,780	3,450
	Abroad	Total ²⁾	2,170	1,710	1,850	1,890	2,060	1,960	2,300

Symbols: [...] data not available or too uncertain for presentation, or subject to secrecy, [*] preliminary data. In some tables the sums do not amount to the totals shown because of rounding.

1) Not including domestic same-day trips

2) Includes same-day trips, cruises and trips with overnight stay in destination country

Appendix table 8. Domestic leisure trips with overnight stay by destination region in January to December 2016-2018*

Destination region	Trips with paid accommodation			Trips with free accommodation			Domestic leisure trips, total		
	2016	2017	2018*	2016	2017	2018*	2016	2017	2018*
	1,000 trips			1,000 trips			1,000 trips		
Trips, total	6,420	6,820	6,800	19,510	19,560	18,870	25,930	26,380	25,680
Uusimaa	1,160	1,350	1,220	3,050	3,200	3,070	4,200	4,560	4,290
Varsinais-Suomi	480	530	560	1,520	1,620	1,460	2,000	2,150	2,010
Satakunta	140	210	190	710	700	720	840	910	910
Kanta-Häme	160	160	170	560	690	460	720	850	630
Pirkanmaa	730	900	840	1,940	1,960	1,740	2,660	2,860	2,580
Päijät-Häme	180	220	180	940	840	740	1,120	1,050	920
Kymenlaakso	110	120	140	670	610	620	780	740	760
South Karelia	200	180	190	610	530	550	810	710	740
Etelä-Savo	230	280	240	1,210	1,200	1,200	1,440	1,480	1,440
Pohjois-Savo	380	390	300	1,150	1,200	1,330	1,540	1,590	1,630
North Karelia	180	180	210	720	770	650	890	950	850
Central Finland	460	330	410	1,460	1,460	1,420	1,920	1,780	1,830
South Ostrobothnia	230	240	220	890	840	900	1,120	1,080	1,120
Ostrobothnia	100	130	..	380	420	470	490	550	540
Central Ostrobothnia	..	..	..	210	230	240	250	290	290
North Ostrobothnia	730	570	700	1,830	1,560	1,660	2,570	2,130	2,360
Kainuu	230	190	270	440	480	410	670	670	680
Lapland	600	720	790	1,150	1,170	1,160	1,760	1,890	1,950
Åland	..	..	..	..	..	..	140	150	140

Symbols: [...] data not available or too uncertain for presentation, or subject to secrecy, [*] preliminary data. In some tables the sums do not amount to the totals shown because of rounding.

Appendix table 9. Leisure trips abroad (overnight in destination country) by destination in January to December 2016-2018*

		2016		2017		2018*	
		1,000 trips	Share, %	1,000 trips	Share, %	1,000 trips	Share, %
Trips total		6,100	100	6,520	100	6 440	100
Nordic countries	Total	970	16	1,030	16	1,030	16
	Denmark	100	2	130	2	130	2
	Norway	150	2	180	3	190	3
	Sweden	710	12	700	11	700	11
Russia and Baltic countries	Total	1,850	30	1,950	30	1,590	25
	Estonia	1,480	24	1,520	23	1,200	19
	Latvia	..	..	..	..	130	2
	Russian Federation	270	4	290	4	240	4
Western and Eastern Europe	Total	1,180	19	1,360	21	1 300	20
	Austria	..	..	..	..	120	2
	Czech Republic	100	2	130	2	..	..
	France	100	2	130	2	140	2
	Germany	270	4	290	4	310	5
	Poland	110	2	120	2	130	2
	United Kingdom	210	3	250	4	220	3
Southern Europe and East Mediterranean countries	Total	1,520	25	1,640	25	1,890	29
	Spain (without Canary Islands)	420	7	470	7	470	7
	Spanish Canary Islands	320	5	310	5	350	5
	Croatia	..	..	..	..	140	2
	Greece	180	3	250	4	250	4
	Italy	260	4	230	3	260	4
	Portugal	..	..	..	..	100	2
	Turkey	100	2	..	..	160	3
America	Total	210	3	160	2	170	3
	United States	140	2	100	2	130	2
Africa	Total
Asia and Oceania	Total	310	5	330	5	390	6
	Thailand	130	2	100	2	130	2

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Quality description: Finnish Travel

Relevance of statistical information

The Finnish Travel Survey contains information on trips made by Finnish residents and on the number of persons having travelled during the year. The survey describes trips in Finland and abroad including overnight stay and same-day trips abroad.

