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## TOPONYMIC GUIDELINES FOR MAP EDITORS AND OTHER EDITORS

### FINLAND

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## **SUMMARY**

Finland is a multilingual country. According to the constitution, Finnish and Swedish are, on equal basis, Finland's national languages and official state languages. According to the Saami Language Act, the Saami languages have official status as minority languages and Saami speakers are granted the right to use their language when contacting the authorities. Both the national languages and Saami are written with variants of the Roman alphabet.

The Finnish alphabet, its pronunciation and its use in geographical names are described, as well as the Saami alphabet and its pronunciation. The Swedish used in Finland does not differ essentially from the Swedish used in Sweden except for pronunciation (see *Toponymic Guidelines – Sweden*).

Authority over place names is divided in Finland. The right and responsibility for providing normative recommendations about place names belong to the Research Institute for the Languages of Finland. The power of decision concerning administrative names of various categories belongs to the respective administrative bodies but they should consult name experts before making their decisions (only the municipalities are legally obliged to do so). The National Land Survey of Finland and the Research Institute for the Languages of Finland are jointly responsible for the standardization of names on maps.

The report gives also (1) the names of the administrative divisions and areas of Finland, (2) the names and addresses of place name authorities, (3) lists of common generic terms, adjectives and other words contained in Finnish and Saami place names, (4) a list of common abbreviations of explanatory texts used in large-scale maps, (5) recommendations concerning the use of place names of Finland in different languages, (6) a bibliography of the most important maps, atlases, and place name indexes and (7) a list of gazetteers of Finnish, Swedish, and Saami place names.

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# 1 LANGUAGES

## 1.1 Introduction

Finland is a multilingual country. According to the constitution, Finnish and Swedish are, on equal basis, Finland's national languages and official state languages. According to the the Saami Language Act Saami languages have official status as minority languages and Saami speakers are granted the right to use their language when contacting the authorities.

The population of Finland is 5,300,000 (2008) of whom 4,840,000 (91.3 %) speak Finnish, 290,000 (5.5 %) Swedish and 1,800 (0.03 %) Saami as native language. Speakers of foreign languages amount to 175,000 (3.3 %), the largest groups being speakers of Russian (45,000), Estonian (19,800), English (10,600), Somali (9,800) and Arabic (8,100).

A municipality (*fi kunta*, *sv kommun*) is considered to be bilingual if the speakers of the minority language constitute at least 8 % of its population, or, alternatively, if they amount to more than 3,000. The Council of State determines which municipalities are monolingual Finnish or Swedish and which are bilingual on the basis of the census, which is conducted every tenth year. A municipality cannot be declared monolingual unless the proportion of speakers of the minority language has fallen to 6 % or less of the total population. Saami is spoken as a minority language in four northernmost municipalities of Finnish Lapland (see Map 1).

According to the Language Act, all public notices and proclamations, announcements and other documents given by officials to the public have to be written in the local language in monolingual areas and in both languages in bilingual areas. The language legislation in Finland, and especially the proceedings in the official language aimed at the public, are based on the principle that two language groups shall be treated equally. The only exception is the Autonomous Province of Åland, where Swedish is the only official language.

The national languages and Saami are written with variants of the Roman alphabet.

Most place names in Finland are Finnish. A Swedish-speaking population lives on the west and south coasts and in the southwestern archipelago since the Middle Ages, and the Swedish place names of Finland are concentrated in these areas (see Map 1). Saami names are best preserved in Lapland.

Only names, which are in actual use, are published on official topographic maps. In other words, map-makers do not invent new names for places lacking a name, nor do they create unattested name forms by translating or modifying names of another language. Names in bilingual areas are written on maps in both languages, with the majority name mentioned first. However, in Saami areas, Finnish name is always mentioned first, followed by possible North Saami, Inari Saami and Skolt Saami names – in this particular order. In monolingual areas only certain important names are given also in other languages. In bilingual areas, road and street signs and signposts are bilingual, with the language of the majority being placed first.

## 1.2 Principal national language – Finnish

Finnish, a Finno-Ugric language, uses the following letters of the Roman alphabet:

A a	G g	M m	S s	X x	Ö ö
B b	H h	N n	(Š š)	Y y	
C c	I i	O o	T t	Z z	
D d	J j	P p	U u	(Ž ž)	
E e	K k	Q q	V v	Å å	
F f	L l	R r	W w	Ä ä	

Originally Finnish words do not contain the following letters: *b, c, f, q, š, x, z, ž, å*. The letters in parentheses also do not belong to the Finnish alphabet, but do appear in loanwords. *w* is alphabetized as *v*, *š* as *s*, and *ž* as *z*. For technical reasons, *š* may be replaced by *sh* and *ž* by *zh* (both digraphs are alphabetized as separate letters).

The vowels *ä* and *ö* represent independent sounds and should be strictly distinguished from the vowels *a* and *o*. These vowels have separate orthographic status in the alphabet.

### 1.2.1 Spelling of Finnish place names

The following rules are applied to the spelling of Finnish place names of Finland and to Finnish exonyms, for instance in the maps compiled by the National Land Survey and in linguistically checked books and other publications.

\* Place names and their specific (proper noun) elements begin with a capital letter: *Yli-Ii, Iso Arajärvi*.

\* Names with a specific and a generic element are usually written as one word: *Hirvijärvi* ‘Moose Lake’, *Tornionjokilaakso* ‘Tornio River Valley’, *Sibeliuksenkatu* ‘Sibelius Street’.

\* Names are written as separate words if (a) the basic element is a compound noun and the preceding qualifier is an inflected adjective or a noun in genitive case: *Iso Ahvenlampi* ‘Big Perch Pond’ (genitive: *Ison Ahvenlammen*), *Vanha Viipurintie* ‘Old Viipuri Road’ (genitive: *Vanhan Viipurintien*), *Nuuskion Pitkäjärvi* ‘Nuukio Long Lake’, (b) the term designates an artefact and the preceding qualifier is in genitive: *Saimaan kanava* ‘Saimaa Canal’, *Lokan allas* ‘Lokka Reservoir’, (c) the term is preceded by a hyphenated proper noun: *Ison-Antin tie* ‘Big Antti’s Road’, and (d) the qualifying specific element is a word combination, such as a given name and a surname: *Mikko Määtän vaara* ‘Mikko Määttä’s Mountain’, *Aleksis Kiven katu* ‘Aleksis Kivi’s Street’.

\* Names are hyphenated if they are composed of (a) a qualifier preceding a noncompound proper noun: *Iso-Syöte* ‘Big Syöte’, *Pohjois-Savo* ‘Northern Savo’, (b) a non-inflecting qualifier (substantives or prefixes, such as *Ala-*, *Ylä-*, *Etu-*, *Keski-*, *Väli-*) preceding a compound proper noun: *Etelä-Konnevesi* ‘South Konne Lake’ or (c) parallel proper nouns: *Helsinki-Vantaan lentoasema* ‘Helsinki-Vantaa Airport’.

For historical reasons, some officially fixed names do not follow these rules, for instance the municipality name *Ylitornio*, which should be spelled “Yli-Tornio”.

### 1.2.2 Pronunciation of Finnish place names

The main stress in Finnish words is invariably on the first syllable. A weaker secondary stress occurs on the third or fifth syllable, if it is not the final syllable. Final syllables are always unstressed. Stress is not marked in the written language.

The phonetics of Finnish is simple. Each sound has its own written symbol and in principle each symbol corresponds to one sound only. In standard Finnish, however, the following noteworthy exceptions are encountered: *n* preceding *k* is pronounced [ŋ]: *Helsinki* [helsiŋki]; the long velar nasal [ŋŋ] is represented in writing by *ng*: *Helsingin* [helsiŋŋin] ‘of Helsinki’. An *n* before a *p* is assimilated to [m]: *Järvenpää* [jærvempæ:]. If the initial element in compound words ends in *e*, the initial consonant of the following element is usually lengthened *Kortejärvi* [kortejjærvɨ].

One characteristic of Finnish is so-called vowel harmony. The vowels *a*, *o*, and *u* function in strict opposition to *ä*, *ö*, and *y* and cannot be used in the same non-compound word. The vowels *e* and *i* are, however, neutral and can be used in combination with vowels of either group.

Length distinctions are meaningful between short and long vowels and short and long consonants. Double letters are used to represent the written form of long vowels and consonants: *Tullisaari* [tullisa:ri].

