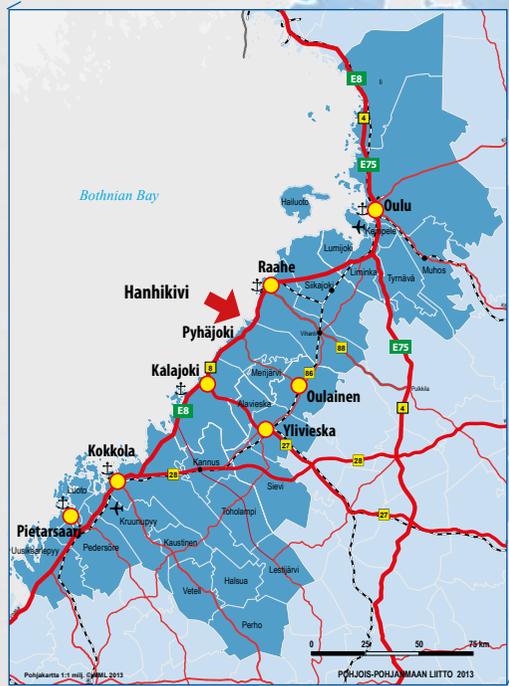




Hanhikivi Guide

Information on the operational environment of the nuclear power plant project



The aim of this publication is to provide Fennovoima, the Rosatom Group, their subcontractors, and other operators with the local information they need as they are preparing to operate in the Pyhäjoki Municipality and the surrounding Bothnian Bay coast area from Kokkola to Oulu.



OULU



Hanhikivi Guide

Information on the operational environment of the nuclear power plant project

Publisher

Hanhikivi Multisectoral Coordination and Interconnection Project

Publication

February 2014

The publication is based on information as of December 2013. We take no responsibility for any errors or changes to the information provided. We advise you to check on the availability of services.

Compilation of information

Tilmar Oy
Hanhikivi Multisectoral Coordination and Interconnection Project

Sponsors

Raahe District Development Centre
Pyhäjoki Municipality
City of Oulu, BusinessOulu
The Association of the Ylivieska Subregion
KOSEK, Kokkolanseudun Kehitys Ltd
Council of Oulu Region
European Regional Development Fund

Images

Raahe District/Leena Harju,
Pyhäjoki Municipality/archive,
City of Oulu, City of Kokkola,

Town of Ylivieska, Town of Oulainen,
Petteri Löppönen, Auno Aunola,
Johannes Sarpola,
Pyhäjökiseutu/Heli Nurkkala,
YTEKOy/Erkki Lämsä,
Oulu Airport/Teemu
Puolitaival, Port of Raahe,
Port of Kokkola, Port of Oulu,
Oulu International School,
BusinessOulu,
Fennovoima, Shutterstock

Layout

Advertising Agency Siberia

Printing press

Joutsen Media Painotalo Ltd





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HANHIKIVI

GETTING READY TOGETHER

FOR THE PUBLIC SECTOR

The Hanhikivi Multisectoral Coordination and Interconnection Project was initiated in autumn 2012 in order to prepare the public sector operators in the power plant construction area. The main goal is to maximize the positive local effects of the nuclear power plant project, as well as to strengthen the appeal of the area and to improve its ability to host other large-scale projects.

The focus is on creating and using long-lasting cooperation networks and practices. The purpose is to reach these goals by enhancing the ability of the public sector to meet new service needs created by large-scale projects. To help foreign employees coming to the area for the Hanhikivi project, information about the region's services, including information on official registers, housing, wellbeing, leisure and integration will be gathered into a communal web portal.

FOR COMPANIES

The Raah District Business Services and BusinessOulu have cooperated on a project called *Yritysverkostot kansainvälistymisen mahdollistajana* (Business networks enabling internationalization) since 2010. Similar projects for companies are also underway in the Ylivieska subregion (P-P *Avainveturit*) and in the Kokkola subregion (*Suurhankkeiden koordinaatiohanke*).

These schemes aim to enhance the ability of companies to participate in large-scale international projects, the most significant in the near future being the Fennovoima nuclear power plant to be built in Hanhikivenniemi in Pyhäjoki. The cooperation includes the regions of Kokkola, Ylivieska, Nivala-Haapajärvi and Kemi-Tornio and the Oulu Chamber of Commerce, Pohjois-Pohjanmaan Yrittäjät (Entrepreneurs of Northern Ostrobothnia) and the FinNuclear Association.

The companies receive data on the opportunities and requirements of future large-scale projects. Similarly, the companies behind large-scale

projects receive information on the expertise of local operators. General briefings are arranged for the companies on the schedules and supply chains of large-scale projects. In addition, the project will include training concerning documentation, networking, and subcontractor auditing.

Raah District Business Services

www.rsyp.fi/suurhankkeet

Business Service Centre of the Town of Kalajoki

www.kalajoki.fi/yrityspalvelut

BusinessOulu

www.businessoulu.com/major-projects

Association of the Ylivieska Subregion

www.ysk.fi

Oulainen Business Service Centre

www.oulainen.fi/economy_and_business

KOSEK, Kokkolanseudun Kehitys Ltd

www.kosek.fi

FENNOVOIMA'S HANHIKIVI 1 NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The design and construction of a nuclear power plant is a large project taking approximately ten years. To guarantee that the construction project runs as smoothly as possible, Fennovoima has invested in planning and maintaining an open dialogue with different operators and citizens in the region.

Fennovoima regularly conducts opinion polls in Pyhäjoki and the surrounding municipalities to see how the residents view the project. Support for the project is equally strong in the municipalities. Of all the Kalajoki, Merijärvi, Oulainen, Pyhäjoki and Raahe municipality residents, 65 percent are in favour of Fennovoima's project.

In summer 2013, Fennovoima signed a development agreement with the target to sign a plant

supply contract with Rosatom. The Hanhikivi 1 plant supply contract was signed at the end of 2013.

The project consists of lengthy phases. At each phase, Fennovoima conducts extensive reports and cooperates with the plant supplier and its partners, authorities and other specialists. After the plant supplier selection, the next major step is applying for a construction permit by summer 2015.

Hanhikivi 1 nuclear power plant life cycle phases

PREPARATION

- Site and plant options
- Environmental impact assessment (EIA)
- Preliminary safety evaluation by the Radiation and Nuclear Safety Authority, Finland (STUK)
- Decision-in-principle of the Parliament of Finland (2010)

CONTRACTING

- Pyhäjoki as the plant site (2011)
- Plant supplier selection (2013)
- Application for construction license and other permits
- Starting the excavation work

CONSTRUCTION

- Power plant construction
- Other construction
- Operating license

OPERATION

- 60 years
- Disposal of nuclear fuel
- Power plant decommissioning



HANHIKIVI AREA

The Hanhikivi peninsula is located within the Pyhäjoki municipality and the town of Raahe. The total area of the site is approximately 500 hectares.

All individuals who work on construction sites must have an individual tax number before starting work.

Veronumerolaki
(Act on Tax Numbers)
9.12.2011/1231

A Finnish personal identity code is required in order to obtain an individual tax number. To get a Finnish personal identity code, the employee must visit either the tax office or a local register office in person.

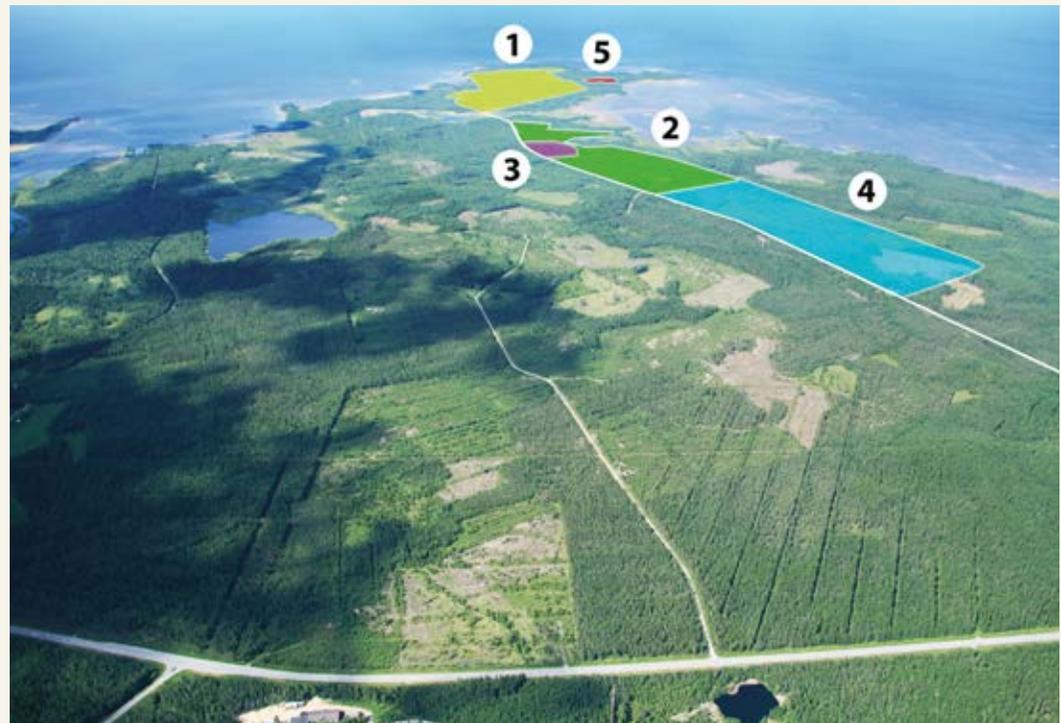
1 NUCLEAR POWER PLANT SITE

The power plant building, approximately 200 x 100 metres in size, will be located in the middle of the area. The nuclear power plant unit type is Rosatom's 1,200 megawatt pressurized water reactor AES-2006.

More information on the power plant
www.fennovoima.fi/en

2 ACCOMMODATION AREA

At most, there will be up to 4,000 employees working at the nuclear power plant site. Most of them will be staying in accommodation organized by the employer, and it will be located as close to the site as possible. An accommodation area for 1,000 people will be built in the immediate vicinity of the power plant site.



3 SERVICE CENTRE

A service centre for the site employees will be built next to the accommodation area. It will include services from different authorities, such as the police, customs, tax officials and the Social Insurance Institution of Finland (Kela).

The facilities could also include other services such as a newsagent, a supermarket, banking services, a café, a hair salon and other services. The centre could also offer other types of services, for example, a site priest.

4 WORKPLACE AREA

A wide variety of design offices, construction and assembly companies, engineering workshops, maintenance and transport companies, and sanitation and security companies will assist the construction. These companies will have a chance to locate their necessary operations at the workplace area near the power plant site. These plots will be sold or leased for construction.

The size of the area is approximately 37.1 hectares.

5 VISITOR CENTRE

A visitor centre with a good view of the entire construction area will be located north of the nuclear power plant site. A road to the centre will be built outside the power plant area to the north.

The visitor centre will serve individual visitors and groups from the plant construction phase onwards. In addition to presentation and exhibition spaces the center is planned to be equipped with a café and meeting rooms.

The visitor centre will offer information on the Hanhikivi peninsula and its environment, as well as the nuclear power plant construction project and its progress, and nuclear plant operations in general. The number of visitors is expected to be significant after the construction of the plant has been initiated. Visits to the historic Hanhikivi stone can also be organized through the visitor centre.

TRANSPORTATION

Land transport to the nuclear power plant and its construction site demands that a new road Hanhikiventie will be built from Highway 8 to the Hanhikivi peninsula. Hanhikiventie will be 8 metres wide and stretch four kilometres from Highway 8. A pedestrian and bicycle road will be built at the same time from Parhalahti to the power plant area.

The estimated traffic flow during the construction phase is 1,000–1,500 vehicles per day. Of these, 150 are heavy vehicles. At Pyhäjoki, the estimated traffic on Highway 8 is approximately 2,300–4,000 vehicles a day, which is why a new lane will be built to the Hanhikiventie junction.



North Ostrobothnia Centre for Economic Development,
Transport and the Environment (ELY Centre)

Hanhikiventie and the pedestrian and bicycle road

BASIC INFORMATION ON FINLAND

FINLAND AND THE FINNS

Finland is a democratic republic. Chosen in elections by universal and equal suffrage, parliament exercises legislative authority. The government holds the executive power and independent courts hold the judicial power. Equality before the law, regardless of gender, ethnicity and religion, is important to the Finnish people.

Finland offers free education of high quality. Due to a high educational level and municipal child care, women have a strong position in working life. Most working-age women are employed outside the home.

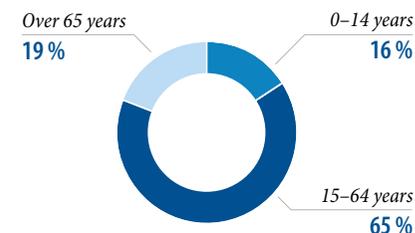
LEISURE

Free library services are available to all Finns. The public broadcasting and radio company receives tax funding and most citizens (85 percent) have data communications at home (Finnish Communications Regulatory Authority 2013). There are plenty of activities available and municipalities provide a range of public sport and exercise facilities for residents. Cultural services are provided by art institutions and hobby groups.

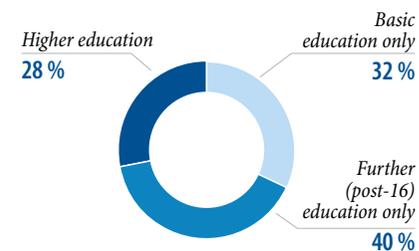
Everyone has the freedom of association in Finland and different associations are very popular. There are tens of thousands of sports clubs, choirs, art groups, voluntary education organizations, and hobby groups. Finnish people also have freedom of religion, according to which everyone has the right to belong to a religious community or not to follow any religion. About 76 percent of Finns are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Finland. About 1 percent belong to the Orthodox Church of Finland.

