

Statistical Programme 2024 to 2028

Foreword – Figures for tomorrow

Statistics are the basis for democracy and knowledge-based decision-making. They offer reliable and internationally comparable data on different topics and phenomena over time. Statistics draw a picture of our society. As the world changes, statistics also go forward. Review work is carried out in international cooperation to enable international comparison of statistical data.

When reviewing statistics production we utilise new data sources and modernise data collection modes, data processing methods and production systems. In future, we will continue to use primarily data sources generated in the activities of other organisations in statistics production and, where possible, data in the possession of enterprises.

The data needed in the compilation of statistics form an extensive data resource that is also utilised in Finland for research and various surveys to support information management. In recent years, the development of the research ecosystem has been Statistics Finland's strategic objective. In future years, the development work aims at faster services for researchers and increasing the data library offered to researchers together with other actors.

The statistics describing Finnish society are mainly produced with tax revenues. In the coming years, balancing measures of general government finances will require intensification and renewal of data production from the national statistical service as well. Balancing in the midst of increasing information demands and scarcer resources also requires consideration of discontinuing some information products or turning them into charged service activities.

The Official Statistics of Finland are produced in collaboration by 13 organisations. Together we work for reliable data and strive to build the future on knowledge. This Statistical Programme contains information on how the Finnish national statistical service will respond to users' changing information needs in the coming years. By reading the programme, you will form a picture of a modern national statistical service where development takes place in international cooperation with numerous authorities and other organisations. Wishing you a pleasant read of the future outlook of statistics compilation.

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1. Statistics production is developing

The Statistical Programme brings together the reforms of Finland's statistics production for 2024 and the main development measures for long-term development. When reforming statistics production, the aim is to pay attention to both international and domestic data needs, to publish data contents that ever better meet users' needs and modernise statistics with the help of new data materials and methods. The use of statistics is promoted by means of versatile communication and development is made in close cooperation with other information actors both nationally and internationally.

The focus areas in the development of the contents of statistics at Statistics Finland for the years 2024 to 2028 are the national economy, environment, population and wellbeing. There will be significant changes in national accounts as the manuals guiding international compilation are being revised. There is great pressure to develop environmental statistics due to the needs for monitoring climate measures and biodiversity loss. As for population statistics, a more comprehensive information basis and development of statistics related to immigrants are needed for decision-making. Concerns about inequality in society grow, which is why we must invest in measuring wellbeing in the coming years.

In addition to the selected focus areas, the relevance of statistics production is maintained by developing the compilation of statistics on other topics as well. The Government Programme and various policy programmes, strategies and reports constantly bring new information needs for different topics, such as energy, enterprises, research and development inputs and education.

More varied and faster data production is needed to form an overall picture of the economy. Data production related to international trade in services and business demography will expand in 2024. In addition, new data are published on inflation by population group, rents of dwellings, prices of office premises and enterprises' innovations.

In social statistics, the launch of the activity of wellbeing services counties at the beginning of 2023 will still bring changes to several sets of statistics in 2024. In addition, the development of statistics on the topic is widely affected by the framework Regulation on social statistics that entered into force in 2021, by which the data contents of the statistics are revised and the data are harmonised on a more detailed level than before in EU countries. New data on pensioners' participation in work and data from the Quality of Work Life Survey and the Adult Education Survey carried out at specific intervals will also be published in 2024.

There are plenty of information needs related to sustainable development and environmental statistics. The Regulation on environmental economic accounts will be extended to cover environmental subsidies, forest accounts and ecosystem accounts. Regular production of the statistics on environmental subsidies was started in 2023. Preparations for the future production of data on ecosystem



accounts and forest accounts will be continued in cooperation between Statistics Finland, the Finnish Environment Institute and the Natural Resources Institute Finland.

The greenhouse gas inventory reporting will be carried out for the first time according to the Paris Climate Agreement at the end of 2024. The report will extensively describe climate policy measures, greenhouse gas emission trends and forecasts for the development of emissions, effects of climate change and adaptation to climate change, achievement of emission reduction commitments, and support provided to developing countries for climate measures.

The transformation of the energy market also has an effect on statistics production. In 2024 to 2025, energy statistics will aim to improve statistics describing the production and use of renewable energy and the adoption of new technology. In addition, new and more accurate data will be produced on the energy use of different modes of transport starting from 2024. The production of energy, waste and greenhouse gas inventory data will be renewed in an ongoing development project aimed at improving the quality of data and supporting Statistics Finland's preparedness to respond to information needs concerning the topic starting from 2025.

Developing administrative data enable renewal of the content of statistics and faster production of statistics. For example, the positive credit register to be introduced in spring 2024 will improve the statistical data basis related to debts. In the long term, the aim of the enterprise's digital economy project is to enable the digital movement of economic data between different actors in the ecosystem. When the project is successful, direct data collections from enterprises and enterprises' response burden can be reduced and the coverage and timeliness of several statistics can be improved.

Suitable machine learning methods will be introduced in the coming years for work stages requiring manual work in statistics production. Uses include the classification of datasets, detection of errors in data sets and their methodological correction, and integration of big data into registers. Statistics compilation adheres to the use principles of responsible AI, such as clarity, transparency and repeatability of processes.

Statistics are part of the information utilising ecosystem and the role of statistics in the ecosystem is being actively developed. One significant development target is the research ecosystem. The development work aims at faster services for researchers and increasing the supply of research data.

The Statistical Programme covers all the statistics and services produced by Statistics Finland, as well as the statistics belonging to the European Statistical Programme produced by other producers of statistics, as well as the Official Statistics of Finland (OSF) and their development. The other producers of statistics are Finnish Customs, the Natural Resources Institute Finland, the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, the Finnish Immigration Service, the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, the Finnish Centre for Pensions, the Finnish Meteorological Institute, the Social Insurance Institution, the National Land



Survey of Finland, the Finnish Environment Institute, and the Ministry of Employment and the Economy.

The following sections present by topic the most important reviews of statistics in the coming years and the objectives of long-term development. More detailed data on the statistics to be published, data collections and services are described in the appendices.

2. Economy and globalisation

The structures of the economy are undergoing continuous change both globally and nationally. Economic innovations and new kind of business activity challenge the content and compilation methods of statistics. Changing information needs can be answered by speeding up statistics production and by offering more diversified information about the development of production, enterprise activity and consumption. The statistics on the economy and globalisation are produced on the following topics: national economy, enterprises, prices and consumption, and housing and construction.

