

ABDI (MTS)

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

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

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Abstract

A Survey commissioned by The Advisory Board for Defence Information (ABDI) explored the opinions of Finnish people on Finnish foreign policy and security policy, defence policy and national defence. There are questions on factors affecting safety and citizens' sense pertaining to security over the next five years. There are also questions about the impacts of various organizations on Finland's security. The survey also included questions on factors causing concern, preparations against various threats, the future of the European Union, views on the fact that Finland has applied for membership in NATO, confidence in The Defence Force's ability to counter military threats and Finland's military cooperation and attitudes towards cooperation between the European Union and NATO. Altogether 20 questions were asked, two of which for the first time.

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 size was 1033 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. Some of the questions represent a continuous sequence since 1964.

Keywords conscript service, National defence, defence policy, security policy, foreign policy, NATO

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Suomalaisten mielipiteitä ulko- ja turvallisuuspolitiikasta, maanpuolustuksesta ja turvallisuudesta

Maanpuolustustiedotuksen suunnittelukunta MTS 2022:6

Julkaisija Puolustusministeriö

Yhteisötekijä Maanpuolustustiedotuksen suunnittelukunta

Kieli englanti

Sivumäärä

97

Tiivistelmä

Maanpuolustustiedotuksen suunnittelukunnan (MTS) haastattelututkimuksessa on selvitetty kansalaisten mielipiteitä Suomen ulko-, turvallisuus- ja puolustuspolitiikasta sekä maanpuolustuksesta. Mukana on myös kysymyksiä turvallisuuteen ja turvallisuudentunteeseen vaikuttavista tekijöistä, sekä turvallisuuden kehittymisestä seuraava viiden vuoden aikana sekä eri tahojen vaikutuksesta Suomen turvallisuuteen. Lisäksi kysytään huolta aiheuttavista tekijöistä, erilaisiin uhkiin varautumisesta, Euroopan unionin tulevaisuudesta, suhtautumisesta Suomen Nato-jäsenyyden hakemiseen, Puolustusvoimien kykyyn torjua sotilaallisia uhkia, Suomen sotilaallisesta yhteistyöstä ja suhtautumisesta Euroopan unionin ja Naton väliseen yhteistyöhön. Kysymyksiä on kaikkiaan 20, joista kaksi uusia.

Tutkimuksen teki Taloustutkimus Oy MTS:n toimeksiannosta. Koronatilanteen vuoksi tutkimus toteutettiin yhdistelmänä Omnibustutkimuksen henkilökohtaisia haastatteluja sekä Taloustutkimuksen internet-paneelissa. Tutkimuksen otos on 1033 henkilöä. Tutkimuksen kohderyhmänä on maamme 15–79-vuotias väestö Ahvenanmaan maakuntaa lukuun ottamatta.

Raportti koostuu tekstiosasta ja sitä täydentävistä kuvista, joissa näkyvät myös aiemmin esitettyjen kysymysten aikasarjat. Kuvat on tehty Taloustutkimus Oy:ssa. Osa kysymyksistä muodostaa yhtenäisen aikasarjan vuodesta 1964.

Asiasanat asevelvollisuus, puolustus, puolustuspolitiikka, turvallisuuspolitiikka, turvallisuus, ulkopolitiikka, Nato

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Finländarnas åsikter om utrikes- och säkerhetspolitiken, försvaret och säkerheten

Planeringskommissionen för försvarsinformation PFI 2022:6

Utgivare Försvarsministeriet

Utarbetad av Planeringskommissionen för försvarsinformation
Språk engelska **Sidantal** 97

Referat

Planeringskommissionen för försvarsinformation (PFI) har i en intervjuundersökning rett ut medborgarnas åsikter om Finlands utrikes-, säkerhets- och försvarspolitik samt om försvaret. Med finns också frågor om faktorer som påverkar säkerheten och känslan av trygghet och hur säkerheten kommer att utvecklas under de kommande fem åren, samt medverkan av olika organisationer till Finlands säkerhet. Dessutom ingår frågor om faktorer som väcker oro, beredskapen inför olika hot, Europeiska unionens framtid, förhållandet till Finlands ansökan i Nato, förtroendet för Försvarsmaktens förmåga att avvärja militära hot samt inställningen till Finlands militära samarbete, samt samarbete mellan Europeiska unionen och Nato. Frågorna var totalt 20, varav två var nya.

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 Taloustutkimus. Undersökningen omfattar ett urval på 1033 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. Figuren har tagits fram av Taloustutkimus Oy. En del av frågorna utgör en enhetlig tidsserie sedan år 1964.

Nyckelord värnplik, landets försvar, försvarspolitik, säkerhetspolitik, utrikespolitik, säkerhet, Nato

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FOREWORD

A survey commissioned by the Advisory Board for Defence Information (ABDI) explored the opinions of Finnish people on Finnish foreign and security policy, defence policy and national defence. There are questions on factors affecting safety and citizens' sense of security pertaining to developments over the next five years. The survey includes questions on factors causing concern, preparations against various threats, the future of the European Union, attitudes towards Finland's accession to NATO, confidence in the Defence Forces' ability to counter military threats, attitudes to cooperation between the European Union and NATO, and provision of assistance to Ukraine. Altogether 20 questions were asked, two of which for the first time.

The ABDI has conducted annual opinion polls since its establishment in 1976. The survey includes two questions that were asked by the ABDI's predecessor, the Advisory Board for Mental Defence, from 1964 to 1975.

Commissioned by the ABDI, market research company Taloustutkimus Oy carried out the survey. Because of the coronavirus situation, Taloustutkimus Oy carried out the survey as a combination of personal interviews as a part of an omnibus research and an internet panel as was the case with the 2021 interviews. While 523 personal interviews were conducted, the panel generated 510 responses. A total of 521 women and 512 men were interviewed. The survey has been previously conducted solely in the form of personal interviews as a part of an omnibus research.

The target group of the study comprised the population between the ages of 15 and 79, with the exception of the Åland Islands. The sample size was 1033 people. It was formed 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 31.12.2021).

The interviews were conducted from 14 September to 2 October 2022. The interviews were conducted at 158 localities, 68 of which were cities and the remaining 90 other municipality types. Taloustutkimus Oy provided 30 trained research interviewers to conduct the interviews. The replies from the panel were collected from 9 September to 3 October 2022. The survey's margin of error is about 3.2 percentage points in either direction.

Unweighted and weighted material by age group is divided as follows:

	Unweighted n	Unweighted %	Weighted N	Weighted %
15–19-year-olds	54	5 per cent	281	6 per cent
20–24-year-olds	61	6 per cent	324	7 per cent
25–34-year-olds	134	13 per cent	707	16 per cent
35–49-year-olds	278	27 per cent	1,035	24 per cent
50–64-year-olds	254	25 per cent	1,052	24 per cent
65–79-year-olds	252	24 per cent	943	22 per cent

Those under 50 years are somewhat under-represented while 35–49-year-olds and those over 65 years are over-represented. Over-representation and under-representation were corrected by weighting.

There are three regions: Helsinki-Uusimaa/Southern Finland (number of respondents 541), including the large areas of Helsinki-Uusimaa and Southern Finland; Western Finland (number of respondents 242), including the large area of Western Finland, and Eastern Finland/Oulu/Lappi (number of respondents 250), including the large area of Northern and Eastern Finland. The table below shows the number and proportion of respondents in unweighted and weighted material at the level of large areas.

	Unweighted n	Unweighted %	Weighted N	Weighted %
Helsinki-Uusimaa	312	30 per cent	1,363	31 per cent
Southern Finland	229	22 per cent	892	21 per cent
Western Finland	242	23 per cent	1,052	24 per cent
Northern and Eastern Finland	250	24 per cent	1,035	24 per cent

When considering background variables related to party affiliation, it must be taken into account that the margin of error for the large parties is smaller, which enables the collection of more reliable information on these 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, 70 per cent (718 persons) revealed their party affiliation, while 30 per cent (315) declined to do so. In 2021, the corresponding numbers were 73 per cent and 27 per cent.

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. Some of the questions represent a continuous sequence since 1964. The questions were drawn up by the Research and Work Branches of the ABDI. The Research Branch compiled the report for the Work Branch.

The data from this survey, like that of the previous surveys, are stored in the Finnish Social Science Data Archive at the University of Tampere (www.fsd.uta.fi) where it was sent by Taloustutkimus.

ABDI's survey reports are available in Finnish, Swedish and English on ABDI's home page (www.defmin.fi/mts).

In Sweden, Myndighet för Samhällsskydd och Beredskap (MSB) conducts similar surveys: Allmänhetens syn på samhällsskydd, beredskap, säkerhetspolitik och försvar. They can be read at <https://www.msb.se/sv/Publikationer>

Also in Norway, Folk og Forsvar conducts annual surveys on security and defence policy. The reports can be found at <https://www.folkogforsvar.no/meningsmalinger/>

The survey reports published by the ABDI are in the public domain. When referring to them, references must be made stating that the data come from a survey conducted by the ABDI.

Summary

Since Russia launched an invasion of Ukraine in February 2022, the security environment in Europe has changed in many ways. Finland and Sweden submitted membership applications to NATO in May 2022. The sufficiency of energy, rising prices and general uncertainty are testing all European countries, and this is reflected in the results of the ABDI's opinion survey this autumn. Compared to last year, there have been changes especially in attitudes towards NATO and the United States. Confidence in Finland's own defence system and defence capability has increased, and the will to defend the country remains at a record level.

Nearly nine out of ten are positively disposed to Finland's application for membership in NATO. Eight out of ten are of the opinion that NATO is the most important factor increasing Finland's security, whereas less than a third thought this way a year ago. For the respondents, the positive impact of the United States on Finland's security has clearly strengthened. Russia, on the other hand, has become more negative, and currently nine out of ten think that Russia has a negative impact on Finland's security.

Finland's participation in Nordic defence cooperation and Finland's NATO membership are expected to increase the security of Finland and Finns the most.

Positive attitudes to defence cooperation with NATO and the United States have clearly increased. Nine out of ten are in favour of cooperation with NATO, whereas seven out of ten thought this way a year ago.

Confidence in the management of defence policy has increased from last year, and now more than four out of five consider that defence policy is well managed. Management of defence policy has enjoyed such confidence only once in the past. Confidence in the management of foreign policy has increased from last year, too.

More than half of the respondents support an increase in defence appropriations, and the level of support is higher than ever before. Support for the current conscription system is also at a record level.

Confidence in the Defence Forces' ability to repel military threats against Finland is very strong as nine out of ten trust Finland's military defence capability, compared to seven out of ten a year ago.

A positive attitude to cooperation between the European Union and NATO has strengthened from last year.

Assistance to Ukraine is widely supported. Over half of the respondents would like to see more sanctions imposed on Russia while nearly one half are in favour of arms assistance and more than a third are in favour of economic assistance.

Development in Russia, access to energy, Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine and rising prices are factors that cause the most concern.

The future is perceived as insecure, with more than half of the respondents considering that Finland and Finns will live in a more insecure world over the next five years.

Nine out of ten take a positive view on Finland's application to join NATO

Over the years from 2002 until spring 2022, the ABDI asked whether Finland should seek membership in NATO. In spring 2022, 68 per cent of the respondents thought that Finland should seek membership in NATO, while 15 per cent were against it.

In May 2022, Finland decided to seek membership together with Sweden. The ABDI now asked citizens about their views on this.

More than four out of five, 85 per cent, have a very or rather positive view on Finland's application to join NATO, with 88 per cent of men and 81 per cent of women. Of those over 50 years, 88 per cent share this view, as do 87 per cent of 35–49-year-olds, 76 per cent of 25–34-year-olds and 81 per cent of under 25-year-olds.

Ninety-six per cent of Coalition Party supporters, 93 per cent of SDP supporters, 92 per cent of Centre Party supporters, 89 per cent of Finns Party supporters, 87 per cent of Green Party supporters and 53 per cent of Left Alliance supporters have a very or rather positive view on the matter.

12 per cent of respondents, with 14 per cent of women and ten per cent of men, have a very negative or rather negative view. Of 25–34-year-olds, 19 per cent have a negative view, as do 16 per cent of under 25-year-olds, 11 per cent of 35–49-year-olds, and nine per cent of over 50-year-olds.

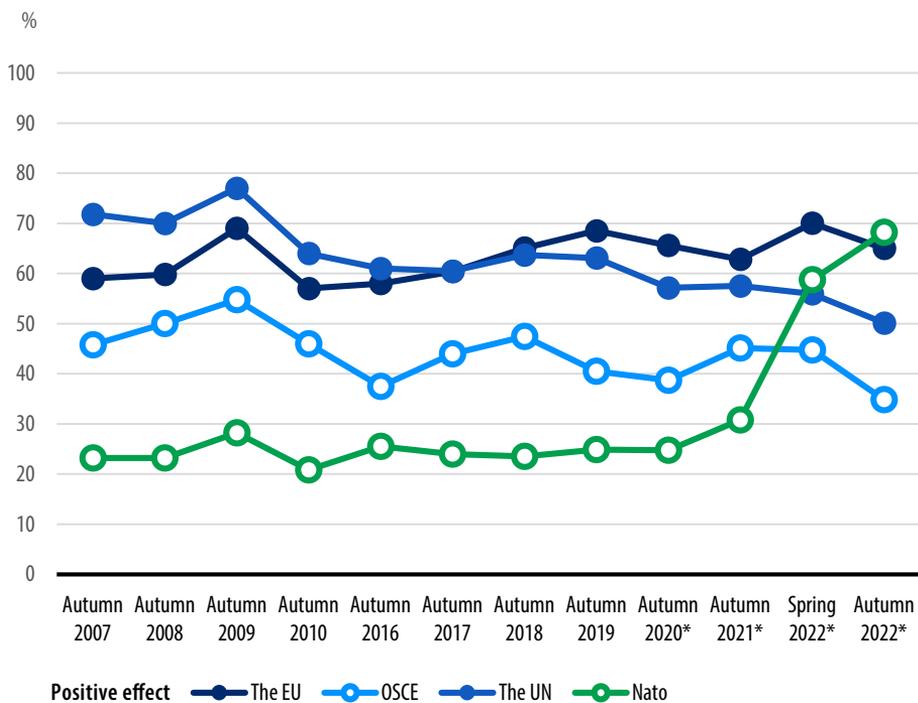
Thirty-eight per cent of Left Alliance supporters have a negative view, along with 11 per cent of Finns Party supporters, seven per cent of Green Party supporters, six per cent of SDP and Centre Party supporters, and four per cent of Coalition Party supporters. (figure 1)

NATO and the European Union are believed to have the most positive impacts on Finland’s security, Russia being the most negative

For the tenth time now, ABDI asked about the impact of the European Union, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the UN, China, NATO, Russia and the United States on Finland’s security. This has been polled twice in 2022 and, compared to last year, NATO is clearly seen as strengthening security, which is the case for the United States, too. Similarly, the view on Russia’s negative impact has clearly strengthened.

Figure 2A. Impact of different actors on Finland’s security in 2007–2010 and in 2016–2022, positive impact

“How do you assess the impact of the following factors on Finland’s security?”

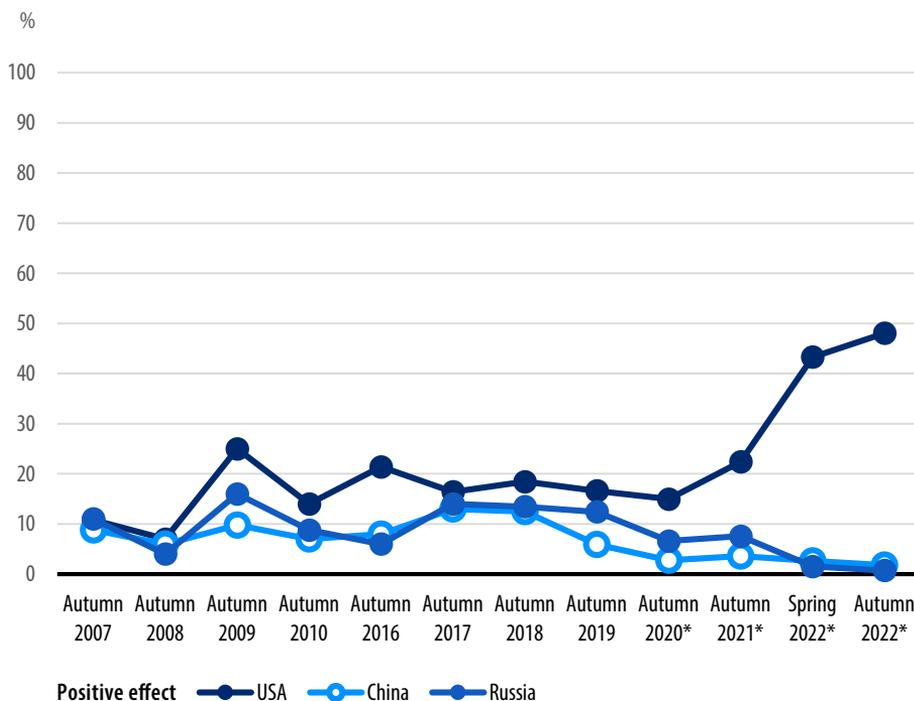


This question has not been asked in 2011–2015

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

Figure 2B. Impact of different actors on Finland’s security in 2007–2010 and in 2016–2022, positive impact

“How do you assess the impact of the following factors on Finland’s security?”



This question has not been asked in 2011–2015

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

NATO

More than two out of three, or 68 per cent (59% in spring 2022, 31% in 2021) think that NATO has a positive impact on Finland’s security. Less than one fifth, or 17 per cent (23% and 22%), consider that the impact is both positive and negative. Seven per cent (8% and 20%) see the impact as negative, three per cent (4% and 12%) see no impact, and five per cent (6% and 15%) have no opinion.

EU

Two thirds, or 65 per cent of respondents (70% in spring 2022 and 63% in 2022) think that the EU has a positive impact on Finland’s security. Thirteen per cent (13%

and 11%) see the impact of the EU as both negative and positive, nine per cent (10% and 14%) see no impact while seven per cent (4% and 7%) see the impact as negative. Six per cent (3% and 5%) have no opinion.

United Nations

Half of the respondents or 50 per cent (56% in spring 2022, 58% in 2021) think that the UN has a positive impact on Finland's security. Over a quarter or 27 per cent (24% and 23%) see no impact by the UN on Finland's security. Eight per cent (9% and 7%) of the respondents see the impact as both positive and negative. Three per cent (2% and 2%) see the impact as negative, while 12 per cent (8% and 10%) have no opinion.

United States

Forty-eight per cent (43% in spring 2022, 22% in 2021) think that the United States has a positive impact on Finland's security. Twenty-six per cent (35% and 31%) see the impact as both positive and negative. Nine per cent (7% and 19%) see the impact as negative while nine per cent (8% and 16%) think that the United States have no impact on Finland's security. Eight per cent (7% and 12%) have no opinion.

OSCE

One-third of the respondents or 35 per cent (45% in spring 2022, 45% in 2021) think that the OSCE has a positive impact on Finland's security. Five per cent (6% and 6%) see the impact as both positive and negative while more than one fifth or 23 per cent (22% and 19%) see no impact. One per cent (1% and 1%) see the impact as negative while a third or 36 per cent (26% and 29%) have no opinion.

China

Forty per cent think that China has a negative impact on Finland's security (41% in spring 2022, 41% in 2021). Less than one-fifth or 18 per cent (23% and 20%) of the respondents see China's impact as both positive and negative. Twenty-three per cent (17% and 18%) see no impact, while two per cent (3% and 4%) see the impact as positive. Seventeen per cent (16% and 17%) have no opinion.

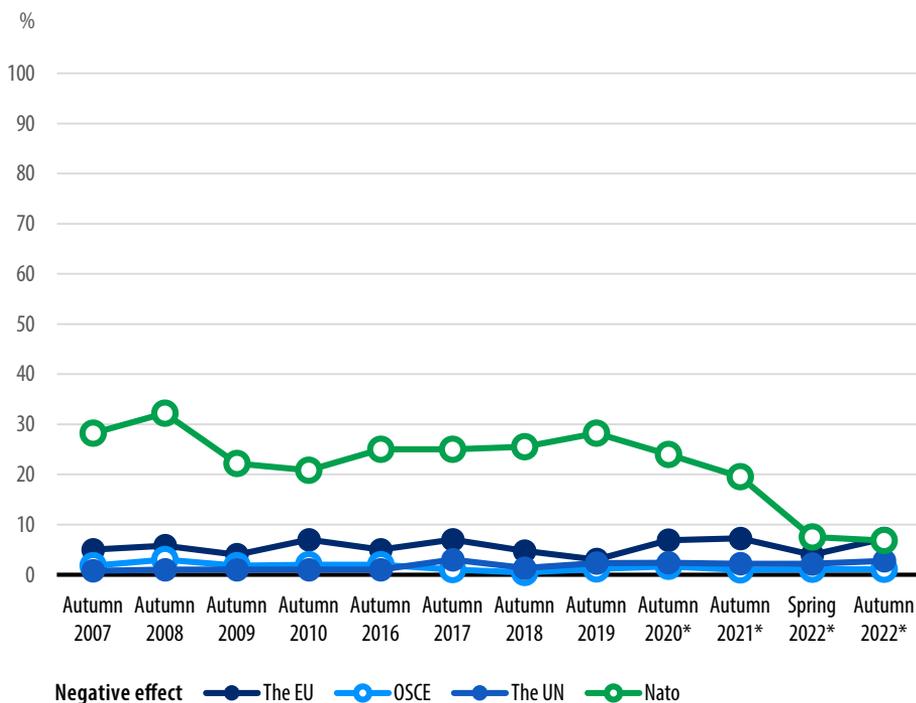
Russia

Eighty-seven per cent think that Russia has a negative impact on Finland's security (85% in spring 2022, 51% in 2021). The smallest number of respondents to think that Russia has a negative impact was in 2009 at 27 per cent.

Six per cent (7% and 22%) see Russia's impact as both positive and negative, while one per cent (2% and 8%) see it as positive. Three per cent (2% and 10%) think that Russia has no impact on Finland's security, while four per cent (4% and 10%) have no opinion. (figures 2,3 and 4)

Figure 2C. Impact of different actors on Finland's security in 2007–2010 and in 2016–2022, negative impact

"How do you assess the impact of the following factors on Finland's security?"

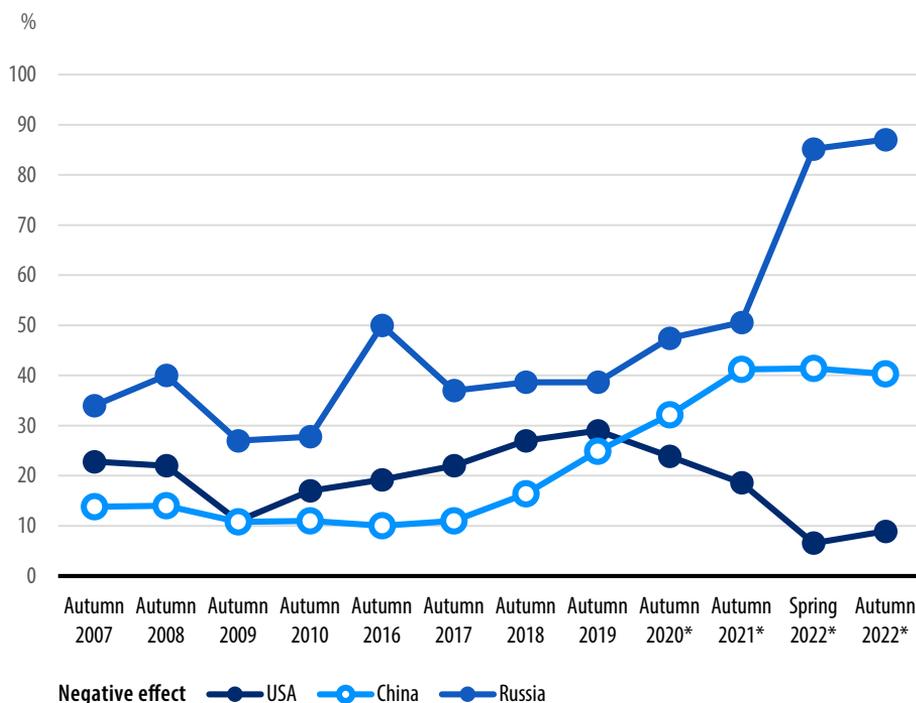


This question has not been asked in 2011–2015

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

Figure 2D. Impact of different actors on Finland's security in 2007–2010 and in 2016–2022, negative impact

“How do you assess the impact of the following factors on Finland's security?”



This question has not been asked in 2011–2015

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

Positive attitudes to military cooperation with NATO and the United States have increased significantly on last year

Compared to last year, positive attitudes to military cooperation with NATO and the United States have increased significantly.

A total of 96 per cent (95% in 2021) of the respondents have a very or rather positive view on Finland's military cooperation with all Nordic countries, while two per cent (2%) have a very or rather negative view.

A total of 96 per cent (94% in 2021) of the respondents have a very or rather positive view on Finland's military cooperation with Sweden while two per cent (4%) have a very or rather negative view.

Ninety per cent (87% in 2021) of the respondents have a very or rather positive view on military cooperation in the European Union while seven per cent (10%) have a very or rather negative view.

Eighty-six per cent (66% in 2021) have a very or rather positive view on Finland's military cooperation with NATO while 11 per cent (25%) have a very or rather negative view.

Eighty-one per cent (63% in 2021) have a very or rather positive view on Finland's military cooperation with the United States while 14 per cent (28%) have a very or rather negative view. (figures 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10)

Confidence in the management of defence policy has clearly increased

Since 2005, the following question has been asked: "How well has Finland's defence policy been managed in recent years?"

The proportion of respondents who think that Finnish foreign policy is well managed has ranged from 85 to 69 per cent. This year's figure is the highest, and is the same as in 2009. So far, the lowest levels of support were seen in 2013 and 2014, when 69 per cent considered Finland's defence policy to be well managed.

More than four out of five or 85 per cent (78% in 2021) is of the opinion that Finland's defence policy has been well managed in recent years, with 87 per cent (79%) of men and 81 per cent (77%) of women. Of over 50-year-olds, 90 per cent (85% in 2021) think that defence policy is well managed, as do 81 per cent (72%) of 35–49-year-olds, 78 per cent (78%) of under 25-year-olds, and 76 per cent (67%) of 25–34-year-olds.

Ninety-five per cent (81% in 2021) of Green Party supporters think that Finnish foreign policy is well managed, with 94 per cent (88%) of SDP supporters, 92 per cent (83%) of Coalition Party supporters, 89 per cent (84%) of Centre Party supporters, 76 per cent (77%) of Finns Party supporters, and 74 per cent (58%) of Left Alliance supporters.

Seven per cent (11% in 2021) is of the opinion that Finland's defence policy has been poorly managed in recent years, with nine per cent (14%) of men and seven per cent (7%) of women.

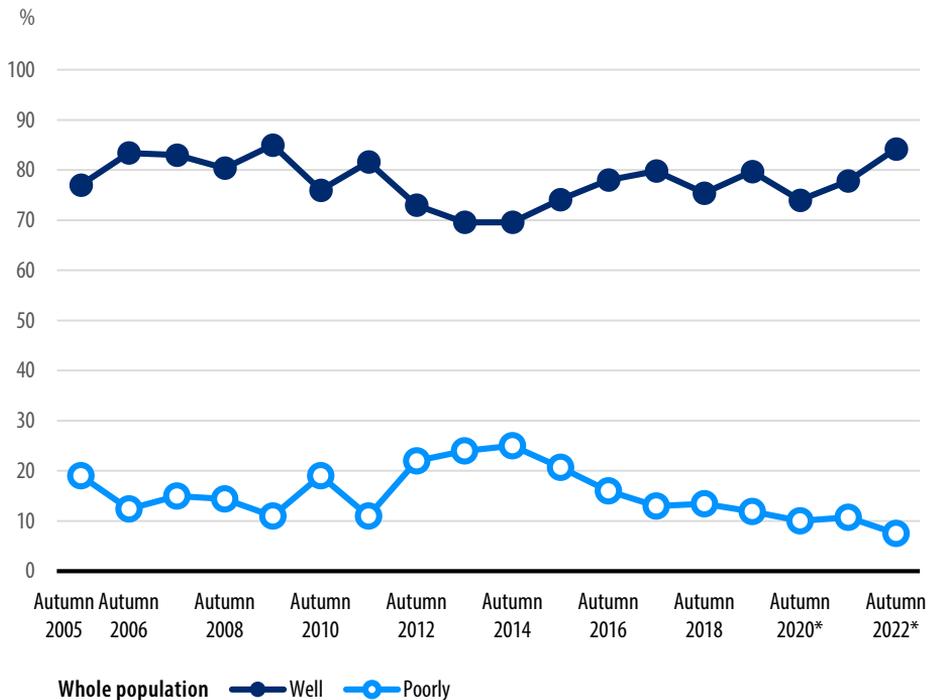
The share of answers in the negative is the lowest ever. The number of those sharing this view has been the highest (25–21 per cent) for the entire time sequence in 2012–2015.

Of the Finns Party supporters, 16 per cent (18%) are of the opinion that defence policy has been poorly managed, seven per cent (14%) of the Left Alliance supporters, six per cent (8%) of Coalition Party supporters, three per cent (5% and 10% respectively) of SDP and Centre Party supporters hold this view. None of the Green Party supporters think that defence policy is poorly managed (eight per cent).

Eight per cent (11% in 2021) of respondents had no opinion, 12 per cent (16%) of women and four per cent (7%) of men. (figures 11 and 12)

Figure 11A. Management of defence policy 2005–2022

“In your opinion, how well or how poorly has Finland’s defence policy been conducted in recent years?”



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

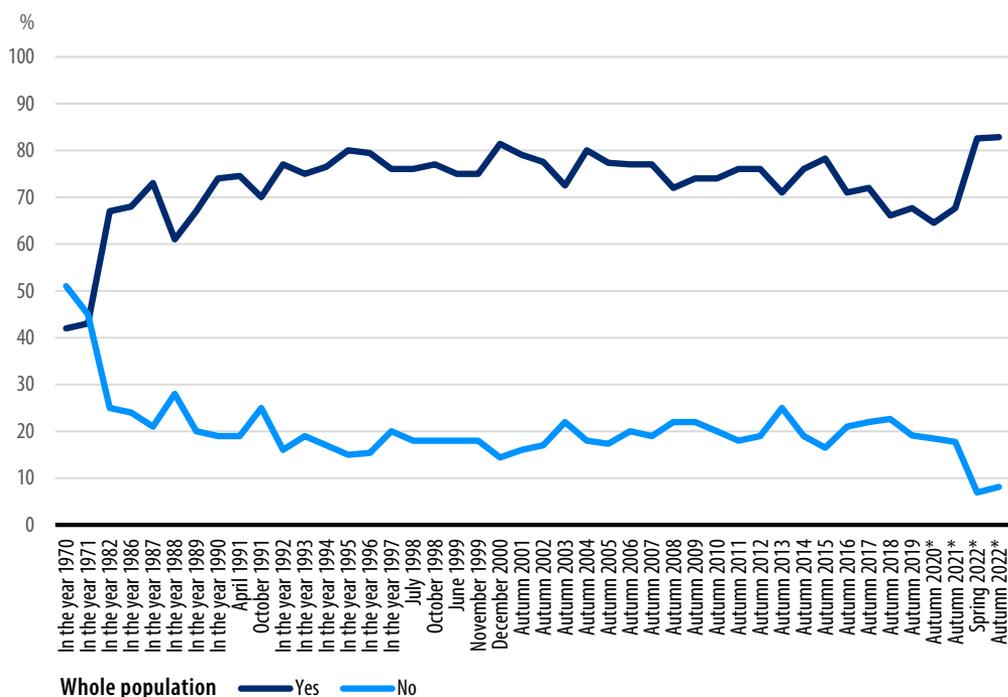
National defence will still record high

If Finland were attacked, should Finns, in your opinion, take up arms to defend themselves in all situations, even if the outcome seemed uncertain? This question has been asked 44 times. In the history of the survey, the share of respondents who answer in the affirmative was the highest this spring and now in the autumn. The share of ‘yes’ answers was at its lowest in 1970, 42 per cent and in 1971 when it was 43 per cent.

