



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE
FINLAND

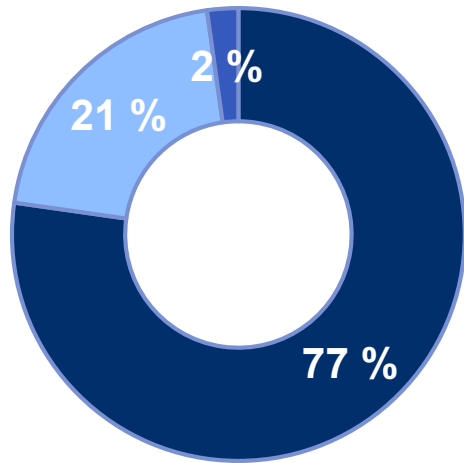
Students' views on tuition fees and studying in Finland

Survey for international students 2021
produced by the follow-up group on tuition fees

Marika Bäckman, Ministry of Education and Culture
webinar 8.11.2021



1533 responses in total, out of which 997 (65%) from fee-paying students



Nationality of the respondents

- Non-EU/EEA citizen
- EU/EEA/GB citizen
- Answer missing

*) Tuition fees will not be charged to a GB citizen who has the right of residence as required under the withdrawal agreement by 31 December 2020. All the GB citizens who took the student survey had started their studies before 2020.

