

# Global attitudes towards a COVID-19 vaccine

► **Report** May 2021

Insights and trends in people's behaviours related to COVID-19. Brought to you by a team of health and behavioural experts at the Institute of Global Health Innovation (IGHI) at Imperial College London and YouGov. These reports are created on a regular basis, following new survey results.

**With special acknowledgement of the contribution from the WHO working group on measuring behavioural and social drivers (BeSD) of COVID-19 vaccination.**

## Key insights from this report

This report looks at attitudes towards a COVID-19 vaccine in 15 countries between March and May 2021. Countries included are Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Israel, Italy, Japan, Norway, Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States. Exact sample sizes in each country are included at the end of the report.

As of May,

- **Trust in vaccines is high:** the United Kingdom had the highest share of respondents who reported trust in COVID-19 vaccines (87%), while Japan had the lowest (47%). In all countries but two (South Korea and Japan), over 50% of respondents reported trust in COVID-19 vaccines.
- **Confidence in health authorities varies:** respondents from the United Kingdom had the highest level of confidence that their health authorities would provide them with an effective COVID-19 vaccine (70%), whereas respondents in South Korea had the lowest (42%). In 5 of the 15 countries surveyed, fewer than 50% of respondents believed their governments would provide them with an effective vaccine.
- **Concerns about side effects and insufficient testing are main barriers to vaccine uptake:**
  - There is variation in the share of respondents in each country surveyed that have already been vaccinated. In all countries where vaccines are not yet widely available, the top reason for not having received a vaccine yet was 'I'm not eligible to receive one yet'.
  - Excluding this reason, the top reasons across all 15 countries surveyed were 'concerns about side effects' and/or 'concerns that there has not been enough testing of vaccines'. There is an opportunity for governments and health authorities to address the public's concerns around these two areas.
  - When respondents who had \*not\* yet received the vaccine were asked which brand they trusted the most, Pfizer had the highest response rate across all age groups in 9 of the 15 countries surveyed. It had the highest response rate among those under 65 in 3 additional countries. The notable exception to this is are the countries where most of the population has already been vaccinated or offered the vaccine: Israel, the UK and the US.
    - In Israel, respondents under 65 who have not yet received the vaccine responded 'any of the above', followed by Pfizer.
    - In the UK, Pfizer had the highest share of those under 40, while 'none of the above' had the highest share of those 40-65.
    - In the US, across all age groups, 'none of the above' had the highest response rate.

# Attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccines in Australia

As of mid-May 2021, over half (59%) of respondents in Australia stated they trust COVID-19 vaccines. Excluding not being eligible yet, the main reason for not having received a COVID-19 vaccine across all age groups was 'concerns about side effects', followed by 'concerns that there has not been enough testing of vaccines'. When asked which brand they trusted the most, Pfizer had the highest share of respondents. This rate has increased since March. Pfizer was followed by those who responded 'don't know' and 'none of the above', with little difference by age group.

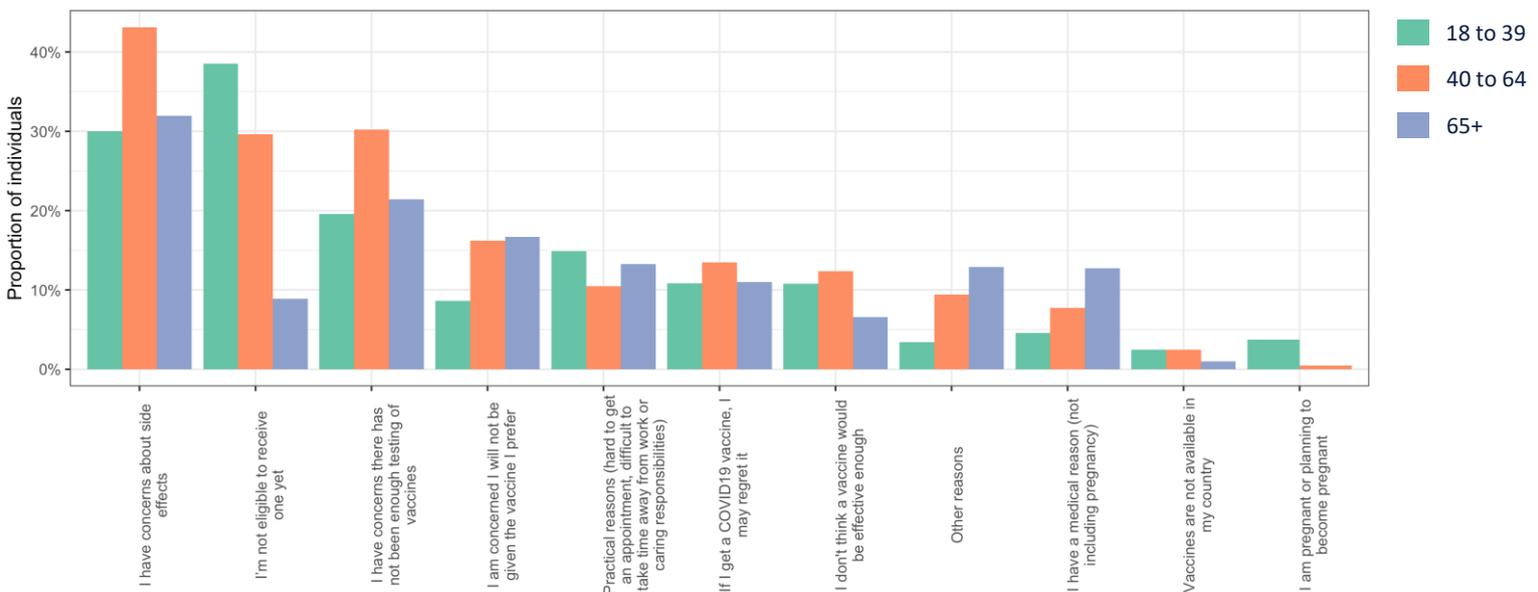
59%

Trust COVID-19 vaccines

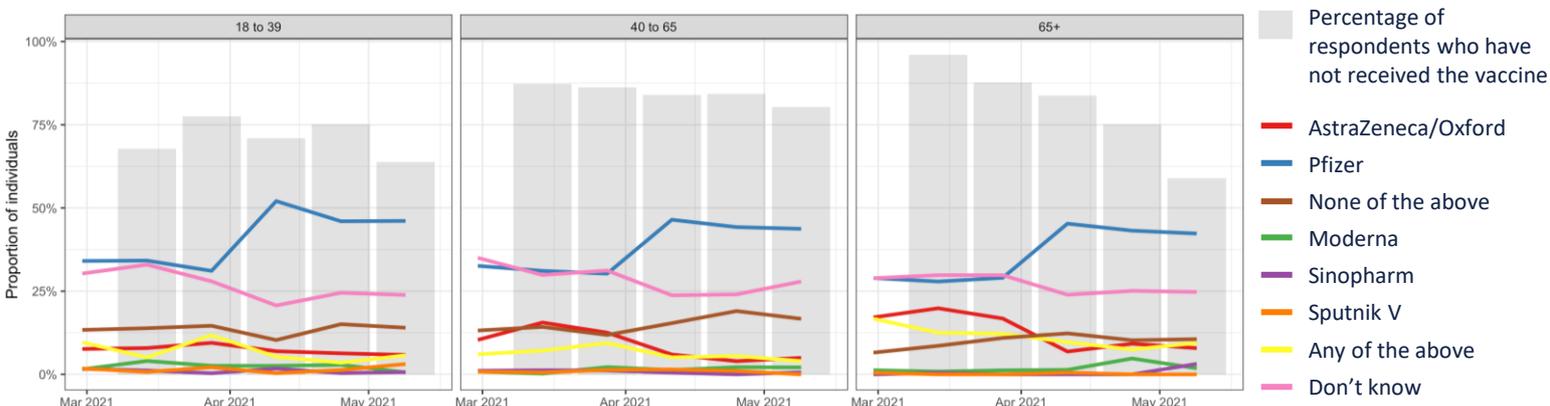
48%

Believe their health authorities will provide them with an effective COVID-19 vaccine

Which if any of the following reasons describes why you have not had a Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine? Please tick all that apply



Which of these COVID-19 vaccines do you trust the most? (%) \*\*Asked only of respondents who have not yet received the vaccine



# Attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccines in Canada

As of mid-May 2021, over two thirds (71%) of respondents in Canada stated they trust COVID-19 vaccines. Excluding not being eligible for it yet, the main reason for not having received a COVID-19 vaccine across all age groups was 'concerns about side effects', followed by 'concerns that there has not been enough testing of vaccines'. When asked which brand they trusted the most, Pfizer had the highest share of respondents. This rate has increased since March for those under 65 who have not yet been vaccinated. Conversely, the share of those who responded 'don't know' has consistently decreased since March for those under 65 who haven't been vaccinated.

