

TREY's spring 2021 COVID-19 survey results publication event

14.6.2021



TAMPEREEN YLIOPIPPILASKUNTA
STUDENT UNION OF TAMPERE UNIVERSITY

The execution of TREY's COVID-survey

- TREY executed a COVID-survey during spring 2021. The survey was open from 20 April to 16 May and we received **1313 answers**.
 - The previous survey, which was made during autumn 2020, was open 4.-30. September and then we received 1378 answers.
- The survey was made to map students' experiences during the prolonged pandemic situation.
- The goal of the survey was to learn about how remote studying has been, the pandemic's impact to the use of campus premises, and the well-being and livelihood of university students, among other things.



The execution of TREY's COVID-survey

- The COVID-survey was fulfilled via a Jotform-form.
- The survey consisted of **49 questions**, 11 of which were open questions and 38 multiple choice questions.
- In the survey, students were asked about their experiences concerning the University's COVID-policies, student dining and the arrangement of studies, among other things.
- The survey link was sent to all university students via **the University's COVID-email** on 20. April 2021.
- Active communications regarding the survey in the communications channels of TREY and the University

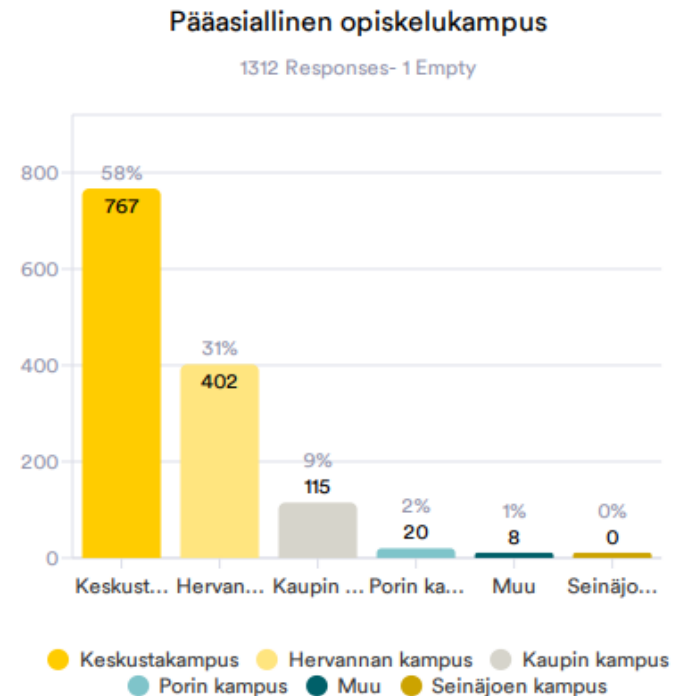


Background information

- The background information that was asked in the survey:
 - Age group
 - Gender
 - Study year
 - Main study campus
 - Stage of studies
 - Main language used in the university
 - Faculty
 - Whether the answerer is a full-time student
- 91 % of answerers (ergo 1191 answerers) said that they were a full-time student.

Background information: campus

- Students from the **city centre campus** were the most active in answering the survey. 58 % of the answerers said that the city centre campus was their main study campus.
 - In the 2020 autumn survey, students from Hervanta campus were most active in answering (62% of answerers)

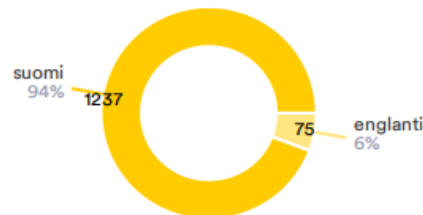


Background information: faculty and language

- 29 % answerers to the survey were from the **Faculty of Information Technology and Communication Sciences (ITC)**, which was the most active Faculty
- 94 % of answerers (ergo 1237 answerers) said that the language they use at the University was **Finnish**.

