

PUBLIC OPINION MONITORING at a glance

May 2021



Key findings:

The mood is changing. While a Eurofund survey from February/March 2021 finds that mental well-being has reached its lowest level across all age groups since the onset of the pandemic, several more recent national surveys indicate that citizens are increasingly seeing some light at the end of the tunnel. According to a survey by Amárach Research, 69% of the population in Ireland feels the worst of the Coronavirus crisis lies behind them; 42% of Italians also think the worst has passed according to an Ipsos survey. Some analysts attribute the nascent change of mood to the relatively rapid progress of the vaccination plans in recent weeks and the easing of restrictive measures in many countries.

Several surveys find that **about a quarter of European citizens are still hesitant towards the COVID-19 vaccine.** However, figures vary quite a bit from one Member State to another. Citizens in Bulgaria continue to be among the most sceptical towards vaccination. A Eurofund survey conducted in all Member States associates vaccine hesitancy with low levels of trust in the government. The survey further holds that the time spent on social media and what type of media is used as the main news source has a large influence on vaccine hesitancy. Among those who use traditional news sources (press, television and radio) as their primary source of information, the proportion of vaccine sceptics is as low as 18%. **mRNA vaccines such as BioNTech/Pfizer and Moderna continue to be citizens' preferred choice**. Citizens continue to be rather split on whether or not vaccinated people should benefit from certain privileges.

Overall, trust in institutions has declined in many Member States over recent months. Trust in the EU also fell in some Member States but tends to remains higher than trust in national governments in most countries. Citizens' perception of the role and image of the EU in the vaccination roll out is rather negative, particularly in Germany and Austria.

Existing inequalities are widening because of the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on vulnerable groups. Findings of a Eurofund survey underline that difficulties in making ends meet increased significantly among those already in a precarious situation. One third of Spaniards (33%) for example affirms their economic situation is worse than before the pandemic and the main cause has been the decrease in household income.

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

Europe Today and Tomorrow: What Europeans Want

Eupinions, 25/05/2021

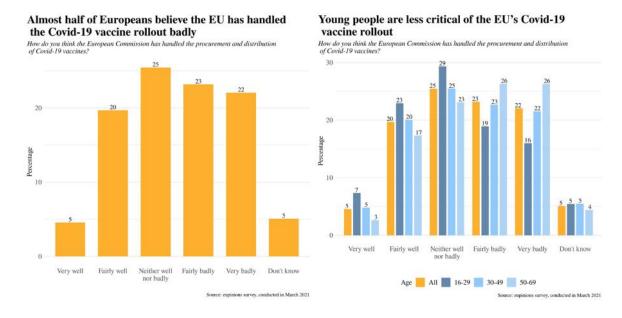
https://eupinions.eu/de/text/europe-today-and-tomorrow-what-europeans-want

According to the latest report for the Oxford University Europe's Stories research project [conducted between 11/03/2021 and 06/04/2021 across all 27 EU Member States] (...) there is clear dissatisfaction with the EU's distribution of Covid-19 vaccines. (...)

Europeans are largely critical of the European Commission's handling of the distribution of Covid-19 vaccines, with 45% believing this has been handled badly. (...)

There was also [observed] an age divide in responses to this question, with younger respondents more positive than older respondents about the vaccine rollout (...).

(...) Respondents from the Netherlands and Spain are particularly likely to think the vaccine rollout has gone well, while Germans are the most likely to respond that it has been handled very badly.



2021 Edelman Trust Barometer Spring Update: A World in Trauma

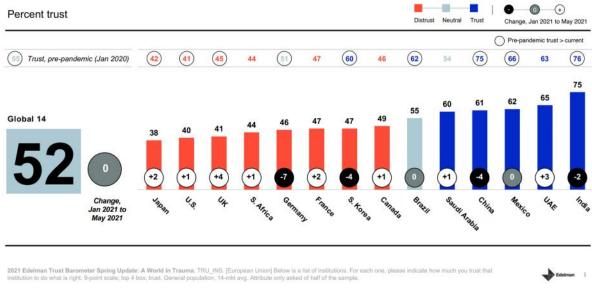
Edelman Trust Barometer, 20/05/2021

https://www.edelman.com/trust/2021-trust-barometer/spring-update

(...)The 2021 Edelman Trust Barometer reveals an **epidemic of misinformation and widespread mistrust of societal institutions** and leaders around the world.

The online survey was conducted in 14 countries [including two EU MS: France and Germany] between April 30 and May 11, 2021.





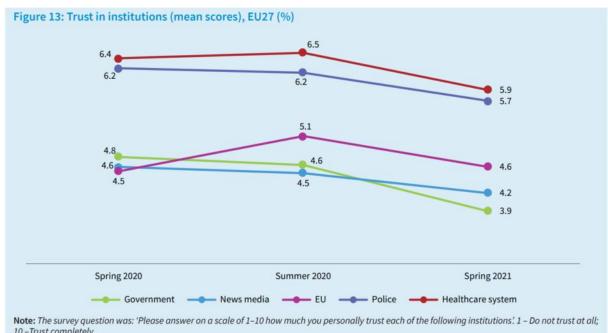
Mental health and trust decline across EU as pandemic enters another year Eurofund, 10/05/2021

https://www.eurofound.europa.eu/publications/report/2021/living-working-and-covid-19-update-april-2021 https://www.eurofound.europa.eu/sites/default/files/ef_publication/field_ef_document/ef21064en.pdf

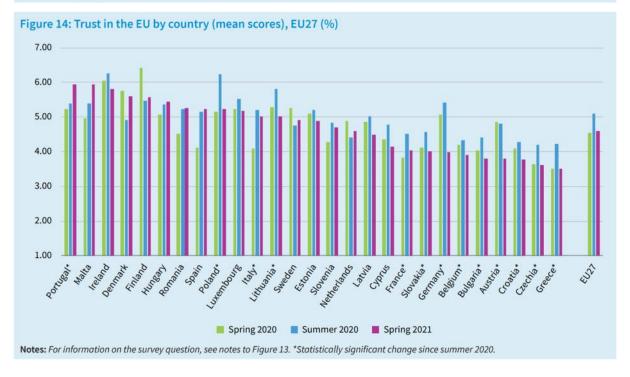
The third round of the e-survey, fielded in February and March 2021, sheds light on the **social and economic situation of people across Europe following nearly a full year of living with COVID-19 restrictions**. The report analyses the main findings and tracks ongoing developments and trends across the **27 EU Member States** since the survey was first launched in April 2020.

Key findings:

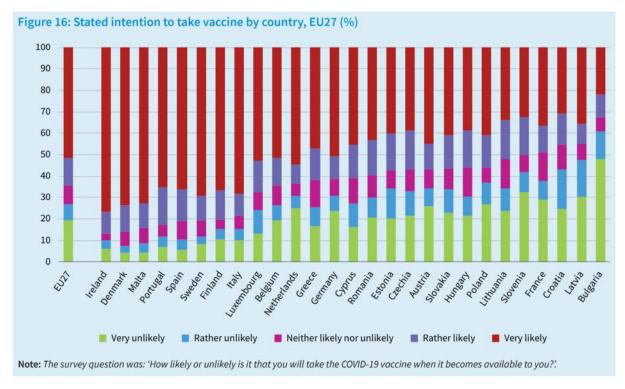
- Mental well-being has reached its lowest level across all age groups since the onset of the pandemic over a year ago. This is especially prominent among young people and those who have lost their job.
- Existing inequalities are widening because of the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on vulnerable groups. The findings show that difficulties in making ends meet increased significantly among those already in a precarious situation.
- Citizens' satisfaction with crisis support measures has declined dramatically, with only 12% now feeling support measures are fair, down from 22% in summer 2020. Those who felt obtaining support was easy and efficient also fell from 16% in summer 2020 to 10% in spring 2021. Close to one in ten respondents have had a request for financial support rejected.
- o **Trust in institutions has plummeted**, especially trust in national governments which fell from 4.6 in summer 2020 to 3.9 in spring 2021. Trust in national governments across all Member States sank below levels recorded at the start of the pandemic. **Trust in the EU also fell but remains higher than trust in national governments.**

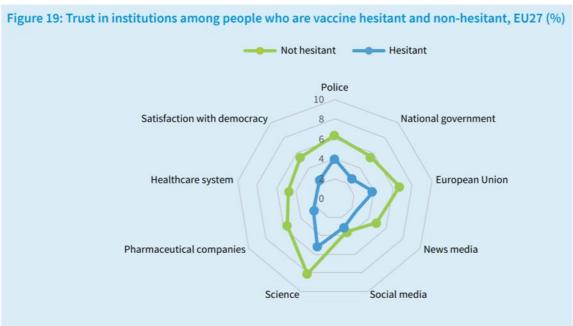


10 -Trust completely.



o Over a quarter of people living in Europe indicate a hesitancy toward the COVID-19 **vaccine**, with men revealing themselves more hesitant (29%) than women (25%). Vaccine hesitancy is also associated strongly with low levels of trust and social media use, with countries that register low levels of trust in government registering higher levels of vaccine hesitancy.





