

# UNDERSTANDING PUBLIC PERCEPTION OF NANOMATERIALS AND THEIR SAFETY IN THE EU

## Final report

November 2020



## Disclaimer

This study was commissioned by the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) and was carried out by SC&C s.r.o., EcoMole s.r.o. and ReachSpektrum s.r.o.

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## **Abstract**

Although nanotechnology is considered to be a key enabling technology and manufactured nanomaterials are an integral part of our everyday lives, there are concerns on the safety of some of the established and newer applications of traditional and more advanced nanomaterials. Therefore, the need to examine how nanomaterials are perceived by the public is important. This study investigates the public perception of manufactured nanomaterials as a group, and their use in different consumer products together with shopping habits, trust in authorities, preferred information sources and labelling requirements among the general population in five European countries – Austria, Bulgaria, Finland, France and Poland.

The data was collected using the Computer-Assisted Web Interviewing (CAWI) methodology survey in February 2020. The survey questionnaire was drafted based on a literature search concerning the perception of nanomaterials or nanotechnologies as reflected in published literature. This desk research also provides hypotheses which are further analysed in the study together with trends over time, regional differences, socio-demographic factors, and cognitive drivers affecting the public perception of nanomaterials.

## Executive summary

Many products containing manufactured nanomaterials, such as car tyres, cosmetics, textiles and food packaging, have become an integral part of our everyday lives. Numerous studies were conducted over the past two decades on the public's perception of the risks and benefits of the use of nanomaterials and despite the widespread use of nanomaterials in consumer products, the level of awareness of the public about their applications and associated potential risks, benefits and the safe use of nanomaterials remains low. However, together with increasing and changing consumer uses and applications, measuring changes in the public's perception remains topical. How does the public actually perceive nanomaterials, if at all? Are they perceived as hazardous, or safe, or neither? When consumers consider purchasing a product that contains nanomaterials, are they more or less likely to buy the product, or are they indifferent? And how do these attitudes concerning perceived risks of nanomaterials differ across different socio-demographic groups of the European population?

This study aims to examine these questions and to provide insight into the public perception of risks associated with nanomaterials. Its aim is to give an updated measurement of public perception and to analyse key trends and how they have developed in the last decade. The results aim to support authorities and regulators in improving the available information on nanomaterials and the overall communication of that information to enable consumers to better understand how nanomaterials and nanotechnology are used in different products and what the public consider as important information to better understand their benefits and risks.

### Methodology

A literature study was carried out to analyse the outcomes of previous research. 1,480 potentially relevant publications were retrieved and systematically screened. The inclusion criteria taking into account the study design, population and geography resulted in the total number of 402 publications regarded as relevant and used for data extraction. Through a systematic meta-analysis of these studies, a matrix of collected evidence was compiled, summarising how each of the identified relevant studies addresses different research questions. This allowed subsequent analysis of trends and comparison of similarities and/or differences in perceptions based on different socio-demographic variables.

Based on this analysis of previous research results, main trends, outcomes and gaps were identified and described. Identified key questions, as well as gaps, were considered in developing a questionnaire to explore the current situation regarding public perception of manufactured nanomaterials in the EU. The final questionnaire aimed to investigate the public perception of the risks and benefits associated with the use of nanomaterials as well as to validate the awareness and knowledge of respondents.

Five target countries were selected based on:

- Size
- Year of accession to the EU
- Population
- GDP per capita
- Turnout in the elections to the European Parliament in 2019
- Existence (or non-existence) of a national inventory of nanomaterials or products containing nanomaterials
- Research and development spendings by GDP
- Share of filed patents related to nanotechnology
- Share of primary/secondary/tertiary sectors in the economy
- Expenditure on pharmaceuticals per capita
- Gross fixed capital formation in the health care sector as a share of GDP
- Other indicators such as freedom of press, tendency to trust EU authorities and satisfaction with life

Based on these criteria and expert judgement, the survey was carried out in Austria, Bulgaria, Finland, France and Poland as a representative sample of EU countries. A representative sample of 1,000 respondents in each country was selected and recruited through National Managed Access Panels. Computer-Assisted Web Interviewing (CAWI) methodology was used to collect 5,000 responses in the target countries between 3 February 2020 and 17 February 2020.

### **General awareness of nanomaterials/nanotechnology**

Despite manufactured nanomaterials being a common part of our everyday lives through various products (foodstuffs, chemicals, textiles and apparel or electronics to name just a few), general awareness about the nature, characteristics and properties of manufactured nanomaterials is very low. However, the level of awareness has clearly increased over time and is projected to continue to do so. This result is derived by comparing the results from Eurobarometer 63.1 (Papacostas 2006), Eurobarometer 73.1 (Anonymous 2013) and the present study. As the methodologies of the surveys are similar, it is possible to compare the level of awareness of nanomaterials/nanotechnology in Europe and individual European countries in 2005, 2010 and 2020.

The prompted answers on uses of nanomaterials indicate that the public is aware (or can logically deduce) the wide use and various applications of nanomaterials, but there is very limited understanding of how the use of nanomaterials brings benefit to different technologies and products, and ultimately to the users and consumers of these products. When provided with particular examples, respondents mostly linked the use of nanomaterials with electronics, surface treatment, cosmetics, and textiles.

### **Shopping habits and behaviour related to products containing nanomaterials**

As the population becomes more aware that human health also reflects, to an extent, lifestyle choices and as the public shows a growing interest in environmental issues, consumers become more cautious when buying goods. They are more interested in knowing the origins and content of the products they buy as they can impact their health and the environment. When buying a product for the first time, more than half of the respondents claim to read information about its contents and safety information.

A growing interest in a healthy lifestyle is confirmed by the majority of respondents willing to pay a higher price for a safer product. Respondents indicated their willingness to pay 1-20% more for a product that is guaranteed to be safer.

If consumers were presented with clear information that a product contains nanomaterials, the majority would take a cautious stand of either not buying such a product, or deciding based on the category of the product (less concern was observed with electronics, car equipment, electrical appliances etc., more with food, food packagings, medicines and cosmetics). However, this attitude is clearly linked to the level of respondents' knowledge about nanomaterials. The lower the level of knowledge, the less likely the respondent is to buy a product containing nanomaterials or utilising nanotechnologies. The public is most cautious when buying a product where direct exposure is likely or inevitable (e.g. food or cosmetics).

### **General risk perception**

The respondents generally perceive health risks as an important issue for their lives. At least on a declarative level, the majority of the population is quite vigilant. Only a small minority of respondents indicated that they are not interested in health risks.

When asked about their perception of modern technologies and other potentially concerning areas regarding human health and the environment and presented with examples, two-thirds of the respondents were concerned about the impact of using asbestos, accumulation of plastic

waste, global warming, use of pesticides and GMOs. Less than one-quarter of the respondents were concerned about the impact of modern technologies such as computers, mobile phones, electronics or social networks on human life.

Compared to other modern trends and technologies, the impact of nanomaterials on human health does not raise significant concerns in the public mind. Approximately one-quarter of the respondents in the presented survey were worried about the possible impact of nanomaterials on their life (comparable with those concerned about computer use, social networks and electronics). Around the same number of respondents do not have a distinct opinion, which seems to be associated with the lack of knowledge about the topic.

### **Risk perception related to nanomaterials**

The desk research carried out within the presented study concluded that public perception of risks and benefits associated with nanomaterials is highly variable, depending on the applications and types of products in which nanomaterials are used. Although not explicitly discussed or studied in detail in most studies, the perception of risks and benefits seems to be associated with the level of expected exposure to nanomaterials arising from different uses and/or groups of products (e.g. food contact materials or cosmetic products, such as sunscreens, raise higher concerns in most studies than products where lower/none or indirect exposure to nanomaterials is expected, e.g. computers).

The presented study (both the desk research as well as the online survey) indicates that the perception of risks is directly linked to the level of awareness and knowledge about nanomaterials. Nearly half of the respondents could not decide when asked about their perception of the level of safety of using products containing nanomaterials. A higher level of concern is declared only by one-fifth of the respondents, mostly people over 50 years of age.

The level of concern increases when referring to direct exposure to nanomaterials – two-thirds of the respondents are concerned about getting into direct contact with nanomaterials. In this regard, dermal exposure is perceived as most likely. Their concerns are mainly associated with what they perceive as yet to be discovered impacts and properties of nanomaterials and limited means to avoid exposure. However, respondents also tend to think that negative impacts can be avoided or prevented by proper use and treatment of nanomaterials.

The survey results confirmed the hypothesis that the higher the knowledge about nanomaterials, the higher the certainty of a respondent that nanomaterials can be used in a safer or equally safe way when compared with traditional products. This correlation indicates the need to better inform the public about nanomaterials as a common part of everyday life.

### **Possible drivers in the perception of risks and benefits of nanomaterials/nanotechnology**

People of over 50 years of age, respondents with a lower level of education and respondents who claim that religion plays an important role in their lives are more concerned about the risks that may arise from the use of nanotechnologies and nanomaterials. The same concern about risks is also more often demonstrated by women.

Some studies conclude that the perception of risks and benefits by the public is driven predominantly by cognitive factors rather than other factors, e.g. psycho-social or socio-demographic. In other words, people who tend to be cautious and reserved to adopting new technologies and are concerned about potential risks associated with innovations that significantly alter how consumers, industries, or businesses operate (i.e. disruptive technologies) are more likely to be concerned about the presence of nanomaterials in products.

## **Attitudes related to nanomaterials**

According to the findings, standpoints towards the areas of applications of nanomaterials vary. The respondents take a positive or neutral stand regarding their expectations about new possibilities and positive impacts of nanotechnologies on everyday lives. Usually, the respondents tend to agree with nanomaterials being used for strengthening rubber tyres, more efficient treatment of wastewater or in cars and electronics. However, they are more cautious when it comes to direct contact with nanomaterials, e.g. in food technologies – for example, to reduce salt content in foods, enrich foods with vitamins and other nutrients.

This variability in answers leads to segmentation of the population into four groups. The most unambiguous group are people with a very positive attitude towards nanomaterials (called „Enthusiasts“ throughout this report). This group represents 19% of the population, most frequently people of 40 - 49 years of age, inhabitants of big cities with higher education (university level).

A relatively similar attitude can be observed within the most populated group (46% of respondents) characterised by an open, tolerating attitude towards nanomaterials (segment name – Tolerating). A typical representative of this group is a person younger than 29 years, student, or a person with university-level education.

The third group differs significantly from the previous ones – it represents nanomaterial rejectors (segment name – Fearing). This group is represented mostly by people above 50 years of age, with lower than university-level education, females more often than males and comprises 23% of the studied population.

The fourth group, represented by 12% of the population, does not have a clear attitude towards nanomaterials, their uses, characteristics and impacts (segment name – No opinion). Demographically, this segment is similar to the Fearing, with the only difference being age (30-39 years).

## **Information sources**

More than half of the respondents claimed that they feel equally informed about nanomaterials compared to other modern technologies. The primary sources where respondents encountered information about nanomaterials are TV and the Internet. When looking for information actively, the Internet is the main source of information for the highest number (almost half) of the respondents. Only one in five respondents claims awareness of any specific websites or databases with centralised information about nanomaterials or products containing them.

## **Trust in authorities**

The most preferred institutions/persons with regards to information about nanomaterials are scientists/researchers (universities, research institutes, etc.), national health and occupational health and safety authorities, but also EU authorities (e.g. European Commission, European Chemicals Agency).

EU authorities are the third most preferred source of information about the safety of nanomaterials by the respondents. 14% of respondents place “absolute trust” in them and half of the respondents place “a bit of trust” in them, comparable to the trustworthiness given to consumer and environmental organisations and pharmacists. However, the difference between the trustworthiness of the individual sources of information is not significant.

The general public tends to put the least trust in politicians and producers or distributors of the products containing nanomaterials as sources of information about nanomaterials.

## **Labelling of products containing nanomaterials**

87% of respondents think that they should be informed when buying a product containing

nanomaterials, for example on a label or packaging. The most significant need for labelling products containing nanomaterials is stated to be for food and food-related products, medicines, cosmetics, clothing/textiles, toys and detergents or household products.

The general requirement is usually a warning against possible negative impacts and risks or just general information about nanomaterial content. However, this study was not aiming at exploring what kind of information should be presented on labels and in what form as it would significantly extend the survey questionnaire and would require a completely new set of questions and case studies to be explored.

## **Recommendations**

The awareness of nanomaterials in Europe should be increased to ensure that the public is able to make informed choices about products containing nanomaterials, including their benefits and risks. A clear communication strategy plays a key role in informing about the risks and benefits of nanomaterials use.

The communication strategy should include three phases in the following order:

1. Awareness-raising
2. Communication of benefits
3. Safety level information

Phase 1 aims to inform the public about the existence of nanomaterials and nanotechnology as a common part of daily life and to clearly communicate about the distinction between different nanomaterials as they can have very different properties, benefits and risks, as is the case with all chemicals.

It is necessary to raise awareness about nanomaterials with claims and facts that are comprehensible and close to the interests of the general public, using common layman language e.g. a claim that the public will associate with the term nanomaterials. An example of such a claim could be "Nanomaterial x is a common part of daily life" or "Nanotechnology is crucial for progress". It is also key to ensure granularity in communicating about nanomaterials and to clearly communicate that some nanomaterials are safe and others are not and why this is the case (i.e. how they are regulated and what the scientific data shows).

The communication channels for this phase should be as broadly followed by the public as possible – the most visited portals on the Internet, TV, newspapers, magazines, schools (all levels), well-structured website as a primary source of information (e.g. [www.nanomaterials.com](http://www.nanomaterials.com)).

Phase 2 should explain why and how nanomaterials use can be beneficial for society. The examples must be specific, available to the public and easy to understand. In addition to the communication channels listed for Phase 1, it is key for this phase that the producers of products containing nanomaterials or being treated by nanotechnology clearly state the benefits that the nanomaterials in their products bring, for example on the product labels and during marketing communication.

Regarding safety level information (Phase 3), three main areas of products and applications were identified based on potential for exposure:

1. Manufacture of computers, cars, spacecraft, other industrial applications – areas with uses of nanomaterials in components of products that the public is not directly exposed to
2. Clothes and apparel, accessories, household products, detergents, food packaging, toys etc. – areas of products that are a common part of the public's lives and can come into direct contact with their skin
3. Food, foodstuffs, cosmetics, medicines – products that are directly ingested or can cause exposure through inhalation

For the first group of products/applications, it does not seem efficient to communicate the potential risks/safety information as there is no exposure, they are the most distant from the public's everyday life and based on the study findings, the categories that the public seem to be least concerned about in terms of their safety. For the second group, safety information should be communicated in cases where any adverse effects on human health/environment are known. The products belonging to the third group should be clearly labelled and informing about the content of nanomaterials, their possible impacts on human health, safe use information etc.

The authors of this report recommend continuing and broadening the study in the following areas:

- 1) Current pandemic situation (COVID19) and how it has affected the public perception of nanomaterials, for example due to increased applications in medical devices such as products impregnated with antimicrobial nanomaterials
- 2) Use of specific research methods to allow detailed study of nanomaterials risk perception (concepts testing, qualitative techniques etc.)
- 3) A detailed study focused on the broad topic of labelling products containing nanomaterials
- 4) A study on the public's perception of a representative group of combinations of nanomaterials and their applications such as carbon nanotubes in golf clubs, silica in car tyres or ZnO in sunscreen
- 5) Researching the whole EU27 to allow detailed study of regional differences
- 6) Workshops/focus groups on developing a detailed communication strategy for the public

# 1. Methodology

## 1.1 Primary Literature Review

### Methodology

As the first step, reports and publications from previous research on the perception of nanomaterials were collected. The aim of this task was two-fold:

1. To analyse the outcomes of previous research, identify main observations and issues with the public perception of nanomaterials.
2. To provide the basis for the development of the survey questionnaire which will be used in the project – identify questions which can/should be re-used in the current survey, derive new/related questions and especially identify gaps which have not yet been addressed by existing research.

The collection and analysis of existing research reports and publications was carried out through systematic desk research.

### Systematic desk research and collection of previous research reports and publications

The starting point for collecting published reports and publications from previous research related to public perception of nanomaterials were the following:

- Gaskell, G., et al. (2004). "Public attitudes to nanotechnology in Europe and the United States." Nature Materials 3: 496.
- Peter D. Hart Research Associates, I. (2008). "Awareness of and attitudes toward nanotechnology and synthetic biology."
- Zimmer, R. (2008). "Public perceptions about nanotechnology – Representative survey and basic morphological-psychological study." 113.
- (2012). "The Harris Poll."
- Grobe, A. and M. E. Rissanen (2012). "Nanotechnologies in agriculture and food - An overview of different fields of application, risk assessment and public perception." Recent Patents on Food, Nutrition and Agriculture 4(3): 176-186.
- Correia Carreira, G. (2016). "Nanoview – Influencing factors on the perception of nanotechnology and target group-specific risk communication strategies." 162.

As some of these publications include reviews of other studies carried out in the field, citation pearl growing search strategy was used to identify other potentially relevant studies for further analysis – i.e. papers referenced in these publications were also screened and considered for further analysis. The desk research then continued with systematic searches for potentially relevant publications in Web of Science<sup>1</sup> and SCOPUS<sup>2</sup>. The searches were aimed at retrieving scientific as well as grey literature related to one of the following areas:

- Public or consumer perception of nanomaterials and nanotechnologies (either in general or in relation to specific groups of products, e.g. foods)
- Scientific communication strategies on emerging and novel technologies

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.webofknowledge.com/>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.scopus.com/>



- Risk communication strategies on emerging and novel technologies

Based on the pilot searches, the following search queries were used to retrieve potentially relevant publications:

### **Web of Science**

Search date: 8 October 2019

Search query: TS=(nano\* AND ((public\* NEAR/15 (perception\* OR view\* OR opinion\* OR feeling\* OR communica\* OR connot\* OR survey\* OR cognit\*) OR (consumer\* NEAR/15 (perception\* OR view\* OR opinion\* OR feeling\* OR communica\* OR connot\* OR survey\* OR cognit\*))))))

Timespan: All years. Databases: WOS, BCI, CCC, DRCI, DIIDW, KJD, MEDLINE, RSCI, SCIELO, ZOOREC.

Search language=Auto

Number of retrieved references: 1059

### **SCOPUS**

Search date: 8 October 2019

Search query: TITLE-ABS-KEY ( nano\* AND ( public\* W/15 ( perception\* OR view\* OR opinion\* OR feeling\* OR communica\* OR connot\* OR survey\* OR cognit\* ) ) OR ( consumer\* W/15 ( perception\* OR view\* OR opinion\* OR feeling\* OR communica\* OR connot\* OR survey\* OR cognit\* ) ) )

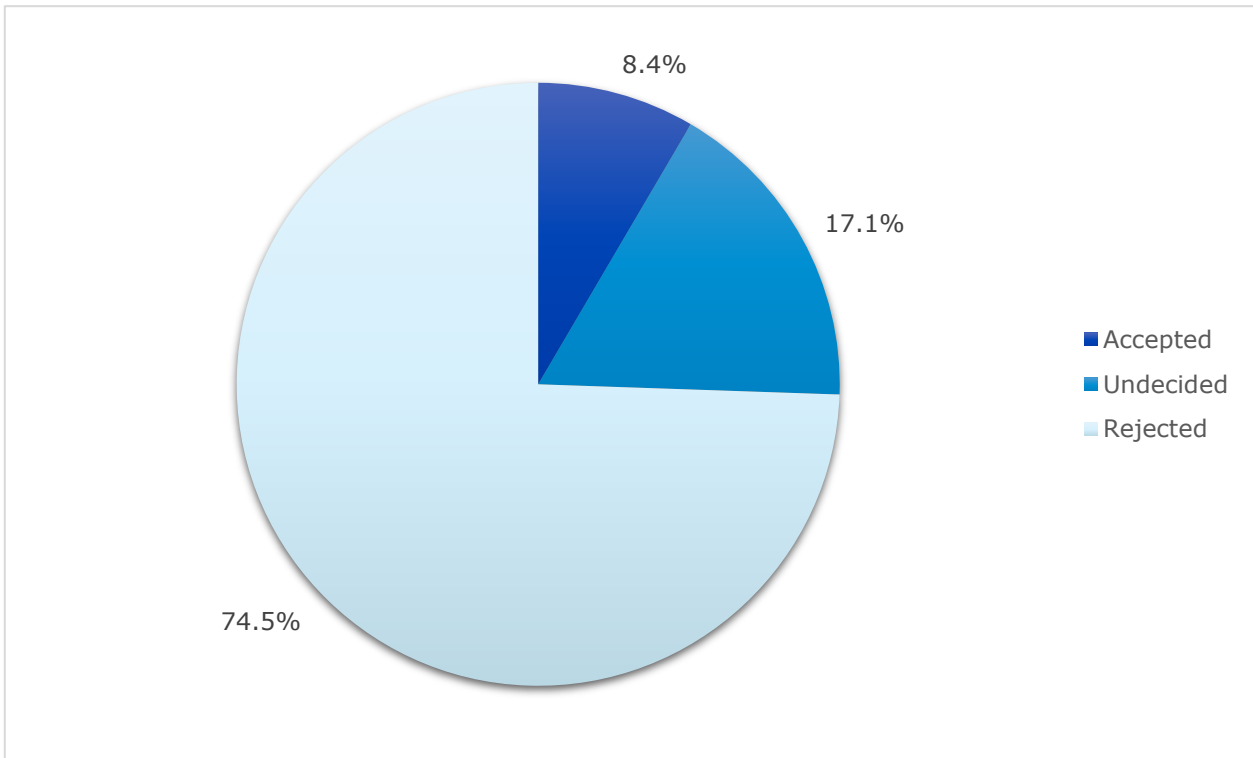
Number of retrieved references: 903

### **Study selection**

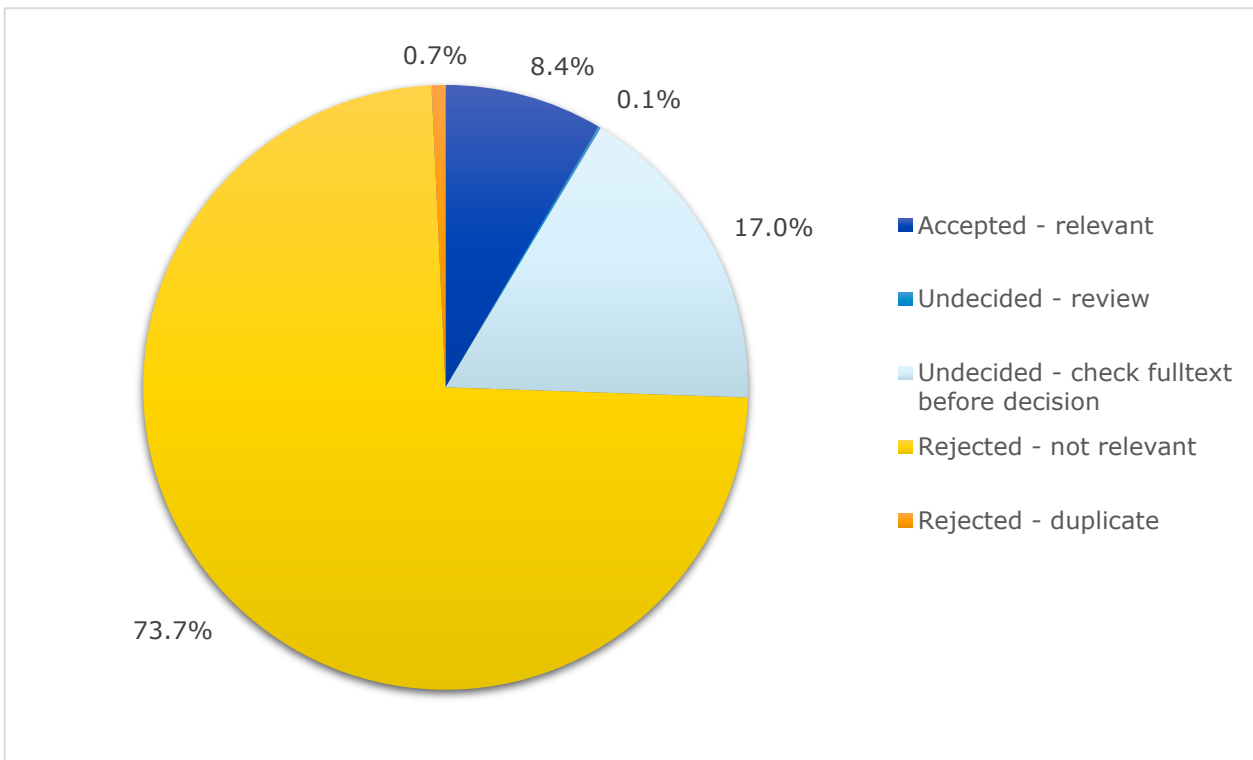
After deduplicating the records, the final number of retrieved references was 1480 (see Annex I for the full list of retrieved references). To minimize the risk of excluding potentially relevant publications, a conservative approach was taken in the application of the inclusion/exclusion criteria by the reviewers – i.e. in case of uncertainty that a reference can be excluded it was by default included (accepted) in the stage of screening of titles and abstracts to be further investigated in subsequent steps. As a result, out of the 1480 publications systematically screened for relevance based on their titles and abstracts, 264 were identified as potentially relevant. In detail, the first basic sorting of the articles according to the relevance of the information in the abstracts provided the following results illustrated by Graph 1 - Abstract screening results and Graph 2 - Abstract screening results - detailed:

- Articles accepted as relevant – 125 (8.4%)
- Undecided articles – reviews – 2 (0.1%)
- Undecided articles – to check the full-text before decision – 251 (17.0%)
- Articles rejected as irrelevant – 1091 (73.7%)
- Articles rejected as duplicates - 11 (0.7%)

**Graph 1 - Abstract screening results**



**Graph 2 - Abstract screening results - detailed**



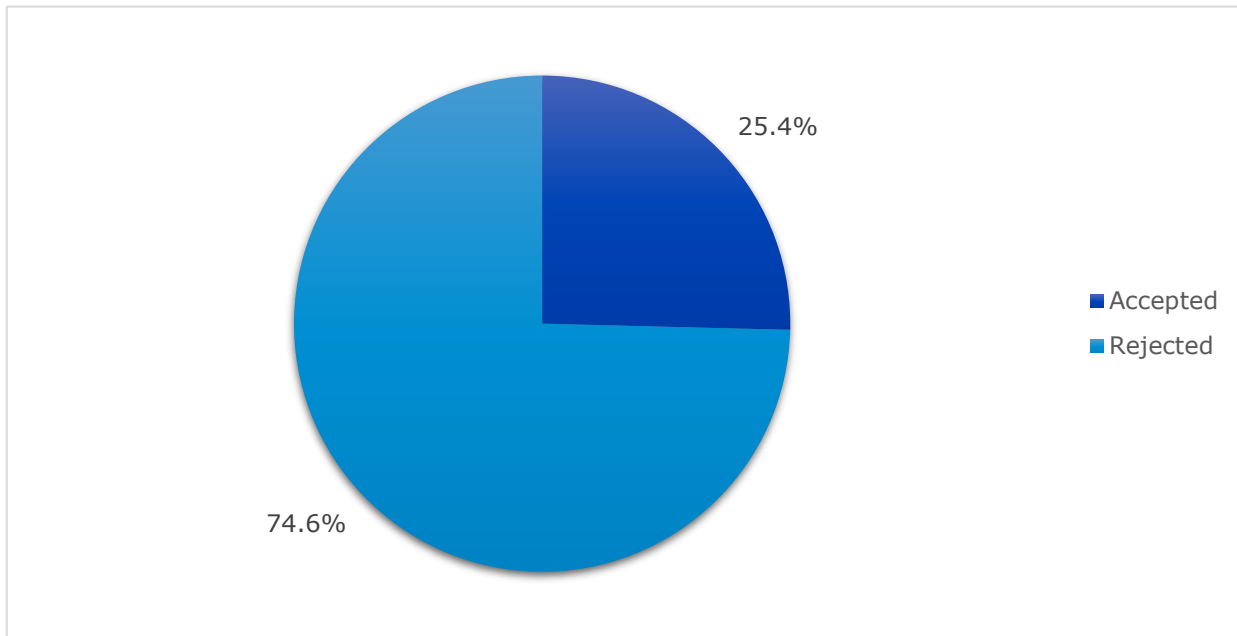
The first screening of abstracts to identify relevant publications provided a total number of 402 articles for the subsequent full text rating and possible data extraction. For the screening of titles and abstracts and subsequent study selection, clear inclusion and exclusion criteria were set a priori (based on pilot screening of retrieved literature) to harmonise approaches of individual reviewers participating in the study selection phase. The inclusion and exclusion criteria for study selection are the following:

- Description of the methodology study design: the study needs to be well described so the methodology/study design can be understood, and associated strengths and weaknesses of the study can be identified
- Methodology/study design: studies based on a quantitative research design which are directly associated with the aims of the project will be preferred, but also studies using qualitative methods (e.g. dialogues, focus groups etc.) will be included in the analyses and review
- Population: Only studies on general public or layman audience are relevant considering the aims of the project, but also studies carried out on experts (e.g. researchers) will be analysed to identify additional survey questions which might be relevant also for the general public
- Geography: Studies from all countries (EU as well as non-EU) will be included in the analyses as comparing studies from different countries can bring questions exploring regional differences in perceptions of nanomaterials which can be studied in the current project to compare perceptions in different EU countries and regions

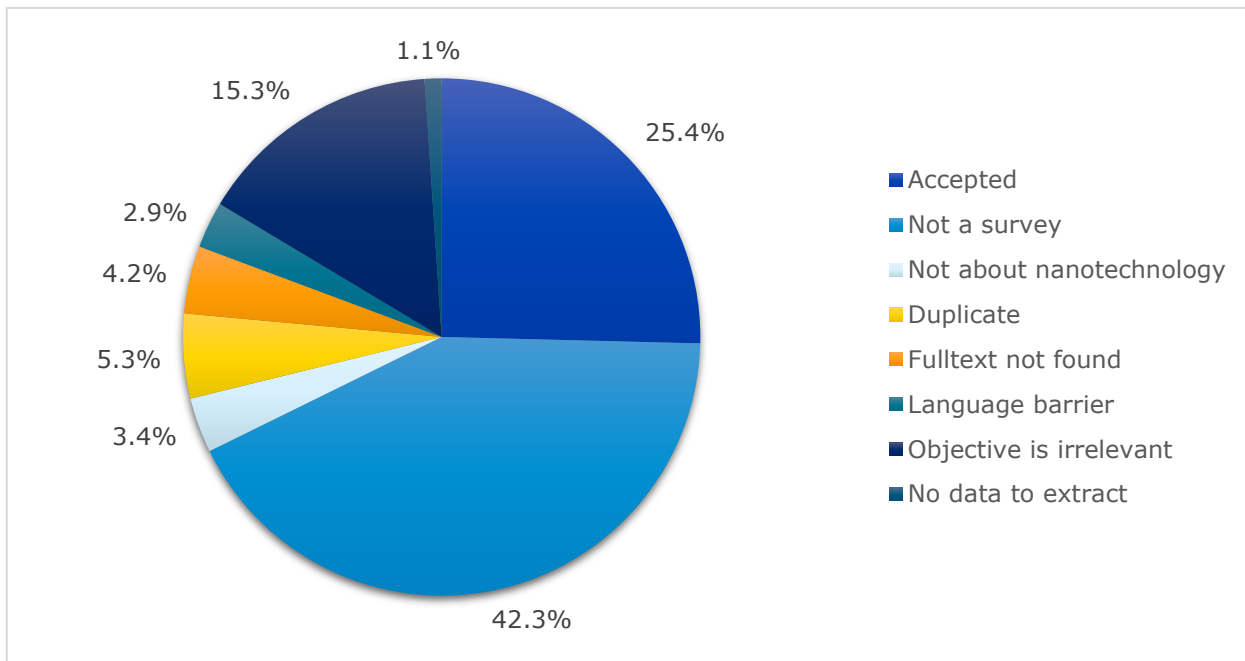
The rating of full texts according to the criteria above led to the following results illustrated by Graph 3 and Graph 4:

- Accepted – relevant – 96 (25.4%)
- Rejected – not a survey – 160 (42.3%)
- Rejected – not about nanotechnology – 13 (3.4%)
- Rejected – duplicate – 20 (5.3%)
- Rejected – full-text not found – 16 (4.2%)
- Rejected – language barrier (studies not in English) – 11 (2.9%)
- Rejected – the objective is irrelevant – 58 (15.3%)
- Rejected – no data to extract – 4 (1.1%)

**Graph 3 - Full-texts screening results**



**Graph 4 - Full-texts screening results – detailed**



## Data extraction

To extract relevant data from the accepted articles, reviewers were asked to fill out the following information about every study (if available):

- Number of participants of the survey
- Time period of execution
- Location
- Means of the survey
- Characteristics of the respondent group (public, experts, students, etc.)
- Objective of the study
- Specific area of application of nanotechnology/nanomaterials the study focusses on
- Are consumers aware of what nanomaterials/nanotechnology is?
- Are consumers aware of what applications the nanomaterials/nanotechnology have?
- What risks do consumers associate with nanomaterials/nanotechnology?
- What benefits do consumers associate with nanomaterials/nanotechnology?
- How do consumers think they are exposed to nanomaterials?
- Are consumers concerned about the presence of nanomaterials in the products they use?
- Are there specific areas that consumers are particularly interested in but feel they do not have sufficient information available?
- Who do consumers trust the most when seeking information on nanomaterials (authorities, companies, NGOs, others)?
- What sources do consumers use when looking for information on the safety and risks of nanomaterials?
- Is labelling discussed? What is the conclusion?
- Interesting hypotheses addressed in the survey
- Key socio-demographic factors studied
- Conclusions
- Comments

Through a systematic meta-analysis of studies identified as relevant, the matrix of collected evidence was compiled, summarising how each of the identified relevant studies addresses the main questions identified as setting the framework for the overall study. These questions were:

- Are consumers aware of what nanomaterials are?
- Are consumers aware of where nanomaterials are used?
- What risks do consumers associate with nanomaterials?
- What benefits do consumers associate with nanomaterials?
- How do consumers think they are exposed to nanomaterials?
- Are consumers concerned about nanomaterials in the products they use?
- Are there specific areas that consumers are particularly interested in but feel they do not have sufficient information available?
- Who do consumers trust most for information on nanomaterials (authorities, companies, NGOs, others)?
- What source do consumers use when looking for information on the safety and risks of nanomaterials?
- How do consumers see the role of authorities (both national and EU) in ensuring the safe use of nanomaterials?

Such a matrix of evidence allowed the subsequent analysis of trends and comparison of similarities and/or differences in perceptions based on different socio-demographic variables.

## **1.2 Methodology of data collection on the public's perception of nanomaterials and how their safety is perceived in the EU**

Based on the analyses of previous research results, main trends, outcomes, and gaps were identified and described in an interim report 1. Identified key questions, as well as gaps, were considered in developing the survey questionnaire.

### **Designing a targeted survey (questionnaire and survey methodology)**

#### **Drafting the survey questions based on the aims of the project and outcomes of collection and analysis of previous research**

Survey questions to study the public perception of nanomaterials were divided into 3 main areas:

1. Public awareness
2. Perception of risks and benefits
3. Communication strategies

Annex 2 – Questionnaire presents the questionnaire which was developed to address the aims of the project according to discussions with ECHA and the results of the literature search. Some of the questions were reproduced from previous research, while several other questions are analogous, only tailored to the field of nanomaterials. Repeating some questions which were already studied in previous research allows the studying of latest trends in the perception of nanomaterials and enables comparison of the results of the current study with countries where previous research was carried out.

The questionnaire presented in Annex 2 – Questionnaire was drafted with the following aims:

- The questionnaire should be easy to understand by the general population
- The questionnaire should investigate and validate awareness and knowledge of the respondents about nanomaterials to allow comparison of the perception of nanomaterials between less informed and well-informed groups of the population, it should also be meaningful for respondents who have never heard of nanomaterials
- Studied questions and areas should allow meaningful quantifications
- The questionnaire should not take longer than 20 minutes to fill out to an average respondent

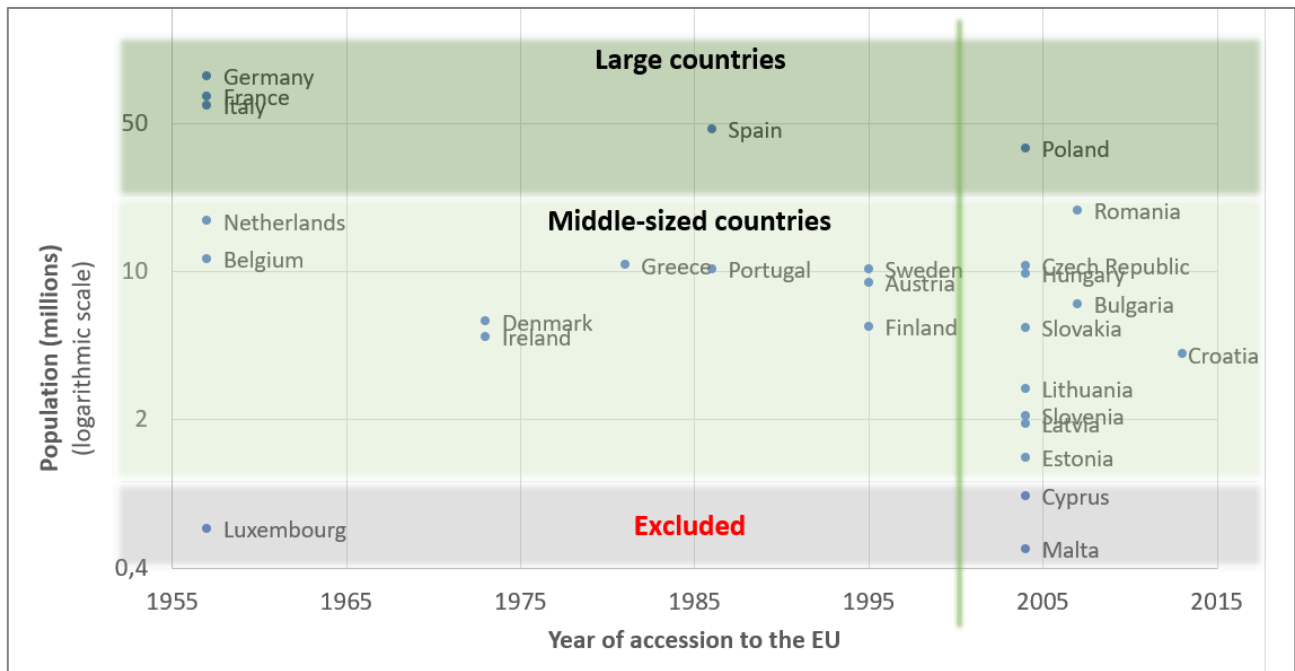
### **Selection of target countries for the survey**

The study was supposed to identify national differences and regional and EU-wide commonalities in the public's perception of nanomaterials as well as differences between different consumer groups based on demographic breakdowns such as age or gender.

It was therefore understood that the selection of EU member states where the survey was to be carried out should be representative of the EU's general population while also allowing comparison between population groups, regions and countries with different socio-demographic profiles and background.

Based on the scope of this study to capture a representative sample of EU countries, it was decided to narrow the number of surveyed EU member states to five. To select target countries, EU member states were plotted into a two-dimensional chart presenting their population and the year of accession to the European Union in the first phase.

**Figure 1 – EU member states: population and year of accession to the EU**



Countries with a population less than 1,000,000 inhabitants were excluded from the selection as their population is considered too small for the selection of an appropriate sample fit for representing the EU general population and comparison of relevant socio-demographic factors.

In the second phase, the country selection was based on the following hard and soft indicators:

- Hard selection indicators
  - Population
  - Year of accession to the EU
  - GDP per capita
  - Turnout in the elections to the European Parliament in 2019
  - Existence of national inventory of nanomaterials or products containing nanomaterials
  - Research and development spending by GDP
  - Share of patents related to nanotechnologies or nanomaterials
  - Share of primary/secondary/tertiary sector in the economy
  - Expenditure on pharmaceuticals per capita
  - Gross fixed capital formation in the health care sector as a share (%) of GDP

- Soft selection indicators
  - Freedom of press/media
  - A tendency to trust EU authorities
  - Satisfaction with life
  - Performance of the innovation system
  - Self-reported health status

## **Rationale for the selection of indicators for the selection of target countries**

- *Population*

It was considered vital to have at least two large countries (with a population above 30 mil. inhabitants) and at least two small/medium-sized (with a population of 1 – 30 mil. inhabitants) countries in the selection. This allowed comparing whether there is a more unified perception of nanomaterials in small/medium-sized countries which usually tend to have lower regional, cultural, and socio-economic diversity in comparison with large countries.

- *Year of accession to the EU*

It was assumed that the general public in countries with a longer history of EU membership may have different habits and perceptions related to: access and trust in information coming from EU authorities, support of EU initiatives, trust in EU authorities in general and different levels of civic engagement. It was therefore considered important to select at least two member states which joined the EU before 2000 and at least two which joined the EU after 2000.

- *GDP per capita*

GDP per capita is a standard indicator used in most large-scale surveys allowing to capture the socio-economic diversity of the studied population. Selected target countries should cover a broad range of GDP per capita among all EU member states.

- *Turnout in 2019 elections to the European Parliament*

Turnout in elections to the European Parliament (EP) may indicate (to a certain extent) the level of civic engagement in different EU member states, trust in EU authorities and satisfaction with the political situation and with life in general. The selection of countries was supposed to include at least one country with a high turnout (60% or higher) in 2019 EP elections, at least one country with an average turnout (40 – 60%) and at least one country with a low turnout (lower than 40%).

- *Freedom of press/media*

Freedom of press/media is an important indicator which may influence the general public's trust in media as well as national authorities and therefore also communication strategies; – communication strategies effective in countries with a high level of freedom of press/media might be inefficient in countries where freedom of press/media is lower and vice versa. Selected countries, therefore, cover a broad range of countries according to their freedom of press/media ranking.



- *Tendency to trust EU authorities*

Analogous to the indicator “freedom of press/media”, tendency to trust EU authorities might influence the efficiency of different communication strategies informing the public about environmental/health-related issues. As a supporting indicator, it is considered useful to select countries where over 50% of people have trust in the EU as well as countries where trust in EU authorities is lower than 50%.

- *Satisfaction with life*

This indicator is often used to capture the socio-economic and behavioural diversity of a population. It was therefore used as a supporting indicator for the selection of target countries.

- *Existence of national inventories/registries of nanomaterials or products containing nanomaterials*

It was assumed that there is higher public awareness about nanomaterials and products containing nanomaterials in countries where national inventories/registries of products containing nanomaterials had been established. Establishment of such inventories typically includes information campaigns as well as public and expert consultations. Also, various stakeholders (NGOs, journalists, consultants, etc.) subsequently use information in these inventories/registries to inform the public on the potential risks associated with nanomaterials and products containing nanomaterials. After all, public access to information is usually one of the main drivers for establishing such national inventories/registries. It was therefore deemed vital to ensure that at least one of the selected countries had a national registry/inventory of nanomaterials or products containing nanomaterials to allow analysis and comparison of public perception with countries where such initiatives are not implemented.

- *R&D and innovation-related indicators (Research and development spending by GDP, Performance of innovation system, the share of patents related to nanotechnologies or nanomaterials)*

It was assumed that people in countries with bigger spending on R&D, better performance of innovation systems and stronger research and development in nanotechnologies might be better informed about nanomaterials and might have a different perception on acceptance of new technologies and nanotechnologies in particular. Selecting countries with different profiles of R&D and innovation-related indicators will allow complex analyses and correlations of perceptions of nanomaterials with R&D and innovation potential.

- *Share of primary/secondary/tertiary sector in the economy*

Public perception of modern technologies may be different in countries with different proportions of primary (raw materials), secondary (manufacturing) and tertiary (services) economic sectors. It was therefore considered relevant to select countries with different profiles of economic sectors.

- *Indicators showing attitude towards the protection of own health*

It is expected that population groups with higher concerns about health-related issues will also tend to be more concerned about emerging technologies and materials with unknown or potentially harmful effects. Three factors indicating attitude towards the protection of own health were combined to select countries with different profiles for these factors.

**Table 1 - Indicators used for selection of target countries for the survey**

Member State	Country Code	Excluded countries (population < 1 mil.)	ACCESSION to the EU	POPULATION	AREA (square km)	GDP per capita (USD)	2019 Elections to the EP: Turnout (%) <sup>3</sup>	Freedom of the press: WORLD / GLOBAL RANKING <sup>4</sup>	Tend to trust the EU (2018) <sup>5</sup>	% of people very satisfied with life (2018) <sup>6</sup>	Existence of national inventory of nanomaterials or products containing nanomaterials	Performance of EU Member States' innovation systems <sup>7</sup>	R&D spendings by GDP (2014) <sup>8</sup>	Share of countries in nanotechnology patents 2010 - 2013 (into EU) <sup>9</sup>	Share of primary sector in economy (2017) <sup>10</sup>	Share of secondary sector in economy (2017) <sup>8</sup>	Share of tertiary sector in economy (2017) <sup>8</sup>	Self-reported health status, 2014 (% very good) <sup>11</sup>	Expenditure on pharmaceuticals per capita, 2014 (or nearest year) – EUR <sup>9</sup>	Gross fixed capital formation in the health care sector as a share (%) of GDP, 2014 (or nearest) <sup>9</sup>
Denmark	DK		1973	5 806 081	43 075	60,692	66	9	60	71%	yes	leaders	3,1%	1%	2,8%	22,1%	75,2%	72	201	0,66
Sweden	SE		1995	10 230 185	449 964	53,873	55	2	59	48%	yes	leaders	3,2%	4%	1,1%	28,2%	70,7%	80	336	0,49
Netherlands	NL		1957	17 282 163	41 543	53,106	42	3	57	57%	no	leaders	2,0%	8%	1,2%	17,2%	81,6%	77	298	0,53
Finland	FI		1995	5 517 919	338 424	49,845	41	4	52	38%	no	leaders	3,2%	2%	2,7%	28,2%	69,1%	69	342	0,39
Germany	DE		1957	83 019 214	357 021	48,264	61	15	51	31%	no	strong innovators	2,9%	29%	0,7%	30,7%	68,6%	65	551	0,69
Belgium	BE		1957	11 467 923	30 528	46,724	88	7	52	23%	yes	strong innovators	2,5%	5%	0,7%	22,1%	77,2%	75	459	0,90
France	FR		1957	67 028 048	640 679	42,878	50	33	33	19%	yes	strong innovators	2,3%	22%	1,6%	19,4%	78,9%	68	467	0,64
Luxembourg	LU	excluded	1957	613 894	2 586	114,234	84	17	52	34%	no	strong innovators	1,3%	0%	0,3%	12,8%	86,9%	73	375	0,18
Austria	AT		1995	8 858 775	83 855	51,509	60	11	45	35%	no	strong innovators	3,1%	1%	1,3%	28,4%	70,3%	70	443	0,75
Ireland	IE		1973	4 904 226	70 273	76,099	50	16	50	43%	no	strong innovators	1,5%	1%	1,2%	38,6%	60,2%	83	523	0,47
Estonia	EE		2004	1 324 820	45 227	22,990	38	12	53	14%	no	strong innovators	1,3%	0%	2,8%	29,2%	68,1%	52	230	0,55
Italy	IT		1957	60 359 546	301 338	34,260	55	46	36	7%	no	moderate innovators	1,3%	5%	2,1%	23,9%	73,9%	68	405	0,37
Spain	ES		1986	46 934 632	504 030	30,697	61	31	38	20%	no	moderate innovators	1,2%	4%	2,6%	23,2%	74,2%	73	391	0,45
Malta	MT	excluded	2004	493 559	316	31,058	73	65	56	33%	no	moderate innovators	0,9%	0%	1,4%	11,4%	87,2%	75		0,68
Portugal	PT		1986	10 276 617	92 390	23,186	31	14	55	3%	no	moderate innovators	1,3%	1%	2,4%	23,1%	74,4%	46	297	0,47
Cyprus	CY	excluded	2004	875 898	9 251	28,340	45	25	41	29%	no	moderate innovators	0,5%	0%	2,3%	11,0%	86,8%	78	253	0,21
Greece	EL		1981	10 722 287	131 990	20,408	59	74	26	5%	no	moderate innovators	1,0%	0%	4,0%	16,0%	80,0%	74	468	0,13
Poland	PL		2004	37 972 812	312 685	15,431	46	57	47	16%	no	moderate innovators	0,9%	1%	2,4%	40,2%	57,4%	58	248	0,42
Latvia	LV		2004	1 919 968	64 589	18,032	34	24	49	12%	no	moderate innovators	0,5%	0%	3,9%	22,4%	73,7%	46	251	0,47
Lithuania	LT		2004	2 794 184	65 200	19,143	53	36	65	18%	no	moderate innovators	0,9%	0%	3,3%	28,5%	68,3%	45	356	0,19
Slovenia	SI		2004	2 080 908	20 273	26,243	29	32	37	30%	no	moderate innovators	2,4%	0%	1,8%	32,2%	65,9%	65	347	0,37
Croatia	HR		2013	4 076 246	56 594	14,816	30	57	48	14%	no	moderate innovators	0,8%	0%	3,7%	26,2%	70,1%	58	287	0,22
Czech Republic	CZ		2004	10 649 800	78 866	22,850	29	34	32	17%	no	moderate innovators	2,0%	1%	2,5%	37,8%	59,7%	61	286	0,38
Hungary	HU		2004	9 797 561	93 030	15,924	43	73	48	9%	no	moderate innovators	1,4%	0%	3,9%	31,3%	64,8%	58	387	0,32
Slovakia	SK		2004	5 450 421	49 035	19,582	23	27	43	17%	no	moderate innovators	0,9%	0%	3,8%	35,0%	61,2%	65	396	0,26
Romania	RO		2007	19 401 658	238 391	12,285	51	44	50	6%	no	modest innovators	0,4%	0%	4,2%	33,2%	62,6%	71	283	0,10
Bulgaria	BG		2007	7 000 039	110 994	9,267	33	111	53	5%	no	modest innovators	0,7%	0%	5,1%	27,5%	67,4%	66	438	0,31

<sup>3</sup> Source: <https://www.election-results.eu/turnout/>

<sup>4</sup> Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/European\\_Union\\_statistics](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/European_Union_statistics)

<sup>5</sup> Source: <https://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/STANDARD/yearFrom/1974/yearTo/2018/surveyKy/2215>

<sup>6</sup> On the whole are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the life you lead? Source: <https://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Chart/getChart/chartType>

<sup>7</sup> Source: <https://ec.europa.eu/docsroom/documents/36281>

<sup>8</sup> Source: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_countries\\_by\\_research\\_and\\_development\\_spending#cite\\_note-battelle-14](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_countries_by_research_and_development_spending#cite_note-battelle-14)

<sup>9</sup> Source: <https://www.oecd.org/sti/nanotechnology-indicators.htm>

<sup>10</sup> Source: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/resources/the-world-factbook/>

<sup>11</sup> Source: [https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/state/docs/health\\_glance\\_2016\\_rep\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/state/docs/health_glance_2016_rep_en.pdf)

It is clear that combining the selection criteria listed in Table 1 into a set of countries with diverse profiles for the survey required a number of countries to be selected to allow comparison of various regional and socio-demographic factors between different population groups and between individual countries.

