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Germany and Merkel Receive High Marks Internationally in Chancellor's Last Year in Office

Germany's pandemic response and role in EU also rated positively

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How we did this

This Pew Research Center analysis focuses on public opinion of Germany and Chancellor Angela Merkel. For this report, we conducted nationally representative surveys of 15,227 adults from March 12 to May 26, 2021, in 15 advanced economies. All surveys were conducted over the phone with adults in Canada, Belgium, France, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom, Australia, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea and Taiwan. Data from Germany is not included in this report.

In the United States, we surveyed 2,596 U.S. adults from Feb. 1 to 7, 2021. Everyone who took part in the U.S. survey is a member of the Center’s American Trends Panel (ATP), an online survey panel that is recruited through national, random sampling of residential addresses. This way nearly all adults have a chance of selection. The survey is weighted to be representative of the U.S. adult population by gender, race, ethnicity, partisan affiliation, education and other categories.

This study was conducted in places where nationally representative telephone surveys are feasible. Due to the coronavirus outbreak, [face-to-face interviewing is not currently possible](#) in many parts of the world.

To account for the fact that some publics refer to the coronavirus differently, in South Korea, the survey asked about the “Corona19 outbreak.” In Japan, the survey asked about the “novel coronavirus outbreak.” In Greece, the survey asked about the “coronavirus pandemic.” In Australia, Canada, New Zealand and Taiwan, the survey asked about the “COVID-19 outbreak.” All other surveys used the term “coronavirus outbreak.”

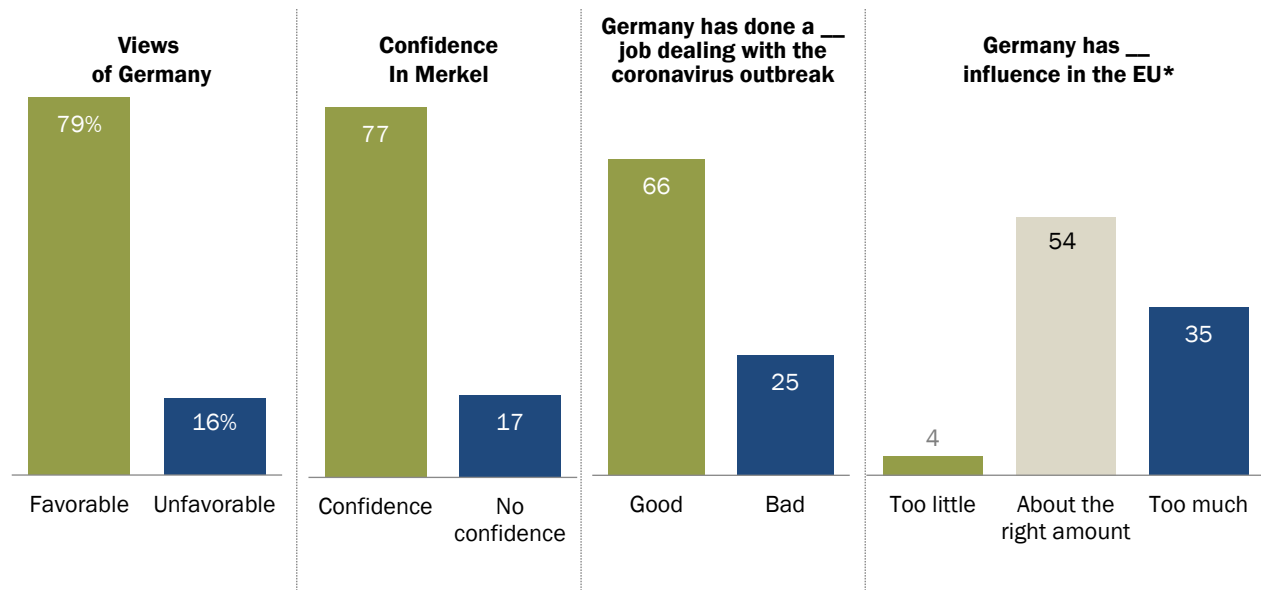
Here are the questions used for the report, along with responses. See our [methodology](#) database for more information about the survey methods outside the U.S. For respondents in the U.S., read more about the [ATP’s methodology](#).

Germany and Merkel Receive High Marks Internationally in Chancellor's Last Year in Office

Germany's pandemic response and role in EU also rated positively

Confidence in German Chancellor Angela Merkel among people around the world has remained relatively high throughout her nearly 16-year tenure. In her last year in office, as Germans prepare to vote for her replacement, a new Pew Research Center survey finds all-time high ratings of the German leader in most of the 16 advanced economies surveyed in North America, Europe and the Asia-Pacific region. Public opinion of Germany is also positive; most hold a favorable view of the country and say that it has done a good job dealing with the coronavirus outbreak. And among the European Union member states surveyed, many think Germany has about the right amount of influence in the EU.

Germany's international image



*Percentages are medians based on seven European Union countries.

Note: Percentages are medians based on 16 publics. Those who did not answer not shown.

Source: Spring 2021 Global Attitudes Survey. Q4c, Q7f, Q21d & Q30.

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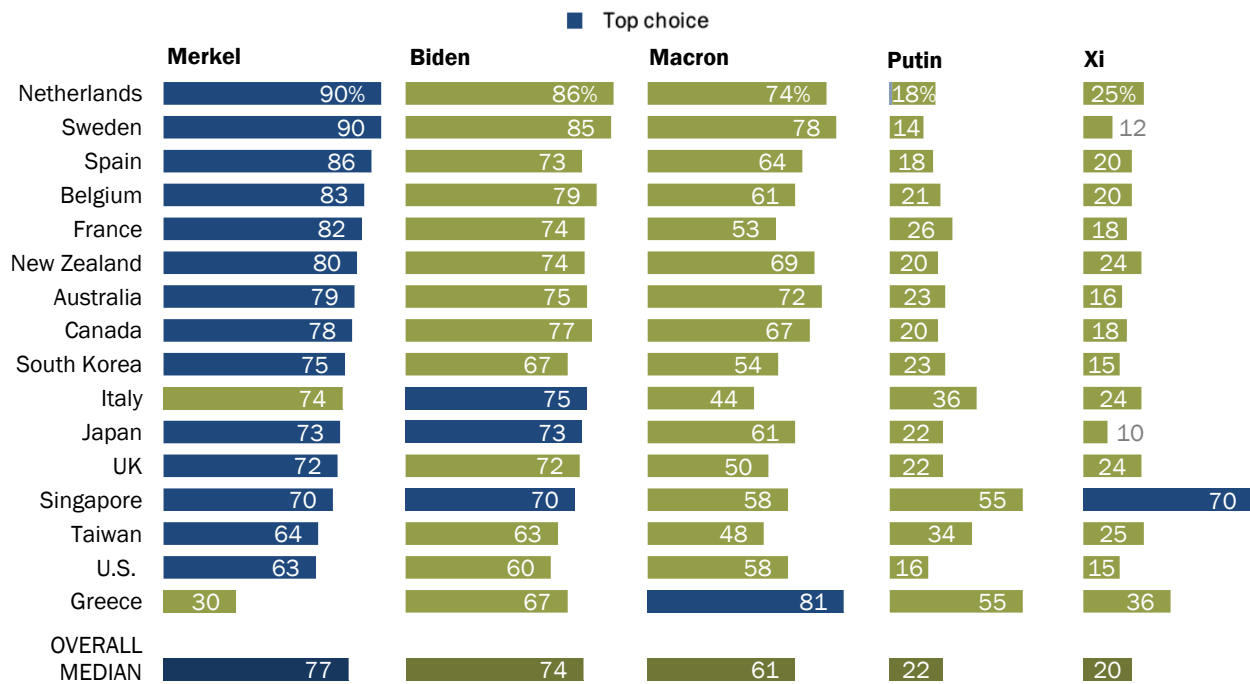
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Majorities in nearly every public surveyed have confidence in Merkel to do the right thing in world affairs, including nine-in-ten in the Netherlands and Sweden. Merkel has enjoyed generally high ratings in a number of countries since she first took office, with confidence growing as more people became familiar with her over time. In most places surveyed, trust in the German chancellor has never been higher.

