

PUBLIC OPINION MONITORING *at a glance*

in the time of COVID-19
16 June 2020



This week's newsletter from DG Communication's Public Opinion Monitoring Unit continues to focus on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on public opinion within the European Union and beyond.

Presenting pertinent information and analysis from both EU level and the Member States, we draw on available and published surveys, social media monitoring and the analysis of our team in close collaboration with other services within DG COMM, specifically Parliament's Liaison Office in all Member States.

The current edition of the newsletter contains:

- **A short analytical summary on main results and insights from across the EU, based on current surveys**
- A collection of recent multi-national surveys comparing public opinion from several EU and other countries on the Covid-19 pandemic
- Current national surveys and polls on citizens' attitudes towards the corona crisis, their governments' and the EU's response, including, where and when available, data on trust in public institutions.

Apart from relevant news from the Member States, we would like to draw your attention to four **multi-country studies** presenting citizens' views on the **impact of the pandemic on democracy and on environment**:

- The Democracy Perception Index (DPI), the world's largest annual study on democracy, conducted by Dalia Research, offers a **unique comparison of global public opinion during the Covid-19 crisis**
- An Ipsos global survey on behalf of the World Economic Forum on **linking recovery aid to the green economy**
- A YouGov opinion poll covering 21 European cities and measuring residents' **willingness to return to pre-Covid air pollution levels**
- An IPSOS multi-country survey on **expectations towards governments to make the environment protection a priority when planning a recovery from the pandemic**

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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ANALYTICAL SUMMARY

1) Europeans' reactions and perceptions of the COVID19 pandemic

This week's newsletter highlights once more Europeans' concerns over the present and future economic repercussions of the Covid-19 crisis. Results regarding the use of a potential vaccine, mental health consequences of the crisis, concerns about a second wave and media use or trust are available from a number of countries.

- In **Bulgaria**, 51% of respondents are afraid or even very afraid that they or a member of their family may be infected with the coronavirus. While this fear had increased between March and April, it has declined since then. 51% of respondents report that their income has decreased. Significant proportions of respondents are doubtful of a new vaccine against Covid-19: 22% of respondents believe that the coronavirus vaccine will 'put chips in people in order to control them'.
- 80% of **Croatians** believe that wages should stay the same during this crisis and that people should be allowed to work from home. A majority of citizens are concerned about the downturn of both the national and global economies, a fall in their family's living standards, rising prices and pay cuts. Three in four respondents, aged between 35 and 44, said they fear pay cuts, and three in five of those from low-income families fear job losses.
- In **Czechia**, results show that although respondents are not currently afraid of the virus, they fear a recurrence of the pandemic. The coronavirus is perceived as a threat to their employment by 55% of respondents. Almost 9 in 10 expect prices to rise, a quarter fear failure to pay their debts and a third of working people fear redundancies.
- Almost half of respondents in **Denmark** strongly or somewhat support having stricter border controls in the longer term, since the outbreak of coronavirus. Almost half of them also believe there should be more controls at the external EU borders after the crisis, while around four in ten believe the same for the internal Schengen borders.
- In **Estonia**, a survey on mental health reveals that nearly one third of respondents exhibit above-average symptoms hinting at depression. Another survey shows that 55% of Estonians believe that their financial situation will improve within the coming six months compared to 23% EU average.
- 73% of social workers in **Finland** have seen an increased need for food aid during the crisis, while 40% say that financial problems such as rent defaults became more widespread during the state of emergency.
- Eight in ten respondents in **France** are not confident regarding the country's economic situation.
- Asked about the most important challenge faced today by their country, 49% of **Greek** respondents mention unemployment compared to 13% mentioning the Covid-19 pandemic. 47% are pessimistic about the course of events in Greece in the next 6 months, against 45% who are optimistic. An overwhelming majority thinks tourists who are visiting the country this summer should be tested for the virus (89%).
- In **Hungary**, one in five respondents think that the biggest problem in Hungary is that many companies have gone bankrupt and many people got into a difficult situation in a stagnant economy. Nearly half of the respondents would be affected in their financial situation if there were restrictions in many areas of life again in the autumn due to the pandemic.
- In **Ireland**, a study by the national forum of family resource centres (FRCs) shows increased food poverty and mental health difficulties in poorer areas, as a result of the Covid-19 crisis. It also reports higher incidents of domestic violence, worsening behavioural challenges in children and increased demand for food and meal deliveries. 71% of FRCs identified increased calls for parent and family supports; 69% reported increased need for food parcels.

- while 51% say counselling and mental health supports were among the most urgent issues.
- In **Italy**, uncertainty is still the feeling mostly shared by respondents (52%) but feelings of hope (43%) are increasing. 59% of Italians think that the economy will not recover for a long time and 55% even believe that the economic situation got worse in the last two weeks. 58% of Italians believe that most work activities should open as soon as possible to avoid worsening the country's economic situation.
- 49% of respondents in **Latvia** say their wellbeing has deteriorated due to the pandemic. 46% of respondents would use a vaccine against Covid-19, if it was made available, while 39% of them would not use it.
- The **Dutch** population is almost evenly divided over using an app that allows the user to track whether they have been in contact with someone who has been infected with the coronavirus.
- 98% of **Portuguese** respondents consider themselves to be "very" or "moderately" informed about the pandemic, and seven in ten are highly interested in the subject. They seek information on TV, radio, friends, internet pages of official sources like the National Health Authority, and on social media. They predominantly trust information disseminated by doctors (98%), scientists (93%) and National Health Institutions (89%). However, they are sceptical of information spread by politicians (38%) and social media, which comes out as the least credible source.
- 38% of **Romanian** respondents agree with the extension of the state of alert across the country, while 55% are against it.

2) Attitudes towards governments' responses and trust in public institutions

Attitudes towards governments' responses and trust in public institutions remain overall positive, although with some exceptions.

- In **Belgium**, 51% of respondents believe the measures taken since mid-March are good enough. They are however not very satisfied with the way the crisis was managed by the federal and regional governments. They are also quite dissatisfied with most politicians, except for Sophie Wilmès who obtains a majority of positive reactions. Belgian respondents are on the contrary very satisfied with the way scientists managed the crisis, with 78% satisfaction about Emmanuel André's work.
- In **Bulgaria**, 77% of respondents rather or completely agree that the government is doing well with the measures against the coronavirus.
- 79% of **Czech** respondents believe that the Czech Republic chose the optimal procedure for stopping and resolving the coronavirus pandemic. The relaxation of security measures is suitable for 71% of them.
- In **Denmark**, the support for the Socialdemokratiet (A) is growing, with + 9,6 pp comparing to the previous poll conducted beginning of June.
- **French** respondents' confidence that the government will manage the exit strategy continues rising and has surpassed 50% for the first time (52%, +3 pp).
- In **Germany**, the economic stimulus package is described by 68% of respondents as rather good and by 22% as not good. Acceptance of the extent of the relaxation measures now in force is virtually unchanged from the previous month: 56% think they are just right, 30% think they go too far and only 12% would like to see further relaxation.
- On a scale from 1 to 10, 58% of **Greek** respondents rate the government's performance with 6 or more.
- 58% of respondents in **Hungary** say it is true that the government influences the epidemic's statistics along its political interests. The vast majority of opposition voters see this as well, with 98% of MSZP, 96% of Momentum, 87% of Jobbik and 84% of DK voters thinking so. This is also the case for 23% of Fidesz voters.

- In **Ireland**, support for Fine Gael remains high during the Covid-19 pandemic, with 35% of the public backing Leo Varadkar's party.
- In **Italy**, a majority of respondents consider the measures adopted at both government level (56%), regional level (58%) and local level (55%) efficient. The overall support is weaker among voters of the opposition, especially concerning the ones in the economic field.
- In **Portugal**, nine in ten respondents are happy with government's measures. Still, more than 80% think that politicians should be more receptive to the recommendations of researchers and scientists before making decisions.
- In **Spain**, 54.2% of respondents point to the regions regarding the responsibility in the management of the elderly homes. In addition, 68.9% believe that there are more deaths than reported. PP reaches 100 seats and would add with Vox (right and far right opposition) more deputies than PSOE and Unidas Podemos together (government coalition parties – left).
- **Swedes'** confidence in the ability of the government and the health agency to handle the outbreak of the coronavirus is falling. The proportion of those with high or reasonably high trust in the government's ability to deal with the virus outbreak dipped to 45% in June, compared to 63% in April. The Socialdemocrats fell by 2.3 percentage points, which corresponds to about 135,000 voters.

3) Attitudes towards the EU's responses

- More than one third of **Italians** think that it would be better to exit both the EU and the Eurozone. A relative majority however (48%) believe the opposite.
- In the **Netherlands**, a majority of respondents agree with the proposition that an economic shock in southern Europe would affect the Netherlands, but they disagree with the view that a Dutch fiscal transfer would be a good investment to feather such a shock. Only 3 in 10 voters agree with the Commission's proposals.

4) Multi-country surveys

This newsletter also includes four multi-country studies presenting public opinion views' on the impact of the pandemic on democracy and on the environment:

The first one is the **Democracy Perception Index (DPI)**, the world's largest annual study on democracy, conducted by Dalia Research, offering a unique comparison of global public opinion during the COVID-19 crisis:

- 78% of people around the world say that democracy is important to have in their country.
- 40% of all people living in democracies believe that their country is not actually democratic.
- European countries remain the strongest critics of the US's global influence.
- A majority (55%) thinks that it is "very likely" or "somewhat likely" that a foreign power will influence the results of their next election. The vast majority of people around the world (70%) are generally satisfied with their government's response to the COVID-19 virus. Greece (89%) and Ireland (87%) are among the most satisfied countries globally.
- About half of the population feels like their country applied the "right amount" of restrictions on people's movement.
- About half of the population agrees that their government has gone too far in violating basic freedoms during the COVID-19 response.

The second study is an **Ipsos global survey conducted for the World Economic Forum** on linking recovery aid to the green economy.

- Global public opinion is divided on whether financial aid and incentives to revive the economy in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic should be provided only to businesses that have taken measures to reduce their carbon footprint.
- 38% say aid should go to all sectors and businesses in need, only if they have taken demonstrable measures to significantly reduce their carbon emissions and their impact on the environment, compared to 36% who say that this should not be a prerequisite,

A **YouGov opinion poll** asked residents in 21 European on their willingness to return to pre-Covid air pollution levels.

- A clear majority of urban residents across Europe do not want to see air pollution return to pre-Covid-19 levels.
- 68% agree that cities must take effective measures to protect citizens from air pollution, even if it means preventing polluting cars from entering city centres to protect clean air, with as many as 63% of drivers themselves in support.
- 74% of respondents say cities must take effective measures to protect citizens from air pollution, even if this requires reallocating public space to walking, cycling and public transport.

The last one is an **IPSOS multi-country survey** on expectations towards governments to make the environment protection a priority when planning a recovery from the pandemic.

- Three in four people in 16 major countries expect their government to make protection of the environment a priority when planning a recovery from the coronavirus pandemic.
- There is a view the environment is a personal priority for people with half of the respondents disagreeing that protecting the environment is far down on their list of priorities right now.
- More than four in five respondents globally say issues such as pollution, degradation of nature, deforestation, overfishing and climate change pose a serious threat to our health and well-being today.

Multi-country surveys

Democracy Perception Index – 2020

Dalia Research, 15/06/2020

<https://daliaresearch.com/blog/democracy-perception-index-2020/>

Overview

The Democracy Perception Index (DPI) is the world's largest annual study on democracy, conducted by Dalia Research in collaboration with the Alliance of Democracies, to monitor attitudes towards democracy from around the world. The 2020 edition offers a **unique comparison of global public opinion during the COVID-19 crisis**. Results are based on nationally representative interviews with 124,000 respondents from 53 countries conducted between April 20th and June 3rd 2020.

The results of this year's Democracy Perception Index (DPI) offer an unprecedented comparison of **attitudes around the world during the COVID-19 pandemic**. This study (...) aims to shed a light on the **disconnect between citizens' expectations and their governments**.

Key Findings

Democracy is important

78% of people around the world say that democracy is important to have in their country. Similarly to 2019, this is a majority opinion in each country surveyed, ranging from **92% in Greece** to 50% in Iran.

My country is not democratic

40% of all people living in democracies believe that their country is not actually democratic.

43% of the global population say that their government only serves a small group of people in their country. This sentiment is as high in democracies as it is in non-democracies.

Dissatisfaction with the level of democracy

To capture the dissatisfaction with the state of democracy in the eyes of the public, this study measured the difference between how important people think democracy is and how democratic they think their country is. (...)

The countries with the **smallest gap** are now Taiwan, Philippines, Switzerland, **Denmark**, and Saudi Arabia. The countries that have the **largest perceived democratic deficit**, meaning governments that are least living up to the democratic expectations of their citizens are Venezuela, **Poland**, **Hungary**, Ukraine and Nigeria. (...)

The US's global impact on democracy has mixed reviews

The world remains split about whether the US's global influence has a positive or negative influence on democracy around the world: 44% say it has a positive influence, 38% say negative.

European countries remain the strongest critics of the US's global influence, particularly in **Germany, Austria, Denmark, Ireland and Belgium** where the overall opinion is **overwhelmingly negative**. (...)

Fear of election interference is widespread around the globe

A majority of the world (55%) thinks that it is “very likely” or “somewhat likely” that a foreign power will influence the results of their next election. This fear is highest in mainly densely populated Asian countries: Indonesia, Pakistan, India and the Philippines.

