



**SUOMI
FINLAND**

FINLAND FACT SHEETS

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FINLAND**

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SETTING UP A BUSINESS IN FINLAND

QUICK AND EASY

KEYFIGURES

5.64
POPULATION
(MILLION)

275 GDB 2024
(BILLION €)
49 100 PER CAPITA

HELSINKI
CAPITAL

EUR
CURRENCY UNIT

338,440 AREA (KM²)

- Republic, parliamentary democracy
- Member of United Nations since 1955
- Member of European Union since 1995

INVEST IN
FINLAND

SUOMI
FINLAND

INTERNATIONAL COMPANIES ARE WARMLY WELCOMED TO FINLAND – THEY CAN ACCESS THE SAME BENEFITS AS FINNISH COMPANIES.

Finns are a pragmatic people who like to get down to business right away. No mountains of paperwork or never-ending red tape – just sound information to help you plan your business in Finland. Opening a legal entity takes only a couple of weeks. The corporate tax rate in Finland is standard 20% in all company forms and the Finnish Government has planned to lower it to 18% from 2027 on. This new rate will be among the lower rates in Europe, making it more competitive compared to many other developed countries.

1. SELECT A UNIQUE NAME FOR YOUR COMPANY

To gain exclusive rights to the name, you should submit it to the Trade Register which is maintained by the Finnish Patent and Registration Office (PRH). You can check from [Business information system](#) if the company name already exists in Finland.

2. CHOOSE YOUR COMPANY TYPE

[Choose your company type](#): private limited, public limited or branch (unlimited liability).

[Set-up package for Ltd.](#)

Companies must file their notifications and applications online with the Finnish Trade Register from 1 January 2026.

[Special cases](#)

3. CHECK WHETHER THE BUSINESS IS SUBJECT TO A LICENSE

Find out your company's permits [here](#)

4. FILE A START OF THE BUSINESS NOTIFICATION

Establishing and registering a business requires that a notification be filed with the [Trade Register](#) and various Tax Administration registers. This can be done easily using a single form ("[Y form](#)").

SETTING UP A BUSINESS 3/2026

5. OPEN A BANK ACCOUNT FOR YOUR BUSINESS

The company requires a bank account to process payment transactions and salaries, support accounting and to pay possible share capital. A private limited liability company does not need a minimum capital, but the minimum capital of a public limited liability company is EUR 80,000. Finnish banks and some accounting companies are listed here:

<https://www.businessfinland.com/establish-your-business/business-services>

6. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE ONLINE TOOLS

Online service is available only in Finnish and Swedish. You may authorize accounting or law firm to make the online notification on behalf of your company. These online services require you to log in with your online banking credentials. You can establish a limited liability company online through the [Business Information System service](#).

You can also create a workspace at [My Enterprise Finland](#). The My Enterprise Finland service gives you access to a wealth of useful services.

Invest in Finland and our regional partners are happy to help you to find business service providers when you are looking for premises, recruiting companies, bookkeeping, auditing and other services to support your business start in Finland. You can find more detailed information about setting up a business in Finland from our Business Guide on our [website](#)





HOW TO OPEN A CORPORATE BANK ACCOUNT IN FINLAND

FINNISH BANKS ARE BY LAW OBLIGATED TO KNOW THEIR CUSTOMERS.

For this reason, a bank may require separate written information about:

- the company's activities
- its financial position
- the use and purpose of banking services
- the origin and purpose of funds transferred to a customer's account

The following documents and measures are typically required when opening a corporate bank account. The required documents and information can be submitted either in Finnish, Swedish or English. Requirements can vary from bank to bank, and we recommend confirming these with the bank prior to your meeting.

There is no minimum share capital that needs to be paid to the new corporate account.

CUSTOMER INFORMATION

- An extract from the Finnish Trade Register (not older than 90 days)
- If still in the process of forming a limited company, a register certificate indicating that a declaration of establishment has been submitted to the [Business Information System](#)
- Documents of incorporation (for example, for a limited company: memorandum of association, articles of association and the minutes of the constitutive meeting of shareholders)
- An extract from the minutes of the Board of Directors, which indicates a decision of the Board of Directors stating the account users - the names of those officials of the company authorised to use the account and their authorisations
- An explanation of the nature and volume of payment transfers
- Certificate of the origin of the assets and foreign banking connections
- Other company accounts
- A letter of recommendation from the bank with which your company has an account in its country of residence (max 90 days old)
- A report of the purpose of opening a Finnish account
- A business plan or some other report of the nature of your company's operations. If share capital is paid to the limited liability company, opening the account and the payment has to be done before registering the company in the Trade Register. In that case, provide the company's Memorandum of Association, copy of startup notification and certificate from the Trade Register for submitting the startup notification.

Continue on next page...

OWNERSHIP CHART

A list of shareholders including names, social security IDs or dates of birth, nationalities if not Finnish, and the percentage of stocks and voting rights of each shareholder.

If there are companies on the shareholders list, a full description of the group structure including company type, company ID number and country of registration. It is also necessary to identify the natural persons at the end of the ownership chain.

THE LARGEST BANKS IN FINLAND ARE:

[NORDEA BANK FINLAND](#)

[OP FINANCIAL GROUP](#)

[DANSKE BANK GROUP](#)

All banks operating in Finland are listed on the website of the [Financial Supervisory Authority](#).

