

# ABDI (MTS)

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

THE ADVISORY BOARD  
FOR DEFENCE INFORMATION



Bulletins and Reports  
December 2025

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The Advisory Board for Defence Information, Bulletins and Reports 2025:3

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

The Advisory Board for Defence Information (ABDI)

Ministry of Defence Helsinki 2025 Finland

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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 Finland's 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 and assistance to Ukraine. Altogether 19 questions were asked of which three were new.

Commissioned by the ABDI, market research company Taloustutkimus Oy carried out the survey. 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 1 072 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.

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

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

### Maanpuolustustiedotuksen suunnittelukunta, tiedotteita ja katsauksia 2025:3

**Julkaisija** Puolustusministeriö

**Yhteisötekijä** Maanpuolustustiedotuksen suunnittelukunta MTS  
**Kieli** englanti

**Sivumäärä** 92

#### 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, turvallisuuden kehittämisestä seuraavan viiden vuoden aikana, sekä eri tahojen vaikutuksesta Suomen turvallisuuteen. Lisäksi kysytään huolta aiheuttavista tekijöistä, Euroopan unionin tulevaisuudesta, suhtautumisesta Suomen Nato-jäsenyyteen, Puolustusvoimien kyvystä torjua sotilaallisia uhkia, Ukrainan auttamisesta, sekä yhteiskunnan ja yksilön kriisinkestävytydestä. Kysymyksiä on kaikkiaan 19, joista kolme kokonaan uusia.

Tutkimuksen teki Taloustutkimus Oy MTS:n toimeksiannosta. Tutkimus toteutettiin yhdistelmänä Omnibus-tutkimuksen henkilökohtaisia haastatteluja sekä Taloustutkimuksen internet-paneelissa. Tutkimuksen otos on 1 072 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, NATO, puolustus, puolustuspolitiikka, turvallisuuspolitiikka, turvallisuus, ulkopolitiikka

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

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### Planeringskommissionen för försvarsinformation, pressmeddelanden och översikter 2025:3

**Utgivare** Försvarsministeriet

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**Utarbetad av** Planeringskommissionen för försvarsinformation (PFI)  
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#### Referat

Planeringskommissionen för försvarsinformation (PFI) har i en intervjuundersökning rätt ut medborgarnas åsikter om den finska utrikes-, säkerhets- och försvarspolitiken samt om försvaret. Med finns också frågor om faktorer som påverkar säkerheten och känslan av trygghet och om hur säkerheten kommer att utvecklas under de kommande fem åren samt om olika parters inverkan på Finlands säkerhet. Dessutom ingår frågor om faktorer som väcker oro, beredskapen inför olika hot, Europeiska unionens framtid, inställningen till Finlands medlemskap i Nato, förtroendet för Försvarsmaktens förmåga att avvärja militära hot, Finlands militära samarbete samt inställningen till samarbetet mellan Europeiska unionen och Nato och hjälpen till Ukraina. Frågorna var totalt 19 varav tre nya.

Undersökningen gjordes av Taloustutkimus Oy på uppdrag av PFI. Undersökningen genomfördes som en kombination av en omnibusundersökning med personliga intervjuer och som en webbpanel av Taloustukimus. Undersökningen omfattar ett urval på 1 072 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. En del av frågorna utgör en enhetlig tidsserie sedan år 1964.

**Nyckelord** Nato, värnplikt, försvar, försvarspolitik, säkerhetspolitik, säkerhet, utrikespolitik

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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. The annual survey also had questions on factors affecting safety and citizens' sense of security and on developments over the next five years. Other questions focused on factors raising concern, preparedness for various threats, the future of the European Union, attitudes towards Finland's membership in NATO, trust in the Finnish Defence Forces' ability to counter military threats, assistance to Ukraine and the resilience of individuals and society. Altogether, the survey had 19 questions, three of them new.

The ABDI has conducted opinion polls since its establishment in 1976. The survey also included two questions that were posed by the ABDI's predecessor, the Advisory Board for Mental Defence, in its surveys between 1964 and 1975.

Commissioned by the ABDI, market research company Taloustutkimus Oy carried out the survey. It is a combination of in-person interviews in the Taloustutkimus Oy's omnibus survey and an online panel organised by Taloustutkimus Oy, following the pattern of the 2024 survey. The total number of interviews was 514 (48%), and the panel generated 558 responses (52%). A total of 520 women and 549 men were surveyed. Three respondents gave their gender identity as non-binary. Before 2020, the survey was conducted only as in-person interviews as part of an omnibus survey.

The target group of the survey was the Finnish population aged 15 or over, with the exception of Åland. The sample size was 1,072 people. The sample was formed by quota sampling in which the target group's quotas were the distribution of age, gender, major region and municipality. The sample was weighted to match the target group. The weighted N values correspond to the Finnish population aged 15 to 79 in thousands (OSF, 31 December 2024).

The interviews took place between 11 September and 6 October 2025. They were conducted by 23 trained research interviewers of Taloustutkimus Oy. This time, the interviewers were given written instructions. Their work was monitored through interviewer-specific tabulations and spot checks made on respondents.

The interviews were conducted at 51 localities, 35 of which were cities, and the remaining 16 other municipality types. The online panel responses were collected between 30 September and 7 October 2025. The total number of invitations to join the panel was 9,035, giving a response rate of 6.2 per cent. The survey had a margin of error of plus or minus 3.2 percentage points for the whole population and higher for the sub-groups. The unweighted and weighted data by age group were divided as follows:

**Table 1.** Division of weighted and unweighted data by age group

<b>Age group</b>	<b>Unweighted N</b>	<b>Unweighted %</b>	<b>Weighted N</b>	<b>Weighted %</b>
15–24 yrs	186	17%	630	13%
25–34 yrs	192	18%	720	15%
35–49 yrs	239	22%	1097	23%
50–64 yrs	223	21%	1022	21%
65+ yrs	232	22%	1321	28%

People aged under 35 were overrepresented in the data, while people aged over 65 were underrepresented. Overrepresentation and underrepresentation were corrected with weighting.

The results were divided into three regional groups: Helsinki-Uusimaa/Southern Finland (542 respondents), including the major regions of Helsinki-Uusimaa and Southern Finland; Western Finland (291 respondents), including the major region of Western Finland; and Eastern Finland/Oulu/Lapland (244 respondents), including the major region of Northern and Eastern Finland. The table below shows the numbers and proportions of respondents in unweighted and weighted data at the level of the major regions.

**Table 2.** Respondent numbers and proportions in weighted and unweighted data at the level of the major regions

Region	Unweighted N	Unweighted %	Weighted N	Weighted %
Helsinki-Uusimaa	300	28%	1507	31%
Southern Finland	242	23%	1081	23%
Western Finland	263	25%	1115	23%
Northern and Eastern Finland	267	25%	1086	23%

In the unweighted data, the major regions of Western Finland and Northern and Eastern Finland were slightly overrepresented, while Helsinki-Uusimaa was slightly underrepresented. Overrepresentation and underrepresentation were corrected with weighting.

As for the background variable of party affiliation, the data on larger political parties are more reliable than the data on smaller parties whose supporters have a smaller representation in the sample. A political party was included in the figures illustrating the survey results only when more than 50 respondents indicated that they would vote for the party.

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, 71 per cent (763 persons) revealed their party affiliation, while 29 per cent (309) declined to do so. In 2024, the corresponding numbers were 72 per cent and 28 per cent respectively.

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

dating back to 1964. The questions were drawn up by the Research and Work Branches of the ABDI. The ABDI's office drafted the report for the Research Branch, which in turn prepared it for the Work Branch.

The data from this survey and from the previous surveys are stored in the Finnish Social Science Data Archive at the University of Tampere ([www.fsd.tuni.fi](http://www.fsd.tuni.fi)).

All the survey reports are available in Finnish, Swedish and English on the ABDI website at [www.defmin.fi/mts](http://www.defmin.fi/mts).

The survey reports published by the ABDI are in the public domain and accessible to all. When citing or using the results, always mention the relevant ABDI survey as the source.

# 1 Summary

**The annual survey commissioned by the Advisory Board for Defence Information (ABDI) once again explored Finns' opinions on foreign and security policy, national defence and security.**

The report and its accompanying graphs with demographic breakdowns provide insights into how Finns perceive the present and envision the future. This summary recapitulates their views and feelings.

Finns want Finland to be a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and expect that Allies will help Finland and that Finland will help Allies. NATO is ranked the most positive of the international organisations listed.

Besides NATO, the Nordic countries are considered an important reference group for Finns. Respondents estimate that the Nordic countries have "only" positive impact on security in Finland.

The impact of the United Kingdom on Finland's security is estimated to be at the same level as the year before. The United Kingdom ranks higher than the United States in terms of its perceived positive impact on Finland's security.

The positive impact of the United States on security in Finland is estimated to have decreased further. A decline in the estimates of positive US impact on Finland's was first detected the previous year. This decline has continued, although the estimates are still far from the lowest levels recorded. Finns are divided in their trust in the readiness of the United States to comply with its NATO commitments and defend Finland or other European countries.

The estimates of China's impact on security in Finland are largely at the previous year's low level.

The estimates of Russia's impact on Finland's security are also at the same level as the year before: the proportion of negative estimates is very high. Developments in Russia and Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine ranks highest as a source of concern, although concerns about developments in the United States are clearly at a higher level than before.

The estimates of the positive impact of the European Union on security in Finland have varied between 57 per cent and 70 per cent in recent years and have now reached the second lowest level recorded. Nevertheless, respondents see the EU having a key role in defence.

Last year, estimates of the positive impact of the United Nations (UN) on security in Finland were the lowest recorded, and this downturn trend continues.

As regards the impact of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) on security in Finland, this year, too, most respondents are undecided, and the proportion of those who are undecided has continued to grow.

Finns consider it important to help Ukraine: they agree that military assistance to Ukraine should be increased and sanctions against Russia should be intensified.

Respondents think resilience is mostly at a high level in Finnish society. They estimate that their personal resilience is lower than society's resilience.

Finns want to keep homeland defence in good order: despite economic scarcity, they agree that defence appropriations should be increased and they are willing to defend the country and are in favour of conscription. This shows that Finns are awake to threats and deem defence capability necessary. Finns take Article 3 of the North Atlantic Treaty<sup>1</sup> sufficiently seriously. However, they still believe in diplomacy and conflict prevention, too.

Finns also expressed opinions on the management of the two main policy areas addressed in the survey, foreign policy and defence policy. Compared to last year, fewer respondents assess that these policies have been well managed.

This year, the ABDI survey had three new questions. In addition, the list of questions was revised by combining some of the question sets. This means that the results for some of the questions are not comparable to previous years' results. However, the longest time series have been retained.

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1 Article 3 of the North Atlantic Treaty obligates member states to develop and sustain their national and collective defence capability through continuous and effective national armament and through mutual assistance to achieve the objectives of the Alliance. This means that each member state is primarily responsible for its own defence and ensures sufficient defence capabilities, while cooperating closely with Allies.

## 2 Defence and defence policy

### 2.1 Support for raising defence appropriations

Sixty-one per cent (51% in 2024) of respondents, 68 per cent of men (54%) and 55 per cent of women (47%), agree that defence appropriations should be increased. By age, 71 per cent (64%) of those aged over 50 share this view, followed by 56 per cent (49%) of those aged 35–49, 51 per cent (31%) of those aged 25–34 and 45 per cent (29%) of those aged under 25.

Among party supporters, 76 per cent (65% in 2024) of Centre Party supporters agree that defence spending should be raised, followed by 75 per cent (68%) of Finns Party supporters, 74 per cent (69%) of National Coalition Party supporters, 59 per cent (51%) of Social Democratic Party supporters, 38 per cent (31%) of The Greens supporters and 35 per cent (20%) of Left Alliance supporters.

Twenty-four per cent (33% in 2024) of respondents, 27 per cent (33%) of women and 21 per cent (34%) of men, would not raise or lower the defence appropriations. By age, 33 per cent (41%) of those aged 25–34 are of this opinion, followed by 29 per cent (44%) of those aged under 25, 26 per cent (35%) of those aged 35–49 and 19 per cent (27%) of those aged over 50.

Support for maintaining the current level of defence appropriations is highest among The Greens supporters at 41 per cent (51% in 2024), followed by 39 per cent (40%) of Left Alliance supporters, 30 per cent (38%) of Social Democratic Party supporters, 21 per cent (24%) of National Coalition Party supporters and 15 per cent (27% and 29% respectively) of Centre Party and Finns Party supporters.

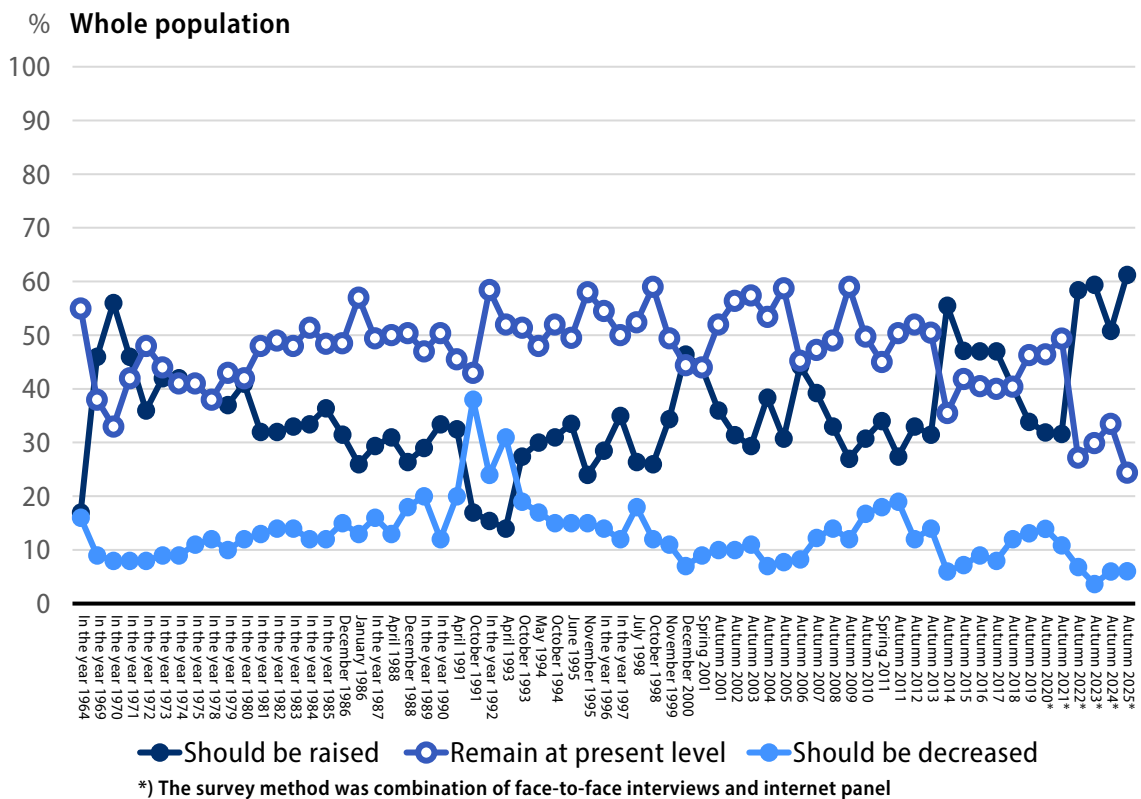
Six per cent (6% in 2024) of respondents, six per cent (6% and 7% respectively) of women and men, would lower the level of defence appropriations. Seven per cent (6%) of those aged 35–49 agree that defence spending should be reduced, followed by six per cent (4%) of those aged over 50 and five per cent (7% and 11% respectively) of those aged under 25 and 25–34.

Eighteen per cent (22% in 2024) of Left Alliance supporters are in favour of cutting defence spending, followed by ten per cent (9%) of The Greens supporters, seven per cent (3%) of Social Democratic Party supporters, six per cent (5%) of Centre Party supporters, four per cent (1%) of Finns Party supporters and 3 per cent (1%) of National Coalition Party supporters.

Eight per cent (10% in 2024) of respondents, 11 per cent (13%) of women and five per cent (6%) of men, have no opinion on the level of defence appropriations. By age, 22 per cent (19%) of those aged under 25 are undecided, followed by 11 per cent (10%) of those aged 35–49, nine per cent (17%) of those aged 25–34 and three per cent (5%) of those aged over.

By party affiliation, 11 per cent (8% in 2024) of The Greens supporters were undecided, followed by nine per cent (19%) of Left Alliance supporters, six per cent (2%) of Finns Party supporters, five per cent (9%) of Social Democratic Party supporters and two per cent (5% and 4% respectively) of supporters of the National Coalition Party and the Centre Party. (Figures 1 and 2)

**Figure 2A.** Defence appropriations  
"What is your opinion on funds allocated to the Defence Forces?"



## 2.2 Strong confidence in defence policy management

“How well or poorly do you think Finland’s defence policy has been managed in recent years?”

Eighty per cent (78% in 2024) of respondents, 82 per cent (80%) of men and 79 per cent (77%) of women, think that Finland’s defence policy is well managed. By age, 87 per cent (88%) of respondents aged over 50 share this view, followed by 81 per cent (73%) of those aged 35–49, 70 per cent (63%) of those aged 25–34 and 67 per cent (71%) of those aged under 25.

By party affiliation, 94 per cent (93% in 2024) of Centre Party supporters think that defence policy is well managed, followed by 93 per cent (94%) of National Coalition Party supporters, 88 per cent (72%) of The Greens supporters, 85 per cent (87%) of Social Democratic Party supporters, 84 per cent (79%) of Finns Party supporters and 57 per cent (60%) of Left Alliance supporters.

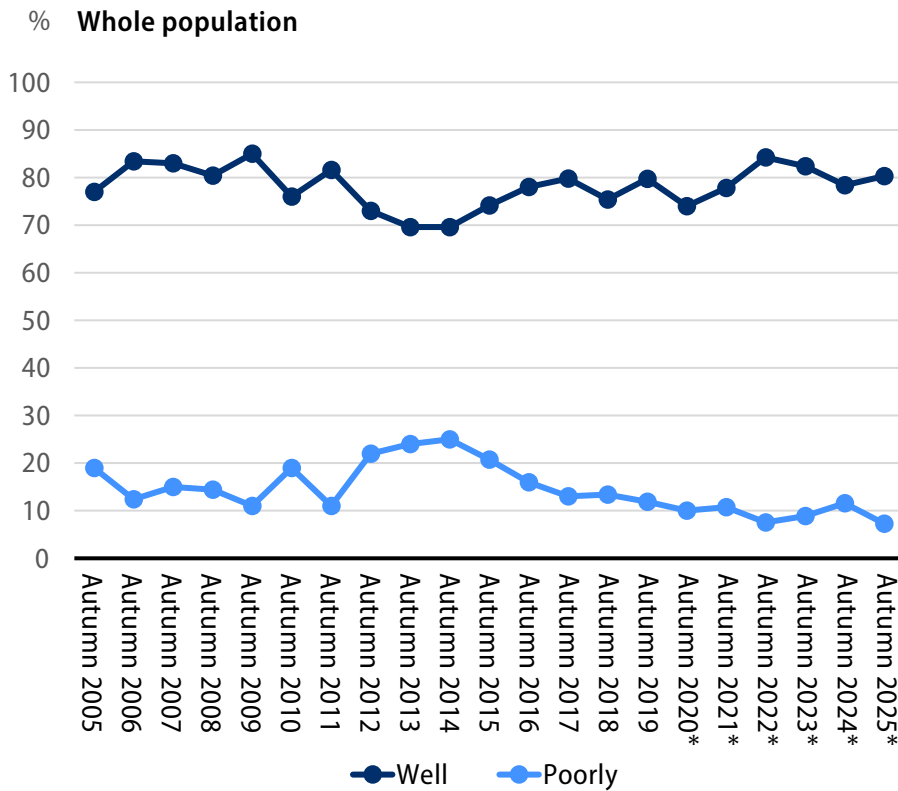
Seven per cent (12% in 2024) of respondents, nine per cent (13%) of men and six per cent (11%) of women, consider that Finland’s defence policy is poorly managed. Defence policy management is poor according to 12 per cent (19%) of those aged 25–34, seven per cent (7%) of those aged under 25 and six per cent (15% and 8% respectively) of those aged 35–49 and over 50.

By party affiliation, 17 per cent (20% in 2024) of Left Alliance supporters say that defence policy is poorly managed, followed by seven per cent (6%) of Social Democratic Party supporters, five per cent (18%) of Finns Party supporters, four per cent (6%) of Centre Party supporters, three per cent (12%) of The Greens supporters and one per cent (3%) of National Coalition Party supporters.

Twelve per cent (10% in 2024) of respondents, 17 per cent (13%) of women and eight per cent (7%) of men, have no opinion on defence policy management. By age, 26 per cent (23%) of those aged under 25 are undecided, followed by 17 per cent (19%) of those aged 25–34, 14 per cent (11%) of those aged 35–49 and seven per cent (4%) of those aged over 50.

Twenty-five per cent (20%) of Left Alliance supporters have no opinion on defence policy management, followed by 11 per cent (4%) of Finns Party supporters, nine per cent (16%) of The Greens supporters, eight per cent (7%) of Social Democratic Party supporters, seven per cent (3%) of National Coalition Party supporters and one per cent (1%) of Centre Party supporters. (Figures 3 and 4)

**Figure 4A.** 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

## 2.3 Confidence in Finland's military defence capability remains robust

For the sixth time, the ABDI survey asked: "Do you trust the Finnish Defence Forces' capability to defend Finland against various military threats?"

Confidence in the Finnish Defence Forces' capability to defend Finland against various military threats is very high or fairly high among 85 per cent (86% in 2024) of respondents, 88 per cent (86%) of men and 83 per cent (87%) of women. Ninety per cent (90%) of those aged over 50 share this view, followed by 84 per cent (80%) of those aged 25–34, 82 per cent (83%) of those aged 25–49 and 77 per cent (86%) of those aged under 25.

By party affiliation, 94 per cent (99% in 2024) of National Coalition Party supporters have very high or fairly high confidence in the Finnish Defence Forces' capability to defend Finland against various military threats, followed by 92 per cent (89%) of Social Democratic Party supporters, 89 per cent (94%) of Centre Party supporters, 85 per cent (89%) of Finns Party supporters, 84 per cent (81%) of The Greens supporters and 73 per cent (79%) of Left Alliance supporters.

Ten per cent (10% in 2024) of respondents, 11 per cent (10%) of women and eight per cent (10%) of men, have very low or fairly low confidence in the Finnish Defence Forces' capability to defend Finland against various military threats. Fourteen per cent (8%) of those aged under 25 share this view, followed by 12 per cent (14% and 14% respectively) of those aged 25–34 and 35–49 and seven per cent (8%) of those aged over 50.

Confidence in the Finnish Defence Forces' capability to defend Finland against various military threats is very low or fairly low among 20 per cent (14% in 2024) of Left Alliance supporters, followed by 14 per cent (10%) of Finns Party supporters, 13 per cent (13%) of The Greens supporters, eight per cent (4%) of Centre Party supporters, six per cent (9%) of Social Democratic Party supporters and four per cent (2%) of National Coalition Party supporters.

One per cent (1% in 2024) of respondents, one per cent (2%) of men and zero per cent (1%) of women, have no confidence at all in the Finnish Defence Forces' capability to defend Finland against various military threats.

Four per cent (2% in 2024) of respondents, five per cent (2%) of women and three per cent (1%) of men, are undecided. (Figure 5)

## 2.4 Finns assess the military situation in Finland's neighbouring areas to be nearly as threatening as the year before

"How would you assess the military situation in Finland's neighbouring areas over the next ten years?" This question has been in the survey fifteen times.

The responses indicate that there is a slight drop in Finns' assessment of the level of military threat compared to the year before, although most respondents still use the words "more threatening" to describe the military situation in Finland's neighbouring areas.

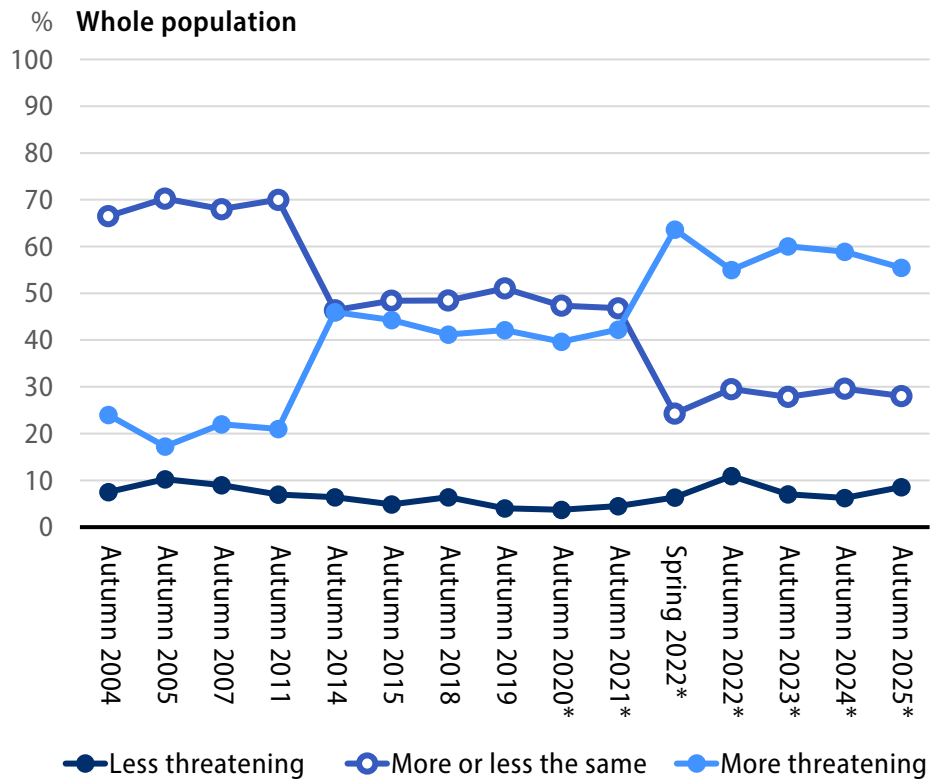
This year, 55 per cent (59% in 2024) of respondents, 59 per cent (64%) of women and 52 per cent (54%) of men, believe the military situation in Finland's neighbouring areas will become "more threatening" over the next ten years. This view is shared by 58 per cent (63%) of those aged over 50, by 56 per cent (61%) of those aged 35–49, by 51 per cent (40%) of those aged under 25 and by 48 per cent (60%) of those aged 25–34.

The military situation in Finland's neighbouring areas will remain "the same as at present" according to the assessment of 28 per cent (30% in 2024) of respondents, 31 per cent (33%) of men and 25 per cent (27%) of women. By age, 31 per cent (23%) of those aged 25–34 share this view, followed by 28 per cent (42% and 29% respectively) of those under 25 and over 50 and 27 per cent (29%) of those aged 25–49.

Six per cent (6% in 2024) of respondents, 11 per cent (9%) of men and six per cent (4%) of women, believe the military situation in Finland's neighbouring areas will become 'less threatening' over the next decade. Ten per cent (7%) of those aged 35–49 share this view, followed by 9 per cent (8%) of those aged 25–34, eight per cent (6%) of those aged over 50 and seven per cent (6%) of those aged under 25.

Eight per cent (5% in 2024) of respondents, nine per cent (6%) of women and six per cent (5%) of men, are undecided. (Figures 6 and 7)

**Figure 7A.** 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?"



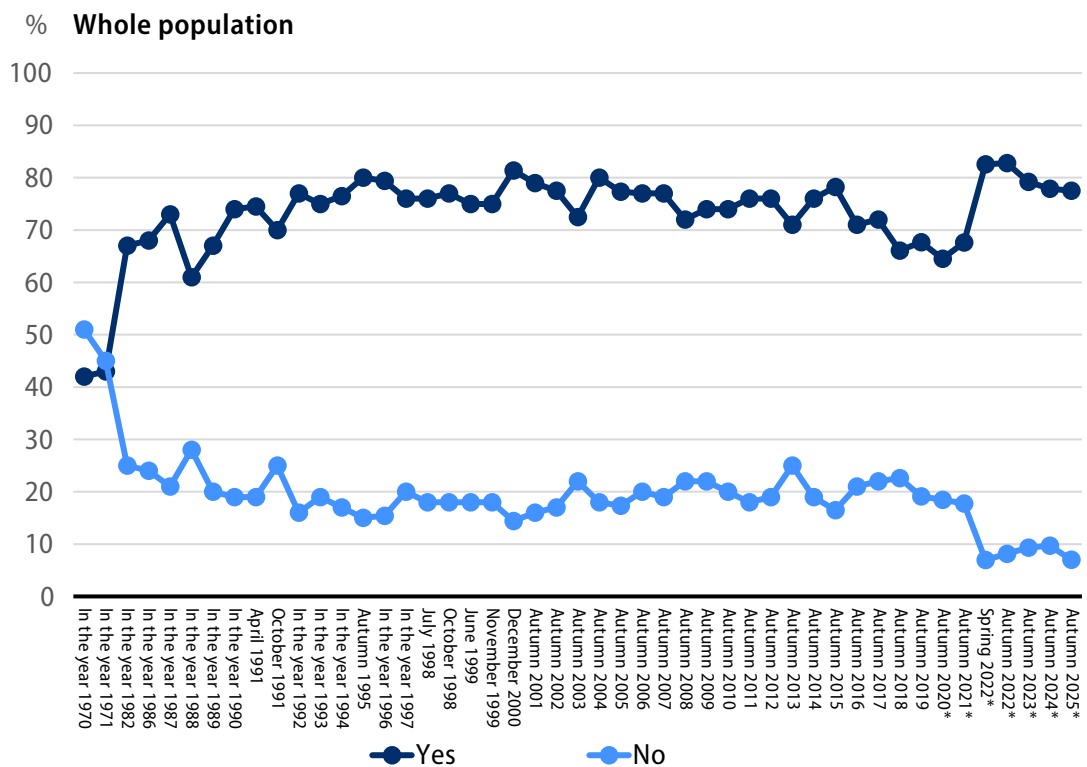
\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

### 3 Willingness to defend the country and conscription

#### 3.1 The willingness to defend the country remains 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?”

**Figure 9A.** 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

Seventy-eight per cent (78% in 2024) of respondents, 87 per cent (85%) of men and 68 per cent (71%) of women, agree that Finns should take up arms to defend themselves. By age, 83 per cent (83%) of respondents aged over 50 agree with the statement, followed by 78 per cent (78%) of those aged 35–49, 74 per cent (67%) of those aged 25–34 and 60 per cent (71%) of those aged under 25.

