

European Training Foundation



European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions The tripartite EU Agency providing knowledge to assist in the development of better social, employment and work-related policies



Eurofound and ETF work in the fields of living, working and learning

New surveys and research support available to EU neighbouring countries

ETF ALMP Workshop, Turin 24-25 May 2023

Daphne Ahrendt, Eurofound & Iwona Ganko, ETF



Content of today's presentation

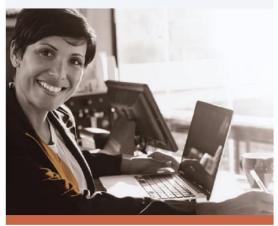
- 1. Eurofound's traditional surveys and COVID-19
- 2. The Living, working and COVID-19 e-survey
- 3. The e-survey in EU neighbouring countries
- 4. Future work





Eurofound's traditional surveys

The European Working Conditions Survey



European Working Conditions Survey 1990/91; 1995/96; 2000; 2005; 2010; 2015; 2024 (EWCTS 2021) The European Quality of Life Survey



European Quality of Life Survey 2003; 2007/8; 2011/12; 2016; 2026 The European Company Survey

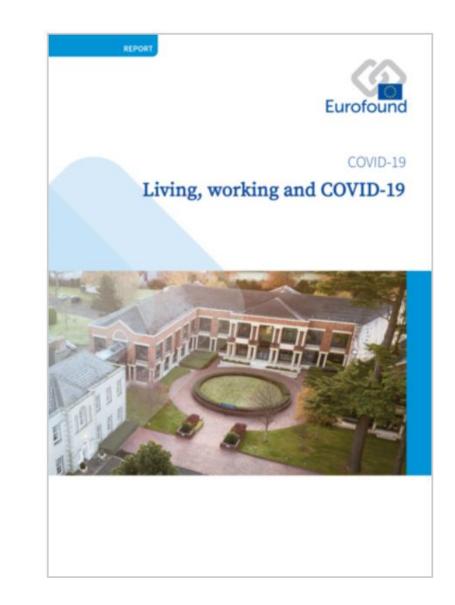


European Company Survey 2004; 2009; 2013; 2019; 2028



Changing survey landscape

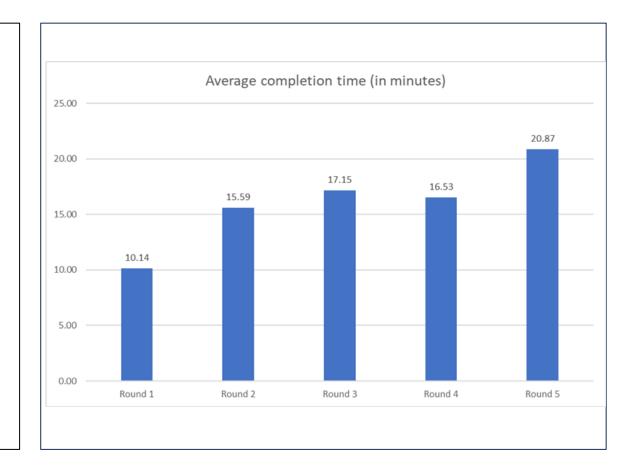
- Eurofound is in the process of futureproofing the surveys with a long-term testing plan to transition to online datacollection.
- The advent of COVID-19 led Eurofound to move the EWCS from CAPI to CATI and to quickly launch a new survey: the Living, Working and Covid-19 (LWC-19) e-survey.





The LWC-19 e-survey: from hoping to get a 1000 cases to....

