

# ABDI (MTS)

## FINNS' OPINIONS ON FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY, NATIONAL DEFENCE AND SECURITY

THE ADVISORY BOARD FOR DEFENCE  
INFORMATION



Bulletins and reports  
May 2022

2022:3

The Advisory Board for Defence Information ABDI 2022:3

## Finns' opinions on foreign and security policy, national defence and security

The Advisory Board for Defence Information

Ministry of Defence, Helsinki 2022

**Publication distribution**

**Institutional Repository  
for the Government  
of Finland Valto**

[julkaisut.valtioneuvosto.fi](http://julkaisut.valtioneuvosto.fi)

**Publication sale**

**Online bookstore  
of the Finnish  
Government**

[vnjulkaisumyynti.fi](http://vnjulkaisumyynti.fi)

Ministry of Defence

This publication is copyrighted. You may download, display and print it for Your own personal use.  
Commercial use is prohibited.

ISBN pdf: 978-951-663-463-3

ISSN pdf: 2490-0052

Layout: Government Administration Department, Publications

Helsinki 2022 Finland

## Finns' opinions on foreign and security policy, national defence and security

---

### The Advisory Board for Defence Information ABDI 2022:3

**Publisher** Ministry of Defence

---

**Group Author** The Advisory Board for Defence Information

**Language** English

**Pages**

43

---

### Abstract

A survey commissioned by the Advisory Board for Defence Information (ABDI) explored the opinions of Finnish people on the willingness to defend your country, military non-alignment, Finland's membership in NATO, the impact of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the European Union, the UN, NATO, the United States, Russia and China on Finland's security, confidence in the Defence Forces' ability to counter military threats, of the military situation in Finland's neighbouring areas and military cooperation. Altogether eight questions were asked, all of them have been asked before by ABDI.

Commissioned by the ABDI, market research company Taloustutkimus Oy carried out the survey. Because of the coronavirus situation, the survey was carried out as a combination of personal interviews as a part of omnibus research and an internet panel by Taloustutkimus Oy. The sample was 1002 people. The target group of the study comprised the entire population between the ages of 15 and 79, with the exception of the Åland Islands.

The report comprises a text section with illustrating figures that also present the time sequence of the questions asked in previous surveys. These illustrations were prepared by Taloustutkimus Oy.

**Keywords** national defence, willingness to defend Finland, Nato, military non alignment, military cooperation, military ability to counter military threats, security

---

**ISBN PDF** 978-951-663-463-3

**ISSN PDF**

2490-0052

---

**URN address** <https://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-663-463-3>

---

## Suomalaisten mielipiteitä ulko- ja turvallisuuspolitiikasta, maanpuolustuksesta ja turvallisuudesta

---

### Maanpuolustustiedotuksen suunnittelukunta MTS 2022:3

**Julkaisija** Puolustusministeriö

---

**Yhteisötekijä** Maanpuolustustiedotuksen suunnittelukunta  
**Kieli** englanti **Sivumäärä** 43

---

#### Tiivistelmä

Maanpuolustustiedotuksen suunnittelukunnan (MTS) haastattelututkimuksessa on selvitetty kansalaisten mielipiteitä maanpuolustustahdosta, Suomen sotilaallisesta liittoutumattomuudesta, Nato-jäsenyydestä, eri tahojen vaikutuksesta Suomen turvallisuuteen, luottamuksesta Puolustusvoimien kykyyn torjua sotilaallisia uhkia, sotilaallisesta tilanteesta Suomen lähialueella sekä Suomen sotilaallisesta yhteistyöstä. Kysymyksiä on kahdeksan. Kaikki kysymykset on kysytty myös aiemmin MTS:n kyselyissä.

Tutkimuksen teki Taloustutkimus Oy MTS:n toimeksiannosta. Tutkimus toteutettiin yhdistelmänä Omnibustutkimuksen henkilökohtaisia haastatteluja kappaletta sekä Taloustutkimuksen internet-paneelissa. Tutkimuksen otos on 1002 henkilöä. Tutkimuksen kohderyhmä on maamme 15 – 79-vuotias väestö Ahvenanmaan maakuntaa lukuun ottamatta.

Raportti koostuu tekstiosasta ja sitä täydentävistä kuvista, joissa näkyvät myös esitettyjen kysymysten aikasarjat. Kuvat on tehty Taloustutkimuksessa.

**Asiasanat** maanpuolustus, maanpuolustustahto, Nato, sotilaallinen liittoutumattomuus, sotilaallinen yhteistyö, puolustuskyky, turvallisuus

---

**ISBN PDF** 978-951-663-463-3

**ISSN PDF** 2490-0052

---

**Julkaisun osoite** <https://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-663-463-3>

---

## Finländarnas åsikter om utrikes- och säkerhetspolitiken, försvaret och säkerheten

---

### Planeringskommissionen för försvarsinformation PFI 2022:3

**Utgivare** Försvarsministeriet

---

**Utarbetad av** Planeringskommissionen för försvarsinformation  
**Språk** engelska **Sidantal** 43

---

#### Referat

Planeringskommissionen för försvarsinformation (PFI) ha i en intervjuundersökning rätt ut medborgarnas åsikter om försvarsvilja, militärt alliansfrihet, Nato-medlemskap, olika faktorer inverkan på Finlands säkerhet, förtroendet för Försvarsmaktens förmåga att avvärja militära hot, militära läget i Finlands närområde och Finlands militära samarbete. Frågorna var totalt åtta. Alla frågor har frågat också tidigare av PFI.

Undersökningen gjordes av Taloustutkimus Oy på uppdrag av PFI. På grund av coronaläget genomfördes den som en kombination av en omnibusundersökning med personliga intervjuer och en webbpanel av Taloustukimus. Undersökningen omfattar ett urval på 1002 personer. Målgrupp för undersökningen är landets befolkning i åldern 15–79 år med undantag av landskapet Åland.

Rapporten består av en textdel och figurer som kompletterar den, där tidsserier med tidigare ställda frågor kan ses. Figurerna har tagits fram av Taloustutkimus Oy.

**Nyckelord** försvar, försvarsvilja, Nato, försvarsförmåga, militär alliansfrihet, militär samarbete, säkerhet

---

**ISBN PDF** 978-951-663-463-3 **ISSN PDF** 2490-0052

---

**URN-adress** <https://urn.fi/URN:ISBN:978-951-663-463-3>

---

# Contents

<b>FOREWORD</b> .....	7
<b>SUMMARY</b> .....	9
SUPPORT FOR MILITARY NON-ALIGNMENT COLLAPSES.....	10
SUPPORT FOR NATO MEMBERSHIP HAS INCREASED CONSIDERABLY WHILE NEGATIVE ATTITUDE HAS DECREASED SIGNIFICANTLY.....	12
NATIONAL DEFENCE WILL IS AT ALL-TIME HIGHEST .....	15
PERSONAL WILL TO DEFEND THE NATION REMAINS HIGH .....	18
STRONG TRUST IN THE DEFENCE FORCES' ABILITY TO COUNTER MILITARY THREATS .....	18
MILITARY SITUATION IN FINLAND'S NEIGHBOURING AREAS IS ASSESSED TO BE INCREASINGLY THREATENING.....	19
EFFECTS OF NATO AND THE UNITED STATES ON FINLAND'S SECURITY ARE INCREASINGLY SEEN AS POSITIVE – RUSSIA'S NEGATIVE IMPACT HAS INCREASED .....	19
POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS FINLAND'S MILITARY COOPERATION WITH NATO AND THE UNITED STATES HAS GROWN.....	21
Research branch of the ABDI.....	23
Chairs of the ABDI .....	23
Secretariat .....	23
<b>Appendix</b> .....	24

## FOREWORD

A survey conducted by the Advisory Board for Defence information (ABDI) polled the public's opinion on national defence will, military non-alignment, NATO membership, the Defence Forces' ability to counter military threats against Finland, military situation in Finland's neighbouring areas, the impact of various parties on Finland's security and Finland's military cooperation. There were eight questions, and they have all been polled before.

The ABDI has conducted opinion polls since its establishment in 1976. There are also two questions posed by the predecessor of the ABDI, the Advisory Board for Mental Defence (HMS), from 1964 to 1975.

Commissioned by the ABDI, the survey was carried out by market research company Taloustutkimus Oy. Due to the coronavirus situation, the survey was conducted as a combination of personal interviews with Omnibus Research and an internet panel of Taloustutkimus, in the same way as the interviews for 2020 and 2021. A total of 501 personal interviews were conducted while 501 panel responses were collected. There were 490 women among the interviewees and 512 men. Before 2020, the survey was conducted only as personal interviews as part of the omnibus study.

Excluding the Åland Islands, the target group was the population aged 15 to 79 in Finland, with a sample size of 1002 people. This was done by quota sampling in which the target group's quotas were the distribution of age, gender, province and municipality. The sample was weighted to match the target group. The weighted N values correspond to the population aged 15 to 79 in thousands (SVT 31.12.2020).

The interviews were conducted on 7 April to 3 May 2022. There were twenty trained interviewers from Taloustutkimus Oy involved with the interviews, collecting the panel section's answers 19 April to 29 April 2022. The margin of error for the survey is 3.2 percentage points in either direction.



When interpreting background variables related to party affiliation, it must be taken into account that the margin of error regarding the large parties is smaller, which enables the collection of more reliable information when compared to smaller parties whose supporters are numerically fewer in the sample. Only those parties whose voting was supported by more than 50 respondents were included in the scoreboard.

Party affiliation was ascertained by asking the following question: "Which party would you vote for if parliamentary elections were held now?" Of all of the respondents, 73 per cent (735 persons) revealed their party affiliation, while 27 per cent (267) declined to do so. In 2021, the corresponding numbers were 73 per cent and 27 per cent.

Those under 50 years of age are somewhat under-represented in the survey, and those over 65 years of age are over-represented. Over-representation and under-representation were weighted for correction.

The division into regions has been made into three categories: Helsinki-Uusimaa/Southern Finland (number of respondents 523), including the large areas of Helsinki-Uusimaa and Southern Finland, Western Finland (250 respondents), including the large area of Western Finland and Eastern Finland/Oulu/Lapland (number of respondents 229), including the large area of Northern and Eastern Finland.

In unweighted material, the large area of Helsinki-Uusimaa is under-represented and the large area of Southern Finland is over-represented. Over-representation and under-representation were weighted for correction.

The report comprises a text section with illustrating figures that also present the time sequence of the questions asked in previous surveys. The illustrations were prepared by Taloustutkimus Oy. The questions were drawn up by the Research and Work Branches of the ABDI and the Research Branch compiled the report for the Work Branch.

Taloustutkimus sends the data from this survey, like that of the previous surveys, to the Finnish Social Science Data Archive at the University of Tampere ([www.fsd.uta.fi](http://www.fsd.uta.fi)) where they are stored.

## SUMMARY

Russia's military aggression against Ukraine 24 February 2022 has changed not only the security policy setting in Finland but also in Europe as a whole, and it has also had a strong impact on citizens' emotions.

In March, the ABDI decided to conduct an opinion poll and poll the same questions that have been previously asked, too, to see possible changes. Eight questions were asked and, in terms of the results, it can be said that never before had such major changes occurred. All the same questions were polled in autumn 2021, in other words about six months earlier. The research method is the same as last autumn. There are clear and significant changes in all of the questions compared to last autumn.

Support for military non-alignment has collapsed: now less than one-fifth supports it whereas six months ago more than half of the respondents supported military non-alignment.

Two-thirds now supports military alignment while last autumn it was just under one-third. More than half of supporters of all political parties are in favour of military alignment.

There is now strong support for NATO membership: sixty-eight per cent would like Finland to join NATO while one-fourth of the respondents supported this last autumn. Today, 15 per cent are opposed to joining NATO while half of the respondents were of this opinion last autumn.

The citizens' will to defend the country has clearly strengthened; over 80 per cent want Finland defended by military means if it is attacked. This is the highest score in the ABDI's battery of questions.

Nine out of ten, or 87 per cent, trust the Defence Forces' ability to counter military threats against Finland. Confidence has grown by almost 15 percentage points since last autumn.

Two out of three think that Finland's military environment is more threatening; last autumn, clearly less than half of the respondents thought this way.

The positive impact of NATO and the United States on Finland's security has clearly increased, and their negative impact has decreased correspondingly.

Russia's negative impact has increased further; 85 per cent now find that Russia has a negative impact on Finland's security.

Wide support to Finland's military cooperation Compared to last autumn, positive attitudes towards military cooperation have clearly increased, especially with both NATO and the United States.

## SUPPORT FOR MILITARY NON-ALIGNMENT COLLAPSES

Less than one-fifth, or 17 per cent (53 per cent in 2021), are of the opinion that Finland should remain militarily non-aligned. Seventeen percent of men (51 per cent) and 16 per cent of women (55 per cent) share this view. Of those over 50 years of age, 13 per cent (60 per cent) are of this opinion, as are 15 per cent (46 per cent) of the 35 to 49-year-olds; 23 per cent (44 per cent) of the 25 to 34-year-olds; and 25 per cent (52 per cent) of those under 25 years of age.

Of Left Alliance supporters, 29 per cent (65 per cent in 2021) support military non-alignment, as do 23 per cent (48 per cent) of Finns Party supporters; 14 per cent of SDP and Centre Party supporters (69 and 63 per cent respectively); nine per cent (45 per cent) of Green Party supporters; and seven per cent (36 per cent) of Coalition Party supporters.

