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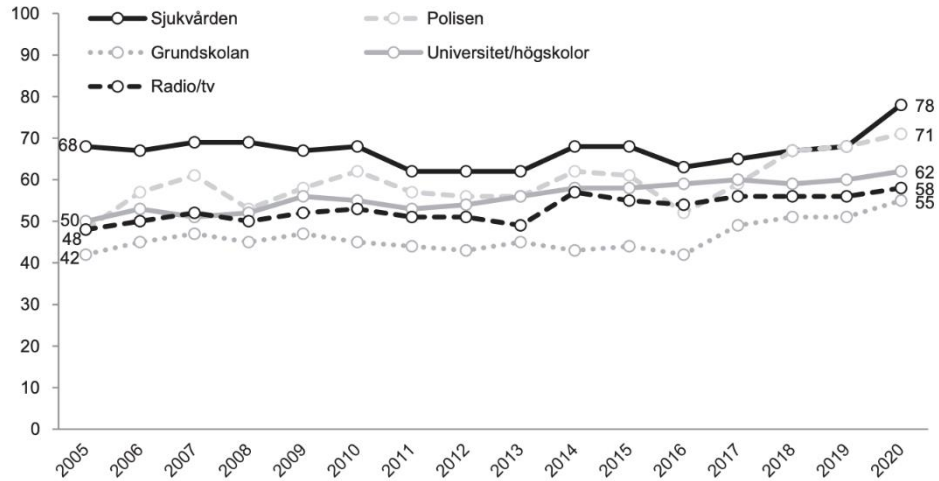
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Table 1: Country responses: Trust in exchange of data for secondary use purposes

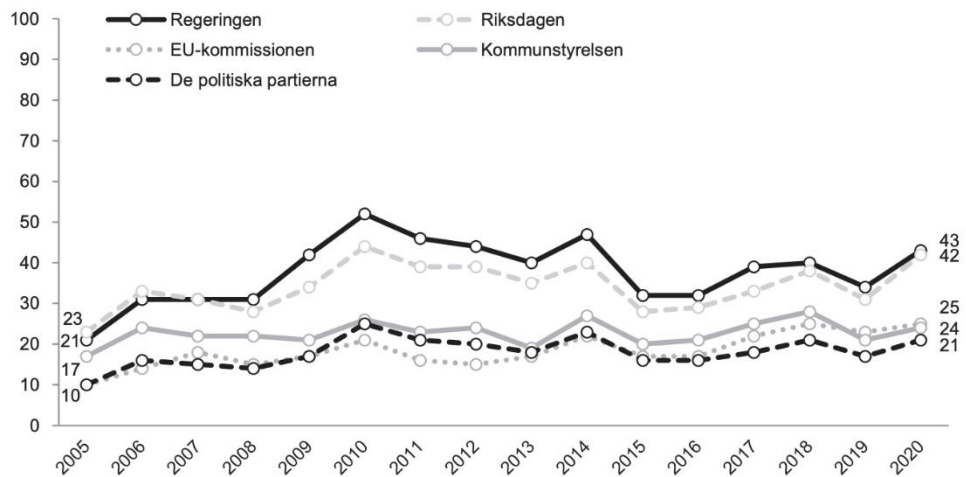
Country	Topic: Trust in exchange of data for secondary use purposes
Austria	<p>It is to state that trust of the trust of the Austrian population in public institutions (more or less EU average) as well as in science and research (around 1/3 very sceptical) (see Eurobarometer 98, ÖAW Wissenschaftsbarometer 2023) is limited and with Covid-19 trust in government and the health system was reduced. (https://woco.univie.ac.at/dashboard/)</p> <p>In Austria also trust of data holders among each other seems to be low although Covid-19 had led to an increase in willingness of data sharing.</p> <p>That is to consider a positive effect of the pandemic: That it was recognized by the policy-makers that evidence-based decisions need data – I mean this was not new- but that the data had to be transparent, meaning publicly available and most recent.</p> <p>So, there is something to build on. But individual choice in the form of opt out is fundamental if secondary use in Austria is to succeed.</p>
Belgium	<p>Belgium is a federal country, so there are many initiatives on a more regional level. But there are two initiatives to measure trust to be highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Since March 2020 researchers are monitoring motivation and connectiveness of population in a kind of motivation barometer, which was of course very much focused on Covid-19. - In Flanders an initiative is ongoing to build personal health faults, where you can store your own health data not only from your health records, but also from .eg. fitness tracker. This is a pilot and could help to improving the trust.
Ireland	Will reply in written.
Malta	Will reply in written.
Serbia	<p>The Institute for Public Health of Serbia strives to improve the accuracy of secondary data in Serbia, and therefore trust in such data. In this regard, we are developing an interactive dashboard in Power Bi. We are sure that the availability of such data to the professional and lay public in the modern manner would increase the quality and trust in the same.</p> <p>Regarding trust in secondary data, we would refer you to the work: Discrepancies between preliminary and final COVID-19 mortality data-the case of Serbia - PubMed (nih.gov)</p>
Slovenia	Slovenia is in the process of developing a system and a process for secondary use data
Sweden	<p>The SOM surveys constitute our central research activity, where we annually pose questions to the Swedish population on themes encompassing Society, Opinion, and Media. Initiated in 1986, the SOM surveys have been conducted every year since then, establishing themselves as a highly utilized resource across numerous research domains. The findings frequently feature in the media and serve as valuable insights for politicians, governmental bodies, and other decision-makers. Each autumn, the surveys are distributed to over 30,000 randomly selected individuals throughout Sweden. This extensive reach ensures a diverse and representative sample, facilitating comprehensive analysis and interpretation of societal trends and public opinions.</p> <p>Despite the challenging circumstances brought about by the pandemic, there's a notable positive trend in the trust towards many societal institutions, particularly evident in the healthcare sector. The resilience and unwavering commitment of healthcare professionals during this critical time have undoubtedly contributed to the increase in trust levels. It's not just healthcare; other institutions like media, universities, and political parties have also maintained stable levels of trust. Interestingly, the rise in trust towards political institutions, especially the parliament and the government, is noteworthy, even amidst the backdrop of a global crisis. This trend underscores the significance of trust in ensuring the effectiveness and legitimacy of our societal structures.</p>



