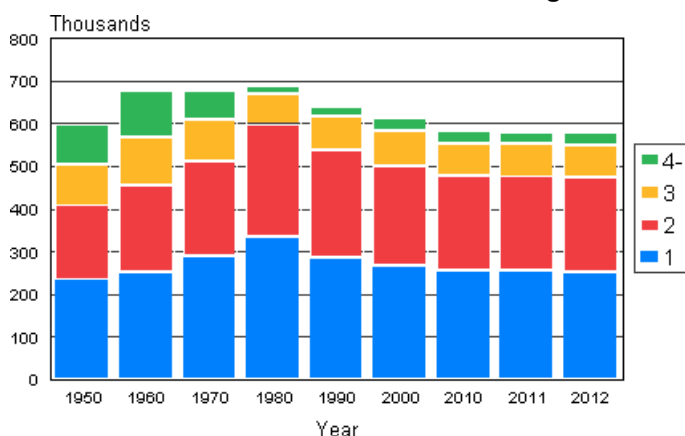


Families 2012

Number of large families with underage children has remained stable

The number of families with at least four underage children has remained quite stable in recent years and annual changes are small, a few hundred either way. In 2012, the number of families with at least four children grew by around one hundred families from the year before. The trend of the number of families with two and three children is falling and the number of families with one child has remained almost unchanged. At the end of 2012, an average of 1.83 underage children were living in families with children. The family statistics describe the size of families in Finland at a given moment and thus do not concern with the eventual number of children in families.

Number of children in families with underage children in 1950–2012



Thirteen per cent of families with underage children have three children and five per cent at least four children aged under 18. In relative terms, the number of families with at least four children is highest in North and Central Ostrobothnia. Their number is lowest in relative terms in Åland, Uusimaa, South Karelia and Varsinais-Suomi.

The total number of families with children in Finland was 578,000 at the end of 2012. The number was 2,100 lower than in the previous year. Forty per cent of the population belong to a family with children. The commonest family type, to which 61 per cent of the families with children belong, continues to be a married couple with children. Nineteen per cent of the families with children were families of cohabiting couples. There were almost equally many families of mother and children, whose share was 18 per cent.

The number of families with father and children is still be very small, under three per cent. In 400 families with children, the parents are a registered same-sex couple.

At the end of 2012, the total number of families was 1,466,000. The number has grown by 5,200 from the previous year-end. The growth was slightly lower than in the previous year, when it was 5,500. Altogether 75 per cent of the Finnish population, or 4,075,000 persons, belonged to a family. The share of persons who belong to a family has been falling steadily. As late as in 1990, their share of the population was 82 per cent. Two-thirds of the families were families of married couples. Twenty-two per cent were families of cohabiting couples and 12 per cent were one-parent families. There were slightly under 2,000 families of registered same-sex couples. People living alone numbered 1,070,000.

At the end of 2012, there were 53,000 reconstituted families in Finland. The number of reconstituted families had decreased by 300 from the previous year. Annual changes in their number have been small in recent years. Roughly one-half of the parents of the reconstituted families were cohabiting and one-half were married. A reconstituted family is a family with at least one child aged under 18 of just one of the parents. There were 76,000 of such children.

Families by type in 1990–2012

| Type of family | 1990 | 1995 | 2000 | 2005 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | Change 2011–2012 |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------------|
| Families total | 1 365 341 | 1 382 970 | 1 401 963 | 1 426 002 | 1 450 488 | 1 455 073 | 1 460 570 | 1 465 733 | 5 163 |
| Married couple without children | 364 452 | 395 953 | 436 019 | 481 209 | 509 916 | 513 889 | 518 550 | 523 221 | 4 671 |
| Married couple with children | 640 062 | 579 578 | 514 868 | 468 266 | 448 897 | 446 433 | 442 257 | 439 194 | -3 063 |
| Cohabiting couple no children | 123 471 | 135 996 | 160 132 | 180 590 | 193 894 | 195 967 | 200 171 | 203 334 | 3 163 |
| Cohabiting couple with children | 65 896 | 85 309 | 102 581 | 112 847 | 116 797 | 117 254 | 118 054 | 118 136 | 82 |
| Mother and children | 147 297 | 159 063 | 159 432 | 153 024 | 149 823 | 149 651 | 149 196 | 149 143 | -53 |
| Father and children | 24 161 | 27 071 | 28 931 | 29 238 | 29 765 | 30 278 | 30 534 | 30 714 | 180 |
| Registered male couple ¹⁾ | .. | .. | .. | 398 | 625 | 706 | 773 | 829 | 56 |
| Registered female couple ¹⁾ | .. | .. | .. | 430 | 771 | 895 | 1 035 | 1 162 | 127 |
| Family population | 4 101 922 | 4 093 038 | 4 053 850 | 4 037 753 | 4 059 511 | 4 065 168 | 4 069 930 | 4 075 094 | 5 164 |
| Population 31.12. | 4 998 478 | 5 116 829 | 5 181 115 | 5 255 580 | 5 351 427 | 5 375 276 | 5 401 267 | 5 426 674 | 25 407 |
| Proportion of family population | 82,1 | 80,0 | 78,2 | 76,8 | 75,9 | 75,6 | 75,4 | 75,1 | -0,3 |
| Average size of family | 3,00 | 2,96 | 2,89 | 2,83 | 2,81 | 2,79 | 2,79 | 2,78 | -0,01 |

1) Families of the type "registered couple with children" numbered 418.