The ABDI has polled this question every year since 1996, and the support for military non-alignment has never before been less than 50 per cent.

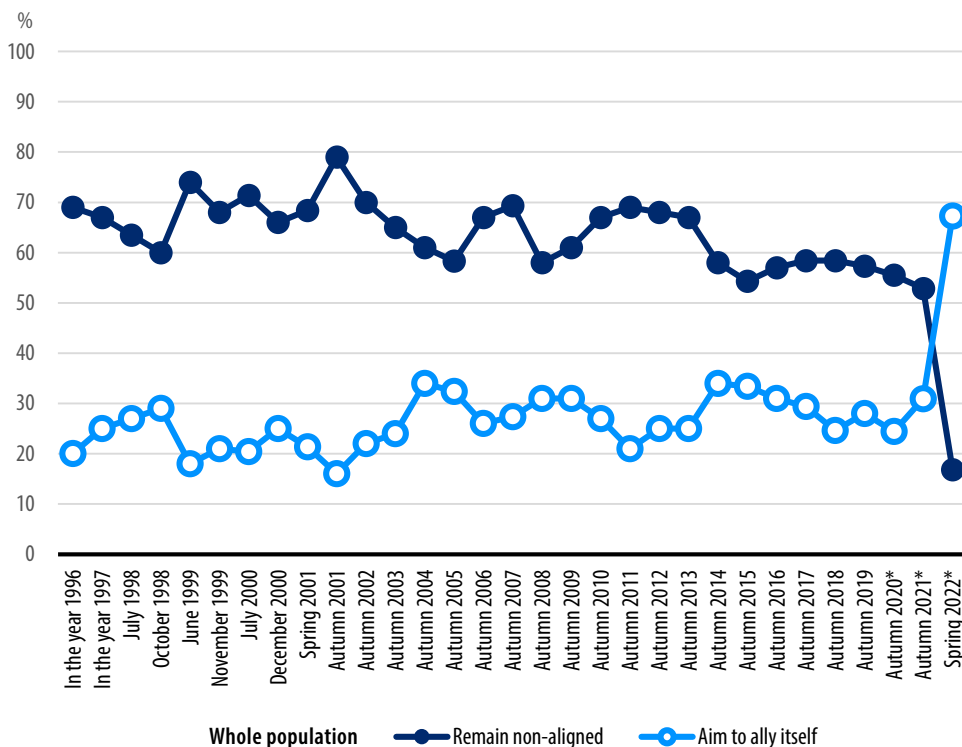
Two-thirds or 67 per cent (31 per cent in 2021) of the respondents support membership in a military alliance, 73 per cent (40 per cent) of men and 62 per cent (21 per cent) of women. Of those over 50 years of age, 73 per cent (30 per cent) support membership in a military alliance as do 68 per cent (34 per cent) of the 35 to 49-year-olds; 62 per cent (36 per cent) of the 25 to 34-year-olds; and 52 per cent (23 per cent) of those under 25 years of age.

Of Coalition Party supporters, 82 per cent (53 per cent in 2021) think that Finland should join a military alliance, 75 per cent (18 per cent) of SDP supporters; 72 per cent (33 per cent) of Green Party supporters; 71 per cent (28 per cent) of Centre Party supporters; 67 per cent (40 per cent) of Finns Party supporters; and 51 per cent (20 per cent) of Left Alliance supporters.

Support for military alignment is at all-time highest. Before this, support for military alignment peaked at 34 per cent twice, in 2014 and 2004.

Sixteen percent (16 per cent in 2021) have no opinion; 22 per cent (24 per cent) of women and 10 per cent (9 per cent) of men. (figures 1 and 2)

**Figure 1A** Military alignment or non-alignment. "In your opinion, should Finland remain militarily non-aligned or should Finland aim to ally itself militarily?"



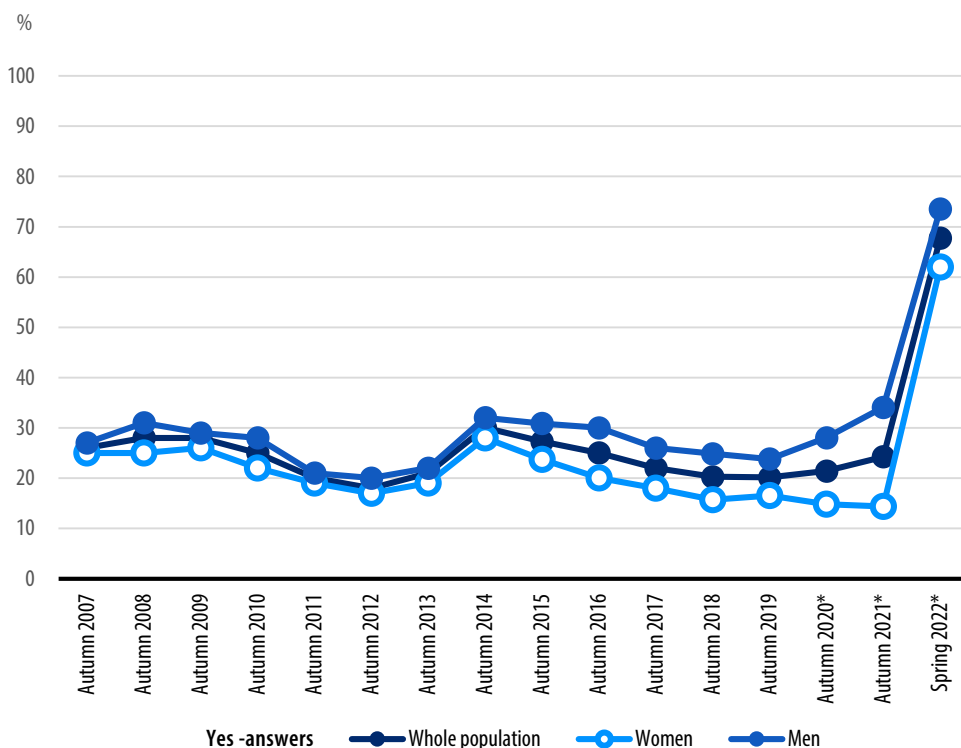
\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

## SUPPORT FOR NATO MEMBERSHIP HAS INCREASED CONSIDERABLY WHILE NEGATIVE ATTITUDE HAS DECREASED SIGNIFICANTLY

Sixty-eight per cent of the respondents are in favour of joining NATO (24 per cent in 2021); 74 per cent (34 per cent) of men and 62 per cent (14 per cent) of women. Of those over 50 years of age, 75 per cent (26 per cent) now support joining NATO as do 68 per cent (29 per cent) of the 35 to 49-year-olds; 59 per cent (21 per cent) of the 25 to 34-year-olds; and 55 per cent (15 per cent) of those under 25 years of age.

Of Coalition Party supporters, 83 per cent (52 per cent in 2021) are in favour of NATO membership, as are 79 per cent (20 per cent) of Centre Party supporters; 74 per cent (16 per cent) of SDP supporters; 72 per cent (37 per cent) of Finns Party supporters; 67 per cent (17 per cent) of Green Party supporters; and 47 per cent (9 per cent) of Left Alliance supporters.

**Figure 3A** Nato membership. "In your opinion, should Finland seek membership in Nato?"



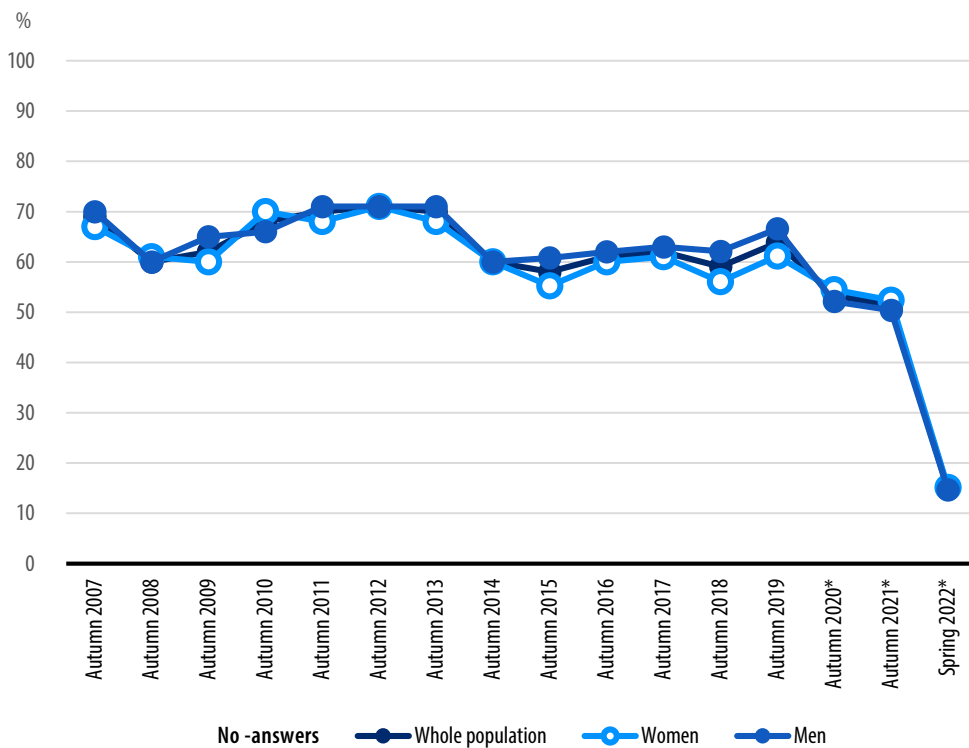
\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

Fifteen per cent of the respondents hold a negative view on Finland’s NATO membership (51 per cent in 2021), both among men (50 per cent) and women (52 per cent). Among the 25 to 34-year-olds, 23 per cent (49 per cent) hold a negative view as do 18 per cent (54 per cent) of those younger than 25 years of age; 14 per cent (43 per cent) of the 35 to 49-year-olds; and 12 per cent (56 per cent) of those older than 50 years of age.

The negative view is shared by 30 per cent (67 per cent in 2021) of Left Alliance supporters; 18 per cent (51 per cent) of Finns Party supporters; 12 per cent (62 per cent) of SDP supporters; 11 per cent (49 per cent) of Green Party supporters; 7 per cent (51 per cent) of Centre Party supporters; and 5 per cent (32 per cent) of Coalition Party supporters.

The ABDI has polled about Finland joining NATO since 2005, 17 times before this survey. Before the current survey, NATO support was at its highest in 2014, when it was 30 per cent. (figures 3 and 4)

**Figure 3B** Nato membership. "In your opinion, should Finland seek membership in Nato?"



\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

## NATIONAL DEFENCE WILL IS AT ALL-TIME HIGHEST

'If Finland were attacked, should Finns, in your opinion, take up arms to defend themselves in all situations, even if the outcome seemed uncertain?'

Eighty-three per cent (68 per cent in 2021) of the respondents answer in the affirmative, 88 per cent (79 per cent) of men and 77 per cent (56 per cent) of women. Of the over 50 years of age, 88 per cent (74 per cent) answer in the affirmative, as do 82 per cent (68 per cent) of the 35 to 49-year-olds; 75 per cent (54 per cent) of the 25 to 34-year-olds; and 73 per cent (62 per cent) of the 15 to 24-year-olds.

Ninety-three per cent (80 per cent in 2021) of Finns Party supporters agree, as do 90 per cent (65 per cent) of Centre Party supporters; 89 per cent (81 per cent) of Coalition Party supporters; 83 per cent (76 per cent) of SDP supporters; 78 per cent (46 per cent) of Green Party supporters; and 75 per cent (43 per cent) of Left Alliance supporters.

The share of respondents choosing "Yes" is now the highest in the history of the ABDI's surveys. The figure has been 81 per cent once, in 2000, and 80 per cent twice, in 1995 and 2004.

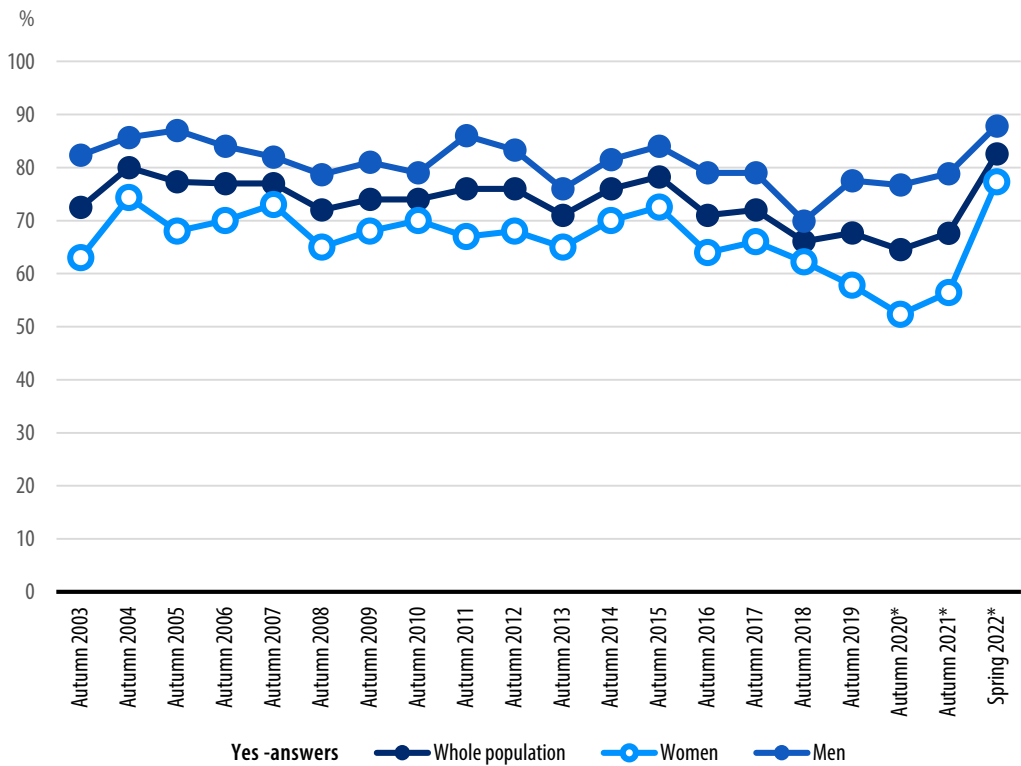
Seven percent (18 per cent in 2021) of the respondents answer in the negative, six per cent (15 per cent) of men and eight per cent (21 per cent) of women. The share of respondents choosing "No" is the lowest in the history of the ABDI's surveys.

