

EMPOWERkids



Health and social education for children

EmpowerKids-tool and usability

“EmpowerKids – Health education and social advice for low-income families with young children”

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SEMINAR
Jurmala, 26.9.2017

The project is co-financed by the Central Baltic Programme 2014-2020



Content of the presentation

- Short introduction to the EmpowerKids-tool
- Shortly about the second round testing
- Results from the testing the tool during the second round

More about the project: www.empowerkids.eu



Project target group

- **Children** from low-income families aged 6 to 12 years

Children from low-income families need special attention and targeted interventions in the promotion of their health and wellbeing

- **Professionals:** social workers, kindergarten- and pre/school teachers, health care personnel

Professionals working with children need tools to support children's abilities to make health-promoting decisions and to take control over the determinants of their health and wellbeing



EmpowerKids-tool

- EmpowerKids-tool is a child-friendly and attractive tool
- It enables the children to assess and reflect on own health habits and situation
- It enables the professionals to detect each child's individual situation and needs
- It enables the professionals to give tailored and individualized counseling for children
 - *Children feel that they are supported and empowered to make healthy choices in their everyday life to enhance their current and future health and wellbeing*



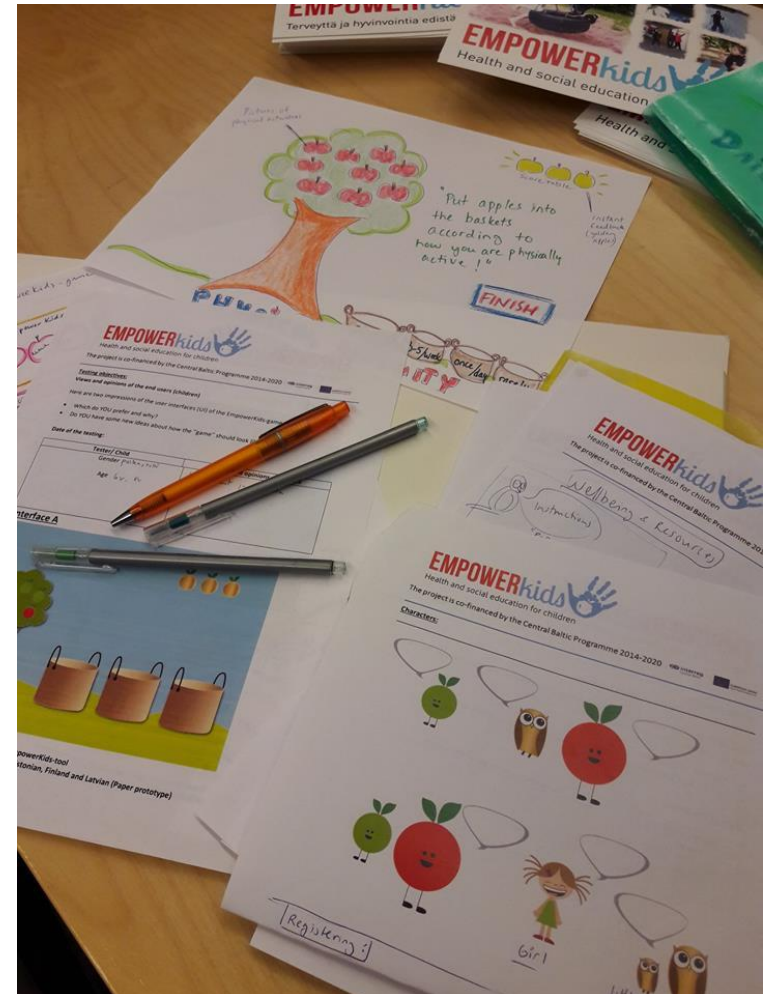
EmpowerKids-tool

- Web-based gamified application (www.tool.empowerkids.eu)
- Tool includes four parts: **physical activity, nutrition, resources and daily rhythm**
- Children assess their health and wellbeing as well as factors affecting it through these four parts either alone or with professionals
- Professionals receive information on the children's situation through tool and use this information in conversations with children
- Information/results are also used when developing interventions for the community



Development of the EmpowerKids-tool

- Iterative development process together with project group members, professionals and children from participating countries
- First testing round with prototype during February 2017 with 95 children and 14 professionals
- Second testing round with further developed tool during fall 2017 with 69 children and 11 professionals





Second round with the tool

- All together 69 have "played" EmpowerKids-tool
- 26 girls and 43 boys
- Mean age 9,6 years
 - 17 children from Estonian (8 girls, 9 boys, mean age 8,9 years)
 - 12 children from Finland (6 girls and 6 boys, mean age 8,4 years)
 - 40 children from Latvian (12 girls and 28 boys, mean age 10,3 years)
- Low-income status of the child
 - 7 yes
 - 2 no
 - 69 unknown