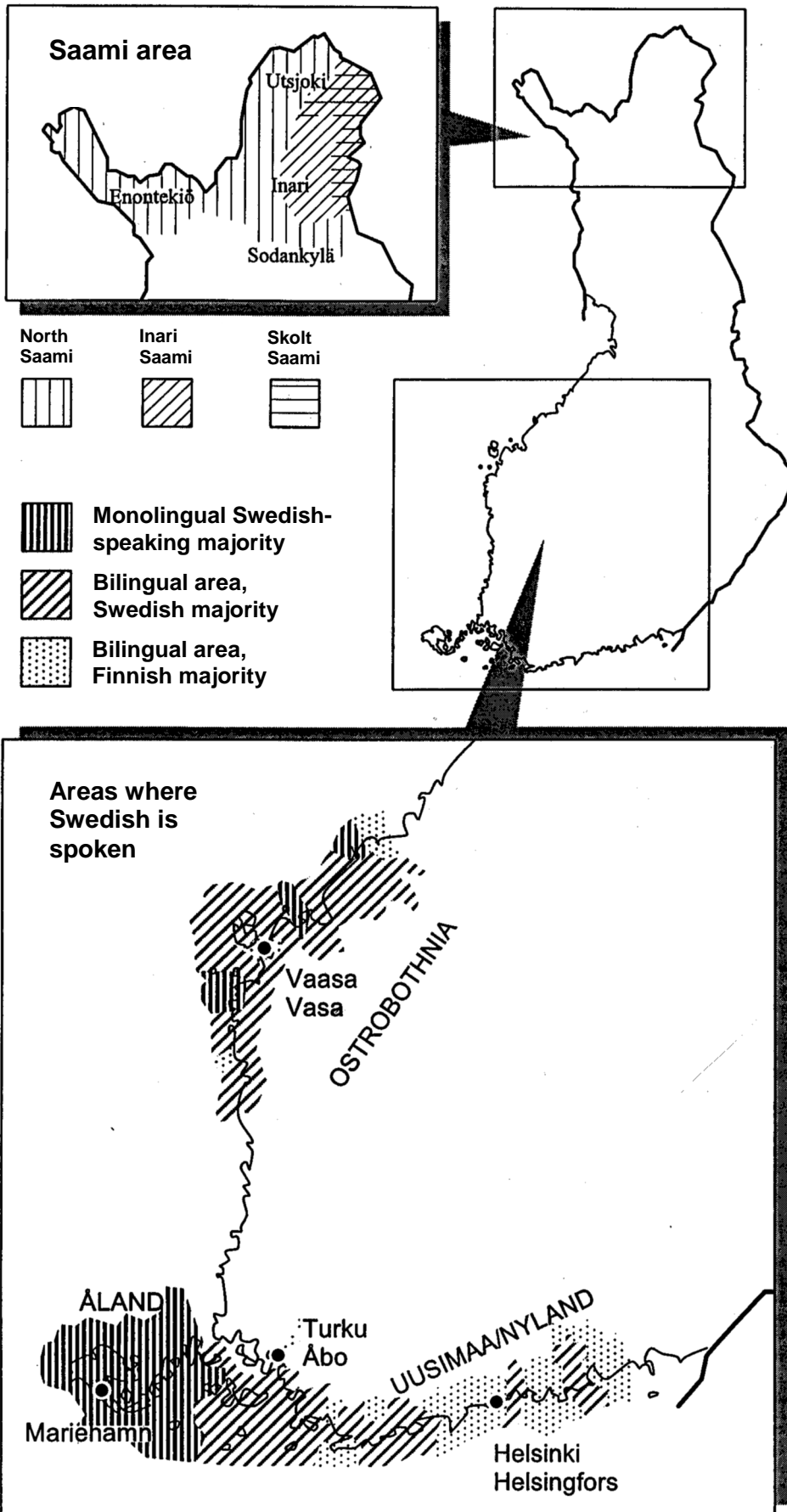
There are 18 diphthongs in Finnish: *ai, oi, ui, ei, äi, öi, yi; au, ou, eu, iu; iy, äy, öy, ey; uo, ie, yö*. They cannot be divided into separate syllables.

Table 1 gives an approximate picture of the relation between writing and pronunciation in Finnish. The letters in parenthesis are used only in foreign proper nouns and in loanwords. They have in Finnish a pronunciation approximating to that found in the language of origin.

Table 1. Pronunciation of the Finnish alphabet.

Spelling	Pronunciation IPA alphabet	Spelling	Pronunciation IPA alphabet	Spelling	Pronunciation IPA alphabet
a	a	l	l	u	u
aa	a:	ll	ll	uu	u:
ai	ai	m	m	ui	ui
au	au	mm	mm	uo	uo
(b)		n	n	v	v
(c)		nn	nn	(w)	v
d	d	ng	ŋŋ	(x)	ks
e	e	nk	ŋk	y	y
ee	e:	np	mp	yy	y:
ei	ei	o	o	yi	yi
eu	eu	oo	o:	yö	yø
ey	ey	oi	oi	(z)	ts, ʒ
(f)		ou	ou	(ž or zh)	ž
(g)		p	p	(å)	o
ng	ŋŋ	pp	pp	ä	æ
h	h	(q)		ää	æ:
i	i	r	r	äi	æi
ii	i:	rr	rr	äy	æy
ie	ie	s	s	ö	ø
iu	iu	ss	ss	öö	ø:
iy	iy	(š or sh)	ʃ	öi	øi
j	j	t	t	öy	øy
k	k	tt	tt		
kk	kk				

Map 1. Language minorities in Finland





### **1.2.3 Substrata**

One can recognize some linguistic substrata in the place names of Finland. Saami substrata can be found throughout the country. It is also possible to identify a rather large number of substrata of Swedish origin in areas where Finnish is now the dominant language. Conversely, Finnish substrata are found in Swedish-speaking areas.

### **1.2.4 Dialects**

Spoken Finnish is traditionally divided into five to eight dialects, which form two main groups: the western and the eastern dialects. The dialects are mutually comprehensible. The relatively young standard Finnish is based on a combination of dialects.

The spelling of Finnish place names has been standardized throughout the country to conform to the same general linguistic rules. Although standardized names do not usually contain any special phonological features of the dialects, some may reflect regional dialects and have preserved local colour in the form of dialect words and morphological features.

## **1.3 Second national language – Swedish**

Swedish, a Germanic language of the Indo-European family, is the second national and official language of Finland. It is spoken along the coasts of the Gulfs of Finland and Bothnia (see Map 1). The province of Åland (fi *Ahvenanmaa*) is exclusively Swedish-speaking.

The Swedish alphabet and the rules of spelling Swedish place names of Finland are similar to those used in Sweden (see Toponymic guidelines – Sweden).

In bilingual areas, names are marked on maps, road and street signs, and signs of a similar nature in both languages, the majority language being placed first. In monolingual areas, the name in the other language may also be marked on maps, particularly for larger places, if there is space enough.

## **1.4 Minority language – Saami**

Saami is a Finno-Ugric language distantly related to Finnish. In Finland, Norway, and Sweden, it uses variants of the Roman alphabet. In fact, three mutually unintelligible forms of Saami are spoken in Finland, namely North Saami, Inari Saami, and Skolt Saami (see Map 1). In 1995, the Finnish Parliament recognized the Saami people as the indigenous inhabitants of their domicile area (Constitution, article 14). They were then granted cultural autonomy within their domicile area (Constitution, article 51 a), i.e. the right to maintain and enhance their language and customs.

Saami is spoken as native language by about 1,800 persons or 0.03 % of the population of Finland (2008). Most of them use North Saami but about 300 persons speak Inari Saami and approximately the same number Skolt Saami.

In the Act on the Saami Parliament (974/1995) a Saami has been defined as a person who considers himself a Saami, provided:

- 1) That he himself or at least one of his parents or grandparents has learnt Saami as his first language;
- 2) That he is a descendent of a person who has been entered in a land, taxation or population register as a mountain, forest or fishing Lapp; or
- 3) That at least one of his parents has or could have been registered as an elector for an election to the Saami Delegation or the Saami Parliament.

In the same act the Saami Homeland means the areas of the municipalities of Enontekiö, Inari and Utsjoki, as well as the area of the reindeer owners' association of Lapland in Sodankylä.

The Saami languages have official status in Finland. According to the Saami Language Act (2003) the most important government documents and all official documents concerning the community itself are translated into Saami. A Saami national has the right to use his or her language before a court of law or other state authorities. The Lutheran Church has long since used Saami, and this language is taught in schools in the four northernmost municipalities and the Saami speakers have the right to pass the national matriculation examination in their language. Saami Radio broadcasts programmes in Saami and the Finnish Broadcasting Corporation produces, jointly with Norwegian and Swedish television, TV news in the Saami language. There are also some periodicals and newspapers published in Saami.

In 1979, the Nordic Saami Council decided to adopt a new, uniform orthography for the North Saami language of Finland, Norway, and Sweden. Since then the Saami names in the maps published by the National Land Survey have been spelled by following these rules.

The North Saami alphabet is as follows:

A a	Ð ð	J j	O o	Ʀ Ƨ
Á á	E e	K k	P p	U u
B b	F f	L l	R r	V v
C c	G g	M m	S s	Z z
Č č	H h	N n	Š š	Ž ž
D d	I i	Ŋ ŋ	T t	

The diphthongs are *ea*, *ie*, *oa*, and *uo*. Inari Saami has also the vowels *â* and *ä* and the diphthongs *iä* (instead of *ea*) and *uâ* (instead of *oa*), and it has no *Ƨ*. The more complicated writing system of Skolt Saami does not use *á* or *Ƨ* but it has *â*, *ǰ*, *ǰ̄*, *ǧ*, *ǧ̄*, *ǰ̄*, *ǧ̄*, *ǰ̄*, *ǧ̄*, *ǰ̄*, *ǧ̄*, and *ǰ̄* and the softening mark ('). The diphthongs of Skolt Saami are *uo*, *ue*, *ua*, *uä*, *ie*, *iä*, and *eä*. In Inari Saami and Skolt Saami, long vowels are marked with double letters.

Some old topographic maps currently for sale contain many names, which are still written with the old orthography. The former version of transcribing Saami place names in Finland was a special adaptation of the Saami orthography of the time. The following examples show how the new orthography differs from the old one:

Spelling before July 1, 1979	Spelling since July 1, 1979
Pissevarri	Bissevárri
Tadšajavri	Dážajávri
Tšoalmmevarri	Čoalmmevárri
Tšahkaljohka	Čáhkáljohka
Keäđgejavri	Geađgejávri
Sarekuoihka	Sáreguoika
Vaggojohka	Vákkojohka
Tšâhkarvarri	Čahkarvárri
Jamehsuolu	Jámetsuolu
Tsuoggajoknjálbmi	Cuokkajohnjálbmi

Table 2 presents the Saami pronunciation. The letters which do not occur in all language forms or which belong to the old orthography have been marked. Diphtongs and consonant clusters do not occur in the table.

