Imperial College London

Covid-19:
Perceptions of vulnerability and attitudes towards a COVID-19 vaccine
Global Report

Institute of Global Health Innovation

Covid Data Hub

Key insights from this report

This report looks at perceptions of vulnerability and attitudes towards a COVID-19 vaccine in 15 countries between November 11th and November 24th, 2020. Countries included are Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom. The total sample is of ~13,500 people.

Key takeaways include the following:

➢ **Nearly half of respondents (48%) perceive COVID-19 as 'very dangerous' to them**. However, perceptions of danger do not map to perceptions of self-vulnerability – **less than a third (27%) of the global population perceive themselves as vulnerable** to contracting COVID-19.

➢ **Over half of respondents (53%) believe their life has been greatly affected by COVID-19**, and 79% of all respondents feel it is important to carry out activities which will improve their health.

➢ **Only 51% of all respondents reported being willing to get vaccinated for COVID-19 in 2021** – this drops to 41% if asked about getting the vaccine the week they took the survey.

   ➢ There is significant variation across countries. 65% of respondents in the UK reported being willing to get vaccinated in 2021, whereas this figure was only 35% for France.

   ➢ Over half of respondents (54%) reported being worried about possible side-effects from a COVID-19 vaccine.

   ➢ When asked if they would regret not getting a COVID-19 vaccine when it became available, one third (31%) reported indifference (neither agreed nor disagreed)

➢ Two thirds of respondents (70%) reported some level of confidence in the healthcare system's ability to respond to a COVID-19 outbreak in their country, but **only half (51%) reported belief in their government health authority's ability to provide an effective COVID-19 vaccine** - one third (31%) stated they were undecided about this.

➢ **57% of respondents reported they think their government is handling the issue of COVID-19 well**. 38% believe their government is handling it badly.

   ➢ There is significant variation across countries. Singapore and Australia had the highest share of respondents who thought it was being handled well (85% and 84%, respectively), whereas Spain and the United Kingdom had the highest share of respondents who thought it was being handled badly (67% and 66%, respectively).

There is an opportunity for governments to work on communication and deployment strategies that can influence these attitudes to increase the willingness of people to get the COVID-19 vaccine as it becomes available.
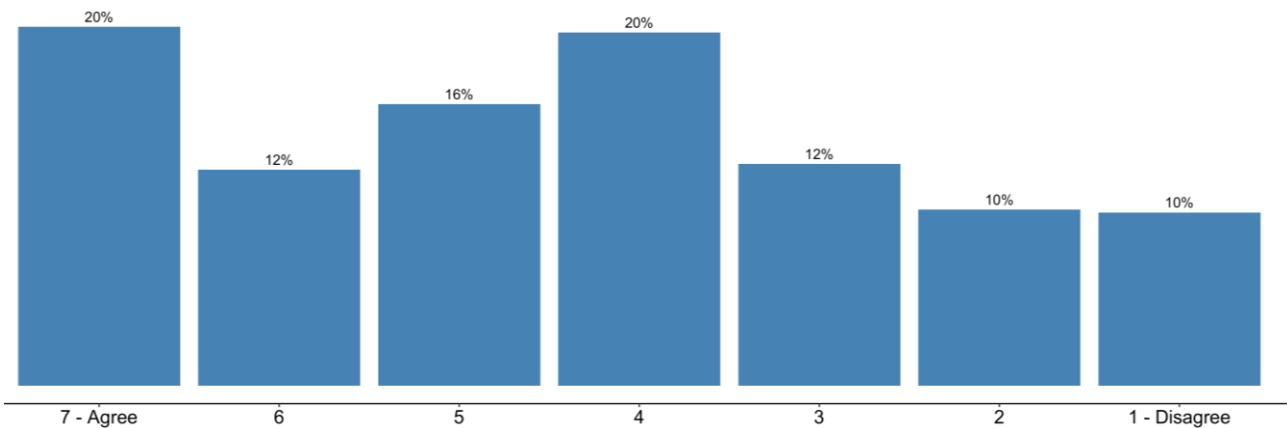
All of the survey responses were captured before countries started to approve the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. It will be important to look at how attitudes changed in light of this.

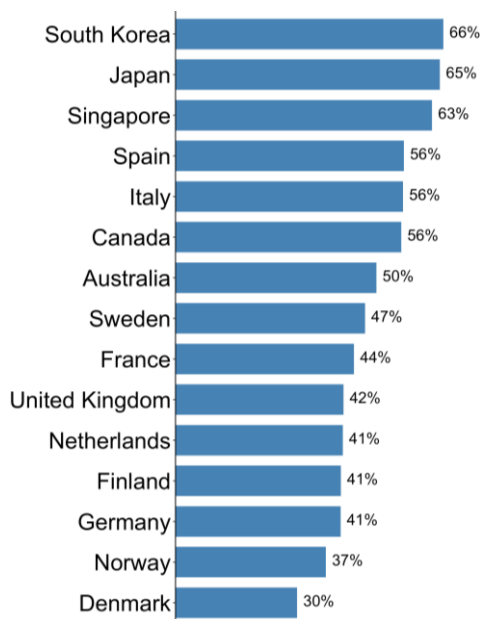# Do people perceive COVID-19 as 'very dangerous'?

These graphs show the extent to which people agree and a country breakdown of responses

48% of people reported some level of agreement that COVID-19 is very dangerous for them. Asian countries (South Korea, Japan and Singapore) accounted for the highest share of respondents who reported some level of agreement while Nordic countries (Denmark, Norway and Finland) accounted for the highest share of those who reported some level of disagreement with the statement.
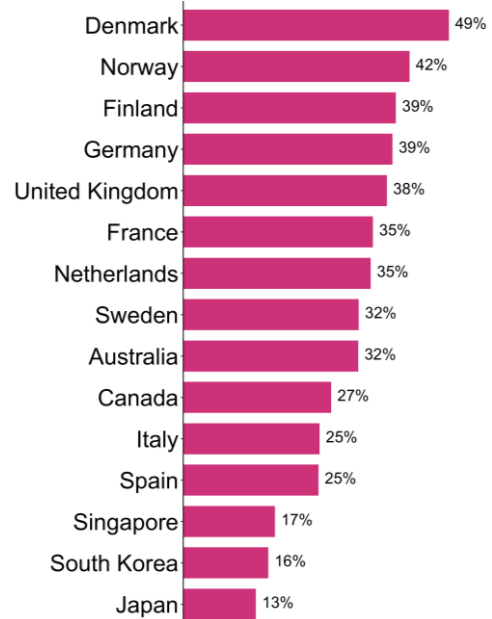
To what extent do you agree or disagree that…Coronavirus (COVID-19) is very dangerous for me? (A higher score indicates a higher level of agreement with the question) (%)

7 - Agree	6	5	4	3	2	1 - Disagree
20%	12%	16%	20%	12%	10%	10%

Country breakdown of respondents who answered some level of agreement (%)

South Korea	66%
Japan	65%
Singapore	63%
Spain	56%
Italy	56%
Canada	56%
Australia	50%
Sweden	47%
France	44%
United Kingdom	42%
Netherlands	41%
Finland	41%
Germany	41%
Norway	37%
Denmark	30%

Country breakdown of respondents who answered some level of disagreement (%)

Denmark	49%
Norway	42%
Finland	39%
Germany	39%
United Kingdom	38%
France	35%
Netherlands	35%
Sweden	32%
Australia	32%
Canada	27%
Italy	25%
Spain	25%
Singapore	17%
South Korea	16%
Japan	13%