The share of negative answers has varied between 51 per cent (in 1970) and seven per cent (spring 2022).

Figure 13A. Will to defend the country 1970–2022

“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

Eighty-three per cent (83% in spring 2022, 68% in 2021) of the respondents answered in the affirmative, 87 per cent (88%, 79%) of men and 78 per cent (77%, 56%) of women.

Of over 50-year-olds, 88 per cent (88%, 74%) answer in the affirmative, as do 82 per cent (82%, 68%) of 35–49-year-olds, 76 per cent (73%, 62%) of under 25-year-olds, and 74 per cent (75%, 54%) of 25–34-year-olds.

Ninety-four per cent of Centre Party supporters (90% in spring 2022, 65% in 2021) answer in the affirmative, as do 93 per cent (89%, 81%) of Coalition Party supporters, 91 per cent (93%, 80%) of Finns Party supporters, 85 per cent (83%, 76%) of SDP supporters, 75 per cent (78%, 46%) of Green Party supporters, and 54 per cent (75%, 43%) of Left Alliance supporters.

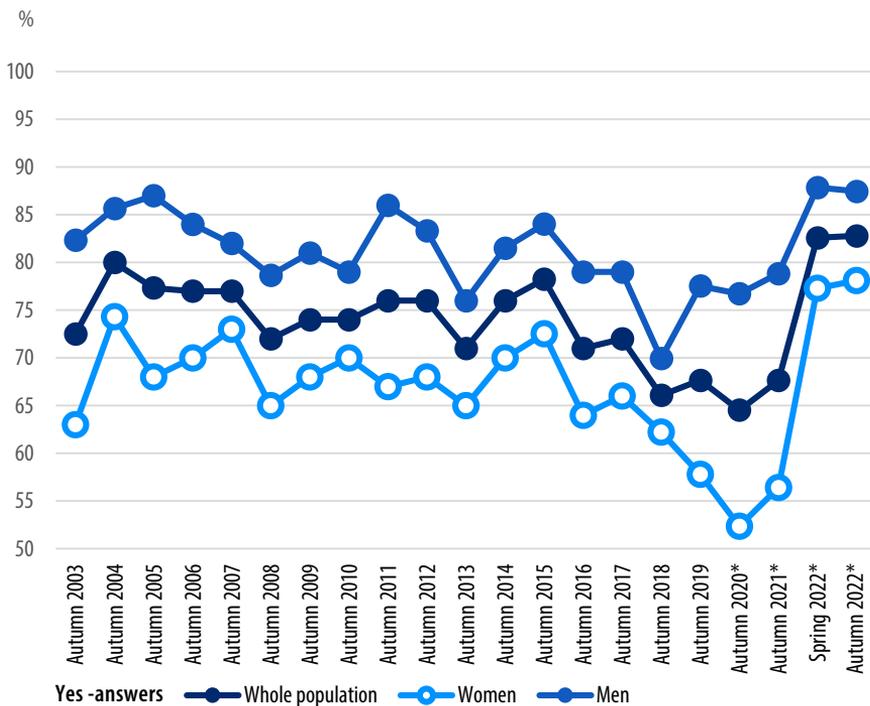
Eight per cent (7% in spring 2022, 18% in 2021) answer in the negative, with 10 per cent (8%, 21%) of women and six per cent (6%, 15%) of men. Seventeen 17 per cent (13%, 22%) of those under 25 years of age, ten per cent (7%, 25%) of 25–34-year-olds, six per cent (7%, 17% and 5%, 15%) of 35–49-year-olds and over 50-year-olds share this view.

Thirty per cent of Left Alliance supporters (8% in spring 2022, 38% in 2021) answer in the negative, as do 12 per cent (2%, 33%) of Green Party supporters, eight per cent (4%, 12%) of SDP supporters, six per cent (5%, 12%) of Finns Party supporters, three per cent (8%, 7%) of Coalition Party supporters, and one per cent (5%, 16%) of Centre Party supporters.

Nine per cent (10% in spring 2022, 15% in 2021) of respondents, with 12 per cent (15%, 23%) of women and six per cent (6%, 6%) of men, had no opinion. (figures 13 and 14)

Figure 13B. Will to defend the country 2003–2022, yes answers for the entire population men, women

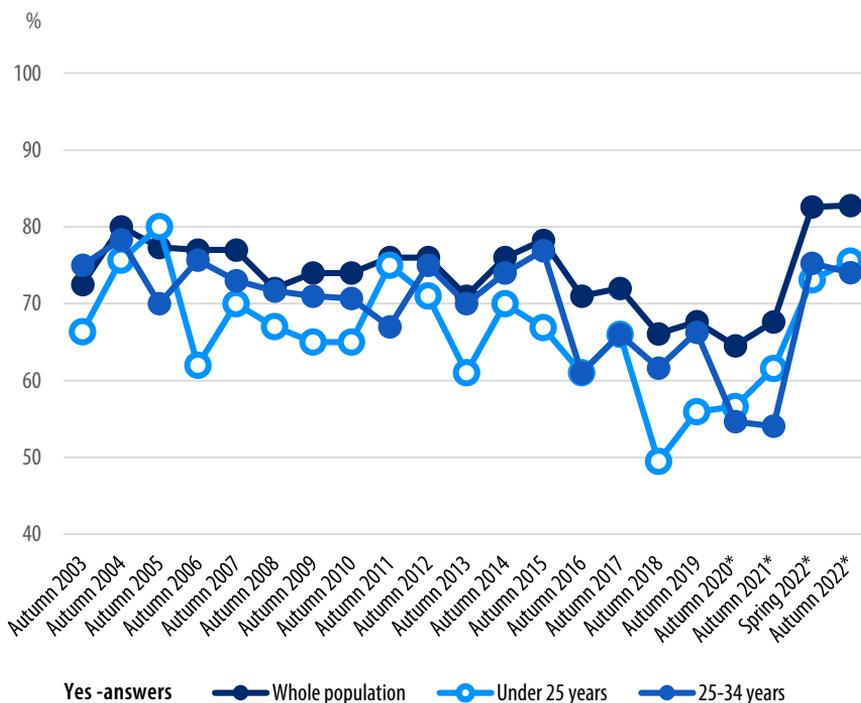
“If Finland were attacked, should Finns, in your opinion, take up arms to defend themselves in all situations, even if the outcome seemed uncertain?”



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

Figure 13C. Will to defend the country 2003–2022, yes answers for the entire population, under 25-year-olds, 25–34-year-olds

“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 country on a firm ground

“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 (82% in spring 2022, 84% in 2021) of the respondents answered in the affirmative, with 89 per cent (88%, 89%) of men and 75 per cent (76%, 78%) of women.

Eighty-nine per cent of Green Party supporters (74% in spring 2022, 83% in 2021) answer in the affirmative, as do 88 per cent (87%, 88%) of Coalition Party

supporters, 87 per cent (84%, 90%) of Finns Party supporters, 84 per cent (91%, 73%) of Centre Party supporters, 82 per cent (82%, 83%) of SDP supporters, and 64 per cent (70%, 70%) of Left Alliance supporters.

Ten per cent (8% in spring 2022, 9% in 2021) answer in the negative, with 14 per cent (10%, 11%) of women and five per cent (7%, 6%) of men.

Eighteen per cent (16% in spring 2022, 17% in 2021) of Left Alliance supporters hold a negative view, along with 12 per cent (1%, 9%) of Centre Party supporters, nine per cent (8%, 6%) of Finns Party supporters, eight per cent (5%, 10%) of SDP supporters, six per cent (3%, 6% and 16%, 11% respectively) of Coalition Party and Green Party supporters.

Eight per cent (10% in spring 2022, 8% in 2021) have no opinion, with 11 per cent (15%, 11%) of women and six per cent (5%, 4%) of men. (figures 15 and 16)

Strong support for increasing defence appropriations

In addition to foreign policy management, the question about defence appropriations has been polled since 1964, and to date 62 times. This year it gained the highest support ever by people who support an increase in defence appropriations. This is the third time in the polling history when more than half of the respondents support an increase in defence appropriations, previously in 1970 and 2014.

During the entire time sequence, cutting defence appropriations was given the least support in 2014, when it was supported by six per cent of the respondents. Cutting appropriations obtained as little support in 2022 as in 2000. Support for cutting defence appropriations was at its highest in 1991 when over one-third or 38 per cent were of this opinion.

This year, 58 per cent of the respondents are in favour of increasing defence appropriations (31% in 2021), with 64 per cent of men (40%) and 54 per cent of women (24%). Of over 50-year-olds, 68 per cent (38%) support increasing defence appropriations, as do 58 per cent (32%) of 35–49-year-olds, 52 per cent (18%) of 25–34-year-olds, and 35 per cent (22%) of under 25-year-olds.

Seventy-seven per cent (43%) of Centre Party supporters are in favour of increasing defence appropriations, along with 74 per cent (41%) of Coalition Party supporters, 70 per cent (51%) of Finns Party supporters, 67 per cent (33%) of SDP supporters, 43 per cent (16%) of Green Party supporters, and 27 per cent (11%) of Left Alliance supporters.

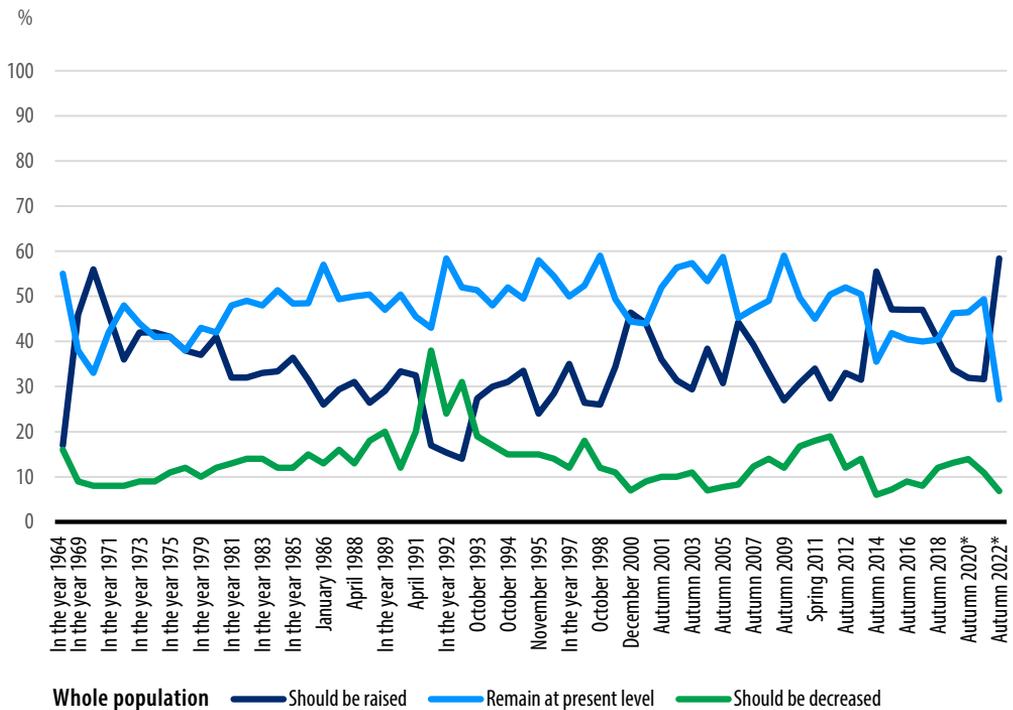
Twenty-seven per cent (49% in 2021) are in favour of keeping defence appropriations at the current level, with 28 per cent (53%) of women and 27 per cent (46%) of men. This view is shared by 42 per cent (53%) of Green Party supporters, 30 per cent (43%) of Left Alliance supporters, 23 per cent (53% and 39% respectively) of SDP and Finns Party supporters, 21 per cent (46%) of Coalition Party supporters, and 18 per cent (42%) of Centre Party supporters.

Seven per cent (11% in 2021) are in favour of cutting defence appropriations, with eight per cent (11%) of women and six per cent (10%) of men. This view is held by thirty-three per cent (30%) of Left Alliance supporters, nine per cent (23%) of Green Party supporters, 6 per cent (7%) of SDP supporters, three per cent (7%) of Finns Party supporters, and two per cent (8% and 8%) of Coalition Party and Centre Party supporters.

Seven per cent (8% in 2021) of respondents have no opinion, with ten per cent (12%) of women and four per cent (4%) of men. (figures 17 and 18)

Figure 17A. Defence appropriations 1964–2022

“What is your opinion on funds allocated to the Defence Forces?”



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

Strong confidence in Finland’s military defence capability

For the third time now, the following question was asked: Do you trust the Defence Forces’ ability to defend Finland against various military threats? This question was asked for the first time in autumn 2021 and again in spring 2022.

Eighty-nine per cent (87% in spring 2022, 73% in 2021) trust a lot or a fair amount in the Defence Forces’ ability to repel military threats against Finland, with 93 per cent (87% in spring 2022, 74% in 2021) of men and 86 per cent (86% and 71%) of women.

Ninety-eight per cent of SDP supporters (89% in spring 2022, 82% in 2021) have confidence in the Defence Forces' defence capacity. This view is shared by 96 per cent (89% and 78%) of Coalition Party supporters, 94 per cent (93% and 81%) of Centre Party supporters, 88 per cent (87% and 75%) of Finns Party supporters, 86 per cent (90% and 70%) of Green Party supporters, and 70 per cent (71% and 58%) of Left Alliance supporters.

Eight per cent (11% in spring 2022, 22% in 2021) trust very or rather little in the Defence Forces' ability to repel military threats against Finland, with 11 per cent (11% and 23%) of women and 6 per cent (12% and 22%) of men. This view is shared by 23 per cent (25% and 34%) of Left Alliance supporters, 12 per cent (9% and 27%) of Green Party supporters, 11 per cent (12% and 22%) of Finns Party supporters, five per cent (7% and 16%) of Centre Party supporters, three per cent (10% and 18%) of Coalition Party supporters, and two per cent (9% and 15%) of SDP supporters. (figure 19)

Confidence in the management of foreign policy has increased from last year

Seventy-four per cent of the respondents (71% in 2021) think that Finnish foreign policy is managed well, with 75 per cent (69%) of men and 72 per cent (74%) of women, Seventy-nine per cent (78%) of over 50-year-olds hold this view, as do 73 per cent (62%) of 15–24-year-olds, 69 per cent (70%) of 25–34-year-olds and 65 per cent (63%) of 35–49-year-olds.

Eighty-nine per cent of SDP supporters (92% in 2021) see Finnish foreign policy as well managed, as do 87 per cent (74%) of Green Party supporters, 84 per cent (87%) of Left Alliance supporters, 79 per cent (74%) of Coalition Party supporters, 76 per cent (78%) of Centre Party supporters, and 40 per cent (39%) of Finns Party supporters.

Twenty-one per cent (20% in 2021) think that Finnish foreign policy is managed poorly, with 23 per cent (26%) of men and 20 per cent (13%) of women. Twenty-eight per cent (26%) of 35–49-year-olds, 25 per cent (19%) of 25–34-year-olds,

19 per cent (17%) of over 50-year-olds and 15 per cent (16%) of under 25-year-olds hold this view.

Fifty-five per cent (56%) of Finns Party supporters see Finnish foreign policy as poorly managed, along with 19 per cent (12%) of Centre Party supporters, 18 per cent (18%) of Coalition Party supporters, 10 per cent (4%) of SDP supporters, eight per cent (9%) of Left Alliance supporters, and seven per cent (11%) of Green Party supporters.

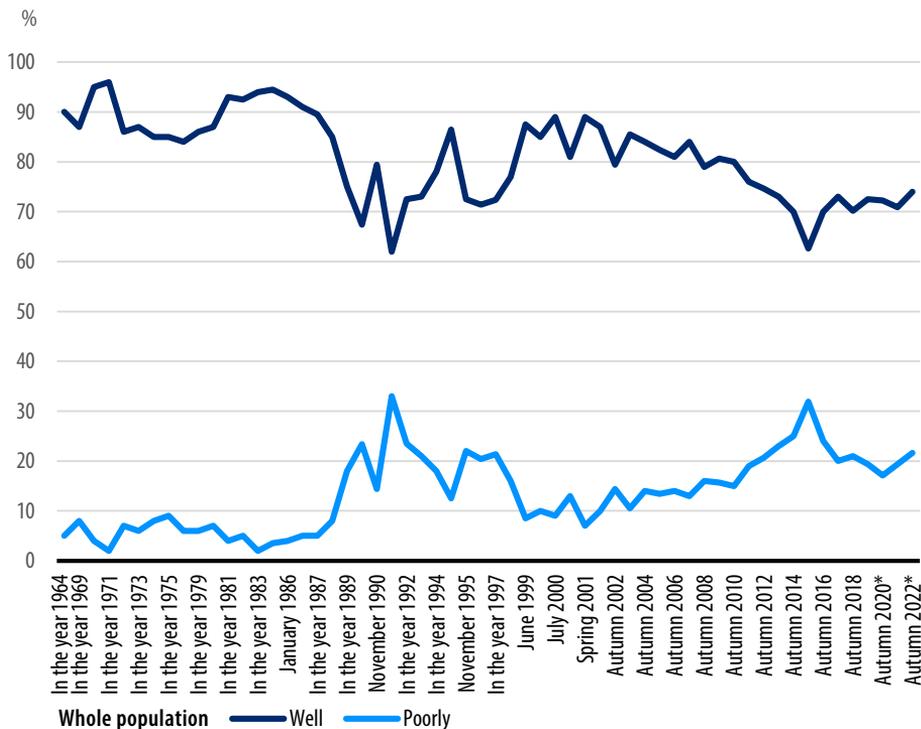
Five per cent (10% in 2021) have no opinion, with eight per cent (14%) of women and two per cent (6%) of men.

The question about Finland's foreign policy management has been polled 58 times, for the first time in 1964. Over the years, foreign policy has been considered well managed, with the result varying between 96 per cent (1971) and 62 per cent (1991). The result was less than 80 per cent for the first time in 1989, when it was 75 per cent.

At the most one-third of the respondents has seen foreign policy as poorly managed, with 33 per cent in 1991 and 32 per cent in 2015. The lowest figure for the entire time sequence has been two per cent, in 1971 and 1983. (figures 20 and 21)

Figure 20A. of Finland's foreign policy management 1964–2022

“In your opinion, how well or how poorly has Finnish foreign policy been conducted in recent years?”



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

Confidence in the future of the European Union

Almost half or 48 per cent (48% in 2021) think that their confidence in the future of the European Union has remained unchanged, with 52 per cent (56%) of women and 44 per cent (41%) of men. This view is shared by 50 per cent (49%) of over 50-year-olds, 48 per cent (45%) of 35–49-year-olds, 45 per cent (46%) of 25–34-year-olds and 44 per cent (53%) of under 25-year-olds.

Sixty-two per cent (44% in 2021) of Centre Party supporters consider their confidence unchanged, along with 52 per cent (42% and 55% respectively) of Coalition Party and Left Alliance supporters, 50 per cent (61% and 78% respectively) of SDP and Green Party supporters, and 31 per cent (21%) of Finns Party supporters.

Thirty-three per cent (41% in 2021) of respondents think that their confidence in the future of the European Union has weakened, with 33 per cent (48%) of men and 32 per cent (35%) of women. Among 25–34-year-olds, 39 per cent (43%) share this view, along with 33 per cent (43%) of over 50-year-olds, 32 per cent (46%) of 35–49-year-olds and 24 per cent (25%) of under 25-year-olds.

Of the supporters of the Finns Party, 62 per cent (75% in 2021) are of this opinion, along with 29 per cent (49%) of Coalition Party supporters, 25 per cent (25%) of Left Alliance supporters, 22 per cent (48%) of Centre Party supporters, 21 per cent (25%) of SDP supporters, and 17 per cent (14%) of Green Party supporters.

Seventeen per cent (8% in 2021) of respondents feel that their confidence in the future of the European Union has strengthened, with 21 per cent (10%) of men and 13 per cent (6%) of women. This is the highest figure in the history of the survey. Twenty-one per cent (19%) of under 25-year-olds holds this view, along with 17 per cent (8%) of 35–49-year-olds, 15 per cent (5%) of over 50-year-olds, and 14 per cent (7%) of 25–34-year-olds.

Thirty-three per cent (7% in 2021) of Green Party supporters hold this view, as do 29 per cent (13%) of SDP supporters, 18 per cent (17%) of Left Alliance supporters, 16 per cent (9%) of Coalition Party supporters, 12 per cent (6%) of Centre Party supporters, and six per cent (2%) of Finns Party supporters.

Three per cent (2% in 2021) have no opinion on this question. (figure 22)

Positive attitude to cooperation between the European Union and NATO has clearly strengthened.

A year ago, this question was asked for the first time: What is your view on the cooperation between the European Union and NATO to increase European security?

Eighty-seven per cent of respondents (69% in 2021) have a very positive or rather positive view on the cooperation, with 89 per cent (73%) of men and 86 per cent (66%) of women.

Ninety-nine per cent (85% in 2021) of Coalition Party supporters have a positive view on the cooperation, as do 96 per cent of SDP and Centre Party supporters (79% and 65% respectively), 95 per cent (83%) of Green Party supporters, 80 per cent (60%) of Finns Party supporters, and 61 per cent (54%) of Left Alliance supporters

Eight per cent (18% in 2021) answer in the negative on the cooperation between the European Union and NATO, with nine per cent (17%) of women and seven per cent (19%) of men. Twenty-five per cent (33%) of Left Alliance supporters answer in the negative, as do 12 per cent (30%) of Finns Party supporters, four per cent (9%) of Green Party supporters, three per cent (14%) of SDP supporters, two per cent (16%) of Centre Party supporters, and one per cent (8%) of Coalition Party supporters. (figure 23)

Military situation in Finland's neighbouring areas is considered more threatening

The ABDI asked for the 12th time the following question: What is your assessment of the military situation in Finland's neighbouring areas over the next ten years? This question was last included in spring 2022.

When studying the entire time sequence, it can be seen that the military situation in Finland's neighbouring areas has been assessed more threatening in 2014 and spring 2022. In both cases the change was significant when compared to the previous year.

More than half of respondents, or 55 per cent (64% in spring 2022, 42% in 2021) now consider the military situation in Finland's neighbouring areas more threatening, with 60 per cent (65% and 42%) of women and 50 per cent (62% and 43%) of men.

Thirty per cent (24% in spring 2022, 47% in 2021) of respondents believe that the military situation in Finland's neighbouring areas will remain the same, with 31 per cent (26% and 49%) of men and 28 per cent (23% and 45%) of women.

Eleven per cent (6% and 5%) consider the situation less threatening, 15 per cent of men (7% and 4%) and seven per cent (6% and 5%) of women.

Five per cent (6% in spring 2022, 6% in 2021) have no opinion, with five per cent (5% and 4%) of men and four per cent (6% and 9%) of women. (figures 24 and 25)

Finland's participation in Nordic defence cooperation and Finland's membership in NATO were assessed to most increase the security of Finland and Finns

Since 2004, the ABDI has polled a question where respondents were asked to assess the impact of different factors on the security of Finland and Finns. In 2021, the question included eight factors, and the one on Finland's military non-alignment was now left out. Finland's possible accession to NATO was changed to: Finland's membership in NATO.

Finland's participation in Nordic defence cooperation: eighty-nine per cent (80% in 2021) are of the opinion that it increases the security of Finland and Finns while seven per cent (13%) see no impact, one per cent (1%) think it decreases security and three per cent (5%) have no opinion.

Finland's membership in NATO: eighty per cent (34% in 2021) are of the opinion it increases the security of Finland while five per cent (16%) see no impact, eight per cent (30%) think it decreases security and seven per cent (21%) have no opinion.

Finland's participation in developing defence cooperation in the EU: seventy-seven per cent (63% in 2021) are of the opinion that it increases security while 14 per cent (20%) see no impact, four per cent (6%) think it decreases security and five per cent (11%) have no opinion.

Finland's membership in the European Union: 72 per cent see it as increasing security, this is the highest in the time sequence (61% in 2021), 18 per cent (24%) see no impact on security, six per cent (11%) think it decreases security and four per cent (4%) have no opinion.

Finland's participation in international crisis management missions: 61 per cent see it as increasing security, this is the highest in the time sequence (46% in 2021), 26 per cent (35%) see no impact, six per cent (8%) think it decreases security and seven per cent (11%) have no opinion.

Finland's increasing international economic interaction: 53 per cent (55% in 2021) see it as increasing security, 28 per cent (30%) see no impact, 8 per cent (7%) think it decreases security, 12 per cent (9%) have no opinion.

Increasing share of foreign ownership in the Finnish economy: eight per cent (6% in 2021) see it as increasing security, 18 per cent (23%) see no impact, 65 per cent (60%) think it decreases security, ten per cent (11%) have no opinion.

(figures 26, 27, 28 and 29)

Developments in Russia, availability of energy, Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine and rising prices are factors that cause the most concern

The question lists 21 different factors that respondents assess, based on how concerned they are about their impact. Some of the factors have been included since 2004. New factors this year include the availability of energy, rising prices or inflation, the threat of war, systematic disinformation against Finland, and Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine.

The results are listed by factors causing much or some concern.

- Developments in Russia 85% (68% in 2021)
- Availability of energy 85%
- Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine 84%
- Rising prices or inflation 82%
- Refugee situation in the world 75% (75% in 2021)
- Proliferation of weapons of mass destruction 71% (73%)
- Security situation in the Baltic Sea area 70% (60%)
- Political extremist movements 69% (70%)
- Cyber threats against information networks 69% (78%)
- Organised crime 66% (76%)
- Threat of war 66%
- Social inequality in Finland 65% (62%)
- International terrorism 63% (75%)
- Dissolution of arms control agreements 60% (61%)
- Contagious diseases, epidemics 59% (74%)
- Racism 58% (62%)
- Systematic disinformation campaign against Finland 58% *
- Developments in the United States 53% (51%)
- Situation in the Middle East 47% (60%)
- Situation in Afghanistan 40% (60%)

* State-sponsored fake news against Finland in 2018–2021

(figures 30, 31, 32, 33, 34 and 35)

Assistance to Ukraine is widely supported

Another new question this year concerned assistance to Ukraine.

"Because of the war started by Russia, the European Union and its Member States, including Finland, have helped Ukraine both economically and militarily and by imposing sanctions on Russia. In your opinion, should Finland and the European Union continue to help Ukraine economically, militarily and by imposing sanctions? The options were: should continue at the current level, should be increased or should be reduced.

Sanctions

Fifty-nine per cent of the respondents think that more sanctions should be imposed, with 66 per cent of men and 52 per cent of women. This view is held by 79 per cent of Green Party supporters, 73 per cent of Coalition Party supporters, 72 per cent of Left Alliance supporters, 57 per cent of SDP supporters, 56 per cent of Finns Party supporters and 51 per cent of Centre Party supporters.

Just under one third or 31 per cent are satisfied with the current level of sanctions, with 38 per cent of women and 24 per cent of men. This was the opinion of 43 per cent of Centre Party supporters, 36 per cent of SDP supporters, 32 per cent of Finns Party supporters, 21 per cent of Coalition Party supporters, 19 per cent of Green Party supporters and 14 per cent of Left Alliance supporters.

Six per cent of the respondents thought that current sanctions should be reduced.

Arms assistance

Nearly half or 46 per cent of respondents would increase arms assistance, with 60 per cent of men and 31 per cent of women. This was the opinion of 60 per cent of Coalition Party supporters, 53 per cent of Finns Party supporters, 49 per cent of SDP supporters, 48 per cent of Green Party supporters, 34 per cent of Centre Party supporters and 33 per cent of Left Alliance supporters.

Forty-two per cent of the respondents would keep the current level of arms assistance, with 53 per cent of women and 30 per cent of men. This was the opinion of 61 per cent of Centre Party supporters, 51 per cent of Green Party supporters, 42 per cent of SDP supporters, and 34 per cent of Coalition Party and Left Alliance supporters.

Seven per cent of the respondents would reduce the current level of arms assistance to Ukraine.

Economic assistance

Thirty-eight per cent of respondents would increase economic assistance to Ukraine, with 49 per cent of men and 26 per cent of women. This view was shared by 56 per cent of Green Party supporters, 50 per cent of Left Alliance supporters,

47 per cent of Coalition Party supporters, 40 per cent of SDP supporters, 32 per cent of Centre Party supporters and 27 per cent of Finns Party supporters.

About half or 52 per cent, are satisfied with the current level of economic assistance, with 62 per cent of women and 42 per cent of men. This view was shared by 61 per cent of Centre Party supporters, 54 per cent of SDP and Finns Party supporters, 50 per cent of Coalition Party supporters, 41 per cent of Green Party supporters, and 39 per cent of Left Alliance supporters.

Seven per cent of the respondents would reduce the economic assistance to Ukraine.

(figures 36, 37, 38 and 39)

Record high support for the current conscription system

Based on a general, compulsory military service for men, Finnish defence system provides military training for as many of the same age group as possible, thus producing a large reserve personnel. Should the current system be retained or should we change over to a selective conscript service where only a part of the same age group receives military training? Or should we change over to a professional army?

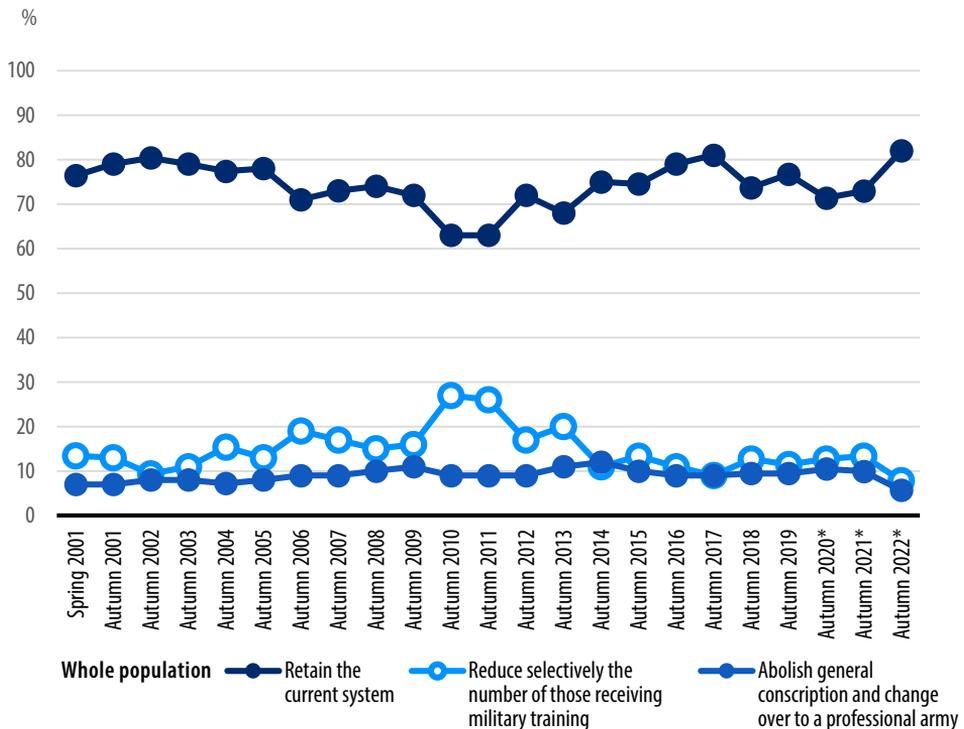
The ABDI has polled the question of general conscription since 2001. The support for the current system has varied between 82 and 63 per cent. This autumn, 82 per cent of the respondents were in favour of the current system while in 2017 it was 81 per cent and 80 per cent in 2002. In 2010 and 2011, support for the current system was at its lowest level at 63 per cent.

