



Say your opinion of Kuopio's "good" and "bad" things!

Kerro mielipiteesi
Kuopion hyvistä ja huonoista puolista

SURVEY RESULTS

January 2022

Data collection and answerers background information

184 Seen / Nähnyt kyselyn

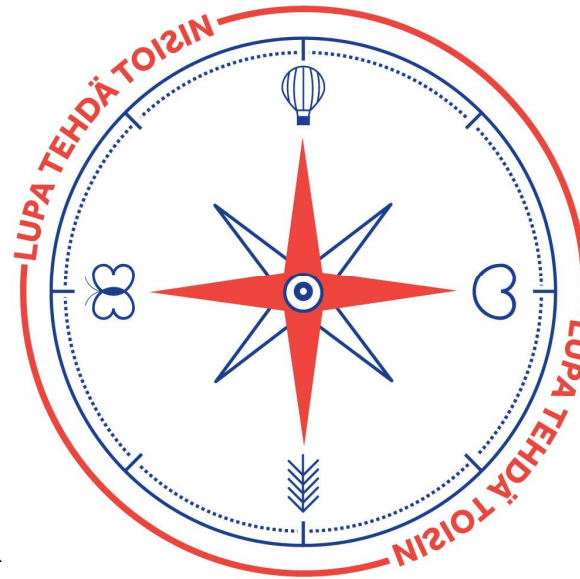
73 Answered / Vastannut kyselyyn

Method: Online survey / Verkkokysely

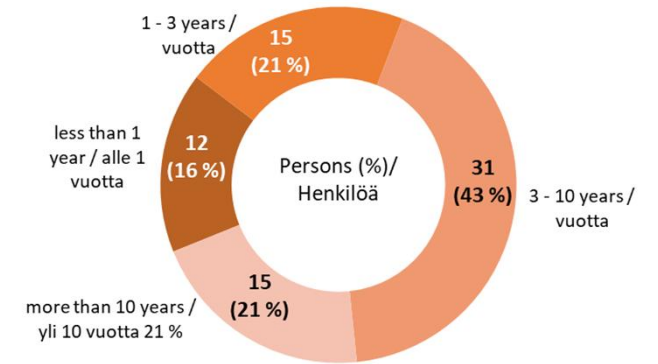
Note! 13 responses have been redirected to Resident Survey.

Time: 21.12.2021 – 12.1.2022

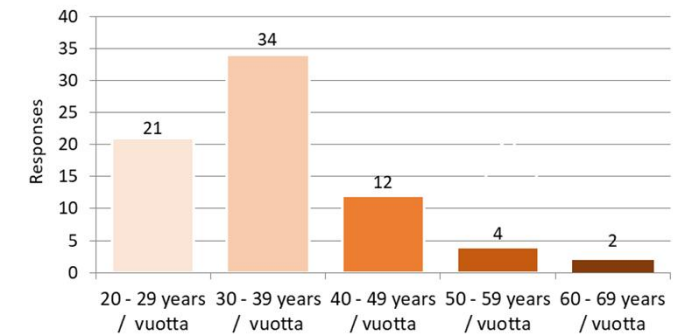
Distribution: Kuopio International Facebook and Kompassi Facebook, international coordinators at UEF and Savonia



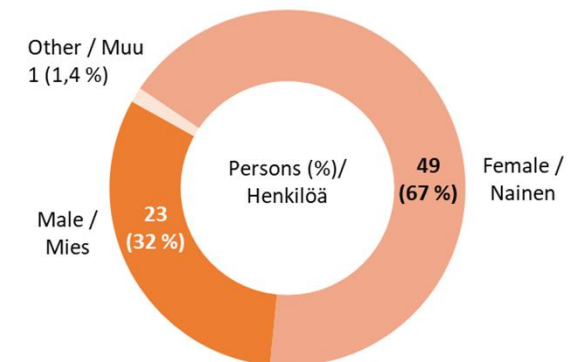
Lived in Kuopio / Asunut Kuopiossa (n=73)