Table 2. Pronunciation of the Saami alphabet

Spelling	Pronunciation IPA alphabet (sec. value in brackets)	Spelling	Pronunciation IPA alphabet (sec. value in brackets)	Spelling	Pronunciation IPA alphabet (sec. value in brackets)
a	(a)	h	h	o	o (o: <sup>1</sup> )
á	a: <sup>1</sup> (a)	hj	j	õ <sup>3</sup>	ə (ə)
â <sup>2, 3</sup>	a (ʌ)	hl	l̥	p	p
b	b̥	hm	m̥	r	r
c	ts	hn	ŋ	s	s
č	tʃ	hr	r̥	š	ʃ
ž <sup>3, 4</sup>	ʤ̥	i	i (i:, j <sup>1</sup> )	t	t
ž̃ <sup>3, 4</sup>	ʤ̥j	j	j	ʈ <sup>1</sup>	θ
d	ɖ	k	k	u	u (u: <sup>1</sup> )
dj	ɖjɖj	ķ <sup>3</sup>	kj	v	v (w:)
ddj	ɖj:ɖj	l	l	z	ʤ̥ (z̥ <sup>3</sup> )
đ	ɖ̃	lj	lj̥	zz	ʤ̥:ʤ̥ (zz <sup>3</sup> )
e	e (e: <sup>1</sup> )	llj	lj̥:lj̥	ž	ʤ̥j̥ (ž <sup>3</sup> )
f	ɸ	m	m	žž	ʤ̥:ʤ̥j̥ (žž <sup>3</sup> )
g	g	n	n	y <sup>2</sup>	y (ʉ)
		nj	nj	â <sup>5</sup>	a
ǰ <sup>3</sup>	g <sup>j</sup>	nnj	n <sup>j</sup> n <sup>j</sup> (n <sup>j</sup> :n <sup>j</sup> )	ä <sup>2, 3, 4</sup>	æ
ǰ <sup>3</sup>	ɣ	ŋ	ŋ	å <sup>3</sup>	ɔ

<sup>1</sup> In North Saami.

<sup>2</sup> In Inari Saami.

<sup>3</sup> In Skolt Saami.

<sup>4</sup> Formerly in North Saami.

<sup>5</sup> Formerly and in scholarly works in Inari Saami, now = á.

The maps compiled by the National Land Survey, which cover the Enontekiö, Inari, and Utsjoki municipalities, have North Saami names appearing alone or alongside Finnish names. On the maps covering Inari municipality, Inari Saami names appear either alone or alongside North Saami and Finnish names. Skolt Saami names are very rare on maps of contemporary Finland.

## **2 NAMES AUTHORITIES AND NAMES STANDARDIZATION**

### **2.1 Names authorities and their tasks**

There is no specific law covering place names in Finland. The Finnish Parliament has expressed a wish (187/24.5.1957) that in decisions concerning place names, officials should consult experts in onomastics. The wish has been followed by administrative orders by ministries and central boards but because it has no legal force, it has not been very effective. In 1996, the situation was discussed at the Research Institute for the Languages of Finland and a working group was founded to study if a place name law was needed.

The Research Institute for the Languages of Finland assumes the right and responsibility for providing normative recommendations for place names. Its Language Planning Department takes care of Finnish names, Swedish Department of Swedish names and the Department for the Minority Languages of Saami names. The recommendations provided by the Institute are based on linguistics, cultural history, local tradition, and the practical demands of everyday life.

The power of decision on names of administrative units belongs to various administrative bodies. Decisions affecting the names of municipalities are made by the municipal councils, which must consult name experts before making decisions. Names in town and city plans (names of districts, streets, squares, parks, etc.) are confirmed by the Ministry of Environment but the actual naming is under the responsibility of local authorities. The National Land Survey decides on the names of cadastral villages. The Survey's regional offices have the final decision on the names of farms and estates given originally by their owners.

Central and regional organizations have the right to decide on names relating to their sphere of activities. Thus, for example, the Itella Corporation (formerly Finland Post Corporation) decides on the names of post office districts and the VR-Group Ltd. (the railway company) decides on the names of railway stations. The Finnish Road Administration has delegated the right to make decisions concerning names on road signs to its nine regional offices.

The Research Institute for the Languages of Finland acts as an authoritative organ in matters relating to the standardization of place names by providing guidance for administrative bodies and by checking the Finnish, Swedish, and Saami names on the maps prepared by the National Land Survey. The work is based on onomastic field research conducted since the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. As a result of this research, in 2009, about 3.2 million annotated place name entries based on field-collection and 625,000 name cards collected from old documents have been entered in the archives.

## Addresses

Kotimaisten kielten tutkimuskeskus (Kotus)  
Research Institute for the Languages of Finland  
Vuorikatu 24  
FI-00100 HELSINKI  
[www.kotus.fi](http://www.kotus.fi)

Maanmittauslaitos  
National Land Survey of Finland  
P.O. Box 84  
FI-00521 HELSINKI  
[www.nls.fi](http://www.nls.fi)

Merenkulkulaitos  
Finnish Maritime Administration  
P.O. Box 171  
FI-00181 HELSINKI  
[www.fma.fi](http://www.fma.fi)

Itella Corporation  
(Formerly Finland Post Corporation)  
P.O. Box 1  
FI-00011 POSTI  
[www.posti.fi](http://www.posti.fi)

VR-Yhtymä Oy  
Finnish Railways  
P.O. Box 488  
FI-00101 HELSINKI  
[www.vr.fi](http://www.vr.fi)

Tiehallinto  
Finnish Road Administration  
P.O. Box 33  
FI-00521 HELSINKI  
[www.tiehallinto.fi](http://www.tiehallinto.fi)

Ympäristöministeriö  
Ministry of the Environment  
Ratakatu 3  
FI-00120 HELSINKI  
[www.environment.fi](http://www.environment.fi)

## 2.2 How to choose which place name to use?

The language legislation of Finland makes no mention of the use of place names in languages other than Finnish or Swedish. Many monolingual administrative areas, such as municipalities, have an official name in both languages, and when drafting documents, one has to use the names in the language of the document. Problems may arise when it is necessary to use other languages – for instances in brochures, reports and maps meant for international use. If the same object has two official names and one wants to present both, one has to choose which to mention first. Another problem is that, due to the nature of the text, one may not want to repeat both names, and a question arises as to which would be most appropriate.

### Recommendation of the Language Boards

In January 1997, the Finnish and Swedish Language Boards of the Research Institute for the Languages of Finland discussed the use of place names in Finland that occur in texts in different languages. Since equality of the national languages is the central principle in the Finnish Constitution, the Boards gave the following recommendations:

1. In Finnish, Finnish place name forms are to be preferred, in Swedish, Swedish name forms are to be preferred, and in Saami, Saami name forms are to be preferred.
2. In languages that are closely related to Finnish, name forms in Finnish should be preferred, unless no other established name exists in the languages in question.

3. In Scandinavian languages, Swedish name forms should be preferred, unless no other established name exists in the language in question. Among the Swedish names of the municipalities of Finland there are, in addition to those officially confirmed in 1982, many unofficial names, which have been used for a long time. In official contexts, however, only official names should be used.

4. In foreign languages, names of monolingual areas should appear in the form they have in the official language of those areas (for instance fi *Iisalmi*, sv *Mariehamn*), unless there are no other established names in the languages in question. In bilingual areas, the names in the majority language should be preferred (for instance fi *Helsinki*, *Turku*, *Vaasa*; sv *Jakobstad*, *Nykarleby*, *Pargas*, *Ekenäs*.)

This recommendation is meant for translators and editors, and it concerns public names, as the names of rural and urban municipalities, counties, regions or provinces, other administrative units, streets and roads. Furthermore, this recommendation is only meant for current documentary texts and especially for Finnish translators' needs.

The names of many historical provinces were introduced into other languages while Finland was still part of the Swedish kingdom. Thus they have become established names (exonyms) in those languages - for instance, *Karelia*, *Ostrobothnia* and *Lapland* in the English language. According to the recommendation, excepting the exonyms, the Finnish forms of the names of Finnish provinces should be used in texts in foreign languages, the only exception being the province of Åland (*Ahvenanmaa* fi). A gazetteer of Swedish place names of Finland and Finnish equivalents and indications of the eventual officiality of the name forms has been compiled by Zilliacus and Ådahl-Sundgren (1984).

### 3 PUBLICATIONS

#### 3.1 Maps and Internet services

The National Land Survey makes the official topographic maps of Finland and the Finnish Maritime Administration the official nautical charts.

Maps published by the National Land Survey:

- (a) The 1:20,000 series
  - Basic Map, 3,712 sheets
  - Production of the renewed Basic Map 1:25,000 was started in 2007
- (b) The 1:50,000 series
  - Topographic Map, 370 sheets
  - Production of the renewed Topographic Map 1:50,000 was started in 2007
- (c) *Atlas of Finland*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition (completed in 1993); thematic maps covering 49 topics in 26 folio books. Its 1:1 million maps are also available separately

The Map Site is a public Internet map browsing service provided by the National Land Survey. It enables searches using 800,000 place names (some 720,000 Finnish, 75,000 Swedish, 6,300 North Saami, 4,500 Inari Saami, and 600 Skolt Saami names). The service is available from <http://www.karttapaikka.fi> > In English.

Nautical charts published by the Finnish Maritime Administration:

- Nautical charts 1:10,000 to 1:500,000, new prints or editions published annually

Some maps published by other organizations:

- (a) *GT Tiekartasto – Road Atlas* 1:200,000 / 1:400,000, with an index of 52,000 place names. Karttakeskus.
- (b) *Tiestön yleiskartta Suomi-Finland – General Road Map* 1:1,600,000, with an index of 1,900 place names, updated and published annually by Karttakeskus.
- (c) *Gaia, suuri maailmankartasto*. [Gaia, The Comprehensive Atlas of the World.] 1:500,000. Genimap, Weilin+Göös. ISBN 951-593-899-6. 461 pp. With an index of 80,000 place names.

