**Perceived effects on your own health**

Assuming you have one of the following diseases: How large or small do you consider the health effects of this to be for you personally? (Response scale: 1 ‘very small’ to 5 ‘very large’)

- **flu**
  - (very) large: 13
  - medium: 63
  - (very) small: 23

- **coronavirus**
  - (very) large: 40
  - medium: 31
  - (very) small: 30

- **cancer**
  - (very) large: 58
  - medium: 19
  - (very) small: 22

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 486–492 participants
**Perceived effects on your own health – age groups**

Assuming you have one of the following diseases: How large or small do you consider the health effects of this to be for you personally? (Response scale: 1 ‘very small’ to 5 ‘very large’) – Shown: response category ‘(very) large’ (values 4 + 5)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Disease</th>
<th>14 to 39 years</th>
<th>40 to 59 years</th>
<th>60 years and over</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>flu</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>coronavirus</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cancer</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 156–170 participants in corresponding age group
Perceived effects on your own health – over time

Assuming you have one of the following diseases: How large or small do you consider the health effects of this to be for you personally? (Response scale: 1 ‘very small’ to 5 ‘very large’) – Shown: response category ‘(very) large’ (values 4 + 5)

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 471–508 participants
Perceived informedness about what is happening

How well or badly do you feel informed about what is happening with the novel coronavirus? (Response scale: 1 ‘very bad’ to 5 ‘very good’)
Perceived informedness about what is happening – age groups

How well or badly do you feel informed about what is happening with the novel coronavirus? (Response scale: 1 ‘very bad’ to 5 ‘very good’)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>(very) bad</th>
<th>medium</th>
<th>(very) good</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14 to 39 years</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 to 59 years</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 years and over</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 161–173 participants in corresponding age group
Perceived informedness about what is happening – over time
How well or badly do you feel informed about what is happening with the novel coronavirus? *(Response scale: 1 ‘very bad’ to 5 ‘very good’)*

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 499–510 participants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>(very) good</th>
<th>medium</th>
<th>(very) bad</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24 Mar</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 Mar</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07 Apr</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 Apr</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Apr</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 Apr</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05 May</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 May</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 May</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 May</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Used sources of information
What sources do you use to inform yourself about what is happening with the novel coronavirus? You can name up to 3 sources.

(Open question) – Shown: mentions ≥ 5 %

- Television: 82%
- Internet: 60%
- Print media: 34%
- Radio: 32%
- Private contacts: 5%

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 507 participants
What sources do you use to inform yourself about what is happening with the novel coronavirus? You can name up to 3 sources. (Open question) – Shown: mentions ≥ 5 % (based on all participants)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>14 to 39 years</th>
<th>40 to 59 years</th>
<th>60 years and over</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Television</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Print Media</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Contacts</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 165–173 participants in corresponding age group
Used sources of information – over time

What sources do you use to inform yourself about what is happening with the novel coronavirus? You can name up to 3 sources.

(Open question) – Shown: mentions ≥ 5 % (in at least one survey week)

- **television**
  - 24 Mar: 79
  - 31 Mar: 55
  - 07 Apr: 64
  - 14 Apr: 82

- **internet**
  - 24 Mar: 31
  - 31 Mar: 35
  - 07 Apr: 34
  - 14 Apr: 60

- **print media**
  - 24 Mar: 27
  - 31 Mar: 36
  - 07 Apr: 32

- **radio**
  - 24 Mar: 7
  - 31 Mar: 4
  - 07 Apr: 5

- **private contacts**
  - 24 Mar: 6
  - 31 Mar: 2
  - 07 Apr: 3

- **professional contacts**
  - 24 Mar: 6
  - 31 Mar: 5
  - 07 Apr: 5

- **Robert Koch Institute**

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 498–510 participants
Appropriateness of the measures for containment

How do you evaluate the following measures to contain the spread of the novel coronavirus? (Response options: 'not appropriate', 'appropriate')