The statistics on the <u>national economy</u> contain numerous macroeconomic statistics describing the whole economy, the most important of which are the national accounts and balance of payments. The national accounts describe systematically both the structure of the national economy and changes in it. The best known indicator of the national accounts is gross domestic product. The balance of payments describes connections between the national economy and the rest of the world from the perspectives of the real economy and financing.

The manuals guiding the compilation of the national accounts and balance of payments statistics are currently being revised under the leadership of the UN and the International Monetary Fund (IMF¹). The revisions help to improve the quality, coverage and international comparability of national accounts and balance of payments in terms of globalisation, digitalisation, wellbeing and sustainable development. Alongside the revision of the UN handbook, the updating work of the EU's Regulation on national accounts (ESA²) will start in 2024. The updated Regulation is expected to come into force in EU countries in 2029.

One significant measure improving the quality of national accounts data is the revision of time series made in EU countries every five years. The revision will be next made in 2024 when the time series are updated with changes caused by new source data and calculation methods, for example. At the same time, the revisions brought by the update of the Regulation on national accounts on which statistics compilation is based will be taken into use. The new household consumption classification (COICOP³) defined in the Regulation will be adopted in Finland in 2025. A new set of data will be produced on the structure of general government

¹ IMF, International Monetary Fund

² ESA, European System of Accounts

³ COICOP, Classification of Individual Consumption According to Purpose



gross debt, such as the maturity and instrument distribution, and data on counterpart sectors. Simultaneously with the time series revision, the requirements of the most recent Manual on Government Deficit and Debt (MGDD⁴) are taken into account in the calculations of the national accounts. In addition, starting from 2023, the launch of the activity of wellbeing services counties and the revised Classification of Sectors are taken into account in the calculation of the national accounts.

The satellite accounts of productivity statistics and the digital economy are developed in the national accounts in cooperation between the EU Member States. In addition, the coherence between financial accounts and real accounts is improved. From 2024 onwards, data on investments are published in financial accounts by type of investment.

The statistics describing the national economy are also used in the EU as a basis for administrative evaluations. The evaluations utilise data on gross national income and value added tax that affect EU membership fees, as well as data on general government deficit and debt used in monitoring the Growth and Stability Pact. Data concerning the EU's Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF⁵) will be added to the statistics describing the national economy as a new section. The RRF is the largest programme of the EU's recovery plan⁶ to be implemented in the coming decades. The monitoring of the European Semester will be supported by producing even more extensive data than before on general government deficit and debt.

The **business statistics** describe the structure, activity and finances of enterprises in versatile ways. In recent years, the objectives of the new EU Regulation on business statistics (EBS⁷) have been met in the development of statistics, the most important of which are responding to new data needs, improving the timeliness of statistics and reducing the response burden. Many of the renewals related to the Regulation have already been implemented, but especially the development of statistics on service industries is still in progress.

The data content of the statistics on service industries is developed as the economic significance of the industry is growing. Significant progress has been made in the compilation of statistics on the topic in recent years. The development of data by the mode of supply of international trade in services (MoS⁸) for the information needs of trade policy and development of data by enterprise type (STEC⁹) are underway in cooperation between EU countries. The aim is to publish new data on them starting from 2024. The coverage of the compilation of statistics on producer prices in service industries will also broaden in 2024 as concerns health and social work. In addition, possibilities for producing export and import prices for services are being investigated.

⁴ MGDD, Manual on Government Deficit and Debt

⁵ RRF, Recovery and Resilience Facility

⁶ NextGenerationEU

⁷ EBS, European Business Statistics

⁸ MoS, Mode of Supply

⁹ STEC, Services Trade by Enterprise Characteristics



There is plenty of potential in the existing data resources, and micro data linkage (MDL¹⁰), that is, combining unit data offers ways for its utilisation in business statistics. Development work and international cooperation on MDL will continue and deepen. For example, the aim of an EU-funded project to be implemented during 2024 is to build a bridge between population and business phenomena by producing new types of indicators describing the personnel of enterprises with the help of Incomes Register data.

The statistics describing international trade are also being remodelled significantly. Exchange of export data between the EU Member States was commenced from the statistical reference year 2022 in the statistics on international trade in goods produced by Finnish Customs. The data collection on imports for statistics on internal trade will change gradually and enterprises' response burden will decrease as data on imports are supplemented with data on exports collected by other Member States. In the long term, the intention is to replace Finnish Customs' domestic data collection on import data partly with data obtained from other EU Member States.

Compared to conventional gross values of international trade, the indicators of value added-based international trade give a more multidimensional view of Finland as part of global value chains. The quality and content of data published as experimental statistics will be developed with due regard to user needs. In addition, new data will become available on the degree of internationalisation of enterprises and its background factors when statistics on global value chains and outsourcing of activities are published at the beginning of 2025.

Data on economic trends will be available more extensively and faster than at present. Starting from February 2024, all indices of turnover by industry are published only once a month and the delay in their publication is around 30 days. The index of turnover of main industries published as experimental statistics will be discontinued in this connection. Business trend statistics will be released with the new base year mainly in early 2024 and at the same time, the data will be recalculated starting from the base year 2021. Then the data content will also extend to cover exports of construction services. The accuracy of the industry data of trade will also change.

The development of statistics describing enterprise structure will continue. The data content of the statistics on business subsidies will continue to be extended in 2024 as concerns tax subsidies and new subsidy schemes. The plan is also to publish more extensive data than at present on business demography, growth enterprises and ownership changes of enterprises.

<u>Price and consumption statistics</u> form an important part of the overall picture of the economy. The statistics help measure consumers' confidence in the economy, households' consumption, structure of consumption and price development, for example.

Micro Data Linking



The consumer price index describes development in the prices of goods and services purchased by households in Finland. The consumer price index is used as a general measure of inflation. The coverage and quality of the price index is improved with the help of new data and methods. Another aim is to develop and publish inflation data by population group in 2024. The UN's revised COICOP classification will be adopted in the consumer price index in connection with the next change of the base year in 2026. In the statistics on international price comparison, data will be released according to the new classification for the first time in 2026.

The main data source for households' consumption is the Household Budget Survey conducted roughly every five years. More data collected in the 2022 Household Budget Survey on the structure and changes of households' consumption and on differences in consumption by population group will be published during 2024. The renewed COICOP classification will also be adopted in the statistics on households' consumption so that the data also serve as the basis for future classification revisions of national accounts and the consumer price index.

The publication of price indices for agriculture responds to customer needs during exceptionally large price changes. Statistics Finland will continue to publish data in 2024 on the monthly level instead of the quarterly level. We are also aim to respond to the large information need related to energy prices by examining the possibility to publish price data on electricity monthly and faster than before.

