



Flash Eurobarometer 354

Entrepreneurship

COUNTRY REPORT SPAIN

Fieldwork: June 2012

This survey has been requested by the European Commission,
Directorate-General Enterprise
and Industry and co-ordinated by Directorate-General for Communication.

This document does not represent the point of view of the European Commission.
The interpretations and opinions contained in it are solely those of the authors.

Flash Eurobarometer 354 - TNS Political & Social

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Entrepreneurship

Conducted by TNS Opinion & Social at the request of
the European Commission, Directorate-General Enterprise and
Industry

Survey co-ordinated by the European Commission,
Directorate-General for Communication
(DG COMM "Research and Speechwriting" Unit)

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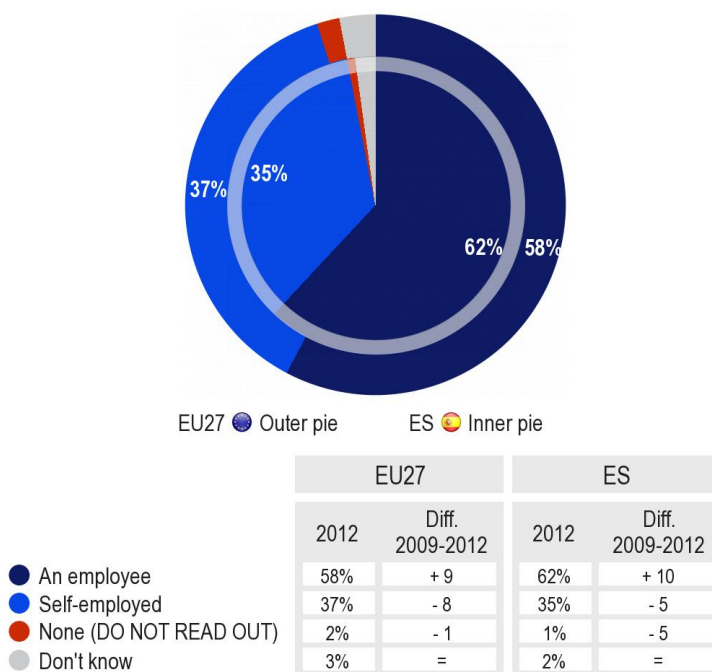
1. SELF-EMPLOYMENT VS. EMPLOYEE STATUS

1.1. Preference of status

-- In Spain over one third of respondents say they favour self-employment, which is very much in line than the EU average --

Over a third (35%) of people in Spain say that if they could choose between different kinds of jobs, they would prefer to be self-employed rather than be employed by a company. This is very similar to the 37% of respondents who express a preference for self-employment at EU level. Six out of 10 (62%) respondents in Spain say that they would prefer to be an employee – a result that is slightly higher than the 58% of people who give this answer at EU level.

Q1. If you could choose between different kinds of jobs, would you prefer to be... ?



Evolution 12/2009 - 06-08/2012

There has been a large shift in Spain on this question since 2009, with far more people now saying that they would rather work as an employee (+10 points), and fewer people now favouring self-employment (-5 points). This is in keeping with the EU-level trend, with more Europeans now preferring to work as employees (+9 points) and fewer preferring to be self-employed (-8 points).

1.2. Reasons for wanting to be self-employed

-- Two-thirds of people in Spain favour self-employment, which is above the EU average --