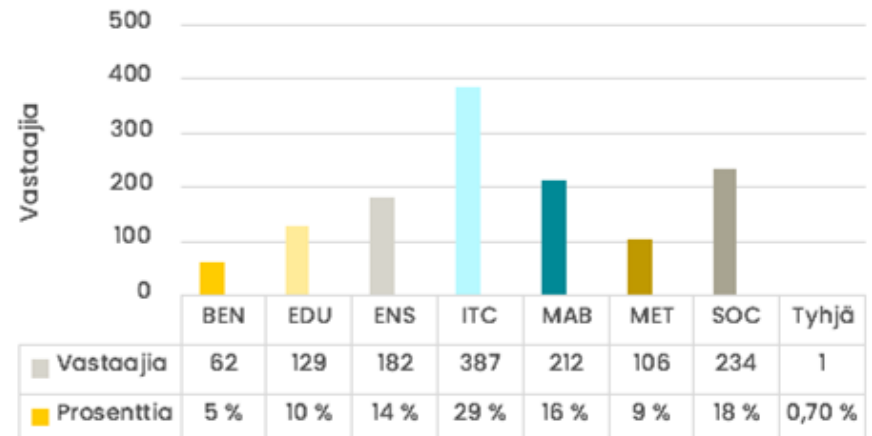
Asiointikieli yliopistolla

1312 Responses- 1 Empty



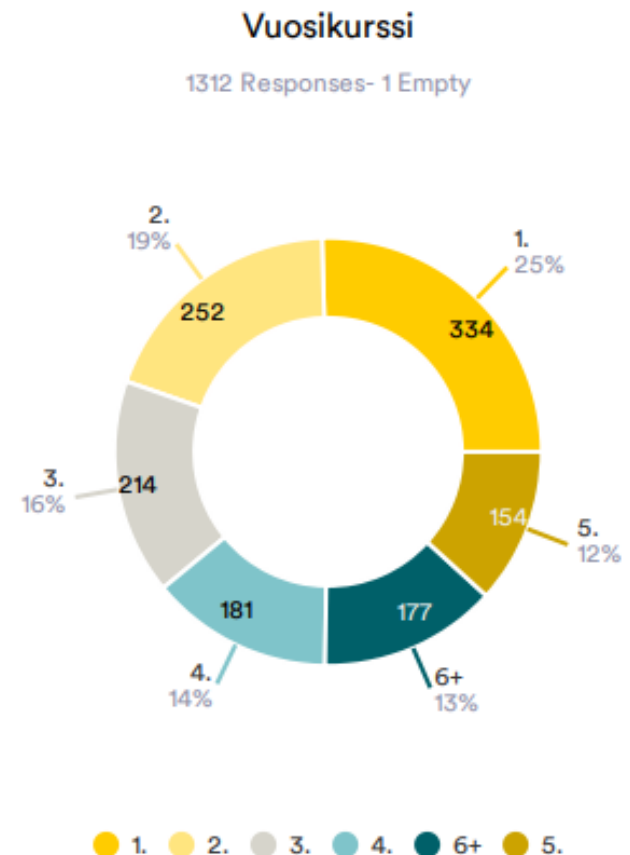
● suomi ● englanti

Tiedekunta



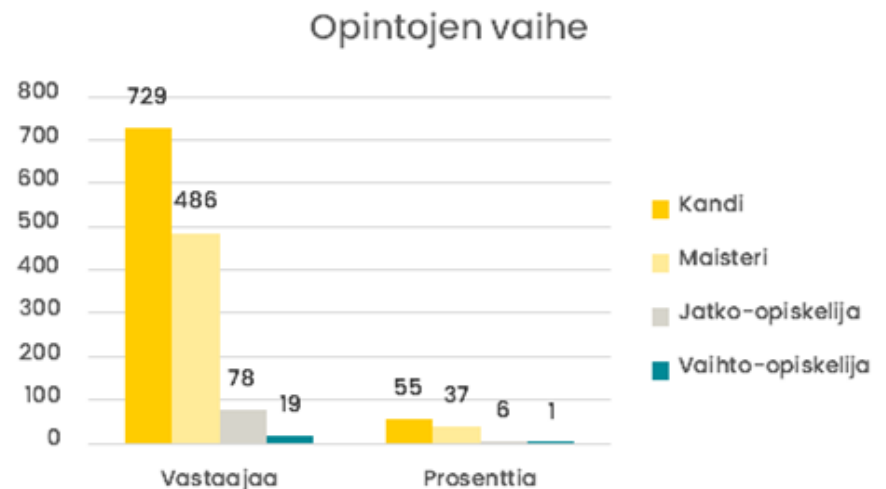
Background information: study year

- A quarter of the answerers (ergo 334 answerers) were **first year students** and 19 % second year students.
 - In the 2020 autumn survey, first and second year students formed half of the survey's answerers.



Background information: stage of studies

- Slightly above half of the answerers (55 %) were Bachelor's degree students
- 486 answerers were Master's degree students (ergo 37 % of answerers)
- 6 % (ergo 78 answerers) were post-graduate students.
- 19 answerers were exchange students (ergo 1% of answerers)



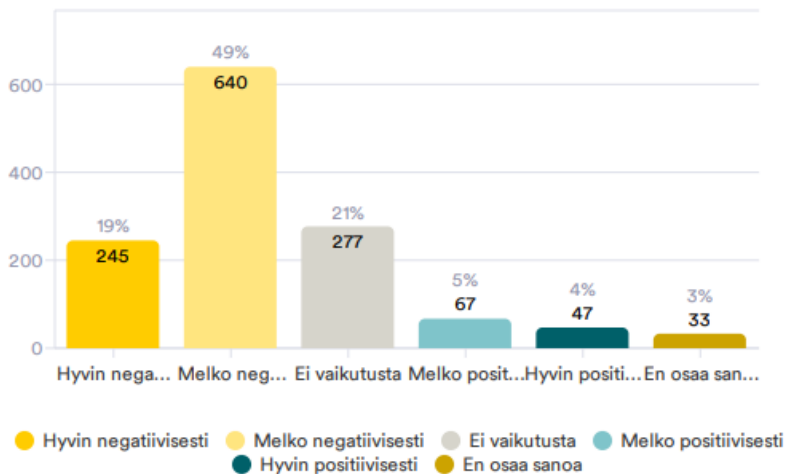
University policies

- In this part of the survey, we gathered information regarding the effects of restrictions on the use of University facilities and opinions on the University's COVID-policies in relation to the pandemic situation.
- In the open answer section, we gathered ideas to improve the policies.

University policies

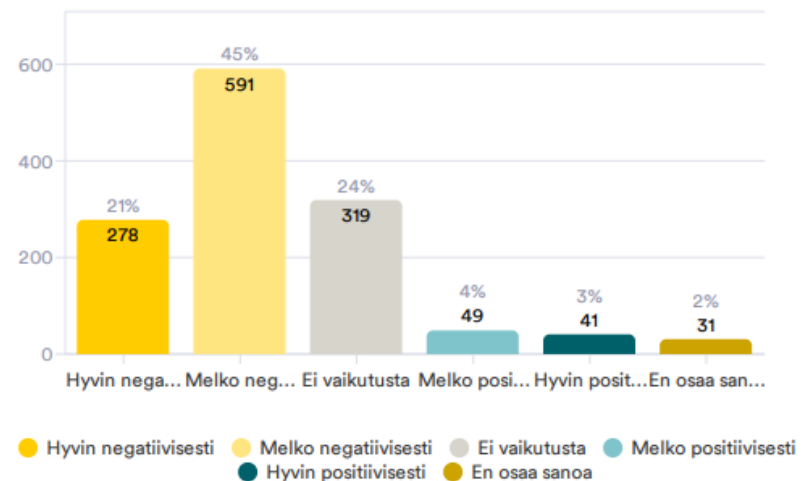
Yliopiston tilojen käytön rajoitukset ovat vaikuttaneet opiskeluun

1309 Responses- 4 Empty



Yliopiston tilojen käytön rajoitukset ovat vaikuttaneet hyvinvointiin

1309 Responses- 4 Empty



- 68% of the answerers said that the campus regulations and limited access have affected their studies in a negative way.
- The answers to the question on how the regulations have affected well-being are in line with the previous one: 76% said that the campus regulations and limited access have had a negative effect on their well-being.

