

Public attitudes to Coronavirus

March update

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COVID-19 Analysis Division**

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Riaghaltas na h-Alba
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Introduction

This report draws together findings on key indicators from polling work on public attitudes to the Coronavirus pandemic in Scotland. Six reports covering earlier survey work were published on [8 May](#), [12 June](#), [5 August](#), [9 October](#), [20 November](#) 2020 and [29 January](#) 2021. As with previous reports, it is not intended to provide comprehensive analysis of the large amount of polling information available, but rather to draw together findings on some key indicators. The report contains brief descriptions and explanations of the included measures, and data from surveys which took place in January and February 2021.

Results should be interpreted in the context of surveys that were designed and undertaken during a rapidly changing situation and bearing in mind the limitations of the data source noted below.

Data sources

The source is an online survey by YouGov. It is a bespoke commission by Scottish Government. Further information about this source can be found in Annex A.

This report contains results from 5 January to 25 February, inclusive.¹ During this period the vaccination programme was rolling out and gathering pace while ‘stay at home’ restrictions were in place for mainland Scotland and some islands. Fieldwork dates are provided in Annex A. These dates and what was happening in relation to the pandemic should be kept in mind when interpreting the data. Due to the evolving situation and government responses to Coronavirus (see Annex B), questions were introduced at different times, or not asked at all waves.

Limitations

A polling survey has a number of limitations. The sample size (see Annex A for details) can limit meaningful subgroup analysis and the survey is based on non-probability research panels, which means representativeness is achieved using quotas and weighting. Furthermore, the nature of online research inherently excludes those who do not have internet access. The data source nevertheless provides useful and timely information, as long as appropriate caveats are applied.

As the survey has been conducted using a quota sample, rather than a random probability sample, statistical significance can only be used on an indicative basis. Differences over the survey waves are only highlighted if they are likely to be significant, however not all possible significant differences have been described.

¹ Only a small amount of fieldwork was completed on the morning of February 25th

Key points

- A high proportion of people are worried about the impact of Coronavirus on jobs and the economy. Around one quarter of those employed or furloughed perceived a threat to their job.
- In the main, the pandemic has had a negative impact on wellbeing. The proportion who feel lonely has remained at over 50% since December. However, optimism that things will get better soon has risen since January (30% to 60%).
- Since January, a quarter or more agreed that they would avoid contacting a GP even if they had an immediate non-Coronavirus medical concern.
- Three quarters of respondents agreed that the best thing to do is to follow the government's advice. This has remained high and stable through January and February. However, those stating they had engaged in a non-compliant activity has risen from the start of January (23% to 33%).
- Those who strongly agreed that it was more important now than ever to stick to the rules had declined from 57% at the start of January to 40% at the end of February.
- NHS Scotland was rated most highly of the institutions doing a good job to help Scotland deal with recovering from the pandemic.
- Trust in the Scottish Government to work in Scotland's best interest remained stable (70% trust a 'great deal' or 'quite a lot') during January and February.
- Among those not vaccinated, the proportion indicating they would be likely to receive a vaccination when it becomes available to them has remained high. Fewer than one in ten indicated they would be unlikely.

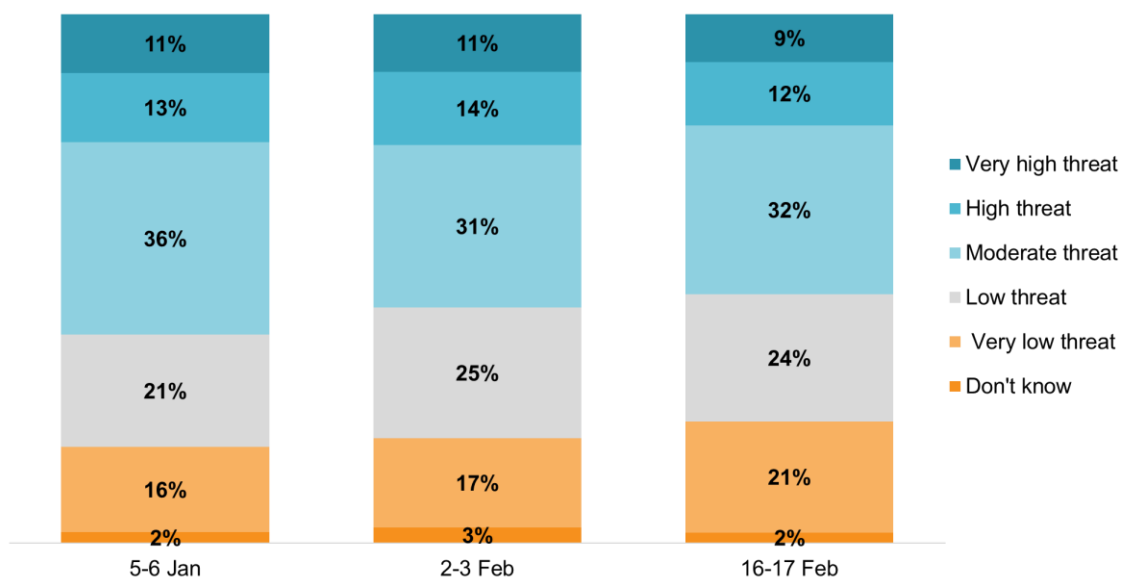
1. Impact of Coronavirus

Data was collected on the day-to-day impacts of Coronavirus on people’s finances and health. This section presents some information on how respondent’s finances and health have been affected by the pandemic.

Financial impact

Those who are working or furloughed were asked about the perceived level of threat to their job, resulting from Coronavirus. Figure 1 shows that this has remained fairly consistent, around a quarter, during January and February but fell to its lowest level (21%) by mid-February.

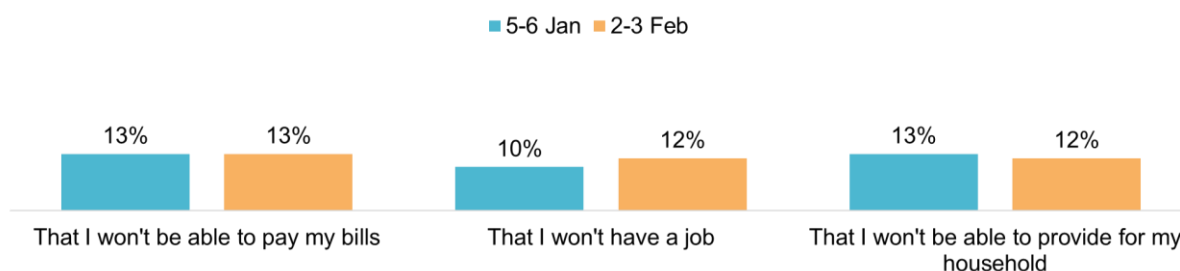
Figure 1: Perceived threat to job amongst those employed



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=440-454)

Respondents were asked, one month from now, how concerned they were, from extremely concerned to not at all, about paying their bills, about not having a job and not being able to provide for their household. 10-13% were ‘very’ or ‘extremely’ concerned.

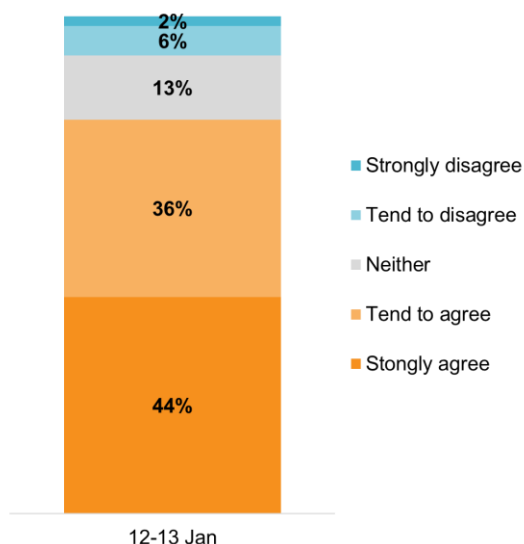
Figure 2: Proportion of respondents who were very/extremely concerned about the scenarios shown



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1009-1038)

When asked in mid-January, 80% agreed that they were worried about the long-lasting effect of the restrictions on their job and the economy. This is fairly consistent with levels seen when this question was asked in December.²

Figure 3: Proportion of respondents who agreed/disagreed with the statement 'I am worried about the long-lasting effect of restrictions on our jobs and our economy'



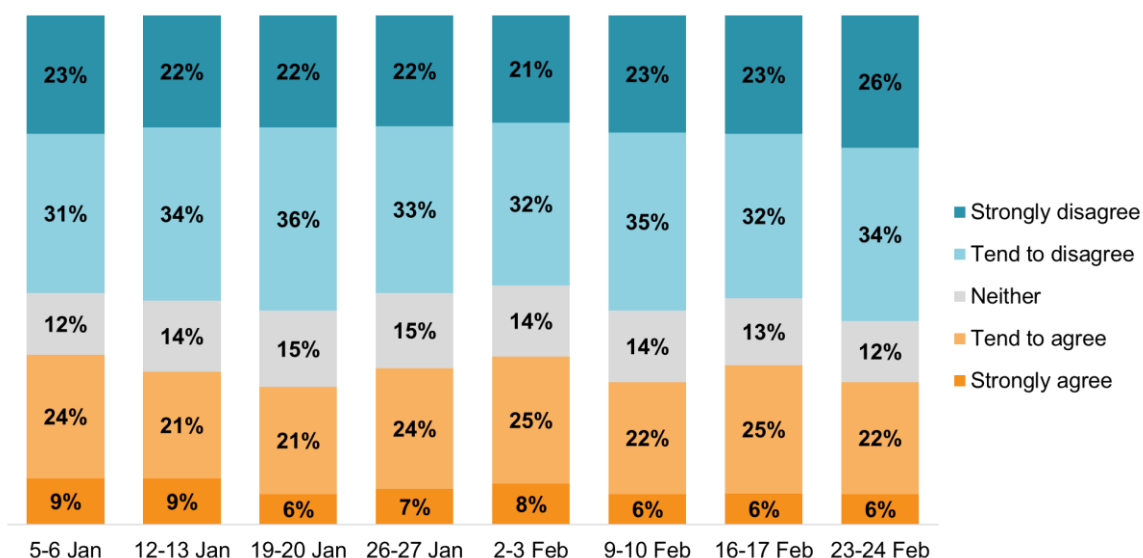
Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1038)

Health impacts

To understand the potential impact on other health issues, respondents were asked if they would avoid contacting a GP for immediate non-Coronavirus medical concerns. As shown in Figure 4, a quarter or more agreed that they would avoid doing so.

² [Public attitudes to Coronavirus: January update - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot/public-attitudes-to-coronavirus-january-update)

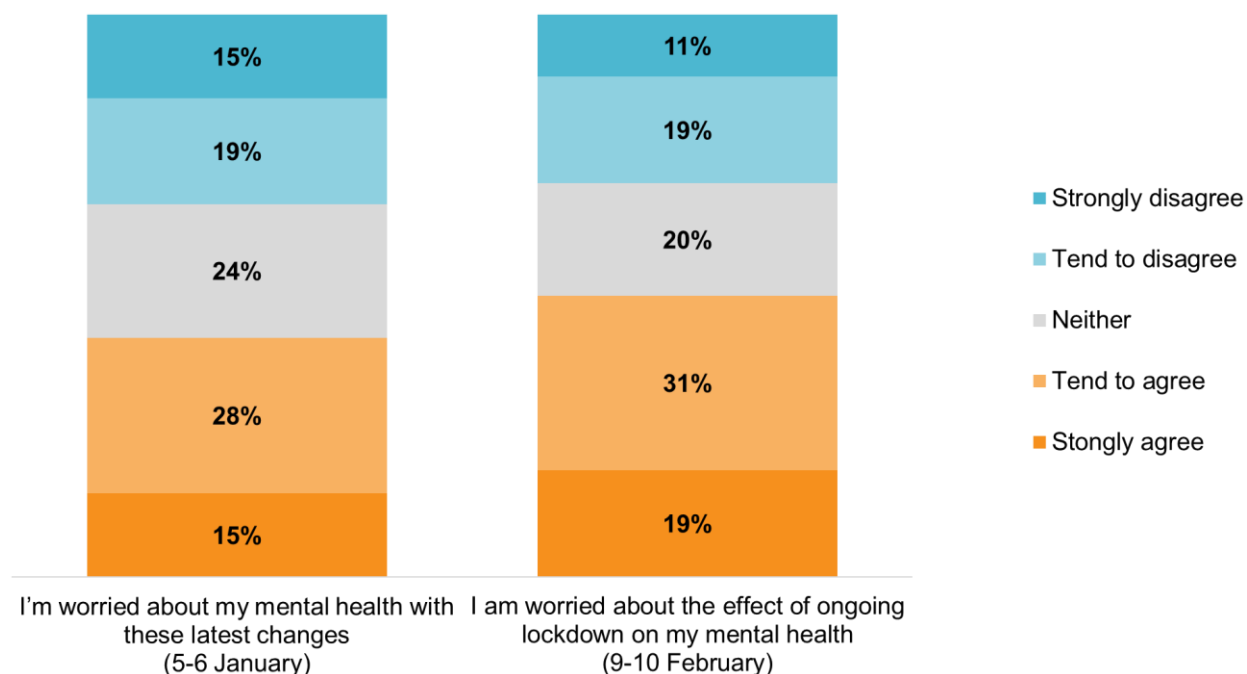
Figure 4: Proportion who agreed/disagreed that ‘I would avoid contacting a GP practice at the moment even if I had an immediate medical concern (not related to Coronavirus)’



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1000-1038)

In January, 43% of respondents agreed that they were worried about their mental health with the latest changes. In February, 50% agreed that they were worried about the effect of the ongoing lockdown on their mental health.

