



Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Report



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This document does not represent the point of view of the European Commission. The interpretations and opinions contained in it are solely those of the authors.

Flash Eurobarometer 488 – Ipsos European Public Affairs



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(DG COMM “Media Monitoring and Eurobarometer” Unit)

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Introduction

The euro area consists of those Member States (MS) of the European Union (EU) that have adopted the euro as their common currency and sole legal tender. The euro was introduced to world financial markets as an accounting currency on 1 January 1999. After a transitional period of three years when the euro was the official currency but only existed as ‘book money’, euro banknotes and coins were adopted and became the official currency on 1 January 2002 in 12 MS. Since then, a further seven MS have adopted the currency, with the euro area now being made up of the following countries: Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain.

Since the introduction of the euro in 2002, the European Commission has regularly conducted surveys measuring public perceptions of the currency among citizens living in the euro-area countries. This Flash Eurobarometer survey represents the 19th in this series of surveys and includes evaluation of:

- Support for the euro at national and EU level and views on its impact on European identity;
- The perceived ease of handling and distinguishing between euro coins and banknotes, views on the number of different value coins available and attitudes towards the abolition of one- and two-cent euro coins;
- The impact the euro has had in relation to travelling abroad in other EU countries – whether it has made it easier and less costly, whether it has reduced banking charges or not, whether the euro makes doing business easier in the EU and whether it makes it easier to compare prices and shop in different EU countries;
- Views on whether euro-area coordination of economic policy, including budgetary policies, is appropriate, and perceptions about the need for economic reforms.

On behalf of the European Commission, Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs (DG ECFIN), Ipsos European Public Affairs interviewed a representative sample of citizens, aged 15 and over, in each of the 19 countries of the euro area. Between 22 and 29 March 2021, 17,723 interviews were conducted over the telephone (landline and mobile phones). Survey data are weighted to known population proportions. The euro-area averages are weighted according to the size of the 15+ population of each euro-area country. A technical note on the methods applied to conduct the survey is appended as an annex to this report.

The Flash Eurobarometer survey was conducted in March 2021 in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic is causing a disruption to normal consumer behaviours, e.g. with respect to (online) shopping practices. Due to the pandemic, many citizens are also delaying many of their “normal” activities, including travel – an area in which many respondents in previous editions of this survey saw the very practical benefits the euro has brought. Finally, some households have seen their income impacted negatively by the COVID pandemic, while others may have been able to make savings. Readers should keep this context in mind when interpreting the most recent year-on-year changes that are being measured in this trend survey.

Notes:

- 1) Survey results are subject to sampling tolerances meaning that not all apparent differences between groups may be statistically significant. Thus, only differences that are statistically significant (at the 5% level) – i.e. where it can be reasonably certain that they are unlikely to have occurred by chance – are highlighted in the text.
- 2) The report looks at long-term trends at the euro-area level and the most recent year-on-year changes at national level. The term percentage point is used when comparing two different percentages (the abbreviation is pp). Year-on-year differences are calculated from percentages with one decimal and are then rounded to the nearest integer.
- 3) Due to rounding, the percentages shown in the charts and tables do not always exactly add up to the totals mentioned in the text.
- 4) In this report, countries are referred to by their official abbreviation. The abbreviations used in this report correspond to:

BE  -----> Belgium	LT  -----> Lithuania
DE  -----> Germany	LU  -----> Luxembourg
EE  -----> Estonia	MT  -----> Malta
IE  -----> Ireland	NL  -----> Netherlands
EL  -----> Greece	AT  -----> Austria
ES  -----> Spain	PT  -----> Portugal
FR  -----> France	SI  -----> Slovenia
IT  -----> Italy	SK  -----> Slovakia
CY  -----> Rep. of Cyprus *	FI  -----> Finland
LV  -----> Latvia	

* Cyprus as a whole is one of the 27 EU MS. 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.

Key findings

Support for the euro

- Support for the euro is at its highest since surveying on this topic began in 2002. 80% of those surveyed reply that having the euro is a good thing for the EU and 70% say the same about the euro and their country. A majority of respondents supports the euro in all 19 euro-area countries.
- 30% of citizens in the euro area say the euro makes them feel more European than before. Whilst still the minority view, this is the highest figure measured so far, representing an increase of six percentage points compared to October 2016.

Euro coins and banknotes

- Almost all those surveyed find euro banknotes easy to distinguish and handle when paying cash, with more than 90% of respondents feeling this way in all 19 euro-area countries.
- More than eight in ten respondents (84%) find euro coins easy to distinguish and handle when paying cash, with at least three-quarters of respondents saying so in every country.
- The lowest value cent coins cause the most difficulties: those who have difficulties distinguishing and handling euro coins particularly struggle with the 2-cent coin (77%) and 1-cent coin (70%).
- Over six in ten respondents (63%) think that there are the right number of euro coins with different values, while 31% believe there are too many. When asked more specifically about abolishing 1- and 2-euro cent coins, a higher proportion of those surveyed (67%) respond positively.

Converting prices in euro to former national currencies

- Across the euro area, 74% say they do not convert from the price in euro to their old national currency when buying things; this represents an increase by 6 percentage points compared to October 2019.
- Roughly one in four euro-area citizens still convert euro prices into their former currency: 13% do so for common purchases such as day-to-day shopping, while 10% do so only for exceptional purchases such as the purchase of a car or a house.

Perceived impact of the euro on travelling abroad

- A majority (55%, +3 pp compared to October 2019) of citizens in the euro area believe that the euro has made travelling easier and less costly. A majority of respondents take this view in 17 of the euro-area countries.

- The proportion of respondents who think the euro has reduced banking charges when travelling has increased to 45% (+7 pp compared to October 2019).
- When asked whether the euro has made doing business in the EU easier, 81% (+2 pp compared to October 2019) agree; this view is held by a majority of those surveyed in all 19 euro-area countries.
- A similar share of 84% (+4 pp compared to October 2019) believe the euro has made it easier to compare prices and shop (including online) in different countries.

Views on economic policy coordination

- When asked about their views on whether euro-area coordination of economic policy, including budgetary policies, is appropriate, 67% across the euro area say that they see the need for more coordination, while 8% answer there should be less.

Expectations about the current year's inflation rate

- Roughly one in two citizens in the euro area (52%) believe this year's inflation rate will be higher than last year's; this represents a 14 percentage-point increase over the proportion observed in October 2019. The increase in pessimism about inflation is also reflected in the national results.

Views on the need for economic reforms

- There is continued support across the euro area for economic reforms to improve the performance of national economies. As in 2019, about eight in ten respondents (82%) agree there is a need for significant reforms to improve the performance of their national economy.
- The proportion agreeing that successful reforms in other euro-area countries facilitate reforms in their own country has increased to 53% (+8 pp), while the proportion disagreeing has decreased to 36% (-6 pp).
- Large proportions of respondents believe it is important that their government introduce reforms in the seven areas, ranging from the health system to market reforms, to help increase growth and employment.

Section 1: Support for the euro

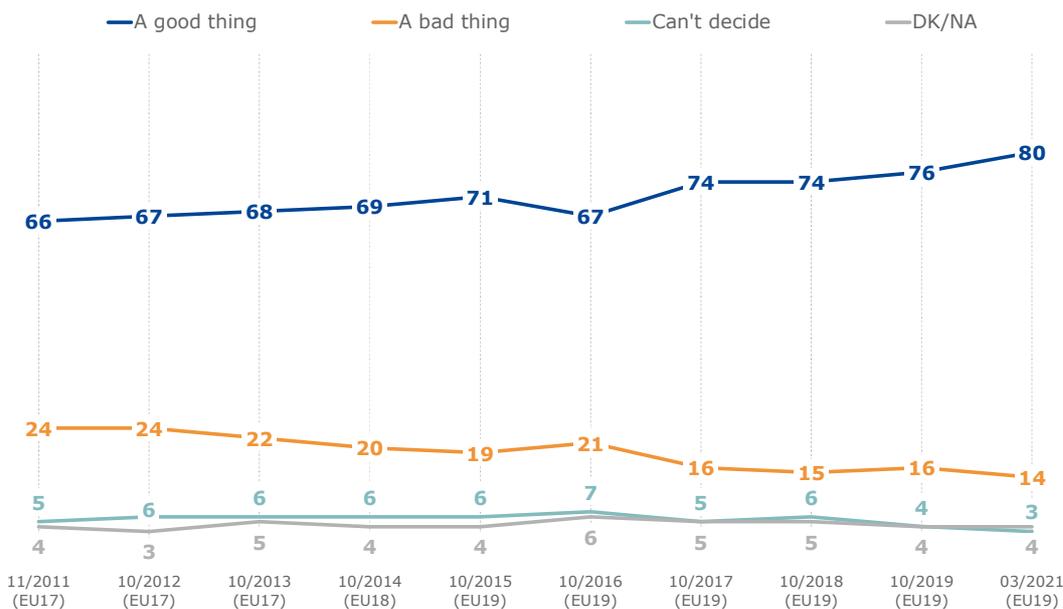
This section of the report looks at different facets of support for the euro among citizens in the euro-area countries. As in previous rounds, respondents were asked whether they think that having the euro is a good or a bad thing, firstly for their country and secondly for the EU, and whether having the euro makes them feel more European or not.

1. Overall assessment of the euro

Support for the euro is at its highest since surveying on this topic began in 2002. When asked whether the euro is a good thing or not for the EU, 80% of those surveyed reply that having the euro is a good thing (an increase of 4 pp compared to October 2019), while just 14% think it is a bad thing. 3% spontaneously answer they cannot decide whether it is a good or a bad thing for the EU.

Q1.2 Generally speaking, do you think...?

Having the euro is a good or bad thing for the EU (% - euro area)

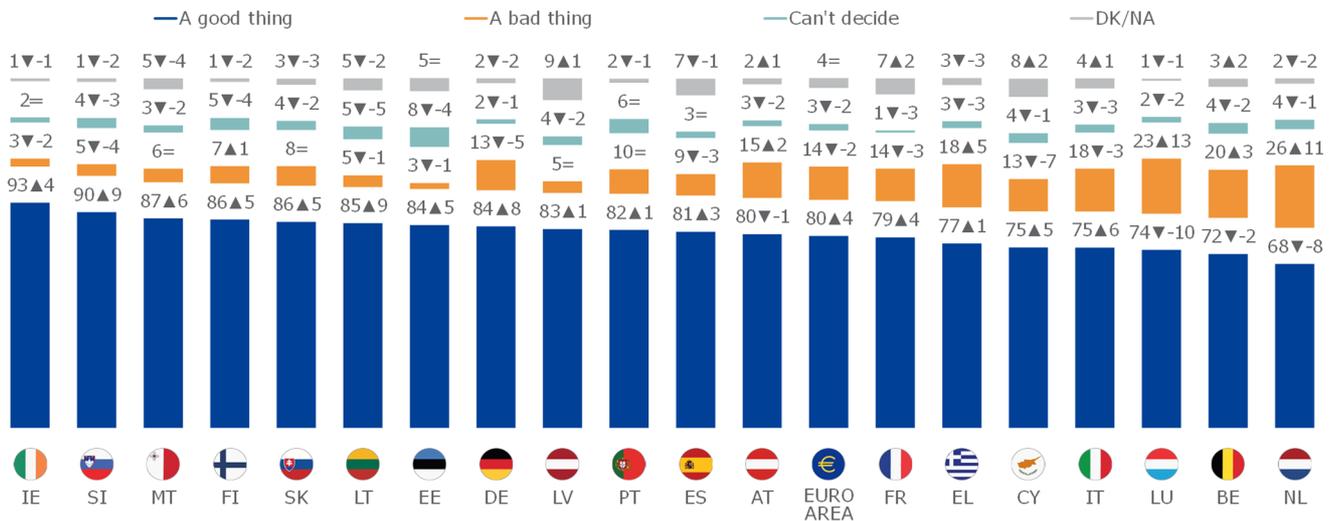


Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

A majority of respondents supports the euro in all 19 euro-area countries, although there are significant differences. Support for the euro is again highest in Ireland, where 93% of respondents answer that having the euro is a good thing for the EU (+4 pp compared to October 2019), followed closely by Slovenia, where support had increased from 81% to 90% (+9 pp).

Compared to the results from October 2019, the proportion of respondents who say the euro is a good thing for the EU has increased in almost all countries, with the largest increases seen in Germany (+8 pp), Lithuania (+9 pp) and Slovenia (+9 pp). In two countries, respondents are now significantly less likely to express support: Luxembourg (-10 pp, from 84% to 74%) and the Netherlands (-8 pp, from 76% to 68%).

Q1.2 Generally speaking, do you think...?
Having the euro is a good or bad thing for the EU (%)

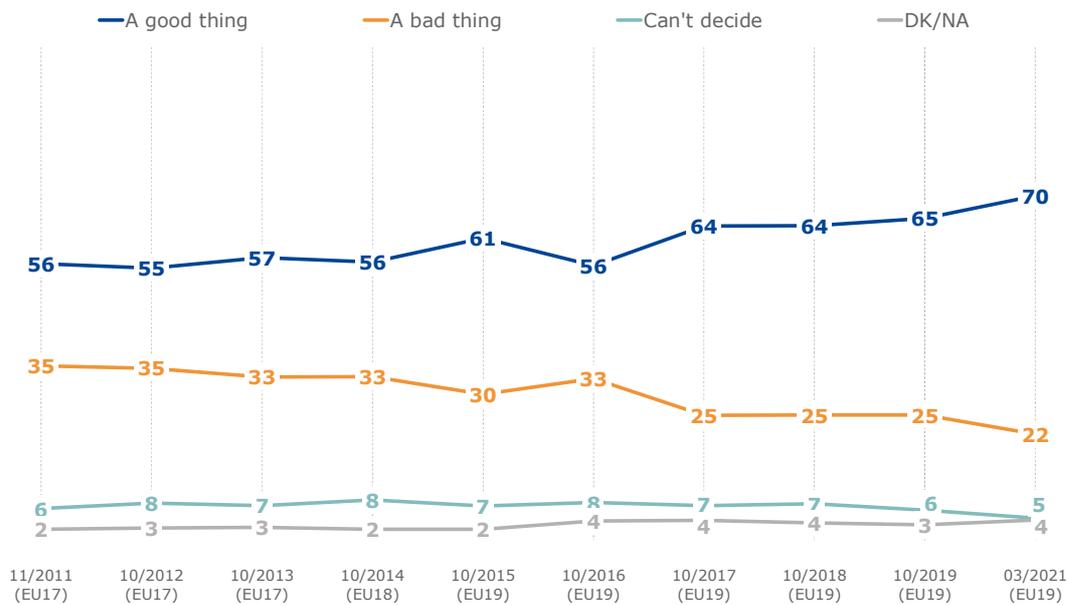


Base: all respondents (n=17,723) ▼▲ Evolution 03/2021-10/2019

70% of respondents think that having the euro is a good thing for their country, while 22% say they think it is a bad thing. 5% *spontaneously* answer they cannot decide whether having the euro is a good or a bad thing for their country. The proportion saying the euro is good for their country is now five percentage points higher than in October 2019; this proportion stands at its highest level since the question was first asked in 2002. The proportion saying that the euro is a bad thing is at its lowest level (-4 pp compared to October 2019).

Q1.1 Generally speaking, do you think...?

Having the euro is a good or bad thing for your country (% - euro area)

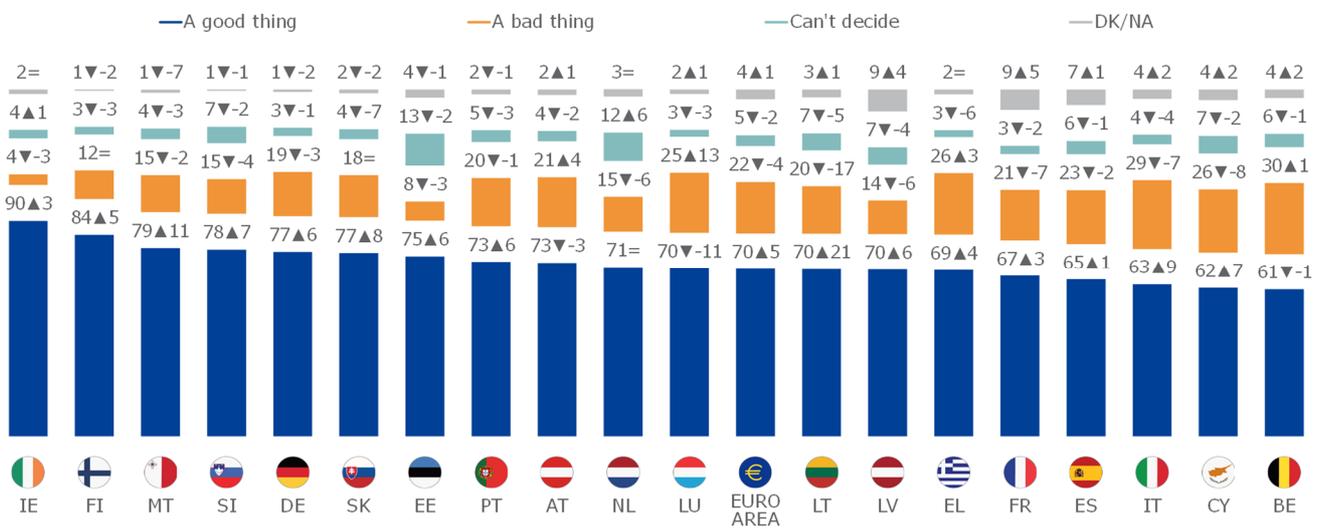


Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

Across most euro-area countries, the proportion saying the euro is a good thing for the EU is higher than the proportion stating the same for their country; the exception being the Netherlands. In this country, 71% answer that the having the euro is good for their country and 68% reply it is good for the EU.

The majority view in all euro-area countries is that having the euro is a good thing for their country (from 61% in Belgium to 90% in Ireland). It is now also the majority view in Lithuania, which was not the case in 2019 (70%, +21 pp). Compared with the results from 2019, the proportion of respondents who say the euro is a good thing for their country has significantly increased in 11 countries, with the largest increases seen in Lithuania (+21 pp) and Malta (+11 pp). This figure has significantly decreased in just one euro-area country: Luxembourg (-11 pp, from 81% to 70%).

Q1.1 Generally speaking, do you think...?
Having the euro is a good or bad thing for your country (%)

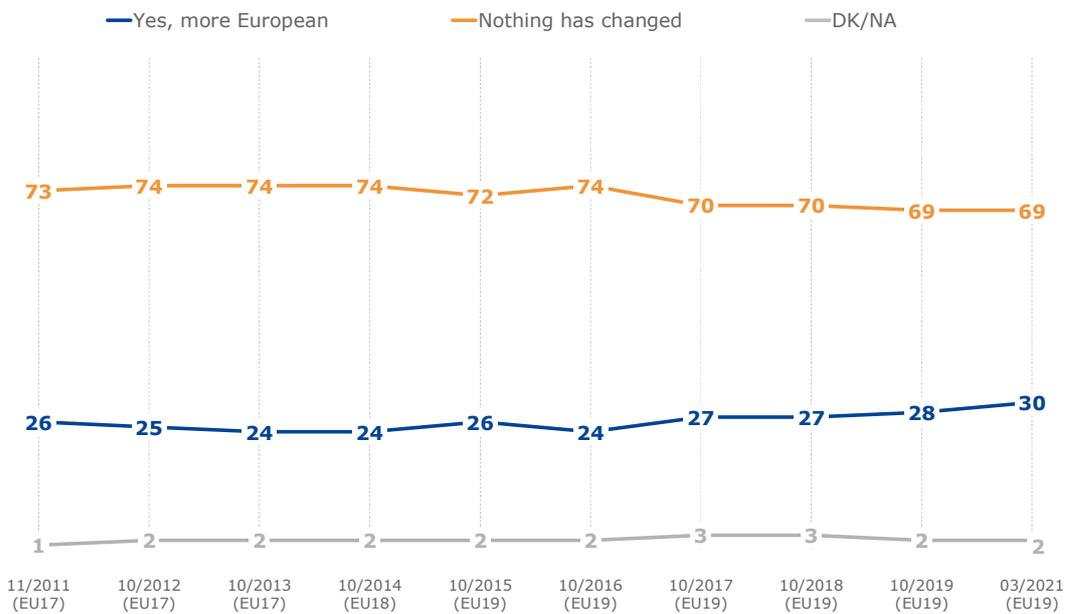


Base: all respondents (n=17,723) ▼▲ Evolution 03/2021-10/2019

2. The euro and European identity

69% of citizens say their feeling of being European has not changed following the introduction of the euro, compared to 30% who say that the euro makes them feel more European than before. Whilst the latter view is still the minority view, this is the highest figure measured so far, and represents an increase of six percentage points compared to October 2016.

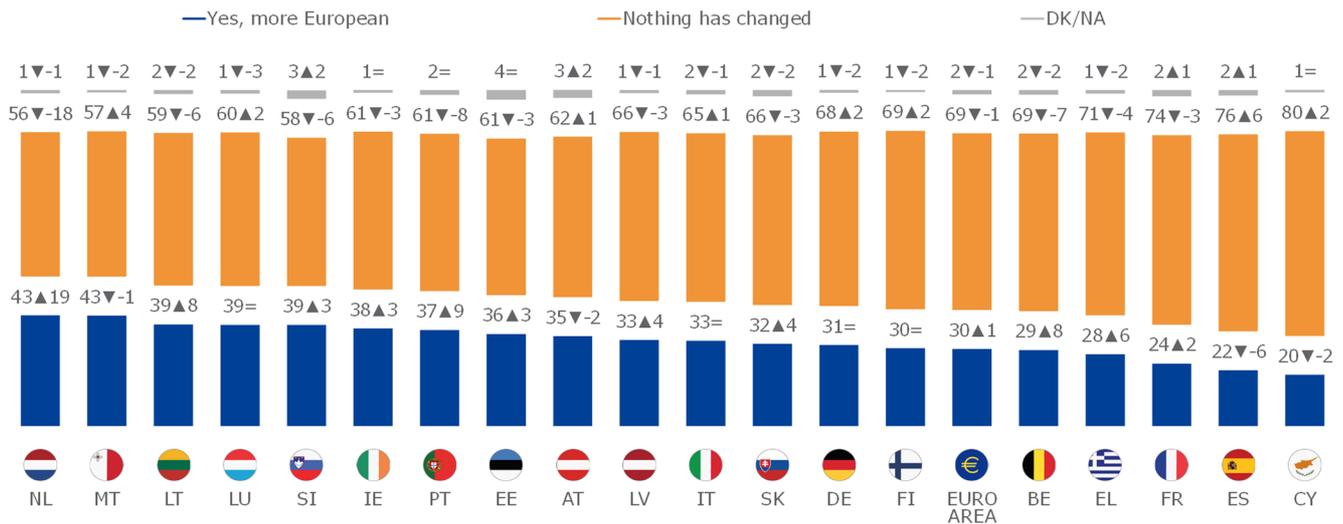
Q2 Does the euro make you personally feel more European than before or would you say that your feeling of being European has not changed? (% - euro area)



Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

Over four in ten respondents in Malta and the Netherlands (both 43%), just under in Lithuania, Luxembourg and Slovenia (all 39%), and over a third in Austria (35%), Estonia (36%), Portugal (37%) and Ireland (38%) believe that the euro makes them personally feel more European than before. Those surveyed in Cyprus (20%) and Spain (22%, -6 pp compared to October 2019) are the least likely to hold this view.