Based on the criteria detailed above and on expert judgment, the following five countries were proposed for the survey:

**1) France:** representative of traditional EU members and large European countries with a strong economy (high GDP per capita) and rather high levels of innovation. A vital criterion for selecting France (instead of e.g. Germany and Italy) is the fact that France has established a national registry of nanomaterials. France is also one of the EU leaders of innovations in nanotechnologies, and has a rather broad regional diversity.

**2) Finland:** Finland, besides a rather small population, is one of the EU innovation leaders with high GDP per capita and ranks in the top 5 among EU countries in indicators related to freedom of press/media. Other countries with a similar profile which can be considered for the selection are Sweden and Denmark. The deciding point for Finland is the fact that Sweden and Denmark both have national registries of nanomaterials (or products containing nanomaterials), while Finland does not. Since France was already proposed as a target country for the survey, it was not considered necessary to select another country with a registry of nanomaterials.

**3) Austria:** Austria has a profile similar to Finland with comparable GDP per capita, innovation potential and performance and structure of the economy. With a population slightly larger than Finland, it also has similar results in surveys studying satisfaction with life. The reason why it was proposed to the selection was to allow comparison of two similar, yet regionally and culturally different countries and the influence of various socio-demographic factors on the perception of nanomaterials, any potential concerns they raise and on the efficiency of different communication strategies in these countries. Also, Austria had a significantly higher turnout in recent elections to the European Parliament, indicating that there may be a change in civic engagement, while the Finnish turnout has been almost constant in the four latest elections (since 2004) to the European Parliament.

**4) Poland:** Representative of countries with a shorter history of EU membership while representing member states with a large population. Compared to France, Finland and Austria, Poland has a significantly lower GDP per capita and scores much lower in indicators related to innovation potential and performance. Poland is in a specific political situation. The population is not very satisfied with life (results similar to those for France) and the standard of living is lower compared to other selected countries. Poland also ranks much lower in freedom of press/media. An interesting point for the selection of Poland was that it has the highest share of the secondary sector (manufacturing) among EU economies.

**5) Bulgaria:** Like Poland, Bulgaria represents countries with a rather short history of EU membership. Located in the Balkans, it represents a completely different geographic region than the other selected countries. Bulgaria has the lowest GDP per capita among EU member states and ranks lowest in freedom of press/media and satisfaction with life. Bulgaria has the highest share of the primary sector (raw materials) among EU economies. Compared to other selected countries, Bulgaria has a poor position in the field of nanotechnologies and innovations in general. A country with a similar profile is Romania. The reason why Bulgaria was proposed as a target country was that it scores much higher in the indicator "expenditure on pharmaceuticals per capita", indicating that the population may be more receptive to information on health-related issues.

A well-balanced selection of target countries was presented based on clearly defined criteria. A key factor in the selection was the proposal of five countries that have significantly different socio-demographic indicators.

The selection included two large countries (France and Poland) and three innovation leaders (France, Finland and Austria) with strong economies, one of them already having a national registry of nanomaterials (France was the first EU member state to establish such a registry).

Poland and Bulgaria represent countries with lower GDP per capita and ranking lower in the indicators: freedom of press/media and innovation potential, with Bulgaria ranked still significantly lower than Poland. Poland, therefore, represents countries which still rank lower in some (especially economic) indicators than members with a longer history of EU membership (pre-2000 members).

The selection was also regionally and culturally very diverse and should, therefore, allow for analysing the influence of different factors on the perception of nanomaterials, including a comparison between individual countries, regions, and groups of the population.

### **Selection of target audience – survey universe, sample size and sampling approach**

The target audience of the survey was the general population. In other words, no population groups were excluded based on education level, level of knowledge about nanomaterials or other confounding factors. Instead, a sample representing a wide range of population groups were selected to allow comparison of perceptions among different groups of the EU population.

The population for the survey comprised a local language-speaking population between the ages of 16 and 60 years in each of the target countries. It was decided to target the survey at an economically active population or young generation which should become economically active in the near future. Hence the upper limit of 60 years, after which economically active residents enter retirement in some EU member states. On the other side, setting the lower limit as low as 16 years of age ensured that also youngsters who will soon become economically active were included and represent a generation which may have a different perception of modern technologies and may also have different habits of working with information and communication technologies. Setting the limit lower than 16 years of age would hit legal barriers in some EU member states.

A representative sample of 1,000 respondents in each country was selected from this universe. The sample size was sufficient to guarantee statistically valid data and allow in-depth analysis to obtain objective and complex information about the awareness and perception of nanomaterials. Size of  $n=1000$  respondents in each country is the regular sample size in standard Eurobarometer surveys<sup>12</sup>. The required sample size of  $n=1000$  means that 1,000 fully completed survey questionnaires were collected in each target country. Incomplete questionnaires were disregarded.

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<sup>12</sup> Source: <https://www.gesis.org/eurobarometer-data-service/survey-series/standard-special-eb/population-countries-regions/>

To ensure that the survey was carried out on a representative population sample, a quota sampling approach using the following criteria was envisaged:

- Gender
- Age
- Region
- Size of residence
- Education

In accordance with best practice in systematic surveys, screening questions were used to ensure that the respondents were qualified to participate without introducing excessive bias (e.g. people employed in the fields of nanotechnology, journalism and marketing/market research were not invited to take part in the survey). A screening questionnaire was developed for the recruitment of quota-compliant participants.

The quota sampling approach resembles the method of probability-based stratified sampling, but it was considered better suited for the purpose of this survey for the following reasons:

1. Quota sampling ensured that different groups of the target population were not underrepresented or overrepresented in the survey. Quota criteria were set proportionally to the demographic profiles of the whole population in target countries to minimize sampling bias.
2. Quota sampling eliminates the issue of low response rates – non-responsiveness in a quota sample is handled by the selection of another respondent fitting the quota. Quota sampling was therefore fit for the purpose of this survey as it allowed a fast collection of responses from a sample population representing different population groups in target countries.

The quota sampling approach was also applied in the past studies<sup>13</sup> on the public perception of nanotechnologies.

Respondents were recruited through National Managed Access Panels in each of the target countries. Access to online data collection panels was acquired through Data Collect s.r.o.<sup>14</sup> which is part of the Talk Online Panel group. Talk Online Panel group incorporates national access panels from 24 European countries managed in accordance with ESOMAR guidelines<sup>15</sup>. For example, all panellists are registered following a triple-opt-in and are deemed active according to ISO standards, meaning they must show activity at least once a year. Registered panellists are incentivised to participate in online surveys ensuring high response rates.

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<sup>13</sup> [Correia Carreira, G. \(2016\). "Nanoview – Influencing factors on the perception of nanotechnology and target group-specific risk communication strategies."](#)

<sup>14</sup> <https://www.datacollect.cz/>

<sup>15</sup> [https://www.esomar.org/uploads/public/knowledge-and-standards/codes-and-guidelines/ESOMAR\\_Guideline-for-online-research.pdf](https://www.esomar.org/uploads/public/knowledge-and-standards/codes-and-guidelines/ESOMAR_Guideline-for-online-research.pdf)

## Justification for the recruitment of respondents

Using nationally managed access panels is an efficient method to ensure that enough respondents fulfilling set quota criteria will be recruited in each of the target countries within a very short time (typically within two weeks). National access panels in each of the targeted countries all have at least 25,000 panellists according to the latest panel book<sup>16</sup>, which was sufficient for the selection of a representative sample of at least 1,000 responses in each of the countries.

Thanks to fully managed national panels, relevant information about all registered panel members (e.g. gender, age, education level, etc.) were retrieved directly from the database, enabling the selection of a high-quality sample and even target groups that would be difficult to reach by other sampling methods. Furthermore, since these databases include also socio-demographic information about registered panellists, this information did not have to be collected by the survey questionnaire which could focus purely on topic-related questions, making the questionnaire shorter and thus improving participants' willingness to respond.

Managed access panels provided very high-quality data as the control and validation of the identity of all panel members follows strict rules. There are various control touchpoints such as birth number, bank account number or validation of addresses of respondents by registered mail delivery. Respondents are "protected" from repeating surveys on the same topic and have a limited number of surveys set per year. Using access panels for the collection of data also eliminates the issue of management of personal information as personal data of all respondents are managed fully in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR).

Since national online panels in all target countries were accessed through a single supplier (Data Collect s.r.o.) who carried out representative sampling according to the given criteria, the final sample size was therefore representative without any data weighting.

## Developing the questionnaire dissemination strategy/data collection methodology

Taking into account that the minimum sample size considered appropriate for this survey was 5,000 respondents in total from 5 different countries (1,000 respondents from each country) and the timeframe for collecting data (running interviews/questionnaires) is ca. 3.5 months, only methodologies using computer-assisted (online) interviewing through questionnaires were considered to fulfil the objectives of the project.

To allow efficient collection of a high number of responses (fully filled out survey questionnaires from at least 1,000 respondents in each of the target countries) in a short time (in less than two weeks), the Computer-Assisted Web Interviewing (CAWI) method was used. CAWI (sometimes also referred to as Computer-Assisted Self Interviewing (CASI)) allows the respondents to autonomously answer the survey questions on their computer, tablet, smartphone or any other device with a browser.

Thanks to a high level of internet penetration in all considered countries, online interviewing guaranteed that responses were collected from a representative sample of the general population in each country. Consequently, analyses of the collected responses can be deemed valid for the whole corresponding population.

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<sup>16</sup> [https://images.mindtake.com/CONT\\_MT/TalkOnlinePanel/Panelbook\\_TalkOnlinePanel.pdf](https://images.mindtake.com/CONT_MT/TalkOnlinePanel/Panelbook_TalkOnlinePanel.pdf)

## **Justification of the methodology – dissemination strategy/data collection methodology**

The CAWI methodology allows questionnaires to be more complex and provides extensive guidance to respondents. The clear disadvantage is that it can only be used where a statistically representative share of the population has access to the internet and is willing to answer these surveys. Willingness to answer the survey by at least 1,000 respondents in each target country was ensured by using national managed access panels (see detailed description above) and the fact that internet penetration in all considered countries was high enough (France: 86 %, Finland: 94 %, Austria: 84 %, Poland: 73 %, Bulgaria: 59 %<sup>17</sup>). The collected responses can therefore be considered representative of the population in the countries.

Data was collected using OpenSurvey<sup>18</sup> software.

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<sup>17</sup>

<sup>18</sup> <https://web.opensurvey.com/>

## 2. Data Collection

### 2.1 Questionnaire preparation and testing

Prior to the dissemination of the questionnaire to all potential respondents, two rounds of testing and piloting of the questionnaire were performed.

Firstly, the questionnaire was tested internally by employees of the contractor to check if the questionnaire was implemented correctly, whether the technical solution works and is intuitive and if the questionnaire is easy to understand. As employees of the contractor are mostly experts in the field (either experts on chemical safety or market researchers), this round of testing was aimed especially on the technical check of the implemented questionnaire.

After the formal approval of the master English questionnaire and its functionality, national local questionnaires were prepared - the English master questionnaire was delivered through Data Collect s.r.o. to local national translators.

Translated questionnaires were then delivered to ECHA for formal approval. After the approval, Data Collect s.r.o. programmed the questionnaires into online interactive questionnaires in target languages.

When technical and logical aspects of the English electronic questionnaire were agreed by all partners, Data Collect s.r.o. started preparation of local electronic versions - 5 languages (Polish, Bulgarian, German, French and Finnish).

As the next level of control, local electronic questionnaires were tested to ensure correct data recording and its validation against the originally tested English version.

Following the above-mentioned controls, the pilot stage or "soft launch" started. In each country up to 30 pilot interviews were carried out to check the correct functionality of the questionnaire and its understandability for the respondents in the target countries.

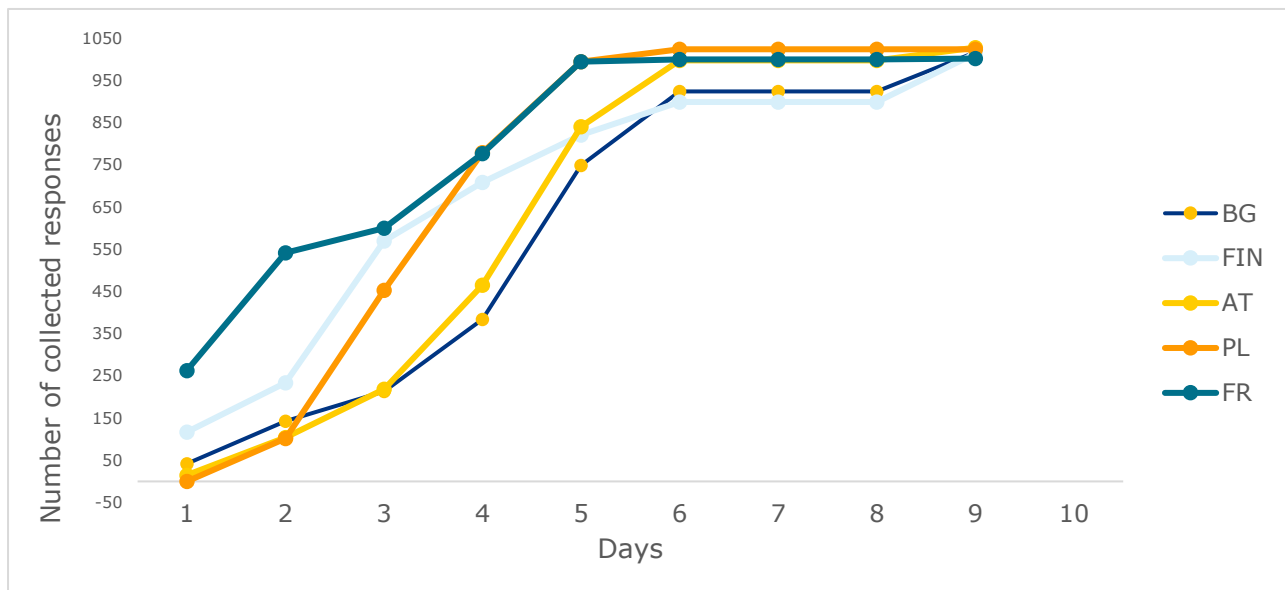


## 2.2 Fieldwork

Hard data collection was launched on 3 February 2020. Respondent sampling was representative according to basic demographical quotas, specifically gender, age, region, size of residence and education (as described in Selection of target audience – survey universe, sample size and sampling approach).

Fieldwork progress was successful and the requested number of interviews (N=1000 per each country) was reached within approximately 10 days without any withstanding issues. Graph 5 indicates fieldwork development in individual countries:

**Graph 5 - Data collection in individual countries - comparison**



## 2.3 First data check and preparation of data

After data collection, the screening of collected data was carried out (exclusion of incomplete interviews and demographical check).

To guarantee correct follow-up statistical analysis, the data was cleaned and standardised to ensure the missing answers did not affect the calculated percentages.

As the next step of data handling, open-ended questions were processed - the answers were translated into English to enable coding (integration of answers into the aggregated categories representing all collected answers in open-ended questions). Annexes 2 and 3 contain all the collected data.

## 3. Analysis of the collected and extracted data

### 3.1 General awareness of nanomaterials

This chapter deals with the general awareness of the term “nanomaterial” or “nanoparticle” and its meaning. In the corresponding part of the survey, the respondents were asked to provide a spontaneous description of what they think the terms mean and what they have heard about them, their awareness of some specific products containing nanomaterials they might be using, followed by prompted questions of the nanomaterials content in specific types of products.

The list of survey questions analysed in this chapter (questions with an asterisk are open-ended):

**Q1. Have you heard something about nanomaterials?**

- a. Nothing at all
- b. A little
- c. A lot

**Q2. What have you heard about nanomaterials? \***

**Q3. What is a nanomaterial in your opinion? \***

**Q4. Name three groups of products which may contain nanomaterials/nanoparticles\***

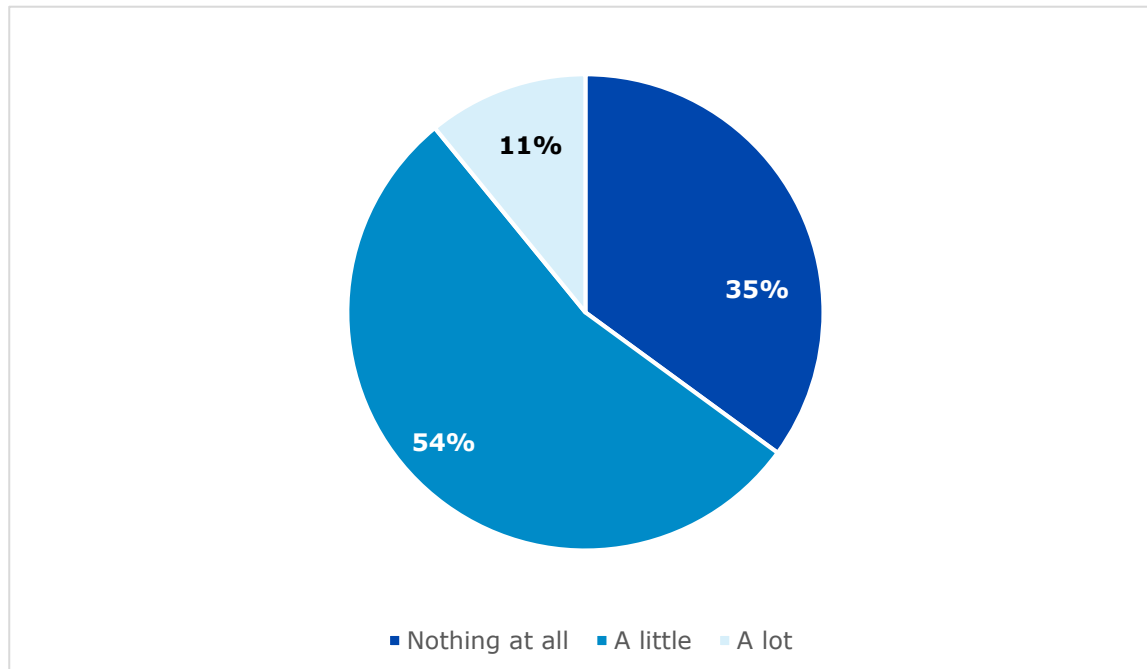
**Q5. Which of the following products may contain nanomaterials/nanoparticles in your opinion?**

- a. Cars
- b. Sports equipment
- c. Medicines
- d. Paints/Varnishes/Surface coatings
- e. Foods
- f. Plastics
- g. Household electrical appliances
- h. Computers and electronics
- i. Clothing/textiles
- j. Construction materials
- k. Detergents/household cleaning products
- l. Cosmetics
- m. Toys
- n. Kitchenware
- o. Pesticides and plant protection products
- p. Car care products
- q. Other (please specify)

## Declarative awareness level

All survey respondents were asked about their general awareness of nanomaterials. As illustrated by Graph 6, the current level of general awareness is quite low, with more than a third of respondents claiming they “have not heard anything about nanomaterials” before. Only 11% of respondents claim to have heard “a lot” about nanomaterials.

**Graph 6 - Have you heard anything about nanomaterials?** (N=5000, question Q1)



In terms of demographical profile, higher awareness of nanomaterials is typical for males, inhabitants in big cities, higher and upper-middle-classes, those with a university-level education, business proprietors, owners (full or partner) of companies and managers. No direct correlation between the age group of the respondents and their awareness of nanomaterials was observed. The demographic profile is detailed in Table 2.

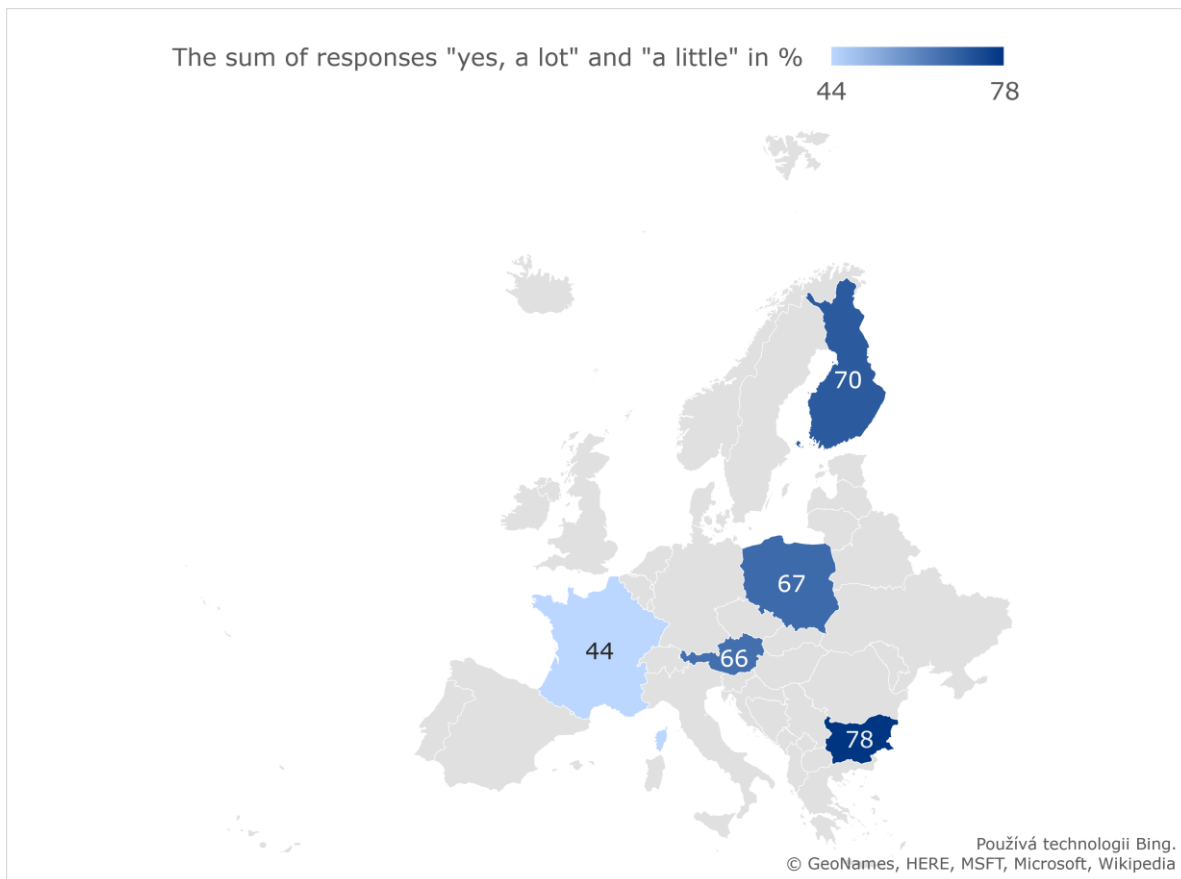
**Table 2 - Nanomaterials awareness - Demographic profile**

HAVE YOU HEARD ANYTHING ABOUT NANOMATERIALS?			
	Nothing at all	A little	A lot
Age	does not differentiate	does not differentiate	does not differentiate
Gender	women	does not differentiate	men
Size of city	villages and smallest cities up to 50 000 Inhabitants	biggest cities over 200 000 inhabitants and capital	big cities up to 200 000 inhabitants
Education	basic or middle	the highest level, university etc.	does not differentiate
Society category	lower class	upper-middle-class	higher and upper-middle-class
Economic activity	manual workers, servants, not working - at home	lawyer, medical practitioner, accountant, etc., middle management	farmers, fishermen, business proprietors, owners, general management, director, or top management
Religiosity	does not differentiate	does not differentiate	does not differentiate

The average percentage of respondents that were aware of nanomaterials in 2005 was 43%. In 2010 the number increased to 47% and in 2020 it is 65% (sum of the percentage answering "heard something" and "heard a lot"), measured on the representative sample of 5000 respondents from 5 different EU member states.

The demographic profile indicates that besides education, lifestyle plays a big role in the awareness of nanomaterials in general. Active lifestyle, interest in the surrounding life and education seems to be associated with a higher level of awareness of nanomaterials. The level of awareness of nanomaterials differs between the surveyed countries. See Cartogram 1

**Cartogram 1 - Have you heard anything about nanomaterials?** (N=1000 per country, question Q1)



According to the survey results, the stated awareness of nanomaterials is the lowest in France and the highest in Bulgaria.

*Hypothesis: "Is there a higher sense of responsibility among the general population in France compared to other surveyed countries? More optimistic attitudes or lower demand for information in Bulgaria?"*

The lower level of awareness of nanomaterials in France can be associated with higher social responsibility (respondents who have some knowledge about the topic do not feel that their knowledge is significant enough, therefore are not prone to choose the answer "yes, a lot" even though objectively their level of knowledge might be the same as of less socially responsible respondents claiming "a lot" of knowledge). This result also implies that the existence of national nanomaterials inventories (as in France) do not necessarily raise the awareness of nanomaterials, at least as they are implemented now.

Other explanations may lie in regional specificities, e.g. relationship to technologic or scientific news in the context of daily life. Only 42% of the respondents from France declared interest in

various scientific topics in contrast with 59% in Bulgaria and 56% in Finland. The French are also (similar to Austrians) more sceptical to the future use of nanomaterials. Only one-third of the respondents in France agree that they are going to use nanomaterials gladly in the future if these will have a positive impact on the quality of products. The opinion that "the whole nano thing is a marketing trick to improve sales of certain products" is the strongest among the respondents in France (compared to other surveyed countries).

The overall level of awareness of nanomaterials is comparable with the conclusions of previous research results in different countries and regions.

In 2004, a survey on nanomaterials showed that 29% of the 1005 participants in the UK have heard the term "nanomaterial", with 19% able to offer any sort of definition (Society and Engineering 2004).

In 2005, the Eurobarometer showed that 42% of 28694 participants in Europe have heard the term "nanomaterial" (Papacostas 2006).

In a Swiss study from 2006, the respondents stated they were using sportswear made with nanotechnology or had nanomaterials in their household. Others, however, complained that they were possibly using such products without even being aware that they might contain nanoparticles (Burri and Bellucci 2008).

In a paper published in 2007, respondents in Switzerland indicated whether they had heard the term "nanotechnology" before the survey. 65% of the 375 respondents answered yes, and 35% answered no (Siegrist, Keller et al. 2007). In 2008, 23 % of the 994 participants in Germany heard nothing about nanomaterials, 68% heard something, 9% heard a lot (Zimmer, R. et al. 2008).

In a 2009 study, 66% of the 750 respondents in Germany were unfamiliar with nanomaterials, 34% were familiar (Vandermoere, Blanchemanche et al. 2010). In 2010, in a survey from the UK, 38% of the 613 participants heard nothing at all about nanomaterials, 29% heard a little, 9% heard a lot (Erdem 2018).

Of the 31238 respondents of the 2010 Eurobarometer, 47% had heard the term "nanotechnology", 53% did not, 1% frequently talks about nanotechnology, 6% occasionally talks about nanotechnology, 6% talked about nanotechnology once or twice, 11% never talked about nanotechnology, 0.1% did not know (Gaskell, Allansdottir et al. 2011).

According to an Italian study from 2011 (Bottini, Rosato et al. 2011), approximately 72% of Italian citizens had heard about nanotechnology, however, approx. 80% of them only knew a little about this scientific field. Most of the respondents thought that nanotechnology may have the biggest use in medicine, only 38% of them were aware of nanotechnology-treated consumables. 80% of respondents that were aware of nanomaterials knew that electronic devices are often made with nanotechnology. A lower percentage knew that nanoparticles are already present in drugs (15%) and beauty products (5%). Less than 5% knew that foods already contain nanoparticles.

In 2012, respondents in the Netherlands (n=1907) "showed low knowledge of what is nanotechnology" (van Giesen, Fischer et al. 2018). In the same year, in Turkey, 43.6% of the 513 participants heard about nanotechnology before (Senocak 2014). And in Germany, 9.1% of the 1200 participants heard nothing about nanomaterials/nanotechnology, 72.2% heard something, 18.5% heard a lot (Guido Correia Carreira, Jan-Peter Ferdinand et al. 2016).

Amongst 141 students of the Wageningen University in the Netherlands, low familiarity with nanotechnology was observed in 2016. (Steenis and Fischer 2016)

In 2019, a survey conducted in Denmark, Spain and Germany showed that the public awareness of nanotechnology remains low, the average score on the scale of 1 to 5 was 1.91 (with 1 being the lowest score, 5 being the highest) (Porcari, Borsella et al. 2019).

Nano-products were mostly associated with high-tech (electronics, medicine, research) and rarely with everyday products in a 2011 UK survey of 18 participants. Nanosilver was associated with electronics and computers. Participants appeared to be unaware of already marketed products such as nanosilver in washing machines, socks, or deodorants. On a material level, a few participants rightly associated nanosilver with coatings, but little awareness existed that products containing nanosilver were already on the market (Feindt and Poortvliet 2019).

The awareness of the terms nanomaterials or nanotechnology is illustrated in Table 3. Only data with specific numerical values (percentage of the respondents being familiar with the terms "nanotechnology" or "nanomaterials") were included and rounded off.

**Table 3 - Awareness of nanomaterials - evidence table**

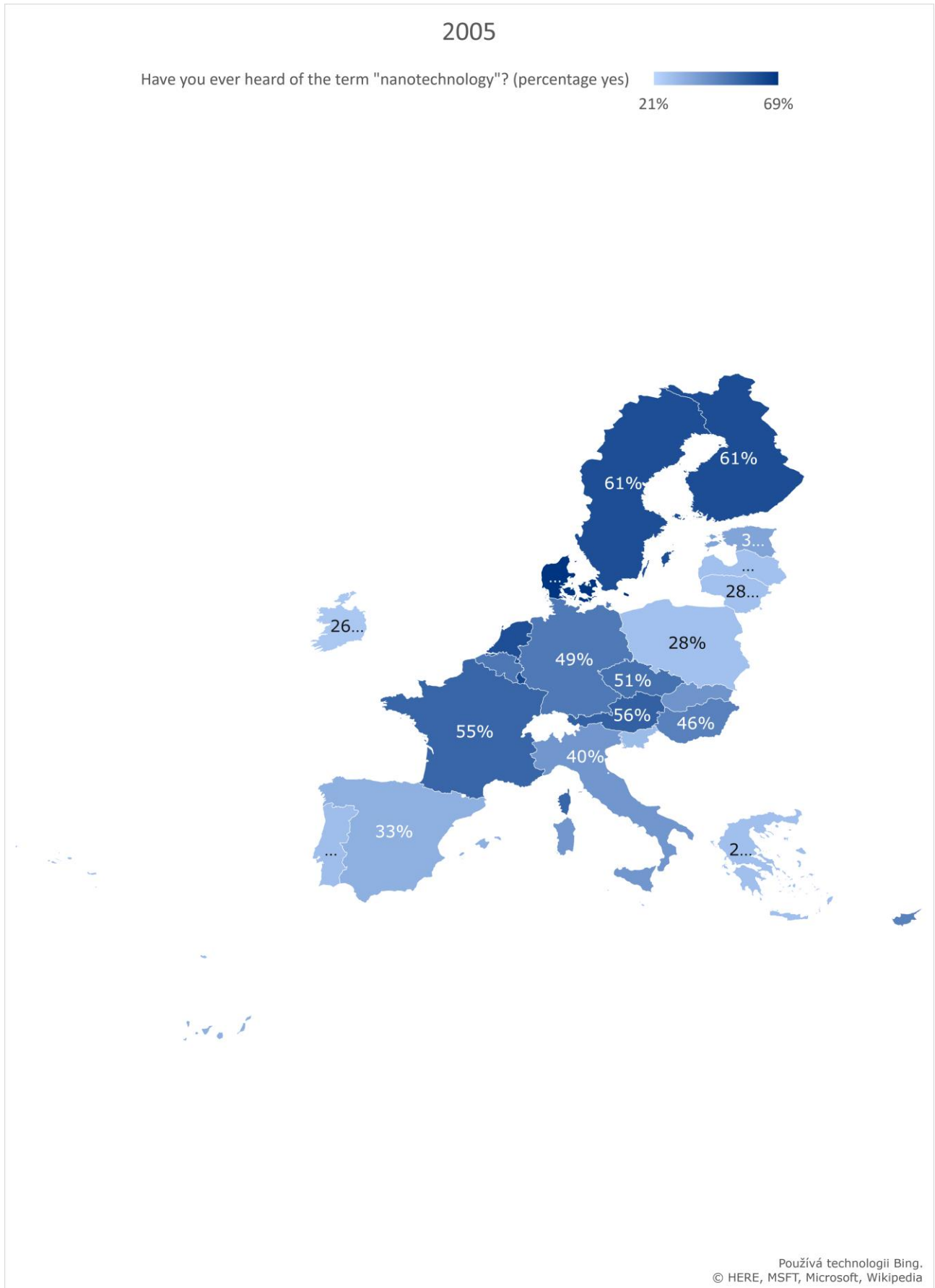
Reference area	Study	Year	n	Have you heard of the terms "nanotechnology" or "nanomaterials"? (percentage yes)
Great Britain (GB-GBN)	Royal Society, 2004	2004	1005	29%
Portugal (PT)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	482	29%
Malta (MT)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	261	28%
Poland (PL)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	498	28%
Spain (ES)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	500	33%
Northern Ireland (GB-NIR)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	145	21%
Ireland (IE)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	504	26%
Slovakia (SK)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	552	41%
Lithuania (LT)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	501	28%
Cyprus (CY)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	252	46%
Italy (IT)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	507	40%
Belgium (BE)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	521	49%
Greece (GR)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	504	28%
Slovenia (SI)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	501	30%
Estonia (EE)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	521	36%
Austria (AT)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	478	56%
Europe (EU)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	28694	42%
Hungary (HU)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	498	46%
Great Britain (GB-GBN)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	523	44%
Latvia (LV)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	488	28%
France (FR)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	516	55%
Luxembourg (LU)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	247	63%
Czech Republic (CZ)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	503	51%
The Netherlands (NL)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	497	61%
West Germany (DE-W)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	503	49%
East Germany (DE-E)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	282	54%
Finland (FI)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	508	61%
Sweden (SE)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	515	61%
Denmark (Tzur, Rosset et al.)	Papacostas, 2006	2005	514	69%
Switzerland (CH)	Siegrist, 2007	2007	375	65%
Germany (DE)	Zimmer, 2008	2008	994	77%
Germany (DE)	Vandermoere, 2010	2009	750	34%
Belgium (BE)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	517	47%

Bulgaria (BG)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	529	41%
Switzerland (CH)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	509	31%
Cyprus (CY)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	482	76%
Czech Republic (CZ)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	251	37%
East Germany (DE-E)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	520	59%
West Germany (DE-W)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	266	66%
Denmark (Tzur, Rosset et al.)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	503	64%
Estonia (EE)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	525	77%
Spain (ES)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	486	47%
Europe (EU)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	497	32%
Finland (FI)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	31238	47%
France (FR)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	538	73%
Great Britain (GB-GBN)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	519	54%
GB-NIR	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	503	48%
Greece (GR)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	158	33%
Croatia (HR)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	533	45%
Hungary (HU)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	489	45%
Ireland (IE)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	530	47%
Iceland (IS)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	509	33%
Italy (IT)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	235	60%
Lithuania (LT)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	516	37%
Luxembourg (LU)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	519	36%
Latvia (LV)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	248	57%
Malta (MT)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	487	52%
The Netherlands (NL)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	232	22%
Norway (NO)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	517	61%
Poland (PL)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	483	78%
Portugal (PT)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	534	31%
Romania (RO)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	511	21%
Sweden (SE)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	538	26%
Slovenia (SI)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	497	75%
Slovakia (SK)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	505	46%
Turkey (TR)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	506	35%
Great Britain (GB-GBN)	Eurobarometer 73.1, 2013	2010	470	25%
Great Britain (GB-GBN)	Erdem, 2018	2010	613	38%
Turkey (TR)	Senocak, 2014	2012	513	44%
Germany (DE)	Guido Correia Carreira, 2016	2012	1200	91%
Finland (FI)	Present study	2019	1000	70%
France (FR)	Present study	2019	1000	44%
Poland (PO)	Present study	2019	1000	67%
Bulgaria (BG)	Present study	2019	1000	78%
Austria (AU)	Present study	2019	1000	66%

As the methodologies of the surveys Eurobarometer 63.1 (Papacostas 2006), Eurobarometer 73.1 (Anonymous 2013) and the present study are similar, it is possible to compare the level of awareness of nanomaterials/nanotechnology in Europe and individual European countries in 2005, 2010 and 2020.

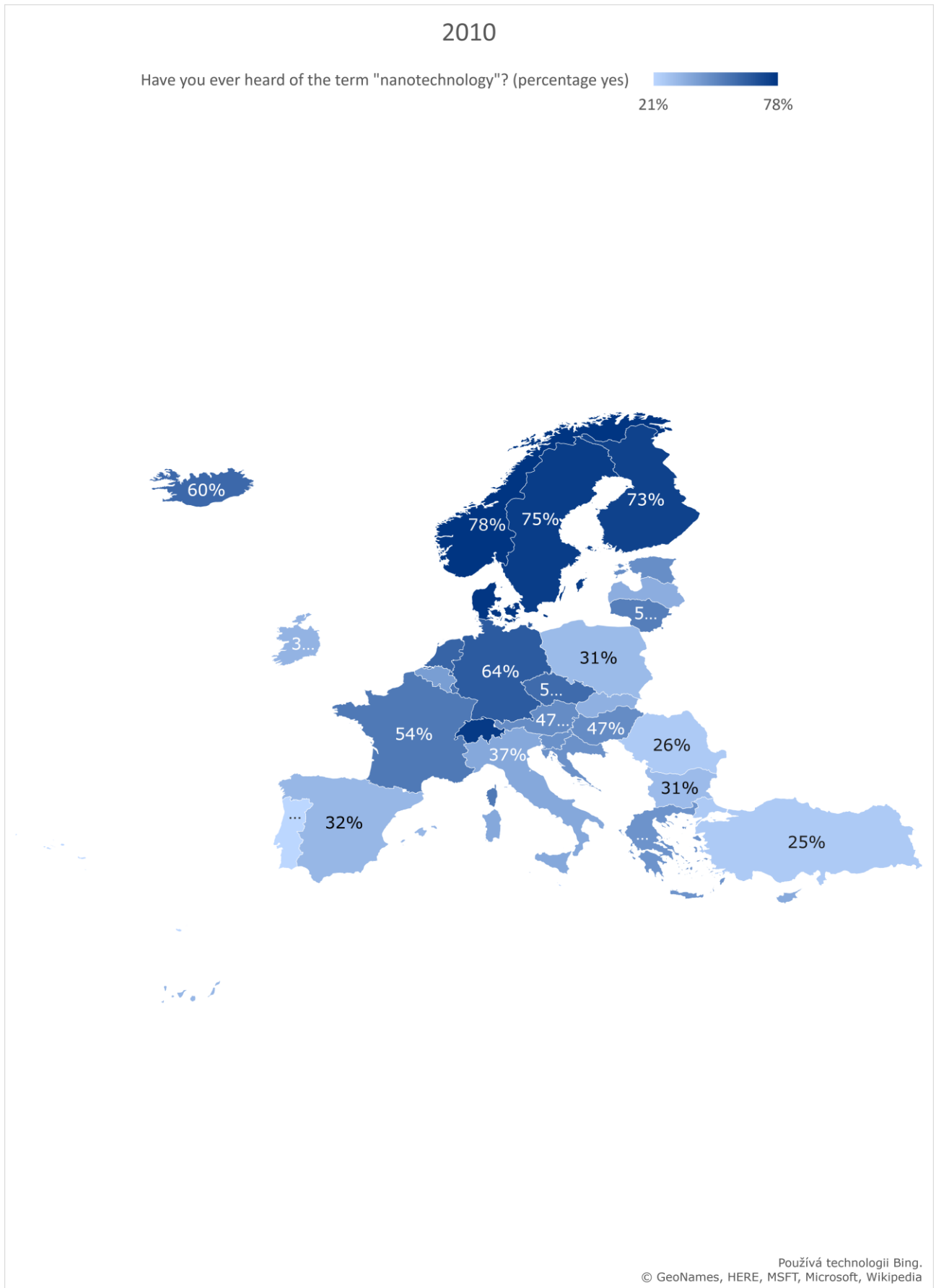
In 2005, the region with the least aware respondents was Northern Ireland (21%), whereas, in 2010, the lowest awareness was measured in Portugal (21%). In 2005, the country with the highest awareness was Denmark (69%). In 2010, the country with most awareness was Norway (78%), which was not included in the 2005 Eurobarometer. The detailed data collected are illustrated by the following Cartogram 2, Cartogram 3, Graph 7, Graph 8 and Graph 9.

## Cartogram 2 - Nanomaterial awareness in 2005

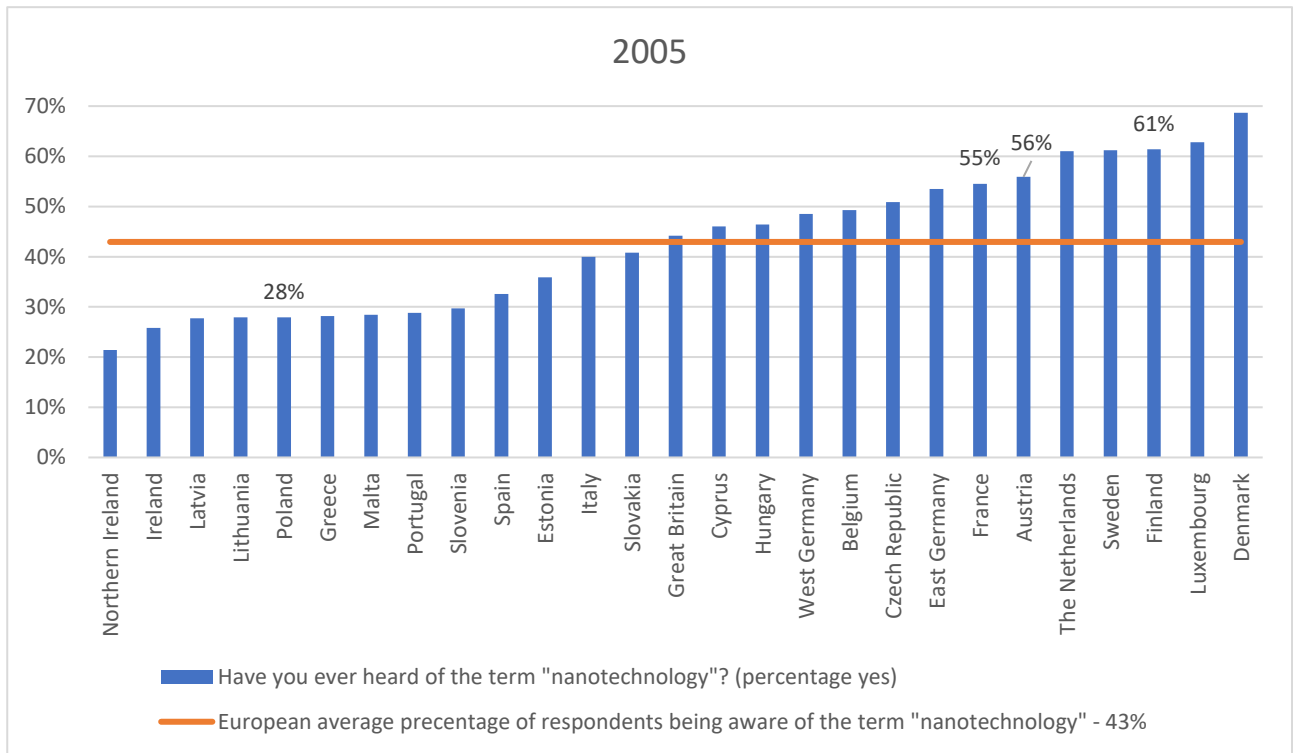




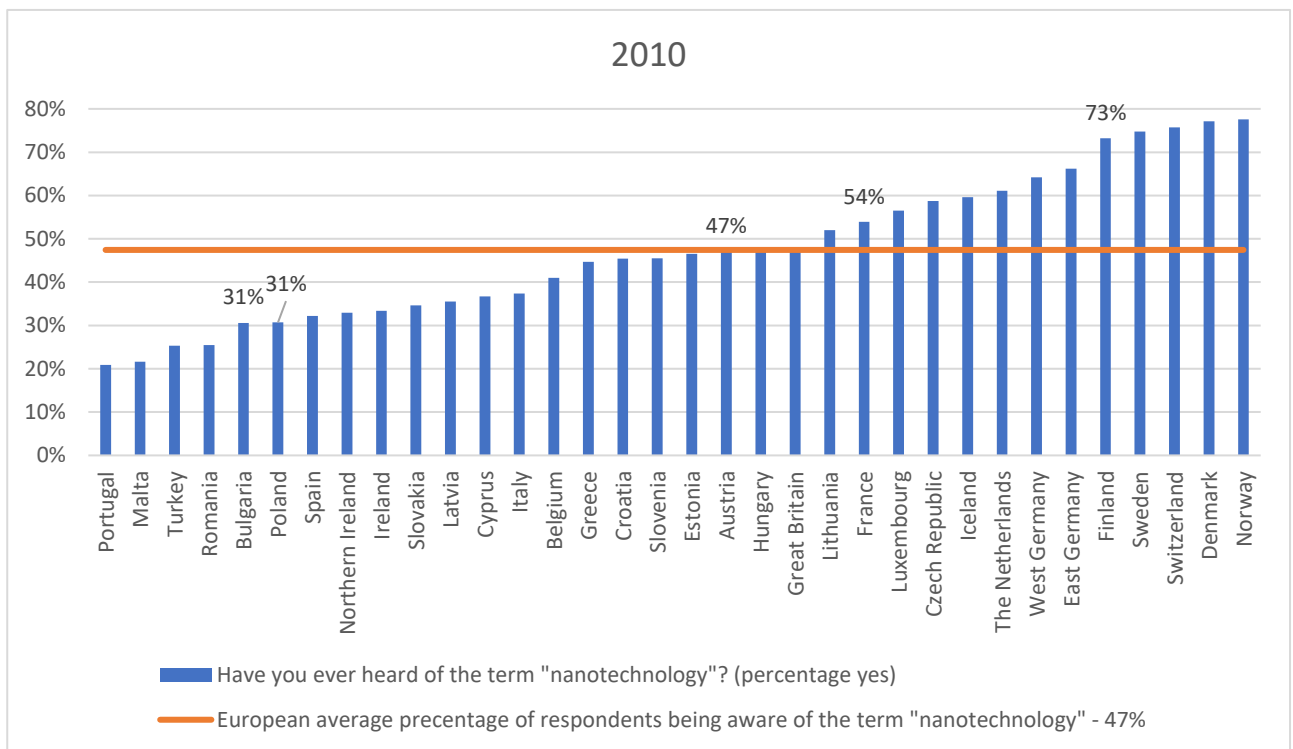
### Cartogram 3 - Nanomaterial awareness in 2010



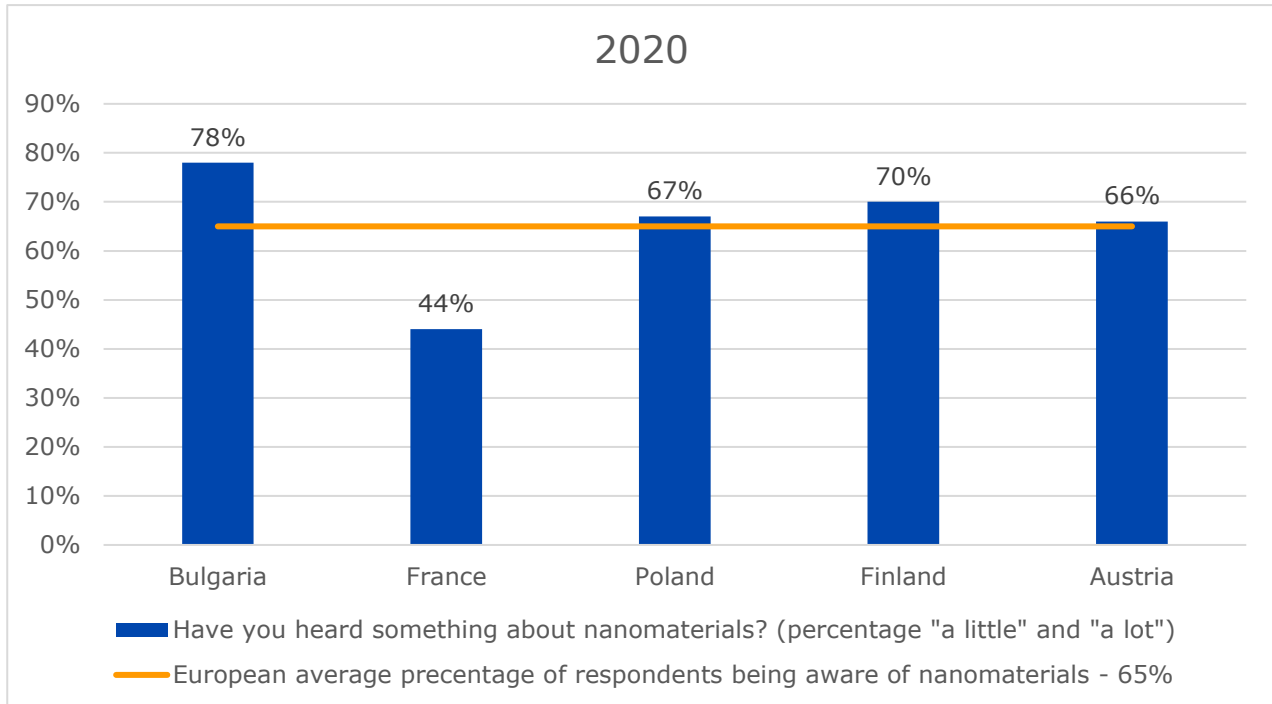
**Graph 7 - Nanomaterial awareness in European countries in 2005**



**Graph 8 - Nanomaterial awareness in European countries in 2010**



**Graph 9 - Nanomaterial awareness in the surveyed countries in 2020**



**Specific knowledge about nanomaterials**

Spontaneous survey answers to the question “What have you heard or read about nanomaterials?” among those who declare at least some nanomaterials awareness are mainly concentrated in the technical area, specifically about microparticles as well as the wide uses of these materials. No negative association with possible adverse effects on human health was mentioned at this stage. The most frequent response – “small particles, materials” was mentioned across the population.