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Sjukvården = ward; Grundskolan = primary school; Universitet/högskolor = universities and other higher education institutions.



The analysis of trust in health authorities across different societal groups, as highlighted in the SOM survey of 2020, provides valuable insights into public perceptions. Despite the onset of the second wave of the pandemic in Sweden, there were no significant differences observed in trust assessments between responses collected before and during the later months of 2020. Examining trust levels in healthcare and government institutions, it's evident that trust in healthcare has risen across all societal groups in 2020 compared to 2019. Interestingly, this increase seems to have a leveling effect across various demographic and political affiliations, indicating a more uniform trust distribution.

However, when comparing trust in the government, there are notable variations among different groups. For instance, supporters of the Sweden Democrats exhibit the lowest trust in healthcare, albeit with a significant increase in trust levels. Conversely, supporters of the Center Party show the highest trust, a pattern consistent with 2019.

Further analysis reveals gender disparities in trust towards the government, with men consistently exhibiting lower trust levels compared to women. Age, on the other hand, doesn't seem to significantly influence trust levels in the government.

Educational attainment plays a role, with individuals with higher education levels expressing greater trust in the government compared to those with lower or moderate education levels. Similarly, residents of urban areas tend to have more trust in the government compared to those in rural areas.

A noteworthy finding is the significant disparity in trust based on political ideology, with individuals leaning towards the left expressing significantly higher trust in the government compared to those on the right. This trust gap has widened since 2019, with the left-leaning group showing the most substantial increase in trust.



Interestingly, parties aligned with the January Agreement demonstrate the highest proportion of supporters with strong trust in the government, with Social Democrats and Left Party experiencing the most significant absolute increase in trust between 2019 and 2020. Overall, these findings underscore the nuanced dynamics of trust in health authorities and government institutions within different segments of society, highlighting the complex interplay of factors shaping public perceptions during times of crisis.