PASSPORT COPIES

- For the beneficial owners, who directly or indirectly through other companies own more than 25% of the company, a notarised passport copy and proof of residence (utility bills with home address or equivalent) in Latin alphabet is needed.
- The person who signs an agreement on behalf of a company, association or foundation must be registered in the trade register as a representative authorised to sign for it. Likewise, a person granted the right to use an account must be an authorised representative.
- The person opening an account must also present an identity card or passport.
- When opening bank accounts for a general or limited partnership, the signature of one general partner is enough, unless otherwise stated in the company rules.

KEY INFORMATION

- A bank account can be opened for a registered company in Finland. In certain situations, an account is necessary even before the company is entered in the Trade Register.
- Speed up the process and find the optimum account form by collecting all the required documents in advance.
- The bank account can be opened either by visiting one of the bank's branches or online, depending on the bank.
- **To speed up and ensure the smooth process, we advise you to visit the bank in person.**
- **If possible, assign signing authority within the company's management to an individual who holds a Finnish social security number.**
- **Show a transparent ownership structure for your company's bank account application, it is essential to ensure that the background of the ultimate beneficial owner is verifiable and regularly updated.** This process must comply with the bank's Know Your Customer guidelines. By following these practices, your company can maintain compliance and enhance its trustworthiness.

TAXATION IN FINLAND

DID YOU KNOW?

Starting in 2027, Finland will reduce its corporate income tax rate from the current 20% to 18%. This change will apply to all accounting periods ending in the calendar year 2027 and thereafter. Finland's new rate of 18% will be among the lower rates in Europe, making it more competitive compared to many other developed countries.

The right to deduct losses will be extended from current 10 to 25 years.

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TAXATION IN FINLAND

For businesses, taxes comprise a corporation tax (profit tax) and a real estate tax. Corporation tax is paid on annual taxable income minus tax-deductible expenses and losses. **Corporate tax rate is 20%** (18% from 1.1.2027 on) in Finland. Other taxes consist of an assets transfer tax (formerly stamp duty) and a with-holding tax. The employers are also required to make a social security contribution.

VALUE ADDED TAX (VAT)

VAT is an indirect tax assessed as a percentage of the value of all goods and services, unless specifically exempted. It is a consumption tax paid by the end consumer. VAT-registered businesses can deduct VAT paid on purchases for business activities from their VAT liability. The Finnish acronym for VAT is ALV (arvonlisävero).

TAXATION FOR INDIVIDUALS IN FINLAND

Individuals pay a progressive income tax from their salaries. Foreign personnel working in Finland for longer than a six-month period are also required to pay Finnish income tax. If a foreign person works in Finland for less than six months,

withholding tax of 35% is paid. If the employer is a foreign company without a permanent office in Finland and the salary is paid through a bank, taxes are paid in the home country, not in Finland. **The withholding tax rate for foreign key personnel at companies was lowered from 32% to 25%** from 2026 on. The maximum period of work allowed by the Act on Key Employees is 84 months (7 years).

A preliminary tax on an employee's income is deducted and paid monthly by the employer who also pays social security and other compulsory premiums.

PRELIMINARY TAX DEDUCTION COVERS:

- **The national income tax** is progressive (typically 25–40%)
- When 2023 the social security reform came into force, the municipal tax rates of the municipalities of mainland Finland were cut by 12.64 percentage points and the state income tax was correspondingly tightened at the beginning of 2023.
- **The municipal income tax 2026** depending on location is 4,7–10,9

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- The church tax (a flat rate from 1.00–2.2% in 2026, depending on the municipality). The church taxes carried only if an employee is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran or Orthodox churches.
- You may be entitled to several different deductions and credits that reduce the total amount of taxes you must pay.

POSITIVE ATTITUDE TO TAXATION

The attitude of Finns towards taxation is very positive: 93 per cent consider paying taxes to be an important civic duty, and almost as many feel that collecting taxes is necessary to finance the welfare state.

TAXABLE EARNED INCOME	GOVERNMENT TAX AT THE LOWER LIMIT 2026	Tax on the part of the income that exceeds the lower limit
€0–€22,000	€0	12.64%
€22,000–€32,600	€2,780.80	19.00%
€32,600–€40,100	€4,794,80	30.25%
€40,100–€52,100	€7063,55	33.25%
€52,100 –	€11,053.55	37.50%

TAXATION 3/2026

ELECTRICITY TAXATION INCENTIVES FOR INDUSTRIES

Category II (reduced): 0.063 c/kWh + fees

- Manufacturing
- Green houses
- Heat pumps
- Electric boilers or circulation pumps of geothermal heating plants

Other sectors

Category I (general): 2.253 c/kWh + fees

**TAX CREDIT FOR OVER 50 MEUR
CLEAN INDUSTRY INVESTMENTS**
MORE INFORMATION

[BUSINESS FINLAND](#)

**SOURCES AND FURTHER
INFORMAITON**

[FINNISH TAX ADMINISTRATION](#)

