

PUBLIC OPINION MONITORING *at a glance*

March 2021



Key findings of the surveys included in this edition:

-) **Vaccination intent is growing** in most countries, and **people are getting increasingly impatient** to be vaccinated.
-) **Europeans blame the bloc for shortcomings in the vaccination roll-out**, leading to a **decrease in approval of the EU's performance**; this is most pronounced in Germany and Poland.
-) **However, many citizens are more critical towards their own government** than the EU, with the exception of Hungary.
-) **Fewer Europeans trust the AstraZeneca vaccine**, after several countries reported side-effects (blood clots) and temporarily suspended its administration. However, scientific studies have found it to be safe and effective. **Faith in other vaccines**, specifically in vaccines from BionTech/Pfizer and Moderna, **seems to be unaffected**, with the former being considered as most trustworthy by many Europeans according to several surveys.
-) **Kekst CNC COVID-19 Opinion Tracker** finds that there is **no clear support for vaccine passports**.
-) **Vaccine hesitance**: Within the EU, **France** remains among those countries most sceptical towards vaccination even though overall willingness for taking the vaccine is increasing. For **Bulgaria**, surveys indicate that only a minority of its population is sure to get the vaccine (36%).
-) **Support for national measures varies** from Member State to Member State.
-) Findings of several surveys conclude that **both the economic situation as well as the well-being** of respondents, particularly their mental-health, have **deteriorated** in the past year.

With this monthly newsletter, DG Communication's Public Opinion Monitoring Unit wishes to inform you about relevant and fresh public opinion insights and analysis focussing on multi-country surveys as well as on individual Member States. Every month we draw on available and published surveys, as well as the analysis of our team in close collaboration with other services within DG COMM, specifically Parliament's Liaison Office in all Member States. We welcome all comments and input to our work.

If you want to know more about what the Public Opinion Monitoring Unit can do for you in this time of crisis, please contact:

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Multi-country surveys

European trust in AstraZeneca vaccine falls, opinion poll says

Reuters News, 22 March 2021

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-astrazeneca-idUSKBN2BE00D>

Fewer Europeans trust the AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine after several countries reported side-effects, such as blood clots, an opinion poll by YouGov showed, even though scientific studies have found it is safe and effective.

An increased number of **French, German, Italian and Spanish adults said they considered the vaccine unsafe**, YouGov found, although faith in other vaccines by Pfizer Inc and Moderna Inc was unaffected.

(...) Sixty-one percent of **French** adults surveyed said the vaccine was unsafe, a rise of 18 percentage points compared to February, YouGov said.

Just over half of **German** adults surveyed said they thought the vaccine was unsafe, a rise of 15 percentage points compared to February, while 43% of Italians had serious doubts, an increase of almost a third.

Spain showed a similar increase to Italy in the level of concern, YouGov said. Only in Britain was trust in the vaccine stable.

YouGov survey was conducted between March 12 and March 18 2021.

Unlike in Britain, Vaccine Scepticism in Continental Europe Remains High

Redfield & Wilton Strategies, 12/03/2021

<https://redfieldandwiltonstrategies.com/unlike-in-britain-vaccine-scepticism-in-continental-europe-remains-high/>

A poll by Redfield & Wilton Strategies, conducted in Germany, France, Italy, and Great Britain between 27 February and 1 March, measured respondents' attitudes towards the vaccination and the choice of the vaccines.

(...) Among French respondents *who say they have not been vaccinated*, a plurality (42%) say they will **not get themselves vaccinated when a vaccine is offered to them**, compared to just 37% who say they will. While **willingness for taking the vaccine has increased** since November, a consistent plurality in France has stated they will not get the vaccinated since October.

Interestingly, less than a third of unvaccinated **French women** (31%) say they will get the vaccine, compared to a plurality (43%) of unvaccinated French men who say they will get vaccinated. Furthermore, there are stark differences between **age groups**: An absolute majority of 18-to-24-year-olds (54%) and 24-to-35-year-olds (56%) say they will **not** get the vaccine. 47% of those 65 and over—the most vulnerable group to coronavirus—say they will get the vaccine, but even a significant minority of this vulnerable age group (35%) say they will not get vaccinated. (...)

In **Germany**, there are also differences between the **genders**, with 69% of unvaccinated male respondents saying they would get the vaccine compared to 57% of unvaccinated German **women**. Younger respondents in Germany are also less willing to get the vaccine than their older counterparts, with opposition reaching 37% among unvaccinated 18-to-24-year-olds. While a

plurality in each age group in Germany states they will get the vaccine, a significant minority say they will not.

In **Italy**, men (75%) are slightly more likely to say they will get the vaccine than women (68%), but vaccine scepticism remains low across the entire Italian sample, and younger respondents are just as likely to say they will get vaccinated as older respondents—unlike in Germany and France.

(...) Among those who are willing to get vaccinated in France, 90% say it matters to them which **specific coronavirus vaccine** they receive, even if all options have been approved for use in the European Union. Meanwhile, only 53% of this subgroup in Italy says the specific coronavirus vaccination matters, along with 45% of the subgroup in Germany. (...)

Yet, while leaders have been questioning the *efficacy* of the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine rather than its *safety*, they may have also negatively impacted public perception of the vaccine's safety: only 32% of German respondents and 23% of French respondents say they would **feel safe taking the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine**. On the other hand, half (50%) of Italian respondents say they would consider it safe, perhaps owing to the fact that Italian leaders have not criticised this vaccine in the same way Angela Merkel and Emmanuel Macron have.

The most **favoured vaccine in France** is the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, yet even then, the French public are divided on its safety. 37% say they would feel safe having the vaccine, compared to 38% who say they would feel unsafe. Pluralities in France say they would feel *unsafe* taking the vaccines produced by Moderna (41%), Oxford-AstraZeneca (51%), SinoVac (56%), Sputnik V (53%), and Johnson & Johnson (43%). Feelings of safety were low for all of the vaccines, regardless of whether they have been approved for administration or not.

In **Germany**, the majority consider the Pfizer-BioNTech (64%) and Moderna (50%) vaccines to be safe, and are divided on the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, despite it not being approved (35% safe, 35% unsafe). 47% of German respondents consider the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine to be unsafe, despite its approval by the European Medicines Agency. Slim majorities in Germany consider the Russian Sputnik V vaccine (52%) and Chinese SinoVac (55%) to be unsafe.

In **Italy**, unlike its European neighbours, majorities consider the Oxford-AstraZeneca (50%), Pfizer-BioNTech (65%), and Moderna (54%) vaccines to be safe. However, a significant 29% consider the Oxford-AstraZeneca vaccine to be unsafe. A plurality of Italians (41%) would feel safe having the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, while pluralities would feel unsafe having the SinoVac (41%) or Sputnik V (36%) vaccines. (...)

COVID-19 vaccination intent has soared across the world

IPSOS, 11/03/2021

<https://www.ipsos.com/en/covid-19-vaccination-intent-has-soared-across-world>

A new Ipsos survey conducted in partnership with the World Economic Forum points to a **notable increase in COVID-19 vaccination intent** since December in all 15 countries studied. The survey also shows that in many countries, a large majority of those who intend to get a vaccine will seek to do as soon as it is available to them. The survey was conducted in February 25-28, 2021.

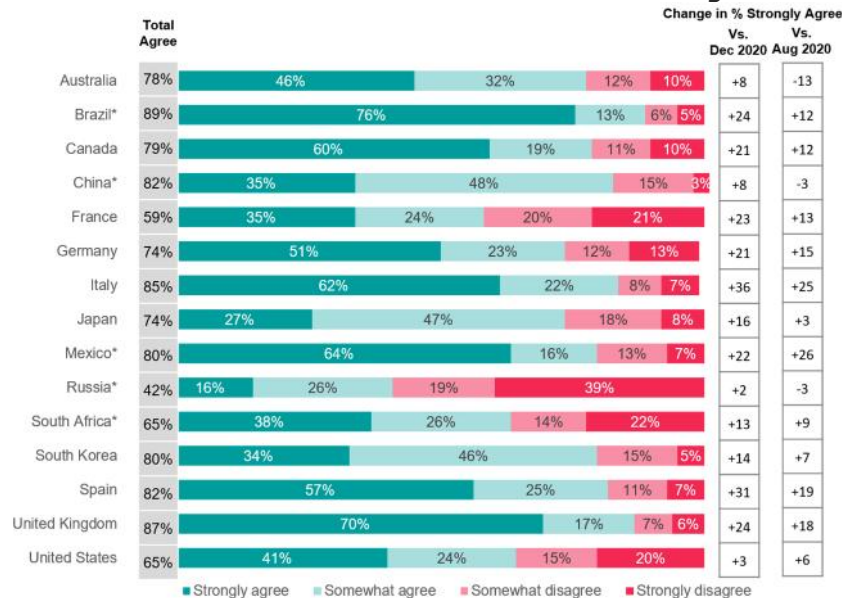
Vaccination intent on the rise

(...) Intent to get vaccinated (among those who are not) is:

- └ Very high in (...), Italy (85%), and Spain (82%),
- └ Fairly high in (...) Germany (74%)
- └ Middling in (...) France (59%)

(...) Since mid-December, eight of the 15 countries have seen an **uptick in vaccine intent** among those who have not been vaccinated of more than 20 percentage points: Italy (by 36 percentage points to 62% who strongly agree), Spain (+31 to 57%), (...), France (+23 to 35%), and Germany (+21 to 60% and 51%, respectively).

