

Flash Eurobarometer 269  
March 2009

Intergenerational solidarity

Basic bilingual questionnaire

The GALLUP Organization

# FLASH - 269

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**EB questionnaire on intergenerational solidarity in an ageing society**

**Questionnaire EB sur la solidarité intergénérationnelle dans une société vieillissante**

I would like to ask a few questions with regard to the relationships between the various generations which make up our society.

**Q1. I am going to read out a number of statements about relations between younger and older people. For each one, please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree [ROTATE ITEMS – READ OUT EACH LINE IN TURN - ONE ANSWER PER LINE]**

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

A ... Young people and older people do not easily agree on what is best for society. ....4 3 2 1 9  
 B ... Older people are a burden for society. ....4 3 2 1 9  
 C ... The media are exaggerating the risk of a conflict between generations. ....4 3 2 1 9  
 D ... Because there will be more older voters, political decision making will pay less attention to the needs of young people. ....4 3 2 1 9  
 E ... As older people work until a later age, fewer jobs will be available for younger people. ....4 3 2 1 9  
 F ... Older women are more at risk of poverty than older men in (OUR COUNTRY). ....4 3 2 1 9  
 G ... Companies which employ mostly young people perform better than those which employ people of different age. ....4 3 2 1 9

Je souhaiterais vous poser quelques questions concernant les relations entre les différentes générations qui composent notre société.

**Q1. Je vais vous lire quelques phrases relatives aux relations entre les jeunes et les personnes âgées. Pour chacune d'elles, veuillez me dire si vous êtes tout à fait d'accord, plutôt d'accord, plutôt pas d'accord ou pas du tout d'accord. [FAIRE UNE ROTATION DES ITEMS – LIRE CHAQUE LIGNE L'UNE APRES L'AUTRE - UNE REPONSE PAR LIGNE]**

Tout à fait d'accord ..... 4  
 Plutôt d'accord ..... 3  
 Plutôt pas d'accord ..... 2  
 Pas du tout d'accord ..... 1  
 [NSP/SR] ..... 9

A ... Les jeunes et les personnes âgées ne partagent pas facilement le même avis sur ce qui est le mieux pour la société ..... 4 3 2 1 9  
 B ... Les personnes âgées sont un fardeau pour la société. .... 4 3 2 1 9  
 C ... Les médias amplifient le risque de conflit entre les générations. .... 4 3 2 1 9  
 D ... Du fait du nombre croissant d'électeurs plus âgés, la prise de décisions politiques prêterait moins d'attention aux besoins des jeunes. .... 4 3 2 1 9  
 E ... Comme les seniors travaillent jusqu'à un âge plus avancé, moins d'emplois seront disponibles pour les jeunes. .... 4 3 2 1 9  
 F ... En France, les femmes âgées sont davantage exposées au risque de pauvreté que les hommes âgés. .... 4 3 2 1 9  
 G ... Les entreprises qui emploient principalement des jeunes réussissent mieux que celles qui emploient des personnes d'âges différents. .... 4 3 2 1 9

**Q2. Now I would read out a few statements related to pensions. Please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree [ROTATE ITEMS – READ OUT EACH LINE IN TURN - ONE ANSWER PER LINE]**

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

- A ... In the coming decades, governments will no longer be able to pay for pensions and care for older people. ....4 3 2 1 9
- B ... People in employment will be increasingly reluctant to pay taxes and social contributions to support older people. ....4 3 2 1 9
- C ... Our government is spending too little on education and young people compared to older people. ....4 3 2 1 9
- D ... Older people accept the need for major pension reforms to ease the financial burden on working age people. ....4 3 2 1 9
- E ... Our government must make much more money available for pensions and care for the elderly. ....4 3 2 1 9
- F ... Our government should make it easier for older people in (OUR COUNTRY) to continue working beyond the normal retirement age, if they wish. ....4 3 2 1 9

**Q2. A présent, je souhaiterais vous lire quelques phrases relatives aux retraites. Veuillez me dire si vous êtes tout à fait d'accord, plutôt d'accord, plutôt pas d'accord ou pas du tout d'accord [FAIRE UNE ROTATION DES ITEMS – LIRE CHAQUE LIGNE L'UNE APRES L'AUTRE - UNE REPONSE PAR LIGNE]**