17 children and 8 professionals

Kindergarten

- Three girls
- Two professionals

Day center

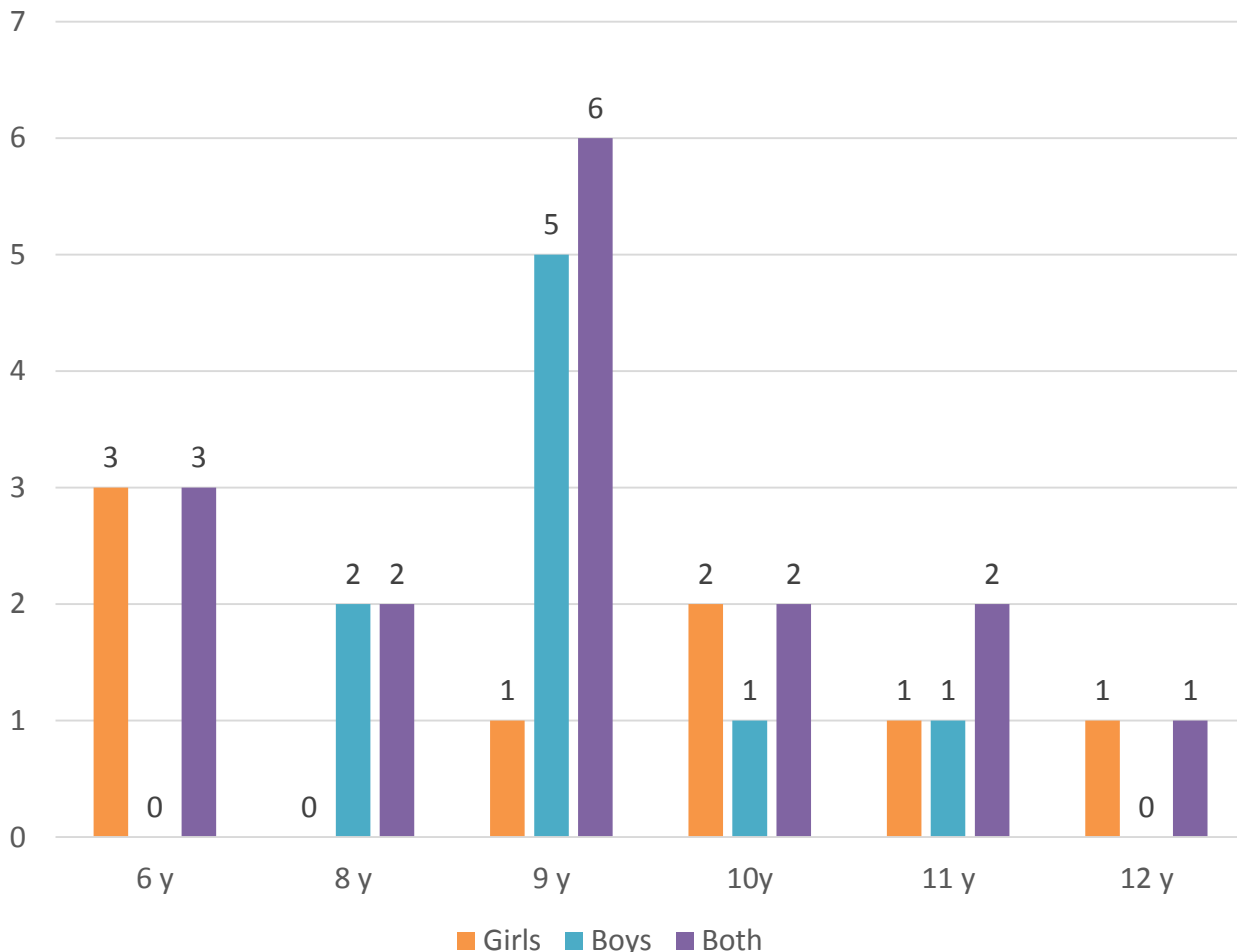
- Three girls
- Three professionals

1. School

- Five boys
- Two professionals

2. School

- Four boys and two girls
- One professional





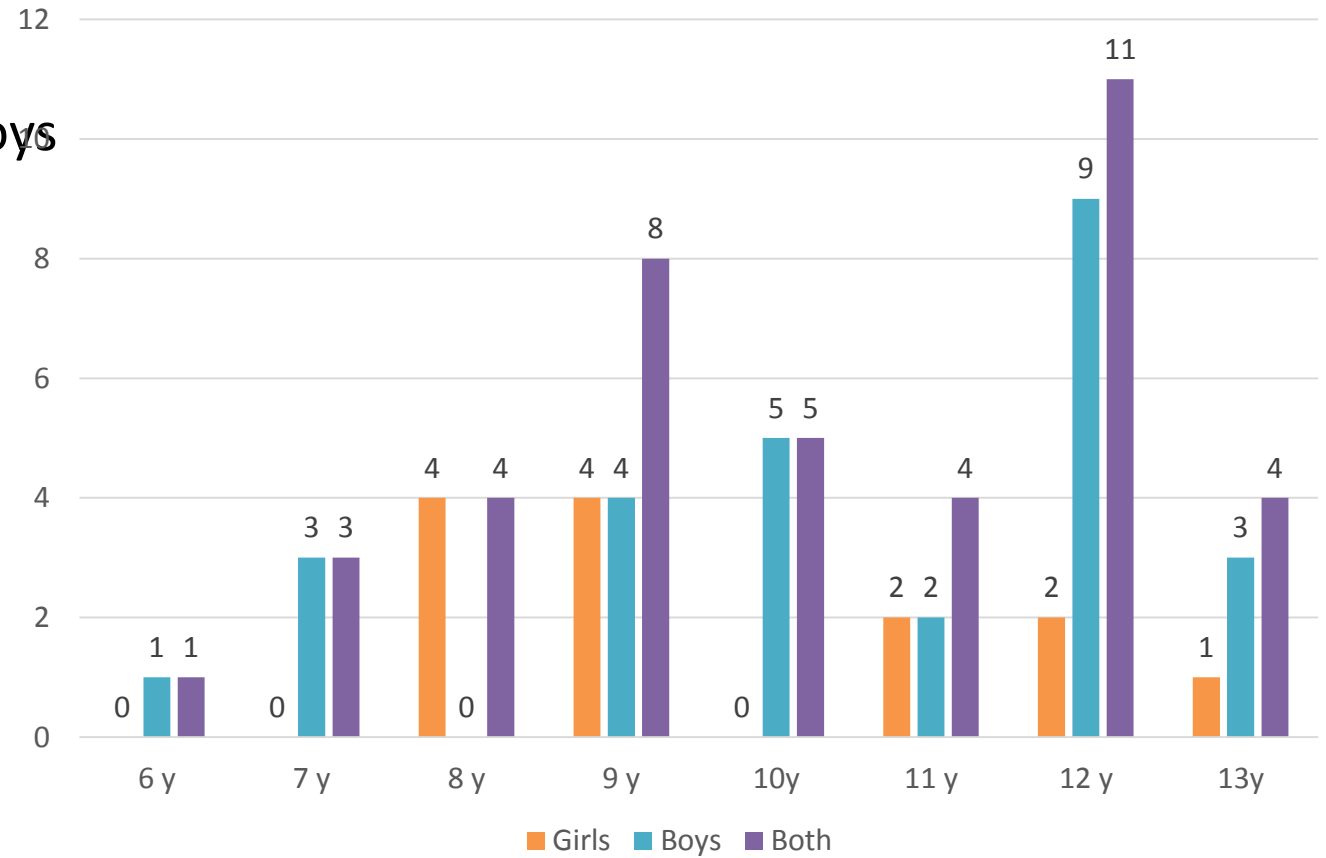
40 children and 2 professionals

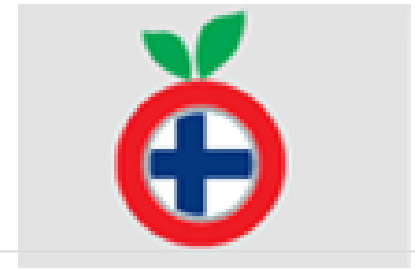
Day center 1

- Seven girls, ten boys
- One professional

Day center 2

- Five girls, 18 boys
- One professional

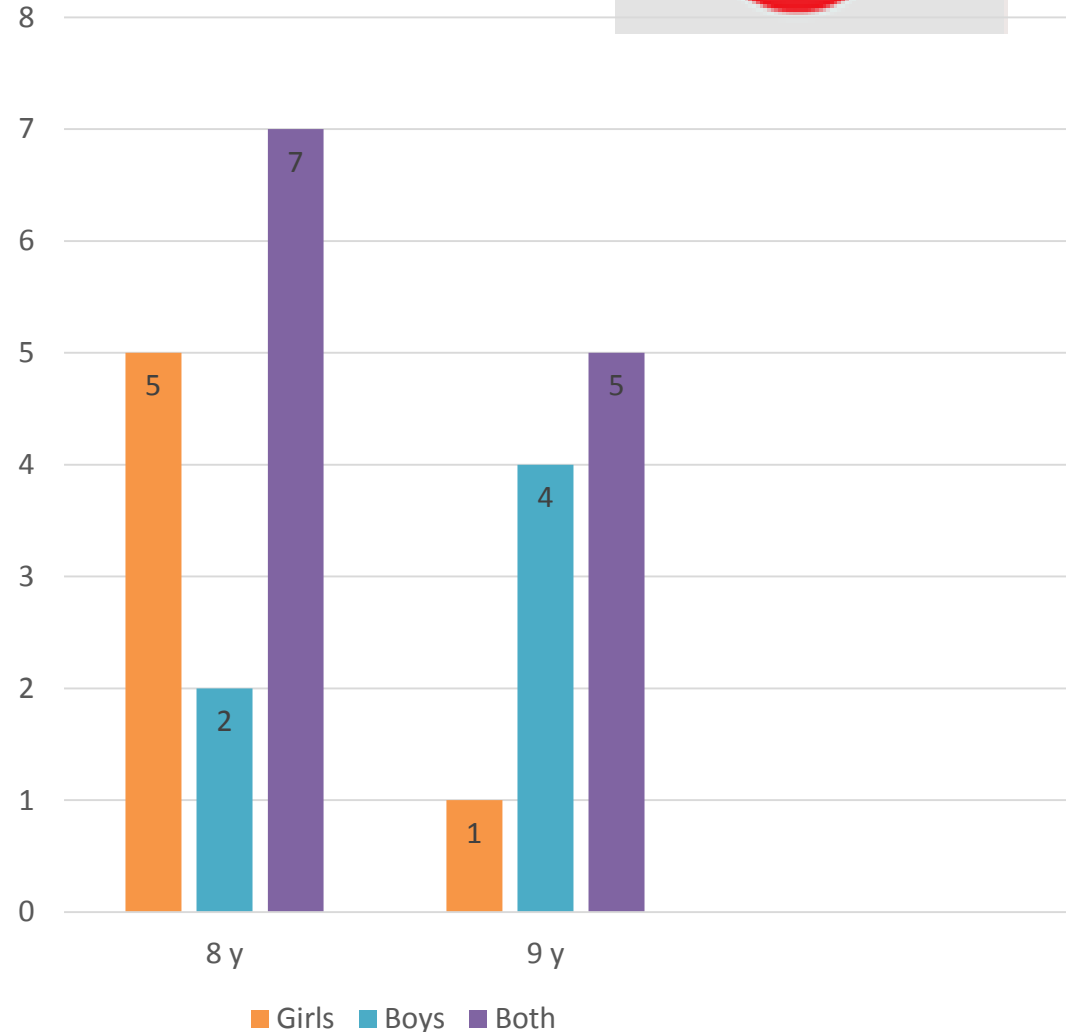




12 children and 1 professional

Elementary school

- Six boys and six girls
- One professional





Usability of the EmpowerKids-tool

- Usability was measured with System Usability Scale (SUS)
- Children: Latvian n=38, Estonian n=15, Finland n=10
- Professionals: Latvian n=4, Estonian n=4, Finland n=1

1. I think that I would like to use this application frequently

2. I found the application unnecessarily complex

3. I thought the application was easy to use

4. I think that I would need the support of a technical person to be able to use this application

5. I found the various functions in this application were well integrated

6. I thought there was too much inconsistency in this application

7. I would imagine that most people would learn to use this application very quickly

8. I found the application very awkward to use

9. I felt very confident using the application

10. I needed to learn a lot of things before I could get going with this application

*) Scoring: 5=strongly agree and 1=strongly disagree.

Table 3. Descriptive Statistics of SUS Scores for Adjective Ratings*

| Adjective | Count | Mean SUS Score |
|------------------|-------|----------------|
| Worst Imaginable | 4 | 12.5 |
| Awful | 22 | 20.3 |
| Poor | 72 | 35.7 |
| OK | 211 | 50.9 |
| Good | 345 | 71.4 |
| Excellent | 289 | 85.5 |
| Best Imaginable | 16 | 90.9 |

