European Commission

Standard Eurobarometer 95
Spring 2021

Public opinion in the European Union

First results

Fieldwork: June – July 2021

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INTRODUCTION

This *First results* report details the first results of the Standard Eurobarometer survey of Spring 2021 (EB95) in the 27 EU Member States[1]. It is published together with the results of the Standard Eurobarometer questions, which are detailed in an annex. The survey was carried out between 14 June and 12 July 2021[2].

Coronavirus pandemic

The period between the previous Standard Eurobarometer (EB94, Winter 2020-2021, Feb-March 2021) and the fieldwork of the current Standard Eurobarometer of spring 2021 (conducted in June – July) initially saw a 10 week decline in new cases of the coronavirus. However, this has now come to an end as case numbers rise with the spread of the Delta variant, and some analysists are talking about a fourth wave of the pandemic. The Delta variant, also called the "Indian variant" [3], had been reported in 124 countries as at 20 July. It also accounted for more than 75% of new cases in the month up to 20 July in a wide range of countries including Australia, China, India, Israel, the Russian Federation, South Africa and the United Kingdom.[4] According to the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, Delta is now the dominant strain in Europe, accounting for 70% of infections[5].

On 22 July the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) reported more than 33.9 million cases of coronavirus had been documented in the EU, with the largest numbers in France (5,867,730), Italy (4,287,458), Spain (4,161,850) and Germany (3,745,227). Worldwide more than 191.1 million cases have been reported.[6] On the same date there had been more than 742,800 deaths reported in the EU, and almost 4.1 million deaths worldwide.

Vaccination campaign

On 1 July, the EU Digital COVID Certificate regulation entered into application allowing EU citizens and residents to have their digital COVID certificates issued and verified across the EU.

On 11 July, Commission President Ursula von der Leyen announced the EU has delivered enough vaccines to Member States to fully vaccinate at least 70% of EU adults. As of 12 July, 500 million vaccine doses had been delivered in the EU, with 404.4 million doses administered and 65.2% of the adult population having received at least one dose.[7]

In August 2021, the European Commission had secured up to 4.6 billion doses of COVID-19 vaccines and negotiations were underway for additional doses.

As of 11 August 2021, 587.5 million doses had been delivered in the EU; 489.7 million doses had been administered and 73.9 % of the adult EU population received at least one dose of a vaccine.

The economy

The coronavirus pandemic continues to have a major impact on the European economy, however the decline in cases in the first half of 2021 and easing of virus containment measures and lockdowns has encouraged some recovery. In the Summer 2021 Economic Forecast, GDP is predicted to grow by 4.8% in 2021 in both the EU and the euro area, which represents an improvement compared with 2020, when it fell sharply (-6.5% in the euro area, and -6.0% in the EU as a whole).[8]

The unemployment rate has been declining in 2021 and in May 2021 was 7.3%, down from 7.4% in April 2021 but up from 6.9% in May 2020. In the euro area, unemployment stood at 7.9% in May 2021, down from 8.1% in April 2021 but up from 7.5% in May 2020.[9]

EU-related events since the Standard Eurobarometer Winter 2020-2021 survey:

- The multi-lingual digital platform for the **Conference of the Future of Europe** was launched on 19 April, with the inaugural session of the Conference held on 9 May 2021, after being delayed due to the coronavirus pandemic. The Conference is a joint project of European Parliament, the Council of the European Union and the European Commission supporting the delivery of the 'strengthening democracy and defending European values' strand of European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen's policy agenda[10]. The Conference is an opportunity for European citizens to have their say about the future they want for the European Union.[11]
- On 15 June the European Commission made its first **NextGenerationEU** transaction to finance Europe's recovery from the coronavirus crisis. NextGenerationEU is a recovery instrument of some €800 billion in current prices to support Europe's recovery from the coronavirus pandemic and help build a greener, more digital and more resilient Europe. The June transaction is the largest-ever institutional bond issuance in Europe, the largest-ever institutional single tranche transaction and the largest amount the EU has raised in a single transaction. By the end of 2021, the Commission expects to

[1] Some questions were asked also in 12 other countries or territories between 14 June and 15 July 2021: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Turkish Cypriot Community in the part of the country that is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus, Iceland, Kosovo - this designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/99 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence - Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

[2] It is important to note that the interval between this report and the previous Standard Eurobarometer (EB94) is around four months and therefore shorter than the usual time between two Standard EB surveys, as the fieldwork for EB94 was moved from autumn 2020 to winter 2020-2021 because of the coronavirus pandemic. The EB94 was carried out between 12 February and 11 March 2021 in the 27 EU Member States.

[3] https://www.who.int/en/activities/tracking-SARS-CoV-2-variants/

[4] https://www.who.int/publications/m/item/weekly-epidemiological-update-on-covid-19---20-july-2021

[5] https://covid19-country-overviews.ecdc.europa.eu/

[6] https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/covid-19/situation-updates

[7] https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/safe-covid-19-vaccines-europeans_en

[8] https://ec.europa.eu/info/business-economy-euro/economic-performance-and-forecasts/economic-forecasts/summer-2021-economic-forecast_en

[9] https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/documents/2995521/11563151/3-01072021-AP-EN.pdf/a99763ae-8bcf-33cb-0be8-adb9943cb9ca?t=1625127399537

[10] https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/info/files/political-guidelines-next-commission_en_0.pdf

[11] https://futureu.europa.eu/pages/about

raise some €80 billion in bonds, to be complemented by short-term EU-Bills, as per the funding plan published in June 2021.[12]

- On 14 July the European Commission adopted a **package of proposals** to make the EU's climate, energy, land use, transport and taxation policies fit for reducing net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030, compared to 1990 levels.[13] These provide the legislative tools to deliver on targets in the **European Climate law**, and make the **New Green Deal**[14] a reality.

Elections in the EU since the winter 2020-2021 survey:

The period was marked by major elections in Bulgaria and Cyprus.

- **Parliamentary elections** were held **in Bulgaria** on 4 April but no party was able to form a government. Snap elections were held on 11 July resulting Slavi Trifonov’s “anti-elite” party called There Is Such a People (ITN) edging out former Prime Minister Boyko Borisov's GERB-led coalition. Trifonov has announced plans to try and form a cabinet[15].
- **Parliamentary elections** were held **in Cyprus** on 30 May, with the Democratic Rally (DISY) (27.8%) and the Progressive Party of Working People (AKEL) (22.3%) polling the highest proportion of votes, although this represents a decline in their respective support bases since 2016.

Regional elections were held in Germany and in France.

- The Christian Democratic Union (CDU) came first in Saxony-Anhalt with 37.1% of the vote – an increase of their vote share in 2016.
- Regional elections in France were marked by the very low level of the turnout (34.69% on the second round).

Other noteworthy events since the winter 2020-2021 survey:

- **Impact of climate change:** At the end of June an unprecedented heatwave in the Pacific north-west broke heat records several times in the space of a week. In June and July much of the west coast of the USA and Canada was gripped by extreme heat, drought and massive wildfires. Cyclones and tropical storms caused flooding, damage and loss of life in Indonesia and Timor-Leste (April), India (May) and Cuba (July). Shortly after the end of the fieldwork (around 15 July), severe floods took place in Germany (Rheinland-Pfalz and Nordrhein-Westfalen regions) and in Belgium (region of Liège) causing respectively 184 and 42 deaths.
- On 23 May a Ryanair plane from Athens to Vilnius carrying **opposition Belarusian journalist Roman Protasevich** and his girlfriend was forced to land in Belarus. Both were removed from the flight and arrested, sparking international protests.
- **Dutch crime reporter Peter R. de Vries** was shot on an Amsterdam street on 6 July and died in hospital on 15 July.

Terrorist attacks:

- On 23 April a French police official was killed inside a police station in Rambouillet, near Paris, by a suspected Islamic extremist.
- On 25 June, three women were killed in a shop in Würzburg, Bavaria (Germany), by a Somalian man. The Munich Prosecutor's office, stated that an Islamic motive was 'likely'.

[12] https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_2982
[13] https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_21_3541
[14] https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en
[15] Since the end of the fieldwork, discussions to form a cabinet were not conclusive and the possibility of new elections was mentioned.

Methodology used for this survey

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, in some countries **alternative interview modes** to face-to-face were necessary as a result of the situation.

When possible, the methodology used was that of the Standard Eurobarometer surveys carried out by the Directorate-General for Communication ("Media monitoring and Eurobarometer" Unit)[16][17].

Following the EU General Data Protection Regulation[18] (GDPR), respondents were asked whether or not they would agree to be asked questions on issues that could be considered "sensitive".

Note: In this report, EU countries are referred to by their official abbreviation. The abbreviations used in this report correspond to:

Belgium	BE	Lithuania	LT
Bulgaria	BG	Luxembourg	LU
Czechia	CZ	Hungary	HU
Denmark	DK	Malta	MT
Germany	DE	The Netherlands	NL
Estonia	EE	Austria	AT
Ireland	IE	Poland	PL
Greece	EL	Portugal	PT
Spain	ES	Romania	RO
France	FR	Slovenia	SI
Croatia	HR	Slovakia	SK
Italy	IT	Finland	FI
Republic of Cyprus	CY *	Sweden	SE
Latvia	LV		

European Union – weighted average for the 27 Member States	EU27
BE, FR, IT, LU, DE, AT, ES, PT, IE, NL, FI, EL, EE, SI, CY, MT, SK, LV, LT	euro area
BG, CZ, DK, HR, HU, PL, RO, SE	Non euro area

* Cyprus as a whole is one of the 27 European Union Member States. However, the 'acquis communautaire' has been suspended in the part of the country which is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus. For practical reasons, only the interviews carried out in the part of the country controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus are included in the 'CY' category and in the EU27 average.

We wish to thank the people throughout the European Union who have given their time to take part in this survey.
Without their active participation, this study would not have been possible.

[16] https://www.europa.eu/eurobarometer
[17] The results tables are annexed. It should be noted that the total of the percentages indicated in the tables in this report may exceed 100% when the respondent was able to choose several answers to the same question.

[18] 2016/679

I. EUROPEANS AND POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS

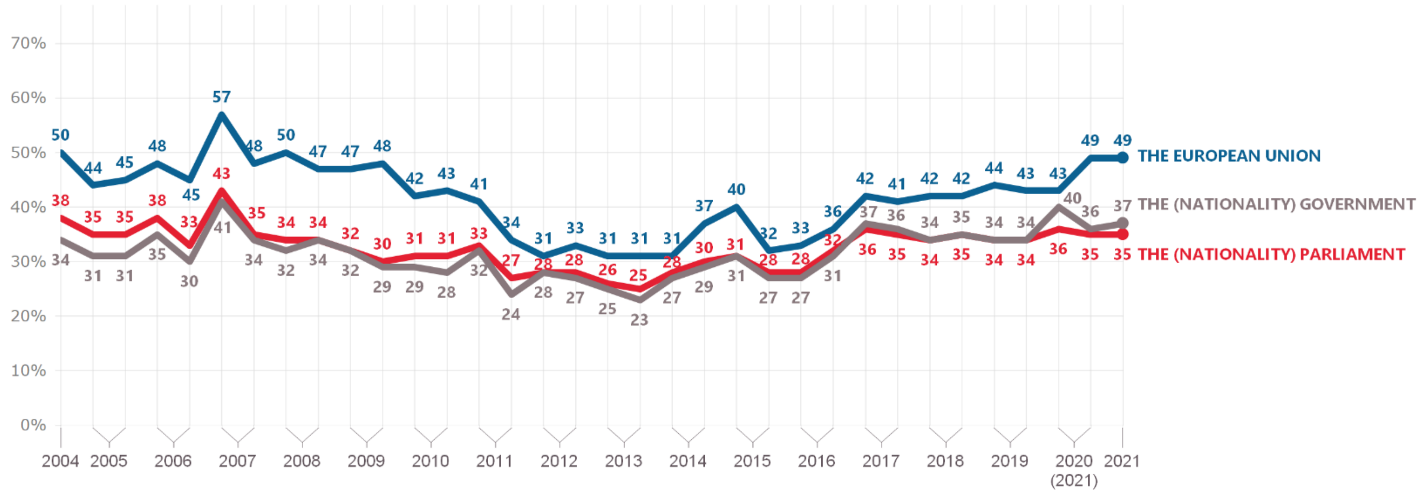
1. Trust in national governments and parliaments and in the European Union

Almost half of all Europeans trust the European Union (49%), a result stable since the Standard Eurobarometer EB94 of winter 2020-2021. This remains the highest level registered since spring 2008. Trust in national governments has increased slightly (37%, +1 percentage point since winter 2020-2021) while trust in national parliaments has remained the same (35%, =). The gap between trust in the EU and trust in national governments remains high.

At +12, the gap between trust in the EU and trust in national governments has declined one point since winter 2020-2021, but is still the second highest since autumn 2010, when it stood at +15.

Distrust of the European Union has decreased slightly (42% "tend not to trust", -1 percentage point since winter 2020-2021), as has distrust in national governments (59%, -1) and national parliaments (59%, -1).

QA6a How much trust do you have in certain institutions? For each of the following institutions, do you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it?
(% - EU - TEND TO TRUST)



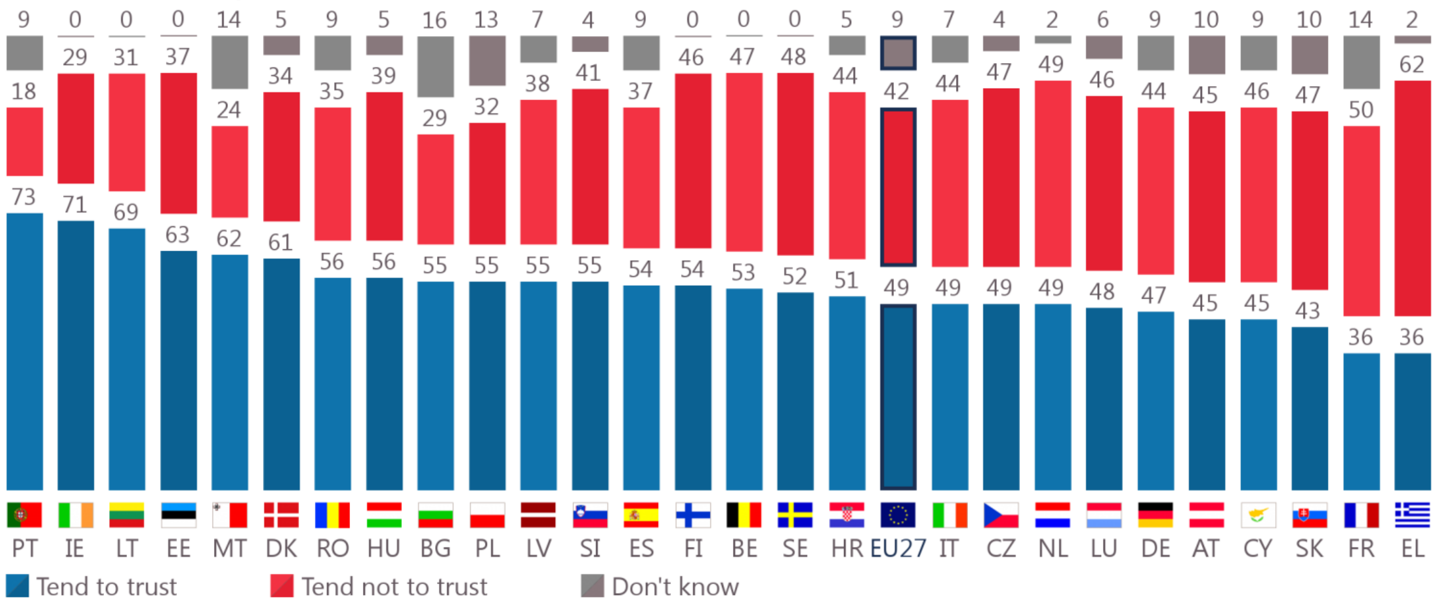
2. Trust in the European Union: national results and evolutions

A majority of respondents in 21 EU Member States say they trust the EU (up from 20 in winter 2020-2021), with the highest levels observed in Portugal (73%), Ireland (71%) and Lithuania (69%). More than six in ten respondents in Estonia (63%), Malta (62%) and Denmark (61%) trust the EU, as do at least half in Hungary, and Romania (both 56%), Bulgaria, Latvia, Poland and Slovenia (all 55%), Spain and Finland (both 54%), Belgium (53%), Sweden (52%) and Croatia (51%). A relative majority of respondents trust the EU in Czechia (49% vs 47% “tend not to trust”), Italy (49% vs 44%), Luxembourg (48% vs 46%) and Germany (47% vs 44%). Opinion is evenly divided in the Netherlands (49% “tend to trust” vs 49% “tend not to trust”) and Austria (45% vs 45%).