Compare your data with that of 15 other countries, areas or territories on coviddatahub.com
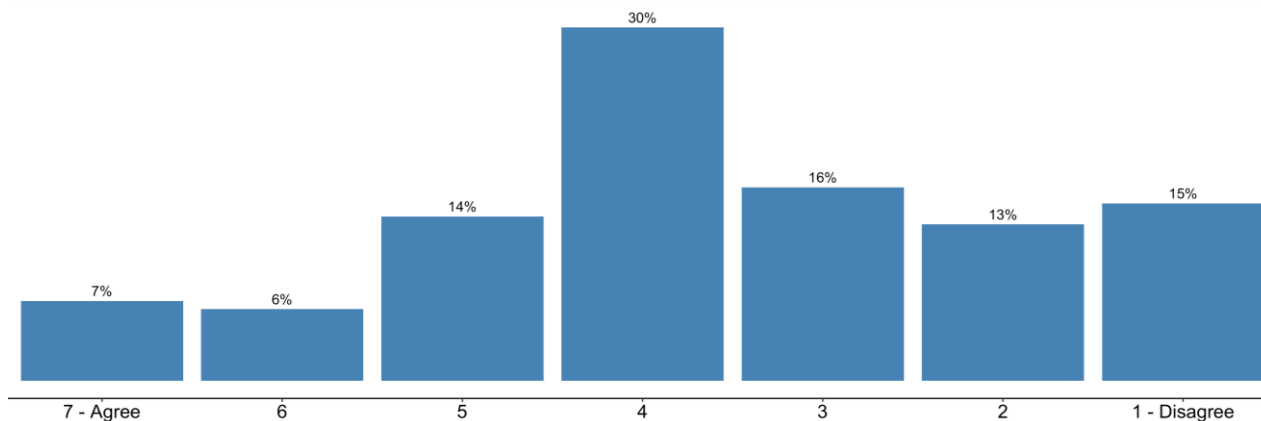
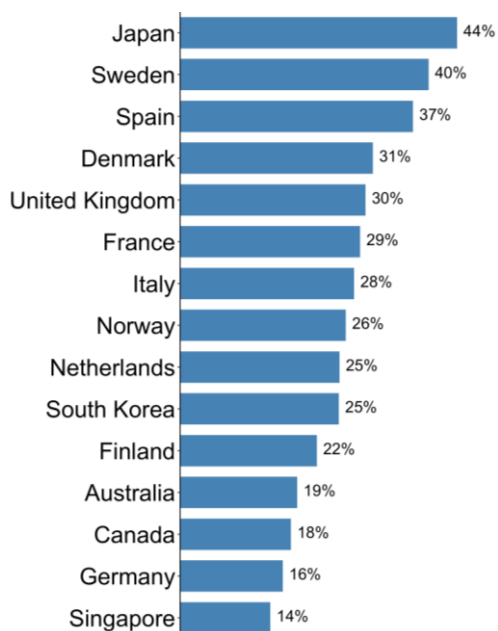# How vulnerable to contracting COVID-19 do people perceive themselves to be?

These graphs show the extent to which people agree and a country breakdown of responses

27% of global respondents agree that they are likely to get COVID-19 in the future while 44% of people reported that they do not. Japan had the highest percentage of respondents who reported some level of agreement (44%). In contrast, Australia had the highest percentage of respondents who reported some level of disagreement (61%).
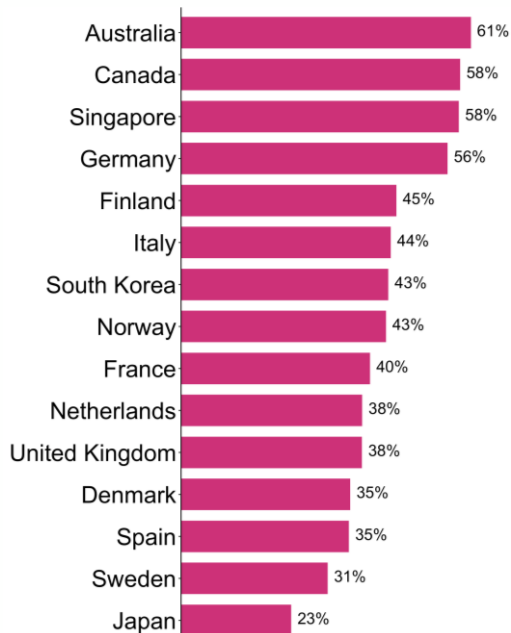
To what extent do you agree or disagree that...It is likely that I will get coronavirus (COVID-19) in the future? (A higher score indicates a higher level of agreement with the question) (%)

Country breakdown of respondents who answered some level of agreement (%)

Country	%
Japan	44%
Sweden	40%
Spain	37%
Denmark	31%
United Kingdom	30%
France	29%
Italy	28%
Norway	26%
Netherlands	25%
South Korea	25%
Finland	22%
Australia	19%
Canada	18%
Germany	16%
Singapore	14%

Country breakdown of respondents who answered some level of disagreement (%)

Country	%
Australia	61%
Canada	58%
Singapore	58%
Germany	56%
Finland	45%
Italy	44%
South Korea	43%
Norway	43%
France	40%
Netherlands	38%
United Kingdom	38%
Denmark	35%
Spain	35%
Sweden	31%
Japan	23%

Compare your data with that of 15 other countries, areas or territories on coviddatahub.com
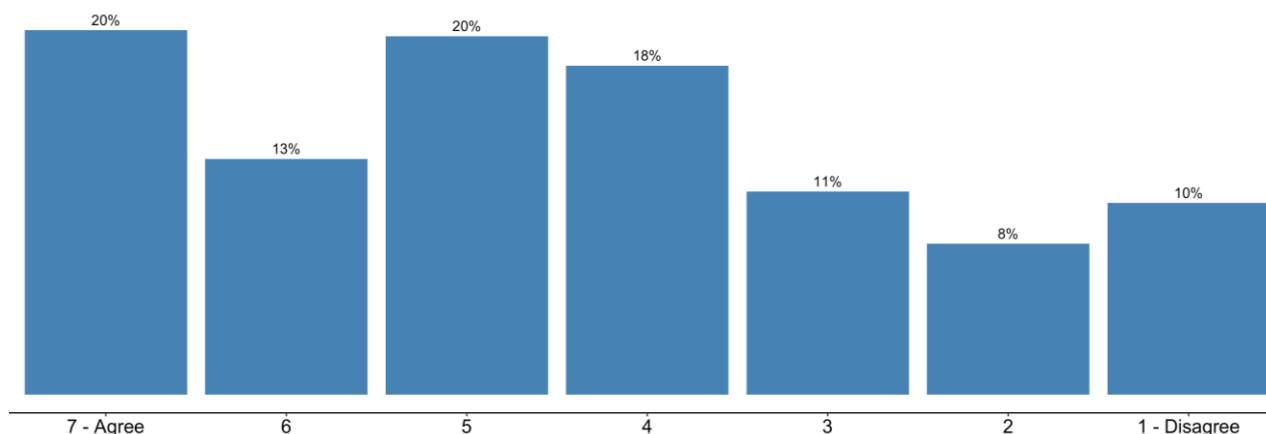
Covid Data Hub

Do people feel their lives have been greatly affected by COVID-19?
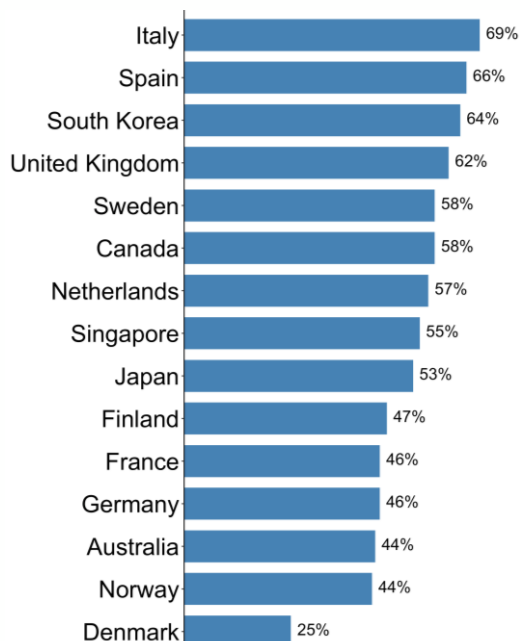
These graphs show the extent to which people agree and a country breakdown of responses

Over half of global respondents surveyed (53%) reported some level of agreement that their life has been greatly affected by COVID-19, while almost a third (29%) reported some level of disagreement. Respondents in Italy account for the highest share of those who agree (69%) while respondents in Denmark account for the highest share of who disagree (57%).
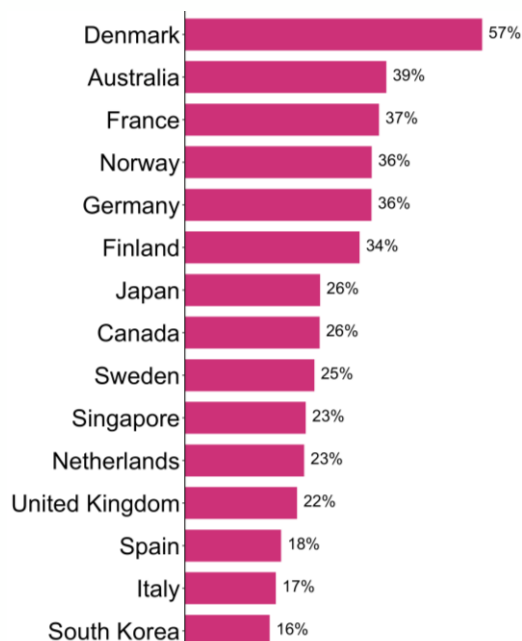
To what extent do you agree or disagree that...My life has been greatly affected by coronavirus (COVID-19)? (A higher score indicates a higher level of agreement with the question) (%)