By party affiliation, 87 per cent (84% in 2024) of Finns Party supporters agree that Finns should take up arms to defend themselves, followed by 86 per cent (87%) of Centre Party supporters, 84 per cent (91%) of National Coalition Party supporters, 80 per cent (76%) of The Greens supporters, 76 per cent (79%) of Social Democratic Party supporters and 61 per cent (55%) of Left Alliance supporters.

Seven per cent (10% in 2024) of respondents, nine per cent (11%) of women and five per cent (8%) of men, do not think that Finns should take up arms to defend themselves. Eleven per cent (15%) of those aged under 25 share this views, followed by nine per cent (12%) of those aged 25–34 and six per cent (10% and 7% respectively) of those aged 35–49 and over 50.

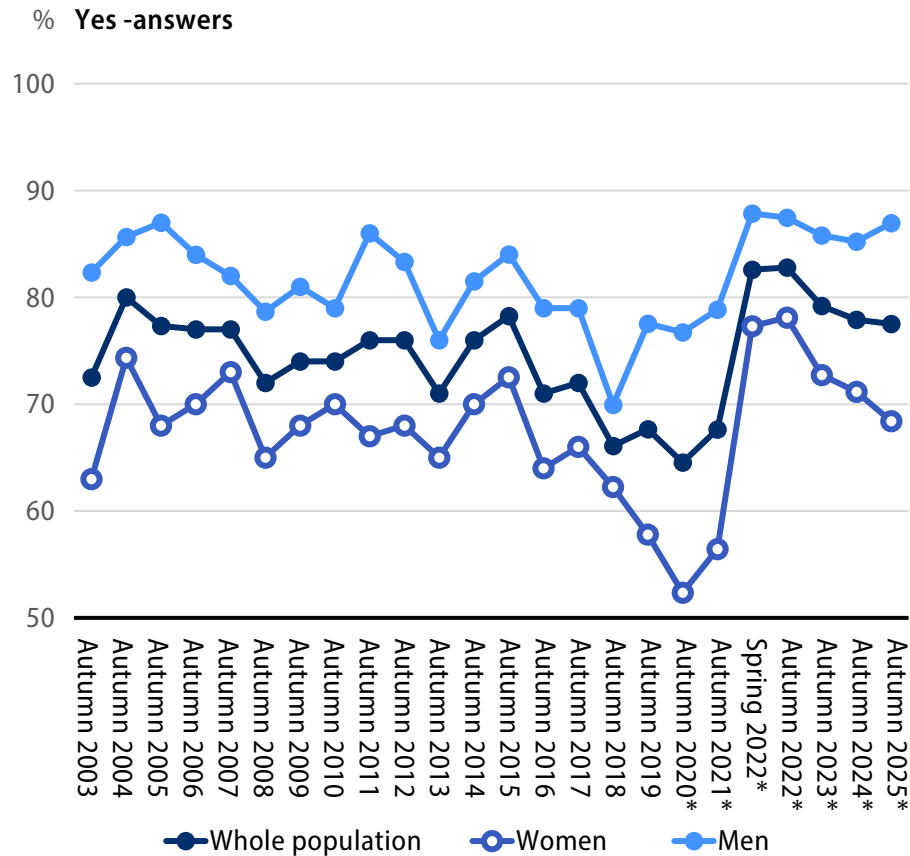
Thirteen per cent (21% in 2024) of Left Alliance supporters do not think that Finns should take up arms to defend themselves, followed by nine per cent (10%) of Social Democratic Party supporters, seven per cent (5%) of The Greens supporters, four (4%) of National Coalition Party supporters and three per cent (5% and 8% respectively) of Finns Party and Centre Party supporters.

Fifteen per cent (12% in 2024) of respondents, 23 per cent (17%) of women and eight per cent (7%) of men, are undecided. By age, 30 per cent (14%) of those under 25 are undecided, followed by 17 per cent (20%) of those aged 25–34, 16 per cent (12%) of those aged 35–49 and 11 per cent (10%) of those over 50.

By party affiliation, 26 per cent (24% in 2024) of Left Alliance supporters have no opinion on whether Finns should take up arms to defend themselves, followed by 15 per cent (10%) of Social Democratic Party supporters, 13 per cent (19%) of The Greens supporters, 11 per cent (5% and 5% respectively) of National Coalition Party and Centre Party supporters and ten per cent (12%) of Finns Party supporters. (Figures 8 and 9)

**Figure 9B.** The will to defend the nation

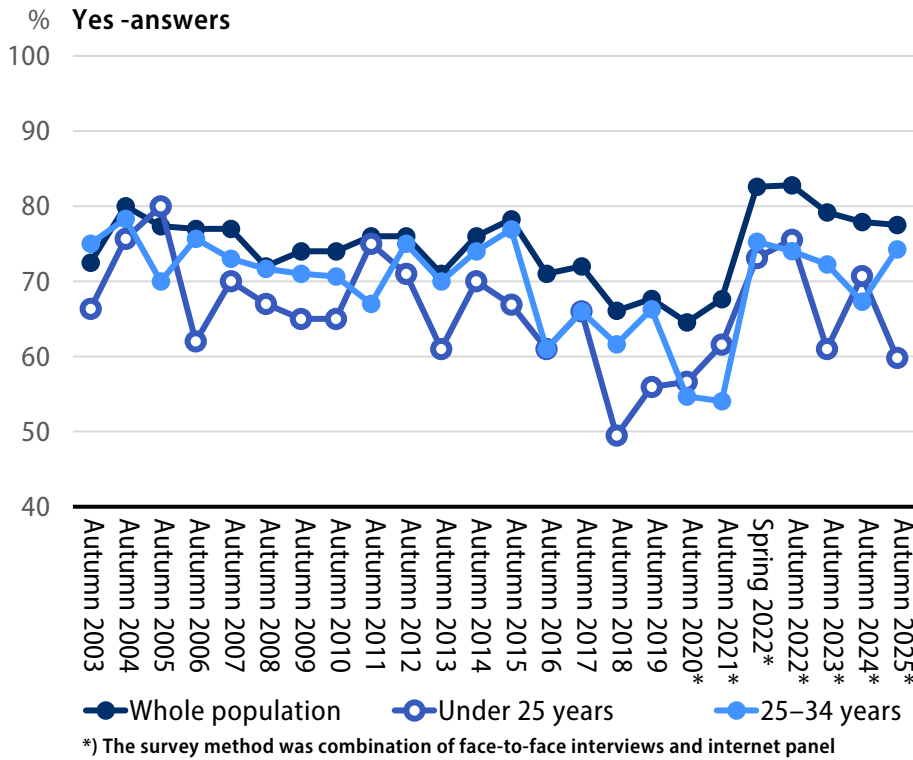
"If Finland were attacked, should Finns, in your opinion, take up arms to defend themselves in all situations, even if the outcome seemed uncertain?"



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

**Figure 9C.** 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?"



### 3.2 Personal will to defend the country remains strong

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

Eighty per cent (80% in 2024) of respondents, 85 per cent (83%) of men and 75 per cent (78%) of women, would be prepared to contribute to national defence. By age, 82 per cent (85%) of those aged 35–49 share this view, followed by 81 per cent (82%) of those aged over 50 and 77 per cent (78% and 70% respectively) of those aged under 25 and 25–34.

Ninety-one per cent (88% in 2024) of The Greens supporters would be prepared to contribute to national defence, followed by 88 per cent (91%) of Finns Party supporters, 87 per cent (89%) of Centre Party supporters, 86 per cent (90%) of National Coalition Party supporters, 79 per cent (79%) of Social Democratic Party supporters and 68 per cent (69%) of Left Alliance supporters.

Eight per cent (11% in 2024) of respondents, 11 per cent (11%) of women and six per cent (10%) of men, would not want to contribute to national defence. Eleven per cent (21%) of those aged 25–34 share this view, followed by ten per cent (8%) of those aged under 25 and seven (9% and 9% respectively) of those aged 35–49 and over 50.

By party affiliation, 18 per cent (16% in 2024) of Left Alliance supporters would not want to contribute to national defence, followed by nine per cent (10%) of Social Democratic Party supporters, five per cent (4% and 9% respectively) of National Coalition Party and The Greens supporters, four per cent (5%) of Finns Party supporters and two per cent (5%) of Centre Party supporters.

Twelve per cent (9% in 2024), 14 per cent (11%) of women and nine (7%) of men, are undecided. By age, 12 per cent (14%, 10% and 9% respectively) of those under aged 25, 25–34 and over 50 and 11 per cent (6%) of those aged 35–49 are undecided.

By party affiliation, 14 per cent (15% in 2024) of Left Alliance supporters cannot say whether they would contribute to national defence, 11 per cent (11% and 6% respectively) of Social Democratic Party and Centre Party supporters, nine per cent (6%) of National Coalition Party supporters, eight per cent (4%) of Finns Party supporters and four per cent (3%) of The Greens supporters. (Figures 10 and 11)

### **3.3 Strong support for the current system with general conscription for men and voluntary military service for women**

The set of questions on the defence system regarding conscription has been revised, and now the survey has only one question on conscription. The results are not directly comparable to previous ABDI surveys.

“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 sufficient capable reserve. In your opinion, on which of the following options should Finland’s defence system be based:

the current system with general conscription for men and voluntary military service for women?”

Seventy-five per cent of respondents, 76 per cent of men and 74 per cent of women, favour the current system with general conscription for men and voluntary military service for women. By age, 83 per cent of those aged over 50 prefer the current system, followed by 71 per cent of those aged 35–49, 69 per cent of those aged under 25 and 62 per cent of those aged 25–34.

By party affiliation, 89 per cent of Centre Party supporters favour the current system with general conscription for men and voluntary military service for women, followed by 82 per cent of Finns Party supporters, 79 per cent of National Coalition Party supporters, 78 per cent of Social Democratic Party supporters, 64 per cent of The Greens supporters and 42 per cent of Left Alliance supporters.

Sixteen per cent of respondents, 16 per cent of men and 15 per cent of women, are negatively disposed towards the current system with general conscription for men and voluntary military service for women. Twenty-three per cent of those aged 25–34 hold a negative attitude towards the current system, followed by 19 per cent of those aged under 25, 18 per cent of those aged 35–49 and 11 per cent of those aged over 50.

By party affiliation, 44 per cent of Left Alliance Party supporters are negatively disposed towards the current system with general conscription for men and voluntary military service for women, followed by 44 per cent of The Greens supporters, 28 per cent of Social Democratic Party supporters, 14 per cent of National Coalition Party supporters, 13 per cent of Finns Party supporters and nine per cent of Centre Party supporters.

Nine per cent of respondents, 11 per cent of women and eight per cent of men, are undecided. By age, 15 per cent of those aged 25–34 are undecided, followed by 12 per cent of those aged under 25, 11 per cent of those aged 35–49 and six per cent of those aged over 50.

By party affiliation, 14 per cent of Left Alliance supporters are undecided, followed by nine per cent of The Greens supporters, eight per cent of National Coalition Party and Social Democratic Party supporters, five per cent of Finns Party supporters and two per cent of Centre Party supporters. (Figure 12)

### 3.4 Support also for general conscription for all and for civic service

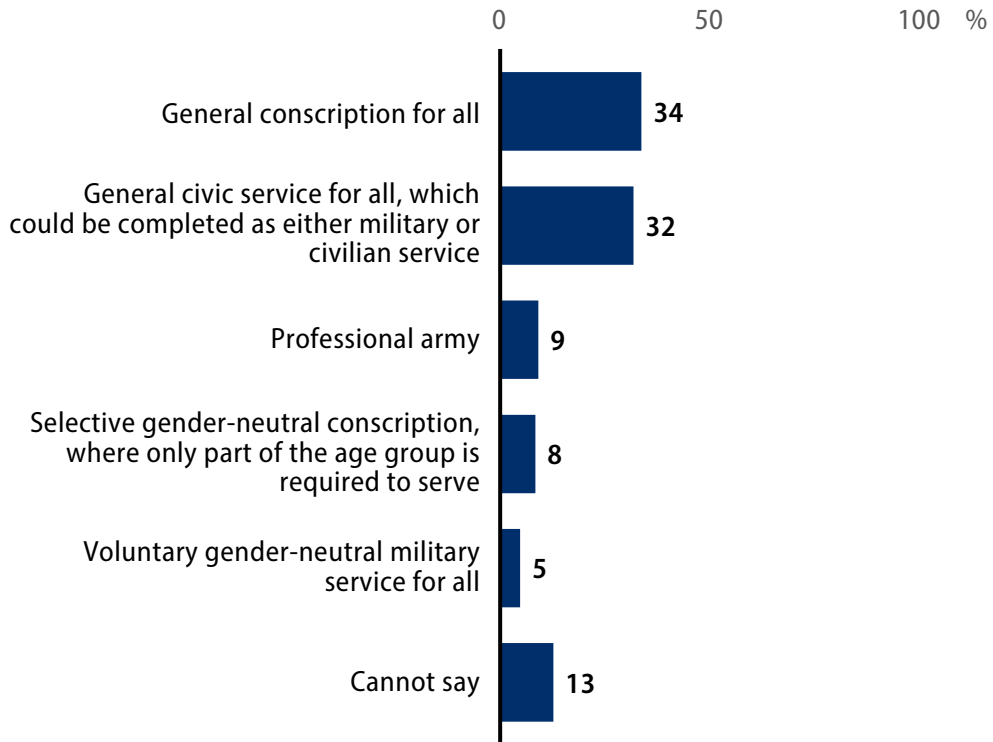
Respondents were also asked: "If the Finnish defence system was not based on the current system with general conscription for men and voluntary military service for women, in your opinion, which of the following alternatives should be the basis of the Finnish defence system?"

- Thirty-four per cent of respondents, 46 per cent of men and 21 per cent of women, favour "general conscription for all". By age, 38 per cent of those aged over 50 share this view, followed by 30 per cent of those aged 25–34 and 35–49 and 25 per cent of those aged under 25. By party affiliation, 52 per cent of Finns Party supporters favour general conscription for all, followed by 49 per cent of National Coalition Party supporters, 34 per cent of Centre Party supporters, 28 per cent of Social Democratic Party supporters, 24 per cent of The Greens supporters and 20 per cent of Left Alliance supporters.
- Thirty-two per cent of respondents, 40 per cent of women and 23 per cent of men, prefer "civic service for all that could be completed either as military service or non-military service". By age, 35 per cent of those aged 35–49 share this view, followed by 33 per cent of those over 50, 28 per cent of those aged 25–34 and 27 per cent of those aged under 25. Forty-nine per cent of The Greens supporters favour civil service for all, followed by 39 per cent of Centre Party supporters. 37 per cent of Social Democratic Party supporters, 25 per cent of National Coalition Party supporters and 20 per cent of Finns Party supporters.
- Nine per cent of respondents, nine per cent of women and men, favour "a professional army". Fifteen per cent of those aged 35–49 share this view, followed by 12 per cent of those aged under 25, ten per cent of those aged 25–34 and five per cent of those aged over 50. By party affiliation, 13 per cent of Finns Party supporters prefer a professional army, followed by nine per cent of Left Alliance supporters, eight per cent of Social Democratic Party supporters, five per cent of Centre Party and The Greens supporters and four per cent of National Coalition Party supporters.

- Eight per cent of respondents, nine per cent of women and eight per cent of men, prefer “a selective, gender-neutral conscription, obligating only a part of the age group to military service”. Thirteen per cent of those aged under 25 share this view, followed by nine per cent of those aged 25–34, eight per cent of those aged 35–49 and seven per cent of those aged over 50. By party affiliation, 13 per cent of Left Alliance supporters prefer a selective, gender-neutral conscription, followed by 12 per cent of National Coalition Party and The Greens supporters, 11 per cent of Social Democratic Party supporters, seven per cent of Centre Party supporters and five per cent of Finns Party supporters.
- Five per cent, six per cent of women and three per cent of men, favour “a gender-neutral voluntary military service for all”. Eight per cent of those aged under 25 share this view, followed by six per cent of those aged 25–34 and four per cent of those aged 35–49 and over 50. Eleven per cent of Left Alliance supporters prefer a gender-neutral voluntary military service for all, followed by seven per cent of The Greens supporters, four per cent of Social Democratic Party supporters, three per cent of Finns Party supporters and one per cent of National Coalition Party and Centre Party supporters.
- Thirteen per cent, 16 per cent of women and ten per cent of men, answer “I do not know”. By age, 17 per cent of those aged 25–34 are undecided, followed by 15 per cent of those aged under 25, 12 per cent of those aged over 50 and nine per cent of those aged 35–49. Fourteen per cent of Centre Party supporters are undecided, followed by 12 per cent of Social Democratic Party supporters, nine per cent of Left Alliance supporters, eight per cent of National Coalition Party supporters, seven per cent of Finns Party supporters and three per cent of The Greens supporters. (Figure 13)

**Figure 13A.** Finland's defence system

"If Finland's defense system were not based on the current model of general conscription for men and voluntary military service for women, which of the following do you think Finland's defense system should be based on?"



## 4 NATO, the EU and other international cooperation

### 4.1 Eight in ten view Finland's NATO membership positively

Finland became a member of NATO on 4 April 2023. This is the third time the survey asked about Finns' views on Finland's membership in NATO.

Finland's membership in NATO is viewed positively by 84 per cent (82% in 2024) of respondents: 49 per cent (45%) have a very positive view and 35 per cent (37%) have a somewhat positive view.

Eighty-five per cent (82% in 2024) of men and 84 per cent (83%) of women view Finland's NATO membership positively. By age, 89 per cent (87%) of those aged over 50 share this view, followed by 80 per cent (83%) of those aged 35–49 and 78 per cent (79% and 72% respectively) of those aged under 25 and 25–34.

By party affiliation, support for Finland's NATO membership is highest among Centre Party supporters at 95 per cent (93% in 2024), followed by 91 per cent (91%) of National Coalition Party supporters, 89 per cent (91%) of Social Democratic Party supporters, 86 per cent (87%) of The Greens supporters, 81 per cent (80%) of Finns Party supporters, and 72 per cent (61%) of Left Alliance supporters.

Ten per cent (12% in 2024) of respondents view Finland's NATO membership negatively, with six per cent (7%) holding a somewhat negative view and four per cent (5%) a very negative view.

Eleven per cent (11% in 2024) of men and nine per cent (11%) of women view Finland's NATO membership negatively. Thirteen per cent (14%) of those aged 25–34 share this view, followed by 12 per cent (14%) of those aged 35–49, eleven per cent (6%) of those under 25 and seven per cent (10%) of those aged over 50.

By party affiliation, 20 per cent (28% in 2024) of Left Alliance supporters view Finland's NATO membership negatively, followed by 14 per cent (17%) of Finns Party supporters, eight (8%) of The Greens supporters, six per cent (2% and 5% respectively) of National Coalition Party and Social Democratic Party supporters and one per cent (7%) of Centre Party supporters.

Six per cent (6% in 2024) of respondents, eight per cent (6%) of women and five per cent (6%) of men, have no opinion on Finland's NATO membership. (Figure 14)

## 4.2 NATO membership, receiving and providing assistance

A key principle guiding NATO's activities is Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty:

"The Parties agree that an armed attack against one or more of them in Europe or North America shall be considered an attack against them all and consequently they agree that, if such an armed attack occurs, each of them, in exercise of the right of individual or collective self-defence recognised by Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations, will assist the Party or Parties so attacked by taking forthwith, individually and in concert with the other Parties, such action as it deems necessary, including the use of armed force, to restore and maintain the security of the North Atlantic area."

This is the third time the ABDI survey asked about respondents' views on providing and receiving assistance.

### 4.2.1 Finns expect that NATO Allies will help Finland

"Other NATO member states should be prepared to defend Finland if Finland was under armed attack."

Respondents' views on this statement were very similar compared to the previous year.

Eighty-one per cent (80% in 2024) of respondents, 82 per cent (80%) of men and 80 per cent (81%) of women, fully agree that our Allies should be prepared to defend Finland. By age, 86 per cent (84%) of those aged over 50 share this view, followed by 83 per cent (71%) of those aged 25–34, 79 per cent (85%) of those aged 35–49 and 63 per cent (70%) of those aged under 25.

By party affiliation, 88 per cent (89%) of Centre Party supporters fully agree that our Allies should be prepared to defend Finland, followed by 85 per cent (86%) of Social Democratic Party supporters, 84 per cent (90% and 81% respectively) of National Coalition Party and The Greens supporters, 81 per cent (80%) of Finns Party supporters and 80 per cent (77%) of Left Alliance supporters.

Fourteen per cent (13% in 2024) of respondents, 14 per cent (13%) of women and 13 per cent (12%) of men, agree to some extent that our Allies should be prepared to defend Finland. By age, 26 per cent (19%) of those aged under 25 share this view, followed by 16 per cent (12%) of those aged 35–49 and 10 per cent (17% and 10% respectively) of those aged 25–34 and over 50.

Fourteen per cent (14% and 17% in 2024, respectively) of Finns Party and The Greens supporters agree to some extent that our Allies should be prepared to defend Finland, followed by 12 per cent (12%, 7% and 13% respectively) of Social Democratic Party, Centre Party and Left Alliance supporters and nine per cent (6%) of National Coalition Party supporters.

One per cent (3% in 2024) of respondents, one per cent (2%) of women and one per cent (4%) of men, disagree to some extent that our Allies should be prepared to defend Finland.

One per cent (1% in 2024) of respondents, one per cent (1%) of men and zero per cent (1%) of women, fully disagree that our Allies should be prepared to defend Finland.

Four per cent (2% in 2024) of respondents, five per cent (2%) of women and three per cent (2%) of men, have no opinion. (Figure 15)

#### 4.2.2 Finns consider Finland obliged to assist NATO Allies

“Finland should be prepared to defend another NATO member state if that state was under armed attack.”

Respondents' views on this statement, too, were very similar compared to the previous year.

Sixty-six per cent (64% in 2024) of respondents, 70 per cent (69%) of men and 63 per cent (60%) of women, fully agree that Finland should be prepared to help NATO Allies. By age, 74 per cent (68%) of those aged 35–49 share this view, followed by 70 per cent (62%) of those aged 25–34, 66 per cent (63%) of those aged over 50 and 51 per cent (63%) of those aged under 25.

By party affiliation, 78 per cent (63% in 2024) of The Greens supporters fully agree that Finland should be prepared to help NATO Allies, followed by 73 per cent (79%) of National Coalition Party supporters, 70 per cent (66%) of Centre Party supporters, 69 per cent (70%) of Social Democratic Party supporters, 64 per cent (63%) of Finns Party supporters and 60 per cent (59%) of Left Alliance supporters.

Twenty-five per cent (27% in 2024) of respondents, 27 per cent (29%) of women and 23 per cent (24%) of men, agree to some extent that Finland should be prepared to help NATO Allies. By age, 37 per cent (26%) of those aged under 25 share this view, followed by 27 per cent (27%) of those aged over 50, 21 per cent (27%) of those aged 25–34 and 17 per cent (24%) of those aged 35–49.

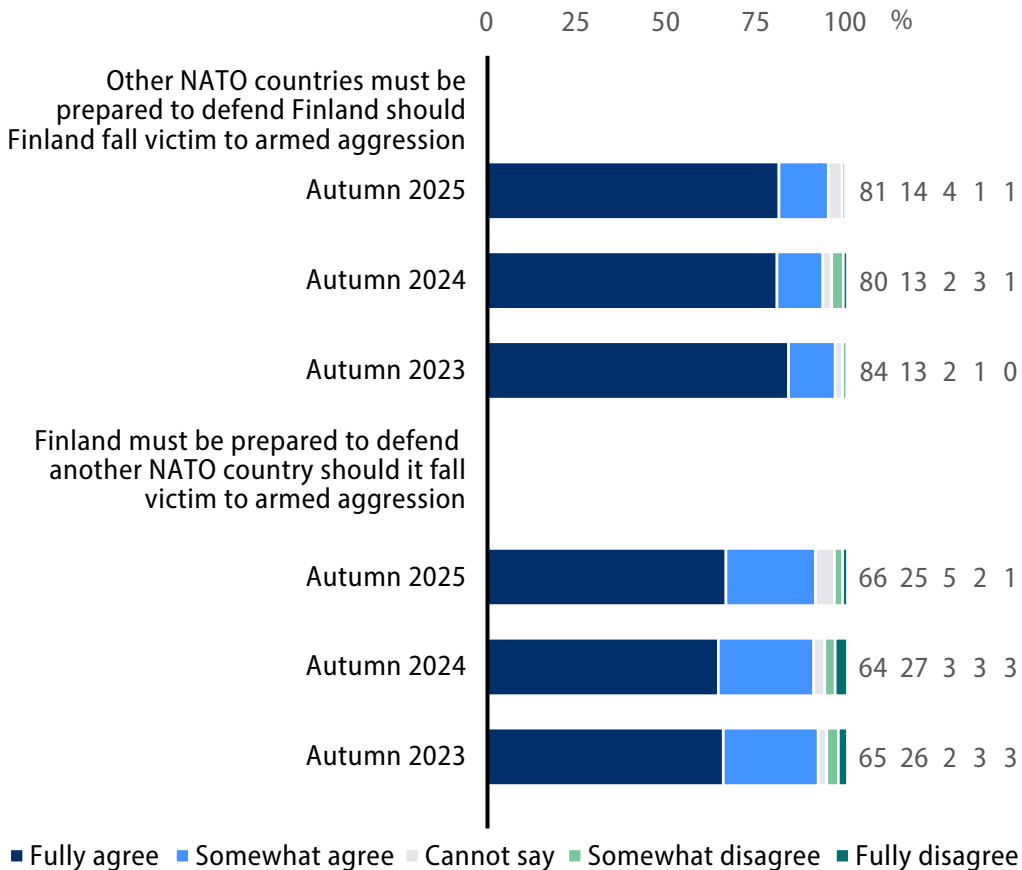
Twenty-eight per cent (23% in 2024) of Left Alliance supporters agree to some extent that Finland should be prepared to help NATO Allies, followed by 26 per cent (27% and 24% respectively) of Social Democratic Party and Finns Party supporters, 24 per cent (27%) of Centre Party supporters, 19 per cent (32%) of The Greens supporters and 17 per cent (15%) of National Coalition Party supporters.

Two per cent (3% in 2024) of respondents, three per cent (3%) of men and two per cent (3%) of women, disagree to some extent that Finland should be prepared to help NATO Allies.

One per cent (1% in 2024) of respondents, one per cent (3%) of men and one per cent (4%) of women, fully disagree that Finland should be prepared to help NATO Allies.

Five per cent (3% in 2024) of respondents, eight per cent (4%) of women and three per cent (2%) of men, have no opinion. (Figure 16)

**Figure 15A.** NATO membership, access to assistance and providing assistance  
 "What do you think of the following statements?"



### 4.3 Finns are divided in their trust in the readiness of the United States to comply with its NATO commitments and defend Finland or other European countries

This year, the survey asked for the first time: "Do you believe that if a war broke out the United States would be prepared to defend Finland or other European countries in compliance with its NATO commitments?"

Thirty-nine per cent of respondents, 51 per cent of men and 28 per cent of women, believe that the United States would be prepared to defend Finland or other European countries within its NATO commitments. By age, 46 per cent of those aged 35–49 share this belief, followed by 38 per cent of those aged over 50, 37 per cent of those aged under 25 and 35 per cent of those aged 25–34.

By party affiliation, 55 per cent of Finns Party supporters share this belief, followed by 50 per cent of National Coalition Party supporters, 44 per cent of Centre Party supporters, 36 per cent of Social Democratic Party supporters, 27 per cent of The Greens supporters and 25 per cent of Left Alliance supporters.

