

COVID-19

Global Behaviours and Attitudes

A review of the survey results of
over 450,000 people in 9
countries

► **Report** April 2020 – March 2022

Insights and trends in people's behaviours related to COVID-19. Brought to you by a team of health and behavioural experts at the Institute of Global Health Innovation (IGHI) at Imperial College London and YouGov

With special acknowledgement of the contribution from the WHO working group on measuring behavioural and social drivers (BeSD) of COVID-19 vaccination.



Foreword

This is a fascinating report on people's behaviour and attitudes during the first two years of the COVID-19 outbreak. It focuses on the choices they have made around whether to get vaccinated, to isolate when infected, or to minimise unnecessary social contact. These choices have profound impacts on how the virus behaves. Each choice requires an individual to invest time, energy, social capital and more. The choices are driven by wider contexts of societal norms, mandates and public understanding.

The accumulated data presented here suggest strongly that approaches to working with communities that are based on partnering around shared goals are likely to be most effective. This is especially the case if people are trusted to make the best choices for themselves and others in their communities.

My own experience of working in response to disease outbreaks within communities is similar. When leaders share information openly; provide authentic communications; invest in responsive and inclusive local public health services; and promote integration through open dialogue, they encourage the emergence of trust. Then individuals, families, communities, even whole countries, are better able to partner in actions that will help contain each outbreak.

I hope that the data in this report will prove useful for those who shape and implement our ongoing response to COVID-19, a virus which will be with us for decades. It can also guide the approach taken to future pandemics. I congratulate the authors and look forward to seeing how their work is further explored and contextualised.

David Nabarro,
Co-Director, Institute of Global Health Innovation

Introduction

In March 2020, COVID-19 cases were mounting and government restrictions were increasing across the globe to contain the pandemic. A group of clinical and technical experts at Imperial College London's Institute of Global Health Innovation (IGHI) identified a gap in our understanding of the pandemic: we did not have consistent, reliable and timely data on how the population was responding to government guidelines.

To address this gap, IGHI experts partnered with YouGov to launch a survey across 29 countries, areas and territories. Our aim was to understand people's changing behaviours and attitudes in relation to the pandemic, whether the guidelines would have the intended impact on virus transmission and what the impacts of restrictions might be on society and on individuals. Through partnerships with world-renowned academic and international organisations we have been able to enrich our survey with questions around life satisfaction, trust in government and confidence in health authorities.

This survey, which ran from April 2020 to March 2022 on a weekly/bi-weekly basis, has shed light on the complexity of changing behaviours and attitudes related to the pandemic over time. It has also allowed us to better understand differences across geographies and demographic groups. Survey results are publicly available through [GitHub](#) and an [interactive dashboard](#), with the aim to enable researchers all across the globe to carry out their own analyses and develop novel findings. Highlights, insights and understandings of these data have been disseminated through 45+ policy reports and 70+ academic publications.

This report highlights findings from a selection of survey questions. **Section One** looks at how attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccines and boosters have changed, in which we include a section showcasing reasons why unvaccinated people have not had their COVID-19 vaccines. In **Section Two**, we look at people's approval of their government's handling of the pandemic and their trust in their local health authorities has changed. In **Section Three** we look at what protective measures (such as wearing a face mask or avoiding crowded spaces) people are still using to protect themselves from COVID-19 and which ones people have stopped.

This survey has now concluded and will no longer be regularly updated. Throughout the life cycle of the survey some countries were included for a period, and others have been included since its inception. Nine out of the initial 29 have continuous survey data across the two years and are included in the report: Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain and the United Kingdom. Our aim is to enable individuals, organisations, systems and governments to use the learning and insights gleaned in ongoing efforts against the COVID-19 pandemic, and in future health threats as they arise.

Section One – COVID-19 vaccines

This section includes questions that were asked to understand people's attitudes on COVID-19 vaccines and boosters. The questions explore how much people trust COVID-19 vaccines, how worried they are about potential side effects, as well as how much they trust their health authorities to provide them with effective COVID-19 vaccines. We also explore reported reasons why individuals may have chosen not to have a COVID-19 vaccination or a COVID-19 booster. Finally, we explore people's thoughts on whether vaccines should be mandatory for certain groups or if proof of vaccination should be provided when travelling.

Key findings

- **Overall, trust in COVID-19 vaccines increased or remained high from December 2020/January 2021 to March 2022.** Japan and Spain saw the largest increases in the percentage of people answering that they trusted COVID-19 vaccines 'very much' or 'moderately' (13% and 11%, respectively). In Japan and France, almost half of the people surveyed answered that they trust COVID-19 vaccines either 'a little' or 'not at all'.
- **As of March 2022, all countries showed a decrease in the proportion of people who were worried about getting COVID-19 compared to November 2020.** In Japan almost two thirds of people surveyed (63%) indicated that they were worried about getting COVID-19, while others ranged from 24% (Denmark) to 48% (Spain).
- **As of March 2022, all countries have shown a decrease in the proportion of people who worry about potential side effects of COVID-19 vaccines compared to when the question was first asked in November 2020.** However, in Japan, France and Spain, about half the population (54%, 48% and 47%, respectively) indicated that they still worry about potential side effects. Denmark is the country with the lowest proportion of people (24%) who were worried about side effects.
- **When comparing data from November 2020 to March 2022, people's belief in their health authorities' ability to provide an effective COVID-19 vaccine stayed relatively unchanged for most countries.** Japan, United Kingdom and Spain had the largest increases (7%, 9% and 14%, respectively). As of March 2022, the country with the highest level of trust in their health authorities to deliver an effective COVID-19 vaccine was Denmark (60%).
- **Overall, people's trust in COVID-19 vaccines protecting them against other variants did not change substantially from February 2021 to March 2022.** The largest variation was seen in Canada, which changed from 29% in February 2021 to 39% in March 2022. The countries that agreed the most with this statement, as of March 2022, were the United Kingdom, Canada and Australia (all at 39%), and the one that agreed the least was Denmark (21%).
- **Among unvaccinated people in all countries, the main reason they had not received the vaccine was concerns about side effects (down to 6% in March 2022 from 22% in April 2021),** followed by concerns about lack of vaccine testing (down to 5% in March 2022 from 18% in April 2021), and lack of perceived effectiveness (down to 4% in March 2022 from 10% in April 2021).
- **Among individuals who had not received a COVID-19 vaccine booster across all countries, the main reasons given were lack of eligibility (down from 31% in December 2021 to 8% in March 2022),** concerns about side effects (down from 7% in December 2021 to 6% in March 2022) and perceived lack of effectiveness (remained at 5% since December 2021).
- **As of March 2022, in seven of the nine countries surveyed most respondents agreed that vaccinations should be mandatory for certain professions, with France and Denmark being the exceptions.** People in all surveyed countries tended to disagree with mandatory vaccinations for all adults, and eligible children and adolescents. Denmark had the highest proportion of respondents who don't think vaccinations should be mandatory for anyone (54%).
- **People in all surveyed countries agreed that proof of COVID-19 vaccination should be mandatory for those entering a country where they are not legal residents, or to travel outside their country.** Although most people in all surveyed countries agreed that proof of COVID-19 vaccination should be used to be able to work in person or travel outside their local area, there was less support. Only a minority of people of in the surveyed countries believe that vaccination proofs should not be needed.

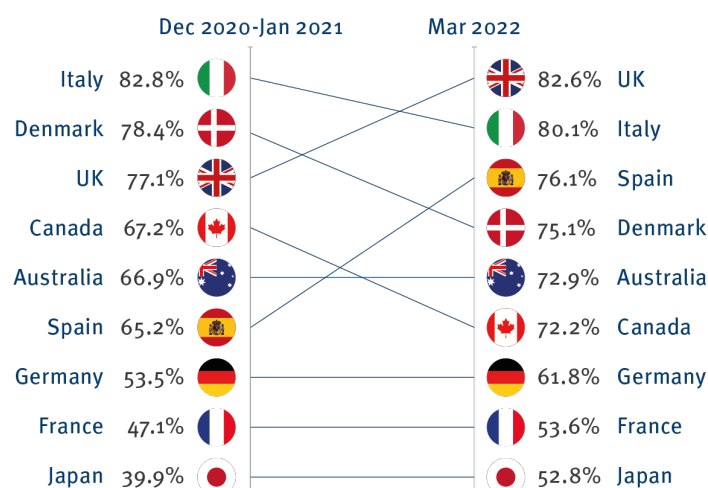
How much do people trust COVID-19 vaccines?

These graphs show the extent that people trust COVID-19 vaccines

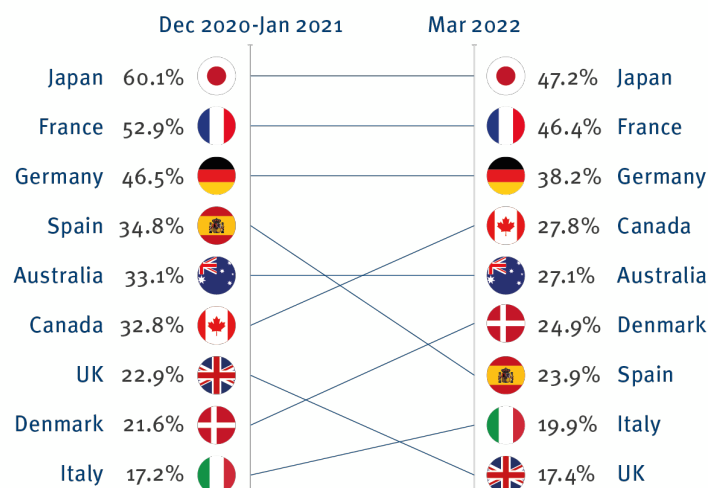
Overall, trust in COVID-19 vaccines increased or remained high from December 2020/January 2021 to March 2022. Japan and Spain saw the largest increases in the percentage of people answering that they trusted COVID-19 vaccines 'Very much' or 'Moderately' (13% and 11%, respectively). In Japan and France, almost half of the people surveyed answered that they trust COVID-19 vaccines either 'A little' or 'Not at all'.

How much do you trust COVID-19 vaccines? Measured in a 'Very much', 'Moderately', 'A little' or 'Not at all' scale

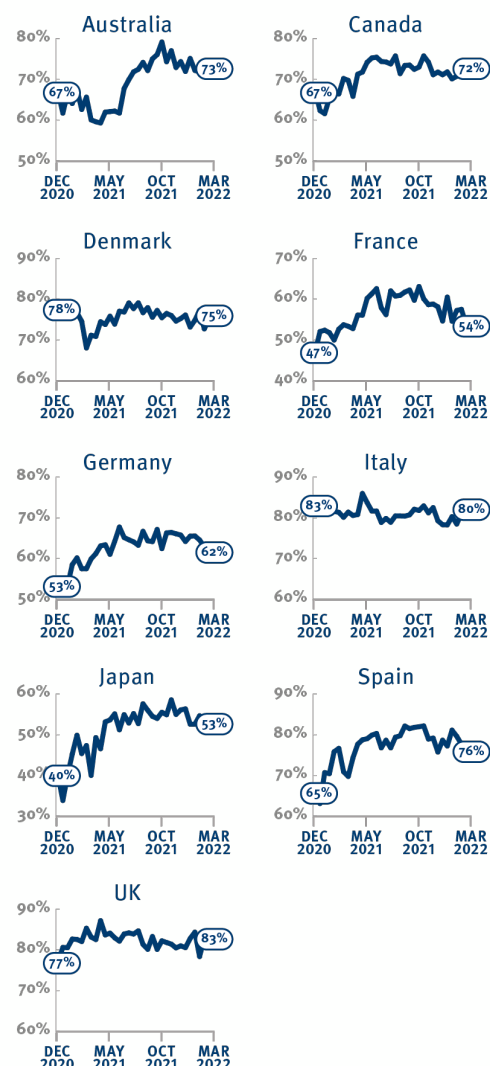
Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Very much' or 'Moderately' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'A little' or 'Not at all' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries' respondents who answered that they trust ('Very much' and 'Moderately' answers) COVID-19 vaccines



Compare your data with that of 30 other countries, areas or territories on

coviddatahub.com

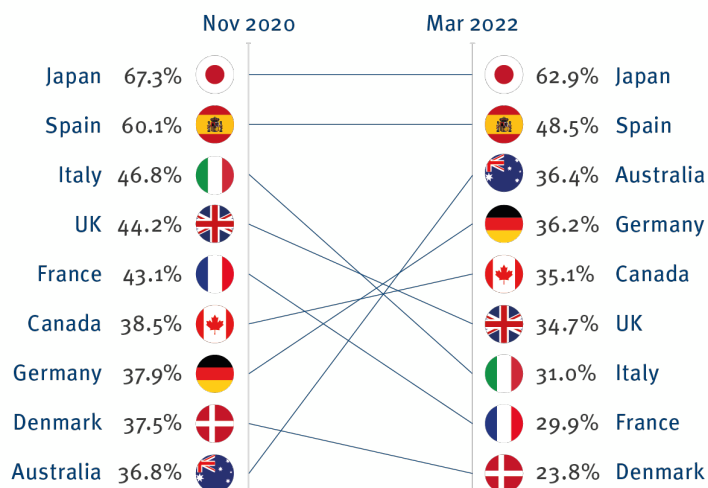
How worried are people about getting COVID-19?

These graphs show the extent that people are worried about getting COVID-19

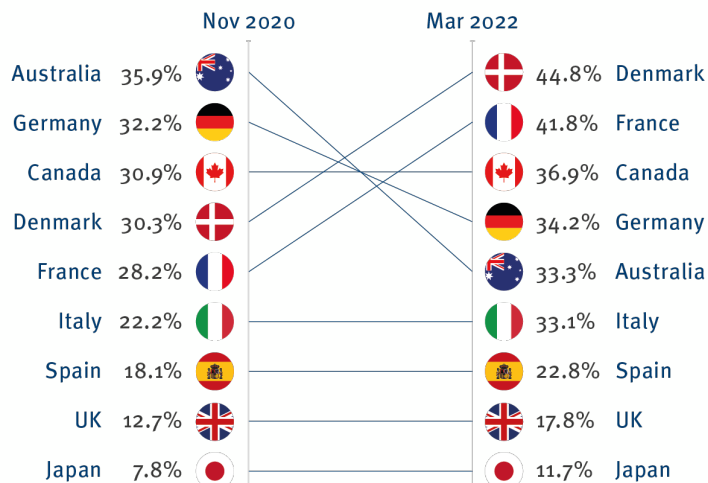
As of March 2022, all countries showed a decrease in the proportion of people who were worried about getting COVID-19 compared to November 2020. In Japan almost two thirds of people surveyed (63%) indicated that they were worried about getting COVID-19, while others ranged from 24% (Denmark) to 48% (Spain).

To what extent do you agree or disagree that you are worried about getting COVID-19? Measured in a 1 (Strongly agree) to 5 (Strongly disagree) scale.

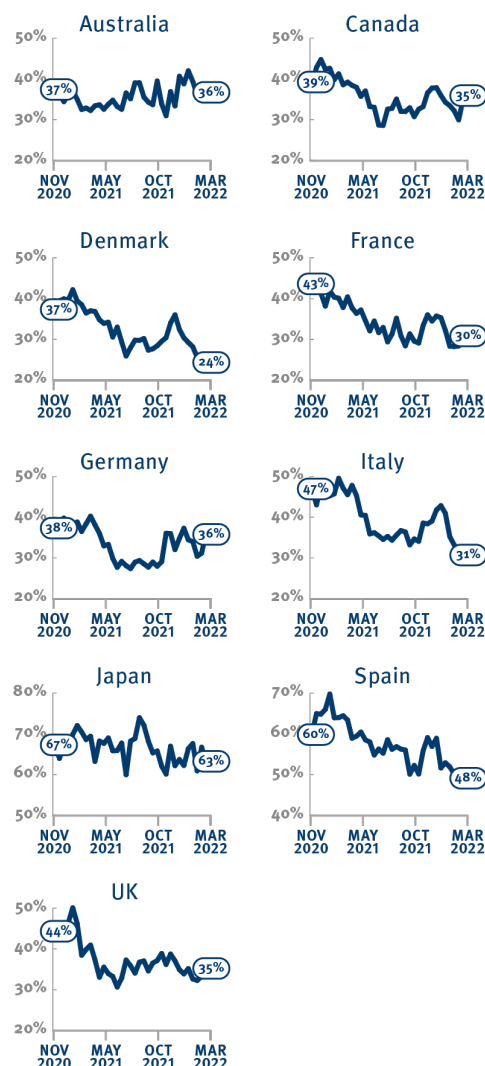
Country breakdown of respondents who answered '1' or '2' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered '4' or '5' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries' respondents who answered that they agree ('1' and '2' answers) they are worried about getting COVID-19



Compare your data with that of 30 other countries, areas or territories on

coviddatahub.com

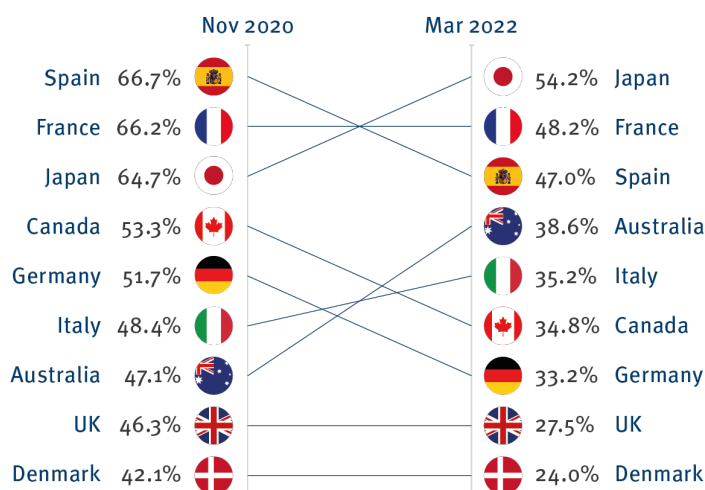
How worried are people about potential side effects of COVID-19 vaccines?