INDUSTRY

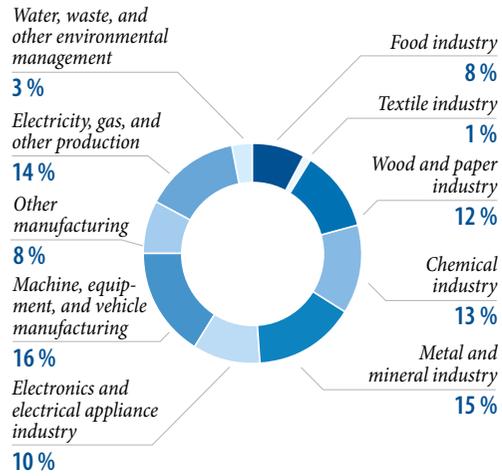
The most important industries in Finland are the metal and mechanical engineering industry (approximately 23 percent of all industry value added), the wood and paper industry (approximately 12 percent) and the electronics and electrical appliance industry (approximately 10 percent). The share of services is growing rapidly: Currently, they make up about a third of the gross national product. (Statistics Finland, industry statistics 2011).



Age structure of the Finnish population in 2012
Statistics Finland 2013

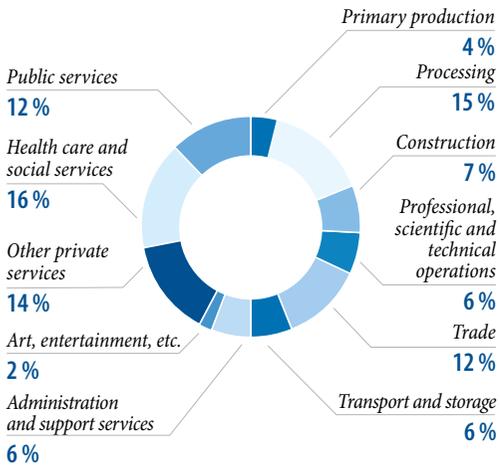


Standard of education of Finns aged 15 or over in 2011
Statistics Finland 2013



Distribution of industry value added (EUR 30.3 billion) between Sectors in 2011

Statistics Finland 2013, StatFin, accounts statistics TOL 2009



Distribution of employment between sectors in Finland in 2011

Statistic Finland 2013, employment statistics
Administration and support services



FINLAND



Independent since 1917

Member of the European Union since 1995

Population 5.4 million

240,000 inhabitants with immigrant background

(20% Estonian, 15% Russian, 4% Swedish)

Area 390,903 km²

Government constitutional republic

Capital Helsinki

Official languages Finnish, Swedish

Currency 1 euro = 100 cents

Time zone UTC+2

Neighbouring countries Russia, Norway, Sweden, Estonia

Literacy 100%



BASIC INFORMATION
ON FINLAND





*Contact
information
and addresses of
public service points*

www.suomi.fi/suomifi/english/service_map

PUBLIC SERVICES

State services include the judicial system, the police, the defence forces, tax administration, and employment and economic development services. The basic individual rights are stated in the Finnish constitution and all people are equal before the law. In civil and criminal cases, the judicial power is exercised by independent courts. The operation of authorities is based on transparency. Documents and actions are, for the most part, public.

MUNICIPAL SERVICES

Finnish municipalities have broad self-government and municipal decision-makers are chosen in elections based on universal and equal suffrage. Municipalities or groups of municipalities are chiefly in charge of social work, health care and education services for the inhabitants and also organize necessary services for companies in the area. The private sector also provides health care services.

Municipalities are in charge of land use planning in their area from housing to industrial buildings, and they also supervise construction and development. Municipalities are also responsible for water supply and sewerage. Municipal land use is governed by the Land Use and Building Act. The builder of a property must apply for a building permit for their own or a rented plot from municipal building control and have their building project approved by them. Municipal building control ensures that building is allowed only on approved plots and according to the building permit drawings. Building control takes care of all questions concerning construction. Environmental protection is monitored by a municipal environmental protection official.

WORKING IN FINLAND

The relationship between employees and employers is governed by labour legislation and collective agreements. They define the minimum wage, employee's right to breaks and free time, payment methods of salaries, workplace conditions, occupational safety, and training.

Ministry of Employment and the Economy

www.tem.fi/en/current_issues/publications/brochures/welcome_to_finland

www.tem.fi/en/work/labour_legislation

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

www.tyosuojelu.fi/fi/workingfinland

Finnish Centre for Pensions

www.etk.fi/en

THE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF A FOREIGN EMPLOYEE

A foreign employee coming to Finland requires a valid passport or some other valid travel documentation. Finland is part of the Schengen Area, but an identification card can still be required inside the area's borders.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland is in charge of visa policy. Foreign missions of Finland grant visas and accept applications for citizenship and residence permits. The Ministry of the Interior is responsible for immigration administration, and the Finnish Immigration Service and the police are responsible for entry into the country. The Finnish Immigration Service grants the initial residence permits. The police grant extended residence permits and accept registration of EU citizens.

The Ministry of Employment and the Economy is responsible for the integration of immigrants, and the practical work is carried out by the Centres for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment (ELY Centres). Local Employment and Economic Development Offices help with employment issues, job search or professional training in Finland. Companies can also contact the development offices.

RESIDENCE PERMIT

Citizens of EU Member States and Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland do not need a residence permit in Finland. Citizens of the above-mentioned countries can reside and work freely in Finland for a maximum of three months. If the stay is longer than three months, the person must register their right of residence at a local police station. Citizens of other than the above-mentioned countries generally require a residence permit granted by Finland based on employment in order to be allowed to work in Finland.

You must apply for a residence permit. Abroad, the application can be submitted to a Finnish mission (an embassy, for example) or if you are already in Finland, to the local police. The first fixed-term residence permit is granted by the Finnish Immigration Service. After this, the police grants the new fixed-term residence permit (extended permit). When applying for a residence permit for an employee, the application must include an appendix to the worker's residence permit application (TM 0.54) filled in and signed by the employer.

If the Employment and Economic Development Office gives a positive decision, the Finnish Immigration

Official service providers on immigration and residence related matters

| Issue | Responsible authority | web pages |
|--|--|--|
| Visa | Finnish consular mission | http://formin.finland.fi/missions |
| Residence permit, family member of a Finnish citizen | Police | www.police.fi |
| Residence permit, a family member of a foreigner living in Finland | Finnish Immigration Service | www.migri.fi/en |
| Residence permit for an EU citizen or similar | Police | www.police.fi |
| Residence permit for a worker | Consideration of labour policy: Employment and Economic Development Office (TE Office) Other prerequisites: Finnish Immigration Service | www.te-palvelut.fi/te/en www.migri.fi/en |
| Residence permit for a self-employed person | Prerequisites for the profitability of the business: Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment (Ely Centre) Other prerequisites: Finnish Immigration Service | www.ely-keskus.fi www.migri.fi/en |
| Extension of residence permits | Police; in special cases, Finnish Immigration Service | www.police.fi www.migri.fi/en |
| Application for citizenship and citizenship declaration | Finnish Immigration Service | www.migri.fi/en |
| Appeal | Administrative courts (asylum issues: Administrative Court of Helsinki) The Supreme Administrative Court | www.oikeus.fi |
| Integration | The Ministry of Employment and the Economy, ELY Centres, municipalities | www.ely-keskus.fi |
| Basic information for immigrants | Cooperation between state and municipalities | www.infopankki.fi/en |

Service can grant a residence permit for the applicant. ELY Centre web pages have contact information of the Employment and Economic Development Offices that handle permit and registration issues. The application process can take a while.

MOVING TO FINLAND

Finnish law applies to employees moving to the country from abroad. Their application can depend on how long the employee works in Finland. If the



employee works in Finland for over six months, the employee must pay taxes in Finland, excluding those in rented labour. If a foreign employee stays in Finland for a maximum of six months and is employed by a Finnish company (or the employer has a fixed office in Finland), tax at source at a rate of 35 percent is withheld in Finland.

Additional information

www.vero.fi/en-US/Individuals/Arriving_in_Finland

Before starting work, employees coming to the Hanhikivi 1 nuclear power plant construction site must have a tax number entered into the public tax number register. Before receiving a tax number, a foreign employee must obtain a Finnish personal identity code, which requires a personal visit either to the register office or tax office.

Primary assistance for workers coming to Finland is provided by the local Employment and Economic Development Office.

What to remember before and after moving to Finland

[www.te-services.fi/
te/en/pdf/
workinginfinland.pdf](http://www.te-services.fi/te/en/pdf/workinginfinland.pdf)

Source: estudio.edupoli.fi/moty. Information about working life for immigrants: www.tyoelamanverkko-opisto.fi/petmo.

Finnish working culture and customs

RELIABILITY AND SCHEDULES

- Schedules are strictly adhered to.
- If you are late to an agreed meeting with someone, let them know in advance.
- There is a saying: Time is money.
- People can find it insulting if you are late.

INITIATIVE

- Taking the initiative means that when you notice something that needs doing, you either take care of it yourself or you let your supervisor know.
- After finishing one task, you start another, or you let your supervisor know that you are ready.

FRANKNESS

- In Finland, people tend to speak directly and keep it short.
- If you have too little time to perform a task, you can make it known.
- In Finland, you can be asked for things directly. You can be told to “Take this!”

- In Finland, we don’t use phrases such as “you’re welcome”, “thank you” or “sorry” as often as elsewhere. Don’t be offended if others don’t use them. You can use them yourself, as it is always polite.
- You can also state your opinion directly.

EQUALITY

- Equality is important in Finland. The same pay is received for the same work or work of equal value.
- Employment of women and men is equally common in Finland.
- Finnish law forbids all discrimination in the workplace.
- All employees must be treated equally.
- In Finland, the status and power of individuals is not necessarily evident from their appearance.
- Generally, employees and supervisors are on first-name terms with each other.

- Everyone is entitled to their opinion.
- Employees can often plan the order and method of their work.
- People can dress casually at the workplace. In services and industry, employees usually wear working clothes provided by the employer.

TEAM WORK

- In Finland, work is often done in groups or teams. The group can plan their work independently: What is done each week, how the work is distributed and which tools are used.

MODESTY

- Finnish people value modesty.
- They are unlikely to boast about themselves or their family.
- Let them know what you can do and prove it at work.

COMPANIES IN FINLAND

International studies have evaluated Finland as a safe, easy and corruption-free operating environment:

“As a telling measure of its macroeconomic stability, Finland enjoys the highest possible status with the global credit rating agencies Fitch Ratings, Moody’s and Standard & Poor’s. According to the latest report from Fitch, Finland’s AAA status “is underpinned by sound public finances, a solid external position, high income per capita, demonstrable political and social stability and an impeccable debt service record.”

Invest in Finland 2013

Finland wishes to increase entrepreneurial activity. The aim is to make it as simple as possible to start a business in Finland and operate here. There are several advisory organizations for companies, and authorities are flexible in the different phases of business establishment and development.

STARTING A BUSINESS AND REGISTRATION

A company based in Finland must be entered into the trade register, regardless of its form or size. The information will be passed on to the tax officials. This registration will show whether the company will employ people or be liable to pay value added tax (VAT). The company must pay VAT if it sells goods or services in Finland and has an annual turnover of over EUR 8,500.

Starting a business and business processes

Contact your local business service centre.

Contact information by economic region
on pages 56–57.

BUSINESS ID

Upon registration, the company receives a Business ID, which it must use in all of its operations, including the payment of wages, tax and other payments and on invoices.

In addition, since July 1, 2014, companies must report all construction services they purchase to the tax administration.

Foreign companies in Finland and employer obligations

[www.vero.fi/en-US/Companies_and_organisations/
Foreign_business_in_Finland](http://www.vero.fi/en-US/Companies_and_organisations/Foreign_business_in_Finland)

BUSINESS REGULATION

Businesses are regulated in Finland, depending on the type of operation, whether the company employs people, whether the operation is subject to licence and how the operation affects the environment. Before starting a business, it is important to check whether the operation requires a specific permit or notification.

Additional information on trades subject to licence

[www.uusyrytyskeskus.fi/sites/uusyrytyskeskus.fi/files/
Perustamisopas_englanti_2013_web.pdf](http://www.uusyrytyskeskus.fi/sites/uusyrytyskeskus.fi/files/Perustamisopas_englanti_2013_web.pdf)

OBLIGATIONS REGARDING COMPANY EMPLOYEES

An employer must retain tax from pay according to the employee’s tax card. Social security contributions (2.4 percent in 2013) and withheld tax must be reported and paid to the tax administration monthly.

All employees on Finnish construction sites must wear an ID badge which shows their tax number. The employer must make sure that all employee tax numbers are entered into the tax number register. Employees coming to work in Finland for a short period of time must also have a personal identity code and a tax number. The personal identity code and the tax number can be obtained from the local tax office.

Tax administration contact information

[www.vero.fi/en-US/Tax_Administration/
Contact_information](http://www.vero.fi/en-US/Tax_Administration/Contact_information)

From July 1, 2014, all construction sites are subject to a special monthly report of employees and construction projects. All companies working at the site must, from July 1, 2014 onwards, inform the main constructor of all the employees they are using, so that the main contractor can make an employer report for the site to the tax administration.

INSURANCES

The company must also obtain mandatory accident and pension insurance for its employees. Both Finnish and international insurance companies operate in Finland. Employers can also get optional additional insurance for their employees.