Thirty-five per cent of respondents, 43 per cent of men and 27 per cent of women, do not believe that the United States would be prepared to defend Finland or other European countries within its NATO commitments. By age, 40 per cent of those aged 25–34 share this belief, followed by 39 per cent of those aged under 25, 35 per cent of those aged over 50 and 35 per cent of those aged 35–49.

By party affiliation, 58 per cent of Left Alliance supporters share this belief, followed by 43 per cent of Social Democratic Party supporters, 38 per cent of The Greens supporters, 37 per cent of Centre Party supporters, 28 per cent of Finns Party supporters and 18 per cent of National Coalition Party supporters.

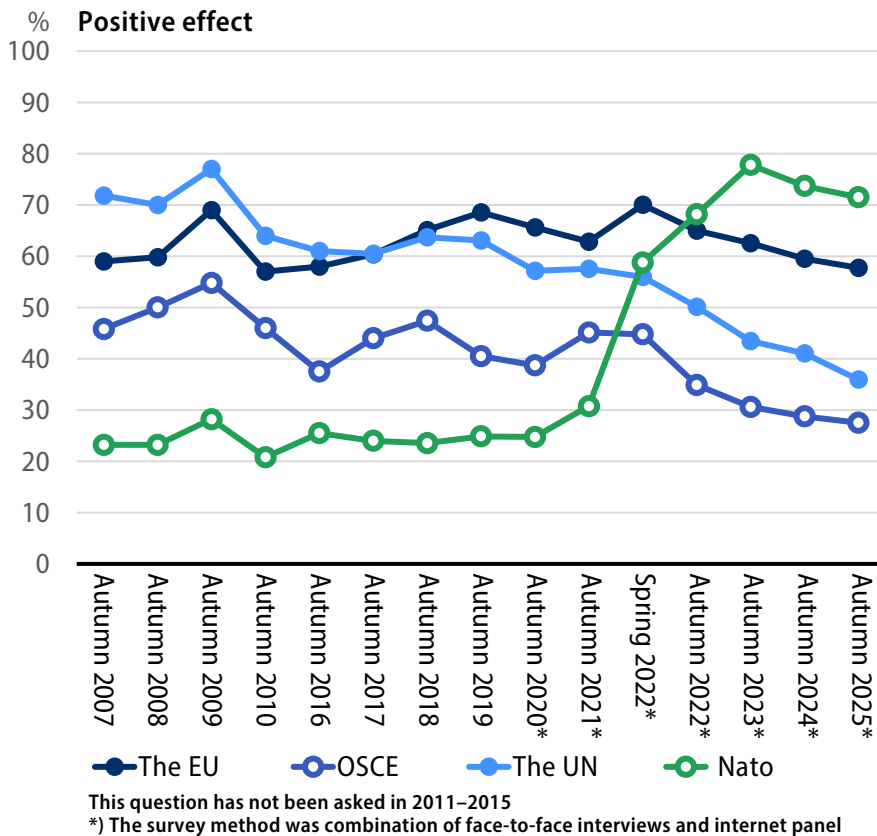
Twenty-six per cent of respondents, 29 per cent of women and 22 per cent of men, are undecided. By age, 27 per cent of those aged over 50 and 24 per cent of those aged under 25, 25–34 and 35–49 are undecided.

By party affiliation, 35 per cent of The Greens supporters are undecided, followed by 32 per cent of National Coalition Party supporters, 21 per cent of Social Democratic Party supporters, 19 per cent of Centre Party supporters and 17 per cent of Left Alliance and Finns Party supporters. (Figure 17)

#### **4.4 Nordic countries and NATO considered to have the most positive impact on Finland's security**

Respondents were asked to assess how security in Finland is affected by four international organisations (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the European Union (EU), the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the United Nations (UN)), four countries (the United Kingdom, China, Russia and the United States) and one group of countries (the Nordic countries). This question has been asked 15 times, with the United Kingdom included for the third time. The Nordic countries are included for the first time.

**Figure 19A.** The impact of various factors on Finland's security (I)  
 "How do you assess the impact of the following factors on Finland's security?"



## NATO

NATO is still ranked the most positive of the international organisations listed.

Positive impact: 72 per cent (74% in 2024); no impact: two per cent (3%); negative impact: four per cent (7%); both positive and negative impact: 16 per cent (13%).  
 No opinion: seven per cent (4%).

## EU

The EU's positive impact rating has fluctuated over the years between 57 and 70 per cent and is now at the second lowest level in the history of the survey.

Positive impact: 58 per cent (59% in 2024); no impact: ten per cent (13%); negative impact: five per cent (9%); both positive and negative impact: 20 per cent (15%).  
 No opinion: seven per cent (5%).

## UN

Last year, estimates of the positive impact of the UN on security in Finland were the lowest recorded, and this downturn trend continues.

Positive impact: 36 per cent (41% in 2024); no impact: 33 per cent (35%); negative impact: four per cent (4%); both positive and negative impact: ten per cent (9%).  
No opinion: 16 per cent (11%).

## OSCE

As regards the impact of the OSCE on security in Finland, this year, too, most respondents are undecided, and the proportion of those who are undecided has continued to grow.

Positive impact: 28 per cent (29% in 2024); no impact: 25 per cent (26%); negative impact: one per cent (3%); both positive and negative impact: six per cent (7%).  
No opinion: 40 per cent (35%).

## Nordic Countries

The Nordic countries were included in this question for the first time. Respondents estimate that the Nordic countries have “only” positive impact on security in Finland.

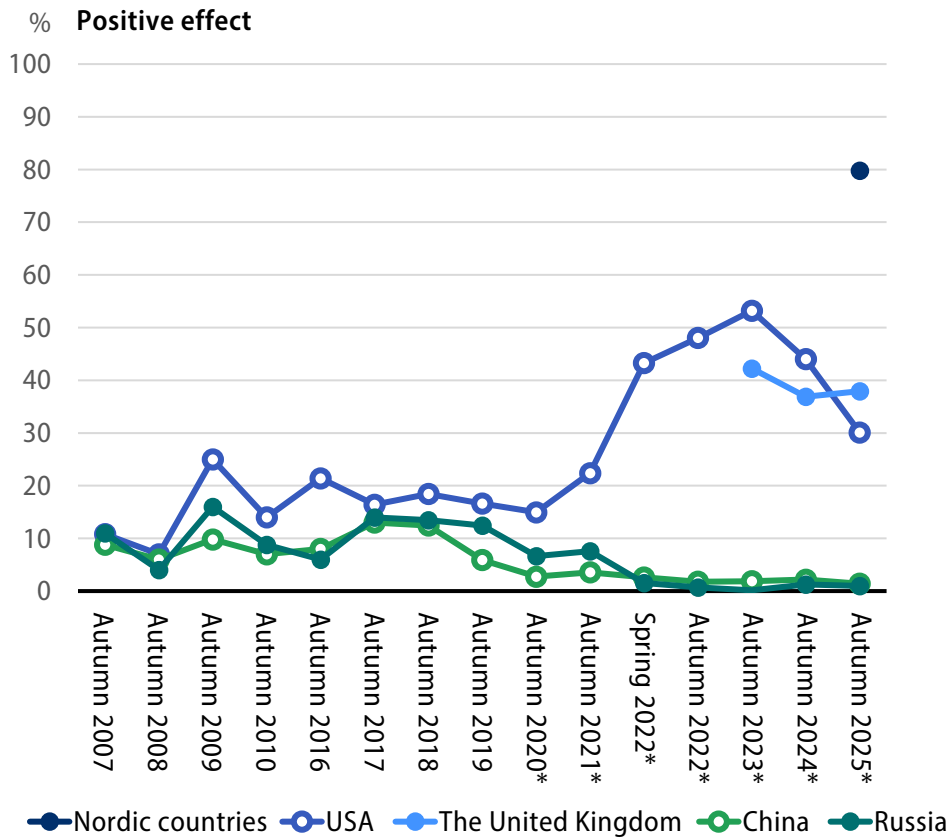
Positive impact: 80 per cent; no impact: seven per cent; negative impact: one per cent; both positive and negative impact: four per cent. No opinion: eight per cent.

## United Kingdom

This is the second time the survey asked about the impact of the United Kingdom. The impact of the United Kingdom on Finland’s security is estimated to be at the same level as the year before. The United Kingdom ranks now higher than the United States in terms of its perceived positive impact on Finland’s security.

Positive impact: 38 per cent (37% in 2024); no impact: 26 per cent (30%); negative impact: four per cent (4%); both positive and negative impact: nine per cent (9%).  
No opinion: 24 per cent (20%).

**Figure 19B.** The impact of various factors on Finland's security (II)  
 "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

### United States

The positive impact of the United States on security in Finland is estimated to have decreased further. A decline in the estimates of positive US impact on Finland’s was first detected the previous year. This decline has continued, although the estimates are still far from the lowest levels recorded.

Positive impact: 30 per cent (44% in 2024); no impact: nine per cent (8%); negative impact: 13 per cent (10%); both positive and negative impact: 37 per cent (29%).  
 No opinion: 12 per cent (9%).

## China

China's impact on Finland's security is estimated to be at the same level as the year before.

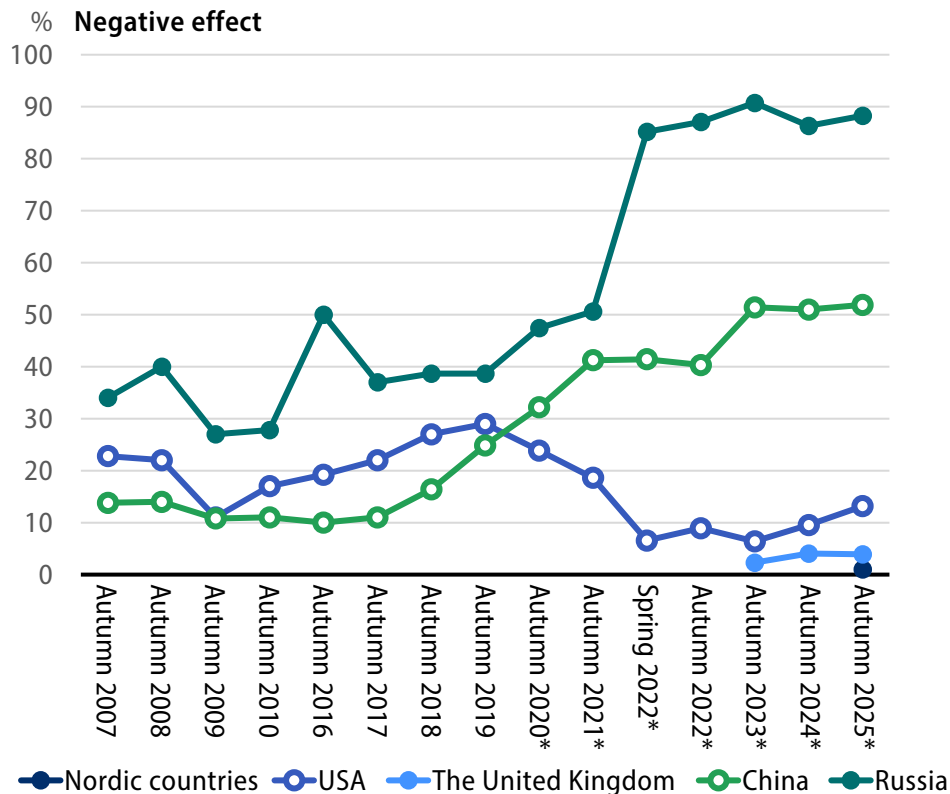
Positive impact: one per cent (2% in 2024); no impact: 13 per cent (16%); negative impact: 52 per cent (51%); both positive and negative impact: 17 per cent (18%).  
No opinion: 16 per cent (12%).

## Russia

The estimates of Russia's impact on Finland's security are at the same level as the year before: the proportion of negative estimates is very high.

Positive impact: one per cent (1% in 2024); no impact: two per cent (5%); negative impact: 88 per cent (86%); both positive and negative impact: three per cent (4%).  
No opinion: six per cent (4%). (Figures 18, 19, 20 and 21)

**Figure 19C.** The impact of various factors on Finland's security (II)  
"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

## 4.5 Half of respondents report unchanged trust in the EU's future

The ABDI survey has asked about respondents' trust in the future of the European Union for 11 times: "How would you describe your level of trust in the future of the European Union? Has your trust strengthened, weakened or remained unchanged?"

Forty-nine per cent (51% in 2024) of respondents, 49 per cent (56% and 46% respectively) of both women and men, report that their trust in the EU's future has remained unchanged. By age, 53 per cent (51%) of those aged over 50 share this view, followed by 49 per cent (50%) of those aged 35–49, 44 per cent (61%) of those aged under 25 and 41 per cent (43%) of those aged 25–34.

By party affiliation, 57 per cent (57% in 2024) of The Greens supporters believe their trust in the EU's future is unchanged, followed by 56 per cent (57%) of Social Democratic Party supporters, 53 per cent (59%) of National Coalition Party supporters, 50 per cent (61% and 57% respectively) of Centre Party and Left Alliance supporters and 32 per cent (30%) of Finns Party supporters.

Thirty-three per cent (36% in 2024) of respondents, 34 per cent (32%) of women and 33 per cent (40%) of men, believe their trust in the EU's future has weakened. By age, 39 per cent (39%) of those aged 25–34 share this view, followed by 35 per cent (39%) of those aged 35–49 and 31 per cent (20% and 38% respectively) of those aged under 25 and over 50.

Fifty-five per cent (60% in 2024) of Finns Party supporters report that their trust in the EU's future has weakened, followed by 40 per cent (31%) of Centre Party supporters, 31 per cent (30%) of Left Alliance supporters, 26 per cent (23%) of Social Democratic Party supporters, 21 per cent (26%) of The Greens supporters and 19 per cent (27%) of National Coalition Party supporters.

Twelve per cent (10% in 2024) of respondents, 13 per cent (13%) of men and ten per cent (7%) of women, report that their trust in the EU's future has strengthened. Twelve per cent (13%, 9% and 9% respectively) of those aged 25–34, 35–49 and over 50 share this view, followed by nine per cent (12%) of those aged under 25.

By party affiliation, 22 per cent (14% in 2024) of National Coalition Party supporters believe their trust in the EU's future has strengthened, followed by 17 per cent (16%) of The Greens supporters, 14 per cent (17% and 10% respectively) of Social Democratic Party and Left Alliance supporters, eight per cent (8%) of Finns Party supporters and five per cent (6%) of Centre Party supporters.

Six per cent (3% in 2024) of respondents, seven per cent (5%) of women and six per cent (1%) of men, are undecided. By age, 16 per cent (8%) of those aged under 25, nine per cent (5%) of those aged 25–34, five per cent (2%) of those aged 35–49 and four per cent (2%) of those aged over 50 are undecided. (Figures 22 and 23)

## 4.6 Assistance to Ukraine

This the fourth time the ABDI survey asked about helping Ukraine.

As a response to Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine, the European Union and its Member states, including Finland, have helped Ukraine both financially and militarily and by imposing sanctions on Russia.

Respondents were asked whether, in their opinion, Finland and the European Union should continue to support Ukraine:

- A) Financially
- B) Militarily
- C) By imposing sanctions.

The response options for each item were ‘maintain at the current level’, ‘increase assistance/sanctions’ and ‘reduce assistance/sanctions’.

### 4.6.1 Broad support for financial assistance to Ukraine

Fifty per cent (53% in 2024) of respondents, 54 per cent (60%) of women and 45 per cent (45%) of men, believe that Finland and the European Union should keep their financial assistance to Ukraine at the current level.

Thirty-three per cent (32% in 2024) of respondents, 40 per cent (39%) of men and 27 per cent (24%) of women, would increase the financial assistance to Ukraine.

Eleven per cent (11% in 2024) of respondents, 12 per cent (11%) of women and 11 per cent (11%) of men, would decrease the financial assistance to Ukraine.

Six per cent (5% in 2024) of respondents, seven per cent (5%) of women and four per cent (4%) of men, are undecided.

## 4.6.2 Support for more military assistance

Forty-two per cent (37% in 2024) of respondents, 51 per cent (47%) of men and 34 per cent (27%) of women, feel that the European Union and Finland should increase their military assistance to Ukraine.

Forty per cent (45% in 2024) of respondents, 45 per cent (55%) of women and 35 per cent (36%) of men, would keep the military assistance at the current level.

Nine per cent (11% in 2024) of respondents, 10 per cent (11%) of women and seven per cent (11%) of men, would reduce the military assistance to Ukraine.

Nine per cent (7% in 2024) of respondents, ten per cent (8%) of women and seven per cent (6%) of men, are undecided.

## 4.6.3 More support for increasing sanctions

Sixty-two per cent (51% in 2024) of respondents, 66 per cent (57%) of men and 58 per cent (45%) of women, think that the European Union and Finland should impose more sanctions on Russia.

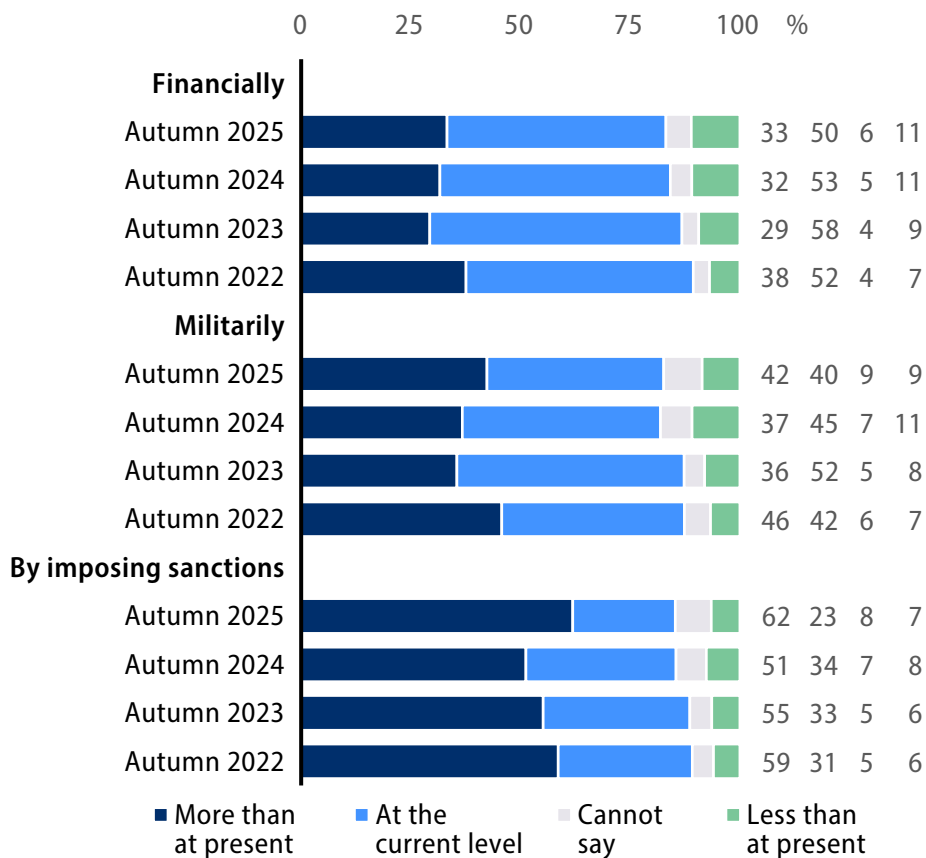
Twenty-three per cent (34% in 2024) of respondents, 25 per cent (40%) of women and 22 per cent (29%) of men, would keep the sanctions at the current level.

Seven per cent (8% in 2024) of respondents, seven per cent (10%) of men and six per cent (6%) of women, would reduce the sanctions.

Eight per cent (7% in 2024) of respondents, ten per cent (9%) of women and six per cent (4%) of men, are undecided. (Figures 24, 25 and 26)

**Figure 24A.** 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?"



## 5 Foreign and security policy, security

### 5.1 Trust in the management of foreign policy unchanged from last year

Once again, the ABDI survey asked respondents how well or poorly they believed Finland's foreign policy has been managed in recent years.

Sixty-eight per cent (67%) of respondents, 72 per cent (67%) of men and 64 per cent (68%) of women, think that foreign policy has been well managed. By age, 78 per cent (76%) of those aged over 50 share this view, followed by 61 per cent (66%) of 35–49-year-olds, 59 per cent (56%) of 25–34-year-olds and 54 per cent (52%) of under-25-year-olds.

By party affiliation, 89 per cent (90% in 2024) of National Coalition Party supporters believe foreign policy has been well managed, followed by 84 per cent (86%) of Centre Party supporters, 71 per cent (67%) of Social Democratic Party supporters, 66 per cent (61%) of The Greens supporters, 65 per cent (67%) of Finns Party supporters and 46 per cent (47%) of Left Alliance supporters.

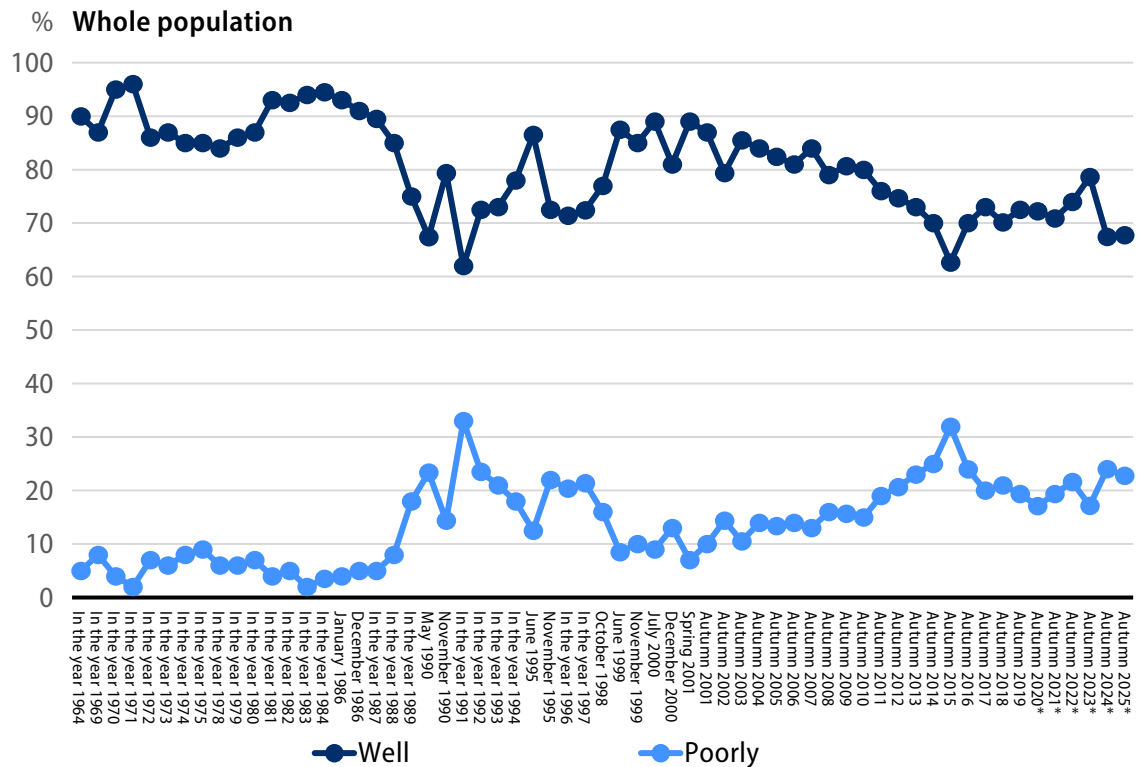
Twenty-three per cent (24% in 2024) of respondents, 23 per cent (23%) of women and 22 per cent (25%) of men, think that Finland's foreign policy is poorly managed. By age, 28 per cent (30% and 27% respectively) of those aged 25–34 and 35–49 share this view, followed by 26 per cent (22%) of those aged under 25 and 18 per cent (21%) of those aged over 50.

Forty-two per cent (44% in 2024) of Left Alliance supporters believe foreign policy has been poorly managed, followed by 32 per cent (32%) of The Greens supporters, 26 per cent (26%) of Finns Party supporters, 23 per cent (25%) of Social Democratic Party supporters, 13 per cent (11%) of Centre Party supporters and seven per cent (7%) of National Coalition Party supporters.

Nine per cent (9% in 2024) of respondents, 13 per cent (10%) of women and six per cent (7%) of men, are undecided. (Figures 27 and 28)

**Figure 28A.** 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

## 5.2 Finns perceive the future as less safe

"Considering the current global situation overall, do you believe that Finland and Finns will live in a safer or less safe world over the next five years compared to today?"

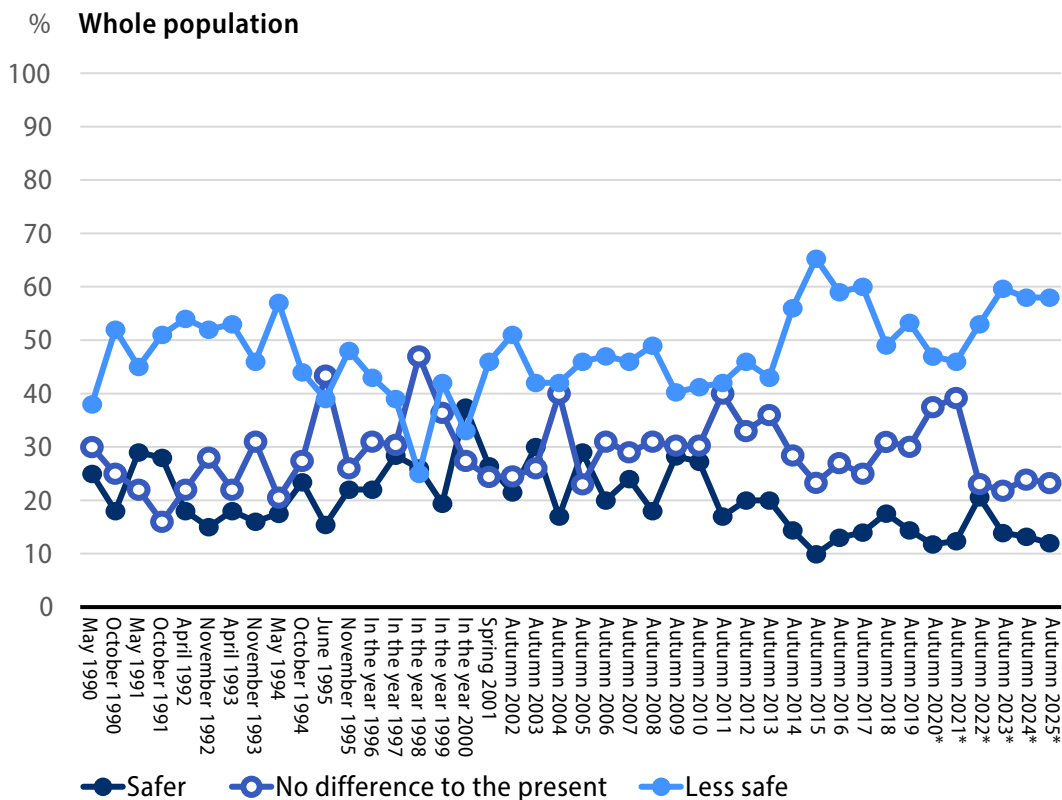
Fifty-eight per cent (58% in 2024) of respondents, 64 per cent (64%) of women and 51 per cent (53%) of men, believe that the world will be "less safe". By age, 59 per cent (59%) of those aged over 50 share this view, followed by 57 per cent (60%) of those aged 25–34, 56 per cent (47%) of those aged under 25 and 55 per cent (62%) of those aged 35–49.

Twenty-three per cent (24% in 2024) of respondents, 28 per cent (27%) of men and 18 per cent (21%) of women, believe that there will be “no difference from today”. By age, 28 per cent (25%) of those aged 35–49 share this view, followed by 24 per cent (22%) of those aged over 50, 18 per cent (29%) of those aged under 25 and 17 per cent (24%) of those aged 25–34.

Twelve per cent (13% in 2024) of respondents, 15 per cent (16%) of men and nine per cent (10%) of women, believe that the world will be “safer”. By age, 17 per cent (16%) of those aged under 25 share this view, followed by 14 per cent (8%) of those aged 25–34, 12 per cent (11%) of those aged 35–49 and ten per cent (15%) of those aged over 50.

Seven per cent (4% in 2024) of respondents, eight per cent (5%) of women and six per cent (4%) of men, are undecided. (Figures 29 and 30)

**Figure 29A.** 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

### 5.3 Nordic defence cooperation ranked as the most central factor affecting security

In this question, respondents were asked to estimate whether the five listed factors or phenomena increase or decrease security in Finland. The question was asked for the first time in 2004, and it was revised for this year's survey. This means that this year's results are not comparable to previous years' results. The list had eight factors in 2024, and now some of them were removed from the list or the wording was changed or the factor was taken into account elsewhere in the list.

This year, respondents were asked to estimate the impact of the following factors on Finland's and Finns' security in addition to NATO membership.

The results according to factors increasing Finland's security are as follows:

- Nordic defence cooperation: security increase 88%; security decrease 1%; no impact 4%; no opinion 7%.
- Diplomacy and conflict prevention: security increase 80%; security decrease 2%; no impact 10%; no opinion 8%.
- Strengthening the EU's defence industry cooperation: security increase 78%; security decrease 2%; no impact 8%; no opinion 12%.
- Developing the EU's defence cooperation: security increase 78%; security decrease 3%; no impact 9%; no opinion 10%.
- Contribution to international crisis management: security increase 56%; security decrease 6%; no impact 25%; no opinion 14%. (Figure 31)

Although this year's results are not comparable to previous years' results, the ranking of the factors or phenomena has remained largely the same as last year, for example.

