



SPECIAL EUROBAROMETER 547

Disaster risk awareness and preparedness of the EU population

EUROBAROMETER REPORT

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2024



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(DG ECHO)
and co-ordinated by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication
(DGCOMM 'Media monitoring and Eurobarometer' Unit)

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	4
Key findings	7
I. Perceived exposure to disaster risks and experience of disaster in the past ten years	11
1 Perceived country exposure to disaster risks	12
2 Perceived personal exposure to disaster risks	19
3 Direct or indirect experience of a disaster in the past 10 years	26
II. Perceived level of information and information sources used to learn about disaster risks	34
4 Information sources used to learn about disaster risks	35
III. Population preparedness for disaster risk	49
5 Measures undertaken to prepare for a disaster	50
6 Population preparedness for various disaster risk situations	57
7 Personal preparedness for disaster risk	74
IV. Reliance on social capital, trust in emergency services and authorities, and engagement in voluntary work to increase disaster resilience	88
8 Dependence on social capital and support networks in early disaster response	89
9 Trust in emergency services and authorities to handle disasters or emergency situations	99
10 Voluntary engagement to support emergency responder organisations or community-based initiatives to increase disaster resilience	103
Conclusions	109
Technical Specifications	T1
Questionnaire	Q1

Introduction

1. Introduction

In recent years, while facing escalating threats from natural calamities and human-induced disasters, the European Union (EU) has significantly advanced its disaster prevention and preparedness framework. In this context, the EU's Civil Protection Mechanism legislation was revised in May 2021¹ with the aim to strengthen the collective preparedness and emergency response capabilities of its Member States.

In 2023, the European Commission also adopted five **European Union Disaster Resilience Goals (DRGs)**, in 5 key strategic areas of civil protection action, with the objective to enhance disaster resilience at EU level and in Member States:

- **Anticipate** – to improve the European Union and Member States' capability to identify and assess complex disaster risks.
- **Prepare** – to increase the disaster risk awareness and preparedness of the population, e.g. becoming risk-aware and knowing how to prepare at home, school, and in the community.
- **Alert** – to enhance the effectiveness and interoperability of early warning systems.
- **Respond** – to scale up the EU's Civil Protection Mechanism response capacity for a broad set of potential threats.
- **Secure** – to ensure that the civil protection systems remain operational 24/7 during and after a disaster, when this is most needed.

For each DRG, a so-called 'flagship initiative' has been identified to enhance cooperation on concrete actions of common interest. The flagship initiative for the second DRG ('prepare') is called "preparEU", and it will consist of a pan-European **awareness raising** initiative which will target the wider population and promote a 'whole-of-society' approach to resilience.

Risk awareness and the preparedness of citizens is indeed crucial for building a resilient European Union, capable of responding effectively to a broad spectrum of disasters. A well-informed population is better equipped to adopt preventive practices, participate actively in community resilience initiatives, and support timely and effective emergency response.

This comprehensive Eurobarometer survey, commissioned by the European Commission (DG ECHO), represents a pivotal step in assessing the awareness of EU citizens and their readiness to face various disaster risk scenarios. In particular, the survey aims to illuminate the current state-of-play in terms of the individual awareness and preparedness

of residents in EU Member States. This endeavour reflects the EU's commitment to fostering a culture of disaster risk prevention and preparedness and embedding resilience-building into the fabric of its communities.

More specifically, the survey explores four thematic areas, which are discussed in the following chapters of this report:

- **Perceived exposure to disaster risks and experience of disaster(s) in the past ten years**

The first chapter assesses how citizens living in the EU perceive both their country's and their own personal exposure to various disaster risks, and it gives an overview of their experiences of disasters over the past decade.

- **Perceived level of information and sources of information used to learn about disaster risks**

The second chapter delves into the sources used by people living in the EU to learn about disaster risks and evaluates their perceptions of the adequacy and accessibility of this information.

- **Public preparedness for disaster risk**

The third chapter explores the specific measures individuals living in EU countries have undertaken to prepare for disasters, evaluating their readiness for various disaster scenarios.

- **Reliance on social capital, trust in emergency services and authorities, and engagement in voluntary work to increase disaster resilience**

The final chapter examines the social dynamics of disaster response, including trust in emergency services and community involvement, highlighting the importance of social capital and voluntary engagement in enhancing disaster preparedness.

The results of the survey are presented both for the EU as a whole and by country. Significant variations by gender, age, education, and other sociodemographic characteristics are also specified². Throughout the report, sociodemographic factors are discussed where relevant.

It is also worth emphasising that this report is based on self-reported data. This means that the answers given are not based on objective observations or facts, but on opinions and perceptions expressed by the respondents to the survey.

¹ See Regulation (EU) 2021/836 of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Decision No 1313/2013/EU on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism.

² These sociodemographic characteristics are (in addition to gender, age and education): ability to pay bills at the end of the month, urbanisation, use of internet, interest in European politics, exposure to disasters in the last 10 years, and trust in

emergency services and authorities, feeling well informed about disaster risks that could affect a respondent, perception of potential country exposure to disaster risks, experience of limitations to daily activities due to health problems, talking about European political matters, trusting information from public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks in the area where the respondent lives.

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Methodology

This Special Eurobarometer 547 on the risk awareness and preparedness of the EU population was part of the Eurobarometer wave 101.1 and was conducted between 7 February and 3 March 2024. The methodology draws on the Standard Eurobarometer surveys carried out by the Directorate-General for Communication ("Media monitoring and Eurobarometer" Unit). Interviews were conducted face-to-face, either physically, in respondents' homes, or through remote video interaction in the appropriate national language. Interviews with remote video interaction ("online face-to-face" or CAVI, Computer Assisted Video Interviewing) were conducted only in Czechia, Denmark, Malta, and Finland.

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

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

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

In accordance with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), respondents were asked whether they would agree to be asked questions on issues that could be considered "sensitive".

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

Technical specifications concerning the interviews conducted by the member institutes of the Verian network, such as the confidence intervals, calculation of averages, margins of error, response rates, or interviewing modes per country, are annexed to this report and can be found at the end.

We would like to thank the people across 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.

Key findings

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Respondents widely recognise their country's vulnerability to various disaster risks, with extreme weather events ranking first.

- Respondents acknowledge *their country's* vulnerability to various disaster risks. On average, the largest number of respondents think *their country* is most exposed to **extreme weather events** (50%), **floods** (44%), **cybersecurity threats** (33%), and **political or geopolitical tensions** (32%).
- Looking at the country-level responses, notable differences exist between Member States, with **extreme weather events** being the most mentioned risk in 11 countries.
- In five countries **cybersecurity threats** are the most widely recognised threat, with the highest percentage found in Sweden (77%) while **wildfires** are most frequently mentioned as a risk in four countries (Greece, Cyprus, Portugal and Spain). Luxembourg stands out as the only country where a third (33%) of the population are worried that their country is exposed to **nuclear accidents**.
- Socio-demographic factors can sometimes be associated with respondents' perceptions of their country's exposure to disaster risks. For example, older respondents and those with higher education levels are more likely to recognise and articulate concerns about **extreme weather events** and **cybersecurity threats**.

Respondents widely recognise their personal vulnerability to various disaster risks, with extreme weather events again ranking first.

- When it comes to *personal* vulnerability to disaster risks, respondents across Europe say they feel *personally* vulnerable to **extreme weather events** (38%), **human health emergencies** (27%), and **floods** (26%). At national level, respondents are most likely to feel personally exposed to **extreme weather events** in Greece (61%), Malta (56%), and Slovenia and Hungary (both 48%).

Over a third of respondents have faced one or more disasters (aside from COVID-19) in the past decade.

- Across the EU, more than one in three citizens (37%) have personally experienced a disaster in the last ten years, other than COVID-19: 12% reported experiencing **extreme weather events**, while 9% of Europeans say they have experienced **floodings**.

- This number is significantly higher in some Member States, with 17% of respondents in Germany and Slovenia having experienced floods. **Wildfires or forest fires** have been experienced by 6% of Europeans, and they represent the second most mentioned item in Greece (15%) and Portugal (10%), and come in third place in a further five countries, for instance in Cyprus (12%).

Nearly half of respondents rely primarily on national media to learn about disaster risks. About a third would use local or regional media and emergency management services like police, firefighters, or civil protection.

- Almost half the respondents (49%) at EU level rely on **national media** as their main source of information for learning about disaster risks, demonstrating the substantial role of traditional media in public education on emergencies. Other key information channels are: **local or regional media** (36%), **emergency management services like police, firefighters, or civil protection** (33%), and **personal networks including family and friends** (31%).
- **Social media networks** are used by 29% of respondents, highlighting their importance as information channels, particularly among younger demographics. However, reliance on **local or national authorities or agencies** (27%), **scientists, academic organisations** (16%), and **civil society organisations** (11%) indicates trust in a variety of information sources, suggesting the need for disaster-related communication across different platforms.
- Looking at the country-level responses there are notable differences between Member States in terms of preferred sources of information. For instance, **national media** are the main information source in 20 countries, with particularly high reliance in the Netherlands and Denmark (both 67%). Conversely, Hungary (30%) and Malta and Austria (both 37%) report less reliance on national media.
- A substantial proportion of respondents (11%) expressed no interest in seeking information about disaster risks. The highest proportion of reportedly uninterested people are in Austria (18%) and Romania and Malta (both 17%).
- A majority of respondents (70%) express confidence in information about local disaster risks provided by **public authorities and emergency services**, with 24% fully trusting and 46% generally trusting these sources. However, trust levels vary

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

widely across countries, ranging from a high of 96% in Finland to a relative low of 57% in Romania.

- **A majority (58%) of respondents have encountered information on disaster risks in the past year**, yet there is a split in perceived accessibility and level of informativeness, with 54% saying that information is readily accessible in the area where they live. However, more than a third of the respondents (35%) feel only somewhat informed about disaster risks affecting them.
- Demographic factors influence information source preferences and trust levels. Younger individuals and those with higher education levels are more likely to consult a broader range of sources, including **social media** and **emergency management services**. Financial stability and urban living also correlate with a higher likelihood of consulting **national media** and feeling informed about disaster risks.
- Respondents are **divided on their ability to find information on disaster risks when traveling in the EU**, with an even split (47% agree vs. 47% disagree) on knowing where to find such information.

Nearly half of respondents have taken at least one of the basic preparedness steps (such as keeping a flashlight or an emergency home pharmacy), but with variations reflecting country of residence, education, financial stability, and rural or urban living.

- A substantial number of respondents have taken one or more basic preparedness steps, with nearly half (47%) keeping a **flashlight or candles** accessible, and more than a third (36%) maintaining an **emergency home pharmacy**. About three in ten (29%) have an **emergency stock of food or drinks**.
- There are substantial differences between Member States in terms of the preparedness of citizens. For instance, over 90% of respondents in Finland have a **flashlight or candles** accessible, compared to one in three or less in Italy (26%) and Poland (30%).
- Women are slightly more inclined to keep an **emergency home pharmacy**, and older respondents generally have more disaster emergency measures in place than younger people. Education level and financial stability also play a significant role in preparedness, with more educated and financially stable individuals being more likely to have taken preparedness measures.
- Respondents living in rural areas report slightly higher rates of basic preparedness measures like **flashlights or candles** than urban dwellers,

suggesting that risk preparedness or access to resources vary across different living environments.

- In terms of specific scenarios:
 - **A majority of respondents (60%) feel they could continue providing meals for their household for at least four days** during food transportation disruptions due to the occurrence of a disaster; while **three in ten feel they could use alternative sources for cooking and heating only for a day or less in the case of gas service interruptions**. Concerns about gas disruption are particularly acute in Belgium, Czechia, and Italy, where the numbers of respondents relying significantly on uninterrupted gas services rise to 42%, 40%, and 39% respectively.
 - **Over a third of respondents could meet their water needs for two to three days if tap water services were disrupted (35%)**. In 15 countries, half or more say they could continue to provide power to essential appliances and home lighting for **one day or less during an electricity outage**, most notably in Malta (71%), the Netherlands (68%), Finland (64%), and Cyprus (62%).
 - **Just over one in three respondents (34%) believe they could continue their medical treatment for more than 7 days** in the event of a supply disruption, though this confidence varies widely by country, and is most widespread in Slovenia, Lithuania, and Malta. Financial stability, trust in emergency services, and place of residence (rural vs. urban) are influential factors.
 - **Three-quarters of respondents (75%) believe that preparing for disasters or emergencies can enhance their ability to cope**, with a majority in every EU Member State agreeing with this statement.
 - **Two-thirds of respondents (65%) say they need more information to prepare effectively**. Additionally, 54% do not feel encouraged by employers, schools, or emergency services to take training or prepare for disasters.
 - **More than half of respondents do not feel well prepared for disasters (58%) while just under half would know what to do in the event of a disaster (46%)**. This is **not due to a lack of time or a lack of income**, as 54% disagree that they have no time or financial resources to prepare for disasters or emergencies.

Most respondents rely on family, friends, and emergency services in disaster situations.

- A vast majority of respondents (89%) expect to rely on **family or friends** in the aftermath of a disaster, demonstrating the substantial role of personal networks in emergencies. This reliance is

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

particularly high in Slovenia, Sweden, Greece, Ireland, and Bulgaria, where over 95% of respondents reported such dependence.

- Eight in ten respondents (81%) would rely on **emergency services like the police, firefighters, and civil protection** to assist them during emergencies, with reliance being highest in the Netherlands (94%), Slovenia (93%), and Spain (91%).
- Nearly three-quarters of respondents (73%) would rely on their **neighbours** during an emergency, while they are more split with regard to relying on **private sector entities** (50%). Furthermore, less than half (36%) would rely on their **work, employer, school, or education institution**.
- Across the EU, **more than eight in ten respondents (85%) trust emergency services and authorities to properly handle disasters or emergency situations**, with close to three in ten (28%) 'totally' trusting these services, and 57% tending to trust them.
- **Those who have experienced one or more disasters in the past ten years are slightly less likely (82%) to trust the emergency services and authorities** than those who have experienced no disasters over this period (87%). Financial stability and educational background substantially influence trust in emergency services, as more financially stable and better educated respondents have more trust.
- Most respondents (64%) have not engaged in voluntary work related to disaster resilience and have no plans to do so. The Netherlands (20%), Luxembourg (18%), and Slovenia (16%) have higher rates of current engagement in voluntary work.
- However, around one in five respondents (19%) indicate that even if they are not currently engaged in such voluntary work, they have done so in the past, while 9% intend to do so in the future. Less than one in ten (7%) currently engage in such voluntary work.

I. Perceived exposure to disaster risks and experience of disaster in the past ten years

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Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Perceived country exposure to disaster risks

Respondents were presented with a list of 13 of the most prevalent risks across the EU, and were first asked which risk they perceived their country as **most** exposed to ('firstly'), and then to which other risk(s) they saw their country as being most exposed to ('and then'). Respondents could give only one answer in the first instance and **multiple answers in the second**.

The findings of this survey will be presented in the form of charts and numbers.

These charts and numbers will always refer, except if otherwise noted, to the total sum of respondents who selected a given answer option, irrespective of ranking. For example, the 50% for extreme weather events (see chart below) will not refer only to those putting this risk in first place, but to the sum of all respondents who chose this event.

For the "and then" option, respondents could identify multiple disaster risks as mentioned above). This means that some respondents mentioned two risks and others five, but they could also select just one risk.

This form of presentation was chosen to provide a more general overview of respondents' risk perceptions and allows for a more reader-friendly presentation of results. The percentages always add up to more than 100%, because they refer to the total proportion of respondents mentioning a given risk.

Looking at single risks, half (50%) among the respondents to the survey say their country is most at risk of **extreme weather events** like violent storms, droughts, heatwaves, or cold waves. More than four in ten (44%) think their country

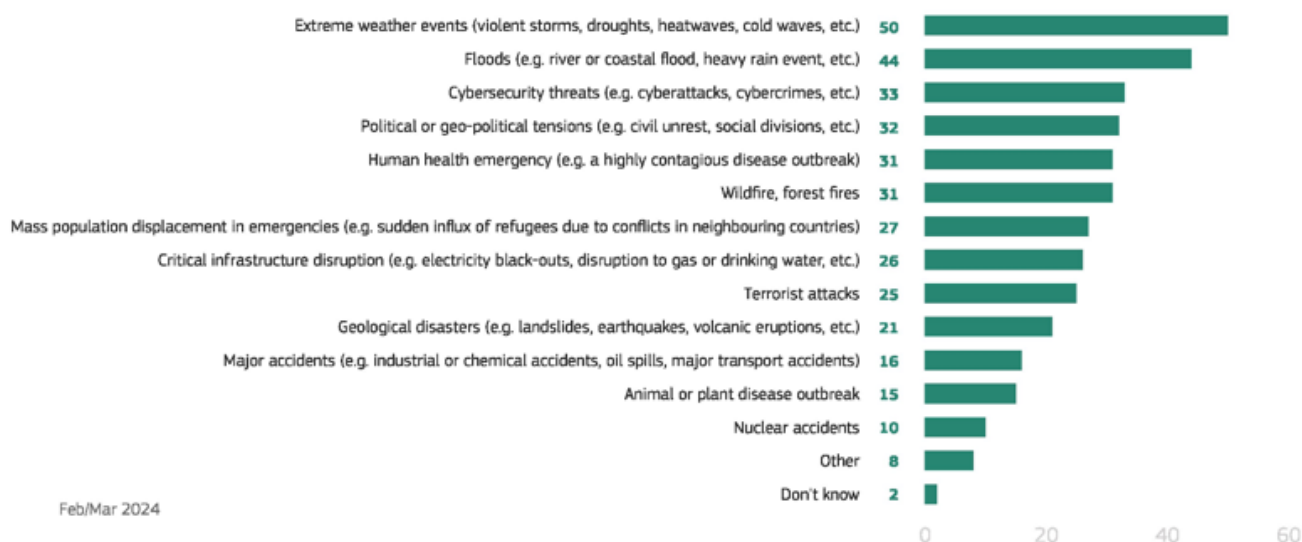
is at risk of **floods**, including river or coastal floods, or heavy rain events.

Around a third (33%) think their country is most exposed to **cybersecurity threats**, like cyberattacks or cybercrimes; **political or geo-political tensions** (32%), for instance civil unrest or social divisions; **human health emergencies**, for example a highly contagious disease outbreak or **wildfires or forest fires** (both 31%).

Around a quarter say their country is at risk of **mass population displacement during emergencies** (27%), such as a sudden influx of refugees due to conflicts in neighbouring countries; **critical infrastructure disruption** (26%), for instance electricity black-outs, or disruption to gas or drinking water; or **terrorist attacks** (25%).

One in five (21%) think their country is most exposed to **geological disasters** (e.g., landslides, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions). A small proportion selected **major accidents**, like industrial or chemical accidents, oil spills, or major transport accidents (16%); **animal or plant disease outbreaks** (15%); or **nuclear accidents** (10%).

QC1ab. Which of the following risks do you think that (OUR COUNTRY) is most exposed to? Firstly? And then? (EU27) (%)



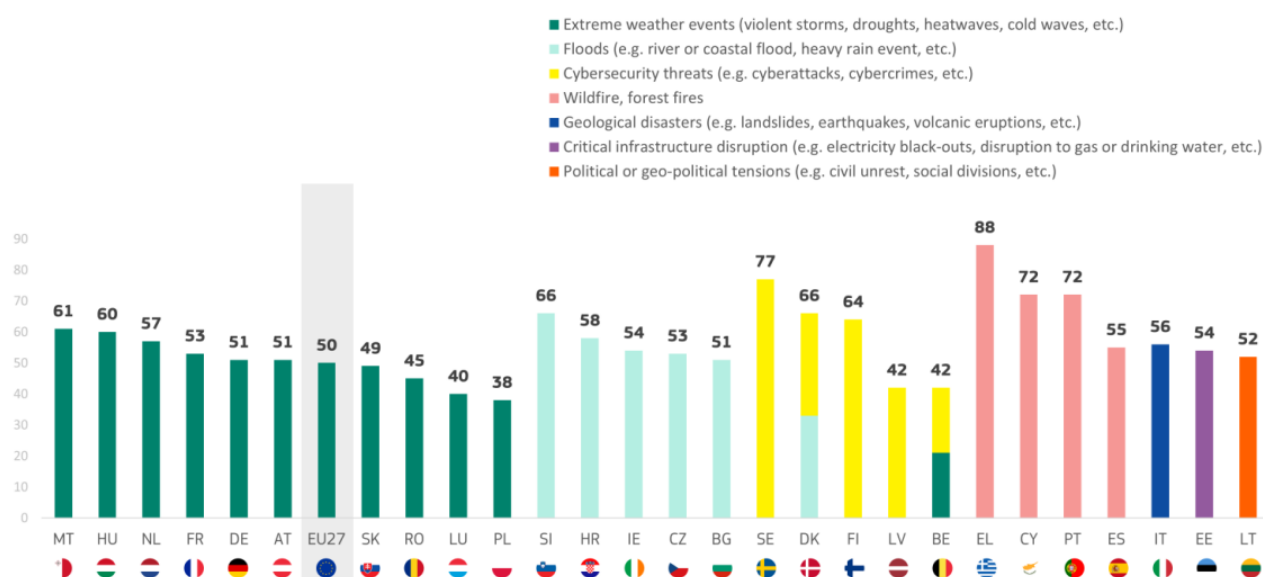
Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

When looking at the results at country level (i.e. which risk(s) was mostly mentioned by respondents in each Member State), we see that **extreme weather events** are the most-frequently mentioned item³ in 11 countries. In Belgium, these events are mentioned equally⁴ with **cybersecurity threats** (42% each). **Cybersecurity threats** are also the most mentioned item in five countries (Sweden, Finland, Latvia, Denmark, Belgium). However, for both Denmark and Belgium, this item shares first place with another threat.

In Greece, Cyprus, Portugal, and Spain **wildfires or forest fires** are most frequently mentioned as a risk, while Italy is the only country where **geological disasters** are the most mentioned. The same is true for Estonia regarding **critical infrastructure disruptions**, and Lithuania for **political or geo-political tensions**.

QC1ab. Which of the following risks do you think that (OUR COUNTRY) is most exposed to? Firstly? And then? (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

³ Here too, please note that the percentages are the sum/aggregated score.

⁴ For the top answer per country charts like the one presented on this page, in instances where one given answer option presents with the same frequency as

another, the country bar is colour-split to represent the typology of the answers given similar frequency, which is indicated by the figure above the bar.

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

At the **national level**, we see some interesting differences. Results are graphically displayed in a colour-coded frequency table presented on the following page.

In terms of individual risks, we see that **extreme weather events** are the most mentioned item in 11 countries, coming second⁵ in six countries and third in a further eight. The overall highest scores are found in Greece (79%), Slovenia (62%), and Malta (61%). Respondents are least likely to mention this item in Finland (27%), Latvia (31%), and Sweden (37%).

Floods, like river or coastal flooding or heavy rain events, are the most mentioned item in six countries, coming second in nine and third in a further five Member States. Overall, respondents are most likely to think their country is at risk of floods in Greece (85%), Slovenia and Denmark (both 66%), and Croatia (58%). They are least likely to give this answer in Finland (6%), Estonia (20%), Lithuania (21%), and Malta (24%).

In five Member States, **cybersecurity threats** are the most-mentioned item, standing in second place in four countries and third in a further two. Overall, respondents are most likely to mention this item in Sweden (77%), Denmark (66%), and Finland (64%), and least likely to do so in Croatia (11%), Slovenia (14%), and Portugal and Greece (both 15%).

Lithuania is the only country where **political or geo-political tensions**, such as civil unrest or social divisions, is the most mentioned item (52%), with high overall scores also registered in Sweden (48%) and the Netherlands and Germany (both 45%). Respondents are least likely to say this in Portugal (11%), Ireland (14%), and Cyprus (16%).

Respondents are most likely to think their country is at risk of **human health emergencies**, such as highly contagious disease outbreaks, in Greece (46%), Finland and Hungary (both 43%), and Austria (41%). They are least likely to mention this item in Slovenia (20%), Cyprus (24%), Belgium and Germany (25%), and Luxembourg and Estonia (27%).

Wildfires or forest fires are the most mentioned item in Greece (88%), Cyprus and Portugal (both 72%), and Spain (55%); the lowest overall scores are registered in Malta (1%), Denmark (4%), and Luxembourg (5%).

Respondents are most likely to think their country is most exposed to **mass population displacement in emergencies**, for instance, a sudden influx of refugees due to conflicts in neighbouring countries, in Germany (45%), Austria (43%), and Cyprus (36%). The lowest scores registered for this item are seen in Portugal (13%), Luxembourg (17%), and Spain, Czechia, and Slovakia (all 19%).

Critical infrastructure disruption is the most mentioned item in Estonia (54%). In addition, more than half the respondents give this answer in Sweden (58%) and Finland (53%), while the lowest scores are registered in Portugal (13%), Spain (15%), and Slovenia and Luxembourg (both 16%). Respondents are most likely to think their country is exposed to **terrorist attacks** in France (51%), Sweden (43%) and Belgium (41%), while less than one in ten think this way in Slovenia (3%), Slovakia (7%), and Croatia (8%).

In Italy **geological disasters**, like landslides, earthquakes, or volcanic eruptions, are the most mentioned item (56%). Respondents are also most likely to mention this in Greece (72%) and Croatia (46%), while the lowest scores are registered in Finland (1%), Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, and Estonia (all 2%), and Belgium, Denmark, and Ireland (all 4%).

Around one in four respondents think their country is most exposed to **major accidents** (e.g. industrial or chemical accidents, oil spills, major transport accidents) in Greece (26%), and Hungary and Romania (both 25%), while less than one in ten mention this item in Luxembourg (7%), Cyprus (8%), and Portugal (9%).

Respondents are most concerned about **animal or plant disease outbreaks** in Croatia (35%), Bulgaria (27%), and Slovakia (26%), and least concerned in Lithuania (6%), Germany (7%), and Luxembourg (8%).

In Luxembourg, one in three (33%) think their country is most at risk of **nuclear accidents**, followed by Lithuania (22%) and France (21%). The lowest scores are found in Denmark (3%), Greece, Malta, and Slovenia (all 4%), Croatia and Spain (5%) and Portugal (4%).




























⁵ Here too, please note that the percentages are the sum/aggregated score. Thus, in this case “the most frequently mentioned” refers to the highest aggregate score for a

country. E.g. 51% for extreme weather events in Austria – the 51% is the aggregated score for the first and second most perceived risk.

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC1ab. Which of the following risks do you think that (OUR COUNTRY) is most exposed to? Firstly? And then? (%)

	EU27	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	DE	DK	EE	EL	ES	FI	FR	HR	HU	IE	IT	LT	LU	LV	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SE	SI	SK
																												
Extreme weather events (violent storms, droughts, heatwaves, cold waves, etc.)	50	51	42	40	59	43	51	54	43	79	51	27	53	50	60	41	52	40	40	31	61	57	38	50	45	37	62	49
Floods (e.g. river or coastal flood, heavy rain event, etc.)	44	49	39	51	26	53	49	66	20	85	33	6	43	58	32	54	48	21	39	31	24	56	33	51	36	35	66	44
Cybersecurity threats (e.g. cyberattacks, cybercrimes, etc.)	33	34	42	20	25	47	39	66	52	15	24	64	39	11	21	48	25	48	38	42	34	55	20	15	26	77	14	29
Political or geo-political tensions (e.g. civil unrest, social divisions, etc.)	32	36	26	26	16	28	45	17	31	20	28	40	38	18	27	14	20	52	20	36	24	45	31	11	29	48	28	28
Human health emergency (e.g. a highly contagious disease outbreak)	31	41	25	28	24	30	25	30	27	46	31	43	30	34	43	38	34	32	27	30	33	33	29	35	31	29	20	33
Wildfire, forest fires	31	29	8	45	72	34	22	4	20	88	55	9	38	44	12	9	29	14	5	13	1	8	16	72	24	33	40	25
Mass population displacement in emergencies (e.g. sudden influx of refugees due to conflicts in neighbouring countries)	27	43	22	22	36	19	45	20	28	31	19	32	22	28	35	31	23	21	17	29	35	26	22	13	26	22	21	19
Critical infrastructure disruption (e.g. electricity black-outs, disruption to gas or drinking water, etc.)	26	40	21	32	18	34	32	39	54	23	15	53	19	19	36	22	26	21	16	31	43	43	19	13	27	58	16	29
Terrorist attacks	25	17	41	14	13	18	28	33	19	16	19	19	51	8	10	10	16	15	13	22	11	31	12	12	18	43	3	7
Geological disasters (e.g. landslides, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, etc.)	21	28	4	29	19	6	8	4	2	72	21	1	16	46	13	4	56	2	5	2	23	2	13	23	34	8	37	31
Major accidents (e.g. industrial or chemical accidents, oil spills, major transport accidents)	16	21	11	19	8	21	12	18	12	26	10	22	15	14	25	11	21	16	7	13	14	13	19	9	25	19	15	17
Animal or plant disease outbreak	15	17	9	27	15	22	7	13	15	22	15	13	17	35	24	15	17	6	8	13	9	18	15	17	20	11	10	26
Nuclear accidents	10	13	14	9	9	8	6	3	6	4	5	12	21	5	10	6	9	22	33	14	4	6	8	4	19	8	4	11
Don't know	2	6	1	4	2	3	2	1	2	0	3	1	1	4	3	6	3	5	4	4	1	0	4	5	1	1	1	2

1st Most Frequently Mentioned Item

2nd Most Frequently Mentioned Item

3rd Most Frequently Mentioned Item

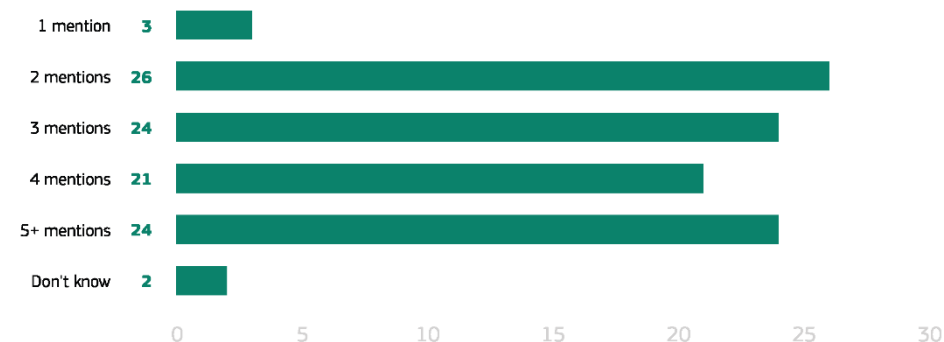
Feb/Mar 2024

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

When it comes to the number of answers given/number of disaster risks mentioned, 95%⁶ of respondents at EU level say that their country is exposed to more than one risk of disaster, with 69% indicating three risks or more, and close to one-quarter mentioning more than five different types of risk (24%). Just 2% say that they don't know.

QC1T. Which of the following risks do you think that (OUR COUNTRY) is most exposed to? Firstly? And then? - TOTAL (EU27) (%)

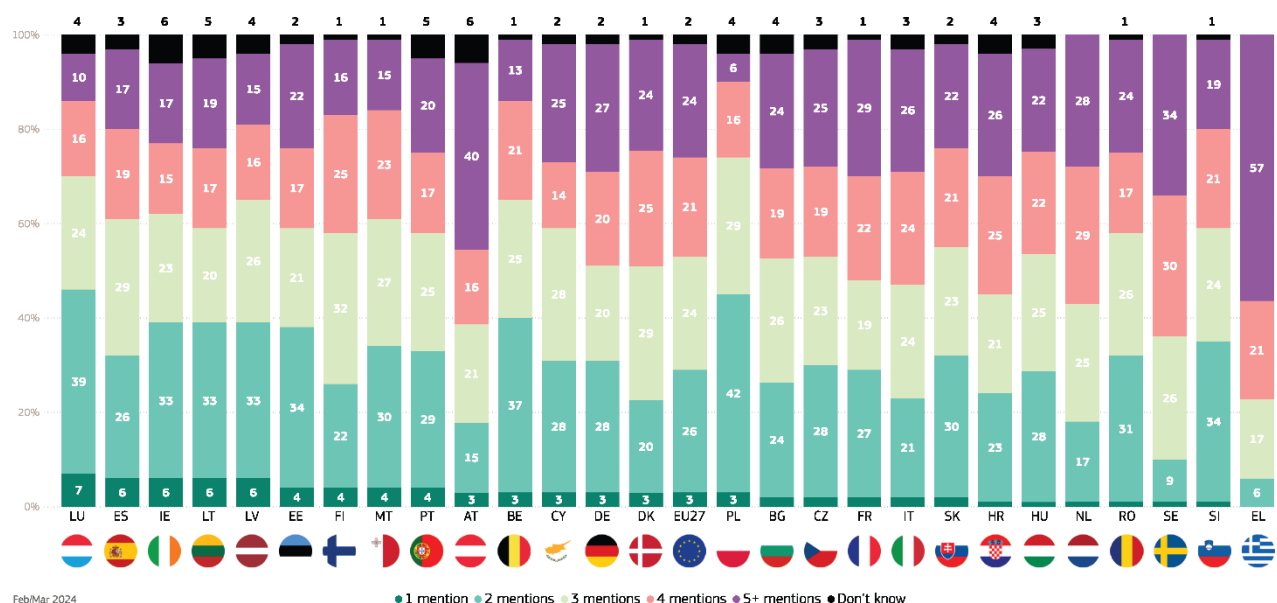


Feb/Mar 2024

The countries where respondents are most likely to say they are exposed to disaster risks of five or more types⁷ are Greece (57%), Austria (40%), and Sweden (34%).

Meanwhile, they are least likely to say they are exposed to five or more risks in Poland (6%), Luxembourg (10%) and Belgium (13%).

QC1T. Which of the following risks do you think that (OUR COUNTRY) is most exposed to? Firstly? And then? - TOTAL (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

● 1 mention ● 2 mentions ● 3 mentions ● 4 mentions ● 5+ mentions ● Don't know

⁶ 95% refers in this case to an absolute score, not an aggregate score. Thus, 95% of the respondents indicated more than 1 risk.

⁷ This refers to absolute scores. So, one mention is the percentage of the total population, and the relative percentage (meaning, it all adds up to 100%).

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

The **socio-demographic** analysis shows the following:

- There are no notable differences between men and women for this question. It is worth noting that men are slightly more likely than women (35% vs 32%) to say that their country is most exposed to **cybersecurity threats**, while women are more concerned about **human health emergencies** (32% vs 29%).
- Older respondents are more concerned with **extreme weather events**, with 53% of those aged 55 and up mentioning this, compared with 42% of those aged 15-24. Respondents aged 40-54 are more likely (19%) to mention **major accidents, like industrial or chemical accidents, oil spills, major transport accidents** than other age groups, where percentages range between 15%-16%⁸. Younger respondents are more likely to mention **cybersecurity threats**; 34%-36% of those aged 15-54 compared with 30% of those aged 55 and up.
- Respondents who left school aged 15 or younger are more concerned about **extreme weather events** (55%), versus 51% for those who continued their studies after age 20. The same comparison goes for **wildfires**, where 38% of those who left school at age 15 or younger, versus 29% who continued their studies after age 20, and also for **geological disasters** (30% vs 17%), but not for **cybersecurity threats** (20% vs 42%), or **political or geo-political tensions** (23% vs 37%).
- Among socio-professional categories, retirees are the most likely (54%) to say their country is most exposed to **extreme weather events**, especially compared with manual workers (48%) and the unemployed (42%). Managers are the most likely (42%) to be concerned about **cybersecurity threats**, particularly in comparison with the self-employed and other white-collar workers (both 37%), manual workers (32%), and house persons (24%).
- Respondents who never have trouble paying their bills are more concerned than those who face such difficulties most of the time about **extreme weather** (52% vs 48%) and **cybersecurity threats** (37% vs 25%), but worry less about **human health emergencies** (30% vs 35%), **wildfires** (29% vs 40%), **terrorist attacks** (25% vs 30%), and **geological disasters** (18% vs 26%).

- Those who live in large towns are more likely (37%) to mention **cybersecurity threats** than respondents in rural villages (31%). The same is true, albeit to a lesser extent, for **critical infrastructure disruption** (28% vs 25%) and **terrorist attacks** (26% vs 23%).
- **Political or geo-political tensions** are more likely mentioned by those who use the internet every day (34%) than by those who never go online (23%), while the latter group is more concerned (35%) about **human health emergencies** than their more connected peers (31%).
- **Political or geo-political tensions** are also more likely to be mentioned by those who frequently discuss European political matters (40%) than by those who occasionally (33%) or never (27%) do so.

Cross-sectional analysis⁹:

- Respondents who say they trust the emergency services and authorities are more likely to mention **extreme weather events** (52% vs 38%), **floods** (46% vs 37%), **cybersecurity threats** (35% vs 26%), **human health emergencies** (32% vs 28%), and **wildfires** (32% vs 26%).
- Respondents who say they have experienced a disaster in the past ten years are more likely than the rest to mention **mass population displacement in emergencies** (32% vs 25%) and **political or geo-political tensions** (36% vs 30%).

⁸ The other age groups are 15-24, 25-39 and 55+.




⁹ In these sections called 'cross-sectional analysis' throughout the report, we look at the cross-over between the questions specific for this topic. In this case trust in

emergency services and the risk assessment of specific disasters, are both questions that are related to this topic.

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC1ab Which of the following risks do you think that (OUR COUNTRY) is most exposed to? Firstly? And then?
(% - EU)

	Extreme weather events (violent storms, droughts, heatwaves, cold waves, etc.)	Floods (e.g. river or coastal flood, heavy rain event, etc.)	Cybersecurity threats (e.g. cyberattacks, cybercrimes, etc.)	Political or geo-political tensions (e.g. civil unrest, social divisions, etc.)	Human health emergency (e.g. a highly contagious disease outbreak)	Wildfire, forest fires	Mass population displacement in emergencies (e.g. sudden influx of refugees due to conflicts in neighbouring countries)	Critical infrastructure disruption (e.g. electricity black-outs, disruption to gas or drinking water, etc.)	Terrorist attacks	Geological disasters (e.g. landslides, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, etc.)	Major accidents (e.g. industrial or chemical accidents, oil spills, major transport accidents)	Animal or plant disease outbreak	Nuclear accidents	Other
EU27	50	44	33	32	31	31	27	26	25	21	16	15	10	4
 Gender														
Man	49	43	35	32	29	30	28	28	24	21	17	14	10	4
Woman	51	45	32	32	32	32	26	26	25	22	16	16	10	4
 Age														
15-24	42	40	34	35	29	28	24	24	23	19	15	14	8	5
25-39	46	43	36	34	29	30	29	28	23	21	16	15	9	5
40-54	50	45	36	32	31	33	30	27	26	22	19	15	11	4
55 +	53	46	30	31	33	31	26	26	26	22	15	15	10	4
 Education (End of)														
15-	55	47	20	23	34	38	25	22	24	30	16	16	10	4
16-19	49	45	31	31	32	31	29	27	24	22	18	17	11	4
20+	51	44	42	37	29	29	27	28	28	17	15	13	10	4
Still studying	44	42	37	37	29	29	24	24	22	22	16	13	7	4
Socio-professional category														
Self-employed	48	44	37	34	30	31	30	29	22	25	16	14	8	6
Managers	52	45	42	36	27	27	26	28	24	15	15	12	8	3
Other white collars	50	46	37	32	31	30	29	28	25	24	17	17	9	3
Manual workers	48	42	32	31	32	34	29	26	27	21	19	17	11	5
House persons	48	43	24	26	33	31	24	24	23	28	14	15	11	4
Unemployed	42	39	29	31	32	29	28	26	26	17	16	13	13	7
Retired	54	47	29	31	33	31	26	26	26	21	15	15	11	4
Students	44	42	37	37	29	29	24	24	22	22	16	13	7	4
Difficulties paying bills														
Most of the time	48	45	25	29	35	40	28	29	30	26	18	15	11	6
From time to time	46	42	29	30	31	32	29	26	24	27	19	17	11	4
Almost never/ Never	52	45	37	34	30	29	26	26	25	18	15	14	9	4
Subjective urbanisation														
Rural village	52	45	31	30	32	32	28	25	23	19	15	14	10	4
Small/ mid size town	48	45	33	32	31	30	27	26	26	23	17	15	10	4
Large town	50	43	37	35	31	32	27	28	26	22	17	17	9	4
Use of the Internet														
Everyday	50	44	36	34	31	31	28	27	25	21	16	15	9	4
Often/ Sometimes	46	41	26	28	30	30	29	28	27	22	20	16	14	4
Never	51	45	13	23	35	33	22	18	23	25	13	17	10	5
No Internet access	61	49	10	9	27	50	19	17	24	31	15	18	8	3
Talk about European political matters														
Frequently	51	45	39	40	28	29	31	31	23	23	17	13	9	2
Occasionally	51	45	35	33	32	30	30	28	24	22	17	16	10	4
Never	48	43	28	27	31	33	21	22	28	20	14	15	10	5
Personal experience of disaster in the past ten years														
Total 'Yes, have experienced one or more disasters in the past ten years'	51	45	35	36	31	31	32	29	25	24	19	17	11	3
Total 'No, you haven't experienced any disasters in the past ten years'	49	44	33	30	31	31	25	25	25	20	15	14	9	5
Trust in the emergency services and authorities														
Trust	52	46	35	33	32	32	27	27	25	21	16	15	10	3
Do not trust	38	37	26	31	28	26	29	26	22	23	19	15	11	7

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Perceived personal exposure to disaster risks

Respondents were asked about which risks they thought they were most exposed to *personally*, with the same modality used for question no.1: first ('firstly', in the text of the question) which specific risk they thought they are most exposed to, and second which other risk categories ('secondly') they thought they are most exposed to, with the possibility to indicate more than one answer option. This is slightly different from the previous question, which asked which risks they think *their country* of residence was most exposed to.