Figure 5: Proportion who agreed/ disagreed with the statements about their mental health



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1016-1038)

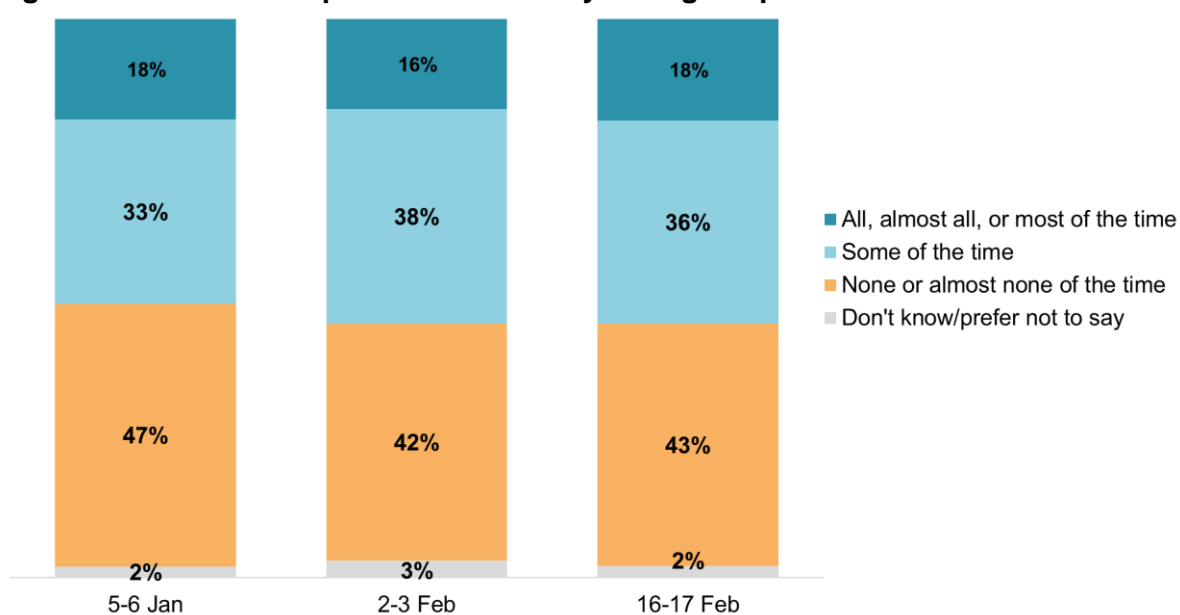
2. Wellbeing

The Coronavirus pandemic is having a wide range of impacts on personal wellbeing. This section presents data about the impacts of the pandemic on feelings such as happiness, loneliness, optimism and anxiety.

Levels of loneliness, anxiety and happiness

To understand social isolation, respondents were asked how much of the time during the past week they had felt lonely. As shown in Figure 6, the proportion who felt lonely at least some of the time (around one half of respondents) has remained relatively stable in January and February.

Figure 6: How often respondents felt lonely during the past week

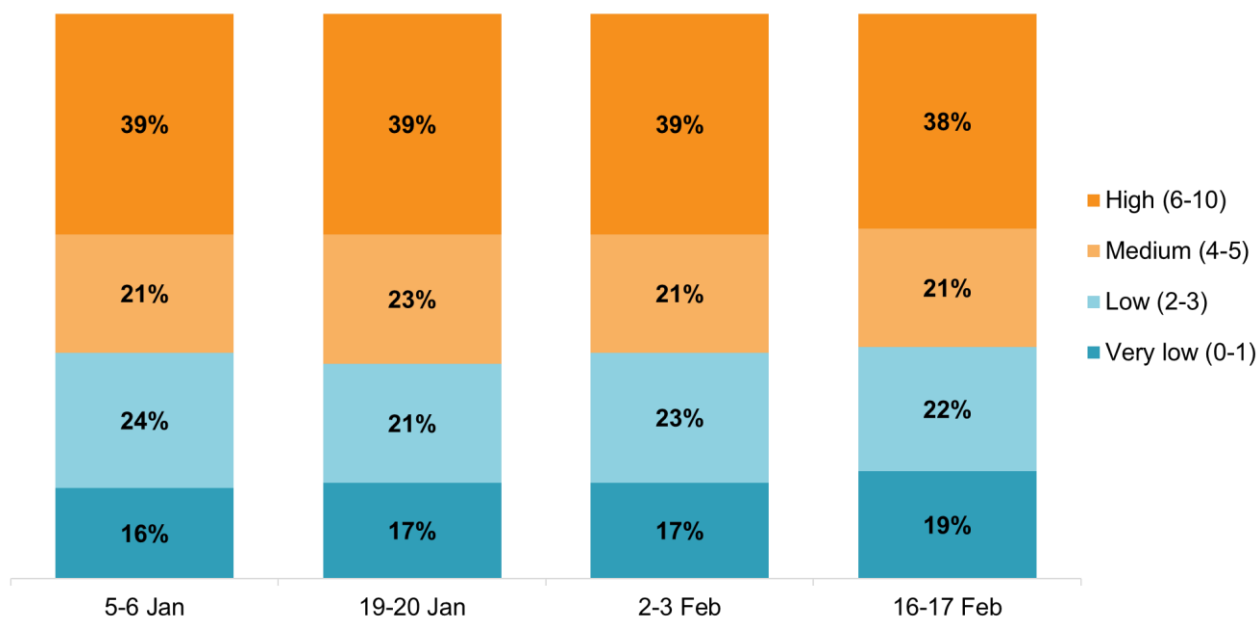


Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1007-1038)

The survey included two of the Office for National Statistics' (ONS) wellbeing questions³ to measure levels of anxiety and happiness. Respondents were asked how anxious, and how happy, they felt 'yesterday', on a scale of 0 to 10. As shown in Figure 7, throughout January and February, 38% to 39% reported 'high' anxiety (score of 6-10).

³<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/wellbeing/methodologies/personalwellbeingssurveyuserguide>

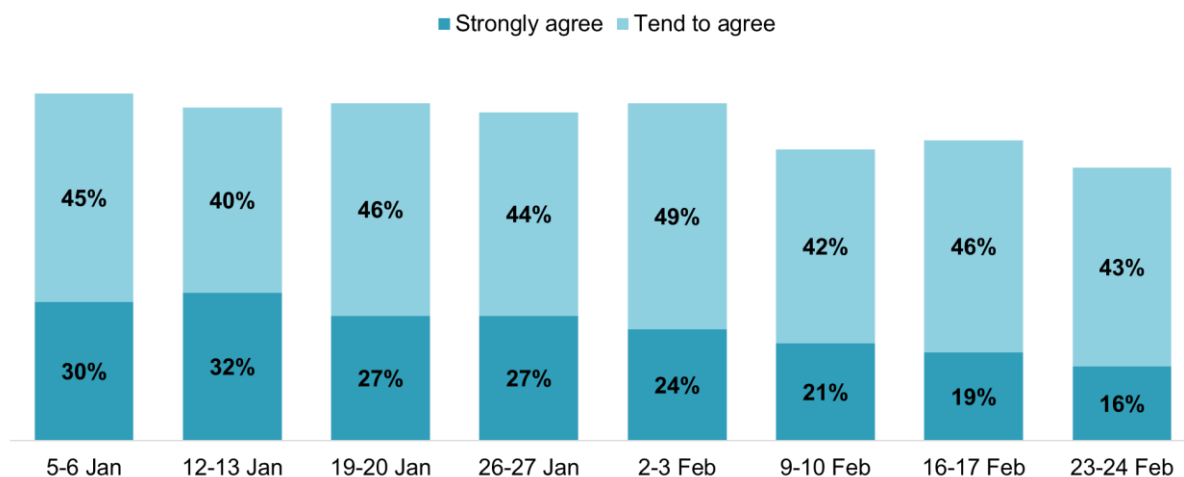
Figure 7: How anxious respondents felt yesterday on a scale of 0-10



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1007-1038)

However, worry about the Coronavirus situation has fallen from 75% in January to 59% in February.

Figure 8: Proportion who agreed with the statement 'I feel worried about the Coronavirus situation'

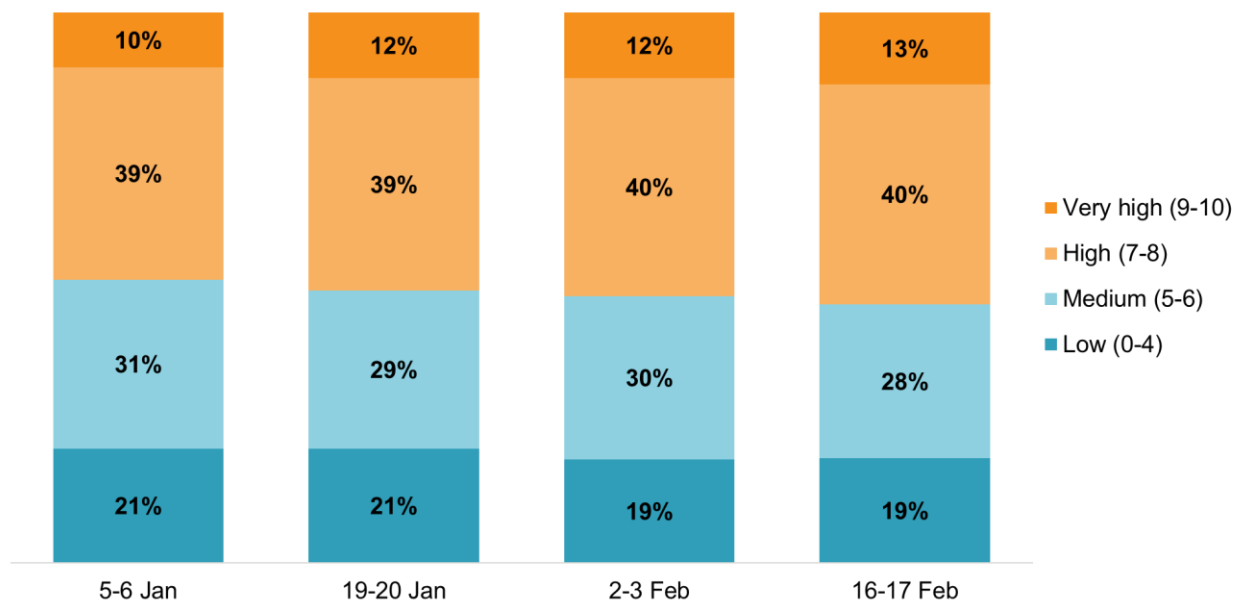


Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1000-1038)

As shown in Figure 9, around half, or slightly more, of respondents reported 'high' or 'very high' levels of happiness (score of 7-10), and this has remained relatively stable in January and February. 19-21% felt low levels of happiness (score of 0-4), which has been stable since May.⁴

⁴ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/public-attitudes-Coronavirus-summary/pages/7/> Figure 10

Figure 9: How happy respondents felt yesterday on a scale of 0-10

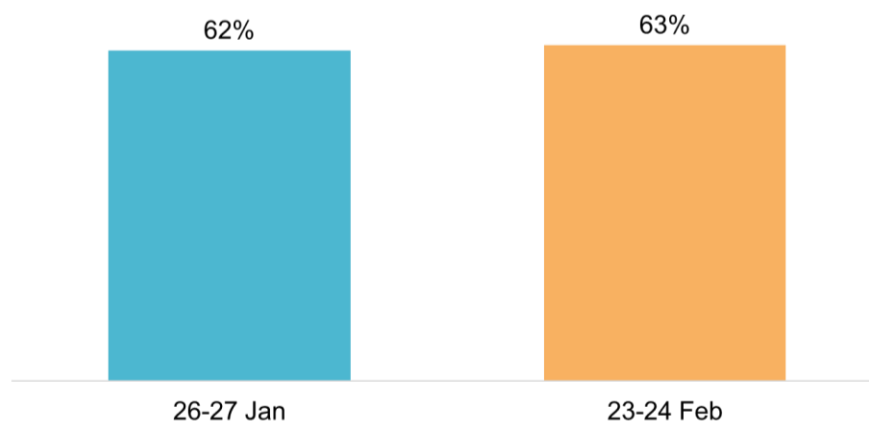


Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1007-1038)

Coping and optimism

Respondents were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with the statement, 'I feel like I am coping okay during the current Coronavirus situation'. As shown in Figure 10, just over 60% agreed that they felt like they were coping okay.