These graphs show the extent to which people worry about potential side effects from COVID-19 vaccines

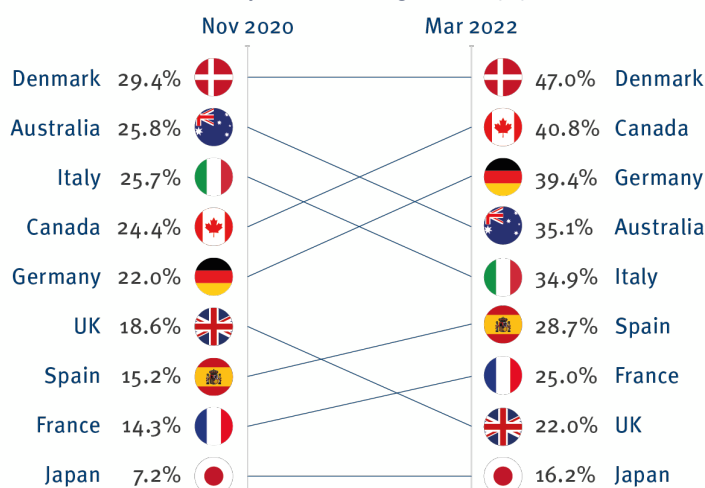
As of March 2022, all countries have shown a decrease in the proportion of people who worry about potential side effects of COVID-19 vaccines compared to when the question was first asked in November 2020. However, in Japan, France and Spain, about half the population (54%, 48% and 47%, respectively) indicated that they still worry about potential side effects. Denmark is the country with the lowest proportion of people (24%) who were worried about side effects.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that you are worried about potential side effects of a COVID-19 vaccine? Measured in a 1 (Strongly agree) to 5 (Strongly disagree) scale.

Country breakdown of respondents who answered '1' or '2' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered '4' or '5' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries' respondents who answered that they agree ('1' and '2' answers) they are worried about potential side effects from COVID-19 vaccines



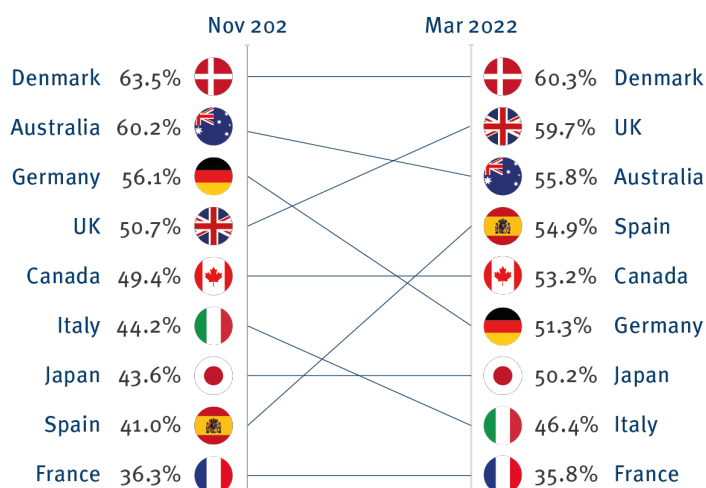
Do people believe government health authorities will provide an effective COVID-19 vaccine?

These graphs show the extent people believe government health authorities will provide an effective COVID-19 vaccine

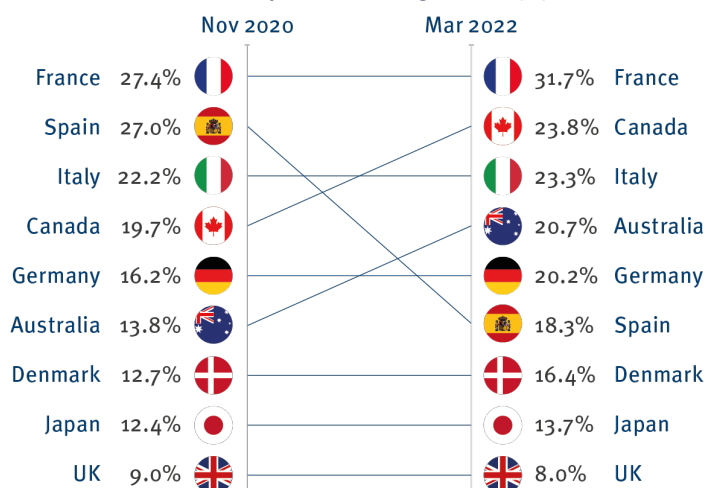
When comparing data from November 2020 to March 2022, people's belief in their health authorities' ability to provide an effective COVID-19 vaccine stayed relatively unchanged for most countries. Japan, United Kingdom and Spain had the largest increases (7%, 9% and 14%, respectively). As of March 2022, the country with the highest level of trust in their health authorities to deliver an effective COVID-19 vaccine was Denmark (60%).

To what extent do you agree or disagree that you believe government health authorities in your country will provide you with an effective COVID-19 vaccine? Measured in a 1 (Strongly agree) to 5 (Strongly disagree) scale.

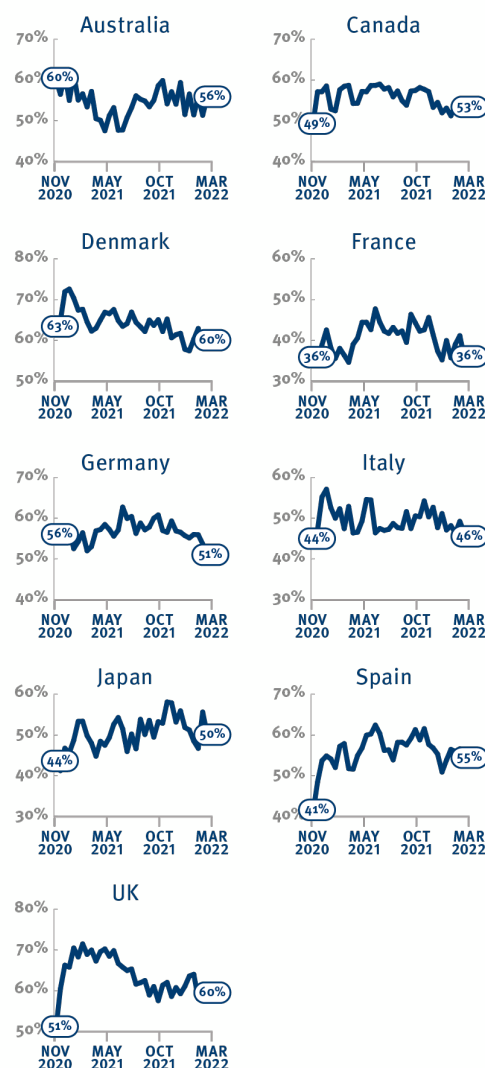
Country breakdown of respondents who answered '1' or '2' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered '4' or '5' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries' respondents who believe '1' and '2' answers) their government's health authorities will provide them with an effective COVID-19 vaccine.



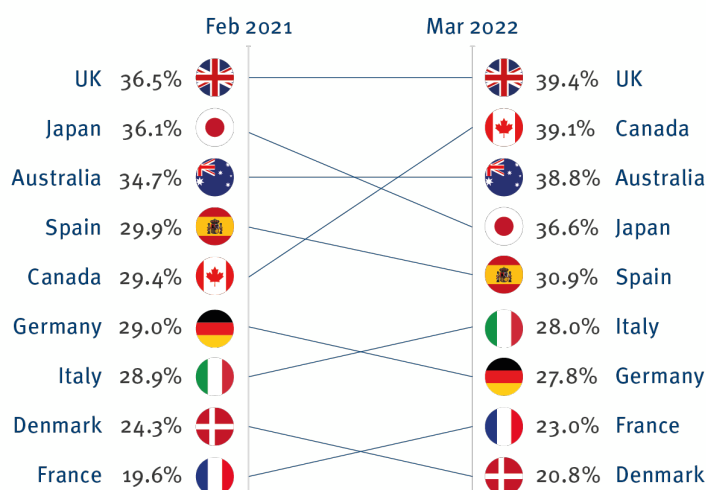
Do people think a vaccine for coronavirus (COVID-19) will protect them against any variants, strains or mutations of coronavirus?

These graphs show the extent people think COVID-19 vaccines will protect them against other strains

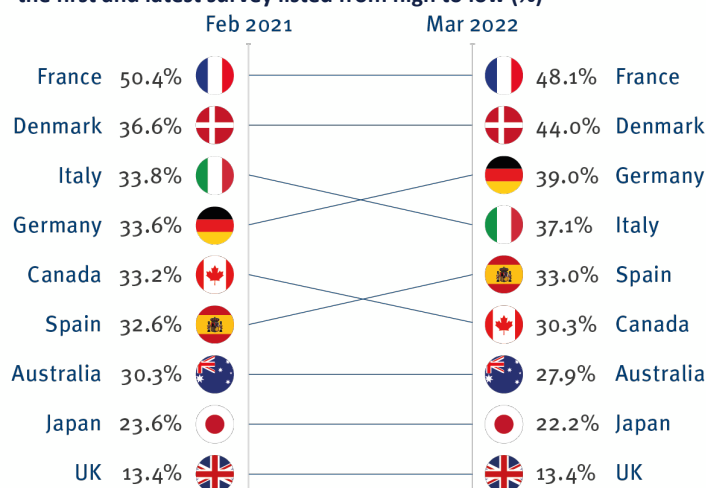
Overall, people's trust in COVID-19 vaccines protecting them against other variants did not change substantially from February 2021 to March 2022. The largest change was seen in Canada, which changed from 29% in February 2021 to 39% in March 2022. The countries that agreed the most with this statement, as of March 2022, were the United Kingdom, Canada and Australia (all at 39%), and the one that agrees the least was Denmark (21%).

To what extent do you agree or disagree that a vaccine for coronavirus (COVID-19) will protect me against any variants, strains or mutations of coronavirus? Measured in a 1 (Strongly agree) to 5 (Strongly disagree) scale.

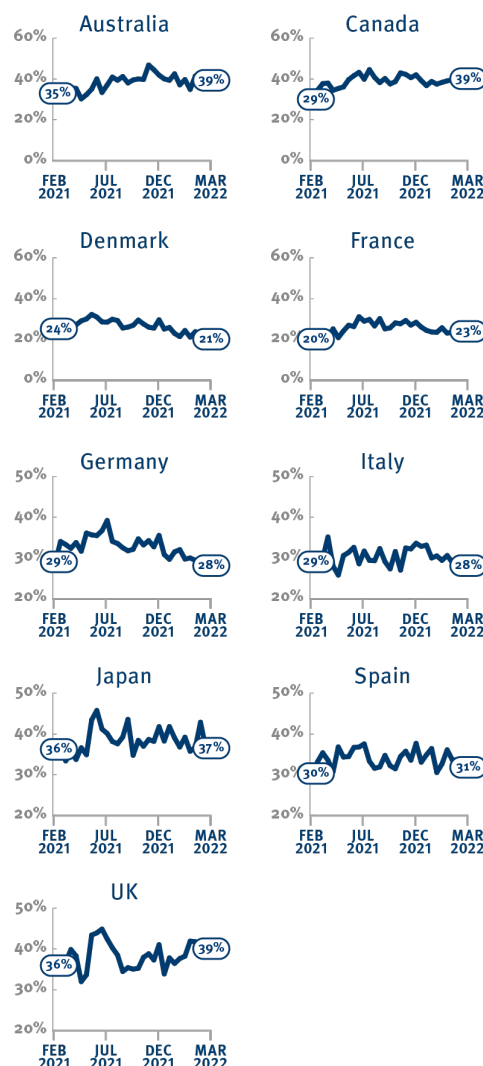
Country breakdown of respondents who answered '1' or '2' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered '4' or '5' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries; respondents who answered that they agree ('1' and '2' answers) a vaccine for COVID-19 will protect them against any variants, strains or mutations of coronavirus.



COVID-19: Two years of survey data, as of March 2022

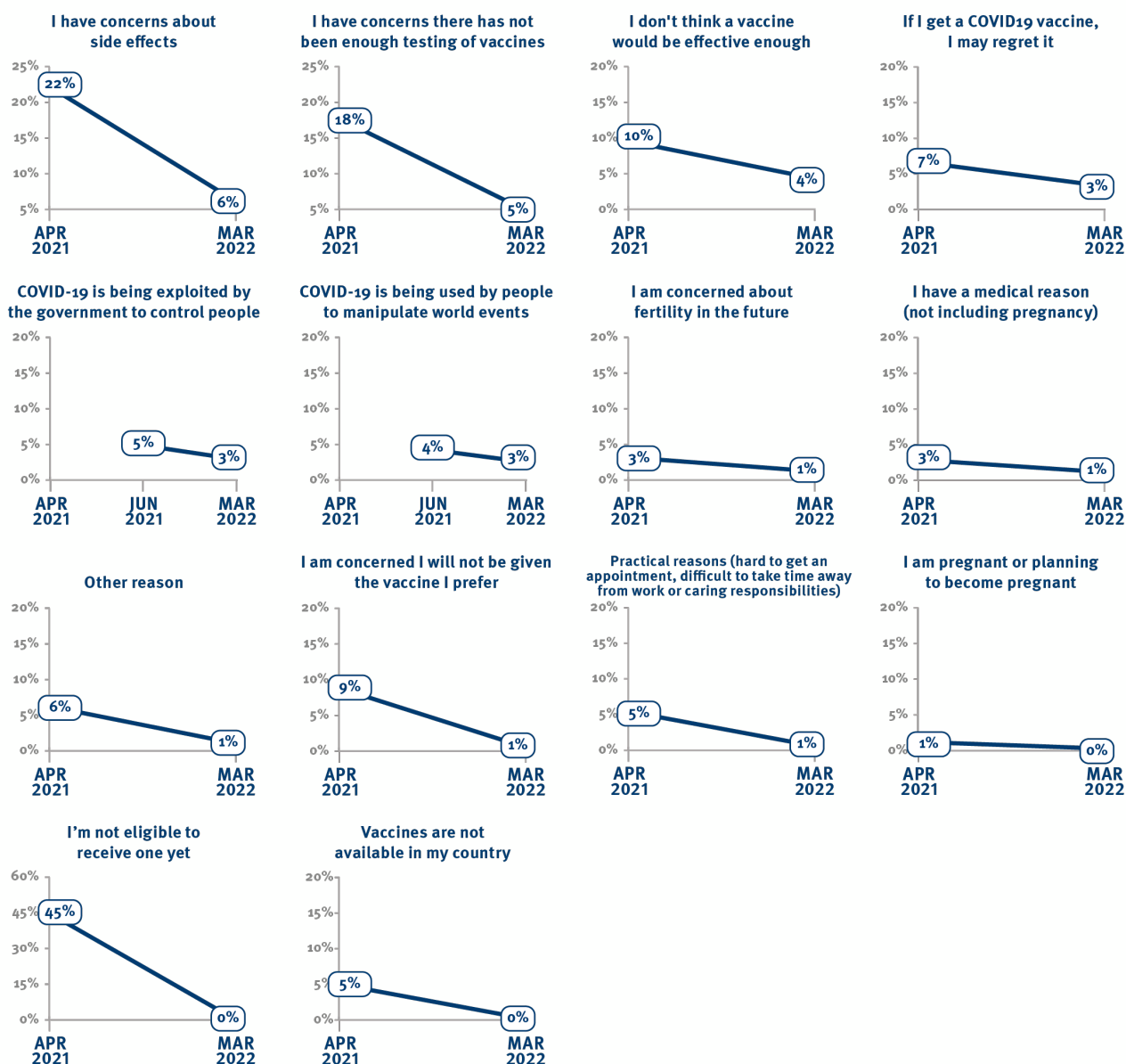
With special acknowledgement of the contribution from the WHO working group on measuring behavioural and social drivers (BeSD) of COVID-19 vaccination.

What are the reasons people have not yet had a COVID-19 vaccine?

These graphs show the reasons why unvaccinated people have not yet had a COVID-19 vaccine

As of March 2022, the main reason people have not received a COVID-19 vaccine was concerns about side effects (down to 6% in March 2022 from 22% in April 2021), followed by concerns about lack of vaccine testing (down to 5% in March 2022 from 18% in April 2021), and lack of perceived effectiveness (down to 4% in March 2022 from 10% in April 2021). There is a small number of people (6% of the entire survey) who have not received a COVID-19 vaccine.

