

## National report for Finland – June 2017: 100 % public

Date	16.6.2017 (time frame January – May)
Country	Finland
Organisation	Suomen Rautatiematkustajat ry, <a href="http://www.rautatiematkustajat.fi/">http://www.rautatiematkustajat.fi/</a>
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### Positive points for public transport in our country:

1. In 2014 less than 5 % of those arriving at Helsinki-Vantaa Airport travelled by rail. In 2016 the ratio was well over 25 %. The bus market share dropped from 35 % to 22 % while the combined taxi and private car numbers fell from 58 to 51 % during the same period. This is according to a report<sup>1</sup> about the [Ring Rail Line](#) that was opened in May 2015.
2. Somewhat more “exotic” modes are also given a chance: the City of Turku tests water buses on a new route from May to August.<sup>2</sup>
3. A quick feedback service is being tested in Helsinki trams. One can point a sticker with a modern mobile phone and then give one’s feedback through internet. The system has been popular on some bus lines where it has also been tested.<sup>3</sup>
4. Pidä Lappi siistinä ry (Keep Lapland tidy) awarded VR with a Golden Broom for running environmentally friendly transport services<sup>4</sup>.
5. [Finnish knowhow](#) will be utilized to develop public transport in [Nashville, USA](#).
6. [The Rail Regulatory Body](#) published its first ever [passenger transport service report](#).
7. [Helsinki-Uusimaa Region](#) plans to develop immediate railway station surroundings into residential, workplace and business zones<sup>5</sup>.

### Negative points for public transport in our country:

1. A [report](#) on Helsinki Metro collision reveals<sup>6</sup> lax safety culture and deficiencies in the training system (for instance, the driver did not understand the meaning of clearance markers on the pointwork) and contains [recommendations](#).
2. Onnibus, the “enfant terrible” owned by the Souter empire, must cut services and lay off drivers as the aggressive market expansion effort has failed partly.<sup>7</sup>
3. [Riihimäki triangle track](#) is complete, but VR has no passenger service plans, although one could think of direct Tampere – St. Petersburg trains, for instance<sup>8</sup> (the first passenger train [through the tunnel](#) was not operated by VR – museum railway associations are allowed to run their own trains on the national network).
4. VR is not willing to serve the people of Haukivuori even on a trial basis (see our reports [June](#) and [October 2014](#) and [June 2016](#)) and the Ministry won’t intervene<sup>9</sup>.
5. For now, the best bet for opening the Western Metro ([our October 2016 report](#)) is next September<sup>10</sup>. Its extension will also be postponed to the 2020’s<sup>11</sup>.
6. According to The Rail Regulatory Body, operators [managing passenger stations](#) are poorly prepared to run their facilities and services in a transparent manner.

NOTE: Feel free to ask further details, if this report and links are not informative enough.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.hsl.fi/uutiset/2017/keharata-kasvatti-junien-suosiota-9950>

<sup>2</sup> <https://yle.fi/uutiset/3-9525449>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.sttinfo.fi/tiedote/hsl-kokeilee-pikapalautetta-raitiovaunuissa?publisherId=4396&releaseId=59981662>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.pidalappisiistina.fi/uutiset>

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.uudenmaanliitto.fi/uudenmaan-liitto/uutishuone/artikkelit?13784\\_m=27087](https://www.uudenmaanliitto.fi/uudenmaan-liitto/uutishuone/artikkelit?13784_m=27087)

<sup>6</sup>

[http://turvallisuuustutkinta.fi/material/attachments/otkes/tutkintaselostukset/fi/raideliikenneonnettomuuksientutkinta/2016/epy1b24DP/R2016-04\\_Helsinki-tutkintaselostus.pdf](http://turvallisuuustutkinta.fi/material/attachments/otkes/tutkintaselostukset/fi/raideliikenneonnettomuuksientutkinta/2016/epy1b24DP/R2016-04_Helsinki-tutkintaselostus.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.iltalehti.fi/tyoelama/201702062200065478\\_tb.shtml](http://www.iltalehti.fi/tyoelama/201702062200065478_tb.shtml)

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.tamperelainen.fi/artikkeli/483851-tampereen-junat-eivat-paase-uusille-10-miljoonan-raiteille>

<sup>9</sup> <http://haukivuorensuutu.fi/vr-ei-suostunut-kokeiluun/>

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.lansivayla.fi/artikkeli/526200-lansimetroa-saadaan-jannata-viela-koko-kesa-h-hetki-varmistuukin-vasta-elokuun>

<sup>11</sup> <http://www.lansivayla.fi/artikkeli/519954-metrojohtaja-myos-lansimetron-jatko-myohasty>