

Special Eurobarometer 448

Report

Perception and awareness about transparency of state aid

Fieldwork

June 2016

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Survey requested by the European Commission,
Directorate-General Competition
and co-ordinated by the Directorate-General for Communication

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(DG COMM "Strategy, Corporate Communication Actions and Eurobarometer" Unit)

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INTRODUCTION

For the purposes of this survey, state aid was defined as support in any form given by public authorities at any level to selected companies, i.e. excluding subsidies granted to individuals and general measures open to all undertakings¹. Companies that receive state aid generally gain an advantage over their competitors, which can lead to unfair competition and create an uneven playing field on the EU market. For this reason, selective public support to companies is generally prohibited, except in cases where public intervention is necessary for the economy to function well.

The European Commission applies controls on state aid therefore protecting competition on the market and fostering a competition culture to make markets deliver more benefits to consumers, businesses and the society. The EU policy framework emphasises the transparency and evaluation of public transfers to companies for policy purposes.

This Eurobarometer survey examines the awareness about state aid amongst European citizens, as well as their perceptions about the transparency of information in this area. Its findings are important to better understand the policy context when applying the EU framework for state aid. Indeed, such contextual information is relevant for a policy that seeks to increase transparency to enable companies and citizens to have direct information about aid purposes, amounts, beneficiaries, as well as results achieved by policy interventions.

The objectives of this survey are to:

- Assess the level of awareness among EU citizens about state aid and information available about state aid;
- Identify the opinions and attitudes regarding the information that should be publically provided about state aid;
- Determine the opinions and attitudes about transparency of state aid.

This survey was carried out by the TNS Opinion & Social network in the 28 Member States of the European Union between 4 and 13 June 2016. 27,818 EU citizens from different social and demographic categories were interviewed face-to-face at home and in their native language on behalf of the Directorate-General for Competition (DG COMP). The methodology used is that of Eurobarometer surveys as carried out by the Directorate-General for Communication ("Strategy, Corporate Communication Actions and Eurobarometer" Unit). A technical note on the manner in which the interviews were conducted by the institutes within the TNS Opinion & Social network is appended as an annex to this report. Also included are the interview methods and the confidence intervals.

¹ http://ec.europa.eu/competition/state_aid/overview/index_en.html

Note: In this report, countries are referred to by their official abbreviation. The abbreviations used in this report correspond to:

Belgium	BE	Lithuania	LT
Bulgaria	BG	Luxembourg	LU
Czech Republic	CZ	Hungary	HU
Denmark	DK	Malta	MT
Germany	DE	The Netherlands	NL
Estonia	EE	Austria	AT
Ireland	IE	Poland	PL
Greece	EL	Portugal	PT
Spain	ES	Romania	RO
France	FR	Slovenia	SI
Croatia	HR	Slovakia	SK
Italy	IT	Finland	FI
Republic of Cyprus	CY *	Sweden	SE
Latvia	LV	United Kingdom	UK
European Union – weighted average for the 28 Member States			EU28

* Cyprus as a whole is one of the 28 European Union Member States. However, the 'acquis communautaire' has been suspended in the part of the country which is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus. For practical reasons, only the interviews carried out in the part of the country controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus are included in the 'CY' category and in the EU28 average.

We wish to thank the people throughout the European Union

who have given their time to take part in this survey.

Without their active participation, this study would not have been possible.

KEY FINDINGS

European citizens are insufficiently aware about state aid; most Europeans think information about state aid is difficult to find

- Just under four in ten respondents (39%) have already seen, heard or read about a company receiving state aid in their country, while most respondents (58%) have never heard about state aid.
- Less than one in five respondents (17%) feel well informed about state aid in their country, while the majority (81%) do not feel well informed.
- Only a minority of respondents (24%) think it is easy to find information about which companies received state aid in their country. The majority (57%) think it is difficult.
- Three in ten respondents (30%) think their national public authority gives the most support to companies, while 22% mention European public authorities.

Most think there should be full access to information about the state aid given to companies, but few think sufficient information is actually available

- A majority of respondents (84%) agree citizens should have full access to information about state aid granted to companies by public authorities. However, only a minority of respondents agree sufficient information is publicly available on state aid (30%) or that information about state aid received by companies should remain confidential as it is a matter between public authorities and companies (26%).
- Among information that should be publically available, most respondents (63%) mention the purpose of state aid, while at least half also say that it is important to be transparent about the amount of the state aid (58%), the company name (58%) or the results achieved through the aid (55%).

A majority of respondents agree that transparency about state aid is beneficial, but relatively few think it has recently improved

- A majority of respondents agree that transparency about state aid is an effective way to make policy-makers accountable to citizens (81%), that it can improve the management of public money (81%), and that it is as relevant for companies – for instance, to know what competitors receive – as for citizens as taxpayers (78%). Only a minority of respondents agree transparency about state aid has significantly improved in the last years in their country (30%).
- Almost three quarters of respondents (74%) think large companies, including multinationals, should provide open access to all the information about the state aid they receive, while 67% say this about state owned companies and 58% about small and medium sized companies.
- Respondents are most likely to mention the health care and pharmaceutical industry (48%), and the financial services sector (43%) as needing more transparency about state aid.
- A majority of respondents (53%) think the most effective option for ensuring transparency about state aid is automatically making information publicly available when state aid is given by public authorities to a company.

I. AWARENESS AND INFORMATION ABOUT STATE AID

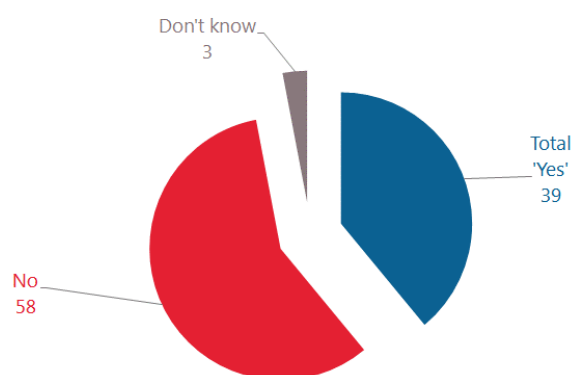
1 Awareness about state aid is achieved through the media

Almost four in ten respondents have already seen, heard or read about a company receiving state aid in their country

Respondents were first asked whether they had seen, heard or read anything about a company receiving state aid in their country in the last 12 months, and if so, via which media².

Overall, nearly four in ten respondents (39%) confirm having seen, heard or read anything about a company receiving state aid in their country, while almost six in ten (58%) have not. Only 3% of respondents answer that they “don’t know”.

QA1 In the last 12 months, have you seen, heard or read anything about a company receiving State aid in (OUR COUNTRY)? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)

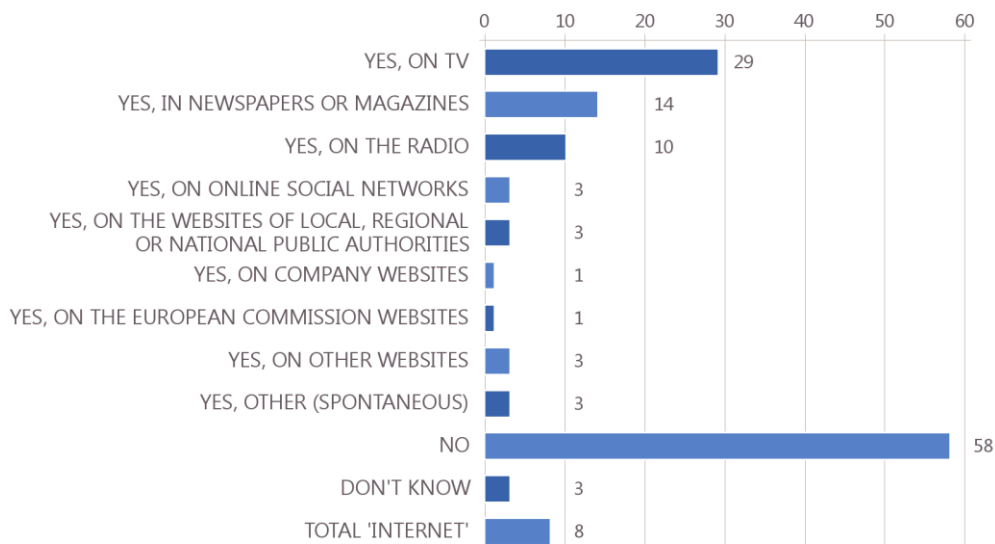


Respondents are most likely to have seen or heard about a company receiving state aid in their country on **TV** (29%). Less than one in six respondents have read something in **newspapers or magazines** (14%), while only one in ten respondents mention the **radio** (10%).

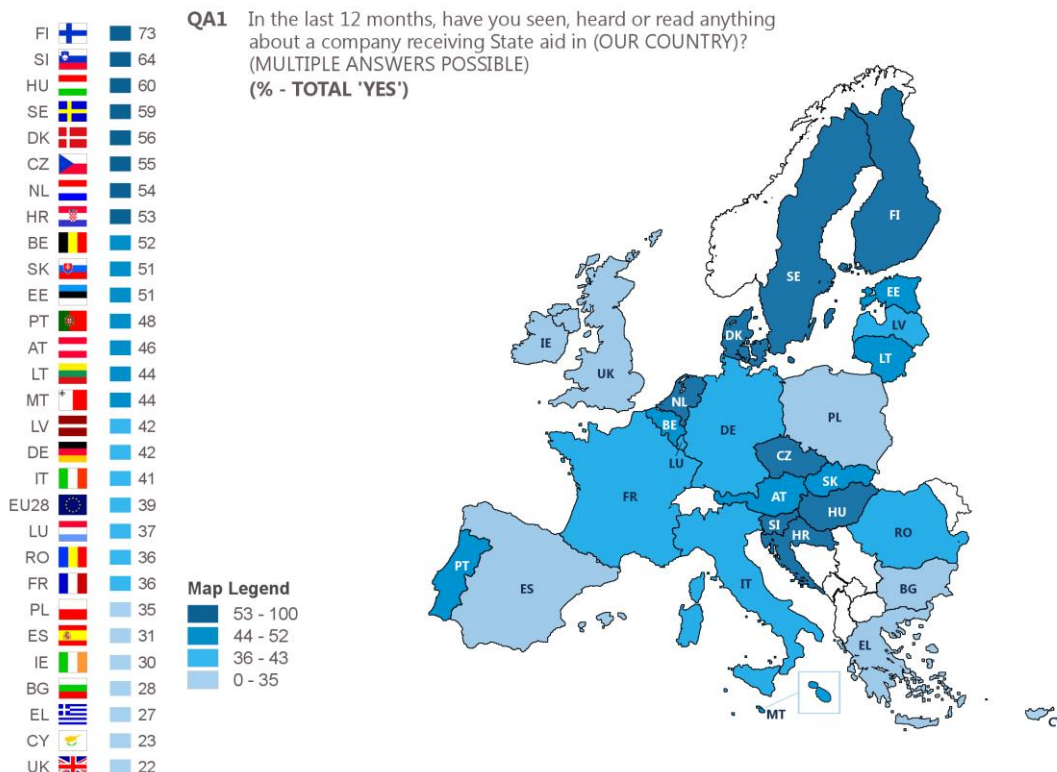
Overall, close to one in ten respondents (8%) are aware of state aid thanks to the **Internet**. More specifically, 3% have read about state aid on **the websites of local, regional or national public authorities**, or on **online social networks** or on **other websites**, while only a small proportion of respondents have seen this information on **company websites** or on **the European Commission websites** (both 1%).

² QA1 In the last 12 months, have you seen, heard or read anything about a company receiving state aid in (OUR COUNTRY)? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

QA1 In the last 12 months, have you seen, heard or read anything about a company receiving State aid in (OUR COUNTRY)? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) (% - EU)



In 11 of the 28 EU Member States, the majority of respondents report having seen, heard or read something about a company receiving state aid in their country. Respondents in Finland (73%), Slovenia (64%) and Hungary (60%) are the most likely to have heard about a company receiving state aid in their country, while those in the United Kingdom (22%), Cyprus (23%) and Greece (27%) are the least likely to say so.



In 25 Member States, respondents are most likely to have heard about a company receiving state aid in their country on **TV**. Across the EU, this medium is most likely to be mentioned by respondents in Finland (59%), Slovenia (53%) and Hungary (51%) and least likely to be mentioned by those in Luxembourg (15%), the United Kingdom (16%), Ireland and Cyprus (both 17%).

Newspapers and magazines are mentioned more than any other media by respondents in Sweden (39%), Austria (29%) and Luxembourg (21%), but they are also widely mentioned by those in Finland (47%), and the Netherlands (30%). Respondents in Cyprus (4%), Greece (6%), Bulgaria, Malta and Poland (all 7%) are the least likely to mention newspapers and magazines.

Radio is most likely to be mentioned by respondents in Finland (24%), Slovenia (23%), Denmark and Belgium (both 21%), and least likely to be mentioned by those in Greece (2%), Cyprus (3%) and Bulgaria (4%).

Finally, respondents in Sweden (19%), Finland, Estonia and the Netherlands (all 16%) are the most likely to mention the **Internet**, particularly compared to those in Spain (4%), the United Kingdom, Romania and Cyprus (all 5%).

More specifically, **online social media** is mentioned by at least one in ten respondents in Sweden (11%) and Denmark (10%), but by only 1% Spain. Respondents in Sweden are also the most likely to mention **websites of local, regional or national public authorities** (7%), particularly compared to those in Spain, Cyprus, Lithuania, Portugal and Romania (all 1%).

Company websites are most likely to be mentioned by respondents in Austria (4%) and least likely by those in Malta and the United Kingdom (both 0%). **European Commission websites** are mentioned by one in twenty five respondents in Austria (4%), but by no respondents in 12 countries (Belgium, Denmark, Estonia; Ireland, Greece, Spain, France, Latvia, Hungary, Slovenia, Finland and the United Kingdom, all 0%). Finally, **other websites** are mentioned by one in ten respondents in Finland (10%), compared to one in a hundred in Bulgaria, Spain and Cyprus (1%).

June 2016

QA1 In the last 12 months, have you seen, heard or read anything about a company receiving State aid in (OUR COUNTRY)? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(%)





		Yes, on TV	Yes, in newspapers or magazines	Yes, on the radio	Yes, on online social networks	Yes, on the websites of local, regional or national public authorities	Yes, on company websites	Yes, on the European Commission websites	Yes, on other websites	Yes, other (SPONTANEOUS)	No	Don't know	Total 'Internet'
EU28		29	14	10	3	3	1	1	3	3	58	3	8
BE		38	26	21	6	5	2	0	6	1	48	1	15
BG		22	7	4	2	3	2	1	1	1	67	5	6
CZ		47	15	12	4	4	2	1	7	4	40	5	13
DK		38	27	21	10	3	1	0	4	5	41	3	15
DE		30	20	14	2	2	1	1	4	3	53	6	7
EE		36	24	17	8	2	3	0	7	4	43	6	16
IE		17	14	13	3	3	2	0	2	2	68	3	7
EL		21	6	2	3	3	2	0	4	2	73	1	8
ES		25	8	6	1	1	1	0	1	2	69	1	4
FR		26	8	11	3	2	1	0	2	3	62	1	7
HR		40	19	14	4	6	1	1	4	4	45	2	13
IT		33	14	7	3	3	1	1	2	1	57	2	8
CY		17	4	3	3	1	1	1	1	7	76	0	5
LV		28	8	8	6	2	1	0	6	5	56	3	13
LT		32	12	13	7	1	3	1	5	3	52	5	12
LU		15	21	14	2	5	2	1	4	4	62	1	9
HU		51	14	14	8	2	2	0	7	3	39	1	14
MT		36	7	8	6	2	0	1	4	2	51	5	11
NL		38	30	17	5	6	2	1	7	5	44	2	16
AT		26	29	10	6	4	4	4	3	4	51	3	12
PL		26	7	8	3	3	1	1	4	2	60	5	10
PT		42	15	5	4	1	0	1	2	2	50	2	7
RO		28	8	6	3	1	1	1	2	1	63	1	5
SI		53	24	23	6	2	2	0	6	3	34	2	14
SK		44	14	16	6	2	2	1	3	3	45	3	10
FI		59	47	24	6	3	2	0	10	3	25	1	16
SE		36	39	19	11	7	3	1	8	11	39	2	19
UK		16	8	6	1	2	0	0	2	2	75	3	5

Highest percentage per *Lowest percentage per*
Highest percentage per *Lowest percentage per item*

The **socio-demographic** results show the following:

- Men are more likely to have heard about a company receiving state aid in their country compared to women (42% vs. 36%).
- Respondents aged 40 to 54 are more likely to mention having seen, heard or read something about a company receiving state aid in their country, compared to the youngest respondents (43% vs. 31%). Specifically, respondents aged 40 to 54 are more likely to have seen, heard or read something about state aid on **TV** (32% vs. 21%), on the **radio** (12% vs. 6%), or in **newspapers or magazines** (16% vs. 9%), in comparison to those aged 15 to 24. In contrast, respondents aged 25 to 39 are more likely than those aged 55 or over to have read about state aid on the **Internet** (11% vs. 5%).
- The longer a respondent remained in education, the more likely they are to have already heard or read about a company receiving state aid in their country. For instance, those who finished their education aged 20 or over are the most likely to have already heard about state aid in their country (49% compared with 27% of those who finished their education aged 15 or younger). They are also more likely to have seen, heard or read about state aid **in newspapers or magazines** (22% vs. 7%), on the **Internet** (14% vs. 2%), on **TV** (34% vs. 23%) and on the **radio** (15% vs. 6%).
- Managers are generally the most likely to have heard about state aid in their country (for example, 53% compared with 29% of house persons). Specifically, they are more likely to have read about it on the **Internet** (17% vs. 3% of house persons), in **newspapers or magazines** (23% vs. 7% of the unemployed), on **TV** (37% vs. 23% of the unemployed) and on the **radio** (17% vs. 5% of the unemployed).