20%	13%	20%	18%	11%	8%	10%
7 - Agree	6	5	4	3	2	1 - Disagree

Country breakdown of respondents who answered some level of agreement (%)

Country	%
Italy	69%
Spain	66%
South Korea	64%
United Kingdom	62%
Sweden	58%
Canada	58%
Netherlands	57%
Singapore	55%
Japan	53%
Finland	47%
France	46%
Germany	46%
Australia	44%
Norway	44%
Denmark	25%

Country breakdown of respondents who answered some level of disagreement (%)

Country	%
Denmark	57%
Australia	39%
France	37%
Norway	36%
Germany	36%
Finland	34%
Japan	26%
Canada	26%
Sweden	25%
Singapore	23%
Netherlands	23%
United Kingdom	22%
Spain	18%
Italy	17%
South Korea	16%

Compare your data with that of 15 other countries, areas or territories on coviddatahub.com
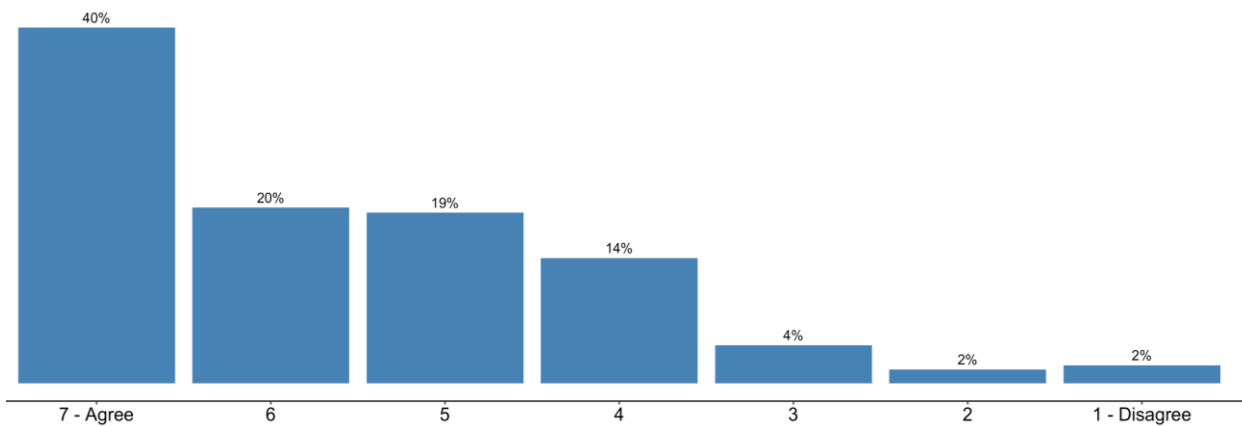
Covid
Data
Hub

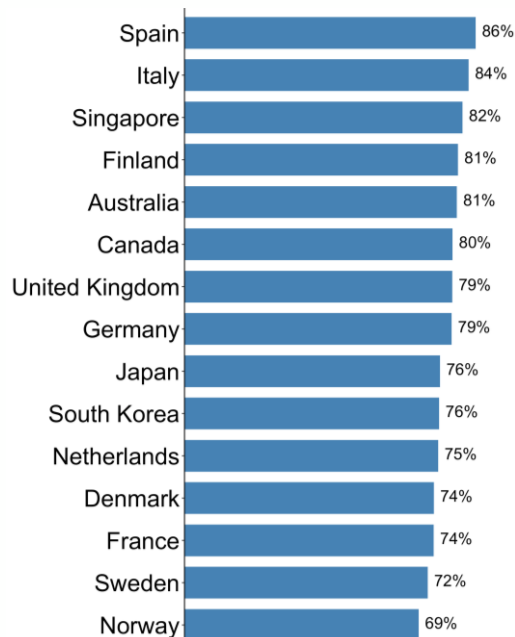# How motivated are people to improving their health?

These graphs show the extent to which people agree and a country breakdown of responses

79% of all respondents agree to some extent that it is important to carry out health-improving activities, with Spain reporting the greatest percentage of agreement (86%). 8% of global respondents reported some level of disagreement, with Sweden having the highest share of these respondents (12%).
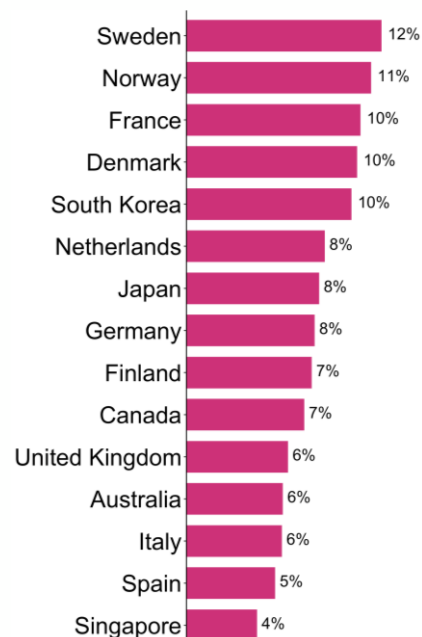
To what extent do you agree or disagree that…I feel it is important to carry out activities which will improve my health (A higher score indicates a higher level of agreement with the question)? (%)

	7 - Agree	6	5	4	3	2	1 - Disagree
	40%	20%	19%	14%	4%	2%	2%

Country breakdown of respondents who answered some level of agreement (%)

Spain	86%
Italy	84%
Singapore	82%
Finland	81%
Australia	81%
Canada	80%
United Kingdom	79%
Germany	79%
Japan	76%
South Korea	76%
Netherlands	75%
Denmark	74%
France	74%
Sweden	72%
Norway	69%

Country breakdown of respondents who answered some level of disagreement (%)

Sweden	12%
Norway	11%
France	10%
Denmark	10%
South Korea	10%
Netherlands	8%
Japan	8%
Germany	8%
Finland	7%
Canada	7%
United Kingdom	6%
Australia	6%
Italy	6%
Spain	5%
Singapore	4%

Compare your data with that of 15 other countries, areas or territories on coviddatahub.com
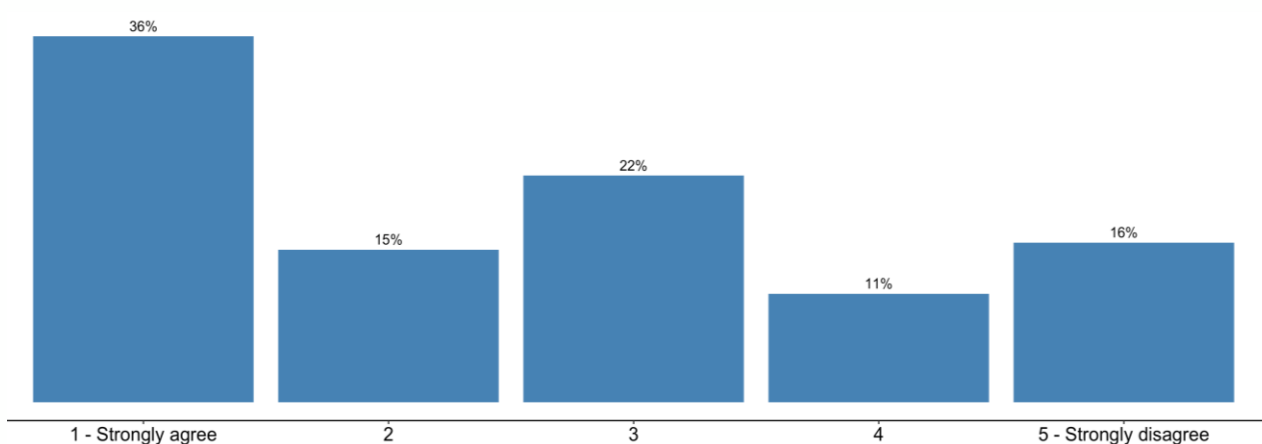
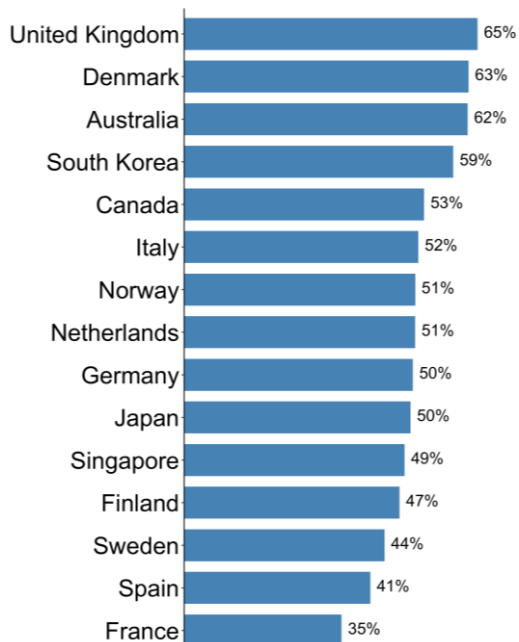# How willing are people to get the COVID-19 vaccine next year?