**Worldcloud 1 – Spontaneous survey knowledge of what the term “nanomaterials” means**



Detailed answers:

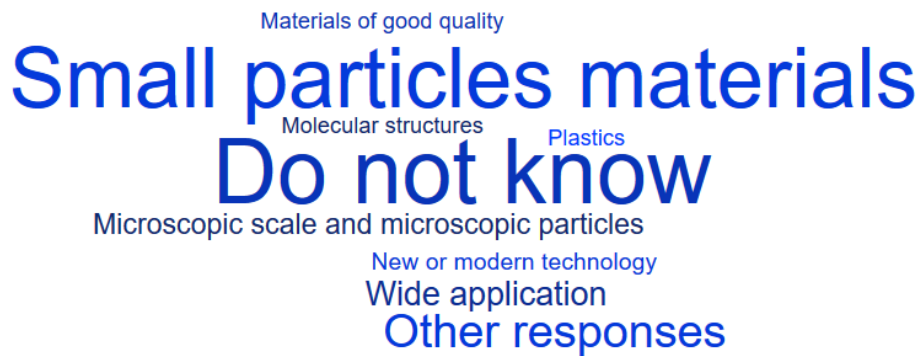
**Table 4 - Spontaneous survey knowledge of what the term “nanomaterials” means** (Base: those who declared at least some awareness of nanomaterials, question Q2)

VIEW BY COUNTRIES						
answers in %	Total	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
Number of respondents	3248	669	779	657	441	702
Small particles, materials	22	27	18	25	27	14
The various way in which nanomaterials can be used	15	7	19	19	6	18
Nanoparticles, nanotechnologies	8	7	10	8	12	5
New or modern technology	5	7	6	2	5	6
Various qualities, durability, flexibility, etc.	5	5	3	8	3	5
Microscopic scale and microscopic particles	3	3	4	3	3	1
Chemical substances, chemistry	3	0	4	0	0	7
Molecular structures	2	9	1	0	0	0
Wide and different uses	1	1	1	1	3	1
Do not know	19	17	17	16	20	22
Other responses	18	16	19	17	20	20

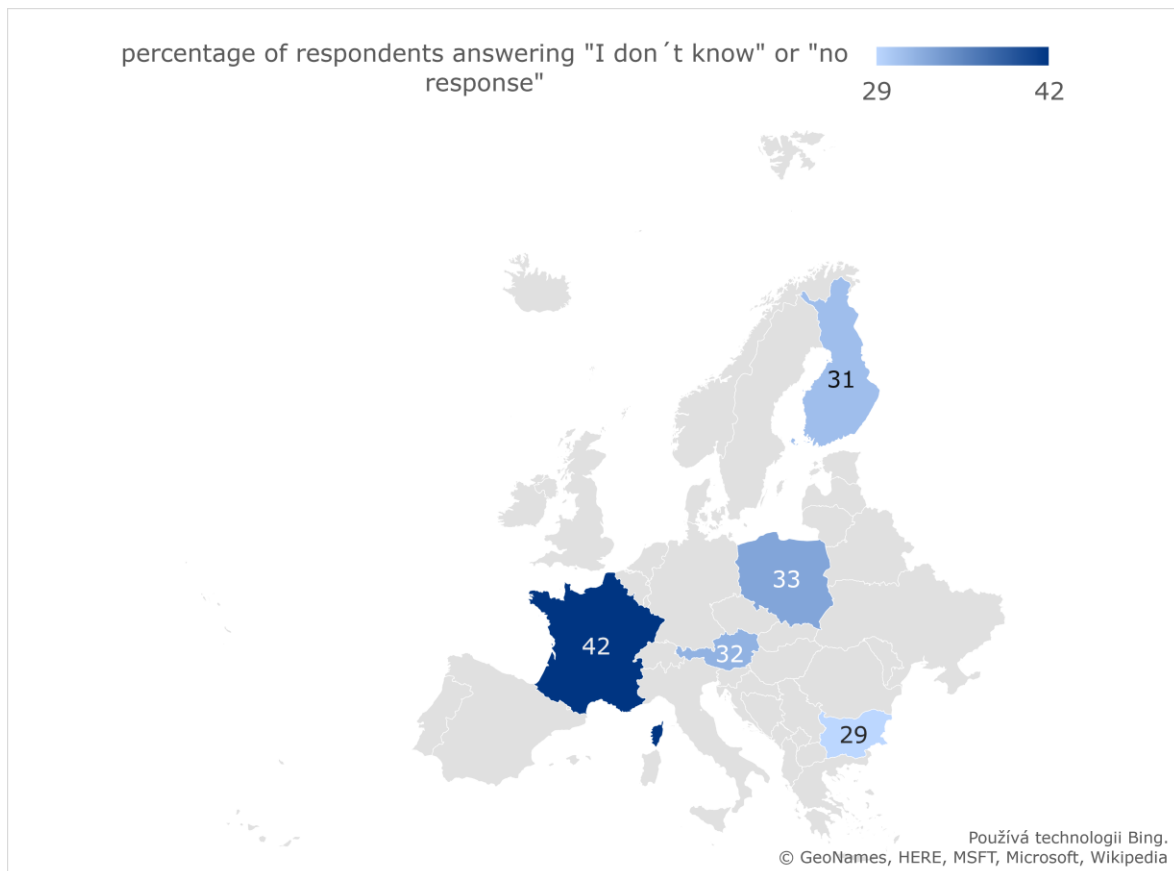
## Spontaneous associations with the term "nanomaterials"

Regardless of the overall knowledge of nanomaterials, all respondents were asked for their opinion about nanomaterials. Similarly, to the question on specific awareness above, people mentioned primarily technical aspects such as "microparticles". About a third of the respondents were not aware of what the term "nanomaterials" means. This group is represented mainly by women, older members of the population and lower socio-economic classes. Education level has a strong correlation with the awareness of nanomaterials. The lower the education level of the respondents, the less aware they are of nanomaterials.

### Worldcloud 2 - Spontaneous associations with the term "nanomaterials"

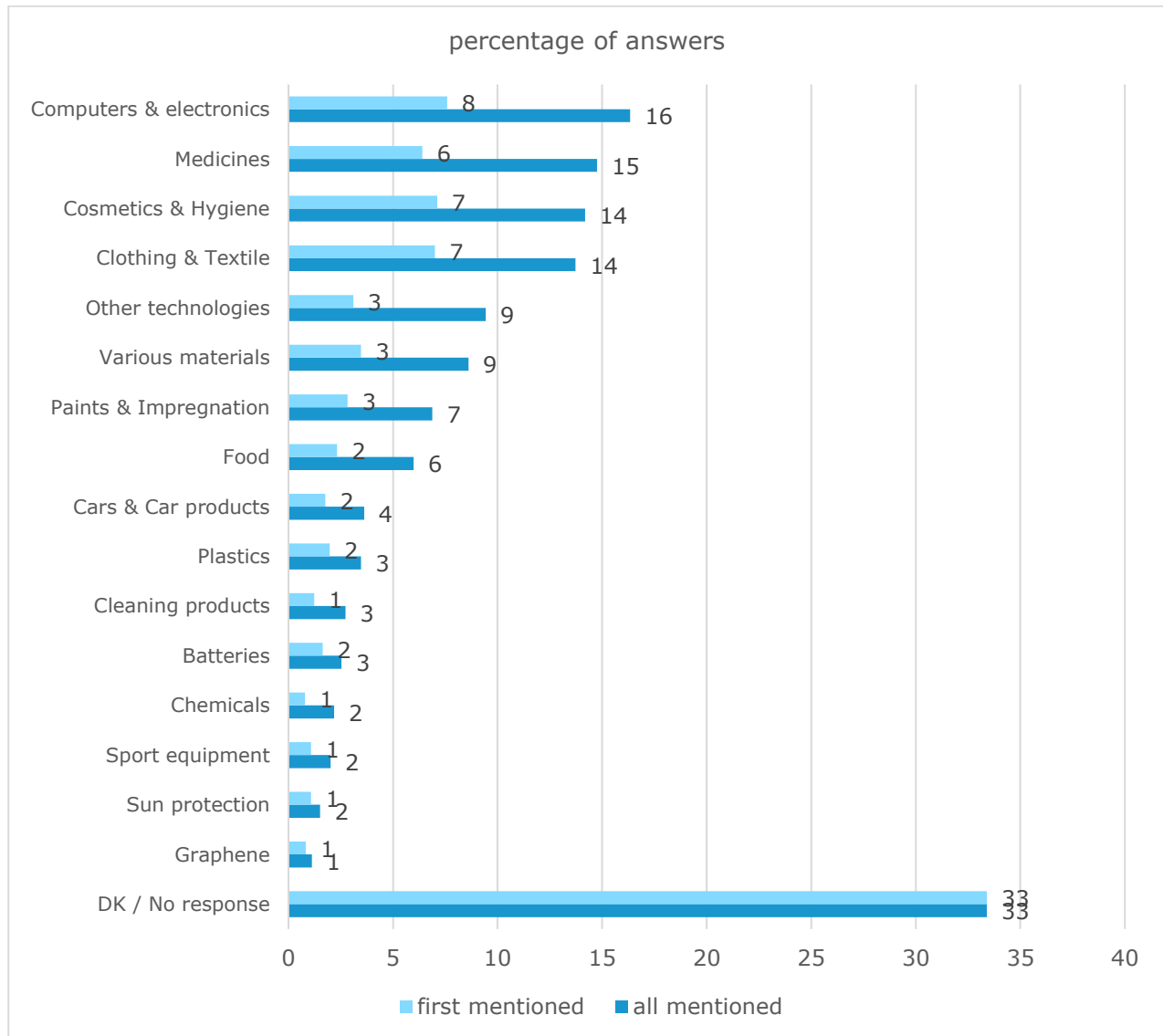


Cartogram 4 - Level of nanomaterials awareness (N=5000, question Q3)



When asked to name three products (or groups of products) which may contain nanomaterials (without giving the respondents a list of options to select from), the respondents most frequently mentioned computers and electronics (characteristic for all countries except for Austria), followed by medicines (except for Austria and Finland) and chemical products, specifically cosmetics (except for France).

**Graph 10 - Spontaneously mentioned product categories possibly containing nanomaterials**  
(N=5000, question Q4)

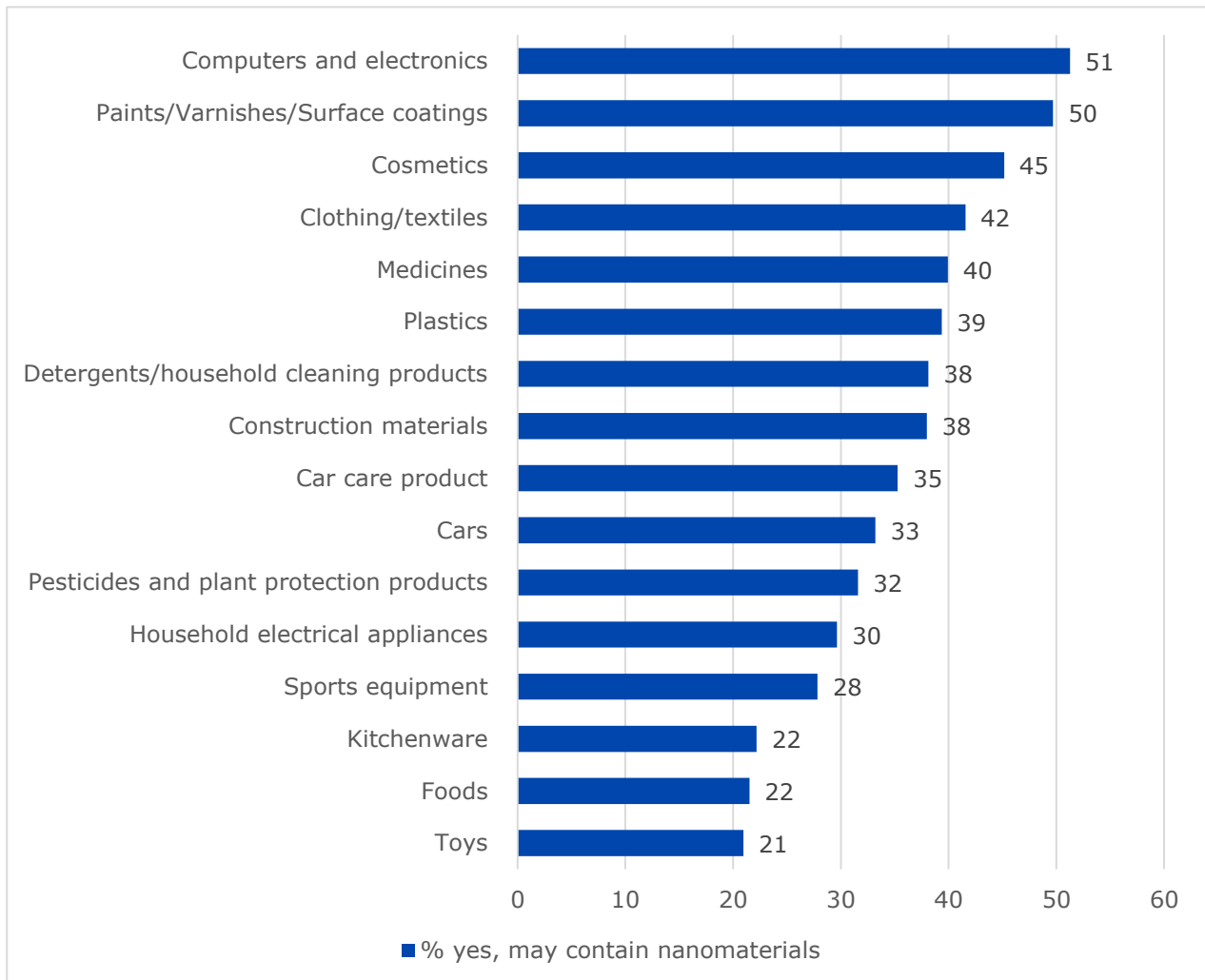


## Prompted associations with the term “nanomaterials”

People associate the term “nanomaterials” primarily with hi-tech or chemical products.

About half of the respondents associated nanomaterials with their use in computers or electronics in general (in Bulgaria 60%) and paints or varnishes (the majority in Austria, 58%). Over 40% of the respondents associated it also with cosmetics (the majority in Finland, 54%) and textiles (there is a great difference between countries – highest percentage observed in Finland and Austria (51%), lowest in Bulgaria and France (33%)). Products where the lowest percentage of the respondents would expect nanomaterials are kitchenware, toys, and food.

**Graph 11 - Prompted associations with common product types which may contain nanomaterials** (N=5000, question Q5)



The association of nanomaterials with different products is strongly dependent on the level of education of the respondents throughout all the countries. People with a university degree or current students tend to associate nanomaterials with specific products more often than those with lower or middle-level degrees. This can be valid for new technologies in general, however, the current survey did not study this phenomenon.

## Nanomaterials awareness outside of Europe

## Americas

In 2002, a survey about nanomaterials was conducted in the USA (n=1500). The term "nano" was familiar to roughly 60% of individuals ages 14-59. The term was less familiar to children under 14 and those 60 and over. Across the sample, slightly more people had heard of "nano" than "nanotechnology". The term nanotechnology was most familiar to those ages 14-28, and this age group could sometimes offer a correct definition. The majority (90%) did not know the term nanotechnology, and those who gave a correct or semi-correct answer said they learned about nanotechnology because they were avid readers, science enthusiasts, National Public Radio listeners or investors. 1% of the entire sample could correctly define the terms. (Waldron, Spencer et al. 2006)

In 2004, more than 80% out of 1536 respondents in the USA indicated that they heard little or nothing about nanotechnology. On average, respondents could answer just one of three factual true or false questions correctly (Mir 2007).

In 2005, familiarity remains low, with 57% of respondents in the USA and 64% of Canadians indicating they are "not at all familiar" or "not very familiar" with nanotechnology (Priest 2006). In 2005, out of 978 students and staff of a university in the USA, over 18 years old and not related to science and engineering fields, 17% were aware of the term nanotechnology, 45% heard about it. Majority of women did not know about nanotechnology.

The study subjects of a 2006 USA study reported being relatively unfamiliar with nanotechnology. The vast majority (over 80%) reported having heard either "just a little" (28%) or "nothing at all" (54%) about it. Only 4% reported having heard "a lot" about nanotechnology before the study, and 14% reported having heard "some", an amount in between "just a little" and "a lot." (Kahan, Braman et al. 2009)

A study conducted in South Carolina through 2007 – 2010 showed that 64.5% of the 76 respondents were familiar with nanomaterials/nanotechnology, however, the state's flagship university *"had created a nanotechnology research program and significant outreach activities took place; the community leaders and Sierra Club members, recruited disproportionately from the state capital of Columbia where this flagship university is located, were much more likely to be familiar with the term "nanotechnology" than those from the other groups, representing smaller cities and towns."* (Priest, Lane et al. 2011)

During a project on emerging nanotechnologies in 2007, a study found out that 49% of the 1003 responding Americans have heard nothing at all about nanomaterials/nanotechnology, 26% heard a little, 17% heard some, 7% heard a lot, 1% were not sure. (Peter D. Hart Research Associates 2008)

In the 2012 Harris Poll, 36% of the 2467 respondents heard nothing at all about nanomaterials/nanotechnology. 26% knew the term, but that was all, 21% knew a little, 12% knew some, 5% knew a lot. (Anonymous 2012)

A Canadian survey from 2016 with 1600 participants from the general public, revealed a very low level of knowledge about nanotechnology. (Goddard, Muringai et al. 2018)

Table 5 summarises the data collected from previous studies carried out in the Americas.



**Table 5 - Nanomaterials awareness in the Americas**

Reference area	Study	Year of survey	n	Have you heard of nanotechnology/nanomaterials? (percentage yes)
USA	Waldron, 2006	2002	1500	60%
USA	Mir, 2007	2004	1536	20%
USA	Kahan, 2009	2006	NA	46%
South Carolina	Priest, 2011	2007-2010	76	65%
USA	Peter D. Hart Research Associates, 2008	2007	1003	50%
USA	The Harris Poll, 2012	2012	2467	64%

**Asia**

A long-term study conducted from 2005 to 2015 in Iran showed that the respondents have limited knowledge about nanomaterials/nanotechnology (Farshchi, Sadrnezhad et al. 2011). According to a survey taking place in South Korea in 2010, most of the 1007 surveyed consumers did not clearly understand nanotechnology, nanomaterials and nanoproducts (Kim, Lee et al. 2014).

In a 2012 study in the megacities of Iran, *“the obtained results showed that around 38% of people did not have any information on nanotechnology and could not even tell us any applications or products coming from nanotechnology. Around 34% of the people interviewed showed that they had some preliminary information about the field of nanotechnology and more than 22% of the responders knew somewhat and could tell us some examples of nanotechnology products and applications. Finally, around 5% of them had specific information”* (Rahimpour et al. 2012). The study does not state the number of people participating to the survey. From those who were familiar with nanotechnologies:

- 39% had heard and had some information about applications of nanotechnology in medical sciences
- 32% in industry
- More than 9% in agriculture and natural and environmental sciences
- around 20% neither knew nor remembered any specific application of nanotechnology

In a study carried out in 2012 in Singapore (n=1080), over 80% of respondents reported being familiar with nanotechnology. 7% indicated their understanding as ‘a lot’, 40% as ‘some’, 34% as ‘a little,’ and 19% as ‘nothing at all’. About half of the respondents (48%) were, to some extent, aware of the availability of consumer products containing nanomaterials (George, Kaptan et al. 2014).

88% of the 741 respondents in China in 2013 reported having heard of nanotechnology, although they possessed little knowledge about it (Zhang, Wang et al. 2016).

A study among general public in Russia in 2014 reported low knowledge about nanomaterials/nanotechnology (Mikhaylova 2014). In 2017 in Malaysia (n=407), 53% of the respondents had at least some knowledge about them (Kamarulzaman, Lee et al. 2019).

The results are summarised in Table 6.

**Table 6 - Nanomaterials awareness in Asia**

Reference area	Study	Year of survey	n	Have you heard of nanotechnology/nanomaterials? (percentage yes)
Iran	Rahimpour, 2012	2012	NA	61%
Singapore	George, 2014	2012	1080	81%
China	Zhang, 2016	2013	741	88%
Malaysia	Kamarulzaman, 2019	2017	407	53%

**Australia and New Zealand**

The first information about the public awareness of nanomaterials/nanotechnology in Australia and New Zealand comes from a 2012 survey with 1000 participants, where the majority (77%) reported having zero knowledge about the topic (Cormick and Hunter 2014).

In 2013, however, when the public (1355 respondents) were asked for examples of nanotechnology, it elicited positive images of miniaturised products such as computers. In particular, an Australian survey found public perceptions of nanotechnology were focused on medical or implant devices; microtechnology/miniaturisation; small robots; computing or computing components; and cosmetic or healthcare products (Capon, Rolfe et al. 2016).

### 3.2 General shopping habits and shopping behaviour related to products containing nanomaterials

This chapter covers general habits of reading safety information when buying a product for the first time and willingness to pay a higher price for potentially safer products. The key question of this chapter is also the willingness to purchase various types of products if they contain nanomaterials including spontaneous reasons for reservations towards them.

List of questions analysed in this chapter (questions marked with an asterisk are open-ended):

**Q7. When buying a new product for the first time, do you read safety information to determine whether the product is safe to be used in the way you intend to use it?**

- a. Yes, always
- b. Sometimes, when I have doubts whether the product is safe or not
- c. No, never

**Q8. When deciding between buying two products with the same functional properties, which of the following statements would you agree with?**

- a. I am willing to pay a much higher price (over 20%) for the product which is less harmful to my health and/or the environment
- b. I am willing to pay a slightly higher price (1-20%) for the product which is less harmful to my health and/or the environment
- c. I am not willing to pay a higher price for the product which is less harmful to my health and/or the environment

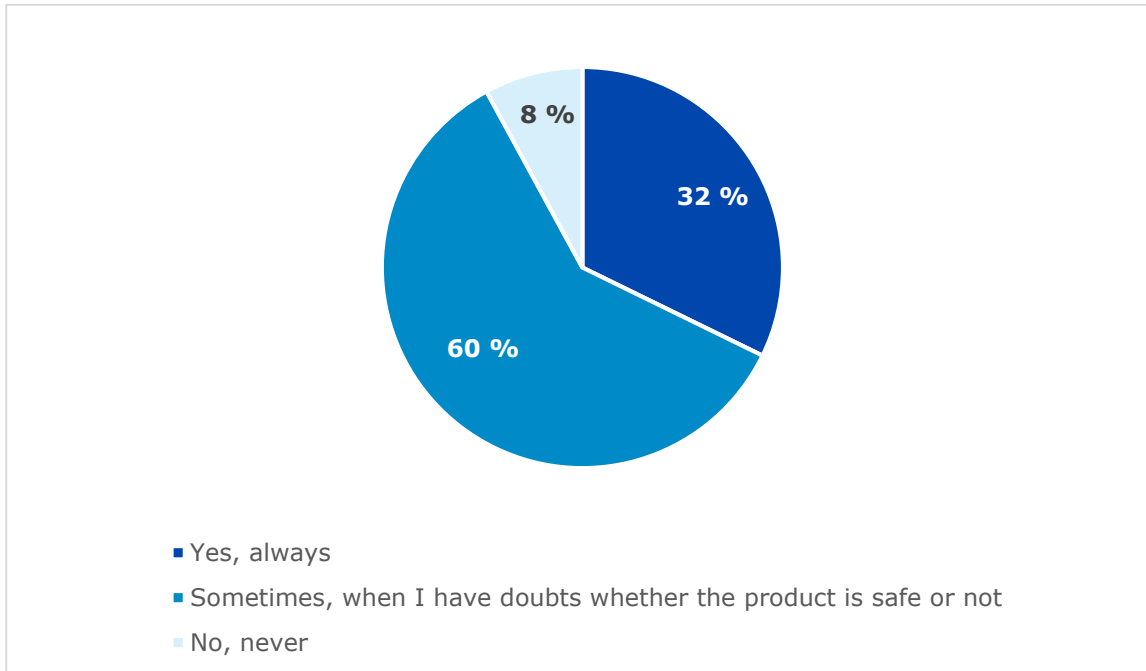
**Q9. Would you buy products from the following groups if they contained nanomaterials?**

	Yes, even more likely than products not containing nanomaterials	Yes, without any concern	Yes, but with some reservations	Definitely not	Main reasons why not:	DK, I can't decide
Cars	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Sports equipment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Medicines	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Paints/Varnishes/Surface coatings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Foods	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Plastics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Household electrical appliances	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Computers and electronics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Clothing/textiles	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Construction materials	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Detergents/household cleaning products	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Cosmetics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Toys	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Kitchenware	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Pesticides and plant protection products	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Car care products	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	

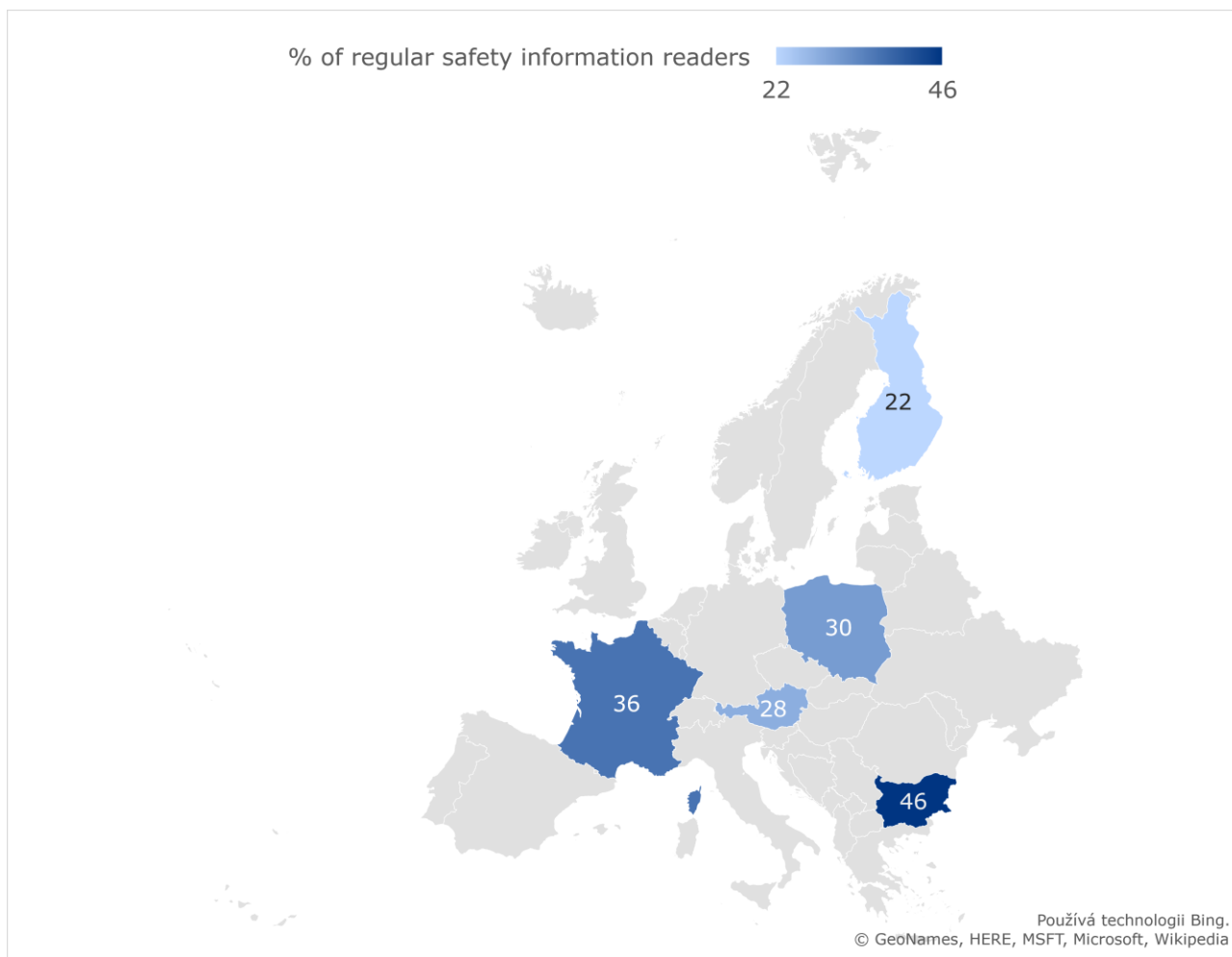
## Searching for information when buying goods

Only a third of respondents declared to be reading safety information regularly when buying a product for the first time. The fact that another 60% reads this information whenever in doubt about the safe use of a product indicates the importance of such information.

**Graph 12 - When buying a new product for the first time, do you read safety information to determine whether the product is safe to be used in the way you intend to use it? (N=5000, question Q7)**



**Cartogram 5 - Percentage of respondents who read safety information regularly when buying a new product** (*N=1000 per country, question Q7*)

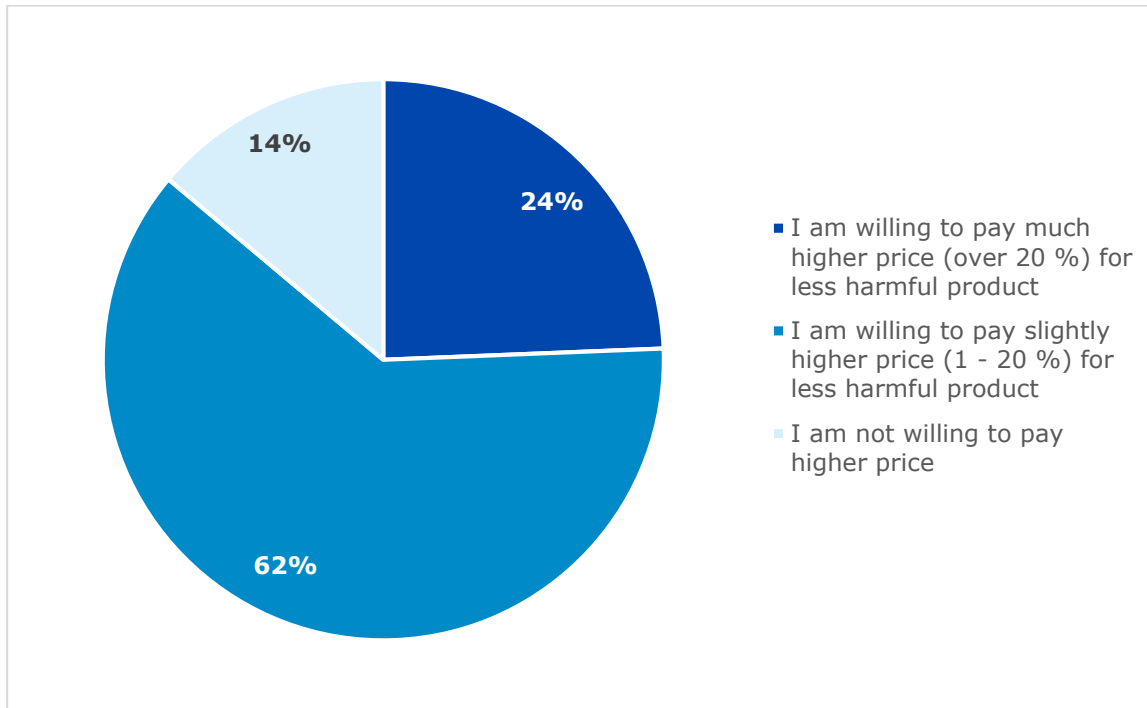


Bulgaria and France have the highest share of consumers that look for safety information regularly when buying a new product. Consumers in other countries, especially Finland, indicate a high level of trust in the products they are buying – besides the lowest percentage of consumers who read safety information about purchased products on a regular basis, the respondents from Finland also claim to trust the manufacturers of the products as well as the authorities more than the respondents from the other surveyed countries. A further reason for this, although not further investigated in this study, may be attributed to differences in labelling and information requirements to consumers in the individual countries.

## Willingness to buy, shopping habits

In line with the growing trend of a healthy lifestyle, people are willing to invest in safer products and goods. More than 80% are open to paying a higher price for products which are potentially safer to human health or the environment.

**Graph 13 - Willingness to pay a higher price for a potentially safer product (N=5000, question Q8)**



Willingness to pay more for safer products correlates with age. The higher the age, the lower the interest to pay a higher price. The same pattern was indicated for income and social-economic status.

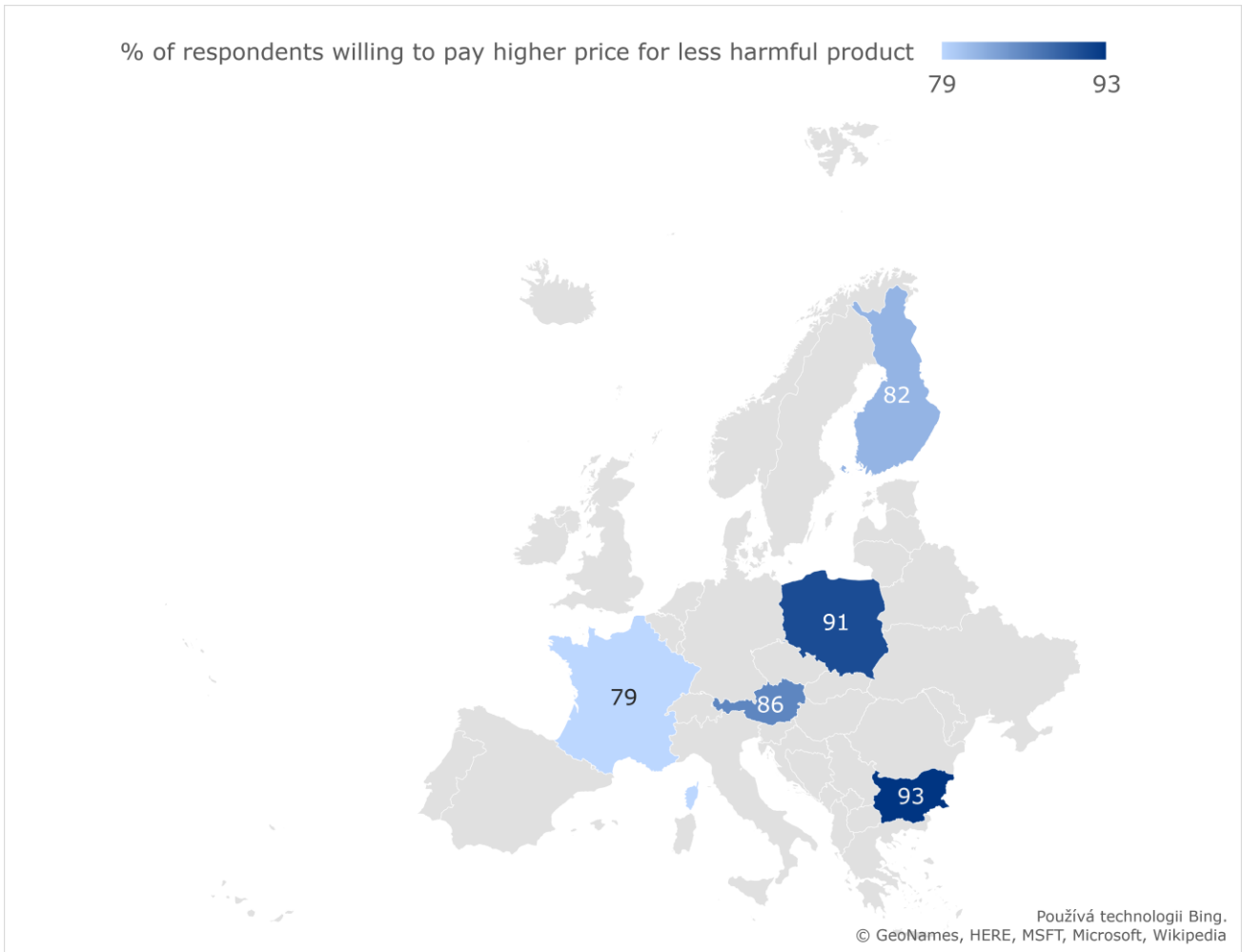
**Table 7 - Willingness to pay more for a safer product by age group**

VIEW BY AGE GROUPS					
answers in %	Total	16 - 29 years	30 - 39 years	40 - 49 years	50 - 60 years
Number of respondents	5000	1265	1268	1255	1212
willing to pay over 20 %	24	26	25	24	21
willing to pay + 1 – 20 %	62	64	62	61	60
not willing to pay higher price	14	10	12	15	18

*Hypothesis: "With the progressive ageing of the young generation, for example, Generation Z, the importance of healthy and safer products will grow".*

Even though the willingness to pay more for a safer product seemingly declines with age, it is assumed that the trend is more linked to generational lifestyle choices than age. As the younger generations are assumed to be more interested in a healthy lifestyle and care about the environment, their willingness to pay more is likely to persist in the future as their natural lifestyle choice.

**Cartogram 6 - Willingness to pay a higher price for a safer product** (*N=1000 per country, question Q8*)



According to the collected published studies, the public is less likely to buy food and personal care products containing nanomaterials/processed with nanotechnology than products without (Siegrist, Stampfli et al. 2009).

For nanotechnology-treated food packaging, the perceived benefits were still substantially higher than other products (Steenis and Fischer 2016).

However, most of the studies did not analyse shopping habits and public willingness to buy concerning nanotechnology.

## Purchase intentions for products containing nanomaterials

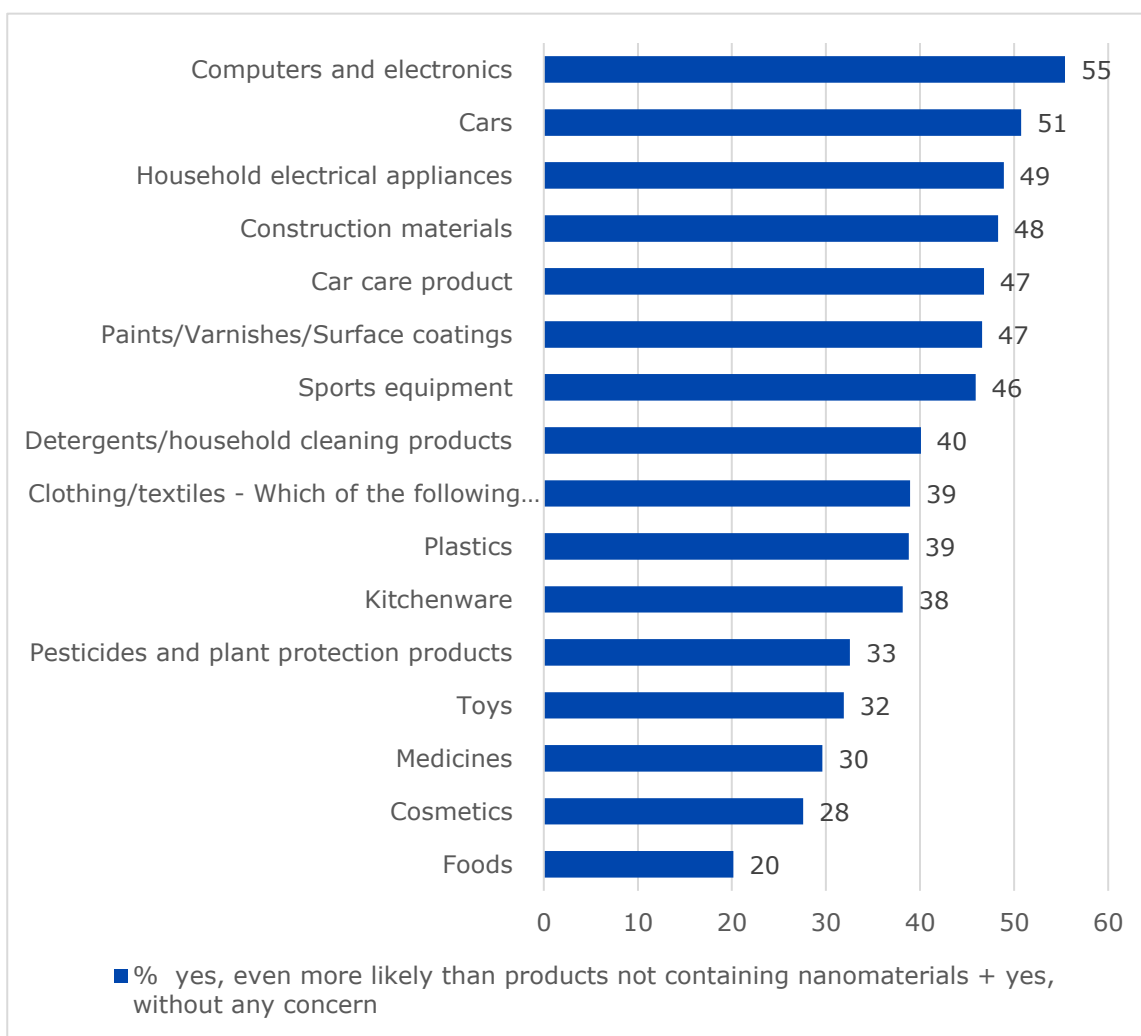
Regarding willingness to buy them, the types of products containing nanomaterials can be divided into three groups:

The first group represents products or goods of long-term usage with a high level of willingness to buy without any concern, particularly electronics, electrical appliances, cars or car products, paints or varnishes and sports equipment.

The second group are household cleaning products, textiles, clothing, or kitchenware. The willingness to buy these products if containing nanomaterials is still relatively high.

The last group are medicines, cosmetics, food and to some extent also toys. The respondents are the least likely to buy food containing nanomaterials, as they are not sure what effects on their health it can have.

**Graph 14 - Would you buy products from the following groups if they contained nanomaterials? (N=5000, question Q9)**



Willingness to buy products containing nanomaterials strongly correlates with the respondents' awareness of nanomaterials. If people are aware of nanomaterials or they are informed about their impact on human health and the environment, the consequent level of potential rejection is low.

*Hypothesis: "Transparent communication about a product's content should not be a crucial barrier for the future purchase or usage of the product".*



In 2007, in the German-speaking part of Switzerland, a survey about willingness to buy products using nanotechnology was launched. Only the people responsible for grocery shopping in their household were responding to the questionnaire after being given general information about nanotechnology. The willingness to buy the following products was studied:

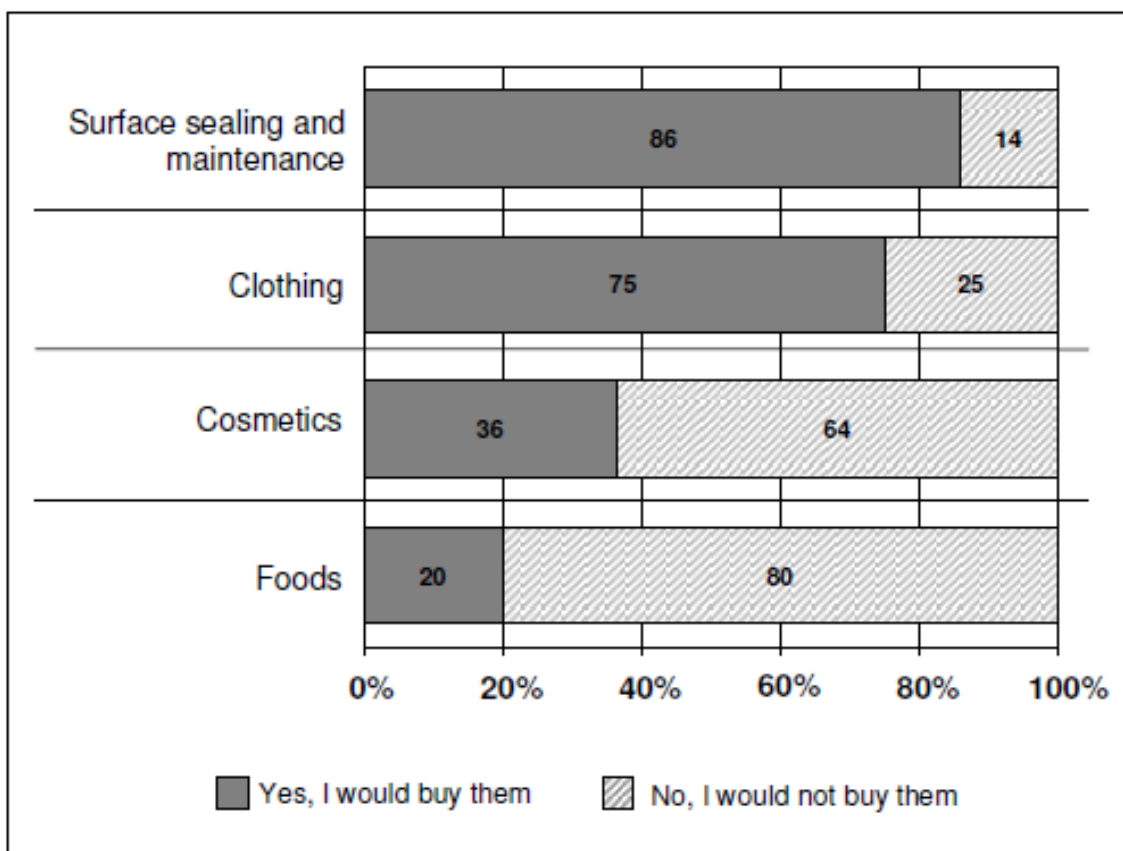
- Food packaging – antibacterial synthetic material containing nano-silver
- Tomatoes coated by applying nanotechnology
- Bread with integrated nanocapsules containing fish oil
- Juice with incorporated nano-beta-carotene

A description of risks and benefits was provided for each product. The respondents were highly reluctant to buy these products; however, they were more likely to buy the food packaging than the food treated by nanotechnology. The study, therefore, suggests that benefit alone does not guarantee acceptance (Siegrist, Cousin et al. 2007).

Another study conducted a year later in the same territory confirms the hypothesis that consumers are more likely to buy food packaging treated with nanotechnology than the food itself (Siegrist, Stampfli et al. 2008).

A 2008 study conducted by the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) (Zimmer, R. 2008) summarises its findings of consumers' willingness to buy products containing nanomaterials/treated by nanotechnologies in Figure 2.

**Figure 2 - Willingness to purchase nanoproducts in various product groups (Zimmer, R. 2008)**



A study about consumer acceptance of food nanotechnology in Italy in 2014 was conducted (Sodano, Gorgitano et al. 2016): "A questionnaire was administered to a sample of about 300 people to gather information about the willingness to buy six nano foods (namely: creamier ice cream with the same fat content; salt and sugar that do not form lumps with moisture; fruit juices enriched with bioactive molecules; bread enriched with Omega-3; plastic bottles for beer; antimicrobial food packaging for meat) and psychological characteristics, measured by several attitudinal scales. In order to study the influence of the attitudinal factors on the willingness to buy nanotechnology a simultaneous equations model was estimated, defining both its structural and reduced form.

*Findings – Respondents show a certain reluctance to buy foods produced using nanotechnologies. The estimates of the econometric model indicate that willingness to buy products containing nanomaterials is affected by the risks and benefits perceived with respect to the six nano foods under consideration; the level of neophobia, as captured through the food technology neophobia scale; and the level of trust in food industry.*

*... Our study confirmed some general results previously attained by other studies, that is a certain reluctance to buy foods produced using nanotechnologies due mainly to the following factors: a comparatively higher perception of risks associated with the new technologies than the expected benefits; a low level of trust; a certain degree of food technophobia. According to this view, policymakers should engage in communication aimed at increasing public acceptance, conveying information on benefits, and urging greater trust in industry and science. This would be in order to sidestep several of the mistakes made in the field of gene technology and stirring the commercialisation of the new nano products."*

The data from an Irish study in 2019 indicates that consumer acceptance and willingness to eat (a hypothetical product) decreased when nanotechnology was introduced. They also indicate that nanoparticle based surface coatings have higher levels of acceptance than nano-inside applications. However, the results also indicate that consumers evaluate products in terms of a combination of attributes and that negative utilities for some attributes (i.e. the use of nanotechnology) can sometimes be offset by the presence of another consumer relevant benefit (Henchion, McCarthy et al. 2019).

## **Purchase intentions for products containing nanomaterials outside the EU**

In a 2013 Australian study, of the 5 studied product categories offered to respondents of a survey, food was of most concern, followed by cosmetics/sunscreen, medicines, and pesticides with a similar level of concern raised among the general public. Tennis racquets and computers containing nanomaterials were of much lower concern to consumers (Capon, Gillespie et al. 2015).

Intentions of 565 New Zealanders to purchase lamb or beef made using nanotechnology were studied in 2006. In terms of agreement percentage, prevalent was the belief that eating the meat would feel unnatural. Most also agreed that animals used to make this product may suffer unforeseen health problems and most agreed that this food example would be unnatural. Almost one half agreed that the development of this product is more about making money than making better food. In addition, nearly one half believed there was a risk that the use of modified animals will result in the contamination of farmland (Cook and Fairweather 2007).

## Reasons for reservations when buying products containing nanomaterials

**Table 8 - Reasons for reservations when buying products containing nanomaterials** (FILTER: only those, who would not buy given products/goods due to nanomaterial content)

VIEW BY REASONS										
Answers in %	REASONS									
GOODS	Unnecessary to use	Harmful / Dangerous	Environment protection	No trust	Too expensive	Unhealthy	Unnatural	Unknown effects	Other reason	Do not know
Cars	19	14	11	9	2	-	-	-	9	38
Sports equipment	17	24	6	10	2	-	-	-	11	30
Medicines	7	34	1	22	-	-	-	-	15	21
Paints/Varnishes/Surface coatings	11	28	8	10	2	-	-	-	14	28
Foods	4	19	1	9	-	27	16	4	8	10
Plastics	12	20	17	8	1	3	1	3	13	23
Household electrical appliances	5	22	10	12	3	8	-	4	7	28
Computers and electronics	8	21	7	6	2	10	2	2	3	39
Clothing/textiles	7	13	5	10	-	31	7	4	4	19
Construction materials	10	17	7	9	2	12	2	4	7	31
Detergents/household cleaning products	15	22	13	13	1	0	0	0	15	22
Cosmetics	5	8	3	9	-	40	10	5	8	11
Toys	4	44	2	8		11	5	4	7	14
Kitchenware	8	39	5	10	1	11	4	4	5	13
Pesticides and plant protection products	4	19	16	7	1	7	14	2	17	14
Car care products	24	16	10	8	1	-	-	-	12	29

As demonstrated by Table 8, the most frequently mentioned reason in this study for reservations when buying products containing nanomaterials is generally the apprehension of unspecified possible negative impacts on human life. This standpoint indicates "the fear of unknown" without a direct link to health aspects.

The second most frequently mentioned concern is the potential adverse effects on human health, specifically with regard to products that are intended to be in direct contact with the human body (food, kitchenware, cosmetics, medicines, clothing/textiles, toys). The public considers the use of nanomaterials in these types of products to be unnatural, which indicates

a lack of awareness of the reasons and benefits of using such materials.

This is further confirmed by another spontaneously mentioned opinion of the public – the unnecessary of using nanomaterials (typically regarding the production of cars, sports equipment, detergents/household cleaning products and car care products).

The low awareness and level of knowledge about nanomaterials also projects into the high tendency of the respondents not to buy goods containing nanomaterials for unspecified reasons. Typically, this is the case for goods intended for long-term use – cars, sports equipment, paints/varnishes/surface coatings and household electrical appliances.

### 3.3 Risk perception

This chapter analyses the personal attitudes of the respondents towards selected new trends, technologies, or areas in terms of their possible impact on one's life and health.