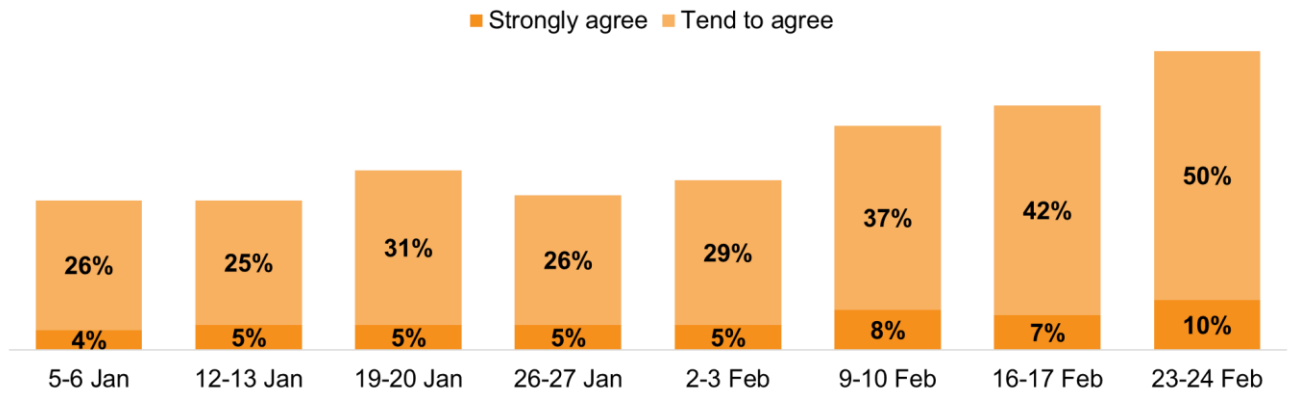
Figure 10: Proportion who agreed to the statement 'I feel like I am coping okay during the current Coronavirus situation'



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1000-1022)

Levels of optimism (measured by the proportion who agree that things will start to get better soon) doubled from 30% at the start of January to 60% in the last week of February.

Figure 11: Proportion who agreed with the statement 'I'm sure that things will start to get better soon'

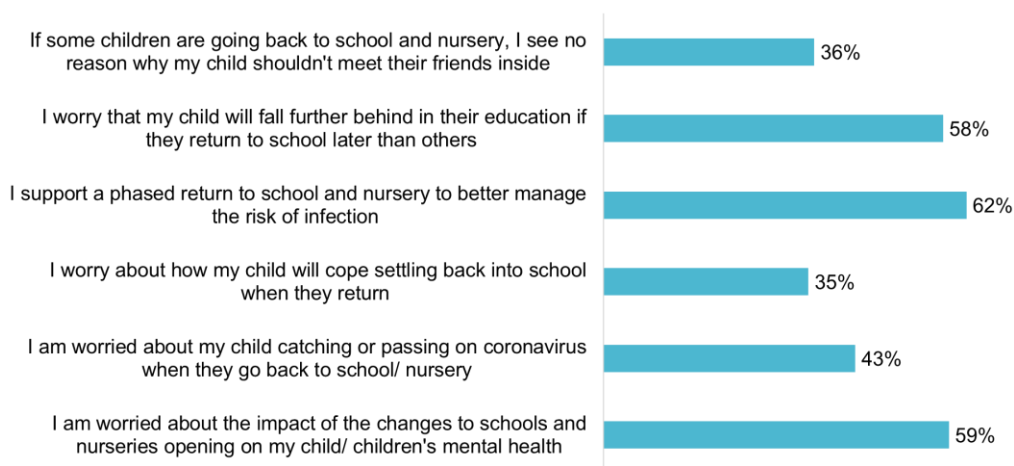


Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1000-1038)

Views about school/childcare

With delayed returns to school announced, respondents with children aged 4-17 years were asked about the extent to which they agreed or disagreed with a range of statements about schooling and childcare. In mid-February just under two thirds of respondents agreed that they were worried about the impact of the changes to school and nursery opening on their child or children’s mental health. 43% were worried about their child catching Coronavirus and 62% supported the phased return to school and nursery to better manage the risk of infection.

Figure 12: Proportion who agreed with the statements shown



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey (9-10 Feb). Base Scottish parents with children aged 4-17 (n=150-155). Those who selected 'Not Applicable' are excluded from this summary.

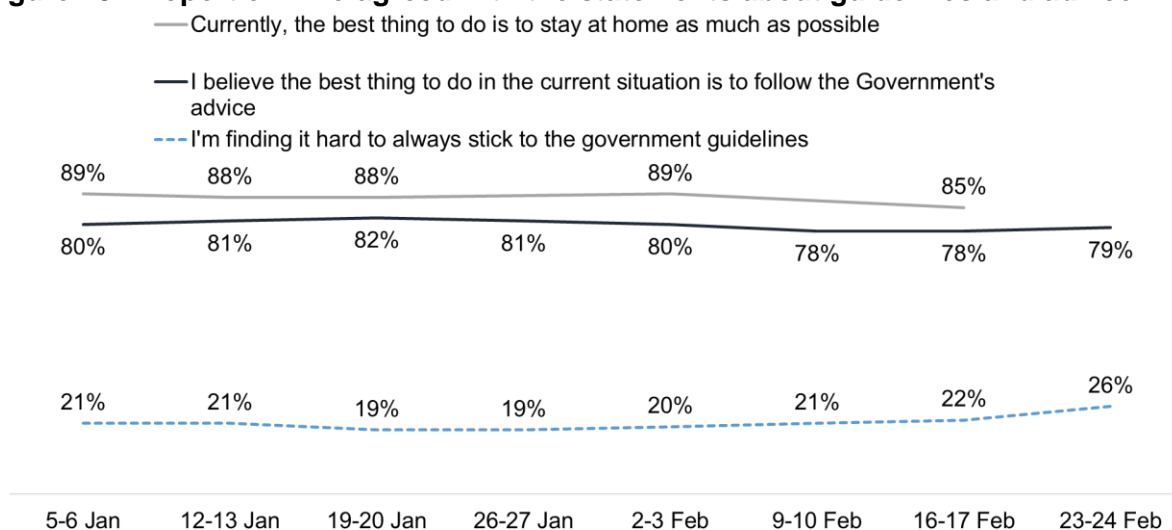
3. Compliance

As well as tracking the impacts of Coronavirus on people's finances and health, the surveys have been used to capture people's attitudes to the Coronavirus response. This section presents data about public awareness of, and reaction to, Coronavirus guidance and restrictions.

Views on guidance

Respondents were provided with statements about government advice and guidance, and asked about the extent to which they agreed or disagreed with each. Figure 13 shows that the percentage of respondents who agreed that the best thing to do is to follow the government's advice, has remained high and stable through January and February. The proportion of respondents finding it hard to always stick to the government guidelines has increased through January and February, to around a quarter at the end of February.

Figure 13: Proportion who agreed with the statements about guidelines and advice



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1000-1038)

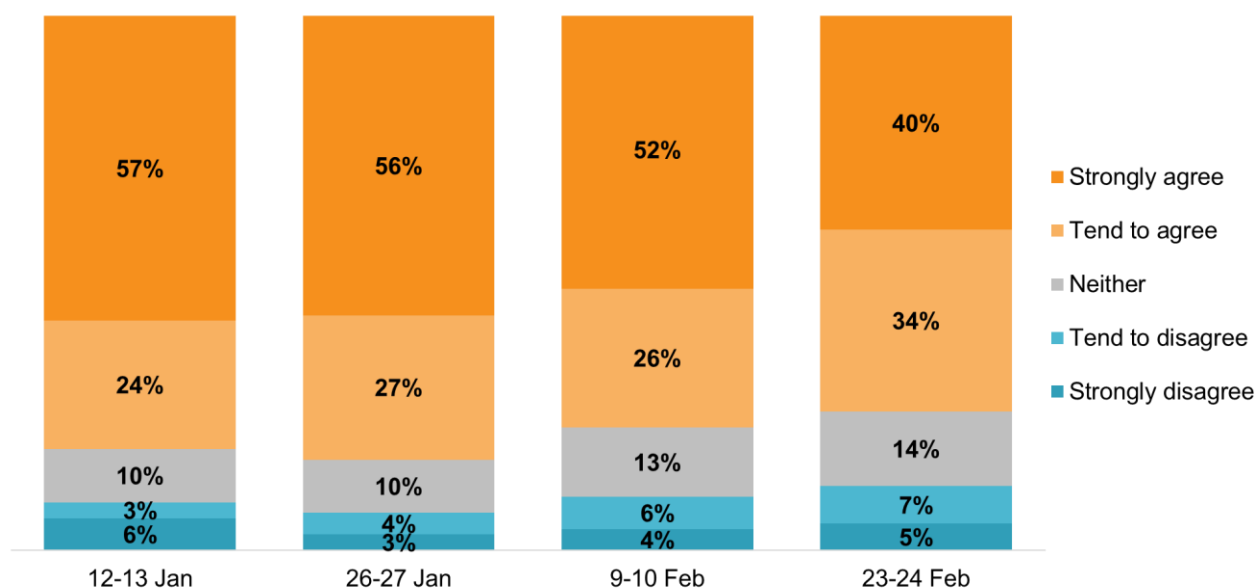
Views on recent restrictions

The country went into a national lockdown on 5th January.⁵ Under this guidance the public were asked to 'stay at home' and only leave their home for essential reasons such as to buy food, provide support to a vulnerable person or to exercise.

Respondents were asked to what extent they agreed with statements about these restrictions. In January, at first, a majority (81%) agreed that it was more important now than ever to stick to the rules. This remained stable for 3 weeks but then fell at the end of February to 75%. Those who 'strongly agreed' has decreased from 57% in January to 40% in February.

⁵ [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): stay at home guidance - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/coronavirus-guidance)

Figure 14: Proportion who agreed/disagreed with the statement ‘It’s more important now than ever to stick to the rules’



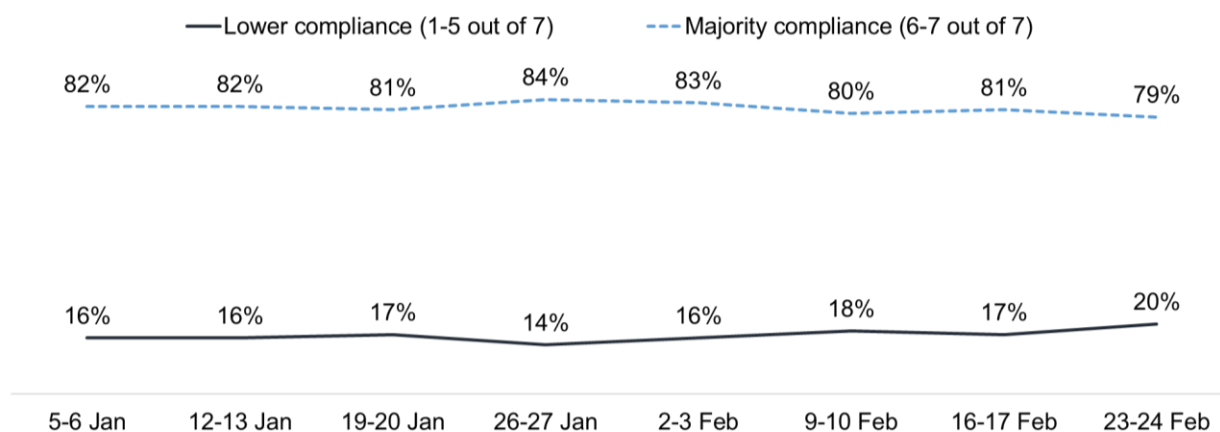
Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1000-1038)

Compliance with restrictions

Respondents were asked, thinking about all of the guidance⁶ from the Scottish Government, on what to do and not do (including protection measures and distancing) to what extent did they feel they were following the regulations and guidance on a scale from 1 to 7, where 1 is 'not at all' and 7 is 'completely'. The proportion rating their compliance as 6 or 7 remained stable between 79-84% throughout January and February. 14-20% rated their compliance lower with a score between 1 and 5 in February, although the proportion was slightly lower in January.