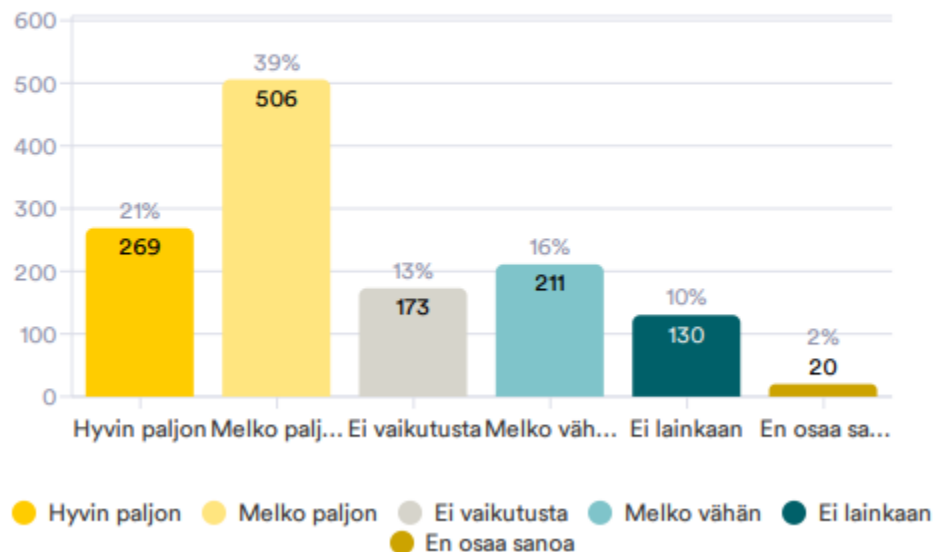
University policies

The campus regulations and limited access have caused loneliness to 60 % of answerers.

In the 2020 autumn survey, 62 % said that they have felt loneliness due to the campus regulations and limited access.

Rajoitukset yliopistolla oleskeluun ovat aiheuttaneet minulle yksinäisyyttä

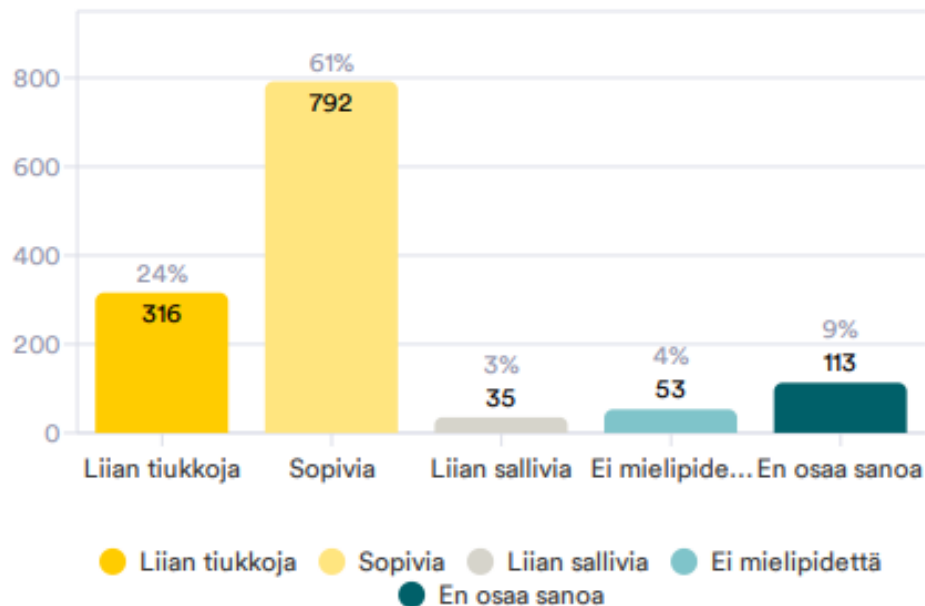
1309 Responses- 4 Empty



University policies

Yliopiston linjaukset ovat olleet yleiseen
pandemiatilanteeseen nähden

1309 Responses- 4 Empty



Most of the answerers find the University's policies appropriate to the pandemic situation.

A quarter of the answerers (ergo 24 % of the answerers) felt that the policies were too strict.

University's coronavirus regulations - open answers

"If you want to, you can tell us more about the impact of coronavirus-related campus regulations."

- 445 answers
- Difficulties in studies due to the campus regulations
- Difficulties in recovering
- The role of campuses in building routines
- The role of the libraries

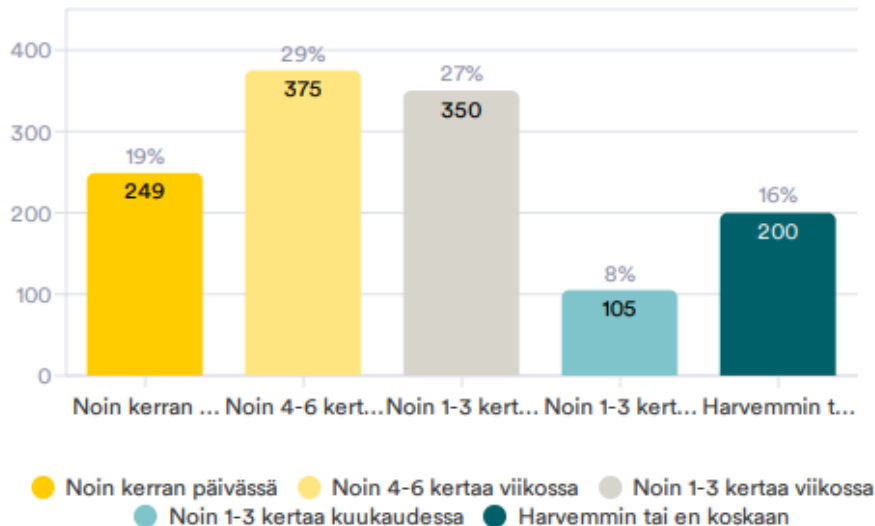
If you want to, you can tell us how the University could develop its pandemic policies. How could the negative effects of campus regulations be reduced?"