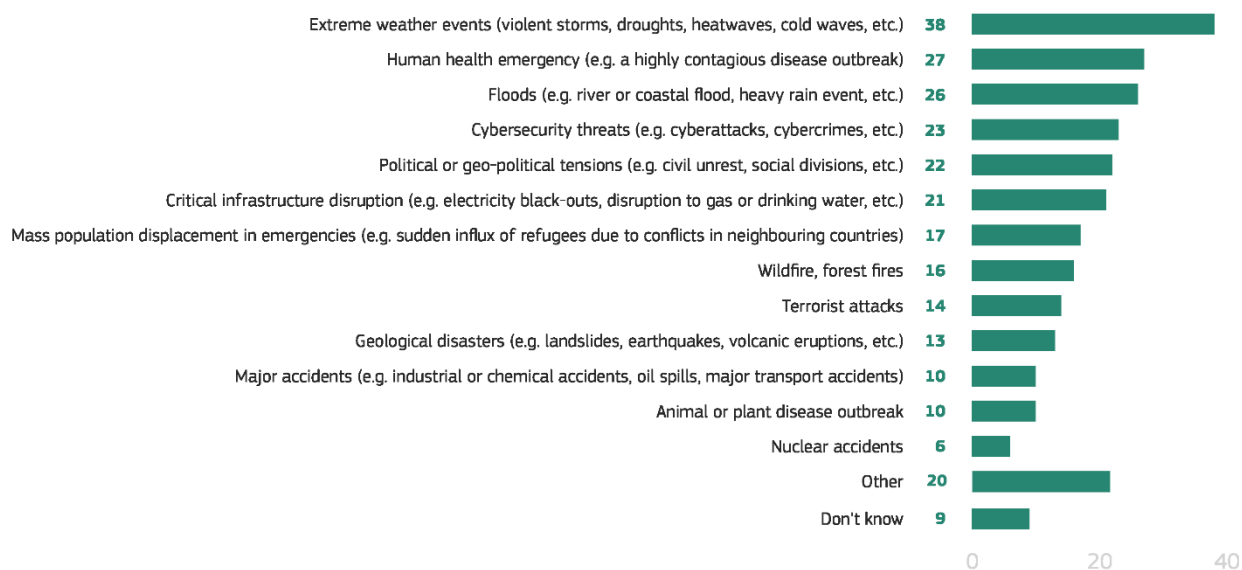
In terms of how these findings will be presented, the previous **methodological note** holds up. These charts and numbers will always refer, unless otherwise stated, to the total sum of respondents who selected a given answer option, irrespective of ranking (i.e. if it was indicated as first, second, or third choice). For example, the 38% for extreme weather events will refer not only to the first disaster exposure chosen, but to the sum of all respondents who chose this event.

As already mentioned above, for the "and then" option, respondents could mention multiple disaster risks. This means that some respondents mentioned two risks and others five, but they could also select just one risk.

Close to four in ten (38%) respondents feel personally at risk of **extreme weather events**, such as violent storms, droughts, heatwaves, or cold waves, while just over three in four mention **human health emergencies** such as a highly contagious disease outbreak (27%) or **floods**, including river or coastal floods or heavy rain events (26%).

Other risks lag behind. Just over one in five respondents mention **cybersecurity threats** (e.g. cyberattacks and cybercrimes) (23%), **political or geo-political tensions** (e.g. civil unrest or social divisions) (22%), or **critical infrastructure disruption** (e.g. electricity black-outs, or disruption to gas or drinking water) (21%). Smaller proportions mention **mass population displacement in emergencies** (17%), **wildfires** (16%), **terrorist attacks** (14%) or **geological disasters** (13%). One in ten respondents feel personally at risk of **major accidents** like industrial or chemical accidents, oil spills, or major transport accidents, or **animal or plant disease outbreaks** (both 10%). A small proportion of respondents are concerned about **nuclear accidents** (6%), while close to one in ten (9%) say they don't know. One in five mention threats **other** than those included among the answer options.

QC2ab. And which of the following, if any, do you feel personally most exposed to? Firstly? And then? (EU27) (%)



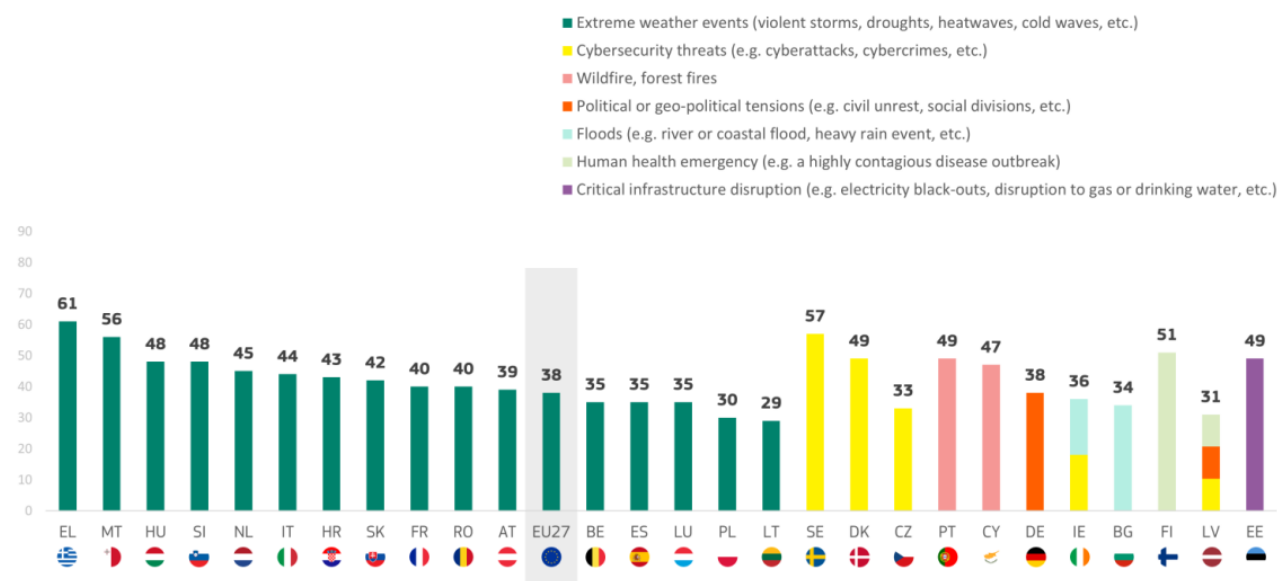
Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Looking at which risk(s) was mostly mentioned in each Member State, we see that in 16 countries, respondents say they feel most exposed to **extreme weather events** like violent storms, droughts, heatwaves, or cold waves¹⁰. In five countries, **cybersecurity threats**, for instance cyberattacks or cybercrimes, are the most frequently mentioned, though this item ranks equally with **floods** in Ireland and **political or geo-political tensions** and **human health emergencies** in Latvia. Besides Ireland, **floods** are also the most frequently selected threat in Bulgaria.

Wildfires are the most selected in Portugal and Cyprus, while **human health emergencies** rank first in Finland and Latvia. As well as in Latvia, **political or geo-political tensions** are also the most frequently chosen item in Germany. In Estonia, **critical infrastructure disruption** is the most mentioned item.

QC2ab. And which of the following, if any, do you feel personally most exposed to? Firstly? And then? (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

¹⁰ Here too, as explained above: these are aggregated scores. For example: in Greece, 61% of the respondents indicated extreme weather events as a risk out of the 13

disaster risks presented to them. However, they were of course also able to indicate other disaster risks, meaning the percentages will be over 100% for Greece..

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Extreme weather events, such as violent storms, droughts, heatwaves, or cold waves, are the most mentioned item in 16 countries and are ranked second in a further eight. Overall, the only countries where more than half of respondents mention extreme weather events are Greece (61%) and Malta (56%). Countries that are least likely to do so include Finland (23%), Bulgaria and Latvia (both 28%), and Sweden and Lithuania (29%).

Human health emergencies are the most mentioned item in two Member States, coming second in six and third in a further five countries. The overall highest scores are found in Finland (51%) which is the only country where more than half of respondents mention this item, followed by Hungary (41%) and Austria, Croatia, Malta and Sweden (all 33%).

Floods, such as river or coastal floods or heavy rain events, are the most mentioned item in Ireland and Bulgaria, in second place in Slovenia and Slovakia, and in third in a further seven Member States. The highest scores are registered in Greece (52%), the only country where more than half mention this item, Ireland (36%), and Portugal and Bulgaria (34%). Respondents are least likely to mention floods in Finland (3%), Estonia (9%), and Lithuania (10%).

In five countries, **cybersecurity threats**, for instance cyberattacks or cybercrimes, are the most mentioned item, and stand in second place in a further six countries. Overall, respondents are most likely to think they are personally at risk of cybersecurity threats in Sweden (57%), Denmark (49%), and Finland (41%), with the lowest scores registered in Greece (4%), Slovenia (7%), and Croatia (8%).

Political or geo-political tensions, for instance, civil unrest, or social divisions are the most mentioned item in Germany (38%) and Latvia (31%), and come second in Poland (25%). This item also scores highly in the Netherlands (35%), while the lowest scores are found in Greece (6%), Portugal (7%), and Ireland (11%).

In Estonia, **critical infrastructure disruption** is the most mentioned item (49%), and it stands in second place in a further three countries, with the overall highest score registered in Sweden (53%). Respondents are least likely to see this as a personal risk in Portugal and Lithuania (both 6%), Spain (11%), and Cyprus (13%).

Respondents are most likely to mention **mass population displacement in emergencies**, like a sudden influx of refugees due to conflicts in neighbouring countries, in Cyprus (33%), Germany (32%), and Hungary (30%), with the lowest scores seen in Lithuania (6%), Spain and Portugal (both 7%), and Greece and Luxembourg (both 8%).

Wildfires are the most mentioned item in Portugal and Cyprus, where it was chosen by almost half the respondents (49% and 47% respectively), and the second most mentioned item in Spain (29%). It is also a significant issue in other countries: over one in five respondents say they feel personally at risk of wildfires or forest fires in Bulgaria (24%), Croatia (23%), and Slovenia (21%). Respondents are least likely to mention this item in Malta and Denmark (both 1%), the Netherlands (3%), and Ireland, Luxembourg, and Finland (all 3%).

Respondents are most likely to feel at risk of **terrorist attacks** in Belgium (31%), France (26%), and Denmark and Latvia (both 18%).

Greece is the only Member State where more than half (56%) say they feel at risk of **geological disasters**, like landslides, earthquakes, or volcanic eruptions, followed by Croatia (39%) and Italy (32%). In nine countries, more than one in ten say they feel personally exposed to the risk of **major accidents**, like industrial or chemical accidents, oil spills, or major transport accidents, with the highest scores registered in Hungary (20%), Finland (18%), and Poland (16%).





























At least one in five feel at risk of **animal or plant disease outbreaks** in Hungary (20%) and Croatia (24%). In four countries, more than one in ten mention **nuclear accidents**: Luxembourg (27%), Romania (15%), and Belgium and Austria (both 11%).

These results are presented visually in a colour-coded table on the next page.

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC2ab. And which of the following, if any, do you feel personally most exposed to? Firstly? And then? (%)

	EU27	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	DE	DK	EE	EL	ES	FI	FR	HR	HU	IE	IT	LT	LU	LV	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SE	SI	SK
																												
Extreme weather events (violent storms, droughts, heatwaves, cold waves, etc.)	38	39	35	28	41	31	37	41	32	61	35	23	40	43	48	30	44	29	35	28	56	45	30	40	40	29	48	42
Human health emergency (e.g. a highly contagious disease outbreak)	27	33	24	28	15	26	25	29	26	29	24	51	23	33	41	29	27	21	26	31	33	29	25	29	28	33	16	24
Floods (e.g. river or coastal flood, heavy rain event, etc.)	26	26	23	34	16	21	28	33	9	52	22	3	18	33	22	36	31	10	22	17	17	33	24	34	24	18	32	24
Cybersecurity threats (e.g. cyberattacks, cybercrimes, etc.)	23	20	31	14	25	33	27	49	37	4	17	41	28	8	17	36	16	24	31	31	25	39	18	9	18	57	7	19
Political or geo-political tensions (e.g. civil unrest, social divisions, etc.)	22	28	22	16	12	17	38	15	19	6	14	19	23	13	20	11	12	20	18	31	15	35	25	7	20	30	16	17
Critical infrastructure disruption (e.g. electricity black-outs, disruption to gas or drinking water, etc.)	21	27	18	26	13	27	27	28	49	14	11	46	15	15	36	18	19	6	17	27	48	36	17	6	22	53	14	21
Mass population displacement in emergencies (e.g. sudden influx of refugees due to conflicts in neighbouring countries)	17	24	16	14	33	10	32	10	18	8	7	11	9	19	30	19	14	6	8	24	22	15	19	7	21	10	10	11
Wildfire, forest fires	16	10	6	24	47	12	10	1	9	45	29	5	17	23	9	5	14	5	5	8	1	3	9	49	17	13	21	10
Terrorist attacks	14	12	31	9	12	7	16	18	9	3	9	8	26	7	8	6	9	1	12	18	4	16	10	6	14	22	1	4
Geological disasters (e.g. landslides, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, etc.)	13	18	6	22	14	2	4	3	1	56	12	1	10	39	10	4	32	1	4	3	13	1	9	13	23	4	22	19
Major accidents (e.g. industrial or chemical accidents, oil spills, major transport accidents)	10	13	10	10	7	13	9	9	7	8	4	18	9	9	20	6	13	4	5	12	8	9	16	5	17	13	8	9
Animal or plant disease outbreak	10	10	7	16	13	12	5	6	7	13	11	11	11	24	20	10	12	3	6	9	7	10	11	14	16	5	9	16
Nuclear accidents	6	11	11	5	5	4	4	3	4	1	3	9	10	5	7	3	6	2	27	14	3	4	5	3	15	5	1	7
Don't know	9	15	4	13	11	11	8	8	7	6	14	7	10	6	5	16	10	25	7	11	3	3	10	11	3	3	5	11

1st Most Frequently Mentioned Item

2nd Most Frequently Mentioned Item

3rd Most Frequently Mentioned Item

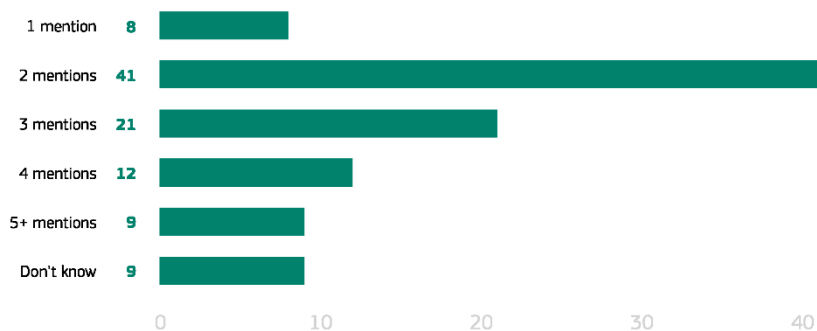
Feb/Mar 2024

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

At the EU level, 83% of citizens say that they feel *personally* exposed to two or more disaster risks. Among these, 42% identify three or more risks while 9% identify five or more.

QC2T. And which of the following, if any, do you feel personally most exposed to? Firstly? And then? - TOTAL (EU27) (%)

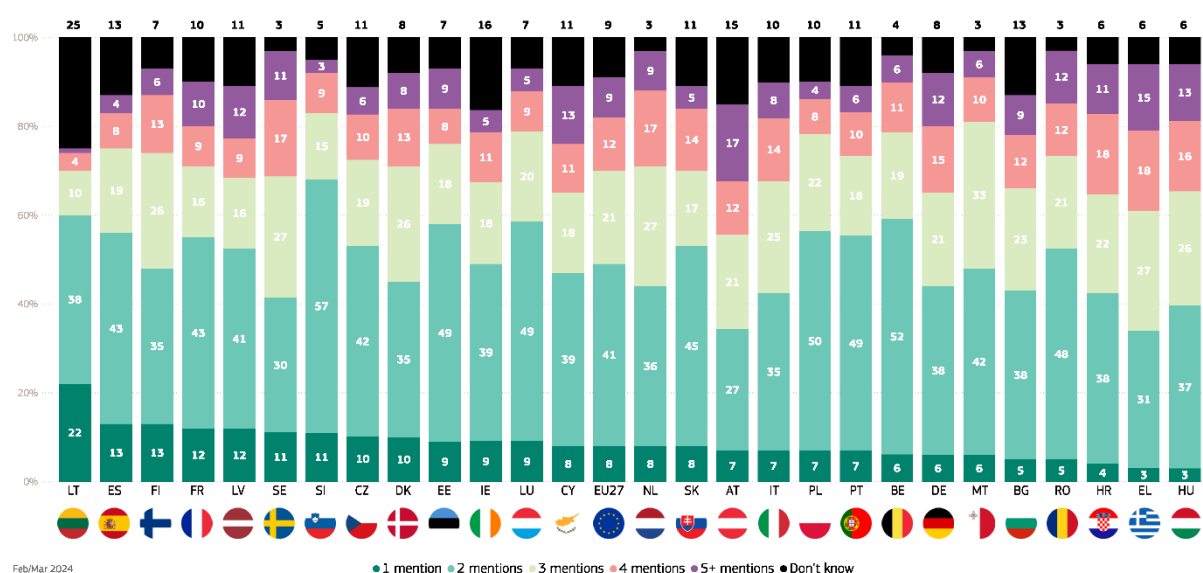


Feb/Mar 2024

At the national level there are some variations. Respondents are most likely to mention just one risk in Lithuania (22%) and least likely to do so in Greece and Hungary (both 3%).

Meanwhile, the proportion of respondents mentioning five or more risks ranges from 17% in Austria and 15% in Greece to 1% in Lithuania.

QC2T. And which of the following, if any, do you feel personally most exposed to? Firstly? And then? - TOTAL (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

● 1 mention ● 2 mentions ● 3 mentions ● 4 mentions ● 5+ mentions ● Don't know

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

The **socio-demographic analysis** shows the following:

- Men are slightly more likely to feel personally exposed to **cybersecurity threats** than women (25% vs 22%), while women feel more exposed to human health emergencies (28% vs 25%).
- Older respondents are more likely to worry about **extreme weather events**, with four in ten (40%) of those aged 40 and over mentioning this item, compared with 36% of those aged 25-39 and 32% of those aged 15-24. Those aged 55 and above are more likely than the youngest cohort to worry about **floods** (27% vs 22%). However, the inverse is true for **cybersecurity threats** (19% vs 27%). The youngest demographic (15-24 year-olds) are less concerned than those aged 25 and over about **mass population displacement in emergencies**, like a sudden influx of refugees due to conflicts in neighbouring countries (13% vs 17%-19%).
- Those who continued their education past the age of 20 are substantially more likely than those who left school aged 15 or younger to be concerned with **cybersecurity threats** (30% vs 10%), **political or geo-political tensions** (e.g. civil unrest, social divisions, etc.) (26% vs 13%), and **critical infrastructure disruption** (e.g. electricity black-outs, or disruption to gas or drinking water) (25% vs 17%). Respondents who left school aged 15 or earlier are more concerned about **wildfires** (23% vs 14%) and **geological disasters** (18% vs 11%).
- Among socio-professional categories, self-employed people, managers, other white-collar workers, and retirees are the most likely to mention **extreme weather events** (39%-40%), especially compared with students (33%) and the unemployed (32%). Retirees are the most likely to be concerned about **human health emergencies** (30%), compared with managers, the unemployed, and students (all 25%), and those who are self-employed (24%). House persons are substantially more worried (22%) about **wildfires and forest fires** than managers (12%).

- Respondents who never face financial difficulties are more likely than those who face such issues most of the time to feel personally exposed to **extreme weather events** (40% vs 36%) and **cybersecurity threats** (25% vs 18%). Respondents who struggle financially in contrast are more likely to worry about **floods** (29% vs 25%), **wildfires** (21% vs 14%), and **terrorist attacks** (19% vs 13%).
- Respondents living in rural villages are more concerned than those living in large towns about **floods** (26% vs 23%), while urban respondents are more likely to mention **cybersecurity threats** (27% vs 21%), **political or geo-political tensions** (25% vs 20%), and **terrorist attacks** (16% vs 11%).
- Close to one in four (24%) of those who use the internet every day think they are personally at risk of **political or geo-political tensions**, compared with 18% of those who go online from time to time, and 15% of those who never do so.

Cross-sectional analysis:

- Those who say they trust the emergency services and authorities are more likely to mention **extreme weather events** (52% vs 38%), **floods** (46% vs 37%), **cybersecurity threats** (35% vs 26%), **human health emergencies** (32% vs 28%), and **wildfires** (32% vs 26%) than those who do not trust emergency services and authorities.
- Respondents who say that they have experienced one or more disasters in the past ten years are more likely to report that they feel exposed to a number of disaster risks, in particular **extreme weather events** (44% vs 35%), **floods** (31% vs 22%), **cybersecurity threats** (27% vs 21%), **political or geo-political tensions** (26% vs 20%) and **mass population displacement in emergencies** (22% vs 14%) than people who have not experienced a disaster.

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC2ab And which of the following, if any, do you feel personally most exposed to? Firstly? And then? (% - EU)

	Extreme weather events (violent storms, droughts, heatwaves, cold waves, etc.)	Human health emergency (e.g. a highly contagious disease outbreak)	Floods (e.g. river or coastal flood, heavy rain event, etc.)	Cybersecurity threats (e.g. cyberattacks, cybercrimes, etc.)	Political or geo-political tensions (e.g. civil unrest, social divisions, etc.)	Critical infrastructure disruption (e.g. electricity black-outs, disruption to gas or drinking water, etc.)	Mass population displacement in emergencies (e.g. sudden influx of refugees due to conflicts in neighbouring countries)	Wildfire, forest fires	Terrorist attacks	Geological disasters (e.g. landslides, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, etc.)	Major accidents (e.g. industrial or chemical accidents, oil spills, major transport accidents)	Animal or plant disease outbreak	Nuclear accidents	Other
EU27	38	27	26	23	22	21	17	16	14	13	10	10	6	10
Gender														
Man	37	25	25	25	23	22	17	15	13	13	10	10	6	10
Woman	39	28	26	22	21	21	17	16	15	14	11	11	6	10
Age														
15-24	32	25	22	27	24	19	13	13	13	11	8	9	5	12
25-39	36	23	25	26	23	20	17	15	13	13	11	10	5	10
40-54	40	28	26	26	22	22	19	16	15	15	12	10	6	8
55 +	40	29	27	19	21	22	17	17	14	14	10	11	7	10
Education (End of)														
15-	39	27	27	10	13	17	15	23	11	18	8	12	5	13
16-19	39	28	27	21	21	21	19	16	14	15	12	11	7	9
20+	39	26	24	30	26	25	16	14	15	11	11	9	6	9
Still studying	33	25	23	29	27	19	13	13	13	11	7	8	5	11
Socio-professional category														
Self- employed	40	24	30	24	23	21	18	17	11	16	11	10	5	10
Managers	40	25	24	31	28	24	16	12	14	13	12	7	5	8
Other white collars	39	26	27	28	21	22	18	14	14	14	12	10	5	9
Manual workers	37	27	25	23	22	21	18	18	15	14	11	11	7	10
House persons	37	26	28	16	15	22	15	22	14	20	10	12	8	8
Unemployed	32	25	20	17	20	19	16	15	11	10	7	11	7	15
Retired	41	30	26	17	21	22	17	16	14	13	10	12	7	10
Students	33	25	23	29	27	19	13	13	13	11	7	8	5	11
Difficulties paying bills														
Most of the time	36	28	29	18	20	20	17	21	19	16	9	11	5	13
From time to time	36	27	27	22	21	21	20	19	15	17	13	13	8	9
Almost never/ Never	40	26	25	25	23	22	16	14	13	12	10	9	5	10
Subjective urbanisation														
Rural village	39	26	26	21	20	20	17	18	11	11	9	10	6	10
Small/ mid size town	38	27	27	23	22	21	17	15	14	14	11	10	6	9
Large town	37	27	23	27	25	23	17	15	16	14	11	11	6	10
Use of the Internet														
Everyday	39	26	25	25	24	22	17	15	14	13	10	10	6	9
Often/ Sometimes	36	30	27	20	18	22	21	16	16	16	19	13	11	11
Never	35	29	25	6	15	16	11	23	13	14	7	13	5	12
No Internet access	49	25	34	2	4	8	7	16	5	13	6	10	4	11
Personal experience of disaster in the past ten years														
Total 'Yes, have experienced one or more disasters in the past ten years'	44	28	31	27	26	24	22	18	15	16	14	12	8	7
Total 'No, you haven't experienced any disasters in the past ten years'	35	26	22	21	20	20	14	14	14	12	8	9	5	12
Trust in the emergency services and authorities														
Trust	40	27	26	24	22	22	16	16	14	13	10	10	6	9
Do not trust	30	24	24	20	24	21	20	15	14	17	14	12	8	12

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Direct or indirect experience of a disaster in the past 10 years

Respondents were asked whether they have personally experienced - directly or indirectly - a disaster in the past 10 years, excluding the COVID-19 pandemic, but including disasters experienced in their own region or elsewhere in the EU, for example while travelling.

They were presented with a list of 13 of the most common disasters across the EU and asked which of these they had personally experienced, with the option to select multiple answers. A 14th option was offered to respondents who had no experience of disasters in the past 10 years. Additional answer options included 'yes, other' (meaning a past experience of a disaster other than the 13 types included in the previous categories) or 'don't know'.

At EU level, six in ten (62%) respondents say they **have not experienced any disasters (with the exception of COVID-19)** in the past ten years, while 37% have experienced at least one disasters.

These figures refer simply to the number of respondents, among all the people surveyed, who either replied 'Yes, I have experienced one disaster in the past ten years' or 'No, I haven't experienced any disasters in the past ten years'. Related figures are reported in the first horizontal bar chart with two bars.

The 37% of the respondents, who indicated they have at least experienced one disaster in the past 10 years, could also indicate which types of disasters they have experienced. They had the possibility of selecting more than one answer, independently from the 'ranking' (if a specific answer option was mentioned as first item, second, et cetera). Thus, the figure reported for each disaster risk represents the total number of selections for that specific disaster category by the respondents. That is why the sum of percentages reported in the second bar chart (see next page) for the different disaster risk categories is higher than 37%.

QC3. With the exception of COVID-19, have you personally experienced - directly or indirectly - a disaster in the past 10 years? This includes disasters experienced in your region and elsewhere in the European Union, for example when travelling. (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) (EU27) (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

Special Eurobarometer 547

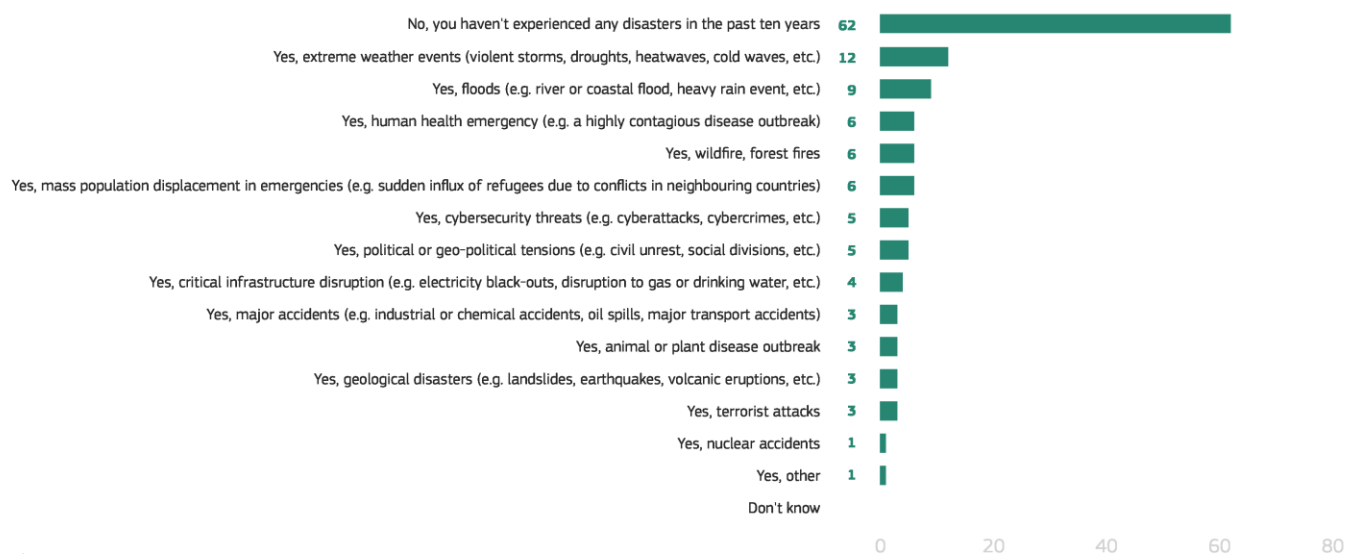
Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Just over one in ten (12%) report that they have personally experienced **extreme weather events**, with 9% saying they have experienced floods. Less than one in ten say that they have personally experienced a **human health emergency**, for instance a highly contagious disease outbreak, **wildfires or forest fires**, or **mass population displacement in emergencies**, like a sudden influx of refugees due to conflicts in neighbouring countries (6% all), **cybersecurity threats** (e.g. cyberattacks, cybercrimes, etc.) or **political or geo-political tensions** (e.g. civil unrest, social divisions, etc.) (both 5%).

Fewer respondents mention **critical infrastructure disruption** (e.g. electricity black-outs, disruption to gas or drinking water, etc.) (4%), **major accidents** (e.g. industrial or chemical accidents, oil spills, major transport accidents), an **animal or plant disease outbreak**, **geological disasters** (e.g. landslides, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, etc.), or **terrorist attacks** (all 3%), while 1% mention **nuclear accidents**.

Less than 1% of the respondents **don't know** whether they have personally experienced a disaster in the past ten years.

QC3. With the exception of COVID-19, have you personally experienced – directly or indirectly – a disaster in the past 10 years? This includes disasters experienced in your region and elsewhere in the European Union, for example when travelling. (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) (EU27) (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

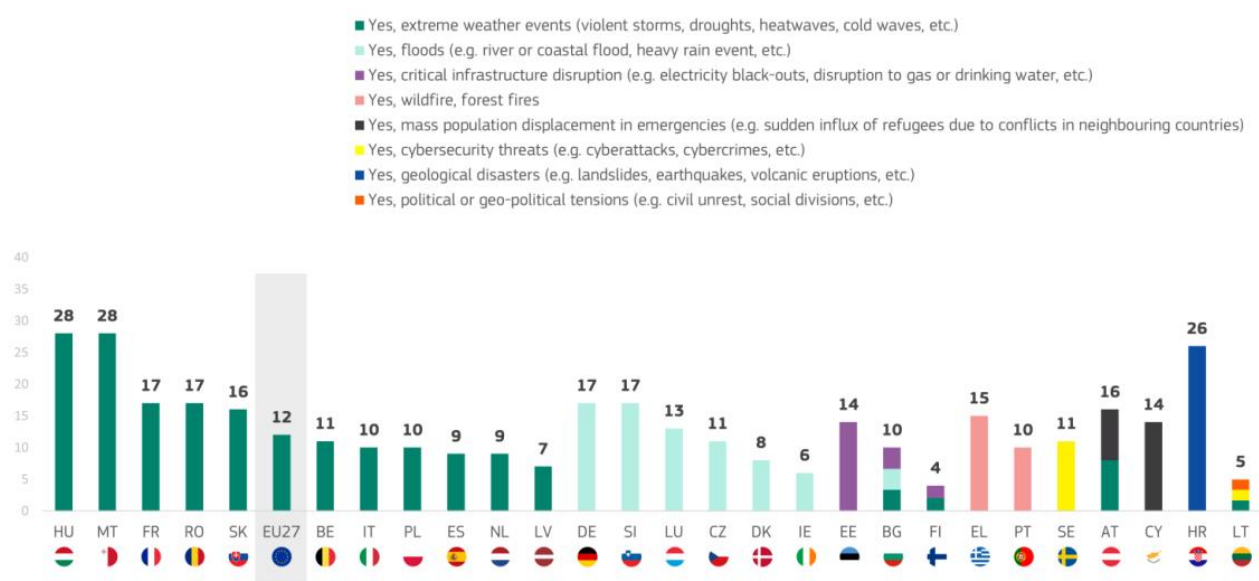
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Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

In 15 countries, **extreme weather events** are the most mentioned item, with close to three in ten (28%)¹¹ saying this in Hungary and Malta, while in seven Member States, respondents are most likely to mention **floods**, most notably in Germany and Slovenia (both 17%).

In addition to extreme weather events and floods, respondents in Bulgaria mention **critical infrastructure disruption**, which is also the most mentioned item in Estonia and Finland. In Croatia, the most mentioned item is **geological disasters**. In Cyprus, respondents are most likely to have experienced **mass population displacement in emergencies**, while in Sweden, **cybersecurity threats** are the most reported.

QC3. With the exception of COVID-19, have you personally experienced - directly or indirectly - a disaster in the past 10 years? This includes disasters experienced in your region and elsewhere in the European Union, for example when travelling. (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

¹¹ Thus, 28% of the total amount of respondents in Malta and Hungary experienced extreme weather events.

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

At the **national level** we see substantial differences among EU Member States. **In every EU Member State, respondents are most likely to say they have experienced no disasters in the past ten years** (with the exception of the Covid-19 pandemic). The exceptions are Croatia, where nearly seven in ten (68%)¹² say they have experienced one or more disasters in the past ten years, Hungary (52%) and Austria (51%). Overall, respondents are most likely to report no such experiences in Finland (86%), Lithuania (81%), and Ireland, Portugal, and Denmark (all 77%).

Extreme weather events, like violent storms, droughts, heatwaves, or cold waves, are the most frequently experienced disaster in 15 countries, and this item is mentioned in third place in a further eleven. Overall, respondents are most likely to say they have experienced extreme weather events in Malta and Hungary (both 28%), Croatia (21%), and France and Romania (both 17%), with the lowest scores found in Finland (4%), Ireland and Lithuania (5%), and Portugal and Cyprus (both 6%).

In seven countries, **floods**, including river or coastal floods, or a heavy rain event, are the second most mentioned item, and come third in a further nine, with the overall highest scores registered in Croatia (18%), Germany and Slovenia (both 17%), and Austria (15%). The countries in which respondents are least likely to say they have experienced floods in the past ten years are Finland (1%), Malta and Lithuania (2%), and Estonia (3%).

Respondents are most likely to mention **human health emergencies**, for instance a highly contagious disease outbreak, in Croatia (17%) and Hungary (10%), the only two countries where at least one in ten say this. **Wildfires or forest fires** are the second most mentioned item in Greece (15%) and Portugal (10%), and the third most reported in a further five countries, including Cyprus (12%).

In three countries, more than one in ten say they have personally experienced a **mass population displacement in emergencies** (e.g., a sudden influx of refugees due to conflicts in neighbouring countries): Austria (16%), Cyprus (14%), and Hungary (11%).

Sweden is the only country where more than one in ten (11%) have experienced a **cybersecurity threat**, while notable proportions agree in Belgium (8%) and Austria, Estonia, and Hungary (7% all). Austria is the only Member State where more than one in ten (13%) mention **political or geo-political tensions** like civil unrest, or social divisions, followed by Hungary, Germany, and Poland (all 8%), and Sweden (7%).

In three countries, **critical infrastructure disruption** (e.g., electricity black-outs, or disruption to gas or drinking water) is the second item mentioned, and it stands third in a further three countries. Overall, respondents are most likely to say they have experienced critical infrastructure disruption in the past ten years in Malta (27%), Estonia (14%), and Bulgaria, Sweden and Slovakia (all 10%).

Major accidents (e.g., industrial or chemical accidents, oil spills, major transport accidents) are reported in Hungary (8%), Poland (5%), and Austria, Croatia, Italy, Romania, and Sweden (all 4%), and **animal or plant disease outbreaks** are mentioned in Croatia (14%), Hungary and Romania (both 6%), and Bulgaria (5%).

Geological disasters like landslides, earthquakes, or volcanic disruptions are mentioned in second place in Croatia, where one in four respondents (26%) do so, followed by Slovakia (9%) and Greece (7%). Respondents are most likely to say they have personally experienced **terrorist attacks** in the past ten years in Belgium (8%), Austria, France, and Sweden (all 6%), and Luxembourg (5%). A low proportion of respondents mention **nuclear accidents** in Poland and Cyprus (3% both), while in Estonia 6% say they have experienced **other disasters**.

The results are graphically presented in a colour-coded table on the following page.

¹² Percentages were arrived at by looking at those who have experienced a disaster (whether one or more) compared with those who have experienced no disasters, and those who don't know.

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC3. With the exception of COVID-19, have you personally experienced - directly or indirectly - a disaster in the past 10 years? This includes disasters experienced in your region and elsewhere in the European Union, for example when travelling. (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) (%)

	EU27	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	DE	DK	EE	EL	ES	FI	FR	HR	HU	IE	IT	LT	LU	LV	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SE	SI	SK
No, you haven't experienced any disasters in the past ten years	62	48	57	59	60	65	58	77	57	62	71	86	61	31	47	77	64	81	63	75	54	74	57	77	59	61	64	52
Yes, extreme weather events (violent storms, droughts, heatwaves, cold waves, etc.)	12	16	11	10	6	9	13	7	13	12	9	4	17	21	28	5	10	5	11	7	28	9	10	6	17	10	14	16
Yes, floods (e.g. river or coastal flood, heavy rain event, etc.)	9	15	10	10	6	11	17	8	3	12	6	1	8	18	11	6	7	2	13	6	2	6	7	5	6	9	17	10
Yes, human health emergency (e.g. a highly contagious disease outbreak)	6	8	6	3	5	4	7	2	9	3	3	2	7	17	10	3	5	4	2	5	3	2	6	3	7	3	2	8
Yes, wildfire, forest fires	6	6	3	7	12	5	5	2	3	15	6	2	10	10	7	1	4	1	5	2	0	3	4	10	4	9	4	5
Yes, mass population displacement in emergencies (e.g. sudden influx of refugees due to conflicts in neighbouring countries)	6	16	5	3	14	6	10	2	6	2	2	1	2	9	11	4	5	1	3	2	3	4	8	3	7	8	1	6
Yes, cybersecurity threats (e.g. cyberattacks, cybercrimes, etc.)	5	7	8	4	5	6	6	3	7	1	3	2	5	6	7	5	3	5	2	3	3	3	5	1	4	11	1	6
Yes, political or geo-political tensions (e.g. civil unrest, social divisions, etc.)	5	13	4	6	3	4	8	2	4	1	3	2	4	5	8	1	3	5	5	2	4	3	8	1	4	7	1	5
Yes, critical infrastructure disruption (e.g. electricity black-outs, disruption to gas or drinking water, etc.)	4	6	4	10	2	4	4	2	14	2	2	4	3	6	8	2	5	1	2	3	27	2	4	2	6	10	3	10
Yes, major accidents (e.g. industrial or chemical accidents, oil spills, major transport accidents)	3	4	2	3	3	3	2	0	1	1	1	1	2	4	8	2	4	1	1	1	1	2	5	1	4	4	2	3
Yes, animal or plant disease outbreak	3	4	2	5	2	4	1	1	1	2	2	1	3	14	6	2	3	1	1	1	1	2	4	3	6	3	2	3
Yes, geological disasters (e.g. landslides, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, etc.)	3	6	2	5	3	1	2	2	1	7	2	1	3	26	4	2	6	0	2	0	3	2	4	1	4	4	5	9
Yes, terrorist attacks	3	6	8	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	2	1	6	2	3	1	2	0	5	1	2	2	4	1	3	6	0	1
Yes, nuclear accidents	1	2	1	1	3	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	2	2	2	1	2	0	1	0	1	0	3	1	2	0	0	1
Yes, other	1	2	3	1	2	1	2	2	6	0	1	0	1	2	1	0	1	1	2	1	2	1	0	0	1	2	1	2
Don't know	0	1	1	2	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
1st Most Frequently Mentioned Item																												
2nd Most Frequently Mentioned Item																												
3rd Most Frequently Mentioned Item																												

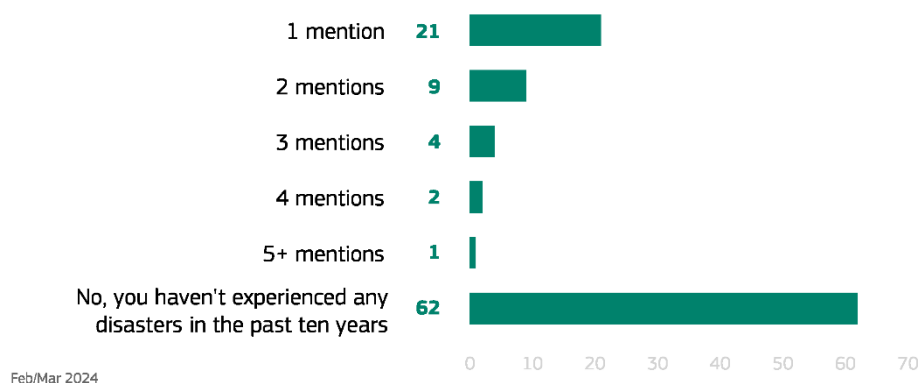
Feb/Mar 2024

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

At the EU level, 21% of respondents report that they have personally experienced one disaster in the past 10 years. An additional 9% report experience of two disasters, while 7% say they have experienced three or more disasters¹³.

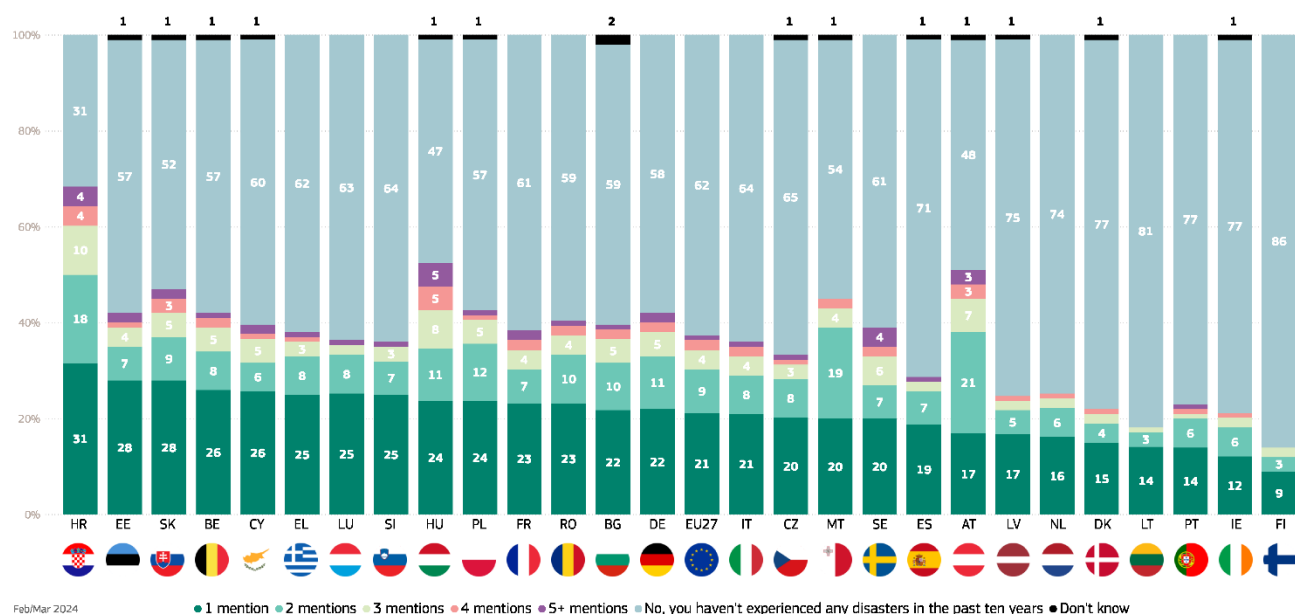
QC3T. With the exception of COVID-19, have you personally experienced – directly or indirectly – a disaster in the past 10 years? This includes disasters experienced in your region and elsewhere in the European Union, for example when travelling. – TOTAL (EU27) (%)



Experience of one disaster varies, with the highest percentages in Croatia (31%), 28% in both Estonia and Slovakia, and 26% in Belgium and Cyprus, while the lowest percentages are 9% in Finland, 12% in Ireland, and 14% in Portugal and Lithuania.