SUS RESULTS CHILDREN

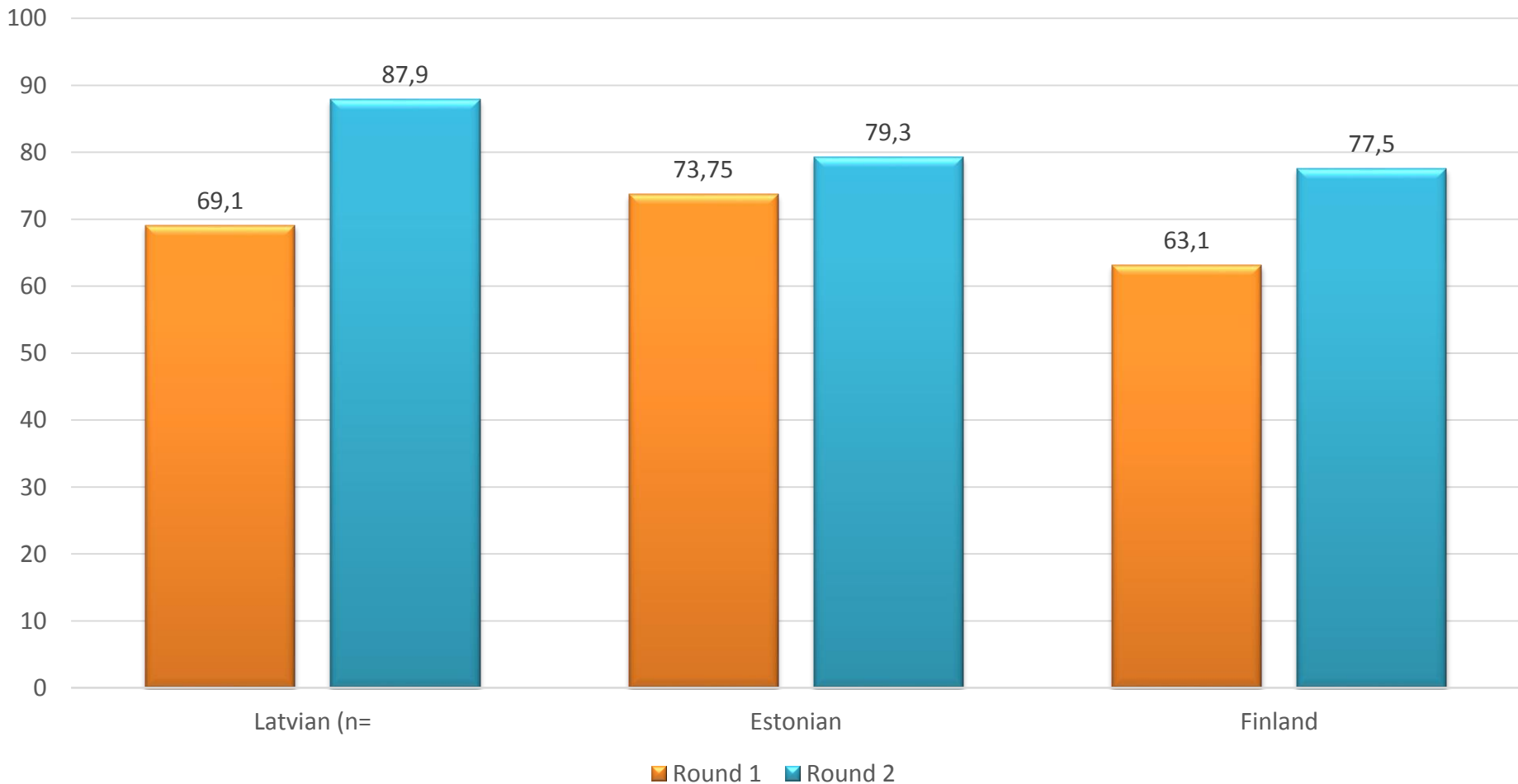
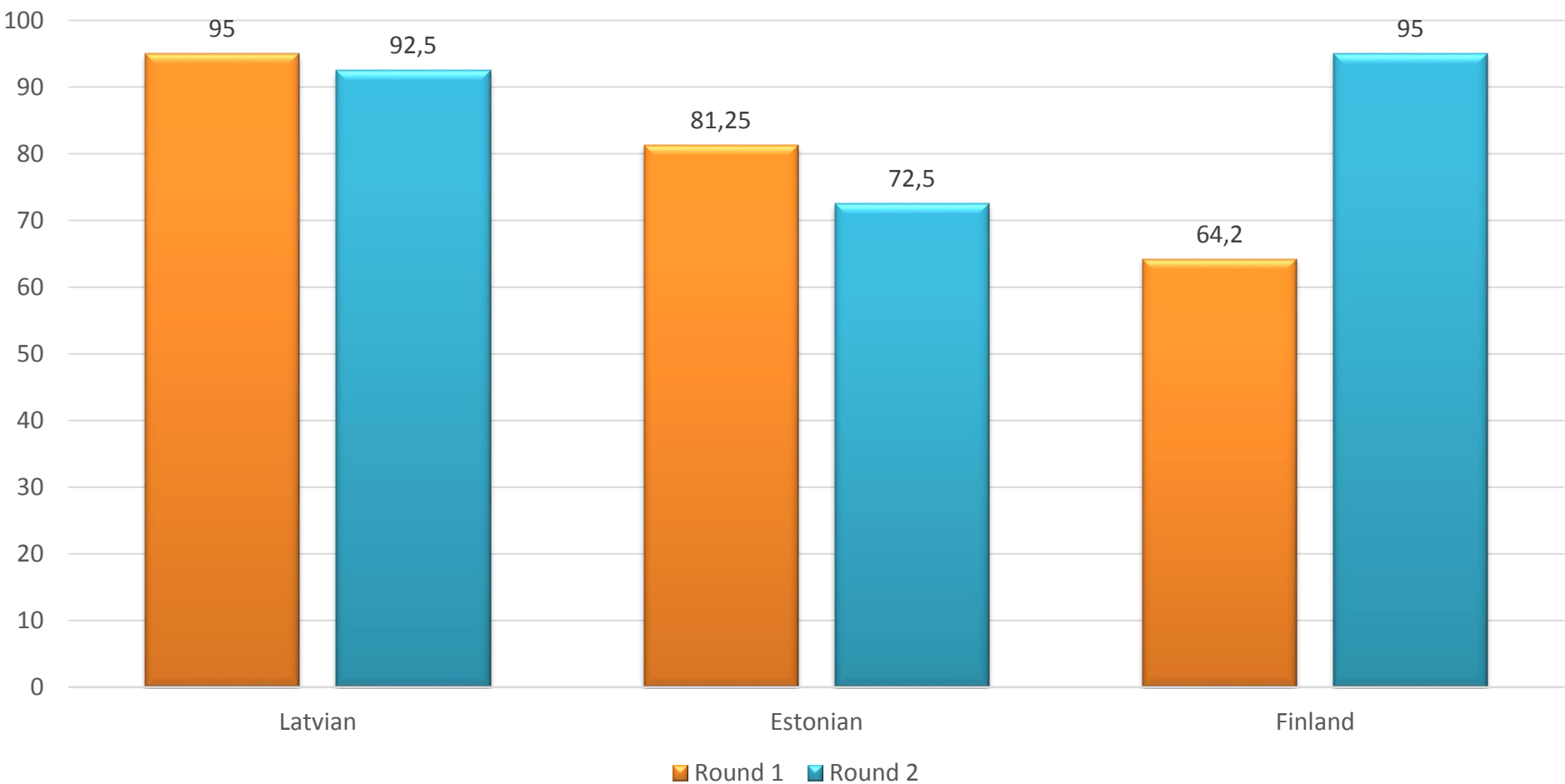