Q2 Does the euro make you personally feel more European than before or would you say that your feeling of being European has not changed? (%)



Base: all respondents (n=17,723) ▼▲ Evolution 03/2021-10/2019

Socio-demographic considerations

The younger the respondent, the more likely they are to believe the euro is a good thing for their country and for the EU. Those aged 15-24 (82%) are the most likely to say that having the euro is good for their country, while those aged 40-54 and those over 54 are the least likely (67%-68%). Similarly, 86% of 15-24 year-olds say that having the euro is good for the EU, compared to 78% of 40-50 year-olds and over 54 year-olds.

It is, however, those aged 25-39 and aged 40-54 who are most likely to state that the euro makes them feel more European than before (32%-33% compared to 27% of 15-24 year-olds and over 54 year-olds). Men are also somewhat more likely to say that the euro makes them feel more European than before (32% vs 27% for women).

Among those no longer in full-time education, those who completed their education aged 20 or older are the most likely to say they think the euro is a good thing for their country (77%) and the EU (85%), while those who left school before the age of 16 are the least likely (50% and 65%, respectively). Higher-educated respondents are also more likely to say that the euro makes them personally feel more European than before (37% of respondents who completed their education aged 20 or older vs 18% of those who left school before the age of 16).

In terms of occupational categories, it is manual workers who stand out as being the least likely to think that the euro is a good thing for their country (55%) or the EU (70%); they are also the least likely to say the euro makes them feel more European than before (21%, compared to e.g. 34% of employees).

Q1 Generally speaking, do you think...?

Q2 Does the euro make you personally feel more European than before or would you say that your feeling of being European has not changed?
(% - euro area)

	Having the euro is a good thing for our country (Q1.1)	Having the euro is a good thing for the EU (Q1.2)	The euro makes you personally feel more European (Q2)
Euro area	70	80	30
 Gender ¹			
Men	71	80	33
Women	69	79	27
 Age			
15-24	82	86	27
25-39	71	81	32
40-54	68	78	33
55+	67	78	27
 Education			
Up to 15	50	65	18
16-19	61	73	22
20+	77	85	37
Still studying	82	89	32
 Occupation			
Self-employed	71	81	32
Employee	74	83	34
Manual worker	55	70	21
Not working	68	77	26

Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

Note: (1) The gender question of the Flash Eurobarometer allows respondents to choose between "male", "female", "in another way" or "prefer not to say". In this report, only the results for respondents who answered "male" or "female" are shown as the number selecting the other responses is below the reporting threshold.

Section 2: Euro coins and banknotes

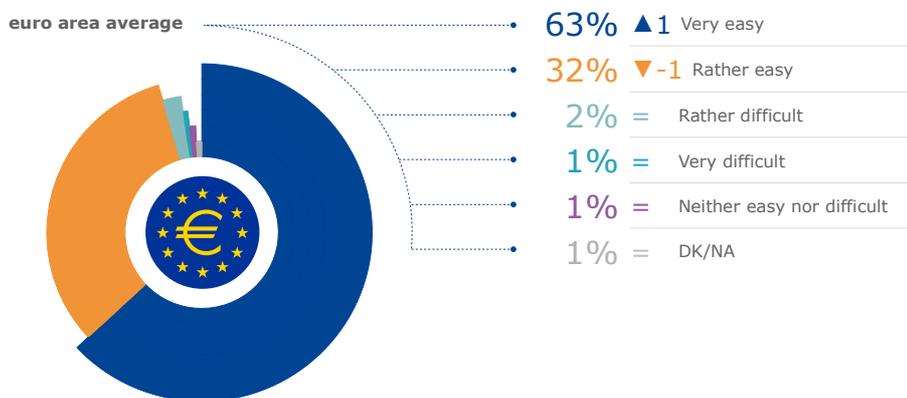
The second section of the report looks at citizens' views on euro coins and banknotes: how easy they find it to distinguish and handle each format when making cash purchases; which, if any, coin denominations cause the greatest difficulty; whether the overall number of coin denominations/values (eight) is the right number; and whether the smallest value coins (1- and 2-cents) should be abolished, with prices rounded to the nearest five cents.

1. Distinguishing and handling euro coins and banknotes

Although distinguishing and handling euro coins and banknotes do not represent any difficulty for most citizens in the euro area, a small proportion do experience difficulties; this proportion is higher for euro coins than for euro banknotes. The current survey presents no change in this regard compared to previous rounds.

Almost all those surveyed consider that **euro banknotes** are easy to distinguish and handle when making cash purchases: 63% find it 'very easy' and 32% 'rather easy'. 3% answer that they find it difficult to distinguish and handle euro banknotes.

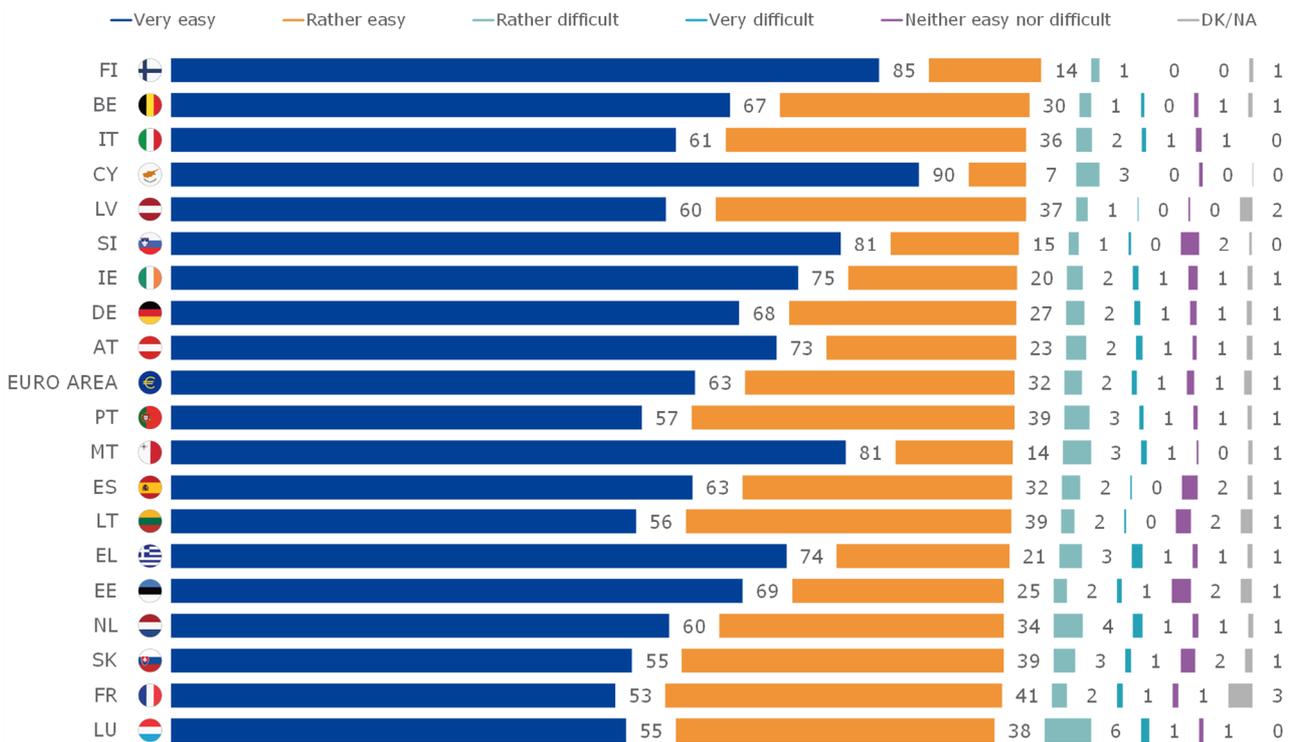
Q3a.1 When you pay cash, would you say that it is: very easy, rather easy, rather difficult or very difficult to distinguish and handle...
euro banknotes (% - euro area)



Base: all respondents (n=17,723) ▼▲ Evolution 03/2021-10/2019

Across most euro-area countries, less than 5% of respondents report that it is difficult to distinguish and handle euro banknotes when making cash payments. The highest incidence of respondents who say it is difficult are found in Luxembourg (7%, +4 pp compared to October 2019) and the Netherlands (5%). Respondents in Cyprus and Finland are overall the most likely to answer that distinguishing and handling euro banknotes is ‘very easy’ (90% and 85%, respectively).

Q3a.1 When you pay cash, would you say that it is: very easy, rather easy, rather difficult or very difficult to distinguish and handle....
euro banknotes (%)

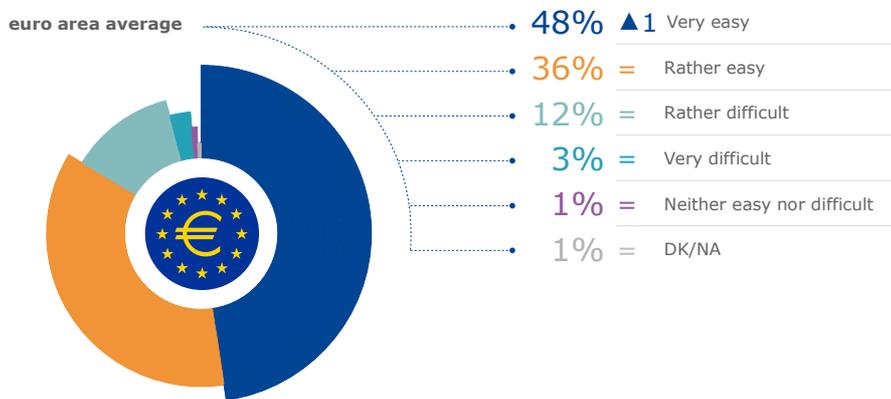


Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

The proportion finding it easy to distinguish and handle **euro coins** is lower than the proportion finding this easy for euro banknotes. When asked how easy they find it to distinguish and handle euro coins when making cash purchases, 48% of respondents find it 'very easy' and 36% 'rather easy'. Less than a fifth find it difficult to distinguish and handle euro coins, with 12% saying this is 'rather difficult' and 3% 'very difficult'. The results are the same as to those observed in 2019.

The **socio-demographic analysis** reveals that the respondents most likely to find it difficult to distinguish and handle euro coins are those aged 55 or over (20%), those who ended their education at an early age (16%-19%) and those without a professional activity (18%). Among respondents not supporting the euro, 20% report having difficulties distinguishing and handling euro coins.

Q3a.1 When you pay cash, would you say that it is: very easy, rather easy, rather difficult or very difficult to distinguish and handle...
euro coins (% - euro area)

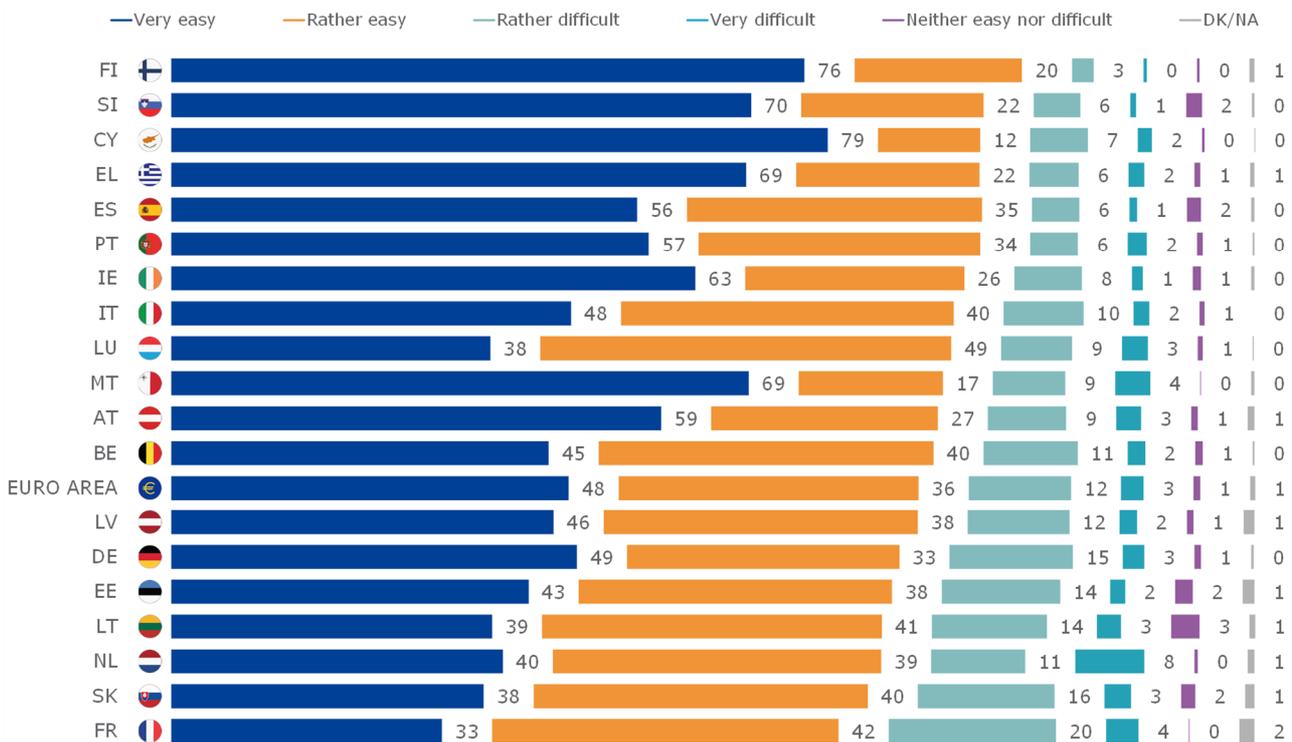


Base: all respondents (n=17,723) ▼▲ Evolution 03/2021-10/2019

In all euro-area countries, at least three-quarters of respondents say euro coins are easy to distinguish and handle when making cash payments, with the highest proportion observed in Finland (76% 'very easy' and 20% 'rather easy'). Moreover, in nine euro-area countries, more than half of respondents find euro banknotes 'very easy' to distinguish and handle, with respondents in Cyprus (79%) being the most likely to say so. Respondents in France (33%), Luxembourg and Slovakia (both 38%), Lithuania (39%) and the Netherlands (40%) are the least likely find euro banknotes 'very easy'.

Nearly a quarter of respondents in France (24%) and a fifth in the Netherlands and Slovakia say they find it difficult to distinguish and handle euro coins when making cash payments; respondents in these countries were also among the most likely to express such difficulties in October 2019. In Lithuania, the proportion finding euro coins difficult to handle and distinguish is now 17%, down from 24% in October 2019 (-7 pp).

Q3a.2 When you pay cash, would you say that it is: very easy, rather easy, rather difficult or very difficult to distinguish and handle....
euro coins (%)



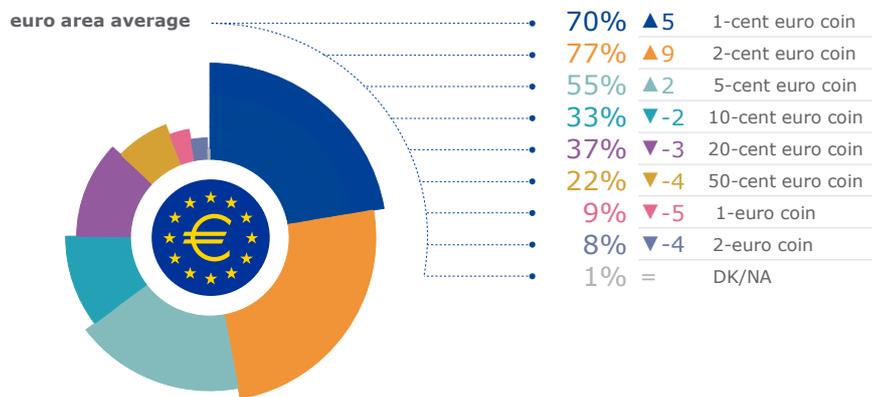
Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

Respondents who said they find it difficult to distinguish and handle euro coins when paying cash – 15% of all those surveyed in the euro area (2,235 respondents) – were asked **with which coins they have particular difficulties**.

Most of those surveyed who say they find it difficult to distinguish and handle euro coins experience particular difficulties with lower denomination coins rather than with higher value euro coins. 77% say they have particular difficulties with the 2-cent coin (+9 pp compared to October 2019) and 70% say they experience such difficulties with the 1-cent coin (+5 pp).

Just over half (55%) cite the 5-cent coin as being difficult to distinguish and handle; 37% cite the 20-cent coin; 33% the 10-cent coin; and 22% the 50-cent coin. For each of the higher denominations, less than one in ten respondents have difficulties; this represents a small improvement over October 2019.

Q3b With which of the following euro coins do you have particular difficulties? (% - euro area)



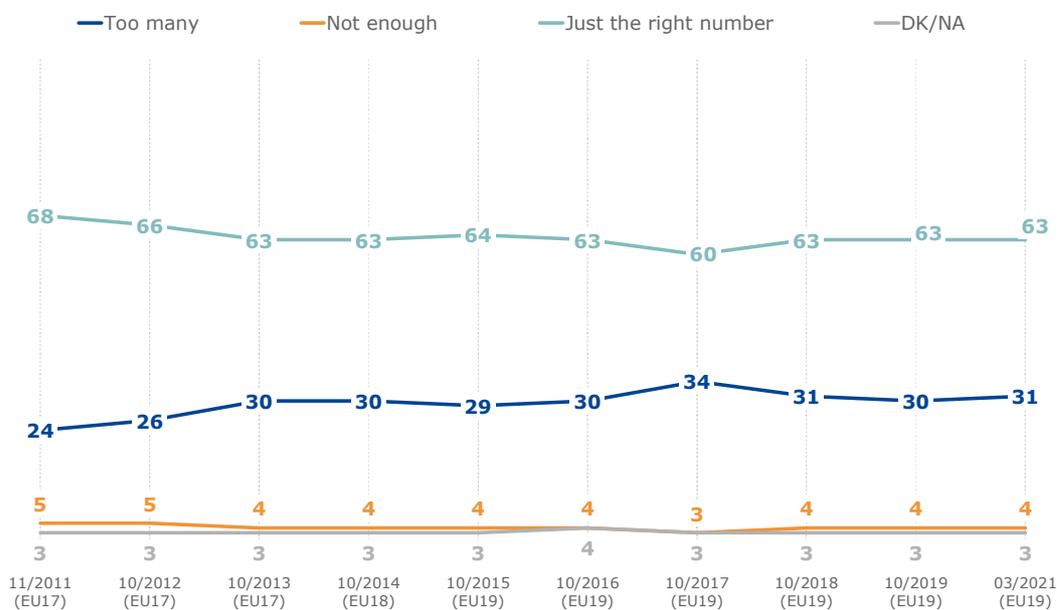
Base: respondents who find it difficult to distinguish between euro coins (n=2,235)
▼▲ Evolution 03/2021-10/2019

2. Satisfaction with the current selection of euro coins

As in October 2019, 63% of respondents reply that the number of euro coin denominations/values (eight) is just right, while 31% think there are too many euro coins and 4% believe there are not enough.

Looking at the longer-term picture, there was a broadly upward trend between 2011 and 2017 in the proportion of respondents who said there are too many euro coins (from 24% to 34%, +10 pp). This upward trend stopped in the 2018 survey, with a three percentage-point decrease in the proportion, and has now stabilized at around 30%.

Q4 Do you consider that there are too many or, on the contrary, not enough euro coins with different values or do you consider that there are just the right number? (% - euro area)

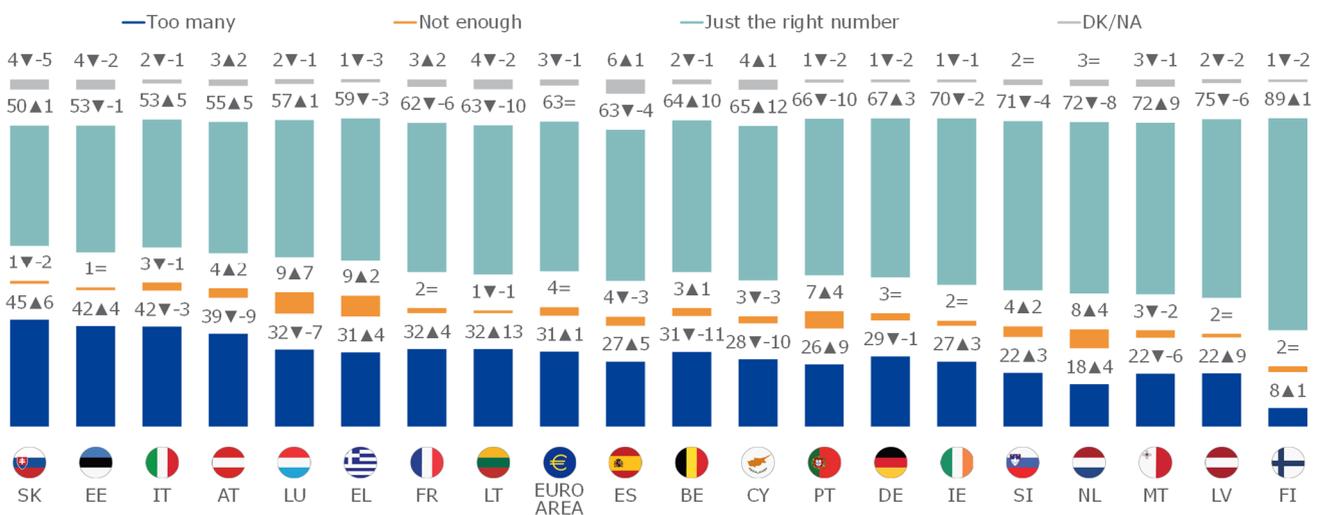


Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

At least half of the respondents in all euro area-countries say they think the number of euro coins with different values is just right. There is, nonetheless, a large variation in the proportion expressing this view. The highest proportion saying this is found in Finland (89%) and the lowest proportion in Slovakia (50%), a difference of 39 percentage points between highest and lowest.

In Slovakia, 45% of respondents think there are too many euro coin denominations (+6 pp compared to October 2019); Slovakia is followed by Austria, Italy and Estonia (with between 39% and 42% of respondents sharing this view). The proportion of respondents in Austria saying there are too many euro coins with different values has decreased by 9 percentage points compared to October 2019.

Q4 Do you consider that there are too many or, on the contrary, not enough euro coins with different values or do you consider that there are just the right number? (%)

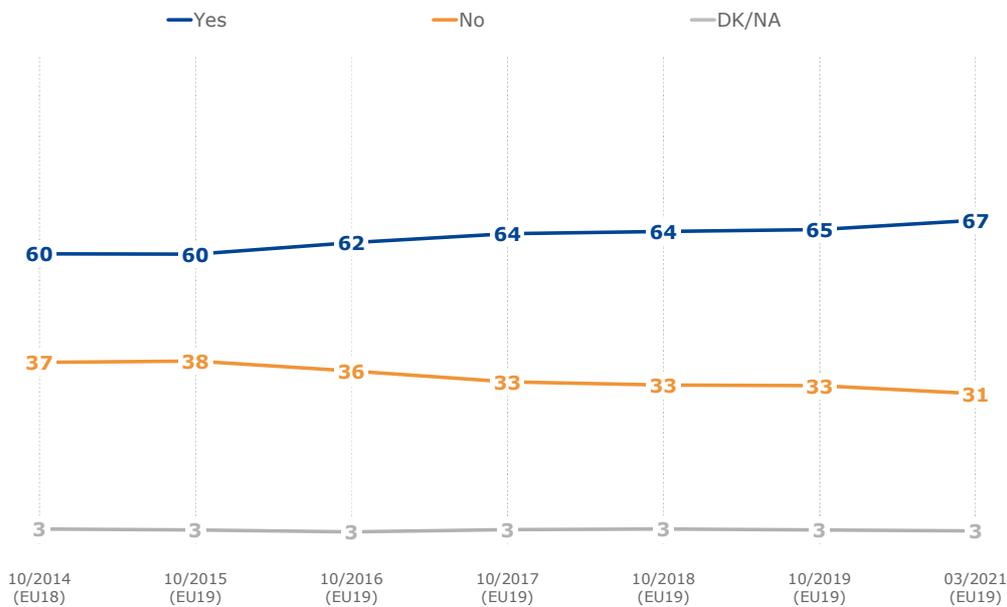


Base: all respondents (n=17,723) ▼▲ Evolution 03/2021-10/2019

As seen in the previous section, 31% of citizens in the euro area think there are too many euro coin denominations, but when asked more specifically about abolishing 1- and 2-euro cent coins, a higher proportion of those surveyed respond positively (67%), while just 31% are opposed to this measure. Looking at the longer-term picture, the proportion of respondents in favour of abolishing 1- and 2-euro cent coins (by rounding final purchase prices) gradually increased from 60% in 2011 to 67% in the current survey.