Tout à fait d'accord ..... 4  
 Plutôt d'accord ..... 3  
 Plutôt pas d'accord ..... 2  
 Pas du tout d'accord ..... 1  
 [NSP/SR] ..... 9

- A ... Dans les décennies à venir, les gouvernements ne pourront plus payer les retraites et les soins pour les personnes âgées. .... 4 3 2 1 9
- B ... Les personnes actives seront de plus en plus réticentes à payer des impôts et des cotisations sociales pour subvenir aux besoins des personnes âgées. .... 4 3 2 1 9
- C ... Notre gouvernement dépense trop peu pour l'éducation et les jeunes par rapport aux personnes âgées. .... 4 3 2 1 9
- D ... Les personnes âgées acceptent la nécessité d'importantes réformes des retraites pour alléger le fardeau financier des personnes en âge de travailler. .... 4 3 2 1 9
- E ... Notre gouvernement doit mettre à disposition beaucoup plus d'argent pour les retraites et les soins pour les personnes âgées. .... 4 3 2 1 9
- F ... Notre gouvernement devrait en France faciliter la tâche aux seniors désireux de continuer à travailler au-delà de l'âge normal de la retraite. .... 4 3 2 1 9

**Q3. Older people are not just receiving from society, they can also give something back. Please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree [ROTATE ITEMS – READ OUT EACH LINE IN TURN - ONE ANSWER PER LINE]**

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

- A ... Older people make a major contribution as volunteers in charitable and community organisations in (OUR COUNTRY). .....4 3 2 1 9
- B ... The contribution of older people who care for family or other relatives is not appreciated enough in (OUR COUNTRY). .....4 3 2 1 9
- C ... The financial help of parents' and grand-parents' is important for young adults who establish their own households and families. ....4 3 2 1 9
- D ... There should be public centres where older volunteers are helped to find opportunities for volunteering which match their skills and wishes. ....4 3 2 1 9
- E ... There are not enough opportunities for older and younger people to meet and work together in associations and local community initiatives. ....4 3 2 1 9
- F ... Developing products and services responding to the needs of older people will become a key driver of the economy in (OUR COUNTRY). ....4 3 2 1 9

**Q3. Les personnes âgées ne font pas que recevoir de la société, elles peuvent aussi y contribuer. Veuillez me dire si vous êtes tout à fait d'accord, plutôt d'accord, plutôt pas d'accord ou pas du tout d'accord [FAIRE UNE ROTATION DES ITEMS – LIRE CHAQUE LIGNE L'UNE APRES L'AUTRE - UNE REPONSE PAR LIGNE]**

Tout à fait d'accord ..... 4  
 Plutôt d'accord ..... 3  
 Plutôt pas d'accord ..... 2  
 Pas du tout d'accord ..... 1  
 [NSP/SR] ..... 9

- A ... Les personnes âgées apportent une contribution d'une importance majeure en tant que bénévoles au sein des organismes caritatifs et communautaires en France. .... 4 3 2 1 9
- B ... La contribution des personnes âgées qui prennent soin de la famille ou d'autres parents n'est pas suffisamment appréciée en France. .... 4 3 2 1 9
- C ... L'aide financière des parents et grands-parents est importante pour les jeunes adultes qui fondent leur propre foyer et famille. .... 4 3 2 1 9
- D ... Il devrait y avoir des centres publics pour aider les volontaires âgés à trouver des opportunités de bénévolat qui correspondent à leurs compétences et leurs souhaits. .... 4 3 2 1 9
- E ... Il n'y a pas suffisamment d'occasions pour les personnes âgées et les jeunes de se rencontrer et de travailler ensemble au sein d'associations et d'initiatives communautaires locales. .... 4 3 2 1 9
- F ... Développer des produits et des services répondant aux besoins des personnes âgées va devenir un moteur clé de l'économie en France. .... 4 3 2 1 9

**Q4. Let me read a few statement about problems related to elderly care.  
Please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree [ROTATE ITEMS – READ OUT EACH LINE IN TURN - ONE ANSWER PER LINE]**