Of Coalition Party and Left Alliance supporters, eight per cent (7 per cent and 38 per cent respectively) answer in the negative; five per cent (12 per cent and 16 per cent respectively) of Finns Party and Centre Party supporters; four per cent (12 per cent) of SDP supporters; and two per cent (33 per cent) of Green Party supporters.

Ten per cent (15 per cent in 2021) have no opinion on the matter, 15 per cent (23 per cent) of women and 6 per cent (6 per cent) of men. (figures 5 and 6)

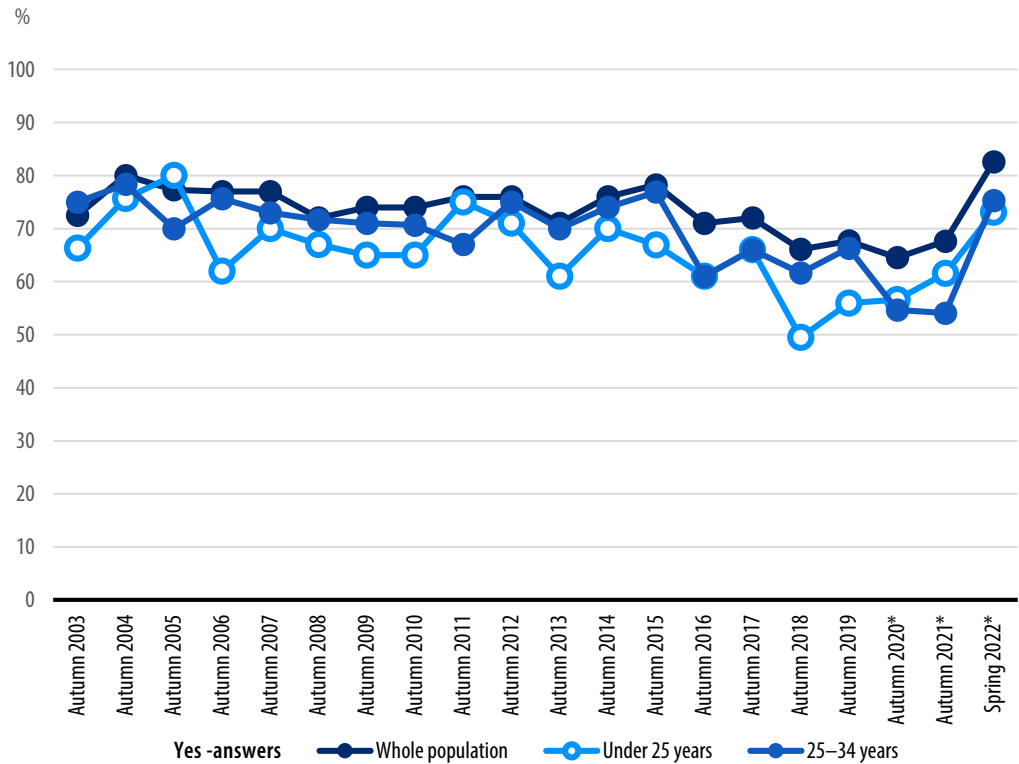


**Figure 5A** The will to defend the nation. "If Finland were attacked, should Finns, in your opinion, take up arms to defend themselves in all situations, even if the outcome seemed uncertain?"



\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

**Figure 5B** The will to defend the nation. "If Finland were attacked, should Finns, in your opinion, take up arms to defend themselves in all situations, even if the outcome seemed uncertain?"



\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

## PERSONAL WILL TO DEFEND THE NATION REMAINS HIGH

“If Finland were attacked, would you be prepared to participate in the various tasks of national defence according to your abilities and skills?”

Eighty-two per cent (84 per cent in 2021) of the respondents answered in the affirmative, 88 per cent (89 per cent) of men and 76 per cent (78 per cent) of women. Different age groups think in similar lines, with the exception of the 25 to 34-year-olds: 73 per cent (82 per cent) answer in the affirmative.

Eight per cent (9 per cent in 2021) of the respondents answer in the negative, ten per cent (11 per cent) of women and 7 per cent (6 per cent) of men.

Ten per cent (8 per cent in 2021) have no opinion on the matter, 15 per cent (11 per cent) of women and 5 per cent (4 per cent) of men. (figures 7 and 8)

## STRONG TRUST IN THE DEFENCE FORCES' ABILITY TO COUNTER MILITARY THREATS

“Do you trust in the Defence Forces' ability to defend Finland against various threats?” This question was asked for the first time in 2021.

Nine out of ten or 87 per cent (73 per cent in 2021) trust very much or quite a lot in the Defence Forces' ability to defend Finland against various military threats, 87 per cent (74 per cent) of men and 86 per cent (71 per cent) of women. Of those over 50 years of age, 91 per cent (73 per cent) share this view; 88 per cent (74 per cent) of the 35 to 49-year-olds; 84 per cent (74 per cent) of the 15 to 24-year-olds; and 73 per cent (63 per cent) of the 25 to 34-year-olds.

Eleven per cent (22 per cent in 2021) of respondents trust rather little or very little in the Defence Forces' ability to defend Finland against various military threats, 12 per cent (22 per cent) of men and 11 per cent (23 per cent) of women. (figure 9)

## **MILITARY SITUATION IN FINLAND'S NEIGHBOURING AREAS IS ASSESSED TO BE INCREASINGLY THREATENING**

“What is your assessment of the military situation in Finland's neighbouring areas over the next ten years?”

This question was polled for the first time in 2004 and was now polled for the eleventh time.

Sixty-four per cent (42 per cent in 2021) of respondents considered military situation in Finland's neighbourhood more threatening, 65 per cent (42 per cent) of women and 62 per cent (43 per cent) of men.

Of Coalition Party supporters, 71 per cent (56 per cent in 2021) share this view, as do 69 per cent (46 per cent) of Centre Party supporters; 68 per cent (40 per cent) of Left Alliance supporters; 65 per cent (34 per cent) of SDP supporters; 63 per cent (58 per cent) of Finns Party supporters; and 57 per cent (30 per cent) of Green Party supporters.

A quarter of respondents or 24 per cent (47 per cent in 2021) assess that the military situation remains the same as today in Finland's neighbouring areas; 26 per cent (49 per cent) of men and 23 per cent (45 per cent) of women.

Six per cent (5 per cent in 2021) of the respondents assess it will be less threatening, seven per cent (4 per cent) of men and six per cent (5 per cent) of women. (figures 10 and 11)

## **EFFECTS OF NATO AND THE UNITED STATES ON FINLAND'S SECURITY ARE INCREASINGLY SEEN AS POSITIVE – RUSSIA'S NEGATIVE IMPACT HAS INCREASED**

This question assesses what kind of effects the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the European Union, NATO, the UN, Russia, China and the United States have on Finland's security. Compared to 2021, NATO's positive

impact has clearly increased, and the same is seen about the United States and the EU, while Russia's negative impact is seen significantly increased.

## European Union

Seventy per cent (63 per cent in 2021) of the respondents see a positive effect on Finland's security; ten per cent (14 per cent) see no effect; 13 per cent (11 per cent) see both positive and negative effects; four per cent (7 per cent) see a negative effect; and three per cent (5 per cent) have no opinion on the matter.

## NATO

Fifty-nine per cent see a positive effect (31 per cent in 2021) on Finland's security; four per cent (12 per cent) see no effect; 23 per cent (22 per cent) see both positive and negative effects; eight per cent (20 per cent) see a negative effect; and six per cent (15 per cent) have no opinion.

## UN

Fifty-six per cent (58 per cent in 2021) see a positive effect on Finland's security; 24 per cent (23 per cent) see no effect; nine per cent (7 per cent) see both positive and negative effects; two per cent (2 per cent) see a negative effect; and eight per cent (10 per cent) have no opinion on the matter.

## OSCE

Forty-five per cent (45 per cent in 2021) see a positive effect; 22 per cent (19 per cent) see no effect; six per cent (6 per cent) see both positive and negative effects; one per cent (1 per cent) see a negative effect; and 26 per cent (29 per cent) have no opinion.

## United States

Forty-three per cent (22 per cent in 2021) see a positive effect on Finland's security; eight per cent (16 per cent) see no effect; 35 per cent (31 per cent) see both positive and negative effects; seven per cent (19 per cent) see a negative effect; and seven per cent (12 per cent) have no opinion on the matter.

## China

Three per cent (4 per cent in 2021) see a positive impact; 17 per cent (18 per cent) see no impact; 23 per cent (20 per cent) see both positive and negative impacts; 41 per cent (41 per cent) see a negative impact; and 16 per cent (17 per cent) have no opinion.

## Russian Federation

Two per cent (8 per cent in 2021) see a positive impact on Finland's security; two per cent (10 per cent) see no impact; seven per cent (22 per cent) see both positive and negative impacts; 85 per cent (51 per cent) see a negative impact; and four per cent (10 per cent) have no opinion on the matter. (figures 12, 13 and 14)

# POSITIVE ATTITUDE TOWARDS FINLAND'S MILITARY COOPERATION WITH NATO AND THE UNITED STATES HAS GROWN

"Finland conducts military cooperation with Sweden, other Nordic countries, NATO and the United States as well as in the European Union. What is your view of this cooperation?"

This question has been polled since 2012. Since last year, a positive attitude towards military cooperation with NATO and the United States has increased and is stronger than ever before.

Ninety-five percent (94 per cent in 2021) of the respondents take a positive view on military cooperation with Sweden while 3 per cent (4 per cent) are opposed to it.

As to military cooperation with all Nordic countries (NORDEFECO), a positive opinion is held by 95 per cent (95 per cent in 2021) while three per cent (2 percent) hold a negative opinion.

Ninety-two percent (87 per cent in 2021) of the respondents take a positive view on military cooperation in the European Union while 3 per cent (2 per cent) are opposed to it.

Eighty-four percent (66 per cent) of the respondents take a positive view on military cooperation with NATO while 11 per cent (25 per cent) are opposed to it.

Eighty-four per cent (63 per cent in 2021) of the respondents take a positive view on military cooperation with the United States while eleven per cent (28 per cent) are opposed to it. (figures 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20)

## Research branch of the ABDI

Chair:	Ilkka Kanerva, Member of Parliament, until 14 April 2022
Vice-Chair:	Timo Perälä, Senior Inspector
Members:	Tuomas Liukko, Director of Public Affairs Lauri Hirvonen, Counsellor Johanna Kelhu, Policy Adviser, MPOlSc Anni Lahtinen, Secretary General Olli Nyberg, MPOlSc Helena Pakarinen, Political Secretary Kari Salmi, Brigadier General (ret.) Jussi Salonranta, Analyst until 13 January 2022 Henri Vanhanen, Specialist in EU and Foreign Policy, from 14 January 2022 onwards Marika Sorja, Assistant to Member of Parliament Reija Taupila, Producer Samuli Voutila, Entrepreneur Tuula Väättäin, Member of Parliament Teemu Tallberg, Professor of Military Sociology
Research Branch Specialist	

## Chairs of the ABDI

Chair	Harri Järvinen, Communications Manager
Vice-Chair	Asseri Kinnunen, student
Vice-Chair	Sofia Vikman, Member of Parliament

