About the survey
This survey is part of a survey for all the Eurofound e-surveys and will be made available soon on the Eurofound website.

Job loss during pandemic

By spring 2021, more respondents reported being behind with their utility bills, telephone, mobile and internet payments than in summer 2020. The proportion of respondents reporting payment problems is higher among those who use traditional news sources as their primary source of information.

Preference for hybrid working arrangements

During the COVID-19 pandemic, 60% of respondents preferred that their workplace return to hybrid working arrangements if there are no restrictions in place.

Rise in financial inequality

During the COVID-19 pandemic, existing inequalities are widening because of the disproportionate impact of the pandemic on vulnerable groups. In the EU, 34% of employees worked exclusively from home.

Declining satisfaction with pandemic support measures

In spring 2021, over a quarter of people living in the EU indicated a hesitancy to receive updates on the next round of support measures.

Sharp decline in trust in national governments

Trust in national governments across all Member States sank below levels recorded at the start of the pandemic.

Trust in institutions in the EU

Trust in institutions has plummeted, especially trust in national governments which fell from 4.6 in summer 2020 to 3.9 in spring 2021.

Vaccine hesitancy

Vaccine hesitancy is also strongly associated with low levels of trust, with countries that register low levels of trust in their governments registering higher levels of vaccine hesitancy.

Fall in mental well-being across all social groups

The highest increase in loneliness was recorded for women over 50 (30% in spring 2021) and 50–64 (26%) or people who are retired (23%).

Decreasing satisfaction with pandemic support measures

In spring 2021, 8% of respondents who had been employed before the pandemic were unemployed in spring 2021, compared to 10% in summer 2020. There was no increase recorded for women.

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