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

A ... Doctors, nurses and professional carers in (OUR COUNTRY) are well trained to care for the special needs of older people. ....4 3 2 1 9  
B ... People who have to care for older family members at home receive good support from social services in (OUR COUNTRY). ....4 3 2 1 9  
C ... In (OUR COUNTRY), there are sufficient social services to support frail older people so that they can stay in their own home. ....4 3 2 1 9  
D ... In (OUR COUNTRY), many frail older people cannot live autonomously because homes are not adapted to their needs. ....4 3 2 1 9  
E ... Older people would contribute much more to society if it was easier for them to move around. ....4 3 2 1 9

**Q4. Permettez-moi de lire quelques phrases concernant des problèmes liés aux soins des personnes âgées. Veuillez me dire si vous êtes tout à fait d'accord, plutôt d'accord, plutôt pas d'accord ou pas du tout d'accord [FAIRE UNE ROTATION DES ITEMS – LIRE CHAQUE LIGNE L'UNE APRES L'AUTRE - UNE REPOSE PAR LIGNE]**

Tout à fait d'accord ..... 4  
Plutôt d'accord ..... 3  
Plutôt pas d'accord ..... 2  
Pas du tout d'accord ..... 1  
[NSP/SR] ..... 9

A ... Les médecins, les infirmier(e)s et le personnel soignant en France sont bien formés pour traiter les besoins spécifiques des personnes âgées. .... 4 3 2 1 9  
B ... Les personnes qui ont à s'occuper à la maison de membres âgés de la famille reçoivent un bon soutien des services sociaux en France. .... 4 3 2 1 9  
C ... En France, il y a suffisamment de services sociaux pour apporter de l'aide aux personnes âgées fragiles, afin qu'elles puissent rester vivre chez elles. .... 4 3 2 1 9  
D ... En France, de nombreuses personnes âgées fragiles ne peuvent pas vivre en autonomie, car les logements ne sont pas adaptés à leurs besoins. .... 4 3 2 1 9  
E ... Les personnes âgées contribueraient beaucoup plus à la société s'il était plus facile pour elles de se déplacer. .... 4 3 2 1 9

**Q5. Finally I would like to ask about the role of public authorities. Please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree [ROTATE ITEMS – READ OUT EACH LINE IN TURN - ONE ANSWER PER LINE]**

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

A ... Schools should promote better relations between the young and the old. ....4 3 2 1 9  
 B ... Local authorities should support associations and initiatives that foster stronger relations between young people and older people. ....4 3 2 1 9  
 C ... The government is doing a good job in promoting a better understanding between the young and the old. ....4 3 2 1 9

**Q5. Enfin, je voudrais vous interroger sur le rôle des autorités publiques. Veuillez me dire si vous êtes tout à fait d'accord, plutôt d'accord, plutôt pas d'accord ou pas du tout d'accord FAIRE UNE ROTATION DES ITEMS – LIRE CHAQUE LIGNE L'UNE APRES L'AUTRE - UNE REPONSE PAR LIGNE]**

Tout à fait d'accord ..... 4  
 Plutôt d'accord ..... 3  
 Plutôt pas d'accord ..... 2  
 Pas du tout d'accord ..... 1  
 [NSP/SR] ..... 9

A ... Les écoles devraient promouvoir de meilleures relations entre les jeunes et les personnes âgées. .... 4 3 2 1 9  
 B ... Les autorités locales devraient soutenir les associations et les initiatives qui favorisent le renforcement des relations entre les jeunes et les personnes âgées. .... 4 3 2 1 9  
 C ... Le gouvernement fait un bon travail de promotion pour une meilleure compréhension entre les jeunes et les personnes âgées. .... 4 3 2 1 9

**D1. Gender**

[DO NOT ASK - MARK APPROPRIATE]

- [1] Male
- [2] Female

**D2. How old are you?**

- [ ][ ] years old
- [00] [REFUSAL/NO ANSWER]

**D3. How old were you when you stopped full-time education?**

[Write in THE AGE WHEN EDUCATION WAS TERMINATED]

- [ ][ ] years old
- [00] [STILL IN FULL TIME EDUCATION]
- [01] [NEVER BEEN IN FULL TIME EDUCATION]
- [99] [REFUSAL/NO ANSWER]

**D1. Sexe**

[NE PAS DEMANDER - NOTER COMME APPROPRIE]