Over a quarter of adults in EU indicate they are unlikely to take COVID-19 vaccine Eurofound, 13/05/2021

https://www.mynewsdesk.com/eurofound/news/over-a-quarter-of-adults-in-eu-indicate-they-are-unlikely-to-take-covid-19-vaccine-427227

Over a quarter (27%) of adults in the EU are vaccine hesitant, with 29% of men and 25% of women indicating that they were either 'very unlikely' or 'rather unlikely' to take the COVID-19 vaccine in Eurofound's large-scale *Living, working and COVID-19 online survey* (see above). Vaccine hesitancy was highest in Bulgaria, where 61% of those surveyed indicated they were very unlikely

or rather unlikely to take the vaccine, and lowest in Denmark, Malta and Ireland, where less than 10% indicated they were very unlikely or rather unlikely to take it.

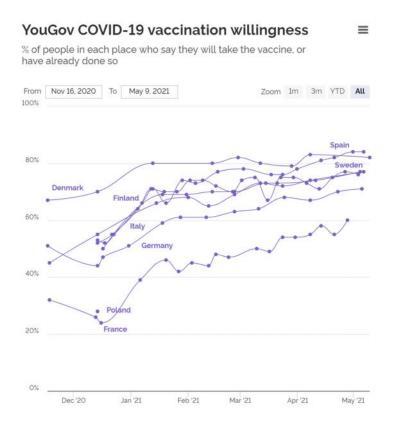
(...) The report notes that people in the prime **age group** (aged 35–49 years) are more **sceptical about vaccines** (29%) than younger and older age groups (26% and 27%, respectively). Unemployed people (39%), those with a long-term illness or disability (39%) and full-time homemakers (33%) are more vaccine hesitant than people in employment (26%) or people who are retired (23%). The least vaccine averse are students (13%).

The time spent on **social media** and what type of media is used as the main news source has a large **influence on vaccine hesitancy**. (...). Among those who use traditional news sources (press, television and radio) as their primary source of information, the proportion of vaccine sceptics is as low as 18%.

Willingness to be vaccinated has increased in many European countries

YouGov, 4-9/05/2021

https://yougov.co.uk/topics/international/articles-reports/2021/01/12/covid-19-willingness-bevaccinated



US seen as bigger threat to democracy than Russia or China, global poll finds

The Guardian, 05/05/2021

https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/may/05/us-threat-democracy-russia-china-global-poll Democracy Perception Index, 05/2021

https://www.latana.com/democracy-perception-index/

(...) The poll finds support for democracy remains high even though citizens in democratic countries rate their **governments' handling of the Covid crisis** less well than people in less democratic countries. (...) The findings come in a poll commissioned by the Alliance of Democracies Foundation

in 53 countries [including 15 EU countries] (...) and carried out by the Latana polling company between February and April (...)

Whereas in the spring of 2020 people in both more democratic and less democratic countries were equally satisfied with their government's pandemic response (70%), a year later (...) in more democratic countries the rating has fallen to 51%. In Europe the figure is 45%.

(...) The findings will also make disturbing reading for the eastern European democracies such as Hungary where only 31% of voters think their country is democratic – on a par with findings in (...) Poland.

Global public backs COVID-19 vaccine passports for international travel *lpsos*, 28/04/2021

https://www.ipsos.com/en/global-public-backs-covid-19-vaccine-passports-international-travel

The Ipsos global survey conducted between March 26-April 9 for the World Economic Forum finds that, on average, about three in four adults across 28 countries [including 9 EU MS] agree that COVID-19 **vaccine passports should be required** of travellers to enter their country and that they would be effective in making travel and large events safe. (...)

(...) Another Ipsos survey conducted online among across 12 countries [including France, Germany, Italy and Spain] on April 8-11, finds the global public sharply divided about **whether only those who have been vaccinated should be allowed to take part in activities** involving large groups of people such as taking public transit, flying, and attending cultural and sporting, or events.

Views about vaccine passports:

In the 28-country survey, Ipsos defined a COVID-19 vaccine passport as a record or health data certificate that would prove whether an individual has been vaccinated against COVID-19 or has recently tested negative for COVID-19, and that would be accessible electronically (e.g., on mobile phone apps) or as a printed document or card.

Key findings:

- 78% agree that travellers entering their country should be required to have a vaccine passport (52% in Hungary and 58% in Poland).
- 73% agree that vaccine passports would be effective in making travel and large events safe; a majority in every country agree (52% in Hungary).
- 66% agree that vaccine passports will be widely used in their country by the end of the year, with wide differences across countries (45% in Poland).
- 55% agree that vaccine passports should be required in shops, restaurants, and offices across all countries with views also varying widely across countries: Hungary (59% disagree), Poland (55%), and Belgium (52%).
- (...) Comfort with allowing government access to personal health data and vaccination records varies widely across countries with only 28% in Poland and 30% in the Netherlands.
- Only 40% say they are comfortable allowing private companies to access their health data and vaccination record while 53% are not; discomfort is most prevalent in the Netherlands (77%) and France (74%).

Length of time vaccine certificate or passport should be required for activities and travel:

On average, across 12 countries surveyed, one-third (32%) say that a vaccine certificate or passport should only be required for only a few months, another third (32%) until at least the end of the year, one quarter (23%) for the next several years, and 13% indefinitely. The views that vaccine passport requirements should be limited to only a few months is most prevalent in Spain (54%).

Not all vaccine-sceptics are anti-vaxxers

Political Capital, 30/04/2021

https://www.politicalcapital.hu/hireink.php?article_read=1&article_id=2774

The Focus Agency conducted a public opinion poll on the **attitudes of the population of the Visegrád countries towards vaccination and vulnerability to various conspiracy theories**. The poll was commissioned by Political Capital. The date of data collection was 1-10 March in **Czechia**, 1-5 March in **Poland**, 2-8 March in **Hungary** and 1-10 March in **Slovakia**.

Summary of the results:

- The discrepancy across countries in terms of explicit "anti-vaxxers" in their population is rather large: 14% of Poles belong here, but only 4% of Hungarians.
- The proportion of "vaccine supporters" is by far the lowest in Czechia (only 18%), the proportion of them in Poland is almost twice that, while every second person in Slovakia and Hungary can be counted among their ranks. 12-13% of under-45s are extremely rejective and critical of vaccines, the proportion of them is only 6-7% among over-55s. Naturally, 6-7% is still significant considering that it is the age group most vulnerable to COVID-19.
- The share of "COVID vaccine sceptics" falls with age even more visibly. Almost a quarter of people between 18 and 24 years of age can be categorized in this group, while less than one-tenth of over-65s are in it.
- The situation is the other way around among "general vaccine sceptics." 10% of over-55s can be categorized in this group, while only 5-6% of younger age groups are in this category. The proportion of "vaccine supporters" is relatively even across age groups, although the values are slightly higher in older age groups than among the youngest.
- 5% of respondents with a university degree belong in the "anti-vaxxers" group and 4% are in the "general vaccine sceptics" category.
- Individuals with university degrees are overrepresented in the "vaccine supporters" group; every second one of them belongs in this category, while the next group with the highest representation here is that of people with school-leaving certificates (39%).
- Poles and Slovaks are the most worried about **side effects** and they are the most concerned about safety, too. Respondents in Hungary show a high degree of uncertainty.

Eurobarometer: Trust in the EU has increased, trust in EP is highest

Eurobarometer, 23/04/2021

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP 21 1867

While the coronavirus pandemic has been impacting on European daily lives for more than a year, **attitudes towards the EU remain positive**, according to the latest Standard Eurobarometer conducted in February-March 2021. (...) Among the EU institutions, the European Parliament is again the most trusted institution, with 50% of respondents (+2 points) trusting the EP.

		Tend to trust		Tend not to trust	Don't know	
	Win.20/21	Diff. Win.20/21 - Sum.2020	Win.20/21	Diff. Win.20/21 - Sum.2020	Win.20/21	
EU27	50	2	38	-2	12	
EURO AREA	49	3	39	-3	12	
NON-EURO AREA	55	0	34	2	11	
BE	61	6	39	0	0	
BE BG CZ DK DE EE IE EL ES FR HR	45	1	34	-2	21	
CZ	50	11	49	2	1	
DK	67	-2	32	12	1	
DE	53	-2	35	0	12	
EE =	62	2	38	-2	0	
IE I	76	-3	23	2	1	
EL 🝱	43	5	55	-3	2	
ES 🚾	42	3	40	-6	18	
FR.	38	2	41	-4	21	
HR.	55	-2	39	3	6	
IT .	49	11	39	-9	12	
CY LV LT LU HU MT	41	-4	44	3	15	
LV	60	9	40	7	0	
LT 💼	69	12	31	7	0	
LU	66	2	34	-2	0	
HU	64	6	28	-5	8	
		23	22	-8	14	
NL	65	3	30	-4	5	
AT	46	-5	47	5	7	
PL =	52	0	31	1	17	
PT 🍱	80	25	20	-8	0	
RO	55	-7	35	7	10	
SI 🍱	52	6	48	0	0	
NL AT PL PT RO SI SK FI SE	48	0	44	1	8	
FI 🛨	57	-2	42	1	1	
SE	64	-2	32	3	4	

Europeans citizens identify **health and the economic situation** as the two **top concerns both at EU and national levels**. The survey also indicates an increase in concern about the current state of national economies: 69% of Europeans think that the situation is currently 'bad' and 61% of Europeans fear that their country's economy will recover from the impact of the pandemic 'in 2023 or later'.

