

# PUBLIC OPINION MONITORING at a glance

**April 2021** 



### **Key findings:**

Citizens' perception of the role and image of the EU in the vaccination roll out is rather negative (at least for the countries with data available for this edition). In France, an Elabe survey found that a majority of respondents agreed that procurement of vaccines should not have been entrusted to the EU as it impacted negatively on both, the number of doses available and the speed of the roll out. 69% believe the EU is not handling well the sanitary and economic crisis. In Germany, a study by the Allensbach Institute asked whether it had been right to procure the Corona vaccine jointly for all Member States on EU level, or whether it would have been better if each country had procured vaccine for itself. 46 per cent of respondents said Germany would have been better off on its own.

Digital Green Certificate: A Euroconsumers survey, conducted in Belgium, Italy, Portugal and Spain, shows that overall the certificate is well received: 59% agree the pass is a good measure to move freely within the EU again and 63% agree the pass will encourage vaccination. However, a clear majority of respondents also fear that the COVID pass might create discrimination between vaccinated and unvaccinated people. Two thirds of respondents (64%) also believe free of charge tests should be offered to those who did not have the opportunity to be vaccinated in order to get this pass.

Vaccination intent is relatively stable at a high level. Reluctance towards vaccination is mainly due to fear of side effects, followed by not trusting certain COVID-19 vaccines. Of all vaccines approved for the EU, BionTech/Pfizer is preferred by many while the AstraZeneca vaccine is the least trusted. Several surveys find the willingness to get vaccinated is highest amongst older and well-educated people.

**Support at national level:** The rally 'round the flag effect, denoting increased popular support of a country's government or political leaders during periods of international crisis - and clearly present in a majority of EU countries over the past year, is faltering in several countries, with citizens' support to their governments in general, and towards the imposed sanitary measures more specifically, dwindling. However, the overall picture remains very varied, depending on the current sanitary situation in a given country. In some countries, a majority judges the imposed measures as being too strict, in others they are perceived as not going far enough.

Impact on financial wellbeing and health: The negative impact of the coronavirus related situation on people's incomes and economic coping continues to deepen in several countries. Several surveys also confirm a deteriorating effect of the pandemic on physical and mental wellbeing.

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**

# Euroconsumers' survey on vaccination: citizens expect free of charge tests for the EU Digital Green Certificate

Euroconsumers, 9/04/2021

https://www.euroconsumers.org/activities/survey-vaccination-citizens-expect-free-charge-tests

Euroconsumers has published the results of the second instalment (carried out between 26th and 30th of March 2021) of its **survey on attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccination in Belgium, Italy, Portugal and Spain**. This edition adds questions on the **EU plans for a 'COVID pass'** following the European Commission's proposal for a Digital Green Certificate. It also analyses the impact of the recent AstraZeneca vaccine suspension.

(...) Euroconsumers' survey shows that **overall the COVID pass is well received** since 59% agree the pass is a good measure to move freely within the EU again and 63% agree the pass will encourage vaccination. However, a clear **majority of respondents fear that the COVID pass might create discrimination** between vaccinated and unvaccinated people. Two thirds of respondents (64%) also believe free of charge tests should be offered to those who did not have the opportunity to be vaccinated in order to get this pass. Almost half (44%) also feel EU Member States shouldn't impose extra PRC tests or quarantine to vaccination passport holders. (...)

### A wide majority of EU citizens want to be vaccinated as soon as possible

Three quarters of respondents would be willing to be vaccinated next week if given the opportunity (51% would do it for sure and 28% probably). The proportion of the respondents who would do it without hesitation has increased in Belgium (+7%) and Portugal (+9%) since Euroconsumers' January survey while Italy demonstrates an opposite trend (-8%) and there is almost a status quo in Spain (+1%).

### Better information needed to ensure success of the vaccination campaign

Only one third of all respondents (36%) feel well informed about the COVID-19 vaccines, which is only up 3% since January. The better informed they feel the more willing to be vaccinated: among respondents stating they are (very) well informed, 65% would be surely willing to get a COVID-19 vaccine, while this is only the case for 32% of those indicating they are not or poorly informed. This shows that, although some progress has been made, getting the right information through to the entire European population remains key to turn the COVID-19 vaccination campaign into a success and should therefore be a constant focus.

### Reluctance towards vaccination due to fear of side effects and lack of trust in vaccines

Amongst the people not (fully) willing to get vaccinated, the main reason for this reluctance is by far the concern about possible side effects (55%) followed by not trusting certain COVID-19 vaccines (36%). Not belonging to a high-risk group comes up as 4th reason (26%) for hesitating about vaccination. The lack of trust in vaccines in general is the highest in Belgium (22% of those who are not sure to want to be vaccinated) and the lowest in in Portugal (5%). (...)

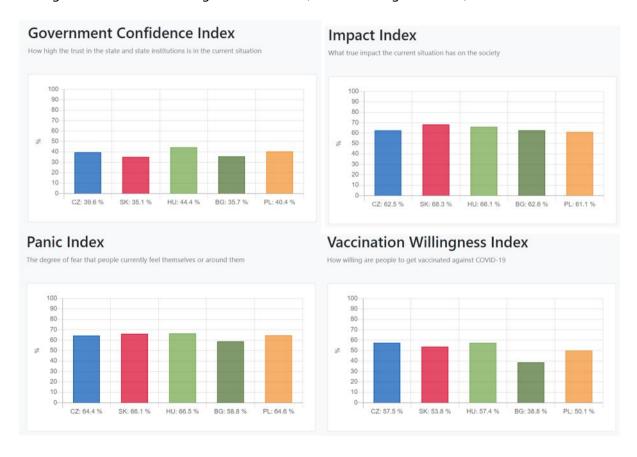
#### **National Pandemic Alarm**

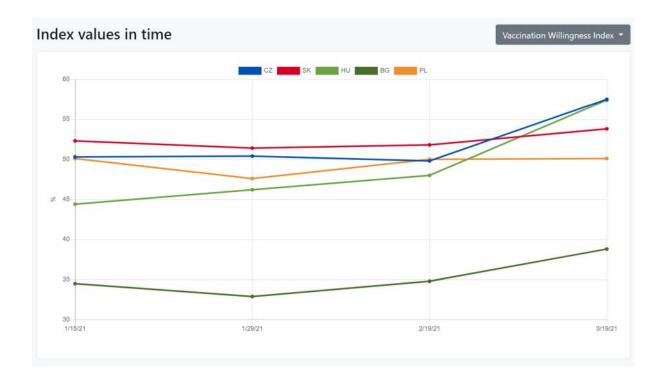
19-21 March 2021

https://www.nationalpandemicalarm.eu/en/2021-03-19?index=fear

The National Pandemic Alarm is a survey monitoring public opinion, emotions and experience with the Corona virus spread in five Central European countries. The project captures the changing development of social attitudes and moods - trust in state officials (index of trust in the state apparatus), fear level (panic index), real impact on the population (impact index), and personal

experience with the occurrence of illness or patients in the vicinity (level of experience) and willingness to be vaccinated against COVID-19 (vaccine willingness index).





### Expectations about when life will return to pre-COVID normal vary widely across the world

IPSOS, 12 April 2021

https://www.ipsos.com/en/expectations-about-when-life-will-return-pre-covid-normal-vary-widely-across-world

An Ipsos survey (conducted between February 19, 2021 and March 5, 2021) for the World Economic Forum finds that, on average across 30 countries and markets surveyed, **59% expect being able to return to something like their normal pre-COVID life** within the next 12 months, including 6% who think this is already the case, 9% who think it will take no more than three months, 13% four to six months, and 32% seven to 12 months (the median time). About one in five think it will take more than three years (10%) or that it will never happen (8%).

Views on when to expect a return to normal vary widely across countries: (...) more than half in France, Italy, (...) and Spain expect it will take longer [than a year].

At a global level, expectations about how long it will take before one's life can return to its pre-COVID normal and how long it will take for the pandemic to be contained are nearly identical. These findings suggest that people across the world consider that **being able to return to "normal" life is entirely dependent on containing the pandemic**. An average of 45% of adults globally say their mental and emotional health has gotten worse since the beginning of the pandemic about a year ago. However, almost as many say it has improved since the beginning of the year (23%) as say it has worsened (27%).

(...) Those who say their mental and emotional health has improved since the start of 2021 are most outnumbered by those who say it has worsened in Hungary (by 30 points), France (29 points), and Italy (26 points).

# Protection in times of crisis; the Covid-19 crisis in France and around the world IPSOS, 9 April 2021

https://www.ipsos.com/en/protection-times-crisis

Insurer BNP Paribas Cardif conducted between 4 January and 29 January 2021 a vast opinion survey (...) in 21 countries on three continents (Europe, South America and Asia) to assess both the impact of the Covid-19 crisis and personal protection needs. The online study includes some questions asked previously during a 2019 survey. (...)

When first conducted in April 2019, the BNP Paribas Cardif survey revealed that the two main concerns people have are **illness and loss of income**. Unsurprisingly, the Covid-19 has **significantly increased these concerns**, as shown by the second instalment of this survey: 76% of the people surveyed around the world said they were worried about health (+5 points vs. 2019) and 76% by possible loss of income (+4 points). **This represents a notable increase in just two years**. There were however **major disparities** among **geographic regions**.