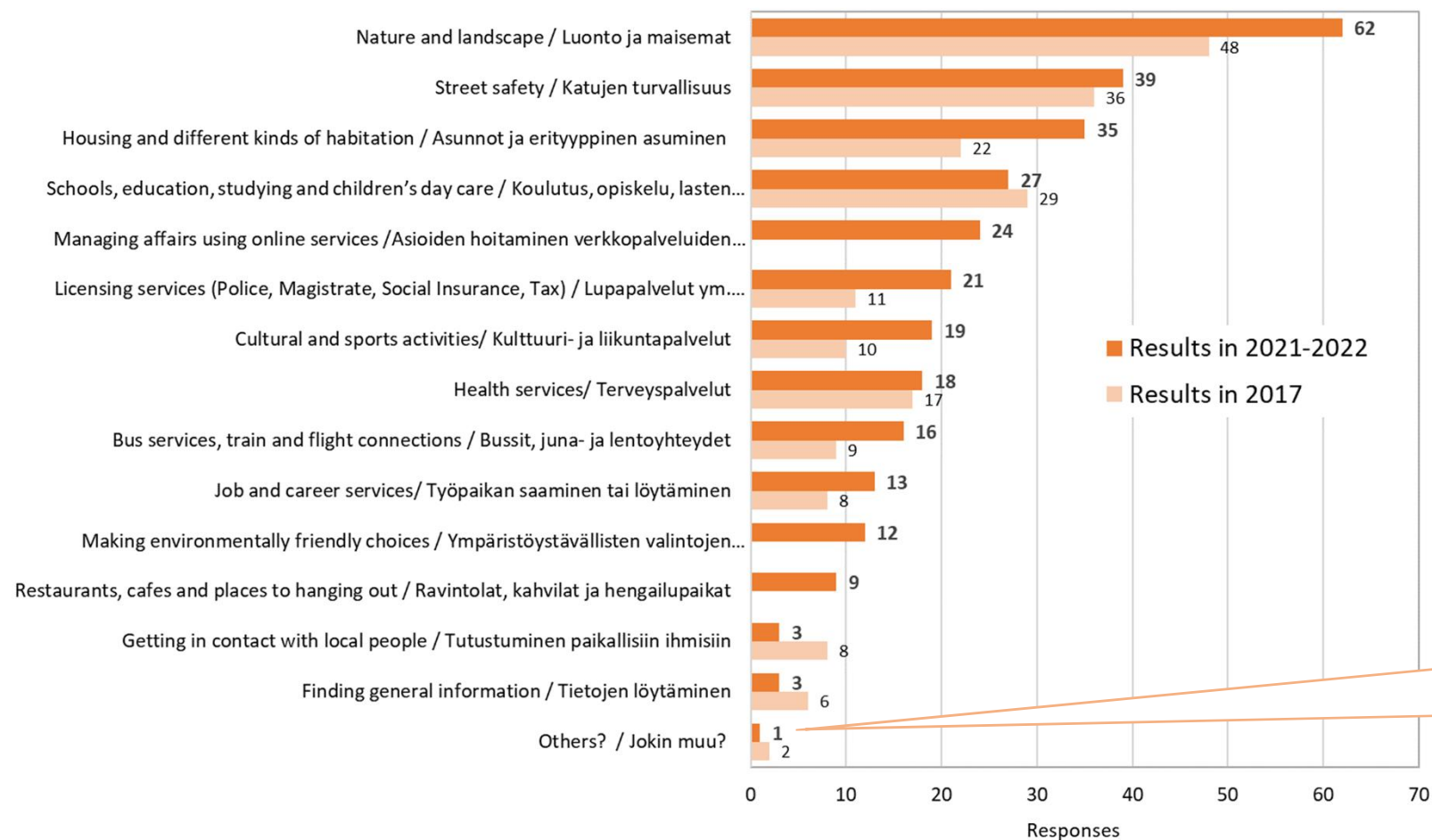
Age / Ikä (n=73)



Gender / Sukupuoli (n=73)



What are the best things in Kuopio? The things you are satisfied with? Mitkä ovat parhaat asiat Kuopiossa? Mihin olet tyytyväinen?