- Launched in April 2020, over 175,000 cases have been collected across the EU in 5 rounds:
 - April 2020 n= 67,685
 - July 2020 n= 24,143
 - March-April 2021 n= 46,800
 - October-November 2021 (Panel only) n=19,573
 - April-May 2022 n=38,951





...Becoming a very widely used data-source

- The LWC-19 e-survey reports were Eurofound's most downloaded publications in 2020/2021.
- Over 200 articles have been published to date in academic peer reviewed journals that mention the LWC-19 e-survey
- 4 papers from Eurofound staff have been published using data from the LWC-19 e-survey in academic peer reviewed journals



Vaccine 40 (2022) 2215-2225

Social media use and vaccine hesitancy in the European Union

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ARTICLE INFO ABSTRACT Article history:

Vaccine hesitancy can hinder the successful roll-out of vaccines. This paper examines COVID-19 vaccin Received 1 June 2021 Received in revised form 26 January 2022 hesitancy in the European Union, drawing from a large-scale cross-national survey covering all 27 EU Member States, carried out between February and March 2021 (n = 29,755). We study the determina of vaccine besitancy, focusing on the role of social media use. In multivariate regression models, we find statistically significant (p < 0.05) impacts on vaccine hesitancy of heavy use of social media and using social media as a main source of news. However, the effect of social media and the drivers of vaccine hes tancy vary depending on the reason for hesitancy. Most notably, hesitancy due to health concerns is mainly driven by physical health status and less by social media use, while views that COVID-19 risk are examinated (or that COVID-19 does not exist) are more common among men, people in good health and those using social media as their main source of news. © 2022 Elsevier Ltd. All rights reser

specifically

1. Introductio

Accepted 15 February 2022

COVID-19

Vaccine

Hesitancy Hesitancy rea Social media

News sources

Available online 3 March 2022

Vaccines play a crucial role in the response to the COVID19crisis. They can boost the immune response against the original SARS-CoV-2 virus, as well as provide protection against the emerging viral variants that could render existing vaccines ineffective. The vaccine rollout in the European Union has been difficult. with Member States facing continuous challenges in relation to the limited supply of vaccines. Beyond issues related to the logistics of developing, testing, manufacturing and distributing vaccines, the public's confidence in and acceptance of vaccines is far from universal. Effective and clear communication about the efficacy and safety of vaccines likely plays a crucial role in addressing vaccine hesitancy.

Vaccine hesitancy is defined by the World Health Organisation as a "delay in acceptance or refusal of vaccines despite availability of vaccination services" [1]. While vaccine hesitancy can be traced back to the 1800s [2], it has recently become a serious threat that can hinder the efforts that have led to the advancement of human health through science [3]. This has become even more relevant during the COVID-19 pandemic, with vaccine hesitancy potentially undermining communities' ability to reach thresholds of coverage necessary for herd immunity against COVID-19 - unnecessarily perpetuating the pandemic and resulting in untold suffering and deaths [4]

(M. Mascherini)

Vaccine hesitancy is a complex and dynamic social process that has only been studied in more depth in recent years [5]. An individual's attitude towards vaccines can range from complete refusal of all vaccines to complete vaccine acceptance. Existing literature has identified several drivers of vaccine hesitancy, both at the individual and the societal level [6,7]. More recently, social media use, and information sources more generally, have been identified as potentially important drivers of vaccine hesitancy [8,9,10,11,12,13,14 Social media can serve as a forum for the proliferation of vaccination misinformation and as a platform for the anti-vaccination

demonstrated that exposure to vaccine-critical websites and blogs negatively impacts the intention to vaccinate [15]. Furthermore, it has been found that using social media as a source of health information has a significant negative association with influenza vaccine uptake [16]. Misinformation regarding COVID-19 and vaccination against SARS-CoV-2 emerged on social media plat forms, threatening to erode public confidence [9].

movement [11]. Well before the COVID-19 pandemic, it has been

Understanding vaccine hesitancy in times of COVID-19 and the role played by social media is of importance for the success of the efforts to end the pandemic. A great deal of research has been carried out on the socio-demographic determinants of vaccine hesitancy - ranging from qualitative single-country work to large scale surveys across dozens of countries [17,18,19,20,21]. How ever, to the best of our knowledge, this paper presents the first large-scale cross-national analysis in the European Union, covering all Member States, on how social media use influences vaccine

