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?

(Reaction scale: 1 'very small' to 5 'very large')

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 498–513 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)

- **14 to 39 years**:
  - Flu: 2
  - Coronavirus: 15
  - Cancer: 58

- **40 to 59 years**:
  - Flu: 12
  - Coronavirus: 28
  - Cancer: 54

- **60 years and over**:
  - Flu: 17
  - Coronavirus: 37
  - Cancer: 42

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 163–175 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: 471–513 participants
Evaluation of media coverage
How do you evaluate the overall media coverage of the novel coronavirus?
(Response options: ‘downplaying’, ‘appropriate’, ‘exaggerated’)

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 491 participants
Evaluation of media coverage – age groups

How do you evaluate the overall media coverage of the novel coronavirus?
(Response options: ‘downplaying’, ‘appropriate’, ‘exaggerated’)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Downplaying</th>
<th>Appropriate</th>
<th>Exaggerated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14 to 39 years</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 to 59 years</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60 years and over</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 159–167 participants in corresponding age group
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: 84%
- Internet: 58%
- Print media: 35%
- Radio: 28%
- Robert Koch Institute: 6%

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 515 participants
Used sources of information – age groups
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)

- **television**: 78%
- **internet**: 75%
- **print media**: 22%
- **radio**: 19%
- **Robert Koch Institute**: 10%

**14 to 39 years**
- **television**: 83%
- **internet**: 65%
- **print media**: 32%
- **radio**: 31%
- **Robert Koch Institute**: 4%

**40 to 59 years**
- **television**: 92%
- **internet**: 34%
- **print media**: 52%
- **radio**: 34%
- **Robert Koch Institute**: 4%

**60 years and over**
- **television**: 92%
- **internet**: 34%
- **print media**: 52%
- **radio**: 34%
- **Robert Koch Institute**: 4%

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 169–175 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)

Figures given in percentages

- Basis: 498–515 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>Cancellation of events</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quarantine measures</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restriction of travel activities</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closure of cultural institutions</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closure of day-care centres and schools</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact prohibition</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Border controls</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Closure of shops</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curfew</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Figures given in percentages**

*Basis: 495–515 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’

- Cancellation of events: 97%
- Quarantine measures: 97%
- Restriction of travel activities: 94%
- Closure of cultural institutions: 96%
- Closure of day-care centres and schools: 93%
- Contact prohibition: 85%
- Border controls: 84%
- Closure of shops: 70%
- Curfew: 54%

14 to 39 years

- Cancellation of events: 91%
- Quarantine measures: 91%
- Restriction of travel activities: 90%
- Contact prohibition: 76%
- Border controls: 83%
- Closure of shops: 52%
- Curfew: 47%

40 to 59 years

- Cancellation of events: 98%
- Quarantine measures: 96%
- Restriction of travel activities: 97%
- Contact prohibition: 94%
- Border controls: 85%
- Closure of shops: 71%
- Curfew: 62%

60 years and over

Figures given in percentages

Basis: 160–175 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: 488–515 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: 42%
- Wearing protective clothing: 22%
- Complying with government regulations: 17%
- Washing hands: 16%
- Keeping distance to others: 13%
- Using disinfectants: 11%
- Paying more attention to hygiene in general: 8%
- No measures: 26%

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 515 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: 36% in 14 to 39 years, 41% in 40 to 59 years, 49% in 60 years and over
- Wearing protective clothing: 19% in 14 to 39 years, 25% in 40 to 59 years, 23% in 60 years and over
- Complying with government regulations: 18% in 14 to 39 years, 12% in 40 to 59 years, 21% in 60 years and over
- Washing hands: 12% in 14 to 39 years, 23% in 40 to 59 years, 11% in 60 years and over
- Keeping distance to others: 11% in 14 to 39 years, 10% in 40 to 59 years, 18% in 60 years and over
- Using disinfectants: 12% in 14 to 39 years, 18% in 40 to 59 years, 4% in 60 years and over
- Paying more attention to hygiene in general: 12% in 14 to 39 years, 8% in 40 to 59 years, 5% in 60 years and over
- No measures: 27% in 14 to 39 years, 26% in 40 to 59 years, 24% in 60 years and over