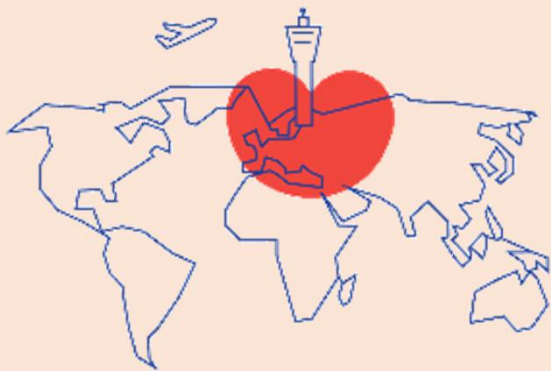
2021-2022 n=73,
302 responses
2017 n=55

The respondent was allowed to choose maximum 5 most important options. Also was included the option 'Others' so respondent can provide their own response option.

- Education fairly good, but must be continuously kept up to date. Staff and student happiness is key to keep education at the top and developing. People inside the organisation must feel worth and pride of putting their effort to develop the services for the sake of other people.

Free comments

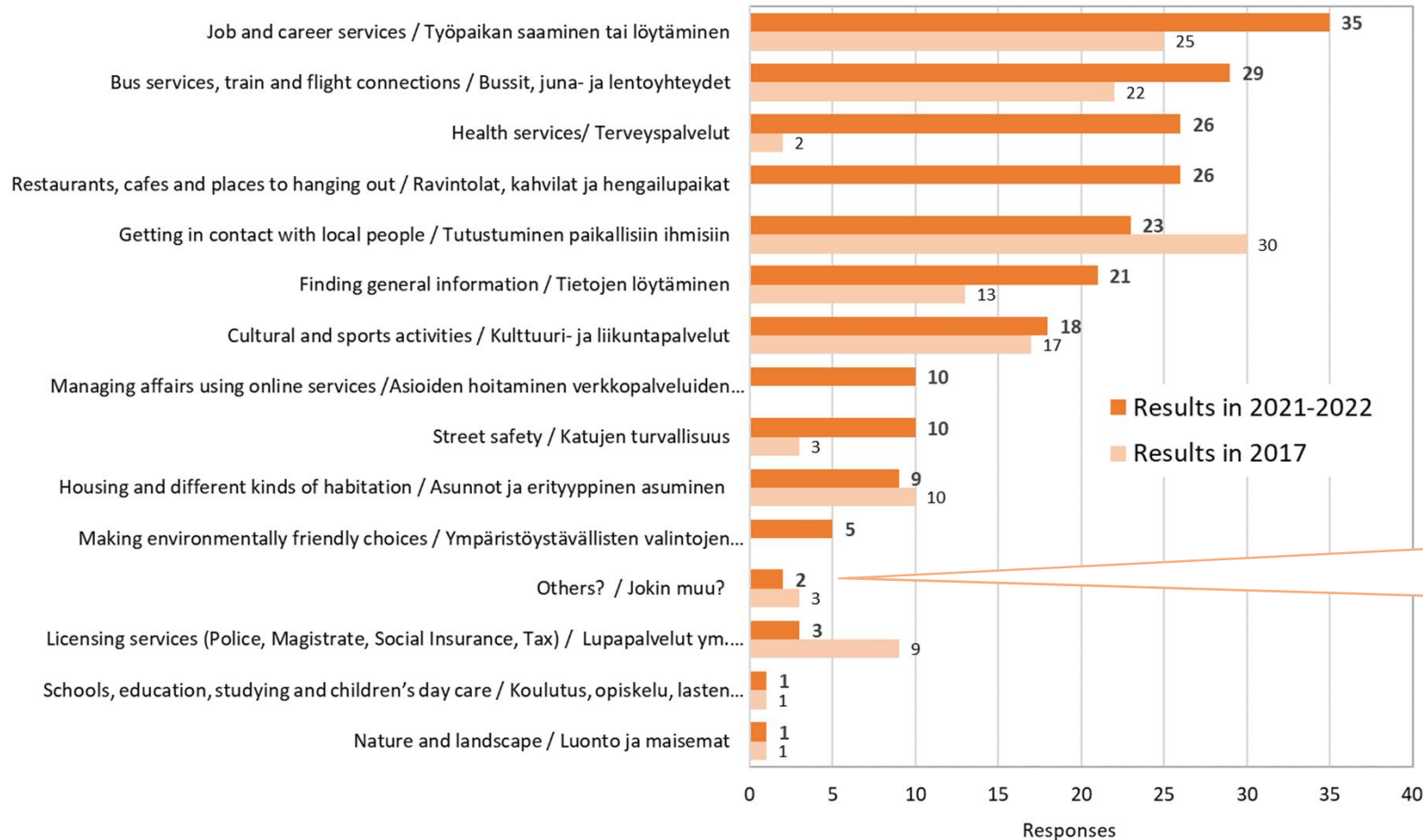
Tähän voit kirjoittaa
lisätietoa (n=7)



