

Employment situation in Finland and Vaasa



After arrival session 30.10.2025

Maria Haglund

VASEK



Vaasa Region Development Company is a regional business and development company owned by the municipalities in the Vaasa region

Mission



VASEK provides professional services in all stages of the business lifecycle.



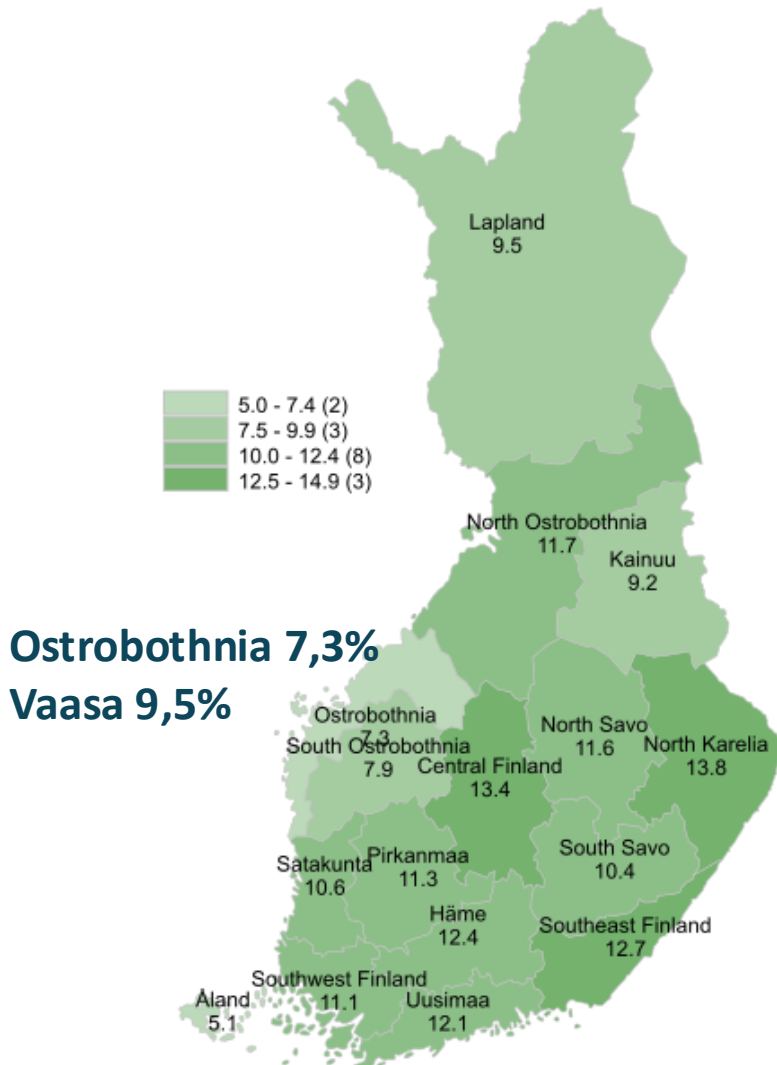
VASEK furthers regional growth, the development of the business environment and the cooperation between organisations.



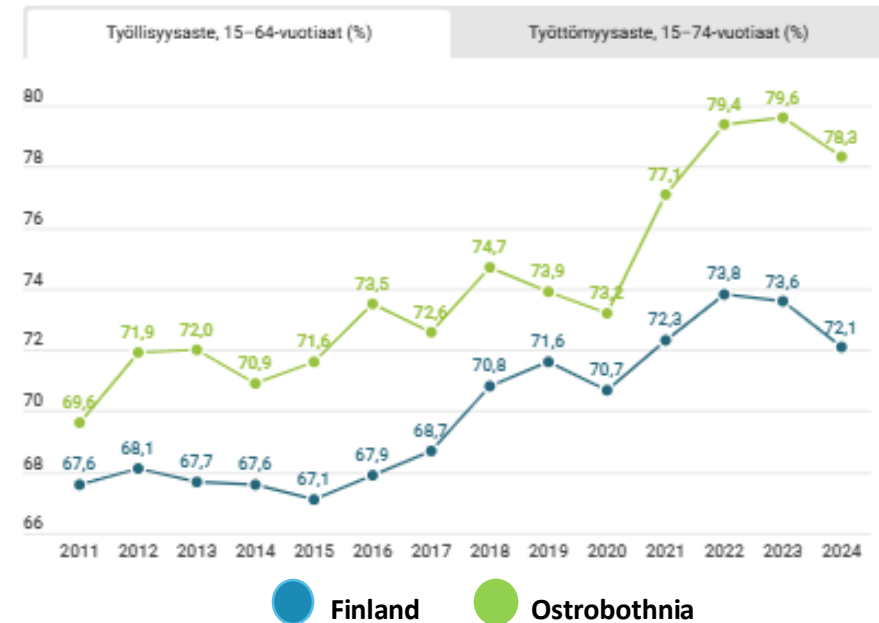
VASEK conveys information about the region and its potential distinctively to ensure the availability of labour force.