The Covid-19 crisis seems to have had **minimal impact on the level of concerns among Europeans**. Confidence remains relatively sustained in **France**, **Belgium**, **United Kingdom**, **Germany**, **Sweden and the Czech Republic**, both towards health issues and economic factors. This trend can be explained by **state support policies** in these countries, which have helped contain the rise in unemployment and mitigate the impact of the crisis.

In **France**, the list of subjects that raise concerns and the intensity of these concerns have not changed much over the past two years. At least 60% of the French cited seven potential events that worried them: serious illness (67%, +1 point vs. 2019), loss of income (65%, -1 point), an accident

(65%, +3 points), death (64%, same as in 2019), chronic disease (61%, -1 point), hospitalization (60%, +3 points) and loss of autonomy (60%, -2 points).

(...) In **France, 40% of respondents say they have experienced a loss of income** due to the crisis, most of the time due to a temporary reduction in work hours or salary. A small percentage (10%) say they are experiencing problems paying bills. (...)

Paradoxically in this period of crisis, the survey reveals that slightly more people than in 2019 say **they are "well protected"** should they face an unforeseen life event (+3 points vs. 2019). (...) People in **Europe** recognize that they benefit from robust state policies and protection systems. **The majority of the population (67%) feels well protected**, an increase of 5 points vs. 2019. However, **only a minority of Europeans say they feel "very well protected"**.

(...) Around the world, the **risk of unemployment** merits special attention because it conditions the overall sense of how well protected people feel. At the global level, **unemployment ranks third on the list of areas where people would like better protection**, behind disease and accidents. (...)

There were **significant differences in Europe** between countries where there is strong demand for unemployment protection such as Spain (46%, +9 points), the Czech Republic (44%, +9 points) and Poland (43%, +7 points), and those where demand is weaker, such as France (26%), although it understandably remains higher than in Germany (19%).

# **National surveys**

### Trust in governments' and other institutions' handling of the crisis

In many European countries, support for government and EU institutions' handling of the pandemic is low or has decreased. This dissatisfaction is felt towards the vaccination campaign but also towards the general response to the crisis. A majority of the population disapproves of their governments' handling of the pandemic in Greece (63%), Cyprus, Czech Republic (63% and second lowest level of trust in political institutions since the start of the pandemic), Romania (63%) and Slovenia (67%, nearly double than in April 2020). In Ireland, approval of government actions is below 50% for the first time in the crisis, and 52% of people are dissatisfied with vaccination roll-out. 88% of German respondents rate the vaccination campaign badly whilst scepticism towards EU institutions is now greater than it has been for a decade and support of the federal government actions has decreased to 50%-20% (depending on the survey). In France, 74% think the vaccination strategy is badly managed by the executive and 69% (+7% since August 2020) believe the EU is not handling the sanitary and economic crisis well, blaming the EU for a slower vaccine roll-out. The Dutch's confidence in the vaccination policy also continues to decrease, now at 28%. On a slightly more positive note, some governments have managed to maintain a majoritarian approval of their response to the pandemic (the Netherlands and Portugal), and support for other governments' response has increased since January, even if not majoritarian, in France (+5%), Spain (+11%) and Sweden (+7%).

### **COVID-related restrictive 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. In many countries

restrictive measures are still accepted by a majority of the population, however, 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, and is now highest in Greece and the Netherlands, where more than 60% of respondents want less restrictions. Notably, in some countries, as Portugal and Estonia, more respondents than in the previous months declare they do not follow the measures strictly.

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.

### **Vaccines and the Digital Green Certificate**

In most countries a majority of the population are either willing to get the vaccine or have already received a dose, a share that is on the rise in many states: 70% want to receive a vaccine in France (+30% compared to January 2021), between 60-72% in Hungary depending on the results of different surveys, 79% in Spain, 85% in Portugal, 73% in the Netherlands, 70% in Ireland and 58% in the Czech Republic and Latvia (highest percentage in both countries since the start of the pandemic). Survey results in Slovenia, Hungary and Austria indicate that willingness to get vaccinated is more frequent amongst older people and university graduates.

Despite the general increase in people who want to get the vaccine, citizens show different levels of trust towards different vaccines. As opposed to other vaccines, trust towards the AstraZeneca vaccine is lower or has recently decreased, most likely due to the recent suspension of its administration in several European countries. In France, 71% say they do not want to receive it; 57% in Austria say they would refuse or rather not receive it; 34% in Italy would refuse it and 20% are uncertain and 39% in Spain are seriously concerned about its potential side-effects. Nonetheless, a majority of German, Dutch and Portuguese people would accept the vaccine, even though trust towards it has fallen in Portugal.

In the countries where respondents were asked about "vaccine passports", half or more of the population is in favor of these certificates.

### **Austria**

### The vaccination readiness in Austria stable - but not every vaccine is equally popular

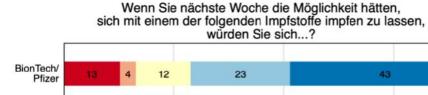
Vienna Center for Electoral Research, 22/03/2021

https://viecer.univie.ac.at/corona-blog/corona-blog-beitraege/blog104/

The **willingness to be vaccinated** in Austria remains unchanged since the last survey in January 2021: 47 percent of the population still wants to be vaccinated as soon as possible.

Of all vaccines, the one from BionTech/Pfizer is the most preferred and the AstraZeneca vaccine is the least trusted.

In particular, older people (over 65 years), respondents with a university degree and voters of the Greens and NEOS show a particularly high willingness to be vaccinated.



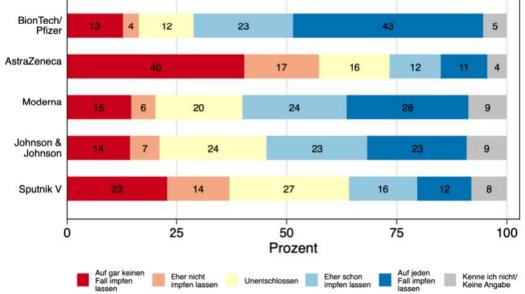


Abbildung 2: Impfbereitschaft für Impfstoffe verschiedener Hersteller (Daten: ACPP, 12.-19.März 2021, N=1573, gewichtet)

# Bulgaria

### Half of Bulgarian respondents supports implementing vaccine passports

Gallup International, 13/04/2021

The Gallup International survey (conducted from the 18 to the 24 of March 2021) shows Bulgarians are still worried to travel on vacation because of Covid-19. Additionally, half of the people who make any plans to travel are ready to abandon them if there is no significant change in the current situation of the pandemic. At the same time **respondents are still divided on the idea of the so-called "vaccination passports**".

According to the survey, half of respondents agree with the introduction of some form of passports/certificates on EU level showing that a person is vaccinated/with negative test/with COVID-antibodies. However, 43 per cent are against the digital green certificates in order to restore free travel and tourism.

### **Cyprus**

Cypriots are in general dissatisfied with their government's response to the pandemic Symetron for Kathimerini newspaper, 11/04/2021

Ahead of the 30 May 2021 legislative elections, Cypriots are largely **not or a little satisfied with the government's handling of the economic situation** (72% vs 27% who are satisfied). They are more likely however to be satisfied with the handling of the pandemic, although a majority is still not (46% vs 53%).

## Czechia

The assessment of the Czech state's response to the pandemic deteriorates

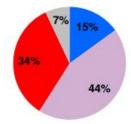
CVVM, 26/03/2021 pi210326.pdf

Only a relative majority of Czech citizens, at a level of just over two-fifths, evaluate what the Czech state has done against the spread of coronavirus as appropriate, and a **little more than a third consider measures to support the economy to be appropriate.** 

Compared to December 2020, the assessment of the state's response to the pandemic has deteriorated significantly, especially when assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of measures against the spread of the coronavirus.

Chart 1 shows that the largest part of Czech citizens at the level of more than two fifths (44%) **evaluate what the Czech state has done against the spread of coronavirus** as appropriate, 34% consider this to be insufficient and 15% to be excessive. The remaining 7% said they did not know.

Graf 1: Opatření proti šíření koronaviru (%)1





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

Tabulka 1: Opatření proti šíření koronaviru – časové srovnání (v %)

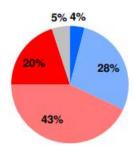
	V/20	VI/20-1	VI/20-2	VII/20	IX/20	XII/20	11/21
Příliš mnoho	18	19	16	14	12	19	15
Přiměřeně	70	71	73	66	60	61	44
Příliš málo	8	7	8	17	23	13	34
Neví	4	3	3	3	5	7	7

Pozn.: V/20, VI/20-1, XII/20 a II/21 jsou speciální výzkumy, VI/20-2, VII/20 a IX/20 jsou kontinuály CVVM.

Zdroj: CVVM SOÚ AV ČR, Naše společnost.

In the second chart, only less than a third (32%) of respondents consider the taken **measures against the spread of the coronavirus** to be effective, with 4% perceiving them as "definitely effective" and 28% as "rather effective". On the contrary, more than three-fifths (63%) of respondents consider the measures ineffective (43% as "rather" and 20% as "definitely" ineffective). 5% of respondents the answer "I do not know".