43% of Europeans are satisfied with measures taken so far by national governments to fight the pandemic (-19 percentage points since last summer) while 56% are dissatisfied (+19). The same proportion is satisfied with measures taken by the EU (43%, -2), while 49% are dissatisfied (+5). However, 59% trust the EU to make the right decisions in its response to the pandemic in the future. (...)

National surveys

People's expectations about the crisis' development

In most European countries included in this newsletter, people now have a more hopeful outlook of the future development of the crisis than in the previous months. The rise in confidence seems related to the acceleration of the vaccination campaign and the easing of restrictions. 69% of Irish people and 29% (up from 15%) of Austrians think the worst of the Covid-19 crisis is behind them; in Italy, 42% believe the worst of the emergency has passed, 21% don't know, 37% say now is the worst moment of the emergency and only 11% affirm the worst is yet to come. In Estonia, the perceived threat of Covid-19 dropped sharply in April and remains low, with around 50 percent of the respondents affirming the acute crisis is over. 43% of Latvian inhabitants declare they are worried about the pandemic, which is 23% less than in March and 14% less than in April of this year. Since the start of the vaccination campaign, the number of Dutch people that are concerned about Covid-19 has gone down from 75% in December to 66% in April and 58% in May, a historic low in the past year. Lastly, even though three out of four Spanish people affirm the economic situation is worse than 6 months ago, 43% believe that the economic situation will improve in the next six months.

Trust in governments' handling of the crisis

In a considerable amount of countries, there is an increase in the levels of approval of government measures in respect to the rates of past months. This increment coincides with the rise in confidence towards the future development of the crisis, the acceleration of the vaccination campaigns and the lifting of restrictions in several Member States. The three factors could be behind the increase in approval rates. This May, 40% of Germans consider the measures in place to contain the COVID-19 pandemic appropriate, 16% more than in April when restrictions were not yet relaxed. 65% of the Irish population dim the government's reaction to the coronavirus appropriate (+15% since February). Moreover, even though 53% of the Greek population is dissatisfied with the government's action, a higher and increasing share of Greeks is satisfied with the design and implementation of the vaccination program (36% in January to 67% in May). A majority of Dutch people continue to have low confidence in their government's general response to Covid-19 and the vaccination campaign but confidence has increased from 39% in March to 47% in May. In France, trust in the government response is at 41% (+3% since the 28th of April). A stable proportion of Czech citizens (43%) regard their state's handling of the crisis appropriate, whilst their evaluation of the course of vaccination has slightly improved since February. Trust towards the government's management of the crisis remains stable in Sweden (41%), with a slight increase since this January (+5%). However, in other countries citizens are less satisfied with the actions taken by their governments. Danish support of the government's policies is slowly dropping, though two thirds of the population continue to manifest it, and in Slovenia, the government counts with the lowest levels of support since the start of the pandemic, with 70% of the population disapproving its management of the crisis.

In most Member States, people state their personal finances and well-being, particularly their mental-health, have deteriorated in the past year. This could explain the increase in the number of people supporting government measures and particularly the relaxation of restrictions documented in this newsletter. In this situation, however, citizens in Estonia and the Netherlands have already expressed the weariness towards lifting too many measures too quickly.

Vaccines and the Digital Green Certificate

In all the countries included in this newsletter, 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 Member States. 65% want to receive a vaccine in France (+25% compared to January 2021), 75% in Germany (+15% since February), 95% in Denmark, 91% in Sweden, 82% in Portugal, 77% in Estonia, 76% in the Netherlands, 75% in Ireland, 70% in Hungary and 69% in Italy, the Czech Republic and Poland (their highest percentage since the start of the pandemic). In this edition, surveys among Hungarian citizens indicate that willingness to receive the vaccine is positively correlated with age and education level.

Despite the general increase in people who want to get the vaccine, citizens show different levels of trust towards different vaccines. Pfizer is the favourite in all countries included in the surveys, generally followed by Moderna and other vaccines.

In the countries where respondents were asked about "vaccine passports", more than 60% of the population is in favour of these certificates. In Portugal and Italy, a key reason to support the green certificate is that people expect lower restrictions to travel. However, support towards expanding the use of green certificate to other areas is not unanimous. For instance, 61% of French people support the use of these passes to condition access to certain places or events but majority of Germans oppose immediate relaxations for those who are vaccinated and those who have recovered.

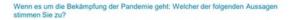
Austria

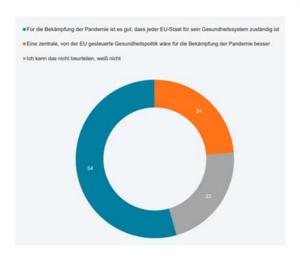
Mood in Austria is getting better

Gallup Institute, 26/04/2021

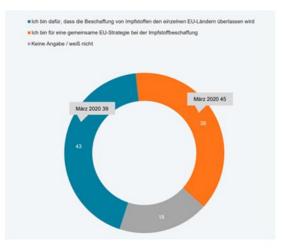
https://www.gallup.at/de/unternehmen/studien/2021/corona-stimmung-hellt-sich-auf-foederalismus-wird-begruesst/

In April 2021, 29% of the respondents to this Gallup survey thought **the worse of the Coronavirus crisis is behind** them, in March only 15% of respondents thought this. 54% of respondents further said that to fight the pandemic, it was good that **each EU member state is responsible for its own response to the health crisis**; 24% are in favour of a **central EU health policy**, while 22% did not answer. Also, 43% of respondents said they would be in favour of the procurement of vaccines being handled nationally; while 38% say they are in favour of a common vaccine procurement strategy at EU level.





Die EU verfolgt bei der Impfstoffbestellung eine gemeinsame Strategie. Das bedeutet, dass die EU-Kommission die Impfstoffe zentral bestellt und an die Mitgliedsstaaten verteilt. Wie stehen Sie dazu?



%-Werte, n=1000 15. - 19. April 2021

Czechia

Czechs worry about the spread of the new types of coronavirus

CVVM, 19/05/2021 oz210519.pdf

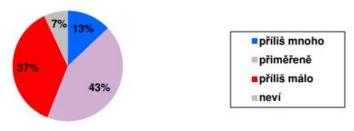
In connection with the spread of coronavirus SARS-CoV-2, approximately four-fifths of Czech citizens over the age of 18 are concerned about the health of their loved ones (81%), health care restrictions outside COVID-19 (80%), almost three-fifths of insufficient hospital capacity (57%), about half of their health (52%) and slightly more than a fifth of the collapse of supply (21%).

A slight majority of Czechs have a negative view of the state response to COVID-19 pandemic CVVM,12/05/2021 pi210512.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 February 2021, the assessment of the **state's response to the pandemic** has improved significantly, when assessing the effectiveness of measures against the spread of coronavirus, but this assessment still remains much worse than it was back in December 2020.

Graf 1: Opatření proti šíření koronaviru (%)1



Zdroj: CVVM SOÚ AV ČR, Naše společnost - speciál - duben 2021, 26. 3. - 15. 4. 2021, 1025 respondentů 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	II/21	IV/21
Příliš mnoho	18	19	16	14	12	19	15	13
Přiměřeně	70	71	73	66	60	61	44	43
Příliš málo	8	7	8	17	23	13	34	37
Neví	4	3	3	3	5	7	7	7

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

Zdroj: CVVM SOÚ AV ČR, Naše společnost.

The largest part of Czech citizens (43%) evaluate what the Czech state has done against the spread of coronavirus as appropriate, 37% consider this to be insufficient and 13% to be excessive. The remaining 7% said they did not know. Compared to the research conducted by CVVM in February 2021, the evaluation the measure has not changed significantly, compared to December 2020, we can see a significant 24-point increase in the share of those who consider measures against the spread of coronavirus to be insufficient.

Two-fifths (40%) of respondents consider anti-proliferation measures coronavirus as effective, of which 5% perceive it as "definitely effective" and 35% as "rather effective". On the contrary, the measure is considered by an absolute majority (57%) of respondents as ineffective.

Two-thirds of the Czech Public are willing to get vaccinated against COVID-19

CVVM, 10/05/2021 oz210510.pdf

In April, Public Opinion Research Centre focused on **vaccination against COVID-19**. Approximately three-fifths of respondents (59%) expressed willingness to be vaccinated against COVID-19. About a quarter (26%) of respondents took a negative attitude towards vaccination against COVID-19. One tenth (10%) stated they were already vaccinated.