⁶ The guidance was to 'stay at home' and FACTS [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): FACTS poster including translations and accessible formats - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/Topics/healthandcare/coronavirus/covid-19/factsheets) which informed people about - face coverings, to avoid crowded places, to clean hands, to remember the two metre distance and to self-isolate and book a test if they have symptoms.

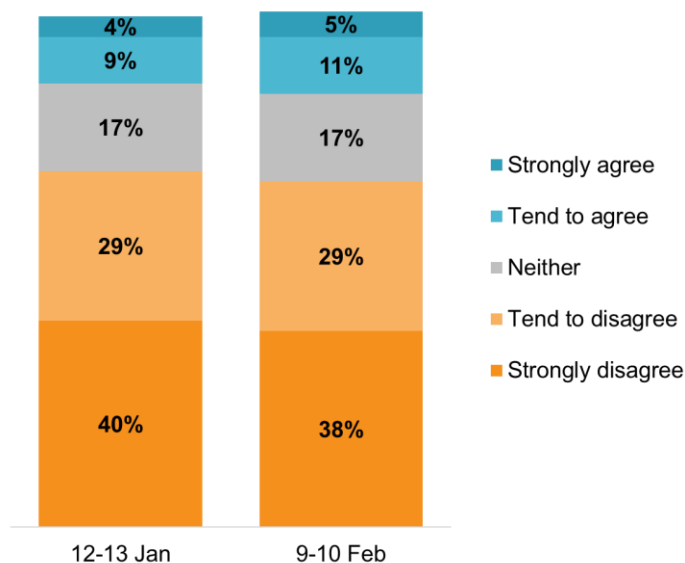
Figure 15: Proportion who rated their compliance as 1-5 or 6-7 out of 7



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1000-1038)

As shown in Figure 16, 13% in January and in February 16%, agreed they had been adapting the guidance as they did not think everything was necessary. However, the majority of respondents indicated that they had not been adapting the guidance.

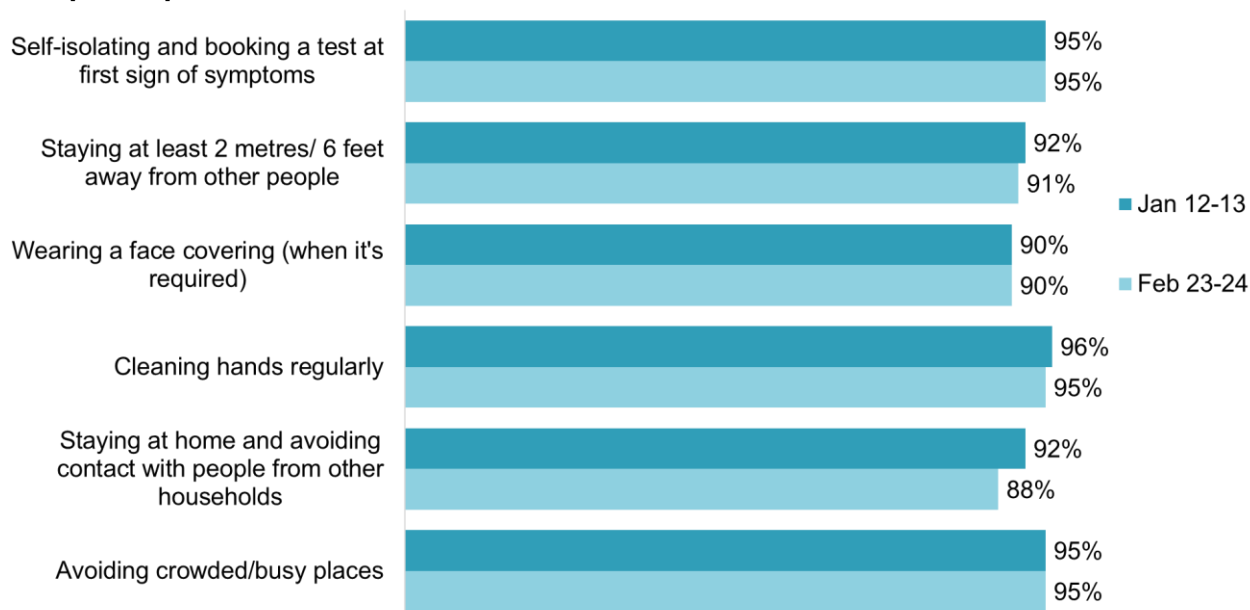
Figure 16: Proportion who agreed/disagreed with the statement ‘I have been adapting the guidance as I don’t think everything is necessary’



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1029-1038)

Respondents were asked if they agreed (or not) with how important they felt different activities and interventions are for keeping Coronavirus under control. There was high agreement (between 88-96%) through January and February.

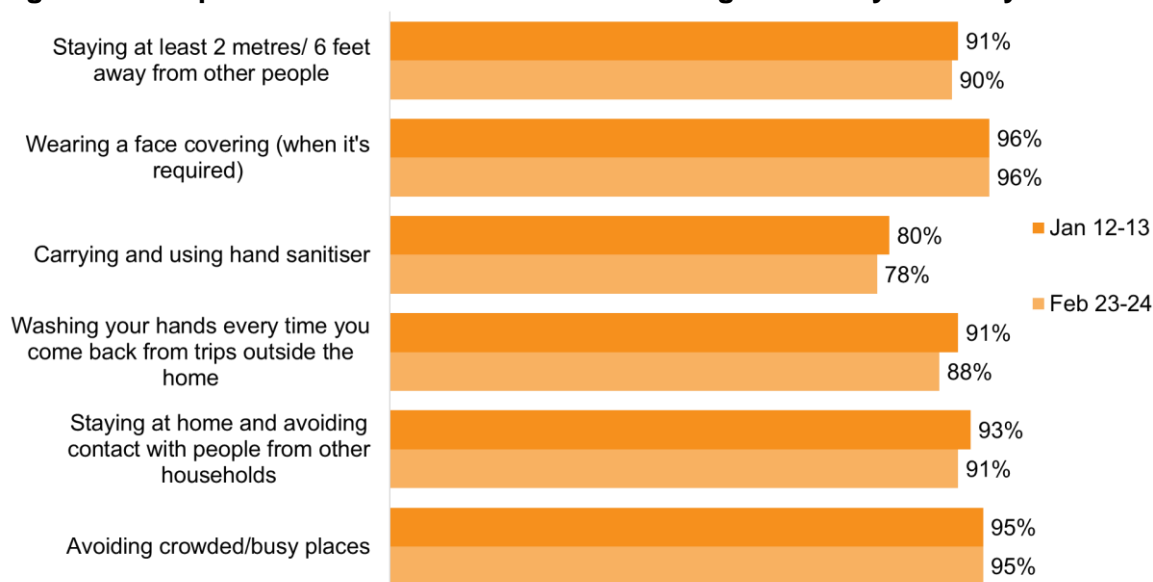
Figure 17: Proportions who rated the following as ‘very’ or ‘fairly important’ in helping to keep the spread of Coronavirus under control



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1000-1038)

Respondents were asked how well they thought they were doing various activities. The majority agreed they were doing each well, and there was little change over January and February. The activity that people were less likely to feel they were doing well was carrying and using hand sanitiser.

Figure 18: Proportion who rated themselves at doing each ‘very’ or ‘fairly well’

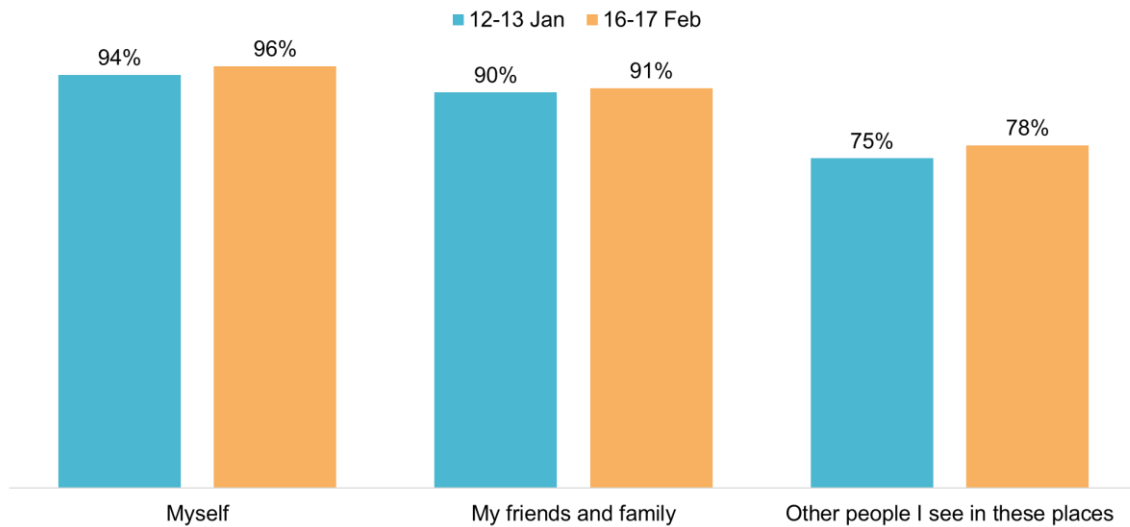


Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1000-1038)

Respondents were asked to what extent, if at all, they feel that they and others are wearing face coverings when required in shops, public transport and other indoor places. The majority stated ‘completely’ or ‘mostly’ for themselves and for their

friends/family. A lower proportion (three quarters) felt that others were following this rule.

Figure 19: Proportion who felt each were following the rules for face coverings completely or mostly

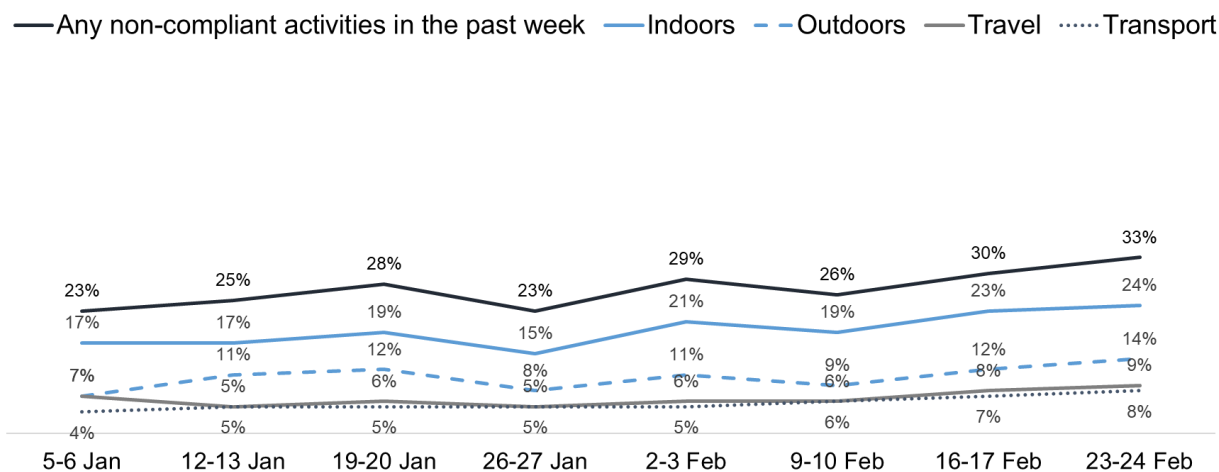


Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1007-1038)

Non-compliant activities

We asked respondents to indicate which activities from a list they had undertaken in the previous week. Separate questions covered indoor meetings, outdoor meetings, travel and transport. We then grouped together as 'non-compliant' anything in contravention of the 'stay at home' rules that were brought in at the start of January. The proportion of respondents admitting to any non-compliant activity has increased from 23% at the beginning of January to 33% at the end of February. As shown in Figure 20, of those admitting to a non-compliant activity, the most common activity was to meet others indoors, but non-compliant activity in all categories increased over the period.