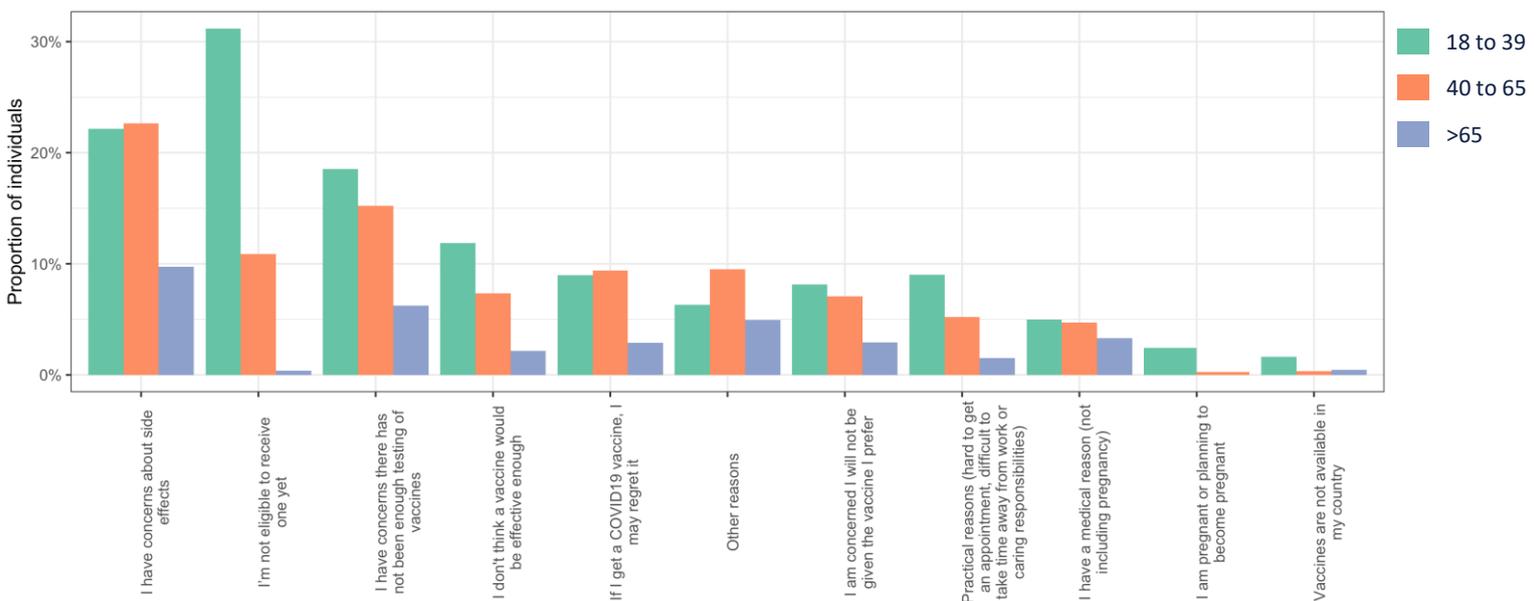
71%

Trust COVID-19 vaccines

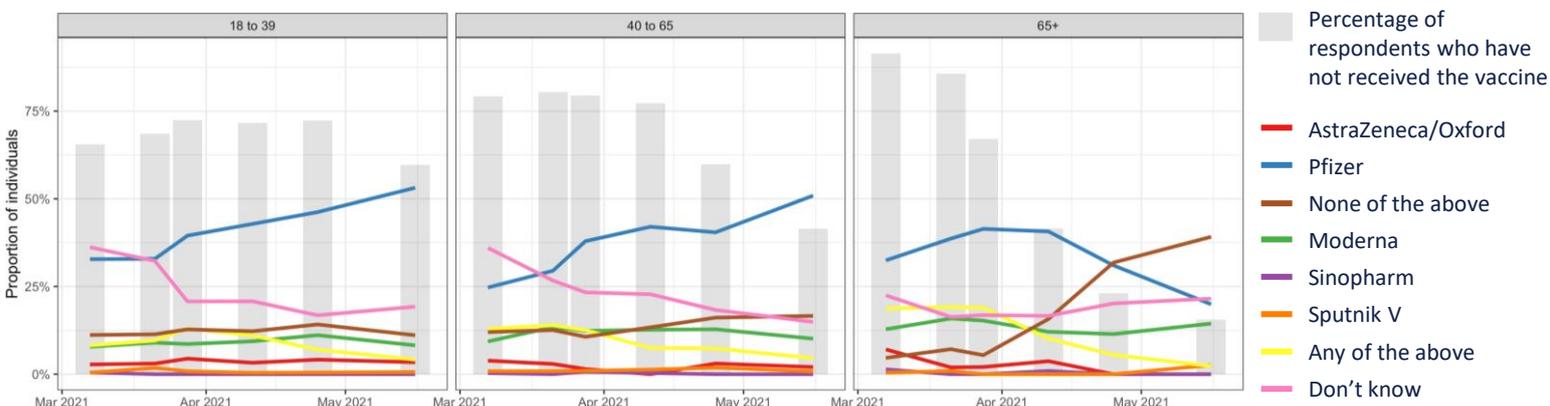
57%

Believe their health authorities will provide them with an effective COVID-19 vaccine

Which if any of the following reasons describes why you have not had a Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine? Please tick all that apply



Which of these COVID-19 vaccines do you trust the most? (%) \*\*Asked only of respondents who have not yet received the vaccine



# Attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccines in Denmark

As of mid-May 2021, 3 in 4 respondents (74%) in Denmark stated they trust COVID-19 vaccines. Most respondents under 65 stated they had not received a vaccine because they were not yet eligible. Fewer than 20% of respondents across all age groups stated side effects as the reason for not having received the vaccine yet. When asked which brand they trusted the most, Pfizer had the highest share of respondents. This rate has increased since March for those under 65 that have not yet been vaccinated. This rate was followed by those who responded 'don't know', which has decreased over time across all age groups.

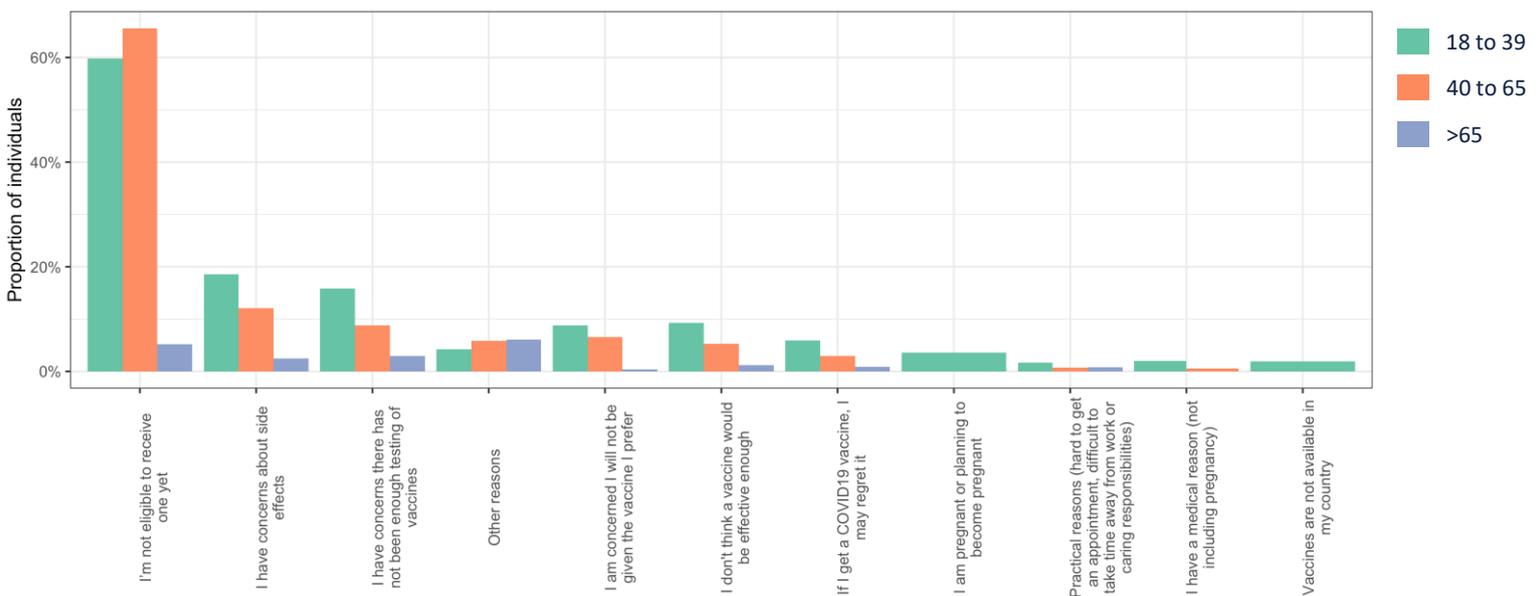
74%

Trust COVID-19 vaccines

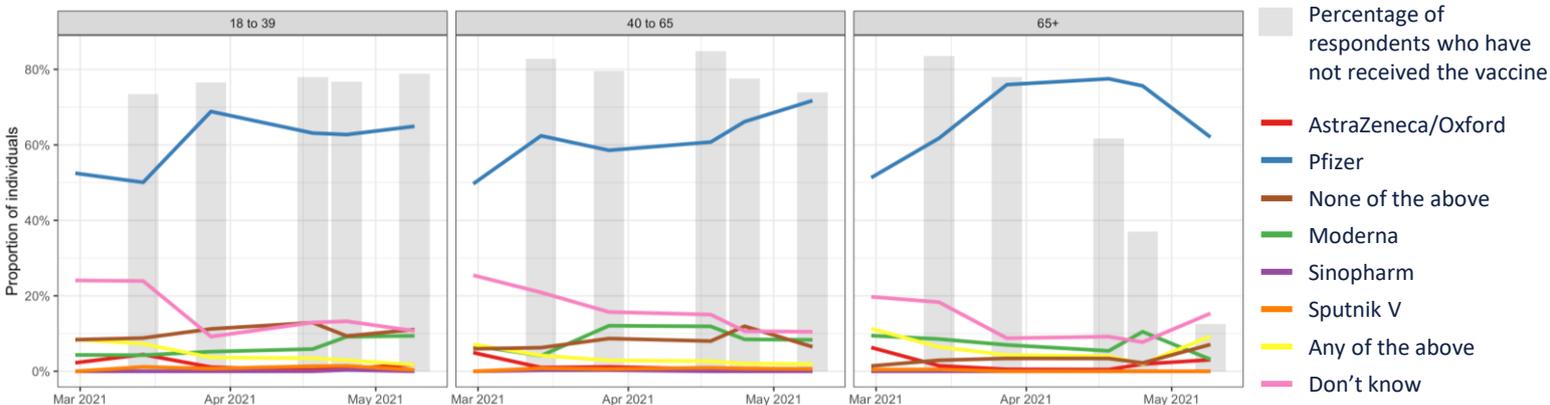
67%

Believe their health authorities will provide them with an effective COVID-19 vaccine

Which if any of the following reasons describes why you have not had a Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine? Please tick all that apply



Which of these COVID-19 vaccines do you trust the most? (%) \*\*Asked only of respondents who have not yet received the vaccine



# Attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccines in France

As of mid-May 2021, over half (56%) of respondents in France stated they trust COVID-19 vaccines, but fewer than half (44%) believe their governments will be able to provide them with an effective vaccine. Excluding not being eligible for it yet, the main reason for not having received a COVID-19 vaccine across all age groups was 'concerns about side effects', followed by 'concerns that there has not been enough testing of vaccines'. When asked which brand they trusted the most, Pfizer had the highest share of respondents. This share has increased since March. The share of those who responded 'don't know' was highest in March and has decreased for those under 65.