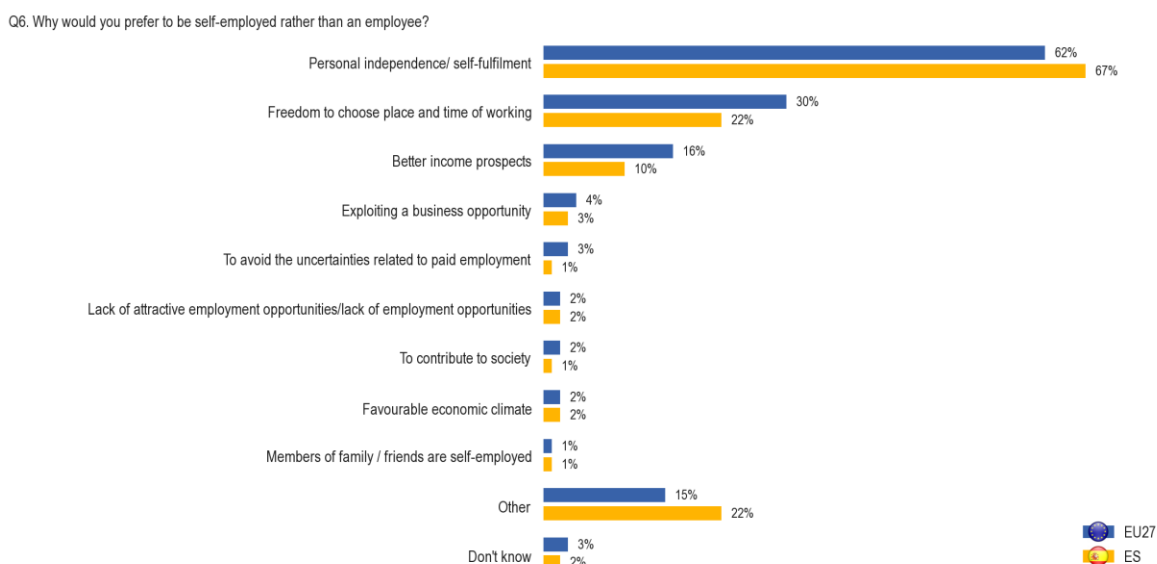
Respondents who previously said that they would prefer to be self-employed than work as an employee were now asked why they would rather be self-employed. Multiple answers were permitted.

Two-thirds of respondents in Spain (67%) say they want the personal independence or self-fulfilment that comes with self-employment. This is somewhat higher than the 62% of people who say this at EU level.

Over a fifth of respondents in Spain (22%) say they would like the freedom to choose the place and time of their work, as opposed to 30% of people give this answer across the EU. A tenth of people in Spain (10%, vs. 16% at EU level) say they are attracted by better income prospects.

Over a fifth of respondents in Spain (22%) cite 'other' reasons for favouring self-employment – more than the 15% who give 'other' reasons at EU level.

Relatively small numbers of respondents give other reasons for preferring self-employment, including the desire to exploit a business opportunity (3% vs. 4% at EU level), avoiding the uncertainties of paid employment (1% vs. 3%), the lack of attractive employment opportunities (2%, the same as EU level), wanting to contribute to society (1% vs. 2%), the favourable economic climate (2%, the same as EU level), or the fact that friends or family members are self-employed (1%, the same as EU level).



Base: those who said they would prefer to be self-employed (EU27=10082 / ES= 347)

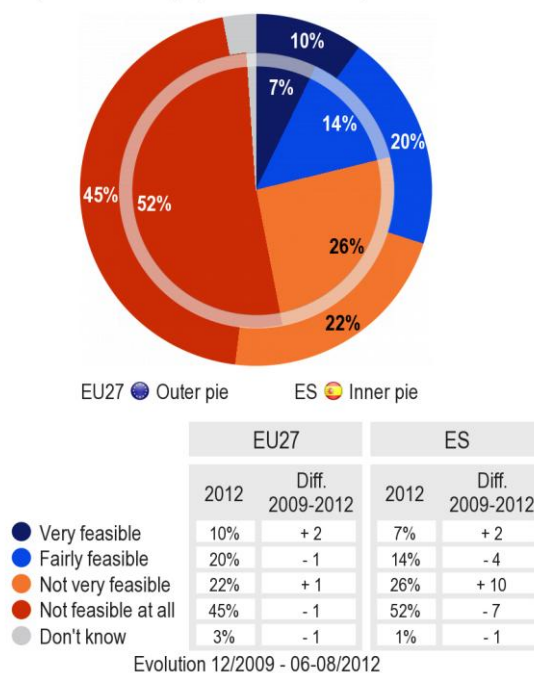
2. PERCEPTIONS OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP

2.1. Feasibility of becoming self-employed

-- Fewer people in Spain (21%) consider self-employment to be feasible than across the EU as a whole (30%) --

Respondents were asked whether it would be feasible for them to become self-employed within the next five years, regardless of whether they would like to be. In Spain a fifth (21%) of respondents say that this would be feasible, with 7% saying it would be very feasible and 14% saying it would be fairly feasible. This compares with the 30% of people across the EU who think that it would be feasible for them to become self-employed (10% regard it as very feasible, and 20% as fairly feasible).