Finnish Centre for Pensions

www.etk.fi/en

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH CARE AND SAFETY

Employers have an obligation to organize occupational health care and safety for their employees. Occupational safety aims to promote and support the working capacity of employees and prevent work-related risks and damages. The employer can buy the services from local public health care or private service companies. Occupational health care can consist of a health check-up and basic services promoting working capacity, or it can include a comprehensive and versatile package to the employee, also including medical treatments.

Finnish Institute of Occupational Health

www.ttl.fi/en

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

www.tyosuojelu.fi/fi/workingfinland

COMPANY TAXATION, BOOKKEEPING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

All companies have an accounting obligation and they must give a report to the tax administration each accounting period. Limited companies must also report their financial statements to the Finnish Trade Register. An annual report of employers and their salaries is given to the tax administration and the insurance company that handles their pension insurance.

Trade Register information is public and includes the annual financial statements. The Finnish Patent and Registration Office provides Trade Register information on companies.

Excluding personal identity codes, all other tax administration services are available online. For example, you can look for instructions, get tax cards and make amendments and tax reports online. Local tax administration offices also provide personal service and advice.

The tax administration's national telephone advice service

+358 20 697 050

Finnish social security and taxation

www.intofinland.fi/en

In Finland, companies typically buy bookkeeping, salary payment and taxation services from external accountancy companies that are usually audited and members of national associations. Accounting and legal services are available from a wide range of companies, some are international corporations and some small local service companies.

Financial administration

www.taloushallintoliitto.fi

Legal services

www.asianajaliitto.fi/en

Auditing

www.khtyhdistys.fi, www.htm.fi/english_summary

Your local Employment and Economic Development Office will know local employees and will help companies find the correct person for the job.

Recruitment services

www.te-palvelut.fi/te/en

www.te-palvelut.fi/pohjois-pohjanmaa

Northern Ostrobothnia Employment and Economic Development Office's business service

+358 295 056 502 (weekdays 8 am–4.15 pm)

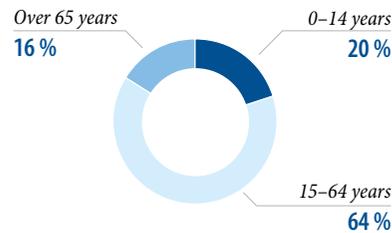
Companies coming to the area can also obtain support services from other companies in the area or hire labour from personnel service companies.

OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENT

The economic effects of the Fennovoima nuclear power plant project will be evident all over Finland. The focus of this guide is to describe the operational environment supporting the power plant project operations. The area is a 200 km-long coastal region from Oulu to Kokkola. The site of the nuclear power plant, Hanhikivi and the municipality of Pyhäjoki, are located in the middle of this region.

The region has over 440,000 inhabitants, 64 percent are of working age (15–64 years old). Around 10,000 people have an immigrant background. The largest individual immigrant groups are Russian, Estonian and Swedish.

The location of the site is easy to reach. There are five international ports and two international airports. The Finnish main railway network crosses the area from north to south.



Age structure of the area's population in 2012

Statistics Finland 2013

Closer information by economic region on pages 28–54.



ACCESSIBILITY OF THE AREA

ROAD NETWORK

The road network is comprehensive and in good condition. Highway 8 acts as the main north-south route for special transport. Its traffic density is approximately 10,000 vehicles a day, maximum.

Important cross connections include Highway 27 between Kalajoki and Iisalmi, Highway 28 between Kokkola and Kajaani, and Main Road 88 between

Raahe and Pulkkila. Highway E75 travels south to north through Finland from Helsinki to Oulu, further to Utsjoki, and then all the way to the Norwegian side of the border.

Finnish road network

*portal.liikennevirasto.fi/sivu/www/e/
transport_network/roads/road_numbers*

Distances to Hanhikivi

| Location | Distance | Travel time |
|-----------|----------|-------------|
| Pyhäjoki | 13 km | 10 min |
| Raahe | 23 km | 20 min |
| Kalajoki | 42 km | 30 min |
| Oulainen | 52 km | 45 min |
| Ylivieska | 81 km | 65 min |
| Oulu | 96 km | 75 min |
| Kokkola | 108 km | 85 min |

Suomen Tiestötieto Oy



There are several alternative routes from Ylivieska to Hanhikivi. The table shows a route using highways 27 and 8 that special transport can use.

RAIL TRAFFIC

The main north-south railway travels the route Oulu–Ruukki–Vihanti–Oulainen–Ylivieska–Kokkola, and it also serves the ports along the coast and eastbound connections all the way to Russia. Eastbound trains include connections from Oulu and Ylivieska to the Vartius border crossing station and to south-east Finland via Riihimäki to the Vaalimaa border crossing station. There is an electrified railway for goods traffic to Raahe, which separates from the main railway at Tuomioja. Finland and Russia have the same rail gauge, so rail transport can be arranged all the way to the eastern coast of Russia.

The Ostrobothnian railway is undergoing a general overhaul, which will increase the axle load of goods traffic to 25 tons. In passenger traffic, travel speeds

will increase to 200 km/hour, which reduces travel times from Oulu to Helsinki to below five hours, from Ylivieska to Helsinki to about four hours, and from Kokkola to Helsinki to under four hours. The overhaul will be finished in 2017. There is an excellent rail connection from Saint Petersburg to Helsinki and further north to Oulu. A high-quality combined transport terminal for goods traffic is located in Oulu. The distance from Hanhikivi to the nearest passenger railway station in Oulainen is 52 kilometres.

PORTS

There are five busy ports that operate year-round.

Finnish Transport Agency
www.portnet.fi
Finnish Port Association
www.finnports.com/eng

AIRPORTS

The region has two international airports. **Oulu Airport** is the second busiest airport in Finland. It has on average 10-20 departing flights per day, mostly to Helsinki. In addition, Oulu has daily flights to Stockholm. During the weekend, there are 5-10 daily departures.

Kokkola Airport has four daily connections to Helsinki and one to Stockholm. There are also weekly flights to Luleå, Sweden. Both airports also provide direct international charter flights. Helsinki Airport is the largest in Finland, with excellent connections all over the world.

Oulu Airport
www.finnavia.fi/en/oulu
Kokkola-Pietarsaari Airport
www.finnavia.fi/en/kokkola-pietarsaari
Helsinki Airport
www.finnavia.fi/en/helsinki-airport

Further information on ports by economic region on pages 28–55.



Local ports. Goods traffic total includes foreign and Finnish exports and imports.

| | Port land area (hectares) | Route draught (m) | Piers total (m) | Storage area: (m ²) | Number of visiting ships (2012) | Goods traffic total (tons) | Distance to Hanhikivi by sea (km) |
|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Port of Raahel | 70 | 10 | 1,350 | 24,800 | 603 | 5,425,491 | 15 |
| Port of Oulu | 187 | 10 | 1,302 | 80,972 | 561 | 3,577,225 | 138 |
| Port of Kalajoki | 54 | 8.5 | 415 | 39,894 | 126 | 456,781 | 37 |
| Port of Kokkola | 265 | 13 | 2,269 | 80,129 | 644 | 7,406,829 | 126 |
| Port of Pietarsaari | 52 | 9 | 977 | 39,000 | 311 | 1,413,700 | 143 |

Finnish Port Association 2011 and the ports

ROAD TRANSPORT AND OTHER LOGISTICS SERVICES

The share of land transport of all freight in Finland is about 90 percent. There are around 11,000 transport lorries in Finland. The total amount of transport in 2012 was 293.6 million tons. Regular daily freight transport operates between Oulu and Kokkola and there are additional transports to Rovaniemi, Turku and Helsinki, for example. Local business service centres provide additional information on logistics companies in the area.

Border crossing stations

[www.raja.fi/guidelines/border_crossing/
border_crossing_points](http://www.raja.fi/guidelines/border_crossing/border_crossing_points)

ELECTRICITY AND DATA COMMUNICATIONS

In Finland, electricity users can freely choose their electricity vendor. Regional electricity vendors are listed in a comparison service provided by the Energy Authority (EV) www.sahkonhinta.fi.

A transmission agreement is made with the regional network company. The electricity vendor can make the transmission agreement for the client. You can find out who your local network company is from your regional business service centre, electricity vendor or the Energy Authority.

In Finland, everyone is entitled to a good telephone and Internet connection at home or at a company office. All Finnish commercial telecommunication companies provide excellent services in the Oulu-Kokkola region. The mobile network has GPRS, 3G and 4G data transfer

connections. Data transfer in the 4G network can reach speeds of 150 Mbit/s. Broadband is available up to 350 Mbit/s. Up-to-date information on network coverage areas and mobile broadband maximum data transfer speeds are available on the operators' web pages.

Electricity in Finland

www.energiavirasto.fi/en/web/energy-authority

Telephone and Internet services in Finland

www.viestintavirasto.fi/en



ECONOMIC LIFE

Finland is centrally located in the Barents Region. The Barents Region covers the coast of the Barents Sea and the Cap of the North. Finland has good connections to north-west Russia and northern Sweden, the Arctic Ocean and northern Norway. The unique natural resources of the North, such as oil, natural gas, the nature, minerals, and fresh water, are attracting increasing levels of interest from international business and investment.



Closer information by economic region on pages 28–55.

The economic life in the area covered by this guide is versatile and the fields and sizes of companies vary a great deal. The Oulu–Kokkola region has about 26,000 enterprises that employ a total of around 110,000 people.

The region has significant large-scale industry, which has developed the operators in the area into international and multifaceted experts. Raahe has a special steel factory, engineering works that manufacture international-level steel structures and equipment, and several subcontractors. A gold

mine also operates in the area. Kalajoki is a growing versatile tourist centre.

Significant employers and large industries in the Oulu region include the paper and pulp industry, the chemicals industry, the electronics industry, and the latest growth area of software development. Oulu is also a vital location for shopping and leisure.

The Ylivieska region has engineering workshops and steel structure manufacturers. Ylivieska is also a centre for specialized trade in the area, such as the car trade.

Number of enterprises, turnover and personnel in the area in 2011

| Economic region | Enterprises total | Number of Turnover (EUR 1,000) | Personnel |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Raahe–Kalajoki | 3,155 | 1,989,714 | 13,107 |
| Oulu | 11,747 | 12,731,034 | 57,955 |
| Ylivieska | 2,065 | 1,270,721 | 7,637 |
| Kokkola–Pietarsaari | 8,826 | 6,897,268 | 31,167 |
| Total | 25,793 | 22,888,737 | 109,866 |

Statistics Finland 2013, company register TOL 2008

Distribution of companies in the area by sector in 2011

| Economic region | Agriculture, Forestry and fishing industry | Industry and mining | Construction | Public and private service sector | Companies total |
|---------------------|--|---------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Raahe–Kalajoki | 1,095 | 286 | 315 | 1,459 | 3,155 |
| Oulu | 1,073 | 806 | 1,392 | 8,476 | 11,747 |
| Ylivieska | 652 | 164 | 211 | 1,034 | 2,061 |
| Kokkola–Pietarsaari | 2,775 | 857 | 882 | 4,312 | 8,826 |
| Total | 5,595 | 2,113 | 2,800 | 15,281 | 25,789 |

Statistics Finland 2013, company register TOL 2008

Oulainen is the centre for health care services in the Ylivieska economic region. The Kokkola region has large-scale industry in applied chemistry. For example, the largest centre of inorganic chemistry companies in the Nordic countries is located here. Transport and logistics services have developed along with the needs of large companies. The number of transport companies, lorry drivers and courier services in the area is over 1,500. The area has attracted a strong set of subcontractors and high-quality maintenance and building companies. There are nearly 2,800 construction companies in the area.

Company contact information

Raahe, Pyhäjoki, Siikajoki

<http://rsyp.owla.fi>

Kalajoki, Merijärvi

<http://yrityshaku.kalajoki.fi/haku>

Oulu region

www.businessoulu.com/en/company-database

Kokkola region

www.kosek.fi/Yrityskisteri

Ylivieska

www.ytek.info/Yrityskisteri.aspx

Oulainen

www.oulainen.fi/yrityskisteri

Alavieska

www.ytek.info/Alavieska.aspx

Sievi

<https://colosseum.grynos.com/Yrityshakemisto>

Other company directories

www.lisaakauppa.fi/en, www.partnerbook.fi

PUBLIC SERVICES

TAXATION

The registration of tax numbers and personal identity codes for foreign employees coming to the area are conducted in the tax offices in Raahe, Oulu, Ylivieska or Kokkola.

Tax office contact information

www.vero.fi/en-US/Tax_Administration/

[Contact_information](#)

EMERGENCY RESPONSE CENTRE

The national emergency number is 112. The Emergency Response Centre Administration's duty is to answer emergency calls from different parts of the country for rescue, police, social work and health care services and other calls related to the safety of people, the environment, and property, and forward them to the relevant authorities and partners.

Emergency Response Centre Administration

www.112.fi/other_languages

HEALTH CARE

Each municipality has a health centre that provides basic health care. 24-hour emergency services are available in Oulu, Oulainen, Raahe and Kokkola. Other health centres are only open during the day. Emergency care is organized into hospital districts.

The Joint Municipal Authority of Wellbeing in

Raahe District is responsible for health care services in Raahe, Pyhäjoki and Siikajoki. Raahe Hospital and Pyhäjoki and Siikajoki Health Centres provide basic health care services and doctors' appointments. The Joint Municipal Authority also has its own specialist health care services at Raahe Hospital. Raahe has a 24-hour health centre service and hospital services. Local health centres provide basic health care services in Kalajoki and Merijärvi.

The City of Oulu is responsible for the basic health care of its residents. The economic region of Oulu has a total of 20 health centres. The Northern Ostrobothnia Hospital District (PPSHP) includes three hospitals: Oulu University Hospital in Oulu, Oulaskangas Hospital in Oulainen, and Visala Hospital in Ylivieska. Oulu City Hospital (OKS) is a health centre hospital which provides residents with short-term, acute hospital care and rehabilitation.

