

# Special Eurobarometer Wave EB91.3

Report

Food safety in the EU

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Survey requested by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)  
and co-ordinated by the European Commission, Directorate-General for  
Communication

This document does not represent the point of view of the European Commission nor the European Food Safety Authority. The interpretations and opinions contained in it are solely those of the authors.

Special Eurobarometer – Wave EB91.3 – Kantar



Special Eurobarometer  
Wave EB91.3

Report

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## INTRODUCTION

The European Union's food safety policy aims to protect consumers, while guaranteeing the smooth operation of the single market. It has agreed standards to ensure food hygiene, animal health and welfare, and plant health and to control contamination from external substances.<sup>1</sup>

In 2002, the European Parliament and the Council adopted Regulation (EC) No 178/2002 laying down the general principles and requirements of food law (General Food Law Regulation).<sup>2</sup> It includes general principles, requirements and procedures that underpin decision making in matters of food and feed safety, covering all stages of food and feed production and distribution. It also set up an independent agency responsible for scientific advice and support, the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

EFSA provides impartial scientific advice to help inform decisions of policy makers about food-related risks.<sup>3</sup> EFSA's key activity is scientific risk assessment, a specialised field of applied science that involves reviewing scientific data and studies in order to evaluate risks associated with certain hazards. The Authority also has an important role in communicating its advice to its principal partners, stakeholders and the public at large in a timely, clear and meaningful way, helping to bridge the gap between science and the consumer.

The recent agreement on the proposed amendments to the General Food Law<sup>4</sup> seeks to address citizens' demands for the risk assessment process to be more transparent and the need to make risk communication more effective and coherent across different actors in the EU. To implement the proposed measures, it calls for consideration of risk perceptions of all interested parties as a general principle of risk communication.

To that end, this Special Eurobarometer, commissioned by EFSA, aims to set in motion a systematic way of monitoring risk perceptions of EU citizens, providing insights in terms of:

- Europeans' overall interest in food safety, including factors affecting food-related decisions, main information channels on food-related risks, changes in behaviour and views on complexity of communication about food-related risks.
- Awareness and risk perceptions when it comes to food safety topics, trust in different sources of information and understanding of the EU food safety system.

The subject of food-related risks was examined in a previous Special Eurobarometer survey (354) in 2010<sup>5</sup>. While the questionnaire differed from the current survey, it is possible to make broad comparisons<sup>6</sup> between the two surveys on two issues where questions were similar:

- Topics that respondents are most concerned about (QD4);
- Trust in sources of information (QD7).

<sup>1</sup> [https://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/chapter/food\\_safety.html?root\\_default=SUM\\_1\\_CODED%3D30&locale=en](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/summary/chapter/food_safety.html?root_default=SUM_1_CODED%3D30&locale=en)

<sup>2</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/general\\_food\\_law\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/food/safety/general_food_law_en)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/TM-01-16-287-EN-N.PDF](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/TM-01-16-287-EN-N.PDF)

<sup>4</sup> [http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release\\_MEMO-19-1031\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_MEMO-19-1031_en.htm)

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/corporate/pub/eurobarometer10>

<sup>6</sup> The relevant sections of the report include a reference to the 2010 survey for comparison.

This survey was carried out by the Kantar network in the 28 EU Member States between the 9<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of April 2019. Some 27,655 respondents from different social and demographic groups were interviewed face-to-face at home in their mother tongue.

The methodology used is that of the Standard Eurobarometer surveys carried out by the Directorate-General for Communication (“Media monitoring and Eurobarometer” Unit)<sup>7</sup>. It is the same for all countries and territories covered in the survey. A technical note on the manner in which interviews were conducted is appended as an annex to this report. Also included are the interview methods and confidence interval<sup>8</sup>.

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

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

European Union – weighted average for the 28 Member States	EU28
------------------------------------------------------------	------

\* Cyprus as a whole is one of the 28 European Union Member States. However, the ‘acquis communautaire’ has been suspended in the part of the country which is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus. For practical reasons, only the interviews carried out in the part of the country controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus are included in the ‘CY’ category and in the EU28 average.

*We wish to thank the people throughout the European Union*

*who have given their time to take part in this survey.*

*Without their active participation, this study would not have been possible.*

<sup>7</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm>

<sup>8</sup> The results tables are annexed. It should be noted that the total of the percentages indicated in the tables in this report may exceed 100% when the respondent was able to choose several answers to the same question.

## KEY FINDINGS

### **Food safety is one of several equally important factors for Europeans when buying food**

- The most important factors for Europeans when buying food are where the food comes from (53%), cost (51%), food safety (50%) and taste (49%). Nutrient content is considered slightly less important (44%), while ethics and beliefs (e.g. considerations of animal welfare, environmental concerns or religion) rank lowest in importance (19%).
- In 12 of the 28 Member States, cost was identified most frequently among factors influencing the choice of food.
- Overall, 41% of respondents say that they are 'personally interested in the topic of food safety'.

### **Television is the most common source of information about food risks**

- More than two thirds of Europeans (69%) say that television is among their main sources of information about food risks. This is followed by the Internet (excluding social media) (46%), newspapers and magazines (38%) and family, friends and neighbours (37%).
- Younger respondents are more likely than older respondents to mention social media (45% of 15-24 year olds, falling to 10% of those aged 55 or over) and other information from the Internet (63% vs. 28%). However, older people are more likely to mention television (78% of those aged 55 or over, falling to 55% of 15-24 year olds), newspapers and magazines (46% vs. 22%) and radio (30% vs. 13%).

### **Two thirds of citizens have changed their consumption behaviour as a result of information on food risks**

- Two thirds of respondents (66%) say that they have changed their consumption behaviour as a result of information that they have heard or read about a food risk; specifically, 33% made a permanent change and 33% changed their behaviour for a while.
- Changes in consumption behaviour are more common among women, those in the middle age bands, and those with higher levels of education.
- Just over a third of respondents (36%) believe that 'food safety information is often highly technical and complex'.

### **Around one in five Europeans says that food safety is their main concern when choosing food**

- Just over one fifth of Europeans (22%) say that safety is their main concern when choosing food. The majority of respondents (71%) say either that food safety is among their concerns (43%) or that they take it for granted that the food sold is safe (23%). A small proportion of respondents (5%) say that safety does not concern them, because they assume that their body can handle food safety risks.

### **Europeans have a high level of awareness of food safety topics. Most frequently reported concerns relate to antibiotics, hormones and steroids in meat, pesticides, environmental pollutants and food additives**

- By calculating an index of the overall level of awareness of food safety topics, the majority of respondents (55%) have a high level of awareness (i.e. they have heard about at least 8 of the 15 topics listed).

- Respondents are most likely to be concerned about antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat (44%), followed by pesticide residues in food (39%), environmental pollutants in fish, meat or dairy (37%) and additives like colours, preservatives or flavourings used in food or drinks (36%).
- Less than half of Europeans (43%) think that food products are full of harmful substances.

#### **Scientists and consumer organisations are the most trusted sources on food risks**

- Europeans are most likely to say that they trust scientists (82%) and consumer organisations (79%) for information on food-related risks, followed by farmers (69%), national authorities (60%), EU institutions (58%), NGOs (56%) and journalists (50%).
- A minority of respondents say they trust supermarkets and restaurants (43%), food industries (36%) and celebrities, bloggers and influencers (19%).

#### **There is limited awareness of how the EU food safety system works**

- Just over two in five respondents (43%) say that ‘there are regulations in place to make sure that the food you eat is safe’.
- Three in ten (28%) know that ‘to decide how risky something could be for you to eat, the EU relies on scientists to give expert advice’.
- One in five (19%) knows that ‘the EU has a separate institution that provides scientific advice on the safety of food’.



## I. CITIZENS' INTEREST IN FOOD SAFETY

The first chapter of this report examines Europeans' interest in food safety, and their interaction with available information. It covers people's interest in food safety, the factors affecting dietary decisions, main information channels and behaviour change reported in response to information on food-related risks.

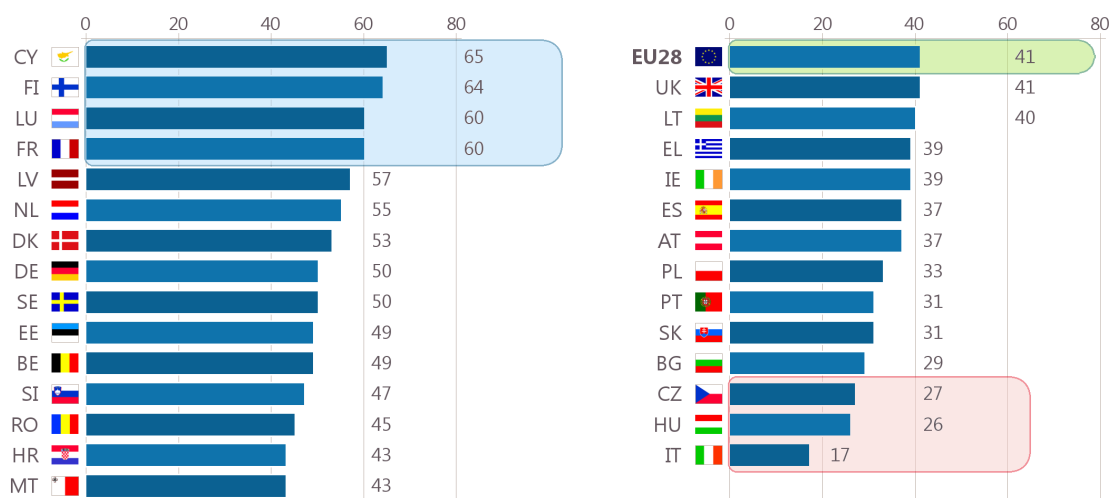
### 1 Interest in food safety

#### Interest in food safety varies by Member State

Respondents were asked whether they 'are personally interested in the topic of food safety'<sup>9</sup>. Across the EU as a whole, 41% of respondents say that they are personally interested in food safety, although this varies considerably by country. In seven Member States, an absolute majority of respondents agree that they are personally interested, most notably Cyprus (65%), Finland (64%) and Luxembourg and France (both 60%). However, respondents are much less likely to agree in Italy (17%), Hungary (26%) and Czechia (27%).

QD8 Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with: (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

(% - YOU ARE PERSONALLY INTERESTED IN THE TOPIC OF FOOD SAFETY)








<sup>9</sup> QD8.7: Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with. "You are personally interested in the topic of food safety".

The **socio-demographic analysis** shows that:

- Women are more likely than men to say they are interested in the topic of food safety (44% compared with 38%).
- Younger respondents are less interested than older respondents (33% of 15-24 year olds compared 42%-43% in the older age groups).
- The longer respondents stayed in education, the more likely they are to be interested in the topic of food safety (52% of those who ended education at the age of 20 or above, compared with 33% of those who left education by the age of 15).
- Managers and the self-employed are the most likely to be personally interested in food safety (51%-47% compared to 32%-42% of respondents in other categories).
- Those who have difficulties paying bills never or almost never are more likely to be interested in this topic than those who have difficulties from time to time or most of the time (45% vs 34%).

**QD8** Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with:  
(MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
(% - EU)

	You are personally interested in the topic of food safety
EU28	41
 <b>Gender</b>	
Man	38
Woman	44
 <b>Age</b>	
15-24	33
25-39	42
40-54	43
55 +	42
 <b>Education (End of)</b>	
15-	33
16-19	38
20+	52
Still studying	32
 <b>Socio-professional category</b>	
Self-employed	47
Managers	51
Other white collars	40
Manual workers	40
House persons	35
Unemployed	37
Retired	42
Students	32
 <b>Difficulties paying bills</b>	
Most of the time	34
From time to time	34
Almost never/ Never	45

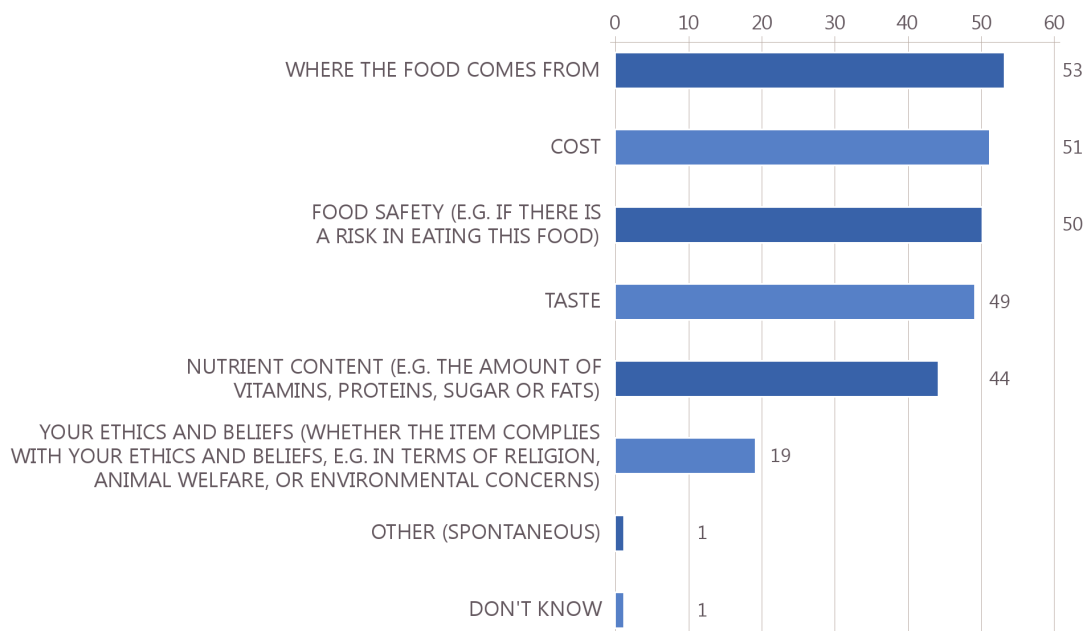
## 2 Factors affecting food-related decisions

Respondents were asked to specify the importance of factors when they buy food. They were able to give up to three answers from a list of six items<sup>10</sup>.

### Food safety is one of several equally important factors for Europeans when buying food

Four items are each chosen by around half of respondents, when considering important factors when buying food: where the food comes from (53%), cost (51%), food safety (50%) and taste (49%). A slightly lower proportion say that nutrient content is important (44%), while respondents are least likely to mention ethics and beliefs as an important factor (19%).

**QD1T** When you buy food, which of the following are the most important to you? Firstly? And then? TOTAL (MAX. 3 ANSWERS) (% - EU)



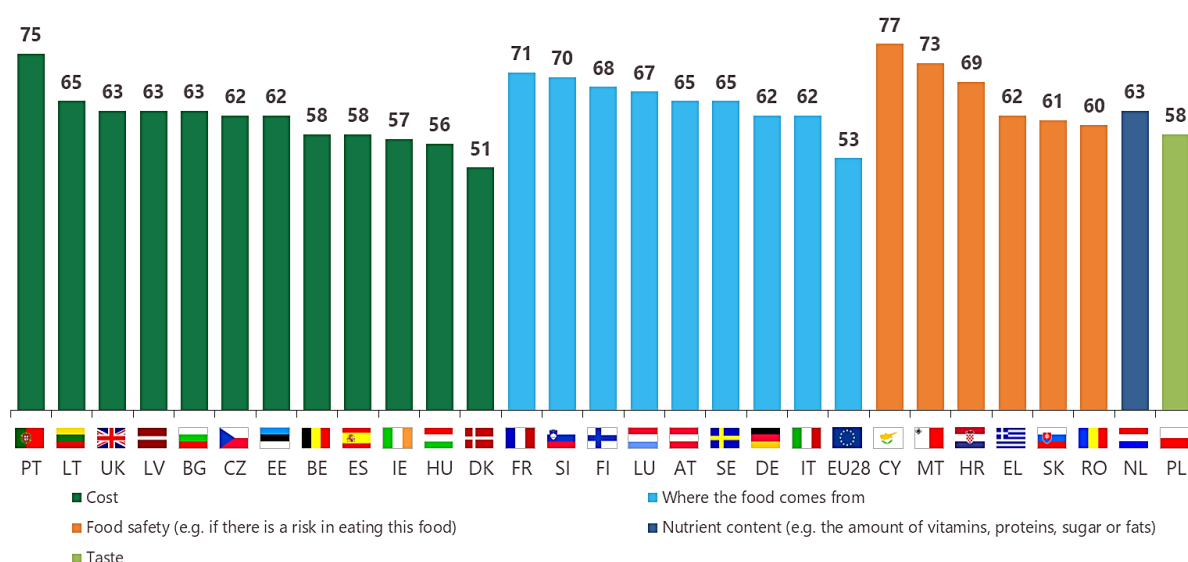
<sup>10</sup> QD1: When you buy food, which of the following are the most important to you? Firstly? And then? Your ethics and beliefs (whether the item complies with your ethics and beliefs, e.g. in terms of religion, animal welfare, or environmental concerns); Food safety (e.g. if there is a risk in eating this food); Cost; Nutrient content (e.g. the amount of vitamins, proteins, sugar or fats); Taste; Where the food comes from; Other (SPONTANEOUS); DK.

In 12 of the 28 Member States, respondents are most likely to identify **cost** as one of the most important factors when they buy food. In all of these 12 countries, a majority of respondents say that cost is one of the most important factors, most notably in Portugal (75%).

In eight countries, respondents are most likely to say that it is important **where the food comes from**, with at least three in five respondents in these countries giving this as an important factor.

There are six countries where **food safety** is most frequently identified as an important factor when buying food. In addition, **nutrient content** is chosen most frequently as an important factor in the Netherlands, while respondents in Poland are most likely to say that **taste** is an important factor.

QD1T When you buy food, which of the following are the most important to you? Firstly? And then? TOTAL (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)  
(% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)



Across the EU as a whole, more than half of respondents (53%) say that **where the food comes from** is one of the most important factors when buying food. Respondents are most likely to say this in France (71%), Slovenia (70%), Finland (68%) and Luxembourg (67%), while the lowest proportions are seen in the Netherlands (27%), the UK (36%) and Lithuania and Malta (both 37%).

**Cost** is most frequently mentioned as an important factor by respondents in Portugal (75%), followed by those in Lithuania (65%), Bulgaria, Croatia, Latvia and the UK (all 63%). Respondents are least likely to say that cost is important in Italy (37%) and Germany and Luxembourg (both 38%).

More than three-quarters of respondents in Cyprus (77%) say that **food safety** is one of the most important factors when buying food, as do more than two-thirds of respondents in Malta (73%) and Croatia (69%). By contrast, only around a third of respondents say this in Austria (32%) and Sweden (34%).

**Taste** is mentioned most frequently as one of the most important factors in the Netherlands (62%), Bulgaria (61%), Poland (58%) and Belgium and Lithuania (both 57%). Respondents in Cyprus (38%) and Croatia (39%) are least likely to say that taste is one of the most important factors.

Respondents are most likely to say that **nutrient content** is important in Finland (64%), the Netherlands (63%) and Malta (61%). However, only around a third of respondents say that this is an important factor in France (32%) and Portugal (34%).

In each country, a minority of respondents mention their **ethics and beliefs** as being one of the most important factors when buying food. Respondents are most likely to say this in Sweden (47%), Denmark (40%), Germany (35%) and Austria (33%), while the lowest proportions are seen in Croatia and Lithuania (both 7%).

**QD1T** When you buy food, which of the following are the most important to you? Firstly? And then? TOTAL (MAX. 3 ANSWERS) (%)

		Where the food comes from	Cost	Food safety (e.g. if there is a risk in eating this food)	Taste	Nutrient content (e.g. the amount of vitamins, proteins, sugar or fats)	Your ethics and beliefs (whether the item complies with your ethics and beliefs, e.g. in terms of religion, animal welfare, or environmental concerns)	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28		53	51	50	49	44	19	1	1
BE		48	58	48	57	43	18	1	0
BG		39	63	58	61	44	9	0	1
CZ		56	62	40	54	40	12	1	1
DK		50	51	41	49	39	40	4	1
DE		62	38	50	44	38	35	1	1
EE		57	62	42	56	47	9	2	0
IE		44	57	51	46	52	16	1	0
EL		56	60	62	53	52	8	1	0
ES		41	58	53	45	56	8	2	0
FR		71	56	46	52	32	12	2	1
HR		58	63	69	39	37	7	0	0
IT		62	37	61	47	42	20	0	1
CY		40	51	77	38	52	8	2	1
LV		49	63	59	41	41	8	2	0
LT		37	65	52	57	57	7	2	0
LU		67	38	52	43	43	15	3	1
HU		52	56	47	52	51	14	1	0
MT		37	40	73	45	61	13	2	1
NL		27	50	45	62	63	27	2	0
AT		65	48	32	56	39	33	4	0
PL		43	53	47	58	48	12	1	2
PT		58	75	51	47	34	9	3	0
RO		45	47	60	48	40	19	2	0
SI		70	49	50	41	37	14	3	0
SK		56	46	61	50	40	12	1	1
FI		68	53	42	41	64	15	1	0
SE		65	42	34	42	48	47	2	0
UK		36	63	47	46	49	20	1	1
		1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM	2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM			3RD MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM			

A **socio-demographic analysis** highlights the following differences on this question:

- Women are more likely than men to say that **nutrient content** is an important factor when buying food (46% compared with 42%). By contrast, men are more likely than women to say that **taste** is one of the most important factors (53% vs. 46%).
- Younger respondents are more likely than older respondents to mention **cost** (57% of 15-24 year olds compared with no more than 52% in the other age groups) and **taste** (53% of 15-24 year olds vs. 48%-49% in the other age groups). However, older respondents are more likely to see the importance of **where the food comes from** (56% of those aged 55 or over, falling to 46% of 15-24 year olds) and **food safety** (53% of those aged 55 or over, falling to 45% of those aged 15-24).
- The longer respondents stayed in education, the more likely they are to say that **nutrient content** is important (51% of those who ended education at the age of 20 or above, compared with 35% of those who left education by the age of 15). There is a similar pattern in relation to **ethics and beliefs** (25% vs. 14%), whereas **cost** is mentioned more frequently by those who left education at an early stage (59% of those who left education by the age of 15, compared with 42% of those who left aged 20 or above).
- Respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time are more likely to mention **cost** as an important factor (70% compared with 47% of those who never or almost never have difficulties), but are less likely to mention **nutrient content** as being important (35% vs. 46%).
- Respondents with a higher level of awareness of food safety topics are more likely to mention most of the items. For example, **food safety** is mentioned by 53% of those with very high awareness, compared with 34% of those with very low awareness. The exceptions are **cost** (mentioned more frequently by those with lower levels of awareness) and **taste** (where there is no difference).

**QD1T** When you buy food, which of the following are the most important to you? Firstly? And then? TOTAL (MAX. 3 ANSWERS) (% - EU)

	Where the food comes from	Cost	Food safety (e.g. if there is a risk in eating this food)	Taste	Nutrient content (e.g. the amount of vitamins, proteins, sugar or fats)	Your ethics and beliefs (whether the item complies with your ethics and beliefs, e.g. in terms of religion, animal welfare, or environmental concerns)	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28	53	51	50	49	44	19	1	1
<b>Gender</b>								
Man	51	52	50	53	42	18	1	1
Woman	54	51	50	46	46	21	1	1
<b>Age</b>								
15-24	46	57	45	53	44	20	1	1
25-39	50	52	49	49	48	21	1	0
40-54	54	48	52	48	46	21	1	1
55 +	56	51	53	48	41	17	2	1
<b>Education (End of)</b>								
15-	50	59	52	51	35	14	2	1
16-19	54	54	50	50	43	17	1	1
20+	56	42	53	45	51	25	1	1
Still studying	45	57	43	55	45	21	1	1
<b>Socio-professional category</b>								
Self-employed	60	40	54	44	48	23	1	1
Managers	57	37	53	46	54	29	0	1
Other white collars	54	47	51	49	48	21	1	0
Manual workers	50	57	49	51	42	18	2	0
House persons	54	53	52	49	44	18	1	0
Unemployed	44	64	49	49	40	17	2	0
Retired	55	53	52	48	40	15	2	1
Students	45	57	43	55	45	21	1	1
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>								
Most of the time	50	70	48	47	35	15	2	0
From time to time	49	58	50	51	41	18	1	1
Almost never/ Never	55	47	51	48	46	20	1	1
<b>Index Awareness of food safety topics</b>								
Very high	57	49	53	47	49	22	1	0
High	55	53	53	51	43	16	1	0
Medium	51	54	52	50	41	16	2	0
Low	43	53	45	53	38	19	2	1
Very low	39	61	34	51	30	8	3	3

### 3 Main information channels

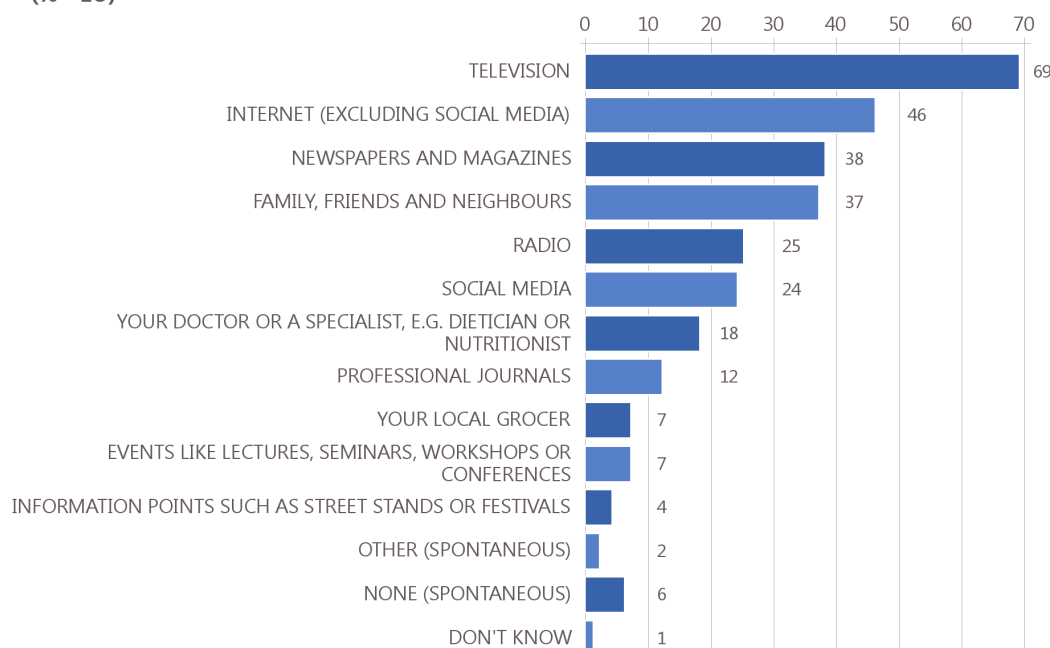
Respondents were asked about their main sources of information about food risks, giving a maximum of four answers from a list of 11 items<sup>11</sup>.

#### Television is the main source of information about food risks

More than two-thirds of respondents (69%) say that television is one of their main sources of information about food risks. More than a third say that their main sources of information include the Internet (excluding social media) (46%), newspapers and magazines (38%) and family, friends and neighbours (37%). Around a quarter mention radio (25%) and social media (24%), while professional sources rank next highest: a doctor or specialist (18%) and professional journals (12%).