Q7. Regardless of whether or not you would like to become self-employed, would it be feasible for you to be self-employed within the next 5 years?



Base: those who are not self-employed (EU27= 24551 / ES= 915)

In contrast, over three-quarters (78%) of respondents in Spain say that self-employment is unfeasible, with 26% considering self-employment not very feasible and 52% regarding it as not feasible at all. At EU level only 67% of respondents think it would not be feasible (22% say it is not very feasible, while 45% consider it to be not feasible at all).

Compared with 2009, the proportion of respondents in Spain who view self-employment as very feasible has increased slightly (+2 points), while there has been a fall in the number of people who see it as fairly feasible (-4 points) increased. The number who regard self-employment as not very feasible (+10 points) increased substantially, while the number considering it to be not feasible at all (-7 points) registered a large decline. The EU-level results were broadly unchanged.

2.2. Reasons for unfeasibility

-- Respondents in Spain are twice as likely to be concerned about the unfavourable economic climate than people across the EU --

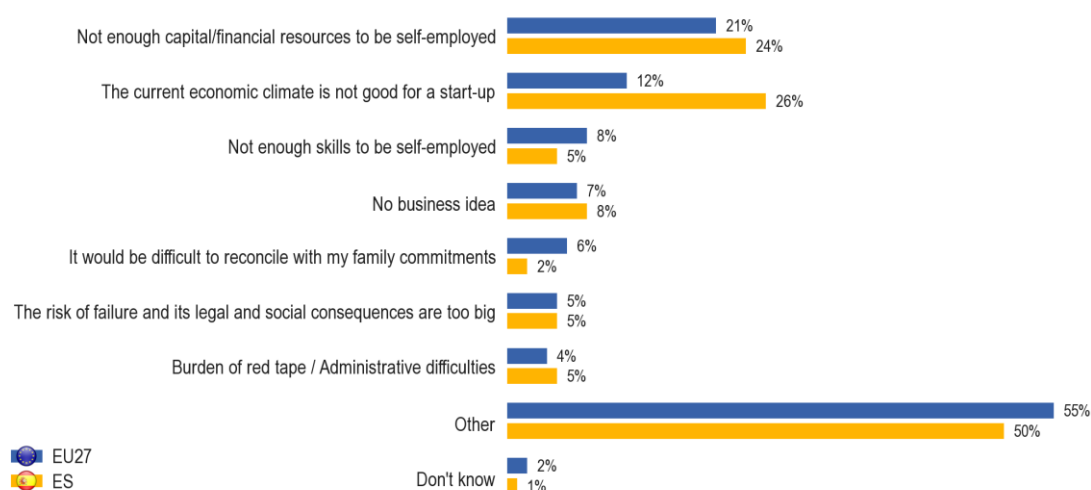
Respondents who said they did not regard self-employment as feasible for them within the next five years were then asked why they did not consider it feasible. Multiple answers were permitted.

A quarter of respondents in Spain (24%) say they do not regard self-employment as feasible on the grounds that they do not have enough capital or financial resources – fewer than the 21% of people who give this answer at EU level. Slightly more people in Spain (26%) feel that the current economic climate is not good for a start-up – far more than the 12% of Europeans who mention this as a factor.

Relatively few people in Spain give other reasons for not regarding self-employment as a feasible alternative. Less than one in 10 say that they lack the skills to be self-employed (5% vs. 8% at EU level), that they have no business idea (8% vs. 7%), that they would have difficulty reconciling self-employment with family commitments (2% vs. 6%), that they fear the risk of failure and its consequences (5%, the same as at EU level), and that they are put off by the burden of red tape (5% vs. 4%).