<u>Statistics on housing and construction</u> describe the life cycle of dwellings and buildings from their construction stage to dwelling sales or rental use, as well as renovation and maintenance costs of dwellings and buildings. The statistics also describe the structure of the dwelling and building stock and people's living conditions.

The development of statistics on housing and construction is particularly focused on price indices in the coming years. The development work of the commercial real estate indicators will continue during 2024 and the renewal will focus especially on the development of the price index of commercial real estate. The aim is to publish new data in 2024. The weight structure of the index of real estate maintenance costs will be updated to correspond with the more recent base year in the release of June 2024.

In the coming years, internationally comparable index series related to housing prices will be developed. These include developing the indices of prices of dwellings and owner-occupied housing and improvement of the quality of the index of rents of dwellings, which is the data basis of the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices. The methods, timeliness of data and quality of the statistics on owner-occupied housing will be improved because statistical data on owner-occupied housing will be included in the Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices in the longer term. Experimental statistics based on new data will be produced from data on rents of dwellings in 2024.

Statistics Finland will introduce the data obtained from the Finnish Environment Institute's Ryhti system in the statistics on buildings and dwellings in 2025. In



connection with the introduction, the statistical production process is intensified and modernised. In the first phase, the continuation of the production of the present data is ensured, but later the data also enable new information products.

The development of statistics on the green transition is also connected to the data of the statistics on buildings and dwellings, the quality of which will be improved by developing the data basis relevant to climate change. This means improving the quality of data on the heating system of buildings so that the statistics on energy consumption in housing can in future be produced from building-specific data. The first results will be published as experimental statistics in 2024. The data of the statistics on buildings and free-time residences will be published only as annual data in 2024.

The aim of the statistics on real estate purchase prices produced by the National Land Survey is to improve the reliability and quality of the data content of the purchase price register in 2024.

3. Innovations and digitalisation

Digitalisation is a significant factor shaping society. In addition to digitalisation, research and development activities and innovations play a key role for the competitiveness of the economy. Innovation and digitalisation are described with five sets of statistics on innovation, research and development, and use of information and communications technology.

Enterprises' use of information technology is examined annually in the **statistics on the use of information technology in enterprises**. It provides information on the utilisation of digital solutions in business operations. In coming years, the statistics will regularly publish information on the utilisation of data and use of artificial intelligence, for example.

The prevalence and use purposes of the Internet by the population is described in the annually published statistics on the use of information and communications technology by individuals. The statistics contain population group-specific data on the use of digital media, social media, web services of authorities and public administration, and on online commerce. Data on problems with Internet use, data security and data protection are also published in the statistics.

The progress of digitalisation is monitored and its measurement developed both in the EU and nationally. Statistics Finland participates in the development work of digital compasses for the EU and Finland.

The annually published statistics on research and development describe the resources used for research and for product and process development. The statistics are used to monitor, for example, the objective set in the Government Programme on the share of R&D expenditure relative to GDP. Data on the public funding of research and development are obtained from the annual statistics on government R&D funding in the state budget. The statistics describe R&D funding by administrative branch, organisation and social policy objective category. The statistics are also used to monitor the objective set in the



Government Programme of increasing the share of public funding of R&D expenditure relative to GDP.

The statistics on innovation published every second year describe enterprises' innovation activity, its prevalence, characteristics and potentials, as well as factors and themes closely connected to enterprises' operating environment and innovation activity. The results of the enterprise survey on enterprises' innovation activity in 2020 to 2022 will be published in spring 2024. Data are published, for example, on the prevalence of innovation activity and its various forms, cooperation, financing of activity and public financial support, as well as on the implementation of innovations that produce environmental benefits. The statistics also offer a new perspective on why enterprises' innovation activity was not larger than reported.

The combinability of research and development activity data and innovation activity data with other business statistics data will be developed within EU cooperation. By combining the data, it is possible to produce new data on the development of enterprises investing in R&D in relation to other enterprises. In 2024, experimental statistics are produced based on enterprises' innovation activity and financial statement data, where the aim is to examine the effect of innovation on enterprises' activity and finances.

4. Society and equality

Topical issues related to society and equality include wellbeing, changes in the age structure of the population, employment situation and immigration. In the development of social statistics, emphasis is given to complementing blind spots of information and on the introduction of new electronic data collection methods. Improved international comparability of data helps to piece together the situation in Finnish society. Statistics describing society and equality are produced on the following topics: population and society, work, wages and livelihood, education, culture, media and time use, as well as health and social protection.

The statistics on **population and society** contain data on population changes and population structure, as well as population projection. Population statistics cover information on birth rate, mortality, families, migration and causes of death. The state of democracy is monitored with election statistics. Criminal and justice statistics describe the development of offences and coercive measures, restructuring of debts and enforcement matters in Finland. In addition, data are produced on gender equality and equality.

The development of social statistics is strongly affected by the framework regulation on social statistics (IESS¹¹) that entered into force in 2021, by which the data contents of the statistics are revised and the data are harmonised on a more detailed level than before in EU countries. The regulation concerns the production and data content of statistics related to the Survey on income and

¹¹ IESS, Integrated European Social Statistics



Household Budget Survey, for example.

living conditions, the Labour Force Survey, the Adult Education Survey and the

The EU's population census statistics concerning 2021 will be published in Eurostat's Census Hub service by the end of June 2024. The service contains data on all EU countries on different area levels regarding the population, families, housing, employment and educational structure, for example. The service has a total of over one hundred data cubes. The weekly statistics on the number of deaths started during the corona pandemic will also be published monthly in 2024. The preparation of the framework regulation for population statistics (ESOP¹²) is in progress and it will create a framework for longer-term development of population statistics and population and dwelling censuses.

Statistics describing immigration are also developed to meet increasing data needs. An estimate on the education of the foreign population will be published during 2024 and data concerning immigration will be supplemented with data on residence permits. The aim of the renewal project of the Finnish Immigration Service's reporting and statistical system (2020 to 2024) is to transfer the production of statistics belonging to the European Statistical System to be based on a new data warehouse.

The classification according to the new WHO disease classification system will be introduced in the statistics on causes of death starting from 2026 at the earliest. Preparations for the introduction of the disease classification system (ICD- 11^{13}) were started in Finland in 2023. In addition, the aim is to speed up the release of the statistics on causes of death over the longer term.

Gender equality is described with several statistics, and progress is also being made in the compilation of statistics on equality. A renewal of publishing is started in statistics on gender equality, aiming to extend the online publishing of data. The final report of the survey on Gender and intimate partner violence in Finland 2021 was published in August 2023 and reporting of the data is planned to continue in the coming years.