As of August 2025, the unemployment rate in Finland is 11,5%

Unemployed jobseekers' percentage of the workforce by ELY centre



Employment rate 2011-2024



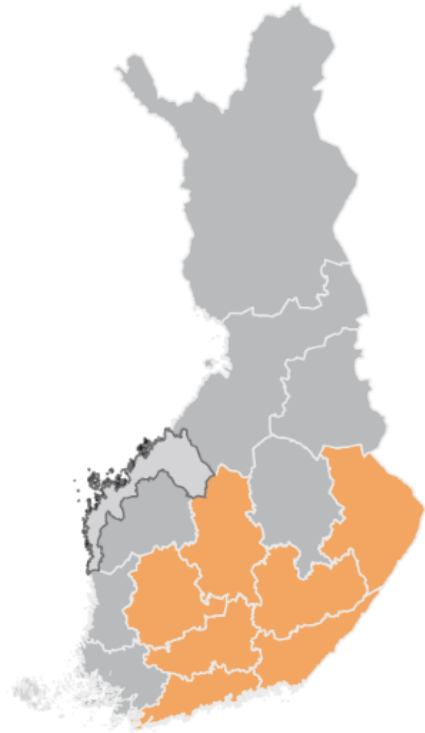
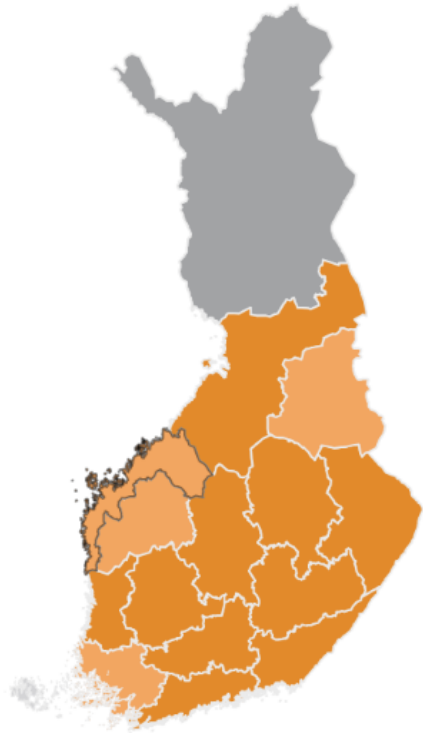
Choose time

August 2025



Choose time

Forecast (October 2025)



Scale



Legend

- Labour shortage
- Labour mismatch problems
- Oversupply of labour
- Labour market equilibrium

The occupations and skills listed here are expert estimates of the occupations and skills that are expected to be needed in the near future

Occupations

1. Generalist medical practitioners
2. Health care assistants
3. Nurse
4. Cooks
5. Psychologists
6. Metal working machine tool setters and operators
7. Electrical and electronic equipment assemblers
8. Welders and flamecutters
9. Mechanical machinery assemblers
10. Chemical products plant and machine operators