Half (50%) of respondents in Spain – slightly fewer than in the EU as a whole (55%) – say that they have "other reasons" for not seeing self-employment as a feasible option.

Q8. Why would it not be feasible for you to be self-employed within the next 5 years?



Base: those who said they did not regard self-employment as feasible for them within the next five years (EU27= 16473 / ES= 711)

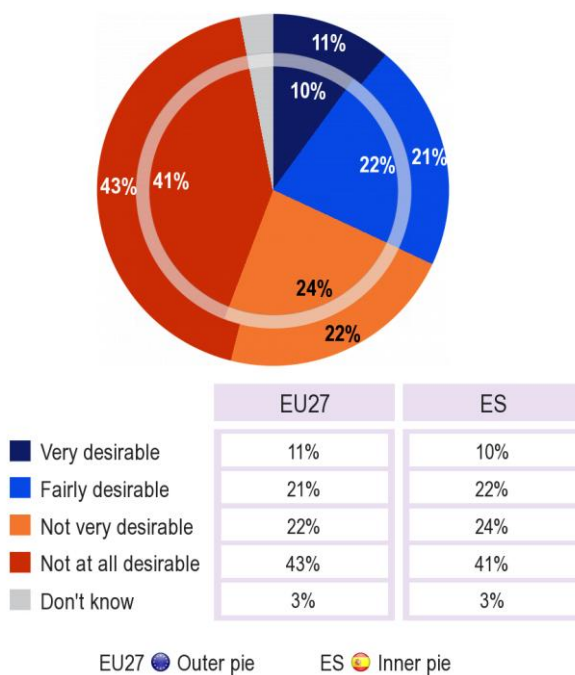
2.3.Desire to become self-employed

-- A third of people in Spain, as in the EU, think that self-employment is desirable –

Respondents were then asked how desirable it was for them to become self-employed within the next five years. Nearly a third of people in Spain (32%) say it is desirable, with 10% regarding it as very desirable and 22% as fairly desirable. This is very similar to the results from the EU as a whole, where again 32% of people view self-employment as desirable (11% think it is very desirable, and 21% fairly desirable).

Two-thirds (65%) of respondents in Spain say self-employment is not desirable, with 24% seeing it as not very desirable and 41% viewing it as not at all desirable. Similarly, 65% of respondents say the same thing at EU level (22% think self-employment is not very desirable, and 43% say it is not at all desirable).

Q9. Personally, how desirable is it for you to become self-employed within the next 5 years?



Base: those who are not self-employed (EU27= 24551 / ES= 915)

2.4. Fears when setting up a business

-- A majority of people in Spain say that bankruptcy and the risk of losing their property make them afraid of starting a business --

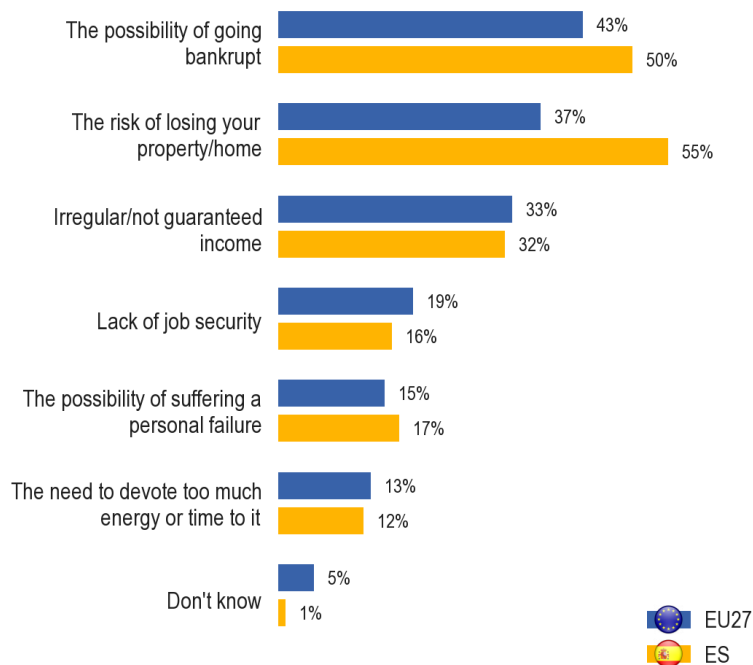
Respondents were asked to say which two risks they would be afraid of most if they were to set up a business today.