QA1 In the last 12 months, have you seen, heard or read anything about a company receiving State aid in (OUR COUNTRY)? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)

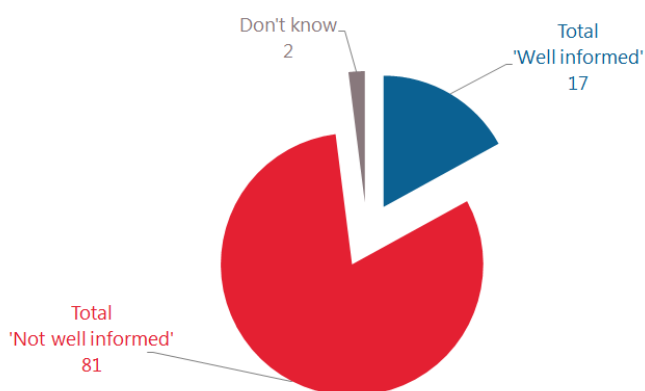
	Yes, on TV	Yes, in newspapers or magazines	Yes, on the radio	Yes, on online social networks	Yes, on the websites of local, regional or national public authorities	Yes, on other websites	Yes, on company websites	Yes, on the European Commission websites	Yes, other (SPONTANEOUS)	No	Don't know	Total 'Yes'	Total 'Internet'
EU28	29	14	10	3	3	3	1	1	3	58	3	39	8
 Gender													
Man	31	16	11	3	3	4	2	1	3	55	3	42	10
Woman	28	12	9	3	2	2	1	1	2	61	3	36	6
 Age													
15-24	21	9	6	6	2	4	1	1	3	67	2	31	10
25-39	28	13	9	5	3	4	2	1	3	58	3	39	11
40-54	32	16	12	3	3	4	1	1	3	54	2	43	10
55 +	30	15	10	1	2	2	1	0	2	59	3	38	5
 Education (End of)													
15-	23	7	6	1	0	1	0	0	1	70	3	27	2
16-19	30	13	9	2	2	2	1	1	2	60	3	38	6
20+	34	22	15	5	4	6	2	1	4	48	3	49	14
Still studying	24	11	7	6	3	4	1	1	4	62	2	36	11
 Socio-professional category													
Self-employed	30	19	13	5	3	6	2	1	4	53	2	45	14
Managers	37	23	17	5	5	8	3	1	4	44	3	53	17
Other white collars	33	17	10	5	4	5	1	1	4	53	3	44	12
Manual workers	28	11	9	3	2	2	1	1	2	61	3	36	7
House persons	24	8	7	2	1	1	0	0	1	69	2	29	3
Unemployed	23	7	5	3	2	2	1	1	3	67	2	31	6
Retired	30	15	10	1	1	1	1	0	1	60	3	37	4
Students	24	11	7	6	3	4	1	1	4	62	2	36	11

2 Subjective level of information about state aid

A majority of the respondents do not feel well informed about state aid in their country

Respondents were asked how informed they feel about state aid in their country³. A large majority (81%) feel **not well informed** about state aid in their country. Less than one in five, however, feel that they are **well informed** (17%), while 2% "don't know".

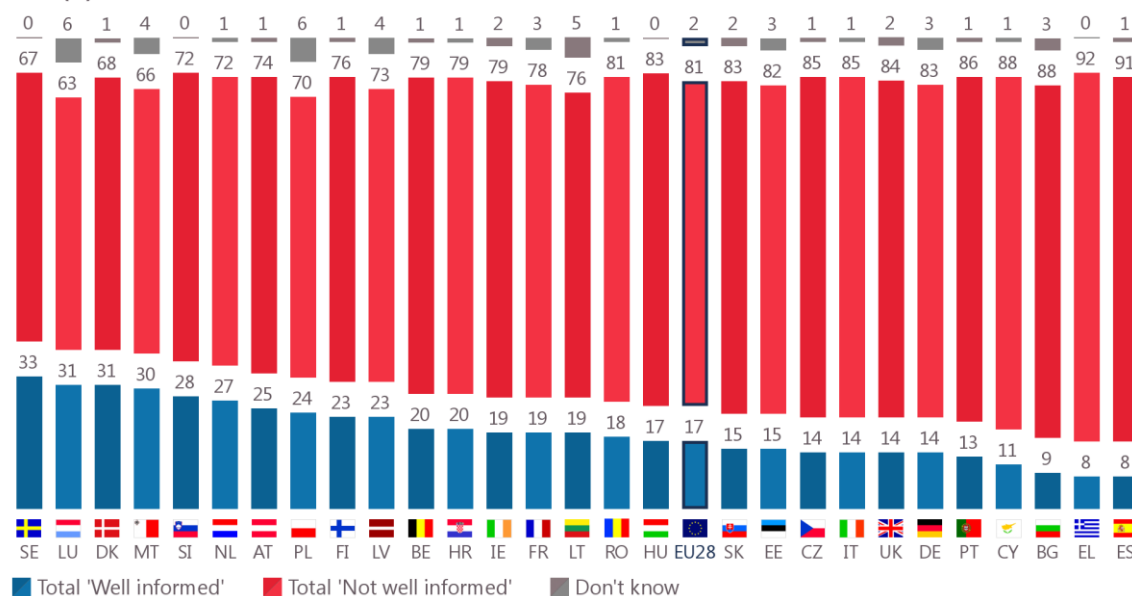
QA2 In general, how informed or not do you feel you are about State aid in (OUR COUNTRY)? (% - EU)



In all countries, minority of respondents feel **well informed** about state aid. Respondents in Sweden (33%), Luxembourg and Denmark (both 31%) are the most likely to feel well informed, in contrast to just 8% in Greece, Spain, and 9% in Bulgaria who say they feel well informed.

³ QA2 In general, how informed or not do you feel you are about state aid in (OUR COUNTRY)?





QA2 In general, how informed or not do you feel you are about State aid in (OUR COUNTRY)? (%)



According to the **socio-demographic** results:

- Men (20%) are more likely to feel **well informed** about state aid in their country than women (14%).
- The longer a respondent remained in education, the more likely they are to feel **well informed** about state aid in their country: those who finished education aged 20 or older are the most likely to feel well informed about state aid (22%), compared to 11% of respondents who left school aged 15 or younger.
- Managers (26%) are more likely to feel **well informed** about state aid in their country compared to other socio-professional categories.
- Respondents who have read about companies receiving state aid on the European Commission website are the most likely to feel **well informed** (62%), compared to those mentioning any other media (30%-53%). However, this result should be interpreted with caution due to the small sample size for this group.
- Respondents who think it is **easy** to find information on state aid are more likely to feel **well informed** than those who find it difficult (37% vs. 11%). Those who think it is **difficult** to find information on state aid are more likely to feel **not well informed** (88% vs. 61% of respondents who find it easy).

QA2 In general, how informed or not do you feel you are about State aid in (OUR COUNTRY)?
(% - EU)

	Total 'Well informed'	Total 'Not well informed'	Don't know
EU28	17	81	2
 Gender			
Man	20	78	2
Woman	14	84	2
 Age			
15-24	14	84	2
25-39	17	81	2
40-54	17	81	2
55 +	16	81	3
 Education (End of)			
15-	11	87	2
16-19	16	82	2
20+	22	76	2
Still studying	15	83	2
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	21	78	1
Managers	26	73	1
Other white collars	16	82	2
Manual workers	15	82	3
House persons	10	88	2
Unemployed	13	85	2
Retired	17	80	3
Students	15	83	2
Awareness about State Aid			
Yes, in magazines	38	61	1
Yes, on TV	31	68	1
Yes, on the radio	38	61	1
Yes, on websites of public authorities	53	47	0
Yes, on company websites	50	49	1
Yes, on EC websites	62	38	0
Yes, on social media	43	57	0
Yes, on other websites	38	61	1
Yes, other	30	70	0
No	8	90	2
Access to information about State Aid			
Total 'Easy'	37	61	2
Total 'Difficult'	11	88	1

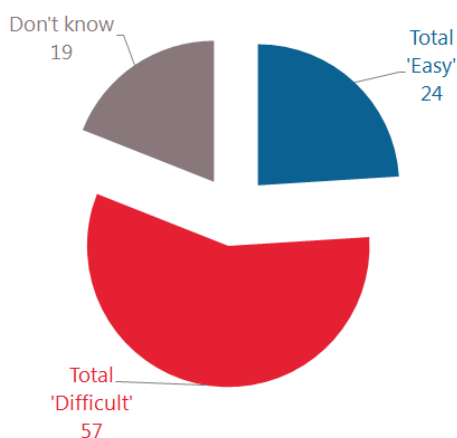
3 Ease of finding information on state aid

Most respondents think it is difficult to find information about which companies received state aid last year in their country

Respondents were asked how easy or difficult they think it is to find information on the companies that received state aid in the previous year in their country⁴.

Almost one quarter of respondents think it is **easy** to find information on which companies received state aid in the last year in their country (24%). However, the majority of respondents think this information is **difficult** to find (57%), while nearly one in five respondents **do not know** (19%).

QA3 How easy or difficult do you think it is to find information on which companies received State aid last year in (OUR COUNTRY)? (% - EU)

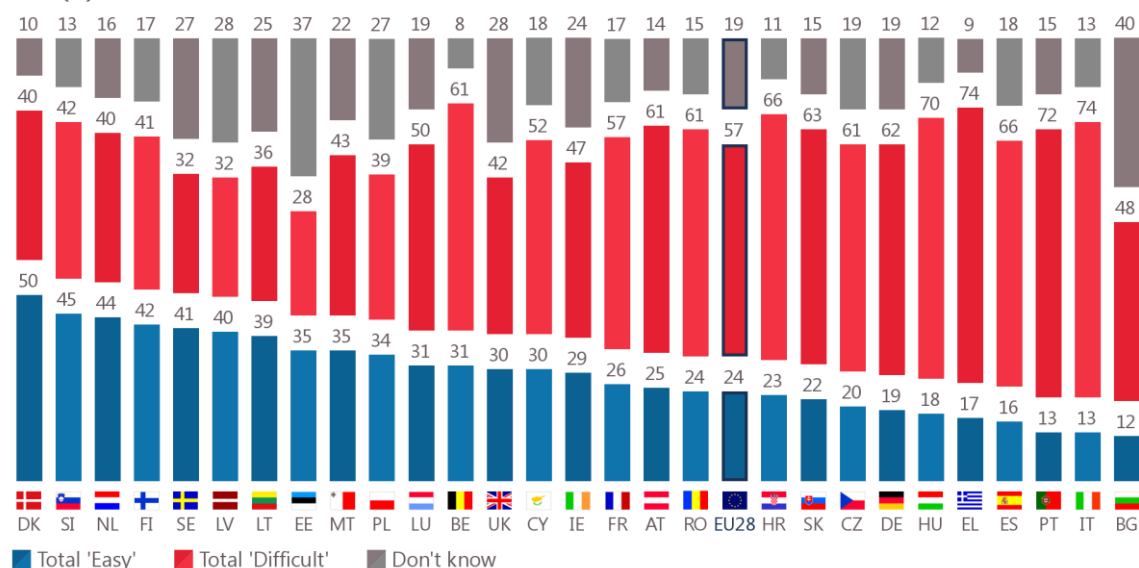


In seven Member States, respondents are most likely to think it is **easy** to find information about companies that received state aid in the last year in their country: Denmark (50% 'easy' vs. 40% 'difficult'), Slovenia (45% vs. 42%), the Netherlands (44% vs. 40%), Finland (42% vs. 41%), Sweden (41% vs. 32%), Latvia (40% vs. 32%) and Lithuania (39% vs. 36%). Countries where respondents are least likely to say it is easy to find such information are Bulgaria (12%), Portugal and Italy (both 13%).

Looking at these results in the context of how well informed respondents feel shows some interesting country patterns. For example, respondents in Sweden, Denmark, Slovenia and the Netherlands are likely to feel well informed, and to think it is easy to find information about companies that received state aid in their country. The reverse is true in Bulgaria, Greece and Italy: here respondents are less likely to feel informed, and more likely to say it is difficult to find information about state aid received by companies in their country.

⁴ QA3 How easy or difficult do you think it is to find information on which companies received state aid last year in (OUR COUNTRY)?

QA3 How easy or difficult do you think it is to find information on which companies received State aid last year in (OUR COUNTRY)? (%)







The analysis of **socio-demographic** data highlights the following:

- The younger the respondent, the more likely they are to say it is **easy** to find information on which companies received state aid in their country. For example, 31% of the youngest respondents think it is easy to find such information, compared to those aged 55 or older (19%).
- The longer a respondent remained in education, the more likely they are to think it is **easy** to find information about companies that received state aid in their country. For instance, those with the highest education levels are the most likely to think it is **easy** to find information about companies that received state aid (29%), compared to those who finished their education at the age of 15 or earlier (13%).
- Managers are the most likely to say it is **easy** to find information about companies that received state aid in their country (35%), while house persons are the least likely to say so (15%).
- Respondents who are well informed about state aid are the most likely to think it is **easy** to find information about companies that received state aid last year in their country (54%, compared with 18% of those who feel not well informed about state aid).
- Respondents who are aware of companies receiving State from information on the company's website are the most likely to find it **easy** to find information on which companies received state aid in the last year in their country (51%). Respondents who have heard about companies receiving state aid on TV are the least likely to say so (32%).

- Just over half of the respondents who have read about companies receiving state aid on companies' websites think it is easy to find information on which companies received state aid in their country (51% vs. 43% "difficult"), compared with around a third of those who have seen it on TV (32% vs. 57%).

QA3 How easy or difficult do you think it is to find information on which companies received State aid last year in (OUR COUNTRY)?
(% - EU)

	Total 'Easy'	Total 'Difficult'	Don't know
EU28	24	57	19
 Gender			
Man	26	57	17
Woman	22	57	21
 Age			
15-24	31	49	20
25-39	29	52	19
40-54	25	60	15
55 +	19	60	21
 Education (End of)			
15-	13	64	23
16-19	24	58	18
20+	29	54	17
Still studying	31	48	21
 Socio-professional category			
Self-employed	23	61	16
Managers	35	50	15
Other white collars	28	59	13
Manual workers	26	55	19
House persons	15	63	22
Unemployed	21	60	19
Retired	18	60	22
Students	31	48	21
Information about State Aid			
Total 'Well informed'	54	37	9
Total 'Not well informed'	18	62	20
Awareness about State Aid			
Yes, in magazines	33	58	9
Yes, on TV	32	57	11
Yes, on the radio	37	53	10
Yes, on websites of public authorities	46	48	6
Yes, on company websites	51	43	6
Yes, on EC websites	46	49	5
Yes, on social media	38	54	8
Yes, on other websites	44	48	8
Yes, other	30	53	17
No	19	58	23

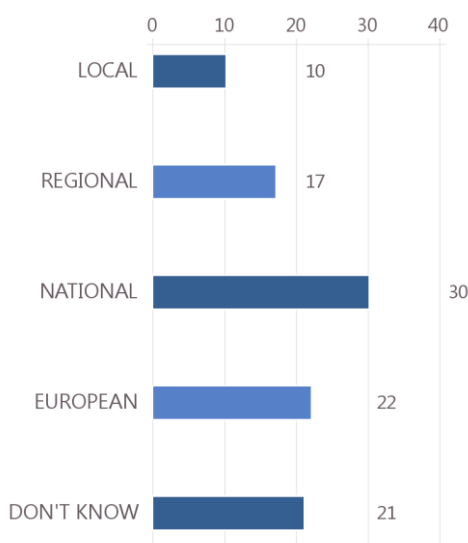
4 Perception of the actual support granted to companies

Respondents are most likely to say that their national public authority gives the most support to companies

Respondents were asked to evaluate whether local, regional, national or European public authorities give the most support to companies⁵.

The **national level** is most likely to be mentioned as giving the most support to companies (30%). Just over one in five respondents (22%) think the **European level** gives the most support, while 17% think most aid is given at the **regional level**, and 10% the **local level**. More than one in five respondents (21%) **do not know** which level of public authority gives the most support to companies.

QA4 In your opinion, which of these different levels of public authority gives the most support to companies? (% - EU)



In 15 Member States, the **national level** is the most mentioned. The highest proportions are observed amongst those in Finland (54%), Luxembourg (52%) and Denmark (45%) and the lowest amongst respondents in Cyprus (10%), Lithuania (11%) and Latvia (15%).

The **European level** is the most mentioned in 12 countries. Respondents in Cyprus (59%), Lithuania (56%), Estonia and Slovakia (both 44%) are the most likely to mention this level, while those in the United Kingdom, Finland (both 12%) and France (13%) are the least likely to do so.

The **regional level** is most mentioned by respondents in France, where it also has the highest percentage of responses (34%). This level is also often mentioned in Belgium (25%), Croatia

⁵ QA4 In your opinion, which of these different levels of public authority gives the most support to companies?

and Austria (both 23%), but is least likely to be mentioned by those in Estonia, Cyprus and Malta (all 3%).

The **local** level of public authorities is most likely to be mentioned by respondents in the United Kingdom, Ireland and Latvia (all 15%), but least likely to be mentioned by those in Slovakia, Portugal (both 5%), Estonia, Hungary and the Netherlands (all 6%).

Finally, in some countries, the proportion of respondents who “don’t know” is very high: Spain (30%), Bulgaria and Portugal (both 29%). In Spain, “don’t know” is actually the most common answer, while in Bulgaria it is the second most common after the European level (30%).

