



## Evolving appetites: an in-depth look at European attitudes towards plant-based eating.

## A follow-up to the 2021 survey report, '*What Consumers Want*'

November 2023

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## I. What is the Smart Protein project?



The Smart Protein project is a €10 million EU-funded project that seeks to develop the next generation of foods

One of the most innovative plantbased projects A collaboration of **33 partners** from more than **20 countries** 

**4 years** in duration (2020-2024)

An **EU-funded research project** (Horizon 2020) with a €9+ million budget

**Objective:** *innovative, cost-effective, and resource-efficient EU-produced plant proteins from:* 



### Smart Protein project strategy: A Farm to Fork Initiative

#### WP4 – Food nutrition and health



Objectives: Optimisation of the nutritional and biological profile of the Smart Protein food ingredients/foods/beverages plant based products prototyped via human intervention studies. Key players: Food and beverage industries

#### WP3 – Food processing

Objectives: Protein-protein interaction, protein functionality, development of food ingredients/foods/beverages plant based products. Formulate protein combinations for partial or full substitution of protein sources traditional utilised. Industrial validation and demonstration of developed food and beverage prototypes. Key players: Food and beverage industries

#### WP2 – Plant protein processing and side stream up-cycling

Objectives: Protein extraction validation at the industrial environment, up-cycling side-stream products generates from Smart Protein partners, mycelium, mushroom protein production. Key players: Food and beverage ingredients companies

#### WP1 – Protein crop, soil and water management

Objectives: Water management, soil fertility protection, protein crops validation and production strengthening. Key players: Farmers, farmers support associations, plant breeders

#### WP5 – Exploitation & business development

**Objectives:** Assessment of the commercial feasibility and safety of protein channels through its live interaction among the WP1-WP4 – Business case-development

Key players: Farmers/Industries/Food retailers, consumers/support, associations

#### WP6 – Consumer studies



Objectives: Development and implementation of plant-based food and beverage prototypes to enhance consumer's acceptance, consumer readiness, network and promoting activities.

Key players: Food retailers, consumers/support associations

#### WP7 – Dissemination and communication

## Objectives: Disseminate, exploit and communicate the results of the Smart Protein project within and outside the consortium to the public and relevant professional sectors such as food industry, manufacturing and production, food and regulatory authorities.

Key players: Farmers/Industries/Food retailers, consumers/support, associations, policy makers

#### WP8 – Sustainability Assessment

**Objectives:** Environmental impact profiles of protein food covering the whole protein food supply chain (from cradle to grave). **Key players:** Farmers/Industries/Food retailers, consumers/support, associations, policy makers

#### WP9 – Project management and coordination

**Objectives:** Overall management of the project, establishment of an effective communication infrastructure and foster the integrative process within the consortium, ensure consortium's performance.

### 33 partners from over 20 countries







Horizon2020 European Union Funding for Research & Innovation

#### 9 EU Member States







- **To identify readiness towards consumption of plant-based foods by EU citizens**, to determine their current habits, the key drivers of food choices and consumer trust towards plant-based foods to implement a predictive platform of industrially relevant information for product development and marketing activities.
- Evaluate determinants of consumer trust towards plant-based foods, consumer foodtechnology-neophobia and trust towards the food industry actors.
- It was repeated (in an updated version) after 24 months to evaluate developments in trust towards alternative plant based foods & proteins.

**ProVeg International is a food awareness organisation** working to transform the global food system



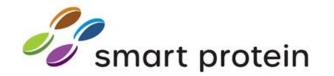
## **OUR MISSION**

#### **Replacing 50% of animal products**

globally with plant-based and cultivated foods by 2040.

## **OUR VISION**

A world where everyone chooses **delicious** and **healthy** food that is good for **all humans**, **animals**, and our **planet**.