Half of the respondents in Spain (50%) say they would be afraid of the risk of going bankrupt – more than the 43% at EU level who are afraid of bankruptcy. A majority (55% vs. 37% at EU level) also say that the risk of losing their property/home would concern them the most.

A third of respondents in Spain (32% vs. 33%) say that the risk of irregular income would make them afraid of setting up a business, while a sixth (16% vs. 19%) say that they would be worried by the lack of job security.

The possibility of suffering a personal failure concerns one in six respondents (17% vs. 15% at EU level), while 12% cite the need to devote too much energy or time to the business (compared with 13% in the EU).

Q18. If you were to set up a business today, which are the two risks you would be most afraid of?



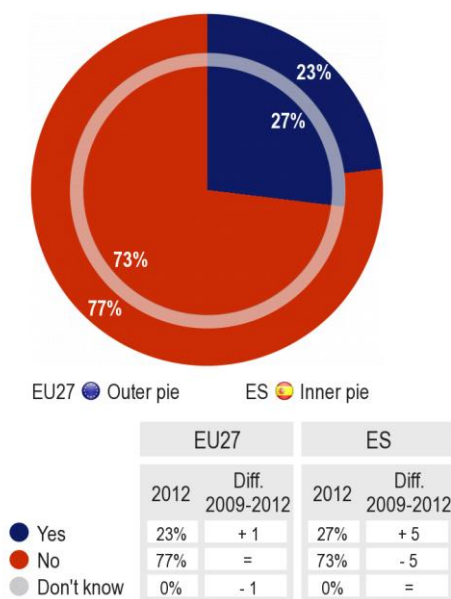
3. EXPERIENCE OF STARTING UP A BUSINESS

-- Over a quarter (27%) of respondents in Spain have started a business or are planning to start one, slightly more than in the EU as a whole --

Respondents were asked whether they had ever started or taken over a business, or whether they were taking steps to start a business. A quarter of respondents in Spain (27%) say that they have started a business or are making plans to do so – slightly more than the 23% of people at EU level who give this answer. 73% say that they have never done any of these things, while 77% of EU respondents say this.

Compared with December 2009, more respondents in Spain say now that they have started a business or are planning to start one (+5 points). There was almost no change at EU level on this point.

Q13. Have you ever started a business, taken over one or are you taking steps to start one?



Evolution 12/2009 - 06-08/2012

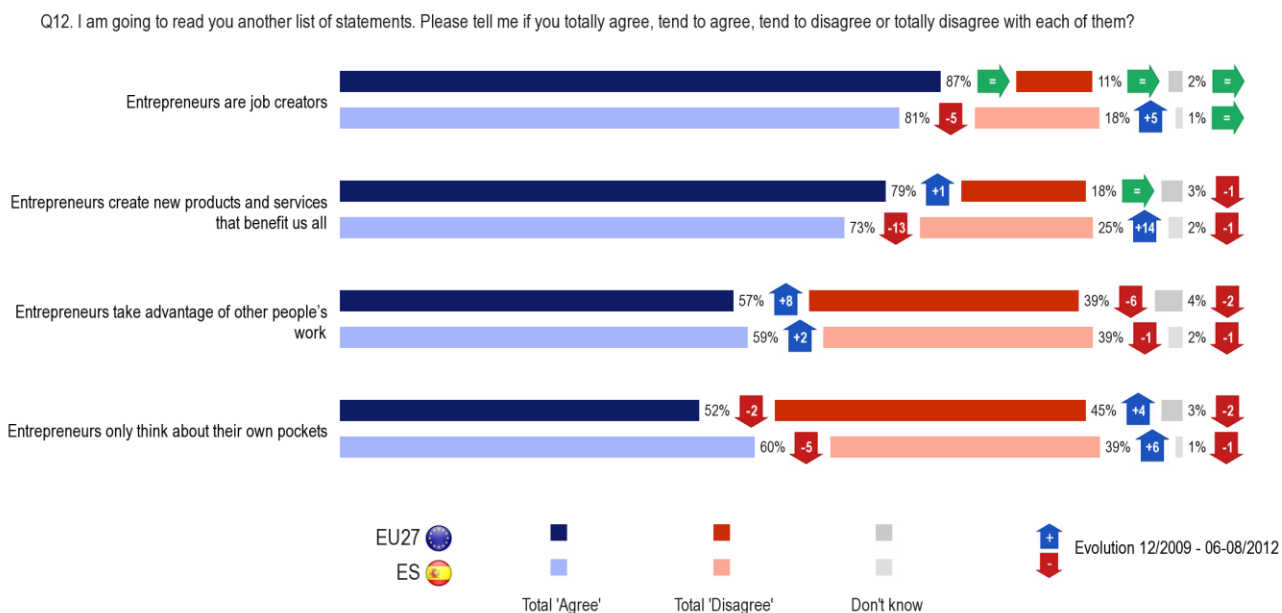
4. PERCEPTIONS OF ENTREPRENEURS AND THE ROLE OF EDUCATION