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Appendix tables

Appendix table 1. Families by type in 1950–2012

| Year | Total | Married couple without children | Married couple with children | Cohabiting couple without children | Cohabiting couple with children | Mother and children | Father and children | Registered male couple ³⁾ | Registered female couple ³⁾ |
|--------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1950 | 930 572 | 176 650 | 593 763 | .. | .. | 137 803 | 22 356 | .. | .. |
| 1960 | 1 036 270 | 207 897 | 678 822 | .. | .. | 129 706 | 19 845 | .. | .. |
| 1970 ¹⁾ | 1 153 878 | 260 562 | 722 001 | 19 100 | 6 800 | 126 394 | 19 021 | .. | .. |
| 1980 ²⁾ | 1 278 102 | 302 818 | 711 226 | 65 900 | 36 200 | 140 725 | 21 233 | .. | .. |
| 1985 | 1 331 971 | 323 584 | 701 544 | 87 709 | 46 632 | 149 399 | 23 103 | .. | .. |
| 1990 | 1 365 341 | 364 452 | 640 062 | 123 471 | 65 896 | 147 297 | 24 161 | .. | .. |
| 1991 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1992 | 1 374 961 | 376 429 | 617 303 | 129 031 | 75 617 | 151 373 | 25 208 | .. | .. |
| 1993 | 1 377 451 | 380 753 | 607 921 | 129 429 | 79 739 | 153 774 | 25 835 | .. | .. |
| 1994 | 1 379 852 | 388 417 | 593 787 | 131 899 | 81 755 | 157 429 | 26 565 | .. | .. |
| 1995 | 1 382 970 | 395 953 | 579 578 | 135 996 | 85 309 | 159 063 | 27 071 | .. | .. |
| 1996 | 1 386 414 | 403 584 | 566 686 | 140 194 | 88 906 | 159 563 | 27 481 | .. | .. |
| 1997 | 1 389 920 | 410 743 | 553 729 | 144 557 | 93 058 | 159 918 | 27 915 | .. | .. |
| 1998 | 1 393 793 | 418 927 | 539 899 | 150 272 | 96 228 | 160 059 | 28 408 | .. | .. |
| 1999 | 1 397 660 | 427 138 | 526 257 | 155 476 | 99 922 | 160 157 | 28 710 | .. | .. |
| 2000 | 1 401 963 | 436 019 | 514 868 | 160 132 | 102 581 | 159 432 | 28 931 | .. | .. |
| 2001 | 1 407 759 | 446 404 | 501 981 | 166 601 | 105 399 | 158 440 | 28 934 | .. | .. |
| 2002 | 1 411 947 | 454 977 | 492 524 | 170 368 | 107 443 | 157 143 | 29 093 | 207 | 192 |
| 2003 | 1 415 104 | 462 561 | 483 140 | 174 144 | 109 672 | 156 235 | 29 352 | 271 | 275 |
| 2004 | 1 420 781 | 471 962 | 475 705 | 177 095 | 111 294 | 154 851 | 29 192 | 325 | 357 |
| 2005 | 1 426 002 | 481 209 | 468 266 | 180 590 | 112 847 | 153 024 | 29 238 | 398 | 430 |
| 2006 | 1 431 376 | 488 880 | 461 569 | 184 732 | 114 671 | 151 475 | 29 101 | 455 | 493 |
| 2007 | 1 437 709 | 496 814 | 456 235 | 188 172 | 115 860 | 150 251 | 29 288 | 527 | 562 |
| 2008 | 1 444 386 | 504 728 | 452 180 | 191 177 | 115 966 | 149 631 | 29 460 | 579 | 665 |
| 2009 | 1 450 488 | 509 916 | 448 897 | 193 894 | 116 797 | 149 823 | 29 765 | 625 | 771 |
| 2010 | 1 455 073 | 513 889 | 446 433 | 195 967 | 117 254 | 149 651 | 30 278 | 706 | 895 |
| 2011 | 1 460 570 | 518 550 | 442 257 | 200 171 | 118 054 | 149 196 | 30 534 | 773 | 1 035 |
| 2012 | 1 465 733 | 523 221 | 439 194 | 203 334 | 118 136 | 149 143 | 30 714 | 829 | 1 162 |
| Percentage | | | | | | | | | |
| 1950 | 100,0 | 19,0 | 63,8 | .. | .. | 14,8 | 2,4 | .. | .. |
| 1960 | 100,0 | 20,1 | 65,5 | .. | .. | 12,5 | 1,9 | .. | .. |
| 1970 | 100,0 | 22,6 | 62,6 | 1,7 | 0,6 | 11,0 | 1,6 | .. | .. |
| 1980 | 100,0 | 23,7 | 55,6 | 5,2 | 2,8 | 11,0 | 1,7 | .. | .. |
| 1985 | 100,0 | 24,3 | 52,7 | 6,6 | 3,5 | 11,2 | 1,7 | .. | .. |
| 1990 | 100,0 | 26,7 | 46,9 | 9,0 | 4,8 | 10,8 | 1,8 | .. | .. |
| 1991 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1992 | 100,0 | 27,4 | 44,9 | 9,4 | 5,5 | 11,0 | 1,8 | .. | .. |
| 1993 | 100,0 | 27,6 | 44,1 | 9,4 | 5,8 | 11,2 | 1,9 | .. | .. |
| 1994 | 100,0 | 28,1 | 43,0 | 9,6 | 5,9 | 11,4 | 1,9 | .. | .. |
| 1995 | 100,0 | 28,6 | 41,9 | 9,8 | 6,2 | 11,5 | 2,0 | .. | .. |
| 1996 | 100,0 | 29,1 | 40,9 | 10,1 | 6,4 | 11,5 | 2,0 | .. | .. |
| 1997 | 100,0 | 29,6 | 39,8 | 10,4 | 6,7 | 11,5 | 2,0 | .. | .. |