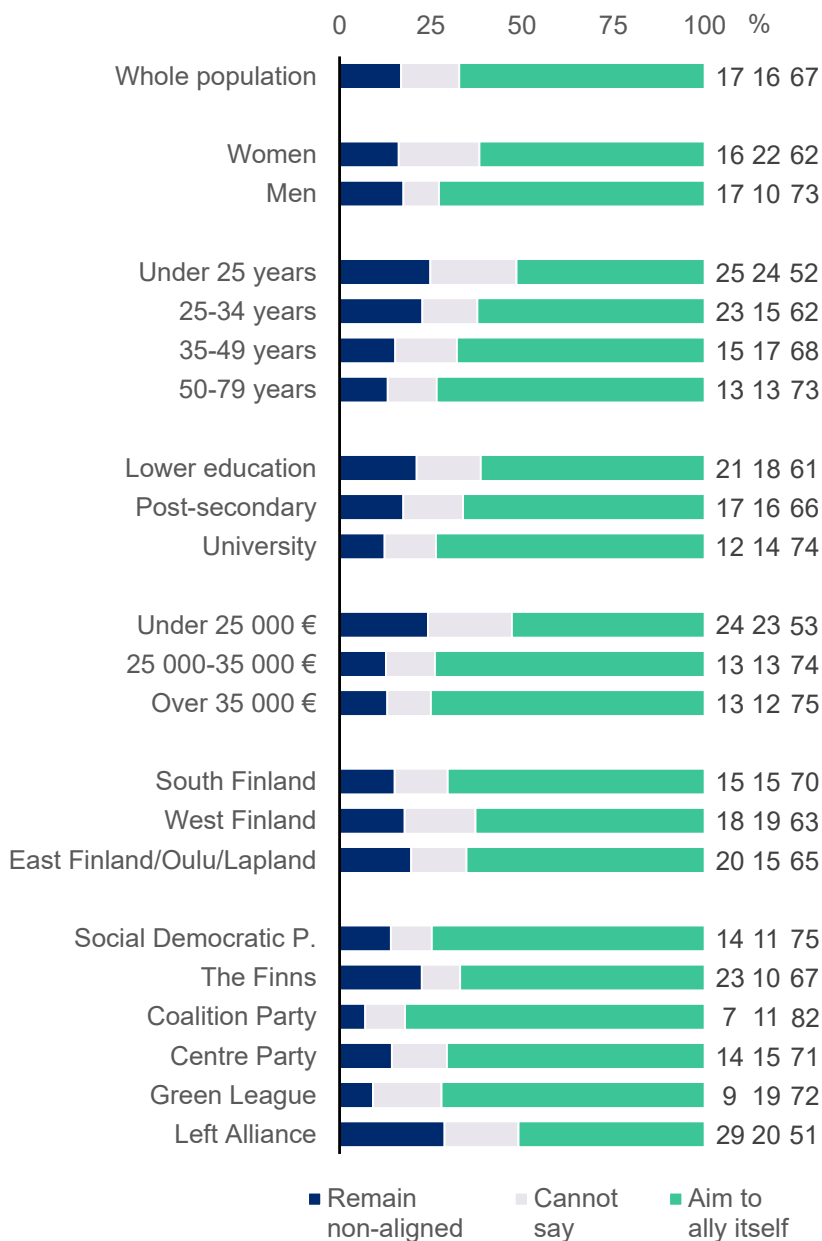
## Secretariat

Secretary General	Heli Santala, MSocSc
General Secretary	Markus Kinkku, MPOlSc

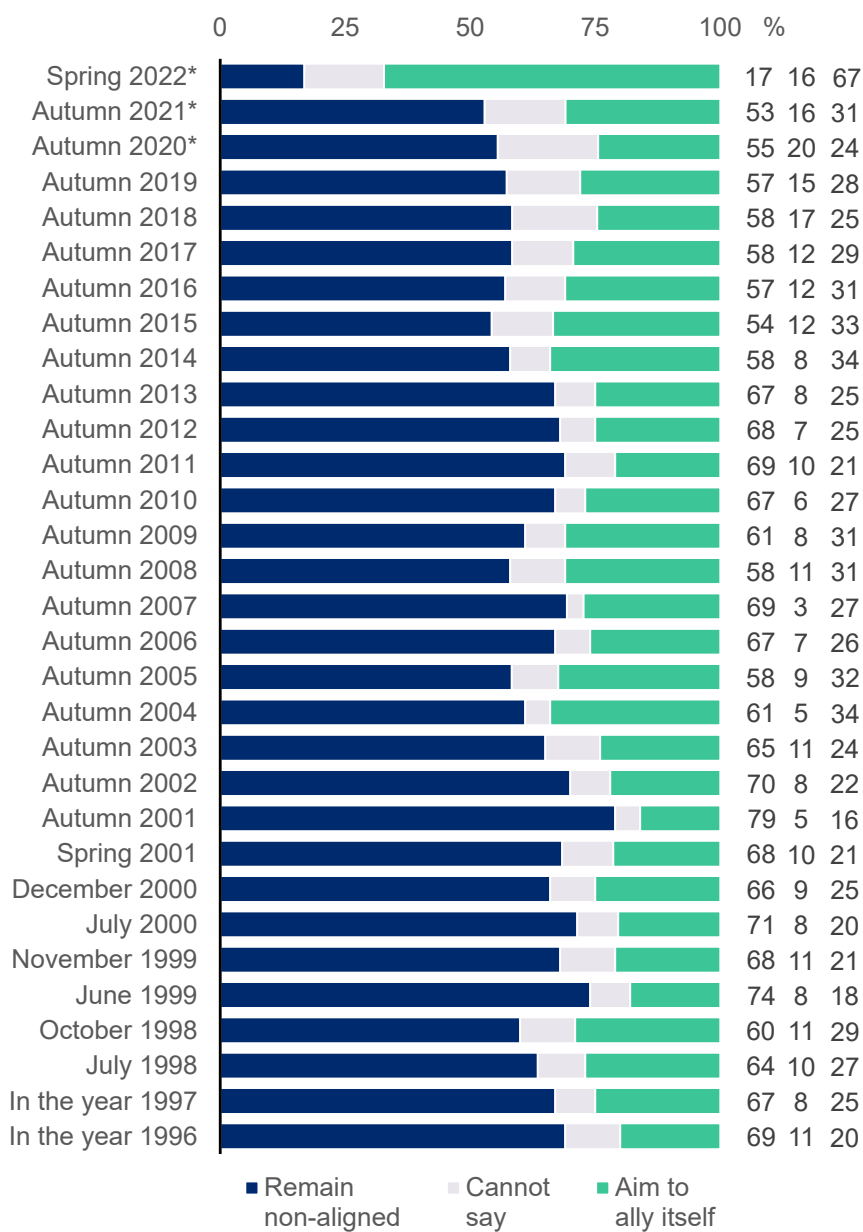


# Appendix

**Figure 1.** Military alignment or non-alignment. "In your opinion, should Finland remain militarily non-aligned or should Finland aim to ally itself militarily?"

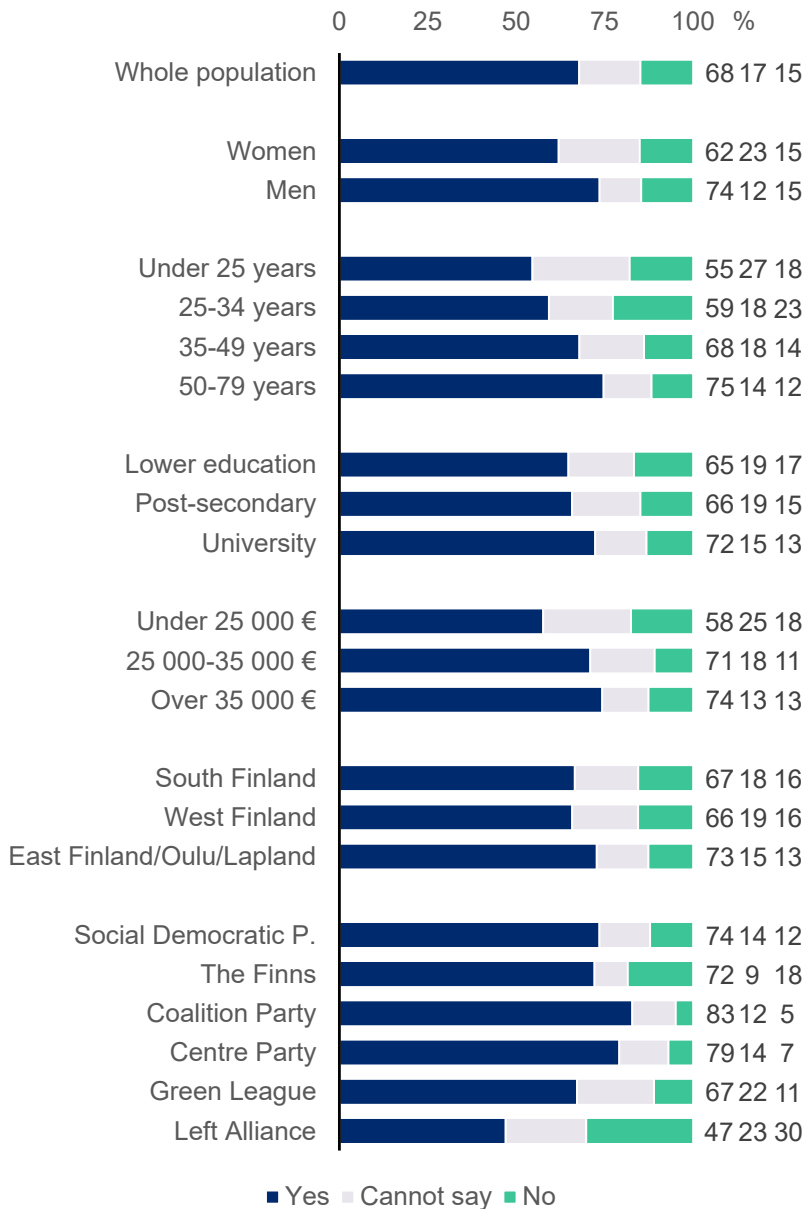


**Figure 2.** Military alignment or non-alignment. "In your opinion, should Finland remain militarily non-aligned or should Finland aim to ally itself militarily?"