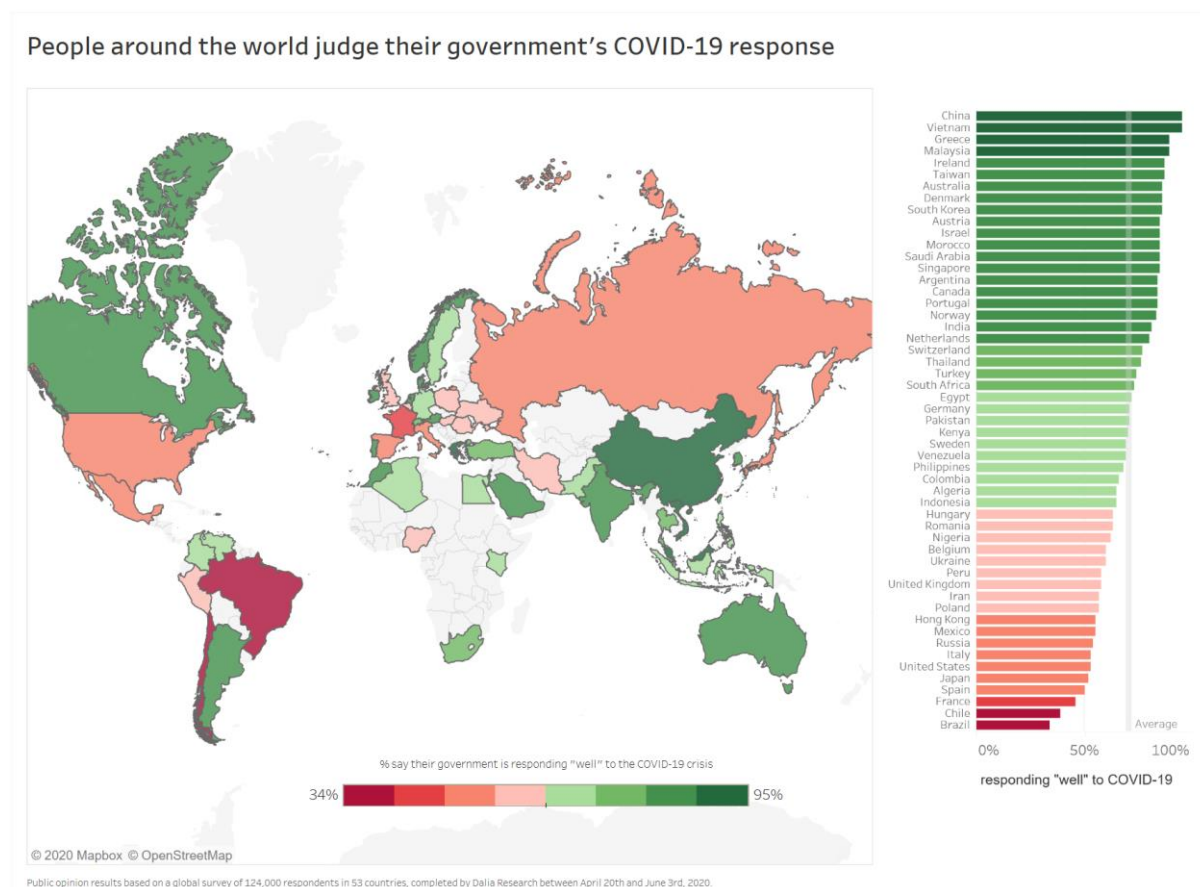
On the other hand, the two **countries that worry the least** are China and Russia, followed by mostly **EU member countries**. Despite regular focus on Russian interference in US elections, Americans fall squarely in the middle across the globe, with 55% thinking that interference in the upcoming elections is very or somewhat likely.

Democracy During COVID-19

People around the world judge their government’s response to COVID-19

The vast majority of people around the world (70%) are generally satisfied with their government’s response to the COVID-19 virus, saying their government is handling the crisis well. The countries most critical of their government’s response are Brazil and Chile, where only 34% and 39% respectively think that their governments are responding well.

The countries **most satisfied with their government’s response** are China (95%), Vietnam (95%), Greece (89%), Malaysia (89%) and Ireland (87%). Satisfaction with government response is practically as high in democracies as non-democracies overall (70% vs. 74%, respectively).

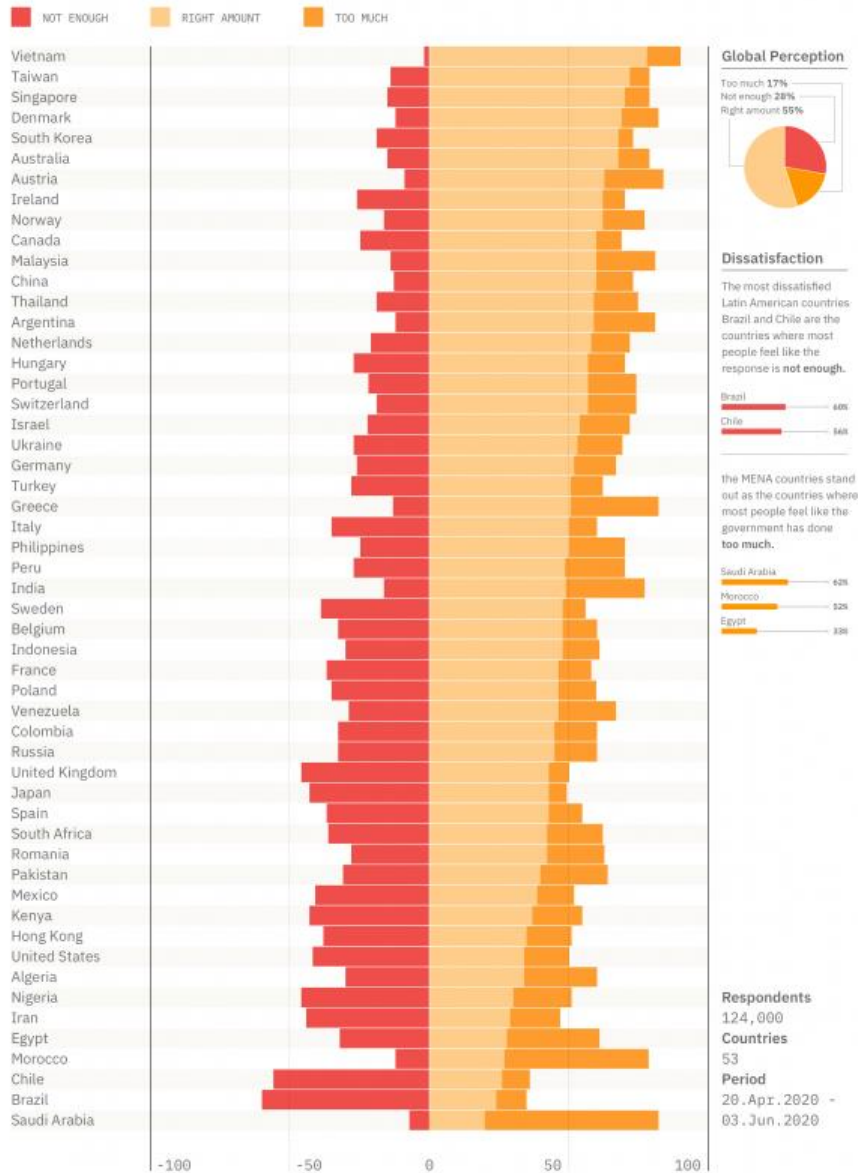


People don’t think their governments are overreacting to COVID-19.

Across the 53 countries surveyed, about half of the population feels like their country applied the “right amount” of restrictions on people’s movement while 28% think their government has “not done enough”, and only 17% think their government has done “too much”. (...)

Most people don't think governments are overreacting to COVID-19

"Do you think your government is doing too much or not enough to restrict the movement of people in your country?"



Public opinion results based on a global survey of 124,000 respondents in 53 countries, completed by Dalia Research between April 20 and June 3, 2020. Results are nationally representative of the internet-connected population, based on age, gender and education.

Dalia

(...)

People are worried about basic freedoms during COVID-19

Across the 53 countries in the survey, about half of the population agrees that their government has gone too far in violating basic freedoms during the COVID-19 response. This is a more widespread opinion than the 33% who disagree. (...)

Generally, democratic countries are split about this feeling, with equal shares agreeing and disagreeing (39% vs. 38%) (...)

Global public evenly divided on limiting recovery aid to the green economy

IPSOS, June 10, 2020

<https://www.ipsos.com/en/global-public-evenly-divided-limiting-recovery-aid-green-economy>

A new Ipsos survey on behalf of the World Economic Forum shows that **global public opinion is divided on whether financial aid and incentives to revive the economy in the aftermath of the coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic should be provided only to businesses that have taken measures to reduce their carbon footprint.**

The survey of more than 19,000 adults from 27 countries finds **38% saying aid should go to all sectors and businesses in need, only if they have taken demonstrable measures to significantly reduce their carbon emissions and their impact on the environment**, compared to **36% saying that this should not be a prerequisite**, and 26% saying they are not sure.

(...) The countries where support for dispensing government aid to businesses **regardless of their environmental impact** is most prevalent are among those that have been **hit by the coronavirus pandemic the hardest: Italy** (52%), Great Britain (50%), the United States (46%) and **Spain** (45%).

(...) These are the results of a survey conducted by Ipsos on the Global Advisor platform, between April 24 and May 8, 2020.

No going back to pre-Covid air pollution levels – opinion poll finds

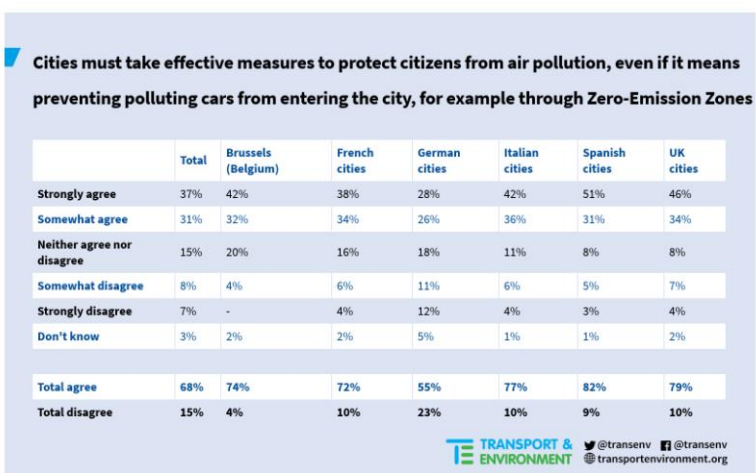
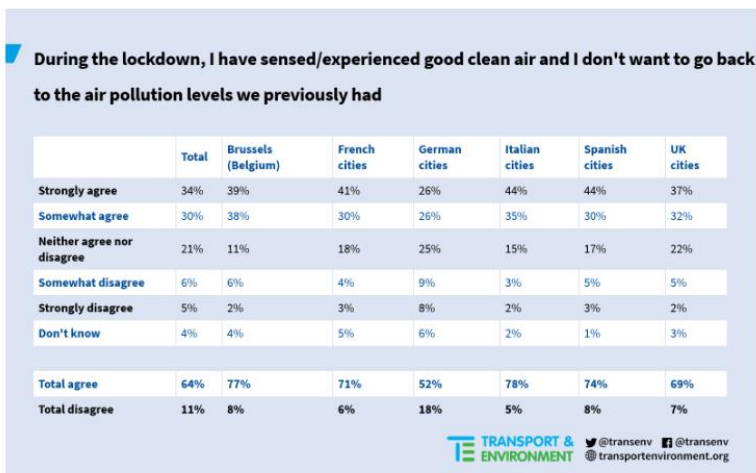
EPHA, 11/07/2020

<https://epha.org/no-going-back-to-pre-covid-air-pollution-levels-opinion-poll-finds/>

A clear majority of urban residents across Europe do not want to see air pollution return to pre-Covid-19 levels and support profound changes in transport to protect clean air, according to fresh **YouGov opinion polling in 21 European cities.**

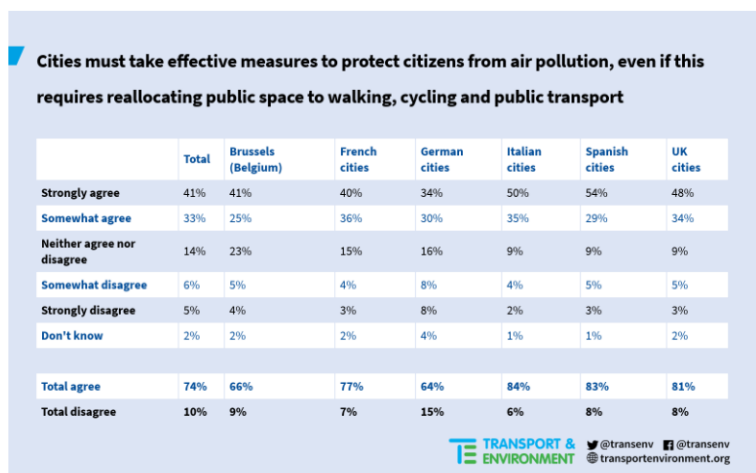
(...) In a major international survey of public opinion in **six European countries**, (...) just under two out of every three people **(64%) on average said they do not want to go back to pre-Covid pollution levels.** Roughly the same proportion **(68%) agreed that cities must take effective measures to protect citizens from air pollution**, even if it means preventing polluting cars from entering city centres to protect clean air, with as many as 63% of drivers themselves in support. Around three quarters **(74%) of respondents said cities must take effective measures to protect citizens from air pollution, even if this requires reallocating public space** to walking, cycling and public transport, with just 10% opposed.

Even though there is reluctance to use public transport due to the potential risk of contagion, regular users of buses and trains said hygiene is a deal-breaker. Four in five people (81%) who primarily used public transport before the pandemic are willing to return: 54% said they will start riding buses, trams and trains again if sufficient hygiene measures are taken to prevent Covid-19 contagion; the remaining 27% are set to return regardless of risk.



(...) When surveyed online for T&E and EPHA between 14 and 21 May 2020, the 7,545 adults of voting age in Italy, Spain, Germany, France, the UK and Belgium gave remarkably consistent answers, despite their various economic, class, age and gender backgrounds.

While 14% of the city dwellers surveyed tended to cycle on work days before lockdown, now one in five (21%) plan to cycle more when lockdown ends fully. For walkers, the figures are 32% and 35% respectively.