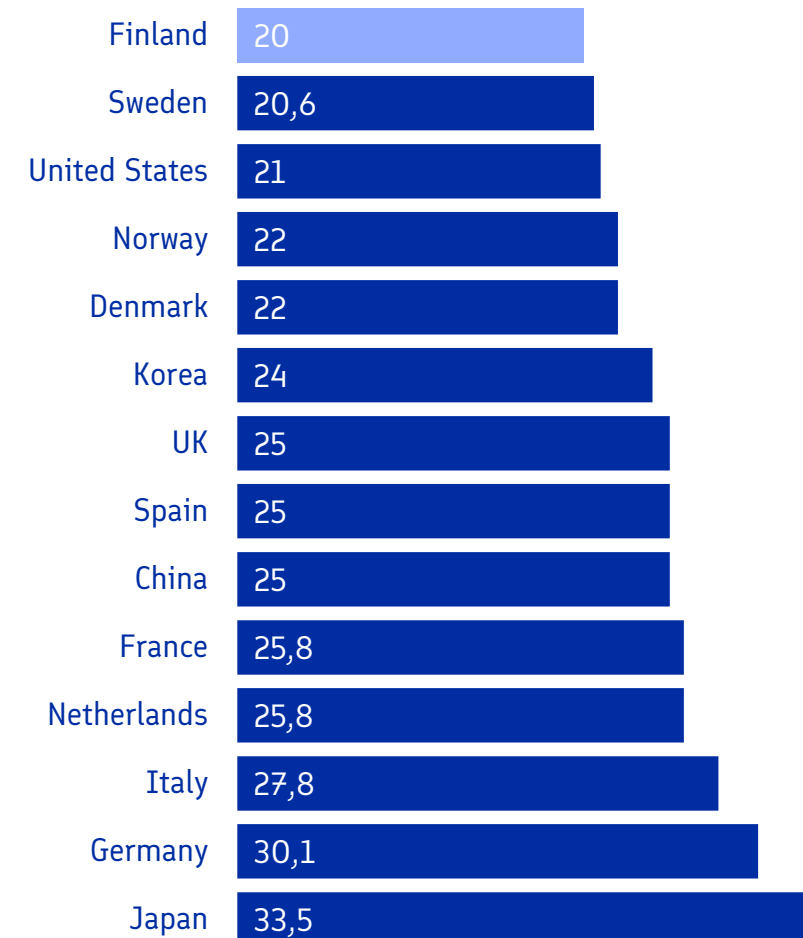
[TAXATION OF KEY EMPLOYEES -
VERO.FI](#)

[THE TAXPAYERS' ASSOCIATION OF
FINLAND \(TAF\)](#)

EXAMPLES OF TAX RATES IN FINLAND IN 2026

CORPORATE INCOME TAX	20%
	(from 2027 on 18%)
VALUE ADDED TAX	
Standard	25,5%
Groceries including food, beverages and food ingredients, spices, animal feed, restaurant services (meals consumed at seller's business premises) meal services (meals supplied to premises chosen by the buyer), books (printed and electronic), pharmaceuticals, sports and fitness services, entrance fees to cultural, entertainment and sporting events, passenger transport services, accommodation services	13,5%
Newspapers and magazines or public broadcasting	10%
REAL ESTATE TAX	0.0-1,5%
GENERAL REAL ESTATE TAX ON LAND	0,0-2,0%
RESIDENTIAL HOUSES	0.0-1%
TRANSFER TAX	1,5-3%

FINLAND HAS ONE OF THE LOWEST CORPORATE TAX RATES IN THE EU (%)



Sources: Tax Foundation, PWC

ENERGY MARKET

Reliable and clean power for your business

99.99995%

Electricity transmission reliability

In 2025, the main grid managed by Fingrid recorded the best transmission reliability rate since measurements began. The frequency quality of the Nordic synchronous area was at an excellent level.

Source: Fingrid

96%

The share of CO2-neutral electricity

Source: Finnish Energy

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GREEN, RELIABLE AND AFFORDABLE ENERGY

Foreign investors in Finland can depend on a reliable, green and cost-effective power supply to run their business with maximum efficiency.

Finland's power generation, transmission and grid systems are extremely efficient, and the price of electricity is among the lowest in Europe. We can proudly say that the Finnish electricity grid is the best in Europe. Electricity can be supplied without bottlenecks wherever it is needed, unlike anywhere else in Europe. Over the past decade, almost a billion per year has been invested in electricity transmission, and the results are visible.

CONSTANTLY EVOLVING AND SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION

Finland's energy policies are focused on energy security, economic development and environmental sustainability. Finland is aiming for carbon neutrality and to become the first fossil-free welfare society by 2035 – 15 years before the rest of the EU. According to Global Energy Index 2025, Finland ranked 2nd. The country has a legally binding target for carbon neutrality by 2035, along with

decarbonization plans for specific sectors and an energy mix that includes both nuclear and renewable sources. Notable developments include a reduction in fuel imports, high grid reliability, low transmission losses, and minimal power interruptions.

Power generation in Finland is decentralised across more than 400 power plants, which use several different production technologies and energy sources. This diversified approach ensures a very stable energy supply and has kept the price of electricity at a competitive level. The share of gas as an energy source in Finland is only 0,9% (2025), which is very small compared to many other European countries. Gas is mainly used in industry and in district heat production, not in building-specific heating.

Globally, the electricity consumed in Finland has exceptionally low emissions. 2025 the share of CO2-neutral electricity was 96%. It has been achieved with a strong increase in wind and solar power capacity and the commissioning of the OL3 nuclear power plant 2023. Finland now generates most of its electricity

annually, with net imports dropping from 20.4% in 2021 to 6.6% in 2025.

Finland is also one of the world leaders in the utilisation of bioenergy.

AID FROM BUSINESS FINLAND: REPLACE THE ENERGY SYSTEM WITH A LOW-CARBON ONE

The aim of energy aid is to promote the development of innovative solutions for replacing the energy system with a low-carbon alternative in the long term. Energy aid can, for example, be used to make investments in energy saving and efficiency or to promote the introduction of new technologies.