The joint emergency duty service of the Oulu region operates in connection with Oulu University Hospital. This service unit is in charge of basic health care for the member municipalities in the evenings and on weekends, as well as for special health care in general.

In the Ylivieska region, basic health care is provided by Kallio Joint Municipal Authority, and in Oulainen, the town of Oulainen. Special health care is obtained from the Northern Ostrobothnia Hospital District, mainly from Oulaskangas hospital in Oulainen.

Special health care in the Kokkola region is offered by the central hospital in Kokkola run by the Joint Municipal Authority for special health care and basic services for Central Ostrobothnia. Each municipality has a health centre that provides basic medical treatment.

Users of health services can request an interpreter to help.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH CARE

Employers have an obligation to organize occupational health care for their employees. The employer can buy services from local public health care providers or private service companies. Occupational health care can consist of a health check-up and basic services promoting working capacity, or it can include a comprehensive and versatile package for the employee, including medical treatments.

Finnish Institute of Occupational Health
www.ttl.fi/en

Health care providers

Raahe region

www.ras.fi/frontpage

Kalajoki, Merijärvi

www.kalajoki.fi/terveyskeskus

City of Oulu

www.ouka.fi/oulu/english/health-services

Ylivieska region

www.kalliopp.fi

Kokkola region

www.kpshp.fi

Special health care

Oulu University Hospital

www.ppshp.fi/Oulu_university_hospital

Oulaskangas Hospital

www.ppshp.fi/oulaskankaan_sairaala

Central Ostrobothnia Hospital District

www.kpshp.fi

POLICE

Police stations located in Raahe, Kalajoki, Ylivieska, and Oulu operate under the Oulu Police Department. The area's main police station is located in Oulu. Kokkola police station operates under the Ostrobothnia Police Department and its main police station is located in Vaasa. The police will assist you with residence permits, etc.

Raahe–Kalajoki economic region

www.poliisi.fi/oulu

Oulu economic region

www.poliisi.fi/oulu

Ylivieska economic region

www.poliisi.fi/oulu

Kokkola–Pietarsaari economic region

www.poliisi.fi/pohjanmaa



FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

The Jokilaaksot emergency service is responsible for emergency services in 17 municipalities including those of Siikajoki, Raahe, Pyhäjoki and Kalajoki. The closest fire stations to Hanhikivi are located in Raahe and Pyhäjoki. The emergency services are responsible for emergency care, for example in Raahe and Pyhäjoki.

The Jokilaaksot emergency service is responsible for the official supervision of the nuclear power plant. In the Oulu region, the Oulu-Koillismaa rescue service is in charge. The Kokkola region is covered by Central Ostrobothnia and Pietarsaari emergency services.

Raahe–Kalajoki and the Ylivieska economic regions

www.jokipelastus.fi

Oulu economic region

www.ouka.fi/pelastuslaitos

Kokkola–Pietarsaari economic region

www.kokkola.fi/aluepelastuslaitos/

CUSTOMS

Finnish Customs is part of the European Union customs system. Customs service points are located in Oulu and Kokkola. Customs services are available online. Telephone advice is also available on +358 20 690 600.

Customs web pages for companies

www.tulli.fi/en/businesses

OTHER AUTHORITIES

Local offices of Kela and TE Centres are located in Raahe, Oulu, Ylivieska, and Kokkola. Also located in Oulu are the Northern Finland Regional State Administrative Agency (AVI), Northern Ostrobothnia Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment (ELY) and the Council of Oulu Region. The Ostrobothnia Employment and Economic Development Office and the Council of Central Ostrobothnia are located in Kokkola.

Kela

www.kela.fi/en

AVI Northern Finland

www.avi.fi/en/web/avi-en

North Ostrobothnia Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment (ELY Centre)

www.ely-keskus.fi/en/web/ely-en

Council of Oulu Region

www.pohjois-pohjanmaa.fi

Oulu Region TE Office

www.te-services.fi/te/en

Ostrobothnia TE Office

www.te-services.fi/te/en

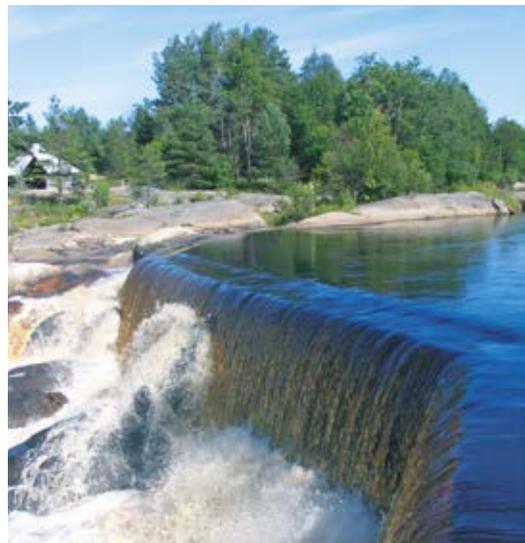
Council of Central Ostrobothnia

www.keski-pohjanmaa.fi

MUNICIPAL AND INDUSTRIAL WASTE AND WATER SUPPLY

Municipal waste is waste created in everyday life. Municipalities form municipal waste management agreements with a waste disposal company of their choice. Companies can select a waste disposal company for the industrial waste created in their operation. Municipalities also supervise the waste management of companies. Further information is available on the municipal web pages.

In Finland, municipalities are in charge of water supply and sewerage management. Local water companies take care of sewage treatment in each municipality. Each has its own water treatment plant. Municipal water and sewage service contact information is available on the municipal web pages.



HOUSING, EDUCATION AND LEISURE

Sixty-five percent of all Finnish households live in apartments or houses that they own. In addition, Finns own nearly 500,000 summer cottages in different parts of the country, often by lakes or by the sea. The majority of the population lives in towns and cities and the countryside is sparsely populated compared to other European countries.

RENTAL APARTMENTS

Both the public and the private sector provide rental apartments. The private sector also offers furnished flats. Municipal apartments are rented as a municipal service. Private apartments can be viewed on national real estate and rental web portals. Further information is available from municipalities and regional business services. In Finland, most local real estate agents advertise on nationwide service portals.

Apartments online

www.etuovi.com

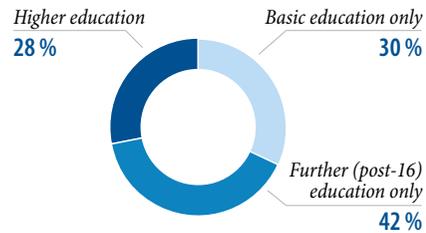
www.vuokraovi.com

www.oikotie.fi

www.jokakoti.fi

EDUCATION

The population’s standard of education is high: Of people aged 15 or over, about 42 percent have completed further (post-16) education and about 28 percent have a higher education qualification. It is common to know at least one foreign language, the most common being English.



Standard of education of the area’s population in 2011

Statistic Finland 2013, StatFin



EVERYMAN’S RIGHTS

Roaming in nature is a traditional and popular form of recreation in Finland all year round. According to everyman’s rights, you can pick berries and mushrooms and walk, cycle or ski in forests. You are not allowed to enter private yards or gardens.

Fishing requires a permit, apart from angling and ice fishing. Hunting also requires a permit. Everyman’s rights do not permit you to litter, harm trees or vegetation, drive a motor vehicle without the landowner’s permission, or build temporary structures.

Everyman’s rights and duties

[www.ym.fi/en-US/Latest_news/Publications/Brochures/Everymans_right\(4484\)](http://www.ym.fi/en-US/Latest_news/Publications/Brochures/Everymans_right(4484))

Further information on fishing permits

www.kalastusluvut.net





Jackson

RAAHE-KALAJOKI ECONOMIC REGION

Hanhikivi is located in the Pyhäjoki Municipality in the Raahe-Kalajoki economic region. It is a coastal region of 80 kilometres in length, with the Pyhäjoki municipality in the middle. The economic region is a natural area for work, commerce and leisure.

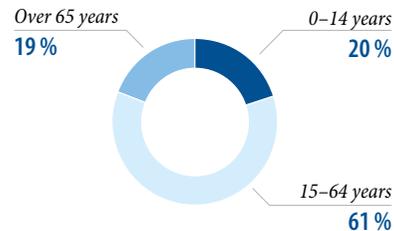
The Raahe-Kalajoki economic region has around 48,000 inhabitants. The share of the working-age people is 61 percent. The share of people aged 15 or under is nearly 20 percent. Around 800 people have an immigrant background. The largest groups are Estonian and Russian.

POPULATION OF MUNICIPALITIES IN THE RAAHE-KALAJOKI ECONOMIC REGION

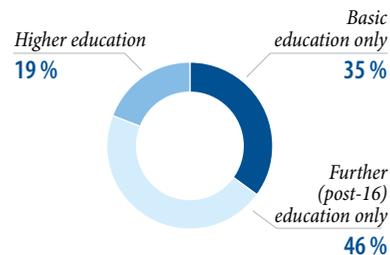
| Municipality | Population* | Web pages |
|--------------|---------------|------------------------|
| Pyhäjoki | 3,311 | www.pyhajoki.fi |
| Raahe | 25,659 | www.raahe.fi/frontpage |
| Siikajoki | 5,597 | www.siikajoki.fi |
| Kalajoki | 12,625 | www.kalajoki.fi |
| Merijärvi | 1,176 | www.merijarvi.fi |
| Total | 48,368 | |

* 1.1.2013

Statistics Finland and municipal web pages



Population age structure of the Raahe-Kalajoki economic region in 2012
Statistics Finland 2013



Standard of education of the adult population of the Raahe-Kalajoki economic region in 2011
Statistics Finland 2013

Municipalities in the Raahe-Kalajoki economic region



ACCESSIBILITY

ROAD NETWORK

The road network is in good condition. Highway 8, from Liminka to Turku, crosses the area along the coast. All population centres in the region have good connections inland, for example, to Highway E75, which travels south-north through Finland from Helsinki to Oulu and further to Rovaniemi.

PORTS

The Raahe-Kalajoki economic region has two ports. The ports of Raahe and Kalajoki operate year-round.

The Port of Raahe is located near the Raahe steel factory and is the closest port to Hanhikivi. The distance to Hanhikivi by road is 25 kilometres. Based on total amount of goods traffic, the port is one the busiest in Finland. Transport includes raw materials and bulk cargo, steel, timber, containers and heavy project transports for the oil drilling and wind power industries.

Raahe has excellent sea transport connections to Central Europe, the UK and the Mediterranean. The port has a weekly container feeder connection to Hamburg and Bremerhaven. Land transport connections are also excellent, as the port is located near Highway 8 and rail connections. Due to the high number of visiting ships, the winter navigation assistance is smooth. The port offers containerization and storage services to companies.

Port of Raahe

www.portofraahe.fi/frontpage

The Port of Kalajoki has excellent road connections to Highway 8 and further to the whole of northern Finland. The port is located near the intersection of highways 8 and 27. The port handles heavy project loads (for example, wind farms) and various types of mixed and bulk cargo.

The distance from Kalajoki to Pyhäjoki is 40 kilometres by sea and 50 kilometres by road. The nearby Ylivieska railway station has a regular lorry connection of goods to the Port of Kalajoki. The port includes an oil spill prevention and response centre of the Finnish Environment Institute and the Kalajoki-Raahe coastguard station.

The Port of Kalajoki serves customers in Russian, English, Swedish, and Finnish.

Port of Kalajoki

www.portofkalajoki.fi/en

CUSTOMS

The customs for the Port of Raahe are administered by Oulu Customs. Customs for the Port of Kalajoki are administered through Kokkola.

Customs clearances also online

www.tulli.fi/en

RAIL TRAFFIC

There is an electrified railway for goods traffic to Raahe. At Tuomioja, the track meets the main railway which covers the whole country south-north from Helsinki to Rovaniemi. The most direct rail connection to Russia goes through the Vartius border crossing station. The distance from Hanhikivi to the closest train station in Oulainen is 52 km. The passenger station of Vihanti is located 37 kilometres from Raahe. There are several daily connections available from Raahe town centre.

Passenger travel timetables

www.vr.fi/en/index/aikataulut.html

Rail traffic between Finland and Russia

www.vr.fi/en/index/junaliput/russiantickets.html

For goods traffic, VR produces bulk cargo transport and storage services for Finnish and international industry and trade.

Goods traffic

www.vrtransport.com



AIRPORT

The airports closest to Hanhikivi are located in Oulu and Kokkola. The drive from Pyhäjoki to Oulu Airport takes about 75 minutes, and to Kokkola-Pietarsaari Airport about 100 minutes.

Oulu Airport

www.finnavia.fi/en/oulu

Kokkola-Pietarsaari Airport

www.finnavia.fi/en/kokkola-pietarsaari

ROAD TRANSPORT AND OTHER LOGISTICS SERVICES

Buses travel along Highway 8 from Oulu to Turku. If needed, the bus stations of larger towns have connections to cross traffic to the eastern and southern parts of Finland. In addition to passenger traffic, buses can transport smaller cargo quickly.

Bus timetables and connections are shown on the Matkahuolto web pages.

The number of transport and logistics companies in the Raahe-Kalajoki economic area is about 220. Local business service centres provide information on logistics companies in the area.

Matkahuolto, passenger travel timetables

www.matkahuolto.fi/en

Matkahuolto, goods traffic

www.matkahuolto.fi/en/parcel_services_for_businesses

Raahe District Business Services

www.rsyp.fi/frontpage

Business service centre of the town of Kalajoki

www.kalajoki.fi/yrityspalvelut

Company contact information

www.lisaakauppaa.fi/en, www.partnerbook.fi

ECONOMIC STRUCTURE

The economic structure of the Raahe-Kalajoki region is characterized by large-scale industry on one hand and agriculture on the other. There is a total of approximately 3,000 companies of varying size in the region. In 2011, these companies employed 9,200 people. There are around 300 industrial companies and 5,800 industrial jobs.