These graphs show the extent to which people agree and a country breakdown of responses

51% of people reported they are strongly or somewhat willing to get the vaccine and 27% reported they are strongly or somewhat unwilling. The United Kingdom reported the highest levels of agreement (65%), whereas France reported the highest levels of disagreement (41%).
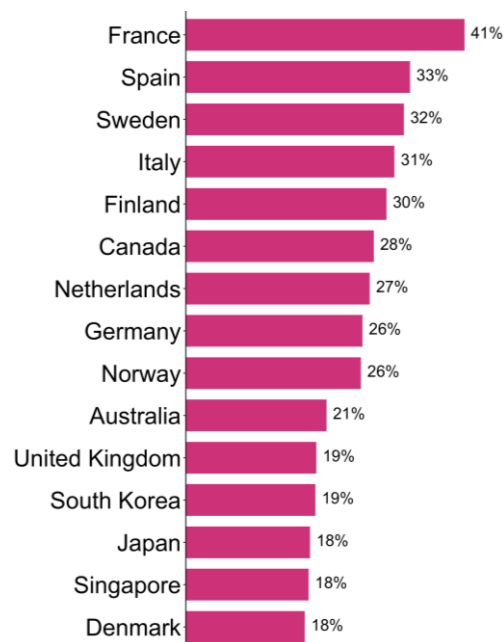
To what extent do you agree or disagree that if a COVID-19 vaccine becomes available to me in 2021, you definitely intend to get it?

1 - Strongly agree	36%
2	15%
3	22%
4	11%
5 - Strongly disagree	16%

Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Strongly' or 'Somewhat agree' (%)

United Kingdom	65%
Denmark	63%
Australia	62%
South Korea	59%
Canada	53%
Italy	52%
Norway	51%
Netherlands	51%
Germany	50%
Japan	50%
Singapore	49%
Finland	47%
Sweden	44%
Spain	41%
France	35%

Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Strongly' or 'Somewhat disagree' (%)

France	41%
Spain	33%
Sweden	32%
Italy	31%
Finland	30%
Canada	28%
Netherlands	27%
Germany	26%
Norway	26%
Australia	21%
United Kingdom	19%
South Korea	19%
Japan	18%
Singapore	18%
Denmark	18%

Compare your data with that of 15 other countries, areas or territories on   coviddatahub.com
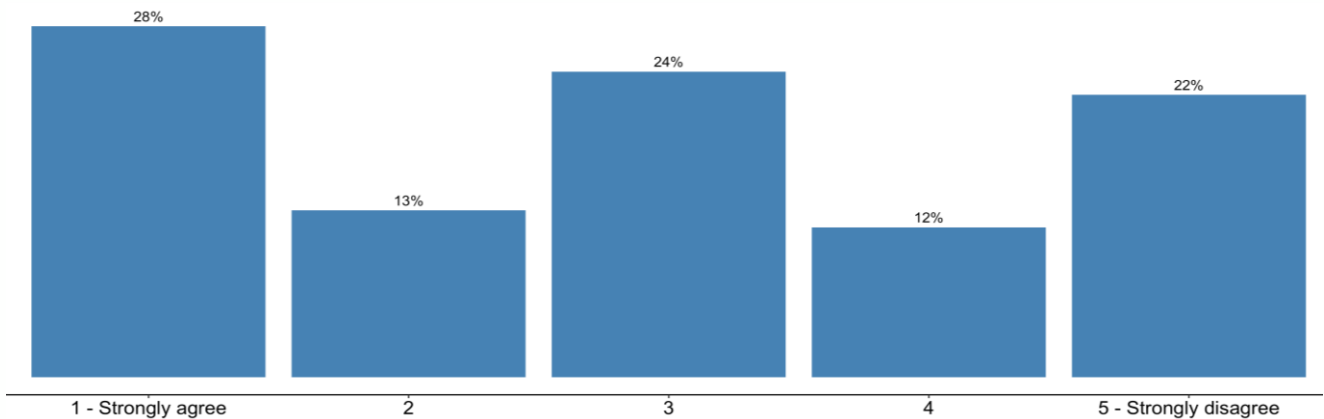
How willing are people to get the COVID-19 vaccine if made available the week of the survey?
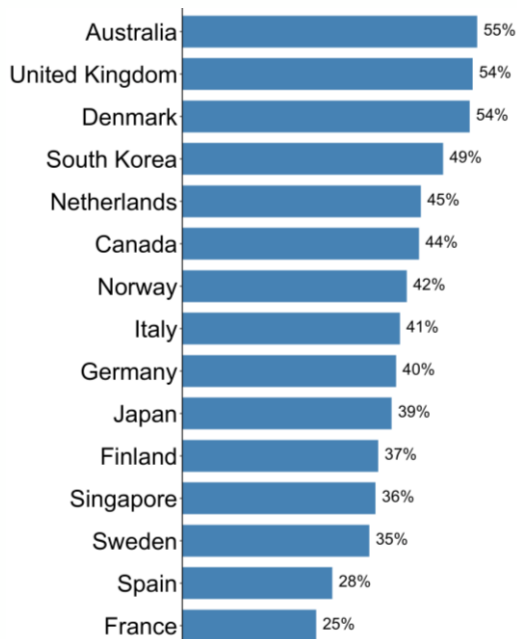
These graphs show the extent to which people agree and a country breakdown of responses

Across all countries surveyed, the willingness to get a COVID-19 vaccine if made available the week of the survey is lower than the willingness to get it in 2021. The country with the highest rate of willingness to get the vaccine on the week of the survey is Australia at 55%. France reported the highest rate of unwillingness at 56%.
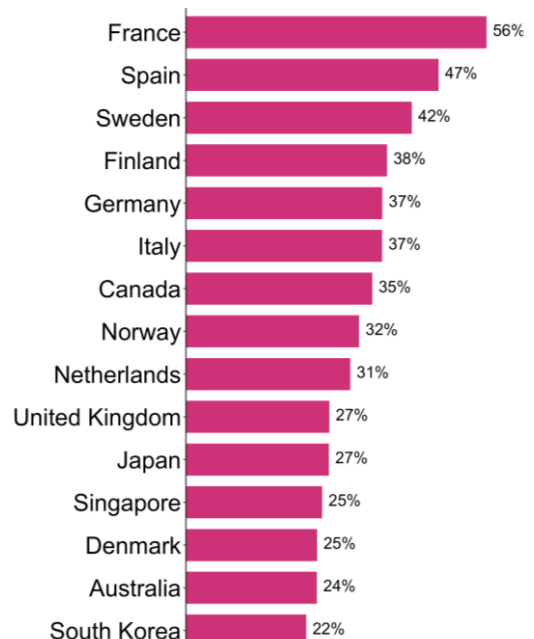
To what extent do you agree or disagree that if a COVID-19 vaccine were made available to me this week, you would definitely get it?

Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Strongly' or 'Somewhat agree' (%)

Country	%
Australia	55%
United Kingdom	54%
Denmark	54%
South Korea	49%
Netherlands	45%
Canada	44%
Norway	42%
Italy	41%
Germany	40%
Japan	39%
Finland	37%
Singapore	36%
Sweden	35%
Spain	28%
France	25%

Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Strongly' or 'Somewhat disagree' (%)

Country	%
France	56%
Spain	47%
Sweden	42%
Finland	38%
Germany	37%
Italy	37%
Canada	35%
Norway	32%
Netherlands	31%
United Kingdom	27%
Japan	27%
Singapore	25%
Denmark	25%
Australia	24%
South Korea	22%