Which if any of the following reasons describes why you have not had a Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine? Please tick all that apply



Compare your data with that of 30 other countries, areas or territories on

coviddatahub.com

COVID-19: Two years of survey data, as of March 2022

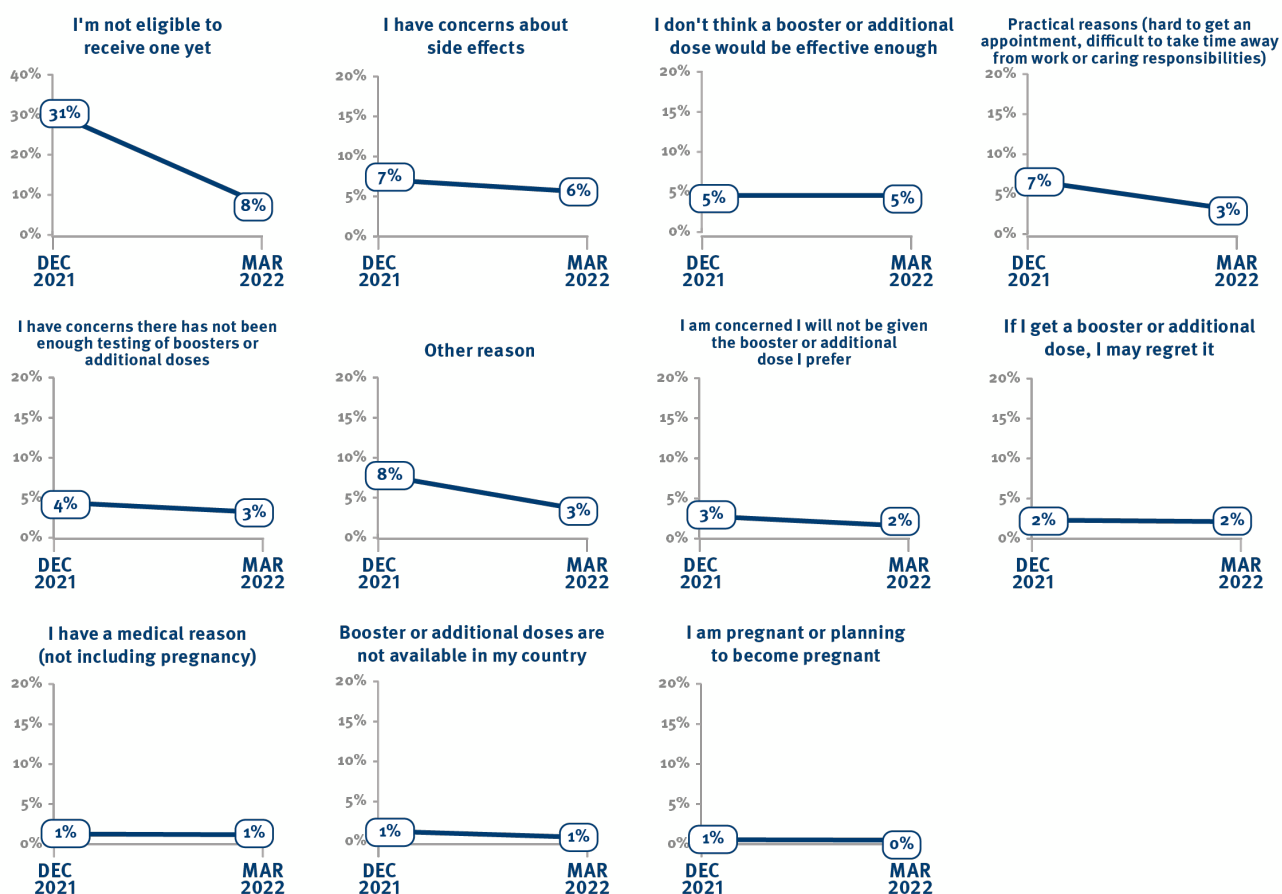
With special acknowledgement of the contribution from the WHO working group on measuring behavioural and social drivers (BeSD) of COVID-19 vaccination.

What are the reasons people have not yet had a COVID-19 vaccine booster?

These graphs show the reasons why COVID-19 vaccinated people have not yet had a COVID-19 vaccine booster

Among individuals who have not received a COVID-19 vaccine booster across all countries, the main reasons given as to why they have not received it are lack of eligibility (down from 31% in December 2021 to 8% in March 2022), concerns about side effects (down from 7% in December 2021 to 6% in March 2022) and perceived lack of effectiveness (remained at 5% since December 2021). As of March 2022, there is a small number of people (7% of the entire survey) who have not received a COVID-19 vaccine booster.

Which if any of the following reasons describes why you have not had a Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine? Please tick all that apply



Compare your data with that of 30 other countries, areas or territories on

coviddatahub.com

COVID-19: Two years of survey data, as of March 2022

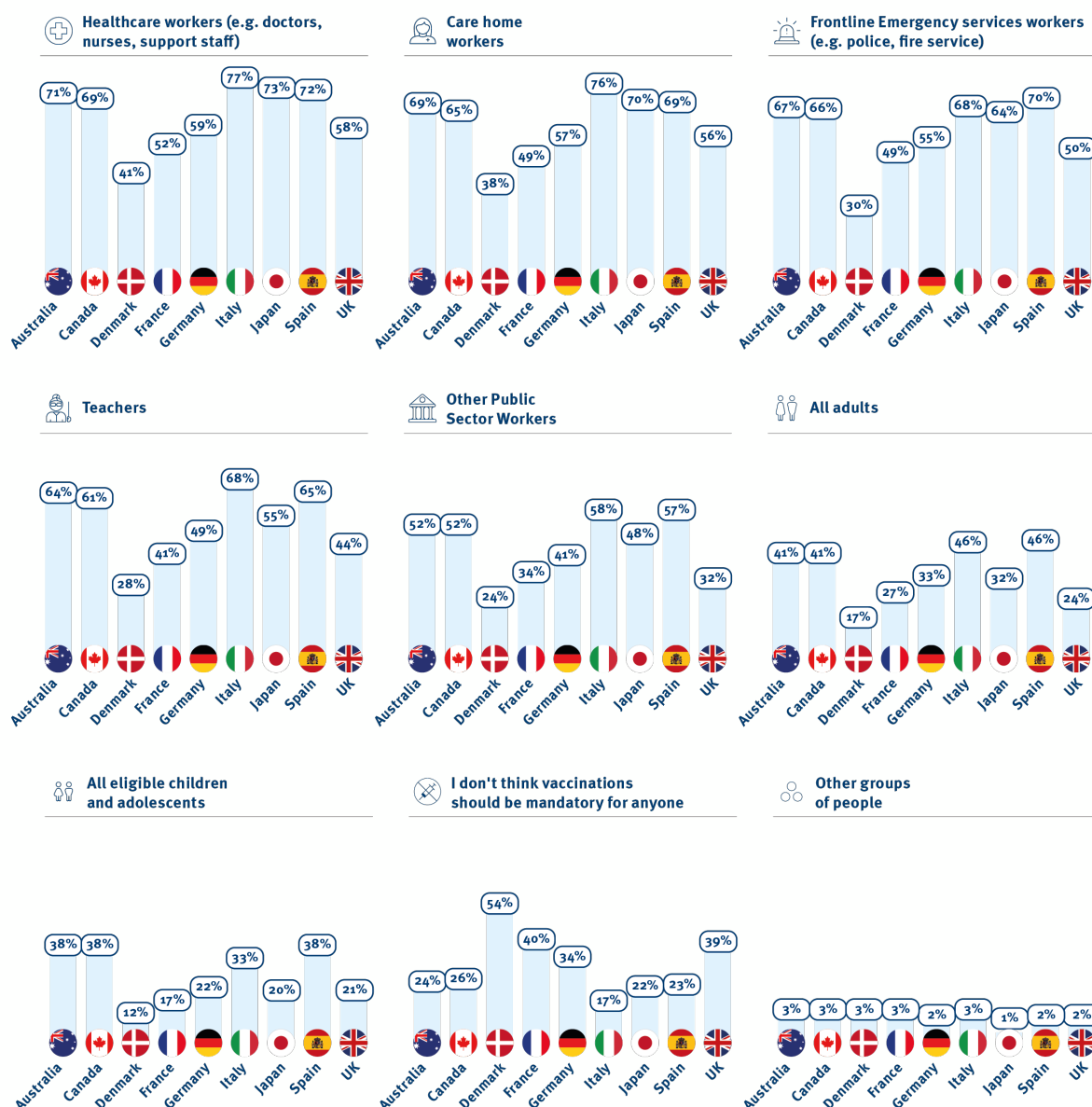
With special acknowledgement of the contribution from the WHO working group on measuring behavioural and social drivers (BeSD) of COVID-19 vaccination.

Do people think COVID-19 vaccinations should be mandatory for certain people?

These graphs show the agreeing with different statements regarding mandatory vaccinations

As of March 2022, in seven of the nine countries surveyed most respondents agreed that vaccinations should be mandatory for certain professions, with France and Denmark being the exceptions. People in all surveyed countries tended to disagree with mandatory vaccinations for all adults, and eligible children and adolescents. Denmark had the highest proportion of respondents who don't think vaccinations should be mandatory for anyone (54%).

Do you think Covid-19 vaccinations should be mandatory for certain people? Please tick groups for whom you think vaccinations should be mandatory. Percentage of respondents who agree



Compare your data with that of 30 other countries, areas or territories on

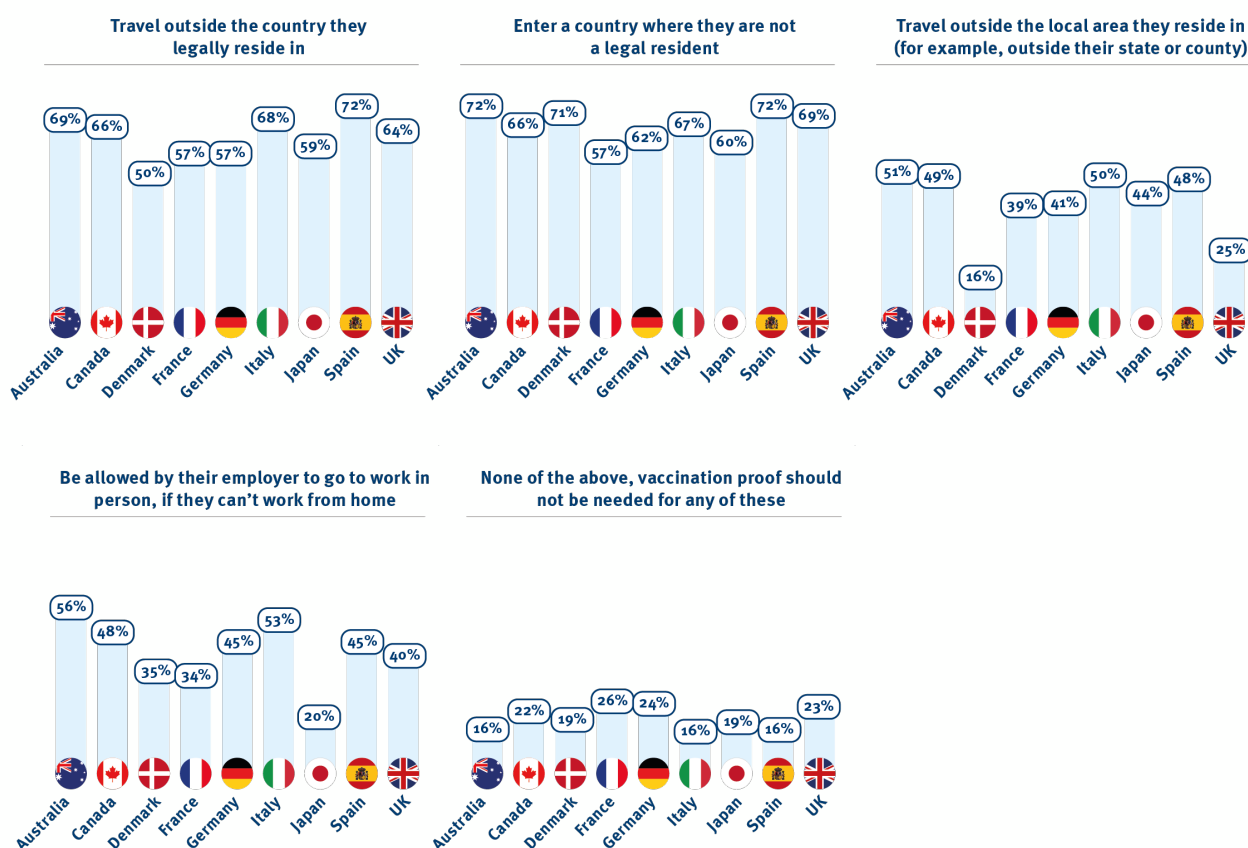
coviddatahub.com

Do people think proof of COVID-19 vaccination should be provided for travel?

These graphs show the agreement with different statements regarding mandatory proof of vaccination

People in all surveyed countries agreed that proof of COVID-19 vaccination should be mandatory for those entering a country where they are not legal residents, or to travel outside their country. Although most people in all surveyed countries agreed that proof of COVID-19 vaccination should be used to be able to work in person or travel outside their local area, there was less support. Only a minority of people of in the surveyed countries believe that vaccination proofs should not be needed.

For which, if any, of these do you think people should provide proof or certification they have been vaccinated against coronavirus (COVID-19) in order to...? Please tick all that apply



Section Two –government approval and trust in health authorities

This part of the report explores people's views on how their government has handled the pandemic, and how much they trust their health authorities.

Key findings

- **As of March 2022, there were only four countries in our survey where over half of their population agreed it was handled either 'very well' or 'somewhat well': Australia (57%), Canada (59%), Denmark (71%) and Italy (59%).** Overall, people's approval of their governments' handling of the pandemic has decreased since the start of COVID-19 pandemic, with the exceptions of Japan (from 27% agreeing it was handled either 'very well' or 'somewhat well' in July 2021 to 32% in March 2022, the lowest value across all countries) and France (38% in July 2021 to 41% in March 2022).
- **Although people's confidence in their countries' healthcare system has declined over time in most countries, it stayed high over the last two years.** As of March 2022, France and Germany were the only two countries in the survey where under 50% of people indicated that they had either 'a lot' or 'a fair amount' of confidence in their healthcare system (46% and 45%, respectively). As of March 2022, the countries with the highest confidence were Denmark (81%), Spain (76%) and the United Kingdom (72%).

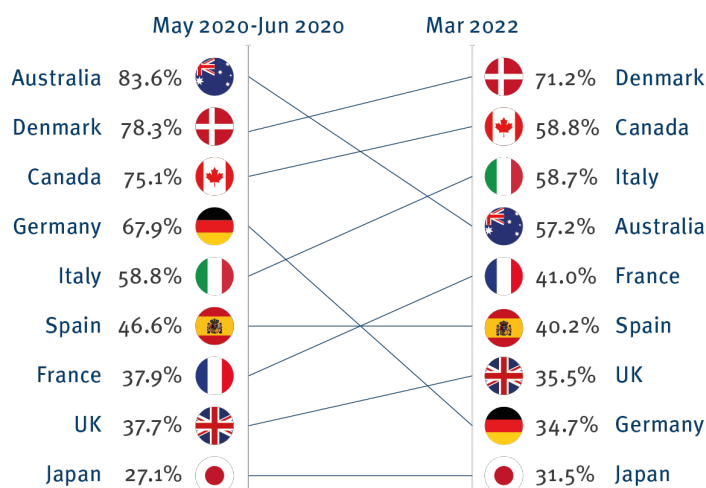
How have people's views changed regarding their governments' handling of the pandemic?

These graphs show the extent people trust their governments' response to the pandemic

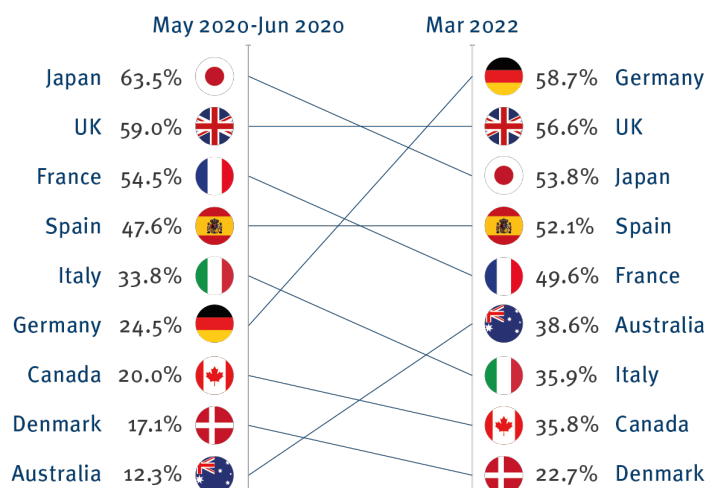
As of March 2022, there were only four countries in our survey where over half of their population agreed it was handled either 'very well' or 'somewhat well': Australia (57%), Canada (59%), Denmark (71%) and Italy (59%). Overall, people's approval of their governments' handling of the pandemic has decreased since the start of COVID-19 pandemic, with the exceptions of Japan (from 27% agreeing it was handled either 'very well' or 'somewhat well' in July 2021 to 32% in March 2022, the lowest value across all countries) and France (38% in July 2021 to 41% in March 2022).

How well or badly do you think the Government are handling the issue of the Coronavirus (COVID-19)? Measured in a 'Very well', 'Somewhat well', 'Somewhat badly', 'Very badly' or 'Don't know' scale.