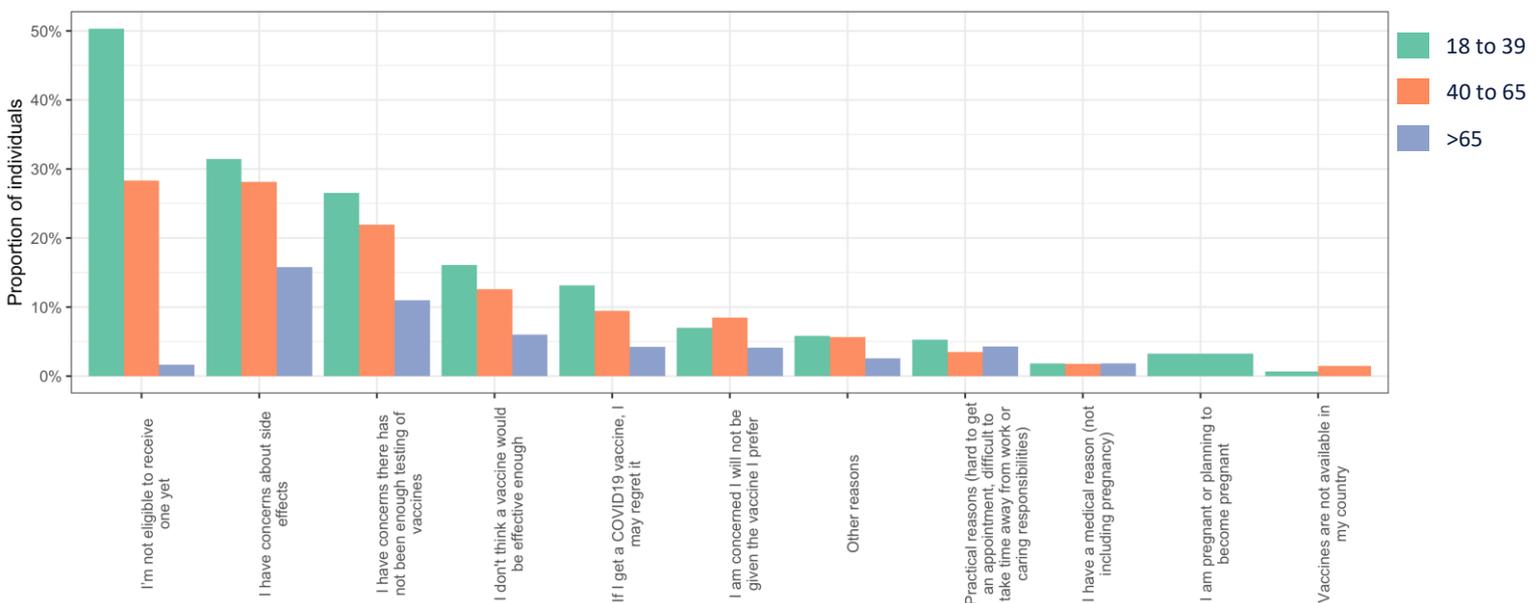
56%

Trust COVID-19 vaccines

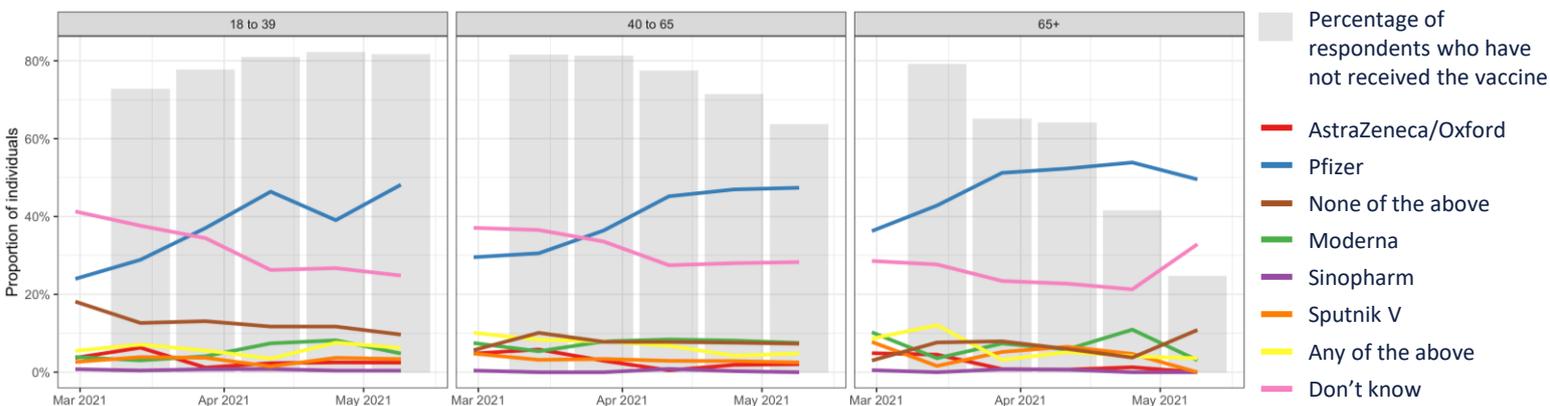
44%

Believe their health authorities will provide them with an effective COVID-19 vaccine

Which if any of the following reasons describes why you have not had a Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine? Please tick all that apply



Which of these COVID-19 vaccines do you trust the most? (%) \*\*Asked only of respondents who have not yet received the vaccine



# Attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccines in Germany

As of mid-May 2021, nearly two-thirds (63%) of respondents in Germany stated they trust COVID-19 vaccines. Excluding not being eligible for it yet, the main reason for not having received a COVID-19 vaccine for those 18-39 was 'concerns there has not been enough testing of vaccines', whereas for those 40-65 it was 'concerns about side effects', closely followed by concerns around testing. When asked which brand they trusted the most, Pfizer had the highest share of respondents since March, followed by 'none of the above'. This was largely consistent across age groups.

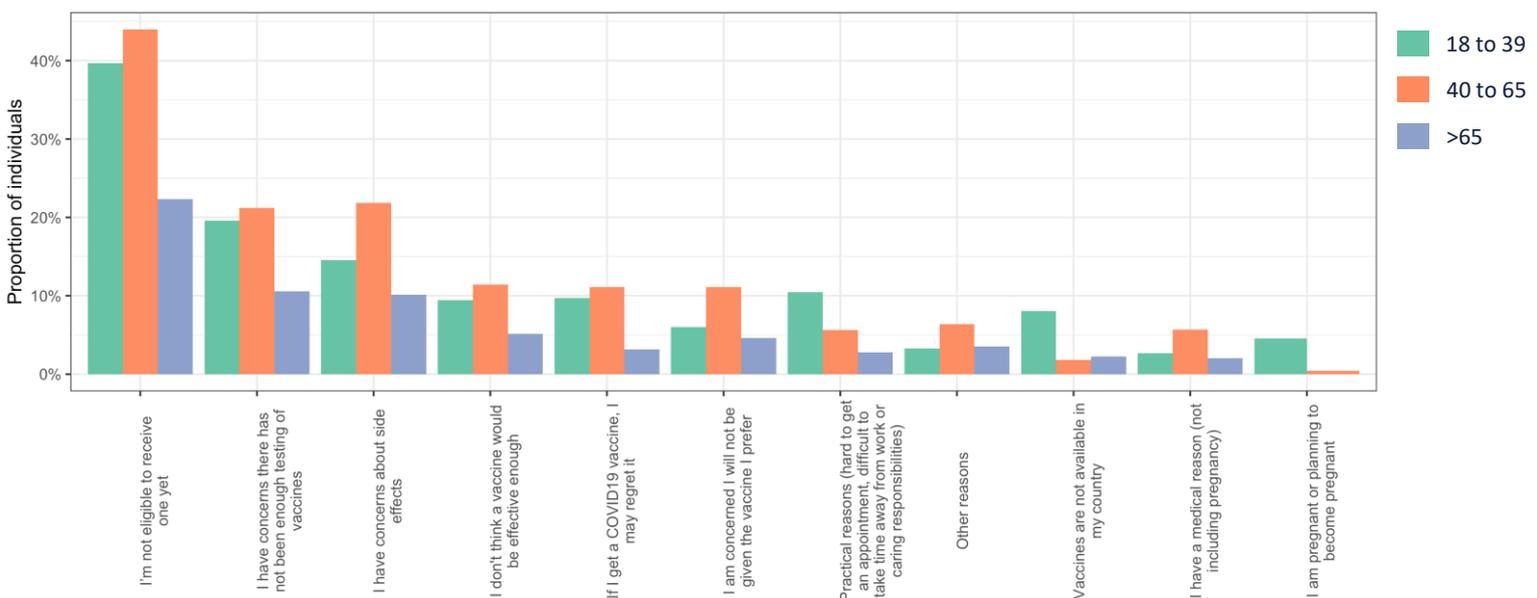
63%

Trust COVID-19 vaccines

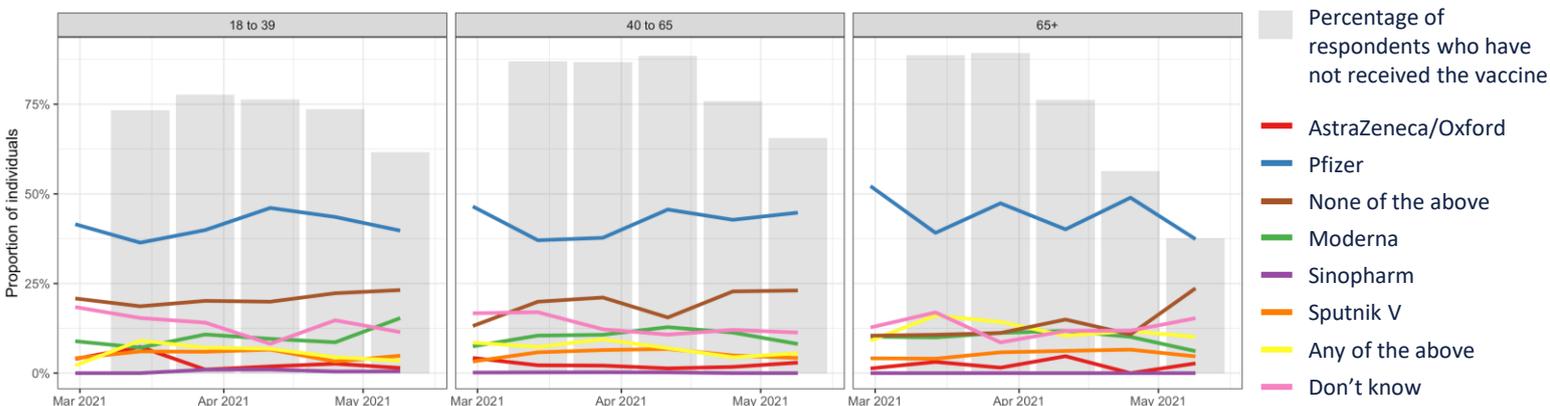
58%

Believe their health authorities will provide them with an effective COVID-19 vaccine

Which if any of the following reasons describes why you have not had a Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine? Please tick all that apply



Which of these COVID-19 vaccines do you trust the most? (%) \*\*Asked only of respondents who have not yet received the vaccine



# Attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccines in Israel

As of mid-May 2021, 4 in 5 (83%) respondents in Israel stated they trust COVID-19 vaccines. At the time of the survey, the vast majority of respondents had been vaccinated (over 95% of those 65+, over 90% of those 40-65, and over 80% of those under 40). For those that had not yet been vaccinated, the main reason varied by age group: for those 65+, it was 'having a medical reason', for those under 65 it was 'concerns about side effects' and 'concerns there has not been enough testing of vaccines'. When asked which brand they trusted the most, those under 65 who had not yet had the vaccine responded 'any of the above' followed by 'Pfizer' as of May 2021.