FINLAND HAS THE LOWEST ELECTRICITY PRICES IN EUROPE

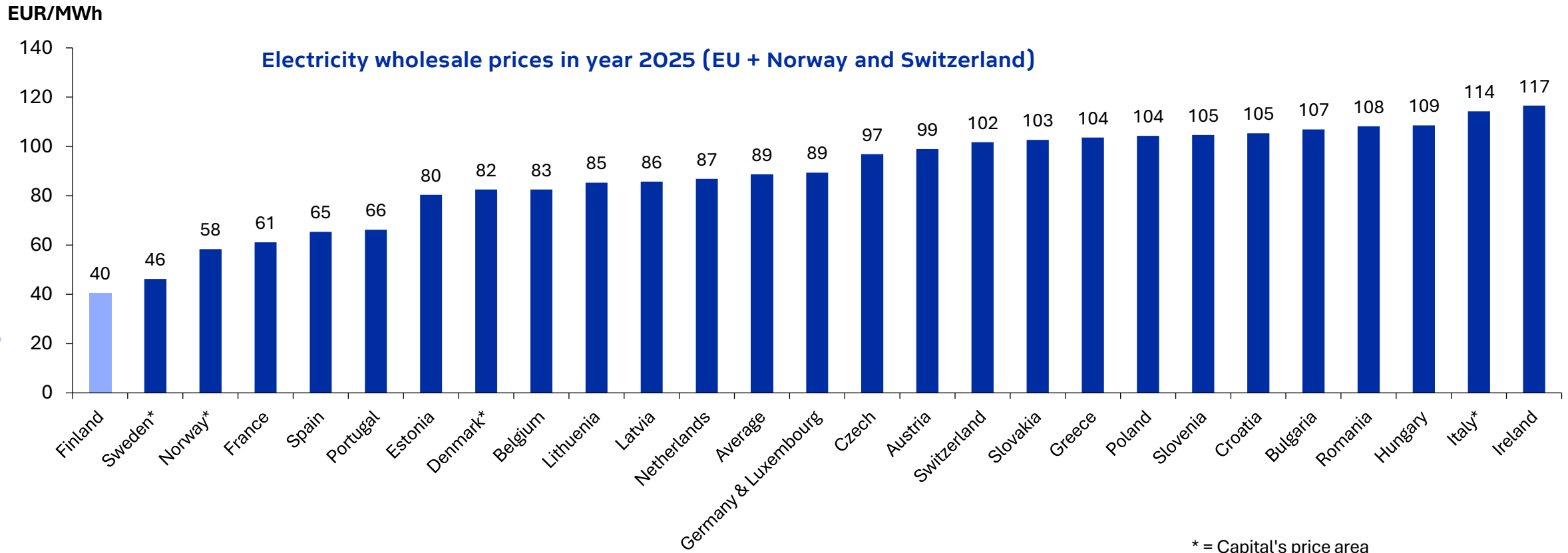
NOTE: From the beginning of 2021, the industrial electricity tax was reduced to the EU minimum level in Finland

In terms of electricity supply, Finland outshines even the closest competitors.

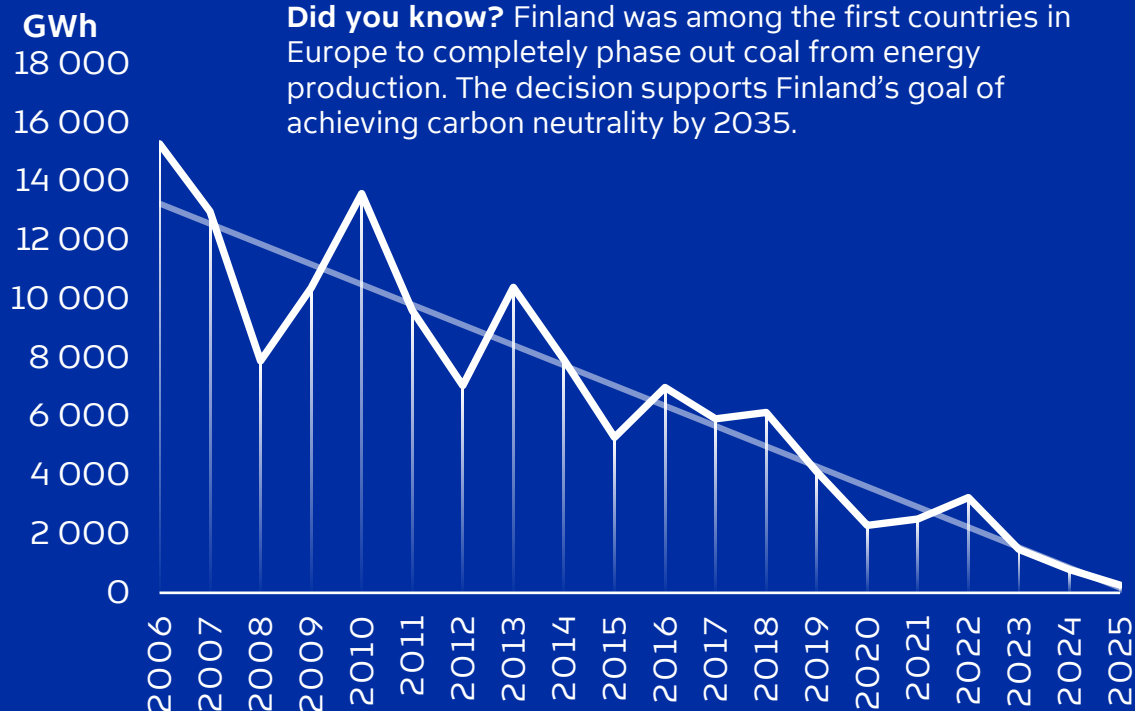
The transmission reliability rate in 2025 was the highest in the statistical history!