List of questions analysed in this chapter (questions marked with an asterisk are open-ended):

**Q10. What is your personal attitude to the following new trends, technologies, or areas in terms of possible impact on your life?**

	<i>I am concerned about possible negative impacts on my life</i>	<i>I'm not worried about possible negative impact on my life</i>	<i>I do not care</i>	<i>Cannot say</i>
Nanomaterials	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Biofuels from genetically modified crops	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mobile phones	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Self-driving (autonomous) cars	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Foods from genetically modified crops	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Asbestos	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social networks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pesticides and plant protection products	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Plastic wastes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Globalisation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Electronics and computers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Artificial intelligence	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Global warming	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Q11. With regard to health, the main issue is not to what extent you are exposed to harmful materials, but whether or not you are exposed to them at all.**

- a. Completely disagree
- b. Rather disagree
- c. Neither nor
- d. Rather agree
- e. Completely agree
- f. DK, cannot say

**Q12. If a person is exposed to an extremely small amount of a material that is harmful at larger amounts, then that person will probably be seriously ill some day in the future, even if the amount is extremely small.**

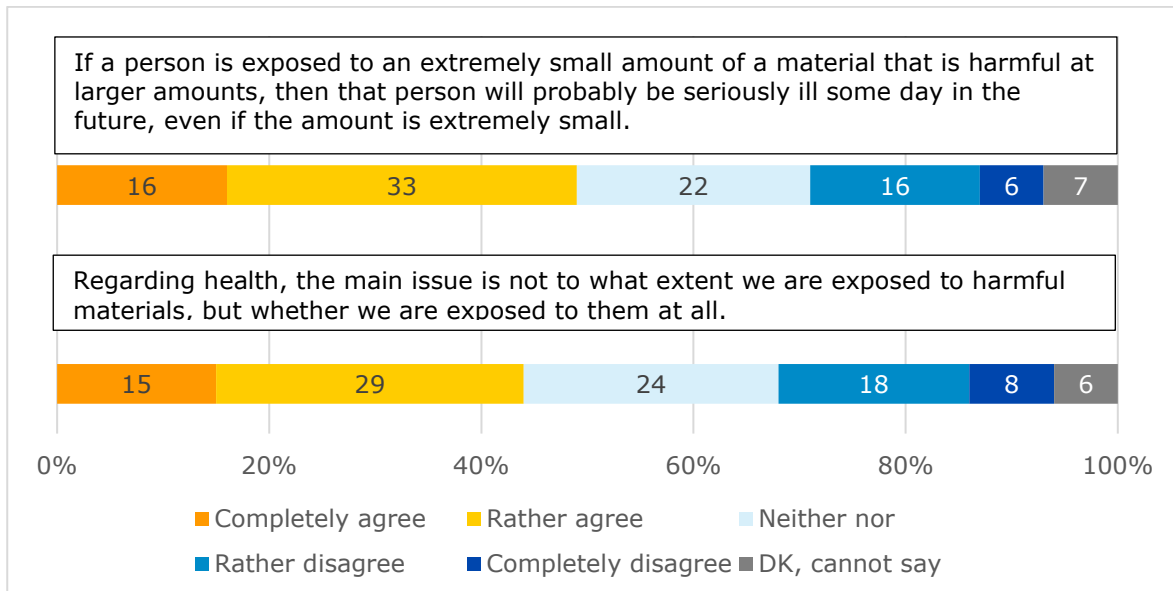
- a. Completely disagree
- b. Rather disagree
- c. Neither nor
- d. Rather agree
- e. Completely agree
- f. DK, cannot say

## General attitudes to health risks

Respondents perceive health risks as an important issue, at least on a declarative level they are quite vigilant (almost half of the surveyed population).

Health risk vigilance is typical mainly for Bulgaria and France. Finland is significantly more benevolent in this matter.

**Graph 15 - Attitude to health risks** (N=5000, questions Q12, Q11)



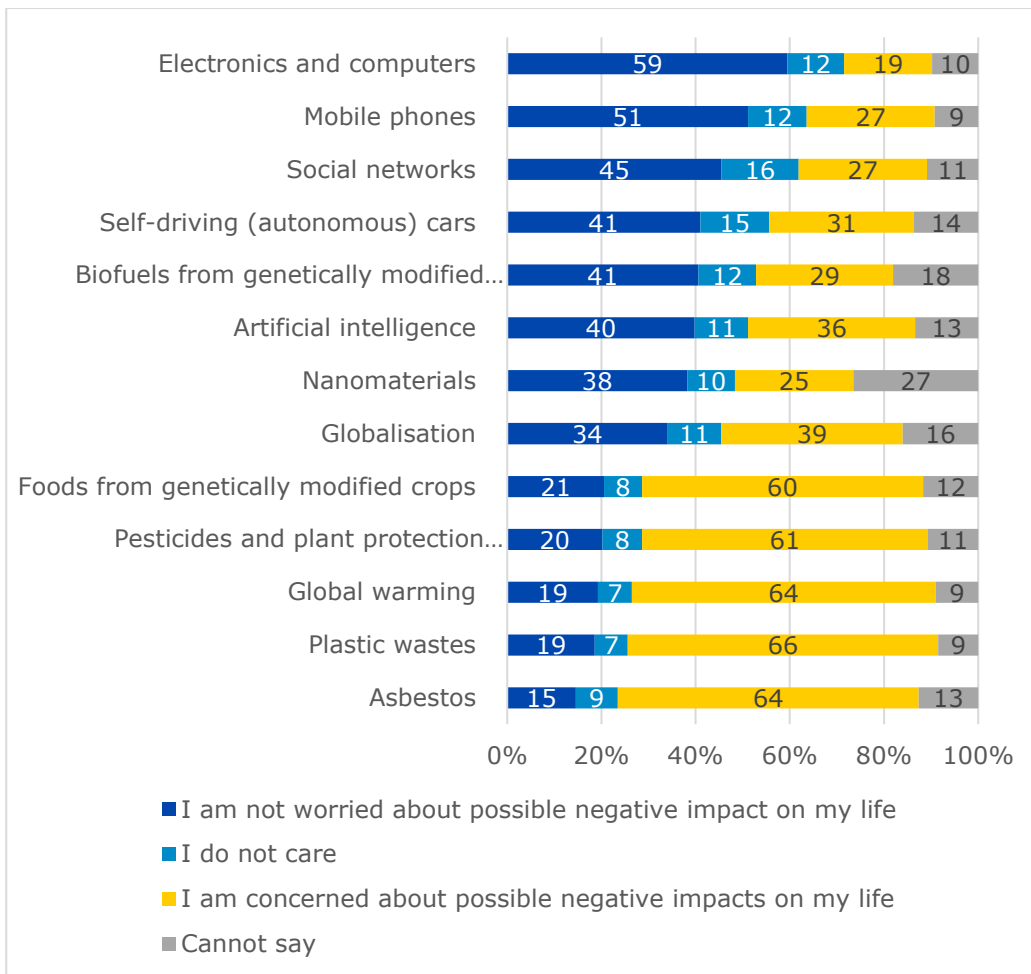
Health risks vigilance slightly differs according to demographical aspects. A more vigilant attitude is more common among women, people over 40, those with a higher level of education and people for whom religion plays an important role.

## Attitudes to new trends and possible impact on everyday life

When asking the respondents about the perceived impact of selected global issues, phenomena and technologies on their life, asbestos, plastic wastes, global warming, genetically modified crops and plant protection products are among those raising the most concern. On the contrary, concerns are almost insignificant in technology areas (such as computers, mobiles, autonomous cars etc.).

In comparison with other new trends and technologies, slightly more than one-third of the respondents are worried about possible impacts of nanomaterials on their lives, which is around the same level as generally accepted areas - electronics, computers, social networks etc.

**Graph 16 - What is your personal attitude to the following new trends, technologies, or areas in terms of the possible impact on your life? (N=5000, question Q10)**



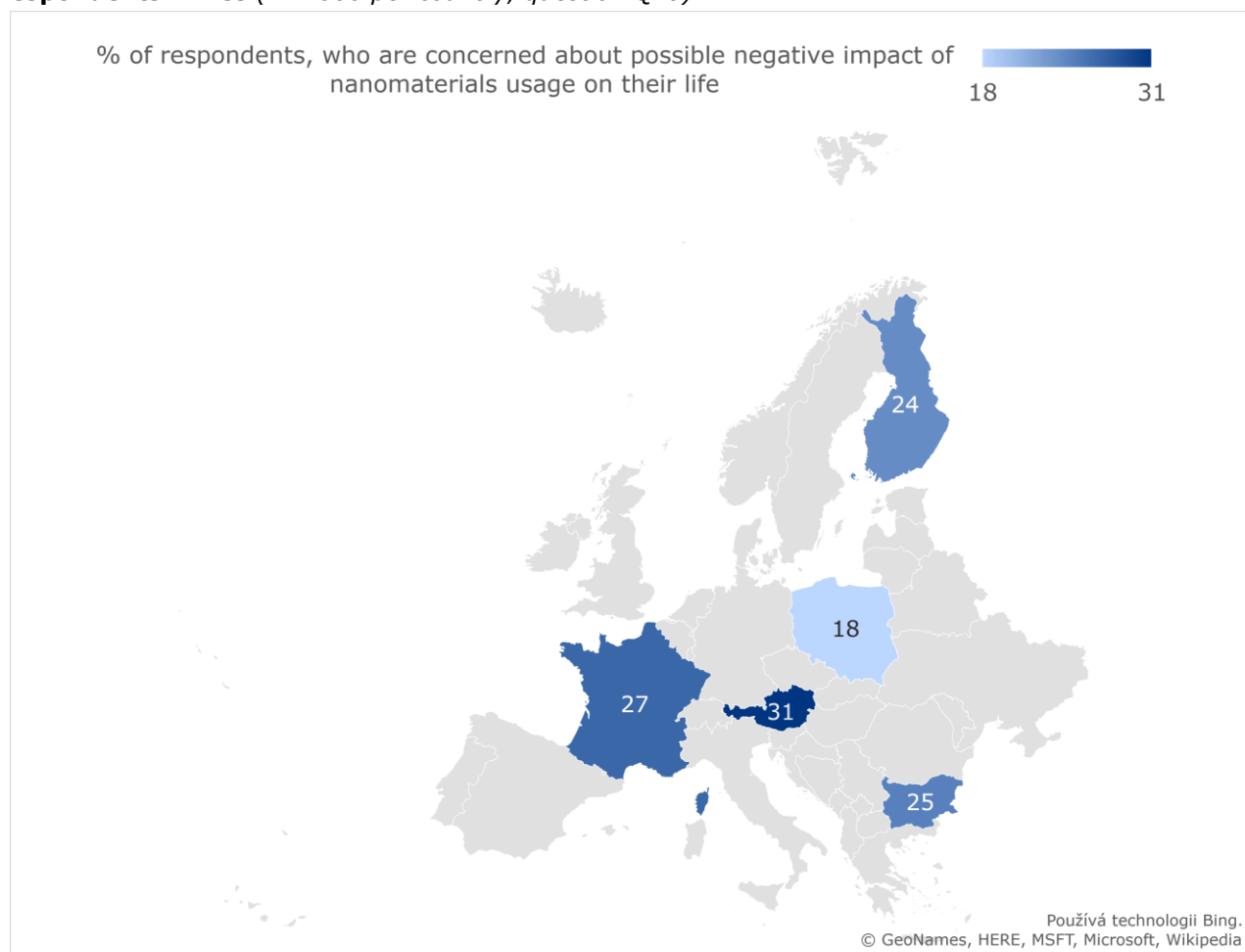
Concerns about the potential negative impact on respondents' lives associated with nanomaterials do not differ dramatically between individual countries.

**Table 9 - Concerns about the potential negative impact of nanomaterials on respondents' lives**

VIEW BY LEVEL OF WHAT PEOPLE HEARD ABOUT NANOMATERIALS				
Concern level related to nanomaterials	Total	What people heard about nanomaterials		
		Nothing at all	A little	A lot
<i>Number of respondents</i>	5000	1752	2703	545
I am concerned about possible negative impacts on my life	25%	21%	27%	30%
I am not worried about possible negative impact on my life	38%	23%	45%	57%
I do not know + I do not care	37%	57%	28%	14%

The standpoint of "I don't know" or "I don't care" is primarily declared by the respondents with no awareness of nanomaterials. The higher the knowledge, the lower the concern about the negative impact of nanomaterials on one's life.

**Cartogram 7 - Level of concern about the potential negative impact of nanomaterials on respondents' lives (N=1000 per country, question Q10)**





### 3.4 Risk perception of nanomaterials

This chapter covers the public perception of the safety of products containing nanomaterials and concerns about being exposed to them. Spontaneous perception of risks and benefits of nanomaterials is studied as well as its change after providing the respondents with short information about the properties of nanomaterials and/or their risks and/or their benefits.

List of questions analysed in this chapter (questions with an asterisk are open-ended):

**Q13. Would you say that products containing nanomaterials are:**

- a. ...safer to use than products that do not contain nanomaterials
- b. ...equally safe to use as products that do not contain nanomaterials
- c. ...less safe to use than products that do not contain nanomaterials
- d. I cannot decide

**Q14. To what extent do you believe that risks (if any) associated with nanomaterials may be eliminated when nanomaterials are used in a proper way?**

- a. Completely disagree
- b. Rather disagree
- c. Neither nor
- d. Rather agree
- e. Completely agree
- f. DK, cannot say

**Q15. Are you concerned about being exposed to nanomaterials?**

- a. Not at all
- b. A little
- c. A lot

**Q16. What are the risks that you associate with nanomaterials?**

- a. So far unknown properties of nanomaterials
- b. Difficult prevention of exposure (tiny particles can get anywhere)
- c. Other, please specify
- d. None

**Q17. Which way do you feel is the most likely for people to be directly exposed to nanomaterials?**

- a. Inhalation (by breathing)
- b. Dermal (by skin contact)
- c. Oral (by swallowing)
- d. None of the above

**Q18. Now that you have some further information, are you concerned about being exposed to nanomaterials?**

- a. Not at all
- b. A little
- c. A lot

**Q19. With this information on nanomaterials, how do you estimate the risks and benefits for the following uses?**

<b>Use of nanomaterials for...</b>	<i>The risks associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the benefits.</i>	<i>The risks associated with using nanomaterials will slightly exceed the benefits.</i>	<i>The benefits associated with using nanomaterials slightly exceed the risks.</i>	<i>The benefits associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the risks.</i>	<i>Cannot say</i>
<i>... a reduction of the salt content in foods while retaining the same taste</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... the enrichment of foods with vitamins and other nutrients</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... indoor paint that prevents the accumulation of odours (e.g. cigarette smoke)</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... an increase in the efficiency of sunscreen</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... active substances of skin cream that reach deeper skin layers</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... the prevention of the occurrence of unpleasant odours in textiles</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... improving texture or colour of foods</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... developing new tastes of foods and flavours</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... extending shelf-life by maintaining or improving the condition of packaged foods</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... drugs which release their active substance in a concentration at the desired spot</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... the repair of damaged tooth (teeth filling or coating)</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>...more efficient cleaning of wastewater</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... strengthening the rubber in tyres and other rubber products</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... making plastics (e.g. PET bottles) more durable</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... keeping children's toys clean (reducing bacteria) and making them last longer</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... protecting plants against pests/diseases</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## **Public perception of risks linked to nanomaterials**

Areas, where consumers perceived risks of nanotechnology in the past are the following (sorted according to its relative importance to the consumers – number of their mentions in the researched studies):

- Health risks (accumulation in the body, carcinogenicity, penetrating the blood/brain barrier, harmful food production, etc.)
- Harm to the environment (mainly risks of pollution and contamination of air and water)
- Loss of personal privacy (invisible surveillance devices, mind control)
- Use in weapons (arms race, terrorism)
- Uncertainty about the possible risks coming from an insufficient level of knowledge
- Economic disruption (worsening of the wealth gap, jobs loss, increase of public expenses)
- Uncontrollable spread of self-replicating nanorobots

Generally, the public was concerned about the risks more than the expert groups (researchers, scientists, technology professionals).

An inverse association could have been observed between the level of knowledge about nano and the level of concern about its risks, i.e. the higher the general awareness about nanomaterials is, the less concern the consumers tend to have.

Most respondents perceived the benefits of nanotechnology as outweighing the risks.

Benefits of nanotechnology and nanomaterials as perceived by the consumers were the following (sorted by the author according to its relative importance to the consumers – number of their mentions in the researched studies):

- Development of nanomedicine – better ways to diagnose diseases, targeted drug administration, etc.
- Better care of the environment – water and air treatment, etc.
- Improvement of the quality of life (cheaper, better products)
- New materials and computing
- Economic growth
- Increased national security and defence
- Solution to energy problems
- Food applications
- New opportunities in the job market

The Following is a collection of statements derived from the verbiage contributed by Survey 2001 respondents to provide an overview of concerns associated with nanotechnology. Their relative occurrence was not specified in the study (Bainbridge 2002).

- *The implications of nanotechnology are not fully understood, because it is relatively new.*
- *It is hard to be sure whether human beings will or will not benefit greatly from the use of nanotechnology.*
- *It is hard to evaluate nanotechnology until scientific advance actually produces some applications.*
- *Nanotechnology faces some almost insurmountable theoretical problems.*
- *Proponents of nanotechnology have greatly underestimated the difficulties that must be faced before achieving their most ambitious goals. Nanotechnology may not prove practical outside the laboratory.*
- *It is hard to see how we could benefit from nanotechnology.*
- *Nanotechnology will be applied to some special problems, but it will not greatly benefit mankind.*
- *The impact of nanotechnology is a very complicated issue, since a benefit for one person might harm another.*
- *Old jobs replaced by nanotechnology will be substituted by new jobs related to nanotechnology.*
- *Nanotechnology can be both beneficial and deadly.*
- *We must be cautious in the application of nanotechnology, lest we create unforeseeable conditions that might harm our civilization.*
- *It is still too early to tell how best to use nanotechnology.*
- *The potential benefits of nanotechnology pale in comparison to the bounty that nature has already provided us.*
- *Nanotechnology has the potential to unleash unknown dangers.*
- *Nanotechnology goes against Nature, so it is best left unexplored.*
- *Research in areas like nanotechnology is making us less human.*
- *If we begin to build based on nanotechnology, not only will we be overpopulating with people, but also with structures, materials, and machines.*
- *People's civil liberties will be threatened by the use of nanotechnology in information gathering.*
- *Nanotechnology will make it difficult for an individual to assess whether privacy of body, home or personal life in general is being invaded and manipulated.*
- *The products resulting from nanotechnology will be too expensive for the majority of people.*
- *Corporations will benefit from things like nanotechnology, but individual human beings will find their lot worsened.*
- *The problem with nanotechnology is that it is driven by the profit motive and not by the benefit which can be derived through the breakthroughs.*
- *The biggest risk of nanotechnology is a widening gap between wealthy nations with access to the new technology and nations that do not have access.*
- *We do not have the social maturity to deal with the possible conflicts that may arise from nanotechnology."*

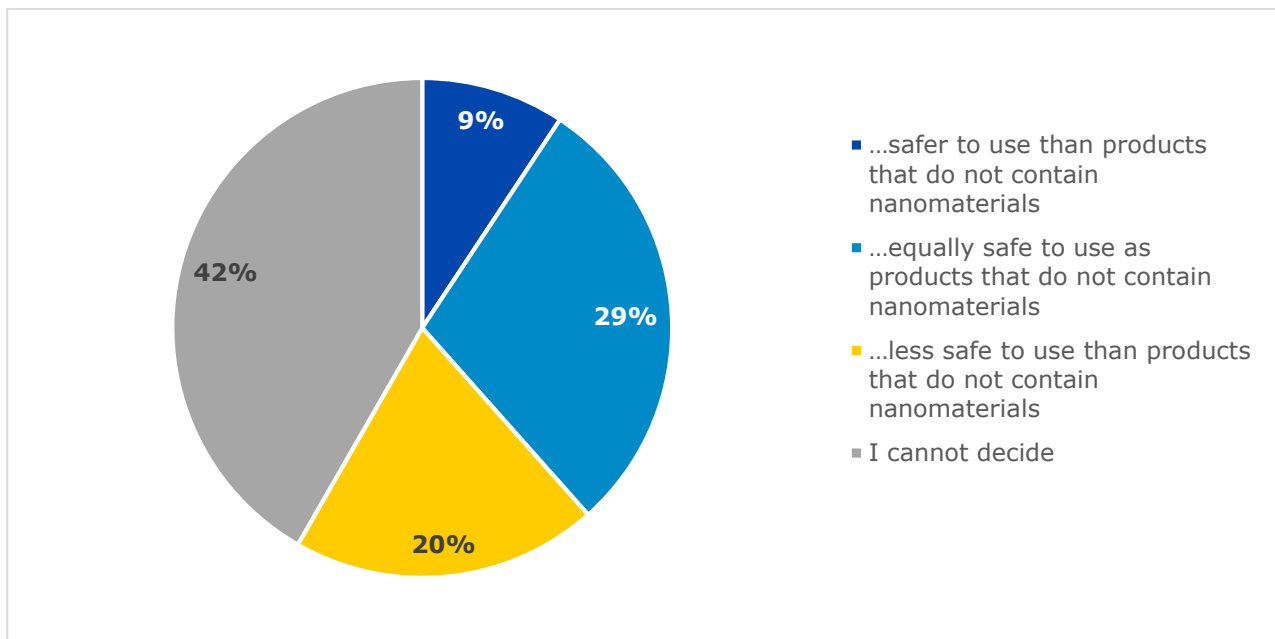
In a study carried out in Switzerland in 2006, 70 citizens feared that nanoparticles might enter the human body and cross the blood-brain barrier, and they were worried that nanoparticles might accumulate in the environment, or that they might be harmful when being integrated

into food. Some people also mentioned that this research might increase a divide between rich and poor countries and that it might result in the loss of certain jobs (Burri and Bellucci 2008).

Eurobarometer 64.3 (Christensen 2009) studied the perception of risks associated with nanomaterials on 28694 respondents in 2002 with the following results:

- 8.6% were very confident in the safety of nanotechnology
- 47.5% were fairly confident
- 29.1% were not very confident
- 14.9% were not confident at all
- 9% totally agreed that nanotechnologies are risky for society
- 28.8% tend to agree
- 44.9% tend to disagree
- 17.4% totally disagreed

**Graph 17 - Would you say that products containing nanomaterials are...** (N=5000, question Q13)



Safety attitudes to products containing nanomaterials strongly correlate with age. The higher the respondent's age, the less safe the products containing nanomaterials seem to the consumers.

**Table 10 - Attitudes about the safety of products containing nanomaterials**

VIEW BY AGE GROUPS					
answers in %	Total	16 - 29 years	30 - 39 years	40 - 49 years	50 - 60 years
<i>Number of respondents</i>	5000	1265	1268	1255	1212
Safer or equally safe than products that do not contain nanomaterials	38%	42%	40%	37%	34%

Answers to the question “To what extent do you believe that risks (if any) associated with nanomaterials may be eliminated when nanomaterials are used properly?” indicate a significant level of optimism.

Similarly to previous questions about safety, acceptance of the use of nanomaterials in a proper way goes mainly across Poland and Bulgaria. However, Austria, France and Finland countries are more or less cautioned, Austria especially.

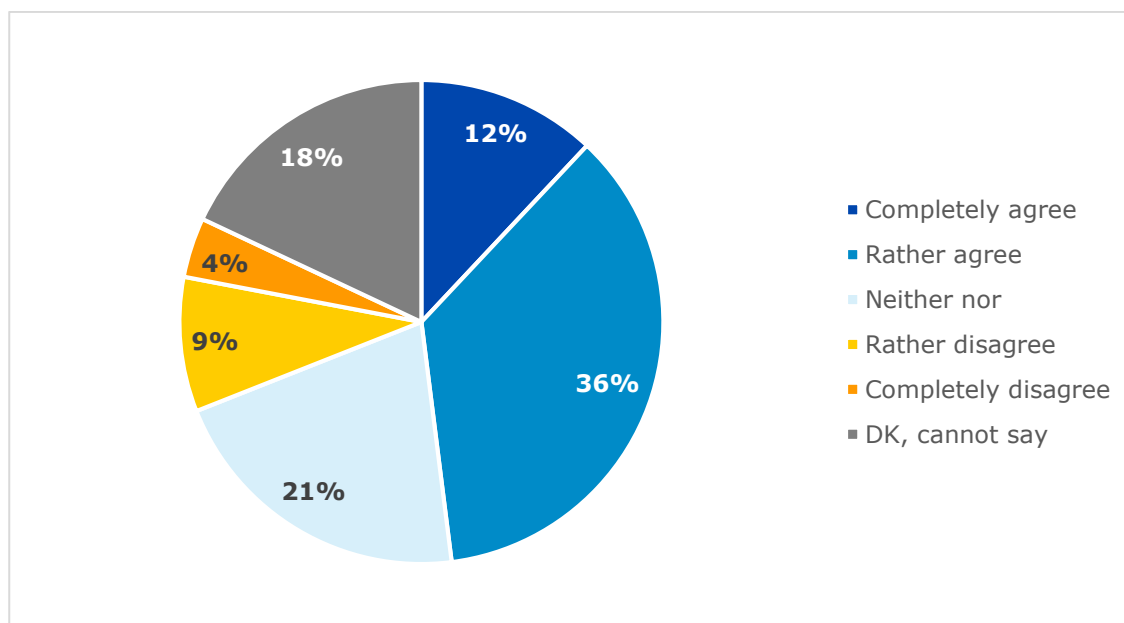
Safety attitudes to products containing nanomaterials also strongly correlated with the level of nanomaterials awareness, see Table 11.

**Table 11 - Attitudes to the safety of products containing nanomaterials and nanomaterials awareness**

VIEW BY LEVEL OF NANOMATERIALS AWARENESS (what people heard about nanomaterials)				
	Total	Nothing at all	A little	A lot
Number of respondents	5000	1752	2703	545
Products containing nanomaterials are safer or equally safe than products which do not contain nanomaterials	38%	23%	43%	63%

The survey results confirmed the hypothesis that the higher the knowledge about nanomaterials, the higher the certainty of a respondent that nanomaterials are safer or equally safe than traditional products. This correlation indicates the need to educate the public about nanomaterials as a common part of everyday life.

**Graph 18 - To what extent do you believe that risks (if any) associated with nanomaterials may be eliminated when nanomaterials are used properly? (N=5000, question Q14)**



Possible exposure of people to nanomaterials certainly does not cause panic. Only a marginal group represented by 7% of all respondents is concerned about possible risks.

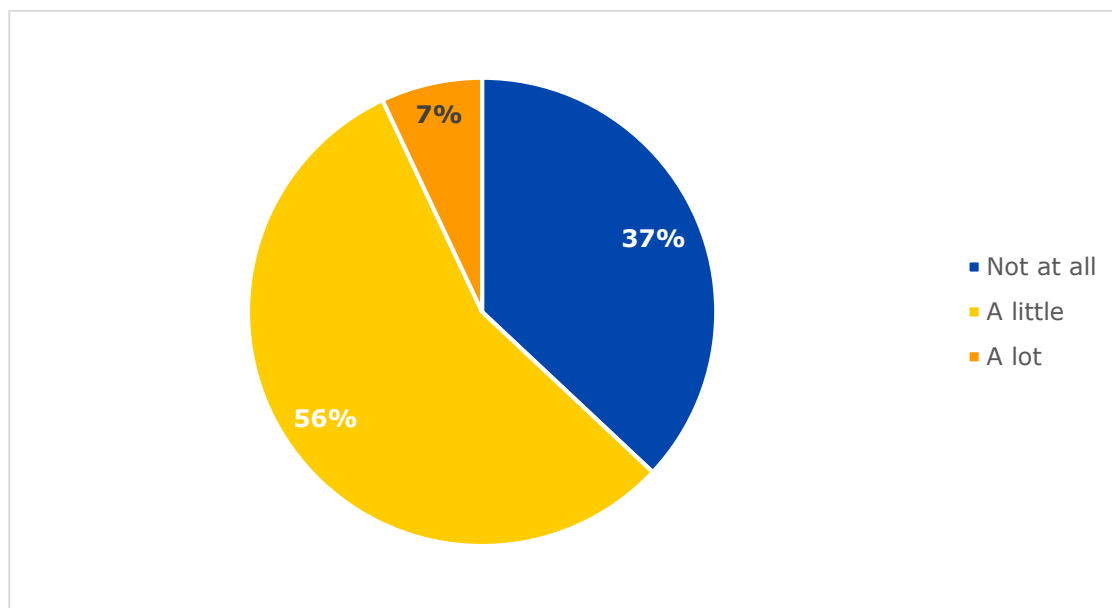
People concerned about potential risks typically have the lowest levels of education, however, the level of knowledge about nanomaterials does not affect this disquieting attitude. The group of people declaring strong concerns about being exposed to nanomaterials is relatively homogenous in terms of nanomaterials awareness.

Conversely, the trust in nanomaterials safety (if they are used properly) strongly correlates with the level of nanomaterials awareness (see Table 12).

**Table 12 - The level of agreement that the risks (if any) associated with nanomaterials may be eliminated by their proper use**

VIEW BY LEVEL OF NANOMATERIALS AWARENESS (what people heard about nanomaterials)				
	Total	Nothing at all	A little	A lot
<i>Number of respondents</i>	5000	1752	2703	545
% of answer: <b>rather agree + definitely agree</b>	48%	33%	53%	67%

**Graph 19 - Are you concerned about being exposed to nanomaterials? (N=5000, question Q15)**



Similarly, the level of awareness correlates with the respondents' concern about being exposed to nanomaterials (see Table 13).

**Table 13 - Concerns about nanomaterials exposure**

VIEW BY LEVEL OF NANOMATERIALS AWARENESS (what people heard about nanomaterials)				
% of answers	Total	Nothing at all	A little	A lot
<i>Number of respondents</i>	5000	1752	2703	545
not at all	37%	32%	38%	50%
a little	56%	59%	57%	42%
a lot	7%	9%	5%	8%

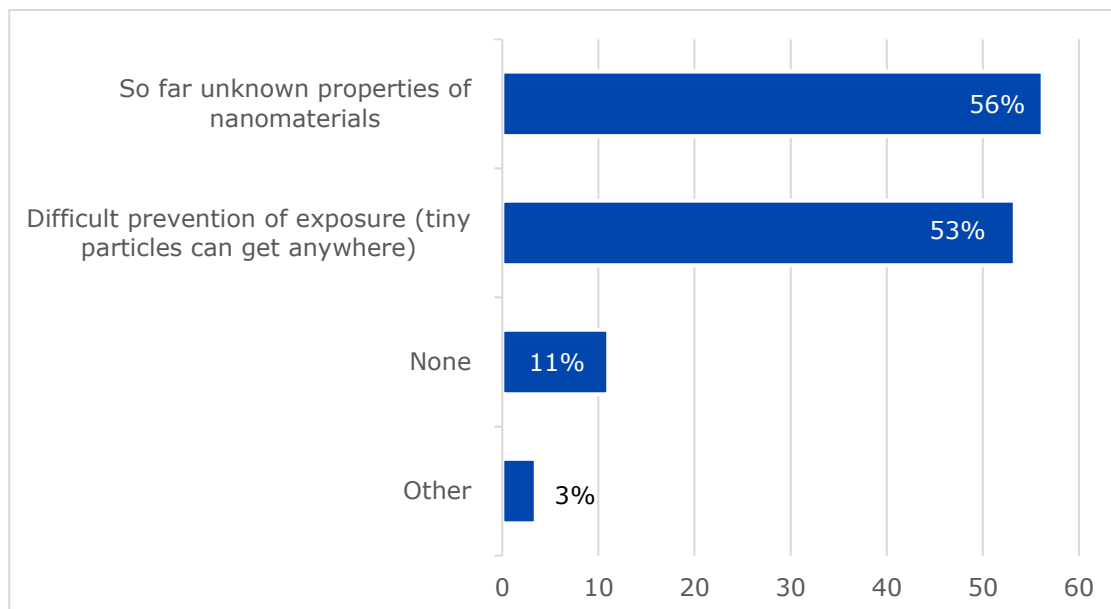
The least concern about potential exposure to nanomaterials is among the respondents who declare extensive knowledge about nanomaterials. The lower the level of knowledge about nanomaterials is, the higher are the concerns about being exposed to them.



## Potential risks of nanomaterials

The potential risks perceived are most often associated with the unknown properties of nanomaterials as well as the respondents' inability to avoid or limit exposure effectively. This attitude again resonates with a low level of understanding about nanomaterials (illustrated by Table 14).

**Graph 20 - Perceived risks associated with nanomaterials (What are the risks that you associate with nanomaterials?)** (N=5000, question Q16)



Concerns related to various ways of exposure to nanomaterials do not represent a strong threat. Out of three answer options, skin contact seems to be the most often perceived risk.

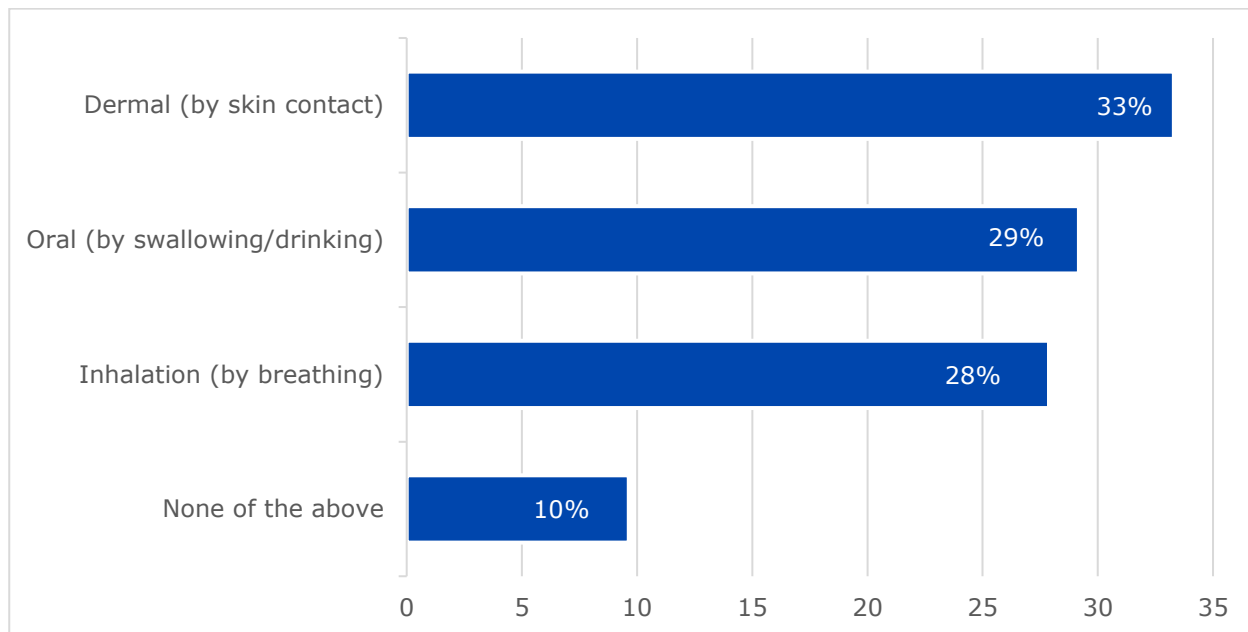
Surprisingly, these attitudes are not strongly differentiated by various demographic aspects.

**Table 14 - Perceived risks associated with nanomaterials**

PERCEIVED RISKS VS. NANOMATERIALS AWARENESS (what people heard about nanomaterials)				
% of answers	Total	Nothing at all	A little	A lot
<i>Number of respondents</i>	5000	1752	2703	545
So far unknown properties of nanomaterials	56%	51%	59%	60%
Difficult prevention of exposure (tiny particles can get anywhere)	53%	49%	56%	55%

Some disconcertion related to the unknown properties of nanomaterials is typical for Bulgaria and Finland while difficulties in preventing exposure to nanomaterials are of more concern among respondents from Austria and Finland.

**Graph 21 - Route of exposure to nanomaterials perceived to be most likely (N=5000, question Q17)**



Results from individual countries show slight variation as shown by Table 15.

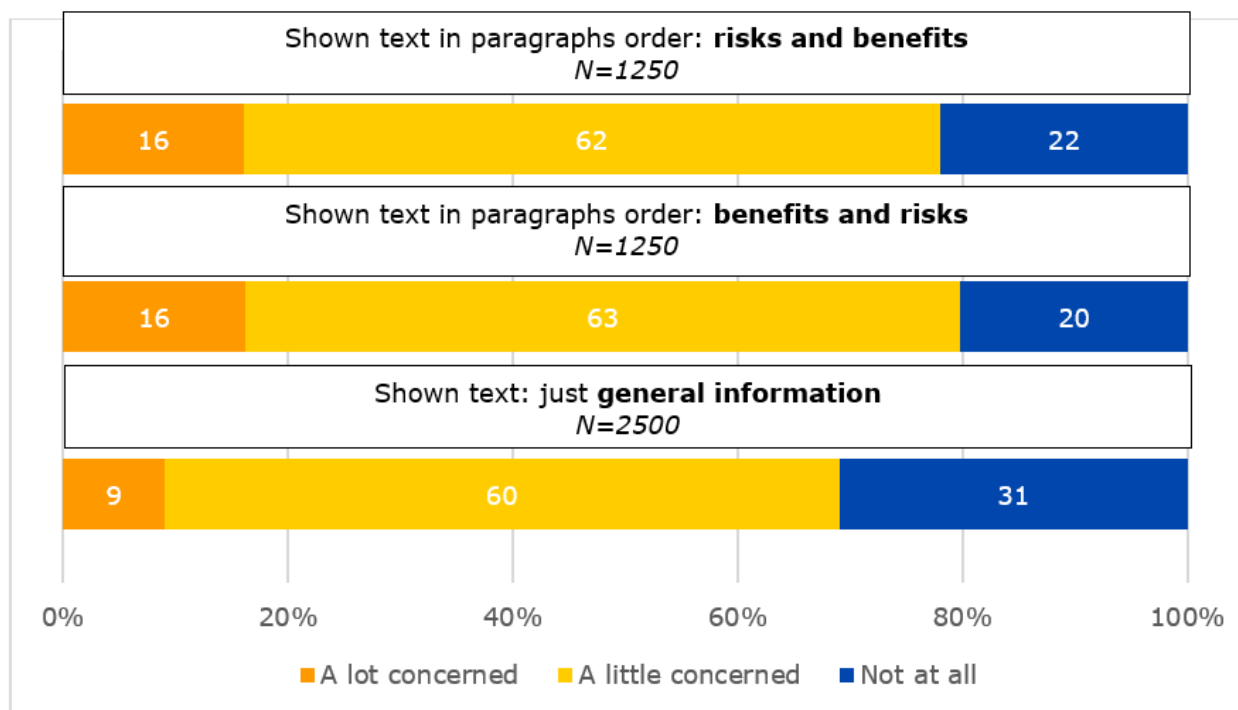
**Table 15 - Route of exposure to nanomaterials perceived to be most likely in individual countries**

VIEW BY COUNTRIES						
	Total	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
<i>Number of respondents</i>	3248	669	779	657	441	702
Inhalation (by breathing, %)	28	31	16	26	33	33
Dermal (by skin contact, %)	33	30	39	35	28	36
Oral (by swallowing/drinking, %)	29	25	35	31	31	25
None of the above (%)	10	14	11	8	9	6

## Explanatory text about nanomaterials – the impact of communication on attitudes

Before asking the following two questions on exposure to nanomaterials, different variants of the text describing nanomaterials were presented to the respondents.

**Graph 22 - Now that you have some further information, are you concerned about being exposed to nanomaterials? (question Q18)**



Half of the respondents were presented with the following relatively neutral text:

### **General information:**

*Nanomaterials contain particles with a size of one-millionth of a millimetre (that's how thin a human hair split 50,000 times is). Materials made up of these particles have special physical, chemical and biological properties.*

The other half was presented with a text describing the benefits of nanomaterials as well as risks in varying order. Half of them received a description of benefits first, then a description of risks and the other half in the reverse order.

### **Benefits-oriented paragraph:**

*Several scientists are assuming significant progress through nanotechnology. Even today, nanomaterials can improve the properties of paints, clothing, and cosmetics. In the future, they may contribute among other things, to treating diseases more effectively, making food keep for longer, improving computers and repairing environmental damage. That's why they could possibly even trigger a new economic boom.*

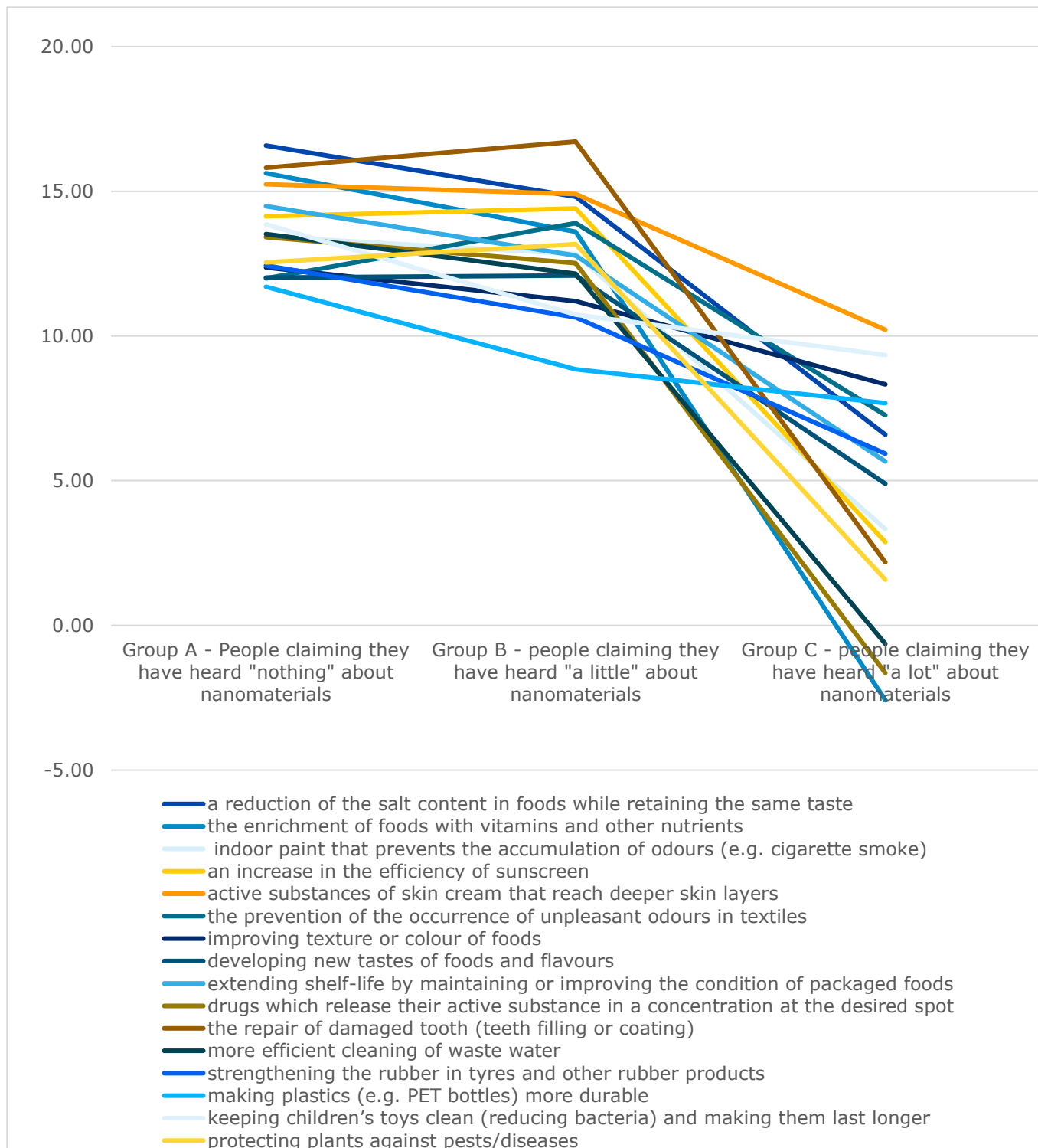
### **Risks-oriented paragraph:**

*Several scientists have pointed out the possible risks of nanotechnology. Nanomaterials could for example penetrate into organisms and endanger our health. They could promote resistance to certain bacteria and possibly cause cancer. They might also pollute the environment. Wider use of nanomaterials and more intensive research began just 20 years ago, some risks associated with the use of nanomaterials may have not yet been discovered.*

This approach was used to determine the possible impact of communication on respondents' behaviour depending on the specific content and messages given by the text.

The results indicate that any communication about nanomaterials that also warns of potential risks finally affects respondents' attitudes and consequently their behaviour.

**Graph 23 - The percentual difference in concerns about uses of nanomaterials in different areas after presenting information about the risks of nanomaterials**



Those who have been provided with the text about nanomaterials describing, among other aspects, information about possible risks, declare stronger concern. This group is represented more often by those who initially had no information about nanomaterials. However, well-informed people did not change their attitudes significantly based on the description provided by the survey text. Graph 23 describes this phenomenon in detail. In this graph, we can see the percentual difference in respondents' concerns about different uses of nanomaterials after

presenting them with information about nanomaterial risks. The increase in the subjective concerns of respondents who claimed to have heard “a lot” about nanomaterials is significantly lower than of those who have heard “nothing” or “a little” about nanomaterials prior to the survey.

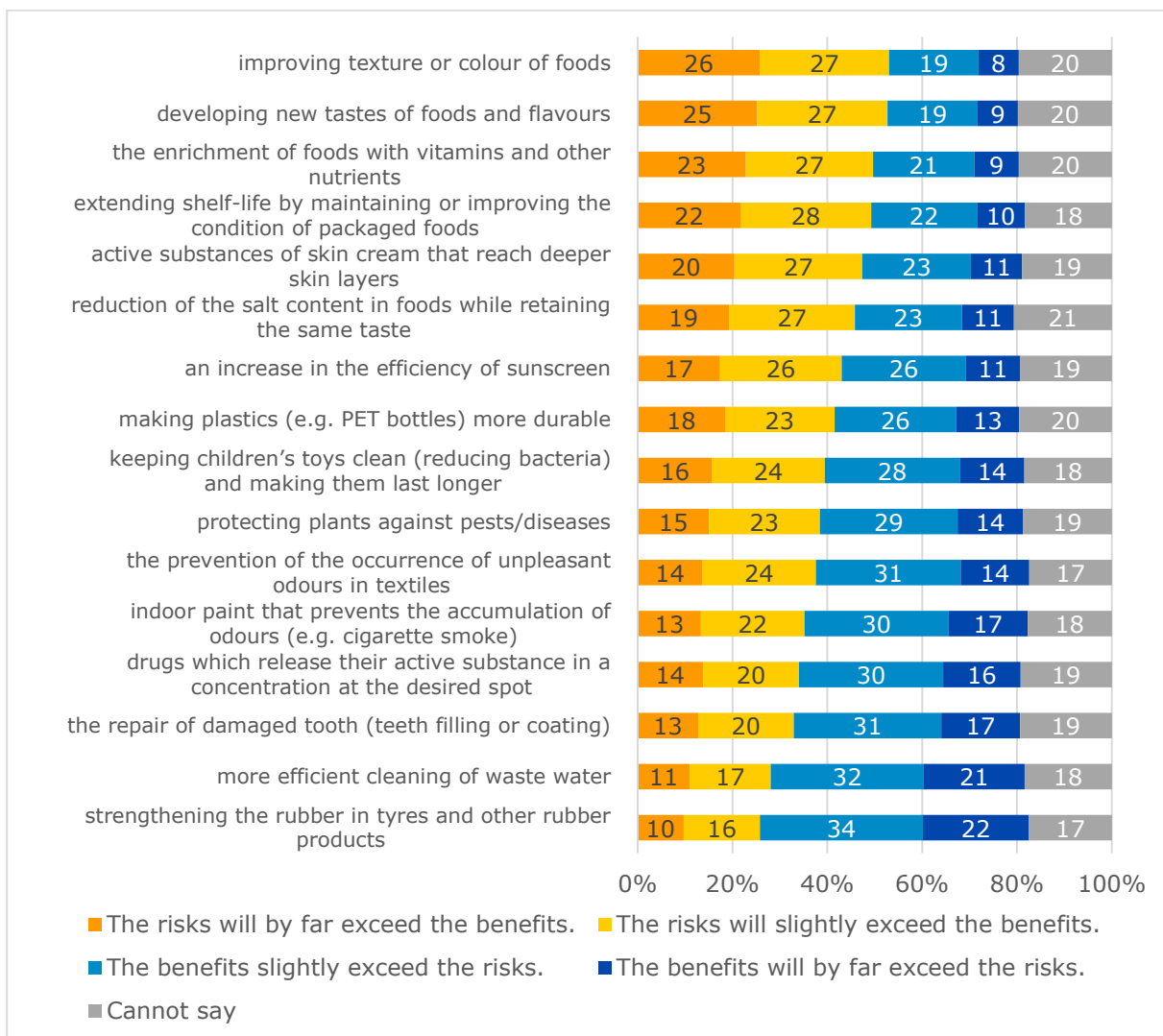
The respondents' typical attitude correlates with a low level of understanding about nanomaterials. Almost half of the respondents are unable to make a clear decision whether they associate products containing nanomaterials to be more, or less risky than “traditional products” (products not containing nanomaterials).

Based on the presented description of nanomaterials, respondents evaluated their level of potential risks versus their benefits within various areas.

Graph 24 shows a visible tendency that the perceived risks outweigh the benefits in products intended for direct consumption or materials in contact with such products (i.e. packaging). The only exceptions from this clear trend can be observed with healthcare products (e.g. tooth fillings or medicines).

On the contrary, technological areas (such as tyre manufacture or wastewater treatment) do not cause strong concerns and the perceived benefits outweigh the risks associated with these products and technologies.

**Graph 24 - Now that you have some further information about nanomaterials, how do you estimate the risks and benefits of the following uses of nanomaterials?** (N=5000, question Q19)



Attitudes towards the uses described above go across the population without any specific or significant demographic differentiation.

In terms of specific countries, the public in Austria tends to be more sensitive to potential risks as the risk perception in particular areas is higher compared to other countries. Vice versa, France and especially Poland are among the countries with a lower risk perception within most of the evaluated areas.

The type of information presented to consumers affects their general perception of nanomaterials use safety. As illustrated by Graph 25, respondents, who have been presented with a description of potential risks tend to be significantly more sceptical – they are inclined to think that the risks will outweigh the benefits in all areas of use.

**Graph 25 - Impact on attitudes related to nanomaterials, comparison between different types of submitted text (N=2500 per subgroup, question Q19)**

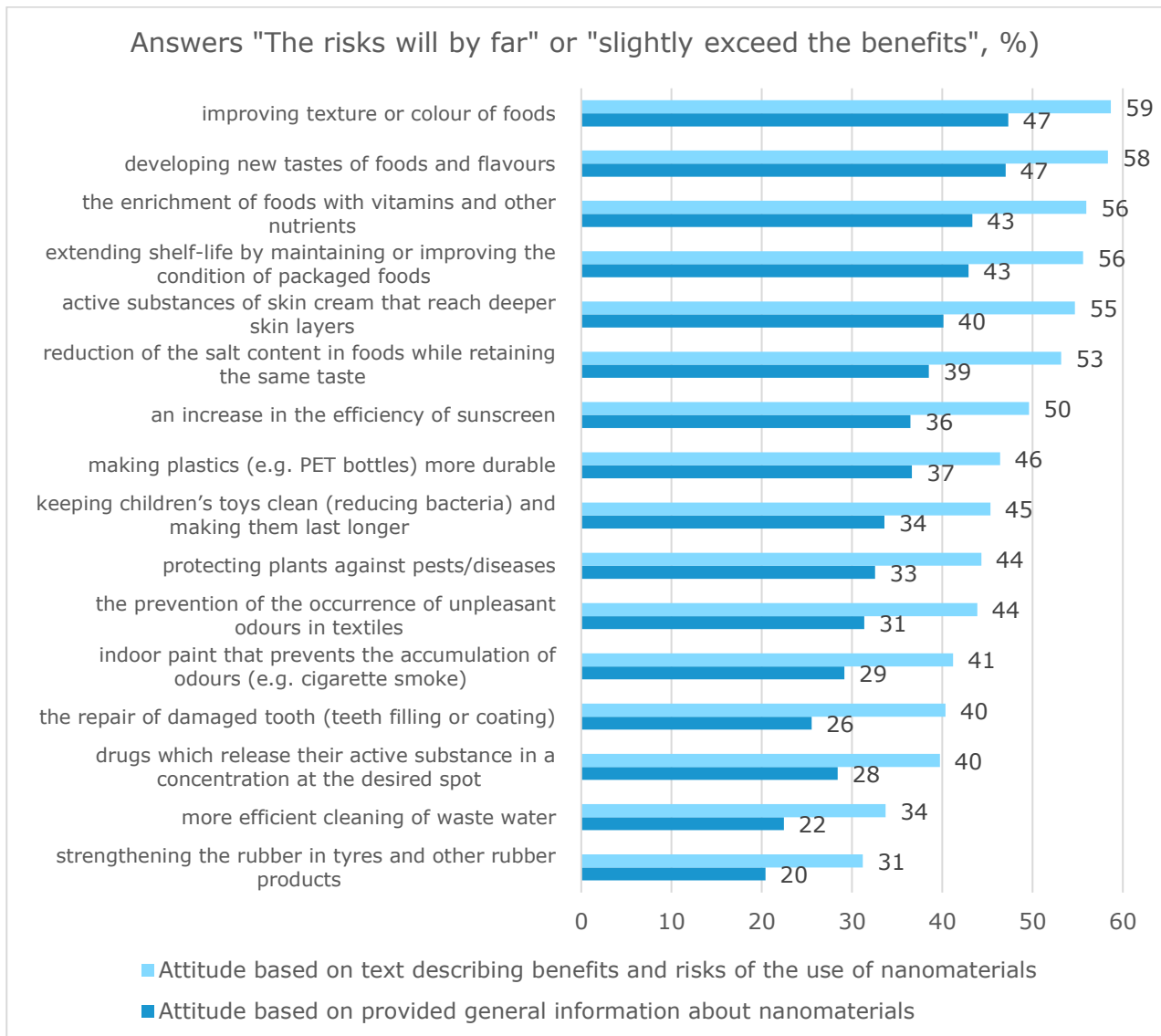


Figure 3 illustrating the comparison of risks perceived by layperson was retrieved from (Siegrist, Keller et al. 2007).