4.1. Perceptions of entrepreneurship

-- While most people in Spain still agree that entrepreneurs bring economic benefits, there has been a large decline in the number of respondents who do so

Respondents were asked whether they agree with a series of statements about entrepreneurship.

They were first asked to say whether they agree that entrepreneurs are job creators. A large majority of people in Spain (81%, compared with 87% at EU level) agree that entrepreneurs are job creators. Nearly a fifth of respondents (19% vs. 11% at EU level) disagree with this statement. While there was no change at EU level between 2009 and 2012 on this question, fewer people in Spain now agree with the viewpoint that entrepreneurs are job creators (-5 points).



Nearly three quarters of respondents in Spain (73%, compared with 79% at EU level) agree that entrepreneurs create new products and services that benefit all of us. A quarter of respondents (25%, vs. 18% at EU level) disagree with this statement. There was again little change at EU level on this point. However, in Spain there was a substantial fall in the number of people who agree that entrepreneurs create new products and services that benefit all of us than did so in 2009 (-13 points), with a corresponding rise in the number of people who do not agree that entrepreneurs do this (+14 points).

A majority of respondents in Spain (59%), as in the EU (57%), agree that entrepreneurs take advantage of other people's work. Four people in 10 (39%, the same as in the EU)

do not agree that this is the case. The proportion of respondents agreeing with this statement rose both in Spain (+2 points) and in the EU (+8 points).

Finally, six out of 10 respondents in Spain (60% vs. 52% in the EU) agree that entrepreneurs only think about their own pockets. 39% of people disagree (vs. 45% at EU level). The level of agreement declined both in Spain (-5 points) and the wider EU (-2 points).

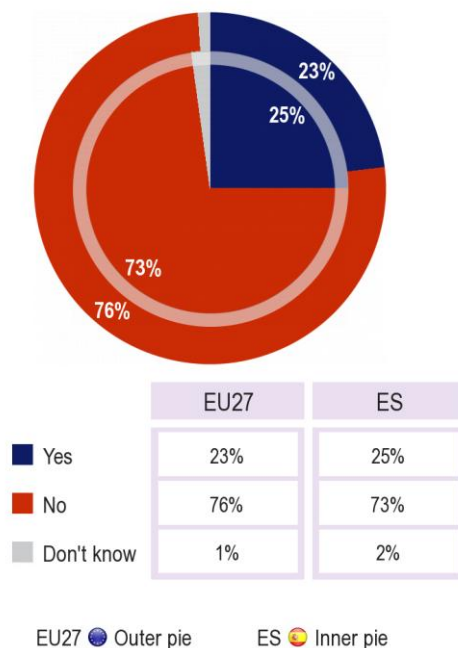
4.2 The role of education in entrepreneurship activity

-- A quarter of respondents in Spain have taken an entrepreneurship course, which is slightly above the average EU respondent --

Respondents were asked whether they have ever taken part in any course or activity about entrepreneurship, which is defined as turning ideas into action and developing one’s own projects.