Majority of people expect government to make environment a priority in post COVID-19 recovery

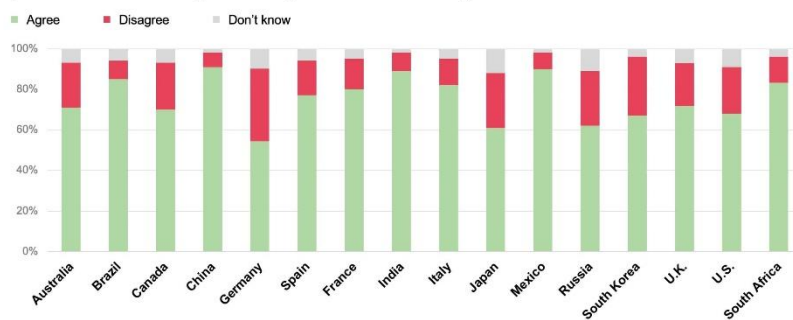
IPSOS, 5 June 2020

<https://www.ipsos.com/en/majority-people-expect-government-make-environment-priority-post-Covid-19-recovery>

Three in four people in 16 major countries expect their government to make protection of the environment a priority when planning a recovery from the coronavirus pandemic, according to a global Ipsos poll conducted to mark World Environment Day.

In a survey of 16,000 people from May 21 to 24, a majority of people in all 16 countries agreed with this action with the highest support. (...) **Disagreement over making the environment a government priority in a COVID-19 recovery is highest in Germany (36%), South Korea (29%), Japan and Russia (27%), the United States and Canada (23%).**

Should your government make environment protection a priority in recovery from COVID-19?



Q: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?
I expect my government to make protection of the environment a priority when planning for the post COVID-19 recovery.

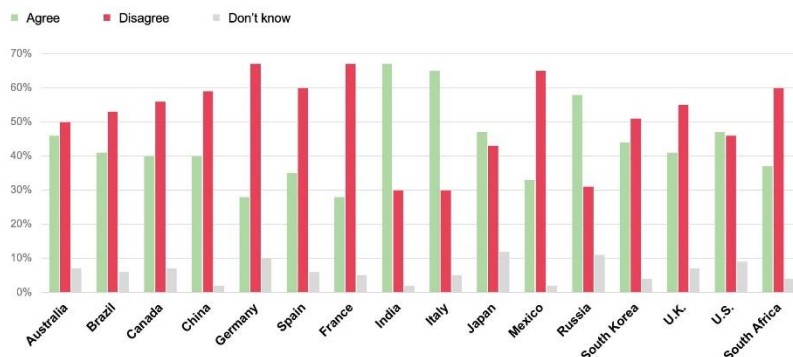
15,951 adults polled in 16 countries from May 21 to 24, 2020



Added to this, there is a **view the environment is a personal priority for people** with half of the respondents disagreeing that protecting the environment is far down on their list of priorities right now. **This sentiment is highest in many European countries including Germany and France (67%), Mexico (65%), Spain and South Africa (60%).**

Those that **believe protecting the environment is not a top priority right now** are most likely in India (67%), **Italy (65%)** and Russia (58%). (...)

Is protecting the environment a low priority right now?



Q: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement?
Protecting the environment is far down my list of priorities right now.

15,951 adults polled in 16 countries from May 21 to 24, 2020

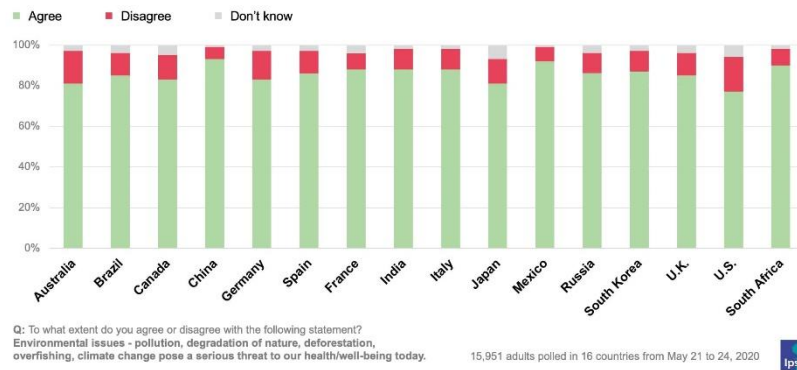


Environmental threat to health

In terms of **how seriously people view environmental issues**, more than four in five respondents globally say issues such as pollution, degradation of nature, deforestation, overfishing and climate change pose a serious threat to our health and well-being today.

This sentiment is highest again in the developing countries of China (93%), Mexico (91%), South Africa (90%), India and **Italy (88%)**. Meanwhile, the U.S. has the highest number of people that disagree with this threat at 17%, followed by Australia (16%).

Do you think environmental issues pose a serious threat to your health?



(...)

These are the results of an Ipsos survey conducted May 21st to 24th, 2020 on the Global Advisor online platform.

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Belgium

Sondage "Les Belges jugent la crise" pour Le Vif/L'Express-Knack-LN24, 10/06/20

Source: <https://www.levif.be/actualite/belgique/de-block-humiliee-wilmes-confortee-les-belges-mefiants-les-resultats-de-notre-sondage-sur-la-gestion-de-la-crise-sanitaire/article-normal-1297865.html>

Le sondage Le Vif/L'Express-Knack-LN24 dévoile comment les Belges ont traversé la crise du coronavirus. **La majorité des sondés (50,9%) évalue globalement les mesures prises à partir du 14 mars comme "bien comme cela"**, et ceux qui les ont trouvées "trop sévères" ne sont que 13,9%, tandis qu'une forte minorité (35,1%) les a estimées "pas assez sévères".

Plus d'insatisfaits que de satisfaits

La commune est l'institution que les Belges auront préférée (42,4% s'en montrent satisfaits) dans la gestion de la crise. Ni le gouvernement fédéral (33% de satisfaits, 38% d'insatisfaits), ni le Bruxellois (25,7% de satisfaits, 39% d'insatisfaits), ni le Wallon (22,4% de satisfaits, 42,9% d'insatisfaits), ni, surtout, celui de la Fédération Wallonie-Bruxelles (à peine 17,9% de satisfaits, contre 40% d'insatisfaits) ne sont parvenus à convaincre davantage qu'ils n'ont déçu. Seul l'exécutif tripartite flamand (N-VA-CD&V-Open VLD) récolte davantage d'opinions favorables (35,8%) que d'avis défavorables (30,2%).

L'impopularité de Maggie De Block

Les sondés ont également été questionnés sur le satisfaction envers différents chefs d'Etats. Maggie De Block en ressort particulièrement impopulaire. 61% de l'ensemble des sondés désapprouvent son action, et ce pourcentage monte à 80% des répondants francophones. 57,5% des sondés (et 73% des francophones) considèrent qu'un ou plusieurs ministres auraient "dû démissionner pour des erreurs commises durant la crise du coronavirus". Parmi eux, 67% citent spontanément Maggie De Block, loin devant Sophie Wilmès, que nomment seulement 9% de ceux qui ont estimé qu'un ministre aurait dû quitter son poste.

Aucun des chefs de gouvernements, Sophie Wilmès exceptée, ne rassemble autour de son nom davantage de satisfaits que d'insatisfaits. La popularité de la Première ministre écrase celle des ministres-présidents francophones: ni Elio Di Rupo, ni Rudi Vervoort, ni Pierre-Yves Jeholet n'atteignent les 20% de satisfaits, et leur nom mobilise au moins 40% d'insatisfaits.

La force des experts

La gestion de la crise par les scientifiques et par contre jugée très satisfaisante pour les sondés. 78,1% d'entre eux jugent la gestion de la crise par Emmanuel André satisfaisante (contre 5,6% d'insatisfaits).

Le sondage a été réalisé par l'institut Kantar auprès de 1021 Belges âgés de dix-huit ans et plus entre le 18 et le 25 mai. Ils étaient interrogés sur leur degré de satisfaction envers la façon dont les autorités du Royaume ont géré les conséquences du coronavirus. La marge d'erreur est de 3.1%.

Bulgaria

Gallup International on Covid-19

Gallup International, 10/06/2020 [in BG, EPLO summary]

Survey conducted on 04-07/06/2020 among 850 respondents.

The government's actions against the coronavirus continue to be approved. Fears of coronavirus infection are gradually decreasing, but concerns about personal finances and the country's economy are growing. Physical contact and attendance at public and social events are still a concern for the Bulgarians. However, they expect normalization in their daily lives by the end of the year.

51% of the Bulgarians are afraid or even very afraid that they or a member of their family may get the coronavirus. 48% are rather not afraid or are not afraid at all. Few are hesitant to answer.

Between March and April, fears visibly increased, but have declined since April.

In the same time, **58% of the Bulgarians rather agree or strongly agree that the threat of coronavirus is exaggerated.** 39% are of the opposite opinion. Immediately before the announcement of the emergency measures in Bulgaria, even more people found the threat exaggerated - 72% in mid-March.

72% believe that the threat of coronavirus in Bulgaria is already under control, but 24% are of the opposite opinion. 77% rather agree or completely agree that the government is doing well with the measures against the coronavirus. 83% of the people surveyed think that everyone is responsible for their own health, not the government.

64% say they limit visits to the cinema, theatre, concerts. 55% say they limit going to restaurants; as much - in shopping centres and sporting events; travel in the country and gatherings are limited by 54%; 41% say that they try to limit leaving the house as much as possible.

51% of respondents report that their income has decreased due to the coronavirus.

61% of people expect their lifestyle to go back to normal by the end of the year, and 35% think the life won't go back to normalization that fast.

Source: <https://www.gallup-international.bg/43390/public-opinion-coronavirus-crisis/>

Trend survey on Covid-19

Trend, 11/06/2020 [in BG, EPLO summary]

Survey conducted on 01-07/05/2020 among 1008 respondents

76% of the Bulgarians think that Bulgaria has managed to control the coronavirus epidemic. Only 10% is the share of those who think it has failed. Two thirds (66%) of the respondents declare that they have already fully returned to their normal way of life after the measures were gradually lifted. 29% are not back to their normal lifestyle.

The agency asked a series of questions on popular conspiracy theories, spreading last months. One of the questions is on 5G and 35% of respondents believe that the technology is dangerous for the health (12% believe this is not true, 34% are not aware of this technology). One in ten agrees that the coronavirus is spread through 5G technology (41% do not agree this statement).

Every fifth Bulgarian (22%) believes that the coronavirus vaccine will put chips in people in order to control them and 21% believe that Bill Gates is behind the coronavirus pandemic to control people through chips that will be placed with the vaccine (39% do not agree with this statement, and a 40% cannot judge or express an opinion).

43% think that the coronavirus is an artificially created disease (26% disagree), 43% believe it is a disease, artificially created by pharmaceutical companies to gain more money (again 26% disagree) and 40% believe in the statement that the virus is artificially created to reduce the population of the Earth (27% disagree). The statements above were asked in one question with multiple answers.

Source: <https://rctrend.bg/project/нагласи-на-българите-спрямо-конспира/>

Croatia

80 percent of Croatians believe that salaries should stay the same during Covid-19 crisis

HINA Jun 08, 2020

<https://www.thedubrovniktimes.com/news/croatia/item/9172-80-percent-of-croatians-believe-that-salaries-should-stay-the-same-during-Covid-19-crisis>

Over **80% of Croatians believe that during the crisis caused by the coronavirus outbreak wages should stay the same** and people should be allowed to work from home, and a majority is concerned about the economic downturn, a survey has shown.

The survey was conducted by the Media Val agency in cooperation with pollster Ipsos between May 11 and 14 on a sample of 600 respondents. Its purpose was to understand social and cultural patterns caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The survey shows that **people seek a simple life and a feeling of peace and security** and that they want all important stakeholders, including the government, employers, educational institutions and the media, as well as their fellow citizens to **act responsibly in efforts to contain the virus**, the Media Val agency says in a press release earlier this week.

The biggest source of concern for those interviewed was everyday implications of protection measures. Most of the respondents were concerned about crowded shops, people violating self-isolation rules, cancellations or delays of their holiday trips, and security at physical locations.

A majority of citizens are concerned about the downturn of both the national and the global economy, a fall in their family's living standards, rising prices and pay cuts.

Three in four respondents, aged between 35 and 44, said they feared pay cuts, and three in five of those from low-income families feared job losses.

The survey showed that only 20% of those polled were preparing for a possible second wave of the epidemic in the autumn.

As for their expectations from their employers, respondents said they wanted them to protect their health and safety at work, ensure work flexibility and maintain the existing workers' rights.

As many as 84% said that whenever possible people should be allowed to work from home and nearly 80% said that despite the crisis employers should maintain the existing rights, including keeping the same salary, and should not force workers to take annual leave.

Those interviewed said that they would avoid air travel and going to concerts for a while, but would again start using the services of shopping malls, cafes and restaurants, albeit with a feeling of unease. Nearly half of the respondents, namely 46%, said they were not planning any trips abroad in the near future, while three-quarters said they were willing to travel within the country.

Czech Republic

Ipsos Survey

<https://www.ipsos.com/cs-cz/koronaviru-se-cesi-prestavaji-bat-obavaji-se-ekonomickych-dopadu>

Czechs are no longer afraid of coronavirus, they are afraid of economic consequences

The results of the fourth wave of research show that the feeling of being endangered by coronavirus is the lowest since the declaration of an emergency. People fear a recurrence of the pandemic.

Czechs are aware of the economic consequences; **almost 9 out of 10 Czechs expect prices to rise, a quarter of Czechs fear failure to pay their debts and a third of working people fear redundancies.** Nevertheless, 79% of Czechs stated that the Czech Republic had chosen the optimal procedure for stopping and resolving the coronavirus pandemic. Two thirds of parents evaluate the return of children to school positively, 8 out of 10 workers return to work.

The feeling of danger is the lowest since mid-March, but we are afraid of the second wave

Feeling of threat of coronavirus

	3rd wave of survey (23/4 - 26/4)	4th wave of survey (27/5 - 1/6)
I feel very threatened by coronavirus	9%	5%
I feel rather threatened	23%	17%
I feel slightly threatened	35%	33%
Rather I don't feel threatened	24%	32%
I definitely don't feel threatened	6%	13%
I don't know	2%	

Concerns about the impact of the pandemic on employment or livelihood remain the same as a month ago.

