

**BUSINESS
FINLAND**

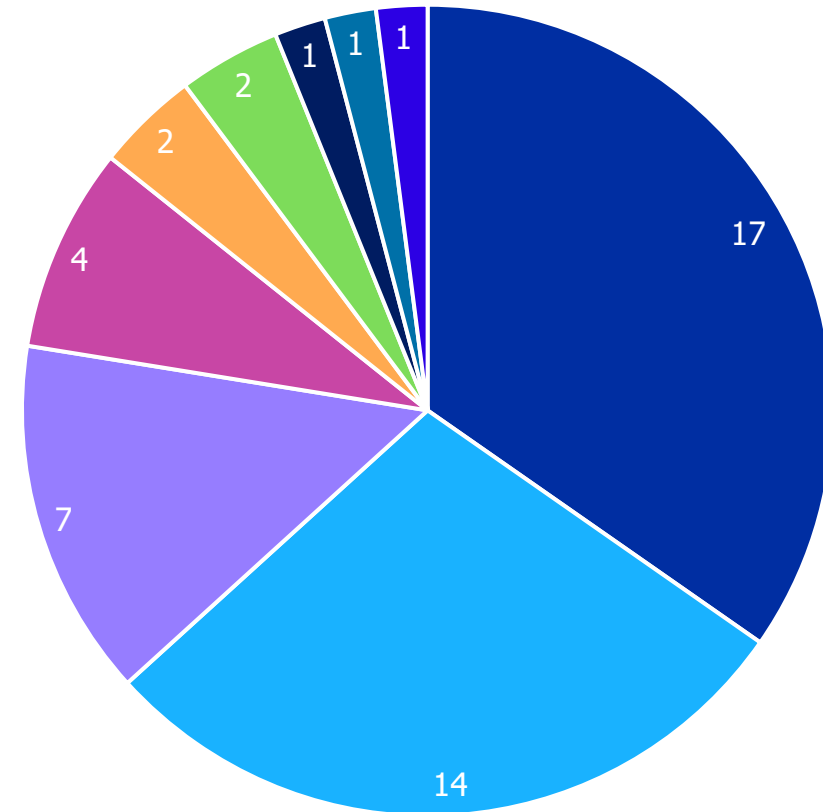
Feedback from international startup founders

4/2026

Background about the feedback questionnaire

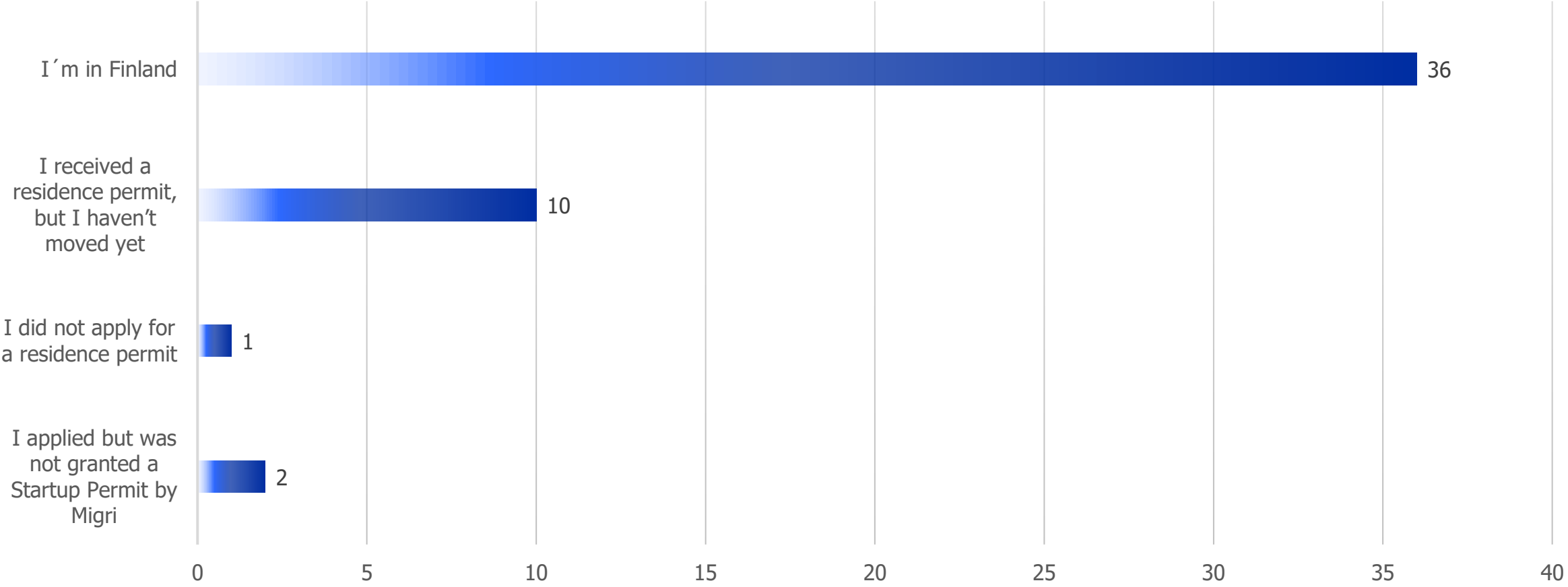
- Number of responses: 49 (21 %)
 - (Many email addresses bounced back)
- The questionnaire was sent to those who have received a positive Eligibility statement from Business Finland between July 2023 – September 2025
- The questionnaire was conducted in March 2026.

