Municipal statistics to satisfy local information needs

Information, Better Performance, A More Liveable City

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City of Helsinki Urban Facts, Finland

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Information, Better Performance, A More Liveable City

- Experiences from the City of Helsinki
- The scope of municipal statistics: topic areas and data sources
- Understanding municipal information needs, request for comprehensive information and knowledge to run a city
- Open data
- Securing and coordinating municipal and regional statistics and research by specific programs
Experiences from the City of Helsinki, Finland

The main goal of urban statistics and research at the City of Helsinki Urban Facts is on the one hand to increase information and knowledge about topics of priority to the city such as population and demography, housing and environment, democracy and inclusion, welfare and services, urban culture, design and creativity, as well as economy, competitiveness, and the functionality of the city, and on the other hand to get knowledge and insight into new trends and challenges facing the city.
Experiences from the City of Helsinki, Finland

- Information on citizens perceptions are also important.
- Neighbourhood statistics and geographical information are most important.
- *Open data* provides new possibilities and framework conditions for statistics and research, for data journalism, for visualisations, new applications, etc.
- How to get access to scientific knowledge of interest to cities. Cooperation with universities.
### MAIN THEMES AND TOPICS & AVAILABILITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population, housing, urban structure and environment</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>REGISTERS, DATA BASES, GEO-CODED DATA, STATISTICS</strong></td>
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<th>Wellbeing, health, services</th>
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<td><strong>Usages and costs of services</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Spatial variations of wellbeing</strong></td>
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<td><strong>REGISTERS, DATA BASES, SERVICE MAP, GEO-CODED DATA, ADMINISTRATIVE DATA</strong></td>
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<th>Democracy, civic participation and governance</th>
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<td>OPEN DATA; OPEN INTERFACES; SERVICE MAP; OPEN CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM; OPEN DECISION MAKING DATA…..</td>
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<th>Urban economy, regional economy, labour market, etc.</th>
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<td><strong>REGISTERS, DATA BASES – administrative data of the City itself; Statistics Finland, Eurostat; other external data providers; researches</strong></td>
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<th>Urban culture</th>
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<td><strong>RESEARCH; STATISTICS; QUALITATIVE DATA SOURCES; VISUALISED DATA</strong></td>
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<th>Future perspectives:</th>
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<tr>
<td>OPEN DATA</td>
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<td>MIDATA</td>
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<td>BIG DATA</td>
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The Strategy Program of the City of Helsinki 2013-2016, City Council

- The strategy program and its implementation and follow-up request a lot of varied information
- Information is provided by the various administrative bodies, the Urban Facts department, and the Urban Facts department in cooperation with universities and research institutes.
- A lot of attention and efforts are paid to communication of statistics and research findings
- Comparative information is more frequently requested
A thriving Helsinki citizen

- Room for the young to be heard, participate and to show their skills
- The elderly are cared for
- Helsinki is strongly bilingual
- An international Helsinki – immigrants as active residents
- The wellbeing and health of Helsinki residents improve, and health differences decrease
- Helsinki residents do more sports and exercise

A balanced economy and good management

- The economy get balanced and the productivity improves
- The group of administrative city bodies are managed as a whole
- Skilled management and skilled staff
- Efficient and functional support services

Democracy and commitment grow stronger

- Helsinki: An open and engaging Helsinki

Helsinki – a liveable and prosperous city

- An internationally renowned and attractive city
- Finland’s most entrepreneur-friendly city
- Competitiveness through renewal
- Enjoyment and appeal through arts and culture
- A city of skilled residents

A well-functioning Helsinki

- Liveable and attractive city districts evolving
- An increasingly coherent urban structure improves accessibility and functionality
- Smooth and integrated services for residents
- The City operates in a sustainable, effective and efficient way
- Varied housing options in a growing city
OPEN CITY – OPEN DATA

- To achieve the goals of citizens participation and new forms of collaboration you need openness and accessibility. In this context open data plays a major role.

- The City of Helsinki in cooperation with the neighbouring cities of Espoo, Vantaa and Kauniainen and the development company Forum Virium Helsinki as well as the Finnish Innovation Fund Sitra set up the Helsinki Region Infoshare project in 2010.

- The beta version of a new open data service Helsinki Region Infoshare [www.hri.fi](http://www.hri.fi) was launched in 2011.
HRI open data service is evolving

- New data sets are continuously made open
- Compatible data are available on the Helsinki Metropolitan Region of 1.4 million people
- At present, there are a good 1,000 different data sets provided by the service, for example on living conditions, the economy, wellbeing, employment and mobility of the region.
- Open interfaces to the service map, usage of the libraries, budgets and closing of the books of the city and so forth.
Visualisations

- **Visualisations** can enable citizens to make use of and benefit from open data
- **Examples**
  - Helsinki Decisions and Case Management System – Open Helsinki
  - Participatory budgeting
  - Neighbourhood Identity Maps

- Please visit [www.hri.fi](http://www.hri.fi)
Open data = Fuel for the digital age

- More on HRI
- More on open data
- Detailed data search
Examples on developing new services and products through cooperation

- [http://apps4finland.fi/](http://apps4finland.fi/)
- [http://fi.okfn.org/](http://fi.okfn.org/)

Securing municipal and regional level statistics and research by specific programs

- The City of Helsinki has a tradition of setting up urban statistics and urban research programs every three years.
- These programmes are created in a dialogue with key customers and partners, coordinated by the Urban Facts department and approved by the City Board.
- The main goal is on the one hand to increase information and knowledge about topics of priority to the city such as housing and environment, democracy and inclusion, welfare and services, urban culture, design and creativity, as well as economy, competitiveness, and the functionality of the city, and on the other hand to get knowledge and insight into new trends and challenges facing the city. Many of these topics prove to be of fundamental importance from time to time.
Securing municipal and regional level statistics and research by specific programs

The research programme is also used to communicate needs and demands for scientific knowledge to universities and research institutes. New forward-looking scientific knowledge is much appreciated.

Thirdly, the programme is expected to advance partnerships and cooperation between various actors and stakeholders and to support activities targeted at getting research findings turned into practice.