All the maps and atlases listed above can be ordered through the National Land Survey of Finland, Marketing Services, P.O. Box 84, FI-00521 Helsinki.

### 3.2 Gazetteers

The place name indexes of the maps and atlases mentioned above are suitable for international use. Besides, there are gazetteers of various name categories:

*Kunnat ja kuntapohjaiset aluejaot – Kommuner och kommunbaserade indelningar – Municipalities and Regional Divisions Based on Municipalities 2009*. Käsikirjoja – Handböcker – Handbooks 28. Tilastokeskus – Statistikcentralen – Statistics Finland. Helsinki. 95 pp. ISBN 978-952-467-967-1.

Kielitoimiston sanakirja. [The lexicon of the Language Planning Department.] CD-ROM-version. Including about 20,000 names of inhabited places with declensions. ISBN 952-5446-11-5. The Research Institute for the Languages of Finland and Kielikone Oy.

Rantala, Leif, *Sámegiell Báikenammalogahallan – Samisk ortnamnsförteckning – Samisk stedsnavnfortegnelse – Saamenkielinen paikannimiluettelo - Указатель саамских топонимов*. Roavvenjárga, 1988. ISBN 952-90013-3-9. – Gazetteer of Saami place names.

Zilliacus, Kurt & Ådahl-Sundgren, Ulla (eds.), *Svenska ortnamn i Finland*. Helsinki, 1984. 112 pp. ISBN 951 9475-37-0. – The most important Swedish place names in Finland, about 4,250 entries. Available also on Internet (<http://www.kotus.fi>).

Several publications by Metsähallitus, including comprehensive list of standardized Saami names; contact: <http://www.metsa.fi>.



## 4 GENERIC TERMS, ADJECTIVES, AND OTHER WORDS CONTAINED IN PLACE NAMES OF FINLAND

### 4.1 Finnish

L = especially in Lapland.

<i>aapa</i> fen (big treeless peatland) L	<i>katu</i> street
<i>ahde</i> hillside, slope	<i>kaula</i> neck (narrow channel)
<i>aho</i> glade (burn-beaten land, open meadow)	<i>kaupunki</i> city, town
<i>ala-, alainen, ali-, alinen</i> lower	<i>keidas</i> bog (peatbog with surface rising higher than the surroundings)
<i>alanko, alanne, alava</i> lowland	<i>kemi</i> ground (barren and hard-surface)
<i>allas</i> reservoir, basin	<i>kenttä</i> field, ground, natural lawn
<i>apaja</i> fishing ground	<i>kero</i> top (rounded, treeless fell summit) L
<i>aukea, aukko</i> opening, clearing (in a forest)	<i>keski-</i> central, mid, middle
	<i>keto</i> field, lea (grassfield green)
<i>eno</i> river L	<i>kirkko</i> church
<i>etelä</i> south, southern	<i>kirnu</i> pothole (giant's cauldron kettle)
	<i>kivalo, kivieliö</i> wilderness (big, uninhabited forest) L
<i>haara</i> fork, branch (of a river)	<i>kivi</i> stone, boulder
<i>haka</i> wooded pasture	<i>kloppi</i> islet
<i>hamina</i> harbour, haven	<i>koillis-</i> northeast, northeastern
<i>harja, harjanne</i> hogback, ridge	<i>korpi</i> wilderness; swamp, marsh (birch- and spruce-dominated peatland)
<i>harju</i> esker	<i>korva</i> ear (a place near by)
<i>hauta</i> ditch, glen	<i>koski</i> rapid(s)
<i>hiekkä, hiukka</i> sand	<i>krunni</i> shoal, skerry
<i>holma, holmi</i> island	<i>kuiva, kuivio</i> dried-up area
	<i>kuja</i> lane, alley
<i>iso</i> big, great, large	<i>kulju</i> hollow (in bog), soggy dent
<i>itä</i> east, eastern	<i>kulma</i> corner (part of a hamlet or a village)
	<i>kumpare, kumpu</i> hillock, knoll
<i>jaama</i> way, stage (uninhabited woodland)	<i>kunta</i> municipality, commune
<i>jyppyrä</i> hill (small and steep) L	<i>kuoppa</i> cleff, hole (in an esker)
<i>jyrkkä</i> steep, bluff	<i>kurkkio</i> waterfall L
<i>jänkä, jänkkä</i> peatland (big, almost treeless bog) L	<i>kurkku, kulkku</i> neck (strait, channel)
<i>järvi</i> lake	<i>kuru</i> canyon, gorge L
	<i>kurvi</i> bend, curve
<i>kaakko, kaakkois-</i> southeast, southeastern	<i>kylä</i> village, hamlet
<i>kaarre, kaartto</i> bend	<i>kytö</i> moorland (burnt-over for cultivation)
<i>kaira</i> wilderness, backwoods (big uninhabited forest between rivers) L	<i>kärki</i> end, point, cape
<i>kaita</i> strait, narrow	<i>köngäs</i> waterfall, cataract, cascade L
<i>kallio</i> rock	
<i>kaltio</i> spring L	<i>laakso</i> valley
<i>kanava</i> canal	<i>lahti</i> bay, bight, gulf, inlet
<i>kangas</i> heath (dry, pine-dominated forest)	<i>laki</i> summit, top, peak L
<i>kannas</i> isthmus	<i>lampi, lammi</i> pond, tarn
<i>kansallis-</i> national	<i>latva</i> upper course (of a river)
<i>kapeikko</i> defile (narrow pass)	<i>lehto</i> rove, coppice
<i>kari</i> rock (in the water), shoal, skerry	<i>letto</i> fen (wet, fertile, treeless peatland) L
<i>kartano</i> estate, manor-house	<i>linna</i> castle, chateau, fortified hill
<i>kaski</i> burnt-over clearing (for cultivation)	

*lompolo* tarn, small lake, river enlargement L  
*luode, luoteis-* northwest, northwestern  
*louhi, louhu* quarry, boulder field  
*lounais-* southwest, southwestern  
*luola* cave, cavern  
*luoma* rivulet; small lake  
*luonto*, gen. *luonnon-* nature  
*luoto* islet  
*luusua* outlet (of a lake)  
*lähde* spring  
*länsi, läntinen* west, western

*maa* land, country; island; area  
*majakka* lighthouse  
*mella* sandy ridge, sandy bank L  
*meri* sea  
*metsä* forest, woodland  
*monttu* hole, pit, excavation  
*muotka* isthmus (between two waterways) L  
*musta* black  
*mutka, mukka* curve, bend  
*mylly* mill  
*mäki* hill, slope

*neva* bog (open, infertile, treeless peatland)  
*niemi* cape, promontory  
*niitty, niittu* meadow  
*niska* neck (head of a river, head of rapids)  
*niva* current, race (fast-flowing part of a river)  
*nokka* end, cape, point  
*norro* trickle (small brook); wet hollow  
*notko* del, glen, hollow (small valley)  
*nulkki* hill (small isolated elevation) L  
*nummi* heath (sandy, often pine-dominated forest)  
*nuora* strait (long and narrow)  
*nurkka* corner (of a hamlet or village)

*oja* ditch, brook  
*oura* reef (low and sandy)

*pahta* cliff L  
*paikka* abode; site (of a small house)  
*pakka* bank  
*paljakka* fell top (above the tree line) L  
*palo* burnt land  
*pato* dam  
*pekki* brook  
*pelto* field (arable land)  
*perä, perukka* end, periphery, corner (of a hamlet or village)  
*pieni, pikku* small, little  
*pitkä* long  
*pohja, pohjoinen, pohjois-* north, northern

*pohja, pohjukka* bottom; end (of a place); corner (of a hamlet or village)  
*polku* path  
*polvi* bend  
*portti* gate  
*poukama* cove, bight  
*pudas* channel (short side-channel of a river)  
*puhto* group (of houses)  
*puisto* park  
*puoli* side  
*puro* brook (small stream)  
*putous* waterfall  
*pyöli* hamlet, abode  
*pää* head, point, end

*raitti* street (in a village)  
*raja* boundary, border, frontier  
*rakka* boulder field L  
*ranta* shore, bank, beach  
*rauma* strait  
*raunio* ruin, boulder field, boulder heap  
*riipi* tarn (small and deep lake) L  
*rimpi, rimmi* flark (soggy part of a bog)  
*rinne* slope, side (of a hill)  
*rinta* slope, brink  
*risti, risteys* cross, crossroads, crossing  
*riutta* reef, bank  
*rotko* gorge, canyon  
*rova* hill (small, burnt elevation) L  
*runni* spring, pool  
*räme* bog (infertile peatland with stunted pines)

*saajo* grove (in a peatland) L  
*saari* island  
*saaristo* archipelago, islands  
*sahi* small rapid(s)  
*saivo* lake (limpid) L  
*salmi* strait  
*salo* wilderness; island (large, forest-growing)  
*santa* sand  
*satama* harbour, haven  
*selkonen* backwoods; wilderness  
*selkä* back, ridge (gently sloping elongated elevation); offing (open water area in the sea or in a lake)  
*selänne* ridge (gently sloping elongated elevation)  
*silta* bridge  
*sola* defile, pass *soppi* corner (of a hamlet or village), nook  
*suntti* strait  
*suo* bog (wet, spongy peatland)  
*suppa* pit (in an esker)  
*suu* mouth, estuary