Other sources are mentioned by less than one in ten respondents: a local grocer (7%), events (7%) and information points (4%). A minority (6%) say spontaneously that they do not use any information sources about food risks, while 2% mention another source and 1% say they don't know.

**QD5T** Which of the following are your main sources of information about food risks? Firstly? And then? TOTAL (MAX. 4 ANSWERS) (% - EU)

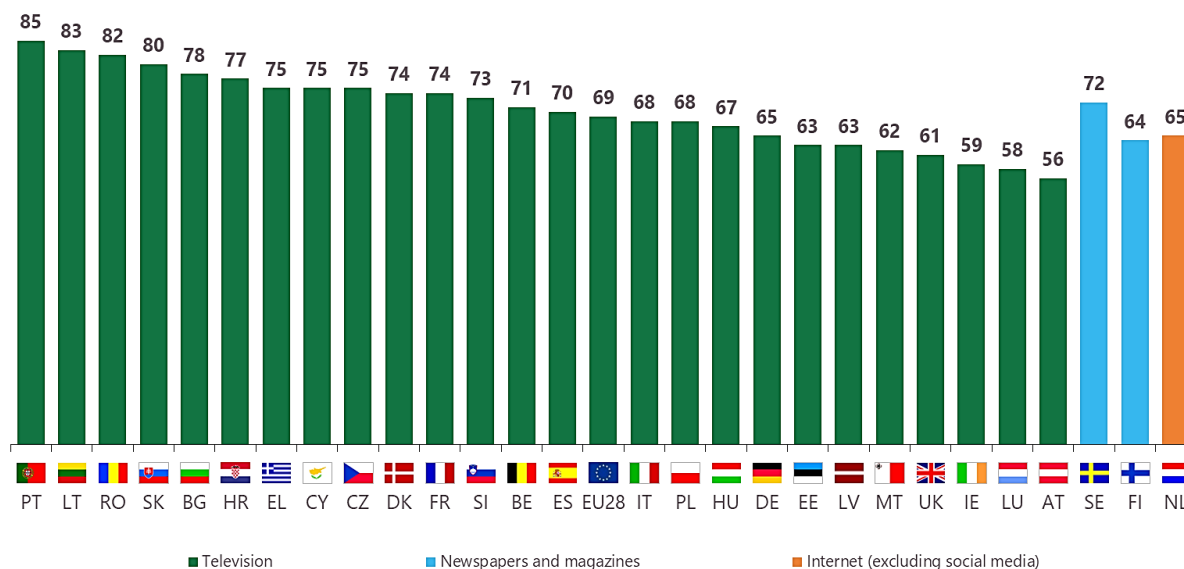


<sup>11</sup> QD5: Which of the following are your main sources of information about food risks? Firstly? And then? Information points such as street stands or festivals; Family, friends and neighbours; Social media; Your doctor or a specialist, e.g. dietician or nutritionist; Newspapers and magazines; Your local grocer; Internet (excluding social media); Events like lectures, seminars, workshops or conferences; Television; Professional journals; Radio; Other (SPONTANEOUS); None (SPONTANEOUS); DK.



In all except three Member States, **television** is mentioned most frequently as an important source of information about food risks. The exceptions are Sweden and Finland (where respondents are most likely to select **newspapers and magazines** and the Netherlands (where the **Internet** is most frequently mentioned).

QD5T Which of the following are your main sources of information about food risks? Firstly? And then? TOTAL (MAX. 4 ANSWERS)  
(% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)



In every Member State, a majority of respondents say that **television** is one of the most important sources of information about food risks. The proportion is highest in Portugal (85%), Lithuania (83%), Romania (82%) and Slovakia (80%). Respondents are least likely to mention television as an important information source in Austria (56%), Luxembourg (58%) and Ireland and Finland (both 59%).

Respondents in the Netherlands (65%) are most likely to say that **the Internet (excluding social media)** is an important information source, followed by respondents in Finland (61%), Latvia (58%) and Malta (57%). This is chosen least frequently in Portugal and Romania (31%) and Bulgaria (39%).

In five countries, a majority of respondents say that **newspapers and magazines** are an important source of information about food risks: Sweden (72%), Finland (64%), the Netherlands (62%), Denmark (54%) and Luxembourg (51%). Respondents are least likely to mention this in Malta (13%) and Cyprus and Romania (both 17%).

In three countries, more than half of respondents say that **family, friends and neighbours** are an important information source: Greece (60%), Bulgaria (58%) and Croatia (52%). This source is least frequently mentioned in the Netherlands (29%), Luxembourg and Finland (both 31%) and Ireland (32%).

**Radio** is mentioned most frequently by respondents in Slovakia (43%), Sweden (38%), Ireland (37%) and France (36%), and least frequently by those in Italy (12%), Portugal (13%) and Greece and Bulgaria (both 16%).

Respondents in Cyprus and Malta (both 42%) are most likely to say that **social media** is an important source of information about food risks, followed by those in Ireland (39%) and Denmark (38%). This is mentioned least frequently in Germany and Poland (both 19%) and also in Czechia, Spain and Romania (all 20%).

There is substantial variation in the proportions that say they use their **doctor or a specialist** as an information source about food risks, ranging from 38% in the Netherlands and 32% in Greece, to 6% in Denmark and 7% in Slovenia.

**Professional journals** are mentioned most frequently in Austria (24%) and Sweden (22%) and least frequently in Cyprus (3%) and Bulgaria (5%).

There are five countries where more than one in ten respondents say their **local grocer** is an important source of information about food risks: the Austria (17%), Hungary (14%), Germany and Ireland (both 12%) and Malta (11%). Just one per cent of respondents say this source is important in France and Lithuania.

In four countries, more than one in ten respondents say that **events** (like lectures, seminars, workshops or conferences) are important: Austria (16%), Estonia (13%), Sweden (12%) and Italy (11%).

Only a minority of respondents in each country say that **information points** are an important source of information. The highest proportions are found in Austria (8%) and Ireland, Italy and Hungary (all 7%).

**QD5T** Which of the following are your main sources of information about food risks? Firstly? And then? TOTAL (MAX. 4 ANSWERS) (%)

	Television	Internet (excluding social media)	Newspapers and magazines	Family, friends and neighbours	Radio	Social media	Your doctor or a specialist, e.g. dietitian or nutritionist	Professional journals	Your local grocer	Events like lectures, seminars, workshops or conferences	Information points such as street stands or festivals
EU28	69	46	38	37	25	24	18	12	7	7	4
BE	71	43	43	34	33	27	29	12	6	8	3
BG	78	39	20	58	16	25	18	5	4	3	2
CZ	75	56	33	39	21	20	14	16	6	6	3
DK	74	55	54	35	33	38	6	18	3	7	3
DE	65	49	47	35	33	19	17	17	12	6	2
EE	63	55	45	34	34	28	14	11	4	13	1
IE	59	47	38	32	37	39	21	9	12	10	7
EL	75	53	30	60	16	29	32	6	6	6	6
ES	70	41	21	35	21	20	19	7	7	5	1
FR	74	45	47	34	36	25	14	9	1	4	2
HR	77	42	34	52	23	28	18	12	5	6	5
IT	68	37	37	36	12	23	24	14	10	11	7
CY	75	49	17	43	26	42	12	3	2	5	1
LV	63	58	30	36	24	33	14	9	6	7	2
LT	83	54	33	35	33	23	11	6	1	7	3
LU	58	54	51	31	35	29	16	17	3	6	3
HU	67	41	22	45	22	23	21	10	14	9	7
MT	62	57	13	37	30	42	14	6	11	5	1
NL	63	65	62	29	27	22	38	16	2	9	4
AT	56	40	41	38	21	23	25	24	17	16	8
PL	68	44	23	35	20	19	11	7	5	5	5
PT	85	31	41	42	13	32	14	6	6	4	2
RO	82	31	17	44	22	20	23	12	3	4	4
SI	73	47	46	42	34	24	7	15	6	9	4
SK	80	44	37	46	43	24	10	15	4	4	2
FI	59	61	64	31	21	27	18	17	8	7	1
SE	62	54	72	38	38	30	10	22	4	12	0
UK	61	56	41	33	21	34	13	10	6	8	4

1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM      2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM      3RD MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM






**QD5T** Which of the following are your main sources of information about food risks? Firstly? And then? TOTAL (MAX. 4 ANSWERS) (%)

	Television	Internet (excluding social media)	Newspapers and magazines	Social media
<b>HIGHEST %</b>	EU28 69	EU28 46	EU28 38	EU28 24
	PT 85	NL 65	SE 72	CY 42
	LT 83	FI 61	FI 64	MT 42
	RO 82	LV 58	NL 62	IE 39
<b>LOWEST %</b>	IE 59	IT 37	CY 17	CZ 20
	FI 59	PT 31	RO 17	ES 20
	LU 58	RO 31	MT 13	RO 20
	AT 56	RO 31		DE 19
				PL 19

The **socio-demographic analysis** shows a number of differences:

- Men are more likely than women to say that the **Internet (excluding social media)** is one of their main sources of information about food risks (50% compared with 43%), but are less likely to mention **friends, family and neighbours** (34% vs. 40%).
- Younger respondents are more likely than older respondents to mention **social media** (45% of 15-24 year olds, falling to 10% of those aged 55 or over) and other information from the **Internet** (63% vs. 28%). However, older people are more likely to mention **television** (78% of those aged 55 or over, falling to 55% of 15-24 year olds), **newspapers and magazines** (46% vs. 22%) and **radio** (30% vs. 13%).
- The longer respondents stayed in education, the more likely they are to say that **newspapers and magazines** are one of their main sources of information (47% of those who ended education at the age of 20 or above, compared with 33% of those who left education by the age of 15). The same applies to **social media** (25% vs. 12%), **other Internet sites** (59% vs. 18%) and **professional journals** (16% vs. 6%). However, **television** is mentioned more frequently by those who left education at an early stage (78% of those who left education by the age of 15, compared with 63% of those who left aged 20 or above), and the same pattern applies to information from **friends, family and neighbours** (41% vs. 34%).
- Respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time are more likely to mention **social media** as an information source (31% compared with 23% of those who never or almost never have difficulties), and they are also more likely to mention **friends, family and neighbours** (42% vs. 34%). However, they are less likely to mention the **Internet excluding social media** (37% vs. 49%) and **newspapers and magazines** (28% vs. 42%).
- Respondents with a higher level of awareness of food safety topics are more likely to mention the **Internet (excluding social media)** and **newspapers and magazines**, compared with those with lower levels of awareness. For example, newspapers and magazines are mentioned by 46% of those with very high awareness, compared with 17% of those with very low awareness.

**QD5T** Which of the following are your main sources of information about food risks? Firstly? And then? TOTAL  
(MAX. 4 ANSWERS)  
(% - EU)

	Television	Internet (excluding social media)	Newspapers and magazines	Family, friends and neighbours	Radio	Social media	Your doctor or a specialist, e.g. dietician or nutritionist	Professional journals
EU28	69	46	38	37	25	24	18	12
 <b>Gender</b>								
Man	67	50	38	34	26	24	17	12
Woman	70	43	39	40	24	25	19	12
 <b>Age</b>								
15-24	55	63	22	41	13	45	17	11
25-39	60	62	32	38	19	36	18	12
40-54	69	52	41	34	28	25	19	14
55 +	78	28	46	37	30	10	18	10
 <b>Education (End of)</b>								
15-	78	18	33	41	25	12	18	6
16-19	73	43	38	36	27	25	17	11
20+	63	59	47	34	27	25	19	16
Still studying	52	66	25	44	12	42	18	12
 <b>Socio-professional category</b>								
Self-employed	62	53	43	34	23	28	21	18
Managers	58	66	47	36	27	26	20	18
Other white collars	64	57	41	36	24	31	21	13
Manual workers	70	49	33	34	26	30	15	11
House persons	77	38	27	42	21	20	20	7
Unemployed	68	46	25	37	19	33	18	7
Retired	79	24	46	37	31	8	17	9
Students	52	66	25	44	12	42	18	12
 <b>Difficulties paying bills</b>								
Most of the time	72	37	28	42	24	31	18	9
From time to time	71	41	34	41	21	27	20	10
Almost never/ Never	68	49	42	34	27	23	17	13
<b>Index Awareness of food safety topics</b>								
Very high	68	56	46	37	28	26	19	14
High	75	41	36	41	25	24	22	11
Medium	74	38	31	41	23	24	16	9
Low	67	31	26	36	20	22	17	9
Very low	52	21	17	25	13	15	13	5

## 4 Does consumer behaviour change in response to communication?

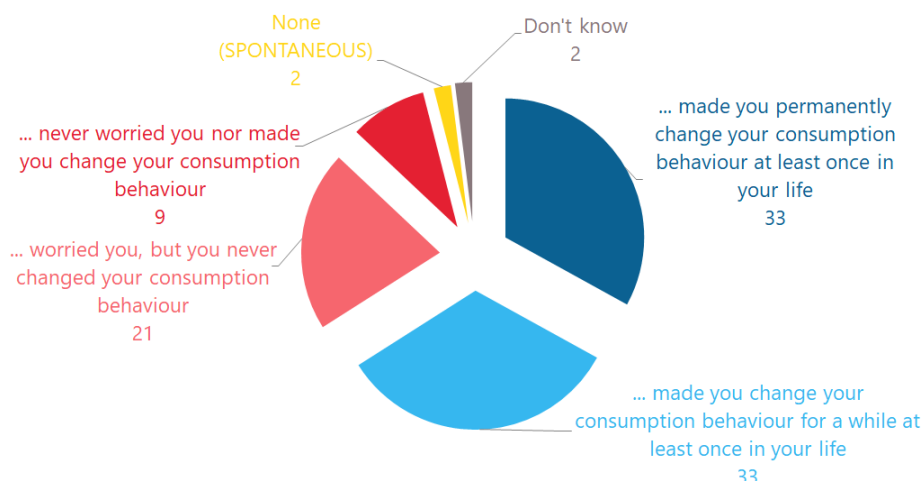
### Two thirds of Europeans have changed their consumption behaviour at some point as a result of information on possible food-related risks

Two thirds of respondents (66%) say that they have changed their consumption behaviour as a result of information that they have heard or read about a possible food-related risk. This includes 33% who say the information made them permanently change their behaviour at least once in their life, and a further 33% who say it made them change their behaviour for a while<sup>12</sup>.

Three in ten respondents (30%) say that they have not changed their consumption behaviour as a result of information about a food risk. This includes 21% who say the information worried them but did not cause them to change their behaviour, and 9% who were not worried and did not make any changes.

2% of respondents choose none of these answers and 2% say they don't know.

**QD6** I will now read you the beginning of a sentence. Please complete it with one of the following statements so that it best describes your personal experience: "Information that you heard or read about a food risk..."  
(% - EU)

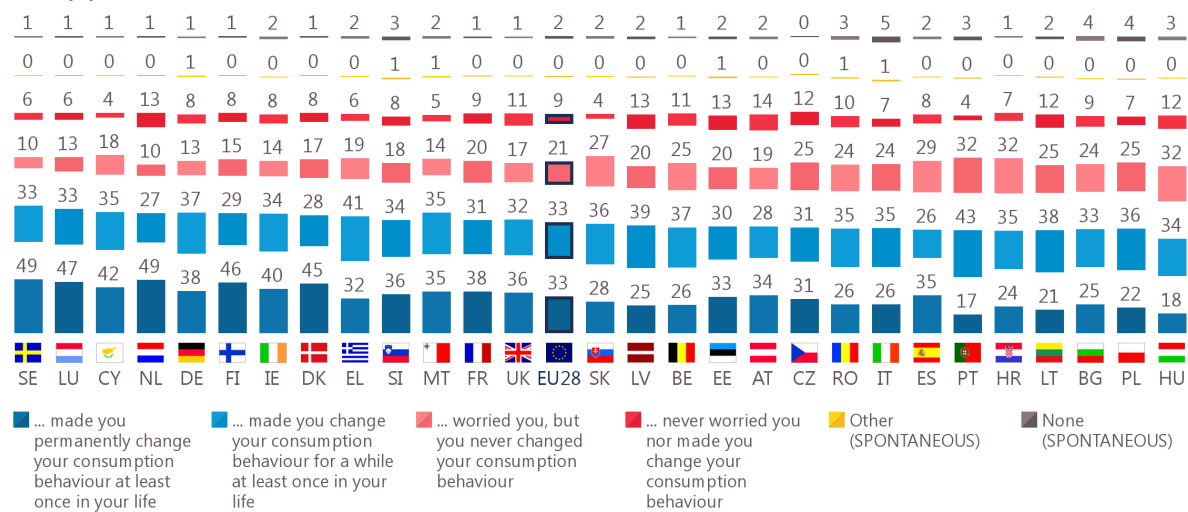


<sup>12</sup> QD6: I will now read you the beginning of a sentence. Please complete it with one of the following statements so that it best describes your personal experience: "Information that you heard or read about a food risk..." ...made you permanently change your consumption behaviour (e.g. diet, cooking or storage practices) at least once in your life; ...made you change your consumption behaviour for a while at least once in your life; ...worried you, but you never changed your consumption behaviour; ...never worried you nor made you change your consumption behaviour; Other (SPONTANEOUS); None (SPONTANEOUS); DK.

In every Member State, the majority of respondents say that information about a food risk has made them change their consumption behaviour, at least for a while. Respondents in Sweden (82%) are most likely to say this, followed by respondents in Luxembourg (80%), Cyprus (77%) and the Netherlands (76%). Respondents in Hungary are least likely to say that information on a food risk has changed their behaviour (52%).

There is some variation in the proportions that say they have made a *permanent* change to their consumption behaviour. Around half of respondents say they have made a permanent change in Sweden and the Netherlands (49%), Luxembourg (47%) and Finland (46%), but the proportion is much lower in Portugal (17%), Hungary (18%), Lithuania (21%) and Poland (22%).

**QD6** I will now read you the beginning of a sentence. Please complete it with one of the following statements so that it best describes your personal experience: "Information that you heard or read about a food risk..." (%)



**QD6** I will now read you the beginning of a sentence. Please complete it with one of the following statements so that it best describes your personal experience: "Information that you heard or read about a food risk..." (%)









Focusing on the proportions that have made a change to their consumption behaviour, the following **socio-demographic** differences can be observed:

- Women are more likely than men to say they have made a change as a result of information on a food risk (70% compared with 63%).
- Those in the middle age bands are most likely to have made a change (72% of 25-39 year olds and 70% of 40-54 year olds, compared with 59% of 15-24 year olds and 63% of those aged 55 or over).
- The longer respondents stayed in education, the more likely they are to have changed their behaviour (78% of those who ended education at the age of 20 or above, compared with 54% of those who left education by the age of 15).
- Managers, self-employed and white collar workers are the most likely to say they have changed their consumption behaviour (81%-73% vs 58%-65% among respondents in other occupation categories).
- The less difficulties respondents have paying their bills the more likely they are to say they have changed their consumption behaviour as a result of information on a food risk: 69% of those who have never or almost never difficulties say this compared to 58% of those having difficulties most of the time.
- People living in a large town are more likely to have changed their behaviour than those living in a rural village (71% vs. 64%).
- Respondents with a higher level of awareness of food safety topics are more likely to say they have changed their consumption behaviour (77% of those with very high awareness, falling to 34% of those with very low awareness).
- Similarly, those with a personal interest in the topic of food safety are more likely to say they have changed their behaviour (81% compared with 56% of those without a personal interest).



**QD6** I will now read you the beginning of a sentence. Please complete it with one of the following statements so that it best describes your personal experience:  
"Information that you heard or read about a food risk..." (% - EU)

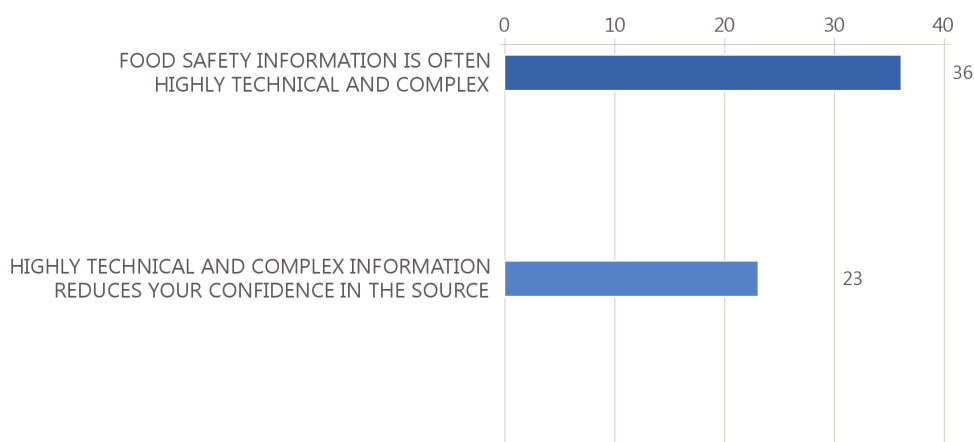
	Total 'Changed your consumption behaviour'	Total 'Did not change your consumption behaviour'	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't Know
EU28	66	30	2	2
 <b>Gender</b>				
Man	63	33	2	2
Woman	70	26	2	2
 <b>Age</b>				
15-24	59	35	3	2
25-39	72	26	1	1
40-54	70	26	2	2
55 +	63	32	3	2
 <b>Education (End of)</b>				
15-	54	40	4	2
16-19	64	32	2	2
20+	78	20	1	1
Still studying	62	33	3	1
 <b>Socio-professional category</b>				
Self-employed	76	22	1	1
Managers	81	17	1	1
Other white collars	73	24	1	2
Manual workers	65	31	2	2
House persons	62	34	2	1
Unemployed	58	38	2	2
Retired	60	34	4	2
Students	62	33	3	1
 <b>Difficulties paying bills</b>				
Most of the time	58	37	4	1
From time to time	65	31	2	2
Almost never/ Never	69	27	2	2
 <b>Subjective urbanisation</b>				
Rural village	64	32	2	2
Small/ mid size town	66	30	2	2
Large town	71	25	2	2
<b>Index Awareness of food safety topics</b>				
Very high	77	21	1	1
High	65	32	2	1
Medium	57	38	2	3
Low	50	42	4	3
Very low	34	43	13	8
<b>Personally interested in food safety</b>				
Yes	81	17	1	1
No	56	38	3	3

### A minority of Europeans agree that food safety information is too complex

Respondents were asked whether they agreed with two statements about communication of food safety information<sup>13</sup>:

- Just over a third (36%) agree that ‘food safety information is often highly technical and complex’.
- Almost a quarter (23%) agree that ‘highly technical and complex information reduces your confidence in the source’.

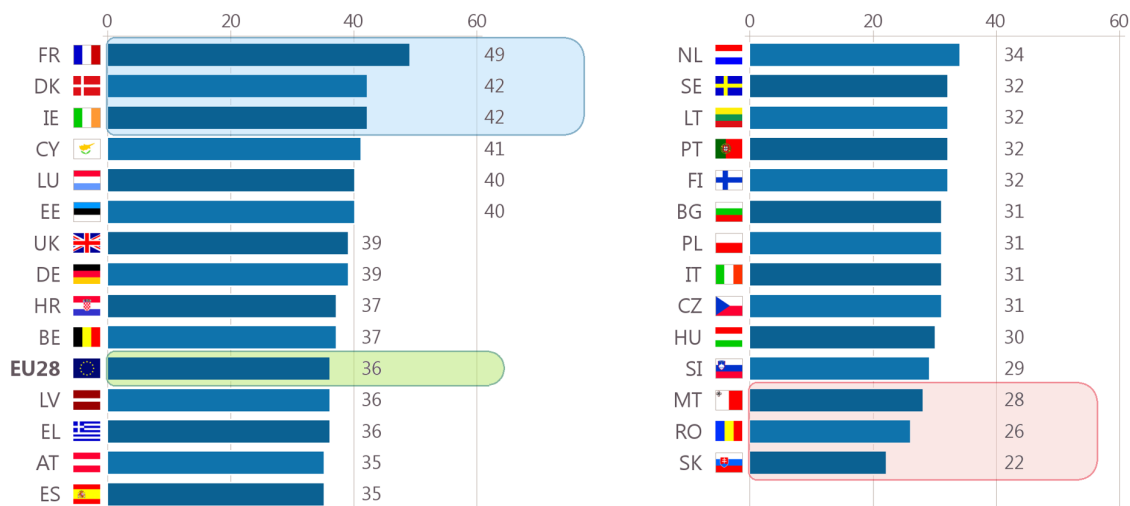
**QD8** Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with: (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
(% - EU)



<sup>13</sup> QD8 Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with: (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE): ‘Food safety information is often highly technical and complex’. ‘Highly technical and complex information reduces your confidence in the source’.

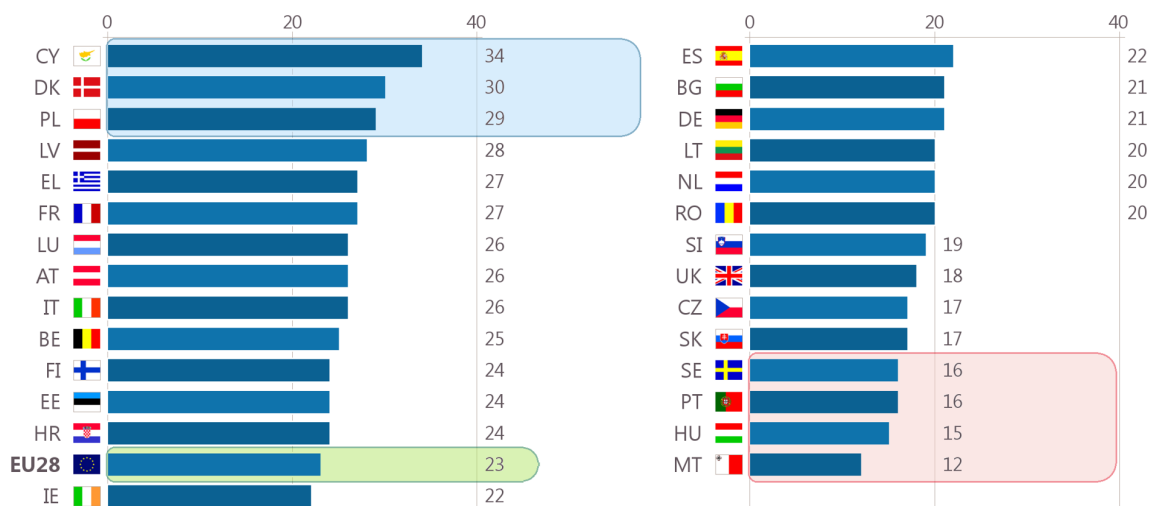
Respondents in France (49%) are the most likely to agree that ‘food safety information is often highly technical and complex’, followed by respondents in Denmark and Ireland (both 42%) and Cyprus (41%). By contrast, only around a quarter of respondents agree with the statement in Slovakia (22%) and Romania (26%).

**QD8** Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with: (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
 (% - FOOD SAFETY INFORMATION IS OFTEN HIGHLY TECHNICAL AND COMPLEX)



Around a third of respondents in Cyprus (34%) and Denmark (30%) agree that ‘highly technical and complex information reduces your confidence in the source’, while respondents in Malta (12%) and Hungary (15%) are least likely to agree with the statement.