A quarter (25%) of respondents in Spain say that they have taken part in this type of course, which is marginally higher than the 23% of people who give this response at EU level. 73% say that they have never taken an entrepreneurship course (76% say this across the EU).

Q10. At school or university, have you ever taken part in any course or activity about entrepreneurship – that is turning ideas into action, developing your own projects?





FLASH EUROBAROMETER 354

"Entrepreneurship"

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between the 15 June and the 8 August 2012, TNS Political & Social, a consortium created between TNS political & social, TNS UK and TNS opinion, carried out the survey FLASH EUROBAROMETER 354 about "Entrepreneurship".

This survey has been requested by the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate-General Enterprise and Industry. It is a general public survey co-ordinated by the Directorate-General for Communication ("Research and Speechwriting" Unit). The FLASH EUROBAROMETER 354 covers the population of the respective nationalities of the European Union Member States, resident in each of the 27 Member States and aged 15 years and over. It has also been conducted in Croatia, Turkey, Iceland, Norway, Switzerland, Israel, Russia, China, Japan, South Korea, India, Brazil and the United States. All interviews were carried using the TNS e-Call center (our centralized CATI system), except in Israel, China, India, Japan, South Korea and Brazil. In every country respondents were called both on fixed lines and mobile phones (except in India where the interviews were conducted face-to-face). The basic sample design applied in all states is multi-stage random (probability). In each household, the respondent was drawn at random following the "last birthday rule".

TNS has developed its own RDD sample generation capabilities based on using contact telephone numbers from responders to random probability or random location face to face surveys, such as Eurobarometer, as seed numbers. The approach works because the seed number identifies a working block of telephone numbers and reduces the volume of numbers generated that will be ineffective. The seed numbers are stratified by NUTS2 region and urbanisation to approximate a geographically representative sample. From each seed number the required sample of numbers are generated by randomly replacing the last two digits. The sample is then screened against business databases in order to exclude as many of these numbers as possible before going into field. This approach is consistent across all countries.

For each country a comparison between the sample and the universe was carried out. The Universe description was derived from Eurostat population data or from national statistics offices. For all countries surveyed, a national weighting procedure, using marginal and intercellular weighting, was carried out based on this Universe description. In all countries, gender, age, region and size of locality were introduced in the iteration procedure. For international weighting (i.e. EU averages), TNS Political & Social applies the official population figures as provided by EUROSTAT or national statistic offices. The total population figures for input in this post-weighting procedure are listed above.

Readers are reminded that survey results are estimations, the accuracy of which, everything being equal, rests upon the sample size and upon the observed percentage. With samples of about 1,000 interviews, the real percentages vary within the following confidence limits:

**Statistical Margins due to the sampling process
(at the 95% level of confidence)**

various sample sizes are in rows

various observed results are in columns

	5%	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%	
	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	
N=50	6,0	8,3	9,9	11,1	12,0	12,7	13,2	13,6	13,8	13,9	N=50
N=500	1,9	2,6	3,1	3,5	3,8	4,0	4,2	4,3	4,4	4,4	N=500
N=1000	1,4	1,9	2,2	2,5	2,7	2,8	3,0	3,0	3,1	3,1	N=1000
N=1500	1,1	1,5	1,8	2,0	2,2	2,3	2,4	2,5	2,5	2,5	N=1500
N=2000	1,0	1,3	1,6	1,8	1,9	2,0	2,1	2,1	2,2	2,2	N=2000
N=3000	0,8	1,1	1,3	1,4	1,5	1,6	1,7	1,8	1,8	1,8	N=3000
N=4000	0,7	0,9	1,1	1,2	1,3	1,4	1,5	1,5	1,5	1,5	N=4000
N=5000	0,6	0,8	1,0	1,1	1,2	1,3	1,3	1,4	1,4	1,4	N=5000
N=6000	0,6	0,8	0,9	1,0	1,1	1,2	1,2	1,2	1,3	1,3	N=6000
N=7000	0,5	0,7	0,8	0,9	1,0	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,2	1,2	N=7000
N=7500	0,5	0,7	0,8	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	N=7500
N=8000	0,5	0,7	0,8	0,9	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,1	1,1	1,1	N=8000
N=9000	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,8	0,9	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,0	1,0	N=9000
N=10000	0,4	0,6	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,9	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,0	N=10000
N=11000	0,4	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,9	N=11000
N=12000	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,9	N=12000
N=13000	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,9	0,9	N=13000
N=14000	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,8	N=14000
N=15000	0,3	0,5	0,6	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,8	N=15000
	5%	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%	
	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	