## 5.4 Finns are most concerned about developments in Russia and Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine

This year, respondents were given a list of 31 factors or phenomena and asked to assess whether the factors and phenomena give them cause for concern and to what extent. The question is has been in the survey since 2004 and has undergone some changes over the years. Last year, it listed 22 factors or phenomena. This year, the changes are so numerous that the results are no longer comparable to previous years' results.

In this year's survey, the factors of concern were grouped into the following six sets: 1) the state of global politics, 2) military threats, 3) climate, environmental and health threats, 4) technology and energy, 5) internal security and 6) the economy.

The top five causes of concern are developments in Russia (85%), Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine (81%), developments in the United States (77%), war (76%) and the global refugee situation (73%).

The five least concerning factors or phenomena are major accidents (44%), inflation rate (47%), availability of energy (53%), increase in non-EU/EEA owners of Finnish businesses (53%) and racism (54%).

The results for factors causing a lot of or some concern are as follows:

- 1) The state of global politics
  - Developments in Russia 85%
  - Developments in the United States 77%
  - The global refugee situation 73%
  - Erosion of the rules-based international system 70%
  - Terrorism 70%
  - Situation in the Middle East 67%
  - Political coercion 62%
  - Developments in the Arctic security situation 57%

2) Military threats

- Russia’s war of aggression against Ukraine 81%
- War 76%
- Proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (nuclear, chemical and biological weapons) 72%
- The security situation in the Baltic Sea area 71%
- Dissolution of arms control agreements 63%

3) Climate, environmental and health threats

- Climate disaster 62%
- Environmental threats 55%
- Communicable diseases and epidemics 50%
- Major accidents 44%

4) Technology and energy

- Network attacks 68%
- Digitalisation as an tool for hostile influence activities 67%
- Damage to critical infrastructure 61%
- Accelerating development of AI 59%
- Availability of energy 53%

5) Internal security

- Political extremist movements 65%
- Organised crime 62%
- Polarisation in society 60%
- Information influence activities against Finland 59%
- Social inequality in Finland 57%
- Racism 54%

6) The economy

- Financial crisis (general government finances) 68%
- Increase in non-EU/EEA owners of Finnish businesses 53%
- Inflation rate 47%

(Figures 32–37)

## 6 Resilience

### 6.1 Finns think resilience is mostly at a high level in society

This year's survey asked for the first time: "How well do you think Finnish society is prepared for and able to respond to various incidents and crises?"

Seventy-nine per cent of respondents, 80 per cent of women and 79 per cent of men, estimate that Finnish society is either very well or fairly well prepared and able to respond to various incidents and crises.

By age, 81 per cent of those aged over 50 share this view, followed by 79 per cent of those aged 35–49, 77 per cent of those aged 25–34 and 76 per cent of those aged under 25.

By party affiliation, 90 per cent of Left Alliance supporters share this belief, followed by 83 per cent of Finns Party supporters, 82 per cent of National Coalition Party supporters, 81 per cent of Centre Party supporters, 78 per cent of Left Alliance supporters and 76 per cent of Social Democratic Party supporters.

Sixteen per cent of respondents, 17 per cent of men and 15 per cent of women, estimate that Finnish society is either very poorly or fairly poorly prepared and able to respond to various incidents and crises. By age, 21 per cent of those aged 25–34 share this view, followed by 19 per cent of those aged 35–49, 14 per cent of those aged over 50 and 11 per cent of those aged under 25.

By party affiliation, 18 per cent of Centre Party supporters share this belief, followed by 17 per cent of Social Democratic Party and Left Alliance supporters, 15 per cent of National Coalition Party supporters, 13 per cent of Finns Party supporters and seven per cent of The Greens supporters.

Five per cent of respondents, six per cent of women and four per cent of men, are undecided. (Figure 38)

## 6.2 Finns estimate their personal resilience lower than society's resilience

This year, the survey asked for the first time: "How adequate would you estimate your ability and your safety knowledge, skills and attitude for action in different kinds of incidents and crises?"

Sixty-seven per cent of respondents, 78 per cent of men and 57 per cent of women, estimate that their ability and safety knowledge, skills and attitude for action in different kinds of incidents and crises is very or fairly adequate. By age, 72 per cent of those aged 35–49 share this view, followed by 67 per cent of those aged 25–34, 66 per cent of those aged over 50 and 63 per cent of those aged under 25.

By party affiliation, 82 per cent of National Coalition Party supporters share this belief, followed by 72 per cent of Social Democratic Party supporters, 66 per cent of The Greens supporters, 69 per cent of Finns Party supporters, 57 per cent of Centre Party supporters and 50 per cent of Left Alliance supporters.

Twenty-seven per cent of respondents, 35 per cent of women and 17 per cent of men, estimate that their ability and safety knowledge, skills and attitude for action in different kinds of incidents and crises is very or fairly inadequate. By age, 30 per cent of those aged 25–34 share this view, followed by 27 per cent of those aged over 50, 25 per cent of those aged under 25 and 24 per cent of those aged 35–49.

By party affiliation, 47 per cent of Left Alliance supporters share this belief, followed by 38 per cent of Centre Party supporters, 34 per cent of The Greens supporters, 25 per cent of Finns Party supporters, 20 per cent of Social Democratic Party supporters and 15 per cent of National Coalition Party supporters.

Six per cent of respondents, seven per cent of women and six per cent of men, are undecided. (Figure 39)

## 7 Research Branch, chairpersons and secretariat of the ABDI

### 7.1 Research Branch of the ABDI

Chair:	Riku Keski-Rauska, PhD, Chief of Archives
Vice-chair:	Timo Perälä, Chief Inspector
Members:	Juha Hänninen, Member of Parliament Joonas Immonen, Journalist (until 20.10.2025) Otto Suhonen, student of law (as of 21.10.2025) Saara Jantunen-Paju, DMS, Senior Specialist Johanna Kelhu, M.Soc.Sc., Political Adviser Misa Kangaste, Captain (N), Director External Relations (until 20.10.2025) Pasi Hirvonen, Colonel, Vice Rector (as of 21.10.2025) Hannu Peurasaari, Special Adviser to the Minister Ida-Susanna Pöllänen, Specialist Kari Salmi, Brigadier General (ret.) Iiro Silvander, Committee Specialist Reija Taupila, Production Manager Markus Teir, Counsellor (until 3 April 2025) Hanna Lepistö, acting Head of Unit (4 April 2025–21.10.2025) Sven Kilemet, acting Head of Unit (as of 21.10.2025) Marikaisa Tiilikainen, Ministerial Adviser Pekka Tuuri, Head of Organisation
Branch-specific experts:	Katri Pynnöniemi, DSocSci, Associate Professor Miina Kaarkoski, PhD, Adjunct Professor

## 7.2 Chairs of the ABDI

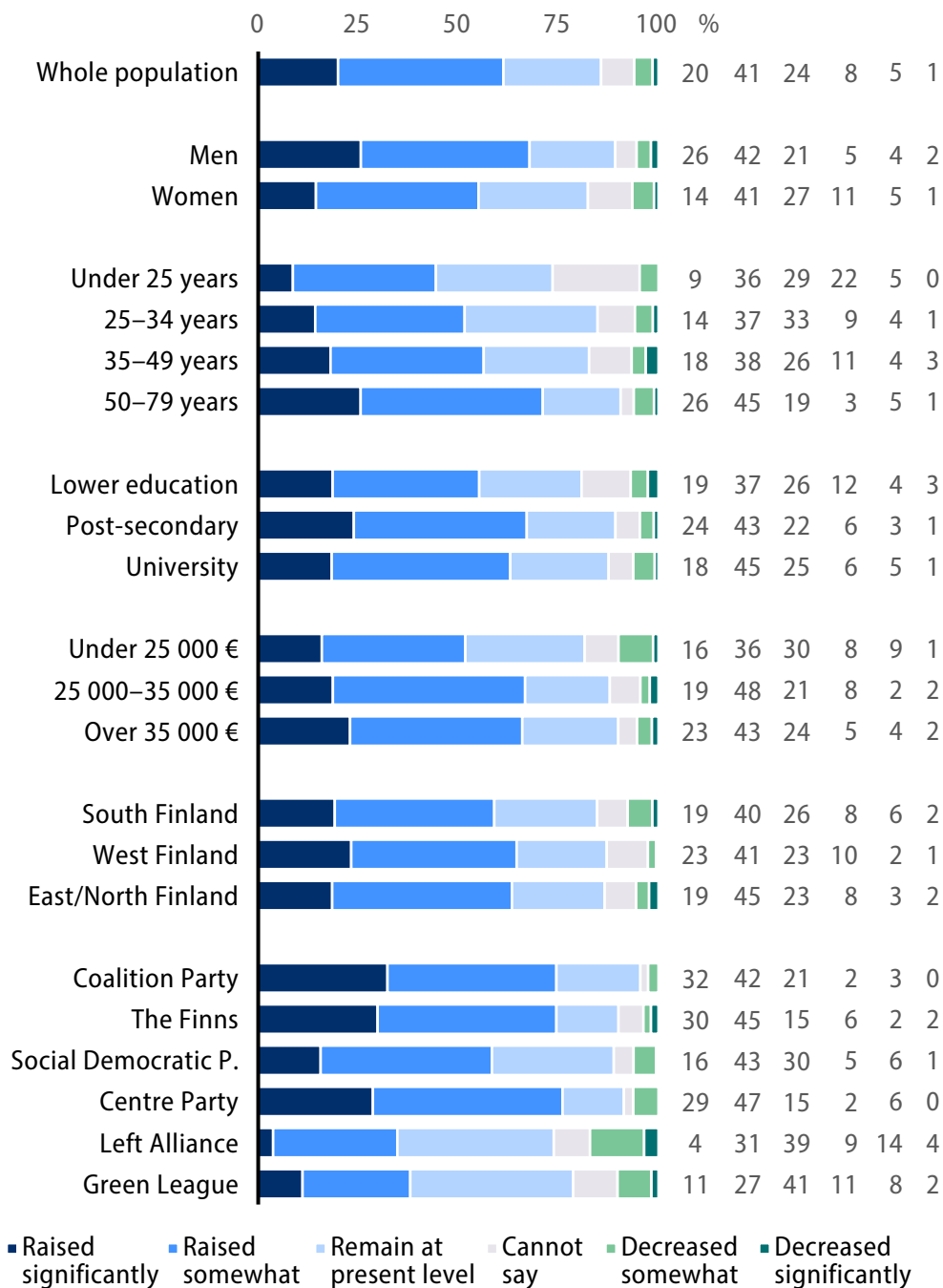
Chair:	Jarno Limnéll, DMilSc, Member of Parliament
Vice-chair:	Marika Sorja, Assistant to Member of Parliament
Vice-chair:	Tuula Väätäinen, Member of Parliament

## 7.3 Secretariat of the ABDI

Secretary General:	Markus Kinkku, MPoIsc
General Secretary:	Laura Renvall, MSocSc, MA Mus (Administrative Assistant until 28 February 2025)

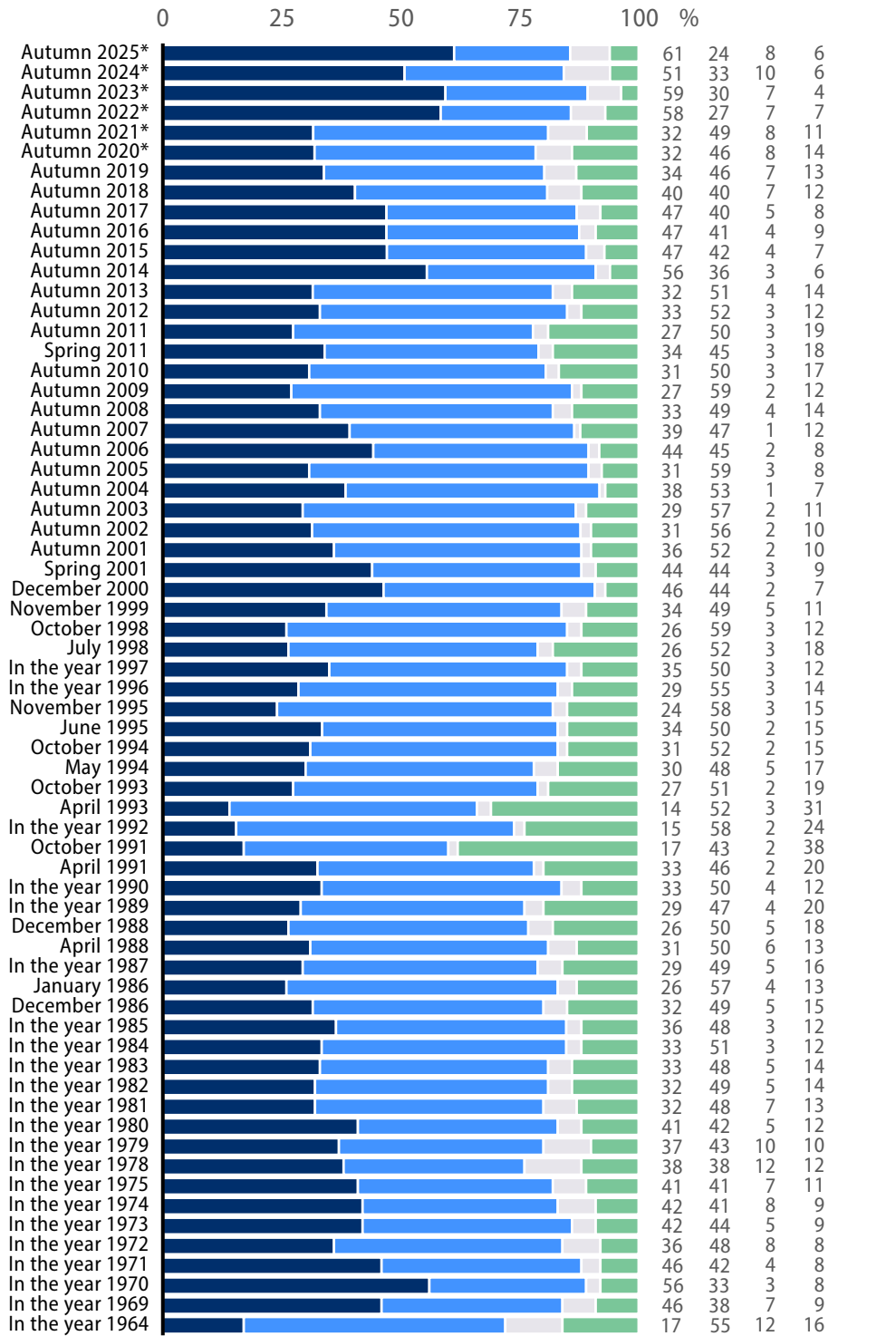
## 8 Appendix

**Figure 1.** Defence appropriations  
 "What is your opinion on funds allocated to the Defence Forces?"



**Figure 2.** Defence appropriations

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

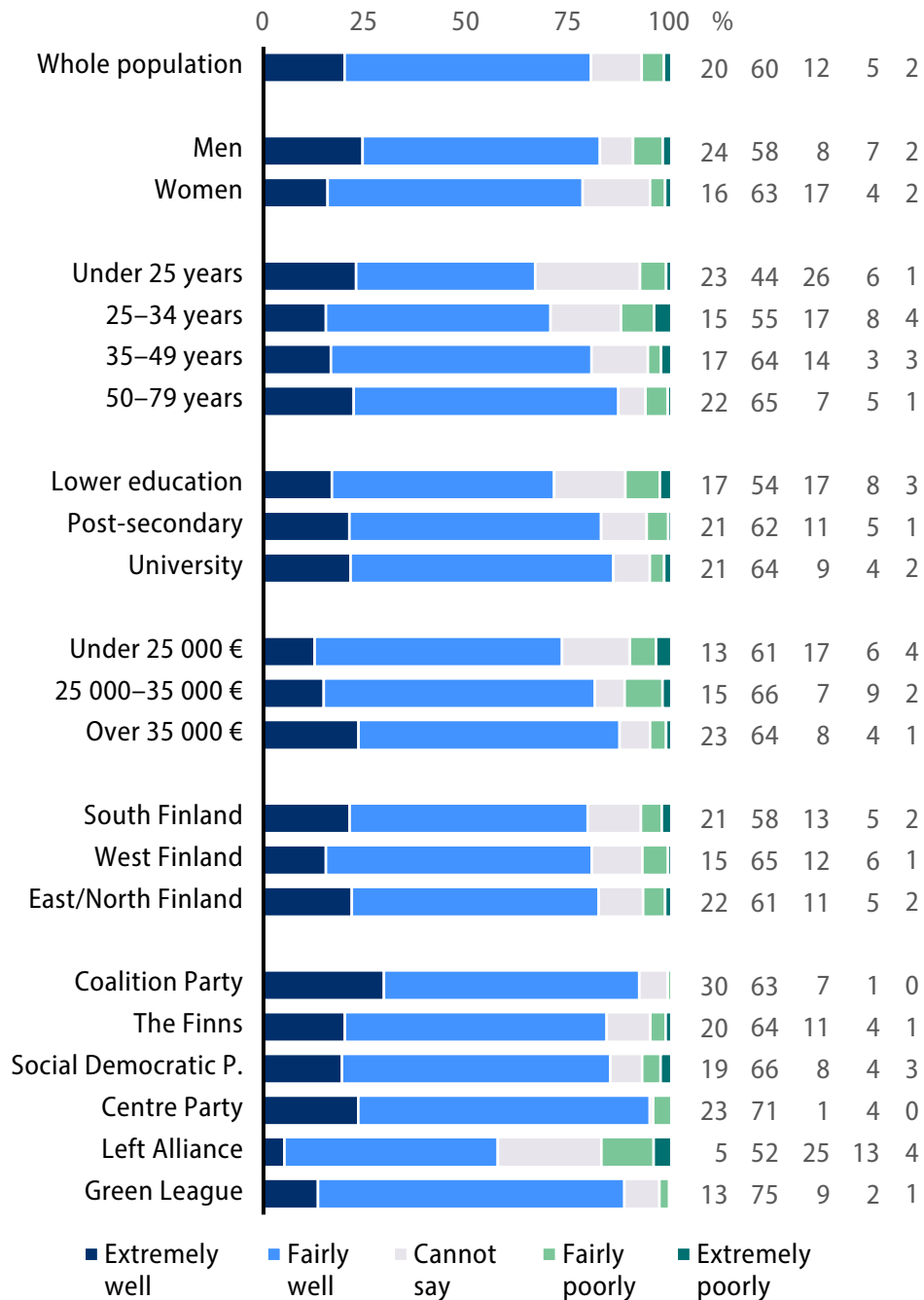


■ Should be raised ■ Remain at present level ■ Cannot say ■ Should be decreased

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

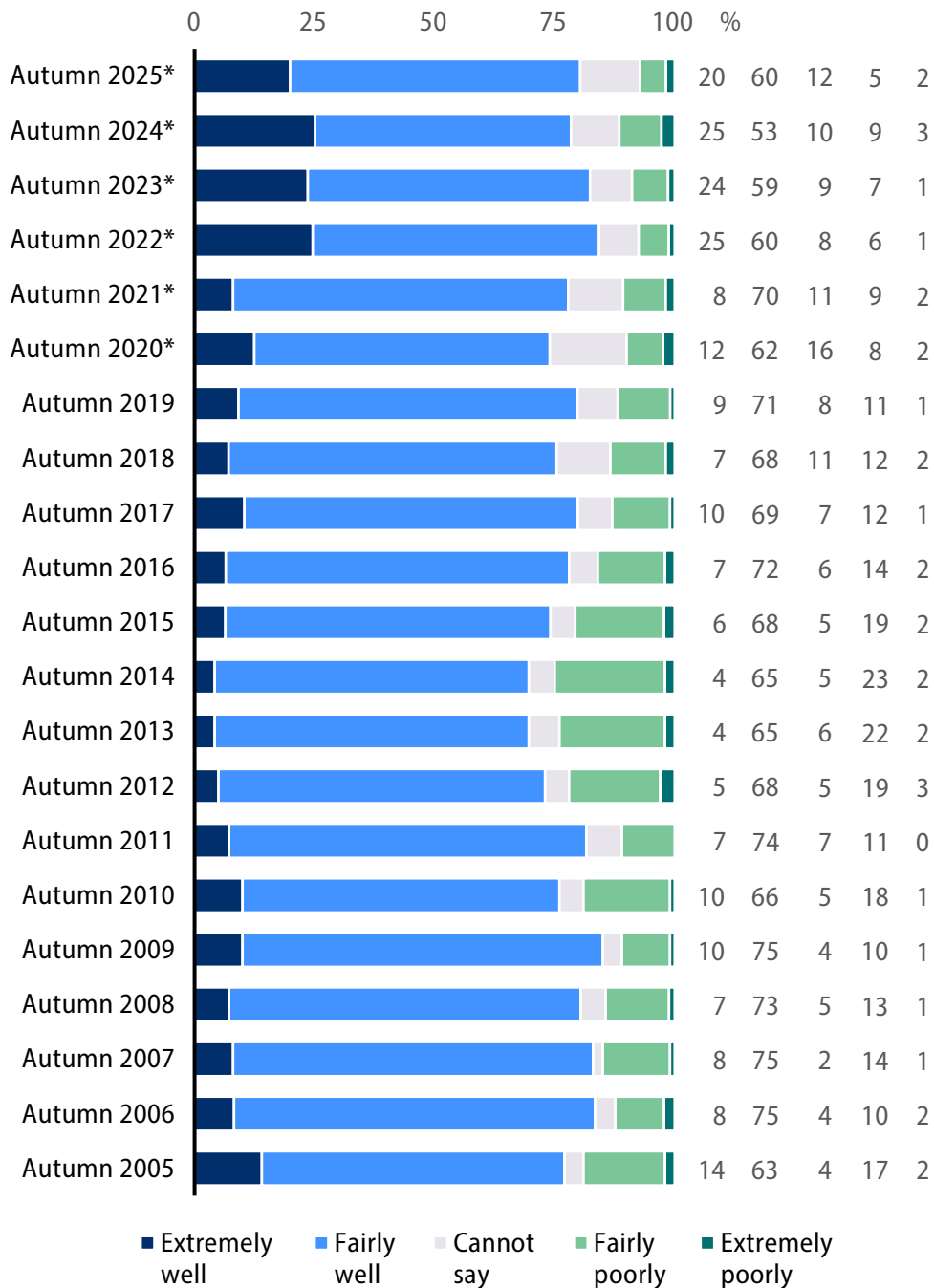
**Figure 3.** The conduct of defence policy in Finland

"In your opinion, how well or how poorly has Finland's defence policy been conducted in recent years?"



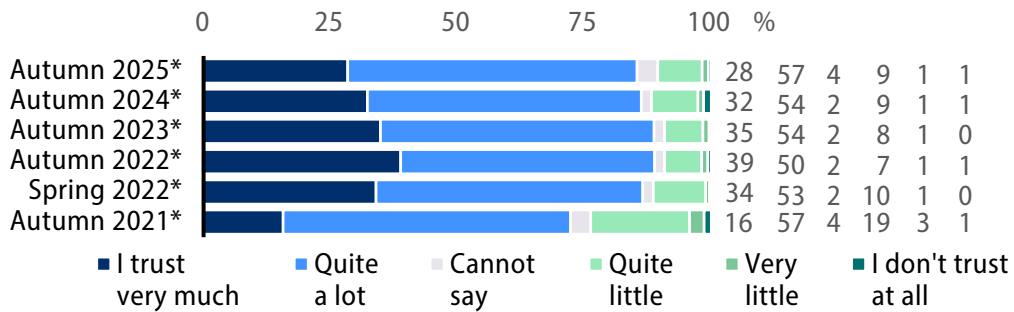
**Figure 4.** The conduct of defence policy in Finland

"In your opinion, how well or how poorly has Finland's defence policy been conducted in recent years?"

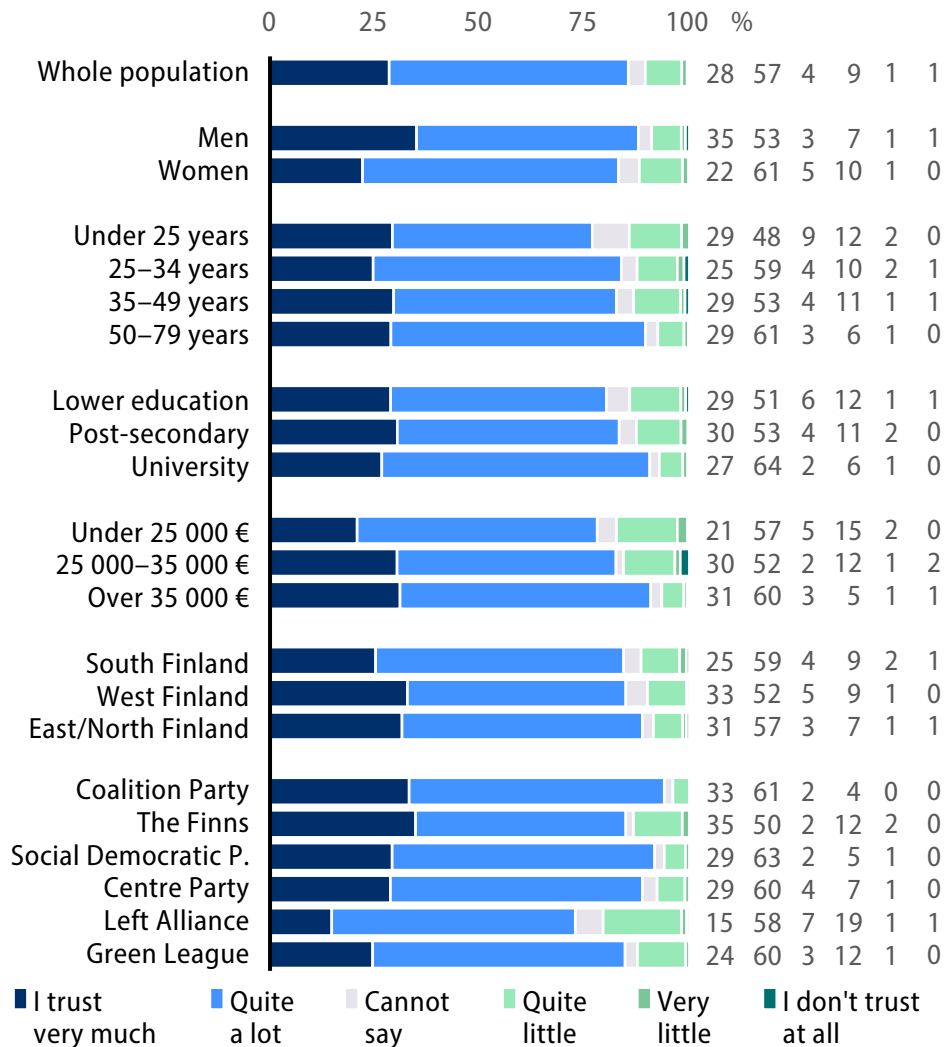


\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

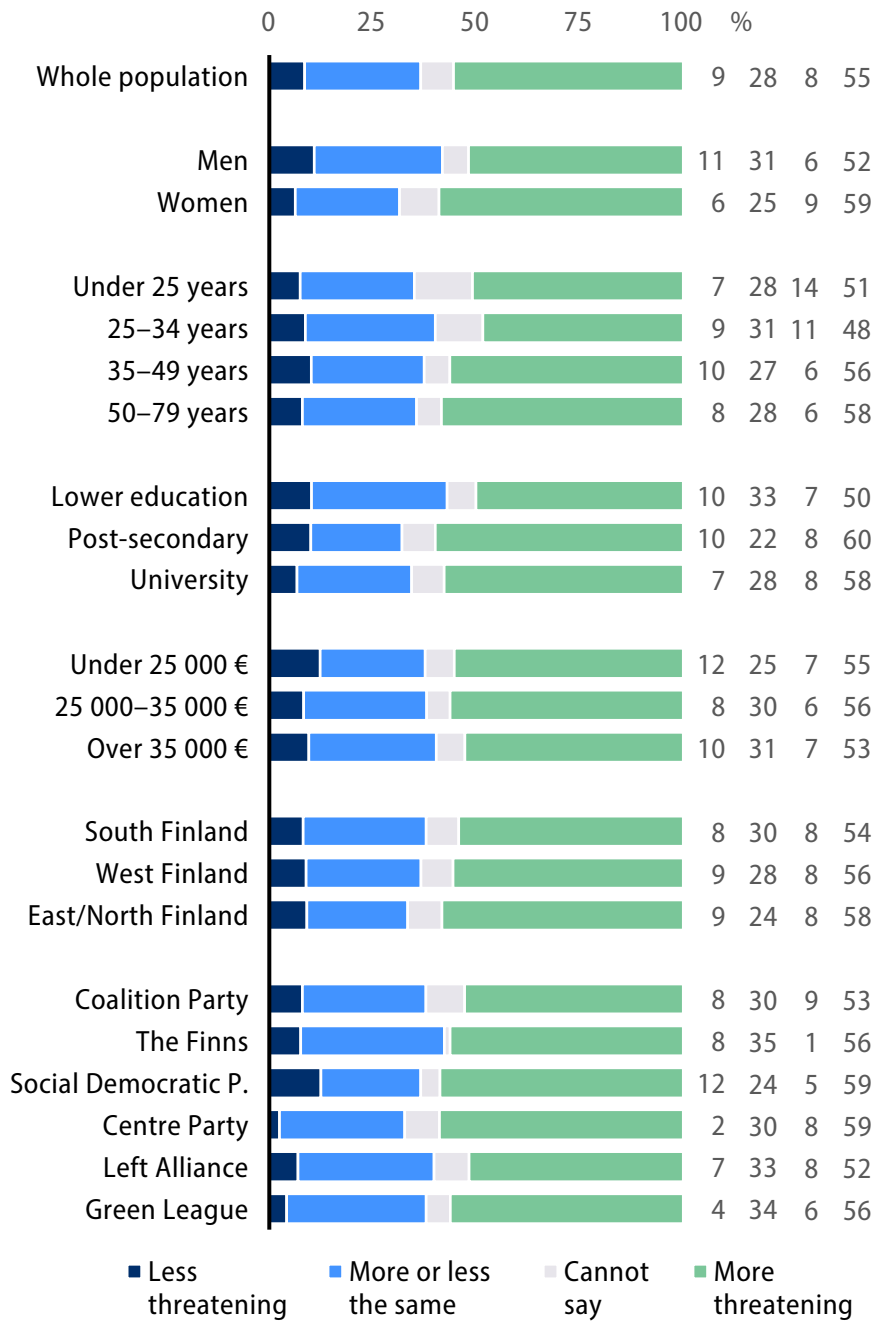
**Figure 5.** Confidence in Finland's military defence capability  
 "Do you trust the Defence Forces' ability to defend Finland against various military threats?"