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Appropriate</th>
<th>Not Appropriate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quarantine measures</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cancellation of events</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restriction of travel activities</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closure of cultural institutions</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closure of day-care centres and schools</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Border controls</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact prohibition</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closure of shops</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curfew</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 499–506 participants
Appropriateness of the measures for containment – age groups

How do you evaluate the following measures to contain the spread of the novel coronavirus? (Response options: ‘not appropriate’, ‘appropriate’) – Shown: response category ‘appropriate’

- Quarantine measures: 96%
- Cancellation of events: 96%
- Restriction of travel activities: 97%
- Closure of cultural institutions: 92%
- Closure of day-care centres and schools: 87%
- Border controls: 86%
- Contact prohibition: 86%
- Closure of shops: 74%
- Curfew: 65%

14 to 39 years: 96%

40 to 59 years: 97%

60 years and over: 96%

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 160–173 participants in corresponding age group
Appropriateness of the measures for containment – over time

How do you evaluate the following measures to contain the spread of the novel coronavirus? (Response options: 'not appropriate', 'appropriate') – Shown: response category ‘appropriate’

- closure of cultural institutions
- quarantine measures
- cancellation of events
- restriction of travel activities
- closure of day-care centres and schools
- contact prohibition
- border controls
- closure of shops
- curfew

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 488–507 participants
Protective measures of the participants
Have or had you taken measures to protect yourself or your family from the novel coronavirus?
(Response options: ‘no’, ‘yes, that is: ______’) – Shown: mentions ≥ 5 %

- avoiding the public: 52%
- wearing protective clothing (masks, gloves): 23%
- washing hands: 14%
- complying with government regulations: 13%
- using disinfectants: 9%
- keeping distance to others: 9%
- paying more attention to hygiene in general: 8%
- no measures: 22%

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 510 participants
Protective measures of the participants – age groups

Have or had you taken measures to protect yourself or your family from the novel coronavirus? (Response options: 'no', 'yes, that is: ______') – Shown: mentions ≥ 5 % (based on all participants)

- Avoiding the public: 59%
- Wearing protective clothing: 21%
- Washing hands: 8%
- Complying with government regulations: 13%
- Using disinfectants: 10%
- Keeping distance to others: 5%
- Paying more attention to hygiene in general: 7%
- No measures: 22%

14 to 39 years: 53%
40 to 59 years: 25%
60 years and over: 23%

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 169–173 participants in corresponding age group
Protective measures of the participants – over time

Have or had you taken measures to protect yourself or your family from the novel coronavirus? (Response options: ‘no’, ‘yes, that is: ______’) – Shown: mentions ≥ 5 % (in at least one survey week)

- Avoiding the public: 47, 47, 52
- Washing hands: 16, 15, 14
- Keeping distance to others: 12, 9, 9
- Using disinfectants: 9, 13, 9
- Complying with government regulations: 9, 15, 13
- Paying more attention to hygiene in general: 8, 8, 8
- Wearing protective clothing: 6, 16, 23
- No measures: 32, 22, 22

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 499–510 participants
Perceived controllability of the risk of infection
How sure are you that you can protect yourself from an infection with the novel coronavirus? (Response scale: 1 ‘not sure at all’ to 5 ‘very sure’)

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 509 participants
Perceived controllability of the risk of infection – age groups

How sure are you that you can protect yourself from an infection with the novel coronavirus? (Response scale: 1 ‘not sure at all’ to 5 ‘very sure’)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Not Sure (at all)</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Very Sure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14 to 39 years</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 to 59 years</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 years and over</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 168–173 participants in corresponding age group
Perceived controllability of the risk of infection – over time

How sure are you that you can protect yourself from an infection with the novel coronavirus? (Response scale: 1 ‘not sure at all’ to 5 ‘very sure’)

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 494–509 participants
Preference for soap versus disinfectant