## II. Background and methodology

### **Consumer-survey methodology**



Online survey conducted by Innova Market Insights





20-minute-long questionnaire

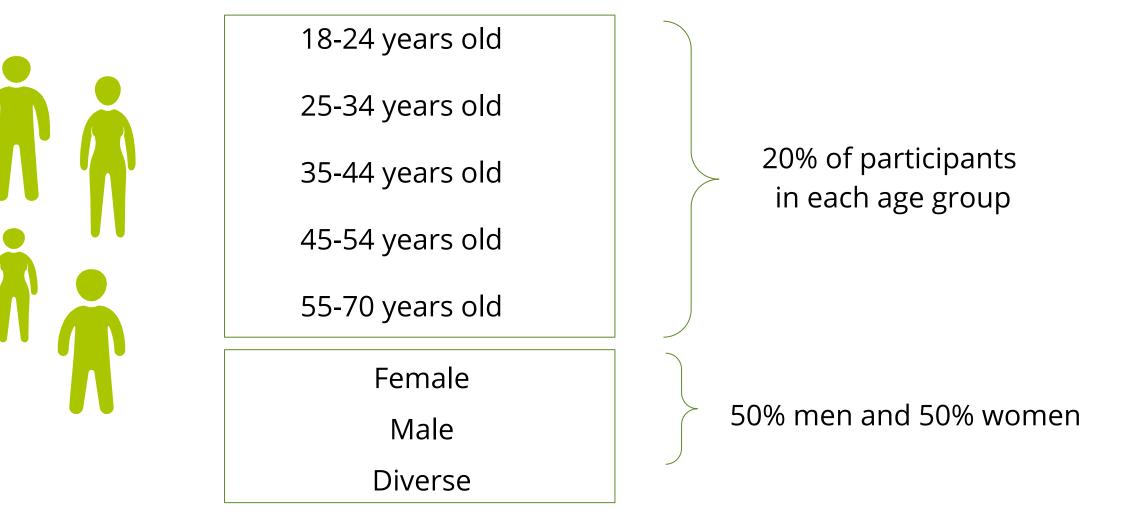


June 2021 and June 2023

#### **10 European countries**



### Sample distribution



 $\rightarrow$  Only consumers who are responsible for household grocery shopping participated

#### **Consumer survey**

				Esso .	
Consumer Attitudes	Consumer Behaviors	Market Opportunities	Trust	Opinions on Policy	Social Media
Dietary Lifestyle	Product Familiarity	Drivers	Increase/ decrease of trust	Opinion on what to implement	Social media freqn. usage
Motivations	Consumption frequency	Barriers	Trust by statements		Social media - engagement
Food related lifestyles - dimension	Extent of Reduction of meat	Place of purchase	Trust by types		Social media - situations
Food related lifestyles - dimension: PRICE, ORGANIC, TASTE	Intent to replace, consume, purchase	Place of consumption	Media trust		Social media - attitudes
COM-B Model	Consumption frequency	Product expectations			

### Additions to the 2023 survey, based on 2021 results

- New deep dive analysis on evaluating consumers' perception towards and intentions to consume plant based alternatives across segments of Food Related Lifestyles.
- Investigating further the determinants of intentions to consume processed and unprocessed plant-based alternatives by using the COM-B (Capabilities, Opportunities, Motivations) model.
- Investigate to what extent consumers' social media activities influence the intention to try/consume/purchase plant-based food alternatives.

## **Overview of questions (1/5)**



- **Q3** Which category best describes your current dietary lifestyle?
- **Q4** How long have you been following your current dietary lifestyle?
- **Q5** Which of the following phrases best describes your current dietary habits or situation?
- **Q6** How familiar are you with the following food products?
- **Q7** Which statement best describes how frequently you consume the following food products?
- **Q8** Compared to a year ago, how much meat (e.g. beef, pork, chicken) are you eating at the moment?
- **Q9** Which of the following food products have you decreased your consumption of the most?
- **Q10** Which of the following reasons best describes why you have chosen to decrease your consumption of meat or dairy products?

Please indicate how much you disagree or agree with each of the following statements.

- **Q11** I intend to replace animal-based foods in my diet by eating more ... in the next 6 months.
- **Q12** I intend to consume more ... in the next 6 months.
- **Q13** I intend to purchase more ... in the next 6 months.
- **Q14** What are the most important factors when choosing plant-based food alternatives?
- **Q15** Which of the following do you encounter as barriers when choosing plant-based food alternatives?
- **Q16** Where are you likely to purchase plant-based food alternatives most frequently in the future?
- **Q17** In which of the following locations do you normally consume plant-based food alternatives?
- **Q18** What kind of plant-based food alternative(s) do you wish you could buy more often in the supermarket or at points of consumption (e.g restaurants, cafes, etc.)?