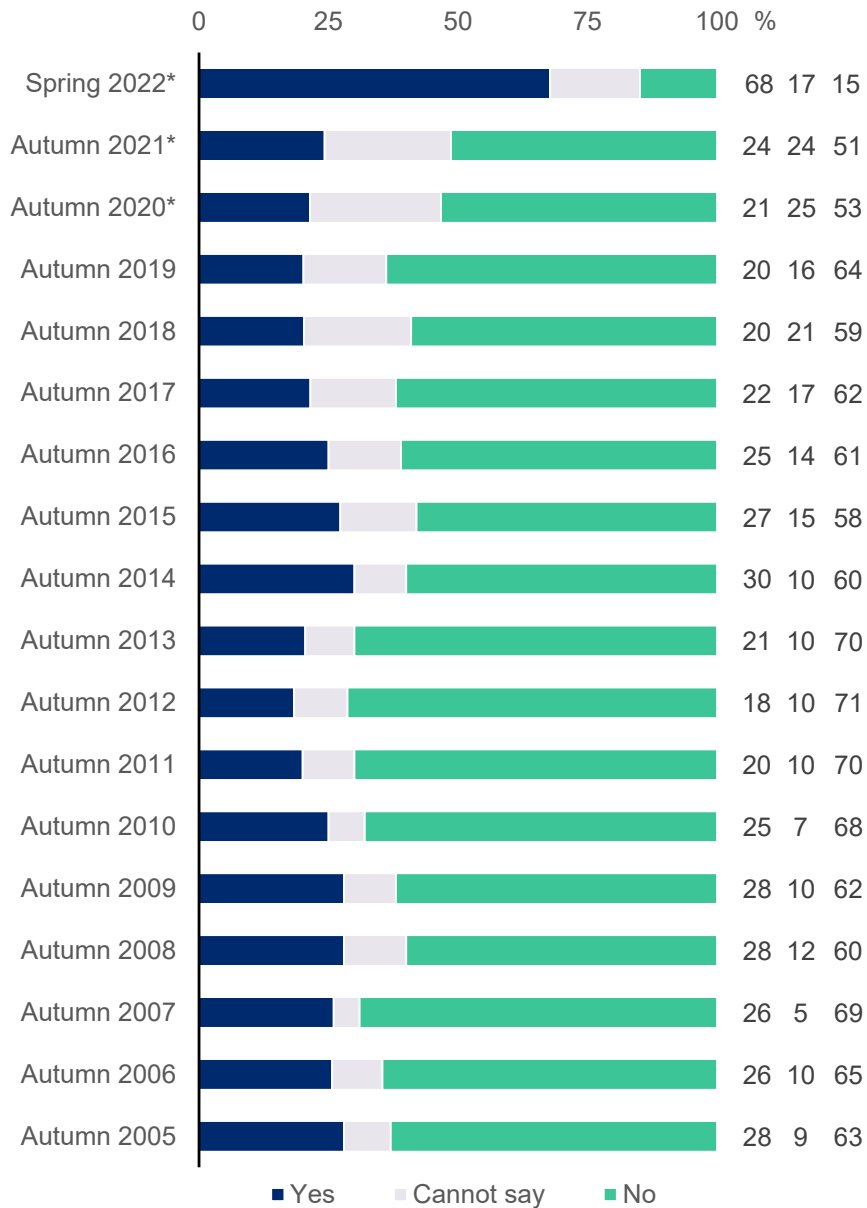


\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

**Figure 3.** Nato membership. "In your opinion, should Finland seek membership in Nato?"

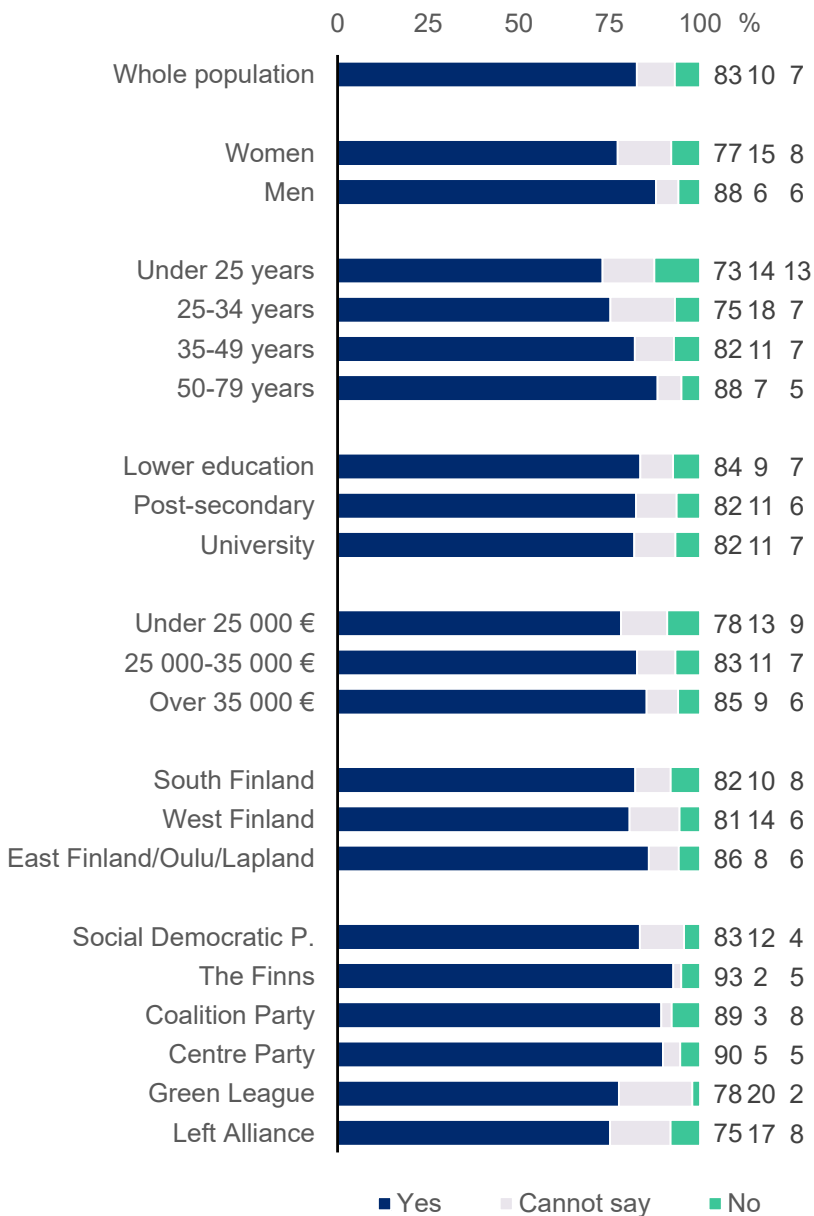


**Figure 4.** Nato membership. "In your opinion, should Finland seek membership in Nato?"

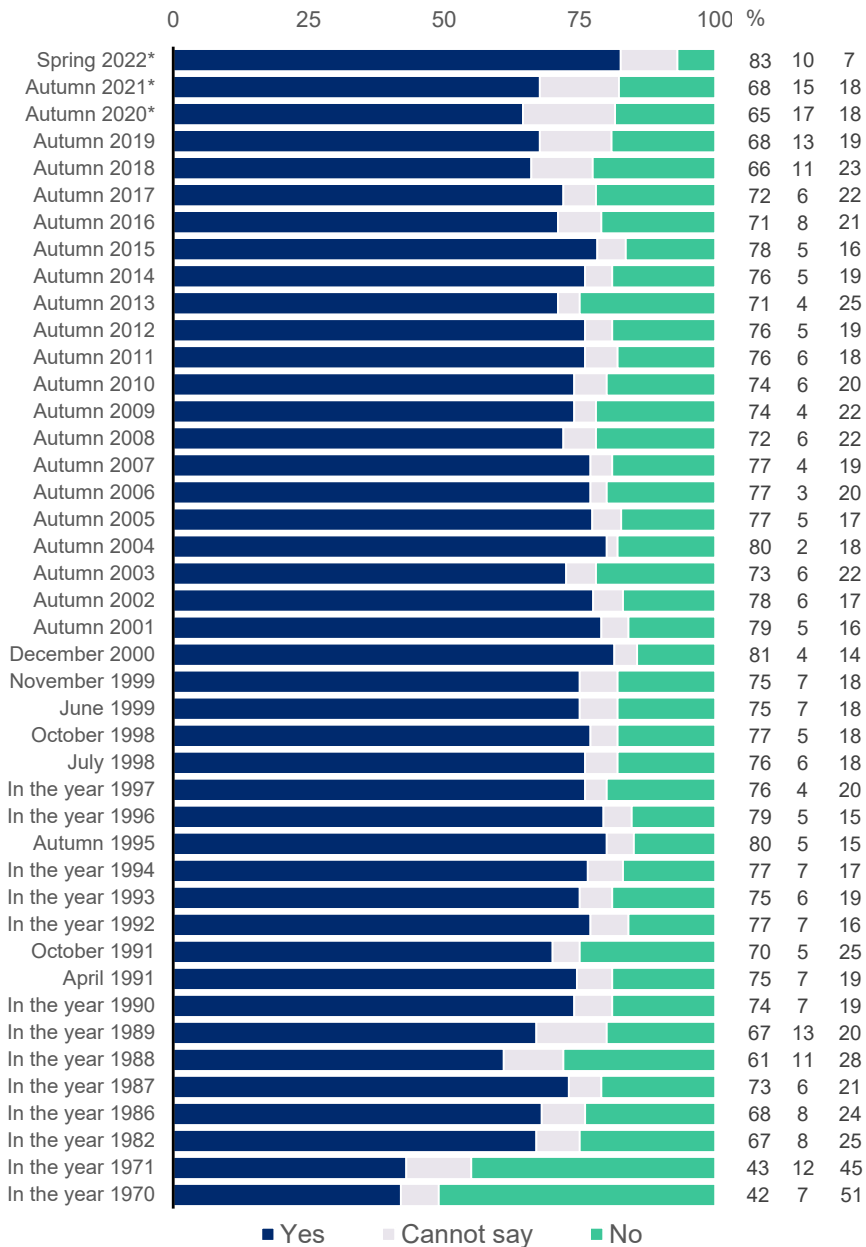


\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

**Figure 5.** The will to defend the nation. "If Finland were attacked, should Finns, in your opinion, take up arms to defend themselves in all situations, even if the outcome seemed uncertain?"

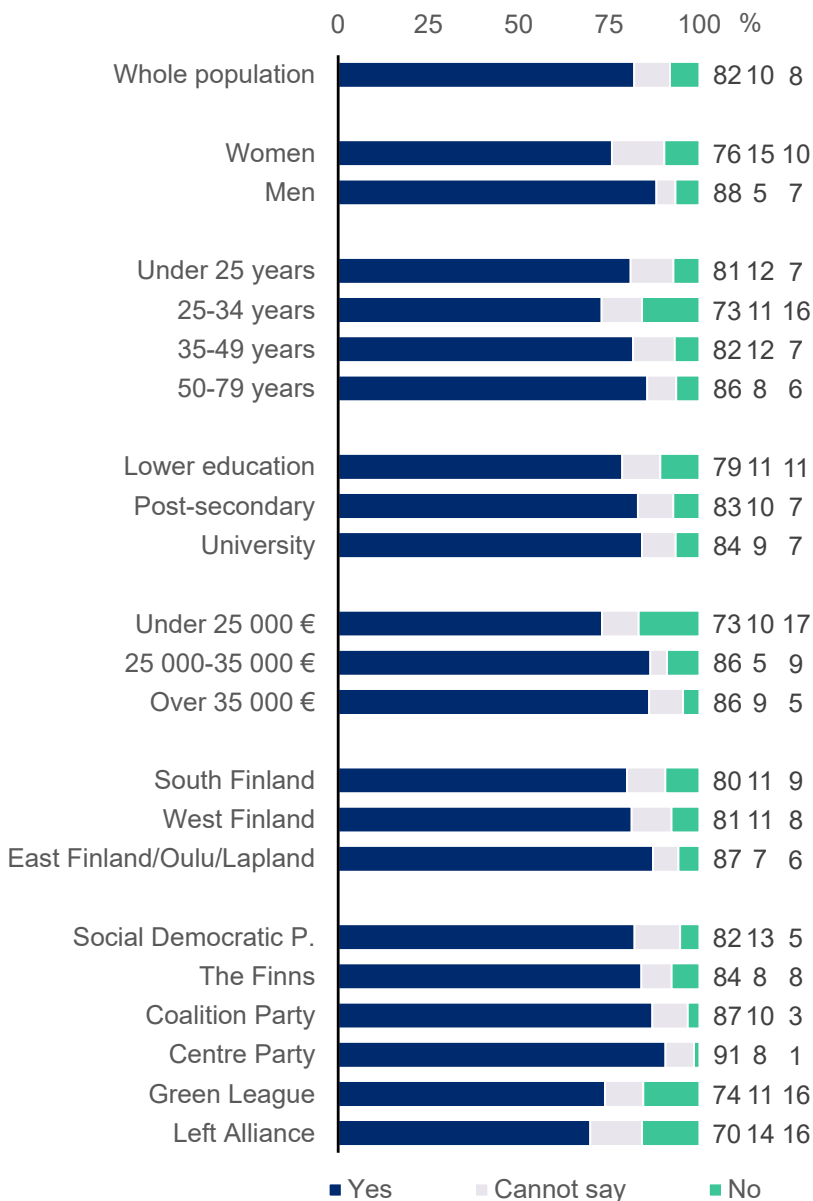


**Figure 6.** The will to defend the nation. "If Finland were attacked, should Finns, in your opinion, take up arms to defend themselves in all situations, even if the outcome seemed uncertain?"

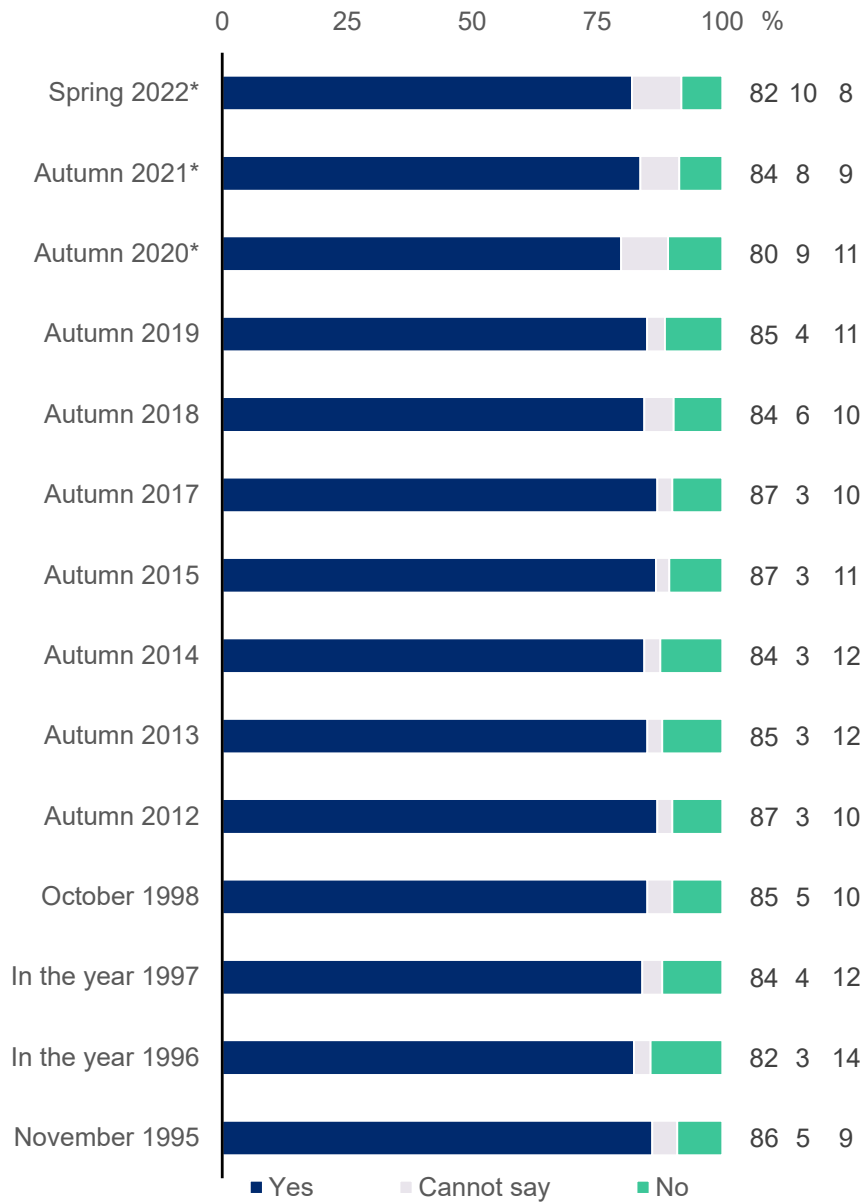


\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

**Figure 7.** The will to defend the country (personal level). “If Finland is attacked, would you personally be ready to take part in national defence tasks according to your competences and skills?”