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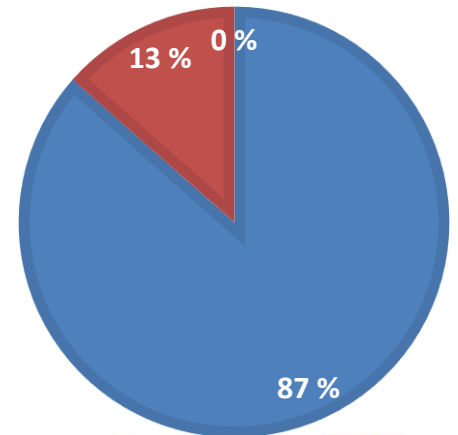
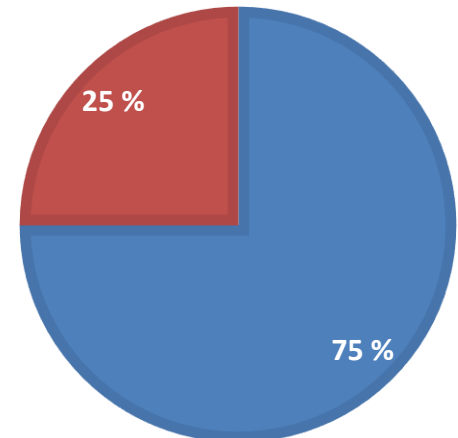
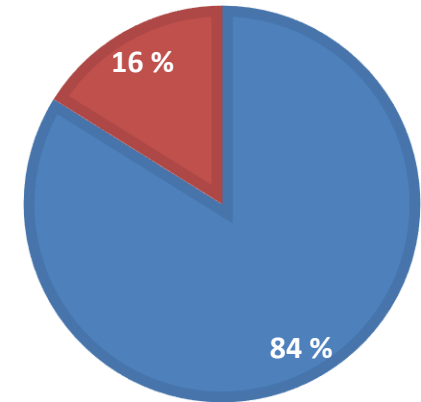
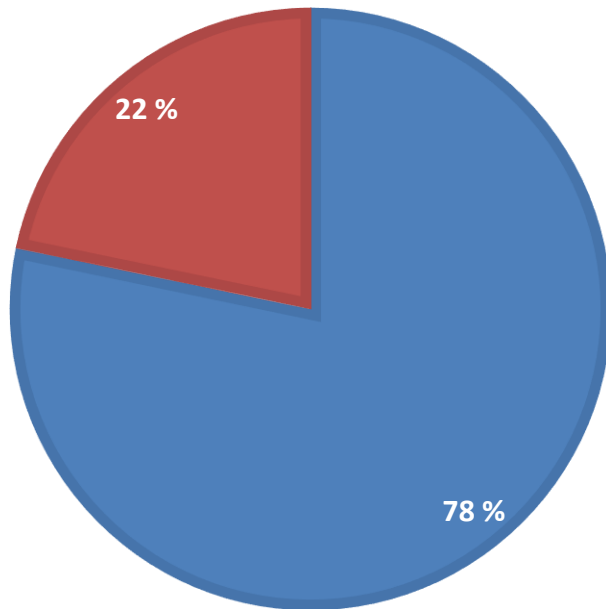
SUS RESULTS PROFESSIONALS



Physical activity

ALL CHILDREN

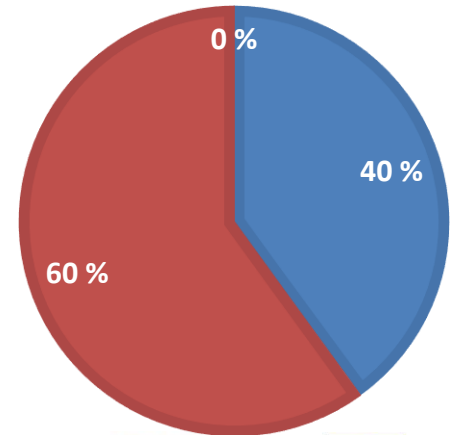
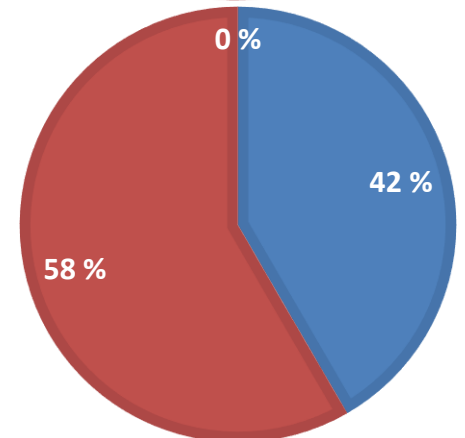
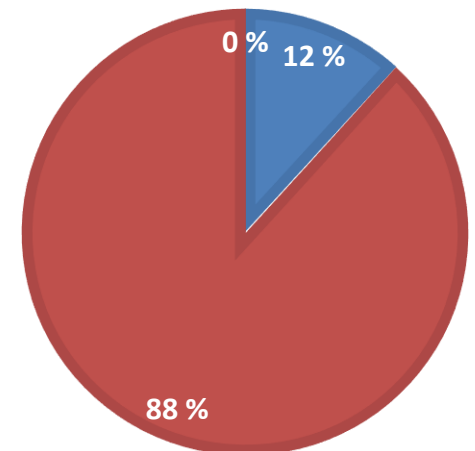
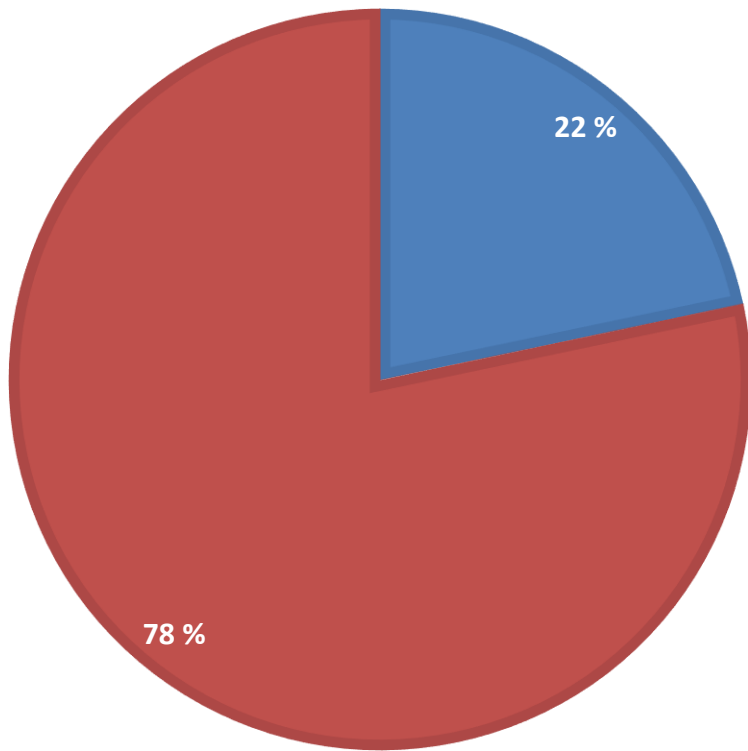
- meets the PA recommendation
- doesn't meet the PA recommendations



Nutrition

ALL CHILDREN

- child eats versatile
- child doesn't eat enough versatile



Daily rhythm

IF **SLEEP** IS GOOD FOR THE BRAIN, WHY IS IT NOT ALLOWED IN SCHOOL?



Mihin aikaan heräät yleensä koulupäivänä?



Jatka



Mihin aikaan yleensä menet nukkumaan koulupäivänä?