QA4 In your opinion, which of these different levels of public authority gives the most support to companies?
(%)

		Local	Regional	National	European	Don't know
EU28		10	17	30	22	21
BE		8	25	31	26	10
BG		12	7	22	30	29
CZ		7	17	27	37	12
DK		9	18	45	16	12
DE		9	12	31	26	22
EE		6	3	22	44	25
IE		15	13	31	19	22
EL		7	7	30	42	14
ES		8	13	24	25	30
FR		12	34	23	13	18
HR		13	23	30	17	17
IT		7	21	35	16	21
CY		9	3	10	59	19
LV		15	13	15	31	26
LT		8	7	11	56	18
LU		7	7	52	17	17
HU		6	10	26	42	16
MT		12	3	34	40	11
NL		6	12	40	32	10
AT		10	23	31	22	14
PL		14	18	25	18	25
PT		5	6	44	16	29
RO		11	10	26	36	17
SI		13	7	40	27	13
SK		5	6	32	44	13
FI		9	18	54	12	7
SE		7	17	36	31	9
UK		15	12	33	12	28

Highest percentage per country

Highest percentage per item





Lowest percentage per country

Lowest percentage per item

Highlights from the **socio-demographic** analysis include the following:

- Women are more likely to say that they **do not know** which level of public authority gives the most support to companies, compared to men (24% vs. 17%).
- Respondents under the age of 25 are more likely to think the **regional** public authority gives the most support to companies than respondents in the oldest age group (20% vs. 15%). Respondents in the 40 to 54 age group are more likely to mention the **national** level than the oldest respondents (33% vs. 28%). Respondents aged 55 or more are the most likely to answer "**don't know**" (26%).
- Respondents who completed their education aged 20 or older are the most likely to mention the **European** (26%), the **regional** (18%) and the **national** (32%) levels. Respondents who finished their education at the age of 15 or before are the most likely to answer they "**don't know**" (33%).
- Managers (36%) are more likely to think that the **national** public authority gives the most support to companies than house persons and unemployed people (both 26%). Managers are also the most likely to mention the **regional** level (20%), while the unemployed are the most likely to mention the **European** level (25%). House persons are the most likely to say they "don't know" (31%).
- Respondents who feel they are not well informed about state aid are more likely to say they **do not know** (23%), compared to those who feel well informed (9%).

QA4 In your opinion, which of these different levels of public authority gives the most support to companies?
(% - EU)

	Local	Regional	National	European	Don't know
EU28	10	17	30	22	21
 Gender					
Man	10	17	32	24	17
Woman	11	16	28	21	24
 Age					
15-24	10	20	29	20	21
25-39	10	18	29	24	19
40-54	10	17	33	24	16
55 +	10	15	28	21	26
 Education (End of)					
15-	9	13	27	18	33
16-19	11	17	30	22	20
20+	9	18	32	26	15
Still studying	9	19	30	21	21
 Socio-professional category					
Self-employed	9	17	32	23	19
Managers	8	20	36	24	12
Other white collars	10	19	34	23	14
Manual workers	11	18	28	23	20
House persons	10	13	26	20	31
Unemployed	12	17	26	25	20
Retired	10	14	28	21	27
Students	9	19	30	21	21
Information about State Aid					
Total 'Well informed'	11	23	33	24	9
Total 'Not well informed'	10	16	29	22	23

II. OPINIONS ABOUT THE INFORMATION ON STATE AID

1 Attitudes regarding information about state aid

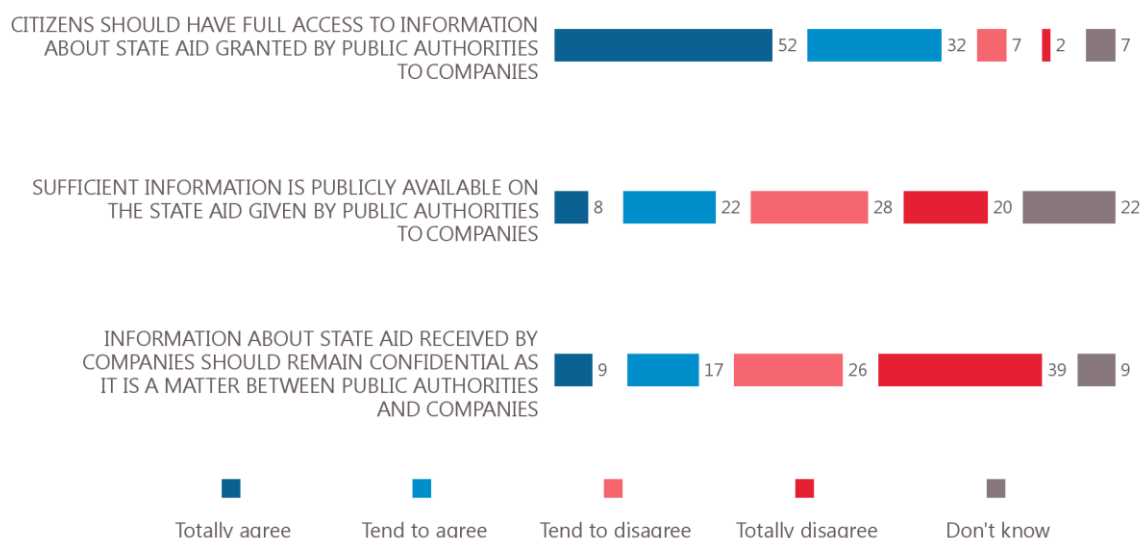
More than eight in ten respondents agree that citizens should have full access to information about state aid granted by public authorities to companies

Respondents were asked their opinion on three statements about the availability of information on state aid⁶.

Most respondents agree that citizens should have full access to information about state aid granted by public authorities to companies (84%) – in fact more than half (52%) totally agree with the proposition. However, just 30% agree that sufficient information is publicly available about the state aid given by public authorities to companies. Just over one quarter (26%) agree that information about state aid received by companies should remain confidential, as it is a matter between public authorities and companies.

The fact that 84% of respondents agree citizens should have full access to information, and 26% agree this information should remain confidential seems paradoxical; however, they serve to highlight the complex nature of issues surrounding the confidentiality of potentially commercially sensitive information.

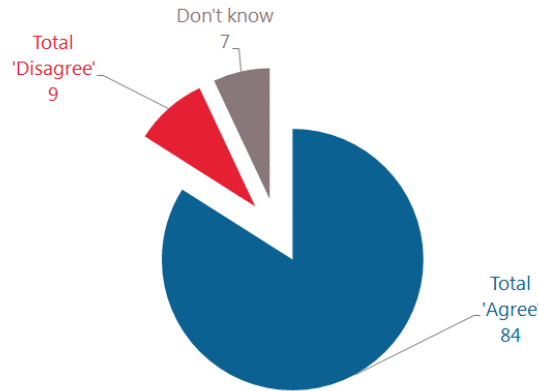
QA5 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements about State aid:
(% - EU)



⁶ QA5 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements about state aid:

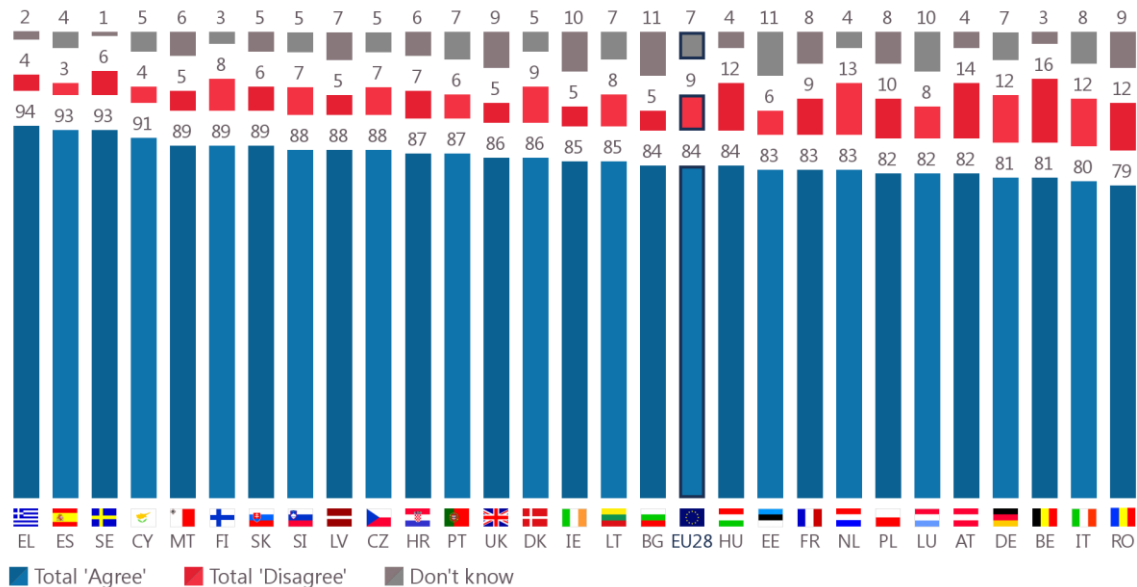
A large majority of respondents **agree** that **citizens should have full access to information about state aid granted by public authorities to companies** (84%). Less than one in ten **disagree** (9%), while 7% "don't know".

QA5.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements about State aid:
State aid:
Citizens should have full access to information about State aid granted by public authorities to companies (% - EU)



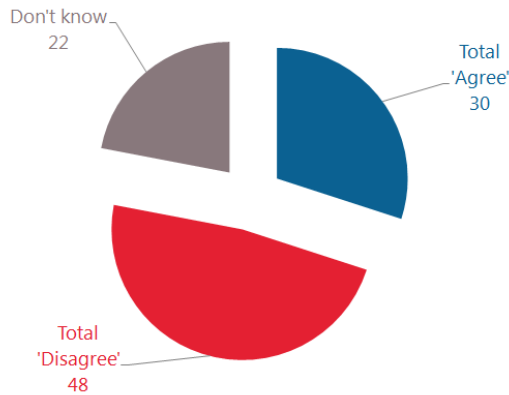
In each of the 28 Member States, more than three quarters of respondents **agree citizens should have full access to information about state aid**. Respondents in Greece (94%), Sweden and Spain (both 93%) are the most likely to agree, while those in Romania (79%), Italy (80%), Germany and Belgium (both 81%) are the least likely to agree - although the proportions in these countries still represent a considerable majority. It is worth noting that in Sweden (78%) and in Cyprus (76%), more than three-quarters of the respondents totally agree with this statement. This is much higher than in other Member States such as Italy or Poland (both 39%).

QA5.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements about State aid:
Citizens should have full access to information about State aid granted by public authorities to companies (%)



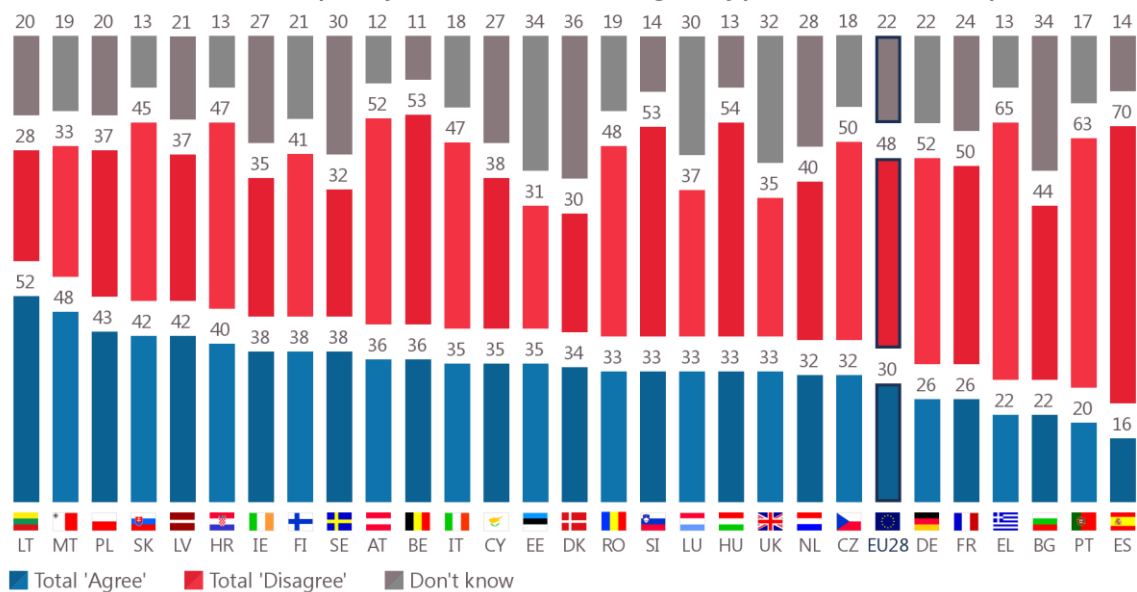
Almost half of all respondents **do not agree** that **sufficient information is publicly available on the state aid given by public authorities to companies** (48%). Three in ten respondents **agree** (30%), while around one in five “don’t know” (22%).

QA5.2 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements about State aid:
State aid:
Sufficient information is publicly available on the State aid given by public authorities to companies (% - EU)



In eight countries, respondents are most likely to agree that **sufficient information is publicly available on the state aid given by public authorities to companies**, although Lithuania is the only country where there is an absolute majority. Around half of the respondents in Lithuania and Malta (52% and 48% respectively), followed by 43% in Poland agree with this statement. At the other end of the scale, only one in six respondents in Spain (16%), and around one in five respondents in Portugal (20%), Bulgaria and Greece (both 22%) share this view.

QA5.2 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements about State aid:
Sufficient information is publicly available on the State aid given by public authorities to companies (%)



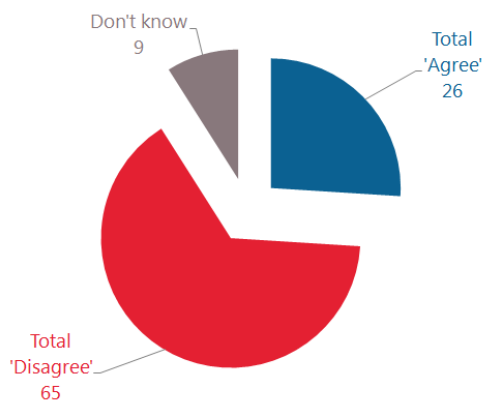
June 2016

Almost two thirds of respondents **disagree** that **information about state aid received by companies should remain confidential as it is a matter between public authorities and companies** (65%). Over a quarter of respondents tend to disagree (26%), while almost four in ten respondents totally disagree with this idea (39%).

Just over a quarter of respondents agree with this statement (26%), while around one in ten do not know (9%).

QA5.3 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements about State aid:

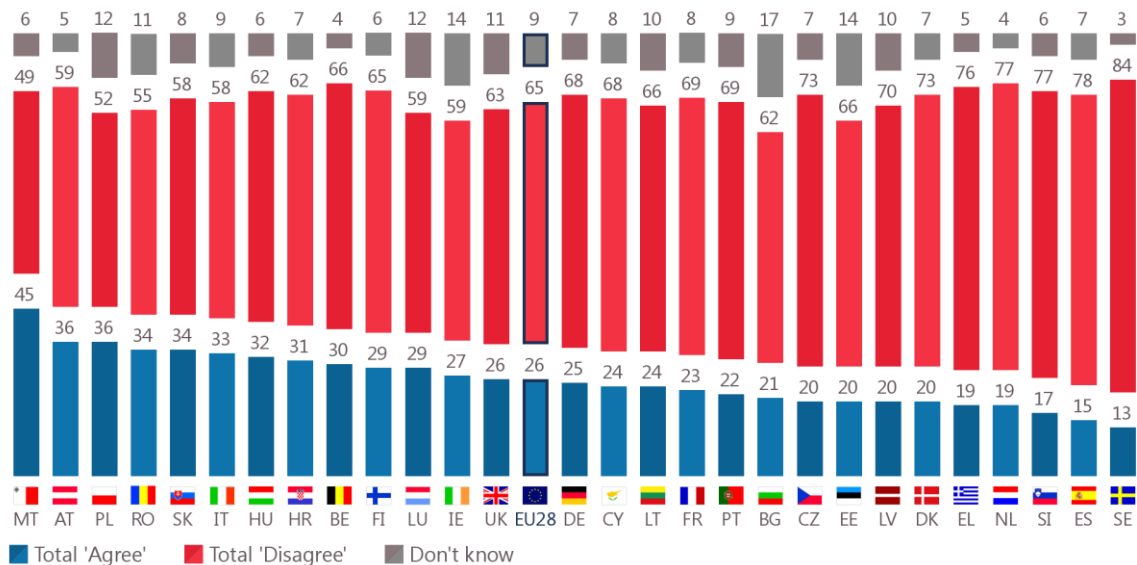
Information about State aid received by companies should remain confidential as it is a matter between public authorities and companies (% - EU)



In all countries, a majority of respondents disagree **information about state aid received by companies should remain confidential**. Respondents in Sweden (84%), Spain (78%), Slovenia (77%), The Netherlands (77%) and Greece (76%) are the most likely to disagree, while those in Malta (49%), Poland (52%) and Romania (55%) are least likely to.

The paradox of wanting full access to information as well as considering it should remain confidential is evident in a number of countries. For example, at least a third of respondents in Malta (45%), Austria (36%), Poland (36%), Romania (34%), Slovakia (34%), and Italy (33%) agree that information about state aid received should remain confidential, even though more than three quarters in each of these countries agree citizens should have full access to information about state aid granted to companies. These results further highlight the complex nature of issues surrounding data confidentiality.

QA5.3 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements about State aid:
Information about State aid received by companies should remain confidential as it is a matter between public authorities and companies (%)







The socio-demographic analysis reveals no notable differences between men and women, but there are other interesting differences:

- The youngest respondents are the most likely to agree **sufficient information is publicly available on the state aid given by public authorities to companies** (34% vs. 28% of respondents aged 55 or over), or that **information about state aid received by companies should remain confidential** (34% vs. 23%).
- The longer a respondent remained in education, the more likely they are to agree **citizens should have full access to information about state aid** (88% vs. 79% of those with the lowest education levels) or that **sufficient information is publicly available** (32% vs. 23%). Those who finished full-time education aged 16-19 are more likely to say **information about state aid received by companies should remain confidential** than those who finished their full-time education aged 20+ (28% vs. 21%).
- Managers are the most likely to agree that **citizens should have full access to information about state aid** (for example, 89% vs. 79% of house persons). Managers are also more likely to agree that **sufficient information is publicly available** (36%), particularly compared to the unemployed (24%). Students are the most likely to agree **information about state aid received by companies should remain confidential** (32%).
- Respondents who feel well informed about state aid are the most likely to agree **sufficient information is publicly available** (54% compared with 26% of respondents who do not feel well informed), and to agree that **information about state aid received by companies should remain confidential** (35% vs. 24%).