The data from the survey are used for monitoring domestic travel and trips abroad made by Finnish residents. The data are intended particularly for the use of central government, tourism enterprises and organisations and researchers. Within central government, the data are mainly used for the balance of payment calculations. The data from the survey are also reported to Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities in accordance with the Regulation on tourism statistics (EU) No 692/2011.

Statistics Finland collects the data for the statistics with a sample-based telephone interview survey. The survey persons represent the population aged 15 to 84 permanently resident in Finland.

The data are collected on voluntary basis. Survey data on individual persons must be kept confidential by virtue of the Statistics Act (280/2004, Section 12).

The concept of usual environment is essentially connected to the definition of tourism. According to the World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO), tourism means the activity of persons travelling to and staying in places outside their usual environment for not more than one consecutive year.

Statistics Finland's classifications of municipalities and countries for the statistical reference year are used for classifying destinations of trips.

Methodological description of the survey

The Finnish Travel Survey comprises two parts. The monthly survey collects information on trips made by Finnish residents, their numbers and characteristics. A so-called annual survey is made once a year to establish the number of persons who have travelled during the survey year.

The survey is a sample-based telephone interview survey where computer-assisted interview questionnaires are used. The interviews for the Finnish Travel Survey are conducted centrally from Statistics Finland's computer-assisted telephone interview centre, the CATI Centre. The data are collected between the February of the survey year and the January of the year following the survey year. The interviews are conducted immediately after the end of the month, during two to three weeks.

The data for the annual survey concerning persons having travelled are collected in the January of the year following the survey year. Previously, Statistics Finland's field interviewers conducted the telephone interviews for the annual survey around the country. From the statistical reference year 2012 onwards, the annual part of the survey was combined as part of the monthly interview made at the CATI Centre.

In each partial survey, the population comprises people aged 15 to 84 permanently resident in Finland according to the Population Information System. However, persons permanently living in institutions are excluded from the survey. The samples are drawn with systematic sampling, and they represent the population comprehensively with respect to age, gender, area of residence and native language.

Since 2012, the total annual sample size of the Finnish Travel Survey is approximately 28,200 persons. The data concerning the statistical reference year are obtained with 12 separate samples. From 2012, the sample size is 2,350 persons per month, while before that it was 2,200 persons. The same sample is also used for the data collection of the monthly Consumer Survey. In the interviews, target persons are asked about trips that had ended during the month preceding the interview month.

In connection with the January interviews, questions are also made concerning travelling in the preceding year. In the annual survey the responses to the questions made are of the form yes/no. In the interviews several groups of trips are examined, and the target persons are asked whether they had made trips of that group during the reference year.

The response data are expanded to the whole population with weighting coefficients. From 2012 onwards, the weighting coefficient for each month is expanded to the number of population of the month (preliminary data on population structure). The strata used are the respondent's age group, gender and area of residence (major region). Prior to 2012, only gender was used as the stratum.

Correctness and accuracy of data

The data content of the Finnish Travel Survey was extended particularly in the years 1995 to 1997 to correspond to the requirements of the EU directive on tourism statistics (95/57/EC). In 1996, same-day trips abroad were included in the survey in addition to trips with overnight stay, so in its present extent the survey presents a fairly comprehensive picture of travelling by Finnish residents. Only same-day trips in Finland are still excluded from the survey.

After the questionnaire reform of 2012, the respondent no longer decides the type of trip her/himself, but it is deduced from the responses given. All modes of overnight stays used during a trip are included in the questions, in order to ensure that trips with paid accommodation automatically get grouped correctly. This reduces errors and enables more accurate compilation of statistics.

The non-response rate for the Finnish Travel Survey is on the annual level 48 per cent, on average. Non-response is one of the main sources of errors, as the size of non-response has an immediate effect on the size of the weighting coefficients. The larger the non-response rate, the greater the weighting coefficients.

Random variation caused by sampling is described by means of confidence intervals calculated for the annual estimates of trips and persons having travelled.