Figure 20: Proportion who engaged in any non-compliant activities in the past week

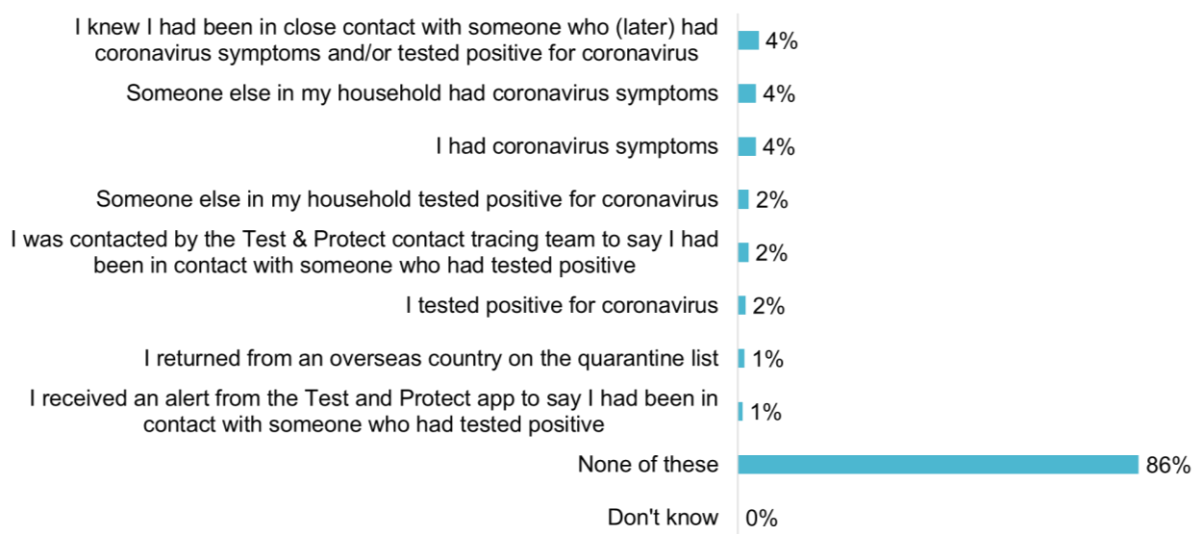


Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1029-1038)

Views on symptoms and Test and Protect

When asked at the beginning of February to think about the last three months, 14% had had some experience of Coronavirus in terms of at least one of those shown in Figure 21 - 5% had symptoms themselves or had tested positive; 4% said this applied to someone else in their household and 4% had been in close contact with someone who had symptoms or had tested positive.

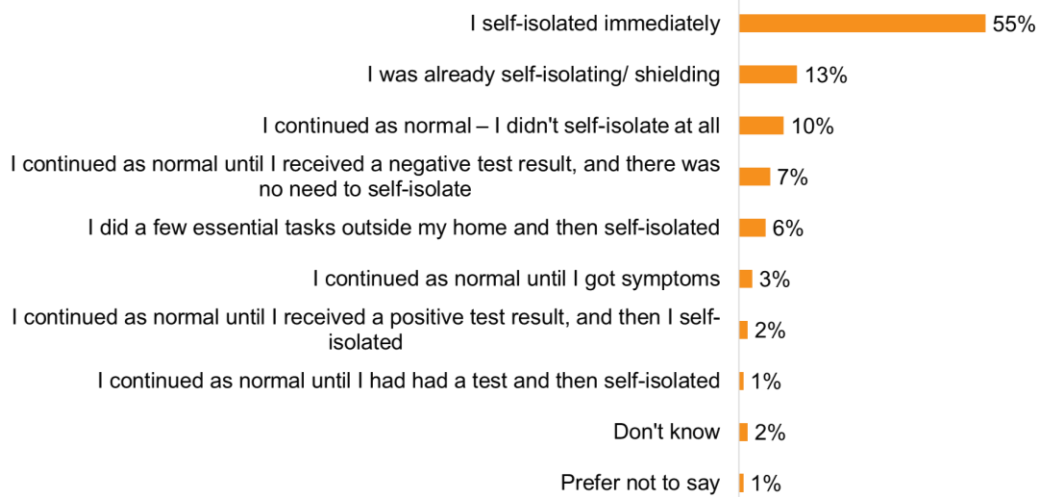
Figure 21: Proportions who said they had some experience of, or possible contact with, Coronavirus in the last 3 months



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey, 2-3 February. Base (n=999)

Of the small number (n=127) who said that they had some experience of, or possible contact with, Coronavirus in the last 3 months (i.e. since the beginning of November 2020), over half (55%) reported to self-isolating immediately, while a further 13% were self-isolating/shielding already. The remainder did not self-isolate or delayed the start of self-isolation.

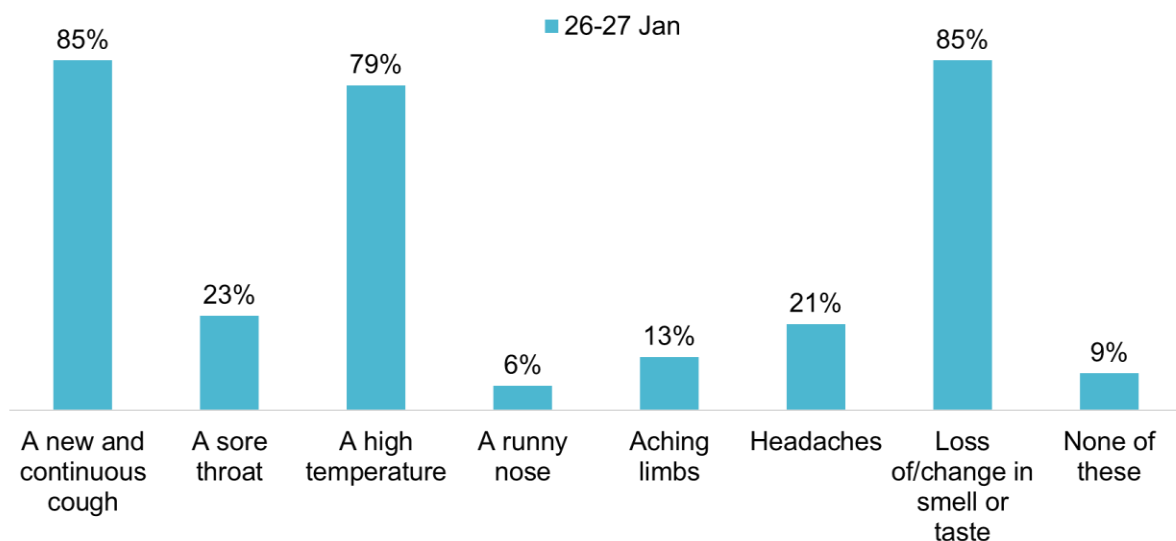
Figure 22: Proportions who took each action following some experience of, or possible contact with, Coronavirus in the past 3 months



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey, 2-3 February. Base (n=127)

At the end of January respondents were asked if they knew what symptoms of Coronavirus to watch out for. Most were aware of being asked to look out for each of the three main symptoms.

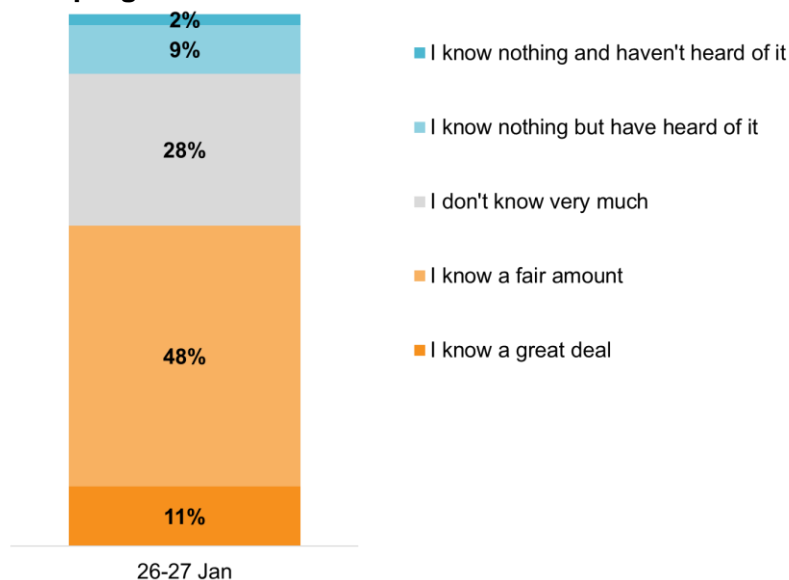
Figure 23: Respondent's awareness of symptoms



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey, 26-27 January. Base (n=1022)

When asked at the end of January how much they know about the Test and Protect programme, just under half (48%) stated they 'know a fair amount'. Only 2% said they had not heard of it.

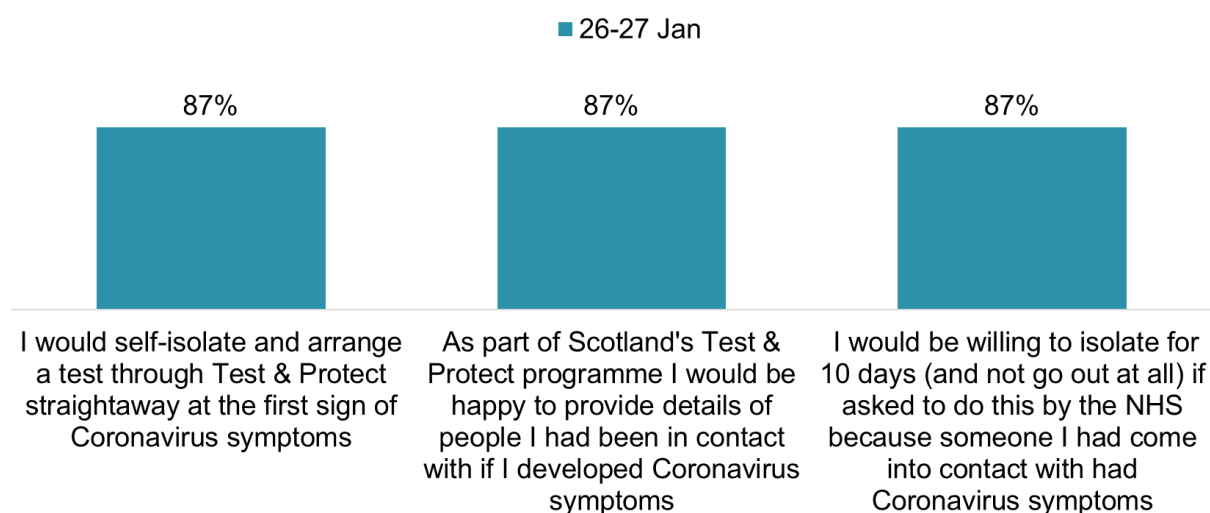
Figure 24: Respondent's knowledge about the Scottish Government's Test and Protect programme



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey, 26-27 January. Base (n=1022)

Further questions about Test and Protect asked if people would be willing to provide details of those they had come into contact with or self-isolate if asked to do so. 87% agreed with each of these.