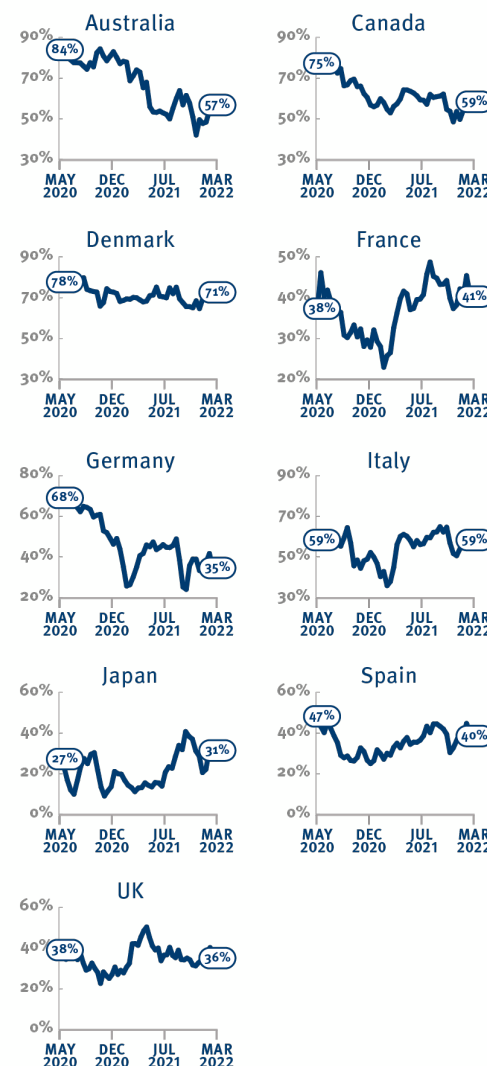
Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Very well' or 'Somewhat well' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Very badly' or 'Somewhat badly' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries' respondents who believed their government was handling the COVID-19 pandemic 'Very well' or 'Somewhat well' (%)



Compare your data with that of 30 other countries, areas or territories on

coviddatahub.com

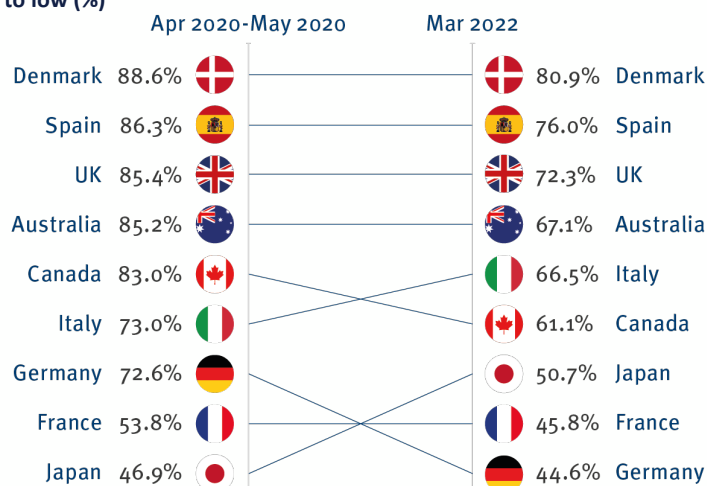
How has people's confidence in their health authorities changed?

These graphs show the extent to which people have confidence in their healthcare system

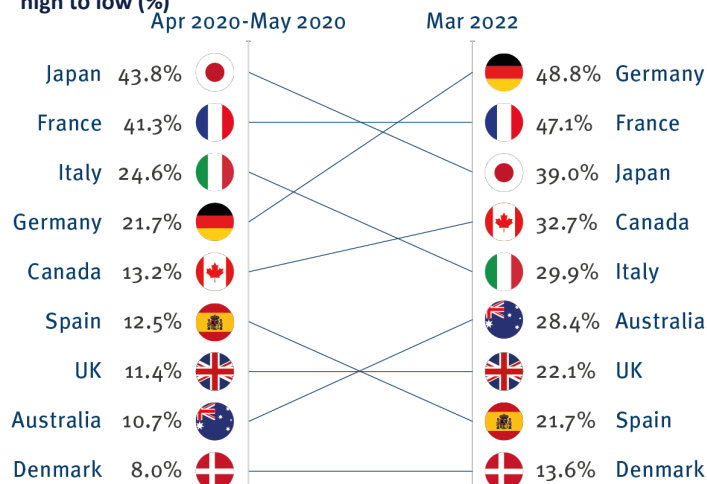
Although people's confidence in their countries' healthcare system has declined over time in most countries, it remained high in many countries across the two year period. As of March 2022, France and Germany were the only two countries in the survey where under 50% of people indicated that they had either 'a lot' or 'a fair amount' of confidence in their healthcare system (46% and 45%, respectively). As of March 2022, the countries with the highest confidence were Denmark (81%), Spain (76%) and the United Kingdom (72%).

How much confidence do you have in the healthcare system to respond to a Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak in your country? Measured in a 'A lot of confidence', 'A fair amount of confidence', 'Not very much confidence', 'No confidence at all', or 'Don't know' scale.

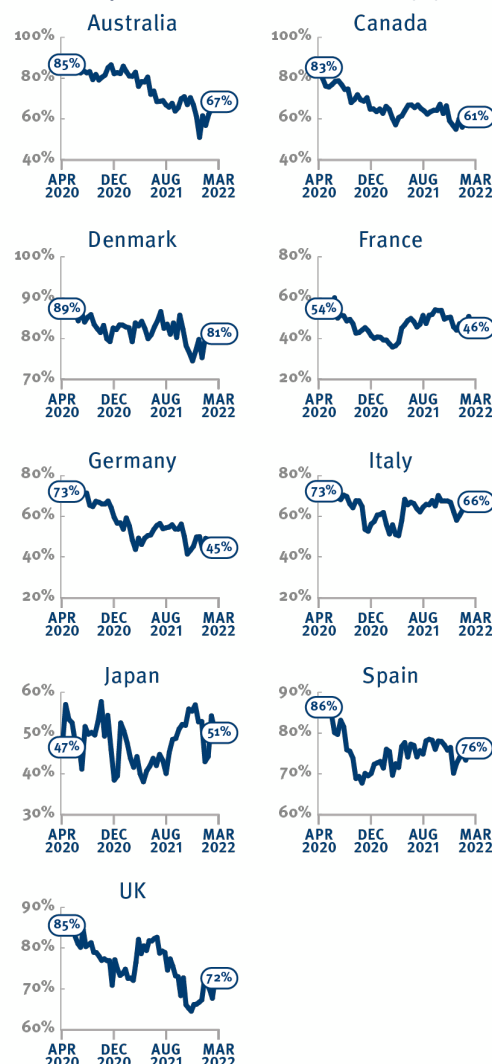
Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'A lot of confidence' or 'A fair amount of confidence' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'No confidence at all' or 'Not very much confidence' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries' respondents who had 'A lot of confidence' or 'A fair amount of confidence' in their healthcare system to respond to a COVID-19 outbreak (%)



Compare your data with that of 30 other countries, areas or territories on

coviddatahub.com

Section Three – Protective measures against COVID-19

This section explores how preventative behaviours have changed since April 2020, with an emphasis in understanding what measures people have adhered to and which ones have not been kept. In this section, we include questions regarding face mask usage, people's willingness to self-isolate, whether or not people avoid certain locations or situations (such as hospitals, healthcare spaces or public areas), as well as questions about how frequently they wash their hands or use hand sanitiser.

Key findings

- **Face mask usage increased in all countries since the start of the pandemic**, although their reported use decreased in the last months of survey collection. As of March 2022, the countries with the largest share of people reporting to always or frequently wear face mask outside their home were Italy (92%), Japan (95%), Spain (94%), France (91%) and Canada (90%).
- **The use of face masks on public transport has increased in all surveyed countries**. For three countries (Japan, Italy and Spain), the share of people reportedly wearing masks on public transport remained high during the pandemic (93%, 93% and 95% respectively). Australia saw the biggest increase, going from 20% of people always or frequently wearing masks on public transport in June 2020 to 67% in March 2022.
- **People were less willing to self isolate as of March 2022 compared to April 2020**. The largest decreases in the share of people who indicated that they would be 'very willing' or 'somewhat willing' to self-isolate if told to do so were seen in the United Kingdom (95% in April 2020 to 80% in March 2022), France (87% in April 2020 to 73% in March 2022) and Germany (82% in April 2020 to 69% in March 2022).
- **Generally, people were less likely to avoid contact with people who may have been exposed to COVID-19 as of March 2022 compared to April 2020**. The share of people who reported always or frequently avoiding contact with people who may have symptoms increased in Japan (70% in April 2020 to 80% in March 2022) and Germany (76% in April 2020 to 78% in March 2022) while it decreased for all other countries. Denmark, the United Kingdom and France saw decreases of 37, 25 and 21 percentage points, respectively.
- **People avoided taking public transport less to protect themselves or others from COVID-19 as of March 2022 compared to April 2020**. As of March 2022 the countries with the lowest proportion of people indicating that they always or frequently avoid public transport to avoid COVID-19 were Denmark (30%), the United Kingdom (42%) and Spain (47%), and the highest in Italy (67%), Germany (62%) and Canada (61%).
- **People were less likely to avoid going to healthcare settings to avoid COVID-19 as of March 2022**. The proportion of people who indicated that they always or frequently avoided going to healthcare settings was lowest in Denmark (23%), the United Kingdom (33%) and Japan (43%), and highest in Germany (65%), Canada (56%) and Italy (55%).
- **The proportion of people who avoid travelling outside their local area has decreased since November 2020**. As of March 2022, in three countries (Canada, Germany and Japan) over half of the population indicated that they either always or frequently avoid travelling outside their local area (61%, 58% and 57% respectively). On the other hand, over half the population in Denmark (70%) and the United Kingdom (55%) indicate rarely or not at all avoiding travelling outside their local area.
- **Although the proportion of individuals indicating that they wash their hands to protect themselves from COVID-19 has decreased since April 2020**, all countries had over 80% of their population indicating that they do so as of March 2022. The countries with the highest proportions were Italy (94%), Canada (91%), France (89%) and Spain (89%).

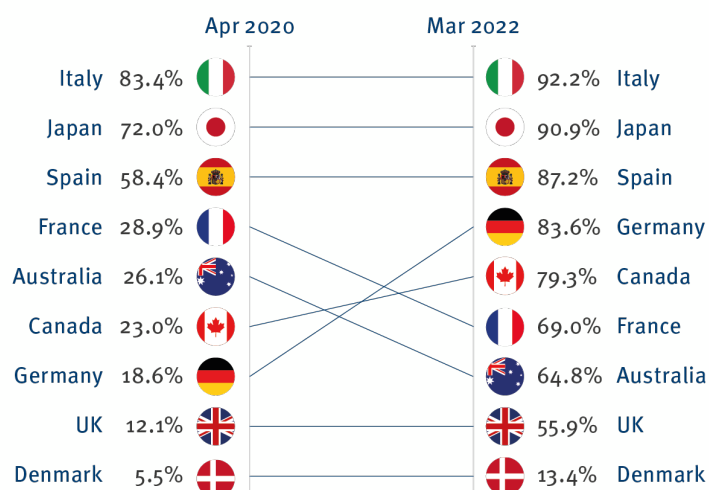
How often do people wear face masks outside their home to protect themselves or others from COVID-19?

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

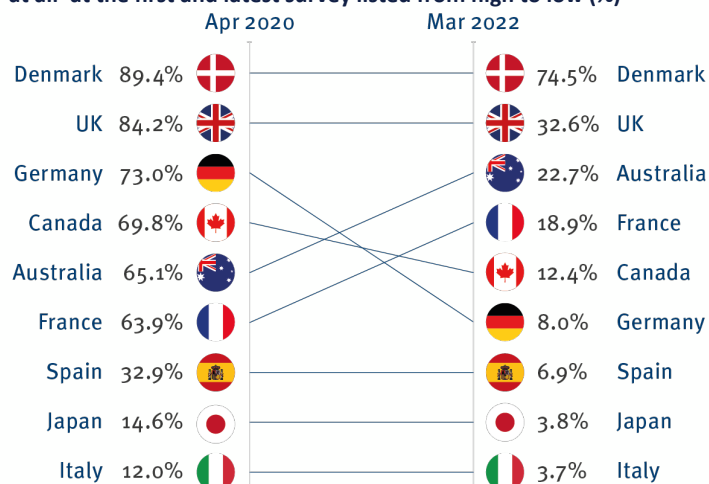
Face mask usage increased in all countries since the start of the pandemic, although their reported use decreased in the last months of survey collection. As of March 2022, the countries with the largest share of people reporting to always or frequently wear face mask outside their home were Italy (92%), Japan (95%), Spain (94%), France (91%) and Canada (90%).

Thinking about the last 7 days, how often have you worn a face mask outside your home to protect yourself or others from coronavirus (COVID-19)? Measured in a 'Always', 'Frequently', 'Sometimes', 'Rarely', or 'Not at all' scale.

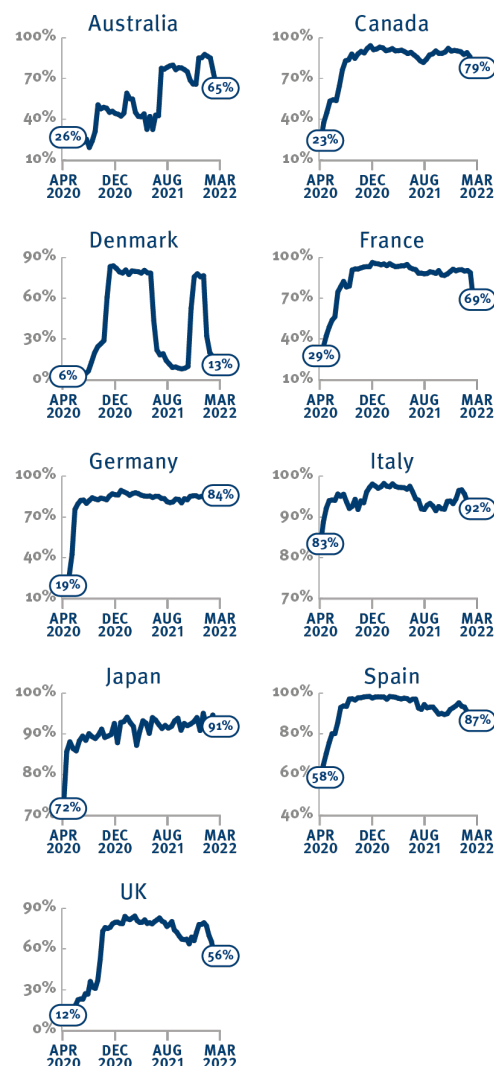
Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Always' or 'Frequently' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Rarely' or 'Not at all' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries' respondents who 'Always' or 'Frequently' would wear a face mask outside their home (%)



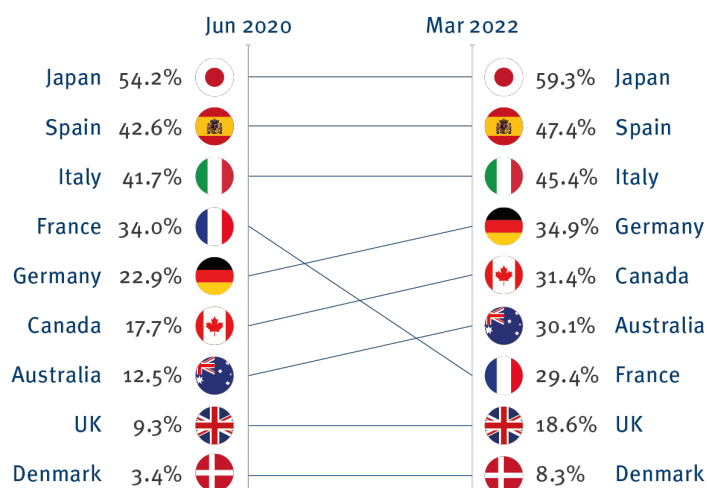
How often do people wear face masks at their workplace to protect themselves or others from COVID-19?

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

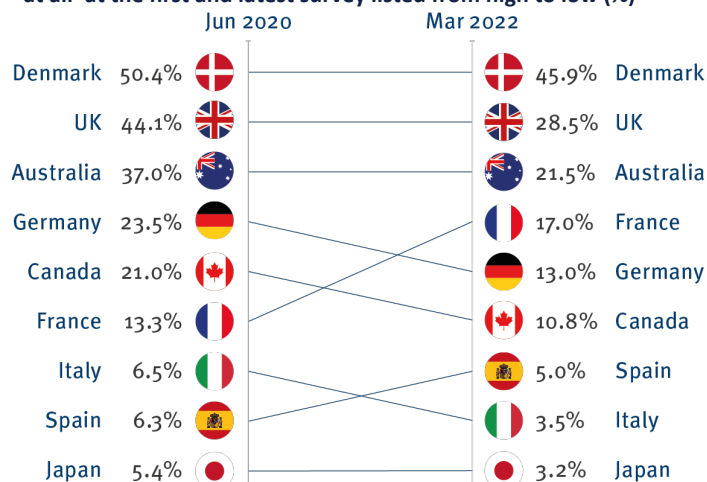
The use of face masks at the workplace increased slightly in most countries since the start of the pandemic. The share of people indicating that they either wore masks in their workplace always or frequently increased the most in Australia (12.4% in June 2020 to 30% in March 2022), Canada (18% in June 2020 to 31% in March 2022) and Germany (23% in June 2020 to 35% in March 2022).

Thinking about the last 7 days, how often have you worn a face mask at your place of work to protect yourself or others from coronavirus (COVID-19)? Measured in a 'Always', 'Frequently', 'Sometimes', 'Rarely', or 'Not at all' scale.