| Year | Total | Married couple without children | Married couple with children | Cohabiting couple without children | Cohabiting couple with children | Mother and children | Father and children | Registered male couple ³⁾ | Registered female couple ³⁾ |
|------|-------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1998 | 100,0 | 30,1 | 38,7 | 10,8 | 6,9 | 11,5 | 2,0 | .. | .. |
| 1999 | 100,0 | 30,6 | 37,7 | 11,1 | 7,1 | 11,5 | 2,1 | .. | .. |
| 2000 | 100,0 | 31,1 | 36,7 | 11,4 | 7,3 | 11,4 | 2,1 | .. | .. |
| 2001 | 100,0 | 31,7 | 35,7 | 11,8 | 7,5 | 11,3 | 2,1 | .. | .. |
| 2002 | 100,0 | 32,2 | 34,9 | 12,1 | 7,6 | 11,1 | 2,1 | 0,0 | 0,0 |
| 2003 | 100,0 | 32,7 | 34,1 | 12,3 | 7,8 | 11,0 | 2,1 | 0,0 | 0,0 |
| 2004 | 100,0 | 33,2 | 33,5 | 12,5 | 7,8 | 10,9 | 2,1 | 0,0 | 0,0 |
| 2005 | 100,0 | 33,7 | 32,8 | 12,7 | 7,9 | 10,7 | 2,1 | 0,0 | 0,0 |
| 2006 | 100,0 | 34,2 | 32,2 | 12,9 | 8,0 | 10,6 | 2,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 |
| 2007 | 100,0 | 34,6 | 31,7 | 13,1 | 8,1 | 10,5 | 2,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 |
| 2008 | 100,0 | 34,9 | 31,3 | 13,2 | 8,0 | 10,4 | 2,0 | 0,0 | 0,0 |
| 2009 | 100,0 | 35,2 | 30,9 | 13,4 | 8,1 | 10,3 | 2,1 | 0,0 | 0,1 |
| 2010 | 100,0 | 35,3 | 30,7 | 13,5 | 8,1 | 10,3 | 2,1 | 0,0 | 0,1 |
| 2011 | 100,0 | 35,5 | 30,3 | 13,7 | 8,1 | 10,2 | 2,1 | 0,1 | 0,1 |
| 2012 | 100,0 | 35,7 | 30,0 | 13,9 | 8,1 | 10,2 | 2,1 | 0,1 | 0,1 |

1) The breakdown of the census by type of family has been revised on the basis of interview surveys (Aromaa, Cantell, Jaakkola: Avoliitto (Consensual Union), Research Institute of Legal Policy 49, Helsinki 1981).

2) The breakdown of the census by type of family has been revised on the basis of the 1981 register-based material on families and cohabiting couples.

3) Families of the type "registered couple with children" numbered 418.

Appendix table 2. Family population and average size of family in 1950–2012

| Year | Families, total | Family population | Whole population | Proportion of family population, % | Average size of family |
|------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1950 | 930 572 | 3 457 474 | 4 029 803 | 85,8 | 3,72 |
| 1960 | 1 036 270 | 3 855 037 | 4 446 222 | 86,7 | 3,72 |
| 1970 | 1 153 878 | 3 986 005 | 4 598 336 | 86,7 | 3,45 |
| 1980 | 1 278 102 | 4 023 091 | 4 787 778 | 84,0 | 3,15 |
| 1985 | 1 331 971 | 4 108 856 | 4 910 664 | 83,7 | 3,08 |
| 1990 | 1 365 341 | 4 101 922 | 4 998 478 | 82,1 | 3,00 |
| 1991 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1992 | 1 374 961 | 4 111 580 | 5 054 982 | 81,3 | 2,99 |
| 1993 | 1 377 451 | 4 114 603 | 5 077 912 | 81,0 | 2,99 |
| 1994 | 1 379 852 | 4 102 865 | 5 098 754 | 80,5 | 2,97 |
| 1995 | 1 382 970 | 4 093 038 | 5 116 829 | 80,0 | 2,96 |
| 1996 | 1 386 414 | 4 086 104 | 5 132 320 | 79,6 | 2,95 |
| 1997 | 1 389 920 | 4 079 391 | 5 147 349 | 79,3 | 2,93 |
| 1998 | 1 393 793 | 4 069 211 | 5 159 646 | 78,9 | 2,92 |
| 1999 | 1 397 660 | 4 059 928 | 5 171 302 | 78,5 | 2,90 |
| 2000 | 1 401 963 | 4 053 850 | 5 181 115 | 78,2 | 2,89 |
| 2001 | 1 407 759 | 4 046 205 | 5 194 901 | 77,9 | 2,87 |
| 2002 | 1 411 947 | 4 042 577 | 5 206 295 | 77,6 | 2,86 |
| 2003 | 1 415 104 | 4 037 970 | 5 219 732 | 77,4 | 2,85 |
| 2004 | 1 420 781 | 4 038 055 | 5 236 611 | 77,1 | 2,84 |
| 2005 | 1 426 002 | 4 037 753 | 5 255 580 | 76,8 | 2,83 |
| 2006 | 1 431 376 | 4 039 944 | 5 276 955 | 76,6 | 2,82 |
| 2007 | 1 437 709 | 4 045 561 | 5 300 484 | 76,3 | 2,81 |
| 2008 | 1 444 386 | 4 051 662 | 5 326 314 | 76,1 | 2,81 |
| 2009 | 1 450 488 | 4 059 511 | 5 351 427 | 75,9 | 2,80 |
| 2010 | 1 455 073 | 4 065 168 | 5 375 276 | 75,6 | 2,79 |
| 2011 | 1 460 570 | 4 069 930 | 5 401 267 | 75,4 | 2,79 |
| 2012 | 1 465 733 | 4 075 094 | 5 426 674 | 75,1 | 2,78 |