If you had to choose, would you rather clean your hands with soap and water or with disinfectant to protect yourself from the novel coronavirus? (Response options: 'soap and water', 'disinfectant')

soap and water: 83%
disinfectant: 17%

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 509 participants
Preference for soap versus disinfectant – age groups

If you had to choose, would you rather clean your hands with soap and water or with disinfectant to protect yourself from the novel coronavirus? (Response options: ‘soap and water’, ‘disinfectant’)

- **14 to 39 years**
  - Soap and water: 80
  - Disinfectant: 20

- **40 to 59 years**
  - Soap and water: 88
  - Disinfectant: 12

- **60 years and over**
  - Soap and water: 83
  - Disinfectant: 17

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 167–173 participants in corresponding age group
Preference for soap versus disinfectant – over time

If you had to choose, would you rather clean your hands with soap and water or with disinfectant to protect yourself from the novel coronavirus? (Response options: ‘soap and water’, ‘disinfectant’)

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 497–509 participants
Perceived probability of infection by transmission pathways

How high or low do you estimate the probability of being infected with the novel coronavirus via the following paths? (Response scale: 1 ‘very low’ to 5 ‘very high’)

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 473–508 participants
Perceived probability of infection by transmission pathways – age groups

How high or low do you estimate the probability of being infected with the novel coronavirus via the following paths?
(Response scale: 1 ‘very low’ to 5 ‘very high’) – Shown: response category ‘(very) high’ (values 4 + 5)

- **proximity to other people**: 76
- **door handles**: 48
- **cash**: 44
- **toys**: 36
- **dishes and cutlery**: 22
- **food**: 20
- **pets**: 21
- **clothing**: 7

For each category, the percentages are shown for age groups:
- 14 to 39 years
- 40 to 59 years
- 60 years and over

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 139–173 participants in corresponding age group
Perceived probability of infection by transmission pathways – over time

How high or low do you estimate the probability of being infected with the novel coronavirus via the following paths?

(Response scale: 1 ‘very low’ to 5 ‘very high’) – Shown: response category ‘(very) high’ (values 4 + 5)

- proximity to other people: 81, 79, 76
- door handles: 61, 63, 48
- cash: 45, 44, 37
- toys: 35, 38, 29
- dishes and cutlery: 26, 25, 17
- clothing: 13, 11, 9
- food: 12, 18, 14
- pets: 11, 9, 13

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 473–508 participants
Dates and sample sizes of the survey

- 24 March 2020: 510 participants
- 31 March 2020: 500 participants
- 07 April 2020: 510 participants
How were the data collected?

**Statistical population:** German-speaking population ages 14 years and over in private households in the Federal Republic of Germany

**Sampling:** Samples drawn at random from land line and mobile telephone numbers which can also include telephone numbers not listed in directories (in line with standards set by the Association of German Market Research Institutes – ADM)

**Data weighting:** Data was weighted according to gender, education, age, employment, size of city and German federal state to guarantee representativeness

**Method:** Telephone interview (CATI omnibus survey, Dual Frame)

**Presentation of results:** All figures given in percentages, rounding differences are possible, only valid responses were included (response option 'don't know' was excluded from all analyses)

**Conducted by:** Kantar
About the BfR

Do nanoparticles promote the occurrence of allergies? Does apple juice contain too much aluminium? The German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment, or BfR for short, is responsible for answering questions on all aspects of the health assessment of foods and feeds, consumer products and chemicals. Through its work, it makes a decisive contribution towards ensuring that food, products and the use of chemicals have become safer in Germany.

The Institute’s main tasks comprise the assessment of existing health risks and identification of new ones, the development of recommendations to limit risks and the transparent communication of this process. This work results in the scientific advice given to political decision makers. To help with the strategic alignment of its risk communication, the BfR conducts its own research in the field of risk perception. The Institute is independent in its scientific assessments, research and communication. The BfR belongs to the portfolio of the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL).

More information at: www.bfr.bund.de/en

COVID-19/coronavirus:
> A-Z Index > C > COVID-19/corona
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Photo: mathisworks/GettyImages

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