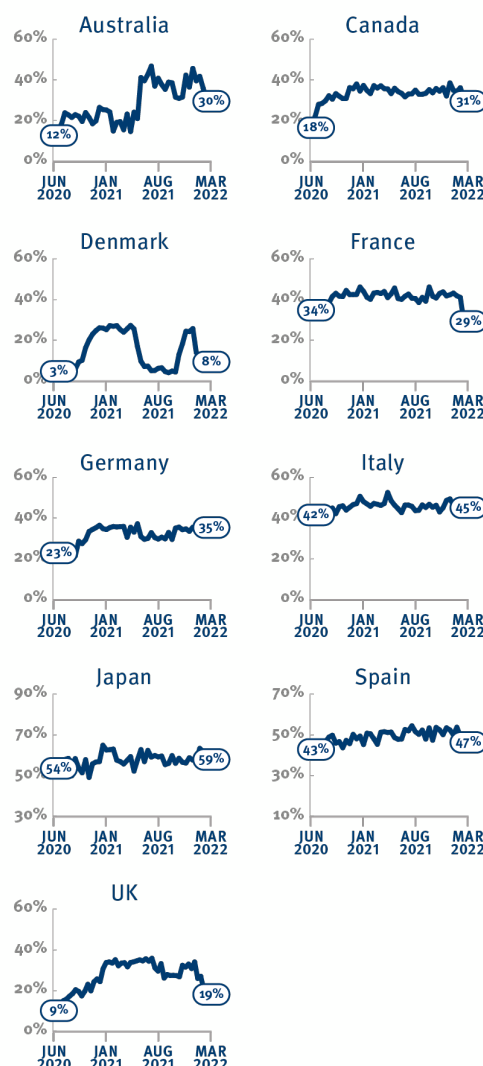
Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Always' or 'Frequently' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Rarely' or 'Not at all' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries' respondents who 'Always' or 'Frequently' would wear a face mask at their workplace (%)



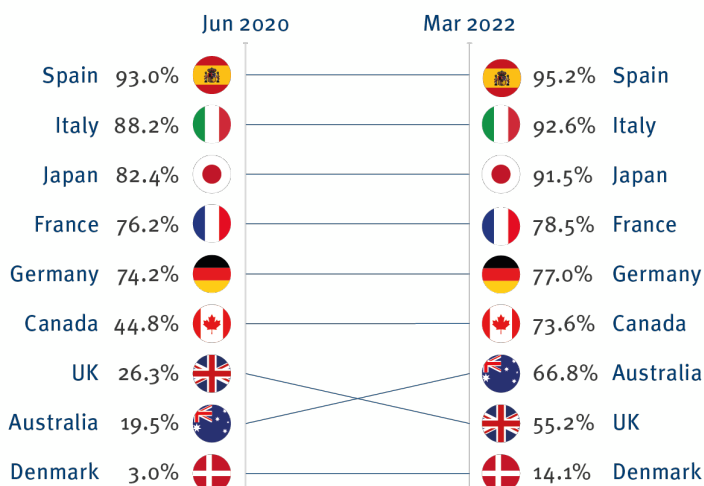
How often do people wear face masks on public transport to protect themselves or others from COVID-19?

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

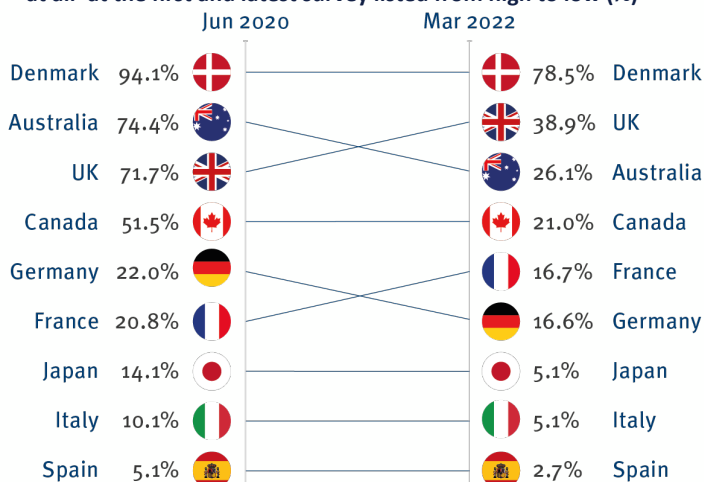
The use of face masks on public transport has increased for all surveyed countries. For three countries (Japan, Italy and Spain), the share of people reportedly wearing masks on public transport remained high during the pandemic (93%, 93% and 95% respectively). Australia saw the biggest increase, going from 20% of people always or frequently wearing masks on public transport in June 2020 to 67% in March 2022.

Thinking about the last 7 days, how often have you worn a face mask at your place of work to protect yourself or others from coronavirus (COVID-19)? Measured in a 'Always', 'Frequently', 'Sometimes', 'Rarely', or 'Not at all' scale.

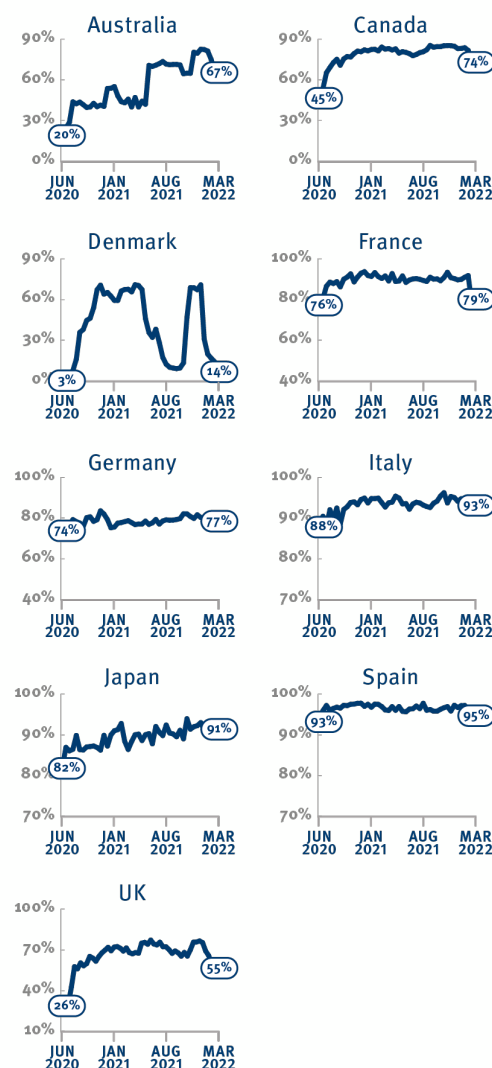
Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Always' or 'Frequently' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Rarely' or 'Not at all' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries' respondents who 'Always' or 'Frequently' would wear a face mask on public transport (%)



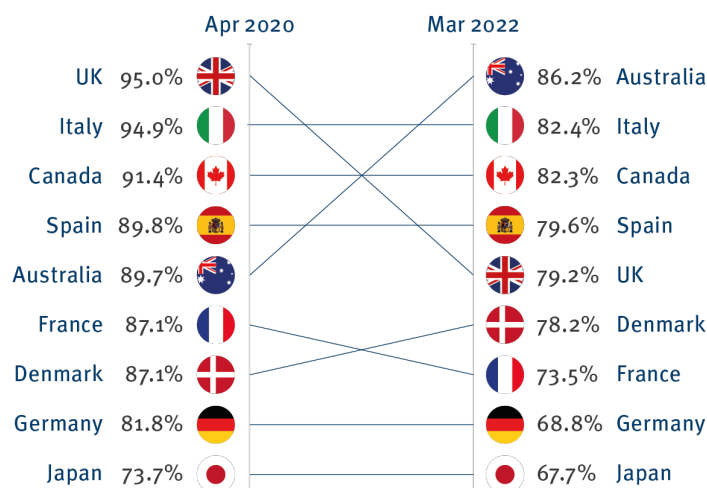
Are people willing to self-isolate if asked to do so?

These graphs show the extent people are willing to self-isolate if asked to do so

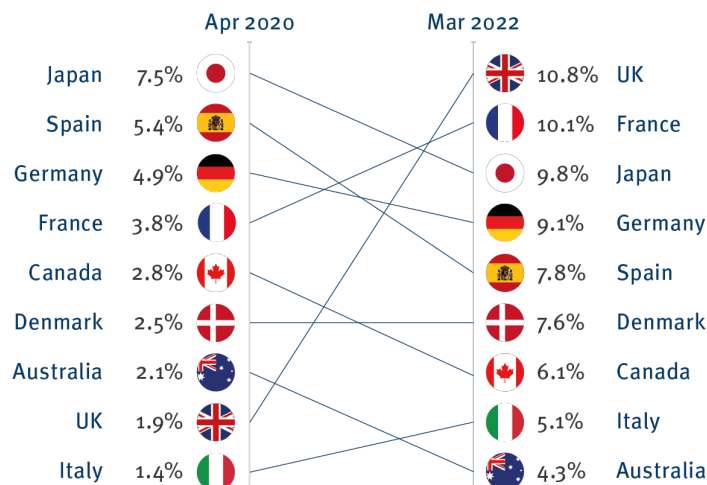
People were less willing to self isolate as of March 2022 compared to April 2020. The largest decreases in the share of people who indicated that they would be 'very willing' or 'somewhat willing' to self-isolate if told to do so were seen in the United Kingdom (95% in April 2020 to 80% in March 2022), France (87% in April 2020 to 73% in March 2022) and Germany (82% in April 2020 to 69% in March 2022).

If you were advised to do so by a healthcare professional or public health authority to what extent are you willing or not to self-isolate for 7 days? Measured in a 'Very willing', 'Somewhat willing', 'Neither willing nor unwilling', 'Somewhat unwilling', 'Very unwilling' or 'Not sure', scale.

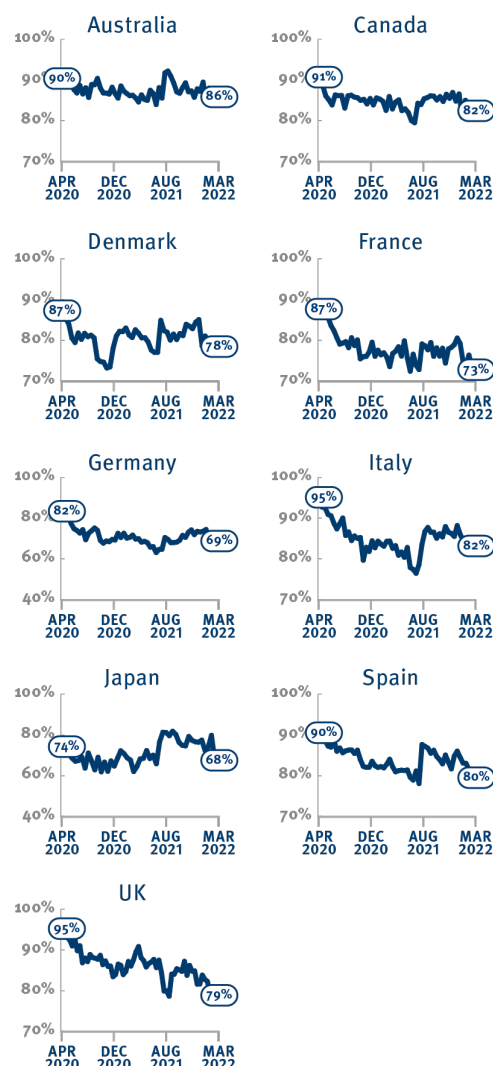
Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Very willing' or 'Somewhat willing' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Very unwilling' or 'Somewhat unwilling' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries' respondents who would be 'Very willing' or 'somewhat willing' to self isolate if asked to do so (%)



Compare your data with that of 30 other countries, areas or territories on

coviddatahub.com

COVID-19: Two years of survey data, as of March 2022

With special acknowledgement of the contribution from the WHO working group on measuring behavioural and social drivers (BeSD) of COVID-19 vaccination.

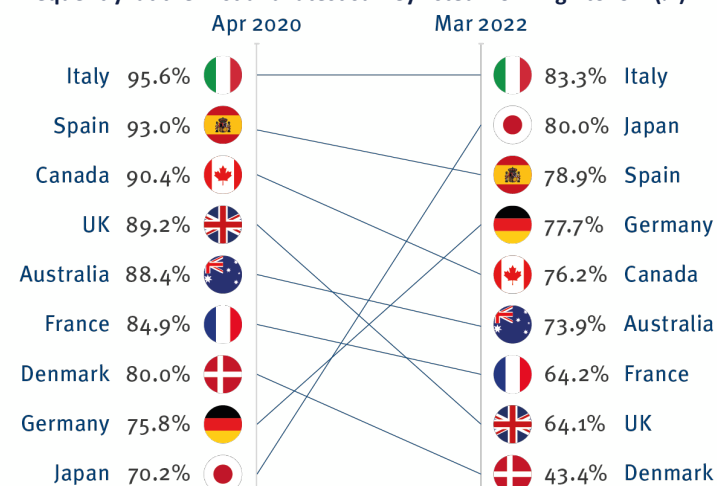
How often do people avoid contact with people who may be infected to protect themselves or others from COVID-19?

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

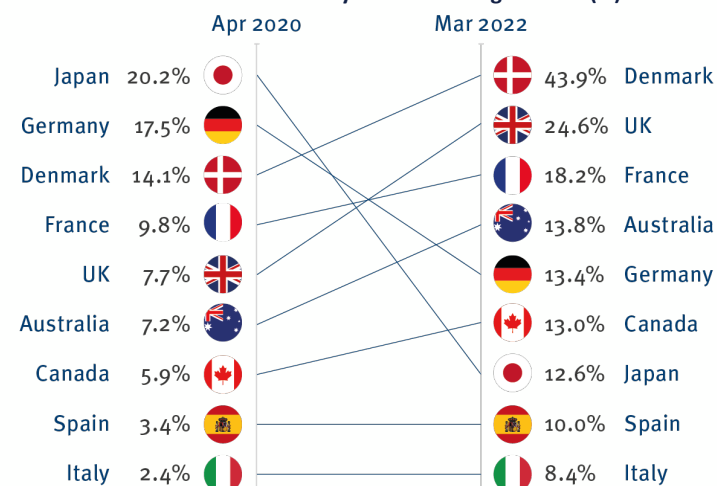
Generally, people were less likely to avoid contact with people who may have been exposed to COVID-19 as of March 2022 compared to April 2020. The share of people who reported always or frequently avoiding contact with people who may have symptoms increased in Japan (70% in April 2020 to 80% in March 2022) and Germany (76% in April 2020 to 78% in March 2022) while it decreased for all other countries. Denmark, the United Kingdom and France saw decreases of 37, 25 and 21 percentage points, respectively.

Thinking about the last 7 days, how often have you avoided contact with people who have symptoms or you think may have been exposed to the coronavirus to protect yourself or others from coronavirus (COVID-19)? Measured in a 'Always', 'Frequently', 'Sometimes', 'Rarely', or 'Not at all' scale.

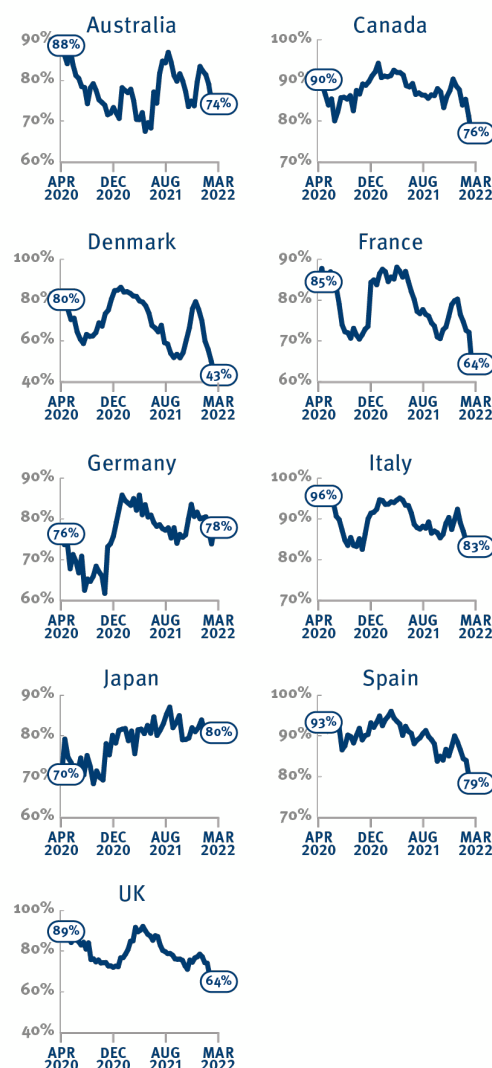
Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Always' or 'Frequently' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Rarely' or 'Not at all' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries' respondents who 'Always' or 'Frequently' avoid contact with people who may be infected with COVID-19 (%)



Compare your data with that of 30 other countries, areas or territories on

coviddatahub.com

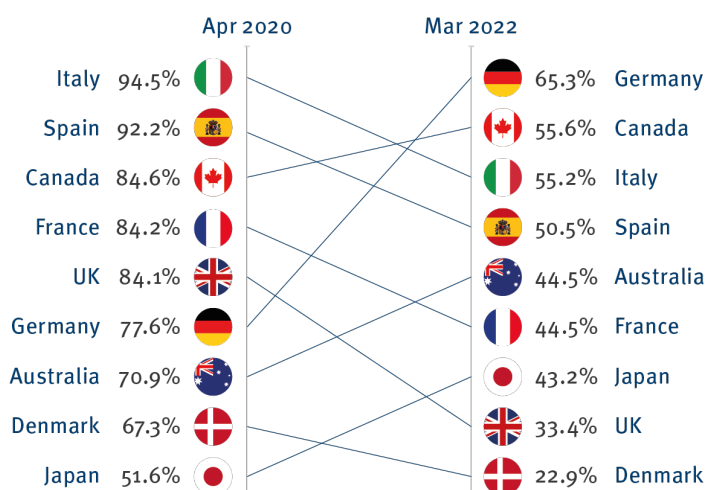
How often do people avoid going to hospitals or other healthcare settings to protect themselves or others from COVID-19?

