

**ZA4880**

**Flash Eurobarometer 239  
(Young people and science)**

**Country Specific Questionnaire  
United Kingdom**

## FLASH 239 – YOUNG PEOPLE AND SCIENCE

### D1. Gender

*[DO NOT ASK - MARK APPROPRIATE]*

Male.....1  
Female.....2

### D2. How old are you?

[ ][ ] years old

[00] [REFUSAL/NO ANSWER]

### D3\_a. What is the last level of full time education that you completed?

- Primary education .....1  
- Secondary education.....2  
- Higher education .....3  
- [NEVER BEEN IN FULL TIME EDUCATION] .....4  
- [DK/NA] .....9

### D3\_b. Are you currently a full time student?

- Yes ..... 1 ASK D4A  
- No..... 2 ASK D4B  
- [DK/NA] ..... 9 ASK D4B

D4A.. What is the current occupation of the person who contributes most to the household income ? Would you say he/she is self-employed, an employee, a manual worker or would you say that he/she is without a professional activity? Does it mean that he/she is a(n)...

D4B.. As far as your current occupation is concerned, would you say you are self-employed, an employee, a manual worker or would you say that you are without a professional activity? Does it mean that you are a(n)...

*[IF A RESPONSE TO THE MAIN CATEGORY IS GIVEN, READ OUT THE RESPECTIVE SUB-CATEGORIES]*

- Self-employed

→ i.e. : - farmer, forester, fisherman ..... 11

- owner of a shop, craftsman .....	12
- professional (lawyer, medical practitioner, accountant, architect,...) ...	13
- manager of a company .....	14
- other .....	15
<b>- Employee</b>	
→ i.e. :	
- professional (employed doctor, lawyer, accountant, architect) .....	21
- general management, director or top management .....	22
- middle management .....	23
- Civil servant.....	24
- office clerk .....	25
- other employee (salesman, nurse, etc...) .....	26
- other .....	27
<b>- Manual worker</b>	
→ i.e. :	
- supervisor / foreman (team manager, etc...).....	31
- Manual worker .....	32
- unskilled manual worker .....	33
- other .....	34
<b>- Without a professional activity</b>	
→ i.e. :	
- looking after the home .....	41
- student (full time) .....	42
- retired .....	43
- seeking a job .....	44
- other .....	45
- [Refusal] .....	99

**D6. Would you say you live in a ...?**

- metropolitan zone .....	1
- other town/urban centre .....	2
- rural zone .....	3
- [Refusal] .....	9

**Q1. Let us talk about those topics in the news, which are of interest to you. For each topic I read out, please tell me if you are interested, or not interested.**

Interested.....	1
Not interested .....	2
[DK/NA].....	9

a) Sports.....1 2 3 9

- b) Politics .....1 2 3 9
- c) Science and technology.....1 2 3 9
- d) Economics.....1 2 3 9
- e) Culture, Entertainment (movies, music, theatre) .....1 2 3 9

**Q2. How much are you interested in the following subjects? Would you say you are very interested, moderately interested or not at all interested in...**

*[READ ROTATE A-E]*

- Very interested.....1
- Moderately interested .....2
- Not at all interested.....3
- [DK/NA].....9

- a) Information and Communication technologies.....1 2 3 9
- b) Earth and the environment .....1 2 3 9
- c) The sky, stars, universe .....1 2 3 9
- d) Human body, medical discoveries .....1 2 3 9
- e) New inventions and technologies .....1 2 3 9

**Q3. Please tell me for each statement if you tend to agree or tend to disagree:**

- Strongly agree .....1
- Tend to agree .....2
- Tend to disagree.....3
- Strongly disagree.....4
- [DK/NA].....9

- a) Science brings more benefits than harm .....1 2 3 4 9
- b) Science and technology will help eliminate poverty and hunger around the world .....1 2 3 4 9
- c) In the long term advances in technology creates more jobs than it eliminates .....1 2 3 4 9
- d) Today, science is influenced too much by profit .....1 2 3 4 9
- e) Science and technology make our lives healthier, easier and more comfortable .....1 2 3 4 9

**Q4. Could you please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements regarding the purpose of scientific research? Do you strongly agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or do you strongly disagree that...**

*(SPLIT B AND C, THAN ROTATE A AND (B OR C))*

- Strongly agree .....1
- Tend to agree .....2

Tend to disagree.....3  
 Strongly disagree.....4  
 [DK/NA].....9

- a) Scientific research should above all serve the development of knowledge .....1 2 3 4 9
- b) Scientific research should above all serve economic development .....1 2 3 4 9
- c) Scientific research should above all serve businesses and enterprises .....1 2 3 4 9

**Q5. I will ask your opinion about different areas of research. Please tell me if you have heard or read about innovations in the following field?**

Yes, I heard about innovations and am interested in it .....1  
 Have heard about innovations but I am not really interested in it.....2  
 Have not heard about innovations, but I am interested in it .....3  
 Have not heard about innovations and not really interested in it.....4  
 [DK/NA].....9

- a) Genetically modified food .....1 2 3 9
- b) Nanotechnology.....1 2 3 9
- c) Nuclear energy .....1 2 3 9
- d) Mobile phones .....1 2 3 9
- e) Human embryo research .....1 2 3 9
- f) Brain research .....1 2 3 9
- g) Computer and Video surveillance techniques .....1 2 3 9

**Q6. There is debate whether scientific and technical innovations in the following areas present more risks or more advantages for society. For each of these, please indicate if in your opinion they:**