June 2016

QA5 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements about State aid:
(% - EU)

	Citizens should have full access to information about State aid granted by public authorities to companies		Sufficient information is publicly available on the State aid given by public authorities to companies		Information about State aid received by companies should remain confidential as it is a matter between public authorities and companies	
	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'
EU28	84	9	30	48	26	65
 Gender						
Man	86	9	32	50	26	67
Woman	83	9	29	47	26	64
 Age						
15-24	83	10	34	41	34	57
25-39	86	9	33	46	27	66
40-54	87	9	29	53	24	70
55 +	83	8	28	49	23	66
 Education (End of)						
15-	79	9	23	51	25	61
16-19	85	9	30	49	28	64
20+	88	8	32	50	21	74
Still studying	84	10	34	41	32	60
 Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	87	10	29	53	25	70
Managers	89	8	36	48	23	73
Other white collars	87	9	34	47	29	66
Manual workers	86	9	32	48	28	65
House persons	79	9	29	46	26	60
Unemployed	85	8	24	56	26	65
Retired	81	9	26	49	24	64
Students	84	10	34	41	32	60
Information about State Aid						
Total 'Well informed'	88	10	54	37	35	62
Total 'Not well informed'	84	9	26	51	24	67

2 Types of information about state aid that should be published

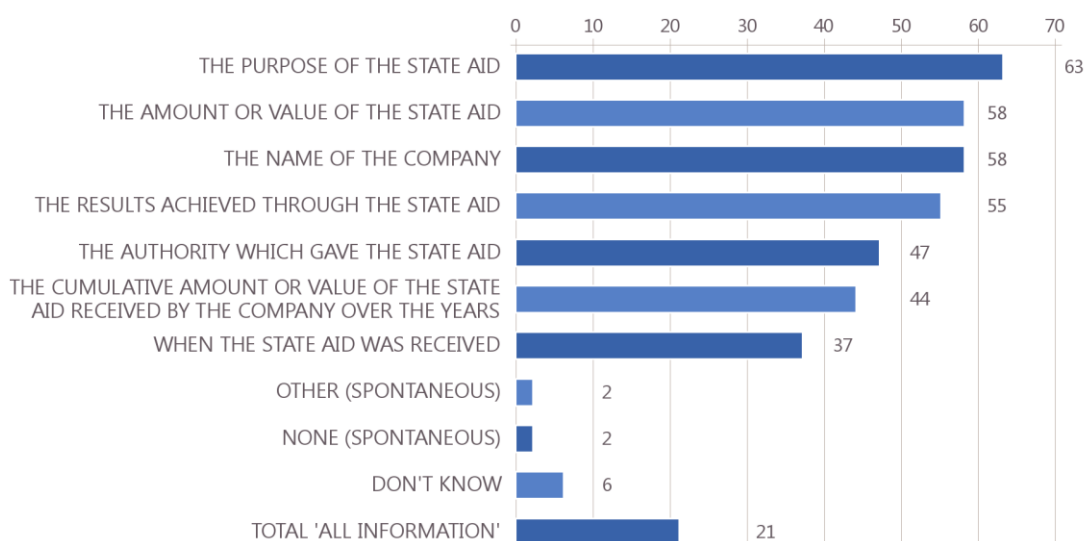
More than half of respondents think that important information to be publicly available is the purpose of state aid, the amount given, the name of the company which received aid, and the results achieved through the aid

Respondents were asked what kinds of information about the state aid received by companies should be published⁷.

The majority of respondents (63%) think the **purpose** of the state aid should be published. More than half also mention the **name** of the company (58%), the **amount or value** of the state aid (58%) and the **results achieved** through the state aid (55%). Slightly less than half say **the authority which gave the state aid to the company** (47%) or **the cumulative amount or value of the state aid received by the company over the years** (44%) should be published, while just over one third mention **information about the period when the state aid is received by the company** (37%). Finally, only small proportions of respondents *spontaneously* mention **other information**, or say they **do not want any type of information to be published** (both 2%).

Over one in five respondents (21%) say they think **all of these items of information** should be published. Finally, 6% answer they “don’t know”.

QA6 In your opinion, which of the following information about State aid received by companies should be published? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)



⁷ QA6 In your opinion, which of the following information about state aid received by companies should be published? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

In 17 Member States, **the purpose of the state aid** is the type of information respondents would most like to see published. Respondents in Sweden (86%), the Netherlands (85%) and Denmark (78%) are the most likely to give this answer, while those in Italy (51%), Romania (52%) and France (53%) are the least likely to do so. Overall, the majority in each Member State think the purpose of the aid should be published.

The **amount** of state aid is the most mentioned item in five countries: Slovakia, Spain (both 72%), Greece (71%), Hungary (67%) and Ireland (62%). This item of information is also widely mentioned by those in Cyprus (66%), the Czech Republic and Slovenia (both 65%). At the other end of the scale, 45% in Luxembourg and 46% in Latvia and Italy mention the amount.

The **name of the company** is the most mentioned item in four countries: Slovenia (74%), Malta (66%), Portugal (59%, equal to the proportion who mentions the amount) and Romania (53%). The company name is also widely mentioned by respondents in Sweden (72%) and Finland (71%). This aspect is least likely to be mentioned by those in Italy, Poland (both 45%) and Luxembourg (50%), but even in these countries this represents a considerable proportion of respondents.

In Lithuania (61%) and France (59%), **the results of the state aid** is the most mentioned item. This piece of information is most likely to be mentioned by respondents in Sweden (76%), Slovenia (72%) and the Netherlands (71%), and least likely to be mentioned by those in Poland (43%), Romania (48%), Ireland and Italy (both 49%).

Respondents in Sweden (74%), Greece (58%), Denmark and Slovenia (both 57%) are the most likely to think the **authority which gave the state aid** should be published, while those in Luxembourg (33%), France (36%) and Italy (37%) are the least likely to say this.

Respondents in Sweden (62%), Slovenia (57%) and Finland (53%) are the most likely to mention the **cumulative value of the state aid received by the company over the years**, while those in Bulgaria (26%), Latvia (27%) and Slovakia (31%) are the least likely to do so.

Respondents in Sweden (54%), Malta (52%), Cyprus, Slovenia and Ireland (all 49%) are the most likely to say the **information about when the state aid is received by the company** should be published. Respondents in Luxembourg (23%), France (27%) and Bulgaria (28%) are the least likely to mention this piece of information.

Finally, it should be noted that in Sweden (40%), Slovenia (37%), the United Kingdom and Cyprus (both 32%), a considerable proportion of respondents think **every piece of information** should be published. In contrast, just 11% in Bulgaria and Italy, and 13% in Luxembourg mention each item.

QA6 In your opinion, which of the following information about State aid received by companies should be published? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(%)





		The purpose of the State aid	The amount or value of the State aid	The name of the company	The results achieved through the State aid	The authority which gave the State aid	The cumulative amount or value of the State aid received by the company over the years	When the State aid was received	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know	Total 'All information'
EU28		63	58	58	55	47	44	37	2	2	6	21
BE		71	63	65	65	52	48	42	1	2	4	27
BG		62	58	56	60	43	26	28	1	1	6	11
CZ		75	65	63	56	55	51	45	2	1	4	27
DK		78	56	68	58	57	51	36	4	1	3	23
DE		70	57	62	59	52	48	36	2	4	5	22
EE		67	54	57	55	42	38	32	1	2	12	21
IE		62	62	60	49	51	43	49	2	1	9	28
EL		68	71	63	50	58	51	40	2	1	2	16
ES		70	72	65	57	53	47	46	4	0	4	31
FR		53	54	55	56	36	46	27	3	2	7	16
HR		59	58	55	50	41	36	35	1	1	5	17
IT		51	46	45	49	37	34	32	3	2	7	11
CY		76	66	62	55	53	48	49	3	2	4	32
LV		59	46	58	57	42	27	31	2	2	8	16
LT		59	58	56	61	45	37	39	2	2	8	23
LU		56	45	50	51	33	41	23	5	6	5	13
HU		65	67	64	60	43	38	34	1	1	3	17
MT		64	56	66	63	46	46	52	2	1	5	31
NL		85	62	64	71	53	46	39	3	1	2	22
AT		63	59	59	52	53	47	34	5	5	3	18
PL		60	51	45	43	40	39	32	1	2	9	14
PT		55	59	59	58	43	50	37	1	1	8	21
RO		52	48	53	48	43	40	30	2	1	10	16
SI		72	65	74	72	57	57	49	4	1	3	37
SK		69	72	67	50	48	31	35	2	0	3	17
FI		76	70	71	65	54	53	31	1	1	2	24
SE		86	64	72	76	74	62	54	2	1	1	40
UK		63	59	60	54	52	46	45	1	2	12	32

Highest percentage per country *Lowest percentage per country*
Highest percentage per item Lowest percentage per item

The socio-demographic results indicate the following:

- Both men and women are most likely to mention **the purpose of the state aid** as the information that should be published (64% and 63%, respectively).
- Respondents aged 15 to 24 are the least likely to think **all of these items** should be published, particularly compared to respondents aged 40+ (14% vs. 23%-24%).
- Respondents with the highest education level are the most likely to think that all type of information regarding state aid should be published (26% vs. 19%-20% of those with lower education levels). In particular, those with the highest education levels are more likely to mention each different items, compared to those with the lowest level: for example **the purpose of the state aid** (71% vs. 56%), and **the results achieved through the state aid** (62% vs. 47%).
- Managers are the most likely to mention all the pieces of information, compared to respondents in the other socio-professional categories (26% vs. 15%-23%).

QA6 In your opinion, which of the following information about State aid received by companies should be published? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)

	The purpose of the State aid	The amount or value of the State aid	The name of the company	The results achieved through the State aid	The authority which gave the State aid	The cumulative amount or value of the State aid received by the company over the years	When the State aid was received	All information
EU28	63	58	58	55	47	44	37	21
 Gender								
Man	64	59	60	55	49	47	39	23
Woman	63	56	56	55	45	42	35	20
 Age								
15-24	62	51	50	51	40	38	31	14
25-39	64	58	57	56	47	45	36	19
40-54	67	62	62	59	52	48	39	24
55 +	61	57	59	54	47	44	37	23
 Education (End of)								
15-	56	55	54	47	41	38	34	19
16-19	61	57	57	55	47	43	35	20
20+	71	63	65	62	54	52	42	26
Still studying	66	54	53	54	43	40	33	15
 Socio-professional category								
Self-employed	65	59	58	57	52	50	41	23
Managers	71	66	66	63	57	54	42	26
Other white collars	67	58	56	58	49	46	38	21
Manual workers	64	58	57	55	46	43	36	21
House persons	58	54	56	48	41	35	32	17
Unemployed	58	57	54	55	45	44	35	20
Retired	60	57	58	53	46	42	36	22
Students	66	54	53	54	43	40	33	15

III. OPINIONS ABOUT TRANSPARENCY ON STATE AID

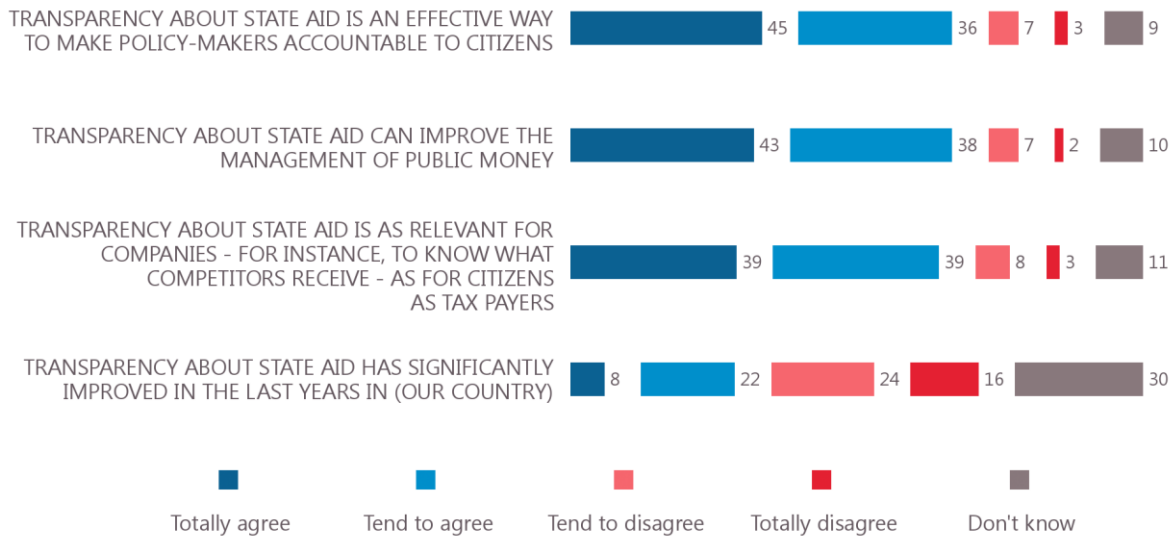
1 Attitudes towards transparency on state aid

More than eight in ten respondents agree transparency about state aid is an effective way to ensure policy-makers are accountable to citizens

Respondents were asked their opinion on a number of statements about transparency in state aid⁸.

Large majorities of respondents think that transparency about state aid is an effective way to make policy-makers accountable to citizens (81%) improve the management of public money (81%), and that transparency is as relevant for companies as for citizens themselves (78%). Only a minority of respondents think transparency about state aid has improved in their country in the last years.

QA7 Please tell me to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about transparency in relation to State aid:
(% - EU)

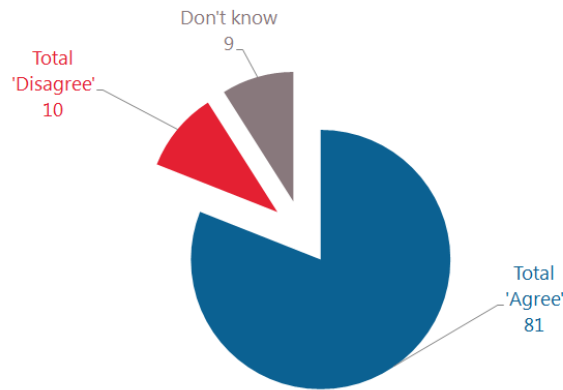


⁸ QA7 Please tell me to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about transparency in relation to state aid:

a. Transparency as an effective way to make policy-makers accountable

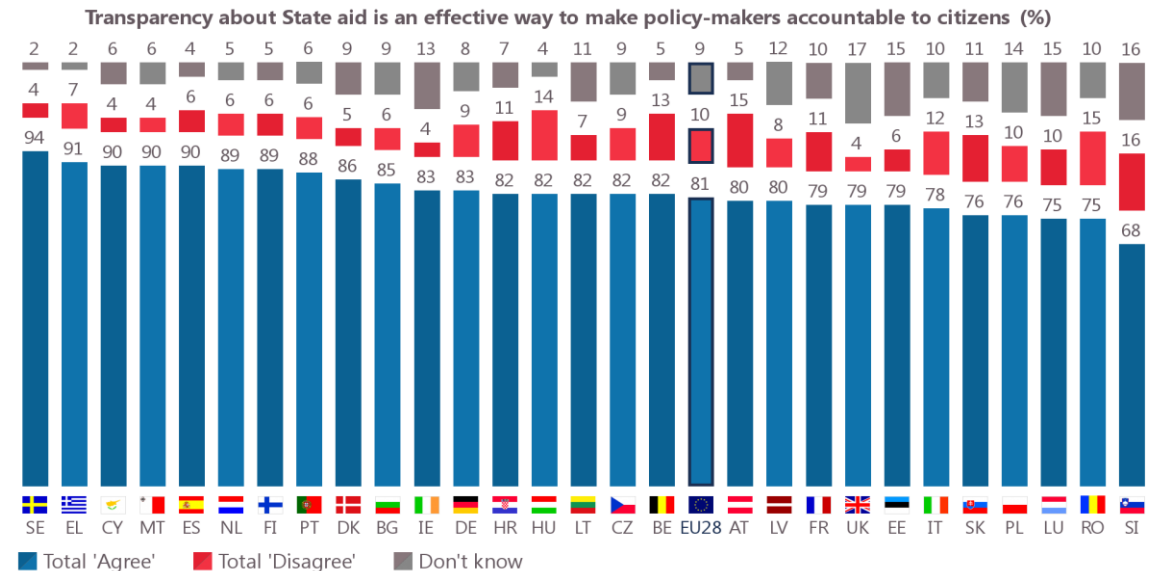
A large majority of respondents agree **transparency about state aid is an effective way to make policy-makers accountable to citizens** (81%). Only one in ten disagree (10%), while 9% say they “don’t know”.

QA7.1 Please tell me to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about transparency in relation to State aid:
Transparency about State aid is an effective way to make policy-makers accountable to citizens (% - EU)



In all 28 Member States, at least two thirds of all respondents agree **transparency is an effective way to make policy-makers accountable**. Respondents in Sweden (94%), Greece (91%), Malta, Cyprus and Spain (all 90%) are the most likely to agree, while those in Slovenia (68%), Romania and Luxembourg (both 75%) are the least likely to do so. Slovenia is the only country where less than three quarters agree.