- 314 answers
- Moderation in decision making
- Interaction and contact learning
- Library facilities and services
- Communications
- Remote studying after the pandemic

Student dining and campus restaurants

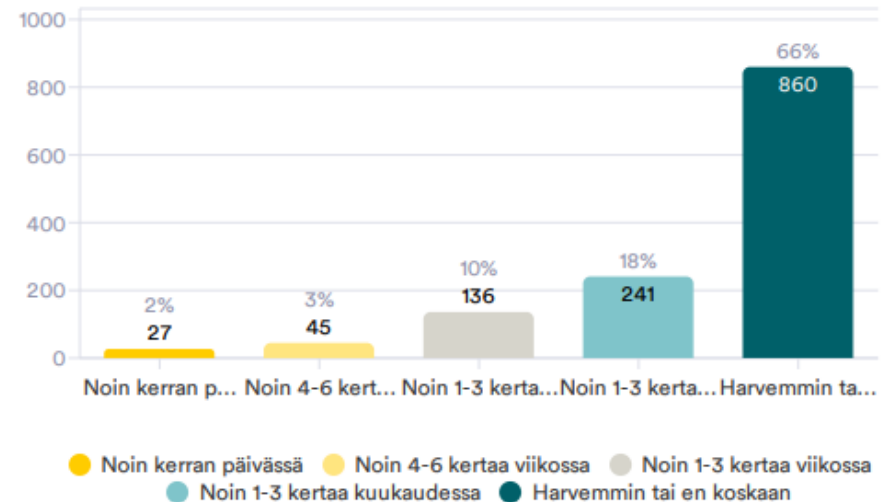
Kuinka usein ruokailit opiskelijaravintoloissa ennen koronapandemiaa?

1279 Responses- 34 Empty



Oletko käynyt ruokailemassa opiskelijaravintoloissa korona-aikana (sis. take away)?

1309 Responses- 4 Empty

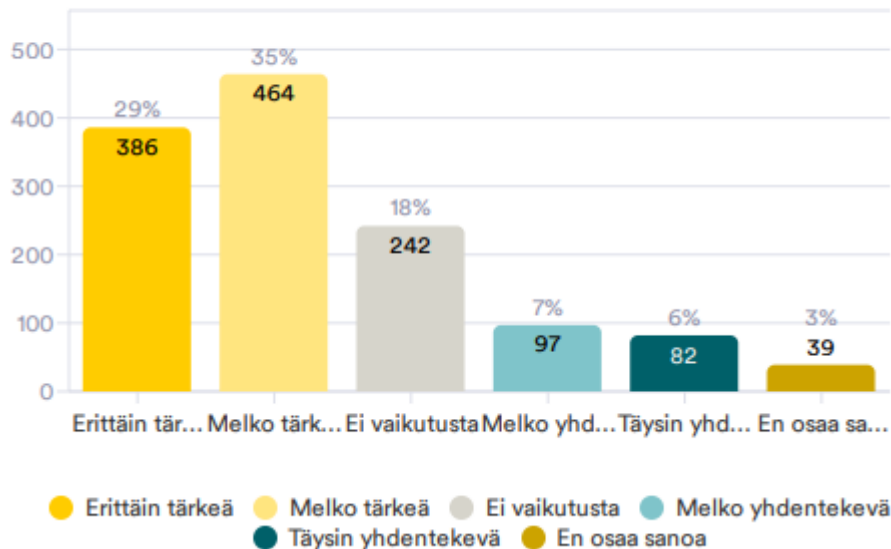


48 % of the participants responded that before the pandemic, they dined in student restaurants at least 4 times a week or more. During pandemic, only 5 % students did so, and 66 % students dined in a student restaurant less than once month or not at all.

Student dining and campus restaurants

Kuinka tärkeäksi koet opiskelijahintaisen ruokailun oman hyvinvointisi kannalta?

1310 Responses- 3 Empty



64 % of the answerers claim that student-priced meals are very or somehow important to their well-being.

The effects of not dining in student restaurants include:

- one-sided and unhealthy diet
- effect on personal finances
- lack of routine in everyday life
- decrease in sociality

Student associations

Respondents were asked to select different statements regarding how student associations have supported well-being during the pandemic period. As the most common statements, respondents chose the following:

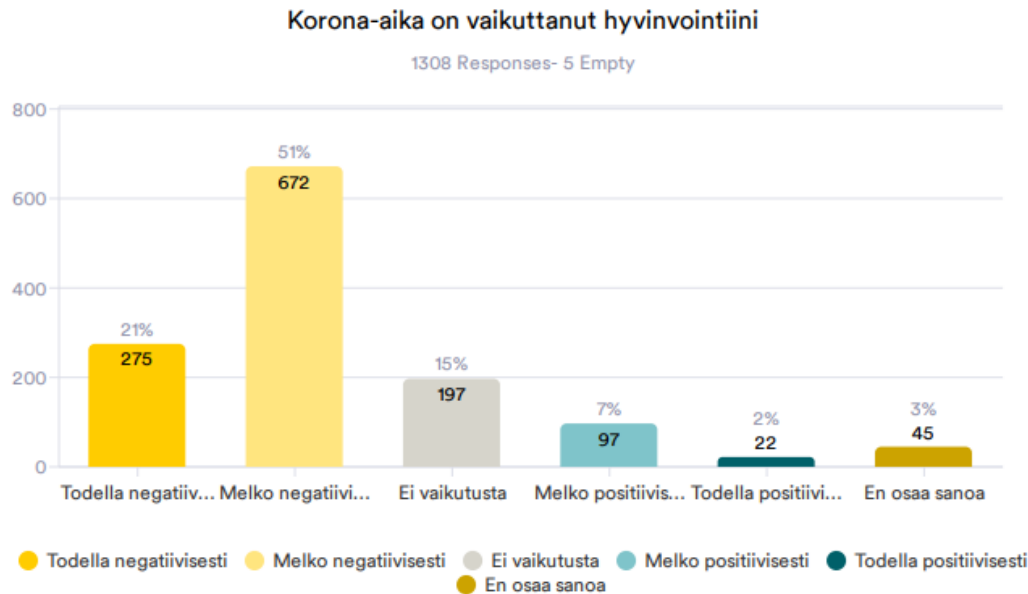
- organised remote events (selected 647 times)
- remote events with organised activities (selected 434 times)
- organised competitions or challenges (selected 343 times)
- the association has organised well-being activities, but I have not taken part in them (selected 266 times)
- casual common conversation moments (selected 221 times)
- the association has asked how the members are feeling and how things are going (selected 220 times)
- the amount of events has decreased considerably or I have not found events (selected 201 times)
- set up conversation groups where people can stay in touch with each other (selected 173 times)

Student associations

- Regarding student associations, the answerers were asked one open question: “*What kind of activities would you like the associations to organise?*”. The question received 194 answers.
- Based on the responses, the most common hopes were different discussion and hangout events. Especially hoped for events were those of low-threshold, events that can be attended alone or events where you would have the opportunity to meet other students.
- The hopes for a wide range of peer support and study groups were also emphasized in the responses. Answerers wished for associations to organize live events within the restrictions, especially outdoor and sports events.
- The most common recurring theme in the responses was the experience that student associations have done a good job overall or do their best in these circumstances.