During the reference period, support for reducing military training and transitioning to selective military service has varied between 27 and eight per cent. Support for a revised system was at its highest level in 2010 and 2011 at 26 per cent.

Support for a professional army has varied between 12 and six per cent.

Figure 40A. General conscription in 2001–2022

“Based on a general, compulsory military service for men, Finnish military defence provides military training for as many of the same age group as possible, thus producing a large reserve personnel. Should the current system be retained or should we change over to a selective conscript service where only a part of the same age group receives military training? Or should we change over to a professional army?”



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

Eighty-two per cent (73% in 2021) of the respondents support the current conscription system, with 84 per cent of men (76%) and 80 per cent (70%) of women. Eighty-nine per cent (81%) of over 50-year-olds support it, as do 80 per cent (69%) of 35–49-year-olds, 78 per cent (58%) of 25–34-year-olds and 69 per cent (68%) of under 25-year-olds.

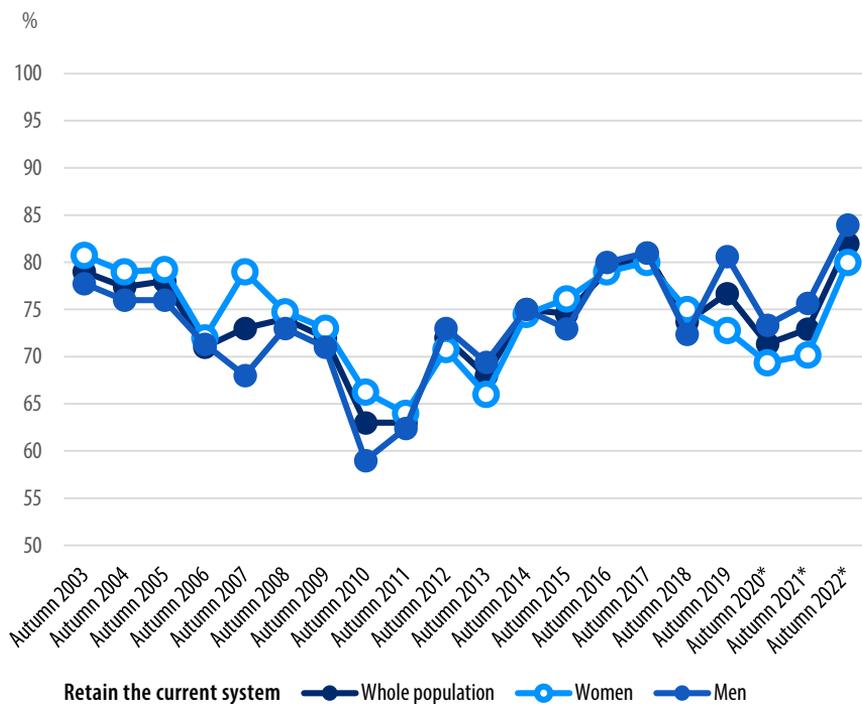
Ninety-three per cent (83% in 2021) of Centre Party supporters are in favour of the current conscription system, as are 90 per cent (82% and 77% respectively) of Coalition Party and Finns Party supporters, 83 per cent (75%) of SDP supporters,

72 per cent (57%) of Green Party supporters, and 48 per cent (35%) of Left Alliance supporters.

Eight per cent (13% in 2021) are in favour of cutting the intake of conscripts and moving to a selective conscription system, with eight per cent (14%) of women and eight per cent (12%) of men. Of the Left Alliance supporters, 21 per cent (34%) support this, as do 13 per cent (22%) of Green Party supporters, eight per cent (14%) of SDP supporters, seven per cent (10%) of Coalition Party supporters, four per cent (9%) of Finns Party supporters, and one per cent (3%) of Centre Party supporters.

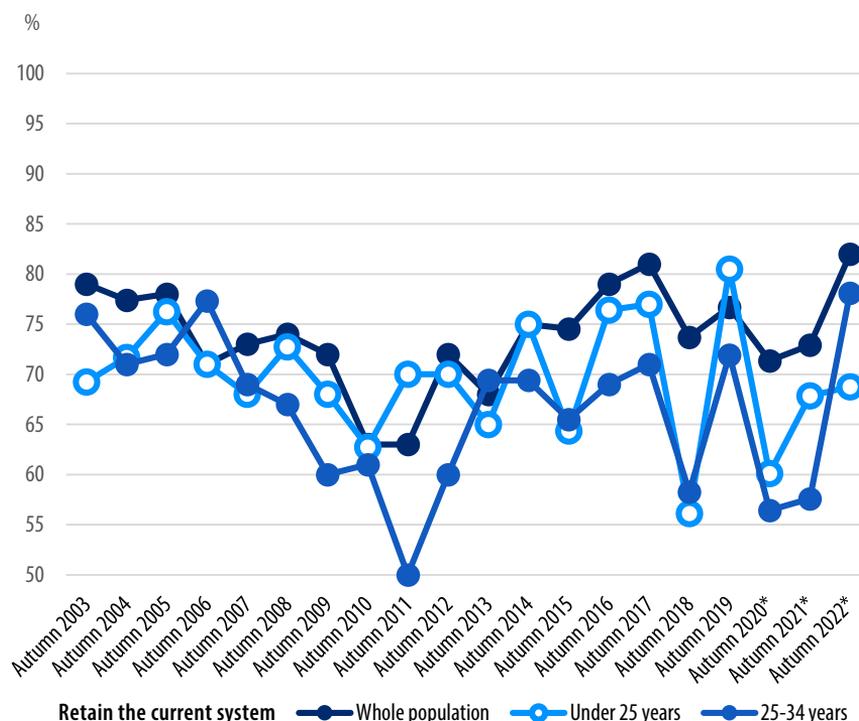
Six per cent (10% in 2021) think that Finland's defence should be based on a professional army, with six per cent (11%) of women and 5% (9%) of men. (figures 40 and 41)

Figure 40B. Support for the current system, entire population, women, men
 “Based on a general, compulsory military service for men, Finnish military defence provides military training for as many of the same age group as possible, thus producing a large reserve personnel. Should the current system be retained or should we change over to a selective conscript service where only a part of the same age group receives military training? Or should we change over to a professional army?”



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

Figure 40C. Support for the current system, entire population, under 25-year-olds, 25–34-year-olds
 “Based on a general, compulsory military service for men, Finnish military defence provides military training for as many of the same age group as possible, thus producing a large reserve personnel. Should the current system be retained or should we change over to a selective conscript service where only a part of the same age group receives military training? Or should we change over to a professional army?”



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

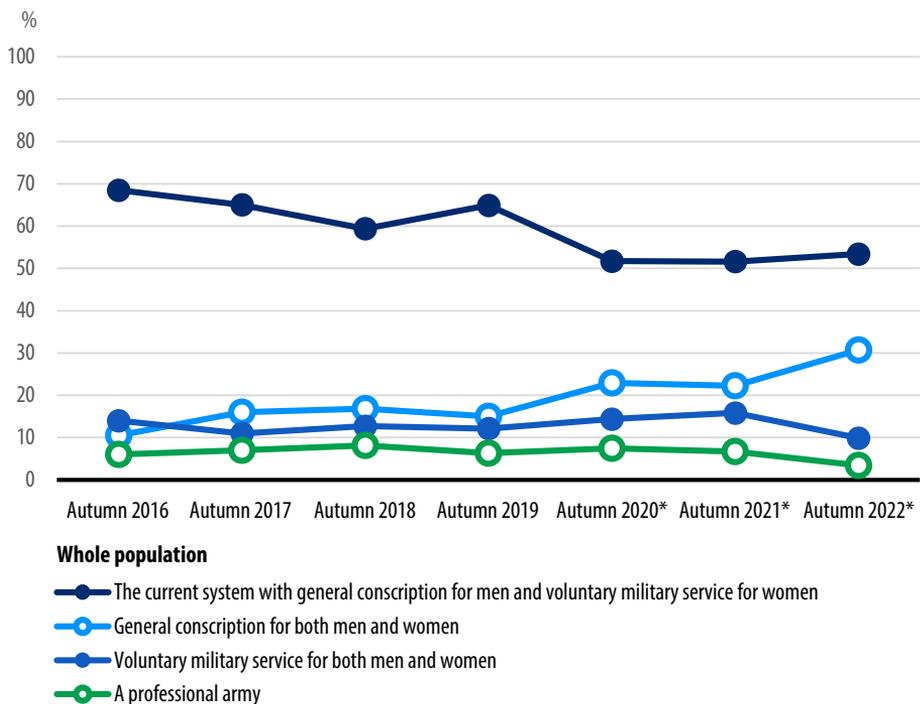
Conscription-based model is seen as best for Finland’s defence system

Since 2016, the ABDI has asked the question about Finland’s defence system, which has partly the same options for answers as the question on conscription, but which has also options concerning military service for both men and women and voluntary military service for women. For this reason, the answers cannot be the same. When the options for this question are summed up, which includes the

current system of conscription for men only, women’s voluntary military service, and general conscription for men and women, the support for this question is 84 per cent.

Figure 42A. Finland’s defence system 2016–2022

“In your view, should Finland’s defence system be based on...”



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

More than half of respondents, or 53 per cent (52% in 2021), see the current conscription model as the best foundation for Finland’s defence. This view is shared by 54 per cent (47%) of men and 53 per cent (56%) of women, and 65 per cent (59%) of over 50-year-olds, 48 per cent (41%) of 25–34-year-olds, 46 per cent (45%) of 35–49-year-olds, and 36 per cent (52%) of under 25-year-olds.

Sixty-nine per cent (60% in 2021) of Centre Party supporters see the current system as the best one, as do 63 per cent (55%) of Coalition Party supporters, 60 per cent (53%) of Finns Party supporters, 54 per cent (55%) of SDP supporters, 32 per cent (37%) of Green Party supporters, and 24 per cent (21%) of Left Alliance supporters.

One-third of respondents, or 31 per cent (22% in 2021) consider general conscription for both men and women to be the best option for Finland's defence system, with 35 per cent (31%) of men and 26 per cent (13%) of women. Of the 35–49-year-olds, 38 per cent (29%) are of this opinion, as are 33 per cent of under 25-year-olds and 25-to-34-year-olds, and 26 per cent (21%) of over 50-year-olds.

Forty-two per cent (20% in 2021) of Green Party supporters are in favour of conscription for men and women, and 35 per cent (23%) of SDP supporters, 31 per cent (23%) of Coalition Party supporters, 30 per cent (31%) of Finns Party supporters, 26 per cent (25%) of Centre Party supporters, and 24 per cent (18%) of Left Alliance supporters share this view.

Ten per cent (16% in 2021) of the respondents see voluntary military service for both men and women as the best model, with 13 per cent (18%) of women and seven per cent (14%) of men. Of Left Alliance supporters, 37 per cent (40%) are of this opinion, as do 17 per cent (25%) of Green Party supporters, eight per cent (13%) of SDP supporters, seven per cent (6%) of Finns Party supporters, five per cent (14%) of Coalition Party supporters, and three per cent (12%) of Centre Party supporters.

Three per cent (7% in 2021) think that a professional army would be the best foundation for Finland's defence system, with four per cent (7%) of women and three per cent (6%) of men.

(figure 42)

Attitudes to general civic service have become more positive

For the seventh time now, the ABDI polled views on general civic service for both men and women, which could be completed either as civil or military service. Positive attitudes have increased while negative attitudes have decreased.

Fifty-nine per cent (50% in 2021) support this, with 60 per cent (49%) of men and 58 per cent (50%) of women. Of under 25-year-olds, 75 per cent (48%) support

general civic service, with 59 per cent (53%) of 35–49-year-olds, 57 per cent (49%) of 25–34-year-olds, and 54 per cent (49%) of over 50-year-olds.

Seventy-five per cent (59% in 2021) of Green Party supporters have a positive attitude, as do 62 per cent (58% and 49% respectively) of SDP and Coalition Party supporters, 60 per cent (51%) of Left Alliance supporters, 53 per cent (43%) of Finns Party supporters, and 52 per cent (31%) of Centre Party supporters

Twenty-four per cent (28% in 2021) of respondents take a negative view on general civic service, with 25 per cent (26%) of women and 24 per cent (30%) of men. Among 25–34-year-olds, 28 per cent (33%) share this view, along with 27 per cent (29%) of over 50-year-olds, 21 per cent (28%) of 35–49-year-olds and 19 per cent (24%) of under 25-year-olds.

Twenty-nine per cent (33%) of Finns Party supporters take a negative view, along with 28 per cent (38%) of Centre Party supporters, 27 per cent (28% and 25% respectively) of Coalition Party and Left Alliance supporters, 16 per cent (28%) of SDP supporters and 14 per cent (25%) of Green Party supporters.

Seventeen per cent (22% in 2021) have no opinion, with 17 per cent (23%) of women and 16 per cent (21%) of men. (figure 43)

Finland is thought to be well prepared for an armed attack and major accidents, less prepared for the sufficiency of energy and economic crises

Thirteen different threats are listed in the question this year, and the respondents assess them according to how well or poorly Finland is prepared to counter them. Compared to last year, preparedness is thought to have improved in most threat scenarios. The sufficiency of energy and economic crises are threats against which preparedness is thought to have deteriorated.

Assessing whether preparedness is very good or rather good gave the following results:

- Armed attack 86% (71% in 2021)
- Major accidents 82% (77%)
- Contagious diseases, epidemics 78% (74%)
- Various environmental threats (floods, oil spills, transport of hazardous substances 74% (73%)
- Climate change 62% (60%)
- Terrorism 62% (52%)
- Cyberattacks against information networks 61% (47%)
- Hybrid threats (combining different means) 55% (46%)
- Political pressure from abroad 53% (42%)
- Sufficiency of energy 53% (63%)
- International crime 51% (52%)
- Economic pressure from abroad 44% (42%)
- Economic crises 36% (49%)

(figures 44, 45, 46, 47 and 48)

Future is seen as insecure

Over half of respondents or 53% (46% in 2021) think that, when compared to today, Finland and Finns will be living in a more insecure world over the next five years. This view is shared by 59 per cent (45%) of women and 47 per cent (47%) of men. Fifty-eight per cent (50%) of over 50-year-olds are of this opinion, with 55 per cent (49%) of 35–49-year-olds, 48 per cent (43%) of 25–34-year-olds, and 37 per cent (30%) of respondents under 25 years.

Twenty-one per cent (12% in 2017) see the future as more secure, with 27 per cent (11%) of men and 15 per cent (14%) of women. Thirty-two per cent (33%) of under 25-year-olds share this view, as do 20 per cent (8%) of over 50-year-olds, 19 per cent (14%) of 25–34-year-olds and 15 per cent (9%) of 35–49-year-olds.

Twenty-three per cent think that the future is similar to the present, with 24 per cent (39%) of men and 22 per cent (39%) of women. Thirty-two per cent (40%) of 25–34-year-olds share this view, as do 28 per cent (33%) of under 25-year-olds, 25 per cent (39%) of 35–49-year-olds, and 17 per cent (41%) of over 50-year-olds.

(figures 49 and 50)

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Appendix

Figure 1. Finland's membership in NATO. "What is your view on the fact that Finland has applied for membership in NATO?"

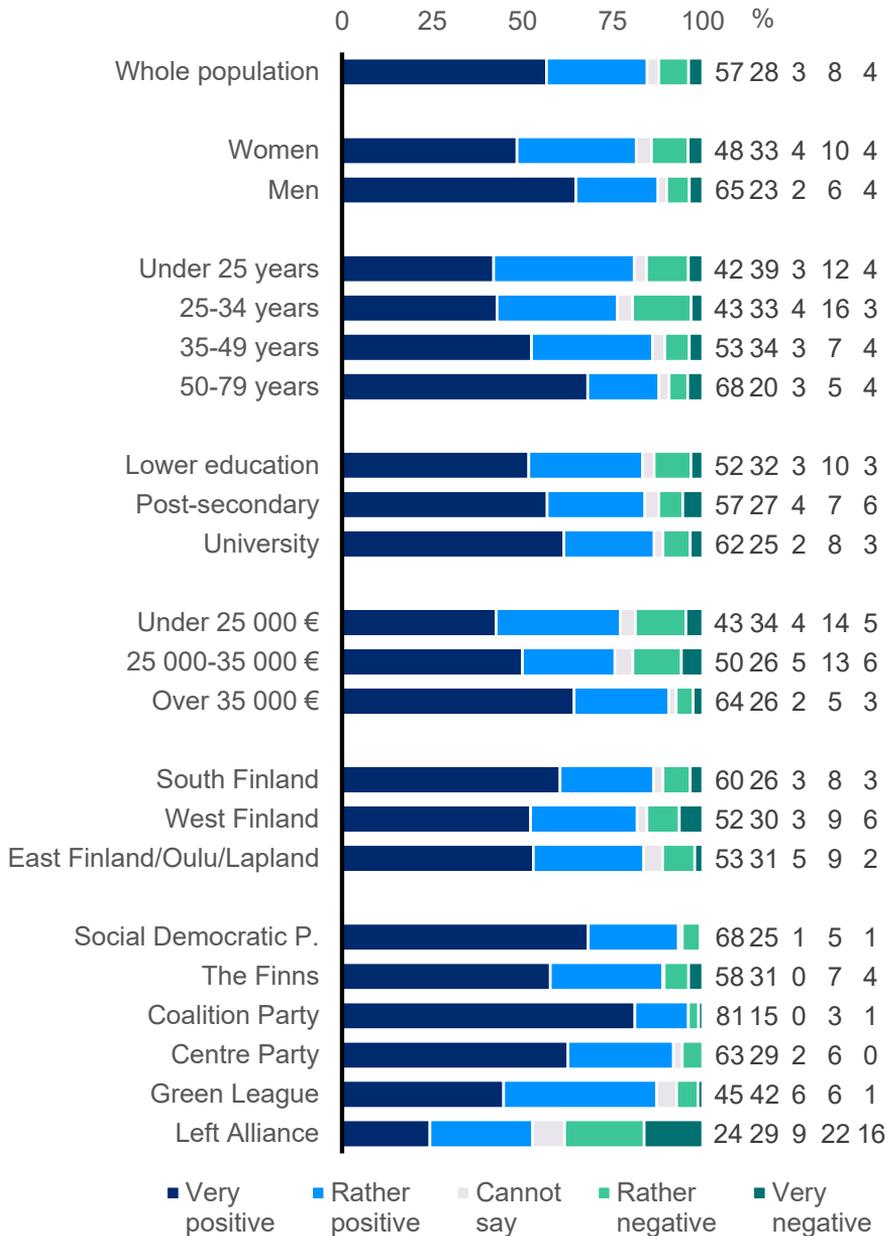


Figure 2. The impact of various factors on Finland's security. "How do you assess the impact of the following factors on Finland's security?"

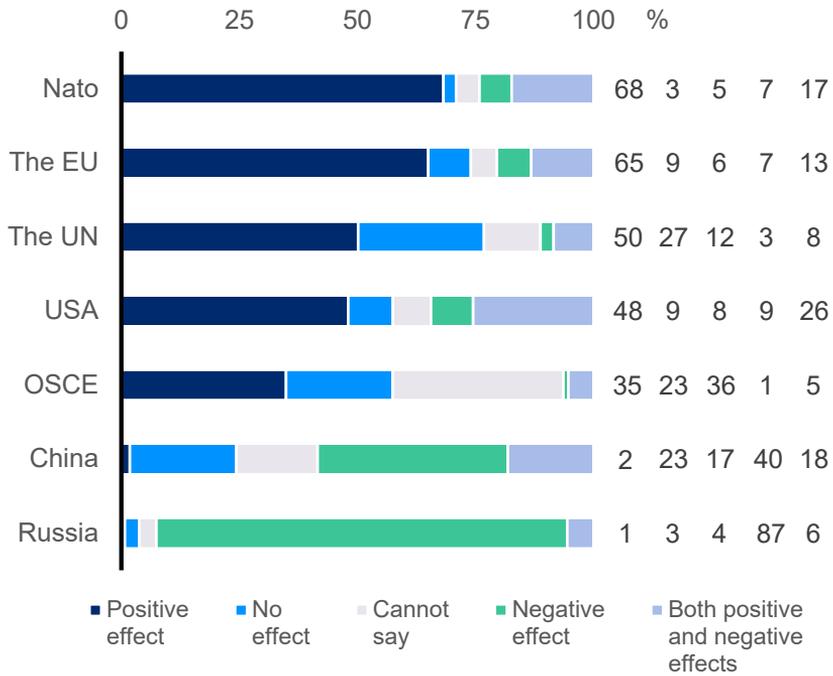
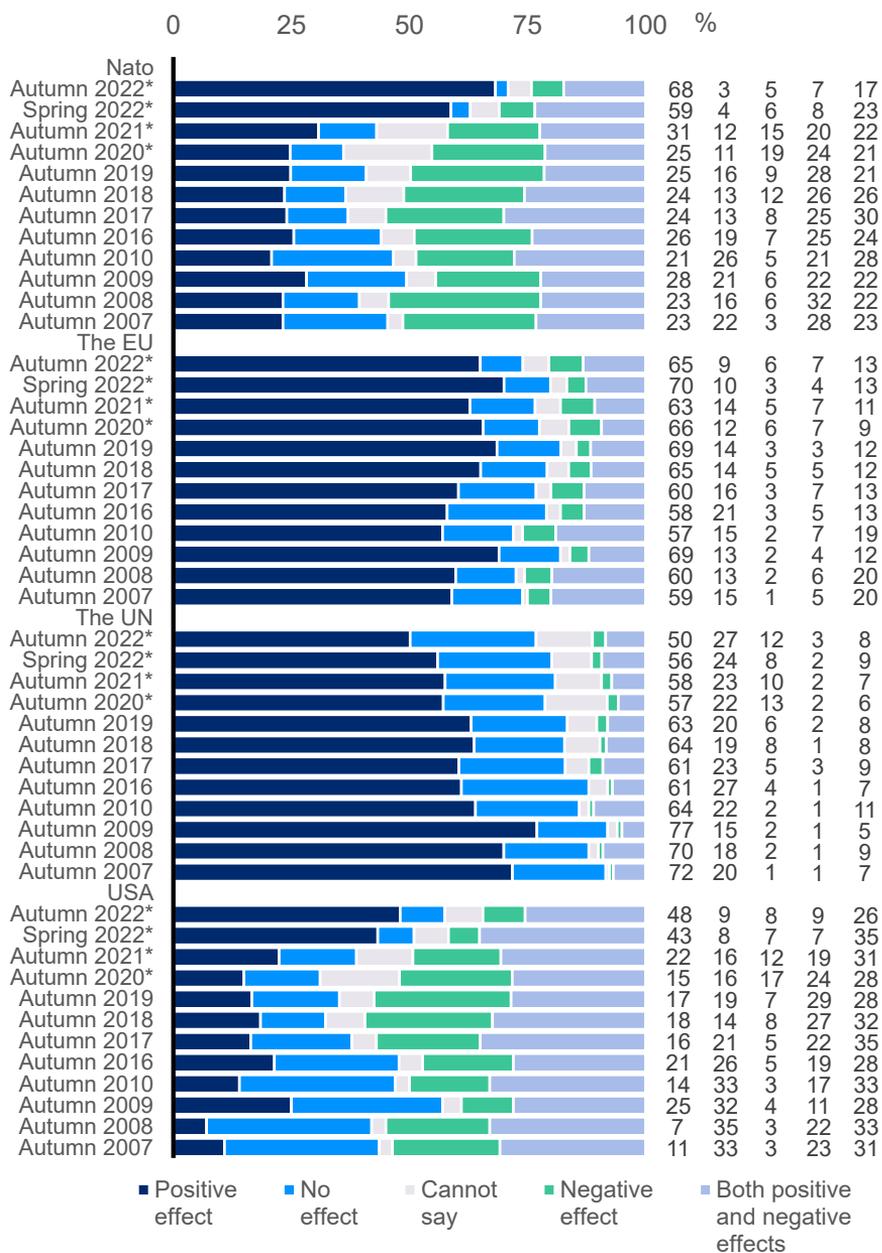
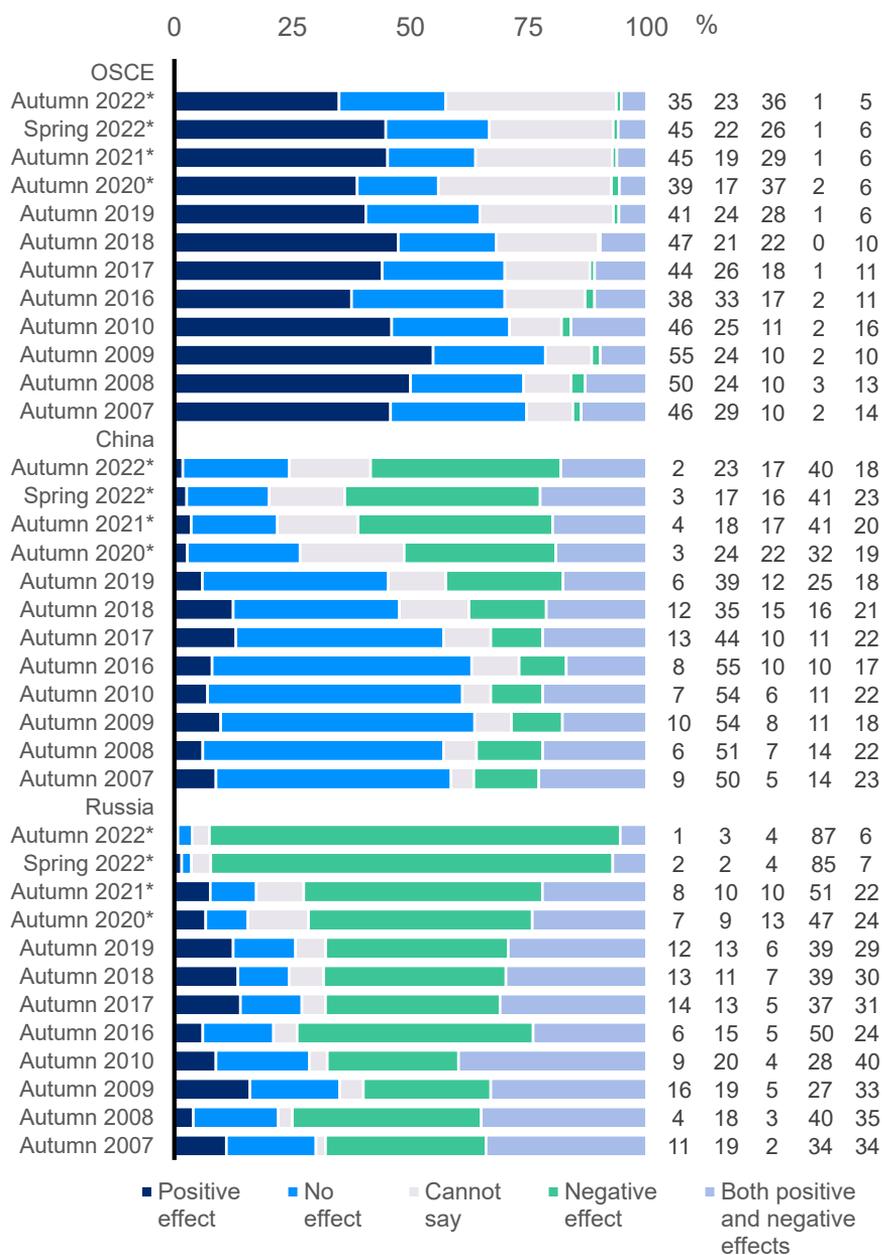


Figure 3. The impact of various factors on Finland's security (I). "How do you assess the impact of the following factors on Finland's security?"



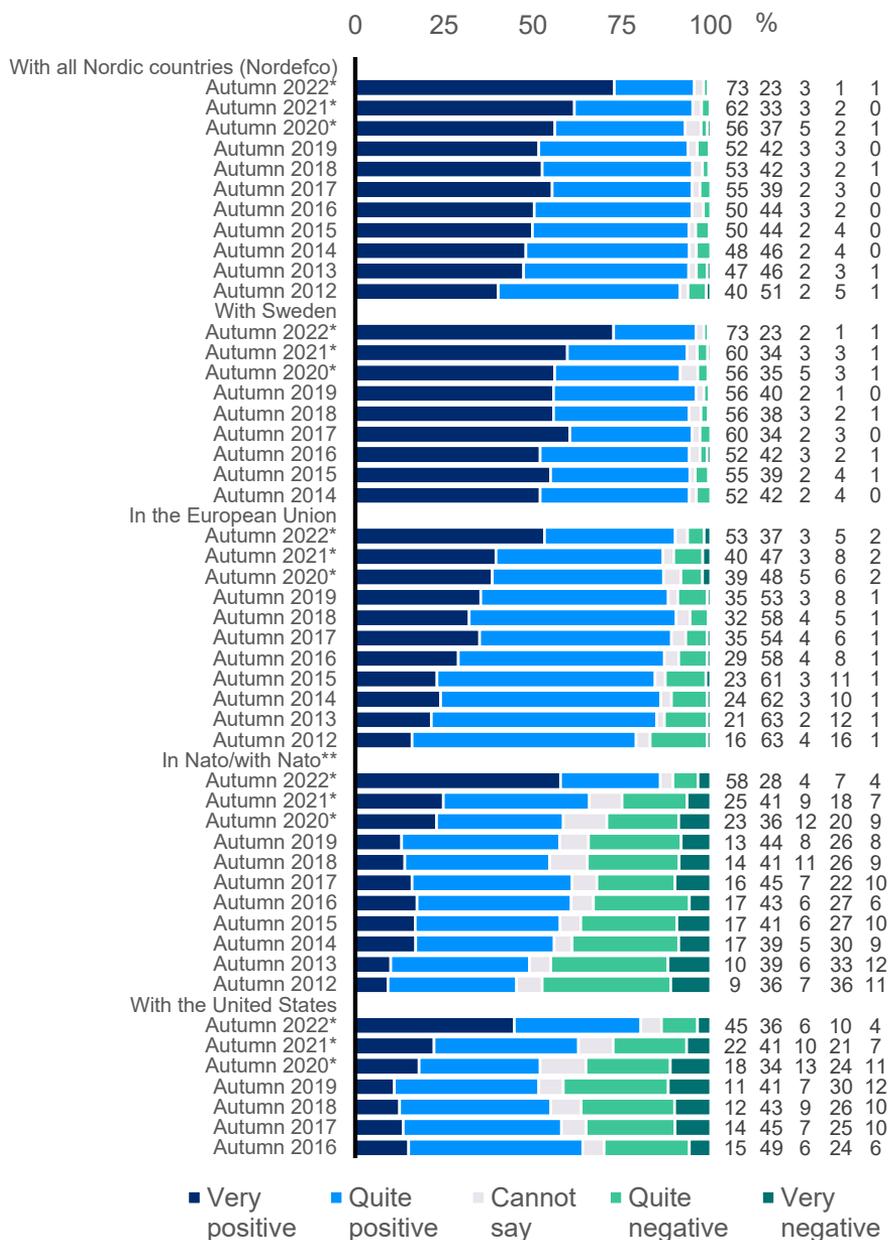
*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

Figure 4. 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 5. 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

***) 2012–2022 With Nato

Figure 6. Military cooperation with all Nordic countries (Nordefco). "Finland conducts military cooperation with all Nordic countries. What is your view on cooperation?"