*suur-, suuri* big, great, large  
*suvanto* still water (in a river)  
*sydänmaa* backwoods (uninhabited or sparsely inhabited area)  
*syrjä* side (outlying place)  
*syvä, syväne* deep (in a lake)  
*särkkä* bank, reef

*taipale, taival* isthmus; way, stage  
*taka-* back  
*talo* house; farmstead  
*tammi* dam; oak  
*tekojärvi* reservoir  
*tie* road, way  
*tieva* ridge, hillock (sandy) L  
*tunturi* fell, mountain (with treeless top) L  
*törmä* bank, brink, bluff  
*töyry, töyräs* bank, bluff, rise

*uoma* channel; bog (large, treeless) L  
*uopaja* see *vuopaja*  
*uura, uuro* cleft, ravine  
*uus-, uusi* new

*vaara* hill, mountain (with trees on the top)  
*vaha* stone (erratic boulder)  
*vainio* field (arable land)  
*valkama* boat-shore, boatcove  
*valkea, valkia* white  
*vanha* old, ancient  
*vesi* water, lake  
*viita* coppice, thicket  
*virta* stream, current, river  
*vuo* flow, current  
*vuolle* current, torrent  
*vuoma* bog (large, treeless) L  
*vuopaja, vuopio* cove (in a river); pond (offshoot of a river) L  
*vuori* mountain, hill  
*vuotso* bog (narrow) L  
*vähä-* small, little  
*väli* central, mid, middle  
  
*ylä-, yläinen, yli-, ylinen* upper  
  
*äyräs* bank, brink

## 4.2 Swedish

The Swedish spoken in Finland does not essentially differ from that spoken in Sweden (see Toponymic guidelines – Sweden).

## 4.3 Saami

The following list comprises North Saami landscape terms with English translations. The old spellings are given in parentheses if they differ from the new ones.

<i>ája, ádjat (aja, adjag)</i> source, spring; brook	<i>eana (eäna)</i> land
<i>ávži (avdši)</i> canyon, gorge	<i>eatnangeaidnu (eädnamkeäidnu)</i> road
	<i>eatnu (eädnu)</i> stream, flow
<i>badje- (pâdje)</i> upper	<i>gaska- (kâska-)</i> central, middle
<i>bákti, bakte (pakti, pakte)</i> bluff, cliff, rock	<i>gáldu, gáldo (kaldu, kaldo)</i> source, spring
<i>bálggis (palggis)</i> path	<i>gávpot (kavpog)</i> town
<i>bealdu (peäldu)</i> field	<i>geađgi (keäđgi)</i> stone, boulder
<i>boaris, boares- (poaris, poares-)</i> old	<i>geaidnu</i> road
<i>buolža (puoldša)</i> esker	<i>geavṽj̃is (keäṽj̃is)</i> cataract, waterfall (rapids with fall in a great river)
<i>čáhppat, čáhppes- (čahppad, čahppes-)</i> black	<i>gilli (killi)</i> village, hamlet
<i>čoalbmi (tšoalbmi)</i> strait	<i>gorsa (korsa)</i> gorge
<i>čohkka (tšohkka)</i> peak, mountain	<i>gorži (kordši)</i> waterfall
<i>čopma (tšobma)</i> hill	<i>govdat, govda- (kovdag, kovda-)</i> broad, wide
<i>davvi, davve- (tâvvi, tâvve-)</i> north, northern	<i>guhkki, guhkes- (kuhkki, kuhkes-)</i> long
<i>dievvá (tievva)</i> hill, slope	<i>guoika (kuoikka)</i> rapid
<i>duottar (tuoddar)</i> fell, fjeld, tundra	<i>gurra (kurra)</i> gorge, gully, pass
	<i>jávri (javri)</i> lake

*jeaggi (jeäggi)* bog  
*johka* river

*lásis (lasis)* rock (glaciated; bare, smooth, and level or slanting)

*lietna (liedna)* province, county

*lulli, lulle-* south, southern

*luokta* bay, gulf

*luoppal (luobbal)* tarn (river enlargement)

*máddi, máтта (maddi, madda)* south, southern

*máđii* pathway

*muotki* isthmus

*njavvi (njâvvi)* current (fast-flowing stream)

*njárga (njarga)* cape, point

*njunni* nose, spur

*nuorti, nuorte-* east, eastern

*oaivi* mountain, top (round-shaped)

*oarji, oarje-* west, western

*savu (sâvu)* still water, broad

*skáidi (skaidi)* interfluvium (land between two joining waterways)

*stuoris, stuorra-* large, great

*suolu* island, islet

*uhcci, uhca (uhttsi, uhtsa)* small

*unni, unna* small

*vággi (vaggi)* valley

*várri (varri)* hill, mountain (with trees on the top)

*vuolle-, vuolli* lower, under, nether

*vuopmi (vuobmi)* woodland; bottom (flattish stretch of a valley)

*vuotna (vuodna)* fiord

*vuovdi* forest, woodland

## 5 ABBREVIATIONS USED IN MAPS

The list contains the most common abbreviations of explanatory texts used in Finnish large-scale maps.

Abbreviation	Decoding	English equivalent
Amp.r.	ampumarata fi	shooting range
Ast.	vesiasteikko fi	water level gauge
Avstj.	avstjälpningsplats sv	waste-disposal site
Badstr.	badstrand sv	bathing beach
Bollpl.	bollplan sv	ball park
Brandbev, Br.bev.	brandbevakning sv	fire guard station
Brandst.	brandstation sv	fire station
Busst.	busstation sv	bus station
Camp.plats/Camp.	campingplats sv	camping ground
Ckl.v.	cykelvägen sv	cycle path
Fridl./F	frildlyst sv	under protection
F.hus	föreningshus sv	club house
Hdl	handel sv	shop, market
Hot.	hotelli fi, hotell sv	hotel
Huolt.as./H.as.	huoltoasema fi	service station
Hälsoc.	hälsocentral sv	health center
Hälsost.	hälsostation sv	private health center
Idr.	idrottsplats sv	sports area
Inkv.	inkvarteringsaffär sv	lodging-house
K.	koulu fi	school
K.talo	kaupungintalo fi	town hall, city hall
K.talo	kunnantalo fi	municipality hall
Kaatop.	kaatopaikka fi	waste-disposal site
Kpa	kauppa fi	shop, market

Kraftv.	kraftverk sv	power station
Kuntor.	kuntorata fi	fitness path
Kursc.	kurscentral sv	residential college
Kurssik.	kurssikeskus fi	technical training center
L.as.	linja-autoasema fi	bus station
Leir./Leir.alue	leirintäalue fi	camping ground
Lomak.	lomakylä fi	resort village
Ls.alue	luonnonsuojelualue fi	nature reserve
Maj.liike	majoitusliike fi	lodging-house
Mot.	motelli fi, motell sv	motel
Mus.	museo fi, museum sv	museum
Näköt.	näkötorni fi	observation tower
P	posti fi, post sv	post office
Pallok.	pallokenttä fi	ball park
Paloas.	paloasema fi	fire station
Palov.	palovartio fi	fire guard
Perusk.	peruskoulu fi	comprehensive (primary) school
Pp.tie	polkupyörätie fi	cycle path
Pys.alue/Pys.al.	pysäköintialue fi	parking lot
Pälsf.	pälsfarm sv	fur farm
Rauh./R	rauhoitettu kohde fi	under protection
Ravir.	ravirata fi	trotting track
Retk.m.	retkeilymaja fi	youth hostel
Rukoush.	rukoushuone fi	chapel, prayer house
S.talo	seuratalo fi	club house
Sair.	sairaala fi	hospital
Sem.by	semesterby sv	resort village
Servicest./Serv.	servicestation sv	service station
Sjukh.	sjukhus sv	hospital
Skj.b.	skjutbana sv	shooting range
Sk.	skola sv	school
Stadsh.	stadshus sv	town hall, city hall
Terv.as.	terveysasema fi	private health center
Terv.k.	terveyskeskus fi	health center
Travb.	travbana sv	trotting track
Turkist.	turkistarha fi	fur farm
Uimah.	uimahalli fi	indoor swimming pool
Uimar.	uimaranta fi	bathing beach
Urh.	urheilupaikka fi	sports area
Utsiktst.	utsiktstorn sv	observation tower
Vandr.h.	vandrarhem sv	youth hostel
Vanhaink./Vanh.k.	vanhainkoti fi	old people's home
Vir.t.	virastotalo fi	local government offices
Vt	vesitorni fi	water tower
Åldr.h.	åldringshem sv	old people's home
Ämb.h.	ämbetshus sv	local government offices

## 6 ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS

### 6.1 Municipalities

The basic administrative unit of Finland is municipality or commune (fi *kunta*, sv *kommun*). In 2009 there were 348 municipalities of which 295 were monolingual Finnish, 19 bilingual with a Finnish majority, 19 monolingual Swedish, and 15 bilingual with a Swedish majority. The Council of State decides every tenth year – after a census – which category each of the municipalities belongs to. The last decision is effective from 2003 through 2012.

Lists 1 and 2 below indicate the language situation of the municipalities.

In List 1 the municipalities are alphabetized according to the Finnish names. Monolingual Finnish municipalities are indicated by the symbol fi and monolingual Swedish municipalities by sv. Bilingual municipalities with a Finnish majority are indicated by fi-sv and those with a Swedish majority by sv-fi. Urban municipalities (towns and cities, fi *kaupunki*, sv *stad*) are indicated by an asterisk (\*). (The municipalities can decide themselves about their status – rural or urban.) Numbers indicate the regions in which the municipalities are located (see Map 2).

In List 2, the municipalities that have two names are alphabetized according to their Swedish name.

The Saami names of the four northernmost municipalities (Enontekiö, Inari, Sodankylä and Utsjoki) are given after List 2.