**QD8** Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with: (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
 (% - HIGHLY TECHNICAL AND COMPLEX INFORMATION REDUCES YOUR CONFIDENCE IN THE SOURCE)



Findings are generally consistent across **socio-demographic** groups. Differences are as follows:

- The older the respondents the more likely they are to agree that ‘food safety information is often highly technical and complex’. The youngest respondents (aged 15-24) are the least likely to agree that ‘highly technical and complex information reduces your confidence in the source’ (18% vs. 23%-24%).
- Respondents with a higher level of awareness of food safety topics are more likely to agree with the statements. For example, 43% of those with very high awareness agree that ‘food safety information is often highly technical and complex’, compared with 15% of those with very low awareness.

**QD8** Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with: (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
(% - EU)

	Food safety information is often highly technical and complex	Highly technical and complex information reduces your confidence in the source
EU28	36	23
<b>Age</b>		
15-24	33	18
25-39	35	23
40-54	36	24
55 +	38	23
<b>Education (End of)</b>		
15-	37	23
16-19	37	24
20+	36	23
Still studying	34	17
<b>Index Awareness of food safety topics</b>		
Very high	43	27
High	38	23
Medium	32	20
Low	23	15
Very low	15	9

## II. AWARENESS AND RISK PERCEPTIONS

This chapter focuses on respondents' awareness of topics related to food safety, risk perceptions and trust in sources of information that form part of the food chain. It also covers the awareness of different aspects of the EU food safety system.

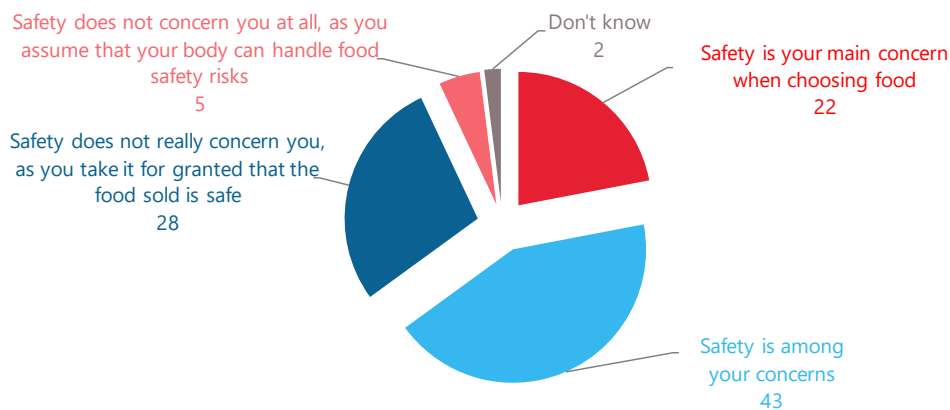
### 1 How concerned are citizens about food safety?

#### **Around one in five Europeans say that food safety is their main concern when choosing food**

Just over one fifth of Europeans (22%) say that safety is their main concern when choosing food, A small proportion of respondents (5%) say that safety does not concern them, because they assume that their body can handle food safety risks (5%)<sup>14</sup>. The majority of respondents (71%) say either that food safety is among their concerns (43%) or that they take it for granted that the food sold is safe (23%).

Two percent of respondents say they don't know.

**QD2** Focusing now on food safety (e.g., if eating certain foods poses a risk), please tell me which of the following is closest to your opinion.  
(% - EU)

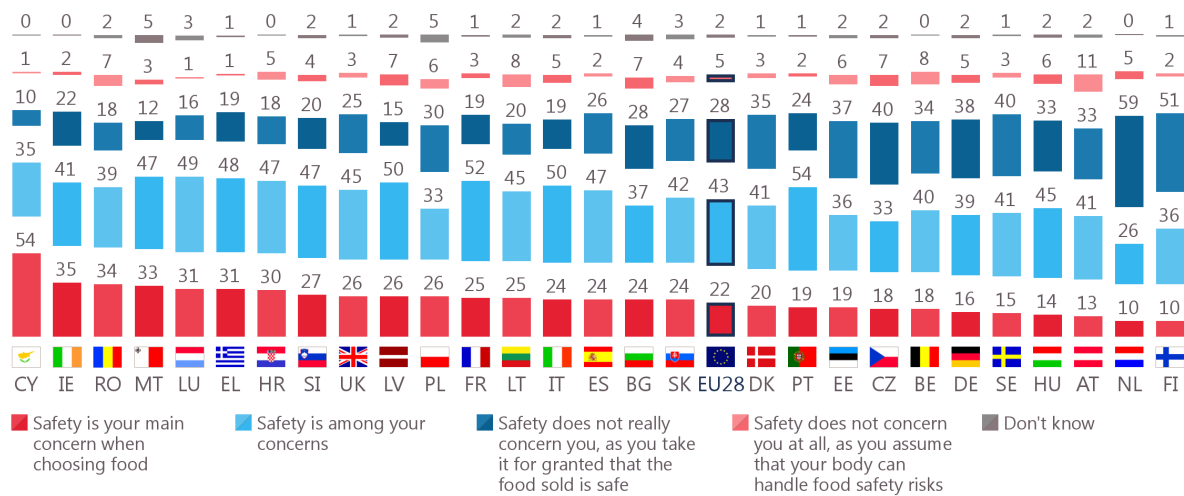


<sup>14</sup> QD2: Focusing now on food safety (e.g. if eating certain foods poses a risk), please tell me which of the following is closest to your opinion. Safety is your main concern when choosing food; Safety is among your concerns; Safety does not really concern you, as you take it for granted that the food sold is safe; Safety does not concern you at all, as you assume that your body can handle food safety risks.

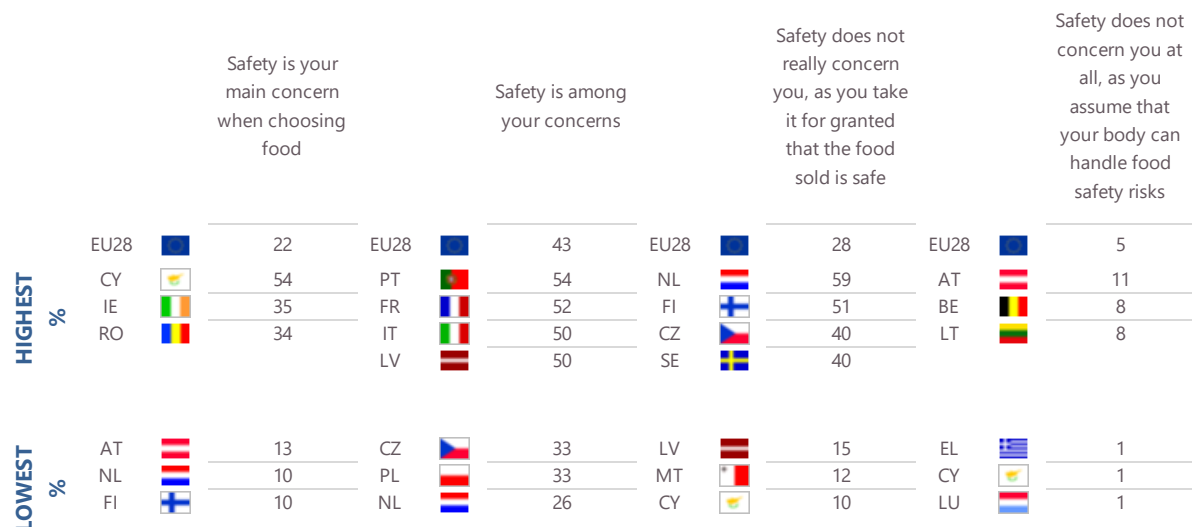
Looking at the country results in more detail, respondents in Cyprus are by far the most likely to say that safety is their *main* concern when choosing food (54%), followed by respondents in Ireland (35%), Romania (34%) and Malta (33%). The lowest proportions are found in Finland and the Netherlands (both 10%).

In some countries, there is a widespread assumption that food safety can be taken for granted, most notably in the Netherlands (59%), Finland (51%) and Sweden and Czechia (both 40%). By contrast, only small proportions feel they can take food safety for granted in Cyprus (10%), Malta (12%), Latvia (15%) and Luxembourg (16%).

**QD2** Focusing now on food safety (e.g., if eating certain foods poses a risk), please tell me which of the following is closest to your opinion. (%)





**QD2** Focusing now on food safety (e.g., if eating certain foods poses a risk), please tell me which of the following is closest to your opinion. (%)



Results are generally consistent across the different **socio-demographic** groups, although there are some variations:

- Men are slightly more likely than women to take for granted that the food sold is safe (30% vs 26%), while women are slightly more likely than men to say safety is among their concerns (45% vs 41%).
- House persons and unemployed are the most likely to say safety is their main concern when choosing food, particularly compared with students, managers and white collar workers (27% vs 17%-21%). Conversely, managers (34%) and students (33%) are the most likely to take for granted that the food sold is safe.
- Respondents who agree that national authorities, together with the EU, keep them safe from food risks are more likely to take for granted that the food sold is safe (37% compared with 25% of those who disagree). The same pattern applies for those who trust EU institutions for information on food risks (30% vs 24% of those who do not trust EU institutions).
- Those with a personal interest in the topic of food safety are more likely to say that safety is their main concern (28% compared with 18% of those without a personal interest). Conversely, those who are not personally interested in food safety are more likely to take for granted that the food sold is safe (34% compared with 20% of those who have a personal interest).

**QD2** Focusing now on food safety (e.g., if eating certain foods poses a risk), please tell me which of the following is closest to your opinion. (% - EU)

	Safety is your main concern when choosing food	Safety is among your concerns	Safety does not really concern you, as you take it for granted that the food sold is safe	Safety does not concern you at all, as you assume that your body can handle food safety risks	Don't Know
EU28	22	43	28	5	2
 <b>Gender</b>					
Man	22	41	30	5	2
Woman	23	45	26	4	2
 <b>Socio-professional category</b>					
Self-employed	23	45	27	3	2
Managers	21	42	34	2	1
Other white collars	21	46	28	4	1
Manual workers	23	42	28	6	1
House persons	27	43	25	4	1
Unemployed	27	38	25	7	3
Retired	23	45	26	4	2
Students	17	42	33	5	3
<b>Trust EU institutions for information on food risks</b>					
Trust	22	43	30	4	1
Not trust	25	44	24	5	2
<b>Authorities keep you safe from food risks</b>					
Agree	20	39	37	4	0
Not agree	23	45	25	5	2
<b>Personally interested in food safety</b>					
Yes	28	49	20	2	1
No	18	39	34	6	3



## 2 Assessing Europeans' awareness of food safety topics

### Europeans have a high level of awareness of food safety topics

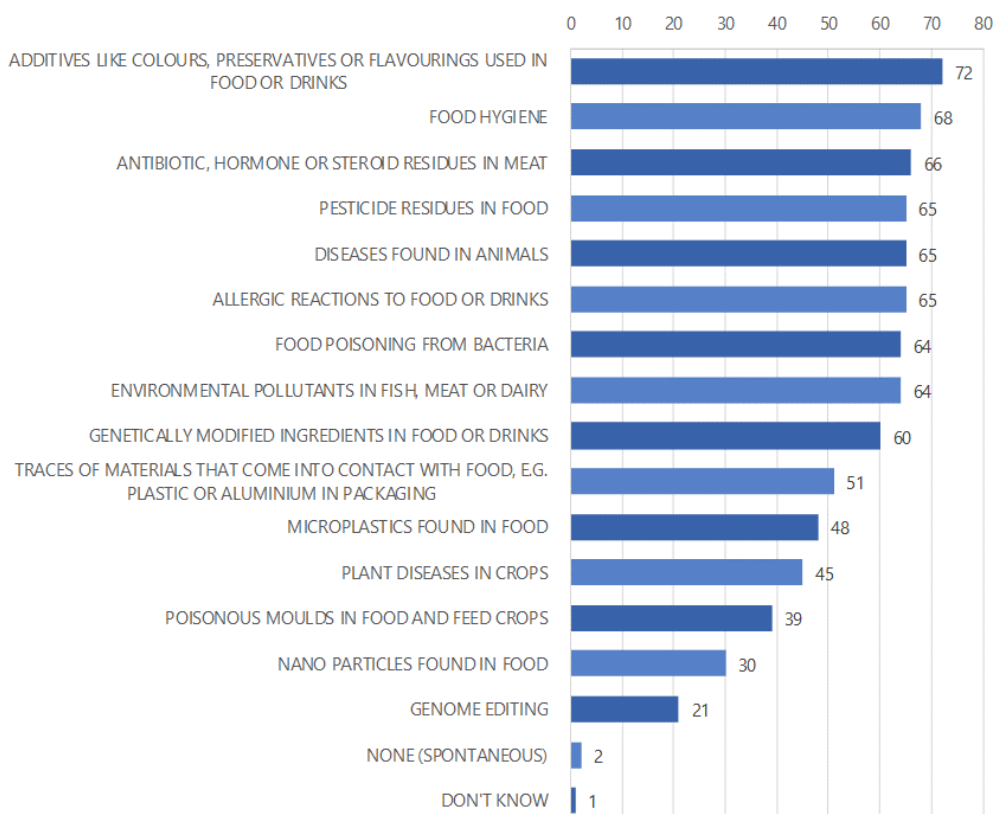
Respondents were asked whether they had heard about a number of topics related to food safety<sup>15</sup>.

Europeans are most likely to say that they have heard about additives like colours, preservatives or flavourings used in food or drinks (72%), followed by food hygiene (68%) and antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat (66%). Three topics are familiar to 65% of respondents: pesticide residues in food; diseases found in animals; and allergic reactions to food or drinks. Similar proportions say they have heard about food poisoning from bacteria and environmental pollutants in fish, meat or dairy (both 64%), while 60% have heard about genetically modified ingredients in food or drinks.

Around half of respondents say they have heard about traces of materials that come into contact with food (51%) and microplastics found in food (48%), while other topics are less well known: plant diseases in crops (45%), poisonous moulds in food and feed crops (39%), nanoparticles found in food (30%) and genome editing (21%).

Two percent do not mention any of the topics listed and 1% say they don't know.

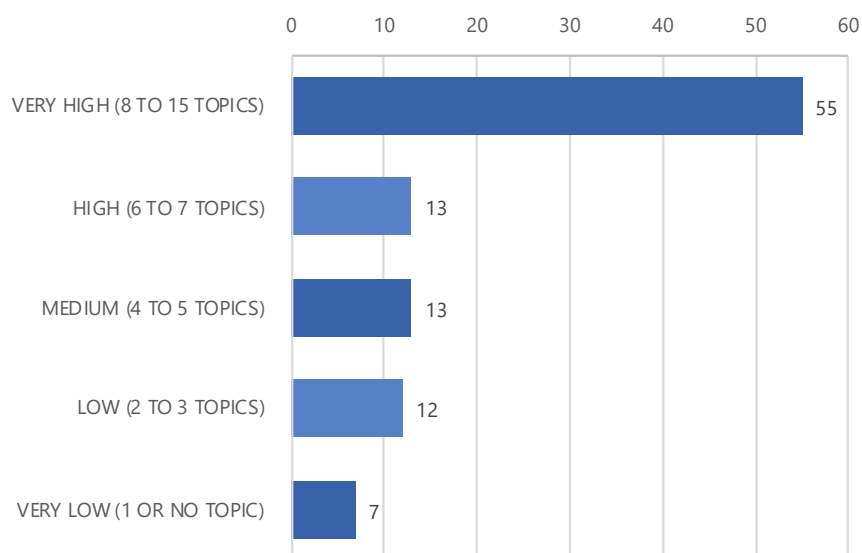
**QD3** Please tell me which of the following topics you have heard about. (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
(% - EU)



<sup>15</sup> QD3: Please tell me which of the following topics you have heard about (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE). Genetically modified ingredients in food or drinks; Additives like colours, preservatives or flavourings used in food or drinks; Food poisoning from bacteria; Pesticide residues in food; Antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat; Environmental pollutants in fish, meat or dairy; Traces of materials that come into contact with food, e.g. plastic or aluminium in packaging; Genome editing; Diseases found in animals; Plant diseases in crops; Nano particles found in food; Poisonous moulds in food and feed crops; Food hygiene; Allergic reactions to food or drinks; Microplastics found in food; None (SPONTANEOUS); DK.

By calculating an index of the overall level of awareness of food safety topics, it can be noted that the absolute majority of respondents (55%) have a very high level of awareness (i.e. they have heard about at least 8 of the 15 topics listed) and a further 13% have a high level of awareness (i.e. they have heard about 6 or 7 topics).

**QD3R** Index Level of awareness of food safety topics  
(% - EU)



In 12 countries, **additives like colours, preservatives or flavourings used in food or drinks** is the topic that respondents are most likely to have heard about. Respondents in Sweden (96%) are the most likely to have heard about this, followed by those in the Netherlands (95%), Estonia (87%), and Denmark and Finland (both 86%).

**Food hygiene** is the topic that is most familiar to respondents in seven Member States, and respondents are most likely to have heard about this in Sweden (88%), Denmark (87%) and the Netherlands and the UK (both 86%).

Respondents in Sweden (96%), Denmark (85%), the Netherlands (84%) and Finland (82%) are most likely to have heard about **antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat**, and this is the best known topic in five countries.

Respondents in Sweden (91%), Denmark (83%) and France (82%) are most likely to have heard about **pesticide residues in food**.

On the topic of **diseases found in animals**, awareness is once again highest in Sweden (86%), followed by Cyprus (82%), Slovenia (81%) and Greece (80%). This is the best known topic in five countries.

Respondents in the Netherlands are most likely to have heard about **allergic reactions to food or drinks** (89%), followed by respondents in Sweden (88%) and Denmark and the UK (both 80%). Awareness of **food poisoning from bacteria** is highest in Sweden (89%) and Denmark (86%).

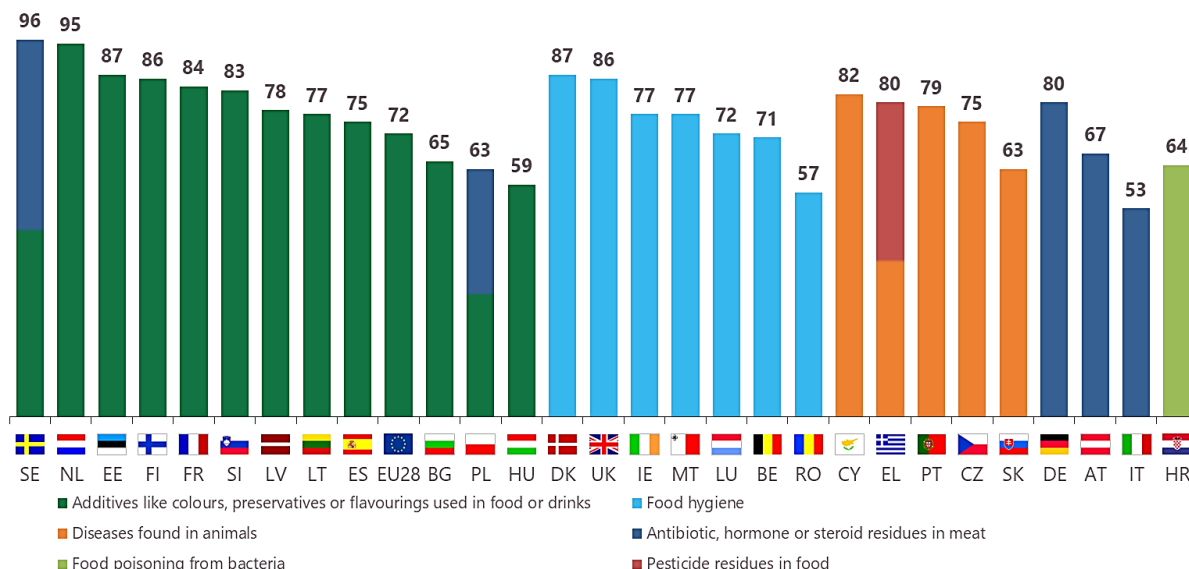
Respondents in Sweden are most likely to have heard about four other topics: **environmental pollutants in fish, meat or dairy** (91%), **genetically modified ingredients in food or drinks** (83%), **traces of materials that come into contact with food** (73%) and **microplastics found in food** (81%).

The issue of **plant diseases found in crops** is most familiar to respondents in the Netherlands and Slovenia (both 72%), while respondents in Sweden and Slovenia are most likely to have heard about **poisonous moulds in food and feed crops** (both 62%).

Respondents in Germany are most likely to have heard about **nano particles found in food** (51%), while the issue of **genome editing** is most familiar to respondents in Finland (62%) and Estonia (57%).

Overall levels of familiarity can be assessed by looking at the proportions that have heard about at least eight of the topics. This shows that knowledge is highest in Sweden (where 90% have heard about at least eight of the topics), the Netherlands (81%) and Denmark (77%). Respondents express the lowest levels of familiarity in Italy (where 25% have heard of at least eight topics), Romania (30%) and Hungary (33%).

QD3 Please tell me which of the following topics you have heard about. (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
 (% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)



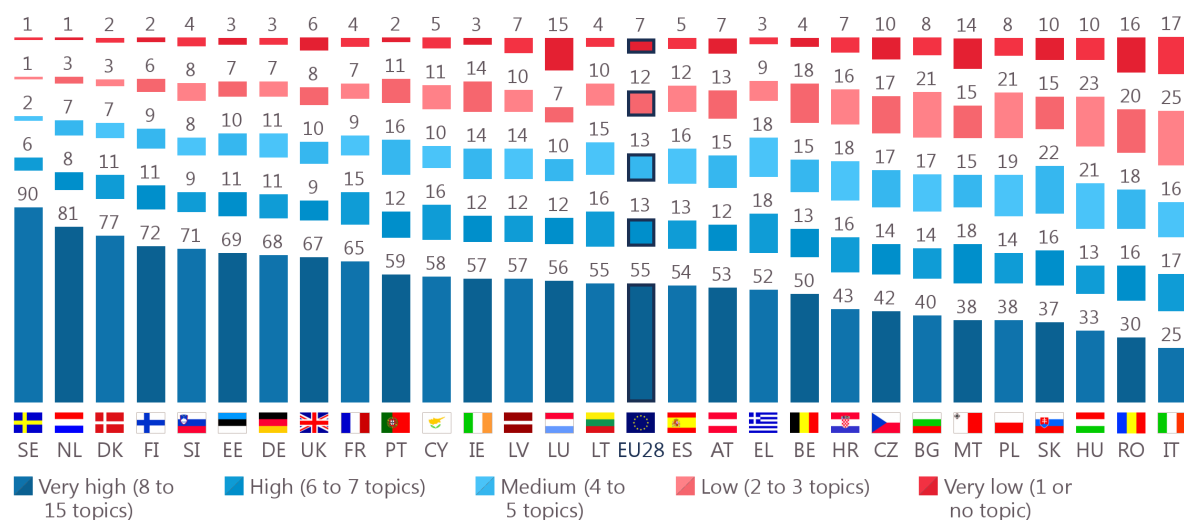
QD3 Please tell me which of the following topics you have heard about. (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) (%)

	Additives like colours, preservatives or flavourings used in food or drinks	Food hygiene	Antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat	Pesticide residues in food	Diseases found in animals	Allergic reactions to food or drinks	Food poisoning from bacteria	Environmental pollutants in fish, meat or dairy	Genetically modified ingredients in food or drinks	Traces of materials that come into contact with food e.g. plastic or aluminium in packaging	Microplastics found in food	Plant diseases in crops	Poisonous moulds in food and feed crops	Nano particles found in food	Genome editing
EU28	72	68	66	65	65	65	64	64	60	51	48	45	39	30	21
BE	67	71	64	67	57	64	64	62	51	52	50	39	33	25	15
BG	65	46	58	51	64	54	41	52	57	32	29	50	40	14	14
CZ	67	55	47	40	75	58	57	50	44	40	39	43	47	20	22
DK	86	87	85	83	68	80	86	80	66	72	77	47	54	32	36
DE	79	74	80	75	70	75	63	74	72	67	69	47	52	51	19
EE	87	77	68	70	76	79	66	77	69	66	50	49	55	26	57
IE	70	77	65	61	67	69	75	63	62	52	48	56	44	30	24
EL	66	65	61	80	80	62	52	57	60	40	27	68	21	15	19
ES	75	70	62	72	67	65	60	67	51	47	54	49	27	27	30
FR	84	78	69	82	64	69	77	75	65	60	52	43	25	41	19
HR	61	55	58	60	63	62	64	48	52	38	37	46	42	21	24
IT	52	46	53	38	45	42	44	45	41	36	25	13	26	12	8
CY	70	73	69	80	82	61	58	64	59	49	38	69	33	15	22
LV	78	59	68	68	64	70	65	69	71	57	44	45	44	20	16
LT	77	68	69	68	73	67	53	67	70	41	34	49	49	19	18
LU	68	72	63	71	56	60	66	64	57	58	61	37	29	40	31
HU	59	50	45	57	49	47	43	44	50	36	27	34	37	16	28
MT	52	77	42	66	66	50	42	52	38	47	32	29	25	14	12
NL	95	86	84	80	79	89	80	83	76	67	73	72	51	46	30
AT	66	58	67	63	54	62	53	59	61	51	52	42	48	38	22
PL	63	41	63	45	62	50	53	53	58	36	24	46	37	13	16
PT	72	78	67	75	79	68	76	70	45	54	40	55	43	19	10
RO	53	57	48	43	51	44	51	44	38	33	23	36	32	14	9
SI	83	68	77	79	81	77	76	72	77	65	60	72	62	38	25
SK	52	60	61	58	63	51	49	44	42	28	29	41	45	12	8
FI	86	83	82	80	67	79	80	80	62	65	69	50	50	30	62
SE	96	88	96	91	86	88	89	91	83	73	81	64	62	44	50
UK	75	86	65	70	74	80	80	67	70	56	56	59	49	33	30
	1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM			2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM						3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM					

The analysis of the index of the overall level of awareness shows the following:

- Respondents in Sweden (90%) are the most likely to have a very high level of awareness of food risks (i.e. they have heard about 8 to 15 topics), followed by more than three quarters of respondents in the Netherlands (81%) and Denmark (77%).
- At the other end of the spectrum, respondents in Italy (25%), Romania (30%) and Hungary (33%) are the least likely to have a very high level of awareness. Italy (17%) and Romania (16%) are also the countries with the highest proportions of respondents with a very low level of awareness (i.e. they have heard about one or no topics), followed by Luxembourg (15%).




QD3R Index Level of awareness of food safety topics (%)



Results are generally consistent across the different **socio-demographic** groups. The main difference is by level of education: respondents who left education at the age of 20 or above are more likely to have heard about the various topics than those who ended their education at a younger age. For example, 60% of those who left education at the age of 20 or above say they have heard about microplastics in food, compared with 36% of those who left education at the age of 15 or below.

Moreover, managers and self-employed are the most likely to have heard about each of the topics. For instance, 67% of managers and 60% of self-employed have heard about traces of materials that come into contact with food, compared to 48%-52% among those in other occupation categories. The same pattern can be observed by looking at the financial conditions of the respondents: the less respondents experience difficulties paying bills the more likely they are to have heard about each of the food safety topics.