**Figure 3 - Perceived risks (Mean and standard deviation) of the layperson and expert samples (Siegrist, Keller et al. 2007)**

Hazards	Laypeople		Experts	
	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>	<i>M</i>	<i>SD</i>
Asbestos	4.19	1.04	3.91	0.96
Cellular phones	3.41	1.08	2.52	1.03
Genetically modified tomatoes	3.27	1.23	2.61	1.20
Sunscreen	3.15	1.19	2.48	1.19
Ammunition	3.02	1.47	2.84	1.61
Food packagings	3.02	1.15	2.35	1.10
Release of medications	3.01	1.13	2.24	1.18
Biosensors	2.92	1.09	1.87	1.05
Water sterilization	2.87	1.18	2.26	1.08
Clothing	2.78	1.20	2.20	1.00
Surface impregnation of building materials	2.75	1.12	2.13	1.09
Medical nanorobots	2.68	1.11	1.95	1.03
Monitors	2.63	1.13	1.52	0.78
Lightweight construction of building materials	2.63	1.11	1.87	0.83
Cancer treatment with nanocapsules	2.62	1.08	1.74	0.88
Implant coating	2.60	1.05	1.70	0.81
Car tires	2.59	1.15	2.39	1.20
Storage of hydrogen as a gasoline substitute	2.44	1.06	1.63	0.85
Car paints	2.43	1.10	1.87	0.92
Building blocks	2.36	1.16	1.91	0.96
Photographic paper	2.32	1.06	1.74	0.95
Data memory	2.32	1.14	1.46	0.78
Skis	1.99	0.98	1.61	0.83

*Note:* *N* varies between 366 and 370 for the layperson sample, and *N* varies between 44 and 46 for the expert sample.

In this study carried out in Switzerland to assess perceived benefits (and risks), the following question was asked: "How beneficial (risky) do you consider each of the following items to be for Swiss society as a whole?" The endpoints of the 5-point scales were labelled from "very low" (1) to "very high" (5). Asbestos received the highest risk ratings in both the layperson and expert samples. In the layperson sample, cellular phones and genetically modified tomatoes ranked as number two and three, respectively. Among the nanotechnology applications, sunscreen, ammunition, food packaging, and release of medication received the highest risk ratings in the layperson sample. Overall, experts assessed the risks associated with nanotechnology applications as being much lower than laypeople did (Siegrist, Keller et al. 2007).

In a German study from 2008, 20% of the 994 participants feel that the risks greatly outweigh benefits, 46% think the risks slightly outweigh benefits, 24% consider benefits slightly outweighing risks, 9% feel benefits greatly outweigh risks, 1% do not know (Zimmer, Scherzberg et al. 2008).

Nanoparticles are listed on the 19th place in order of growing risk perception of the public, within 24 risk evaluations in total. The mean value is 1.94 on an ordinal scale from 1 (almost no risk) to 4 (high risk). The full table reproduced from (Berube, Cummings et al. 2011) is illustrated in Figure 4.

**Figure 4 - Descriptive statistics for 24 risk evaluations (Berube, Cummings et al. 2011)**

Risk	Mean	SD	N
Cigarette smoking	3.61	0.85	306
Street drugs	3.58	0.95	294
Chemical pollution	3.35	0.89	306
Nuclear waste	3.32	1.11	296
Obesity	3.32	0.98	304
AIDS	3.18	0.92	305
Stress	3.18	0.92	284
Pesticides in food	3.01	1.18	303
Motor vehicle accidents	2.97	1.05	306
Sun tanning	2.82	1.13	296
Bacteria in food	2.75	1.19	298
Air pollution	2.67	1.15	306
Genetically engineered bacteria	2.66	1.29	305
Radon in the home	2.63	1.24	297
Drinking alcohol	2.56	1.23	306
Cloning	2.4	1.36	289
Coal or oil burning plants	2.34	1.18	304
Nuclear power plants	2.28	1.30	306
Storms and floods	2.12	1.20	300
Nanoparticles	1.94	1.20	269
Blood transfusions	1.91	1.14	298
Medical X-rays	1.71	1.05	307
Cell phone use	1.67	1.06	298
Commercial air travel	1.57	1.02	304

*Note:* Risk evaluations are sorted in descending order according to the mean. Original question-wording: "Please indicate whether you think that each of the following poses almost no risk, a slight risk, a moderate risk, or a high risk to your health:" Responses were measured on an ordinal scale from 1 ("almost no risk") to 4 ("high risk")

Eurobarometer 73.1 (Anonymous 2013) studied the perception of risks associated with nanomaterials on 31238 respondents in 2010 with the following results:

- 14.7% tend to disagree that nanotechnologies are good for the economy, 7% totally disagree
- 8.1% totally agree that nanotechnologies are not good for them and their family, 19.5% tend to agree
- 20.4% tend to disagree that nanotechnologies are safe for future generations, 10% totally disagree
- 11.3% totally agree that nanotechnologies make them feel uneasy, 20.6% tend to agree
- 22.1% tend to disagree that nanotechnologies are safe for their health, 37.5% totally



- disagree
- 44.6% tend to disagree that nanotechnologies are safe for the environment, 7.5% totally disagree

In a 2011 Italian study (Bottini, Rosato et al. 2011), the 790 respondents perceived the following risks of nanotechnology in the corresponding percentages:

- pollution (36%)
- division among social classes (33%)
- increase of public expenses (32%)
- human health (27%)

A study among German public (Guido Correia Carreira, Jan-Peter Ferdinand et al. 2016) found that:

- 15.8% of the 1200 participants feel that the risks of nanotechnology greatly outweigh the benefits
- 44.2% think the risks slightly outweigh the benefits
- 25.9% consider that the benefits slightly outweigh the risks
- 9.5% feel that the benefits greatly outweigh the risks
- 4.5% do not know

### **Public perception of risks and benefits of nanomaterials outside the EU**

In a public survey conducted in 2007 in the USA with 1536 respondents (Mir 2007), the following numbers of respondents agreed that they are perceiving certain risks regarding nanotechnology:

- losing personal privacy (31.9%)
- arms race (23.8%)
- breathing nanoparticles that accumulate in the body (18.6%)
- economic disruption (13.8%)
- the uncontrollable spread of nanorobots (12%)

In the USA in 2007, the following risks were perceived among 1015 respondents of a survey (Ho, Scheufele et al. 2013):

- Nanotechnology may lead to the loss of personal privacy because of tiny new surveillance devices
- Nanotechnology may lead to an arms race between the U.S. and other countries
- Nanotechnology may lead to new human health problems
- Nanotechnology may be used by terrorists against the U.S
- Because of nanotech, we may lose more U.S. jobs
- Nanotechnology may lead to the uncontrollable spread of very tiny self-replicating robots
- Nanotechnology may lead to more pollution and environmental contamination

Out of 76 participants in another USA survey in 2007 (Priest, Lane et al. 2011):

- 36.8% perceived as a risk associated with NT unexpected consequences, harmful side effects, unknown effects
- 13.2% feared weaponization and possible terrorism, NT ending up in the wrong hands
- 9.2% feared medical and health issues, cancer agent, water contamination, health side effects
- 5.3% was concerned in the invasion of privacy

- 5.3% feared the lack of control over nanotechnology
- 5.3% did not perceive any risks at all
- 3.9% felt that NT costs too much to develop, the government will spend too much on it
- 2.6% feared that nanotechnology may not work, products may malfunction
- 2.6% was concerned about the displacement of workers
- 2.6% feared that nano chemicals may be unstable

Compared with earlier studies, 177 scientists surveyed in 2007 in the USA generally rated the risks of nanotechnology substantially lower than the benefits based on their average ratings. The two areas of highest concern were with regards to human health risk and the potential use of nanotechnology in weapons (Besley, Kramer et al. 2008).

According to a 2008 USA study (Conti, Satterfield et al. 2011), experts worry that:

- the “tiny sensors” will degrade over time becoming toxic to fish or humans who use or drink the water
- nanosilver is considered a water pollutant; if it turns up in our rivers or oceans, fish, and other marine life may be widely harmed
- leaks in privacy may be unstoppable or irreversible

In the year 2012, Harris Poll (Anonymous 2012) was conducted in the USA with the following results:

- 6% think the risks outweigh the benefits
- 27% think the risks and benefits are about equal
- 37% think the benefits outweigh the risks
- 30% are not at all sure

In 2013 in China, the respondents of a study (Zhang, Wang et al. 2016) were concerned by the following risks:

- the negative impact of nanoparticles on the environment (e.g. on air, water, and soil) (chosen 193 times – 26%)
- nano-devices violating people’s privacy (chosen 159 times – 21.5%)
- the negative impact of nanotechnology on health (chosen 157 times – 21.2%)
- nano-weapons’ threats to national and personal security (chosen 134 times – 18.1%)
- nanotechnology controlling human thought (chosen 112 times – 15.1%)
- nanotechnology widening the wealth gap (chosen 106 times – 14.3%)
- other (chosen 3 times – 0.4%).

### 3.5 Attitudes related to nanomaterials

This chapter describes the respondents' level of agreement with the possible use of nanomaterials in different product types and technology areas.

List of questions analysed in this chapter (questions marked with an asterisk are open-ended):

#### Q6. To what extent do you approve or disapprove of the following uses of nanomaterials?

<b>Use of nanomaterials for...</b>	<i>I fully approve</i>	<i>I tend to approve</i>	<i>I tend to disapprove</i>	<i>I fully disapprove</i>	<i>I don't know</i>
<i>... a reduction of the salt content in foods while retaining the same taste</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... the enrichment of foods with vitamins and other nutrients</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... indoor paint that prevents the accumulation of odours (e.g. cigarette smoke)</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... an increase in the efficiency of sunscreen</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... active substances of skin cream that reach deeper skin layers</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... the prevention of the occurrence of unpleasant odours in textiles</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... improving texture or colour of foods</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... developing new tastes of foods and flavours</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... extending shelf-life by maintaining or improving the condition of packaged foods</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... drugs which release their active substance in a concentration at the desired spot</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... repairing damaged teeth (filling or coating)</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>...more efficient cleaning of wastewater</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... strengthening the rubber in tyres and other rubber products</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... making plastics (e.g. PET bottles) more durable</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... keeping children's toys clean (reducing bacteria) and making them last longer</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<i>... protecting plants against pests/diseases</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

#### Q20. Which of the following statements do you personally agree with?

	<i>Strongly disagree</i>	<i>Disagree</i>	<i>Neither agree nor disagree</i>	<i>Agree</i>	<i>Strongly agree</i>	<i>Cannot say</i>
<i>Nanomaterials will open up fantastic opportunities for technical development</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
<i>I am very interested in scientific topics</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
<i>If my country (programming: name the particular country here) wants to be globally competitive, it has to embrace technologies using nanomaterials</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	

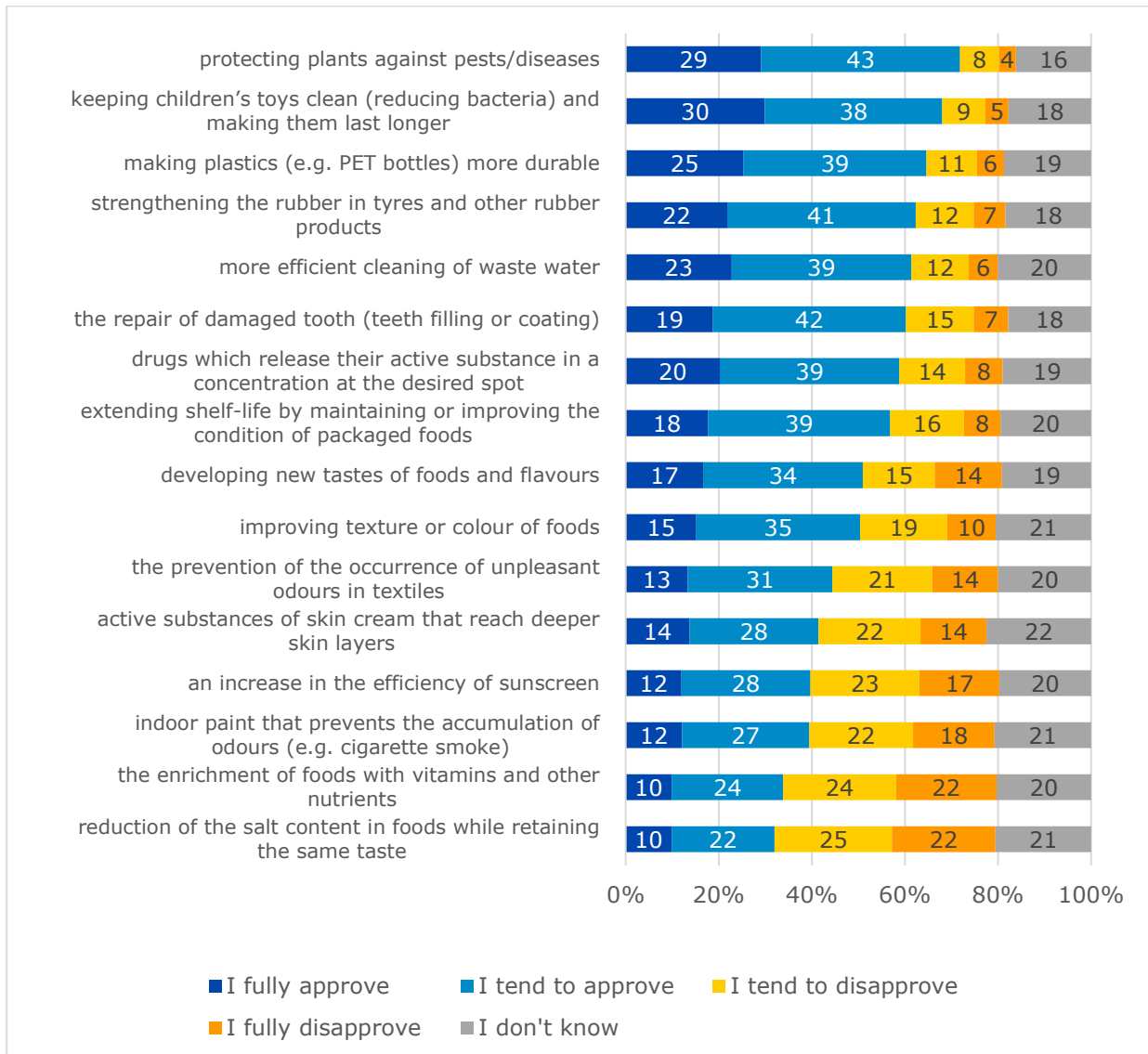
<i>If nanomaterials make everyday products better, I'll gladly use them</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
<i>I am looking forward to the many nano-products that will soon be on the market</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
<i>I believe this whole nano thing is a marketing trick to improve sales of certain products</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
<i>I believe nanomaterials offer many possibilities to cure and recognise diseases</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
<i>I am sure that using nanomaterials will help to protect the environment and limit or repair environmental damage</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
<i>I am convinced that using nanomaterials is of benefit to society</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
<i>It's really frightening how many nano-products there are or soon will be</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
<i>I'm worried that using nanomaterials could lead to completely new health problems</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
<i>I'm concerned that using nanomaterials instead of traditional materials could damage the environment</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
<i>I believe that nanotechnology can lead to job cuts in traditional branches of industry</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
<i>I'm afraid that nanotechnology will result in more individuals to be monitored and controlled by miniaturised technology</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
<i>I believe it's hardly possible to control the health risks of using nanomaterials</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
<i>I would approve nanomaterials development being promoted through state funding</i>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	

## Use of nanomaterials in various types of products

Use of nanomaterials in different areas of everyday life is perceived quite optimistically and most of the used examples did not raise serious concerns.

Despite this, respondents' attitudes can be divided into two illustrative groups that reflect their level of agreement on different uses of nanomaterials.

**Graph 26 - Attitudes related to uses of nanomaterials for various purposes** (N=5000, question Q6)



The first group reflects more cautious attitudes where people tend to disagree with the direct application of nanomaterials. This group is represented by uses like food modification to get a better taste or enriched content, cosmetic products, painting products for indoor usage and so on.

These are areas where people feel that they are directly in contact with nanomaterials. Women and people over 50 years are more concerned about these areas.

The second group of products is associated with more open attitudes where respondents are more receptive to the use of nanomaterials. These are in more technical areas, such as plant protection, production of more resistant materials, cleaning and protective products and equipment.

Within these areas, the positive attitude towards the use of nanomaterials is more typical for men. However, age does not affect the results significantly.

Table 16 shows the level of agreement among countries.

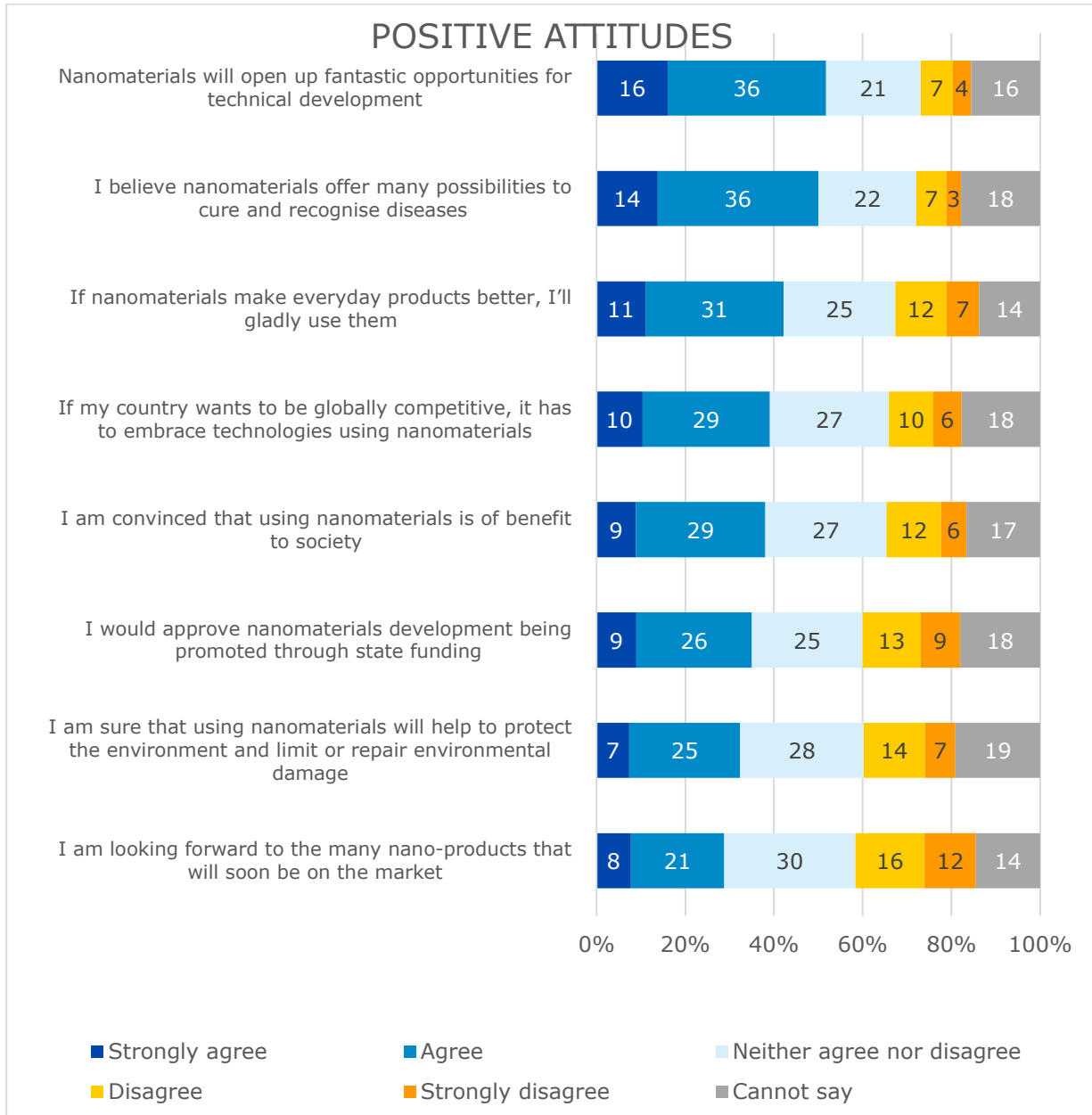
**Table 16 - Attitudes related to uses of nanomaterials for various purposes (To what extent do you approve or disapprove of the following uses of nanomaterials?) (question Q6)**

VIEW BY COUNTRIES						
answers in %	Total	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
<i>Number of respondents</i>	5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
for strengthening the rubber in tyres and other rubber products	72	71	78	67	65	78
for more efficient cleaning of waste water	68	68	78	61	60	74
for repairing damaged teeth (filling or coating)	65	69	71	59	56	68
for indoor paint that prevents the accumulation of odours	62	68	77	52	58	56
for drugs which release their active substance in a concentration at the desired spot	61	60	68	58	55	66
for the prevention of the occurrence of unpleasant odours in textiles	60	64	72	51	52	62
for keeping children's toys clean (reducing bacteria) and making them last longer	59	60	69	53	53	59
for protecting plants against pests/diseases	57	59	67	45	53	59
for making plastics (e.g. PET bottles) more durable	51	55	57	37	48	58
for an increase in the efficiency of sunscreen	50	50	64	41	46	51
for active substances of skin cream that reach deeper skin layers	44	58	57	30	42	36
for reduction of the salt content in foods while retaining the same taste	41	44	45	33	43	43
for extending shelf-life by maintaining or improving the condition of packaged foods	40	49	41	28	40	41
for the enrichment of foods with vitamins and other nutrients	39	45	46	27	39	41
for developing new tastes of foods and flavours	34	40	45	19	34	31
for improving texture or colour of foods	32	39	34	18	34	35

## General attitudes towards nanomaterials

Generally, positive attitudes including neutral answers reflect the expectation of new possibilities and improvements in everyday life. Potentially undecided opinions are linked to an overall low awareness of nanomaterials.

**Graph 27 – Which of the following statements do you personally agree with?** (N=5000, question Q20)



Graph 28 shows that people are to some extent concerned, that unknown health issues, as well as possible negative environmental impacts, may arise from the use of nanomaterials.

**Graph 28 - Which of the following statements do you personally agree with? (N=5000, question Q20)**

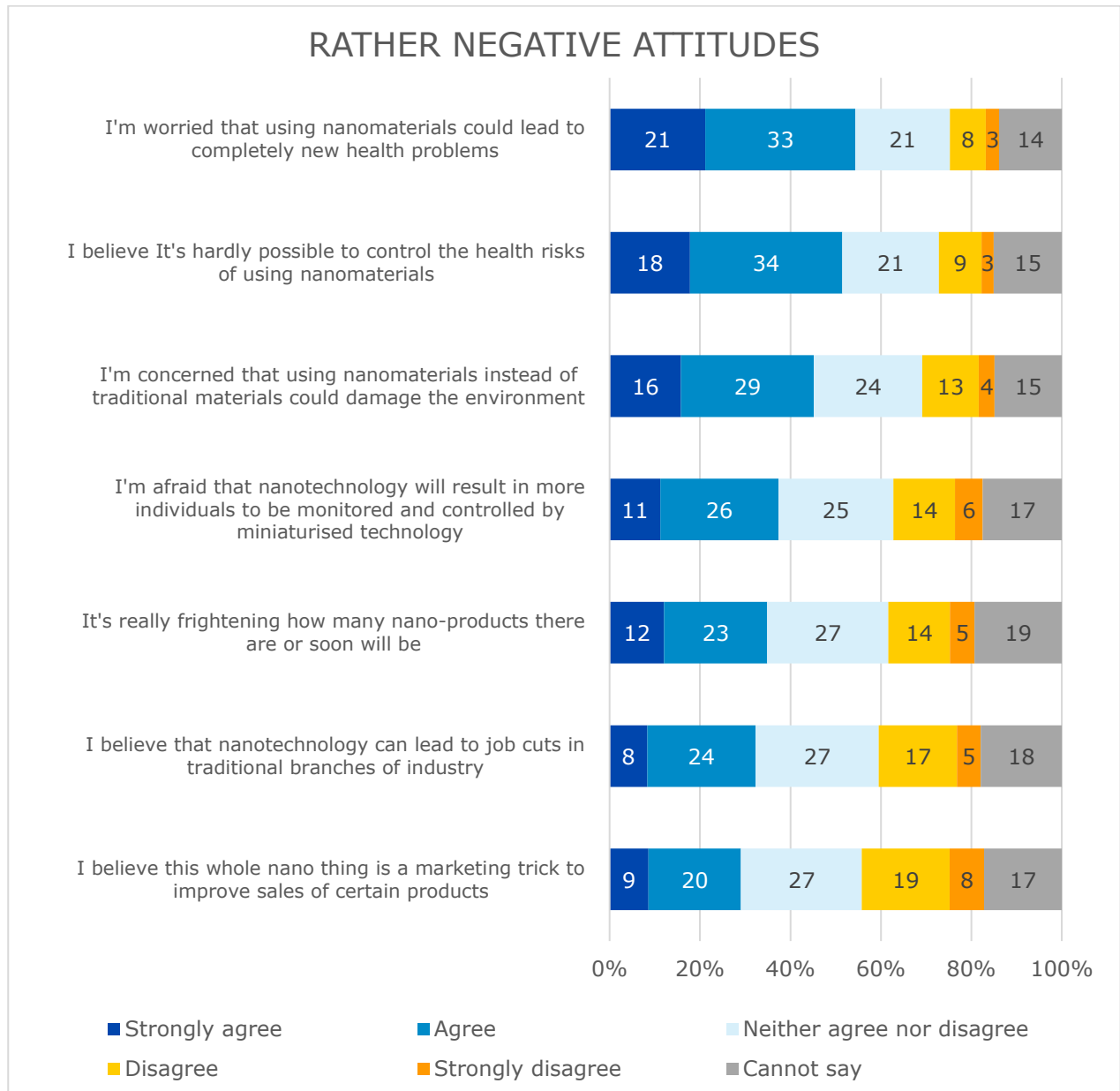




Table 17 shows the level of agreement with possible negative attitudes among countries.

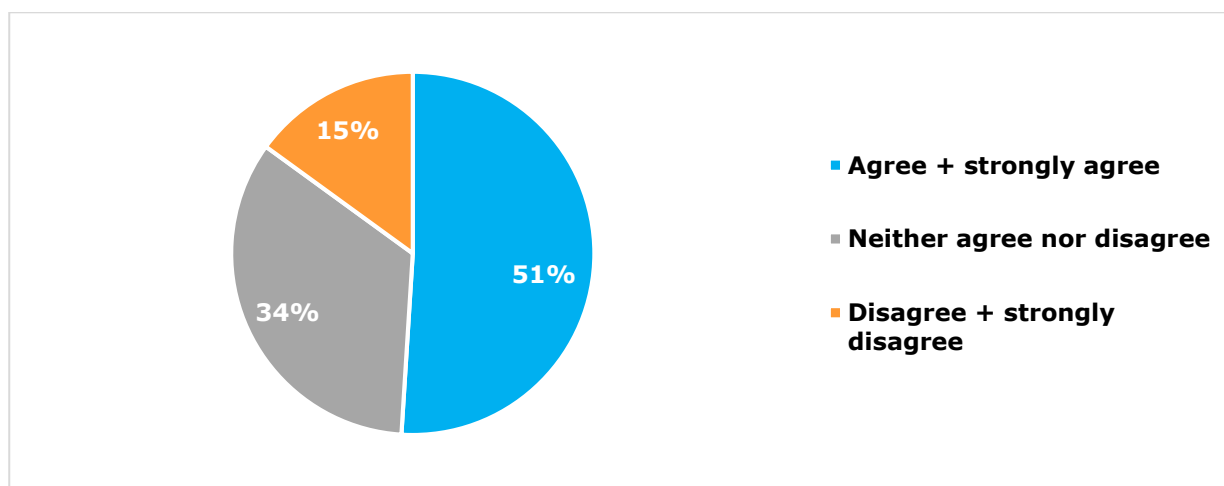
**Table 17 - Negative attitudes related to nanomaterials** (detailed, question Q20)

VIEW BY COUNTRIES						
% strongly agree + agree	Total	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
<i>Number of respondents</i>	5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
I'm worried that using nanomaterials could lead to completely new health problems	54	50	54	59	56	53
I believe It's hardly possible to control the health risks of using nanomaterials	51	47	51	55	51	54
I'm concerned that using nanomaterials instead of traditional materials could damage the environment	45	37	40	52	52	45
I'm afraid that nanotechnology will result in more individuals to be monitored and controlled by miniaturised technology	37	40	47	28	44	29
It's frightening how many nano-products there are or soon will be	35	32	36	38	46	22
I believe that nanotechnology can lead to job cuts in traditional branches of industry	24	27	29	19	25	19
I believe this whole nano thing is a marketing trick to improve sales of certain products	29	26	33	30	34	23

Concerns about the possible health risks and negative impact on the environment are declared slightly more often in Austria, while Poland is more tolerant in this respect. On the contrary, the respondents from Bulgaria and France are more worried about the possibility to be monitored and controlled by miniaturised technology.

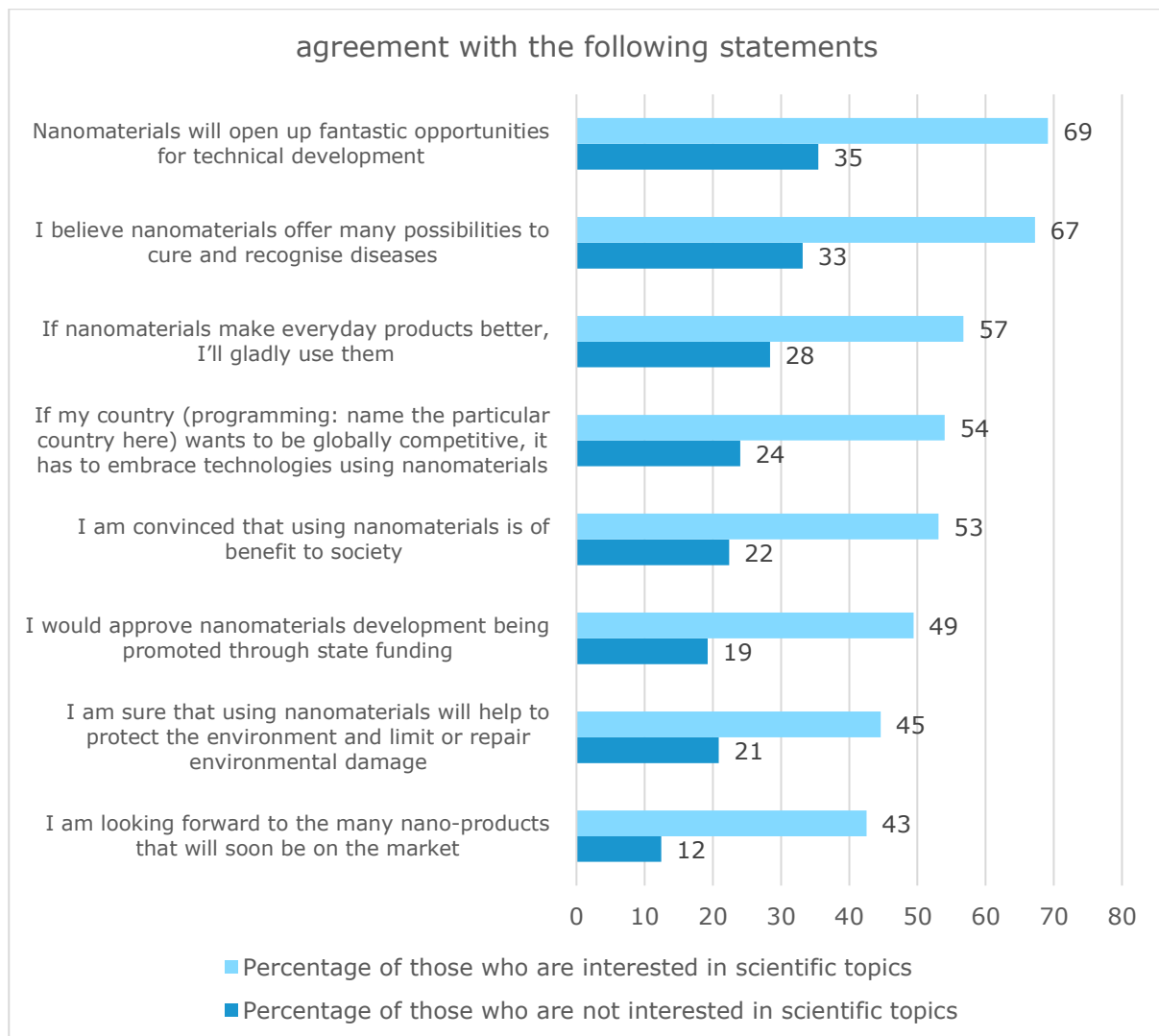
The respondents were asked to what level they are interested in scientific topics to investigate whether interest in scientific topics can affect the attitude towards nanomaterials. The answers to this question are presented in Graph 29.

**Graph 29 - Agreement with the statement: "I am very interested in scientific topics"** (N=5000, question Q20)



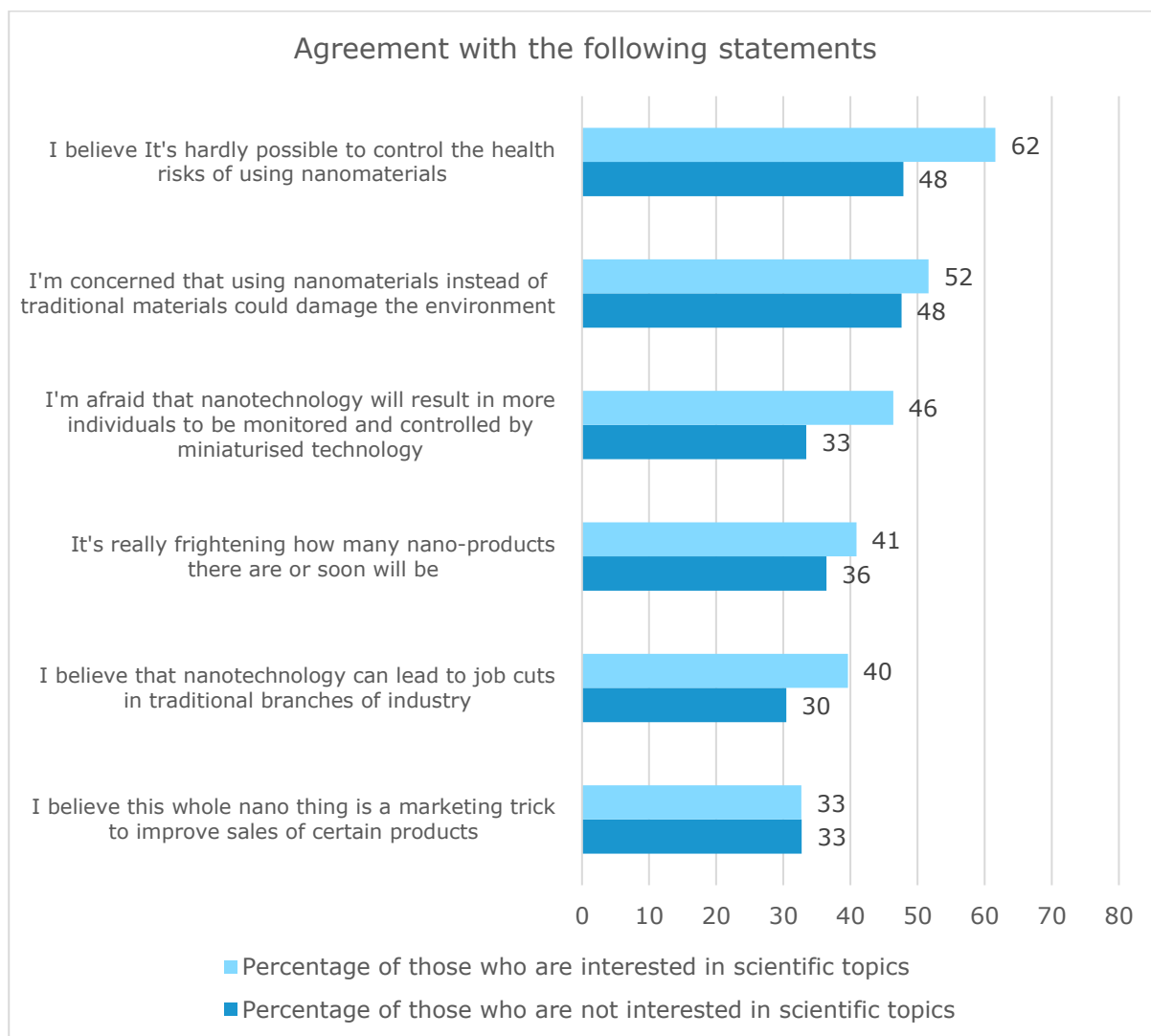
The study showed that respondents' interest in scientific topics significantly impacts their attitudes towards the use of nanomaterials (see Graph 30).

**Graph 30 - Positive attitudes related to nanomaterials use** (N=5000, question Q20)



Graph 30 illustrates that the respondents generally interested in scientific topics are significantly more likely to be open towards the use of nanomaterials. On the other hand, they are also more aware of the risks (see Graph 31).

**Graph 31 - Negative attitudes related to uses of nanomaterials** (N=5000, question Q20)



## Segmentation of the population related to their perception of nanomaterials

A segmentation of the population based on their perception of nanomaterials was developed based on attitudinal questions. It was developed using cluster analysis of the block of questions about nanomaterials risk perception (Q19) and general attitudes to nanomaterials in the context of the development of science and society in general (Q20).

Based on this approach, respondents can be divided into 4 categories:

### Enthusiasts

The most unambiguous group are people, who have a very positive attitude towards nanomaterials. This group represents 19% of the population.

### Tolerating

Relatively close to this group is the largest group representing almost half (46%) of the population. They have an open, tolerating attitude towards nanomaterials.

### Fearing

Contrary to the previous groups, these respondents generally reject the use of nanomaterials, representing 23% of the population.

### No opinion

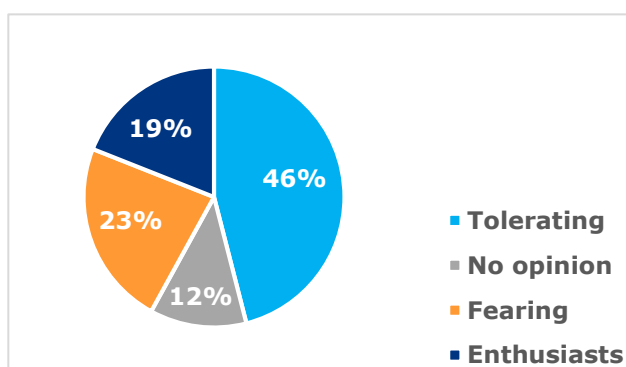
Finally, the last group aggregates those who have no clear attitude related to nanomaterials, representing 12% of the population.

A more detailed description of the segments and their respective profiles is provided below (Table 18, Table 19, Table 20, Table 21, Table 22, Table 23, Table 24, Table 25, Table 26 and Table 27.)

**Table 18 - Segments based on attitudes to nanomaterials – breakdown by country**

VIEW BY COUNTRIES						
Answers in %	Total	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
Number of respondents	5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
<b>Enthusiasts</b>	19	27	23	14	16	16
<b>Tolerating</b>	46	43	44	42	45	53
<b>Fearing</b>	23	15	25	32	22	21
<b>No opinion</b>	13	15	8	12	17	10

**Graph 32 - Segments of respondents based on attitudes towards various uses of nanomaterials**



Graph 33 - Segments profiling, general attitudes related to statements on the uses of nanomaterials (positive) (**question Q20**) Graph 33 shows the description of the different

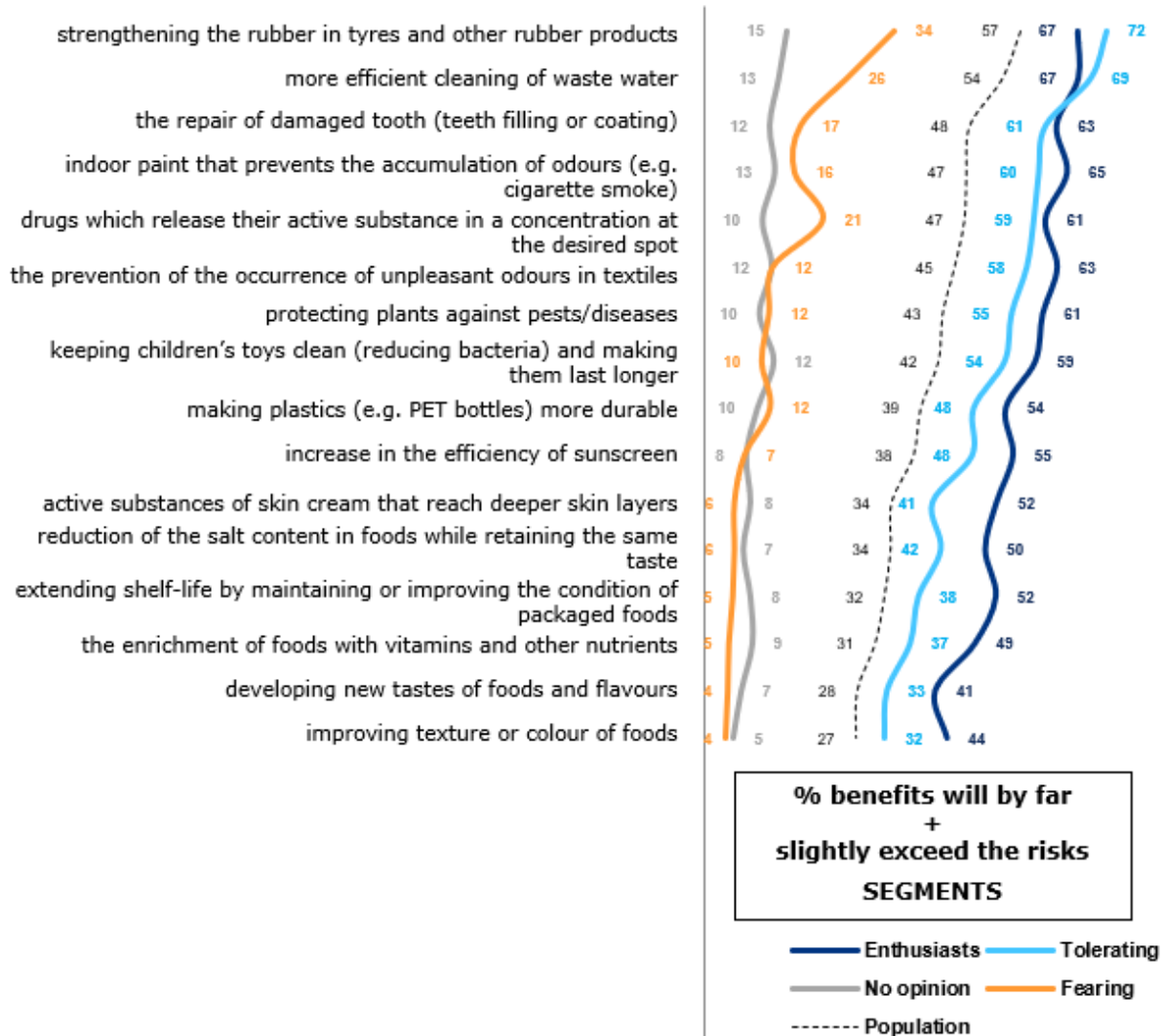
**Graph 33 - Segments profiling, general attitudes related to statements on the uses of nanomaterials (positive) (question Q20)**

segmented groups based on their general attitudes towards nanomaterials concerning general statements about societal development.



Graph 34 describes the segmented groups according to the use of nanomaterials in various areas:

**Graph 34 - Segments profiling, attitudes related to nanomaterial uses in various areas**  
(question Q19)



The results in Graph 34 show how much particular segments are open to the use of nanomaterials. The Fearing, the group that mostly rejects nanomaterials, have relatively tolerant attitudes to areas where nanomaterials are used for more technical purposes.

**Table 19 - Segments description - Basic demography**

SEGMENTS DESCRIPTION				
	Enthusiast	Tolerating	Fearing	No opinion
Age	40-49 years	up to 29 years	50-60 years	30 - 39 years
Gender	unisex	men	women	women
City size	big cities over 200 000 inhabitants excluding capital	middle and big cities	villages and smallest cities up to 50 000 inhabitants	villages and smallest cities up to 50 000 inhabitants
Education	the highest level, university	students or the highest level, university	basic or middle	basic or middle

**Table 20 - Segments description - General awareness of nanomaterials**

SEGMENTS DESCRIPTION 1				
	Enthusiast	Tolerating	Fearing	No opinion
Overall awareness	rather shallow	rather shallow	rather shallow	almost none
Typical products containing nanomaterials	paints/varnishes/ surface coatings  plastics	computers and electronic  cosmetics  paints/varnishes/ surface coatings	paints/varnishes/ surface coatings  cosmetics	no idea

**Table 21 - Segments description - General shopping habits and behaviour related to nanomaterials**

SEGMENTS DESCRIPTION 2				
	Enthusiast	Tolerating	Fearing	No opinion
Reading safety information	sometimes	sometimes	always	never
Willing to pay more for safer products	yes, 1 - 20% or rather not	yes, 1 - 20%	yes, over 20%	not
A typical product containing nanomaterials they would buy	detergents/household cleaning products  clothing/textile	computers and electronics  sports equipment	almost none	none

**Table 22 - Segments description - Risk perception**

SEGMENTS DESCRIPTION 3				
	Enthusiast	Tolerating	Fearing	No opinion
<i>Concern about negative impact in a specific area</i>	global warming asbestos	global warming asbestos	nanomaterials foods from genetically modified crops pesticides and plant protection products	no idea, if something, then ... asbestos plastic waste
Agreement with the statement: <i>the main issue is not to what extent you are exposed to harmful materials, but whether or not you are exposed to them at all</i>	neither nor	rather disagree	completely agree	neither nor or do not know
Agreement with the statement: <i>If a person is exposed to an extremely small amount of a material that is harmful at larger amounts, then will probably be seriously ill even if the amount is extremely small</i>	rather disagree	rather disagree	completely agree	neither nor or do not know

**Table 23 - Segments description - Risks related to nanomaterials**

SEGMENTS DESCRIPTION 4				
	Enthusiast	Tolerating	Fearing	No opinion
<i>Products with nanomaterials compared to products without them are:</i>	safer	equally safe	less safe	cannot decide
<i>Risks (if any) associated with nanomaterials may be eliminated when nanomaterials are used properly</i>	completely agree	rather agree	rather disagree	cannot say
<i>Concerns about exposure to nanomaterials</i>	not at all	not at all	a little	a lot
<i>Risks associated with nanomaterials</i>	none	difficult prevention of exposure	difficult prevention of exposure	none
<i>The most likely route of exposure to nanomaterials</i>	none	skin contact	inhalation	none
<i>Areas where risks associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the benefits</i>	nowhere	for improving texture or colour of foods for extending shelf-life by maintaining or improving the condition of packaged foods for developing new tastes of foods and flavours	everywhere	everywhere



**Table 24 - Segments description - Attitudes related to nanomaterials**

SEGMENTS DESCRIPTION 5				
	Enthusiast	Tolerating	Fearing	No opinion
<i>Typical areas where the use of nanomaterials is accepted</i>	for extending shelf-life by maintaining or improving the condition of packaged foods	strengthening the rubber in tyres and other rubber products  for more efficient cleaning of wastewater	almost for nothing	almost for nothing
<i>Attitudes about nanomaterials regarding general statements on societal development</i>	if nanomaterials make everyday products better, I'll gladly use them  ensure that using nanomaterials will help to protect the environment and limit or repair environmental damage	I am very interested in scientific topics  if my country wants to be globally competitive, it has to embrace technologies using nanomaterials	concerned that using nanomaterials instead of traditional materials could damage the environment  worried that using nanomaterials could lead to completely new health problems	mostly without opinion, if some, then:  I believe this whole nano thing is a marketing trick to improve sales of certain products

**Table 25 - Segments description - Information sources**

SEGMENTS DESCRIPTION 6				
	Enthusiast	Tolerating	Fearing	No opinion
<i>Information level about nanomaterials in comparison with other modern technologies</i>	feel less informed	feel less informed	feel less informed	equally informed
<i>Current information channels</i>	internet  magazines	internet  school, university, college	newspaper  TV	other unspecified sources
<i>Intended information channels</i>	products websites	You Tube	magazines  personal discussion with experts	internet

**Table 26 - Segments description - Trust in authorities**

<b>SEGMENTS DESCRIPTION 7</b>				
	<b>Enthusiast</b>	<b>Tolerating</b>	<b>Fearing</b>	<b>No opinion</b>
<i>Awareness of the European Union Observatory for Nanomaterials (EUON)</i>	no	no	no	no
<i>Information sources among institutions</i>	producer of the product scientists/researchers (universities, research institutes, etc.)	scientists/researchers (universities, research institutes, etc.) EU authorities (e.g. European Commission, European Chemicals Agency) distributor/seller from whom I bought the product	consumer organisations environmental organisations	none
<i>Trustworthy institutions</i>	product distributor/seller product producer EU authorities (e.g. European Commission, European Chemicals Agency)	EU authorities (e.g. European Commission, European Chemicals Agency) doctors	consumer organisations environmental organisations	none

**Table 27 - Segments description - Labelling of products containing nanomaterials**

<b>SEGMENTS DESCRIPTION 8</b>				
	<b>Enthusiast</b>	<b>Tolerating</b>	<b>Fearing</b>	<b>No opinion</b>
<i>Products that should be labelled if they contain nanomaterials</i>	medicines cosmetics toys paints/varnishes/surface coatings	cosmetics food medicines	kitchenware detergents/household cleaning products construction materials clothing/textiles paints/varnishes/surface coatings and many others...	none

### 3.6 Information sources

The following chapter covers general knowledgeability about nanomaterials compared to other modern technologies, the sources of information respondents use/are being exposed to to learn about nanomaterials and the public awareness of databases or websites providing centralized information about nanomaterials with specific attention to the European Union Observatory for Nanomaterials (EUON).