Among those citizens who wish to choose a vaccine and stated specific **preferred vaccine**, mRNA vaccine from companies predominates Pfizer / BioNTech, which was spontaneously reported by 58% of them. Significantly lower preference have Johnson & Johnson (17%) and Sputnik V (14%) vaccines.

Interviewers also had the opportunity to state which vaccine they did not want. In this case Sputnik V predominated (60%), followed by AstraZeneca (36%) and the third most common respondents reported a substance from the Chinese company Sinopharm (21%).

The evaluation of the course of vaccination has slightly improved compared to February, yet the public is still very critical of the strategy. It was rated "well" by 15 % of citizens, almost three tenths (29%) have a neutral position, more than half (52%) rated it "bad" and a small proportion (4%) chose the "I don't know" option.

Denmark

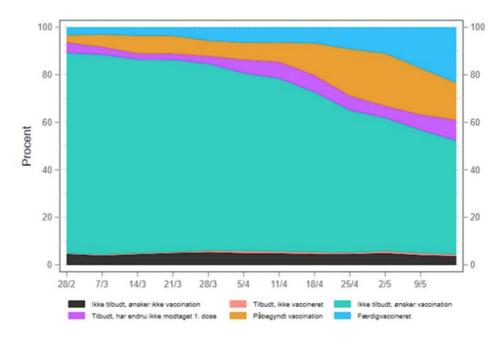
The Danes' Infection Preventing Behaviors and Perceptions

Hope Project, 17/05/2021

https://raw.githubusercontent.com/mariefly/HOPE/master/Danskernes_Smitteforebyggende_Adf%C3 %A6rd_Og_Opfattelser_0517.pdf

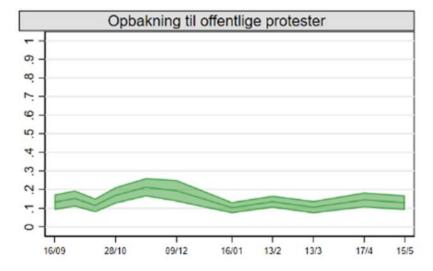
The Danish HOPE project that has done continuous surveys during the pandemic, has come out with a new edition. It shows the Danish **vaccination-acceptance** remains high at 95%, even if the issue has been hotly debated, as two vaccines have been dropped in Denmark.

Vaccination



Vaccine acceptance: Black = "Not offered, don't want it", Orangish pink (tiny group) = "Offered, not vaccinated", Green = "Not offered, want to be vaccinated", Pink = "Offered, not yet received first dose", Orange = "Vaccination started", Blue = "Fully vaccinated".

Support of the government's policies is slowly dropping, though not yet down at the levels reached during the "mink crisis". Still 2/3 are supporting the policies – similarly support for protests against the policies remains very low (see below).



Estonia

In Estonia, perceived risk of coronavirus is low and attitudes towards vaccination are favourable

Baltic News Service using Turu-uuringute AS, 15/05/2021 sise@bns.ee

Perceived threat posed by the spread of the coronavirus remains low among people of Estonia and diligence in following safety measures has begun to decline; **attitudes regarding vaccination** remain positive, however, it appears from results of a survey commissioned by the Ministry of Social Affairs and carried out by pollster Turu-uuringute AS at the start of May, and carried out from May 6-9.

Perceived threat, which dropped sharply in April, remains at a low level. Around 50 percent of the respondents opined that acute crisis was over but nonetheless deemed important that safety precautions should continuously be followed. 33 percent said that the situation remains critical. The perceived severity of threat has been declining since mid-March, when 81 percent of the respondents deemed the situation critical.

Together with a decline in the perceived severity of threat, people are gradually becoming more lax when it comes to following safety precautions. (...)

Following the relaxation of coronavirus restrictions at the start of May, the share of people who believe that stricter measures should be reintroduced has increased. In the second half of April, 23 percent of the respondents believed that tougher measures were necessary and by the start of May, the corresponding share had grown to 32 percent. The share of people who were in favour of relaxing restrictions further meanwhile decreased from 29 percent to 23 percent. The proportion of people who consider currently valid measures sufficient has not changed significantly compared with the second half of April, having edged down from 44 percent to 42 percent. (...)

Awareness of currently valid anti-coronavirus measures remains good. Half of the respondents are well informed and around 40 percent are generally aware of the measures in effect at present. The share of people who report that they have been vaccinated against COVID-19 was 36 percent and 42 percent said that they would likely or definitely get inoculated. Favourable attitudes towards vaccination were expressed by 77 percent of people while among those aged over 75 the corresponding share was 95 percent. 20 percent said that they would likely or definitely not get the vaccine while 2-3 percent of the respondents were against vaccination on principle.

The share of people who would recommend vaccination to their next of kin had grown from 63 percent in mid-March to 70 percent by the start of May. The main argument against vaccination was possible dangerous side-effects. The share of people who were against vaccination due to a lack of information about vaccines has declined from 37 percent to 25 percent. (...)

France

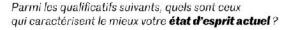
Covid-19: les Français ont de plus en plus confiance en la vaccination

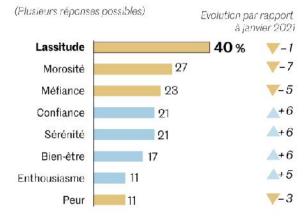
Cevipof pour « Le Monde », 21/05/2021

https://www.opinion-way.com/en/opinion-political-surveys/published-surveys.html

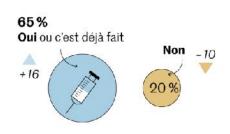
Selon le baromètre du Cevipof pour « Le Monde », le nombre de « **vaccino-sceptiques** » recule parmi la population, mais une majorité de Français restent critiques quant à la **gestion globale de la crise sanitaire** depuis quinze mois par le gouvernement.

Ce vent d'optimisme a une cause principale : la vaccination. Clés d'une éventuelle sortie de crise et armes possibles à long terme contre le virus, les vaccins sont de plus en plus approuvés par les Français ; 65 % du panel dit vouloir se faire vacciner ou avoir déjà reçu une dose (+ 16 %). La hausse des individus convaincus s'explique d'abord par un fait logique : la part plus importante de personnes immunisées par l'un des vaccins (+ 27 %), alors que la France a franchi, selon les chiffres communiqués jeudi soir, le seuil des 21,6 millions de personnes ayant reçu la première dose.





Avez-vous l'intention de vous **faire vacciner** contre le Covid-19 ?



Sondage OpinionWay, réal sé en ligne du 3 au 11 mai 2021 sur un échantillon de 1832 personnes inscrites sur les listes électorales issu, d'un échantillon de 2021 personnes représentatif de la population française àgée de 18 ans et plus. (méthode des quotas).

Déconfinement : les envies des Français Elabe, 20/05/2021 https://elabe.fr/epidemie-covid19-vague40/

6 Français sur 10 favorables au « **pass sanitaire** » 61% (-2 points en deux semaines) des Français sont favorables à la mise en place d'un « pass sanitaire » conditionnant l'accès à certains lieux ou événements (stades, salles de concert, festivals...) à une vaccination contre la Covid-19 ou à un test négatif récent, dont 32% (-2) assez favorables et 29% (=) très favorables. A l'inverse, 38% (+1) sont opposés, dont 15% (=) assez opposés et 23% (+1) très opposés.

Des Français majoritairement critiques sur **la gestion de la crise sanitaire** par l'exécutif, même si un quart d'entre eux ont perçu une amélioration. 52% des Français estiment qu'Emmanuel Macron et le gouvernement ont mal géré la crise sanitaire depuis le début. 1 Français sur 3 est plus nuancé : 23% considèrent qu'elle a été mal gérée au début et mieux ensuite, 13% qu'elle a été bien gérée au début mais moins bien ensuite. Enfin, pour 12% des Français, l'exécutif a bien géré la crise sanitaire depuis le début.

La **confiance en l'exécutif** pour lutter efficacement contre l'épidémie reste minoritaire mais progresse à nouveau 41% (+3 points depuis le 28 avril) des Français déclarent faire confiance à Emmanuel Macron et au gouvernement de Jean Castex pour lutter efficacement contre l'épidémie

de la Covid-19, dont 8% (=) tout à fait et 33% (+3) plutôt confiance. A l'inverse, 59% (-2) des Français ne leur font pas confiance, dont 32% (-1) pas vraiment et 27% (-1) pas du tout confiance.

La popularité du exécutif enregistre une hausse significative tandis que la situation sanitaire améliore

BVA Opinion, 20/05/2021

https://www.bva-group.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/Rapport-de-resultats-BVA-Orange-RTL-Barometre-politique-Vaque-147-Mai-2021.pdf

Conséquence probable de l'amélioration progressive de la situation sanitaire et du début du déconfinement: la popularité du couple exécutif enregistre une hausse significative.