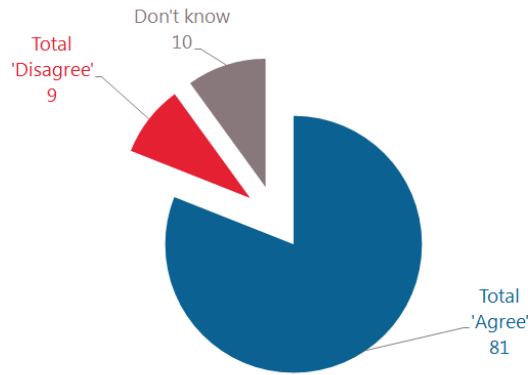
QA7.1 Please tell me to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about transparency in relation to State aid:



b. Transparency as a way to improve the management of public money

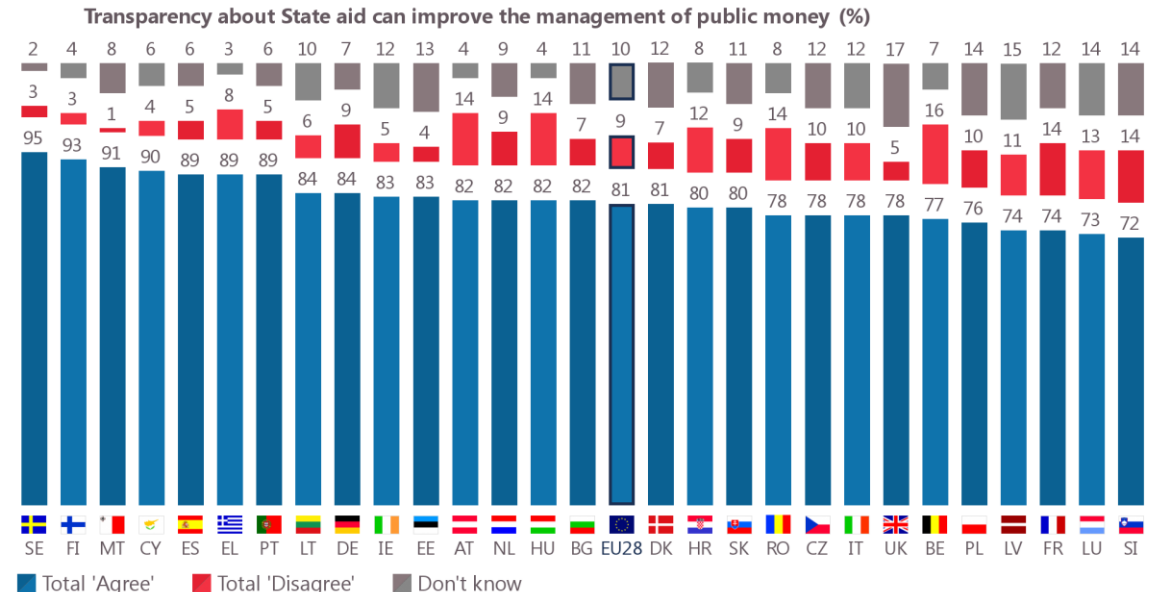
A large majority of respondents also agree **transparency about state aid can improve the management of public money** (81%). One in ten disagree (10%), and 9% say they do not know (9%).

QA7.2 Please tell me to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about transparency in relation to State aid:
Transparency about State aid can improve the management of public money
 (% - EU)



In all 28 countries, a large majority of respondents agree **transparency can improve the management of public money**. More than nine in ten respondents in Sweden (95%), Finland (93%) and Malta (91%) agree with this statement, compared to 72% in Slovenia, 73% in Luxembourg, and 74% in Latvia and France.

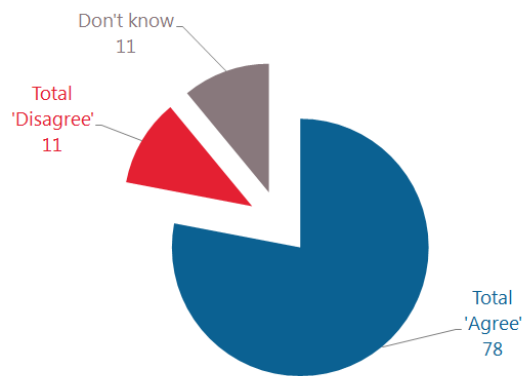
QA7.2 Please tell me to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about transparency in relation to State aid:



c. Transparency as relevant for companies as for citizens

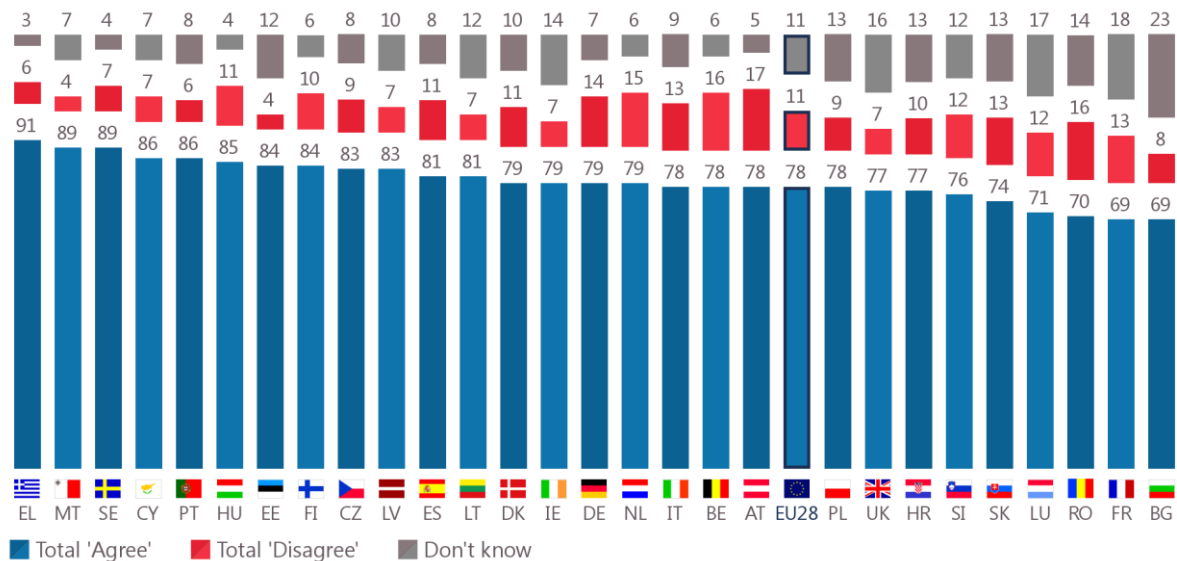
More than three quarters of respondents (78%) agree **transparency about state aid is as relevant for companies – for instance, to know what competitors receive – as for citizens as tax payers**. Just over one in ten respondents either **disagrees** or does not know (both 11%).

QA7.3 Please tell me to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about transparency in relation to State aid:
Transparency about State aid is as relevant for companies - for instance, to know what competitors receive - as for citizens as tax payers (% - EU)



In all 28 Member States, a majority of respondents agree that **transparency about state aid is as relevant for companies as for citizens**. Around nine in ten respondents agree in Greece (91%), Sweden and Malta (both 89%), as do 69% in Bulgaria and France, and 70% in Romania. As is the case for the other statements discussed, there are generally high levels of agreement across all Member States.

QA7.3 Please tell me to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about transparency in relation to State aid:
Transparency about State aid is as relevant for companies - for instance, to know what competitors receive - as for citizens as tax payers (%)

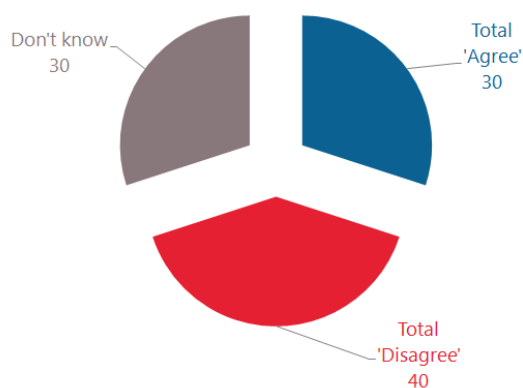


Looking at **the overall average** of these three aspects of transparency (accountability, management, importance to companies and citizens), respondents in Sweden (93%), Greece, Malta (both 90%), Cyprus (89%) and Finland (89%) are the most likely to agree that these aspects are important, while respondents in Slovenia (72%), Luxembourg (73%), France (74%) and Romania (74%) are the least likely to do so, although the overall majority of citizens clearly agree that transparency is beneficial.

d. Progress in transparency in the recent years

Four in ten respondents disagree that **transparency about state aid has significantly improved in the last years in their country** (40%). Three in ten respondents **agree** (30%), and the same proportion answer that they “don’t know” (30%).

QA7.4 Please tell me to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about transparency in relation to State aid:
Transparency about State aid has significantly improved in the last years in (OUR COUNTRY) (% - EU)

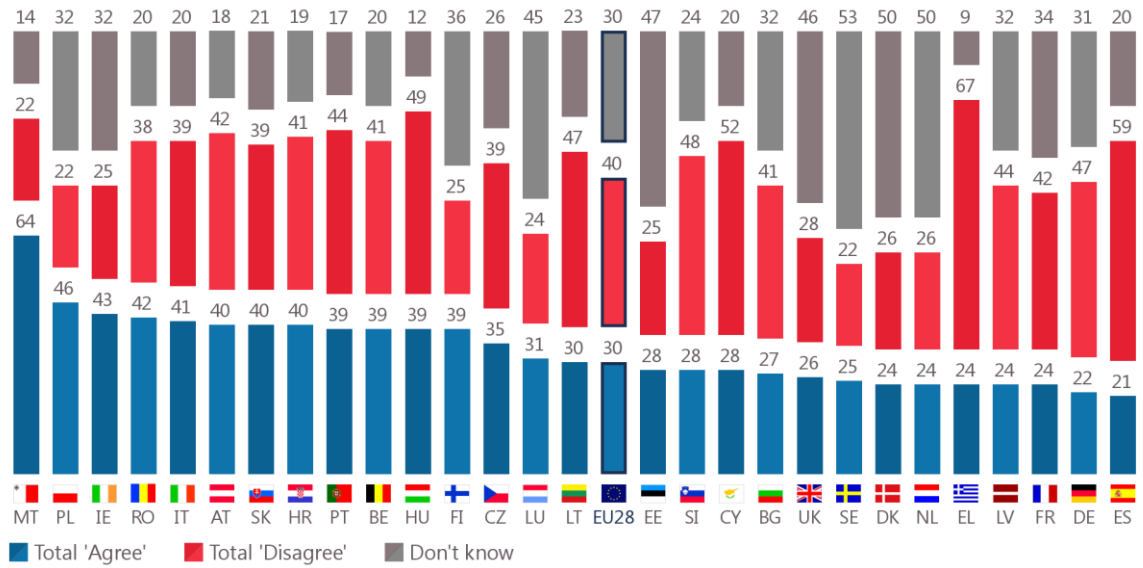


In 10 Member States, respondents are more likely to agree than disagree that **transparency about state aid has significantly improved**.

Respondents in Malta (64%), Poland (46%) and Ireland (43%) are the most likely to agree with this statement. Conversely, in 18 Member States, respondents are most likely to disagree, with highest proportions observed amongst those in Greece (67%), Spain (59%), and Cyprus (52%). In some countries very high proportions of respondents answer that they “don’t know”: for example, in Sweden (53%), Denmark (50%), and the Netherlands (50%) at least half say this.





QA7.4 Please tell me to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about transparency in relation to State aid:

Transparency about State aid has significantly improved in the last years in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)



The socio-demographic analysis does not highlight any significant differences between categories. However, it is worth noting the relationship between how well informed a respondent feels and their views on whether transparency has improved: almost half (49%) of respondents who feel well informed about state aid consider transparency has significantly improved in the last years in their country, compared to 27% who do not feel well informed.

QA7 Please tell me to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about transparency in relation to State aid: (% - EU)

	Transparency about State aid is an effective way to make policy-makers accountable to citizens		Transparency about State aid can improve the management of public money		Transparency about State aid is as relevant for companies - for instance, to know what competitors receive - as for citizens as tax payers		Transparency about State aid has significantly improved in the last years in (OUR COUNTRY)	
	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'
EU28	81	10	81	9	78	11	30	40
 Gender								
Man	82	10	82	9	79	12	31	42
Woman	81	8	79	9	77	11	29	38
 Age								
15-24	75	11	76	11	75	12	29	32
25-39	82	9	80	10	78	12	32	39
40-54	85	9	85	8	81	12	31	44
55 +	81	9	80	8	76	11	30	40
 Education (End of)								
15-	79	9	77	9	72	12	27	43
16-19	81	10	80	10	77	12	32	41
20+	86	8	85	8	83	10	30	40
Still studying	78	9	78	10	78	10	28	31
 Socio-professional category								
Self-employed	84	10	84	9	81	13	33	42
Managers	89	6	86	8	84	11	33	39
Other white collars	84	10	83	10	82	11	34	40
Manual workers	82	10	80	11	78	12	31	42
House persons	79	9	78	8	75	12	32	37
Unemployed	80	9	80	8	75	12	25	46
Retired	80	8	78	9	74	11	29	40
Students	78	9	78	10	78	10	28	31
Information about State Aid								
Total 'Well informed'	85	11	86	10	83	11	49	34
Total 'Not well informed'	82	8	80	9	78	11	27	41

2 Perception of the relevance of transparency on state aid depending on the type of companies that received it

Nearly three-quarters of respondents think that large companies should provide open access to all the information about the state aid they receive

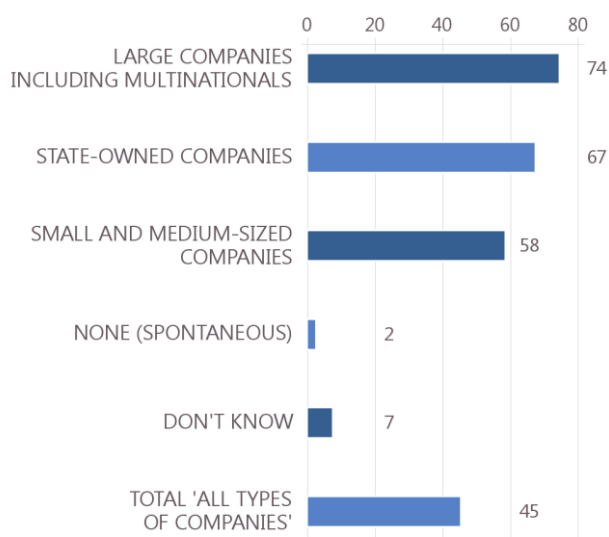
Respondents were asked which types of companies they thought should provide open access to all the information about the state aid they receive⁹.

Large companies including multinationals are the most mentioned, with almost three quarters of respondents (74%) stating these kinds of companies should provide open access to all the information about the state aid they receive. More than two-thirds of respondents think **state-owned companies** should provide open access to all this information (67%), and close to six in ten respondents say this for **small and medium-sized companies** (58%). More than four in ten respondents think **all types of companies** should provide open access to information about the state aid they receive (45%).

Less than one in six respondents say **only large companies and public companies** (14%) or **only large companies** (12%) should provide open access to all the information about the state aid they receive, while 8% of respondents mention **only public companies**.

Finally, fewer than one in twenty respondents *spontaneously* say **none of these types of companies** should provide open access to all the information about the state aid they receive (2%).

QA8 Which of the following type of companies should provide open access to all the information about the State aid they receive? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)



⁹ QA8 Which of the following type of companies should provide open access to all the information about the state aid they receive? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

In 20 Member States, respondents are most likely to think **large companies including multinationals** should provide open access to all the information about the state aid they receive. Respondents in Sweden (90%), Finland (88%) and Denmark (87%) are the most likely to mention large companies, compared to 53% of those in Latvia, 56% in Poland and 62% in Romania. Overall, the majority of respondents in every Member State think large companies should provide open access to this information.

State-owned companies are the most mentioned company type in six countries. Across the EU, respondents in Sweden (89%), Denmark (85%) and Finland (82%) are the most likely to give this answer, while those in Italy (50%), Croatia (54%), Poland and Luxembourg (both 60%) are the least likely to do so.

In two countries, respondents are most likely to mention **small and medium-sized companies**: Cyprus (79%) and Malta (69%). These company types are also widely mentioned by those in Sweden and Spain (both 72%), but least likely to be mentioned by respondents in Austria (42%), Latvia (47%) and Poland (50%).

Around two-thirds of respondents in Sweden (67%), Denmark (65%) and Spain (61%) believe **all types of companies** – large, small/medium and state owned - should provide open access to all information about state aid they receive. This compares to a third of respondents or less in Austria (31%), Latvia and Italy (both 33%).

No more than one in twenty respondents in any country say **none of these types of companies** should provide open access to all information about the state aid they receive.

QA8 Which of the following type of companies should provide open access to all the information about the State aid they receive? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(%)

		Large companies including multinationals	State-owned companies	Small and medium-sized companies	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know	Total 'All types of companies'
EU28		74	67	58	2	7	45
BE		76	74	63	1	3	48
BG		69	61	57	2	12	43
CZ		82	76	63	1	4	54
DK		87	85	71	2	3	65
DE		78	67	55	3	6	41
EE		70	77	56	1	12	50
IE		76	73	62	1	8	54
EL		81	79	58	1	2	45
ES		80	77	72	0	5	61
FR		76	66	51	0	6	39
HR		67	54	60	1	7	38
IT		66	50	59	2	9	33
CY		74	72	79	1	3	59
LV		53	74	47	1	9	33
LT		65	75	63	2	6	48
LU		70	60	63	2	4	41
HU		68	67	62	1	6	44
MT		67	67	69	0	4	46
NL		86	81	55	1	2	48
AT		71	67	42	5	5	31
PL		56	60	50	2	14	35
PT		80	76	62	1	8	52
RO		62	66	59	1	9	43
SI		70	79	68	2	3	55
SK		70	69	58	0	6	43
FI		88	82	64	0	2	55
SE		90	89	72	1	1	67
UK		78	70	57	4	7	51

Highest percentage per country

Lowest percentage per country

Highest percentage per item

Lowest percentage per item





The **socio-demographic analysis** reveals the following:

- Respondents aged 15 to 24 are the least likely to mention **small and medium-sized companies** or **State-owned companies**. For example, 62% of the youngest respondents mention state-owned companies, compared to 71% of those aged 40 to 54.
- Respondents who finished their education aged 20 or older are the most likely to mention **small and medium-sized companies** (62%), **large companies** (81%) or **state-owned companies** (74%).
- Managers are the most likely to think **state-owned companies** or **large companies** should provide open access to all the information about the state aid they receive. For example, 83% of managers mention large companies, compared to 70% of house persons. Managers are also the most likely to mention all three types of companies (52%).