In contrast, distrust is the view of the majority in Greece (62%), France (50%), Slovakia (47% vs 43% “tend to trust”) and Cyprus (46% vs 45%).

At the national level, trust in the EU has declined in 17 EU Member States since the Standard Eurobarometer of winter 2020-2021 (EB94), particularly in the Netherlands (49%, -12 percentage points), Luxembourg (48%, -7), Slovakia (43%, -7), Latvia (55%, -6) and Sweden (52%, -6). Trust has increased in eight countries, most notably in Cyprus (45%, +6), Poland (55%, +5) and Italy (49%, +5), and has remained unchanged in Slovenia (55%) and Croatia (51%).

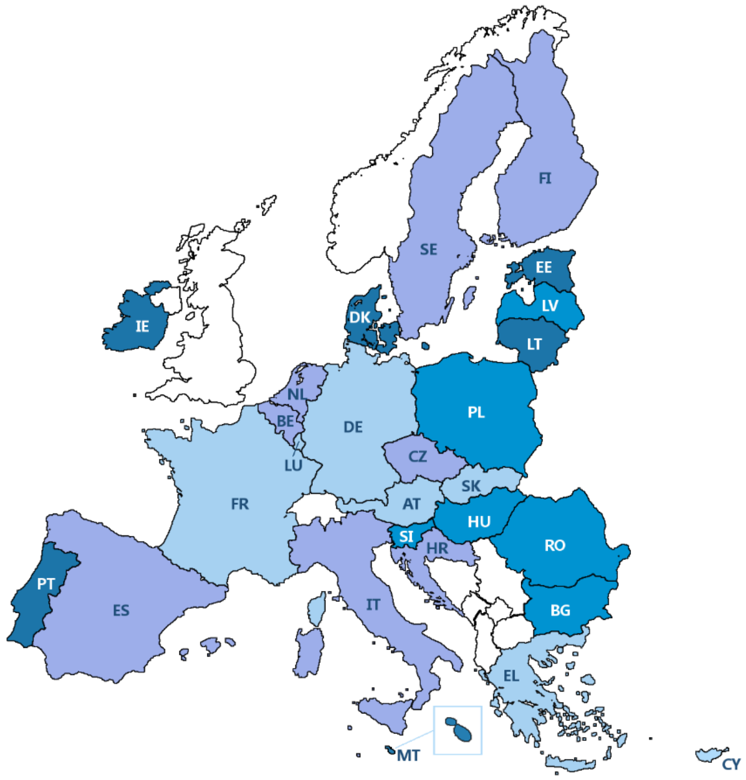
QA6a.11 How much trust do you have in certain institutions? For each of the following institutions, do you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it?
The European Union (%)



QA6a.11 How much trust do you have in certain institutions? For each of the following institutions, do you tend to trust it or tend not to trust it?
The European Union (% - TEND TO TRUST)

PT	73
IE	71
LT	69
EE	63
MT	62
DK	61
HU	56
RO	56
LV	55
SI	55
PL	55
BG	55
ES	54
FI	54
BE	53
SE	52
HR	51
NL	49
CZ	49
IT	49
EU27	49
LU	48
DE	47
AT	45
CY	45
SK	43
FR	36
EL	36

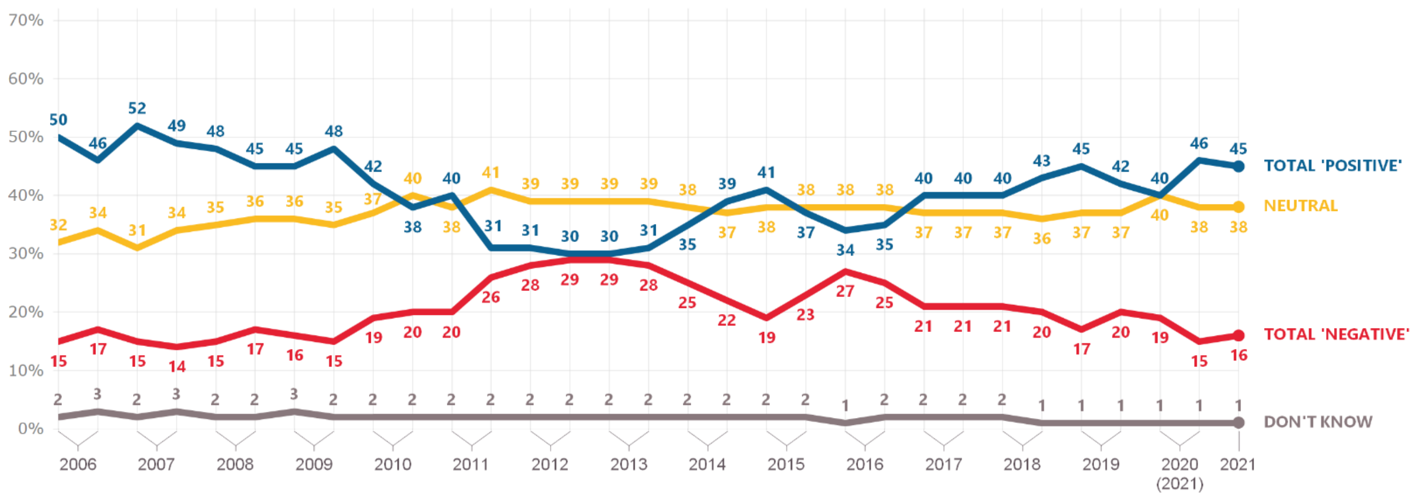
Map Legend
- 61 - 100
- 55 - 60
- 49 - 54
- 0 - 48



3. The image of the European Union

After a large increase between summer 2020 (EB93) and winter 2020-2021 (EB94), the positive image of the EU has declined by one point in spring 2021 (45%) but remains nevertheless the most mentioned answer. The neutral image of the EU has remained stable (38%, =). Although the negative image has increased slightly (16%, +1 percentage point), it remains lower than the scores observed during the period spring 2010 – summer 2020.

D78 In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?
(% - EU)



4. The image of the European Union: evolutions and national results

In 20 EU Member States a majority of respondents have a positive image of the EU (down from 24 in Standard Eurobarometer EB94 of winter 2020-2021). The highest results are observed in Ireland (70%) and Portugal (62%), but at least half of all respondents in Bulgaria (58%), Lithuania (57%), Poland and Slovenia (both 53%) and Estonia (50%) also have a positive image.

The levels of positive image of the EU have declined in 18 Member States since winter 2020-2021, with the largest decreases observed in Portugal (62%, -14 percentage points), the Netherlands (39%, -11), Czechia (38%, -11) and Latvia (43%, -10). The positive image level has slightly increased in Finland (42%, +2), Belgium (41%, +2), Austria (37%, +2), and Spain (46%, +1). There has been no change in Poland, Hungary, Lithuania, Germany and France.

In six Member States (up from two in winter 2020-2021), the EU has a predominantly **neutral image** amongst respondents: Croatia (47%), Italy (43%), Cyprus (42%), the Netherlands and Slovakia (both 40%), and Greece (37%).

In Austria respondents are equally likely to be positive or neutral (both 37%).

There are nine Member States (up from five in winter 2020-2021) where more than one in five respondents have a **negative image** of the EU: Greece (30%), Belgium, Czechia and Austria (all 25%), Slovakia (24%), Finland and Sweden (both 23%) and France and the Netherlands (both 21%).

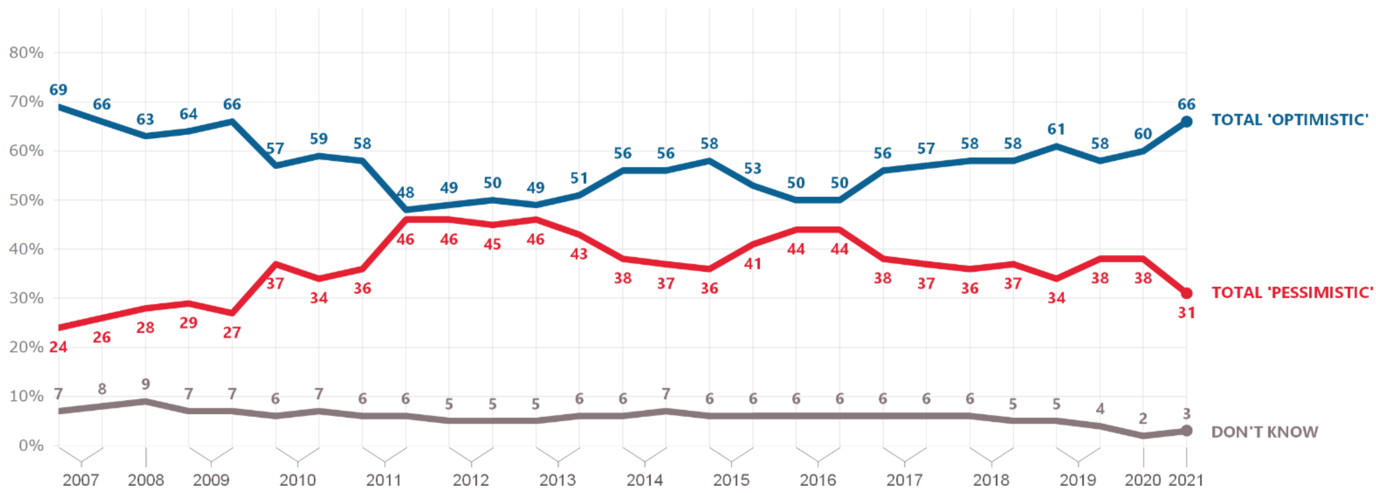
D78 In general, does the EU conjure up for you a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image?
(%)

	Total 'Positive'	Sp.2021 - Win.2020/2021	Neutral	Sp.2021 - Win.2020/2021	Total 'Negative'	Sp.2021 - Win.2020/2021	Don't know
EU27	45	▼ 1	38	=	16	▲ 1	1
FI	42	▲ 2	35	▼ 2	23	=	0
BE	41	▲ 2	34	▼ 4	25	▲ 2	0
AT	37	▲ 2	37	▼ 2	25	=	1
ES	46	▲ 1	42	▼ 3	11	▲ 3	1
LT	57	=	31	▼ 4	12	▲ 4	0
PL	53	=	39	=	8	=	0
DE	49	=	36	▼ 1	15	▲ 2	0
HU	48	=	40	▼ 2	12	▲ 2	0
FR	41	=	37	▼ 1	21	▲ 1	1
BG	58	▼ 1	26	▲ 1	13	▼ 1	3
SI	53	▼ 1	36	▼ 4	11	▲ 5	0
MT	49	▼ 1	42	=	8	▲ 2	1
DK	46	▼ 1	39	▲ 5	14	▼ 5	1
EL	33	▼ 1	37	▼ 5	30	▲ 6	0
IT	41	▼ 2	43	▲ 5	15	▼ 3	1
CY	41	▼ 3	42	▲ 4	17	▼ 1	0
HR	44	▼ 4	47	▲ 6	9	▼ 2	0
RO	43	▼ 4	42	▼ 4	14	▲ 7	1
SE	42	▼ 4	35	=	23	▲ 5	0
IE	70	▼ 5	22	▲ 3	8	▲ 2	0
EE	50	▼ 5	34	=	16	▲ 5	0
SK	36	▼ 7	40	▼ 1	24	▲ 9	0
LU	46	▼ 8	36	▲ 4	18	▲ 4	0
LV	43	▼ 10	42	▲ 8	15	▲ 2	0
NL	39	▼ 11	40	▲ 4	21	▲ 7	0
CZ	38	▼ 11	37	▲ 9	25	▲ 2	0
PT	62	▼ 14	29	▲ 8	8	▲ 5	1

5. The future of the European Union

Optimism about the future of the EU has increased sharply since summer 2020[19], with two thirds of respondents now holding a positive view (66%, +6 percentage points). This is the highest level since autumn 2009. Just over three in ten respondents are pessimistic about the EU's future (31%, -7), and this is the lowest level since 2009.

QA12 Would you say that you are very optimistic, fairly optimistic, fairly pessimistic or very pessimistic about the future of the EU?
(% - EU)



[19] This question was not asked in the Winter 2020-2021 Standard Eurobarometer 94.

6. The future of the European Union: national results and evolutions

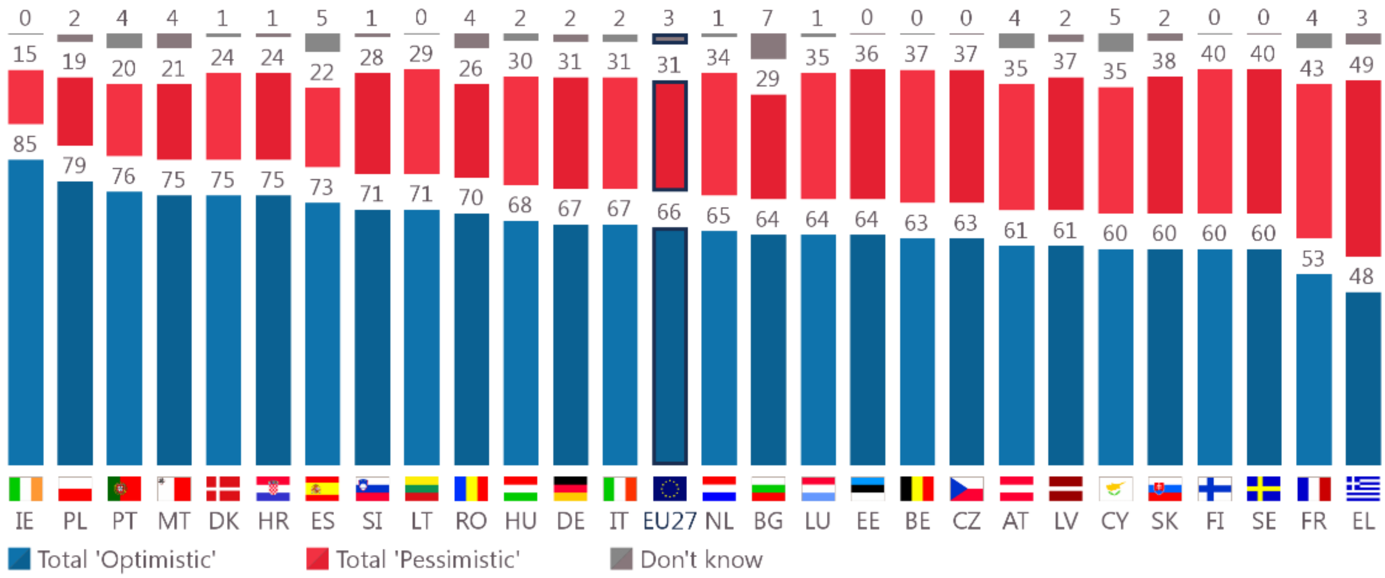
Optimism about the future of the EU is the majority opinion in 26 Member States, with the highest levels seen in Ireland (85%), Poland (79%) and Portugal (76%), although at least seven in ten in Denmark, Croatia and Malta (all 75%), Spain (73%), Lithuania and Slovenia (both 71%) and Romania (70%) are also optimistic.