Merkel currently enjoys the highest confidence ratings of the five world leaders asked about in the survey. She receives considerably higher marks than Russian President Vladimir Putin or Chinese President Xi Jinping, and Merkel also fares well compared with French President Emmanuel Macron and, in many places, U.S. President Joe Biden.

Most are more confident in Merkel than Biden, Macron, Putin or Xi

% who have **confidence** in ___ to do the right thing regarding world affairs



Source: Spring 2021 Global Attitudes Survey. Q21a-e.

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At the same time, people in Europe, North America and the Asia-Pacific region have very positive views of the country she leads. A median of 79% across 16 publics have a favorable opinion of Germany, while only 16% have an unfavorable one. Germany is also viewed more positively than the United States and China in most places surveyed.

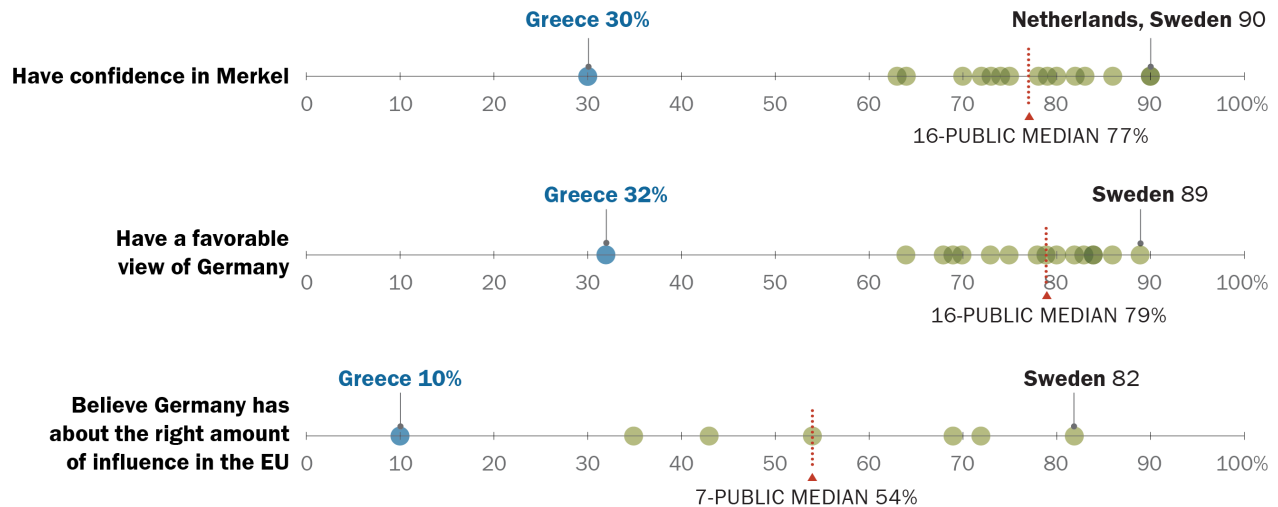
In several of the European countries surveyed, views of Germany have not changed much over the past two decades, before Merkel took office. Roughly seven-in-ten or more have expressed a positive opinion of Germany in Sweden, the Netherlands, Spain, France and the United Kingdom in each year this question has been asked.

Favorable views of Germany and Merkel are influenced, in part, by perceptions of how Germany handled the [coronavirus outbreak](#). A median of 66% say Germany did a good job dealing with the outbreak, and again, Germany fares well in comparison with other countries and institutions. Germany's coronavirus response is generally viewed more positively [than the responses of](#) the World Health Organization, China, the EU or the U.S. And people who think Germany has handled the outbreak well are much more likely to have a favorable view of Germany and confidence in Merkel in every public surveyed.

Positive views of Germany and its leader extend to perceptions of its role in the EU, as well. A median of 54% across the seven EU member states surveyed think Germany has about the right amount of influence in the EU. A median of about a third say Germany has too much influence in the EU. However, perceptions of Germany's international role vary considerably across the seven EU countries polled; while 82% of Swedes say Germany has about the right amount of influence, only 10% of Greeks agree.

Very few in Greece view Germany or Merkel positively

% who ...



Source: Spring 2021 Global Attitudes Survey. Q4c, Q21d & Q30.

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On nearly every assessment, Greece stands out for its particularly negative views of both Germany and Merkel. Only around a third of Greeks have confidence in the German chancellor or a favorable view of Germany, though a majority give it good marks for its handling of the coronavirus outbreak (about the same share who say [their own country](#) handled the outbreak well). And compared with others in Europe, more people in Greece say Germany has too much influence in the EU (86%). Views of Germany have been negative in Greece since Pew Research Center started surveying there in 2012, just after Greece received a second bailout in response to the European debt crisis, while [tensions between the two countries were high](#).

These are among the major findings from a Pew Research Center survey conducted among 17,823 respondents in 16 advanced economies – not including Germany – from Feb. 1 to May 26, 2021.

Most in Europe and the Asia-Pacific region are confident in Merkel

Across the 16 publics surveyed, a median of 77% have confidence in Merkel to do the right thing regarding world affairs. Majorities in every advanced economy surveyed except Greece hold this positive opinion of the German chancellor.

Merkel obtains both her highest and lowest ratings in Europe. Nine-in-ten in Sweden and the Netherlands have confidence in her to handle world affairs, including 48% and 60%, respectively, who have *a lot* of confidence. Confidence in the German chancellor is only slightly lower in Spain, Belgium and France.