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QA8 Which of the following type of companies should provide open access to all the information about the State aid they receive? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

(% - EU)

	Small and medium-sized companies	Large companies including multinationals	State-owned companies	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know	All types of companies
EU28	58	74	67	2	7	45
 Gender						
Man	59	76	68	2	6	45
Woman	57	73	67	2	7	44
 Age						
15-24	48	72	62	2	6	34
25-39	57	76	69	2	6	45
40-54	61	76	71	2	4	47
55 +	60	72	67	2	9	46
 Education (End of)						
15-	58	69	62	2	11	42
16-19	58	73	66	2	7	43
20+	62	81	74	2	4	52
Still studying	48	74	65	2	6	36
 Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	60	78	71	2	4	49
Managers	61	83	76	2	3	52
Other white collars	61	76	68	2	4	45
Manual workers	58	74	66	1	6	43
House persons	53	70	62	3	10	40
Unemployed	56	73	67	1	8	42
Retired	60	71	66	2	10	46
Students	48	74	65	2	6	36

3 Sectors perceived to have the greatest need for more transparency on state aid

Nearly half say there is a need for more transparency about state aid to the health care and pharmaceutical industry

Respondents were asked which sectors they thought needed more transparency about state aid¹⁰.

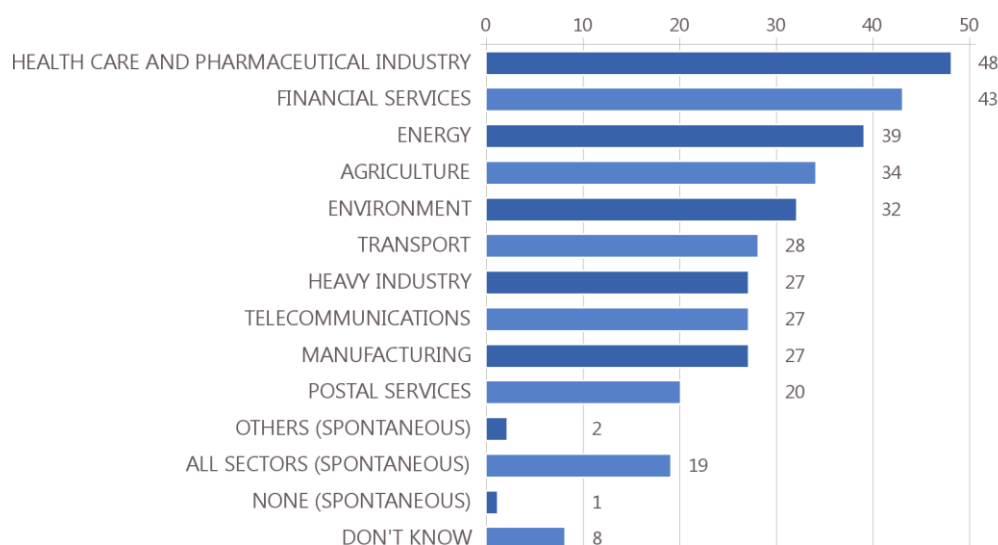
The **health care and pharmaceutical industry** is the most mentioned sector, with almost half of respondents saying this sector needs more transparency (48%). More than four in ten respondents think there is a need for more transparency about state aid in **financial services** (43%), and almost four in ten respondents say this about the **energy sector** (39%). At least one third of respondents mention the **agriculture sector** (34%) or the **environment sector** (32%).

Just over a quarter of respondents think there is a need for more transparency about state aid in the **transport** (28%), **telecommunications** (27%), or **manufacturing** or **heavy industry** sectors (27%). One in five respondents mention **postal services** (20%). Only 2% of respondents *spontaneously* answered **others sectors**.

Close to one in five respondents *spontaneously* mention the need for more transparency about state aid in **all sectors** (19%), while just 1% *spontaneously* answer “**none**”. Finally, 8% say they “don’t know”.

These results clearly illustrate that the need for greater transparency is not confined to a few sectors – a considerable proportion of respondents thinks more transparency is needed in each of these areas.

QA9 In which of the following sectors do you think there is a need for more transparency about State aid?
(MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)



¹⁰ QA9 In which of the following sectors do you think there is a need for more transparency about state aid? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

In 21 Member States, the **health care and pharmaceutical industry** is the most mentioned sector, with respondents in the Netherlands (71%), Sweden (69%) and Latvia (68%) the most likely to do so. In contrast, respondents in Estonia (36%), Spain (37%) and Germany (40%) are the least likely to mention this sector.

In five Member States, **financial services** is the most mentioned sector. Respondents in the Netherlands (64%), Sweden (63%) and Ireland (57%) are the most likely to mention this sector, while respondents in Bulgaria (20%), Slovakia and Slovenia (both 23%) are the least likely to do so.

Energy is the most mentioned sector by respondents in Belgium (55%). In addition, more than half of all respondents in Sweden (64%) and the Netherlands (57%) think there is a need for more transparency on state aid in this sector. This compared to less than a third of those in Slovenia (22%), Slovakia (24%) and Estonia (28%).

Agriculture is the most mentioned sector in Croatia. Around half of all respondents in Romania, Croatia (both 51%) and Sweden (49%) think there is a need for more transparency about state aid in this sector. At the other end of the scale, 23% of respondents in Italy and Portugal, and 27% in Spain and Lithuania say the same.

Almost six in ten respondents in Sweden (57%) say that there is a need for more transparency about state aid in the **environment sector**, followed by 52% in the Netherlands, and 47% in Denmark and Belgium. Conversely, respondents in Portugal (18%), Bulgaria (19%) and Estonia (21%) are the least likely to mention this sector.

Respondents in Sweden, the Czech Republic (both 46%), Finland, Romania and Malta (all 42%) are the most likely to mention the **transport sector**, while those in Germany (13%), Slovenia (18%), Lithuania and Hungary (both 20%) are the least likely to do so.

Over half of all respondents in Sweden (51%) say that there is a need for more transparency about state aid in the **telecommunications sector**, as do 43% in Belgium, and 39% in Finland. Respondents in Bulgaria, Slovakia and Estonia (all 15%) are the least likely to mention this sector.

Respondents in Croatia (46%), Finland and Belgium (both 44%) think there is a need for more transparency about state aid in the **manufacturing sector**. At the other end of the scale, respondents in Lithuania (13%), Germany (15%) and Estonia (16%) are the least likely to think so.

Respondents in Finland (46%), Sweden (44%) and the Netherlands (42%) are the most likely to mention **heavy industry**, while those in Lithuania (10%), Estonia (13%) and Bulgaria (17%) are the least likely to do so.

Respondents in Sweden (39%), Finland (38%) and Belgium (37%) believe that there is a need for more transparency in **postal services**, compared to 6% of respondents in Bulgaria, and 11% in Slovakia, Slovenia and Lithuania.

Estonia is the only country where respondents are most likely to mention the need for more transparency about state aid in **all sectors** (40%), although 35% of respondents in Bulgaria and Spain think the same way.

QA9 In which of the following sectors do you think there is a need for more transparency about State aid? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) (%)

		Health care and pharmaceutical industry	Financial services	Energy	Agriculture	Environment	Transport	Heavy industry	Telecommunications	Manufacturing	Postal services	Others (SPONTANEOUS)	All sectors (SPONTANEOUS)	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28		48	43	39	34	32	28	27	27	27	20	2	19	1	8
BE		51	53	55	40	47	39	41	43	44	37	2	15	2	2
BG		42	20	32	31	19	22	17	15	27	6	1	35	1	5
CZ		58	39	43	46	46	46	34	30	35	27	2	14	1	5
DK		54	44	48	47	47	35	36	34	36	30	5	16	1	9
DE		40	46	36	31	25	13	21	20	15	14	2	22	2	11
EE		36	24	28	29	21	23	13	15	16	12	2	40	0	9
IE		56	57	35	37	36	36	33	36	34	27	2	12	1	9
EL		52	50	39	36	25	30	37	32	23	16	6	29	0	1
ES		37	44	38	27	25	26	22	33	24	19	2	35	0	6
FR		57	52	46	42	38	38	35	30	37	23	3	6	0	10
HR		45	31	30	51	24	23	26	26	46	16	1	8	0	5
IT		41	33	30	23	28	23	21	23	20	17	2	23	1	6
CY		51	47	38	46	36	32	28	35	29	25	5	27	2	3
LV		68	44	35	38	26	34	21	24	34	18	3	10	0	7
LT		50	38	36	27	23	20	10	19	13	11	2	27	1	8
LU		47	45	40	35	35	29	25	28	29	21	2	22	2	4
HU		53	40	36	45	27	20	25	20	32	17	4	19	0	4
MT		64	41	50	38	46	42	26	29	34	22	3	12	1	4
NL		71	64	57	43	52	29	42	35	25	25	3	6	2	6
AT		49	51	35	33	32	24	29	34	23	29	3	19	1	5
PL		46	24	29	30	29	22	26	17	31	15	1	11	2	13
PT		47	54	35	23	18	27	22	29	25	15	1	27	1	6
RO		53	37	46	51	33	42	35	36	31	27	2	11	0	4
SI		46	23	22	38	30	18	23	16	38	11	4	20	2	4
SK		64	23	24	43	34	31	20	15	31	11	3	12	0	4
FI		60	52	50	46	44	42	46	39	44	38	1	15	1	6
SE		69	63	64	49	57	46	44	51	40	39	3	8	2	5
UK		50	42	40	30	34	33	27	29	29	24	1	20	1	13

Highest percentage per country

Lowest percentage per country

Highest percentage per item

Lowest percentage per item

The **socio-demographic analysis** reveals the following differences:

- For all sectors, respondents aged 40 to 54 are more likely than the youngest respondents to think there is a need for more transparency about state aid. This is particularly evident for the **agriculture** (37% vs. 26%), **manufacturing** (31% vs. 22%) and **postal services** sectors (23% vs. 14%). The youngest respondents are the least likely to think that all sectors need more transparency (14% vs. 19%-20%).
- The longer a respondent remained in education, the more likely they are to think each sector needs more transparency about state aid. For example, 46% of those with the highest education levels think the **energy** sector needs more transparency, compared to 38% of those who completed education aged 16 to 19, and 31% of those with the lowest education levels.
- Self-employed people are the most likely to think there is a need for more transparency in **all sectors** (25%), particularly when compared with students (15%). In addition, managers are generally the most likely to think each sector requires greater transparency. For example, 46% of managers say this about the **energy** sector, compared to 32% of house persons. The exception is postal services, where there are no notable differences based on occupation groups (except students who are less likely than other groups to mention it).
- **Respondents who feel well informed about state aid** are more likely than respondents who do not feel well informed to think there is a need for more transparency in the **agriculture** (38% vs. 33%), **energy** (43% vs. 38%), **environment** (37% vs. 31%), **transport** (33% vs. 27%), and the **healthcare and pharmaceutical** sectors (53% vs. 48%).

QA9 In which of the following sectors do you think there is a need for more transparency about State aid? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)

	Health care and pharmaceutical industry	Financial services	Energy	Agriculture	Environment	Transport	Heavy industry	Telecommunications	Manufacturing	Postal services	Others (SPONTANEOUS)	All sectors (SPONTANEOUS)	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28	48	43	39	34	32	28	27	27	27	20	2	19	1	8
Gender														
Man	48	45	41	36	32	30	30	28	29	21	2	18	1	7
Woman	49	41	37	32	32	26	26	26	26	20	2	19	1	9
Age														
15-24	48	41	37	26	31	25	23	23	22	14	2	14	1	10
25-39	47	42	38	31	31	26	26	26	26	18	2	20	1	8
40-54	51	46	43	37	34	31	31	31	31	23	2	19	1	6
55 +	48	41	37	36	31	27	27	27	27	22	2	20	1	9
Education (End of)														
15-	42	37	31	29	24	23	23	22	22	17	1	21	1	11
16-19	49	41	38	34	31	26	27	26	27	21	2	18	1	9
20+	53	49	46	39	38	33	33	34	32	24	2	19	1	6
Still studying	49	44	39	26	33	26	25	25	23	16	3	15	1	8
Socio-professional category														
Self-employed	45	42	38	34	30	27	28	28	27	20	2	25	1	7
Managers	53	50	46	39	37	31	32	31	30	21	2	19	1	5
Other white collars	49	44	41	32	33	28	28	30	28	21	2	20	2	7
Manual workers	47	41	38	33	31	27	27	26	28	19	2	18	1	9
House persons	44	36	32	31	29	23	24	25	24	20	2	22	2	9
Unemployed	48	45	40	33	31	31	30	30	28	22	1	16	1	10
Retired	50	41	37	36	31	27	27	26	27	22	2	18	1	10
Students	49	44	39	26	33	26	25	25	23	16	3	15	1	8
Informed about State Aid														
Total 'Well informed'	53	45	43	38	37	33	30	30	31	23	2	13	1	4
Total 'Not well informed'	48	42	38	33	31	27	27	27	27	20	2	20	1	9

4 Most effective ways to ensure transparency on state aid

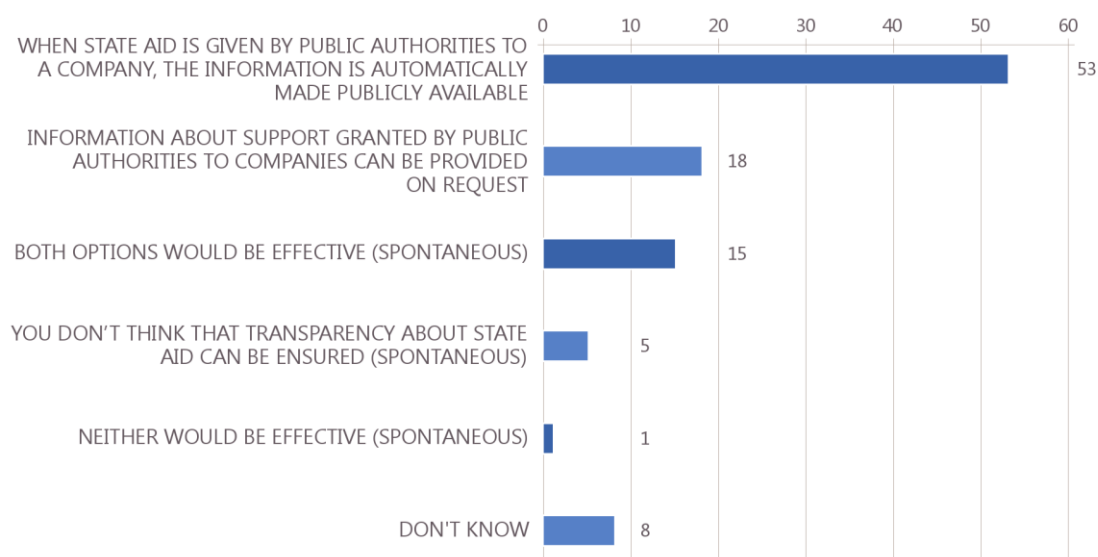
Respondents think making information about state aid publically available automatically when it is given would be the most effective for ensuring transparency

In the final question, respondents were asked to choose which of two options would be most effective in ensuring transparency about the state aid given to companies: making the information publically available **automatically when state aid is given** or **only on request**¹¹.

The majority of respondents (53%) believe the most effective way for ensuring transparency is **to automatically make the information publicly available** rather than **providing it only on request** (18%).

Less than one in five respondents *spontaneously* say **both options** would be effective (15%), while 5% *spontaneously* say they **do not think transparency can be ensured** (5%), and 1% say **neither option** would be effective. Finally, 8% say they "don't know".

QA10 Which of the following two options would be most effective for ensuring transparency about State aid? (% - EU)



¹¹ QA10 Which of the following two options would be most effective for ensuring transparency about state aid?

In all 28 Member States, respondents are most likely to think **making the information automatically publicly available when state aid is given** is the most effective way to ensure transparency. Respondents in Spain (78%), Slovenia and Finland (both 71%) are the most likely to give this answer, while those in the United Kingdom (32%), Germany (42%) and Austria (44%) are the least likely to do so.






























Nearly a third of respondents in Belgium, Austria and Luxembourg (all 31%) think **providing information on request** is the most effective option. At the opposite end of the scale, respondents in Spain (8%), Portugal (9%) and the United Kingdom (10%) are the least likely to give this answer.

In the United Kingdom, respondents are most likely to answer *spontaneously* that **both options would be effective**: (42%). Around a quarter of respondents in Germany (23%) also say this, as do almost one in five in Bulgaria (18%).

Less than one in five respondents in Portugal (19%), Greece (15%) and Austria (11%) *spontaneously* say **transparency about state aid cannot be ensured**.

In all 28 countries, fewer than one in twenty respondents say **neither of these options would be effective**.

QA10 Which of the following two options would be most effective for ensuring transparency about State aid?
(%)

		When State aid is given by public authorities to a company, the information is automatically made publicly available	Information about support granted by public authorities to companies can be provided on request	Both options would be effective (SPONTANEOUS)	You don't think that transparency about State aid can be ensured (SPONTANEOUS)	Neither would be effective (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28		53	18	15	5	1	8
BE		54	31	9	1	1	4
BG		48	13	18	8	3	10
CZ		70	18	4	3	1	4
DK		67	23	4	1	1	4
DE		42	13	23	9	3	10
EE		53	21	12	3	1	10
IE		61	22	5	2	1	9
EL		51	15	13	15	3	3
ES		78	8	6	4	1	3
FR		56	30	4	1	0	9
HR		58	17	10	3	3	9
IT		53	17	17	5	2	6
CY		65	13	8	4	3	7
LV		61	25	4	2	1	7
LT		56	18	11	4	3	8
LU		50	31	6	3	1	9
HU		60	16	11	9	2	2
MT		69	20	6	1	0	4
NL		64	30	1	1	1	3
AT		44	31	9	11	2	3
PL		54	21	8	6	3	8
PT		54	9	9	19	1	8
RO		57	18	6	3	2	14
SI		71	12	5	2	3	7
SK		65	12	10	6	2	5
FI		71	25	2	1	0	1
SE		69	28	1	0	0	2
UK		32	10	42	1	1	14

Highest percentage per country

Lowest percentage per country

Highest percentage per item

Lowest percentage per item

The analysis of the **socio-demographic results** shows that in all categories, respondents are most likely to consider making the information automatically publicly available when state aid is given is the most effective way to ensure transparency. However, there are some interesting variations worth noting:

- The youngest respondents are more likely than older age groups to believe the most effective way for ensuring transparency is to **provide information on request** (25% vs. 15% of the 55+), and less likely to think making the **information automatically available** when state aid is given is the most effective option for ensuring transparency (47% vs. 55% of the 40-54).
- Respondents with the lowest level of education are the least likely to say **providing information on state aid on request** is the most effective way to ensure transparency (12% vs. 19% of those with the highest education level).
- Managers (56%) are the most likely to say **automatically making information publicly available** is the most effective option for ensuring transparency, particularly compared to the self-employed (50%). Self-employed people are the most likely to think that **both options** would be effective (20%), particularly compared to manual workers (13%).