The selected region:
Vaasa region

Select the region

Vaasa region

52 105

The number of JOBS
2023

10 460

The number of
INDUSTRIAL JOBS 2023

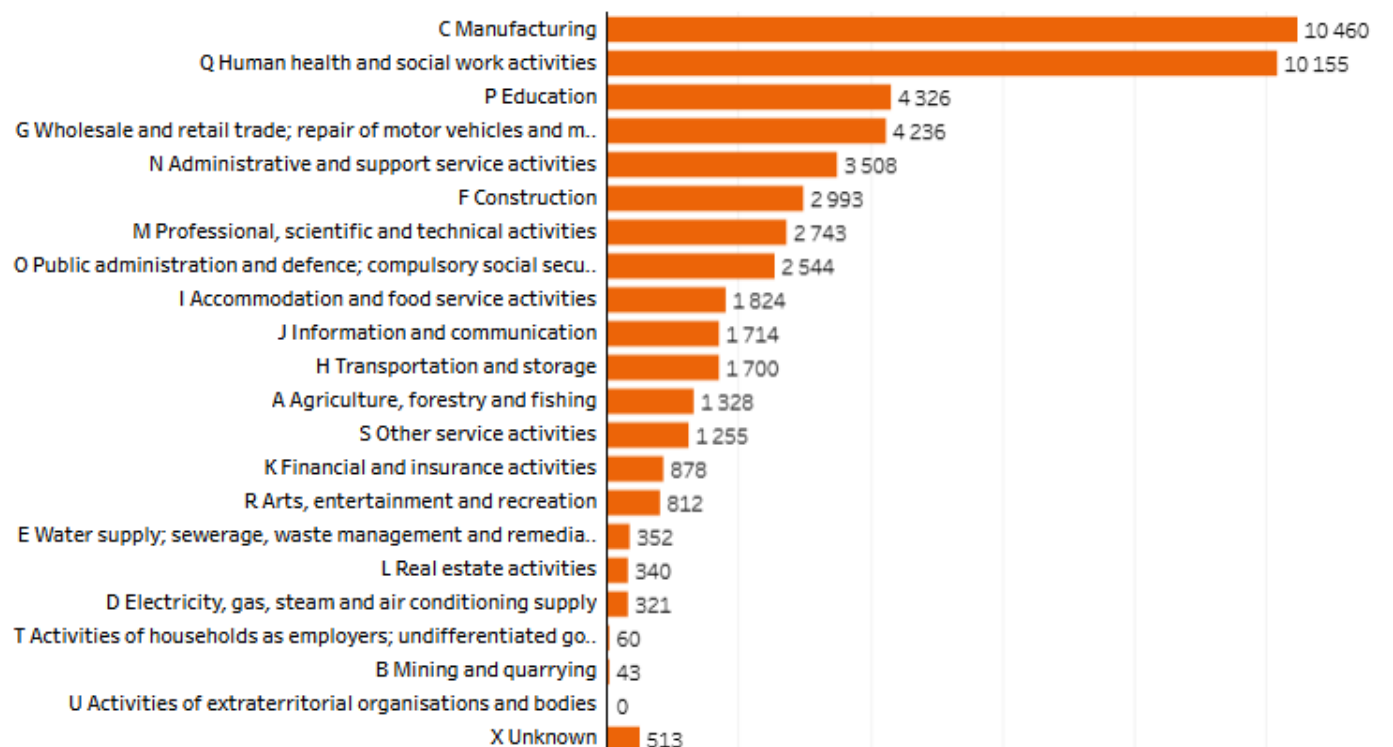
7 171

The number of ESTABLISHMENTS
of enterprises. 31.08.2025

1 245

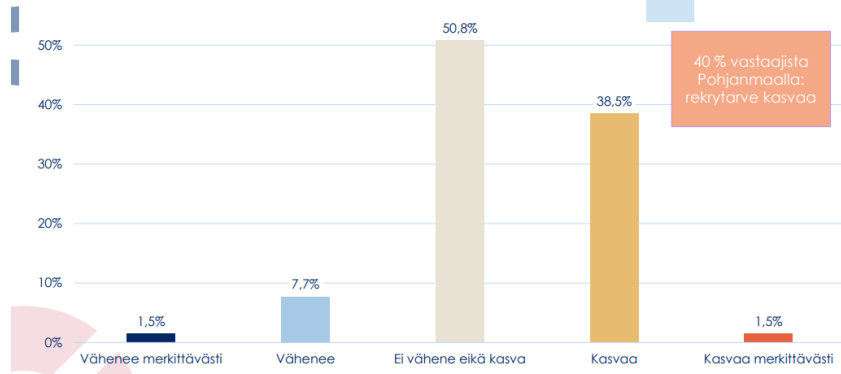
STOCK OF ENTERPRISES
2024

Vaasa region: The number of jobs by industry 2023



“At the end of August, there were 651 open job vacancies in the municipalities of the Ostrobothnia ELY Centre area — 692 fewer than a year earlier, representing a decrease of 52%”

Millainen on yrityksenne näkymä lähitulevaisuuden rekrytointitarpeesta?
Seuraavat 6 kk, Pohjanmaa 8/2025



Green Transition Investments

In recent years, investments to promote the green transition have increased significantly both within the EU and in Finland. These investments are especially concentrated in Ostrobothnia and Central Ostrobothnia.

According to the Ostrobothnia Chamber of Commerce, the total investment volume is estimated to reach up to €22 billion by the end of the decade.