“If a vaccine for COVID-19 were available to me, I would get it”:



Q. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following: If a vaccine for COVID-19 were available, I would get it if
n=12,076 online adults aged 16-74 across 15 countries; excludes those who report receiving the vaccine
Source: Ipsos Global Advisor, February 25-28, 2021; February data excludes those who stated they have received the vaccine
* Online samples in Brazil, China, Mexico, Russia, and South Africa tend to be more urban, educated, and/or affluent than the general population

Rising impatience:

In 11 of the 15 countries surveyed, most of those who are not yet vaccinated and agree that they will **get the vaccine** say they plan to do so **immediately** or within one month once it is available to them:

-)] Over 70% in Spain (73%), Germany, and Italy (72%);
-)] Over 60% in France (67%)

COVID-19 Opinion Tracker - Edition 7

Kekst CNC, 01/03/2021

<https://www.kekstcnc.com/insights/covid-19-opinion-tracker-edition-7>

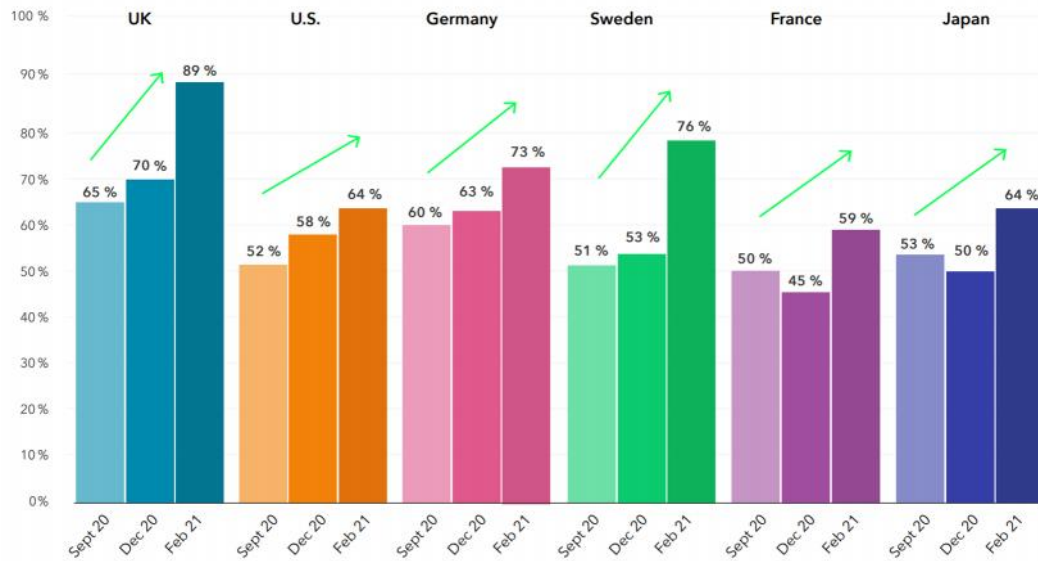
https://www.kekstcnc.com/media/3155/kekst-cnc_research-report_covid19_opinion-tracker_wave-7_march2021-1.pdf

Some of the global findings:

-)] **Rollout** reckoning: People in all countries apart from the UK think their vaccine rollout is too slow (...).
-)] **Faith in Europe** rocked: Approval of the EU's performance falls as Europeans blame the bloc for vaccine bungles.
-)] Shaky support for **vaccine passports**: People are nervous about the idea of vaccinated people facing different restrictions to unvaccinated people – with consequences for business.
-)] Business under pressure: People have lost faith in whether their **governments** are doing enough to help business, especially in Germany.

Likelihood to take the vaccine

How likely or unlikely are you to choose to have a coronavirus vaccine?
% "I would definitely do so" + "Likely" + "I have already received a coronavirus vaccine"



Speed of the vaccine rollout

Do you feel the speed of the rollout of coronavirus vaccines in your country is...



Key:

About right

Too fast

Too slow

Don't know



UK

U.S.

DE

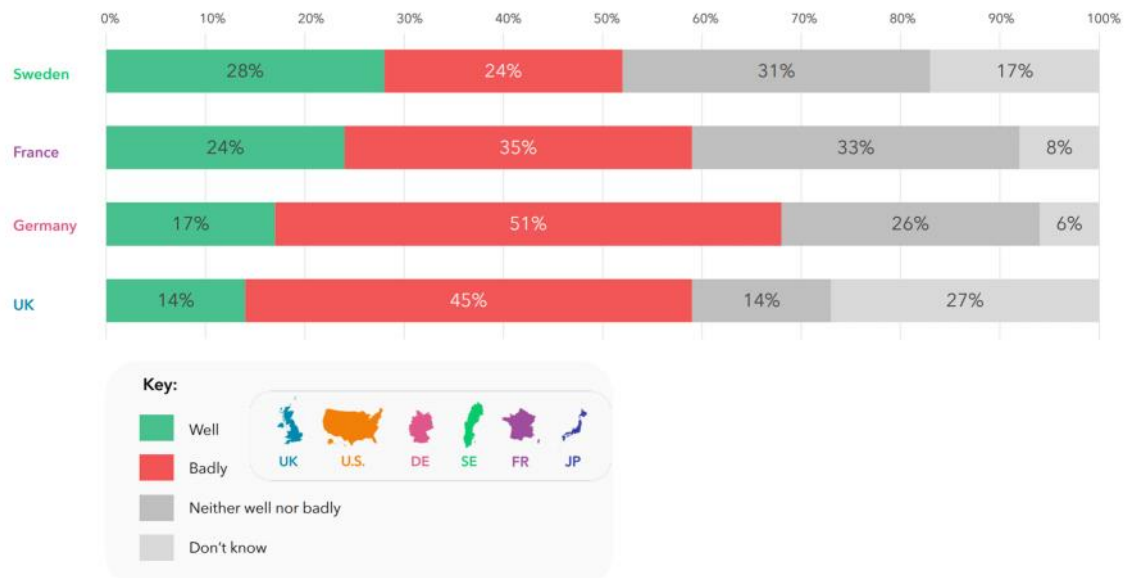
SE

FR

JP

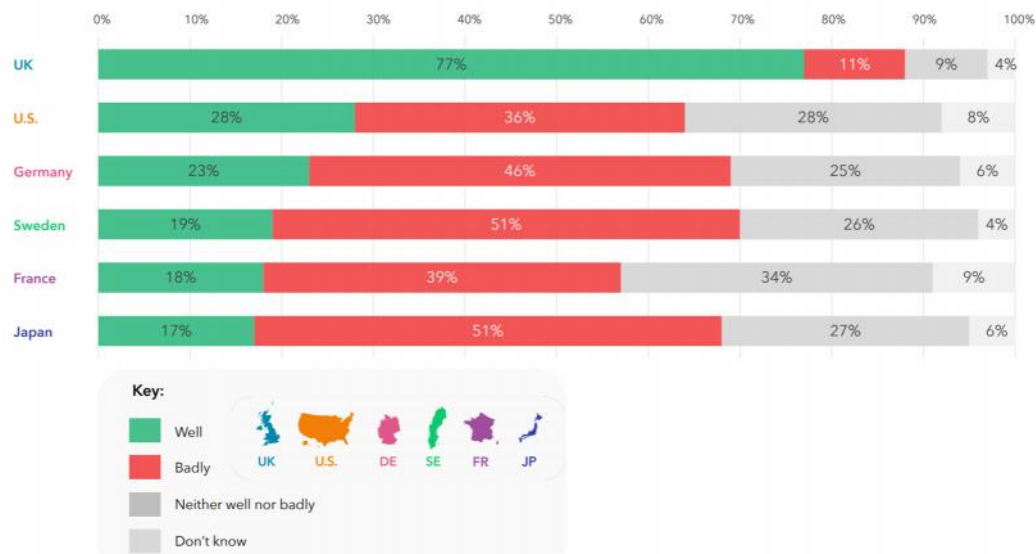
Vaccine performance - the European Union