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

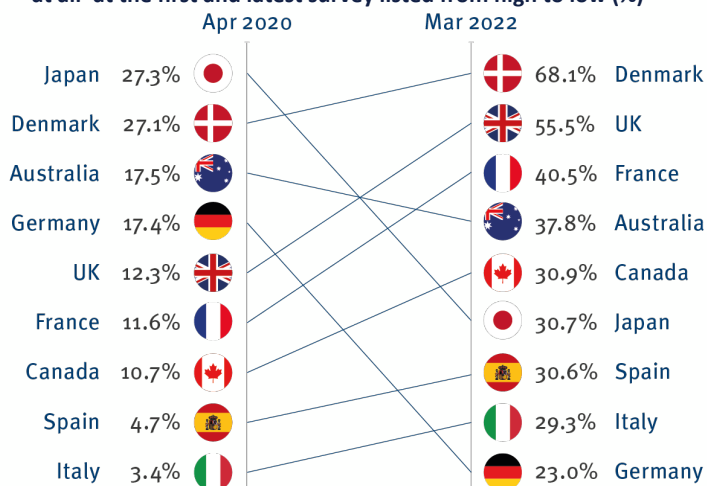
People were less likely to avoid going to healthcare settings to avoid COVID-19 as of March 2022. The proportion of people who indicated that they always or frequently avoided going to healthcare settings was lowest in Denmark (23%), the United Kingdom (33%) and Japan (43%), and highest in Germany (65%), Canada (56%) and Italy (55%).

Thinking about the last 7 days, how often have you avoided going to hospital or other healthcare settings to protect yourself or others from coronavirus (COVID-19)? Measured in a 'Always', 'Frequently', 'Sometimes', 'Rarely', or 'Not at all' scale.

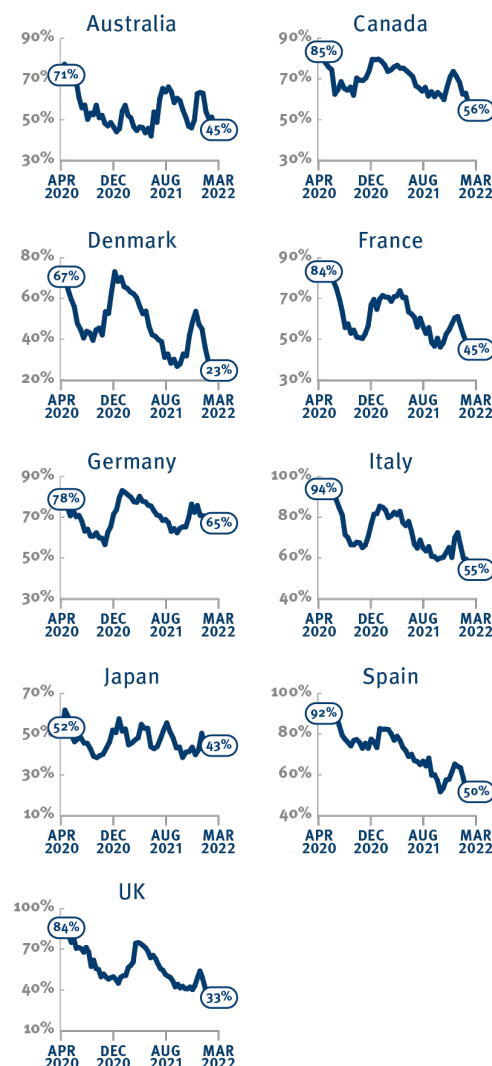
Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Always' or 'Frequently' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Rarely' or 'Not at all' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries' respondents who 'Always' or 'Frequently' would avoid going to hospitals or other healthcare settings (%)



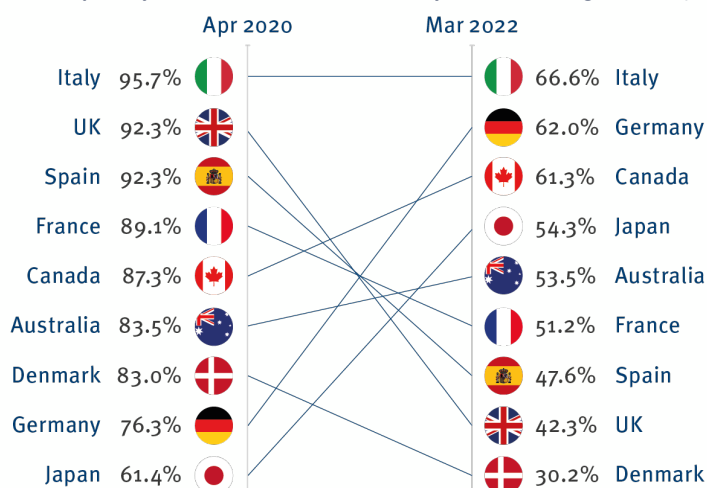
How often do people avoid taking public transport to protect themselves or others from COVID-19?

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

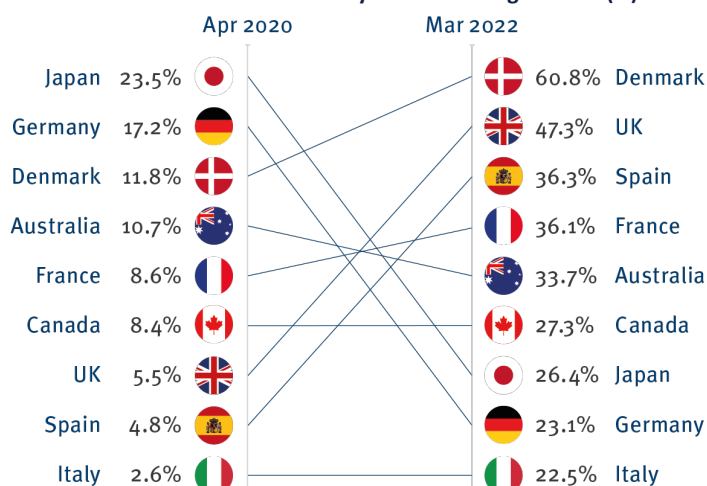
People avoided taking public transport less to protect themselves or others from COVID-19 as of March 2022 compared to April 2020. As of March 2022 the countries with the lowest proportion of people indicating that they always or frequently avoid public transport to avoid COVID-19 were Denmark (30%), the United Kingdom (42%) and Spain (47%), and the highest in Italy (67%), Germany (62%) and Canada (61%).

Thinking about the last 7 days, how often have you avoided taking public transport to protect yourself or others from coronavirus (COVID-19)? Measured in a 'Always', 'Frequently', 'Sometimes', 'Rarely', or 'Not at all' scale.

Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Always' or 'Frequently' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Rarely' or 'Not at all' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries' respondents who 'Always' or 'Frequently' avoid taking public transport (%)



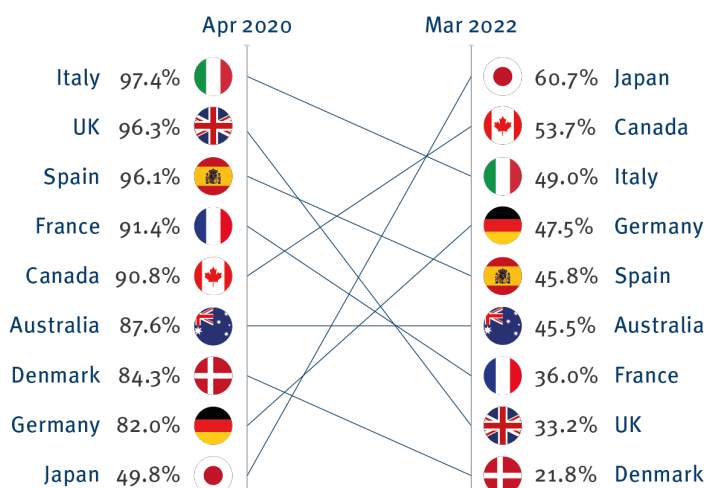
How often do people avoid having guests in their home to protect themselves or others from COVID-19?

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

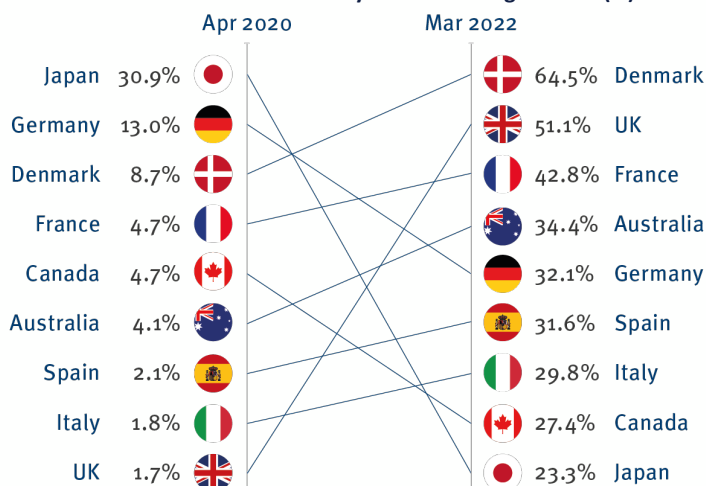
Except for Japan, people in surveyed countries avoided having guests over to their homes less as of March 2022 compared to April 2020. The proportion of people in Japan indicating that they always or frequently avoid having people over increased from 50% in April 2020 to 61% in March 2022. Other countries saw decreases ranging from 34 percentage points (Germany, 82% in April 2020 to 47% in April 2022) to 63 percentage points (United Kingdom, 96% in April 2020 to 33% in March 2022)

Thinking about the last 7 days, how often have you avoided having guests to your home to protect yourself or others from coronavirus (COVID-19)? Measured in a 'Always', 'Frequently', 'Sometimes', 'Rarely', or 'Not at all' scale.

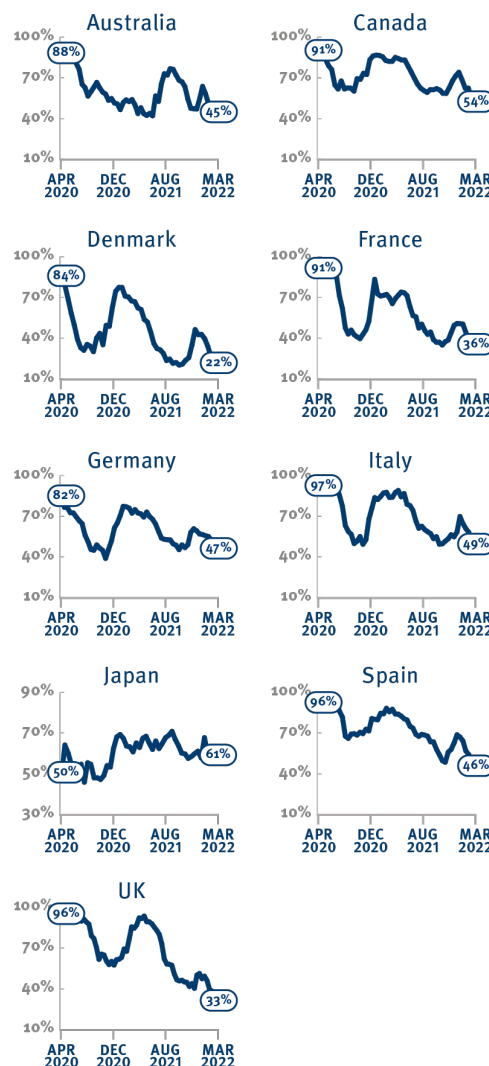
Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Always' or 'Frequently' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Rarely' or 'Not at all' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries' respondents who 'Always' or 'Frequently' would avoid having guests in their home (%)



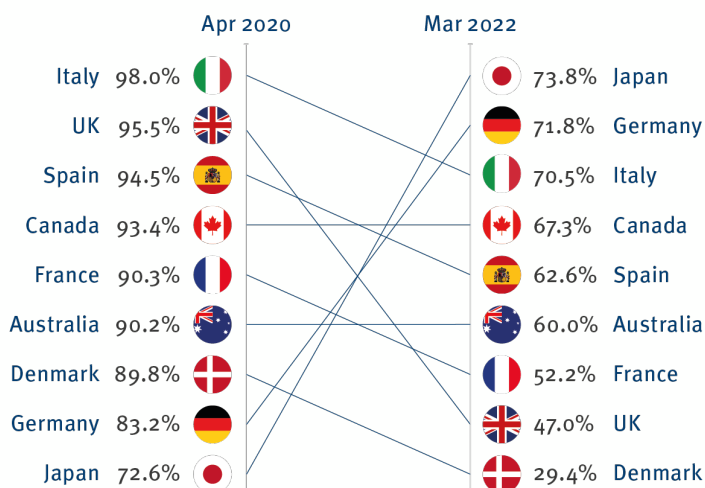
How often do people avoid crowded areas to protect themselves or others from COVID-19?

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

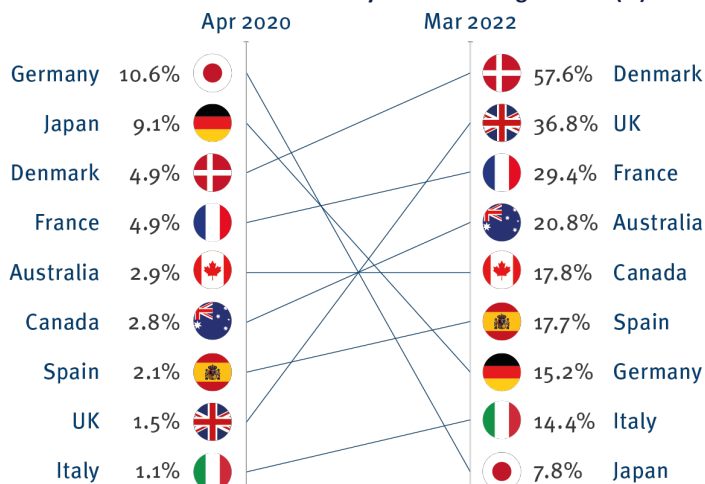
While responses did not change substantially for Japan, the proportion of individuals saying that they either always or frequently avoided crowded areas to protect themselves from COVID-19 has decreased in all other surveyed countries. Countries that saw the largest decreases were Denmark (90% in April 2020 to 29% in March 2022), the United Kingdom (96% in April 2020 to 47% in March 2022) and France (90% in April 2020 to 52% in March 2022).

Thinking about the last 7 days, how often have you avoided crowded areas to protect yourself or others from coronavirus (COVID-19)? Measured in a 'Always', 'Frequently', 'Sometimes', 'Rarely', or 'Not at all' scale.

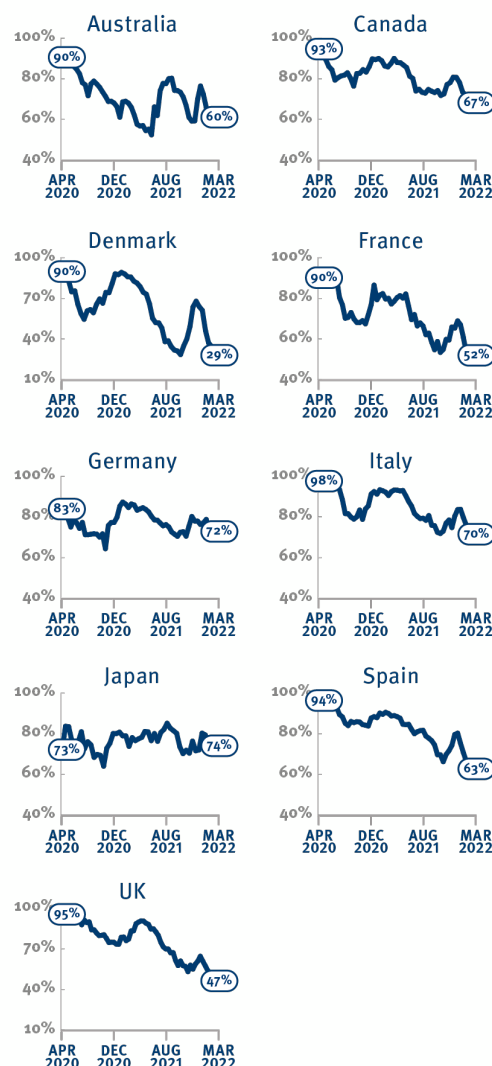
Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Always' or 'Frequently' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Rarely' or 'Not at all' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries' respondents who 'Always' or 'Frequently avoid crowded areas (%)



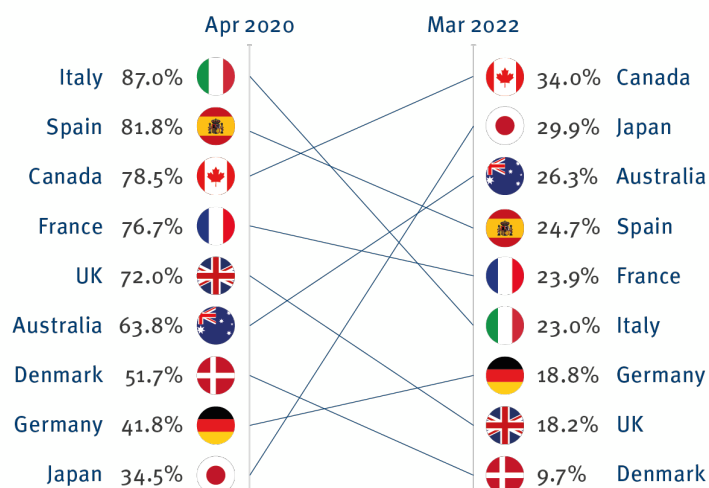
How often do people avoid going to shops to protect themselves or others from COVID-19?

