

Financial Times/Harris Poll

Opinions of Adults from Five European Countries

August 2012 - Below are the most recent data from the Financial Times/Harris Poll, a poll of adults from five countries in Europe (France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, and Spain).

For more information about the polls and to view the articles by the Financial Times that are based on these data, visit www.ft.com. For inquiries, contact Marketing at +44 (0) 20 8263 5200 or info-uk@harrisinteractive.com.

Source

This FT/Harris Poll was conducted online by Harris Interactive among a total of 5,134 adults aged 16-64 within France (1,031), Germany (1,030), Great Britain (1,048), Spain (1,024), and adults aged 18-64 in Italy (1,001) between 14th August to 23rd August 2012.

Complete survey methodology

This FT/Harris Poll was conducted online by Harris Interactive among a total of 5,134 adults aged 16-64 within France, Germany, Great Britain and Spain, and aged 18-64 in Italy, between 14th August to 23rd August 2012. Figures for age, sex, education, region and Internet usage were weighted where necessary to bring them into line with their actual proportions in the population.

Unweighted bases for the survey are: Total (5,134); France (1,031); Germany (1,030); Great Britain (1,048); Italy (1,001) and Spain (1,024).

Weighted bases for the survey are: Total (5,134); France (1,031); Germany (1,030); Great Britain (1,048); Italy (1,001) and Spain (1,024).

All sample surveys and polls, whether or not they use probability sampling, are subject to multiple sources of error which are most often not possible to quantify or estimate, including sampling error, coverage error, error associated with non-response, error associated with question wording and response options, and post-survey weighting and adjustments. Therefore, Harris Interactive avoids the words "margin of error" as they are misleading. All that can be calculated are different possible sampling errors with different probabilities for pure, unweighted, random samples with 100% response rates. These are only theoretical because no published polls come close to this ideal.

Respondents for this survey were selected from among those who have agreed to participate in Harris Interactive surveys. The data have been weighted to reflect the composition of the adult populations within those countries that were surveyed. Because the sample is based on those who agreed to participate in the Harris Interactive panel, no estimates of theoretical sampling error can be calculated.

These statements conform to the principles of disclosure of the National Council on Public Polls and the British Polling Council.

TABLE 1
GREEK EXIT

“As it currently stands, do you believe that Greece should remain a member of the eurozone?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries

	Great Britain	France	Italy	Spain	Germany
	%	%	%	%	%
Unweighted base	1048	1031	1001	1024	1030
Yes	24%	39%	59%	45%	27%
No	33%	32%	21%	27%	54%
Not sure	43%	29%	20%	28%	19%

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

The Spaniards and Italians – and to a lesser extent, the French – are significantly more likely to believe that Greece should remain a member of the eurozone than their British and German counterparts. The Italians are the most supportive (59% believe Greece should remain a member), whilst the Germans are the less sympathetic (54% believe it should not).

TABLE 2
HELP TO GREECE

“Some argue that other eurozone members should do more to help Greece remain in the eurozone.
To what extent do you agree or disagree with this view?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries

	Great Britain	France	Italy	Spain	Germany
	%	%	%	%	%
Unweighted base	1048	1031	1001	1024	1030
Agree (NET)	21%	25%	43%	46%	26%
Strongly agree	6%	5%	11%	20%	7%
Somewhat agree	15%	20%	32%	26%	18%
Neither agree nor disagree	42%	33%	30%	30%	28%
Disagree (NET)	37%	43%	27%	24%	47%
Somewhat disagree	24%	25%	17%	12%	22%
Strongly disagree	13%	18%	10%	11%	25%

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

Again, the Spaniards and Italians agree to a greater extent that more should be done to help Greece remain in the eurozone (46% and 43% agree respectively). In comparison, the Germans, French and Britons are significantly more inclined to disagree. As much as 47% of Germans disagree that more should be done to help.

TABLE 3
CONFIDENCE IN EUROPE'S AND GREECE'S ABILITY TO OVERCOME THE DEBT CRISIS

"How confident are you, if at all, that...?"

Greece will ever repay its bailout loans.