- Really appreciate the nature and how closely we can interact with it. Licensing services are efficient and quick, transportation is pretty good.
- Sport activities are great - especially from Sykettä, because the bookings are flexible and classes mostly in English.
- Kuopio is a lovely place to raise a family.
- The beautiful nature and surrounding lakes are great assets for the city, supported by the sparse locations of the houses in the middle of the nature.
- Feels quite safe, when moving around!
- More indoor sports facilities at affordable prices will be advantageous to non-university employees and other people.
Some interactive games and sports may make people more social and connected.
- The health care services are not managed at all, the worst care in my life. There are one of the best resources, capability but which is not managed nor co-ordinated. This is about a political will to make a change, this is about the doctor's professional ethics to care for patients. The complaints handling procedure should be improved drastically. I have not received answers from the patient ombudsman, but matters are not such as to go to the court at first place. General information about the municipality is fairly well accessible, but could have more information, but in less detail way to present (fast and easy access). I like that advisers are human friendly and usually helpful even if matters are not always resolved. Kuopio would benefit from more hang out places, shops and stores, if small entrepreneurs are supported. I've been living in bigger cities and prefer having choices and people with different ethnicity.

What things are not good and not satisfying in Kuopio?

Mitkä asiat eivät ole hyvin tai mihin et ole tyytyväinen Kuopiossa?



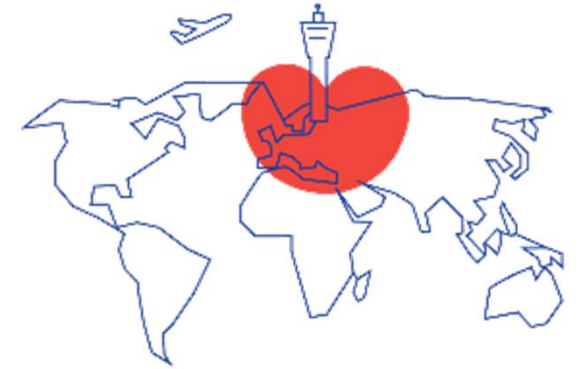
2021-2022 n=71,
219 responses
2017 n=54

The respondent was allowed to choose maximum 5 most important options. Also was included the option 'Others' so respondent can provide their own response option.

- Most of the urban environment looks like a tiny Siberian work town
- A general concept and care among the governing bodies to look after the youth (especially the girls) and a courageous policing system that looks into illegal activities.