When interpreting the results of this question, it is important to take into account that, while 1-cent and 2-cent coins are legal tender in all euro-area countries, there are various forms of national legislation that enforce or encourage the rounding of euro coins to 5 cents in Belgium, Finland, Ireland and the Netherlands.

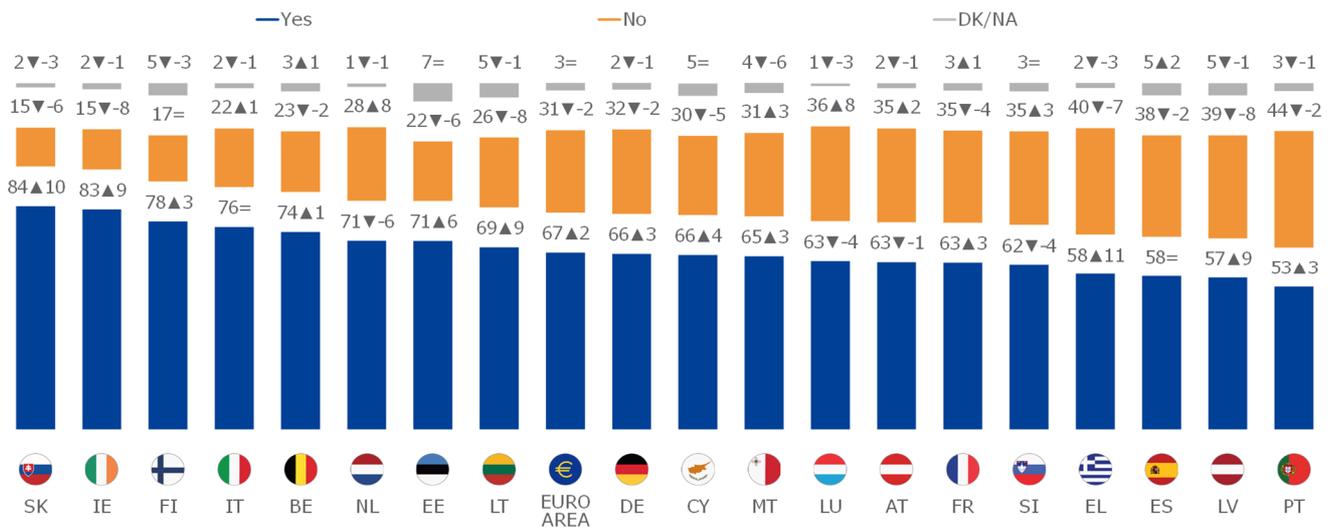
Q5 Are you in favour of abolishing 1- and 2-euro cent coins in the euro area and applying mandatory up- and down-rounding of the final sum of purchase in shops and supermarkets? (% - euro area)



Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

In October 2019, an absolute majority in 16 of the 19 euro-area countries supported the idea of abolishing 1- and 2-cent coins by rounding final purchase prices. The current Flash Eurobarometer survey finds that this is now the majority view in all of the 19 euro-area countries (from 53% in Portugal to 84% in Slovakia). In six countries, there is a significant increase in support, this is the case, for example, in Slovakia and Ireland (+10 pp and +9 pp, respectively, compared to October 2019). Only in the Netherlands, a significant decrease is seen in support for abolishing the two smallest value coins (from 77% to 71%, -6 pp).

Q5 Are you in favour of abolishing 1- and 2-euro cent coins in the euro area and applying mandatory up- and down-rounding of the final sum of purchase in shops and supermarkets? (%)



Base: all respondents (n=17,723) ▼▲ Evolution 03/2021-10/2019

Socio-demographic considerations

Men are somewhat more likely than women to say there are too many euro coins (33% vs 30%) and to be in favour of abolishing the two smallest value coins (70% vs 64%). The youngest respondents – and those still in full-time education – are the least likely to think that there are too many euro coins (24%-25% vs 32%-34% across older age groups). Respondents who left school between the ages of 16 and 19 are overall the most likely to think there are too many euro coin denominations (36%). Finally, manual workers are also among those most likely to believe there are too many euro coins (35%) and to favour abolishing the two smallest value coins (71%).

Q4 Do you consider that there are too many or, on the contrary, not enough euro coins with different values or do you consider that there are just the right number?

Q5 Are you in favour of abolishing 1- and 2-euro cent coins in the euro area and applying mandatory up- and down-rounding of the final sum of purchase in shops and supermarkets?
(% - euro area)

	Too many euro coins (Q4)	In favour of abolishing 1- and 2-cent coins (Q5)
Euro area	31	67
 Gender		
Men	33	70
Women	30	64
 Age		
15-24	24	65
25-39	34	68
40-54	32	64
55+	32	68
 Education		
Up to 15	30	69
16-19	36	70
20+	30	65
Still studying	25	64
 Occupation		
Self-employed	31	65
Employee	33	66
Manual worker	35	71
Not working	30	67
 Having the euro for the country		
A good thing	31	67
A bad thing	35	66

Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

Section 3: The impact of the euro on prices and other macro-economic assessments

This section examines the perception of respondents within the euro area on the impact that the euro has had on prices and other macro-economic assessments since its introduction.

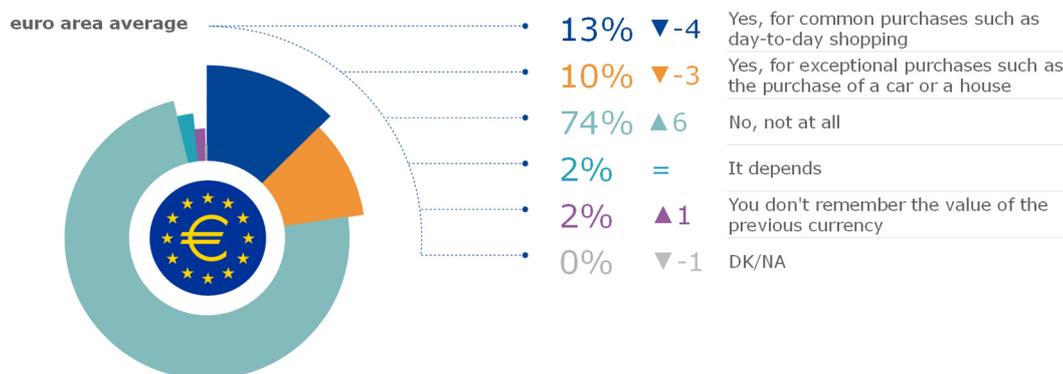
1. Converting prices in euro to old national currencies

Across the euro area, 74% say they do not convert from the price in euro to their old national currency when buying things; this represents an increase by 6 percentage points compared to October 2019.

Roughly one in four citizens still convert euro prices into their former currency: among them, 13% do so for common purchases such as day-to-day shopping, while 10% do so only for exceptional purchases such as the purchase of a car or a house.

Examination of the socio-demographic groups reveals that respondents aged 55 or over are the most likely to still convert euro prices into their former currency (31%), while those aged 15-24 (4%) are the least likely to do so. A higher proportion still converting into their former currency is also observed for the least-educated (30%), manual workers and those not working (26%-27%), and for those who think having the euro is a bad for their country or the EU (40%-41%).

Q6 Today, when you are buying things, do you tend to convert from the price in euro to the (OLD NATIONAL CURRENCY)? (% - euro area)

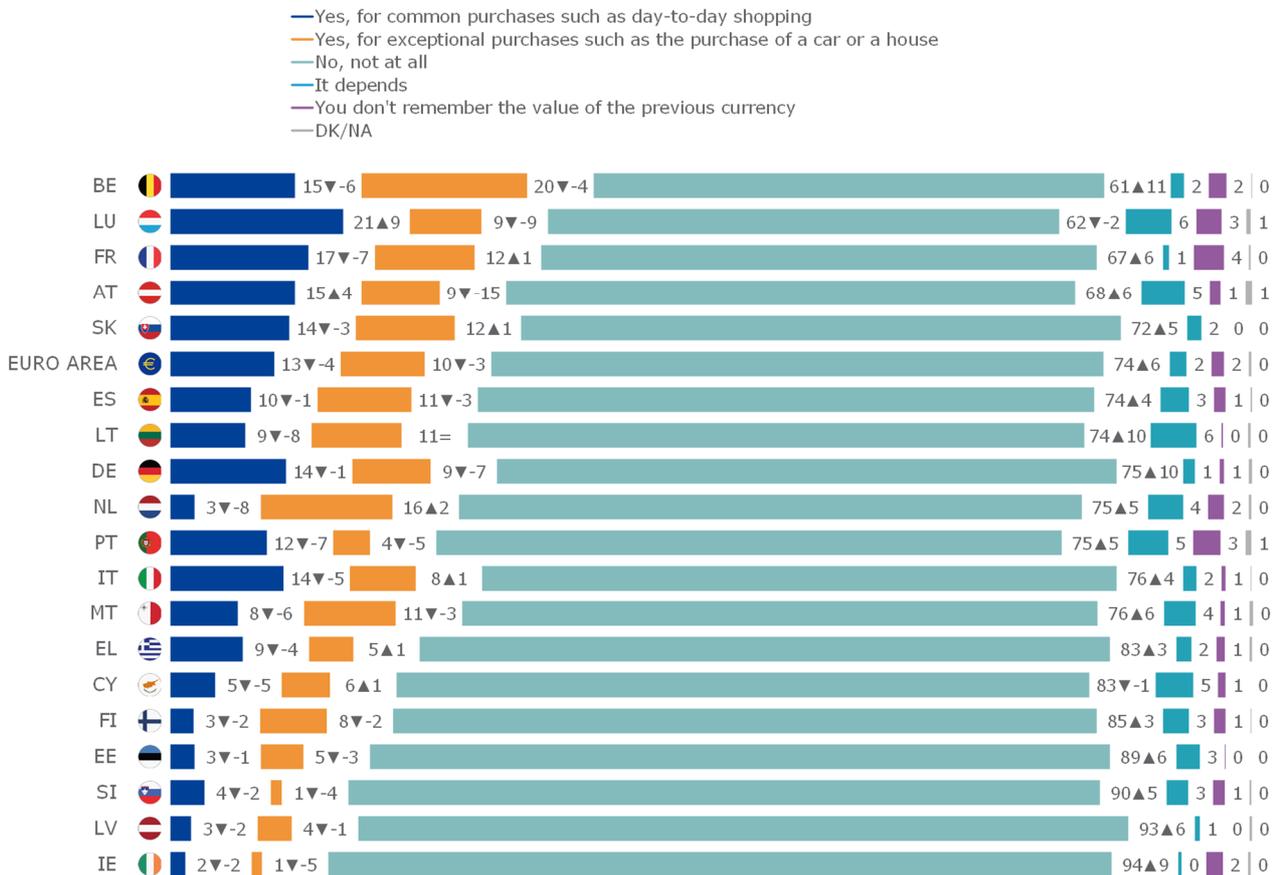


Base: all respondents (n=17,723) ▼▲ Evolution 03/2021-10/2019

In every euro-area country, at least six in ten respondents say they do not convert from the price in euro to their former national currency when buying things, with the highest proportions observed in Ireland (94%), Latvia (93%), Slovenia (90%) and Estonia (89%). The number not converting from the price in euro to their former national currency has significantly increased, since October 2019, in 12 euro-area countries.

For common purchases such as day-to-day shopping, the proportion of respondents saying they convert from the price in euro to their former national currency varies between 2% in Ireland and 21% in Luxembourg. For exceptional purchases, such as the purchase of a car or a house, this figure ranges from 1% in Ireland and Slovenia to 20% in Belgium.

Q6 Today, when you are buying things, do you tend to convert from the price in euro to the (OLD NATIONAL CURRENCY)? (%)



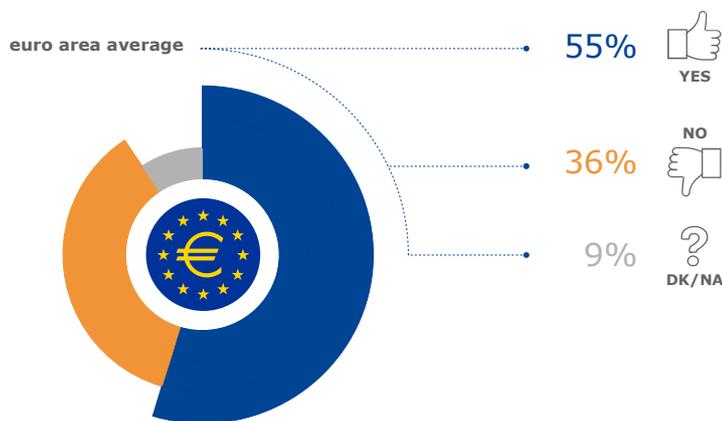
Base: all respondents (n=17,723) ▼▲ Evolution 03/2021-10/2019

2. The impact of the euro on prices and business

A majority (55%, +3 pp compared to October 2019) of citizens in the euro area believe that the euro has made **travelling easier and less costly**, compared to 36% who state that travelling is not easier or less costly since the introduction of the euro. 9% answer that they do not know whether the euro has made travelling easier and less costly.

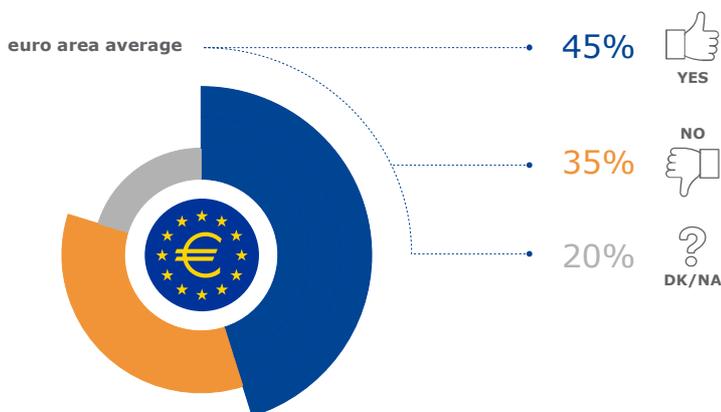
Compared to October 2019, euro-area citizens are now more likely to think the euro has **reduced banking charges** when travelling in different EU countries; this view is shared by 45% of respondents (+7 pp), while 35% think the euro has had no impact on banking charges. 20% are unable to form an opinion on that matter.

Q7 Do you think that the euro...? (% - euro area) Has made travelling easier and less costly



Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

Has reduced banking charges when travelling in different EU countries (e.g. when withdrawing money from an ATM)

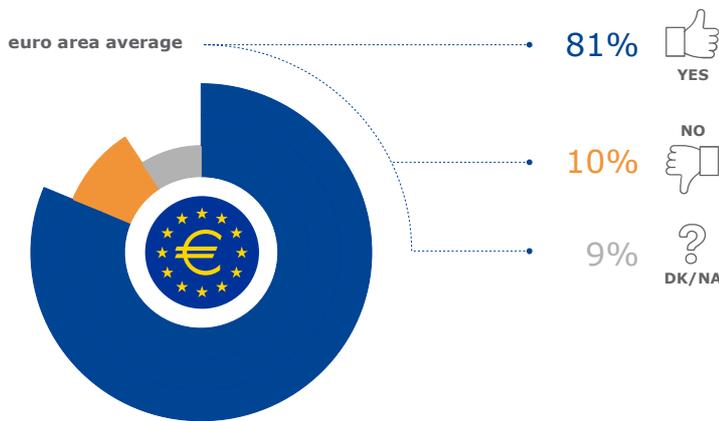


Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

When asked whether the euro has made **doing business in the EU easier**, 81% (+2 pp compared to October 2019) agree, while 10% hold an opposite view and 9% say that they do not know whether the euro has made doing business in the EU easier or not.

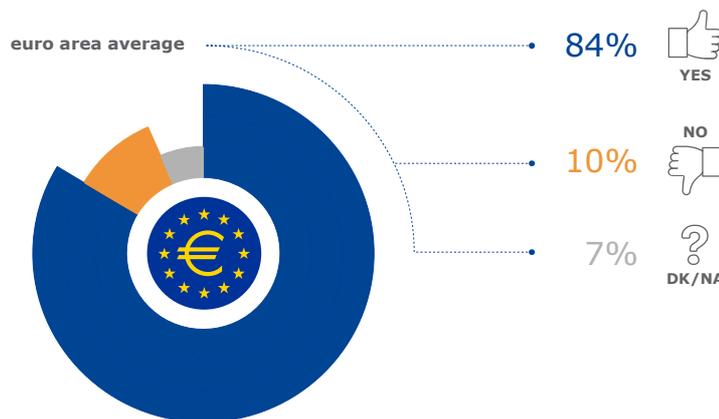
A similar share of 84% (+4 pp compared to October 2019) believe the euro has made it **easier to compare prices and shop in different countries** (including online), while 10% hold the opposite view and 7% say they do not know.

Q7 Do you think that the euro...? (% - euro area)
Has made it easier to do business in different EU countries



Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

Has made it easier to do business in different EU countries



Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

At least 80% of respondents in all but one of the euro-area countries think the euro has made it easier to compare prices and shop in different EU countries. The highest proportions saying this are found in Finland (96%; +8 pp compared to October 2019) and Ireland (95%), while the lowest proportion is found in Italy (73%).

The proportion of respondents who think the euro has made it easier to do business within the EU ranges from 68% in Lithuania (+10 pp compared to October 2019) to 90% in Ireland and 92% in Slovenia. The latter countries were also ranked highest in October 2019.

The notion that the euro has made travelling easier and less costly is the majority view in 17 euro-area countries, with the highest scores observed in Ireland (89%) and Malta (87%, +25 pp compared to October 2019). In Italy and France, less than half of respondents share this view, however, only in Italy, respondents who state that the euro has not made travelling easier or less costly outnumber those thinking the opposite (49% 'no' vs 40% 'yes').

The proportion of respondents who say they believe the euro has reduced banking charges when travelling ranges from 35% in Estonia to 69% in Malta. Caution is advised when interpreting the results of this question due to the high proportion of respondents who were unable to share their opinion; in 11 euro-area countries, at least a fifth of respondents are unable to say whether the euro has reduced banking charges when travelling in different EU countries.

An analysis of the proportion of 'yes' responses across all items in this question shows that Ireland and Malta are consistently found at the top of the country ranking, meaning that respondents in these countries tend to be the most likely to believe the euro has a positive impact on travelling, banking charges, doing business and shopping. Italy and Spain, on the other hand, are consistently found at the bottom of the country rankings and respondents in these countries tend to be among the least likely to believe the euro has a positive impact.

Q7 Do you think that the euro...? (%)

		Has made it easier to compare prices and shop in different EU countries, including online	Has made it easier to do business in different EU countries	Has made travelling easier and less costly	Has reduced banking charges when travelling in different EU countries
EURO AREA	 ----->	84▲4	81▲2	55▲3	45▲7
BE	 ----->	89▲3	88▲4	54▲4	52▲9
DE	 ----->	86▲6	84▲3	65▲4	48▲17
EE	 ----->	91▲5	75▲5	77▲5	35▲3
IE	 ----->	95▲1	90▼-2	89=	65▼-4
EL	 ----->	83▲5	76▲4	57▲8	46▲13
ES	 ----->	82▼-2	74▼-2	56▼-1	39▼-4
FR	 ----->	86▲4	87▲2	46▲3	41▲5
IT	 ----->	73▲3	73▲1	40▲2	43▲2
CY	 ----->	84▲5	79▲9	58▲3	49=
LV	 ----->	89▲5	80▲1	81▲1	47▲8
LT	 ----->	87▲13	68▲10	67▲8	42▲18
LU	 ----->	89▼-4	84▼-4	63▲27	50▲13
MT	 ----->	93▲10	86▲11	87▲25	69▲1
NL	 ----->	92▲4	87=	55▲2	58▲5
AT	 ----->	87▼-1	86▼-4	60▼-7	45▼-4
PT	 ----->	80=	86▲5	53▲2	47▲14
SI	 ----->	91▲6	92▲3	52▼-2	52▲10
SK	 ----->	89▲10	79▲9	58▲12	45▲10
FI	 ----->	96▲8	84▲8	78▲7	55▲12

Base: all respondents (n=17,723) ▼▲ Evolution 03/2021-10/2019

Socio-demographic considerations

Men are somewhat more likely than women to say that the euro has made it easier to compare prices and shop in different EU countries (85% vs 82%), made it easier to do business in the EU (85% vs 78%) made travelling easier and less costly (57% vs 53%) and has reduced banking charges (50% vs 41%).

Respondents aged 15-24 are the most likely to say the euro has made it easier and cheaper to travel (65%), while those aged 40-54 or 55 and over are the least likely to say so (both 52%). The youngest age group is also the most likely to say the euro has reduced banking charges (60%). Those aged 55 and over are overall the least likely to believe the euro has a positive impact on travelling, banking charges, doing business and shopping.

The later a respondent left full-time education (i.e. the higher educated), the more likely they are to believe the euro has a positive impact on travelling, banking charges, doing business and shopping. For example, 90% of respondents who ended their education at the age of 20 or older say the euro has made it easier to compare prices and shop in different EU countries, compared to 60% of respondents who ended their education before the age of 16.

Employees and the self-employed are more likely than manual workers and those not working to say the euro has made it easier and cheaper to travel, has reduced banking charges, made doing business in the EU easier and made comparing prices and shopping in different EU countries easier. For example, while one in two self-employed respondents and employees think that the euro has reduced banking charges, this view is shared by 39% of manual workers and inactive respondents.

Those who think having the euro is good for their country are more likely than those who do not to say that the euro has made travelling easier and less costly (64% vs 30%), has reduced banking charges (52% vs 30%), made it easier to do business in the EU (88% vs 65%) and made it easier to compare prices and shop in different EU countries (90% vs 67%). A similar pattern is observed when comparing respondents who think having the euro is good vs bad for the EU.