Statistics Finland produces official statistics on all national elections. The Presidential election and the European elections will be held in Finland in 2024. Statistical data are published, for example, on the candidates, those elected, persons entitled to vote, those who voted and support gained by the parties. More statistics will be presented as time series than before. The use of the electronic voting register is expected to expand and this will enable more extensive analysis of voting behaviour.

Statistics on employment, wages and salaries and livelihood produce data on the situation of the labour market, for example about employment, unemployment and open job vacancies. In addition, statistics are produced on working conditions, labour disputes and labour costs. The population's income level is described with the help of several statistics on wages and salaries and income. The overall picture of the population's activity and livelihood is complemented by statistics on debts and assets, as well as on living conditions. The Social Insurance

¹² ESOP, European Statistics on Population

¹³ International Classification of Diseases



Institution's statistics on income security benefits (e.g. labour market support, basic social assistance, parental allowance and student financial aid) supplement data on the population's livelihood. The distribution of income by population group is described comprehensively in the income distribution statistics.

The Labour Force Survey describes the population's participation in the labour market. The data for the survey are collected monthly with a sample survey. During 2024, new data will be released on pensioners' participation in work and data will be collected on young people in the labour market. In addition to the Labour Force Survey and employment statistics, the development of employment can be monitored with the help of the Employment Service Statistics of the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment, which are based on the customer register used by Employment and Economic Development offices and local government pilots. There will be changes in the source systems as employment and economic development services are transferred to municipalities at the beginning of 2025, when there will be a need to safeguard the continuity of data sources for and production of employment service statistics.

The statistics on the topic are developed by utilising new data materials in statistics production, such as the Incomes Register's pay, pension income and benefit data. The new data are used to produce several experimental statistics, such as the monthly statistics on wages and salaries, the statistics on revised main type of activity of employment statistics, and the statistics on the population's main type of activity by month. The Incomes Register's data will also be used to develop statistics concerning wages and salaries in small enterprises, which will probably become statutory when the ongoing EU legislation work¹⁴ is completed in 2026.

In 2024, the production of the data for the next Labour Cost Survey conducted at four-year intervals will be started and the data of the structure of earnings statistics for the EU to be compiled at set intervals will be delivered to Eurostat concerning the statistical reference year 2022. The special theme of the Quality of Work Life Survey in 2023 is ecological sustainability of working life. The latest data from the Quality of Work Life Survey will be published in several different releases in 2024. The launching of wellbeing services counties at the beginning of 2023 will be visible in several statistics on the topic in 2024 when data on the numbers and pay of personnel in wellbeing services counties are published.

Data on the labour market and housing are published in the statistics on living conditions in 2024. The data are based on the EU-SILC¹⁵ survey. In addition, data on children produced every three years and data on the availability of services produced every six years will be collected in 2024. The data collection for the statistics on households' assets will be carried out in 2024 and the data will be published in 2025.

The Social Insurance Institution of Finland is the main agency implementing social protection in Finland. Social protection levels off income inequalities between families and individuals and guarantees a sufficient livelihood for everyone. Statistical data on social protection are available through the Social

¹⁴ LMB, Labour Market Statistics on Businesses

¹⁵ EU Statistics on Income and Living Conditions





Insurance Institution's <u>Info Tray</u>. The Info Tray service brings together the research and statistical data produced by the Social Insurance Institution.

The new data applications page of the Info Tray also contains plenty of information by area. The information package on wellbeing services counties allows comparisons of the distribution of the Social Insurance Institution's benefits by wellbeing services county on the annual level. The regional overview provides monthly updated information on the recipients of the Social Insurance Institution's benefits and benefits paid in wellbeing services counties and municipalities. The work disability index describes the prevalence of disability in wellbeing services counties relative to the population of the whole country. The work disability index is part of the National Health Index produced in cooperation by the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare, the Social Insurance Institution, the Finnish Centre for Pensions and Statistics Finland.

The Finnish Centre for Pensions produces statistics on pensioners. The production of the statistics is based on the registers of the Finnish earnings-related pension system and the Social Insurance Institution's pension registers.

In the <u>education statistics</u> data are published on educational institutions, education, the population's educational structure and student flows. New data resources of the educational administration have increasingly been used in education statistics. This aims to lower the response burden, speed up the publication of statistics and diversify statistics production. Statistics on early childhood education have been started on the basis of the most recently introduced data warehouse for early childhood education and care Varda.

The coverage of the Register of Completed Education and Degrees is improved by seeking solutions to complement data on qualifications and degrees completed abroad. The statistics on continuing vocational training are produced at five-year intervals, next for the statistical reference year 2025. Results will be published in 2024 from the 2022 data of the statistics on participation in adult education carried out every six years.

Social statistics also include statistics describing <u>culture, the media and time</u> <u>use</u>. New data are published from the data of the Time Use Survey for 2020 to 2021 that examine the structure of Finns' time use every ten years and service data are formed for research use as necessary (e.g. household and weekly diary data).

The Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare produces statistics on different **health and welfare** topics to support decision-making, development and research. In the next few years, the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare will engage in development work to produce the national data warehouse on healthcare and social services and on promotion of wellbeing and health¹⁶ that will serve widely the secondary use of data on healthcare and social services and promotion of wellbeing and health. In addition, tools for data collection and reporting will be developed and these tools will be gradually taken into use. In 2024, a new data collection method will be introduced in collection and publication of data and improve their quality. The development of register data on the finances, personnel

¹⁶ Hyte, Promotion of wellbeing and health



and activities of healthcare and social services will investigate the possibilities of speeding up the publication of statistics on healthcare and social services in cooperation with other government agencies and develop statistics on the unit costs of healthcare and social services. As a new entity, the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare will start to collect data on patient and customer responsibility persons in the areas.

The compilation of statistics on healthcare and social services, for which the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare is responsible, will be gradually revised in accordance with the Act on Electronic Processing of Client Data in Healthcare and Social Welfare. The Act obliges to reconcile the data structures of statistical and register data with the customer and patient data structures of the Kanta services so that the regular data collections required by the institute can be implemented with nationwide information system services by the end of 2029. This obligation alters the data collection of several statistics and at the same time improves timeliness and the coverage of topics. The change is fastest visible in the statistics on social welfare. The new monitoring register on social welfare that was launched in 2023 enables a comprehensive reform of statistics on social welfare in the coming years. New data on social welfare customers will be published as experimental statistics during 2024. In addition, data obtained from the Kanta services will be piloted in the statistics on access to primary healthcare and made use of in the reform of the fertility treatment register in 2024. Later on, statistics compilation also receives new data on other topics as the Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare's right to access data expands to situation picture data on preparedness and contingency preparations, data on equipment and supplies in health care, and emergency response centre data concerning first care and social emergency services.