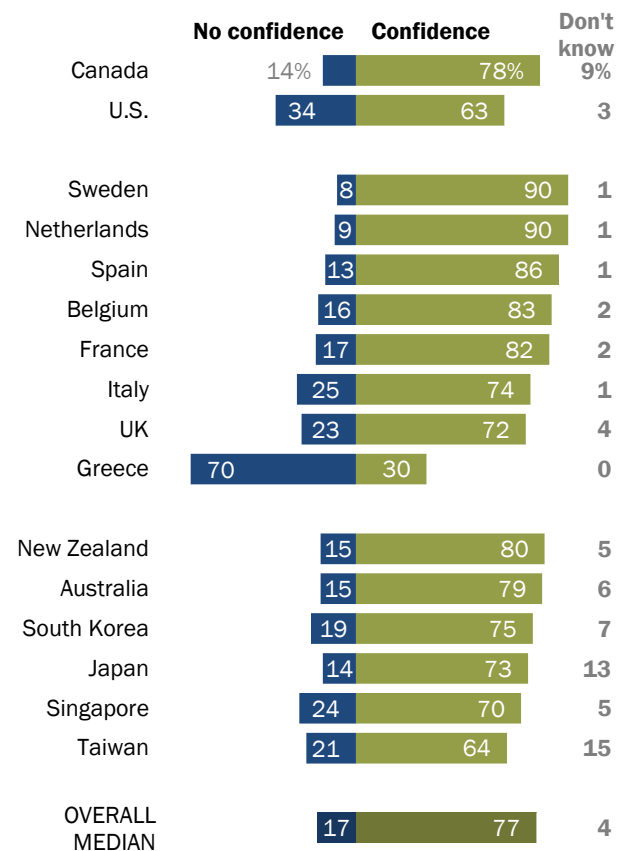
On the other end of the spectrum, relatively few Greeks – only 30% – trust Merkel to do what is right. And Greeks are a clear outlier; the next smallest share is more than twice as high, with 63% in the U.S. having confidence in Merkel. Greeks view Merkel so negatively that just under half (45%) say they have no confidence in her at all when it comes to foreign affairs.

Fewer people in the Asia-Pacific region express an opinion about the German leader. At least 5% in each public provide a “don’t know” response, including 13% in Japan and 15% in Taiwan. But among those who do express an opinion, many say they have confidence in Merkel to do the right thing in world affairs.

Positive assessments are particularly high in New Zealand and Australia, and at least seven-in-ten also have faith in Merkel in Singapore, Japan and South Korea.

High confidence in Merkel internationally, except in Greece

% who have ___ in German Chancellor Angela Merkel to do the right thing regarding world affairs



Note: Those who did not answer not shown.

Source: Spring 2021 Global Attitudes Survey. Q21d.

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Confidence in Merkel at or near all-time high in many places

% who have **confidence** in German Chancellor Angela Merkel to do the right thing regarding world affairs

	'06	'07	'08	'09	'10	'11	'12	'14	'16	'17	'18	'19	'20	'21	'20-'21 Change
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	
Italy	-	57	-	-	-	-	49	32	33	39	40	44	50	74	▲ 24
Spain	37	36	51	49	57	69	53	34	40	52	54	69	72	86	▲ 14
Greece	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	9	10	16	15	22	-	30	▲ 8*
Australia	-	-	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	70	67	69	72	79	▲ 7
U.S.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	56	63	▲ 7
Japan	-	27	47	42	46	-	55	-	-	67	65	60	67	73	▲ 6
South Korea	-	27	34	34	36	-	-	-	-	74	76	69	69	75	▲ 6
Canada	-	48	-	45	-	-	-	-	59	66	68	73	74	78	▲ 4
Belgium	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	79	83	▲ 4
France	80	87	84	77	81	80	70	78	71	79	78	74	78	82	▲ 4
Sweden	-	65	-	-	-	-	-	-	84	89	82	86	87	90	▲ 3
Netherlands	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	83	89	85	82	88	90	▲ 2
UK	51	62	53	51	60	64	58	69	59	68	62	69	76	72	▼ 4

*Greece change is from 2019 to 2021.

Note: Statistically significant changes shown in **bold**. Only publics for which trend data is available included. Prior to 2020, U.S. surveys were conducted by phone. See topline for results.

Source: Summer 2021 Global Attitudes Survey. Q21d.

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Overall, confidence in Merkel has grown over the course of her nearly 16 years in office. Merkel's confidence ratings are now at or near an all-time high in nearly every country where trends are available. And in roughly half of these countries, Merkel has seen at least a slight increase in trust since the previous year.

In Spain, for example, 86% now have confidence in Merkel when it comes to her handling of world affairs. This is a 14 percentage point increase from 2020 and a 49-point increase from 2006, her full first year in office. In part, this is due to a relatively large share of Spaniards who did not express an opinion in the first several years of her tenure, including roughly a quarter in 2006 and 2007. Similar patterns can be seen in Italy, Australia, Japan, South Korea, Canada, Sweden and the UK, where the share saying "don't know" decreased and confidence increased as Merkel spent more time in office.

In the Netherlands, where opinions about Merkel have only been examined in more recent years, the share who have confidence in Merkel has never fallen below 82%. And in France, which the

Center has surveyed annually since her first year in office, at least 70% have had trust in Merkel each year.

Although people in Greece have extremely low trust in Merkel compared with other surveyed publics, significantly higher shares say they trust the German leader now, compared with 2019 and earlier.

In addition to enjoying widespread confidence, and an increase in confidence from previous years, Merkel also fares well in comparison with other major world leaders. Compared with French President Emmanuel Macron, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Xi Jinping, people are more likely to have confidence in Merkel in nearly every public surveyed. Faith in Merkel is also generally higher than trust in U.S. President Joe Biden, though views of the two leaders are similar in a number of places, including Canada, Italy, Japan, the UK, Singapore and Taiwan. Again, Greece is a stark exception, where Merkel is the least trusted of the five world leaders asked about.

In most publics, people with more education are more likely than their counterparts to have confidence in Merkel to do the right thing in world affairs. And in the U.S., Italy, the UK, Canada and Australia, people who place themselves on the left of the ideological spectrum have more faith in the German chancellor. For example, 79% of liberals in the U.S. trust Merkel compared with 48% of conservatives, a 31-point difference.

Views of Germany largely favorable

Across the 16 publics, a median of 79% say they have a favorable view of Germany. Except in Greece, where only about a third see Germany positively, this view is held by about two-thirds or more across every public surveyed.

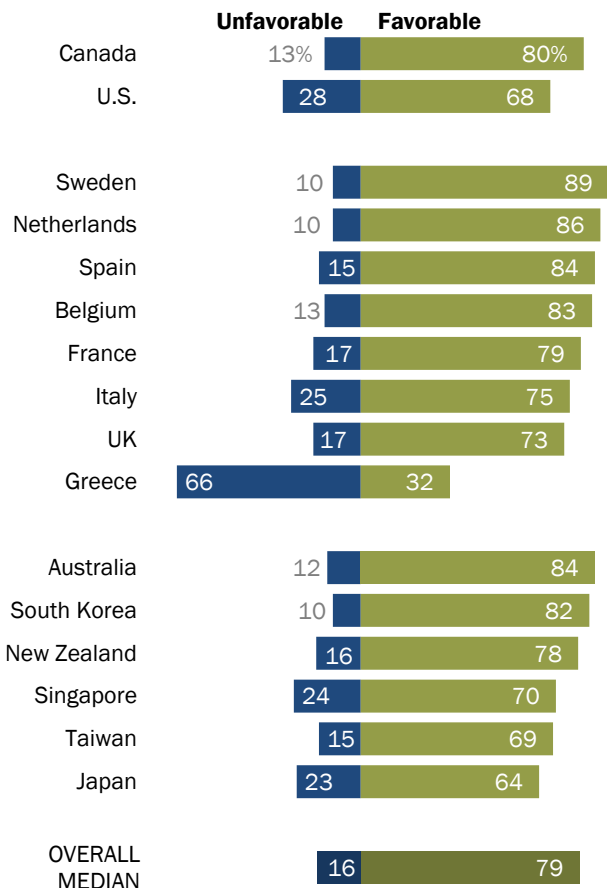
Views are especially positive in Sweden and in the Netherlands, and more lukewarm in the U.S., where 28% express an unfavorable view – the highest of any public surveyed except Greece. Across the 16 publics surveyed, a median of only 16% have an unfavorable view of Germany.