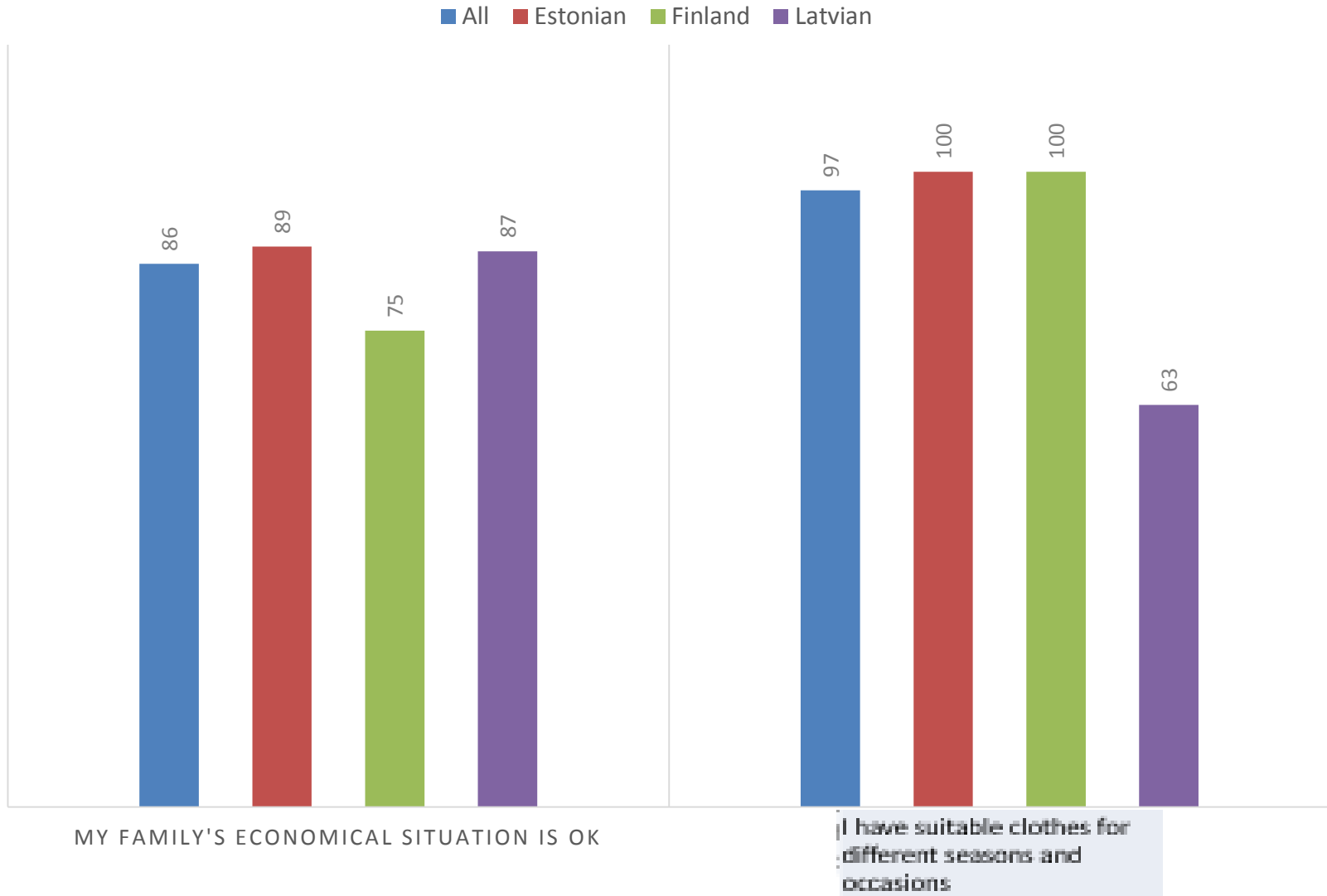


Jatka



Children are sleeping approx. 9,5 hours per night!