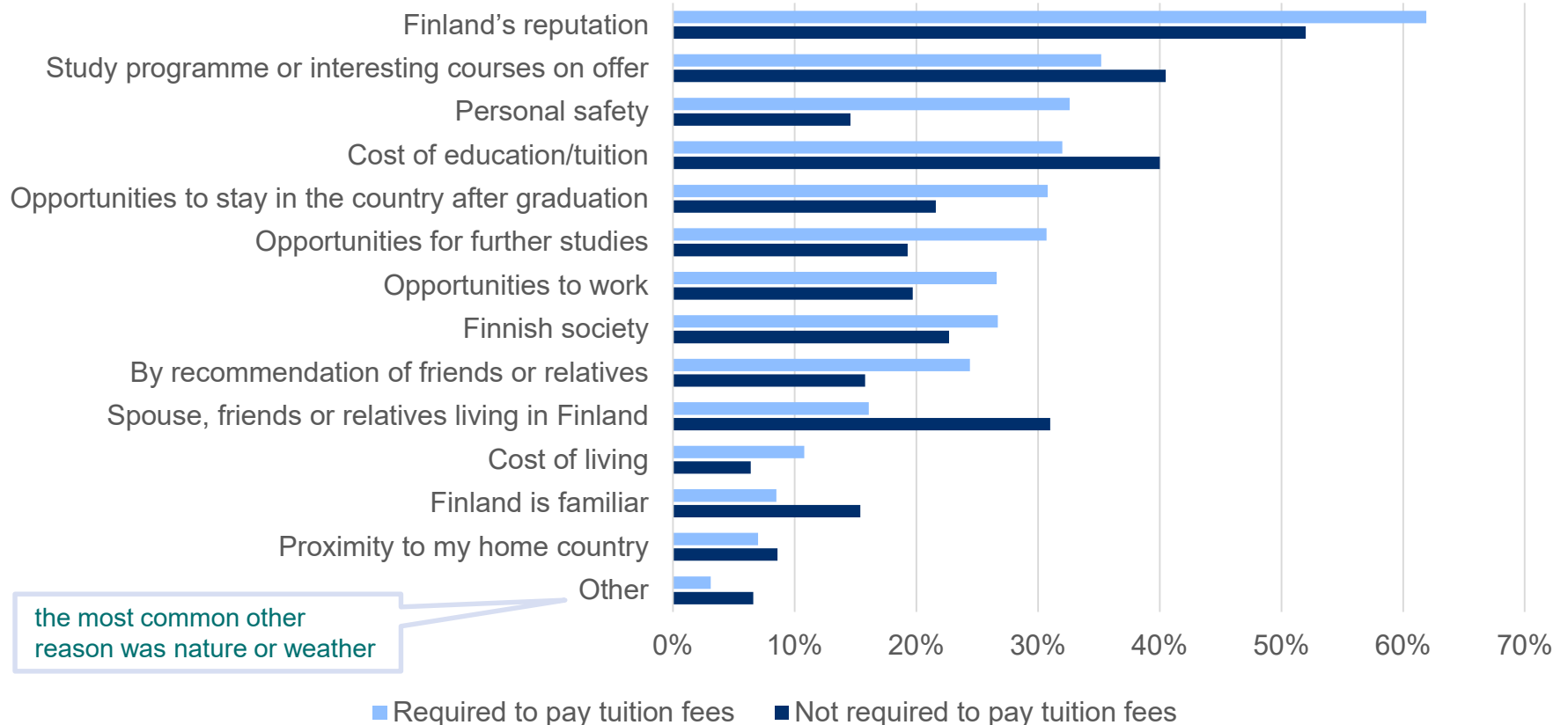
FINLAND AS STUDY DESTINATION

Reasons for choosing Finland as study destination

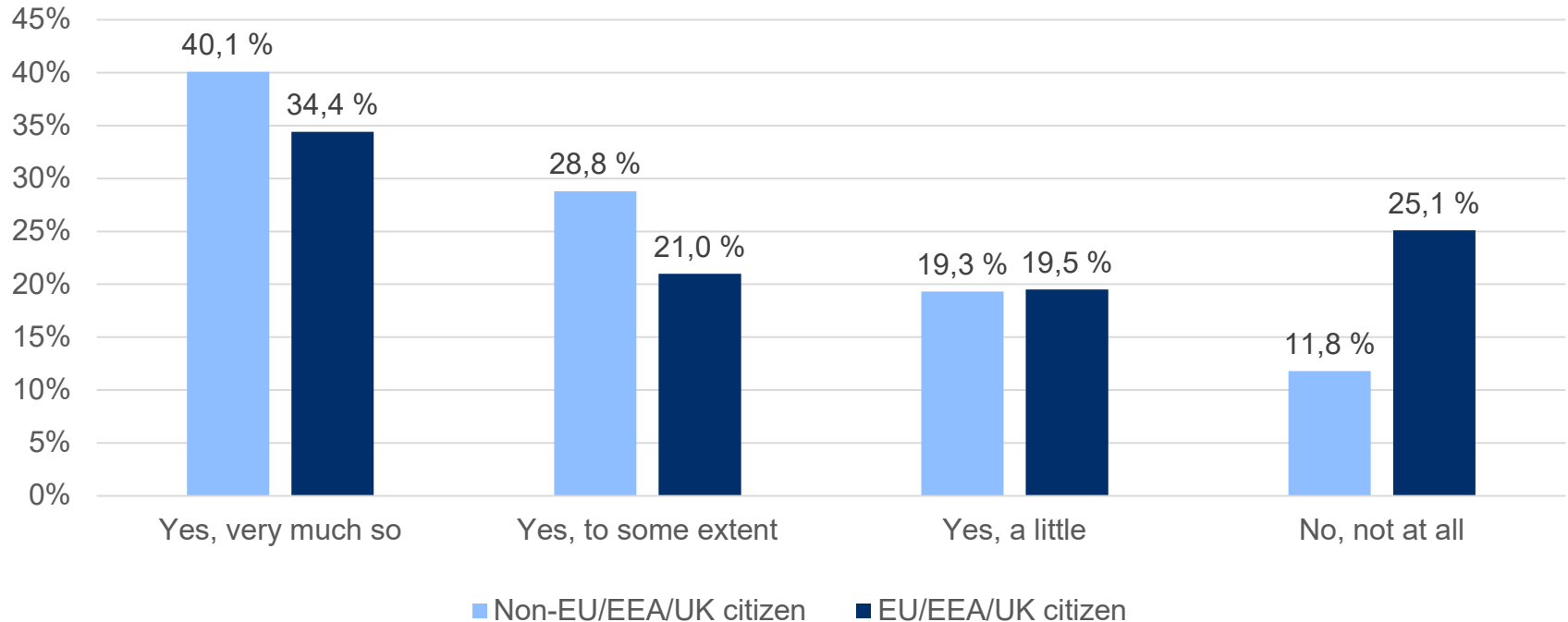
Influence of the cost of studies and tuition fees

Applying to the university and the degree programme

What made you choose Finland as a study destination?



Was the cost of studies and tuition fees a decisive factor in your choice of country and university?



In what way the cost of studies and tuition fees influenced your choice of country and university?

	Non-EU/EEA citizens	EU/EEA citizens	Total mentions
1. Possibility to qualify for a scholarship	38,7%	3,7%	31,1%
2. Reasonable tuition fees	33,2%	9,3%	27,8%
3. Not having any tuition fees	10,6%	77,8%	25,4%
4. Other reasons than costs	8,6%	3,2%	7,3%
5. Living costs	1,3%	3,2%	1,7%

Feedback on the application process

Nearly half (48%) of the respondents stated that the process went well.