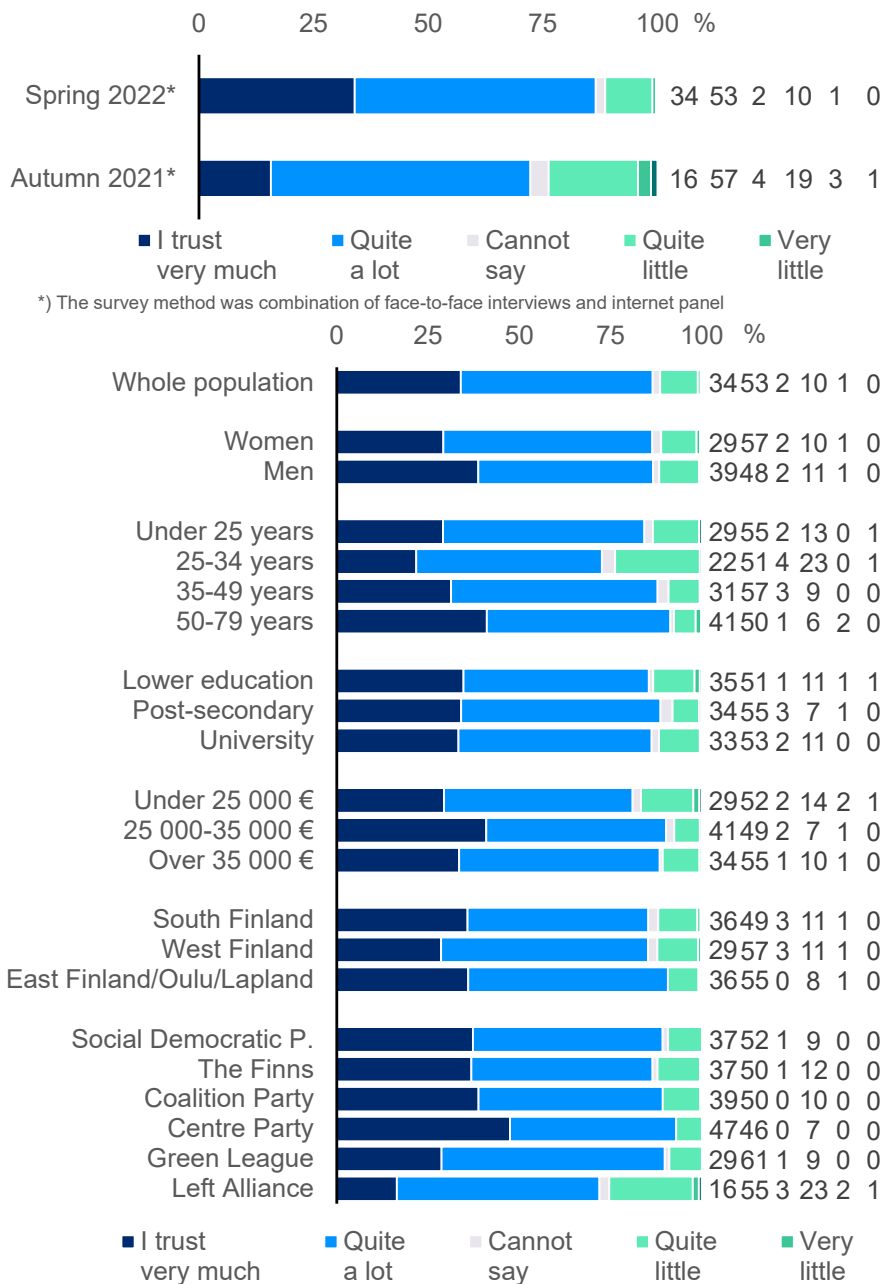
**Figure 8.** The will to defend the country (personal level). “If Finland is attacked, would you personally be ready to take part in national defence tasks according to your competences and skills?”



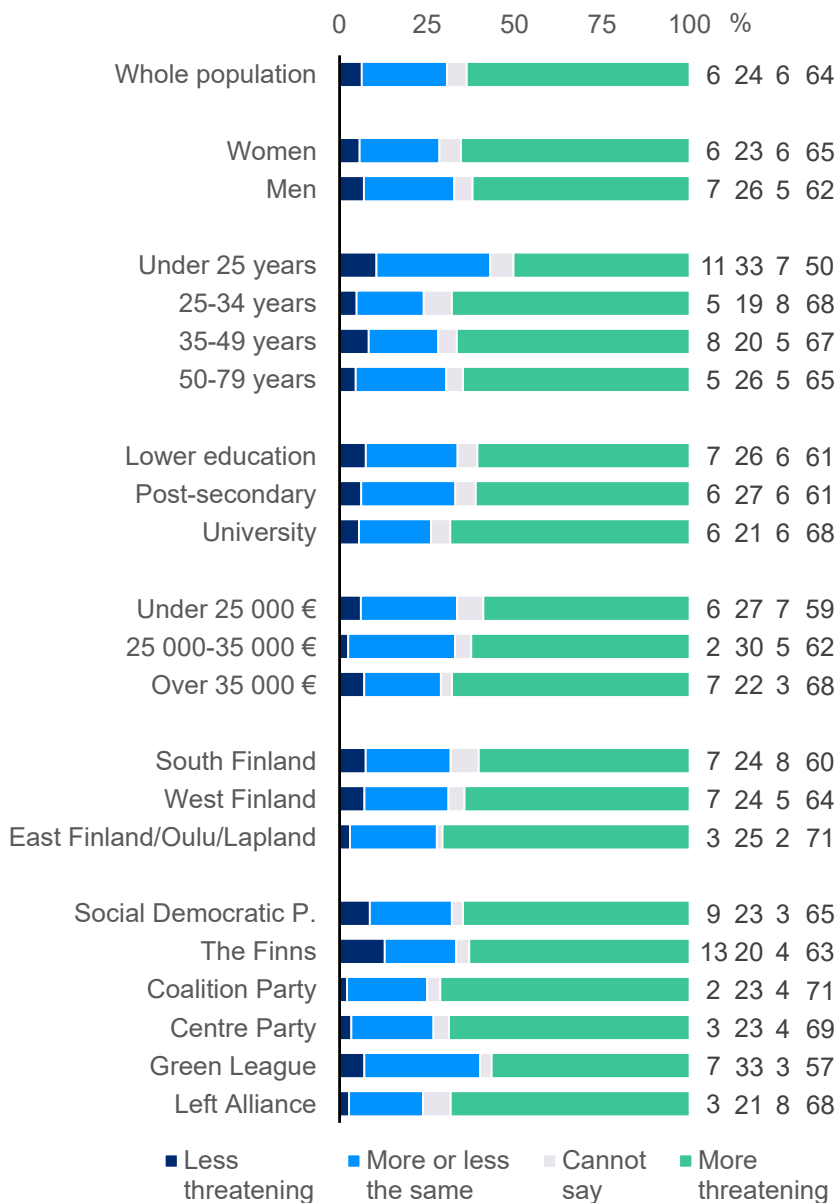
\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel



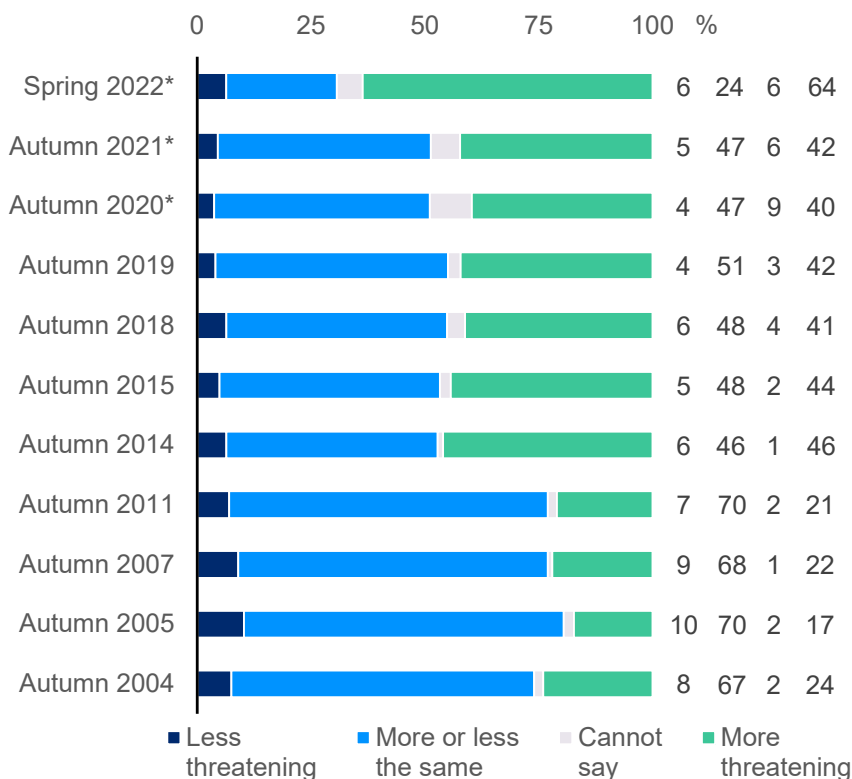
**Figure 9.** Confidence in Finland’s military defence capability. “Do you trust the Defence Forces’ ability to defend Finland against various military threats?”



**Figure 10.** The military situation in Finland's near environs. "What is your estimate of the military situation in Finland's near environs during the next decade?"

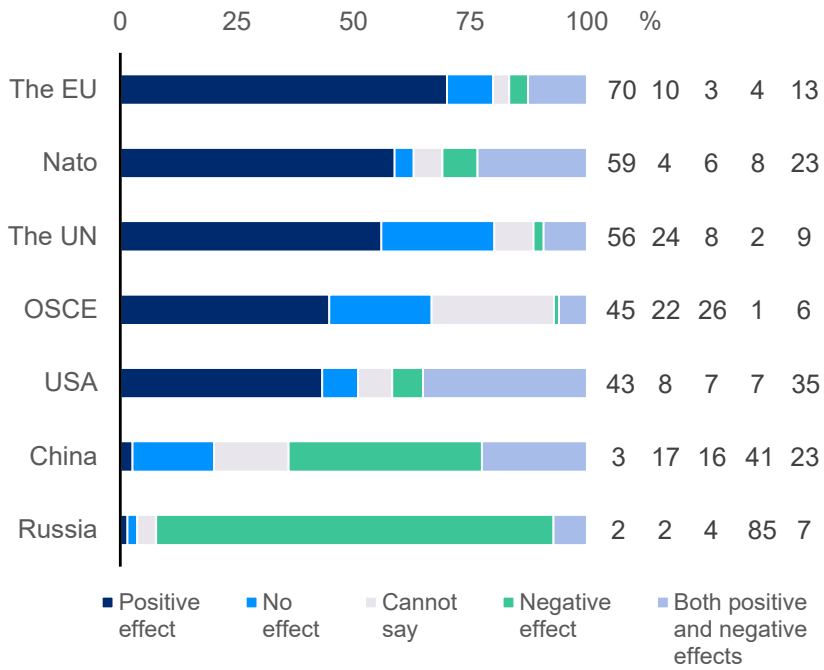


**Figure 11.** The military situation in Finland's near environs. "What is your estimate of the military situation in Finland's near environs during the next decade?"

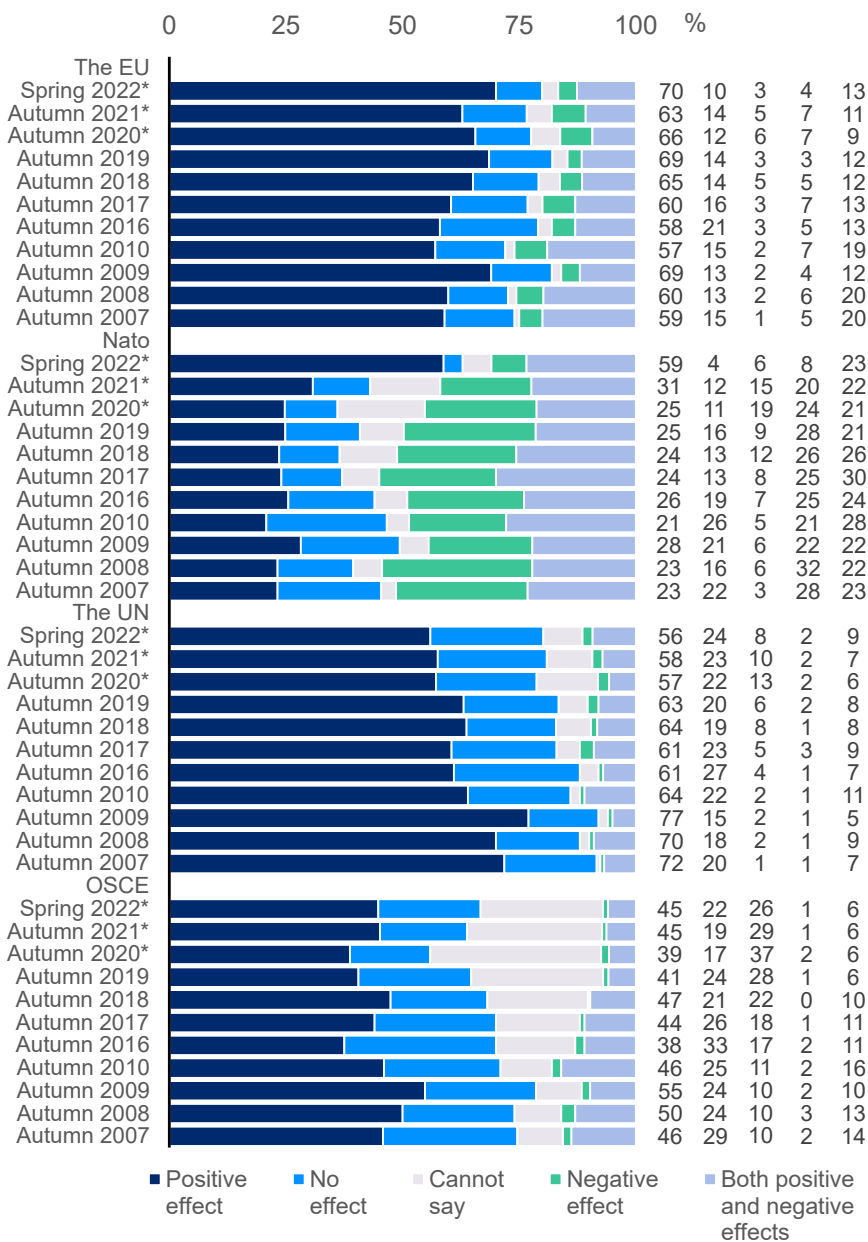


\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

**Figure 12.** The impact of various factors on Finland's security. "How do you assess the impact of the following factors on Finland's security?"