Graf 2: Účinnost opatření proti koronaviru (%)2





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

Tabulka 2: Účinnost opatření proti koronaviru – časové srovnání (v %)

	V/20	VI/20-1	VI/20-2	VII/20	IX/20	XII/20	11/21
Rozhodně účinná	31	30	21	13	9	10	4
Spíše účinná	55	56	57	48	39	47	28
Spíše neúčinná	8	9	15	25	35	29	43
Rozhodně neúčinná	2	2	3	7	9	8	20
Neví	4	3	4	7	8	6	5

Pozn.: V/20, VI/20-1, XII/20 a II/21 jsou speciální výzkumy, VI/20-2, VII/20 a IX/20 jsou kontinuály CVVM.

Zdroj: CVVM SOÚ AV ČR, Naše společnost.

### Czechs regard the vaccination campaign is low and distrust non-EU approved vaccines

National Pandemic Alarm, 26/3/2021

National Pandemic Alarm: Očkování je pomalé, vakcíny neschválené EU ale nechceme | Marketingový výzkum a analýza dat - STEM/MARK

The National Pandemic Alarm, which has been monitoring society's current attitudes and sentiments with regard to the coronavirus pandemic since 16 March 2020 in five European countries, has recently published the results of surveys conducted from the 19 to the 22 of March 2021.

**The index of confidence** in the state apparatus in the Czech Republic is now at 40 points, which is the second lowest value since the beginning of monitoring.

**The panic index** has been rising in the Czech Republic since the beginning of 2021, now reaching 64 points, reflecting the situation in April last year.

**The impact index**, which illustrates how the situation of the COVID-19 pandemic affects people's daily lives, has been gradually increasing since the beginning of 2021.

**The vaccine willingness** index increased during the month of March in all measured countries. In the Czech Republic, it now reaches the highest value since the beginning of monitoring - 58 points. Since the last wave of research, which took place in February, the value of the index in the Czech Republic has risen by 8 points.

According to the National Pandemic Alarm survey, the vast majority of people rate the current speed of vaccination against COVID-19 as slow (74%).

### **Estonia**

### Estonian people's perception of danger of coronavirus has declined

Turu-uuringute AS, 16/04/2021 BNS news

The **perception of danger** related to coronavirus has declined in Estonian residents, but the guidelines given for preventing the spread of the virus continue to be observed carefully, it appears from a poll of residents of Estonia taken by Turu-uuringute AS earlier this month.

The number of people declaring to stay at home has slightly decreased and the expectation that restrictions will be relaxed is growing. **People's wish to vaccinate for COVID-19 continues to be high**, the survey taken for the Government Office indicates.

- (...) Forty-one percent of the country's population consider the valid **measures to contain the spread of the virus to be appropriate**, 33 percent want them to be toughened and 22 percent want them to be eased. Compared with the previous survey, the ratio of those in favour of tougher restrictions has declined substantially and the ratio of those expecting a relaxation has grown.
- (...) Besides, the pollster asked respondents about their attitudes towards the demonstrations where people were protesting against the obligation to wear a mask and other restrictions. Of all respondents, 74 percent were against such demonstrations and 14 percent either couldn't say or

replied that the matter does not concern them. A total of 12 percent of respondents were in favor or rather in favour of the demonstrations.

**People's positive attitude towards vaccination persists**, with 75 percent of residents at the beginning of April being either vaccinated already or ready to get a vaccination. The readiness to vaccinate is especially high among older people. The ratio of those ready to get a vaccination was lowest among 15 to 24-year-olds -- 60 percent. The ratio of those positive about vaccination has grown also among people of other ethnic backgrounds -- from 62 percent in March to 68 percent in April.

(...) The main **arguments cited by respondents against vaccination** are the fear of side effects, insufficient information about vaccines and doubts in the efficacy of vaccines. Principled opponents of vaccine make up 2.6 percent of the country's population.

The negative **impact of the coronavirus related situation on people's incomes and economic coping continues to deepen**. (...) Also the ratio of residents who say that they have difficulty coping with their current level of income is increasing. (...)

The 27th wave of the survey commissioned by the Government Office was conducted by Turuuuringute AS from April 8-11.

### France

Les Français, l'Union européenne et l'épidémie de covid-19

ELABE, 08/04/2021 https://elabe.fr/ue-epidemie-covid19/

L'Union européenne pas à la hauteur ni de la crise sanitaire, ni de la crise économique pour une majorité de Français :

69% (+7 points par rapport au 5 août 2020) des Français estiment que l'Union européenne n'a pas été à la hauteur de la crise sanitaire (dont 28% pas du tout) et 62% (+6) pas à la hauteur de la crise économique (dont 24% pas du tout).

Le jugement négatif sur la gestion de la crise sanitaire par l'Union européenne est majoritaire au sein de tous les électorats et progresse presque partout : Marine Le Pen (83%, =), Jean-Luc Mélenchon (75%, +8), François Fillon (69%, +9), Benoît Hamon (63%, +7) et chez les électeurs d'Emmanuel Macron (57%, +5).

Concernant la gestion de la crise économique, des différences émergent selon les électorats :

- La grande majorité des électeurs de Marine Le Pen (83%, +9) et de Jean-Luc Mélenchon (72%, +8) estiment que l'Union européenne n'a pas été à la hauteur
- Une majorité moins nette des électeurs de François Fillon (55%, +7) et de Benoît Hamon (53%, +14) partagent cette opinion
- A l'inverse, une courte majorité des électeurs d'Emmanuel Macron considère qu'elle a été à la hauteur : 50% (-6), contre 45% (+6) pas à la hauteur

# Les Français critiques sur la décision de confier à l'Union européenne l'approvisionnement en vaccins et la négociation avec les laboratoires :

Pour une majorité de Français, le fait de confier à l'Union Européenne l'approvisionnement et la commande des vaccins contre la Covid-19 a été une *mauvaise chose* pour :

- La rapidité de livraison des doses de vaccin (58% mauvaise chose, 25% une bonne chose, 17% ni une bonne chose ni une mauvaise chose)
- Le nombre de doses de vaccin disponible (56% mauvaise chose, 27% une bonne chose, 17% ni une bonne chose ni une mauvaise chose)

### Les Thèmes Prioritaires pour les Français à un an de l'Election Présidentielle:

IFOP - Fiducial, 16/04/2021

https://www.ifop.com/publication/les-themes-prioritaires-pour-les-francais-a-un-an-de-lelection-presidentielle/

Dans un contexte de crise sanitaire, doublée d'une crise économique en puissance et alors que le Parlement débat de textes en matière régalienne, Ifop-Fiducial a interrogé les Français pour Sud Radio sur les thèmes qu'ils jugent prioritaires pour les mois à venir.

Le thème prioritaire aux yeux de la grande majorité des Français (86%) concerne la **santé**, un résultat évidemment « boosté » par la situation sanitaire puisque ce chiffre était de 60% en septembre 2017 et de 65% en aout 2019, date de notre dernière enquête pré-crise. L'éducation est jugée comme sujet prioritaire par 73% des interviewés, soit 5 points de plus qu'en août dernier, conséquence de l'annonce de la fermeture temporaire des écoles.

# Covid-19 : sept Français sur dix prêts à se faire vacciner, mais pas avec AstraZeneca, selon notre sondage

Odoxa, 08/04/2021

http://www.odoxa.fr/sondage/oui-a-vaccination-astrazeneca/

De plus en plus de Français se disent prêts à se faire vacciner contre le Covid-19. Selon un sondage Odoxa-Backbone Consulting pour franceinfo et Le Figaro, 70% des personnes interrogées sont favorables à la vaccination. C'est près de 30 points de plus qu'il y a quatre mois.

En décembre 2020, 42% des Français approuvaient la vaccination, ils étaient 56% en janvier et 61% en février. (...)

Mais si les Français sont **majoritairement favorables à la vaccination**, ce n'est toutefois pas avec **n'importe quel vaccin**. La défiance est massive à l'encontre du vaccin d'AstraZeneca après les cas de thromboses recensés en France. 71% des personnes interrogées ne veulent pas du vaccin suédobritannique. Mais l'adhésion aux autres vaccins disponibles n'est pas totale. Le Janssen, de l'Américain Johnson & Johnson, inspire confiance à 59% des Français. L'autre américain, Moderna, convainc deux Français sur trois (65%). Quant au vaccin Pfizer-BioNtech, premier à avoir été autorisé en France, il emporte la confiance de 70% des personnes interrogées. Un quart des Français (24%) ne fait confiance à aucun des quatre vaccins actuellement autorisés. (...)