Compare your data with that of 15 other countries, areas or territories on   coviddatahub.com
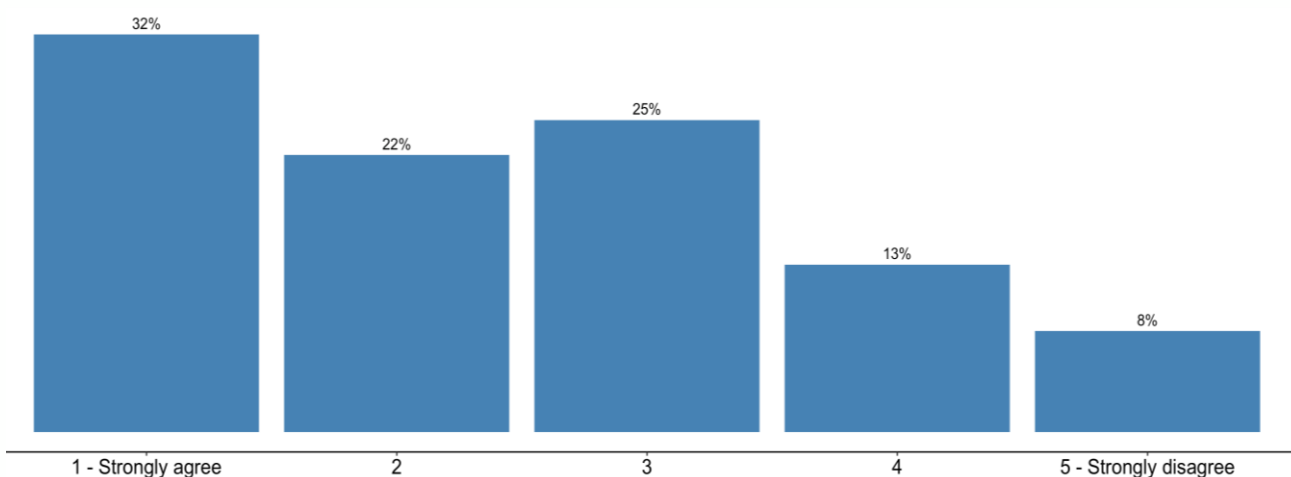
Covid Data Hub

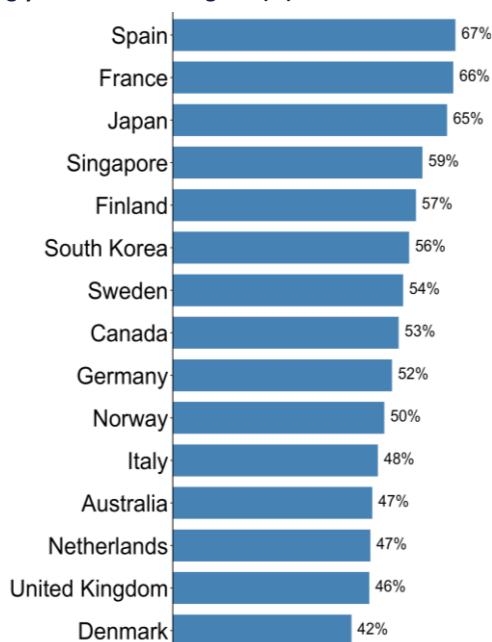# How concerned are people about possible side-effects from a COVID-19 vaccine?

These graphs show the extent to which people agree and a country breakdown of responses

Over half of respondents (54%) reported being worried about possible side-effects from a COVID-19 vaccine. Spain and France reported the highest levels of concern, with 67% and 66% of respondents agreeing that they are worried about potential side effects. The United Kingdom and Denmark reported the lowest levels of concern, with 31% and 29% disagreeing that they are worried about potential side effects.
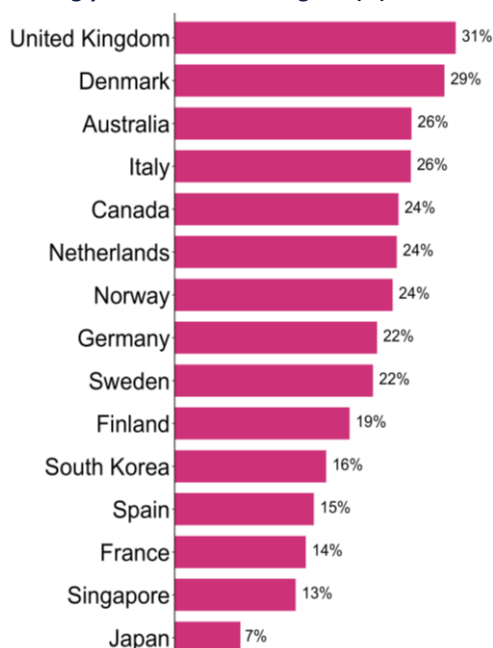
To what extent do you agree or disagree that you am worried about potential side effects of a COVID-19 vaccine?

1 - Strongly agree	32%
2	22%
3	25%
4	13%
5 - Strongly disagree	8%

Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Strongly' or 'Somewhat agree' (%)

Spain	67%
France	66%
Japan	65%
Singapore	59%
Finland	57%
South Korea	56%
Sweden	54%
Canada	53%
Germany	52%
Norway	50%
Italy	48%
Australia	47%
Netherlands	47%
United Kingdom	46%
Denmark	42%

Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Strongly' or 'Somewhat disagree' (%)

United Kingdom	31%
Denmark	29%
Australia	26%
Italy	26%
Canada	24%
Netherlands	24%
Norway	24%
Germany	22%
Sweden	22%
Finland	19%
South Korea	16%
Spain	15%
France	14%
Singapore	13%
Japan	7%

Compare your data with that of 15 other countries, areas or territories on   coviddatahub.com
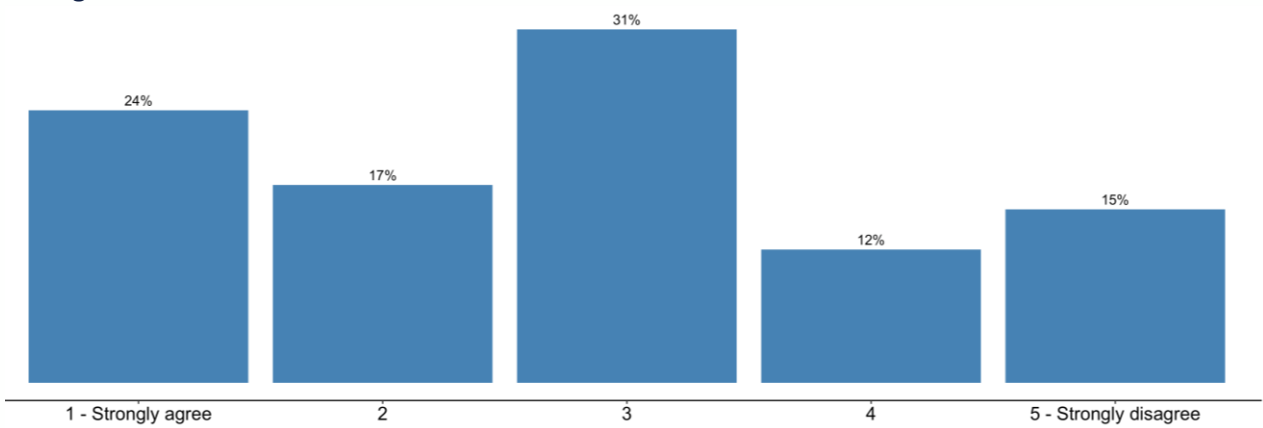
Covid
Data
Hub

How much do people feel they will regret not getting a COVID-19 vaccine when it is available?
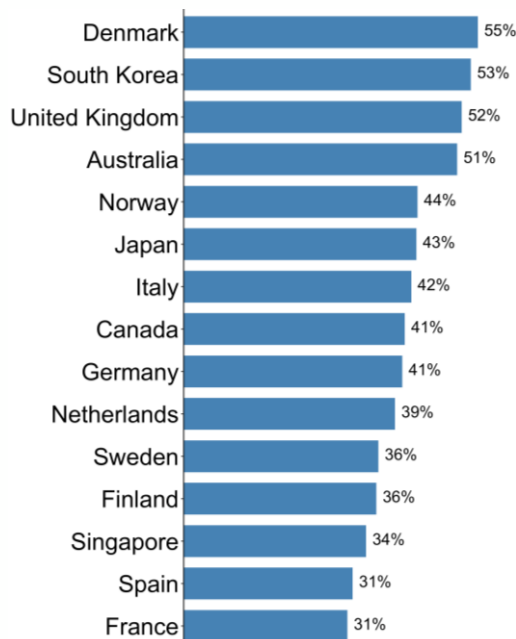
These graphs show the extent to which people agree and a country breakdown of responses

41% of people reported they would strongly or somewhat regret not getting a COVID-19 vaccine when it becomes available, compared to only 27% who reported they would strongly or somewhat not regret getting a vaccine. Denmark reported the highest share of respondents who said they would regret not getting it (55%), whereas France reported the highest share of respondents who said they would not regret it (40%).
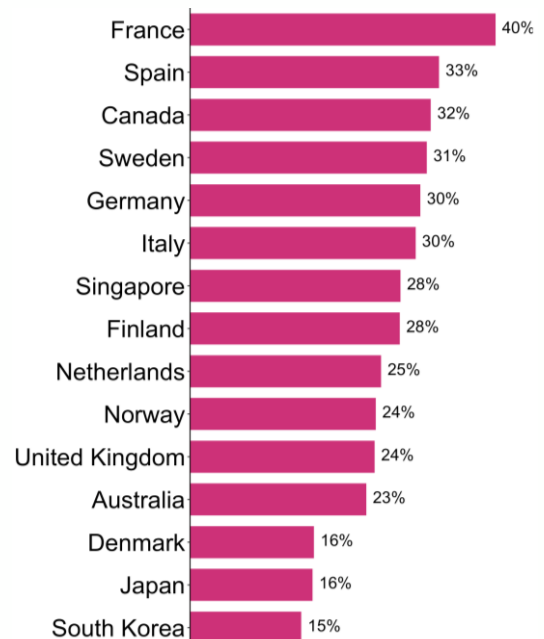
To what extent do you agree or disagree that if you do not get a COVID-19 vaccine when it is available, you will regret it?