What is your nationality?

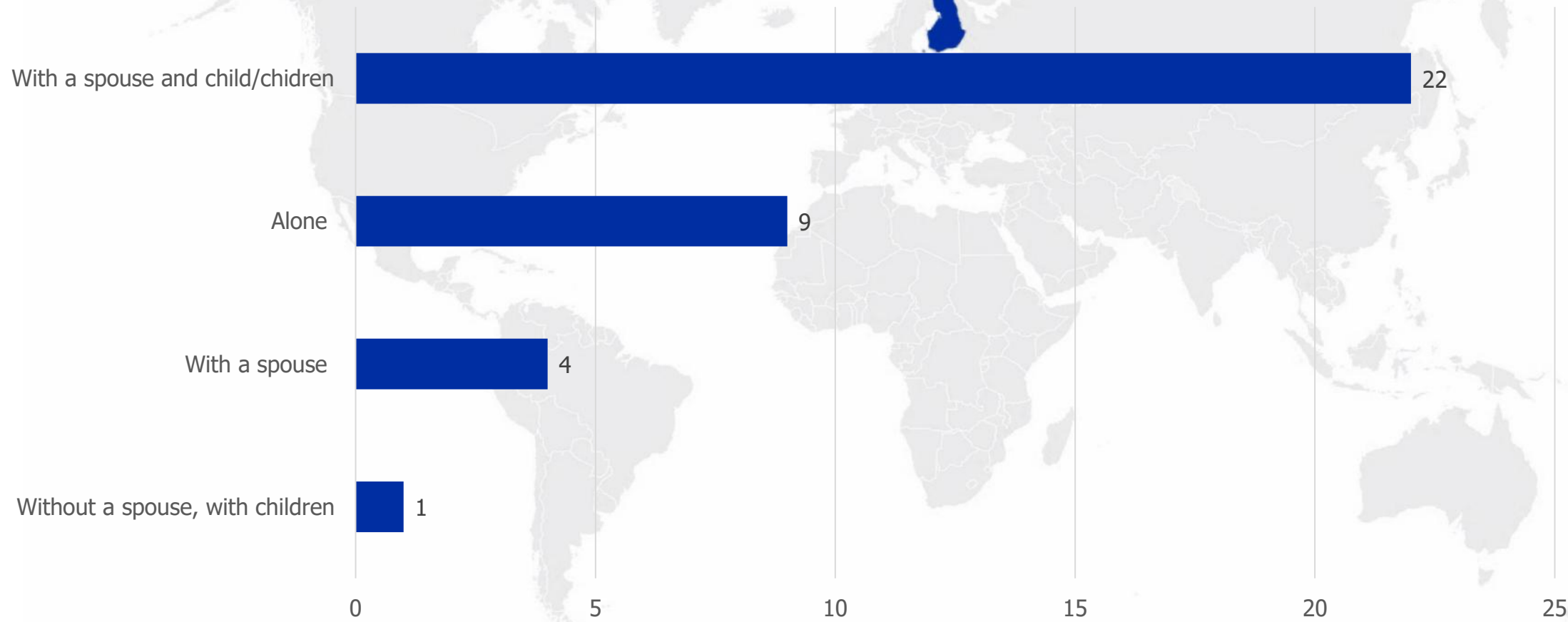


■ Turkiye ■ Russia ■ Iran ■ India ■ China ■ Bangladesh ■ Nigeria ■ Ukraine ■ Belarus

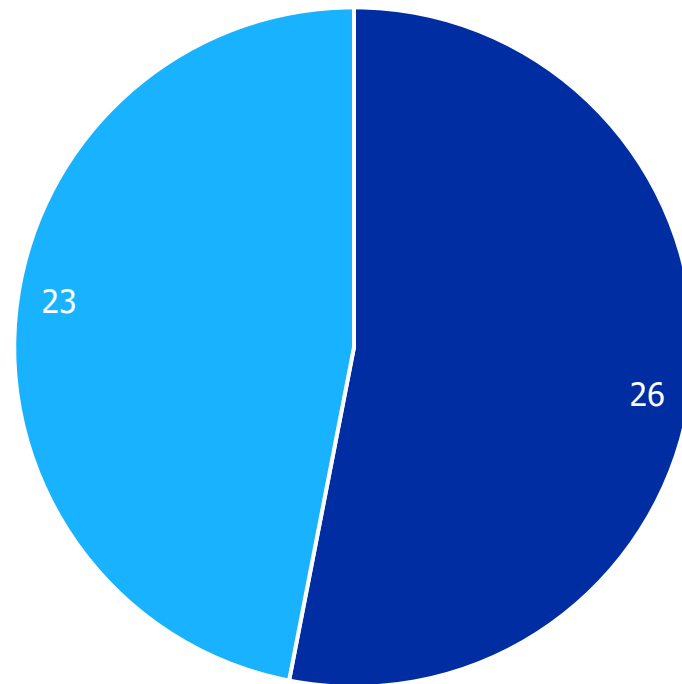
Status at the moment / what happened after receiving a positive eligibility statement?



I moved to Finland..



Were there other countries you considered moving to? If yes, which ones?