hesitancy generally, and the reasons for vaccine hesitancy more

The association between COVID-19 policy responses and mental well-being: Evidence from 28 European countries Veronica Toffolutti *,b,*, Samuel Plach b, Teodora Maksimovic b, Giorgio Piccitto b, Massimiliano Mascherini⁶, Letizia Mencarini^{b,d}, Arnstein Aassve^{b,t} Contro for Health Economics & Policy Innovation, Department of Economics & Public Policy, Innoval College London - Business School, Exhibition Road, Soc Kensingan, London, SW7 2A2, United Kingdom ⁹ "Carlo F. Dondens" Centre for Research on Social Dynamics and Public Publicies, Buccani University, Via G. Rommen, 1, 20136, Milano, Italy * Baropoint Franketion for the Intercomment of Living and Working Conditions, Wosterdle Road, Louddinsteen, Co. Oxdon, D18 EP65, Jelan ment of Social and Political Science, Bucconi University, Vio G. Roentgers, 1, 20136, Milano, Isaly

Social Science & Medicine 301 (2022) 114906

Contents lists available at SciencelNeer

Social Science & Medicine

- sile	This study assesses how the implementation and lifting of non-pharmaceutical policy interventions (NPIs),
-19	deployed by most governments, to cutb the COVID-19 pandemic, were associated with individuals' mental well-
armaceutical interventions	being (MWB) across 28 European countries. This is done both for the general population and across key-groups. We analyze longitudinal data for 15,147 respondents from three waves of the Eurofound–Living. Working and
	We analyze tongitudinal data for 15,147 respondents from three waves or the functiond-"Living, working and COVID-19" survey, covering the period April 2020-March 2021, MWB in measured by the WHO-5 index. Our
wildwing	evidence suggests that restriction on international travel, private gatheritags, and context tracing (workplace cleaners) were negatively (modified) and MPM by about, negatively, -0.6.25 (pp. C - 2.7 to -0.47), -0.24 (290, C2 - 0.31 to -0.10), and -0.22 (290, C2 - 0.26 to -0.08) (0.29 (290, C2 - 13) to 0.04) points. These results corresponding to -5.5 (w, -1.35 w, -1.36), and -1.48 (c. 1.48) (hauges compared to the propulse state of the results corresponding to -5.5 (w, -1.35 w, -1.36), and -1.48 (c. 1.48) (hauges compared to the propulse and/or stary-about engineering, internal movement restrictions, private pathering restrictions, public results who do not, fared worse, and workplace construct. These residue with hidders below 12, compared to those who do not, fared worse, consecting, Weiners tampeous via -16 farenzia. Europeaner, fared berry under 1970 private with differs 1.27, compared to those who do and, fared berry and pathere constructions, and pable results correcting. The international data for the private restrictions for the private restrictions for the private state of the private restriction to t
	provides timely evidence of the rise in inequalities during the COVID-19 pasternic and overs strategies for mitigating them.

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Keyward

COVID-1 Pandomi Non-pha NPh

The European Union (EU) and the UK have been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic, with five countries - Italy, France, Spain, Germany, and the UK - among the ten countries globally with the most COVID-19 cases and deaths (John Hopkinks I 20221 By 5 January 2022, more than 90 million confirmed COVID-19 cases and over 1.5 million COVID-related deaths have been reported in the EU and the UK (ECDC, 2021). Besides causing disease and death, COVID-19 has

generated a 'parallel epidemic of poor mental health' (WHO, 2021). Th effects, here, could linger long after the pandemic has subsided. Mental illness is taking its toll, both on those who were already at risk, as well as on those who have never sought mental health support before', sai Hans Kluge, director of WHO Europe, during a presa-briefing on 28 January 2021 (W10), 2021). There is increasing evidence for a surge in mental health problems, greater vulnerability (Sa and alarming implications for emotional and social functioning (M et al., 2020). As far as the USA is concerned, evidence shows that, during

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...that provided timely data