Well-being

How has the coronavirus pandemic affected your well-being?



- 72 % of the answerers felt that the pandemic period has had a negative impact on their well-being.
- 15 % of the answerers found the effect neutral.
- 9 % of the answerers felt that the pandemic period has had a positive impact on their well-being.
- 3 % answered *Don't know*.

Well-being

Korona-aika on vaikuttanut opiskelijoiden hyvinvointiin yliopistossani

1308 Responses- 5 Empty



After assessing their own well-being, answerers were asked to assess the effects of the pandemic period on student well-being more generally at the University.

77 % of answerers felt that the effects to student well-being were negative.

According to a survey made by TEK (Academic Engineers and Architects in Finland) during 2020, 58 % of answerers felt the effects of the pandemic period on student well-being to be negative.

Well-being

Which of the following statements apply to your life during the coronavirus pandemic?

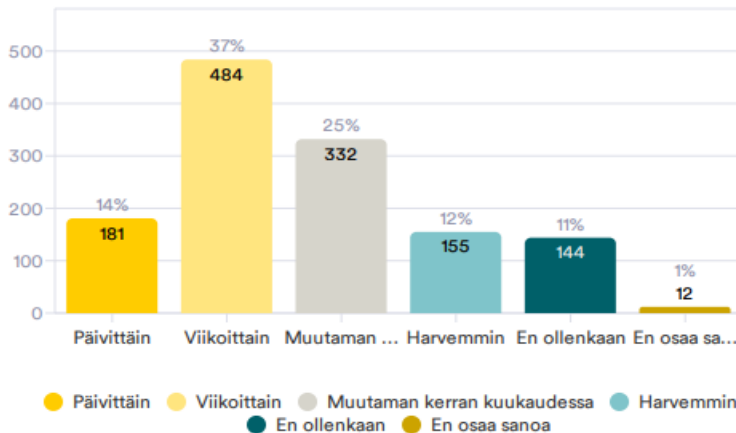
As the most common arguments, the respondents chose:

- I have difficulty getting things done (selected 847 times)
- My mood is lower (selected 834 times)
- My study motivation has deteriorated (selected 816 times)
- I am stressed (selected 806 times)
- My concentration has deteriorated (selected 784 times)
- I feel lonely (selected 781 times)
- I feel burdened (selected 724 times)
- I have not exercised as much (selected 627 times)

Well-being

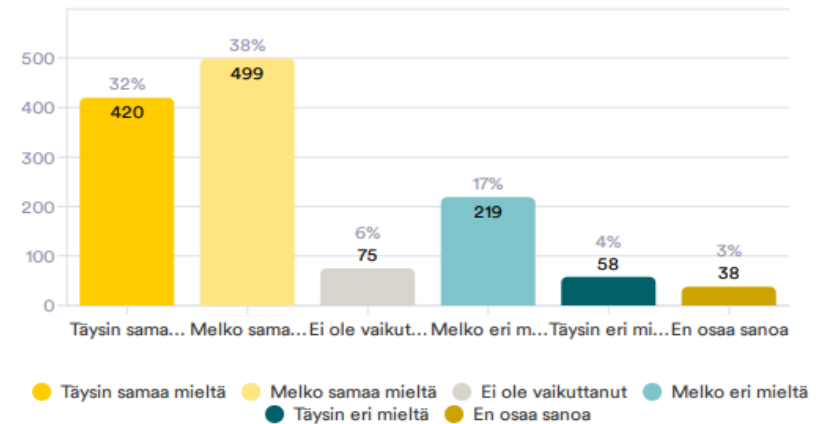
Olen tuntenut itseni yksinäiseksi

1308 Responses- 5 Empty



Minulla on ollut korona-aikana itselleni sopivia turvallisia tapoja liikkua

1309 Responses- 4 Empty



Left chart: *How often have you felt lonely?*

14% of answerers experienced loneliness daily, 37% weekly and 25% a few times a month.

Right chart: *During the pandemic, I have been able to find safe and suitable ways to exercise.*

70% of answerers have found suitable safe ways to exercise. 21% of respondents disagreed with the statement.

Well-being - open answers

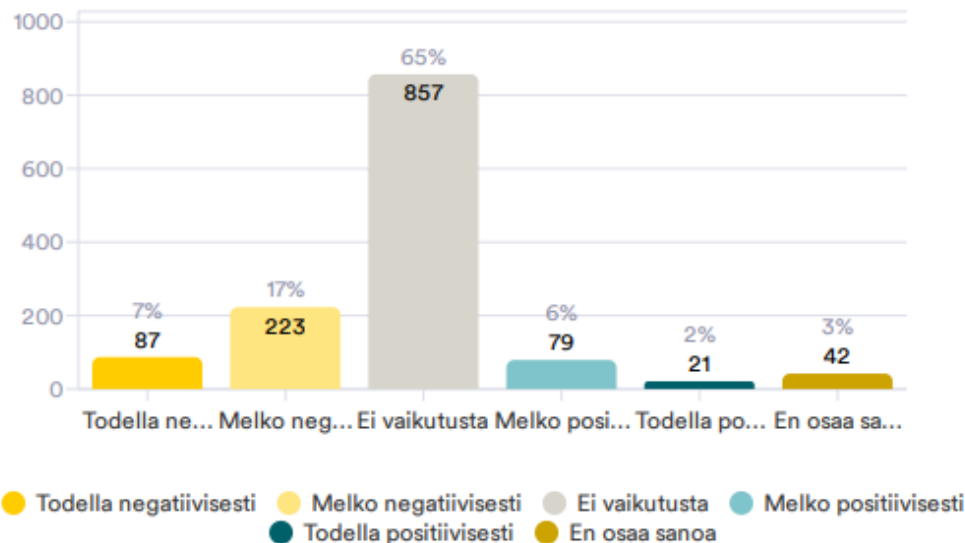
If you want to, you can tell more about how the coronavirus pandemic has affected your well-being.

- A large proportion of the answerers reported decline in their well-being, but some answerers stated that they are actually feeling better during the pandemic.
- Decreased study motivation and study challenges
- Strain, stress and anxiety
- Exercise
- Dietary habits

Livelihood and income

Miten korona-aika on vaikuttanut toimeentuloosi?

1309 Responses- 4 Empty



“How has the coronavirus pandemic affected your income?”