Appendix table 3. Families with underage children by type in 1950–2012

| Corrected on 27 May 2013. The correction is indicated in red. | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| Year | Total | Married couple with children | Cohabiting couple with children | Mother and children | Father and children | Registered partnership with children | Persons in families with underage children | Families with children aged under 18 | Families with children of all families, % | Population belonging to families with children, % |
| 1950 | 599 329 | 515 115 | .. | 74 319 | 9 895 | .. | .. | 1 341 330 | 64,4 | .. |
| 1960 | 678 046 | 601 542 | .. | 67 381 | 9 123 | .. | .. | 1 536 464 | 65,4 | .. |
| 1970 ¹⁾ | 677 035 | 602 076 | 5 800 | 61 173 | 7 986 | .. | .. | 1 345 089 | 58,7 | .. |
| 1980 ²⁾ | 688 732 | 572 142 | 32 100 | 74 839 | 9 651 | .. | .. | 1 163 926 | 53,9 | .. |
| 1985 | 659 052 | 533 787 | 41 458 | 74 238 | 9 569 | .. | .. | 1 136 027 | 49,5 | .. |
| 1990 | 640 637 | 490 999 | 59 900 | 78 948 | 10 790 | .. | 2 437 592 | 1 135 686 | 46,9 | 48,8 |
| 1991 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1992 | 647 571 | 479 057 | 69 622 | 86 848 | 12 044 | .. | 2 461 470 | 1 152 689 | 47,1 | 48,7 |
| 1993 | 647 123 | 470 980 | 73 332 | 90 267 | 12 544 | .. | 2 460 931 | 1 154 566 | 47,0 | 48,5 |
| 1994 | 643 799 | 459 978 | 75 233 | 95 426 | 13 162 | .. | 2 443 563 | 1 152 947 | 46,7 | 47,9 |
| 1995 | 639 610 | 449 241 | 78 528 | 98 351 | 13 490 | .. | 2 425 426 | 1 150 562 | 46,2 | 47,4 |
| 1996 | 635 034 | 438 883 | 82 135 | 100 219 | 13 797 | .. | 2 407 133 | 1 146 986 | 45,8 | 46,9 |
| 1997 | 630 472 | 428 922 | 86 176 | 101 309 | 14 065 | .. | 2 389 433 | 1 142 337 | 45,4 | 46,4 |
| 1998 | 625 392 | 418 883 | 89 315 | 102 767 | 14 427 | .. | 2 367 472 | 1 135 233 | 44,9 | 45,9 |
| 1999 | 619 641 | 408 234 | 92 819 | 103 872 | 14 716 | .. | 2 343 417 | 1 127 252 | 44,3 | 45,3 |
| 2000 | 612 627 | 398 892 | 95 120 | 103 984 | 14 631 | .. | 2 317 291 | 1 116 687 | 43,7 | 44,7 |
| 2001 | 605 322 | 389 174 | 97 738 | 103 866 | 14 544 | .. | 2 288 171 | 1 105 988 | 43,0 | 44,0 |
| 2002 | 598 917 | 381 340 | 99 625 | 103 286 | 14 634 | 32 | 2 265 406 | 1 096 705 | 42,4 | 43,5 |
| 2003 | 595 027 | 374 940 | 101 742 | 103 446 | 14 852 | 47 | 2 249 410 | 1 090 551 | 42,0 | 43,1 |
| 2004 | 592 809 | 371 323 | 103 214 | 103 376 | 14 837 | 59 | 2 239 701 | 1 087 510 | 41,7 | 42,8 |
| 2005 | 591 528 | 368 553 | 104 782 | 103 044 | 15 063 | 86 | 2 232 613 | 1 084 865 | 41,5 | 42,5 |
| 2006 | 589 448 | 365 326 | 106 422 | 102 469 | 15 111 | 120 | 2 223 718 | 1 080 728 | 41,2 | 42,1 |
| 2007 | 587 767 | 362 884 | 107 290 | 102 156 | 15 291 | 146 | 2 216 526 | 1 076 522 | 40,9 | 41,8 |
| 2008 | 585 224 | 360 904 | 107 034 | 101 717 | 15 382 | 187 | 2 206 209 | 1 071 800 | 40,5 | 41,4 |
| 2009 | 584 172 | 358 871 | 107 377 | 102 146 | 15 549 | 229 | 2 200 603 | 1 068 554 | 40,3 | 41,1 |
| 2010 | 582 360 | 356 943 | 107 368 | 101 946 | 15 836 | 267 | 2 193 389 | 1 064 470 | 40,0 | 40,8 |
| 2011 | 580 547 | 354 567 | 107 738 | 101 963 | 15 940 | 339 | 2 185 130 | 1 061 710 | 39,7 | 40,5 |
| 2012 | 578 409 | 352 159 | 107 751 | 102 013 | 16 081 | 405 | 2 176 199 | 1 058 664 | 39,5 | 40,1 |
| Percentage | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1950 | 100,0 | 85,9 | .. | 12,4 | 1,7 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1960 | 100,0 | 88,7 | .. | 9,9 | 1,3 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1970 | 100,0 | 88,9 | 0,9 | 9,0 | 1,2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1980 | 100,0 | 83,1 | 4,7 | 10,9 | 1,4 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1985 | 100,0 | 81,0 | 6,3 | 11,3 | 1,5 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1990 | 100,0 | 76,6 | 9,4 | 12,3 | 1,7 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1991 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1992 | 100,0 | 74,0 | 10,8 | 13,4 | 1,9 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1993 | 100,0 | 72,8 | 11,3 | 13,9 | 1,9 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1994 | 100,0 | 71,4 | 11,7 | 14,8 | 2,0 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1995 | 100,0 | 70,2 | 12,3 | 15,4 | 2,1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1996 | 100,0 | 69,1 | 12,9 | 15,8 | 2,2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1997 | 100,0 | 68,0 | 13,7 | 16,1 | 2,2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1998 | 100,0 | 67,0 | 14,3 | 16,4 | 2,3 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |

Corrected on 27 May 2013. The correction is indicated in red.

| Year | Total | Married couple with children | Cohabiting couple with children | Mother and children | Father and children | Registered partnership with children | Persons in families with underage children | Families with children aged under 18 | Families with children of all families, % | Population belonging to families with children, % |
|------|-------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| 1999 | 100,0 | 65,9 | 15,0 | 16,8 | 2,4 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 2000 | 100,0 | 65,1 | 15,5 | 17,0 | 2,4 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 2001 | 100,0 | 64,3 | 16,1 | 17,2 | 2,4 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 2002 | 100,0 | 63,7 | 16,6 | 17,2 | 2,4 | 0,0 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 2003 | 100,0 | 63,0 | 17,1 | 17,4 | 2,5 | 0,0 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 2004 | 100,0 | 62,6 | 17,4 | 17,4 | 2,5 | 0,0 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 2005 | 100,0 | 62,3 | 17,7 | 17,4 | 2,5 | 0,0 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 2006 | 100,0 | 62,0 | 18,1 | 17,4 | 2,6 | 0,0 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 2007 | 100,0 | 61,7 | 18,3 | 17,4 | 2,6 | 0,0 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 2008 | 100,0 | 61,7 | 18,3 | 17,4 | 2,6 | 0,0 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 2009 | 100,0 | 61,4 | 18,4 | 17,5 | 2,7 | 0,0 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 2010 | 100,0 | 61,3 | 18,4 | 17,5 | 2,7 | 0,0 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 2011 | 100,0 | 61,1 | 18,6 | 17,6 | 2,7 | 0,1 | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 2012 | 100,0 | 60,9 | 18,6 | 17,6 | 2,8 | 0,1 | .. | .. | .. | .. |

1) The breakdown of the census by type of family has been revised on the basis of interview surveys (Aromaa, Cantell, Jaakkola: Avoliitto (Consensual Union) Research Institute of Legal Policy 49, Helsinki 1981).