Figure 25: Proportion who agreed with the statements shown



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey, 26-27 January. Base (n=1022)

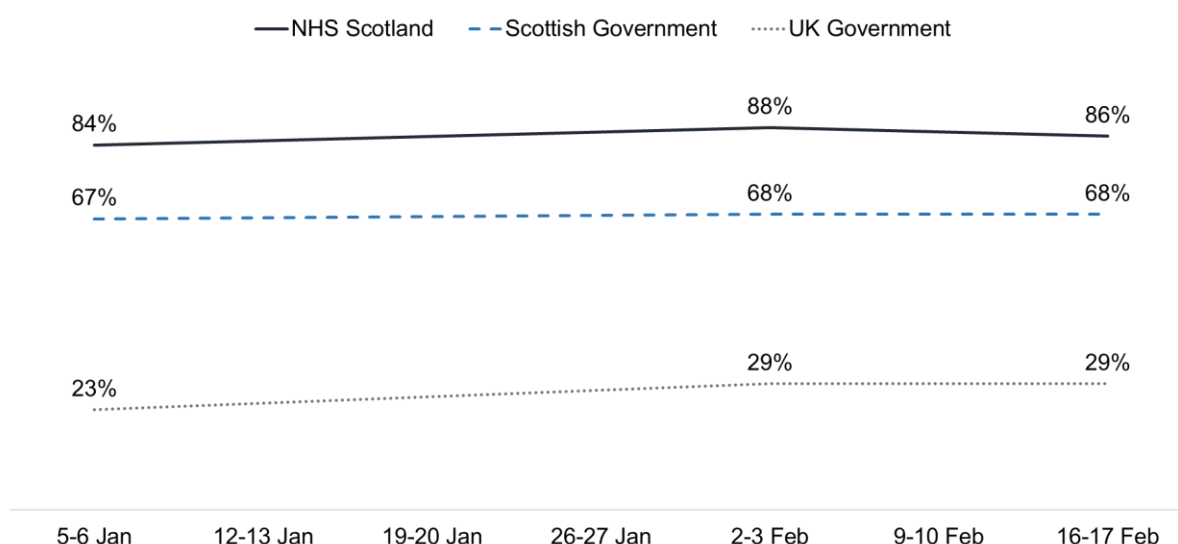
4. Views on government and information sources

Rating of government

This section summarises data about public trust in Coronavirus guidance and restrictions, and trust in various sources to provide information about Coronavirus.

Respondents were asked how good or poor a job various institutions are doing to help their country deal with recovery following the pandemic. As shown in Figure 26, NHS Scotland was rated most highly of the institutions during January and February. The proportion who rated the Scottish Government as doing a good job remained stable at two thirds, while positive ratings of the UK Government increased (23% to 29%).

Figure 26: Proportion who rated each as doing a good/very good job to help Scotland deal with recovering following the pandemic

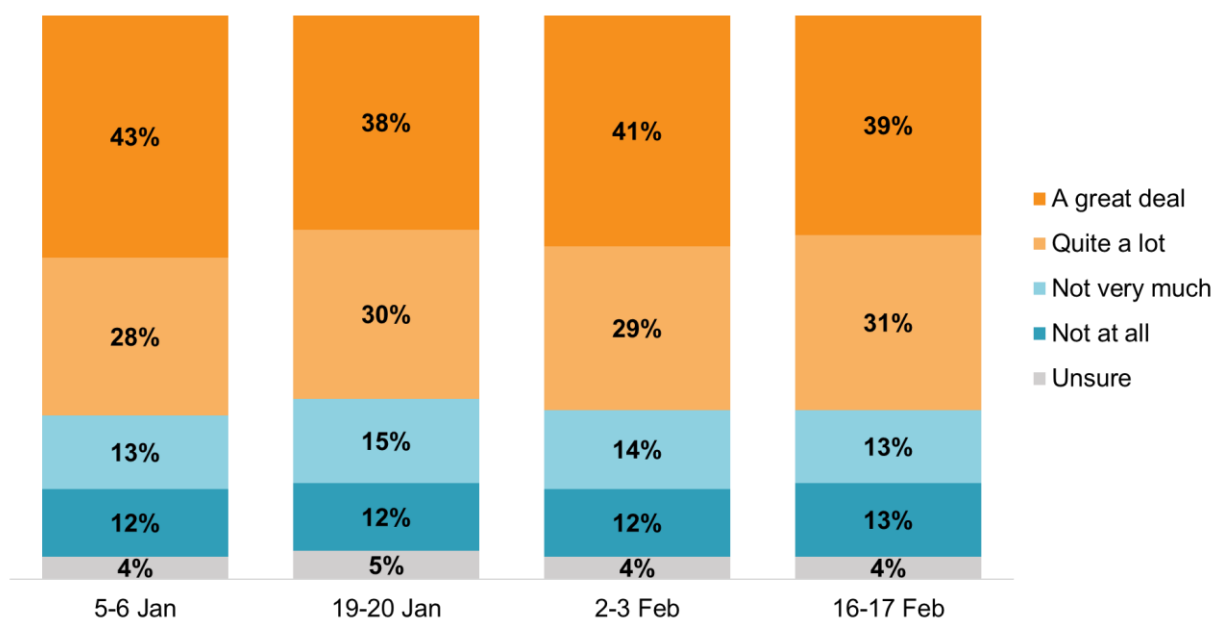


Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1007-1038)

Trust in Scottish Government

Respondents were asked to what extent they trust the Scottish Government to work in Scotland's best interests during the Coronavirus pandemic. As shown in Figure 27, around 70% responded that they trust the Scottish Government 'a great deal' or 'quite a lot', while around a quarter responded that they do not. Responses remained fairly stable in January and February.

Figure 27: Whether respondents trust the Scottish Government to work in Scotland's best interests during the Coronavirus pandemic

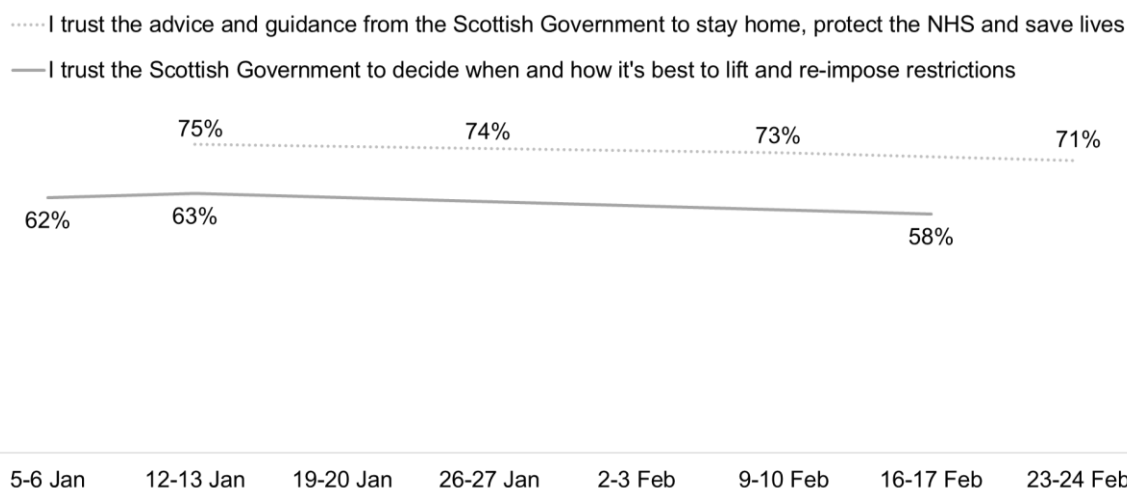


Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1007-1028)

Trust in Scottish Government advice and guidance

Respondents were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with statements about trust in the Scottish Government's advice and guidance. Figure 28 shows that around three quarters agreed that they trust the stay at home advice. 63% to 58% agreed they trust the Scottish Government to decide when and how it's best to lift and re-impose restrictions. Levels of agreement were lower in mid/late February compared to January.

Figure 28: Proportion who agreed with the statements shown

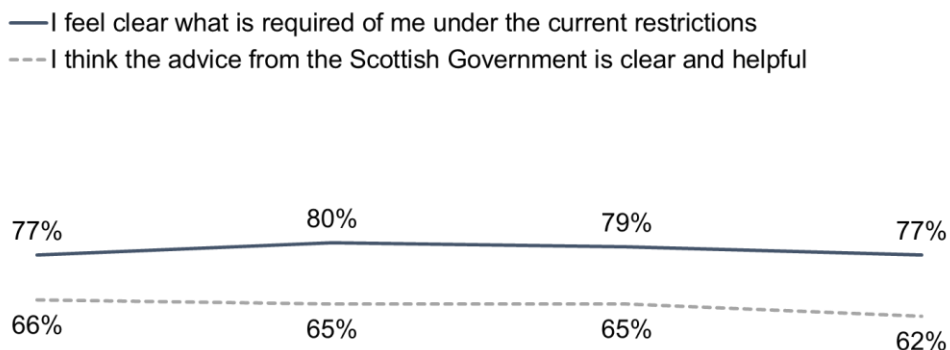


Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1000-1038)

Figure 29 details that 77% to 80% agreed that they feel clear what is required of them under the current restrictions in January and February. 62% to 66% of

respondents agreed that they think the advice from the Scottish Government is clear and helpful.

Figure 29: Proportion who agreed with the statements shown

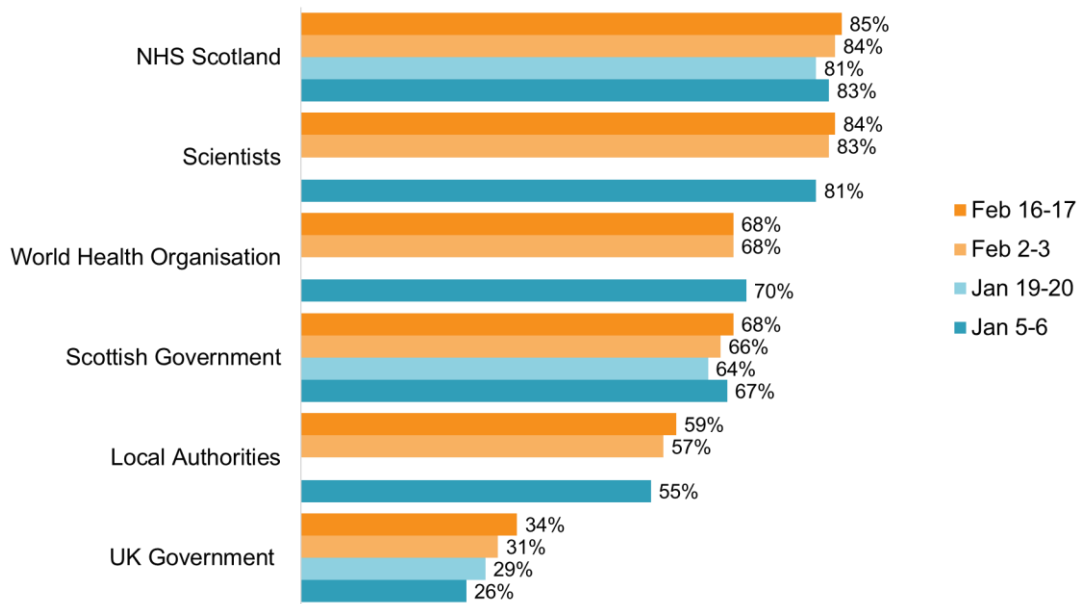


12-13 Jan 19-20 Jan 26-27 Jan 2-3 Feb 9-10 Feb 16-17 Feb 23-24 Feb

Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1000-1038)

Respondents were shown a list of various information sources and asked about the degree to which they trust these to deliver information on Coronavirus. As shown in Figure 30, the proportions who said they trust NHS Scotland and scientists were consistently higher than other sources. Trust in information from the UK Government increased during January and February, from around a quarter reporting to trust information 'completely' or 'mostly' to just over a third. The proportion who reported to trust the Scottish Government remained around two thirds. More than half reported to trust information from Local Authorities.

Figure 30: Proportion who 'completely' or 'mostly' trust each information source to deliver information on Coronavirus



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1007-1038)

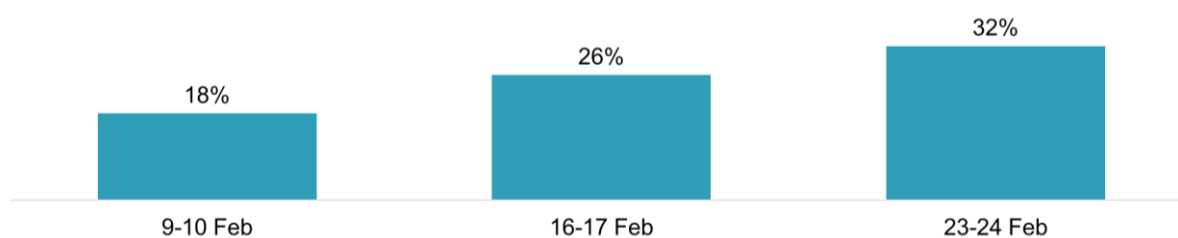
5. Vaccines

The Coronavirus vaccination programme began in Scotland on 8 December 2020. Since then the programme has expanded and accelerated, targeting in the first instance older age groups and priority groups.⁷ This section outlines the proportion of respondents who reported receiving a vaccine during January and February 2021, and attitudes towards the vaccine.