**List 1.** The municipalities of Finland (in January 2009) alphabetized according to the Finnish names (except for those having only a Swedish name). The Swedish names are written in *italics* and the majority language names with **bold** letters.

Akaa fi 6	<i>Geta</i> sv 20	Huittinen* fi 4
Alajärvi* fi 14		Humppila fi 5
Alavieska fi 17	Haapajärvi* fi 17	Hyrnsalmi fi 18
Alavus* fi 14	Haapavesi* fi 17	<b>Hyvinkää</b> – <i>Hyvinge</i> * fi 1
<b>Artjärvi</b> – <i>Artsjö</i> fi 7	<b>Hailuoto</b> – <i>Karlö</i> fi 17	Hämeenkoski fi 7
Asikkala fi 7	Halsua fi 16	<b>Hämeenkyrö</b> – <i>Tavastkyrö</i> fi 6
Askola fi 3	<b>Hamina</b> – <i>Fredrikshamn</i> * fi 8	<b>Hämeenlinna</b> – <i>Tavastehus</i> * fi 5
Aura fi 2	<i>Hammarland</i> sv 20	
<i>Brändö</i> sv 20	Hankasalmi fi 13	li fi 17
<i>Eckerö</i> sv 20	<b>Hanko</b> – <i>Hangö</i> *, fi-sv 1	<b>Iisalmi</b> – <i>Idensalmi</i> * fi 11
Enonkoski fi 10	Harjavalta* fi 4	Iitti fi 8
<b>Enontekiö</b> – <i>Enontekis</i> fi 19	Hartola fi 7	<b>Ikaalinen</b> – <i>Ikalis</i> * fi 6
<b>Espoo</b> – <i>Esbo</i> * fi-sv 1	Hattula fi 5	Ilmajoki fi 14
Eura fi 4	Haukipudas fi 17	<b>Ilomantsi</b> – <i>Ilomants</i> fi 12
<b>Eurajoki</b> – <i>Euraåminne</i> fi 4	Hausjärvi fi 5	Imatra* fi 9
Evijärvi fi 14	Heinola* fi 7	<b>Inari</b> – <i>Enare</i> fi 19
<i>Finström</i> sv 20	Heinävesi fi 10	Inkoo – <b>Ingå</b> sv-fi 1
Forssa* fi 5	<b>Helsinki</b> – <i>Helsingfors</i> * fi-sv 1	<b>Isojoki</b> – <i>Storå</i> fi 14
<i>Föglö</i> sv 20	Himanka fi 16	<b>Isokyrö</b> – <i>Storkyro</i> fi 15
	Hirvensalmi fi 10	
	Hollola fi 7	Jalasjärvi fi 14
	Honkajoki fi 4	

Janakkala fi 5  
Joensuu\* fi 12  
**Jokioinen** – *Jockis* fi 5  
*Jomala* sv 20  
**Joroinen** – *Jorois* fi 10  
Juankoski\* fi 11  
Juuka fi 12  
Juupajoki fi 6  
Juva fi 10  
Jyväskylän\* fi 13  
Jämijärvi fi 4  
Jämsä\* fi 13  
**Järvenpää** – *Träskända*\* fi 1

**Kaarina** – *S:t Karins* fi 2  
Kaavi fi 11  
**Kajaani** – *Kajana*\* fi 18  
Kalajoki\* fi 17  
Kangasala fi 6  
Kangasniemi fi 10  
Kankaanpää\* fi 4  
Kannonkoski fi 13  
Kannus\* fi 16  
**Karjajoki** – *Bötom* fi 14  
**Karjalohja** – *Karislojo* fi 1  
**Karkkila** – *Högfors*\* fi 1  
Karstula fi 13  
Karttula fi 11  
Karvia fi 4  
**Kaskinen** – *Kaskö*\* fi-sv 15  
Kauhajoki\* fi 14  
Kauhava\* fi 14  
**Kauniainen** – *Grankulla*\*  
fi-sv 1  
**Kaustinen** – *Kaustby* fi 16  
Keitele fi 11  
Kemi\* fi 19  
Kemijärvi\* fi 19  
Keminmaa fi 19  
Kemiönsaari - *Kimitoön* sv-fi  
2  
Kempele fi 17  
**Kerava** – *Kervo*\* fi 1  
Kerimäki fi 10  
Kesälahti fi 12  
Keuruu\* fi 13  
Kihniö fi 6  
Kiikoinen fi 4  
Kiiminki fi 17  
Kinnula fi 13  
**Kirkkonummi** – *Kyrkslätt*  
fi-sv 1  
Kitee\* fi 12  
Kittilä fi 19  
Kiuruvesi\* fi 11  
Kivijärvi fi 13  
**Kokemäki** – *Kumo*\* fi 4  
**Kokkola** – *Karleby*\* fi-sv 16  
Kolari fi 19

Konnevesi fi 13  
Kontiolahti fi 12  
*Korsnäs* sv 15  
Koski Tl. fi 2  
Kotka\* fi 8  
Kouvola\* fi 8  
Kristiinankaupunki – *Kristine-  
stad*\* sv-fi 15  
Kruunupyy – *Kronoby* sv-fi 15  
Kuhmalahti fi 6  
Kuhmo\* fi 18  
Kuhmoinen fi 13  
*Kumlunge* sv 20  
Kuopio\* fi 11  
Kuortane fi 14  
Kurikka\* fi 14  
**Kustavi** – *Gustavs* fi 2  
Kuusamo fi 17  
Kylmäkoski fi 6  
Kyyjärvi fi 13  
Kärkölä fi 7  
Kärsämäki fi 17  
*Kökar* sv 20  
**Köyliö** – *Kjulo* fi 4

**Lahti** – *Lahtis*\* fi 7  
**Laihia** – *Laihela* fi 15  
Laitila\* fi 2  
**Lapinjärvi** – *Lappträsk* fi-sv 3  
Lapinlahti fi 11  
Lappajärvi fi 14  
**Lappeenranta** – *Villman-  
strand*\* fi 9  
**Lapua** – *Lappo*\* fi 14  
Laukaa fi 13  
Lavia fi 4  
Leivonmäki fi 13  
Lemi fi 9  
*Lemland* sv 20  
Lempäälä fi 6  
Leppävirta fi 11  
Lestijärvi fi 16  
Lieksa\* fi 12  
**Lieto** – *Lundo* fi 2  
*Liljendal* sv-fi 3  
**Liminka** – *Limingo* fi 17  
Liperi fi 12  
**Lohja** – *Lojo*\* fi-sv 1  
Loimaa\* fi 2  
Loppi fi 5  
**Loviisa** – *Lovisa*\* fi-sv 3  
Luhanka fi 13  
Lumijoki fi 17  
*Lumparland* sv 20  
Luoto – *Larsmo* sv 15  
Luumäki fi 9  
Luvia fi 4  
Länsi-Turunmaa - *Väståbo-  
land*\*sv-fi 2

Maalahti – *Malax* sv-fi 15  
Maaninka fi 11  
Maarianhamina – *Ma-  
riehamn*\* sv 20  
Marttila fi 2  
Masku fi 2  
Merijärvi fi 17  
**Merikarvia** – *Sastmola* fi 4  
Miehikkälä fi 8  
**Mikkeli** – *S:t Michel*\* fi 10  
Muhos fi 17  
Multia fi 13  
Muonio fi 19  
Mustasaari – *Korsholm* sv-fi  
15  
Muurame fi 13  
Mynämäki fi 2  
**Myrskylä** – *Mörskom* fi-sv 3  
Mäntsälä fi 1  
Mänttä-Vilppula\* fi 6  
Mäntyharju fi 10

**Naantali** – *Nådendal*\* fi 2  
Nakkila fi 4  
Nastola fi 7  
Nilsjä\* fi 11  
Nivala\* fi 17  
Nokia\* fi 6  
**Noormarkku** – *Norrmark* fi 4  
**Nousiainen** – *Nousis* fi 2  
Nummi-Pusula fi 1  
Nurmes\* fi 12  
Nurmijärvi fi 1  
Närpiö – *Närpes*\* sv 15

Oravainen – *Oravais* sv-fi 15  
Orimattila\* fi 7  
Oripää fi 2  
Orivesi\* fi 6  
Oulainen\* fi 17  
**Oulu** – *Uleåborg*\* fi 17  
Oulunsalo fi 17  
Outokumpu\* fi 12

Padasjoki fi 7  
**Paimio** – *Pemar*\* fi 2  
Paltamo fi 18  
Parikkala fi 9  
Parkano\* fi 6  
Pedersören kunta – *Pedersöre*  
sv-fi 15  
Pelkosenniemi fi 19  
Pello fi 19  
Perho fi 16  
Pernaja – *Pernå* sv-fi 3  
Pertunmaa fi 10  
Petäjävesi fi 13  
Pieksämäki\* fi 10

Pielavesi fi 11  
Pietarsaari – *Jakobstad*\* sv-fi  
15  
Pihtipudas fi 13  
**Pirkkala** – *Birkala* fi 6  
Polvijärvi fi 12  
**Pomarkku** – *Påmark* fi 4  
**Pori** – *Björneborg*\* fi 4  
**Pornainen** – *Borgnäs* fi 1  
**Porvoo** – *Borgå*\* fi-sv 3  
Posio fi 19  
Pudasjärvi\* fi 17  
Pukkila fi 3  
Punkaharju fi 10  
Punkalaidun fi 6  
Puolanka fi 18  
Puumala fi 10  
**Pyhtää** – *Pyttis* fi-sv 8  
Pyhäjoki fi 17  
Pyhäjärvi\* fi 17  
Pyhäntä fi 17  
Pyhäranta fi 2  
Pälkäne fi 6  
Pöytyä fi 2  
  