Greece is the only country where a majority have a pessimistic view (49% vs 48% “optimistic”).

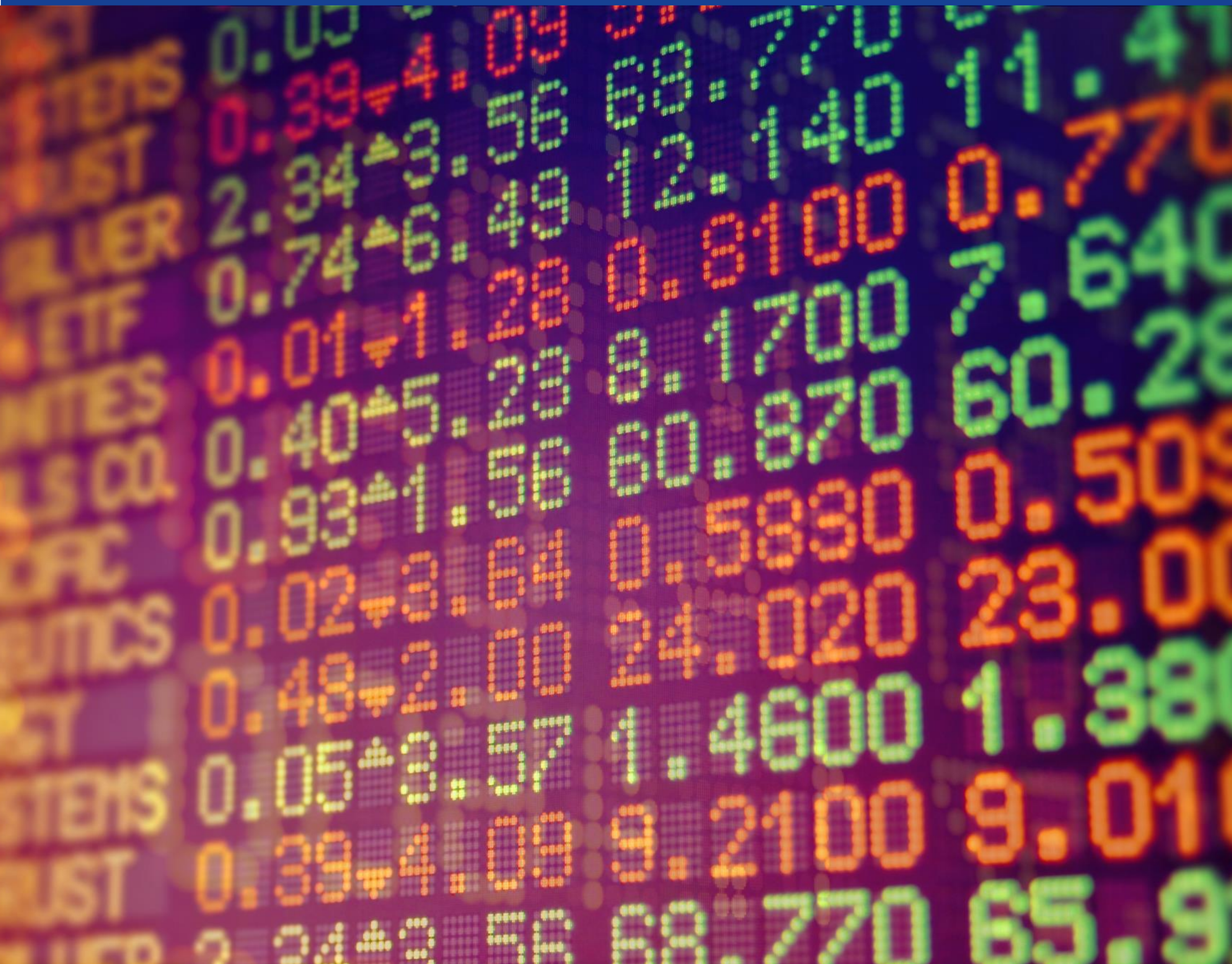
Optimism about the future of the EU has increased in 22 countries since summer 2020, with dramatic increases in Malta (75%, +25 percentage points), Italy (67%, +18) and Portugal (76%, +15). There are only four countries where optimism has declined: Lithuania (71%, -4), Latvia (61%, -4), Slovakia (60%, -4) and Romania (70%, -1). Levels of optimism remain unchanged in Slovenia (71%, =).

As a result of these changes, optimism is now the majority opinion in Italy (67%) and France (53%).

QA12 Would you say that you are very optimistic, fairly optimistic, fairly pessimistic or very pessimistic about the future of the EU?
(%)



II. THE ECONOMIC SITUATION

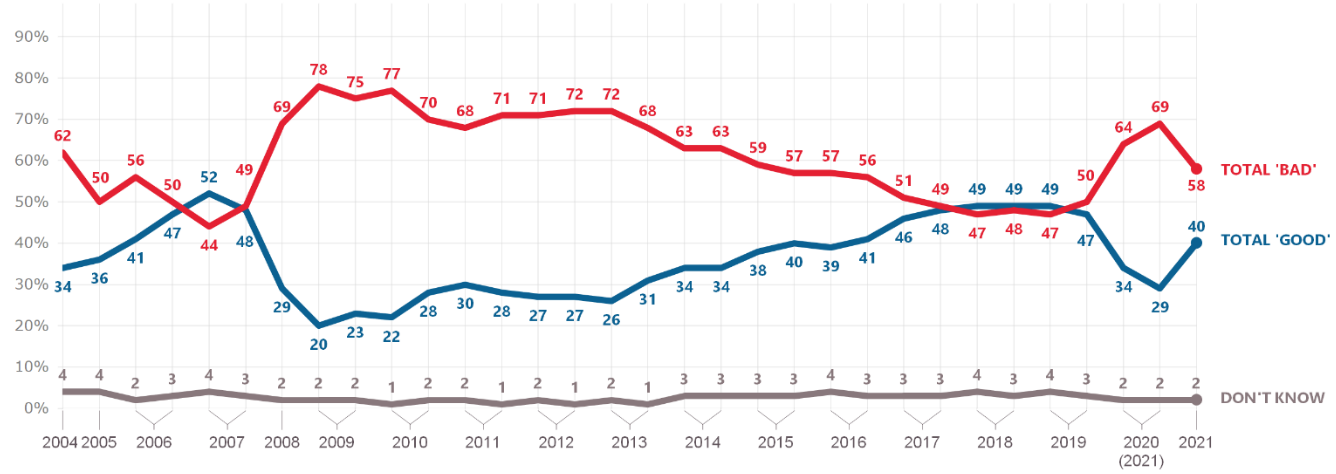


1. Current situation of the economy at national level: trend, national results and evolution

After three surveys marked by declines in the assessment of the situation of the national economy, **perceptions of the situation of the national economy have improved considerably since winter 2020-2021 with 40% of EU citizens now holding the view that their national economic situation is "good" (+11 percentage points)**. However, this level is still below that measured in the period spring 2017 – autumn 2019.

Since winter 2020-2021, the proportion of respondents who think the situation of their national economy is "bad" has declined markedly (-11 percentage points) to 58%, although this remains the majority view.

QA1a.2 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?
The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy (% - EU)



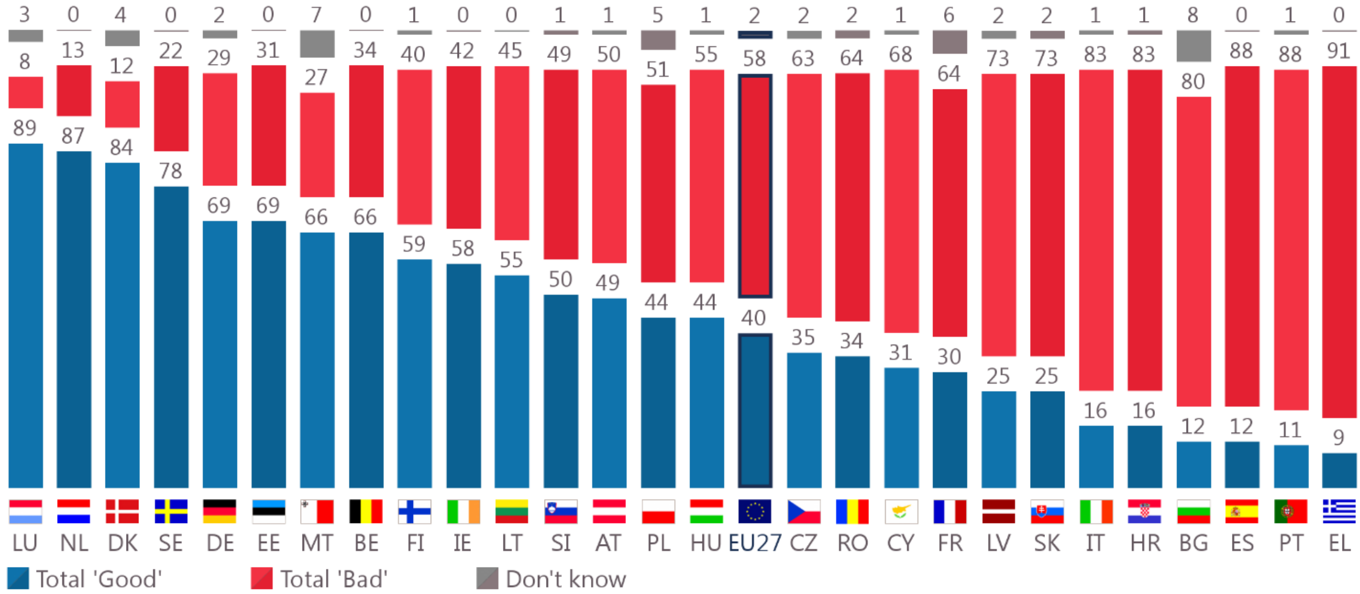
Perceptions of the current situation of the national economy are extremely variable across Member States, ranging from 89% in Luxembourg who think it is good to 9% in Greece who think the same way.

The positive view is now the majority opinion in 12 Member States (up from eight in winter 2020-2021). More than seven in ten citizens have a positive view of their national economic situation in Luxembourg (89%), the Netherlands (87%), Denmark (84%) and Sweden (78%), compared to 9% in Greece, 11% in Portugal and 12% in Spain and Bulgaria.

A positive view of the current national economic situation has become more widespread in 25 Member States compared with the Standard Eurobarometer of winter 2020-2021 (EB94), with massive increases in eight countries: Austria (49%, +26 percentage points), the Netherlands (87%, +17), Germany (69%, +17), Belgium (66%, +16), Ireland (58%, +16), France (30%, +13), Denmark (84%, +13), and Poland (44%, +10). The positive view has declined slightly in Sweden (78%, -3) and Greece (9%, -1).

As a result of these changes, the positive view is now the majority opinion in Slovenia, Ireland, Belgium and Lithuania.

QA1a.2 How would you judge the current situation in each of the following?
The situation of the (NATIONALITY) economy (%)

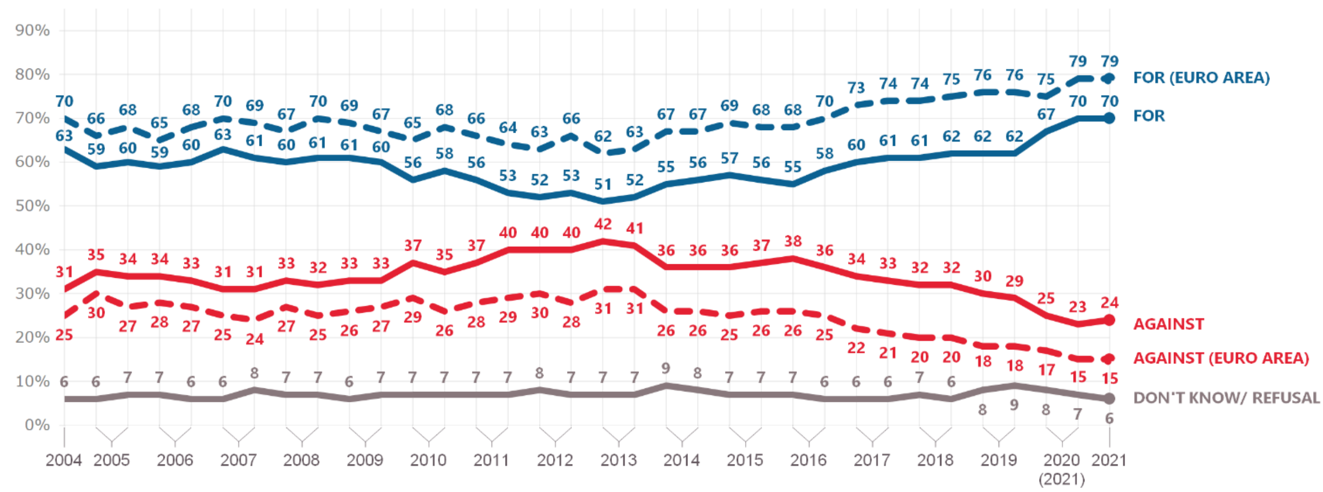


2. Support for the Euro: trend and national results

Support for a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro has remained stable since winter 2020-2021. In the euro area, support remains at its highest point since 2004, at 79% (=). The proportion of respondents who are opposed to the euro is also stable (15%, =).

In the European Union overall, seven in ten Europeans are for the euro (70%, no change since winter 2020-2021), remaining at the highest level ever recorded. In contrast, less than one quarter of EU citizens are "against" a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro (24%, +1), the second lowest level of opposition since 2004.

QB3.1 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.
A European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro (% - EU)

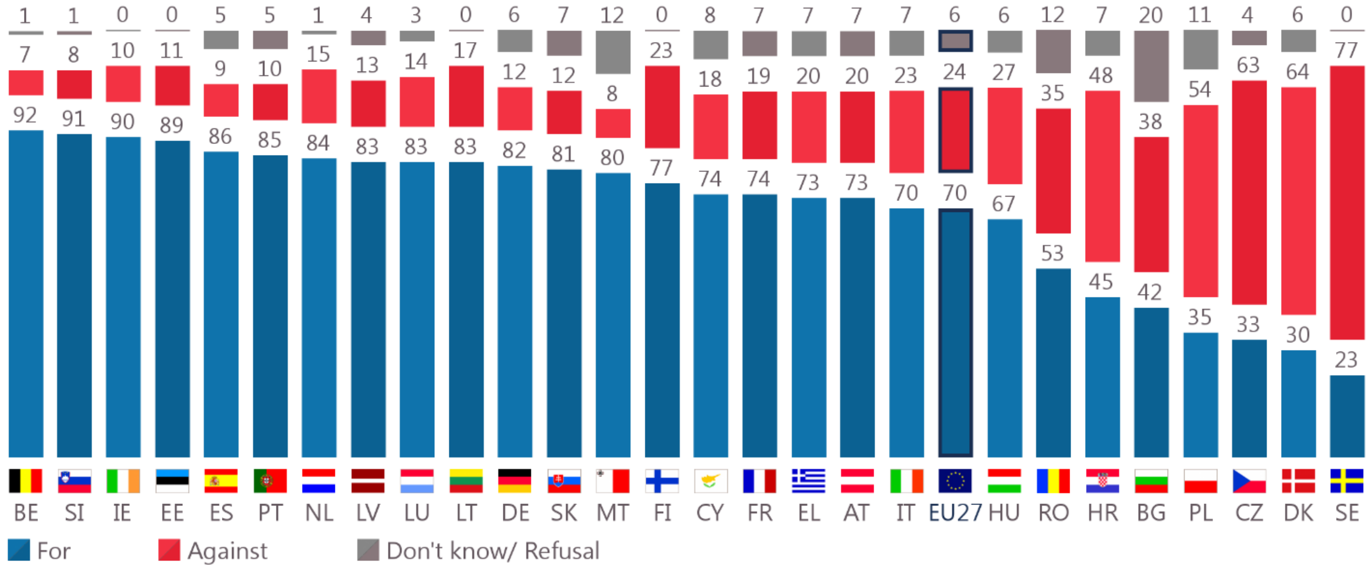


In 22 Member States, a majority of respondents are in favour of "a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro" (unchanged since summer 2020). The most widespread support is in Belgium (92%), Slovenia (91%) and Ireland (90%), but at least eight in ten are also in favour of the euro in Estonia (89%), Spain (86%), Portugal (85%), the Netherlands (84%), Latvia, Lithuania and Luxembourg (all 83%), Germany (82%), Slovakia (81%) and Malta (80%). The majority in Hungary (67%), Romania (53%) and Bulgaria (42% vs 38% "against") are also for a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro, even though these countries are outside the euro area.