24%	17%	31%	12%	15%
1 - Strongly agree	2	3	4	5 - Strongly disagree

Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Strongly' or 'Somewhat agree' (%)

Denmark	55%
South Korea	53%
United Kingdom	52%
Australia	51%
Norway	44%
Japan	43%
Italy	42%
Canada	41%
Germany	41%
Netherlands	39%
Sweden	36%
Finland	36%
Singapore	34%
Spain	31%
France	31%

Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Strongly' or 'Somewhat disagree' (%)

France	40%
Spain	33%
Canada	32%
Sweden	31%
Germany	30%
Italy	30%
Singapore	28%
Finland	28%
Netherlands	25%
Norway	24%
United Kingdom	24%
Australia	23%
Denmark	16%
Japan	16%
South Korea	15%

Compare your data with that of 15 other countries, areas or territories on coviddatahub.com
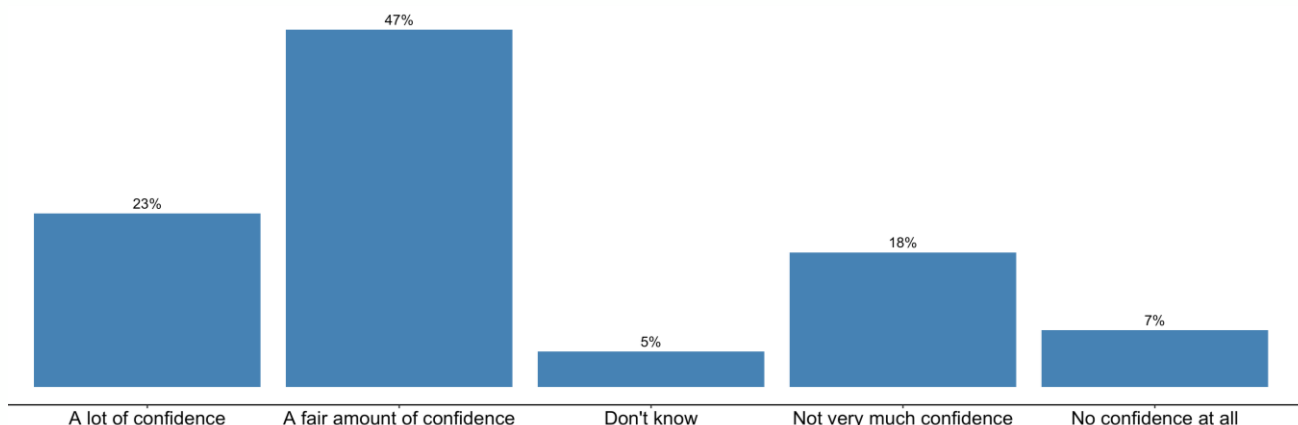
Covid
Data
Hub

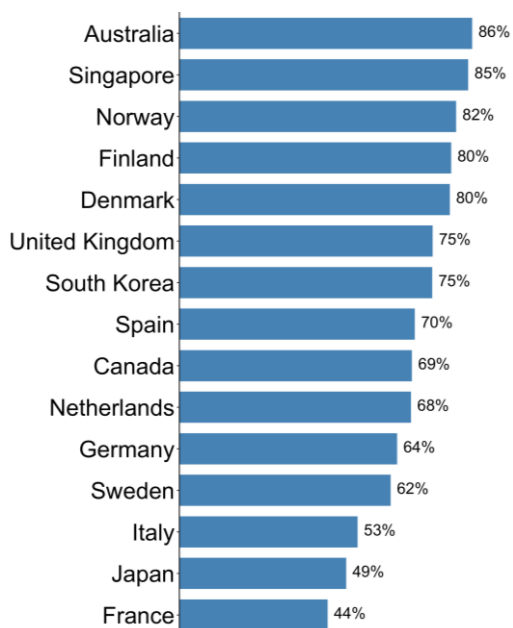# How confident are people in the healthcare system's response to COVID-19?

These graphs show the extent to which people agree and a country breakdown of responses

70% of respondents reported a lot or a fair amount of confidence in the healthcare system to respond to a COVID-19 outbreak in their country. Australia and Singapore reported the highest levels of confidence with 86% and 85%, whereas France and Italy reported the least amount of confidence with 49% and 44% of respondents reporting not very much or no confidence at all.
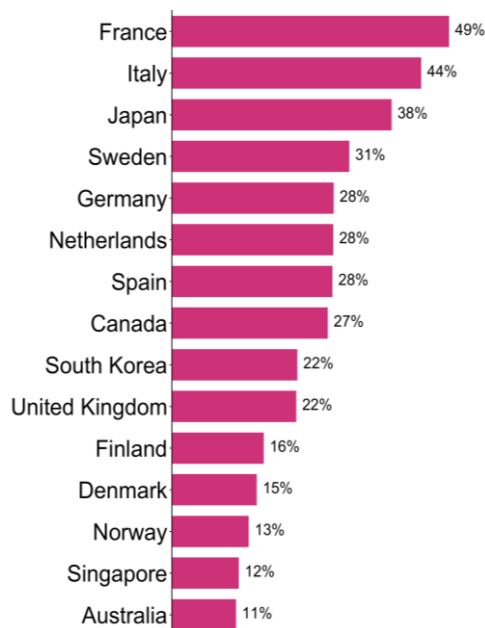
How much confidence do you have in the healthcare system to respond to a Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak in your country?

Category	Percentage
A lot of confidence	23%
A fair amount of confidence	47%
Don't know	5%
Not very much confidence	18%
No confidence at all	7%

Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'A lot' or 'A fair amount of confidence' (%)

Country	%
Australia	86%
Singapore	85%
Norway	82%
Finland	80%
Denmark	80%
United Kingdom	75%
South Korea	75%
Spain	70%
Canada	69%
Netherlands	68%
Germany	64%
Sweden	62%
Italy	53%
Japan	49%
France	44%

Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Not very much' or 'No confidence at all' (%)

Country	%
France	49%
Italy	44%
Japan	38%
Sweden	31%
Germany	28%
Netherlands	28%
Spain	28%
Canada	27%
South Korea	22%
United Kingdom	22%
Finland	16%
Denmark	15%
Norway	13%
Singapore	12%
Australia	11%

Compare your data with that of 15 other countries, areas or territories on coviddatahub.com
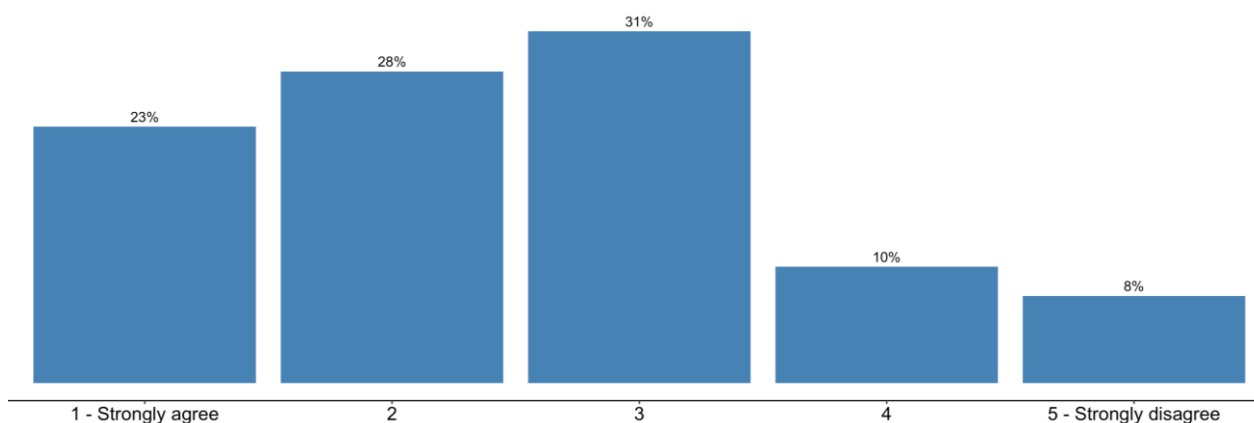
Covid
Data
Hub