## **Overview of questions (3/5)**

Vhen thinking about your overall knowledge and experience with plant-based food alternatives, has our current trust increased or decreased in comparison to three years ago?					
When thinking specifically about plant-based food alternatives, please indicate how much you disagree or agree with each of the following statements.					
Which of the following alternative proteins do you trust the most? Rank them from 1 (trust the most) to 5 (trust the least). Please rank which you trust the most, in order of importance.					

Q22 There is much discussion in the food industry about what actions policymakers should take. In your opinion, how much do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the actions that policymakers should take?

Q23	Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding eating
Q23	and cooking.

**Q24** Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding your food consumption.

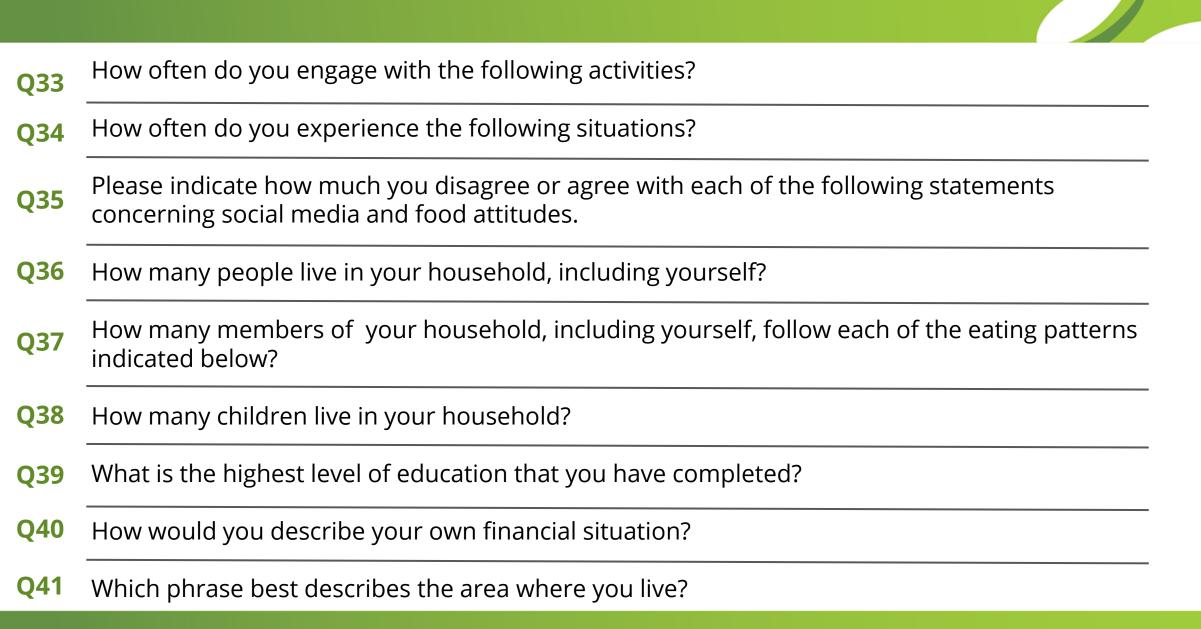
### Overview of questions (4/5)



**Q25** Please indicate how much you disagree or agree with each of the following statements regarding food consumption and cooking.

- **Q26** Please indicate how much you disagree or agree with each of the following statements.
- **Q27** Please indicate how much you disagree or agree with each of the following statements regarding opportunities for the consumption of plant-based food alternatives.
- **Q28** Please indicate how much you disagree or agree with each of the following statements regarding social opportunities for the consumption of plant-based food alternatives.
- **Q29** Please indicate how much you disagree or agree with each of the following statements regarding plant-based food alternatives.
- **Q30** Eating plant-based food alternatives is something that...
- **Q31** In general, how much do you trust information about plant-based food products from...
- **Q32** On a typical day, how much time do you spend on these social media platforms?