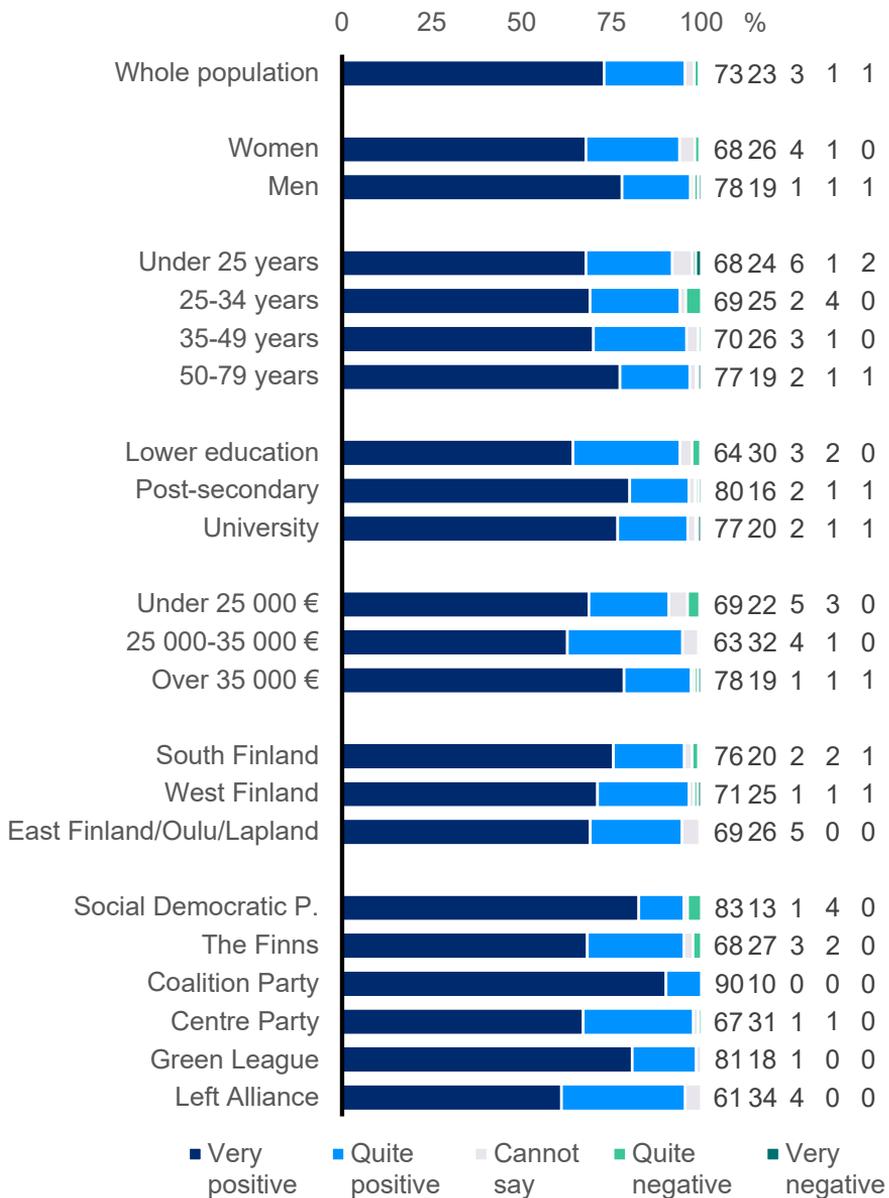


Figure 7. Military cooperation with Sweden. "Finland conducts military cooperation with Sweden. What is your view on cooperation?"

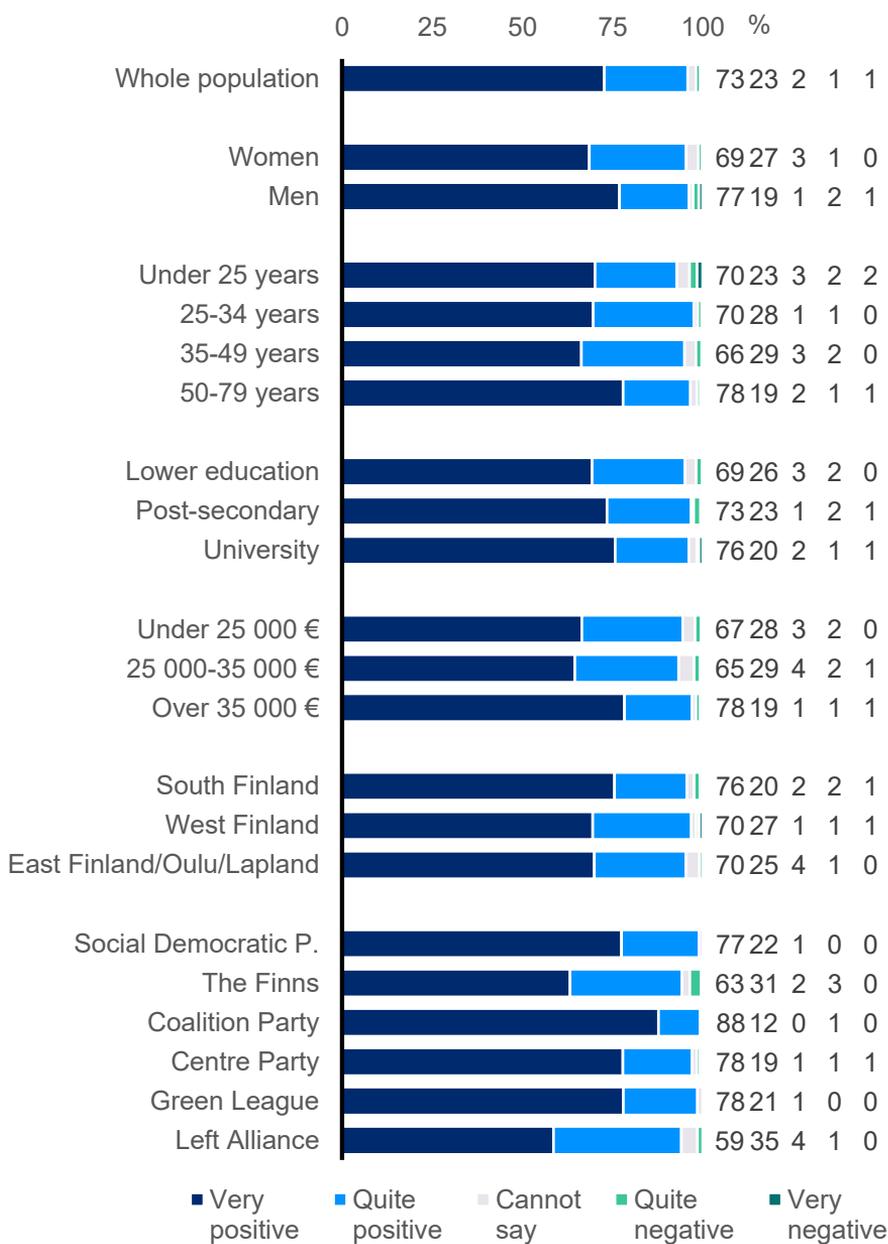


Figure 8. Military cooperation in the European Union. “Finland conducts military cooperation with the European union. What is your view on cooperation?”

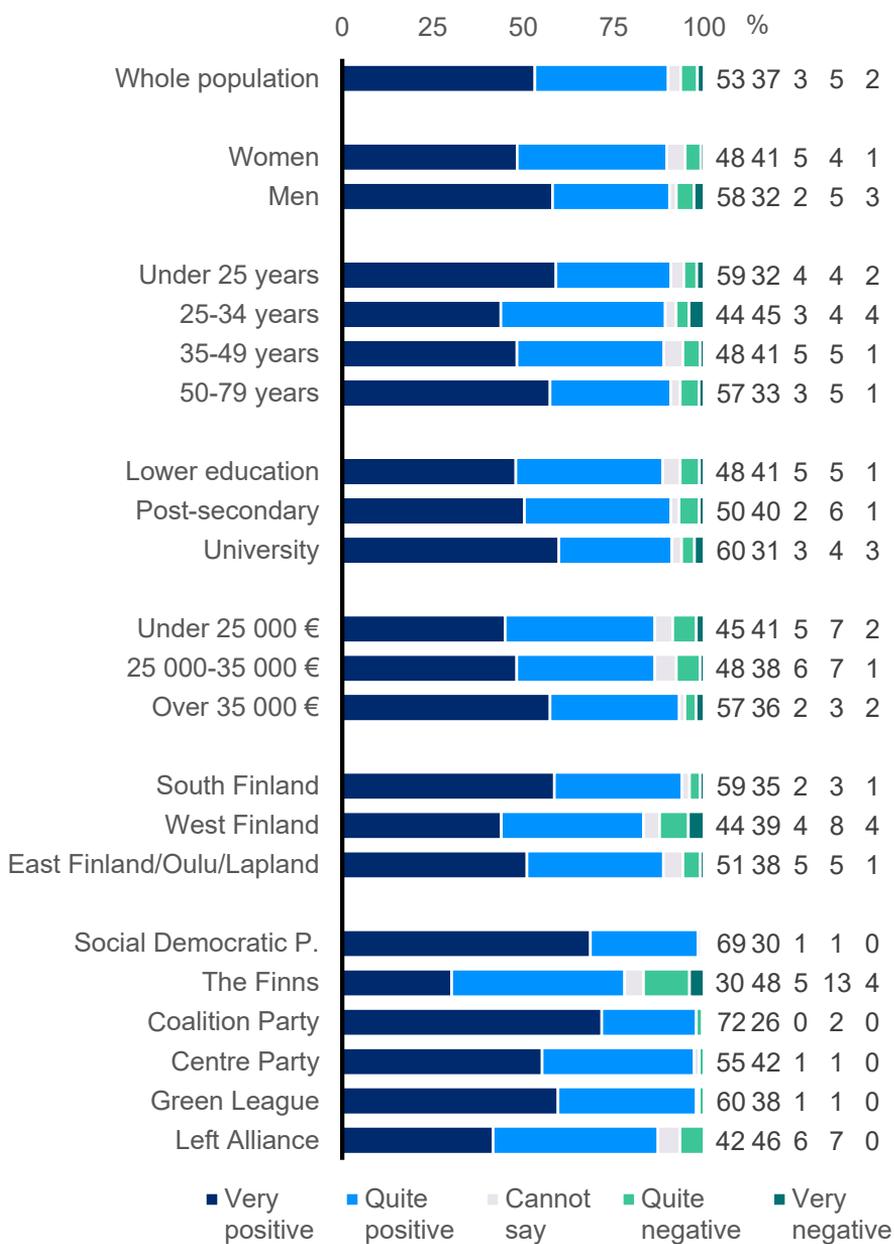


Figure 9. Military cooperation in Nato/with Nato. "Finland conducts military cooperation in Nato/with Nato. What is your view on cooperation?"

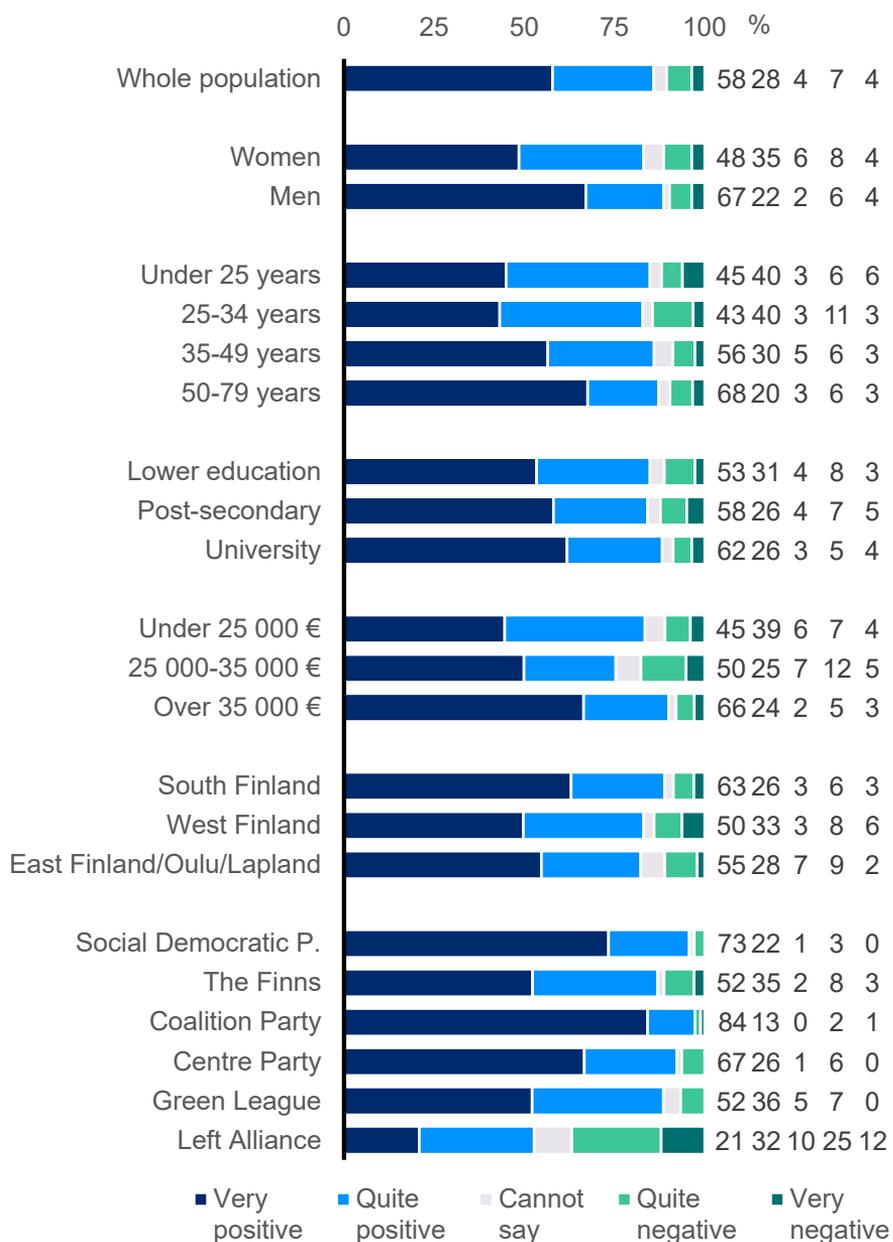


Figure 10. Military cooperation with the United States. “Finland conducts military cooperation with the United States. What is your view on cooperation?”

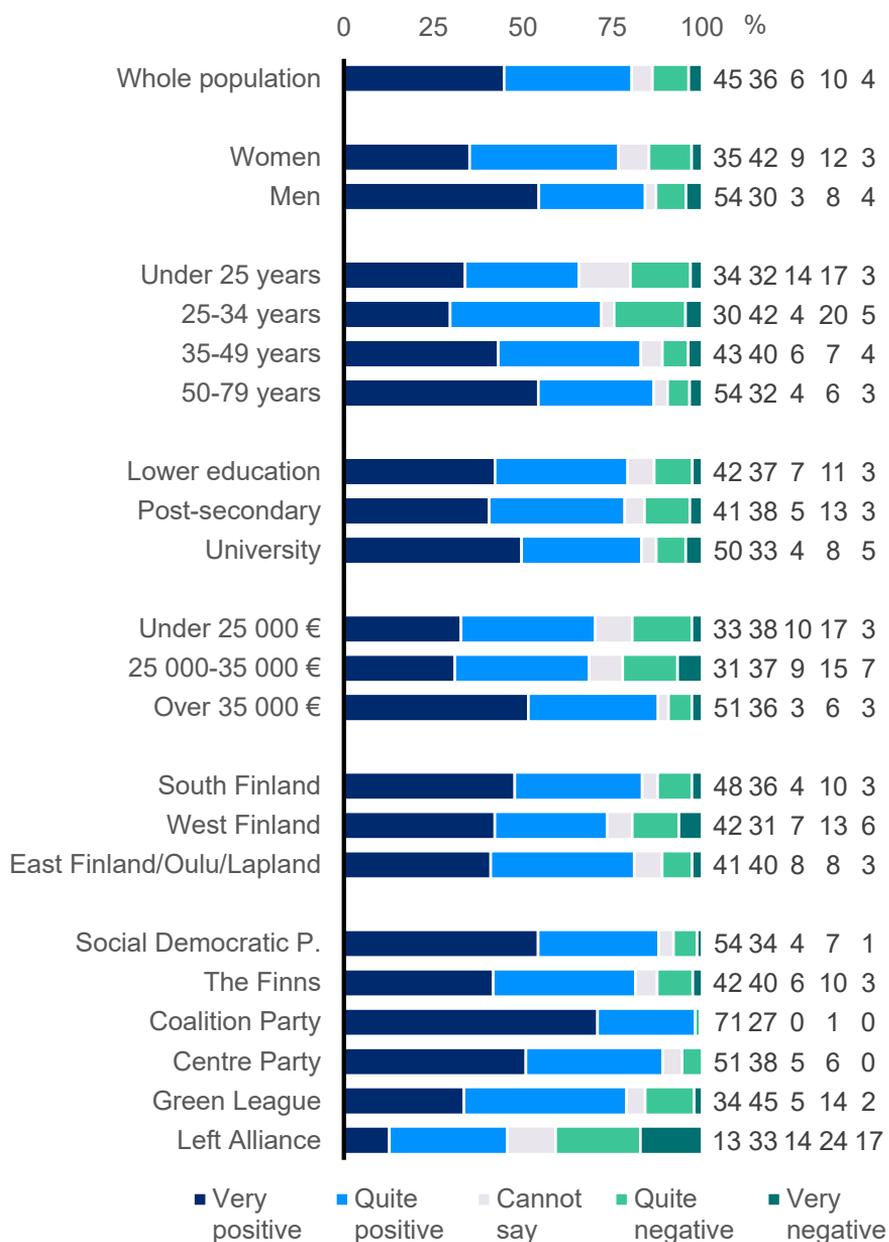


Figure 11. The conduct of defence policy in Finland. “In your opinion, how well or how poorly has Finland’s defence policy been conducted in recent years?”

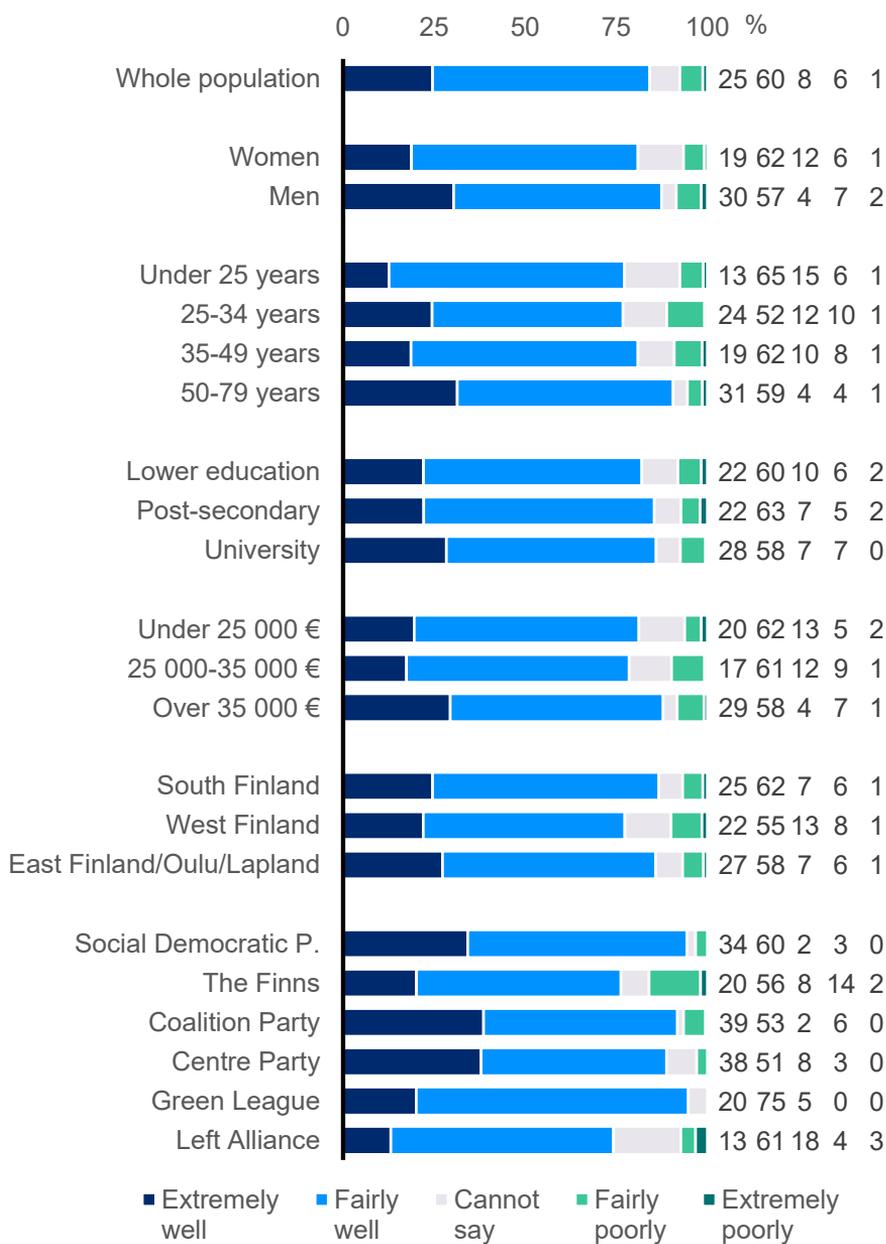
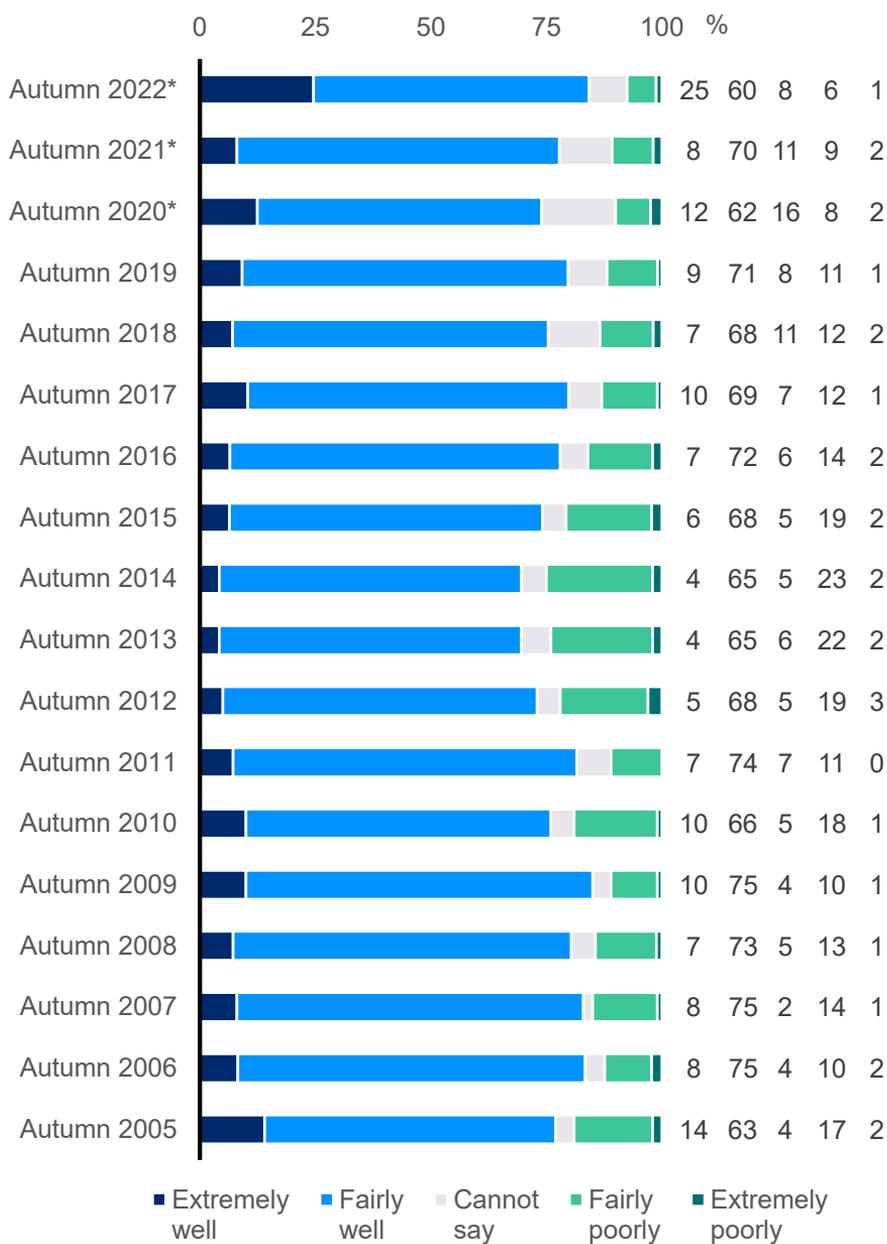


Figure 12. The conduct of defence policy in Finland. “In your opinion, how well or how poorly has Finland’s defence policy been conducted in recent years?”



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

Figure 13. 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?”

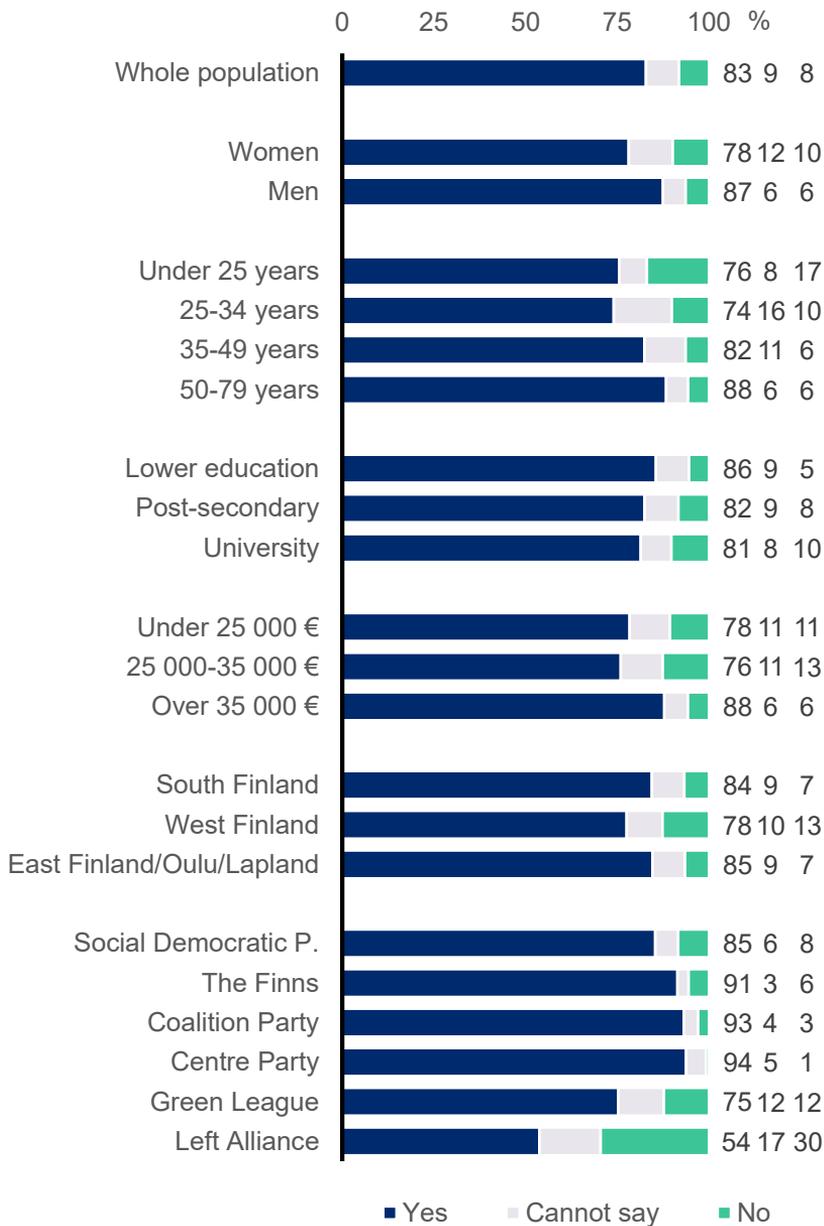
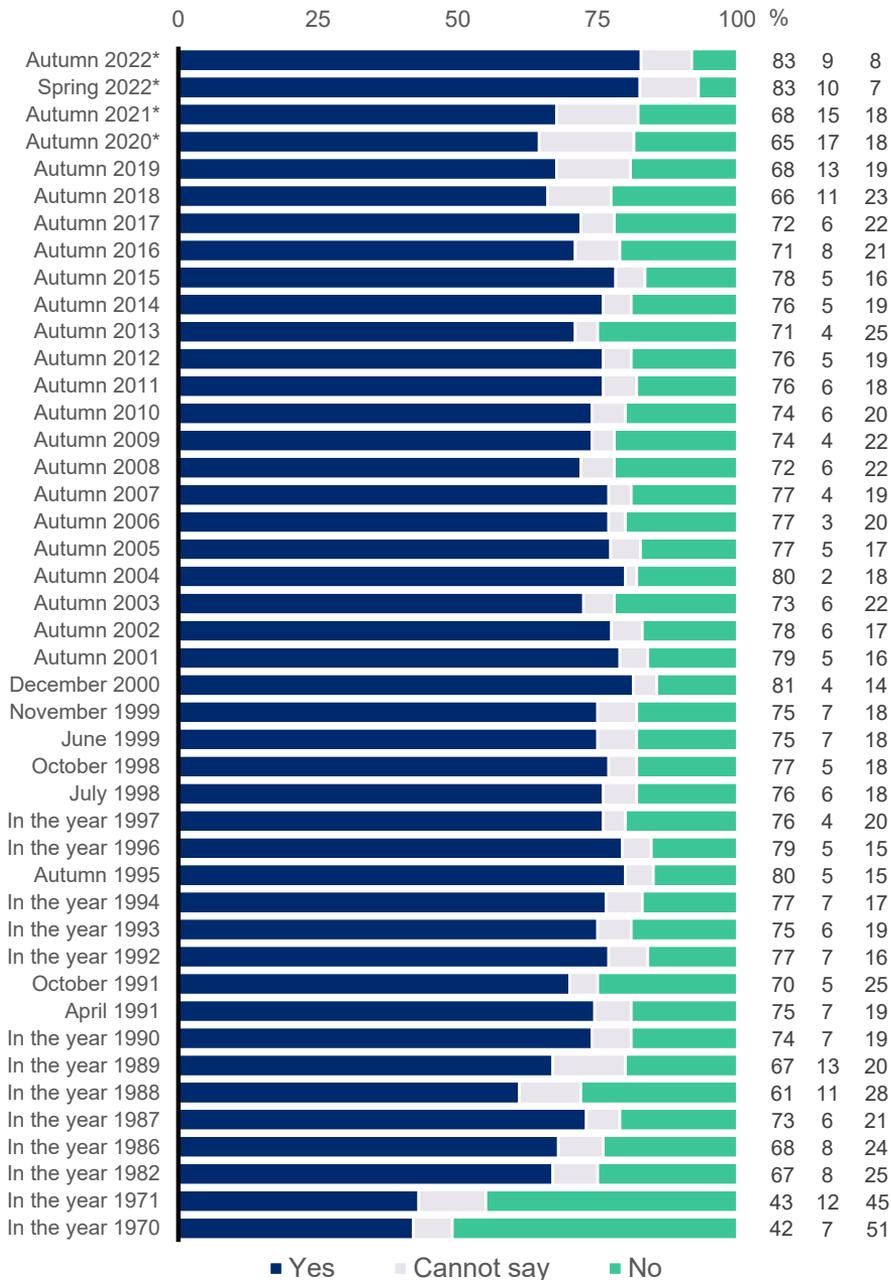


Figure 14. The will to defend the nation. “If Finland were attacked, should Finns, in your opinion, take up arms to defend themselves in all situations, even if the outcome seemed uncertain?”



