

Food Safety in the EU

Most important factors when buying food



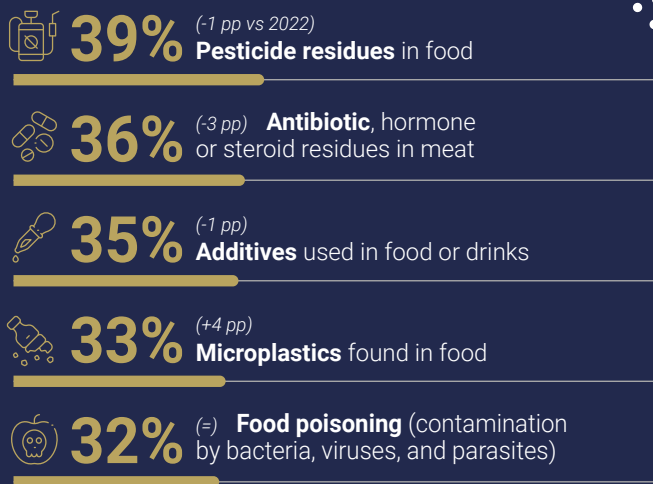
EU citizens think the following are most important factors when buying food...



Concerns about food safety

TOP 5 FROM A PREDEFINED SET

When asked which items concerned them the most from a set of potential food concerns, citizens' most commonly reported food concern



Awareness of food safety topics

Most commonly reported topics respondents are aware of



71% +1 pp vs 2022
Additives used in food or drinks



67% +2 pp
Pesticide residues in food



65% +5 pp
Diseases found in animals



64% +1 pp
Antibiotic, hormone or steroid residues in meat



63% +8 pp
Microplastics found in food

Level of awareness



Concerns about food risks

UNPROMPTED QUESTION | TOP 3

When EU citizens think about the problems or risks associated with food and eating they are the most concerned about...



Personal interest in food safety

72% (+2 pp vs 2022)
of EU citizens are
personally interested in food safety

27% are not (-2 pp)

Trust in sources of information on food risks

90% (+1 pp vs 2022) General practitioners and specialist doctors

84% (+2 pp) Scientists working at a university or publicly-funded research organisation

82% (+8 pp) Farmers and primary producers

82% (=) Consumer organisations

72% (+2 pp) Environmental/Health NGOs

70% (+4 pp) National authorities

69% (+3 pp) EU institutions

66% (+3 pp) Scientists working at an industrial or privately funded research organisation

60% (+3 pp) Supermarkets or local grocer

52% (+3 pp) Journalists

49% (+4 pp) Food industries

22% (+2 pp) Celebrities, bloggers and influencers

Main sources of information about food risks | TOP 5

55% (-6 pp vs 2022) **Television** on a TV set or via the internet

42% (-2 pp) **Exchanges** with family, friends, neighbours, or colleagues

38% (+1 pp) **Internet** search engine

26% (+4 pp) **Online social networks and blogs**

25% (-3 pp) **Newspapers** (online or in print)

Awareness of the EU food safety system

79% (+6 pp) **Regulations are in place** to make sure that the food we eat is safe

76% (+6 pp) **EU relies on scientists to give expert advice** decide how risky something could be for you to eat

71% (+6 pp) **EU and authorities in your country** responsible for food safety **work together**

68% (+7 pp) **EU has a separate institution that provides scientific advice** on the safety of food

Reasons for not paying attention to information about food safety

TOP 3 MAIN REASONS

Takes it for granted that **the food sold is safe**

41%

Knows enough to avoid or mitigate food risks

30%

Food safety information is often **highly technical and complex**

27%



For further information on the Eurobarometer 2025, please scan the QR Code