How do you feel the following have handled the rollout of coronavirus vaccines so far?: The European Union

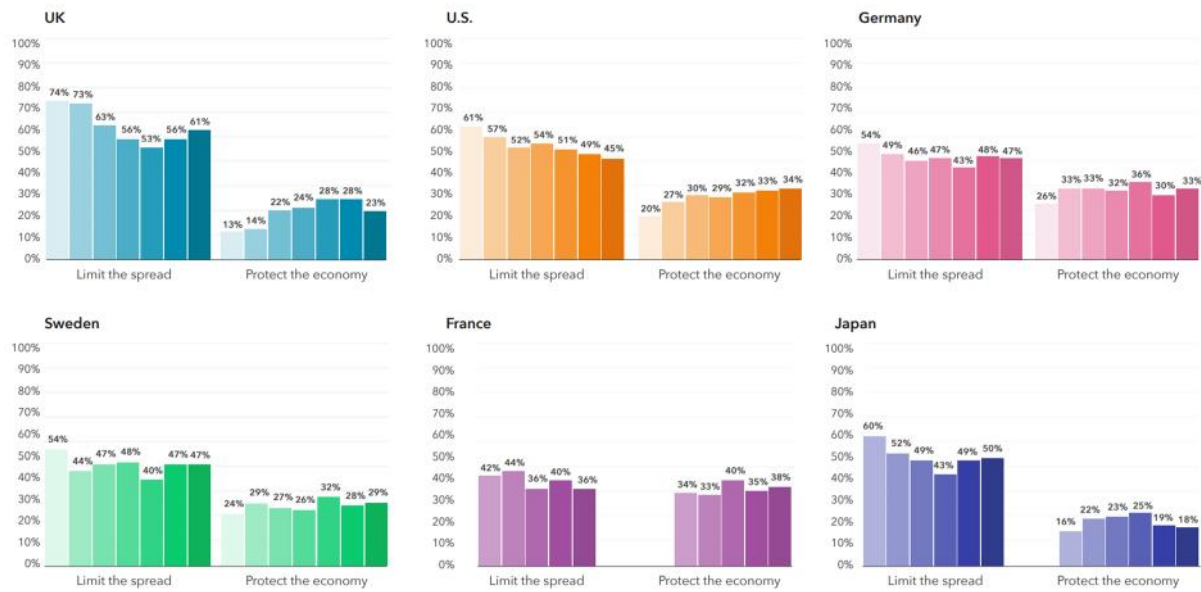


Vaccine performance - own country

How do you feel the following have handled the rollout of coronavirus vaccines so far?: Own country

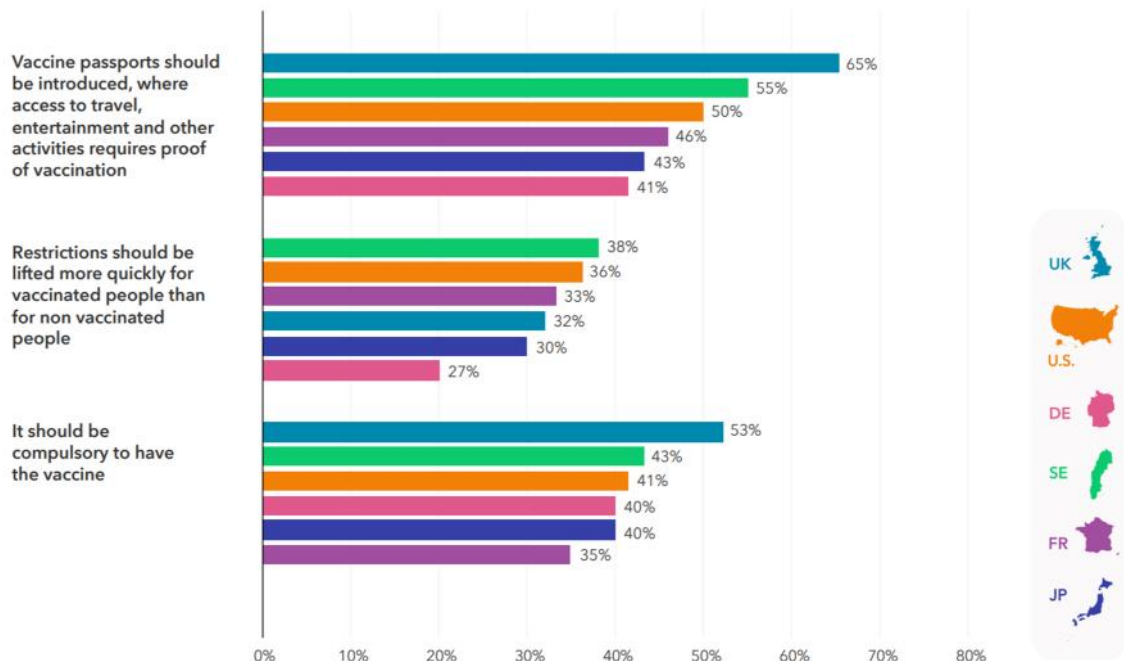


Government decisions



Vaccine passports

% Agree



Extent of damage to AstraZeneca vaccine's perceived safety in Europe revealed

YouGov, 7/03/2021

<https://yougov.co.uk/topics/international/articles-reports/2021/03/07/extent-damage-astrazeneca-vaccines-perceived-safet>

A new YouGov survey shows that the AstraZeneca vaccine is lagging behind Pfizer and Moderna alternatives in Europe, where in the UK it is seen as equally safe. (...)

In **Germany**, the proportion of people who think the Pfizer vaccine is safe has risen from 53% in December to 66% now. At the same time, the number who think it is unsafe has fallen from 25% to 19%. Over the same time period, the safety figure for the Moderna vaccine has risen from 37% to 54%, with the number of unsafe perceptions has stayed about the same (25%, compared to 28% in December). But when it comes to the AstraZeneca vaccine, while the number considering it safe has risen from 35% to 43%, this is coupled with an increase in the number believing it to be unsafe, from 30% to 40%.

In **France**, the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines have both seen significant increases in the number of people believing them to be safe, coupled with similar decreases in the number who consider them unsafe. As a result, the 'safe' figures have overtaken the 'unsafe' figures for both vaccines. While the AstraZeneca vaccine has also seen a 15pt increase in the number considering it safe (from 18% to 33%), this has not been coupled with much of a reduction in the number seeing it as unsafe (43%, down from 48%). Unlike the other two vaccines, people are still more likely to believe the AstraZeneca vaccine to be unsafe than safe.

Perceived safety of the AstraZeneca vaccine has been hit in France and Germany as result of rows

How safe, or unsafe, do you think the Pfizer-BioNtech/Oxford-AstraZeneca/Moderna vaccine is? %

Britain

In Britain, confidence in all three vaccines has gone up by similar amounts, and the AstraZeneca vaccine is as trusted as the Pfizer vaccine



Germany

In Germany the picture is much more mixed. While belief that the AstraZeneca vaccine is safe has increased, so too has the perception that it is unsafe. This has not happened with the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, and the AstraZeneca vaccine is seen as less safe than both.



France

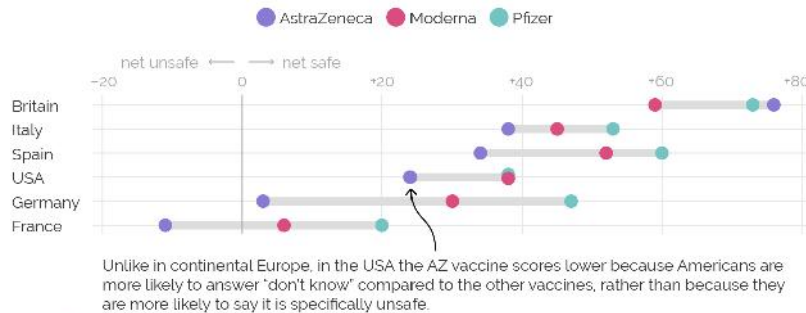
In France, although more people now consider the AstraZeneca vaccine to be safe, they are still outnumbered by the proportion who consider it unsafe, which has hardly moved since December. By contrast, the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines saw both increases in the number of people seeing them as safe and decreases in the number considering them unsafe. In both cases more people now consider those vaccines safe than unsafe.



This latest survey has also been conducted in additional countries to the first: **Spain, Italy** and the United States. In all three countries the AstraZeneca vaccine is less likely to be seen as safe than either the Moderna or Pfizer vaccines (...)

Europeans are less likely to see the AstraZeneca vaccine as safe compared to the Pfizer and Moderna alternatives

How safe, or unsafe, do you think the Pfizer-BioNtech/Oxford-AstraZeneca/Moderna vaccine is? Figures shown are NET scores



YouGov

23 February - 2 March 2021

As a result of such concerns, Europeans are substantially more likely to say they would refuse to take the AstraZeneca vaccine than the Pfizer and Moderna vaccines. (...)