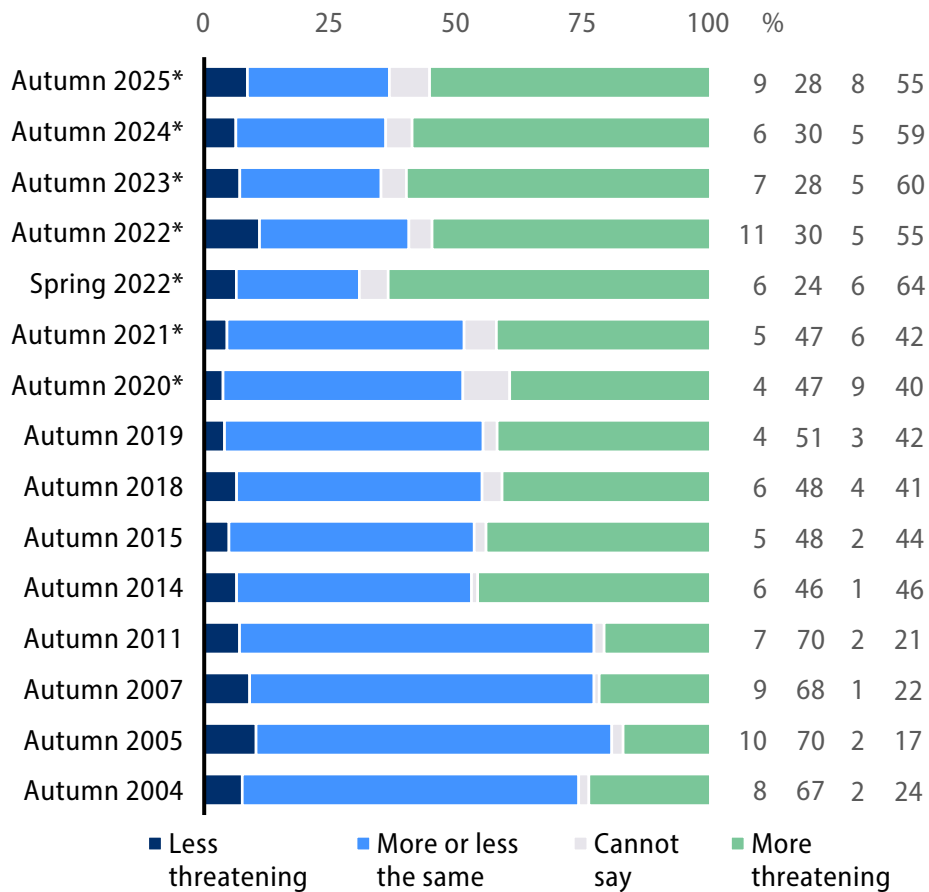
\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel



**Figure 6.** 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?"



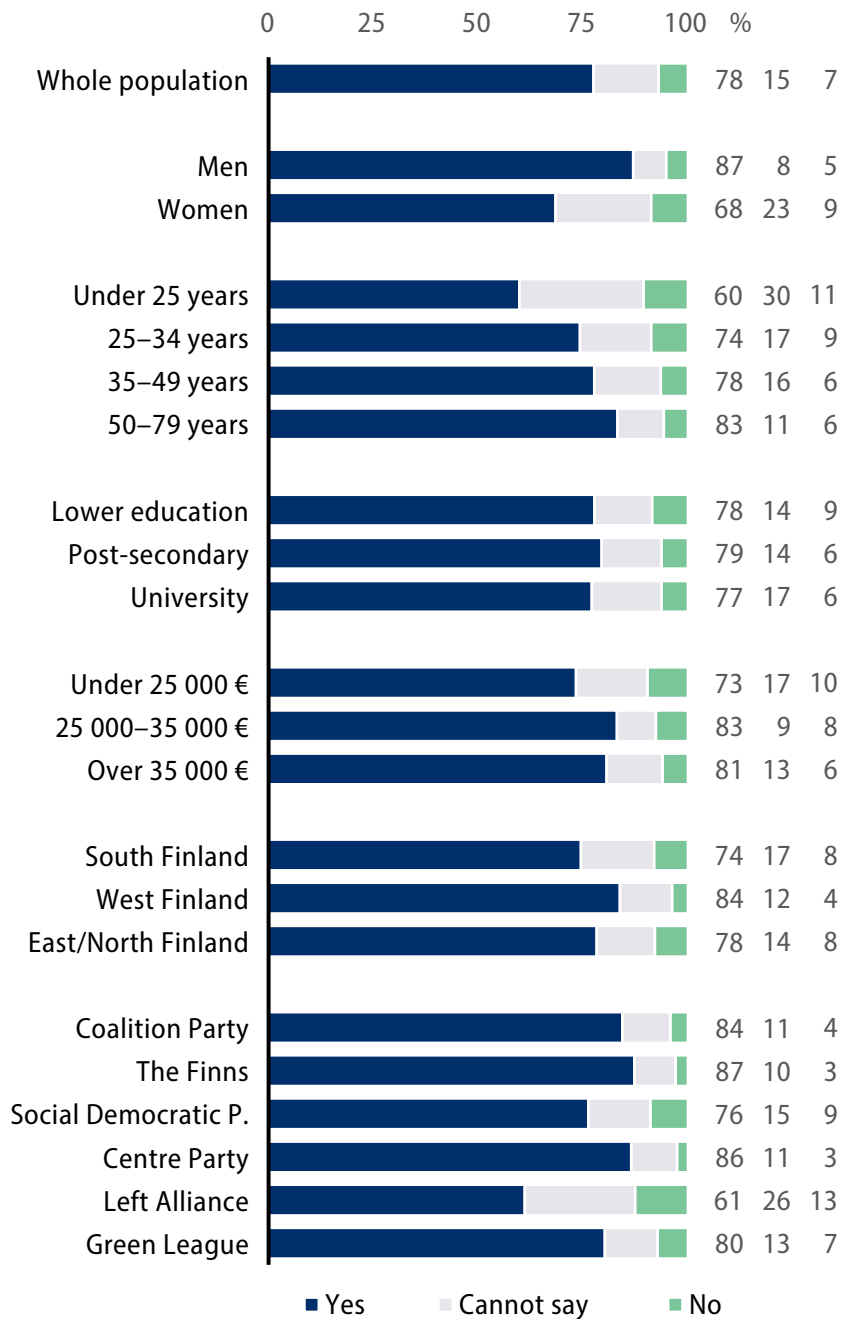
**Figure 7.** The military situation in Finland's near environs  
 "What is your estimate of the military situation in Finland's near environs during the next decade?"



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

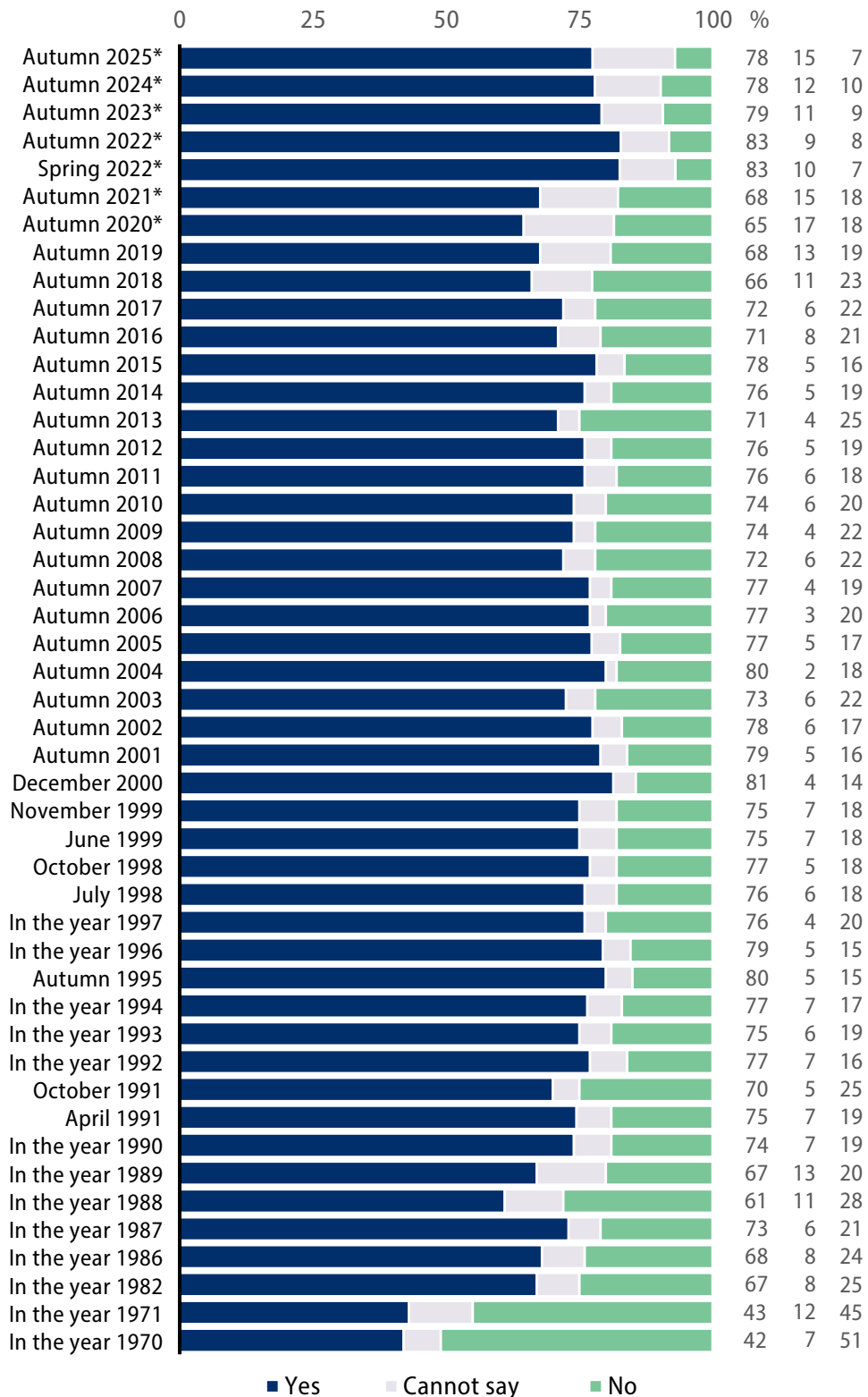
**Figure 8.** The will to defend the nation

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



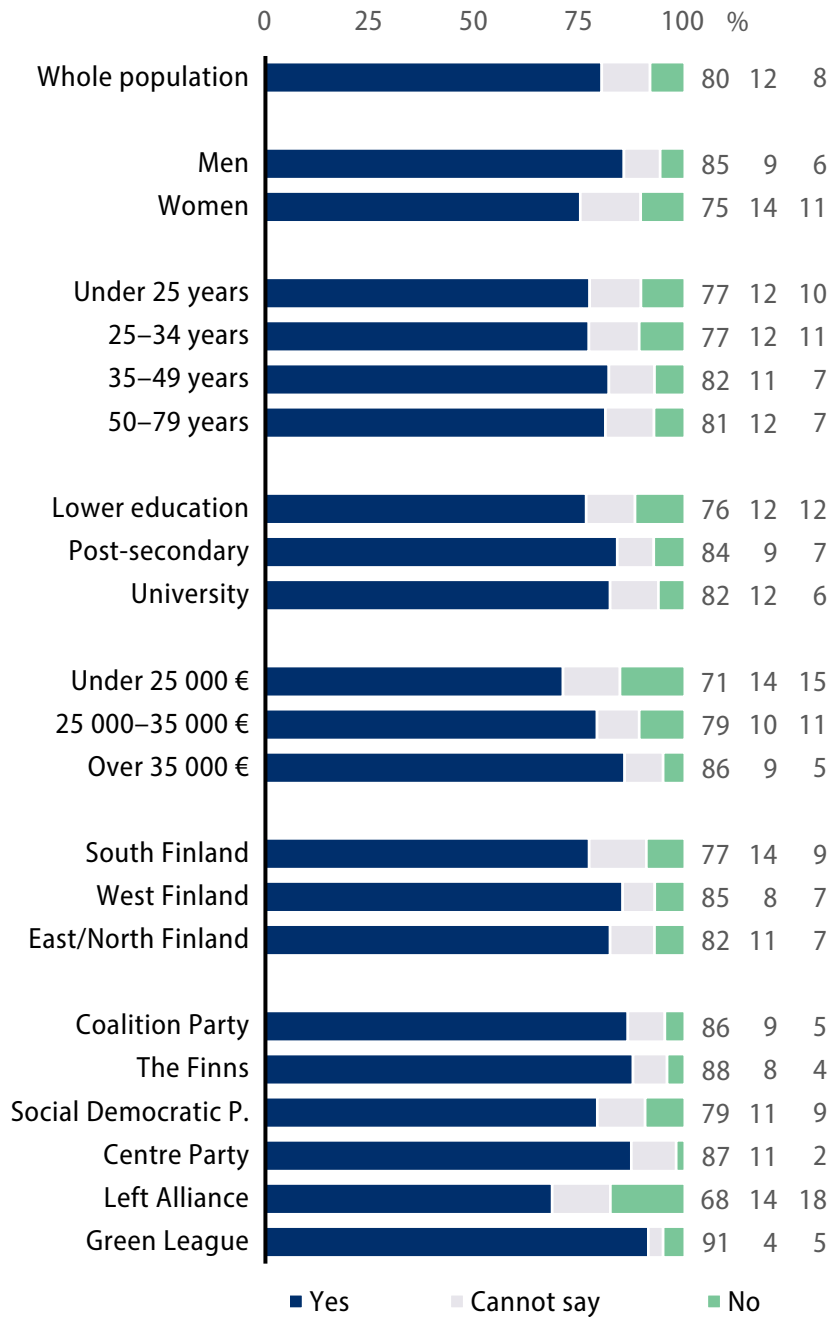
**Figure 9.** The will to defend the nation

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

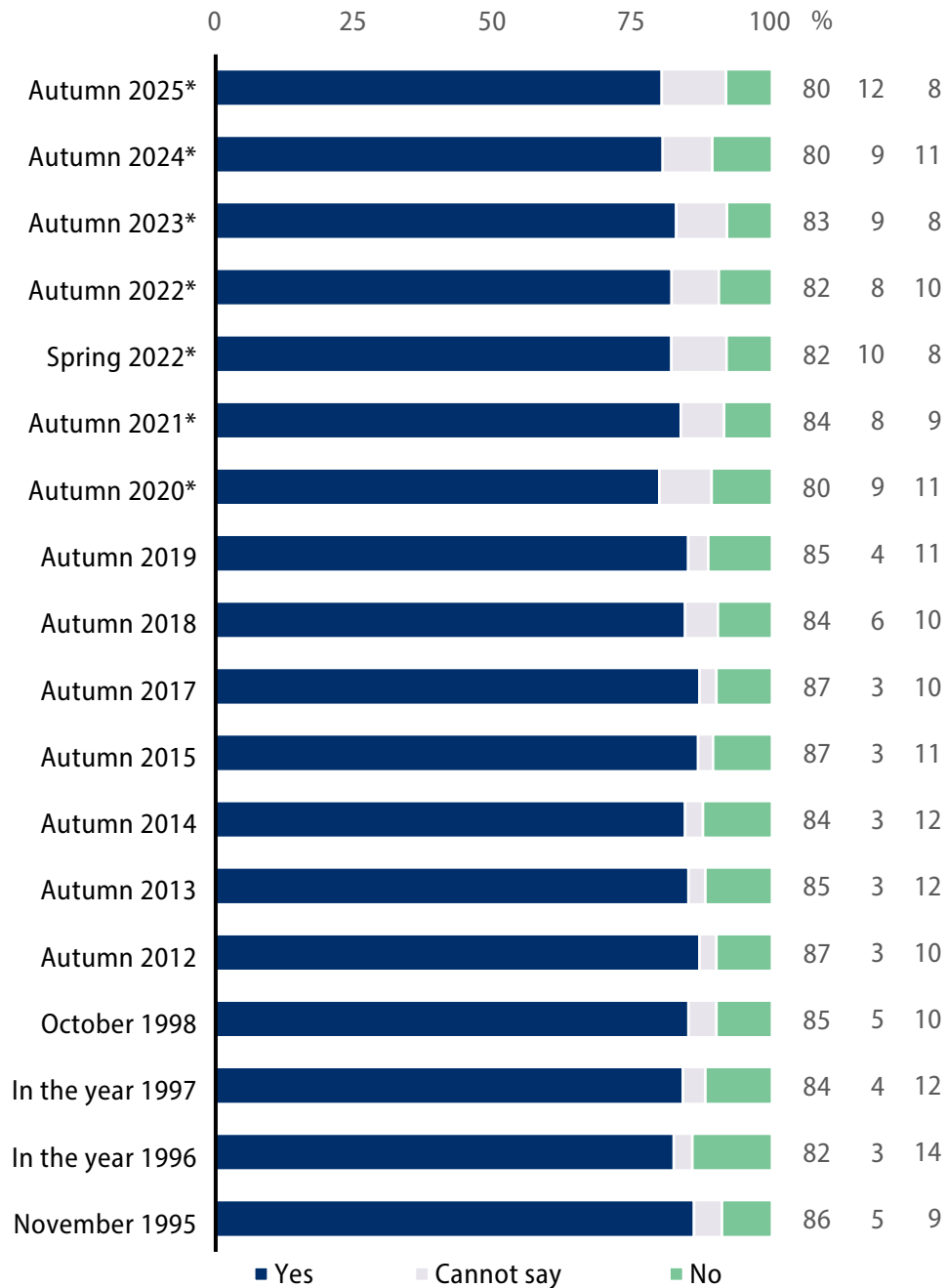


\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

**Figure 10.** 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?"



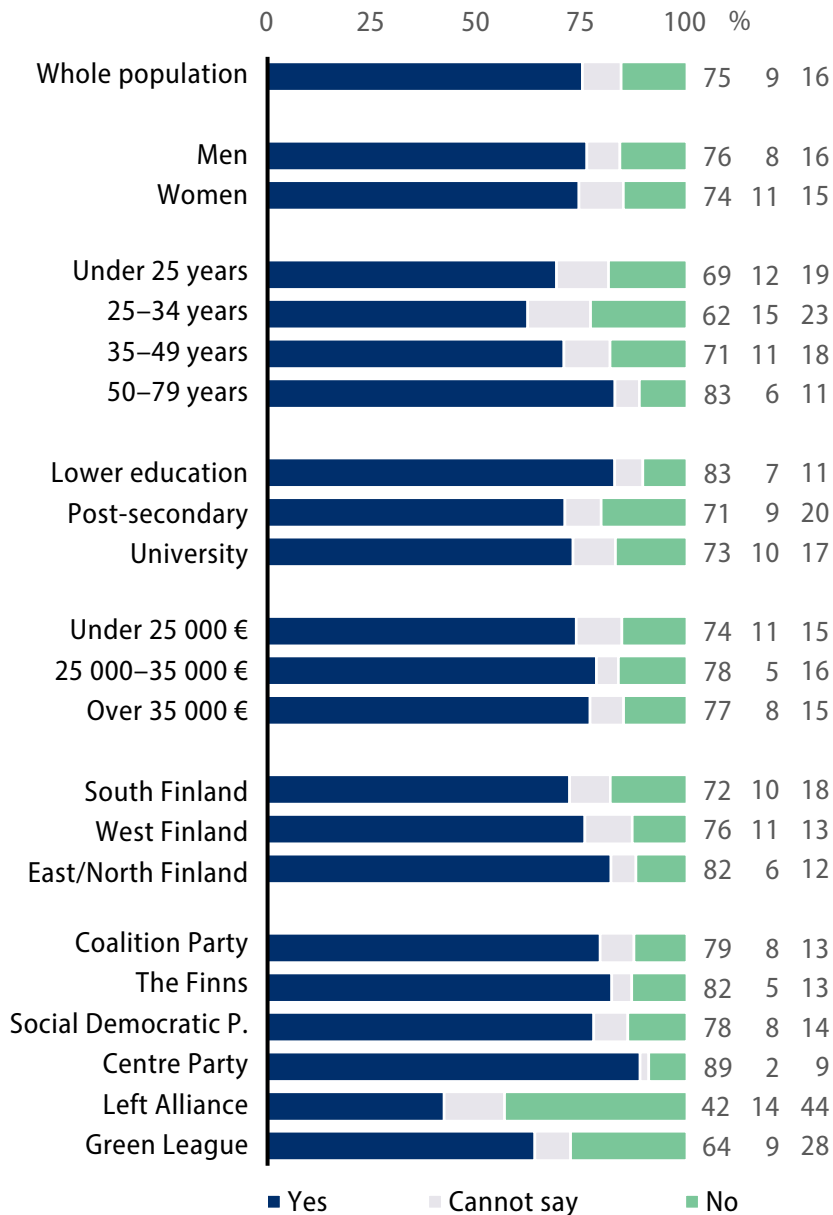
**Figure 11.** The will to defend the country (personal level)  
 "If Finland is attacked, would you personally be ready to take part in national defence tasks according to your competences and skills?"



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

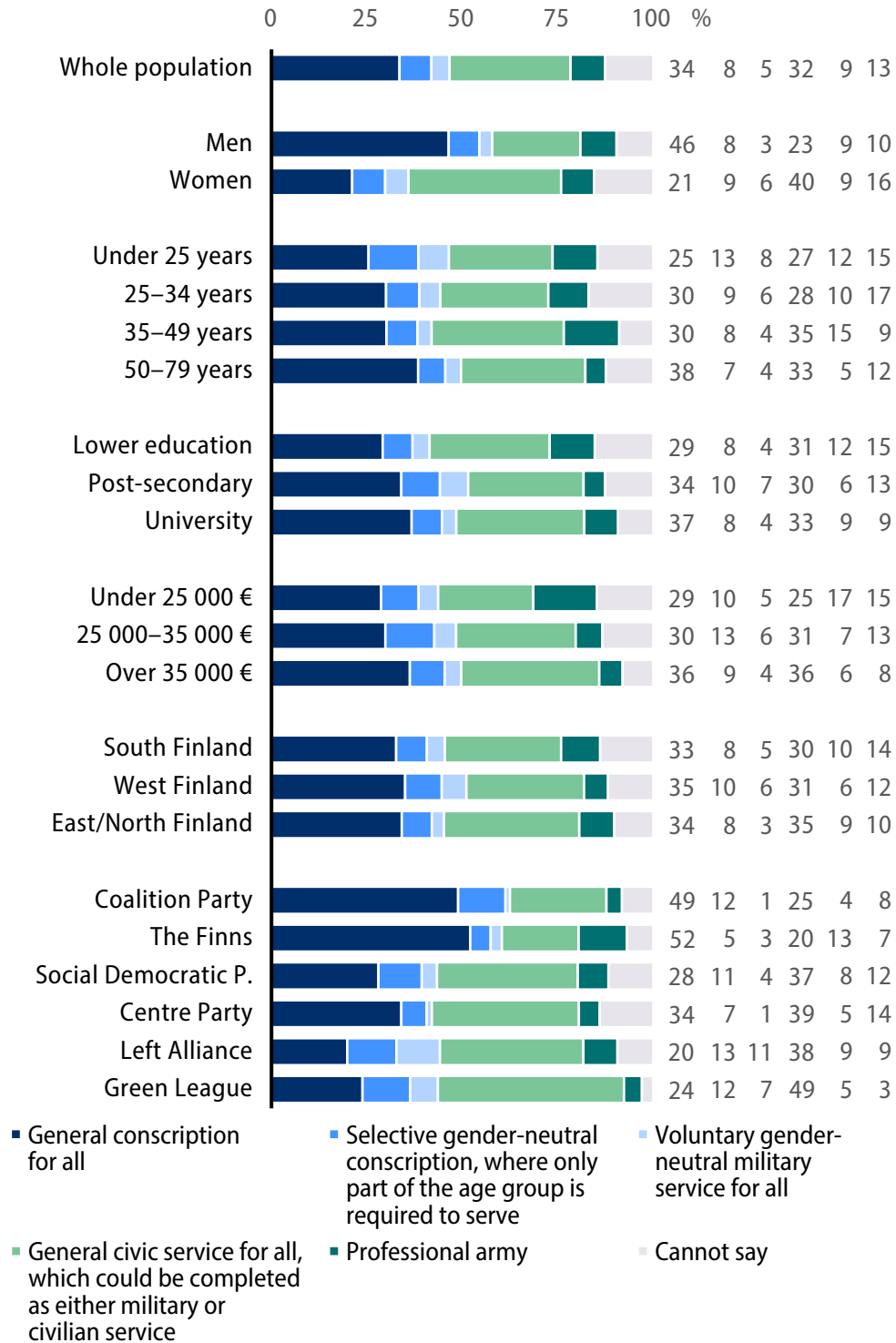
**Figure 12.** Finland's defence system

"Finland has a defense system based on compulsory military service for men, in which as large a proportion of each age group as possible receives military training, thereby producing a sufficiently capable reserve. In your opinion, should Finland's defense system be based on: The current model of general conscription for men and voluntary military service for women?"