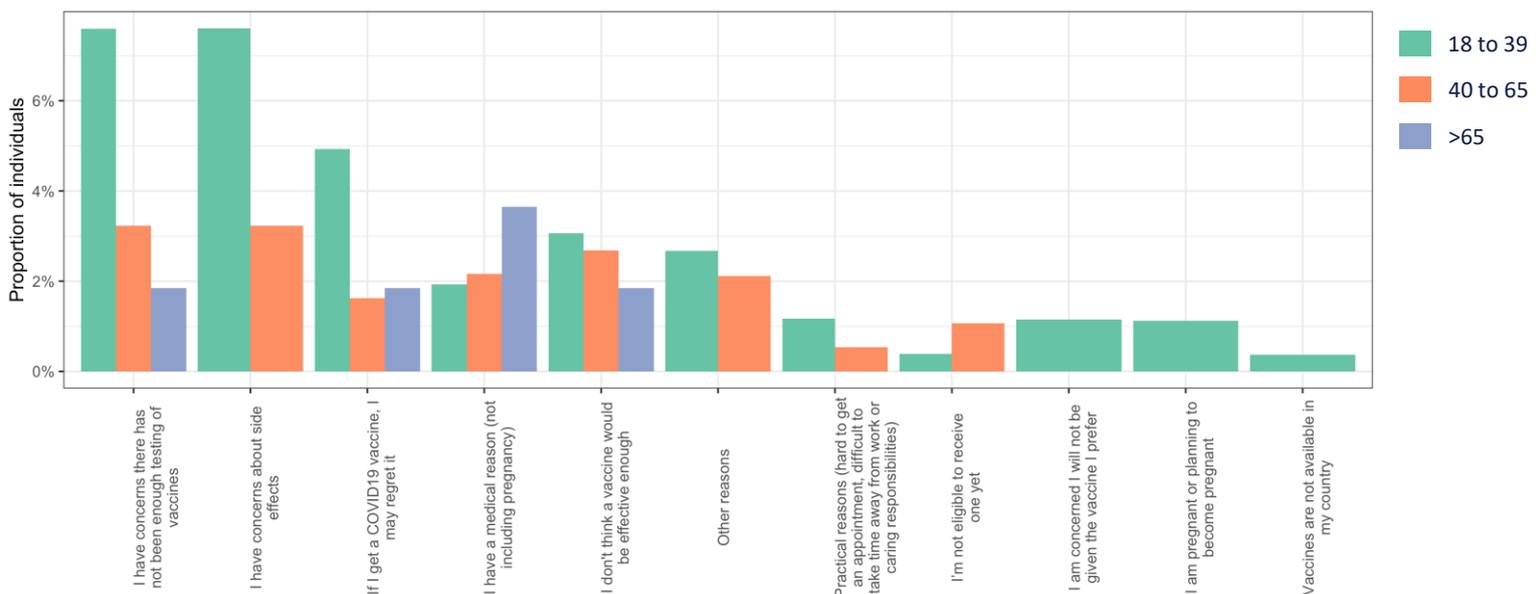
**83%**

Trust COVID-19 vaccines

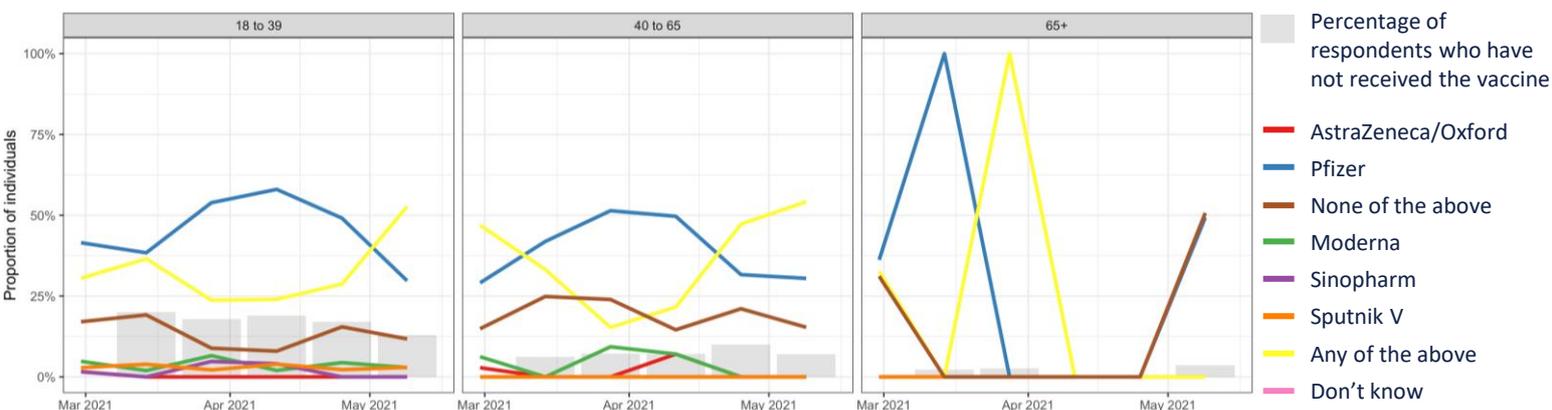
**60%**

Believe their health authorities will provide them with an effective COVID-19 vaccine

Which if any of the following reasons describes why you have not had a Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine? Please tick all that apply



Which of these COVID-19 vaccines do you trust the most? (%) \*\*Asked only of respondents who have not yet received the vaccine



# Attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccines in Italy

As of mid-May 2021, 4 in 5 (81%) respondents in Italy stated they trust COVID-19 vaccine, yet under half (49%) believe their health authorities will provide them with an effective vaccine. The main reason for not having received a COVID-19 vaccine for those under 65 was 'not being eligible to receive it yet'. For those over 65 it was 'concerns about side effects', followed by 'concerns there has not been enough testing of the vaccines'. When asked which brand they trust the most, Pfizer had the highest share of respondents across all age groups, and this rate has increased since March.

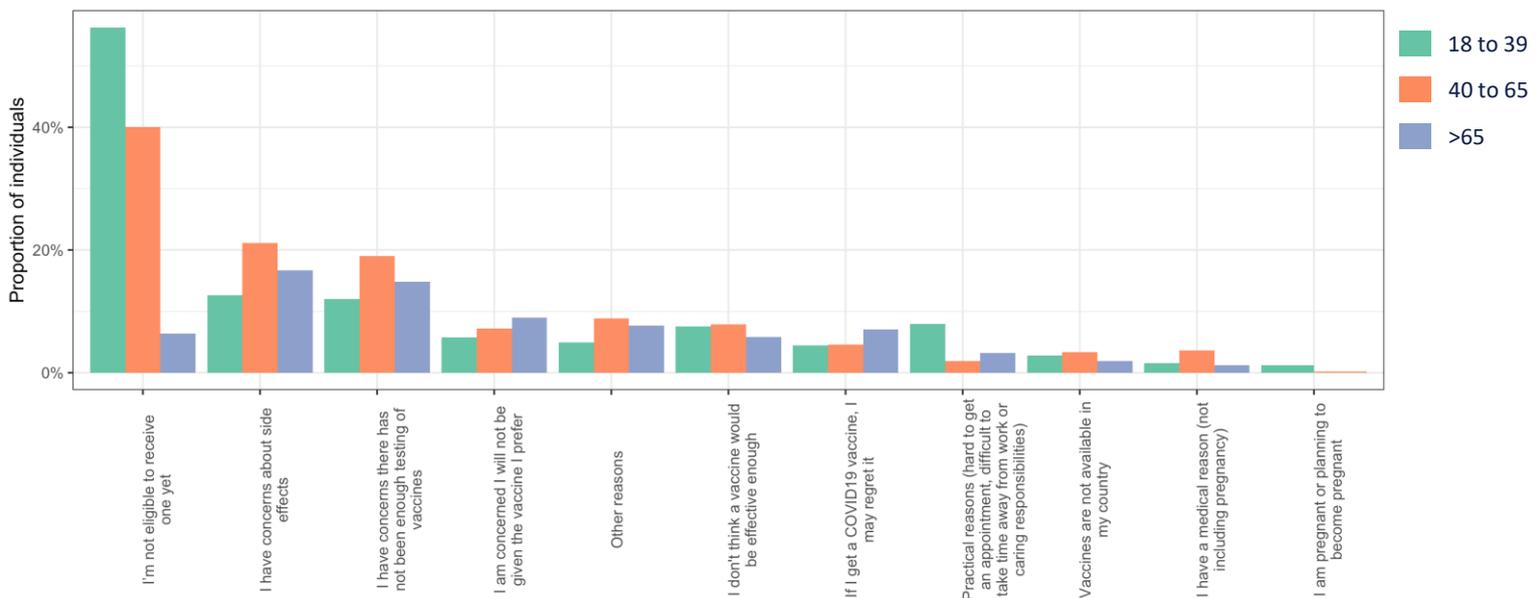
81%

Trust COVID-19 vaccines

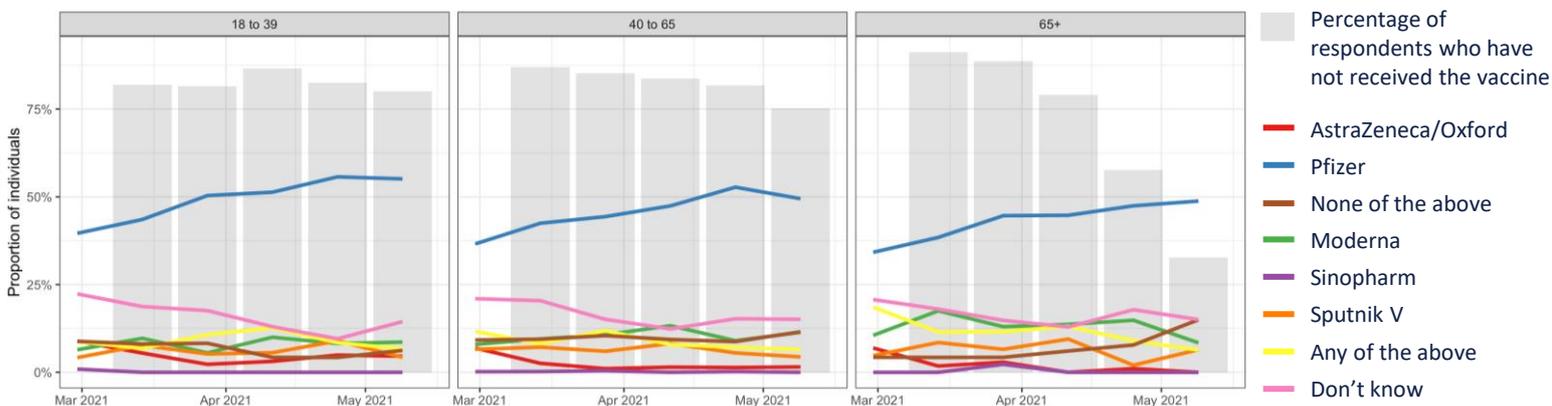
49%

Believe their health authorities will provide them with an effective COVID-19 vaccine

Which if any of the following reasons describes why you have not had a Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine? Please tick all that apply



Which of these COVID-19 vaccines do you trust the most? (%) \*\*Asked only of respondents who have not yet received the vaccine



# Attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccines in Japan

As of mid-May 2021, under half (47%) of respondents in Japan stated they trust COVID-19 vaccines, and under half (47%) believe their health authorities will provide them with an effective vaccine. The main reason for not having received a COVID-19 vaccine varied by age group. For those under 65 it was 'not being eligible to receive one yet', followed by 'concerns about side effects'. For those over 65 it was 'other reasons'. When asked what brand they trusted the most, Pfizer had the highest share of respondents, followed by 'don't know'. These have remained relatively consistent since March.