The experience of three or more risks is most common in Croatia and Hungary (both 18%), and Austria (13%).

QC3T. With the exception of COVID-19, have you personally experienced – directly or indirectly – a disaster in the past 10 years? This includes disasters experienced in



¹³ Percentages in the below bar chart do not add up to 100% because the 1% of "don't knows" was omitted.

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

The **socio-demographic** analysis broadly shows notable differences between those who say they have experienced no disasters in the past ten years:

- Overall, respondents aged 55+ are more likely (66%) to say they **have experienced no disasters in the past ten years** than the younger cohorts (59%-60%). Those aged 40-54 are more likely (14%) to say they have experienced **extreme weather events** like violent storms, droughts, heatwaves, or cold waves than their older and younger peers (11%-12%).
- Respondents who finished their education after the age of 20 are more likely (6%) to say they have experienced **cybersecurity threats** than those who left school aged 15 or earlier (2%). The same is true regarding **political or geo-political tensions** (e.g. civil unrest, social divisions, etc.) (5% vs 2%), and **terrorist attacks** (4% vs 1%).
- Among socio-professional categories, the self-employed are the most likely (16%) to mention **extreme weather events**, compared with 13% of managers, manual workers, and the unemployed, and 8% of house persons. Students are substantially more likely (12%) to say they have experienced **floods** than white-collar workers (8%) and house persons (7%).
- In terms of financial security, respondents who never have trouble paying their bills are substantially more likely to say they **have not experienced any disasters in the past ten years** than those who face such difficulties most of the time (64% vs 57%). Those who always have trouble paying their bills are more likely to mention **cybersecurity threats** (7% vs 4%) than those who never or almost never do so. The same is true, to a slightly lesser extent, for **wildfires or forest fires** and **human health emergencies** (both 7% vs 5%), where those who have difficulties paying their bills most of the time have higher scores than those who (almost) never have these issues.
- Urban respondents are slightly more likely to mention **cybersecurity threats** than their rural counterparts (6% vs 4%).
- Respondents who use the internet everyday are more likely to have experienced **floods** than those who never go online (10% vs 6%).
- Those who frequently discuss European political matters are more likely (16%) to mention **extreme weather events** like violent storms, droughts, heatwaves, or cold waves, than those who never talk about these issues (11%). The same is true for **floods** (13% vs 7%), and **political or geo-political tensions** (7% vs 3%).

Cross-sectional analysis

- Survey participants who experience severe or some limitations to daily activities due to health problems are slightly more likely (7%-8%) to say they have experienced a **human health emergency** (e.g. a highly contagious disease outbreak) in the past 10 years (with the exception of COVID-19) than those who have no such limitations (5%).

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC3 With the exception of COVID-19, have you personally experienced - directly or indirectly - a disaster in the past 10 years? This includes disasters experienced in your region and elsewhere in the European Union, for example when travelling. (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)

	Yes, extreme weather events (violent storms, droughts, heatwaves, cold waves, etc.)	Yes, floods (e.g. river or coastal flood, heavy rain event, etc.)	Yes, human health emergency (e.g. a highly contagious disease outbreak)	Yes, wildfire, forest fires	Yes, mass population displacement in emergencies (e.g. sudden influx of refugees due to conflicts in neighbouring countries)	Yes, cybersecurity threats (e.g. cyberattacks, cybercrimes, etc.)	Yes, political or geo-political tensions (e.g. civil unrest, social divisions, etc.)	Yes, critical infrastructure disruption (e.g. electricity black-outs, disruption to gas or drinking water, etc.)	Yes, major accidents (e.g. industrial or chemical accidents, oil spills, major transport accidents)	Yes, animal or plant disease outbreak	Yes, geological disasters (e.g. landslides, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, etc.)	Yes, terrorist attacks	Yes, nuclear accidents	Yes, other	No, you haven't experienced any disasters in the past ten years
EU27	12	9	6	6	6	5	5	4	3	3	3	3	1	1	62
Gender															
Man	12	10	6	6	6	5	5	4	3	3	4	3	1	1	61
Woman	12	9	5	5	5	4	5	4	2	3	3	3	1	1	63
Age															
15-24	11	11	6	6	6	5	5	4	4	2	3	3	1	1	60
25-39	12	10	6	6	7	6	6	6	3	3	3	4	1	1	59
40-54	14	9	6	6	6	5	5	4	3	2	4	4	1	2	60
55 +	12	8	5	5	5	3	4	4	2	3	3	2	1	1	66
Education (End of)															
15-	11	8	5	5	5	2	2	3	2	3	3	1	1	1	68
16-19	13	9	5	6	6	4	5	5	3	3	4	3	1	1	61
20+	13	9	6	6	6	6	5	5	2	3	3	4	1	1	62
Still studying	11	12	6	7	7	5	6	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	59
Socio-professional category															
Self-employed	16	9	4	6	6	7	8	6	3	3	4	3	1	1	57
Managers	13	10	6	7	6	8	5	4	3	3	4	4	1	1	60
Other white collars	12	8	6	6	6	5	5	5	3	2	4	3	1	1	60
Manual workers	13	10	6	7	6	5	5	5	3	3	3	3	1	1	60
House persons	8	7	4	4	4	1	3	2	1	2	2	2	1	1	71
Unemployed	13	8	6	4	6	4	3	6	2	3	3	2	1	3	61
Retired	11	9	5	5	4	3	4	4	2	3	3	2	1	1	67
Students	11	12	6	7	7	5	6	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	59
Difficulties paying bills															
Most of the time	12	10	7	7	7	7	5	5	3	3	3	4	1	2	57
From time to time	13	8	6	6	7	5	6	5	3	3	5	3	2	1	59
Almost never/ Never	12	10	5	5	5	4	4	4	2	3	3	3	1	1	64
Subjective urbanisation															
Rural village	13	10	5	6	5	4	5	4	3	3	3	2	1	2	62
Small/ mid size town	12	9	5	6	6	4	4	4	2	3	4	3	2	1	64
Large town	13	9	6	6	6	6	5	5	3	3	4	4	1	1	60
Use of the Internet															
Everyday	12	10	6	6	6	5	5	4	3	3	3	3	1	1	62
Often/ Sometimes	12	9	6	5	6	4	6	6	4	3	4	4	3	1	60
Never	10	6	4	6	3	1	2	3	2	4	3	1	2	1	68
No Internet access	12	10	6	7	1	0	1	2	3	5	5	0	0	1	63
Talk about European political matters															
Frequently	16	13	7	6	7	6	7	7	4	3	5	4	1	1	53
Occasionally	12	9	6	6	6	5	5	4	3	3	3	3	1	1	62
Never	11	7	5	5	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	1	1	67
Trust in the emergency services and authorities															
Trust	12	9	5	6	5	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	1	1	64
Do not trust	12	9	7	6	8	7	8	6	4	4	4	4	2	3	53
Experience of limitations to daily activities due to health problems															
Severely limited	12	12	7	6	6	6	5	6	3	4	4	3	1	2	57
Somewhat limited	14	11	8	7	8	6	7	6	4	4	5	4	3	2	53
Not limited at all	12	9	5	5	5	4	4	4	2	2	3	3	1	1	66
Total 'Limited to some extent'	13	11	8	7	8	6	6	6	4	4	5	4	2	2	54

II. Perceived level of information and information sources used to learn about disaster risks

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Information sources used to learn about disaster risks

Respondents were asked which sources of information they would use for learning about disaster risks, first and then second. They were given 12 answer options representing nine different categories of information sources, in addition to the answer options 'other', 'don't know' or 'you are not interested in looking for such information'. Respondents could select multiple answers.

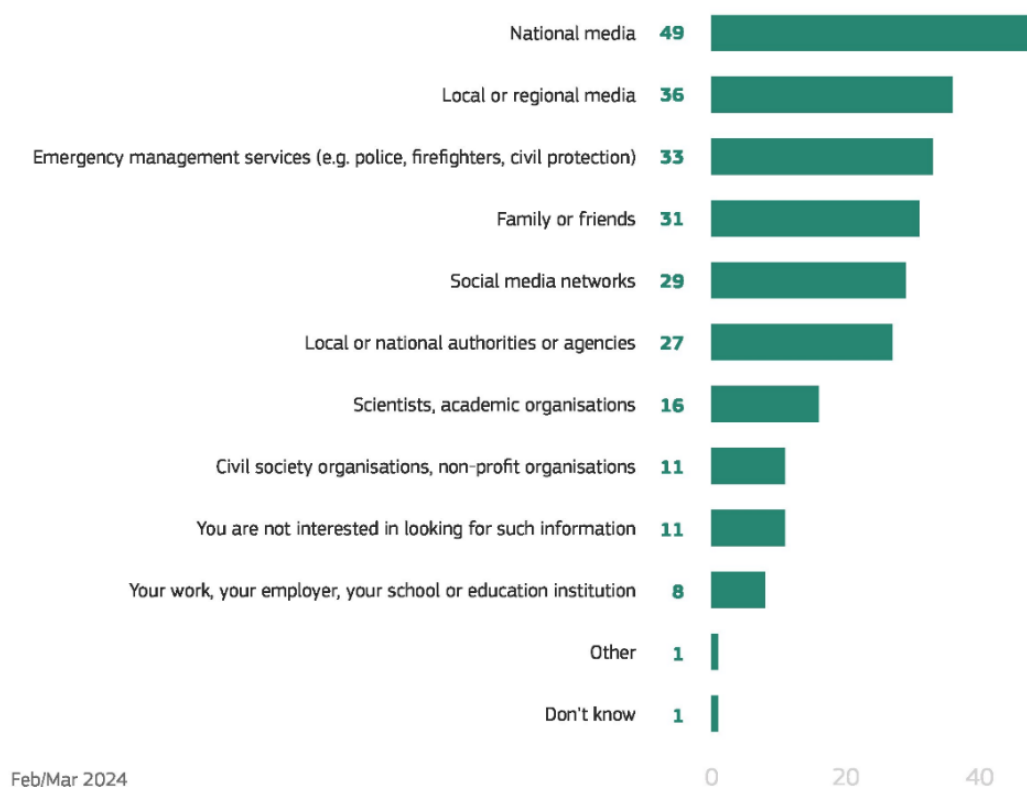
The percentages in the chart are the aggregate scores of all respondents selecting a given medium. Thus, the total sum of percentages is not 100%.

Half the respondents prefer to use national media to learn about disaster risks

Close to half (49%) the respondents say, either first or subsequently, that they would turn to **national media** if they wanted to learn about disaster risk. At least one in three report a preference for **local or regional media** (36%) or **emergency management services** such as police, firefighters, or civil protection (33%).

Around three in ten mention **family or friends** (31%) or **social media networks** (29%), followed by **local or national authorities or agencies** (27%), **scientists, academic organisations** (16%), **civil society organisations or non-profit organisations** (11%), or **their work, employer, school, or education institution** (8%). More than one in ten (11%) say they are not interested in looking for such information.

QC4ab. What sources of information would you use if you wanted to learn about disaster risks? Firstly? And then? (EU27) (%)



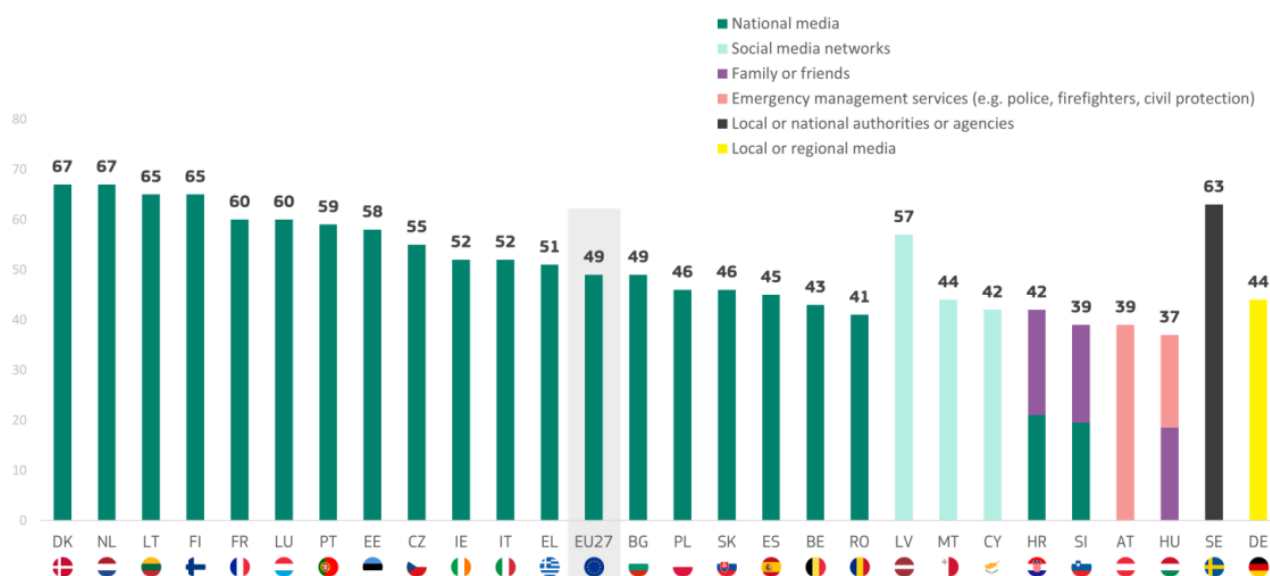
Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

National media are the most mentioned information source in 20 Member States¹⁴. **Social media networks** are the most-frequently mentioned source of information for learning about disaster risks in Latvia (57%), the only country where more than half use this method, and Malta (44%) and Cyprus (42%).

Local or national authorities or agencies are the most mentioned item in Germany, while the same is true for **local or regional media** in Sweden (63%). **Emergency management services (e.g. police, firefighters, civil protection)** are the most mentioned item in Austria (39%) and in Hungary (37%), sharing first place with **family or friends**.

QC4ab. What sources of information would you use if you wanted to learn about disaster risks? Firstly? And then?(%)



Feb/Mar 2024

¹⁴ In two Member States, Croatia and Slovakia, it shares first place with family or friends.

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

A national analysis reveals some interesting differences between EU Member States. **National media** is the most mentioned information source in 20 countries, and in second place in a further five. In six countries, at least six in ten respondents say they would turn to this source if they wanted to learn about disaster risks, with the highest scores seen in the Netherlands and Denmark (both 67%), and Finland and Lithuania (both 65%). The lowest scores are found in Hungary (30%), Malta and Austria (both 37%), and Cyprus, Germany and Slovenia (both 39%).

Finland is the only Member State where half (50%) the respondents say they use **local or regional media** to learn about disaster risks. Local or regional media is the most mentioned item in Germany (44%), and comes second in five Member States. Respondents are least likely to mention local or regional media in Portugal (18%), Bulgaria (21%), and Malta and Greece (both 23%).

Emergency management services, such as police, firefighters, and civil protection are the most mentioned source of information for learning about disaster risks in Austria (39%) and Luxembourg (37%), and the second choice in an additional five Member States. Overall, respondents are most likely to mention this item in Sweden (61%), the only country where more than half do so, followed by Portugal (48%) and the Netherlands (46%). The lowest scores are registered in Cyprus (19%), France (21%), and Ireland, Romania, and Malta (all 22%).

In Croatia (42%), Slovenia (39%), and Hungary (37%), **family or friends** are the most mentioned source of information, and stand in second place in a further seven Member States. Respondents are overall most likely to mention family or friends in Lithuania (45%), Slovakia (43%), Croatia (42%) and Greece (41%), and least likely to do so in Finland (18%), Sweden (19%), and the Netherlands (22%).

Social media networks are the most mentioned source of information for learning about disaster risks in Latvia (57%), Malta (44%), and Cyprus (42%), and the second source in Greece (44%), Czechia (38%), Ireland (37%), and Spain (35%). Overall, the lowest scores are found in Sweden (20%), Italy (22%), and the Netherlands (23%).

Sweden and the Netherlands are the only countries where more than half of the respondents (63% and 53% respectively) prefer to use **local or national authorities or agencies** to learn about disaster risks. They are least likely to use these sources in Poland (17%), Latvia (18%), and Portugal, Lithuania and France (all 19%).

Respondents are most likely to mention, either first or subsequently, **scientists, academic organisations** in the Netherlands (38%), Greece (29%), Sweden (28%), Denmark (27%), and Belgium (25%). These are the only countries where at least one in four respondents say this. In seven Member States fewer than one in ten mention these resources, with the lowest scores in Latvia and Bulgaria (both 6%), and Portugal and Lithuania (both 7%).

In three countries, more than one in five respondents mention **civil society organisations or non-profit organisations** as sources for learning about disaster risks: Croatia (23%), and Sweden and Austria (both 22%). They are least likely to do so in Estonia (3%), Czechia, Latvia, and Lithuania (all 4%), and Finland and Cyprus (6%).


























In five countries, more than one in ten mention their **work, employer, school or education institution** as sources of information about disaster risks: Croatia (15%), Malta (14%), Luxembourg (13%), Romania (12%), and Hungary and Sweden (11%).

In six countries, more than one in five say they are **not interested in looking for such information**: Romania, Austria, and Malta (all 23%), Poland (22%), and Bulgaria and Hungary (both 21%). They are least likely to say this in Sweden (2%), Finland and Luxembourg (both 3%), the Netherlands (6%), and Denmark (7%).

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC4ab. What sources of information would you use if you wanted to learn about disaster risks? Firstly? And then? (%)

	EU27	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	DE	DK	EE	EL	ES	FI	FR	HR	HU	IE	IT	LT	LU	LV	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SE	SI	SK
																												
National media	49	37	43	49	39	55	39	67	58	51	45	65	60	42	30	52	52	65	60	53	37	67	46	59	41	59	39	46
Local or regional media	36	32	32	21	24	31	44	36	28	23	31	50	40	39	24	31	42	31	40	38	23	31	34	18	27	37	32	33
Emergency management services (e.g. police, firefighters, civil protection)	33	39	32	26	19	36	40	41	37	29	33	45	21	41	37	22	31	27	32	25	22	46	24	48	22	61	34	24
Family or friends	31	37	30	40	39	34	39	25	40	41	29	18	27	42	37	34	23	45	25	34	24	22	26	31	40	19	39	43
Social media networks	29	29	30	36	42	38	28	32	34	44	35	28	33	32	29	37	22	41	37	57	44	23	25	25	25	20	33	34
Local or national authorities or agencies	27	31	33	24	30	23	34	44	22	25	22	46	19	28	28	27	25	19	34	18	24	53	17	19	25	63	22	22
Scientists, academic organisations	16	11	25	6	10	8	12	27	8	29	16	15	18	12	17	17	15	7	18	6	20	38	9	7	11	28	11	14
You are not interested in looking for such information	15	23	13	21	14	17	16	7	14	11	13	3	10	11	21	13	20	13	3	11	23	6	22	14	23	2	12	19
Civil society organisations, non-profit organisations	11	22	11	8	6	4	10	9	3	7	10	6	10	23	14	7	17	4	8	4	12	16	8	10	9	22	13	7
Your work, your employer, your school or education institution	8	10	9	8	9	7	6	9	10	7	5	10	6	15	11	6	8	7	13	8	14	7	10	9	12	11	6	10
Other	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	2	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
Don't know	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1

1st Most Frequently Mentioned Item

2nd Most Frequently Mentioned Item

3rd Most Frequently Mentioned Item

Feb/Mar 2024

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

The **socio-demographic** analysis shows the following:

- Men are slightly more likely than women (34% vs 31%) to say they would use **information from emergency management services**, like police, firefighters, or civil protection to learn about disaster risks. Women are also more likely to rely on family or friends than men (32% vs 29%).
- Older respondents are more likely to consult **national media**: more than half (53%) of those aged 55 and up give this answer, compared with 49% of those aged 40-54, 45% of those aged 25-39, and 43% of those aged 15-24. The same applies to **local or regional media** (40% vs 36% vs 32% vs 28%). Younger respondents, in contrast, are more likely to say they would consult **social media** in such a situation, with 48% of those aged 15-24 mentioning this item compared with 18% of those aged 55 and above.
- Respondents who studied beyond the age of 20 are more likely (36%) to mention **emergency management services** than those who left school aged 15 or younger (29%). The latter are more likely to consult **family or friends** than their longer-educated peers (36% vs 26%).
- Among socio-professional categories, retirees are most likely (55%) to mention **national media**, followed by managers and the self-employed (both 51%), white-collar workers (48%), students (47%), manual workers (45%), the unemployed (44%), and house persons (43%). Students are most likely (47%) to mention **social media networks**, followed by other white-collar workers and the self-employed (35%, 36%), with retirees least likely to do so (15%).
- More than half (52%) of those who never have trouble paying bills say they would turn to **national media** to learn about disaster risks, compared with 42% of those who face such difficulties most of the time. Respondents with financial difficulties, however, are substantially more likely to say they are not interested in looking for such information (17% vs 10%).
- Respondents living in large towns are more likely (51%) to mention **national media** than those living in rural areas (47%). The same applies to **social media networks** (32% vs 27%).
- Respondents who use the internet every day are more likely (34%) to mention **emergency management services** than those who go online occasionally (30%) or never (19%). Conversely, the latter group are substantially more likely to mention **family or friends** (39%) than those who use the internet every day (29%).

Cross-sectional analysis:

- Respondents who say they trust the emergency services and authorities are substantially more likely (52%) to consult **national media** to learn about disaster risks than those who do not (35%). The same applies to **local or regional media** (37% vs 28%), **emergency management services** (34% vs 24%), and **local or national authorities** or agencies (29% vs 19%). In contrast, respondents who lack trust in emergency services and authorities are much more likely to say they are **not interested in looking for such information** (17% vs 10%).
- Citizens who report that they have experienced one or more disasters in the past ten years are more likely than the rest to say that they turn for information to sources such as **emergency management services** (36% vs 31%), **family or friends** (35% vs 29%), **social media networks** (32% vs 28%) or **local media** (38% vs 35%). Meanwhile, respondents who have not experienced disasters in the past ten years are more likely to say that they would turn to **national media** (51% vs 46%) or that they are not interested in such information (14% vs 6%).
- There is a relationship between perceptions of national risk exposure and the use of a broader range of sources to learn about disaster risks. This means that respondents who believe their country stands at risk of multiple disaster types are more likely to report the use of several information sources.

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC4ab What sources of information would you use if you wanted to learn about disaster risks? Firstly? And then?
(% - EU)

	National media	Local or regional media	Emergency management services (e.g. police, firefighters, civil protection)	Family or friends	Social media networks	Local or national authorities or agencies	Scientists, academic organisations	Civil society organisations, non-profit organisations	Your work, your employer, your school or education institution	Other	You are not interested in looking for such information	Total 'Interested in at least one source of information'
EU27	49	36	33	31	29	27	16	11	8	1	11	88
Gender												
Man	49	36	34	29	30	28	17	11	7	1	10	89
Woman	49	36	31	32	29	26	14	11	8	1	12	87
Age												
15-24	43	28	30	34	48	23	18	11	10	0	9	90
25-39	45	32	32	30	38	26	18	12	10	1	11	88
40-54	49	36	34	28	30	29	17	12	9	1	12	88
55 +	53	40	33	32	18	28	13	10	5	1	12	87
Education (End of)												
15-	49	41	29	36	14	23	7	8	4	1	15	84
16-19	47	37	32	32	27	26	12	10	7	1	14	86
20+	53	35	36	26	33	32	22	13	9	1	7	92
Still studying	47	30	30	34	47	25	21	13	11	1	7	92
Socio-professional category												
Self-employed	51	39	36	28	35	27	19	11	7	2	8	92
Managers	51	35	38	24	30	34	24	14	11	1	8	91
Other white collars	48	35	36	29	36	29	17	13	9	1	11	89
Manual workers	45	34	32	31	31	26	13	11	10	1	13	86
House persons	43	30	22	35	27	19	10	11	4	2	17	82
Unemployed	44	29	30	30	34	24	13	12	4	1	15	84
Retired	55	43	31	34	15	28	12	9	3	1	12	87
Students	47	30	30	34	47	25	21	13	11	1	7	92
Difficulties paying bills												
Most of the time	42	23	26	31	31	21	13	11	6	1	17	81
From time to time	46	34	31	33	28	26	15	13	10	1	13	86
Almost never/ Never	52	39	34	30	30	29	16	11	7	1	10	90
Subjective urbanisation												
Rural village	47	35	33	32	27	27	14	9	7	1	13	87
Small/ mid size town	49	36	33	29	29	27	16	12	8	1	11	88
Large town	51	37	33	33	32	28	17	12	8	1	9	90
Use of the Internet												
Everyday	49	35	34	29	33	28	17	12	8	1	10	89
Often/ Sometimes	47	40	30	36	14	30	10	11	6	1	14	85
Never	51	38	19	39	4	17	6	6	3	1	21	78
No Internet access	56	41	21	42	2	24	3	3	1	0	14	81
Personal experience of disaster in the past ten years												
Total 'Yes, have experienced one or more disasters in the past ten years'	46	38	36	35	32	30	19	14	12	1	6	93
Total 'No, you haven't experienced any disasters in the past ten years'	51	35	31	29	28	26	14	10	5	1	14	85
You trust information from public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks in the area where you live												
Total 'Agree'	53	39	38	31	30	31	17	12	8	1	8	92
Total 'Disagree'	41	31	21	31	30	19	13	11	8	1	17	82
Trust in the emergency services and authorities												
Trust	52	37	34	31	29	29	16	11	7	1	10	89
Do not trust	35	28	24	32	27	19	15	13	10	2	17	81
Perception of potential country exposure to disaster risk - total of mentions												
No mention	28	17	15	18	21	12	5	4	3	3	38	55
1 mention	32	20	12	20	24	12	6	3	2	1	30	68
2 mentions	43	30	22	27	27	19	11	8	6	1	13	86
3 mentions	49	34	31	30	29	25	16	10	8	1	10	89
4 mentions	55	38	38	32	32	34	18	14	8	1	8	92
5 mentions	55	45	45	36	31	36	20	15	9	1	8	91

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Level of information and trust in information on disaster risks

Respondents were asked to what extent they agree or disagree with five statements about information on disaster risks, to assess the extent to which they trust and can access information about disaster risks from public authorities and emergency services both locally (in the area where they live) and when travelling to another EU country.

Seven in ten (70%) agree that they trust information from public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks in the area where they live, with one in four (24%) agreeing 'totally'. One in four (26%) disagree (17% tend to disagree and 9% totally disagree).

Close to six in ten (58%) respondents agree that they have read, seen, or heard information on disaster risks in the last 12 months: more than one in five (23%) 'totally' agree, compared with four in ten (39%) who do not agree with this statement (of whom one in five 'totally' disagree).

More than half (54%) agree that it is easy to find information from public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks in the area where they live, with 15% 'totally' agreeing with this statement and 39% tending to agree. Close to four in ten (39%) say they disagree with the statement, 13% of whom 'totally' disagree, while 6% say they don't know.

Nearly half (48%) of the respondents agree that they feel well informed about disaster risks that might affect them, with more than one in ten (13%) 'totally' agreeing with this statement and 35% tending to agree. Roughly the same proportion of respondents (49%) disagree with the statement, of whom one in five (19%) 'totally' disagree.

Close to half (47%) agree that they know where to find information on disaster risks when travelling to another EU country, while the same proportion of respondents (47%) disagree. More respondents totally disagree than totally agree (23% vs 14%), while one in three (33%) 'tend to agree'.

QC5. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about information on disaster risks? (EU27) (%)

You trust information from public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks in the area where you live



You have read, seen or heard information on disaster risks in the last 12 months



It is easy to find information from public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks in the area where you live



You feel well informed about disaster risks that could affect you



You know where to find information on disaster risks when travelling to another EU country



● Totally agree
 ● Tend to agree
 ● Tend to disagree
 ● Totally disagree
 ● It depends (SPONTANEOUS)
 ● Don't know

Feb/Mar 2024

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

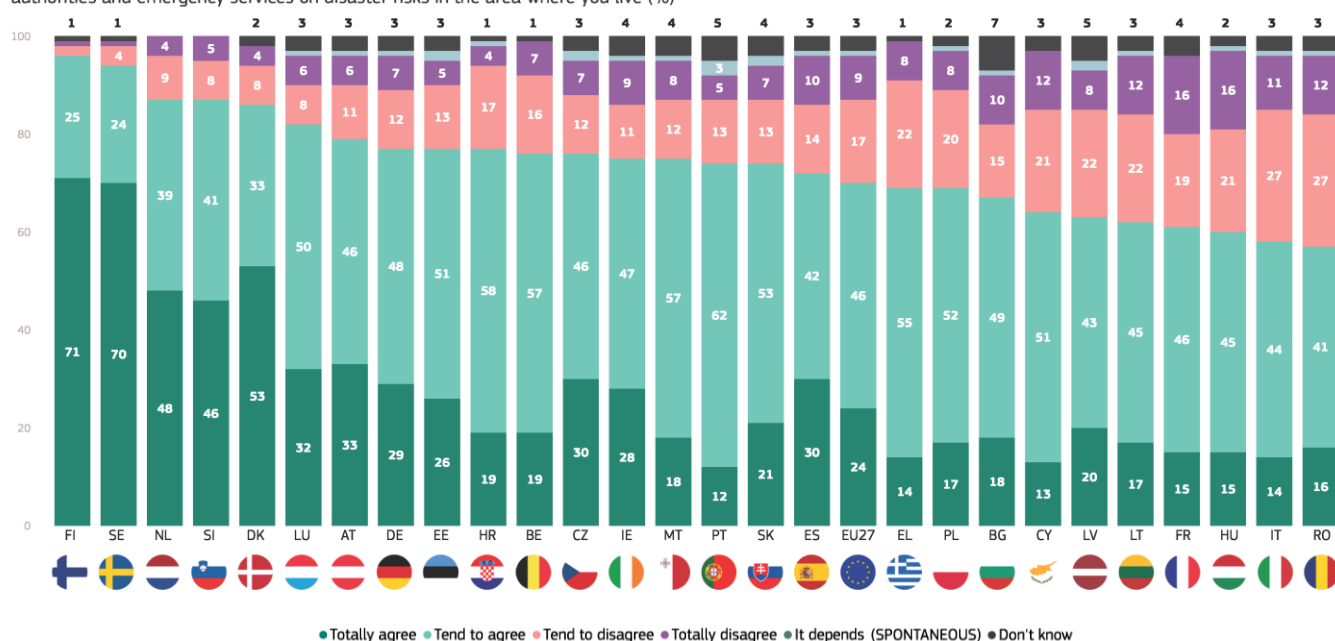
Most respondents trust official information on disaster risks where they live

Respondents were asked to what extent they agree or disagree with the statement 'You trust information from public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks in the area where you live'.

At the **national level**, some notable differences arise. In six countries at least eight in ten respondents trust information from public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks in the area where they live, with the highest proportions found in Finland (96%), Sweden (94%), and the Netherlands and Slovenia (both 87%).

Finland, Sweden and Denmark are the only Member States where more than half (71% and 70% respectively) 'totally' agree with the statement. Respondents are least likely to trust information from public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks in the area where they live in Romania (57%), Italy (58%), and Hungary (60%).

QC5.3. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about information on disaster risks? --You trust information from public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks in the area where you live (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

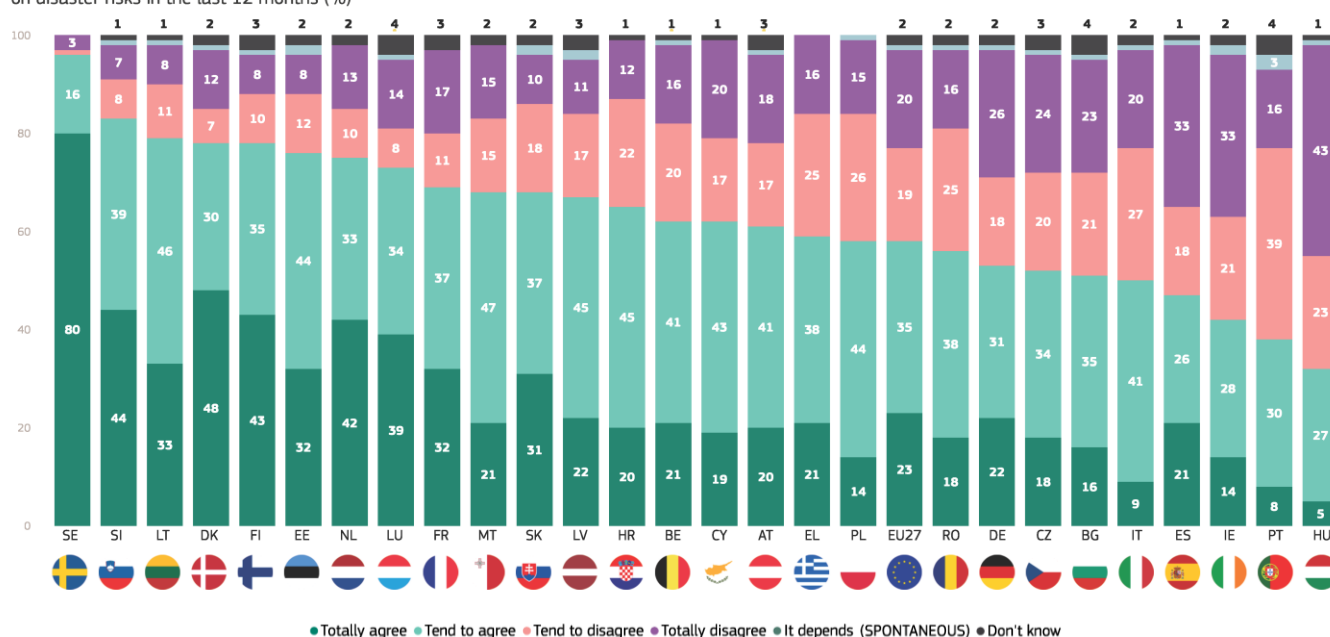
58% of Europeans have read, seen or heard information on disaster risks in the past year

Respondents were asked to what extent they agreed or disagreed with the statement 'You have read, seen or heard information on disaster risks in the last 12 months'.

Across the EU as a whole, 58% of respondents agree (to some extent or totally) with this statement, but there are significant differences at the **national level**. In seven countries at least three-quarters of the respondents have read, seen or heard information on disaster risks in the last 12 months, most strikingly in Sweden (96%), Slovenia (83%),

and Lithuania (79%). In four countries, fewer than half the respondents agree: Hungary (32%), Portugal (38%), Ireland (42%), and Spain (47%).

QCS.1. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about information on disaster risks? :-You have read, seen or heard information on disaster risks in the last 12 months (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

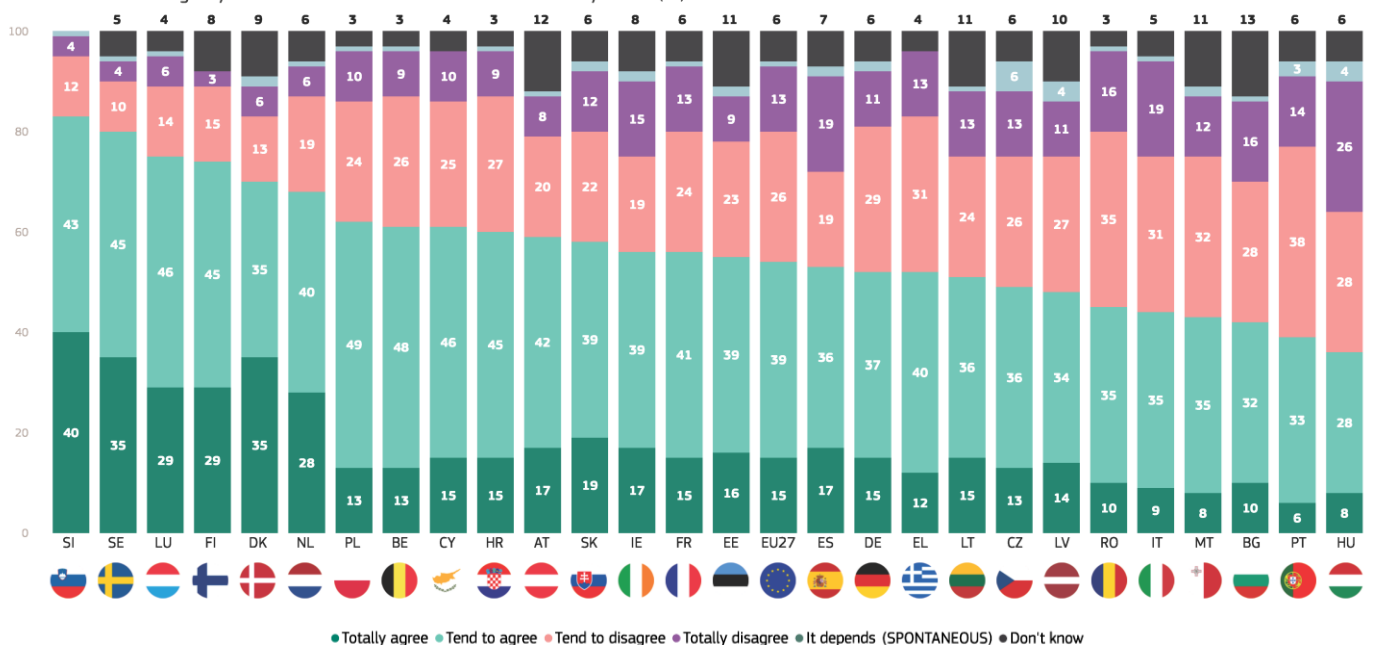
A majority of respondents say it is easy to find information from public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks in the area where they live

Respondents were asked to what extent they agree or disagree with the statement 'It is easy to find information from public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks in the area where you live'.

At the national level notable differences emerge between different EU Member States (EU average for agreement: 54%): In three countries, at least three-quarters of respondents agree that it is easy to find information from

public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks: Slovenia (83%), Sweden (80%), Luxembourg (75%). In nine countries, fewer than half agree with this statement, led by Hungary (36%), Portugal (39%), and Bulgaria (42%). At least one in ten say they don't know in Bulgaria (13%), Austria (12%), Estonia, Lithuania and Malta (all 11%), and Latvia (10%).

QC5.4. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about information on disaster risks? :-It is easy to find information from public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks in the area where you live (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

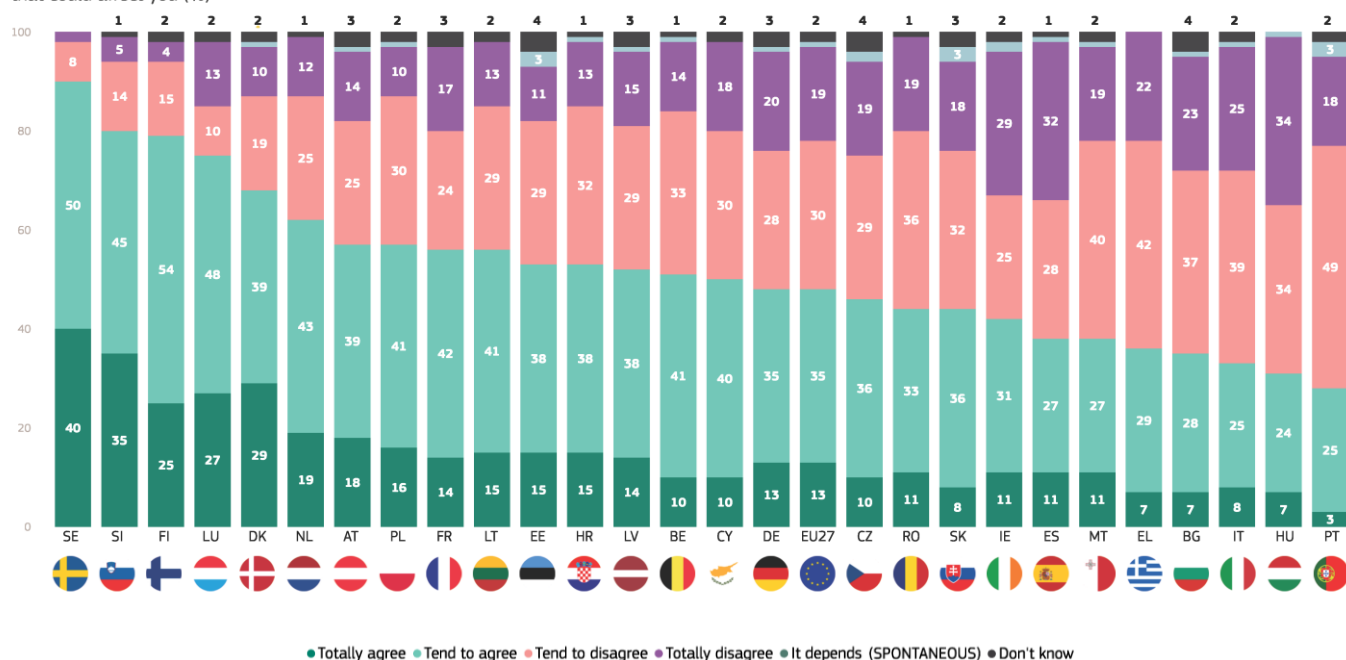
Respondents are divided about feeling informed about disaster risks that could affect them

Respondents were asked to what extent they agree or disagree with the statement 'You feel well informed about disaster risks that could affect you'.

At the EU level, 48% of respondents agree (either totally or to some extent) with this statement, while a slighter higher percentage (49%) disagree. However, results in individual Member States differ substantially.

In four countries, at least three-quarters of respondents agree that they feel well informed about disaster risks that could affect them: Sweden (90%), Slovenia (80%), Finland (79%) and Luxembourg (75%). Conversely, respondents are least likely to agree with this statement in Portugal (28%), Hungary (31%), and Italy (33%).