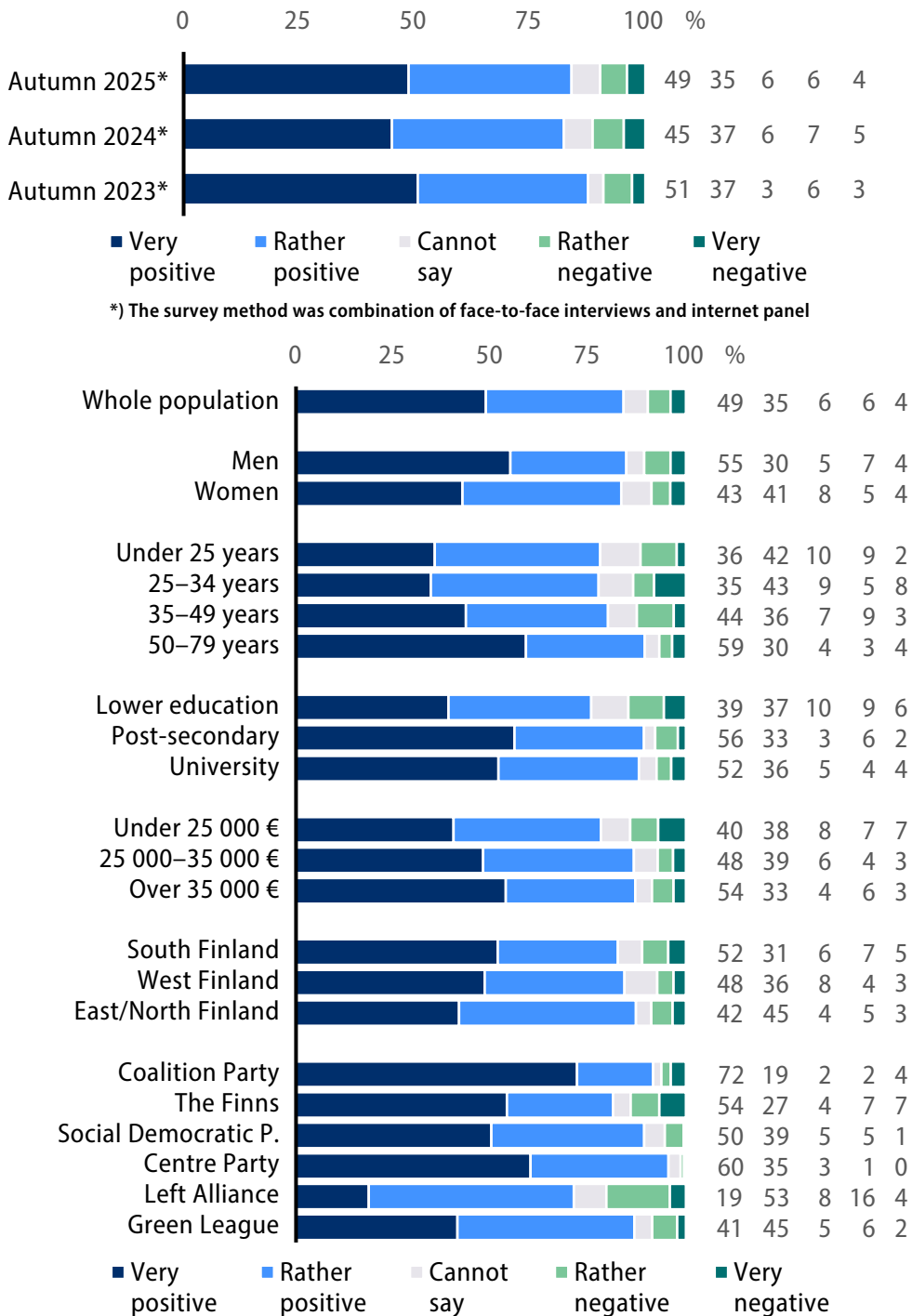


**Figure 13.** Finland's defence system

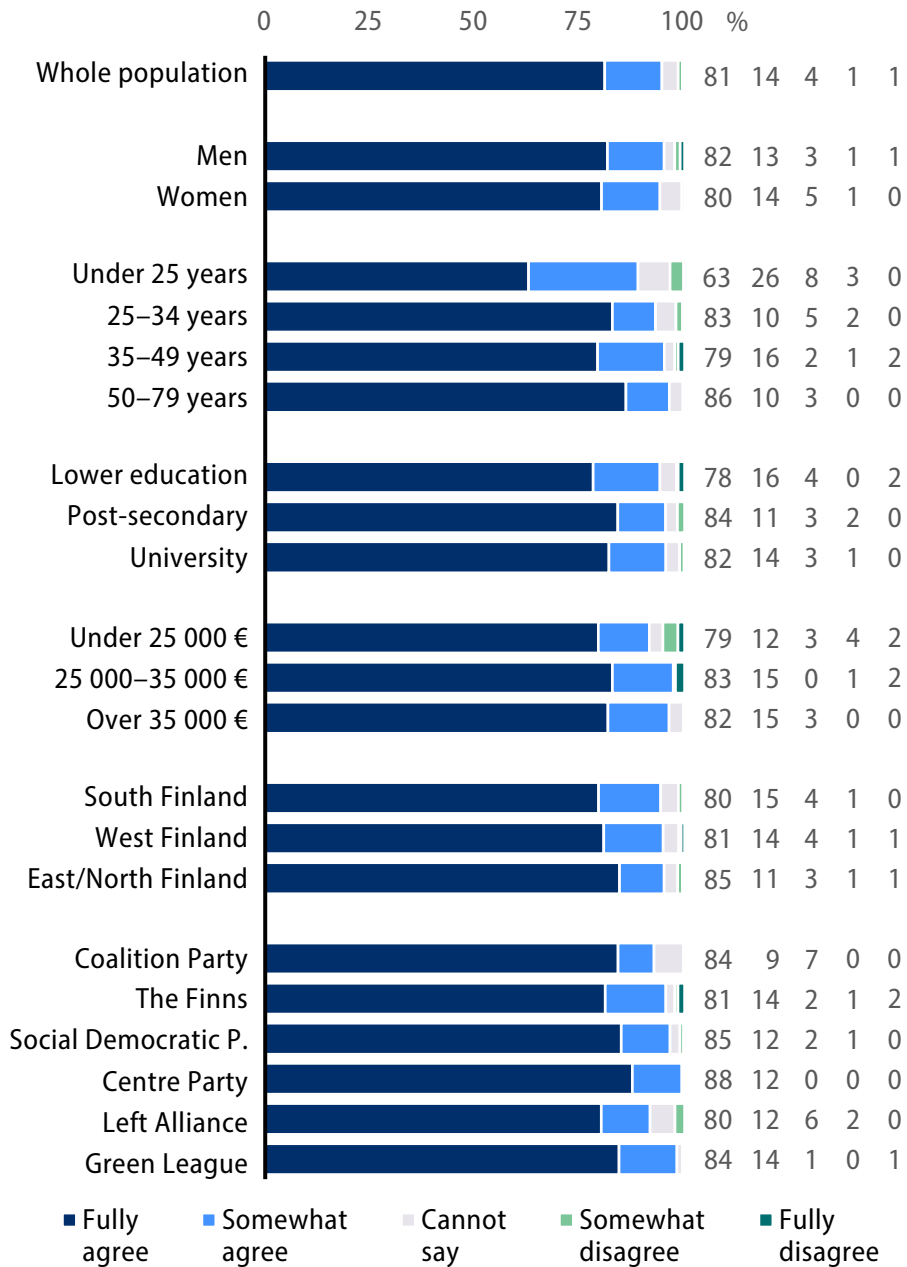
"If Finland's defense system were not based on the current model of general conscription for men and voluntary military service for women, which of the following do you think Finland's defense system should be based on?"



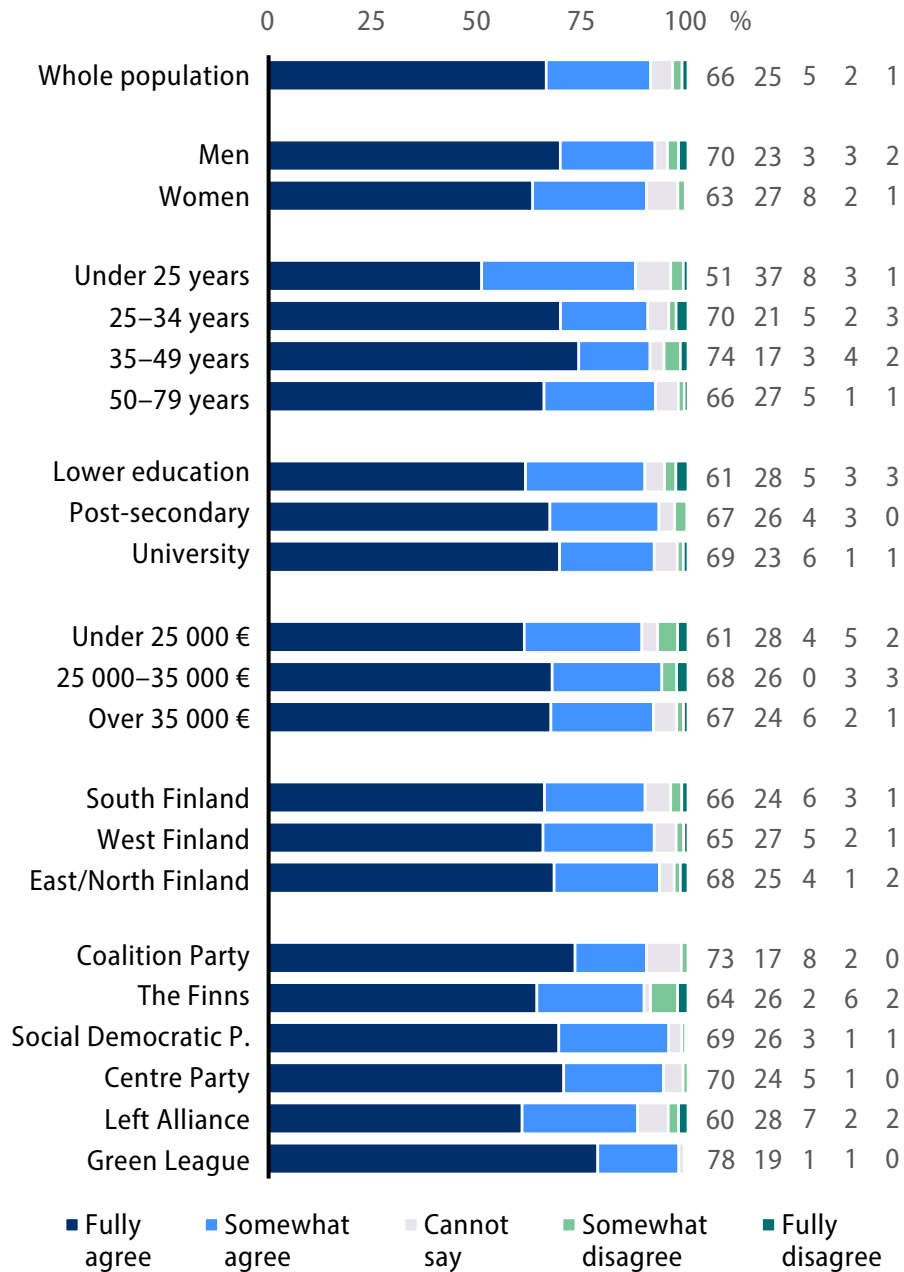
**Figure 14.** Finland's membership in NATO  
 "What is your view of Finland's membership in NATO?"



**Figure 15.** Other NATO countries must be prepared to defend Finland should Finland fall victim to armed aggression  
 "What do you think of the following statements?"

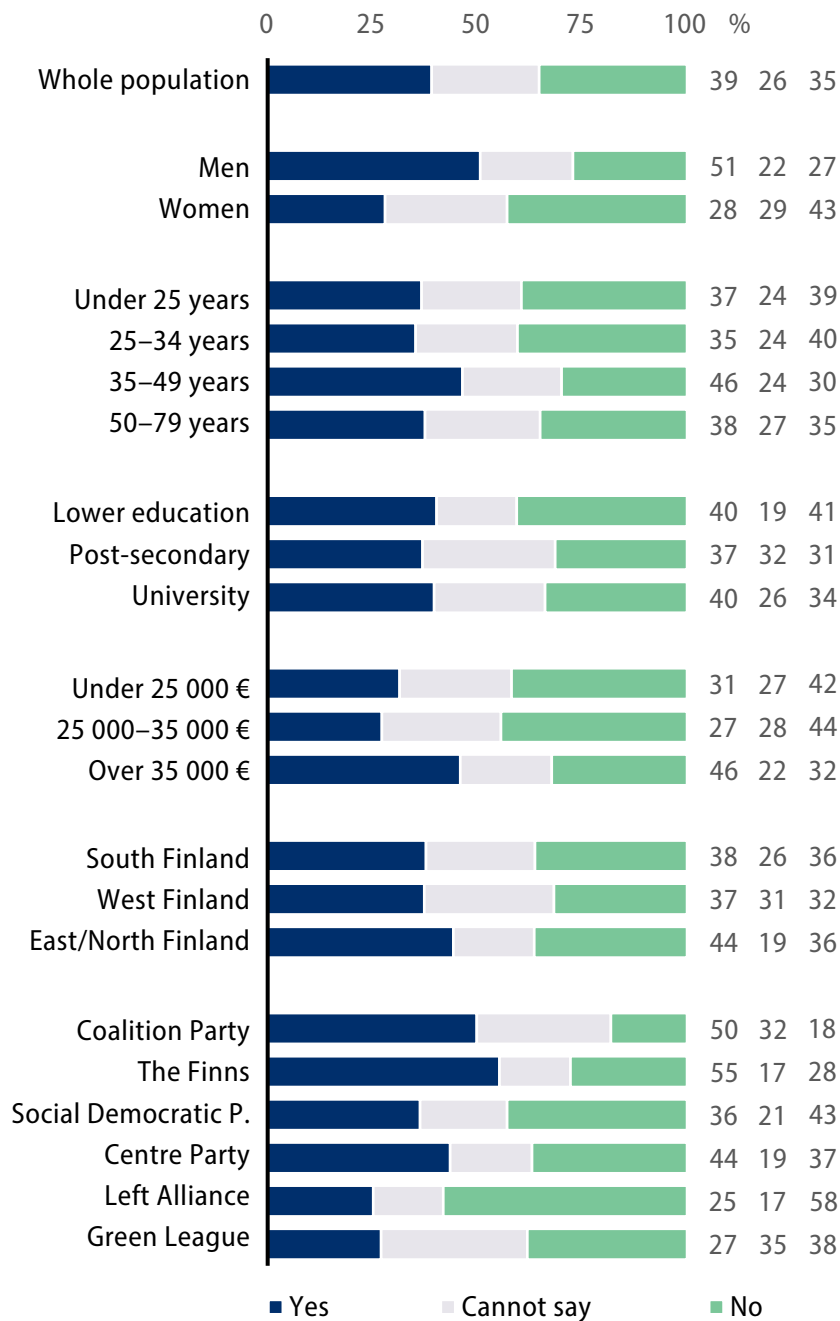


**Figure 16.** Finland must be prepared to defend another NATO country should it fall victim to armed aggression  
 "What do you think of the following statements?"

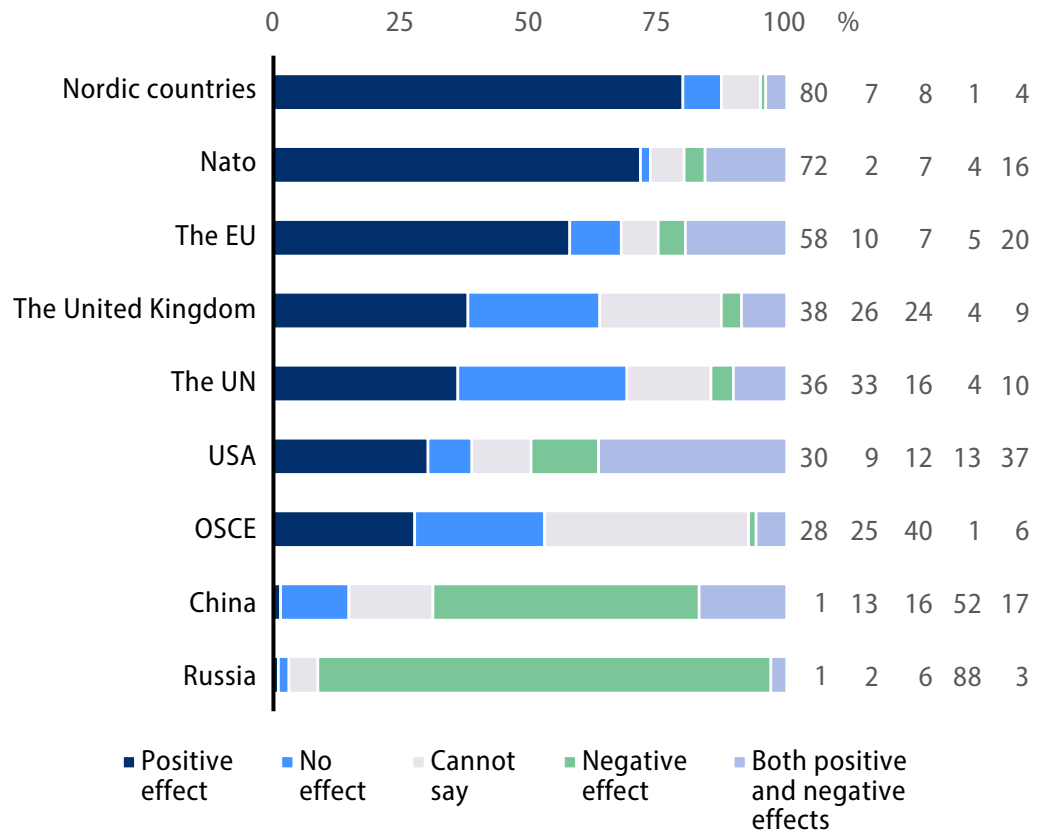


**Figure 17.** Relations between USA and Europe

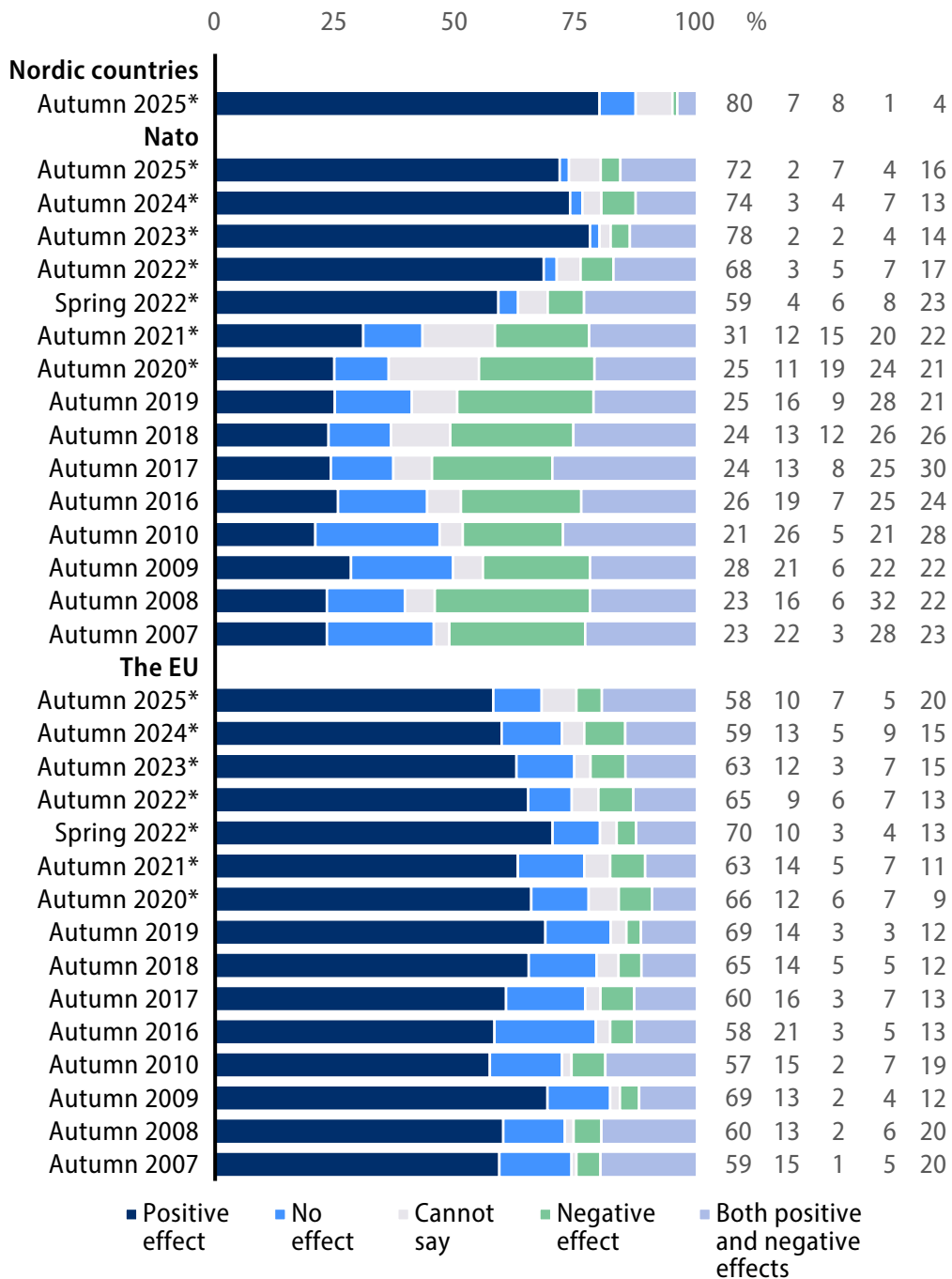
"Do you believe that the United States of America would be prepared to defend Finland or other European countries within the framework of Nato commitments should a war broke out?"



**Figure 18.** The impact of various factors on Finland's security  
 "How do you assess the impact of the following factors on Finland's security?"

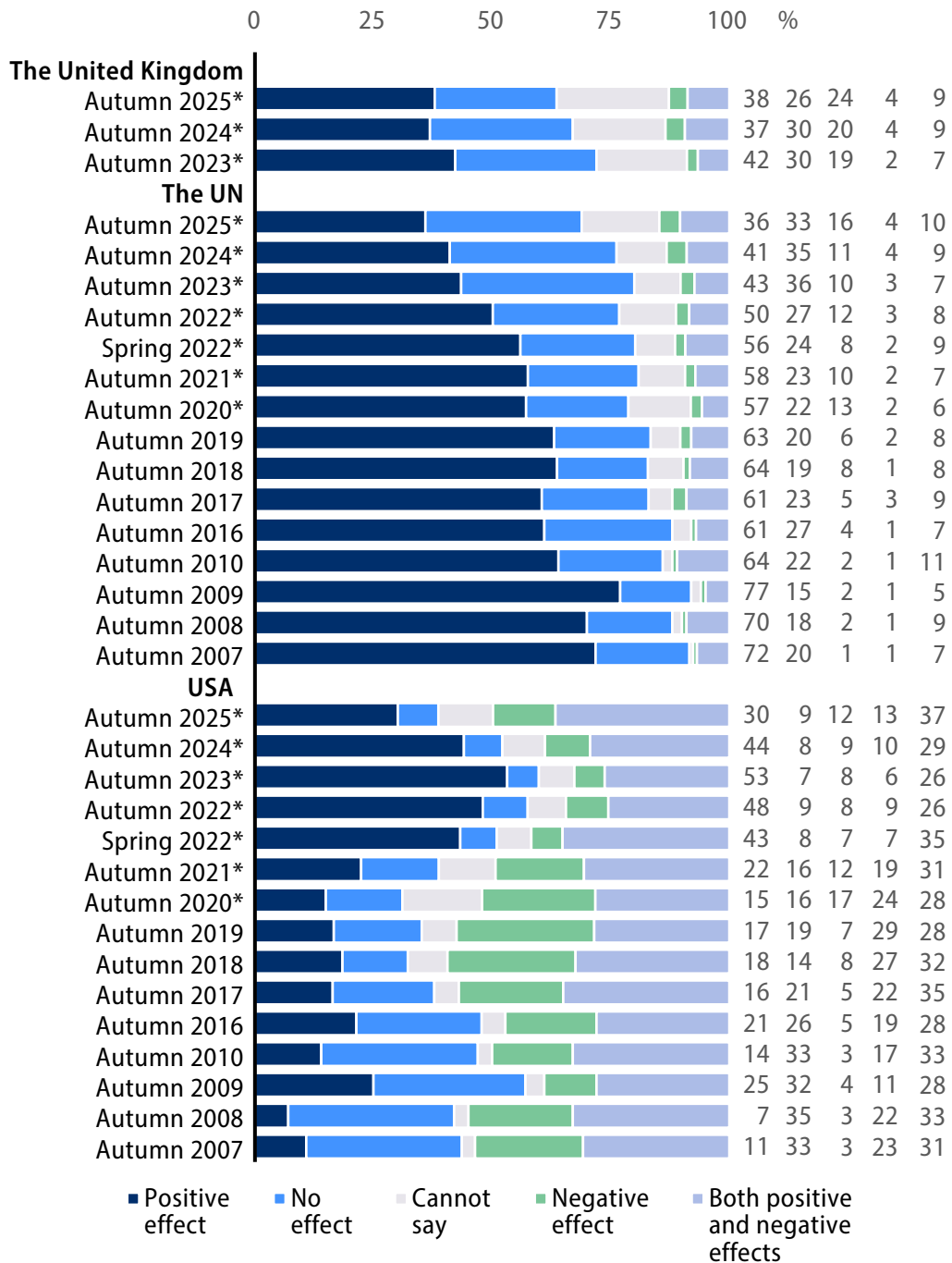


**Figure 19.** The impact of various factors on Finland's security (I)  
 "How do you assess the impact of the following factors on Finland's security?"



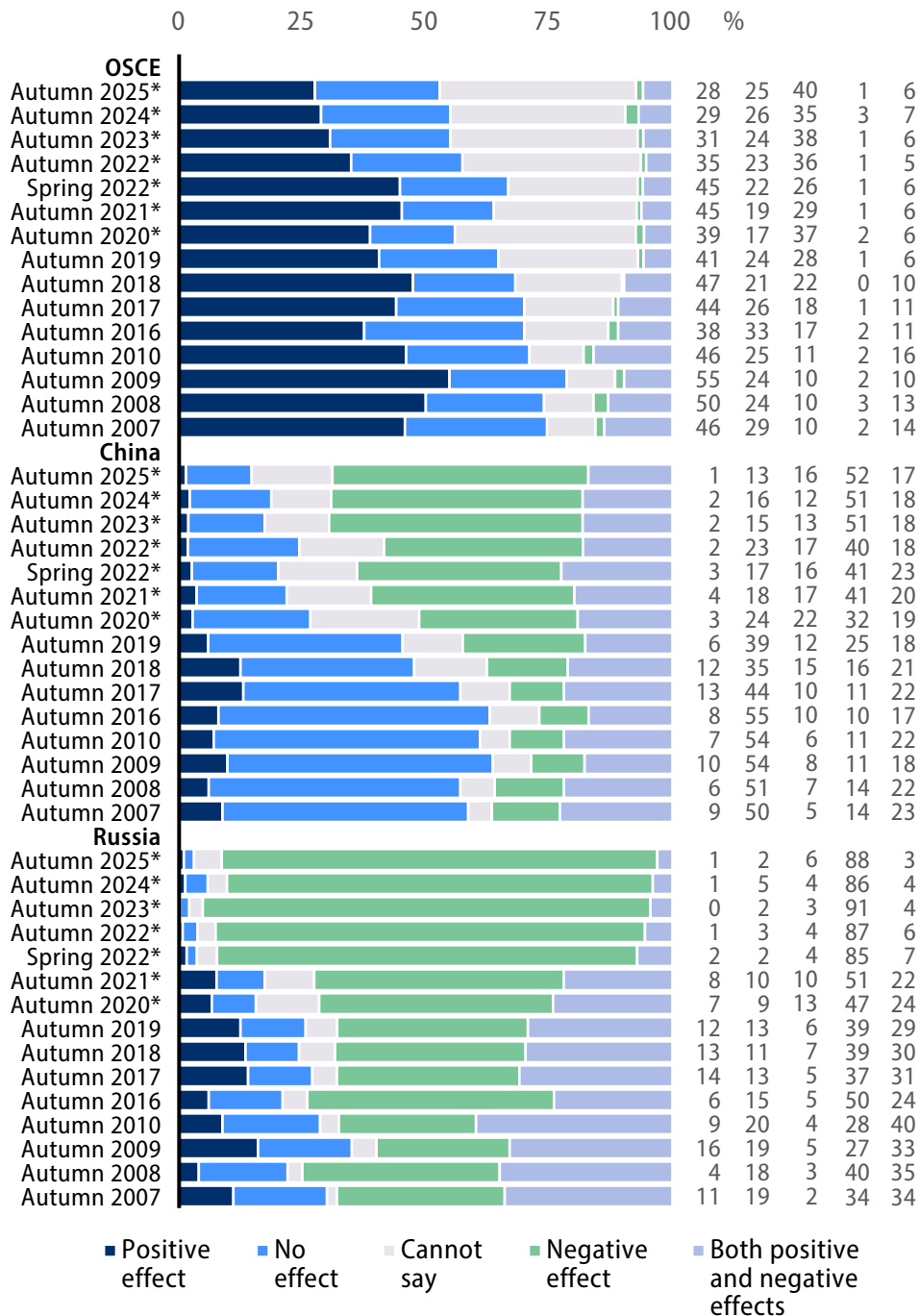
\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

**Figure 20.** The impact of various factors on Finland's security (II)  
 "How do you assess the impact of the following factors on Finland's security?"