Large-scale industry includes Rautaruukki's steel factory, which is one of the leading special steel and steel structure manufacturers in Europe. The factory was established in Raahe over 50 years ago. Rautaruukki imports some of its raw materials by rail from Russia.

The economic region has many engineering workshops and subcontractors and related services, and companies in the design and automation sector. There are around 50 architecture, engineering and design offices in the region. Around 300 companies are involved in construction. The majority of these are small companies employing 1-20 people. Northern Finland has over 260 mining and excavation companies. (Statistics Finland 2011).

Company contact information

Raahe, Pyhäjoki, Siikajoki

<http://rsyp.owla.fi>

Kalajoki, Merijärvi

<http://yrityshaku.kalajoki.fi/haku>

Company directories

www.lisaakauppaa.fi/en, www.partnerbook.fi



Enterprises in the Raahe–Kalajoki economic region by sector in 2011

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry | 1,095 |
| Industry and mining | 262 |
| Infrastructure services | 24 |
| Construction | 315 |
| Public and private service sector | 1,459 |
| Enterprises total | 3,155 |

Statistic Finland 2013, business register

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Raahe District Business Services and the business service centre of the town of Kalajoki provide support services for businesses in the Raahe-Kalajoki economic region.

Their experts help companies connect with authorities, such as the TE centres (for hiring employees and developing the company, for example), tax administration and licensing authorities. They can also help new companies relocating to the region to create contacts with private companies, for example, in order to rent premises and obtain banking, insurance, legal, and accounting services as well as transport contacts and other services.

The Raahe–Kalajoki economic region has versatile industrial and business premises for companies to rent or buy. New premises can also be built on industrial plots. The Ollinmäki industrial area in Pyhäjoki, about seven kilometres from Hanhikivi, has 72 hectares of industrial plots available to rent or buy. In addition, Raahe, Kalajoki, Siikajoki and Merijärvi have plenty of industrial properties available.



Premises

Raahe, Pyhäjoki, Siikajoki

www.rsyp.fi/toimitilaporssi

Pyhäjoki

www.pyhajoki.fi/elinkeinot_ja_yrittaminen

Kalajoki

www.kalajoki.fi/toimitilat

Merijärvi

www.merijarvi.fi/fi/yrittaminen_ja_elinkeinot

HOUSING

In the Raahe–Kalajoki economic region, most people live in detached houses or apartments that they own. There is a total of nearly 3,100 municipal rental apartments available, of which 1,230 are located in terraced houses and about 1,870 in apartment buildings. Furnished rental apartments owned by private persons are also available and can be found on public housing agency portals.

Pyhäjoki

www.pyhajoki.fi/asuminen

Raahe

www.raahe.fi/asumispalvelut/vuokra-asunnot

Siikajoki

www.siikajoki.fi/vuokra-asunnot

Kalajoki

www.kalajoki.fi/asukas

Merijärvi

www.merijarvi.fi/fi/asuminen_ja_rakentaminen

Hotel capacity and high-quality holiday homes and cottages are available around the region. The Kalajoki Tourist Resort has around 11,500 beds available in hotels and holiday homes. Some of the holiday homes are lived in year-round. Raahe has about 600 beds on offer. The region's business and tourist services provide information on accommodation.

Pyhäjoki

www.pyhajoki.fi/matkailu/majoituspaikat

Raahe

www.raahe.fi/accommodation

Kalajoen matkailupalvelut

www.visitkalajoki.fi/en

EDUCATION

The economic region has 28 day care centres. There are 38 comprehensive schools, 12 upper secondary schools and vocational schools, and two institutions that provide higher education. The upper secondary school in Pyhäjoki promotes entrepreneurial skills. Kalajoki offers education in English.

Raahe Joint Municipality Authority for Education provides basic and additional education at the upper secondary level and other employment, service and development activities. Raahe Vocational Institute has eight study programmes, Lybecker Institute of Crafts and Design has four, and Ruukki Agricultural Institute has two. Raahen Porvari- ja Kauppakoulu business school provides basic degrees. The School of Engineering at Oulu University of Applied Sciences has a campus in Raahe. The Vocational Adult Education Centre in Raahe offers a wide range of vocational education and training and expert services. Their customers include private individuals, companies and public sector agencies.

Kalajoki Vocational College has six departments: tourism, clothing industry, wood technology, metals, construction, and adult education and employment services. Kalajoki Christian College offers vocational, preparatory and general education and dozens of shorter courses.

Self-motivated training and education services in the area are provided by The Summer University of Northern Ostrobothnia, Raahe College, Kalajoki Community College and Jokihelmi College in Merijärvi.

Raahe Vocational Institute

www.raahenao.fi/in-english

Lybecker Institute of Crafts and Design

www.lybecker.net/?id=english

Ruukki Agricultural Institute

www.rmo.fi

Raahen Porvari- ja Kauppakoulu

www.rpkk.fi

Vocational Adult Education Centre of Raahe

www.raahenaiku.fi/english/

Raahe College

www.raahe.fi/raaheopisto

Kalajoki Vocational College

www.jedu.fi/web/kalajoki/kalajoen-ammattiopisto

Kalajoki Community College

www.kalajoki.fi/kansalaisopisto

Kalajoki Christian College

www.kkro.fi

Jokihelmi College

www.jokihelmenopisto.fi

Oulu University of Applied Sciences

www.oamk.fi/english



LEISURE

The Raahe–Kalajoki economic region is a lively location for sports and cultural activities. Popular sports include the national sport of pesäpallo (Finnish baseball), and ice hockey and cross-country skiing in the winter. The sea, the archipelago and rivers provide excellent opportunities for trekking, boating, fishing and skiing. The region has two golf courses, multi-sports and tennis courts, riding centres and beaches.

Pyhäjoki, too, has plenty to offer. The Kielosaari area includes a sports hall, an ice rink and sports and tennis courts. The naturally beautiful Kielosaari Island near Pyhäjoki town centre provides excellent

nature trails and campfire spots. There is also a beach volleyball court available. Rautiperä sports area includes jogging tracks, skiing tracks and a biathlon route. The village has a frisbee golf course, a rifle range, and Ollinmäki has an indoor range for air guns. Pyhäjoki rapids are excellent for fishing. Tervo harbour operates as a guest harbour for visiting boats.

Local cultural services include events at Pauhasali, Annala Museum and summer theatres and art exhibitions. In addition to books and magazines, Pyhäjoki Library provides access to the Internet on the library's computers.

Raahe is an old seaside town with dozens of islands that have well-equipped nature trails and campfire spots.

Varied culture and sports facilities allow for different activities. Different sports clubs and municipal colleges offer language and handicraft courses in addition to sports and culture. Raahesali is a venue for versatile cultural events. People can also join choirs, amateur theatres or dance and music groups. Summer events in Raahe include the local celebration Pekanpäivät and the Rantajatsit – Jazz on the Beach event.

Siikajoki also offers versatile sporting facilities, library services, and cultural events. An 18-hole golf course is also available. Ruukki has an esteemed riding centre, which includes a riding school and spacious manège. The community college offers courses in music, arts, and handicrafts.



The Ristivuori area is located in the northern parts of the Merijärvi municipality, near the border with Pyhäjoki. Ristivuori has a ski slope and a lift, a sled hill for children, skiing tracks, a café and equipment hire and campfire spots. The area also has a rifle range and a wood cabin for rent. Nearby, Pyhäkoski rapids are an excellent location for fly fishing.

TOURIST RESORT

Kalajoen Hiekkasärkät is one of Finland's most popular tourist resorts and the only one in the economic region located by the sea. Kalajoki is famous for its sandy beaches and beautiful views of the sea. The tourist resort is a versatile leisure location including a 15-kilometre beach, a spa, a golf course, a water park, a Nordic walking park, skiing tracks, snowmobile routes, a windsurfing centre, the Rahja archipelago, and year-round events. The Kalajoki Tourist Resort has several hotels and restaurants, holiday homes and apartments, a camping site and sports, wellbeing and programme services.

Pyhäjoki

www.pyhajoki.fi/leisure

Raahe

www.raahe.fi/travel_and_leisure

Siikajoki

www.siikajoki.fi/liikuntapaikat

Kalajoki

www.visitkalajoki.fi/en

www.kalajoki.fi/tapahtumat

Merijärvi

www.merijarvi.fi/fi/liikunta_ja_ulkoilu

*Kalajoki
international
tourist resort
www.visitkalajoki.fi/en*





OULU ECONOMIC REGION

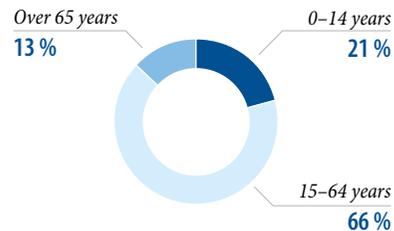
The Oulu economic region consists of Oulu and its neighbouring municipalities. The economic region has around 250,000 inhabitants. Oulu is an innovative city of industry, services, and education, with excellent connections to the rest of Finland and the Barents Region. Oulu is becoming the capital of Northern Scandinavia. The close cooperation between research and education institutes and companies is typical in the region.

POPULATION OF MUNICIPALITIES IN THE OULU ECONOMIC REGION

| Municipality | Population* | Web pages |
|--------------|----------------|--|
| Oulu | 190,847 | www.ouka.fi/oulu/english |
| Hailuoto | 986 | www.hailuoto.fi |
| Kempele | 16,383 | www.kempele.fi/en |
| Tyrnävä | 6,613 | www.tyrnava.fi/en/ |
| Muhos | 8,948 | www.muhos.fi |
| Lumijoki | 2,059 | www.lumijoki.fi |
| Liminka | 9,432 | www.liminka.fi |
| Ii | 9,574 | www.ii.fi/front_page |
| Total | 244,842 | |

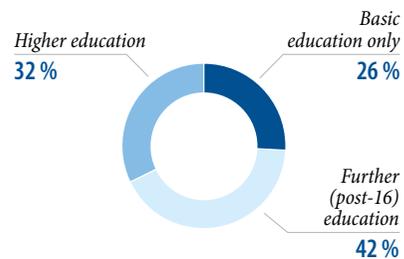
* 1.1.2013

Statistics Finland and municipal web pages



Population age structure of the Oulu economic region in 2012

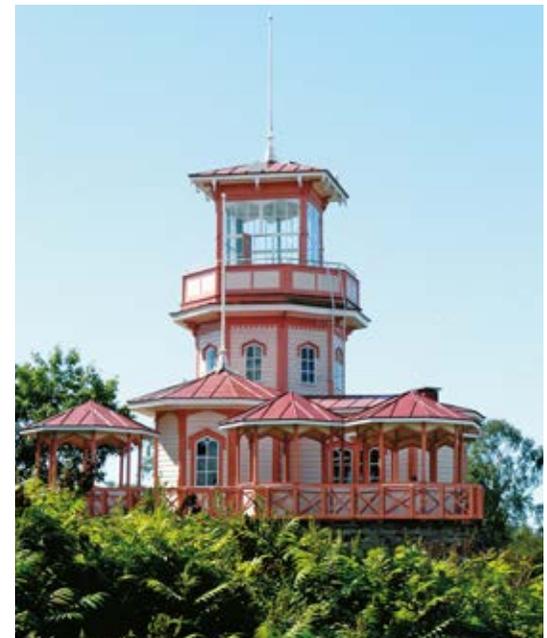
Statistics Finland 2013



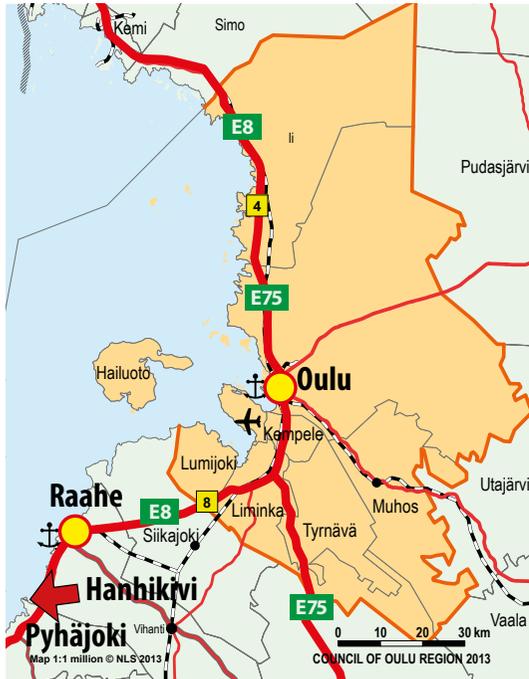
Standard of education of people aged 15 or over in the Oulu economic region in 2011

Statistic Finland 2013, StatFin

The Oulu region has the youngest age structure in Europe: about 21 percent of the population are 15 or under. Around 6,600 inhabitants have an immigrant background. The largest immigrant nationality group is Russian.



Municipalities in the Raahe–Kalajokki economic region



Port of Oulu

ACCESSIBILITY

ROAD NETWORK

Logistically, Oulu has an excellent location by the sea and at the junction of railways and main roads. The distance from Oulu to Hanhikivi by highway E75/8 is 96 kilometres, to Kokkola 204 kilometres, to Turku 620 kilometres and Helsinki is 607 kilometres on Highway E75. The distance to Kajaani to the east on Highway 22 is 180 kilometres. Rovaniemi is 207 kilometres to the north on Highway E75.