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 170–175 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?
(Performance options: ‘no’, ‘yes, that is: _____’) – Shown: mentions ≥ 5% (in at least one survey week)

- Avoiding the public: 47% (31 Mar), 47% (07 Apr), 52% (14 Apr), 42% (21 Apr)
- Washing hands: 16% (24 Mar), 15% (31 Mar), 14% (07 Apr), 16% (14 Apr)
- Keeping distance to others: 12% (24 Mar), 9% (31 Mar), 9% (07 Apr), 13% (14 Apr)
- Using disinfectants: 9% (24 Mar), 13% (31 Mar), 9% (07 Apr), 11% (14 Apr)
- Complying with government regulations: 9% (24 Mar), 15% (31 Mar), 13% (07 Apr), 17% (14 Apr)
- Paying more attention to hygiene in general: 8% (24 Mar), 8% (31 Mar), 8% (07 Apr), 8% (14 Apr)
- Wearing protective clothing: 6% (24 Mar), 16% (31 Mar), 23% (07 Apr), 22% (14 Apr)
- No measures: 32% (24 Mar), 22% (31 Mar), 22% (07 Apr), 26% (14 Apr)

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 499–515 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: 514 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’)*

### 14 to 39 years
- **not sure (at all)**: 40
- **medium**: 23
- **(very) sure**: 37

### 40 to 59 years
- **not sure (at all)**: 32
- **medium**: 39
- **(very) sure**: 29

### 60 years and over
- **not sure (at all)**: 25
- **medium**: 39
- **(very) sure**: 36

*Figures given in percentages  
Basis: 170–175 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: 494–514 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’)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Path</th>
<th>(very) low</th>
<th>medium</th>
<th>(very) high</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proximity to other people</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Door handles</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toys</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dishes and cutlery</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pets</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figures given in percentages  
Basis: 489–511 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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transmission Pathway</th>
<th>14 to 39 years</th>
<th>40 to 59 years</th>
<th>60 years and over</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proximity to other people</td>
<td>88%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Door handles</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toys</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dishes and cutlery</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>12%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pets</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 155–175 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
- Door handles
- Cash
- Toys
- Dishes and cutlery
- Clothing
- Food
- Pets

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 473–511 participants
Impact on personal health versus economic situation

What do you think affects you more: the impact of the novel coronavirus on health or on the economic situation? (Response options: ‘impact on health’, ‘impact on economic situation’, ‘both equally’, ‘neither’)

- **Health**: 24 participants
- **Economic situation**: 36 participants
- **Both equally**: 27 participants
- **Neither**: 13 participants

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 515 participants
Impact on personal health versus economic situation – age groups
What do you think affects you more: the impact of the novel coronavirus on health or on the economic situation?
(Response options: 'impact on health', 'impact on economic situation', 'both equally', 'neither')

Figures given in percentages
Basis: 170–175 participants in corresponding age group
Dates and sample sizes of the survey

24 March 2020  510 participants
31 March 2020  500 participants
07 April 2020  510 participants
14 April 2020  515 participants
### How were the data collected?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Statistical population:</th>
<th>German-speaking population ages 14 years and over in private households in the Federal Republic of Germany</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sampling:</td>
<td>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)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data weighting:</td>
<td>Data was weighted according to gender, education, age, employment, size of city and German federal state to guarantee representativeness</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Method:</td>
<td>Telephone interview (CATI omnibus survey, Dual Frame)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation of results:</td>
<td>All figures given in percentages, rounding differences are possible, only valid responses were included (response option 'don't know' was excluded from all analyses)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conducted by:</td>
<td>Kantar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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:
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