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

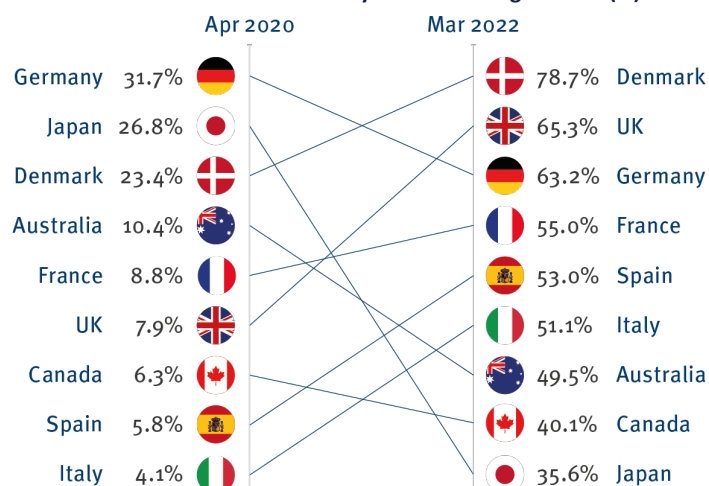
As of March 2022, people in all surveyed countries were avoiding going to shops less compared to April 2020. The countries with the lowest proportion of people indicating that they avoid shops to protect themselves or others from COVID-19 either always or frequently were Denmark (10%), the United Kingdom (18%) and Germany (19%), while the countries with the highest proportions were Canada (33%), Japan (30%) and Australia (26%).

Thinking about the last 7 days, how often have you avoided going to shops to protect yourself or others from coronavirus (COVID-19)? Measured in a 'Always', 'Frequently', 'Sometimes', 'Rarely', or 'Not at all' scale.

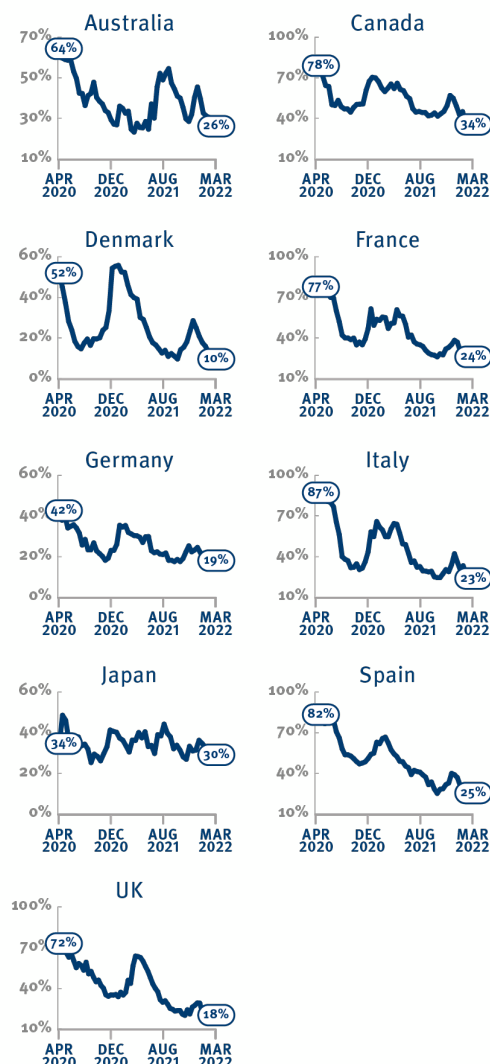
Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Always' or 'Frequently' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Rarely' or 'Not at all' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries' respondents who 'Always' or 'Frequently' avoid going to the shops(%)



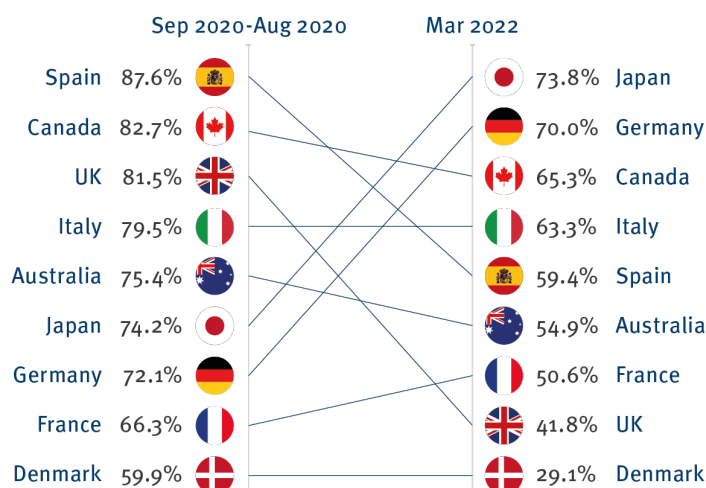
How often do people avoid public events to protect themselves or others from COVID-19?

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

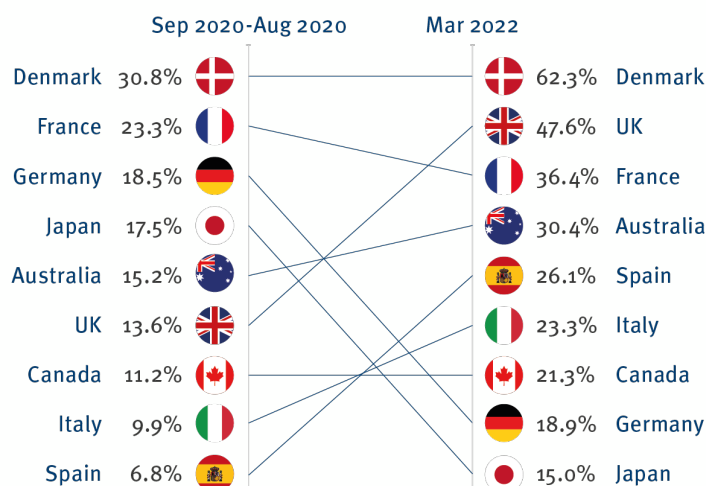
All countries have seen a decrease in the proportion of people avoiding public events. When comparing values from August/September 2020 to March 2022, Japan and Germany stayed relatively unchanged, while others like the United Kingdom and Denmark saw large decreases (40 and 31 percentage points, respectively) in the number of people avoiding these events.

Thinking about the last 7 days, how often have you avoided attending public events, such as sports matches, festivals, theatres, clubs, or going to religious services to protect yourself or others from coronavirus (COVID-19)? Measured in a 'Always', 'Frequently', 'Sometimes', 'Rarely', or 'Not at all' scale.

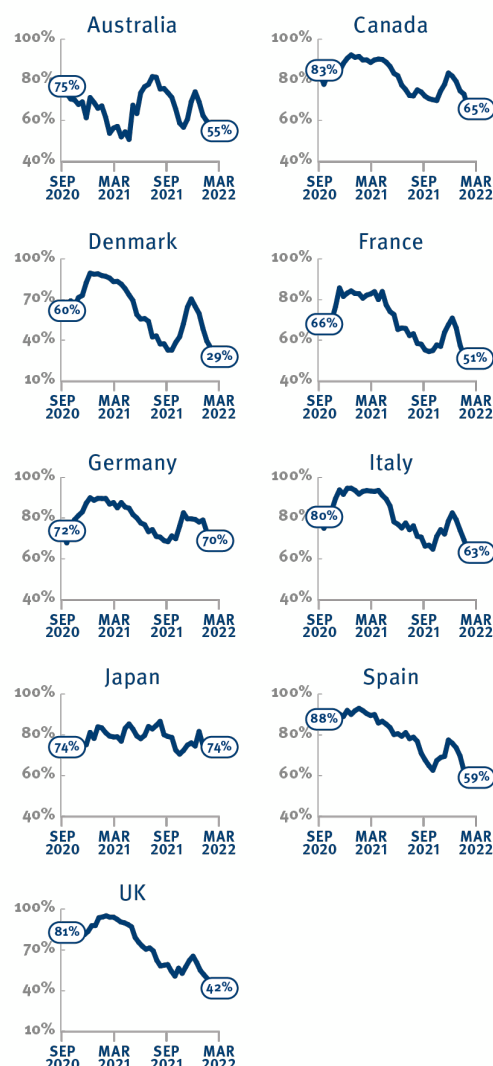
Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Always' or 'Frequently' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Rarely' or 'Not at all' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries' respondents who 'Always' or 'Frequently' avoid public events (%)



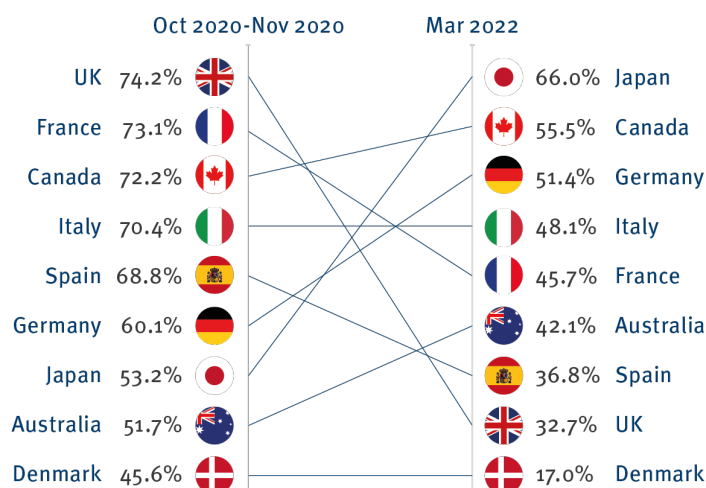
How often do people avoid mixing indoors to protect themselves or others from COVID-19?

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

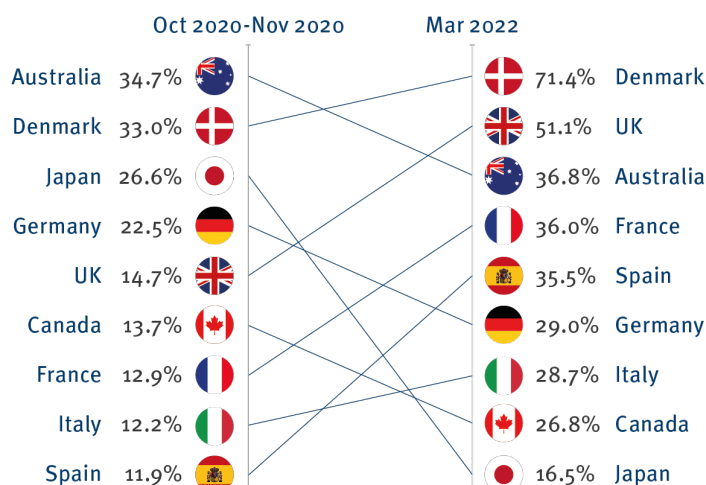
All surveyed countries except Japan have seen a decrease in the proportion of people who avoid mixing indoors to protect themselves from COVID-19. As of March 2022, the proportion of people who indicated either always or frequently avoiding mixing-indoors was the highest in Japan (66%) while Denmark (17%), the United Kingdom (33%) and Spain (37%) have the lowest.

Thinking about the last 7 days, how often have you avoided mixing with other households indoors to protect yourself or others from coronavirus (COVID-19)? Measured in a 'Always', 'Frequently', 'Sometimes', 'Rarely', or 'Not at all' scale.

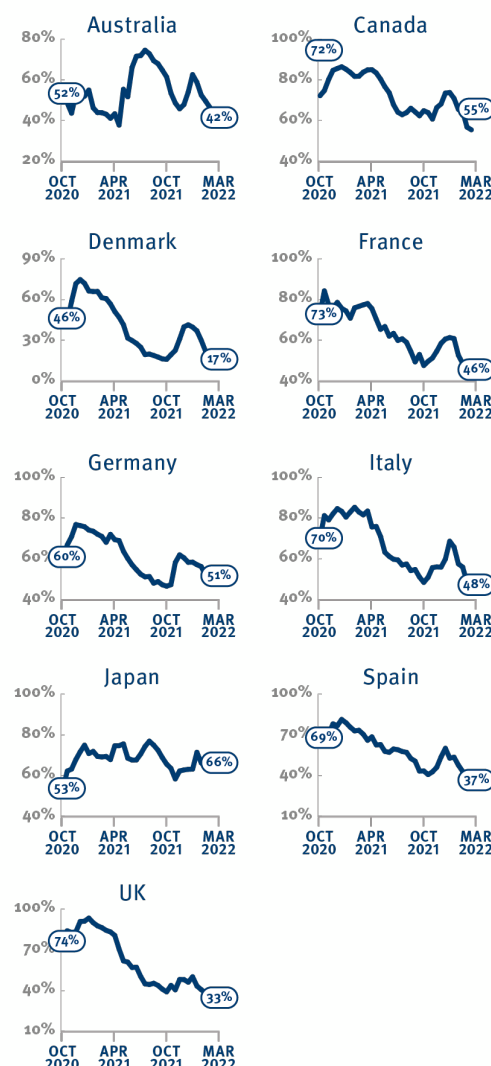
Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Always' or 'Frequently' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Rarely' or 'Not at all' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries' respondents who 'Always' or 'Frequently' avoid mixing indoors (%)



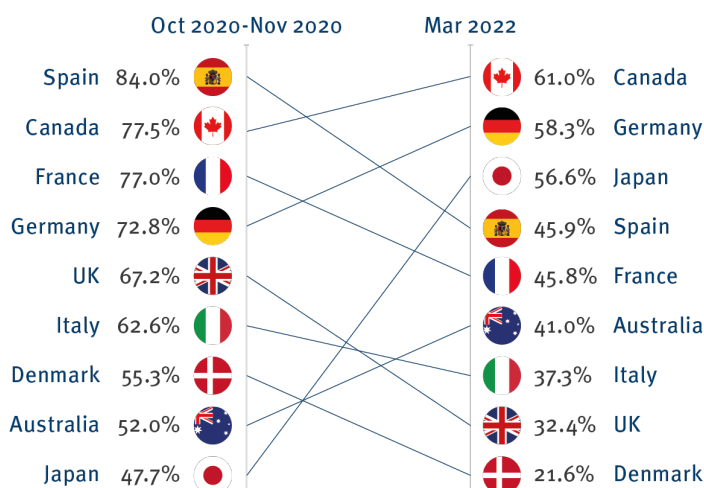
How often do people avoid travelling outside their local area to protect themselves or others from COVID-19?

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

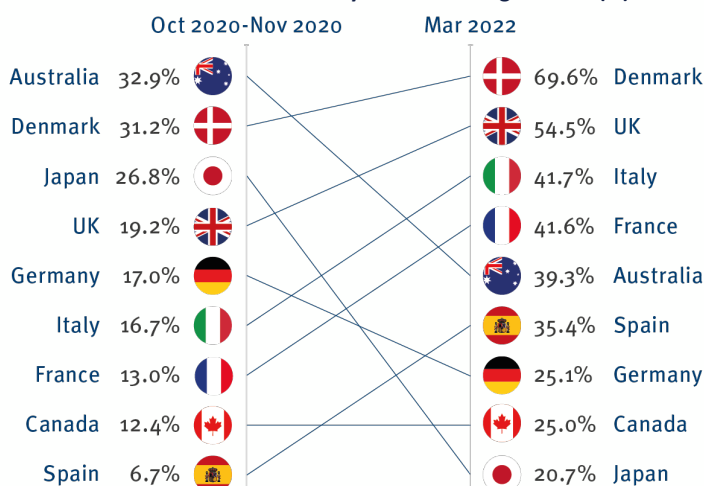
The proportion of people who avoid travelling outside their local area has decreased since November 2020. As of March 2022, in three countries (Canada, Germany and Japan) over half of the population indicated that they either always or frequently avoid travelling outside their local area (61%, 58% and 57% respectively). On the other hand, over half the population in Denmark (70%) and the United Kingdom (55%) indicate rarely or not at all avoiding travelling outside their local area.

Thinking about the last 7 days, how often have you avoided travelling outside your local area to protect yourself or others from coronavirus (COVID-19)? Measured in a 'Always', 'Frequently', 'Sometimes', 'Rarely', or 'Not at all' scale.