National surveys

COVID-related restriction measures and their effects

The national studies included in this edition indicate citizens across monitored countries share similar attitudes towards the measures implemented against the pandemic. **While in many countries these measures are still accepted and seen as necessary, particularly with Easter holidays approaching, a considerable share of the population is now in favour of easing these measures.** This share has been increasing in several countries for a couple of months.

In all countries included in this newsletter, people state their **personal finances and well-being**, particularly their mental-health, **have deteriorated in the past year**, likely due to the measures against the pandemic.

Vaccines, vaccination strategy and process

When it comes to vaccines, **in almost all countries a growing number of respondents and a majority of them would like to get the vaccine:** 66% in France (+24 pp compared to December 2020), 69% in Hungary (compared to 15% in December 2020), 84% in Sweden (compared to 74% in December 2020), 73% in Romania, 70% in Estonia (share is on the rise) and 58% in Lithuania. The one country for which surveys indicate **only a minority of its population is sure to get the vaccine (36%) is Bulgaria.** Here, 41% of citizens are not willing to get the vaccine, down from 52% in February. Unlike most other countries, which have an upward trend, Ireland shows a decline in the share of citizens which would not hesitate to get the vaccine from 58% to 52% in the past month.

A majority of Europeans surveyed are dissatisfied with the procurement of vaccines and/or the vaccination strategy in their country and some blame the EU institutions for it. In **Poland, 53% of respondents think the EU fails to provide sufficient vaccines and 55% consider EU action insufficient.** In **Hungary, 52% blame the EU for not getting vaccines sooner.** 74% of German respondents are not satisfied with procurement of vaccines and organisation of vaccine strategy. Three quarters of French citizens declare not to be satisfied with the vaccination campaign. Citizens' trust in Sweden's government's management of the Covid crisis has decreased since the start of the second wave, and is now at 44%, whilst in Slovenia, government support is lowest since it took over a year ago. In Czechia, a 68% majority disapproves its government's management of the Covid crisis. Conversely, a majority of Greek respondents (58%) assess the vaccination campaign positively, even though 52% of them have a negative view of the way in which the Greek government is handling the pandemic. In Bulgaria, a slight majority continue to support the government's handling of the pandemic.

Bulgaria

After a year with the pandemic and at the beginning of a year of elections

Gallup International, 10/3/2021

<https://www.gallup-international.bg/44502/after-a-year-with-the-pandemic-and-at-the-beginning-of-a-year-of-elections/>

Gallup International conducted a survey from 22/2/2021 to 1/3/2021. Almost a year after the Bulgarian government announced the state of emergency because of the coronavirus pandemic, **55%** of Bulgarians say that they prefer **lighter measures against the virus**. On the other hand, 32% Bulgarians say they prefer stricter measures and 13% could not give an answer.

Bulgarians are divided over **government's handling of the pandemic**, with **46% having a favourable view of it**, mainly due to the lack of tougher restrictions, the survey showed. 42% of Bulgarians say the government is not doing a good job.

There is **rising trend for the number of Bulgarians who want to get vaccinated - 36% would like to get a shot** (compared to 27% in February), 41% say they wouldn't get vaccinated (48% in February). 3% are already vaccinated.

46% believe in the actions of the national coronavirus task force (35% have the opposite position). The President Rumen Radev is the political figure now with highest rating - 57% of respondents say they have a trust in him (33% have the opposite position). According to Gallup International the Prime Minister Boyko Borissov is one of the most liked political figures in Bulgaria, even if 64% say they do not trust him (23% are the respondents who support him).

Czechia

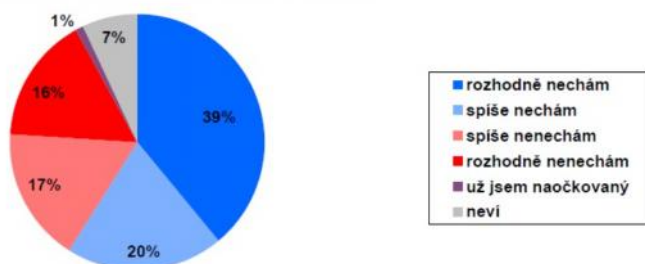
Czech Public about Vaccination

CVVM, 16/03/2021

[oz210316.pdf](#)

(...) Four-fifths (80%) of Czech citizens agreed that **vaccination is a guarantee** that some dangerous diseases will not spread in our country. Approximately three-fifths of respondents (59%) expressed **willingness to be vaccinated** against COVID-19. About a third (33%) of respondents took a negative attitude towards vaccination against COVID-19. According to respondents who do not want to be vaccinated against COVID-19, the most common **reason** was that the vaccine was developed too quickly and is not sufficiently tested (22%).

Graf 4: Necháte se očkovat proti onemocnění COVID-19? (v %)



Zdroj: CVVM SOÚ AV ČR, Naše společnost – speciál – únor 2021, 2. 2. – 16. 2. 2021, 1035 respondentů starších 18 let, kombinace metod CAWI a CATI.

Czech Public Opinion on the Principles and Use of the Anti-Epidemic System

CVVM, 08/03/21

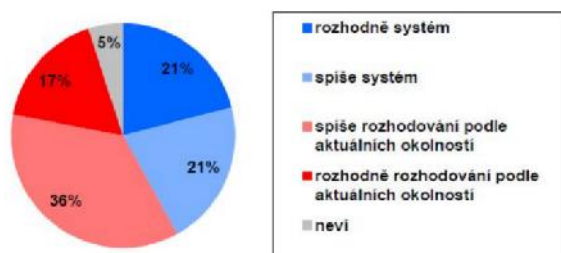
(...) An overwhelming majority (53%) of the Czech public is in favour of setting **measures against the spread of coronavirus according to current circumstances**, 42% are in favour of implementing measures tackling individual risk levels as defined in the Czech Anti-Epidemic System.

The majority (68%) of the Czech public consider the use of the Anti-Epidemic System (so-called PES) by the government and responsible authorities to be bad, only less than a quarter (24%) consider it good.

Principles of the Anti-Epidemic System used since November 2020 are generally considered by more than half (54%) of respondents to be bad, almost two fifths (38%) as good. Principles of the Anti-Epidemic System generally used more than half (54%) of respondents are bad, almost two fifths (38%) are good.

Almost three-fifths (59%) of the Czech public consider the setting of the Anti-Epidemic System (so-called PES) to be bad in terms of calculating the levels of risk and setting the levels of alertness and related measures and only less than three tenths (29%) of citizens consider it to be good at those tasks.

Graf 1: Podle čeho se má rozhodovat o opatřeních proti šíření koronaviru? (%)



Zdroj: CVVM SOÚ AV ČR, Naše společnost – speciál – únor 2021, 2. 2. – 16. 2. 2021, 1036 respondentů starších 18 let, kombinace metod CAWI a CATI.

Adherence to and evaluation of anti-pandemic measures and confidence in the government's ability to manage the covid-19 pandemic

STEM, 11/03/2021

[Dodržování a hodnocení protipandemických opatření a důvěra ve schopnost vlády zvládat pandemii covid-19 | Stem.cz](#)

(...) The Czechs still adhere to anti-pandemic measures in the same way, in a relatively high measure compared to other countries. However, the share of those who are critical of anti-pandemic measures is growing dynamically - a quarter **criticizes their excessive mildness**, two-fifths their exaggeration.

Compared to the first wave of the pandemic, the Czech government has lost 58 percentage points of **public confidence** in the management of the coronavirus situation. Internationally, this is an unprecedented decline. Confidence has fallen significantly since the last measurement in November 2020, when it went from the then 38% to the current 25%.

Estonia

Estonian people understand criticality of coronavirus situation

Government Office Survey, 20/03/2021

According to a survey commissioned by the Government Office at the beginning of March, 80 percent of people in Estonia support the **measures established to prevent the spread of the virus** and 55 percent are in favor of even stricter measures, the Ministry of Social Affairs said.

(...) The strict restrictions that came into force on March 11 are supported by 80 percent of people in Estonia. (...)

There is a clear difference between **age groups**. While 66 percent of those over 75 would like measures to be made stricter, 44 percent of those aged 35-49 have the same view. The same is reflected in the support for restrictions applied from March 11 onwards -- support is over 90 percent among older people and just over 70 percent among those aged 35-49, which, however, is also a high figure.

As the situation deteriorates, people's **awareness of the measures** in force has sharply improved. According to the respondents themselves, 61 percent are very aware of the measures -- this indicator has remained below 50 percent for the last two months. Altogether 33 percent of people are generally aware of the measures. There has also been an increase in the proportion of people who say they regularly and actively seek information on coronavirus-related topics because they consider it important. (...)