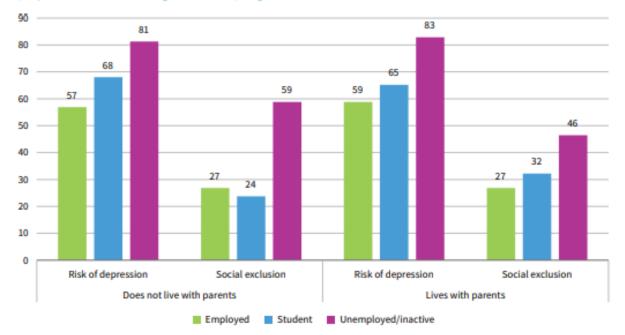




Quality of life Impact of COVID-19 on young people in the EU



Figure 25: Proportions of young people aged 18–29 at risk of depression and feeling socially excluded by employment status and living situation, spring 2021 (%)



Source: Impact of COVID-19 on young people in the EU (europa.eu)



...as well as information where there's a data-gap

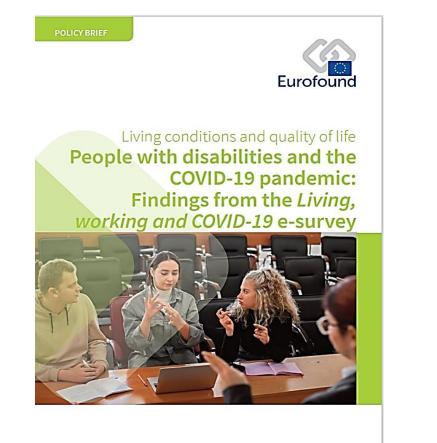
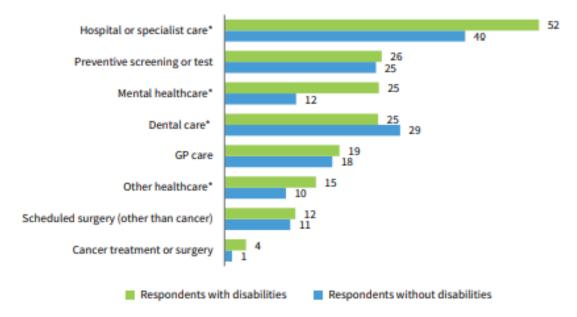


Figure 3: Unmet healthcare needs, by type of healthcare, respondents with and without disabilities compared (%), EU27, 2021



* denotes a statistically significant difference (p=<0.05) between respondents with and without disabilities.
 Source: Living, working and COVID-19 e-survey; author's calculations

Source: People with disabilities and the COVID-19 pandemic: Findings from the (europa.eu)



... that culminated in ETF joining forces with Eurofound...



- In spring 2022, the 5th round of the e-survey was piloted in 10 EU neighbouring countries
- ETF and EF presented the results in a joint publication
- A new e-survey is currently in the field in the EU27 and 17 neighbouring countries

Living, working and COVID-19 in the European Union and 10 EU neighbouring countries | ETF (europa.eu)



The methodology of the e-survey

- The sample is drawn through convenience sampling: the link to the survey is shared among stakeholders, then 'snowballed' further
- Social media advertising is used for additional coverage

Eurofound O Published by Alexandre Dehut O + 13 April at 10:01 • O Die letzten beiden Jahre waren für viele Menschen schwierig. Wie kommen Sie zurecht? Wir



EUROFOUND.EUROPA.EU Sagen Sie uns, was Sie darüber denken. Nehmen Sie an der Umfrage teil.

Learn Mo

...



The social media campaign

- Campaign objective is to generate responses to the e-survey across the countries
- Quota targets are set to reach 500 people per country (or more depending on population size), broken down into several categories
- Weekly meetings with the media company to monitor progress and adjust the campaign
- People potentially still outside coverage: elderly with low digital skills, vulnerable populations with no internet access, people who dislike social media, people who distrust the EU/are not interested in social issues
- People using adblockers can only see the survey if shared by friends, cannot be targeted
- Using different types of social media may help as well as different images





• 10 countries in 2022:

Albania, Georgia, Jordan, Kosovo*,
 Lebanon, Moldova, Morocco, North
 Macedonia, Tunisia and Palestine**

• 17 countries in 2023:

Albania, Georgia, Jordan, Kosovo*, Lebanon, Moldova, Morocco, North Macedonia, Tunisia, Palestine**, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Azerbaijan, Ukraine, Armenia, Egypt

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

** This designation shall not be construed as recognition of a State of Palestine and is without prejudice to the individual position of the Member States on this issue.