Coronavirus is perceived as a threat to their employment by 55% of the population, a fifth threat is considered a big threat, and the self-employed are especially pessimistic.

One third of economically active Czechs (employees or entrepreneurs) fear that their companies will have to **lay off** employees as a result of the crisis. What other effects of the crisis do Czechs expect? They are convinced that **prices will rise (88%)**, they also fear the need to **lower their living standards (57%)**, the **depletion of the financial reserve (42%)** and the **inability to repay their liabilities (25%, more often the people with the lowest incomes).**

The Czechs are satisfied with the solution of the pandemic

The relaxation of security measures is **suitable for 71% of Czechs**, more often for people with a university degree and also for people from large cities with more than 100,000 inhabitants. **79%** of Czechs state that the Czech Republic has chosen the **optimal approach** to resolving a pandemic.
27/5 - 1/6/2020 - 1023 respondents

Denmark

Study on Danes attitudes towards border controls:

by YouGov for Tænk tanken Europa, 12/06/2020

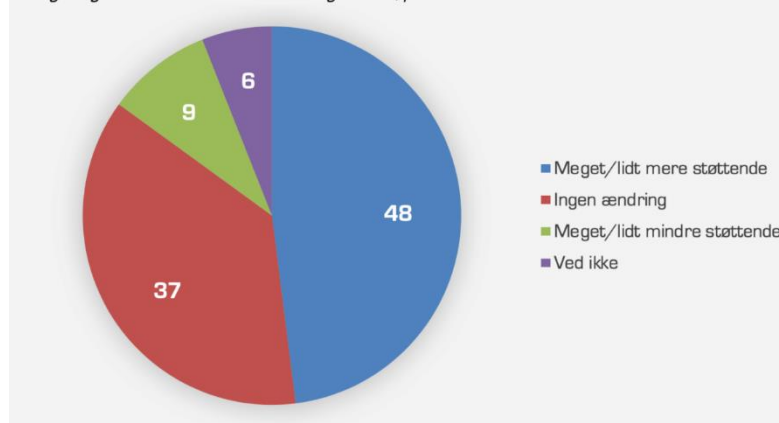
<http://thinkeuropa.dk/vaerdier/corona-styrker-danskernes-oenske-om-graensekontrol>

(Internal translation)

During the outbreak of the corona, 18 Schengen countries introduced enhanced border controls and in several places the borders were completely closed (...) On March 14, Denmark closed its borders. (...) In Denmark, since January 4, 2016, the border control was introduced by then-Prime Minister Lars Løkke Rasmussen in response to the migration and refugee crisis. (...) YouGov has conducted the study for Think Tank EUROPA, as part of a large European survey. Results show that many Danes support stricter border control as a result of the corona eruption. **Almost half the Danes support strongly or somewhat to have stricter border controls in the longer term, since the outbreak of corona virus.**

Figur 1. Halvdelen af danskerne støtter mere grænsekontrol

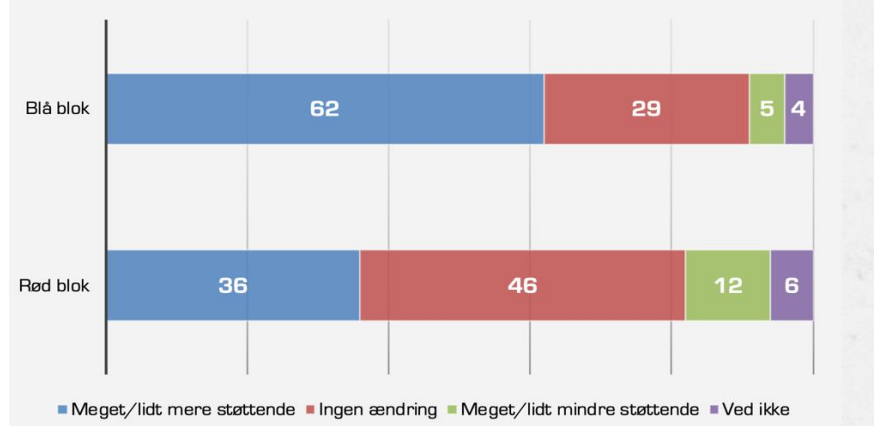
Angiv, om du, siden coronakrisen begyndte, i højere eller mindre grad, og på længere sigt, vil støtte strengere grænsekontrol ved de danske grænser, pct.



Supporters of right-of-centre "blue parties" support this much more – almost two thirds of them do, opposed to just over one third of left-of-centre "red parties". Of the latter ones, a plurality has become less supportive of border controls.

Figur 2. Flere blå end røde vælgere ønsker mere grænsekontrol

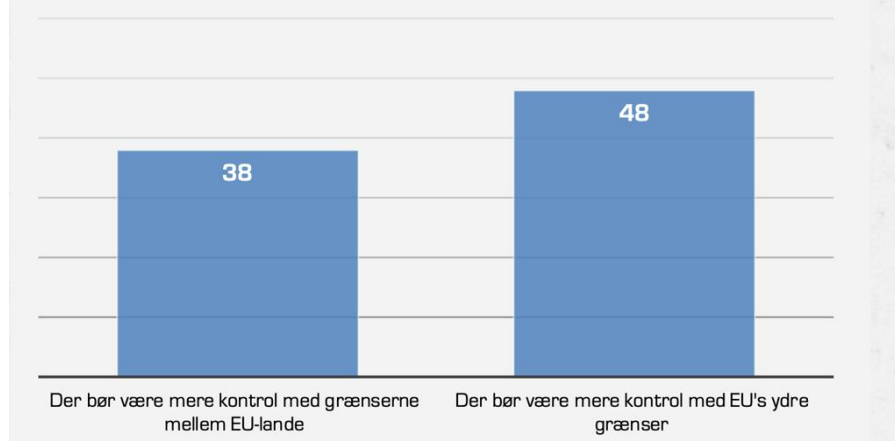
Angiv, om du, siden coronakrisen begyndte, i højere eller mindre grad, og på længere sigt, vil støtte strengere grænsekontrol ved de danske grænser, pct.



The poll also asks **what should change in Europe when the corona crisis is over**. Almost half the Danes there should be more controls at the outer EU borders after corona – while around four out of ten believe so for the internal Schengen borders.


Figur 3. HELLERE kontrol ved de ydre end de indre grænser

Når coronakrisen er ovre, hvilke, om nogen, af de følgende udsagn beskriver bedst, hvordan du mener, at ting bør ændre sig i Europa?



Growing support for the Socialdemokratiet, + 9,6 compared to the previous Voxmeter poll.

Meningsmåling d. 8. juni 2020

Voxmeter 	Seneste måling 08.06.2020	Forrige måling 01.06.2020	1 måned siden 10.05.2019	Valget 05.06.2019	Valget Mandater	Mandater (estimeret)	Statistik usikkerhed
A – Socialdemokratiet	35,5 (+9,6)	34,7 (+8,8)	33,8 (+7,9)	25,9	48	65	+/- 2,9
B – Det Radikale Venstre	7,6 (-1,0)	7,7 (-0,9)	7,8 (-0,8)	8,6	16	14	+/- 1,6
C – Det Konservative Folkeparti	7,3 (+0,7)	7,6 (+1,0)	7,7 (+1,1)	6,6	12	13	+/- 1,6
D – Nye Borgerlige	2,5 (+0,1)	2,7 (+0,3)	2,1 (-0,3)	2,4	4	5	+/- 1,0
F – Socialistisk Folkeparti	7,4 (-0,3)	7,7 (+0,0)	7,8 (+0,1)	7,7	14	13	+/- 1,6
I – Liberal Alliance	2,2 (-0,1)	2,5 (+0,2)	2,2 (-0,1)	2,3	4	4	+/- 0,9
O – Dansk Folkeparti	5,9 (-2,8)	6,8 (-1,9)	6,2 (-2,5)	8,7	16	11	+/- 1,4
V – Venstre	19,1 (-4,3)	19,5 (-3,9)	21,6 (-1,8)	23,4	43	35	+/- 2,4
Ø – Enhedslisten	8,5 (+1,6)	9,0 (+2,1)	7,3 (+0,4)	6,9	13	15	+/- 1,7
Å – Alternativet	0,8 (-2,2)	0,5 (-2,5)	0,6 (-2,4)	3,0	5	0	+/- 0,5
E – Borgerlisten	0,6 (-0,2)	0,0 (-0,8)	0,5 (-0,3)	0,8	0	0	+/- 0,5
P – Stram Kurs	1,1 (-0,7)	0,5 (-1,3)	1,2 (-0,6)	1,8	0	0	+/- 0,6
Øvrige	1,5 (+1,5)	0,8 (+0,8)	1,2 (+1,2)	0,0	0	0	+/- 0,7
Rød blok (A, B, F, Ø, Å)	59,8 (+7,7)	59,6 (+7,5)	57,3 (+5,2)	52,1	96	107	+/- 3,0
Blå blok (C, D, I, O, V, E, P)	38,7 (-9,0)	39,6 (-8,1)	41,5 (-6,2)	47,7	79	68	+/- 3,0

Fieldwork 1-7 June 2020, sample 1034.

Estonia

Study: Young adults most mentally affected by coronavirus crisis

EER; 11/06/2020

Researchers at Tallinn University (TLÜ) launched a study in the second half of April aimed at examining various aspects of Estonian residents' **mental health and wellness in coronavirus pandemic conditions**. The first round of the study revealed that nearly one third of respondents exhibited above-average symptoms hinting at depression.

[...] A total of 30 percent of respondents exhibited above-average symptoms hinting at depression, 27 percent symptoms hinting at anxiety, 46 percent symptoms of fatigue and one third of respondents trouble sleeping. 31 percent of respondents also indicated unhealthy levels of alcohol consumption.

Above-average, in this case, means that during the month prior to responding to the survey, the respondent experienced similar amounts of symptoms to the majority of those with depression or an anxiety disorder.

[...] Pulver noted that nearly 100 study participants between the ages of 18-24 had above-average symptoms indicative of depression than other age groups. 54 percent of respondents in this age group exhibited symptoms of depression, 49 percent symptoms of anxiety, and 67 percent symptoms of fatigue.

[...] The second stage of the study will focus on mental health in the period following the emergency situation. The second stage survey is available on the study's homepage through June 22.

Source: <https://news.err.ee/1100629/study-young-adults-most-mentally-affected-by-coronavirus-crisis>

Survey: Estonians more optimistic than Europeans about their future financial wellbeing

BNS, 09/06/2020

55 percent of Estonians believe that their financial situation will improve within the coming six months while the corresponding figure in Europe on average was 23 percent, a study by Europe's biggest credit management services provider Intrum shows. [...]

On average, **48 percent of European respondents to the survey said that their financial situation had deteriorated over the past six months**. The corresponding figure was 67 percent in Greece and Romania and 62 percent in Poland. [...]

Intrum's survey into the effects of COVID-19 was conducted as part of the annual European Consumer Payment Report, which the company has been carrying out since 2013. As part of the survey, 4,800 people from 24 European states were polled.

The target group of this research was defined as persons (both male and female) of 18 years and over who were mainly or partly responsible for their personal or household financial administration. At least 200 people were surveyed in each country and per country quotas were set on gender, age and region in order to achieve a national representative sample for each state.

The fieldwork for the study was conducted between May 11 and 12 by Longitude, a specialist provider of thought leadership services and part of the Financial Times Group.

Source: <https://www.bns.ee/en/topic/771/news/61617976/>

Finland

Survey: Crisis worsened hunger, financial distress in Finland

Yle, 08/06/2020

The epidemic exacerbated financial problems such as rent defaults and the need for food aid, according to a new survey. The coronavirus crisis visibly worsened financial problems of residents in Finland, such as indebtedness and the need for food aid, according to the findings of a new social survey. The "Social barometer 2020" found that **73 percent of social workers** said they saw **an increased need for food aid during the crisis, while 40 percent** said that **financial problems such as rent defaults became more widespread during the state of emergency.**

"The results are consistent with the experiences of third sector operatives, according to whom the amount of food aid has doubled during the coronavirus epidemic," Finnish Institute for Health and Welfare special researcher Merita Jokela said. "Although a majority of the population was affected by furloughs and a deterioration of their financial situation, the restrictions during the state of emergency disproportionately hit households that already had income problems. Many families with children in particular have had to pinch pennies because, with kids at home, their food costs have increased. This in turn is evident in the growing need for food aid," Jokela added.

(...) The survey gathered 776 responses.

France

Suivi de la crise du coronavirus et de l'action gouvernementale – Vague 18

<https://www.ifop.com/publication/suivi-de-la-crise-du-coronavirus-et-de-l-action-gouvernementale-vague-18/>

Cette nouvelle Balise d'Opinion Ifop-Fiducial pour CNews et Sud Radio s'intéresse à l'épidémie de coronavirus en France et à l'action gouvernementale pour y faire face et révèle les enseignements suivants :

Le niveau d'inquiétude face au coronavirus pour soi et sa famille continue de baisser : 62% des Français se disent inquiets (-3 points en deux semaines, et -14 points par rapport au 13 mai), dont seulement 17% tout à fait inquiets.

En revanche le niveau d'inquiétude pour les conséquences économiques de la crise du coronavirus reste stable : 85% (=) des Français déclarent être inquiets, dont 35% tout à fait inquiets.

La confiance des Français dans le gouvernement pour mener à bien le déconfinement qui a commencé le 11 mai continue sa progression et devient majoritaire pour la première fois : 52% des Français ont confiance (+3 points).

Baromètre Covid-19 : relâchement de l'application des gestes barrières à mesure que l'épidémie ralentit

<https://www.ipsos.com/fr-fr/barometre-Covid-19-relachement-de-lapplication-des-gestes-barrieres-mesure-que-lepidemie-ralentit>

L'acceptabilité de l'installation d'une application digitales de type StopCovid diminue fortement.

Début avril, une majorité de Français disait accepter l'idée d'utiliser une application installée sur leur téléphone portable pour mieux connaître et prévenir les risques dans le cadre de la sortie du confinement (56%). **Quelques jours avant le lancement de la phase 2 de la sortie de confinement, ils ne sont plus que 40% à l'accepter**, alors même que toutes les garanties relatives au nonaccès à l'ensemble de leurs données personnelles étaient délivrées.