- [1] Homme
- [2] Femme

**D2. Quel âge avez-vous?**

- [ ][ ] ans
- [00] [REFUS/PAS DE REPONSE]

**D3. Quel âge aviez-vous quand vous avez terminé vos études à temps plein?**

[Noter l'âge de fin d'études]

- [ ][ ] ans
- [00] [Toujours en train de poursuivre des études à temps plein]
- [01] [Jamais suivi des études à temps plein]
- [99] [REFUS/PAS DE REPONSE]



**D4. 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 - ONE ANSWER ONLY]**

**- 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

**- Employee**

- 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

**- Manual worker**

- i.e. - supervisor / foreman (team manager, etc...) ..... 31
- Manual worker ..... 32
- unskilled manual worker ..... 33
- other ..... 34

**- Without a professional activity**

- i.e. - looking after the home ..... 41
- student (full time) ..... 42
- retired ..... 43
- seeking a job ..... 44
- other ..... 45
- [Refusal] ..... 99

**D4. Concernant votre emploi actuel, êtes vous indépendant, employé, ouvrier ou sans activité professionnelle? Cela veut-il dire que vous êtes un (une)...**

**[SI UNE REPONSE EST DONNEE A LA CATEGORIE PRINCIPALE, LIRE LES SOUS CATEGORIES RESPECTIVES - UNE SEULE REPONSE POSSIBLE]**

**- Profession libérale/ indépendant**

- i.e. - agriculteur, sylviculteur, pêcheur ..... 11
- commerçant, artisan ..... 12
- profession libérale (avocat, médecin, comptable, architecte...) ..... 13
- Dirigeant d'entreprise ..... 14
- Autre ..... 15

**- Employé (e)**

- i.e. - Cadre employé (médecin sous convention, avocat, comptable, architecte) ..... 21
- Direction générale, directeur ou direction supérieure. 22
- Cadre moyen ..... 23
- Fonctionnaire ..... 24
- employé(e) de bureau ..... 25
- Autre salarié (commercial, infirmière etc...) ..... 26
- Autre ..... 27

**- Ouvrier**

- i.e. - superviseur/agent de maîtrise (chef d'équipe, etc...) 31
- Ouvrier ..... 32
- Ouvrier non qualifié ..... 33
- Autre ..... 34

**- Sans activité professionnelle**

- i.e. - Femme/ Homme au foyer ..... 41
- Etudiant (temps plein) ..... 42
- Retraité ..... 43
- Demandeur d'emploi ..... 44
- Autre ..... 45
- [Refus] ..... 99

**D5. NUTS region (not to be asked)****D6. Would you say you live in a ...?**

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

**D5. Région NUTS (à ne pas demander)****D6. Diriez-vous que vous vivez...?**

- zone métropolitaine .....1
- autre ville/centre urbain .....2
- zone rurale .....3
- [Refus] .....9

Flash EB Series #269

# Intergenerational solidarity

Conducted by  
The Gallup Organisation, Hungary  
upon the request of Directorate General  
Employment, Social Affairs and Equal  
Opportunities



Survey co-ordinated by  
Directorate General Communication

This document does not represent the point of  
view of the European Commission.  
The interpretations and opinions contained in it  
are solely those of the authors.

**THE GALLUP ORGANIZATION**

## Survey details

This general population survey on “*Intergenerational solidarity*”(Flash N° 269) was conducted for the European Commission, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, Directorate E – Unit E1, Social and Demographic Analysis.

Telephone interviews were conducted in each country, with the exception of the Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia where both telephone and face-to-face interviews were conducted (70% webCATI and 30% F2F interviews).