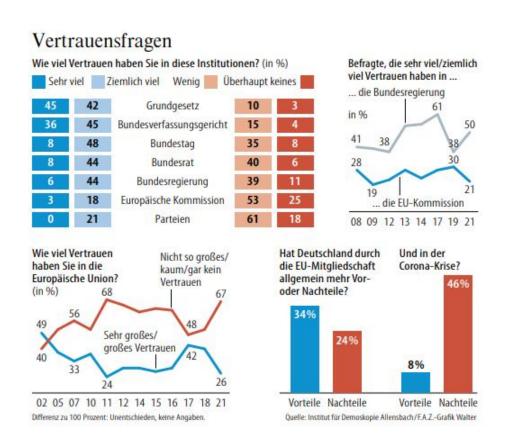
L'action de l'exécutif en matière de vaccination est globalement mal jugée par les Français, même si la confiance progresse un petit peu depuis deux mois. Au mois de février, 31% des Français avaient confiance dans l'action du gouvernement. Ils sont 36% aujourd'hui. Les deux tiers des personnes interrogées jugent la politique mise en œuvre inefficace (67%) et incohérente (68%). Sept Français sur dix (70%) ne la trouvent pas claire. Et les trois quarts (77%) estiment qu'elle n'est pas menée à un bon rythme. Malgré tout, depuis deux mois, le gouvernement gagne cinq points sur l'efficacité de sa politique vaccinale et sur la confiance générale des Français.

### Germany

### Limited European vaccination damage caused by vaccination

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung / Allensbach Institute, 21.04.2021

- (...) The current discussion on the role of the European Commission in the procurement of vaccines to combat the Corona pandemic has changed the image of Europe among Germans: **Scepticism towards the institutions is greater than it has been for a decade**. This is shown by results of the latest survey conducted by the Allensbach Institute for Public Opinion.
- (...) The **most trusted is the German constitution** and the Federal Constitutional Court. (...) Only 21 per cent said the same about the European Commission. (...)
- (...) The proportion of those who say they have very high or high trust in the community has fallen from 40 per cent to 26 per cent since 2018, while the number of those who say they trust the EU not so much, very little or not at all, has risen from 51 per cent to 67 per cent, which is the same level as at the height of the debt crisis ten years ago.
- (...) When asked whether it had been right to procure the Corona vaccine jointly for all Member States, or whether it would have been better if each country had procured vaccine for itself, 46 per cent of respondents chose the second position, only 34 per cent chose the first.
- (...) on issues that are not explicitly related to day-to-day politics and specifically the Corona crisis, the answers do not differ from those of previous years. (...) 34 per cent say that Germany has **more advantages than disadvantages from EU membership**, which is the same level as in the surveys of the past decade.



### **ARD Germany trend**

Tagesschau, 15/04/2021

https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/deutschlandtrend/deutschlandtrend-2595.html

### Slight majority in favour of curfew

The German government's planned introduction of a night-time curfew in areas with high Corona infection rates is considered

right by 51 percent of the population.

wrong by 46 percent.

The majority of CDU/CSU, SPD, Green and Left supporters are in favour of a curfew

while FDP and AfD supporters tend to reject it.

### What Germans think about Merkel's Corona emergency brake

T-Online, 12/04/2021

https://www.t-online.de/nachrichten/deutschland/id 89828178/exklusive-umfrage-das-denken-die-deutschen-ueber-merkels-corona-notbremse.html

### More than 71 percent for uniform corona rules:

Merkel's initiative met with great support from the electorate.

Of the more than two thirds were in favor of a nationwide Corona emergency brake - namely 71.1 percent. Of these, 59.4 percent found the measure "clearly correct", 11.7 percent found it "somewhat correct".

26.2 percent of those questioned expressed their disapproval, of which 21.2 percent even consider the measure "clearly wrong" and 5.0 percent as "somewhat wrong".

### Most of the approval comes from Union supporters:

A look at the voting intention of the respondents shows that Merkel has the greatest support from CDU and CSU voters. 86.9 percent of Union supporters think the federal emergency brake is the right one.

The approval is also clear among supporters of the Greens (83.9 percent) and the SPD (80.5 percent).

Of voters on the left, 59.6 percent would like stronger federal intervention.

The supporters of the other parties in the Bundestag clearly reject this: 58.4 percent of FDP voters and 78.4 percent of AfD supporters think the initiative is wrong.

### Greatest approval among people over 65 years of age:

A look at the age of the respondents is also revealing:

- The federal corona emergency brake found the greatest approval among people over 65 83.8 of them are in favor.
- o Among the 50 to 64 year olds it is 71.4 percent, of the 30 to 49 year olds around 65 percent and the 18 to 29 year olds with a majority of 57.6 percent want federal intervention.

There are hardly any differences when looking at the places of residence of the respondents, that is to say, with the question "City or country?"

o If the population density is low, the respondents agree with 69.4 percent; if the population density is very high, it is 73.4 percent.

### **ARD Germany trend**

Tagesschau, 01/04/2021

https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/deutschlandtrend/deutschlandtrend-2575.html

### **Encouragement for tougher lockdown is increasing:**

A clear majority of citizens are dissatisfied with the work of the federal government - and would advocate a tougher lockdown, as the intensive care physicians are calling for.

- Only a third of the citizens are satisfied with the work of the federal government.

  Almost two thirds are dissatisfied.
- Exactly a year ago, in April 2020, the values were reversed: At that time, satisfaction with the work of the federal government had skyrocketed after the first lockdown had been decided.

# The look at the corona crisis management of the federal and state governments is more critical:

- Currently only one in five (19 percent) is satisfied with it.
- 80 percent of Germans are dissatisfied.
- The turnaround came at the beginning of January.

### Almost 50 percent of those polled for tougher measures:

- The clear majority of the population is critical of the government's work.
- But apparently not only because they currently want more relaxation, but also because they want more protection.

### With regard to the currently applicable measures to contain the corona pandemic:

- Almost every second (48 percent), say that they do not go far enough.
  - o That is 16 percentage points more than in mid-March.
- 24 percent think the currently applicable measures are appropriate
- 24 percent also say the Corona measures go too far

Accordingly, many citizens are open to the demands of intensive care physicians to shut down social life significantly more for two to three weeks and only then to check whether it is possible to relax with accompanying protective measures and corona tests.

- A good two thirds (67 percent) consider such a harder lockdown to be right.
- 30 percent think it is wrong.
- The demand for tougher measures finds a clear majority among supporters of the Union, the Greens, the Left and the SPD.
- The FDP supporters are divided on the question.
- ) Opposition comes from the AfD camp.
- Support for the proposal predominates in all age groups, but with 78 percent, approval among older citizens (65 years and older) is significantly higher than among those under 40, where 57 percent are in favour of a tougher lockdown.

### The so-called emergency brake is controversial:

- One half of Germans (49 percent) are in favour of a binding implementation of the regulation, with which, according to an agreement concluded at the beginning of March, the federal and state governments should respond to rapidly rising infection rates by withdrawing easing.
- The other half (48 percent), on the other hand, think it would be better to check the situation regionally and re-weigh it.

#### Different reasons for dissatisfaction:

- Where does the clear disillusionment come from?
  - o 83 percent are less or not at all satisfied with the slowly started vaccinations.
  - o 74 percent are currently dissatisfied with the organization of school operations and day-care.
  - o 72 percent more citizens than in the previous month gave bad marks for the way politicians justify and explain their decisions.
  - o Aid for businesses and the self-employed also met with criticism (65 percent)
  - o 63 percent find the use of corona rapid tests and self-tests to be inadequate.
- The disappointment that the corona restrictions are taking longer than hoped also apparently plays a role.
  - Three quarters of citizens (78 percent) complain that the federal government has repeatedly promised more than it was able to keep during the pandemic.
  - Two thirds (68 percent) are of the opinion that too little has been done for the weakest in the pandemic
  - Almost as many (63 percent) say they have lost track of what is currently allowed and what is forbidden.
  - 34 percent of those surveyed are of the opinion that the pandemic shows that all in all crises in Germany can be managed well - the majority of 62 percent see it differently, however.

# Greece

#### The pandemic's economic consequences in Greece

GPO poll for the powergame.gr, 09/04/2021

https://www.powergame.gr/ellada/55031/dimoskopisi-gpo-se-chamili-ptisi-oi-prosdokies-ton-politon-gia-tin-oikonomia/

55% of Greeks say their **financial situation has been affected** by the pandemic, and a similar proportion expect the economy to worsen in 2021 (57.5%).

According to the respondents, the **EU recovery fund** should benefit the following sectors in priority: HoReCa 74%, Retail 58%, Tourism 56%.

### A majority of Greeks evaluate their government response negatively

Prorata poll for efsyn newspaper, 06/04/2021

https://www.efsyn.gr/politiki/289306\_apodokimazoyn-kybernisi-kai-dogma-atomikis-eythynis

Most respondents assess the **government's handling of the pandemic** negatively (63% vs 37% who assess it positively), with 66% saying they are not impressed with the measures the government has taken to strengthen the National Health System.

The main factors explaining why Covid19 is spreading are seen as both due to the government response but also irresponsible personal behaviour. Still, 61% of Greeks would like to see the measures eased (61%), against 16% who would have them extended and 17% who would like them to be stricter.