Along with a better awareness of the restrictions, there is a growing **willingness to follow** them. Altogether 80 percent of residents say they follow all instructions and 13 percent say they follow most of them. At the end of last month, the respective figures were 72 and 18 percent. (...)

The number of **people wishing to be vaccinated** remains high -- according to the latest survey, a total of 71 percent of the Estonian population is vaccinated or ready to be vaccinated, and two weeks ago, a total of 69 percent were ready to be vaccinated and already vaccinated. The survey also looked at how **willing people were to recommend the vaccine to a friend or relative**. Altogether 63 percent of the population would be willing to recommend vaccination to a loved one if the latter asked them for advice. A total of 12 percent do not agree to do so at all and 13 percent rather do not agree to do so.

The survey also looked at which **sources people trust** most when it comes to the topic of vaccination. Estonian doctors and researchers are considered to be the most reliable - for example, the COVID-19 research council and the national expert committee on immunoprophylaxis -- which were mentioned by 55 percent of the respondents. There is also high trust in one's family doctor, family nurse or treating physician, 38 percent, state agencies such as the Health Board and State Agency of Medicines, 30 percent, and the Estonian media, 23 percent. While older Estonian residents trust their family doctor, 67 percent of respondents, or Estonian doctors and researchers, 77 percent, more often than average on vaccination, young people trust public administration websites, 41 percent, or scientific journals, 24 percent, more often than average as a source of information.

(...) The survey was commissioned by the Government Office and conducted by Turu-uuringute AS between March 11 and 14.

People of Estonia consider spread of epidemics to be the biggest threat to the world

Estonian Ministry of Defence, 08/03/2021

<https://www.bns.ee/en/topic/772/news/62646176/?id=121212>

(...) The study commissioned by the Ministry of Defense shows that in the fall of 2020, the spread of epidemics was definitely considered to be the **greatest threat to peace and security in the world** by 53 percent of the Estonian population. Compared to the fall of 2019, the population's sense of danger in terms of the spread of epidemics has doubled, but in terms of the rest of the risks it has either decreased or remained unchanged. (...)

25% of people in Estonia against COVID-19 vaccine, 32% undecided

RAIT Faktum & Ariko, 02/03/2021

<https://www.bns.ee/en/topic/772/news/62622191/>

25 percent of people in Estonia **do not intend to get vaccinated** against the coronavirus and 32 percent have yet to make up their mind about the matter. The pollster carried out a country-wide survey from Feb. 9 to 21 to gauge respondents' attitudes towards vaccinating against COVID-19 among other things.

By the time of the survey, 3 percent of the respondents had been vaccinated. 40 percent said they would get inoculated against the virus while 25 percent do not intend to do so and 32 percent had yet to make a decision on this matter. The survey also touched upon the topics and main questions people had about the vaccine and would like to be further explained publicly. Most frequently respondents wished to learn how long they would be protected from the virus after receiving the two injections and what restrictions would be imposed on those who are not vaccinated. These issues were pointed out as one of two topics that were least clear by 51 percent and 40 percent of the respondents, respectively. (...)

France

Les Français se déclarent largement favorables aux nouvelles mesures

Harris Interactive pour LCI, 18/03/2021

https://harris-interactive.fr/opinion_polls/reactions-des-francais-a-la-conference-de-presse-de-jean-castex-du-18-mars-2021/

Les Français se déclarent largement **favorables aux nouvelles mesures** annoncées le 18 mars 2021 selon un sondage exclusif Harris Interactive réalisé pour LCI

82% des Français interrogés se déclarent **inquiets de la propagation du virus**. Un chiffre qui reste stable. Ils étaient 85% à manifester leur inquiétude à la fin février. 62% estiment même que le gouvernement a trop tardé avant de prendre de nouvelles mesures.

71% des Français **favorables au confinement. L'acceptabilité du confinement est plus forte lorsqu'on n'est pas concernés**. C'est l'un des principaux enseignements de ce sondage. 71% des Français se déclarent favorables au principe de confinement. Pourtant, le taux chute à 58% lorsqu'on interroge uniquement les personnes concernées par les nouvelles mesures.

Les autres enseignements de ce sondage concernent la vaccination. 66% des Français assurent qu'ils se feront **vacciner dès que possible**. Ils sont 57% à avoir confiance dans les vaccins, de manière générale.

Pour une très large majorité de Français, la campagne de vaccination est mal gérée par l'exécutif

ELABE, 16/03/2021

<https://elabe.fr/covid-19-un-an-apres/>

Un an après le premier confinement, l'opinion juge sévèrement la **gestion de la crise sanitaire** mais est plus indulgente sur la gestion économique de la crise :

-) 81% (+11 points par rapport au 6 janvier) des Français estiment que l'exécutif a *mal géré* le nombre de doses de vaccin disponible, une opinion en forte hausse.
-) 74% (-1) estime que l'organisation de la campagne de vaccination a été *mal gérée* par l'exécutif,
-) 72% (-4) pensent que la communication sur le vaccin a été *mal gérée*, une opinion largement partagée par l'ensemble des catégories de populations,

Germany

ARD Germany trend

Tagesschau, 04/03/2021

<https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/deutschlandtrend/deutschlandtrend-2533.html>

A clear majority of Germans are in favour of easing the **restrictions**.

Satisfaction with the federal government has dropped to its lowest level since the beginning of the pandemic.

- Almost half of Germans (47 percent) rate the measures currently in force as appropriate
- Further 20 percent are in favour of tightening them.
- A clear majority (67 percent) are still of the opinion that the measures do not go far enough.
- However, 30 percent find that the measures are now going too far. (It was 22 percent at the beginning of February and 27 percent in the middle of the month)

Majority for partial lifting of the corona measures

- 53 percent favour a partial repeal of the current Corona rules.
- One in ten (10 percent) is currently in favour of their complete repeal.
- On the other hand, a third of Germans (34 percent) would like to keep them.

Much dissatisfaction with vaccination campaign

- 74 percent are less or not at all satisfied with the procurement of vaccines
- The same numbers apply to the organization of the corona vaccinations (73 percent).
- 67 percent express their discomfort with the organization of school operations and daycare during lockdown
- Two thirds are dissatisfied with the provision and use of corona rapid tests (66 percent).
- 65 percent give bad marks for how politicians justify and explain their Corona decisions.

Satisfaction with federal government falls

- After 55 percent in the previous month, 50 percent are currently satisfied with the work of the federal government
- 49 percent are critical.

Germany stopped the use of the Astra Zeneca vaccine

Süddeutsche Zeitung, 18/03/2021

<https://www.sueddeutsche.de/politik/corona-aktuell-rki-neuinfektionen-inzidenz-deutschland-1.5235622>

The **vaccination ban with the Astra Zeneca** vaccine in several countries apparently hardly affects Germans' willingness to vaccinate.

- The willingness to vaccinate has only fallen by two percentage points to 71 percent
- 71 percent of those surveyed who wanted to get vaccinated as soon as possible
- 54 percent of Germans consider the vaccination ban to be reasonable.
- 39 percent think the decision is excessive.
- Hardly anyone is satisfied with the vaccination campaign in Germany.
- So far, only one percent has rated the course as very good and nine percent as good.
- 48 percent said the vaccination went "rather badly", 40 percent said "very badly".

AstraZeneca and video call

YouGov, 17/03/2021

<https://yougov.de/opi/surveys/results/#/survey/ce0ce758-86fa-11eb-a968-c5a2dfdf66bf>

1. Which **emotions** are you most likely to feel with regard to the current rise in new corona infections in Germany?

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| • Frustration | 42% |
| • Fear | 13% |
| • Serenity | 8% |
| • Tension | 18% |
| • Indifference | 8% |
| • Others | 4% |
| • Don't know / no answer | 7% |

2. How do you agree with the AstraZeneca vaccine statement - "We need this vaccination"?

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| • Disagree at all | 20% |
| • Rather disagree | 13% |
| • I rather agree | 24% |
| • Totally agree about | 29% |
| • Don't know / no answer | 14% |

Greece

MRB poll for StarTV

MRB for StarTV, 04/03/2021

https://www.iefimerida.gr/sites/default/files/2021-03/767317_e809ea0626-af6f35e81b63bd36.pdf

A majority of Greeks assess negatively the way the **government is handling the pandemic** (52%), while on the contrary the vaccination campaign is assessed positively by 58% of respondents.