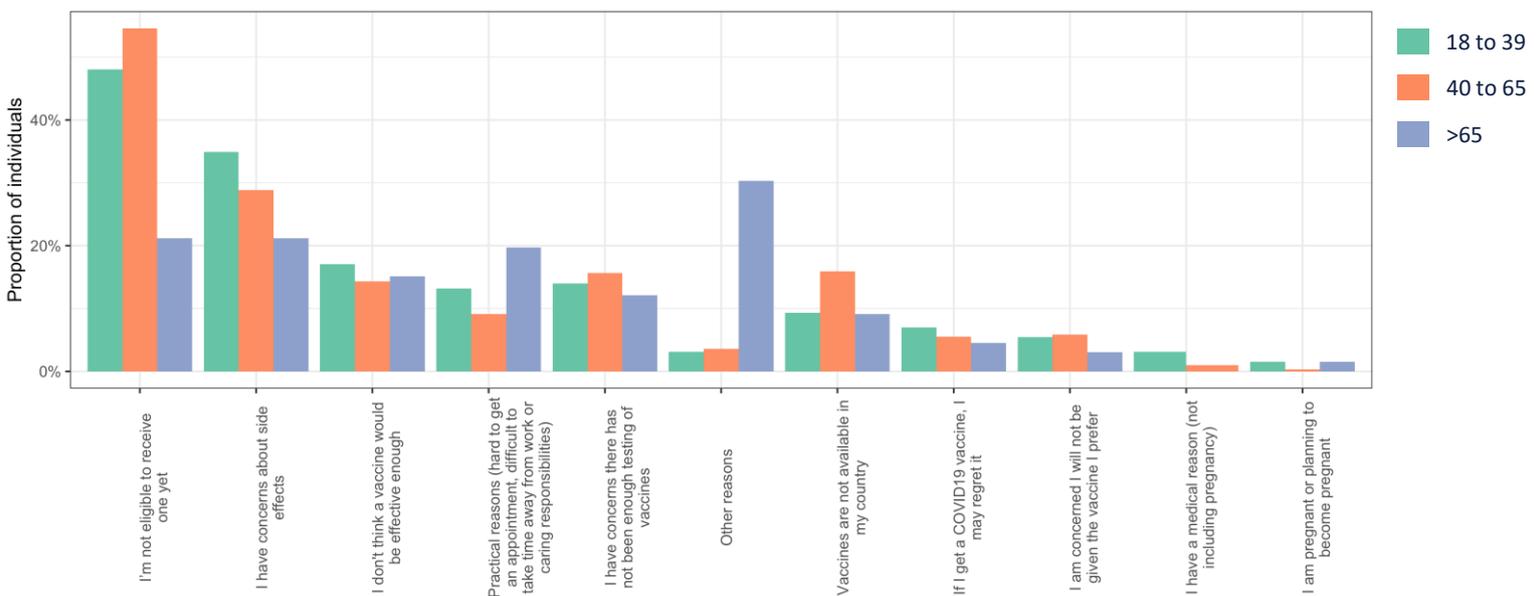
47%

Trust COVID-19 vaccines

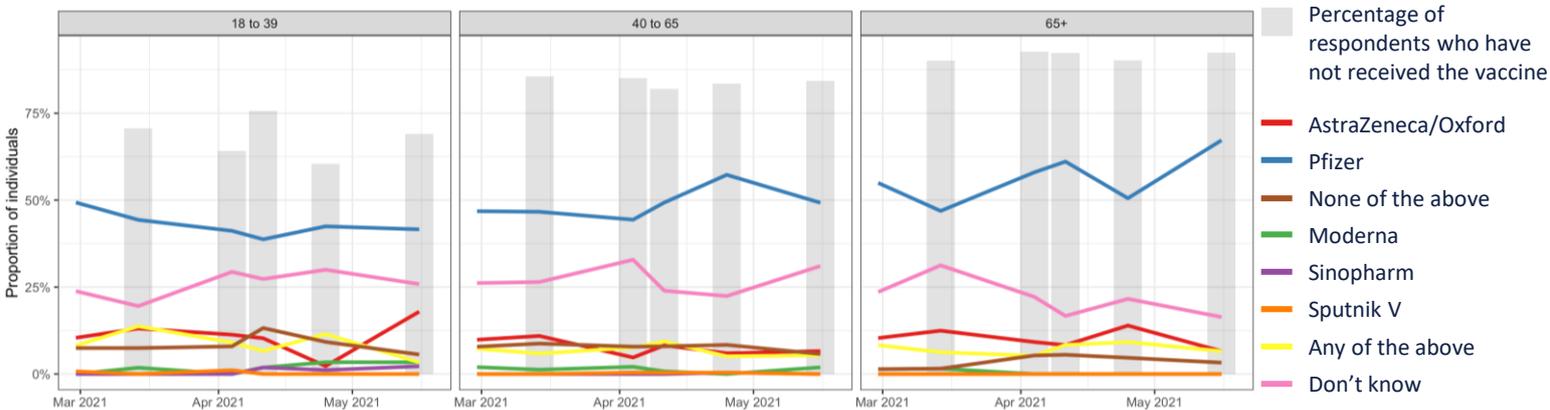
47%

Believe their health authorities will provide them with an effective COVID-19 vaccine

Which if any of the following reasons describes why you have not had a Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine? Please tick all that apply



Which of these COVID-19 vaccines do you trust the most? (%) \*\*Asked only of respondents who have not yet received the vaccine



# Attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccines in Norway

As of mid-May 2021, nearly 3 in 4 (72%) respondents in Norway stated they trust COVID-19 vaccines. Excluding not being eligible for it yet, the main reason for not having received a COVID-19 vaccine across all age groups was 'concerns about side effects'. When asked which brand they trusted the most, Pfizer had the highest share of responses across all age groups. The share of respondents over 65 who reported not having yet received the vaccine has decreased since March. As of mid-May, fewer than 10% of respondents over 65 had not received the vaccine. Of these, the brand they trusted the most was Pfizer, followed by 'none of the above'.

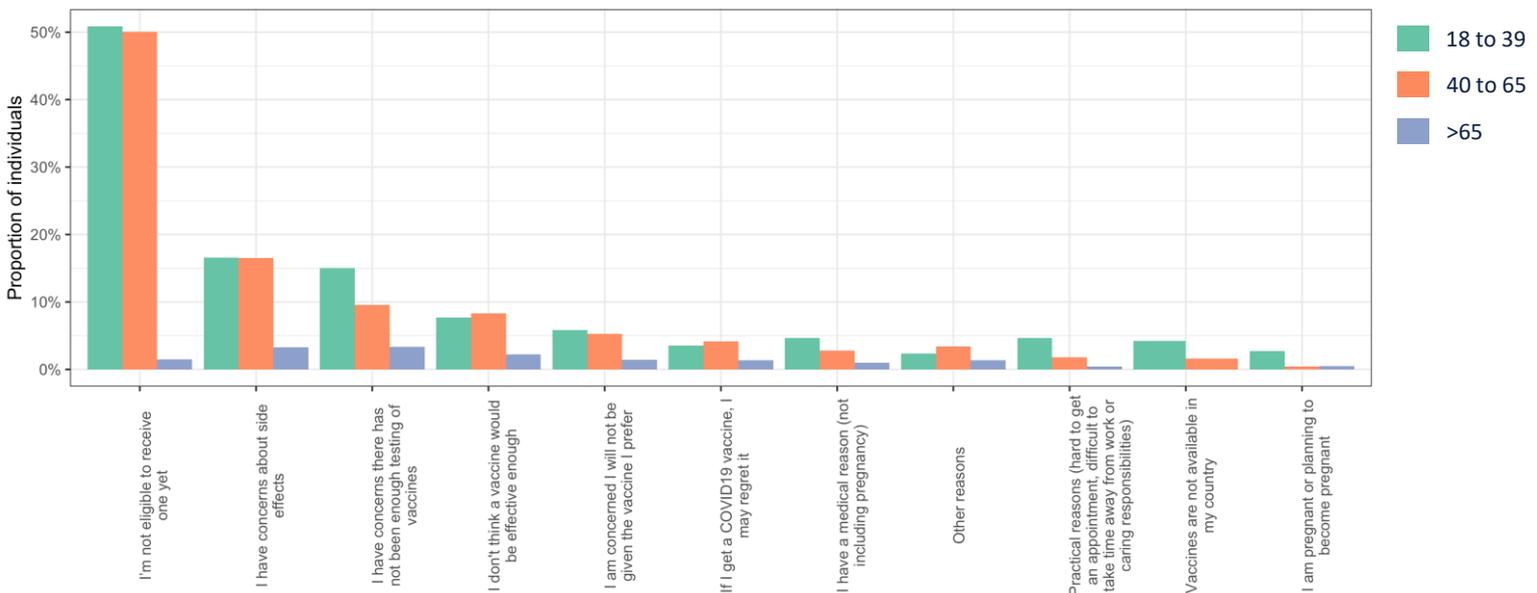
72%

Trust COVID-19 vaccines

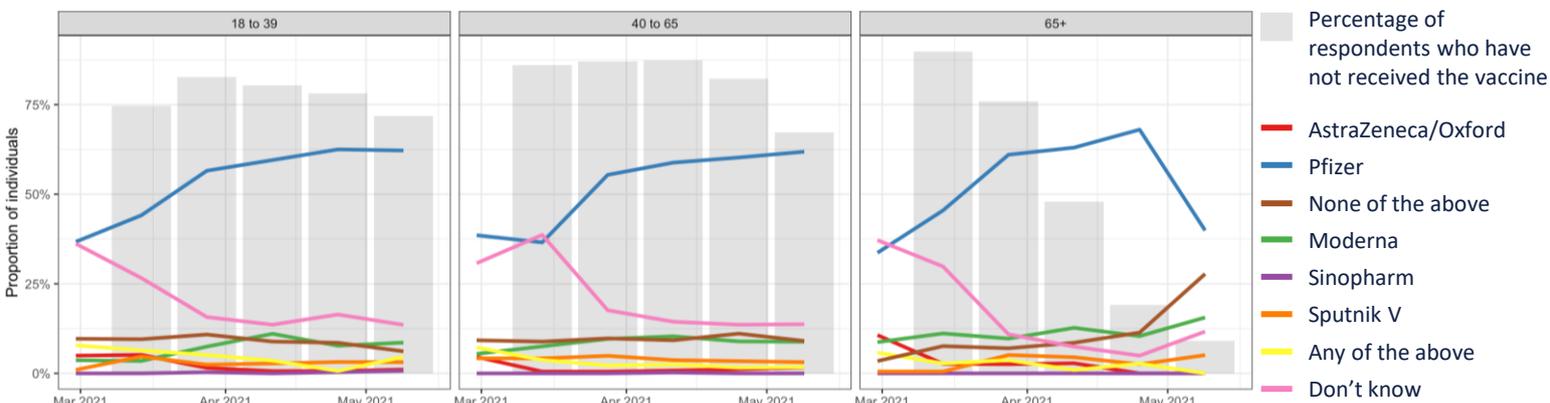
56%

Believe their health authorities will provide them with an effective COVID-19 vaccine

Which if any of the following reasons describes why you have not had a Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine? Please tick all that apply



Which of these COVID-19 vaccines do you trust the most? (%) \*\*Asked only of respondents who have not yet received the vaccine



# Attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccines in Singapore

As of mid-May 2021, 7 in 10 respondents in Singapore stated they trust COVID-19 vaccines. The main reason for not having received a COVID-19 vaccine varied by age. For those 18-39 it was 'not being eligible to receive one yet', for those over 40 it was 'concerns about side effects'. For those under 65, when asked what brand they trusted the most, Pfizer had the highest share of respondents followed by 'don't know'. Only 20% of respondents over 65 had not yet received the vaccine at the latest survey date. For this group the brand they trusted the most was Sinopharm, followed by 'don't know' and Pfizer.