Tabell 1 Andel stort förtroende för sjukvården och regeringen i olika samhällsgrupper, 2019–2020 (procent)

	Sjukvården			Regeringen		
	2019	2020	Diff.	2019	2020	Diff.
Kön						
Kvinnor	68	79	+11	36	46	+10
Män	67	78	+11	31	39	+8
Ålder						
16–29 år	63	78	+15	32	43	+11
30–49 år	65	74	+9	36	43	+7
50–64 år	67	79	+12	33	43	+10
65–85 år	72	81	+9	33	42	+9
Utbildningsnivå						
Låg	69	79	+10	26	36	+10
Medel	64	76	+12	26	36	+10
Hög	71	80	+9	44	52	+8
Bostadsort						
Ren landsbygd	65	80	+15	24	35	+11
Mindre tätort	66	78	+12	29	36	+7
Stad eller större tätort	69	79	+10	36	45	+9
Stockholm, Göteborg, Malmö	67	76	+9	39	47	+8
Vänster/höger						
Klart/något till vänster	73	82	+9	54	65	+11
Varken vänster eller höger	64	76	+12	29	38	+9
Klart/något till höger	65	77	+12	21	26	+5
Partisympati						
Vänsterpartiet	73	77	+4	43	53	+10
Socialdemokraterna	72	83	+11	57	69	+12
Miljöpartiet	73	74	+1	54	62	+8
Centerpartiet	79	84	+5	47	56	+9
Liberalerna	68	79	+11	(42)	(49)	+7
Kristdemokraterna	72	73	+1	(24)	(21)	-3
Moderaterna	67	83	+16	20	25	+5
Sverigedemokraterna	56	70	+14	(5)	(8)	+3

The delineation of trust in various actors regarding their communication about the coronavirus, as depicted in the 2020 survey, is particularly illuminating. It's evident that there exists a clear divide between, on one side, scientists/Folkhälsomyndigheten (Public Health Agency of Sweden), and on the other side, politicians/journalists (see Figure 2).

Approximately nine out of ten individuals express substantial trust in the information provided by scientists and the Public Health Agency regarding the coronavirus. Notably, nearly half of the respondents exhibit very high trust specifically in the communication from the Public Health Agency about the virus.

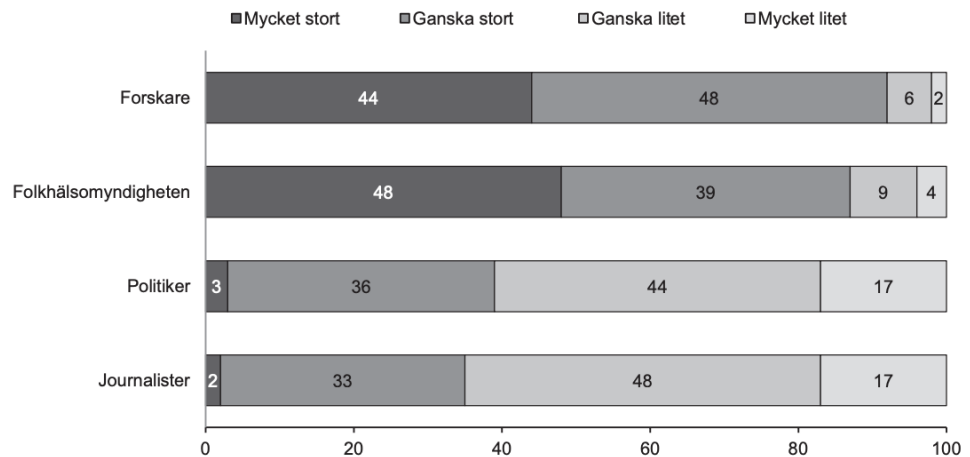
It's crucial to note that the majority of responses were collected during September and the first half of October, before the onset of the second wave of the pandemic. This temporal context is essential for understanding the dynamics of public trust and perceptions regarding the handling of the pandemic.

This division in trust underscores the significance of expertise and authoritative sources in times of crisis. The high levels of trust in scientists and the Public Health Agency suggest a recognition of their expertise and credibility in providing accurate and reliable information amidst the pandemic.