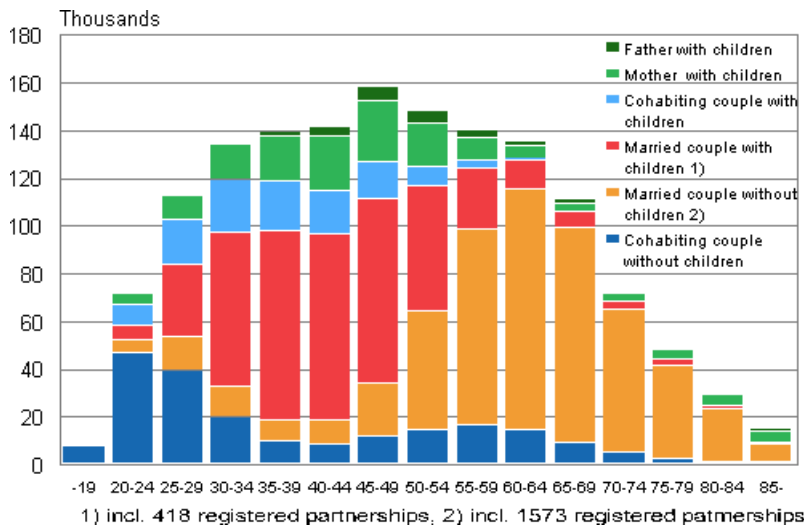
2) The breakdown of the census by type of family has been revised on the basis of the 1981 register-based material on families and cohabiting couples.

Appendix table 4. Reconstituted families 1990–2012

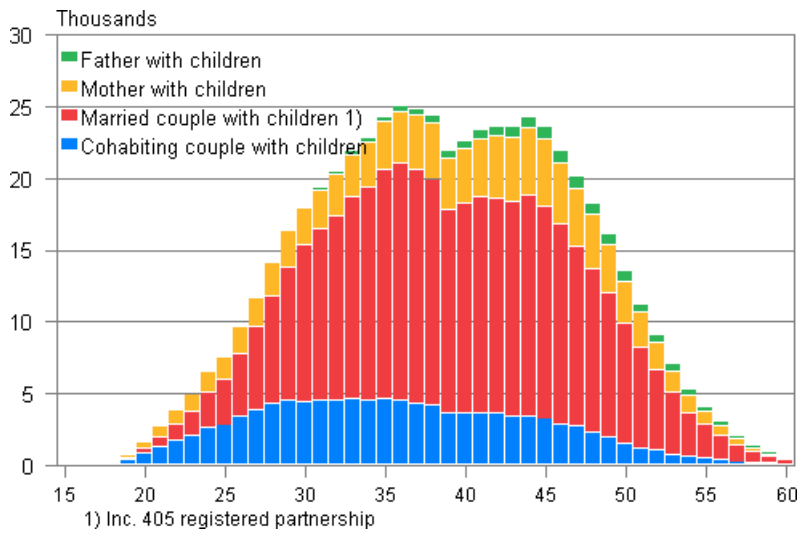
| Year | Total | Married couple | Cohabiting couple | Reconstituted families as a proportion of families with children, % | Mother's children | Father's children | Common children | Children under 18 in reconstituted families | 'Non-common' children as a proportion of children of all families, % | Children in reconstituted families as a proportion of children of all families, % |
|------|--------|----------------|-------------------|---|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---|--|---|
| 1990 | 44 426 | 21 808 | 22 618 | 6,9 | 50 713 | 7 443 | 30 089 | 88 245 | 5,1 | 7,8 |
| 1991 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1992 | 43 647 | 20 109 | 23 538 | 6,7 | 50 591 | 7 529 | 29 555 | 87 675 | 5,0 | 7,6 |
| 1993 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| 1994 | 42 216 | 19 251 | 22 965 | 6,6 | 49 668 | 7 510 | 28 994 | 86 172 | 5,0 | 7,5 |
| 1995 | 42 460 | 19 197 | 23 263 | 6,6 | 50 322 | 7 637 | 29 242 | 87 201 | 5,0 | 7,6 |
| 1996 | 43 100 | 19 368 | 23 732 | 6,8 | 51 567 | 7 710 | 29 476 | 88 753 | 5,2 | 7,7 |
| 1997 | 44 219 | 19 732 | 24 487 | 7,0 | 53 444 | 7 909 | 29 990 | 91 343 | 5,4 | 8,0 |
| 1998 | 45 296 | 20 173 | 25 123 | 7,2 | 55 267 | 8 042 | 30 312 | 93 621 | 5,6 | 8,2 |
| 1999 | 47 194 | 20 523 | 26 671 | 7,6 | 58 115 | 8 191 | 30 723 | 97 029 | 5,9 | 8,6 |
| 2000 | 47 288 | 21 315 | 25 973 | 7,7 | 58 550 | 8 541 | 30 931 | 98 022 | 6,0 | 8,8 |
| 2001 | 48 359 | 21 846 | 26 513 | 8,0 | 60 272 | 8 916 | 31 086 | 100 274 | 6,3 | 9,1 |
| 2002 | 49 294 | 22 431 | 26 863 | 8,2 | 61 816 | 9 120 | 31 226 | 102 162 | 6,5 | 9,3 |
| 2003 | 49 944 | 22 888 | 27 056 | 8,4 | 63 071 | 9 198 | 31 565 | 103 834 | 6,6 | 9,5 |
| 2004 | 50 867 | 23 872 | 26 995 | 8,6 | 64 503 | 9 366 | 32 040 | 105 909 | 6,8 | 9,7 |
| 2005 | 52 204 | 24 722 | 27 482 | 8,8 | 66 228 | 9 746 | 32 465 | 108 439 | 7,0 | 10,0 |
| 2006 | 52 920 | 25 275 | 27 645 | 9,0 | 67 175 | 10 054 | 32 817 | 110 071 | 7,1 | 10,2 |
| 2007 | 53 482 | 25 901 | 27 581 | 9,1 | 67 652 | 10 254 | 33 064 | 110 970 | 7,2 | 10,3 |
| 2008 | 53 674 | 26 415 | 27 259 | 9,2 | 67 463 | 10 378 | 33 227 | 111 068 | 7,3 | 10,4 |
| 2009 | 53 584 | 26 516 | 27 068 | 9,2 | 67 154 | 10 517 | 33 016 | 110 687 | 7,3 | 10,4 |
| 2010 | 53 265 | 26 612 | 26 653 | 9,1 | 66 508 | 10 417 | 33 057 | 109 982 | 7,2 | 10,3 |
| 2011 | 53 361 | 26 698 | 26 663 | 9,2 | 66 423 | 10 473 | 33 169 | 110 065 | 7,2 | 10,4 |
| 2012 | 53 018 | 26 838 | 26 180 | 9,2 | 65 873 | 10 519 | 33 263 | 109 655 | 7,2 | 10,4 |