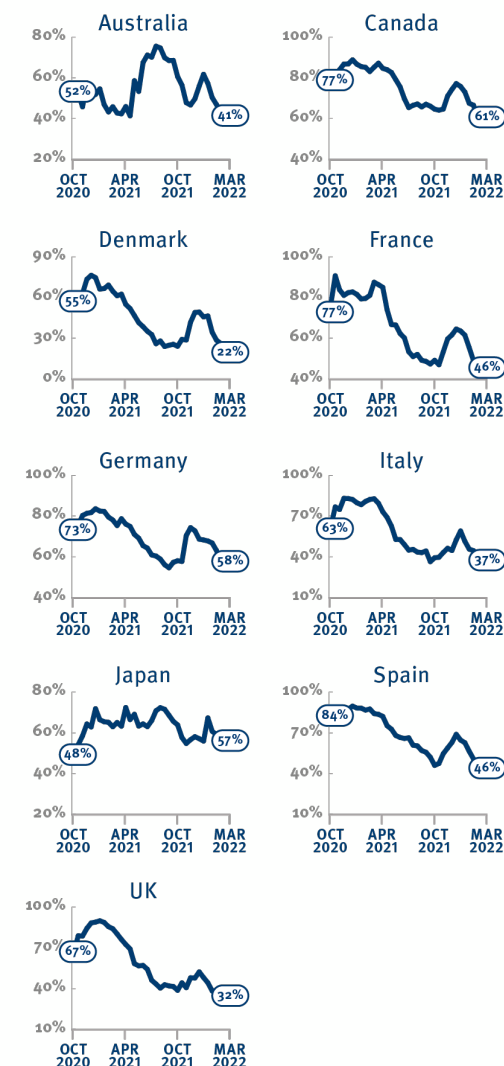
Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Always' or 'Frequently' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Rarely' or 'Not at all' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries' respondents who 'Always' or 'Frequently' would avoid travelling outside their local area (%)



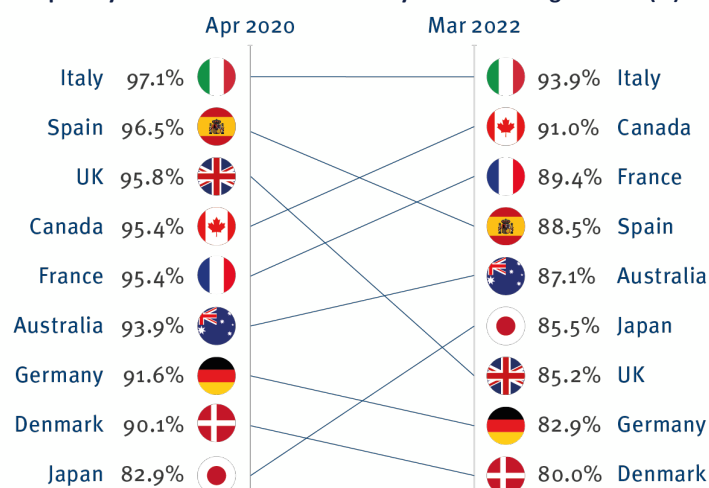
How often do people wash their hands to protect themselves or others from COVID-19?

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

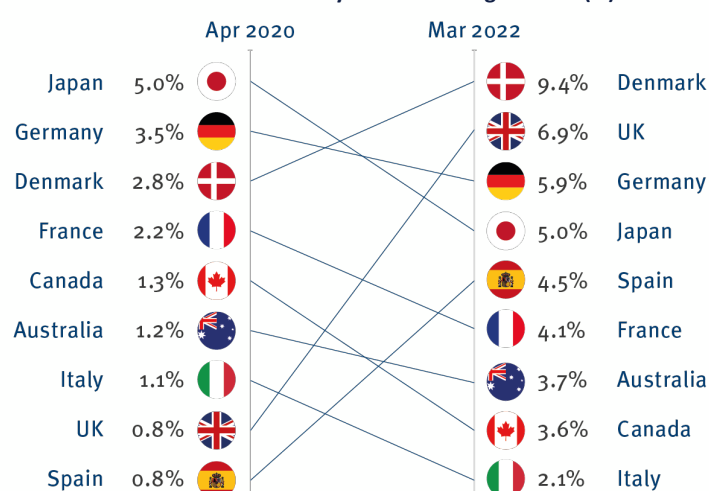
Although the proportion of individuals indicating that they wash their hands to protect themselves from COVID-19 has decreased since April 2020, all countries had over 80% of their population indicating that they do so as of March 2022. The countries with the highest proportions were Italy (94%), Canada (91%), France (89%) and Spain (89%).

Thinking about the last 7 days, how often have you washed hands with soap and water to protect yourself or others from coronavirus (COVID-19)? Measured in a 'Always', 'Frequently', 'Sometimes', 'Rarely', or 'Not at all' scale.

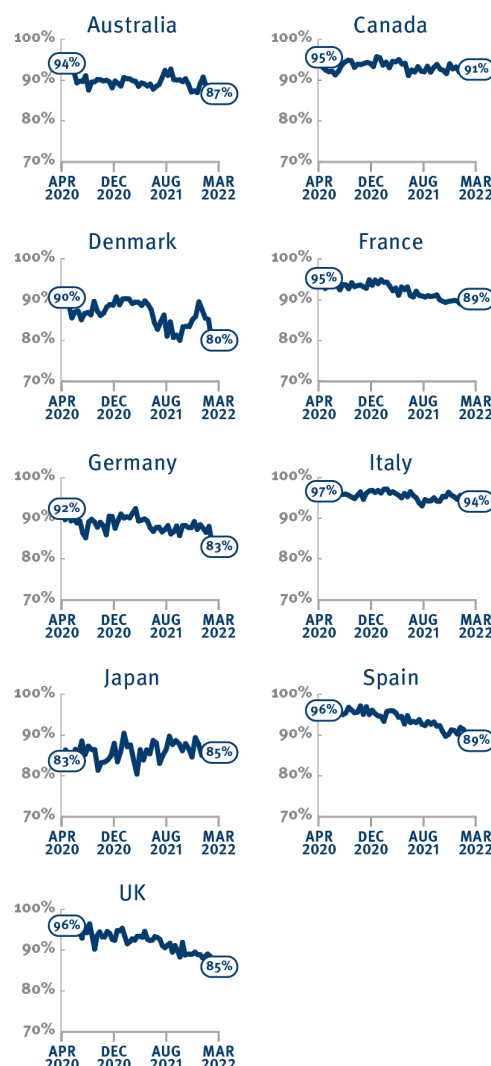
Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Always' or 'Frequently' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Rarely' or 'Not at all' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries' respondents who 'Always' or 'Frequently' wash their hands (%)



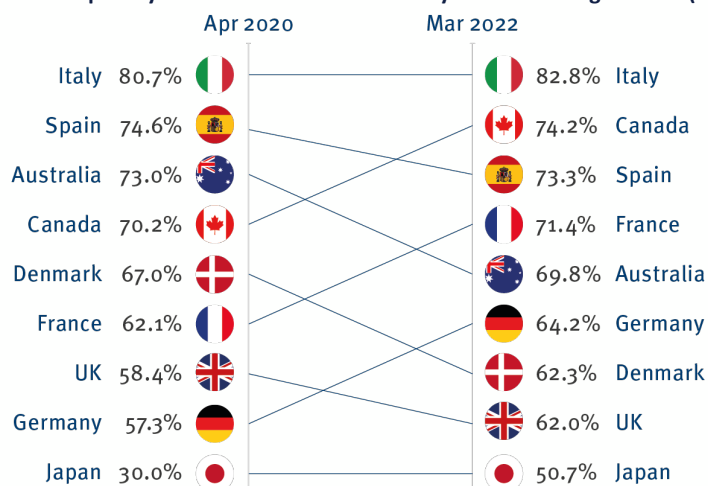
How often do people use hand sanitiser to protect themselves or others from COVID-19?

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

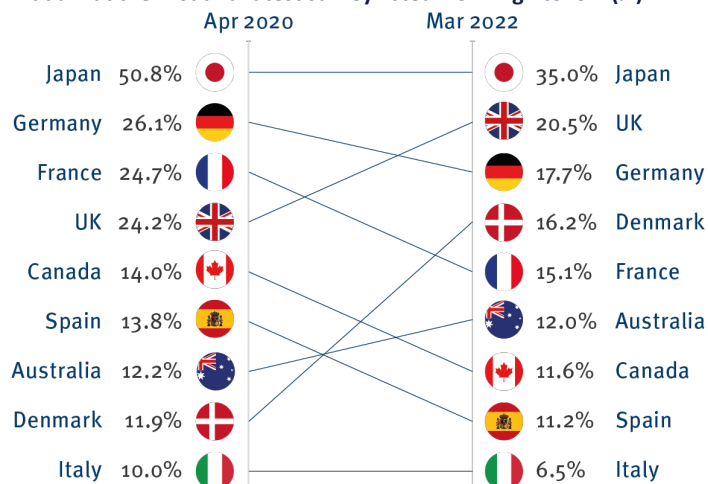
Although the use of hand sanitiser has seen a decrease since the first months of the pandemic, it was still widely used in most surveyed countries as of March 2022. The countries with the highest share of people indicating they either always or frequently use hand sanitiser were Italy (83%), Canada (74%) and Spain (73%), while those with the lowest share were Japan (51%), the United Kingdom (62%) and Denmark (62%)

Thinking about the last 7 days, how often have you used hand sanitiser to protect yourself or others from coronavirus (COVID-19)? Measured in a 'Always', 'Frequently', 'Sometimes', 'Rarely', or 'Not at all' scale.

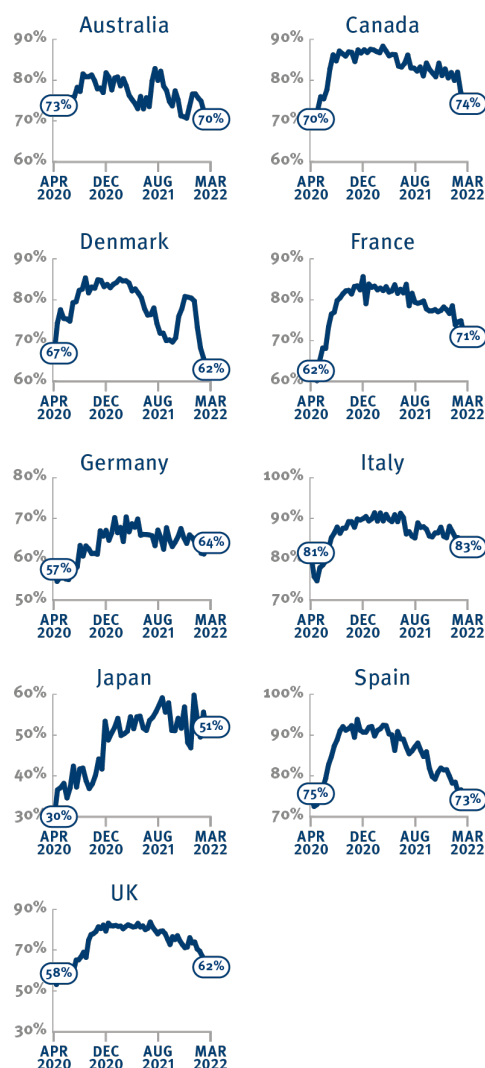
Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Always' or 'Frequently' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Country breakdown of respondents who answered 'Rarely' or 'Not at all' at the first and latest survey listed from high to low (%)



Changes over time in the proportion of countries' respondents who 'Always' or 'Frequently' would use hand sanitiser(%)



Collaborators and supporters

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

**Imperial College
London**

**INSTITUTE OF GLOBAL
HEALTH INNOVATION**

- ▶ Professor the Lord Ara Darzi of Denham
Co-Director, IGHI
- ▶ Dr David Nabarro
Co-Director, IGHI
Special Envoy of WHO Director General on COVID-19
- ▶ Gianluca Fontana
Operations Director
and Senior Policy Fellow, IGHI
- ▶ Sarah P. Jones
Faculty of Medicine,
Department of Surgery &
Cancer Research Postgraduate
- ▶ Melanie Leis
Director, Big Data
and Analytical Unit (BDAU), IGHI
- ▶ Dr Roberto Fernandez Crespo
Analytics Fellow, BDAU
- ▶ Dr Manar Shafat
Contributor, BDAU
- ▶ Natalie Melas-Kyriazi
Contributor, BDAU

With special acknowledgement of the contribution from the WHO working group on measuring behavioural and social drivers (BeSD) of COVID-19 vaccination.

The members of the BeSD COVID-19 working group are: Neetu Abad (United States Centers for Disease Control); Helena Ballester Bon (United Nations Children's Fund [UNICEF]); Cornelia Betsch (University of Erfurt, Germany); Noel Brewer (University of North Carolina, United States of America); Melissa Gilkey (University of North Carolina, United States of America); Julie Leask (University of Sydney, Australia); Abdul Momin Kazi (Aga Khan University, Pakistan); Ana Lisa Ong-Lim (University of the Philippines, Manila); Aaron Scherer (University of Iowa, United States of America); Holly Seale (University of New South Wales, Australia); Gilla Shapiro (University of Toronto, Canada); Smita Singh (Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance); Gillian Steel Fisher (Harvard University, United States of America); Kerrie Wiley (University of Sydney, Australia); Charles Wiysonge (Cochrane South Africa). Lisa Menning and Francine Ganter Restrepo from WHO serve as the group Secretariat.

Contributors to the CovidDataHub.com project



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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

Realised by



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

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

Supporters



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

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

Question for the research team? Get in touch [here](#)

Press enquiry? Contact Meesha Patel at meesha.patel17@imperial.ac.uk

Countries included in this report

	Australia	Canada	Denmark	France	Germany	Italy	Japan	Spain	United Kingdom
Mar 30 - Apr 05 (2020)									
Apr 06 - Apr 12 (2020)									
Apr 13 - Apr 19 (2020)									
Apr 20 - Apr 26 (2020)									
Apr 27 - May 03 (2020)									
May 04 - May 10 (2020)									
May 11 - May 17 (2020)									
May 18 - May 24 (2020)									
May 25 - May 31 (2020)									
Jun 01 - Jun 07 (2020)									
Jun 08 - Jun 14 (2020)									
Jun 15 - Jun 21 (2020)									
Jun 22 - Jun 28 (2020)									
Jun 29 - Jul 05 (2020)									
Jul 06 - Jul 12 (2020)									
Jul 13 - Jul 19 (2020)									
Jul 20 - Jul 26 (2020)									
Jul 27 - Aug 02 (2020)									
Aug 03 - Aug 09 (2020)									
Aug 10 - Aug 16 (2020)									
Aug 17 - Aug 23 (2020)									
Aug 24 - Aug 30 (2020)									
Aug 31 - Sep 06 (2020)									
Sep 07 - Sep 13 (2020)									
Sep 14 - Sep 20 (2020)									
Sep 21 - Sep 27 (2020)									
Sep 28 - Oct 04 (2020)									
Oct 05 - Oct 11 (2020)									
Oct 12 - Oct 18 (2020)									
Oct 26 - Nov 01 (2020)									
Nov 02 - Nov 08 (2020)									
Nov 09 - Nov 15 (2020)									
Nov 16 - Nov 22 (2020)									
Dec 14 - Dec 20 (2020)									
Dec 28 - Dec 31 (2020)									
Jan 04 - Jan 10 (2021)									
Jan 11 - Jan 17 (2021)									
Jan 18 - Jan 24 (2021)									
Jan 25 - Jan 31 (2021)									
Feb 01 - Feb 07 (2021)									
Feb 08 - Feb 14 (2021)									
Feb 15 - Feb 21 (2021)									
Feb 22 - Feb 28 (2021)									
Mar 01 - Mar 07 (2021)									
Mar 08 - Mar 14 (2021)									
Mar 15 - Mar 21 (2021)									
Mar 22 - Mar 28 (2021)									
Mar 29 - Apr 04 (2021)									
Apr 05 - Apr 11 (2021)									
Apr 12 - Apr 18 (2021)									
Apr 19 - Apr 25 (2021)									
May 03 - May 09 (2021)									
May 10 - May 16 (2021)									
May 17 - May 23 (2021)									
May 24 - May 30 (2021)									
May 31 - Jun 06 (2021)									
Jun 14 - Jun 20 (2021)									
Jun 21 - Jun 27 (2021)									
Jun 28 - Jul 04 (2021)									
Jul 05 - Jul 11 (2021)									
Jul 12 - Jul 18 (2021)									
Jul 19 - Jul 25 (2021)									
Jul 26 - Aug 01 (2021)									
Aug 09 - Aug 15 (2021)									
Aug 16 - Aug 22 (2021)									
Aug 23 - Aug 29 (2021)									
Sep 06 - Sep 12 (2021)									
Sep 20 - Sep 26 (2021)									
Oct 04 - Oct 10 (2021)									
Oct 18 - Oct 24 (2021)									
Nov 01 - Nov 07 (2021)									
Nov 15 - Nov 21 (2021)									
Nov 22 - Nov 28 (2021)									
Nov 29 - Dec 05 (2021)									
Dec 13 - Dec 19 (2021)									
Dec 20 - Dec 26 (2021)									
Dec 27 - Dec 31 (2021)									
Jan 03 - Jan 09 (2022)									
Jan 10 - Jan 16 (2022)									
Jan 17 - Jan 23 (2022)									
Jan 24 - Jan 30 (2022)									
Feb 07 - Feb 13 (2022)									
Feb 21 - Feb 27 (2022)									
Mar 07 - Mar 13 (2022)									
Mar 21 - Mar 27 (2022)									

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

The [CovidDataHub.com](https://coviddatahub.com) project is a joint collaboration between the Institute of Global Health Innovation (IGHI) at Imperial College London and YouGov Plc to gather global insights on people's behaviours and life satisfaction in response to COVID-19. The research covers 29 countries, areas or territories and surveys are conducted on a regular basis since the first week of April 2020.

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

In collaboration with