La très forte diminution de la crainte de la maladie a affaibli le niveau d'intérêt pour l'application. Le fait de proposer aux personnes interrogées la possibilité de se faire dépister gratuitement si elles sont alertées par l'application, ne génère même pas un intérêt plus fort pour l'outil (seulement 40% l'installeraient).

BAROMÈTRE DE SUIVI DE LA CRISE DU COVID 19: COMMENT LES FRANÇAIS VIVENT-ILS LA PÉRIODE ACTUELLE ?

<https://www.bva-group.com/sondages/barometre-suivi-de-crise-du-covid19-vague-64/>

La proportion de Français qui estiment que dans cette crise « le pire est derrière nous » poursuit sa progression et **atteint son meilleur niveau depuis la mise en place de notre baromètre (32%, +4 pts en une semaine).**

Dans ce contexte, **le moral des Français se stabilise après avoir atteint son plus haut niveau** depuis le début de la crise (6,7/10 cette semaine versus 6,8/10 la semaine dernière pour refléter son état d'esprit).

Pour autant et alors que les chiffres relatifs à l'évolution de l'épidémie sont toujours encourageants, **la confiance à l'égard du gouvernement dans la gestion de la crise se détériore à nouveau (35%, -4 pts en une semaine)** après avoir progressé nettement dans notre dernière vague la semaine dernière. Cette baisse est particulièrement marquée chez les sympathisants de la droite (31%, -8 pts).

8 Français sur 10 ne sont pas confiants en ce qui concerne la situation économique de la France (80%).

Notons qu'un peu plus d'une semaine après le lancement de l'application Stop-Covid, **notre sondage confirme les résultats décevants de l'application**. Les 2/3 des Français n'ont pas l'intention de la télécharger (66%).

Germany

ZDF-Politbarometer - Deutliche Mehrheit für Konjunkturpaket

ZDF, 12/06/2020 [in DE, POMU translation]

Last week, the German government approved a comprehensive economic stimulus package that is intended to revive the economy after the lockdown. **All in all, the economic stimulus package is described by 68 percent of the respondents as rather good** and by 22 percent as not good (the remainder to 100 percent here and in the following "don't know"). The majority of all party supporters also see it that way (rather good between 60 percent and 79 percent).

The measures of the economic stimulus package also include the reduction of the VAT rate from 19 to 16 percent in the second half of the year. Only 13 percent expect this to provide a very strong or strong boost to the economy, while 85 percent believe that this reduction will bring little or no benefit.

At 130 billion euros, the economic stimulus package was higher than expected. **50 percent think that the volume is just about right**, for 17 percent it is too much and 14 percent think that even more money should have been invested. **That Germany is incurring high debts to combat the consequences of corona, 75 percent think it is right and only 22 percent are against it.** With the exception of AfD supporters (correct: 42 percent), very clear majorities in all other party groups think that the high level of debt is the right thing to do.

Acceptance of the extent of the relaxation measures now in force is virtually unchanged from the previous month: **56 percent think they are just right**, 30 percent think they go too far and only 12 percent would like to see further relaxation.

[...]

Source: <https://www.zdf.de/nachrichten/politik/politbarometer-konjunkturpaket-mehrwertssteuer-100.html>

Greece

ALCO Poll for OPEN TV/Ethnos newspaper, 9 June 2020

Source: https://www.ethnos.gr/ellada/109729_dimoskopisi-open-empistosyni-ston-mitsotaki-pos-bathmologoyntai-oi-ypoyrgoi

EPLO Translation

Selected questions:

- Which is the most important challenge faced today in Greece (spontaneous answers)
 - Unemployment 49%
 - Covid pandemic 13%
 - Refugee/migration issues 12%
 - Relations with Turkey 11%
 - Taxes 5%
 - Lack of investment 5%
 - Public health 2%
 - Education 2%
- Are you optimistic or pessimistic on the course of events in Greece in the next 6 months?
 - Pessimistic 47%
 - Optimistic 45%
- Would you say that, for you and your family, when compared to one year ago, things are
 - The same 44%
 - Worse 37%
 - Better 18%
- Voting intentions (projection taking out blank votes / abstention):
 - ND (EPP) 40.4%
 - Syriza (GUE) 23.5%
 - KinAI (S&D) 6.4%
 - KKE (NI) 5.3%
 - Greek Solution (ECR) 3.7%
 - Mera25 (Varoufakis) 2.6%
 - Golden Dawn (NI) 1.4%
 - Others 4.4%
 - Undecided 12.5%
- Satisfaction with Government's performance (scale 1 worst / 10 best):
 - 9-10 15%
 - 6-8 43%
 - 5 14%
 - 1-4 27%

- Covid and Tourism: Should tourists visiting the country this summer be tested for COVID-19?
 - Yes 89%
 - No 8%

- Would you say that, facing the threat of a major economic crisis, governments worldwide have eased restrictions sooner than needed, putting the economy above public health?
 - Yes 75%
 - No 15%
 - Don't know 10%

Hungary

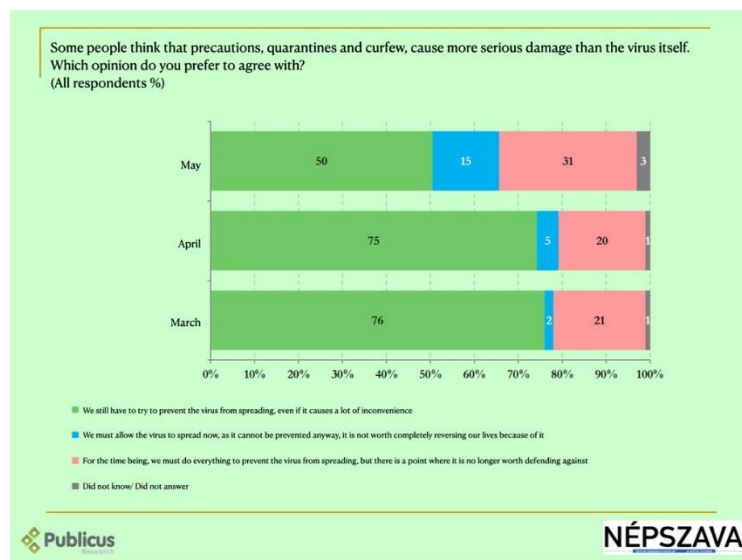
Coronavirus: beyond the initial shock – Publicus Institute

<https://publicus.hu/blog/koronavirus-tul-a-kezdeti-sokkon/>

Publicus Institute examined the populations' overall opinion regarding the socio-political shifts caused by the coronavirus pandemic, in a nationwide representative poll, conducted on behalf of Népszava (Hungarian left-wing daily newspaper) between May 18 and 22 by interviewing 998 people.

- While in March three-quarters of the respondents thought that there will be mass infections in Hungary as well, by May only a quarter of the respondents saw it that way. There has also been a reduction in the proportion of those who think they are likely to catch the virus: while a third of those surveyed in March saw that they could be infected with the virus, by May only a quarter of respondents thought it was likely.

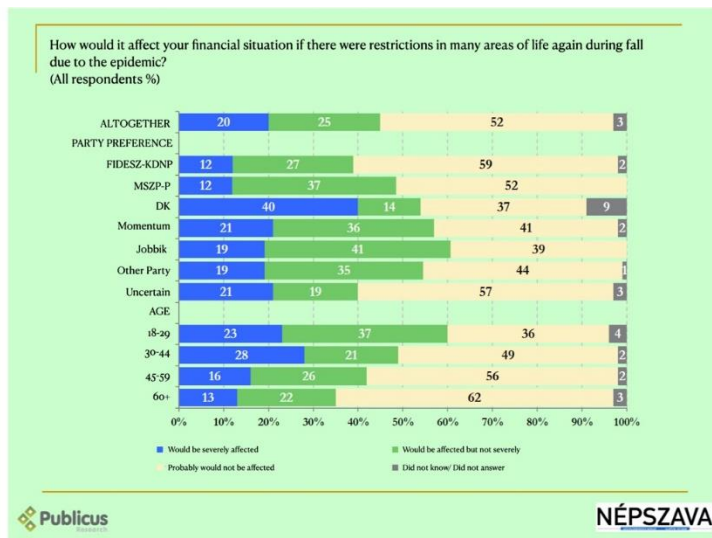
- One in two respondents said the **government should still try to prevent the virus from spreading, even if it causes a lot of inconvenience**. However, **more and more people are believing that precautions, quarantine, (...) are causing more serious damage than the virus itself**. While in March a fifth of respondents thought that everything should be done for the time being to prevent the virus from spreading, but there is a point when it is no longer worth defending against it, in May a third of respondents saw it this way.



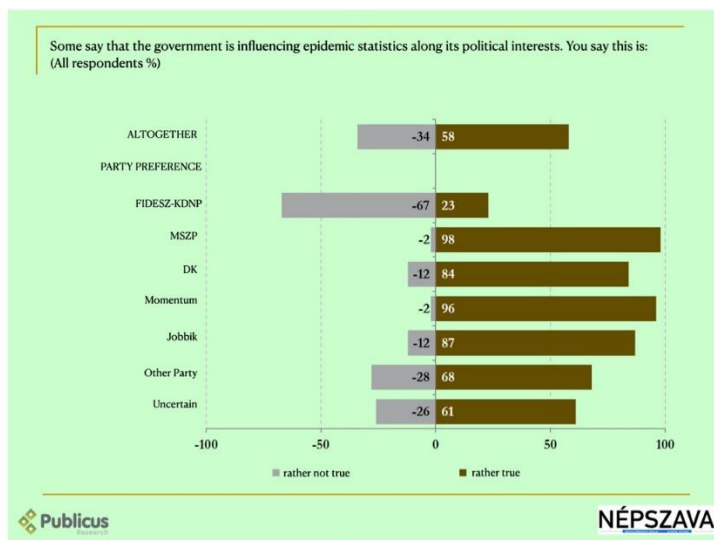
- While in April four out of ten respondents thought that the **bigger problem for Hungary was that many companies went bankrupt and many people got into a difficult situation** in the stagnant economy, in May **every second respondent** saw it this way. Nearly half of the respondents would be affected by their financial situation either very severely or less severely if there were restrictions in many areas of life again in the autumn due to the epidemic.

- Seven out of ten (69%) respondents believe that the number of people infected with the coronavirus in Hungary is unlikely to increase. While in March three-quarters of the respondents (76%) thought that they would be infected in Hungary as well, by May only a quarter of the respondents (25%) saw it that way.

(...)



- Six in ten (58%) respondents say it is true that the government influences epidemic statistics along its political interests. The vast majority of opposition voters see this as well, since almost all MSZP (98%) and Momentum (96%) and nearly nine out of ten Jobbik (87%) and DK (84%) voters say the government is influencing statistical data regarding the epidemic in its own interests. Even a fifth of Fidesz voters (23%) see the situation this way.

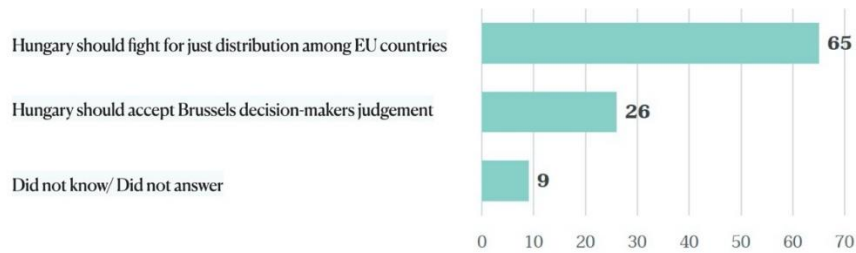


EU Emergency Fund - Századvég Group

<https://szadveg.hu/hu/kutatasok/az-alapitvany-kutatasai/elemezések-publikációk/unio-valsagbudzse-brusszelen-a-sor-hogy-vegre-kikoszorulje-a-csorbit-es-elismerje-a-visegradi-allamok-teljesitmenyet>

A recent poll conducted by Századvég Group concluded that the **majority of respondents, 65%, said that Hungary should fight for a fair distribution of EU funds among the member states, while 26% stated that that Hungary must accept what the decision-makers in Brussels decide.**

Some say Hungary should fight to ensure that EU funds for tackling the economic crisis caused by the virus are distributed fairly in Brussels, ie countries that have managed the epidemic well are not disadvantaged by those who are heavily indebted and have mismanaged the epidemic. According to others, Hungary should accept what Brussels decision-makers judge. According to you? (%)



Ireland

Increased food poverty due to Covid-19, finds survey

One family resource centre has seen a 600 per cent increase in demand for meals

The Irish Times, 11/06/2020

Increased food poverty and mental health difficulties in poorer areas, as result of the Covid-19 crisis, are detailed in a hard-hitting report published on Thursday. Produced by the national forum of family resource centres (FRCs) and drawing on survey results from the 121 such centres across the State, it reports **higher incidents of domestic violence, worsening behavioural challenges in children and increased demand for food and meal deliveries**. (...) The centres operate in economically disadvantaged areas, supporting families and communities with such issues as childcare, combatting isolation and supporting older people. This survey was conducted over the first fortnight in May. Asked about the three most significant issues in their communities, **71 per cent of FRCs identified increased calls for parent and family supports; 69 per cent reported increased need for food parcels while 51 per cent say counselling and mental health supports were among the most urgent issues**. One FRC has seen a 600 per cent increase in demand for meals and is providing 175 a day to homes in its area. (...) Many group activities, especially aimed at young people, have gone online, though significant numbers in communities cannot access broadband and are at risk of isolation and deteriorating mental health. As demands have increased over 93 per cent of the centres have seen their income fall - as activities and services have had to close - during the crisis. Almost three quarters (74 per cent) experiencing income falls of more than 25 per cents. FRCs' main concerns for the future are how to continue to provide group activities like parent and toddler and alcohol and addiction groups, summer camps; the loss of income and increased costs; changes required to physical premises to comply with social distancing; and staff and volunteer safety and mental health. **Among concerns for their communities are increased mental health issues, increased household debt and reduced supports for vulnerable children**.