Appendix figures

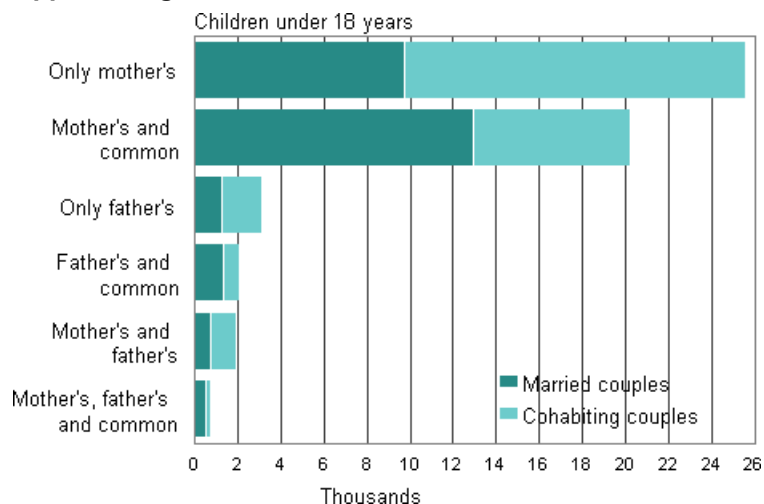
Appendix figure 1. Families by type and age of wife/mother in 2012 (families with father and children by age of father)



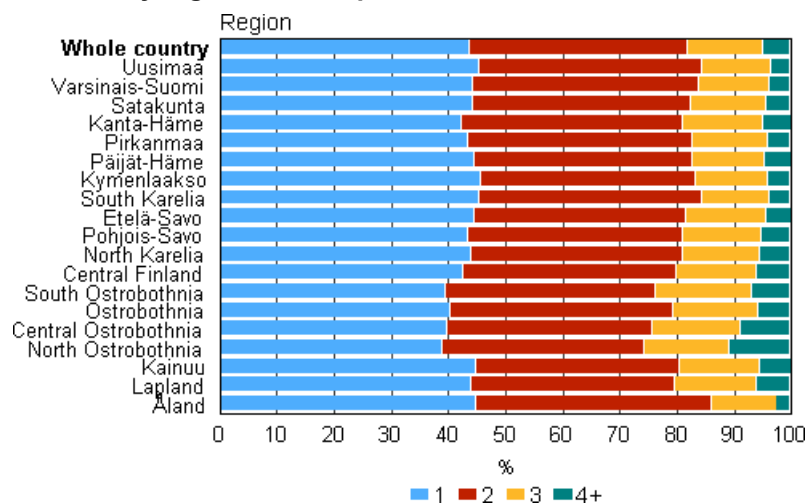
Appendix figure 2. Families with underage children by type and age of mother in 2012 (families with father and children by age of father)



Appendix figure 3. Structure of reconstituted families in 2012



Appendix figure 4. Number of children in families with underage children by region in 2012, per cent



Quality description, families 2012

1. Relevance of statistical information

The basic data file derives from the population information system of the Central Population Register and covers the population permanently resident in Finland on 31 December 2012.

The Population Register Centre and local register offices maintain Finland's Population Information System. The last population registration was carried out in Finland on 1 January 1989. After that the Population Information System has been updated by notifications of changes. The data stored in the Population Information System are specified in the act on the Population Information System and on the certificate services of the Population Register Centre (21 August 2009/661). Notifications on population changes for the past year are expected by the last day of January. At the beginning of February the Population Register Centre supplies to Statistics Finland the population data for the turn of the year.

Statistics Finland's function is to compile statistics on conditions in society (Statistics Finland Act of 24 January 1992/48). These include also family statistics. Statistics Finland's Rules of Procedure define the Population and Social Statistics unit as the producer of family statistics (Statistics Finland's Rules of Procedure, TK-00-1497-12).

Concepts

In the family statistics **children** comprise the following persons living with their parents:

- biological children;
- adopted children;
- biological children and adopted children of one of the spouses.

Foster children and children in the care of the family are not classified as children.

The definition of child has changed since 1990. A child is now defined as a person who lives with his or her parents irrespective of his or her marital status, unless the person has a spouse or children who live in the same household-dwelling unit. In 1990 only unmarried persons were counted as children. So while in 1990 widowed or divorced persons living with their parents were classified as not belonging to families, since 1992 they have been regarded as members of the family.

A **cohabiting couple** is defined as two spouseless adults of different sex aged 18 and over and occupying the same dwelling on a permanent basis, provided their age difference is less than 16 years and they are not siblings. In case the couple has a common child these specifications do not apply. Same-sex persons living together are not inferred as cohabiting couples. Only registered partnerships are recorded in the statistics.