Telephone interviews were conducted in each country between the 20/03/2009 and the 24/03/2009 by the following institutes:

Belgium	BE	Gallup Europe	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Czech Republic	CZ	Focus Agency	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Denmark	DK	Hermelin	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Germany	DE	IFAK	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Estonia	EE	Saar Poll	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Greece	EL	Metroanalysis	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Spain	ES	Gallup Spain	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
France	FR	Efficience3	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Ireland	IE	Gallup UK	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Italy	IT	Demoskopoea	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Cyprus	CY	CYMAR	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Latvia	LV	Latvian Facts	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Lithuania	LT	Baltic Survey	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Luxembourg	LU	Gallup Europe	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Hungary	HU	Gallup Hungary	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Malta	MT	MISCO	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Netherlands	NL	MSR	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Austria	AT	Spectra	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Poland	PL	Gallup Poland	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Portugal	PT	Consulmark	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Slovenia	SI	Cati d.o.o	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Slovakia	SK	Focus Agency	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Finland	FI	Norstat Finland Oy	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Sweden	SE	Hermelin	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
United Kingdom	UK	Gallup UK	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Bulgaria	BG	Vitoshia	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)
Romania	RO	Gallup Romania	(Interviews: 20/03/2009 - 24/03/2009)

### ***Representativeness of the results***

Each national sample is representative of the population aged 15 years and above.

### ***Sample sizes***

In all EU Member States the target sample size was 1000 respondents, the table below shows the achieved sample size by country.

A weighting factor was applied to the national results in order to compute a marginal total, where each country contributes to the EU result in proportion to the size of its population.

The table below presents, for each Member State:

- (1) the number of interviews actually carried out
- (2) the population-weighted total number of interviews

***Total interviews***

	<b>Total Interviews</b>			
	<b>Conducted</b>	<b>% of Total</b>	<b>EU27 weighted</b>	<b>% of Total (weighted)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>27163</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>27163</b>	<b>100</b>
BE	1002	3.7	572	2.1
BG	1007	3.7	433	1.6
CZ	1006	3.7	574	2.1
DK	1001	3.7	289	1.1
DE	1007	3.7	4618	17.0
EE	1027	3.8	74	0.3
EL	1001	3.7	624	2.3
ES	1005	3.7	2477	9.1
FR	1007	3.7	3364	12.4
IE	1000	3.7	224	0.8
IT	1005	3.7	3310	12.2
CY	1003	3.7	42	0.2
LV	1014	3.7	128	0.5
LT	1005	3.7	185	0.7
LU	1004	3.7	25	0.1
HU	1010	3.7	556	2.0
MT	1002	3.7	22	0.1
NL	1000	3.7	873	3.2
AT	1004	3.7	456	1.7
PL	1010	3.7	2092	7.7
PT	1001	3.7	584	2.1
RO	1019	3.8	1189	4.4
SI	1003	3.7	113	0.4
SK	1010	3.7	295	1.1
FI	1007	3.7	285	1.0
SE	1003	3.7	493	1.8
UK	1000	3.7	3267	12.0

***Questionnaires***

1. The questionnaire prepared for this survey is reproduced at the end of this results volume, in English.
2. The institutes listed above translated the questionnaire in their respective national language(s).
3. One copy of each national questionnaire is annexed to the results (volume tables).

## ***Tables of results***

### **VOLUME A: COUNTRY BY COUNTRY**

The VOLUME A tables present the EU results country by country.

### **VOLUME B: RESPONDENTS' DEMOGRAPHICS**

The VOLUME B tables present the EU results with the following socio-demographic characteristics of respondents as breakdowns:

Volume B:

Sex (*Male, Female*)

Age (*15-24, 25-39, 40-54, 55-64, 65+*)

Subjective urbanisation (*Metropolitan zone, Other town/urban centre, Rural zone*)

Occupation (*Self-employed, Employee, Manual worker, Retired, Other not working*)

Education (*-15, 16-20, 21+, Still in full time education*)

### ***Sampling error***

Surveys are designed and conducted to provide an estimate of a true value of characteristics of a population at a given time. An estimate of a survey is unlikely to exactly equal the true population quantity of interest for a variety of reasons. One of these reasons is that data in a survey are collected from only some – a sample of – members of the population, this to make data collection cheaper and faster. The “margin of error” is a common summary of sampling error, which quantifies uncertainty about (or confidence in) a survey result.

Usually, one calculates a 95 percent confidence interval of the format: survey estimate +/- margin of error. This interval of values will contain the true population value at least 95% of time.

For example, if it was estimated that 45% of EU citizens are in favour of a single European currency and this estimate is based on a sample of 100 EU citizens, the associated margin of error is about 10 percentage points. The 95 percent confidence interval for support for a European single currency would be (45%-10%) to (45%+10%), suggesting that in the EU the support for a European single currency could range from 35% to 55%. Because of the small sample size of 100 EU citizens, there is considerable uncertainty about whether or not the citizens of the EU support a single currency.