**QD3** Please tell me which of the following topics you have heard about. (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
(% - EU)

	Additives like colours, preservatives or flavourings used in food or drinks	Food hygiene	Antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat	Pesticide residues in food	Diseases found in animals	Allergic reactions to food or drinks	Food poisoning from bacteria	Environmental pollutants in fish, meat or dairy	Genetically modified ingredients in food or drinks	Traces of materials that come into contact with food, e.g. plastic or aluminium in packaging	Microplastics found in food
EU28	72	68	66	65	65	65	64	64	60	51	48
 Education (End of)											
15-	47	65	55	59	58	55	39	13	60	39	21
16-19	57	70	62	63	64	61	49	17	63	43	28
20+	71	79	71	74	75	74	63	31	70	53	40
Still studying	58	69	61	58	60	61	48	23	64	39	23
 Socio-professional category											
Self-employed	66	77	66	68	72	68	60	27	70	51	36
Managers	74	81	74	77	77	77	67	32	74	56	45
Other white collars	61	72	63	65	67	62	52	21	64	43	29
Manual workers	58	70	63	63	64	62	49	18	63	43	27
House persons	50	65	55	58	60	55	41	15	61	37	22
Unemployed	57	69	63	62	59	59	45	20	64	44	23
Retired	56	71	62	66	66	63	48	19	64	44	30
Students	58	69	61	58	60	61	48	23	64	39	23
 Difficulties paying bills											
Most of the time	49	67	59	63	57	57	42	17	62	41	21
From time to time	50	63	56	55	59	54	42	15	58	35	22
Almost never/ Never	64	76	67	69	70	68	56	24	68	49	34

### 3 Understanding risk perceptions

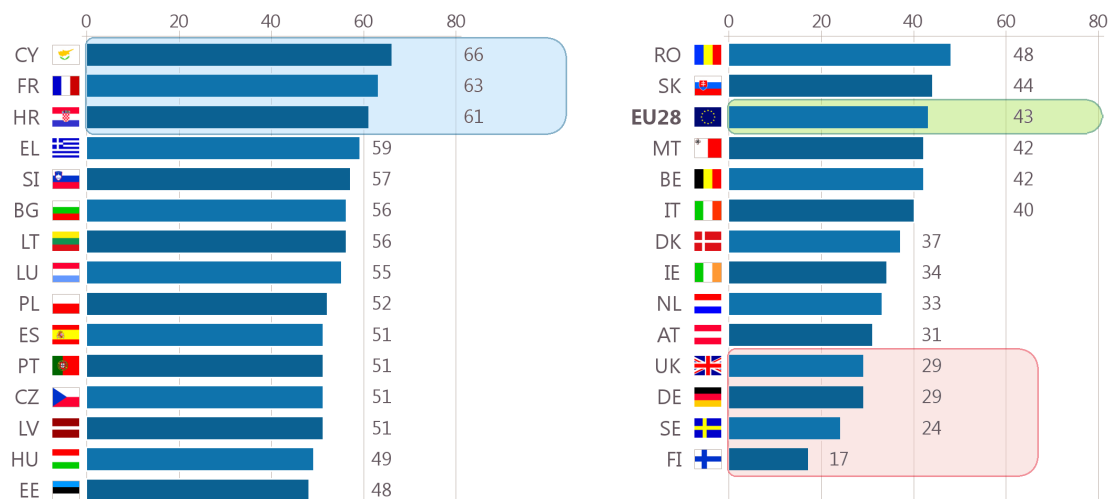
This section examines perceptions of harmful substances in food products, and identifies which food safety topics respondents are most concerned about.

#### Less than half of Europeans think that food products are full of harmful substances

Across the EU as a whole, 43% of respondents agree with the statement that ‘nowadays, food products are full of harmful substances’<sup>16</sup>.

Respondents are most likely to agree with the statement in Cyprus (66%), France (63%) and Croatia (61%). Levels of agreement are lowest in Finland (17%), Sweden (24%) and Germany and the UK (both 29%).

**QD8** Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with: (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
 (% - NOWADAYS, FOOD PRODUCTS ARE FULL OF HARMFUL SUBSTANCES)



<sup>16</sup> QD8.6: Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with. “nowadays, food products are full of harmful substances”.

The **socio-demographic analysis** shows consistent results across the various groups. The main differences are the following:

- Women are slightly more likely than men to agree that 'nowadays, food products are full of harmful substances' (45% vs. 41%).
- Managers are the least likely to agree with this statement (36% vs 42%-47% of other occupation categories).
- Respondents who have difficulties paying bills most of the time are more likely to agree with the statement (52% compared with 41% of those who never or almost never have difficulties).
- Respondents with a higher level of awareness of food safety topics are more likely to agree with the statement (48% of those with very high awareness, falling to 20% of those with very low awareness).
- Those personally interested in the topic of food safety are also more likely to agree that foods are full of harmful substances nowadays (50% compared with 38% of those without an interest).



**QD8** Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with: (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

(% - EU)

	Nowadays, food products are full of harmful substances
EU28	43
<b>Gender</b>	
Man	41
Woman	45
<b>Socio-professional category</b>	
Self-employed	46
Managers	36
Other white collars	44
Manual workers	45
House persons	45
Unemployed	47
Retired	42
Students	42
<b>Difficulties paying bills</b>	
Most of the time	52
From time to time	46
Almost never/ Never	41
<b>Index Awareness of food safety topics</b>	
Very high	48
High	48
Medium	42
Low	27
Very low	20
<b>Personally interested in food safety</b>	
Yes	50
No	38

**There is no single food safety concern that prevails in all countries. Most frequently reported concerns relate to antibiotics, hormones and steroids in meat, pesticide residues in food, environmental pollutants and food additives**

Respondents were asked which food safety topics concerned them most by choosing among the topics that they had previously said they had heard about (as shown in Chapter II, section 2). Respondents were shown their answers to this previous question and asked which items most concerned them<sup>17</sup>.

In broad terms, topics that are better known tend to register the highest levels of concern. Respondents who have heard about at least one food safety topic are most likely to be concerned about antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat (44%), followed by pesticide residues in food (39%), environmental pollutants in fish, meat or dairy (37%) and additives like colours, preservatives or flavourings used in food or drinks (36%).

More than a quarter are concerned about food hygiene (32%), food poisoning from bacteria (30%), diseases found in animals (28%) and genetically modified ingredients in food or drinks (27%).

Around a fifth say that they are concerned about microplastics found in food (21%) and allergic reactions to food or drinks (20%).

Other topics register lower levels of concern: traces of materials that come into contact with food (16%), poisonous moulds in food and feed crops (11%), plant diseases in crops (9%), nanoparticles found in food (8%) and genome editing (4%).

Two percent do not mention any of the listed topics, while 1% say they don't know.

As noted in the Introduction to this report, the Special Eurobarometer survey in 2010 (SP354) asked a similar question. Although the comparison of these results should be taken with caution, as the question wording and response categories were different, respondents' main concerns were similar in 2010 as in the current survey<sup>18</sup>. Specifically, in the 2010 survey, respondents were most likely to be very or fairly worried about pesticide residues; residues like antibiotics or hormones in meat; and pollutants like mercury in fish and dioxins in pork. These are very similar to the top three answers in the current survey at EU level. 'Genetically modified ingredients in food or drinks', which was the fourth issue respondents were most worried about in the 2010 survey<sup>19</sup>, has been identified as a concern by 27% of respondents in this survey.

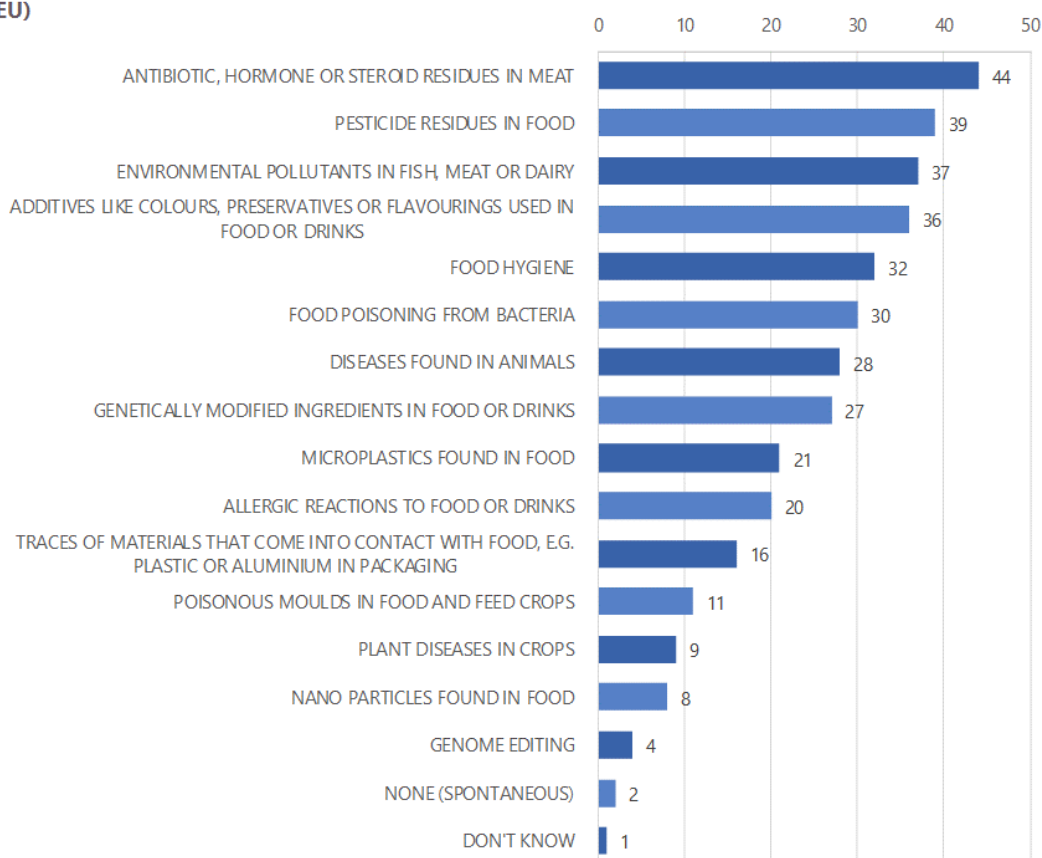
<sup>17</sup> QD4T: Please tell me which of these topics you have heard about concern you most when it comes to food? Firstly? And then? TOTAL (MAX. 5 ANSWERS). Genetically modified ingredients in food or drinks; Additives like colours, preservatives or flavourings used in food or drinks; Food poisoning from bacteria; Pesticide residues in food; Antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat; Environmental pollutants in fish, meat or dairy; Traces of materials that come into contact with food, e.g. plastic or aluminium in packaging; Genome editing; Diseases found in animals; Plant diseases in crops; Nano particles found in food; Poisonous moulds in food and feed crops; Food hygiene; Allergic reactions to food or drinks; Microplastics found in food; None (SPONTANEOUS); DK.

<sup>18</sup> The question in the 2010 survey (SP354) was: "Please tell me to what extent you are worried or not about the following issues". ANSWERS: Very worried; Fairly worried; Not very worried; Not at all worried; DK.

<sup>19</sup> Although questions are not directly comparable, 66% of respondents in 2010 were very or fairly worried about 'Genetically modified organisms found in food or drinks'.

**QD4T** Please tell me which of these topics you have heard about concern you most when it comes to food? Firstly? And then? TOTAL (MAX. 5 ANSWERS)

(% - EU)



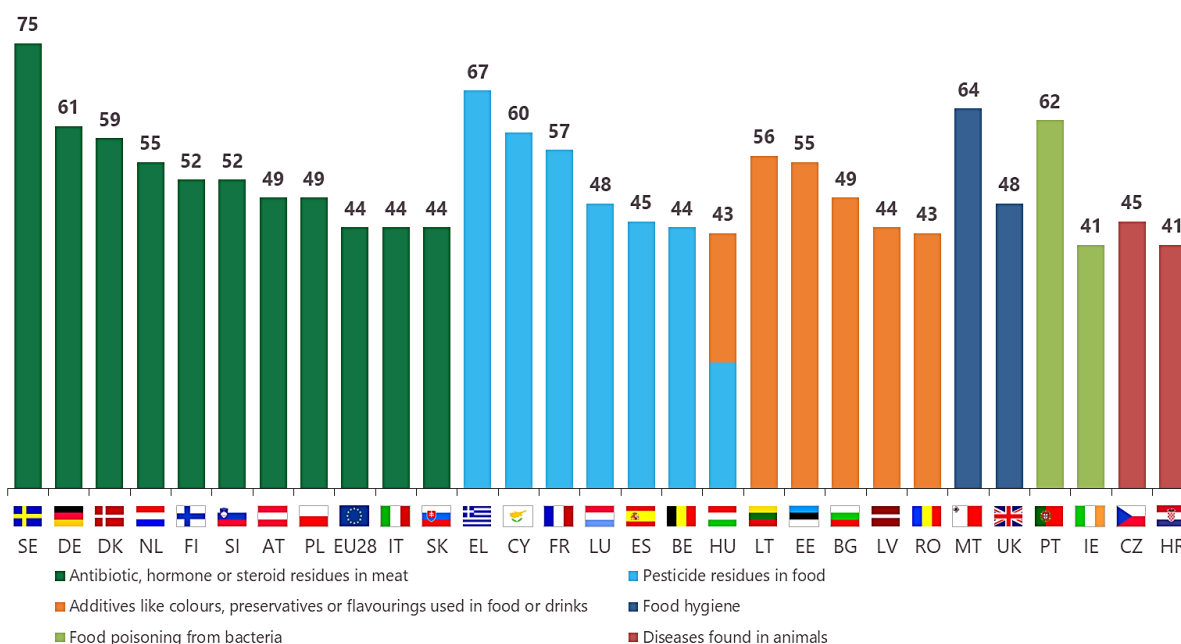
Base: respondents who have heard about at least one food safety topic (n=26,883)

In 10 countries, **antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat** is the item chosen most frequently as one of respondents' main concerns, most notably Sweden (where it is chosen by 75% of respondents).

In six countries, **pesticide residues in food** is the topic chosen most frequently as a concern, with the highest proportion seen in Greece (67%). In Hungary, this is the joint highest answer, along with **additives like colours, preservatives or flavourings used in food or drinks**. This topic is most frequently mentioned as a concern by another five countries (in addition to Hungary), including Lithuania and Estonia, where it is chosen by more than half of respondents.

In two countries (Malta and the UK), **food hygiene** is the topic chosen most frequently as a concern, while **food poisoning from bacteria** is the most common answer in Portugal and Ireland. Respondents in Czechia and Croatia are most likely to say that **diseases found in animals** is among their main concerns.

QD4T Please tell me which of these topics you have heard about concern you most when it comes to food? Firstly? And then?  
TOTAL (MAX. 5 ANSWERS)  
(% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)



Base: respondents who have heard about at least one food safety topic (n=26,883)

Respondents who have heard about at least one food safety topic in Sweden (75%) are the most likely to be concerned about **antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat**, followed by respondents in Germany (61%), Denmark (59%) and the Netherlands (55%). Respondents are least concerned about this issue in Malta (20%) and Czechia (25%).

Respondents in Greece (67%), Cyprus (60%) and France, Portugal and Sweden (all 57%) express the greatest concern about **pesticide residues in food**. The lowest proportions are found in Czechia (17%), Poland (24%) and Italy and Romania (both 25%).

Respondents in Sweden are the most concerned about **environmental pollutants in fish, meat or dairy** (62%), followed by those in Finland (51%) and France and the Netherlands (both 47%). Respondents in Slovakia (19%) express the lowest levels of concern.

At least half in Lithuania (56%), Estonia (55%) and the Netherlands (50%) say they are concerned about **additives like colours, preservatives or flavourings used in food or drinks**, while respondents in Malta (21%) and Portugal (23%) are least likely to say this is one of their main concerns.

**Food hygiene** is mentioned the most frequently by respondents in Malta (64%) and is least likely to be mentioned by those in Poland (13%).

Concern about **food poisoning from bacteria** is by far the highest in Portugal (62%), while it is lowest in Bulgaria, Estonia and Lithuania (all 19%).

Respondents in Portugal are also the most likely to be concerned about **diseases found in animals** (56%), followed by respondents in Greece (52%). The lowest levels of concern are found in Denmark, Finland and the Netherlands (all 14%).

Concern about **genetically modified ingredients in food or drinks** is highest in Lithuania (45%), Bulgaria and Greece (both 42%) and Latvia (41%), while respondents express the lowest levels of concern in Malta (12%) and Finland (13%).

Respondents in Denmark (40%), the Netherlands and Sweden (both 37%) and Luxembourg (35%) are the most likely to be concerned about **microplastics found in food**, while the lowest proportions are seen in Cyprus (6%), Greece, Lithuania and Poland (all 7%).

There is very little variation by country in levels of concern about **allergic reactions to food or drinks**, the proportions ranging from 27% in Croatia to 12% in Luxembourg.

Concern about **traces of materials that come into contact with food** is highest among respondents in Malta (25%) and lowest in Lithuania and Slovakia (both 9%).

Respondents in Slovakia (23%) and Czechia (22%) are the most concerned about **poisonous moulds in food and feed crops**, while respondents in France and Luxembourg (4%) are least likely to be concerned.

Concern about **plant diseases found in crops** is highest among respondents in Greece (27%) and Cyprus (22%), and is lowest in Germany and Finland (both 4%).

There is little variation by country in concern over **nano particles found in food**, with proportions ranging from 14% in both Germany and Austria to 2% in Cyprus.

Respondents in Finland are the most likely to be concerned about the issue of **genome editing** (11%), while just 1% of respondents in Portugal are concerned.

**QD4T** Please tell me which of these topics you have heard about concern you most when it comes to food? Firstly? And then?  
TOTAL (MAX. 5 ANSWERS) (%)



	Antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat	Pesticide residues in food	Environmental pollutants in fish, meat or dairy	Additives like colours, preservatives or flavourings used in food or drinks	Food hygiene	Food poisoning from bacteria	Diseases found in animals	Genetically modified ingredients in food or drinks	Microplastics found in food	Allergic reactions to food or drinks	Traces of materials that come into contact with food e.g. plastic or aluminium in packaging	Poisonous moulds in food and feed crops	Plant diseases in crops	Nano particles found in food	Genome editing
EU28	44	39	37	36	32	30	28	27	21	20	16	11	9	8	4
BE	39	44	39	31	38	29	19	16	23	19	17	9	7	6	3
BG	43	31	31	49	22	19	35	42	11	26	13	15	14	4	6
CZ	25	17	21	37	30	29	45	18	15	24	13	22	10	4	5
DK	59	51	45	35	34	36	14	14	40	15	21	13	5	6	4
DE	61	43	42	27	27	22	25	30	34	17	17	13	4	14	3
EE	34	33	45	55	27	19	24	23	13	23	21	15	5	3	6
IE	32	30	28	32	40	41	30	25	17	23	17	13	15	6	3
EL	44	67	33	44	35	23	52	42	7	24	13	7	27	4	7
ES	37	45	42	37	33	30	29	17	26	21	15	5	11	5	5
FR	38	57	47	43	39	35	17	28	19	15	17	4	7	11	3
HR	40	39	22	31	27	40	41	32	13	27	13	20	12	5	8
IT	44	25	33	33	28	28	28	24	15	22	20	16	6	6	4
CY	47	60	35	41	42	25	47	31	6	21	11	5	22	2	5
LV	41	37	38	44	20	29	23	41	14	25	16	13	5	3	3
LT	48	37	38	56	29	19	30	45	7	24	9	14	11	3	4
LU	36	48	33	27	37	28	19	25	35	12	17	4	6	12	8
HU	32	43	23	43	27	24	27	32	10	23	14	16	12	5	6
MT	20	54	33	21	64	21	45	12	16	20	25	8	11	3	4
NL	55	38	47	50	34	25	14	21	37	24	19	6	7	11	4
AT	49	39	28	32	19	24	19	37	25	19	21	17	9	14	7
PL	49	24	29	45	13	26	37	39	7	18	13	16	14	3	5
PT	37	57	41	23	41	62	56	15	11	21	18	19	12	3	1
RO	35	25	24	43	37	33	29	22	8	18	15	11	13	5	4
SI	52	48	25	35	18	38	31	36	24	19	17	15	13	5	3
SK	44	40	19	31	31	30	43	25	10	26	9	23	20	3	3
FI	52	46	51	44	29	27	14	13	30	15	16	11	4	3	11
SE	75	57	62	40	26	26	20	21	37	14	14	12	6	10	7
UK	32	31	31	28	48	38	29	25	22	24	15	11	10	7	4

Base: respondents who have heard about at least one food safety topic (n=26,883)

Findings are generally consistent across **socio-demographic** groups. The main differences are the following:

- The younger the respondents the more likely they are to be concerned about **diseases found in animals** (33% of 15-24 year olds vs. 26% of those aged 55 or more). Younger respondents are also more likely to be concerned about **food hygiene** (38% vs. 31%) and **allergic reactions to food or drinks** (26% vs. 18%-20%), but less likely to be concerned about other topics, such as **antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat** (39% vs. 43%-46%), **pesticide residues in food** (33% vs. 37%-42%) and **additives like colours, preservatives or flavourings used in food or drinks** (29% vs. 36%-38%).
- The longer respondents stayed in education, the more likely they are to be concerned about most topics. For example, 30% of those who ended education at the age of 20 or above are concerned about genetically modified ingredients in food or drinks, compared with 19% of those who left education by the age of 15. There are some exceptions, however: **food poisoning from bacteria** (mentioned by 27% of those who left education at the age of 20 or above vs. 32% of those who left education by the age of 15) and **diseases found in animals** (23% vs. 31%).
- Respondents with a high to very high level of awareness of food safety topics are more likely to be concerned about most topics. For example, pesticide residues in food are mentioned by 50% of those with very high awareness, compared with 6% of those with very low awareness.

**QD4T** Please tell me which of these topics you have heard about concern you most when it comes to food? Firstly? And then?  
TOTAL (MAX. 5 ANSWERS)  
(% - respondents who have heard about at least one food safety topic )

	Antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat	Pesticide residues in food	Environmental pollutants in fish, meat or dairy	Additives like colours, preservatives or flavourings used in food or drinks	Food hygiene	Food poisoning from bacteria	Diseases found in animals	Genetically modified ingredients in food or drinks	Microplastics found in food	Allergic reactions to food or drinks
EU28	44	39	37	36	32	30	28	27	21	20
 Age										
15-24	39	33	34	29	38	34	33	26	19	26
25-39	43	37	36	36	31	30	30	28	23	20
40-54	46	42	40	36	31	29	27	29	22	20
55 +	45	41	37	38	31	29	26	24	20	18
 Education (End of)										
15-	40	39	33	32	33	32	31	19	15	20
16-19	42	37	35	37	33	31	29	26	20	20
20+	49	45	42	39	30	27	23	30	26	19
Still studying	43	33	36	30	34	34	34	27	21	26
<b>Index Awareness of food safety topics</b>										
Very high	55	50	46	39	33	33	27	33	29	19
High	43	39	38	43	35	35	33	26	16	26
Medium	35	30	29	36	34	28	32	21	11	24
Low	20	16	15	23	28	19	24	13	8	17
Very low	8	6	6	8	22	9	12	4	3	7

## 4 Trust in sources of information on food risks

### Scientists and consumer organisations are the most trusted sources on food risks

Respondents were asked how much they trust various sources for information on food risks<sup>20</sup>. Across the EU, respondents are most likely to say that they trust scientists for information on food risks: around eight in ten (82%) say they trust **scientists**, including 28% who ‘totally trust’ them. **Consumer organisations** are also generally trusted, with 79% of respondents trusting this source, including 21% who ‘totally trust’ them.

More than two-thirds (69%) trust **farmers**, while more than half of respondents trust **national authorities** (60%), **EU institutions** (58%) and **NGOs** (56%). About half of respondents trust **journalists** (50%).

A minority of respondents say they trust **supermarkets and restaurants** (43%) or **food industries** (36%), while only 19% trust **celebrities, bloggers and influencers**.

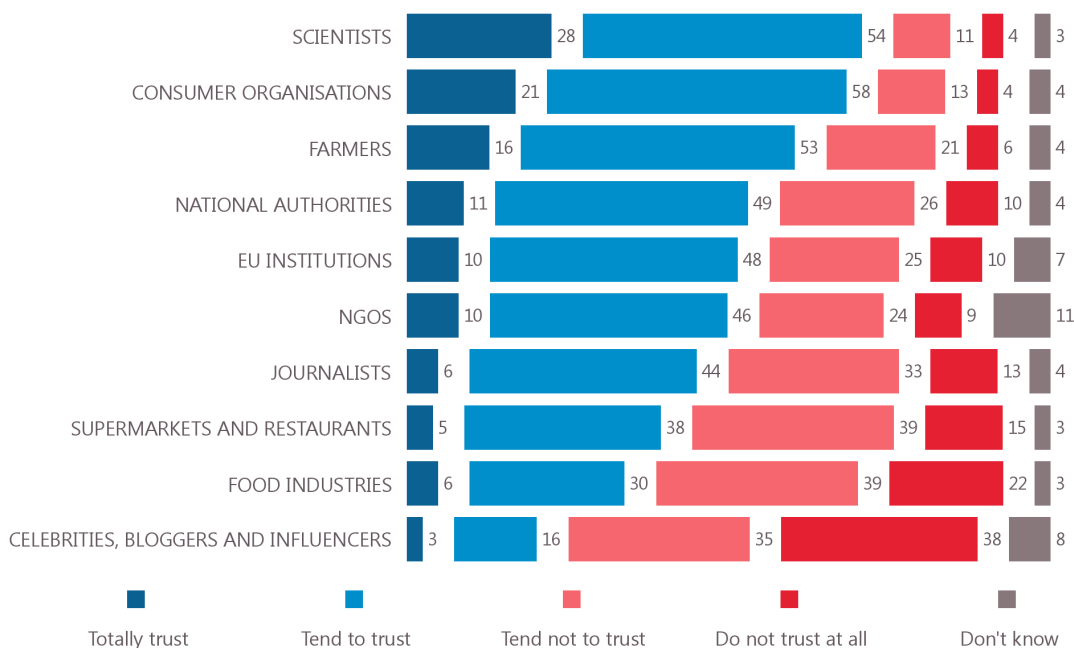
The 2010 Special Eurobarometer (SP 354) asked a similar question. Although the comparison should be taken with caution, as question wording and response categories were different<sup>21</sup>, a broad comparison can be made. In 2010, 73% of respondents said that they would be very or fairly confident in scientists to give accurate information about a food risk. In the current survey, 82% of respondents express trust in scientists. In 2010, 76% of respondents said that they would be very or fairly confident in consumer organisations to give accurate information about a food risk – a level similar to the one observed in this survey (Total ‘Trust’: 79%). In 2010, 58% of respondents said they would be very or fairly confident in farmers – while this survey shows that more than two thirds (69%) trust farmers for information on food risks.

<sup>20</sup> QD7: Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks. Totally trust; Tend to trust; Tend not to trust; Do not trust at all; DK.

<sup>21</sup> The 2010 question was: “Suppose a serious food risk was found in a food you eat regularly such as fish, chicken or salad. How much confidence would you have in the following sources to give you accurate information about this risk?” ANSWERS: Very confident; fairly confident; Not very confident; Not confident at all; DK.