*List of questions analysed in this chapter (questions marked with an asterisk are open-ended):*

**Q21. How well informed do you feel about nanomaterials compared to other modern technologies?**

- a. *I feel better informed about nanomaterials compared to other new modern technologies*
- b. *Equally informed*
- c. *I feel less informed about nanomaterials compared to other new modern technologies*

**Q22a. Where have you already heard, read, or seen something about nanomaterials?**

- a. *TV*
- b. *Radio*
- c. *Social media (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, etc.)*
- d. *YouTube*
- e. *Internet*
- f. *Online media*
- g. *Product websites*
- h. *Blogs*
- i. *Newspapers*
- j. *Magazines*
- k. *School, university, college*
- l. *Workplace*
- m. *Personal discussion with family and/or friends*
- n. *Personal discussion with experts (e.g. doctors, chemists, scientists, journalists, etc.)*
- o. *Other – please specify*

**Q23. Are you aware of any websites or databases with centralized information about nanomaterials or products containing nanomaterials?**

- a. *Yes*
- b. *no*

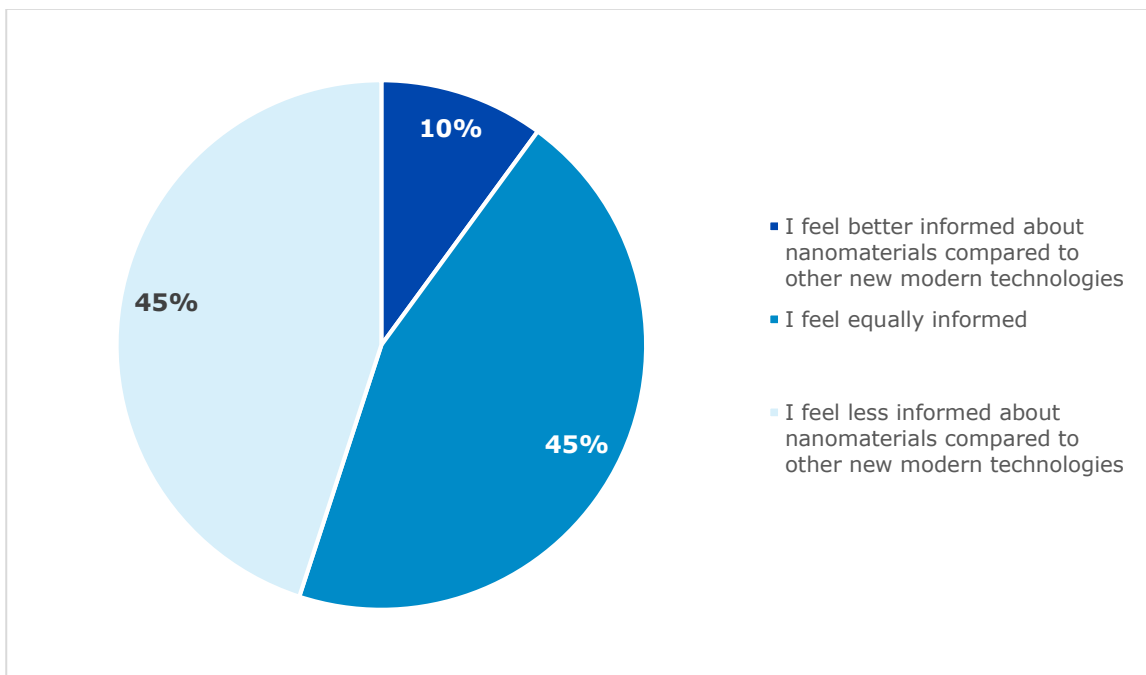
## Awareness of nanomaterials

In earlier studies, the respondents felt they were not adequately informed about the nanotechnology research and applications and have shown the intention to search for further information.

The level of knowledge (amount of information related to nanomaterials in comparison to other new modern technologies) divides society into two halves.

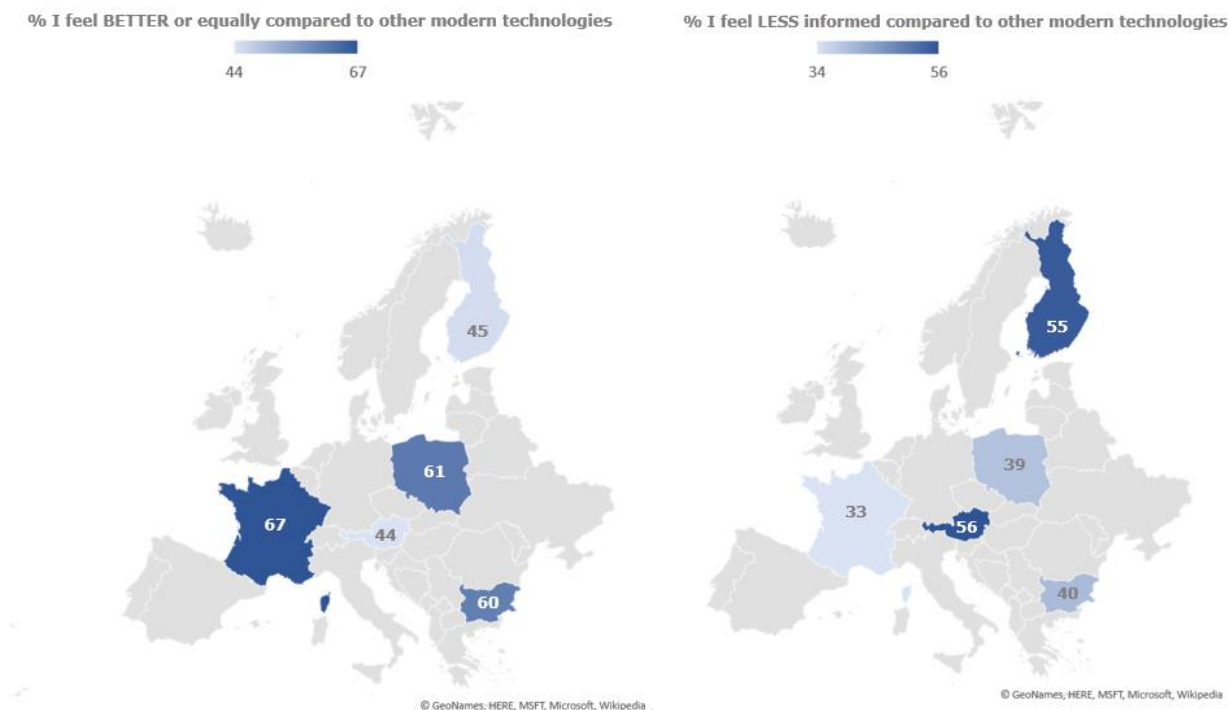
Men, students, those between the ages of 16 and 29 and religious people tend to feel better informed (based on question Q21 – “How well informed do you feel about nanomaterials compared to other modern technologies?”).

**Graph 35 - How well informed do you feel about nanomaterials compared to other modern technologies? (N=5000, question Q21)**



The following Cartogram 8 shows the country-specific comparison.

**Cartogram 8 - How well informed do you feel about nanomaterials compared to other modern technologies?** (percentage of participants, N=5000, question Q21)



Based on Cartogram 8, respondents from Austria and Finland feel that they suffer from a lack of information about nanomaterials in comparison to other modern technologies (the other modern technologies in this question were not specified).

## Information sources

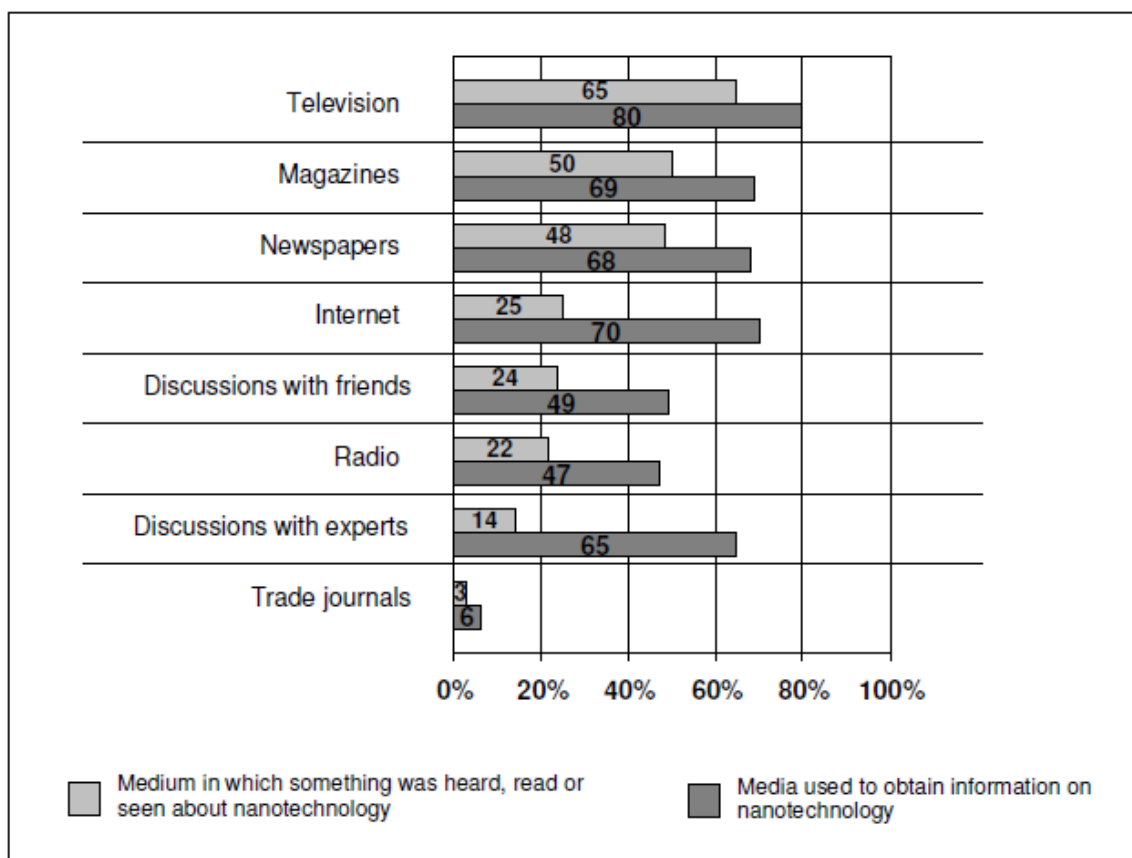
The German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) summarised the importance of different media for the dissemination of information on nanotechnology in 2008 (Zimmer, R. 2008), as presented in Figure 5 with the following commentary:

*"Based on the question of whether the respondent was informed in the respective media about nanotechnology, no priority can be identified for a specific medium and none of the media included can be ruled out. In the case of television, magazines, and newspapers the proportion of "yes" responses is between around 70% and 80%. Radio reaches approximately 50%. Discussions with experts are particularly important. In this area, too, there are major differences above all for the Internet and radio. From the results, it can be concluded that no medium has to be ruled out for the dissemination of knowledge about nanotechnology."*

*"Approximately 72% of Italian citizens have heard about nanotechnology, mainly from television and the Internet" according to 2011 Italian study. (Bottini, Rosato et al. 2011)*

*In a 2014 study in Turkey (Senocak 2014) 63.9% of respondents listed media (TV, internet, newspapers or magazines) as their knowledge source about nanotechnology, 18% listed conversations with friends, 9.6% obtained their knowledge from school, 8.6% from "other sources".*

**Figure 5 - Importance of different media for dissemination up to 2008 of information on nanotechnology (Zimmer, R. 2008)**

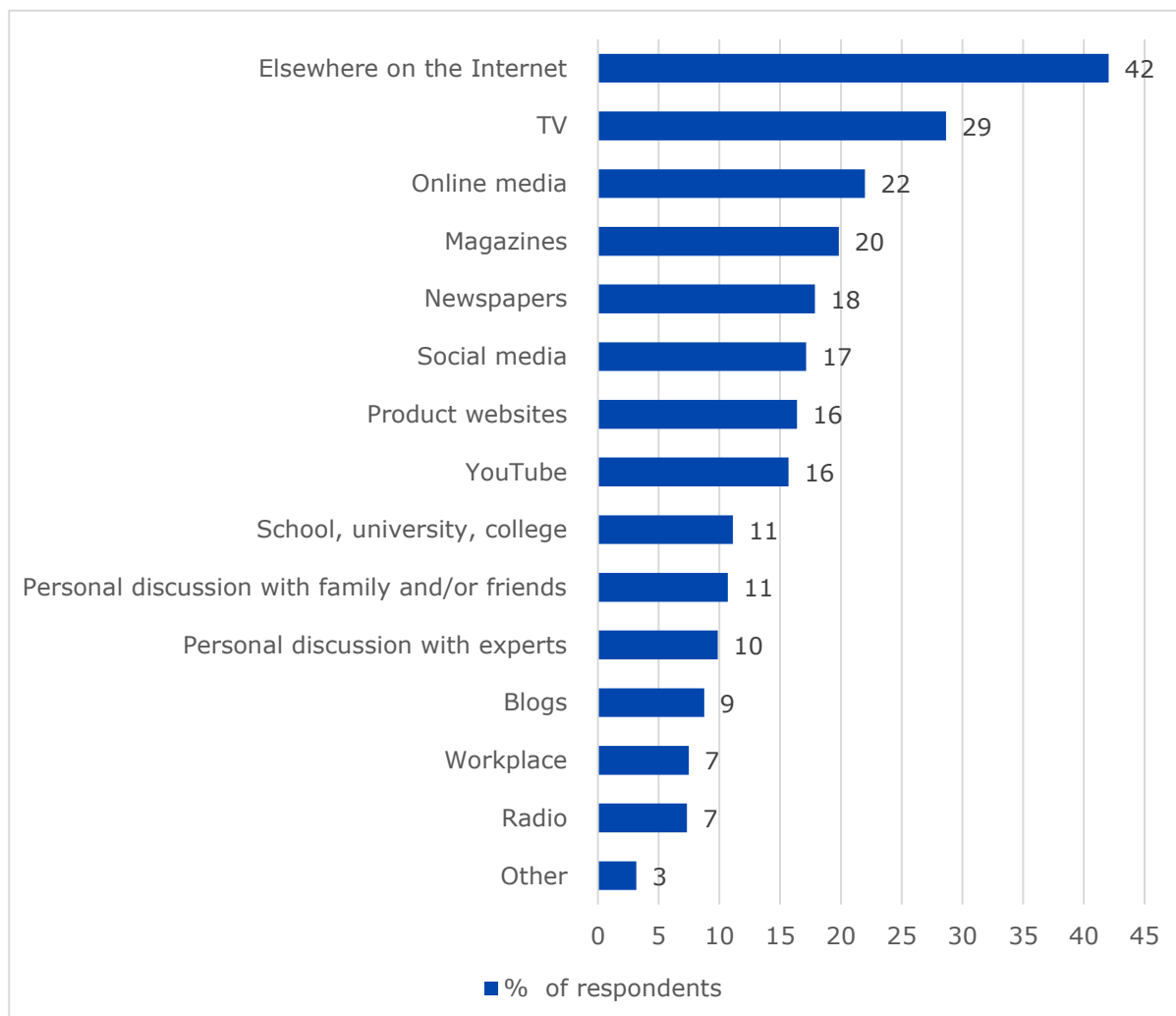


In the study presented in this report, the Internet and TV are the primary sources for obtaining information about nanomaterials among those who feel that they are at least to some extent aware of what nanomaterials are.

France has a relatively specific source preference, compared to the rest of the countries. The French population is getting information primarily from the TV or YouTube, while the Internet

in general terms is on the fourth place regarding usage and preference.

**Graph 36 - Where have you already heard, read, or seen something about nanomaterials?** (FILTER: those, who are aware of nanomaterials, N=3248, Q22a)



A similar pattern was identified among those who feel they have less or no information about nanomaterials. Generally, the most used source is the Internet while a secondary source would be product websites.

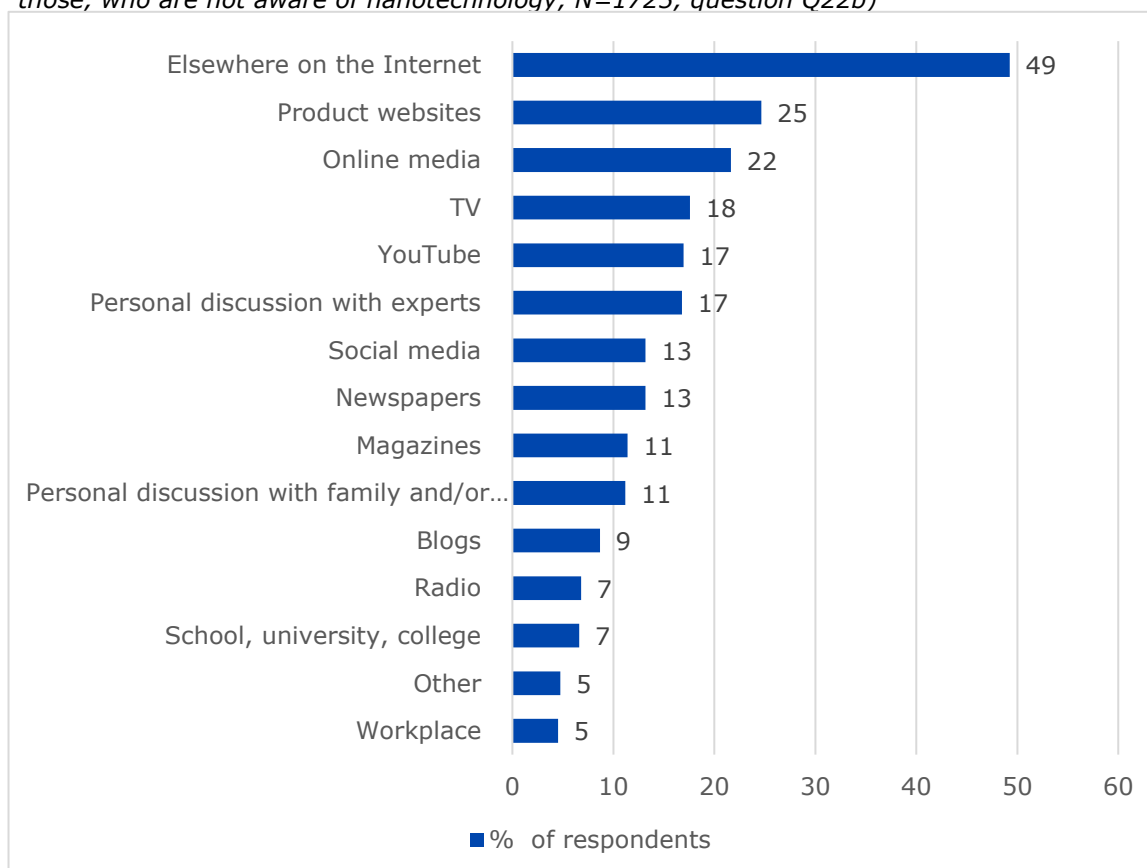
Relatively specific behaviour was identified among the French population. The population in France tends to use product websites as their primary sources together with other Internet sources. Personal discussion with experts, family or friends is also a very strong information source.

Demographic profile in detail:

**Table 28 - Information sources on nanomaterials - demographic profile**

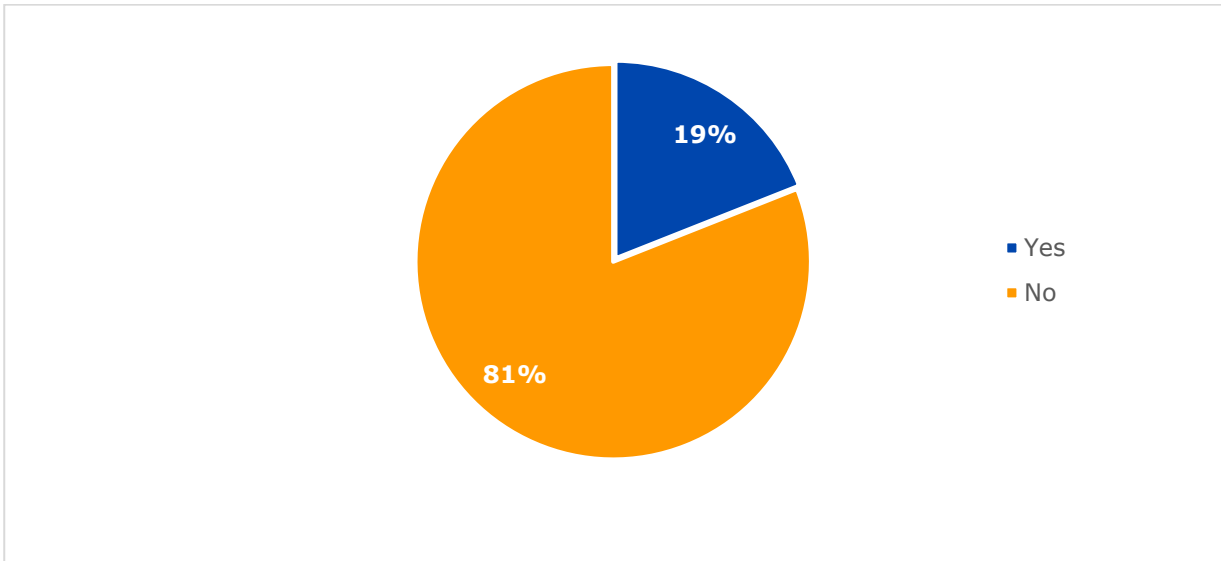
USED SOURCE	DEMO PROFILE (subgroups using given source more often)
Internet	rather men, cities over 100 000 inhabitants, the highest education – university
TV	age over 50 years, basic education
Online media	men, age 16 – 39 years, cities over 100 000
Magazines	no specific differentiation
Newspapers	no specific differentiation
Social media	age 16 – 29 years, middle town 50 – 100 000 inhabitants
Product websites	no specific differentiation
YouTube	men, age 16 – 29 years, students
School, university, college	age 16 – 29 years, cities over 200 000 inhabitants and capital, students
Personal discussion with family and/or friends	no specific differentiation
Personal discussion with experts	cities over 200 000 inhabitants and capital
Blogs	no specific differentiation
Workplace	no specific differentiation
Radio	no specific differentiation

**Graph 37 - Where would you look for information about nanomaterials? (FILTER: those, who are not aware of nanotechnology, N=1725, question Q22b)**





**Graph 38 - Are you aware of any websites or databases with centralised information about nanomaterials or products containing nanomaterials?** (N=5000, question Q23)



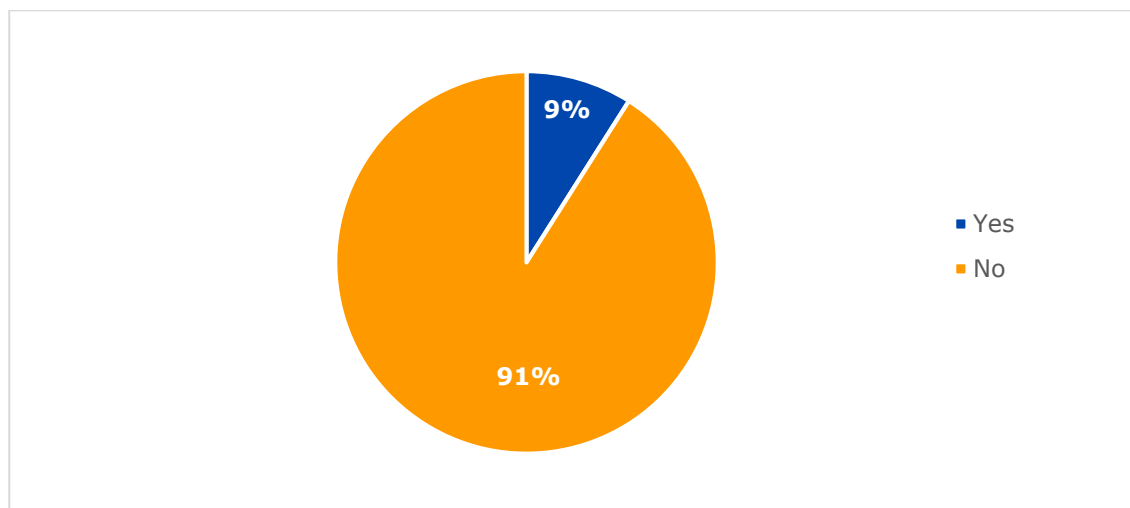
19% of respondents stated a clear awareness of some sources with centralised information about nanomaterials.

Men and ages 16-29 expressed awareness of specific websites or databases more often. This correlates with these demographic groups being significantly more aware of nanomaterials in general.

## European Union Observatory for Nanomaterials (EUON) awareness

9% of the respondents claimed to be aware of the European Union Observatory for Nanomaterials.

**Graph 39 - Are you aware of the European Union Observatory for Nanomaterials (EUON)?**  
(N=5000, question Q24)



Awareness of the EUON is strongly dependent on age. The higher the age, the lower the awareness. As all of the respondents in this survey are internet users, the higher awareness of EUON in the younger population is most likely caused by being more accustomed to look for information on the internet proactively, while the higher the age, the more the respondent is generally accustomed to receive information from "traditional media" (newspapers, TV, radio), where the possibility of exposure to any information linked with EUON is lower.

Those aware of EUON are usually respondents with a higher level of education (e.g. lawyers, medical practitioners, directors, top managers etc.) Detailed demographics are provided in Table 29 and Table 30.

**Table 29 - Awareness of EUON based on age groups**

VIEW BY AGE GROUPS					
answers in %	Total	16 - 29 years	30 - 39 years	40 - 49 years	50 - 60 years
<i>Number of respondents</i>	5000	1265	1268	1255	1212
Yes	9	16	9	7	4
No	91	84	91	93	96

**Table 30 - Awareness of EUON based on segments**

VIEW BY SEGMENTS BASED ON ATTITUDES TO NANOMATERIALS					
	Total	Enthusiast	Tolerating	Fearing	No opinion
<b>Awareness of the European Union Observatory for Nanomaterials (EUON)</b>	9%	5%	9%	9%	1%

### 3.7 Trust in authorities

The following chapter investigates the respondent's preference and trust in different authorities when searching for/being presented with information about nanomaterials.

List of questions analysed in this chapter is following (questions marked with an asterisk are open-ended):

#### Q25. What would be your primary source of information about nanomaterials?

	1 (this is my first source of information)	2 (this is my second source of information)	3 (this is my third source of information)	None of them
Distributor/seller from whom I bought the product	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Producer of the product	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Scientists/researchers (universities, research institutes, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Health and occupational safety authorities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Pharmacists	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Doctors (e.g. your doctor)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Consumer organisations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Government representatives, politicians	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
EU authorities (e.g. European Commission, European Chemicals Agency)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Environmental organisations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	

#### Q26. How much trust would you place in the following persons or institutions if they were to inform you about safety of nanomaterials?

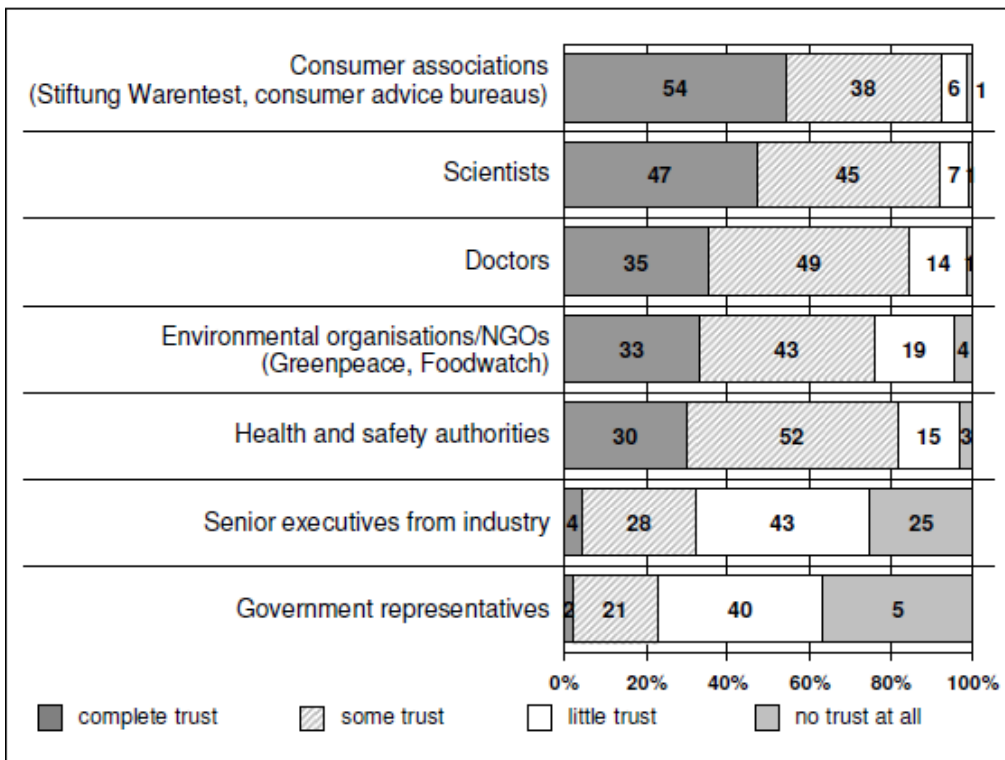
	Absolute trust	Bit of trust	Not much trust	No trust at all
Distributor/seller from whom I bought the product	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Producer of the product	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Scientists/researchers (universities, research institutes, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Health and occupational safety authorities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pharmacists	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Doctors (e.g. your doctor)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Consumer organisations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Government representatives, politicians	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EU authorities (e.g. European Commission, European Chemicals Agency)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Environmental organisations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

## Trust in authorities in Europe

The trustworthiness of groups of individuals and institutions in the dissemination of information on nanotechnology was summarised by Zimmer et al. (René Zimmer 2008) as illustrated in Figure 6, together with the following commentary:

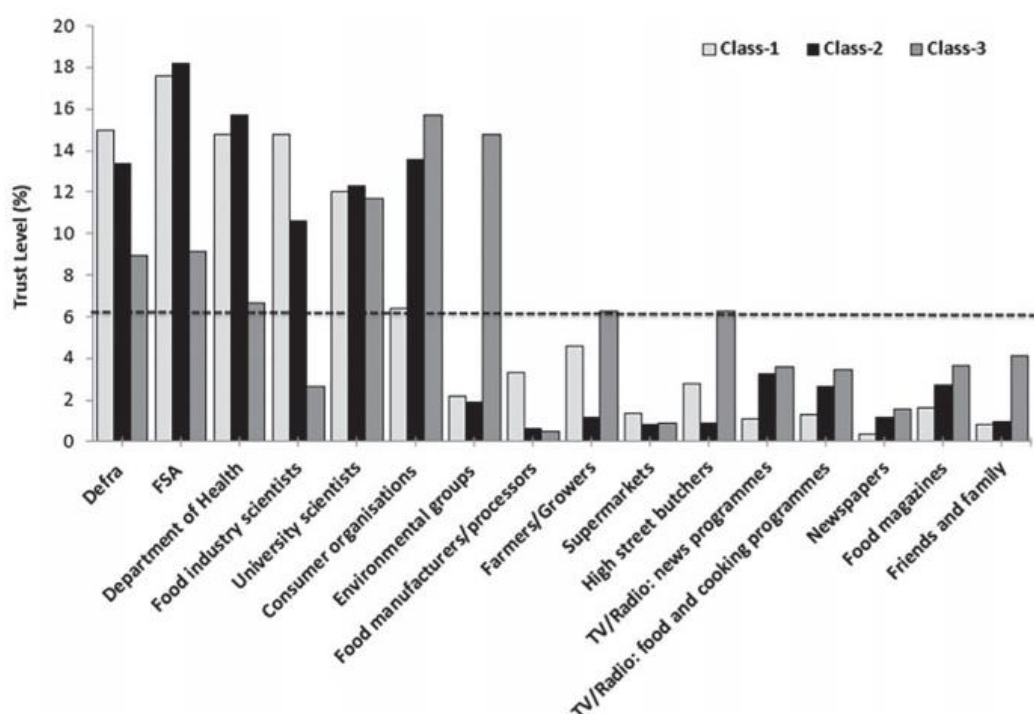
*"Consumer associations are in an excellent position. In the survey the terms used to describe them were "for example Stiftung Warentest or consumer advice bureaus". More than 90% of respondents have some trust in these associations and more than 50% have complete trust in them. Scientists have similarly high values to the consumer associations. Around one-third of participants have absolute trust in doctors, environmental organisations and health and safety authorities; around half have some trust. It should be stressed that the values of the environmental organisations are far lower than those of the consumer associations. It seems, therefore, to make sense to differentiate between the stakeholders which represent the interests of citizens. The values of senior executives from industry and government representatives are far lower than for the other groups and institutions. Not even one-third of respondents had at least some trust in industry and not even one-quarter of respondents had some trust in government representatives."*

**Figure 6 - Trustworthiness of groups of individuals and institutions in the dissemination of information on nanotechnology (René Zimmer 2008)**



In 2010, a UK study found that in general, all consumers regard government institutions trustworthy about providing accurate information on nanotechnology (Erdem 2018). According to this study, "consumers tend to have more trust in information sources that are closer to "public" interest or at least not bringing vested interests." The complete results are listed in Figure 7.

**Figure 7 - Distribution level of trust (%) (Erdem 2018)**



Public trust in the institutions providing information about nanomaterials in a 2014 Turkish study (Senocak 2014) is summarised in Figure 8.

**Figure 8 - Public trust in scientists, business leaders and politicians (Senocak 2014)**

	<i>Answer</i>					
	<i>A Lot</i>		<i>Some</i>		<i>A Little</i>	
	<i>%</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>N</i>
Scientists	21.3	109	54.5	280	24.2	124
Business leaders	14.6	75	45.7	235	39.6	203
Politicians	7.6	39	21.8	112	70.6	362

According to a 2012 Germany study (Guido Correia Carreira, Jan-Peter Ferdinand et al. 2016), 47.6% of 1200 survey respondents completely trust scientists, 42.5% trust consumer organisations, 33.2% trust doctors, 30.5% trust environmental organisations, 30.2% trust health and safety authorities, 3.2% trust industry executives and only 1.1% trust government representatives.

In a 2019 study performed in Denmark, Germany and Spain (Porcari, Borsella et al. 2019), trust in information sources was not studied systematically, but there was consensus on the crucial importance of having unbiased, scientific and trustable information regarding the potential impacts of nanomaterials and nano-related products on the environment, health and safety.

## **Trust in authorities outside of Europe**

According to a public survey in the USA in 2004, a majority of Americans report low trust in business leaders within the nanotechnology industry to protect them from potential risks (Mir 2007).

In 2006, those who had a great deal or quite a lot of confidence in all three government agencies (USDA, EPA, and FDA) mentioned in the survey to maximise the benefits and minimise the risks associated with scientific and technological advancements were only 0.7 times as likely as those who had no trust in any of the three agencies to know a lot or some about nanotechnology (Smith, Hosgood et al. 2008).

In 2007 in the USA, the citizens listed mass media and scientific news as their preferred sources of information about nanotechnology (Ho, Scheufele et al. 2010).

1007 South Koreans in 2010 were asked which of the following groups they trusted to provide them with information about nanotechnology: international organisations, the central government, corporations, consumer and environmental organisations, teachers and professors, research institutes, experts, the media, people, and other. The analysis revealed that "media" was the highest, followed by "people", "the central government", and "teachers and professors", regardless of household income (Kim 2014, Kim, Lee et al. 2014).

A Chinese study from 2013 mentioned that mass media news reports and advertisements were the top means of communication about nanotechnology for its participants (Zhang, Wang et al. 2016).

Citizens of South Korea reported in 2014 that they trust professionals including professors, researchers and specialists, nongovernment organisations, and central government. The answers from the consumer group also included the central government, NGOs, and other professionals. International organisations scored lower than the media in both groups (Kim, Lee et al. 2014).

84.4% of 759 respondents in Iran between 2005 and 2015 trust scientists as their primary source of information about nanotechnology and 61.5% trust government agency regulators (Farshchi, Sadrnezhad et al. 2011).

Scientists and science organisations were most trusted by the public to explain the risks and benefits of nanotechnologies, followed by government agencies and regulators and then non-government organisations in Australia in 2012 (Cormick and Hunter 2014).

According to another Australian study from 2013 (Capon, Rolfe et al. 2016), the public does have less trust in scientists and the health department to keep them safe from any potential health effects of manufactured nanomaterials than those working in nanotechnology in academia or government. Studies have shown that the Australian public is more likely to trust scientists and scientific institutions, followed by government agencies with industry and mass media receiving the least amount of trust.

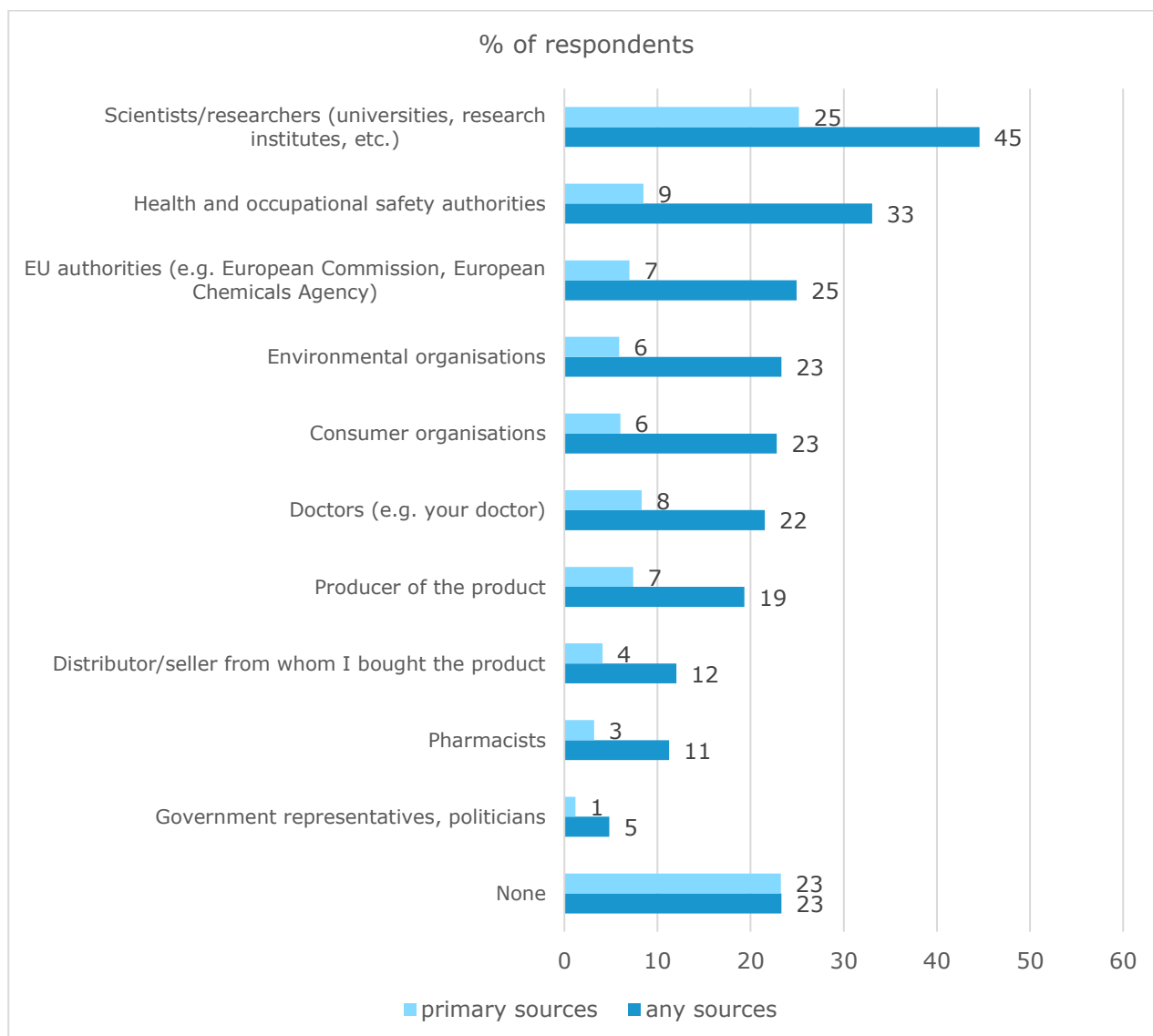
## Preferred information sources for nanomaterials

Scientists or researchers are the most preferred sources when people need to find information about nanomaterials, followed by health and occupational safety authorities.

EU authorities (e.g. European Commission, European Chemicals Agency) are declared as the third-most preferred source while government representatives and politicians are the least trusted.

EU authorities including ECHA are the most preferred source of information mainly in Finland (41%) and least preferred in Austria (14%). Other countries range from 20% to 27% (very close to the average preference level).

**Graph 40 - Preferred sources of information about nanomaterials** (N=5000, question Q25)



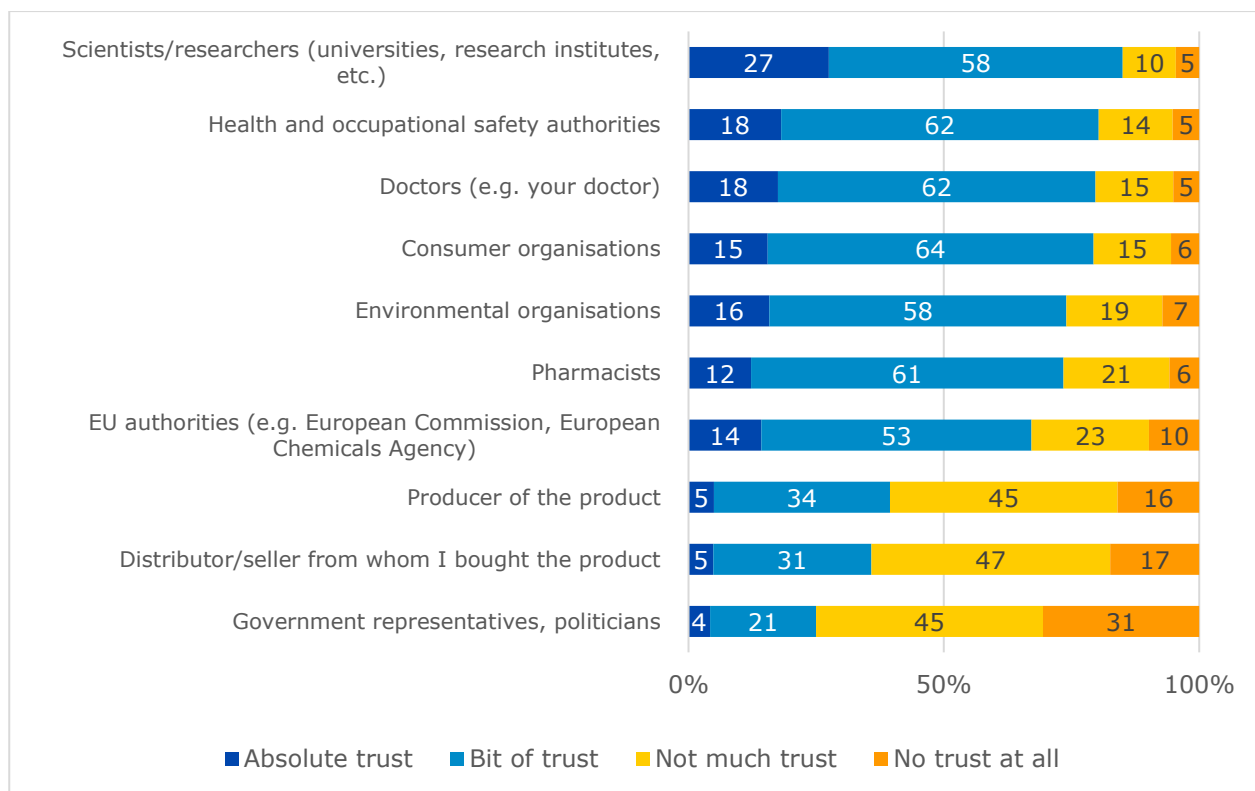
**Table 31 - Preferred sources of information about nanomaterials - view by segments**

VIEW BY SEGMENTS BASED ON ATTITUDES TO NANOMATERIALS				
	Enthusiast	Tolerating	Fearing	No opinion
<b>Preferred sources of information about nanomaterials</b>	producer of the product  scientists/researchers (universities, research institutes, etc.)	scientists/researchers (universities, research institutes, etc.)  EU authorities (e.g. European Commission, European Chemicals Agency)  distributor/seller from whom I bought the product	consumer organisations  environmental organisations	None

The question is whether the declaratively preferred sources of information are also credible. Graph 41 confirms a strong link between preference and credibility for scientists or researchers, as well as for health and occupational health and safety authorities. EU authorities suffer to some extent from a lack of trustworthiness.

While EU authorities were stated by 25% of the respondents as a preferred source of information, only 14% of the respondents consider EU authorities as a trustworthy source of information on the safety of nanomaterials.

**Graph 41 – How much trust would you place in the following persons or institutions if they were to inform you about safety of nanomaterials? (N=5000, question Q26)**





**Table 32 - Trust in information sources - view by segments**

<b>VIEW BY SEGMENTS BASED ON ATTITUDES TO NANOMATERIALS</b>				
	<b>Enthusiast</b>	<b>Tolerating</b>	<b>Fearing</b>	<b>No opinion</b>
<b><i>Credible sources</i></b>	product distributor/seller product producer EU authorities (e.g. European Commission, European Chemicals Agency)	EU authorities (e.g. European Commission, European Chemicals Agency) doctors	consumer organisations environmental organisations	none

### 3.8 Labelling of products containing nanomaterials

This chapter covers the respondents' subjective interest in authorities establishing a labelling duty for products containing nanomaterials, and to some extent the content of the information provided on such a label.

*List of questions analysed in this chapter (questions with an asterisk are open ended):*

**Q27. When buying a product containing nanomaterials, do you think you should be informed about it (for example on the label or on the packaging)?**

- a. No
- b. Yes

**Q27a. What kind of information would you expect on the label of a product containing a nanomaterial? \***

**Q28. For which of the following products do you think you should be informed (for example on the label or on the packaging) when buying a product containing nanomaterials?**

- a. Cars
- b. Sports equipment
- c. Medicines
- d. Paints/varnishes/surface coatings
- e. Foods
- f. Plastics
- g. Household electrical appliances
- h. Computers and electronics
- i. Clothing/textiles
- j. Construction materials
- k. Detergents/household cleaning products
- l. Cosmetics
- m. Toys
- n. Kitchenware
- o. Pesticides and plant protection products
- p. Car care products

#### **Need for information**

Due to the relatively low level of knowledge of nanomaterials overall, people want to be informed whether the products they buy contain nanomaterials. 87% of the respondents think that they should be informed when buying a product containing nanomaterials, for example on a label or packaging.

From earlier studies where labelling of products containing nanomaterials was addressed, the conclusive opinion of the public and the experts is that the obligatory and precisely regulated labelling is necessary and beneficial for consumers. However, prior to the labelling, consumers feel that they need to be informed about the risks and benefits of nanotechnologies and products containing nanomaterials in general. General information and awareness about nanotechnologies and nanomaterials combined with proper labelling should, according to public perception, enable consumers to perform an informed decision when buying products containing nanomaterials/processed by nanotechnologies.

In a 2006 study in Switzerland concerning products containing synthetic nanoparticles, many participants stated that they should be provided with a declaration that reveals the compounds. This would enable every citizen to make a decision on buying a nano product or not (Burri and Bellucci 2008).

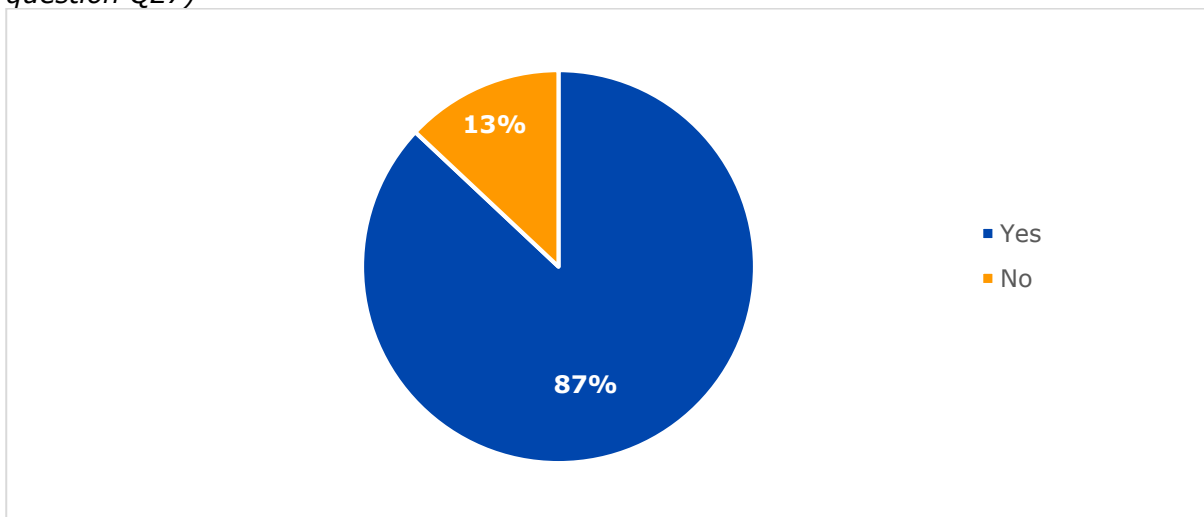
Almost all interviewees (88%) of 790 Italians surveyed in 2011 indicated that the presence of nanoparticles should be explicitly stated for consumables, and believed that it is necessary to create a commission of control to regulate the use of nanotechnology, especially with regard to health and environmental pollution (Bottini, Rosato et al. 2011).

Labelling of nanoproducts was also discussed by Feindt and Poortvliet 2019. The more detailed product information 'Contains nanosilver' was perceived to be more attractive and more informative than the '10<sup>-07</sup>' label. However, the overwhelming opinion was that the information was still not sufficient. In particular, more information was required about nanotechnology as well as the characteristics and effects of nanosilver. Participants also remarked that the properties and benefits of nanosilver were not communicated. Several participants felt that the label had no practical meaning for them, and that it was unclear whether the label was meant to be an attractor or a warning. Some participants would be enticed by the label to look for more information. In each group, participants said that they would not trust the label. It was suggested that more trust would be derived from the label being better designed and presented, backed by an approved standard, linked to a renowned brand or the product being sold by a trustworthy outlet. The label would not influence the purchasing decision of most participants, but some participants felt cautioned and discouraged from buying the product due to insufficient information. For individual participants, the label would generate interest in the product.

Labelling as a regulatory measure divided the Swedish experts in 2017. The high perceived benefit of nanomaterials/nanotechnology decreased support for government regulation of labelling, while high perceived risk and ethical concerns about nanomaterials/nanotechnology increased support for government regulations regarding labelling (Larsson, Jansson et al. 2019).

A very high percentage (95%) of 3101 consumers participating in an online consumer survey in Denmark, Germany and Spain in 2019 think that if a product contains nanomaterials, they have to be highlighted in the list of ingredients on the label. In the same way, some participants in the Delphi study think that: *"nano-labelling could give a wrong message that all nano-products are dangerous since consumers are not aware or competent to distinguish between sensible and non-sensible applications"* (Porcari, Borsella et al. 2019).

**Graph 42 - When buying a product containing nanomaterials, do you think you should be informed about it (for example on the label or the packaging)?** (N=5000, question Q27)



**Table 33 - Need for information on the label - based on segments**

<b>VIEW BY SEGMENTS BASED ON ATTITUDES TO NANOMATERIALS</b>					
answer yes:	Total	Enthusiast	Tolerating	Fearing	No opinion
<i>Need for information when buying a product containing nanomaterials (for example on the label or on the packaging)</i>	86%	87%	86%	91%	79%

The need for information is similar among most of the studied countries with slightly higher percentages in Bulgaria and Finland.