In five countries outside the euro area, a majority of respondents say they are against the euro: Sweden (77%), Denmark (64%), Czechia (63%), Poland (54%), and Croatia (48% vs 45% "for").

Support for the euro has declined in 16 Member States since winter 2020-2021, most notably in Portugal (85%, -10 percentage points), Greece (73%, -8), Luxembourg (83%, -7) and Czechia (33%, -7). Conversely, support has increased in eight countries and particularly in Malta (80%, +4), France (74%, +4) and Hungary (67%, +4). Opinion remains unchanged in Spain, Germany and Estonia.

QB3.1 What is your opinion on each of the following statements? Please tell for each statement, whether you are for it or against it.
A European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro (%)



III. THE MAIN CONCERNS OF EUROPEANS

1. Main concerns at European level: trend

The economic situation has regained first place as the most important issue facing the EU at the moment, although at 27% mentions are now eight percentage points lower than in winter 2020-2021. It was the second most mentioned concern in the previous Standard Eurobarometer survey, when health was in first position.

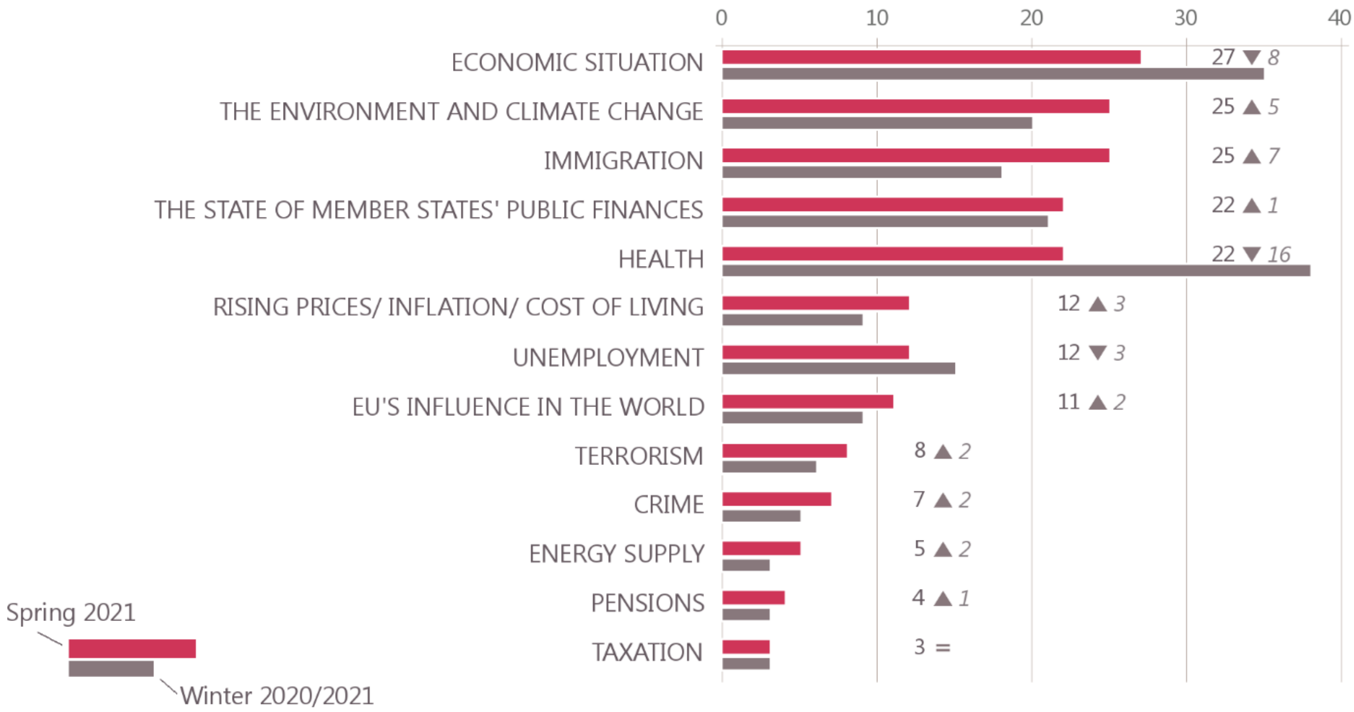
The environment and climate change has risen from fourth place in winter 2020-2021 to second place (25%, +5 percentage points). Second position is shared by **immigration**, which has risen from fifth position in the previous survey (25%, +7).

The state of Member States public finances and health share fourth position. Mentions of the **state of Member State's public finances** have increased by one percentage point, although it has dropped from third to fourth position (22%). At 22%, mentions of **health** have declined dramatically since winter 2020-2021 (-16), reversing the increase seen between summer 2020 and winter 2020-2021 (+16). Health has also dropped in rankings from first position in the previous wave.

Rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living (12%, +3 percentage points) shares sixth position with **unemployment** (12%, -3). The **EU's influence on the world** is in eighth position (11%, +2).

Five issues are mentioned by fewer than one in ten: **terrorism** (8%, +2), **crime** (7%, +2), **energy supply** (5%, +2), **pensions** (4%, +1) and **taxation** (3%, =).

QA5 What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS) **(% - EU)**



2. Main concerns at European level: national results

The economic situation ranks first of main concerns at EU level, and is in the top three in 21 EU Member States.

The economic situation is considered the most important issue by 27% of respondents in the EU overall, and it is the most mentioned issue in three countries (down from six in winter 2020-2021), with the highest proportions in Italy (41%), Spain (36%) and Latvia (33%). This issue ranks second in eight countries, with the highest levels in Ireland (30%), Cyprus and Portugal (both 29%). It ranks joint second in Austria along with health (both 26%), and joint second in Poland together with the state of Member States' finances (both 23%). The economic situation ranks third in 10 countries, with the highest proportions in Bulgaria, Malta (both 27%) and Belgium (26%). It shares third place in Finland with immigration (both 24%).

Immigration and the environment and climate change share second place at EU level with 25% of respondents considering them the most important issue facing the EU. **The environment and climate change is the most mentioned concern in nine countries** (up from five in winter 2020-2021), with at least half of respondents in Sweden (54%) and Denmark (50%) mentioning this, followed by 49% in the Netherlands. This issue ranks second in Finland (38%), Estonia (30%) and Lithuania (28%), and is the third most mentioned in Latvia (20%).

Immigration ranks first among concerns in seven countries (up from one in winter 2020-2021), particularly in Cyprus (48%), Czechia (42%) and Malta (40%). It is the second most mentioned concern in eight countries, with the highest levels seen in the Netherlands (38%) and in Belgium (37%). It ranks third in seven countries including Greece (32%), Slovenia and Spain (both 26%).

The state of Member States' public finances and health rank joint fourth at an EU level (both 22%). **The state of Member States' public finances** is considered to be the most important issue facing the EU **in two Member States**: Finland (45%) and Slovakia (29%). It is the second most mentioned in five countries, including Greece (33%), Germany (30%) and Czechia (28%). It is the third most mentioned concern in five countries. **Health is considered the most important issue facing the EU by citizens in six countries** (down from 16 in winter 2020-2021), with the highest levels in Portugal (40%), Greece (38%) and Slovenia (34%). It is the second most mentioned issue in four countries, including Malta (39%) and Italy (37%), and the third one in three countries.

Rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living and unemployment share sixth place, mentioned by 12% of EU citizens. **Unemployment** is the third most mentioned issue in Italy (25%). **Crime** is ranked 10th overall at EU level (mentioned by 7%) and is the only other issue that ranks in the top three in any Member State, ranking third in Sweden (20%).

QA5 What do you think are the two most important issues facing the EU at the moment? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)
(%)

	Economic situation	The environment and climate change	Immigration	The state of Member States' public finances	Health	Rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living	Unemployment	EU's influence in the world	Terrorism	Crime	Energy supply	Pensions	Taxation
EU27	27	25	25	22	22	12	12	11	8	7	5	4	3
BE	26	46	37	22	15	9	3	21	4	3	7	2	2
BG	27	11	31	13	29	15	6	13	10	7	6	3	2
CZ	23	21	42	28	14	15	3	14	14	8	3	3	2
DK	24	50	31	16	12	6	7	18	10	7	5	2	1
DE	20	36	24	30	11	16	7	15	6	7	6	4	3
EE	21	30	37	26	15	18	3	21	9	4	10	1	3
IE	30	45	15	22	27	20	7	16	4	2	5	1	4
EL	27	9	32	33	38	5	14	14	10	8	3	0	1
ES	36	11	26	22	28	9	22	6	3	3	3	4	4
FR	25	28	26	15	16	11	11	12	16	14	4	6	1
HR	27	19	19	26	30	17	11	12	11	11	4	3	4
IT	41	14	19	18	37	11	25	4	4	3	4	4	6
CY	29	9	48	11	25	6	17	5	11	19	2	3	1
LV	33	20	32	16	14	19	9	13	12	5	2	2	6
LT	25	28	32	12	20	24	9	21	10	5	3	2	5
LU	22	40	27	17	13	12	14	15	10	9	6	5	4
HU	23	20	33	26	17	15	5	13	18	6	5	4	4
MT	27	21	40	17	39	9	11	6	3	6	2	1	2
NL	22	49	38	25	13	6	3	22	6	6	5	0	2
AT	26	34	23	15	26	12	14	11	6	7	7	6	4
PL	23	19	21	23	25	18	5	10	9	7	7	6	6
PT	29	8	25	27	40	3	13	11	6	3	3	1	2
RO	21	17	15	19	29	15	8	10	11	12	9	7	6
SI	28	18	26	20	34	13	7	14	7	8	4	3	5
SK	23	19	25	29	24	22	7	13	12	8	2	4	2
FI	24	38	24	45	8	9	6	20	10	8	3	1	1
SE	18	54	32	18	8	4	9	11	12	20	11	1	1

1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM | 2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM | 3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM

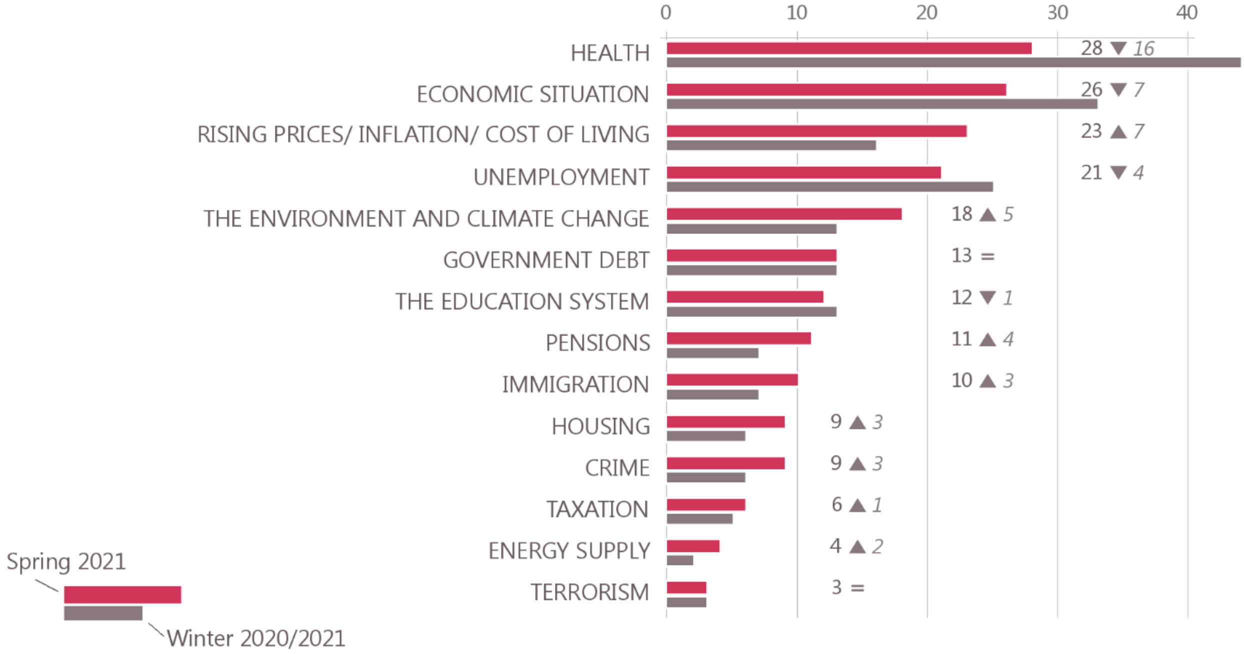
3. Main concerns at national level: trend

Health remains the most important national issue for Europeans, although mentions have declined considerably since winter 2020-2021 (28%, -16 percentage points, after the 13-point increase seen between summer 2020 and winter 2020-2021). **The economic situation** is in second place, mentioned by just over one quarter (26%, -7). More than one in five mention **rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living** (23%, +7) and **unemployment** (21%, -4).

The environment and climate change is in fifth place, up five percentage points since winter 2020-2021 (18%), followed by **government debt** (13%, =), the **education system** (12%, -1), **pensions** (11%, +4) and **immigration** (10%, +3).

Fewer than one in ten respondents, mention **crime** (9%, +3), **housing** (9%, +3) or **taxation** (6%, +1), while fewer than one in twenty mention **energy supply** (4%, +2) or **terrorism** (3%, =).

QA3a What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)
(% - EU)



4. Main concerns at national level: national results

Health is considered one of the three most important issues facing their country by citizens in 22 EU Member States, while the economic situation ranks in the top three in 18 countries and rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living is in the top three for 16 Member States.

Health is the highest ranked national concern, mentioned by 28% of Europeans on average. It is the most mentioned issue in five Member States (down from 20 in winter 2020-2021): Portugal (52%), Slovenia (47%), Malta (41%), Romania and Austria (both 32%). It is the second most mentioned issue in 11 countries, with the highest scores in Ireland (44%), Hungary (41%) and Bulgaria (39%). Health shares second place in in Italy with unemployment (both 38%), in Lithuania with the education system (both 23%) and in France with crime (both 21%). Health ranks third in six countries including Greece (37%), Spain (35%) and Latvia (31%).

The economic situation is mentioned by 26% of Europeans and ranks second overall. It is the most mentioned issue in four countries (down from six in winter 2020-2021): Greece (53%), Cyprus (47%), Italy (45%) and Croatia (34%). It is the second most mentioned concern in six countries including Portugal (42%), Spain (37%) and Malta (36%), and in Finland, where it shares second place with unemployment and the environment and climate change (all 29%). The economic situation ranks third in eight countries including Bulgaria (35%), Romania (29%) and Slovakia (27%).

Rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living is in third position at EU level, mentioned by 23% of respondents. It ranks first in seven Member States (while it was the case in no countries at all in winter 2020-2021), with the largest proportions in Lithuania (53%), Estonia (50%) and Poland and Slovakia (both 47%). It is the second most mentioned concern in five countries, with its highest score in Czechia (43%), and third in four countries.

In the EU overall, **unemployment** ranks fourth in the list of concerns at 21%. It ranks first in Spain (50%) and France (26%), second in Greece (38%), Italy (38%), Finland (29%) and Austria (24%). Unemployment is the third most mentioned item in Portugal (38%) and Cyprus (28%).