Opinions of Germany have generally been positive and stable over the past two decades but have improved significantly among Italians (by 22 points) and Spaniards (8 points) since the question was last asked in 2019, prior to the outbreak of the coronavirus.

In most publics surveyed, those with more education, those with higher incomes and those on the political left are more likely to view Germany positively. And people who have unfavorable views of right-wing populist parties in Italy, the Netherlands and the UK are also more likely to have a favorable view of Germany.

Majorities rate Germany positively

% who have a(n) ___ view of Germany



Note: Those who did not answer not shown.

Source: Spring 2021 Global Attitudes Survey. Q4c.

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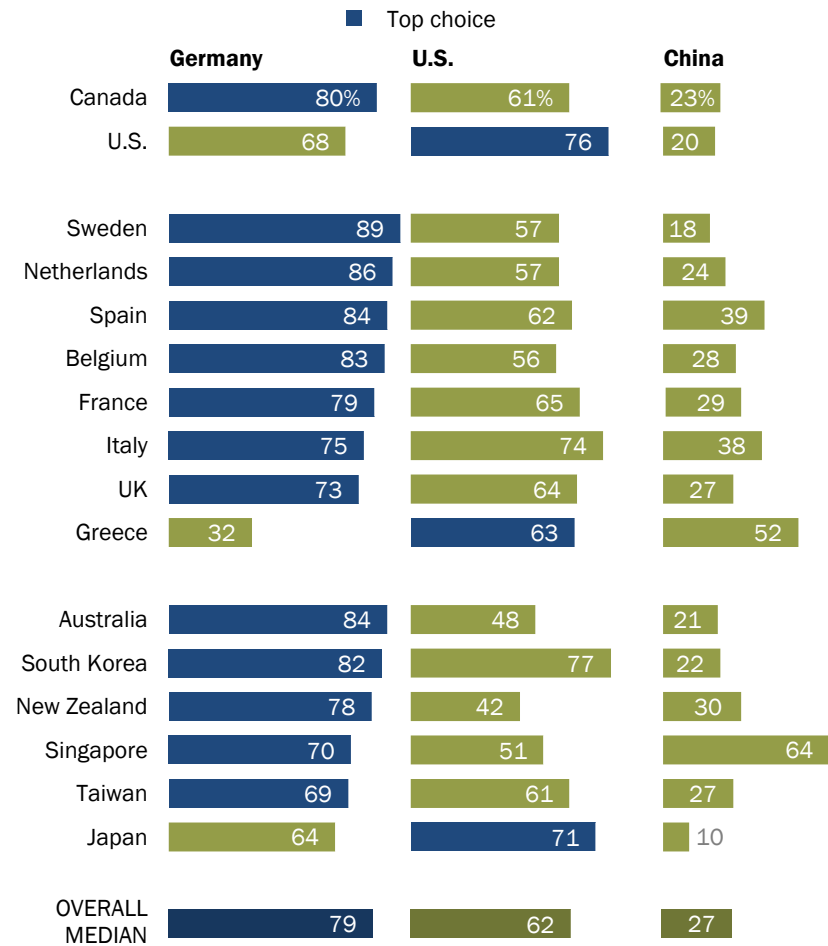
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Compared with the U.S. and China, Germany is held in high regard. Across all 16 publics surveyed, a median of 79% express a favorable view of Germany, while about six-in-ten rate the U.S. positively (62%). Only 27% view China favorably.

Of the three countries, Germany is viewed the most favorably in all but three of the publics polled. Only Americans, Greeks and Japanese rate the U.S. more positively than they do Germany.

Germany largely favored over the U.S. and China

% who have a *favorable* view of ...



Source: Spring 2021 Global Attitudes Survey. Q4a-c.

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Most rate Germany's handling of the pandemic positively

Favorable opinions of Germany extend to views of its handling of the pandemic. A median of 66% say Germany has done a good job dealing with the coronavirus outbreak.

Again, overall assessments are most positive in Sweden and the Netherlands, though at least seven-in-ten in most of Europe, the U.S. and Canada agree. Despite generally negative opinions of Germany and its leader, a majority of Greeks think Germany has dealt with the outbreak well.

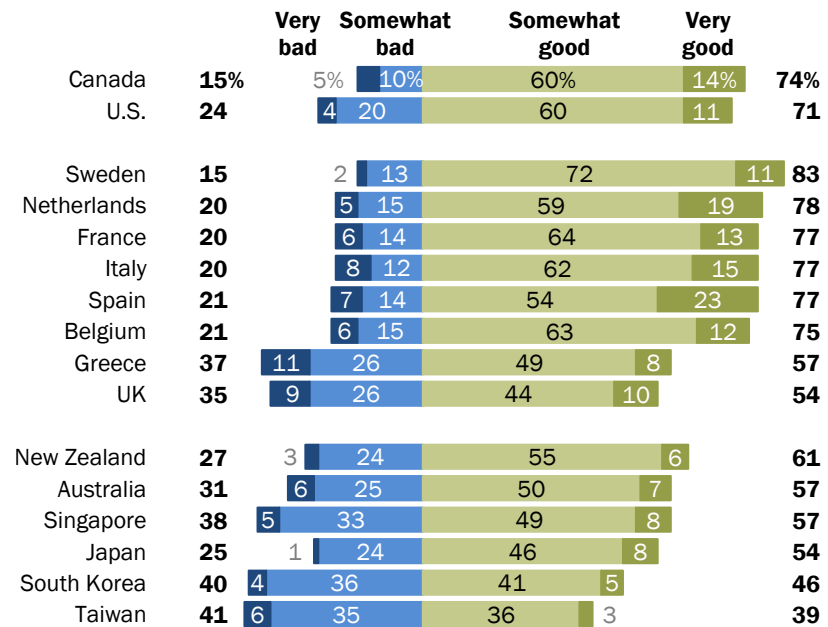
Views are somewhat less positive across the Asia-Pacific region, though people there are more likely than others to not provide an opinion on the topic. Still, more than half in New Zealand, Australia, Singapore and Japan say Germany has done a good job dealing with the outbreak.

Moreover, people in most places surveyed rate Germany's [handling of the pandemic](#) more positively than that of the EU and WHO. And Germany's response to the outbreak is rated much more highly than the responses from the U.S. and China. Greece and Singapore are the exceptions; in both countries, roughly three-quarters approve of China's handling of the coronavirus, compared with 57% who rate Germany's response positively.

In Europe, views of Germany's coronavirus response are even more positive than people's assessments of how their [own country handled the outbreak](#). For example, while 77% of Spaniards say Germany dealt with the outbreak well, only 44% say the same about Spain.

Most say that Germany handled the coronavirus outbreak well

% who say Germany has done a ___ job dealing with the coronavirus outbreak



Note: Those who did not answer not shown.

Source: Spring 2021 Global Attitudes Survey. Q7f.