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

Figure 15. 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?"

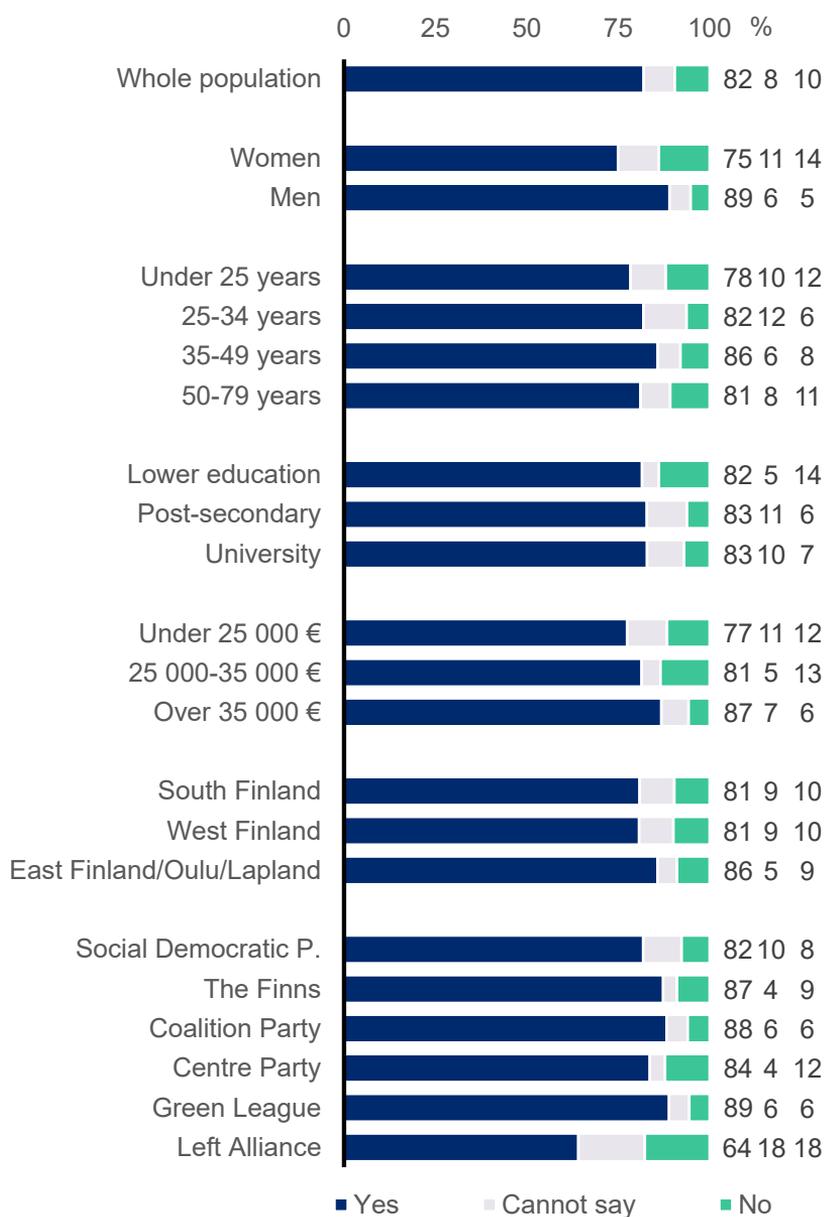
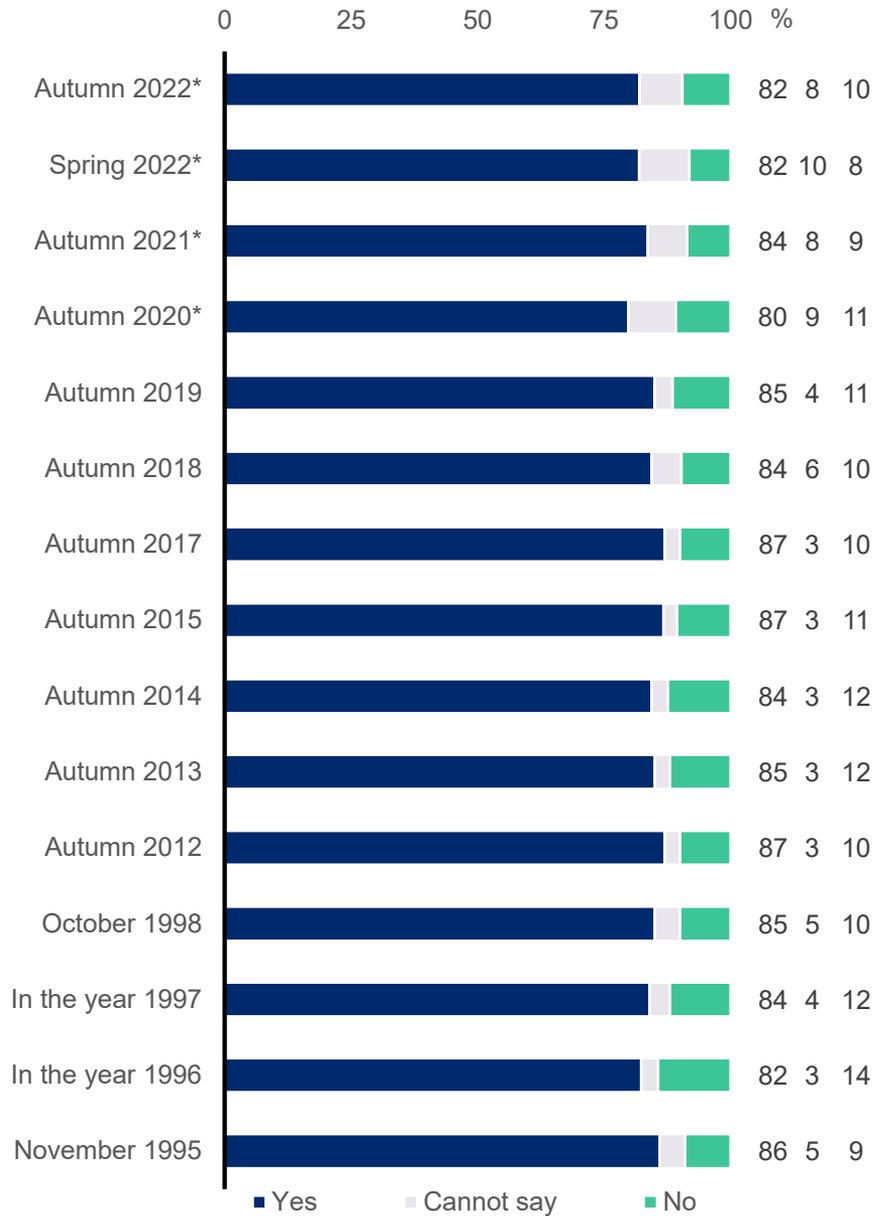


Figure 16. The will to defend the country (personal level). "If Finland is attacked, would you personally be ready to take part in national defence tasks according to your competences and skills?"



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

Figure 17. Defence appropriations. “What is your opinion on funds allocated to the Defence Forces?”

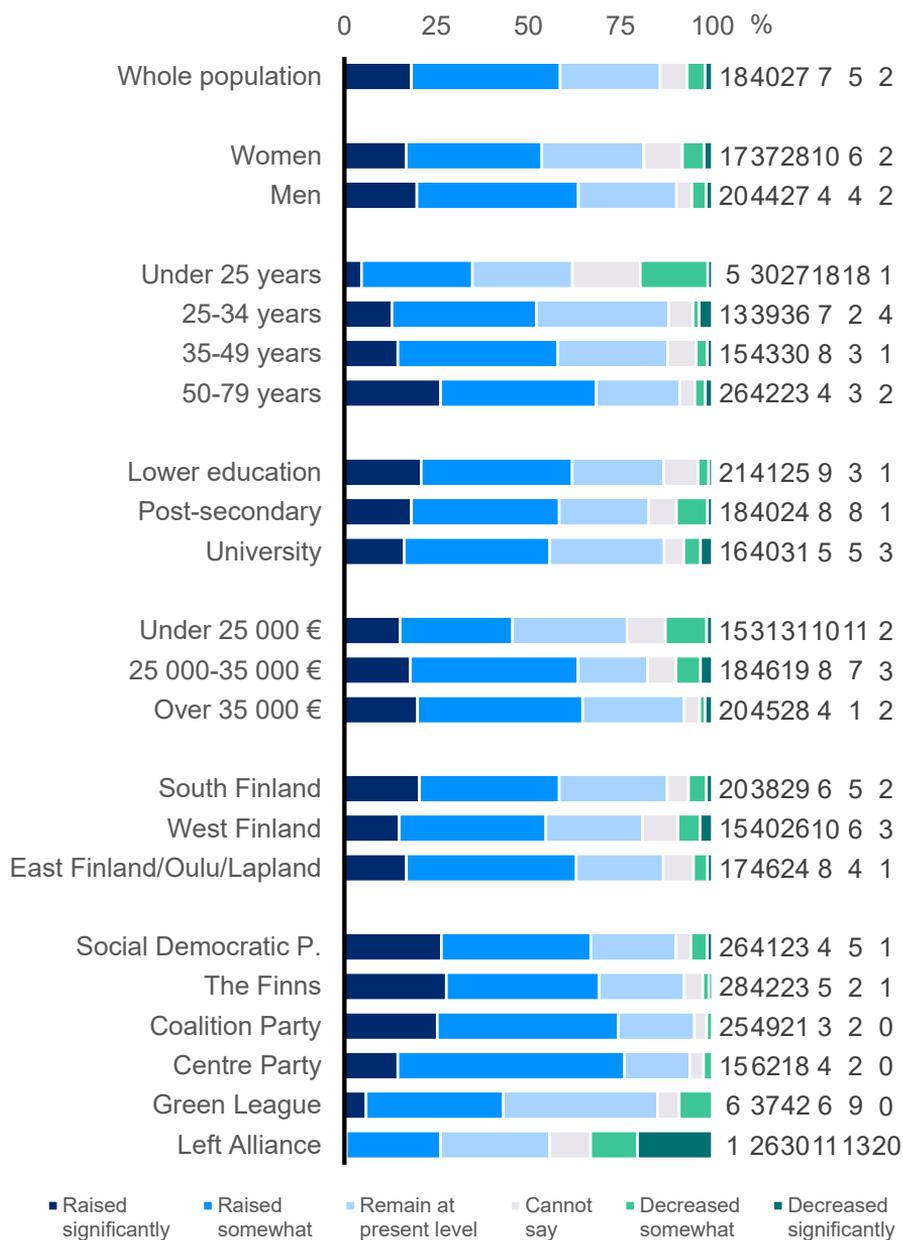
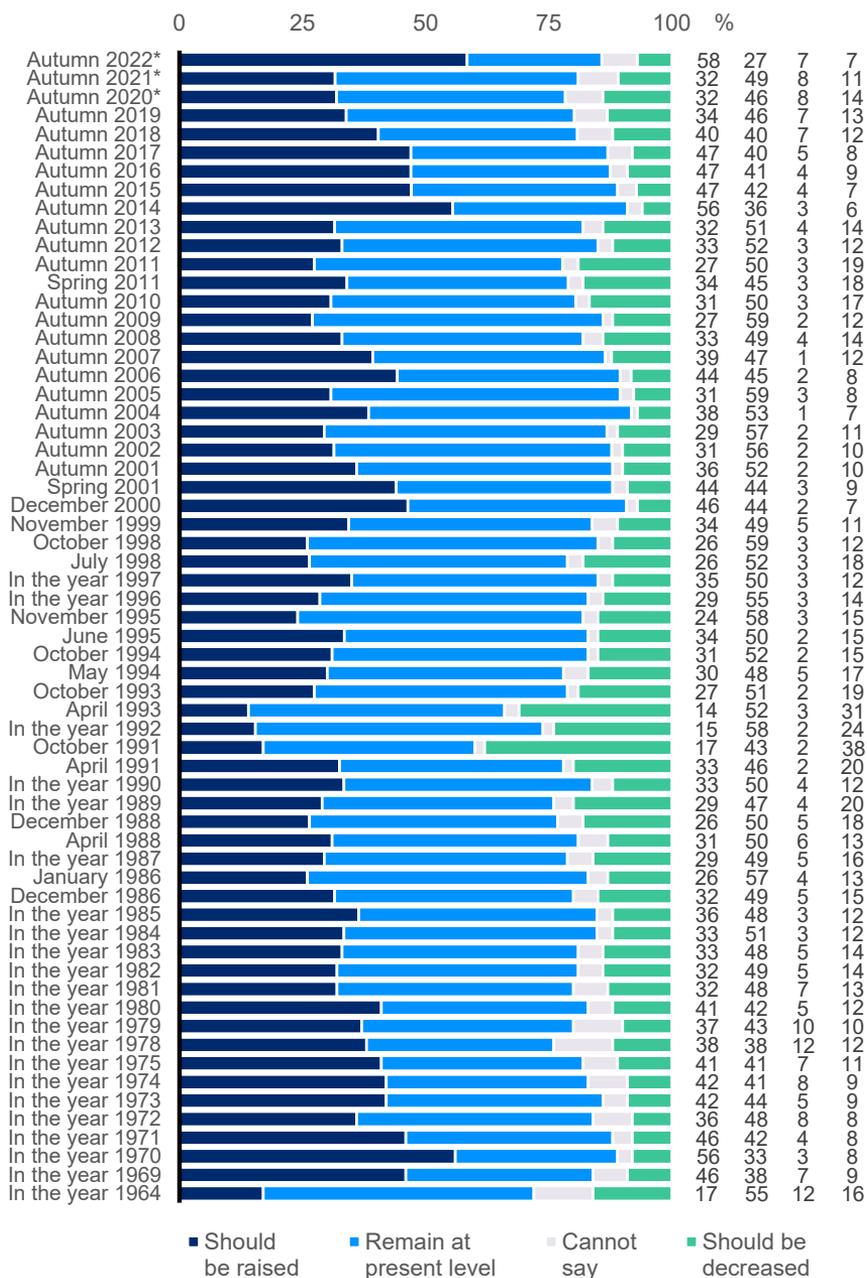
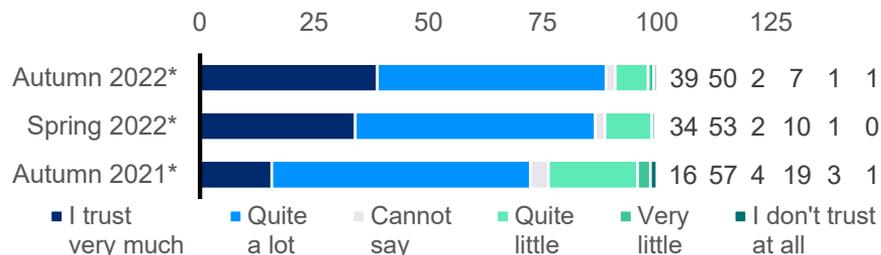


Figure 18. Defence appropriations. “What is your opinion on funds allocated to the Defence Forces?”



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

Figure 19. Confidence in Finland’s military defence capability. “Do you trust the Defence Forces’ ability to defend Finland against various military threats?”



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

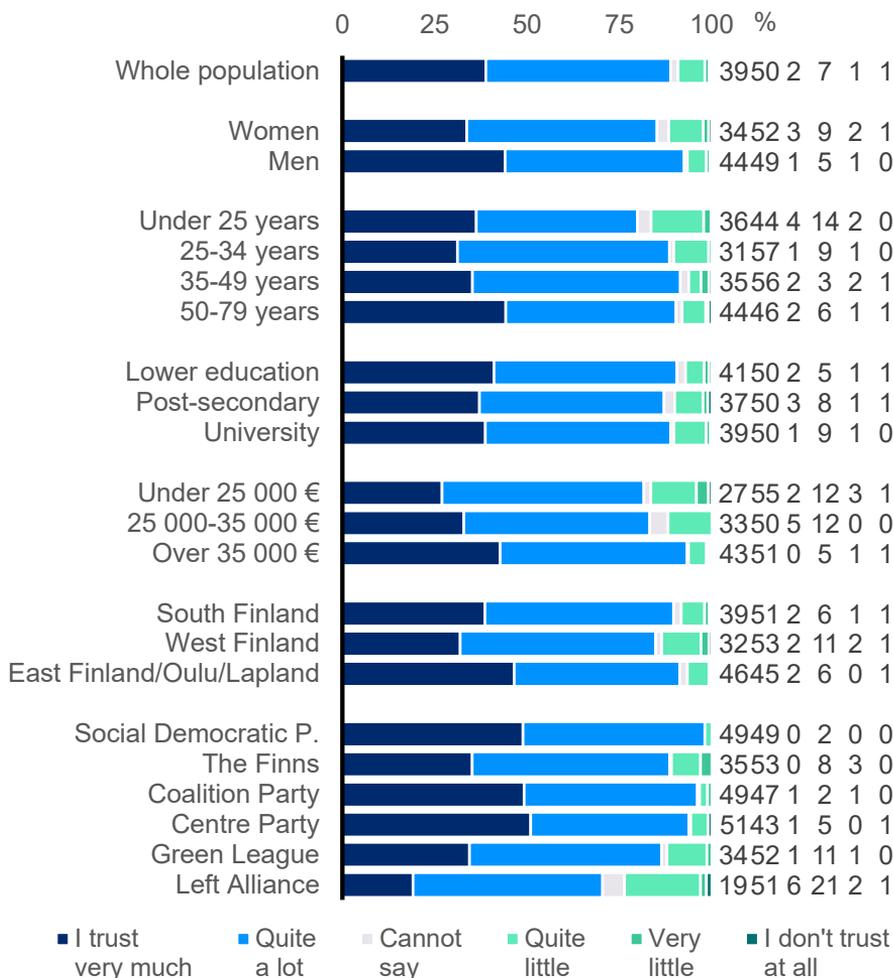


Figure 20. The conduct of Finnish foreign policy. "In your opinion, how well or how poorly has Finnish foreign policy been conducted in recent years?"

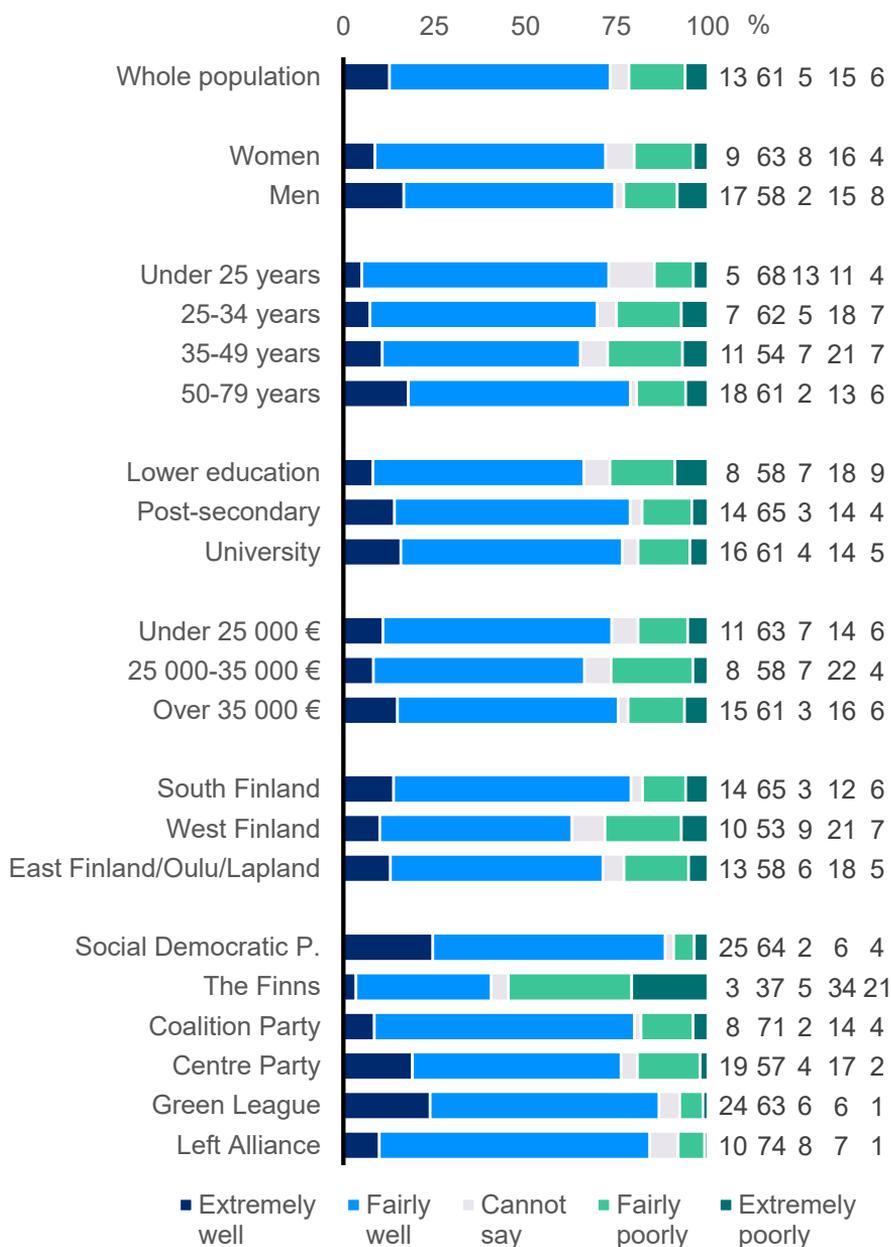
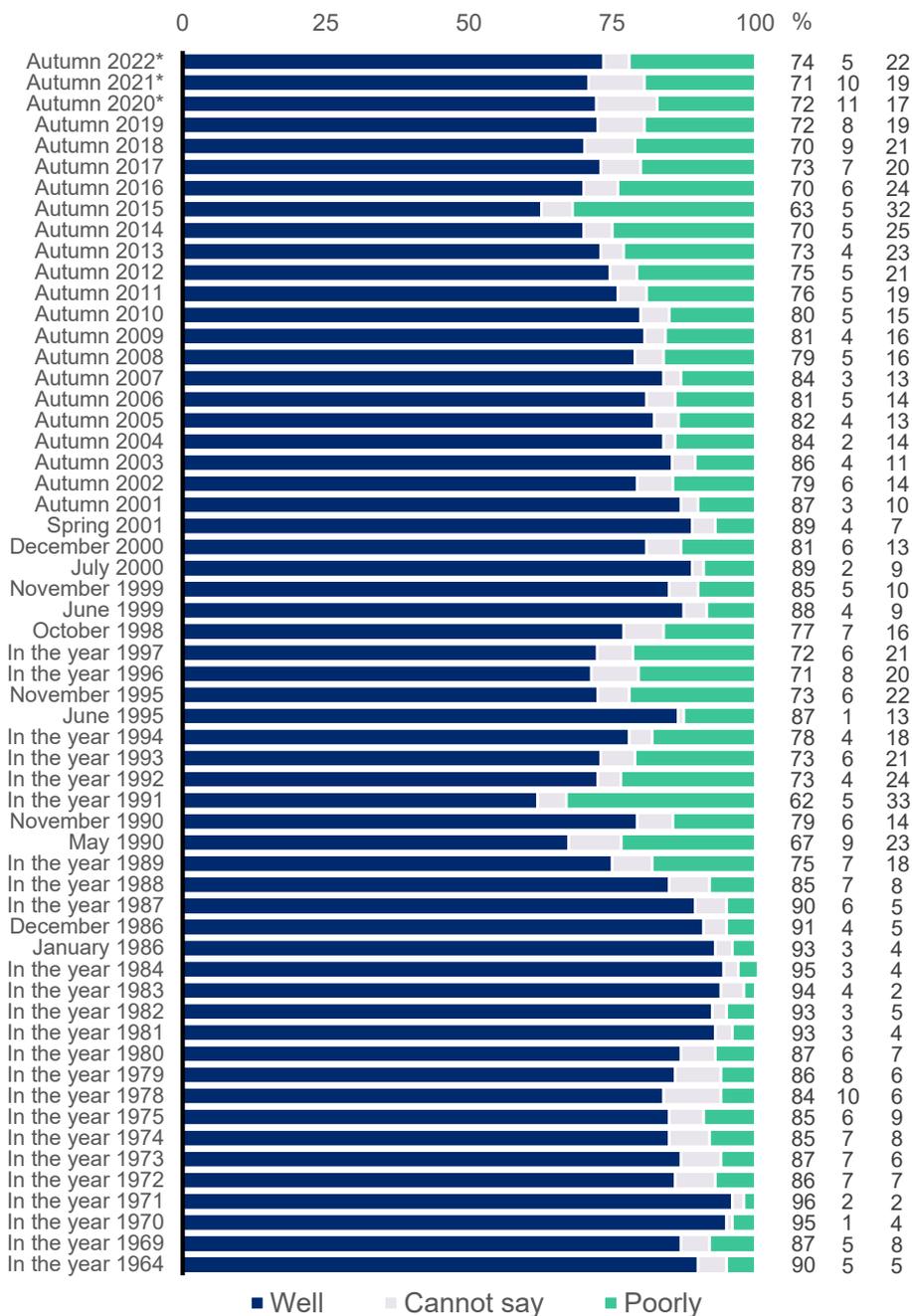
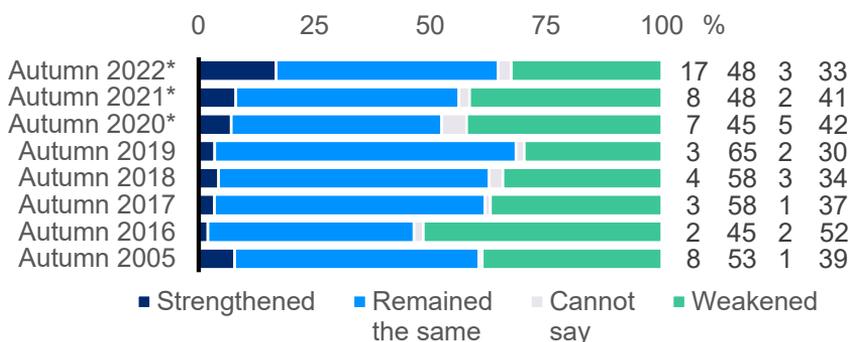


Figure 21. The conduct of Finnish foreign policy. "In your opinion, how well or how poorly has Finnish foreign policy been conducted in recent years?"



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

Figure 22. Confidence in the future of the European Union. “What kind of confidence do you have in the future of the European Union? In the last two years, has your confidence been strengthened, weakened or has it remained the same?”



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

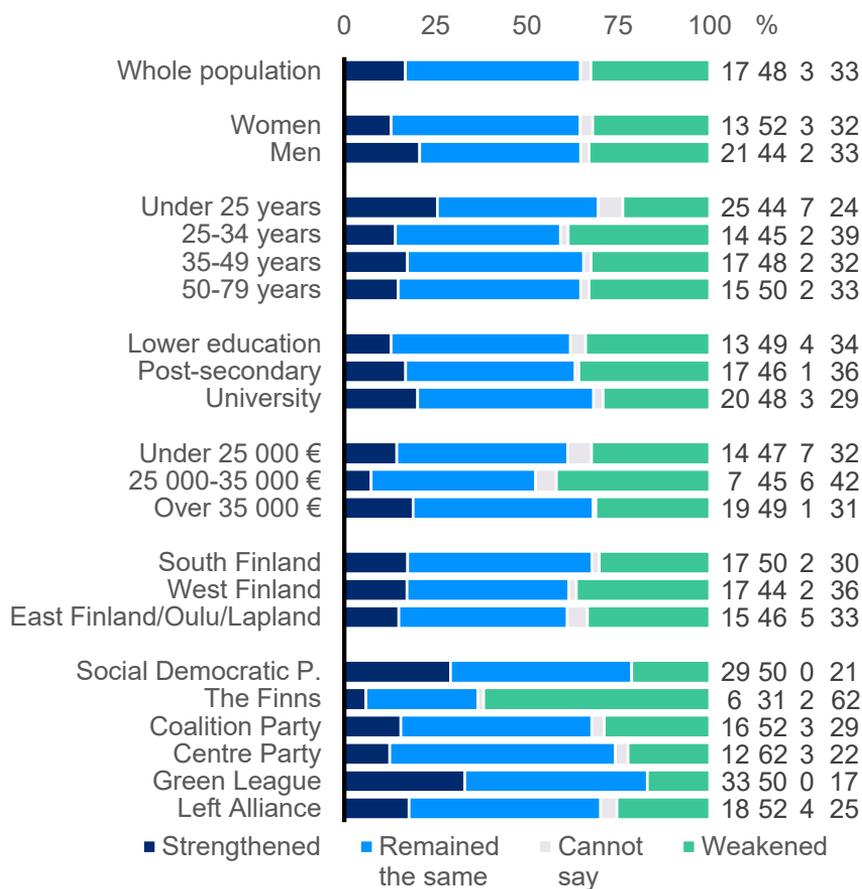
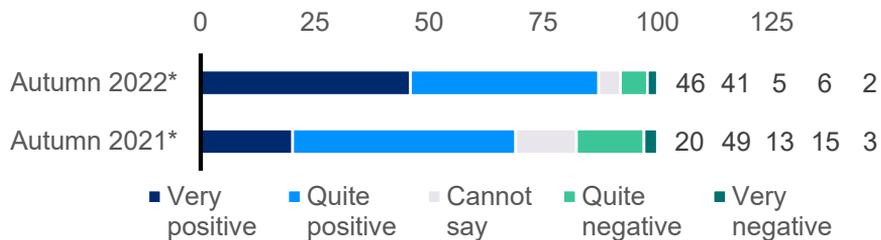


Figure 23. Cooperation between the European Union and NATO. “What is your view on the cooperation between the European Union and NATO to increase European security?”