ABBR.	COUNTRIES	INSTITUTES	N° INTERVIEWS	FIELDWORK DATES		POPULATION 15+
BE	Belgium	TNS Dimarso	1.000	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	8.939.546
BG	Bulgaria	TNS BBSS	1.005	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	6.537.510
CZ	Czech Rep.	TNS Aisa s.r.o	1.000	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	9.012.443
DK	Denmark	TNS Gallup A/S	1.001	25/06/2012	28/06/2012	4.561.264
DE	Germany	TNS Infratest	1.001	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	64.409.146
EE	Estonia	TNS Emor	1.009	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	945.733
EL	Greece	TNS ICAP	1.000	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	8.693.566
ES	Spain	TNS Demoscopia S.A	1.001	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	39.035.867
FR	France	TNS Sofres	1.005	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	47.756.439
IE	Ireland	IMS Millward Brown	1.000	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	3.522.000
IT	Italy	TNS Infratest	1.003	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	51.862.391
CY	Rep. of Cyprus	CYMAR	1.003	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	660.400
LV	Latvia	TNS Latvia	1.000	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	1.447.866
LT	Lithuania	TNS LT	1.003	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	2.829.740
LU	Luxembourg	TNS Dimarso	1.003	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	404.907
HU	Hungary	TNS Hoffmann Kft	1.009	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	8.320.614
MT	Malta	MISCO International Ltd	1.003	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	335.476
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO	1.003	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	13.371.980
AT	Austria	TNS Austria	1.000	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	7.009.827
PL	Poland	TNS OBOP	1.000	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	32.413.735
PT	Portugal	TNS EUROTESTE	1.000	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	8.080.915
RO	Romania	TNS CSOP	1.005	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	18.246.731
SI	Slovenia	RM PLUS	1.002	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	1.759.701
SK	Slovakia	TNS AISA Slovakia	1.000	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	4.549.955
FI	Finland	TNS Gallup Oy	1.000	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	4.440.004
SE	Sweden	TNS SIFO	1.000	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	7.791.240
UK	United Kingdom	TNS UK	1.003	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	51.848.010
TOTAL EU27			27.059	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	408.787.006
HR	Croatia	HENDAL	1.003	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	3.749.400
TR	Turkey	TNS PIAR	1.001	26/06/2012	04/07/2012	54.844.406
IS	Iceland	Capacent ehf	1.004	26/06/2012	28/06/2012	252.277
NO	Norway	TNS Gallup AS	1.001	26/06/2012	29/06/2012	3.886.395
CH	Switzerland	Isopublic	1.005	26/06/2012	30/06/2012	6.416.728
IL	Israel	TNS Teleseker	1.000	26/06/2012	04/07/2012	4.257.500
RU	Russia	TNS MIC	1.000	02/07/2012	05/07/2012	121.153.927
US	United States	TNS Custom Research	3.001	15/06/2012	12/07/2012	247.518.325
BR	Brazil	TNS Brazil	1.001	04/07/2012	08/08/2012	144.799.269
IN	India	TNS India	1.003	02/07/2012	26/07/2012	52.512.000
CN	China	TNS China	1.002	27/06/2012	23/07/2012	70.904.579
KR	South Korea	TNS Korea	1.000	27/06/2012	20/07/2012	42.923.904
JP	Japan	Research Freeway	1.000	02/07/2012	24/07/2012	110.275.000
TOTAL			42.080	15/06/2012	08/08/2012	1.272.300.022