PORTS

The Port of Oulu is the leading forestry and unit load port on the Bothnian Bay. Oritkari, Nuottasaari, and Vihreäsaari ports serve ships 24 hours a day, all year round. The port handles forestry raw materials and products, such as paper, pulp, and timber, bulk and mixed cargo, containers, and trailers. The port also handles heavy lift and project loads. The Port of Oulu is the largest container port on the Bothnian

Bay. There are weekly connections by ro-ro ships and container feeders to several Central European ports. Other routes take cargo to the UK and the Mediterranean.

Several global shipping agencies and operators provide their services at the port. The operators also offer storage and containerization services. The port has excellent connections to highways 4 and 8. The port and storages have a direct rail connection to the main railway network and further to Russia. There is also a free warehouse which can store undeclared goods to and from countries outside the EU. The customs office of Oulu is located near the port.

Port of Oulu

www.ouluport.com

RAIL TRAFFIC

Rail traffic travels along the main railway to Helsinki. There are several daily passenger train connections and goods traffic is busy. Northbound rail traffic takes you to Rovaniemi and Kemijärvi and east through the Vartiuss border crossing station to Russia.

Passenger travel timetables

www.vr.fi/en/index/aikataulut.html



Rail traffic between Finland and Russia

www.vr.fi/en/index/junaliput/russiantickets.html

For goods traffic, VR provides bulk cargo transport and storage services for Finnish and international industry and trade.

Goods traffic

www.vrtransport.com

AIRPORTS

Oulu International Airport is the second busiest airport in Finland. Extended and fully renovated in 2011, the airport services over a million passengers a year. Several carriers fly to the airport. Currently, Oulu has direct flights to Helsinki, Stockholm, Alicante, and Tenerife.

The airport has on average 10–20 departures and arrivals per day, mostly to and from Helsinki. The flight to Helsinki takes about 55 minutes. Helsinki has excellent connections all over the world, especially routes to Europe and Asia.

Oulu Airport

www.finnavia.fi/en/oulu

ROAD TRANSPORT AND OTHER LOGISTICS SERVICES

The Oritkari logistics centre is located near to the Port of Oritkari. The 20-hectare area includes loading areas for goods trains with rails and equipment, and loading and storage yards. The rails to the terminal area are partly electrified, so that goods trains going south from Oulu can be driven directly through the Oulu railway yard and further to their destinations.

The region has excellent local bus connections. Long-distance bus services are also available: for example, on weekdays, there are 10 express connections to Helsinki, 14 to Raahe, and seven to Kokkola. Bus timetables and connections are shown on the Matkahuolto web pages. The local business service centre, BusinessOulu, provides additional information on logistics companies in the area.

Matkahuolto, passenger travel timetables

www.matkahuolto.fi/en/travel/timetables

Matkahuolto, goods traffic

www.matkahuolto.fi/en/parcel_services_for_businesses

BusinessOulu

www.businessoulu.com/en/company-database

Company directories

www.lisaakauppa.fi/en, www.partnerbook.fi

ECONOMIC STRUCTURE

The Oulu economic region has a versatile industry and service structure. The total number of enterprises in 2011 was 11,747. The total number of jobs, including the public sector, was 97,500. (City of Oulu 2013, estimate).

Services dominate the economic structure. For example, in 2012, trade had a turnover of over EUR 3 billion and employed 8,900 people. The number of business service companies in the region was 1,250, including software and data service companies, engineering and architecture companies, legal and accounting services. The number of transport and logistics companies in the economic area is 815.

Strong industrial branches include paper and pulp production, the food industry, metal processing, chemical products and timber. A significant share of the industrial production in the region is exported. The total turnover for industry in 2012 was EUR 4.9 billion. The number of industrial employees was 10,900.

The region can also boast strong design and engineering expertise. There are around 1,400 construction companies, of which 750 are specialist companies, for example plumbing and electrics. There are 50 excavation and water engineering companies and 600 house-building companies. All the largest construction companies in Finland operate in the region. In addition, there are several smaller local construction companies (Statistics Finland 2012). There are 420 active industrial design and maintenance companies that employ a total of 2,000 people. The total turnover is around EUR 270 million.

Number of enterprises in the Oulu economic region by sector in 2011

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry | 1,073 |
| Industry and mining | 722 |
| Infrastructure services | 84 |
| Construction | 1,392 |
| Public and private service sector | 8,476 |
| Enterprises total | 11,747 |

Statistics Finland 2013

Number of enterprises, turnover and personnel in the Oulu economic region in 2011

| | |
|-------------------------|------------|
| Number of enterprises | 11,747 |
| Turnover total (1000 €) | 12,731,034 |
| Personnel | 57,955 |

Statistic Finland 2013, business register



The strongest ICT speciality in the Oulu region is the design of mobile phone network base stations and wireless technologies, and the manufacturing of base stations. In addition, Oulu is especially known for the design of Nokia's mobile phones, mobile services and maintenance and its strong subcontractor network. Oulu has comprehensive expertise in the ICT field, for example in radio networks, complex architectures, terminal device design, and their software and usability. ICT solutions tailored to meet the needs of industry also have significant potential for companies participating in large-scale projects.

Oulu city centre and several public service points are served by the public WLAN network, PanOULU.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT SERVICES

BusinessOulu is in charge of business support services in cooperation with the municipalities in the region. BusinessOulu focuses on promoting entrepreneurial activity with the aim of creating new jobs and attracting investment to the area. BusinessOulu also promotes the realization of large-scale projects, such as the Fennovoima construction project.

BusinessOulu's relocation services help companies of all sizes that wish to relocate in Oulu. Relocation services can also ensure the availability of services for the company and its staff. The method supports the development of concrete cooperation. Oulu is renowned for excellent

cooperation between the private and public sectors and research institutes.

The City of Oulu has a variety of different plots available for business activities and housing purposes. Real estate companies have plenty of industrial premises and offices available to rent or buy.

The Urban and Environmental Services of the City of Oulu are responsible for planning
www.ouka.fi/oulu/english/housing-and-construction
Industrial real estate and plots in the Oulu region
www.businessoulu.com/en/companies/relocation-services/business-premises-and-sites.html

AIRPORTCITY OULU

Oulu Airport is the second busiest airport in Finland, and therefore, AirportCity acts as a gateway for national and international air traffic to Oulu and northern Finland in general. The companies in the area are mainly offices and technological companies. AirportCity houses companies that support and serve airport operations, but also companies that find it useful to be located near to the airport.

AirportCity provides versatile premises for companies up to head office-level premises. There are also free plots available for new business premises.

Additional information
www.airportcityoulu.com/en/airportoulu

HOUSING

The Oulu economic region is growing and developing rapidly. Over half of all households in 2011 lived in apartments that they owned, nearly 40 percent of these were detached houses. There are over 51,000 apartments in blocks (Statistic Finland 2012).

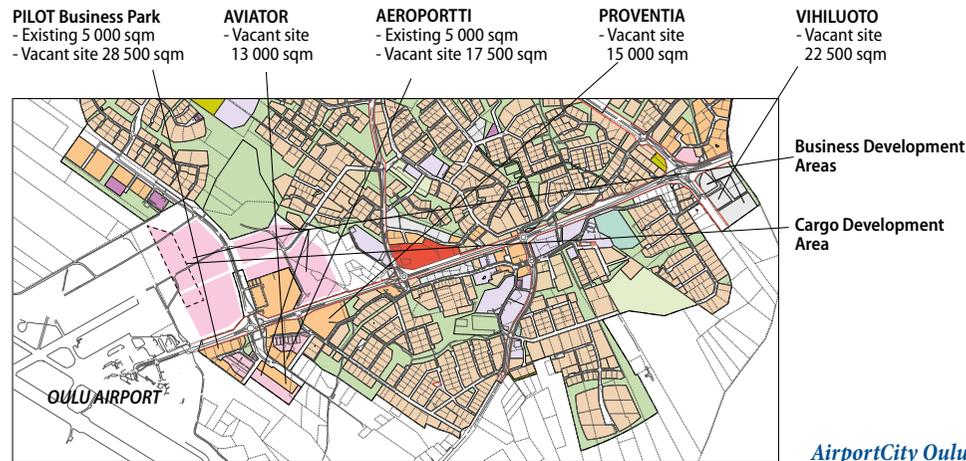
The Oulu region has a versatile range of options for living. There are around 17,700 state-supported rental apartments and 1,700 right of residence apartments. There is a total of 7,369 rental apartments owned by the municipalities or cities. The City of Oulu's rental apartments are managed by Sivakka, which owns and manages 7,956 rental units. The largest operator in student housing is PSOAS, with nearly 5,300 apartments available.

City of Oulu rentals, Sivakka
www.oulunsivakka.fi/en
Student housing, PSOAS
www.psoas.fi/en
Publicly-funded rental apartments in the Oulu region Oulu region rental companies
www.ouka.fi/oulu/english/housing-and-construction

There are plenty of apartments available from private lessors. Local and national real estate companies and agents have apartments for sale. A BusinessOulu contact person can provide you with additional information. See contact details by economic region on pages 56–57.

Oulu has the greatest amount of hotel accommodation available in the economic region, with 12 quality hotels and other options. In total, the region has over 500 accommodation companies and nearly 600 cafes and restaurants.

Region's supply and contact information
www.visitoulu.fi
www.businessoulu.com/en/meeting-organizers



EDUCATION

Oulu has around 50,000 students, from preschoolers to adult learners. Education in English is available from day care all the way to doctoral degrees.

Information on education and studies

www.ouka.fi/oulu/english/schools-and-education

Early childhood education is available in around 100 municipal and 50 private day care centres. Day care centres include English and Swedish-speaking units, and groups in Sami, Swedish and German. Instruction preparing for basic education and three multicultural groups are available for children with immigrant backgrounds.

Oulu offers special classes in arts, sports, and music from third grade up to upper secondary education. There are 52 comprehensive schools. Oulu has 13 upper secondary schools, a Steiner school and a Swedish upper secondary school. Oulun Lyseo offers the International Baccalaureate programme. The IB Diploma provides eligibility for further studies in Finland. Upper secondary general education can also be carried out online at eLukio.

OULU INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

Oulu International School (OIS) is a member of the International Baccalaureate organization. There are 3,670 schools in 150 countries. Oulu International School is owned by the City of Oulu and it provides basic education (classes 1–9) for the international



community in the Oulu region. The study programmes are the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (classes 1–4) and the Middle Years Programme (classes 5–9).

Education is provided in English, and the school is open for all. Annual language skill tests are organized each February. Currently, the school has around 300 pupils from all over the world and nearly 30 teachers.

Oulu International School

www.ouka.fi/ois

Vocational education is provided in six vocational institutes. Oulu Vocational College (OSAO) has the widest supply with 12 units and 11,300 students. (City of Oulu 2013). Oulu University of Applied Sciences (OAMK) offers vocational higher

education. The main emphasis is on Internet and ICT, energy and the environment, health and wellbeing and creative fields. OAMK has around 9,000 students.

Oulu Vocational College

www.osao.fi/en

Oulu University of Applied Sciences

www.oamk.fi/english

UNIVERSITY OF OULU

The University of Oulu emphasizes a multidisciplinary and international approach. The university has four areas of focus: biosciences and health care, information technology, cultural identity and interaction, and the environment, natural resources and materials. The education and research community consists of 16,000 students and 3,000 staff. There are nine faculties and 50 study programmes.

The University of Oulu is an active cooperation partner. It can help you find skilled employees and specialists, provide support with research issues, premises, research equipment and further education. Further training in nuclear energy technology has begun in cooperation with Lappeenranta University of Technology and other operators in the field.

University of Oulu

www oulu.fi/english

LEISURE

The Oulu economic region has plenty of leisure activities and services to offer. You can enjoy nature, for example, at the most valuable bird watching spot in Finland, the Liminganlahti wetlands, or at the Koiteli rapids. The national landscape of Hailuoto is located just a short ferry ride away.

EXERCISE OPPORTUNITIES AND TOURISM

Oulu is a city of cycling and there are over 700 kilometres of cycle paths in the area. The region has around ten sports halls, four ice stadiums and four swimming halls. There are around 250 active sports clubs you can join. There are dozens of locations for outdoor sports: Ball game and sports fields, trails and beaches. Nallikari is a large and popular tourist resort. It is located at the scenic Hietasaari, just a stone's throw from Oulu city centre.

Nallikari is known for its kilometre-long sandy beach, but the year-round activities are not limited to the seaside. Summer activities include beach tennis and volleyball, mini golf, pony rides at Hietasaari's Ponipiha or kite boarding. Nallikari's Winter Village offers something for everyone with a tube slide, sleigh rides and snow volleyball. Nallsport provides versatile indoor ball game options.

The Virpiniemi recreation and sports centre has versatile premises. The area has excellent surroundings for outdoor sports, the services of a sports institute, a nationally acclaimed golf course, an area for animal sports, a campsite and a harbour for visiting boats. Virpiniemi has a variety of activities

available all year round. In winter, the activities include snowshoeing, sledding, snow football, snow Frisbee and skiing and in summer, ball sports, frisbee golf and athletics. Other popular winter sports include skating, skiing and ice swimming. Spectators at the Raksila Sport Centre can see sports performed at the highest national level in the swimming pool, ice stadium, artificial ice rink, Finnish baseball stadium and Ouluhalli.

CULTURAL SERVICES

Theatre-goers can enjoy shows at Oulu City Theatre, Oulu Workers' Theatre and several amateur societies. Music events and operators include Qstock, Elojazz, Mieskuoro Huutajat choir, the Air Guitar World Championships and the Oulu Sinfonia orchestra. Art institutions include the Oulu Museum of Art OMA, the Northern Ostrobothnia Museum and private art galleries. One must not forget Oulu's dance groups, the culture house Valve, and libraries, of which there are 30 in the region.