The investment wave includes:

- ✓ Battery industry
- ✓ Hydrogen industry
- ✓ Onshore and offshore wind power

These developments will have strong multiplier effects across other sectors.

We would say the current situation is promising. Most of the industrial sector is doing well, and many companies are doing exceptionally well. Construction appears to be gradually recovering. In the social and healthcare sector, financial issues persist and will likely continue for some time. The retail sector is showing slight signs of improvement, as is the hotel and restaurant industry. Entrepreneur and Chamber of Commerce barometers also reflect a more positive outlook than we've seen in a long time. We'd prefer to highlight this emerging optimism rather than focus on the somewhat weak unemployment figures.

*For students, we might emphasize that although the number of job openings seems to have dropped dramatically, it's not entirely due to a lack of jobs or hiring activity. Rather, the channels for finding jobs have changed. Statutory job-seeking obligations and the current unemployment situation have contributed to jobs becoming less visible. **If there's one thing to stress, it's the importance of networks in job searching.***

Work possibilities in Finland

- There are work possibilities in Vaasa region in many different fields, right now [23 English speaking jobs in Ostrobothnia region](#), 17 of these in Vaasa
- Use various channels to find open vacancies! Check also social media and companies' own websites
 - [Työmarkkinatori](#) – public employment services
 - [workinfinland.com](#) - jobs for English speaking professionals
 - [valtiolle.fi](#) - government jobs
 - [kuntarekry.fi](#) - municipal sector jobs
 - [duunitori.fi](#)
 - [jobly.fi](#)
 - [Temporary agency work](#)

English speaking jobs across Finland

Most popular job categories

Technology

Engineering

Academics

Healthcare

Sales and marketing

Administration

Finance

Human resources

Manufacturing and construction

Project management

Gaming

Work possibilities – points to consider



- Even though students are allowed to work within defined limits (30 hours per week) with a student residence permit, you should note that possible earnings from a part-time job during studies would not be sufficient to cover all your living costs, let alone your tuition fees.
- Moreover, finding part-time work can be challenging - especially without local language skills!
- Also, it's important to remember that your primary goal in Finland is to focus on your studies.

Source: <https://www.studyinfinland.fi>

A partner for entrepreneurs

Our business advisors offer you business services and help during the entire life cycle of your company; free of charge

Vaasa Region Enterprise Agency Startia is part of VASEK.

Every year over 1,500 entrepreneurs and clients planning to become entrepreneurs use Startia and VASEK's business services.

Starting a business

- Developing the business idea
- Business plans
- Calculations
- Permits and licenses
- Start-up grant and other business subsidies



Upcoming jobrelated events for students



Small-scale
industry-specific
career events
By VASEK



TALENT FORUM VAASA

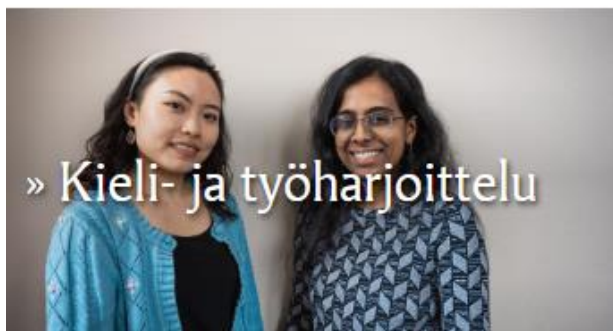
Pistä päivä muistiin!

27.1.2026

Notera datumet!

Wärtsilän Veturitalli
Wärtsilä Lokstallet

Networking is the key! ..not forgetting about the language



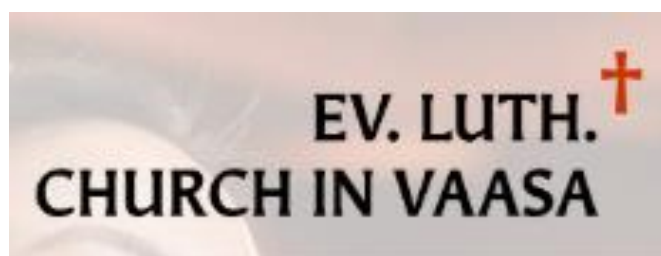
FREE OF CHARGE!

KIELIKAHVILA SPRÅKCAFÉ LANGUAGE CAFÉ

Friday 10.10. & 14.11. & 12.12.
at 17:00-19:00
Raastuvankatu 33

"Our monthly language café connects people from all over the world. Welcome to practice languages, meet new friends, learn about different cultures and have fun!"

V A A S A . V A S A .
ALMA



Thank you!