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

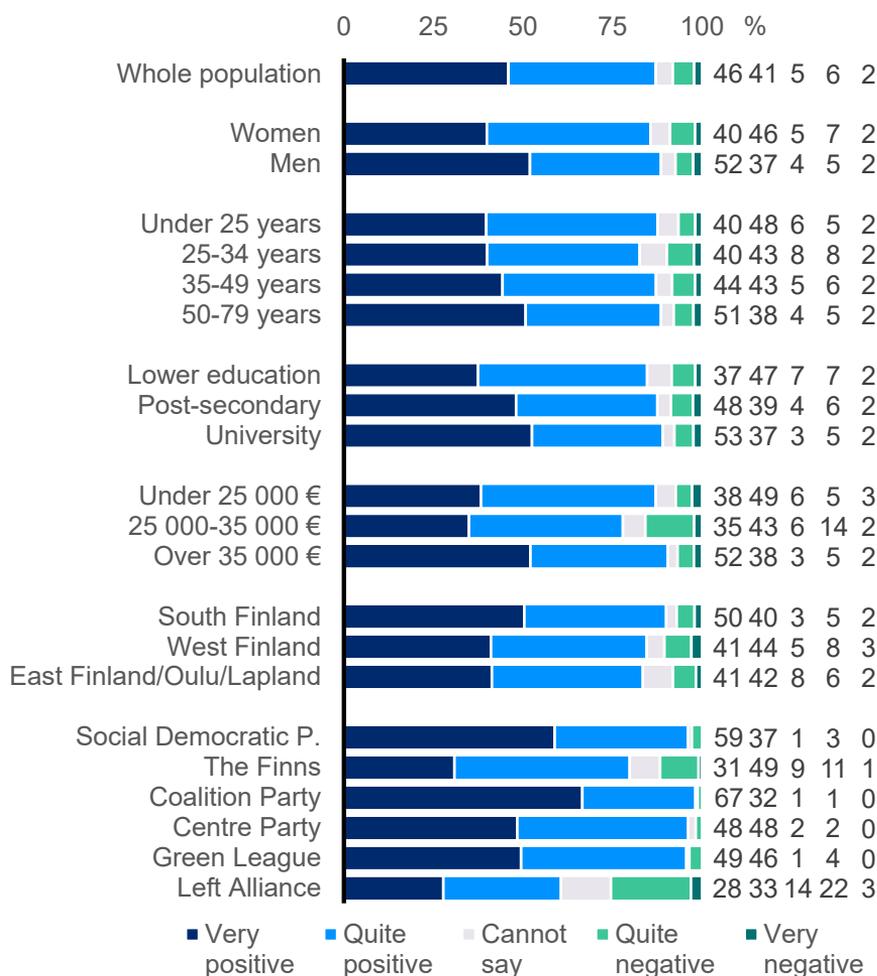


Figure 24. The military situation in Finland's near environs. "What is your estimate of the military situation in Finland's near environs during the next decade?"

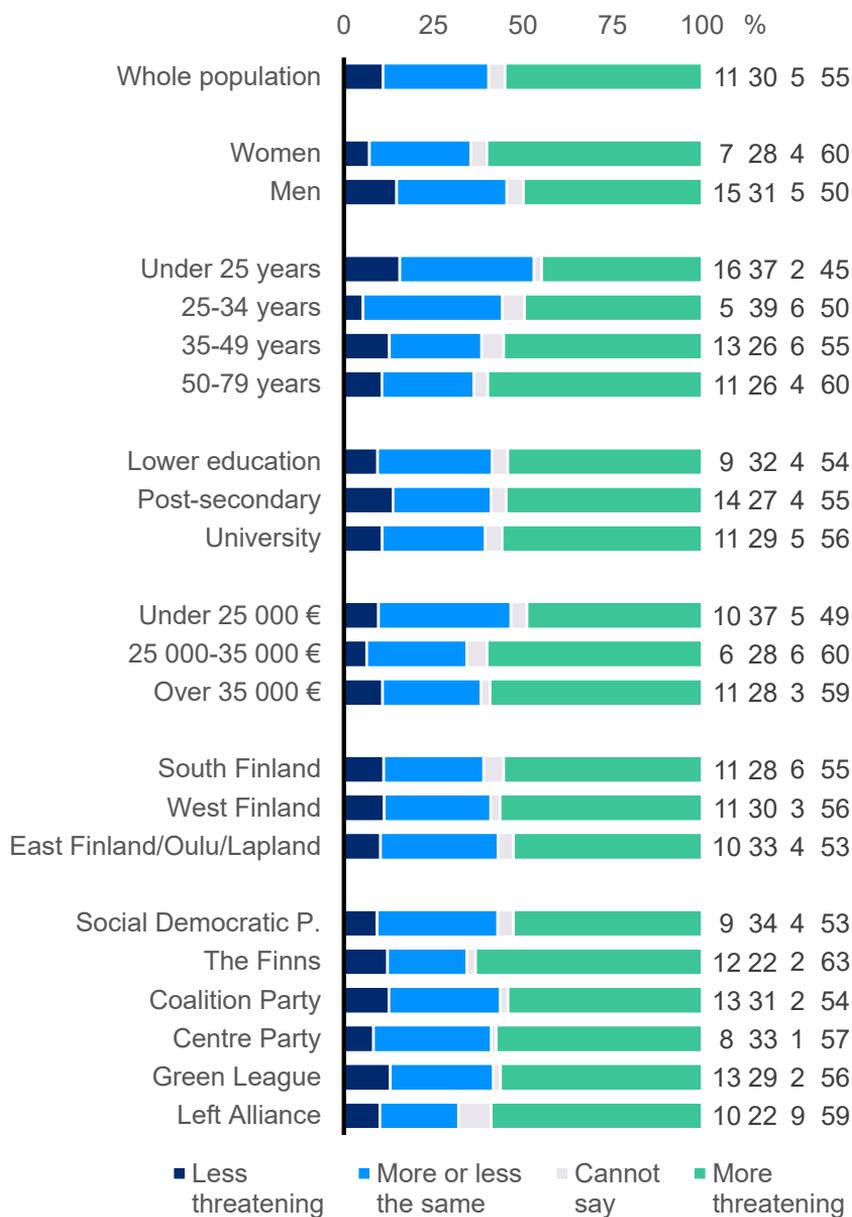
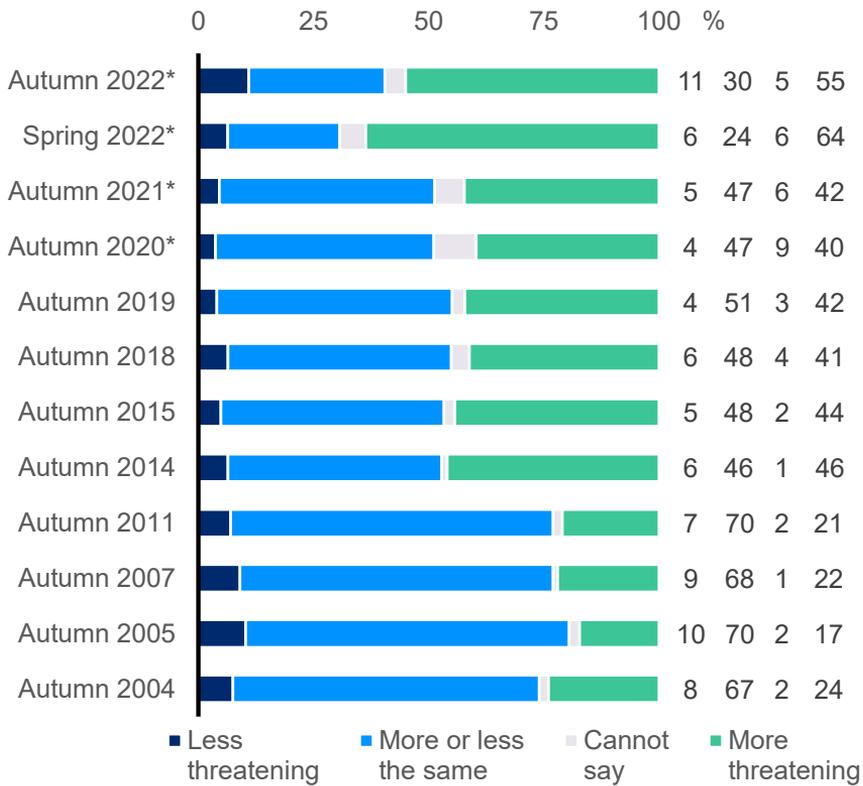


Figure 25. The military situation in Finland's near environs. "What is your estimate of the military situation in Finland's near environs during the next decade?"



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

Figure 26. Factors affecting security. “How do you assess the following phenomena and factors? How do they affect the security of Finland and Finns?”

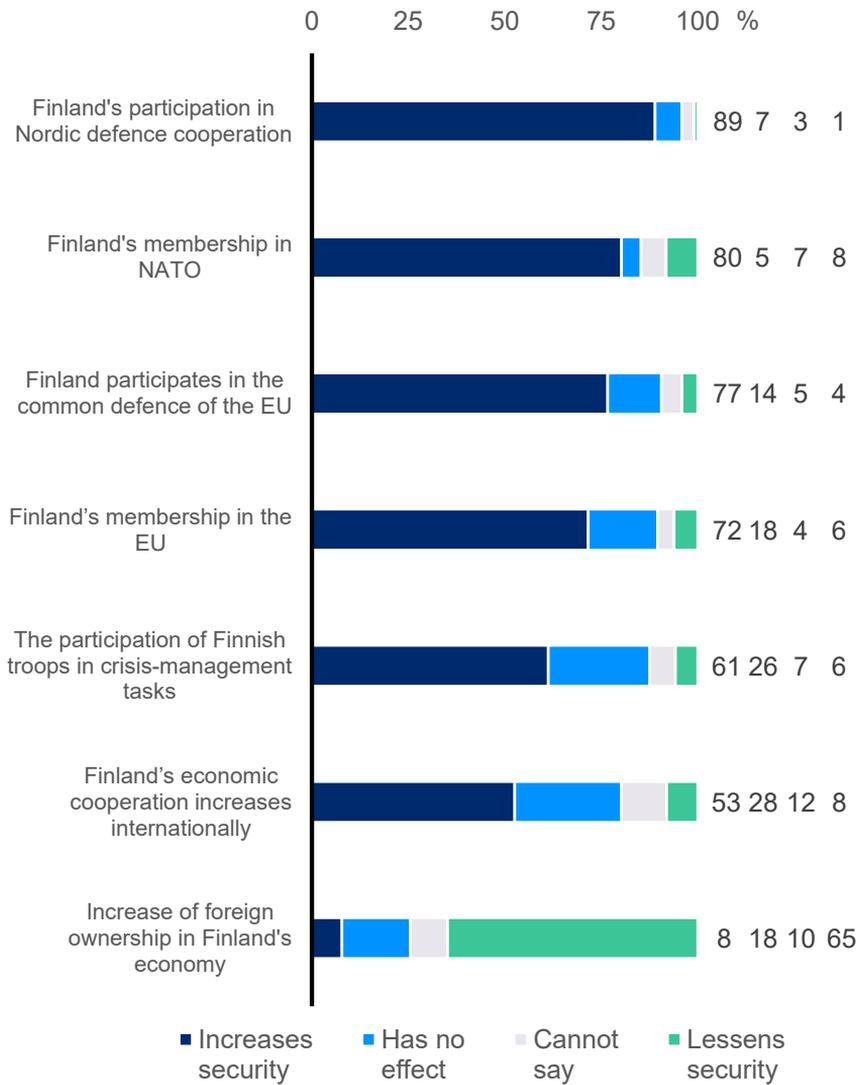
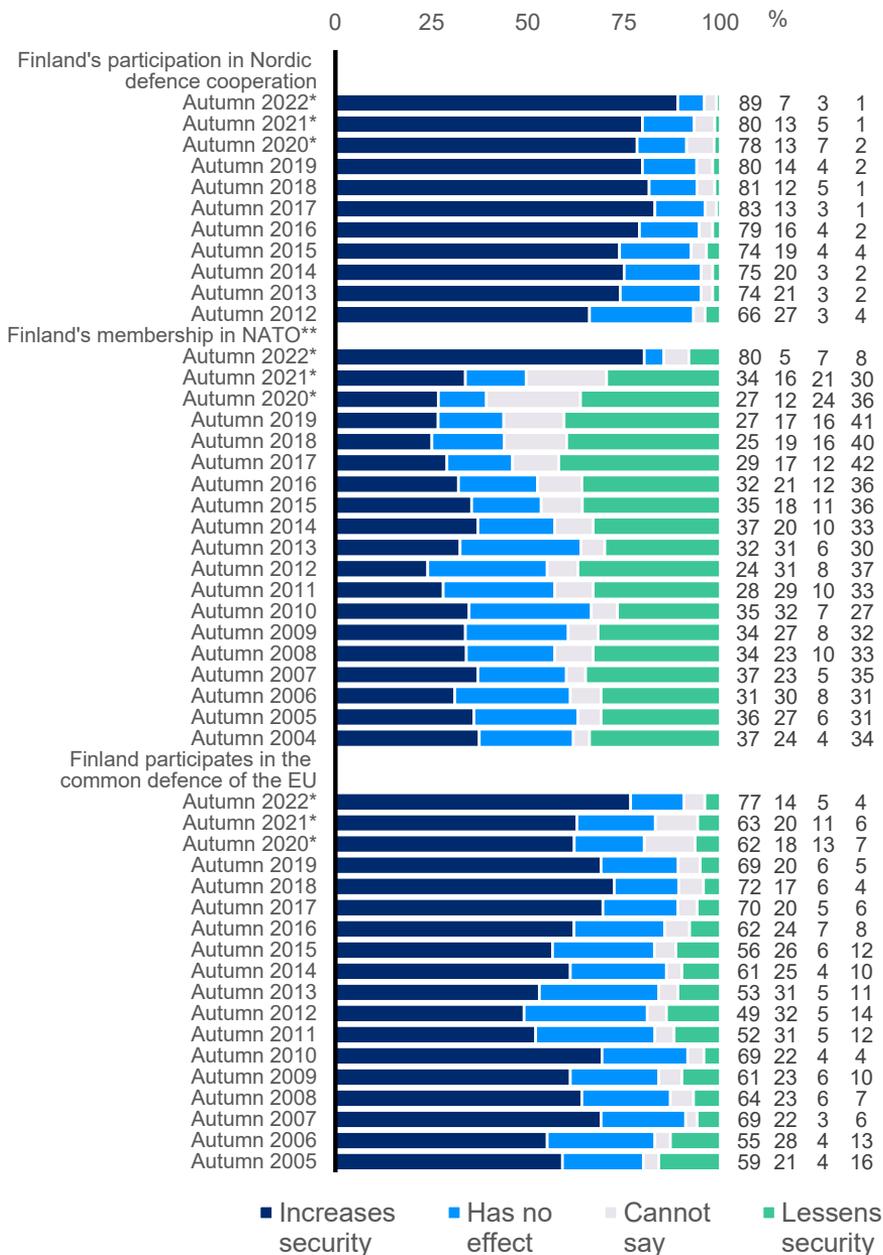


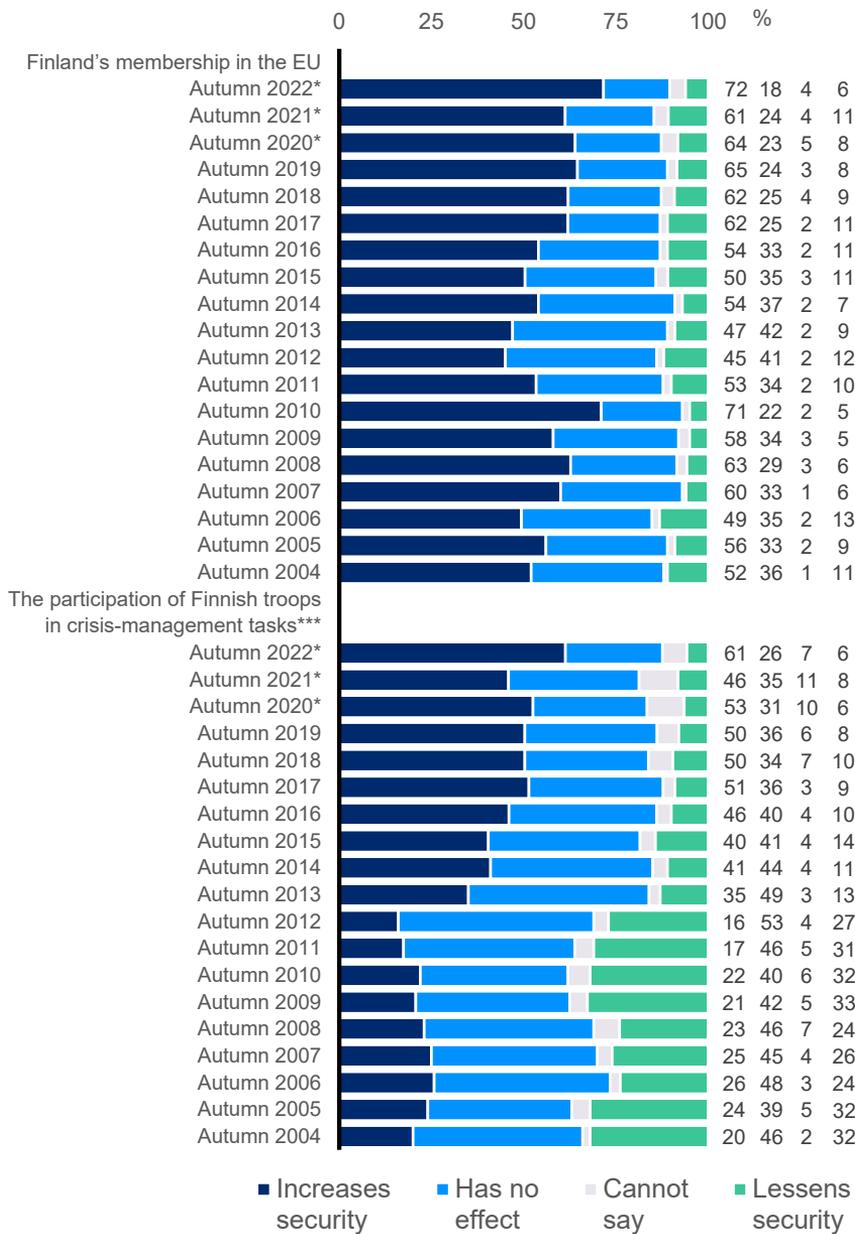
Figure 27. Factors affecting security (I). “How do you assess the following phenomena and factors? How do they affect the security of Finland and Finns?”



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

**) 2004–2021 Finland's possible membership in Nato

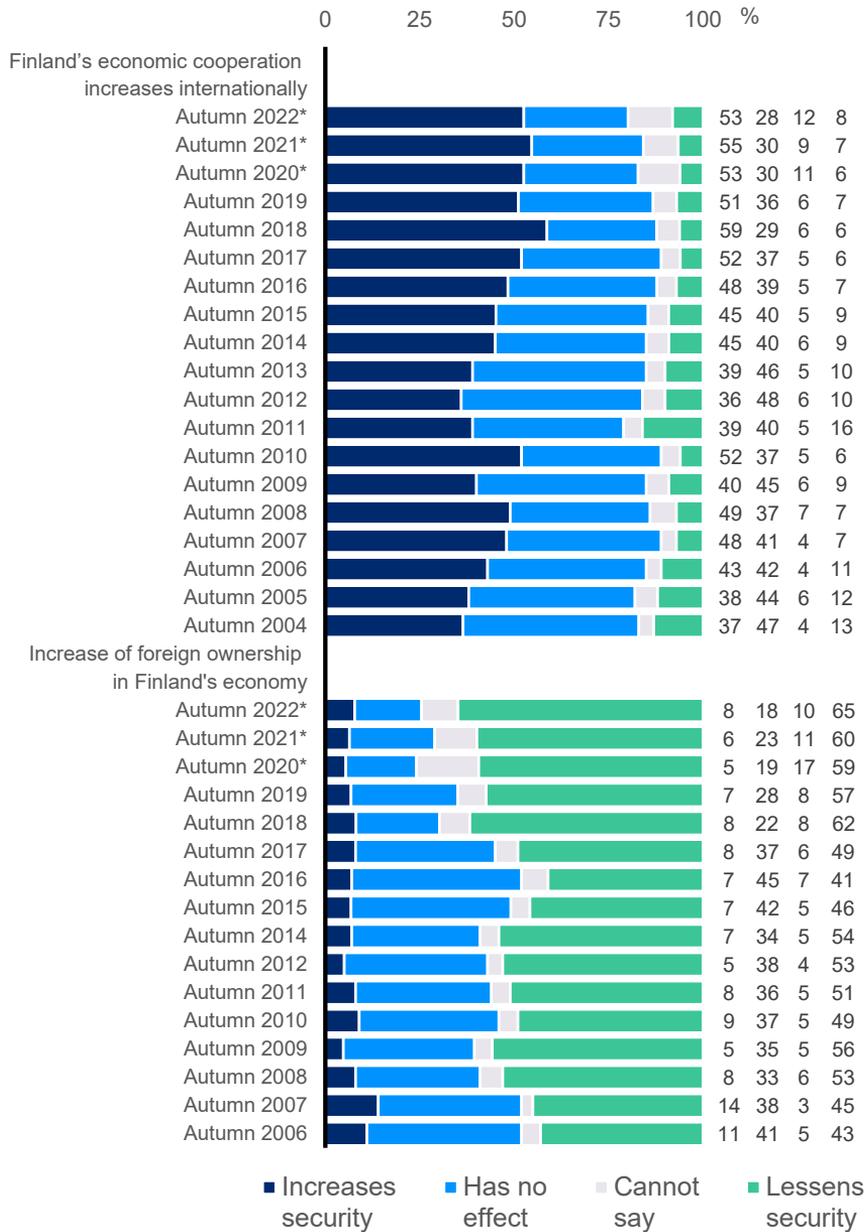
Figure 28. Factors affecting security (II). “How do you assess the following phenomena and factors? How do they affect the security of Finland and Finns?”



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

***) 2004–2012 The participation of Finnish troops in crisis-management tasks in war zones

Figure 29. Factors affecting security (III). “How do you assess the following phenomena and factors? How do they affect the security of Finland and Finns?”



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

Figure 30. Factors causing concern among the citizens. “How would you assess the following phenomena and actors? To what extent do they make you worry about the future?”

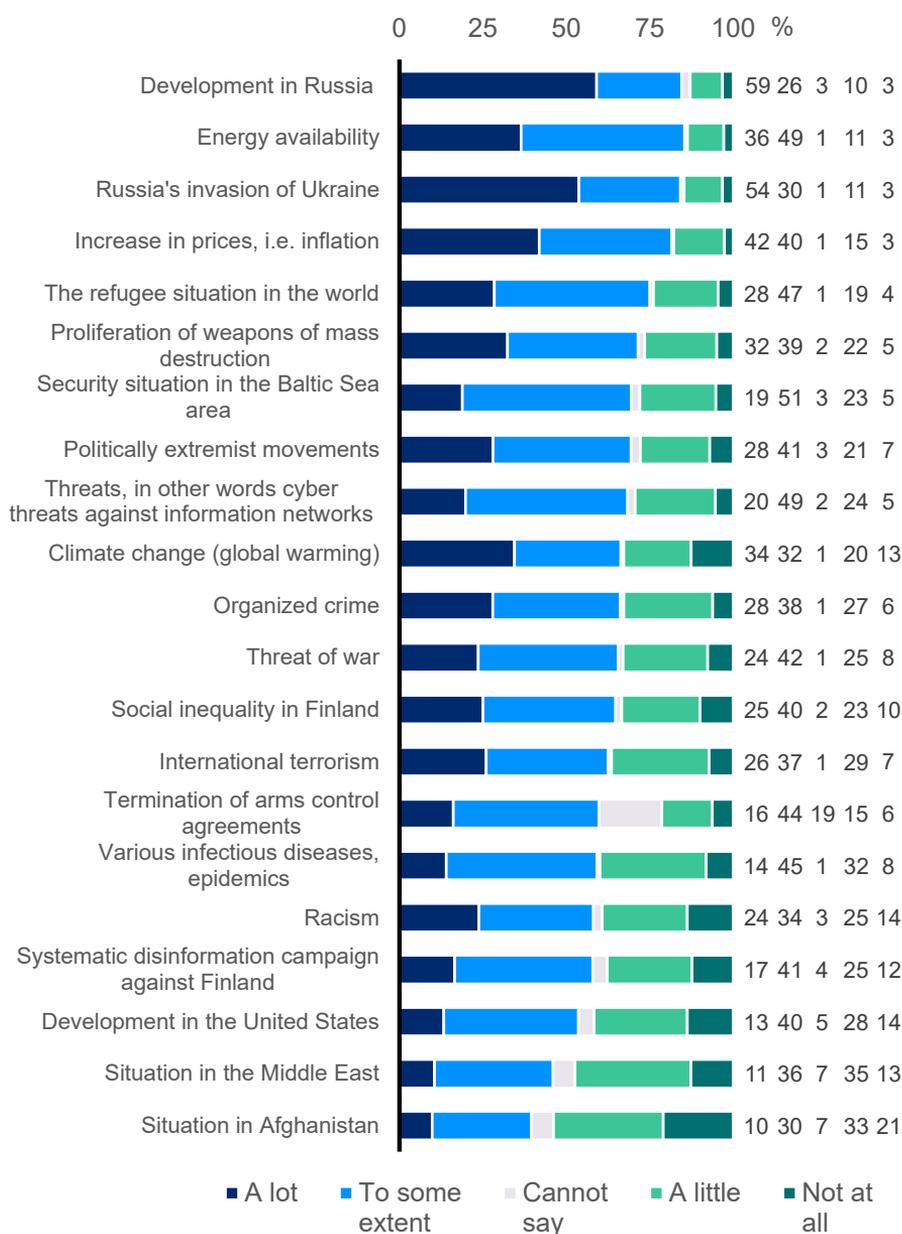
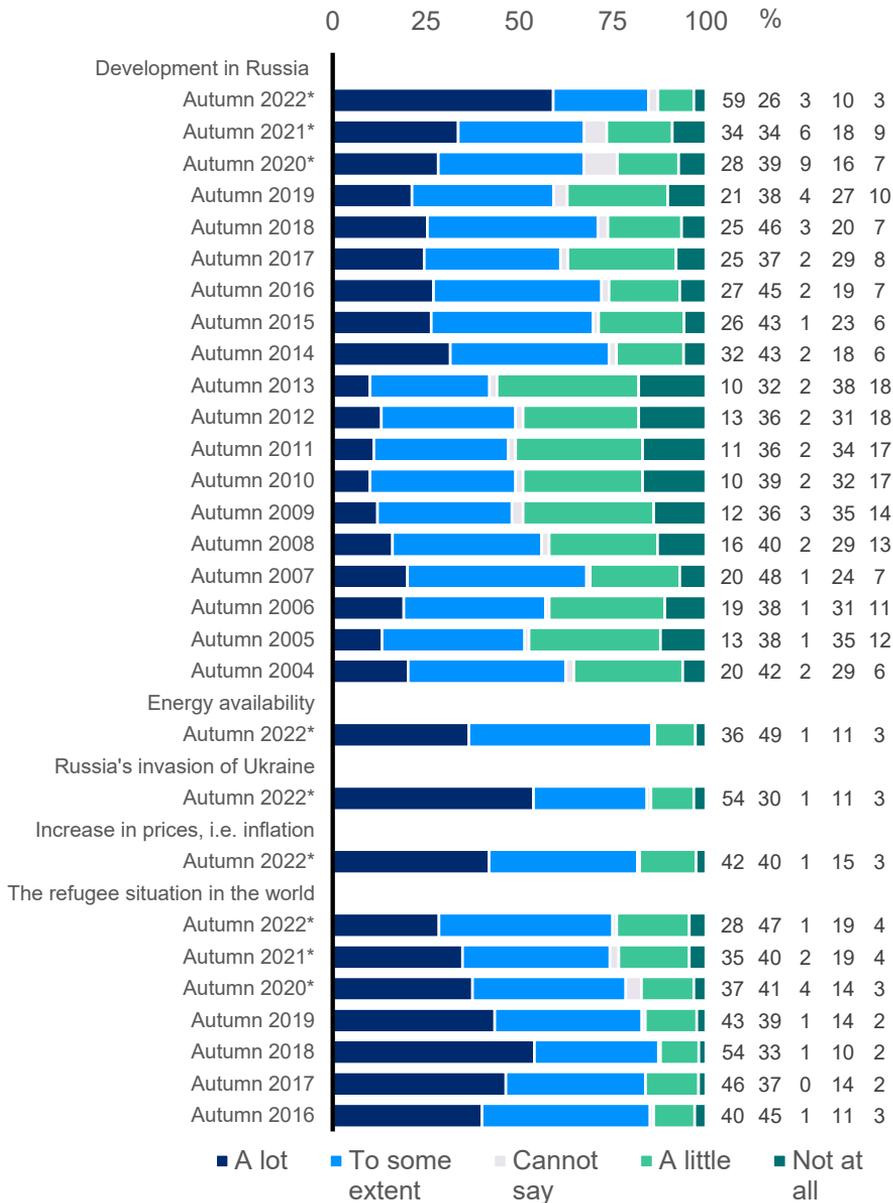
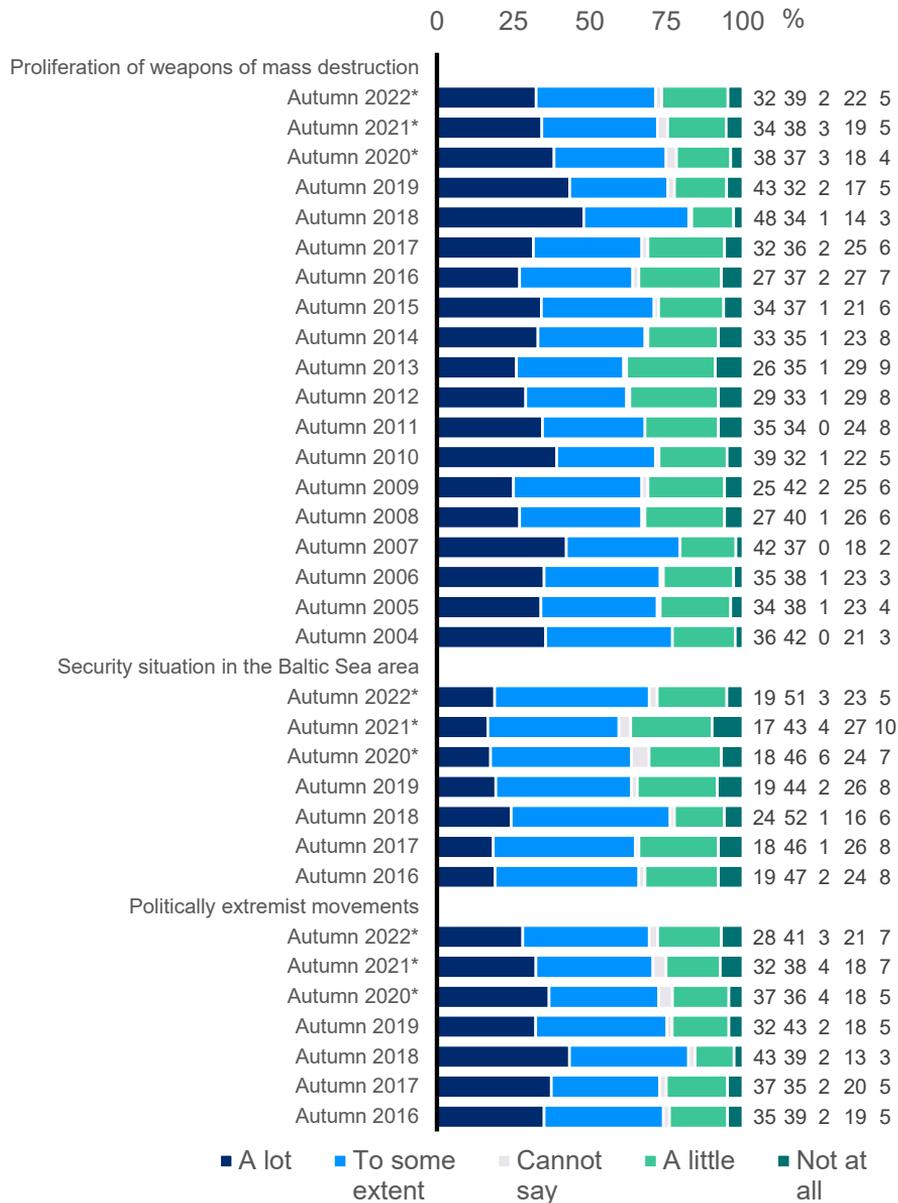


Figure 31. Factors causing concern among the citizens (I). "How would you assess the following phenomena and actors? To what extent do they make you worry about the future?"