QC5.2. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about information on disaster risks? --You feel well informed about disaster risks that could affect you (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

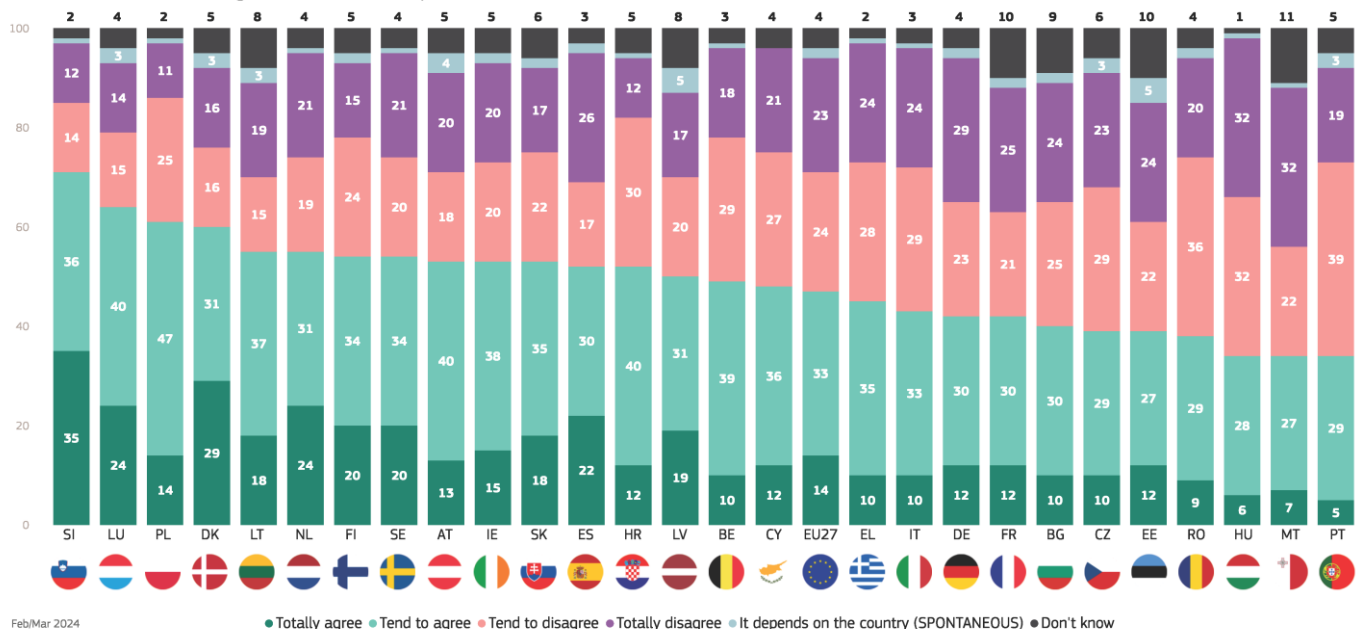
Respondents are divided on the ease of finding information on disaster risks when travelling to another EU country

Respondents were asked to what extent they agree or disagree with the statement 'You know where to find information on disaster risks **when travelling to another EU country**'.

At EU level, 47% of respondents agree with this statement (fully or to some extent) and the same percentage disagree. However, there are significant variations at national level. In 14 countries, at least half the respondents agree that they

know where to find information on disaster risks when travelling to another EU country, with the highest scores in Slovenia (71%), Luxembourg (64%), and Poland (61%). In seven countries, at least one in five 'totally' agree with this statement. In contrast, respondents are least likely to agree in Hungary, Malta, and Portugal (all 34%), Romania (38%), and Estonia and Czechia (both 39%). At least one in ten say they don't know in Malta (11%), and France and Estonia (both 10%).

QC5.5. To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about information on disaster risks? :-You know where to find information on disaster risks when travelling to another EU country (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

● Totally agree ● Tend to agree ● Tend to disagree ● Totally disagree ● It depends on the country (SPONTANEOUS) ● Don't know

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

The **socio-demographic** analysis shows the following:

- Men are more likely than women (60% vs 56%) to **have read, seen or heard information on disaster risks in the last 12 months**. They are also more likely to agree that it is **easy to find information from public authorities and emergency services** on disaster risks in the area where they live (56% vs 51%), and to **feel well informed about disaster risks** that could affect them (51% vs 45%).
- Younger respondents are more likely to find it **easy to find information from public authorities and emergency services** on disaster risks in the area where they live, with six in ten (59%-60%) of those aged 15-39 saying this, compared with 48%-54% of those aged 40 and above. Younger groups are also more likely to **know where to find information on disaster risks** when travelling to another EU country: more than half (53%-54%) of those aged 15-39 do so compared with 39% of those aged 55 and above.
- Respondents who continued their education past the age of 20 are more likely to **trust information from public authorities and emergency services** on disaster risks than those who left school aged 15 or younger (75% vs 64%). Longer-educated respondents are also more likely to say that they **have read, seen or heard information on disaster risks** in the last 12 months than their less educated peers (69% vs 43%), that it is **easy to find information from public authorities and emergency services** on disaster risks in the area where they live (62% vs 37%), that they **feel well informed about disaster risks** that could affect them (57% vs 33%), and that they **know where to find information on disaster risks** when travelling to another EU country (53% vs 28%).
- A comparison of socio-professional categories reveals that managers are by far the most likely to **trust information from public authorities and emergency services** on disaster risks in the area where they live (78%), especially when compared with manual workers (69%), and the unemployed (60%). Managers are also the most likely (69%) to **have read, seen, or heard information on disaster risks in the last 12 months**, while only half (50%) the unemployed say this, and fewer than half (41%) of house persons.
- Three-quarters (75%) of those who never have trouble paying their bills say they **trust information from public authorities and emergency services** on disaster risks in the area where they live, compared with 54% of those who face financial difficulties most of the time.

Similarly, relatively financially secure respondents are more likely to agree that they **have read, seen, or heard information on disaster risks in the last 12 months** (61% vs 47%), that it is **easy to find information from public authorities and emergency services** (58% vs 41%), that they **feel well informed about disaster risks** that could affect them (53% vs 33%), and that they **know where to find information on disaster risks** when travelling to another EU country (49% vs 36%).

- More than seven in ten (71%) respondents who use the internet every day say they **trust information from public authorities and emergency services** on disaster risks in the area where they live, compared with 67% of those who 'sometimes' and 57% of those who 'never' go online.
- Respondents who do not experience limitations to daily life due to health problems are more likely to say that they **trust information from public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks** in the area where they live (72%) than respondents who do experience limitations (66%), and, in particular, those who are severely limited (61%). Respondents experiencing no limitations in daily life due to health problems are also more likely to agree that it is **easy to find information from public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks in the area where they live** (56%, compared with a total of 49% among people who are limited by health problems) and that they **know where to find information on disaster risks when travelling to another EU country** (49% vs 40%, including 37% among those who are severely limited).

Cross-sectional analysis:

- Respondents who say they trust the emergency services and authorities are also more likely to agree that it is **easy to find information from public authorities and emergency services** on disaster risks in the area where they live than those who don't (57% vs 36%).
- Respondents who report that they have experienced one or more disasters in the past ten years are more likely to agree with most of the statements in the survey, and are particularly likely to say that they **have read, seen, or heard information on disaster risk in the last 12 months** (66% vs 53%).
- The more types of disaster risks respondents say their country is exposed to, the more likely they are to **trust information from public authorities and emergency services**.

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC5.1-5 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about information on disaster risks?
(% - EU)

	You have read, seen or heard information on disaster risks in the last 12 months		You feel well informed about disaster risks that could affect you		You trust information from public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks in the area where you live		It is easy to find information from public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks in the area where you live		You know where to find information on disaster risks when travelling to another EU country	
	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'
EU27	58	39	48	49	70	26	54	39	47	47
Gender										
Man	60	38	51	46	71	26	56	38	48	46
Woman	56	41	45	52	69	27	51	40	45	48
Age										
15-24	55	41	46	50	71	25	60	32	54	41
25-39	60	38	49	48	68	29	59	35	53	43
40-54	58	40	48	49	71	26	54	40	49	47
55 +	58	39	47	49	70	26	48	43	39	52
Education (End of)										
15-	43	53	33	63	64	29	37	52	28	62
16-19	54	43	44	52	68	28	50	42	44	49
20+	69	30	57	42	75	23	62	33	53	43
Still studying	59	38	49	47	73	23	63	29	57	38
Socio-professional category										
Self-employed	67	32	55	44	68	29	59	36	56	40
Managers	69	30	60	37	78	20	64	31	56	40
Other white collars	57	41	46	52	71	27	57	38	49	47
Manual workers	54	43	45	52	69	28	52	41	46	49
House persons	41	54	36	60	65	30	46	43	40	54
Unemployed	50	46	43	52	60	34	54	38	45	44
Retired	58	39	46	50	70	25	45	45	36	54
Students	59	38	49	47	73	23	63	29	57	38
Difficulties paying bills										
Most of the time	47	49	33	63	54	40	41	49	36	56
From time to time	54	43	41	56	64	32	49	45	43	51
Almost never/ Never	61	36	53	44	75	22	58	35	49	45
Subjective urbanisation										
Rural village	56	41	49	48	71	25	52	41	45	47
Small/ mid size town	58	39	48	49	69	28	53	39	45	49
Large town	59	39	46	51	72	24	56	37	50	45
Use of the Internet										
Everyday	60	38	50	47	71	26	58	36	50	45
Often/ Sometimes	51	47	37	60	67	30	37	55	32	59
Never	40	53	34	58	57	33	31	53	22	63
No Internet access	46	45	36	56	73	19	35	49	24	56
Personal experience of disaster in the past ten years										
Total 'Yes, have experienced one or more	66	33	54	45	69	29	57	38	51	43
Total 'No, you haven't experienced any dis:	53	44	44	52	71	25	51	40	43	50
Trust in the emergency services and authorities										
Trust	59	38	49	48	76	21	57	36	48	46
Do not trust	50	47	39	58	39	57	36	57	35	58
Experience of limitations to daily activities due to health problems										
Severely limited	57	40	47	48	61	34	48	43	37	53
Somewhat limited	59	39	49	48	67	29	49	43	41	52
Not limited at all	57	40	48	49	72	25	56	37	49	46
Total 'Limited to some extent'	58	39	49	48	66	30	49	43	40	53
Perception of potential country exposure to disaster risk - total of mentions										
No mention	21	64	21	62	49	31	28	42	29	53
1 mention	30	56	26	59	49	34	39	40	39	46
2 mentions	55	42	49	47	64	32	54	39	47	47
3 mentions	58	40	51	47	72	25	54	39	48	46
4 mentions	61	37	49	49	73	25	56	37	47	47
5 mentions	64	35	48	51	77	21	54	40	46	48

III. Population preparedness for disaster risk

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Measures undertaken to prepare for a disaster

Respondents were asked about the measures they currently have in place to prepare themselves and their household for a disaster or emergency, and they were presented with a list of 13 possible preparedness measures as answer options. Respondents could select multiple answers. Percentages therefore represent the percentage of respondents who selected a specific answer.

Respondents are most likely to prepare for emergencies by keeping a flashlight or candles, maintaining an emergency home pharmacy, or keeping an emergency stock of food or drinks

Nearly half (47%) the respondents say they have **a flashlight or candles accessible**, while more than a third (36%) **keep a home pharmacy for emergencies**. Around three in ten (29%) **keep an emergency supply stock or pack of drinks or food**, while around one in five **keep an emergency supply of water for cooking and hygiene**, or a **battery-powered radio** (both 20%).

Close to one in five (18%) have **agreed with family, friends on how to contact each other in the event of an emergency**, while slightly lower proportions of respondents say they have **made sure they have copies of their most important documents or have stored them safely** (16%). Around one in ten have **signed up for alerts and warnings from emergency services or authorities** (11%), or **got informed on the response plan their city, region or country has for a disaster or emergency**, for example procedures for evacuation, places to shelter or to get help (9%). Fewer than one in ten have **prepared a grab-bag**, in case they need to evacuate rapidly in an emergency; have **participated in training or an exercise to learn how to react in an emergency** (both 8%); have **discussed common protective measures in their neighbourhood**; or have **invested in protective measures in their home** (e.g. flood-proofed the electricity installation, cleared vegetation to protect against storms or fire) (both 7%). One in ten (10%) say they have made **'other'** arrangements, while about the same proportion of respondents say they **don't know** (11%).

QC6. Below is a list of things you and your household, can do yourself to be prepared for a disaster or emergency. Please tell me which of these measures you currently have in place, if any? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) (EU27) (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

At the **national level**, substantial differences are observed between Member States.

In 16 countries, at least half the respondents **have a flashlight or candles accessible**, most strikingly in Finland (90%), Sweden (87%), and Malta (74%). **This is the most mentioned item in every EU Member State.** Nonetheless, respondents are least likely to mention this measure in Italy (26%), Poland (30%), Croatia and Bulgaria (both 33%), and Hungary and Belgium (both 36%).

In nine Member States, at least half the respondents say they **keep a home pharmacy for emergencies**. Respondents are most likely to do so in Finland (63%), Malta (62%), and Austria (56%). **This is the second most mentioned item in every Member State except Austria and the Netherlands**, where it stands in third place. The lowest scores are registered in Poland (14%), Denmark and Ireland (both 20%), Italy (23%), and Hungary (24%).

The only countries where more than half of respondents **keep an emergency supply stock or pack of drinks and food** are Austria (58%), Malta (52%), and Finland (51%). Respondents are least likely to have made such preparations in Poland (11%), Denmark and Portugal (both 14%), and Bulgaria (15%).

In four countries, more than a third of the respondents **keep an emergency supply of water for cooking and hygiene**: Malta (44%), Austria (38%), Lithuania (36%), and Finland (35%). Around one in ten or fewer do so in Denmark (8%), Poland (10%), and Hungary (11%).

Close to half **have a battery-powered radio accessible** in Finland (49%) and Sweden (48%). Respondents are least likely to say this in Italy and Poland (both 9%), Bulgaria (10%), and Belgium (11%).

Respondents are most likely to say they have **agreed with family, friends on how to contact each other in case of an emergency** in Lithuania (30%), Austria (29%), and Germany (25%). Fewer than one in ten have done so in Poland and Portugal (both 8%) and Cyprus (9%).

In five countries, more than a quarter of respondents say they have made sure to **have copies of their most important documents or have stored them safely**: Lithuania (33%), Latvia (32%), Luxembourg and Finland (both 29%), and the Netherlands (28%). Fewer than one in ten have done this in Portugal (6%), Poland (7%), Hungary and Greece (both 9%).

The Netherlands and Luxembourg are the only countries where more than three in ten **have signed up for alerts and warnings from emergency services or authorities** (41% and 31% respectively), with very low scores found in Slovakia and Latvia (both 3%), Cyprus, Ireland, Portugal and Malta (all 4%), and Bulgaria and Hungary (both 5%).

Around one in five are **informed about the response plan their city, region or country has for a disaster or emergency** (e.g., procedures for evacuation, places to shelter or to get help) in Sweden (20%) and Finland (19%). In contrast very low proportions have taken this step in Malta and Greece (both 2%) and Denmark and Portugal (both 3%).

The countries where at least one in ten have **prepared a grab-bag for rapid evacuation in an emergency** are Italy (12%), and Belgium, Croatia, and Luxembourg (all 10%).

Finland and Sweden are the Member States where at least one in five respondents have **participated in training or an exercise to learn how to react in an emergency** (24% and 20% respectively), followed by Luxembourg (19%), the Netherlands and Estonia (both 14%), Malta and Austria (both 12%), Belgium (11%), and Cyprus (10%).

At least one in ten respondents have **discussed common protective measures in their neighbourhood** in Austria (16%), and Croatia and Slovenia (both 10%), while at least one in ten have **invested in protective measures in their home** in Finland (17%), Greece (15%), Estonia (13%), Romania (11%), and Belgium, Cyprus, Italy and Austria (all 10%).

Regional tendencies

There are significant regional variations in the preparedness of respondents to cope with disasters or emergencies. In several key areas, Northern and Western European countries generally report higher levels of preparedness than Eastern and some Southern European countries. For example, respondents are most likely to have access to **flashlights or candles** in Sweden (87%) and Finland (90%), which suggests a high level of basic preparedness, possibly influenced by geographic and climate factors that necessitate such readiness.





























The same pattern appears in the case of **home pharmacies for emergencies**: Northern countries like Sweden (53%) and Finland (63%) report higher rates of preparedness than Southern countries like Portugal (14%) and Greece (20%).

Respondents in Finland (51%) and Sweden (43%) are also more likely to report that they have **emergency food or drink supplies** than in countries like Romania (14%) and Bulgaria (15%). **Emergency water supplies** are also more common in Finland (35%) and Sweden (31%), suggesting a structured approach to disaster readiness, contrasting with lower preparedness in countries like Spain (13%) and Italy (11%).

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC6. Below is a list of things you and your household, can do yourself to be prepared for a disaster or emergency. Please tell me which of these measures you currently have in place, if any? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) (%)

	EU27	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	DE	DK	EE	EL	ES	FI	FR	HR	HU	IE	IT	LT	LU	LV	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SE	SI	SK
																												
Have flashlight or candles accessible	47	67	36	33	57	63	59	53	66	67	46	90	45	33	36	49	26	66	54	45	74	68	30	50	40	87	59	55
Keep a home pharmacy for emergencies	36	56	33	27	47	50	50	20	49	55	37	63	37	28	24	20	23	54	52	43	62	32	14	39	29	53	46	39
Keep an emergency supply stock/pack of drinks, food	29	58	28	15	31	29	48	14	43	34	21	51	25	22	22	17	23	42	40	25	52	25	11	14	21	43	32	25
Keep an emergency supply of water for cooking and hygiene	20	38	19	15	27	17	28	8	28	13	17	35	19	22	11	12	16	36	28	16	44	15	10	26	24	31	19	18
Have a battery-powered radio accessible	20	41	11	10	24	30	28	20	37	16	18	49	19	23	21	20	9	24	18	20	39	26	9	12	20	48	32	23
Agreed with family, friends on how to contact each other in case of an emergency	18	29	15	19	9	18	25	10	24	14	16	18	18	17	15	16	16	30	23	21	17	12	8	8	18	15	17	16
Have made sure you have copies of your most important documents or have stored them safely	16	18	17	15	11	19	23	15	20	9	14	29	16	15	9	12	13	33	29	32	22	28	7	6	13	23	11	10
Have signed up for alerts and warnings from emergency services or authorities	11	11	16	5	4	7	15	15	6	8	7	13	7	6	5	4	11	20	31	3	4	41	6	4	11	18	6	3
Got informed on the response plan your city, region or country has for a disaster or emergency (e.g. procedures for evacuation, places to shelter or to get help)	9	10	11	4	6	5	9	3	11	2	6	19	10	8	6	4	15	7	12	6	2	5	9	3	9	20	12	4
Have prepared a grab-bag, in case you need to evacuate rapidly in an emergency	8	8	10	8	7	4	6	2	8	6	8	4	9	10	7	3	12	8	10	9	5	4	7	6	9	7	7	4
Have participated in a training or exercise, to learn how to react in an emergency	8	12	11	4	10	6	5	8	14	5	8	24	9	7	5	4	9	6	19	6	12	14	4	5	7	20	8	5
Discussed common protective measures in your neighbourhood	7	16	6	7	9	5	7	3	7	6	6	9	9	10	8	4	8	6	9	6	3	2	4	7	5	6	10	6
Have invested in protective measures in your home (e.g. flood-proofed the electricity installation, cleared vegetation to protect against storms or fire)	7	10	10	6	10	7	7	6	13	15	5	17	5	8	5	4	10	3	8	4	7	8	7	4	11	8	9	4
Other	10	5	13	7	12	8	7	16	11	9	10	2	9	17	10	12	13	8	9	11	6	11	12	14	9	6	10	7
Don't know	11	6	8	18	7	10	6	16	4	6	14	2	16	12	16	20	13	6	5	12	6	4	20	11	5	4	2	7

1st Most Frequently Mentioned Item
2nd Most Frequently Mentioned Item
3rd Most Frequently Mentioned Item

Feb/Mar 2024

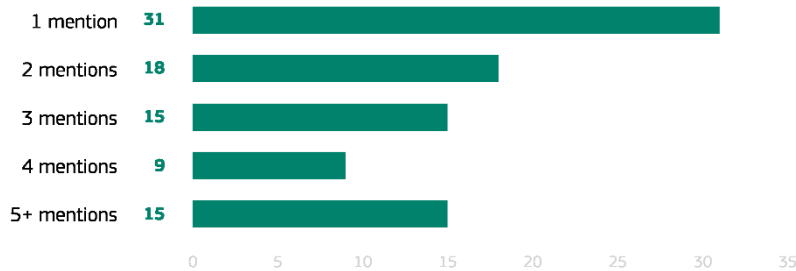
Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

As already mentioned, respondents were given a list of 13 possible preparedness measures as answer options (plus the options 'don't know' and 'other'). The chart below shows the percentages of respondents who selected a given number of preparedness measures (e.g. 18% mention having two measures in place).

Across the EU, 31% of respondents report that they have taken only one disaster preparedness measure, while 18% have taken two measures and 39% three or more such actions. Only 15% of respondents say they have taken five or more of the 13 measures proposed as answer options.

QC6T. Below is a list of things you and your household, can do yourself to be prepared for a disaster or emergency. Please tell me which of these measures you currently have in place, if any? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) - TOTAL (EU27) (%)

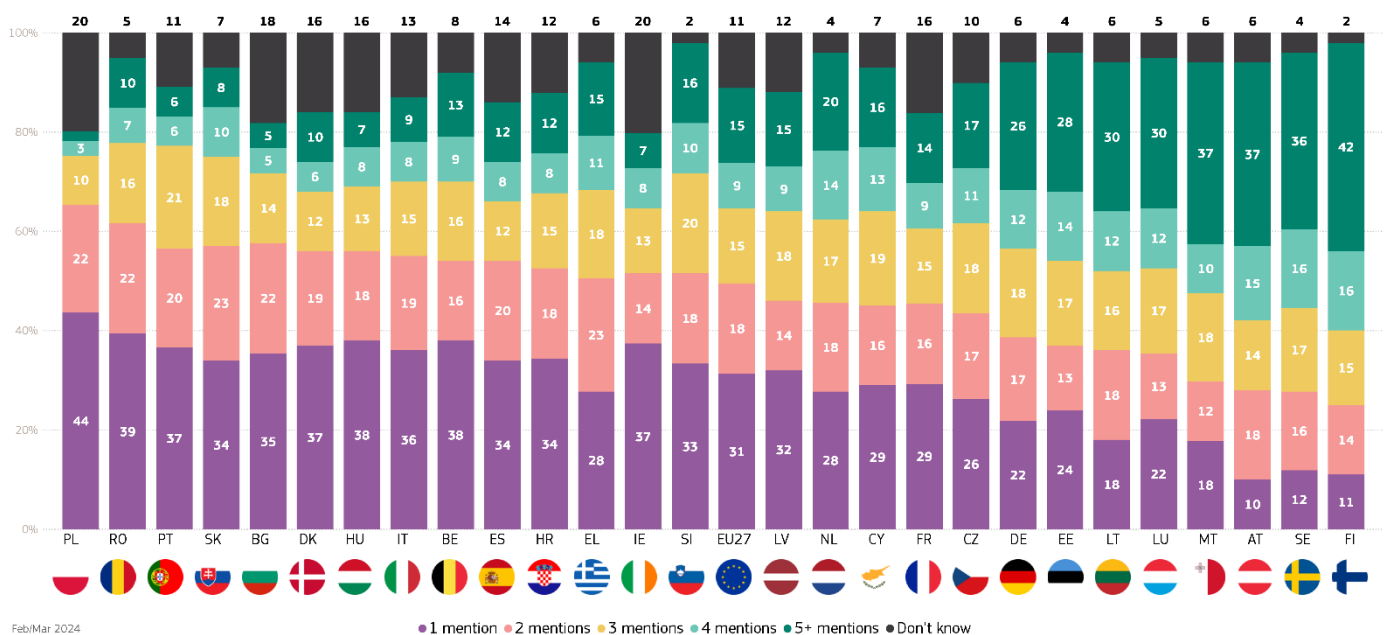


Feb/Mar 2024

The distribution of answers by country reveals some notable differences. The proportion of respondents reporting that they have taken only one measure ranges from 44% in Poland and 39% in Romania to 10% in Austria, 11% in Finland and 12% in Sweden. Across the EU as a whole, the average is 31%.

Conversely, the proportion who have taken five or more measures ranges from 42% in Finland and 37% in both Austria and Malta to 2% in Poland.

QC6T. Below is a list of things you and your household, can do yourself to be prepared for a disaster or emergency. Please tell me which of these measures you currently have in place, if any? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) - TOTAL (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

● 1 mention ● 2 mentions ● 3 mentions ● 4 mentions ● 5+ mentions ● Don't know

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

The **socio-demographic** analysis shows the following:

- Women are slightly more likely than men to say they keep a **home pharmacy for emergencies** (38% vs 34%). However, overall, there are no stark differences for gender.
- Older respondents are more likely to **have disaster emergency measures in place**: 17% those aged 40 to 55+ have five or more preparedness measures in place, compared with 10-13% of those aged 15 to 39. The reverse is also noticeable: 35% of those aged 15 to 24 have taken just one preparedness measure, compared with 29% of those aged 40 to 55%. More concretely, older respondents are more likely to have a **flashlight or candles** accessible, with around half (49%-51%) of those aged 40 and over saying this, compared with 44% of those aged 25-39 and 39% of those aged 15-24. The same is true for having a **home pharmacy** for emergencies (38%-39% vs 33% and 28%), and an **emergency supply of drinks or food** (29%-31% vs 27% and 23%).
- **Higher educational attainment correlates somewhat with more preparedness measures.** Among those educated beyond age 20, 18% have more than five preparedness measures in place, compared with 11% of respondents who left school aged 15 or earlier. More than half (52%) of those who were educated beyond the age of 20 mention having a **flashlight or candles** accessible, compared with 46% of those who left school aged 15 or younger. The same is true for keeping a **home pharmacy** for emergencies (40% vs 34%). The longer-educated are also three times more likely (15% vs 5%) to have **signed up for alerts and warnings from emergency services or authorities** than their least educated peers.
- Among socio-professional categories, retirees, the self-employed, and managers are the most likely to have **three or more preparedness measures in place**. More concretely, the self-employed are the most likely (32%) to keep an **emergency supply of drinks or food**, followed by manual workers and retirees (both 30%), managers (29%), house persons and the unemployed (both 27%), other white-collar workers (26%), and students (24%). Retirees are the most likely to have a **flashlight or candles** accessible (53%), whereas only 46% of manual workers and 37% of students say the same.
- Respondents who never have difficulties paying their bills are more likely to have taken **three or more measures** than those who face such issues most of the time. In practice, the more financially secure are more likely to have a **flashlight or candles** accessible than their least well-off peers (51% vs 47%). They are also more likely keep an **emergency supply of drinks or food** (30% vs 22%), to have a **battery-powered radio accessible** (22% vs 14%), to have made sure they **have copies of their**

most important documents or have stored them safely (18% vs 11%), or to have **signed up for alerts and warnings from emergency services or authorities** (12% vs 7%).

- Respondents living in rural areas are slightly more likely (51%) to have a **flashlight or candles** accessible than those living in large cities (47%).
- People who use the internet every day are more likely to **have three or more measures in place** than those who never go online. They are four times as likely to have **signed up for alerts and warnings from emergency services or authorities** (12% vs 3%) and to have **participated in training or an exercise** to learn how to react in an emergency (9% vs 2%).
- Those who frequently discuss European political matters are substantially more likely to **have three or more measures in place** than those who never do so. For example, 32% of the former group, but only 23% of the latter, keep an **emergency stock of drinks and food**.

Cross-sectional analysis:

- Respondents who have been exposed to disasters in the past ten years are more likely than those who have not done so to **have taken three or more of the disaster preparedness measures** (45% vs 37%). For example, they are more likely to keep an **emergency supply of drinks and food** (31% vs 27%) or an **emergency supply of water for cooking and hygiene** (23% vs 18%), and to have **agreed with family and friends how to contact each other** (22% vs 15%).
- Taking disaster preparedness measures appears to be associated with an awareness of the extent of the disaster risks to which the country as a whole is exposed. Accordingly, the more such risks a respondent identifies in their country, the more likely they are to report that they have taken a certain number of preparedness measures. This tendency is particularly strong for actions such as **owning a flashlight or having candles accessible** (60% of those who reported the presence of five or more risks at national level have taken this measure, compared with 35%-36% of those who identified one or two risks) and **keeping a home pharmacy** (46% vs 19%).

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population




QC6 Below is a list of things you and your household, can do yourself to be prepared for a disaster or emergency. Please tell me which of these measures you currently have in place, if any? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)

	Have flashlight or candles accessible	Keep a home pharmacy for emergencies	Keep an emergency supply stock/pack of drinks, food	Keep an emergency supply of water for cooking and hygiene	Have a battery-powered radio accessible	Agreed with family, friends on how to contact each other in case of an emergency	Have made sure you have copies of your most important documents or have stored them safely	Have signed up for alerts and warnings from emergency services or authorities	Got informed on the response plan your city, region or country has for a disaster or emergency (e.g. procedures for evacuation, places to shelter or to get help)	Have prepared a grab-bag, in case you need to evacuate rapidly in an emergency	Have participated in a training or exercise, to learn how to react in an emergency	Discussed common protective measures in your neighbourhood	Have invested in protective measures in your home (e.g. flood-proofed the electricity installation, cleared vegetation to protect against storms or fire)	Other
EU27	47	36	29	20	20	18	16	11	9	8	8	7	7	10
Gender														
Man	47	34	28	19	22	17	16	11	9	8	8	7	8	10
Woman	48	38	29	21	19	18	16	11	9	8	7	7	7	10
Age														
15-24	39	28	23	17	13	16	14	11	10	7	9	4	6	11
25-39	44	33	27	17	16	19	16	12	9	8	10	6	7	10
40-54	49	38	29	21	21	18	16	13	10	8	9	7	8	9
55 +	51	39	31	22	25	17	18	9	8	7	6	8	7	10
Education (End of)														
15-	46	34	29	20	18	15	11	5	6	8	3	8	6	11
16-19	47	35	29	21	22	18	16	10	8	8	7	7	7	10
20+	52	40	29	19	23	17	19	15	11	7	11	7	10	9
Still studying	37	29	24	17	13	17	14	13	10	7	10	4	6	11
Socio-professional category														
Self-employed	49	40	32	24	21	16	16	13	11	9	10	8	10	11
Managers	49	40	29	19	21	16	19	17	12	7	12	6	9	10
Other white collars	47	33	26	18	18	18	16	12	9	8	8	6	7	9
Manual workers	46	35	30	19	20	19	15	11	9	8	8	7	7	10
House persons	45	36	27	20	16	16	15	7	6	8	5	7	7	9
Unemployed	43	32	27	20	19	19	16	8	6	11	7	5	7	10
Retired	53	40	30	22	26	17	18	9	8	7	5	8	7	10
Students	37	29	24	17	13	17	14	13	10	7	10	4	6	11
Difficulties paying bills														
Most of the time	47	36	22	18	14	17	11	7	6	9	7	7	6	11
From time to time	41	31	27	20	18	18	15	10	10	9	9	8	8	10
Almost never/ Never	51	38	30	20	22	17	18	12	9	7	8	6	7	10
Subjective urbanisation														
Rural village	51	38	28	21	21	18	16	10	7	7	6	7	8	10
Small/ mid size town	45	36	28	20	20	17	16	12	11	8	10	7	7	9
Large town	47	36	29	18	21	17	17	11	9	7	7	6	6	10
Use of the Internet														
Everyday	48	37	29	20	20	18	17	12	10	8	9	6	8	10
Often/ Sometimes	45	37	30	23	26	17	19	8	9	11	5	9	8	9
Never	44	32	24	18	17	15	9	3	4	6	2	8	4	10
No Internet access	43	26	19	14	11	11	8	2	9	2	1	3	4	15
Talk about European political matters														
Frequently	49	40	32	25	26	18	23	16	12	10	11	8	12	7
Occasionally	50	37	30	21	21	18	17	12	10	7	8	7	8	9
Never	43	33	25	17	16	16	13	7	6	7	7	6	5	12
Personal experience of disaster in the past ten years														
Total 'Yes, have experienced one or more disasters in the past ten years'	47	38	31	23	21	22	18	14	13	10	11	10	11	7
Total 'No, you haven't experienced any disasters in the past ten years'	48	35	27	18	20	15	15	10	7	6	6	5	5	12
Trust in the emergency services and authorities														
Trust	49	37	29	20	21	18	17	11	9	7	8	7	7	10
Do not trust	37	31	27	19	17	17	16	10	10	10	8	9	10	11

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC6T Below is a list of things you and your household, can do yourself to be prepared for a disaster or emergency. Please tell me which of these measures you currently have in place, if any? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
- TOTAL
(% - EU)

	1 mention	2 mentions	3 mentions	4 mentions	5+ mentions	Don't know
EU27	31	18	15	9	15	11
 Gender						
Man	31	18	16	9	15	12
Woman	30	19	15	10	16	11
 Age						
15-24	35	18	14	8	10	14
25-39	33	19	16	8	13	11
40-54	29	20	14	9	17	11
55 +	29	17	16	10	17	11
 Education (End of)						
15-	33	19	14	8	11	14
16-19	31	19	15	9	15	11
20+	28	18	16	10	18	10
Still studying	35	17	14	8	11	15
Socio-professional category						
Self- employed	28	19	15	11	18	10
Managers	28	21	17	9	17	7
Other white collars	32	21	15	8	14	10
Manual workers	32	18	14	9	15	12
House persons	32	20	12	10	13	14
Unemployed	33	17	19	8	11	11
Retired	28	16	16	11	17	12
Students	35	17	14	8	11	15
Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	34	18	15	9	11	14
From time to time	33	20	16	9	12	10
Almost never/ Never	29	18	15	10	17	11
Subjective urbanisation						
Rural village	30	18	15	10	16	11
Small/ mid size town	31	18	16	9	15	11
Large town	30	19	15	9	15	12
Use of the Internet						
Everyday	30	18	15	9	16	11
Often/ Sometimes	28	21	16	13	14	9
Never	34	17	15	8	9	17
No Internet access	38	18	5	9	8	22
Talk about European political matters						
Frequently	26	17	16	11	21	8
Occasionally	30	18	16	9	16	10
Never	33	19	14	8	11	15
Personal experience of disaster in the past ten years						
Total 'Yes, have experienced one or more	28	20	16	10	19	7
Total 'No, you haven't experienced any dis	32	17	15	9	13	14
Trust in the emergency services and authorities						
Trust	30	18	16	10	16	11
Do not trust	33	22	13	7	14	11

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Population preparedness for various disaster risk situations

Respondents were invited to imagine a scenario in which a major natural disaster or emergency strikes the area where they live, with widespread damage, no running water, no electricity, disrupted supply chains and no immediate aid from emergency services. They were asked to estimate how long they might be able to meet certain basic needs, such as water, medical treatment or meals. This question seeks to measure how long respondents estimate that they would be able to cope in the event of a disaster without immediate aid from emergency services.

One in three respondents could continue medical treatment for more than 7 days in the event of interrupted medicine supplies

Respondents were asked, in the event that they require regular medical treatment or need to manage chronic conditions, how many days they could continue treatment if there were a **disruption in the supply of medicines**.

Around one in three respondents (34%) say that they could continue their medical treatment for **more than 7 days**. Similar proportions of respondents say they could manage **4 to 7 days** (15%), **2 to 3 days** (14%), and **1 day or less** (13%). Across the EU, more than one in ten (12%) say they don't know.

Three in ten could provide meals for 4 to 7 days during food transportation disruptions

Respondents were asked, if there were **disruptions in the transportation of food** to their area, how many days they could continue to provide meals for their household.

About three in ten respondents (31%) say they could continue to provide meals for their household for **4 to 7 days**, with roughly the same proportion saying they could manage **more than 7 days** (29%). About one in four (24%) could do so for **2 to 3 days**, while just over one in ten (11%) say they could only manage to continue providing household meals for **1 day or less**.

Three in ten could use alternative cooking and heating sources for a day or less in the event of gas service interruptions

Respondents were asked, in the event of **gas service interruption**, how many days they could continue to cook meals and heat their home or water using alternative sources.

Three in ten respondents (30%) say they could continue to cook meals and heat their home or water using alternative sources for **1 day or less**. Around one in five say **more than 7 days** (20%) or **2 to 3 days** (18%), while around one in seven (13%) say they could do so for **4 to 7 days**.

More than one in three could meet water needs for 2 to 3 days during tap water service disruptions

Respondents were asked, if **tap water services were disrupted** during a major natural disaster or other emergency, how many days they could meet their water needs for drinking, cooking, and personal hygiene.

More than one in three (35%) respondents say they could meet their water needs for drinking, cooking, and personal hygiene for **2 to 3 days**, while **three in ten (30%) mention 1 day or less**. One in six (16%) could hold out for **4 to 7 days**. One in seven (14%) say they could meet their water needs for **more than 7 days**.

Nearly half of respondents could continue to power essential appliances and lighting for up to one day or less during electricity outages

Respondents were also asked, in the event of an **interruption of electricity services** during an emergency, how many days they could continue to power essential appliances and lighting in their home.

Nearly half (48%) say they could continue to power essential appliances and lighting for **1 day or less**, with close to one in four (23%) saying **2 to 3 days**. Around one in ten say they could do so for **4 to 7 days** (11%) or **more than 7 days** (10%).

The results are presented graphically in the EU-level chart appearing on the following page.

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC7. Imagine that a major natural disaster or other emergency strikes the area where you live. There is widespread damage. There is no running water, electricity and supply chains are disrupted. It may take a while before emergency services can access this area and deliver basic supplies to people. Please think about each of the following situations (EU27) (%)

If you require regular medical treatment or need to manage chronic conditions, how many days could you continue treatment if there were a disruption in the supply of medicines



If there were disruptions in the transportation of food to your area, how many days could you continue to provide meals for your household



If gas services were disrupted, how many days could you continue cooking meals and heating your home or water with alternative sources



If tap water services were disrupted in your area, how many days could you meet your water needs for drinking, cooking, and personal hygiene



If electricity services were interrupted, for how many days could you continue to power essential appliances and lighting in your home



● More than 7 days ● 4 - 7 days ● 2 - 3 days ● 1 day or less

● Not applicable (SPONTANEOUS) ● Don't know

Feb/Mar 2024

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Medical treatment preparedness

The **national results** reveal substantial differences between EU Member States.

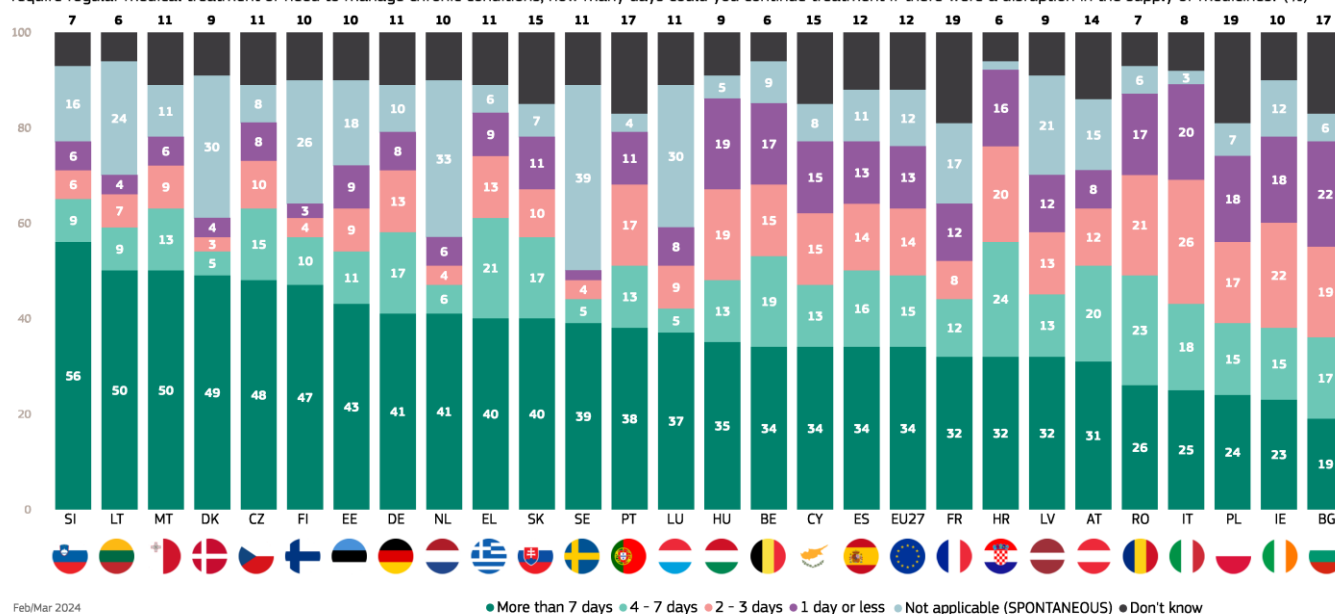
In five countries, close to half the respondents or more say they could continue treatment if there were a disruption in the supply of medicines for **more than 7 days**: Slovenia (56%), Lithuania and Malta (both 50%), Denmark (49%), and Czechia (48%). The EU average for more than 7 days is 34%.

In four countries, at least 20% say they could continue medical treatment for between **4 and 7 days**: Croatia (24%), Romania (23%), Greece (21%), and Austria (20%). The EU average here is 15%. Respondents are most likely to say they could manage for **2 to 3 days** in Italy (26%), Ireland (22%), and Romania (21%). The EU average for 2-3 days is 14%.

In 14 countries, more than one in ten respondents say they could continue medical treatment for **1 day or less**, with the highest proportions found in Bulgaria (22%), Italy (20%), and Hungary (19%), while the EU average is 13%.

In 18 countries at least one in ten respondents say they don't know, most strikingly in France and Poland (both 19%), while the EU average is 12%. In six countries, 20% or more say this question is not applicable to them, with the highest percentage in the Netherlands, where 33% gave this answer. Across the EU as a whole, the average is 12%.

QC7.5. Imagine that a major natural disaster or other emergency strikes the area where you live. There is widespread damage. There is no running water, electricity and supply chains are disrupted. It may take a while before emergency services can access this area and deliver basic supplies to people. Please think about each of the following situations :-If you require regular medical treatment or need to manage chronic conditions, how many days could you continue treatment if there were a disruption in the supply of medicines? (%)



Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

The **socio-demographic** analysis shows the following:

- **Older** respondents are substantially **more likely** than younger people to say they could **continue treatment** if there were a disruption in the supply of medicines for more than 7 days: four in ten (41%) of those aged 55 and over say they would be able to continue treatment for more than 7 days, compared with 32% of those aged 40-54, 28% of those aged 25-39, and 24% of 15-24-year-olds. Younger respondents are substantially more likely to say they don't know, with one in five (20%) of those aged 15-24 saying this, compared with one in ten (10%) among the oldest demographic.
- Respondents who **left school aged 15 or younger** are slightly **more likely** to be able to continue treatment for more than 7 days if there were a disruption in the supply of medicines than those who left school aged 20 and over (38% vs 35%), while those who spent longest in education are slightly more likely to say that they don't know (12% vs 9%).
- Among socio-professional categories, **managers** and the **self-employed** are **more likely** (33%-34%) to be able to continue their medical treatment for more than 7 days, especially compared with students and house persons (26%-27%). Respondents who never have trouble paying bills are more likely than those who face such difficulties most of the time (37% vs 32%) to say they would be able to continue treatment for more than 7 days.

- Respondents in **rural areas** are **slightly more likely** to be able to continue treatment for more than 7 days in the event of a disruption in the supply of medicines than inhabitants of large towns (35% vs 32%).
- Those who are severely limited in their **daily activities** due to health problems are **more likely** (42%) to be able to cope with a disruption in the supply of medicines for more than 7 days than those who say they are somewhat limited (34%) or not limited at all (33%).

Cross-sectional analysis

- Those who feel **well informed about disaster risks** that could affect them are **more likely** (37%) to be able to cope for more than 7 days with a disruption in the supply of medicines than those who feel less well informed (32%). Similarly, respondents who trust information from public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks in the area where they live are also more likely (37%) to say they could cope for more than 7 days than those who do not (28%).
- More than one in three (35%) of those who **trust in emergency services and authorities** would be able to continue their medical treatment for more than 7 days, compared with 28% of those who do not.
- Respondents who report that their **country is exposed to more disaster risk types** are generally more likely to have prepared for longer periods of disruption. For example, 41% of those mentioning five or more risks would be able to continue their medical treatment for more than 7 days, compared with 24% of those identifying one risk.