La cote de popularité du président de la République s'améliore pour s'établir à 42% d'opinions positives, un résultat en progression de 3 points par rapport au mois d'avril. 58% des Français ont néanmoins toujours une opinion négative à son égard (-2 points). Le solde d'image du chef de l'Etat (soit la différence entre les opinions positives et les opinions négatives à son égard), bien que toujours négatif (-16), progresse tout de même de 5 points en un mois. C'est la 6ème fois que la popularité d'Emmanuel Macron dépasse la barre des 40% depuis mai 2018, un an après son élection.

Germany

A majority of Germans are against immediate relaxations for vaccinated and recovered people

Infratest dimap, 06/05/2021

ARD-DeutschlandTrend: Grüne ziehen an Union vorbei | tagesschau.de

The **relaxations of COVID-19 restrictions for vaccinated and recovered people** are to take effect as early as 8th of May. But the majority of citizens are critical of this plan at this stage:

40 percent of Germans think it is fundamentally wrong for people who have been fully vaccinated against Corona or have already survived a Corona infection to be **exempt from measures** such as contact restrictions and curfews. In contrast, while 55 percent think such relaxations for vaccinated and recovered people are a step in the right direction - they are divided on the timing:

Of those in favour, 48 percent think it is right that the relaxations should apply immediately. However, 51 percent think relaxations should only take effect when more people have the chance to receive a Corona vaccination. Thus, a majority of citizens oppose immediate relaxations for those who have been vaccinated and those who have recovered.

The **measures in place to contain the COVID-19 pandemic** are appropriate in the opinion of 40 percent of Germans (+16 percent compared with April). For 30 percent, they go too far (+6). For 26 percent, they do not go far enough (-22). The changes compared to the previous month are probably also related to the fact that the new Infection Protection Act has been passed in the meantime, which prescribes binding measures for certain incidence levels - such as night-time curfews.

Germans' willingness to be vaccinated has increased. Meanwhile, the willingness to be vaccinated has increased. Three quarters of Germans (75 percent) definitely want to be vaccinated against Corona or have already been vaccinated (+15 compared to February).

Another 11 percent are likely to do so (-6). 6 percent are probably not willing to be vaccinated against Corona (-3). 7 percent definitely not (-5).

Dissatisfaction with the corona crisis management is slowly decreasing though it is still pronounced

Infratest dimap, 15/05/2021 Tagesschau, May 15th, ARD Germany trend

65 percent of the eligible voters surveyed said they were **dissatisfied with how the corona measures are justified and explained** (seven percentage points less than in April). 32 percent were satisfied with the communication (five percentage points more than in April). Criticism of the corona vaccinations still clearly outweighs with 62 percent. At least one in three (36 percent) now expresses themselves positively about the vaccination campaign (In April it was only one in seven (15 percent)).

The verdict on the **corona vaccination campaign** is critically dependent on the age of the respondents and thus on the chance of their own immunization. Among the over 65s, every second (50 percent) of the vaccination campaign gives a positive report. Among the under 65s it is only three out of ten.

A majority of Germans are against lowering measures for people who have been vaccinated against coronavirus

YouGov in Merkur, 17/05/2021

<u>Corona-Lockerungen für Geimpfte: Umfrage zeigt überraschendes Stimmungsbild in Deutschland | Welt</u> (merkur.de)

The majority of Germans consider the **lifting of corona-related restrictions for fully vaccinated and convalescent** to be wrong: 40 percent of Germans think it is fundamentally wrong, 2 percent said that the groups of people should not receive any advantages as long as not everyone had the opportunity to be vaccinated. Another 21 percent believe that vaccinated and convalescent people should generally not be treated differently than people who are not vaccinated. In contrast, only 39 percent consider the lifting of the restrictions to be correct. 8 percent did not provide any information.

A Majority of Germans oppose privileges for vaccinated people YouGov for the German Press Agency (dpa), 18/05/2021 Corona-Umfrage: Meinung der Deutschen über die Vorteile für Geimpfte | Service (ruhr24.de)

A Majority of Germans oppose **privileges for vaccinated people**. The minority of respondents believe that the **restrictions on vaccinated and recovered people** should be lifted: 32 percent of those surveyed believe it is wrong that groups of people should not receive any advantages until everyone has had the opportunity to be vaccinated. Another 21 percent even think that vaccinated and recovered people should generally not be treated differently at all from people who have not been vaccinated. Only 39 percent are in favour of the new regulation. Another 8 percent made no statement.

The willingness to receive the vaccine against the corona virus has increased to 74% YouGov, 18/05/2021

Deutschlandfunkt, May 18th, Survey

Almost three quarters of adults in Germany are currently ready to be vaccinated against the coronavirus or have already received a dose: a total of 74 percent.

At the end of December, it was 65 percent. At that time, 19 percent refused immunization; according to the survey, it is now 15 percent. The proportion of people who are undecided has also fallen in the five months: from 16 to 11 percent.

Greece

Greeks' satisfaction with Covid-19 measures and vaccination rollout

Alco Poll, 24/05/2021:

Δημοσκόπηση Alco: Προβάδισμα της ΝΔ με 13,2 μονάδες έναντι του ΣΥΡΙΖΑ (protothema.gr)

53% of Greeks are not satisfied with the **government's measures against the pandemic**. A higher and increasing share is satisfied with the design and implementation of the vaccination program. This share has increased from 36% in January 2021 to 67% in May 2021.

When asked about who they trust more for prime minister, respondents give Kyriakos Mitsotakis 41% and Alexis Tsipras 23%. "Neither of them" is given by 32% of respondents. A similar picture arises when asked which government they trust to bring economic growth after the pandemic: Nea Dimokratia (Mitsotakis) gets 38%, Syriza (Tsipras) 21% and none 33%.

Hungary

Only one in five Hungarians is against vaccination

Ipsos, 20/05/2021

https://www.ipsos.com/hu-hu/csak-minden-otodik-magyar-oltasellenes

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.

Summary of the results:

- 70% of adults are pro-vaccine, the vast majority of whom have registered on the official website, but around one in six of those who have registered have not yet received the expected vaccine.
- The 8% undecided group is joined by a 22% rejection rate.
- 51% of the adult population have had at least their first vaccination, while a further 11% have registered for the vaccine but have either not yet been invited or have refused the offered vaccine.
- Among those under 30, traditionally refusing to get vaccinated, vaccination uptake rose sharply to 68% in one month, while the number of those against vaccination reduced to 26%.
- 40% of Hungarians believe that the pandemic restrictions in Hungary will end by August, while the majority (60%) think it will be later or are unsure about it.

Willingness to receive a vaccine against COVID-19 is on the rise in Hungary

KSH (Hungarian Central Statistical Office), 18/05/2021

http://www.ksh.hu/weekly-

monitor/index.html?utm_source=kshhu&utm_medium=banner&utm_campaign=theme-health-care-accidents

In the week of 3-9 May 2021, nearly 80% of the population surveyed were either already vaccinated or said they would definitely or probably be vaccinated.

Mostly people over the age of 64 (89%) and those with tertiary education (76%) plan to get vaccinated. Young people and the less educated are the most dismissive towards vaccination.

Compared to the start of the survey (30 November - 6 December 2020), the proportion of people who think they would be vaccinated or have already been vaccinated has already more than quadrupled. In the past two weeks, the almost steadily increasing willingness to get vaccinated has stalled and the undecided rate, while down significantly, is still around 19%. Attitudes towards vaccination are most influenced by views on the safety of the vaccines.

The following	y variables influence	Hungarians'	opinions	on the	vaccines:
	, variables illiaerice		~P	••	

- 86% of respondents are persuaded by the severity of the pandemic and the number of cases and deaths.
- 82% of participants are persuaded by news about vaccination in the press and media
- 91% of respondents are influenced by government communication.
-) 67% of participants are persuaded by information in social media.
- 54% of all respondents do not take into account the views of anti-vaxxers and vaccine sceptics at all.

Opposition parties are not against vaccination, as a quarter of Fidesz voters see

Publicus, 11/05/2021

https://publicus.hu/blog/az-ellenzeki-partok-nem-oltasellenesek-igy-latja-a-fidesz-szavazok-negyede-is/

Publicus Institute conducted a survey to study the Hungarian people's views on current issues related to the coronavirus between the 24th and 28th of April.

Summary of the results:

- Among those who would like to be vaccinated or have been vaccinated already, 69% of them would accept the Pfizer vaccine. 49% of the participants would accept the Chinese vaccine, Sinopharm, 47% would be satisfied with the Russia Sputnik vaccine and 45% would like to be vaccinated with Moderna. Support for AstraZeneca's vaccine is 38% and for the newly licensed Johnson & Johnson-Janssen it is 34%.
- One in ten respondents (9%) have had coronavirus.
- 33% of respondents said that they had experienced side effects of their illness. This number is 63% among those over 60.
- 51% of respondents are rather dissatisfied with the way the government has handled the coronavirus situation so far.
- 50% of participants are rather satisfied with the organisation of vaccinations.
- 79% of respondents are rather satisfied with the way the Hungarian health system has handled the coronavirus situation so far.
- 79% of respondents are rather dissatisfied with the evolution of the number of deaths.
- 62% of participants believe that opposition parties as a whole are not against the vaccination.
- 52% of respondents think that the government's decision to extend the state of emergency is largely due to the fact that it will involve parliament on fewer issues and the government can decide on important issues itself.