The contents of the statistics on occupational diseases and suspected occupational diseases produced by the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health will be expanded with new data with which predisposing factors and diseases can be grouped better than before. In addition, there will be development measures that have an effect on national statistics and data on occupational diseases.

The image of society given by regularly published social statistics will also be extended in 2024 by means of several commissioned surveys. These include the Gender Equality Barometer, pregnancy discrimination survey, relative income data survey, National Security Survey and Citizens' Pulse. The Gender Equality Barometer examines the experiences that people of different sexes and ages have of equality and its realisation in different areas of life, such as at work or studies. The aim of the report on pregnancy discrimination is to compile comprehensive and up-to-date information about pregnancy and family leave-related discrimination, experienced and detected discrimination and suspected discrimination reported to the authorities. The relative income data survey is carried out in cooperation with the Hanken School of Economics, and it examines the causal connections between education, working life and economic choices, as well as values, beliefs and wellbeing among Finns aged 35 to 45 belonging to the labour force. The purpose of the National Security Survey is to examine victims of crime and criminal behaviour. The Citizens' Pulse survey will continue and it is used to examine citizens' opinions on topical matters, the activities of the



authorities and the respondents' state of mind and future expectations. The Citizens' Pulse is carried out on assignment of the Government.

5. Sustainable development and the environment

Climate change, biodiversity loss and the measures taken to mitigate them require extension of statistics production. The EU's climate and energy policy gives Member States binding and even tighter targets and obligations, the monitoring of which requires extensive information. The energy market has also changed significantly in the last few years. Russia's attack on Ukraine and the situation in the Middle East have brought uncertainty to the energy market, which has led to new information needs. Additionally, there is a need for statistical data describing energy efficiency, sustainable development, circular economy, organic production and low-emission transport modes. Statistics on sustainable development and the environment are produced on the following topics: energy, environment, agriculture, forestry and fishery, and transport and tourism.

In the next few years, the development of <u>energy and environmental statistics</u> will focus on expanding and specifying the statistics regulated by the EU Regulation on energy statistics and the Regulation on environmental accounts¹⁷.

In 2024 to 2025, energy statistics will aim to improve data contents describing the production and use of renewable energy and the adoption of new technology. In future, the sustainability of fuels will be more clearly visible in statistics production as well. For instance, hydrogen and new synthetic fuels are designed to replace fossil fuels, for example, in industrial processes and transport. The statistics content on the topic will expand as wind power and solar power are supplemented by energy reserves, and waste heat, heat recovered from the environment and heating solutions integrated into buildings are utilised in heating. Changes in the energy system and technological advances bring new areas into the compilation of statistics as well. Statistics on energy consumption in all sectors and main industries will be developed. The most significant changes concern the service industries and energy use in the built environment. In addition, new and more accurate data will be produced on the energy use of different modes of transport starting from 2024.

Statistics Finland will continue to develop statistics production related to energy and emission data in the next few years. The production of energy, waste and emission data will be renewed in an ongoing development project aimed at improving the quality of data and supporting Statistics Finland's readiness to respond to information needs concerning the topic starting from 2025. Another aim is to develop a new calculation system for energy and emission data from transport and non-road machinery and to publish new data starting from 2025.

The Regulation on environmental economic accounts will be extended to cover environmental subsidies, forest accounts and ecosystem accounts. Regular

¹⁷Amending Regulation (EU) No 691/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards introducing new environmental economic accounts modules



production of the statistics on environmental subsidies was started in 2023. Preparations for the production of data on ecosystem accounts and forest accounts will be continued in cooperation between Statistics Finland, the Finnish Environment Institute and the Natural Resources Institute Finland. Legislation related to the starting year of statistics compilation and the reporting requirements is currently under consideration.

The statistics on greenhouse gases are based on the annual reporting of greenhouse gas emissions and removals in accordance with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Paris Agreement, which are also reported yearly to the EU. In addition to international commitments, greenhouse gas inventory data are used to monitor Finland's national carbon neutrality target for 2035, as set out in the Climate Change Act. In addition, the inventory data are used annually in the Government's annual climate change report to Parliament. The data are used to describe Finland's emission development and monitor the progress towards the emission reduction targets set.

Inventory reporting in accordance with the Paris Agreement will be conducted for the first time at the end of 2024 as part of the Biennial Transparency Report¹⁸. Statistics Finland coordinates the preparation of Finland's first Biennial Transparency Report, which is implemented in cooperation with various ministries and expert organisations. The report extensively describes Finland's climate policy measures, greenhouse gas emission trends and projections for the development of emissions, the effects of climate change and adaptation to climate change, achievement of emission reduction commitments, and support provided to developing countries for climate action.

There is a great need for monitoring indicators describing the implementation of national and international climate policy and, in particular, the carbon neutrality target. The calculation of the national Greenhouse Gas Inventory is continuously improved. For example, in the agriculture sector, the calculation of nitrogen excretion and digestion methane of bovine animals will be revised utilising national data in the reporting for 2024. Methodological changes to the inventory and new source data, such as the land use sector's surface area data, are taken into account in the time series, which is why the sinks and emissions of previous years will also change.

The climate statistics produced by the Finnish Meteorological Institute present data on average annual temperature, precipitation, air pressure, moisture, snow depth, wind and sunshine, and total radiation. The statistics are based on the weather station observations of the climate database. No changes are to be expected in the statistics in the next few years.

The hydrological observations statistics of the Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE) contain data on precipitation, snow water equivalent, water level, surface water temperature, discharge, and ice thickness. The compilation of statistics on hydrological observations will be developed in order to obtain more accurate data on the effects of climate change on water resources. Especially statistics on snow water equivalent will be developed during 2023 to 2024.

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¹⁸ Biennial Transparency Report



The Natural Resources Institute Finland (Luke) produces the majority of Finland's statistics on <u>agriculture, forestry and fishery</u> and on hunting. The review of EU legislation on agricultural statistics has been nearly completed. The SAIO¹⁹ Regulation on agricultural input and output entered into force at the end of 2022 and it will be applied from 2025 onwards. The Regulation revises and slightly expands the Natural Resources Institute Finland's statistics on animal production, plants, prices, pesticides and balance sheet for food commodities. The next data collection for the farm structure survey started at the end of 2023 and will continue in the early part of 2024. The results will be made public mainly in 2025.