The request for information on the label reflects general attitudes on the uses of nanomaterials.

People request clear information and labelling on the products where direct or more extensive exposure is expected or suspected (categorised by the responses to question 9, illustrated by Graph 18, e.g. foods and food-contact materials, medicines, cosmetics or toys). These are products that come into direct contact with the human body and are therefore perceived as potentially risky to human health.

Respondents care less about whether products in technical areas contain nanomaterials or not. This includes products such as electronics, cars, rubber tyres, paints, and varnishes, etc. The detailed results are illustrated in Graph 43.

From a regional point of view, the information requirements for products are comparable. Only the population in Bulgaria is slightly more demanding, especially concerning food and medicines, while in France the demand for labelling products containing nanomaterials is lower.

**Table 34 - What kind of information would you expect on the label of a product containing nanomaterials?** (FILTER: respondents who request to be informed that they are purchasing a product containing nanomaterial (N=4347, question Q27a))

VIEW BY COUNTRIES						
Answers in %	Total	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
Number of respondents	4347	854	924	856	801	912
Warning against possible negative impacts / risks	19	16	21	9	27	24
Warning - contains nanomaterials	14	17	14	16	10	14
Complete information	12	14	19	10	9	7
Symbol or stamp	9	13	4	18	7	3
Amount of nanomaterials / quantity	7	6	8	5	7	8
Type of nanomaterials used	4	6	5	2	5	5
Other type of information	13	12	13	15	14	14
DK / no response	20	15	16	26	21	25

**Table 35 - Labelling of products - view by segments**

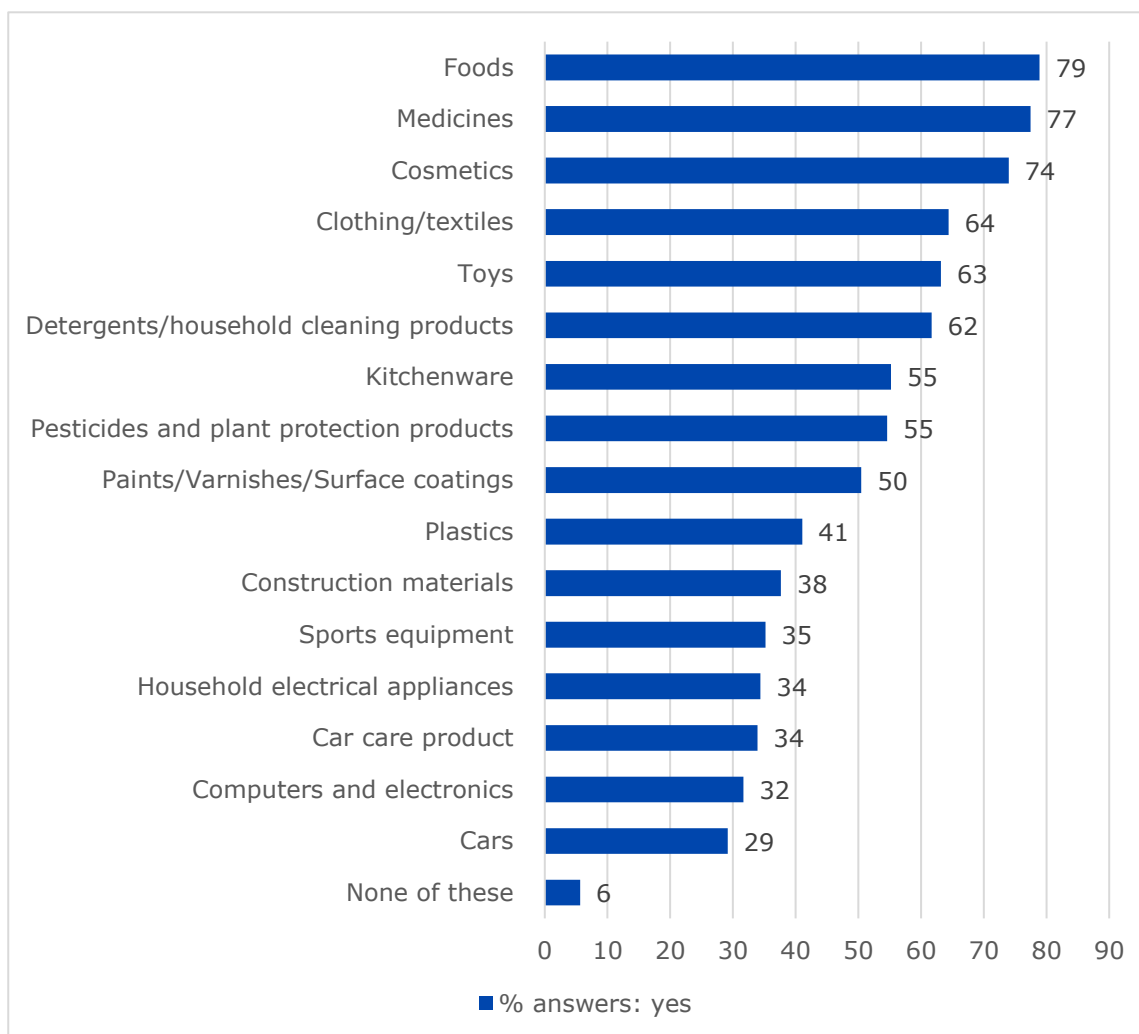
VIEW BY SEGMENTS BASED ON ATTITUDES TO NANOMATERIALS				
	Enthusiast	Tolerating	Fearing	No opinion
<i>Products that should be labelled if they contain nanomaterials</i>	medicines cosmetics toys paints/varnishes/surface coatings	cosmetics food medicines	kitchenware detergents/household cleaning products construction materials clothing/textiles paints/varnishes/surface coatings and many others...	None

The respondents primarily expect the label to contain the warning against possible negative impacts/risks of nanomaterials. This requirement is relatively significant in all countries, mainly in France and Finland. Higher percentages of respondents from Austria considered a symbol or a stamp to be sufficient for labelling. The second most required labelling element is a warning that a product contains nanomaterials.

The complete information about nanomaterial content, its amount and possible negative impact is the third most required option. This is relevant mainly for Bulgaria while citizens in other countries are relatively relaxed.

There is also a strong group of respondents, who require some information on the label, but they are not able to specify its content. This attitude is prevalent in Austria and Finland.

**Graph 43 - For which of the following products do you think you should be informed (for example on the label or on the packaging) when buying a product containing nanomaterials? (N=5000, question Q28)**



### Need for information outside the EU

In Australia in 2013, most respondents believed that regulatory authorities should make labelling of nano products obligatory to inform citizens. The product that should most likely be affected by labelling was food followed by off-the-shelf medicines, cosmetics/sunscreens, pesticides, computers, and sports equipment. According to this study, labelling will increase the competitiveness of the product containing nanomaterials/treated by nanotechnology (Capon, Gillespie et al. 2015).

According to a USA study from 2015, higher trust does not mean lower desires for labelling and lower trust does not mean higher desires either. This is an interesting finding and perhaps suggests that labelling is mediated by other factors like the consumer’s right to know and choose, rather than trust to ensure safety. The role of labelling may not be seen as a government restrictive policy to ensure safety, but rather could be performed to provide a choice (Yue, Zhao et al. 2015).

Higher levels of knowledge in science are associated with increased support for nano-food labelling, but not banning the product. One of the most interesting findings from the study conducted in Singapore by Chuah, Leong et al. (2018) is the relationship between attitudes toward technology and support for the labelling of nano-food. The results found attitudes

toward technology to be positively associated with support for labelling. Due to an inherent desire for personal control in the purchasing process, consumers would prefer making their own decisions based on the labels and keep their purchasing options open rather than the banning of these food products. People who dislike technology tend to support the banning of nano-food (Chuah, Leong et al. 2018).

The government staff in Malaysia believe that the benefit and risk information in the form of a label on nanoproducts serves as a communication tool that assists the public with making decisions (Kamarulzaman, Lee et al. 2019).

## 4. Summary

### 4.1 Awareness of nanomaterials/nanotechnology

Are consumers aware of what nanomaterials are and where they are used?

Despite nanomaterials being a common part of our everyday lives through various products (foodstuffs, chemicals, textiles and apparel or electronics to name just a few), general awareness about the nature, characteristics and properties of nanomaterials is very low – a lack of awareness of nanomaterials (or a very shallow knowledge) is more common than awareness. However, the awareness is clearly increasing over time. The average percentage of respondents that are aware of nanomaterials in 2005 was 43%, in 2010 the number increased to 47% and in 2020 it is 65% (sum of the percentage answering “heard something” and “heard a lot”), measured on the representative sample of 5000 respondents from 5 different EU member states.

The prompted answers on uses of nanomaterials indicate that the public is aware of (or can logically deduce) the wide use and various applications of nanomaterials, but there is very limited understanding how the use of nanomaterials brings benefit to different technologies and products, and ultimately to the users and consumers of the products. When provided with examples, respondents mostly linked the use of nanomaterials with electronics, surface treatment, cosmetics, and textiles.

### 4.2 Shopping habits and behaviour related to products containing nanomaterials

As the population becomes more aware that human health is connected to lifestyle choices and with growing interest in environmental issues, consumers are more cautious when buying goods. That means, that consumers are more interested in the origins and content of the products they buy in the context of the impacts on human health and the environment. When buying a product for the first time, more than half of the respondents claim to read information about its content and safety information.

The growing interest in a healthy lifestyle is confirmed by most respondents willing to pay a higher price for a safer product. Respondents claim willingness to pay 1-20% more for a guaranteed safer product, however, it can be expected that the real willingness will be closer to the lower limit of this range.

If consumers were presented with clear information that a product contains nanomaterials, the majority would take a cautious stand of either not buying such a product, or decide based on the category of the product (less concern was observed with electronics, car equipment, electrical appliances etc., more with food, food packaging, medicines and cosmetics). However, this attitude is clearly linked to the respondent’s level of knowledge about nanomaterials. The lower the level of knowledge, the less likely the respondent is to buy a product containing nanomaterials or treated with nanotechnologies. The public is most cautious when buying a product where direct exposure is likely or inevitable (e.g. food or cosmetics).

### 4.3 General risk perception

The respondents generally perceive health risks as an important issue for their lives, at least on a declarative level, most of the population is quite vigilant. Only a small percentage of respondents indicate a fundamental lack of interest in health risks.

When presented with examples of modern technologies and other potential areas of concern regarding human health and the environment and asked about their perception of them, two-



thirds of respondents were concerned about the impact of using asbestos, accumulation of plastic waste, global warming, use of pesticides and GMOs. On the contrary, less than one-quarter of the respondents were concerned about the impact of modern technologies such as computers, mobile phones, electronics, or social networks on human life.

Compared to other modern trends and technologies, the impact of nanomaterials on human life does not cause significant concerns. Approximately one-quarter of survey respondents were worried about the possible impact of nanomaterials on their life (comparable with those concerned about computer use, social networks, and electronics). Around the same number of respondents do not have a distinct opinion, which seems to be caused by the lack of knowledge about the topic.

#### **4.4 Risks perception related to nanomaterials**

Are consumers concerned about nanomaterials in the products they use? What risks/benefits do consumers associate with nanomaterials? How do consumers think they are exposed to nanomaterials?

The desk research carried out within the presented study concluded that public perception of risks and benefits associated with nanomaterials is highly variable depending on the applications and types of products in which nanomaterials are used. Although not explicitly discussed or studied in detail in most studies, it is obvious that public perception of risks and benefits is associated with the level of expected exposure to nanomaterials in relation to different uses and/or groups of products (e.g. food contact materials or cosmetics products such as sunscreens raise higher concerns in most studies than products where lower/none or indirect exposure to nanomaterials is expected, e.g. computers).

The presented study (both the desk research as well as the online survey) indicates that the perception of risks is directly linked to the level of awareness and knowledge about nanomaterials. Nearly half of the respondents could not decide when asked about their perception of the level of safety of using products containing nanomaterials. A higher level of concern is declared only by one-fifth of respondents, mostly people over 50 years of age.

The level of concern increases when talking about direct exposure to nanomaterials – two-thirds of the respondents are concerned to get into direct contact with nanomaterials. The concerns are mainly associated with yet to be discovered impacts and properties of nanomaterials, as well as limited means to avoid exposure. In this regard, dermal exposure is perceived as most likely. However, the respondents also tend to think that negative impacts can be avoided or prevented by proper use and treatment of nanomaterials.

#### **Possible drivers in the perception of risks and benefits of nanomaterials/nanotechnology**

Some studies conclude that the perception of risks and benefits by the public is driven predominantly by cognitive factors rather than other factors, e.g. psycho-social or socio-demographic. In other words, people who tend to be cautious and reserved to adopting new technologies and are concerned about potential risks associated with disruptive technologies are more likely to be concerned about the presence of nanomaterials in products.

Hypothesis 1: Gender may affect the risk and benefit perception of nanotechnology

Bainbridge (Bainbridge 2002), Smith et al. (Smith, Hosgood et al. 2008) and Bottini et al. (Bottini, Rosato et al. 2011) concluded that women are less enthusiastic about nanotechnologies than men.

**This hypothesis was confirmed by the present study – there are gender-related differences in the risks and benefits perception of nanotechnology (see Table 19).**

**Women are generally more concerned that nanotechnology may have a negative impact on their lives.**

Hypothesis 2: Religiosity may affect the risk and benefit perception of nanotechnology

The study of Ho et al. (Ho, Scheufele et al. 2010) concludes that highly religious individuals are less supportive of funding of nanotechnology than less religious individuals, whereas individuals who held high deference for scientific authority were more supportive of funding of the emerging technology than those low in deference.

According to another study, "*individuals who are high on religiosity significantly perceived higher risks than those who are low on religiosity among the public*" (Conti, Satterfield et al. 2011). The study suggests that those who report vulnerability and affirm environmental justice, display sensitivity toward risk information and as a result tend to rate nanotechnology applications described as risky and less acceptable. However, the study of Bottini et al. (Bottini, Rosato et al. 2011) concludes that religiosity does not have an impact on the risk and benefit perception of nanotechnologies.

**The hypothesis was supported by the present study - there is a correlation between the declared importance of religious beliefs and the risks and benefits perception of nanotechnology (see chapter Attitudes to new trends and possible impact on everyday life). Respondents, who claim that religion is important for them are more concerned about nanotechnology having a negative impact on their lives.**

Hypothesis 3: Level of education may affect the risk and benefit perception of nanotechnology

According to Bottini et al. (Bottini, Rosato et al. 2011), level of education may have an impact on the risk and benefit perception of nanotechnologies.

**This hypothesis was confirmed by the present study - level of education does affect the risks and benefits perception of nanotechnology (see Table 19). Respondents with a lower level of education are more likely to be concerned about nanotechnology having a negative impact on their lives.**

Hypothesis 4: Age does not affect the risk and benefit perception of nanotechnology

The study of Bottini (Bottini, Rosato et al. 2011) suggests that age does not have an impact on the risk and benefit perception of nanotechnologies.

**This hypothesis was disproved by the present study - age does affect the risks and benefits perception of nanotechnology (see Table 19). The respondents under 30 years of age are mostly enthusiastic about nanotechnology, whereas the respondents over 50 years of age are fearing it. The respondents between 30 and 49 years of age claim mostly to have no opinion on the matter, or they are not strongly concerned.**

## **4.5 Attitudes related to nanomaterials**

According to the present study, standpoints towards nanomaterials vary. The respondents are taking a positive or neutral stand to expectations regarding new possibilities and their positive impact on everyday life. Usually, the respondents tend to agree with nanomaterials being used in strengthening rubber tyres, more efficient treatment of wastewater or in cars and

electronics. However, they are more cautious when it comes to direct contact with nanomaterials – reduction of the salt content in foods, enrichment of foods with vitamins and other nutrients etc.

This variability in answers allows the segmentation of the population into four groups. The most unambiguous group are people with a very positive attitude towards nanomaterials (called „Enthusiasts“ throughout this report). This group represents 19% of the population, most frequently people of 40 - 49 years of age, inhabitants of big cities with higher education (university level).

A relatively similar attitude can be observed within the most populated group (46% of the respondents) characterised by an open, tolerating attitude towards nanomaterials (segment name – Tolerating). A typical representant of this group is a person younger than 29 years, a student, or a person with university-level education.

The third group differs significantly from the previous ones – it represents nanomaterials rejectors (segment name – Fearing). This group represented mostly by people above 50 years of age, with lower than university-level education, females more often than males comprise 23% of the studied population.

The fourth group, represented by 12% of the population, does not have a clear attitude towards nanomaterials, their uses, characteristics, and impacts (segment name – No opinion). This segment is similar to the Fearing, with the only difference being age (30-39 years).

## **4.6 Information sources**

What source do consumers use when looking for information on the safety and risks of nanomaterials?

More than half of the respondents claimed that they are equally informed about nanomaterials compared to other modern technologies. The primary sources where the respondents encountered information about nanomaterials are TV and the internet. When looking for information actively, the internet is the main source of information for the highest number of respondents (almost half of the respondents). Only one in five respondents claim awareness of any specific websites or databases with centralised information about nanomaterials or products containing them.

## **4.7 Trust in authorities**

Who do consumers trust most for information on nanomaterials (authorities, companies, NGOs, others)?

The most trustworthy institutions/persons regarding information about nanomaterials are scientists/researchers (universities, research institutes, etc.), national health and occupational health and safety authorities, but also EU authorities (e.g. European Commission, European Chemicals Agency).

EU authorities are the third most preferred source of information about the safety of nanomaterials by the respondents. 14% of respondents place “absolute trust” in them and half of the respondents place “a bit of trust” in them, comparable to the trustworthiness given to consumer and environmental organisations and pharmacists. However, the difference between the trustworthiness of the individual sources of information is not significant.

The public tends to put the least trust in politicians and producers or distributors of the products containing nanomaterials.

## 4.8 Labelling of products containing nanomaterials

Are there specific areas that consumers are particularly interested in but feel they do not have sufficient information available?

87 % of the respondents think that they should be informed when buying a product containing nanomaterials, for example on the label or packaging.

The most significant need for labelling products containing nanomaterials is stated to be in food and food-related products, medicines, cosmetics, clothing/textiles, toys and detergents or household products.

The general requirement is usually a warning against possible negative impacts and risks or just general information about nanomaterials content. However, this study was not aiming at exploring what kind of information should be presented on labels and in what form as it would significantly extend the survey questionnaire and would require a completely new set of questions and case studies to be introduced.

## 4.9 Comparison between Europe and other countries

The awareness of nanomaterials and nanotechnology both within and outside the EU is similar and low, with the exception of Asia (mainly Singapore and China), where awareness and knowledge are higher.

The only studies researching purchase intentions for products containing nanomaterials outside the EU were conducted in Australia and New Zealand, and the results correspond with the findings of this study. Nanomaterials used in food raises the most concern among the respondents, while industrial usage of nanomaterials does not concern them.

Regarding the perception of risks and benefits of nanomaterials, Americans are more concerned about nanotechnology leading to arms race and weaponisation, nanotechnology being used by terrorists, and nanotechnology leading to economic disruption than citizens of other countries. The citizens of China often mentioned violating people's privacy and nano-weapon threats to national and personal security as a potential risk of nanomaterials use.

The trusted and preferred sources of information are very similar in all continents - scientists, universities. Also, the labelling needs do not differ significantly between continents - respondents of all countries agree that they should be informed about nanomaterial content on the label of a product to be able to make informed purchase decisions.

## 5. Recommendations

Although the awareness of nanomaterials among the public has slightly increased over the last fifty years, it does not correspond with the increasing and changing number of consumer uses and applications. As a general lack of awareness and knowledge causes concerns and emotional reactions, it is deemed necessary to gradually raise awareness and inform the population about the existence, properties, uses and possible impacts of nanomaterials in daily life.

An increased level of knowledge of nanomaterials help ensure that the public is able to make informed choices about products containing nanomaterials, including their benefits and risks and eliminate future barriers in acceptance by the public and willingness to buy, which can stem from a lack of knowledge (mostly about potential negative impacts of nanomaterials on human health and the environment). A clear communication strategy plays a key role in informing about the risks and benefits of nanomaterials use.

The communication strategy should include these phases in the following order:

1. Awareness-raising
2. Communication of benefits
3. Safety level information

### Phase 1: Increasing awareness

This phase aims to raise awareness and inform the public about the existence of nanomaterials and nanotechnology as a common part of daily life and to clearly communicate about the distinction between different nanomaterials as they can have very different properties, benefits and risks, as is the case with all chemicals.

It is necessary to raise awareness about nanomaterials with claims and facts that are comprehensible and close to the interests of the general public, using common layman language e.g. a claim that the public will associate with the term nanomaterials. An example of such a claim could be "Nanomaterial x is a common part of daily life" or "Nanotechnology is crucial for progress". It is also key to ensure granularity in communicating about nanomaterials and to clearly communicate that some nanomaterials are safe and others are not and why this is the case (i.e. how they are regulated and what the scientific data shows). The awareness-raising phase aims to limit the concerns that stem from a lack of knowledge.

This communication phase should include:

- Description of what nanomaterials are
- Uses of nanomaterials
- History of nanotechnology (the discovery and progress, popularised text form)

The communication channels for this phase should be as broadly followed by the public as possible. As the key information is that nanomaterials and nanotechnology are a common part of daily life, this information should be presented via communication channels that are also a common part of the public's daily life. The examples are the following:

- The Internet – the most visited portals, news portals
- TV
- Newspaper, magazines
- Schools (from elementary level to university level)
- Well-structured and easy to understand website dedicated to nanomaterials that would be the primary source of exhaustive information about the properties, uses, history, benefits, and risks of nanomaterials. Ideally, an easily found and remembered domain,

e.g. [www.nanomaterials.com](http://www.nanomaterials.com)

## **Phase 2: Communication of benefits**

The second phase of raising awareness among the public about nanomaterials and nanotechnology concentrates on presenting the benefits of using them – the reasons why nanotechnology is applied. The public needs to be presented with unambiguous cases of successful applications of nanomaterials that benefit human life and society, and that they may have benefited from personally. The examples must be specific, available to the layperson and easy to understand. One example can be the manufacture of mouthpieces including nanomaterials, that show promising results as personal protection equipment against the transmission of the COVID19 coronavirus (case of personal protective equipment development during COVID19 pandemic in the Czech Republic). Other examples are e.g. the nanomaterial carwash programmes, more durable clothes, lower amount of salt in foods etc.

In addition to the communication channels mentioned in the first phase, it is key for this phase for the producers of products containing nanomaterials or being treated by nanotechnology to clearly state on the labels and during marketing communication the benefits that the nanomaterials in their products bring.

## **Phase 3: Safety level information**

Regarding safety level information, three main areas of products and applications were identified:

1. Manufacture of computers, cars, spacecraft, other industrial applications – areas with uses of nanomaterials in components of products that the public is not directly exposed to
2. Clothes and apparel, accessories, household products, detergents, food packaging, toys etc. – areas of products that are a common part of the public's lives and can come into direct contact with their skin
3. Food, foodstuffs, cosmetics, medicines – products that are directly ingested or can cause exposure through inhalation

For the first group of products/applications, it does not seem efficient to communicate the potential risks/safety information as there is no direct exposure, they are the most distant from the public's everyday life and based on the study findings, the categories that the public seem to be least concerned about in terms of their safety.

For the second group, safety information should be communicated in cases where any adverse effects on human health/environment are known.

The situation is very different for the products belonging to the third group – products that are directly ingested or can cause inhalation exposure. These products should be clearly labelled and provide information about the presence of nanomaterials. It is recommended to make an additional study of the most suitable labelling and information requirements for the consumer products belonging to this group, factoring in the product type. This information could include content of nanomaterials, their possible impacts on human health (if applicable), safety use information, etc. It could be provided to consumers in the form of a label, a leaflet coming with the packaging or information material provided by the authorities with clearly listed risks and benefits.

As mentioned above, the order of the phases is crucial to ensure the understanding and approval of nanomaterials and nanotechnology by the public.

## Recommendations for further studies

The collective of authors recommends continuing and broadening the study namely in the following areas:

### 1) Current pandemic situation (COVID19)

The present study results from a survey presented to the respondents before the outbreak of a pandemic situation caused by COVID19 in Europe. It can be expected that the situation is changing the public perception of (not only) nanomaterials significantly. The amount of information about nanomaterials in public media rapidly increased due to nanomaterials being used for the manufacture of very effective personal protective equipment. This fact can lead to the following implications:

- The public awareness of nanomaterials may be higher
- The public may link nanomaterials with their benefits (more efficient protection against the virus)
- The public may be less concerned about being exposed to nanomaterials as they get used to being in direct skin contact with them

On the other hand, the overall concern and the perceived importance of health protection may also increase and lead to a more cautious approach to any health risks, including those related to very small particles that are similar in size to viruses.

- 2) Use of specific research methods to allow detailed study of nanomaterial risk perception (concepts testing, qualitative techniques etc.)
- 3) A detailed study focused on the broad topic of labelling products containing nanomaterials
- 4) A study on the public's perception of a representative group of combinations of nanomaterials and their applications such as carbon nanotubes in golf clubs, silica in car tyres or ZnO in sunscreen.
- 5) Researching the whole EU27 to allow detailed study of regional differences that might be caused for example by the national registry of nanomaterials, marketing campaigns, specified university research etc.
- 6) Workshop/focus groups on developing the detailed communication strategy for informing and raising awareness among the public about nanomaterials and nanotechnology, including the development of a specific informative web portal dedicated to them

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## Annex 1 – Complete demographic profile of the respondents

<b>VIEW BY COUNTRIES</b>						
<i>Answers in %</i>	Total	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
<i>Number of respondents</i>	5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
<b>GENDER</b>						
Male	50	50	51	50	49	51
Female	50	50	49	50	51	49
<b>AGE CATEGORIES</b>						
16 - 29 years	25	28	24	24	24	27
30 - 39 years	25	26	25	25	27	24
40 - 49 years	25	23	25	26	27	24
50 - 60 years	24	23	26	25	22	25
<b>SIZE OF RESIDENCE</b>						
up to 5 000 inhabitants	21	22	8	38	33	7
5 – 50 000 inhabitants	27	22	23	28	31	30
50 – 200 000 inhabitants	23	25	28	8	22	33
over 200 000 inhabitants excl. Capital	13	23	16	2	9	16
Capital	15	8	24	24	5	15
<b>ECONOMICAL ACTIVITY</b>						
Farmer, Fishermen	1	1	1	1	1	1
Professional (lawyer, medical practitioner, accountant, etc.)	3	3	5	2	3	3
Owners of shops or companies, craftsmen, self-employed persons	2	2	4	3	3	1
Business proprietors, owner (full or partner) of a company	3	3	4	1	1	4
Employed professional (employed lawyer, practitioner, accountant)	7	13	7	1	3	10
General management, director or top management	1	1	1	1	3	1

Middle management, other management	8	9	10	11	4	5
Employed position, working mainly at a desk	22	22	20	25	26	17
Employed position, not at a desk but travelling (salesmen, driver)	1	1	2	2	1	1
Employed position, not at a desk, but in a service job (hospital, restaurant, police, firemen, etc.)	8	4	6	12	13	7
Supervisors	2	1	1	1	4	2
Skilled manual workers	11	12	15	10	9	10
Other (unskilled) manual workers, servants	2	2	2	2	2	2
Responsible for ordinary shopping and looking after the home, or without any current occupation, not working	6	8	8	7	6	2
Student	8	7	4	9	5	13
Unemployed or temporarily not working	8	3	6	7	11	14
Retired or unable to work through illness	6	6	3	7	5	9
<b>LIFE PHASE OF RESPONDENTS</b>						
Student: younger than 25, living with parents or alone	8	7	5	10	7	10
Young adult: 20-39 years old, working (not student), with or without partner	24	28	23	25	20	25
Young family: children up to 10 years old, in case of more children, the youngest up to 10 years old	18	21	22	15	20	12
Family with grown children: youngest child is 10 to 18 years old	14	13	15	11	22	11
Empty Nesters: middle age, children over 18 years old or without children	18	19	25	18	14	14
Silver Age: Couple or single person in retirement	4	4	2	6	3	6
Other	13	8	8	16	14	22
<b>SOCIETY CATEGORY</b>						
Higher class	2	2	2	2	3	2
Upper middle class	11	7	7	15	14	10

Middle class	49	55	53	51	48	38
Lower middle class	25	26	29	20	23	25
Lower class	7	4	3	4	8	14
Do not know	7	6	6	8	4	11
<b>AGE WHEN THE EDUCATION ENDED</b>						
Up to 15 years	2	1	1	4	3	2
16–19 years	30	13	26	53	36	19
20 + years	59	76	66	35	57	61
Still studying	10	10	7	8	5	18
<b>POLITICAL ORIENTATION</b>						
Clear left	5	6	2	4	6	8
Rather left	17	17	9	18	19	24
Center	23	21	26	34	24	12
Rather right	16	16	17	17	13	17
Clear right	7	9	6	3	8	7
Do not know	31	31	40	24	31	32
<b>ROLE OF RELIGION</b>						
Plays very important role	16	21	28	10	12	8
Plays rather important role	24	30	35	20	19	15
Plays rather peripheral role	22	19	16	27	18	29
Plays absolutely peripheral role	26	21	8	35	31	38
Do not know	12	10	13	8	20	10

## Annex 2 – Questionnaire

### Q1. Have you heard something about nanomaterials?

*(single-choice)*

- a. Nothing at all
- b. A little
- c. A lot

### Q2. What have you heard or read about nanomaterials?

*(Skip logic: Q2 will be skipped if the answer to Q1 is “a. Nothing at all”)*

*Open-ended question with a single free-text field*

### Q3. What is a nanomaterial in your opinion?

*Open-ended question with a single free-text field*

### Q4. Name three groups of products which may contain nanomaterials/nanoparticles

*Open-ended question with 3 free-text fields*

### Q5. Which of the following products may contain nanomaterials/nanoparticles in your opinion?

*(multiple-choice) (programming: selection items will be randomly rotated)*

- a. Cars
- b. Sports equipment
- c. Medicines
- d. Paints/Varnishes/Surface coatings
- e. Foods
- f. Plastics
- g. Household electrical appliances
- h. Computers and electronics
- i. Clothing/textiles
- j. Construction materials
- k. Detergents/household cleaning products
- l. Cosmetics
- m. Toys
- n. Kitchenware
- o. Pesticides and plant protection products/
- p. Car care products
- q. Other (please specify) *(if “Other” is selected, a free-text field will be prompted)*

### Q6. To what extent do you approve or disapprove of the following uses of nanomaterials?

*(programming: the items will be randomly rotated, one option should be selected in each row)*

Use of nanomaterials for...	I fully approve	I tend to approve	I tend to disapprove	I fully disapprove	I don't know
... a reduction of the salt content in foods while retaining the same taste	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... the enrichment of foods with vitamins and other nutrients	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... indoor paint that prevents the accumulation of odours (e.g. cigarette smoke)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... an increase in the efficiency of sunscreen	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

... active substances of skin cream that reach deeper skin layers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... the prevention of the occurrence of unpleasant odours in textiles	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... improving texture or colour of foods	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... developing new tastes of foods and flavours	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... extending shelf-life by maintaining or improving the condition of packaged foods	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... drugs which release their active substance in a concentration at the desired spot	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... repairing damaged teeth (filling or coating)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
...more efficient cleaning of waste water	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... strengthening the rubber in tyres and other rubber products	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... making plastics (e.g. PET bottles) more durable	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... keeping children's toys clean (reducing bacteria) and making them last longer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... protecting plants against pests/diseases	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

*Willingness to buy, shopping habits*

**Q7. When buying a new product for the first time, do you read safety information to determine whether the product is safe to be used in the way you intend to use it?**

*(single-choice)*

- Yes, always
- Sometimes, when I have doubts whether the product is safe or not
- No, never

**Q8. When deciding between buying two products with the same functional properties, which of the following statements would you agree with?**

*(single-choice)*

- I am willing to pay a much higher price (over 20 %) for the product which is less harmful to my health and/or the environment
- I am willing to pay a slightly higher price (1 – 20 %) for the product which is less harmful to my health and/or the environment
- I am not willing to pay a higher price for the product which is less harmful to my health and/or the environment



**Q9. Would you buy products from the following groups if they contained nanomaterials?**

*(programming: the items will be randomly rotated, one option should be selected for each row)*

	Yes, even more likely than products not containing nanomaterials	Yes, without any concern	Yes, but with some reservations	Definitely not	Main reasons why not: <i>(programming: this item will be triggered if "Definitely not" is selected)</i>	DK, I can't decide
Cars	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Sports equipment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Medicines	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Paints/Varnishes/Surface coatings	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Foods	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Plastics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Household electrical appliances	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Computers and electronics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Clothing/textiles	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Construction materials	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Detergents/household cleaning products	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Cosmetics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Toys	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Kitchenware	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Pesticides and plant protection products	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	.....	
Car care products						

*Awareness about chemical risks*

**Q10. What is your personal attitude to the following new trends, technologies or areas in terms of possible impact on your life?**

*(programming: the items will be randomly rotated; one option should be selected for each row)*

	I am concerned about possible negative impacts on my life	I'm not worried about possible negative impact on my life	I do not care	Cannot say
Nanomaterials	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Biofuels from genetically modified crops	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mobile phones	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Self-driving (autonomous) cars	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Foods from genetically modified crops	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Asbestos	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social networks	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pesticides and plant protection products	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Plastic wastes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Globalisation	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Electronics and computers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Artificial intelligence	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Global warming	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Q11. With regard to health, the main issue is not to what extent you are exposed to harmful materials, but whether or not you are exposed to them at all.**

*(Please use a scale from 1 to 5, where '1' means "completely disagree" and '5' "completely agree")*

<b>1 completely disagree</b>	<b>2 rather disagree</b>	<b>3 Neither nor</b>	<b>4 rather agree</b>	<b>5 completely agree</b>	<b>DK, cannot say</b>
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**Q12. If a person is exposed to an extremely small amount of a material that is harmful at larger amounts, then that person will probably be seriously ill some day in the future, even if the amount is extremely small.**

*(Please use a scale from 1 to 5, where '1' means "completely disagree" and '5' "completely agree")*

<b>1 completely disagree</b>	<b>2 rather disagree</b>	<b>3 Neither nor</b>	<b>4 rather agree</b>	<b>5 completely agree</b>	<b>DK, cannot say</b>
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*Perception of risks associated with nanomaterials*

**Q13. Would you say that products containing nanomaterials are ...**

*(single-choice) (programming: items a, b, c will be sorted a-c in 50 % of cases and c-a in 50 % of cases)*

- a. ... safer to use than products that do not contain nanomaterials
- b. ... equally safe to use as products that do not contain nanomaterials
- c. ... less safe to use than products that do not contain nanomaterials
- d. I cannot decide

**Q14. To what extent do you believe that risks (if any) associated with nanomaterials may be eliminated when nanomaterials are used in a proper way?**

*(Please use a scale from 1 to 5, where '1' means "completely disagree" and '5' "completely agree")*

<b>1 completely disagree</b>	<b>2 rather disagree</b>	<b>3 Neither nor</b>	<b>4 rather agree</b>	<b>5 completely agree</b>	<b>DK, cannot say</b>
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**Q15. Are you concerned about being exposed to nanomaterials?**

*(single-choice)*

- a. Not at all
- b. A little
- c. A lot

**Q16. What are the risks that you associate with nanomaterials?**

*(multiple-choice)*

- a. So far unknown properties of nanomaterials
- b. Difficult prevention of exposure (tiny particles can get anywhere)
- c. Other, please specify *(free-text field will be prompted)*
- d. None

**Q17. Which way do you feel is the most likely for people to be directly exposed to nanomaterials?**

*(single-choice) (programming: items will be randomly rotated)*

- a. Inhalation (by breathing)
- b. Dermal (by skin contact)
- c. Oral (by swallowing/drinking)
- d. None of the above

*(programming: not back)*

**Now let us give you a bit of information about nanomaterials.**

Nanomaterials contain particles with a size of one millionth of a millimetre (that's how thin a human hair split 50,000 times is). Materials made up of these particles have special physical, chemical and biological properties.

*(Programming: a) no further text is provided to the respondent (neutral description), b) rotation of the following two paragraphs – benefits-oriented and risks-oriented)*

*Benefits-oriented paragraph: Several scientists are assuming significant progress through nanotechnology. Even today, nanomaterials can improve the properties of paints, clothing and cosmetics. In the future, they may contribute among other things, to treating diseases more effectively, making food keep for longer, improving computers and repairing environmental damage. That's why they could possibly even trigger a new economic boom. (56 words)*

*Risks-oriented paragraph: Several scientists have pointed out the possible risks of nanotechnology. Nanomaterials could for example penetrate into organisms and endanger our health. They could promote resistance to certain bacteria and possibly cause cancer. They might also pollute the environment. Wider use of nanomaterials and more intensive research began just 20 years ago, some risks associated with the use of nanomaterials may have not yet been discovered. (65 words)*

**Q18. Now that you have some further information, are you concerned about being exposed to nanomaterials?**

*(single-choice)*

- a. Not at all
- b. A little
- c. A lot

**Q19. With this information on nanomaterials, how do you estimate the risks and benefits for the following uses?**

*(programming: the items will be randomly rotated, one option should be selected for each row)*

<b>Use of nanomaterials for...</b>	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the benefits.	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will slightly exceed the benefits.	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials slightly exceed the risks.	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the risks.	Cannot say
... a reduction of the salt content in foods while retaining the same taste	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... the enrichment of foods with vitamins and other nutrients	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... indoor paint that prevents the accumulation of odours (e.g. cigarette smoke)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... an increase in the efficiency of sunscreen	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... active substances of skin cream that reach deeper skin layers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... the prevention of the occurrence of unpleasant odours in textiles	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... improving texture or colour of foods	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... developing new tastes of foods and flavours	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... extending shelf-life by maintaining or improving the condition of packaged foods	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... drugs which release their active substance in a concentration at the desired spot	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... the repair of damaged tooth (teeth filling or coating)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... more efficient cleaning of waste water	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... strengthening the rubber in tyres and other rubber products	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... making plastics (e.g. PET bottles) more durable	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... keeping children's toys clean (reducing bacteria) and making them last longer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
... protecting plants against pests/diseases	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**Q20. Which of the following statements do you personally agree with?**

*(programming: the items will be randomly rotated, one option should be selected for each row)*

	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Neither agree nor disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	Cannot say
Nanomaterials will open up fantastic opportunities for technical development	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
I am very interested in scientific topics	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
If my country ( <i>programming: name the particular country here</i> ) wants to be globally competitive, it has to embrace technologies using nanomaterials	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
If nanomaterials make everyday products better, I'll gladly use them	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
I am looking forward to the many nano-products that will soon be on the market	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
I believe this whole nano thing is a marketing trick to improve sales of certain products	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
I believe nanomaterials offer many possibilities to cure and recognise diseases	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
I am sure that using nanomaterials will help to protect the environment and limit or repair environmental damage	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
I am convinced that using nanomaterials is of benefit to society	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
It's really frightening how many nano-products there are or soon will be	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
I'm worried that using nanomaterials could lead to completely new health problems	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
I'm concerned that using nanomaterials instead of traditional materials could damage the environment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
I believe that nanotechnology can lead to job cuts in traditional branches of industry	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
I'm afraid that nanotechnology will result in more individuals to be monitored and controlled by miniaturised technology	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
I believe it's hardly possible to control the health risks of using nanomaterials	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
I would approve nanomaterials development being promoted through state funding	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	

**Q21. How well informed do you feel about nanomaterials compared to other modern technologies?**

*(single-choice)*

- a. I feel better informed about nanomaterials compared to other new modern technologies
- b. Equally informed
- c. I feel less informed about nanomaterials compared to other new modern technologies

**Q22.a Where have you already heard, read or seen something about nanomaterials?**

*(multiple-choice) (Skip logic: Q21.a will be showed only to the respondents who selected option "b. A little" or "c. A lot" in Q1)*

- a. TV
- b. Radio
- c. Social media (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, etc.)
- d. YouTube
- e. elsewhere on the Internet
- f. Online media
- g. Product websites
- h. Blogs
- i. Newspapers
- j. Magazines
- k. School, university, college
- l. Workplace
- m. Personal discussion with family and/or friends
- n. Personal discussion with experts (e.g. doctors, chemists, scientists, journalists, etc.)
- o. Other - please specify *(free-text open field will be prompted if this option is selected)*

**Q22.b If you are looking for some information about nanotechnology, which resources will you use?**

*(multiple-choice) (Skip logic: Q21.b will be showed only to the respondents who selected option "a. Nothing at all" in Q1)*

- a. TV
- b. Radio
- c. Social media (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, etc.)
- d. YouTube
- e. Internet
- f. Online media
- g. Product websites
- h. Blogs
- i. Newspapers
- j. Magazines
- k. School, university, college
- l. Workplace
- m. Personal discussion with family and/or friends

- n. Personal discussion with experts (e.g. doctors, chemists, scientists, journalists, etc.)
- o. Other - please specify (*free-text open field will be prompted if this option is selected*)

**Q23. Are you aware of any websites or databases with centralised information about nanomaterials or products containing nanomaterials?**

*(single-choice) (all respondents)*

- a. Yes (*If "Yes", which ones? Please specify*)
- b. No

**Q24. Are you aware of the European Union Observatory for Nanomaterials (EUON)?**

- a. Yes
- b. No

*Trust in authorities*

**Q25. What would be your primary source of information about nanomaterials?** (Select your first - most preferred option in column 1, second option in column 2, third option in column 3, if non of them is relevant, please use option non of them)

	1 (this is my first source of information)	2 (this is my second source of information)	3 (this is my third source of information)	None of them
Distributor/seller from whom I bought the product	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Producer of the product	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Scientists/researchers (universities, research institutes, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Health and occupational safety authorities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Pharmacists	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Doctors (e.g. your doctor)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Consumer organisations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Government representatives, politicians	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
EU authorities (e.g. European Commission, European Chemicals Agency)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	
Environmental organisations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	

**Q26. How much trust would you place in the following persons or institutions if they were to inform you about safety of nanomaterials?**

	Absolute trust	Bit of trust	Not much trust	No trust at all
Distributor/seller from whom I bought the product	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Producer of the product	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Scientists/researchers (universities, research institutes, etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Health and occupational safety authorities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Pharmacists	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Doctors (e.g. your doctor)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Consumer organisations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Government representatives, politicians	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
EU authorities (e.g. European Commission, European Chemicals Agency)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Environmental organisations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

*Labelling of products containing nanomaterials*

**Q27. When buying a product containing nanomaterials, do you think you should be informed about it (for example on the label or on the packaging)?**

*(single-choice)*

- a. No
- b. Yes

**Q27a. What kind of information would you expect on the label of a product containing a nanomaterial?**

*(programming: only if the answer to Q27 is “yes”)*

*(open-ended question)*

.....

**Q28. For which of the following products do you think you should be informed (for example on the label or on the packaging) when buying a product containing nanomaterials?**

*(all respondents) (multiple-choice) (programming: items will randomly rotate)*

- a. Cars
- b. Sports equipment
- c. Medicines
- d. Paints/Varnishes/Surface coatings
- e. Foods
- f. Plastics
- g. Household electrical appliances
- h. Computers and electronics



- i. Clothing/textiles
- j. Construction materials
- k. Detergents/household cleaning products
- l. Cosmetics
- m. Toys
- n. Kitchenware
- o. Pesticides and plant protection products
- p. Car care products

**DEMOGRAPHY**

**D0 Country:**

- Poland
- Bulgaria
- Austria
- France
- Finland

**D1 You are:**

- 1) Male
- 2) Female

**D2 Year of birth:**

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**D3 What is the population of the town you live in?**

- 1) Less than 999 people
- 2) Less than 2.000 people
- 3) 2.001 to 5.000 people
- 4) 5.001 to 20.000 people
- 5) 20.001 to 50.000 people
- 6) 50.001 to 100.000 people
- 7) 100.001 to 200.000 people
- 8) More than 200.000 people, excluding Capital
- 9) Capital
- 10) Refused to answer

**D4 You are:**

- 1) Married or in long-term relationship
- 2) Single
- 3) Widowed
- 4) Divorced
- 99. I don't know

**D5 How many people, including you, live in your household?**

Write down: .....

**D6. What is your economical stuts?**

Self - employed

- 1) Farmer, Fishermen
- 2) Professional (lawyer, medical practitioner, accountant, etc.)
- 3) Owners of shops or companies, craftsmen, self-employed persons
- 4) Business proprietors, owner (full or partner) of a company

Employed

- 5) Employed professional (employed lawyer, practitioner, accountant)
- 6) General management, director or top management
- 7) Middle management, other management
- 8) Employed position, working mainly at a desk

- 9) Employed position, not at a desk but travelling (salesmen, driver)
- 10) Employed position, not at a desk, but in a service job (hospital, restaurant, police, firemen, etc.)
- 11) Supervisors
- 12) Skilled manual workers
- 13) Other (unskilled) manual workers, servants

Non-active

- 14) Responsible for ordinary shopping and looking after the home, or without any current occupation, not working
- 15) Student
- 16) Unemployed or temporarily not working
- 17) Retired or unable to work through illness

**D7. If you are employed, do you work:**

- 1) In public sector
- 2) In private sector
- 3) Elsewhere

**D8. In what phase of your life are you?**

- 1) Student: younger than 25, living with parents or alone
- 2) Young adult: 20-39 years old, working (not student), with or without partner
- 3) Young family: children up to 10 years old, in case of more children, the youngest up to 10 years old
- 4) Family with grown children: youngest child is 10 to 18 years old
- 5) Empty Nesters: middle age, children over 18 years old or without children
- 6) Silver Age: Couple or single person in retirement
- 7) Other: *please specify* .....