99.99995%

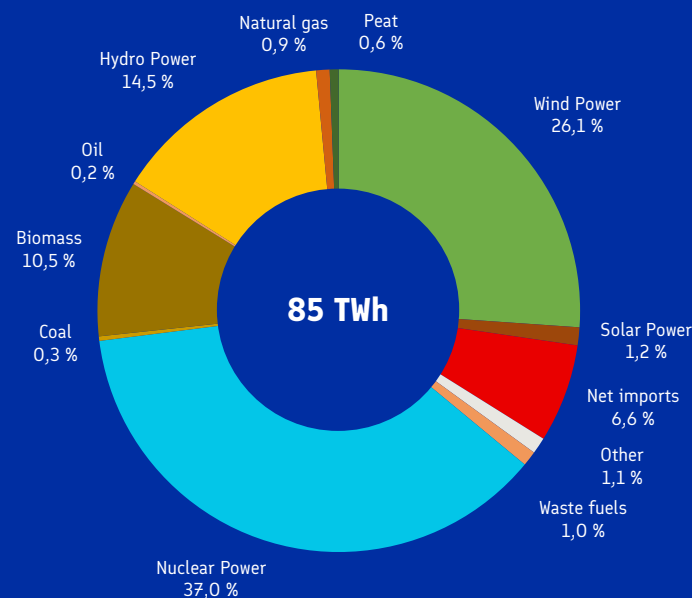
Source: Fingrid 2025



ELECTRICITY GENERATION WITH HARD COAL 0.3 TWH IN 2025



ELECTRICITY BY ENERGY SOURCE AND NET IMPORTS 2025



Net imports dropped from 20,4%, 2021 to 6,6% in 2025.

Source: Finnish Energy 2026

SOURCES AND FURTHER
INFORMAITON

[FINNISH ENERGY](#)

[THE BIOENERGY
ASSOCIATION OF FINLAND](#)

[STATISTIC FINLAND](#)

[RENEWABLES FINLAND](#)

[BUSINESS FINLAND
\(ENERGY AID\)](#)

LABOUR

Competent professionals to drive your business



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FINNS CAN MAKE YOUR BUSINESS SUCCEED

Finnish people have excellent ICT and language skills, over 90% of Finns under thirty speak English and they are known for their high work ethics and reliability. Many international comparisons also reveal that Finnish people are very happy and satisfied with their lives.

According to the Legatum Prosperity Index, Finland ranks 2nd out of 167 countries in education. The global index measures access to educations, quality of education and human capital. About a third of Finland's working population has a degree or higher qualification. Finland offers excellent tools for lifelong learning all the way from high-quality primary education to competence development at work.

Need for new skills in business is constantly growing. According to the Global Talent Competitiveness Index 2025 by INSEAD and the World Economic Forum: Finland ranks among the top 10 countries globally for talent competitiveness. It is recognized as a "talent champion", meaning it consistently performs well in attracting, developing, and retaining skilled people. Surprisingly, the labour costs are lower in Finland compared to many Western

Countries. Finland can offer talented labor with lower costs than for example France, Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Denmark and USA according to FDI benchmark data. CTA's Global Innovation Scorecard gives Finland an A+ for its Human Capital.

ACADEMIA GOES BUSINESS

Academic brilliance doesn't stay only on the campus in Finland. The knowledge transfer between business and universities has been one of the key factors in Finland's track record of innovation and economic success.

The Finnish government strongly encourages and boosts innovation and R&D activities in the business world.

Finland is an attractive place to live, work and do business. It is a well-balanced and dynamic society, with a high standard of living and one of the lowest corruption rates in the world. You will find the easiness of employing multilingual and self-driven talents here.

Tight-knit innovation ecosystems: Finland's relatively small and cohesive population, combined with a culture of trust and shared national goals, fosters easy and effective collaboration between

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universities, research institutes, startups, and established companies. According to European Innovation Scoreboard 2025 Finland scores exceptionally high, with public-private co-publications at 332% of the EU average—one of the highest rates in Europe.

The Labour Market in Finland can be compared to other Nordic Labour Markets and is regulated by the unions. Periods of notice terminating an employment contract from an employer side is internationally compared short, from 2 weeks to maximum 6 months.

EMPLOYER COSTS TO BUSINESS

Employers' statutory contributions are about 20,5% of the gross salary payable. They include (2026):

- Employers' social security contribution 1,91%
- Unemployment insurance, average 0,8%
- Earnings-related pension (TyEL)
- Insurance contribution, average 17.1%
- Group life insurance, average 0.06%
- Occupational accident insurance average 0,51%

Source:
[Confederation of Finnish Industries](#)

FINLAND OFFERS HIGHLY SKILLED TALENTS WITH COMPETITIVE COSTS

When terminating an employment contract, the employer must observe the following periods of notice:

EMPLOYER

LENGTH OF CONTINUOUS EMPLOYMENT, YEAR	PERIOD OF NOTICE
0-1 year	14 days
1-4 years	1 month
4-8 years	2 months
8-12 years	4 months
over 12 years	6 months

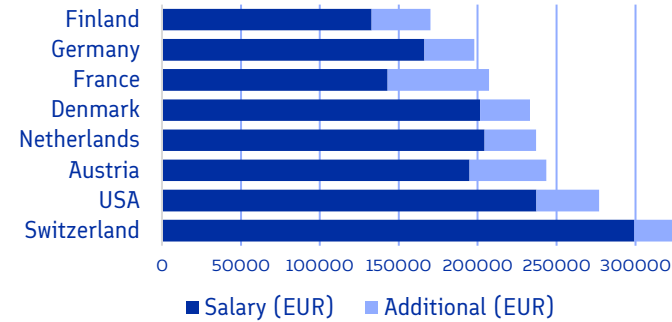
EMPLOYEE

LENGTH OF CONTINUOUS EMPLOYMENT, YEAR	PERIOD OF NOTICE
0-5 years	14 days
over 5 years	1 month