The EU statistical regulations do not directly regulate Luke's forest statistics and their production. The situation will change in future, because the statistics on forest accounts will be regulation-based as part of an extension of the regulation concerning environmental economic accounts statistics.

The ongoing development of the EU legislation on fisheries statistics together with the renewal of the control decree is likely to lead to changes in the statistics on recreational fishing. The renewing regulation on statistics on fisheries and aquaculture acknowledges the registration of recreational fishing required by the new control regulation. After a transition period, both recreational fishers, their vessels, catches, unintended bycatch and certain fishing gear will be subject to registration. The impact of the change is assessed and, if necessary, reacted to in the content of the statistics on recreational fishing and in the statistical survey. The drafting of the regulation is under way and will be completed in 2024 at the earliest.

In addition to statistics, the Natural Resources Institute Finland Luke publishes various indicator data. Statistical data on the development of Finland's bioeconomy are published on the Bioeconomy in numbers website. The calculations have been made in cooperation between Luke and Statistics Finland. The development of the bioeconomy by industry is monitored with the following indicators: output, value added, investments, employment and exports. The main source is the national accounts compiled by Statistics Finland. Monitoring data on bioeconomy have been developed in a joint project between Statistics Finland and Luke during 2023. The implementation of the project results will be decided in 2024. Luke also publishes the rural development programme indicators (CAP indicators) on its website. The name of the entity will be changed during the new programme period to the EU's Common Agricultural Policy indicator service. The data content of the indicators will also be revised. The new monitoring indicators of the National Forest Strategy 2035 will also be available on the Natural Resources Institute Finland's website at the beginning of 2024 to replace the monitoring indicators of the National Forest Strategy 2025.

The statistics on transport and tourism produce exhaustive data on mobility, means of transport and the transport infrastructure. Statistics are produced on the road, water, air and railway transport network, the use of the network and vehicles, as well as on road traffic accidents. In addition, the statistics describe domestic and foreign tourism: the volume of tourism and accommodation and the

¹⁹ SAIO, Statistics on Agricultural Input and Output



destinations of tourism. The production of statistics on rented cottages, game accidents and transport networks supplementing the statistical selection under the topic will be continued as experimental statistics.

The data content of transport statistics will be extended over the next few years, for instance, in connection with the development of emission calculations for transport. In addition, the content of statistics on road traffic accidents will be developed by publishing data on those seriously injured in accidents and by producing a situation picture on the safety of cyclists, moped riders and motorcyclists, as well as on new modes of transport. Possibilities of utilising new data materials are explored in data production. The development work relates to the implementation of the Transport Safety Strategy set up by the Ministry of Transport and Communications and the related tasks.

Publishing of the statistics on Finnish travel will be extended during 2024 by starting the publication of monthly releases. In addition, the regional accuracy of the experimental statistics on rented cottages will be improved and the data of the statistics will be extended by publishing data on overnight stays based on international accommodation platform sites. The aim is to produce comprehensive statistics over the next few years on short-term accommodation activities provided through domestic and foreign platforms that are not included in the accommodation statistics.

The Matkailijamittari (traveller indicator) describes the numbers of foreign tourists, their spending, carbon footprint and background information on travel, the data of the indicator have been published on its <u>website</u> since summer 2023, in the statistical service Rudolf and as open data.

6. Vitality of areas

High quality regional data are needed for monitoring economic, social and ecological sustainability. Regional data are also used for administrative needs, for example, for calculating central government transfers to local government and defining EU regional aids. Regional accounts, regional statistics on entrepreneurial activity and statistics on local government sector wages and salaries are produced as separate regional statistics. In addition, regional data are published as part of several different statistics and information services. The coverage of regional statistics will be improved especially due to the reform of healthcare, social welfare and rescue services. Higher quality geographic data are also needed for the development of regional data.

The regional supply of statistics will be extended during 2024. The changes are particularly connected to the reform of healthcare, social welfare and rescue services. The annually published statistics on local government sector wages and salaries will be extended to cover data on wellbeing services counties. At the same time, the name of the statistics in Finnish changes. In addition, the publication of data on the wellbeing services county as a whole in addition to sector-specific data is being examined in national accounts.



Regional statistics are developed in international cooperation by taking part in Eurostat's project on data collection for city and subnational statistics²⁰. The project gathers data concerning population, education, labour market and economy for Finland's nine largest towns and surrounding areas. In addition to the data produced by Statistics Finland, the statistics are compiled from data collected by cities and published in Eurostat's City Statistics database together with other cities in Europe. The database contains long and comparable time series on towns and cities.

The linking of statistical data to geographic data and location data will be developed further. This improves the utilisation of location data for regional statistics and regional analyses, for example. The aim is that high-quality location data would always be exploitable in statistics production, and that the published statistics could be utilised better together with other data and services belonging to the national geographic infrastructure.

The integration of statistics and geographic data is advanced by participating in national and international cooperation. The EU project coordinated by Statistics Finland produced the operating model²¹ and examples and guidelines that assist the actors of the European Statistical System in integrating statistics and geographic data. The operating model was adopted nationally in connection with a national cooperation project implemented in 2023 to 2024. To promote interoperability, a national network for the integration of statistics and geographic data has been established together with the National Land Survey of Finland.

Statistics Finland is also further developing the <u>map service</u> where it is possible to view and download Statistics Finland's open geographic data and compile thematic maps utilising the data in the Municipal key figure service. Open geographic data include municipality-based statistical areas (both as mere boundaries and complemented with population data), postal code areas, statistical grids and road traffic accidents.

7. New data sources and methods

Enterprises' business activities, activities of the public sector and citizens are increasingly taking place digitally, which enables utilisation of new types of data materials in the compilation of statistics. New data materials supplement and replace conventional data and they enable faster production of new information on different topics and renewal of data production methods. When new data are introduced, data security and data protection are ensured in compliance with the Statistics Act, the national Public Information Management Act and the EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR²²). The shared innovation agenda of EU statistical institutes was adopted at the

²⁰ Data collection for City and Subnational Statistics

²¹ <u>GSGF Europe</u>

²² GDPR, General Data Protection Regulation



beginning of 2023, and it guides the methodological development of statistics production considerably.

The common and uniform technical solutions to be adopted by central government make it possible to use extensive, new type of register data and various interfaces in statistics production. Up-to-date register data, such as the Incomes Register, enable faster and more extensive data production. The positive credit register to be introduced in spring 2024 will change the data basis for statistics on debts and will in the near future have an effect on statistics describing livelihood and financial accounts. In addition, the continuously updated register makes it possible to speed up the compilation of statistics on debts.