QA10 Which of the following two options would be most effective for ensuring transparency about State aid? (% - EU)

	When State aid is given by public authorities to a company, the information is automatically made publicly available	Information about support granted by public authorities to companies can be provided on request	Both options would be effective (SPONTANEOUS)	You don't think that transparency about State aid can be ensured (SPONTANEOUS)	Neither would be effective (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28	53	18	15	5	1	8
Gender						
Man	54	18	15	5	2	6
Woman	53	17	15	5	1	9
Age						
15-24	47	25	14	4	1	9
25-39	53	19	15	5	2	6
40-54	55	18	15	5	2	5
55 +	54	15	15	5	2	9
Education (End of)						
15-	53	12	14	6	3	12
16-19	53	17	15	5	2	8
20+	57	19	14	4	1	5
Still studying	48	25	14	4	1	8
Socio-professional category						
Self-employed	50	18	20	5	1	6
Managers	56	17	17	4	2	4
Other white collars	53	20	15	5	1	6
Manual workers	55	19	13	5	2	6
House persons	53	14	15	5	3	10
Unemployed	54	18	14	4	1	9
Retired	53	15	15	5	2	10
Students	48	25	14	4	1	8

CONCLUSION

Respondents do not feel well informed about state aid, and think that information about companies who have received such aid in their country is difficult to find. **However, around four in ten have heard about a company in their country that has received such aid**, from TV, newspapers or magazines or the radio as the most likely sources of information.

National public authorities are seen as giving most support to companies, followed by European level authorities. However, the difference between the two is not substantial, and respondents are almost as likely to say they do not know the answer. At a Member State level there is a fairly even split between countries where the national level is seen as most likely to give support, and countries where the European level is considered the most likely. France is the only country where regional public authorities are the most mentioned.

Not only do Europeans feel that they are poorly informed about aid, they think that information about companies receiving state aid is difficult to find. Most citizens also say there is insufficient information available on the state aid given to companies. **Most agree that citizens should have full access to this kind of information**, and only around one quarter thinks this information should remain confidential. Respondents are most likely to agree that transparency should comprise information about the purpose of the state aid, aid amount, company which received aid, and the results achieved through aid. In fact, at least one in five thinks all information about state aid provided to companies should be published.

Publishing information about aid would not only improve awareness, but **most citizens agree that transparency has a number of benefits.** These include ensuring policy-makers are accountable to citizens and improving the management of public money. There is still work to be done in this area, however, as four in ten say transparency about state aid in their country has not improved in the last years, and a further three in ten are unable to say.

Most respondents believe that the most effective way to ensure transparency regarding state aid is to ensure information is published automatically when public authorities give aid. This option is much more popular than only making the information available on request.

Respondents' beliefs about open access to all information about state aid is not restricted to just one type of company. Although they are most likely to say large companies (including multinationals) should provide open access, more than half mention state-owned companies or small and medium sized companies. While the health care and pharmaceutical sector and the financial services sector are the two most likely to be mentioned as needing a greater transparency about state aid, at least one in five respondents perceive a need for greater transparency across a whole range of sectors.

In summary, respondents do not feel well informed about state aid and think information about aid given to companies is difficult to find. More than eight citizens in ten think that they should have full access to this kind of information. As well as considering it desirable, a large majority of respondents also see transparency in a positive light: as a means to make policy-makers accountable, to improve the management of public money, and because it is as relevant for companies as for citizens. Respondents consider automatically making information on state aid publicly available when it is granted the most effective way to improve transparency.

Taken as a whole, the results of this survey highlight a general lack of information about state aid, and also suggest a lack transparency in this area. **There is a clear need to provide not only more information, but to develop and implement policies to provide better public access to information about state aid.** Such policies not only have the opportunity to better inform the public, but also to improve the management of public funds and safeguard against unfair competition.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between the 4th June and the 13th June 2016, TNS opinion & social, a consortium created between TNS political & social, TNS UK and TNS opinion, carried out the wave 85.3 of the EUROBAROMETER survey, on request of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate-General for Communication, "Strategy, Corporate Communication Actions and Eurobarometer" Unit.

The wave 85.3 covers the population of the respective nationalities of the European Union Member States, resident in each of the 28 Member States and aged 15 years and over.

	COUNTRIES	INSTITUTES	N° INTERVIEWS	DATES FIELDWORK		POPULATION 15+	PROPORTION EU28
BE	Belgium	TNS Dimarso	1.029	04/06/16	13/06/16	8.939.546	2,17%
BG	Bulgaria	TNS BBSS	1.001	04/06/16	13/06/16	6.537.510	1,58%
CZ	Czech Rep.	TNS Aisa	1.060	04/06/16	13/06/16	9.012.443	2,18%
DK	Denmark	TNS Gallup DK	1.010	04/06/16	13/06/16	4.561.264	1,11%
DE	Germany	TNS Infratest	1.585	04/06/16	13/06/16	64.336.389	15,59%
EE	Estonia	TNS Emor	1.001	04/06/16	13/06/16	945.733	0,23%
IE	Ireland	IMS Millward Brown	1.002	04/06/16	13/06/16	3.522.000	0,85%
EL	Greece	TNS ICAP	1.000	04/06/16	13/06/16	8.693.566	2,11%
ES	Spain	TNS Demoscopia	1.008	04/06/16	13/06/16	39.127.930	9,48%
FR	France	TNS Sofres	1.009	04/06/16	13/06/16	47.756.439	11,57%
HR	Croatia	HENDAL	1.026	04/06/16	13/06/16	3.749.400	0,91%
IT	Italy	TNS Italia	1.013	04/06/16	13/06/16	51.862.391	12,57%
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	CYMAR	501	04/06/16	13/06/16	705.360	0,17%
LV	Latvia	TNS Latvia	1.010	04/06/16	13/06/16	1.447.866	0,35%
LT	Lithuania	TNS LT	1.004	04/06/16	13/06/16	2.829.740	0,69%
LU	Luxembourg	TNS Dimarso	508	04/06/16	13/06/16	434.878	0,11%
HU	Hungary	TNS Hoffmann	1.046	04/06/16	13/06/16	8.320.614	2,02%
MT	Malta	MISCO	500	04/06/16	13/06/16	335.476	0,08%
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO	1.003	04/06/16	13/06/16	13.371.980	3,24%
AT	Austria	TNS Austria	1.016	04/06/16	13/06/16	7.009.827	1,70%
PL	Poland	TNS OBOP	1.002	04/06/16	13/06/16	32.413.735	7,86%
PT	Portugal	TNS Euroteste	1.000	04/06/16	13/06/16	8.080.915	1,96%
RO	Romania	TNS CSOP	1.007	04/06/16	13/06/16	18.246.731	4,42%
SI	Slovenia	RM PLUS	1.012	04/06/16	13/06/16	1.759.701	0,43%
SK	Slovakia	TNS AISA Slovakia	1.008	04/06/16	13/06/16	4.549.956	1,10%
FI	Finland	TNS Gallup Oy	1.042	04/06/16	13/06/16	4.440.004	1,08%
SE	Sweden	TNS Sifo	1.109	04/06/16	13/06/16	7.791.240	1,89%
UK	United Kingdom	TNS UK	1.306	04/06/16	13/06/16	51.848.010	12,57%
	TOTAL EU28		27.818	04/06/16	13/06/16	412.630.644	100%*

The basic sample design applied in all states is a multi-stage, random (probability) one. In each country, a number of sampling points was drawn with probability proportional to population size (for a total coverage of the country) and to population density.

In order to do so, the sampling points were drawn systematically from each of the "administrative regional units", after stratification by individual unit and type of area. They thus represent the whole territory of the countries surveyed according to the EUROSTAT NUTS II¹ (or equivalent) and according to the distribution of the resident population of the respective nationalities in terms of metropolitan, urban and rural areas.

In each of the selected sampling points, a starting address was drawn, at random. Further addresses (every Nth address) were selected by standard "random route" procedures, from the initial address. In each household, the respondent was drawn, at random (following the "closest birthday rule"). All interviews were conducted face-to-face in people's homes and in the appropriate national language. As far as the data capture is concerned, CAPI (*Computer Assisted Personal Interview*) was used in those countries where this technique was available.

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 opinion & 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 here.

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:

¹ Figures updated in August 2015

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%	

QUESTIONNAIRE

ASK ALL

INT.: (READ OUT) We are going to talk about State aid, which is defined as support in any form, such as a sum of money or a tax break, given by public authorities (at any level) to selected companies.

- QA1 In the last 12 months, have you seen, heard or read anything about a company receiving State aid in (OUR COUNTRY)?**
(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
- | | |
|--|-----|
| Yes, in newspapers or magazines | 1, |
| Yes, on TV | 2, |
| Yes, on the radio | 3, |
| Yes, on the websites of local, regional or national public authorities | 4, |
| Yes, on company websites | 5, |
| Yes, on the European Commission websites | 6, |
| Yes, on online social networks | 7, |
| Yes, on other websites | 8, |
| Yes, other (SPONTANEOUS) | 9, |
| No | 10, |
| Don't know | 11, |
- NEW
- QA2 In general, how informed or not do you feel you are about State aid in (OUR COUNTRY)?**
(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)
- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| Very well informed | 1 |
| Fairly well informed | 2 |
| Not very well informed | 3 |
| Not at all informed | 4 |
| Don't know | 5 |
- NEW
- QA3 How easy or difficult do you think it is to find information on which companies received State aid last year in (OUR COUNTRY)?**
(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)
- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Very easy | 1 |
| Fairly easy | 2 |
| Fairly difficult | 3 |
| Very difficult | 4 |
| Don't know | 5 |
- NEW

QA4 In your opinion, which of these different levels of public authority gives the most support to companies?

(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Local	1
Regional	2
National	3
European	4
Don't know	5

NEW

QA5 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements about State aid:

(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	Don't know
1 Citizens should have full access to information about State aid granted by public authorities to companies	3	4	5
2 Sufficient information is publicly available on the State aid given by public authorities to companies	3	4	5
3 Information about State aid received by companies should remain confidential as it is a matter between public authorities and companies	3	4	5

NEW

QA6 In your opinion, which of the following information about State aid received by companies should be published?

(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

The name of the company	1,
The amount or value of the State aid	2,
The authority which gave the State aid	3,
When the State aid was received	4,
The purpose of the State aid	5,
The results achieved through the State aid	6,
The cumulative amount or value of the State aid received by the company over the years	7,
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	8,
None (SPONTANEOUS)	9,
Don't know	10,

NEW

INT. (READ OUT): Let's now talk about transparency in relation to State aid to companies. The objective of transparency is to give citizens direct and open access to all kinds of public policy information.

QA7 Please tell me to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about transparency in relation to State aid:

(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	Don't know
1 Transparency about State aid is an effective way to make policy-makers accountable to citizens	3	4	5
2 Transparency about State aid can improve the management of public money	3	4	5
3 Transparency about State aid is as relevant for companies - for instance, to know what competitors receive - as for citizens, as tax payers	3	4	5
4 Transparency about State aid has significantly improved in the last years in (OUR COUNTRY)	3	4	5

NEW

QA8 Which of the following type of companies should provide open access to all the information about the State aid they receive?

(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Small and medium-sized companies	1,
Large companies including multinationals	2,
State-owned companies	3,
None (SPONTANEOUS)	4,
Don't know	5,

NEW

QA9 In which of the following sectors do you think there is a need for more transparency about State aid?

(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Agriculture	1,
Energy	2,
Environment	3,
Telecommunications	4,
Manufacturing	5,
Financial services	6,
Transport	7,
Postal services	8,
Health care and pharmaceutical industry	9,

Heavy industry	10,
Others (SPONTANEOUS)	11,
All sectors (SPONTANEOUS)	12,
None (SPONTANEOUS)	13,
Don't know	14,

NEW

QA10 Which of the following two options would be most effective for ensuring transparency about State aid?

(SHOW SCREEN - READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

When State aid is given by public authorities to a company, the information is automatically made publicly available	1
Information about support granted by public authorities to companies can be provided on request	2
Both options would be effective (SPONTANEOUS)	3
You don't think that transparency about State aid can be ensured (SPONTANEOUS)	4
Neither would be effective (SPONTANEOUS)	5
Don't know	6

NEW






























QA1 In the last 12 months, have you seen, heard or read anything about a company receiving State aid in (OUR COUNTRY)?

(%)






























(MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

		Yes, in newspapers or magazines	Yes, on TV	Yes, on the radio	Yes, on the websites of local, regional or national public authorities	Yes, on company websites	Yes, on the European Commission websites	Yes, on online social networks	Yes, on other websites	Yes, other (SPONTANEOUS)	No	Don't know	Total 'Yes'	Total 'Internet'
EU28		14	29	10	3	1	1	3	3	3	58	3	39	8
BE		26	38	21	5	2	0	6	6	1	48	1	52	15
BG		7	22	4	3	2	1	2	1	1	67	5	28	6
CZ		15	47	12	4	2	1	4	7	4	40	5	55	13
DK		27	38	21	3	1	0	10	4	5	41	3	56	15
DE		20	30	14	2	1	1	2	4	3	53	6	42	7
EE		24	36	17	2	3	0	8	7	4	43	6	51	16
IE		14	17	13	3	2	0	3	2	2	68	3	30	7
EL		6	21	2	3	2	0	3	4	2	73	1	27	8
ES		8	25	6	1	1	0	1	1	2	69	1	31	4
FR		8	26	11	2	1	0	3	2	3	62	1	36	7
HR		19	40	14	6	1	1	4	4	4	45	2	53	13
IT		14	33	7	3	1	1	3	2	1	57	2	41	8
CY		4	17	3	1	1	1	3	1	7	76	0	23	5
LV		8	28	8	2	1	0	6	6	5	56	3	42	13
LT		12	32	13	1	3	1	7	5	3	52	5	44	12
LU		21	15	14	5	2	1	2	4	4	62	1	37	9
HU		14	51	14	2	2	0	8	7	3	39	1	60	14
MT		7	36	8	2	0	1	6	4	2	51	5	44	11
NL		30	38	17	6	2	1	5	7	5	44	2	54	16
AT		29	26	10	4	4	4	6	3	4	51	3	46	12
PL		7	26	8	3	1	1	3	4	2	60	5	35	10
PT		15	42	5	1	0	1	4	2	2	50	2	48	7
RO		8	28	6	1	1	1	3	2	1	63	1	36	5
SI		24	53	23	2	2	0	6	6	3	34	2	64	14
SK		14	44	16	2	2	1	6	3	3	45	3	51	10
FI		47	59	24	3	2	0	6	10	3	25	1	73	16
SE		39	36	19	7	3	1	11	8	11	39	2	59	19
UK		8	16	6	2	0	0	1	2	2	75	3	22	5






























QA2 In general, how informed or not do you feel you are about State aid in (OUR COUNTRY)?
 (%)

		Very well informed	Fairly well informed	Not very well informed	Not at all informed	Don't know	Total 'Well informed'	Total 'Not well informed'
EU28		2	15	42	39	2	17	81
BE		2	18	46	33	1	20	79
BG		2	7	34	54	3	9	88
CZ		1	13	47	38	1	14	85
DK		5	26	54	14	1	31	68
DE		1	13	45	38	3	14	83
EE		1	14	53	29	3	15	82
IE		2	17	38	41	2	19	79
EL		1	7	31	61	0	8	92
ES		1	7	42	49	1	8	91
FR		2	17	46	32	3	19	78
HR		1	19	42	37	1	20	79
IT		1	13	38	47	1	14	85
CY		1	10	32	56	1	11	88
LV		2	21	54	19	4	23	73
LT		2	17	45	31	5	19	76
LU		4	27	39	24	6	31	63
HU		2	15	43	40	0	17	83
MT		5	25	33	33	4	30	66
NL		2	25	53	19	1	27	72
AT		4	21	40	34	1	25	74
PL		1	23	37	33	6	24	70
PT		2	11	39	47	1	13	86
RO		2	16	43	38	1	18	81
SI		3	25	43	29	0	28	72
SK		1	14	46	37	2	15	83
FI		1	22	58	18	1	23	76
SE		3	30	50	17	0	33	67
UK		2	12	38	46	2	14	84






























QA3 How easy or difficult do you think it is to find information on which companies received State aid last year in (OUR COUNTRY)?
 (%)

		Very easy	Fairly easy	Fairly difficult	Very difficult	Don't know	Total 'Easy'	Total 'Difficult'
EU28		3	21	36	21	19	24	57
BE		4	27	42	19	8	31	61
BG		2	10	29	19	40	12	48
CZ		2	18	38	23	19	20	61
DK		8	42	31	9	10	50	40
DE		2	17	36	26	19	19	62
EE		4	31	22	6	37	35	28
IE		4	25	28	19	24	29	47
EL		3	14	35	39	9	17	74
ES		1	15	38	28	18	16	66
FR		1	25	40	17	17	26	57
HR		2	21	41	25	11	23	66
IT		1	12	44	30	13	13	74
CY		7	23	24	28	18	30	52
LV		7	33	25	7	28	40	32
LT		7	32	27	9	25	39	36
LU		6	25	37	13	19	31	50
HU		3	15	42	28	12	18	70
MT		6	29	23	20	22	35	43
NL		7	37	32	8	16	44	40
AT		7	18	39	22	14	25	61
PL		3	31	29	10	27	34	39
PT		1	12	45	27	15	13	72
RO		2	22	38	23	15	24	61
SI		7	38	31	11	13	45	42
SK		2	20	43	20	15	22	63
FI		5	37	34	7	17	42	41
SE		6	35	27	5	27	41	32
UK		4	26	25	17	28	30	42






























QA4 In your opinion, which of these different levels of public authority gives the most support to companies? (%)