Economic consequences of the pandemic

GPO for www.powergame.gr, 04/03/2021

<https://www.powergame.gr/ikonomia/36283/anisychia-kai-avevaiotita-gia-tin-epomeni-mera-tis-oikonomias/>

The pandemic has affected the **financial situation** of 57% of respondents and 49% say their income has suffered overall. 47% expect their financial situation to remain the same and 39% expect it to worsen, while 59% say the national economy will worsen. 40% are now unsatisfied with the measures taken by the government to help households and businesses to face the crisis. The EU recovery fund should go to the following priority sectors: restaurants, bars 84%; retail 63%; tourism 61%.

Hungary

The desire to vaccinate continues to grow, with Eastern vaccines being more popular than AstraZeneca

Nézőpont, 22/03/2021

<https://nezopont.hu/tovabb-no-az-oltasi-kedv-a-keleti-vakcinak-nepszerubbek-az-astrazeneca-nal/>

-) 69% of the Hungarian people are planning to be vaccinated or have already been vaccinated.
-) The Pfizer vaccine is the most popular among Hungarians, with 61% choosing it and 6% of them accepting this vaccine only.
-) AstraZeneca is the least popular among Hungarians. 37% would get this one and only 1% would choose the English-Swedish product alone.
-) Eastern vaccines are more popular than AstraZeneca: 50% of the participants would get the Chinese Sinopharm and 48% would get the Russian Sputnik V. 5% of the respondents say they would only like to be vaccinated with the Chinese vaccine and 3% would only like to get the Russian vaccine.
-) 53% of the Hungarian people choose Moderna's product.

Weekly monitor

KSH, 16/03/2021

http://www.ksh.hu/weekly-monitor/index.html?utm_source=kshhu&utm_medium=banner&utm_campaign=theme-health-care-accidents

In December only 15% reported to surely get vaccinated, this rose to 46% in March. However, 24% are negative about vaccination. **Better information and the progress of the vaccination programme** have certainly played a role in improving **vaccine acceptance**.

The following variables influence Hungarians' **opinions on the vaccines**:

- 82% persuaded by the severity of the pandemic, the number of cases and deaths.
- 79% influenced by government communication.
- 67% influenced by the press and media.
- 66% influenced by information on social media.
- 52% reported not to be influenced by websites and groups that are spreading anti-vaccination conspiracy theories.

The elderly (73%) and those with higher education degrees (61%) are the most supportive of the vaccines.

The willingness to vaccinate is 50% above in Hungary

IPSOS, 16/03/2021

<https://www.ipsos.com/hu-hu/50-felett-az-oltasi-hajlandosag-magyarorszagon>

According to the results of the research series, the proportion of insecure people decreased in all age groups. Despite the steep decline in the average age of those who died because of the virus during the third wave, **anti-vaccination sentiment has intensified** further among those who are under 40 in the past month.

-) 56% of the respondents who are under 30 reject the vaccination the most, only 32% of them would get the vaccine.
-) 47% of participants, i.e. every second person, think that health care workers have to get vaccinated first.
-) An average of 2 out of 5 residents can afford to avoid public transport.
-) 90-95% of the respondents wear a mask.

Brussels' responsibility is unavoidable in the vaccine procurement process

Századvég, 12/03/2021

<https://szazadveg.hu/hu/2021/03/12/megkerulhetetlen-brusszel-felelossege-az-elhibazott-vakcinabeszerzesben~n1731>

Századvég studied how satisfied Hungarians are with **the vaccination process** in Hungary and what they think about **Brussels' responsibility for the vaccine shipments** in Europe.

-) 58% of the respondents are more satisfied with the way Hungary is handling the coronavirus vaccination process.
-) 38% of them are more dissatisfied with the national vaccination program.
-) 52% of the participants blame Brussels for the fact that few vaccines arrive in Europe.
-) 37% say the EU is not responsible for this problem.

The public considers the anti-vaccination political campaign unacceptable

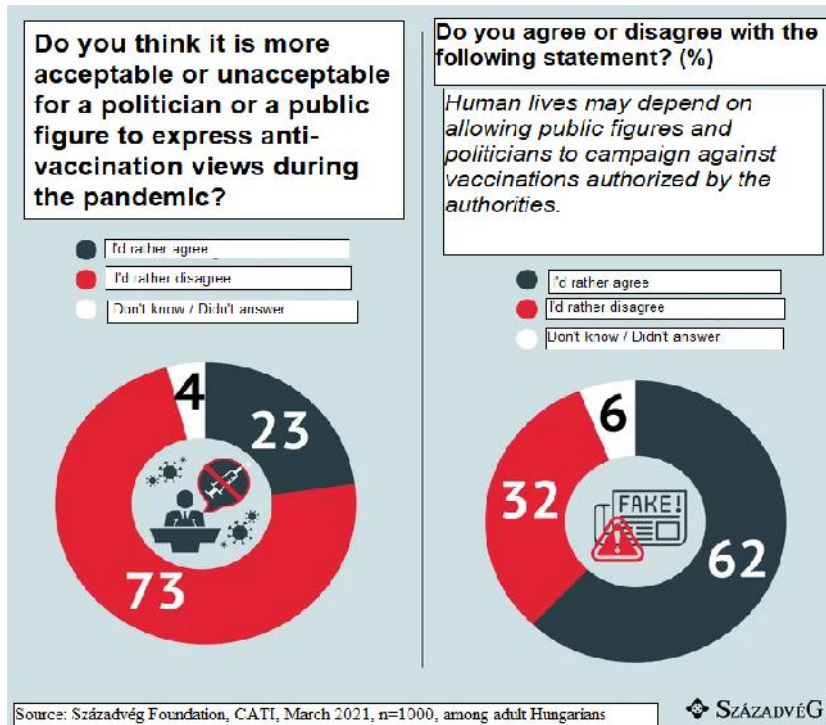
Századvég, 10/03/2021:

<https://szazadveg.hu/hu/2021/03/10/a-kozvelemeney-elfogadhatatlannak-tartja-az-oltasellenes-politikai-kampanyt~n1714>

Századvég studied how Hungarians relate to the **activities of public figures who judge vaccines**.

-) 73% of the respondents consider it unacceptable for a politician or other public figure to be against vaccination during the coronavirus pandemic.
-) 23% of participants find it acceptable to disseminate views that attack vaccines.

- 62% of the respondents believe that human lives may depend on politicians campaigning against vaccines or questioning the effectiveness of vaccines approved by the Hungarian authorities.
- 32% of participants say that the attack on the vaccines does not endanger the lives of Hungarians.



The willingness to vaccinate has continued to increase

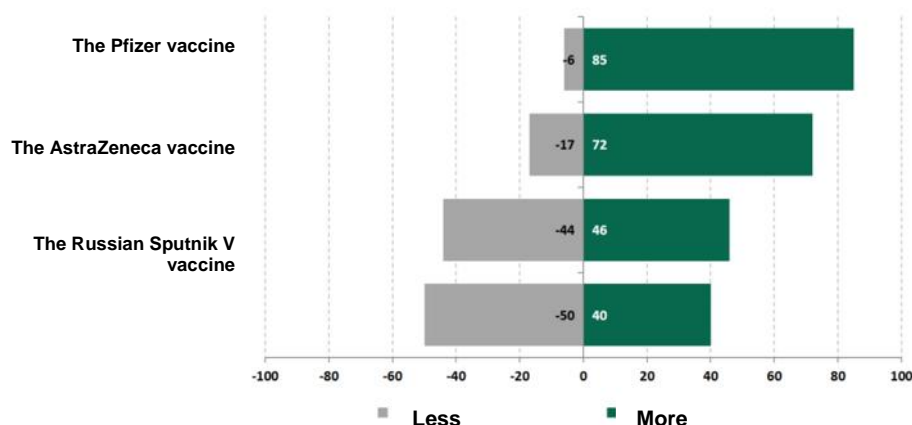
Publicus, 05/03/2021

<https://publicus.hu/blog/tovabb-novekedett-az-oltakozasi-hajlandosag/>

- 4 out of 10 respondents in November 2020 said they **would vaccinate** themselves against coronavirus if they could choose from vaccines. By February 2021, nearly 2/3 of the respondents said the same.
- 6% of the respondents said they had already been vaccinated against coronavirus.
- 6 out of 10 are registered for the vaccination (among those who had not been vaccinated yet).

Would you get the vaccine if it was?