Table 1. Confidence Limits of trips by type of trip in year 2016

Type of trip	N	Sum	Standard deviation	95% Confidence Limit for Sum	
				Lower	Upper
		1,000 trips			
Domestic leisure trips with paid accommodation	1,728	6,420	140	6,140	6,700
Domestic leisure trips with free accommodation	5,085	19,510	200	19,130	19,890
Domestic business and professional trips	999	3,860	120	3,640	4,090
Same-day leisure trips abroad (incl. day cruises)	274	980	60	860	1,090
Leisure cruises abroad	309	1,140	60	1,010	1,260
Leisure trips abroad, overnight in country of destination	1,625	6,100	140	5,820	6,380
Business and professional trips abroad	535	21,060	90	1,890	2,230

The results are presented at the accuracy of ten thousand. Prior to 2012, figures below 10,000 were not published, but they were entered as uncertain data. From 2012 to 2015, figures under 50,000 are entered as uncertain data. Starting from 2016, figures under 100,000 are entered as uncertain data.

Timeliness and promptness of published data

Until 2011, data on the numbers of trips were published monthly four to five weeks from the end of the statistical reference month. From 2012 on, the preliminary data are released at four-month intervals four to seven weeks from the end of the period.

Annual data are published on the website of the Finnish Travel Survey three to four months after the end of the year.

Accessibility and transparency/clarity of data

The data are published only on Statistics Finland's website. The annual Finnish Travel publication was produced as a printed copy until the statistical year 2008.

Annual data on trips are available by group of trips and destination area in the database service on the Internet. The time series by group of trips start from 1991 and by destination area from 2000.

Comparability of statistics

The Finnish Travel Survey has been made regularly since 1991. From 1991 to 1994, Statistics Finland produced the Travel Survey on assignment of the Finnish Tourist Board. These years are mutually comparable, because uniform methods were used. In 1995, the survey was transferred completely to Statistics Finland. The content and methodological changes started in the same year had an effect on the comparability of data between 1995 and 1999. The data content and the calculation and data collection methods of the Travel Survey remained unchanged from 2000 to 2009. Due to changes made to the data collection in 2010 and 2012, the figures are not fully comparable with previous years.

Starting from the beginning of 2000, the survey has been made centrally together with the Consumer Survey. Prior to this, the data for the survey were collected in connection with those for Statistics Finland's Labour Force Survey, quarterly between 1996 and 1999 and before that three times a year.

In 2000, the maximum length of a trip changed from 90 to 365 days according to the guidelines of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO). The fact that starting from the statistical reference year 2000, target persons have been asked about trips that ended during the survey period instead of trips that started, has also weakened the comparability of the data somewhat.

The data collection was changed in 2010 so that the survey period of the interview month was shortened from two months to one month, that is, the inquiry concerns only trips that ended during the month immediately before the interview month, instead of the two previous months as before. Previously, final data on the numbers of trips in each month were obtained as an average for two samples, after the change, the figures are based on one sample.

From 2012 onwards, the statistics on tourism are compiled in accordance with the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council (EU) No 692/2011. At the same time, the population was extended from people aged 15 to 74 to those aged 15 to 84, more accurate weighting coefficients were introduced and significant changes were made to the interview questionnaire. On account of the revision, the data are not fully comparable with previous years. The extension of the age group increased the numbers of trips by one to three per cent at the main level. The revision of the weighting coefficients increased the numbers of trips by another one to three per cent at the main level. It is difficult to define the effect of changed questions on the results obtained. The deduction of the type of trip from the responses given (instead of the respondent's own classification) has moved part of the trips to another group. The revised instructions aim to lower the amount of travelling belonging to the usual environment in the statistics.

Data on persons having travelled are comparable between different years. The annual survey on persons having travelled was made in connection with the Labour Force Survey between 1991 and 2011 and after that as annexed to the monthly survey.

Coherence and consistency/uniformity

The **Finnish Travel Survey** compiles statistics on the demand for tourism. The supply of tourism in Finland is described in Statistics Finland's monthly and annually published **Accommodation statistics**. They contain data on the accommodation capacity of hotels and its use and overnight stays at accommodation establishments broken down by the travellers' country of residence.

Tourism Satellite Account (TSA) is a statistical system where the economic impacts of tourism are described in a versatile and comprehensive manner. Tourism accounts are published on the webpage of **Visit Finland's** Statistics Service Rudolf.

Statistics on passenger transport between Finland and other countries are compiled on sea transport by the **Finnish Transport Agency** and on air transport by **Finavia**. However, these statistics do not report the country of residence of the travellers. The **Association of Finnish Travel Agents (AFTA)** publishes yearly on its website statistics on leisure package tours made by air and their market shares, which provide information about the number of trips bought through travel agencies by country of destination.

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