Base: All EU adults in five countries

	Great Britain	France	Italy	Spain	Germany
	%	%	%	%	%
Unweighted base	1048	1031	1001	1024	1030
At least somewhat confident (NET)	33%	36%	77%	57%	26%
Very/Extremely confident (NET)	5%	1%	4%	4%	3%
Extremely confident	2%	0	1%	1%	0
Very confident	3%	1%	3%	3%	2%
Confident	10%	12%	19%	21%	9%
Somewhat confident	18%	22%	54%	32%	15%
Not at all confident	67%	64%	23%	43%	74%

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

5% or less of Europeans in the countries surveyed strongly believe that Greece will ever repay its bailout loans. The vast majority of Germans, Britons and French are not at all confident that it will ever be repaid. Although a majority of Italians and Spaniards believe that it will be repaid, only 4% go as far as saying that they are very/extremely confident about it.

Greece will reform its economy to ensure that it does not need EU financial support in the future.

Base: All EU adults in five countries

	Great Britain	France	Italy	Spain	Germany
	%	%	%	%	%
Unweighted base	1048	1031	1001	1024	1030
At least somewhat confident (NET)	44%	50%	88%	70%	51%
Very/Extremely confident (NET)	5%	3%	6%	6%	4%
Extremely confident	2%	1%	2%	1%	1%
Very confident	3%	2%	4%	4%	3%
Confident	11%	14%	31%	28%	16%
Somewhat confident	28%	34%	50%	37%	31%
Not at all confident	56%	50%	12%	30%	49%

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

The same picture applies to the likelihood that Greece will be able to reform its economy to ensure that it does not need EU financial support in the future. The Britons, French and Germans are by large pessimistic, and although a majority of Italians and Spaniards are at least somewhat confident that Greece will be able to reform, very few strongly believe it.

Eurozone policy-makers will address the debt crisis in the eurozone.

Base: All EU adults in five countries

	Great Britain	France	Italy	Spain	Germany
	%	%	%	%	%
Unweighted base	1048	1031	1001	1024	1030
At least somewhat confident (NET)	56%	69%	83%	63%	70%
Very/Extremely confident (NET)	7%	4%	9%	7%	10%
Extremely confident	2%	1%	3%	2%	2%
Very confident	5%	3%	6%	5%	8%
Confident	15%	25%	33%	20%	24%
Somewhat confident	34%	40%	42%	36%	37%
Not at all confident	44%	31%	17%	37%	30%

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

The majority of Europeans in the countries surveyed at least some confidence that the eurozone policy-makers will address the debt crisis in the eurozone – the most confident being the Italians (with a mean score of 2.36), and perhaps surprisingly the Germans (with a mean score of 2.17).

TABLE 4
IMPACT OF AUSTERITY MEASURES

“What impact do you believe austerity measures have on solving the debt crisis in Europe, if any?”

Base: All EU adults in five countries and U.S. adults

	Great Britain	France	Italy	Spain	Germany
	%	%	%	%	%
Unweighted base	1048	1031	1001	1024	1030
Positive impact (NET)	25%	14%	17%	19%	20%
Very positive impact	3%	2%	1%	4%	1%
Somewhat positive impact	21%	12%	16%	15%	18%
No impact	26%	11%	11%	11%	12%
Negative impact (NET)	29%	61%	62%	64%	58%
Somewhat negative impact	19%	35%	42%	24%	43%
Very negative impact	10%	26%	20%	40%	15%
Not sure	20%	14%	10%	6%	10%

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100% due to rounding

The majority of Spaniards, Italians, French and Germans believe that austerity measures have a negative impact on solving the debt crisis in Europe. The Britons are only slightly more likely to believe that they have a negative impact rather than positive one (29% vs. 25%), but are noticeably more unsure about their impact than their other European counterparts.

About Harris Interactive

[Harris Interactive](#) is one of the world's leading custom market research firms, leveraging research, technology, and business acumen to transform relevant insight into actionable foresight. Known widely for the Harris Poll and for pioneering innovative research methodologies, Harris offers expertise in a wide range of industries including healthcare, technology, public affairs, energy, telecommunications, financial services, insurance, media, retail, restaurant, and consumer package goods. Serving clients in over 215 countries and territories through our North American, European, and Asian offices and a network of independent market research firms, Harris specializes in delivering research solutions that help us – and our clients – stay ahead of what's next. For more information, please visit www.harrisinteractive.com.