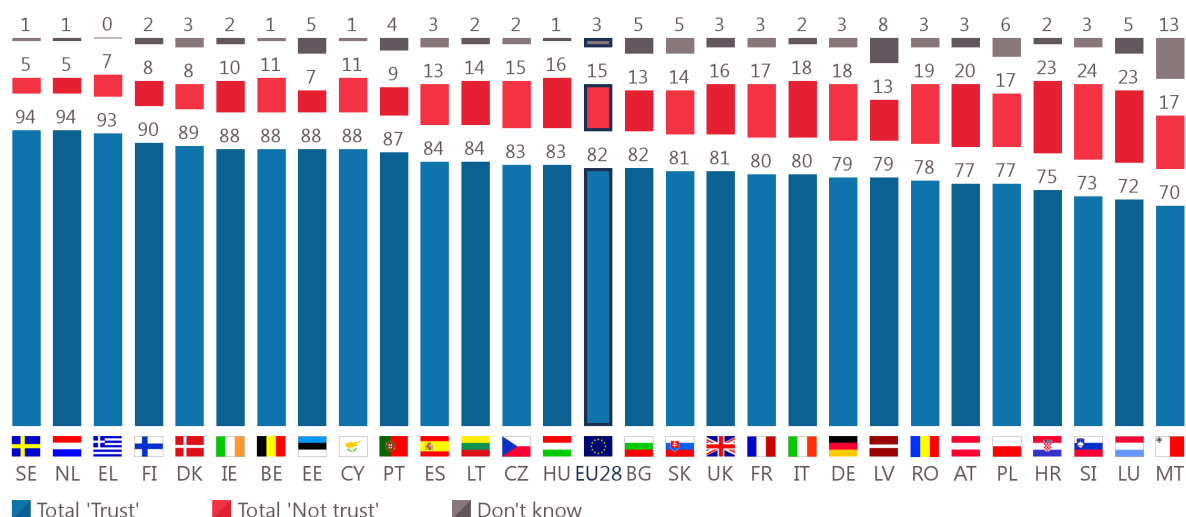


**QD7** Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks. (% - EU)



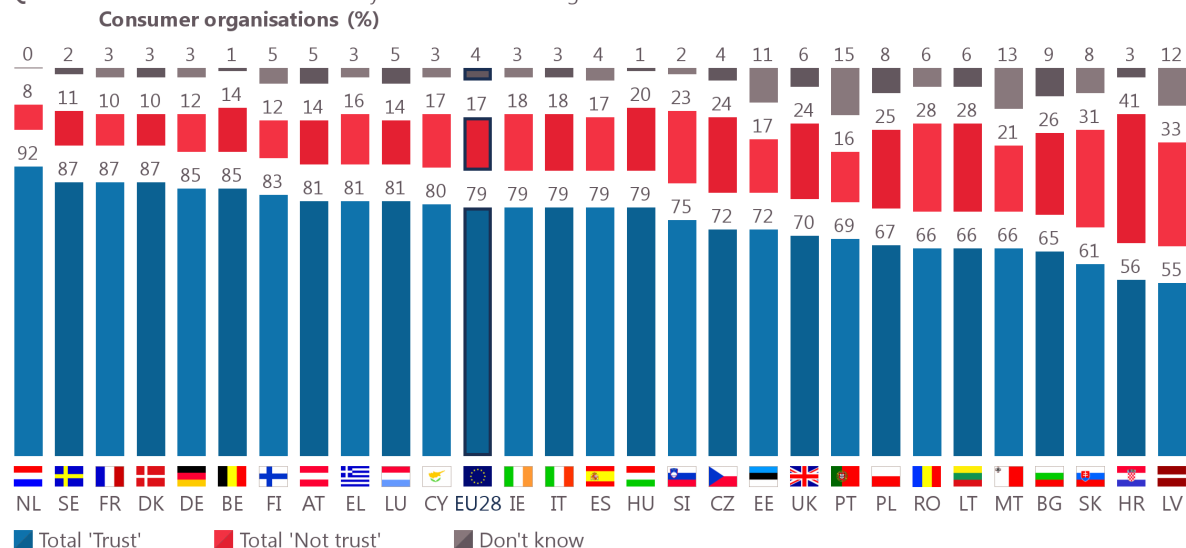
In every Member State, at least seven in ten respondents say that they trust **scientists** for information on food risks. This proportion is highest in Sweden and the Netherlands (both 94%), Greece (93%) and Finland (90%), while respondents are least likely to trust scientists in Malta (70%), Luxembourg (72%), Slovenia (73%) and Croatia (75%).

**QD7.3** Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks. **Scientists (%)**



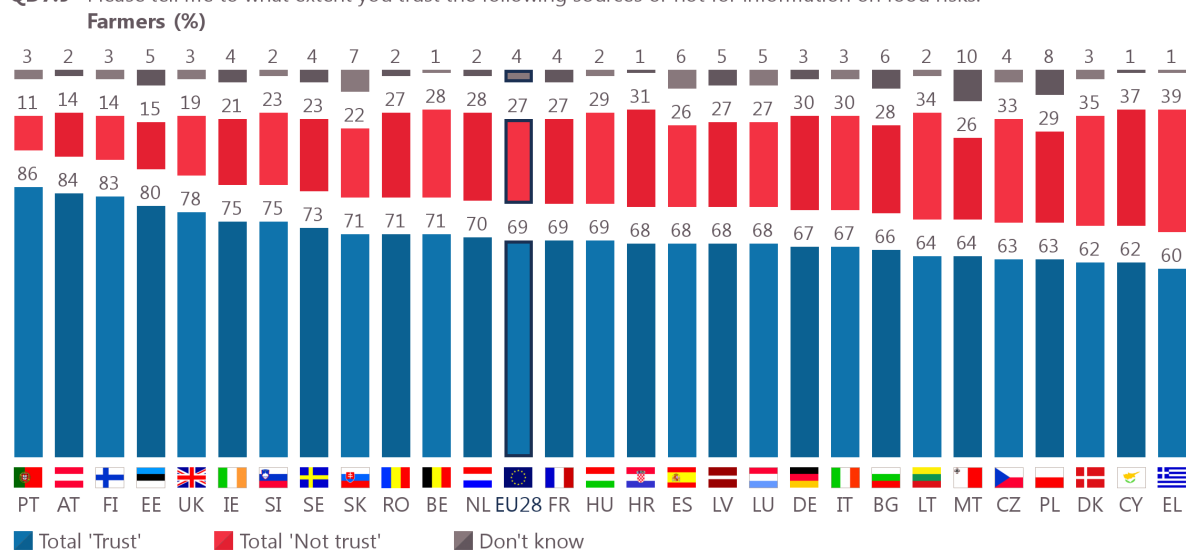
The majority of respondents in each country say they trust **consumer organisations** for information on food risks. However, there is some degree of variation between Member States: respondents are most likely to say they trust consumer organisations in the Netherlands (92%) and Sweden, France and Denmark (all 87%), while the proportion is lowest in Latvia (55%) and Croatia (56%).

QD7.10 Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks.



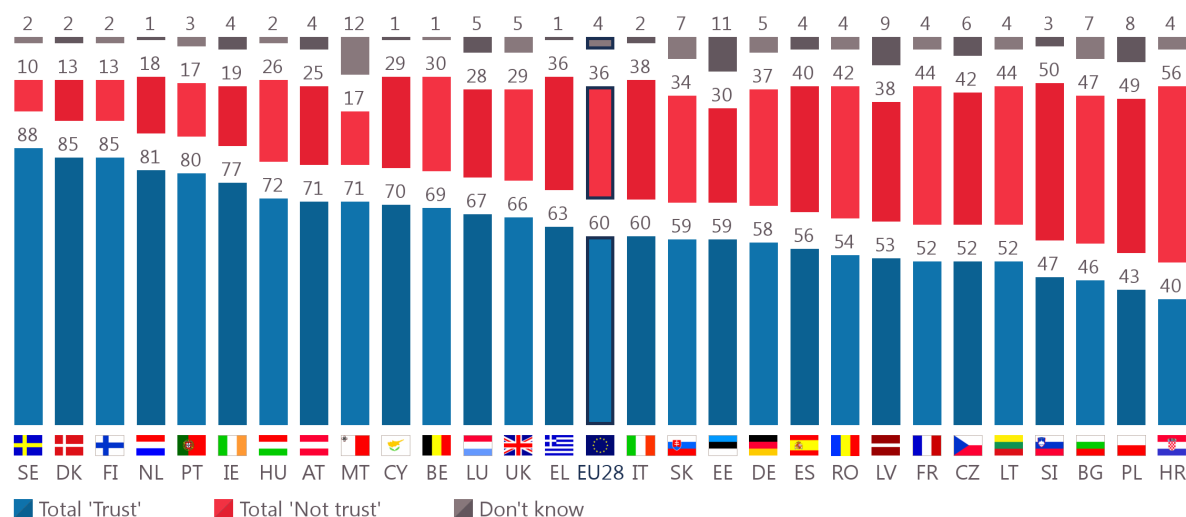
Across the EU as a whole, more than two-thirds of respondents (69%) say they trust **farmers** for information on food risks, and this proportion is particularly high among respondents in Portugal (86%), Austria (84%), Finland (83%) and Estonia (80%). Elsewhere, the proportion is fairly consistent across Member States, with the lowest proportions seen in Greece (60%) and Cyprus and Denmark (both 62%).

QD7.9 Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks.



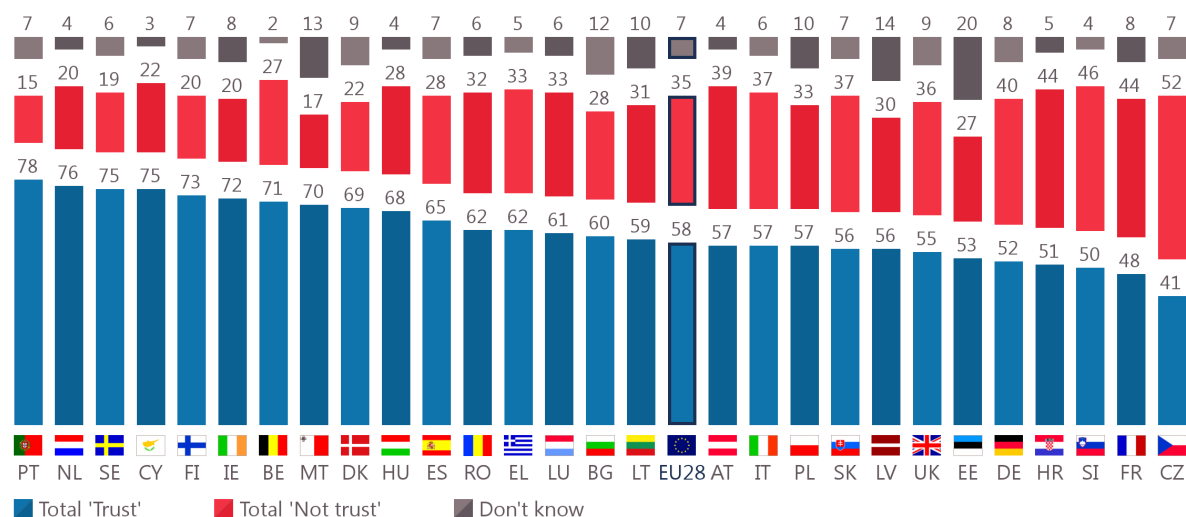
Trust in **national authorities** varies between Member States. More than three-quarters of respondents say they trust their national authorities in Sweden (88%), Denmark and Finland (both 85%), the Netherlands (81%), Portugal (80%) and Ireland (77%). By contrast, less than half of respondents trust the national authorities in Croatia (40%), Poland (43%), Bulgaria (46%) and Slovenia (47%).

**QD7.7** Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks.  
National authorities (%)



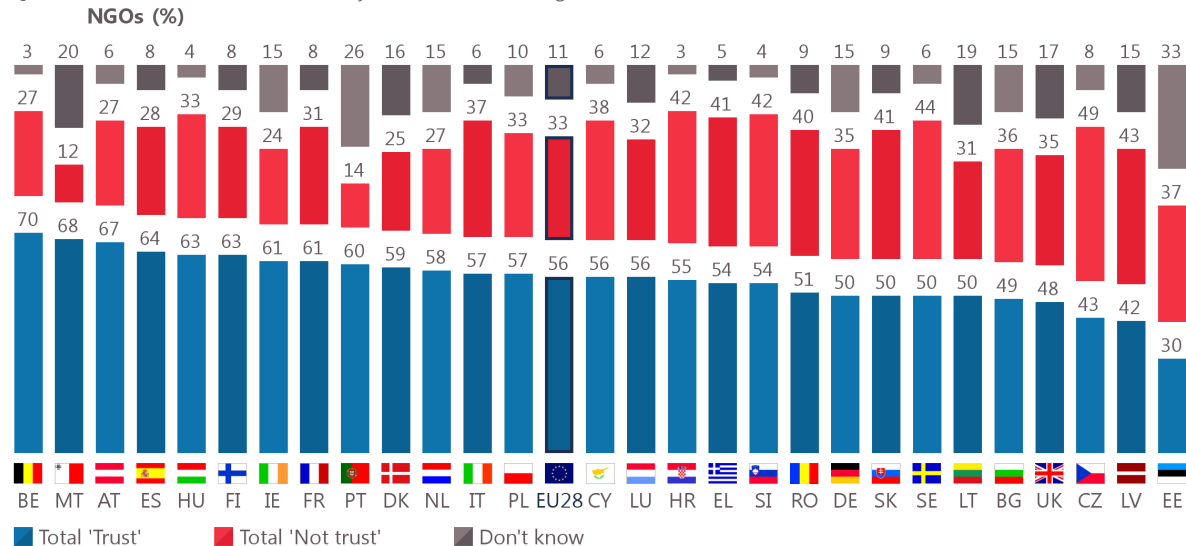
In four countries, three-quarters of respondents or more say they trust **EU institutions** for information on food risks: Portugal (78%), the Netherlands (76%) and Sweden and Cyprus (both 75%). Less than half of respondents in Czechia (41%) and France (48%) say they trust EU institutions.

**QD7.5** Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks.  
EU institutions (%)



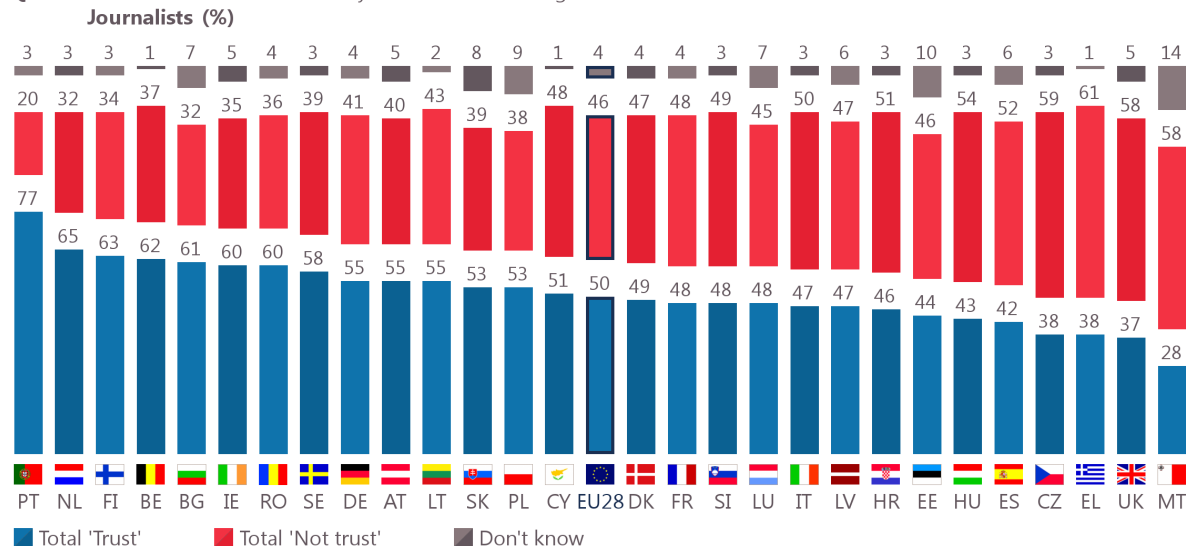
Respondents are most likely to trust **NGOs** in Belgium (70%), Malta (68%) and Austria (67%). The proportion is by far the lowest in Estonia (30%) followed by Latvia (42%) and Czechia (43%).

**QD7.1** Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks.



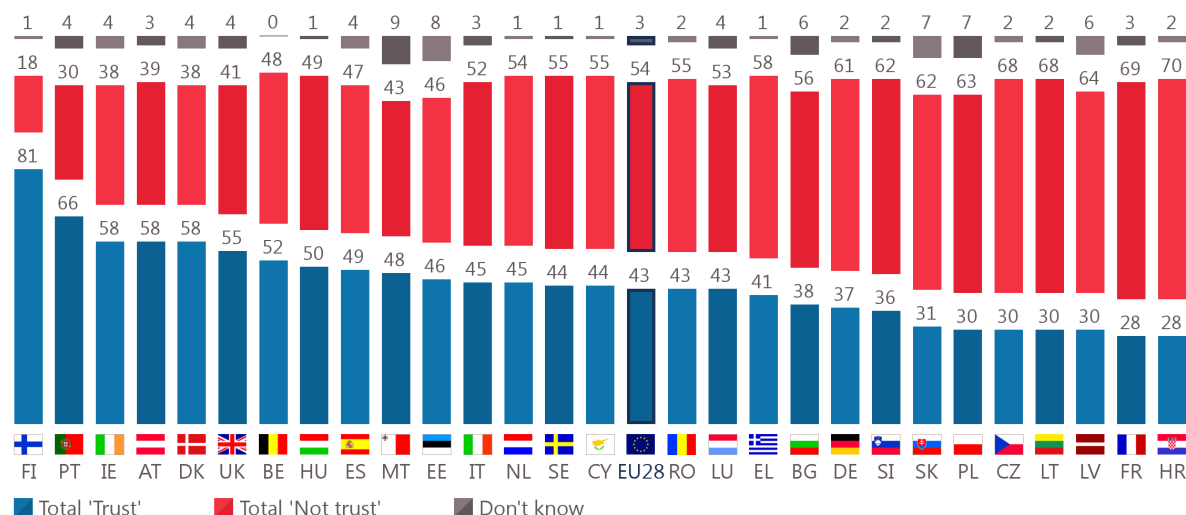
Trust in **journalists** also varies by Member State. Respondents in Portugal are by far the most likely to say they trust journalists for information on food risks (77%), followed by respondents in the Netherlands (65%), Finland (63%), Belgium (62%) and Bulgaria (61%). At the other end of the scale, just 28% of respondents in Malta say they trust journalists, and the proportion is also relatively low in the UK (37%) and Greece and Czechia (both 38%).

**QD7.6** Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks.



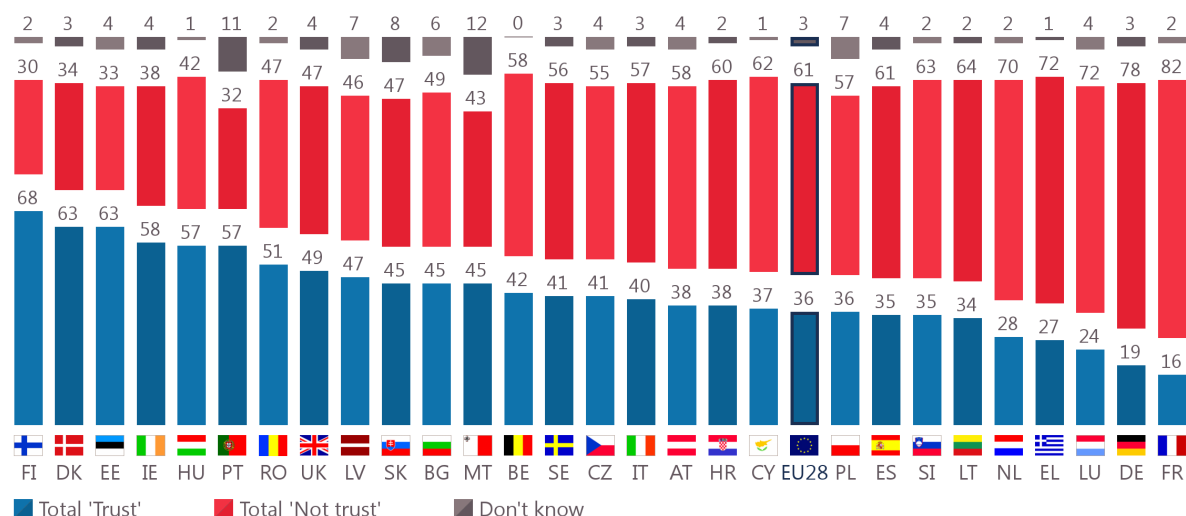
In seven Member States, a majority of respondents say they trust **supermarkets and restaurants** for information on food risks. Respondents in Finland are by far the most likely to say this (81%), followed by those in Portugal (66%) and Ireland, Austria and Denmark (all 58%). However, there are seven countries where less than a third of respondents trust supermarkets and restaurants for information on food risks. The lowest proportions are seen in Croatia and France (both 28%).

**QD7.4** Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks.  
**Supermarkets and restaurants (%)**



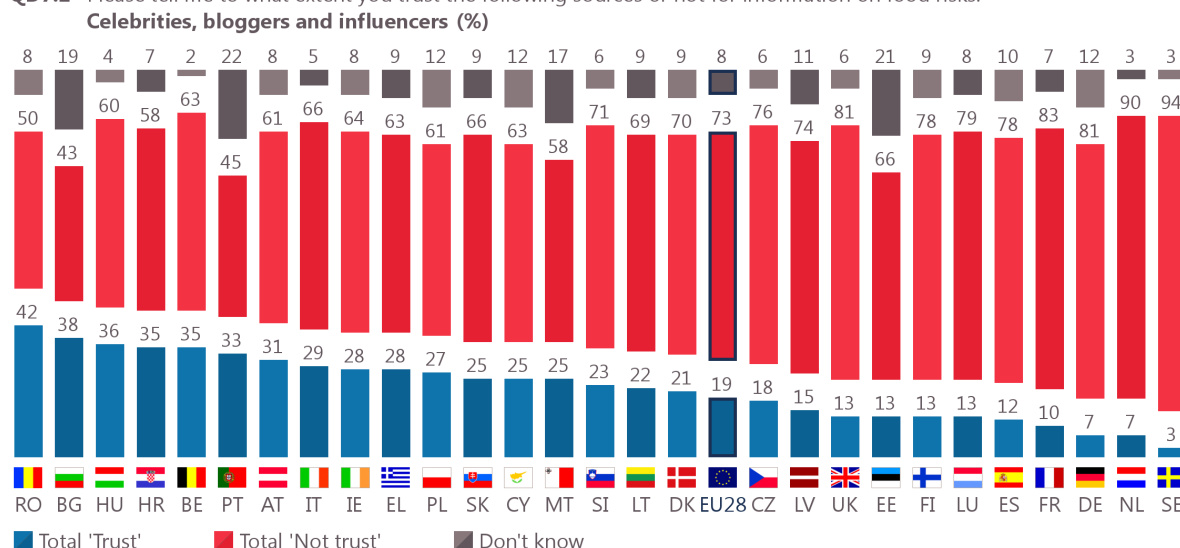
There is considerable variation by country in the proportions that trust **food industries** for information on food risks. In seven countries, a majority of respondents say they trust food industries, most notably Finland (68%) and Denmark and Estonia (both 63%). By contrast, there are five countries where less than a third of respondents trust food industries: France (16%), Germany (19%), Luxembourg (24%), Greece (27%) and the Netherlands (28%).

**QD7.8** Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks.  
**Food industries (%)**



In every Member State, a minority of respondents say they trust **celebrities, bloggers and influencers**. Trust is highest among respondents in Romania (42%), Bulgaria (38%), Hungary (36%) and Croatia and Belgium (both 35%). By contrast, less than one in ten respondents say they trust this source in Sweden (3%) and Germany and the Netherlands (both 7%).

QD7.2 Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks.



Levels of trust in different sources are generally consistent across **socio-demographic** groups. The main differences are as follows:

- Younger respondents are more likely than older respondents to say they trust most of the sources. This applies in particular to EU institutions (70% of 15-24 year olds, falling to 51% of those aged 55 or over) and celebrities, bloggers and influencers (26% vs. 14%).
- The longer respondents stayed in education, the more likely they are to trust many of the sources. For example, 64% of those who ended education at the age of 20 or above trust EU institutions, compared with 47% of those who left education by the age of 15. However, respondents finishing education aged 20 or more are the slightly less likely than those finishing education earlier to trust supermarkets and restaurants (39% vs 43%) and food industries (31% vs 35%-37%).
- Respondents with a higher level of awareness about food risks are more likely to trust most of the sources. For example, 83% of those with very high awareness say that they trust consumer organisations, compared with 60% of those with very low awareness. The main exceptions to this general pattern are food industries and celebrities, bloggers and influencers: those with lower levels of awareness are more likely to say they trust these sources (for example, 51% of those with low awareness and 48% with very low awareness say they trust food industries, compared with 30% of those with very high awareness).

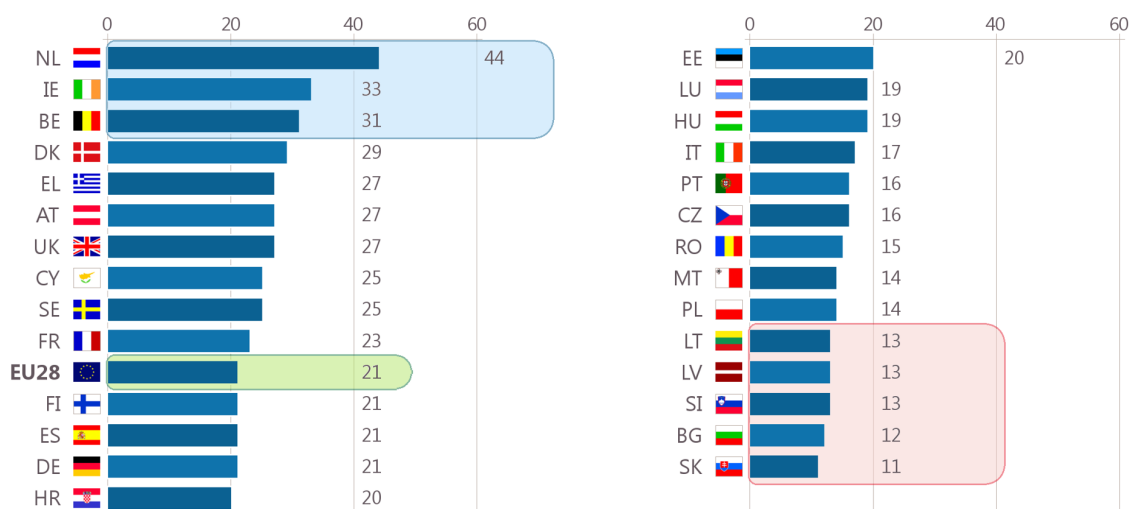
**QD7** Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks.  
 (% - EU - Total 'Trust')

	Scientists	Consumer organisations	Farmers	National authorities	EU institutions	NGOs	Journalists	Supermarkets and restaurants	Food industries	Celebrities, bloggers and influencers
EU28	82	79	69	60	58	56	50	43	36	19
<b>Age</b>										
15-24	87	76	73	65	70	62	48	52	45	26
25-39	85	80	72	63	64	63	52	44	37	23
40-54	83	81	69	62	58	57	52	43	33	18
55 +	77	76	67	56	51	49	48	39	33	14
<b>Education (End of)</b>										
15-	73	72	69	54	47	45	42	43	35	15
16-19	80	77	71	57	54	53	48	43	37	20
20+	87	84	68	65	64	63	55	39	31	16
Still studying	88	79	72	68	72	65	51	53	43	25
<b>Index Awareness of food safety topics</b>										
Very high	86	83	69	63	60	59	51	39	30	12
High	84	80	70	58	58	54	47	42	34	20
Medium	80	75	71	55	56	52	49	46	39	22
Low	74	72	72	58	56	51	48	53	51	34
Very low	66	60	66	51	48	46	45	50	48	31

**Around a fifth (21%) of citizens agree that ‘scientific advice on food risks is independent of commercial or political interests’**

Across the EU, around a fifth (21%) of the respondents agree that ‘scientific advice on food risks is independent of commercial or political interests’<sup>22</sup>. Respondents in the Netherlands are by far the most likely to agree that ‘scientific advice on food risks is independent of commercial or political interests’ (44%), followed by those in Ireland (33%) and Belgium (31%). Agreement is lowest in Slovakia (11%) and Bulgaria (12%).