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC7.5 Imagine that a major natural disaster or other emergency strikes the area where you live. There is widespread damage. There is no running water, electricity and supply chains are disrupted. It may take a while before emergency services can access this area and deliver basic supplies to people. Please think about each of the following situations

If you require regular medical treatment or need to manage chronic conditions, how many days could you continue treatment if there were a disruption in the supply of medicines? (% - EU)

	1 day or less	2 - 3 days	4 - 7 days	More than 7 days	Not applicable (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	13	14	15	34	12	12
Age						
15-24	14	12	13	24	17	20
25-39	15	16	13	28	15	13
40-54	14	15	15	32	12	12
55 +	11	14	17	41	7	10
Education (End of)						
15-	14	17	17	38	5	9
16-19	14	16	16	34	9	11
20+	11	11	15	35	16	12
Still studying	13	12	13	26	18	18
Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	10	15	15	34	15	11
Managers	12	11	15	33	17	12
Other white collars	13	15	16	31	13	12
Manual workers	15	16	16	29	11	13
House persons	16	19	19	27	9	10
Unemployed	14	14	12	32	11	17
Retired	10	13	17	45	6	9
Students	13	12	13	26	18	18
Subjective urbanisation						
Rural village	10	13	16	35	12	14
Small/ mid size town	13	16	16	34	10	11
Large town	15	13	15	32	13	12
You feel well informed about disaster risks that could affect you						
Total 'Agree'	10	14	16	37	13	10
Total 'Disagree'	15	15	15	32	11	12
You trust information from public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks in the area where you live						
Total 'Agree'	11	14	15	37	12	11
Total 'Disagree'	18	16	16	28	10	12
Trust in the emergency services and authorities						
Trust	12	14	15	35	12	12
Do not trust	18	18	16	28	10	10
Experience of limitations to daily activities due to health problems						
Severely limited	16	12	16	42	7	7
Somewhat limited	14	18	19	34	7	8
Not limited at all	12	13	15	33	13	14
Total 'Limited to some extent'	14	17	18	36	7	8
Perception of potential country exposure to disaster risk - total of mentions						
No mention	14	14	12	19	12	29
1 mention	17	9	11	24	14	25
2 mentions	16	16	17	29	8	14
3 mentions	13	16	16	33	12	10
4 mentions	12	13	15	37	12	11
5 mentions	9	12	15	41	13	10

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Food and meal preparedness

At the **national level**, there are substantial differences between EU Member States in terms of capacity to provide meals for the household in the event of food transportation disruptions due to a natural disaster or an emergency.

Slovenia and Malta are the only two countries where more than half of respondents say they could continue to provide meals for their household for **more than 7 days** (59% and 53% respectively), followed by Sweden and Lithuania (both 45%). The EU average for more than 7 days is 29%.

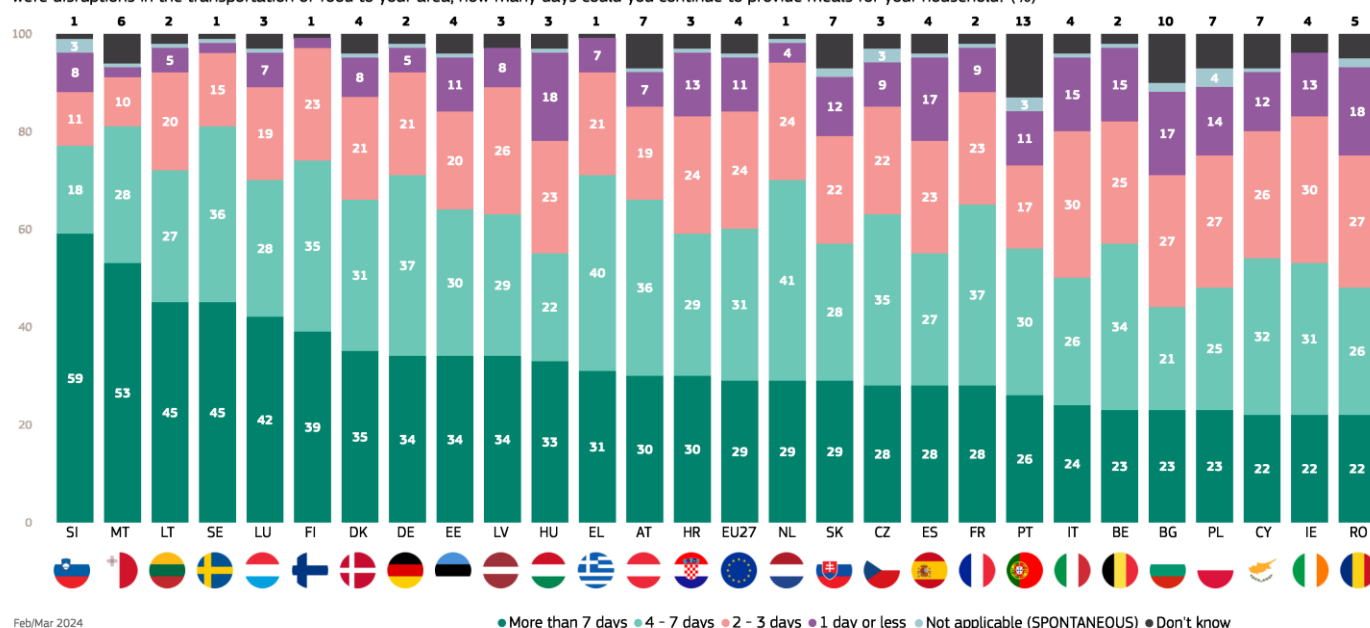
In nine countries, more than a third say they could continue to provide meals for their household for between **4 and 7 days**, with the highest scores seen in the Netherlands (41%), Greece (40%), and Germany and France (both 37%). The EU average for 4-7 days is 41%.

Respondents are most likely to say they could manage **2 to 3 days** in Italy and Ireland (both 30%), Romania, Poland and Bulgaria (all 27%), and Cyprus and Latvia (both 26%). The EU average for this answer is 24%.

In 13 countries, more than one in ten respondents say they could continue to provide meals for their household for **1 day or less**. Respondents are most likely to say this in Romania and Hungary (both 18%), Bulgaria and Spain (both 17%), and Italy and Belgium (both 15%). The EU average is 11%.

Portugal and Bulgaria are the only countries where at least one in ten say they don't know (13% and 10% respectively), while the EU average is 4%. 'Not applicable' answers do not exceed 5% in any country.

QC7.4. Imagine that a major natural disaster or other emergency strikes the area where you live. There is widespread damage. There is no running water, electricity and supply chains are disrupted. It may take a while before emergency services can access this area and deliver basic supplies to people. Please think about each of the following situations :-If there were disruptions in the transportation of food to your area, how many days could you continue to provide meals for your household? (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

More than 7 days 4 - 7 days 2 - 3 days 1 day or less Not applicable (SPONTANEOUS) Don't know

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

The **socio-demographic** analysis shows the following:

- Three in ten (30%-31%) respondents **aged 40 and over** say that they could continue to provide meals for their household in the event of disruption for more than 7 days, compared with 25%-26% for those aged 15-39.
- Respondents who left **school aged 20 or older** are slightly more likely to be able to continue to provide meals for their household for 4 to 7 days than those who left school aged 15 or younger (34% vs 29%); while those who stopped studying at age 15 or earlier are slightly more likely to say that they don't know (5% vs 2%).
- The **self-employed** and **retirees** are more likely (32%-34%) to be able to continue to provide meals for their household for more than 7 days than managers, other white-collar workers, and manual workers (28% all), students (26%), the unemployed (25%), and house persons (23%).
- Respondents who **never have trouble paying their bills** are substantially more likely (32%) to be able to continue to provide meals for their household for more than 7 days than those who have financial difficulties most of the time (23%).
- Respondents **living in rural areas** are slightly more likely to be able to continue to provide meals for their household for more than 7 days than urban residents (33% vs 25%).

Cross-sectional analysis

- One third (33%) of those who feel **well informed about disaster risks** that could affect them say that they would be able to continue to provide meals for their household for more than 7 days in the event of a disruption in food transportation to their area, compared with one in four (25%) of those who do not feel informed. Similarly, 32% of respondents who have **been exposed to information about disaster risks** in the last 12 months believe they would be able to provide meals for their household for more than 7 days.
- Three in ten (30%) of the respondents who trust emergency services and authorities would be able to continue to provide meals for their household for more than 7 days, compared with one in four (25%) of those who do not.
- Respondents who report that their country is exposed to five or more disaster risks are slightly more likely than those who identify just one risk to say that they could provide meals for their household for more than 7 days (35% compared with 24%-29% of those reporting one or two risks).

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC7.4 Imagine that a major natural disaster or other emergency strikes the area where you live. There is widespread damage. There is no running water, electricity and supply chains are disrupted. It may take a while before emergency services can access this area and deliver basic supplies to people. Please think about each of the following situations

If there were disruptions in the transportation of food to your area, how many days could you continue to provide meals for your household? (% - EU)

	1 day or less	2 - 3 days	4 - 7 days	More than 7 days	Not applicable (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	11	24	31	29	1	4
Age						
15-24	12	25	30	25	2	6
25-39	12	27	31	26	1	3
40-54	11	24	32	30	1	2
55 +	10	22	32	31	1	4
Education (End of)						
15-	13	23	29	29	1	5
16-19	11	24	32	29	1	3
20+	9	23	34	31	1	2
Still studying	11	25	30	26	1	7
Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	9	22	31	34	2	2
Managers	9	25	35	28	1	2
Other white collars	11	26	31	28	1	3
Manual workers	12	24	32	28	1	3
House persons	16	28	28	23	1	4
Unemployed	12	25	32	25	2	4
Retired	10	21	32	32	1	4
Students	11	25	30	26	1	7
Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	16	27	28	23	2	4
From time to time	13	28	30	24	1	4
Almost never/ Never	9	22	33	32	1	3
Subjective urbanisation						
Rural village	9	20	32	33	2	4
Small/ mid size town	10	25	32	28	1	4
Large town	13	26	32	25	1	3
You have read, seen or heard information on disaster risks in the last 12 months						
Total 'Agree'	9	23	33	32	1	2
Total 'Disagree'	14	25	30	25	1	5
You feel well informed about disaster risks that could affect you						
Total 'Agree'	9	23	32	33	1	2
Total 'Disagree'	13	25	32	25	1	4
Trust in the emergency services and authorities						
Trust	10	24	32	30	1	3
Do not trust	17	25	27	25	2	4
Perception of potential country exposure to disaster risk - total of mentions						
No mention	15	22	24	14	5	20
1 mention	14	19	28	29	2	8
2 mentions	13	26	30	24	2	5
3 mentions	12	25	32	27	1	3
4 mentions	9	24	32	32	1	2
5 mentions	7	21	34	35	1	2

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Energy preparedness

At the **national level**, there are significant differences between EU Member States.

Malta is the only country where more than half (68%) the respondents say they could continue to cook meals and heat their home or water using alternative sources for more than 7 days, while close to half agree in Slovenia (49%) and Lithuania (46%). The EU average for this item is 20%.

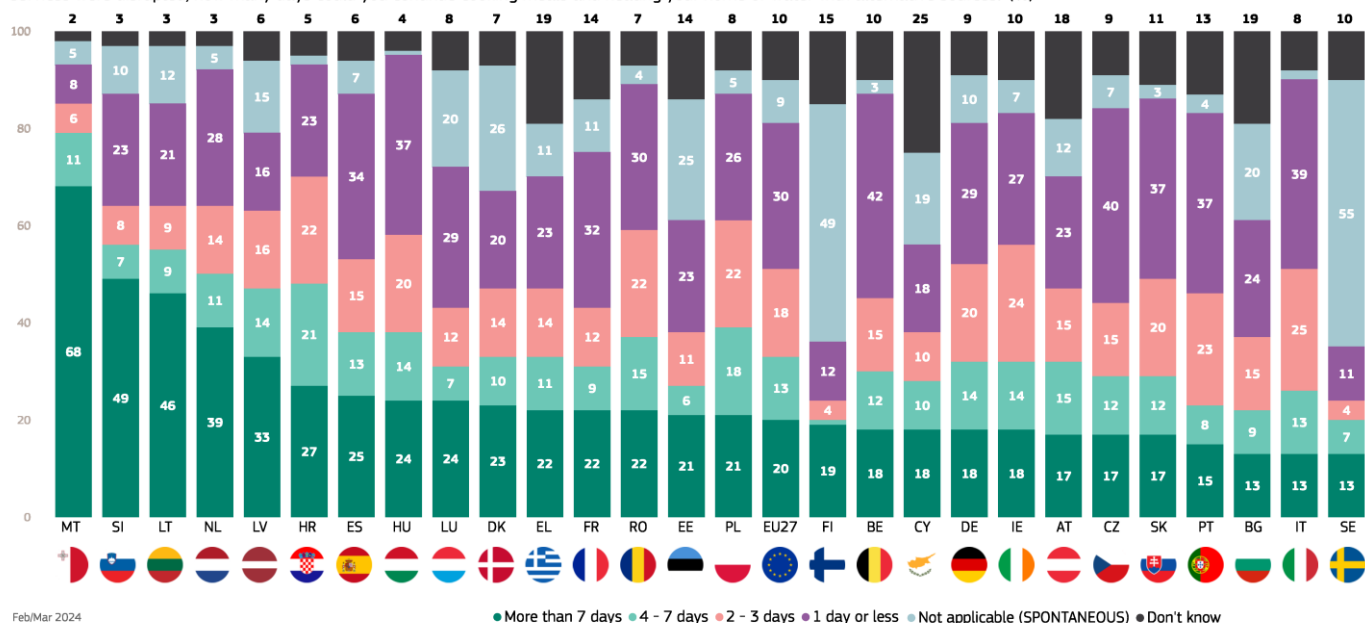
In 18 countries, at least one in ten respondents say they could continue to cook meals and heat their home or water with alternative sources for between 4 and 7 days, with the highest scores seen in Croatia (21%), Poland (18%), and Austria and Romania (both 15%). The EU average is 13%.

Meanwhile, respondents are most likely to estimate this period at 2 to 3 days in Italy (25%), Ireland (24%), and Portugal (23%). The EU average for this item is 18%.

In seven countries, more than a third of respondents say they could continue cooking meals and heating their home or water with alternative sources for 1 day or less, most strikingly in Belgium (42%), Czechia (40%), and Italy (39%). The EU average is 30% for this item.

In 12 countries, more than one in ten respondents say they don't know, with the highest scores in Cyprus (25%), Bulgaria and Greece (both 19%), and Austria (18%), while the average at EU level is 10%. 'Not applicable' answers reach their highest percentage in Sweden, at 55%, although the EU average is only 9%.

QC7.3. Imagine that a major natural disaster or other emergency strikes the area where you live. There is widespread damage. There is no running water, electricity and supply chains are disrupted. It may take a while before emergency services can access this area and deliver basic supplies to people. Please think about each of the following situations :-If gas services were disrupted, how many days could you continue cooking meals and heating your home or water with alternative sources? (%)



Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

The **socio-demographic** analysis shows the following:

- **Men** are slightly **more likely** than **women** (22% vs 19%) to say that in the event of an interruption to gas services they could continue to cook meals and heat their home or water with alternative sources for more than 7 days.
- Respondents who **remained in education to the age of 20 or beyond** are slightly **more likely** to be able to carry out these activities for more than 7 days than those who left school aged 15 or younger (22% vs 18%), whereas people who left school age 15 or earlier are slightly more likely to say that they don't know (12% vs 8%).
- Among socio-professional categories, nearly three in ten (28%) **self-employed** respondents could continue to cook meals and heat their home or water with alternative sources for more than 7 days, compared with 23% of managers, 20% of manual workers, and 16% of the unemployed.

- Respondents who **never have trouble paying bills** are **more likely** than those who face such difficulties most of the time (23% vs 16%) to say they could continue to cook meals and heat their home or water with alternative sources for more than 7 days.
- More than one in four (27%) residents in **rural areas** say they could continue to cook meals and heat their home or water with alternative sources for more than 7 days, compared with 16% of those living in large cities.

Cross-sectional analysis

- Respondents who feel **well informed about disaster risks** that could affect them are more likely (23%) than those who feel less informed (19%) to say they could continue to cook meals and heat their home or water with alternative sources for more than 7 days.
- Respondents who report that their **country is exposed to five or more disaster risks** are more likely than those who identify just one disaster risk to believe that they could heat their homes and continue to cook meals for more than 7 days (23% vs 16%).

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC7.3 Imagine that a major natural disaster or other emergency strikes the area where you live. There is widespread damage. There is no running water, electricity and supply chains are disrupted. It may take a while before emergency services can access this area and deliver basic supplies to people. Please think about each of the following situations

If gas services were disrupted, how many days could you continue cooking meals and heating your home or water with alternative sources? (% - EU)

	1 day or less	2 - 3 days	4 - 7 days	More than 7 days	Not applicable (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	30	18	13	20	9	10
Gender						
Man	30	17	13	22	9	9
Woman	31	18	13	19	9	10
Age						
15-24	31	17	13	19	9	11
25-39	32	18	13	19	9	9
40-54	30	19	13	22	8	8
55 +	30	17	12	21	9	11
Education (End of)						
15-	36	17	11	18	6	12
16-19	30	19	13	20	8	10
20+	29	16	13	22	12	8
Still studying	31	18	12	18	9	12
Socio-professional category						
Self- employed	23	17	15	28	11	6
Managers	31	18	12	23	8	8
Other white collars	33	18	14	19	8	8
Manual workers	31	19	13	20	8	9
House persons	32	25	10	17	6	10
Unemployed	34	15	14	16	9	12
Retired	30	15	12	21	10	12
Students	31	18	12	18	9	12
Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	38	15	12	16	8	11
From time to time	33	22	14	16	6	9
Almost never/ Never	29	16	12	23	10	10
Subjective urbanisation						
Rural village	25	15	12	27	10	11
Small/ mid size town	32	18	13	19	8	10
Large town	35	19	12	16	9	9
You feel well informed about disaster risks that could affect you						
Total 'Agree'	26	18	14	23	11	8
Total 'Disagree'	35	18	12	19	7	9
Perception of potential country exposure to disaster risk - total of mentions						
No mention	23	21	9	11	9	27
1 mention	29	14	6	16	13	22
2 mentions	30	20	15	18	7	10
3 mentions	30	18	14	21	9	8
4 mentions	31	17	12	22	9	9
5 mentions	33	16	10	23	10	8

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Water preparedness

At the **national level**, there are some notable differences between EU Member States.

Respondents are most likely to say **they could meet their water needs for drinking, cooking, and personal hygiene for more than 7 days** in three countries: Lithuania (40%), Slovenia (36%), and Latvia (28%). The EU average for more than 7 days stands at 14%.

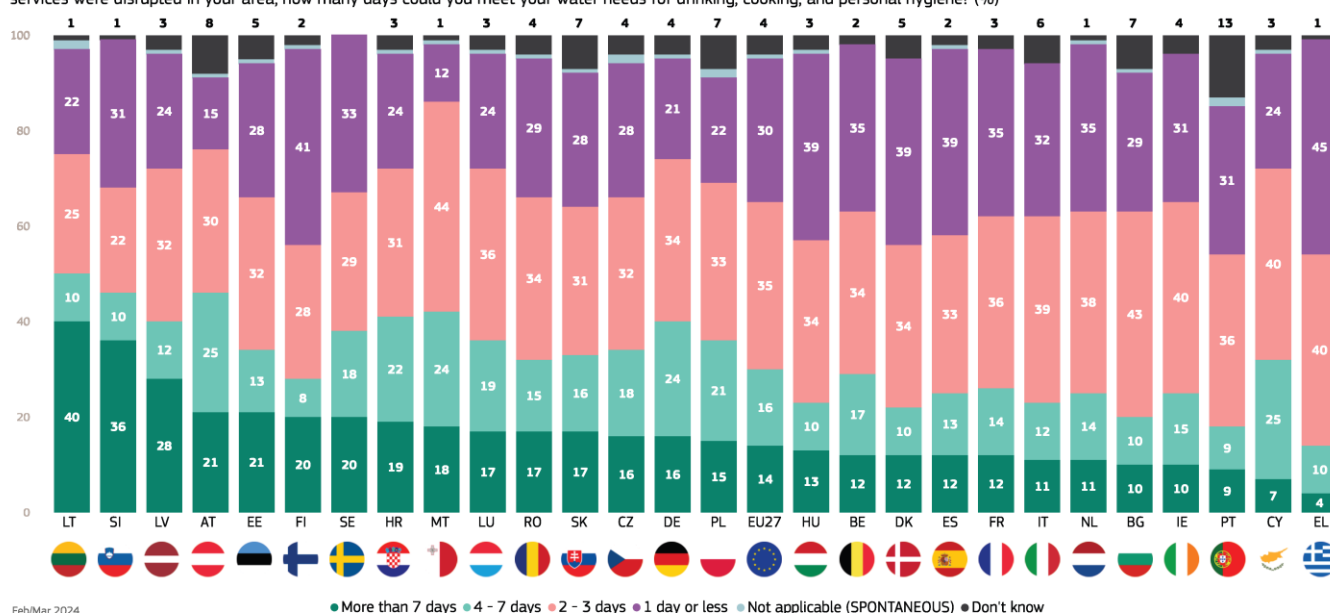
In five countries respondents are most likely to say they could cover their **water needs for 4 to 7 days**: Cyprus and Austria (both 25%), Germany and Malta (both 24%), and Croatia (22%). The average across the EU is 16%.

Respondents are most likely to estimate this period at **2 to 3 days** in Malta (44%), Bulgaria (43%), and Ireland, Greece, and Cyprus (all 40%). The EU average for 2-3 days stands at 35%.

Respondents are most likely to say they could meet their water needs for **1 day or less** in Greece (45%), Finland (41%), and Spain, Denmark and Hungary (all 39%). The EU average for 1 day or less is 30%.

More than one in ten respondents say they **don't know** in Portugal (13%), with the EU average standing at 4%. **'Not applicable'** nowhere exceeds 5%.

QC7.1. Imagine that a major natural disaster or other emergency strikes the area where you live. There is widespread damage. There is no running water, electricity and supply chains are disrupted. It may take a while before emergency services can access this area and deliver basic supplies to people. Please think about each of the following situations :-If tap water services were disrupted in your area, how many days could you meet your water needs for drinking, cooking, and personal hygiene? (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

More than 7 days 4 - 7 days 2 - 3 days 1 day or less Not applicable (SPONTANEOUS) Don't know

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

The **socio-demographic** analysis shows the following:

- **Older respondents** are slightly more likely than younger people to say that they could continue to meet their water needs if tap water services were disrupted: 16% of those aged 55 and over say they could do so for more than 7 days, compared with 14% of those aged 40-54, and 12% of those aged 15-39. **Younger respondents** are substantially more likely to say they don't know, with 7% of those aged 15-24 giving this answer, in comparison with 4% of those aged 55 and over and 2%-3% of those aged 25-54.
- Respondents who **left school aged 15 or younger** are slightly more likely than those who left school aged 20 and over to say that they don't know (6% vs 2%).
- Among **socio-professional categories**, the self-employed are more likely (18%) to say that they could continue to meet their water needs for drinking, cooking, and personal hygiene for more than 7 days, especially compared with manual workers (14%), and students and house persons (11%-12%).

- Respondents who **never face difficulties paying bills** are more likely than those who have such difficulties most of the time (15% vs 8%) to say that they could continue to meet their water needs for drinking, cooking, and personal hygiene for more than 7 days.
- Respondents living in **rural areas** are more likely to be able to continue to meet their water needs for drinking, cooking, and personal hygiene for more than 7 days if tap water services were disrupted than **urban residents** (19% vs 11%).

Cross-sectional analysis

- Survey participants who **feel well informed about disaster risks** that could affect them are more likely than those who feel less informed to be able to continue to meet their water needs for drinking, cooking, and personal hygiene for more than 7 days (16% vs 12%).
- Respondents who report that **their country is exposed to five or more disaster risks** are slightly more likely than those who identify only one disaster risk to believe that they could continue to meet their water needs for drinking, cooking, and personal for more than 7 days (16% vs 13%).

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC7.1 Imagine that a major natural disaster or other emergency strikes the area where you live. There is widespread damage. There is no running water, electricity and supply chains are disrupted. It may take a while before emergency services can access this area and deliver basic supplies to people. Please think about each of the following situations

If tap water services were disrupted in your area, how many days could you meet your water needs for drinking, cooking, and personal hygiene? (% - EU)

	1 day or less	2 - 3 days	4 - 7 days	More than 7 days	Not applicable (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	30	35	16	14	1	4
Age						
15-24	30	35	15	12	1	7
25-39	33	35	16	12	1	3
40-54	31	35	17	14	1	2
55 +	28	34	17	16	1	4
Education (End of)						
15-	31	35	14	13	1	6
16-19	29	35	18	14	1	3
20+	32	35	16	14	1	2
Still studying	31	35	15	11	1	7
Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	29	35	15	18	1	2
Managers	34	35	17	12	0	2
Other white collars	32	36	17	11	1	3
Manual workers	29	35	17	14	1	4
House persons	31	38	14	12	1	4
Unemployed	33	33	15	15	1	3
Retired	28	33	17	16	1	5
Students	31	35	15	11	1	7
Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	40	35	12	8	2	3
From time to time	30	38	15	12	1	4
Almost never/ Never	30	33	17	15	1	4
Subjective urbanisation						
Rural village	26	32	18	19	1	4
Small/ mid size town	30	36	16	12	1	5
Large town	35	35	15	11	1	3
You feel well informed about disaster risks that could affect you						
Total 'Agree'	27	36	19	16	0	2
Total 'Disagree'	35	34	14	12	1	4
Perception of potential country exposure to disaster risk - total of mentions						
No mention	27	30	11	7	4	21
1 mention	32	28	13	13	2	12
2 mentions	29	36	16	13	1	5
3 mentions	30	35	18	13	1	3
4 mentions	31	35	17	14	0	3
5 mentions	31	34	16	16	1	2

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Alternative power source preparedness

At the **national level**, there are significant differences between EU Member States regarding the extent to which respondents believe that they could continue to power essential appliances and lighting in their home in the event of a disruption of the electricity and supply network.

Remarkably, in 15 countries, half or more respondents say they could continue to provide power to essential appliances and home lighting for 1 day or less, most strikingly in Malta (71%), the Netherlands (68%), Finland (64%), and Cyprus (62%). The EU average for 1 day or less is 48%.

In 15 countries, one in ten respondents or fewer say that if electricity services were interrupted, they could continue to power essential appliances and lighting in their home for more than 7 days, with the highest scores in Slovenia and Lithuania (both 18%), Latvia (15%), and Austria (14%), while the EU average for more than 7 days is 10%.

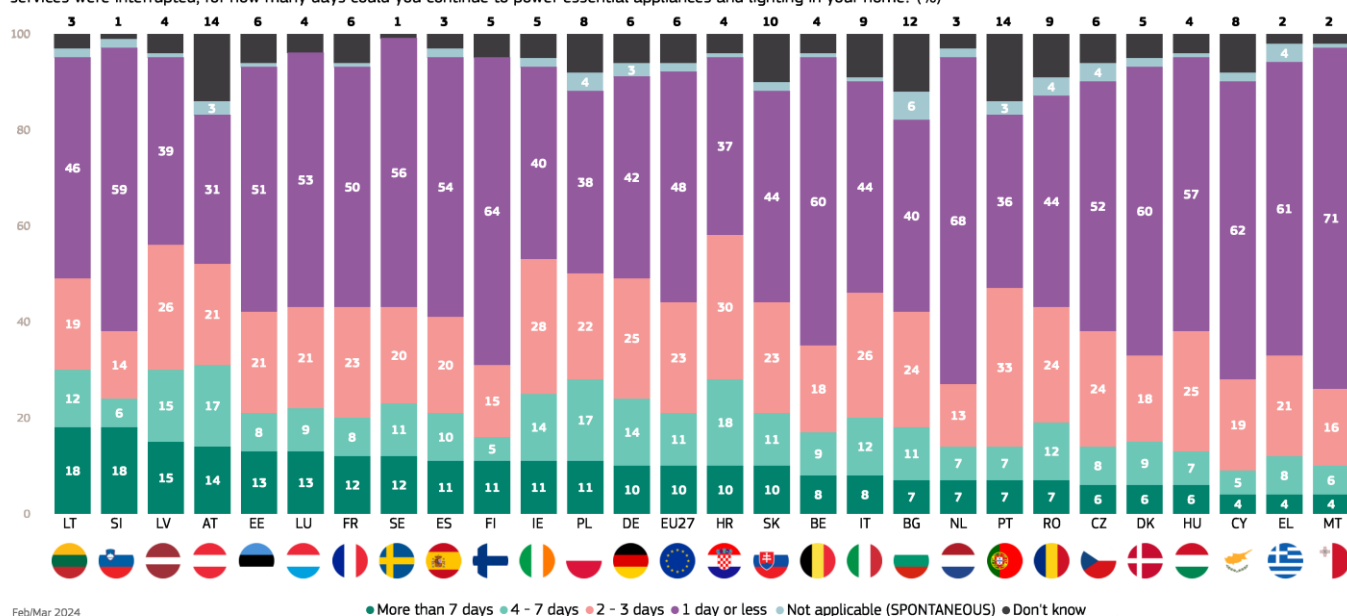
In the remaining Member States, the percentage of people who could continue to power essential appliances and lighting in their home for **more than 7 days** is substantially lower.

Respondents are most likely to estimate this period at **4 to 7 days** in Croatia (18%), Austria and Poland (both 17%), and Latvia (15%), while the EU average is 11%.

In seven countries, at least one in four respondents say they could continue to power essential appliances and lighting in their home for **2 to 3 days**, with the highest proportions registered in Portugal (33%), Croatia (30%), and Ireland (28%). Across the EU, the average is 23%.

At least one in ten say they **don't know** in Austria and Portugal (both 14%), Bulgaria (12%), and Slovakia (10%), which is higher than the EU average of 6%. In no country does 'Not applicable' exceed 5%.

QC7.2. Imagine that a major natural disaster or other emergency strikes the area where you live. There is widespread damage. There is no running water, electricity and supply chains are disrupted. It may take a while before emergency services can access this area and deliver basic supplies to people. Please think about each of the following situations :-If electricity services were interrupted, for how many days could you continue to power essential appliances and lighting in your home? (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

The **socio-demographic** analysis shows the following:

- **Younger respondents** are **more likely** overall than older people to say they don't know how long they could continue to power essential appliances and lighting if electricity services were interrupted during an emergency. This is the answer given by 9% of those aged 15-24, 6% of those aged 25-39, 4% of those aged 40-54, and 7% of those aged 55 and up. Those aged 25 and over are more likely (48%-49%) to report that they could continue these activities for one day or less than those aged 15-24 (43%).
- Respondents who **left school aged 15 or younger** are slightly more likely to answer 'don't know' than those who continued their education past the age of 20 (9% vs 4%).
- Among socio-professional categories, **managers** and the **unemployed** are more likely (both 50%) to indicate that they could continue to power essential appliances and lighting for one day or less, particularly when compared with students (43%).
- Those **who never use the internet** are more likely (12%) to say they don't know than those who go online sometimes (5%) or every day (6%).

Cross-sectional analysis

- Those who have **personal experience of disasters in the past ten years** are slightly more likely to say that they could continue to power essential appliances and lighting for more than 7 days than those who lack this experience (12% vs 9%).
- The same is true for those who feel **well informed about disaster risks** compared with those who feel less informed (12% vs 9%).
- Respondents who **do not trust emergency services and authorities** are slightly more likely to say they could continue to power essential appliances and lighting for 4 to 7 days under these circumstances than those who do trust them (14% vs 11%). However, those who do trust emergency services and authorities are more likely (49% vs 41%) to be able to continue power essential appliances and lighting for 1 day or less than those who do not.

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC7.2 Imagine that a major natural disaster or other emergency strikes the area where you live. There is widespread damage. There is no running water, electricity and supply chains are disrupted. It may take a while before emergency services can access this area and deliver basic supplies to people. Please think about each of the following situations

If electricity services were interrupted, for how many days could you continue to power essential appliances and lighting in your home? (% - EU)

	1 day or less	2 - 3 days	4 - 7 days	More than 7 days	Not applicable (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU27	48	23	11	10	2	6
Age						
15-24	43	25	11	9	3	9
25-39	49	23	11	9	2	6
40-54	48	24	11	11	2	4
55 +	48	22	11	9	3	7
Education (End of)						
15-	49	23	9	8	2	9
16-19	45	24	12	10	3	6
20+	52	21	11	10	2	4
Still studying	43	24	11	10	2	10
Socio-professional category						
Self- employed	46	24	11	13	3	3
Managers	50	21	12	10	2	5
Other white collars	48	24	12	8	2	6
Manual workers	47	25	11	9	3	5
House persons	47	24	10	9	2	8
Unemployed	50	22	8	10	2	8
Retired	48	21	11	9	3	8
Students	43	24	11	10	2	10
Difficulties paying bills						
Most of the time	50	23	10	8	3	6
From time to time	45	26	11	8	3	7
Almost never/ Never	49	22	11	10	2	6
Use of the Internet						
Everyday	48	23	11	10	2	6
Often/ Sometimes	40	28	15	9	3	5
Never	45	20	10	9	4	12
No Internet access	49	20	10	8	7	6
Personal experience of disaster in the past ten years						
Total 'Yes, have experienced one or more	44	25	13	12	2	4
Total 'No, you haven't experienced any dis	50	22	10	9	2	7
You feel well informed about disaster risks that could affect you						
Total 'Agree'	45	25	13	11	2	4
Total 'Disagree'	51	22	10	8	3	6
Trust in the emergency services and authorities						
Trust	49	23	11	9	2	6
Do not trust	41	26	14	11	2	6

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Personal preparedness for disaster risk

Respondents were asked to consider and say to what extent they agreed or disagree with nine statements about their personal preparedness in the event of a disaster or emergency, including factors that might influence their ability to cope under these circumstances.

Three quarters (75%) of those questioned agree that **by preparing for a disaster or emergencies, they will be able to cope better with the situation (QC8.1)**, with three in ten (29%) 'totally' agreeing with this statement. One in five (19%) disagree, of whom 6% 'totally' disagree.

Approximately two in three (65%) respondents agree that they **need more information to be able to prepare for disasters or emergencies (QC8.5)**, and more than one in five (22%) 'totally' agree with this statement. Three in ten (30%) disagree, with one in ten (10%) disagreeing totally.

More than half (57%) of interviewees agree that they **know how emergency services will alert them in the event of a disaster (QC8.6)**, and close to one in five (19%) 'totally' agree with this statement. However, more than one in three (38%) disagree, with 15% disagreeing totally.

More than half (52%) the respondents agree that **it is easy to find information on how to prepare for disasters or emergencies from public authorities and emergency services in their country (QC8.4)**, and more than one in seven (14%) say they 'totally' agree. However, four in ten (39%) disagree with the statement, one in eight of whom (13%) totally disagree.

More than four in ten (46%) respondents agree that **they know what to do in the event of a disaster (QC8.7)**, with one in ten (11%) 'totally' agreeing with this statement. A slightly larger proportion of respondents (48%) disagree, and 17% disagree totally.

More than half (54%) of those questioned disagree that they **lack time or financial resources to prepare for disasters or emergencies (QC8.3)**, and more than one in five (23%) 'totally' disagree. Four in ten (39%) agree with this statement, with one in ten (11%) totally agreeing.

Close to six in ten (58%) respondents disagree that they **feel prepared for disasters or emergencies that may happen in the area where they live (QC8.2)**, and more than one in five (23%) 'totally' disagree. **Fewer than four in ten (37%) agree with this statement**, and only one in ten (9%) totally agree.

Close to six in ten respondents (59%) disagree that **emergency services or authorities encourage them to take training or prepare for disasters or emergencies (QC8.8)**, with one in three (34%) 'totally' disagreeing. One in three (33%) agree with the statement, with 8% totally agreeing.

More than half (54%) the respondents disagree that **their employer or school encourages them to take training or prepare for disasters or emergencies (QC8.9)**, with one in three (33%) 'totally' disagreeing. One in four (25%) agree with the statement, 7% of whom totally agree.

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC8. Now we will discuss a few statements about your personal preparedness in the event of a disaster or emergency... Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. (EU27) (%)

By preparing for a disaster or emergencies, you will be able to better cope with the situation



You need more information to be able to prepare for disasters or emergencies



You know how emergency services will alert you in the event of a disaster



It is easy to find information on how to prepare for disasters or emergencies from public authorities and emergency services in (OUR COUNTRY)



You know what to do in the event of a disaster



You do not have time or financial resources to prepare for disasters or emergencies



You feel you are well prepared for disasters or emergencies that may happen in the area where you live



Emergency services or authorities (e.g. police, firefighters, civil protection, local and national authorities) encourage you to take training or prepare for disasters or emergencies



Your employer or school encourages you to take training or prepare for disasters or emergencies



● Totally agree
 ● Tend to agree
 ● Tend to disagree
 ● Totally disagree
 ● It depends on the type of disaster (SPONTANEOUS)
 ● Don't know

Feb/Mar 2024

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Most respondents will be better able to cope with a disaster or emergency by preparing for it

Respondents were asked to what extent they agree or disagree with the statement 'By preparing for a disaster or emergencies, you will be able to better cope with the situation'.

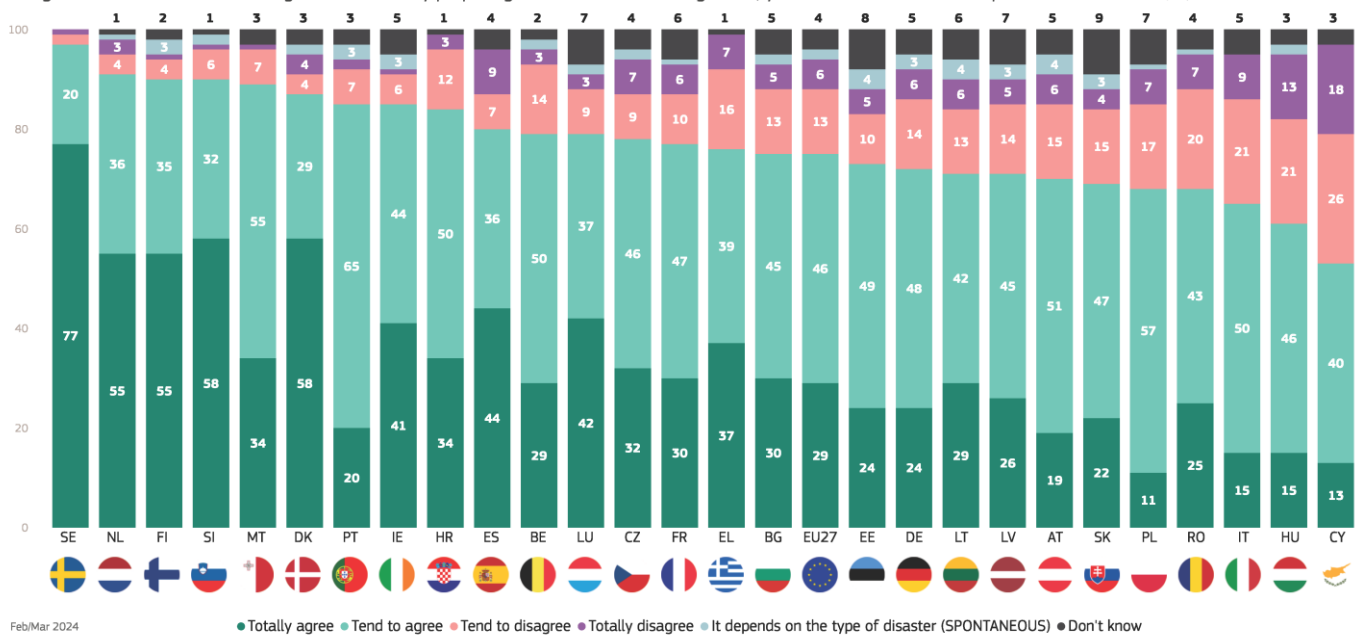
Across the EU, an average of 75% totally agree or tend to agree. Although **a majority agree with this statement in every EU Member State**, there are still striking differences between countries, ranging from Sweden (97% 'somewhat' agree with the statement) to Cyprus (53% 'somewhat' agree, the lowest percentage).

In four countries, at least 90% of respondents say that preparing for a disaster or emergencies will enable them to cope better with the situation: Sweden (already mentioned, 97%), the Netherlands (91%), and Slovenia and Finland (both 90%). Agreement is lowest in Cyprus (already mentioned, 53%), Hungary (61%), and Italy (65%). In Slovakia nearly nine in ten respondents (9%) say they don't know.

Regional analysis

In Northern Europe, particularly in Sweden, and Finland, there is a high level of agreement, with more than 90% of respondents saying that preparation makes a difference. Conversely, respondents in Southern and some Eastern European countries are less confident that they would be able to cope better if they prepared for a disaster or emergency. For example, 53% of respondents agree with the statement in Cyprus and 61% in Hungary. Slovakia stands out with nearly one in ten (9%) of respondents replying that they 'don't know'.

QC8.1. Now we will discuss a few statements about your personal preparedness in the event of a disaster or emergency... Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. :-By preparing for a disaster or emergencies, you will be able to better cope with the situation (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

● Totally agree ● Tend to agree ● Tend to disagree ● Totally disagree ● It depends on the type of disaster (SPONTANEOUS) ● Don't know

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Most respondents need more information to be able to prepare for disasters or emergencies

Respondents were asked to what extent they agreed or disagreed with the statement 'You need more information to be able to prepare for disasters or emergencies'.

At the **national level** there are substantial differences between EU Member States.

In 23 of the 27 EU Member States, more than half of respondents agree or tend to agree that they need more information to be able to prepare for disasters or emergencies, with the highest proportions seen in Greece (84%), Portugal (82%), and Malta (80%).

In three countries more than one in three respondents say they 'totally agree': in Malta (39%), and Spain and Greece (both 38%), while the EU average is 22%. At least half 'tend to agree' in Portugal (59%), Croatia (54%), and Poland (50%). The EU average is 43%.