Covid-19 vaccine

The proportion of respondents who indicated they have already received a Coronavirus vaccination increased during February, from 18% on 9-10 February to 32% on 23-24 February. Those saying they had been vaccinated reflected priority groups targeted in the vaccination programme.⁸

Figure 31: Percentage of respondents who reported to have received a vaccine



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=100-1016)

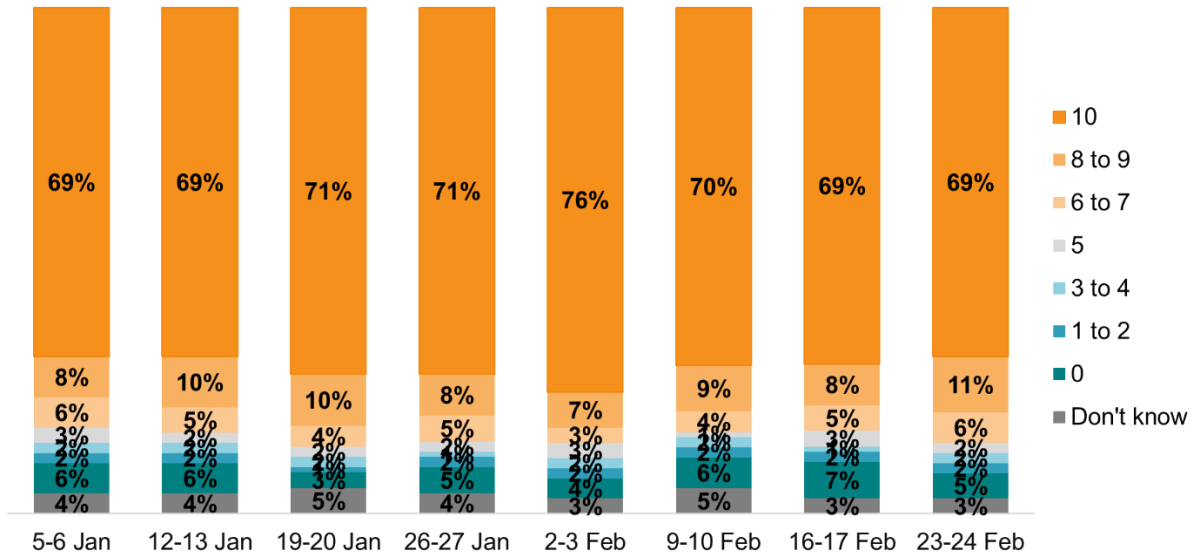
Using a scale of 0 ('extremely unlikely') to 10 ('extremely likely'), respondents were asked how likely or unlikely they are to be vaccinated for COVID-19 when a vaccine becomes available to them. Amongst those who had not yet received a vaccination, inclination to receive a vaccination was high and stable in January and February.⁹ Around four fifths indicated they would be likely to receive a vaccination when it becomes available to them (with a score of 8-10 out of 10). Fewer than 10% indicated they would be unlikely (with a score of 0-2 out of 10).

⁷ [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccination - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot)

⁸ Response option 'I have already received a vaccination' was introduced on 9-10 February

⁹ Please note changes in base size for this group

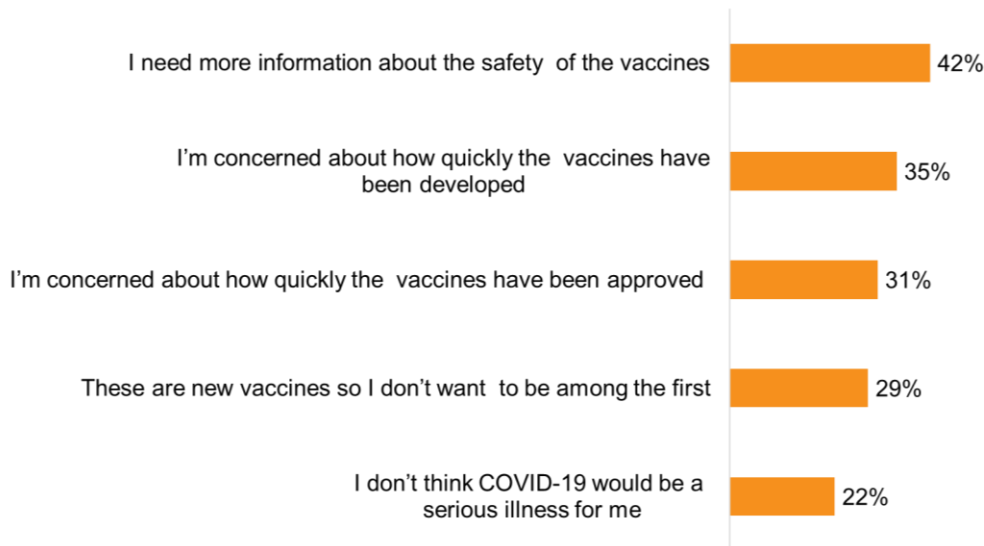
Figure 32: Likelihood of being vaccinated for COVID-19



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base: All adults excluding those who have already received a vaccination (from left to right, n=644-1038)¹⁰

Respondents who rated themselves as less likely to be vaccinated (gave a score of less than 8) were provided with a list of possible reasons for not being vaccinated, and asked to choose which best described their view. As shown in Figure 33, concerns about the safety of the vaccine, and how quickly it has been developed and approved were the most common reasons for being less likely to receive the vaccine.

Figure 33: Top five reasons selected for being less likely to receive a vaccine (amongst those who rated themselves as less likely to receive it)

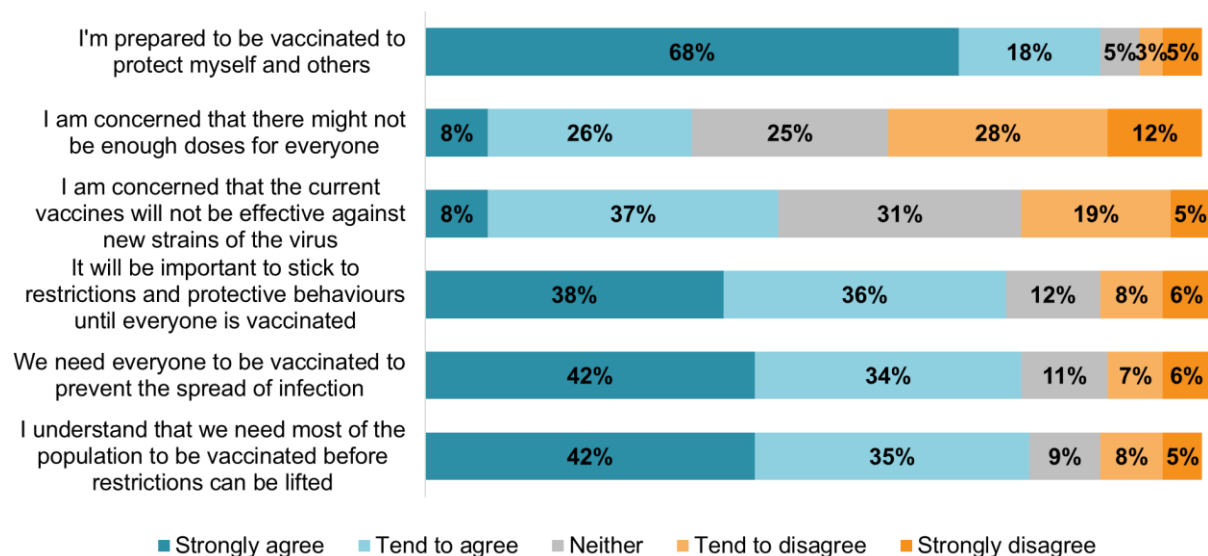


Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey, 19-20 January. Base (n=125)

¹⁰ Until 9-10 February the base was all respondents. From 9-10 February onwards the base was all those who had not yet received a COVID-19 vaccination. Base sizes of these sub-samples were including n=809 (9-10 Feb), n=711 (16-17 Feb) and n=644 (23-24 Feb)

Respondents were also asked whether they agreed or disagreed with statements about the Covid-19 vaccine. As shown in Figure 34, the vast majority agreed that they would be prepared to receive a vaccine to protect themselves and others. Just under a half agreed they were concerned that the current vaccines will not be effective against new strains. A third were concerned there might not be enough doses for everyone. Close to three quarters of respondents agreed that it will be important to adhere to restrictions and protective behaviours until everyone is vaccinated and that they understand that we need most of the population to be vaccinated before restrictions can be lifted.

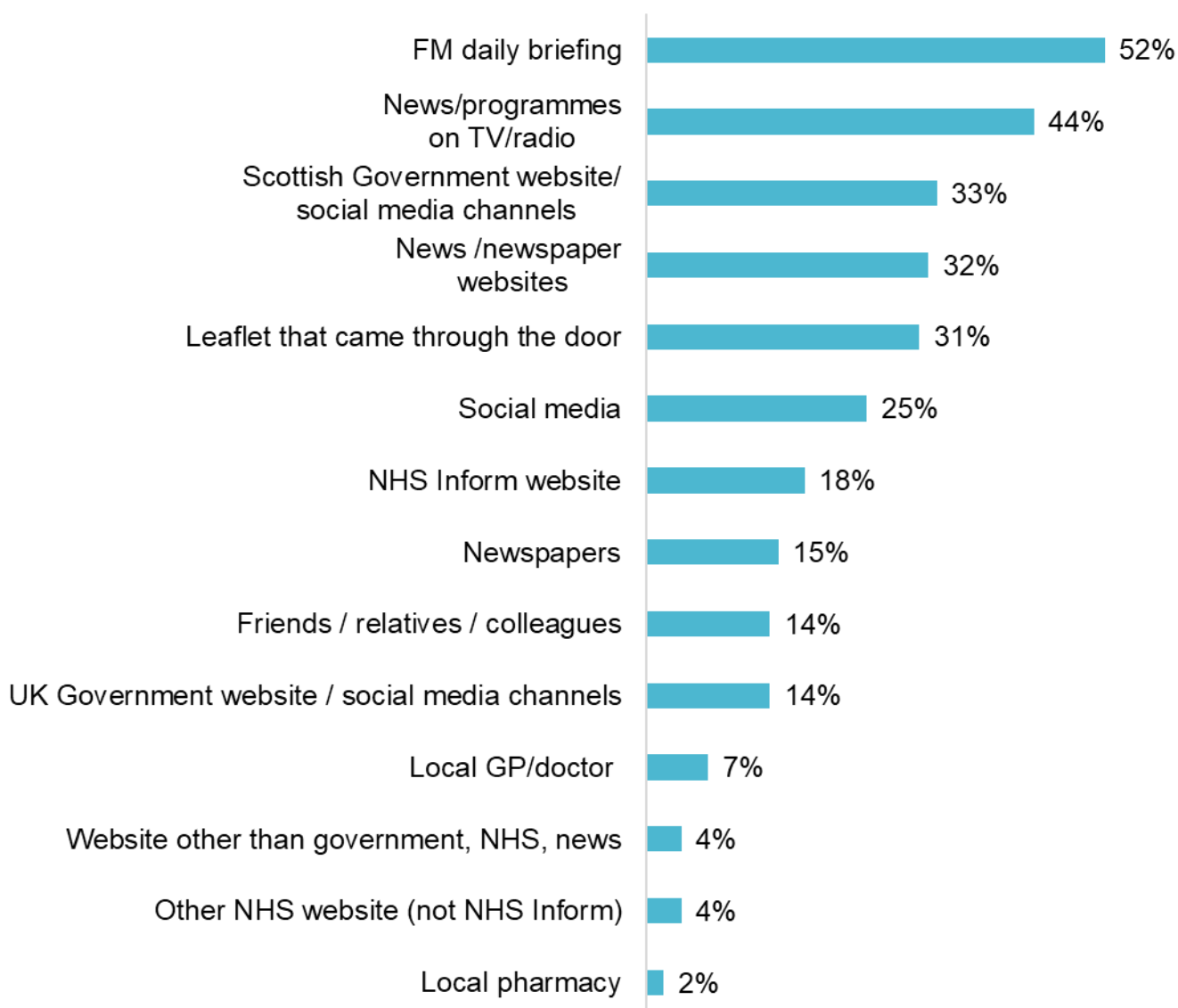
Figure 34: Proportion who agreed/disagreed with the statements shown



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey, 16-17 February. Base (n=1007)

Respondents were provided with a list of potential sources of information about the vaccine and vaccination programme. Figure 35 shows the most utilised sources were the First Minister's daily briefing and news, TV programmes and the radio.

