

## SUMMARY

## DATA SYNTHESIS: PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS OF THE COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

This summary includes the main findings on public vaccines perceptions from the [data synthesis report](#). The data synthesis is intended for those who are designing and delivering COVID-19 risk communication and community engagement and those who are collecting, analysing, and using data to inform COVID-19 vaccine programmes. This data synthesis brings together data from 66 data sources from quantitative surveys, across 107 countries and six regions (collected between March 2020 and April 2021 – see [data dashboard](#)). It also includes research findings from 29 qualitative studies and community feedback data from Africa. The findings are framed according to the [Behavioural and Social Drivers of the COVID-19 vaccination framework](#).

### KEY FINDINGS

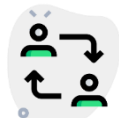


Thinking  
And Feeling

**Risk perception** does not appear as critical driver of vaccine acceptance - however previous COVID-19 infection can positively affect vaccine acceptance.

**Higher morbidity** and mortality rates did not appear to influence vaccine acceptance rates.

**Major concerns about vaccine safety and efficacy** include for example worries about rushed development of COVID-19 vaccine, fear of potential side effects, concerns about vaccines causing infertility.



Social  
Processes

Data shows correlations between levels of **trust in public authorities and partners leading the COVID-19 response** and COVID-19 vaccine intent.

COVID-19 vaccine acceptance appears to increase as **more people are vaccinated**.



Motivation

**Worldwide, 75%** of respondents would agree to take a COVID-19 vaccine (April 2021).

**Lower acceptance** rates in low-income countries (58%).

**Substantial increase** (73% in April 2021 compared to 57% in December 2020) in vaccine acceptance rates in Western Europe since vaccines were authorized in December 2020.

**Significant decrease** (65% in April 2021 compared to 80% in December 2020) in vaccine acceptance rates in Eastern and Southern Africa.



Practical Issues

**Lack of information and knowledge** about COVID-19 vaccination causes concerns in relation to vaccine safety and efficacy.

There are higher levels of vaccine acceptance among those who are **vaccinated against influenza**.

Please find more details here: [Data synthesis: public perceptions of the COVID-19 vaccinations](#)

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