

**AVIATION**

# Finnair weighing passengers

By [Robert Silk](#) / November 02, 2017

[A+](#) [A-](#)



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Finnair has begun weighing customers before they board their flights.

However, the program isn't as salacious as it might sound.

"We have a strong safety culture at Finnair, and are also very data-driven organization, so we want to ensure we have the best possible data in use in aircraft performance and loading calculations," the carrier said in a statement.

This week, Finnair asked approximately 180 customers to voluntarily step on the scale before flights out of Helsinki Airport. At present, the carrier uses generic European Aviation Safety Agency standards to estimate the average weight of adult male, adult female and child passengers, including their carry-on baggage. But through the study, Finnair is hoping to get more accurate information.

Routes differ in passenger profiles, the airline said. For example, corporate travelers don't generally carry the same amount of carry-on luggage as leisure travelers. So weight profiles on corporate and leisure routes could be different. In addition, routes in summer, when people wear light clothes, could have different per-customer weight profiles than routes in winter.

Finnair plans to weigh at least 2,000 customers through next spring.

"The weighing is purely voluntary and anonymous, and only the customer service agent sees the weighing result," the carrier said. Scales will be located near gates.

Finnair flies year-round from Helsinki to New York, seasonally in the winter to Miami, and seasonally in the summer to San Francisco and Chicago O'Hare.