New opinion poll shows support for Fine Gael remains high during Covid-19 pandemic

The Irish Post, 31/05/2020

SUPPORT FOR Fine Gael remains high during the Covid-19 pandemic, according to the results of a new opinion poll. The latest Red C poll for the *Business Post* shows that Ireland's ruling party continues to lead the way with 35% of the public backing Leo Varadkar's party. Sinn Féin remain second in the polls at 27%, with support for the top two parties unchanged from the previous Red C poll. Fianna Fáil, meanwhile, is back in third, but up one point to 15%. Elsewhere, the Green Party is down one to 5%, while the Soc Dems are up one to 4%. Labour is unchanged at 3% with People Before Profit still on 2% support. Aontu is on 1% and Independents are down one point to 7%. **The results continue the trend of renewed support for Fine Gael and Leo Varadkar in the wake of Ireland's coronavirus pandemic**. The Taoiseach has won widespread praise for his handling of the crisis, with deaths in Ireland significantly down on the number and proportion seen in the UK. Mr Varadkar was quick to unveil a comprehensive five-step plan for easing Ireland out of the current lockdown. He has also played an active role in the fight against COVID-19, having re-registered as a doctor to support frontline staff. **The opinion poll's results represent a major turnaround for Fine Gael**, who gained 20.9% of first preference votes in Ireland's general election last February, behind both Sinn Féin (24.5%) and Fianna Fáil (22.2%). That represented a record for the largest decline in public support for a ruling political party.

Italy

Italy: Support for all majority parties declines slightly - SWG

CEEMarketWatch, 9 June 2020

Lega is growing again, but remains near recent multi-year lows

Leftist parties SI/MDP and Carlo Calenda's "Action" now poll above Italia Viva

Support for Lega is once again growing, after briefly dipping below 27.0% in late May, according to SWG's latest poll for TGLa7. Matteo Salvini's party still remains rather close to its recent multi-year lows, while its far-right partners from FdI continue their strong performance and once again poll above 14.0%. Support for Silvio Berlusconi's Forza Italia retreated to a 5-week low of 5.6%, which may be attributable to the party's more active involvement with the ruling majority in recent weeks. Meanwhile, support for all the ruling majority parties fell, with the PD marking the most significant decline. Support for the largest left party is now some 1.1pps lower than it was at the end of May and stands at 19.1%, while their coalition partners from the M5S dropped only slightly to 15.8%. Finally, Italia Viva continues to struggle with the 3% mark, which it last surpassed in late-April. Matteo Renzi's party fell back to its all-time low of 2.7%, which is below leftist parties SI/MDP (4.0%) and Carlo Calenda's "Action" (3.0%).

The corona rage of the Italian orange vests

DWLEN, 9 June 2020

If you ask the hundreds of protesters in orange jackets who gathered across Italy last week about their motivations, you will get just as many different answers, and **some are angry about how Italy's Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte and his government have handled the Corona crisis.**

Others are concerned about mercury entering the bloodstream through vaccines; others are concerned about justice or 5G technology. Some say that the lockdown measures have taken away their economic livelihoods. What unites them is a sense of anger - and a charismatic figure at the top: Antonio Pappalardo, an ex-police officer whom his followers know as "General".

...People in the crowd shouted "No to the Bill Gates vaccine" and "5G is killing us all" and hugged each other to prove that Covid-19 was not a real threat. Only a few wore masks; Pappalardo picked them out and said, "I can't look a woman in the face without knowing if she's pretty or ugly."

...It took a pandemic, but the highly flammable mixture of frustration and fear that permeates large parts of the Italian population made Pappalardo a part of the political map of Italy.

The Orange Vests have three main objectives, he said. First, to overthrow the Conte government. You accuse Pappalardo of destroying the country's economy by locking Italians in their homes for months "for no reason". Second, the withdrawal of Italy from the European Union and the euro. And third, to spread the message that Covid-19 - dismissed by Pappalardo as a "more serious flu" - is being used primarily for abuse of power.

The still young movement has been harshly criticised from all sides of the political spectrum.

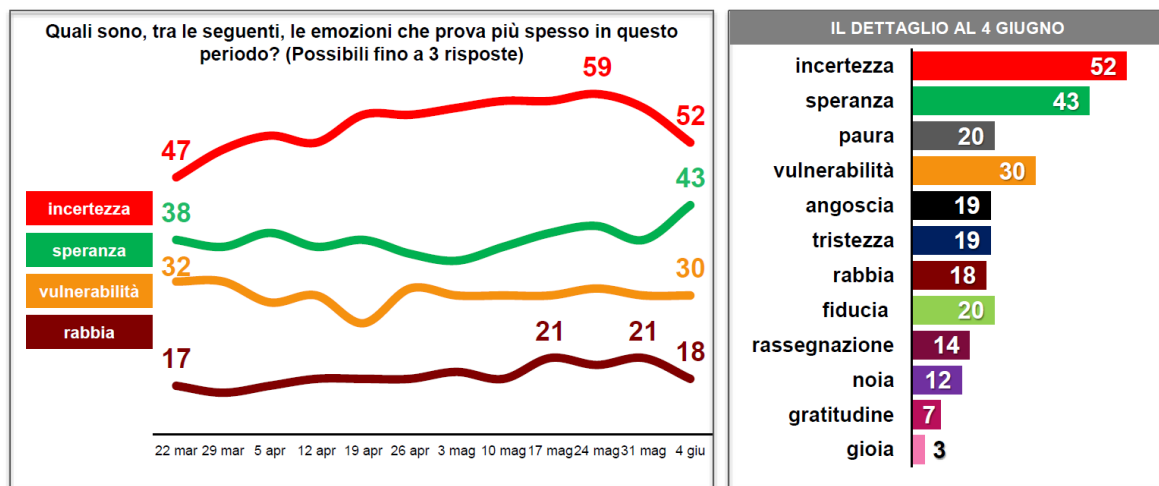
ITALY: POLL (POMU translation)

<https://www.swg.it/>

Institute: SWG
Fieldwork: 1-7/06/2020
Method: CAWI
Selection of results

Among the following emotions, which one do you feel more often in this period?

Uncertainty: 52%
Hope: 43%
Vulnerability: 30%
Anger: 18%

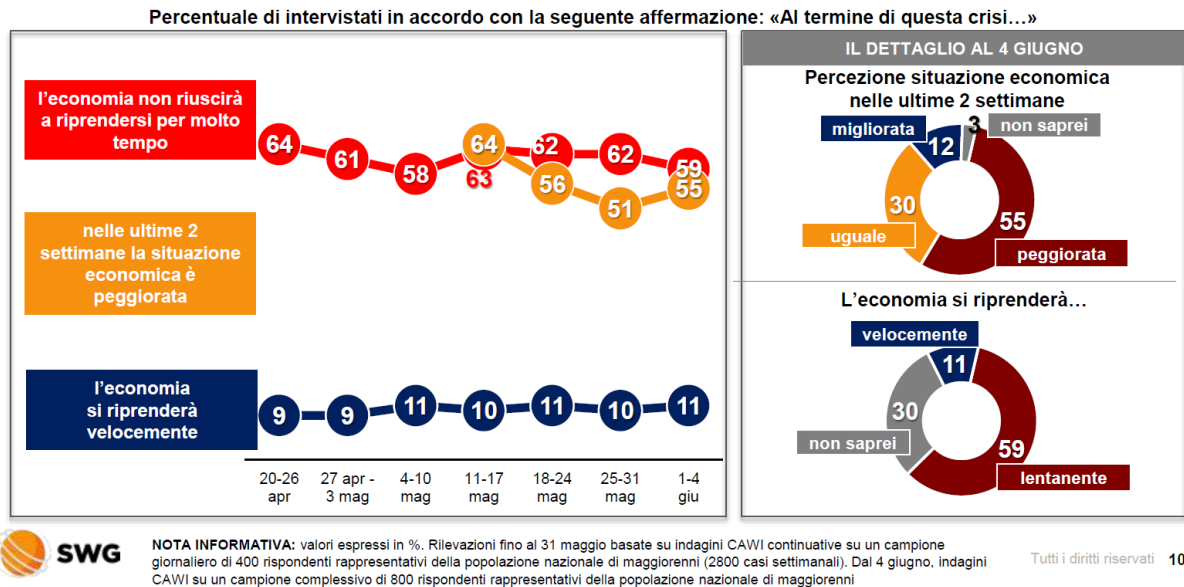


SWG

NOTA INFORMATIVA: valori espressi in %. Rilevazioni fino al 31 maggio basate su indagini CAWI continuative su un campione giornaliero di 400 rispondenti rappresentativi della popolazione nazionale di maggiorenni (2800 casi settimanali). Dal 4 giugno, indagini CAWI su un campione complessivo di 800 rispondenti rappresentativi della popolazione nazionale di maggiorenni

Tutti i diritti riservati 6

- 59% of Italians think that the economy will not recover for a long time
- 55% believe that the economic situation got worse in the last two weeks
- 11% think that the economy will recover rapidly



ITALY: POLL (POMU translation)

https://www.ipsos.com/sites/default/files/ct/news/documents/2020-05/italia_ai_tempi_del_covid_-_12_maggio_-_agg_nr_13_.pdf

Institute: IPSOS
Fieldwork: 5-7/06/2020
Method: CAWI
Selection of results

The level of perceived threat falls for:

- the world: 81%
- the country: 78%
- the community: 51%
- myself: 40%

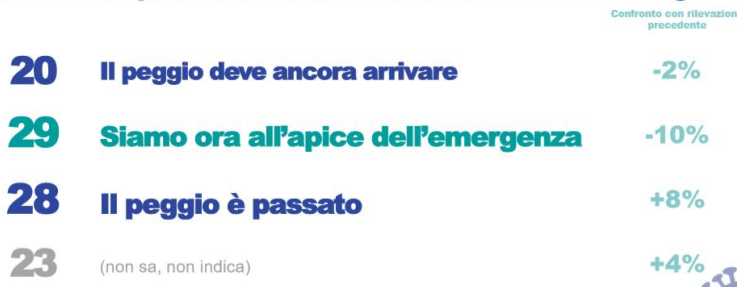
Il livello di minaccia percepita: trend 13 febbraio – 7 maggio



- 20% of Italians believe that the worse has still to come
- 29% say that we have reached the peak of the emergency

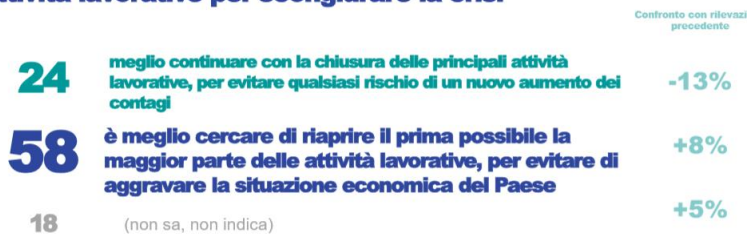
- 28% the worse is over
- 23% do not know

Cresce la convinzione che il picco sia stato superato, ma anche l'incertezza su quale sia la reale situazione della curva dei contagi



- 58% of Italians believe that it is better to open as soon as possible most of the work activities to avoid the worsening of the economic situation in the country.

Continua la progressione dei favorevoli alla ripresa delle attività lavorative per scongiurare la crisi



© Ipsos | Italiani & Coronavirus | Maggio 2020 |

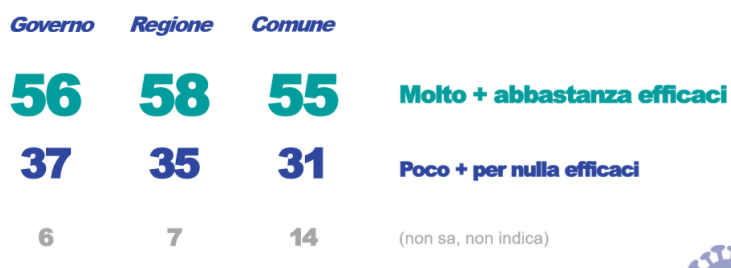
VALORI %

Sondaggio Ipsos per Contorno della Sera



- A majority of citizens consider that the adopted measures are efficient at both government level (56%), regional level (58%) and local level (55%)

La fase 2: più della metà ritiene efficaci le misure e iniziative adottate dal Governo e dalle istituzioni locali



ITALY: POLL (POMU translation)

<http://www.sondaggipoliticoelettorali.it/ListaSondaggi.aspx?st=SONDAGGI>

Title : Osservatorio Italia (supplemento di approfondimento)

Institute: Quorum

Fieldwork: 27-30/05/2020

Sample: 1009 respondents

Method: cati-cami

Selection of results

Trust in the government and positive opinion of the adopted measures:

	Centre left voters	Centre Right voters	M5S
Overall	84,6%	30,9%	97,8%
...about the protection of citizens' health	93,1%	51,1%	90,0%
...about the economic issues	73,4%	23,7%	85,6%

ITALY: POLL (POMU translation)

<http://www.sondaggipoliticoelettorali.it/ListaSondaggi.aspx?st=SONDAGGI>

Title: La situazione politica - 9/6/2020

Institute: Istituto Ixè S.r.l.

Fieldwork: 09/06/2020

Sample: 1000

Method: CATI- CAMI-CAWI

Selection of results

Do you trust the Government of Mr Conte?

Yes (very+ Quite a lot): 55%

Not much 25%

Not at all 20%

Your opinion of the actions taken by the Government of Mr Conte in this emergency is:

Very positive: 11%

Quite Positive: 50%

Not very positive: 26%

Not at all positive: 10%

DK: 3%

ITALY: POLL (POMU translation)

<http://www.sondaggipoliticoelettorali.it/ListaSondaggi.aspx?st=SONDAGGI>

Title: Sondaggio su elezioni politiche, Conte, caso Floyd

Institute: Termometro Politico

Fieldwork: 04-05/06/2020

Sample: 3300

Method: CAWI

Selection of results

Would you agree with leaving the Euro and the EU?