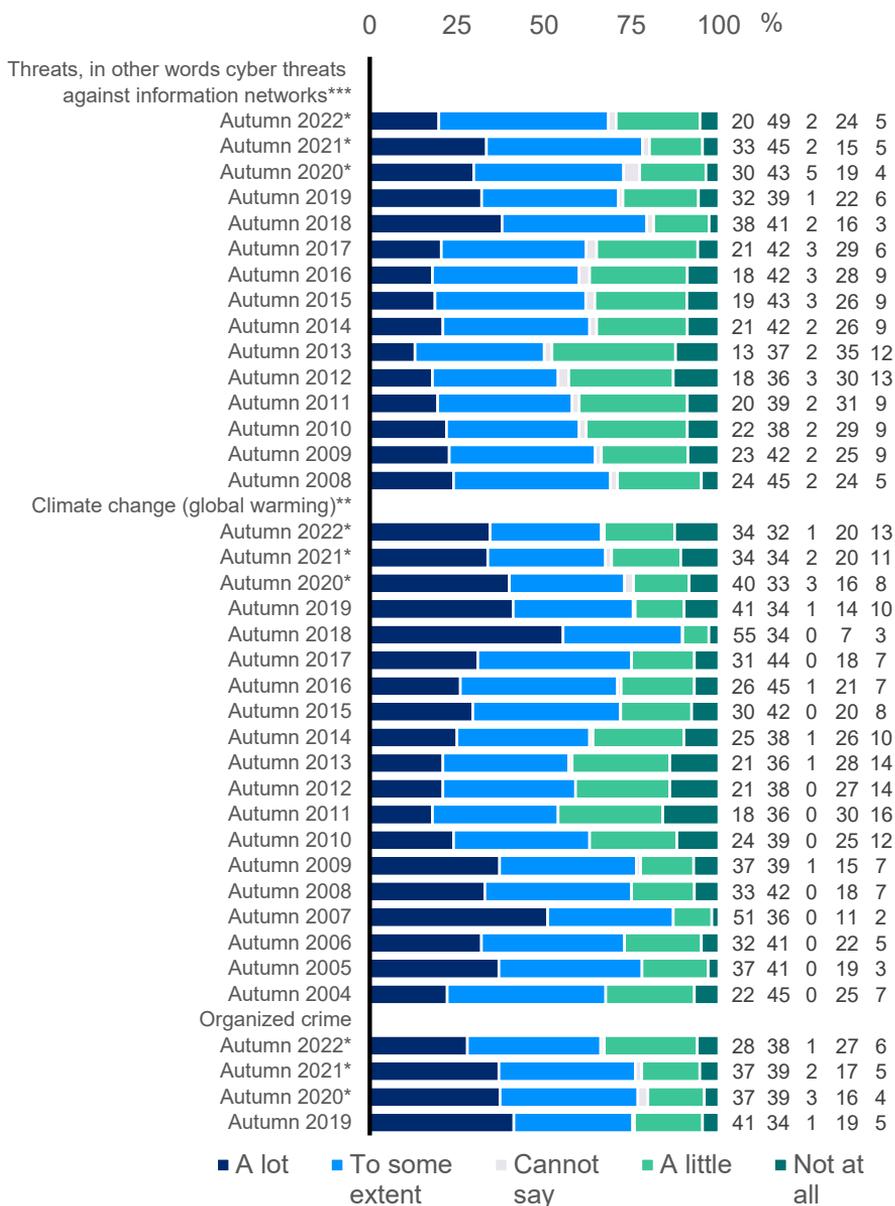
*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

Figure 32. Factors causing concern among the citizens (II). “How would you assess the following phenomena and actors? To what extent do they make you worry about the future?”



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

Figure 33. Factors causing concern among the citizens (III). “How would you assess the following phenomena and actors? To what extent do they make you worry about the future?”

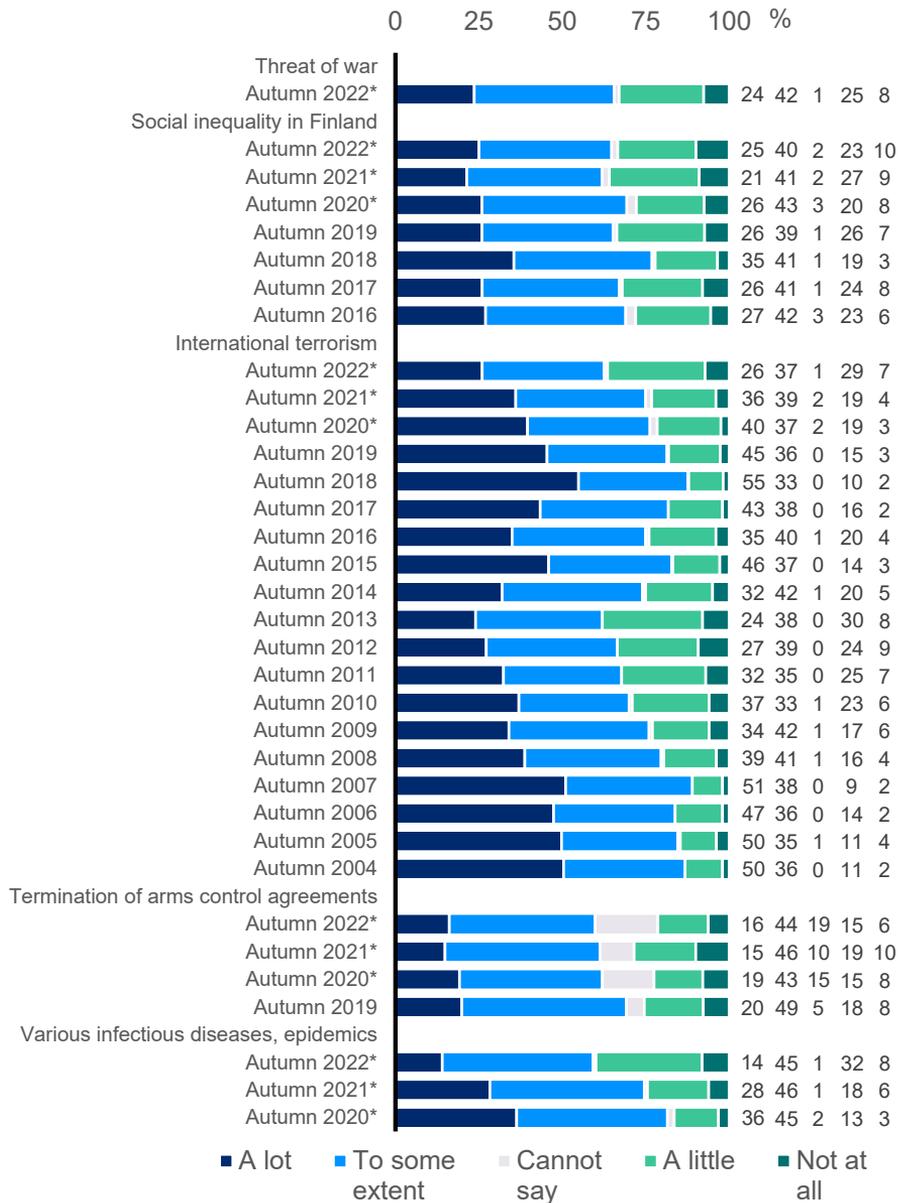


*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

**) 2004–2015 Global warming

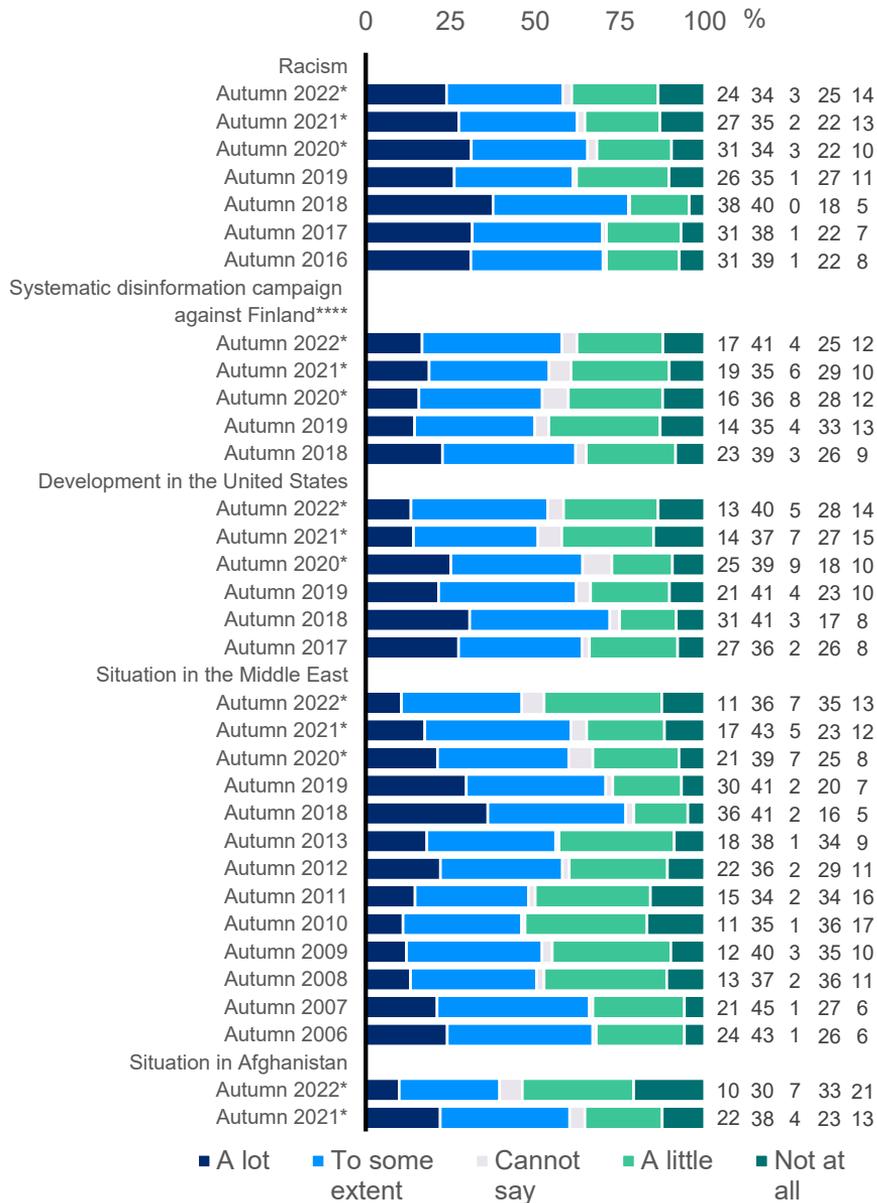
***) 2008–2012 Cyber threats against information networks

Figure 34. Factors causing concern among the citizens (IV). “How would you assess the following phenomena and actors? To what extent do they make you worry about the future?”



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

Figure 35. Factors causing concern among the citizens (V). “How would you assess the following phenomena and actors? To what extent do they make you worry about the future?”



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

****) 2018–2021 State-sponsored fake news reporting directed at Finland

Figure 36. Assistance to Ukraine. “Because of the war started by Russia, the European Union and its Member States, including Finland, have helped Ukraine both economically and militarily and by imposing sanctions on Russia. In your opinion, should Finland and the European Union continue to help Ukraine?”

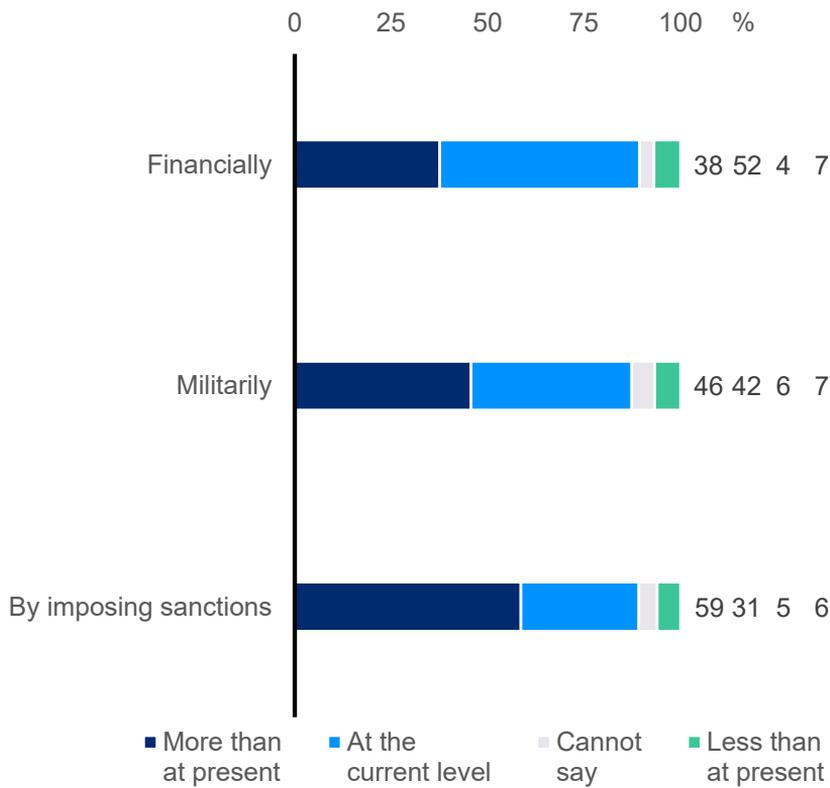


Figure 37. Assistance to Ukraine by imposing sanctions. “Because of the war started by Russia, the European Union and its Member States, including Finland, have helped Ukraine both economically and militarily and by imposing sanctions on Russia. In your opinion, should Finland and the European Union continue to help Ukraine?”

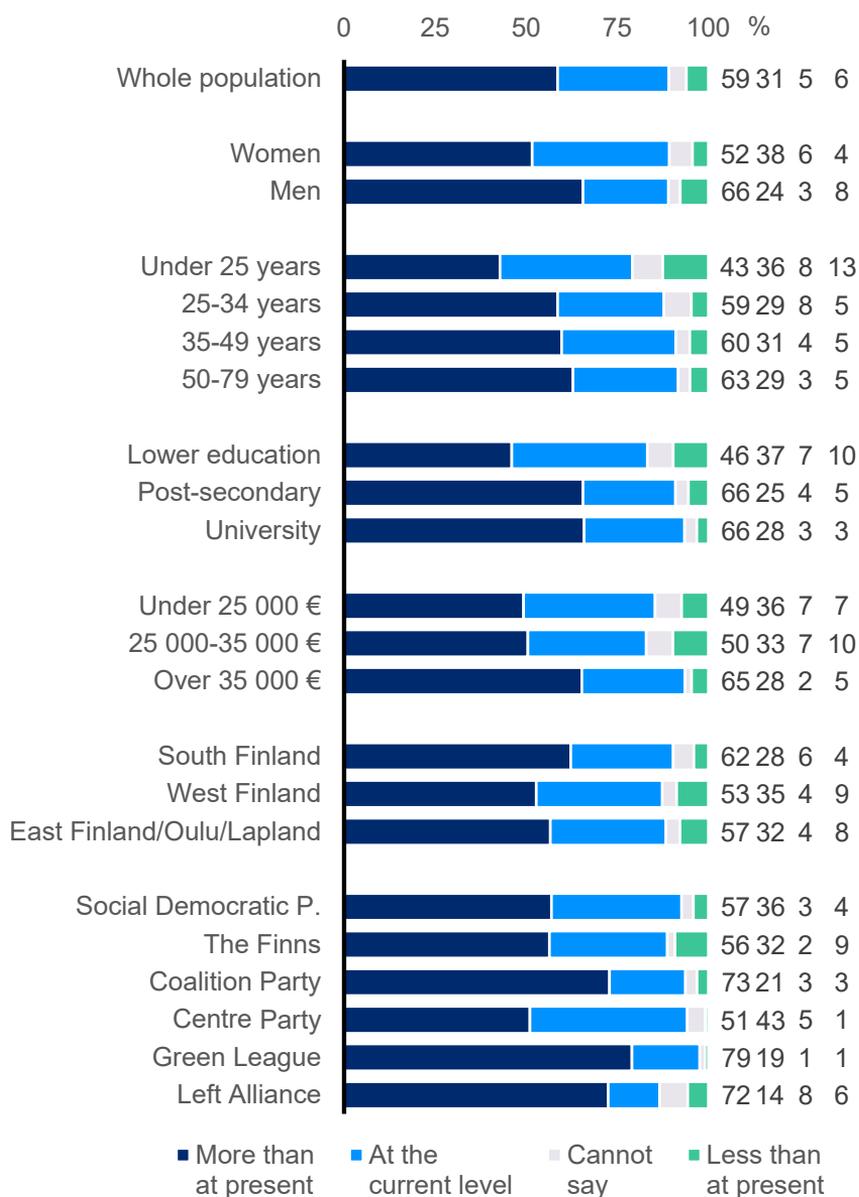


Figure 38. Assistance to Ukraine militarily. "Because of the war started by Russia, the European Union and its Member States, including Finland, have helped Ukraine both economically and militarily and by imposing sanctions on Russia. In your opinion, should Finland and the European Union continue to help Ukraine?"

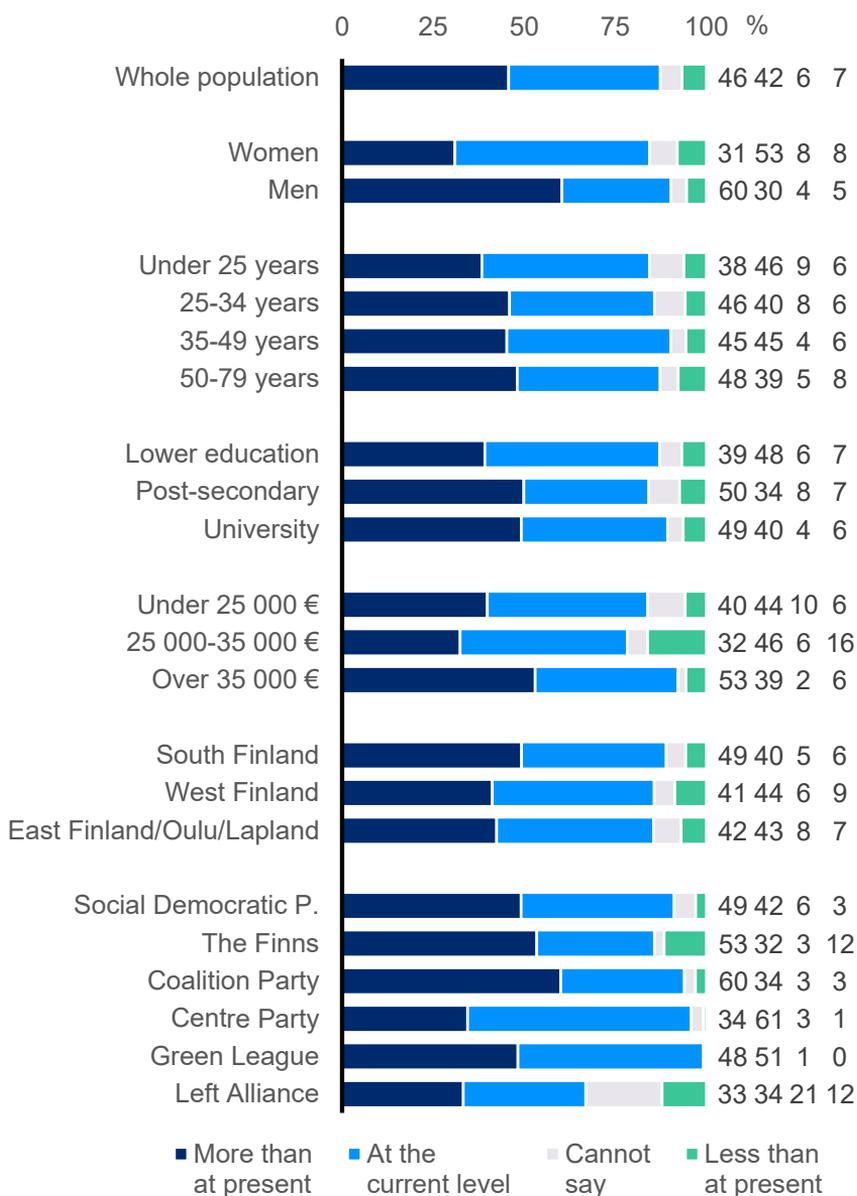


Figure 39. Assistance to Ukraine financially. “Because of the war started by Russia, the European Union and its Member States, including Finland, have helped Ukraine both economically and militarily and by imposing sanctions on Russia. In your opinion, should Finland and the European Union continue to help Ukraine?”

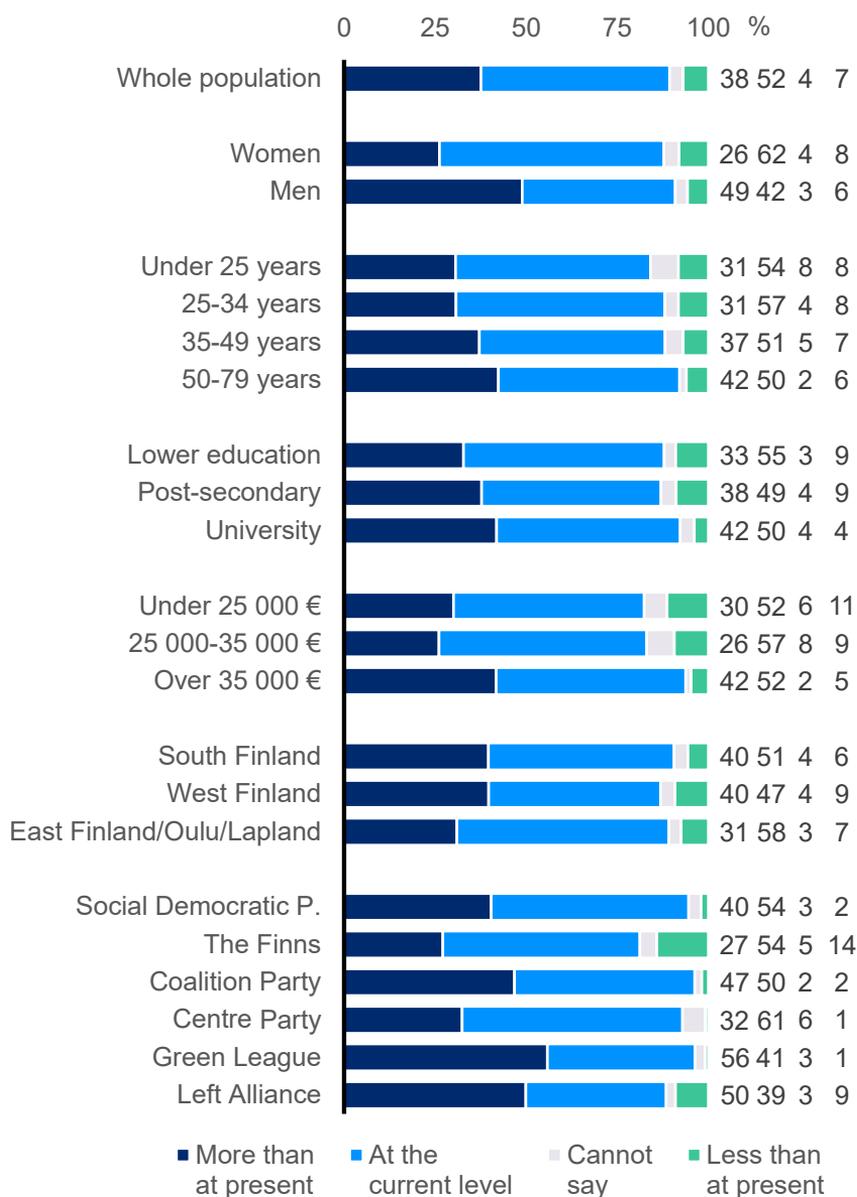


Figure 40. General conscription. “Based on a general, compulsory military service for men, Finnish military defence provides military training for as many of the same age group as possible, thus producing a large reserve personnel. Should the current system be retained or should we change over to a selective conscript service where only a part of the same age group receives military training? Or should we change over to a professional army?”

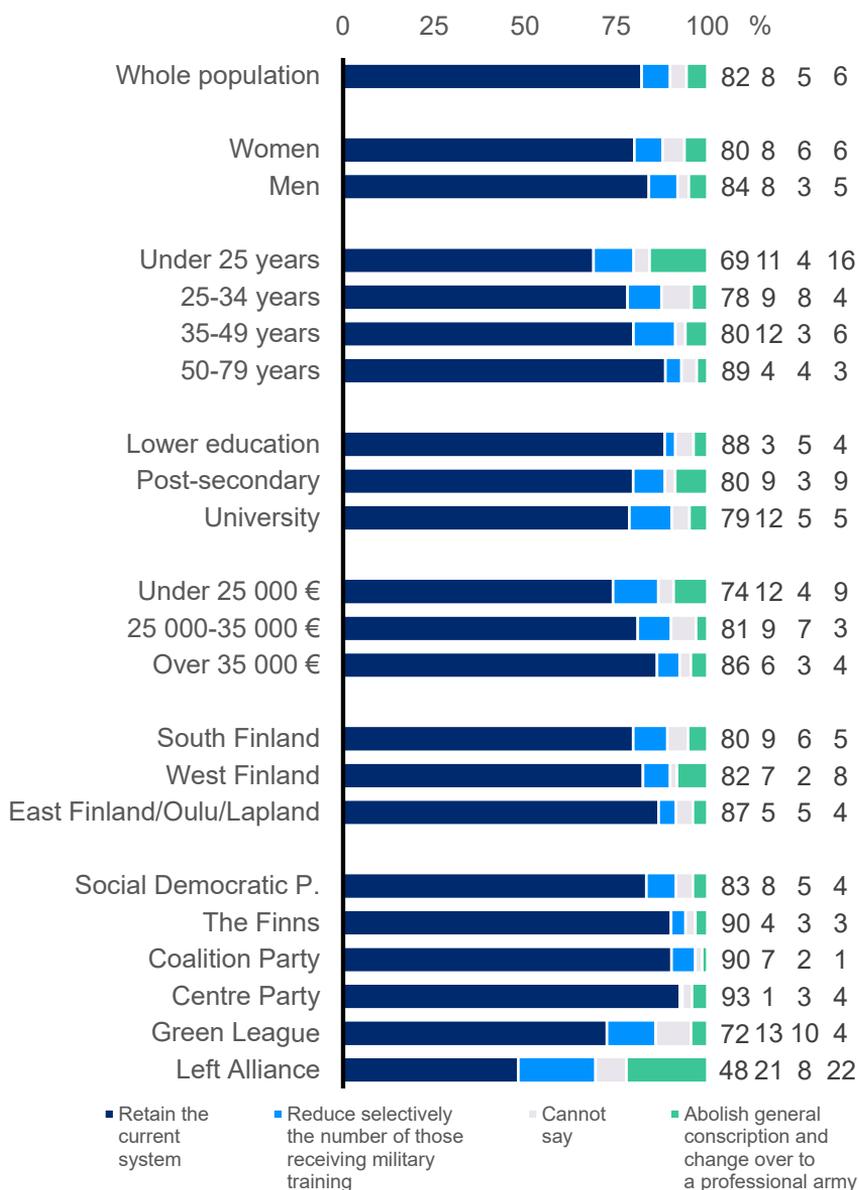
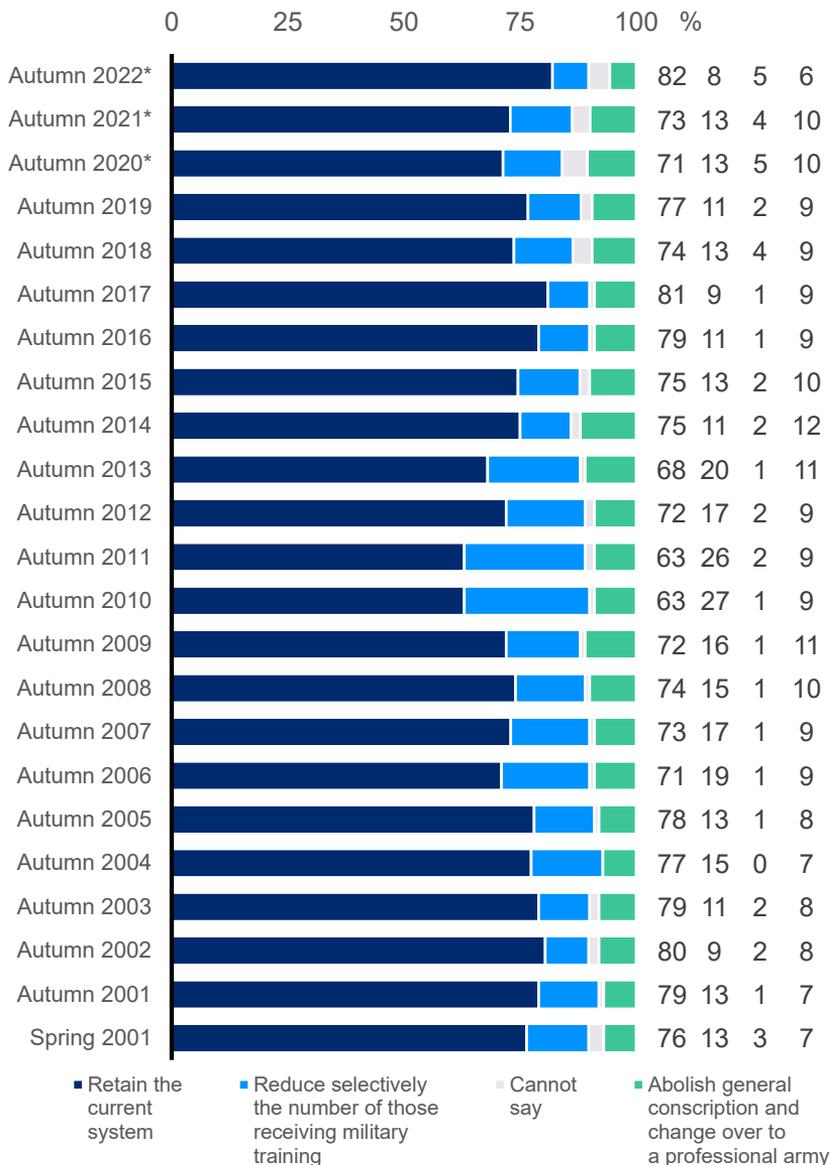
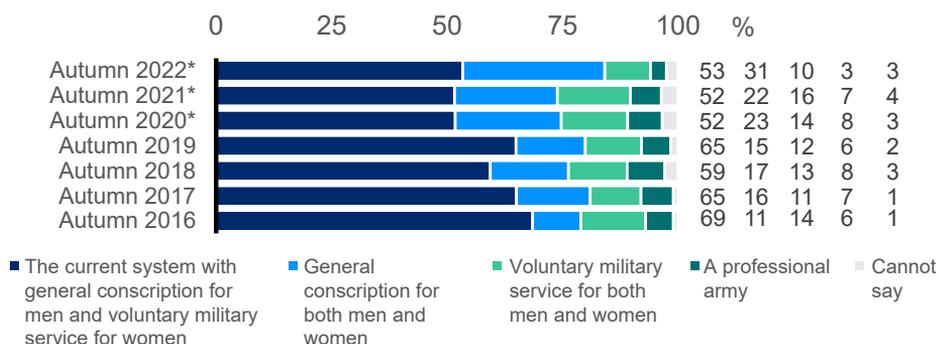


Figure 41. General conscription. “Based on a general, compulsory military service for men, Finnish military defence provides military training for as many of the same age group as possible, thus producing a large reserve personnel. Should the current system be retained or should we change over to a selective conscript service where only a part of the same age group receives military training? Or should we change over to a professional army?”



