

Evaluation of economic policy coordination, % of „DK/NA” answers, 2006

SEX		OCCUPATION	
Male	21	Self-employed	23
Female	35	Employee	19
AGE		Manual worker	27
15 - 24	21	Not working	35
25 - 39	23	LOCALITY TYPE	
40 - 54	28	Metropolitan area	22
55 +	34	Other towns	27
EDUCATION		Rural zones	31
until 15 years of age	46		
16 - 20	26		
20 +	17		
Still in education	23		

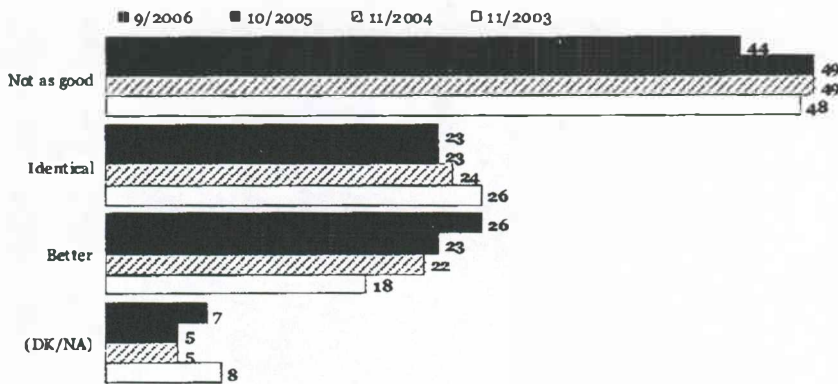
Q21. Today, would you say that coordination between the economic policies of member states is:

Studying the differences between respondents' socio-demographic categories for the question, we again found the largest differences between the categories in the percentages giving a "don't know" answer. The patterns are the same as for the question on awareness of economic policy coordination.



7.2 Evaluation of the domestic situation

Economic situation in country compared to eurozone average



Source: FLASH EB 193, September 2006, GALLUP

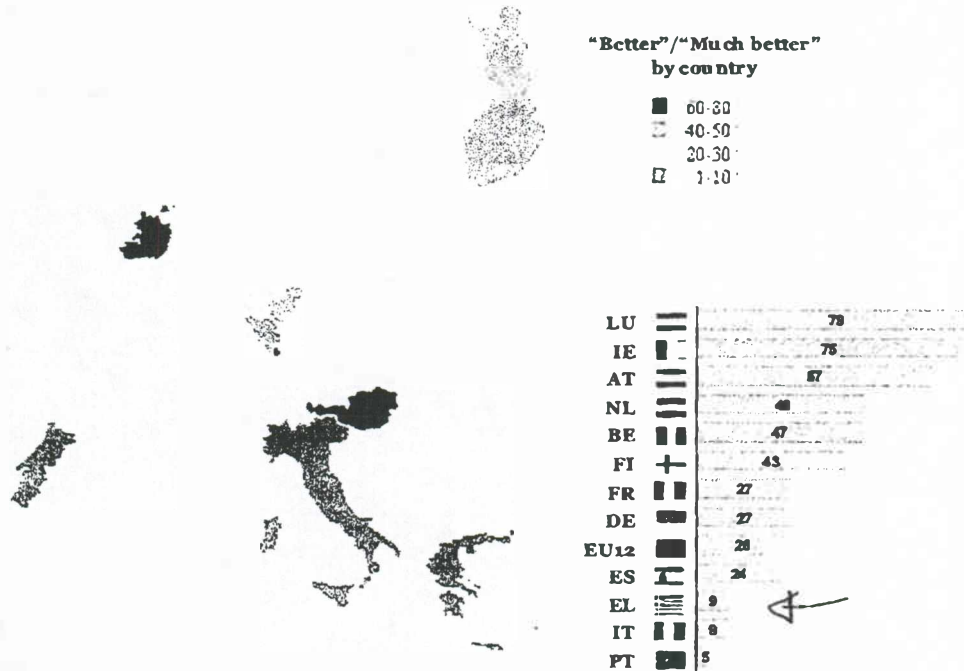
Q22. And if you compare the economic situation of [COUNTRY] with that of other countries of the European Union, would you say that it is ...? % EU12

We also asked respondents to evaluate their country's economic situation by comparing the situation of their own national economy with those of other Member States.