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In each of the 16 publics surveyed, those who say Germany handled the coronavirus outbreak well are more likely to have a favorable opinion of Germany and to have confidence in Merkel when it comes to world affairs. In the U.S., for example, 80% of people who think Germany has handled the outbreak well have a favorable view of Germany overall, compared with only 40% of those who do not think Germany has done a good job dealing with the coronavirus. There is a similarly large gap in confidence in Merkel between Americans who rate Germany's response to the outbreak positively and those who rate it negatively (74% and 34%, respectively, have confidence in Merkel).

Many in EU say Germany has about the right amount of influence, though opinions vary

Across seven other EU member states surveyed, opinions about whether Germany has too much, too little or about the right amount of influence in decision-making in the EU vary. A median of 54% say Germany has about the right amount of influence, but roughly a third (35%) say the country has too much

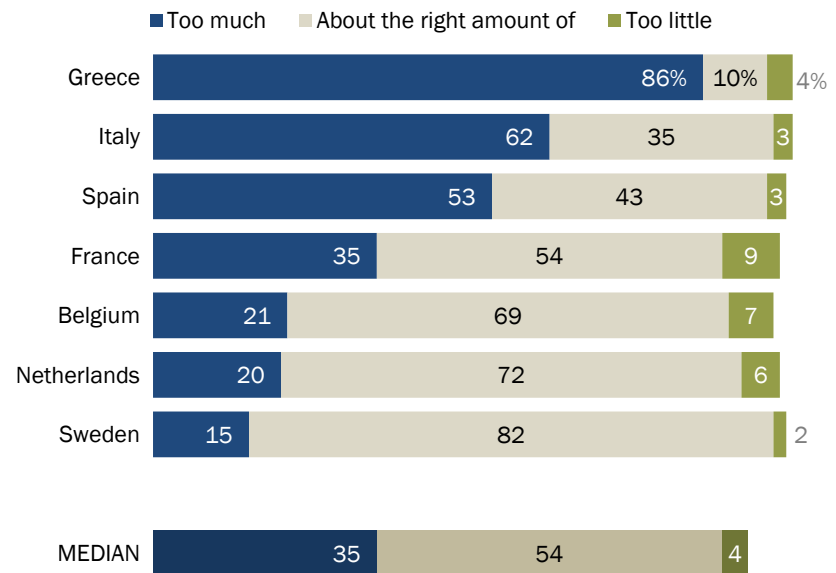
influence. Very few Europeans say that Germany has too little influence; the highest share of people saying this is among the French (9%).

More than half in France, Belgium, the Netherlands and Sweden say Germany has about the right level of influence in the EU.

Greece stands out again on this question with over eight-in-ten saying Germany has too much influence – the largest share among the EU member states surveyed. A majority of Italians also share this view, as do more than half of Spaniards.

Support for Germany's influence in the EU varies

% who say, when it comes to Germany's decision-making in the European Union, Germany has ___ influence



Note: Those who did not answer not shown.

Source: Spring 2021 Global Attitudes Survey. Q30.

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While many in Italy and Spain say that Germany has too much influence, the percentage in these countries who say Germany has about the right amount has increased by about 20 points since the question was last asked. Compared with 2017, more Swedes now also say Germany has about the right level of influence.

In most of the seven EU countries surveyed, there are no significant differences on Germany's perceived influence when it comes to education and gender. In Greece, those ages 65 and older are more likely to say Germany has too much influence (89%) than those 18 to 29 (72%). Greater shares of older Italians, Belgians and the French are also more likely than their younger counterparts to say this.

Italians, Spaniards and Swedes more comfortable with Germany's role in EU

% who say, when it comes to Germany's decision-making in the European Union, Germany has about the right amount of influence

	2017	2021	Change
	%	%	
Italy	14	35	▲ 21
Spain	24	43	▲ 19
Sweden	72	82	▲ 10
Greece	5	10	▲ 5
France	52	54	▲ 2
Netherlands	72	72	0

Note: Statistically significant differences shown in **bold**. In Italy and Greece, 2021 survey was conducted by telephone; 2017 was conducted face-to-face.

Source: Spring 2021 Global Attitudes Survey. Q30.

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Methodology

Pew Research Center's Spring 2021 Global Attitudes Survey

Results for the survey are based on telephone interviews conducted under the direction of Gallup and Langer Research Associates. The results are based on national samples, unless otherwise noted. More details about our international survey methodology and country-specific sample designs are [available here](#). Results for the U.S. survey are based on data from the American Trends Panel.

The American Trends Panel survey methodology

Overview

The American Trends Panel (ATP), created by Pew Research Center, is a nationally representative panel of randomly selected U.S. adults. Panelists participate via self-administered web surveys. Panelists who do not have internet access at home are provided with a tablet and wireless internet connection. Interviews are conducted in both English and Spanish. The panel is being managed by Ipsos.

Data in this report is drawn from the panel wave conducted Feb. 1 to Feb. 7, 2021. A total of 2,596 panelists responded out of 2,943 who were sampled, for a response rate of 88%. This does not include one panelist who was removed from the data due to extremely high rates of refusal or straightlining. The cumulative response rate accounting for nonresponse to the recruitment surveys and attrition is 4%. The break-off rate among panelists who logged on to the survey and completed at least one item is 2%. The margin of sampling error for the full sample of 2,596 respondents is plus or minus 2.7 percentage points.

Panel recruitment

The ATP was created in 2014, with the first cohort of panelists invited to join the panel at the end of a large, national, landline and cellphone random-digit-dial survey that was conducted in both English and Spanish. Two additional recruitments were conducted using the same method in 2015 and 2017, respectively. Across these three surveys, a total of 19,718 adults were invited to join the ATP, of whom 9,942 (50%) agreed to participate.

In August 2018, the ATP switched from telephone to address-based recruitment. Invitations were sent to a random, address-based sample of households selected from the U.S. Postal Service's Delivery Sequence File. Two additional recruitments were conducted using the same method in

2019 and 2020, respectively. Across these three address-based recruitments, a total of 17,161 adults were invited to join the ATP, of whom 15,134 (88%) agreed to join the panel and completed an initial profile survey. In each household, the adult with the next birthday was asked to go online to complete a survey, at the end of which they were invited to join the panel. Of the 25,076 individuals who have ever joined the ATP, 13,553 remained active panelists and continued to receive survey invitations at the time this survey was conducted.

American Trends Panel recruitment surveys

Recruitment dates	Mode	Invited	Joined	Active panelists remaining
Jan. 23 to March 16, 2014	Landline/ cell RDD	9,809	5,338	2,184
Aug. 27 to Oct. 4, 2015	Landline/ cell RDD	6,004	2,976	1,243
April 25 to June 4, 2017	Landline/ cell RDD	3,905	1,628	621
Aug. 8 to Oct. 31, 2018	ABS/web	9,396	8,778	5,903
Aug. 19 to Nov. 30, 2019	ABS/web	5,900	4,720	2,330
June 1 to July 19, 2020	ABS/web	1,865	1,636	1,272
	Total	36,879	25,076	13,553

Note: Approximately once per year, panelists who have not participated in multiple consecutive waves or who did not complete an annual profiling survey are removed from the panel. Panelists also become inactive if they ask to be removed from the panel.