		Local	Regional	National	European	Don't know
EU28		10	17	30	22	21
BE		8	25	31	26	10
BG		12	7	22	30	29
CZ		7	17	27	37	12
DK		9	18	45	16	12
DE		9	12	31	26	22
EE		6	3	22	44	25
IE		15	13	31	19	22
EL		7	7	30	42	14
ES		8	13	24	25	30
FR		12	34	23	13	18
HR		13	23	30	17	17
IT		7	21	35	16	21
CY		9	3	10	59	19
LV		15	13	15	31	26
LT		8	7	11	56	18
LU		7	7	52	17	17
HU		6	10	26	42	16
MT		12	3	34	40	11
NL		6	12	40	32	10
AT		10	23	31	22	14
PL		14	18	25	18	25
PT		5	6	44	16	29
RO		11	10	26	36	17
SI		13	7	40	27	13
SK		5	6	32	44	13
FI		9	18	54	12	7
SE		7	17	36	31	9
UK		15	12	33	12	28






























QA5.1 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements about State aid:
Citizens should have full access to information about State aid granted by public authorities to companies (%)

		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	Don't know	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'
EU28		52	32	7	2	7	84	9
BE		45	36	13	3	3	81	16
BG		56	28	3	2	11	84	5
CZ		53	35	6	1	5	88	7
DK		65	21	7	2	5	86	9
DE		51	30	10	2	7	81	12
EE		51	32	5	1	11	83	6
IE		58	27	4	1	10	85	5
EL		53	41	3	1	2	94	4
ES		68	25	2	1	4	93	3
FR		53	30	6	3	8	83	9
HR		52	35	5	2	6	87	7
IT		39	41	9	3	8	80	12
CY		76	15	2	2	5	91	4
LV		61	27	4	1	7	88	5
LT		54	31	6	2	7	85	8
LU		43	39	6	2	10	82	8
HU		48	36	9	3	4	84	12
MT		54	35	4	1	6	89	5
NL		57	26	11	2	4	83	13
AT		44	38	11	3	4	82	14
PL		39	43	8	2	8	82	10
PT		54	33	5	1	7	87	6
RO		46	33	9	3	9	79	12
SI		67	21	5	2	5	88	7
SK		54	35	5	1	5	89	6
FI		62	27	6	2	3	89	8
SE		78	15	3	3	1	93	6
UK		61	25	4	1	9	86	5

QA5.2 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements about State aid:
Sufficient information is publicly available on the State aid given by public authorities to companies (%)






























		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	Don't know	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'
EU28		8	22	28	20	22	30	48
BE		8	28	38	15	11	36	53
BG		9	13	20	24	34	22	44
CZ		8	24	30	20	18	32	50
DK		7	27	21	9	36	34	30
DE		7	19	30	22	22	26	52
EE		9	26	19	12	34	35	31
IE		14	24	21	14	27	38	35
EL		7	15	32	33	13	22	65
ES		6	10	31	39	14	16	70
FR		4	22	32	18	24	26	50
HR		9	31	25	22	13	40	47
IT		10	25	25	22	18	35	47
CY		10	25	17	21	27	35	38
LV		13	29	26	11	21	42	37
LT		22	30	20	8	20	52	28
LU		8	25	24	13	30	33	37
HU		10	23	26	28	13	33	54
MT		16	32	22	11	19	48	33
NL		6	26	28	12	28	32	40
AT		13	23	33	19	12	36	52
PL		10	33	24	13	20	43	37
PT		6	14	35	28	17	20	63
RO		12	21	25	23	19	33	48
SI		11	22	36	17	14	33	53
SK		15	27	29	16	13	42	45
FI		8	30	28	13	21	38	41
SE		9	29	19	13	30	38	32
UK		9	24	23	12	32	33	35

QA5.3 Please tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with the following statements about State aid:
Information about State aid received by companies should remain confidential as it is a matter between public authorities and companies (%)

		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	Don't know	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'
EU28		9	17	26	39	9	26	65
BE		8	22	32	34	4	30	66
BG		8	13	25	37	17	21	62
CZ		6	14	32	41	7	20	73
DK		7	13	18	55	7	20	73
DE		8	17	29	39	7	25	68
EE		4	16	31	35	14	20	66
IE		14	13	29	30	14	27	59
EL		6	13	36	40	5	19	76
ES		6	9	22	56	7	15	78
FR		6	17	23	46	8	23	69
HR		9	22	24	38	7	31	62
IT		11	22	25	33	9	33	58
CY		12	12	18	50	8	24	68
LV		7	13	32	38	10	20	70
LT		8	16	35	31	10	24	66
LU		11	18	29	30	12	29	59
HU		10	22	25	37	6	32	62
MT		21	24	28	21	6	45	49
NL		7	12	29	48	4	19	77
AT		13	23	30	29	5	36	59
PL		9	27	30	22	12	36	52
PT		8	14	25	44	9	22	69
RO		15	19	25	30	11	34	55
SI		8	9	29	48	6	17	77
SK		13	21	32	26	8	34	58
FI		9	20	26	39	6	29	65
SE		3	10	17	67	3	13	84
UK		11	15	26	37	11	26	63






























QA6 In your opinion, which of the following information about State aid received by companies should be published?
(%)

(MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

		The name of the company	The amount or value of the State aid	The authority which gave the State aid	When the State aid was received	The purpose of the State aid	The results achieved through the State aid	The cumulative amount or value of the State aid received by the company over the years	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know	Total 'All information'
EU28		58	58	47	37	63	55	44	2	2	6	21
BE		65	63	52	42	71	65	48	1	2	4	27
BG		56	58	43	28	62	60	26	1	1	6	11
CZ		63	65	55	45	75	56	51	2	1	4	27
DK		68	56	57	36	78	58	51	4	1	3	23
DE		62	57	52	36	70	59	48	2	4	5	22
EE		57	54	42	32	67	55	38	1	2	12	21
IE		60	62	51	49	62	49	43	2	1	9	28
EL		63	71	58	40	68	50	51	2	1	2	16
ES		65	72	53	46	70	57	47	4	0	4	31
FR		55	54	36	27	53	56	46	3	2	7	16
HR		55	58	41	35	59	50	36	1	1	5	17
IT		45	46	37	32	51	49	34	3	2	7	11
CY		62	66	53	49	76	55	48	3	2	4	32
LV		58	46	42	31	59	57	27	2	2	8	16
LT		56	58	45	39	59	61	37	2	2	8	23
LU		50	45	33	23	56	51	41	5	6	5	13
HU		64	67	43	34	65	60	38	1	1	3	17
MT		66	56	46	52	64	63	46	2	1	5	31
NL		64	62	53	39	85	71	46	3	1	2	22
AT		59	59	53	34	63	52	47	5	5	3	18
PL		45	51	40	32	60	43	39	1	2	9	14
PT		59	59	43	37	55	58	50	1	1	8	21
RO		53	48	43	30	52	48	40	2	1	10	16
SI		74	65	57	49	72	72	57	4	1	3	37
SK		67	72	48	35	69	50	31	2	0	3	17
FI		71	70	54	31	76	65	53	1	1	2	24
SE		72	64	74	54	86	76	62	2	1	1	40
UK		60	59	52	45	63	54	46	1	2	12	32






























QA7.1 Please tell me to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about transparency in relation to State aid:

Transparency about State aid is an effective way to make policy-makers accountable to citizens (%)

		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	Don't know	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'
EU28		45	36	7	3	9	81	10
BE		36	46	10	3	5	82	13
BG		53	32	4	2	9	85	6
CZ		41	41	7	2	9	82	9
DK		56	30	4	1	9	86	5
DE		51	32	7	2	8	83	9
EE		44	35	4	2	15	79	6
IE		51	32	3	1	13	83	4
EL		52	39	7	0	2	91	7
ES		62	28	4	2	4	90	6
FR		42	37	7	4	10	79	11
HR		36	46	8	3	7	82	11
IT		33	45	8	4	10	78	12
CY		70	20	2	2	6	90	4
LV		46	34	5	3	12	80	8
LT		41	41	5	2	11	82	7
LU		35	40	7	3	15	75	10
HU		42	40	9	5	4	82	14
MT		52	38	3	1	6	90	4
NL		54	35	5	1	5	89	6
AT		42	38	11	4	5	80	15
PL		29	47	7	3	14	76	10
PT		55	33	5	1	6	88	6
RO		40	35	12	3	10	75	15
SI		33	35	9	7	16	68	16
SK		32	44	10	3	11	76	13
FI		52	37	5	1	5	89	6
SE		70	24	2	2	2	94	4
UK		47	32	3	1	17	79	4






























QA7.2 Please tell me to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about transparency in relation to State aid:

Transparency about State aid can improve the management of public money (%)

		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	Don't know	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'
EU28		43	38	7	2	10	81	9
BE		29	48	13	3	7	77	16
BG		49	33	5	2	11	82	7
CZ		34	44	8	2	12	78	10
DK		47	34	5	2	12	81	7
DE		49	35	7	2	7	84	9
EE		51	32	3	1	13	83	4
IE		47	36	4	1	12	83	5
EL		49	40	7	1	3	89	8
ES		60	29	3	2	6	89	5
FR		36	38	10	4	12	74	14
HR		36	44	10	2	8	80	12
IT		33	45	7	3	12	78	10
CY		67	23	2	2	6	90	4
LV		37	37	8	3	15	74	11
LT		47	37	5	1	10	84	6
LU		34	39	10	3	14	73	13
HU		48	34	10	4	4	82	14
MT		49	42	1	0	8	91	1
NL		39	43	7	2	9	82	9
AT		43	39	10	4	4	82	14
PL		30	46	8	2	14	76	10
PT		55	34	4	1	6	89	5
RO		39	39	11	3	8	78	14
SI		38	34	10	4	14	72	14
SK		34	46	7	2	11	80	9
FI		54	39	2	1	4	93	3
SE		70	25	3	0	2	95	3
UK		43	35	4	1	17	78	5






























QA7.3 Please tell me to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about transparency in relation to State aid:

Transparency about State aid is as relevant for companies - for instance, to know what competitors receive - as for citizens as tax payers (%)

		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	Don't know	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'
EU28		39	39	8	3	11	78	11
BE		32	46	13	3	6	78	16
BG		41	28	5	3	23	69	8
CZ		40	43	8	1	8	83	9
DK		47	32	9	2	10	79	11
DE		42	37	10	4	7	79	14
EE		50	34	3	1	12	84	4
IE		43	36	6	1	14	79	7
EL		46	45	5	1	3	91	6
ES		48	33	6	5	8	81	11
FR		28	41	9	4	18	69	13
HR		28	49	7	3	13	77	10
IT		32	46	9	4	9	78	13
CY		61	25	4	3	7	86	7
LV		51	32	5	2	10	83	7
LT		40	41	5	2	12	81	7
LU		31	40	9	3	17	71	12
HU		43	42	8	3	4	85	11
MT		49	40	3	1	7	89	4
NL		45	34	12	3	6	79	15
AT		39	39	14	3	5	78	17
PL		31	47	7	2	13	78	9
PT		50	36	5	1	8	86	6
RO		32	38	12	4	14	70	16
SI		40	36	9	3	12	76	12
SK		29	45	11	2	13	74	13
FI		46	38	8	2	6	84	10
SE		63	26	5	2	4	89	7
UK		43	34	6	1	16	77	7

QA7.4 Please tell me to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about transparency in relation to State aid:






























Transparency about State aid has significantly improved in the last years in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)

		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	Don't know	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'
EU28		8	22	24	16	30	30	40
BE		8	31	29	12	20	39	41
BG		12	15	17	24	32	27	41
CZ		6	29	28	11	26	35	39
DK		6	18	18	8	50	24	26
DE		5	17	30	17	31	22	47
EE		6	22	15	10	47	28	25
IE		18	25	15	10	32	43	25
EL		5	19	30	37	9	24	67
ES		7	14	28	31	20	21	59
FR		5	19	26	16	34	24	42
HR		10	30	25	16	19	40	41
IT		13	28	22	17	20	41	39
CY		8	20	25	27	20	28	52
LV		4	20	27	17	32	24	44
LT		9	21	30	17	23	30	47
LU		10	21	18	6	45	31	24
HU		14	25	22	27	12	39	49
MT		27	37	14	8	14	64	22
NL		5	19	19	7	50	24	26
AT		13	27	30	12	18	40	42
PL		9	37	16	6	32	46	22
PT		10	29	26	18	17	39	44
RO		15	27	22	16	20	42	38
SI		8	20	31	17	24	28	48
SK		9	31	26	13	21	40	39
FI		7	32	17	8	36	39	25
SE		6	19	16	6	53	25	22
UK		7	19	20	8	46	26	28

QA8 Which of the following type of companies should provide open access to all the information about the State aid they receive?






























(%)

(MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)






























		Small and medium-sized companies	Large companies including multinationals	State-owned companies	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know	Only large companies	Only public companies	Only large companies and public companies	Total 'All types of companies'
EU28		58	74	67	2	7	12	8	14	45
BE		63	76	74	1	3	10	10	13	48
BG		57	69	61	2	12	12	8	9	43
CZ		63	82	76	1	4	11	6	14	54
DK		71	87	85	2	3	6	5	14	65
DE		55	78	67	3	6	11	4	21	41
EE		56	70	77	1	12	4	13	14	50
IE		62	76	73	1	8	11	10	9	54
EL		58	81	79	1	2	7	7	26	45
ES		72	80	77	0	5	8	6	9	61
FR		51	76	66	0	6	17	7	19	39
HR		60	67	54	1	7	18	7	6	38
IT		59	66	50	2	9	15	7	9	33
CY		79	74	72	1	3	5	4	8	59
LV		47	53	74	1	9	6	25	13	33
LT		63	65	75	2	6	6	15	9	48
LU		63	70	60	2	4	14	5	12	41
HU		62	68	67	1	6	9	10	10	44
MT		69	67	67	0	4	10	10	7	46
NL		55	86	81	1	2	10	8	24	48
AT		42	71	67	5	5	13	10	25	31
PL		50	56	60	2	14	13	15	6	35
PT		62	80	76	1	8	7	4	18	52
RO		59	62	66	1	9	12	15	5	43
SI		68	70	79	2	3	5	15	7	55
SK		58	70	69	0	6	11	12	12	43
FI		64	88	82	0	2	9	4	21	55
SE		72	90	89	1	1	4	4	17	67
UK		57	78	70	4	7	14	7	11	51

QA9 In which of the following sectors do you think there is a need for more transparency about State aid?
(%)

(MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

		Agriculture	Energy	Environment	Telecommunications	Manufacturing	Financial services	Transport	Postal services	Health care and pharmaceutical industry	Heavy industry	Others (SPONTANEOUS)	All sectors (SPONTANEOUS)	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28		34	39	32	27	27	43	28	20	48	27	2	19	1	8
BE		40	55	47	43	44	53	39	37	51	41	2	15	2	2
BG		31	32	19	15	27	20	22	6	42	17	1	35	1	5
CZ		46	43	46	30	35	39	46	27	58	34	2	14	1	5
DK		47	48	47	34	36	44	35	30	54	36	5	16	1	9
DE		31	36	25	20	15	46	13	14	40	21	2	22	2	11
EE		29	28	21	15	16	24	23	12	36	13	2	40	0	9
IE		37	35	36	36	34	57	36	27	56	33	2	12	1	9
EL		36	39	25	32	23	50	30	16	52	37	6	29	0	1
ES		27	38	25	33	24	44	26	19	37	22	2	35	0	6
FR		42	46	38	30	37	52	38	23	57	35	3	6	0	10
HR		51	30	24	26	46	31	23	16	45	26	1	8	0	5
IT		23	30	28	23	20	33	23	17	41	21	2	23	1	6
CY		46	38	36	35	29	47	32	25	51	28	5	27	2	3
LV		38	35	26	24	34	44	34	18	68	21	3	10	0	7
LT		27	36	23	19	13	38	20	11	50	10	2	27	1	8
LU		35	40	35	28	29	45	29	21	47	25	2	22	2	4
HU		45	36	27	20	32	40	20	17	53	25	4	19	0	4
MT		38	50	46	29	34	41	42	22	64	26	3	12	1	4
NL		43	57	52	35	25	64	29	25	71	42	3	6	2	6
AT		33	35	32	34	23	51	24	29	49	29	3	19	1	5
PL		30	29	29	17	31	24	22	15	46	26	1	11	2	13
PT		23	35	18	29	25	54	27	15	47	22	1	27	1	6
RO		51	46	33	36	31	37	42	27	53	35	2	11	0	4
SI		38	22	30	16	38	23	18	11	46	23	4	20	2	4
SK		43	24	34	15	31	23	31	11	64	20	3	12	0	4
FI		46	50	44	39	44	52	42	38	60	46	1	15	1	6
SE		49	64	57	51	40	63	46	39	69	44	3	8	2	5
UK		30	40	34	29	29	42	33	24	50	27	1	20	1	13

QA10 Which of the following two options would be most effective for ensuring transparency about State aid?
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		When State aid is given by public authorities to a company, the information is automatically made publicly available	Information about support granted by public authorities to companies can be provided on request	Both options would be effective (SPONTANEOUS)	You don't think that transparency about State aid can be ensured (SPONTANEOUS)	Neither would be effective (SPONTANEOUS)	Don't know
EU28		53	18	15	5	1	8
BE		54	31	9	1	1	4
BG		48	13	18	8	3	10
CZ		70	18	4	3	1	4
DK		67	23	4	1	1	4
DE		42	13	23	9	3	10
EE		53	21	12	3	1	10
IE		61	22	5	2	1	9
EL		51	15	13	15	3	3
ES		78	8	6	4	1	3
FR		56	30	4	1	0	9
HR		58	17	10	3	3	9
IT		53	17	17	5	2	6
CY		65	13	8	4	3	7
LV		61	25	4	2	1	7
LT		56	18	11	4	3	8
LU		50	31	6	3	1	9
HU		60	16	11	9	2	2
MT		69	20	6	1	0	4
NL		64	30	1	1	1	3
AT		44	31	9	11	2	3
PL		54	21	8	6	3	8
PT		54	9	9	19	1	8
RO		57	18	6	3	2	14
SI		71	12	5	2	3	7
SK		65	12	10	6	2	5
FI		71	25	2	1	0	1
SE		69	28	1	0	0	2
UK		32	10	42	1	1	14