Mentioned by 18%, **the environment and climate change** ranks fifth in the EU overall but is the most mentioned item in four countries: Denmark (51%), the Netherlands (45%), Germany and Belgium (both 34%). It is the second most mentioned issue in Sweden (31%), and Finland (29%), and the third one in three countries.

Government debt is the most mentioned issue in Czechia (44%) and Finland (34%), the second most mentioned issue in Belgium (29%) and the third most mentioned issue in Lithuania (16%) and Italy (12%, along with immigration). It ranks sixth in the EU overall (13%).

The education system ranks seventh overall, mentioned by 12%, but it ranks second in Lithuania (mentioned by 23%) and third in Germany (22%).

Immigration is the third most mentioned issue in Sweden (25%) and in Italy, along with government debt (both 12%)

Housing, crime, taxation, energy supply and terrorism are all mentioned by fewer than 10% overall, but **housing** is the most mentioned issue in Luxembourg (64%) and Ireland (59%) and is the second most mentioned issue in the Netherlands (40%). **Crime** ranks first in Sweden (41%) and second in France, at par with health (21%).

None of the other concerns rank in the top three in any Member State.

QA3a What do you think are the two most important issues facing (OUR COUNTRY) at the moment? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)
(%)

	Health	Economic situation	Rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living	Unemployment	The environment and climate change	Government debt	The education system	Pensions	Immigration	Housing	Crime	Taxation	Energy supply	Terrorism
EU27	28	26	23	21	18	13	12	11	10	9	9	6	4	3
BE	19	19	21	9	34	29	10	8	16	5	5	13	9	1
BG	39	35	44	19	4	6	8	14	5	2	8	3	2	2
CZ	17	24	43	4	8	44	12	13	4	16	4	4	0	1
DK	33	20	12	5	51	12	10	7	17	5	8	4	4	3
DE	16	12	24	5	34	16	22	15	12	19	8	3	4	3
EE	30	23	50	10	16	8	13	12	8	3	1	16	8	0
IE	44	16	26	7	19	12	2	2	2	59	4	4	2	0
EL	37	53	10	38	2	13	7	4	16	0	11	5	0	1
ES	35	37	15	50	6	8	6	7	7	3	5	7	5	0
FR	21	17	17	26	20	13	13	14	13	6	21	3	2	10
HR	29	34	32	27	6	17	4	9	6	7	18	4	2	1
IT	38	45	11	38	6	12	5	8	12	3	4	10	2	2
CY	30	47	14	28	5	5	12	6	23	4	13	2	1	2
LV	31	34	36	14	2	13	16	10	3	6	2	26	1	1
LT	23	15	53	15	4	16	23	9	14	4	3	14	3	1
LU	13	5	31	9	25	3	13	6	8	64	10	3	3	1
HU	41	21	45	13	9	11	11	11	8	6	5	4	2	2
MT	41	36	23	4	27	4	3	3	20	9	7	2	2	0
NL	29	13	18	3	45	3	15	4	11	40	6	5	4	2
AT	32	19	23	24	22	12	14	8	13	7	8	4	6	4
PL	32	23	47	8	10	13	8	9	4	4	5	10	6	3
PT	52	42	17	38	2	10	2	7	2	2	2	12	0	0
RO	32	29	30	10	9	11	16	16	4	6	10	6	5	4
SI	47	30	26	12	9	18	6	9	7	11	8	6	2	1
SK	33	27	47	14	10	17	13	13	2	5	5	5	1	0
FI	18	29	14	29	29	34	7	5	13	2	5	8	3	1
SE	22	8	5	15	31	1	20	8	25	8	41	5	9	1

1st MOST FREQUENTLY | 2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM | 3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM

IV. EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

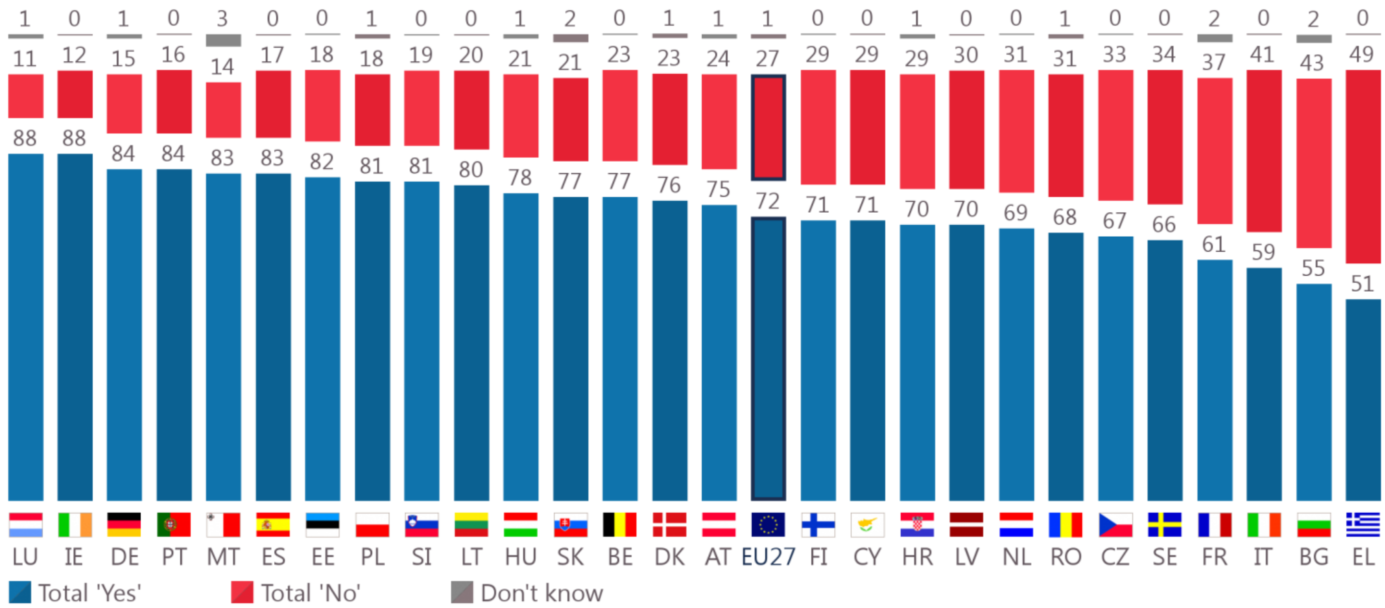
1. Feeling like a citizen of the European Union: national results

The majority in all EU Member States feel they are citizens of the EU, with 72% in the EU as a whole feeling this way (-2 percentage points since winter 2020-2021).

The proportion of citizens who feel that they are a citizen of the EU ranges from 88% in Ireland and Luxembourg to 51% in Greece. As well as Ireland and Luxembourg, there are eight other countries where at least eight in ten feel they are EU citizens: Germany and Portugal (both 84%), Spain and Malta (both 83%), Estonia (82%), Poland and Slovenia (both 81%) and Lithuania (80%). At the other end of the scale 51% in Greece feel this way, as do 55% in Bulgaria and 59% in Italy.

In 20 countries feelings of EU citizenship have declined since winter 2020-2021, with the biggest decreases seen in Greece (51%, -13 percentage points), Portugal (84%, -10) and Sweden (66%, -8). The feeling of being an EU citizen has increased in two EU Member States: Austria (75%, +3) and Malta (83%, +2). There has been no change in Cyprus, Italy, France, Denmark and Germany.

QC2.1 For each of the following statements, please tell to what extent it corresponds or not to your own opinion.
You feel you are a citizen of the EU (%)

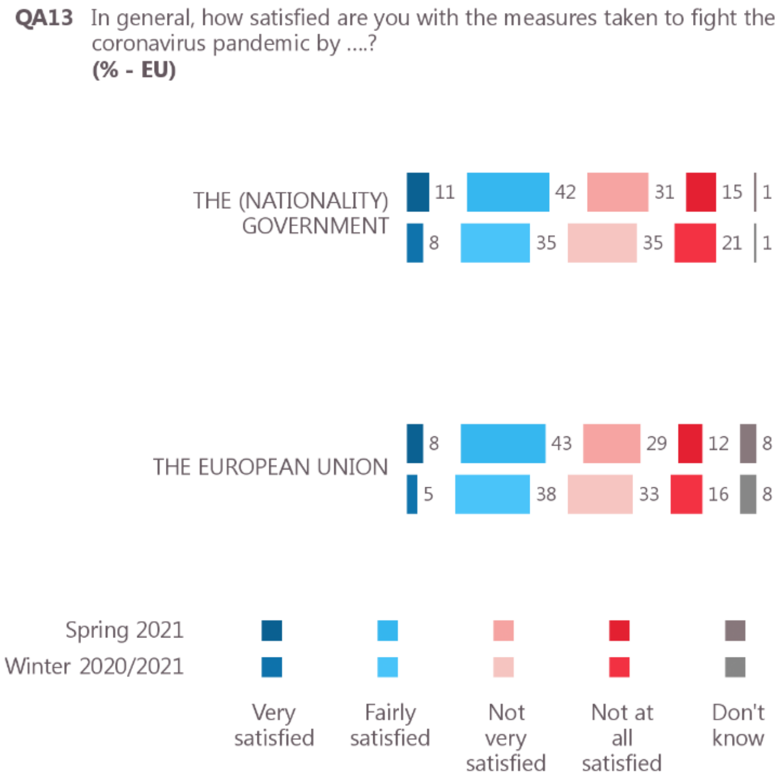


V. THE EU AND THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC / ATTITUDES TOWARDS VACCINATION AGAINST COVID 19

1. Satisfaction with the measures to fight the crisis: trend and national results

Satisfaction with the measures taken by the European Union to fight the coronavirus pandemic has increased steeply since winter 2020-2021, and more than half of EU citizens are now satisfied (51%, +8 percentage points). Dissatisfaction has declined (41%, -8), while 8% of citizens say they don't know (=).

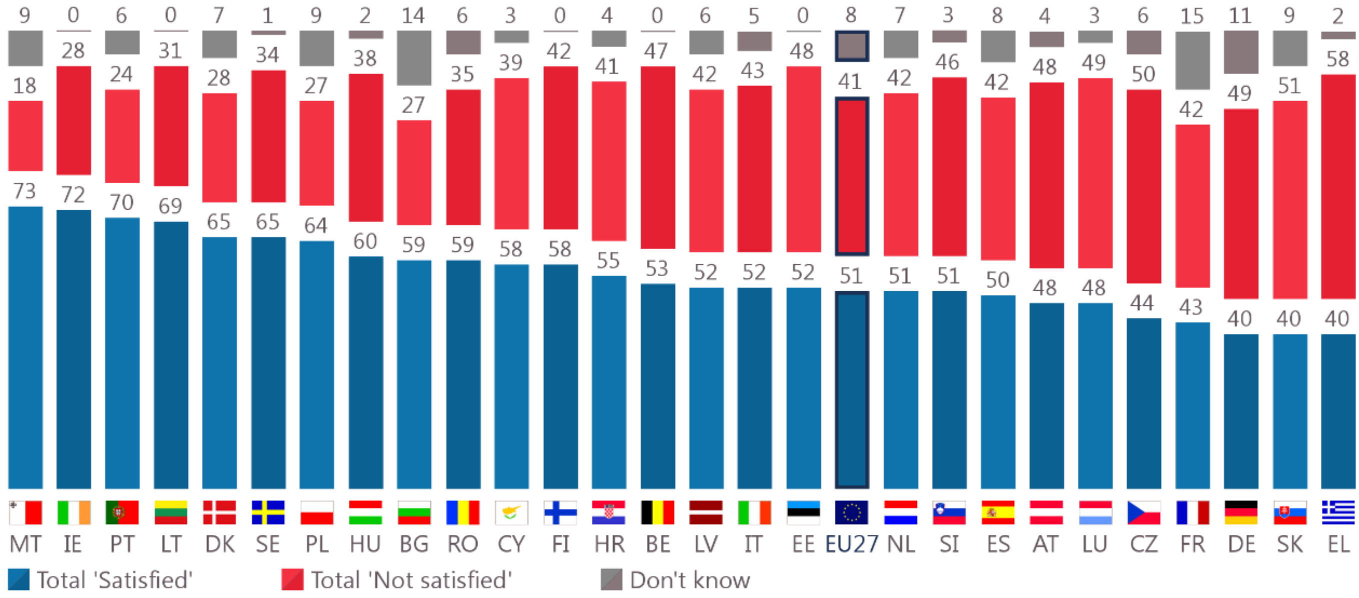
Citizens' satisfaction with the measures taken by their national government to fight the coronavirus pandemic has also risen markedly to become the majority view (53%, +10 percentage points since winter 2020-2021). 46% are dissatisfied (-10), while 1% (=) say they don't know.



There are 21 EU Member States where a majority of respondents are satisfied with the measures taken by the European Union to fight the pandemic (up from 13 Member States in winter 2020-2021), with the highest proportions observed in Malta (73%), Ireland (72%) and Portugal (70%). In five countries, majorities of respondents are “not satisfied”, with the largest proportions in Greece (58%), Slovakia (51%) and Czechia (50%). Opinion is evenly divided in Austria (48%” satisfied” vs 48% “not satisfied”).

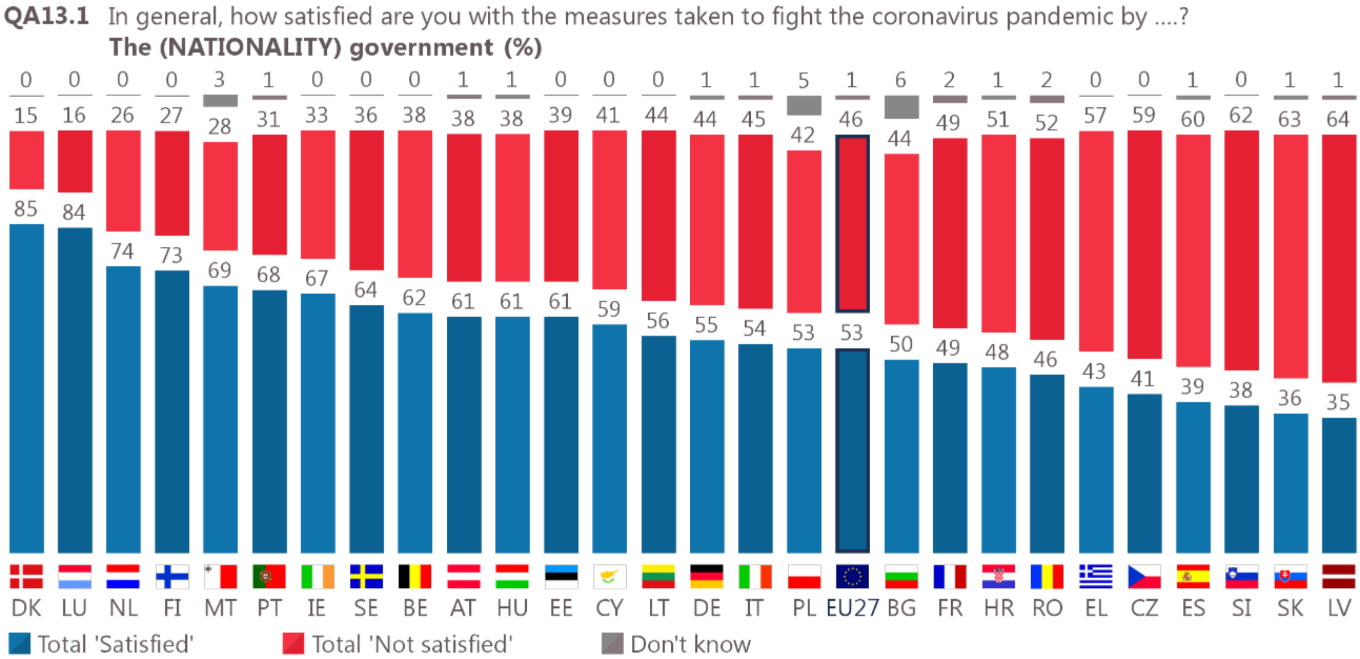
Satisfaction with the measures taken by the European Union to fight the coronavirus pandemic has increased in 24 countries since winter 2020-2021, with the largest rises seen in Malta (73%, +18 percentage points), Ireland (72%, +16), Belgium (53%, +14), Finland (58%, +13), Luxembourg (48%, +11), France (43%, +11), Estonia (52%, +10) and Sweden (65%, +10). Slovenia (51%, -4) and Denmark (65%, -3) are the only countries where satisfaction has declined, while there has been no change in Croatia (55%, =).