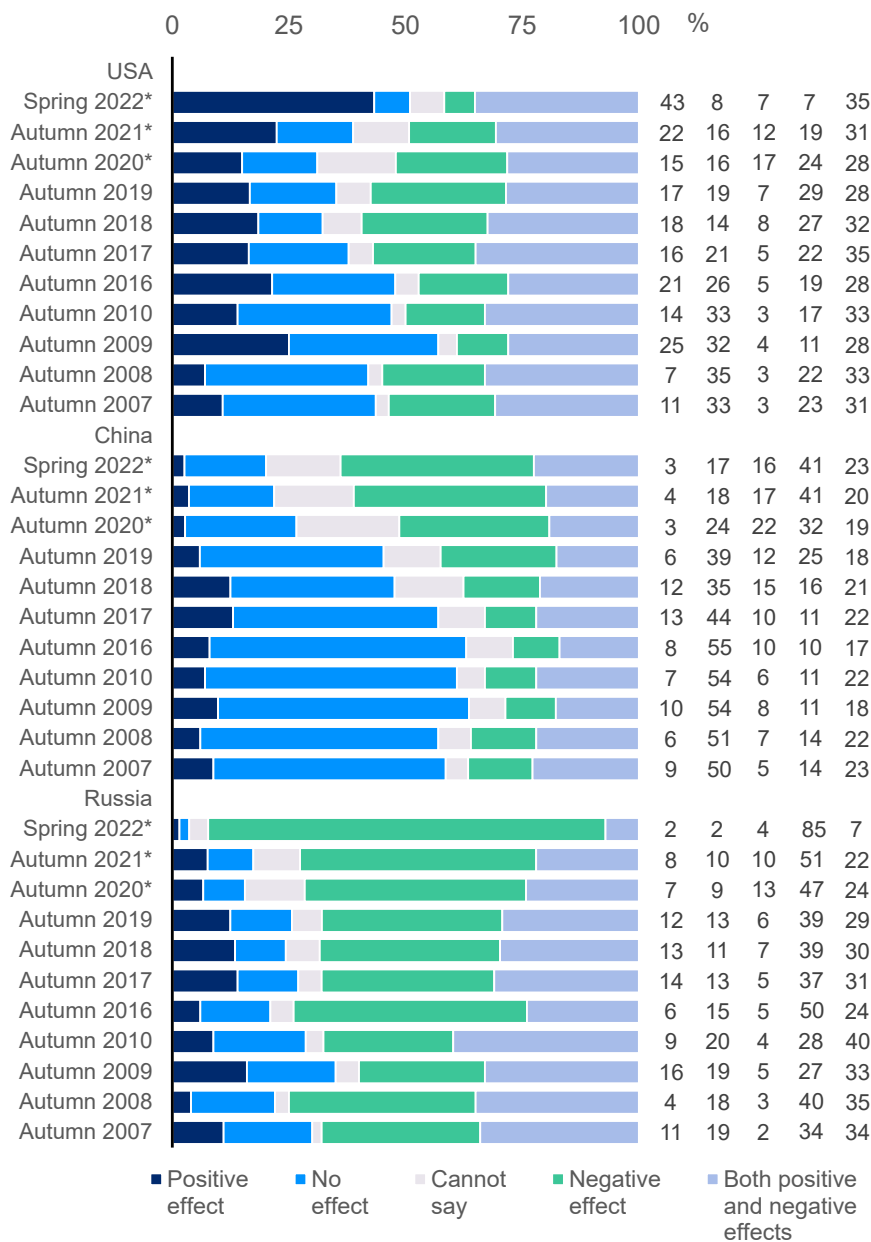


**Figure 13.** The impact of various factors on Finland's security (I). "How do you assess the impact of the following factors on Finland's security?"



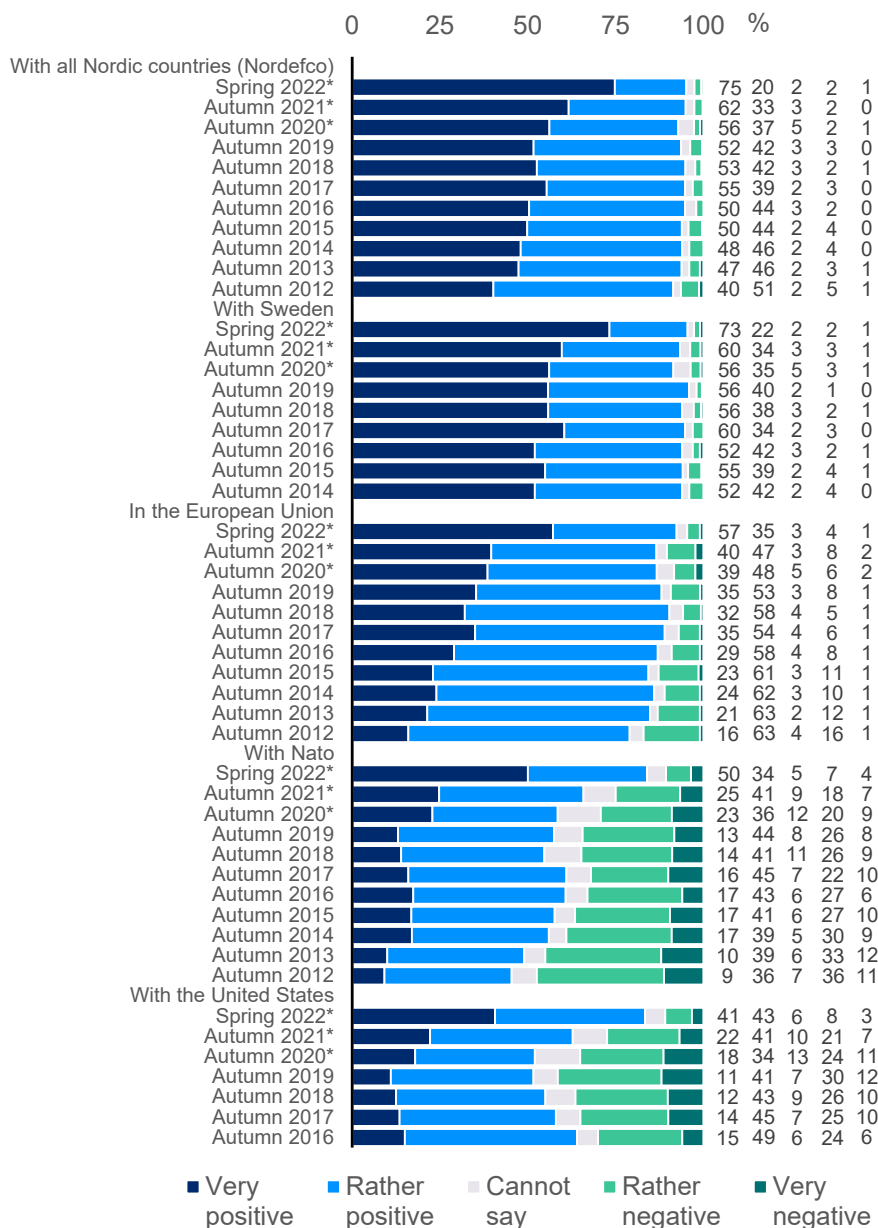
\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

**Figure 14.** The impact of various factors on Finland's security (II). "How do you assess the impact of the following factors on Finland's security?"



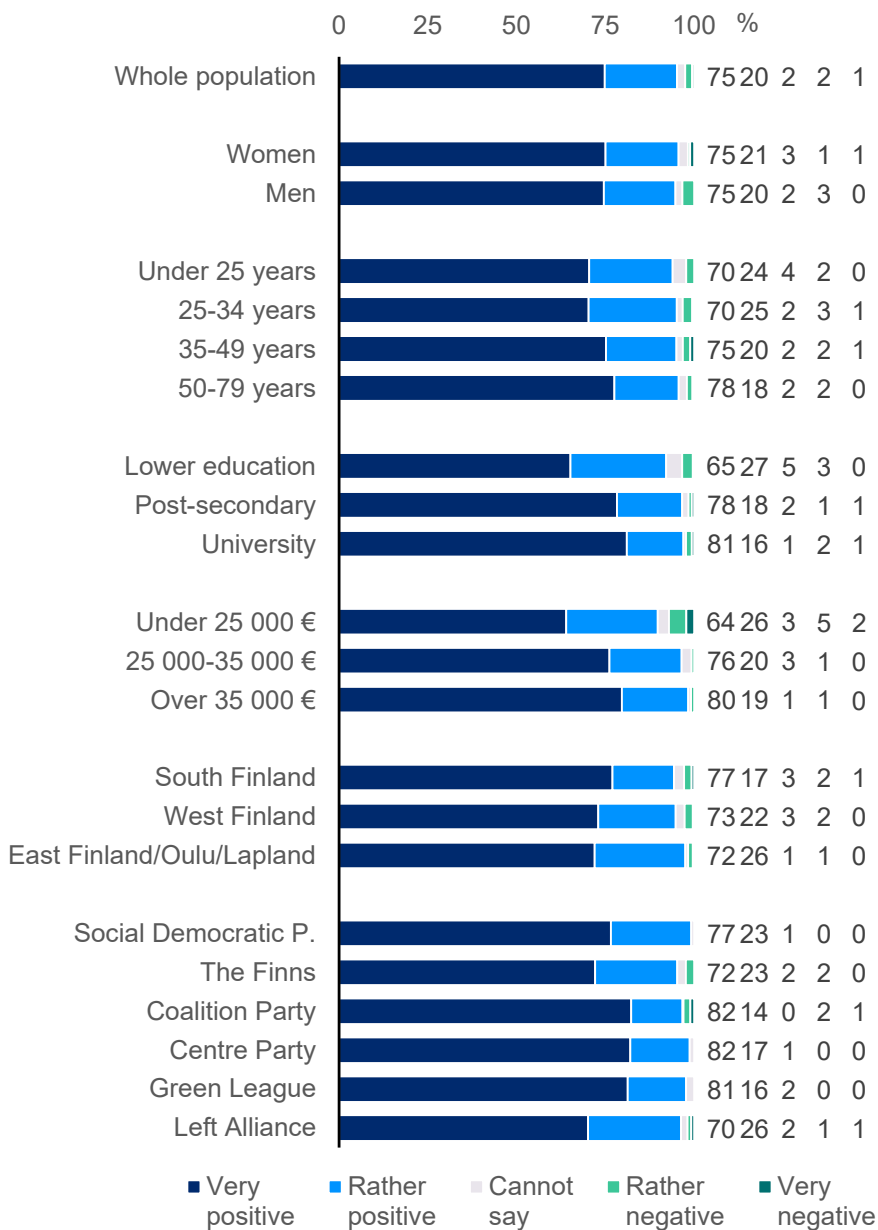
\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

**Figure 15.** Military cooperation. “Finland conducts military cooperation with Sweden, other Nordic countries, Nato and the European Union. What is your view on cooperation?”



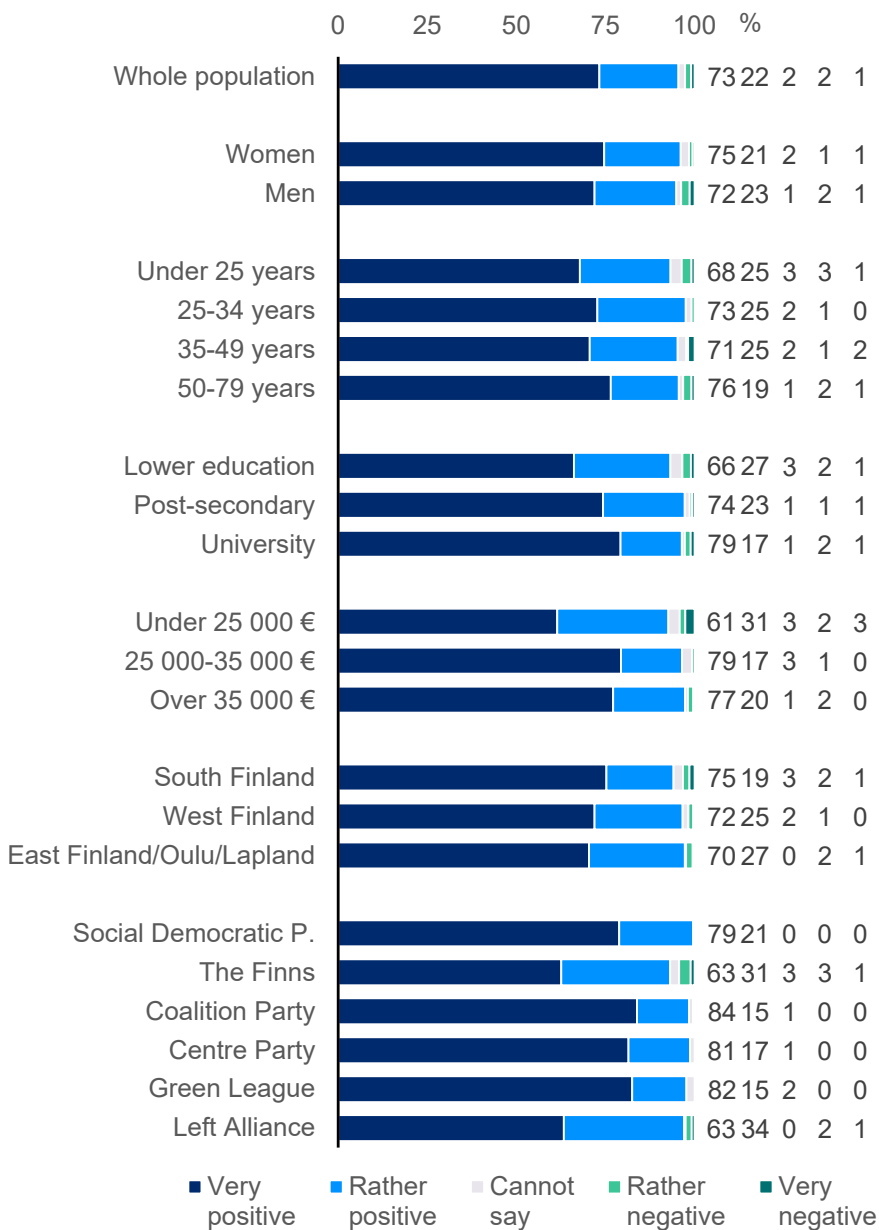
\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

**Figure 16.** Military cooperation with all Nordic countries (Nordefco). "Finland conducts military cooperation with all Nordic countries. What is your view on cooperation?"