A **dwelling** refers to a room or a suite of rooms which is intended for year-round habitation; is furnished with a kitchen, kitchenette or cooking area; and has a floor area of at least 7 square metres. Every dwelling must have its own entrance. A single-family house may be entered through an enclosed porch or veranda. If a dwelling is entered through the premises of another dwelling, it is not regarded as a separate dwelling but the two constitute one dwelling.

The **dwelling population** comprises those persons who, according to the Population information system of the Population Register Centre, resided permanently in dwellings at 31 December. Persons permanently institutionalised, living in residential homes and abroad and homeless people are not included in the dwelling population. Likewise, persons living in buildings classified as residential homes, whose living quarters do not meet the definition of dwelling, are not included.

The basic family population differs from the dwelling population in that it also includes those living in residential homes.

A **family** consists of a married or cohabiting couple or persons in a registered partnership and their children living together; or either of the parents and his or her children living together; or a married or cohabiting couple and persons in a registered partnership without children.

Starting from 1 March 2002, same-sex couples have been able to register their partnerships.

Persons living in the household-dwelling unit who are not members of the nuclear family are not included in the family population, even if they are related, unless they form their own family. Brothers and sisters or cousins living together are not a family and do not belong to the family population. The same applies to people who live alone or with a person of the same sex.

Families living in residential homes are included in the family population. In contrast, persons who live in institutions are not included.

A family can consist of no more than two successive generations. If the household-dwelling unit comprises more than two generations, the family is formed starting from the youngest generation. This means, for example, that a mother-in-law or father-in-law living with their child's family will not be included in the family population unless they live together with their spouse, in which case the old couple form their own family.

A family with underage children refers to a family which has at least one child aged under 18 living at home.

Family members are grouped by family status as follows:

- ~ spouse, no children;
- ~ spouse with children;
- ~ cohabiting partner, no children;
- ~ cohabiting partner with children;
- ~ partner in a registered partnership, no children;
- ~ partner in a registered partnership with children;
- ~ father/mother without spouse;
- ~ child.

In the family statistics children comprise all persons, regardless of age, who live with their parents, or the spouse's biological or adopted children, but not foster children or children in the care of the family.

A **family with underage children** is a family comprising at least one child aged under 18 living at home.

A **household-dwelling unit** consists of the permanent occupants of a dwelling. Persons who, according to the Population Information System of the Population Register Centre, are institutionalised, homeless, abroad, or registered as unknown, do not constitute household-dwelling units. Additionally, persons living in buildings classified as residential homes do not form household-dwelling units if their living quarters do not meet the definition of a dwelling.

When tabulating registered partnerships together with married or cohabiting couples, **husband** refers to the older partner of the registered couple.

The number of children refers to the number of children who are living at home and have the status of a child.

The number of children in families with underage children refers to the number of children aged under 18 living at home.

In a **reconstituted family**, a child aged under 18 is a child of only one of the spouses. Not all the children aged under 18 in the family are common children.

A **spouse** refers to either a married or cohabiting partner or one of the partners of a registered partnership, unless otherwise indicated in the context.

Families are grouped into the following **family types**:

- ~ married couple without children;
- ~ married couple without children; ~ cohabiting couple without children;
- ~ married couple with children;
- ~ cohabiting couple with children;
- ~ registered male couple without children;
- ~ registered male couple with children;
- ~ registered female couple without children;
- ~ registered female couple with children;
- ~ mother with children;
- ~ father with children.

A married or cohabiting couple without children refers to a couple who has never had any children or whose children no longer live with their parents. 'Cohabiting couple with children' contains couples who have common children and also couples whose children are not common.

For reasons of data protection, those living in registered partnerships are grouped together with married persons in municipal tables.

When tabulating registered partnerships together with married or cohabiting couples, **wife** refers to the younger partner of the registered couple.

A man with a family is a married or cohabiting partner, a father with children and both partners of a registered male couple.

A woman with a family is a married or cohabiting partner, a mother with children and both partners of a registered female couple.

2. Methodological description of survey

The computer program classifies persons on the basis of their permanent place of residence code into household-dwelling units. The record of each person permanently residing in the dwelling includes the personal identification codes of his or her parents, spouse and children. By comparing them the program forms the families.

Before 1990, cohabiting couples were solely inferred with the help of common children. Since year 1992 inferences have been made using a revised program. After joining married couples in the household-dwelling units, this program identifies as cohabiting partners persons who live in the same dwelling, do not have a spouse, are aged 18 or over, and are of the opposite sex, provided that they are not siblings and their age difference is not more than 15 years. These rules do not apply to cohabiting couples with common children.

According to the former concepts, a sole-supporter mother with whom a man of suitable age is residing will be classified as a cohabiting couple. Likewise, the daughter of a family and a man of suitable age possibly residing with the family now form a cohabiting couple.

The inference of families is made difficult by the fact that the population information system is unable to distinguish between subtenants and the rest of the family. According to the reliability study of the 1990 census, there were less than 20,000 subtenants in Finland at that time. Hence, any inferences where the subtenant is identified as the cohabiting partner of the landlord/lady cannot amount to any considerable number, as the precondition is that the subtenant is of a suitable age and a different sex from the spouseless landlord/lady.

If there is more than one suitable candidate, the program selects the person closest in age. If there are more than four persons without a spouse, the program does not classify them as cohabiting couples.

Families are not formed from institutionalised persons.

3. Correctness and accuracy of data

Family statisticians in Finland are privileged in that they have access to a population information system in which each person has, besides his or her personal identification code, also a domicile code, which tells the dwelling where he or she lives. Family statistics can be compiled from the entire population on an annual basis and quickly without burdening people with costly enquiries. Besides Finland, Denmark is the only other country where this is possible.

The inference of families from the population information system causes problems, mainly in two respects:

1. Only persons who are registered as domiciled in the same dwelling can be linked as a family.

2. Cohabiting couples (marriage-like relationship) will have to be inferred.

1. According to international concept definitions, the family can also be formed on the basis of the official place of residence, as is done in Finland. However, the families where one of the spouses is registered as domiciled in another locality, due to work, for example, will not be entered in the statistics as complete although he or she spends the weekends and vacations with the rest of the family. Likewise, a couple may reside together, although one of them is still registered as domiciled in some other place, with his or her previous spouse, for example.

