



Questionnaire – science barometer 2019

(Category 'don't know/missing answer' not read aloud; only one answer for each question possible if not stated otherwise; text in italics is not read aloud)

1. Please tell me how strong your interest is in each of the following topics. (*randomised order of items*)

	very strong	some-what strong	so-so	some-what low	very low	<i>don't know/missing answer</i>
politics	1	2	3	4	5	9
science and research	1	2	3	4	5	9
culture	1	2	3	4	5	9
local news	1	2	3	4	5	9

2. How important are the following things in your life? (*randomised order of items*)

	very important	rather important	so-so	rather not important	not important at all	<i>don't know/missing answer</i>
friends and family	1	2	3	4	5	9
leisure time	1	2	3	4	5	9
work	1	2	3	4	5	9
politics	1	2	3	4	5	9
volunteering	1	2	3	4	5	9

3. The following statements may apply more or less to you. Please tell me to what extent do you think each statement applies to you personally. *(NO randomised order of items)*

	applies completely	applies mostly	applies somewhat	applies a bit	does not apply at all	<i>don't know, missing answer</i>
I am my own boss.	1	2	3	4	5	9
If I work hard, I will succeed.	1	2	3	4	5	9
Whether at work or in my private life: What I do is mainly determined by others.	1	2	3	4	5	9
Fate often gets in the way of my plans.	1	2	3	4	5	9

4. I will now read out some possible aims for the future of Germany. Please tell me for each of them, how important you think it is. *(randomised order items)*

	very important	rather important	so-so	rather not important	not important at all	<i>don't know/missing answer</i>
a stable economy	1	2	3	4	5	9
social cohesion within society	1	2	3	4	5	9
a society in which money is not the most important thing	1	2	3	4	5	9
maintenance of internal security	1	2	3	4	5	9

social justice	1	2	3	4	5	9
protection of the environment	1	2	3	4	5	9
implementation of measures to limit climate change	1	2	3	4	5	9

5. To what extent do you agree with the following statements? (*randomised order of items*)

	com- pletely agree	some- what agree	undecid ed	some- what disagree	com- pletely disagree	<i>don't know, missing answer</i>
<p>Most people in Germany will benefit from globalisation in the future.</p> <p><i>Note to the interviewer/in case of questions: The term globalisation refers to the process of an increasing worldwide interdependence in many areas, such as economics, politics, culture, environment, communication, between people, societies, states or other entities.</i></p>	1	2	3	4	5	9
In order to protect the environment, we all need to reduce what we consume.	1	2	3	4	5	9

We should put more emphasis on what we have and less on new technologies.	1	2	3	4	5	9
The more technology is progressing, the more it constraints people.	1	2	3	4	5	9
Modern technology makes life more comfortable.	1	2	3	4	5	9
Science and research will help us to solve central problems of humankind.	1	2	3	4	5	9

Statement from the interviewer: The following questions are about science and research. This includes not only natural sciences and technical research but also social sciences and humanities.

6. How strong is your interest in scientific topics from the following fields? (*randomised order of items*)

	very strong	some-what strong	so-so	some-what low	very low	<i>don't know/missing answer</i>
medicine	1	2	3	4	5	9
engineering and new technologies	1	2	3	4	5	9
natural sciences	1	2	3	4	5	9
social sciences and humanities like for example political science or history	1	2	3	4	5	9

7. And what do you think – how well informed are you about news from science and research?

very well	1
somewhat well	2
so-so	3
not very	4
not at all	5
<i>don't know/ missing answer</i>	9

8. I will now read out some reasons why one might occupy oneself with science and research. Please tell me to what extent you personally agree with each of the reasons. Or tell me if you do not occupy yourself with science and research at all.

I do not occupy myself with science and research. → do not read out again, but capture/code and continue with question no. 9

I occupy myself with science and research (*randomised order of items*)

	com- pletely agree	some- what agree	un- decided	some- what disagree	com- pletely disagree	<i>don't know, missing answer</i>
because I look for answers to specific questions that concern me.	1	2	3	4	5	9
because I find science and research fascinating.	1	2	3	4	5	9

9. How much do you trust ...? (NO randomised order of items)

	trust completely	trust somewhat	un-decided	distrust somewhat	distrust completely	don't know/missing answer
science and research?	1	2	3	4	5	9
politics?	1	2	3	4	5	9
media?	1	2	3	4	5	9
business?	1	2	3	4	5	9
people in general?	1	2	3	4	5	9
scientists working in universities and public research institutes?	1	2	3	4	5	9
scientists working in industry?	1	2	3	4	5	9

10. Now, we would like to get to know more about how you perceive science and research. Please tell me in a few words what it means to 'research something scientifically'? (*open question*)

11. To what extent do you agree with the following statements? (*randomised order of items*)

	completely agree	some-what agree	un-decided	some-what disagree	completely disagree	don't know, missing answer

Science and research are so complicated that I do not understand much of it.	1	2	3	4	5	9
Science and research relate so little to everyday life that they are not relevant to me.	1	2	3	4	5	9
At school I am or was taught how science and research work.	1	2	3	4	5	9
Controversies between scientists are helpful because they help to ensure that the right research results prevail.	1	2	3	4	5	9
When scientists disagree, it is difficult for me to judge which information is correct.	1	2	3	4	5	9

12. There are different ways for citizens to participate in science and research. To what extent do you agree with the following statements? (*randomised order of items*)

	com- pletely agree	some- what agree	un- decided	some- what disagree	com- pletely disagree	<i>don't know, missing answer</i>
--	--------------------------	------------------------	----------------	---------------------------	-----------------------------	---

I would like to participate in a scientific research project. <i>Note to the interviewer: e.g. by counting the occurrence of animal species in nature or by describing artworks with different terms</i>	1	2	3	4	5	9
I would like to watch scientists at work, to judge their results.	1	2	3	4	5	9
I would like to experience myself how scientists work.	1	2	3	4	5	9
I would like to discuss with scientists what is worthwhile to conduct research on.	1	2	3	4	5	9

Note to the interviewer: This question is not about participation in a specific project, but only about whether the interviewee has a non-binding interest in such participation.