**QD8** Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with: (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
 (% - SCIENTIFIC ADVICE ON FOOD RISKS IS INDEPENDENT OF COMMERCIAL OR POLITICAL INTERESTS)



Levels of agreement with this statement are generally consistent across **socio-demographic** groups. However, the following differences can be observed:

- The longer respondents stayed in education, the more likely they are to agree that ‘scientific advice on food risks is independent of commercial or political interests’ (25% of those who ended education aged 20 or more, compared with 15% of those who ended education aged 15 or less).
- Students (26%) and managers (25%) are the most likely to agree with this statement, particularly compared with unemployed (17%), house persons (18%) or retired (19%).
- The higher the level of awareness of food safety topics, the more likely respondents are to agree with this statement (25% of those with very high awareness, compared with 8% of those with very low awareness).
- Respondents who agree national authorities, together with the EU, keep them safe from food risks are also more likely to agree that ‘scientific advice on food risks is independent of commercial or political interests’ (30% vs 18% of those who do not agree that authorities keep them safe from food risks).
- Those who are personally interested in the topic of food safety are more likely to agree with this statement (26% vs 18% of those who are not personally interested).

<sup>22</sup> QD8 Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE): ‘Scientific advice on food risks is independent of commercial or political interests’.



**QD8** Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with:  
(MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
(% - EU)

Scientific advice on food risks is independent of commercial or political interests

EU28	21
 Education (End of)	
15-	15
16-19	21
20+	25
Still studying	26
 Socio-professional category	
Self-employed	23
Managers	25
Other white collars	23
Manual workers	21
House persons	18
Unemployed	17
Retired	19
Students	26
Index Awareness of food safety topics	
Very high	25
High	22
Medium	19
Low	15
Very low	8
Authorities keep you safe from food risks	
Agree	30
Not agree	18
Personally interested in food safety	
Yes	26
No	18

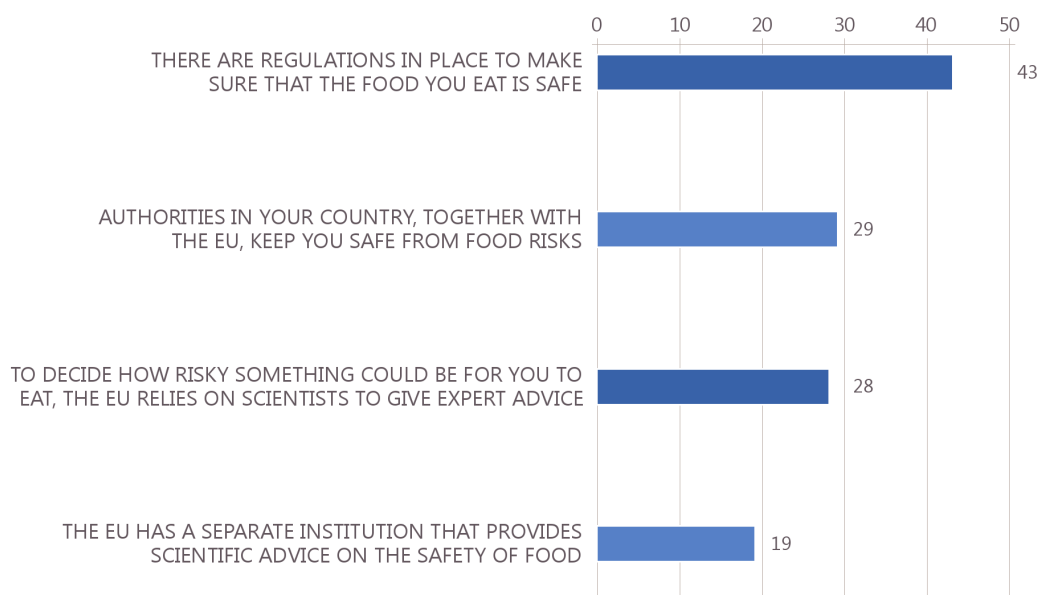
## 5 Awareness of the EU food safety system

### There is limited awareness of how the EU food safety system works

Respondents were asked whether they agreed with a number of statements about the EU food safety system<sup>23</sup>:

- Just over four in ten (43%) say that ‘there are regulations in place to make sure that the food you eat is safe’.
- Around three in ten (29%) say that ‘authorities in your country, together with the EU, keep you safe from food risks’.
- A similar proportion (28%) knows that ‘to decide how risky something could be for you to eat, the EU relies on scientists to give expert advice’.
- One in five (19%) knows that ‘the EU has a separate institution that provides scientific advice on the safety of food’.

**QD8** Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with: (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
(% - EU)

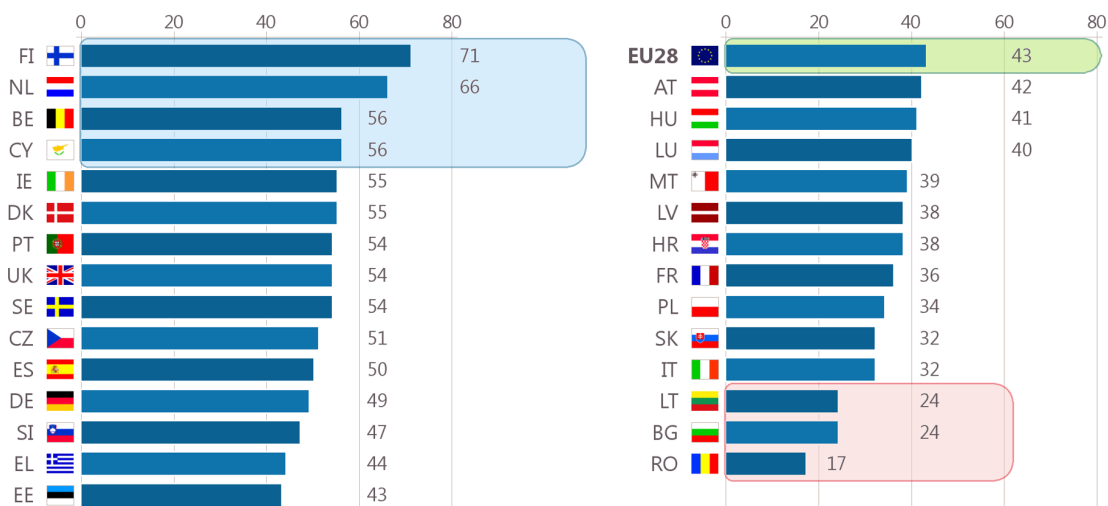


<sup>23</sup> QD8 Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE): ‘There are regulations in place to make sure that the food you eat is safe’. ‘Authorities in your country, together with the EU, keep you safe from food risks’. ‘To decide how risky something could be for you to eat, the EU relies on scientists to give expert advice’. ‘The EU has a separate institution that provides scientific advice on the safety of food’.

Respondents in Finland (71%) and the Netherlands (66%) are most likely to say that ‘there are regulations in place to make sure that the food you eat is safe’, while respondents in Romania (17%) and Bulgaria and Lithuania (both 24%) are least likely to agree with the statement.

**QD8** Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with: (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

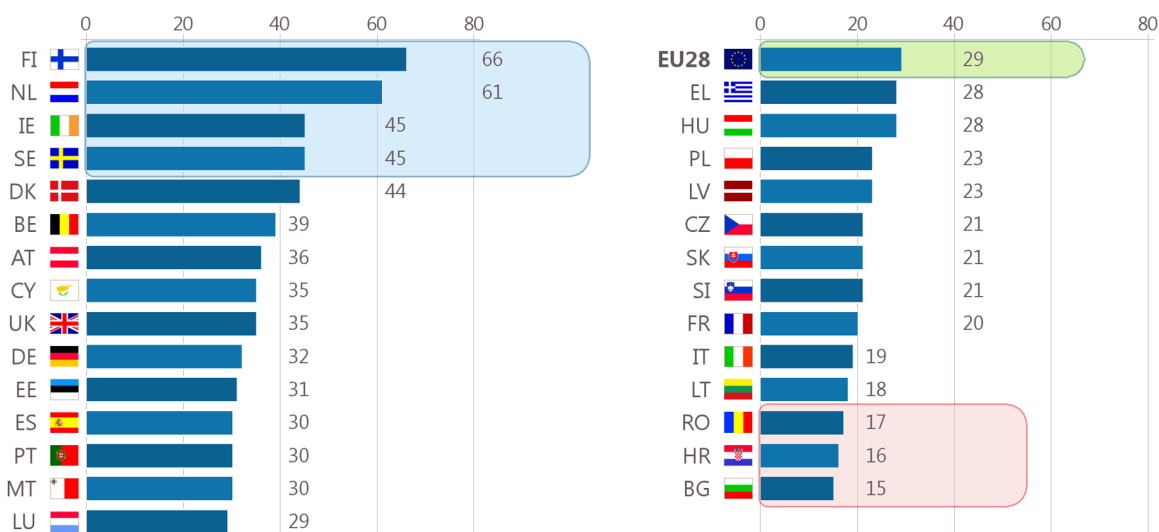
(% - THERE ARE REGULATIONS IN PLACE TO MAKE SURE THAT THE FOOD YOU EAT IS SAFE)



Respondents in the same two countries – Finland and the Netherlands – are most likely to say that ‘authorities in your country, together with the EU, keep you safe from food risks’ (66% and 61% respectively), while the lowest levels of agreement can be found in Bulgaria (15%), Croatia (16%) and Romania (17%).

**QD8** Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with: (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

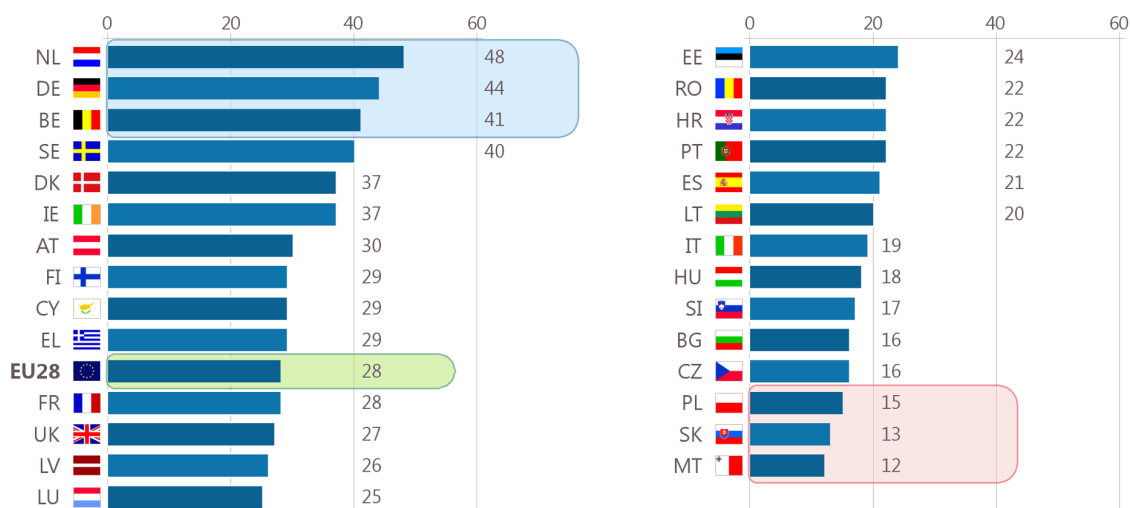
(% - AUTHORITIES IN YOUR COUNTRY, TOGETHER WITH THE EU, KEEP YOU SAFE FROM FOOD RISKS)



In each country, less than half of respondents knows that ‘to decide how risky something could be for you to eat, the EU relies on scientists to give expert advice’. Respondents are most likely to agree with the statement in the Netherlands (48%), Germany (44%), Belgium (41%) and Sweden (40%), while respondents in Malta (12%), Slovakia (13%) and Poland (15%) are least likely to agree.

**QD8** Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with: (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

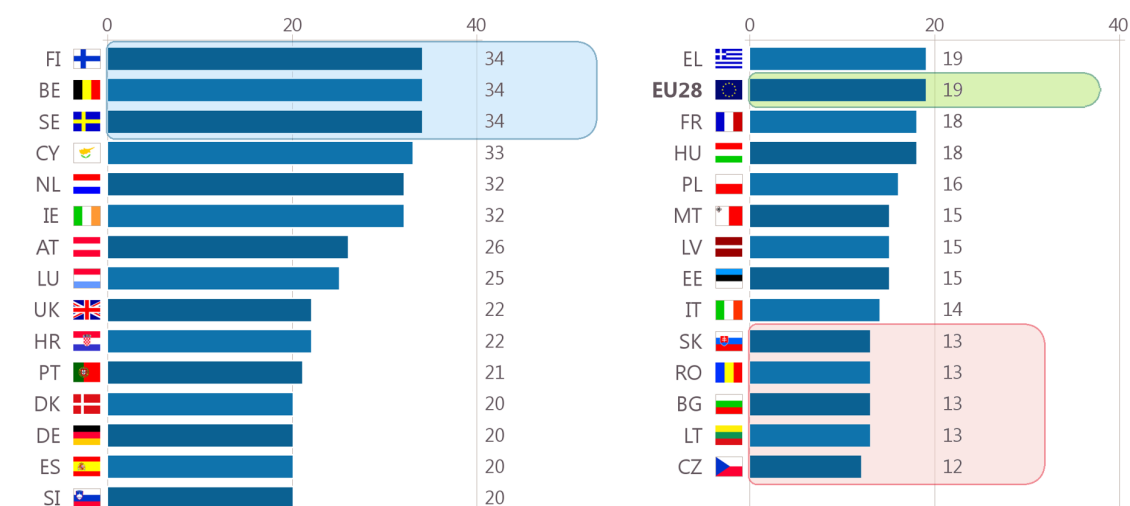
(% - TO DECIDE HOW RISKY SOMETHING COULD BE FOR YOU TO EAT, THE EU RELIES ON SCIENTISTS TO GIVE EXPERT ADVICE)



In six countries, around a third of respondents know that ‘the EU has a separate institution that provides scientific advice on the safety of food’: Belgium, Finland and Sweden (all 34%), Cyprus (33%) and Ireland and the Netherlands (both 32%). However, respondents are much less likely to agree in Czechia (12%) and Bulgaria, Lithuania, Romania and Slovakia (all 13%).

**QD8** Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with: (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)




(% - THE EU HAS A SEPARATE INSTITUTION THAT PROVIDES SCIENTIFIC ADVICE ON THE SAFETY OF FOOD)



The **socio-demographic analysis** shows a number of differences:

- Men are slightly more likely than women to agree with the various statements. For example, 31% of men agree that 'authorities in your country, together with the EU, keep you safe from food risks', compared with 26% of women.
- The longer respondents stayed in education, the more likely they are to agree with each of the four statements. For example, 34% of those who ended education at the age of 20 or above agree that 'to decide how risky something could be for you to eat, the EU relies on scientists to give expert advice', compared with 19% of those who left education by the age of 15.
- Managers are the most likely to agree with each of these statements. For instance, 39% of managers agree that 'to decide how risky something could be for you to eat, the EU relies on scientists to give expert advice', compared to 19%-29% of other occupation categories.
- Level of agreement with each of these statements about the EU food safety system is also related to the financial conditions of the respondents. For instance, 31% of those who have never or almost never difficulties paying bills agree that national authorities, together with the EU, keep them safe from food risks, compared to 19%-25% of those who have difficulties from time to time or most of the time.
- Respondents with a higher level of awareness of food safety topics are more likely to agree with the statements. For example, 52% of those with very high awareness agree that 'there are regulations in place to make sure that the food you eat is safe', compared with 18% of those with very low awareness.

**QD8** Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with:  
(MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
(% - EU)

	There are regulations in place to make sure that the food you eat is safe	Authorities in your country, together with the EU, keep you safe from food risks	To decide how risky something could be for you to eat, the EU relies on scientists to give expert advice	The EU has a separate institution that provides scientific advice on the safety of food
EU28	43	29	28	19
 <b>Gender</b>				
Man	45	31	30	22
Woman	42	26	26	17
 <b>Socio-professional category</b>				
Self-employed	45	29	29	23
Managers	51	38	39	24
Other white collars	43	29	30	21
Manual workers	43	27	26	19
House persons	40	24	19	15
Unemployed	43	25	23	17
Retired	40	27	24	17
Students	46	31	32	22
 <b>Difficulties paying bills</b>				
Most of the time	38	19	23	15
From time to time	37	25	25	18
Almost never/ Never	46	31	30	21
<b>Index Awareness of food safety topics</b>				
Very high	52	35	38	25
High	42	27	21	16
Medium	37	22	17	14
Low	29	21	14	12
Very low	18	10	10	7
<b>Personally interested in food safety</b>				
Yes	47	33	36	24
No	41	26	22	16

## CONCLUSION

Around two in five Europeans say they are personally interested in the topic of food safety. The survey has shown that food safety is one of several equally important factors for Europeans when choosing food – together with food origin, cost, and taste. Nutrient content is considered slightly less important while factors such as environmental concerns or beliefs were mentioned least frequently.

Even though there are some differences between age groups, television is the main source of information about food risks in the EU – a finding confirmed in 25 out of the 28 Member States. Two thirds of citizens mention they have made a change in their consumption behaviour as a result of information on food risks, and this includes a third who say their behaviour change is permanent. Language used for communication regarding food-related risks is deemed highly complex and technical by just over a third of Europeans.

Overall, respondents express high levels of awareness about specific food safety topics, with the absolute majority of respondents aware of at least eight out of 15 topics tested. The highest perceived risks when it comes to food pertain to antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat, pesticide residues in food, environmental pollutants in fish, meat or dairy, and additives like colours, preservatives or flavourings used in food or drinks.

When it comes to trust for information on food risks, citizens say they are most likely to trust scientists and consumer organisations, followed by farmers. Respondents are more likely to trust national authorities and EU institutions than supermarkets, food industries or celebrities, although less than half know of regulations in place in the area of food safety and only around two in ten are aware of the existence of an EU institution providing scientific advice on food safety.

Findings are generally consistent across socio-demographic groups. However, some general patterns can be observed. Respondents with a higher level of education tend to be more interested in topics related to food safety, more aware of food safety topics, more concerned about most of these topics and more likely to have changed their consumption behaviour as a result of information about food risks.

The EU-level results frequently mask substantial variations between countries on a number of topics covered by the study. That said, some patterns can be observed. For example, countries with the highest levels of trust in information coming from scientists, consumer organisations, national authorities and EU institutions, with the highest levels of awareness of the existence of an EU institution providing scientific advice on food safety also show lower levels of concern about food risks and higher proportion of respondents that think food safety can be taken for granted.

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between the 9<sup>th</sup> and the 26<sup>th</sup> of April 2019, Kantar on behalf on Kantar Belgium carried out the wave 91.3 of the EUROBAROMETER survey, at the request of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). It is a survey coordinated by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication, “Media monitoring and Eurobarometer” Unit.

The wave 91.3 includes the Special Eurobarometer on “Food safety in the EU” and covers the population of the respective nationalities of the European Union Member States, resident in each of the 28 Member States and aged 15 years and over.

	COUNTRIES	INSTITUTES	N° INTERVIEWS	FIELDWORK DATES		POPULATION 15+	PROPORTION EU28
BE	Belgium	Kantar Belgium (Kantar TNS)	1,029	09/04/2019	22/04/2019	9,693,779	2.25%
BG	Bulgaria	Kantar TNS BBSS	1,041	09/04/2019	22/04/2019	6,537,535	1.52%
CZ	Czechia	Kantar CZ	1,019	09/04/2019	22/04/2019	9,238,431	2.14%
DK	Denmark	Kantar Gallup	1,019	09/04/2019	25/04/2019	4,838,729	1.12%
DE	Germany	Kantar Deutschland	1,539	09/04/2019	26/04/2019	70,160,634	16.26%
EE	Estonia	Kantar Emor	999	09/04/2019	23/04/2019	1,160,064	0.27%
IE	Ireland	Behaviour & Attitudes	1,067	09/04/2019	23/04/2019	3,592,162	0.83%
EL	Greece	Taylor Nelson Sofres Market Research	1,014	10/04/2019	21/04/2019	9,937,810	2.30%
ES	Spain	TNS Investigación de Mercados y Opinión	1,011	10/04/2019	23/04/2019	39,445,245	9.14%
FR	France	Kantar Public France	1,029	09/04/2019	23/04/2019	54,097,255	12.54%
HR	Croatia	Hendal	1,016	09/04/2019	23/04/2019	3,796,476	0.88%
IT	Italy	Kantar Italia	1,022	09/04/2019	19/04/2019	52,334,536	12.13%
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	CYMAR Market Research	504	09/04/2019	22/04/2019	741,308	0.17%
LV	Latvia	Kantar TNS Latvia	1,003	11/04/2019	25/04/2019	1,707,082	0.40%
LT	Lithuania	TNS LT	1,001	09/04/2019	23/04/2019	2,513,384	0.58%
LU	Luxembourg	ILReS	502	09/04/2019	19/04/2019	457,127	0.11%
HU	Hungary	Kantar Hoffmann	1,023	10/04/2019	23/04/2019	8,781,161	2.04%
MT	Malta	MISCO International	507	09/04/2019	23/04/2019	364,171	0.08%
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO	1,022	09/04/2019	22/04/2019	13,979,215	3.24%
AT	Austria	Das Österreichische Gallup Institut	1,039	09/04/2019	22/04/2019	7,554,711	1.75%
PL	Poland	Kantar Polska	1,013	09/04/2019	24/04/2019	33,444,171	7.75%
PT	Portugal	Marktest – Marketing, Organização e Formação	1,012	09/04/2019	22/04/2019	8,480,126	1.97%
RO	Romania	Centrul Pentru Studierea Opiniei si Pietei (CSOP)	1,053	09/04/2019	22/04/2019	16,852,701	3.91%
SI	Slovenia	Mediana DOO	1,003	09/04/2019	22/04/2019	1,760,032	0.41%
SK	Slovakia	Kantar Slovakia	1,076	09/04/2019	20/04/2019	4,586,024	1.06%
FI	Finland	Kantar TNS Oy	1,006	09/04/2019	24/04/2019	4,747,810	1.10%
SE	Sweden	Kantar Sifo	1,034	09/04/2019	25/04/2019	7,998,763	1.85%
UK	United Kingdom	Kantar UK Limited	1,052	09/04/2019	23/04/2019	52,651,777	12.20%
		TOTAL EU28	27,655	09/04/2019	26/04/2019	431,452,219	100%*

\* It should be noted that the total percentage shown in this table may exceed 100% due to rounding



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

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

In each of the selected sampling points, a starting address was drawn, at random. Further addresses (every Nth address) were selected by standard "random route" procedures, from the initial address. In each household, the respondent was drawn, at random (following the "closest birthday rule"). All interviews were conducted face-to-face in people's homes and in the appropriate national language. As far as the data capture is concerned, CAPI (*Computer Assisted Personal Interview*) was used in those countries where this technique was available.

For each country a comparison between the sample and the universe was carried out. The Universe description was derived from Eurostat population data or from national statistics offices. For all countries surveyed, a national weighting procedure, using marginal and intercellular weighting, was carried out based on this Universe description. In all countries, gender, age, region and size of locality were introduced in the iteration procedure. For international weighting (i.e. EU averages), Kantar applies the official population figures as provided by EUROSTAT or national statistic offices. The total population figures for input in this post-weighting procedure are listed here.