Lack of support from the universities and the variety of selection criteria.

Digital services should be developed even further (43%).

More information on the experiences of students and finding work possibilities.

Students were unsatisfied with the pressure of application deadlines.

Education agents were considered to be unreliable, expensive and unnecessary.

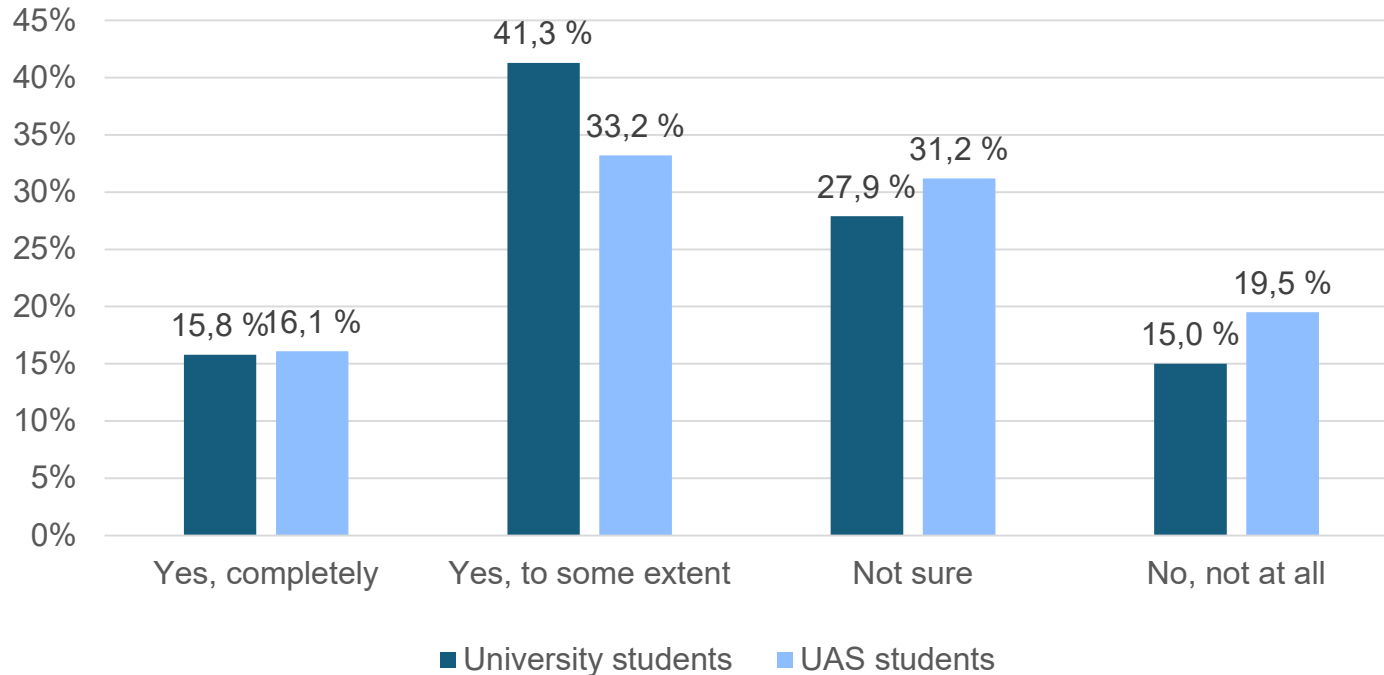
TUITION FEES AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Is the study programme worth the tuition fees

Tuition fee waivers

Scholarship process of the university

Do you think that the study programme is worth the tuition fees?



Why you think your study programme is or isn't worth the tuition fees?

Coronavirus disease situation and shifting to distance learning has caused problems due to which collecting full tuition fees was considered unreasonable.

The study programme was considered to be worth the tuition fees for the quality of education, facilities and teaching staff, course selection and services.

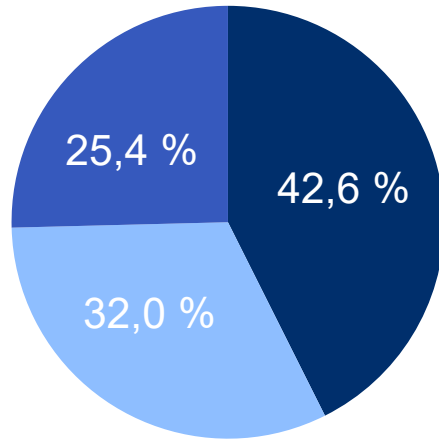
The study programme was not considered to be worth the tuition fees because of too expensive prices, the lack of the quality of education, course selection and services.