Figure 35: Proportion who have used each outlet as sources of information about the Coronavirus vaccine and vaccination programme in the past month



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey, 16-17 February. Base (n=1038)

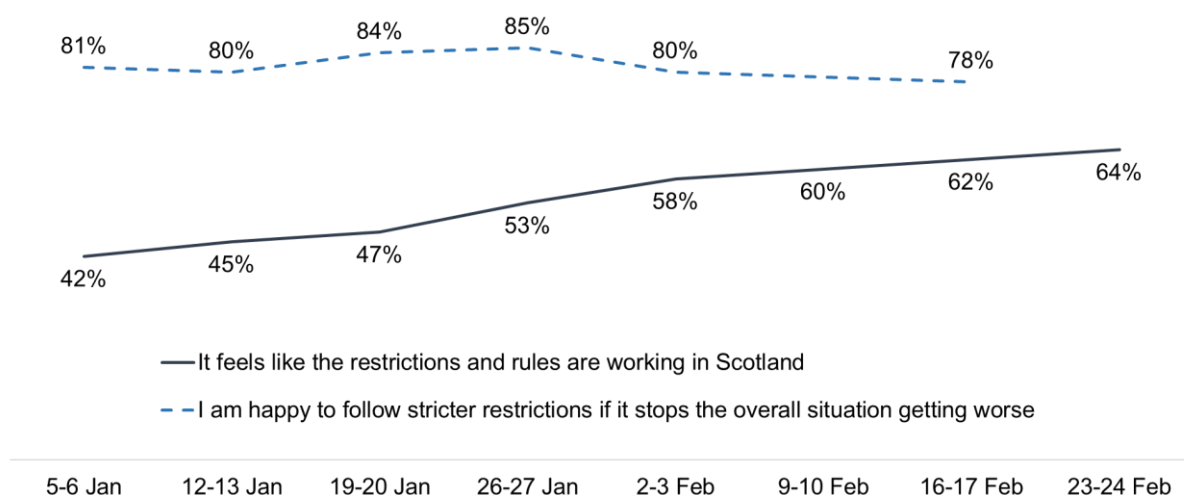
6. Views on current and future intentions

Surveys have examined people’s attitudes towards support for Coronavirus guidance and restrictions and future plans. This section summarises data related to public confidence in current restrictions and behavioural intentions for the future.

Current restrictions

For most of Scotland ‘stay at home’ restrictions were in place during January and February.¹¹ As shown in Figure 36, confidence that restrictions and rules are working in Scotland increased between early January and late February, from 42% to 64% in agreement. The proportion who agreed they are happy to follow stricter restrictions if this stops the overall situation getting worse remained high.

Figure 36: Proportion who agreed with the statements shown¹²



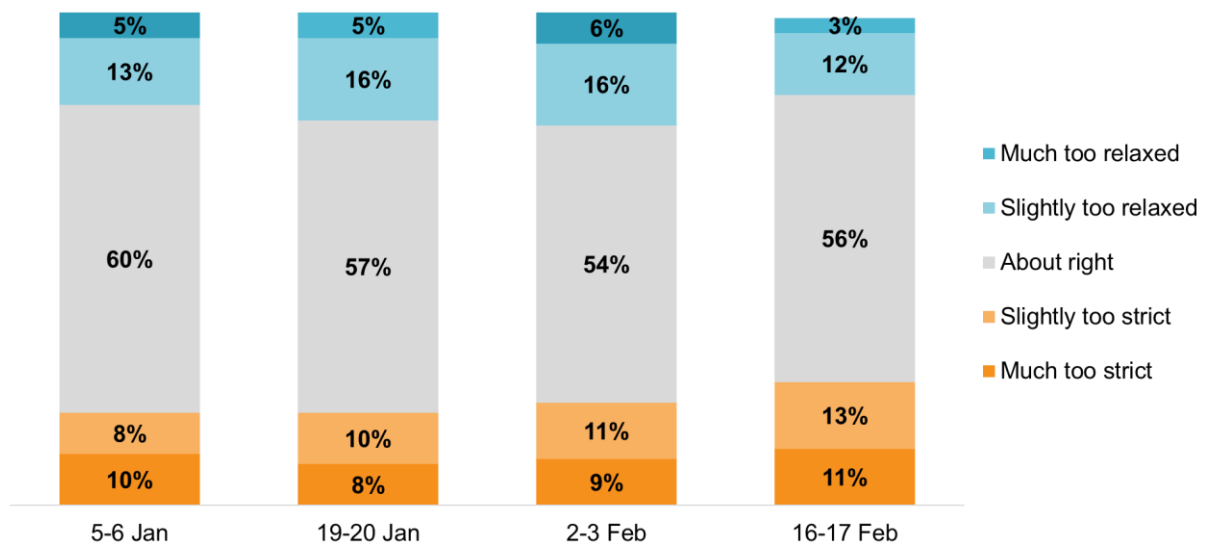
Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1000-1038)

When asked about the level of restrictions currently in place in their area, three fifths reported it to be ‘about right’ in early January. It remained the majority view in February, albeit with a slightly lower proportion. The proportion who thought the restrictions were slightly too strict increased, from under, to just over one fifth; while the proportion who thought the restrictions were too relaxed fluctuated between 18% and 22%.

¹¹ [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): local protection levels - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-19-local-protection-levels/pages/10.aspx)

¹² Note small wording change on 26-27 January when the statement read “I am happy to follow these stricter restrictions if it stops the overall situation getting worse”

Figure 37: Whether respondents think restrictions in their area are ‘too relaxed’, ‘strict’ or ‘about right’

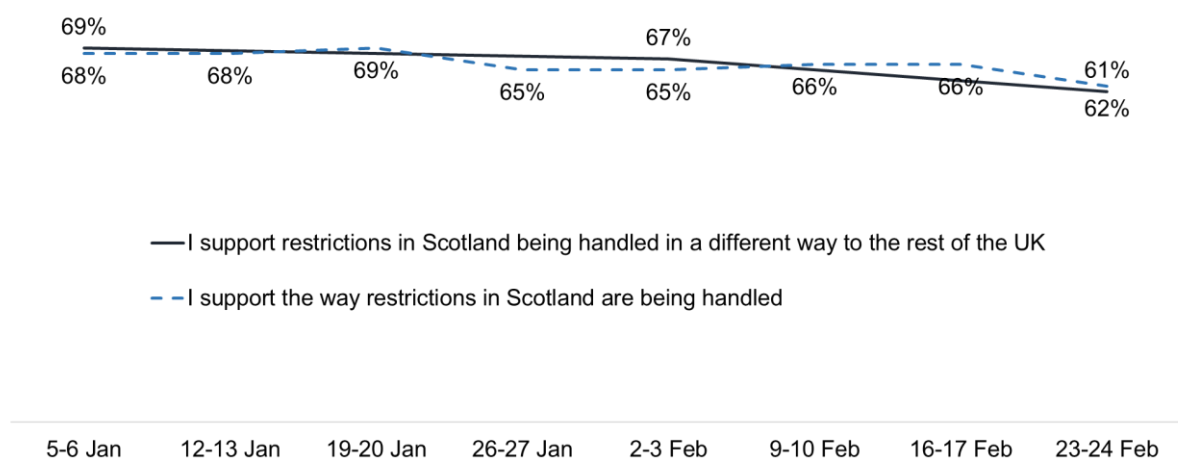


Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1007-1038)

Support for measures

Respondents were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with statements about the way restrictions were being handled in Scotland. Data labels show when statements were included in the survey. Figure 38 shows that the majority agreed that they support the way restrictions are being handled, and handled differently to the rest of the UK. Proportions in agreement remained stable at two thirds in January and February with a small decline in the most recent wave.

Figure 38: Proportion who agreed with the statements shown

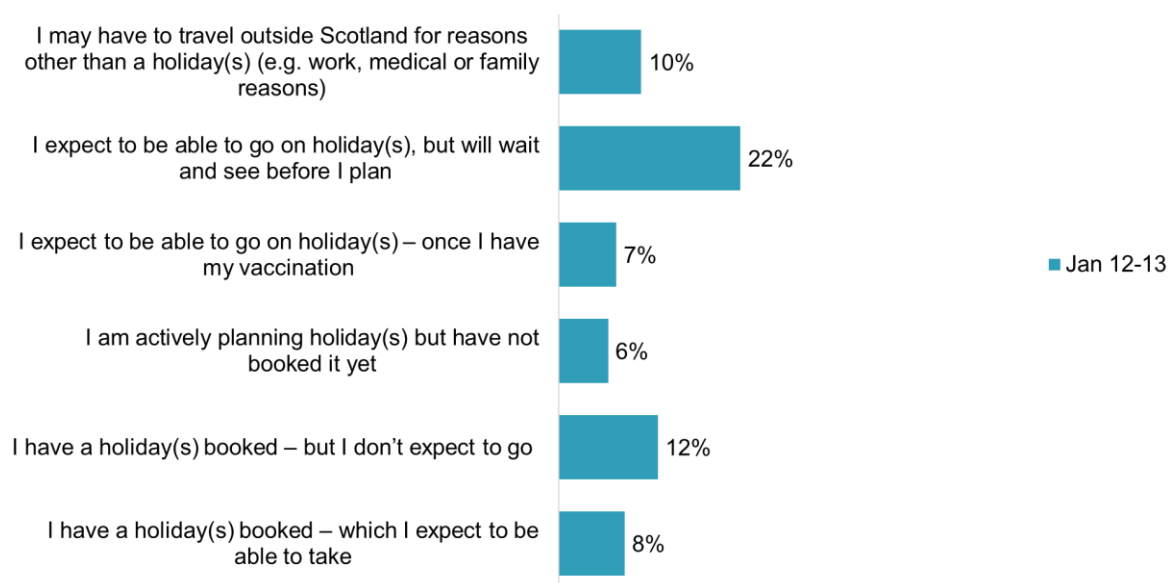


Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey. Base (n=1000-1038)

Future intentions

To find out about more about travel intentions for later in the year respondents were asked to select statements about holidays which apply to them. Holidays were defined in the question as including both long and short breaks. Overall 36% indicated they expect to be able to go on holiday(s) this year, including 7% who expect to be able to go on holiday(s) once they have been vaccinated. 10% indicated they may have to travel outside of Scotland for other reasons.

Figure 39: Proportion who selected each description about travel plans as applying to them



Source: YouGov weekly Scotland survey, 12-13 January. Base (n=1038)

Annex A: Sample sizes

YouGov results are based on a sample of c.1,000 adults 18+ across Scotland at each wave. YouGov apply weighting to the data to match the population profile to adjust for any over/under representations and to maximise consistency from wave to wave. Parameters used include age, gender, social class, region and level of education. Fieldwork dates cover the period where the bulk of the survey fieldwork was completed, with a small number of interviews completed on the morning after the dates shown.

Table 2: Fieldwork information

Name	Sample size	Age group	Field dates
YouGov weekly survey	Wave 42: 1038	18+	Wave 42: 5-6 January
	Wave 43: 1038		Wave 43: 12-13 January
	Wave 44: 1029		Wave 44: 19-20 January
	Wave 45: 1022		Wave 45: 26-27 January
	Wave 46: 1008		Wave 46: 2-3 February
	Wave 47: 1016		Wave 47: 9-10 February
	Wave 48: 1007		Wave 48: 16-17 February
	Wave 49: 1000		Wave 49: 23-24 February

Annex B: Key events during fieldwork

This table below summarises of key events taking place in January and February related to Coronavirus in Scotland. It is not exhaustive, however, gives some context to events surrounding data collection. Fieldwork dates should be borne in mind when interpreting the data.

5 January	Stay at home restrictions come into effect in Scotland, with some Islands to remain in Level 3.
11 January	Some school pupils return with remote learning in place for most children.
2 February	FM announces a continuation of the stay at home restrictions until the end of February at least.
15 February	Travel quarantine introduced meaning some travellers entering Scotland are required to spend 10 days in accommodation in a quarantine hotel and undertake two Covid tests.
16 February	FM confirms the return of nursery and P1-3 children on 22 February.
22 February	Pre-school and P1-3 return to school. New research from the University of Edinburgh evidences the Coronavirus vaccines can prevent severe illness and reduce the risk of Coronavirus hospital admissions.



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