(Among those who would like to get vaccinated, %)



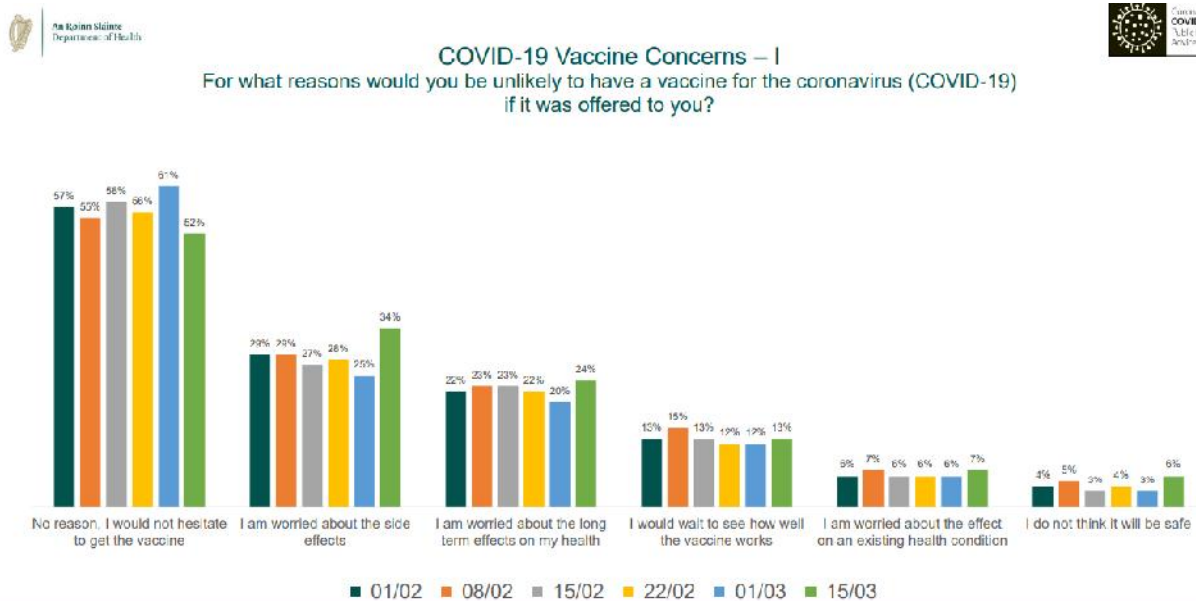
Ireland

Concerns about side effects of vaccination on the rise

Amárach Research on behalf of the Department of Health, 15/03/2021

<https://www.gov.ie/en/collection/6b4401-view-the-amarach-public-opinion-survey/#>

(...) Most recent stats show that hesitation about vaccination is growing and concerns about the side effects of vaccination are on the rise. The GP continues to be the most trusted source concerning information on vaccination.



Source: Amárach Public Opinion Tracker for Department of Health

Social Impact of COVID-19 Survey on well-being

Central Statistics Office, March 2021

<https://www.cso.ie/en/releasesandpublications/ep/p-sic19wbg/socialimpactofcovid-19surveyfebruary2021well-being/introductionandsummaryofmainresults/>

The fifth round of the Social Impact of COVID-19 Survey was undertaken to measure the impact COVID-19 has had on Irish society in February 2021.

Almost six in ten (57.1%) respondents reported that their **mental health/well-being** has been negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Almost three in four (74.4%) of those aged 18-34 reported this negative effect, compared to less than one in three (32.4%) respondents aged 70 and over.

Lowest overall **life satisfaction** scores since this well-being indicator was first collected in 2013 (...) In February 2021, the mean overall life satisfaction score was 5.8 (on a scale from 0 to 10). This is the lowest score recorded since this indicator was first collected in 2013.

Figure 2.2 Mean Overall Life Satisfaction Scores by Reference Period



Source: CSO Ireland

In February 2021, three in four (75.1%) respondents rated their **compliance with current government** advice and guidelines as High. This is ten percentage points higher than the rate in November 2020, when 65.2% of respondents rated their compliance as High.

Most citizens support the COVID-19 measures currently in place

Ipsos MRBI, March 2021

<https://www.irishtimes.com/news/politics/poll#>

Research carried out by Ipsos MRBI examines public opinion regarding **government handling of the pandemic and rates of approval of political parties**. Most Irish citizens support the COVID-19 measures currently in place.

Level of COVID-19 restrictions in place

Which one of the following comes closest to your own views on the level of COVID-19 restrictions in place?

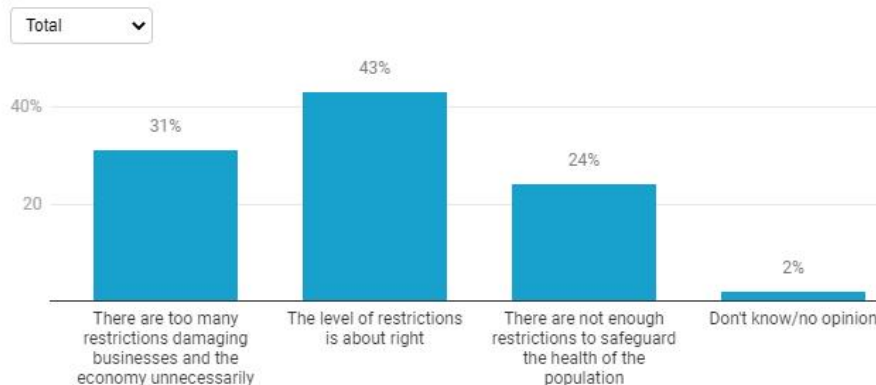


Chart: IRISH TIMES GRAPHICS • Source: Ipsos MRBI • Created with Datawrapper

With regard to travel restrictions, a majority of respondents said travel abroad should not be allowed until the majority of the Irish population has been vaccinated.

Lithuania

Lithuanians lead the way among the three Baltic states in their desire to get vaccinated against COVID-19

NielsenIQ, 08/03/2021

<https://www.lrt.lt/naujienos/sveikata/682/1360037/paskelbe-apklausos-duomenis-lietuviai-pagal-nora-skiepytis-nuo-covid-19-pirmauja-tarp-triju-baltijos-saliu>

Public opinion in Lithuania is relatively positive. According to the research, in comparison to the other two Baltic countries, Lithuania is in the lead in number of people willing to get the vaccine – 58 % of **Lithuanians** are **ready to get the vaccine**. 52 % of **Estonians** and 50 % of **Latvians** are willing to get the vaccine. The most positive about getting vaccinated are people ages 45-64, those who live in smaller households and those who do not have kids. They also have higher levels of education, receive higher income, work at the office and hold higher positions at their jobs.

Less than half of the people are **against the vaccine or still have doubts**. 26 % of Lithuanians have no intention of getting the vaccine at all. Most of these people are aged 25-44, live in relatively larger households and have kids. Moreover, the majority among them work in trade and service sectors and have mainly physical jobs. Also, 16 % of Lithuanians are not yet decided about the vaccine. These are mostly younger people (from 16 to 24 years old), along with those who live in larger households with small children.

(...)Lithuania has reached its peak of **general anxiety** among people during the first quarantine (in April of the last year), not in December or January, when there were most cases registered. Still, even though the overall anxiety levels are now lower, there are more people who experience the lack of socializing (79 %) and tensions within their own families (59 %). Lastly, around half of the respondents have complained about the worsening of their financial situation and personal health problems.

Luxembourg

One in five employees in critical mental state due to the pandemic

RTL, 5/03/2021

<https://today.rtl.lu/news/luxembourg/a/1683086.html>

According to a recent survey, 20% of employees state that the pandemic has taken a significant toll on their **mental health**. However, while 57% of employees feel tense because of the pandemic, they still manage to cope, according to a survey conducted by market research firm Quest. Only a small minority of participants believe that productivity has increased as a result of teleworking. Two out of three employees consider it a myth.

Malta

COVID-19, followed by corruption, is the greatest concern.

Malta Today, 15/03/2021

https://www.maltatoday.com.mt/news/data_and_surveys/108333/even_in_pandemic_corruption_is_still_the_greatest_concern_after_covid19#.YFkM-3qSkRm

With COVID-19 infections shooting up it comes as no surprise that the pandemic is the topmost concern by far in a MaltaToday survey.

COVID-19 is indicated as the **main concern** by 81.3% of people, cutting across all age groups, regions, men and women. A similar survey last December also saw COVID-19 come out on top, albeit with a score of 46.2%.

The second highest concern is **corruption** with 7.1%, followed by the environment with 2.5%. Last December, corruption also placed second with 10.8%, followed by immigration.

Poland

Has the European Union failed to provide sufficient COVID-19 vaccines to the Member States?

SW Research for rp.pl, 14/03/2021, Field work: 9-10 March 2021

<https://www.rp.pl/Koronawirus-SARS-CoV-2/210319706-Koronawirus-Sondaz-Czy-Unia-Europejska-zawiodla-ws-szczepionek-na-COVID.html>

Has the European Union failed to provide sufficient COVID-19 vaccines to the Member States?

Yes – 53,1%

No – 18,5%

I have no opinion – 28,4%

The **actions of the European Union are considered insufficient** by 55% of women and every second man. **Negative opinion about the actions of EU officials** is expressed by 58% of **respondents over 50 years of age** and 60% of respondents with **basic vocational education**. Actions taken by the European Union are negatively assessed by over 60% of respondents with income from 2001 to 3000 PLN and 57% of inhabitants of cities with more than 500 000 population.