**Raahe** – *Brahestad*\* fi 17  
Raasepori - *Raseborg*\* sv-fi 1  
**Raisio** – *Reso*\* fi 2  
Rantasalmi fi 10  
Ranua fi 19  
**Rauma** – *Raumo*\* fi 4  
Rautalampi fi 11  
Rautavaara fi 11  
Rautjärvi fi 9  
Reisjärvi fi 17  
Riihimäki\* fi 5  
Ristiina fi 10  
Ristijärvi fi 18  
Rovaniemi\* fi 19  
Ruokolahti fi 9  
**Ruotsinpyhtää** – *Strömfors*  
fi-sv 3  
Ruovesi fi 6  
Rusko fi 2  
Rääkkylä fi 12

Saarijärvi\* fi 1  
Salla fi 19  
Salo\* fi 2  
*Saltvik* sv 20  
Sastamala\* fi 6  
**Sauvo** – *Sagu* fi 2  
Savitaipale fi 9  
**Savonlinna** – *Nyslott*\* fi 10  
Savukoski fi 19  
Seinäjäki\* fi 14  
Sievi fi 17  
Siikainen fi 4  
Siikajoki fi 17  
Siikalatva fi 17  
Siilinjärvi fi 11  
Simo fi 19  
**Sipoo** – *Sibbo* fi-sv 3  
**Siuntio** – *Sjundeå* fi-sv 1  
Sodankylä fi 19  
Soini fi 14  
Somero\* fi 2  
Sonkajärvi fi 11  
Sotkamo fi 18  
*Sottunga* sv 20  
Sulkava, fi 10  
*Sund* sv 20  
Suomenniemi fi 9  
Suomussalmi fi 18  
Suonenjoki\* fi 11  
Sysmä fi 7  
Säkylä fi 4  
  
Taipalsaari fi 9  
Taivalkoski fi 17  
**Taivassalo** – *Tövsala* fi 2  
Tammela fi 5  
**Tampere** – *Tammerfors*\* fi 6  
Tarvasjoki fi 2  
Tervo fi 11  
Tervola fi 19  
**Teuva** – *Östermark* fi 14  
Tohmajärvi fi 12  
Toholampi fi 16  
Toivakka fi 13  
**Tornio** – *Torneå*\* fi 19  
**Turku** – *Åbo*\* fi-sv 2

Tuusniemi fi 11  
**Tuusula** – *Tusby* fi 1  
Tyrnävä fi 17  
Töysä fi 14  
  
**Ulvila** – *Ulvby*\* fi 4  
Urjala fi 6  
Utajärvi fi 17  
Utsjoki fi 19  
Uurainen fi 13  
Uusikaarlepyy – *Nykarleby*\*  
sv-fi 15  
**Uusikaupunki** – *Nystad*\* fi 2  
  
Vaala fi 18  
**Vaasa** – *Vasa*\* fi-sv 15  
Valkeakoski\* fi 6  
Valtimo fi 12  
**Vantaa** – *Vanda*\* fi-sv 1  
Varkaus\* fi 11  
Varpaisjärvi fi 11  
Vehmaa fi 2  
Vesanto fi 11  
Vesilahti fi 6  
**Veteli** – *Vetil* fi 16  
Vieremä fi 11  
Vihanti fi 17  
**Vihhti** – *Vichtis* fi 1  
Viitasaari\* fi 13  
Vimpeli fi 14  
Virolahti fi 8  
**Virrat** – *Virtdois*\* fi 6  
*Vårdö* sv 20  
**Vähäkyrö** – *Lillkyro* fi 15  
Vöyri-Maksamaa – *Vörå-*  
*Maxmo* sv-fi 15  
  
Yli-Ii fi 17  
**Ylitornio** – *Övertorneå* fi 19  
Ylivieska\* fi 17  
Ylämaa fi 9  
Ylöjärvi\* fi 6  
Ypäjä fi 5  
  
**Ähtäri** – *Etseri*\* fi 14  
Äänekoski\* fi 13



**Abolished municipalities after 2008 in alphabetical order.** The Swedish names are written in *italics* and the majority language names with **bold** letters.

Abolished municipality	Point of time	Annexed or a new municipality
Alahärmä fi 14	1.1.2009	Kauhava* fi 14
Alastaro fi 2	1.1.2009	Loimaa* fi 2
Anjalankoski* fi 8	1.1.2009	Kouvola* fi 8
<b>Askainen</b> - <i>Villnäs</i> fi 2	1.1.2009	Masku fi 2
<i>Dragsfjärd</i> sv-fi 2	1.1.2009	Kemiönsaari - <b><i>Kimitoön</i></b> sv-fi 2
Elimäki fi 8	1.1.2009	Kouvola* fi 8
Eno fi 12	1.1.2009	Joensuu* fi 12
Halikko fi 2	1.1.2009	Salo* fi 2
Hauho fi 5	1.1.2009	<b>Hämeenlinna</b> - Tavastehus* fi 5
Houtskari - <b>Houtskär</b> sv.fi 2	1.1.2009	Länsi-Turunmaa - <b><i>Väståboland</i></b> * sv-fi 2
<i>Iniö</i> sv.fi 2	1.1.2009	Länsi-Turunmaa - <b><i>Väståboland</i></b> * sv-fi 2
Jaala fi 8	1.1.2009	Kouvola* fi 8
Leivonmäki fi 13	1.1.2008	Joutsa fi 13
Joutseno* fi 9	1.1.2009	<b>Lappeenranta</b> - <i>Villmanstrand</i> * fi 9
Jurva fi 14	1.1.2009	Kurikka* fi 14
<b>Jyväskylän</b> mlk - <i>Jyväskylä lk.</i> fi 13	1.1.2009	Jyväskylä* fi 13
Jämsänkoski* fi 13	1.1.2009	Jämsä fi 13
Kalvola fi 5	1.1.2009	<b>Hämeenlinna</b> - Tavastehus* fi 5
Karjaa - <b>Karis</b> * sv-fi 1	1.1.2009	Raasepori - <b><i>Raseborg</i></b> * sv-fi 1
Kemiö - <b>Kimito</b> sv-fi 2	1.1.2009	Kemiönsaari - <b><i>Kimitoön</i></b> * sv-fi 2
Kestilä fi 17	1.1.2009	Siikalatva fi 17
Kiikala fi 2	1.1.2009	Salo* fi 2
Kisko fi 2	1.1.2009	Salo* fi 2
Kiukainen fi 4	1.1.2009	Eura fi 4
Korpilahti fi 13	1.1.2009	Jyväskylä* fi 13
Korppoo - <i>Korpo</i> sv-fi 2	1.1.2009	Länsi-Turunmaa - <b><i>Väståboland</i></b> * sv-fi 2
Kortesjärvi fi 14	1.1.2009	Kauhava fi 14*
Kuru fi 6	1.1.2009	Ylöjärvi* fi 6
Kuusankoski* fi 8	1.1.2009	Kouvola* fi 8
Kuusjoki fi 2	1.1.2009	Salo* fi 2
<b>Kälviä</b> - <i>Kälviå</i> fi 16	1.1.2009	<b>Kokkola</b> - <i>Karleby</i> fi-sv 16
Lammi fi 5	1.1.2009	<b>Hämeenlinna</b> - Tavastehus* fi 5
Lappi fi 4	1.1.2009	<b>Rauma</b> * - <i>Raumo</i> fi 4
Lehtimäki fi 14	1.1.2009	Alajärvi* fi 14
Lemu fi 2	1.1.2009	Masku fi 2
<b>Lohtaja</b> - <i>Lochteå</i> fi 16	1.1.2009	Kokkola - <i>Karleby</i>
Mellilä fi 2	1.1.2009	Loimaa* fi 2
Merimasku fi 2	1.1.2009	<b>Naantali</b> - <i>Nådendal</i> * fi 2
Mouhijärvi fi 6	1.1.2009	Sastamala* fi 6
Muurla fi 2	1.1.2009	Salo* fi 2
Mänttä* fi 6	1.1.2009	Mänttä-Vilppula fi 6
Nauvo - <b>Nagu</b> sv-fi 2	1.1.2009	Länsi-Turunmaa - <b><i>Väståboland</i></b> * sv-fi 2
Nurmo fi 14	1.1.2009	Seinäjoki* fi 14
Parainen - <b>Pargas</b> * sv-fi 2	1.1.2009	Länsi-Turunmaa - <b><i>Väståboland</i></b> * sv-fi 2
<b>Perniö</b> - <i>Bjärnä</i> fi 2	1.1.2009	Salo* fi 2
Pertteli fi 2	1.1.2009	Salo* fi 2
<b>Piikkiö</b> - <i>Pikis</i> fi 2	1.1.2009	<b>Kaarina</b> - S:t <i>Karins</i> fi 2
Piippola fi 17	1.1.2009	Siikalatva fi 17
<b>Pohja</b> - <i>Pojo</i> fi.sv 1	1.1.2009	Raasepori - <b><i>Raseborg</i></b> * sv-fi 1
Pulkki fi 17	1.1.2009	Siikalatva fi 17
Pyhäselkä fi 12	1.1.2009	Joensuu* fi 12
Pyhäkonmäki fi 13	1.1.2009	Saarijärvi fi 13

Rantsila fi 17  
 Renko fi 5  
**Rymättylä** - *Rimito* fi 2  
 Sammatti fi 1  
 Savonranta fi 10  
 Suomusjärvi fi 2  
**Särkisalo** - *Finby* fi-sv 2  
 Tammisaari -**Ekenäs**\* sv-fi 2  
 Tuulos fi 5  
 Ullava fi 16  
 Vahto fi 2  
 Valkeala fi 8  
 Vammala\* fi 6  
 Vampula fi 4  
 Velkua fi 2  
 Vilppula fi 6  
*Västanfjärd* sv-fi 2  
 Ylihärmä fi 14  
 Ylikiiminki fi 17  
 Ylistaro fi 14  
 Yläne fi 2  
 Äetsä fi 6