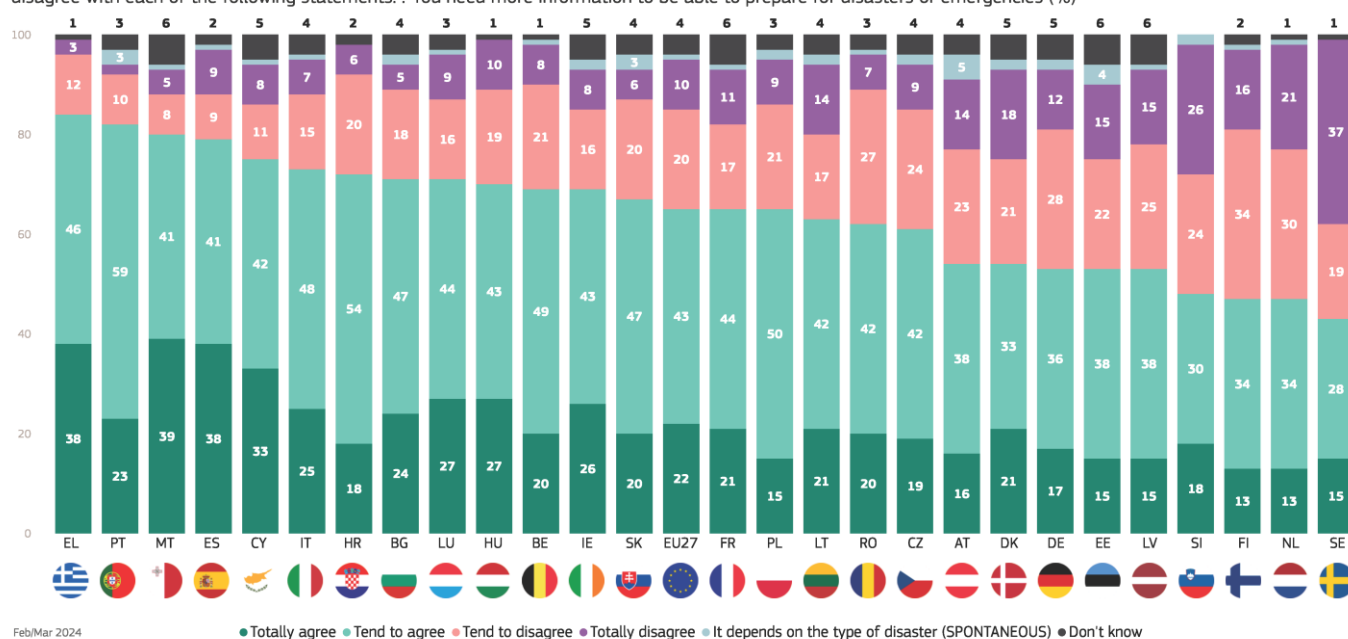
Respondents are least likely to agree with this statement in Sweden (56%), the Netherlands (51%) and Finland (50%), and Slovenia (50%). The EU average is 20% for 'tend to disagree' and 30% for total 'disagree'.

Regional analysis

Citizens in Southern European countries are more likely to agree that they need more information, with Spain and Greece both registering high levels of agreement at 79% and 84% respectively. This contrasts with Northern and Western Europe, where fewer than half of the respondents in Sweden (43%) and the Netherlands (47%) believe they need more information.

Central and Eastern Europe display mixed responses but in general respondents express a moderate to high need for more information, with Slovakia (67%) and Romania (62%) at the higher end.

QC8.5. Now we will discuss a few statements about your personal preparedness in the event of a disaster or emergency... Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. -You need more information to be able to prepare for disasters or emergencies (%)



Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Most respondents know how emergency services will alert them in the event of a disaster

Respondents were asked to what extent they agree or disagree with the statement 'You know how emergency services will alert you in the event of a disaster'.

At the **national level**, notable differences are registered between EU Member States.

In 22 Member States, half or more of respondents know how emergency services will alert them in the event of a disaster, with the highest levels of agreement (meaning the sum of 'totally agree' and 'tend to agree' answers) registered in the Netherlands (88%), Finland (81%), and Lithuania (80%). The EU average is 57% for overall agreement.

The Netherlands is the only country where more than half (57%) 'totally agree' with the statement.

In five countries, fewer than half the respondents agree that they know how emergency services will alert them in the event of a disaster: Hungary (36%), Malta (38%), Portugal (40%), Cyprus (46%), and France (49%).

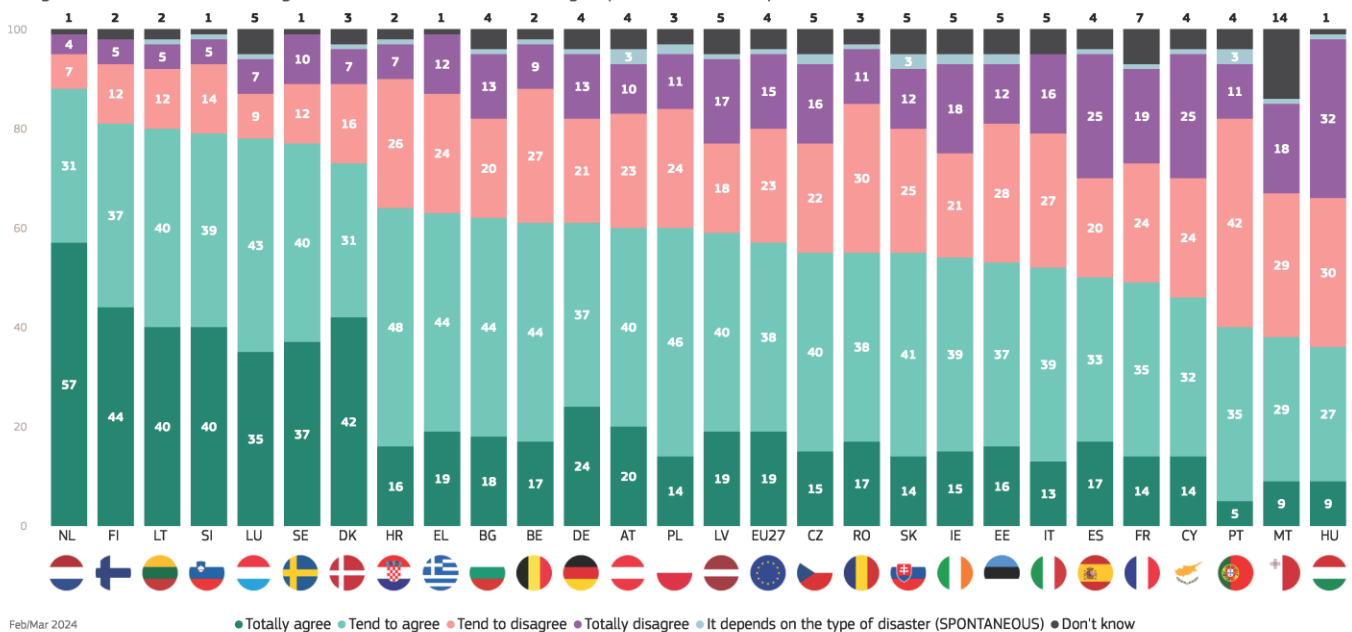
Regional analysis

Respondents in Nordic countries show very high levels of awareness of how emergency services will alert them: 81% agree that they know how emergency services will alert them in the event of a disaster in Finland, followed by 77% in Sweden.

Conversely, citizens in Eastern European countries like Romania and Hungary, where 55% and 36% of respondents respectively agree with the statement, display markedly lower awareness. West European countries such as Belgium (61%) and France (49%) show moderate agreement levels.

Levels of agreement with this statement in more Southern European countries are almost all quite low, with Portugal at 40%, Spain at 50% and Italy at 52%. An exception is Greece, with 63%.

QC8.6. Now we will discuss a few statements about your personal preparedness in the event of a disaster or emergency... Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. :-You know how emergency services will alert you in the event of a disaster (%)



Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Most respondents can easily find information on how to prepare for disasters or emergencies from public authorities and emergency services

Respondents were asked to what extent they agree or disagree with the statement 'It is easy to find information on how to prepare for disasters or emergencies from public authorities and emergency services in your country'.

At the **national level** notable differences between Member States arise.

In 19 Member States, at least half the respondents agree¹⁵ that it is easy to find information on how to prepare for disasters or emergencies from public authorities and emergency services in their country.

In four countries, around three-quarters or more agree: Sweden (89%), Finland (83%), Slovenia (82%), and the Netherlands (74%). This is far above the EU average of 52%.

Sweden is the only country where more than half (57%) 'totally agree' with the statement.

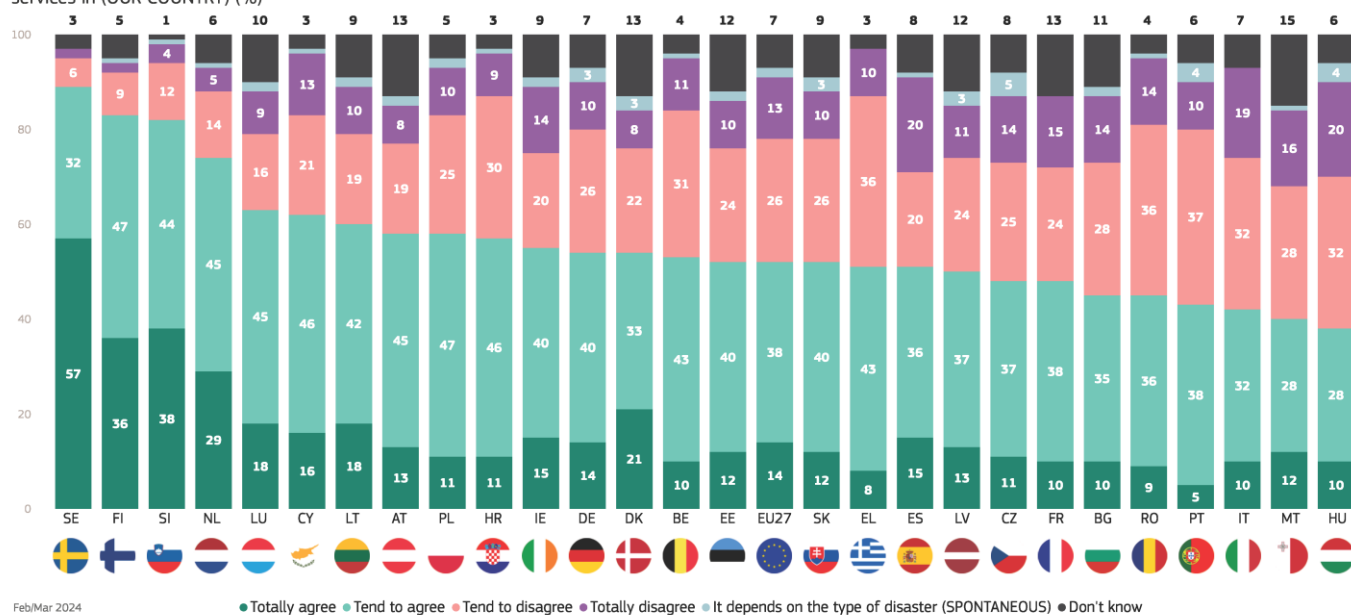
Respondents are least likely to agree that it is easy to find information on how to prepare for disasters or emergencies in Hungary (38%), Malta (40%), Italy (42%), and Portugal (43%).

Remarkably, more than one in ten say they don't know in Malta (15%), Denmark, France, and Austria (all 13%), Latvia and Estonia (both 12%), and Bulgaria (11%).

Regional analysis

Nordic countries, particularly Sweden and Finland, lead in terms of the ease with which information can be found from public authorities and emergency services on how to prepare for disasters or emergencies. On the other hand, levels of agreement are lower in Eastern and Southern European countries, for instance in Hungary, where 38% agree, and Malta, where 40% agree and 15% say that they don't know.

QC8.4. Now we will discuss a few statements about your personal preparedness in the event of a disaster or emergency... Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. -It is easy to find information on how to prepare for disasters or emergencies from public authorities and emergency services in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

● Totally agree ● Tend to agree ● Tend to disagree ● Totally disagree ● It depends on the type of disaster (SPONTANEOUS) ● Don't know

¹⁵ Sum of 'totally agree' and 'tend to agree'.

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Respondents are divided about knowing what to do in the event of a disaster

Respondents were asked to what extent they agree or disagree with the statement 'You know what to do in the event of a disaster'.

At the **national level** we see notable differences between EU Member States.

In 16 countries, at least half the respondents agree (totally or tend to agree) that they know what to do in the event of a disaster, with the highest scores registered in Slovenia (84%), Finland and Sweden (both 71%), and Croatia (59%). This is above the EU average of 46%.

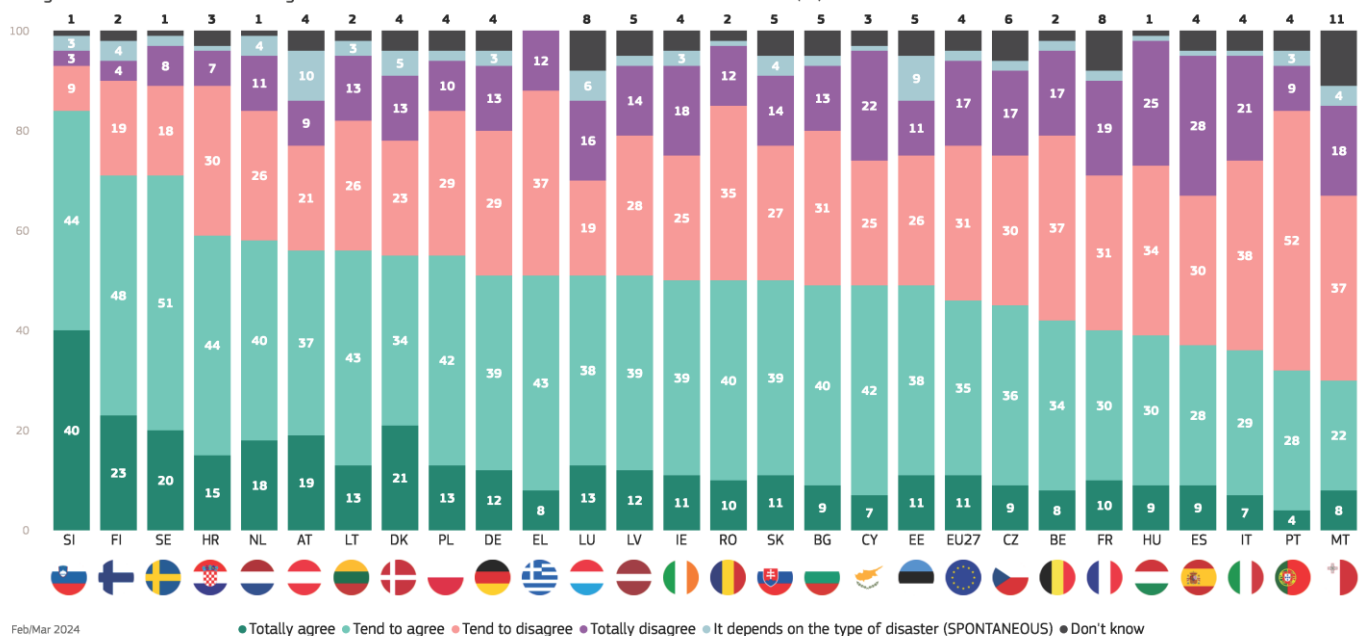
In contrast, fewer than one in three agree in Malta (30%) and Portugal (32%). In Hungary and Spain, one in four respondents 'totally disagree' with the statement.

Malta is the only country where more than 10% (11%) answered "Don't know", while the EU average is only 4%.

Regional analysis

Citizens in Nordic countries exhibit robust confidence in their preparedness. Sweden and Finland both report a high level of agreement at 71%. **On the other hand, respondents in Eastern and Southern European countries are much less sure of what to do in the event of a disaster.** For instance, agreement rates are much lower in Romania and Hungary at 50% and 39% respectively. Southern countries like Italy and Malta also display lower agreement rates of 36% and 30%.

QC8.7. Now we will discuss a few statements about your personal preparedness in the event of a disaster or emergency... Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. :-You know what to do in the event of a disaster (%)



Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

More than a third of respondents feel they lack the time or financial resources to prepare for disasters or emergencies

Respondents were asked to what extent they agree or disagree with the statement 'You do not have the time or financial resources to prepare for disasters or emergencies'.

At the **national level** we found notable differences between EU Member States.

On average, 39% of respondents across the EU agree (tend to agree + totally agree) with this statement, meaning that a majority disagree. There are only three Member States where more than half the respondents agree that they do not have the time or financial resources to prepare for disasters or emergencies: namely Poland (57%), Hungary (55%), and Malta (54%), though almost half agree in Greece (49%) and Croatia (49%), and Portugal (48%).

In nineteen countries, at least half the respondents disagree, most strikingly in the Netherlands (82%) and Finland and Sweden (both 81%). Sweden is the only country where more than half (59%) 'totally disagree' with the statement.

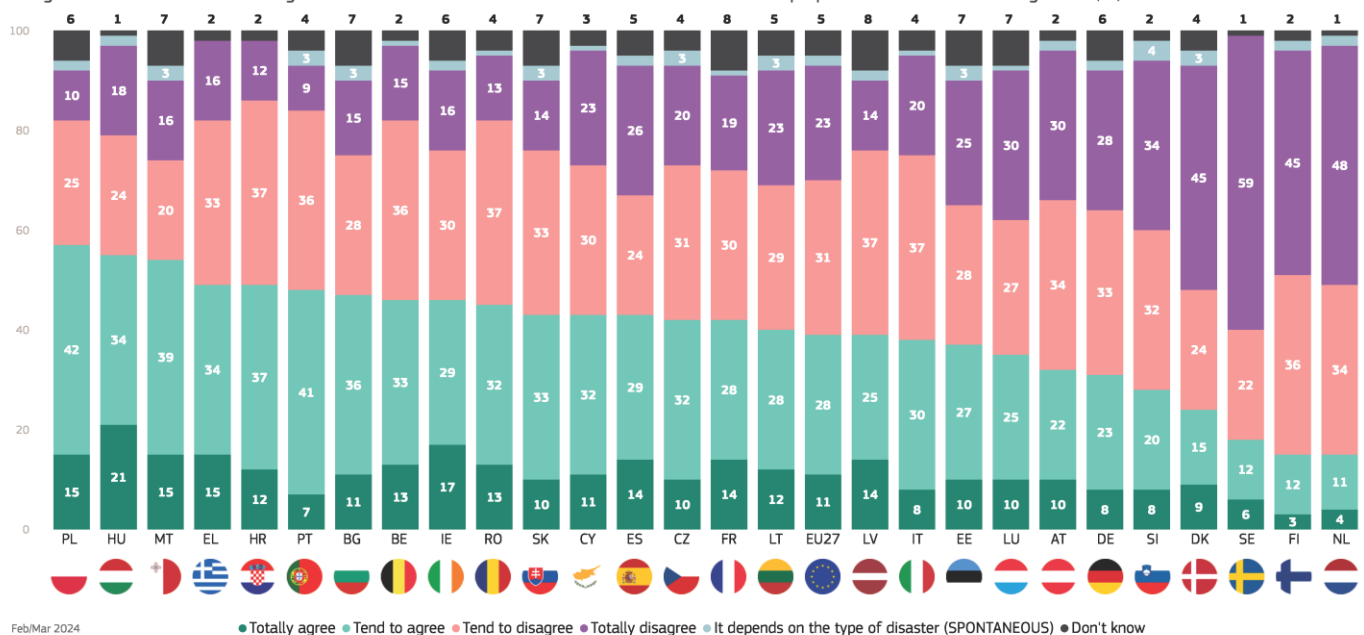
Regional analysis

Citizens in Nordic countries like Sweden and Finland show low levels of agreement with this statement, as only 18% and 15% of respondents respectively feel hindered by time or financial constraints from preparing for disasters or emergencies. Comparably low levels are also found in the Netherlands (15%).

Conversely, respondents in some Eastern European Member States feel these constraints more, with countries like Poland and Hungary reporting 57% and 55% agreement respectively, reflecting possible economic or time-related challenges affecting individual readiness for emergencies.

Southern European countries like Greece and Portugal also show considerable concern, with agreement levels of 49% and 48% respectively.

QC8.3. Now we will discuss a few statements about your personal preparedness in the event of a disaster or emergency... Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. :-You do not have time or financial resources to prepare for disasters or emergencies (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

● Totally agree ● Tend to agree ● Tend to disagree ● Totally disagree ● It depends on the type of disaster (SPONTANEOUS) ● Don't know

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Most respondents do not feel well prepared for disasters or emergencies that may happen in the area where they live

Respondents were asked to what extent they agree or disagree with the statement 'You feel you are well prepared for disasters or emergencies that may happen in the area where you live'.

At the **national level** we see substantial differences between EU Member States.

While in 20 Member States a majority of respondents disagree (totally disagree + tend to disagree) that they are well prepared for disasters or emergencies that may happen in the area where they live, a majority in five EU countries agree (totally agree or tend to agree) that they feel well prepared: Slovenia (65%), Finland (58%), Sweden (55%), Austria (53%), and Poland (52%). The EU average for agreement stands far lower, however, at 37%.

Slovenia is the only country where more than one in five (27%) say they 'totally agree' agree with this statement. In eight countries, at least one in three 'tend to agree', with the highest proportions registered in Sweden (44%), Finland (42%), and Slovenia (38%).

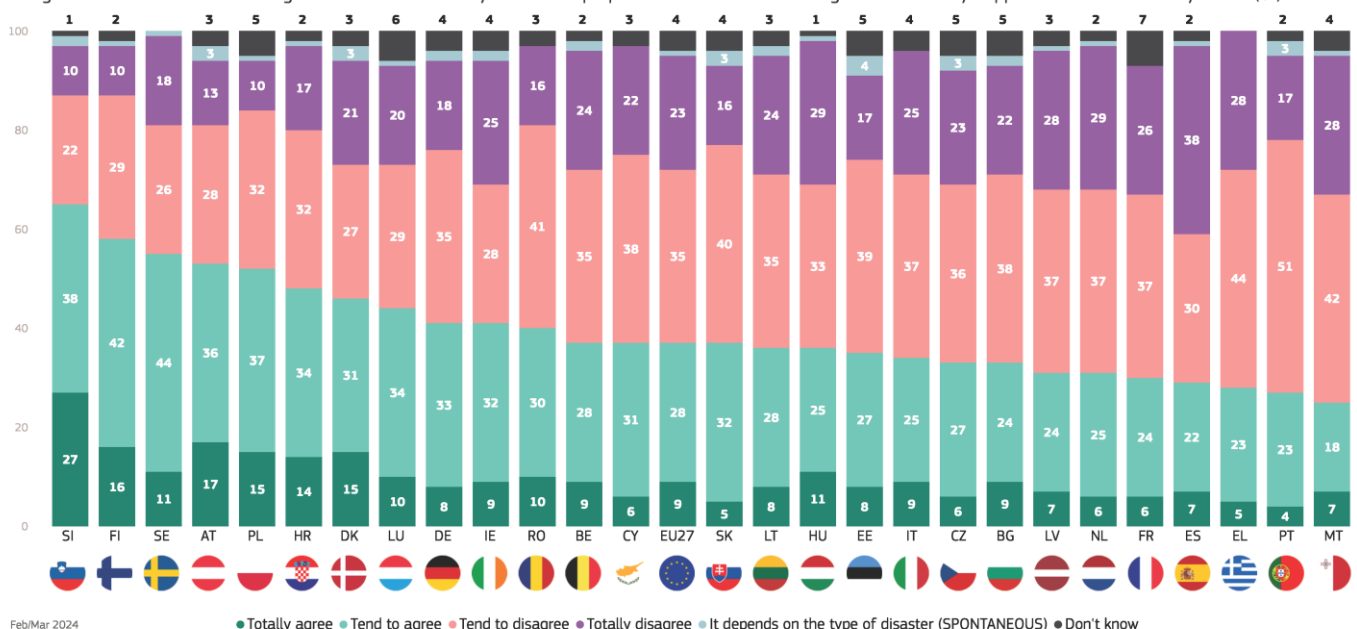
Respondents are least likely to agree in Malta (25%), Portugal (27%), and Greece (28%).

Regional analysis

Citizens in Nordic countries consistently report a greater sense of personal preparedness for disasters or emergencies that may happen in the area where they live. For instance, in Finland, 58% of respondents agree that they are well prepared, combining those who totally agree (16%) and tend to agree (42%), followed by Sweden where 55% agree. Slovenia stands out as a non-Nordic country with high levels of agreement (65%).

Conversely, respondents in Southern and Eastern European countries show less confidence in their preparedness. Hungary and Portugal, for example, report lower levels of agreement with only 36% and 27% respectively feeling prepared. Doubts as to their level of preparedness is particularly high among citizens in Greece, where 72% disagree that they feel well prepared.

QC8.2. Now we will discuss a few statements about your personal preparedness in the event of a disaster or emergency... Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. -You feel you are well prepared for disasters or emergencies that may happen in the area where you live (%)



Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Most respondents do not think emergency services or authorities encourage them to take training or prepare for disasters or emergencies

Respondents were asked to what extent they agree or disagree with the statement 'Emergency services or authorities such as police, firefighters, civil protection, or local and national authorities, encourage you to take training or prepare for disasters or emergencies'.

At the **national level** we see substantial differences between EU Member States.

Disagreement averages 59% across the EU as a whole. In 20 countries, at least half the respondents disagree that emergency services or authorities encourage them to take training or prepare for disasters or emergencies, most strikingly in the Netherlands (77%), Czechia (72%), and Hungary (67%).

The only two countries where more than half agree that emergency services or authorities encourage them to take training or prepare for disasters or emergencies are Slovenia (55%) and Sweden (51%). In these two countries, more than one in five respondents (22%-23%) 'totally agree' with the statement.

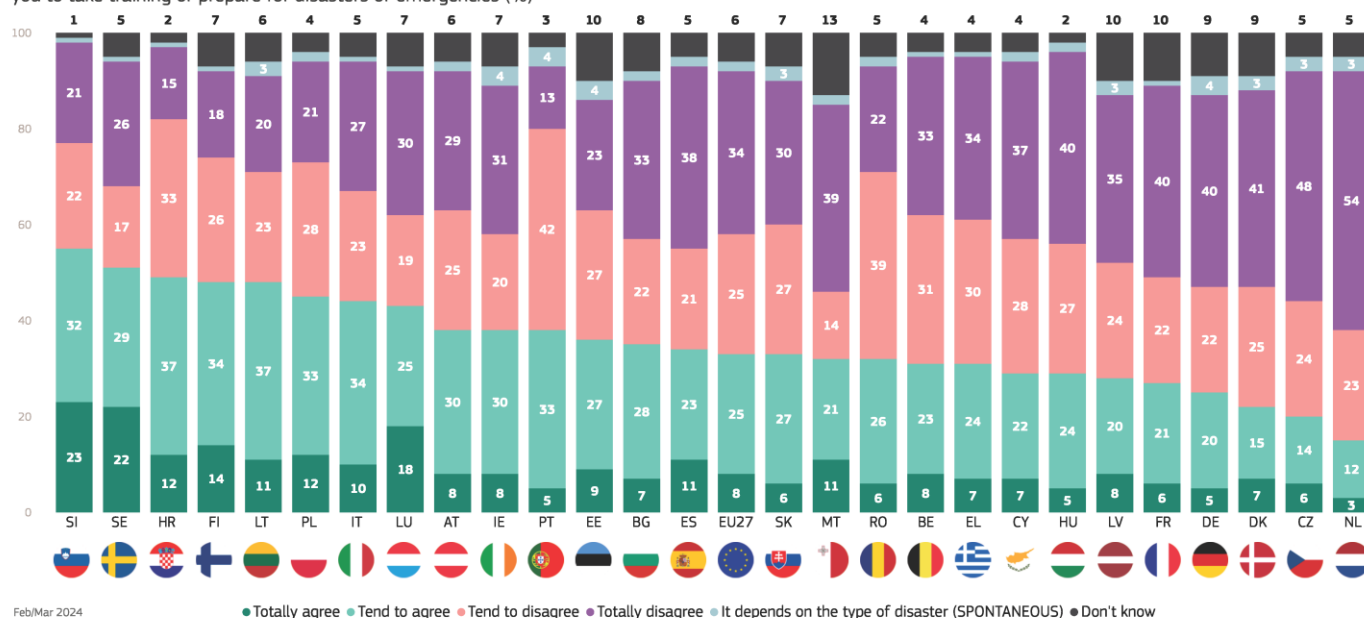
In four countries, at least one in ten say they don't know: Malta (13%), and Estonia, France, and Latvia (all 10%).

Regional analysis

In Northern Europe, countries like Sweden and Finland stand out with relatively higher agreement rates of 51% and 49% respectively, indicating that around half the respondents feel encouraged to take training or prepare for disasters or emergencies by emergency services and authorities.

Conversely, in Western and Central Europe, particularly in the Netherlands, Czechia, and Hungary, the levels of agreement are significantly lower, at 15%, 20%, and 29% respectively.

QC8.9. Now we will discuss a few statements about your personal preparedness in the event of a disaster or emergency... Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. :-Emergency services or authorities (e.g. police, firefighters, civil protection, local and national authorities) encourage you to take training or prepare for disasters or emergencies (%)



Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Most respondents do not feel encouraged by their employer or school to take a training or prepare for disasters or emergencies

Respondents were asked to what extent they agree or disagree with the statement 'Your employer or school encourages you to take training or prepare for disasters or emergencies'.

At the **national level** we find notable differences between EU Member States.

In the majority of countries (19), at least half the respondents disagree that their employer or school encourages them to take training or prepare for disasters or emergencies, with the highest scores seen in Hungary (68%), Czechia (65%), and the Netherlands (63%).

There is no Member State in which more than 50% agree, and only five countries where more than a third do so (33%). These are Poland (40%), Croatia (37%), Slovenia (36%), and Austria and Luxembourg (both 35%).

The only countries where more than one in ten 'totally agree' with the statement are: Slovenia (17%), Luxembourg (13%), and Sweden (12%).

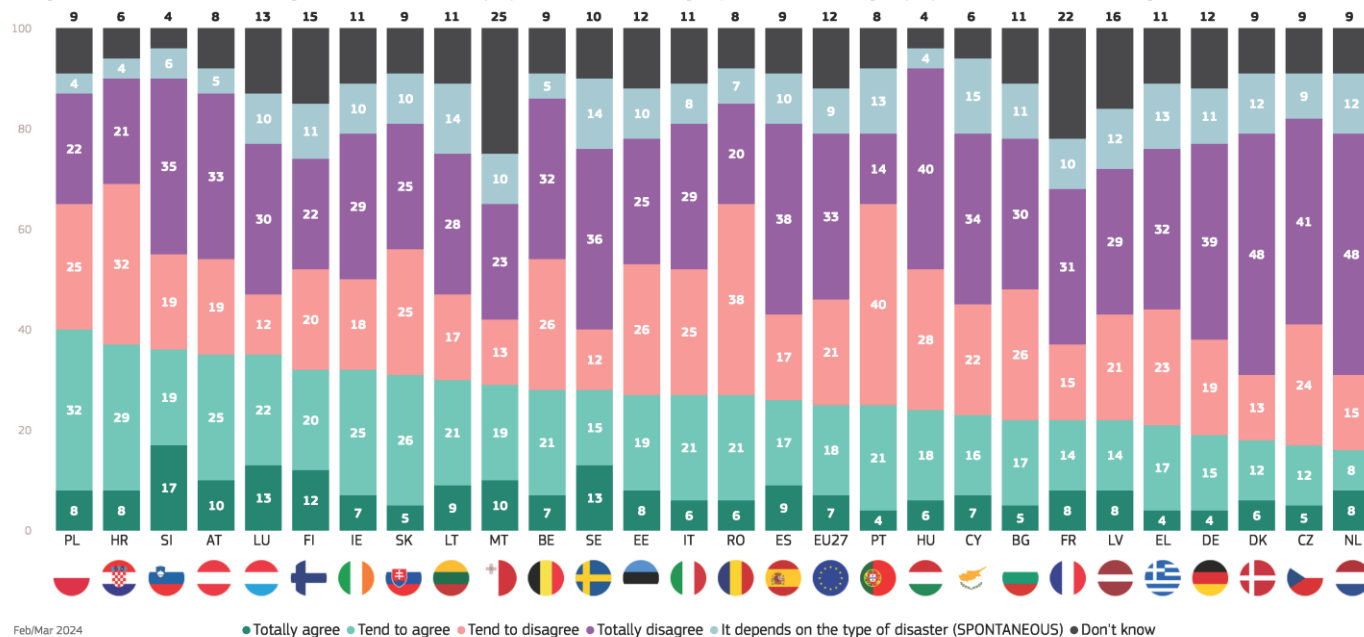
In 11 countries, more than one in ten respondents say that this question depends on the type of disaster, most notably in Cyprus (15%), Sweden and Lithuania (both 14%), and Portugal and Greece (13%).

In 12 countries, more than one in ten say they don't know, rising to more than one in five in Malta (25%) and France (22%).

Regional analysis

There appears to be no clear regional grouping of countries in terms of agreement or disagreement with the statement.

QC8.8. Now we will discuss a few statements about your personal preparedness in the event of a disaster or emergency... Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. :-Your employer or school encourages you to take training or prepare for disasters or emergencies (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

● Totally agree ● Tend to agree ● Tend to disagree ● Totally disagree ● It depends on the type of disaster (SPONTANEOUS) ● Don't know

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

The **socio-demographic** analysis shows the following:

- Men are more likely than women (61% vs 54%) to agree that they **know how emergency services will alert them** in the event of a disaster, that **it is easy to find information on how to prepare for disasters or emergencies** from public authorities and emergency services in their country (54% vs 50%), and that they **feel well prepared for disasters or emergencies** that may happen in the area where they live (40% vs 35%).
- Younger demographics are slightly more inclined to agree that **preparing for a disaster or emergencies will able them to cope better**: 75%-77% of those aged 15-54 say this, compared with 72% of those aged 55 and over. The difference is even more pronounced for how **easy it is to find information on how to prepare for disasters or emergencies** from public authorities and emergency services (54%-59% vs 47%). In contrast, respondents aged 25-54 are the most likely (48%-50%) to say they **know what to do in the event of a disaster** compared with 43%-44% of those aged 15-24 and 55 and over.
- Respondents who remained in education beyond the age of 20 are more likely than those who left school aged 15 or younger to agree that **by preparing for a disaster or emergencies, they will be able to cope better with the situation** (80% vs 66%).
- The longest-educated demographic is also more likely (65%) to **know how emergency services will alert them in the event of a disaster** than their less educated peers (45%). In contrast, respondents who left school earliest are more likely (69% vs 62%) to say they **need more information to be able to prepare for disasters or emergencies**.
- Among socio-professional categories, managers are more likely (79%) to agree that **by preparing for a disaster or emergencies, they will be able to cope better with the situation**, especially compared with house persons, the unemployed, and retirees (70%-71%). Managers are also more likely (66%) to **know how emergency services will alert them** in the event of a disaster, especially compared with other white-collar workers and students (both 59%), and the unemployed and house persons (50% and 47% respectively). Manual workers are more likely (67%) to feel in **need of more information** to be able to prepare for disasters or emergencies, especially compared with the unemployed (62%) and managers (59%).
- More than half the respondents who have difficulties paying their bills most of the time (58%) say they **do not have the time or financial resources to prepare for disasters or emergencies**,

compared with a third (33%) of those who never face such issues.

- Inhabitants of large towns or cities are more likely (67%) to say they **need more information** to be able to prepare for disasters or emergencies than those living in rural areas (62%). Conversely, rural residents are slightly more likely (77% vs 74%) to agree that **by preparing for a disaster or emergencies, they will be able to cope better with the situation**.
- Respondents who use the internet every day are substantially more likely (60%) to **know how emergency services will alert them** in the event of a disaster than those who occasionally (49%) or never (38%) go online. The same is true regarding **feeling well prepared for disasters or emergencies** that may happen in the area where they live (38%, 35%, and 28% respectively).
- A majority (59%) of those who frequently talk about European political matters **know what to do in the event of a disaster**, compared with 37% of those who never discuss such issues. The former group are also more likely to **feel well prepared for disasters or emergencies** in the area where they live than respondents who never discuss EU political matters (49% vs 29%).

Cross-sectional analysis

- Respondents who trust emergency services and authorities are more likely to **know what to do in the event of a disaster** than those who do not (48% vs 41%). They are also more likely to agree that **by preparing for a disaster or emergencies, they will be able to cope better** with the situation (77% vs 60%).
- Respondents who report that they have experienced a disaster in the past 10 years are more likely than those without such experiences to say that they **feel well prepared for disasters** (46% vs 33%), that they **know how emergency services will alert them** (62% vs 55%), that they **know what to do in the event of a disaster** (52% vs 43%), that **their employer or institution provides information on disasters** (32% vs 21%) and that **emergency services and authorities encourage them to prepare for disasters** (37% vs 30%).
- Those who feel well informed about disaster risks that could affect them are substantially more likely to agree that **by preparing for a disaster or emergencies, they will be able to better cope with the situation** than those who don't feel well informed about this (85% vs 67%).
- Those who believe that their country is exposed to five or more risks are more likely to agree with most of the statements presented above, and particularly likely to say that **by preparing for a disaster or**

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

emergencies, they will be able to cope better with the situation (81%), especially compared with those who mention only one risk (47%).

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC8.1-9 Now we will discuss a few statements about your personal preparedness in the event of a disaster or emergency... Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.
Total 'Agree' (%) - EU)

	By preparing for a disaster or emergencies, you will be able to better cope with the situation	You need more information to be able to prepare for disasters or emergencies	You know how emergency services will alert you in the event of a disaster	It is easy to find information on how to prepare for disasters or emergencies from public authorities and emergency services in (OUR COUNTRY)	You know what to do in the event of a disaster	You do not have time or financial resources to prepare for disasters or emergencies	You feel you are well prepared for disasters or emergencies that may happen in the area where you live	Emergency services or authorities (e.g. police, firefighters, civil protection, local and national authorities encourage you to take training or prepare for disasters or emergencies	Your employer or school encourages you to take training or prepare for disasters or emergencies
EU27	75	65	57	52	46	39	37	33	25
Gender									
Man	76	64	61	54	50	39	40	33	25
Woman	72	66	54	50	43	39	35	33	25
Age									
15-24	75	65	56	59	43	42	35	33	31
25-39	76	63	58	55	50	42	39	35	30
40-54	77	66	60	54	48	42	39	34	29
55 +	72	65	54	47	44	35	36	31	17
Education (End of)									
15-	66	69	45	38	34	40	27	31	16
16-19	73	66	54	50	46	43	38	33	24
20+	80	62	65	59	52	35	40	33	28
Still studying	76	65	59	60	45	39	37	34	30
Socio-professional category									
Self-employed	76	64	63	56	52	37	43	36	26
Managers	79	59	66	62	53	34	40	35	36
Other white collars	75	65	59	56	47	43	37	36	29
Manual workers	76	67	56	50	48	45	39	33	30
House persons	71	65	47	44	38	40	31	34	20
Unemployed	70	62	50	51	42	46	35	29	18
Retired	71	65	54	45	42	35	34	30	14
Students	76	65	59	60	45	39	37	34	30
Difficulties paying bills									
Most of the time	62	67	45	37	35	58	24	24	16
From time to time	72	69	52	47	42	48	37	36	27
Almost never/ Never	77	62	61	57	50	33	39	33	25
Subjective urbanisation									
Rural village	77	62	56	50	49	38	39	31	23
Small/ mid size town	73	65	57	52	45	40	38	35	26
Large town	74	67	60	55	46	40	36	33	26
Use of the Internet									
Everyday	77	65	60	55	48	39	38	33	26
Often/ Sometimes	65	63	49	39	41	41	35	31	21
Never	61	63	38	34	32	41	28	29	14
No Internet access	66	64	49	41	44	50	30	23	13
Personal experience of disaster in the past ten years									
Total 'Yes, have experienced one or more disasters in the past ten years'	76	65	62	55	52	44	46	37	32
Total 'No, you haven't experienced any disasters in the past ten years'	73	65	55	50	43	37	33	30	21
You feel well informed about disaster risks that could affect you									
Total 'Agree'	85	61	74	71	66	38	56	43	36
Total 'Disagree'	67	70	43	36	29	41	20	23	15
Trust in the emergency services and authorities									
Trust	77	67	60	55	48	38	38	34	25
Do not trust	60	57	43	36	41	44	35	27	26
Perception of potential country exposure to disaster risk - total of mentions									
No mention	47	53	32	29	24	39	25	21	17
1 mention	49	42	36	35	34	38	21	22	14
2 mentions	71	61	56	52	48	43	42	36	29
3 mentions	75	63	57	54	48	41	39	35	27
4 mentions	78	66	60	54	47	38	36	33	23
5 mentions	81	73	61	53	46	37	34	30	22

IV. Reliance on social capital, trust in emergency services and authorities, and engagement in voluntary work to increase disaster resilience

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Dependence on social capital and support networks in early disaster response

Respondents were asked to indicate how much they would expect to rely on different groups or categories of persons, services, organisations, or government entities in the first few days following a disaster to help them cope with the situation.

Close to nine in ten (89%) respondents say that in the first few days following a disaster they would expect to rely on **family or friends**, with over six in ten (62%) saying they would rely on them a great deal. Fewer than one in ten (9%) say they would rely on them 'not a lot' (6%) or 'not at all' (3%).

More than eight in ten (81%) interviewees say that they would expect to rely on **emergency services such as police, firefighters, emergency health care, or civil protection**, with about four in ten (39%) saying they would rely on them a great deal. One in six (16%) place little or no reliance on them.

More than seven in ten (73%) respondents indicate that they would expect to rely on **people in their neighbourhood**, with three in ten (30%) saying they would rely on them a great deal. One in four (25%) say they place little or no reliance on them.

Close to seven in ten (69%) respondents say that they would expect to rely on associations or **non-profit organisations, such as the Red Cross**, in the first few days following a disaster, with one in four (25%) saying they would rely on them a great deal. Around the same proportion (24%) say they place little or no reliance on them.

Two-thirds (67%) of respondents say they would expect to rely on **local authorities or government agencies or services**, with close to one in four (23%) saying they would rely on them a great deal. More than one in four (27%) place little or no reliance on them.

Half (50%) the interviewees say that in the first few days following a disaster they would expect to rely on **private sector entities, companies** (like electricity or water providers, waste management companies, grocery stores), with 15% saying they would rely on them a great deal. Four in ten (41%) place little or no reliance on them.

More than one in three (36%) respondents indicate that in the first few days following a disaster they would expect to rely on **their work, employer, school or education institution**, with 11% saying they would rely on them a great deal. Overall, respondents are less likely (43%) to rely on them.