Economical resources

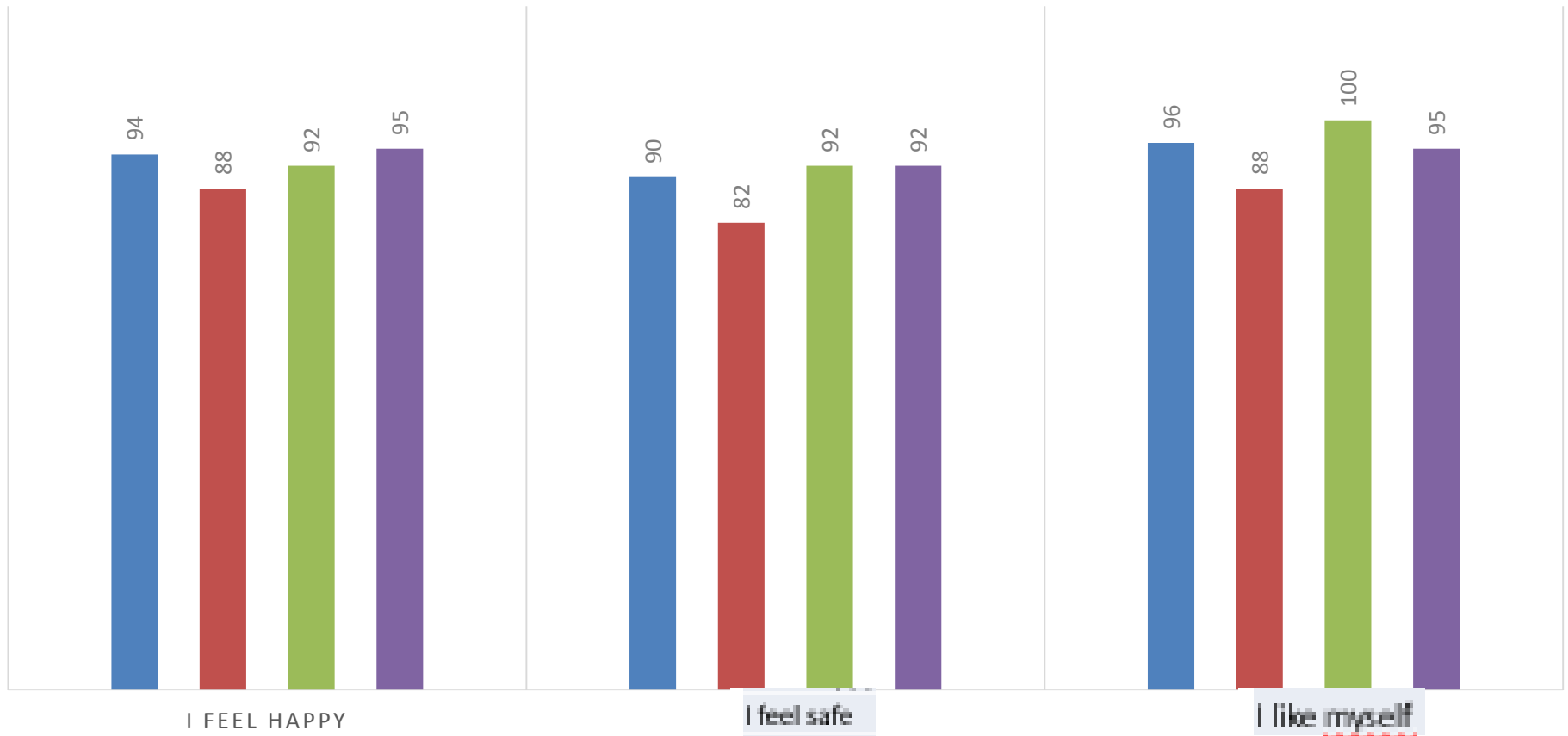


Educational resources

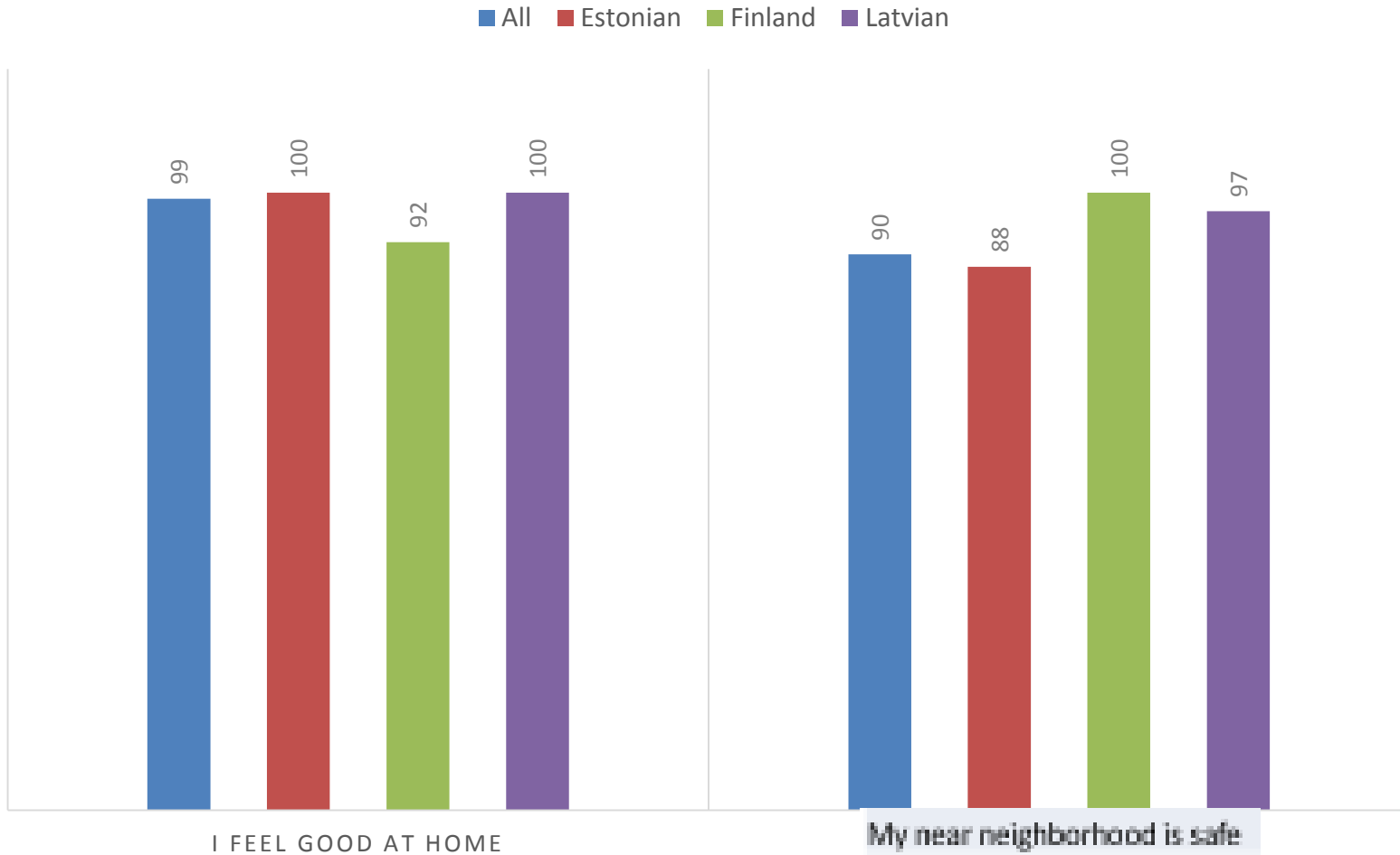


Emotional resources

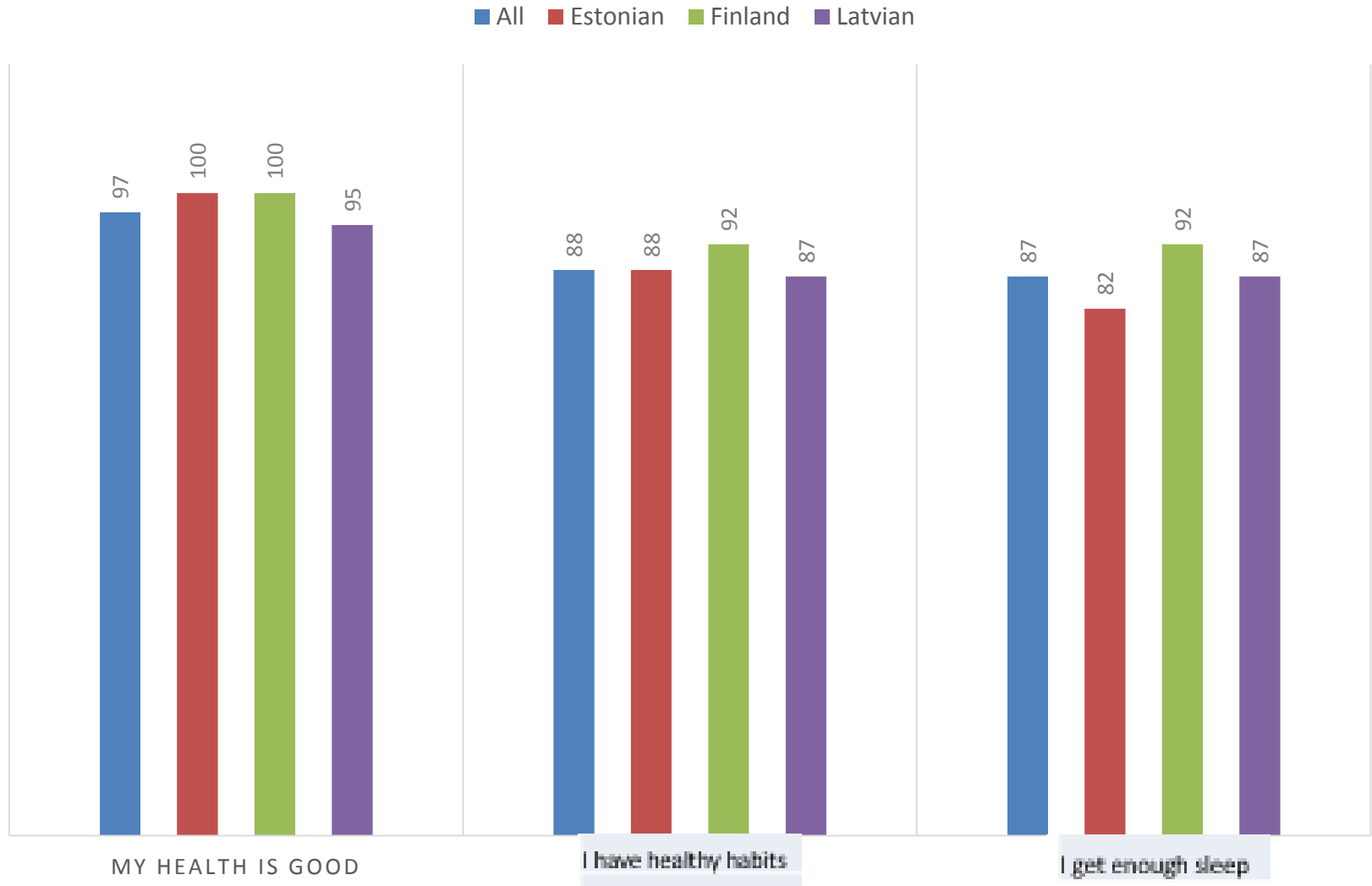
■ All ■ Estonian ■ Finland ■ Latvian



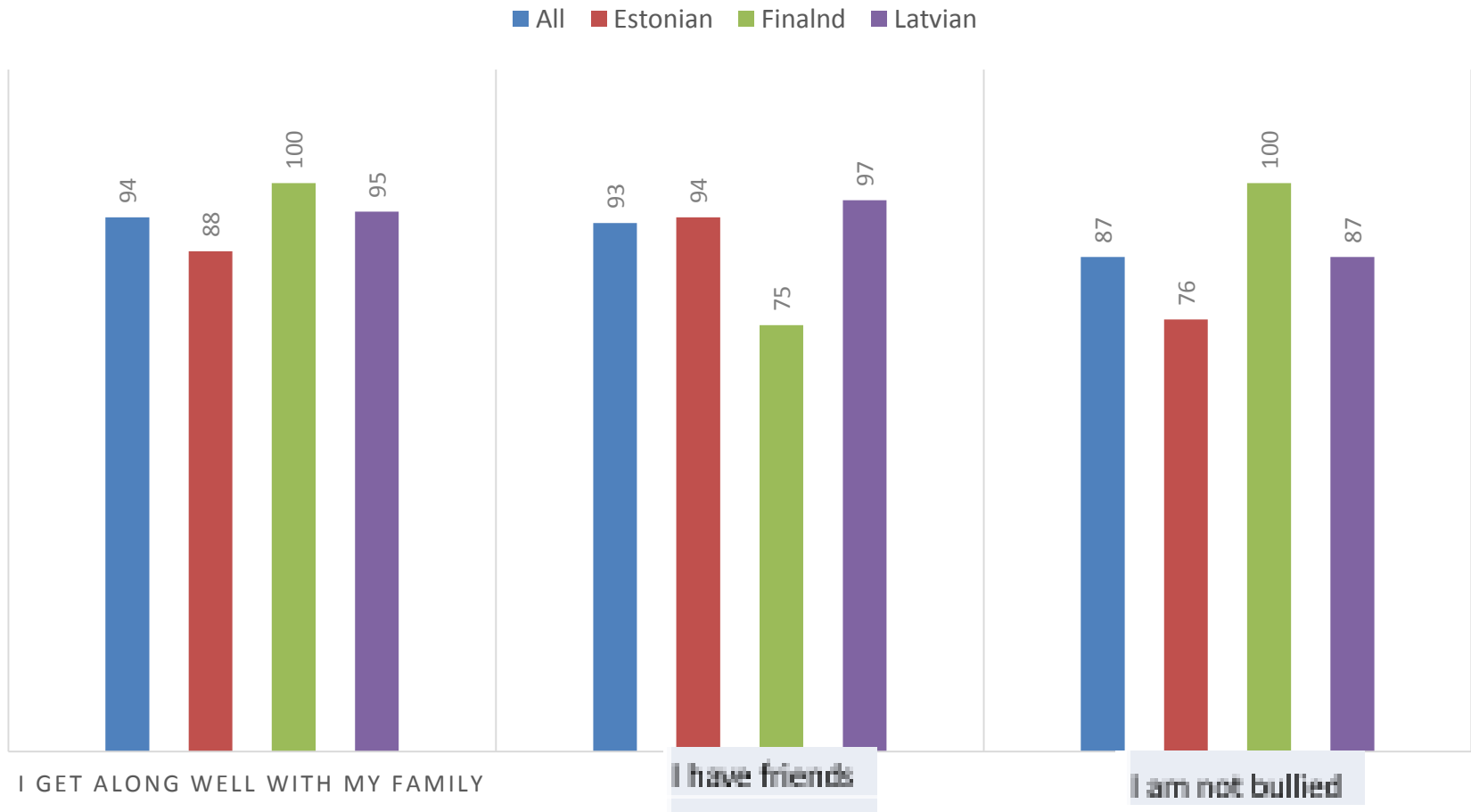
Environmental resources



Physical resources



Social resources





CONCLUSIONS

- 69 children and 11 professionals used the tool
- Usability scores were much better in second round, only Estonian professionals scored the tool from excellent to good (inconsistency and awkwardness was main reasons)
- Empowering: Children seem to feel quite well; they sleep enough, they are physically active and their resources are mostly good
- Challenges: Unhealthy nutrition habits, some resources see to strain children: Latvian children: 37% didn't have enough clothes and 28% didn't like their schools, Estonian children: 18% didn't feel safe and 24% were bullied, Finnish children: 25% family's economical situation was not ok and 25% didn't have friends

“The Grand Essentials of
Happiness Are
Something To Do,
Something To Love
and
Something To Hope For.”

- Allan K. Chalmers