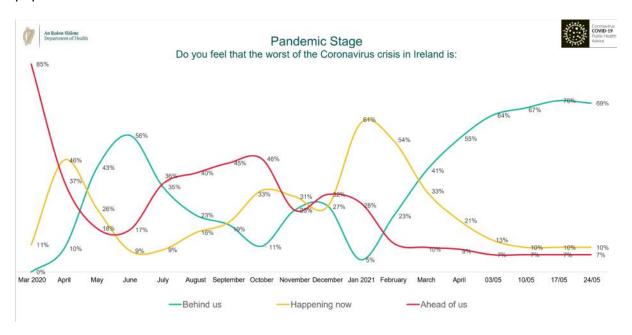
Ireland

Irish feel worse as the Coronavirus crisis lies behind them

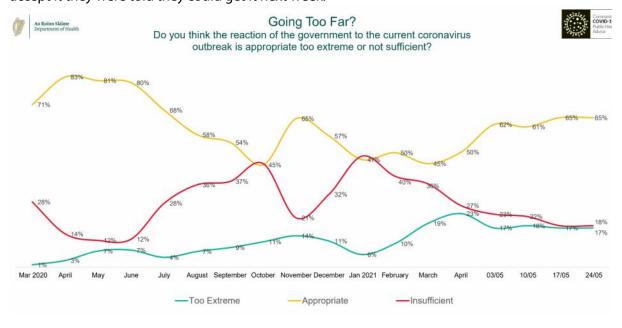
Amárach Research, 24/05/2021

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 69% of the population feel the worst of the Coronavirus crisis is behind.



65% of the population think that the **reaction of the government to the coronavirus outbreak** is appropriate. The survey further shows high **compliance with the measures** currently in place as well as a readiness to continue certain practices such as more regular hand-washing, using sanitisers and social distancing in public transport or while in a queue, even after the most immediate threat of the coronavirus has been averted. 75% of those who have not received their vaccine yet would accept it they were told they could get it next week.



Italy

PCM Sondaggi Politico Elettorali

http://www.sondaggipoliticoelettorali.it/Home.aspx?sessionended=1

NOTO SONDAGGI

19-20/05/2021

Question: The Green pass: a useful document or not?

Useful: 61%Not useful: 29%I do not know: 10%

EMG

17/05/2021

Question: Do you think that most of the people in Italy will be vaccinated by the end of September?

Yes: 61%No: 30%I prefer not to answer: 9%

Question: In your opinion, which are the priorities of our country? (Multiple answers possible)

J Employment/jobs: 29%J Health: 28%J Reduction of taxes: 21%

Protection of environment/ reduction of pollution: 14%

School, university, research, culture: 14%

Development, economic and commercial growth: 12%

Good investments/use of the funds from the EU recovery plan: 12%

Reduction of criminalty/more security: 10%
Cuts in costs of politics/ custs of privileges: 10%

Cuts in bureaucracy and improved efficiency of public administrations: 8%

Lowered age for retiring: 7%Improved system of justice: 7%

Tourism: 7%Immigration: 6%

Social policies in favour of the youngest ones: 6%

Reduction of public debt: 6%

ISTITUTO PIEPOLI

17-18/05/2021

Question: To what extent are you afraid of the COVID-19 contagion?

J a lot: 17%
J quite a lot: 48%
J not much: 27%
J not at all: 8%

Question: how much are you worried about the COVID-19 variants? a lot: 21% quite a lot: 48% not much: 22% not at all: 7% do not know: 2% Question: Do you think that your will go on holidays this summer? Yes: 49% No: 51% **IPSOS** 13-14/05/2021 Question: For you, the COVID-19 represents a threat (high and very high) for: ...you as a person: 35% ...your local community, your town: 46% ...Italy: 62% Question: Today, as regards this emergency... ...the worst is past: 42% ...we are in the worst moment of the emergency: 26% ...the worst has still to come: 11% ...I do not know: 21% Question: Concerning the vaccination, you... ...Have already got it (at least one dose): 34% ...Will get it as soon as it is available for you: 35% ...Are not sure to get it: you would like to understand its efficacy or better evaluate which one to do among the available ones:15% ...Will not do it for sure: 7% ...Do not know: 9%

Latvia

Society worries less about pandemic

Kantar, 29/04/2021

<u>Sabiedrība ir nogurusi no pandēmijas radītajām sekām un jūtas aizvien brīvāk – KANTAR Latvia</u>

According to the "Kantar" survey, this spring 43% Latvian inhabitants worry about pandemic in comparison with 66% last March and 57% last April. The lowest stress level was lasts - 29% in June and 27% in August.

At the same time, respondents' evaluation about their economic situation is rather stable - all year around 60% see it as good.

Covid-19 has negatively influenced mental health of more than half of society

Central statistics office in Latvia, 20/05/2021

https://www.lsm.lv/raksts/zinas/latvija/csp-covid-19-krize-negativi-ietekmejusi-garigo-veselibu-vairak-neka-pusei-latvijas-iedzivotaju.a405456/

Fresh analysis by Central statistics office in Latvia shows, that 52,8% Latvian inhabitants feel Covid-19 has negatively influenced their mental health. Women feel even more exposed to this risk.

As person gets older, impact decreases: 59,1% of young people say being negatively influenced, while in seniors group this rate is 47,2%.

People receive information about Covid-19 mainly through news portals and TV

Rigas Stradina Universitate, date n.a.

Aptauja: sabiedrības izpratne par COVID-19 Latvijā Aptaujas rezultāti (rsu.lv)

Mid-April survey by one of leading universities show, that information about Covid-19 is mostly found on news portals (69%), TV (60%), social media (47%), radio (40%) and from public authorities (34%).

Large part of respondents answered, that they never get such an information from influencers (56%), newspapers (41%), politicians (31%) and international health organisations (28%).

Should vaccinated people have right to attend public events?

Kantar TNS, 22/04/2021

Aptauja: vai atļaut apmeklēt pasākumus tiem, kas vakcinēti pret Covid-19? | Ziņas | SKATIES

With regard to idea to allow vaccinated people to attend public events like theatres and concerts, "Kantar TNS" asked people to evaluate this idea.

51% reacted positively, 34% are against, but 15% do not have particular opinion in this respect.

Lithuania

A significant proportion of Lithuanians express their mental health deteriorated during the pandemic

Spinter survey ordered by the Ministry of Health of The Republic of Lithuania, 21/03/2021 https://www.delfi.lt/news/daily/lithuania/beprotiskai-ilgas-karantinas-nepraejo-be-pasekmiu-beveik-puse-lietuvos-gyventoju-ant-pavojingos-ribos.d?id=86890157

The Spinter survey was commissioned by the Ministry of Health and conducted on 18-75 year olds in February 2021.

The second wave of COVID-19 affected people very differently. Half (49%) of the respondents felt that their **emotional state** got worse during the second wave of COVID-19 (since September 2020) compared to the summer period and 46% claimed that their **emotional well-being** did not change.

Quarantine also had an effect on **relationships**. According to the survey, 8% said their relationships have improved, 18% believed that some of their relations have improved and some deteriorated, 12% felt that their relationships have deteriorated and 11% indicated that they lived alone.

It was also analysed how the respondents were coping with **stress**. The majority, 44%, stated that they communicated remotely or directly with their relatives, friends and colleagues, 37% surfed on the Internet, 33% engaged in their favourite activities and 31% spent time in nature. (...)

68% of Lithuanians say they are likely to get vaccinated or have already done so

Vilmorus survey, 30/04/2021

https://www.delfi.lt/sveikata/sveikatos-naujienos/poziuris-i-vakcinas-nuo-koronaviruso-apnuogino-valdzios-klaidas-gresmiu-yra-ir-daugiau.d?id=87070503

In this survey, comissioned by the Chancellery of the President and conducted on April 8-17, people were asked if they were planning to get vaccinated against COVID-19. **30.9% of the respondents were definitely planning to get vaccinated, and further 17% answered that they most likely would**. Meanwhile 12.5% said that they most likely would not, and 13.5% were determined not to get vaccinated. 19.9% answered that they have already been vaccinated once or twice. 6.3% had no opinion.

In terms of gender, 46.9% of men and 48.7% of women answered positively to the question whether they were planning to get vaccinated. (...) Those in the age group of 30 to 39 years were most willing to get vaccinated. (...).

When asked which vaccine they would prefer if they could choose, most respondents said it was "Pfizer". In the second place was "Moderna" and the least wanted one was the "Vaxzeveria" vaccine by AstraZeneca. (...) The survey also included a question about the Russian vaccine "Sputnik" if it was approved in the EU. 40.1% said that they would not and 10.8% would. (...).

