



Questionnaire – science barometer 2020

(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
local news	1	2	3	4	5	9
engineering and new technologies	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.

2. How often do you get information about science and research on the internet?

very often	1
often	2
sometimes	3
rarely	4

never	5
<i>don't know, missing answer</i>	9

Filter:

If at question no. 2: 1, 2, 3 or 4 -> question no. 3

If at question no. 2: 5 or 9 -> question no. 4

3. When getting information about science and research on the internet, how often do you use the following sources? (*randomised order of items*)

	very often	often	someti mes	rarely	never	<i>don't know, missing answer</i>
via Facebook, Twitter or other social networks	1	2	3	4	5	9
via blogs or online forums	1	2	3	4	5	9
via Wikipedia	1	2	3	4	5	9
via Youtube or other video platforms	1	2	3	4	5	9
via websites of scientific institutions or organisations	1	2	3	4	5	9
via websites of news media such as newspapers, magazines or TV channels	1	2	3	4	5	9
via Podcasts	1	2	3	4	5	9

4. How much do you trust science and research?

trust completely	1
trust somewhat	2
undecided	3
distrust somewhat	4
distrust completely	5
<i>don't know, missing answer</i>	9

5. 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*)

6. I will now read out different reasons why people 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	unde- cided	some- what dis- agree	com- pletely dis- agree	<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

7. I will now read out different reasons why people 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 dis- agree	com- pletely dis- agree	<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

8. 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 dis- agree	com- pletely dis- agree	<i>don't know, missing answer</i>
Scientists put too little effort into informing the public about their work.	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
People trust too much in science and not enough in their feelings and faith.	1	2	3	4	5	9

Statement from the interviewer: The following questions are about the current coronavirus pandemic.

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

	agree completely	some-what agree	un-decided	some-what dis-agree	com-pletely dis-agree	<i>don't know, missing answer</i>
I think the current measures against coronavirus pandemic are appropriate.	1	2	3	4	5	9
I know a lot about the coronavirus.	1	2	3	4	5	9

10. How much do you trust statements on the coronavirus pandemic made by the following actors? (*randomised order of items*)

Statements on the coronavirus pandemic...

	trust completely	trust some-what	un-decided	distrust some-what	distrust com-pletely	<i>don't know, missing answer</i>
by scientists	1	2	3	4	5	9
by doctors and medical staff	1	2	3	4	5	9
by politicians	1	2	3	4	5	9
by public authority officials	1	2	3	4	5	9
by journalists	1	2	3	4	5	9

by family members, acquaintances and friends	1	2	3	4	5	9
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11. Against the background of the current developments surrounding the coronavirus pandemic, to what extent do you agree with the following statements? (*randomised order of items*)

	agree completely	some-what agree	un-decided	some-what dis-agree	com-pletely dis-agree	<i>don't know, missing answer</i>
Political decisions on handling the coronavirus pandemic should be based on scientific evidence.	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 when dealing with the coronavirus pandemic and we do not need any scientific studies for this.	1	2	3	4	5	9
Science and research on the coronavirus pandemic are so complicated that I do not understand much of it.	1	2	3	4	5	9
Controversies between scientists regarding the coronavirus pandemic are helpful because they help to ensure that the right research results	1	2	3	4	5	9

prevail.						
Most scientists currently speaking up differentiate clearly between what they know for sure and what are open questions on the coronavirus pandemic.	1	2	3	4	5	9

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

	agree completely	some-what agree	un-decided	some-what dis-agree	com-pletely dis-agree	<i>don't know, missing answer</i>
It is important to also get information on the coronavirus from outside the scientific community.	1	2	3	4	5	9
Scientists do not tell us everything they know about the coronavirus.	1	2	3	4	5	9
There is no real proof that the coronavirus really exists.	1	2	3	4	5	9
The coronavirus pandemic is being made into a bigger deal than it actually is.	1	2	3	4	5	9

13. If there was a vaccine approved in Germany by then, how likely would it be that you would get vaccinated against the coronavirus next year?

most likely	1
rather likely	2
maybe	3
rather unlikely	4
most unlikely	5
<i>don't know, missing answer</i>	9

14. How likely do you think it is that you will become infected with the coronavirus in the near future? If you are or have been infected, please let us know. *(Interviewer's note: It does not matter whether the infection is officially confirmed, unconfirmed, active or survived, but rather whether the interviewee believes that he/she is/was infected).*

most likely	1
rather likely	2
maybe	3
rather unlikely	4
most unlikely	5
Interviewee is/was infected	8
<i>don't know, missing answer</i>	9

15. And if you were to become infected with the coronavirus, how likely do you think it is that you would get severely ill?

most likely	1
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rather likely	2
maybe	3
rather unlikely	4
most unlikely	5
<i>don't know, missing answer</i>	9

16. 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 16: 1, 2 -> finish

If at question 16: 3, 9 -> questions no. 17

17. And do you know any scientists personally?

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