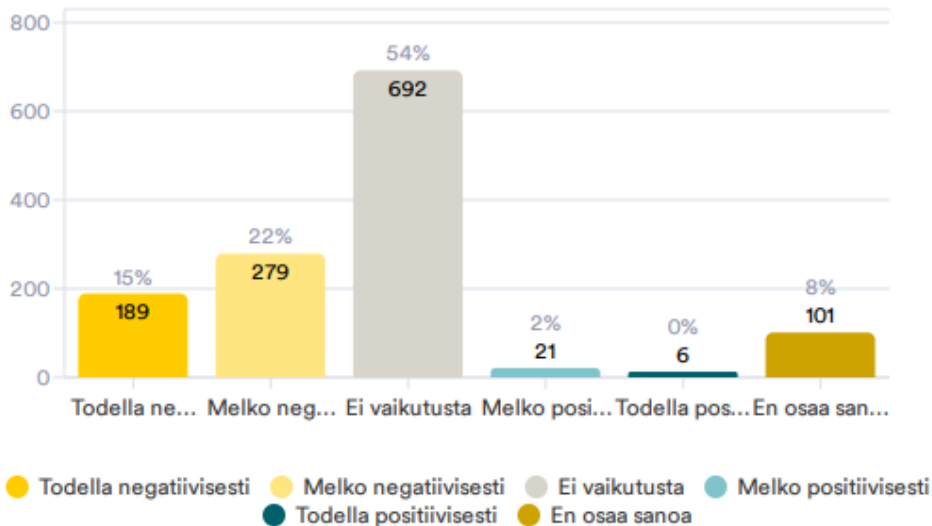
65 % of answerers state that the pandemic has not had an effect on their income.

17 % of answerers state that the pandemic has had a somewhat negative impact on their income.

Livelihood and income: Summer job search

Miten korona-aikaon vaikuttanut kesätyöhakuusi?

1288 Responses- 25 Empty



“How has the pandemic affected your summer job search?”

54 % of answerers state that the pandemic has not had an effect on their summer job search.

22 % of answerers state that the pandemic has had a somewhat negative impact on their summer job search, while 15 % state that it has had a very negative impact.

Livelihood and income

Answerers were asked to select different statements regarding their livelihood during the pandemic. As the most common arguments, the answerers chose the following:

- It has become easier to combine studies and work (selected 309 times)
- My income has decreased (selected 246 times)
- Remote studying has left me with more time for work (selected 209 times)
- My summer job has been cancelled (selected 185 times)
- My working hours have decreased (selected 181 times)
- It has become more difficult to combine studies and work (selected 130 times)
- My working hours have increased (selected 129 times)
- My income has increased (selected 127 times)
- I am worried about making ends meet during my studies due to the pandemic (selected 108 times)
- I had to take out a student loan even though I did not want to (selected 84 times)

Livelihood and income

If you want to, you can tell us more about how the coronavirus pandemic has affected your income situation.

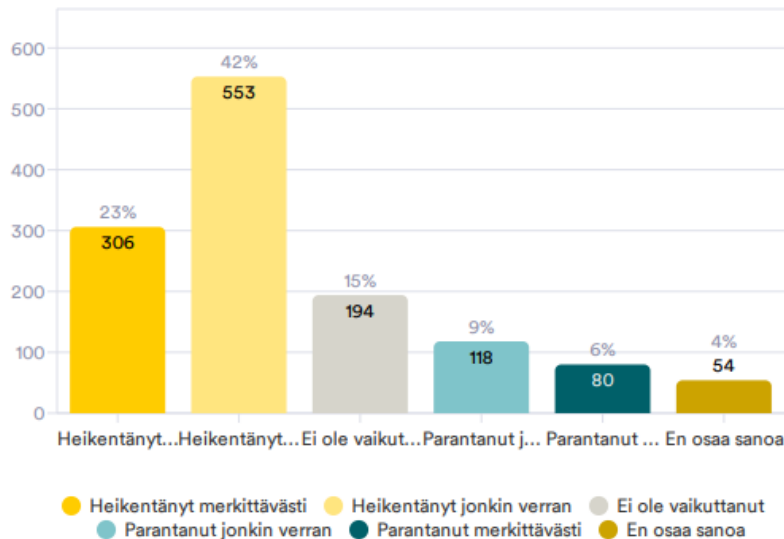
This open question sparked 246 answers.

- Positive effects on livelihood were reduced consumption and expenditure, as well as increased amount of work and work opportunities.
- The negative effects on livelihood during the pandemic period, on the other hand, were the increase in expenditure, the decrease in amount of work available and concerns regarding study grants.
- The difficulty of finding an internship is also a recurring theme. For many respondents, study motivation has decreased, studies have been postponed or stretched, and in addition, student allowance months have decreased or ended.
- According to many respondents, these above-mentioned reasons have led to e.g. increasing anxiety, stress and worry about their own livelihood temporarily and for the future. In addition, distance learning and teleworking have increased the exhaustion and workload of many respondents.

Remote learning, course arrangements and support

Miten etäopiskelu on vaikuttanut opiskelukykyysi?

1305 Responses- 8 Empty



How has remote learning affected your study ability?

Remote learning clearly affects the students' ability to study.

- 65 % of the answerers say that remote learning has deteriorated their ability to study. This has not changed much since the autumn's survey, when the corresponding figure was 67 %.

Matters that affect the ability to study:

- Own resources (life management, social relations, ...)
- Study environment
- Teaching and guidance
- Study skills

Remote learning, course arrangements and support

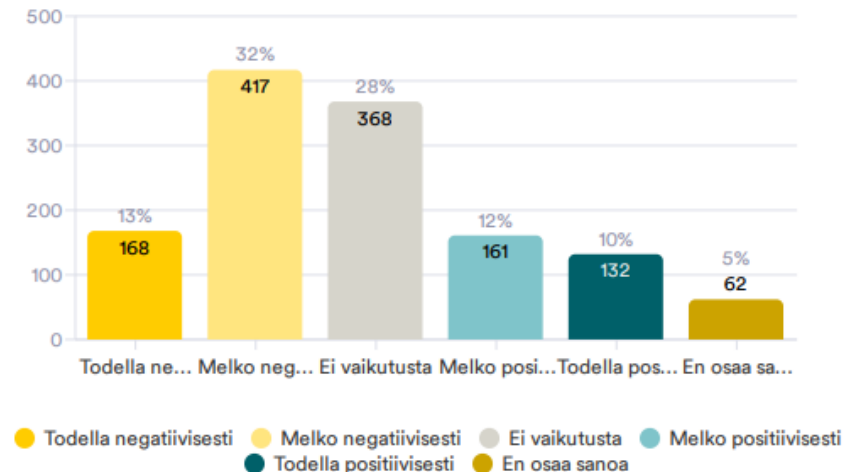
How do you feel that remote studying has affected your study progress?