■ Yes ■ No

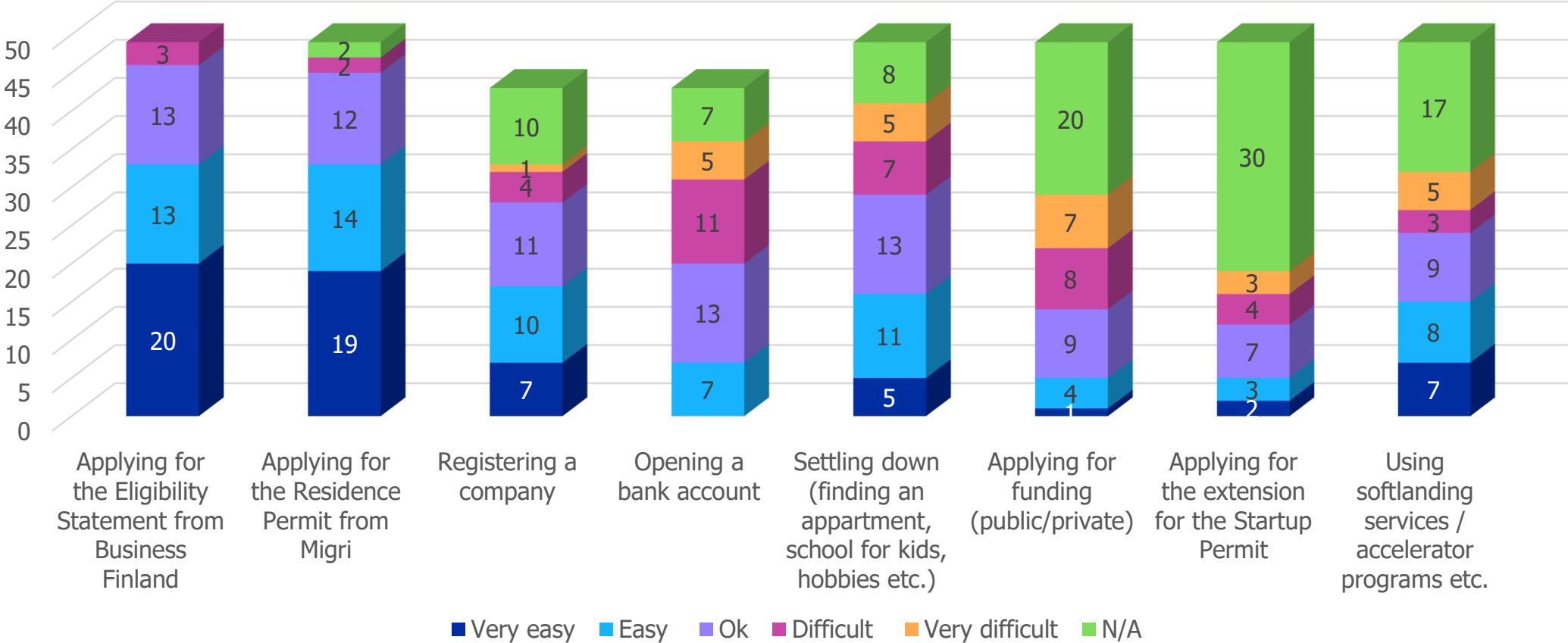
- Mentioned several times: Sweden, US, Estonia, Portugal, Spain, France, Switzerland, the UAE, the UK, Netherlands, Canada
- Mentioned once: Qatar, Japan, Dubai, Germany, Argentina, Norway, Slovakia, Mexico, Montenegro, Italy, Azerbaijan, Australia, South Korea, Belgium

What made you choose Finland over the other options?

- **Quality of life**
 - higher standard of living
 - quality of public education
 - better healthcare
 - good people, clear and honest answers from people
 - Reasonable cost of living, which is important while bootstrapping a startup.
 - English is widely spoken, making relocation easy.
- **Ecosystem**
 - Startup friendly atmosphere
 - Innovative landscape
 - A uniquely supportive environment for early-stage, innovation-driven startups—one that aligns more closely with my business model and long-term goals than the Netherlands.
 - Getting to know soft landing teams, and they helped me on every stage.
 - Business Finland support and funding options when expanding globally
 - investment opportunities
- **Processes**
 - Easier bureaucracy procedures, often online
 - Shorter period of case evaluation
 - Transparency in the process
 - Simple and fast startup visa process (fully online, no accelerator required)
- **Location**
 - Close location to relatives / motherland
 - Closeness of target markets in neighboring countries
 - Good infrastructure and connectivity to major European cities



How would you rate your experience regarding the following processes



Please elaborate your experiences regarding running a startup company in Finland

*Finland is a strong environment for a founder running a startup. The ecosystem is **well-structured, transparent, and supportive** at the early stages, making it easier to get started and focus on execution.*

*It is not that challenging. **Digital systems of the country are amazing**, after having a bank account everything is easier. Language barrier is not that high, I am able to proceed with English.*

*As an early-stage startup, we experienced difficulties both in finding financing and launching sales locally (no reputation in the Finnish market, quite hard to get connected here.) It is actually **easier to sell internationally**. We also took part in the incubators that introduced us to the city authorities, but it is **hard to move further than pilots**.*

It is hard to get into business circles.

*Setting up a company in Finland is very easy, but **opening a bank account** is very difficult.*

In general, how satisfied are you with Business Finland's services for startups?

■ 4,3/5



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Thank you!