Free comments (1/2)

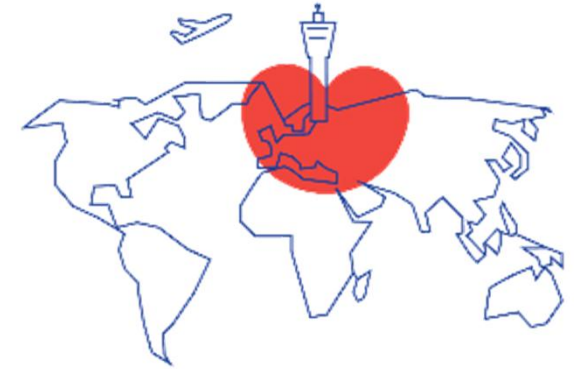
Tähän voit kirjoittaa lisätietoa (n=27)



- flight connections
- Unless you know Finnish, it's quite hard to be part of the society. I wish there were more extracurricular options for non-Finnish speakers (e.g., martial arts). Also, there could be more books in English in the library...
- Job and research funding opportunities for international people, more housing options for youngsters, more accessible healthcare, wider opportunity for activities and hanging out and interacting with locals
- Many nurses and doctors from the public health sector do not speak English or even Swedish. It is not possible to choose a English speaking nurse e.g. when getting papiloma examination at age of 30, 35 etc.
- The yield and stop signs around the city center. I even complained a couple of times but no reaction. Many intersections need STOP or yield sign. Also, it would be necessary to have cameras on the main intersections- i witness evwey single day a few times that people LITERALLY cross RED lights.
- Very slow healthcare system, take ages to get official diagnosis and sometimes poor follow-ups, plus the very expensive cost for routine follow-ups which is something peculiar for me.
- More variety of cuisines are needed (out of the traditional Pizza and Kebab), may be should encourage and attract more authentic restaurants to invest.
- I would say more festivals (specially advertising for them) is required as I think it is a good way to get to know the city, the people as well as the Finnish culture. Perhaps, expanding the student sports activity hall is a very good option as well since my first impression is that it cannot accommodate the high flow of students, Maybe opening another student sports hall in a different spot could help in this sense.
- "Dead" downtown area, especially on Sundays
- There is no other possibility then taxi to get to and from airport. The bus is not arriving on the times when flights are arriving or departing. Would be really good to have shuttle bus meant for the flight connections. Airport taxi is not operating on weekends. Now it forces to use regular taxi or own care - not environmentally or otherwise cheap options?
- Transportation is pretty bad for a city like Kuopio. connection to Helsinki should be more and easier. because most of the international travel happens through Kuopio. For example, flights are quite less between the two cities and going to Kuopio needs lot of preparation and is like almost half of my travel.
- Housing is expensive compared to other cities.