QA13.3 In general, how satisfied are you with the measures taken to fight the coronavirus pandemic by ....?
The European Union (%)



In 18 Member States (up from 11 in winter 2020-2021), a majority of respondents are satisfied with the measures taken by their government to fight the coronavirus pandemic. However, satisfaction varies dramatically between countries, ranging from 85% in Denmark to 35% in Latvia. Opinion is evenly divided in France (49% satisfied vs 49% not satisfied). In eight countries, a majority of respondents are dissatisfied, with at least six in ten in Latvia (64%), Slovakia (63%), Slovenia (62%) and Spain (60%) "not satisfied".

Satisfaction has increased in every EU Member State since winter 2020-2021. In 14 countries the increases are more than ten percentage points, with the largest seen in Portugal (68%, +19 percentage points), Poland (53%, +17), Czechia (41%, +17), Malta (69%, +16) and Estonia (61%, +16).



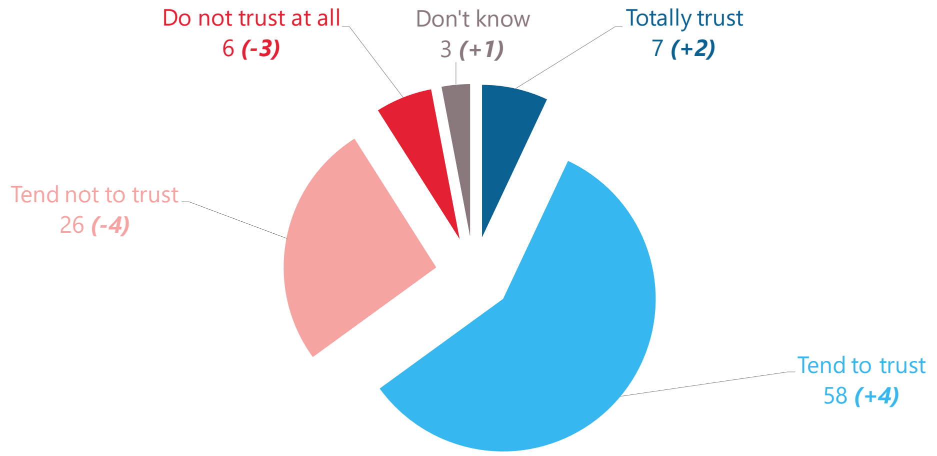
2. Trust in the EU to make the right decisions in the future: trend and national results

Thinking about EU's response to the pandemic, almost two thirds of Europeans trust the EU to make the right decisions in the future (65%, +6 percentage points since winter 2020-2021). Less than one third do not trust the EU to make the right decisions (32%, -7), and 3% say they don't know (+1).

The majority of citizens in each EU Member State trust the EU to take the right decisions in the future (up from 24 in winter 2020-2021), with the largest proportions seen in Portugal (85%), Malta (82%) and Ireland (79%). This compares to 49% in Greece (vs 48% "tend not to trust") and 56% in Austria and Germany.

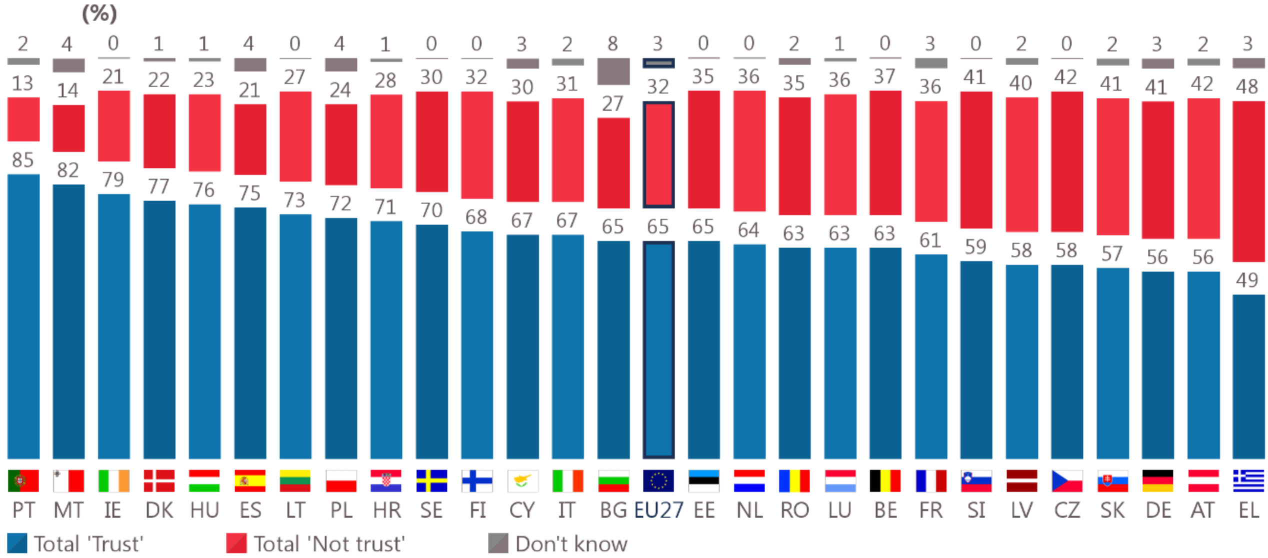
Regarding EU's response to the coronavirus pandemic, trust in the EU to take the right decisions in the future has increased in 21 countries since winter 2020-2021, with the largest increases in Luxembourg (63%, +11 percentage points), Czechia (58%, +11), France (61%, +10) and Austria (56%, +10). It has declined slightly in five countries, with the largest drops in Portugal (85%, -4) and the Netherlands (64%, -4). There has been no change in opinion in Croatia.

QA15 Thinking about EU's response to the coronavirus pandemic, to what extent do you trust or not the EU to make the right decisions in the future?
(% - EU)



(Spring 2021 - Winter 2020/2021)

QA15 Thinking about EU's response to the coronavirus pandemic, to what extent do you trust or not the EU to make the right decisions in the future?
(%)

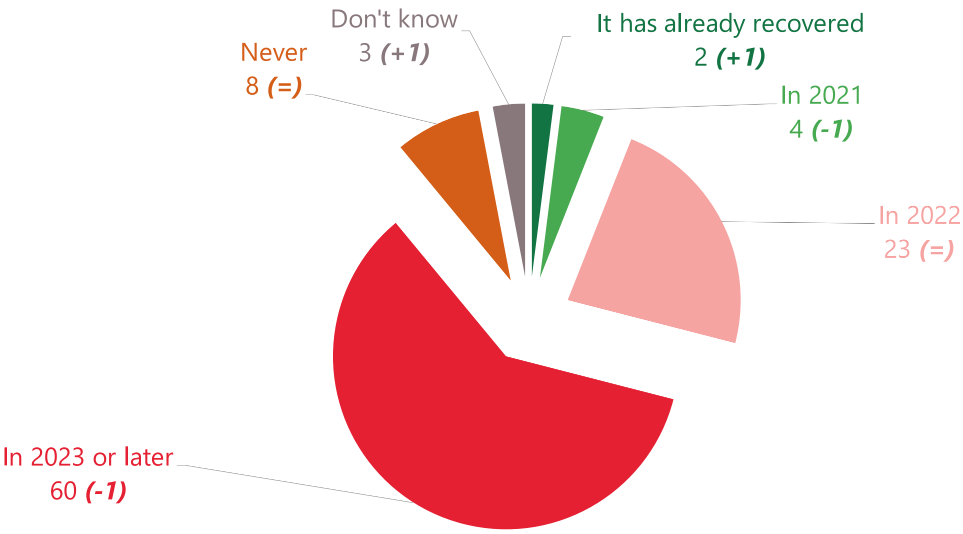


	PT	MT	IE	DK	HU	ES	LT	PL	HR	SE	FI	CY	IT	BG	EU27	EE	NL	RO	LU	BE	FR	SI	LV	CZ	SK	DE	AT	EL
Total 'Trust'	85	82	79	77	76	75	73	72	71	70	68	67	67	65	65	65	64	63	63	63	61	59	58	58	57	56	56	49
Total 'Not trust'	13	14	21	22	23	21	27	24	28	30	32	30	31	27	32	35	36	35	36	37	36	41	40	42	41	41	42	48
Don't know	2	4	0	1	1	4	0	4	1	0	0	3	2	8	3	0	0	2	1	0	3	0	2	0	2	3	2	3

3. Economic consequences: trend and national results

Six in ten Europeans think their country's economy will recover from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic in 2023 or later (60%, -1 percentage point since winter 2020/21). More than one in five thinks recovery will come in 2022 (23%, =), while 4% (-1) think it will be later in 2021. Almost one in ten say their country's economy will never recover from the impact of the pandemic (8%, =), while at the other end of the scale 2% (+1) think it has already recovered. Fewer than one in twenty (3%, +1) say they don't know. Expectations are very similar to those observed in the Standard Eurobarometer survey of winter 2020/21 (EB94).

QA17 When do you think (OUR COUNTRY)'s economy will recover from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic?
(% - EU)

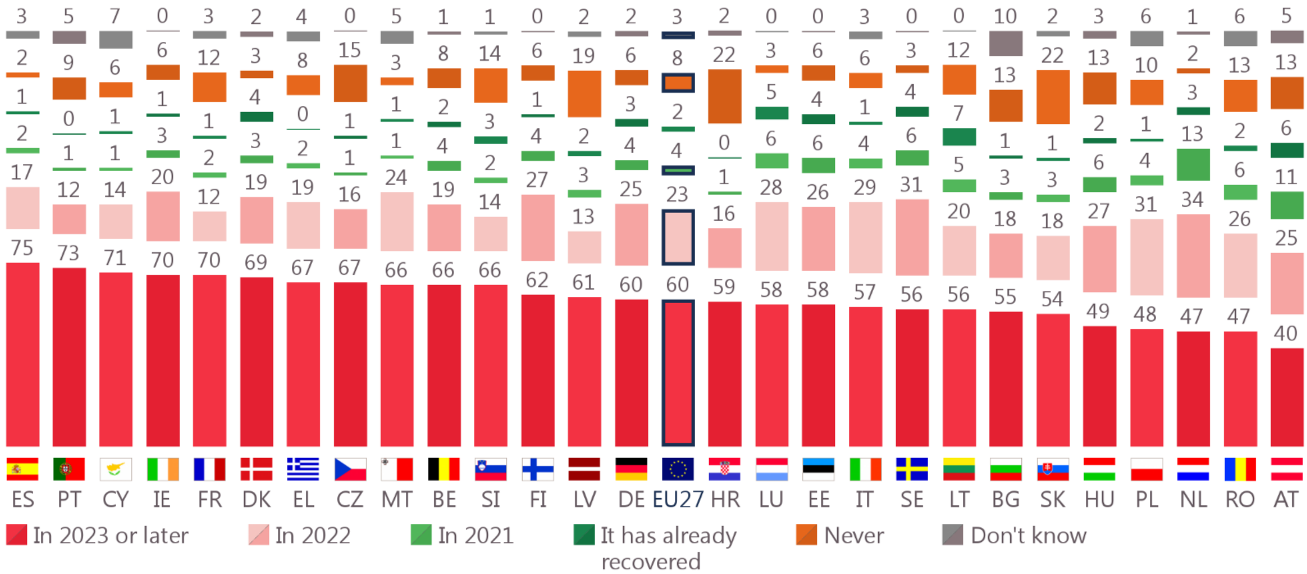


(Spring 2021 - Winter 2020/2021)

In every EU Member State, a majority think their country's economy will recover "in 2023 or later", although proportions range from 75% in Spain to 40% in Austria. At least three in ten respondents in the Netherlands (34%), Sweden and Poland (31% each) think recovery will happen in 2022, while more than one in ten in the Netherlands (13%) and Austria (11%) think their economy will recover this year, in 2021. Lithuania (7%) and Austria (6%) are the only countries where more than one in twenty think the national economy has already recovered.

In contrast, there are 12 countries where at least one in ten say their country's economy will never recover from the impact of the pandemic: Slovakia, Croatia (22% each), Latvia (19%), Czechia (15%), Slovenia (14%), Hungary, Romania, Austria, Bulgaria (13% each), Lithuania, France (12% each) and Poland (10%).

QA17 When do you think (OUR COUNTRY)'s economy will recover from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic?
(%)

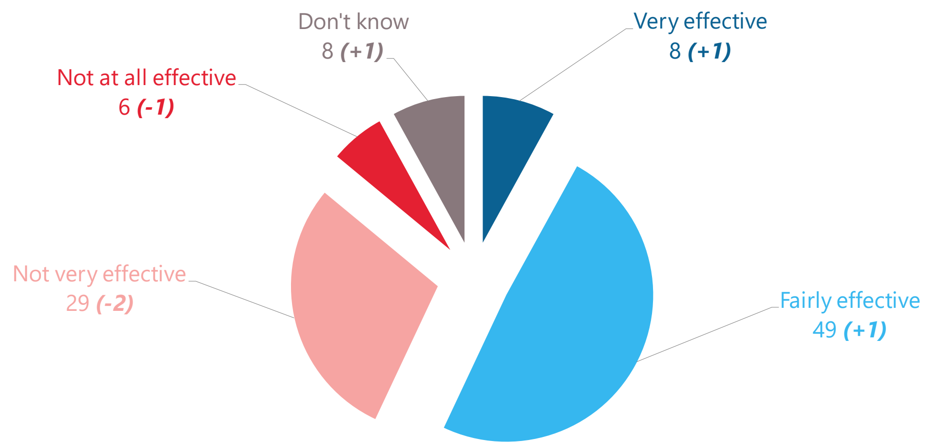


4. The EU recovery plan 'Next generation EU': national results

A majority of Europeans think NextGenerationEU, the EU's 750 billion euros recovery plan, will be effective in responding to the economic effects of the coronavirus pandemic (57%, +2 percentage points since winter 2020-2021). Over one third think it will not be effective (35%, -3), while 8% (+1) say that they don't know.