## Hungary

### Willingness to get the vaccine continues to increase in Hungary

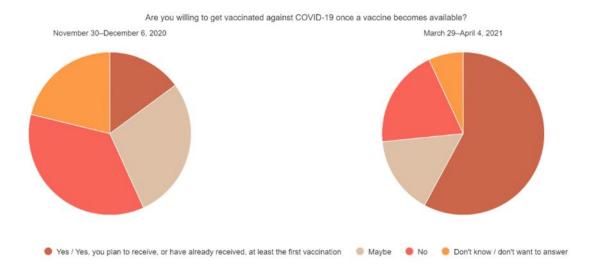
KSH (National Statistics Service), 12/04/2021

http://www.ksh.hu/weekly-monitor/index.html?utm\_source=kshhu&utm\_medium=banner&utm\_campaign=theme-health-care-accidents

While in the first week of the survey fewer than 15% of respondents wanted the vaccine, by the 18<sup>th</sup> week (beginning 29 March 2021), nearly 58% of respondents did (including those who have already received at least the first dose).

The following variables influence Hungarians' opinions on the vaccines:

- **Attitudes towards vaccination** are most influenced by views on the safety of the vaccine, the severity of the pandemic and the number of cases and deaths.
- ) 84% of the participants are persuaded by news about vaccination in the press and media.
- 82% of the respondents are persuaded by government communication.
- 71% are influenced by information on social media.
- Half of all respondents do not take into account the views of anti-vaxxers and vaccine sceptics at all.
- Mostly people over the age of 64 (85%) and those with tertiary education (81%) plan to get vaccinated.
- Young people and the less educated are the most dismissive towards vaccination.



# Majority of the population would like to get vaccinated against coronavirus - opposition voters more willing to vaccinate

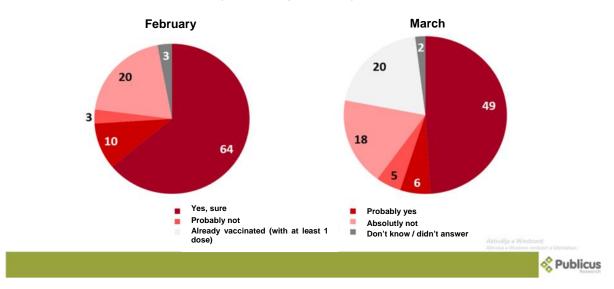
Publicus, 09/04/2021

https://publicus.hu/blog/a-tobbseg-beoltatna-magat-koronavirus-ellen-az-ellenzeki-szavazoknal-magasabb-az-oltasi-hajlandosag/

Publicus Institute's study analyses the **attitudes of Hungarians on the various methods of protection against the coronavirus**. The research was carried out on behalf of Népszava (newspaper). 1001 Hungarians were interviewed via phone between the 22<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of March.

- ) ¾ of the respondents who would like to be vaccinated say they would accept the Pfizer vaccine.
- 6 out of 10 participants who have not been vaccinated yet and do not have a date say they plan to get vaccinated.
- 25% of the respondents had not received the vaccine yet because they had not registered yet.
- Almost 1 in 7 respondents say that although they belong to a vulnerable group, they had not been notified yet. It is worth noting that 1 in 4 pensioners said this.
- 55% of the participants would get the vaccine if they could choose from the vaccines.
- 61% of the respondents believe that the opposition parties are not in the anti-vaccination group.
- 49% of those who do not wish to be vaccinated say they chose not to be vaccinated because, although they usually trust vaccines, they do not trust these vaccines.
- 16%, so 1 in 6 respondents do not consider it serious enough to get vaccinated.
- 9% of the participants believe that they can still get herd immunity without it.
- 8% of respondents say they usually do not trust vaccines and are anti-vaxxers.

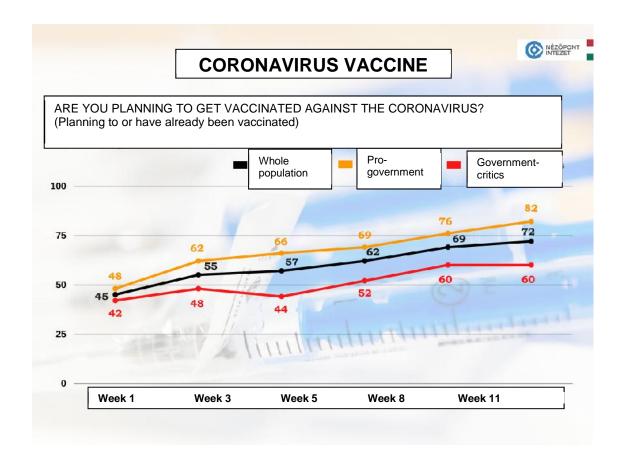
# Would you like to get vaccinated against coronavirus if you could choose from the vaccines? (All of the respondents, %)



Hungarian people's favour towards vaccination is now 72% and continues to increase Nézőpont for Magyar Nemzet, 06/04/2021

Main findings of the survey conducted between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of April:

- Since the beginning of the year, the proportion of Hungarian adults who are **in favour of vaccination** has risen from 45% to 72%.
- Compared to the national average, the proportion of the **pro-vaccination group** is 10 percentage points higher among the pro-government group and 12 percentage points lower among the government critics.
- Around a fifth of adult Hungarians would like to be vaccinated but have not registered for the vaccine yet.



### Young people's willingness to vaccinate is improving but they are wary of registering

Ipsos, 14/04/2021

https://www.ipsos.com/hu-hu/javul-fiatalok-oltasi-hajlandosaga-de-ovakodnak-regisztraciotol

IPSOS asked Hungarians about the **vaccine**. The majority of Hungarians remain cautious and do not expect a full opening until the end of August. The decline in the proportion of undecided and unvaccinated people in the population has continued, with a clear shift towards vaccination uptake. The registration rate for the total adult population has doubled in two months, but remains low among young people.

- According to Ipsos, 58% of the people are currently in favour of the vaccination, compared to about 1/3 people who are against it.
- 24% of adults between 18-39, registered for the vaccination and 57% of the young provaccinators were willing to provide their details on the online registration platform (compared to the overall population average of 75%).
- 72% of the people aged 60 and over would like to receive a vaccine (or have already received at least one dose), and 87% of them have indicated their intention to do so on the official website.
- The most optimistic segment of the population is the 40-49 year olds, with 1 in 4 expecting an opening within 2 months and 44% of them expecting the restrictions to be fully lifted within three months.

# Ireland

# 2021 'Ireland and the EU' Poll finds that 45% of people in Ireland have confidence in the EU's Vaccines Strategy

European Movement/RED C Research, 21/04/2021 <a href="https://www.europeanmovement.ie/ireland-eu-2021-press-release/">https://www.europeanmovement.ie/ireland-eu-2021-press-release/</a>

Ireland's/RED C Ireland and the EU 2021 poll features key insights into Ireland's relationship with the EU, with a specific focus on the healthcare and the EU's Vaccines Strategy, among other key areas related to the future of Europe.

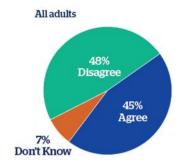
84% agree that Ireland should remain as **part of the EU**.

53% agree that the **EU** is moving in the right direction.

45% have confidence in the EU's Covid-19 Vaccines Strategy, while 48% don't.

#### EMIRELAND/RED C POLL 2021

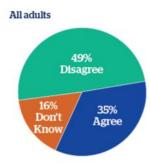


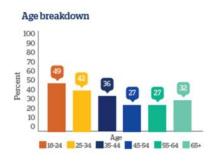




#### EMIRELAND/RED CPOLL 2021

In order to deal with crises, such as Covid-19, Ireland and other Member States should give the EU more control over healthcare policy, even if they lose some control on a national level

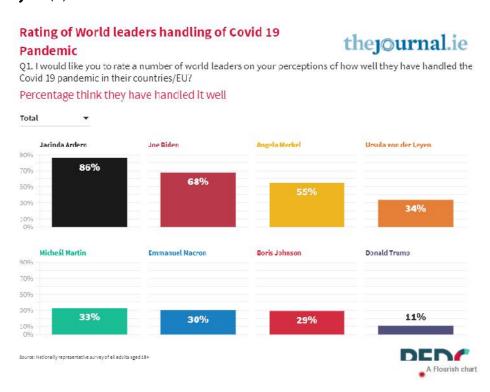




### Rating of World leaders handling of Covid 19

Red C and The Journal, 13/04/21 https://redcresearch.ie/public-think-jacinda-ardern-doing-best-job-managing-covid-19/

RED C together with The Journal have asked what the population of Ireland thinks about **World leaders' handling of Covid-19**. The poll found that New Zealand's Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern is viewed by 86% as having handled the pandemic well and is leading the ranking. She is followed by US President Biden and German Chancellor Merkel. Fourth comes **EC President Urusla von der Leyen.** (...)



### Rating of World Leaders handling of Covid-19



### Public opinion regarding Covid and vaccine roll-out of Irish Government

Kantar/Sunday Independent, 04/04/21

https://www.independent.ie/irish-news/politics/results-of-landmark-opinion-poll-revealed-public-opinion-turns-on-government-regarding-covid-and-vaccine-roll-out-40272480.html

The public mood has shifted in the fight against Covid- 19, according to a Kantar/Sunday Independent opinion poll, which has found soaring levels of disapproval at the Government's handling of the pandemic, the roll-out of the vaccination programme and duration of Level 5 restrictions to limit spread of the virus.