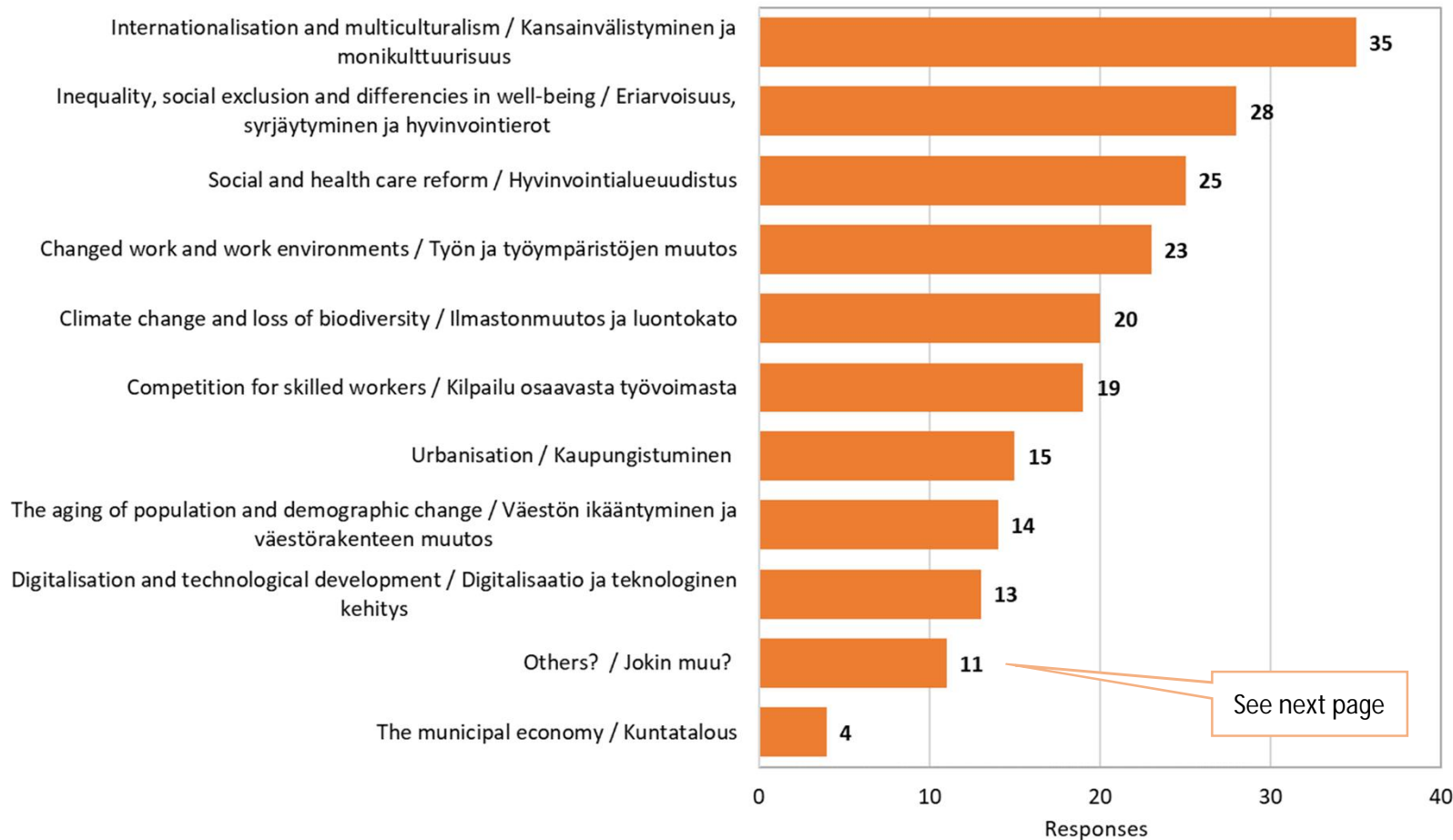
Free comments (2/2)

Tähän voit kirjoittaa lisätietoa (n=27)



