

QUESTION OF THE WEEK, WEEK 16–17 (14–26.4.2026)

NUMBER OF RESPONDENTS: 263

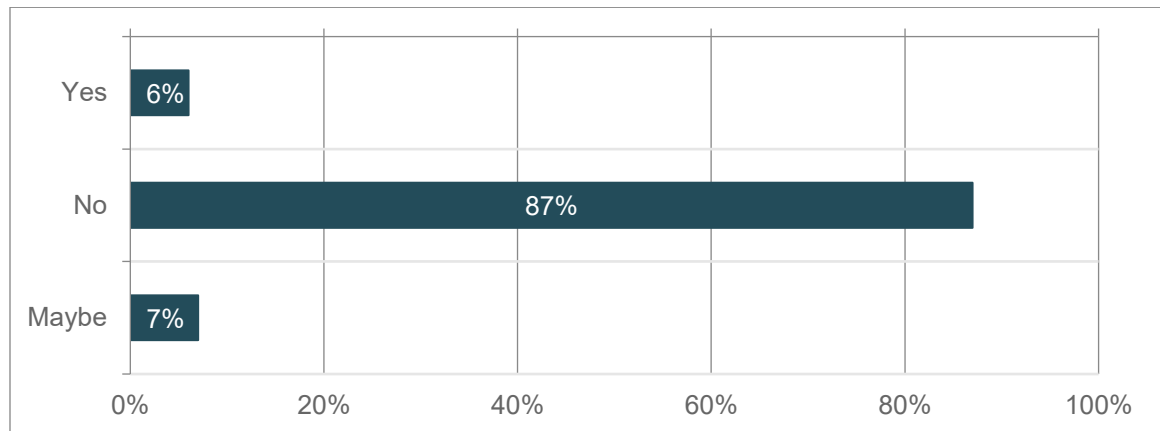
The margin of error is 6 % and thereby the answers are considered to reflect the opinions of the population in Jakobstad fairly well.

FRIENDSHIP FAMILIES NEEDED

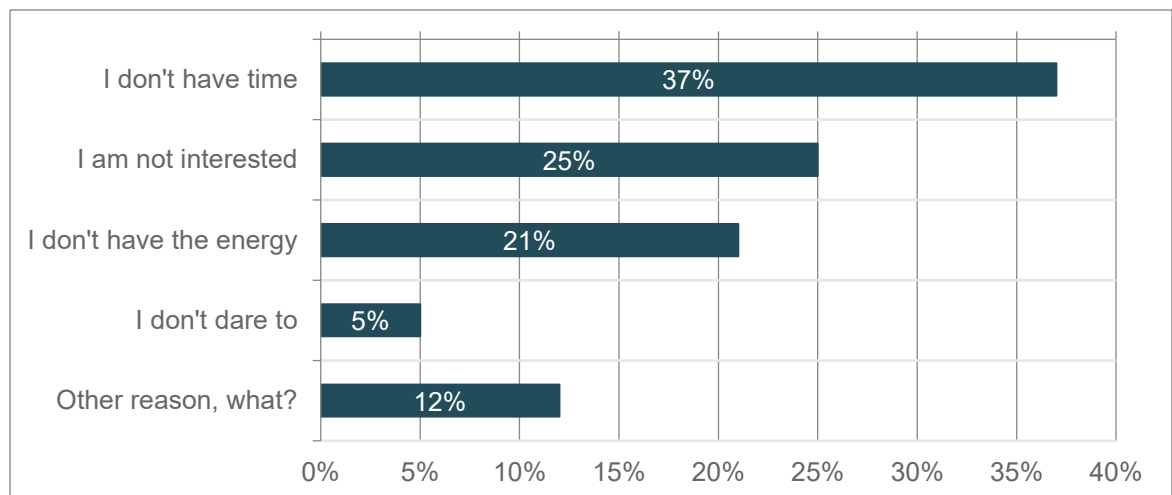
In the Question of the Week the residents were asked: *“To ensure that refugees arriving in the region get a good start in their new country, we are looking for volunteers who want to serve as friends or friendship families to refugees who have recently arrived in Finland or who have already lived here for some time. As a friend or a friendship family, you decide how much time and commitment you put into your assignment. Together with the person or family you have been matched with, you agree on where and how you will meet.*

NOTE! *Regardless of how you choose to respond in the questionnaire, you have not committed yourself to anything.*

Would you be interested in becoming a friend or a friendship family to a refugee?”

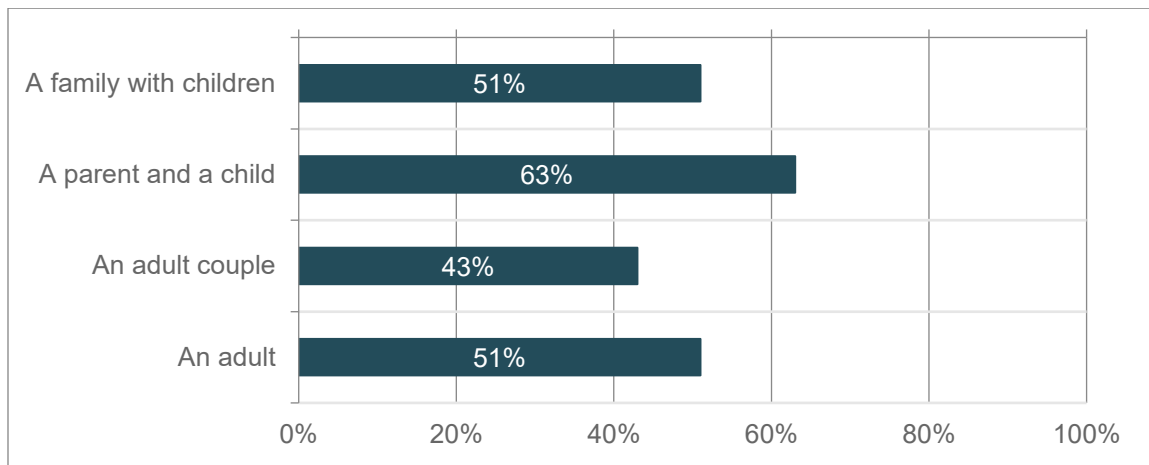


Those who answered “No” received the follow-up question: *“Why not?”*



Of those who chose the option **“Other reason, what?”**, many wrote that they experience a lack of energy, old age, illness, or their life situation as obstacles, even if the willingness to participate sometimes exists. Other recurring reasons include financial constraints, lack of time, language difficulties, and previous negative experiences of being a friend or a host family. Several also express that responsibility for integration should lie with society, or that they already work with newcomers in their profession and therefore do not have the energy to engage in this also in their free time.

Those who in the first question answered **“Yes”** or **“Maybe”** received the follow-up questions: **“If you were to accept the assignment of becoming a friend or a friendship family, who would you most prefer to be matched with? (You can choose more than one option.)”**



“Do you have any other preferences regarding the assignment as a friend or a friendship family?”

Only 8 people responded to this question.

“Leave your contact details so we can provide more information.”

21 people left their contact details.

NEXT STEP

Thank you to all residents for the responses received. Those who have left their contact details will be contacted, and we will organize an information session for those interested in becoming a friend or a host family.

More information:

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