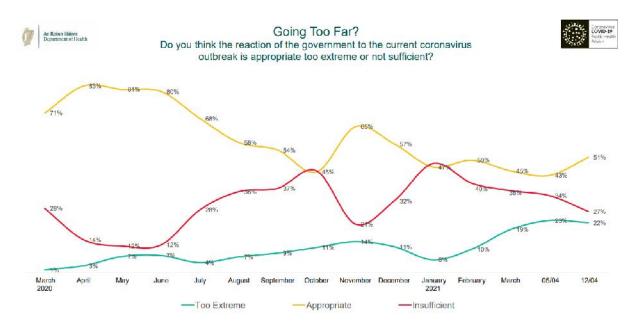
For the first time in a year, approval for the Government's handling of the pandemic (43%) has dropped below the 50% mark - a massive 19-point decrease since the last poll was taken in November/December 2020.

### Surveys by Amárach Research on behalf of the Department of Health

19/04/2021

https://www.gov.ie/en/collection/6b4401-view-the-amarach-public-opinion-survey/#2021

According to a survey by Amárach Research on behalf of the Irish Department of Health, 51% of respondents **judge the Irish government's reactions to the Covid-19 crisis as appropriate**. The percentage of those saying it is insufficient is declining, compared to figures earlier this year.



**Readinees of getting vaccinated coninues to be high**, with 70% of respondents declaring that they would definitly get the vaccine when it is offered to them.

**Worries about potential side effects and long term effects on health** are among the lead causes for which people would refuse the vaccine. Health professionals are the most trusted source for information on vaccine.

### Italy

# Half of Italians approves Draghi's restrictions and a majority are dissatified with the campaign strategy

Ipsos Srl, 12/04/2021

Q: Among the following statements, which one do you agree the most with?

Draghi's Government is too focused on closing things. They are exaggerating 38% Draghi's government is doing well 50% Do not know: 12%

Q: Are you satisfied with the vaccination campaign in Italy?

 Yes:
 34%

 No:
 56%

 Do not know:
 10%

Q: If you were proposed to have Astra Zeneca vaccine, you

Would accept it without any problem:

Would accept it only if it were not possible to have a different one:

Would not accept it

Don't know:

33%

21%

# 36% of Italians declare they would refuse Astrazeneca vaccine and uncertainty regarding the vaccination campaign remains

Osservatorio EMG Different, 13/04/2021

Q: When my turn to get the vaccine arrives...

	15/04	08/04
I would like to choose which one to have	54	52
Any vaccine would be ok	35	36
I prefer not to answer	11	12

Q: In your opinion, will most of the population be vaccinated by the end of September?

Yes: 41% No: 36% I prefer not to answer 23%

Q: In your opinion, after the political changes in the country, the vaccination campaign has:

Stayed the same: 60% Improved: 24% Worsen 10% I prefer not to answer 6%

Q: Are you in favour of the "vaccination passport" in order to start travelling again?

Yes: 64% No: 27% I prefer not to answer 9%

Q: When your turn arrives, will you accept to get AstraZeneca jab?

Yes: 41% No: 36% I prefer not to answer: 23%

### A majority of Italians declares their mental health is suffering due to COVID

Euromedia Research, 7/04/2021

Q: Given the latest numbers of COVID-19 infections, if you could take this decision, when would you reopen the country?

Now, today:	22,1%
End of April/Beginning of May:	15,4%
End of May:	8,3%
By the summer:	12,2%
Only when a sufficient number of people is vaccinated:	34,9%
Don't know:	7,1%

Q: In your opinion, in the coming years will we have to co-exist with the virus?

No, it will be defeated and put under control:	11,7%
Yes, at least for next year:	21,4%
Yes, at least for the next two years:	31%
Yes, at least for the next 5 years	12,9%
Yes, at least for the next 10 years	5,2%
Yes, forever	9,1%
Do not know:	8,7%

### Q: Thinking of the COVID-19 virus, psychologically how do you feel?

I have the first signs of tiredness,	31,9%
Still strong, I can go on	29,9%
I do not bear this anymore	26,3%
I am indifferent, it has not changed my life	9,3%
Do not answer	2,6%

### Latvia

### Attitude towards the government stabilizes and vaccine scepticism diminishes

SKDS, 13/04/2021

https://www.delfi.lv/news/national/politics/covid-19-valdibas-ricibas-vertejums-stabilizejas-mazinas-skepse-pret-vakcinaju-liecina-aptauja.d?id=53104887

According to the SKDS survey (run at the end of March), the **assessment of the government's actions** is stabilizing and confidence in vaccination against Covid-19 has increased slightly.

# Desire to get vaccine against Covid-19 is growing in Latvia

BENU Pharmacy Stress Thermometer, 13/04/2021 https://nra.lv/latvija/344534-aptauja-latvija-cilveku-velme-poteties-pret-covid-19-pieaug.htm

Currently 58% of questioned Latvian inhabitants **plan to be vaccinated against Covid-19** (42% - yes, 16% - rather yes), 25% do not plan to be vaccinated (15% - no, 10% - rather no), 9% could not give an answer, but 8% of the survey participants have already received the vaccine, according to the latest BENU Pharmacy Stress Thermometer data.

### Lithuania

### One third of Lithuanians are not willing to get vaccinated

Survey of Lithuanian Residents, 01/04/2020

 $\label{lem:https://www.delfi.lt/darbas/darbo-aplinka/paskaiciavo-kiek-lietuviu-sutiktu-nemokamai-skiepytis-nuo-koronaviruso-darbovietese-skaiciai-kalba-patys-uz-save.d?id=86477733$ 

2 out of 3 employees (64 %) would agree to **get the vaccine if their employer offered it for free.** More than half of Lithuanians (60 %) are worried about the health of their own and their relatives and view vaccines as probably the only way to get back to life as usual. Still, **almost one third** (29 %) **are not willing to get vaccinated**.

1 in 4 people complains about the **deteriorating physical and emotional health.** People are worried because of different reasons. Those who receive higher income and live in urban areas are mostly upset about the lack of leisure options, whereas those with less income are more concerned about their future financial situation and possible loss of income. Only 15 % have not felt **increased anxiety due to the pandemic**.

#### 55.6% of Lithuanians says their mental health has deteriorated

Vytautas Magnus University and Delfi, 08/04/2021 <a href="https://www.delfi.lt/news/daily/lithuania/ivardijo-tikruosius-ribojimu-padarinius-iprastas-kasdienybes-paveikslas-keisis-ilgam.d?id=86627661">https://www.delfi.lt/news/daily/lithuania/ivardijo-tikruosius-ribojimu-padarinius-iprastas-kasdienybes-paveikslas-keisis-ilgam.d?id=86627661</a>

Vytautas Magnus University and Delfi public opinion survey of 804 Lithuanians at the end of 2020.

More than half of the people (55.6 %) feel that since the beginning of the pandemic their **emotional health got worse**, whereas 40.6 % say that their emotional health was not impacted.

When assessing the Lithuanian **government's efforts to manage the pandemic**, 43.9 % did not agree and 41.8% agreed that the adopted plan was effective and would actually help people. 14% of people were not sure or could not answer.

The majority (75 %) agreed that a **functioning democracy is necessary to overcome the pandemic.** 55.6 % think that is more challenging to make decisions in a democracy. 40 % believe that it is hard to maintain order in a democracy. 51.2 % say that if we want to overcome the pandemic faster, we need a strong leader (even someone who does not agree with the parliament's opinion).

There is a statistically significant link between the attitudes towards democracy, threats imposed by the virus, individual behaviour and emotional health. Those who disagreed about the necessity of a smoothly functioning democracy to overcome the pandemic tended to agree that COVID-19 is not dangerous and its damage is exaggerated. Meanwhile those who agreed that democracy is necessary tended to disagree with the statement that the virus is not dangerous. Moreover, those who agree about the importance of democracy consider themselves more knowledgeable about the symptoms of coronavirus. They are more likely to protect themselves and take personal responsibility. Meanwhile those on the opposite side rate their knowledge lower, are less likely to avoid contacts with other people and give less importance to taking personal responsibility. It was also discovered that their emotional health deteriorated more during the pandemic.

### **Netherlands**

### Confidence in the Dutch vaccination policy continues to go down, now at 28%

EenVandaag Opiniepanel, 14/04/2021

https://eenvandaag.avrotros.nl/panels/opiniepanel/alle-uitslagen/item/vertrouwen-in-vaccinatiebeleid-bereikt-een-nieuw-dieptepunt-maar-de-meeste-mensen-willen-de-coronaprik-nog-wel/

https://eenvandaag.avrotros.nl/panels/opiniepanel/alle-uitslagen/item/vooral-steun-voor-uitstel-versoepelingen-coronamaatregelen-maar-besluit-van-kabinet-roept-ook-veel-weerstand-op/

A survey by the *EenVandaag Opiniepanel* in April shows that only 28% of the 36.000 respondents have **confidence in the Dutch vaccination policy**. That is the lowest percentage since the Netherlands started vaccinating in January. In that first month, the percentage of confidence in vaccination policy was significantly higher with 55% of the respondents. A month later, in February, this percentage already fell to 37% and in March it was 34%. Some respondents to the most recent survey from April indicated that they find the Dutch vaccination policy too reactive instead of proactive. In addition, respondents also referred to the many rules and exceptions in the policy that would make it difficult to implement.