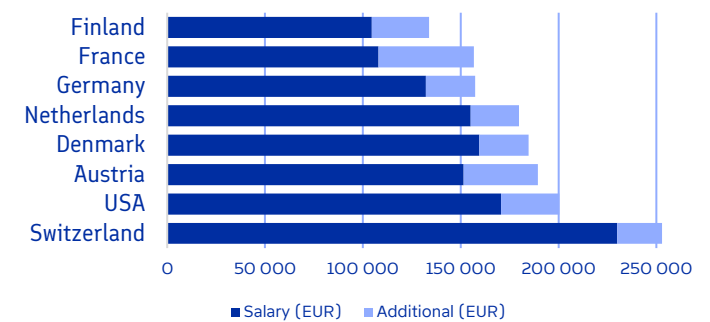
Source: [Occupational Safety and Health Administration in Finland 2025](#)

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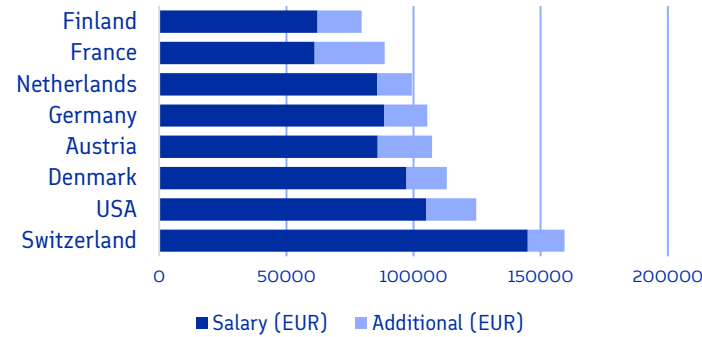
CHIEF EXECUTIVE



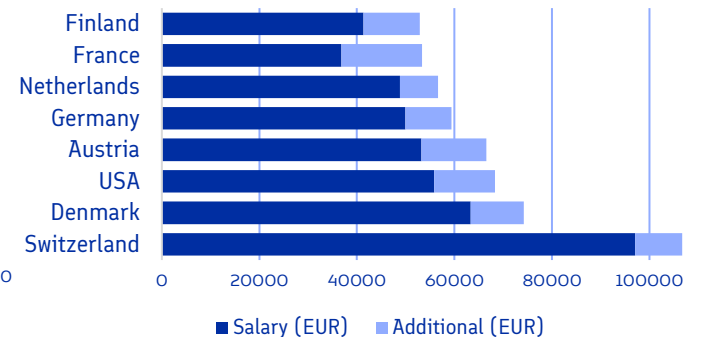
HEAD OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT



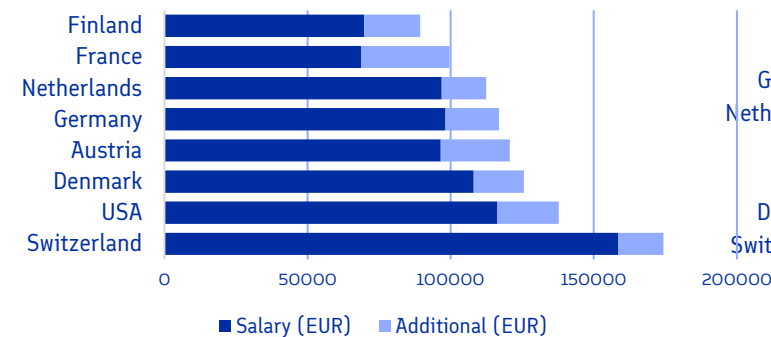
DATA SCIENTIST



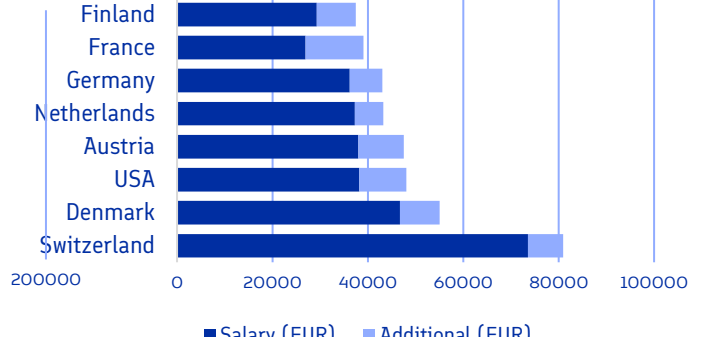
PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION LABOURER



ROBOTICS ENGINEER



ACCOUNTS CLERK



Source: fDi Benchmark from the Financial Times Ltd 2026, Data 2025

LABOUR 03 /2026

EXPATRIATE IN FINLAND

Welcome to the happiest
country in the world!

SAFE AND DYNAMIC SOCIETY FOR BUSINESS

Finland is an attractive place to live and do business. It has a well-balanced and dynamic society, with high standard of living and one of the lowest corruption rates in the world.

Globally, Finland is known for its excellent education system, technological innovation and expertise, and high achievers in the fields of arts, design and sports. Nature and tranquility are some of Finland's greatest assets.