Many respondents from the eurozone continue to believe that their country's economic situation is not as good as those of other EU countries; the largest group of citizens from the eurozone are those who say that the economic situation in their country is inferior to the economic situations in other Member States (44%). However, this figure is lower than in 2005 (-5 percentage points).

The percentage of those who do not see any difference between their own country's and other Member States' economic situations (23%) is unchanged. The percentage of those who evaluate their country's economy more positively increased somewhat compared to last year (26%, +3 percentage points).

Evaluating the domestic economic situation



Source:
FLASH EB 193
September 2006
GALLUP

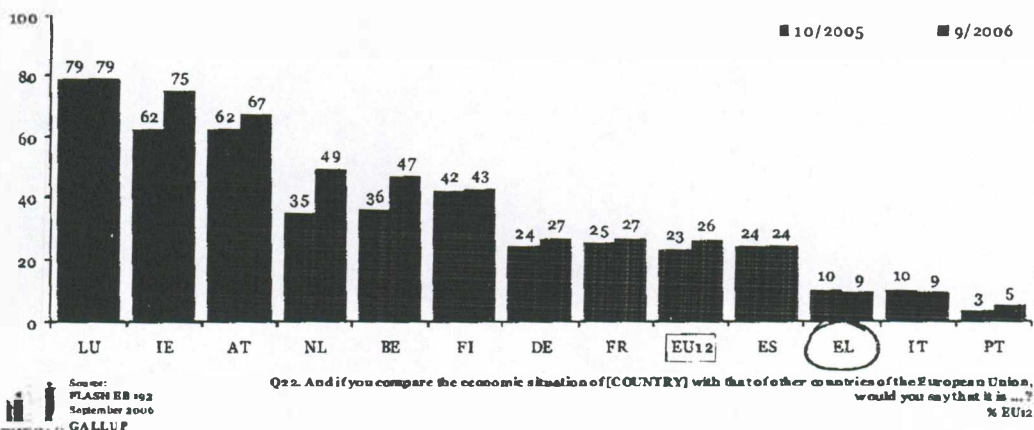
Q22. And if you compare the economic situation of [COUNTRY] with that of other countries of the European Union, would you say that it is ... ?

Looking at individual countries, we obviously see large variation among the Member States. There are only three countries where a large majority believe that their national economic situation is better than those of other Member States; namely Luxembourg (79%), Ireland (75%), and Austria (67%).

At the other end, and similarly to previous years' results, Portugal (85%) and Greece (81%) top the ranking for the highest percentage of respondents who see their national economic situation as worse than those of other Member States.

Finally, countries with the highest rate of respondents who saw their national situation as similar to the eurozone average were Finland, (35%), France (30%) and Belgium (29%).

Evaluating the domestic economic situation, % of „better” answers



In almost all countries, the percentage of those who believe that their economy is doing comparatively better than the economies of other Member States increased or stayed the same compared to last year. In Ireland and the Netherlands we saw the largest increase in the percentage of respondents who believe that their national economy is better than those of other Member States (+13 and +14 percentage points, respectively).

Evaluation the domestic economic situation, % of „better” answers, 2006

SEX		OCCUPATION	
Male	28	Self-employed	20
Female	24	Employee	29
AGE		Manual worker	23
15 - 24	31	Not working	25
25 - 39	26	LOCALITY TYPE	
40 - 54	24	Metropolitan area	28
55 +	25	Other towns	24
EDUCATION		Rural zones	26
until 15 years of age	18	Q22. And if you compare the economic situation of [COUNTRY] with that of other countries of the European Union, would you say that it is?	
16 - 20	25		
20 +	31		
Still in education	29		

Looking at the effect of socio-demographic differences on respondents' evaluation of the domestic economic situation, we found the largest differences by educational level. In the group that pursued full-time education until 15 years of age, the percentage of respondents who believed that their national economic situation was better than those of other Member States was 18%. In the group that pursued full-time education until they were older than 20, this percentage was 31%. The other large difference between categories was found among different occupational groups: while 29% of employees believe that their country does better economically than other Member States, only 20% of the self-employed share this opinion.