Q7 Do you think that the euro...? (% - euro area)

	Has made it easier to compare prices and shop in different EU countries	Has made it easier to do business in different EU countries	Has made travelling easier and less costly	Has reduced banking charges when travelling in different EU countries
Euro area	84	81	55	45
 Gender				
Men	85	85	57	50
Women	82	78	53	41
 Age				
15-24	89	84	65	60
25-39	89	86	57	54
40-54	86	82	52	46
55+	78	78	52	36
 Education				
Up to 15	60	60	38	25
16-19	78	76	47	37
20+	90	87	60	51
Still studying	91	88	68	61
 Occupation				
Self-employed	89	87	59	50
Employee	90	86	57	51
Manual worker	74	71	48	39
Not working	78	77	52	39
 Having the euro for the country				
A good thing	90	88	64	52
A bad thing	67	65	30	30
Having the euro for the EU				
A good thing	89	86	61	49
A bad thing	65	61	29	30

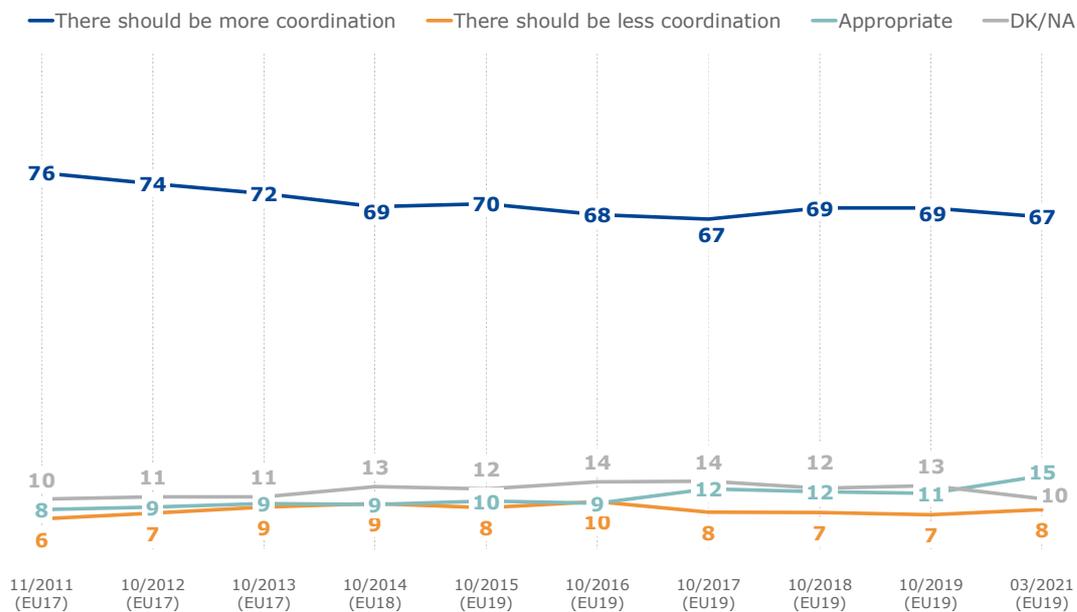
Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

3. Economic policy coordination in the euro area

When asked about their views on whether euro-area coordination of economic policy, including budgetary policies, is appropriate, 67% of respondents across the euro area say that there is a need for more coordination, while 8% answer there should be less.

Looking at the longer-term picture, the proportion thinking that there should be more coordination of economic policy among euro-area governments gradually decreased between 2011 and 2017, from 76% to 67%. In 2018 and 2019, 69% of respondents said there was a need for more coordination, but in the current Flash Eurobarometer survey, this rate is back at 67% – the level also observed in 2017.

Q8 Do you think that the degree to which economic policy, including budgetary policies, is coordinated in the euro area is appropriate? Should there be more or less coordination among euro-area governments? (% - euro area)

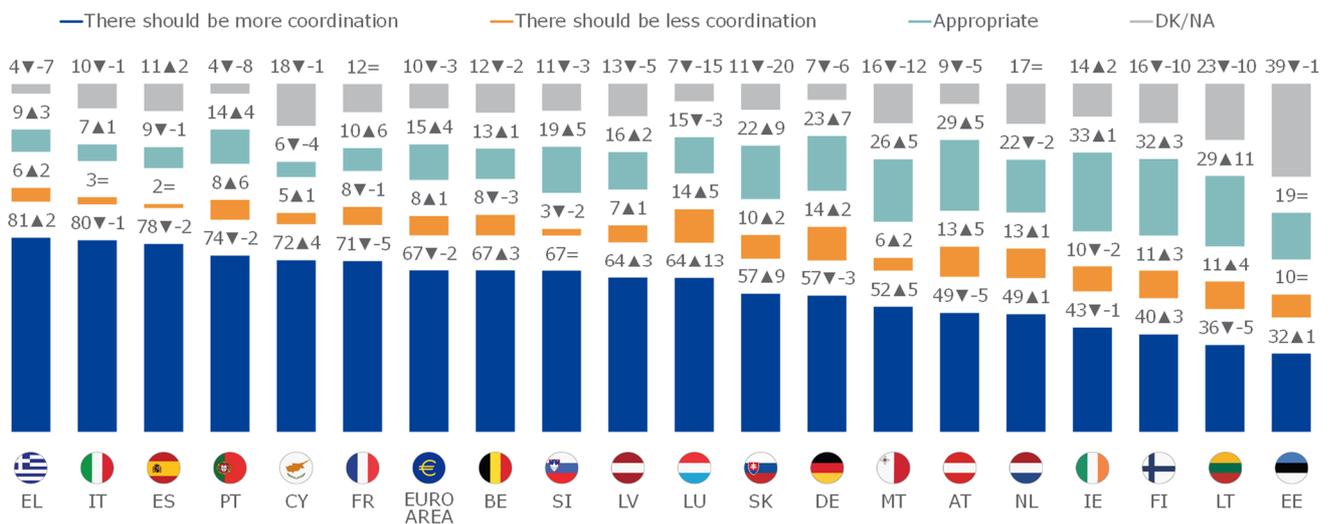


Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

The view that there should be more economic policy coordination among euro-area governments is held by about eight in ten respondents in Spain (78%), Italy (80%) and Greece (81%). This view is least commonly held in Estonia (32%), where a large share of respondents is unable to give their opinion (39%). In most countries, the proportion thinking there should be more economic policy coordination has not significantly changed compared to October 2019.

The view that the current level of economic policy coordination in the euro area is appropriate is most prevalent in Ireland (33%), Finland (32%), and Austria and Lithuania (both 29%). The proportion of respondents who think there should be less coordination remains below 10% in most countries, and ranges from 2% in Spain to 14% in Germany and Luxembourg.

Q8 Do you think that the degree to which economic policy, including budgetary policies, is coordinated in the euro area is appropriate? Should there be more or less coordination among euro-area governments? (%)



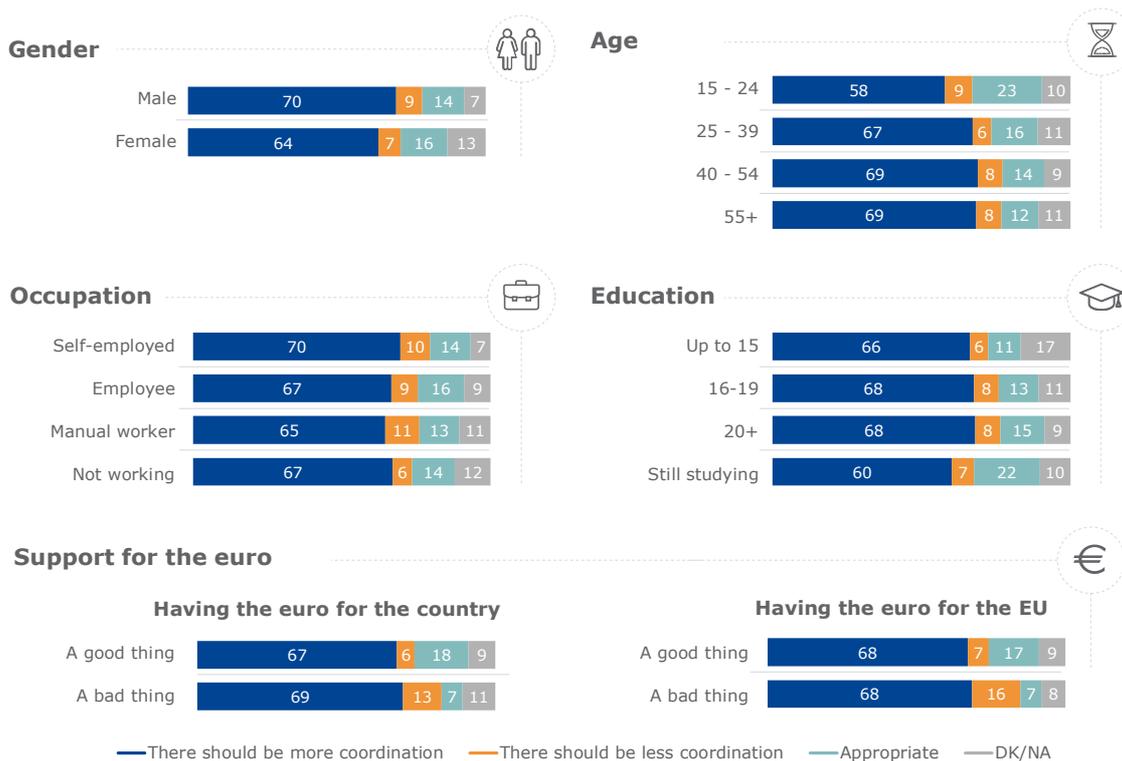
Base: all respondents (n=17,723) ▼▲ Evolution 03/2021-10/2019

The socio-demographic analysis reveals a range of variations among the different groups. Those who believe there should be more economic policy coordination among euro-area governments are more likely to be men (70%), rather than women (64%), and are more like to be aged 25 or over (67%-69% across the three age bands), rather than those aged 15-24 (58%).

Respondents who say the degree to which economic policy is coordinated in the euro area is appropriate are more likely to be 15-24 year-olds (23%, compared to 12% of those aged 55 or over), those who think having the euro is good for their country (18%, compared to 7% of those who say the euro is bad for their country) or who think having the euro is good for the EU (17%, compared to 7% of those who say the euro is bad for the EU).

Respondents who think having the euro is bad for their country, or for the EU, are overall the most likely to state that there should be less economic policy coordination among euro-area governments (13% and 16%, respectively, compared to 6%-7% of those saying the euro is a good thing).

Q8 Do you think that the degree to which economic policy, including budgetary policies, is coordinated in the euro area is appropriate? Should there be more or less coordination among euro-area governments? (% - euro area)



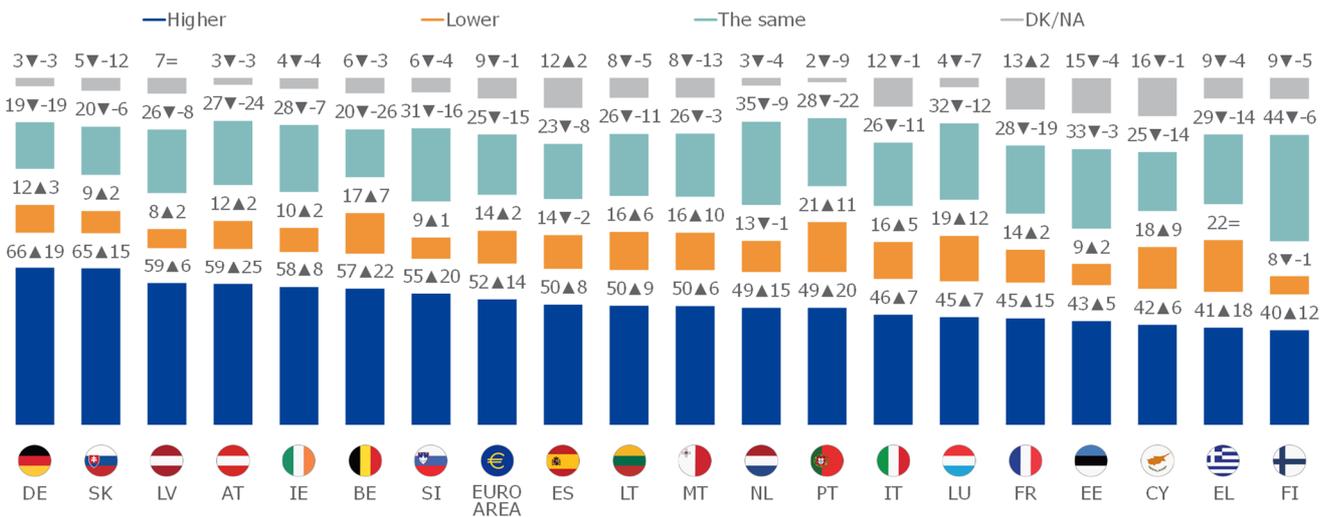
Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

4. Expectation for this year's inflation rate

Roughly one in two (52%) citizens in the euro area believe this year's inflation rate will be higher than last year's; this represents a 14 percentage-point increase over the proportion observed in October 2019. The proportion who think the inflation rate will stay the same is 25%, while 14% expect that the inflation rate will be lower.

The increase in pessimism about inflation is also reflected in the national results. The perception that the inflation rate will be higher this year compared to last is predominant in all but one of the euro-area countries; in Slovenia, Belgium, Ireland, Austria, Latvia, Slovakia and Germany, this view is expressed by a majority of respondents (from 55% in Slovenia to 66% in Germany). In Finland, respondents who think that this year's inflation rate will remain the same as last year's outnumber those thinking that inflation will increase (44% vs 40%, respectively).

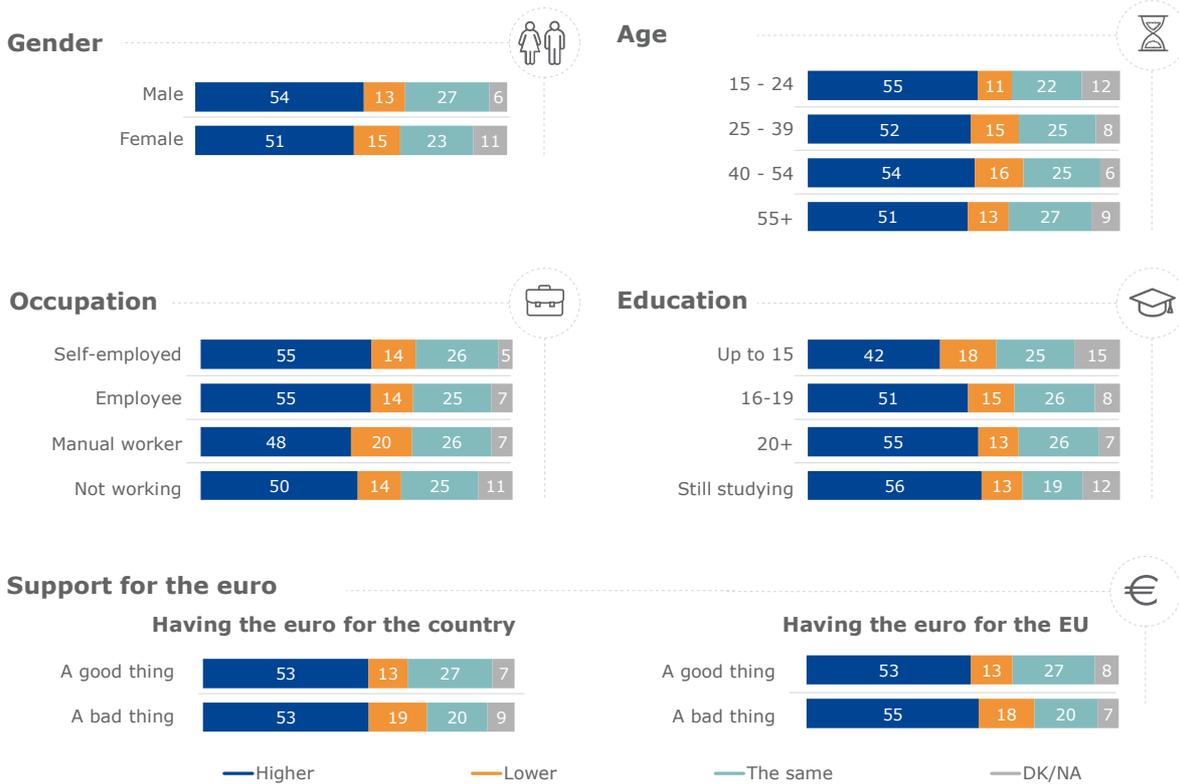
Q11 What is your expectation regarding the inflation rate this year? Compared to last year, will it be: (%)



Base: all respondents (n=17,723) ▼▲ Evolution 03/2021-10/2019

Those who think that the inflation rate will be higher this year compared to last are more likely to be men (54%), rather than women (51%); employees and self-employed (55%), rather than manual workers and those not active (48%-50%); those who completed their full-time education aged 20 or older (55%) and those still in full-time education (56%), rather than those who completed their education aged 15 or younger (42%).

Q11 What is your expectation regarding the inflation rate this year? Compared to last year, will it be: (% - euro area)



Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

Section 4: Economic reforms and other sectorial reforms to boost growth and employment

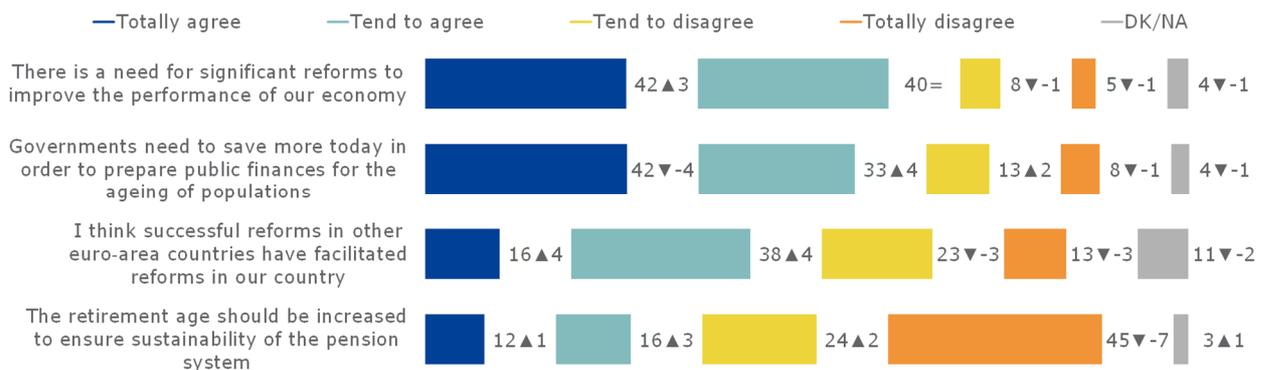
This final chapter examines euro-area citizens' views on the need for economic reforms; and the importance of introducing reforms in specific public services and utility services to help increase growth and employment.

1. Economic reforms in euro-area countries

Interviewers explained to respondents that governments in all euro-area countries are implementing various economic reforms to the labour market, pensions, social security, and the healthcare and education systems. Interviewers then read out a series of four statements about such reforms and asked respondents to what extent they agreed or disagreed with each.

The results of this question show there is continued support across the euro area for economic reforms to improve the performance of national economies. As in 2019, about eight in ten respondents agree there is a need for significant reforms to improve the performance of their national economy, with 42% 'totally' agreeing with this statement (+3 pp).

Q9 Governments in all euro-area countries are implementing various economic reforms, such as labour market reforms, pension, social security or healthcare reforms, reforms of education systems or market reforms to open sectors to competition. Would you agree or disagree with the following statements related to such reforms? (% - euro area)



Base: all respondents (n=17,723) ▼▲ Evolution 03/2021-10/2019

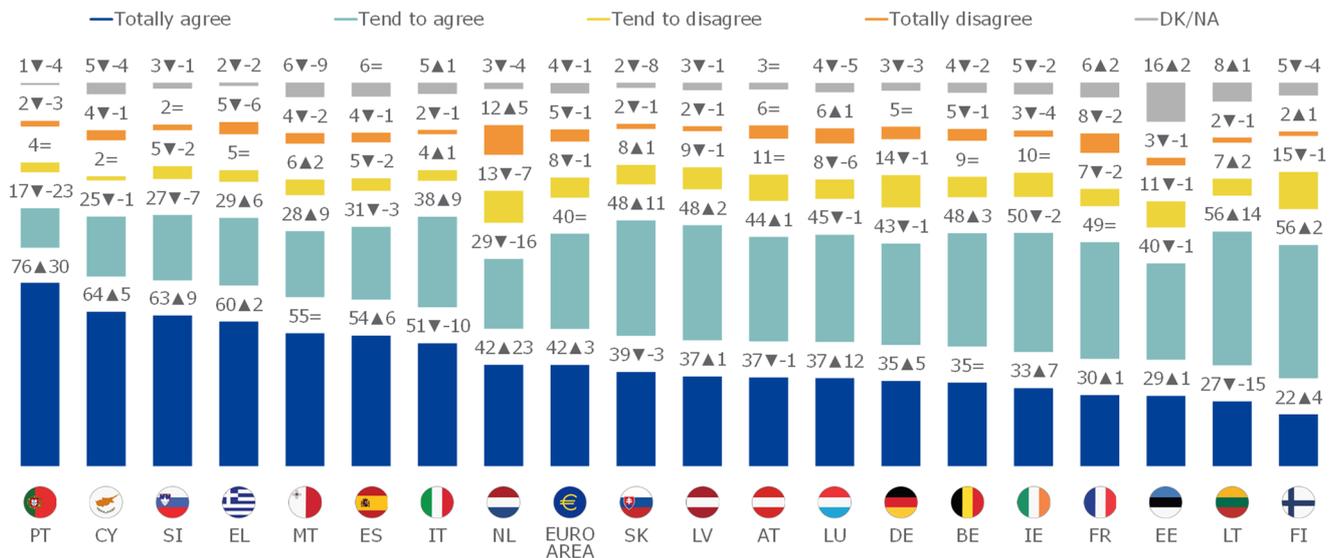
In October 2019, euro-area citizens were divided on whether successful reforms in other euro-area countries had facilitated reforms in their own country with 46% agreeing and 43% disagreeing. The current Flash Eurobarometer survey finds that the proportion agreeing that successful reforms in other euro-area countries facilitate reforms in their own country has increased to 53% (+8 pp), while the proportion disagreeing has decreased to 36% (-6 pp).

Three-quarters of respondents agree that governments need to save more today in order to prepare public finances for the ageing of populations, with 42% saying they 'totally agree' (-4 pp). Nonetheless, a majority of 69% disagree that the retirement age should be increased to ensure sustainability of the pension system, with 45% 'totally' disagreeing (-7 pp). In contrast, 28% agree with this statement.

The continued support for economic reforms to improve the performance of national economies is also reflected in the national results, with clear majorities across all euro-area countries agreeing there is a need for such reforms (between 70% in Estonia and 93% in Portugal). More variation is seen in the proportion 'totally agreeing', which ranges from 22% (+4 pp) in Finland to 76% in Portugal (+30 pp); in Portugal, compared to the October 2019, respondents are now more likely to 'totally agree' rather than to 'tend to agree'.

Q9.1 Governments in all euro-area countries are implementing various economic reforms, such as labour market reforms, pension, social security or healthcare reforms, reforms of education systems or market reforms to open sectors to competition. Would you agree or disagree with the following statements related to such reforms?