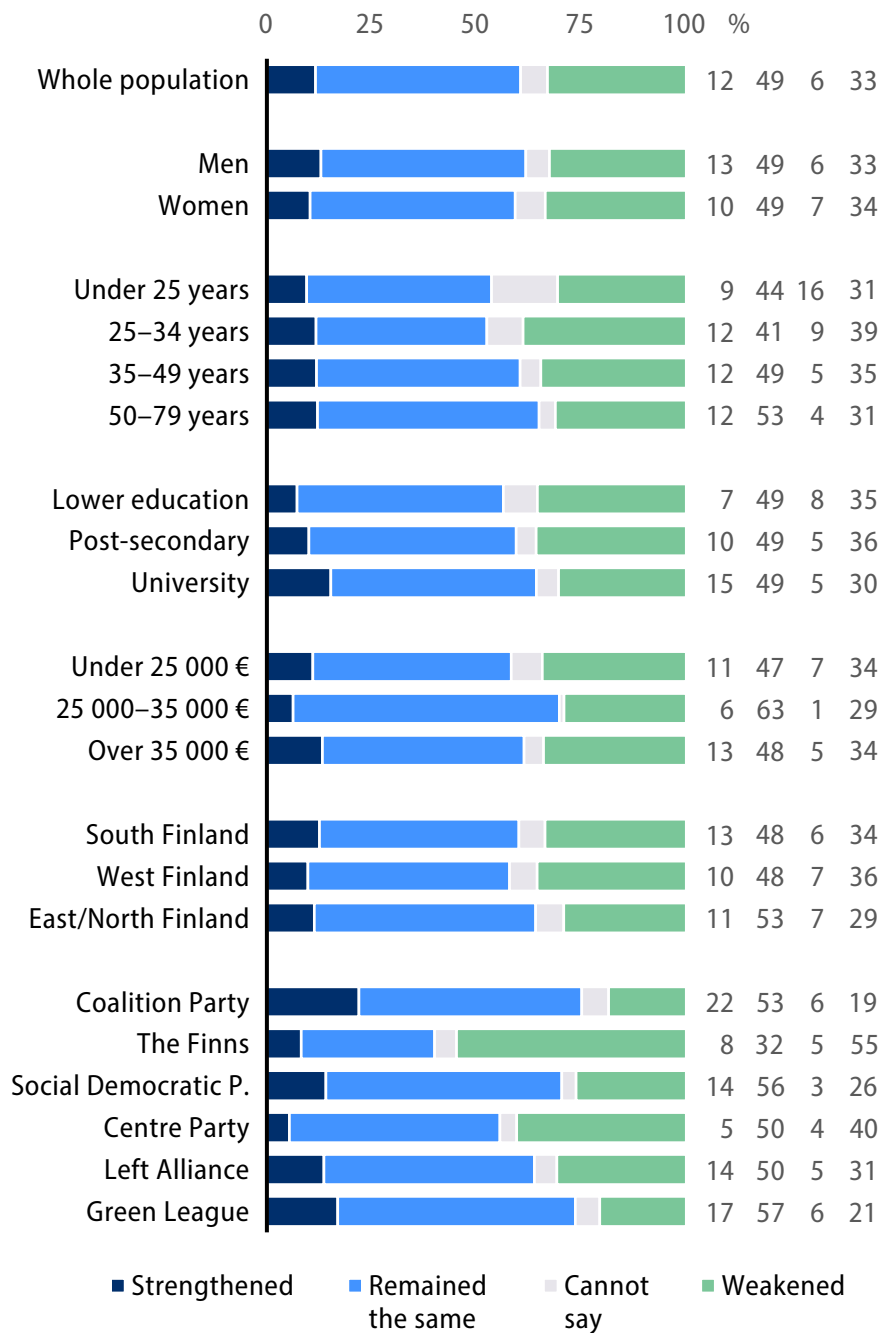
\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

**Figure 21.** The impact of various factors on Finland's security (III)  
 "How do you assess the impact of the following factors on Finland's security?"

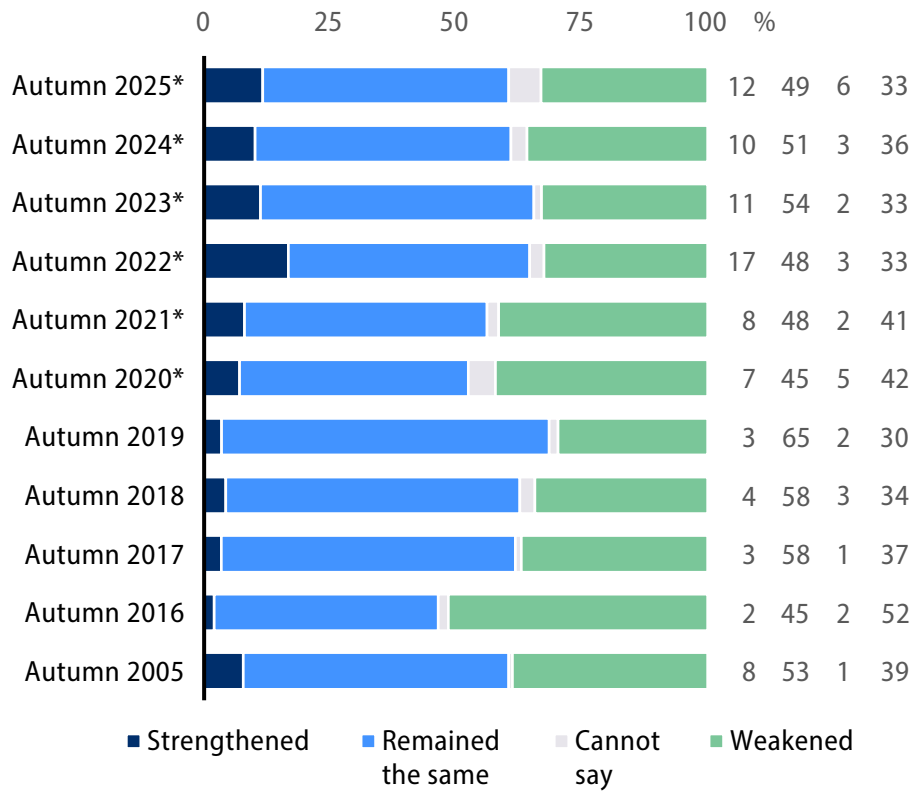


\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

**Figure 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?"



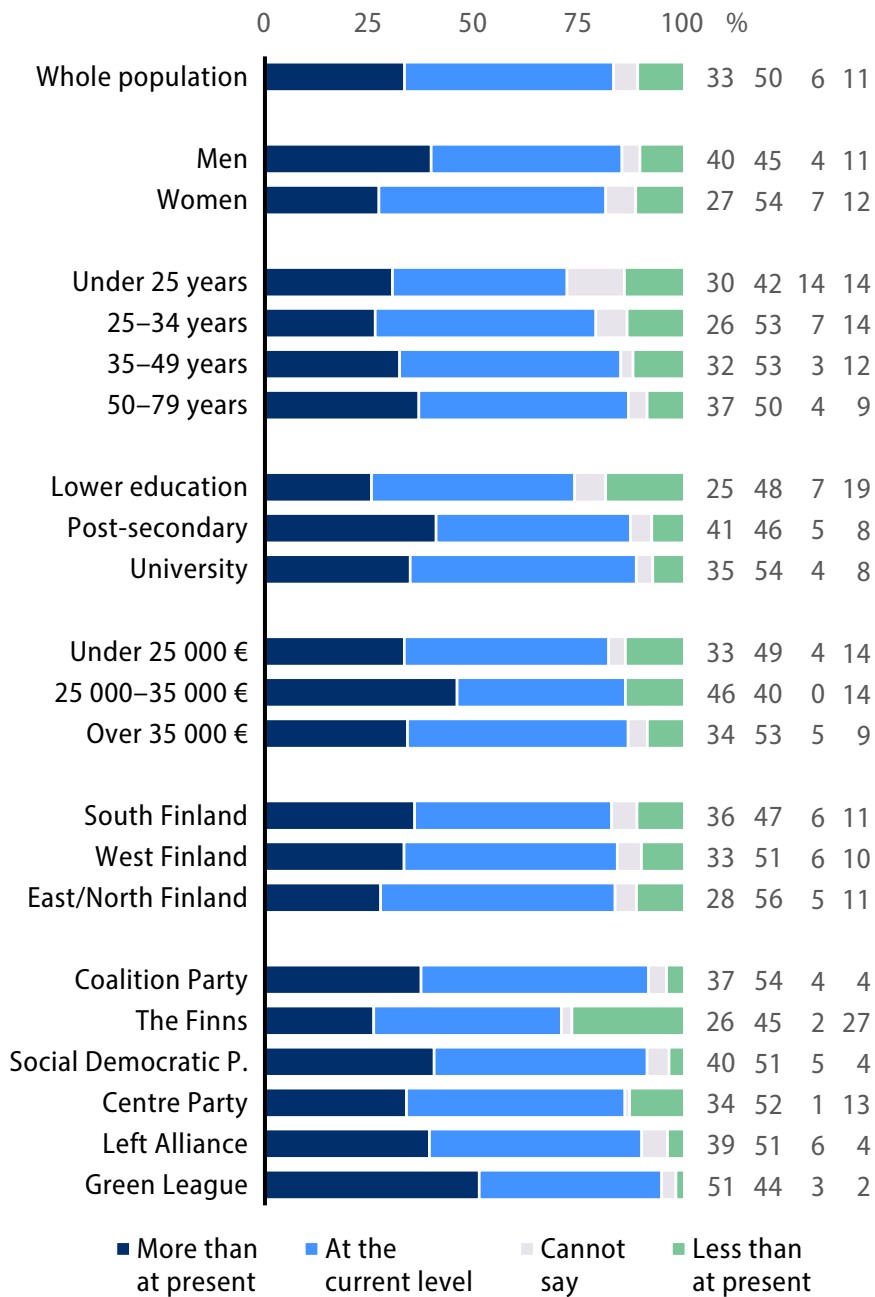
**Figure 23.** Confidence in the future of the European Union  
 "What kind of confidence do you have in the future of the European Union? In the last two years, has your confidence been strengthened, weakened or has it remained the same?"



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

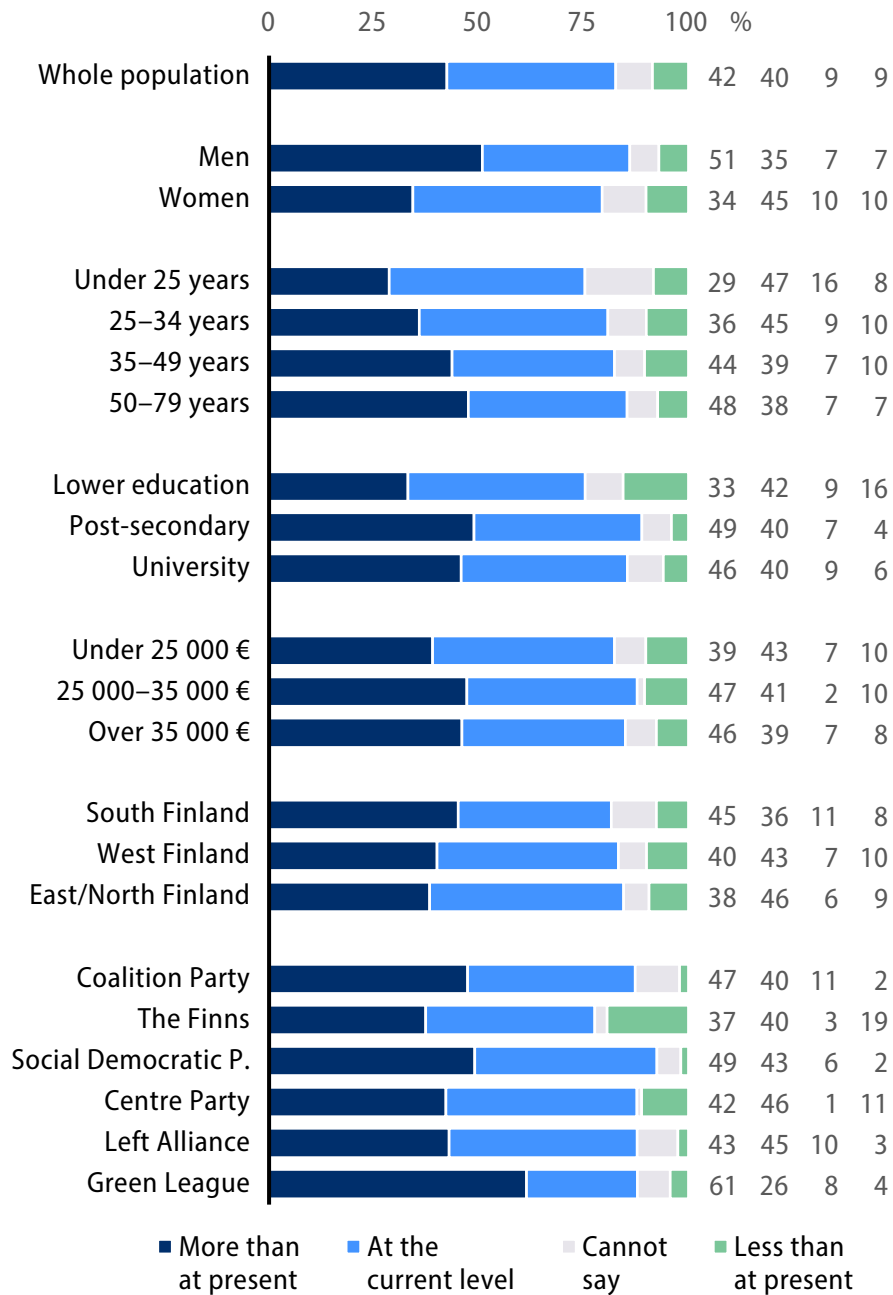
**Figure 24.** Assistance to Ukraine financially

"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?"



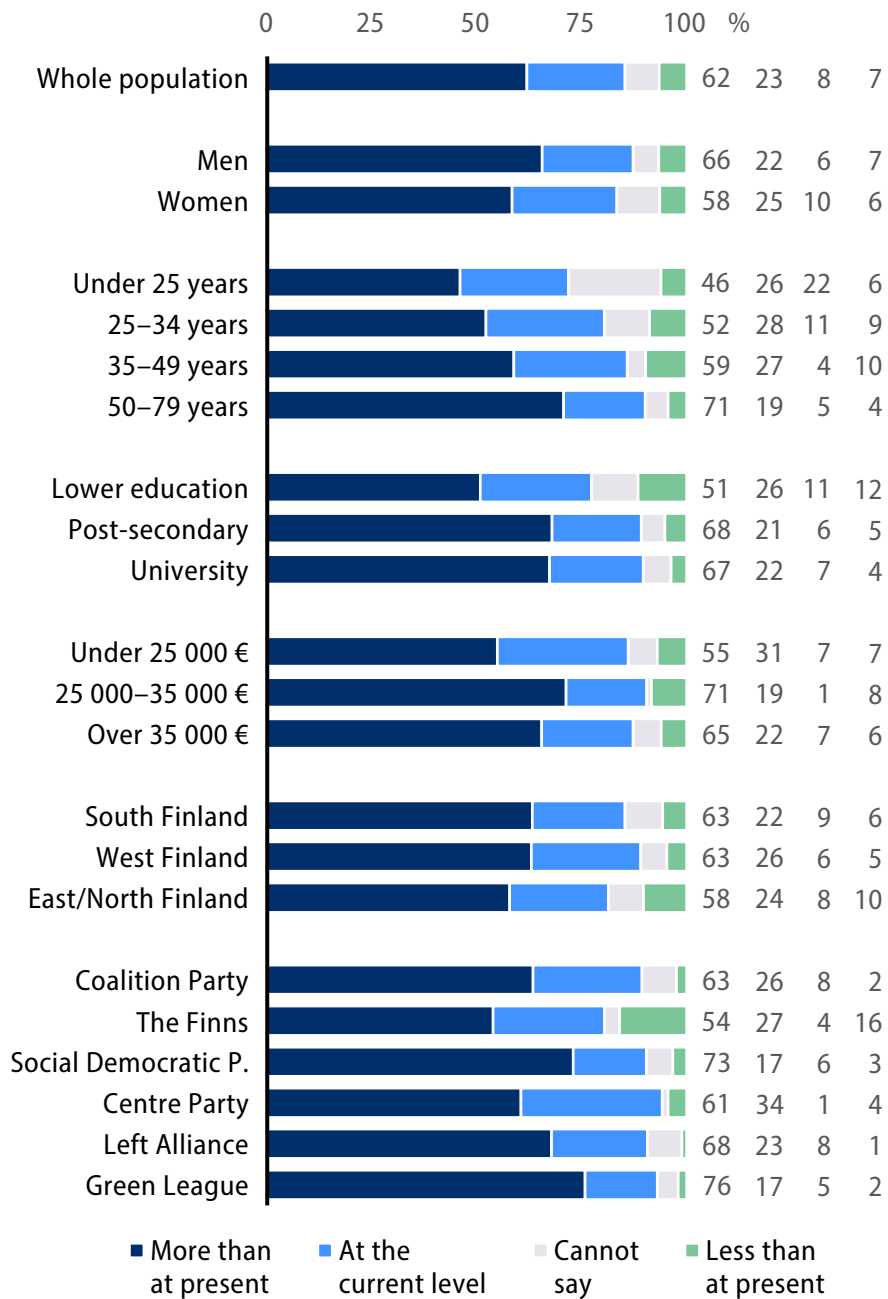
**Figure 25.** Assistance to Ukraine militarily

"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?"



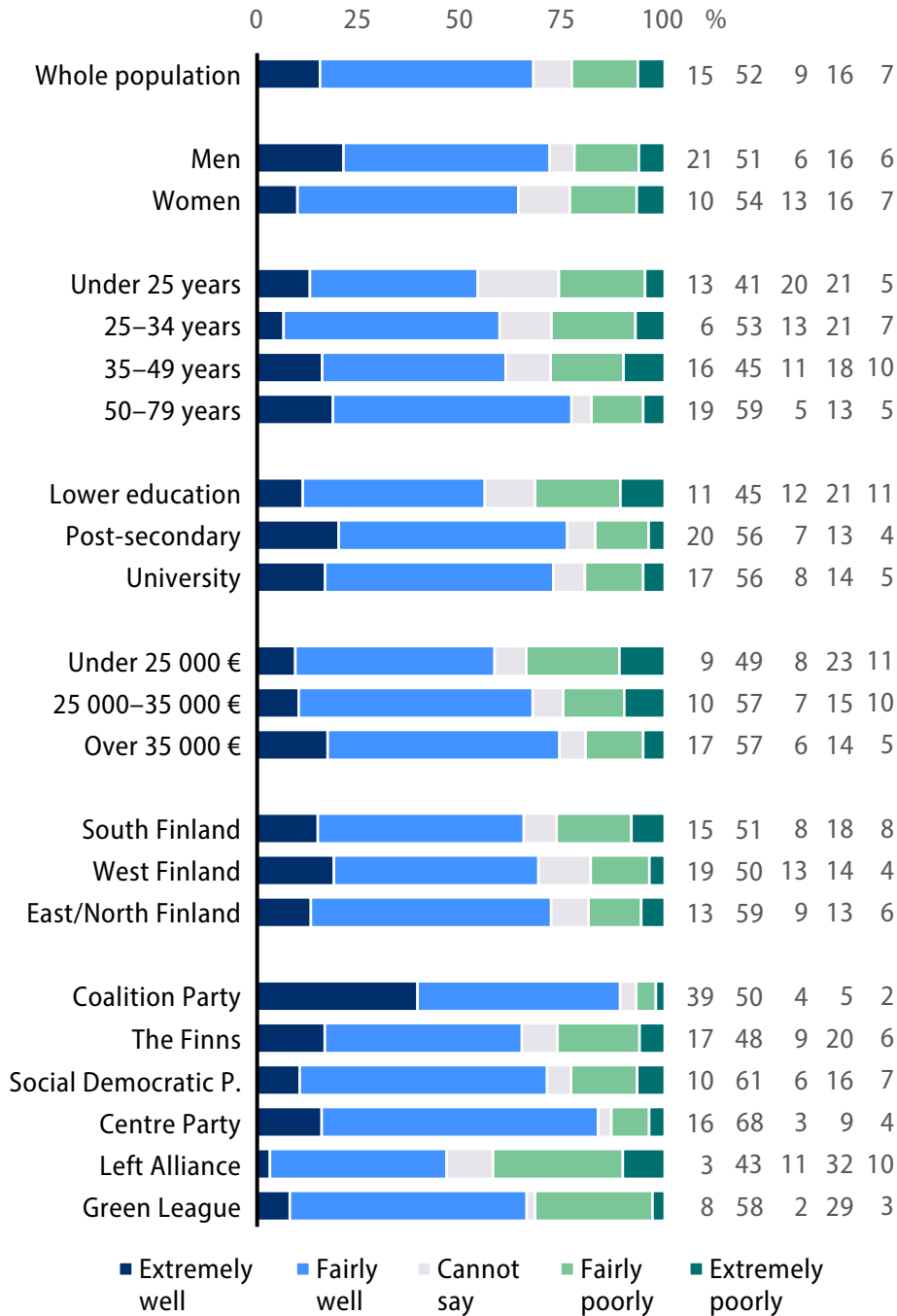
**Figure 26.** Assistance to Ukraine by imposing sanctions

"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?"



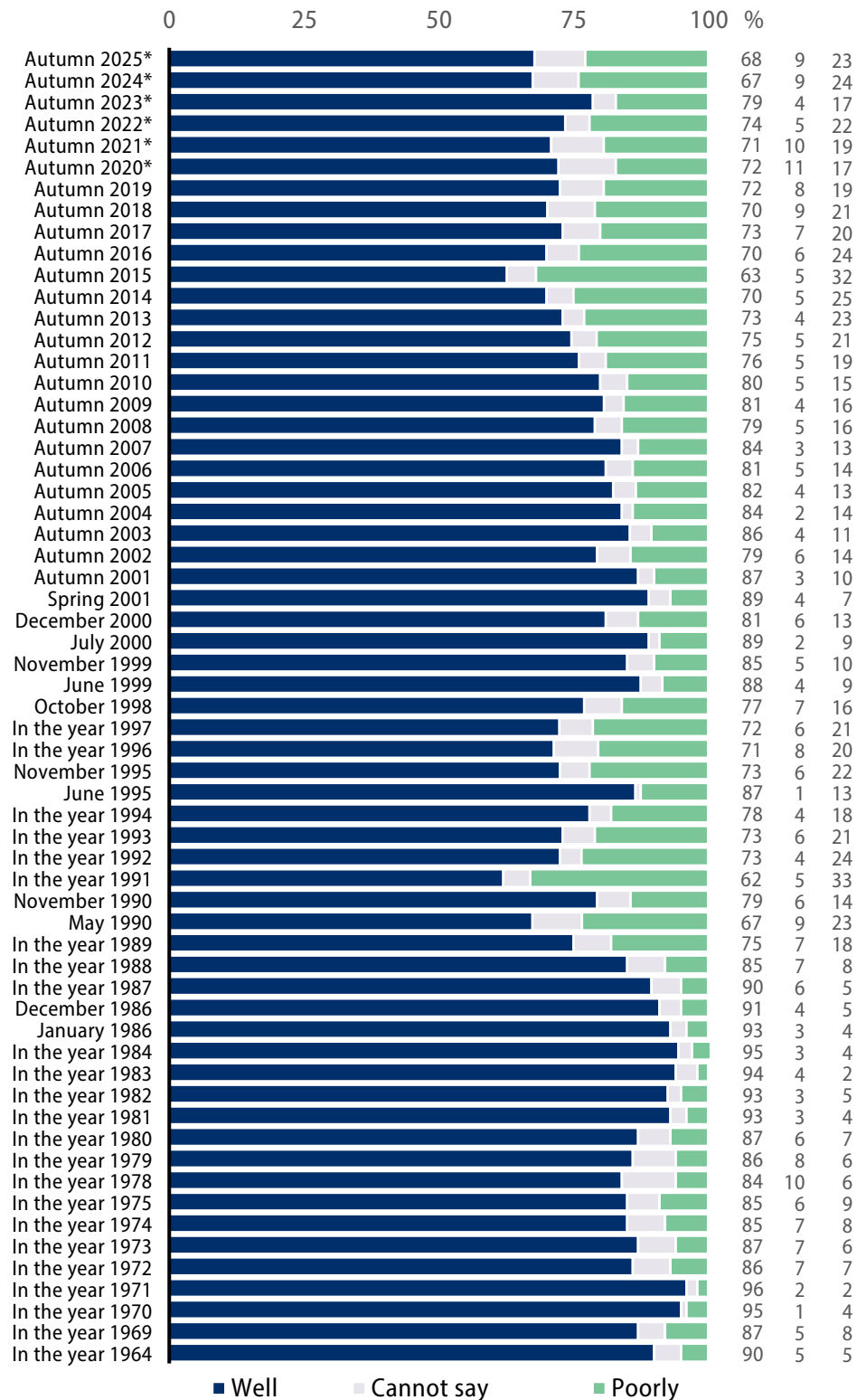
**Figure 27.** The conduct of Finnish foreign policy

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



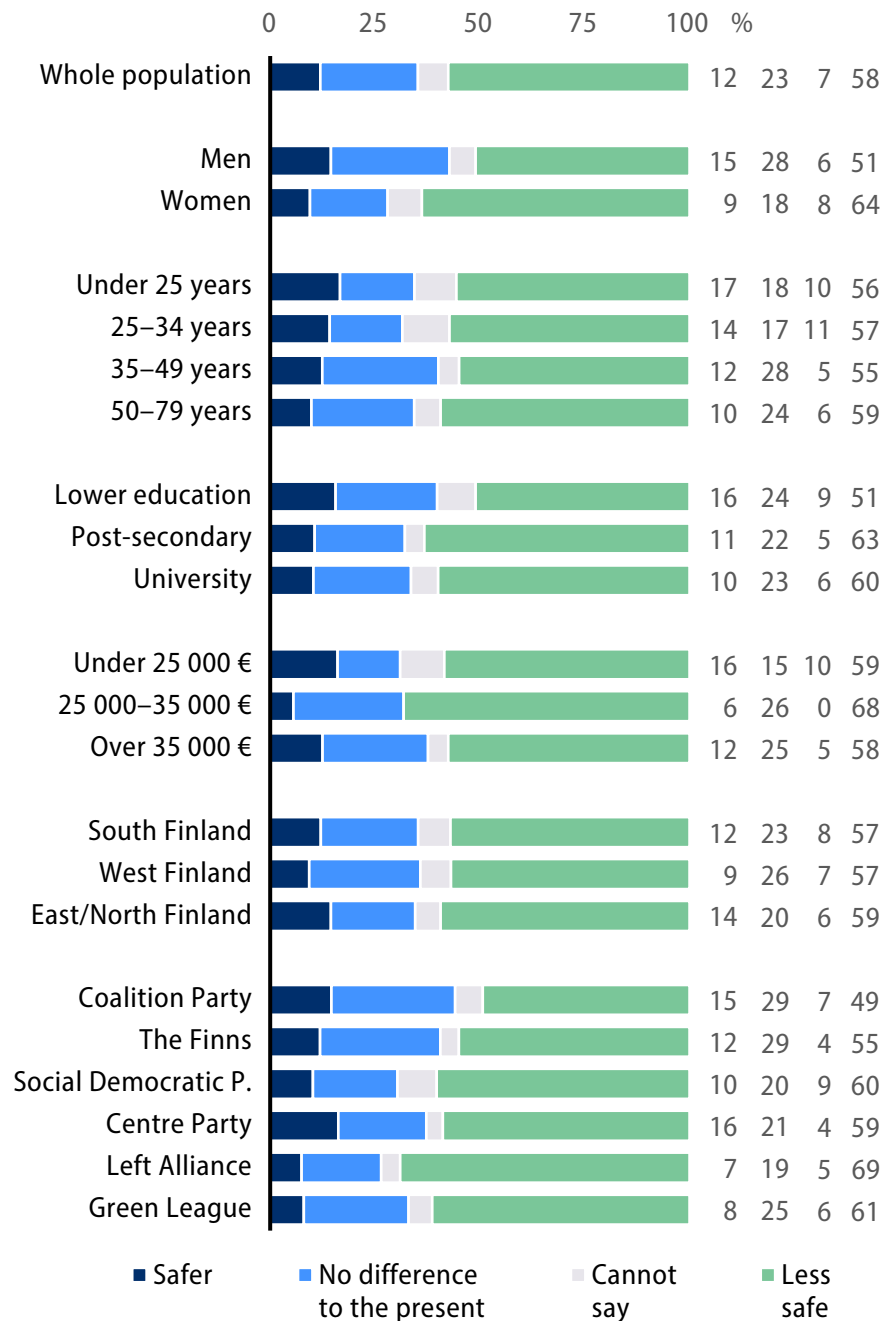
**Figure 28.** The conduct of Finnish foreign policy