However, the research by *EenVandaag* also shows that, despite the criticism of the vaccination policy, the willingness to vaccinate is still high: **73% of those questioned want to be vaccinated or have already received a vaccine**. Here, the vaccines from Pfizer and Moderna are the most popular. This is different for the AstraZeneca and Janssen vaccines. News reports of potentially risky side effects have made some people wary: 21% of the study participants do not want to be vaccinated with AstraZeneca. On the other hand, 71% would still want a vaccine from AstraZeneca. Regarding the Sputnik vaccine, 41% of respondents say they definitely or probably want to take that vaccine.

*EenVandaag* has also investigated public opinion on the decision of the Dutch cabinet not to introduce relaxation of the corona measures starting from April 21. It was previously said that this might be possible from that date onwards but, according to outgoing Prime Minister Mark Rutte and Minister of Health Hugo de Jonge, the developments of the corona virus did not allow this. Of the participants in the poll, 54% support this decision. On the other hand, 33% think that relaxation of the corona measures should have been implemented. (...)

# Support of government's response to the corona crisis remains steady, only 17.5% of citizens have a negative view of it

National Institute for Health and Environment, 09/04/2021 <a href="https://www.rivm.nl/gedragsonderzoek/maatregelen-welbevinden/communicatie-en-vertrouwen">https://www.rivm.nl/gedragsonderzoek/maatregelen-welbevinden/communicatie-en-vertrouwen</a>

The National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (*RIVM*) published a new research report in early April on **public confidence in the Dutch approach to the corona crisis**. For this purpose, data was collected from various measurement rounds. In the latest and most recent research period (March 24-28, 2021), 41.9% is positive about the approach **of the Dutch government**. A percentage of 40.7 is neutral and 17.5% has a negative view of the policy.

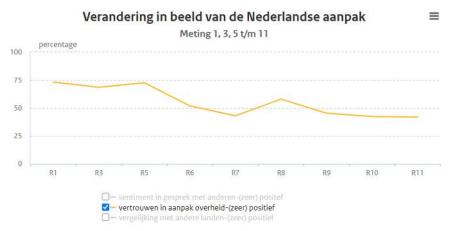


Chart 1: percentage of confidence in government approach (very) positive.

When the participants in the study are asked about **more specific aspects of the corona approach**, the vast majority say that they think that the government is doing its best to do the right thing, and that the government is well informed (79% and 71% respectively). In contrast, only 27% of the respondents believe that the Dutch government distributes the burden of the corona crisis fairly among all citizens, agencies, and groups in society. In addition, 41.1% say that the government is not taking a clear course. [...]

### Almost two thirds of Dutch people want to ease lockdown

I&O Research, 12/04/2021

https://www.ioresearch.nl/actueel/bijna-twee-derde-nederlanders-wil-versoepeling-lockdown/

The relaxation of the restrictions that the Dutch cabinet may have wanted to introduce some time ago from April 21, has been cancelled due to negative developments of the corona crisis in the Netherlands. A survey by I&O Research in the weekend of 9 to 12 April 2021, which was carried out on behalf of the national news broadcaster NOS, shows that **more than 60% of the respondents would have wanted relaxation of the restrictions**. The table below shows the results of public opinion with regard to the lockdown in the Netherlands (I&O Research, 2021).

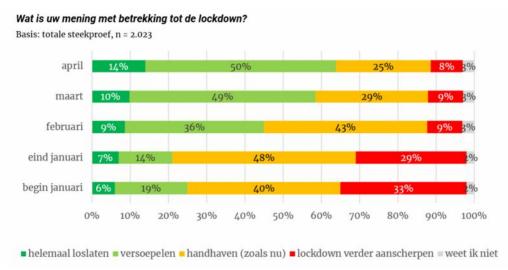


Chart: percentage of respondents in favour of ending the lockdown (dark green), easing the restrictions (light green), maintaining the current lockdown (orange), or further tightening the lockdown (red).

### **Poland**

Majority of Poles grateful for theirs and their family's health state during COVID-19 pandemic PAP. 06/04/2021

https://polandin.com/53157512/majority-of-poles-grateful-for-their-health-during-covid19-pandemic-survey

For 67 percent of Poles, the health of their family members is the most important thing they value during the pandemic, according to the results of the poll. Having a family is important for 57 percent of the respondents while 39 percent are grateful that they have friends by their side.

Respondents who were asked if there was anything they valued more or enjoyed more now than before the pandemic, pointed to the opportunities to be closer with their families and friends, and also to the fact that they could take walks more often or take part in outdoor physical activities.

(...) The survey was carried out on March 12-19, 2021.

# **Portugal**

### An increasing number of people in Portugal find it difficult to follow measures

National School of Public Health, 13/04/2021

Inquérito. Pessoas reúnem-se mais e sobe dificuldade em adotar medidas

A survey by the National School of Public Health reveals greater **difficulties in adopting protective measures against covid-19.** 

- In the last two weeks, people have also admitted to meet in groups of 10 or more people from 4.9% to 7.5%.
- 41.5% of those surveyed said it was "difficult" or "very difficult" to avoid visiting friends and family.
- 14.5% said it is "difficult" or "very difficult" to comply with the use of the mask (7% more than in the same period of the previous year).
- Regarding teleworking, for 42,4% of people claim it is "difficult" or "very difficult" to maintain teleworking.
- The percentage of people in Portugal showing an **intention not to take the covid-19 vaccine** has increased to 7.8%, compared to 1.7% in the last survey. The researchers noted a profile in these results, being mainly younger people who have lost some or all of their income, have not had the flu vaccine, show low confidence in the Health Services and its measures and find the information from health authorities unclear and inconsistent.
- Confidence in the health services remains with values of "slightly or not confident at all", meaning 22.2% in relation to covid-19 and 51.7% in relation to other diseases.
- As for the **perception of the Government measures**, 31.7% considered them "not very adequate or not adequate at all".

Portuguese people's confidence in vaccines, including Astrazeneca, remains high

Deco Proteste, 08/04/2021

Portugueses ainda querem ser vacinados com AstraZeneca, apesar da confiança ter sido abalada – ECO (sapo.pt)

A survey held by Deco Proteste and carried out in 4 different countries (Portugal, Spain, Italy and Belgium) has concluded that, even though its confidence has fallen for 63% of the respondents,

most Portuguese still want to be vaccinated with AstraZeneca's vaccine - being the country with greater confidence in vaccines. Furthermore, 41% of respondents indicated having less confidence in other vaccines as well.

Among those questioned, only 5% are sure they will not take the vaccine, and 10% are reluctant, leaning towards "no". On the contrary, 59% of Portuguese who have not yet taken the first dose of the vaccine would go without thinking twice and 26%, despite doubts, would probably also go. As for the ones who have already taken the first dose of the vaccine and had negative effects are still willing to take the second dose (55%).

About 70% of the Portuguese support the **digital green certificate**, being Portugal, once more, the most confident among the four countries. However, 62% of the Portuguese consider there is a possible financial discrimination between those who have already received the vaccine and those who are still waiting. They believe there will also be a disadvantage for older age groups, compared to the younger generation.

### A slight majority of Portuguese people (52%) agree with roadmap for end of lockdown

Aximage for TSF/JN/DN, 01/04/2021

Mais de metade dos portugueses considera o plano de desconfinamento um bom plano

According to a poll held by Aximage for TSF/JN/DN, most Portuguese agree with the **roadmap for the end of lockdown** (52%), divided in 4 different stages, believing it is a good plan. As for the measures set for Easter time, 80% of the respondents believe the restriction of mobility between municipalities was adequate, unlike 18% that consider it exaggerated.

The economy and employment (50%), physical health (32%) and health and emotional well-being (16%) are the main fears for 93% of Portuguese, concerned with the consequences of COVID-19.

(...) The survey also reveals the **opinion of the Portuguese towards the government's** action since the beginning of the pandemic: half of the questioned evaluate it as positive, while 22% as negative and 27% in between.

### Romania

### Employees believe that employers should facilitate the vaccination in companies

BestJobs, 09/04/2021

 $\underline{https://ziarulunirea.ro/studiu-care-sunt-motivele-pentru-care-angajatii-privesc-imunizarea-anti-covid-19-cu-reticenta-704542/$ 

As stated by a BestJobs poll (15.03-31.03.2021 period), 3 out of 5 Romanian employees think that **employers should take more action in the vaccination process**, such as partnering with a local vaccination center (37%), facilitating direct discussions between employees who are reluctant to be vaccinated and doctors (24%), increasing the level of internal information (21%) or organizing a space for vaccination within the company (20%).

Returning to a normal life and protecting the closest ones would be the main reasons 47% of employees are willing to get vaccinated.