Everything works in Finnish cities – regardless of the time of the year. Airports do not shut down, buses and trains run on time, your wifi works and so does your shower. Finland's tap water is among the highest quality in the world and you can drink it everywhere. These things make your daily life in Finland enjoyable and easy.

FINLAND WELCOMES FOREIGN BUSINESS

Finland joined the EU in 1995. Currently it is the only country using the Euro currency in the Nordic countries.

People moving to Finland have the right to buy real estate or rent property from the open market. Finland has advanced social security and public health care system that extends to all permanent residents in the country. Foreign investors enjoy the same access to government incentives for business as Finnish companies.

Finland's operating environment stands out for its unusual level of stability, continuity and predictability. The pillars of Finland's peaceful and well-functioning society include transparent government and effective state institutions, an independent judicial system and respect for the rule of law. Finland has firmly established civil liberties and personal freedoms as well as progressive gender equality legislation.

1#

HAPPIEST COUNTRY IN THE WORLD – 9 YEARS IN A ROW

World Happiness Report 2026

WORLD'S MOST STABLE SOCIETY

Fragile States Index, 2022

FOR SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AT WORK

According to the European Skills Index, Finns have the best opportunities in Europe to develop their skills at work. European Skills Index Technical Report 2020

IN POLITICAL AND CIVIL FREEDOM

Freedom in the World 2022

**1# HAPPIEST COUNTRY
FOR THE 9th CONSECUTIVE
YEAR ¹**

**100/100 IN FREEDOM IN
THE WORLD 2025 REPORT
⁴**

**1# IN EUROPE FOR MEDIA
LITERACY ⁷**

**4# IN EUROPEAN SKILLS
INDEX. AND #1 IN SKILLS
DEVELOPMENT ²**

**5# IN WORLD PRESS
FREEDOM INDEX ⁵**

**#1 IN GOVERNANCE AND
#4 OVERALL IN LEGATUM
PROSPERITY INDEX ⁸**

**2# MOST STABLE COUNTRY
GLOBALLY ³**

**HELSINKI IS #1 CITY
GLOBALLY FOR WORK-LIFE
BALANCE IN 2025 ⁶**

ENTRY REGULATIONS

Citizens of the EU member states and Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway may work in Finland without the residence permit for an employed person. They do not need a residence permit for an employed person or for a self-employed person when working in Finland, they should only register their right to reside in Finland at a local police station within three months of arriving in Finland.

Citizens of other countries are required to have a temporary or continuous residence permit for an employed person if they intend to work in Finland. The application can be made by the employee or the employer.

EXCELLENT COUNTRY FOR FAMILIES

Finland is a safe and green country for families to live, offering first-class healthcare and education with very affordable costs. Foreign language day care centres, schools and high schools

can be found in most cities in Finland. The high level of Finnish education is well-known and respected for the students' outstanding performances in the international PISA studies.

EXPLORE FINNISH NATURE AND CULTURE

In Finnish culture, the forest is perceived as shelter and protection, as a sanctuary for inner peace, joy and happiness. The forest is a source of inspiration and innovation.

Nature is always close in Finland. Even if you live in a city, you are never more than a 10-minute walk from a park or forest.

Finnish cultural life also offers a treasure trove of museums, festivals and other gems waiting to be discovered. Get inspired by a carbon-neutral music festival and internationally acclaimed poster exhibition or learn about the island life in the world's largest archipelago.

SOURCES AND FURTHER INFORMATION

[WORK IN FINLAND](#)

[THE FINNISH IMMIGRATION SERVICE](#)

[FAST TRACK FOR SPECIALISTS AND START-UPS](#)

[JOB MARKET FINLAND](#)

[MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE](#)

[STUDY IN FINLAND](#)

[FINLAND IN YOUR LANGUAGE](#)



INCENTIVES

Foreign-owned companies in Finland are eligible for a wide range of government and EU incentives on an equal footing with Finnish-owned companies.

BUSINESS AID FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CENTRES

Business aid to companies operating in Finland is coordinated by 10 Economic Development Centres provide advisory, training and expert services and funding for investment and development projects. Foreign investors can benefit from several different types of aid, mainly for Development areas 1 and 2.

The services offered by Economic Development Centres cover internationalisation of business operations, improvement of business efficiency and management skills, development of technology and innovation, updating of staff skills and training of new employees. Economic Development Centres may also contribute to the funding of development projects. Funding support is discretionary and depends on the nature of the project.

Investment aid can be granted to companies in the regional development areas, especially small and medium enterprises (SMEs). Large companies may also qualify if they have a major employment impact in the region. Aid to business development can be granted to

improve or facilitate the company's establishment and operation, know-how, internationalisation, product development or process enhancement.

Subsidies for start-up companies are available for establishing and expanding business operations during the first 24 months. Transport aid may be granted for deliveries of goods produced to sparsely populated areas. Energy subsidies can be granted to companies for investments in energy efficiency and conservation.