The e-survey in the EU neighbouring countries: focus areas

Focus in 2022:

Experiences and perceptions linked to

- working, including teleworking patterns,
- quality of life, social conditions, poverty,
- work-life balance and well-being;
- education and skills development (in Covid-19/post-Covid 19 context)

Outreach:

- 18 461 respondents from 10 neighbouring countries
- Higher number of responses from women, middle-aged and older people and tertiaryeducated

Additional topics in 2023:

- Access and quality of work-based learning opportunities (apprenticeships, traineeships, other forms),
- Access to career guidance and counselling,
- Employment and income gaining by using online platforms or apps.

E-survey ongoing





The e-survey in the EU neighbouring countries: key findings

- Widespread feelings of social exclusion among younger respondents, with many expressing fears about their financial and job situation.
- Health and mental well-being are a major concern across all countries. 75% of those aged between 18 and 44 are at risk of depression in the EU neighbouring countries.
- Women report a higher frequency of tiredness due to performing most of the unpaid household work in their free time
- Lack of sufficient access to education and training programmes and the low quality of education services reported by most of EU neighbouring countries' respondents
- Limited telework: the highest proportions of respondents who never work from home among those whose jobs are entirely teleworkable registered in EU neighbouring countries





The e-survey in the EU neighbouring countries: youth in focus

- Lower levels of life satisfaction due to limited opportunities, leading to feeling of social exclusion
- Higher risks of depression

Feeling of being excluded from society (%)	EU neighbouring countries	EU-27
Ages 18-29	41%	28%
Ages 30-44	37%	26%
Ages 45-64	29%	21%





The e-survey in the EU neighbouring countries: key findings

- Strong measures to prevent families from becoming homeless, improved childcare facilities and access to quality health services, including mental care.
- Gender-responsive active labour market measures targeting women and integrated employment, skills and social support to youth.
- Educational and training systems to offer genuine upskilling and reskilling opportunities for job seekers, people with lower skills and inactive.
- Quality employment opportunities and fair social protection systems



Future work: surveys in the IPA countries

- Eurofound will field its 2024
 European Working Conditions
 Survey (EWCS) in : Albania,
 Bosnia and Herzegovina,
 Kosovo*, Montenegro, North
 Macedonia, Serbia
- Funding has been received from DG NEAR to field the esurvey in 2024 and 2025 in the Western Balkan and Türkiye



Objectives: surveys in the IPA countries

- **a. Provision of comparative (trend) data** on working conditions and on quality of life as input to evidence-informed policy decisions in the beneficiary countries, allowing for cross-country comparisons and for monitoring changes overtime;
- b. Interpretation of data in national and regional context through **analysis and exchange.** This analysis can range from broad overviews of the data to more in-depth thematic topics;
- c. Supporting capacity building (notably through tri-partite dialogue);
- d. Inclusion of future stakeholders in Eurofound's activities;
- e. Raising awareness Eurofound's work within the very limited resources available;
- **f. Partnership** between Eurofound and ETF for joint implementation, processing and analysis of datasets covering EU-27 and neighbouring countries.



IPA survey outputs

- Analytical studies: 2021 EWCtS and of the 2024 and 2025 e-surveys;
- (Web)publishing based on four outputs;
- Expert meetings for all analytical studies;
- Seminars with stakeholders



Lessons learned from the e-survey

- E-surveys are a useful tool to:
 - respond quickly to a particular situation or development, as has been the case during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - fill in gaps in data

- The new e-survey tool and the traditional random-probability surveys complement each other to collect timely and policy-relevant data.
- The traditional high-quality random probability population surveys provide point-estimates needed to monitor trends in living and working conditions.





Thank you



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