SHOPPING

Oulu city centre's boutiques offer international and local design and the Rotuaari pedestrian zone is a meeting point for the locals. The Market Hall, Market Square and numerous cafés offer you a taste of local treats. There are numerous other shopping centres around Oulu.

RESTAURANTS

Oulu's restaurants include favourite chains, international flavours (for example, Russian, Italian,

Greek and Japanese cuisine) and local delicacies. Oulu also has restaurants that focus on organic products and locally-produced food.

VILLA VICTOR MULTICULTURAL CENTRE

Villa Victor provides activities for immigrants and Finns in Oulu. These activities include Finnish courses, information events on important issues in daily life and international cultural and thematic events.

Oulu Guide

www.issuu.com/businessoulu

Welcome to Oulu Guide

www.issuu.com/businessoulu

Info Bank – basic information

for immigrants about Oulu

www.infopankki.fi/en/oulu

Villa Victor Multicultural Centre

www.ouka.fi/oulu/villavictor-english

Oulu Culture Services

www.ouka.fi/oulu/english/culture-and-library

Sports facilities

www.ouka.fi/oulu/english/sports-and-exercise

Events

www.visitoulu.fi

Additional Information

www.businessoulu.com/en/



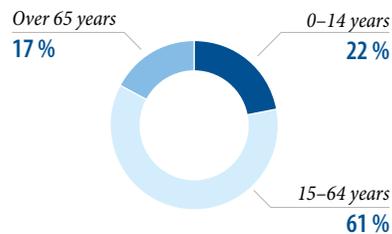
YLIVIESKA ECONOMIC REGION

Ylivieska economic region has over 30,000 inhabitants. Of them, 61 percent are of working-age and about 22 percent of the population are 15 or under. Around 240 inhabitants have an immigrant background.

POPULATION OF MUNICIPALITIES IN THE YLIVIESKA ECONOMIC REGION

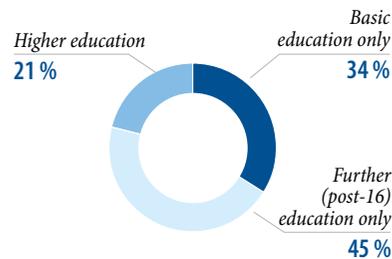
| Municipality | Population | Web pages |
|--------------|---------------|--|
| Ylivieska | 14,533 | www.ylivieska.fi |
| Alavieska | 2,761 | www.alavieska.fi/frontpage |
| Sievi | 5,241 | www.sievi.fi |
| Oulainen | 7,847 | www.oulainen.fi/frontpage |
| Total | 30,382 | |

Statistics Finland and municipal web pages



Population age structure of the Ylivieska economic region in 2012

Statistic Finland 2013, StatFin



Standard of education of people aged 15 or over in the Ylivieska economic region in 2011

Statistic Finland 2013, StatFin

Municipalities in the Ylivieska economic region



ACCESSIBILITY

ROAD NETWORK

The Ylivieska economic region is a node for road and rail traffic. There are several alternative routes from Ylivieska to Hanhikivi. The 81 kilometre route using highways 27 and 8 is available for special transport. The travel time is about 65 minutes. The journey from Oulainen to Hanhikivi (roads 787 and 7890) is 52 kilometres long and takes about 45 minutes.

The distance from Ylivieska to Oulu is 128 kilometres by Highway 86, to Kalajoki 40 kilometres on Highway 27, and to Kokkola 80 kilometres.

RAIL TRAFFIC

In addition to south-north connections, there is an eastbound rail connection to the Vartius border crossing station. There is also a track from Riihimäki towards south-east Finland and Saint Petersburg. The efficiency of rail traffic will increase once the refurbishment of the main railway is finished in 2017. The estimated travel time from Ylivieska to Helsinki will be about four hours. Oulainen is the closest railway station to Hanhikivi.

Passenger travel timetables

www.vr.fi/en/index/aikataulut.html

Rail traffic between Finland and Russia

www.vr.fi/en/index/junaliput/russiantickets.html

For goods traffic, VR provides bulk cargo transport and storage services for Finnish and international industry and trade.

Goods traffic

www.vrtranspoint.com

AIRPORTS

The nearest airports are located in Oulu and Kokkola. It is 90 minutes by car to both airports.

Kokkola-Pietarsaari Airport

www.finnavia.fi/en/kokkola-pietarsaari

Oulu Airport

www.finnavia.fi/en/oulu



ROAD TRANSPORT AND OTHER LOGISTICS SERVICES

The area has a comprehensive road network. Main Road 86 is a north-south route, separating from Highway 8 in Liminka and continuing to Ylivieska. The west-east route from Kalajoki to Iisalmi is Highway 27, which meets Highway E75 in Pyhäjärvi. Highway 28 from Kokkola to Kajaani also goes through Ylivieska. Bus timetables and connections are available on the Matkahuolto web pages.

The economic region has 155 cargo and logistics companies. The Association of the Subregion and local business service centres provide information on local logistics companies. Their contact information is on page 57.

Matkahuolto, passenger travel timetables

www.matkahuolto.fi/en/travel/timetables

Matkahuolto, goods traffic

www.matkahuolto.fi/en/parcel_services_for_businesses

Association of the Ylivieska Subregion

www.ysk.fi

Ylivieskan teknologiakylä YTEK

www.ytek.info

Oulainen Business Service Centre

www.oulainen.fi/economy_and_business

Alavieskan Yrityspalvelut

www.alavieska.fi

Sievin Teollisuuspuisto Oy

www.sievi.fi

Company directories

www.lisaakauppaa.fi/en, www.partnerbook.fi

ECONOMIC STRUCTURE

The economic region is a locally significant centre of trade and services. It serves around 80,000 inhabitants. In the town of Ylivieska, around 75 percent of the workforce are employed in the retail or the service sector. The total floor area of shops in Ylivieska is about 160,000 m². In addition to several department stores, there are plenty of specialist stores, such as car retailers. The region also has a versatile engineering workshop industry and steel element producing plants. The total number of enterprises is about 2,000. Of these, around 170 are industrial companies and 210 are in construction.

Number of enterprises, turnover and personnel in the Ylivieska region in 2011

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Number of enterprises | 2,065 |
| Turnover total (EUR 1,000) | 1,270,721 |
| Personnel | 7,637 |

Statistics Finland, company register TOL 2013

Number of enterprises in the Ylivieska economic region by sector in 2011

| | |
|--|-------|
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry | 652 |
| Industry and mining | 152 |
| Infrastructure services | 16 |
| Construction | 211 |
| Public and private service sector | 1,034 |

Statistics Finland 2013

The number of engineering and architecture offices is around 30. There are about a hundred financial management, consultancy and software companies.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT SERVICES

The Association of the Ylivieska subregion acts as a regional development organization. The association and municipal business service organizations provide information on the region's services, companies, and available premises. The total area of industrial premises for rent or sale in the Ylivieska economic region is 30,000 m². For example, in Oulainen, on Main Road 86 and the railway, there are 12 locations that have a total of 19,000 m² industrial space available.

Association of the Ylivieska Subregion

www.ysk.fi

Oulainen Business Service Centre

www.oulainen.fi/economy_and_business

Ylivieskan teknologiakylä YTEK

www.ytek.info

Alavieskan Yrityspalvelut

www.alavieska.fi

Sievin Teollisuuspuisto Oy

www.sievi.fi

HOUSING

In 2013, the Ylivieska economic region had 1,418 municipal rented residences. Most of these are located in terraced houses. You can apply for rental apartments through the municipal web pages. There are about 200 beds available in hotels. There are also plenty of other types of accommodation available.

Ylivieska

www.ylivieskanvuokraasunnot.fi

Oulainen

www.oulainen.fi/rental_homes

Alavieska

www.alavieska.fi/vuokra-asunnot

Sievi

www.sievi.fi



EDUCATION

The Ylivieska economic region has 11 day care centres. There are 23 comprehensive schools, and five upper secondary and vocational schools.

A health care education unit at Oulu University of Applied Sciences and Oulainen Vocational College are located in Oulainen. The Centria University of Applied Sciences in Ylivieska has about 3,000 students in five

programmes: technology, business, social work and health care, the humanities and education and culture. In addition, you can study in English on the Industrial Management study programme in Ylivieska.

The Summer University of Northern Ostrobothnia also offers university courses and vocational further education in Ylivieska. Raudaskylä Christian College offers various education and vocational programmes on different levels.



LEISURE

The economic region's leisure activities major in sports and music. The area has many exercise areas, swimming halls, ice rinks and riding centres. All municipalities have musical activities on offer. Walking in nature, jogging, hunting and skiing are the main hobbies in the area.

In the Ylivieska region, you can also take courses in the community colleges and music colleges. The local centre for arts and entertainment events is the Ylivieskatalo Akustiikka. Summer events include theatres, the Sun Pampas festival, and the popular Kauppojen yö event in Ylivieska. The Huhmarkallio area has skiing tracks, hiking trails, a climbing wall and a carting track in the summer.

Part of the Finland Festivals music event, the Oulaisten Musiikkiviikot event is a varied series of concerts that charm thousands of listeners each year in October and November.

Oulainen also hosts the annual national event of vintage machines, Weteraanikonepäivät.



Sievi boasts the Louekallio skiing centre, with three slopes, a half-pipe and two lifts. In summer, cultural and sports events are organized as part of the Sievi Weeks.

In Alavieska town centre, on the banks of the Kalajoki, is the Anttilanranta recreational area for camping and fishing. In Pappilanniemi, you can hike alongside the river on the Filippuksen polku trail. The Alavieska Viri frisbee golf course is also located there. Petäjälampi area in Someronkylä has camping facilities and a connecting trail to the Lumikuru outdoor sports centre.



*Additional
information on
leisure services
on municipal
web pages.*





KOKKOLA-PIETARSAARI ECONOMIC REGION

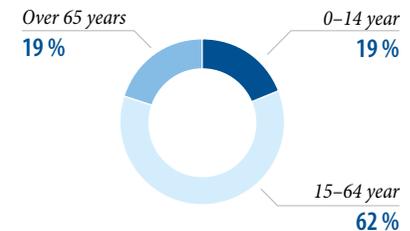
The Kokkola-Pietarsaari economic region (the subregions of Kokkola, Kaustinen and Pietarsaari) has about 120,000 inhabitants. The region is characterized by a varied industry base and a strong entrepreneurial spirit. The tradition of export is strong: The area is the biggest exporter in Finland, by population (export €/inhabitant). The distance from Kokkola to Hanhikivi along Highway 8 is 108 kilometres and it takes 85 minutes.

The share of the Swedish-speaking population in this multicultural area is 37 percent. Around 3,760 inhabitants have an immigrant background; the largest individual groups are Swedish, Estonian and Russian. Working-age people make up about 62 percent of the whole population. The local residents have a high standard of education. Of the working-age population, 41 percent have completed further education, and 23 percent have a higher education qualification.

| POPULATION OF MUNICIPALITIES IN THE ECONOMIC REGION | | |
|--|----------------|-----------------------------|
| Municipality | Population* | Web pages |
| Kokkola | 46,773 | www.kokkola.fi |
| Kaustinen | 4,304 | www.kaustinen.fi |
| Kannus | 5,736 | www.kannus.fi/ frontpage |
| Pietarsaari | 19,680 | www.pietarsaari.fi |
| Toholampi | 3,426 | www.toholampi.fi |
| Lestijärvi | 835 | www.lestijarvi.fi |
| Halsua | 1,248 | www.halsua.fi |
| Veteli | 3,382 | www.veteli.fi |
| Perho | 2,923 | www.perho.com |
| Kruunupyö | 6,666 | www.kronoby.fi |
| Luoto | 4,966 | www.larsmo.fi |
| Pedersöre | 10,940 | www.pedersore.fi |
| Uusikaarlepyy | 7,531 | www.uusikaarlepyy.fi |
| Total | 118,393 | |

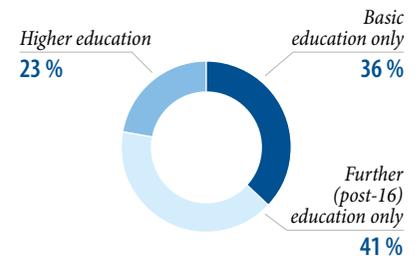
Statistics Finland and municipal web pages

* 1.1.2013



Population age structure of the Kokkola-Pietarsaari economic region in 2012

Statistics Finland 2013



Standard of education of people aged 15 or over in the Kokkola-Pietarsaari economic region in 2011

Statistics Finland 2013

Municipalities in the Kokkola–Pietarsaari economic region



ACCESSIBILITY

ROAD NETWORK

Kokkola has an excellent location by the sea and is at a node point of main roads and the railway. The distance to Oulu by Highway 8 is 200 kilometres, and to Turku 436 kilometres. Highway 28 takes you to Kajaani, 247 kilometres away. Highway 13 leads to Jyväskylä and Lappeenranta.

PORTS

The Port of Kokkola is the third largest general port in Finland, and the largest in bulk materials when measured in exported tons. The port is open year-round and is the only port in the Kvarken and the Bay of Bothnia that has deep quays and deep access channels. The port has a direct rail connection to the main railway and then to Russia; several container and ore trains embark to and from Russia daily. Direct road connections from the port to Main Road 8 were upgraded in the 2000s.

The Port of Kokkola consists of three port sectors; the General Port, the Deep Port, and the Silverstone Port. The Deep Port is suitable for vessels up to Panamax 80 000 DWT class, with draft up to 13 meters, and handles mainly bulk cargoes, such as various raw materials for the steel industry. The All Weather Terminal (AWT), the largest of its kind in Europe, is located in the General Port where mainly containers, breakbulk cargo, and light bulk are handled. The Port of Kokkola has regular transport connections to e.g. Middle Europe and North Africa and regular transshipment container traffic connections via Antwerp. The port also has

the infrastructure required to handle chemicals and oil products, for example.