LOANS AND GUARANTEES BY FINNVERA

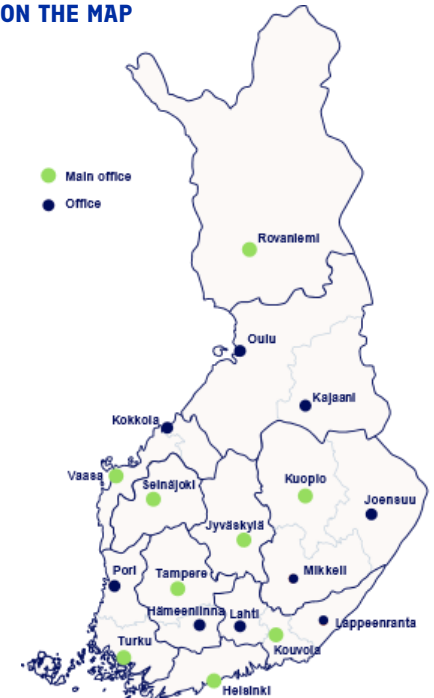
Finnvera is a specialised financing company owned by the State of Finland and it is the official Export Credit Agency (ECA) of Finland. It provides financing for the start, growth and internationalisation of enterprises and guarantees against risks arising from exports. Finnvera strengthens the operating potential and competitiveness of Finnish enterprises by offering loans, domestic guarantees, venture capital investments, export credit guarantees and other services associated with the financing of exports. The risks included in financing are shared between Finnvera and other providers of financing.

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EU-FUNDED SUPPORT

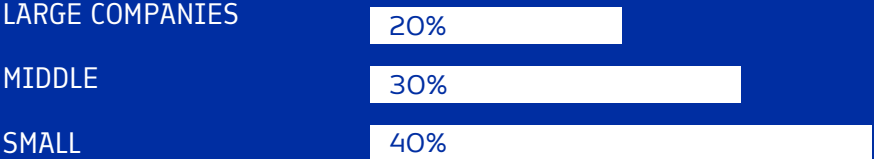
EU finance is largely channeled through the Economic Development Centres. It is directed to projects developing the competitiveness, know-how and operating environment of the SME sector, with a special emphasis on start-up businesses and service sector companies.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CENTRES ON THE MAP

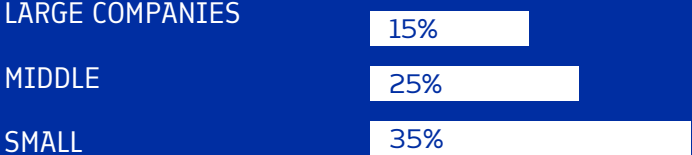


MAXIMUM LEVEL OF AID

DEVELOPMENT AREA I



DEVELOPMENT AREA II



DEVELOPMENT AREA III



DEVELOPMENT AREAS IN FINLAND

- Development area I
- Development area II
- Development area III

R&D AND INNOVATION INCENTIVES BY BUSINESS FINLAND

Business Finland provides low-interest loans and grants to challenging and innovative projects potentially leading to global success stories. The organisation offers funding for research and development work carried out by companies, research organisations, and public sector service providers in Finland. Besides funding technological breakthroughs, Business Finland also emphasises service-related, design, business, and social innovations. Startups and both SMEs and large companies can benefit from Business Finland's incentives.

TAX CREDIT FOR LARGE GREEN TRANSITION INVESTMENTS

The tax credit for large investments (over 50 MEUR) aimed at a climate-neutral economy was launched 2025 and tax credit will be available also 2026. More information from Business Finland.

CAPITAL INVESTMENTS FROM FINNISH INDUSTRY INVESTMENT

Finnish Industry Investment is a state-owned investment company that invests in Finnish companies, both directly and through private equity funds. The organisation invests in rapid growth, internationalisation, spin-offs, major industrial investments, as well as sectoral, corporate and ownership restructurings. It also invests in foreign companies if the capital is used for business development in Finland.

STARTUP PERMIT

The permit is meant for innovative startup founders coming from countries outside the European Union.

TAX INCENTIVES

Finland has the lowest corporate tax rate, 20% among the Nordic countries and one of the lowest in the EU and it will be even lowered from 2027 to 18%. The Finnish Tax Administration has a unique, company friendly and predictable approach. The Tax Administration strongly focuses on modern, pre-emptive approach instead of retrospective traditional tax audits. The Tax Administration has also a dedicated team helping foreign companies in tax matters – free of charge.

BOOST YOUR INNOVATION WITH A PERMANENT R&D TAX INCENTIVE

Companies investing in research and development can now benefit from a permanent tax incentive designed to support and reward innovation. This incentive includes:

- A 100% basic deduction on eligible R&D expenses
- An additional 50% deduction on existing R&D costs
- An increased deductible amount based on the growth of your R&D activities compared to the previous year

This means the more your R&D efforts grow, the greater your tax benefits. It's a smart way to fuel innovation while optimizing your financial strategy.

R&D SUB-CONTRACTING

A tax deduction of 250% on the costs of research and innovation projects carried out in collaboration with universities and research institutes. This tax benefit is available until end of 2027.

TAX-FREE SHARES OF NON-LISTED COMPANY TO EMPLOYEES

If the subscription price is at least equal to the share's mathematical value, an individual employee who buys such shares will not be treated as having received a taxable benefit.

AID FOR RECRUITMENT TRAINING

This service is tailored to your business needs. Recruitment Training aims to answer the demands of working life. The training includes both theory and supervised on-the-job learning and practice. Training usually lasts 3-9 months; minimum duration is 10 training days. Training can also be planned in cooperation with several employers. Typical funding levels:

- Recruitment Training: 70% public / 30% employer
- Conversion Training: 80% public / 20% employer
- Targeted Training: 30–50% employer share, depending on company size and financial indicators. More information from municipalities.

SOURCES AND FURTHER
INFORMATION

**BUSINESS FINLAND
INVEST IN FINLAND SERVICES**

[BUSINESSFINLAND.COM](https://businessfinland.com)

[BUSINESSFINLAND.FI/EN](https://businessfinland.fi/en)

[WORKINFINLAND.COM](https://workinfinland.com)

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