Netherlands

The majority of respondents have no confidence in the government's corona and vaccination policy and support easing certain restrictions

EenVandaag Opiniepanel

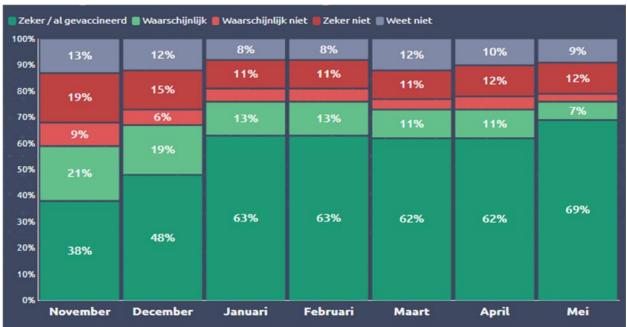
To chart **public confidence in the Dutch government's corona policy**, the *EenVandaag Opiniepanel* conducted several surveys on various measurement periods. In addition to general **confidence in the corona and vaccination policies of the government** as a whole, the respondents to the surveys were also asked for their opinion on the functioning of Prime Minister Mark Rutte and Health Minister Hugo de Jonge. The results, as shown below, show that the values for all measured variables are below 50% and thus the majority of respondents have no confidence in the government's corona and vaccination policy and the two involved 'corona ministers'. On the other hand, there is a clear increase in public confidence for all variables in the period 14 April 2021 to 12 May 2021. Confidence in vaccination policy in particular has increased strongly: from 28% in April to 44% in May. This was probably caused by the relatively rapid progress of the vaccination plan compared to the previous months. Confidence in both the corona approach and Prime Minister Mark Rutte is now 47%, compared to 39% and 43% respectively during the previous measurement

in April. The values for Health Minister Hugo de Jonge have increased from 38% in April to 43% in May (EenVandaag, 2021a).



Percentage of respondents who have confidence in the Dutch government's corona approach (orange), Prime Minister Mark Rutte (green), Minister of Health Hugo de Jonge (blue), and the vaccination policy (yellow).

In addition to confidence in government policy against the COVID-19 pandemic, *EenVandaag* has also investigated people's **willingness to be vaccinated against the virus**. The results of the surveys over the past months can be seen in the chart below. It is striking that since January, the month in which the vaccination program was (slowly) started, the percentages of the respondents who do or do not want to be vaccinated have been fairly stable. (...)



Ppercentage of respondents who definitely want to be vaccinated or have already been vaccinated (dark green), probably want to be vaccinated (light green), probably do not want to be vaccinated (light red), certainly do not want to be vaccinated (dark red), or do not know yet (grey).

Public opinion surveys of *EenVandaag* have also focussed on the extent to which people are **concerned about the coronavirus**. (...) In recent months, when the vaccination program was rolled out, the percentage of respondents concerned about the virus has fallen slightly. On 14 April 2021 this percentage was 66%, and in the most recent data of 12 May 2021 it was 58%. In the months before the vaccinations started, this was still around 75% for a long time. This means that the start of the vaccinations has had an impact on people's concerns about the coronavirus (EenVandaag, 2021d).

Following the recent press conference on 11 May in which Prime Minister Mark Rutte announced relaxation of the corona measures, *EenVandaag* has charted the public opinion on this. (...). At the end of February, a majority (62%) would have preferred the terraces to be opened instead of the relaxations that were implemented at that time, such as allowing contact-based professions and shopping by appointment. And even now, people are mainly looking forward to the longer opening times of terraces next week: of all possible relaxations, this is by far the most supported (41%).

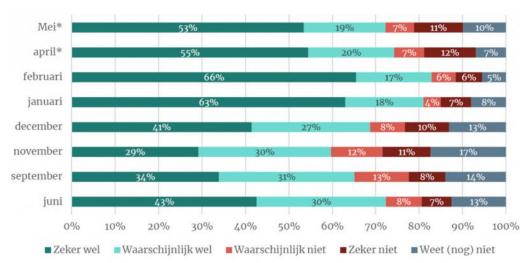
The second favourite relaxation is the opening of transfer locations such as amusement parks and museums (27%), followed by the opening of indoor sports locations (26%). The government's decision to only implement these relaxations if the number of corona patients in hospitals would allow it, was supported by 55% of the respondents. About a quarter of them (26%) would have preferred an unconditional relaxation of measures, and 16% of respondents would prefer not to ease the restrictions or to even tighten the corona measures (EenVandaag, 2021e).

A majority of people are willing to get vaccinated or have already done so and 55% want to maintain current restrictions amidst increasing infections I&O Research

The study into the support for the corona measures in May, which *l&O Research* carried out on behalf of *NOS* in the period from Friday April 30 to Monday May 3, shows that 41% of the respondents are in favour of **introducing relaxation or completely ending the corona measures**. Compared to the results of March and April, this percentage is much lower. A substantial part of the respondents was probably shocked after the reports about increasing infections and overflowing hospitals in recent weeks. While there is support for the recently introduced relaxations, there is no majority in favour of further relaxation of measures. More than half (55%) of the respondents want to either maintain the current restrictions (34%) or even tighten the measures (21%). *Chart 5* below shows the results of the corresponding survey (I&O Research, 2021a).

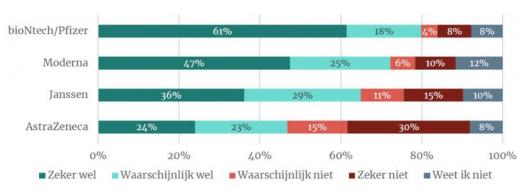


Another part of the research focussed on **people's willingness to be vaccinated** against the COVID-19 virus. (...) About three quarters of those who have not yet been vaccinated plan to do so. Half of them say they definitely want to be vaccinated. This means that the willingness to vaccinate has remained stable since the last measurement in April 2021. In earlier research, the results showed that the difference between February and April can be explained by the increase in the number of vaccinations (I&O Research, 2021b).



Percentage of respondents who certainly (dark green), probably (light green), probably do not (light red), or certainly do not (red) want to be vaccinated, or do not know (grey).

I&O Research has also focussed on possible **preferences for specific vaccines**. The results indicate that AstraZeneca's vaccine is the least popular. Four out of ten non-vaccinated people do not want to be vaccinated with AstraZeneca: 30 percent certainly do not want that. In contrast, the BioNtech/Pfizer vaccine is the most popular: 79% would definitely (61%) or probably (18%) want to be vaccinated with it. Regarding the Moderna vaccine, more than 7 out of 10 respondents are positive about a vaccination. Most of the Dutch citizens believe that people who are vaccinated should be able to choose for themselves which vaccine they receive (56%).



Percentage of respondents who certainly (dark green), probably (light green), probably do not (light red), or certainly do not (red) want to be vaccinated with a specific vaccine, or do not know (grey).

Poland

Most Poles positively assess organisation of COVID-19 vaccination

PAPA, 24/05/2021

https://polandin.com/53974494/most-poles-positively-assess-organisation-of-covid19-vaccination-poll

A new poll conducted by the Public Opinion Research Center (from May 6 to 16, 2021) shows that 71 percent of Poles positively **evaluate the government's organisation of the vaccinations** against the COVID-19 disease.

According to the study, 36 percent of respondents have already been inoculated, while 33 percent are still planning to vaccinate against COVID-19. (...) Meanwhile the number of respondents who do **not want to get vaccinated** also went down (from 30 percent to 25 percent).

The poll also shows that the vast majority of respondents are **satisfied with the organisation of vaccinations**, and only one in six (16 percent) thinks it was badly organised. 13 percent of respondents do not have an opinion on this subject.

Portugal

Portuguese people generally support the agents managing the pandemic CESOP, 14/05/2021

Sondagem. Portugueses dão nota positiva a políticos e entidades durante a pandemia

The survey conducted by CESOP reveals that the Portuguese have an overall **positive image towards the several actors and entities who are fighting against the pandemic**. The President of the Republic is the one who receives the best "grade" from the respondents, with 64% of those polled responding in his favour. The Prime Minister gets a "Reasonable" evaluation by the Portuguese (45%), while 33% considers António Costa's performance "Good" and 8% "Very Good". Even though he maintains a general positive image, António Costa had obtained better results in the two previous surveys. The Minister of Health is also evaluated positively by the Portuguese: 41% consider her performance as "Reasonable", 34% as "Good" and 7% as "Very Good". Also the General Directorate of Health received an overall positive evaluation, with 43% of those polled giving a "Reasonable" evaluation of the response to the pandemic and 37% "Good". Only 11% considered it to be a negative.

The study by CESOP also concluded that the **general attitude towards the Covid-19 vaccines** is highly optimistic: 82% of the Portuguese are willing to receive the vaccine as soon as they are called, while only 9% do not want to receive it.

Regarding the **Recovery and Resilience Plan**, 49% do not know what it concerns and 38% know what it is, but have not read or consulted it. Only 10% know and have consulted the plan. Thus, there is a generalised lack of knowledge of the plan. Data also reveals that 33% consider that the plan will have no impact on their lives, while 30% believe the impact will be positive.