Those who were uncertain whether the study programme is worth the tuition fees paid attention to the access on scholarships and having cost free studies before 2017.

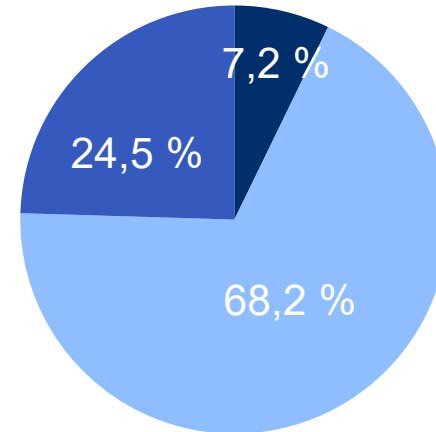
Other challenges: inequality with other students caused by the tuition fees, the lack of language skills and difficulties of finding employment in Finland.

Do you currently have a tuition fee waiver scholarship from your university?

University students

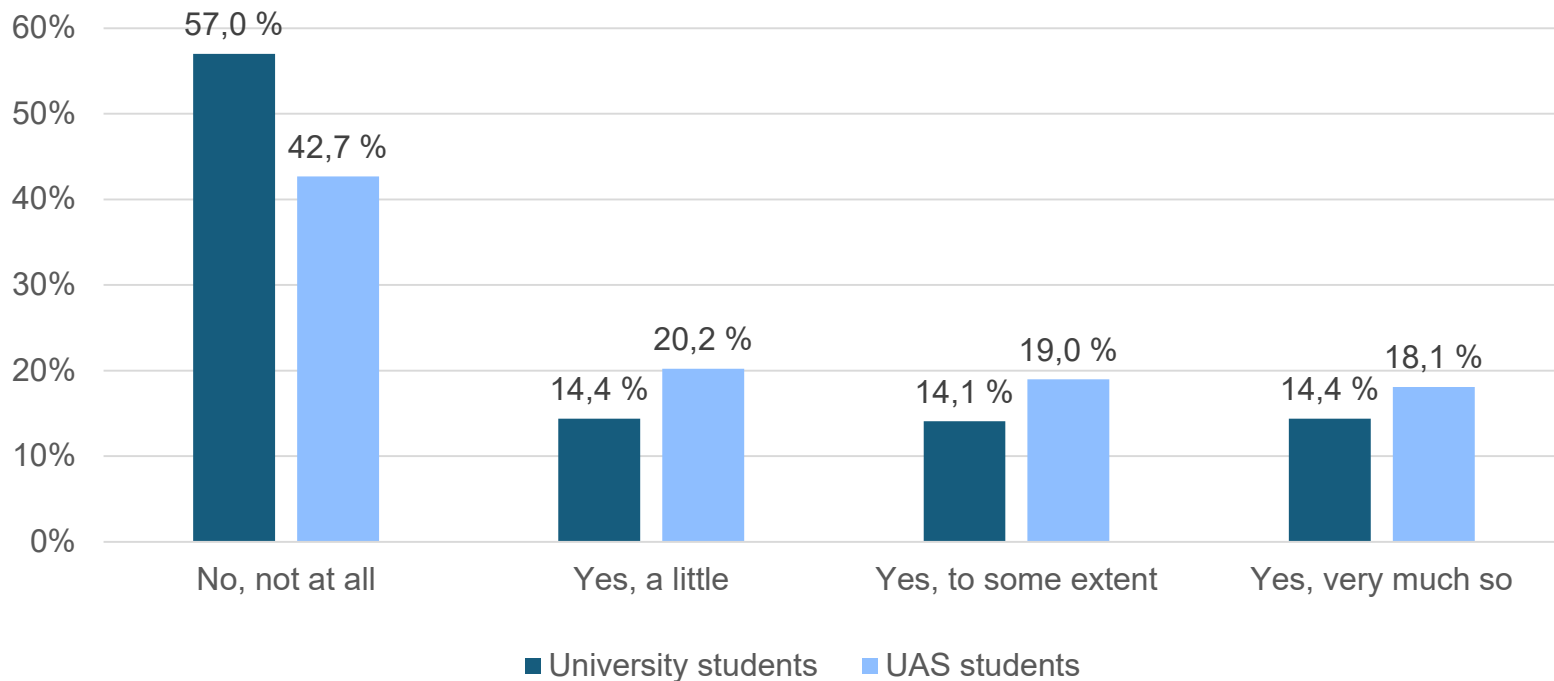


UAS students

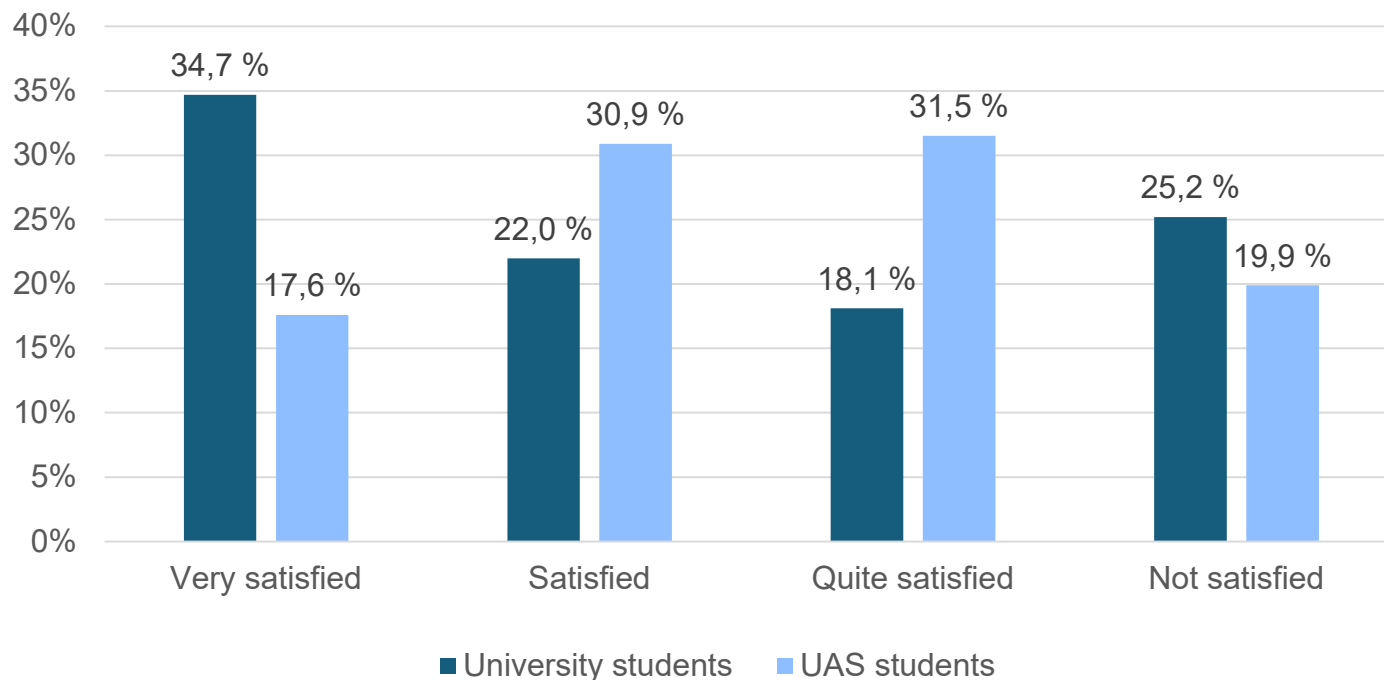


- Yes, I have a fee waiver scholarship which fully covers the tuition fee
- Yes, I have a fee waiver scholarship which partially covers the tuition fee
- No, I don't have a tuition fee waiver scholarship

Have your studies been affected by you being a fee-paying student?



How satisfied are you with the scholarship process at your university?



Tuition fees and scholarship process – what works well and what could be improved?

Tuition fees were considered to be unreasonable because of COVID-19.


Payments should be more flexible and possible to pay in installments

Tuition fees are too expensive. More scholarships should be available.

Admission of scholarships should be based on either merits or consideration of the individual needs of the students.

The process was mainly accessible, scholarships were easy to apply for and the decisions came quickly.

The criteria for admittance of scholarships should be transparent.



*“I need time for managing tuition fee.
In this corona situation my family in trouble.
I am doing everything myself.
What ever I love to live here.”*

Thank you!