The effect of remote learning on the ability to study and through it on the progress of studies is clearly noticeable in the answers.

- 45% of answerers feel that remote learning has had a negative effect on the progress of their studies.
- There was no similar question in the autumn survey, but in the autumn, 58% of the respondents felt that distance learning had a negative effect on studies.

Uskon etäopintojen vaikuttavan opintojeni etenemiseen

1308 Responses- 5 Empty



Many things can affect the progress of studies, such as the ability to study, motivation and the level of teaching and guidance.

Remote learning, course arrangements and support

The survey asked a multiple-choice question in which the answerer was asked to select “*Which of the following study-related statements apply to you?*”

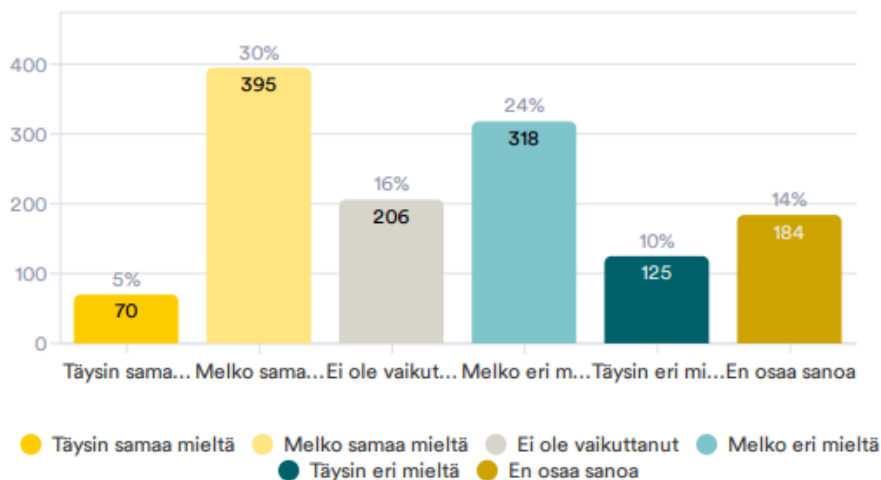
As the most common arguments, the answerers chose the following:

- I do not find my studies meaningful or rewarding (selected 543 times)
- I don't know what is expected of me as a student (selected 480 times)
- I have not found support for remote learning (selected 475 times)
- I have gained less study credits than before (selected 454 times)
- I have progressed more slowly with my studies (selected 432 times)
- I know what is expected of me as a student (selected 260 times)
- I have managed to gain more study credits (selected 234 times)
- I find my studies more meaningful and rewarding (selected 196 times)

Support in remote learning

Opetushenkilökunta on tukenut etäopiskelua

1298 Responses- 15 Empty



The prolonged situation also affects the resilience of the teaching staff and their resources to provide support.

Answerers were asked their stance on the statement “*Teachers have offered support for remote learning.*”

Support from teaching staff has been perceived to vary:

- 35 % felt that they have gotten support in remote learning
- 34 % felt that they have not gotten support in remote learning

In last autumn’s survey, the same figures were

- 50 % felt that they have gotten support in remote learning
- 24 % felt that they have not gotten support in remote learning

Support in remote learning

How have guidance and counselling worked during the period of remote learning?

In terms of guidance and counseling support, the response rates are relatively similar compared to the 2020 survey.

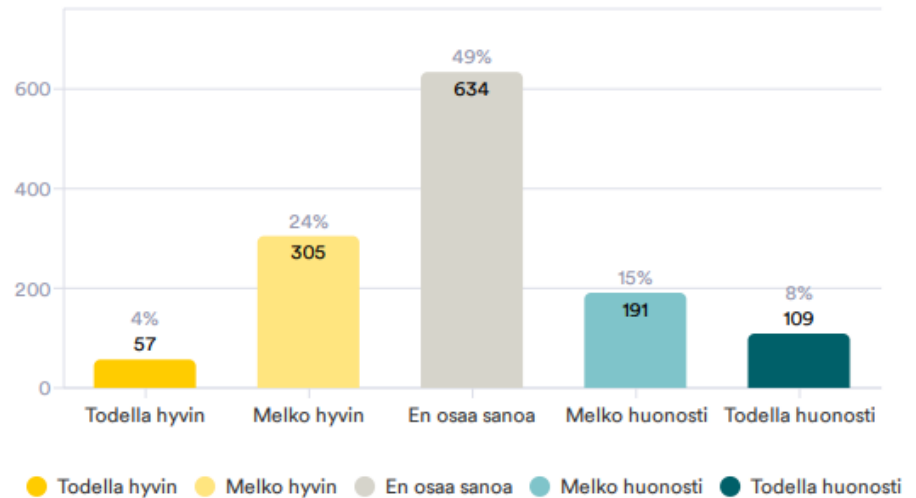
Study guidance and counseling has gone...

- really or pretty well: 28% (2020: 32%)
- really or quite badly: 23% (2020: 26%)

49% of the respondents have not been able to take a stand on this activity. In the 2020 survey, 42% of respondents could not say or have not used services.

Miten opintojen ohjaus ja neuvonta ovat toimineet etäopiskelun aikana?

1296 Responses- 17 Empty



Remote learning, course arrangements and support

What group activities would you like the University to organise to promote study ability, learning skills, social interaction and well-being?

- 204 answers
- Study spaces
- Communication regarding support and guidance services, resources for support
- Low threshold ways
- Investing in courses
- Interaction

If you want to, you can tell us more about your experiences of remote learning, course arrangements and support.