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The U.S. Postal Service's Delivery Sequence File has been estimated to cover as much as 98% of the population, although some studies suggest that the coverage could be in the low 90% range.¹ The American Trends Panel never uses breakout routers or chains that direct respondents to additional surveys.

Sample design

The overall target population for this survey was non-institutionalized persons ages 18 and older, living in the U.S., including Alaska and Hawaii.

This study featured a stratified random sample from the ATP. The sample was allocated according to the following strata, in order: tablet households, U.S.-born Hispanics, foreign-born Hispanics, high school education or less, foreign-born Asians, not registered to vote, people ages 18 to 34, uses internet weekly or less, non-Hispanic Black adults, nonvolunteers and all other categories not already falling into any of the above.

Questionnaire development and testing

The questionnaire was developed by Pew Research Center in consultation with Ipsos. The web program was rigorously tested on both PC and mobile devices by the Ipsos project management

¹ AAPOR Task Force on Address-based Sampling. 2016. "[AAPOR Report: Address-based Sampling.](#)"

team and Pew Research Center researchers. The Ipsos project management team also populated test data which was analyzed in SPSS to ensure the logic and randomizations were working as intended before launching the survey.

Incentives

All respondents were offered a post-paid incentive for their participation. Respondents could choose to receive the post-paid incentive in the form of a check or a gift code to Amazon.com or could choose to decline the incentive. Incentive amounts ranged from \$5 to \$20 depending on whether the respondent belongs to a part of the population that is harder or easier to reach. Differential incentive amounts were designed to increase panel survey participation among groups that traditionally have low survey response propensities.

Data collection protocol

The data collection field period for this survey was Feb. 1 to Feb. 7, 2021. Postcard notifications were mailed to all ATP panelists with a known residential address on Feb. 1, 2021.

On Feb. 1 and Feb. 2, invitations were sent out in two separate launches: Soft Launch and Full Launch. Sixty panelists were included in the soft launch, which began with an initial invitation sent on Feb. 1, 2021. The ATP panelists chosen for the initial soft launch were known responders who had completed previous ATP surveys within one day of receiving their invitation. All remaining English- and Spanish-speaking panelists were included in the full launch and were sent an invitation on Feb. 2, 2021.

All panelists with an email address received an email invitation and up to two email reminders if they did not respond to the survey. All ATP panelists that consented to SMS messages received an SMS invitation and up to two SMS reminders.

Invitation and reminder dates

	Soft Launch	Full Launch
Initial invitation	Feb. 1, 2021	Feb. 2, 2021
First reminder	Feb. 4, 2021	Feb 4, 2021
Final reminder	Feb. 6, 2021	Feb. 6, 2021

Data quality checks

To ensure high-quality data, the Center's researchers performed data quality checks to identify any respondents showing clear patterns of satisficing. This includes checking for very high rates of

leaving questions blank, as well as always selecting the first or last answer presented. As a result of this checking, one ATP respondent was removed from the survey dataset prior to weighting and analysis.

Weighting

The ATP data was weighted in a multistep process that accounts for multiple stages of sampling and nonresponse that occur at different points in the survey process. First, each panelist begins with a base weight that reflects their probability of selection for their initial recruitment survey

(and the probability of being invited to participate in the panel in cases where only a subsample of

respondents were invited). The base weights for panelists recruited in different years are scaled to be proportionate to the effective sample size for all active panelists in their cohort. To correct for nonresponse to the initial recruitment surveys and gradual panel attrition, the base weights for all active panelists are calibrated to align with the population benchmarks identified in the accompanying table to create a full-panel weight.

For ATP waves in which only a subsample of panelists are invited to participate, a wave-specific base weight is created by adjusting the full-panel weights for subsampled panelists to account for any differential probabilities of selection for the particular panel wave. For waves in which all active panelists are invited to participate, the wave-specific base weight is identical to the full-panel weight.

In the final weighting step, the wave-specific base weights for panelists who completed the survey are again calibrated to match the population benchmarks specified above. These weights are trimmed (typically at about the 1st and 99th percentiles) to reduce the loss in precision stemming

Weighting dimensions

Variable	Benchmark source
Age x Gender	2019 American Community Survey
Education x Gender	
Education x Age	
Race/Ethnicity x Education	
Born inside vs. outside the U.S. among Hispanics and Asian Americans	
Years lived in the U.S.	
Census region x Metro/Non-metro	2019 CPS March Supplement
Volunteerism	2017 CPS Volunteering & Civic Life Supplement
Voter registration	2016 CPS Voting and Registration Supplement
Party affiliation	2020 National Public Opinion Reference Survey
Frequency of internet use	
Religious affiliation	

Note: Estimates from the ACS are based on non-institutionalized adults. The 2016 CPS was used for voter registration targets for this wave in order to obtain voter registration numbers from a presidential election year. Voter registration is calculated using procedures from Hur, Achen (2013) and rescaled to include the total U.S. adult population. The 2020 National Public Opinion Reference Survey featured 1,862 online completions and 2,247 mail survey completions.

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from variance in the weights. Sampling errors and test of statistical significance take into account the effect of weighting.

The following table shows the unweighted sample sizes and the error attributable to sampling that would be expected at the 95% level of confidence for different groups in the survey.

Group	Unweighted sample size	Weighted %	Plus or minus ...
Total sample	2,596		2.7 percentage points
Half sample	At least 1,287		3.7 percentage points
Rep/Lean Rep	1,106	44	3.9 percentage points
Half sample	At least 549		5.6 percentage points
Dem/Lean Dem	1,410	49	3.7 percentage points
Half sample	At least 688		5.2 percentage points

Sample sizes and sampling errors for other subgroups are available upon request. In addition to sampling error, one should bear in mind that question wording and practical difficulties in conducting surveys can introduce error or bias into the findings of opinion polls.

Dispositions and response rates

Final dispositions	AAPOR code	Total
Completed interview	1.1	2,596
Logged onto survey; broke off	2.12	41
Logged onto survey; did not complete any items	2.1121	23
Never logged on (implicit refusal)	2.11	282
Survey completed after close of the field period	2.27	0
Completed interview but was removed for data quality		1
Screened out		N/A
Total panelists in the survey		2,943
Completed interviews	I	2,596
Partial interviews	P	0
Refusals	R	346
Non-contact	NC	1
Other	O	0
Unknown household	UH	0
Unknown other	UO	0
Not eligible	NE	0
Total		2,943
AAPOR RR1 = $I / (I+P+R+NC+O+UH+UO)$		88%

Cumulative response rate	Total
Weighted response rate to recruitment surveys	12%
% of recruitment survey respondents who agreed to join the panel, among those invited	72%
% of those agreeing to join who were active panelists at start of Wave 82	57%
Response rate to Wave 82 survey	88%
Cumulative response rate	4%

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Topline questionnaire

**Pew Research Center
Spring 2021 Global Attitudes Survey
September 22, 2021 Release**

Methodological notes:

- Survey results are based on national samples. For further details on sample designs, see Methodology section and our [international survey methods database](#).
- Due to rounding, percentages may not total 100%. The topline “total” columns show 100%, because they are based on unrounded numbers.
- Since 2007, Pew Research Center has used an automated process to generate topline for its Global Attitudes surveys. As a result, numbers may differ slightly from those published prior to 2007.
- The U.S. survey was conducted on Pew Research Center’s American Trends Panel. Many questions have been asked in previous surveys on the phone. Phone trends for comparison are provided in separate tables throughout the topline. The extent of the mode differences varies across questions; while there are negligible differences on some questions, others have more pronounced differences. Caution should be taken when evaluating online and phone estimates.
- Since 2020, the Italy survey has been conducted by telephone; surveys were conducted face-to-face in 2002 and 2007-2019.
- In 2021, the Greece survey was conducted by telephone; all prior surveys in Greece were conducted face-to-face.
- Questions that ask about the coronavirus use the most commonly used phrase in each public. In Australia, Canada, New Zealand and Taiwan, the question asked about the “COVID-19 outbreak.” In Greece, “coronavirus pandemic.” In Japan, “novel coronavirus outbreak.” In South Korea, “Corona19 outbreak.” All other survey publics used the term “coronavirus outbreak.”