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

Statistical Margins due to the sampling process

(at the 95% level of confidence)

various sample sizes are in rows

various observed results are in columns

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

**QUESTIONNAIRE**

**ASK ALL**

**QD1a: ROTATE CODES 1 TO 6**

**QD1a When you buy food, which of the following are the most important to you?**

**Firstly?**

*(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)*

- Your ethics and beliefs (whether the item complies with your ethics and beliefs, e.g. in terms of religion, animal welfare, or environmental concerns) 1
- Food safety (e.g. if there is a risk in eating this food) 2
- Cost 3
- Nutrient content (e.g. the amount of vitamins, proteins, sugar or fats) 4
- Taste 5
- Where the food comes from 6
- Other (SPONTANEOUS) 7
- DK 8

NEW

**QD1b: ANSWER MENTIONED IN QD1a CANNOT BE PROPOSED IN QD1b (EXCEPT CODE 7)**

**QD1b: IF CODE 8 IN QD1a THEN QD1b IS SKIPPED**

**QD1b: SAME ROTATION ORDER AS QD1a FOR CODES 1 TO 6**

**QD1b And then?**

*(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - MAX. 2 ANSWERS)*

- Your ethics and beliefs (whether the item complies with your ethics and beliefs, e.g. in terms of religion, animal welfare, or environmental concerns) 1,
- Food safety (e.g. if there is a risk in eating this food) 2,
- Cost 3,
- Nutrient content (e.g. the amount of vitamins, proteins, sugar or fats) 4,
- Taste 5,
- Where the food comes from 6,
- Other (SPONTANEOUS) 7,
- DK 8,

NEW

**QD2 Focusing now on food safety (e.g., if eating certain foods poses a risk), please tell me which of the following is closest to your opinion.**

*(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)*

- |                                                                                               |   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|
| Safety is your main concern when choosing food                                                | 1 |
| Safety is among your concerns                                                                 | 2 |
| Safety does not really concern you, as you take it for granted that the food sold is safe     | 3 |
| Safety does not concern you at all, as you assume that your body can handle food safety risks | 4 |
| DK                                                                                            | 5 |

NEW

**QD3: ROTATE CODES 1 TO 15**

**QD3: CODES 16 AND 17 ARE EXCLUSIVE**

**QD3 Please tell me which of the following topics you have heard about.**

*(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)*

- |                                                                                              |     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Genetically modified ingredients in food or drinks                                           | 1,  |
| Additives like colours, preservatives or flavourings used in food or drinks                  | 2,  |
| Food poisoning from bacteria                                                                 | 3,  |
| Pesticide residues in food                                                                   | 4,  |
| Antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat                                              | 5,  |
| Environmental pollutants in fish, meat or dairy                                              | 6,  |
| Traces of materials that come into contact with food, e.g. plastic or aluminium in packaging | 7,  |
| Genome editing                                                                               | 8,  |
| Diseases found in animals                                                                    | 9,  |
| Plant diseases in crops                                                                      | 10, |
| Nano particles found in food                                                                 | 11, |
| Poisonous moulds in food and feed crops                                                      | 12, |
| Food hygiene                                                                                 | 13, |
| Allergic reactions to food or drinks                                                         | 14, |
| Microplastics found in food                                                                  | 15, |
| None (SPONTANEOUS)                                                                           | 16, |
| DK                                                                                           | 17, |

NEW

**QD4a: SHOW ONLY ANSWERS SELECTED IN QD3**  
**QD4a: IF CODE 16 OR 17 IN QD3 THEN GO TO QD5a**  
**QD4a: SAME ROTATION ORDER AS QD3 FOR CODES 1 TO 15**

**QD4a Please tell me which of these topics you have heard about concern you most when it comes to food? Firstly?**

*(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)*

- Genetically modified ingredients in food or drinks 1
- Additives like colours, preservatives or flavourings used in food or drinks 2
- Food poisoning from bacteria 3
- Pesticide residues in food 4
- Antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat 5
- Environmental pollutants in fish, meat or dairy 6
- Traces of materials that come into contact with food, e.g. plastic or aluminium in packaging 7
- Genome editing 8
- Diseases found in animals 9
- Plant diseases in crops 10
- Nano particles found in food 11
- Poisonous moulds in food and feed crops 12
- Food hygiene 13
- Allergic reactions to food or drinks 14
- Microplastics found in food 15
- None (SPONTANEOUS) 16
- DK 17

NEW

**QD4b: SHOW ONLY ANSWERS SELECTED IN QD3**  
**QD4b: ANSWER MENTIONED IN QD4a CANNOT BE PROPOSED IN QD4b**  
**QD4b: (IF CODE 16 OR 17 IN QD4a) OR (NO MORE CODE 1 TO 15 LEFT TO DISPLAY) THEN QD4b IS SKIPPED**  
**QD4b: SAME ROTATION ORDER AS QD3 FOR CODES 1 TO 15**  
**QD4b: CODES 16 AND 17 ARE EXCLUSIVE**

**QD4b**

**And then?**

*(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - MAX. 4 ANSWERS)*

- Genetically modified ingredients in food or drinks 1,
- Additives like colours, preservatives or flavourings used in food or drinks 2,
- Food poisoning from bacteria
- Pesticide residues in food 4,
- Antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat 5,
- Environmental pollutants in fish, meat or dairy 6,
- Traces of materials that come into contact with food, e.g. plastic or aluminium in packaging 7,
- Genome editing 8,
- Diseases found in animals 9,
- Plant diseases in crops 10,
- Nano particles found in food 11,
- Poisonous moulds in food and feed crops 12,
- Food hygiene 13,
- Allergic reactions to food or drinks 14,
- Microplastics found in food 15,
- None (SPONTANEOUS) 16,
- DK 17,

NEW

**ASK ALL****QD5a: ROTATE CODES 1 TO 11****QD5a Which of the following are your main sources of information about food risks? Firstly?***(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)*

Information points such as street stands or festivals	1
Family, friends and neighbours	2
Social media	3
Your doctor or a specialist, e.g. dietician or nutritionist	4
Newspapers and magazines	5
Your local grocer	6
Internet (excluding social media)	7
Events like lectures, seminars, workshops or conferences	8
Television	9
Professional journals	10
Radio	11
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	12
None (SPONTANEOUS)	13
DK	14

NEW

**QD5b: ANSWER MENTIONED IN QD5a CANNOT BE PROPOSED IN QD5b (EXCEPT CODE 12)**

**QD5b: IF CODE 13 AND 14 IN QD5a THEN QD5b IS SKIPPED**

**QD5b: SAME ROTATION ORDER AS QD5a FOR CODES 1 TO 11**

**QD5b: CODES 13 AND 14 ARE EXCLUSIVE**

**QD5b**

**And then?**

*(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - MAX. 3 ANSWERS)*

Information points such as street stands or festivals	1,
Family, friends and neighbours	2,
Social media	3,
Your doctor or a specialist, e.g. dietician or nutritionist	4,
Newspapers and magazines	5,
Your local grocer	6,
Internet (excluding social media)	7,
Events like lectures, seminars, workshops or conferences	8,
Television	9,
Professional journals	10,
Radio	11,
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	12,
None (SPONTANEOUS)	13,
DK	14,

NEW

**QD6**

**I will now read you the beginning of a sentence. Please complete it with one of the following statements so that it best describes your personal experience: "Information that you heard or read about a food risk..."**

*(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)*

... made you permanently change your consumption behaviour (e.g. diet, cooking or storage practices) at least once in your life	1
... made you change your consumption behaviour for a while at least once in your life	2
... worried you, but you never changed your consumption behaviour	3
... never worried you nor made you change your consumption behaviour	4
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	5
None (SPONTANEOUS)	6
DK	7

NEW

**QD7: ROTATE STATEMENTS 1 TO 10**  
**QD7: DISPLAY '99' INSTEAD OF 'DK'**

**QD7 Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks.**

*(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - ONE ANSWER PER LINE)*

		Totally trust	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	Do not trust at all	DK
1	NGOs	1	2	3	4	5
2	Celebrities, bloggers and influencers	1	2	3	4	5
3	Scientists	1	2	3	4	5
4	Supermarkets and restaurants	1	2	3	4	5
5	EU institutions	1	2	3	4	5
6	Journalists	1	2	3	4	5
7	National authorities	1	2	3	4	5
8	Food industries	1	2	3	4	5
9	Farmers	1	2	3	4	5
10	Consumer organisations	1	2	3	4	5

NEW



**QD8: ROTATE CODES 1 TO 10**  
**QD8: CODES 11 AND 12 ARE EXCLUSIVE**






























**QD8 Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with:**

*(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)*






























- There are regulations in place to make sure that the food you eat is safe 1,
- To decide how risky something could be for you to eat, the EU relies on scientists to give expert advice 2,
- The EU has a separate institution that provides scientific advice on the safety of food 3,
- Scientific advice on food risks is independent of commercial or political interests 4,
- Authorities in your country, together with the EU, keep you safe from food risks 5,
- Nowadays, food products are full of harmful substances 6,
- You are personally interested in the topic of food safety 7,
- You can assess food safety risks for yourself and do not require help from others 8,
- Food safety information is often highly technical and complex 9,
- Highly technical and complex information reduces your confidence in the source 10,
- None (SPONTANEOUS) 11,
- DK 12,

NEW






























**QD1a** When you buy food, which of the following are the most important to you? Firstly?  
(%)

		Your ethics and beliefs (whether the item complies with your ethics and beliefs, e.g. in terms of religion, animal welfare, or environmental concerns)	Food safety (e.g. if there is a risk in eating this food)	Cost	Nutrient content (e.g. the amount of vitamins, proteins, sugar or fats)	Taste	Where the food comes from	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28		7	20	20	15	17	20	0	1
BE		7	17	20	16	22	18	0	0
BG		4	27	26	13	19	10	0	1
CZ		4	16	28	13	18	21	0	0
DK		17	13	21	13	17	18	0	1
DE		14	18	13	12	16	26	0	1
EE		3	16	22	19	18	21	1	0
IE		5	19	25	23	15	13	0	0
EL		2	28	21	18	16	15	0	0
ES		4	24	22	24	12	13	1	0
FR		5	16	23	8	15	32	0	1
HR		2	33	25	10	10	20	0	0
IT		7	27	14	11	16	24	0	1
CY		1	47	15	17	9	9	1	1
LV		2	25	30	16	12	14	1	0
LT		3	20	29	26	14	8	0	0
LU		7	20	11	12	15	33	1	1
HU		4	17	22	19	18	20	0	0
MT		3	36	12	25	14	9	0	1
NL		10	14	11	27	32	5	1	0
AT		9	9	17	9	24	32	0	0
PL		4	20	20	18	22	14	0	2
PT		2	25	32	9	20	12	0	0
RO		8	31	19	11	12	18	1	0
SI		4	16	20	13	11	35	1	0
SK		3	29	17	11	17	22	0	1
FI		4	15	17	22	12	30	0	0
SE		20	10	11	16	18	25	0	0
UK		8	16	28	21	16	10	0	1

**QD1b** And then? (MAX. 2 ANSWERS)  
(%)

		Your ethics and beliefs (whether the item complies with your ethics and beliefs, e.g. in terms of religion, animal welfare, or environmental concerns)	Food safety (e.g. if there is a risk in eating this food)	Cost	Nutrient content (e.g. the amount of vitamins, proteins, sugar or fats)	Taste	Where the food comes from	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28		12	31	32	29	32	33	1	1
BE		11	31	39	27	35	30	1	0
BG		5	31	37	30	42	29	0	1
CZ		8	24	35	27	36	36	0	1
DK		23	29	30	27	32	33	4	1
DE		21	31	25	27	28	36	1	1
EE		7	26	40	28	38	36	2	1
IE		12	33	32	29	30	31	1	1
EL		6	34	39	33	37	42	1	0
ES		5	29	35	32	33	28	1	1
FR		7	30	34	24	37	39	1	1
HR		5	36	38	27	29	39	0	0
IT		13	35	23	32	31	38	0	1
CY		7	30	37	35	29	31	1	1
LV		6	34	33	25	29	35	2	5
LT		5	32	36	31	43	29	2	1
LU		9	33	27	32	29	35	2	1
HU		10	29	34	32	34	32	1	1
MT		10	38	28	37	31	28	2	2
NL		17	31	40	37	29	22	2	1
AT		24	24	31	30	32	33	3	1
PL		8	28	34	31	37	30	1	1
PT		6	26	44	26	27	47	2	1
RO		10	29	29	30	36	27	1	1
SI		9	34	29	24	30	35	3	1
SK		9	33	30	29	33	35	1	1
FI		10	27	36	42	29	39	0	1
SE		27	25	31	33	25	40	1	1
UK		12	31	36	28	31	26	1	2

**QD1T** When you buy food, which of the following are the most important to you? Firstly? And then?  
TOTAL (MAX. 3 ANSWERS) (%)






























		Your ethics and beliefs (whether the item complies with your ethics and beliefs, e.g. in terms of religion, animal welfare, or environmental concerns)	Food safety (e.g. if there is a risk in eating this food)	Cost	Nutrient content (e.g. the amount of vitamins, proteins, sugar or fats)	Taste	Where the food comes from	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28		19	50	51	44	49	53	1	1
BE		18	48	58	43	57	48	1	0
BG		9	58	63	44	61	39	0	1
CZ		12	40	62	40	54	56	1	1
DK		40	41	51	39	49	50	4	1
DE		35	50	38	38	44	62	1	1
EE		9	42	62	47	56	57	2	0
IE		16	51	57	52	46	44	1	0
EL		8	62	60	52	53	56	1	0
ES		8	53	58	56	45	41	2	0
FR		12	46	56	32	52	71	2	1
HR		7	69	63	37	39	58	0	0
IT		20	61	37	42	47	62	0	1
CY		8	77	51	52	38	40	2	1
LV		8	59	63	41	41	49	2	0
LT		7	52	65	57	57	37	2	0
LU		15	52	38	43	43	67	3	1
HU		14	47	56	51	52	52	1	0
MT		13	73	40	61	45	37	2	1
NL		27	45	50	63	62	27	2	0
AT		33	32	48	39	56	65	4	0
PL		12	47	53	48	58	43	1	2
PT		9	51	75	34	47	58	3	0
RO		19	60	47	40	48	45	2	0
SI		14	50	49	37	41	70	3	0
SK		12	61	46	40	50	56	1	1
FI		15	42	53	64	41	68	1	0
SE		47	34	42	48	42	65	2	0
UK		20	47	63	49	46	36	1	1

**QD2** Focusing now on food safety (e.g., if eating certain foods poses a risk), please tell me which of the following is closest to your opinion.






























(%)

		Safety is your main concern when choosing food	Safety is among your concerns	Safety does not really concern you, as you take it for granted that the food sold is safe	Safety does not concern you at all, as you assume that your body can handle food safety risks	Don't know	Total 'Safety is a concern'	Total 'Safety is not a concern'
EU28		22	43	28	5	2	65	33
BE		18	40	34	8	0	58	42
BG		24	37	28	7	4	61	35
CZ		18	33	40	7	2	51	47
DK		20	41	35	3	1	61	38
DE		16	39	38	5	2	55	43
EE		19	36	37	6	2	55	43
IE		35	41	22	2	0	76	24
EL		31	48	19	1	1	79	20
ES		24	47	26	2	1	71	28
FR		25	52	19	3	1	77	22
HR		30	47	18	5	0	77	23
IT		24	50	19	5	2	74	24
CY		54	35	10	1	0	89	11
LV		26	50	15	7	2	76	22
LT		25	45	20	8	2	70	28
LU		31	49	16	1	3	80	17
HU		14	45	33	6	2	59	39
MT		33	47	12	3	5	80	15
NL		10	26	59	5	0	36	64
AT		13	41	33	11	2	54	44
PL		26	33	30	6	5	59	36
PT		19	54	24	2	1	73	26
RO		34	39	18	7	2	73	25
SI		27	47	20	4	2	74	24
SK		24	42	27	4	3	66	31
FI		10	36	51	2	1	46	53
SE		15	41	40	3	1	56	43
UK		26	45	25	3	1	71	28






























**QD3** Please tell me which of the following topics you have heard about. (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
(%)

		Genetically modified ingredients in food or drinks	Additives like colours, preservatives or flavourings used in food or drinks	Food poisoning from bacteria	Pesticide residues in food	Antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat	Environmental pollutants in fish, meat or dairy	Traces of materials that come into contact with food, e.g. plastic or aluminium in packaging	Genome editing	Diseases found in animals
EU28		60	72	64	65	66	64	51	21	65
BE		51	67	64	67	64	62	52	15	57
BG		57	65	41	51	58	52	32	14	64
CZ		44	67	57	40	47	50	40	22	75
DK		66	86	86	83	85	80	72	36	68
DE		72	79	63	75	80	74	67	19	70
EE		69	87	66	70	68	77	66	57	76
IE		62	70	75	61	65	63	52	24	67
EL		60	66	52	80	61	57	40	19	80
ES		51	75	60	72	62	67	47	30	67
FR		65	84	77	82	69	75	60	19	64
HR		52	61	64	60	58	48	38	24	63
IT		41	52	44	38	53	45	36	8	45
CY		59	70	58	80	69	64	49	22	82
LV		71	78	65	68	68	69	57	16	64
LT		70	77	53	68	69	67	41	18	73
LU		57	68	66	71	63	64	58	31	56
HU		50	59	43	57	45	44	36	28	49
MT		38	52	42	66	42	52	47	12	66
NL		76	95	80	80	84	83	67	30	79
AT		61	66	53	63	67	59	51	22	54
PL		58	63	53	45	63	53	36	16	62
PT		45	72	76	75	67	70	54	10	79
RO		38	53	51	43	48	44	33	9	51
SI		77	83	76	79	77	72	65	25	81
SK		42	52	49	58	61	44	28	8	63
FI		62	86	80	80	82	80	65	62	67
SE		83	96	89	91	96	91	73	50	86
UK		70	75	80	70	65	67	56	30	74

**QD3** Please tell me which of the following topics you have heard about. (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
(%)






























		Plant diseases in crops	Nano particles found in food	Poisonous moulds in food and feed crops	Food hygiene	Allergic reactions to food or drinks	Microplastics found in food	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know	Total 'At least one'
EU28		45	30	39	68	65	48	2	1	97
BE		39	25	33	71	64	50	1	0	99
BG		50	14	40	46	54	29	1	2	97
CZ		43	20	47	55	58	39	1	1	99
DK		47	32	54	87	80	77	0	0	99
DE		47	51	52	74	75	69	1	1	98
EE		49	26	55	77	79	50	1	1	98
IE		56	30	44	77	69	48	0	0	100
EL		68	15	21	65	62	27	1	0	98
ES		49	27	27	70	65	54	3	0	97
FR		43	41	25	78	69	52	1	1	99
HR		46	21	42	55	62	37	1	0	98
IT		13	12	26	46	42	25	5	2	93
CY		69	15	33	73	61	38	3	0	97
LV		45	20	44	59	70	44	1	1	98
LT		49	19	49	68	67	34	1	0	99
LU		37	40	29	72	60	61	0	2	98
HU		34	16	37	50	47	27	2	1	97
MT		29	14	25	77	50	32	1	8	91
NL		72	46	51	86	89	73	0	0	100
AT		42	38	48	58	62	52	3	1	96
PL		46	13	37	41	50	24	1	2	96
PT		55	19	43	78	68	40	0	1	99
RO		36	14	32	57	44	23	4	1	95
SI		72	38	62	68	77	60	1	0	98
SK		41	12	45	60	51	29	0	1	99
FI		50	30	50	83	79	69	1	0	99
SE		64	44	62	88	88	81	0	1	99
UK		59	33	49	86	80	56	2	0	98

**QD4a** Please tell me which of these topics you have heard about concern you most when it comes to food? Firstly? (%)






























		Genetically modified ingredients in food or drinks	Additives like colours, preservatives or flavourings used in food or drinks	Food poisoning from bacteria	Pesticide residues in food	Antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat	Environmental pollutants in fish, meat or dairy	Traces of materials that come into contact with food, e.g. plastic or aluminium in packaging	Genome editing	Diseases found in animals
EU28		8	10	9	10	14	10	3	1	7
BE		4	8	8	13	10	12	4	0	4
BG		17	19	5	6	11	6	2	1	9
CZ		4	16	9	4	6	4	2	1	20
DK		2	8	10	10	18	11	2	1	3
DE		8	6	5	12	23	11	3	1	6
EE		8	23	6	10	6	12	3	1	5
IE		6	10	14	7	11	6	3	0	6
EL		16	9	5	24	8	5	1	2	11
ES		4	9	10	14	10	15	2	2	7
FR		5	10	9	17	8	13	3	1	4
HR		12	6	16	10	12	4	3	2	12
IT		7	7	11	6	16	12	5	1	8
CY		8	9	6	16	11	5	1	1	13
LV		18	12	10	9	11	9	2	1	5
LT		14	26	7	6	12	6	2	1	7
LU		7	6	10	12	10	9	2	3	4
HU		11	18	7	11	10	5	3	2	7
MT		2	6	3	22	6	6	6	1	9
NL		3	18	7	5	13	13	2	1	3
AT		17	6	6	6	18	6	4	1	4
PL		14	14	8	6	18	6	2	2	12
PT		2	3	27	12	11	5	4	0	13
RO		6	17	12	5	14	4	4	1	9
SI		10	8	15	13	18	6	3	1	7
SK		9	9	8	8	13	4	1	1	18
FI		1	15	9	9	15	17	2	3	3
SE		4	6	4	9	37	14	0	1	3
UK		7	6	13	5	7	10	2	1	6



**QD4a** Please tell me which of these topics you have heard about concern you most when it comes to food? Firstly? (%)

		Plant diseases in crops	Nano particles found in food	Poisonous moulds in food and feed crops	Food hygiene	Allergic reactions to food or drinks	Microplastics found in food	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28		1	2	2	11	5	5	1	1
BE		1	1	1	20	5	7	2	0
BG		1	1	1	8	6	2	3	2
CZ		1	1	3	11	8	4	4	2
DK		0	1	2	8	4	15	3	2
DE		0	2	1	8	4	8	1	1
EE		0	0	1	9	6	3	5	2
IE		3	1	2	17	8	5	1	0
EL		3	0	1	11	3	1		
ES		1	1	0	9	5	8	1	2
FR		1	3	0	15	4	4	1	2
HR		2	1	3	8	7	2		
IT		1	1	3	10	7	3	1	1
CY		3	0	0	21	4	1	1	0
LV		1	0	2	6	7	3	2	2
LT		1	0	2	7	5	2	2	0
LU		1	2	1	19	3	11		
HU		2	2	3	10	6	2	1	0
MT		2	0	1	29	3	2	1	1
NL		1	2	0	10	8	11	3	0
AT		2	3	3	6	5	7	5	1
PL		2	1	3	2	4	1	1	4
PT		1	0	3	14	2	2	1	0
RO		3	2	2	15	3	2	1	0
SI		1	1	2	3	4	6	1	1
SK		3	1	5	10	6	2	1	1
FI		1	0	1	8	4	8	4	0
SE		1	2	1	5	4	7	1	1
UK		2	1	2	22	6	6	2	2






























**QD4b** And then? (MAX. 4 ANSWERS)  
(%)

		Genetically modified ingredients in food or drinks	Additives like colours, preservatives or flavourings used in food or drinks	Food poisoning from bacteria	Pesticide residues in food	Antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat	Environmental pollutants in fish, meat or dairy	Traces of materials that come into contact with food, e.g. plastic or aluminium in packaging	Genome editing	Diseases found in animals
EU28		20	28	22	31	32	29	14	3	22
BE		13	24	22	32	30	28	14	3	16
BG		28	33	16	28	34	27	12	5	29
CZ		16	25	24	16	22	20	12	5	29
DK		13	29	27	44	44	36	20	3	12
DE		23	22	18	32	40	33	14	2	20
EE		16	35	14	25	31	35	20	5	21
IE		19	23	28	24	22	23	15	3	25
EL		26	35	19	44	37	29	12	5	42
ES		13	29	21	32	29	29	13	4	24
FR		24	35	27	43	31	36	14	2	14
HR		21	27	25	30	30	19	11	7	31
IT		19	29	20	22	31	24	17	3	23
CY		23	32	20	46	38	31	11	4	36
LV		26	35	21	30	33	31	15	3	20
LT		33	32	14	33	38	34	8	3	25
LU		20	25	21	42	30	29	18	6	17
HU		23	28	18	35	24	20	12	4	21
MT		11	16	19	34	14	28	21	3	39
NL		18	33	18	35	44	35	18	4	12
AT		22	28	19	36	34	24	19	6	16
PL		28	34	20	20	34	25	12	3	27
PT		14	21	36	46	27	37	14	1	44
RO		18	30	24	23	24	23	13	3	24
SI		27	28	24	37	35	20	14	2	25
SK		18	24	24	36	35	16	9	2	28
FI		12	31	19	38	38	36	15	8	12
SE		17	35	22	48	39	49	13	6	18
UK		19	23	27	28	27	23	14	3	25

**QD4b** And then? (MAX. 4 ANSWERS)  
(%)

		Plant diseases in crops	Nano particles found in food	Poisonous moulds in food and feed crops	Food hygiene	Allergic reactions to food or drinks	Microplastics found in food	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28		8	7	10	22	16	17	1	0
BE		6	6	8	18	15	17	3	0
BG		15	3	15	16	22	9	0	1
CZ		10	4	22	22	20	13	2	1
DK		5	6	11	28	12	27	1	0
DE		4	12	12	20	13	27	1	1
EE		5	3	15	20	19	11	2	2
IE		12	5	12	24	16	13	1	1
EL		25	4	6	25	21	6	0	0
ES		11	4	5	25	17	19	1	0
FR		7	9	3	25	13	15	1	1
HR		10	4	18	20	21	11	0	1
IT		6	5	14	20	18	13	0	0
CY		19	1	5	23	18	6	0	0
LV		4	3	12	15	20	12	2	2
LT		11	3	13	23	21	6	1	1
LU		6	12	3	21	11	28	1	1
HU		12	4	14	19	19	9	1	0
MT		10	3	8	37	18	14	0	0
NL		6	9	6	26	18	27	4	0
AT		8	13	15	14	15	20	1	1
PL		13	3	15	11	15	6	0	0
PT		12	3	16	28	20	9	0	0
RO		12	3	11	25	17	7	2	0
SI		13	5	13	15	15	18	2	0
SK		19	3	20	24	22	9	0	0
FI		4	3	10	22	12	24	6	1
SE		6	8	11	21	10	31	1	1
UK		9	7	10	28	19	17	2	1






























**QD4T** Please tell me which of these topics you have heard about concern you most when it comes to food? Firstly? And then? TOTAL (MAX. 5 ANSWERS)  
(%)

		Genetically modified ingredients in food or drinks	Additives like colours, preservatives or flavourings used in food or drinks	Food poisoning from bacteria	Pesticide residues in food	Antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat	Environmental pollutants in fish, meat or dairy	Traces of materials that come into contact with food, e.g. plastic or aluminium in packaging	Genome editing	Diseases found in animals
EU28		27	36	30	39	44	37	16	4	28
BE		16	31	29	44	39	39	17	3	19
BG		42	49	19	31	43	31	13	6	35
CZ		18	37	29	17	25	21	13	5	45
DK		14	35	36	51	59	45	21	4	14
DE		30	27	22	43	61	42	17	3	25
EE		23	55	19	33	34	45	21	6	24
IE		25	32	41	30	32	28	17	3	30
EL		42	44	23	67	44	33	13	7	52
ES		17	37	30	45	37	42	15	5	29
FR		28	43	35	57	38	47	17	3	17
HR		32	31	40	39	40	22	13	8	41
IT		24	33	28	25	44	33	20	4	28
CY		31	41	25	60	47	35	11	5	47
LV		41	44	29	37	41	38	16	3	23
LT		45	56	19	37	48	38	9	4	30
LU		25	27	28	48	36	33	17	8	19
HU		32	43	24	43	32	23	14	6	27
MT		12	21	21	54	20	33	25	4	45
NL		21	50	25	38	55	47	19	4	14
AT		37	32	24	39	49	28	21	7	19
PL		39	45	26	24	49	29	13	5	37
PT		15	23	62	57	37	41	18	1	56
RO		22	43	33	25	35	24	15	4	29
SI		36	35	38	48	52	25	17	3	31
SK		25	31	30	40	44	19	9	3	43
FI		13	44	27	46	52	51	16	11	14
SE		21	40	26	57	75	62	14	7	20
UK		25	28	38	31	32	31	15	4	29






























**QD4T** Please tell me which of these topics you have heard about concern you most when it comes to food? Firstly? And then? TOTAL (MAX. 5 ANSWERS)  
(%)

		Plant diseases in crops	Nano particles found in food	Poisonous moulds in food and feed crops	Food hygiene	Allergic reactions to food or drinks	Microplastics found in food	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28		9	8	11	32	20	21	2	1
BE		7	6	9	38	19	23	4	0
BG		14	4	15	22	26	11	3	2
CZ		10	4	22	30	24	15	5	2
DK		5	6	13	34	15	40	4	2
DE		4	14	13	27	17	34	2	1
EE		5	3	15	27	23	13	6	2
IE		15	6	13	40	23	17	2	0
EL		27	4	7	35	24	7	1	0
ES		11	5	5	33	21	26	1	2
FR		7	11	4	39	15	19	2	2
HR		12	5	20	27	27	13	1	0
IT		6	6	16	28	22	15	1	1
CY		22	2	5	42	21	6	1	0
LV		5	3	13	20	25	14	4	2
LT		11	3	14	29	24	7	3	0
LU		6	12	4	37	12	35	1	0
HU		12	5	16	27	23	10	1	0
MT		11	3	8	64	20	16	1	1
NL		7	11	6	34	24	37	7	0
AT		9	14	17	19	19	25	6	1
PL		14	3	16	13	18	7	1	4
PT		12	3	19	41	21	11	1	1
RO		13	5	11	37	18	8	3	0
SI		13	5	15	18	19	24	3	1
SK		20	3	23	31	26	10	1	1
FI		4	3	11	29	15	30	9	0
SE		6	10	12	26	14	37	2	1
UK		10	7	11	48	24	22	4	2






