How much do people believe in government health authorities' ability to provide an effective COVID-19 vaccine?
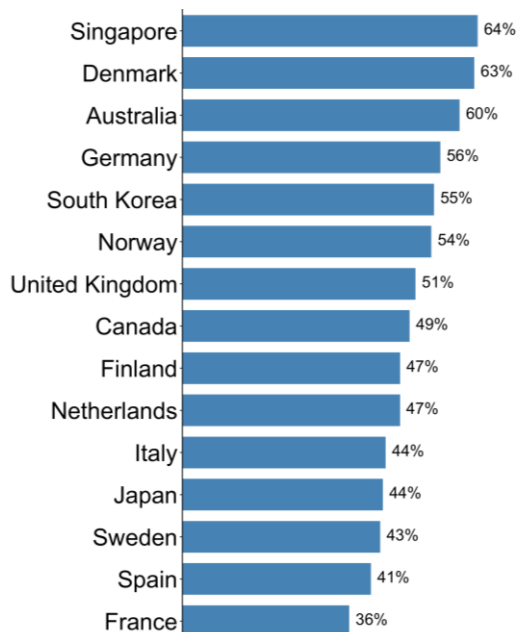
These graphs show the extent to which people agree and a country breakdown of responses

51% of respondents believe the government health authorities in their country will provide an effective COVID-19 vaccine, whereas only 18% disagree. Singapore and Denmark report the highest levels of agreement with 64% and 63% respectively. In contrast, France and Spain report the highest levels of disagreement (27% each).
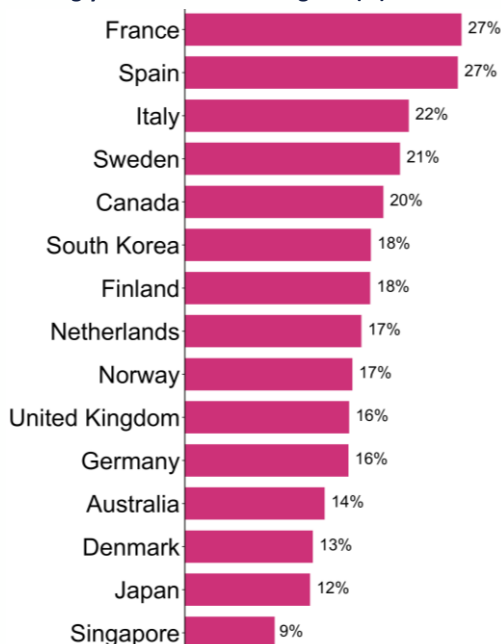
To what extent do you agree or disagree that you believe government health authorities in your country will provide you with an effective COVID-19 vaccine?

23%	28%	31%	10%	8%
1 - Strongly agree	2	3	4	5 - Strongly disagree

Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Strongly' or 'Somewhat agree' (%)

Country	%
Singapore	64%
Denmark	63%
Australia	60%
Germany	56%
South Korea	55%
Norway	54%
United Kingdom	51%
Canada	49%
Finland	47%
Netherlands	47%
Italy	44%
Japan	44%
Sweden	43%
Spain	41%
France	36%

Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Strongly' or 'Somewhat disagree' (%)

Country	%
France	27%
Spain	27%
Italy	22%
Sweden	21%
Canada	20%
South Korea	18%
Finland	18%
Netherlands	17%
Norway	17%
United Kingdom	16%
Germany	16%
Australia	14%
Denmark	13%
Japan	12%
Singapore	9%

Compare your data with that of 15 other countries, areas or territories on   coviddatahub.com
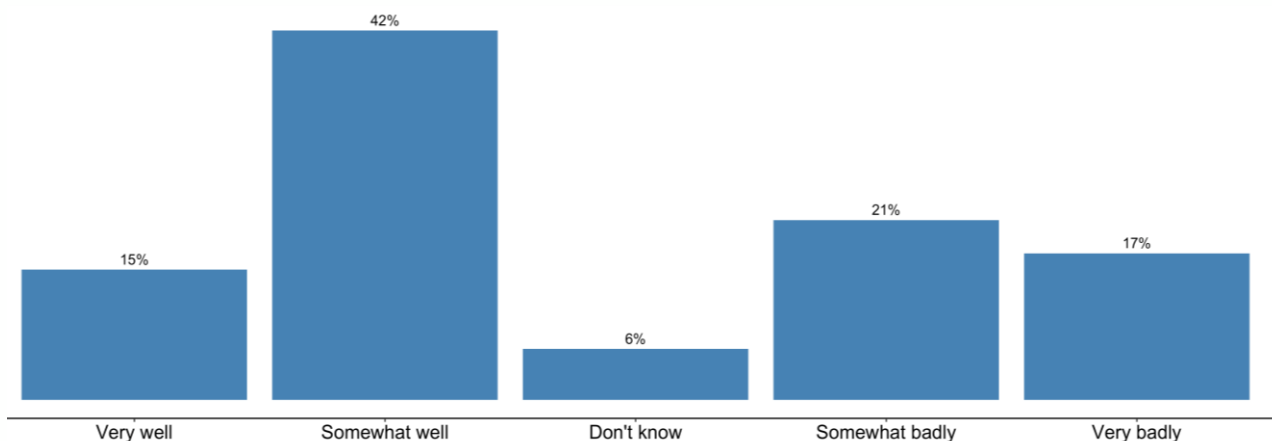
Covid
Data
Hub

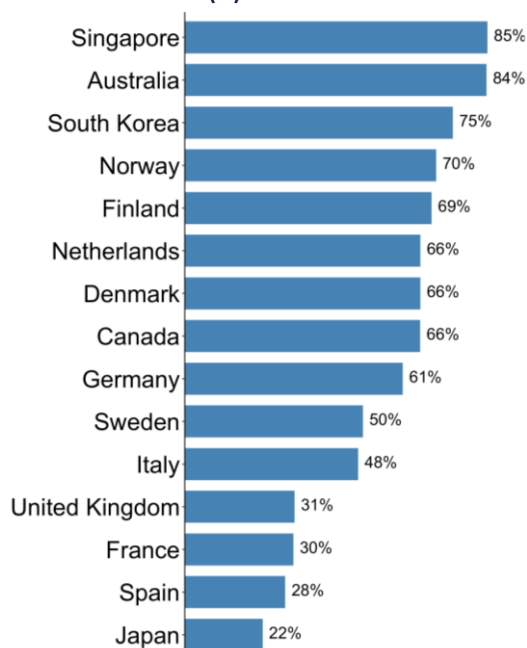# How well do people think their government is handling the COVID-19 pandemic?

These graphs show the extent to which people agree and a country breakdown of responses

57% of respondents reported they think their Government is handling the issue of COVID-19 very or somewhat well. Singapore and Australia had the highest percentage of respondents who reported satisfaction in government handling (85% and 84% respectively). Contrastingly, Spain and the United Kingdom reported the highest levels of dissatisfaction in government with 67% and 66%.
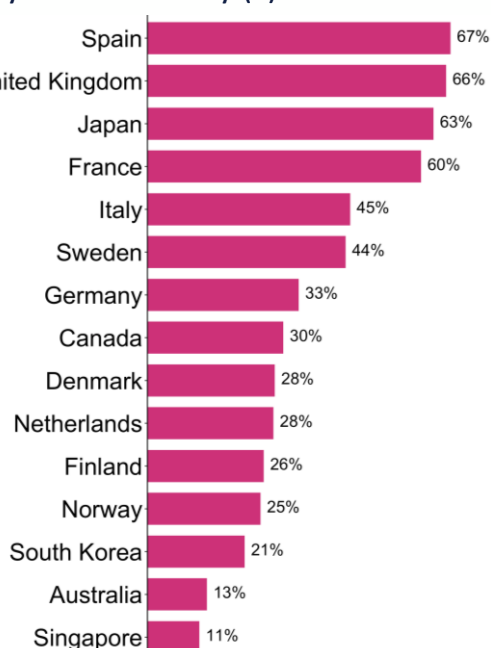
How well or badly do you think the Government is handling the issue of the Coronavirus (COVID-19)?

