

## **Flash Eurobarometer Survey**

**The entity that has organized the survey and is responsible for data collection - as well as key data on the entity's membership, governance arrangements, source of funding etc.**

The Flash Eurobarometer is organized by the European Commission. The Surveys and Public Opinion Research Unit under the Directorate General Press and Communication is responsible for the data collection.

Data and documentation are archived in the Consortium for European Social Science Data Archives (CESSDA). However, GESIS (Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences) and ICPSR (University of Michigan) are also involved in the practical documentation work.

According to GESIS, the project is funded by the European Commission, the Directorate-General X, the Public Opinion Surveys and Research Unit (until 1999), the DG Education and Culture, the Citizens' center – Analysis of Public Opinion (2000), and the DG Communication – Public Opinion Analysis Sector.

### **A historical sketch of the initiation and origin of the survey**

During the 1980s, The European Commission realized that sometimes information was necessary between the fixed schedules of the normal Eurobarometer. The first Flash Eurobarometer was conducted in connection with the 30-years anniversary for the Treaty of Rome in 1987. Since then, more than 400 Flash barometers have been carried out. In 1994-95 it was a monthly monitor. In 1996-1998 it was conducted on a *weekly* basis under the label European Continuous Tracking Survey (CTS). After 1996, Flash barometers have also been used to interview specific target groups; this started with a Top Decision Makers Survey in 1996.

This historical summary is based on information from the NSD, Norway.

### **Internet links to the website of the responsible organization**

[The official website for the Public Opinion Analysis sector of the European Commission](#)

**The frequency or repetitions of the survey. Possible explanation of this.**

The Flash Eurobarometer has been conducted more than 400 times, as mentioned. The very nature of the survey indicates that it is not repeated at regular intervals, but when needed on an *ad hoc*-basis.

### **A description of the survey's content, i.e. both focused rotational and / or core modules of the survey**

Again, the nature of the survey dictates that the survey's content varies enormously. GESIS mentions the following topics as examples: European elections, the European constitution, citizens' rights, single market, common currency, EU enlargement, information society (internet), entrepreneurship, and enterprises. For details, please refer to this [overview of Flash Eurobarometer Reports](#).

### **An outline of the type of sample and the main data collection methods used**

Depending on the survey, the sample size varies from 500 to 1,000 respondents per country, but it may also be larger in special cases. When the Flash Eurobarometer was conducted weekly (1996-98), the usual sample size was 200 per country. The sample procedure ensures a random representative sample of the target population. The target population varies from survey to survey.

The Flash Eurobarometer mostly conducts telephone interviews. In some cases, web based surveys or face-to-face interviews are conducted.

### **An account of availability of the data to researchers, restrictions on access, etc.**

The data are freely available at [GESIS](#) provided that the source is acknowledged. This does not hold for commercial purposes.

### **Questionnaires, English version**

The questionnaires may also be downloaded freely from the same location as the datasets, please see the GESIS link above. Due to the number of surveys, it is not feasible to provide links to each survey questionnaire individually.

### **The countries included in the different rounds**

This varies from survey to survey, however normally some or all of the EU member countries are

involved. In certain cases, candidate and EFTA states, and even the U.S., may be included. For details, please refer to [Countries & Coverage](#).

### **Cumulative file**

Not relevant. Flash Eurobarometer consists of series of surveys on different topics.

### **Publications based on data**

The Flash Eurobarometer does not provide a list of publications based on their data.

### **Analytical summary...**

### **Sources**

Unless otherwise noted, all information is extracted from the website of the Public Opinion Analysis sector of the European Commission and the [GESIS' Flash Eurobarometer](#) website.