There is a need for significant reforms to improve the performance of our economy (%)



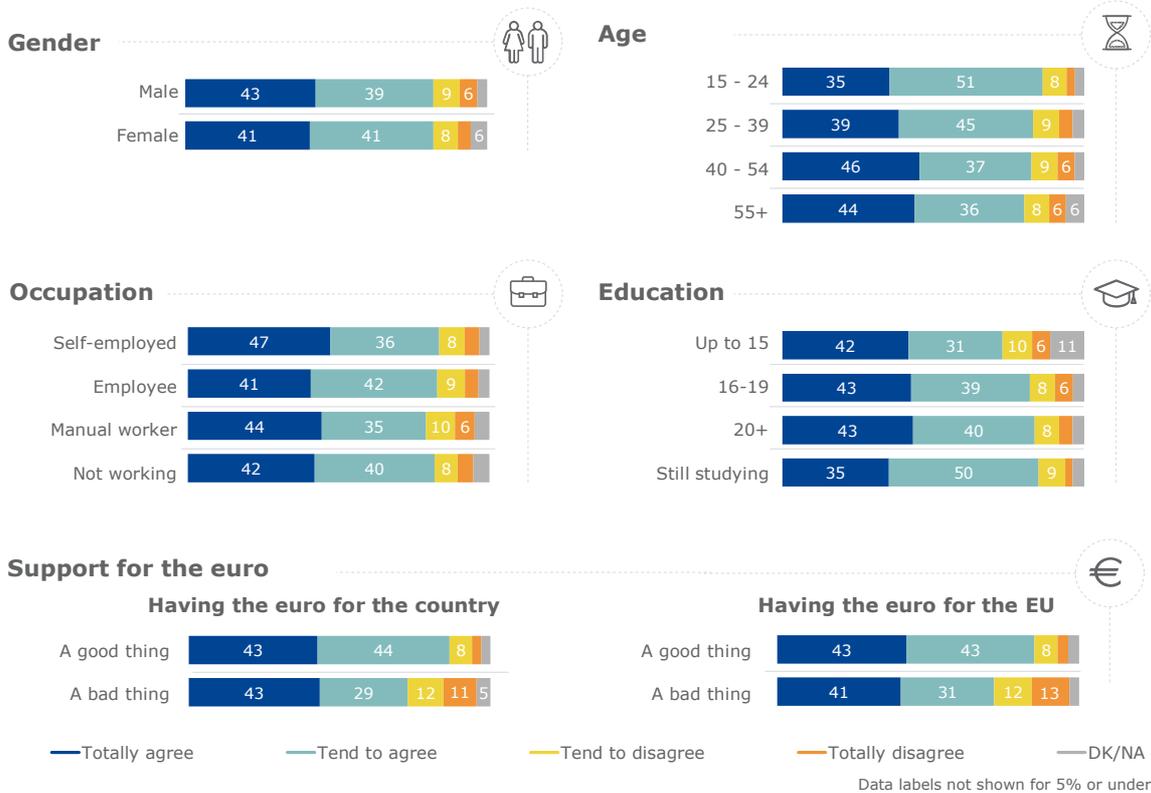
Base: all respondents (n=17,723) ▼▲ Evolution 03/2021-10/2019

The proportion agreeing that there is a need for significant reforms to improve the performance of their national economy is similar across most socio-demographic groups. Only among respondents who left school before the age of 16 and respondents who think the euro is a bad thing for their country or the EU, the level of agreement is below 80%.

Younger respondents, and those still in full-time education, are less likely to express strong agreement (35% 'totally agreed' vs 46% of 40-54 year-olds and 44% of over 54 year-olds).

Q9.1 Governments in all euro-area countries are implementing various economic reforms, such as labour market reforms, pension, social security or healthcare reforms, reforms of education systems or market reforms to open sectors to competition. Would you agree or disagree with the following statements related to such reforms?

There is a need for significant reforms to improve the performance of our economy (% - euro area)

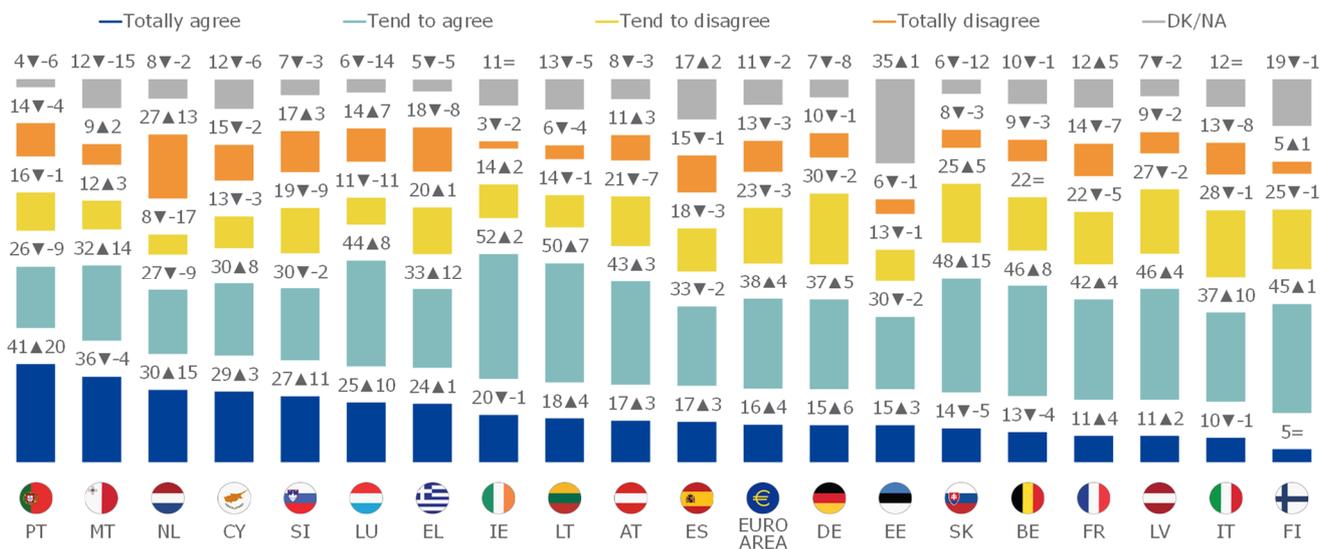


Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

Respondents in Portugal are also the most likely to ‘totally agree’ that successful reforms in other euro-area countries have facilitated reforms in their country (41%, +20 pp compared to October 2019), although the overall level of agreement is highest in Ireland. In eight euro-area countries, a least 60% of respondents agree that successful reforms in other euro-area countries have facilitated reforms in their country, with the highest proportions agreeing found in Ireland (72%) and Luxembourg (69%). By contrast, in Germany and Italy, four in ten respondents (40%-41%) say that reforms in other euro-area countries have not facilitated reforms in their own country.

Q9.2 Governments in all euro-area countries are implementing various economic reforms, such as labour market reforms, pension, social security or healthcare reforms, reforms of education systems or market reforms to open sectors to competition. Would you agree or disagree with the following statements related to such reforms?

I think successful reforms in other euro-area countries have facilitated reforms in our country (%)

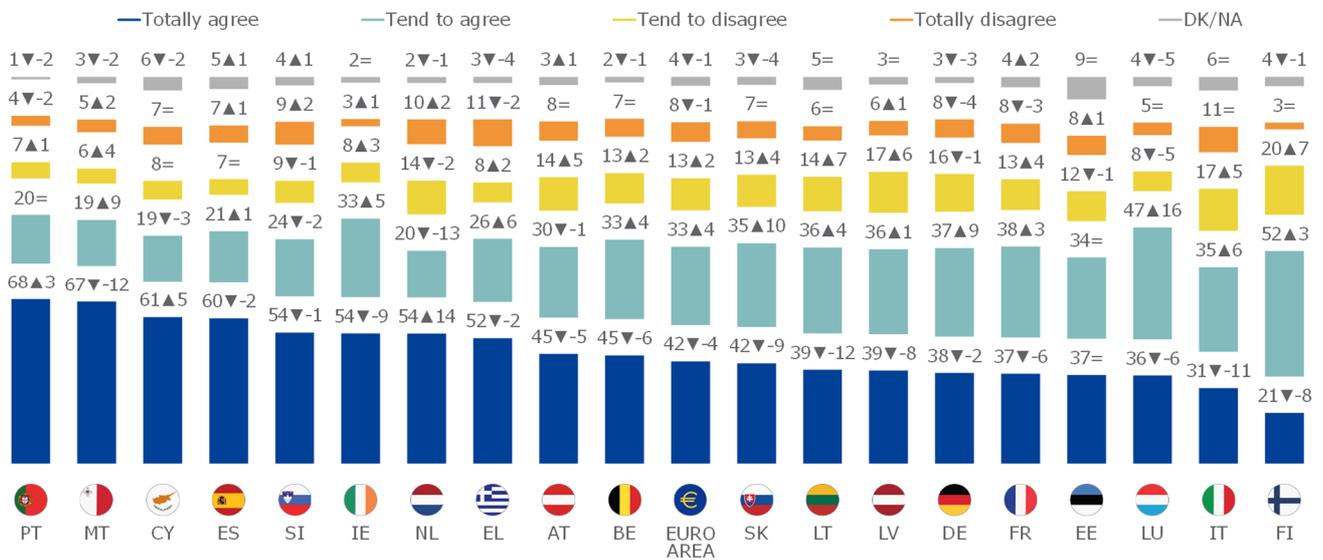


Base: all respondents (n=17,723) ▼▲ Evolution 03/2021-10/2019

In all but one of the euro-area countries, at least seven in ten respondents agree with the statement that governments need to save more today in order to prepare public finances for the ageing of populations. This view is most prevalent in Portugal (88%), Ireland (87%) and Malta (86%), and is least common in Italy (67%). The proportion 'totally agreeing' ranges from 21% in Finland (-8 pp compared to October 2019) to 68% in Portugal.

Q9.3 Governments in all euro-area countries are implementing various economic reforms, such as labour market reforms, pension, social security or healthcare reforms, reforms of education systems or market reforms to open sectors to competition. Would you agree or disagree with the following statements related to such reforms?

Governments need to save more today in order to prepare public finances for the ageing of populations (%)

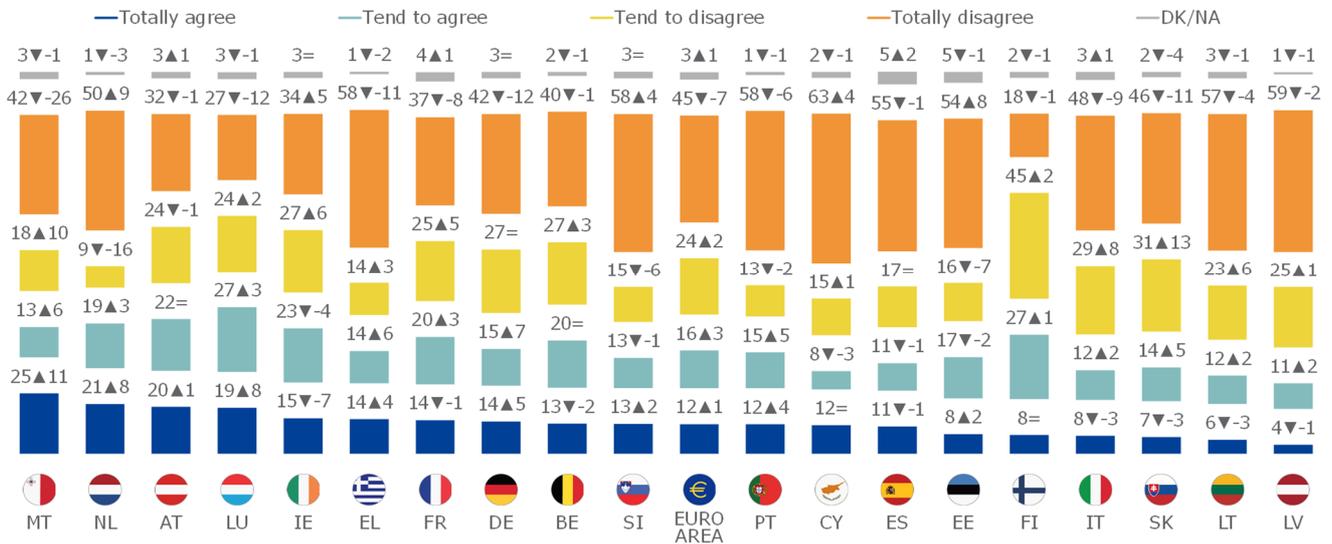


Base: all respondents (n=17,723) ▼▲ Evolution 03/2021-10/2019

Between 51% of respondents in Luxembourg and 85% in Latvia disagree with the statement that the retirement age should be increased to ensure sustainability of the pension system. The highest proportions 'totally disagreeing' are found in Cyprus (63%), Latvia (59%), and Greece, Slovenia and Portugal (all 58%). In Luxembourg, however, nearly half of the respondents (46%, +11 pp compared to October 2019) believe the retirement age should be increased to ensure the sustainability of the pension system.

Q9.4 Governments in all euro-area countries are implementing various economic reforms, such as labour market reforms, pension, social security or healthcare reforms, reforms of education systems or market reforms to open sectors to competition. Would you agree or disagree with the following statements related to such reforms?

The retirement age should be increased to ensure sustainability of the pension system (%)



Base: all respondents (n=17,723) ▼▲ Evolution 03/2021-10/2019

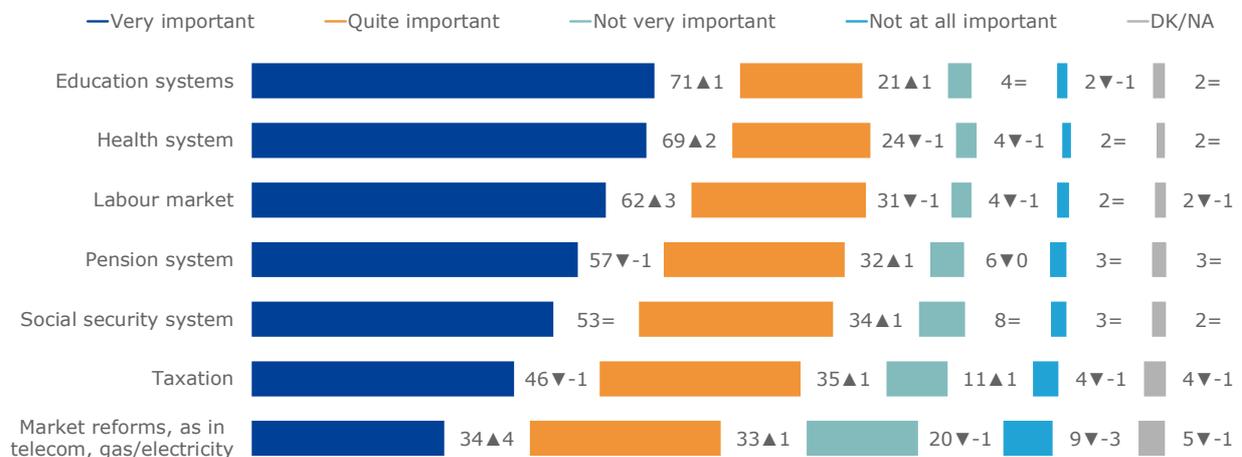
2. Evaluation of sectorial reforms

As in the previous Flash Eurobarometer surveys, respondents were asked how important it is in their opinion that their government introduces reforms in seven areas to help increase growth and employment. The current Flash Eurobarometer survey presents a very similar picture as in previous ones, with large majorities of respondents who believe it is important that their governments introduce reforms in the seven areas tested to help increase growth; few express doubts about the need for reforms. In the paragraphs below, the analysis focusses on the proportions who think that reforms are 'very important'.

The largest shares of euro-area citizens think that the education and health systems should be reformed to stimulate growth and employment (71% and 69%, respectively, consider this type of reforms 'very important').

62% of respondents think it is 'very important' that the labour market is reformed, and 57% say the same about the pension system. A slim majority (53%) state it is very important that the social security system is reformed. When it comes to taxation, 46% identify reforms as very important to stimulate growth and employment. Finally, one in three respondents (34%) believe it is very important that the government introduces market reforms, e.g. in telecom, gas/electricity.

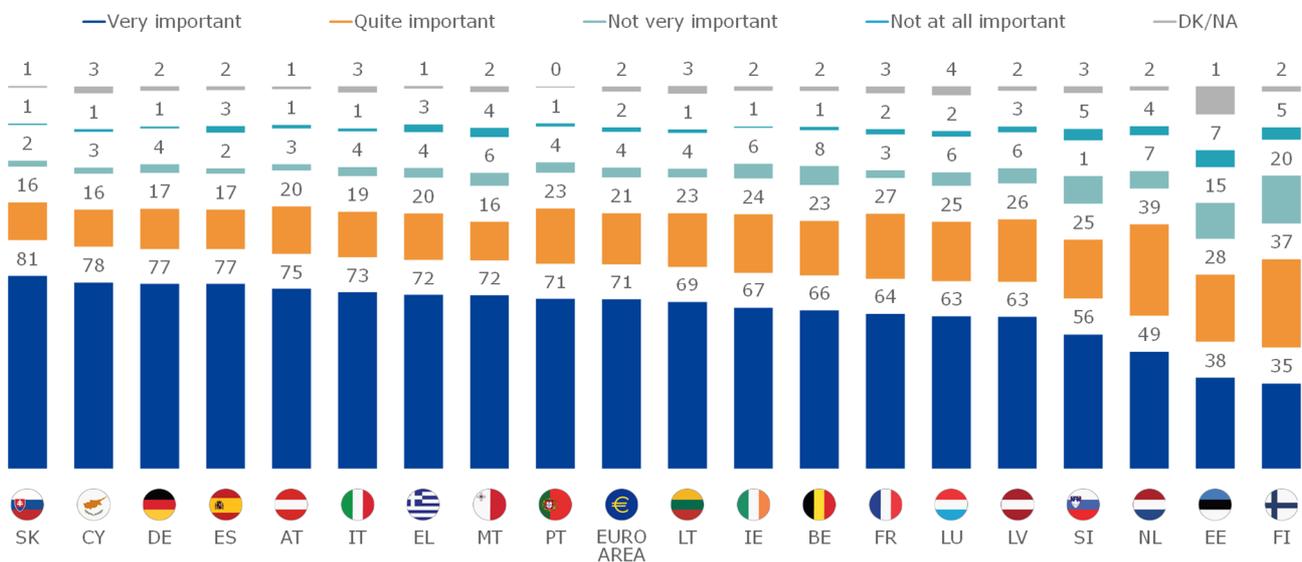
Q10 In your opinion, how important is it that the government in (OUR COUNTRY) should introduce reforms in each of the following areas to help increase growth and employment? (% - euro area)



Base: all respondents (n=17,723) ▼▲ Evolution 03/2021-10/2019

For each of the seven areas tested, a national-level analysis highlights some important differences between euro-area countries. For example, large shares of respondents in all euro-area countries believe it is important for their government to introduce reforms in education systems to help increase growth and employment. In 17 countries, more than eight in ten respondents share this opinion, with the highest proportions found in Slovakia (96%), Austria (95%), and Portugal and Germany (both 94%). This view is least widespread in Estonia (66%) and Finland (73%); in these countries, respondents are also by far the least likely to state that reforms of the education systems are 'very important' (35% and 38%, respectively)

Q10.7 In your opinion, how important is it that the government in (OUR COUNTRY) should introduce reforms in each of the following areas to help increase growth and employment?
Education systems (%)

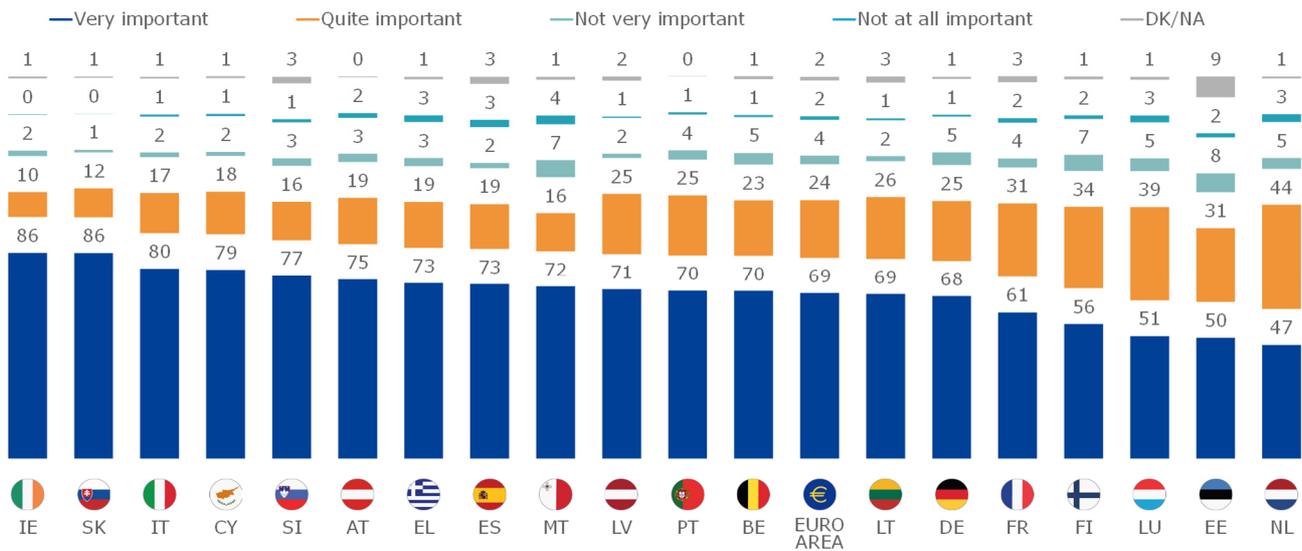


Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

With the exception of Estonia (82%) and Malta (88%), at least nine in ten respondents in each of the remaining euro-area countries think the health system should be reformed if their government wants to stimulate growth and employment. The view that such reforms are ‘very important’ is most frequently shared in Ireland and Slovakia (both 86%); in the Netherlands, Estonia and Luxembourg, not more than about one in two respondents share this view (between 47% and 51%).

Q10.2 In your opinion, how important is it that the government in (OUR COUNTRY) should introduce reforms in each of the following areas to help increase growth and employment?

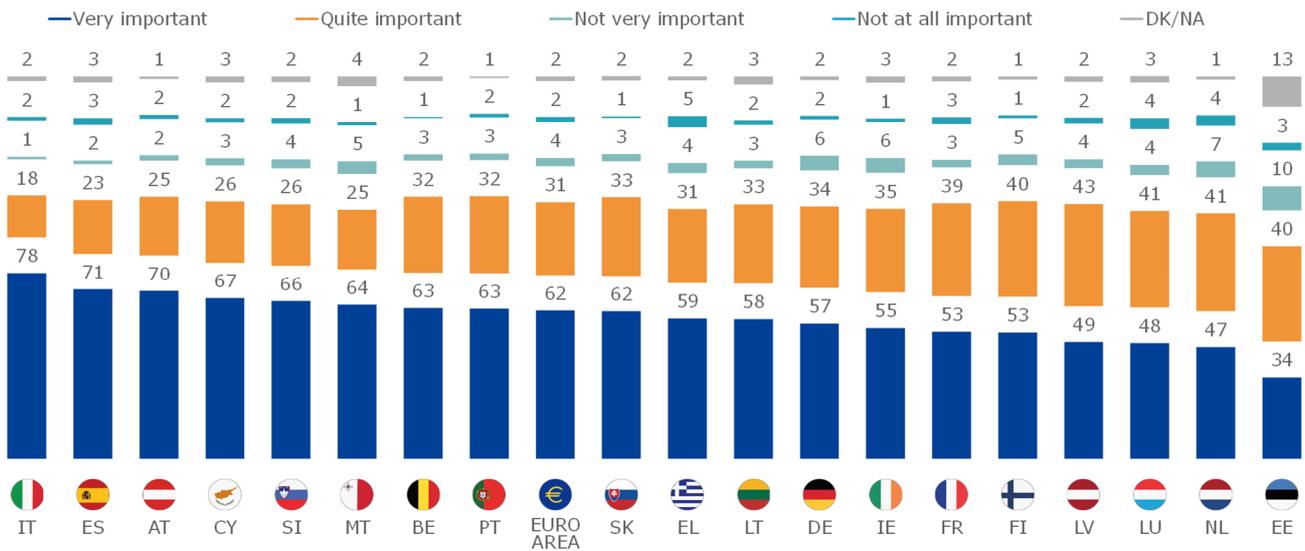
Health system (%)



Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

In 15 euro-area countries, at least 90% of respondents consider it important for their government to introduce reforms in the labour market to help increase growth and employment, with the highest proportions holding this view found in Italy (96%) and the lowest in Estonia (74%). The proportion stating that labour market reforms are 'very important' ranges from 34% in Estonia to 78% in Italy.