- Internships for all educated students from all areas must be available.
- Bus connections to the airport should be improved
- It's the nicest, coziest, most relaxed gulag ever made.
- check and balance for the illegal activities (e.g., drugs paddlers, people working illegally in pizzerias and not paying taxes, etc.)
- I see some people clearly under some drug influence, making graffiti on buildings in the bright daylight.
- It is extremely hard to get in contact with local Finnish. I felt like non-Finnish people have been largely isolated out of the main community. The city needs to highly consider the inclusion of diversity.
- The local bus is quite expensive.
- Shops, restaurants and places for hanging out are not evenly spreaded across the town. Some districts have very few options.
- Street safety during the winter is quite bad sometimes because of piles of snows stocked close to pedestrian crossings or at the road intersection, that make hard to observe pedestrians and traffic coming from intersecting streets. Especially often this happens at the exits from neighborhoods, where little mix-used streets or exits from parking places join the bigger roads.
- Website of Kuopio is not very easy to navigate through. In addition it would be nice to have on kuopio.fi a list (or/and a map) of available outdoor sport activities, like tennis courts, football fields and so on.
- In my humble opinion, Savilahdentie and Karjalankatu renovation took all city's attention, when other districts stays neglected. For example in Petonen on Pitkalahdentie there is a lamppost right at the pedestrian crossing that stays broken for several years, making pedestrians invisible during the night time.
- Do we have any service or website in Kuopio where we can report this (like broken lamppost) kind of problems?
- Houses exist, but not at an affordable level. Even if you made homeless without your own excuse, you will still not be housed unless you are a victim of a crime. This is very sad. Complaints not heard, legal aid lawyers do not bother to take the matters seriously.
- International students doesn't get job here
- Local bus services are very good, but with other municipalities, the connections are limited and slow. I understand that this limitation has been worsened because of the COVID but an improvement was needed also before the pandemia (mostly with Helsinki and Vantaa).
In my experience, people are more open for foreigners (in general more friendly cities for foreigners) in other bigger cities such as Turku or Helsinki

What should the development of Kuopio especially focus on in the near future? Mitä Kuopion lähitulevaisuuden kehittämässä on erityisesti otettava huomioon?



n=71

207 responses

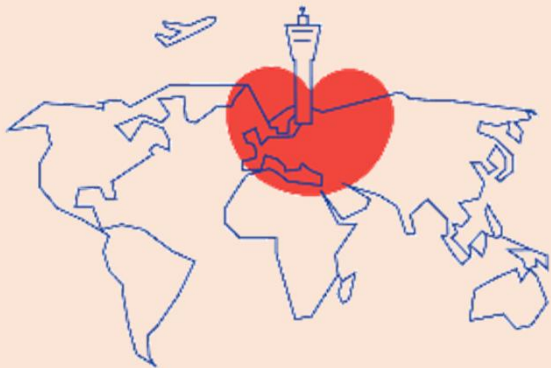
The respondent was allowed to choose maximum 3 most important options. Also was included the option 'Others' so respondent can provide their own response option.

See next page

What should the development of Kuopio especially focus on in the near future?

Others? (n=11)

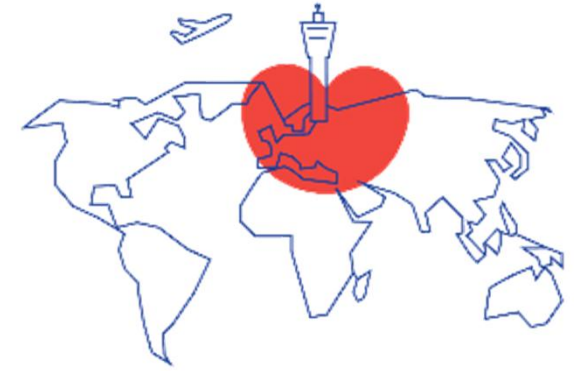
Mitä Kuopion lähitulevaisuuden kehittämisessä on erityisesti otettava huomioon? Jokin muu?



- Job opportunities
- Bringing people together, make more fun communities
- Public transportation and transport in general
- That services are offered in English
- Creating more job opportunities that our educated and skilled foreigners and immigrants won't move to bigger cities to find the fortunes there.
- Kuopio is quite international from exchange & international students to multi-national companies. One good boost from my perspective is the supportive atmosphere of Finnish people towards the international population. This can be achieved by spreading the awareness among Finnish people working in multi-national environment. Productive cultural exchange and globalization would be a powerful outcome.
- Make it beautiful. Not nicer, safer, or smarter. You have that. Make it beautiful.
- Focus on employing the people you already have and how to utilize their skills
- We must consider global implications of local policies and recognize that we are all actually citizens of one world.
- Rejection of multiculturalism
- At banks there are only elderly people who are so lovely, but young and busy worker at lunch break will never get to be served. I think we need 2 queues one for young and fast lane for old one, or other way around. The banking facilities are one of the worsts I've come across in my long life time.