QC9. In the first few days following a disaster, please indicate how much you would expect to rely on each of the following to help you cope with the situation. (EU27) (%)

Family/friends



Emergency services (e.g. police, firefighters, emergency health care, civil protection)



People in your neighbourhood



Associations or non-profit organisations, such as the Red Cross



Local authorities or government agencies or services



Private sector entities, companies (like electricity or water providers, waste management companies, grocery stores)



Your work, employer, school or education institution



● A great deal ● Somewhat ● Not a lot ● Not at all ● It depends on the type of disaster (SPONTANEOUS) ● Don't know

Feb/Mar 2024

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

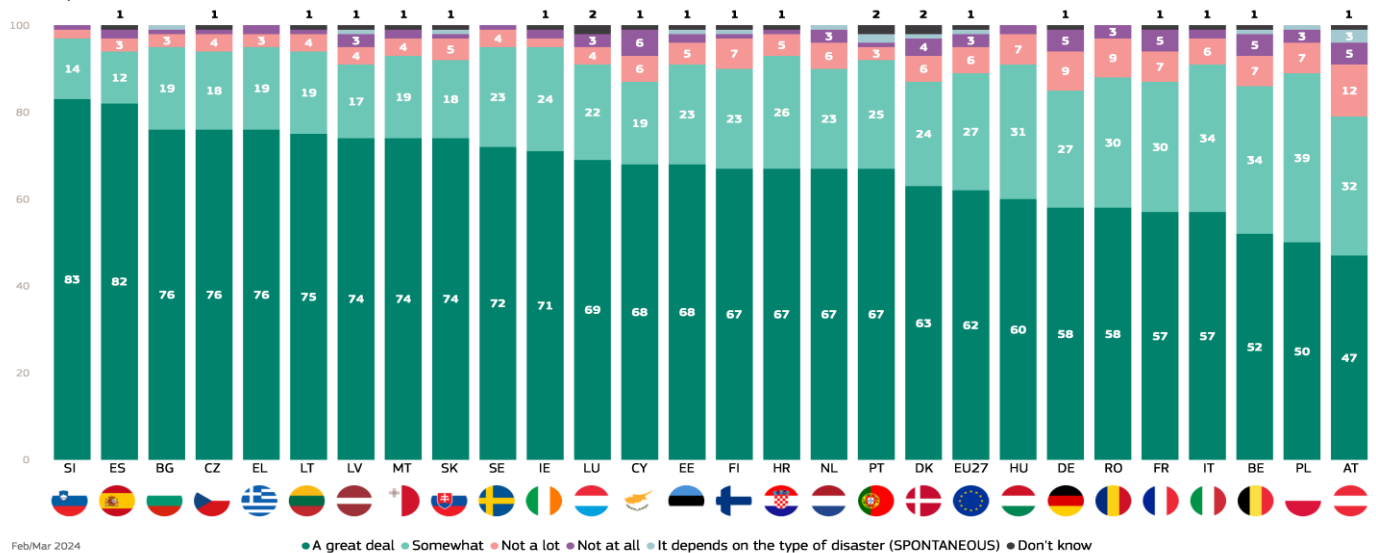
Almost nine in ten expect to rely on family or friends during an emergency

Looking at the **national level** we see the following:

In all EU Member States except Austria (79%), at least 85% of respondents say they would rely ('a great deal' or 'somewhat') on friends or family in case of an emergency. While the EU average is 89%, **in 17 countries, more than nine in ten would rely ('a great deal' or 'somewhat') on family or friends during an emergency**, most strikingly in Slovenia (97%), Sweden, Greece, Ireland, and Bulgaria (all 95%), and Czechia, Lithuania and Spain (all 94%).

Austria is also the only Member State where fewer than half the respondents (47%) say that they would rely 'a great deal' on family or friends', though the sum of "somewhat" and "a great deal" is still 79% (as reported above).

QC9.1. In the first few days following a disaster, please indicate how much you would expect to rely on each of the following to help you cope with the situation.
:-Family/friends (%)



Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Most respondents would expect to rely on emergency services during an emergency

At the **national level** we see some notable differences between EU Member States.

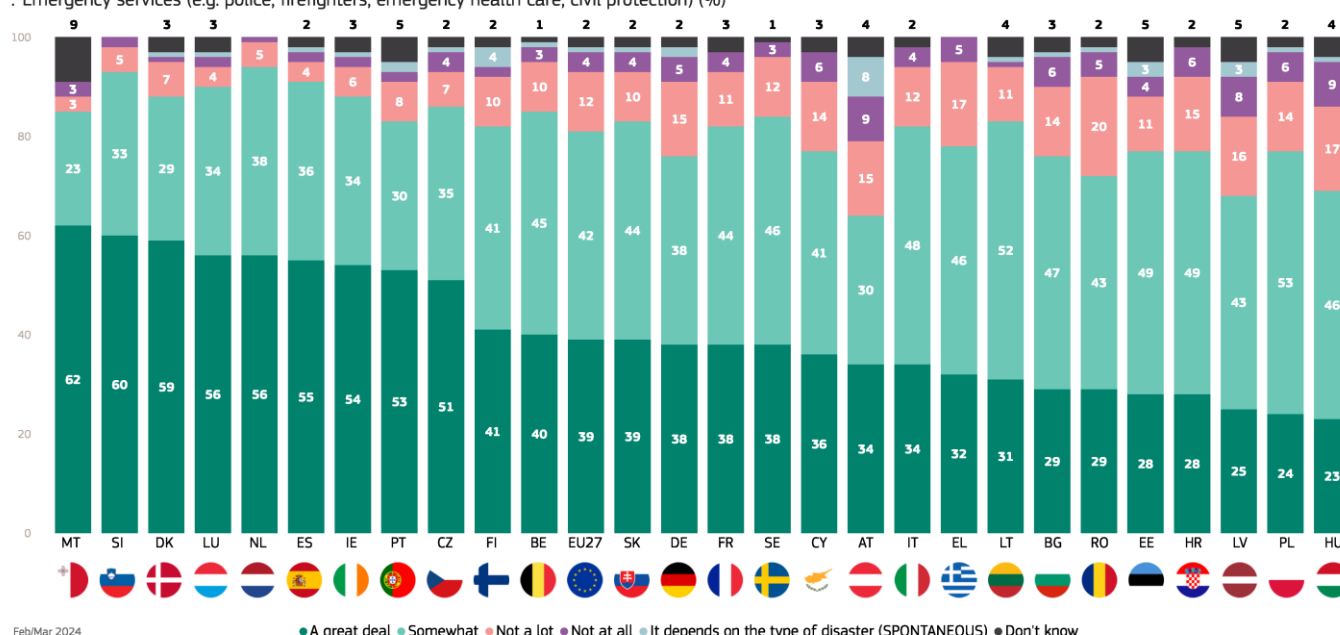
In every Member State, at least two-thirds of respondents say they would rely¹⁶ on emergency services during an emergency, with the exception of Austria (64%).

In three countries, more than nine in ten would rely on emergency services: the Netherlands (94%), Slovenia (93%), and Spain (91%).

In nine countries, more than half say that they would rely ‘a great deal’ on emergency services, with the highest scores registered in Malta (62%), Slovenia (60%), and Denmark (59%).

In addition to Austria, the countries where respondents are least likely to say this are Latvia (68%) and Hungary (69%).

QC9.4. In the first few days following a disaster, please indicate how much you would expect to rely on each of the following to help you cope with the situation.
:-Emergency services (e.g. police, firefighters, emergency health care, civil protection) (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

● A great deal ● Somewhat ● Not a lot ● Not at all ● It depends on the type of disaster (SPONTANEOUS) ● Don't know

¹⁶ This is the sum of “a great deal” and “somewhat”.

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Most respondents would expect to rely on people in their neighbourhood during an emergency

At the **national level** we see some notable differences between EU Member States.

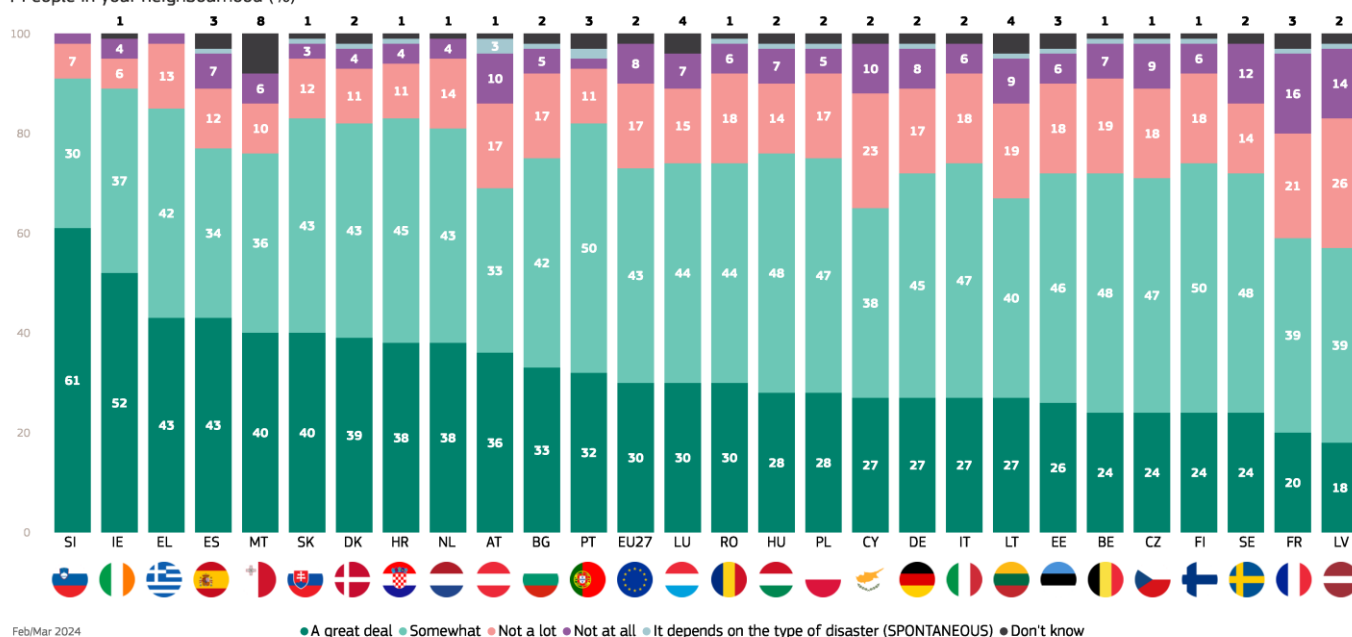
In all Member States, more than half the respondents would rely¹⁷ on people in their neighbourhood during an emergency. Slovenia is the only country where more than nine in ten (91%) say this, followed by Ireland (89%), and Greece (85%).

Respondents are least likely to rely on people in their neighbourhood in Latvia (57%), France (59%), and Cyprus (65%).

Slovenia is the only EU Member State where more than half the respondents (61%) indicate that they would rely 'a great deal' on people in their neighbourhood.

In five countries, at least one in ten say that they would not rely at all on people in their neighbourhood: France (16%), Latvia (14%), Sweden (12%), and Austria and Cyprus (both 10%).

QC9.2. In the first few days following a disaster, please indicate how much you would expect to rely on each of the following to help you cope with the situation.
:-People in your neighbourhood (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

● A great deal ● Somewhat ● Not a lot ● Not at all ● It depends on the type of disaster (SPONTANEOUS) ● Don't know

¹⁷ This is the sum of "a great deal" and "somewhat".

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Most respondents would expect to rely on associations or non-profit organisations during an emergency

At the **national level** we see some notable differences between EU Member States.

In 21 Member States, at least six in ten would rely¹⁸ on associations or non-profit organisations, like the Red Cross, during an emergency.

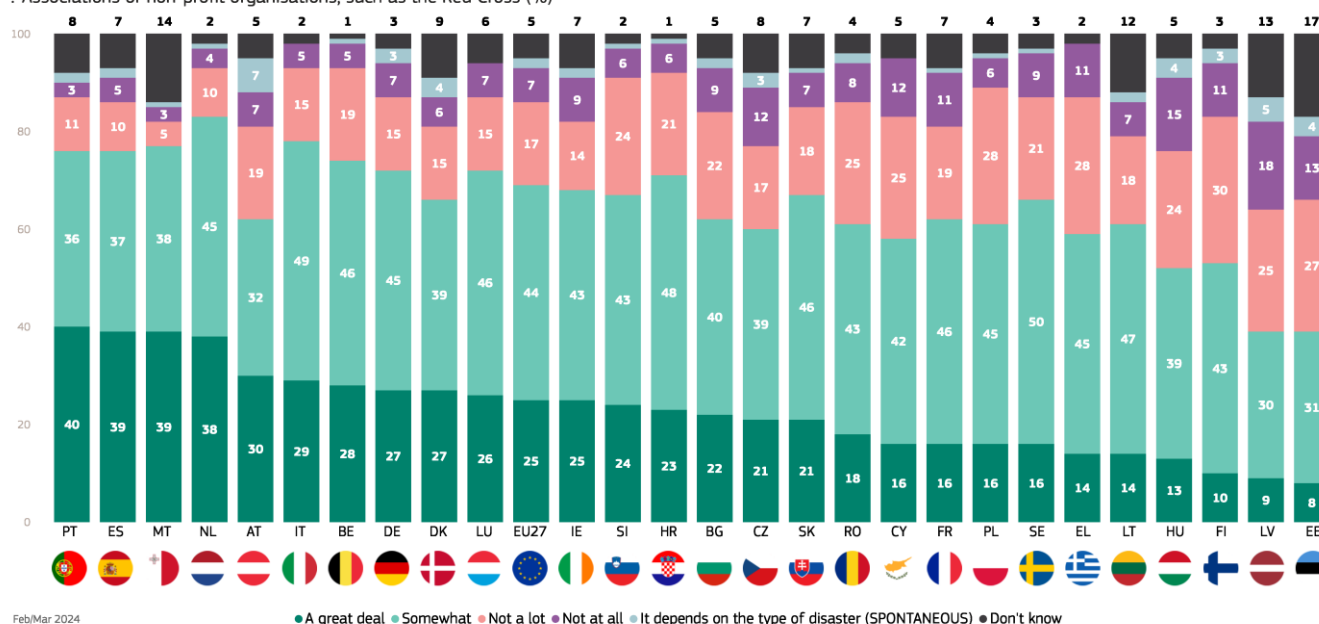
In five countries more than three-quarters would do so: the Netherlands (83%), Italy (78%), Malta (77%), and Portugal and Spain (both 76%).

Estonia and Latvia (both 39%) are the only countries where fewer than half the respondents would rely on such organisations during an emergency.

In eight countries, more than one in ten respondents say that they would not rely on such organisations at all, with the highest proportions registered in Latvia (18%), Hungary (15%), and Estonia (13%).

More than one in ten say they don't know in Estonia (17%), Malta (14%), Latvia (13%), and Lithuania (12%).

QC9.3. In the first few days following a disaster, please indicate how much you would expect to rely on each of the following to help you cope with the situation.
:-Associations or non-profit organisations, such as the Red Cross (%)



¹⁸ This is the sum of "a great deal" and "somewhat".

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Most respondents would expect to rely on local authorities or government agencies or services during an emergency

The **national level** results show the following:

In every EU Member State, more than half the respondents would rely¹⁹ on local authorities or government agencies or services during an emergency, except in Latvia (48%), Estonia (49%), and Lithuania (50%).

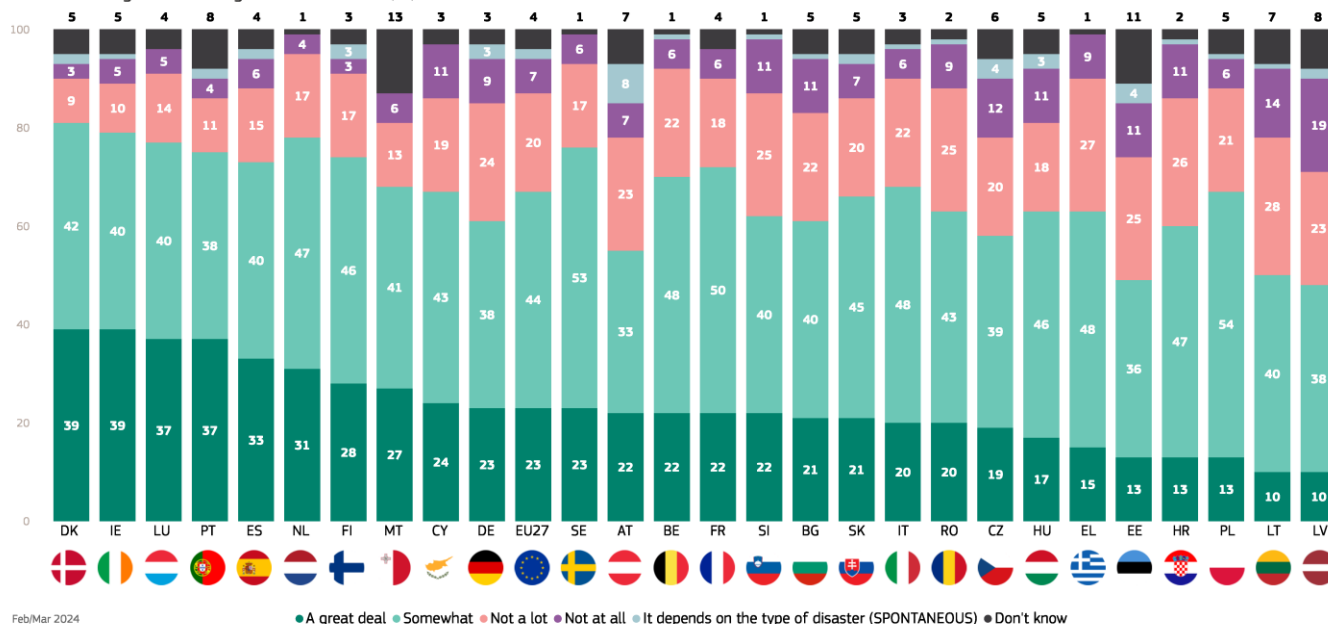
Respondents are most likely to rely on local authorities or government agencies or services in Denmark (81%), Ireland (79%), the Netherlands (78%), Luxembourg (77%), and Sweden (76%).

More than one in three place a 'great deal' of reliance on such agencies or services in Denmark and Ireland (both 39%), and Luxembourg and Portugal (both 37%).

More than one in ten say they don't know in Malta (13%) and Estonia (11%).

In nine countries, at least one in ten respondents would not rely on local authorities or government agencies at all, with nearly one in five saying this in Latvia (19%).

QC9.5. In the first few days following a disaster, please indicate how much you would expect to rely on each of the following to help you cope with the situation. :-Local authorities or government agencies or services (%)



¹⁹ This is the sum of "a great deal" and "somewhat".

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Respondents are divided in terms of their expected reliance on private sector entities or companies

At national level, the results are as follows:

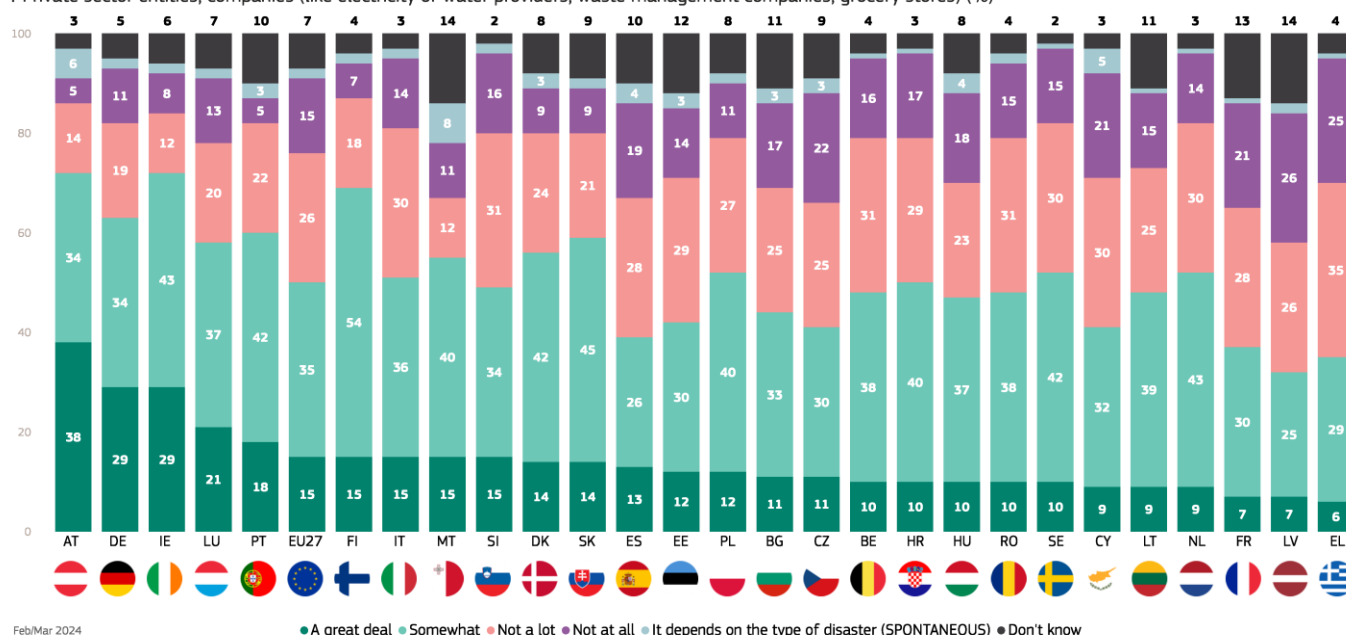
In 13 countries more than half the respondents would rely²⁰ on private sector entities and companies during an emergency, with the highest scores registered in Austria and Ireland (both 72%), Finland (69%), and Germany (63%).

Around three in ten or more would place a 'great deal' of reliance on such private entities in Austria (38%), and Germany and Ireland (both 29%).

Respondents are least likely to rely on private entities and companies in Latvia (32%), Greece (35%), and France (37%). In 21 countries, more than one in ten say they would not rely them at all, while in five countries, this rises to more than one in five : Latvia (26%), Greece (25%), Czechia (22%), and Cyprus and France (both 21%).

More than one in ten say they don't know in Malta and Latvia (both 14%), France (13%), Estonia (12%), and Lithuania and Bulgaria (both 11%).

QC9.7. In the first few days following a disaster, please indicate how much you would expect to rely on each of the following to help you cope with the situation.
:-Private sector entities, companies (like electricity or water providers, waste management companies, grocery stores) (%)



²⁰ This is the sum of "a great deal" and "somewhat".

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Most respondents tend to say they would expect to rely less on their employer, school or education institution following a disaster

At the **national level** we note some interesting differences between EU Member States.

In all EU Member States but one (Poland, 51%), the majority of respondents would not rely²¹ a lot or at all on their work, employer, school or

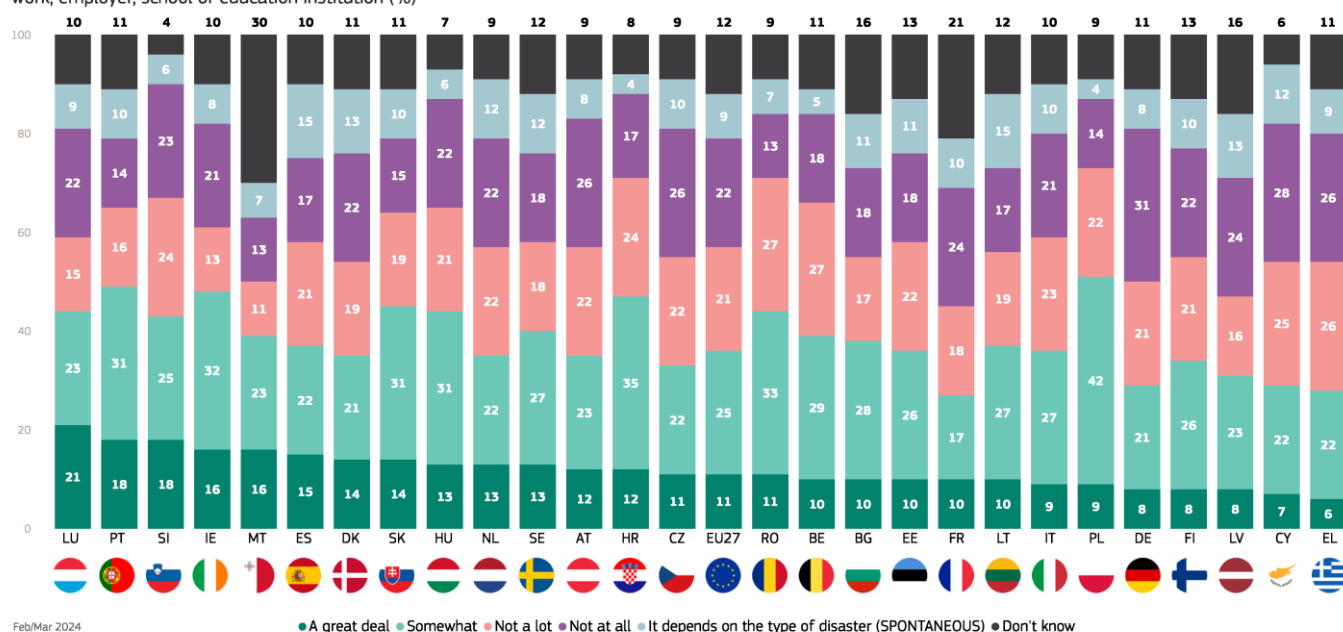
education institution during an emergency. Close to 50% would nevertheless do so in Portugal (49%), Ireland (48%), and Croatia (47%).

Respondents are least likely to rely on these institutions in France (27%), Greece (28%), and Germany and Cyprus (29%).

Luxembourg is the only place where more than one in five respondents (21%) would place a 'great deal' of reliance on such institutions.

In 14 countries, more than one in ten say they don't know, with the highest scores found Malta (30%), France (21%), Bulgaria and Latvia (both 16%).

QC9.6. In the first few days following a disaster, please indicate how much you would expect to rely on each of the following to help you cope with the situation. :-Your work, employer, school or education institution (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

● A great deal ● Somewhat ● Not a lot ● Not at all ● It depends on the type of disaster (SPONTANEOUS) ● Don't know

²¹ This is the sum of "Not a lot" and "Not at all".

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

The **socio-demographic** analysis shows the following:

- Younger respondents are slightly more likely to rely on **family or friends**, with 93% of those aged 15-24 mentioning them compared with 88% of those aged 55 and over. Conversely, those aged 40 and over are more likely (75%) to put greater reliance on **people in their neighbourhood** than those aged 15-39 (68%-71%).
- More than half (51%) of those who remained in education past the age of 20 place greater reliance on **private sector entities or companies**, compared with 46% of those who left school aged 15 or younger. The contrast is even sharper with regard to relying on **work, employer, school or education institution** (39% vs 24%).
- Among socio-professional categories, students are more likely to rely (94%) on **family or friends**, especially compared with the unemployed (87%). Students and managers are more likely (73%-74%) to rely on associations or **non-profit organisations**, such as the Red Cross, particularly in comparison with manual workers, the self-employed, house persons (all 68%), and the unemployed (63%).
- Respondents who never have trouble paying their bills are substantially more likely (83%) to place greater reliance on **emergency services** such as police, firefighters, emergency health care, or civil protection than those who face such issues most of the time (73%). The same is true in terms of relying on **people in the neighbourhood** (74% vs 68%), **associations or non-profit organisations**, such as the Red Cross (69% vs 63%), **local authorities or government agencies or services** (69% vs 57%), **private sector entities or companies** (52% vs 40%), and **work, employer, school, or education institution** (35% vs 26%).
- Respondents who live in rural areas are slightly more likely to rely on **people in their neighbourhood** than those living in big cities (76% vs 73%), whereas the latter are more likely to fall back on **associations or non-profit organisations like the Red Cross** (70% vs 66%) or their **work, employer, school or education institution** (37% vs 33%).

- Respondents who use the internet every day are more likely (82%) to rely on **emergency services** during an emergency than those who sometimes (77%) or never (74%) go online. The same applies to **associations or non-profit organisations**, such as the Red Cross (70%, 64%, and 58% respectively) and **private sector entities** (52%, 46%, 40%).
- Those who frequently discuss European political affairs are more likely to rely on **people in their neighbourhood** than those who never discuss such issues (76% vs 67%). The same is true for **private sector entities** (57% vs 42%) and **work, employer, school or education institution** (39% vs 31%).
- Respondents who report that they are limited at least to some extent in their daily activities due to health problems are also more likely to rely on all categories of third parties than those who do not report such limitations, but depend particularly on **non-profit organisations** (71% vs 64%) and **emergency services** (83% vs 76%).

Cross-sectional analysis

- Respondents who trust the emergency services and authorities in general are also more likely to place greater reliance on **all the mentioned categories**, including non-governmental entities, than those who do not; for example, on family or friends (92% vs 79%), people in the neighbourhood (76% vs 58%), or private sector entities (53% vs 34%).
- Respondents who have experienced a disaster in the last 10 years are slightly more likely to rely on their **employer or educational institution** than those who have not had this experience (40% vs 33%), as well as on the **private sector** (53% vs 48%).
- Respondents who say that their country is exposed to five or more risks are more likely than those who mention just one risk to rely on the **private sector** (57% vs 44%) and the **people in their neighbourhood** in the event of disaster (73% vs 60%).

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC9.1-7 In the first few days following a disaster, please indicate how much you would expect to rely on each of the following to help you cope with the situation.
(% - EU)

	Family/friends		People in your neighbourhood		Associations or non-profit organisations, such as the Red Cross		Emergency services (e.g. police, firefighters, emergency health care, civil protection)		Local authorities or government agencies or services		Your work, employer, school or education institution		Private sector entities, companies (like electricity or water providers, waste management companies, grocery stores)	
	Total 'Higher reliance'	Total 'Lower reliance'	Total 'Higher reliance'	Total 'Lower reliance'	Total 'Higher reliance'	Total 'Lower reliance'	Total 'Higher reliance'	Total 'Lower reliance'	Total 'Higher reliance'	Total 'Lower reliance'	Total 'Higher reliance'	Total 'Lower reliance'	Total 'Higher reliance'	Total 'Lower reliance'
EU27	89	9	73	25	69	24	81	16	67	27	36	43	50	41
Age														
15-24	93	7	68	28	71	21	82	13	68	25	43	46	49	41
25-39	91	8	71	26	70	26	80	17	68	28	46	46	53	40
40-54	90	9	75	23	70	24	82	15	67	28	43	48	51	42
55 +	88	10	75	22	66	26	80	16	66	28	23	38	47	41
Education (End of)														
15-	89	9	75	21	68	23	81	15	67	26	24	37	46	40
16-19	88	11	72	25	67	26	79	17	65	29	34	44	51	40
20+	89	10	74	24	69	26	83	14	70	26	39	45	51	41
Still studying	94	5	69	27	74	18	84	11	70	23	45	44	50	40
Socio-professional category														
Self-employed	90	9	74	24	68	28	80	17	67	29	34	49	51	42
Managers	90	9	74	23	73	22	84	13	71	24	49	44	55	39
Other white collars	88	11	74	23	69	26	80	17	69	27	46	47	51	42
Manual workers	90	9	71	26	68	26	79	18	65	30	44	48	52	41
House persons	89	9	72	26	68	26	79	18	65	28	31	40	47	44
Unemployed	87	12	68	31	63	30	81	15	63	31	24	46	42	44
Retired	88	11	75	23	66	26	81	15	66	27	16	35	47	39
Students	94	5	69	27	74	18	84	11	70	23	45	44	50	40
Difficulties paying bills														
Most of the time	89	9	68	30	63	30	73	22	57	36	26	50	40	50
From time to time	88	11	72	26	69	26	79	18	66	29	39	44	49	44
Almost never/ Never	90	9	74	23	69	24	83	14	69	26	35	42	52	38
Subjective urbanisation														
Rural village	90	8	76	21	66	26	81	16	67	28	33	42	48	40
Small/ mid size town	89	10	71	26	70	24	81	16	67	27	36	43	51	40
Large town	90	9	73	26	70	25	81	16	67	27	37	44	51	41
Use of the Internet														
Everyday	90	9	73	25	70	24	82	15	68	27	38	44	52	40
Often/ Sometimes	85	14	72	27	64	30	77	20	61	33	25	46	46	44
Never	87	11	74	23	58	29	74	20	62	29	19	34	40	41
No Internet access	90	8	70	24	64	28	80	16	69	22	20	24	45	38
Talk about European political matters														
Frequently	87	13	76	23	72	22	80	16	69	26	39	42	57	36
Occasionally	90	9	75	22	71	24	81	16	69	27	37	44	53	39
Never	89	9	67	29	64	28	81	15	64	29	31	43	42	46
Personal experience of disaster in the past ten years														
Total 'Yes, have experienced one or more disasters in the past ten years'	88	12	72	26	69	26	79	19	67	29	40	44	53	41
Total 'No, you haven't experienced any disasters in the past ten years'	90	8	74	23	69	24	83	13	67	27	33	43	48	41
Experience of limitations to daily activities due to health problems														
Severely limited	86	13	66	33	60	31	75	22	61	33	27	45	47	42
Somewhat limited	85	14	72	26	65	29	76	21	64	31	33	43	50	42
Not limited at all	91	8	74	23	71	23	83	13	69	25	38	43	51	40
Total 'Limited to some extent'	86	14	71	27	64	29	76	21	64	31	31	44	49	42
Perception of potential country exposure to disaster risk - total of mentions														
No mention	80	9	59	26	45	30	68	18	53	27	30	32	33	38
1 mention	89	8	60	31	57	27	72	19	58	29	31	35	45	35
2 mentions	87	12	72	25	67	27	77	19	66	28	39	42	49	41
3 mentions	91	9	74	25	69	26	82	15	68	27	37	45	50	42
4 mentions	90	9	77	21	70	24	83	15	67	29	33	45	50	42
5 mentions	91	8	73	25	72	23	85	12	70	26	34	44	54	39

Special Eurobarometer 547
Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

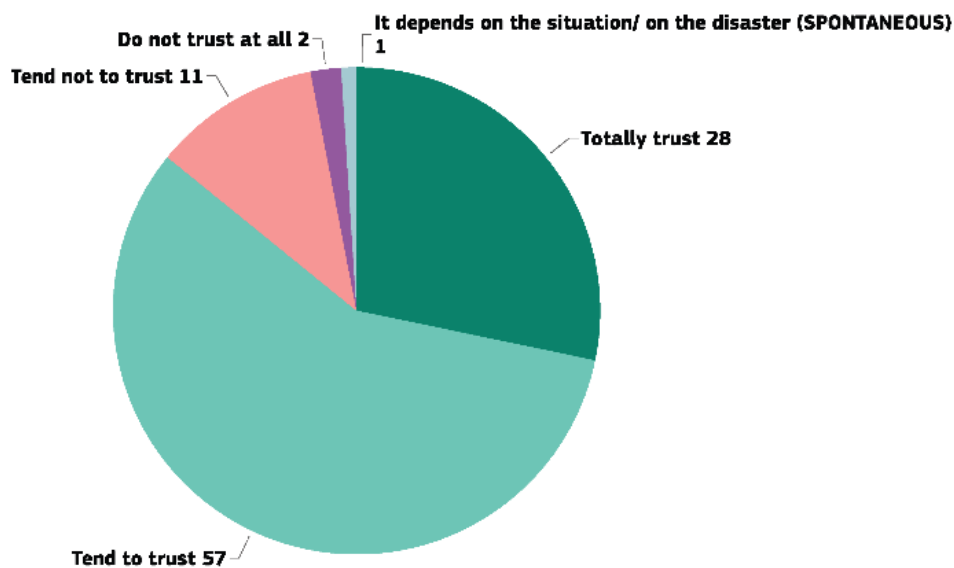
Trust in emergency services and authorities to handle disasters or emergency situations

Respondents were asked to what extent they trust emergency services and authorities, such as police, firefighters, or civil protection in their country to handle disasters or emergency situations properly.

Most European trust emergency services and authorities to handle disasters or emergency situations properly

Across the EU, **more than eight in ten (85%) respondents say they trust emergency services and authorities to handle disasters or emergency situations properly**, with close to three in ten (28%) 'totally trusting' these services. More than one in ten (13%) say they do not trust them in these situations.

QC10. How much trust do you have in emergency services and authorities (e.g. police, firefighters, civil protection) in (OUR COUNTRY) to handle disasters or emergency situations properly? (EU27) (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

Special Eurobarometer 547

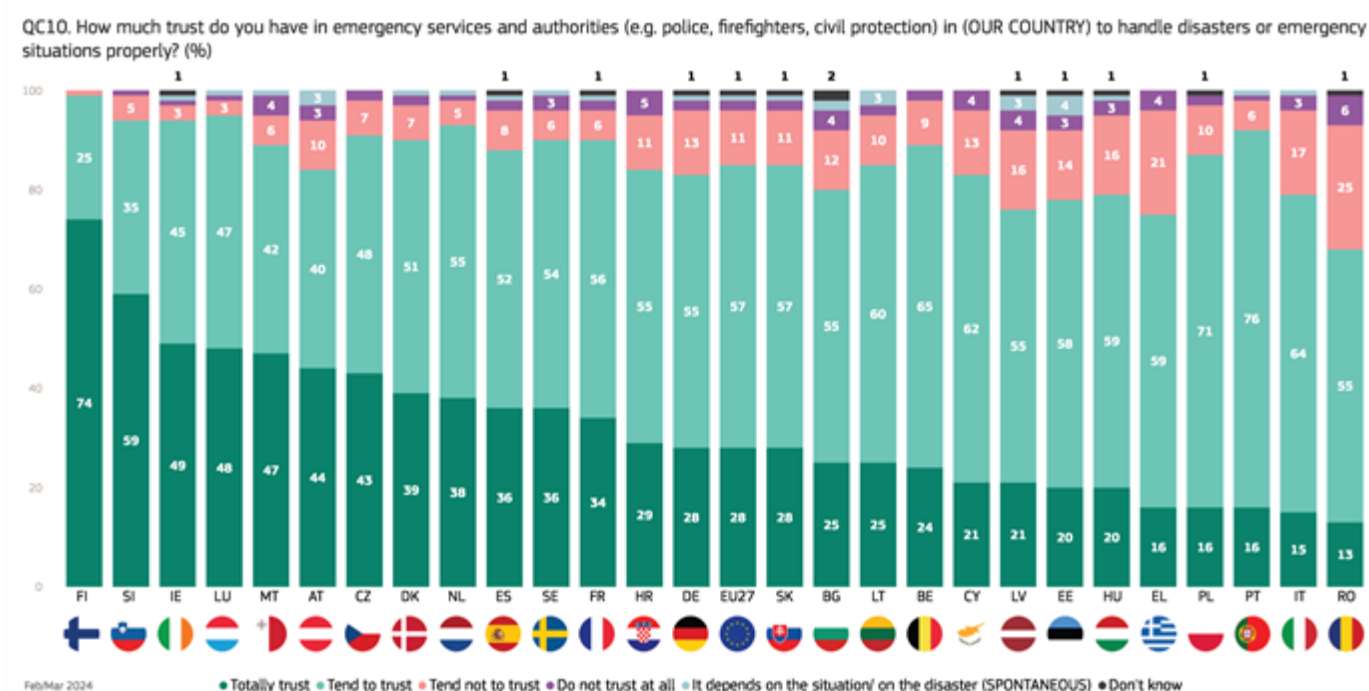
Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

At the **national level** we see notable differences between EU Member States.

In **every EU Member State**, more than two-thirds of respondents 'totally trust' or 'tend to trust' emergency services and authorities to handle disasters or emergency situations properly. This trust is close to unanimous in Finland (99%), and more than nine in ten say the same in

Luxembourg (95%), Slovenia and Ireland (both 94%), the Netherlands (93%), Portugal (92%), and Czechia (91%).

The lowest scores are found in Romania (68%), Greece (75%), and Latvia (76%) (EU average: 85% total trust). More than half the respondents 'totally trust' emergency services and authorities to handle disasters or emergency situations properly in Finland (74%) and Slovenia (59%).



Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

The **socio-demographic** analysis shows the following:

- Respondents aged **15-24** and those aged **40 and over** are **more likely (28%-29%)** to say they 'totally trust' emergency services and authorities in their country to handle disasters or emergency situations properly than those aged 25-39 (25%).
- Respondents whose **education continued until age 20** or beyond are **more likely (88%)** to say they trust the emergency services and authorities than those who left school aged 15 and younger (83%).
- Among socio-professional categories, **managers (89%)** are **more likely** to trust emergency services and authorities (e.g., police, firefighters, civil protection) to handle disasters or emergency situations properly, especially compared with manual workers and the self-employed (82%-83%), and house persons and the unemployed (both 79%).
- Respondents who **never have difficulties paying their bills** are **more likely** to trust the emergency services than those who often face such issues (89% vs 72%).
- The same is true with respect to those who **use the internet every day** compared with those who never go online (85% vs 80%).

Cross-sectional analysis

- Respondents who have **experienced one or more disasters in the past ten years** are **less likely (82%)** to trust the emergency services and authorities than those who have experienced no disasters in the past ten years (87%).
- Respondents who say that their country is **exposed to five or more risks** are **more likely** to trust the emergency services and authorities than their counterparts who identify only one risk (88% vs 83%).

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC10 How much trust do you have in emergency services and authorities (e.g. police, firefighters, civil protection) in (OUR COUNTRY) to handle disasters or emergency situations properly?
(% - EU)

	Totally trust	Tend to trust	Tend not to trust	Do not trust at all	It depends on the situation/ on the disaster (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know	Total 'Trust'	Total 'Do not trust'
EU27	28	57	11	2	1	1	85	13
Age								
15-24	29	56	12	2	0	1	85	14
25-39	25	59	12	3	1	0	84	15
40-54	29	56	11	3	1	0	85	14
55 +	28	58	10	2	1	1	86	12
Education (End of)								
15-	30	53	12	3	1	1	83	15
16-19	25	58	12	3	1	1	83	15
20+	30	58	9	2	1	0	88	11
Still studying	31	54	11	2	1	1	85	13
Socio-professional category								
Self- employed	29	53	12	4	2	0	82	16
Managers	30	59	8	2	1	0	89	10
Other white collars	26	60	11	3	0	0	86	14
Manual workers	25	58	13	2	1	1	83	15
House persons	25	54	15	4	1	1	79	19
Unemployed	26	53	14	4	1	2	79	18
Retired	29	57	10	2	1	1	86	12
Students	31	54	11	2	1	1	85	13
Difficulties paying bills								
Most of the time	22	50	18	8	1	1	72	26
From time to time	19	60	16	3	1	1	79	19
Almost never/ Never	32	57	8	2	1	0	89	10
Use of the Internet								
Everyday	28	57	11	2	1	1	85	13
Often/ Sometimes	19	61	17	2	1	0	80	19
Never	27	53	13	4	1	2	80	17
No Internet access	33	54	11	1	0	1	87	12
Personal experience of disaster in the past ten years								
Total 'Yes, have experienced one or more disasters in the past ten years'	26	56	14	3	1	0	82	17
Total 'No, you haven't experienced any disasters in the past ten years'	29	58	9	2	1	1	87	11
Experience of limitations to daily activities due to health problems								
Severely limited	31	50	14	4	1	0	81	18
Somewhat limited	22	56	17	3	1	1	78	20
Not limited at all	29	58	9	2	1	1	87	11
Total 'Limited to some extent'	24	55	16	3	1	1	79	19
Perception of potential country exposure to disaster risk - total of mentions								
No mention	22	55	11	5	3	4	77	16
1 mention	27	56	9	2	2	4	83	11
2 mentions	26	56	14	3	0	1	82	17
3 mentions	26	59	11	3	1	0	85	14
4 mentions	28	58	10	2	1	1	86	12
5 mentions	31	57	9	2	1	0	88	11

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Voluntary engagement to support emergency responder organisations or community-based initiatives to increase disaster resilience

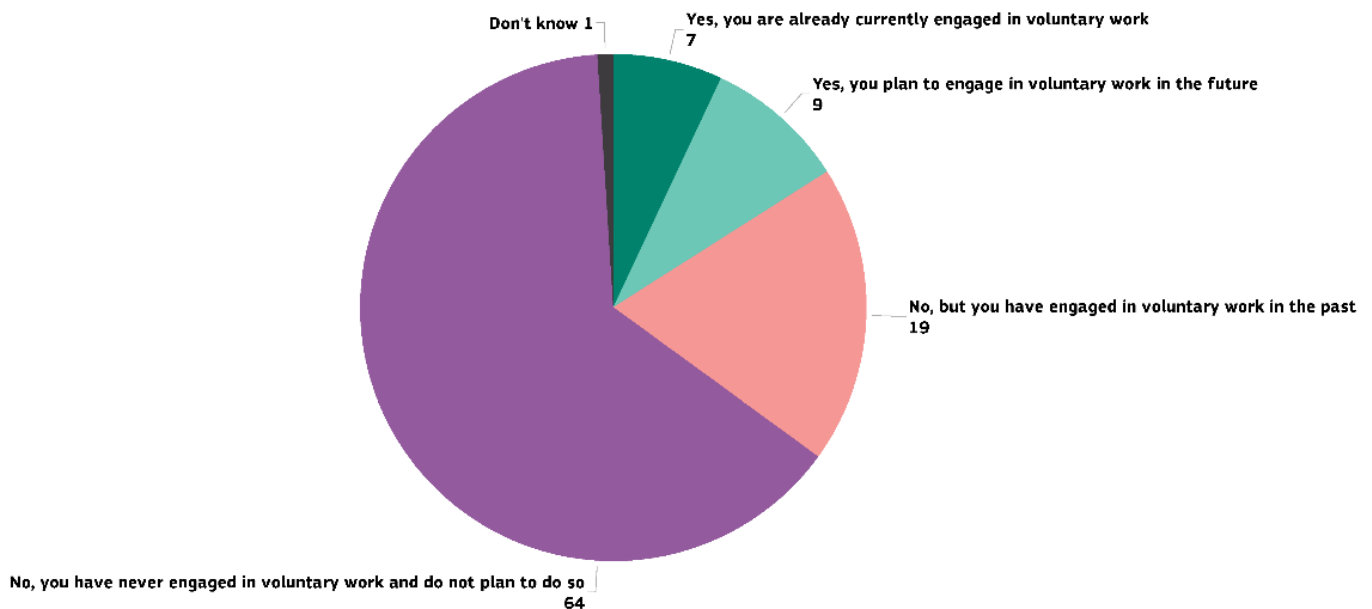
Respondents were asked whether they currently engage, or plan to engage, in voluntary work that supports emergency responder organisations or community-based initiatives to increase disaster resilience.