### Almost 80% of Romanians say that the country is headed the wrong direction

Avangarde, 29/03/2021

https://www.gandul.ro/diverse/sondaj-avangarde-79-dintre-romani-declara-ca-tara-noastra-se-indreapta-intr-o-directie-gresita-53-dintre-respondenti-sunt-nemultumiti-de-activitatea-ministerului-sanatatii-in-gestionarea-pandemiei-c-19608814

A study by Avangarde (15-26 March) shows that 79% of Romanians believe that the **country is going in the wrong direction**, while 63% believe that the Romanian **Government has handled the COVID-19 pandemic poorly** so far. That is why 59% of respondents believe that the military should continue to deal with the anti-Covid-19 vaccination campaign, while only 12% believe that the lead should be taken by the Ministry of Health.

48% of respondents believe that the **vaccine is necessary and important**, while 32% say that immunization is not necessary. Another 3% say that this vaccination campaign would be useful only for people over 55 years old.

### The pandemic has brought new habits to the lives of women in Romania

Starcom Romania, 25/03/2021

https://www.iqads.ro/articol/54224/studiu-starcom-romania-impactul-pandemiei-de-covid-19-asupra-femeilor-din

According to the study "The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on women" conducted by Starcom Romania (3.03-9.03.2021), the pace of life of women in Romania slowed down with the pandemic. More than 40% of women were disappointed that their professional life did not progress, and 33% of them looked for a new job during this period. (...)

# Slovenia

### Poll indicates third of Slovenians want to get vaccinated as soon as possible

Parsifal, 18/04/2021

STA: Poll indicates third of Slovenians want to get vaccinated as soon as possible

A third of respondents in the most recent Parsifal public opinion poll, conducted between 12 and 14 April, have said they will **get vaccinated for coronavirus as soon as possible**. The share is lower than in January, when 47% said they would get vaccinated at the earliest opportunity, but the most recent poll also shows that 20% of respondents had already been vaccinated.

The poll also showed that 24.3% of respondents will wait with the jab until they see the effects of vaccines, while 21.5% said they do not intend to get inoculated against coronavirus.

By age, those who want to get vaccinated as soon as possible are mostly over the age of 55, while those who intend to wait are mostly aged between 18 and 34.

#### Mediana poll shows more dissatisfaction with the course Slovenia is taking

Mediana, 16/04/2021

STA: Mediana poll shows more dissatisfaction with Slovenia's course

An increasing number of people in Slovenia believe **that things are not going in the right direction**, a public opinion survey by pollster Mediana (conducted between 6 and 7 April) has found.

The number of those unhappy the way things are going has **nearly doubled** since last year, reaching 67%.

The share of those believing things in Slovenia are going in the right direction has meanwhile dropped from 32% a year ago to 13%, said the pollster on Friday.

The poll looked into **how respondents viewed the course of Slovenia and the course of the EU**. While the increase in dissatisfaction over Slovenia is significant, the respondents' attitude toward the EU remains roughly unchanged.

27.7% of respondents said the EU was headed in the wrong direction, 2.3 percentage points more than a year ago, while the share of those with a neutral position on this matter increased from 45.1% to 46.6%. Meanwhile, 19% believe the bloc is headed in the right direction, 2.1 percentage points more than last year.

The poll also looked into the **perception of respect for the EU in Slovenia**, which has improved significantly. Compared to May 2020, the share of those who view the EU as very negative has dropped from 7.6% to 3.7%, while the share of those with a neutral position went down from 41.4% to 31.5%. The share of those who believe the EU is positive increased from 27.4% to 43.2%.

# **Spain**

### 39.6% believe Spain is still in the worst moment of the pandemic

CIS, 16/04/2021 Informe Cis

79.3% affirm they will be vaccinated when it is their turn. On the contrary, the main reasons why people do not want to be vaccinated are the **lack of trust** in these vaccines (26.4%) and fear of possible side effects (23.3%).

### Six out of ten Spaniards would use the Digital Green Certificate to reactivate trips

OCU, 08/04/2021 Vacunas y pasaporte de vacunación | OCU

66% believe that free tests should be offered to those who have not been vaccinated in order to obtain the passport.

According to this survey, if they were to be notified in a week that they can be vaccinated, 52% of interviewed would do it without hesitation. The **main reasons for refusing to get the vaccine are the fear of potential side effects** (58%), lack of confidence in some vaccines (39%) and lack of confidence in the vaccine development and approval process (30%).

39% of respondents say they are "highly concerned" about the potential side effects of AstraZeneca's vaccine.

### Half of Spaniards believe that the worst of the pandemic is over

Instituto Carlos III, 13/04/2021 COSMO-SPAIN (isciii.es)

Respondent's **concern about coronavirus has diminished** (52% are highly concerned in comparison to 67% in January), as well as the feeling of propagation of the virus (69% in comparison to 92% in January).

45% consider that the **decisions taken by the Spanish Government have not been adequate** (56% believed it in January)

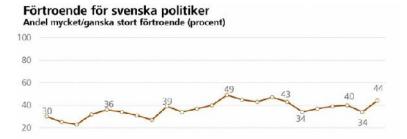
### Sweden

Trust in government, institutions or media remains stable or even increases in past year <u>SOM-institutet</u>



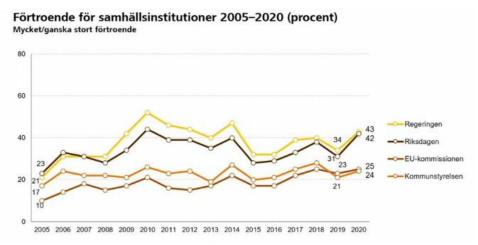
**Support for the government's work:** 36% of respondents state that the government is doing a fairly good or very good job. This is an increase of 7% compared with 2019.

**Assessment of the Swedish democracy:** A clear majority is satisfied with how democracy is working in Sweden. There is an increase of 6% percent compared with 2019. Over time, the support is also stable.



**Trust in Swedish politicians:** 44% claim to have strong or quite strong trust in politicians. The public's trust in politicians has increased with 10% between 2019 and 2020. However, note that the number decreased with 6% between 2018 and 2019.

**Trust in societal institutions:** There has been an increase in trust for all institutions (Health care, the Police, Universities/colleges, Schools and the Swedish Defence) in the above table. The trust in Swedish health care has increased with 10%, from 68% to 78%, probably because of the pandemic, according to the researchers.



**Trust in political institutions:** An increased trust is seen in the political institutions, especially the Government (Regeringen) and the Parliament (Riksdagen). There is also a slightly higher trust in the European commission compared with 2019.

	2010	2010	2020	
	2018	2019	2020	
Folkhälsomyndigheten		-	73	Generellt förtroende för Folkhälsomyndigheten 2020
Socialstyrelsen		22	35	69 procent
Myndigheten för samhällsskydd och beredskap (MSB)	23	*	35	
Migrationsverket	10	12	15	

Bedömning av hur bra myndigheter sköter sina uppgifter 2018–2020 (procent)

Assessment of how well authorities are performing their duties: Folkhälsomyndigheten (The Public Health Agency of Sweden), which has been mainly responsible for Sweden's corona strategy, scores 73%, which is the highest number for any authority in the survey. Support for Socialstyrelsen (National Board of Health and Welfare) and MSB (The Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency) has grown the last year.

The researchers also included Migrationsverket (The Migration Board) as a point of reference, where the increase is smaller. They conclude that authorities that have been visible during the pandemic experience higher levels of support.

**Trust in different actors' handling of the covid-19 pandemic 2020:** 71% have strong support for Folkhälsomyndigheten (The Public Health Agency of Sweden). 54% have strong support for the Swedish regions and 49% have strong support for the state. 25% claim that they have strong support for the EU, while 21% state that they have little support for the EU.

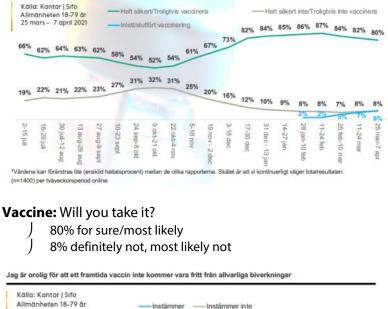
**Trust in information about the corona virus from different actors**: 92% trust information that comes from scientists. The number for Folkhälsomyndigheten (The Public Health Agency of Sweden) is 87%. Trust in information coming from politicians and journalists is lower, 39% for politicians and 35% for journalists.

**The most important issues/problems in society:** Immigration/integration is the most important issue in Sweden. 38% list it as the most important issue, followed by law and order, 34%, and health care, 31%. Health care decreased from 37% to 31%. According to SOM-institutet, this is because covid-19 has emerged as its own category.

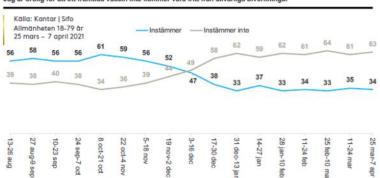
What concerns the population most for the future: 60% respond that they are "very concerned" about organized crime. It is followed by environmental degradation, 53%. The number of people concerned about global epidemics has more than doubled since 2018, from 19% to 40%.

# 80% of Swedish people say they will get the vaccine even though 34% worry about serious vaccine side-effects

Kantar, 08/04/2021 Kantar/Sifo



När det finns ett godkänt vaccin mot covid-19 framtaget, kommer du då att vaccinera dig?



"I am worried that a future vaccine will not be free from serious side effects": 34% agree with this statement, while 63% disagree. For six months ago, the numbers were in reverse.