As a general rule, the more interviews conducted (sample size), the smaller the margin of error. Larger samples are more likely to give results closer to the true population quantity and thus have smaller margins of error. For example, a sample of 500 will produce a margin of error of no more than about 4.5 percentage points, and a sample of 1,000 will produce a margin of error of no more than about 3 percentage points.

***Margin of error (95% confidence interval)***

Survey estimate	Sample size (n)									
	10	50	100	150	200	400	800	1000	2000	4000
5%	13.5%	6.0%	4.3%	3.5%	3.0%	2.1%	1.5%	1.4%	1.0%	0.7%
10%	18.6%	8.3%	5.9%	4.8%	4.2%	2.9%	2.1%	1.9%	1.3%	0.9%
25%	26.8%	12.0%	8.5%	6.9%	6.0%	4.2%	3.0%	2.7%	1.9%	1.3%
50%	31.0%	13.9%	9.8%	8.0%	6.9%	4.9%	3.5%	3.1%	2.2%	1.5%
75%	26.8%	12.0%	8.5%	6.9%	6.0%	4.2%	3.0%	2.7%	1.9%	1.3%
90%	18.6%	8.3%	5.9%	4.8%	4.2%	2.9%	2.1%	1.9%	1.3%	0.9%
95%	13.5%	6.0%	4.3%	3.5%	3.0%	2.1%	1.5%	1.4%	1.0%	0.7%

(The values in the table are the margin of error – at 95% confidence level – for a given survey estimate and sample size)

The examples show that the size of a sample is a crucial factor affecting the margin of error. Nevertheless, once past a certain point – a sample size of 800 or 1,000 – the improvement is small. For example, to reduce the margin of error to 1.5% would require a sample size of 4,000.

## Evaluation of the samples

The attached tables (after the Technical Report tables) provide a detailed insight to the within country weighting of the study. (For cross-country weights please refer to the table on previous page) The weighting of the dataset is a three-fold exercise.

In the *first step* we will apply the basic **selection probability weights**, primarily to avoid the overcoverage of households with multiple telephone lines. In the same step, we calculate the weights that corrects the estimations based on the merged **dual frame** samples, i.e., weights that deal with phone owners;

In the *second step*, on a country-by-country basis, a **nonresponse population weighting** was carried out. As nonresponse rates vary by social segments, the sample characteristics reflect such differences as well (i.e., there are usually less males and especially less young people in the samples than in the universe.) In this step, we compensated for the nonresponse bias that stems from the field execution process. The most advanced method for eliminating such deviations is the so-called *Raking Adjustment for Nonresponse* (raking). Gallup applied this method. This procedure performs iterative proportional fitting in contingency table analysis. This method is also used to deal with the problem of large variability of weights. When weighting classes are formed based on full cross-classification of the auxiliary variables, the result is a large number of weighting classes with unstable response rates.

However, one drawback is that raking assumes that the variables used for adjustment are independent. Raking works in the following way:

- 1) sets initial weight factor values in each cross-classification term to 1;
- 2) adjusts the weight factors of the first cross-classification term so the weighted sample is representative for the variables involved;
- 3) adjusts the weight factors for the next cross-classification term so the weighted sample becomes representative with respect to the variables involved (this might disrupt the representativeness with respect to the variables involved);
- 4) repeats this adjustment for all cross-classification terms;
- 5) repeats all steps until the factors do not change.

A common approach to weighting is to determine the sample weights adjusting for unequal probabilities of selection, revise these weights to compensate for different sub-class response rates, and finally modify the weights again to conform the weighted sample distribution for certain variables (e.g., age, gender, activity etc.) to the known population distributions of the same variables.

The following variables will be used in all national raking procedures (with categories levels used):

### **Age X Sex**

male, 15-29  
male, 30-49  
male, 50+  
female, 15-29  
female, 30-49  
female, 50+

### **Activity**

Active worker  
retired  
Other non-active worker

### **Regions ( NUTS2)**

Please note that levels might be collapsed to achieve convergence or universe information is not available in the necessary detail.



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