Most respondents have never engaged in voluntary work and do not plan to do so

Close to two-thirds (64%) of respondents say they have never engaged in voluntary work and have no plans to do so.

Fewer than one in ten (7%) are currently engaged in this type of voluntary work. Around one in five (19%) say that while they are not currently engaged in this type of voluntary work, they have been so in the past. Close to one in ten (9%) say they plan to engage in voluntary work in the future.

QC11. Do you currently engage, or do you plan to engage, in voluntary work that supports emergency responder organisations or community-based initiatives to increase disaster resilience? (EU27) (%)



Feb/Mar 2024

Special Eurobarometer 547

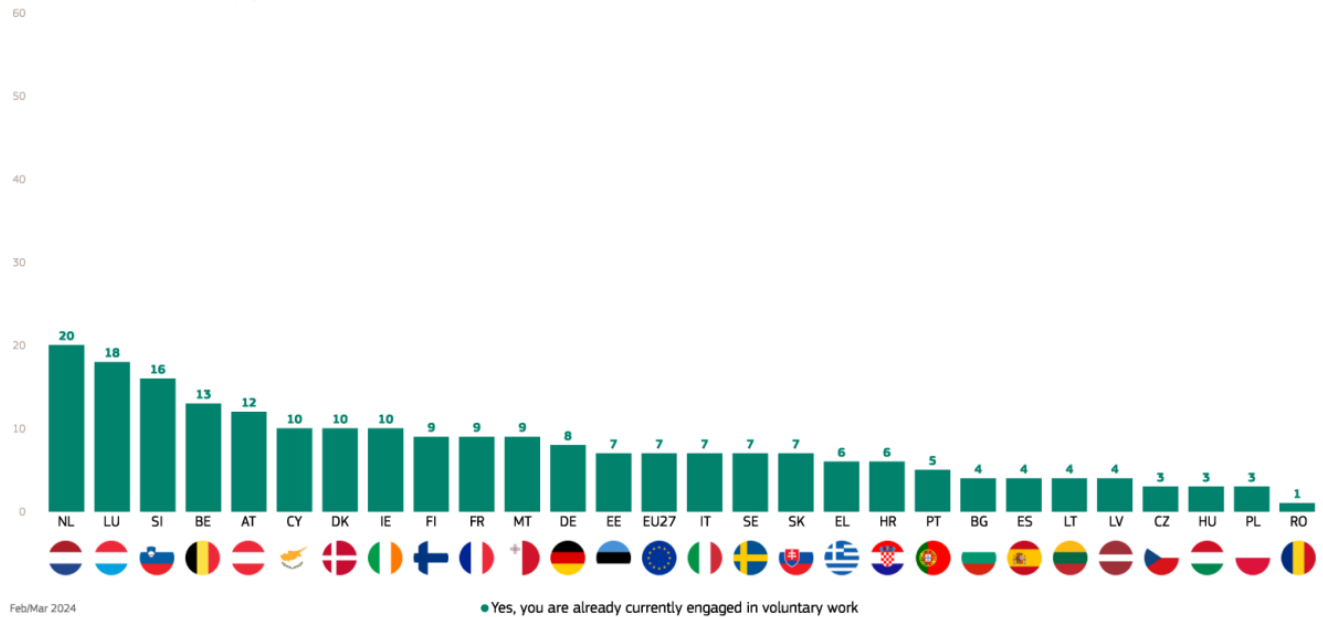
Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

The **national analysis** shows the following:

With regard to current engagement, the overall responses given by citizens in most Member States do not deviate very significantly from the EU average of 7% of respondents who say that they **currently engage in voluntary work** supporting emergency responder organisations or community-based initiatives. The highest proportions of volunteers are found in the Netherlands (20%), Luxembourg (18%), and Slovenia (16%).

The lowest scores in this regard are recorded in Romania (1%), Czechia, Hungary, and Poland (all 3%), and Spain, Bulgaria, Lithuania, and Latvia (all 4%).

QC11. Do you currently engage, or do you plan to engage, in voluntary work that supports emergency responder organisations or community-based initiatives to increase disaster resilience? (%)



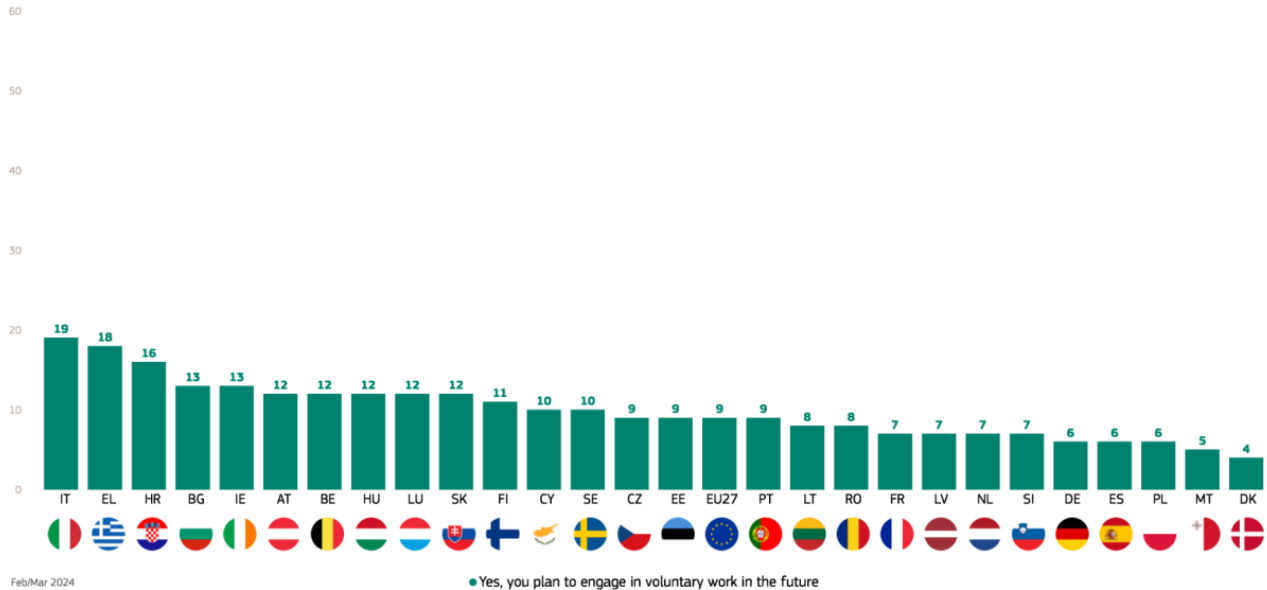
Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Again, when it comes to their **future plans to engage in voluntary work**, the cross-country variations in respondents' answers do not diverge very significantly from the EU average of 9%. Close to one in five say they **plan to engage in such voluntary work in the future** in Italy (19%) and Greece (18%).

Respondents are least likely to say this in Denmark (4%), Malta (5%), and Germany, Spain, and Poland (all 6%).

QC11. Do you currently engage, or do you plan to engage, in voluntary work that supports emergency responder organisations or community-based initiatives to increase disaster resilience? (%)



Special Eurobarometer 547

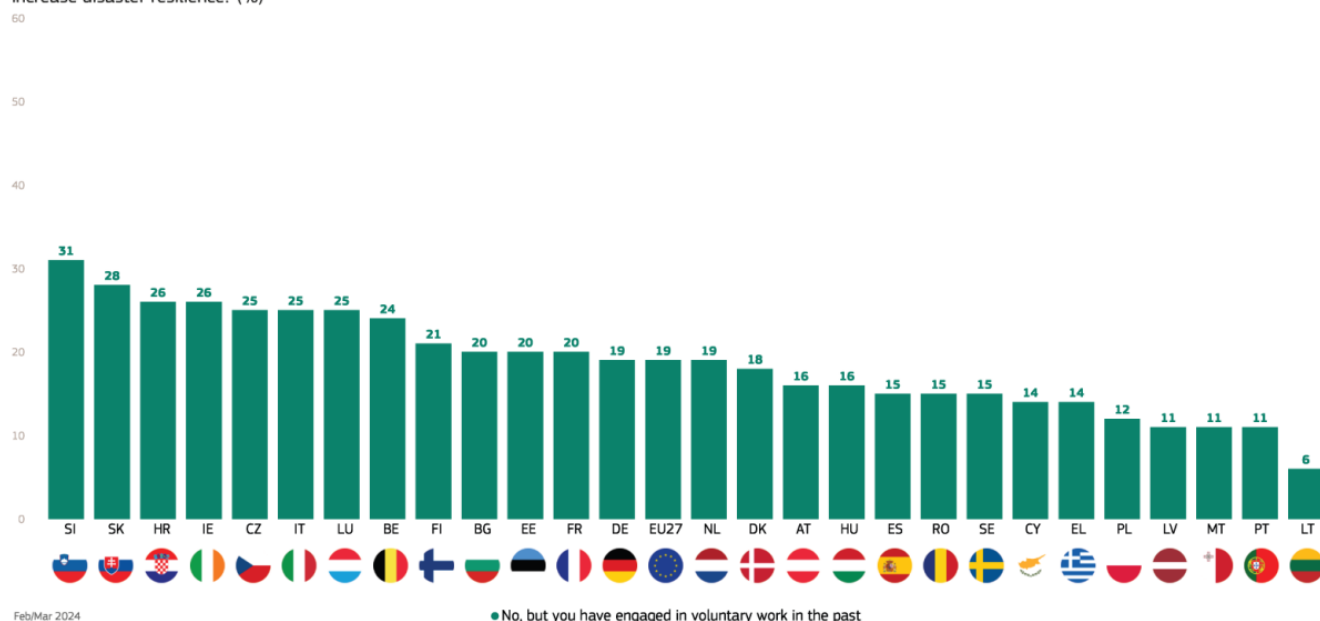
Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

The cross-country variation in response patterns is somewhat greater when it comes to reported **previous engagement in voluntary work** to support emergency responder organisations or community-based initiatives, which averages 19% across the EU.

In seven countries, close to one in four or more **have engaged in voluntary work to increase disaster resilience in the past**, most notably in Slovenia (31%), Slovakia (28%), and Croatia and Ireland (both 26%).

Respondents are least likely to say this in Lithuania (6%, the only country where less than one in ten do so), Portugal, Malta, and Latvia (all 11%), and Poland (12%).

QC11. Do you currently engage, or do you plan to engage, in voluntary work that supports emergency responder organisations or community-based initiatives to increase disaster resilience? (%)



Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

The **socio-demographic** analysis shows the following:

- Respondents aged 25 and over are more likely (18%-20%) to say they do **not currently engage in voluntary work that supports emergency responder organisations or community-based initiatives to increase disaster resilience, but have done so in the past**, than those aged 15-24 (13%). However, respondents in this youngest group are more likely (15%) to say they **plan to engage in such work in the future** than those aged 25-39 (12%), 40-54 (9%), and 55 and over (6%). Overall, two-thirds (66%) of those aged 55 and over say they **have never engaged in voluntary work and have no plans to do so**, compared with 62%-63% among younger respondents.
- Respondents who remained in education past the age of 20 are slightly more likely to say that they **currently engage in voluntary work** for this purpose than those who left school aged 15 or younger (9% vs 6%), or that they **plan to do so in the future** (10% vs 4%). The least educated demographic in turn is substantially more likely to say they have **never engaged in this kind of voluntary work** and do not plan to do so (73% vs 59%).
- Among socio-professional categories, managers are more likely to be **currently engaged in voluntary work** (11%), especially compared with retirees (7%), the unemployed, manual workers, and other white-collar workers (all 6%), and house persons (5%).
- Respondents who have difficulties paying their bills most of the time and those who never face such issues are equally likely (65%-66%) to say they **have never engaged in this type of voluntary work** and do not plan to do so, but more likely than those who encounter such problems from time to time (60%).
- Respondents living in rural areas are the most likely (66%) to say they have **never engaged in voluntary work for this purpose and do not plan to do so**, followed by those who live in large cities (64%), and those living in small or mid-size towns (62%).
- Respondents who use the internet every day are more likely than those who never go online to say they **currently engage in such voluntary work** (8% vs 3%).
- The same applies to those who frequently talk about European political matters compared with those who never do so (13% vs 5%).

Cross-sectional analysis

- Respondents who trust the emergency services and authorities are more likely (8% vs 4%) to say they **are currently engaged in this kind of voluntary work** than those who do not trust them, while the latter group are more likely (24% vs 18%) to say they have engaged in voluntary work in the past but no longer do so.
- Respondents who have experienced a disaster in the last 10 years are more likely than those who have not to **have engaged in voluntary activity in the past** (22% vs 17%) or to **plan to do so in the future** (13% vs 7%).

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC11 Do you currently engage, or do you plan to engage, in voluntary work that supports emergency responder organisations or community-based initiatives to increase disaster resilience?
(% - EU)

	Yes, you are already currently engaged in voluntary work	Yes, you plan to engage in voluntary work in the future	No, but you have engaged in voluntary work in the past	No, you have never engaged in voluntary work and do not plan to do so	Don't know
EU27	7	9	19	64	1
Age					
15-24	8	15	13	62	2
25-39	6	12	18	63	1
40-54	8	9	20	62	1
55 +	7	6	20	66	1
Education (End of)					
15-	6	4	17	73	0
16-19	5	9	19	66	1
20+	9	10	21	59	1
Still studying	9	17	13	59	2
Socio-professional category					
Self-employed	9	12	18	60	1
Managers	11	10	21	57	1
Other white collars	6	11	20	62	1
Manual workers	6	9	19	65	1
House persons	5	8	18	68	1
Unemployed	6	8	17	68	1
Retired	7	4	20	68	1
Students	9	17	13	59	2
Difficulties paying bills					
Most of the time	7	9	17	66	1
From time to time	6	12	21	60	1
Almost never/ Never	8	8	18	65	1
Subjective urbanisation					
Rural village	7	8	18	66	1
Small/ mid size town	7	10	20	62	1
Large town	7	10	18	64	1
Use of the Internet					
Everyday	8	10	19	62	1
Often/ Sometimes	5	9	22	63	1
Never	3	3	14	79	1
No Internet access	3	4	13	79	1
Talk about European political matters					
Frequently	13	11	20	55	1
Occasionally	7	10	20	62	1
Never	5	7	15	72	1
Personal experience of disaster in the past ten years					
Total 'Yes, have experienced one or more	8	13	22	56	1
Total 'No, you haven't experienced any disaster	6	7	17	69	1
Trust in the emergency services and authorities					
Trust	8	9	18	64	1
Do not trust	4	9	24	62	1

Conclusions

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

This comprehensive survey on the disaster risk awareness and preparedness of EU citizens sheds nuanced light on the perceptions and preparedness of citizens in respect of disasters and emergencies across the EU. As the continent faces diverse disaster risks and threats of various origins, the findings reveal a populace that is to some extent prepared, yet it is aware of the need for further information and additional resources to enhance its awareness and preparedness.

Respondents have a multifaceted view of disaster risks. Half (50%) of them acknowledge (to varying extents) the vulnerability of their country to extreme weather events, and just below half to floods (44%). Concerns about cyber threats (33%), and geopolitical tensions (32%) are also prevalent among respondents' concerns, reflecting a broad awareness that disaster risks are not only environmental but also technological and social in nature. In addition, there are concerns about wildfires or forest fires (31%), particularly in Southern European countries such as Greece (88%) and Cyprus (72%).

Both on a personal and national level vulnerability to extreme weather events are the most selected answer by EU citizens. Similarly, floods are the second most selected item at the country level and the third at the personal level.

Though respondents rated natural threats highly, cyber threats are also frequently mentioned as a threat: this is the third most selected item at country level and the fourth at the personal level. Possibly due to the COVID-19 pandemic, human health emergencies are ranked in second place at the personal level.

The survey furthermore points to a substantial reliance on emergency services. In particular, a vast majority of respondents (85%) say they trust these authorities to handle disaster situations competently. This trust is foundational for effective disaster response and emphasises the importance of maintaining and enhancing the capabilities of emergency services across EU Member States.

The extent of reliance on family or friends to cope in the first days after a disaster (62% would rely on them a great deal), and community networks (73% would rely a great deal or somewhat on these) highlights respondents' strong inclination to turn to personal networks in times of crisis, underscoring the need for community-based preparedness and response strategies that leverage these social bonds.

In several EU Member States, respondents' ability to manage basic household functions using alternative resources during emergencies and prior to the arrival of emergency services, is limited. In particular, over a third of respondents in Belgium (42%), Czechia (40%), and Italy (39%) report that they could only continue to cook meals and heat their homes or water using alternative sources for one day or less, highlighting a significant dependence on uninterrupted gas services. In 15 countries, a majority of respondents say that they would only be able to power essential appliances and home lighting for one day or less.

The overall ability to survive in the event of a disaster differs by resource. Electricity is the resource that most respondents would not have enough of for one day or less (48%), while only 11% say they would run out of food in that time. The resource most mentioned as one of which Europeans feel they would have enough for more than 7 days, is medicine (34%), followed by meals (29%), the ability to cook meals and heat their home/water (20%), meeting water needs (14%) and powering essential appliances and lighting (10%).

With regard to personal preparedness measures, substantial differences exist between Member States. For instance, over 90% of respondents in Finland have a flashlight or candles accessible, compared with fewer than one in three in Italy and Poland. In fact, the EU average exceeds 50% for none of these preparedness measures. For example, even the most widely selected item, having a flashlight, is not chosen by a majority of respondents. Furthermore, only 15% of respondents have five or more preparedness measures in place, and 31% have only one. This improvable level of preparedness is also reflected in the fact that only 37% of Europeans feel well prepared for a disaster (with 58% not feeling well-prepared) and only 46% would know what to do (48% do not know what to do). Additionally, just over half (57%) know how they would be alerted by emergency services in case of a disaster (38% do not know).

Across all surveyed EU countries, a majority (75%) believe that better preparation for disasters would enhance their ability to manage such situations effectively, though 39% of respondents say they have no time or money to prepare properly.

In terms of information levels and trust in information on disaster risks, over half the respondents (58%) have encountered information regarding disaster risks over the past year. However, while 54% of respondents find it easy to access information from public authorities and emergency services in the area where they live, nearly half (49%) do not feel well informed about the disaster risks that could affect them (while 48% feel somewhat informed). This highlights a divide that might indicate a disconnect between the availability of information and its perceived adequacy. In addition, 47% of respondents do not know where to find such information when travelling to another EU country. Overall, 65% of respondents feel that they need more information to be able to prepare for emergencies or disasters.

The survey results further point to substantial variation in respondents' preferred sources of information about disaster risks across the Member States. For example, national media serve as the primary information source in 20 countries, with particularly high reliance reported in the Netherlands (67%) and Denmark (67%), where two-thirds of respondents favour this channel. Conversely, countries like Hungary (30%), Malta (37%), and Austria (37%) show significantly less reliance on national media. However, in total, 11% were not interested in finding such information.

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

The data also reveals that a majority trust information coming from public authorities and emergency services concerning disaster risks, though this trust varies dramatically across the EU—from 96% in Finland to 57% in Romania.

While a segment of the population is engaged in (7%) or open to (9%) supporting emergency response organisations through volunteer work, a larger portion remains uninvolved (64%).

In light of these findings, the survey illustrates a European populace that is aware of the risks posed by disasters and acknowledges the necessity for enhanced preparedness, information accessibility, and community involvement. The data highlights the importance of a multifaceted approach to disaster resilience, combining individual preparedness, community support networks, and robust emergency services, guided by clear and accessible information from trusted authorities.

Encouraging community-level initiatives that build on the existing social capital and trust in emergency services can significantly enhance disaster resilience overall. This may involve promoting community preparedness programmes, facilitating volunteer involvement in emergency response efforts, and fostering partnerships between local authorities, emergency services, and community organisations.

Given the encouraging level of readiness observed among many respondents, there is a clear opportunity to improve individual and household preparedness measures. This could include expanding access to training and resources, encouraging the development of personal and family emergency plans, and promoting the adoption of basic preparedness measures such as maintaining emergency supplies.

Regional trends

When we consider individual countries and their answers to specific questions, a few large groups emerge. Countries such as Denmark, Finland and Sweden (i.e. Nordic countries) typically score high for questions related to the role of authorities. For example, the majority of respondents in these countries totally agree that they trust information from the authorities on disaster risks (in most countries this figure is closer to 20%), and around three in four respondents in each country would have some reliance on the information provided by public authorities during a disaster. Similarly, the large majority in these countries also know how emergency services will contact them in the event of an emergency.

These countries also score high on having heard, read or seen information on disaster risks, as many as 95% of respondents in Sweden reporting that they have done so. This is also reflected to a great extent in the preparedness of respondents in these countries, with 42% and 36% of respondents in Finland and Sweden respectively having taken more than five precautionary measures. However, only 10% of respondents in Denmark say they have taken five or more measures of preparedness.

Experiencing one or more disasters in the past ten years is more common in countries such as Croatia, Hungary and Austria. Here a majority of people have experienced one or more disaster.

Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia all score quite highly in terms of having more than 7 days' supply of resources. For water, more than 20% in all three countries have more than 7 days' water available in the event of a disaster. Similarly, this figure is above 20% in all three countries for gas services, food supplies and medicines. More than half the respondents in these countries also know how to prepare for a disaster.

Countries where the majority of respondents have had no experience of disasters include Iberian countries (Spain, Portugal), where more than 7 in 10 have had no such exposure. In these countries fewer than half the respondents report to have seen, heard or read information about disaster risks, and they feel generally ill-informed about disaster risks, and poorly prepared for disasters.

In Southern/Mediterranean countries, there is more concern about wildfires/forest fires. For example, in countries such as Greece (88%), Cyprus (72%), Spain (55%) and Portugal (72%), respondents feel their country is most exposed to the risk of wildfires/forest fires. In many of these countries, high percentage of respondents also experienced these types of disasters: Portugal (10%), Greece (15%), Cyprus (12%) (interestingly, in France this is also 10%). Yet, the trust in public authorities to inform them on the risks in where they live is only around European average, and for some below average, such as Cyprus (64%), Greece (69%) and Italy (58%).

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Technical Specifications

Between 7 February and 3 March 2024, Verian (formerly Kantar Public), on behalf of Kantar Belgium, carried out wave 101.1 of the Eurobarometer survey, at the request of the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication, "Media monitoring and Eurobarometer" Unit.

Wave 101.1 covers the population of the respective nationalities of the European Union Member States, resident in each of the 27 Member States and aged 15 years and over.

The basic sample design applied in all countries is a stratified multi-stage, random (probability) one. In each country, the sample frame is first stratified by NUTS (nomenclature of territorial units for statistics) regions and within each region by a measure of urbanity (DEGURBA). The number of sample points selected in each stratum reflects the stratum population 15+. At the second stage, sampling points were drawn with probability proportional to their 0+ population size from within each stratum. The samples 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 areas²².

In each of the selected sampling points, a starting coordinate was drawn at random and a reverse geo-coding tool used to identify the closest address to the coordinate. This address was the starting address for the random walk. 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. The approach to the random selection was conditional on the household size. By way of example for households with two 15+ members the script was used to select either the informant (person responding to the screener questionnaire) or the other eligible member in the household. For households with three 15+ members the script was used to select either the informant (1/3 of the time) or the two other eligible members in the household (2/3 of the time). Where the two other members were selected, the interviewer was then told to ask for the either youngest or oldest. The script would randomly assign the selection to youngest or oldest with equal probability. This process continues for four 15+ household members – randomly asking for the youngest, 2nd youngest and oldest. For households with five 15+ members we revert to the last birthday rule.

If no contact was made with anyone in the household, or if the respondent selected was not available (busy), the interviewer revisited the same household up to three additional times (four contact attempts in total). Interviewers never indicate that the survey is conducted on behalf of the European Commission beforehand; they may give this information once the survey is completed, upon request.

The recruitment phase was slightly different in the Netherlands, Finland, and Sweden. In the latter two countries, a sample of addresses within each sampling point were selected from the address or population register (in Finland, selection is not done in all sample points, but in some where response rates are expected to improve). The selection of addresses was done in a random manner. Households were then contacted by telephone and recruited to take part in the survey. In the Netherlands, a dual frame RDD sample (mobile and landline numbers) are used as there is no comprehensive population register with telephone numbers available. The selection of numbers on both frames is done in a random manner with each number getting an equal probability of selection. Unlike Sweden and Finland, the sample is un-clustered.

²² Urban Rural classification based on DEGURBA
(<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/degree-of-urbanisation/background>)

Special Eurobarometer 547
Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

COUNTRIES		INSTITUTES	N° INTERVIEWS	FIELDWORK DATES		POPULATION 15+	PROPORTION EU27
BE	Belgium	MCM Belgium	1,047	09-02-24	27-02-24	9,619,330	2.5%
BG	Bulgaria	Kantar TNS BBSS	1,035	07-02-24	27-02-24	5,917,534	1.6%
CZ	Czechia	STEM/MARK	1,011	07-02-24	22-02-24	8,982,036	2.4%
DK	Denmark	Mantle Denmark (Verian)	1,003	08-02-24	03-03-24	4,891,261	1.3%
DE	Germany	Mantle Germany (Verian)	1,521	08-02-24	26-02-24	71,677,231	18.9%
EE	Estonia	Norstat Eesti	1,007	07-02-24	26-02-24	1,111,597	0.3%
IE	Ireland	B and A Research	1,001	08-02-24	27-02-24	4,005,909	1.1%
EL	Greece	Kantar Greece	1,002	07-02-24	25-02-24	9,167,896	2.4%
ES	Spain	Mantle Spain (Verian)	1,002	09-02-24	27-02-24	40,639,381	10.7%
FR	France	MCM France	1,012	07-02-24	27-02-24	55,700,114	14.7%
HR	Croatia	Hendal	1,002	07-02-24	25-02-24	3,461,468	0.9%
IT	Italy	Testpoint Italia	1,025	07-02-24	20-02-24	51,599,668	13.6%
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	CYMAR Market Research	500	07-02-24	26-02-24	752,304	0.2%
LV	Latvia	Kantar TNS Latvia	1,008	07-02-24	26-02-24	1,590,245	0.4%
LT	Lithuania	Norstat LT	1,002	09-02-24	27-02-24	2,373,312	0.6%
LU	Luxembourg	ILRES	506	08-02-24	26-02-24	533,335	0.1%
HU	Hungary	Kantar Hoffmann	1,019	08-02-24	26-02-24	8,313,539	2.2%
MT	Malta	MISCO International	506	08-02-24	28-02-24	446,788	0.1%
NL	Netherlands	Mantle Netherlands (Verian)	1,022	12-02-24	29-02-24	14,763,684	3.9%
AT	Austria	Das Österreichische Gallup Ins.	1,010	07-02-24	23-02-24	7,647,176	2.0%
PL	Poland	Research Collective	1,020	08-02-24	26-02-24	31,982,941	8.4%
PT	Portugal	Intercampus SA	1,032	09-02-24	27-02-24	8,915,624	2.3%
RO	Romania	CSOP SRL	1,046	07-02-24	25-02-24	16,174,719	4.3%
SI	Slovenia	Mediana DOO	1,004	07-02-24	25-02-24	1,791,246	0.5%
SK	Slovakia	MNFORCE	1,008	07-02-24	24-02-24	4,591,487	1.2%
FI	Finland	Taloustutkimus Oy	1,024	07-02-24	28-02-24	4,672,932	1.2%
SE	Sweden	Mantle Sweden (Verian)	1,036	07-02-24	27-02-24	8,541,497	2.2%
TOTAL EU27			26,411	07-02-24	03-03-24	379,864,254	100%

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

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Interviewing mode per country

Interviews were conducted through face-to-face interviews, either physically in people's homes or through remote video interaction in the appropriate national language. Interviews with remote video interaction ("online face-to-face" or CAVI, Computer Assisted Video Interviewing, were conducted only in Czechia, Denmark, Malta, and Finland.)

COUNTRIES		N° OF CAPI INTERVIEWS	N° OF CAVI INTERVIEWS	TOTAL N° INTERVIEWS
BE	Belgium	1,047		1,047
BG	Bulgaria	1,035		1,035
CZ	Czechia	893	118	1,011
DK	Denmark	795	208	1,003
DE	Germany	1,521		1,521
EE	Estonia	1,007		1,007
IE	Ireland	1,001		1,001
EL	Greece	1,002		1,002
ES	Spain	1,002		1,002
FR	France	1,012		1,012
HR	Croatia	1,002		1,002
IT	Italy	1,025		1,025
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	500		500
LV	Latvia	1,008		1,008
LT	Lithuania	1,002		1,002
LU	Luxembourg	506		506
HU	Hungary	1,019		1,019
MT	Malta	349	157	506
NL	Netherlands	1,022		1,022
AT	Austria	1,010		1,010
PL	Poland	1,020		1,020
PT	Portugal	1,032		1,032
RO	Romania	1,046		1,046
SI	Slovenia	1,004		1,004
SK	Slovakia	1,008		1,008
FI	Finland	757	267	1,024
SE	Sweden	1,036		1,036
TOTAL EU27		25,661	750	26,411

CAPI : Computer-Assisted Personal interviewing

CAVI : Computer-Assisted Video interviewing

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Response rates

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

The response rates are calculated by dividing the total number of complete interviews with the number of all the addresses visited, apart from ones that are not eligible but including those where eligibility is unknown. For wave 101.1 of the EUROBAROMETER survey, the response rates for the EU27 countries, calculated by Verian (former Kantar Public), are indicated in the adjacent figure.

	COUNTRIES	RESPONSE RATES
BE	Belgium	43.6%
BG	Bulgaria	48.7%
CZ	Czechia	49.8%
DK	Denmark	31.6%
DE	Germany	26.5%
EE	Estonia	29.3%
IE	Ireland	37.5%
EL	Greece	30.4%
ES	Spain	36.5%
FR	France	42.3%
HR	Croatia	41.8%
IT	Italy	25.6%
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	52.2%
LV	Latvia	30.8%
LT	Lithuania	42.4%
LU	Luxembourg	27.6%
HU	Hungary	57.8%
MT	Malta	54.9%
NL	Netherlands	73.7%
AT	Austria	41.0%
PL	Poland	41.5%
PT	Portugal	57.2%
RO	Romania	50.2%
SI	Slovenia	40.0%
SK	Slovakia	50.8%
FI	Finland	25.3%
SE	Sweden	78.2%

Special Eurobarometer 547

Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

Margins of error

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

The reader should be aware that in this report, the differences in between segments of one specific indicator is considered as significant overall when it varies by +/-2 percentage points.

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
N=1000	1,4	1,9	2,2	2,5	2,7	2,8	3,0	3,0	3,1	3,1	N=1000
N=1500	1,1	1,5	1,8	2,0	2,2	2,3	2,4	2,5	2,5	2,5	N=1500
N=2000	1,0	1,3	1,6	1,8	1,9	2,0	2,1	2,1	2,2	2,2	N=2000
N=3000	0,8	1,1	1,3	1,4	1,5	1,6	1,7	1,8	1,8	1,8	N=3000
N=4000	0,7	0,9	1,1	1,2	1,3	1,4	1,5	1,5	1,5	1,5	N=4000
N=5000	0,6	0,8	1,0	1,1	1,2	1,3	1,3	1,4	1,4	1,4	N=5000
N=6000	0,6	0,8	0,9	1,0	1,1	1,2	1,2	1,2	1,3	1,3	N=6000
N=7000	0,5	0,7	0,8	0,9	1,0	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,2	1,2	N=7000
N=7500	0,5	0,7	0,8	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	N=7500
N=8000	0,5	0,7	0,8	0,9	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,1	1,1	1,1	N=8000
N=9000	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,8	0,9	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,0	1,0	N=9000
N=10000	0,4	0,6	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,9	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,0	N=10000
N=11000	0,4	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,9	N=11000
N=12000	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,9	N=12000
N=13000	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,9	0,9	N=13000
N=14000	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,8	N=14000
N=15000	0,3	0,5	0,6	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,8	N=15000
	5%	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%	
	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	

Questionnaire

QC1 Which of the following risks do you think that [OUR COUNTRY] is most exposed to? Firstly? And then?

(Multiple answers possible)

1. Major accidents (e.g. industrial or chemical accidents, oil spills, major transport accidents)
2. Nuclear accidents
3. Critical infrastructure disruption (e.g. electricity black-outs, disruption to gas or drinking water, etc.)
4. Human health emergency (e.g. a highly contagious disease outbreak)
5. Animal or plant disease outbreak
6. Floods (e.g. river or coastal flood, heavy rain event, etc.)
7. Wildfire, forest fires
8. Geological disasters (e.g. landslides, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, etc.)
9. Extreme weather events (violent storms, droughts, heatwaves, cold waves, etc.)
10. Terrorist attacks
11. Cybersecurity threats (e.g. cyberattacks, cybercrimes, etc.)
12. Political or geo-political tensions (e.g. civil unrest, social divisions, etc.)
13. Mass population displacement in emergencies (e.g. sudden influx of refugees due to conflicts in neighbouring countries)
14. Other
15. Don't Know

QC2 And which of the following, if any, do you feel personally most exposed to? Firstly? And then?

(Multiple answers possible)

1. Major accidents (e.g. industrial or chemical accidents, oil spills, major transport accidents)
2. Nuclear accidents
3. Critical infrastructure disruption (e.g. electricity black-outs, disruption to gas or drinking water, etc.)
4. Human health emergency (e.g. a highly contagious disease outbreak)
5. Animal or plant disease outbreak
6. Floods (e.g. river or coastal flood, heavy rain event, etc.)
7. Wildfire, forest fires
8. Geological disasters (e.g. landslides, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, etc.)
9. Extreme weather events (violent storms, droughts, heatwaves, cold waves, etc.)
10. Terrorist attacks
11. Cybersecurity threats (e.g. cyberattacks, cybercrimes, etc.)
12. Political or geo-political tensions (e.g. civil unrest, social divisions, etc.)
13. Mass population displacement in emergencies (e.g. sudden influx of refugees due to conflicts in neighbouring countries)
14. Other
15. Don't Know

Special Eurobarometer 547
Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC3 With the exception of COVID-19, have you personally experienced – directly or indirectly - a disaster in the past 10 years? This includes disasters experienced in your region and elsewhere in the European Union, for example when travelling.

(Multiple answers possible)

1. Yes, major accidents (e.g. industrial or chemical accidents, oil spills, major transport accidents)
2. Yes, nuclear accidents
3. Yes, critical infrastructure disruption (e.g. electricity black-outs, disruption to gas or drinking water, etc.)
4. Yes, human health emergency (e.g. a highly contagious disease outbreak)
5. Yes, animal or plant disease outbreak
6. Yes, floods (e.g. river or coastal flood, heavy rain event, etc.)
7. Yes, wildfire, forest fires
8. Yes, geological disasters (e.g. landslides, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, etc.)
9. Yes, extreme weather events (violent storms, droughts, heatwaves, cold waves, etc.)
10. Yes, terrorist attacks
11. Yes, cybersecurity threats (e.g. cyberattacks, cybercrimes, etc.)
12. Yes, political or geo-political tensions (e.g. civil unrest, social divisions, etc.)
13. Yes, mass population displacement in emergencies (e.g. sudden influx of refugees due to conflicts in neighbouring countries)
14. Yes, other
15. No, you haven't experienced any disasters in the past ten years
16. Don't know

QC4 What sources of information would you use if you wanted to learn about disaster risks? Firstly? And then?

(Multiple answers possible)

1. National media
2. Local or regional media
3. Social media networks
4. Emergency management services (e.g. police, firefighters, civil protection)
5. Local or national authorities or agencies
6. Family or friends
7. Your work, your employer, your school or education institution
8. Civil society organisations, non-profit organisations
9. Scientists, academic organisations
10. Other (SPONTANEOUS)
11. You are not interested in looking for such information
12. Don't know

Special Eurobarometer 547
Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC5 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about information on disaster risks:

Answer options:

- Totally agree
- Tend to agree
- Tend to disagree
- Totally disagree
- It depends on the country [SPONTANEOUS]
- Don't know

Statements

- 1- You have read, seen or heard information on disaster risks in the last 12 months
- 2- You feel well informed about disaster risks that could affect you
- 3- You trust information from public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks in the area where you live
- 4- It is easy to find information from public authorities and emergency services on disaster risks in the area where you live
- 5- You know where to find information on disaster risks when travelling to another EU country

QC6 Below is a list of things you and your household, can do yourself to be prepared for a disaster or emergency. Please tell me which of these measures you currently have in place, if any?

1. Keep an emergency supply stock/pack of drinks, food
2. Keep an emergency supply of water for cooking and hygiene
3. Have flashlight or candles accessible
4. Have a battery-powered radio accessible
5. Keep a home pharmacy for emergencies
6. Have made sure you have copies of your most important documents or have stored them safely
7. Have prepared a grab-bag, in case you need to evacuate rapidly in an emergency
8. Have signed up for alerts and warnings from emergency services or authorities
9. Have participated in a training or exercise, to learn how to react in an emergency
10. Got informed on the response plan your city, region or country has for a disaster or emergency (e.g. procedures for evacuation, places to shelter or to get help)
11. Agreed with family, friends on how to contact each other in case of an emergency
12. Discussed common protective measures in your neighbourhood
13. Have invested in protective measures in your home (e.g. flood-proofed the electricity installation, cleared vegetation to protect against storms or fire)
14. Other
15. Don't know

Special Eurobarometer 547
Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

QC7 Imagine that a major natural disaster or other emergency strikes the area where you live. There is widespread damage. There is no running water, electricity and supply chains are disrupted. It may take a while before emergency services can access this area and deliver basic supplies to people. Please think about each of the following situations:

Answer options:

- 1 day or less
- 2 - 3 days
- 4 - 7 days
- More than 7 days
- Not applicable (SPONTANEOUS)
- Don't know

Statements

1. If tap water services were disrupted in your area, how many days could you meet your water needs for drinking, cooking, and personal hygiene?
2. If electricity services were interrupted, for how many days could you continue to power essential appliances and lighting in your home?
3. If gas services were disrupted, how many days could you continue cooking meals and heating your home or water with alternative sources?
4. If there were disruptions in the transportation of food to your area, how many days could you continue to provide meals for your household?
5. If you require regular medical treatment or need to manage chronic conditions, how many days could you continue treatment if there were a disruption in the supply of medicines?

QC8 Now we will discuss a few statements about your personal preparedness in the event of a disaster or emergency...
Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements.

Answer options:

- Totally agree
- Tend to agree
- Tend to disagree
- Totally disagree
- It depends on the type of disaster (SPONTANEOUS)
- Don't know

Statements

1. By preparing for a disaster or emergencies, you will be able to better cope with the situation
2. You feel you are well prepared for disasters or emergencies that may happen in the area where you live
3. You do not have time or financial resources to prepare for disasters or emergencies
4. It is easy to find information on how to prepare for disasters or emergencies from public authorities and emergency services in [OUR COUNTRY]
5. You need more information to be able to prepare for disasters or emergencies
6. You know how emergency services will alert you in the event of a disaster
7. You know what to do in the event of a disaster

Special Eurobarometer 547
Risk awareness and preparedness of the population

8. Your employer or school encourages you to take training or prepare for disasters or emergencies
9. Emergency services or authorities (e.g. police, firefighters, civil protection, local and national authorities) encourage you to take training or prepare for disasters or emergencies

QC9 In the first few days following a disaster, please indicate how much you would expect to rely on each of the following to help you cope with the situation.

Answer options:

- A great deal
- Somewhat
- Not a lot
- Not at all
- It depends on the type of disaster (SPONTANEOUS)
- Don't know

Items

1. Family/friends
2. People in your neighbourhood
3. Associations or non-profit organisations, such as the Red Cross
4. Emergency services (e.g. police, firefighters, emergency health care, civil protection)
5. Local authorities or government agencies or services
6. Your work, employer, school or education institution
7. Private sector entities, companies (like electricity or water providers, waste management companies, grocery stores)

QC10 How much trust do you have in emergency services and authorities (e.g. police, firefighters, civil protection) in (OUR COUNTRY) to handle disasters or emergency situations properly?

- Totally trust
- Tend to trust
- Tend not to trust
- Do not trust at all
- It depends on the situation / on the disaster (SPONTANEOUS)
- Don't know

QC11 Do you currently engage, or do you plan to engage, in voluntary work that supports emergency responder organisations or community-based initiatives to increase disaster resilience?

By “engaging”, we mean by giving your time to help (e.g. by participating in outreach teams helping those in need, doing administration in NGOs) in any ways other than donating money, food, or goods (like clothes, etc.).

- Yes, you are already currently engaged in voluntary work
- Yes, you plan to engage in voluntary work in the future
- No, but you have engaged in voluntary work in the past
- No, you have never engaged in voluntary work and do not plan to do so
- Don't know