Conversely, the lower levels of trust in politicians and journalists in their communication about the coronavirus point to potential challenges in effectively disseminating information and building public confidence in these spheres. Overall, these findings shed light on the complex landscape of public trust during the pandemic, emphasizing the pivotal role of trusted scientific institutions in informing and guiding public perceptions and behaviors.

Trust in different actors providing information on the coronavirus (%)



Mycket stort = very large; ganska stort = quite large; ganska lite = quite small; mycket lite = very small.

The level of trust in information about the coronavirus varies significantly among different groups, particularly when comparing scientists/Folkhälsomyndigheten (Public Health Agency of Sweden) with politicians and journalists. While nearly nine out of ten individuals express high trust in information from scientists and the Public Health Agency, trust in information from politicians and journalists is considerably lower, with only a few percentage points expressing very high trust.

Approximately one-fifth of respondents indicate having very little trust in information about the coronavirus from politicians or journalists. When combined with those who have somewhat little trust, a majority of the Swedish population, over 60 percent, expresses either little or no trust in the information provided by politicians and journalists.

Significant differences in trust levels are observed, especially concerning left-right political positioning and satisfaction with democracy. Notably, trust in information from the Public Health Agency, politicians, and journalists about the coronavirus varies substantially among groups satisfied and dissatisfied with democracy in Sweden. Among those dissatisfied with democracy, trust in information from the Public Health Agency is approximately 20 percentage points lower compared to those satisfied with democracy. Similarly, trust in information from politicians shows a considerable difference between those satisfied and dissatisfied with democracy, with only a fifth of the latter expressing trust.

Furthermore, trust in information from politicians differs significantly based on left-right political positioning, with less than a third of those leaning right or politically neutral expressing trust compared to over half of those leaning left. Trust in information from journalists, however, shows less disparity based on political positioning.

Interestingly, there are no significant differences in trust levels among different age groups. Women tend to exhibit higher trust in the actors mentioned in the survey compared to men, except for scientists where no notable gender difference is observed. Residents of urban areas generally show higher trust in information from politicians and journalists about the coronavirus compared to those living in rural areas, but no significant difference is observed for information from scientists and the Public Health Agency based on the respondent's place of residence.



Trust in different actors providing information on the coronavirus (%)

	Forskare	Folkhälso- myndigheten	Politiker	Journalister
Kön				
Kvinna	93	90	43	37
Man	91	84	36	33
Alder				
16–29 år	93	86	40	31
30–49 år	92	85	41	38
50–64 år	94	89	39	36
65–85 år	92	89	38	34
Bostadsort				
Ren landsbygd	94	86	35	33
Mindre tätort	91	86	33	27
Stad eller större tätort	92	88	41	35
Stockholm, Göteborg, Malmö	93	88	44	45
Nöjd med demokratin				
Mycket nöjd	96	96	68	52
Ganska nöjd	95	93	45	39
Inte särskilt/inte alls nöjd	86	75	19	23
Vänster/höger				
Klart/något till vänster	95	94	53	45
Varken vänster eller höger	87	82	34	31
Klart/något till höger	93	86	32	29

Finally, respondents were given the opportunity to express their trust in various actors' handling of the COVID-19 pandemic, ranging from individual citizens, news media, and authorities to municipalities, regions, the state, and the EU. Once again, the Public Health Agency stands out, with over seven out of ten individuals expressing high trust in its management of the pandemic. It's crucial to note that a significant portion of responses were collected before the onset of the second wave of the pandemic.

Approximately half of the respondents also express high trust in how regions and the state have handled the pandemic. There's then a cluster comprising municipalities, news media, and the business sector, where about one-third of individuals express high trust. The two actors with the lowest levels of trust are the EU and individual citizens.



Trust in different actors						
	Stort förtroende	Varken stort/litet	Litet förtroende	Vet ej	Summa procent	Förtroende-balans
Folkhälsomyndigheten	71	17	9	3	100	+62
Regionen	54	29	12	5	100	+42
Staten	49	30	15	6	100	+34
Kommunen	38	39	17	6	100	+21
Nyhetsmedier	38	36	21	5	100	+17
Näringslivet	32	42	17	9	100	+15
EU	25	41	21	13	100	+4
Den enskilde medborgaren	23	42	32	3	100	-9

Source: SOM-Surveys