Q10.1 In your opinion, how important is it that the government in (OUR COUNTRY) should introduce reforms in each of the following areas to help increase growth and employment?
Labour market (%)

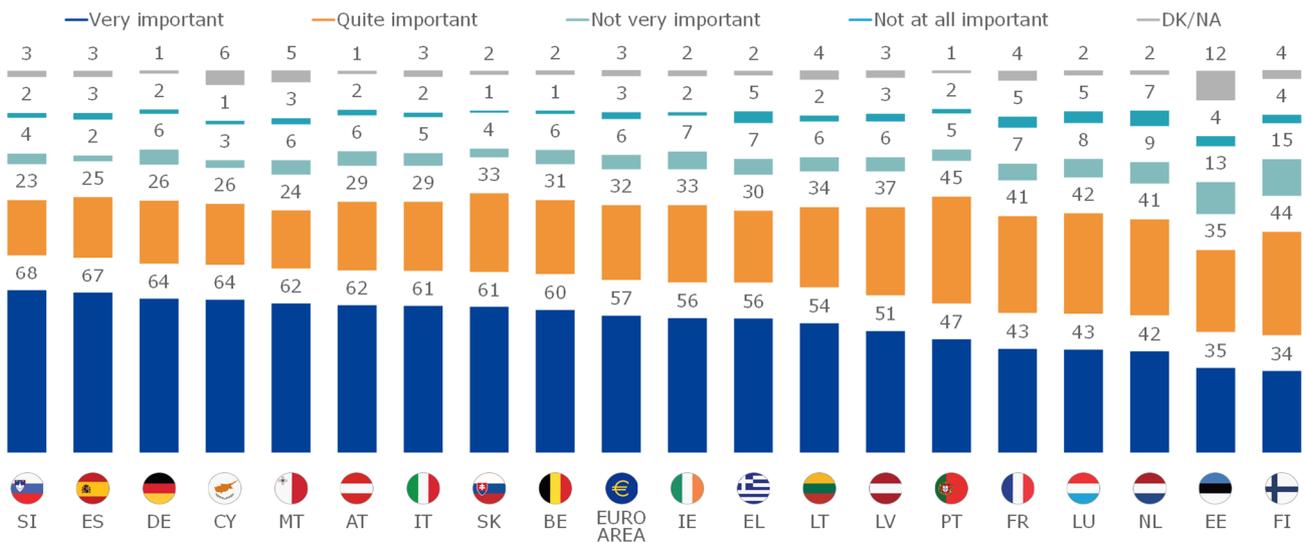


Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

At least seven in ten respondents in every euro-area country think it is important that their government introduces reforms in the pension system to help increase growth and employment, with the highest proportions found in Slovakia (94%), Portugal and Spain (both 92%) and the lowest – once again – in Estonia (70%). For reform of the pension system, the proportion selecting the ‘very important’ response ranges from 34% in Finland to 68% in Slovenia.

Q10.3 In your opinion, how important is it that the government in (OUR COUNTRY) should introduce reforms in each of the following areas to help increase growth and employment?

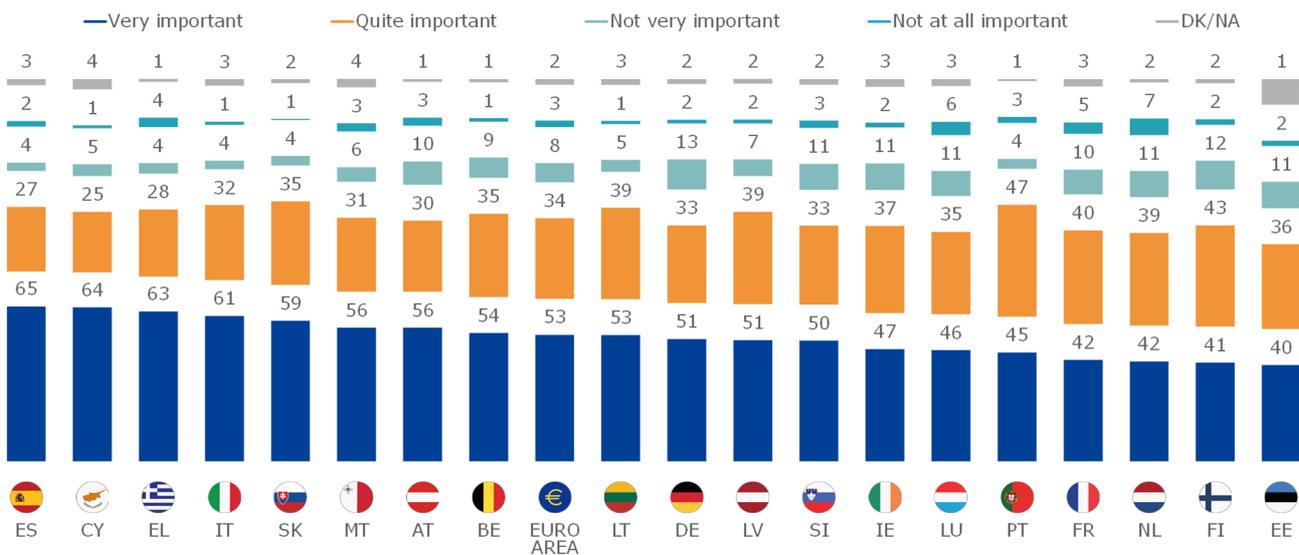
Pension system (%)



Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

At least three-quarters of respondents in each of the euro-area countries believe it is important their government introduces reforms in the social security system (from 76% in Estonia to 94% in Slovakia). In Estonia, Finland, the Netherlands and France, about four in ten respondents think it is 'very important' that reform are introduced in the social security system (40%-42%); the proportion identifying this type of reforms as 'very important' goes up to 64% in Cyprus and 65% in Spain.

Q10.4 In your opinion, how important is it that the government in (OUR COUNTRY) should introduce reforms in each of the following areas to help increase growth and employment?
Social security system (%)

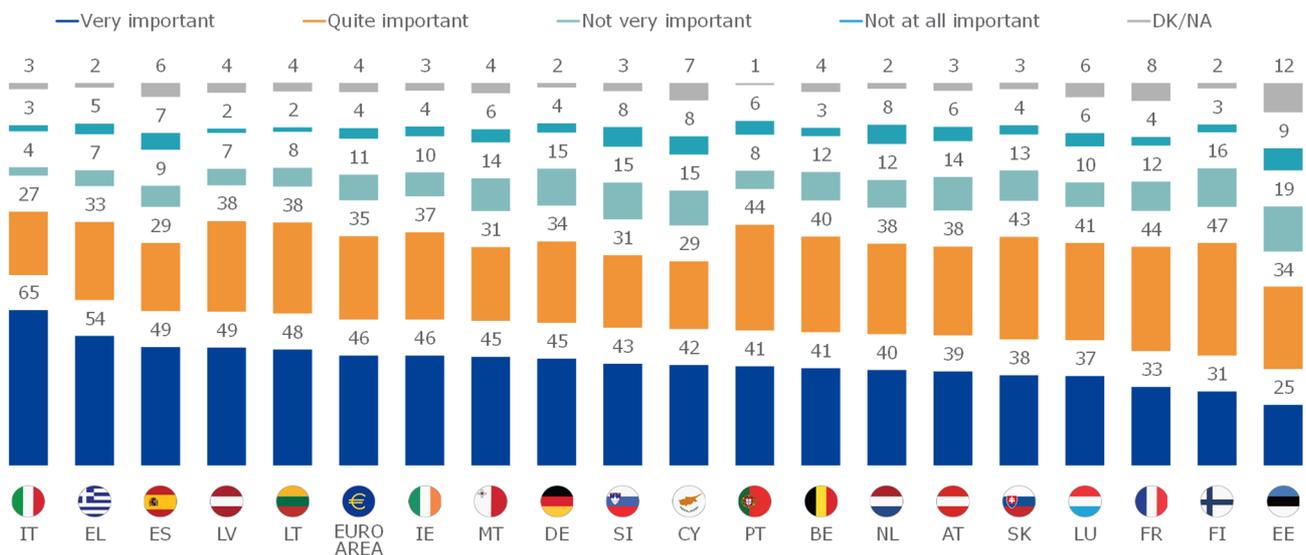


Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

In the 19 euro-area countries, at least six in ten respondents say it is important for their government to introduce reforms in taxation to help increase growth and employment. This opinion is most frequently shared by respondents in Italy (91%), Greece, Latvia and Lithuania (all 87%), and Ireland (86%) and least so in Estonia (60%), Cyprus (71%) and Slovenia (73%).

Estonia is also found again at the bottom of the country ranking for reforms in taxation. In this country, 25% say it is 'very important', and 34% that it is 'quite important', that their government introduces reforms in taxation to help increase growth and employment. In contrast, in Italy, 65% describe taxation reforms as 'very important' and another 27% reply these reforms are quite important.

Q10.6 In your opinion, how important is it that the government in (OUR COUNTRY) should introduce reforms in each of the following areas to help increase growth and employment?
Taxation (%)

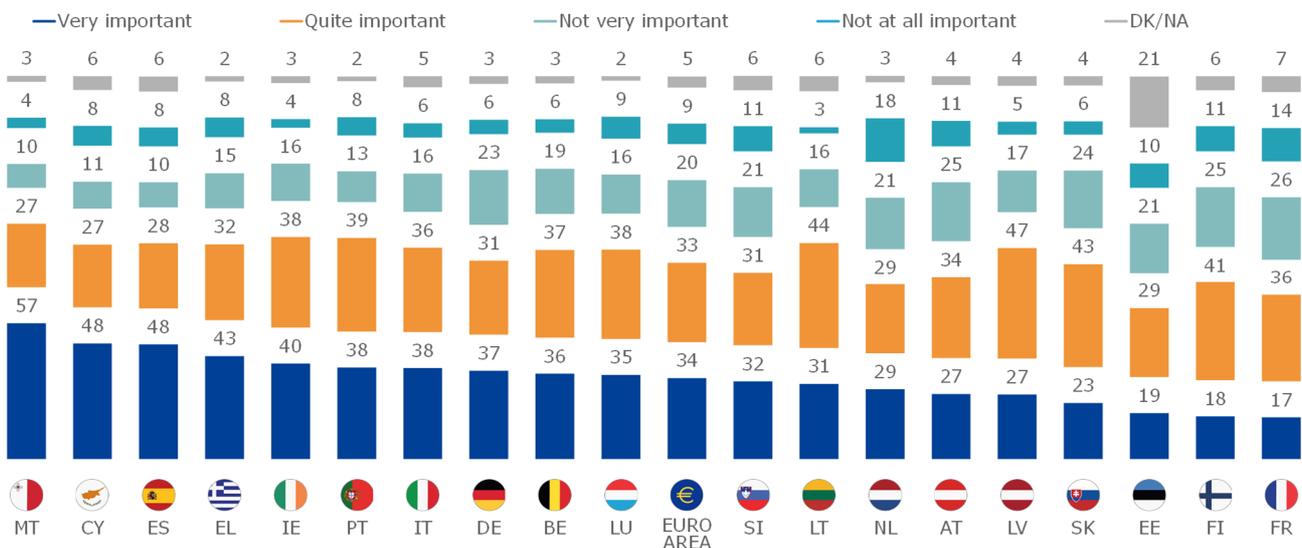


Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

Finally, a majority of respondents in 18 euro-area countries (and a relative majority in Estonia) believe it is important for their government to introduce market reforms, such as in telecom, gas/electricity (e.g. opening sectors for free competition, privatisation) to help stimulate growth and employment. This view is most shared by those surveyed in Malta, with 57% of 'very important' responses and 27% 'quite important'. In France and Estonia, respondents are least likely to think that this type of reforms are needed.

Q10.5 In your opinion, how important is it that the government in (OUR COUNTRY) should introduce reforms in each of the following areas to help increase growth and employment?

Market reforms, as in telecom, gas/electricity (e.g. opening sectors for free competition, privatisation) (%)



Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

The socio-demographic analysis for responses to this question reveals few significant differences among the groups. Among the most marked are:

- Women are more likely than men to mention reform of the social security system (89% vs 84%) and pension system (91% vs 87%).
- The younger the respondent, the more likely they are to mention the need for reforms in the education system (95% vs 91%). The youngest respondents, however, are less likely than those in older age groups to mention the need for a taxation reform if their government wants to stimulate growth and employment (76% vs e.g. 83% for 40-54 year-olds).
- Respondents who completed their full-time education at the age of 20 or older are less likely to think that the government should introduce market reforms than those who completed their full-time education aged 15 or younger (65% vs 74%). The lowest educated respondents are more likely to think that it will be important to introduce reforms in the social security system (91% vs 85% of the highest educated).

- Manual workers are the most likely to think that it is important that the government introduces reforms in the security system (90% vs 85%-86% of the self-employed and employees) and introduces market reforms (73% vs 66%-67% of the self-employed and employees).

Q10 In your opinion, how important is it that the government in (OUR COUNTRY) should introduce reforms in each of the following areas to help increase growth and employment?

Total 'Important' (% euro area)

	Health system	Labour market	Education system	Pension system	Social security system	Taxation	Market reforms, as in telecom, gas/electricity
Euro area	93	93	92	89	87	81	67
 Gender							
Men	92	92	91	87	84	80	66
Women	95	93	93	91	89	82	68
 Age							
15-24	93	93	95	90	85	76	66
25-39	94	93	93	88	84	80	65
40-54	93	94	92	89	87	83	69
55+	93	91	91	88	88	82	68
 Education							
Up to 15	95	91	89	90	91	79	74
16-19	93	92	92	90	89	81	69
20+	93	93	92	88	85	83	65
Still studying	95	95	96	90	86	77	67
 Occupation							
Self-employed	92	92	91	88	85	84	67
Employee	93	93	93	89	86	81	66
Manual worker	94	93	92	89	90	81	73
Not working	94	92	92	89	88	81	68

Base: all respondents (n=17,723)

Technical specifications

Between 22 and 29 March 2021, Ipsos European Public affairs carried out Flash Eurobarometer 488 at the request of the European Commission, Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs. It is a general public survey coordinated by the Directorate-General for Communication, "Media monitoring and Eurobarometer" Unit. Flash Eurobarometer 488 covers the population of EU citizens, residents in one of the 19 Member States of the euro area and aged 15 years and over.

All interviews were carried via Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI). In each country, respondents were called both on landlines and mobile phones. The telephone numbers sampled and contacted were generated via Random Digit Dialling (RDD) methods. The basic sample design applied in all countries is a random (probability) design. In households contacted via a landline phone, the respondent was drawn at random from all household members (aged 15 years and over) following the "most recent birthday rule".

		Number of interviews	Fieldwork dates	Population 15+ (absolute number)	Population 15+ (as % of euro area population)
EURO AREA		17,723	22.3.2021-29.3.2021	291,184,086	100%
BE		1,004	22.3.2021-27.3.2021	9,580,326	3.29%
DE		1,006	22.3.2021-28.3.2021	71,775,452	24.65%
EE		1,000	22.3.2021-28.3.2021	1,110,274	0.38%
IE		1,006	22.3.2021-27.3.2021	3,958,375	1.36%
EL		1,073	22.3.2021-28.3.2021	9,191,046	3.16%
ES		1,000	22.3.2021-26.3.2021	40,455,461	13.89%
FR		1,012	22.3.2021-27.3.2021	55,281,445	18.99%
IT		1,012	22.3.2021-28.3.2021	51,913,934	17.83%
CY		509	22.3.2021-26.3.2021	745,621	0.26%
LV		1,001	22.3.2021-28.3.2021	1,602,487	0.55%
LT		1,001	22.3.2021-28.3.2021	2,371,346	0.81%
LU		524	22.3.2021-28.3.2021	526,031	0.18%
MT		513	22.3.2021-26.3.2021	445,406	0.15%
NL		1,014	22.3.2021-28.3.2021	14,681,486	5.04%
AT		1,015	22.3.2021-27.3.2021	7,618,004	2.62%
PT		1,011	22.3.2021-28.3.2021	8,898,924	3.06%
SI		1,005	22.3.2021-26.3.2021	1,780,059	0.61%
SK		1,011	22.3.2021-29.3.2021	4,594,153	1.58%
FI		1,006	22.3.2021-28.3.2021	4,654,256	1.60%

Margin of error

Survey results are subject to sampling tolerances. The “margin of error” quantifies uncertainty about (or confidence in) a survey result. As a general rule, the more interviews conducted (sample size), the smaller the margin of error. A sample of 500 will produce a margin of error of not more than 4.4 percentage points, and a sample of 1,000 will produce a margin of error of not more than 3.1 percentage points.

The maximum margin of sampling error when comparing individual country results between surveys is ± 8.8 percentage points for countries with a sample size of 500 and ± 6.2 percentage points for countries with a sample size of 1,000.

Statistical margins due to sampling tolerances

(at the 95% level of confidence)

various sample sizes are in rows

various observed results are in columns

	5%	10%	25%	50%	75%	90%	95%
n=50	± 6.0	± 8.3	± 12.0	± 13.9	± 12.0	± 8.3	± 6.0
n=100	± 4.3	± 5.9	± 8.5	± 9.8	± 8.5	± 5.9	± 4.3
n=200	± 3.0	± 4.2	± 6.0	± 6.9	± 6.0	± 4.2	± 3.0
n=500	± 1.9	± 2.6	± 3.8	± 4.4	± 3.8	± 2.6	± 1.9
n=1000	± 1.4	± 1.9	± 2.7	± 3.1	± 2.7	± 1.9	± 1.4
n=1500	± 1.1	± 1.5	± 2.2	± 2.5	± 2.2	± 1.5	± 1.1
n=2000	± 1.0	± 1.3	± 1.9	± 2.2	± 1.9	± 1.3	± 1.0

Questionnaire

	ASK ALL	
Dx1	Do you travel at least once a year outside your country?	
	(ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
	Yes	1
	No	2
	Don't know	3
	<i>Trend FL481 Dx1</i>	
	ASK ALL	
Dx2	How has your household income changed since last year? Has it:	
	(READ OUT; ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
	Increased	1
	Decreased	2
	Stayed the same	3
	Don't know (DO NOT READ OUT)	4
	<i>Trend FL481 Dx2</i>	
	ASK ALL	
Dx3	What is your expectation regarding your household income this year? Will it:	
	(READ OUT; ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
	Increase	1
	Decrease	2
	Stay the same	3
	Don't know (DO NOT READ OUT)	4
	<i>Trend FL481 Dx3</i>	
	ASK ALL	
Q1	Generally speaking, do you think that...?	
	(READ OUT; ONE ANSWER PER LINE)	
Q1_1	Having the euro is a good or a bad thing for your country	
Q1_2	Having the euro is a good or a bad thing for the EU	
	(RESPONSE SCALE)	
	A good thing	1
	A bad thing	2
	Can't decide (SPONTANEOUS)	3
	Don't know (DO NOT READ OUT)	4
	<i>Trend FL481 Q1</i>	

ASK ALL

Q2 Does the euro make you personally feel more European than before or would you say that your feeling of being European has not changed?

(READ OUT; ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Yes, more European	1
Nothing has changed	2
Don't know (DO NOT READ OUT)	3

Trend FL481 Q2

ASK ALL

Q3a When you pay cash, would you say that it is: very easy, rather easy, rather difficult or very difficult to distinguish and handle...

(READ OUT; ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

Q3a_1 euro bank notes

Q3a_2 euro coins

(RESPONSE SCALE)

Very easy	1
Rather easy	2
Rather difficult	3
Very difficult	4
Neither easy nor difficult (SPONTANEOUS)	5
Don't know (DO NOT READ OUT)	6

Trend FL481 Q3a

ASK Q3b IF 'RATHER' OR 'VERY DIFFICULT' IN Q3a_2

Q3b With which of the following euro coins do you have particular difficulties?

(READ OUT; MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

1-cent euro coin	1
2-cent euro coin	2
5-cent euro coin	3
10-cent euro coin	4
20-cent euro coin	5
50-cent euro coin	6
1-euro coin	7
2-euro coin	8
Don't know (DO NOT READ OUT)	9

Trend FL481 Q3b

ASK ALL

Q4 Do you consider that there are too many or, on the contrary, not enough euro coins with different values or do you consider that there are just the right number?

(READ OUT; ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Too many	1
Not enough	2
Just the right number	3
Don't know (DO NOT READ OUT)	4

Trend FL481 Q4

ASK ALL

Q5 Are you in favour of abolishing 1- and 2-euro cent coins in the euro area and applying mandatory up- and down-rounding of the final sum of purchase in shops and supermarkets (i.e. prices can still be set at any cent amount but the final sum of purchase is rounded at the tills to 0 or 5 cent, depending on whether the sum is closer to 0 or to 5)?

(ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Yes	1
No	2
Don't know/No answer	3

Trend FL481 Q5

ASK ALL

Q6 Today, when you are buying things, do you tend to convert from the price in euro to the [NATIONAL CURRENCY]?

(READ OUT; ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Yes, for common purchases such as day-to-day shopping	1
Yes, for exceptional purchases such as the purchase of a car or a house	2
No, not at all	3
It depends (SPONTANEOUS)	4
You don't remember the value of the previous currency (SPONTANEOUS)	5
Don't know (DO NOT READ OUT)	6

Trend FL481 Q6

ASK ALL

Q7 Do you think the euro...?

(ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

Q7_1 Has made travelling easier and less costly

Q7_2 Has reduced banking charges when travelling in different EU countries (e.g. when withdrawing money from an ATM)

Q7_3 Has made it easier to do business in different EU countries

Q7_4 Has made it easier to compare prices and shop in different EU countries, including online

(RESPONSE SCALE)

Yes 1

No 2

Don't know 3

Trend FL481 Q7

ASK ALL

Q8 Do you think that the degree to which economic policy, including budgetary policies, is coordinated in the euro area is appropriate? Should there be more or less coordination among euro-area governments?

(READ OUT; ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Appropriate 1

There should be more coordination 2

There should be less coordination 3

Don't know (DO NOT READ OUT) 4

Trend FL481 Q8

ASK ALL

Q9 Governments in all euro-area countries are implementing various economic reforms, such as labour market reforms, pension, social security or healthcare reforms, reforms of education systems or market reforms to open sectors to competition. Would you agree or disagree with the following statements related to such reforms?

(READ OUT; ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

Q9_1 There is a need for significant reforms to improve the performance of our economy

Q9_2 I think successful reforms in other euro-area countries have facilitated reforms in our country

Q9_3 Governments need to save more today in order to prepare public finances for the ageing of populations

Q9_4 The retirement age should be increased to ensure sustainability of the pension system

(RESPONSE SCALE)

Totally agree 1

Tend to agree 2

Tend to disagree 3

Totally disagree 4

Don't know (DO NOT READ OUT) 5

Trend FL481 Q9

ASK ALL

Q10 In your opinion, how important is it that the government in [COUNTRY] should introduce reforms in each of the following areas to help increase growth and employment?