**D9. Considering all incomes and property of your household, would you say you are:**

- 1) Very well comfortable
- 2) Solidly comfortable
- 3) Averagely comfortable
- 4) Poorly comfortable
- 5) I'm a poor person
- 6) I don't know

**D10. Some people divide the society into higher, middle and lower classes. Whether you agree with this or not, try to place yourself in one of following categories:**

- 1) Higher class
- 2) Upper middle class
- 3) Middle class
- 4) Lower middle class
- 5) Lower class
- 6) I don't know

**D11 When have you completed your final education?**

- 1) Up to 15 years
- 2) 16–19 years
- 3) 20 + years
- 4) Still studying

**D12 In politics, the concept of “right” and “left” is often used. How would you classify yourself based on your opinions?**

- 1) Clear left
- 2) Rather left
- 3) Center
- 4) Rather right
- 5) Clear right
- 6) I don't know

**D13. Religious belief in your life:**

- 1) Plays very important role
- 2) Plays rather important role
- 3) Plays rather peripheral role
- 4) Plays absolutely peripheral role
- 5) I don't know

## Annex 3 – close ended questions – raw data

		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Have you heard something about nanomaterials?	Nothing at all	35	33	22	34	56	30
	A little	54	54	65	57	36	59
	A lot	11	13	13	9	8	11
<b>Q2 What have you heard or read about nanomaterials?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	COUNTRY				
			Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	<b>FILTER: THOSE WHO HAVE AT LEAST SOME AWARENES ACCORDING Q1</b>	3248	669	779	657	441	702
What specifically have you heard or read about nanomaterials?	Small particles / materials	22	27	18	25	27	14
	New / modern technology	5	7	6	2	5	6
	Nanoparticles / nanotechnologies	8	7	10	8	12	5
	Microscopic	3	3	4	3	3	1
	Molecular structures	2	9	1	0	0	0

	Chemical substances / chemistry	3	0	4	0	0	7
	Area of usage	15	7	19	19	6	18
	Other qualities	5	5	3	8	3	5
	Quality materials	1	1	1	1	3	1
	Other	18	16	19	17	20	20
	DK / No response	19	17	17	16	20	22
<b>Q3 What is a nanomaterial in your opinion?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	COUNTRY				
			Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
What is a nanomaterial in your opinion?	Small particles / materials	31	28	32	35	31	32
	New / modern technology	2	5	4	1	1	2
	Microscopic	4	5	5	3	4	2
	Molecular structures	1	4	1	0	1	1
	Chemical substances	3	1	6	1	0	10
	Plastic	1	0	0	3	0	1
	Other qualities	3	4	1	5	3	2
	Usage	6	6	5	7	6	6
	Quality materials	1	0	1	1	1	1

	Other	13	15	16	13	11	13
	DK / No response	34	33	29	32	42	31
Q4_1 Name three groups of products which may contain nanomaterials/nanoparticles		ALL COUNTRIES	COUNTRY				
			Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
<b>First mentioned</b> groups of products which may contain nanomaterials/nanoparticles	Cosmetics & Hygiene	7	8	8	6	3	10
	Computers & electronics	8	9	11	3	10	4
	Clothing & Textile	7	7	3	9	2	14
	Medicines	6	8	8	5	7	5
	Food	2	1	5	3	2	0
	Plastics	2	1	1	5	0	2
	Paints & Impregnation	3	4	2	5	1	3
	Sport equipment	1	0	0	2	0	3
	Sun protection	1	0	1	1	0	4
	Other technologies	3	2	4	2	4	3
	Cars & Car products	2	1	2	4	0	1
	Graphene	1	3	0	0	0	0
	Cleaning products	1	2	1	3	0	0

	Various materials	3	4	2	3	7	1
	Batteries	2	0	5	1	0	2
	Chemicals	1	1	0	0	1	1
	Other	16	15	15	20	21	12
	DK / No response	33	32	32	29	41	33
Q4_1_2_3 Name three groups of products which may contain nanomaterials/nanoparticles		ALL COUNTRIES	COUNTRY				
			Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
<b>All mentioned</b> groups of products which may contain nanomaterials/nanoparticles	Cosmetics & Hygiene	14	14	17	13	7	20
	Computers & electronics	16	19	23	10	20	9
	Clothing & Textile	14	14	9	18	5	22
	Medicines	15	19	18	12	13	11
	Food	6	4	13	6	4	3
	Plastics	3	1	2	9	2	4
	Paints & Impregnation	7	7	6	13	2	7
	Sport equipment	2	2	0	3	1	4
	Sun protection	2	0	1	1	0	5
	Other technologies	9	8	12	8	11	7

	Cars & Car products	4	3	4	7	1	3
	Graphene	1	4	1	0	1	1
	Cleaning products	3	3	2	6	1	2
	Various materials	9	11	5	8	14	5
	Batteries	3	1	7	1	0	5
	Chemicals	2	3	2	2	2	3
	Other	36	38	30	42	43	25
	DK / No response	33	32	32	29	41	33
<b>Q5 Which of the following products may contain nanomaterials/nanoparticles in your opinion?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Cars		33	33	27	41	32	34
Sports equipment		28	27	15	40	23	34
Medicines		40	39	44	37	38	42
Paints/Varnishes/Surface coatings		50	49	45	58	43	54
Foods		22	19	22	26	22	20
Plastics		39	50	30	21	40	55
Household electrical appliances		30	30	25	29	33	32

Computers and electronics		51	51	60	46	49	50
Clothing/textiles		42	41	33	51	33	51
Construction materials		38	37	27	41	42	44
Detergents/household cleaning products		38	38	28	51	33	42
Cosmetics		45	43	43	48	38	54
Toys		21	19	13	30	21	21
Kitchenware		22	26	18	27	18	23
Pesticides and plant protection products		32	28	26	35	34	34
Car care product		35	38	27	42	29	40
Other		0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Q6 To what extent do you approve or disapprove of the following uses of nanomaterials?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Use of nanomaterials for a reduction of the salt content in foods while retaining the same taste	I fully approve	14	13	17	10	13	16
	I tend to approve	28	31	28	23	30	28
	I tend to disapprove	22	19	24	23	19	24
	I fully disapprove	14	9	13	20	14	15
	I don't know	22	28	18	24	24	18



Use of nanomaterials for the enrichment of foods with vitamins and other nutrients	I fully approve	12	12	17	9	11	12
	I tend to approve	27	33	29	19	28	29
	I tend to disapprove	22	18	24	25	20	25
	I fully disapprove	18	12	16	26	18	15
	I don't know	21	26	15	22	23	19
Use of nanomaterials for indoor paint that prevents the accumulation of odours	I fully approve	22	23	33	17	16	20
	I tend to approve	41	45	43	35	42	37
	I tend to disapprove	12	9	10	16	12	16
	I fully disapprove	7	3	3	10	8	10
	I don't know	18	20	10	22	21	18
Use of nanomaterials for an increase in the efficiency of sunscreen	I fully approve	15	14	22	13	12	15
	I tend to approve	35	36	42	28	34	35
	I tend to disapprove	19	16	16	24	17	21
	I fully disapprove	10	8	7	13	12	12
	I don't know	21	26	13	22	25	17
Use of nanomaterials for active substances of skin cream that reach deeper skin layers	I fully approve	13	16	19	10	13	10
	I tend to approve	31	42	38	20	29	27
	I tend to disapprove	21	14	20	26	20	27
	I fully disapprove	14	7	9	22	14	18

	I don't know	20	22	13	22	24	19
Use of nanomaterials for the prevention of the occurrence of unpleasant odours in textiles	I fully approve	19	20	28	14	13	18
	I tend to approve	42	44	43	37	39	44
	I tend to disapprove	15	11	12	19	15	16
	I fully disapprove	7	3	4	11	11	8
	I don't know	18	22	12	19	22	15
Use of nanomaterials for improving texture or colour of foods	I fully approve	10	10	11	5	12	12
	I tend to approve	22	29	22	13	23	23
	I tend to disapprove	25	21	29	26	23	27
	I fully disapprove	22	13	21	35	21	20
	I don't know	21	26	16	20	22	18
Use of nanomaterials for developing new tastes of foods and flavours	I fully approve	10	11	14	5	10	10
	I tend to approve	24	30	31	13	25	21
	I tend to disapprove	24	20	24	27	20	30
	I fully disapprove	22	14	16	34	23	21
	I don't know	20	26	14	20	23	18
Use of nanomaterials for extending shelf-life by maintaining or improving the condition of packaged foods	I fully approve	12	14	13	9	11	13
	I tend to approve	28	35	28	19	29	28
	I tend to disapprove	23	18	25	27	20	27

	I fully disapprove	17	9	20	26	16	15
	I don't know	20	24	14	20	23	17
Use of nanomaterials for drugs which release their active substance in a concentration at the desired spot	I fully approve	23	21	28	22	16	26
	I tend to approve	39	39	40	36	38	40
	I tend to disapprove	12	12	14	14	12	10
	I fully disapprove	6	3	5	7	10	5
	I don't know	20	24	13	21	23	19
Use of nanomaterials for repairing damaged teeth (filling or coating)	I fully approve	25	25	31	25	18	28
	I tend to approve	39	43	41	34	39	40
	I tend to disapprove	11	8	11	13	12	10
	I fully disapprove	6	3	5	7	9	5
	I don't know	19	20	12	22	22	18
Use of nanomaterials for more efficient cleaning of waste water	I fully approve	30	26	39	28	19	38
	I tend to approve	38	42	39	33	42	36
	I tend to disapprove	9	9	8	11	11	7
	I fully disapprove	5	3	4	7	7	4
	I don't know	18	20	10	22	22	15
Use of nanomaterials for strengthening the rubber in tyres and other rubber products	I fully approve	29	26	35	30	21	34
	I tend to approve	43	45	43	37	44	44

	I tend to disapprove	8	8	8	10	10	7
	I fully disapprove	4	2	3	5	6	3
	I don't know	16	19	11	19	19	13
Use of nanomaterials for making plastics (e.g. PET bottles) more durable	I fully approve	17	17	20	12	13	21
	I tend to approve	34	38	37	25	35	37
	I tend to disapprove	15	11	17	20	15	14
	I fully disapprove	14	11	14	22	15	11
	I don't know	19	23	12	21	22	18
Use of nanomaterials for keeping children's toys clean (reducing bacteria) and making them last longer	I fully approve	20	20	29	19	15	19
	I tend to approve	39	40	40	34	39	40
	I tend to disapprove	14	13	14	15	14	15
	I fully disapprove	8	5	5	11	10	9
	I don't know	19	23	12	21	23	16
Use of nanomaterials for protecting plants against pests/diseases	I fully approve	18	17	24	14	16	18
	I tend to approve	39	42	43	32	38	41
	I tend to disapprove	16	12	16	21	15	16
	I fully disapprove	8	5	5	12	10	7
	I don't know	20	24	12	22	22	18

<b>Q7 When buying a new product for the first time, do you read safety information to determine whether the product is safe to be used in the way you intend to use it?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
When buying a new product for the first time, do you read safety information to determine whether the product is safe to be used in the way you intend to use it?	Yes, always	32	30	46	28	36	22
	Sometimes, when I have doubts whether the product is safe or not	60	62	50	65	54	69
	No, never	8	8	5	8	10	10
<b>Q8 When deciding between buying two products with the same functional properties, which of the following statements would you agree with?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
When deciding between buying two products with the same functional properties, which of the following statements would you agree with?	I am willing to pay a much higher price (over 20 %) for the product which is less harmful	24	24	36	22	27	14
	I am willing to pay a slightly higher price (1 – 20 %) for the product which is less harmful	62	67	58	64	52	68
	I am not willing to pay a higher price for the product which is less harmful to my health and/or the environment	14	9	7	14	21	18
<b>Q9 Would you buy products from the following groups if they contained nanomaterials?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland

NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Cars	Yes, even more likely than products not containing nanomaterials	11	8	21	11	8	8
	Yes, without any concern	39	49	44	34	32	39
	Yes, but with some reservations	24	18	17	25	31	27
	Definitely not	6	4	4	7	11	6
	DK, I can't decide	19	22	13	23	18	20
Sports equipment	Yes, even more likely than products not containing nanomaterials	10	8	17	9	9	7
	Yes, without any concern	36	47	42	28	25	37
	Yes, but with some reservations	26	20	20	29	31	32
	Definitely not	9	4	7	12	15	7
	DK, I can't decide	19	22	14	22	19	17
Medicines	Yes, even more likely than products not containing nanomaterials	8	7	13	6	8	6
	Yes, without any concern	22	25	25	15	19	25
	Yes, but with some reservations	33	31	32	32	31	38
	Definitely not	17	11	17	24	22	14
	DK, I can't decide	20	26	14	23	20	17

Paints/Varnishes/Surface coatings	Yes, even more likely than products not containing nanomaterials	11	10	20	10	8	7
	Yes, without any concern	36	45	43	28	27	35
	Yes, but with some reservations	28	21	22	31	33	35
	Definitely not	8	4	4	10	15	6
	DK, I can't decide	17	19	11	20	18	17
Foods	Yes, even more likely than products not containing nanomaterials	6	5	8	4	9	4
	Yes, without any concern	14	19	16	9	13	16
	Yes, but with some reservations	27	27	30	19	24	34
	Definitely not	32	21	32	47	33	28
	DK, I can't decide	21	28	15	20	21	19
Plastics	Yes, even more likely than products not containing nanomaterials	9	8	14	6	9	7
	Yes, without any concern	30	44	35	16	24	31
	Yes, but with some reservations	27	21	25	24	30	37
	Definitely not	12	6	12	17	18	9
	DK, I can't decide	21	21	13	38	19	16
Household electrical appliances	Yes, even more likely than products not containing	10	8	19	7	9	6

	nanomaterials						
	Yes, without any concern	39	47	44	31	32	41
	Yes, but with some reservations	27	22	21	31	33	32
	Definitely not	6	4	5	8	10	5
	DK, I can't decide	17	19	12	23	17	16
Computers and electronics	Yes, even more likely than products not containing nanomaterials	14	11	27	9	11	11
	Yes, without any concern	42	51	44	36	34	43
	Yes, but with some reservations	23	18	15	27	29	26
	Definitely not	5	3	4	7	9	5
	DK, I can't decide	16	18	10	21	18	15
Clothing/textiles	Yes, even more likely than products not containing nanomaterials	9	8	14	8	7	7
	Yes, without any concern	30	40	34	22	23	32
	Yes, but with some reservations	31	24	27	33	33	37
	Definitely not	13	7	12	18	18	9
	DK, I can't decide	17	21	13	20	18	16
Construction materials	Yes, even more likely than products not containing nanomaterials	11	9	20	10	9	6



	Yes, without any concern	38	50	46	26	33	35
	Yes, but with some reservations	26	18	18	33	29	33
	Definitely not	7	3	4	8	11	8
	DK, I can't decide	18	20	12	23	19	18
Detergents/household cleaning products	Yes, even more likely than products not containing nanomaterials	9	9	17	7	8	6
	Yes, without any concern	31	41	39	21	24	29
	Yes, but with some reservations	31	25	27	33	34	39
	Definitely not	12	5	7	19	17	11
	DK, I can't decide	17	20	10	21	17	16
Cosmetics	Yes, even more likely than products not containing nanomaterials	7	7	14	5	8	4
	Yes, without any concern	20	29	25	12	17	18
	Yes, but with some reservations	31	30	30	28	29	38
	Definitely not	22	12	18	33	27	21
	DK, I can't decide	19	23	13	23	19	20
Toys	Yes, even more likely than products not containing nanomaterials	7	6	12	6	8	5
	Yes, without any concern	25	34	30	15	22	23

	Yes, but with some reservations	29	27	28	27	31	35
	Definitely not	19	9	16	30	22	18
	DK, I can't decide	20	24	15	23	18	20
Kitchenware	Yes, even more likely than products not containing nanomaterials	8	7	15	6	8	5
	Yes, without any concern	30	41	36	22	25	27
	Yes, but with some reservations	29	25	27	29	31	36
	Definitely not	14	6	11	20	19	15
	DK, I can't decide	18	21	12	23	17	17
Pesticides and plant protection products	Yes, even more likely than products not containing nanomaterials	8	7	13	6	7	5
	Yes, without any concern	25	34	29	16	21	25
	Yes, but with some reservations	28	24	29	25	30	34
	Definitely not	19	10	14	30	24	15
	DK, I can't decide	21	25	15	23	19	21
Car care products	Yes, even more likely than products not containing nanomaterials	10	8	19	11	7	7
	Yes, without any concern	36	48	44	30	28	33
	Yes, but with some reservations	24	19	20	23	29	28

	Definitely not	9	3	5	14	16	9
	DK, I can't decide	20	21	14	23	20	23
<b>Q9X Main reasons why do not buy products if they contained nanomaterials</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	<b>FILTER:</b> THOSE WHO ANSWER IN QUESTION Q9 "DEFINITELY NOT"	312	35	41	71	106	59
Cars	Unnecessary / No use	19	17	15	20	9	37
	Harmful / Dangerous	14	17	20	13	16	5
	Environment protection	11	0	2	25	8	10
	No trust	9	9	12	4	13	5
	Too expensive	2	0	0	3	2	2
	Other	9	11	7	8	11	3
	DK / No response	38	46	44	27	40	37
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	<b>FILTER:</b> THOSE WHO ANSWER IN QUESTION Q9 "DEFINITELY NOT"	455	38	70	124	153	70
Sports equipment	Unnecessary / No use	17	21	7	15	18	27
	Harmful / Dangerous	24	13	23	26	27	24
	Environment protection	6	0	4	16	0	7

	No trust	10	16	9	6	14	7
	Too expensive	2	3	0	2	1	3
	Other	11	0	17	14	11	7
	DK / No response	30	47	40	23	29	24
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	<b>FILTER:</b> THOSE WHO ANSWER IN QUESTION Q9 "DEFINITELY NOT"	869	107	169	239	218	136
Medicines	Unnecessary / No use	7	9	5	8	5	8
	Harmful / Dangerous	34	26	33	42	35	24
	Environment protection	1	0	1	4	0	0
	No trust	22	33	25	14	23	20
	Too expensive	0	0	0	0	1	0
	Other	15	14	9	17	13	22
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	<b>FILTER:</b> THOSE WHO ANSWER IN QUESTION Q9 "DEFINITELY NOT"	396	38	43	102	152	61
Paints/Varnishes/Surface coatings	Unnecessary / No use	11	11	7	16	5	18
	Harmful / Dangerous	28	16	28	27	33	23
	Environment protection	8	5	2	18	5	3
	No trust	10	8	16	3	14	11
	Too expensive	2	3	0	0	3	2

	Other	14	13	16	20	13	10
	DK / No response	28	45	30	17	28	33
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	<b>FILTER:</b> THOSE WHO ANSWER IN QUESTION Q9 "DEFINITELY NOT"	1613	214	318	472	333	276
Foods	Unnecessary / No use	4	2	4	6	5	5
	Harmful / Dangerous	19	14	19	23	19	13
	Environment protection	1	0	0	4	0	2
	No trust	9	11	7	7	15	9
	Too expensive	0	0	1	0	1	0
	Unhealthy	27	33	25	25	27	28
	Unnatural	16	21	20	14	12	16
	Unknown effects	4	5	4	4	3	4
	Other	8	4	7	11	6	9
	DK / No response	10	10	12	7	12	14
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	<b>FILTER:</b> THOSE WHO ANSWER IN QUESTION Q9 "DEFINITELY NOT"	619	60	118	171	182	88
Plastic	Unnecessary / No use	12	12	13	13	9	14
	Harmful / Dangerous	20	23	31	13	20	16
	Environment protection	17	10	14	18	16	24

	No trust	8	3	3	8	13	5
	Too expensive	1	2	0	0	1	1
	Unhealthy	3	3	2	4	3	5
	Unnatural	1	3	1	1	2	0
	Unknown effects	3	3	3	2	2	5
	Other	13	8	9	17	14	13
	DK / No response	23	32	24	23	20	19
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	<b>FILTER:</b> THOSE WHO ANSWER IN QUESTION Q9 "DEFINITELY NOT"	317	37	49	84	99	48
Household electrical appliances	Unnecessary / No use	5	3	2	10	1	10
	Harmful / Dangerous	22	16	39	12	31	6
	Environment protection	10	3	2	24	6	10
	No trust	12	14	12	10	12	15
	Too expensive	3	5	2	1	3	2
	Unhealthy	8	5	8	13	7	4
	Unnatural	0	0	0	1	0	0
	Unknown effects	4	3	4	7	1	8
	Other	7	11	8	5	5	10
	DK / No response	28	41	22	18	33	33

NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	<b>FILTER:</b> THOSE WHO ANSWER IN QUESTION Q9 "DEFINITELY NOT"	265	25	36	67	92	45
Computers and electronics	Unnecessary / No use	8	8	0	15	5	11
	Harmful / Dangerous	21	12	33	13	27	13
	Environment protection	7	0	0	18	4	7
	No trust	6	4	0	6	9	7
	Too expensive	2	0	3	3	2	2
	Unhealthy	10	4	6	10	14	7
	Unnatural	2	0	0	3	2	2
	Unknown effects	2	8	0	1	1	2
	Other	3	0	6	4	3	0
	DK / No response	39	64	53	25	32	49
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	<b>FILTER:</b> THOSE WHO ANSWER IN QUESTION Q9 "DEFINITELY NOT"	641	67	115	184	184	91
Clothing/textiles	Unnecessary / No use	7	1	5	9	8	5
	Harmful / Dangerous	13	7	19	11	16	10
	Environment protection	5	0	1	12	1	7
	No trust	10	15	10	6	10	11
	Too expensive	0	0	0	1	1	0

	Unhealthy	31	24	25	35	34	31
	Unnatural	7	12	7	6	6	7
	Unknown effects	4	7	5	5	3	3
	Other	4	3	8	4	4	1
	DK / No response	19	30	19	11	18	25
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	<b>FILTER:</b> THOSE WHO ANSWER IN QUESTION Q9 "DEFINITELY NOT"	347	34	39	84	110	80
Construction materials	Unnecessary / No use	10	9	5	8	11	15
	Harmful / Dangerous	17	12	26	12	20	16
	Environment protection	7	3	8	15	5	5
	No trust	9	12	5	7	9	10
	Too expensive	2	6	0	2	2	0
	Unhealthy	12	0	5	17	15	9
	Unnatural	2	3	0	2	3	0
	Unknown effects	4	3	8	5	1	5
	Other	7	9	8	6	5	9
	DK / No response	31	44	36	25	29	31
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	<b>FILTER:</b> THOSE WHO ANSWER IN QUESTION Q9 "DEFINITELY NOT"	584	52	68	188	168	108



Detergents/household cleaning products	Unnecessary / No use	15	13	3	11	17	25
	Harmful / Dangerous	22	12	31	26	24	12
	Environment protection	13	4	4	25	6	13
	No trust	13	33	10	6	18	7
	Too expensive	1	0	1	0	2	0
	Other	15	8	13	18	15	17
	DK / No response	22	31	37	15	18	26
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	<b>FILTER: THOSE WHO ANSWER IN QUESTION Q9 "DEFINITELY NOT"</b>	1097	117	177	332	266	205
Cosmetics	Unnecessary / No use	5	1	5	7	5	6
	Harmful / Dangerous	8	10	13	5	10	6
	Environment protection	3	2	1	7	1	3
	No trust	9	11	13	5	11	6
	Too expensive	0	0	0	0	1	0
	Unhealthy	40	37	37	43	42	36
	Unnatural	10	15	8	11	9	9
	Unknown effects	5	3	7	5	2	7
	Other	8	7	6	6	6	16
	DK / No response	11	14	11	9	14	10

NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	<b>FILTER:</b> THOSE WHO ANSWER IN QUESTION Q9 "DEFINITELY NOT"	942	92	158	295	216	181
Toys	Unnecessary / No use	4	0	3	7	4	2
	Harmful / Dangerous	44	42	49	38	46	50
	Environment protection	2	0	1	6	1	2
	No trust	8	17	11	6	8	4
	Too expensive	0	1	1	0	0	1
	Unhealthy	11	9	7	18	10	5
	Unnatural	5	3	6	6	3	3
	Unknown effects	4	1	1	5	3	6
	Other	7	10	6	4	7	12
	DK / No response	14	16	15	10	17	16
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	<b>FILTER:</b> THOSE WHO ANSWER IN QUESTION Q9 "DEFINITELY NOT"	713	60	107	203	194	149
Kitchenware	Unnecessary / No use	8	2	2	9	12	7
	Harmful / Dangerous	39	47	41	38	33	45
	Environment protection	5	2	1	11	2	3
	No trust	10	12	16	7	11	9
	Too expensive	1	2	2	0	1	1

	Unhealthy	11	8	7	12	14	8
	Unnatural	4	3	4	4	4	5
	Unknown effects	4	2	1	4	4	5
	Other	5	3	9	4	4	5
	DK / No response	13	20	17	9	16	11
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	<b>FILTER:</b> THOSE WHO ANSWER IN QUESTION Q9 "DEFINITELY NOT"	930	97	140	301	241	151
Pesticides and plant protection products	Unnecessary / No use	4	1	1	6	3	5
	Harmful / Dangerous	19	21	26	13	21	19
	Environment protection	16	12	11	25	8	15
	No trust	7	3	9	7	6	7
	Too expensive	1	0	1	0	1	0
	Unhealthy	7	7	6	7	10	3
	Unnatural	14	16	11	13	18	13
	Unknown effects	2	2	2	2	2	3
	Other	17	14	13	20	17	15
	DK / No response	14	23	18	8	14	20
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	<b>FILTER:</b> THOSE WHO ANSWER IN QUESTION Q9 "DEFINITELY NOT"	467	33	46	139	156	93

Cars care products	Unnecessary / No use	24	18	13	25	15	43
	Harmful / Dangerous	16	18	26	17	21	4
	Environment protection	10	3	7	19	3	10
	No trust	8	9	11	4	13	4
	Too expensive	1	3	0	1	2	1
	Unhealthy	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Unnatural	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Unknown effects	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Other	12	12	7	11	15	11
	DK / No response	29	36	37	23	31	27
<b>Q10 What is your personal attitude to the following new trends, technologies or areas in terms of possible impact on your life?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Nanomaterials	I am concerned about possible negative impacts on my life	25	18	25	31	27	24
	I am not worried about possible negative impact on my life	38	41	52	28	29	41
	I do not care	10	11	4	9	15	11
	Cannot say	27	30	18	32	30	23

Biofuels from genetically modified crops	I am concerned about possible negative impacts on my life	29	28	33	31	26	27
	I am not worried about possible negative impact on my life	41	40	48	35	37	43
	I do not care	12	12	8	12	15	15
	Cannot say	18	20	12	22	22	15
Mobile phones	I am concerned about possible negative impacts on my life	27	28	32	28	27	21
	I am not worried about possible negative impact on my life	51	48	58	48	41	61
	I do not care	12	12	5	15	18	13
	Cannot say	9	12	6	9	14	5
Self-driving (autonomous) cars	I am concerned about possible negative impacts on my life	31	30	26	33	30	34
	I am not worried about possible negative impact on my life	41	39	53	39	35	39
	I do not care	15	14	8	13	18	20
	Cannot say	14	16	14	14	17	7
Foods from genetically modified crops	I am concerned about possible negative impacts on my life	60	57	76	63	53	50
	I am not worried about possible negative impact on my life	21	23	14	17	20	30
	I do not care	8	7	4	7	12	11

	Cannot say	12	13	6	13	16	10
Asbestos	I am concerned about possible negative impacts on my life	64	69	60	67	63	61
	I am not worried about possible negative impact on my life	15	12	16	12	15	18
	I do not care	9	7	8	7	9	14
	Cannot say	13	12	17	15	13	7
Social networks	I am concerned about possible negative impacts on my life	27	27	27	30	28	24
	I am not worried about possible negative impact on my life	45	41	56	43	36	51
	I do not care	16	19	9	16	22	17
	Cannot say	11	14	8	11	14	7
Pesticides and plant protection products	I am concerned about possible negative impacts on my life	61	61	66	66	56	54
	I am not worried about possible negative impact on my life	20	19	21	15	19	27
	I do not care	8	7	5	8	11	11
	Cannot say	11	13	7	12	14	8
Plastic wastes	I am concerned about possible negative impacts on my life	66	66	71	70	57	65
	I am not worried about possible negative impact on my life	19	16	18	16	20	23

	I do not care	7	7	5	5	11	7
	Cannot say	9	10	6	8	13	5
Globalisation	I am concerned about possible negative impacts on my life	39	40	43	41	29	39
	I am not worried about possible negative impact on my life	34	33	40	32	28	38
	I do not care	11	11	5	10	17	13
	Cannot say	16	17	12	16	25	10
Electronics and computers	I am concerned about possible negative impacts on my life	19	20	20	20	19	15
	I am not worried about possible negative impact on my life	59	55	69	57	48	68
	I do not care	12	14	4	12	19	12
	Cannot say	10	11	7	12	14	5
Artificial intelligence	I am concerned about possible negative impacts on my life	36	36	38	40	29	35
	I am not worried about possible negative impact on my life	40	36	46	35	37	46
	I do not care	11	12	6	10	17	12
	Cannot say	13	15	11	16	18	8
Global warming	I am concerned about possible negative impacts on my life	64	65	73	64	59	63

	I am not worried about possible negative impact on my life	19	18	18	18	20	22
	I do not care	7	7	3	7	10	9
	Cannot say	9	10	6	11	12	6
<b>Q11 With regard to health, the main issue is not to what extent you are exposed to harmful materials, but whether or not you are exposed to them at all.</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
With regard to health, the main issue is not to what extent you are exposed to harmful materials, but whether or not you are exposed to them at all.	Completely disagree	8	5	14	11	4	8
	Rather disagree	18	13	20	24	11	23
	Neither nor	24	24	16	21	30	29
	Rather agree	29	36	26	27	33	23
	Completely agree	15	18	22	11	16	8
	DK, cannot say	6	4	3	6	7	9
<b>Q12 If a person is exposed to an extremely small amount of a material that is harmful at larger amounts, then that person will probably be seriously ill some day in the future, even if the amount is extremely small.</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000



If a person is exposed to an extremely small amount of a material that is harmful at larger amounts, then that person will probably be seriously ill some day in the future, even if the amount is extremely small.	Completely disagree	6	4	7	5	3	10
	Rather disagree	16	17	14	19	7	26
	Neither nor	22	25	16	20	23	27
	Rather agree	33	36	35	32	39	21
	Completely agree	16	11	26	17	21	7
	DK, cannot say	7	8	2	8	7	8
<b>Q13 Would you say that products containing nanomaterials are</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Would you say that products containing nanomaterials are	Safer to use than products that do not contain nanomaterials	9	10	15	6	11	6
	Equally safe to use as products that do not contain nanomaterials	29	38	27	24	26	30
	Less safe to use than products that do not contain nanomaterials	20	12	18	24	23	23
	I cannot decide	42	41	41	46	41	41
<b>Q14 To what extent do you believe that risks (if any) associated with nanomaterials may be eliminated when nanomaterials are used in a proper way?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
To what extent do you believe that	Completely disagree	4	2	6	6	4	3

risks (if any) associated with nanomaterials may be eliminated when nanomaterials are used in a proper way?	Rather disagree	9	6	8	11	10	7
	Neither nor	21	21	14	21	30	19
	Rather agree	36	41	38	30	28	43
	Completely agree	12	13	21	8	8	11
	DK, cannot say	18	19	13	24	20	16
<b>Q15 Are you concerned about being exposed to nanomaterials?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Are you concerned about being exposed to nanomaterials?	Not at all	37	35	35	36	29	51
	A little	56	61	58	52	63	44
	A lot	7	4	6	12	8	5
<b>Q16 What are the risks that you associate with nanomaterials?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
So far unknown properties of nanomaterials		56	49	61	49	55	67
Difficult prevention of exposure (tiny particles can get anywhere)		53	50	48	58	54	58
Other		3	2	3	4	3	5
None		11	14	6	12	12	12

<b>Q17 Which way do you feel is the most likely for people to be directly exposed to nanomaterials?</b>	ALL COUNTRIES	Country					
	results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland	
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	
Which way do you feel is the most likely for people to be directly exposed to nanomaterials?	Inhalation (by breathing)	28	31	16	26	33	33
	Dermal (by skin contact)	33	30	39	35	28	36
	Oral (by swallowing/drinking)	29	25	35	31	31	25
	None of the above	10	14	11	8	9	6
<b>Q18 Now that you have some further information, are you concerned about being exposed to nanomaterials?</b>	ALL COUNTRIES	Country					
	results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland	
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	
Now that you have some further information, are you concerned about being exposed to nanomaterials?	Not at all	26	28	23	20	24	35
	A little	61	64	64	59	62	57
	A lot	13	8	12	21	14	8
<b>Q19 With this information on nanomaterials, how do you estimate the risks and benefits for the following uses?</b>	ALL COUNTRIES	Country					
	results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland	
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	
Use of nanomaterials for a reduction of the salt content in	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed	19	14	20	28	18	18

foods while retaining the same taste	the benefits.						
	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will slightly exceed the benefits.	27	23	24	28	28	30
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials slightly exceed the risks.	23	25	25	15	20	28
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the risks.	11	15	15	7	11	7
	Cannot say	21	24	15	23	23	18
Use of nanomaterials for the enrichment of foods with vitamins and other nutrients	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the benefits.	23	17	24	34	19	20
	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will slightly exceed the benefits.	27	25	27	26	28	29
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials slightly exceed the risks.	21	23	23	14	19	28
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the risks.	9	13	12	7	10	6
	Cannot say	20	22	14	20	25	17
Use of nanomaterials for indoor paint that prevents the accumulation of odours (e.g.	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the benefits.	13	9	10	18	16	13

cigarette smoke)	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will slightly exceed the benefits.	22	15	18	25	25	25
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials slightly exceed the risks.	30	33	35	24	24	36
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the risks.	17	24	26	11	12	10
	Cannot say	18	19	11	21	23	16
Use of nanomaterials for an increase in the efficiency of sunscreen	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the benefits.	17	14	16	24	16	17
	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will slightly exceed the benefits.	26	22	25	28	26	28
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials slightly exceed the risks.	26	26	29	20	24	32
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the risks.	11	14	18	8	11	8
	Cannot say	19	24	13	20	24	16
Use of nanomaterials for active substances of skin cream that reach deeper skin layers	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the benefits.	20	15	18	30	17	22
	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will slightly exceed	27	22	27	27	27	32

	the benefits.						
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials slightly exceed the risks.	23	26	26	16	22	25
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the risks.	11	15	16	6	11	6
	Cannot say	19	22	13	21	23	16
Use of nanomaterials for the prevention of the occurrence of unpleasant odours in textiles	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the benefits.	14	9	12	19	15	13
	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will slightly exceed the benefits.	24	19	20	25	27	28
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials slightly exceed the risks.	31	32	34	27	25	35
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the risks.	14	19	23	10	12	9
	Cannot say	17	20	12	19	22	15
Use of nanomaterials for improving texture or colour of foods	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the benefits.	26	21	27	36	21	23
	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will slightly exceed the benefits.	27	23	28	26	27	32

	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials slightly exceed the risks.	19	22	18	12	19	24
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the risks.	8	11	11	5	10	5
	Cannot say	20	23	15	21	23	16
Use of nanomaterials for developing new tastes of foods and flavours	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the benefits.	25	20	22	38	21	25
	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will slightly exceed the benefits.	27	25	28	26	27	33
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials slightly exceed the risks.	19	20	23	12	19	21
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the risks.	9	10	13	5	10	5
	Cannot say	20	25	14	20	23	17
Use of nanomaterials for extending shelf-life by maintaining or improving the condition of packaged foods	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the benefits.	22	17	24	31	19	18
	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will slightly exceed the benefits.	28	24	28	27	27	32
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials slightly	22	24	22	16	21	30

	exceed the risks.						
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the risks.	10	14	14	7	10	6
	Cannot say	18	22	13	19	23	15
Use of nanomaterials for drugs which release their active substance in a concentration at the desired spot	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the benefits.	14	11	16	17	14	10
	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will slightly exceed the benefits.	20	19	19	22	24	17
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials slightly exceed the risks.	30	29	29	27	27	40
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the risks.	16	18	23	12	13	15
	Cannot say	19	22	13	21	22	18
Use of nanomaterials for the repair of damaged tooth (teeth filling or coating)	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the benefits.	13	9	13	16	15	10
	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will slightly exceed the benefits.	20	17	17	24	23	20
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials slightly exceed the risks.	31	32	33	27	26	39



	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the risks.	17	21	25	11	13	14
	Cannot say	19	21	12	22	24	18
Use of nanomaterials for more efficient cleaning of waste water	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the benefits.	11	7	12	15	14	8
	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will slightly exceed the benefits.	17	12	16	21	20	16
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials slightly exceed the risks.	32	30	32	28	30	41
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the risks.	21	31	29	14	13	19
	Cannot say	18	19	11	23	23	16
Use of nanomaterials for strengthening the rubber in tyres and other rubber products	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the benefits.	10	7	9	12	13	7
	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will slightly exceed the benefits.	16	14	15	19	19	15
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials slightly exceed the risks.	34	32	34	32	30	44
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials will by far	22	29	31	17	16	19

	exceed the risks.						
	Cannot say	17	19	11	20	22	15
Use of nanomaterials for making plastics (e.g. PET bottles) more durable	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the benefits.	18	16	21	26	17	12
	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will slightly exceed the benefits.	23	20	22	25	26	23
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials slightly exceed the risks.	26	25	25	18	22	39
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the risks.	13	16	19	9	12	10
	Cannot say	20	23	13	22	23	17
Use of nanomaterials for keeping children's toys clean (reducing bacteria) and making them last longer	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the benefits.	16	11	14	22	16	15
	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will slightly exceed the benefits.	24	18	23	27	24	26
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials slightly exceed the risks.	28	30	32	21	25	34
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the risks.	14	19	20	9	12	9

	Cannot say	18	22	11	20	23	16
Use of nanomaterials for protecting plants against pests/diseases	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the benefits.	15	11	14	22	16	12
	The risks associated with using nanomaterials will slightly exceed the benefits.	23	19	22	27	25	24
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials slightly exceed the risks.	29	31	32	21	23	37
	The benefits associated with using nanomaterials will by far exceed the risks.	14	17	20	9	13	9
	Cannot say	19	22	12	20	23	17
<b>Q20 Which of the following statements do you personally agree with?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Nanomaterials will open up fantastic opportunities for technical development	Strongly disagree	4	2	4	6	4	4
	Disagree	7	4	6	9	9	8
	Neither agree nor disagree	21	18	17	21	24	26
	Agree	36	40	41	30	33	34
	Strongly agree	16	19	22	14	12	13

	Cannot say	16	15	9	20	19	15
I am very interested in scientific topics	Strongly disagree	5	2	4	6	7	4
	Disagree	10	9	9	12	12	9
	Neither agree nor disagree	24	26	21	23	28	23
	Agree	34	36	39	33	29	35
	Strongly agree	17	15	20	16	13	21
	Cannot say	10	13	8	10	12	8
If my country (programming: name the particular country here) wants to be globally competitive, it has to embrace technologies using nanomaterials	Strongly disagree	6	3	7	11	6	5
	Disagree	10	7	9	14	11	9
	Neither agree nor disagree	27	25	25	25	29	31
	Agree	29	33	34	22	26	29
	Strongly agree	10	12	13	8	10	10
	Cannot say	18	21	12	20	19	16
If nanomaterials make everyday products better, I'll gladly use them	Strongly disagree	7	2	7	11	10	7
	Disagree	12	7	11	16	11	13
	Neither agree nor disagree	25	23	22	26	29	27
	Agree	31	37	38	25	23	32
	Strongly agree	11	14	15	7	9	10
	Cannot say	14	17	7	15	19	11

I am looking forward to the many nano-products that will soon be on the market	Strongly disagree	12	6	9	21	13	9
	Disagree	16	12	14	19	15	18
	Neither agree nor disagree	30	34	29	25	30	31
	Agree	21	22	29	14	18	22
	Strongly agree	8	9	11	4	8	7
	Cannot say	14	17	9	17	17	13
I believe this whole nano thing is a marketing trick to improve sales of certain products	Strongly disagree	8	7	9	8	6	9
	Disagree	19	23	21	17	15	23
	Neither agree nor disagree	27	25	27	26	26	29
	Agree	20	18	23	21	24	17
	Strongly agree	9	7	10	10	10	6
	Cannot say	17	20	10	19	19	18
I believe nanomaterials offer many possibilities to cure and recognise diseases	Strongly disagree	3	1	3	6	3	3
	Disagree	7	5	7	9	7	6
	Neither agree nor disagree	22	20	20	22	25	23
	Agree	36	39	40	30	33	39
	Strongly agree	14	15	17	10	11	16
	Cannot say	18	19	13	24	20	14
I am sure that using	Strongly disagree	7	4	7	11	8	6

nanomaterials will help to protect the environment and limit or repair environmental damage	Disagree	14	9	14	19	12	15
	Neither agree nor disagree	28	27	28	25	26	33
	Agree	25	32	30	18	24	22
	Strongly agree	7	8	10	6	7	5
	Cannot say	19	21	11	22	23	19
I am convinced that using nanomaterials is of benefit to society	Strongly disagree	6	2	6	9	6	5
	Disagree	12	9	11	18	12	12
	Neither agree nor disagree	27	25	26	26	29	31
	Agree	29	35	37	20	26	29
	Strongly agree	9	11	12	6	8	8
	Cannot say	17	19	9	20	20	16
It's really frightening how many nano-products there are or soon will be	Strongly disagree	5	7	6	3	3	8
	Disagree	14	15	17	9	9	18
	Neither agree nor disagree	27	27	29	24	22	33
	Agree	23	23	25	22	29	16
	Strongly agree	12	10	11	16	18	6
	Cannot say	19	20	13	25	20	19
I'm worried that using nanomaterials could lead to completely new health problems	Strongly disagree	3	3	3	3	3	3
	Disagree	8	10	10	5	6	8

	Neither agree nor disagree	21	19	23	18	19	26
	Agree	33	35	34	32	32	33
	Strongly agree	21	15	20	27	24	20
	Cannot say	14	18	10	16	16	10
I'm concerned that using nanomaterials instead of traditional materials could damage the environment	Strongly disagree	4	3	5	3	3	5
	Disagree	13	16	19	9	8	11
	Neither agree nor disagree	24	25	26	20	21	28
	Agree	29	26	27	31	32	31
	Strongly agree	16	11	13	21	20	14
	Cannot say	15	19	11	16	16	12
I believe that nanotechnology can lead to job cuts in traditional branches of industry	Strongly disagree	5	4	5	7	5	6
	Disagree	17	17	15	22	14	18
	Neither agree nor disagree	27	25	28	26	27	31
	Agree	24	27	29	19	25	19
	Strongly agree	8	7	12	6	10	7
	Cannot say	18	20	11	21	19	19
I'm afraid that nanotechnology will result in more individuals to be monitored and controlled by miniaturised technology	Strongly disagree	6	5	6	8	3	9
	Disagree	14	14	14	17	9	15
	Neither agree nor disagree	25	23	24	25	25	30

	Agree	26	29	30	21	29	21
	Strongly agree	11	10	16	7	15	8
	Cannot say	17	19	10	22	19	17
I believe It's hardly possible to control the health risks of using nanomaterials	Strongly disagree	3	1	4	2	3	3
	Disagree	9	10	12	7	9	9
	Neither agree nor disagree	21	21	23	18	21	24
	Agree	34	37	34	31	33	34
	Strongly agree	18	10	17	24	18	19
	Cannot say	15	20	10	18	16	11
I would approve nanomaterials development being promoted through state funding	Strongly disagree	9	5	9	16	7	8
	Disagree	13	9	12	19	12	13
	Neither agree nor disagree	25	23	25	24	26	28
	Agree	26	32	31	15	25	27
	Strongly agree	9	10	11	7	10	7
	Cannot say	18	21	12	20	20	17
<b>Q21 How well informed do you feel about nanomaterials compared to other modern technologies?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000



How well informed do you feel about nanomaterials compared to other modern technologies?	I feel better informed about nanomaterials compared to other new modern technologies	11	12	11	6	18	7
	Equally informed	45	49	49	38	49	38
	I feel less informed about nanomaterials compared to other new modern technologies	45	39	40	56	34	55
<b>Q22A Where have you already heard, read or seen something about nanomaterials?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
TV		19	14	25	22	13	19
Radio		5	5	4	5	4	5
Social media		11	10	20	7	8	10
YouTube		10	12	12	7	9	11
Elsewhere on the Internet		27	39	35	23	8	32
Online media		14	13	26	16	5	11
Product websites		11	8	22	8	7	8
Blogs		6	5	11	4	3	5
Newspapers		12	7	8	16	9	19
Magazines		13	12	13	16	8	15

School, university, college	7	8	6	7	4	11
Workplace	5	6	5	5	2	6
Personal discussion with family and/or friends	7	6	7	9	7	5
Personal discussion with experts	6	5	10	6	5	7
Other	2	1	2	3	1	3
<b>Q22B If you are looking for some information about nanotechnology, which resources will you use?</b>	ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
	results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
TV	6	4	5	6	13	4
Radio	2	2	2	3	4	1
Social media	5	4	5	5	6	3
YouTube	6	4	4	7	11	4
Elsewhere on the Internet	17	21	12	17	17	20
Online media	8	5	8	13	6	6
Product websites	9	3	10	6	19	6
Blogs	3	2	5	3	4	2
Newspapers	5	2	2	5	7	6
Magazines	4	3	2	5	8	3

School, university, college		2	2	2	3	3	3
Workplace		2	1	2	1	3	1
Personal discussion with family and/or friends		4	2	3	5	8	2
Personal discussion with experts		6	2	4	5	14	5
Other		2	3	0	2	1	2
<b>Q23 Are you aware of any websites or databases with centralised information about nanomaterials or products containing nanomaterials?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Are you aware of any websites or databases with centralised information about nanomaterials or products containing nanomaterials?	Yes	19	17	18	24	17	18
	No	81	83	82	76	83	82
<b>Q23 Spontaneously mentioned websites or databases with centralised information about nanomaterials or products containing nanomaterials:</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	<b>FILTER:</b> THOSE WHO HAVE MENTIONED AWARENES OF SOME WEBSITES ....	950	170	184	240	174	182
Google		15	14	14	25	11	7
YouTube		5	6	5	5	5	4
Wikipedia		15	16	13	24	13	3

Facebook		4	5	2	3	8	1
other websites		54	60	50	42	54	68
Other		5	5	3	8	3	3
DK / No response		14	11	17	8	18	17
<b>Q24 Are you aware of the European Union Observatory for Nanomaterials (EUON)?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Are you aware of the European Union Observatory for Nanomaterials (EUON)?	Yes	9	8	8	8	12	9
	No	91	92	92	92	88	91
<b>Q25 What would be your primary source of information about nanomaterials?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
<b>PRIMARY SOURCE</b>	Distributor/seller from whom I bought the product	4	4	6	5	3	3
	Producer of the product	7	10	3	11	6	7
	Scientists/researchers (universities, research institutes, etc.)	25	28	22	14	24	38
	Health and occupational safety authorities	9	10	8	4	7	14

	Pharmacists	3	3	3	4	4	2
	Doctors (e.g. your doctor)	8	8	7	8	13	6
	Consumer organisations	6	3	4	9	9	5
	Government representatives, politicians	1	1	1	1	2	1
	EU authorities (e.g. European Commission, European Chemicals Agency)	7	7	7	4	7	11
	Environmental organisations	6	6	6	6	8	4
	None	23	21	33	35	18	10
<b>Q25 What would be your secondary source of information about nanomaterials?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
<b>SECONDARY SOURCE</b>	Distributor/seller from whom I bought the product	4	3	5	5	2	4
	Producer of the product	6	8	2	7	6	7
	Scientists/researchers (universities, research institutes, etc.)	11	10	8	9	12	16
	Health and occupational safety authorities	13	16	9	5	12	22
	Pharmacists	5	5	4	5	6	3

	Doctors (e.g. your doctor)	7	7	7	6	10	6
	Consumer organisations	8	7	5	8	12	10
	Government representatives, politicians	2	2	2	1	2	1
	EU authorities (e.g. European Commission, European Chemicals Agency)	9	11	8	4	10	14
	Environmental organisations	8	8	7	9	11	7
	None	28	24	43	41	18	11
<b>Q25 What would be your third source of information about nanomaterials?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
<b>THIRD SOURCE</b>	Distributor/seller from whom I bought the product	4	5	4	5	4	4
	Producer of the product	8	8	2	6	6	8
	Scientists/researchers (universities, research institutes, etc.)	12	8	6	7	10	12
	Health and occupational safety authorities	18	13	8	7	12	18
	Pharmacists	2	4	4	3	6	2
	Doctors (e.g. your doctor)	5	6	7	5	7	5

	Consumer organisations	10	8	6	8	11	10
	Government representatives, politicians	2	3	2	1	3	2
	EU authorities (e.g. European Commission, European Chemicals Agency)	16	9	5	6	7	16
	Environmental organisations	11	8	7	7	12	11
	None	13	28	49	45	21	13
<b>Q25 What would be your source of information about nanomaterials?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
<b>SOURCES TOTAL USAGE</b>	Distributor/seller from whom I bought the product	12	11	15	15	9	11
	Producer of the product	21	25	8	23	18	22
	Scientists/researchers (universities, research institutes, etc.)	48	46	36	30	46	65
	Health and occupational safety authorities	39	39	25	16	32	54
	Pharmacists	9	12	11	11	15	7
	Doctors (e.g. your doctor)	21	22	21	19	29	17
	Consumer organisations	24	18	15	25	32	25

	Government representatives, politicians	4	6	4	3	8	3
	EU authorities (e.g. European Commission, European Chemicals Agency)	33	27	20	14	24	41
	Environmental organisations	25	21	20	22	31	22
<b>Q26 How much trust would you place in the following persons or institutions if they were to inform you about safety of nanomaterials?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Distributor/seller from whom I bought the product	Absolute trust	5	4	6	5	6	4
	Bit of trust	31	37	27	29	32	31
	Not much trust	47	44	48	47	45	51
	No trust at all	17	16	20	20	18	14
Producer of the product	Absolute trust	5	6	4	6	5	4
	Bit of trust	34	42	29	30	34	38
	Not much trust	45	38	48	47	43	47
	No trust at all	16	15	18	18	18	11
Scientists/researchers (universities, research institutes, etc.)	Absolute trust	27	30	25	28	18	36
	Bit of trust	58	56	57	58	62	56
	Not much trust	10	9	13	10	14	6



	No trust at all	5	5	5	4	7	3
Health and occupational safety authorities	Absolute trust	18	19	12	22	13	25
	Bit of trust	62	66	58	63	59	66
	Not much trust	14	11	24	11	20	7
	No trust at all	5	5	7	5	8	2
Pharmacists	Absolute trust	12	9	10	19	14	10
	Bit of trust	61	64	52	62	65	63
	Not much trust	21	21	30	15	15	23
	No trust at all	6	7	9	5	6	4
Doctors (e.g. your doctor)	Absolute trust	18	16	15	22	19	16
	Bit of trust	62	64	56	62	63	66
	Not much trust	15	15	22	12	12	15
	No trust at all	5	6	7	4	6	3
Consumer organisations	Absolute trust	15	14	11	24	15	14
	Bit of trust	64	69	58	58	62	72
	Not much trust	15	13	23	13	16	11
	No trust at all	6	4	9	5	7	3
Government representatives, politicians	Absolute trust	4	4	6	3	6	3
	Bit of trust	21	25	16	16	27	21

	Not much trust	45	44	43	43	41	52
	No trust at all	31	28	35	39	26	25
EU authorities (e.g. European Commission, European Chemicals Agency)	Absolute trust	14	17	16	11	10	18
	Bit of trust	53	57	51	48	51	58
	Not much trust	23	17	23	27	29	19
	No trust at all	10	9	10	13	11	5
Environmental organisations	Absolute trust	16	12	15	22	18	13
	Bit of trust	58	62	52	56	61	60
	Not much trust	19	19	25	16	14	20
	No trust at all	7	7	8	6	7	7
<b>Q27 When buying a product containing nanomaterials, do you think you should be informed about it (for example on the label or on the packaging)?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
When buying a product containing nanomaterials, do you think you should be informed about it (for example on the label or on the packaging)?	No	13	15	8	14	20	9
	Yes	87	85	92	86	80	91
<b>Q27a What kind of information would you expect on the label of a product containing a nanomaterial?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland

NUMBERS OF RESPONSES	<b>FILTER: THOSE WHO SHOULD BE INFORMED</b>	4347	854	924	856	801	912
Negative impacts / risks		19	16	21	9	27	24
If it contains nanomaterials		14	17	14	16	10	14
Amount of nanomaterials / Quantity		7	6	8	5	7	8
Symbol or stamp		9	13	4	18	7	3
Complete information		12	14	19	10	9	7
Type of nanomaterials		4	6	5	2	5	5
Other		13	12	13	15	14	14
DK / No response		20	15	16	26	21	25
<b>Q28 For which of the following products do you think you should be informed (for example on the label or on the packaging) when buying a product containing nanomaterials?</b>		ALL COUNTRIES	Country				
		results in %	Poland	Bulgaria	Austria	France	Finland
NUMBERS OF RESPONSES		5000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Cars		29	26	26	32	31	30
Sports equipment		35	32	28	46	33	38
Medicines		77	77	85	78	67	81
Paints/Varnishes/Surface coatings		50	50	49	51	48	53
Foods		79	78	85	81	69	82
Plastics		41	36	40	39	43	47

Household electrical appliances	34	33	37	35	35	33
Computers and electronics	32	32	30	32	34	32
Clothing/textiles	64	60	71	70	54	67
Construction materials	38	35	35	41	35	43
Detergents/household cleaning products	62	62	60	70	52	65
Cosmetics	74	74	81	76	61	78
Toys	63	65	66	69	51	65
Kitchenware	55	56	57	57	46	61
Pesticides and plant protection products	55	51	53	60	49	60
Car care product	34	36	31	36	31	35
None of these	6	7	3	5	9	5

# Annex 4 – open ended questions

Click on the image below to open the Excel file.

COUNTRY	Q2_What have you heard or read about nanomaterials?	Q3_What is a nanomaterial in your opinion?	Q9 If contains nano... main reason why people definitely don't want to buy																		
			Cars	Sports equipment	Medicines	Paints/Varnishes/Surface	Foods	Plastics	Household electrical appliances	Computers and electronics	Clothing/textiles	Others									
	<i>FILTER: those who declared at least some awareness of nanomaterials</i>	<i>All respondents</i>	<i>FILTER: those who declare definitive rejection of given product purchase</i>																		
Poland		I do not know																			
Poland	that they are very, very small molecular particles that have a big impact	I do not know																			
Poland	I do not remember exactly	Some small things																			
Poland		Something made up of very small particles																			
Poland	materials that deform themselves	smart material																			
Poland	I don't know much	materials that have regular structures at the molecular level																			
Poland	materials made of nanoparticles	is used for modern technologies																			
Poland	In macro products very durable and durable, on a micro scale mainly	Low molecular weight composites																			
Poland	I studied it in college, in short, they are regular structures not exceeding	nanometric polycrystalline structures made of various materials for various applications																			
Poland	I do not remember	I do not remember																			
Poland	Materials containing nano-sized particles	Materials containing particles of nanometric size																			
Poland		modern materials																			
Poland	ecological	organic eco products																			
Poland	I do not know	I do not know																			
Poland		Very small materials with nano particle size																			
Poland		like																			
Poland	they are very small particles that can have many useful applications	they are microparticles																			
Poland	small size	materials																			
Poland		I'm not sure																			
Poland		materials on a scale -nano- the rest of the information in the materials of Professor Dobrzański (Silesian University of Technology)																			
Poland	New technologies	Molecular materials																			
Poland		I do not know																			
Poland	all materials that have regular structures at the molecular level	substances containing particles from 1 to 100 nanometers in length																			
Poland		fabric particles																			
Poland	Small particles?	Small particles?																			
Poland		and the equivalents of some materials	Security		Security																
Poland	arranging	No answer																			
Poland		Modern materials																			
Poland		I do not know																			
Poland	In Mag, a large developable surface due to the specific structure and	These are materials that have a specific microstructure																			
Poland		I don't know, so I won't guess																			
Poland		No answer																			
Poland	new technology	molecules																			
Poland		Silver																			
Poland	I do not remember	Extremely small particles																			
Poland		I do not know what it is	I do not know		no																
Poland	materials	materials																			
Poland	materials consisting of small particles counted in nanometers, by co	materials with better properties than other materials																			
Poland		Something small in information technology.																			
Poland		I have no idea																			
Poland	they are very small	molecules used in chemistry																			
Poland	that this unique material consisting of tiny pipes ... has an extraordinary	materials with interesting properties, e.g. they can carry medicines in the human body, reaching directly to sick places																			
Poland		I have no idea																			
Poland	They are very small molecules with useful properties.	Very, very small particles with some properties																			
Poland	Graphene is nanomaterial, probably first	structure composed of atoms																			
Poland		Microscopic materials																			
Poland	brak	I do not know																			
Poland	I do not know	I do not know																			
Poland		I do not know																			

## Annex 5 – List of articles researched

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