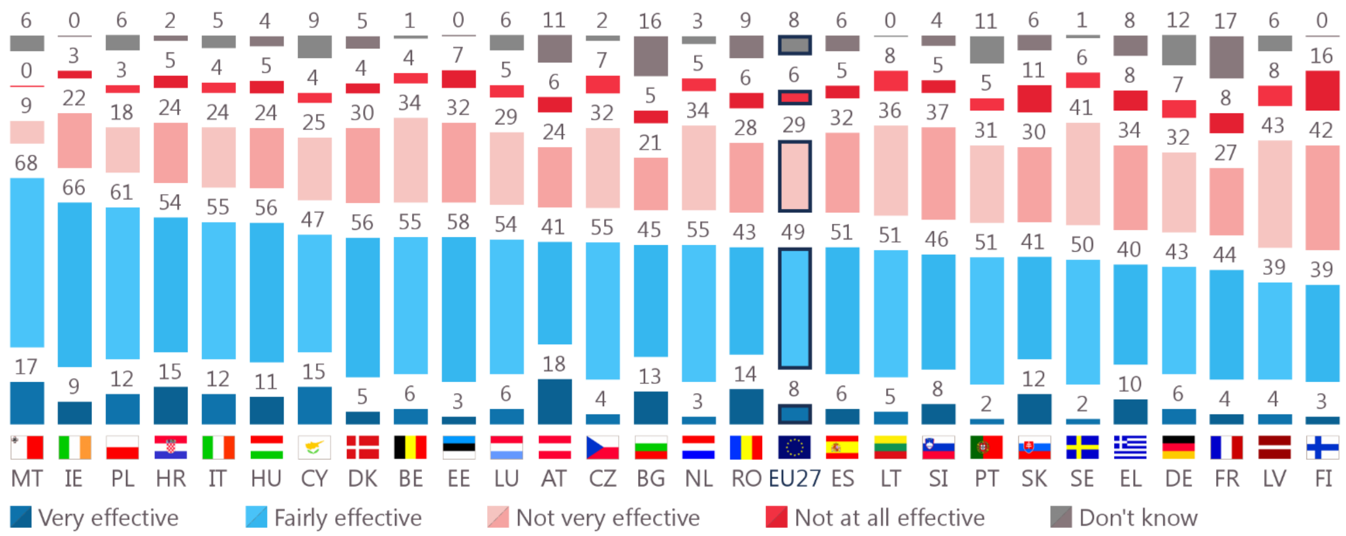
A majority of respondents in 25 EU countries think that NextGenerationEU will be effective (up from 24 in winter 2020-2021) with the largest proportions seen in Malta (85%), Ireland (75%) and Poland (73%). In contrast, the majority in Finland (58%) and Latvia (51%) think this plan will not be effective.

QA18 The EU has designed a recovery plan of 750 billion euros, NextGenerationEU, to support the economy through grants and loans. How effective or not do you think that this measure is to respond to the economic effects of the coronavirus pandemic?
(% - EU)



(Spring 2021 - Winter 2020/2021)

QA18 The EU has designed a recovery plan of 750 billion euros, NextGenerationEU, to support the economy through grants and loans. How effective or not do you think that this measure is to respond to the economic effects of the coronavirus pandemic?
(%)

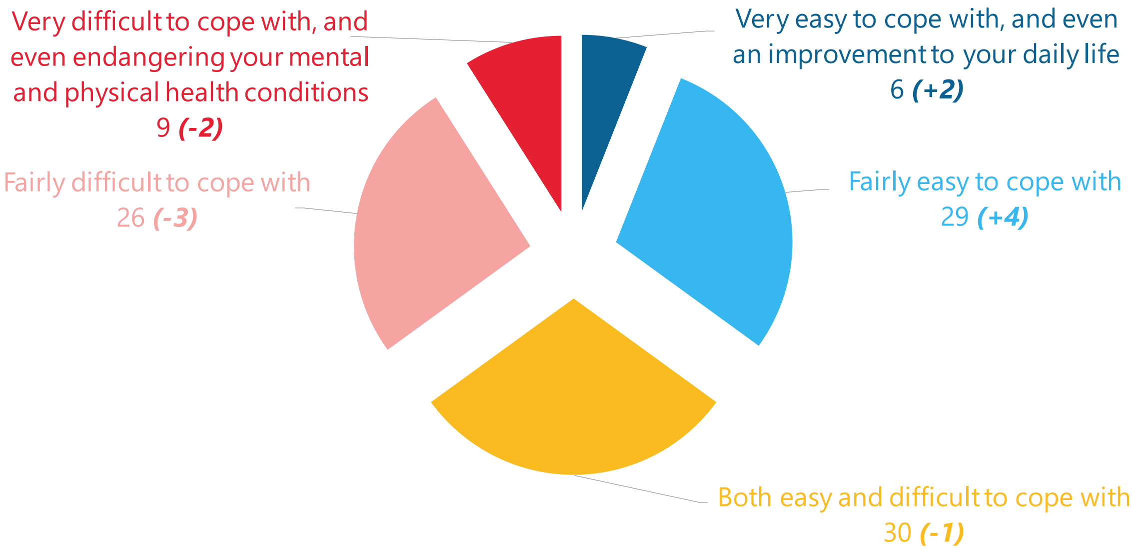


5. Personal experience of the coronavirus pandemic: trend and national results

Europeans' ability to cope **with the different restrictive measures taken to fight the pandemic has somewhat improved since winter 2020-2021, but opinion is divided.** More than one third now say these measures are an experience easy to cope with (35%, +6 percentage points), while the same proportion think they are difficult to cope with (35%, -5). Three in ten say the measures have been "both easy and difficult to cope with" (30%, -1).

In more detail, 6%, say it has been "very easy to cope with, and even an improvement to [their] daily life" (+2 percentage points), while 29% say it has been "fairly easy to cope with" (+4). For those who have found coping difficult, 26% say coping with these measures has been "fairly difficult" (-3), while 9% even say that it has been "very difficult to cope with, and even endangering [their] mental and physical health conditions" (-2).

QA20 Thinking about the measures taken to fight the coronavirus pandemic, in particular the confinement measures, would you say that it is an experience easy or difficult to cope with? An experience...
(% - EU)



(Spring 2021 - Winter 2020/2021)

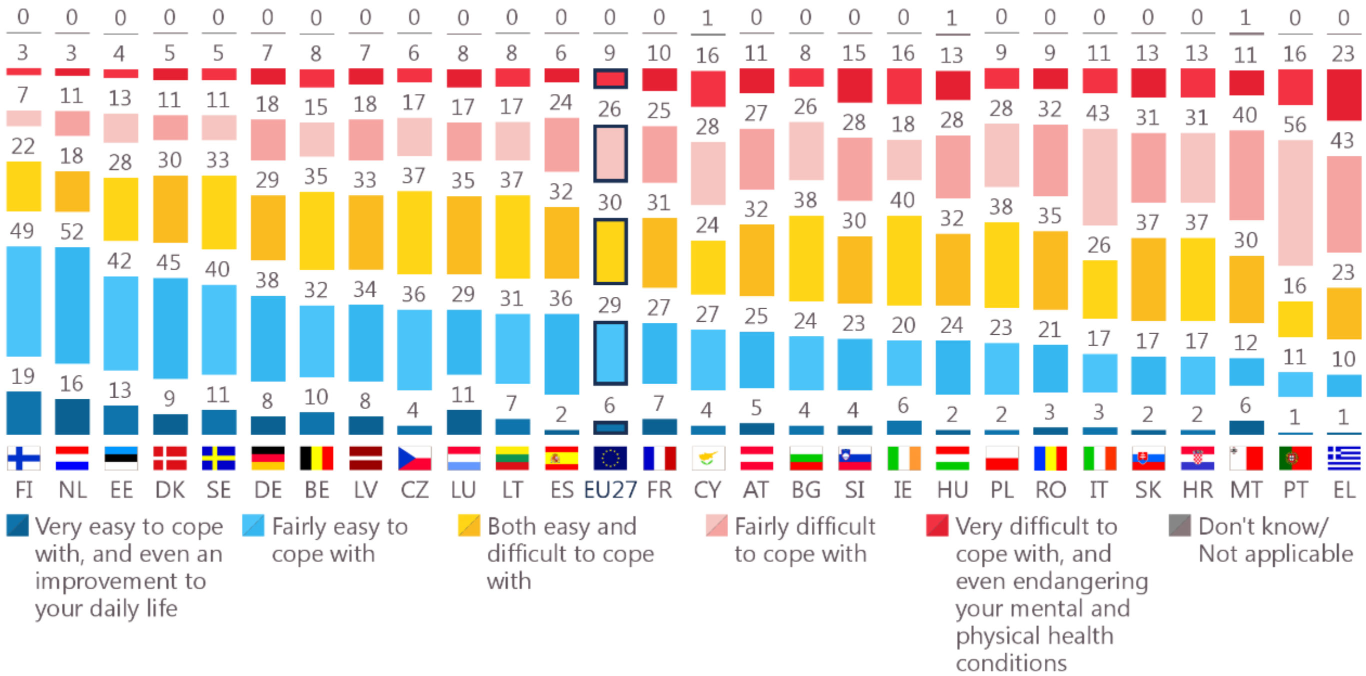
There are 12 Member States where a majority of respondents think the measures to fight the coronavirus pandemic are a fairly or very easy experience to cope with (up from 10 countries in winter 2020-2021), and this view is most widespread in Finland (68%, including 19% that say it has been “very easy to cope with, and even an improvement to your daily life”), the Netherlands (68%), and Estonia (55%). There are six countries where at least one in ten say it has been “very easy to cope with, and even an improvement to your daily life”: Finland (19%), the Netherlands (16%), Estonia (13%), Sweden and Luxembourg (both 11%) and Belgium (10%).

Conversely, a majority in 12 countries (down from 17 in winter 2020-2021) think it has been fairly or very difficult to cope with this experience, with the highest proportions in Portugal (72%), Greece (66%, with 23% saying it has been “very difficult to cope with, and even endangering your mental and physical health conditions”) and Malta (51%). There are 12 countries overall where at least one in ten say it has been “very difficult to cope with, and even endangering your mental and physical health conditions”.

In Ireland (40%), Poland and Bulgaria (both 38%) “both easy and difficult to cope with” outweighs the total “easy”, and total “difficult”.

Since winter 2020-2021, the proportion of respondents who describe their experience of confinement measures as easy has increased in 21 countries, most noticeably in Denmark (54%, +15 percentage points), Luxembourg (40% +13) and Sweden (51%, +10). In contrast, respondents in Hungary (26%, -6), Greece (11%, -6), Malta (18%, -5) and Romania (24%, -2) are now less likely to say their experience has been easy. The proportions have not changed in Estonia (55%) and Slovenia (27%).

QA20 Thinking about the measures taken to fight the coronavirus pandemic, in particular the confinement measures, would you say that it is an experience easy or difficult to cope with? An experience…
(%)

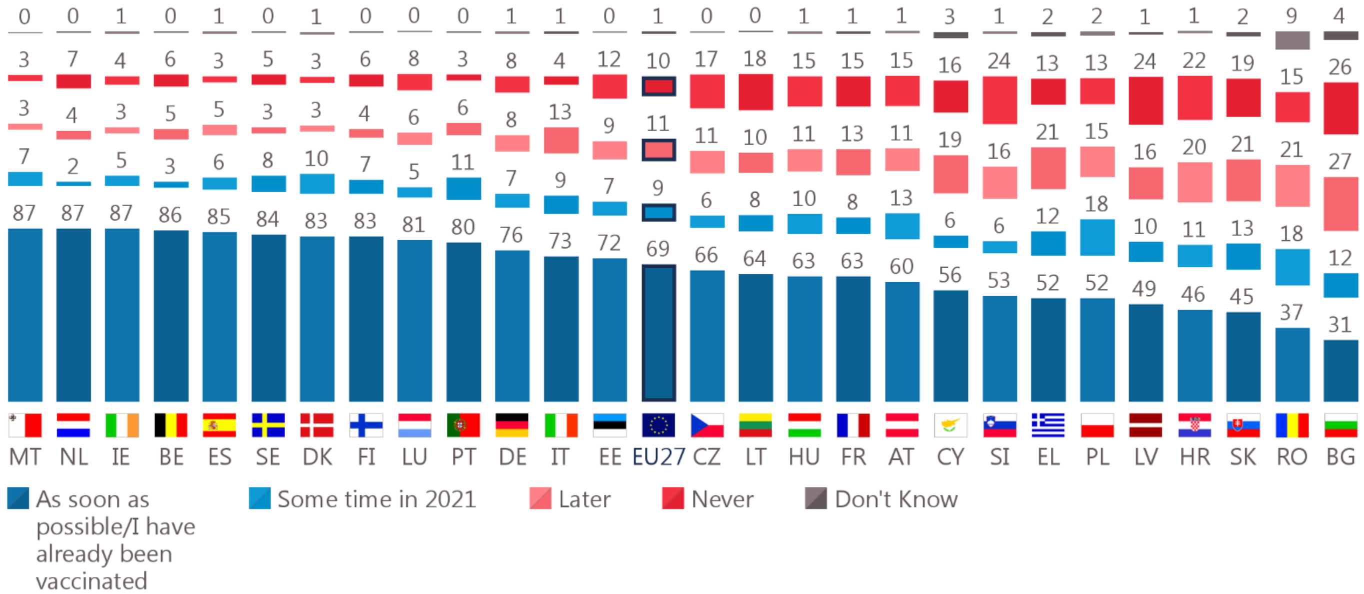


6. Interest in getting vaccinated against Covid-19: national results

Close to seven Europeans in ten would like to get vaccinated against COVID-19 as a soon as possible - or have already been vaccinated at the time of fieldwork (69%), and 9% would like to do so some time in 2021. 11% would prefer to get vaccinated later, and 10% say that they would never get vaccinated, and 1% that they “don’t know”.

In 22 countries, a majority of respondents would like to get vaccinated as soon as possible or have already been vaccinated, led by Malta, Netherlands, Ireland (all 87%), Belgium (86%), Spain (85%), Sweden (84%) and Denmark (83%). At the other end of the scale, there are four countries where around a quarter of respondents answered they would “never” like to get vaccinated: Bulgaria (26%), Latvia, Slovenia (both 24%) and Croatia (22%).

QA21 When would you like to get vaccinated against COVID-19 (coronavirus)?
(%)



CONCLUSION

This Standard Eurobarometer survey of spring 2021 reveals a **more optimistic mood amongst Europeans, particularly about the EU and its future.** Almost half of Europeans trust the EU, maintaining the highest level since 2008 that was set in winter 2020-2021, and the EU remains more trusted than national governments or parliaments. The **EU's positive image remains high** at 45%, and **optimism about the future of the EU is at its highest point since autumn 2009, with two-thirds of EU citizens holding this view after a steep 6-point increase**. Continuing this positive mood, support for a European economic and monetary union with one single currency, the euro, unchanged since winter 2020-2021, remains at its highest ever level, in both the euro area and the EU as a whole.

More than seven in ten Europeans say they feel like citizens of the EU. Although this is the majority view in each Member State, this feeling has declined in 20 countries since winter 2020-2021.

This positive mood also impacts the perceptions of the economic situation: the feeling that the **current situation of the national economy is 'good' has increased significantly since winter 2020-2021 to reach its highest point since the start of the pandemic**, with four in ten holding this view. However, the majority – almost six in ten - still rate their national economic situation as bad.

The main concerns of Europeans have changed dramatically since winter 2020-2021. After rising significantly between summer 2020 and winter 2020-2021, health has dropped in the rankings from being the most important issue facing the EU to joint fourth place along with the state of Member States' public finances. **The economic situation is now considered the most important issue facing the EU**, followed by the environment and climate change and immigration which rank joint second. **At national level, however, health is still considered by Europeans as the most important issue facing their country despite a sharp 16-point decrease,** with almost three in ten mentioning this, closely followed by the economic situation which is mentioned by just over one quarter. In third place, rising prices/ inflation/ cost of living has gained ground importantly since winter 2020-2021.

Since winter 2020-2021 there has been considerable improvement in **citizens'** satisfaction with **the measures taken by the European Union and their national government to fight the coronavirus.** Just over half are now satisfied with the measures taken by the EU or by their national government. Trust in the EU to make the right decisions in the future in response to the coronavirus pandemic has also increased and is now the view of almost two-thirds of EU citizens. Trust is also the view of the majority in every Member State.

Six in ten Europeans think their country's economy will **recover from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic in 2023 or later.** This is stable compared to winter 2020-2021.

Almost six in ten Europeans think that the EU 750 billion euros recovery plan, NextGenerationEU, will be effective.

Europeans are divided over their experience of the confinement measures taken to fight the coronavirus, although there has been some improvement since winter 2020-2021: over three in ten Europeans now think it has been an easy experience, while the same proportion think it has been difficult. Three in ten think it has been both easy and difficult to cope with.

Close to seven Europeans in ten would get vaccinated against COVID-19 as a soon as possible - or have already been vaccinated at the time of fieldwork, and further 9% would do so later in 2021. 11% would prefer to get vaccinated "later", and 10% say that they will "never" get vaccinated.