1.1.2009 Siikalatva fi 17  
 1.1.2009 **Hämeenlinna** - *Tavastehus*\* fi 5  
 1.1.2009 **Naantali** - *Nädendal* fi 2  
 1.1.2009 **Lohja** - Lojo fi-sv 1  
 1.1.2009 **Savonlinna** - *Nyslott*\* fi 10  
 1.1.2009 Salo\* fi 2  
 1.1.2009 Salo\* fi 2  
 1.1.2009 Raasepori - **Raseborg**\* sv-fi 1  
 1.1.2009 **Hämeenlinna** - *Tavastehus*\* fi 5  
 1.1.2009 **Kokkola** - *Karleby* fi-sv 16  
 1.1.2009 Rusko fi 2  
 1.1.2009 Kouvola\* fi 8  
 1.1.2009 Sastamala\* fi 6  
 1.1.2009 Huittinen\* fi 4  
 1.1.2009 **Naantali** - *Nädendal* fi 2  
 1.1.2009 Mänttä-Vilppula fi 6  
 1.1.2009 Kemiönsaari - **Kimitoön**\* sv-fi 2  
 1.1.2009 Kauhava\* fi 14  
 1.1.2009 **Oulu** - *Uleåborg*\* fi 17  
 1.1.2009 Seinäjoki\* fi 14  
 1.1.2009 Pöytyä fi 2  
 1.1.2009 Sastamala\* fi 6

**List 2.** The municipalities of Finland which have two official names, alphabetized according to the Swedish names. Names in the majority language are written with **bold** letters.

Artsjö – **Artjärvi**

Birkala – **Pirkkala**  
 Björneborg – **Pori**  
 Borgnäs – **Pornainen**  
 Borgå – **Porvoo**  
 Brahestad – **Raahe**  
 Bötom – **Karijoki**

Enare – **Inari**  
 Enontekis – **Enontekiö**  
 Esbo – **Espoo**  
 Etseri – **Ähtäri**  
 Euraåminne – **Eurajoki**

Fredrikshamn – **Hamina**

Grankulla – **Kauniainen**  
 Gustavs – **Kustavi**

Hangö – **Hanko**  
 Helsingfors – **Helsinki**  
 Hyvinge – **Hyvinkää**  
 Högfors – **Karkkila**

Idensalmi – **Iisalmi**  
 Ikalas – **Ikaalinen**  
 Ilomants – **Ilomantsi**  
 Ingå – **Inkoo**

**Jakobstad** – Pietarsaari  
 Jockis – **Jokioinen**

Jorois – **Joroinen**

Kajana – **Kajaani**  
 Karislojo – **Karjalohja**  
 Karleby – **Kokkola**  
 Karlö – **Hailuoto**  
 Kaskö – **Kaskinen**  
 Kaustby – **Kaustinen**  
 Kervo – **Kerava**  
**Kimitoön** - Kemiönsaari  
 Kjulo – **Köyliö**  
 Korsholm – **Mustasaari**  
**Kristinestad** – Kristiinankau-  
 punki  
**Kronoby** – Kruunupyy  
 Kumo – **Kokemäki**  
 Kyrkslätt – **Kirkkonummi**

Lahtis – **Lahti**  
 Laihela – **Laihia**  
 Lappo – **Lapua**  
 Lappträsk – **Lapinjärvi**  
**Larsmo** – Luoto  
 Lillkyro – **Vähäkyrö**  
 Limingo – **Liminka**  
 Lojo – **Lohja**  
 Lovisa – **Loviisa**  
 Lundo – **Lieto**

**Malax** – Maalahti  
**Mariehamn** – Maarianhamina  
 Mörskom – **Myrskylä**

Norrmark – **Noormarkku**

Nousis – **Nousiainen**  
**Nykarleby** – Uusikaarlepyy  
 Nyslott – **Savonlinna**  
 Nystad – **Uusikaupunki**  
 Nädendal – **Naantali**  
**Närpes** – Närpiö

**Oravais** – Oravainen

**Pedersöre** – Pedersören kunta  
 Pemar – **Paimio**  
**Pernå** – Pernaja  
 Pyttis – **Pyhtää**  
 Påmark – **Pomarkku**

**Raseborg** - Raasepori  
 Raumo – **Rauma**  
 Reso – **Raisio**  
 Rimito – **Rymättylä**

S:t Karins – **Kaarina**  
 S:t Michel – **Mikkeli**  
 Sagu – **Sauvo**  
 Sastmola – **Merikarvia**  
 Sibbo – **Sipoo**  
 Sjundeå – **Siuntio**  
 Storkyro – **Isokyrö**  
 Storå – **Isojoki**  
 Strömfors – **Ruotsinpyhtää**

Tammerfors – **Tampere**  
Tavastehus – **Hämeenlinna**  
Tavastkyro – **Hämeenkyrö**  
Torneå – **Tornio**  
Träskända – **Järvenpää**  
Tusby – **Tuusula**  
Tövsala – **Taivassalo**

Uleåborg – **Oulu**

Ulvsby – **Ulvila**  
Vanda – **Vantaa**  
Vasa – **Vaasa**  
Vetil – **Veteli**  
Vichtis – **Vihti**  
Villmanstrand – **Lappeenranta**  
Virdois – **Virrat**

**Väståboland** - Länsi-Turunmaa  
**Vörå-Maxmo** – Vöyri-Maksamaa

Åbo – **Turku**

Östermark – **Teuva**  
Övertorneå – **Ylitornio**

The Saami names of the four northernmost municipalities of Finland (I = Inari Saami, N = North Saami, Sk = Skolt Saami): Enontekiö = Eanodat N; Inari = Aanaar I, Anár N, Aanar Sk; Sodankylä = Soadegilli N; Utsjoki = Ohcejohka N.

## 6.2 Historical provinces

There are two kinds of provinces in Finland – historical provinces and modern *regions*<sup>1</sup>. The names of the provinces have spread into foreign languages in their Swedish forms at the time when Finland was part of Sweden (before 1809), and they sometimes survive in those languages as exonyms (for instance Karelia, Ostrobothnia, Lapland). The number of historical provinces is nine:

1. Varsinais-Suomi fi; Egentliga Finland sv; Finland Proper en
2. Uusimaa fi, en; Nyland sv
3. Satakunta fi, sv, en
4. Häme fi; Tavastland sv; Tavastia en
5. Savo fi, en; Savolax sv
6. Karjala fi; Karelen sv; Karelia en
7. Pohjanmaa fi; Österbotten sv; Ostrobothnia en
8. Lappi fi; Lappland sv; Lapland en
9. Åland sv, en; Ahvenanmaa fi

## 6.3 Regions

Since February 1997, the municipalities of Finland have been grouped into twenty regions (fi *maakunta*, sv *landskap*); see Map 2. The names of the historical provinces have been – at least partly – “inherited” by the regions or “new provinces”. The Ministry of Interior ratified their official Finnish and Swedish names in 1998, and donor recommended English and French names in 1999, as follow:

1. Uusimaa fi, en, fr; Nyland sv
2. Varsinais-Suomi fi, en, fr; Egentliga Finland sv
3. Itä-Uusimaa fi, en, fr; Östra Nyland sv
4. Satakunta fi, sv, en, fr
5. Kanta-Häme fi, en, fr; Egentliga Tavastland
6. Pirkanmaa fi, en, fr; Birkaland sv
7. Päijät-Häme fi, en, fr; Päijänne-Tavastland sv

<sup>1</sup> The Ministry of Interior of Finland translates the term *maakunta/landskap* by *region* (formerly *province*) and the term *lääni/län* by *province* (formerly *county*).

8. Kymenlaakso fi, en, fr; Kymmenedalen sv
9. Etelä-Karjala fi, en, fr; Södra Karelen sv
10. Etelä-Savo fi, en, fr; Södra Savolax sv
11. Pohjois-Savo fi, en, fr; Norra Savolax sv
12. Pohjois-Karjala fi; Norra Karelen sv; North Karelia en; Carélie du Nord fr
13. Keski-Suomi fi; Mellersta Finland sv; Central Finland en; Finlande centrale fr
14. Etelä-Pohjanmaa fi; Södra Östergöttern sv; South Ostrobothnia en; Ostrobotnie du Sud fr
15. Östergöttern sv; Pohjanmaa fi; Ostrobothnia en; Ostrobotnie fr
16. Keski-Pohjanmaa fi; Mellersta Östergöttern sv; Central Ostrobothnia en; Ostrobotnie centrale fr
17. Pohjois-Pohjanmaa fi; Norra Östergöttern sv; North Ostrobothnia en; Ostrobotnie du Nord fr
18. Kainuu fi, en, fr; Kajanaland sv
19. Lappi fi; Lappland sv; Lapland en; Laponie fr
20. Åland sv, en, fr; Ahvenanmaa fi

#### **6.4 Provinces**

Since September 1997, the regional administration of the State is divided into 6 provinces (fi *lääni*, sv *län*):

1. Etelä-Suomi fi; Södra Finland sv; Southern Finland en
2. Länsi-Suomi fi; Västra Finland sv; Western Finland en
3. Itä-Suomi fi; Östra Finland sv; Eastern Finland en
4. Oulu fi, en; Uleåborg sv
5. Lappi fi; Lappland sv; Lapland en
6. Åland sv, en; Ahvenanmaa fi

Map 2. Administrative Provinces and Regions of Finland (see numbers on previous page)