In Finland the majority of people do, however, live in the place where they are registered as domiciled. In general, the Population Information System of the Population Register Centre can be considered very exhaustive as regards persons. In order that a person obtains a personal identity code, he or she has to be registered in the Population Information System. It is practically impossible to live in Finland without a personal identity code. A personal identity code is needed so that one can work legally, open a bank account, have dealings with authorities and so on. It can be safely assumed that Finland cannot have any substantial numbers of 'moonlighters' who receive their pay in cash for periods of over one year, for example. Staying in Finland for at least one year is the prerequisite for registering into the population of Finland.

After the abolishment of yearly checking of domicile registers in 1989 the Population Information System has been maintained only by notifications of changes to population information. Their correctness is determined by a reliability survey made on the addresses in the Population Information System.

The Population Register Centre charges Statistics Finland with the task of conducting an annual sample survey on correctness of address information. Around 11,000 people are asked whether their address in the Population Information System is correct. In the 2012 survey, the address was correct for 98.9 per cent of the respondents. The non-response of this survey was 16.9 per cent. As regards the non-response, attempts were made to check the addresses from other sources. The address could be ascertained as correct for 92.3 per cent and as incorrect for 5.9 per cent of the persons included in the non-response. The address of 1.8 per cent of the persons in the non-response could not be checked. If we assume that all the unchecked data of persons in the non-response are incorrect, the final proportion of correct addresses would be 98.1 per cent.

In connection with municipal elections, returned notifications of voting sent to foreigners usually reveal around 1,000 persons who have moved from the country without giving notice and are thus still included in the Finnish population. The Population Register Centre removes them from the resident population in the Population Information System before the following turn of the year.

The situation as regard Unlike before, students may now register as domiciled in the locality where they are studying. s the young has improved, thanks to the new Municipality of Residence Act.

2. Inferring a marriage-like relationship from the population information system is more problematic. One alternative is not to enter childless cohabiting couples in the statistics at all and to link cohabiting couples only with the help of common children. But since statistics are supposed to give as truthful a picture of society as possible, we will surely get closer to the truth by inferring cohabiting couples on the basis of a common address than by leaving them out of the statistics altogether.

The program is also bound to infer non-existing cohabiting couples. On the other hand, it does not classify as cohabiting couples persons aged under 18, nor does it classify those whose age difference is over 15

years as such. The number of cohabiting couples inferred with the help of the program is, however, very close to the figures obtained by interview surveys conducted before the inference was started.

In 1989 cohabiting couples were obtained by a separate interview survey. The interview focused on persons, not families. The question was only posed to persons whose marital status was 'not married'. On the basis of the sample, it was estimated that there were 372,000 cohabiting persons aged 15-64 in Finland. In the family statistics for the following year 370,000 persons were classified on the basis of their addresses as cohabiting persons aged 18-64. However, some of these persons had the marital status 'married'. According to the samples, the number of cohabiting persons grew at an annual rate of some 20,000 at the end of the 1980s.

By taking into consideration the differences in age limits and the importance of the marital status in the inference of cohabiting couples, it may be observed that, by inference, the number of cohabiting couples is slightly smaller than the real situation measured by samples. The inference of cohabiting couples does, however, convey a good enough picture of the family structure in Finnish society. Hence it helps us to monitor the trend in families and to examine different types of families as larger groups. Certain caution should, however, be exercised in making unit-level inferences on the basis of these couples.

4. Timeliness and promptness of published data

Statistics Finland dates the population at the turn of the year as at the last day of the year. Since 1999 the regional division used has been that of the first day of the following year. Thus the municipalities that unite on the first day of the new year are already combined in the statistics on the last day of the previous year. Where necessary, statistics at the turn of year can also be produced with the municipality division before the unification.

5. Accessibility and transparency/clarity of data

The first family statistics are available from the 1950 and 1960 population censuses. From 1970 onwards population censuses have been conducted every five years. In addition, family data have been published in the years 1977, 1978, 1982, 1984 and 1987. Since 1992 family statistics have been compiled yearly. The Families publication has been produced yearly from 1994.

In the census years data have been combined for families on employment, income, housing, and so on. In other years only demographic data on families are available.

From 1980 to 1989, a yearly review based on a sample of around 10,000 persons was conducted on those living in consensual union in connection with the Labour Force Survey.

From 1870 to 1930 a population census based on person questionnaires was made in major towns every ten years. Some information about household-dwelling units is available from these censuses.

Basic family data are available in electronic form by municipality or with larger regional divisions than municipality in Statistics Finland's free Stat Fin -online service on the Internet at:
http://www.stat.fi/tup/tilastotietokannat/index_en.html

General information and long time series on the families of the whole country can be obtained from the home page of Families at: http://www.stat.fi/til/perh/index_en.html

The chargeable information service contains more specified information about the families by sub-area of municipality, for example. More information about the service can be found at:
http://www.stat.fi/tup/tilastotietokannat/index_en.html

More information about Statistics Finland's chargeable services is available at:
http://www.stat.fi/tup/tilastotietokannat/index_en.html

6. Comparability of statistics

Family data are not fully comparable before and after 1990, when cohabiting couples were first concluded on the basis of their living together. For the Families publication, family distributions, inclusive of cohabiting

couples without common children, were estimated using the sample surveys for the whole country for the years 1960 and 1970. The figures for 1980 and 1985 were extracted from the original data with the new classification. Inclusion of cohabiting couples in the statistics increases the number of families and at the same time decreases the number of single supporters, because some of the single supporters are cohabiting with their new spouses.

The fact that the marital status of the person classified with the status of a child has not been limited after 1990 also increases the number of families. Now a divorced person who comes back to live with his or her mother forms a family with the mother, while earlier the mother and the child were recorded as being outside the family population.

7. Coherence and consistency/uniformity

The figures of demographic family statistics differ somewhat from the family figures of population censuses. In these census statistics the concept is household-dwelling population, whereby the families whose dwellings do not fulfil the criteria for a dwelling are excluded from statistic on family.

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Source: Population and Cause of Death Statistics, Statistics Finland