

Indicator 13: Recreation Areas

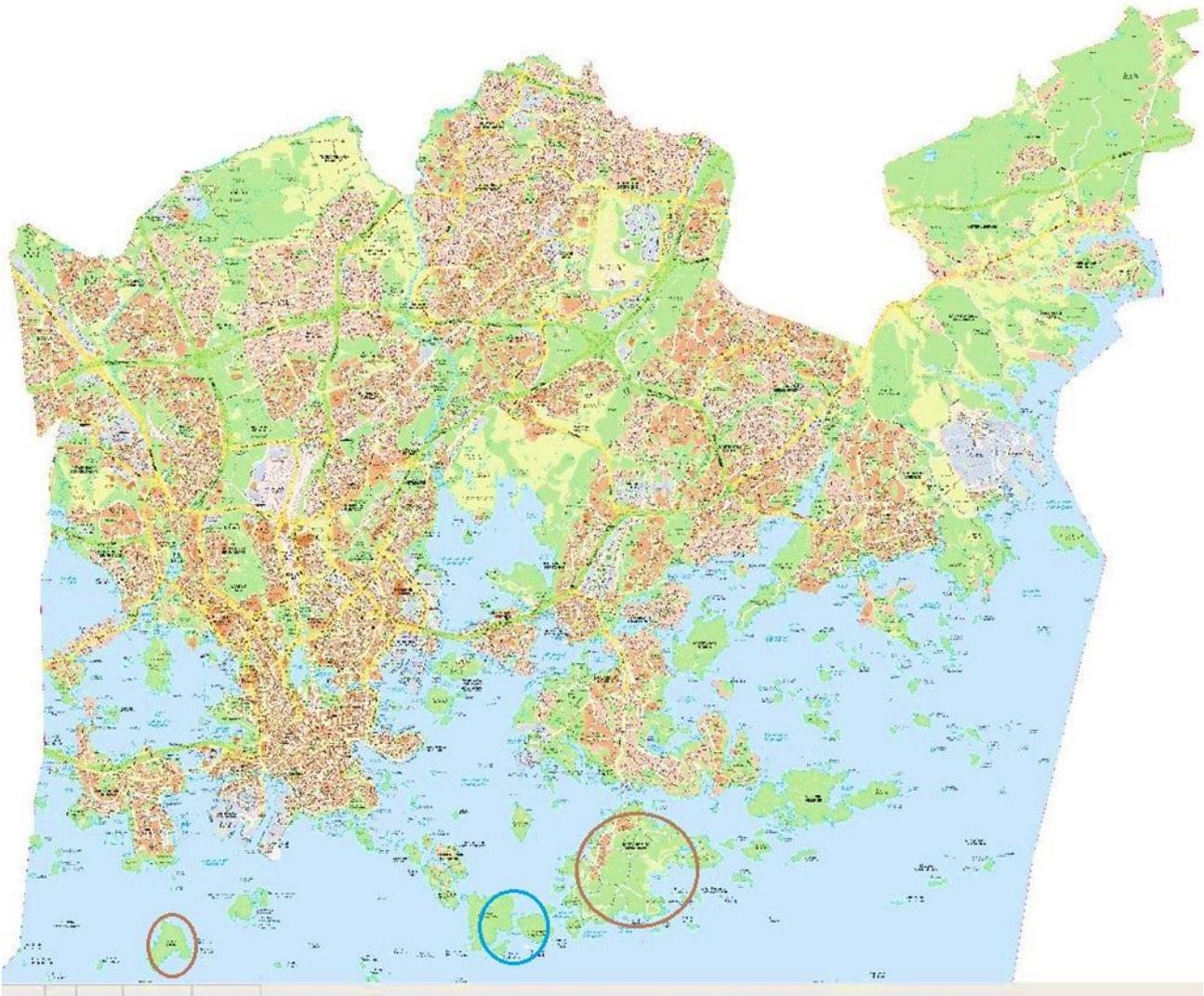


Figure: Recreation areas in Helsinki. Areas marked in green on the map are mostly green spaces that are intended for recreation, as are some of the field meadow and grassland areas marked in yellow. Areas marked with a brown circle are military areas which are not open to the public. Islands that are marked with a blue circle are in the process of transfer from military to public use, though currently these are not freely accessible due to the risk of unexploded munitions (Picture: Map © Real Estate Department, Helsinki 2015)

Status:

The municipality of Helsinki owns most of the city's green spaces. In addition, some green spaces are owned by the state, parishes and private owners. The extent of green space owned by the municipality in 2012 was 7 251 ha. According to the estimate of the Environment Centre, there have been no major changes to the statistics for 2012¹. According to the forecast of Helsinki Urban Facts, there were 621 904 inhabitants in Helsinki at the end of the year 2014. When 7 251 hectares is divided between by the number of residents, the result is 11.7 hectares per thousand residents. It should be noted that also green spaces that are not owned by the municipality are also available for recreational use according to Everyman's rights. Thus the total amount of available green space is slightly greater than the total figure given here.

¹ Sanna Elijoki, Environmental Inspector, personal oral communication 5.3.2015.

Score:

0 points: < 0.1 ha/1000 residents
1 point: 0.1 - 0.3 ha/1000 residents
2 points: 0.4 - 0.6 ha/1000 residents
3 points: 0.7 - 0.9 ha/1000 residents
4 points: > 0.9 ha/1000 residents

Monitoring:

The amount of green space will be determined when the index is calculated. The reliability of this indicator will improve if reliable data regarding green spaces not owned by the municipality can be obtained. The result for Helsinki is excellent, so the purpose of monitoring will be to ensure that it does not decline.

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