Yes, both of them: 34,9%

Better to leave only the EU: 4,9%

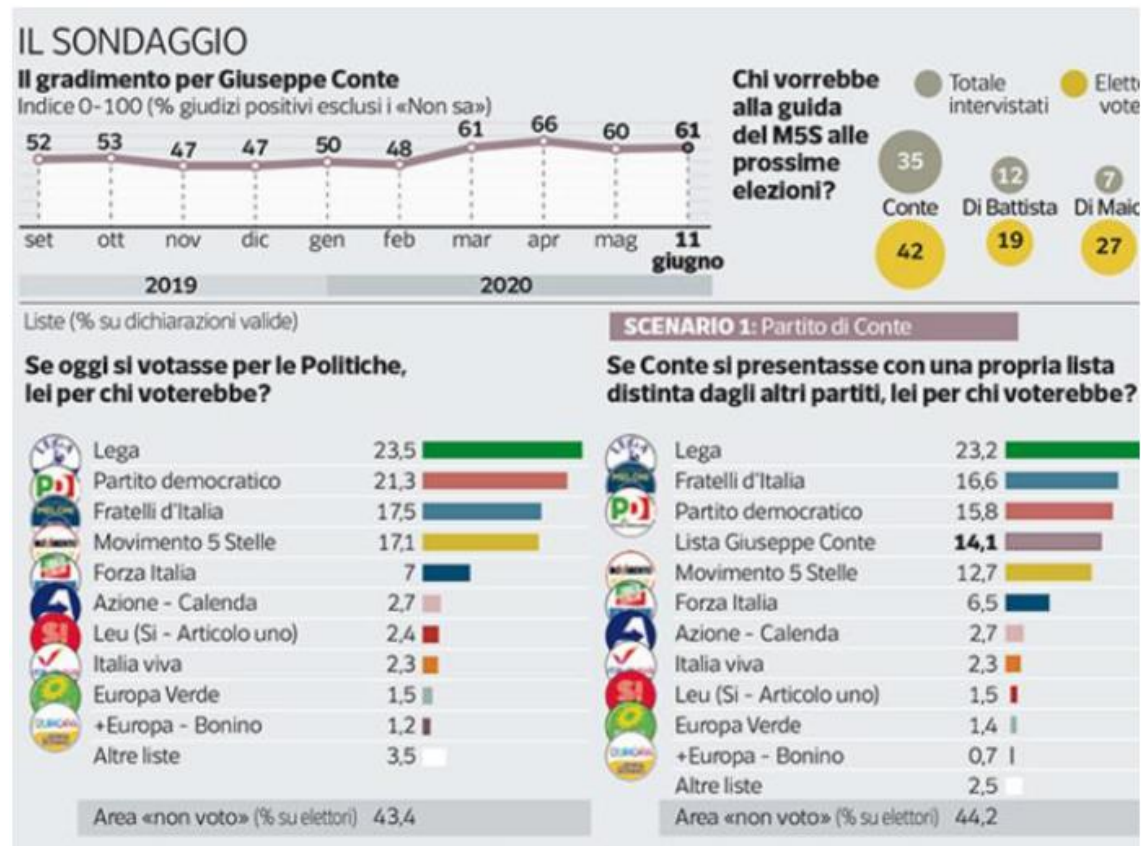
Better to leave only the Euro: 8,2%

Better not to leave neither the EU nor the Euro: 48,1%

ITALY: POLL

https://www.corriere.it/politica/20_giugno_14/sondaggio-se-conte-quid-asse-m5s-potenziale-voti-salirebbe-20-30percento-0478b8d8-adad-11ea-84a7-c6d5b5b928b0.shtml

In Italy, the popularity of Giuseppe Conte has triggered speculation that he might become leader of the Five Star Movement, with an Ipsos opinion poll published by Corriere della Sera on June 14 suggesting he could turn the party into the nation's leading force.



Conte's popularity grows during the pandemic and M5S would reach 30% with it NFINCE, 14 June 2020

The popularity of Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte has grown during this pandemic and despite the economic crisis, which has triggered rumors of the possibility of a future being marred by the 5-Star Movement (M5S) that proposed him as president and forming his own party. In an interview this week, Conte, 55, said he had no intention of founding his own party and has repeatedly assured him that he is not interested in being elected again.

The newspaper "Corriere della Sera" today publishes one made by the Ipsos Institute which explains that a possible party guided by this anonymous lawyer until two years ago would get 14% of the support, while the intention to vote for the M5S would go from the current 20% to 30%. According to Ipsos' recent surveys, Conte's popularity rate has risen from 48% in February before the coronavirus emergency to 66% after the total confinement measures were decreed to 61% this week, a drop due to the economic crisis caused by the pandemic.

A potential Conte-led party is now credited with 14.1% of the vote, taking fourth place after the League (23.2%), Brothers of Italy (16.6%) and the Democratic Party (15.8%) and ahead of the M5S, which would drop to 12.7%. Analyzing electoral flows, it is noted that votes for Conte's list would come largely (62%) M5S, the Democratic Party and other centre-left lists and 20% abstention. As for the possible leadership of the M5S, Conte is the figure that its voters most appreciate with 42% of

preferences, ahead of former political leader Di Maio (27%) and Alessandro Di Battista (19%). Above all, Conte would fill a gap in anti-system training since currently the M5S after Di Maio's resignation does not have a political leader. **The survey predicts that the potential M5S electorate of the current 19.8%, with Conte's leadership would rise to 29.9%, surpassing the Matteo Salvini League that currently occupies the top spot.**

Latvia

Poll: due to Covid-19, the financial wellbeing of 49% of Latvian respondents has deteriorated
<https://skaties.lv/zinas/latvija/sabiedriba/aptauja-latvija-Covid-19-pandemijas-del-49-iedzi-votaju-finansiala-labklajiba-ir-samazinajusies/>

EPLO Translation

According to a poll carried out by "Intrum", **49% of respondents in Latvia claim their wellbeing has deteriorated due to the pandemic.** The poll clarifies that Europe in general is in similar situation, where 48% of respondents have also stated that their wellbeing has deteriorated due to pandemic.

42% of Latvian respondents say that they spend less for the daily goods consequently. In Europe 36% of respondents have expressed such opinion. 37% of Europeans have stated that Covid-19 has influenced their employment. In Latvia 33% of respondents mentioned such influence.

The poll shows that **17% of Latvians have taken bigger credit liabilities in order to cover daily spending during the Covid-19 pandemic**, this proportion being bigger among younger people (18-21 age group, as well 22-37 age group) where a fourth of respondents state having taken bigger liabilities to cover their daily spending.

In relation to the future, Europeans have quite pessimistic forecasts - less than a fourth (23%) expect their financial wellbeing will be ameliorated in the next 6 months. In Latvia this **pessimism is higher** - only 15% give this answer. 45% of Latvian respondents say that the Covid-19 pandemic influenced them to focus on locally produced goods, which is nevertheless the lowest indicator in the Baltics. In Europe the average indicator is 56%. The poll also shows that 28% of Latvians will continue shopping online also after the restrictions measures are lifted against 37% on average in Europe.

The poll was conducted in May, among 4800 Europeans.

Due to Covid-19 crisis enterprises have decreased their employees' number for 5%

Source: <https://nra.lv/latvija/316191-Covid-19-krize-uznemumi-samazinajusi-darbinieku-skaitu-pamata-par-5.htm>

EPLO Translation

The enterprises have decreased their number of employees by 5%, according to a survey conducted by the The Foreign Investors' Council in Latvia (FICIL). 55% of respondents mentioned that their employees' number has not changed, but it has decreased for 45% of them - by 5% or less.

The poll also asked if the support instruments proposed by the government were used by these enterprises - 57% of them said that they have not used them. 20% have used the possibility to postpone a specific tax payment, 20% used the downtime allowance for the employees that were temporarily fired, as well as some enterprises mentioned overpaid VAT tax refund and changes in credit liabilities. (...)

The poll was conducted in May among 42 foreign investors were asked.

Poll: would Latvians use a vaccine against Covid-19?

Source: <https://nra.lv/latvija/315856-aptauja-vai-latvijas-iedzivotaji-izmanto-u-vakcinu-pret-Covid-19.htm>

EPLO Translation

A new poll conducted by the TV programme "900 seconds" shows that 46% of respondents would use a vaccine against Covid-19, if it was made available. 39% of them would not use the vaccine and 15% said they do not know if they would. 46% of respondents who have children aged under 18, said they would vaccinate their children against Covid-19, if such a vaccine was available. 38% of respondents would not vaccinate their children, and 16% said they do not know.

Netherlands

Dutch attitudes towards the European recovery fund - survey

<https://www.volkskrant.nl/nieuws-achtergrond/nederlanders-steunen-vrekkige-hoekstra-voor-solidariteit-met-zuid-europa-niet-vrijblijvend~bb17b2e2/>

<https://www.ioresearch.nl/actueel/kiezers-solidair-met-zuidelijke-landen-maar-niet-tegen-elke-prijs/>

<https://www.eurointelligence.com> :

(...) The **Volkskrant** poll shows a majority of respondents agreeing with the proposition that an **economic shock in southern Europe** would affect the Netherlands. But they disagree with the view that a Dutch fiscal transfer would be a good investment to feather such a shock. **Only 3 in 10 voters agree with the Commission's proposals.** Most of the pro-Commission views came from supporters of D66, the left-liberal party; GroenLinks, the Green left; and PvdA, the Dutch labour party. Of those, only D66 is a member of the coalition, the third largest after Mark Rutte's right-liberal VVD and the CDA, the Dutch Christian democrats.

Attitudes towards the Commission's proposal, broken down by support for political parties.

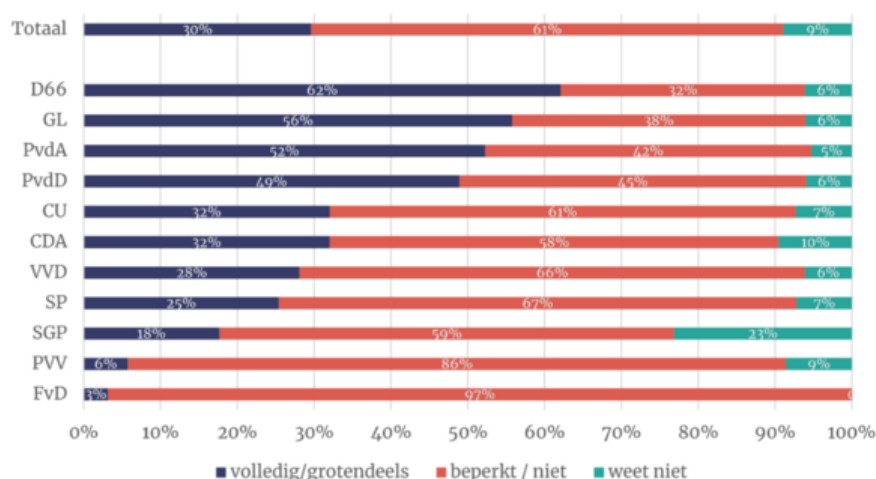


Image source: I&O Research, Volkskrant

(...) The polling company suggests that **gaps in the pension age between the Netherlands and southern Europe could be one of the reasons for the eurosceptic views.** Taken as a whole, a majority of the Dutch are unhappy with the EU, by 43% to 37%, but they are not in favour of a Dutch exit. Only one in five say they would vote in favour of a Brexit. But the proposition of those who say they are definitely in favour of staying in the EU has fallen from 72% a year ago to 61% now. This is quite a dramatic fall, in our view. It has a certain UK-in-2015 quality to it.

Opinion in the Netherlands divided over coronavirus tracking app

09 June 2020

<https://www.dutchnews.nl/news/2020/06/opinion-sharply-divided-about-using-an-app-to-trace-coronavirus-cases/>

According to a survey by the RIVM and several Dutch universities, **the population of the Netherlands is almost evenly divided over using an app that allows the user to track whether they have been in contact with someone who has been infected with the coronavirus.** A survey by the public health institute, the RIVM, and Delft, Maastricht and VU universities has revealed that the Dutch population is almost evenly divided over using a coronavirus tracking app. 926 people took part in the survey, with around a third of respondents saying they would download the app without questions, another third were uncertain and the final third said they would definitely not download the app.

(...) People who are still uncertain about using the app have **questioned the effectiveness and logistics** of tracking COVID-19 amongst the population through mobile phones. Concerns have also been raised **regarding privacy**. Researcher Niek Mouter told reporters that the government would have to look into how effective the app will be if less than 60 percent of the population download it, as well as into the least amount of people who must use the app before it becomes useless. The Ministry has said that it got the **60 percent threshold** from a study undertaken by researchers at Oxford University. The same study also showed that a lower proportion of users would also be expected to decrease the number of infections and deaths. **The Ministry of Public Health has said that it hopes that most of the population uses the app. It also stated that it recognises that "trust is crucial" and therefore "privacy is central." It is not compulsory to download and use the app.**

Portugal

Expresso 06/06/2020

<https://leitor.expresso.pt/semanario/semanario2484/html/primeiro-caderno/sociedade/noticias-covid-causam-alarme-diz-estudo>

A poll by the research institute ISCTE published in Expresso found that **98% of Portuguese nationals consider themselves to be “very” or “moderately” informed about the pandemic, and seven in every 10 are highly interested in the subject.** They seek this information on TV, radio, friends, internet pages of official sources like the National Health Authority, and on social media. Those enquired predominantly trust the information disseminated by doctors (98%), scientists (93%) and National Health Institutions (89%). However, they are sceptical of information spread by politicians (38%). Social media was found to be the less credible source.

Furthermore, **75% consider the information available about Covid-19 highly alarming.** There is a perception of risk, as the majority sees the pandemic as dangerous, and “more dangerous than a seasonal flu” that may become “out of control”.

Around three fourths of the population believe they are at risk of becoming infected by the disease in the near future, and two thirds believe they would be at risk of becoming gravely infected. Generally, confidence is high with regards to isolation to avoid spread. In addition, **nine in every ten are happy with government measures.** 99% always wash their hands, whilst 91% have adopted social distancing, and seven out of every ten of those enquired always use a mask.