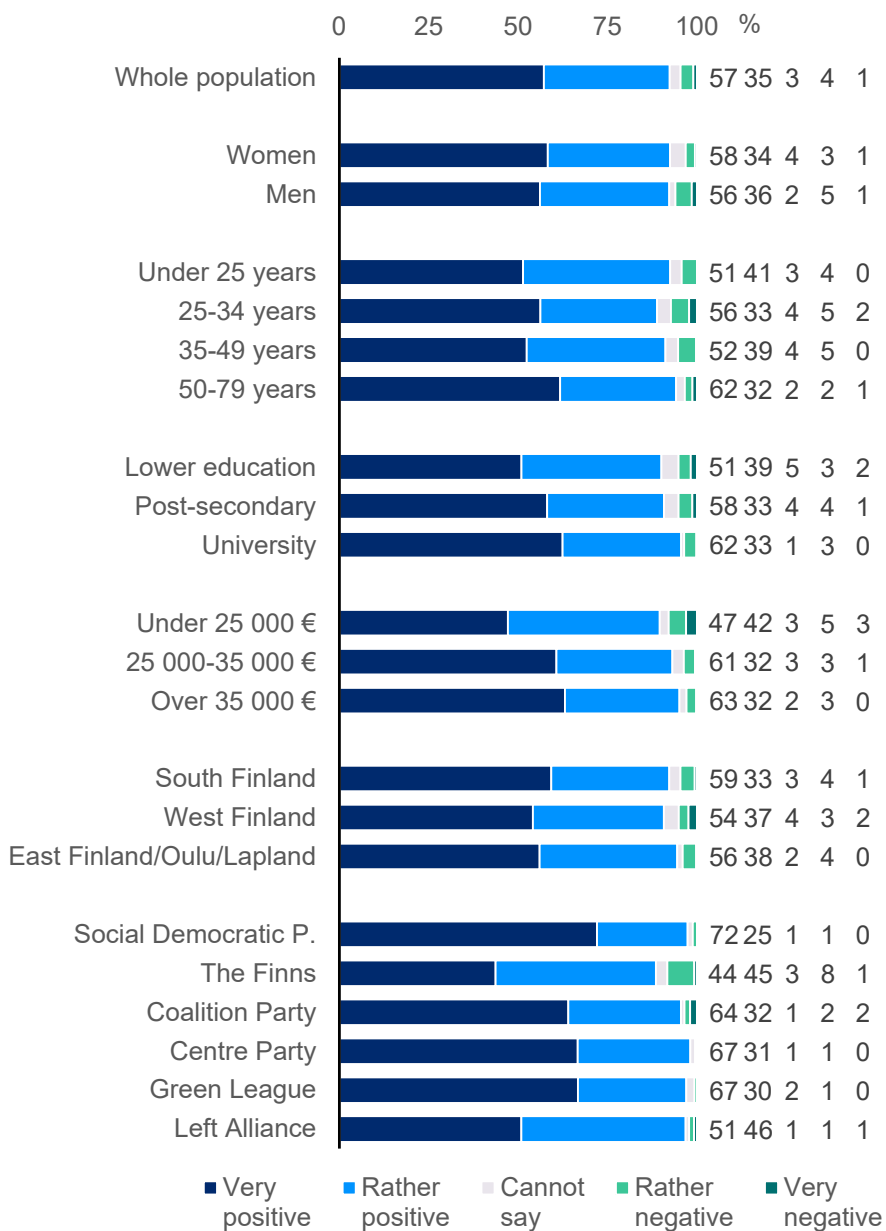




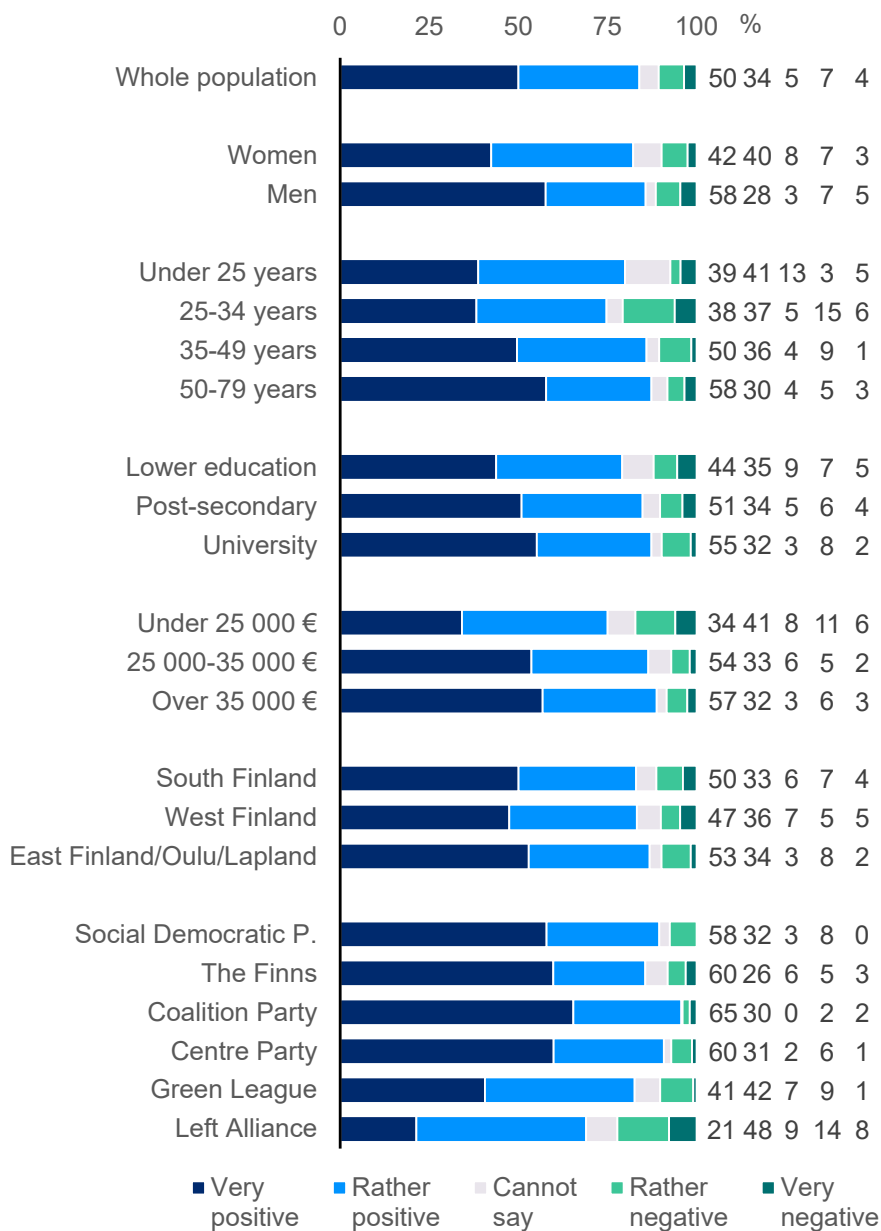
**Figure 17.** Military cooperation with Sweden. “Finland conducts military cooperation with Sweden. What is your view on cooperation?”



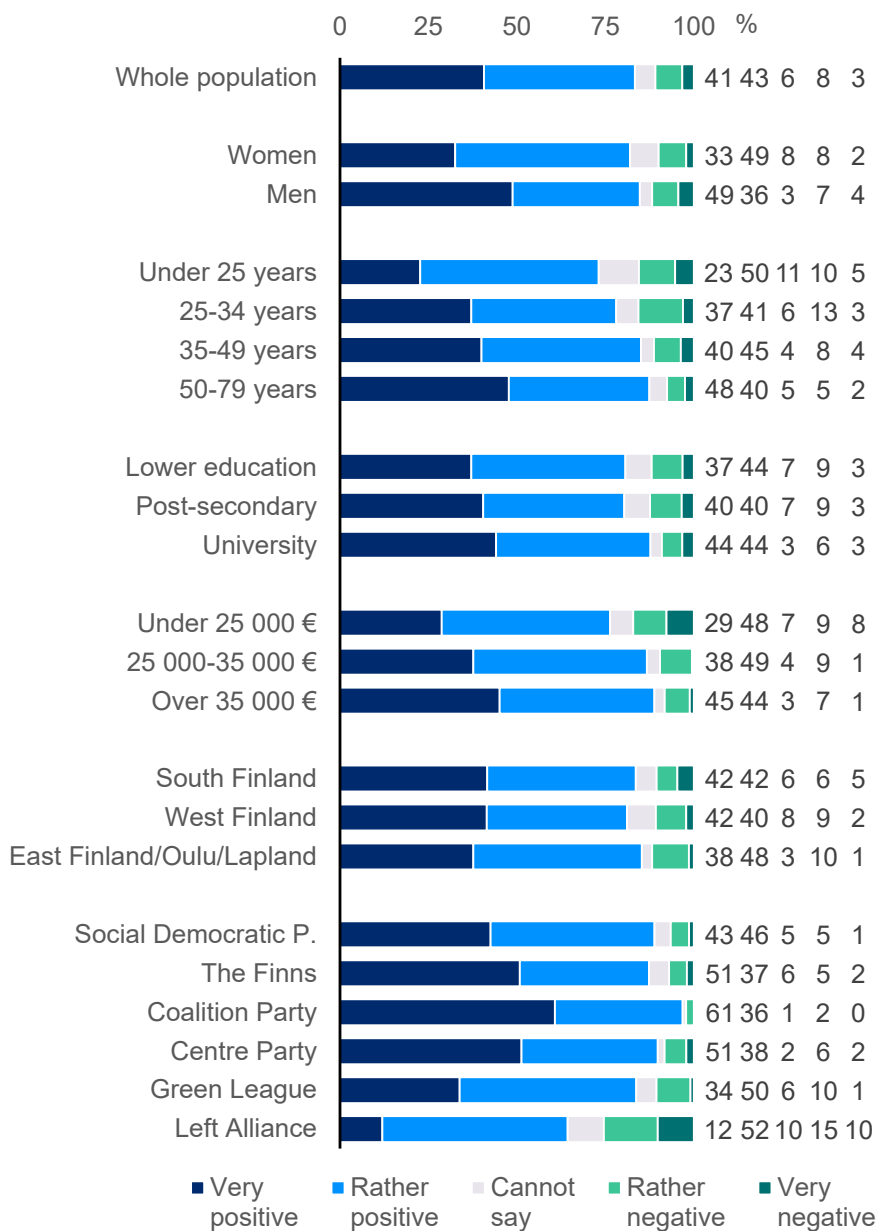
**Figure 18.** Military cooperation in the European Union. “Finland conducts military cooperation with the European union. What is your view on cooperation?”



**Figure 19.** Military cooperation with Nato. "Finland conducts military cooperation with Nato. What is your view on cooperation?"



**Figure 20.** Military cooperation with the United States. "Finland conducts military cooperation with the United States. What is your view on cooperation?"



## The Advisory Board for Defence Information (ABDI)

Set up by the Government, the Advisory Board for Defence Information (ABDI) is a permanent Parliamentary Committee, which administratively functions in the Ministry of Defence. In addition to parliamentary members, ABDI's members represent various expert organisations: the Prime Minister's Office, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Education and Culture, Defence Command Finland, Finnish Broadcasting Company, Finnish News Agency (STT), Union of Journalists in Finland, Finnish Media Federation, National Defence University, and Tampere Peace Research Institute (TAPRI).

ABDI investigates, on an annual basis, the opinions and attitudes of Finns towards security policy and the factors influencing them and conducts at least one extensive survey that covers the entire adult population in Finland. The questions cover foreign and security policy and national defence. Some of the questions represent a continuous sequence since the 1960s. The surveys by ABDI are in the public domain and accessible to all.

## The Advisory Board for Defence Information (ABDI)

Ministry of Defence

BP 31

00131 HELSINKI

[www.defmin.fi/abdi](http://www.defmin.fi/abdi)