In the **economic and employment context**, 50% of respondents consider "Not Likely" the possibility of losing their professional activity in the next year, unlike 14% of the questioned. Among those who have been polled and are, currently, unemployed, 24% consider it "Very Likely" to resume

their professional activity or find a job next year, but 23% do not intend to resume their activity. Regarding the loss of income, the majority of respondents (63%) say they maintain their income before the pandemic, although 25% admits having a lower income nowadays. In contrast to these figures, 9% of respondents say they got a higher income after the Covid-19 pandemic. (...)

A majority of Portugese support issuing a Covid passport

Revolut in SAPO,10/05/2021

68% dos Portugueses querem o passaporte de imunidade para passar férias no estrangeiro

Revolut surveyed 10 countries, including Portugal, to understand their plans for the summer holidays. Of the Portuguese questioned, 68% want the **digital green certificate**, because they have plans to travel this year.

The study states that 34% of Portuguese plan to leave Portugal on holiday, while 25% prefer to stay in the country because of the pandemic; 30% admit to travel both in Portugal and abroad.

The health systems of the holiday destination countries are important for about 47% of respondents and 28% admit this concern, but it will not influence their holiday plan.

80% of Portuguese people want to be or have been vaccinated against covid-19

ICS and ISCTE for SIC and Expresso, 30/04/2021

Esmagadora maioria dos portugueses quer receber vacina contra covid-19

According to a study carried out by ICS and ISCTE for SIC and Expresso, the majority of Portuguese want to be **vaccinated against covid-19**. In terms of numbers, almost 80% of respondents want to be or have been vaccinated against covid-19. The rest split between those who refuse the vaccine (6%) and those who admit the decision depends on which pharmaceutical company is concerned (8%). Possible side effects are the main reason for refusing the vaccine.

Opinions are divided on **how the vaccination plan is going**: 52% think it is going well or very well, while 40% think it is going badly or very badly. The responsibility in both cases is attributed to the Government, the health authorities and the pharmaceutical industry.

The opinion of the Portuguese on how the President, the Government and the Directorate-General for Health (DGS) are managing the pandemic has improved. Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa has never fallen below 60% confidence. Also, a large percentage of respondents fear that there is still one last lockdown to come (81%) against only 1/10 (11%) who think it is unlikely that we will stay at home again.

On the lockdown easing plan, almost half of respondents think it is moving at the right pace; 25% would prefer to see it slower and 20% think it could be faster.

Romania

Romanians are willing to get vaccinated if the employer requires it

10/05/2021

https://www.bursa.ro/studiu-randstad-67-procente-dintre-romani-sunt-dispusi-sa-se-vaccineze-daca-angajatorul-le-solicita-acest-lucru-03951345

According to the Randstad Workmonitor study, 67% of Romanians would get vaccinated if the vaccination would present an impediment in their professional activity. Out of all respondents, 27% believe that strengthening the work and personal life policies would be the most useful action from employers in the hybrid work context.

Slovenia

Choice of vaccine likely to reduce hesitancy

Valicon, 19/05/2021

https://english.sta.si/2902537/choice-of-vaccine-likely-to-reduce-hesitancy

Slovenia has seen substantial **vaccine hesitancy** but interest in vaccination could improve if people were able to individually choose which vaccine to have, according to a survey by Valicon conducted between 14 and 16 May.

The long-running survey, which has been going on for a year, shows that almost 60% of the respondents are now likely or definitely getting a jab, the highest since early April. The total also includes those who have already received a shot. But if they had a **choice of vaccine**, the share of respondents definitely or likely to get vaccinated would rise by a full nine percentage points, with the share of those definitely getting a shot almost doubling.

Government with lowest support so far, SDS remains in lead

Vox Populi, 18/05/2021

https://sloveniatimes.com/govt-with-lowest-support-so-far-sds-remains-in-lead-in-vox-populi-poll/

The latest Vox Populi poll, commissioned by dailies Dnevnik and Večer, and conducted between 11 and 13 May, shows that the support for the Janez Janša government has hit its lowest point so far as 70.2% think the government is not doing its job well. Meanwhile, the ruling Democrats (SDS) remain in the lead, followed by the opposition SocDems.

The share of the respondents who assess the **government's work as unsuccessful** increased by almost 3 percentage points on the previous month as the support for the government continues to hit all-time lows. On the other hand, 26.1% believe the government is doing a good job. (...)

Spain

A majority of Spanish people declare the economic crisis and the Covid-19 sanitary crisis are their main problems

CIS, 18/05/2021

The economic downturn and Covid-19, main problems for the Spaniards (europapress.es)

The **economic downturn and issues related to the economy** are still the main problems for Spanish citizens (46.3%), even though the number of concerns has dropped 1.7 points compared to April. They are followed by the lack of resources to face the pandemic (41.6% compared to 45.1% in April).

39.3% of respondents are concerned about unemployment, 1.6 point higher than the previous survey. The bad behaviour of Spanish politicians and politic issues in general are the fourth and fifth most important problems for Spaniards (17.7% and 17% respectively).

41.7% of respondents believe that it is not necessary to take more severe measures and 59.7% believe that the majority of Spaniards are setting an example of solidarity and civics by complying with the measures.

Three out of four Spaniards affirms economic situation is worse than 6 months ago CIS, 09/05/2021

53% of citizens say they make just enough to make ends meet | El Correo

53% of citizens say they make just enough to make ends meet. Only 45.7% reach to save some money every month because of the current economic downturn. 11.1% of respondents stated they had to use their savings to make ends meet and 5.3% contracted debts for this reason.

One third of Spaniards (32.9%) affirms their **economic situation is** worse than before the pandemic and the main cause has been the decrease in household income (30.4%), followed by the current or future situation of employment (15%).

Three out of four Spaniards affirms economic situation is worse than 6 months ago. Nevertheless, 43.1% believes that the economic situation in Spain will improve in the next six months.

Though Spanish people's mental health has suffered due to the pandemic, there are signs of an improvement in their diet and sport routines

EESE/INE, 26/04/2021

20.3% of Spaniards expressed little energy or joy for doing things during the pandemic - RTVE.es

21.2% of respondents over 15 years suffered from sleeping problems during the first months of the pandemic. Another consequence of the lockdown and the current situation is the feeling of feel down: 21% declared to be feel down since the beginning of the pandemic, 26.9% are women and 14.8% are men.

However, 75.5% assessed their health as "good" or "very good", compared to 70% who stated the same in 2014. (...)

Spanish people rate the Government's management of the pandemic with a 4.8 Real Instituto Elcano, 22/04/2021

Spaniards fail Government's management of the pandemic with a score of 4.8 (elmundo.es)

Compared with the Spanish score of 4.8, international respondents of this survey approve the management of the pandemic in Spain with a score of 5.9.

According to the results, surveyors believe this "lowered self-esteem" is caused by the current economic situation, as in the previous crisis.

Sweden

Swedish people's trust in the institutions handling the pandemic has remained stable in the past year, with 47% of people having strong trust in the management of the crisis *Kantar/Sifo*, 07/05/2021

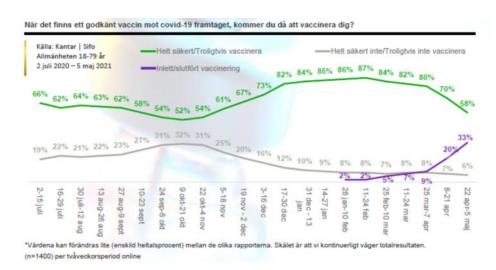
Allmänhetens tillit, tankar och ... under coronakrisen (kantarsifo.se)

Trust in institutions/authorities with covid-19 responsibilities: The health care sector is the most trusted institution (81%). 60% claim to have strong or quite strong trust in Folkhälsomyndigheten (The Public Health Agency of Sweden). MSB (The Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency) and Socialstyrelsen (National Board of Health and Welfare) score 43% respectively 37%. 41% trust the government, while the number for the political opposition is 24%. The figures have been stable all year:

Förtroende, ganska/mycket stort	22 apr -5 maj	8-21 apr	25 mar -7 apr	11-24 mars	25 feb -10 mar	11-24 feb	28 jan -10 feb	14-27 jan
Folkhälsomyndigheten	60%	61%	58%	62%	60%	57%	57%	58%
MSB	43%	45%	40%	43%	41%	37%	35%	34%
Sjukvården	81%	83%	81%	79%	81%	79%	79%	81%
Regeringen	41%	43%	37%	41%	40%	38%	38%	36%
Socialstyrelsen	37%	37%	34%	36%	36%	30%	30%	33%
Den politiska oppositionen	24%	25%	24%	22%	20%	21%	19%	23%

Every third person is now vaccinated in Sweden. Therefore, the number of people willing to the vaccine is decreasing. According to Kantar/Sifo, there is no sign of influence from the "antivaxx" movement or fear of side effects.

Will you take the vaccine?
58% for sure/most likely
6% definitely not, most likely not
33% have been vaccinated



How have Swedish institutions and authorities, in general, handled the covid-19 pandemic? 47% claim to have a strong or quite strong **trust in how Sweden has handled the corona virus**. 28% are critical of Sweden's handling of the pandemic.