- 184 answers
- Need for additional support
- More interaction
- Variation in the level of teaching and guidance
- Increased workload
- Flexibility

Contact teaching

In questions regarding contact teaching, in this survey and the previous one:

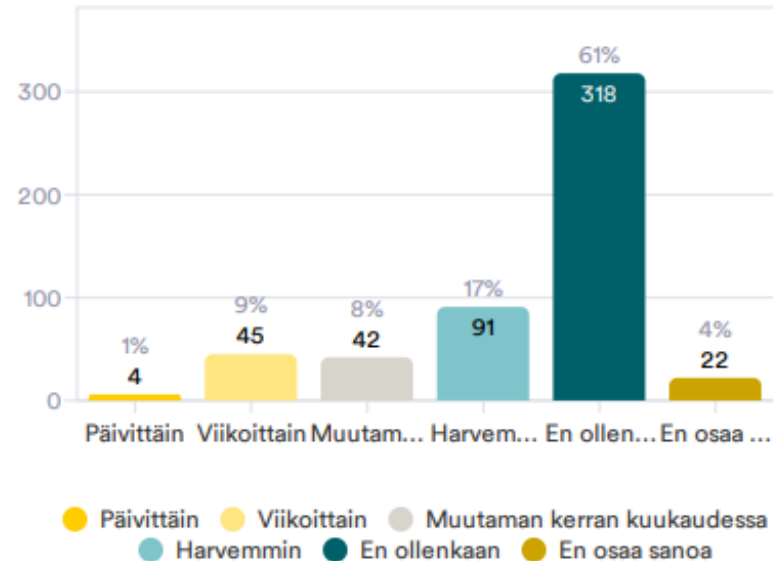
- 14% had taken part in contact teaching during spring 2021
- 33 % had taken part in contact teaching during autumn 2020

We also mapped the frequency of participation in contact teaching:

- 91 answerers have reported attending contact teaching a few times a month or more often.
- 91 answerers have reported attending less than a few times a month.

Jos vastasit kyllä, kuinka usein?

522 Responses- 791 Empty



Have you participated in classroom lectures during spring 2021? If you answered yes, please specify how often. 61 % answered not at all.

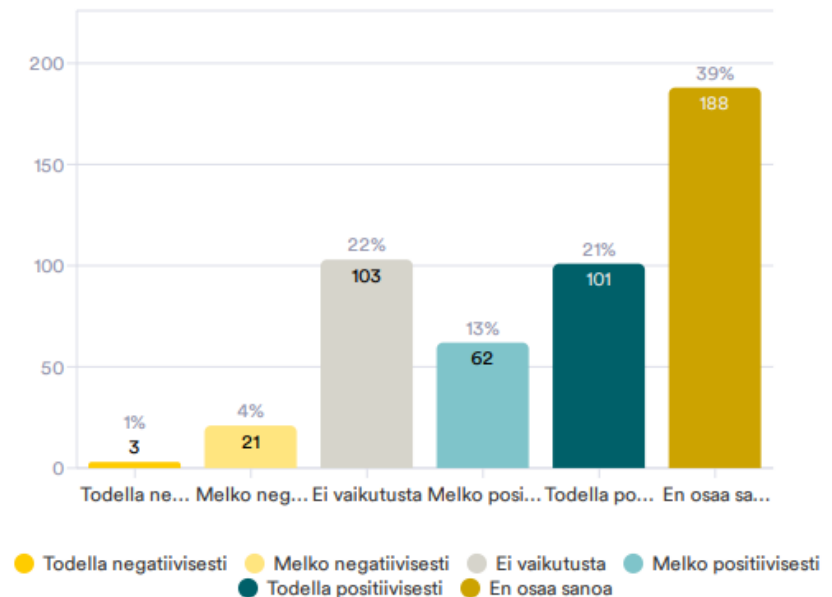
Contact teaching

It can be seen in the multiple-choice question “*How has contact teaching affected your study ability?*” and in the open answers that contact teaching, especially in the current situation, has a positive effect on the ability to study.

- 34% of answerers experienced positive effects
- 5% of answerers experienced negative effects
- 39 % could not say.

Lähiopetus on vaikuttanut opiskelukykyyni seuraavasti

478 Responses- 835 Empty



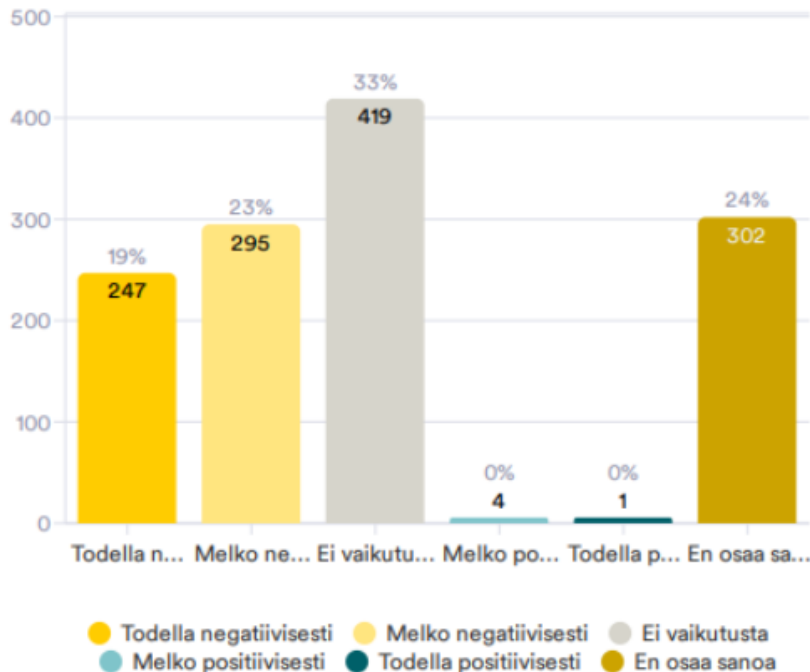
Contact teaching

- In the question “*If you have participated in classroom lectures, what were the arrangements like and how did the lectures work?*”, we received 119 open answers
 - Mainly in contact teaching, safe implementation methods and general restrictions have been taken into account
 - Contact teaching has motivated students, lifted the mood and helped them cope
 - Mandatory contact teaching events have caused stress from possible exposure
 - In some situations, safe arrangements have not been made

Internationality

Miten koronarajoitukset ovat vaikuttaneet mahdollisuuksiisi kansainvälistyä opintojen aikana?

1268 Responses- 45 Empty



32 % of the answerers say that the pandemic restrictions have affected negatively their possibilities to have an international experience during their studies.

- Exchanges have been cancelled
- Less contacts between internationals and the Finns

Questions?