Kokkola Industrial Park (KIP) is grown alongside the port sectors and hosts the largest inorganic chemistry cluster in Northern Europe.

At the **Port of Pietarsaari**, efficient handling of cargo is key. Pier capacity, a deeper route and new port areas are significant in cost-efficient cargo handling and developing the logistics of the area. The main products passing through the port are cellulose, timber and paper. The main imports are pulpwood, wood chips, timber, oil, mineral products and chemicals. The port also handles heavy lift and project loads. In 2015, Pietarsaari port will benefit from a new 11-metre deep route and over 8 hectares of new dockside area. There is a rail connection to the port from the main railway. The Port of Pietarsaari serves customers 24 hours a day, all year round.

Port of Kokkola

www.portofkokkola.fi

Kokkola Industrial Park

www.kip.fi

Port of Pietarsaari

www.portofpietarsaari.fi

RAIL TRAFFIC

Kokkola railway station is located in the town, close to Highway 8. There are approximately 15 daily passenger trains to the north and south. The Pendolino train from Helsinki to Kokkola takes a little under four hours. The bus station is located by the railway station.

Passenger travel timetables

www.vr.fi/en/index/aikataulut.html

Rail traffic between Finland and Russia

www.vr.fi/en/index/junaliput/russiantickets.html

For goods traffic, VR provides bulk cargo transport and storage services for Finnish and international industry and trade.

Goods traffic

www.vrtranspoint.com

AIRPORTS

Kokkola-Pietarsaari International Airport is located 19 kilometres away from Kokkola. There are on average four daily departures to both Helsinki and Stockholm. There are also direct flights to Luleå, Sweden, and charter flights to Southern European resorts. The airport also handles cargo. Travel time from the airport to Hanhikivi is about 100 minutes.

Kokkola-Pietarsaari Airport

www.finavia.fi/en/kokkola-pietarsaari

ROAD TRANSPORT AND OTHER LOGISTICS SERVICES

The region has about 300 logistics companies and cargo and courier services. Many of the logistics companies operate Europe-wide and are among the largest in the field in Finland. Bus timetables and connections are shown on the Matkahuolto web pages. Local development companies KOSEK and Concordia can provide you with more information on logistics companies.

Matkahuolto, passenger travel timetables

www.matkahuolto.fi/en/travel/timetables

Matkahuolto, goods traffic

www.matkahuolto.fi/en/parcel_services_for_businesses

KOSEK, Kokkolanseudun Kehitys Ltd

www.kosek.fi

Jakobstad Region Development Company

Concordia

www.concordia.jakobstad.fi

Company directories

www.lisaakauppaa.fi/en, www.partnerbook.fi

ECONOMIC STRUCTURE

The Kokkola-Pietarsaari economic region is characterized by diverse industry. The area includes the largest centre for inorganic chemistry in Northern Europe, a mining industry cluster and the largest biofuel power plant in the world. Large companies operate in the fields of chemical and paper industry, metals and engineering. The region has the largest locus of the boat and fur industries in Finland, plenty of mechanical woodworking, several house-building factories, a strong food industry, several logistics operators and software companies. Exportation is a significant share of all trade.

The share of services is emphasized in Kokkola, which is a centre for trade, education and public sector services, surrounded by agricultural land. There are around 850 industrial companies in the region.

Around 500 companies operate in business support services and of these, 100 are engineering and architectural companies. The metal and engineering workshop industry has the biggest number of companies. By turnover, the chemical industry is the largest industrial field.

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT SERVICES

In the Kokkola region, KOSEK and other municipal operators from Central Ostrobothnia are responsible for business support services. In the Pietarsaari area, business services are covered by the Jakobstad Region Development Company Concordia.

Development companies and operators help entrepreneurs to find information on premises,

Number of enterprises in the Kokkola-Pietarsaari economic region by sector in 2011

| | |
|--|-------|
| Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry | 2,775 |
| Industry and mining | 780 |
| Infrastructure services | 77 |
| Construction | 882 |
| Public and private service sector | 4,321 |

Statistic Finland 2013, business register

Number of enterprises, turnover and personnel in the Kokkola-Pietarsaari economic region in 2011

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Number of enterprises | 8,826 |
| Personnel | 31,167 |
| Turnover total (1000 €) | 6,897,268 |

Statistic Finland 2013, business register



industrial plots, and contact information for the authorities and companies. Entrepreneurs can also join international business networks and business development schemes. There are also plenty of premises and ready industrial plots available.

KOSEK and Concordia help all companies that wish to relocate to the economic region. In region-wide cooperation, we can promote growth, reach out to new markets and participate in large-scale projects such as the Hanhikivi project. Excellent cooperation between KIP, the towns, KOSEK and Concordia brings significant production capacity investments to the region each year. For example, in 2012, the

amount of industrial investments in the region was about EUR 200 million.

Local business service centres provide additional information. Contact information on page 57.

KOSEK, Kokkolanseudun Kehitys Ltd

www.kosek.fi

Kaustisen seutukunta Kase

www.kase.fi

Jakobstad Region Development

Company Concordia

www.concordia.jakobstad.fi

HOUSING

The Kokkola–Pietarsaari economic region has nearly 5,400 municipal rentals. They can be rented through the municipalities. There are around 500 beds available in hotels and motels. Both Kokkola and Pietarsaari have high quality hotels. There are over a hundred restaurants and cafes in the region.

Kokkola

www.kokkola.fi

Pietarsaari

www.pietarsaari.fi

EDUCATION

The Kokkola–Pietarsaari region has a total of 104 day care centres and preschools. There are 99 comprehensive schools, some of which are Swedish-speaking. International education is available as early as at primary school level.

There is a total of 14 Finnish and Swedish-language upper secondary schools. School-specific study programmes emphasize different subjects as well as entrepreneurship and internationality. Adult secondary schools deliver general education in combined courses.

Vocational studies are organized by Yrkeskolan Optima, Yrkesakademien i Österbotten and the Central Ostrobothnia Joint Municipal Authority for Education. They all emphasize the main businesses of the region.

Higher education is provided by two educational organizations. Centria University of Applied Sciences provides education in Kokkola, Pietarsaari and

Ylivieska in Finnish, Swedish and English. Centria awards both polytechnic degrees and Master's degrees in technology and business and in social work and health care.

The Kokkola University Consortium Chydenius provides education towards Master's degrees and doctoral degrees, conducts scientific research and organizes adult university education in applied chemistry, information technology, economics and health care, for example. These organizations participate in several international cooperation networks and projects.

In addition to companies, the field of education cooperates strongly to develop the region. For example, on just one street in Kokkola, you can study process and chemical industry from secondary level to Master's degree and all the way to a Doctorate. Research and product development laboratories in different institutions support each other and the business development in the region through science and technology development.



LEISURE

Kokkola is an attractive seaside town. Neristan, the old wooden-house quarter, offers cultural events and beautiful cafes, restaurants and shops.

Pietarsaari is an old seaside town with historic parks and gardens. The town also offers a range of cafes, boutiques and cultural events.

There are plenty of places to visit in the area. In 2013, the Seven Bridges Archipelago won the Finnish tourism award as the most interesting Finnish destination. The lighthouse island of Tankar in the outer archipelago is well worth a visit. M/S Jenny takes tourists to Tankar and between Kokkola and Pietarsaari.

Tourists in the area can enjoy several hiking and canoeing routes and fishing opportunities. These include the Lestijoki and Perhojoki riverside facilities. Salamajärvi National Park in Perho has wilderness-like landscapes with wild forest reindeer.

CULTURAL SERVICES

The area's cultural life is varied. Services include Kokkola City Theatre, the Central Ostrobothnian Chamber Orchestra, other partly amateur orchestras and several amateur and summer theatres. There are also a number of galleries, museums and exhibitions. Several music events take place annually, such as the Kaustinen Folk Music Festival, Kokkola's Venetian Night, Pietarsaari's Jacob's Days, Lohtaja's Church Music Days, Kokkola's Opera Winter and Winter Accordion, and the Mustakari in Memories event. The region's

cultural events are characterized by the different traditions and events of the bilingual population.

PHYSICAL EXERCISE

The sea and nature are essential to the leisure activities in the region. Sailing and boating are popular hobbies. The area has a variety of exercise facilities, outdoor playing fields, indoor sports halls, swimming and recreation spots, and golf courses. VesiVeijari in Kokkola and KitinVapari in Kannus offer swimming and spa services. There are also great beaches at Kokkola and Lohtaja, for example.

SPORTS ACTIVITIES

Sport is highly valued in the region and local teams compete successfully at the highest national levels, for example in football and volleyball. Other popular sports include Finnish baseball (pesäpallo), ice hockey, floor ball, swimming, and motor sports. Local sports clubs organize activities for children, such as the second largest junior football event in Finland, the Kokkola Cup, which brings together teams from up to 15 countries.

Kokkola

www.visitkokkola.fi

Pietarsaari

www.pietarsaari.fi

www.pietarsaarensoutu.fi/en



CONTACT INFORMATION

RAAHE-KALAJOKI ECONOMIC REGION

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OULU ECONOMIC REGION

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OULU10, SERVICE POINT AND TOURIST INFORMATION

Torikatu 10, Oulu

The city's Oulu10 service centre provides information, guidance and advice on all services of the City of Oulu in Finnish and English to new and existing inhabitants. Tourist information offices provide maps, brochures, forms, timetables, and information on tourist attractions across the whole of northern Finland.

YLIVIESKA ECONOMIC REGION

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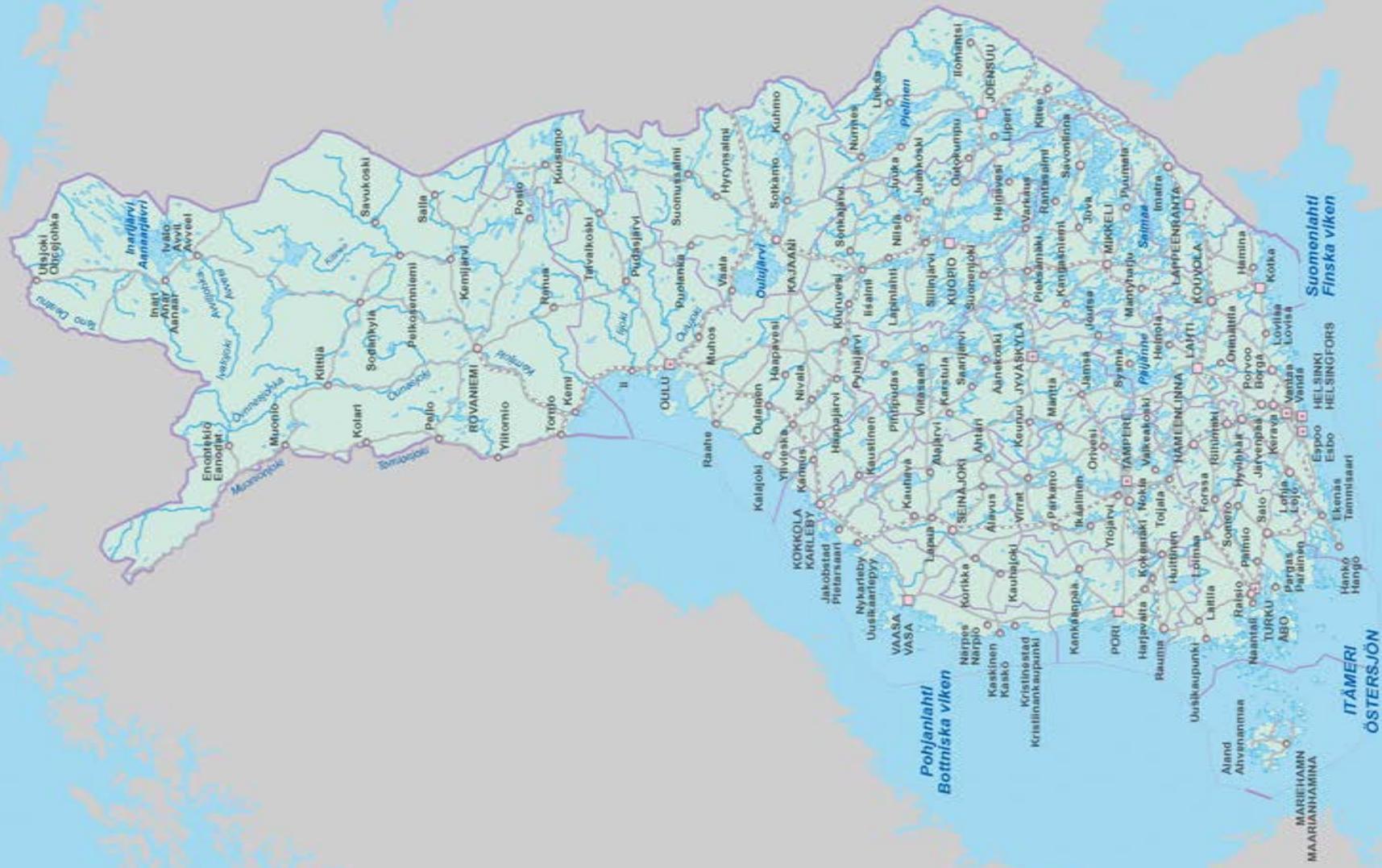
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Pohjanlahti
Bottniska viken

Suomenlahti
Finska viken

ITÄMERI
ÖSTERSJÖN

MARIHAMN
MAARIAHAMINA

Publisher
Hanhikivi Multisectoral Coordination and Interconnection Project