In the long term, the aim of the enterprise's digital economy project is to enable the digital movement of economic data between different actors in the ecosystem. In this case, enterprises' financial data would be available for statistical purposes directly from the enterprises' or accounting firms' systems or retrievable from the central government interface in a structured form (eKuitit, online invoices, other procurement messages). To this end, interface retrievers, statistical taxonomy and an automatic classification system based on machine learning will be developed. When the project is successful, direct data collections from enterprises and enterprises' response burden can be reduced and the coverage and timeliness of several statistics can be improved. In addition to business statistics, the digital economy project has effects on, for example, price statistics and possibly on the Household Budget Survey.

It is estimated that the volume of data materials held by the private sector will gradually grow as a raw material for statistics production. Significant data can be obtained, for example, from shop scanner data and from shared systems established in the electricity and gas markets, i.e. data hubs that unite data producers and users. These open up significant new possibilities for statistics production if the data can be utilised in full. The utilisation possibilities of mobile operators' data are still being explored and a quality framework is being developed in international cooperation to enable the reception of mobile operators' data so that they can be used in statistics compilation.

The aim is to support statistical authorities' access to new data materials by means of legislation. The new EU Regulation on European statistics would give statistical authorities access to new types of data better than before. The Regulation on European statistics is currently under consideration in the Council and the Parliament.

New data collection methods are also advanced in statistics production to improve the service for data providers, reduce the response burden and improve the quality of statistics. At the moment, data collected by smart devices are advanced in international cooperation²³.

²³ Eurostat: Smart statistics and Smart survey



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In future, the Internet of Things²⁴ and data produced by various sensors will be taken into use in data production. Statistical institutes could play an important role in the harnessing of data produced by such real-time, automatic and interactive technology into information. This development may in future support the role of statistical authorities evolving from a producer of statistics to a provider of data materials. The realisation of this scenario requires successful international methodological development and strategic decisions on the EU level.

The data needed in the compilation of the statistics are also collected from the websites of various operators by web scraping. EU cooperation in web scraping will continue in 2023 to 2025 by adopting already acquired and web-scraped data and by developing the architecture, methodology and quality. Web scraping is performed in compliance with the principle of openness and minimising the burden on the target sites.

The suitability of earth observation (EO²⁵) data for the production of sustainable development indicators is currently being studied in national and international collaboration. This could enable faster and more accurate statistics describing the environment and climate change. Now, EO data are utilised, for example, for measuring snow cover and drought and for producing crop forecasts. On the international level, utilising satellite images is widely considered for describing climate change and developing sustainable development indicators.

Methodological development is needed to utilise new data, increase analysis and speed up and intensify data production. In addition to more quickly available source data, accelerating the publication of statistical data requires the utilisation of machine learning methods and time series analysis, and methodological correction of various data biases. For example, by means of fast data obtained from the Incomes Register it is possible to intensify the production of the Labour Force Survey and produce rapid and accurate indicator data.

The so-called nowcasting methods, or short-term projection models, help speed up the releasing of statistics. They have already been utilised in speeding up the publication of turnover indicators and in the early estimate of the output of the whole economy. In addition, models can help to produce data on a more detailed level than before and increase regional data with small area estimation, for example.

Suitable machine learning methods will be introduced in the coming years for work stages requiring manual work in statistics production. Possible uses include especially the classification of complicated data sets, detection of errors in incomplete data sets and their methodological correction, and integration of big data into registers. Artificial intelligence is currently utilised, for example, in the classification of products according to the COICOP classification (Household Budget Survey, consumer price index), in deducing industry categories in the business demographic statistics, type of crime in the statistics on offences and coercive measures, and type of building in the Building Classifier service.

²⁴ IoT Internet of Things

²⁵ EO, Earth Observation



Machine learning solutions enable faster and higher-quality processing of data cost-efficiently. The use of AI is promoted in accordance with the regulations of official statistics and EU policies in accordance with the principles of responsible AI. This refers, for example, to the clarity, transparency and repeatability of processes related to artificial intelligence.

In the coming years, Statistics Finland will examine empirically the extension of using scanner data. Due to the detailed nature of the data, standardisation of data quality and the strategy for index calculation must be renewed. This methodological work can be viewed on <u>Statistics Finland's website</u>.

In addition to introducing new data, methods that support and intensify data collections are introduced in statistics production. The data collection forecasts response probabilities according to the data collection method and thus improves the productivity of interview work. In addition, the construction of a national contact information register is promoted to facilitate the exchange of contact information between authorities.

The joint use of data is also a focus in statistics production. By combining data sets on different topics, new data can be produced without increasing the response burden. For example, micro level data on enterprises and employees have been linked to the input-output framework of the national accounts in the value added based statistics on international trade. The thus produced new statistics made it possible to analyse the effects of the crisis caused by Russia's war of aggression and deeper understanding of the dependencies on China and their multiplier effects. Combining data on different statistical topics also enables compilation of national accounts statistics on the distributions of income, consumption and wealth (concentration and differences). However, joint use of the data requires methodological reconciliation of differences between concepts, processes and different data sources. For several years, the OECD and Eurostat have been promoting the production of distribution data by population group for the aggregates published by national accounts.

8. Communication and promotion of the use of information

Statistics compete for the time and attention of users in the midst of a vast flood of information. Understanding and interpreting statistics is a key civic skill both for citizens and decision-makers. For this reason, increasing attention is also paid in statistics production to the dissemination and communication of statistical data and promotion of their use. Communication and services are developed based on the needs of data users and with consideration to topical social discussions. In future years, development of communications on statistics and promoting the use of statistics will also be challenged by users' different usage habits and needs and by the rapidly changing and fragmented communication environment.

In 2024, the aim is to form an overall picture of the state of Finland's economy and its development by highlighting data derived from different statistics. In





addition, emphasis is given to the communication of annual national accounts data released at the end of February and publishing of new data contents.

The theme of communication in population statistics in 2024 is the evolving population. The population projection to be published in autumn 2024 is one of the most topical and requested statistics on the topic. In addition, the publication of the results of the Household Budget Survey and the Quality of Work Life Survey is supported and statistics related to the ageing of the population, immigration and families are highlighted.

The greenhouse gas inventory under the environment theme will report on the monitoring of the Paris Climate Agreement for the first time in 2024, for which reason particular attention will be paid to the communication of the greenhouse gas figures. Other agencies providing content for the greenhouse gas report also collaborate in the planning and implementation of communication. In addition, the aim is to develop awareness and use of environmental economic accounts and expanding contents by means of communication.