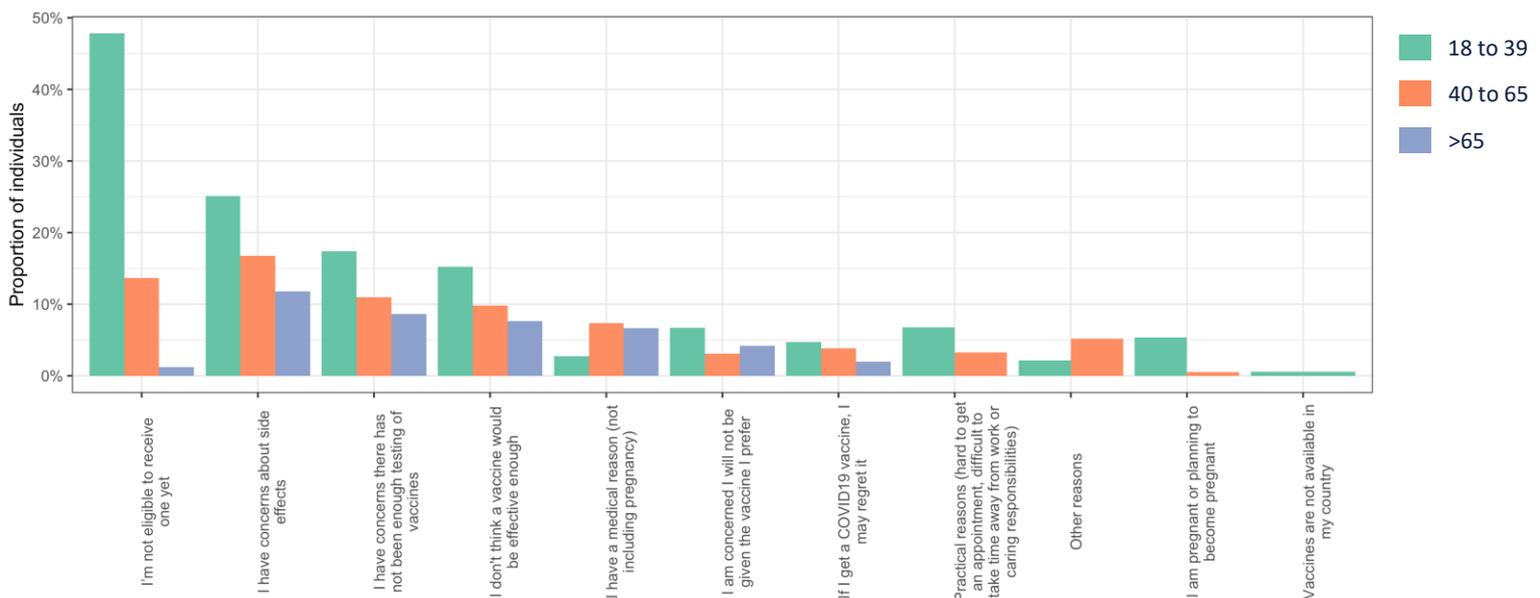
70%

Trust COVID-19 vaccines

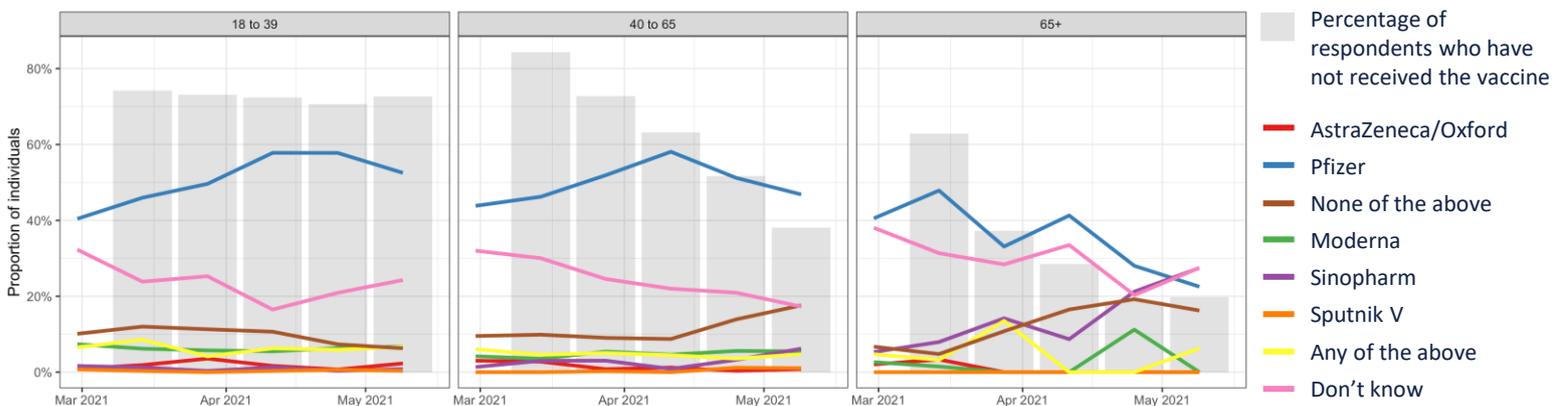
62%

Believe their health authorities will provide them with an effective COVID-19 vaccine

Which if any of the following reasons describes why you have not had a Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine? Please tick all that apply



Which of these COVID-19 vaccines do you trust the most? (%) \*\*Asked only of respondents who have not yet received the vaccine



# Attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccines in South Korea

As of mid-May 2021, under half (47%) of respondents in South Korea stated they trust COVID-19 vaccines, and under half (42%) believe their health authorities will provide them with an effective vaccine. The main reason for not having received a COVID-19 vaccine across all age groups was 'concerns about side effects', which was highest for those over 65. When asked which brand they trusted the most, Pfizer had the highest share of respondents since March across all age groups, followed by 'don't know' and Moderna.

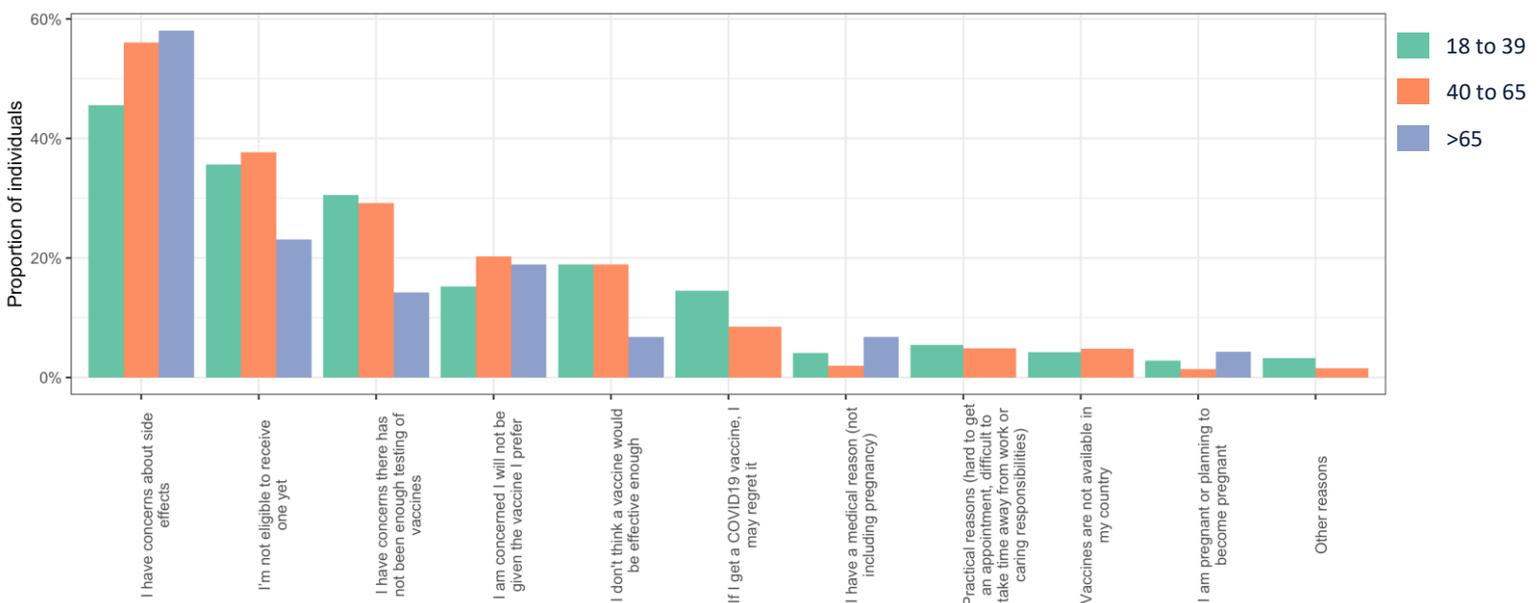
47%

Trust COVID-19 vaccines

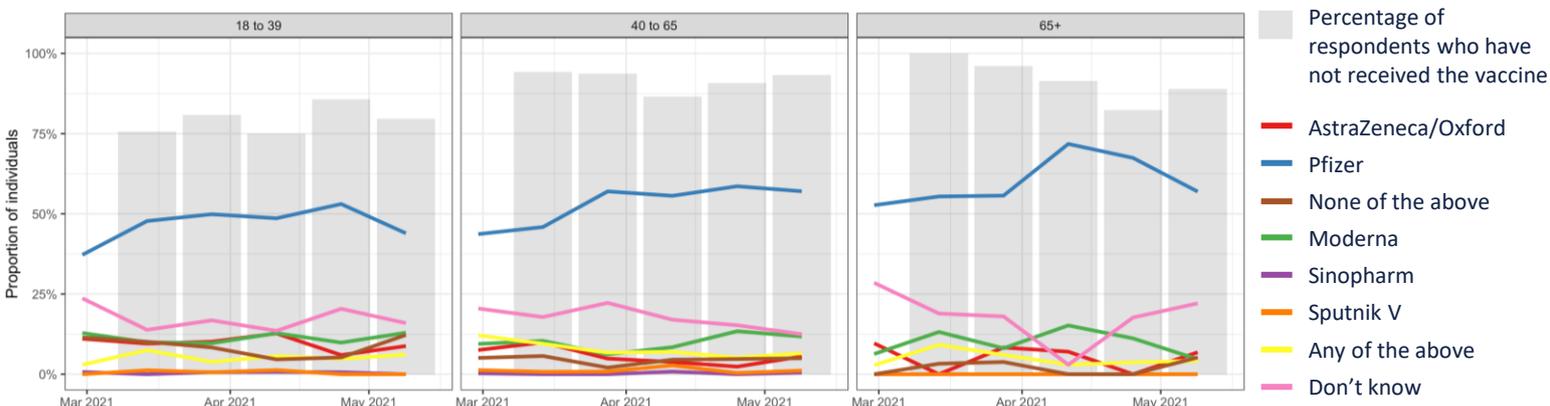
42%

Believe their health authorities will provide them with an effective COVID-19 vaccine

Which if any of the following reasons describes why you have not had a Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine? Please tick all that apply



Which of these COVID-19 vaccines do you trust the most? (%) \*\*Asked only of respondents who have not yet received the vaccine



# Attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccines in Spain

As of mid-May 2021, nearly 4 in 5 (78%) respondents in Spain stated they trust COVID-19 vaccines. The main reason for not having received a COVID-19 vaccine for those under 65 was 'not being eligible to receive one yet'. For those over 65 it was 'concerns about side effects', followed by 'concerns there has not been enough testing of vaccines'. When asked which brand they trust the most, Pfizer had the highest share of respondents since March across all age groups.

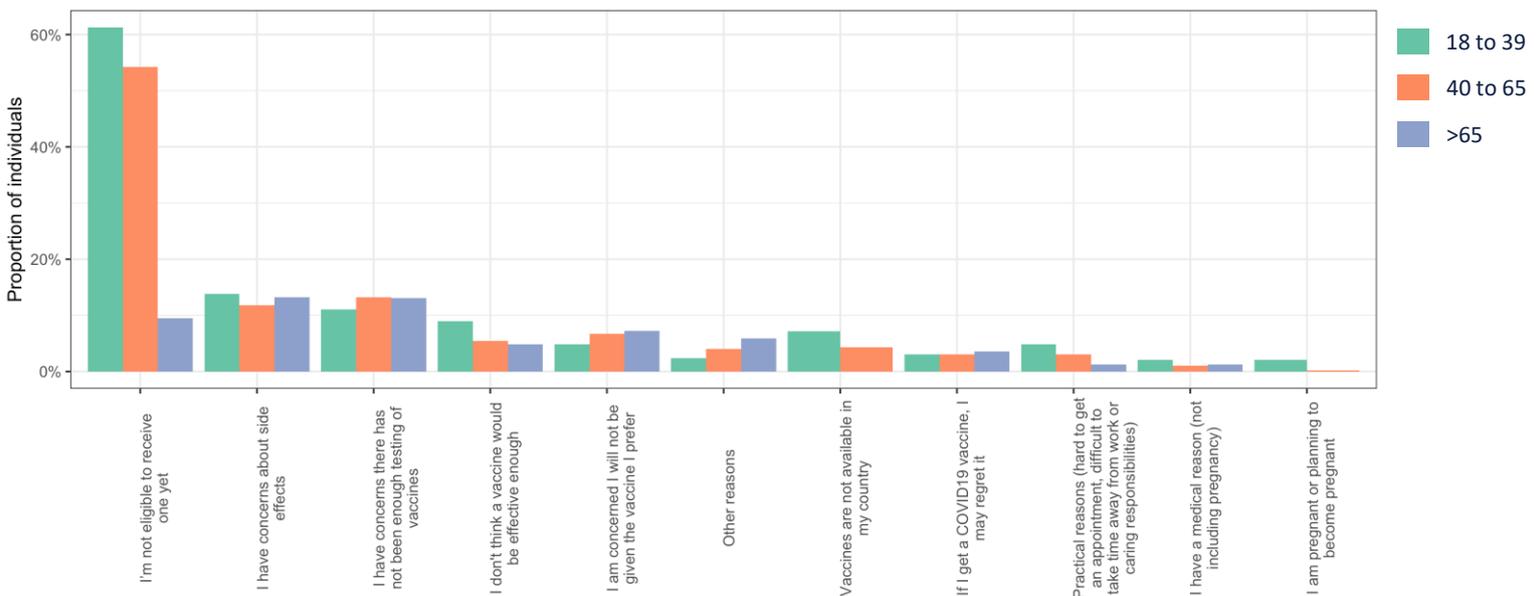
78%

Trust COVID-19 vaccines

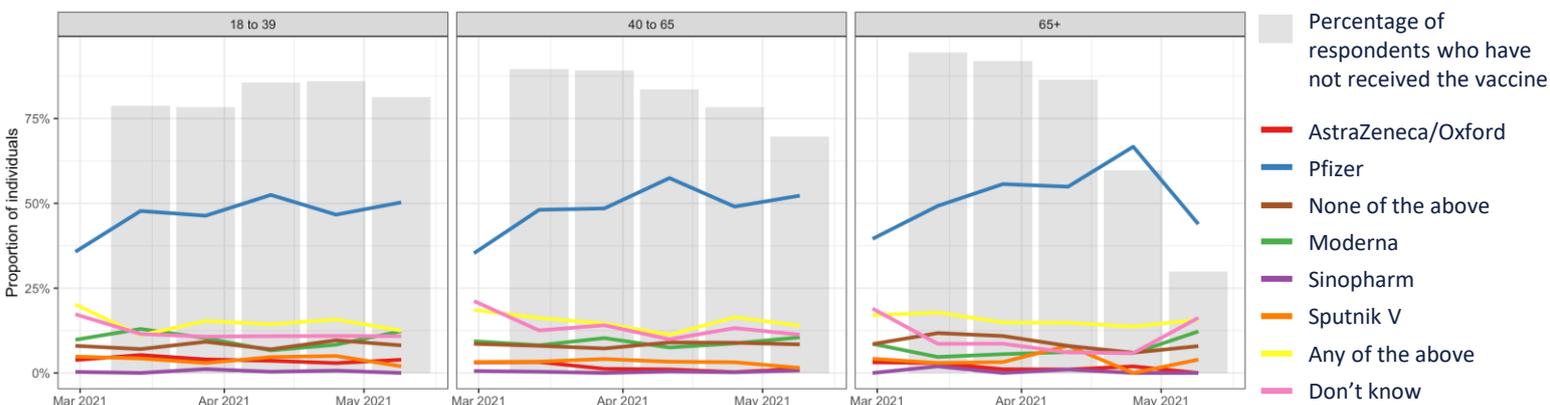
57%

Believe their health authorities will provide them with an effective COVID-19 vaccine