13. I will now read out different reasons why someone might trust scientists. Please tell me to what extent you personally agree with each of these reasons. *(randomised order of items)*

	com- pletely agree	some- what agree	un- decided	some- what disagree	com- pletely disagree	<i>don't know, missing answer</i>
Because scientists are experts in their field.	1	2	3	4	5	9

Because scientists work according to rules and standard procedures.	1	2	3	4	5	9
Because scientists do research in the public interest.	1	2	3	4	5	9

14. I will now read out different reasons why someone might distrust scientists. Please tell me to what extent you personally agree with each of the reasons. (*randomised order of items*)

	com- pletely agree	some- what agree	un- decided	some- what disagree	com- pletely disagree	<i>don't know, missing answer</i>
Because scientists often make mistakes.	1	2	3	4	5	9
Because scientists often adjust results to their own expectations.	1	2	3	4	5	9
Because scientists are strongly dependent on the funders of their research.	1	2	3	4	5	9

15. With regard to the relation of science and society: To what extent do you agree with the following statements? (*randomised order of items*)

	com- pletely agree	some- what agree	un- decided	some- what disagree	com- pletely disagree	<i>don't know, missing answer</i>

Scientists work for the benefit of society.	1	2	3	4	5	9
The public is sufficiently involved in decisions about science and research.	1	2	3	4	5	9
Scientists are aware of the societal impact of their work.	1	2	3	4	5	9
Scientists should be allowed to decide for themselves what they are researching.	1	2	3	4	5	9
Decisions on science and research should be made against the background of whether they contribute to solving societal problems.	1	2	3	4	5	9

16. And to what extent do you agree with the following statements? (*randomised order of items*)

	com- pletely agree	some- what agree	un- decided	some- what disagree	com- pletely disagree	<i>don't know, missing answer</i>
All in all, science and research will lead to a better life in the future.	1	2	3	4	5	9
Science and research change our living conditions too fast.	1	2	3	4	5	9

All in all, science and research do more harm than good.	1	2	3	4	5	9
I personally benefit from science and research.	1	2	3	4	5	9
Even if it brings no immediate benefits, research which advances knowledge, should be publicly funded. <i>Note to the interviewer/in case of questions: This question is about basic research. In contrast to applied research, which aims, for example, for the development of a very specific new product, basic research creates prerequisites for new knowledge and serves the purpose of expanding knowledge.</i>	1	2	3	4	5	9
People trust too much in science and not enough in their feelings and faith.	1	2	3	4	5	9

17. In your opinion, how strong is the influence ... (NO randomised order of items)

	much too strong	some-what too strong	just right	some-what too low	much too low	<i>don't know, missing answer</i>
--	-----------------	----------------------	------------	-------------------	--------------	-----------------------------------

... of science on politics?	1	2	3	4	5	9
... and the other way round: of politics on science?	1	2	3	4	5	9
... and of business on science?	1	2	3	4	5	9

18. Currently, there are societal challenges in different areas. Science and research can help to overcome these. In which of the following areas should research be conducted most intensively in the future? (*randomised order of items*)

climate and energy	1
health and nutrition	2
mobility and traffic	3
questions of security	4
communication and digitalization	5
<i>don't know/missing answer</i>	9

19. Currently, many scientists together with school students who protest on Fridays stand up for changes in climate policy. The scientists say that based on research results the current measures for climate protection are not sufficient. Against this background, to what extent do you agree with the following statements? (*NO randomised order of items*)

	com- pletely agree	some- what agree	un- decided	some- what disagree	com- pletely disagree	<i>don't know, missing answer</i>
--	--------------------------	------------------------	----------------	---------------------------	-----------------------------	---

It is right that scientists speak up in public when political decisions do not take research results into account.	1	2	3	4	5	9
It is not up to scientists to get involved in politics.	1	2	3	4	5	9
We should rely more on common sense and less on scientific studies.	1	2	3	4	5	9
Political decisions should be based on scientific evidence.	1	2	3	4	5	9

20. Now we would like to get to know more about your personal relationship to science and research. Do you, personally, work in science and research?

Yes	1
No, but I previously worked in science and research	2
No, I have never worked in science and research	3
<i>don't know, missing answer</i>	9

Filter:

If at question 20: 1, 2 → questions no. 22

If at question 20: 3, 9 → questions no. 21

21. And do you know any scientists personally?

Yes	1
No	2
<i>don't know, missing answer</i>	9

22. To what extent would you describe yourself as religious?

very religious	1
somewhat religious	2
so-so	3
somewhat not religious	4
not at all religious	5
<i>don't know, missing answer</i>	9

Note to the interviewer: independent from religious affiliation or denomination

23. Were you or either of your parents born abroad?

	not men- tioned	men- tioned
Yes, me	0	1
Yes, my father or my mother	0	1
Yes, both parents	0	1
No, none of us	0	1
<i>don't know, missing answer</i>	0	1