- Not all questions included in the Spring 2021 Global Attitudes Survey are presented in this topline. Omitted questions have either been previously released or will be released in future reports.

		Q4c. Please tell me if you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of _____. c. Germany					
		Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Spring, 2021	12	56	22	6	4	100
Canada	Spring, 2021	20	60	9	4	7	100
	Spring, 2005	22	55	6	2	15	100
Belgium	Spring, 2021	21	62	9	4	5	100
France	Spring, 2021	15	64	12	5	4	100
	Spring, 2019	16	62	14	5	4	100
	Spring, 2017	18	64	12	6	0	100
	Spring, 2012	22	62	11	5	0	100
	Spring, 2011	26	64	7	3	0	100
	Spring, 2010	21	70	7	2	0	100
	Spring, 2007	21	69	7	3	0	100
	Spring, 2006	20	69	8	3	0	100
	Spring, 2005	18	71	8	4	0	100
	Summer, 2002	13	75	6	1	4	100
Greece	Spring, 2021	6	26	37	29	1	100
	Spring, 2019	6	28	37	27	3	100
	Spring, 2017	3	21	33	43	0	100
	Spring, 2012	4	17	29	49	1	100
Italy	Spring, 2021	18	57	17	8	1	100
	Spring, 2019	8	45	28	14	5	100
	Spring, 2017	7	46	29	13	5	100
	Spring, 2012	17	50	20	7	6	100
	Spring, 2007	10	65	13	3	9	100
	Summer, 2002	13	57	15	2	12	100
Netherlands	Spring, 2021	33	53	6	4	4	100
	Spring, 2019	33	56	7	2	1	100
	Spring, 2017	47	46	5	1	1	100
	Spring, 2005	19	69	9	3	1	100
Spain	Spring, 2021	32	52	11	4	2	100
	Spring, 2019	27	49	14	6	5	100
	Spring, 2017	25	46	13	9	7	100
	Spring, 2012	34	41	12	8	4	100
	Spring, 2011	34	51	8	4	4	100
	Spring, 2010	18	60	9	1	12	100
	Spring, 2007	11	65	12	3	8	100
	Spring, 2006	14	58	11	4	13	100
Sweden	Spring, 2021	27	62	9	1	1	100
	Spring, 2019	21	65	8	1	4	100
	Spring, 2017	32	58	6	1	3	100
	Spring, 2007	16	62	10	1	11	100
United Kingdom	Spring, 2021	19	54	10	7	10	100
	Spring, 2019	23	51	14	8	5	100
	Spring, 2017	22	50	11	5	12	100
	Spring, 2012	18	54	13	6	10	100
	Spring, 2011	22	56	7	3	12	100
	Spring, 2010	19	53	8	4	16	100
	Spring, 2007	14	60	8	4	13	100
	Spring, 2006	20	54	9	3	14	100
	Spring, 2005	18	57	10	2	13	100
	Summer, 2002	18	50	12	4	16	100
Australia	Spring, 2021	20	64	10	2	5	100
Japan	Spring, 2021	10	54	20	3	13	100
	Spring, 2006	13	65	17	1	5	100
New Zealand	Spring, 2021	17	61	13	3	7	100
Singapore	Spring, 2021	12	58	20	4	6	100
South Korea	Spring, 2021	9	73	9	1	7	100
Taiwan	Spring, 2021	14	55	14	1	16	100

In U.S., asked of 1,287 respondents (Form 1 only).

U.S. PHONE TRENDS FOR COMPARISON

		Q4c. Please tell me if you have a very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable, or very unfavorable opinion of _____. c. Germany					
		Very favorable	Somewhat favorable	Somewhat unfavorable	Very unfavorable	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Fall, 2009	21	45	14	5	16	100
	Spring, 2007	15	46	11	5	23	100
	Spring, 2006	20	46	9	4	21	100
	Spring, 2005	15	45	13	4	23	100
	Spring, 2004	8	42	19	9	23	100
	May, 2003	8	36	27	15	14	100

		Q7f. Would you say that each of the following has done a very good, somewhat good, somewhat bad, or very bad job dealing with the coronavirus outbreak? f. Germany					
		Very good	Somewhat good	Somewhat bad	Very bad	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Spring, 2021	11	60	20	4	5	100
Canada	Spring, 2021	14	60	10	5	11	100
Belgium	Spring, 2021	12	63	15	6	5	100
France	Spring, 2021	13	64	14	6	3	100
Greece	Spring, 2021	8	49	26	11	5	100
Italy	Spring, 2021	15	62	12	8	3	100
Netherlands	Spring, 2021	19	59	15	5	3	100
Spain	Spring, 2021	23	54	14	7	2	100
Sweden	Spring, 2021	11	72	13	2	3	100
United Kingdom	Spring, 2021	10	44	26	9	11	100
Australia	Spring, 2021	7	50	25	6	11	100
Japan	Spring, 2021	8	46	24	1	22	100
New Zealand	Spring, 2021	6	55	24	3	12	100
Singapore	Spring, 2021	8	49	33	5	5	100
South Korea	Spring, 2021	5	41	36	4	14	100
Taiwan	Spring, 2021	3	36	35	6	19	100