**QD5a** Which of the following are your main sources of information about food risks? Firstly? (%)

		Information points such as street stands or festivals	Family, friends and neighbours	Social media	Your doctor or a specialist, e.g. dietician or nutritionist	Newspapers and magazines	Your local grocer	Internet (excluding social media)
EU28		1	6	7	5	10	2	21
BE		0	6	8	9	13	2	16
BG		0	14	6	5	1	1	16
CZ		0	8	5	3	5	1	26
DK		0	4	9	1	17	1	21
DE		0	5	5	4	14	3	24
EE		0	9	10	3	11	1	29
IE		1	6	15	6	9	3	24
EL		0	9	7	5	3	1	30
ES		0	7	6	8	4	1	20
FR		0	7	7	3	12	1	16
HR		1	12	7	7	5	1	20
IT		2	6	6	7	9	3	15
CY		0	5	17	3	2	1	23
LV		0	7	10	2	6	1	33
LT		0	5	5	2	2	0	30
LU		0	7	7	2	16	2	27
HU		1	11	6	5	4	3	18
MT		0	6	11	2	1	4	39
NL		0	3	5	12	22	0	28
AT		2	10	6	8	11	4	16
PL		1	7	6	4	4	1	22
PT		1	4	6	6	3	1	14
RO		1	6	4	7	2	1	13
SI		1	8	8	1	7	2	22
SK		0	7	7	2	6	1	23
FI		0	4	7	4	24	2	30
SE		0	5	4	1	28	0	22
UK		0	6	11	3	10	2	30

**QD5a** Which of the following are your main sources of information about food risks? Firstly?  
(%)






























		Events like lectures, seminars, workshops or conferences	Television	Professional journals	Radio	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28		1	37	3	4	0	2	1
BE		2	35	3	4	0	1	1
BG		0	48	1	1	0	4	3
CZ		2	42	3	3	0	1	1
DK		1	35	3	5	2	0	1
DE		1	33	4	4	0	2	1
EE		4	21	3	5	1	2	1
IE		3	22	2	8	0	1	0
EL		1	41	1	1	0	1	0
ES		1	43	2	4	0	4	0
FR		1	39	3	8	1	2	0
HR		2	42	2	1	0	0	0
IT		2	41	3	1	1	3	1
CY		1	40	1	4	1	2	0
LV		3	29	2	4	1	1	1
LT		1	49	1	4	0	1	0
LU		1	24	3	8	1	1	1
HU		3	38	3	4	1	3	0
MT		1	24	1	4	0	1	6
NL		1	19	5	4	0	1	0
AT		4	23	6	3	1	4	2
PL		2	43	1	2	0	3	4
PT		0	60	1	0	0	3	1
RO		0	56	2	2	1	4	1
SI		3	36	4	5	1	2	0
SK		1	44	3	5	0	0	1
FI		1	19	5	3	1	0	0
SE		3	20	7	8	1	0	1
UK		2	27	2	3	1	2	1

**QD5b** And then? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)  
(%)






























		Information points such as street stands or festivals	Family, friends and neighbours	Social media	Your doctor or a specialist, e.g. dietician or nutritionist	Newspapers and magazines	Your local grocer	Internet (excluding social media)
EU28		3	32	18	13	30	5	26
BE		3	29	20	20	30	4	28
BG		2	48	20	14	20	4	25
CZ		2	32	15	11	28	5	30
DK		2	31	29	5	38	2	35
DE		2	31	15	13	34	9	26
EE		1	26	18	11	35	3	27
IE		5	26	24	15	30	9	23
EL		5	52	22	27	27	5	23
ES		1	30	15	11	18	6	23
FR		2	28	19	11	36	1	29
HR		5	41	21	11	30	4	22
IT		5	31	18	18	30	7	23
CY		1	39	25	9	15	1	26
LV		2	29	24	12	25	4	26
LT		2	30	19	10	31	1	25
LU		3	25	22	14	35	1	27
HU		6	35	17	16	19	11	23
MT		2	34	34	13	13	8	19
NL		3	26	17	26	41	1	37
AT		7	30	18	18	31	13	25
PL		4	31	15	8	21	4	24
PT		2	39	26	8	40	5	17
RO		4	40	17	17	16	3	19
SI		3	34	16	6	39	4	26
SK		2	40	17	8	31	3	22
FI		1	28	20	14	40	6	31
SE		0	34	26	9	44	4	32
UK		4	28	23	11	32	4	26
































**QD5b** And then? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)  
(%)

		Events like lectures, seminars, workshops or conferences	Television	Professional journals	Radio	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28		6	33	9	22	2	4	1
BE		6	37	9	30	1	3	0
BG		3	32	4	16	1	2	3
CZ		4	34	14	18	2	2	1
DK		6	40	15	28	6	1	0
DE		5	34	14	29	1	2	1
EE		10	43	9	30	2	4	2
IE		7	37	7	29	1	2	0
EL		6	35	5	15	2	3	0
ES		4	28	6	18	1	10	1
FR		4	35	6	29	2	4	1
HR		4	36	10	22	0	1	1
IT		9	28	11	12	1	4	0
CY		4	35	2	23	1	6	0
LV		4	35	8	21	2	4	4
LT		6	35	5	30	2	3	1
LU		5	35	14	27	1	2	0
HU		7	30	8	19	2	4	1
MT		4	41	6	28	2	3	1
NL		9	44	12	24	2	1	0
AT		13	35	19	19	2	3	1
PL		4	27	6	19	2	4	3
PT		3	25	6	13	4	5	1
RO		3	27	10	21	1	8	1
SI		6	38	12	29	1	2	0
SK		3	37	12	39	0	2	1
FI		6	40	12	19	2	4	1
SE		10	43	16	31	2	2	0
UK		6	35	9	18	1	5	1

**QD5T** Which of the following are your main sources of information about food risks? Firstly? And then? TOTAL (MAX. 4 ANSWERS)  
(%)






























		Information points such as street stands or festivals	Family, friends and neighbours	Social media	Your doctor or a specialist, e.g. dietician or nutritionist	Newspapers and magazines	Your local grocer	Internet (excluding social media)
EU28		4	37	24	18	38	7	46
BE		3	34	27	29	43	6	43
BG		2	58	25	18	20	4	39
CZ		3	39	20	14	33	6	56
DK		3	35	38	6	54	3	55
DE		2	35	19	17	47	12	49
EE		1	34	28	14	45	4	55
IE		7	32	39	21	38	12	47
EL		6	60	29	32	30	6	53
ES		1	35	20	19	21	7	41
FR		2	34	25	14	47	1	45
HR		5	52	28	18	34	5	42
IT		7	36	23	24	37	10	37
CY		1	43	42	12	17	2	49
LV		2	36	33	14	30	6	58
LT		3	35	23	11	33	1	54
LU		3	31	29	16	51	3	54
HU		7	45	23	21	22	14	41
MT		1	37	42	14	13	11	57
NL		4	29	22	38	62	2	65
AT		8	38	23	25	41	17	40
PL		5	35	19	11	23	5	44
PT		2	42	32	14	41	6	31
RO		4	44	20	23	17	3	31
SI		4	42	24	7	46	6	47
SK		2	46	24	10	37	4	44
FI		1	31	27	18	64	8	61
SE		0	38	30	10	72	4	54
UK		4	33	34	13	41	6	56

**QD5T** Which of the following are your main sources of information about food risks? Firstly? And then? TOTAL (MAX. 4 ANSWERS)  
(%)

		Events like lectures, seminars, workshops or conferences	Television	Professional journals	Radio	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28		7	69	12	25	2	6	1
BE		8	71	12	33	1	4	1
BG		3	78	5	16	1	6	3
CZ		6	75	16	21	2	3	1
DK		7	74	18	33	7	2	1
DE		6	65	17	33	2	3	1
EE		13	63	11	34	3	6	1
IE		10	59	9	37	1	2	0
EL		6	75	6	16	3	4	0
ES		5	70	7	21	2	13	0
FR		4	74	9	36	3	6	0
HR		6	77	12	23	1	1	0
IT		11	68	14	12	1	7	1
CY		5	75	3	26	2	7	0
LV		7	63	9	24	3	5	1
LT		7	83	6	33	2	4	0
LU		6	58	17	35	2	4	1
HU		9	67	10	22	2	7	0
MT		5	62	6	30	2	3	6
NL		9	63	16	27	2	2	0
AT		16	56	24	21	3	6	2
PL		5	68	7	20	2	6	4
PT		4	85	6	13	4	7	1
RO		4	82	12	22	3	12	1
SI		9	73	15	34	2	4	0
SK		4	80	15	43	0	3	1
FI		7	59	17	21	2	4	0
SE		12	62	22	38	3	2	1
UK		8	61	10	21	2	7	1






























**QD6** I will now read you the beginning of a sentence. Please complete it with one of the following statements so that it best describes your personal experience: "Information that you heard or read about a food risk..."

(%)

		... made you permanently change your consumption behaviour (e.g. diet, cooking or storage practices) at least once in your life	... made you change your consumption behaviour for a while at least once in your life	... worried you, but you never changed your consumption behaviour	... never worried you nor made you change your consumption behaviour	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know	Total 'Changed your consumption behaviour'	Total 'Did not change your consumption behaviour'
EU28		33	33	21	9	0	2	2	66	30
BE		26	37	25	11	0	1	0	63	36
BG		25	33	24	9	0	4	5	58	33
CZ		31	31	25	12	0	0	1	62	37
DK		45	28	17	8	0	1	1	73	25
DE		38	37	13	8	1	1	2	75	21
EE		33	30	20	13	1	2	1	63	33
IE		40	34	14	8	0	2	2	74	22
EL		32	41	19	6	0	2	0	73	25
ES		35	26	29	8	0	2	0	61	37
FR		38	31	20	9	0	1	1	69	29
HR		24	35	32	7	0	1	1	59	39
IT		26	35	24	7	1	5	2	61	31
CY		42	35	18	4	0	1	0	77	22
LV		25	39	20	13	0	2	1	64	33
LT		21	38	25	12	0	2	2	59	37
LU		47	33	13	6	0	1	0	80	19
HU		18	34	32	12	0	3	1	52	44
MT		35	35	14	5	1	2	8	70	19
NL		49	27	10	13	0	1	0	76	23
AT		34	28	19	14	0	2	3	62	33
PL		22	36	25	7	0	4	6	58	32
PT		17	43	32	4	0	3	1	60	36
RO		26	35	24	10	1	3	1	61	34
SI		36	34	18	8	1	3	0	70	26
SK		28	36	27	4	0	2	3	64	31
FI		46	29	15	8	0	1	1	75	23
SE		49	33	10	6	0	1	1	82	16
UK		36	32	17	11	0	1	3	68	28






























**QD7.1** Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks.

**NGOs (%)**

		Totally trust	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	Do not trust at all	Don't know	Total 'Trust'	Total 'Not trust'
EU28		10	46	24	9	11	56	33
BE		11	59	23	4	3	70	27
BG		8	41	24	12	15	49	36
CZ		6	37	30	19	8	43	49
DK		12	47	18	7	16	59	25
DE		6	44	26	9	15	50	35
EE		1	29	27	10	33	30	37
IE		10	51	18	6	15	61	24
EL		7	47	29	12	5	54	41
ES		12	52	18	10	8	64	28
FR		12	49	21	10	8	61	31
HR		10	45	30	12	3	55	42
IT		15	42	28	9	6	57	37
CY		13	43	28	10	6	56	38
LV		4	38	30	13	15	42	43
LT		7	43	21	10	19	50	31
LU		8	48	23	9	12	56	32
HU		15	48	24	9	4	63	33
MT		11	57	10	2	20	68	12
NL		9	49	21	6	15	58	27
AT		19	48	19	8	6	67	27
PL		9	48	25	8	10	57	33
PT		11	49	12	2	26	60	14
RO		12	39	28	12	9	51	40
SI		7	47	32	10	4	54	42
SK		6	44	28	13	9	50	41
FI		4	59	24	5	8	63	29
SE		4	46	36	8	6	50	44
UK		7	41	26	9	17	48	35






























**QD7.2** Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks.

**Celebrities, bloggers and influencers (%)**

		Totally trust	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	Do not trust at all	Don't know	Total 'Trust'	Total 'Not trust'
EU28		3	16	35	38	8	19	73
BE		4	31	42	21	2	35	63
BG		7	31	25	18	19	38	43
CZ		2	16	32	44	6	18	76
DK		2	19	36	34	9	21	70
DE		1	6	36	45	12	7	81
EE		0	13	36	30	21	13	66
IE		3	25	30	34	8	28	64
EL		4	24	39	24	9	28	63
ES		0	12	27	51	10	12	78
FR		1	9	32	51	7	10	83
HR		5	30	36	22	7	35	58
IT		7	22	36	30	5	29	66
CY		3	22	35	28	12	25	63
LV		1	14	41	33	11	15	74
LT		4	18	37	32	9	22	69
LU		1	12	31	48	8	13	79
HU		9	27	33	27	4	36	60
MT		2	23	39	19	17	25	58
NL		0	7	39	51	3	7	90
AT		6	25	30	31	8	31	61
PL		3	24	38	23	12	27	61
PT		3	30	32	13	22	33	45
RO		12	30	33	17	8	42	50
SI		3	20	47	24	6	23	71
SK		4	21	39	27	9	25	66
FI		0	13	47	31	9	13	78
SE		0	3	30	64	3	3	94
UK		1	12	37	44	6	13	81






























**QD7.3** Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks.

**Scientists (%)**

		Totally trust	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	Do not trust at all	Don't know	Total 'Trust'	Total 'Not trust'
EU28		28	54	11	4	3	82	15
BE		33	55	9	2	1	88	11
BG		33	49	8	5	5	82	13
CZ		35	48	10	5	2	83	15
DK		44	45	7	1	3	89	8
DE		22	57	14	4	3	79	18
EE		32	56	6	1	5	88	7
IE		32	56	9	1	2	88	10
EL		42	51	5	2	0	93	7
ES		38	46	10	3	3	84	13
FR		22	58	12	5	3	80	17
HR		23	52	17	6	2	75	23
IT		31	49	14	4	2	80	18
CY		40	48	7	4	1	88	11
LV		24	55	9	4	8	79	13
LT		34	50	10	4	2	84	14
LU		22	50	16	7	5	72	23
HU		38	45	12	4	1	83	16
MT		36	34	12	5	13	70	17
NL		41	53	4	1	1	94	5
AT		29	48	16	4	3	77	20
PL		16	61	11	6	6	77	17
PT		21	66	8	1	4	87	9
RO		29	49	15	4	3	78	19
SI		26	47	19	5	3	73	24
SK		26	55	9	5	5	81	14
FI		28	62	6	2	2	90	8
SE		38	56	4	1	1	94	5
UK		29	52	11	5	3	81	16

**QD7.4** Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks.






























**Supermarkets and restaurants (%)**

		Totally trust	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	Do not trust at all	Don't know	Total 'Trust'	Total 'Not trust'
EU28		5	38	39	15	3	43	54
BE		5	47	38	10	0	52	48
BG		5	33	35	21	6	38	56
CZ		3	27	40	28	2	30	68
DK		13	45	29	9	4	58	38
DE		3	34	47	14	2	37	61
EE		1	45	39	7	8	46	46
IE		7	51	29	9	4	58	38
EL		4	37	47	11	1	41	58
ES		4	45	31	16	4	49	47
FR		2	26	44	25	3	28	69
HR		4	24	44	26	2	28	70
IT		9	36	40	12	3	45	52
CY		3	41	41	14	1	44	55
LV		2	28	42	22	6	30	64
LT		3	27	45	23	2	30	68
LU		4	39	38	15	4	43	53
HU		9	41	37	12	1	50	49
MT		3	45	38	5	9	48	43
NL		3	42	43	11	1	45	54
AT		10	48	28	11	3	58	39
PL		4	26	44	19	7	30	63
PT		5	61	26	4	4	66	30
RO		11	32	39	16	2	43	55
SI		4	32	44	18	2	36	62
SK		3	28	46	16	7	31	62
FI		8	73	16	2	1	81	18
SE		3	41	44	11	1	44	55
UK		6	49	30	11	4	55	41



**QD7.5** Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks.

**EU institutions (%)**

		Totally trust	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	Do not trust at all	Don't know	Total 'Trust'	Total 'Not trust'
EU28		10	48	25	10	7	58	35
BE		11	60	22	5	2	71	27
BG		15	45	18	10	12	60	28
CZ		6	35	30	22	7	41	52
DK		16	53	18	4	9	69	22
DE		7	45	31	9	8	52	40
EE		6	47	20	7	20	53	27
IE		12	60	16	4	8	72	20
EL		12	50	27	6	5	62	33
ES		11	54	19	9	7	65	28
FR		6	42	28	16	8	48	44
HR		10	41	32	12	5	51	44
IT		14	43	27	10	6	57	37
CY		20	55	15	7	3	75	22
LV		8	48	20	10	14	56	30
LT		11	48	22	9	10	59	31
LU		11	50	25	8	6	61	33
HU		18	50	22	6	4	68	28
MT		17	53	15	2	13	70	17
NL		14	62	16	4	4	76	20
AT		9	48	29	10	4	57	39
PL		7	50	25	8	10	57	33
PT		12	66	14	1	7	78	15
RO		17	45	24	8	6	62	32
SI		6	44	33	13	4	50	46
SK		8	48	26	11	7	56	37
FI		9	64	17	3	7	73	20
SE		15	60	14	5	6	75	19
UK		9	46	25	11	9	55	36






























**QD7.6** Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks.

**Journalists (%)**

		Totally trust	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	Do not trust at all	Don't know	Total 'Trust'	Total 'Not trust'
EU28		6	44	33	13	4	50	46
BE		6	56	31	6	1	62	37
BG		13	48	21	11	7	61	32
CZ		5	33	37	22	3	38	59
DK		6	43	31	16	4	49	47
DE		5	50	31	10	4	55	41
EE		2	42	37	9	10	44	46
IE		6	54	27	8	5	60	35
EL		6	32	44	17	1	38	61
ES		3	39	35	17	6	42	52
FR		3	45	32	16	4	48	48
HR		8	38	37	14	3	46	51
IT		8	39	36	14	3	47	50
CY		6	45	36	12	1	51	48
LV		5	42	35	12	6	47	47
LT		7	48	32	11	2	55	43
LU		3	45	33	12	7	48	45
HU		9	34	39	15	3	43	54
MT		1	27	46	12	14	28	58
NL		6	59	28	4	3	65	32
AT		13	42	29	11	5	55	40
PL		6	47	28	10	9	53	38
PT		8	69	19	1	3	77	20
RO		13	47	27	9	4	60	36
SI		5	43	37	12	3	48	49
SK		8	45	26	13	8	53	39
FI		2	61	30	4	3	63	34
SE		3	55	30	9	3	58	39
UK		3	34	39	19	5	37	58






























**QD7.7** Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks.

**National authorities (%)**

		Totally trust	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	Do not trust at all	Don't know	Total 'Trust'	Total 'Not trust'
EU28		11	49	26	10	4	60	36
BE		11	58	24	6	1	69	30
BG		9	37	30	17	7	46	47
CZ		9	43	29	13	6	52	42
DK		29	56	11	2	2	85	13
DE		8	50	31	6	5	58	37
EE		7	52	23	7	11	59	30
IE		14	63	16	3	4	77	19
EL		10	53	27	9	1	63	36
ES		9	47	29	11	4	56	40
FR		5	47	29	15	4	52	44
HR		6	34	39	17	4	40	56
IT		14	46	28	10	2	60	38
CY		13	57	21	8	1	70	29
LV		6	47	27	11	9	53	38
LT		7	45	31	13	4	52	44
LU		9	58	23	5	5	67	28
HU		24	48	20	6	2	72	26
MT		18	53	15	2	12	71	17
NL		20	61	15	3	1	81	18
AT		15	56	19	6	4	71	25
PL		5	38	32	17	8	43	49
PT		11	69	16	1	3	80	17
RO		11	43	32	10	4	54	42
SI		7	40	38	12	3	47	50
SK		8	51	24	10	7	59	34
FI		20	65	11	2	2	85	13
SE		32	56	8	2	2	88	10
UK		10	56	21	8	5	66	29






























**QD7.8** Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks.

**Food industries (%)**

		Totally trust	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	Do not trust at all	Don't know	Total 'Trust'	Total 'Not trust'
EU28		6	30	39	22	3	36	61
BE		6	36	40	18	0	42	58
BG		7	38	29	20	6	45	49
CZ		7	34	39	16	4	41	55
DK		19	44	25	9	3	63	34
DE		3	16	47	31	3	19	78
EE		6	57	28	5	4	63	33
IE		9	49	27	11	4	58	38
EL		3	24	49	23	1	27	72
ES		5	30	35	26	4	35	61
FR		2	14	40	42	2	16	82
HR		5	33	38	22	2	38	60
IT		8	32	38	19	3	40	57
CY		7	30	44	18	1	37	62
LV		3	44	32	14	7	47	46
LT		4	30	44	20	2	34	64
LU		3	21	35	37	4	24	72
HU		12	45	32	10	1	57	42
MT		5	40	35	8	12	45	43
NL		4	24	50	20	2	28	70
AT		10	28	33	25	4	38	58
PL		4	32	43	14	7	36	57
PT		5	52	26	6	11	57	32
RO		11	40	35	12	2	51	47
SI		4	31	44	19	2	35	63
SK		6	39	34	13	8	45	47
FI		9	59	26	4	2	68	30
SE		4	37	39	17	3	41	56
UK		7	42	33	14	4	49	47






























**QD7.9** Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks.

**Farmers (%)**

		Totally trust	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	Do not trust at all	Don't know	Total 'Trust'	Total 'Not trust'
EU28		16	53	21	6	4	69	27
BE		15	56	23	5	1	71	28
BG		17	49	20	8	6	66	28
CZ		17	46	26	7	4	63	33
DK		19	43	25	10	3	62	35
DE		16	51	25	5	3	67	30
EE		14	66	13	2	5	80	15
IE		19	56	17	4	4	75	21
EL		12	48	32	7	1	60	39
ES		15	53	21	5	6	68	26
FR		14	55	20	7	4	69	27
HR		16	52	23	8	1	68	31
IT		15	52	23	7	3	67	30
CY		19	43	29	8	1	62	37
LV		14	54	21	6	5	68	27
LT		11	53	26	8	2	64	34
LU		20	48	23	4	5	68	27
HU		19	50	24	5	2	69	29
MT		20	44	22	4	10	64	26
NL		12	58	26	2	2	70	28
AT		37	47	11	3	2	84	14
PL		12	51	22	7	8	63	29
PT		16	70	11	0	3	86	11
RO		22	49	21	6	2	71	27
SI		26	49	17	6	2	75	23
SK		17	54	15	7	7	71	22
FI		15	68	12	2	3	83	14
SE		14	59	19	4	4	73	23
UK		21	57	14	5	3	78	19

**QD7.10** Please tell me to what extent you trust the following sources or not for information on food risks.






























**Consumer organisations (%)**

		Totally trust	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	Do not trust at all	Don't know	Total 'Trust'	Total 'Not trust'
EU28		21	58	13	4	4	79	17
BE		19	66	11	3	1	85	14
BG		13	52	17	9	9	65	26
CZ		21	51	16	8	4	72	24
DK		34	53	9	1	3	87	10
DE		27	58	10	2	3	85	12
EE		9	63	14	3	11	72	17
IE		16	63	15	3	3	79	18
EL		14	67	13	3	3	81	16
ES		17	62	12	5	4	79	17
FR		27	60	7	3	3	87	10
HR		11	45	29	12	3	56	41
IT		23	56	14	4	3	79	18
CY		26	54	11	6	3	80	17
LV		6	49	24	9	12	55	33
LT		8	58	19	9	6	66	28
LU		19	62	12	2	5	81	14
HU		29	50	15	5	1	79	20
MT		12	54	19	2	13	66	21
NL		27	65	7	1	0	92	8
AT		32	49	10	4	5	81	14
PL		9	58	19	6	8	67	25
PT		10	59	14	2	15	69	16
RO		18	48	21	7	6	66	28
SI		20	55	18	5	2	75	23
SK		12	49	23	8	8	61	31
FI		9	74	10	2	5	83	12
SE		26	61	10	1	2	87	11
UK		14	56	19	5	6	70	24

**QD8** Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with: (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
(%)

		There are regulations in place to make sure that the food you eat is safe	To decide how risky something could be for you to eat, the EU relies on scientists to give expert advice	The EU has a separate institution that provides scientific advice on the safety of food	Scientific advice on food risks is independent of commercial or political interests	Authorities in your country, together with the EU, keep you safe from food risks	Nowadays, food products are full of harmful substances
EU28		43	28	19	21	29	43
BE		56	41	34	31	39	42
BG		24	16	13	12	15	56
CZ		51	16	12	16	21	51
DK		55	37	20	29	44	37
DE		49	44	20	21	32	29
EE		43	24	15	20	31	48
IE		55	37	32	33	45	34
EL		44	29	19	27	28	59
ES		50	21	20	21	30	51
FR		36	28	18	23	20	63
HR		38	22	22	20	16	61
IT		32	19	14	17	19	40
CY		56	29	33	25	35	66
LV		38	26	15	13	23	51
LT		24	20	13	13	18	56
LU		40	25	25	19	29	55
HU		41	18	18	19	28	49
MT		39	12	15	14	30	42
NL		66	48	32	44	61	33
AT		42	30	26	27	36	31
PL		34	15	16	14	23	52
PT		54	22	21	16	30	51
RO		17	22	13	15	17	48
SI		47	17	20	13	21	57
SK		32	13	13	11	21	44
FI		71	29	34	21	66	17
SE		54	40	34	25	45	24
UK		54	27	22	27	35	29

**QD8** Please tell me which of the following statements you agree with: (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
(%)

		You are personally interested in the topic of food safety	You can assess food safety risks for yourself and do not require help from others	Food safety information is often highly technical and complex	Highly technical and complex information reduces your confidence in the source	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28		41	18	36	23	3	2
BE		49	18	37	25	0	1
BG		29	18	31	21	2	5
CZ		27	13	31	17	3	1
DK		53	16	42	30	2	1
DE		50	22	39	21	2	2
EE		49	35	40	24	3	2
IE		39	31	42	22	1	1
EL		39	13	36	27	1	1
ES		37	10	35	22	2	3
FR		60	17	49	27	2	2
HR		43	24	37	24	1	1
IT		17	12	31	26	5	4
CY		65	19	41	34	3	1
LV		57	31	36	28	2	2
LT		40	28	32	20	2	2
LU		60	22	40	26	0	1
HU		26	18	30	15	2	2
MT		43	8	28	12	3	12
NL		55	18	34	20	1	0
AT		37	28	35	26	2	2
PL		33	14	31	29	3	5
PT		31	10	32	16	1	2
RO		45	19	26	20	6	2
SI		47	22	29	19	4	2
SK		31	11	22	17	3	4
FI		64	24	32	24	1	1
SE		50	11	32	16	3	1
UK		41	29	39	18	3	2