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

Figure 42. Finland's defence system. "In your view, should Finland's defence system be based on..."



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

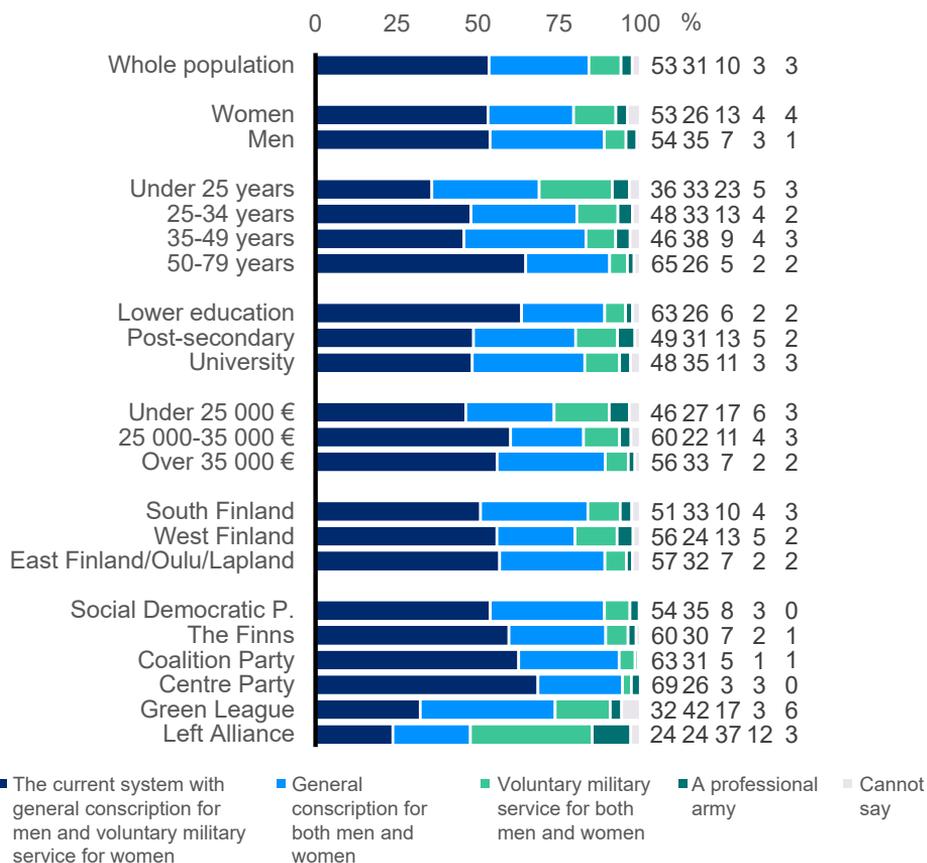
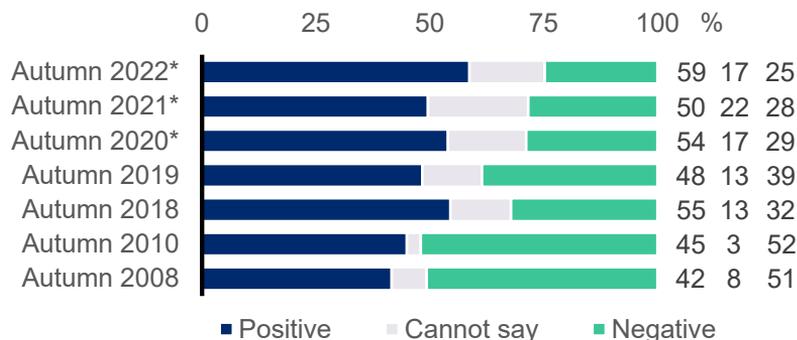


Figure 43. General civic service. “Finland is instituting a general civic service for both men and women. The civic service could be completed as military or non-military service”



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

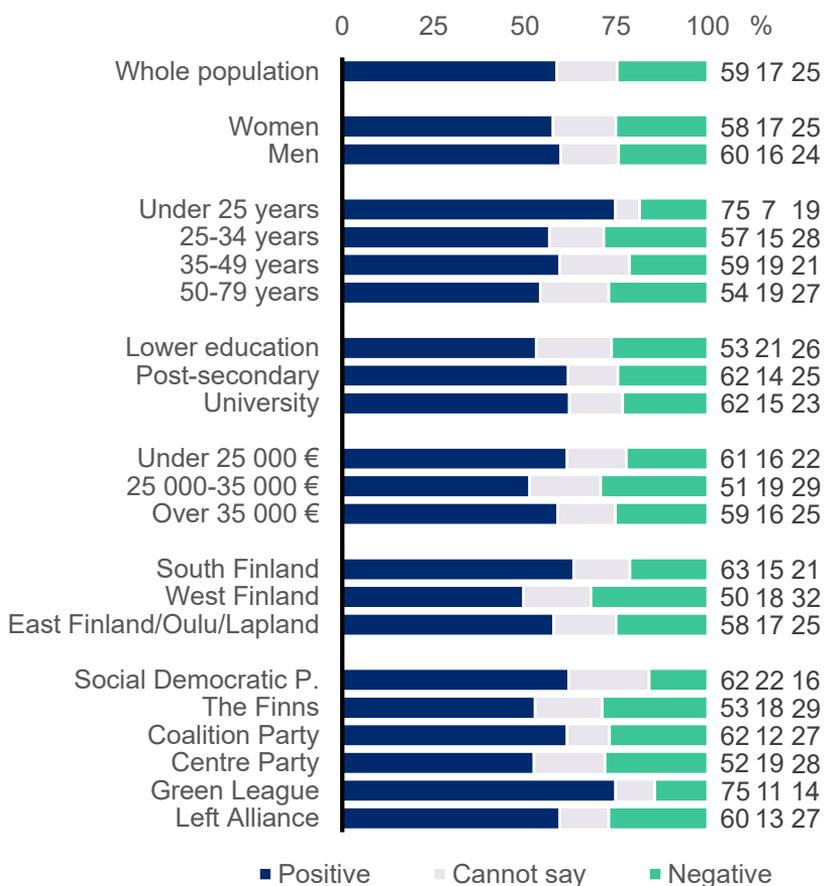


Figure 44. Preparedness for various threats. “How well do you think Finland has prepared for the following security threats?”

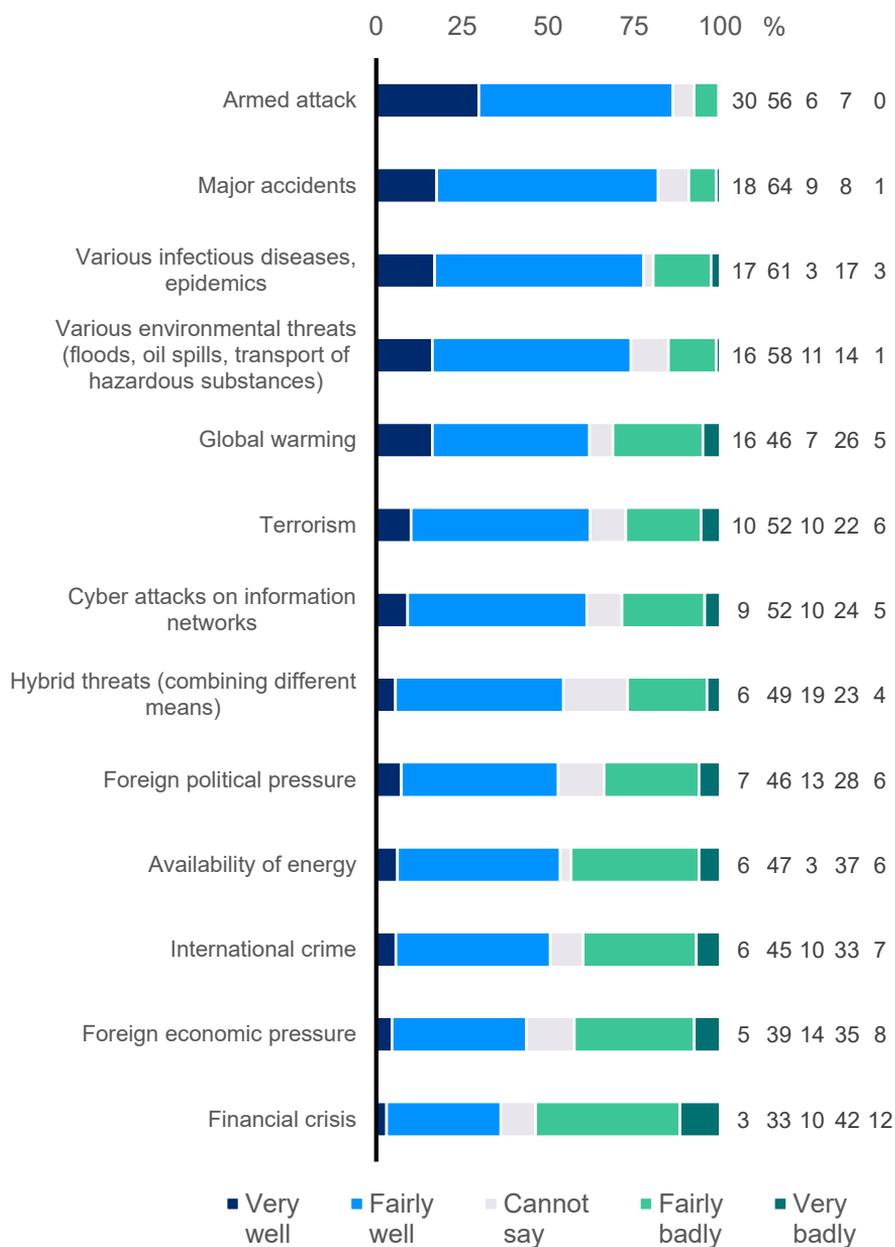
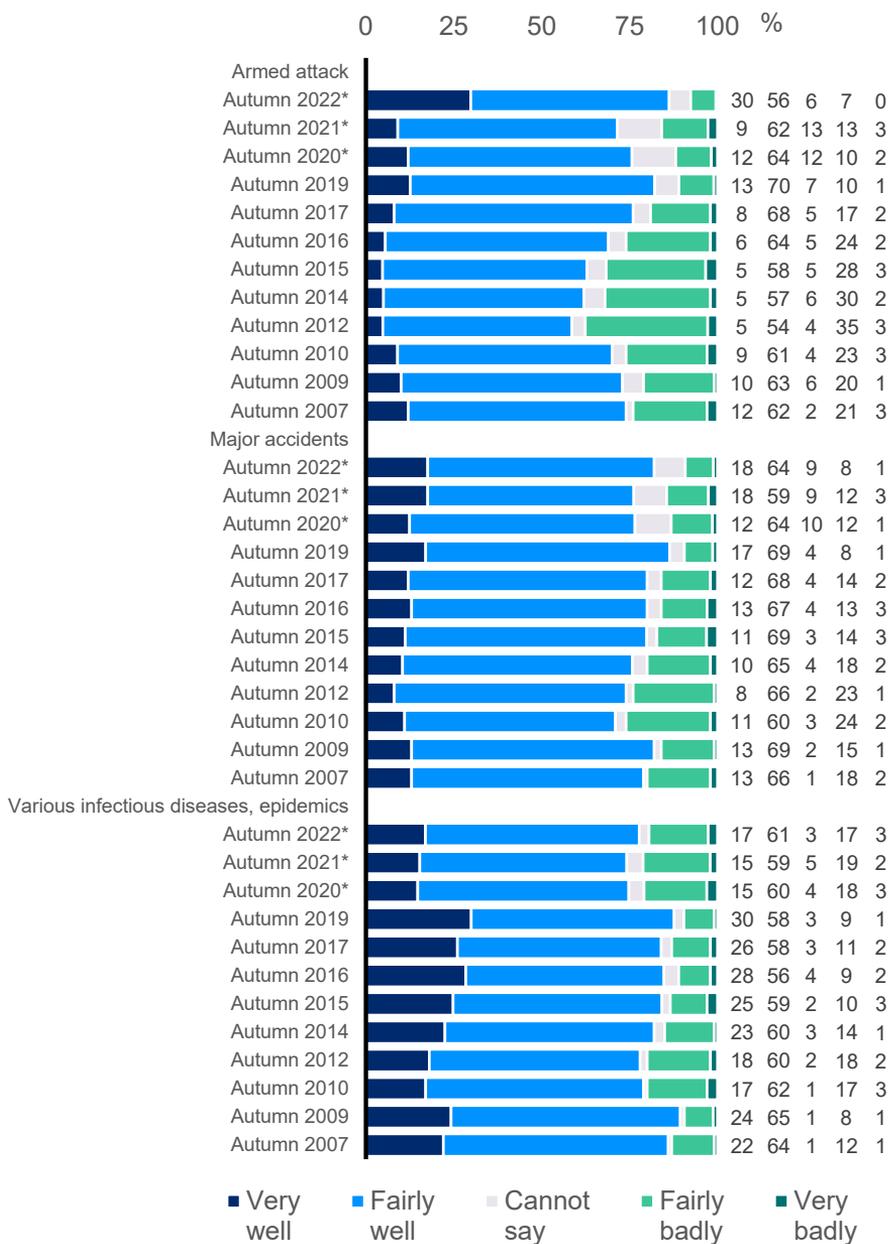
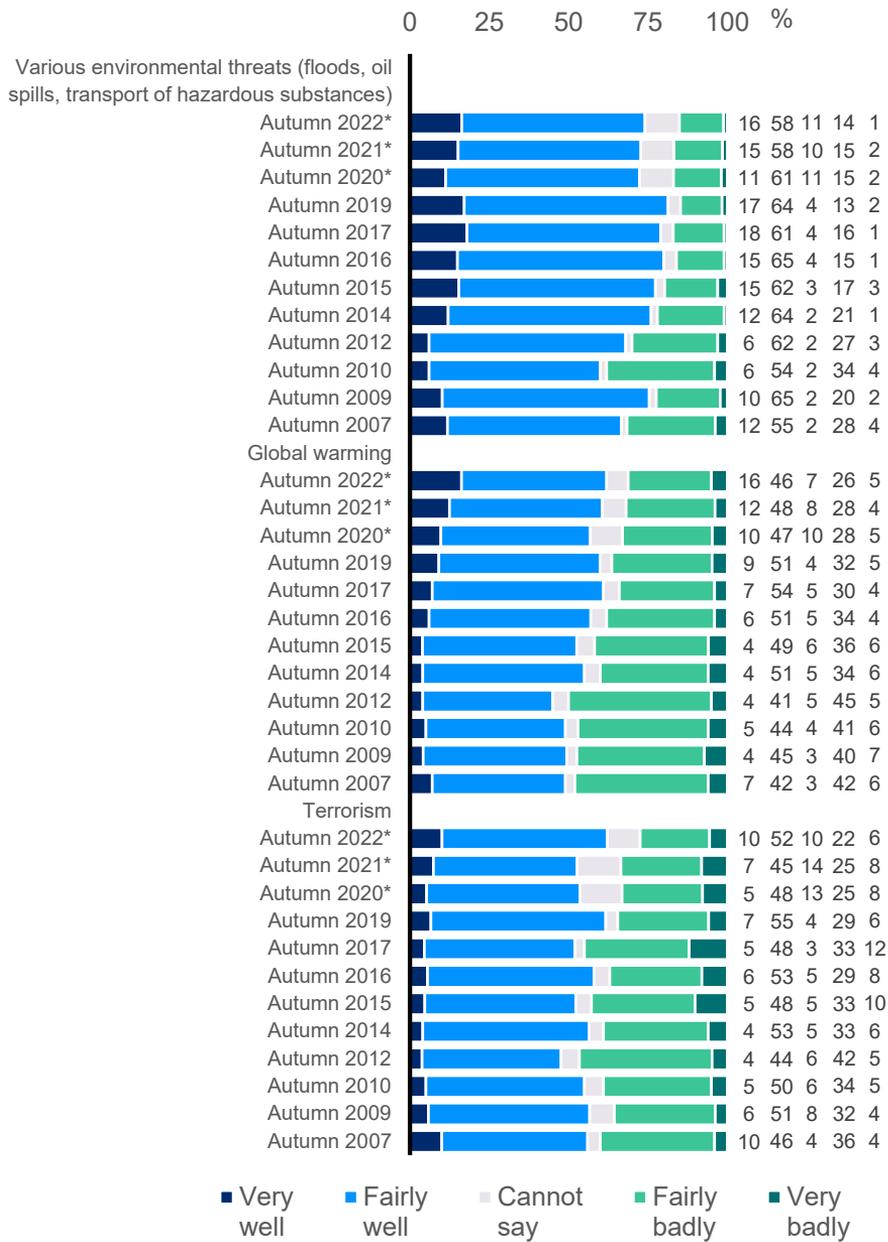


Figure 45. Preparedness for various threats (I). “How well do you think Finland has prepared for the following security threats?”



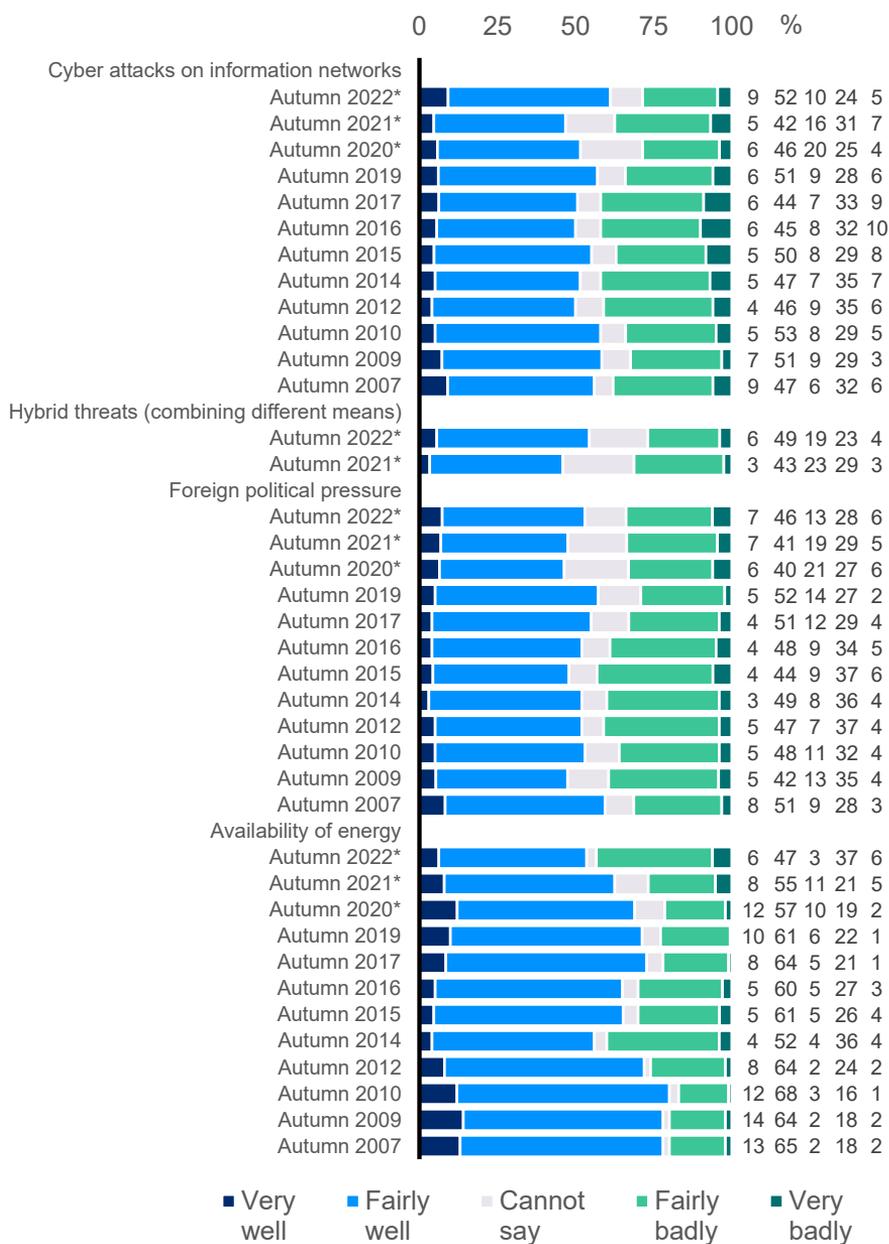
*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

Figure 46. Preparedness for various threats (II). “How well do you think Finland has prepared for the following security threats?”



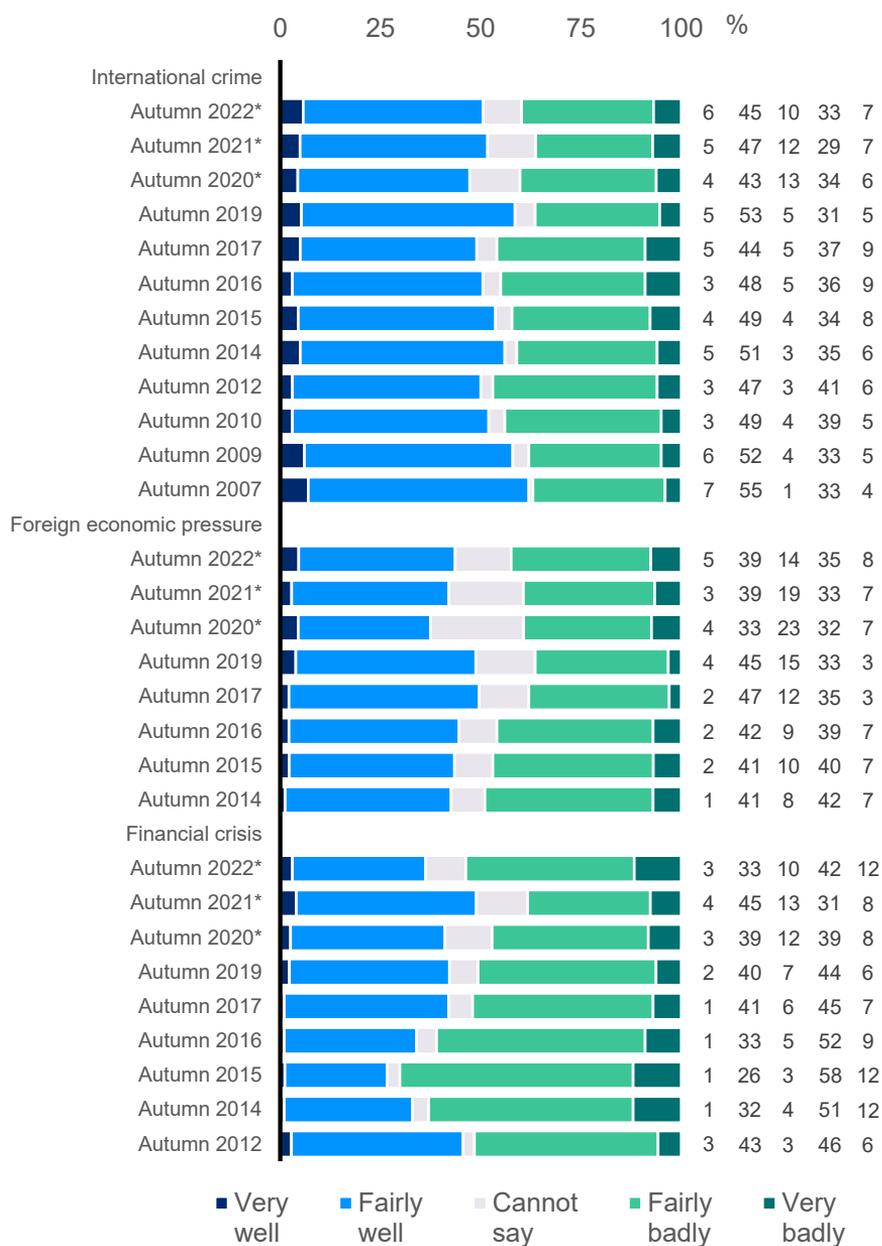
*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

Figure 47. Preparedness for various threats (III). “How well do you think Finland has prepared for the following security threats?”



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

Figure 48. Preparedness for various threats (IV). “How well do you think Finland has prepared for the following security threats?”



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

Figure 49. A more secure or more insecure future. “Considering the present world situation as a whole, do you believe that during the next five years Finland and Finns will live in a safer or in a less safe world compared to the present?”

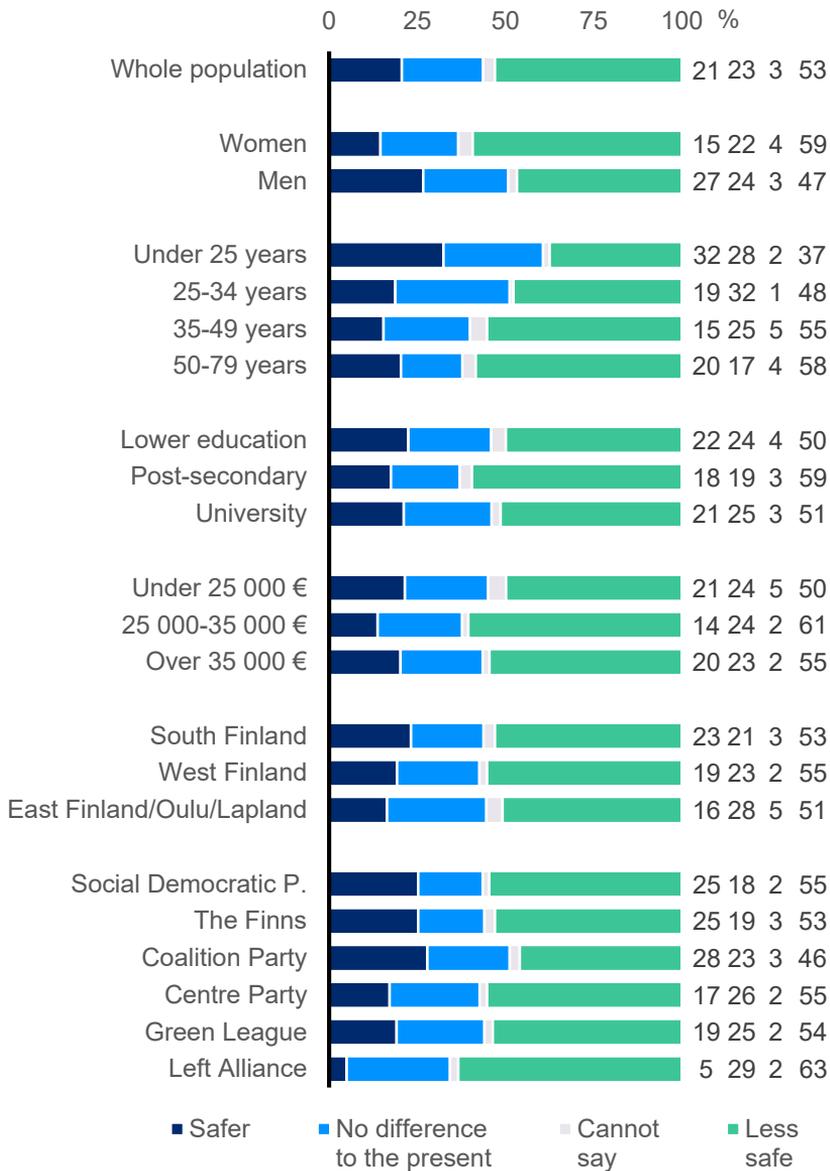
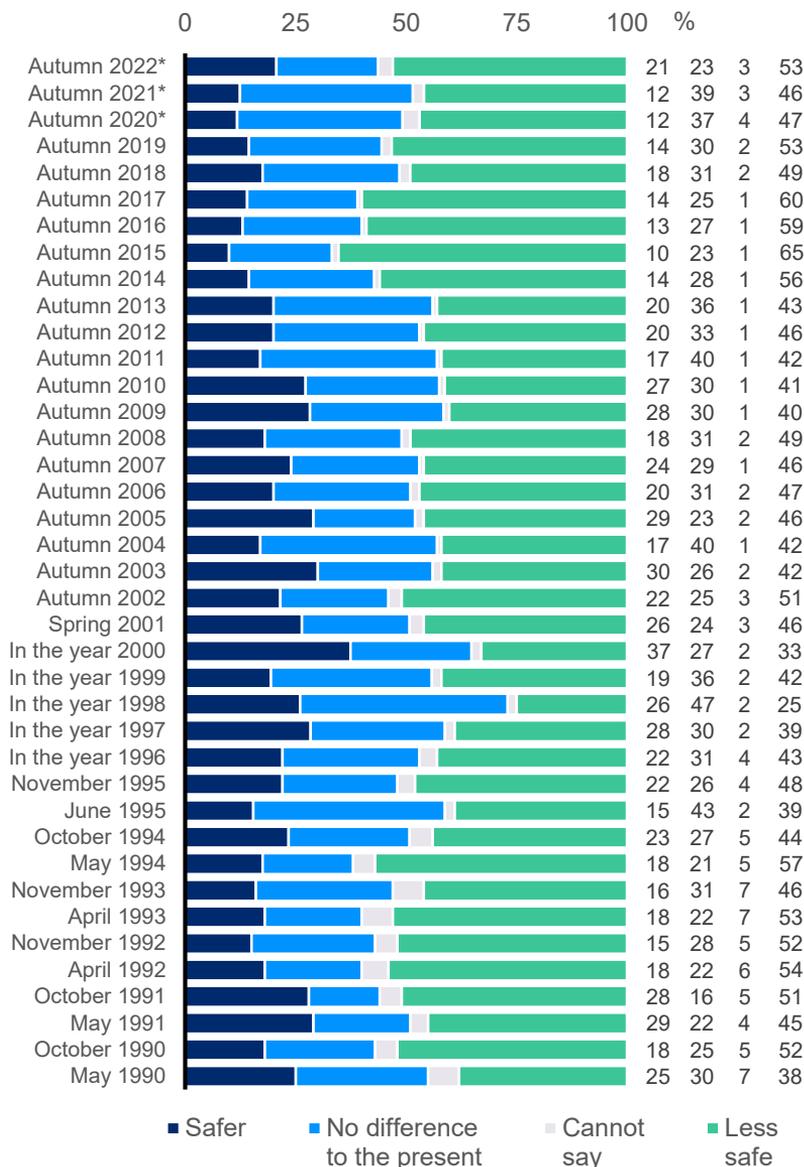


Figure 50. A more secure or more insecure future. “Considering the present world situation as a whole, do you believe that during the next five years Finland and Finns will live in a safer or in a less safe world compared to the present?”



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

The Advisory Board for Defence Information (ABDI)

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