Still, more than 80% of those enquired consider that politicians should be more receptive to the recommendations of researchers and scientists before making decisions.

Romania

Romanians' **trust in public figures** was registered as follows:

- State Secretary, Department for Emergency Situations Raed Arafat - 62%
- Capital Mayor Gabriela Firea - 33%
- Romanian President Klaus Iohannis - 32%
- Health Minister Nelu Tătaru - 32%
- Chairman of the Commission for Clinical and Epidemiological Management of COVID-19 Dr. Adrian Streinu Cerel - 28%
- Patriarch Daniel - 27%
- Pro Romania leader Victor Ponta - 27%
- BNR Governor Mugur Isărescu - 26%
- PMP MEP Traian Băsescu - 25%
- PNL MEP Rareș Bogdan - 21%
- Prime Minister Ludovic Orban - 20%.

Romanian citizens' **opinion on extending the state of alert** across the country:

- 38% agree with its extension (23% total agreement; 15% somewhat agree);
- 55% are against extending the state of emergency (45% are totally against; 10% somewhat against).

Source: <https://www.gandul.ro/politica/sondaj-sociopol-partidul-condus-de-victor-ponta-din-ce-in-ce-mai-preferat-de-romani-11-i-ar-vota-pe-reprezentantii-partidului-pro-romania-19450869>

In related news, Romania's biggest party by the number of MPs, **PSD** will vote against extending the state of alert if the Government issues an ordinance in this regard, in response to **President Klaus Iohannis** arguing in favour of such a decision, on June 9. PSD would thus join its two smaller allies, **Pro Romania** and **ALDE**, which also declared themselves against prolonging the state of alert that ends on June 15. **USR**, the third-biggest party in the Parliament, has not decided yet on how it will vote.

Source: <https://www.romania-insider.com/psd-oppose-state-alert-extension>

Perceptions & Consumer Behaviour

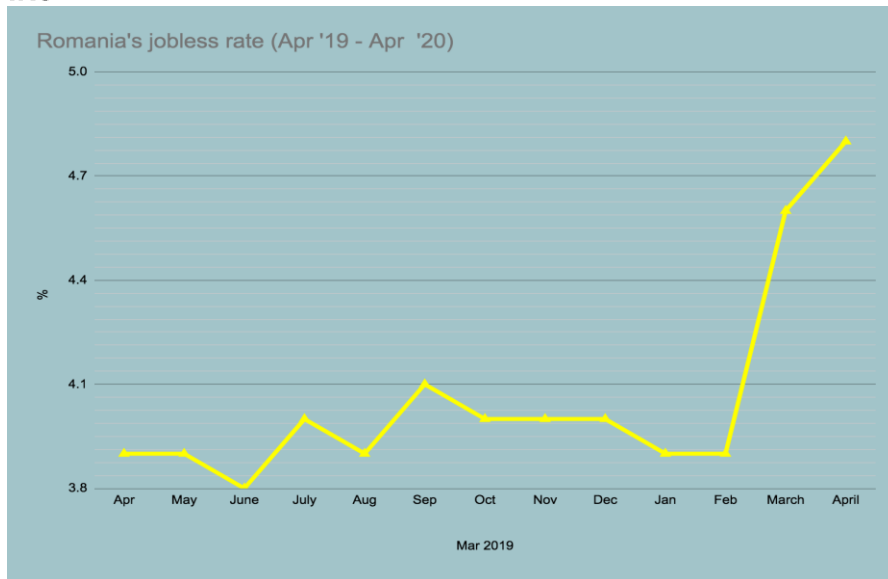
A **Reveal Marketing Research** study (April-May 2020, 1010 respondents, CAWI) tracked the changing **moods and attitudes of Romanian consumers** and found that:

- 60% of respondents experienced high levels of anger in April 2020, 51% in May;
- The levels of exhaustion and boredom rose in May with 11%, compared to April;
- The motivation and joy of the Romanians amounted to 10% in April, 7% in May;
- The states of relaxation and tranquillity were registered at: 3% in April, 4% in May;
- Social relations rose in importance for the respondents from 11% in April to 23% in May, which can be explained by the cessation of the state of emergency and the possibility of people to reconnect with others;
- For retired seniors, maintaining social relations is more important than for others (33% compared to 23% nationally).

Source: <https://www.gandul.ro/diverse/studiu-romanii-sunt-mai-obositi-dar-mai-relaxati-asta-dupa-o-perioada-cu-un-nivel-ridicat-de-furie-19449536>

Labour Market

Romania's **unemployment rate** rose to 4.8% in April 2020 from 4.6% in March as many people lost their jobs due to the COVID-19 crisis, based on provisional data from the **national statistical office, INS**.



Source: <https://seenews.com/news/romanias-jobless-rate-rises-to-48-in-april-701270>

Slovenia

More optimism among Slovenians as epidemic ends, concerns remain

4/06/2020

Slovenians are much more upbeat about the coronavirus situation in the first days since the end of the epidemic but **more than a half of them are still concerned**, shows the latest survey by pollster Valicon. Most respondents know the rules for wearing face masks and most expect the second wave of infections this year.

About 75% of the respondents assessed the situation in the first days after the epidemic as positive, an increase from 64% a week ago.

The share of those describing the situation as unpleasant and tiring decreased from 31% to 22%, while the share of those describing it as normal given the circumstances rose from 27% to 35%.

About 53% of respondents are concerned.

Just 31% of respondents think government measures to prevent the spread of the virus are too harsh, which is down 11 percentage points from last week. More than half find them just right.

Some 27% of respondents find the government measures to help the economy "rather suitable", while 15% find them "rather unsuitable". Another 58% think they are "partly suitable and partly unsuitable".

For the first time since 23 March, the share of idled workers dropped below 10%, so now only one in 12 employees is on furlough. The share of workers who fear for their job dropped from 26% to 19%, and the share of those expressing concern for the economy in general decreased from 69% to 62%.

The respondents showed they are relatively well acquainted with the rules for wearing face masks, with 80% of them knowing the basic rule of obligatory masks in closed public spaces. Meanwhile, 3% said they thought masks were not obligatory anywhere any more and 13% that this is now a personal decision.

More than two-thirds of respondents (68%) expect a new wave of infections before the end of the year. One in five think it will probably not happen and 6% are convinced it will not happen.

Valicon conducted the online survey among its panel of permanent respondents. It involved 516 people between 2 and 4 June.

Spain

La Sexta 15/06/2020:

https://www.lasexta.com/noticias/nacional/barometro-lasexta-el-606-de-los-encuestados-afirman-que-las-ccaa-son-las-responsables-de-la-gestion-de-las-residencias_202006135ee4c37965a8090001825bfb.html

60.6% of respondents say that the regional governments are responsible for the management of elderly homes.

The responsibility in the management of the elderly homes starts in the barometer of this Saturday of *laSexta*. 54.2% of respondents point to the regions with those responsible for their mismanagement during the pandemic.

68.9% believe that there are more deaths than reported. These figures do not convince everyone either. A 68.8% of respondents believe that there are more deaths than those reported for healing, for 23.5% that argues that these data are correct. A 3.8% asserts that there are fewer deaths, a figure slightly lower than people who do not know or do not answer the question.

Eldiario.es 11/06/2020:

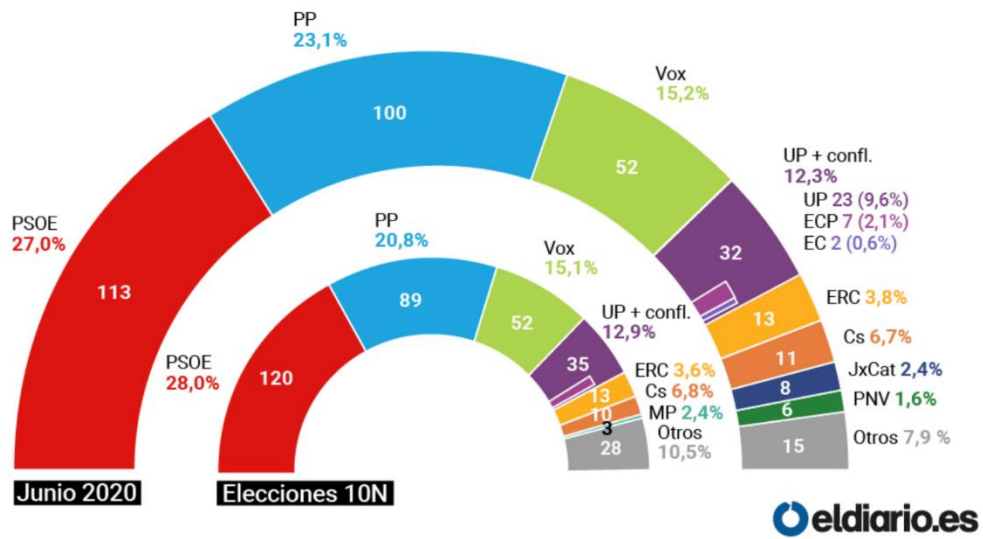
https://www.eldiario.es/politica/PP-Ciudadanos-PSOE-Unidas-Podemos_0_1036596907.html

The PP reaches 100 seats and would add with Vox more deputies than PSOE and Unidas Podemos together

The management of the coronavirus continues to increase support for the rights and weigh on the coalition government, which could only arm a majority if ERC and EH Bildu went from abstention to yes and others, from no to abstention.

The coronavirus crisis has reduced the distance between the rights and the investiture block. In the event of general elections, the PP would achieve 100 seats and the sum with Vox would place him ahead of the parties of the coalition government. However, Pablo Casado (PP leader) would be far from adding an absolute majority with his potential allies, while PSOE and United Podemos, who lose electoral support, could build a sufficient majority, but with substantial changes in their support.

This is clear from the June barometer made between June 1 and 5 by Celeste Tel for *eldiario.es*. The survey reflects that the PSOE would win the elections with 113 deputies, but it would leave 1.3 points, up to 27%, and seven deputies on what was obtained on November 10, 2019. The PP, for its part, would add 2.1 points, 23.1% of the electorate, achieving just one hundred seats, compared to 89 at the polls.



Source:

Sweden

Survey on COVID-19:

<https://novus.se/novus-coronastatus/>

10/06/2020, (2000 interviews, 1-7 June 2020 fieldwork).

Q: How would you assess your current health status?

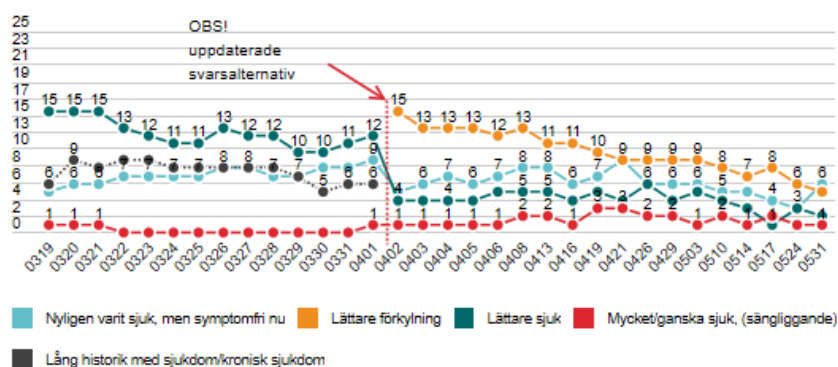
Possible replies:

- Turquoise: Recently sick but free of symptoms now (increasing)
- Orange: I have a small cold
- Dark green: I am sick (but not critical)
- Red: Critically sick (in bed)
- Black: Sick since a long time.

20200602

Hur skulle du uppskatta din hälsostatus just nu?

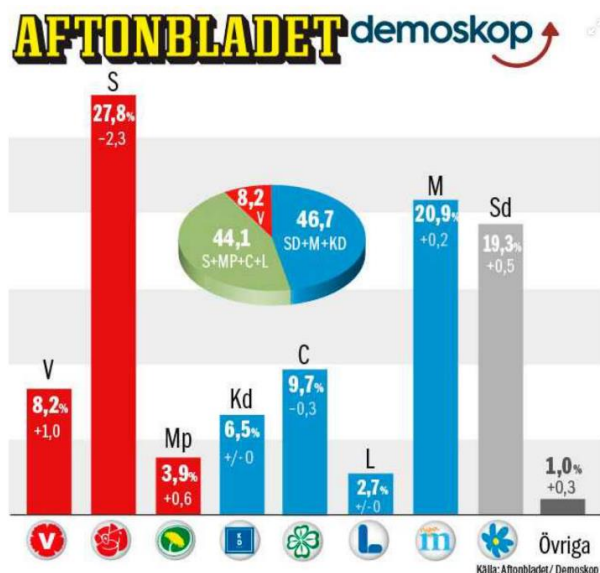
novus



The Socialdemocrats fell by 2.3 percentage points, which corresponds to about 135,000 voters, according to the new voter survey from Aftonbladet / Demoskop.

<https://www.aftonbladet.se/nyheter/a/9vRyBW/darfor-faller-stodet-for-socialdemokraterna-igen>

05/06/2020, Fieldwork 26 May-3 June 2020, sample 2 437.



Confidence in Swedish authorities dips amid mounting pandemic death toll, polls show

Reuters News, 4 June 2020

Swedes' confidence in the ability of the government and the health agency to handle the outbreak of the novel coronavirus is falling amid growing worries about the high mortality rate, polls published on Thursday showed. Sweden's decision not to adopt a lockdown as in many other European countries was widely supported by the population, but criticism has been growing in recent weeks over the country's high death rate from **COVID-19** when compared to its Nordic neighbours, especially among the elderly. **The proportion of those with high or reasonably high trust in the government's ability** to deal with the virus outbreak **dipped to 45% in June, compared to 63% in April**, a Novus survey for SVT public service television showed. Figures for Sweden's Public Health Agency, which has led the campaign for social distancing and hygiene measures, also fell in the survey, to 65% from 73%.

In a separate survey by Demoskop in daily Aftonbladet, **the number of those with high or reasonably high confidence in public authorities' actions in relation to the pandemic fell to 55% from 65% in April**. (...)