Would Poles get vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine of Russian or Chinese production?

SW Research for rp.pl, 06/03/2021

<https://www.rp.pl/Koronawirus-SARS-CoV-2/210309551-Koronawirus-Sondaz-Czy-Polacy-zaszczepiliby-sie-szczepionkami-z-Chin-i-Rosji.html>

Would you get vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine of Russian or Chinese production?

Yes, Chinese – 6.8%

Yes, Russian – 7.7%

No – 59.2%

I have no opinion – 26.3%

Women (63.4%) are more sceptical about vaccines from China and Russia than men (54.4%).

67% of **respondents aged 25-34** and 62% of **people with higher education** do not want to get vaccinated with vaccines from China and Russia.

Sceptical about these vaccines are also mainly **city dwellers** up to 20 000 inhabitants (64%).

Should the government bring back some or all of the restrictions previously in force?

SW Research for rp.pl, 28/02/2021, Fieldwork: 23-14 February 2021

<https://www.rp.pl/Koronawirus-SARS-CoV-2/210229471-Koronawirus-Sondaz-Czy-rzad-powinien-przywracac-obostrzenia-w-Polsce.html>

Due to the increase in the number of coronavirus infections in Poland, should the government bring back some or all of the restrictions previously in force?

Yes – 36,3%

No – 47,8%

I have no opinion – 15,9%

Slightly more often women (49%), people between 24 and 34 years of age (62%) with primary education (52%) and higher education (50%) and income below PLN 1 000 (52%) are **opposed to introducing radical restrictions**.

Poles are fed up with restrictions

IBRiS for Rzeczpospolita, 09/03/2021

<https://www.rp.pl/Koronawirus-SARS-CoV-2/303089915-Sondaz-Polacy-maja-dosc-obostrzen.html>

Do you agree with the following statement?

'Polish government copes well with the pandemic and the decisions taken are adequate to the development of the situation'

I agree – 37,9%

I disagree – 54%

'The first reactions to the coronavirus were too hysterical - a complete lockdown was unnecessary in spring 2020'

I agree – 50,5%

I disagree – 41,4%

'State aid for closed sectors of the economy was and still is insufficient'

I agree – 62,9%

I disagree – 22,7%

'The government should ease some of the restrictions and introduce certain restrictions only in areas with a lot of COVID-19 cases'

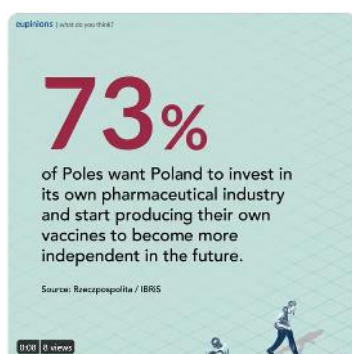
I agree – 77,1%

I disagree – 15%

Citizens in #Poland show great scepticism when it comes to the idea of importing #COVID19 #vaccines from #Russia or #China

@eupinions, Rzeczpospolita, Ibris, 15/03/2021

<https://twitter.com/eupinions/status/1371470782338056192>



Portugal

Overwhelming majority of Portuguese support strong restrictions at Easter

Intercampus for Negócios and CMTV, 14/03/2021

<https://www.jornaldenegocios.pt/economia/coronavirus/detalhe/esmagadora-maioria-dos-portugueses-apoia-fortes-restricoes-na-pascoa>

A study developed by Intercampus for Negócios and CMTV revealed most people agree with the **roadmap for the end of lockdown**.

- 91.2% of the respondents agreed there should be some **restrictions** during Easter,
- A general **lockdown** has less endorsement, but it is still supported by many respondents: 74.5% against 24.4%.

Romania

Over 70% of Romanians are willing to get vaccinated in order to attend public events

Asociația Română a Organizatorilor de Concerte și Evenimente Culturale (AROC), 09/03/2021

<http://www.monitorulcj.ro/actualitate/88407-pest-70-dintre-romani-dispusi-sa-se-vaccineze-pentru-a-putea-participa-la-evenimente-precum-untold#sthash.ptFjkWFV.dpbs>

A poll conducted by Asociația Română a Organizatorilor de Concerte și Evenimente Culturale (AROC) shows that approximately 73% of Romanians are **willing to get the COVID-19 vaccine** to go to public events such as concerts, shows or festivals like UNTOLD. Moreover, 76% are willing to get tested and over 80% would wear protective masks when attending the events.

COVID-19 changed Romanian women's lifestyle

Frames & Amca Medical; 7/03/2021

<https://www.g4media.ro/studiu-cum-au-fost-romancele-afectate-de-pandemie-58-spun-ca-munca-de-acasa-a-fost-o-corvoda-iar-64-dintre-ele-spun-ca-statul-in-casa-le-a-facut-sa-isi-cunoasca-mai-bine-partenerii.html>

Based on a barometer published by Frames & Amca Medical, 7 out of 10 women have declared that the pandemic has **changed their lifestyle**, with **health becoming a priority for them**, after their career.

Out of all respondents, only 26% of women have declared that teleworking had a positive impact in their life, and 68% have mentioned that the pandemic has contributed to the degradation of social relations.

Romanians save more money and are willing to work more due to the pandemic

ING, March 2021

<https://www.bursa.ro/studiu-ing-opt-din-zece-romani-sunt-mai-preocupati-de-economisire-si-sunt-dispusi-sa-lucreze-mai-mult-pe-fondul-pandemiei-covid-19-09023240>

83% of Romanians try to **save more money to adapt to the uncertain economic times**, more than the European average of 66,5%. One of the reasons would be that 52% of respondents expect to encounter financial difficulties due to the pandemic. (...)

Slovenia

Vox populi: Govt with lowest rating ever, SDS improving still

MMC, 19/03/2021

<https://www.rtvsl.si/news-in-english/vox-populi-opinion-poll-smc-sees-the-greatest-jump-in-popularity-after-cerar-s-resignation/449343>

The poll conducted by Ninamedia for the newspaper Dnevnik and Večer shows the lowest **government approval rating** in what is exactly one year since it took over.

(...) For the first time since October 2019, the Vox Populi poll measures **people's trust in institutions** and organisations, with firefighters remaining in first place, followed by healthcare, which improved from fifth in the previous poll.

Education is in third, followed by humanitarian organisations (Red Cross and Caritas), the armed forces, police, media, banks, judiciary, the Roman Catholic Church and the government.

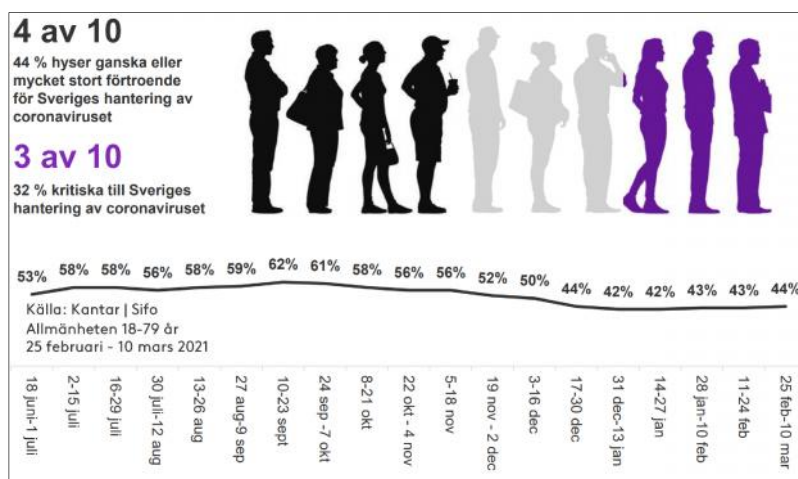
Former NSi president and MEP Ljudmila Novak has stayed on the top of the list of the most popular politicians. She is followed by President Borut Pahor and SD president and MEP Tanja Fajon.

Sweden

TRUST in Swedish covid-19-strategy

[Kantar/Sifo](#)

- 44% claim they have "quite a lot" or "a lot" of trust in the strategy
- 32% are critical to the strategy



TRUST in national institutions with covid-19 responsibilities

- Percentage of people with strong or very strong trust in key institutions has increased compared to February

	% with strong or very strong trust (25.210.3.2021)
The Public Health Agency of Sweden	59%
The Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency (MSB)	41%
Health care	81%
Government	40%
National Board of Health and Welfare	36%
Political opposition	20%

VACCINE: Will you take it?

- ☒ 84% for sure/most likely
- ☒ 7% definitely not, most likely not
- ☒ 64% are worried not worried about side effects
- ☒ 33% are worried about side effects