Technical Specifications

Between the 14th June and the 15th July 2021, Kantar on behalf of Kantar Belgium carried out the wave 95.3 of the Eurobarometer survey, on request of the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication, “Media monitoring and Eurobarometer” Unit.

The wave 95.3 includes the Standard Eurobarometer 95 survey and covers the population of the nationalities of the European Union Member States, resident in each of the 27 Member States and aged 15 years and over.

Some questions were asked also in 12 other countries or territories: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Turkish Cypriot Community in the part of the country that is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus, Iceland, Kosovo[20], Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

In these countries and territories, the survey covers the national population of citizens and the population of citizens of all the European Union Member States that are residents in these countries and territories and have a sufficient command of the national languages to answer the questionnaire.

The basic sample design applied in all countries and territories is a multi-stage, random (probability) one. In each country, a number of sampling points was drawn with probability proportional to population size (for a total coverage of the country) and to population density.

In order to do so, the sampling points were drawn systematically from each of the "administrative regional units", after stratification by individual unit and type of area. They thus represent the whole territory of the countries surveyed according to the EUROSTAT NUTS II (or equivalent) and according to the distribution of the resident population of the respective nationalities in terms of metropolitan, urban and rural areas.

In each of the selected sampling points, a starting address was drawn, at random. Further addresses (every Nth address) were selected by standard "random route" procedures, from the initial address. In each household, the respondent was drawn, at random (following the "closest birthday rule"). If no one answered the interviewer in a household, or if the respondent selected was not available (not present or busy), the interviewer revisited the same household up to three additional times (four contact attempts in total). Interviewers never indicate that the survey is conducted on behalf of the European Commission beforehand; they may give this information once the survey is completed, upon request.

The recruitment phase was slightly different in the Netherlands. In these country, a sample of addresses within each areal sampling point (1 km2 grid) were selected from the address or population register. The selection of addresses was done in a random manner. Households were then contacted by telephone and recruited to take part in the survey.

[20] This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/99 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

Standard Eurobarometer 95
Spring 2021

	COUNTRIES	INSTITUTES	N° INTERVIEWS	FIELDWORK DATES		POPULATION 15+	PROPORTION EU27
BE	Belgium	Kantar Belgium	1.007	16/06/2021	05/07/2021	9.188.369	2,45%
BG	Bulgaria	Kantar TNS BBSS	1.032	15/06/2021	02/07/2021	5.995.194	1,60%
CZ	Czechia	Kantar Czechia	1.087	15/06/2021	12/07/2021	8.956.740	2,39%
DK	Denmark	Kantar Gallup	1.008	15/06/2021	08/07/2021	4.848.611	1,29%
DE	Germany	Kantar Deutschland	1.535	15/06/2021	08/07/2021	71.728.398	19,10%
EE	Estonia	Kantar Emor	1.021	16/06/2021	06/07/2021	1.073.224	0,29%
IE	Ireland	Kantar Belgium	1.017	18/06/2021	06/07/2021	3.896.482	1,04%
EL	Greece	Kantar Greece	1.015	15/06/2021	11/07/2021	9.187.524	2,45%
ES	Spain	TNS Investigación de Mercados y Opinión	1.006	14/06/2021	08/07/2021	40.006.943	10,65%
FR	France	Kantar Public France	1.003	14/06/2021	30/06/2021	52.732.499	14,04%
HR	Croatia	Hendal	1.023	14/06/2021	11/07/2021	3.488.460	0,93%
IT	Italy	Kantar Italia	1.026	14/06/2021	05/07/2021	52.397.331	13,95%
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	CYMAR Market Research	505	14/06/2021	05/07/2021	734.695	0,20%
LV	Latvia	Kantar TNS Latvia	1.045	14/06/2021	05/07/2021	1.568.124	0,42%
LT	Lithuania	TNS LT	1.000	15/06/2021	09/07/2021	2.300.257	0,61%
LU	Luxembourg	TNS Ilres	514	15/06/2021	09/07/2021	503.275	0,13%
HU	Hungary	Kantar Hoffmann	1.021	15/06/2021	28/06/2021	8.351.017	2,22%
MT	Malta	MISCO International	502	17/06/2021	12/07/2021	426.055	0,11%
NL	Netherlands	Kantar Netherlands	1.033	14/06/2021	10/07/2021	14.165.638	3,77%
AT	Austria	Das Österreichische Gallup Institut	1.004	14/06/2021	04/07/2021	7.580.083	2,02%
PL	Poland	Kantar Polska	1.017	15/06/2021	10/07/2021	32.139.021	8,56%
PT	Portugal	Marktest – Marketing, Organização e Formação	1.000	15/06/2021	09/07/2021	8.869.051	2,36%
RO	Romania	Centrul Pentru Studierea Opiniei si Pietei (CSOP)	1.048	15/06/2021	11/07/2021	16.372.216	4,36%
SI	Slovenia	Mediana DOO	1.027	14/06/2021	08/07/2021	1.767.202	0,47%
SK	Slovakia	Kantar Czechia	1.011	15/06/2021	10/07/2021	4.592.379	1,22%
FI	Finland	Kantar TNS Oy	1.001	15/06/2021	12/07/2021	4.488.064	1,20%
SE	Sweden	Kantar Sifo	1015	15/06/2021	08/07/2021	8.149.850	2,17%
		TOTAL EU27	26.523	14/06/2021	12/07/2021	375.506.702	100%*

* It should be noted that the total percentage shown in this table may exceed 100% due to rounding
** Recruitments in Ireland are carried out by Ronin International.

AL	Albania	Index Kosovo	1.012	15/06/2021	08/07/2021	2.344.814
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Kantar TNS BBSS	1.002	15/06/2021	11/07/2021	2.987.440
CY(Tcc)	Turkish Cypriot Community	Lipa Consultancy	500	16/06/2021	15/07/2021	233.547
IS	Iceland	Gallup Iceland	516	16/06/2021	09/07/2021	289.125
XK	Territory of Kosovo	Index Kosovo	1.057	15/06/2021	07/07/2021	1.357.100
ME	Montenegro	TMG Insights	509	15/06/2021	08/07/2021	510.415
MK	North Macedonia	Kantar TNS BBSS	1.027	16/06/2021	06/07/2021	1.736.495
NO	Norway	Kantar Norway	1.018	16/06/2021	28/06/2021	4.392.175
RS	Serbia	TMG Insights	1.012	15/06/2021	04/07/2021	5.966.740
CH	Switzerland	Demo SCOPE AG	1.027	16/06/2021	07/07/2021	7.259.209
TR	Turkey	Kantar TNS Piar	1.002	16/06/2021	15/07/2021	62.644.678
UK	United Kingdom	Kantar UK Limited	1.020	16/06/2021	12/07/2021	53.082.345
		TOTAL	37.225	14/06/2021	15/07/2021	518.310.785

	COUNTRIES	N° OF CAPI INTERVIEWS	N° OF CAWI INTERVIEWS	TOTAL N° INTERVIEWS
BE	Belgium	0	1.007	1.007
BG	Bulgaria	1.032	0	1.032
CZ	Czechia	578	509	1.087
DK	Denmark	510	498	1.008
DE	Germany	1.535	0	1.535
EE	Estonia	0	1.021	1.021
IE	Ireland	0	1.017	1.017
EL	Greece	1.015	0	1.015
ES	Spain	1.006	0	1.006
FR	France	1.003	0	1.003
HR	Croatia	1.023	0	1.023
IT	Italy	1.026	0	1.026
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	505	0	505
LV	Latvia	327	718	1.045
LT	Lithuania	0	1.000	1.000
LU	Luxembourg	253	261	514
HU	Hungary	1.021	0	1.021
MT	Malta	360	142	502
NL	Netherlands	589	444	1.033
AT	Austria	1.004	0	1.004
PL	Poland	1.017	0	1.017
PT	Portugal	1.000	0	1.000
RO	Romania	1.048	0	1.048
SI	Slovenia	851	176	1.027
SK	Slovakia	917	94	1.011
FI	Finland	0	1.001	1.001
SE	Sweden	0	1015	1.015
	TOTAL EU27	17.620	8.903	26.523
AL	Albania	1.012	0	1.012
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	1.002	0	1.002
CY(Tcc)	Turkish Cypriot Community	500	0	500
IS	Iceland	0	516	516
XK	Territory of Kosovo	1.057	0	1.057
ME	Montenegro	509	0	509
MK	North Macedonia	1.027	0	1.027
NO	Norway	0	1.018	1.018
RS	Serbia	1.012	0	1.012
CH	Switzerland	0	1.027	1.027
TR	Turkey	1.002	0	1.002
UK	United Kingdom	0	1020	1.020
	TOTAL	24.741	12.484	37.225

CAPI : Computer-Assisted Personal interviewing
CAWI : Computer-Assisted Web interviewing

Consequences of the coronavirus pandemic on fieldwork

- Face-to-face interviewing

Where feasible, interviews were conducted face-to-face in people's homes or on their door step and in the appropriate national language. In all countries and territories where face-to-face interviewing was feasible CAPI (Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing) was used. For all interviews conducted face-to-face, hygiene and physical distancing measures have been respected at all times in line with government regulations, and whenever possible, interviews were conducted outside homes, on doorsteps, to remain in open air and maintain social distance.

- Face-to-face and online interviewing

In Czechia, Denmark, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Slovakia and Slovenia face-to-face interviewing was feasible but it was not possible to reach the target number of face-to-face interviews within the fieldwork period due to the impact of Covid-19 restrictions: many potential respondents are reluctant to open their homes to interviewers, even if they respect hygiene rules and physical distancing, such as wearing masks and using hydroalcoholic gel. Therefore, to hit the target number of interviews within the fieldwork period, **additional interviews** were conducted online with Computer-Assisted Web Interviewing (CAWI) technique.

- Online interviewing

In Belgium, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Ireland, Lithuania, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and the UK face-to-face interviews were not feasible at all. Therefore all interviews were conducted online with CAWI technique.

Recruitment for online interviews

- In the EU

The online design in each country differed based on what was feasible within the fieldwork period. Where feasible, the online sample was based on a probabilistic sample design. Those recruited to the online survey were recruited through a single mobile frame or dual frame Random Digit Dialling (RDD) design. In this way the entire phone owning population in each country had a non-zero chance of being sampled. The choice of whether to use a single mobile frame or dual frame (mobile and landline) was dependent on the countries' landline infrastructure. Where the landline infrastructure is suitably advanced to support a significant minority of residential households with landline phones a dual frame design is employed. The mix of mobile and landline sample is designed to maximise the representation of the responding sample. The RDD sample for both the mobile and landline sample is drawn from the country's telephone numbering plan. The landline sample frame is stratified by NUTS3 regions based on their prefix and the mobile by operator before a systematic random sample of numbers is generated proportional in size to the total generable numbers in each stratum. Respondents were recruited using this sample design in **Belgium, Czechia, Estonia, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Slovakia** and **Slovenia.**

In **Finland**, **Denmark**, and **Sweden**, RDD samples were not used, instead the telephone sample was drawn from the country telephone directory. In these three countries the telephone directories offer comprehensive coverage of the phone owning population, storing both landline and mobile phone numbers for each individual.

In **the Netherlands**, a proprietary panel called "Nipobase" was used, drawing a random sample from their panel. This panel uses a mix of probability based sampling to recruit panellists and non-probabilistic approaches to maximise representation where the probability based approach under-represents, such as in the younger age groups. Nipobase uses mix of offline and online modes. Offline modes are typically RDD samples and online modes are typically recruitment via targeted websites and social media platforms.

- Outside the EU:

In **the UK,** recruitment of respondents was made either via a face-to-face CAPI mode of data collection based on a clustered multistage random sample of addresses or via a postal invite to an online survey using a completely unclustered random sample of addresses.

In **Norway** and **Iceland**, stratified random samples were drawn from among probability based samples. Recruitments are done using offline modes of data collection (telephone and postal) based on a probability sample design.

In **Switzerland** samples were randomly drawn from the non-probabilistic sample ("Demoscope"). Demoscope is a pseudo-probabilistic sample, in that the frame for selecting households is based on a probability sample. Recruitment is done via the telephone directory – which lists landline numbers only in Switzerland, where landline coverage is very high. However the selection of individuals in the households to join the panel is not random. Demoscope was used as the primary source.

***

Please note that when the response rates were not sufficiently large to achieve the target sample size in the fieldwork period, we had to further supplement the samples drawn probabilistically (either face-to-face or phone-to-web) with non-probabilistic panels. This was effectively a 'last resort' option when no other probabilistic design was feasible. In this regard, in **Lithuania**, the sample was supplemented with a randomly drawn sample from Norstat's non-probabilistic sample panel.

Response rates

For each country a comparison between the responding sample and the universe (i.e. the overall population in the country) is carried out. Weights are used to match the responding sample to the universe on gender by age, region and degree of urbanisation. For European estimates (i.e. EU average), an adjustment is made to the individual country weights, weighting them up or down to reflect their 15+ population as a proportion of the EU 15+ population.

The response rates are calculated by dividing the total number of complete interviews with the number of all the addresses visited, apart from ones that are not eligible but including those where eligibility is unknown. For Standard Eurobarometer 95, the response rates for the EU27 countries, calculated by Kantar, are:

BE**	22,4%	LU*	19,4%
BG*	47,1%	LU**	55,6%
CZ*	43,6%	HU*	61,5%
CZ**	34,3%	MT*	82,2%
DK*	37,9%	MT**	28,3%
DK**	16,2%	NL*	60,2%
DE*	19,8%	NL**	43,9%
EE**	21,0%	AT*	42,8%
IE**	21,8%	PL*	46,1%
EL*	27,4%	PT*	38,9%
ES*	33,3%	RO*	61,2%
FR*	30,1%	SI*	53,4%
HR*	50,8%	SI**	31,9%
IT*	21,2%	SK*	67,8%
CY*	47,1%	SK**	16,1%
LV*	39,0%	FI*	30,0%
LV**	19,7%	SE*	39,9%
LT**	37,0%		

* CAPI : Computer-Assisted Personal interviewing
** CAWI : Computer-Assisted Web interviewing (CAWI RRs do not include the recruitment phase)

Margins of error

Readers are reminded that survey results are estimations, the accuracy of which, everything being equal, rests upon the sample size and upon the observed percentage. With samples of about 1,000 interviews, the real percentages vary within the following confidence limits:

Statistical Margins due to the sampling process
(at the 95% level of confidence)

various sample sizes are in rows *various observed results are in columns*

	5% 95%	10% 90%	15% 85%	20% 80%	25% 75%	30% 70%	35% 65%	40% 60%	45% 55%	50% 50%	
N=50	6.0	8.3	9.9	11.1	12.0	12.7	13.2	13.6	13.8	13.9	N=50
N=500	1.9	2.6	3.1	3.5	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.4	4.4	N=500
N=1000	**1.4**	**1.9**	**2.2**	**2.5**	**2.7**	**2.8**	**3.0**	**3.0**	**3.1**	**3.1**	**N=1000**
N=1500	1.1	1.5	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.5	N=1500
N=2000	1.0	1.3	1.6	1.8	1.9	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.2	2.2	N=2000
N=3000	0.8	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8	N=3000
N=4000	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	N=4000
N=5000	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.4	N=5000
N=6000	0.6	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.3	1.3	N=6000
N=7000	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.2	1.2	N=7000
N=7500	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1	N=7500
N=8000	0.5	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.1	1.1	1.1	N=8000
N=9000	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	N=9000
N=10000	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.0	N=10000
N=11000	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	N=11000
N=12000	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.9	N=12000
N=13000	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	N=13000
N=14000	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	N=14000
N=15000	0.3	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	N=15000
	5% 95%	10% 90%	15% 85%	20% 80%	25% 75%	30% 70%	35% 65%	40% 60%	45% 55%	50% 50%	