	Very well	Somewhat well	Don't know	Somewhat badly	Very badly
	15%	42%	6%	21%	17%

Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Very' or 'Somewhat well' (%)

Country	%
Singapore	85%
Australia	84%
South Korea	75%
Norway	70%
Finland	69%
Netherlands	66%
Denmark	66%
Canada	66%
Germany	61%
Sweden	50%
Italy	48%
United Kingdom	31%
France	30%
Spain	28%
Japan	22%

Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Very' or 'Somewhat badly' (%)

Country	%
Spain	67%
United Kingdom	66%
Japan	63%
France	60%
Italy	45%
Sweden	44%
Germany	33%
Canada	30%
Denmark	28%
Netherlands	28%
Finland	26%
Norway	25%
South Korea	21%
Australia	13%
Singapore	11%

Compare your data with that of 15 other countries, areas or territories on   coviddatahub.com

Covid
Data
Hub

How do government responses compare between countries surveyed?

This map highlights the government stringency score across all countries surveyed.

As of November 30th, Italy had the most stringent government, while Japan had the least stringent. The University of Oxford's Government Stringency Index is a measure of the number and severity of measures put in place by the governments to address the COVID-19 pandemic.
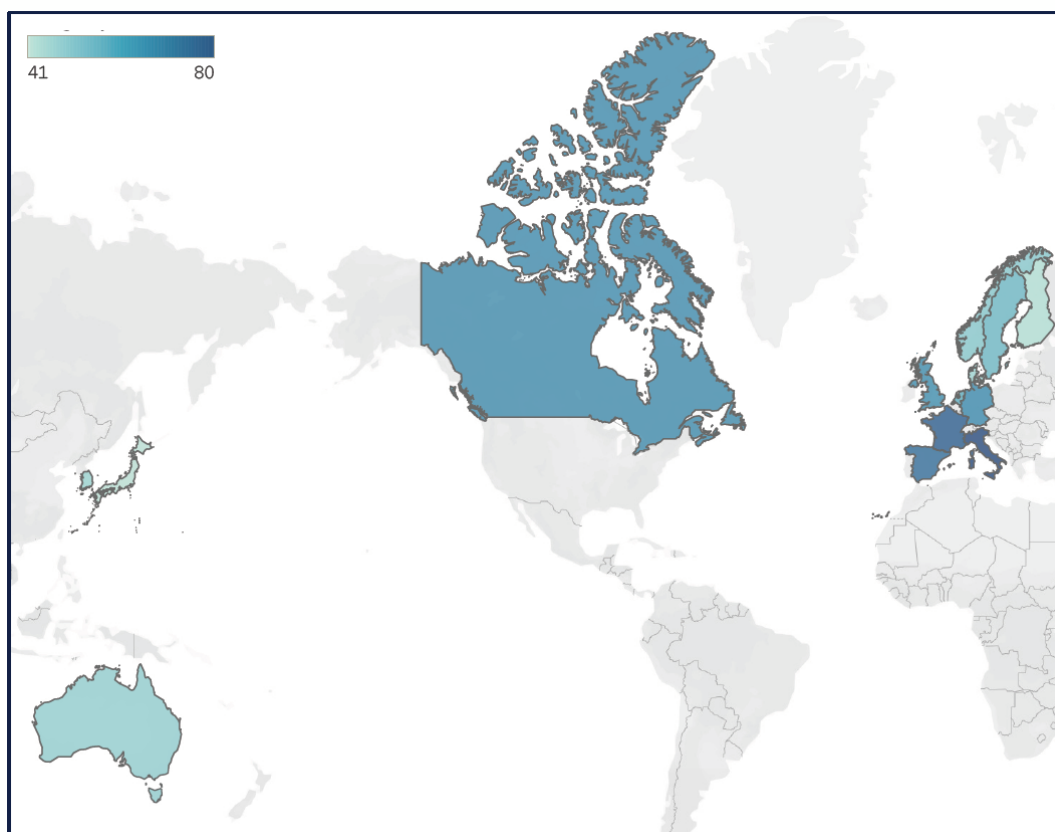
Italy	France	Spain	Germany	Canada
80	75	71	65	64

United Kingdom	Netherlands	Sweden	Singapore	Norway
64	56	54	53	49

Australia	South Korea	Denmark	Finland	Japan
47	46	45	42	41

Compare your data with that of 15 other countries, areas or territories on

coviddatahub.com

Covid
Data
Hub

Countries included in this report

This table shows the countries included in this report, dates of the survey and the number of participants

This report looks at all countries surveyed in November 2020. The table below indicates the survey dates and the number of respondents per country.

Country	Survey date	Number of Participants
Australia	11th November – 17th November	1001
Canada	11th November – 24th November	1003
Denmark	11th November – 16th November	1006
Finland	11th November – 17th November	1001
France	11th November – 14th November	1000
Germany	11th November – 17th November	1000
Italy	11th November – 17th November	1005
Japan	11th November – 16th November	505
Netherlands	11th November – 18th November	509
Norway	11th November – 18th November	1001
Singapore	11th November – 18th November	1000
South Korea	11th November – 20th November	499
Spain	11th November – 16th November	1009
Sweden	11th November – 16th November	1001
United Kingdom	11th November – 16th November	1005

About this report

Led by Imperial College London's Institute of Global Health Innovation (IGHI) and YouGov

IMPERIAL College LONDON   **Institute of Global Health Innovation**

◤ Professor the Lord Ara
Darzi of Denham
Co-Director, IGHI

◤ Gianluca Fontana
Operations Director
and Senior Policy Fellow, IGHI

◤ Melanie Leis
Director, Big Data
and Analytical Unit (BDAU), IGHI

◤ Dr Manar Shafat
Contributor, BDAU

◤ Dr David Nabarro
Co-Director, IGHI
Special Envoy of WHO Director
General on COVID-19

◤ Sarah P. Jones
Faculty of Medicine,
Department of Surgery &
Cancer Research Postgraduate

◤ Dr Roberto Fernandez Crespo
Analytics Fellow, BDAU

◤ Natalie Melas-Kyriazi
Contributor, BDAU

Contributors to the CovidDataHub.com project

WHR World Happiness Report

Professor John F. Helliwell
Co-editor, World Happiness Report

Vancouver School of Economics at the
University of British Columbia, Research
Associate of the NBER and Distinguished
Fellow of the Canadian Institute for Advanced
Research

Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs
Co-editor, World Happiness Report

Director of the Center for Sustainable
Development at Columbia University Director
of the UN Sustainable
Development Solutions Network and SDG
Advocate under Secretary-General António
Guterres

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SOLUTIONS NETWORK** A GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS

Professor the Lord Richard Layard
Co-editor, World Happiness Report

Founder-Director of the Centre for Economics
Performance at the London School of
Economics
Co-founder of Action for Happiness

Professor Jan-Emmanuel De Neve
Co-editor, World Happiness Report

Director of the Wellbeing Research Centre at
University of Oxford
KSI Fellow and Vice-Principal of Harris
Manchester College

Realised by

MADE BY MANY
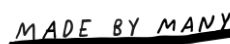
Contributors to the Imperial College London -
YouGov survey include: Professor Helen Ward,
Dr. Christina J. Atchinson, Dr. Benjamin C.
Lambert, and Gavin Ellison

The Imperial College London - YouGov team
wishes to express their grateful support to
Stephan Shakespeare, Marcus Roberts, Alex
MacIntosh, Chris Curtis, Eir Nolsoe, Sharon
Paculor, Lenny Naar, Alice Blencowe, Steve
Adams from Visual DJ Ltd. and volunteers from
Made by Many: Rebecca Foy, Anna Pagan,
Gareth Cozens, Callum Jefferies, Neethu
Mathew, Micha Nicheva, Kristof Goossens

Supporters

EDELMAN INTELLIGENCE

This research is made possible by generous
support for the public good
from YouGov Plc.

The Imperial College London - YouGov team
gratefully acknowledges the kind support of
Edelman Intelligence for their global social
listening contribution

Question for the research team? Get in touch here

Press enquiry? Contact Dr. Justine Alford at j.alford@imperial.ac.uk

Imperial College London

For more behavioural data on a global level, visit coviddatahub.com to explore our interactive charts

The CovidDataHub.com project is a joint collaboration between the Institute of Global Health Innovation (IGHI) at Imperial College London and YouGov Plc to gather global insights on people's behaviours and life satisfaction in response to COVID-19. The research covers 29 countries, areas or territories and surveys are conducted on a regular basis since the first week of April.

This report is designed to provide insights on how different populations are responding to the pandemic, helping public health bodies in their efforts to limit the impact of the disease. Anonymized respondent level data is generously made available for all public health and academic institutions globally by YouGov Plc at our GitHub site.