Which if any of the following reasons describes why you have not had a Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine? Please tick all that apply



Which of these COVID-19 vaccines do you trust the most? (%) \*\*Asked only of respondents who have not yet received the vaccine



# Attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccines in Sweden

As of mid-May 2021, nearly 3 in 4 (74%) respondents in Sweden stated they trust COVID-19 vaccines, while only half of the population believed their health authorities will provide them with an effective vaccine. For those under 65 the main reason for not having had a vaccine was 'not being eligible to receive one yet'. For those over 65 it was 'concerns about side effects'. When asked which brand they trusted the most, Pfizer had the highest share of respondents under 65 since March. As of mid-May, fewer than 10% of respondents over 65 had not had the vaccine yet. When asked which brand they trusted the most, 'none of the above' had the highest rate.

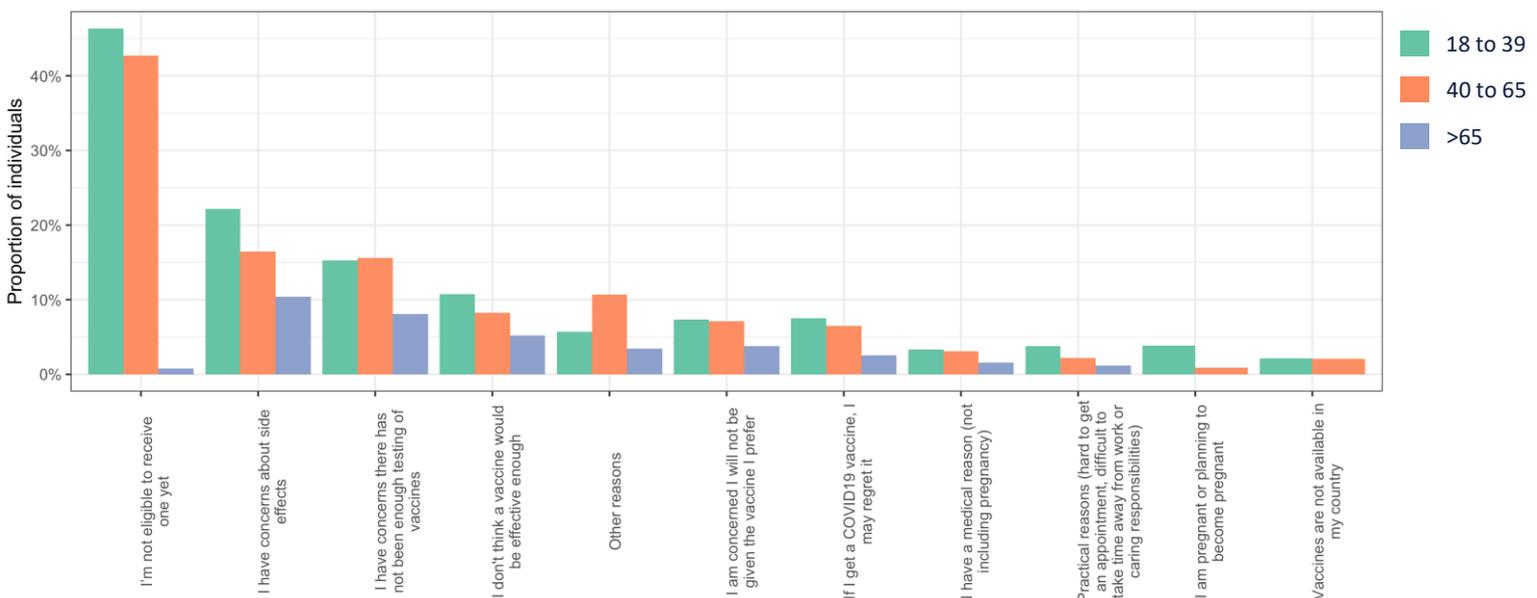
74%

Trust COVID-19 vaccines

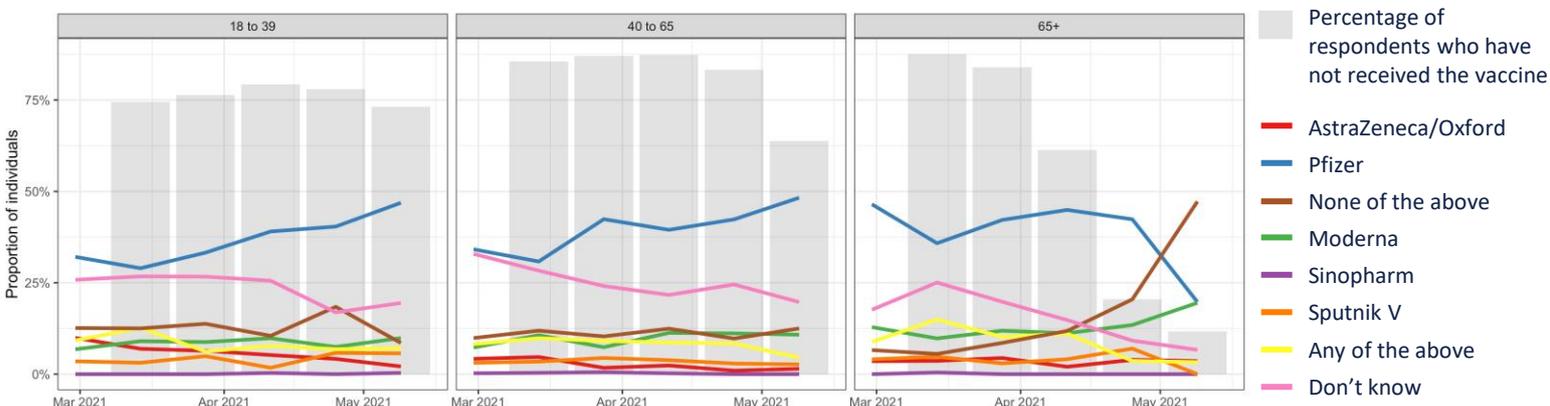
50%

Believe their health authorities will provide them with an effective COVID-19 vaccine

Which if any of the following reasons describes why you have not had a Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine? Please tick all that apply



Which of these COVID-19 vaccines do you trust the most? (%) \*\*Asked only of respondents who have not yet received the vaccine



# Attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccines in the UK

As of mid-May 2021, 87% of respondents in the UK stated they trust COVID-19 vaccines. The main reason for not having received a vaccine yet for those under 40 was 'not being eligible to receive one yet'. Over 80% of respondents aged 40-65 and over 99% of respondents aged 65+ at the time of the last survey had received the vaccine. When those that had not yet received the vaccine were asked which brand they trust the most, Pfizer had the highest share of respondents aged under 40. Pfizer's trust rate has increased since March, while trust in AstraZeneca/Oxford has decreased over the same time period. Brand preference as of mid-May for those 65+ only contains answers from <1% of respondents in this age group who had not yet received the vaccine.

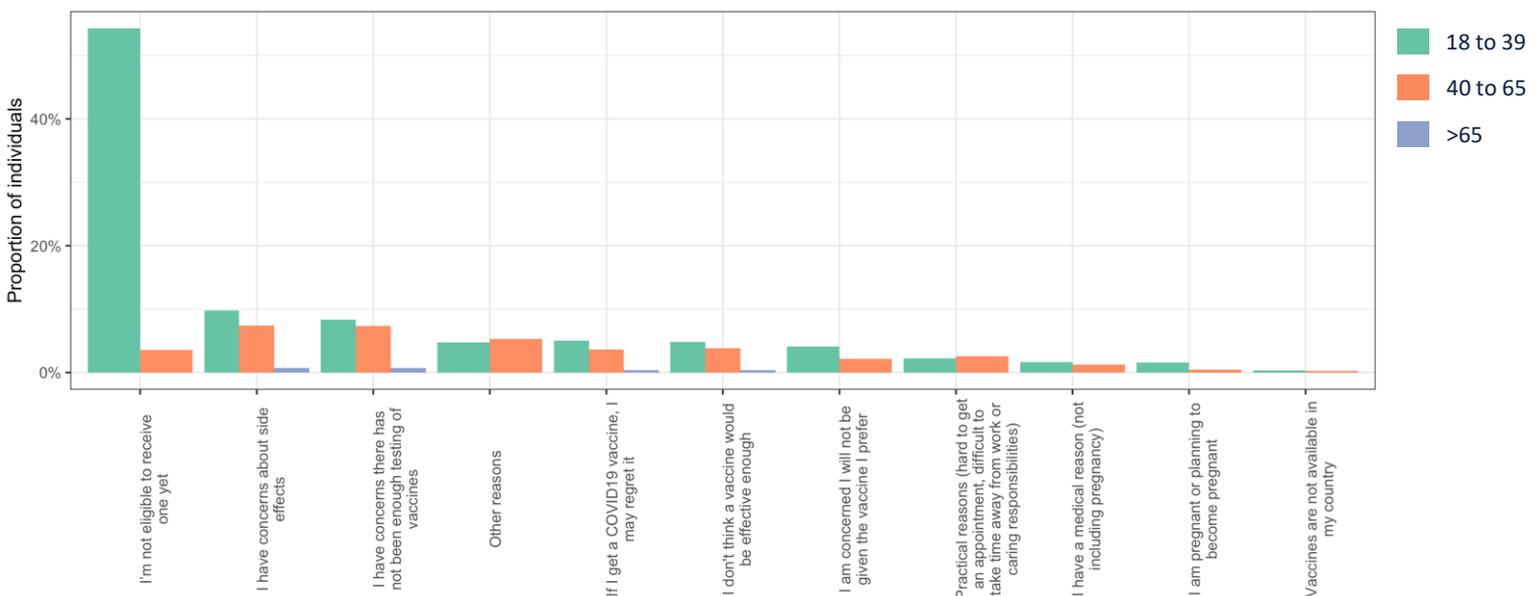
87%

Trust COVID-19 vaccines

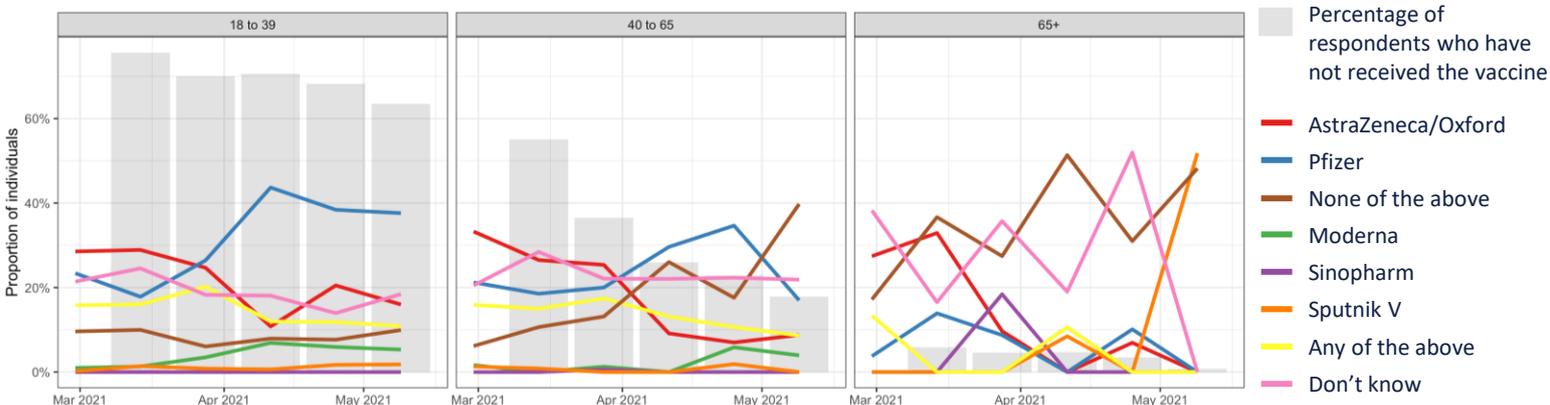
70%

Believe their health authorities will provide them with an effective COVID-19 vaccine