Present more advantages than risks for society or .....1  
 More risks than advantages or .....2  
 Same amount of risks and advantages? .....3  
 [DK/NA].....9

- a) Genetically modified food .....1 2 3 9
- b) Nanotechnology.....1 2 3 9
- c) Nuclear energy .....1 2 3 9
- d) Mobile phones .....1 2 3 9
- e) Human embryo research .....1 2 3 9
- f) Brain research .....1 2 3 9
- g) Computer and Video surveillance techniques .....1 2 3 9

**Q7. Concerning the green-house effect and global warming, what is the most likely solution? Please select which of the following three strategies would be the most effective?**

- Advancement in technology.....1
- A fundamental change in our way of life .....2
- State regulations – on a global level .....3
- [NONE OF THEM, OTHER].....8
- [DK/NA].....9

**Q8. Do you think that in the next 20 years the situation in the UK will improve significantly, will improve slightly, will worsen or will significantly worsen in the following areas of life:**

- Will improve significantly.....1
  - Will improve slightly .....2
  - Will worsen .....3
  - Will significantly worsen .....4
  - [DK/NA].....9
- 
- a) Quality of food .....1 2 3 4 9
  - b) Quality of air in the cities .....1 2 3 4 9
  - c) Health of the population .....1 2 3 4 9
  - d) Quality of water.....1 2 3 4 9
  - e) Communication between people .....1 2 3 4 9

**Q9. I will read out items, please indicate for each of them if they represent a health risk for people: Is (INSERT THE APPROPRIATE HEALTH RISK) a very big risk, a significant risk, not a major risk or no risk to health?**

*[READ - ROTATE A-I]*

- A very big risk .....1
  - Significant risk.....2
  - Not a major risk.....3
  - No risk to health.....4
  - [DK/NA].....9
- 
- a) Air pollution caused by cars.....1 2 3 4 9
  - b) Pesticides used in plant production .....1 2 3 4 9
  - c) Genetically modified foods.....1 2 3 4 9
  - d) Surplus of fertilizers which pervade into underground water reserves.....1 2 3 4 9
  - e) Vicinity of nuclear power plants .....1 2 3 4 9
  - f) Use of mobile phones.....1 2 3 4 9
  - g) Vicinity of high tension power-lines .....1 2 3 4 9

- h) Vicinity of a chemical plant .....1 2 3 4 9
- i) New epidemics .....1 2 3 4 9

**Q10\_A. In your opinion, who should have the biggest influence in the UK on decisions about where we are spending money for research, firstly?**

*[READ - ROTATE]*

- The scientific community.....1
- The government.....2
- The citizens.....3
- Private enterprises.....4
- The research organizations .....5
- The European Union.....6
- The media.....7
- [DK/NA].....9

**Q10\_B. Then secondly?**

*[READ - ROTATE]*

- The scientific community.....1
- The government.....2
- The citizens.....3
- Private enterprises.....4
- The research organizations .....5
- The European Union.....6
- The media.....7
- [DK/NA].....9

**Q11. Could you tell me if you tend to agree or disagree with the following statements related to scientists:**

*[READ AND ROTATE A AND B]*

- Strongly agree .....1
- Tend to agree .....2
- Tend to disagree.....3
- Strongly disagree.....4
- [DK/NA].....9

- a. Scientists are devoted people who work for the good of humanity .....1 2 3 4 9
- b. Because of their knowledge, scientists have power that can make them dangerous ...1 2 3 4 9

**Q12. Are you considering study in the following fields in order to get jobs requiring a scientific education?**

- Yes, definitely .....1
- Yes, probably.....2
- No, probably no .....3
- No, Definitely no .....4
- [DK/NA].....9
  
- a. natural sciences.....1 2 3 4 9
- b. mathematics .....1 2 3 4 9
- c. engineering.....1 2 3 4 9
- d biology, medicine .....1 2 3 4 9
- e. social sciences / humanities .....1 2 3 4 9
- f. economics / business .....1 2 3 4 9

**ASK IF ANY OF “NO”, Q12\_C = 3,4 OR Q12\_D = 3,4**

**Q13.A. You mentioned that you are not considering studying [use what is applicable: engineering and/or biology, medicine]. Can you please tell me, why not?**

*[MULTIPLE ANSWER POSSIBLE ]*

- I have already chosen my profession .....1
- I don't have the skills for such a profession .....2
- I am not interested in this kind of profession.....3
- This type of profession doesn't pay well enough .....4
- [DK/NA].....9

**ASK IF ANY OF “YES”, Q12\_A = 1,2 OR Q12\_B = 1,2**

**Q13.B. What kind of profession requiring a scientific education would you like to do?**

*[ONLY ONE ANSWER POSSIBLE!]*

- Researcher in the public sector .....1
- Teacher.....2
- Researcher in the private sector .....3
- Engineer .....4
- Technician .....5
- Health professional .....6
- [DK/NA].....9



**Q14. Could you please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? Do you strongly agree, tend to agree, tend to disagree or strongly disagree?**

Strongly agree .....1  
Tend to agree .....2  
Tend to disagree.....3  
Strongly disagree.....4  
[DK/NA].....9

- a) young people's interest in science is essential for our future prosperity .....1 2 3 4 9
- b) girls and young women should be further encouraged to take up studies and careers in science .....1 2 3 4 9
- c) (natural) science classes at school are not sufficiently appealing.....1 2 3 4 9
- d) my government should spend more money on scientific research .....1 2 3 4 9
- e) the European Union should spend more money on research.....1 2 3 4 9
- f) there should be more coordination of research between Members States in the EU ....1 2 3 4 9