		Q21d. For each, tell me how much confidence you have in each leader to do the right thing regarding world affairs – a lot of confidence, some confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all. d. German Chancellor Angela Merkel					
		A lot of confidence	Some confidence	Not too much confidence	No confidence at all	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Spring, 2021	19	44	25	9	3	100
	March, 2020	15	41	26	15	3	100
Canada	Spring, 2021	28	50	8	6	9	100
	Summer, 2020	27	47	11	7	8	100
	Spring, 2019	22	51	10	8	10	100
	Spring, 2018	23	45	13	8	11	100
	Spring, 2017	20	46	8	7	18	100
	Spring, 2016	18	41	9	8	24	100
	Spring, 2009	7	38	11	8	36	100
Belgium	Spring, 2021	8	40	9	7	36	100
	Summer, 2020	41	42	11	5	2	100
France	Spring, 2021	33	46	10	8	2	100
	Spring, 2021	27	55	9	8	2	100
	Summer, 2020	26	52	10	10	2	100
	Spring, 2019	18	56	11	13	2	100
	Spring, 2018	18	60	13	8	1	100
	Spring, 2017	18	61	12	8	1	100
	Spring, 2016	18	53	14	14	2	100
	Spring, 2014	24	54	11	11	0	100
	Spring, 2012	22	48	17	13	0	100
	Spring, 2011	23	57	13	8	0	100
	Spring, 2010	20	61	11	8	0	100
	Spring, 2009	16	61	14	8	0	100
	Spring, 2008	21	63	9	6	1	100
Greece	Spring, 2021	21	66	7	5	1	100
	Spring, 2021	12	68	12	7	1	100
	Spring, 2021	5	25	25	45	0	100
	Spring, 2019	4	18	34	42	2	100
	Spring, 2018	2	13	28	56	1	100
	Spring, 2017	2	14	27	57	1	100
	Spring, 2016	1	9	22	67	1	100
Italy	Spring, 2014	1	8	22	69	1	100
	Spring, 2012	1	6	17	76	1	100
	Spring, 2021	29	45	18	7	1	100
	Summer, 2020	14	36	29	20	1	100
	Spring, 2019	8	36	27	23	5	100
	Spring, 2018	7	33	34	20	5	100
	Spring, 2017	4	35	34	20	7	100
	Spring, 2016	5	28	33	26	8	100
Netherlands	Spring, 2014	6	26	38	26	4	100
	Spring, 2012	9	40	31	14	6	100
	Spring, 2007	13	44	15	9	19	100
	Spring, 2021	60	30	4	5	1	100
	Summer, 2020	53	35	7	4	1	100
Netherlands	Spring, 2019	48	34	7	9	2	100
	Spring, 2018	34	51	8	4	3	100
	Spring, 2017	49	40	6	3	1	100
	Spring, 2016	41	42	7	6	3	100

		Q21d. For each, tell me how much confidence you have in each leader to do the right thing regarding world affairs – a lot of confidence, some confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all. d. German Chancellor Angela Merkel					
		A lot of confidence	Some confidence	Not too much confidence	No confidence at all	DK/Refused	Total
Spain	Spring, 2021	51	35	9	4	1	100
	Summer, 2020	34	38	17	11	0	100
	Spring, 2019	30	39	18	11	1	100
	Spring, 2018	9	45	30	15	2	100
	Spring, 2017	8	44	29	16	2	100
	Spring, 2016	6	34	33	24	3	100
	Spring, 2014	7	27	32	32	1	100
	Spring, 2012	12	41	28	19	1	100
	Spring, 2011	18	51	21	7	3	100
	Spring, 2010	12	45	21	11	11	100
	Spring, 2009	7	42	23	14	14	100
	Spring, 2008	8	43	22	11	17	100
	Spring, 2007	5	31	24	14	26	100
Spring, 2006	5	32	19	19	25	100	
Sweden	Spring, 2021	48	42	5	3	1	100
	Summer, 2020	37	50	8	4	1	100
	Spring, 2019	37	49	8	4	3	100
	Spring, 2018	36	46	9	6	2	100
	Spring, 2017	44	45	5	4	2	100
	Spring, 2016	37	47	8	5	2	100
	Spring, 2007	13	52	7	4	24	100
United Kingdom	Spring, 2021	26	46	14	9	4	100
	Summer, 2020	28	48	11	11	2	100
	Spring, 2019	24	45	14	15	3	100
	Spring, 2018	19	43	18	13	7	100
	Spring, 2017	22	46	13	13	7	100
	Spring, 2016	21	38	13	18	11	100
	Spring, 2014	27	42	13	8	10	100
	Spring, 2012	16	42	17	14	11	100
	Spring, 2011	17	47	12	8	17	100
	Spring, 2010	11	49	12	9	20	100
	Spring, 2009	7	44	16	10	23	100
	Spring, 2008	6	47	11	9	27	100
Spring, 2007	14	48	11	5	22	100	
Spring, 2006	6	45	15	11	23	100	
Australia	Spring, 2021	26	53	9	6	6	100
	Summer, 2020	22	50	13	7	9	100
	Spring, 2019	20	49	10	10	11	100
	Spring, 2018	23	44	11	10	12	100
	Spring, 2017	24	46	8	9	13	100
	Spring, 2008	7	41	10	4	38	100
Japan	Spring, 2021	17	56	13	1	13	100
	Summer, 2020	16	51	15	3	15	100
	Spring, 2019	7	53	18	4	18	100
	Spring, 2018	13	52	14	2	19	100
	Spring, 2017	12	55	13	2	19	100
	Spring, 2012	9	46	21	3	21	100
	Spring, 2010	2	44	20	3	31	100
	Spring, 2009	5	37	20	3	34	100
	Spring, 2008	5	42	24	2	27	100
Spring, 2007	1	26	21	4	48	100	
New Zealand	Spring, 2021	24	56	11	4	5	100
Singapore	Spring, 2021	16	54	19	5	5	100

		Q21d. For each, tell me how much confidence you have in each leader to do the right thing regarding world affairs – a lot of confidence, some confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all. d. German Chancellor Angela Merkel					
		A lot of confidence	Some confidence	Not too much confidence	No confidence at all	DK/Refused	Total
South Korea	Spring, 2021	16	59	18	1	7	100
	Summer, 2020	19	50	21	4	6	100
	Spring, 2019	16	53	18	3	11	100
	Spring, 2018	24	52	15	1	8	100
	Spring, 2017	29	45	10	1	15	100
	Spring, 2010	3	33	25	3	37	100
	Spring, 2009	1	33	28	2	36	100
	Spring, 2008	2	32	28	4	33	100
Taiwan	Spring, 2021	14	50	18	3	15	100

U.S. PHONE TRENDS FOR COMPARISON

		Q21d. For each, tell me how much confidence you have in each leader to do the right thing regarding world affairs – a lot of confidence, some confidence, not too much confidence, or no confidence at all. d. German Chancellor Angela Merkel					
		A lot of confidence	Some confidence	Not too much confidence	No confidence at all	DK/Refused	Total
United States	Summer, 2020	18	43	15	14	9	100
	Spring, 2020	16	40	14	18	12	100
	Spring, 2019	17	42	12	13	16	100
	Spring, 2018	17	38	16	14	15	100
	Spring, 2017	16	40	15	16	14	100
	Spring, 2012	10	35	15	9	31	100
	Spring, 2011	7	39	15	10	29	100
	Spring, 2010	6	37	12	10	35	100
	Spring, 2009	6	41	14	10	29	100
	Spring, 2008	5	34	10	10	41	100
	Spring, 2007	6	38	11	9	35	100
	Spring, 2006	5	33	14	10	38	100

		Q30. When it comes to Germany's decision-making in the European Union, do you think Germany has too much influence, has too little influence or has about the right amount of influence?				
		Has too much influence	Has too little influence	Has about the right amount of influence	DK/Refused	Total
Belgium	Spring, 2021	21	7	69	3	100
France	Spring, 2021	35	9	54	2	100
	Spring, 2017	42	5	52	1	100
Greece	Spring, 2021	86	4	10	0	100
	Spring, 2017	89	5	5	1	100
Italy	Spring, 2021	62	3	35	1	100
	Spring, 2017	68	10	14	8	100
Netherlands	Spring, 2021	20	6	72	2	100
	Spring, 2017	21	4	72	3	100
Spain	Spring, 2021	53	3	43	1	100
	Spring, 2017	68	4	24	4	100
Sweden	Spring, 2021	15	2	82	1	100
	Spring, 2017	20	2	72	6	100