Which if any of the following reasons describes why you have not had a Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine? Please tick all that apply



Which of these COVID-19 vaccines do you trust the most? (%) \*\*Asked only of respondents who have not yet received the vaccine



# Attitudes towards COVID-19 vaccines in the US

As of mid-May 2021, 3 in 5 (62%) respondents in the US stated they trust COVID-19 vaccines. Across all age groups, the main reason for not having received a vaccine yet was 'concerns about side effects', followed by 'concerns there has not been enough testing of vaccines'. When those that have not yet been vaccinated were asked which brand they trust the most, 'none of the above' had the highest share of respondents across all age groups, followed by Pfizer and 'don't know'.

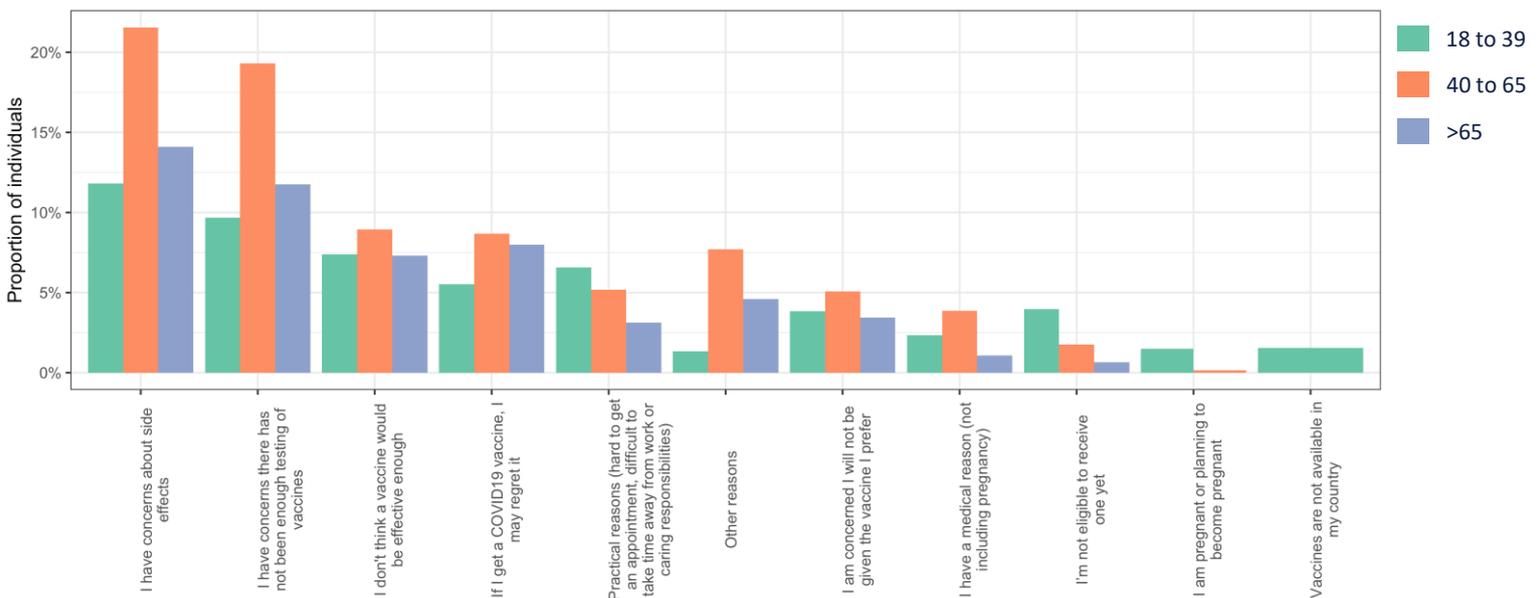
62%

Trust COVID-19 vaccines

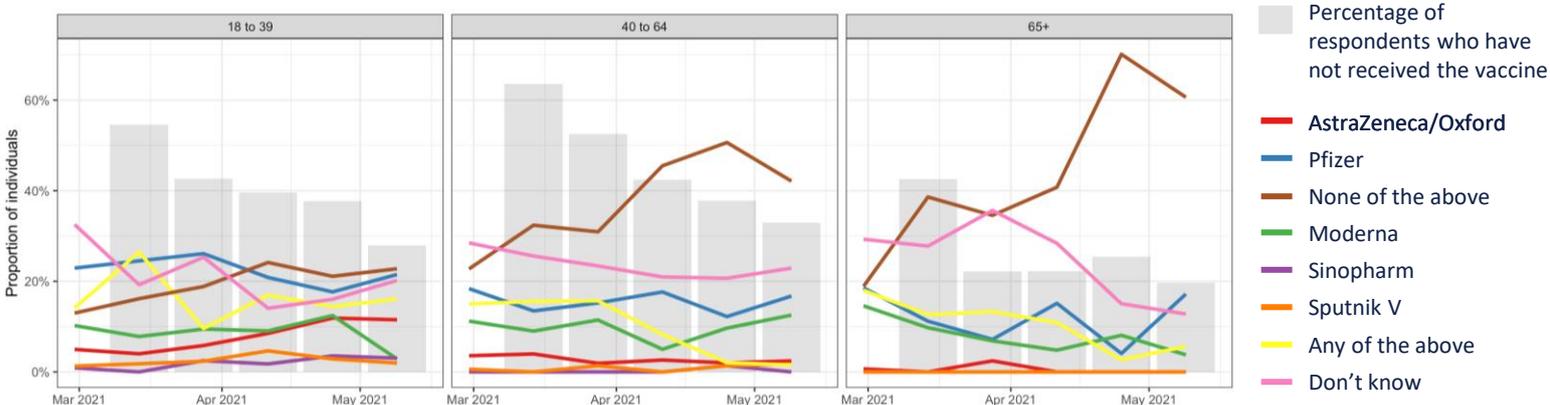
52%

Believe their health authorities will provide them with an effective COVID-19 vaccine

Which if any of the following reasons describes why you have not had a Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccine? Please tick all that apply



Which of these COVID-19 vaccines do you trust the most? (%) \*\*Asked only of respondents who have not yet received the vaccine



## Countries included in this report (1/3)

This table shows the countries included in this report, dates of the survey and the number of participants

This report looks at all countries surveyed from March to mid-May 2021. The table below indicates the survey dates and the number of respondents per country.

Country	Survey date	Number of Participants
<b>Australia</b>	March 08 – March 14	944
	March 22 – March 28	1004
	April 05 – April 11	924
	April 19 – April 25	1001
	May 03 – May 09	969
<b>Canada</b>	March 01 – March 07	1003
	March 15 – March 21	818
	March 22 – March 28	999
	April 05 - April 11	999
	April 19 – April 25	950
	May 10 – May 16	907
<b>Denmark</b>	March 08 – March 14	1002
	March 22 – March 28	1002
	April 12 – April 18	1011
	April 19 – April 25	1003
	May 03 – May 09	1002
<b>France</b>	March 08 – March 14	1040
	March 22 – March 28	1002
	April 05 – April 11	1001
	April 19 – April 25	1000
	May 03 – May 09	1004
<b>Germany</b>	March 08 – March 14	1001
	March 22 – March 28	1002
	April 05 – April 11	1002
	April 19 – April 25	1001
	May 03 – May 09	1010
<b>Israel</b>	March 08 – March 14	500
	March 22 – March 28	467
	April 05 – April 11	504
	April 19 – April 25	505
	May 03 – May 09	500

## Countries included in this report (2/3)

This table shows the countries included in this report, dates of the survey and the number of participants

This report looks at all countries surveyed from March to mid-May 2021. The table below indicates the survey dates and the number of respondents per country.

Country	Survey date	Number of Participants
<b>Italy</b>	March 08 – March 14	1004
	March 22 – March 28	1005
	April 05 – April 11	1004
	April 19 – April 25	1005
	May 03 – May 09	1003
<b>Japan</b>	March 08 – March 14	501
	March 29 – April 04	500
	April 05 – April 11	503
	April 19 – April 25	500
	May 10 – May 16	501
<b>Norway</b>	March 08 – March 14	1001
	March 22 – March 28	1004
	April 05 – April 11	1003
	April 19 – April 25	1002
	May 03 – May 09	1001
<b>Singapore</b>	March 08 – March 14	1001
	March 22 – March 28	1002
	April 05 – April 11	1001
	April 19 – April 25	1001
	May 03 – May 09	998
<b>South Korea</b>	March 08 – March 14	498
	March 22 – March 28	500
	April 05 – April 11	502
	April 19 – April 25	499
	May 03 – May 09	461

## Countries included in this report (3/3)

This table shows the countries included in this report, dates of the survey and the number of participants

This report looks at all countries surveyed from March to mid-May 2021. The table below indicates the survey dates and the number of respondents per country.

Country	Survey date	Number of Participants
<b>Spain</b>	March 08 – March 14	1019
	March 22 – March 28	1004
	April 05 – April 11	1008
	April 19 – April 25	1001
	May 03 – May 09	1002
<b>Sweden</b>	March 08 – March 14	1007
	March 22 – March 28	1003
	April 05 – April 11	1013
	April 19 – April 25	1001
	May 03 – May 09	1005
<b>United Kingdom</b>	March 08 – March 14	1003
	March 22 – March 28	981
	April 05 – April 11	1021
	April 19 – April 25	1000
	May 03 – May 09	1000
<b>United States</b>	March 08 – March 14	1000
	March 22 – March 28	1003
	April 05 – April 11	1004
	April 19 – April 25	1004
	May 03 – May 09	1003

# Collaborators and supporters

Led by Imperial College London's Institute of Global Health Innovation (IGHI) and YouGov

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## For more behavioural data on a global level, visit [coviddatahub.com](https://coviddatahub.com) to explore our interactive charts

The [CovidDataHub.com](https://coviddatahub.com) project is a joint collaboration between the Institute of Global Health Innovation (IGHI) at Imperial College London and YouGov Plc to gather global insights on people's behaviours and life satisfaction in response to COVID-19. The research covers 29 countries, areas or territories and surveys are conducted on a regular basis since the first week of April 2020.

This report is designed to provide insights on how different populations are responding to the pandemic, helping public health bodies in their efforts to limit the impact of the disease. Anonymised respondent-level data are generously made available for all public health and academic institutions globally by YouGov Plc at our [GitHub site](#).

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