What else do you want to say? (1/2)

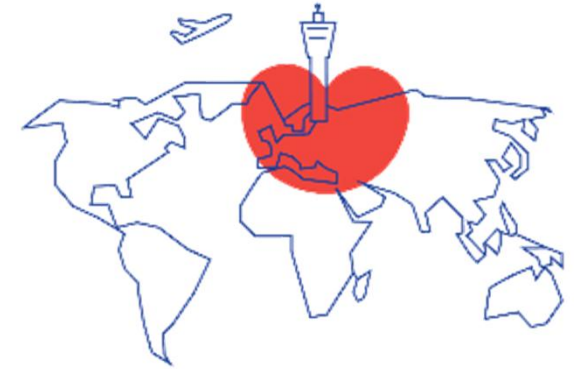
Mitä muuta haluat sanoa? (n=19)



- Language barrier. Many job employees ask Finnish language. This is not fair.
- Kuopio is growing in population but not in values. Job offers are poor for locals, and especially, for foreigners which have no opportunities with or without Finnish language. Population in Kuopio is a very closed society and that avoid internationalization. This can be seen not just in jobs but at the University and services, where foreigners can not compete with locals or have difficulties to access to services easily. The city of Kuopio needs a change in mentality to be able to grow as a big city and compete with places like Helsinki or Tampere.
- Kuopio is a very nice city to live in and is growing quite fast. Would like to see more support for the international residents and more job opportunities to support foreign residents. It would be nice to get to know the locals so that everyone can live in harmony
- I love Finland and Kuopio. I just do not like darkness which I know that no one can do something!
- It would be nice to offer events for people aged 25-35 to get together. This age is so difficult to make friends with especially Finnish friends. It would be great to interact more locally with people and get the opportunity to volunteer and meet Finnish people.
- It would be nice to have more restaurants, cafes, local shops not only in city center, but also in other areas.
More transport during weekends.
- Kuopio is a lovely city and I enjoy my life here.
- Everything closes really early in Kuopio. There are people who sleep late. There is no activity for them, or no restaurant for them if they feel hungry
- That's for your hard work and listening to our voices
- Kuopio is a great city for families and happy place to live in and I like your initiative to get feedback to focus on the parts that require further development. Thank you for reading my feedback and hope that it is helpful.

What else do you want to say? (1/2)

Mitä muuta haluat sanoa? (n=19)



- There are not enough entertainment places for kids and some for parents
- Otherwise fine! More promo for cultural (free) events!
- Kuopio has a lot of potentials I would say. I have been to several cities in Finland but overall, Kuopio has been the best for me in most cases. Like every city, Kuopio also has some issues. For example, modernizing transportation/rent for the houses will help the local population. Urbanization is required to attract international attention and make it a destination. Competition to be a destination is high. To be in that we need better ideas and attractive spots to increase the economic flow. For example, nature is a positive for Kuopio, and investing in art/infrastructure will attract both nature lovers and architecture/art enthusiasts.
- Kuopio is a very nice city with all the facilities for a wonderful living. However, initiating some social gatherings and activities for example in a specific community living in a small neighborhood may be required to enhance the health and well being will overcome the problem of loneliness as well as reduce the healthcare costs for example during darker months of the year.
- The health system should focus more on prevention. The mental health system needs to be simplified so people can get access to what they need quicker instead of going through so many channels.
- Thank you very much!
- The language is a barrier for international students. There should be enough scope for learning Finnish.
- Government should ensure international students jobs
- Kuopio it a nice little city to live, especially for families with small children. Recently the biggest challenge has been the COVID vaccination operation, which has been poorly managed. As a result, Kuopio is lagging behind not only in the North Savo region, but also compared to many other cities in Finland. More resources should have been dedicated to it and somebody with better management/logistic skills should have been put in charge.

One comment has been deleted (too long).