(READ OUT; ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

Q10_1 Labour market

Q10_2 Health system

Q10_3 Pension system

Q10_4 Social security system

Q10_5 Market reforms, as in telecom, gas/electricity (e.g. opening sectors for free competition, privatisation)

Q10_6 Taxation

Q10_7 Education systems

(RESPONSE SCALE)

Very important 1

Quite important 2

Not very important 3

Not at all important 4

Don't know (DO NOT READ OUT) 5

Trend FL481 Q10

ASK ALL

Q11 What is your expectation regarding the inflation rate this year? Compared to last year, will it be:

(READ OUT; ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Higher 1

Lower 2

The same 3

Don't know (DO NOT READ OUT) 4

Trend FL481 Q11

Data annex

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

DX1 Do you travel at least once a year outside your country?

	Yes	No	DK/NA
EURO AREA 	54▲6	46▼-6	0=
BE 	72▲7	28▼-6	0=
DE 	58▲7	42▼-6	0=
EE 	68▲4	31▼-5	1▲1
IE 	76▲4	24▼-3	0▼-1
EL 	50▲18	50▼-18	0=
ES 	39▲2	61▼-1	0▼-1
FR 	49▲8	51▼-8	0=
IT 	49▲9	51▼-9	0=
CY 	59▼-3	41▲2	0=
LV 	58▲1	42▼-1	0=
LT 	58▲6	42▼-7	0=
LU 	76▼-14	24▲14	0=
MT 	69▲13	31▼-13	0=
NL 	78▲2	22▼-2	0=
AT 	66▼-2	34▲1	0=
PT 	49▲8	51▼-8	0=
SI 	80=	20=	0=
SK 	76▲13	24▼-13	0=
FI 	55▲2	45▼-1	0=

Flash Eurobarometer 488 - The euro area / Fieldwork: 22 - 29/03/2021

Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

DX2 How has your household income changed since last year? Has it:

		Increased	Decreased	Stayed the same	DK/NA
EURO AREA		14▼-6	25▲6	59▲1	2▼-1
BE		15▼-6	21▲10	60▼-2	4▼-2
DE		20▼-15	18▲7	61▲10	2▼-1
EE		20▼-18	23▲11	56▲9	2▼-1
IE		14▼-10	24▲14	61▼-2	2▼-2
EL		7▼-4	52▲24	41▼-19	1▼-1
ES		7▼-5	34▲13	58▼-7	1▼-2
FR		15▼-1	26▼-3	56▲3	3▲1
IT		5▼-2	28▲5	66▼-1	2▼-1
CY		14▼-2	30▲9	54▼-6	2▼-2
LV		14▼-14	24▲9	60▲6	2▼-1
LT		21▼-6	25▲10	52▼-3	1▼-1
LU		14▼-17	21▲9	65▲13	1▼-5
MT		14▼-15	23▲16	61▲3	1▼-3
NL		26▼-2	20▲4	52▲1	2▼-3
AT		19▼-8	21▲6	60▲2	1=
PT		15=	20▲5	64▼-4	1▼-1
SI		17▼-4	24▲10	58▼-6	2=
SK		14▼-17	31▲15	54▲4	1▼-2
FI		15▼-7	18▲1	66▲8	0▼-1

Flash Eurobarometer 488 - The euro area / Fieldwork: 22 - 29/03/2021

Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

DX3 What is your expectation regarding your household income this year? Will it:

		Increase	Decrease	Stay the same	DK/NA
EURO AREA		18▼-3	14▲2	65▲1	4▼-1
BE		22▲1	10▲4	63▼-3	5▼-2
DE		18▼-3	13▲6	68▼-4	2=
EE		34=	8▲4	51▼-5	7▲1
IE		19▼-1	9▲1	68▲1	3▼-2
EL		20▼-1	26▲12	51▼-6	3▼-6
ES		19=	13▲2	62▼-1	6▼-1
FR		20▼-6	13▼-3	61▲7	6▲1
IT		11▼-3	17▲1	69▲6	4▼-3
CY		14▼-5	16▲6	62▲2	8▼-3
LV		20▼-3	11=	64▲3	5=
LT		25▼-7	11▲1	59▲9	6▼-3
LU		24▲1	14▲8	59▼-5	3▼-4
MT		19▼-11	13▲6	65▲16	3▼-12
NL		26▲4	13▼-2	59▲2	2▼-4
AT		18▼-9	15▲8	65▲2	2▼-1
PT		19▲1	13▲5	66▼-1	2▼-5
SI		19=	8=	69=	4▼-1
SK		22▼-9	16▲6	59▲7	4▼-4
FI		20▲3	7▼-5	71▲5	2▼-2

Flash Eurobarometer 488 - The euro area / Fieldwork: 22 - 29/03/2021

Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q1.1 Generally speaking, do you think that...? Having the euro is a good or a bad thing for your country.

		A good thing	A bad thing	Can't decide	DK/NA
EURO AREA		70▲5	22▼-4	5▼-2	4▲1
BE		61▼-1	30▲1	6▼-1	4▲2
DE		77▲6	19▼-3	3▼-1	1▼-2
EE		75▲6	8▼-3	13▼-2	4▼-1
IE		90▲3	4▼-3	4▲1	2=
EL		69▲4	26▲3	3▼-6	2=
ES		65▲1	23▼-2	6▼-1	7▲1
FR		67▲3	21▼-7	3▼-2	9▲5
IT		63▲9	29▼-7	4▼-4	4▲2
CY		62▲7	26▼-8	7▼-2	4▲2
LV		70▲6	14▼-6	7▼-4	9▲4
LT		70▲21	20▼-17	7▼-5	3▲1
LU		70▼-11	25▲13	3▼-3	2▲1
MT		79▲11	15▼-2	4▼-3	1▼-7
NL		71=	15▼-6	12▲6	3=
AT		73▼-3	21▲4	4▼-2	2▲1
PT		73▲6	20▼-1	5▼-3	2▼-1
SI		78▲7	15▼-4	7▼-2	1▼-1
SK		77▲8	18=	4▼-7	2▼-2
FI		84▲5	12=	3▼-3	1▼-2

Flash Eurobarometer 488 - The euro area / Fieldwork: 22 - 29/03/2021

Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q1.2 Generally speaking, do you think that...? Having the euro is a good or bad thing for the EU.

		A good thing	A bad thing	Can't decide	DK/NA
EURO AREA		80▲4	14▼-2	3▼-2	4=
BE		72▼-2	20▲3	4▼-2	3▲2
DE		84▲8	13▼-5	2▼-1	2▼-2
EE		84▲5	3▼-1	8▼-4	5=
IE		93▲4	3▼-2	2=	1▼-1
EL		77▲1	18▲5	3▼-3	3▼-3
ES		81▲3	9▼-3	3=	7▼-1
FR		79▲4	14▼-3	1▼-3	7▲2
IT		75▲6	18▼-3	3▼-3	4▲1
CY		75▲5	13▼-7	4▼-1	8▲2
LV		83▲1	5=	4▼-2	9▲1
LT		85▲9	5▼-1	5▼-5	5▼-2
LU		74▼-10	23▲13	2▼-2	1▼-1
MT		87▲6	6=	3▼-2	5▼-4
NL		68▼-8	26▲11	4▼-1	2▼-2
AT		80▼-1	15▲2	3▼-2	2▲1
PT		82▲1	10=	6=	2▼-1
SI		90▲9	5▼-4	4▼-3	1▼-2
SK		86▲5	8=	4▼-2	3▼-3
FI		86▲5	7▲1	5▼-4	1▼-2

Flash Eurobarometer 488 - The euro area / Fieldwork: 22 - 29/03/2021

Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q2 Does the euro make you personally feel more European than before or would you say that your feeling of being European has not changed?

	Yes, more European	Nothing has changed	DK/NA
EURO AREA 	30▲1	69▼-1	2▼-1
BE 	29▲8	69▼-7	2▼-2
DE 	31=	68▲2	1▼-2
EE 	36▲3	61▼-3	4=
IE 	38▲3	61▼-3	1=
EL 	28▲6	71▼-4	1▼-2
ES 	22▼-6	76▲6	2▲1
FR 	24▲2	74▼-3	2▲1
IT 	33=	65▲1	2▼-1
CY 	20▼-2	80▲2	1=
LV 	33▲4	66▼-3	1▼-1
LT 	39▲8	59▼-6	2▼-2
LU 	39=	60▲2	1▼-3
MT 	43▼-1	57▲4	1▼-2
NL 	43▲19	56▼-18	1▼-1
AT 	35▼-2	62▲1	3▲2
PT 	37▲9	61▼-8	2=
SI 	39▲3	58▼-6	3▲2
SK 	32▲4	66▼-3	2▼-2
FI 	30=	69▲2	1▼-2

Flash Eurobarometer 488 - The euro area / Fieldwork: 22 - 29/03/2021

Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q3a.1 When you pay cash, would you say that it is: very easy, rather easy, rather difficult or very difficult to distinguish and handle euro bank notes.

		Very easy	Rather easy	Rather difficult	Very difficult	Neither easy nor difficult	DK/NA
EURO AREA		63▲1	32▼-1	2=	1=	1=	1=
BE		67▲1	30▲2	1▼-1	0=	1▼-1	1=
DE		68▲2	27▼-3	2=	1▲1	1=	1=
EE		69=	25▲1	2▼-1	1=	2▼-1	1▼-1
IE		75▼-4	20▲2	2▲1	1▲1	1▲1	1▼-1
EL		74▲4	21▼-5	3▲1	1▲1	1=	1=
ES		63▲6	32▼-5	2▲1	0▼-1	2▲1	1▼-1
FR		53▼-3	41▲4	2▼-1	1=	1▼-1	3▲2
IT		61▼-2	36▲2	2▲1	1▼-1	1▼-1	0▼-1
CY		90▲4	7▼-3	3▲2	0▼-1	0▼-1	0=
LV		60▲4	37▼-3	1▼-1	0▼-1	0▼-1	2▲1
LT		56▼-6	39▲7	2▼-1	0▼-1	2▼-1	1=
LU		55▼-22	38▲20	6▲4	1▲1	1▼-1	0▼-2
MT		81▼-10	14▲7	3▲2	1▲1	0=	1=
NL		60▼-8	34▲6	4▲2	1▲1	1=	1▼-1
AT		73▼-7	23▲6	2▼-1	1=	1=	1▲1
PT		57▲37	39▼-37	3▲1	1=	1=	1=
SI		81▲3	15▼-4	1▼-1	0=	2▲2	0=
SK		55▼-11	39▲16	3▼-1	1▼-1	2=	1▼-2
FI		85▲3	14▼-1	1=	0=	0▼-1	1▼-2

Flash Eurobarometer 488 - The euro area / Fieldwork: 22 - 29/03/2021

Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q3a.2 When you pay cash, would you say that it is: very easy, rather easy, rather difficult or very difficult to distinguish and handle euro coins.

		Very easy	Rather easy	Rather difficult	Very difficult	Neither easy nor difficult	DK/NA
EURO AREA		48▲1	36=	12=	3=	1=	1=
BE		45▲1	40▲4	11▼-4	2▼-1	1=	0▼-1
DE		49▲4	33▼-3	15▼-2	3=	1=	0=
EE		43▲2	38▲1	14▼-2	2▲1	2▼-1	1=
IE		63▼-6	26▲3	8▲3	1=	1=	0▼-1
EL		69▲3	22▼-5	6▲2	2▲1	1=	1=
ES		56▲4	35▼-4	6▲2	1▼-1	2=	0▼-1
FR		33▼-5	42▲4	20▲3	4▼-1	0▼-1	2▲1
IT		48▼-4	40▲5	10=	2=	1=	0=
CY		79▲3	12=	7▼-3	2=	0▼-1	0=
LV		46▲4	38▼-3	12▼-1	2=	1=	1▲1
LT		39▼-6	41▲12	14▼-5	3▼-2	3▲1	1=
LU		38▼-21	49▲24	9▼-4	3▲3	1▼-1	0▼-1
MT		69▼-17	17▲9	9▲5	4▲3	0=	0=
NL		40▼-4	39▲4	11▼-6	8▲6	0=	1=
AT		59▲9	27▼-3	9▼-9	3▲1	1▲1	1▲1
PT		57▲39	34▼-40	6=	2▲2	1=	0=
SI		70▲8	22▼-3	6▼-5	1▼-1	2▲1	0=
SK		38▼-12	40▲15	16▼-1	3▼-1	2▼-1	1=
FI		76▲4	20▼-2	3▼-1	0=	0=	1▼-1

Flash Eurobarometer 488 - The euro area / Fieldwork: 22 - 29/03/2021

Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q3b With which of the following euro coins do you have particular difficulties?

		1-cent euro coin	2-cent euro coin	5-cent euro coin	10-cent euro coin	20-cent euro coin	50-cent euro coin	1-euro coin	2-euro coin	DK/NA
EURO AREA		70▲5	77▲9	55▲2	33▼-2	37▼-3	22▼-4	9▼-5	8▼-4	1=
BE		68▼-17	65▼-18	58▲4	52▲24	45▲16	24▲6	12▲5	11▲2	1▼-2
DE		50▼-1	70▲5	52▼-2	34▼-3	45▼-5	32=	12▼-4	11▼-4	1=
EE		84▲10	87▲7	54▼-1	32▲8	27▼-7	24▼-5	15▲7	13▲10	3▲1
IE		54▼-2	56▲7	47▲1	47=	51▼-5	33▼-1	14▼-1	13▼-1	3▲3
EL		88▲17	88▲17	62▼-1	32▼-11	21▼-18	5▼-13	3▼-5	8▲2	3▲3
ES		56▲4	71▲12	36▼-4	26▼-6	34▼-8	11▼-11	6▼-13	8▼-15	1=
FR		81▼-2	86▲6	59▼-3	32▼-1	37▲6	21▲1	8▼-5	7▼-3	1▲1
IT		89▲10	85▲17	64▲9	31▲4	29▲5	14=	3▼-1	4=	1▼-2
CY		80▲3	79▲5	59▼-7	39▼-2	23▼-16	14▲1	5▼-4	5▼-1	7▲5
LV		81▲2	83▲2	54▼-3	28▼-1	27▲6	22▲2	9▼-1	5▼-3	1▼-1
LT		87▲1	91=	51▼-14	25▲7	19▼-4	11▼-5	8=	5▼-1	0▼-1
LU		77▼-3	67▼-17	31▼-36	21▼-7	12▼-9	13▼-6	6▼-6	9▲3	10▲9
MT		84▲51	83▲46	74▲51	28▼-20	34▼-47	20▼-34	2▼-4	2▼-1	2▲2
NL		64▲46	65▲44	56▲35	34▼-25	33▼-43	21▼-34	16▼-20	15▼-16	1▲1
AT		67▲1	65▼-9	49▼-4	32▼-8	29▼-20	16▼-12	8▼-1	4▼-3	2▲1
PT		78▲25	69▲9	54▲30	27▲11	23▼-21	22▼-14	6▼-8	4▼-10	2=
SI		72▼-2	77▲14	57▲16	22▼-6	23▼-2	12▲3	11▼-2	10▼-2	4▲2
SK		94▲6	91▲4	53=	16▼-1	16▼-2	7▼-3	6=	6=	1▼-2
FI		13▼-10	14▼-8	12▼-19	28▼-12	60▼-7	59▼-3	27▼-12	29▲6	9▲4

Flash Eurobarometer 488 - The euro area / Fieldwork: 22 - 29/03/2021

Base: n=2235 - % If 'Rather or very difficult' in Q3a2

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q4 Do you consider that there are too many or, on the contrary, not enough euro coins with different values or do you consider that there are just the right number?

		Too many	Not enough	Just the right number	DK/NA
EURO AREA		31▲1	4=	63=	3▼-1
BE		31▼-11	3▲1	64▲10	2▼-1
DE		29▼-1	3=	67▲3	1▼-2
EE		42▲4	1=	53▼-1	4▼-2
IE		27▲3	2=	70▼-2	1▼-1
EL		31▲4	9▲2	59▼-3	1▼-3
ES		27▲5	4▼-3	63▼-4	6▲1
FR		32▲4	2=	62▼-6	3▲2
IT		42▼-3	3▼-1	53▲5	2▼-1
CY		28▼-10	3▼-3	65▲12	4▲1
LV		22▲9	2=	75▼-6	2▼-2
LT		32▲13	1▼-1	63▼-10	4▼-2
LU		32▼-7	9▲7	57▲1	2▼-1
MT		22▼-6	3▼-2	72▲9	3▼-1
NL		18▲4	8▲4	72▼-8	3=
AT		39▼-9	4▲2	55▲5	3▲2
PT		26▲9	7▲4	66▼-10	1▼-2
SI		22▲3	4▲2	71▼-4	2=
SK		45▲6	1▼-2	50▲1	4▼-5
FI		8▲1	2=	89▲1	1▼-2

Flash Eurobarometer 488 - The euro area / Fieldwork: 22 - 29/03/2021

Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q5 Are you in favour of abolishing 1- and 2-euro cent coins in the euro area and applying mandatory up- and down-rounding of the final sum of purchase in shops and supermarkets (i.e. prices can still be set at any cent-amount but the final sum of purchase is rounded at the tills to 0 or 5 cent, depending on whether the sum is closer to 0 or to 5)?

	Yes	No	DK/NA
EURO AREA 	67▲2	31▼-2	3=
BE 	74▲1	23▼-2	3▲1
DE 	66▲3	32▼-2	2▼-1
EE 	71▲6	22▼-6	7=
IE 	83▲9	15▼-8	2▼-1
EL 	58▲11	40▼-7	2▼-3
ES 	58=	38▼-2	5▲2
FR 	63▲3	35▼-4	3▲1
IT 	76=	22▲1	2▼-1
CY 	66▲4	30▼-5	5=
LV 	57▲9	39▼-8	5▼-1
LT 	69▲9	26▼-8	5▼-1
LU 	63▼-4	36▲8	1▼-3
MT 	65▲3	31▲3	4▼-6
NL 	71▼-6	28▲8	1▼-1
AT 	63▼-1	35▲2	2▼-1
PT 	53▲3	44▼-2	3▼-1
SI 	62▼-4	35▲3	3=
SK 	84▲10	15▼-6	2▼-3
FI 	78▲3	17=	5▼-3

Flash Eurobarometer 488 - The euro area / Fieldwork: 22 - 29/03/2021

Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q6 Today, when you are buying things, do you tend to convert from the price in euro to the (NATIONAL CURRENCY)?

		Yes, for common purchases such as day-to-day shopping	Yes, for exceptional purchases such as the purchase of a car or a house	No, not at all	It depends	You don't remember the value of the previous currency	DK/NA
EURO AREA		13▼-4	10▼-3	74▲6	2=	2▲1	0▼-1
BE		15▼-6	20▼-4	61▲11	2=	2▲1	0▼-1
DE		14▼-1	9▼-7	75▲10	1▼-1	1▼-1	0=
EE		3▼-1	5▼-3	89▲6	3▼-2	0=	0=
IE		2▼-2	1▼-5	94▲9	0▼-2	2▲2	0▼-1
EL		9▼-4	5▲1	83▲3	2▲1	1▼-1	0=
ES		10▼-1	11▼-3	74▲4	3▲1	1▲1	0▼-2
FR		17▼-7	12▲1	67▲6	1=	4▲3	0▼-2
IT		14▼-5	8▲1	76▲4	2=	1=	0=
CY		5▼-5	6▲1	83▼-1	5▲4	1▲1	0▼-1
LV		3▼-2	4▼-1	93▲6	1▼-3	0=	0=
LT		9▼-8	11=	74▲10	6▼-2	0=	0=
LU		21▲9	9▼-9	62▼-2	6▲2	3▲1	1=
MT		8▼-6	11▼-3	76▲6	4▲3	1=	0=
NL		3▼-8	16▲2	75▲5	4=	2▲1	0=
AT		15▲4	9▼-15	68▲6	5▲3	1▲1	1▲1
PT		12▼-7	4▼-5	75▲5	5▲4	3▲3	1=
SI		4▼-2	1▼-4	90▲5	3=	1▲1	0=
SK		14▼-3	12▲1	72▲5	2▼-2	0=	0▼-1
FI		3▼-2	8▼-2	85▲3	3=	1▲1	0=

Flash Eurobarometer 488 - The euro area / Fieldwork: 22 - 29/03/2021

Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Q7.1 Do you think that the euro...? Has made travelling easier and less costly

	Yes	No	DK/NA
EURO AREA 	55▲3	36▲1	9▼-3
BE 	54▲4	37▼-3	9=
DE 	65▲4	29▲5	6▼-9
EE 	77▲5	11=	13▼-6
IE 	89=	5▲1	6▼-1
EL 	57▲8	35▼-3	9▼-5
ES 	56▼-1	32▲3	12▼-2
FR 	46▲3	42▼-6	12▲3
IT 	40▲2	49▼-2	11▲1
CY 	58▲3	30=	12▼-3
LV 	81▲1	12▲2	8▼-3
LT 	67▲8	19▼-5	14▼-3
LU 	63▲27	33▼-9	4▼-18
MT 	87▲25	10▼-9	3▼-15
NL 	55▲2	38▲3	7▼-5
AT 	60▼-7	32▲12	8▼-4
PT 	53▲2	40▲7	7▼-10
SI 	52▼-2	39▲4	10▼-2
SK 	58▲12	34▼-2	8▼-10
FI 	78▲7	13▲1	9▼-7

Flash Eurobarometer 488 - The euro area / Fieldwork: 22 - 29/03/2021

Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q7.2 Do you think that the euro...? Has reduced banking charges when travelling in different EU countries (e.g. when withdrawing money from an ATM)

	Yes	No	DK/NA
EURO AREA 	45▲7	35=	20▼-7
BE 	52▲9	32▼-8	16▼-1
DE 	48▲17	34▲6	18▼-23
EE 	35▲3	12=	53▼-2
IE 	65▼-4	17▲3	18▲1
EL 	46▲13	33▲3	21▼-16
ES 	39▼-4	35▲3	26▲2
FR 	41▲5	38▼-9	21▲4
IT 	43▲2	37▲2	20▼-4
CY 	49=	25▼-1	26=
LV 	47▲8	21▼-2	32▼-6
LT 	42▲18	26▼-7	32▼-11
LU 	50▲13	43▲8	8▼-20
MT 	69▲1	19▲9	13▼-10
NL 	58▲5	30▼-4	12▼-1
AT 	45▼-4	38▲11	17▼-7
PT 	47▲14	40▲5	13▼-19
SI 	52▲10	31▼-6	17▼-4
SK 	45▲10	34▲1	21▼-11
FI 	55▲12	20▲1	26▼-12

Flash Eurobarometer 488 - The euro area / Fieldwork: 22 - 29/03/2021

Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Q7.3 Do you think that the euro...? Has made it easier to do business in different EU countries

	Yes	No	DK/NA
EURO AREA 	81▲2	10▲1	9▼-2
BE 	88▲4	8▼-1	4▼-3
DE 	84▲3	10▲4	6▼-6
EE 	75▲5	2=	24▼-5
IE 	90▼-2	2▼-1	8▲2
EL 	76▲4	11▲2	12▼-5
ES 	74▼-2	9=	17▲2
FR 	87▲2	8▼-3	5▲1
IT 	73▲1	14▲1	13▼-2
CY 	79▲9	7▼-5	14▼-3
LV 	80▲1	5▲1	15▼-1
LT 	68▲10	7▼-1	25▼-9
LU 	84▼-4	11▲5	5▼-1
MT 	86▲11	5▼-1	10▼-11
NL 	87=	7▲1	6▼-1
AT 	86▼-4	9▲3	6▲1
PT 	86▲5	7▼-4	7▼-1
SI 	92▲3	5=	4▼-3
SK 	79▲9	8▼-1	13▼-8
FI 	84▲8	4=	12▼-7

Flash Eurobarometer 488 - The euro area / Fieldwork: 22 - 29/03/2021

Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q7.4 Do you think that the euro...? Has made it easier to compare prices and shop in different EU countries, including online

	Yes	No	DK/NA
EURO AREA 	84▲4	10=	7▼-3
BE 	89▲3	8▼-1	3▼-1
DE 	86▲6	10▲1	5▼-8
EE 	91▲5	2▲1	7▼-6
IE 	95▲1	2▼-1	3=
EL 	83▲5	12▲2	5▼-7
ES 	82▼-2	8▲1	10▲1
FR 	86▲4	9▼-4	5=
IT 	73▲3	16=	11▼-3
CY 	84▲5	7▼-3	9▼-2
LV 	89▲5	5▼-2	6▼-3
LT 	87▲13	4▼-4	9▼-10
LU 	89▼-4	7▲4	4▲1
MT 	93▲10	3▼-1	4▼-9
NL 	92▲4	5▼-1	4▼-2
AT 	87▼-1	7=	6▲1
PT 	80=	15▲3	6▼-4
SI 	91▲6	5▼-2	5▼-4
SK 	89▲10	7▼-1	4▼-10
FI 	96▲8	2▼-3	3▼-5

Flash Eurobarometer 488 - The euro area / Fieldwork: 22 - 29/03/2021

Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q8 Do you think that the degree to which economic policy, including budgetary policies, is coordinated in the euro area is appropriate? Should there be more or less coordination among euro-area governments?