When measuring wellbeing, we will focus on communication of new data and statistics published with new classification methods, as well as communication on the distribution data of income and consumption.

Producers of statistics aim to increase awareness of statistics and producer groups in various ways and reach users on the channels where they spend their time anyway. Statistics Finland will focus in 2024 especially on reaching groups of persons that are more difficult to reach in data collections to increase response rates. In 2024, as measures supporting the objective, the development and conceptualisation of social media channels, initiated in 2022, will continue with the help of the TikTok experiment and the re-conceptualisation of Instagram, as well as by testing new means of communication with data suppliers.

The use and usability of statistical data are promoted by developing the dissemination of statistical data on the web and by offering data in an easily accessible form. The Finnish Customs website, for example, is currently being revised. In addition, new sets of indicators are compiled into Statistics Finland's statistical data section and the ways of presenting statistical data are developed by means of data visualisation (e.g. the Social Insurance Institution's Info Tray).

The annual Statistics Olympics will be organised in 2024 and cooperation with educational institutions will be targeted to groups most in need of developing statistical literacy.

9. Information ecosystem and partnerships

Statistics are produced and developed in international and national cooperation. Together we are building a sustainable and temporally evolving information ecosystem that better serves customer needs and information management. We cooperate closely with various interest groups and partners by renewing operating practices. Good examples of close national and international cooperation include the revision of the standard industrial classification,



production of SDG indicators and work of the Advisory Board of Official Statistics of Finland. In domestic cooperation, the development of the quality of data in public administration registers will continue. The Data Room, which aims to produce information faster than before to support decision-making, is piloted together with the Government Institute for Economic Research.

The compilation methods of statistics and the concepts and classifications used in them are based on the standards established in international statistical cooperation. The main forums for their compilation are the bodies responsible for statistics compiled by the UN, the EU and OECD. Finland, too, is closely involved in their work. The most important partner for Finland is the European statistical ecosystem, which includes Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Union, and the national statistical institutes of other Member States. Often statistics production is also developed and reviewed with EU funding.

Within the European Union, the standardisation of statistics and other regulation are based on EU legislation. The Finnish statistical ecosystem, that is, Statistics Finland and other statistical operators of the Official Statistics of Finland, actively participate in the preparation of EU legislation on statistics. In 2024, work is under way on the amendment of Regulation (EC) No 223/2009 on European statistics, the framework regulation integrating population and housing statistics, and the framework regulation integrating earnings, labour costs and open job vacancy statistics. The extension of Regulation (EU) No 691/2011 on European environmental economic accounts will also be discussed. In 2024, the European Commission is expected to submit proposals for a framework regulation integrating fishery statistics and a new regulation concerning commercial real estate indicators.

The Standard Industrial Classification widely used in the compilation of statistics has been reviewed in international cooperation over the last few years. The most detailed national level of the classification has been prepared in broad cooperation with various information actors and is due for completion in spring 2024. The reclassification of enterprises and establishments will be started in 2024. Statistics will start publishing data by the new Standard Industrial Classification in stages starting from 2026.

In addition to regulations concerning statistics, several legislative projects related to statistics production are being prepared in the EU. The Data Act discusses the powers of public administration to obtain information from private sector organisations. The Data Governance Act adopted in 2022 requires new services nationally to facilitate the research and product development use of data materials. Statistics Finland, as the competent authority, is responsible for assisting other authorities in the introduction of the data. The Commission has proposed a revision of the Regulation on EU statistics²⁶ to enable better statistics compilation and research. The aim is to describe new data materials, such as common public administration registers, data produced by the Internet of Things



(IoT²⁷) and customer data held by enterprises, and to make the use of new data forms in statistics production easier.

The sharing of good practices and competence between statistical institutes is one of the principles of the international statistical service. Statistics are often produced in close international cooperation. For example, Statistics Finland is responsible for the coordination of the Europe-wide (36 countries) international consumer price comparison programme in 2022 to 2025. Ukraine and Georgia were also involved in it in 2022 and 2023. Finnish statistical experts also take part in consulting projects that improve the statistical systems of developing countries, such as the EU's Pan African Statistics project and the development of official statistics in Kyrgyzstan.

In Finland, Statistics Finland coordinates the statistical work of authorities producing statistics included in the European Statistical System (ESS) and the Official Statistics of Finland (OSF). The national statistical system is developed in cooperation in the Advisory Board of Official Statistics of Finland that comprises all producers of official statistics. The Advisory Board of Official Statistical ecosystem which steers development in a direction that serves customers better. All authorities producing statistics comply with the international standards and procedures in the field irrespective of the publisher of the statistics.

The Ministry of Finance has started a legislative review in stages concerning the field of statistics in Finland. The first stage of the legislative amendment that entered into force in March 2023 confirmed Statistics Finland's right to receive data not only for statistics compilation but also for research use. This makes it possible to extend the ready-made data library released through the research and data services with the data of other register authorities. In addition, Statistics Finland's right to access new administrative data was recorded more clearly than before in the reviewed Statistics Act.

The next stages of the amendment of the statistical legislation will take into account changes caused by the Data Governance Act and other EU legislation in the tasks and roles of authorities producing and using data. The division of responsibilities between Statistics Finland, the statistical ecosystem and the information ecosystem of public administration is also evaluated.

Demand for research data has grown, and recent crises have highlighted the need for rapidly produced research data and analyses based on it. In 2023 to 2025, Statistics Finland carries out a Data Room pilot together with VATT Government Institute for Economic Research, the task of which is to promote decision-making based on reliable data and develop the utilisation of data analysis in ministries. The analyses made by the Data Room are based on data materials compiled from Statistics Finland's and other authorities' up-to-date data warehouses. The most benefit can be derived from extensive data reserves when Statistics Finland's experts link data contained in them with each other. The data are processed in the data secure <u>FIONA</u> remote access environment.

²⁷ IoT, Internet of Things



Statistics Finland has also continued its work to improve the quality of public sector data in the <u>data quality framework project</u>. Methodological work is carried out in Nordic cooperation by participating in the editing of the <u>Journal of Official</u> <u>Statistics</u> (JOS).

10. Appendices (only in Finnish)

<u>Appendix 1: Statistics of Statistics Finland and other producers of statistics (ESS, OSF) in 2024</u>

Appendix 2: Statistics Finland's information products and services in 2024

Appendix 3: Statistics Finland's data collections in 2024