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



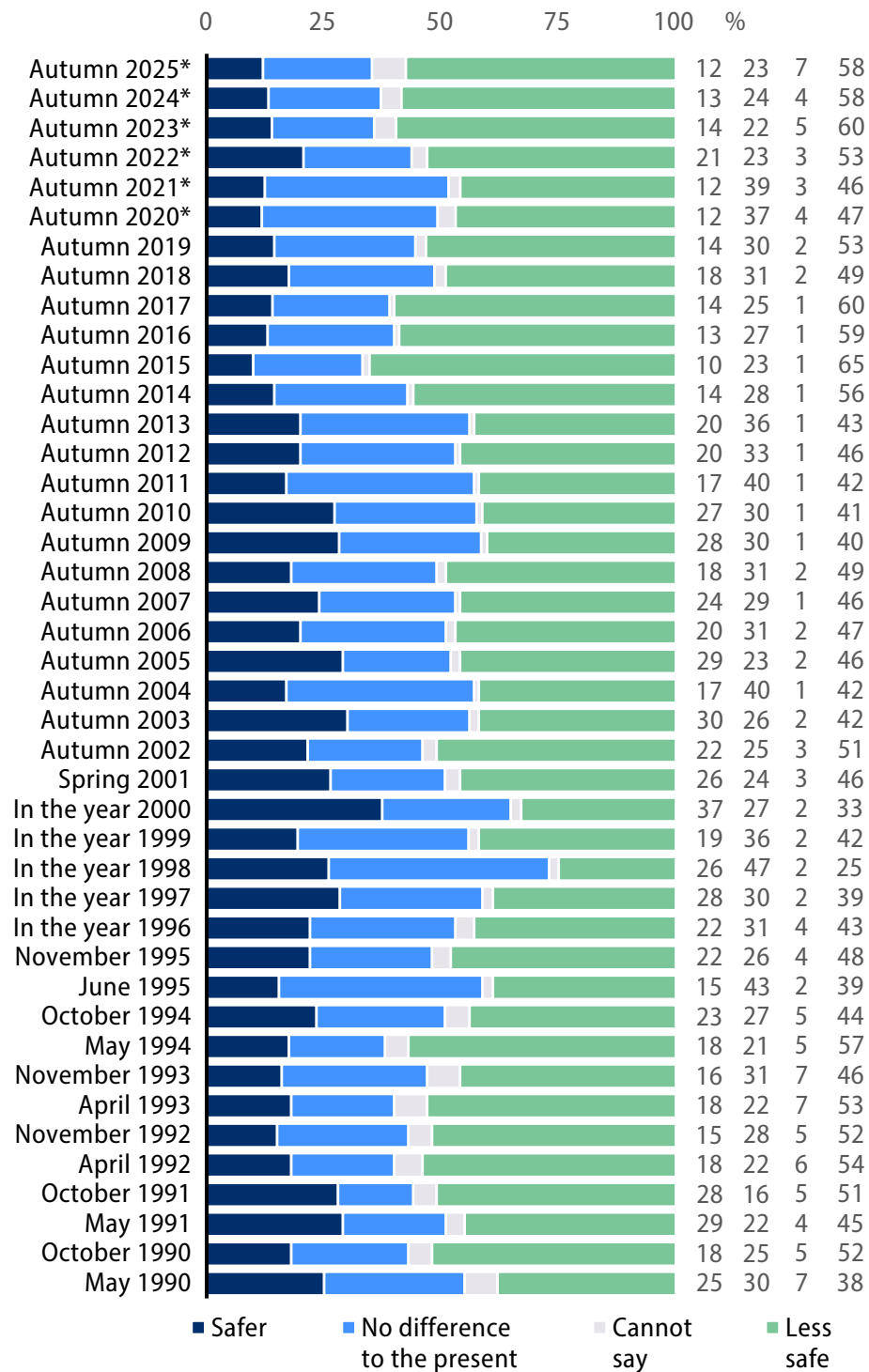
\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

**Figure 29.** 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 30.** A more secure or more insecure future

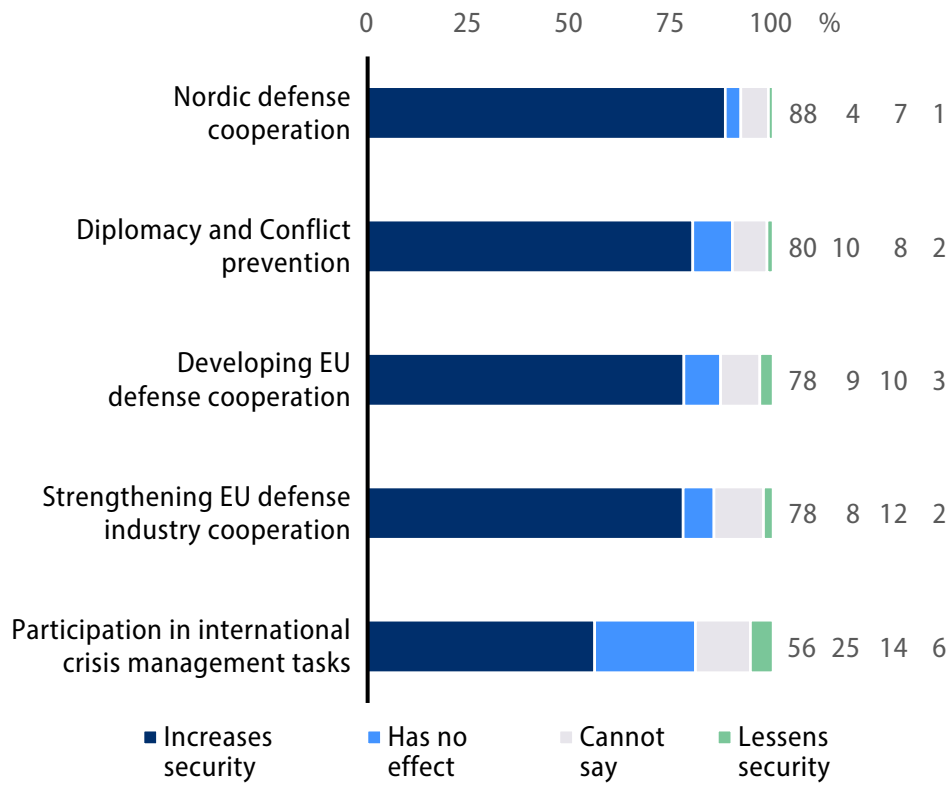
"Considering the present world situation as a whole, do you believe that during the next five years Finland and Finns will live in a safer or in a less safe world compared to the present?"



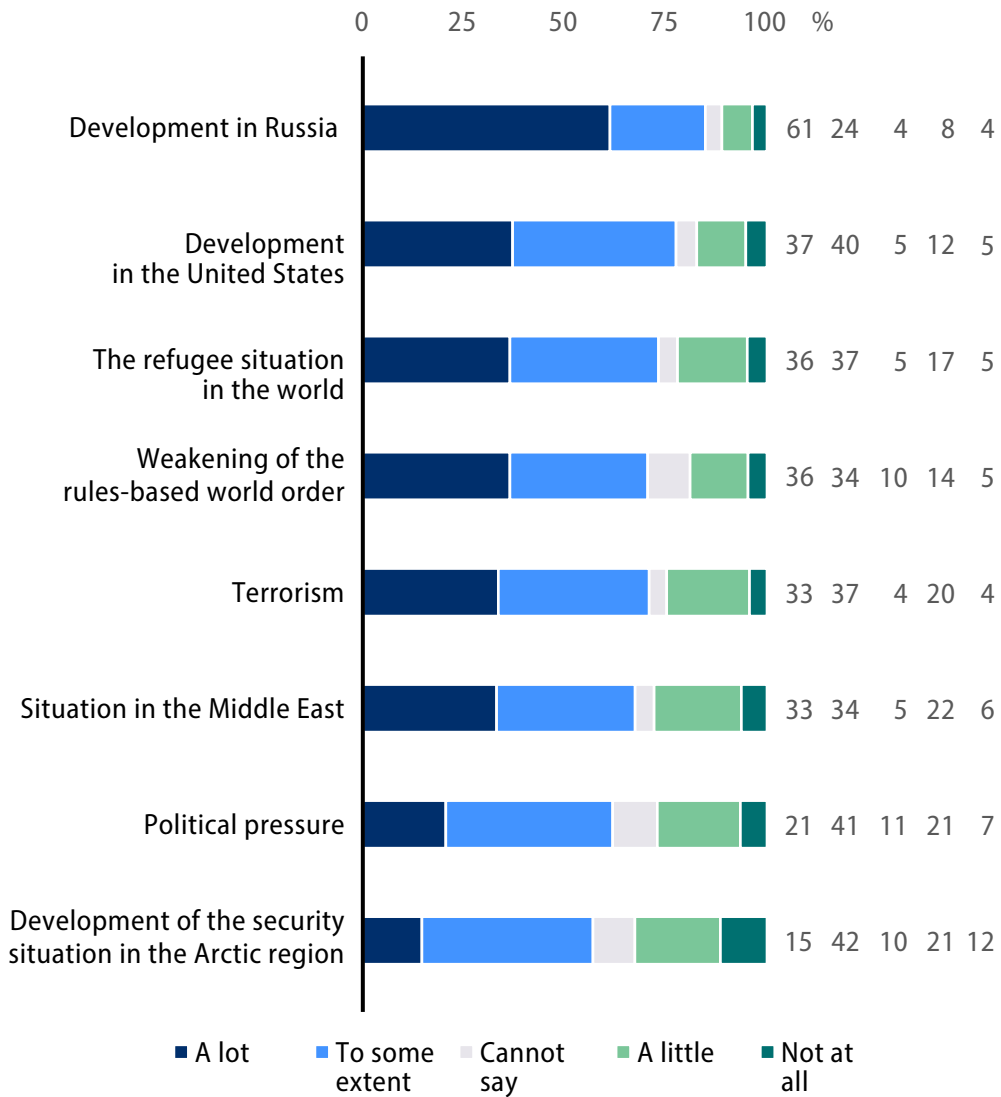
\*) The survey method was combination of face-to-face interviews and internet panel

**Figure 31.** Factors affecting security

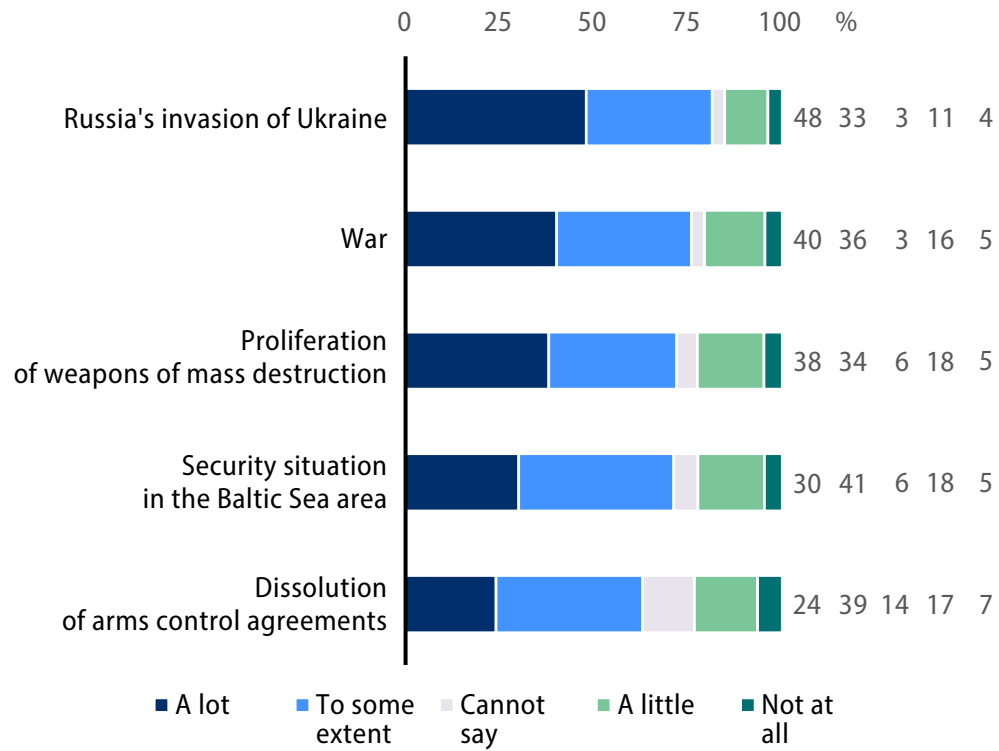
"How do you assess the impact of the following factors on the security of Finland and Finns, in addition to NATO membership?"



**Figure 32.** Factors causing concern among the citizens (I) The global political situation  
 "How would you assess the following phenomena and factors? To what extent do they make you worry about the future?"

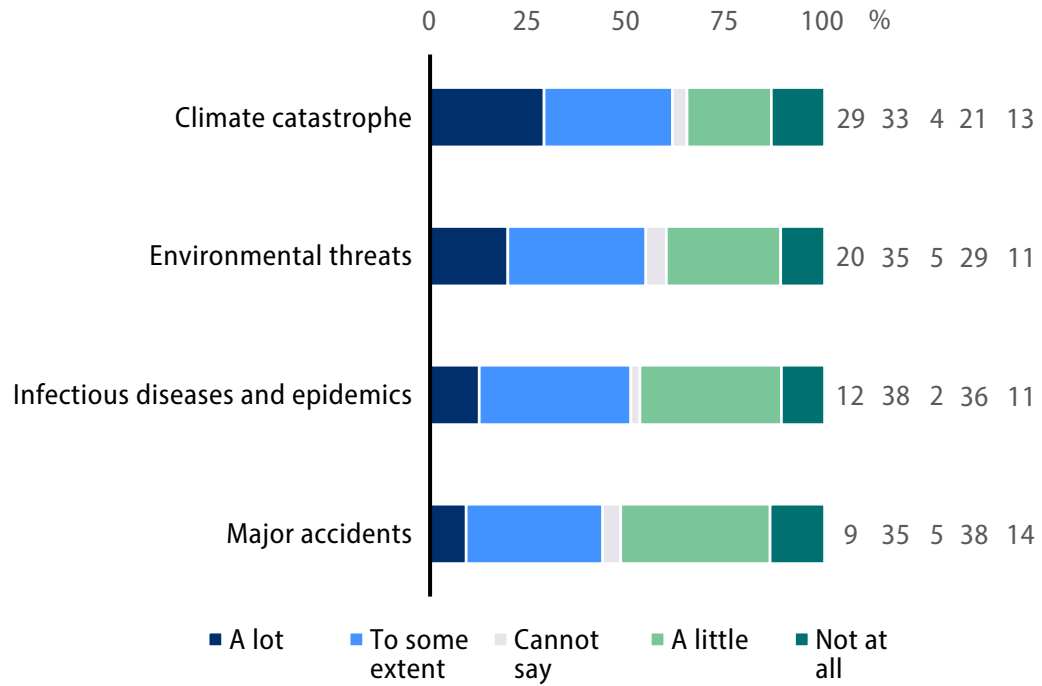


**Figure 33.** Factors causing concern among the citizens (II) Military threats  
 "How would you assess the following phenomena and factors? To what extent do they make you worry about the future?"

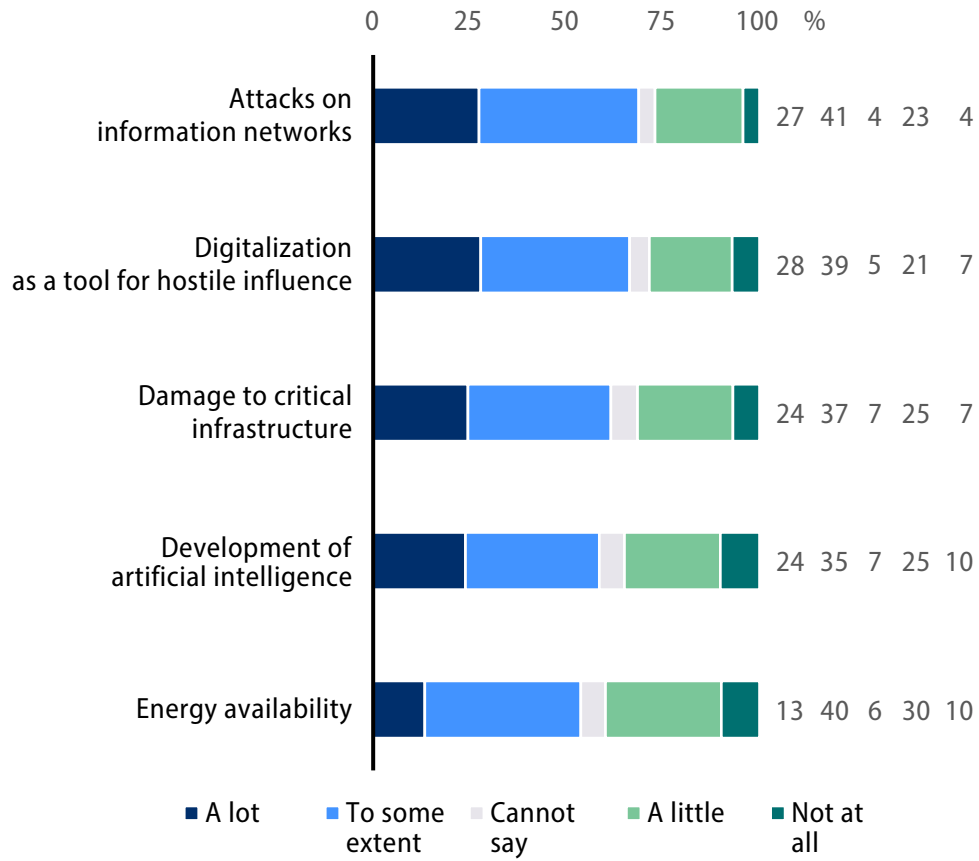


**Figure 34.** Factors causing concern among the citizens (III) Climate, environmental, and health threats

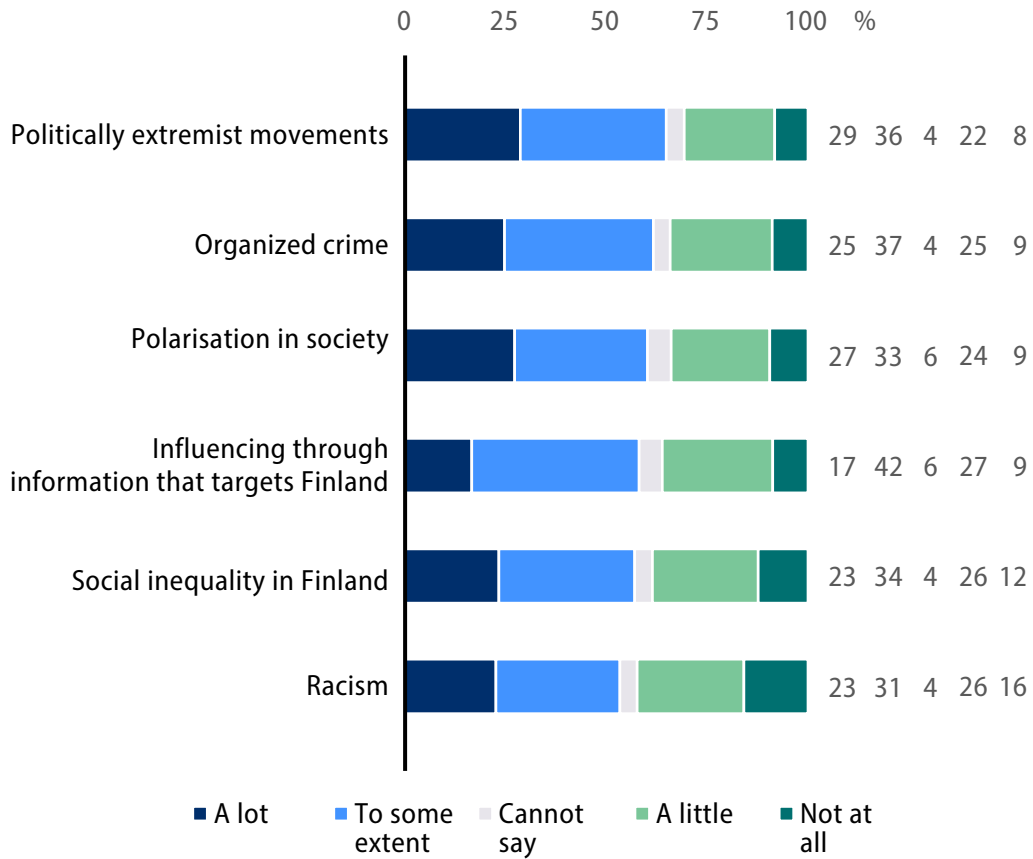
"How would you assess the following phenomena and factors? To what extent do they make you worry about the future?"



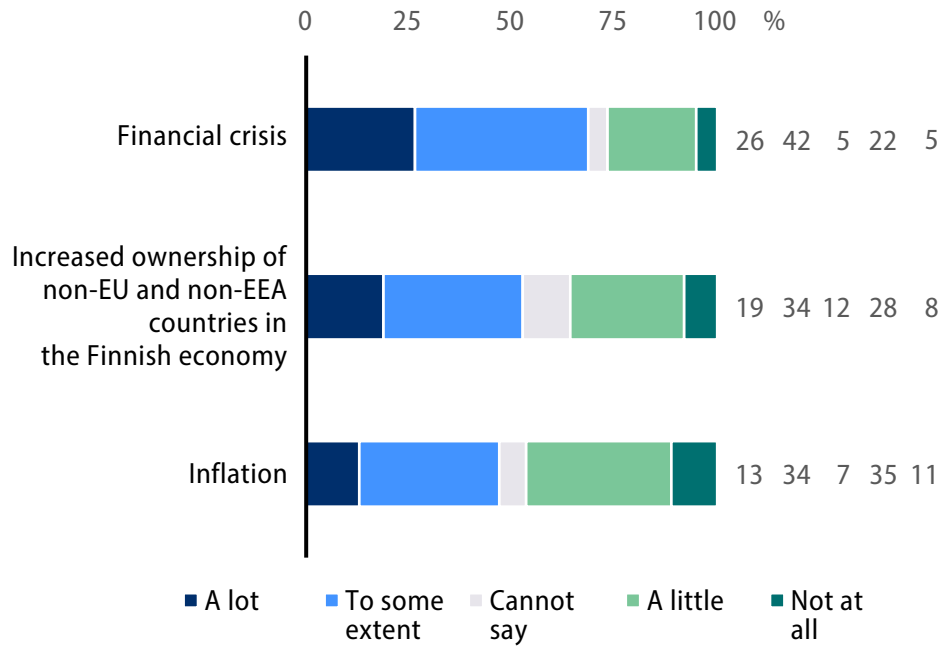
**Figure 35.** Factors causing concern among the citizens (IV) Technology and energy  
 "How would you assess the following phenomena and factors? To what extent do they make you worry about the future?"



**Figure 36.** Factors causing concern among the citizens (V) Internal security  
 "How would you assess the following phenomena and factors? To what extent do they make you worry about the future?"

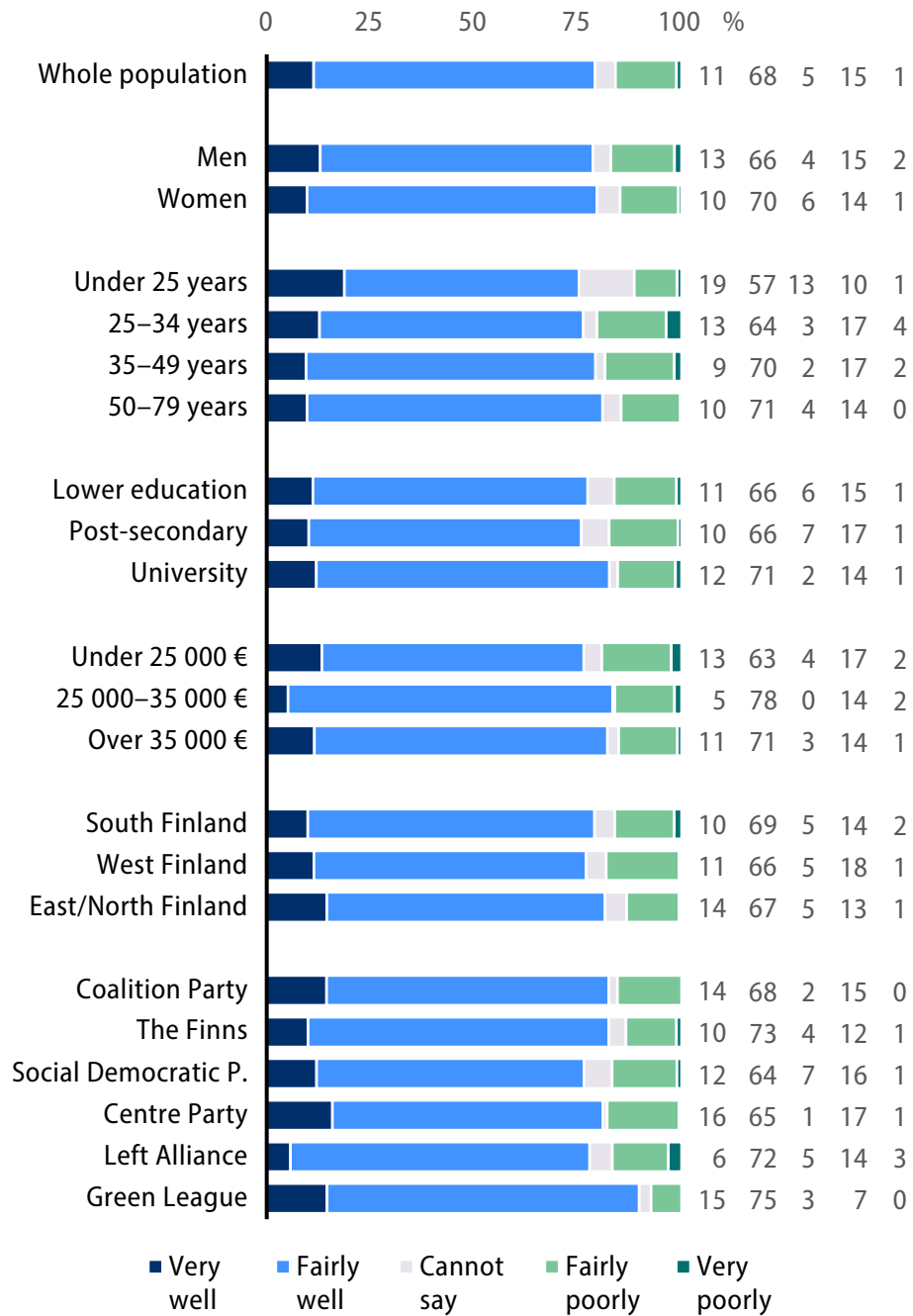


**Figure 37.** Factors causing concern among the citizens (VI) Economy  
 "How would you assess the following phenomena and factors? To what extent do they make you worry about the future?"



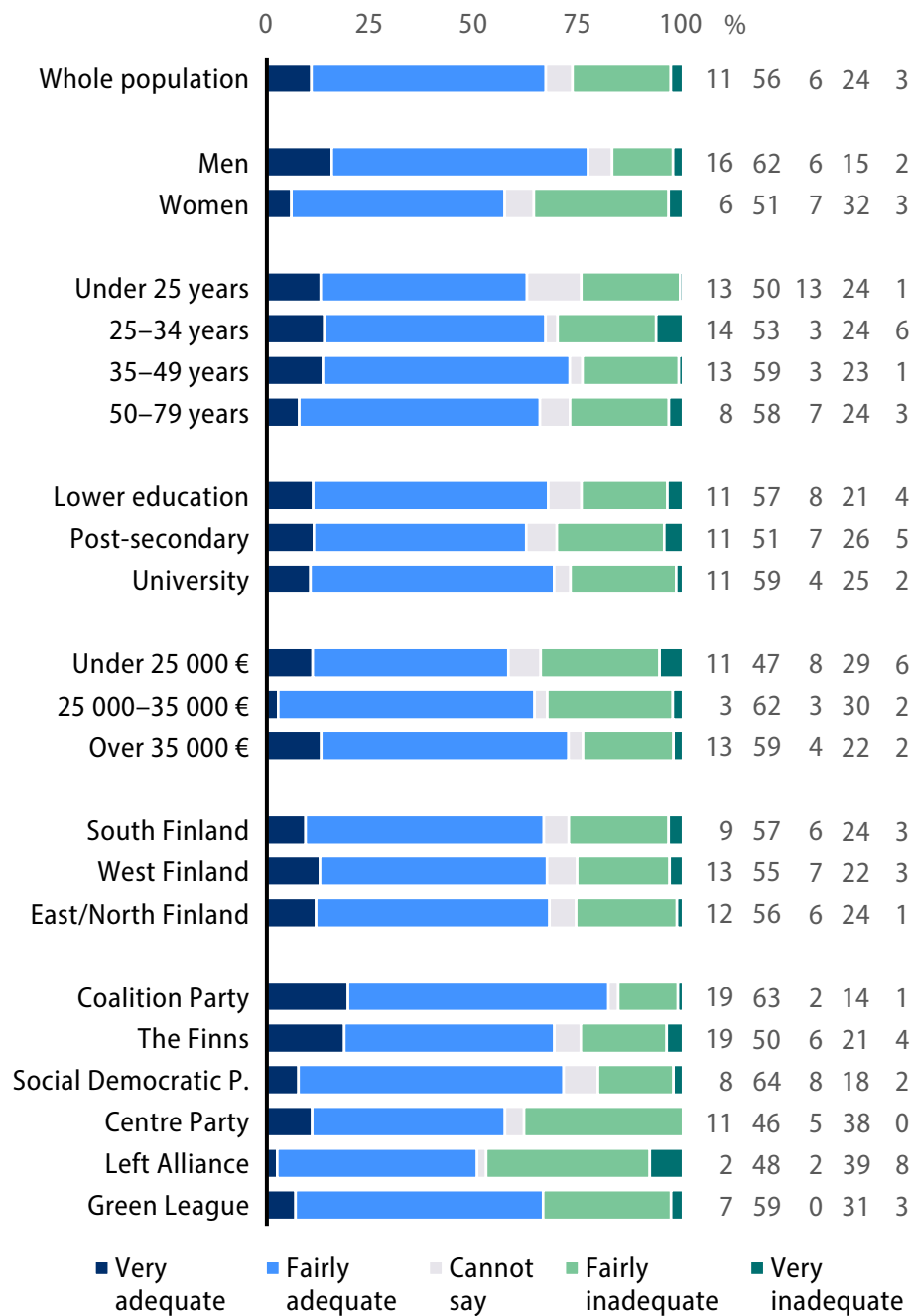
**Figure 38.** Resilience in society

"How well do you think Finnish society is prepared for and able to respond to various incidents and crises?"



**Figure 39.** Individual as a security actor

"How adequate would you estimate your ability and your safety knowledge, skills and attitude for action in different kinds of incidents and crises?"



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.

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