		Appropriate	There should be more coordination	There should be less coordination	DK/NA
EURO AREA		15▲4	67▼-2	8▲1	10▼-3
BE		13▲1	67▲3	8▼-3	12▼-2
DE		23▲7	57▼-3	14▲2	7▼-6
EE		19=	32▲1	10=	39▼-1
IE		33▲1	43▼-1	10▼-2	14▲2
EL		9▲3	81▲2	6▲2	4▼-7
ES		9▼-1	78▼-2	2=	11▲2
FR		10▲6	71▼-5	8▼-1	12=
IT		7▲1	80▼-1	3=	10▼-1
CY		6▼-4	72▲4	5▲1	18▼-1
LV		16▲2	64▲3	7▲1	13▼-5
LT		29▲11	36▼-5	11▲4	23▼-10
LU		15▼-3	64▲13	14▲5	7▼-15
MT		26▲5	52▲5	6▲2	16▼-12
NL		22▼-2	49▲1	13▲1	17=
AT		29▲5	49▼-5	13▲5	9▼-5
PT		14▲4	74▼-2	8▲6	4▼-8
SI		19▲5	67=	3▼-2	11▼-3
SK		22▲9	57▲9	10▲2	11▼-20
FI		32▲3	40▲3	11▲3	16▼-10

Flash Eurobarometer 488 - The euro area / Fieldwork: 22 - 29/03/2021

Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q9.1 Governments in all euro-area countries are implementing various economic reforms, such as labour market reforms, pension, social security or healthcare reforms, reforms of education systems or market reforms to open sectors to competition. Would you agree or disagree with the following statements related to such reforms? There is a need for significant reforms to improve the performance of our economy

		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	DK/NA
EURO AREA		42▲3	40=	8▼-1	5▼-1	4▼-1
BE		35=	48▲3	9=	5▼-1	4▼-2
DE		35▲5	43▼-1	14▼-1	5=	3▼-3
EE		29▲1	40▼-1	11▼-1	3▼-1	16▲2
IE		33▲7	50▼-2	10=	3▼-4	5▼-2
EL		60▲2	29▲6	5=	5▼-6	2▼-2
ES		54▲6	31▼-3	5▼-2	4▼-1	6=
FR		30▲1	49=	7▼-2	8▼-2	6▲2
IT		51▼-10	38▲9	4▲1	2▼-1	5▲1
CY		64▲5	25▼-1	2=	4▼-1	5▼-4
LV		37▲1	48▲2	9▼-1	2▼-1	3▼-1
LT		27▼-15	56▲14	7▲2	2▼-1	8▲1
LU		37▲12	45▼-1	8▼-6	6▲1	4▼-5
MT		55=	28▲9	6▲2	4▼-2	6▼-9
NL		42▲23	29▼-16	13▼-7	12▲5	3▼-4
AT		37▼-1	44▲1	11=	6=	3=
PT		76▲30	17▼-23	4=	2▼-3	1▼-4
SI		63▲9	27▼-7	5▼-2	2=	3▼-1
SK		39▼-3	48▲11	8▲1	2▼-1	2▼-8
FI		22▲4	56▲2	15▼-1	2▲1	5▼-4

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Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q9.2 Governments in all euro-area countries are implementing various economic reforms, such as labour market reforms, pension, social security or healthcare reforms, reforms of education systems or market reforms to open sectors to competition. Would you agree or disagree with the following statements related to such reforms? I think successful reforms in other euro-area countries have facilitated reforms in our country

		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	DK/NA
EURO AREA		16▲4	38▲4	23▼-3	13▼-3	11▼-2
BE		13▼-4	46▲8	22=	9▼-3	10▼-1
DE		15▲6	37▲5	30▼-2	10▼-1	7▼-8
EE		15▲3	30▼-2	13▼-1	6▼-1	35▲1
IE		20▼-1	52▲2	14▲2	3▼-2	11=
EL		24▲1	33▲12	20▲1	18▼-8	5▼-5
ES		17▲3	33▼-2	18▼-3	15▼-1	17▲2
FR		11▲4	42▲4	22▼-5	14▼-7	12▲5
IT		10▼-1	37▲10	28▼-1	13▼-8	12=
CY		29▲3	30▲8	13▼-3	15▼-2	12▼-6
LV		11▲2	46▲4	27▼-2	9▼-2	7▼-2
LT		18▲4	50▲7	14▼-1	6▼-4	13▼-5
LU		25▲10	44▲8	11▼-11	14▲7	6▼-14
MT		36▼-4	32▲14	12▲3	9▲2	12▼-15
NL		30▲15	27▼-9	8▼-17	27▲13	8▼-2
AT		17▲3	43▲3	21▼-7	11▲3	8▼-3
PT		41▲20	26▼-9	16▼-1	14▼-4	4▼-6
SI		27▲11	30▼-2	19▼-9	17▲3	7▼-3
SK		14▼-5	48▲15	25▲5	8▼-3	6▼-12
FI		5=	45▲1	25▼-1	5▲1	19▼-1

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Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

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The euro area

Q9.3 Governments in all euro-area countries are implementing various economic reforms, such as labour market reforms, pension, social security or healthcare reforms, reforms of education systems or market reforms to open sectors to competition. Would you agree or disagree with the following statements related to such reforms? Governments need to save more today in order to prepare public finances for the ageing of populations

		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	DK/NA
EURO AREA		42▼-4	33▲4	13▲2	8▼-1	4▼-1
BE		45▼-6	33▲4	13▲2	7=	2▼-1
DE		38▼-2	37▲9	16▼-1	8▼-4	3▼-3
EE		37=	34=	12▼-1	8▲1	9=
IE		54▼-9	33▲5	8▲3	3▲1	2=
EL		52▼-2	26▲6	8▲2	11▼-2	3▼-4
ES		60▼-2	21▲1	7=	7▲1	5▲1
FR		37▼-6	38▲3	13▲4	8▼-3	4▲2
IT		31▼-11	35▲6	17▲5	11=	6=
CY		61▲5	19▼-3	8=	7=	6▼-2
LV		39▼-8	36▲1	17▲6	6▲1	3=
LT		39▼-12	36▲4	14▲7	6=	5=
LU		36▼-6	47▲16	8▼-5	5=	4▼-5
MT		67▼-12	19▲9	6▲4	5▲2	3▼-2
NL		54▲14	20▼-13	14▼-2	10▲2	2▼-1
AT		45▼-5	30▼-1	14▲5	8=	3▲1
PT		68▲3	20=	7▲1	4▼-2	1▼-2
SI		54▼-1	24▼-2	9▼-1	9▲2	4▲1
SK		42▼-9	35▲10	13▲4	7=	3▼-4
FI		21▼-8	52▲3	20▲7	3=	4▼-1

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Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

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The euro area

Q9.4 Governments in all euro-area countries are implementing various economic reforms, such as labour market reforms, pension, social security or healthcare reforms, reforms of education systems or market reforms to open sectors to competition. Would you agree or disagree with the following statements related to such reforms? The retirement age should be increased to ensure sustainability of the pension system

		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	DK/NA
EURO AREA		12▲1	16▲3	24▲2	45▼-7	3▲1
BE		13▼-2	20=	27▲3	40▼-1	2▼-1
DE		14▲5	15▲7	27=	42▼-12	3=
EE		8▲2	17▼-2	16▼-7	54▲8	5▼-1
IE		15▼-7	23▼-4	27▲6	34▲5	3=
EL		14▲4	14▲6	14▲3	58▼-11	1▼-2
ES		11▼-1	11▼-1	17=	55▼-1	5▲2
FR		14▼-1	20▲3	25▲5	37▼-8	4▲1
IT		8▼-3	12▲2	29▲8	48▼-9	3▲1
CY		12=	8▼-3	15▲1	63▲4	2▼-1
LV		4▼-1	11▲2	25▲1	59▼-2	1▼-1
LT		6▼-3	12▲2	23▲6	57▼-4	3▼-1
LU		19▲8	27▲3	24▲2	27▼-12	3▼-1
MT		25▲11	13▲6	18▲10	42▼-26	3▼-1
NL		21▲8	19▲3	9▼-16	50▲9	1▼-3
AT		20▲1	22=	24▼-1	32▼-1	3▲1
PT		12▲4	15▲5	13▼-2	58▼-6	1▼-1
SI		13▲2	13▼-1	15▼-6	58▲4	3=
SK		7▼-3	14▲5	31▲13	46▼-11	2▼-4
FI		8=	27▲1	45▲2	18▼-1	2▼-1

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Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q10.1 In your opinion, how important is it that the government in (OUR COUNTRY) should introduce reforms in each of the following areas to help increase growth and employment? Labour market

		Very important	Quite important	Not very important	Not at all important	DK/NA
EURO AREA		62▲3	31▼-1	4▼-1	2=	2▼-1
BE		63▲2	32▲1	3▼-1	1▼-1	2▼-1
DE		57▲8	34▼-3	6▼-2	2▼-1	2▼-2
EE		34▲5	40▼-6	10▲2	3▲1	13▼-2
IE		55▲5	35▼-1	6▼-2	1▼-1	3▼-1
EL		59=	31▲2	4▲2	5▼-1	2▼-2
ES		71=	23▼-1	2=	3▲1	3▼-1
FR		53▲6	39▼-3	3▼-1	3▼-1	2▼-1
IT		78▼-5	18▲4	1=	2=	2=
CY		67▲4	26▼-2	3=	2=	3▼-3
LV		49=	43▲2	4▼-1	2=	2▼-2
LT		58▲2	33▲3	3▼-1	2▼-2	3▼-2
LU		48▲9	41▼-4	4▼-2	4▲1	3▼-3
MT		64▼-6	25▲9	5▲3	1▼-2	4▼-4
NL		47▲2	41=	7▼-2	4▲1	1▼-2
AT		70▲10	25▼-7	2▼-2	2=	1▼-1
PT		63▲5	32▼-3	3=	2=	1▼-2
SI		66▼-1	26▲1	4▲1	2=	2▼-1
SK		62▲1	33▲8	3▼-3	1▼-1	2▼-6
FI		53▲3	40▲1	5=	1=	1▼-4

Flash Eurobarometer 488 - The euro area / Fieldwork: 22 - 29/03/2021

Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q10.2 In your opinion, how important is it that the government in (OUR COUNTRY) should introduce reforms in each of the following areas to help increase growth and employment? Health system

		Very important	Quite important	Not very important	Not at all important	DK/NA
EURO AREA		69▲2	24▼-1	4▼-1	2=	2=
BE		70▼-1	23▲1	5▲2	1▼-1	1▼-1
DE		68▲4	25▼-4	5▲1	1=	1=
EE		50▲4	31▼-5	8=	2▲1	9▲1
IE		86▲1	10=	2▲1	0▼-1	1=
EL		73▲1	19▼-1	3▲2	3▼-1	1▼-1
ES		73=	19▼-1	2▼-1	3▲2	3▲1
FR		61▲2	31=	4▼-2	2▼-1	3▲1
IT		80▲8	17▼-3	2▼-3	1▼-2	1▼-1
CY		79▲6	18▼-2	2=	1=	1▼-4
LV		71▼-2	25▲3	2▼-1	1▼-1	2▲1
LT		69▲1	26▲3	2▼-1	1▼-2	3▼-2
LU		51▼-1	39▲8	5▼-4	3▲2	1▼-4
MT		72▼-7	16▲4	7▲3	4=	1▼-1
NL		47▼-16	44▲16	5▼-2	3▲3	1▼-1
AT		75▲4	19=	3▼-3	2=	0▼-1
PT		70▼-2	25▲2	4▲1	1=	0▼-1
SI		77▼-4	16▲2	3▲1	1▲1	3▲1
SK		86▲6	12▼-1	1▼-1	0▼-1	1▼-3
FI		56▼-5	34▲6	7▲1	2=	1▼-1

Flash Eurobarometer 488 - The euro area / Fieldwork: 22 - 29/03/2021

Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q10.3 In your opinion, how important is it that the government in (OUR COUNTRY) should introduce reforms in each of the following areas to help increase growth and employment? Pension system

		Very important	Quite important	Not very important	Not at all important	DK/NA
EURO AREA		57▼-1	32▲1	6=	3=	3=
BE		60▼-2	31▲1	6▲2	1▼-1	2▼-1
DE		64▲5	26▼-5	6▼-1	2=	1=
EE		35▲6	35▼-8	13▲2	4=	12=
IE		56▼-3	33▼-1	7▲3	2▲1	2=
EL		56▼-3	30▲3	7▲3	5▼-2	2▼-1
ES		67▼-4	25▲1	2▲1	3▲1	3▲1
FR		43▼-5	41▲4	7▼-1	5=	4▲2
IT		61▼-1	29▲4	5▼-1	2▼-2	3=
CY		64▲1	26▼-2	3▼-1	1▲1	6▲1
LV		51▼-3	37=	6▲1	3▲2	3▲1
LT		54▼-7	34▲8	6▲1	2=	4▼-1
LU		43▼-2	42▲9	8▼-2	5▲1	2▼-6
MT		62▼-16	24▲12	6▲2	3=	5▲2
NL		42=	41▼-1	9▼-1	7▲3	2▼-1
AT		62▲6	29▼-4	6▼-2	2▼-1	1=
PT		47▼-4	45▲4	5=	2▲1	1▼-1
SI		68▼-2	23▼-1	4▲2	2▲1	3=
SK		61▼-8	33▲11	4=	1=	2▼-3
FI		34▲1	44=	15▲2	4=	4▼-3

Flash Eurobarometer 488 - The euro area / Fieldwork: 22 - 29/03/2021

Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q10.4 In your opinion, how important is it that the government in (OUR COUNTRY) should introduce reforms in each of the following areas to help increase growth and employment? Social security system

		Very important	Quite important	Not very important	Not at all important	DK/NA
EURO AREA	 ----->	53=	34▲1	8=	3=	2=
BE	 ----->	54▼-3	35▲4	9▲1	1▼-1	1▼-2
DE	 ----->	51▲5	33▼-5	13=	2=	2=
EE	 ----->	40▲9	36▼-9	11=	2▲1	11▼-1
IE	 ----->	47▼-1	37▲2	11▼-1	2=	3▲1
EL	 ----->	63=	28▲2	4▲1	4▼-1	1▼-2
ES	 ----->	65▼-4	27▲2	4▲1	2▲1	3▲1
FR	 ----->	42▼-5	40▲3	10▲1	5▼-1	3▲2
IT	 ----->	61▲1	32▲3	4▼-1	1▼-2	3▼-1
CY	 ----->	64▲5	25▼-4	5=	1=	4▼-2
LV	 ----->	51▲5	39▼-3	7▼-1	2=	2▼-1
LT	 ----->	53▼-2	39▲6	5▼-1	1=	3▼-3
LU	 ----->	46▲7	35▲1	11▼-5	6▲1	3▼-5
MT	 ----->	56▼-19	31▲17	6▲2	3▲1	4▼-1
NL	 ----->	42▲3	39▼-2	11▼-2	7▲4	2▼-3
AT	 ----->	56▲10	30▼-4	10▼-3	3▼-1	1▼-2
PT	 ----->	45▼-7	47▲7	4=	3▲1	1▼-2
SI	 ----->	50▼-7	33▲4	11▲4	3=	2=
SK	 ----->	59▼-4	35▲9	4=	1▼-1	2▼-5
FI	 ----->	41▲1	43=	12▲2	2=	2▼-2

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Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q10.5 In your opinion, how important is it that the government in (OUR COUNTRY) should introduce reforms in each of the following areas to help increase growth and employment? Market reforms, as in telecom, gas/electricity (e.g. opening sectors for free competition, privatisation)

		Very important	Quite important	Not very important	Not at all important	DK/NA
EURO AREA		34▲4	33▲1	20▼-1	9▼-3	5▼-1
BE		36▼-3	37▲1	19▲2	6▲2	3▼-2
DE		37▲11	31▲2	23▼-5	6▼-6	3▼-3
EE		19▲7	29▼-6	21▼-1	10▲3	21▼-3
IE		40▼-3	38▲3	16▲1	4=	3▼-1
EL		43▲1	32▼-1	15▲4	8▼-1	2▼-3
ES		48▲4	28▼-1	10▼-3	8=	6▼-1
FR		17▲1	36=	26▲4	14▼-8	7▲2
IT		38▼-2	36▲2	16▲3	6▼-1	5▼-2
CY		48▲2	27▼-2	11▲2	8▲2	6▼-4
LV		27=	47▲1	17▲1	5=	4▼-1
LT		31▼-4	44▲9	16▲1	3▼-3	6▼-2
LU		35▲13	38▼-1	16▼-8	9▲3	2▼-8
MT		57▼-13	27▲11	10▲4	4▲1	3▼-3
NL		29▲14	29▼-8	21▼-11	18▲7	3▼-2
AT		27▲8	34▲6	25▼-4	11▼-8	4▼-2
PT		38▲6	39▼-7	13▼-1	8▲3	2▼-2
SI		32▼-3	31▼-6	21▲3	11▲5	6=
SK		23▼-10	43▲11	24▲7	6▲1	4▼-9
FI		18▲3	41▲1	25▲2	11▼-1	6▼-4

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Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q10.6 In your opinion, how important is it that the government in (OUR COUNTRY) should introduce reforms in each of the following areas to help increase growth and employment?
Taxation

		Very important	Quite important	Not very important	Not at all important	DK/NA
EURO AREA		46▼-1	35▲1	11▲1	4▼-1	4▼-1
BE		41▼-3	40▲1	12▲1	3▲1	4=
DE		45▲1	34▲2	15▲2	4▼-2	2▼-4
EE		25▲6	34▼-6	19▲2	9▲2	12▼-4
IE		46▼-2	37=	10▲1	4▲2	3▼-1
EL		54▼-2	33▲5	7▲2	5▼-2	2▼-3
ES		49▼-1	29▼-5	9▲3	7▲3	6▲1
FR		33▼-2	44▲1	12▲2	4▼-3	8▲2
IT		65▼-3	27▲5	4▼-1	3▼-1	3=
CY		42▼-6	29▲3	15▲5	8▲3	7▼-5
LV		49▲1	38▼-1	7=	2=	4=
LT		48▼-4	38▲8	8=	2▼-2	4▼-3
LU		37▲7	41▼-1	10▼-1	6▲2	6▼-6
MT		45▼-19	31▲13	14▲9	6=	4▼-3
NL		40▲7	38▼-6	12▼-4	8▲5	2▼-2
AT		39▲1	38=	14▼-1	6▲1	3▼-1
PT		41▲1	44▲2	8▼-1	6▲2	1▼-3
SI		43▼-9	31▲3	15▲4	8▲2	3=
SK		38▼-11	43▲13	13▲4	4▲1	3▼-7
FI		31▲1	47▲4	16▼-2	3=	2▼-3

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Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q10.7 In your opinion, how important is it that the government in (OUR COUNTRY) should introduce reforms in each of the following areas to help increase growth and employment?
Education systems

		Very important	Quite important	Not very important	Not at all important	DK/NA
EURO AREA		71▲1	21▲1	4=	2▼-1	2=
BE		66=	23▼-1	8▲2	1=	2▼-1
DE		77▲1	17▼-1	4▲1	1▼-1	2=
EE		38▲13	28▼-5	15▼-5	7▼-2	12▼-2
IE		67▼-5	24▲3	6▲2	1▼-1	2▲1
EL		72▲4	20▼-1	4▲2	3▼-2	1▼-3
ES		77=	17▼-1	2▲1	3▲1	2▼-1
FR		64▲5	27▲1	3▼-4	2▼-3	3▲1
IT		73▼-1	19▲2	4=	1=	3▼-1
CY		78▲8	16▼-5	3▲1	1=	3▼-4
LV		63▲10	26▼-8	6▼-2	3=	2▼-1
LT		69▲5	23▲1	4▼-1	1▼-2	3▼-2
LU		63▲4	25▲2	6▼-1	2▼-1	4▼-4
MT		72▼-11	16▲6	6▲3	4▲2	2=
NL		49▼-14	39▲15	7▼-2	4▲2	2▼-1
AT		75▲4	20▼-1	3▼-3	1=	1▼-1
PT		71▲6	23▼-7	4▲2	1=	0▼-1
SI		56▼-4	25▼-2	12▲5	5▲2	3▼-1
SK		81▲6	16=	2▼-1	1▼-1	1▼-5
FI		35▼-4	37▲3	20▲2	5▲1	2▼-3

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Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

Flash Eurobarometer 488

The euro area

Q11 What is your expectation regarding the inflation rate this year? Compared to last year, will it be:

		Higher	Lower	The same	DK/NA
EURO AREA		52▲14	14▲2	25▼-15	9▼-1
BE		57▲22	17▲7	20▼-26	6▼-3
DE		66▲19	12▲3	19▼-19	3▼-3
EE		43▲5	9▲2	33▼-3	15▼-4
IE		58▲8	10▲2	28▼-7	4▼-4
EL		41▲18	22=	29▼-14	9▼-4
ES		50▲8	14▼-2	23▼-8	12▲2
FR		45▲15	14▲2	28▼-19	13▲2
IT		46▲7	16▲5	26▼-11	12▼-1
CY		42▲6	18▲9	25▼-14	16▼-1
LV		59▲6	8▲2	26▼-8	7=
LT		50▲9	16▲6	26▼-11	8▼-5
LU		45▲7	19▲12	32▼-12	4▼-7
MT		50▲6	16▲10	26▼-3	8▼-13
NL		49▲15	13▼-1	35▼-9	3▼-4
AT		59▲25	12▲2	27▼-24	3▼-3
PT		49▲20	21▲11	28▼-22	2▼-9
SI		55▲20	9▲1	31▼-16	6▼-4
SK		65▲15	9▲2	20▼-6	5▼-12
FI		40▲12	8▼-1	44▼-6	9▼-5

Flash Eurobarometer 488 - The euro area / Fieldwork: 22 - 29/03/2021

Base: n=17723 - % Total

▼▲ Evolution 2021-2019 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 481, October 2019)