## **Overview of questions (5/5)**







# III. Summary and key insights: 2021 and 2023



## Key takeaways 2021: total overview

2	#1	Huge potential due to flexitarians					
	#2	Animal-based products are being replaced by plant-based options					
>	#3	Plant-based food alternatives come with challenges such as availability and price					
E Sun	#4	Trust in plant-based foods is a given					
×	#5	Plant-based poultry, beef, salmon, tuna, mozzarella, and sliced cheese are the most missed products					
	#6	For flexitarians, it's all about taste and health					
	#7	Availability of plant-based foods in discount stores is key					
	#8	Search engines and health/nutrition-society websites are used the most					

## Key takeaways 2023: total overview

Ð'	#1	<b>51% of European meat consumers claim to have reduced their yearly meat intake,</b> up from 46% in 2021. Germany (59%), France (57%), and Italy (59%) lead the way in terms of meat reduction.
	#2	On average, <b>45% of Europeans claim to have adhered to a non-meat-based dietary</b> <b>lifestyle</b> (flexitarian, vegan & vegetarian) <b>for more than 2 years.</b>
	#3	62% of European respondents identify as omnivores, with Poland leading at 76%. 27% identify as flexitarians, with Germany leading at 40%. 5% identify as vegetarians, with the UK leading at 7%. 4% identify as pescatarians, with Denmark leading at 5%. 3% identify as vegans, with Austria leading at 5%. <b>Flexitarians are once again the second-largest consumer group in the EU.</b>
	#4	<b>Interest in flexitarian dietary lifestyles transcends generational boundaries</b> , with 29% of Boomers, 27% of Gen X, 28% of Millennials, and 26% of Gen Z identifying as flexitarians.
Ŷ	#5	<b>The primary motivation for reducing meat consumption is health (47%),</b> particularly in Romania and Italy. Followed by environmental concerns (29%), predominantly in Denmark and the Netherlands, and animal welfare (26%), mainly in Germany and the Netherlands.
ශ්රීව	#6	57% of Europeans claim to consume legumes at least once a week, with 53% expressing a desire to consume them even more frequently, making <b>legumes as the favourite plant-based food for European consumers.</b>

### Key takeaways 2023: total overview

	#7	On average, 28% of Europeans claim to consume at least one plant-based food alternative at least once a week, up from 21% in 2021. <b>Plant-based milk is the most consumed plant-based alternative, with 36% of Europeans consuming it at least once a week.</b>
ج ے	#8	<b>Perceptions around price (38%) and taste (30%) continue to be the main barriers</b> for many European consumers when choosing plant-based alternatives.
Pro Contraction of the second	#9	<b>46% of Europeans report an increase in their trust in plant-based alternatives</b> compared to two years ago.
<u>- @-</u>	#10	More than <b>54% of consumers claim</b> to know that eating <b>plant-based alternatives is good for their health or the environment.</b>
∎©,∓ I	#11	On average, over <b>50% of Europeans do not appear to consider information about</b> <b>plant-based alternatives</b> communicated in mainstream online media to be particularly <b>trustworthy.</b>
	#12	<b>Cultivated meats seem to be trusted the most by omnivores and men.</b> Denmark ranks the highest in the acceptance of cultivated protein sources, followed by Germany and Spain.
	#13	63% of consumers say they would like to see increased standards for transparency in product certifications, while <b>62% would like taxes to be zero-rated for foods that have a positive impact on health and the environment.</b>

## **Detailed results, by topic (1/4)**



#### **Consumption behaviour**

- Overall, **27%** of participants identify as **flexitarian**. Germany (40%) and the Netherlands (35%) had the highest share of flexitarians. **7%** of the total sample are **plant-based eaters** (vegan & vegetarians).
- Compared to 2021, there was a slight decrease (3 percentage point decrease) of flexitarians overall. However in Germany, there was a 10% **increase of flexitarians**, compared to two years ago.
- 48% of European consumers are either **outsiders, deniers or lapsed**, when it comes to plant-based food. 27% are within a **reachable stage to change their diets**.
- 51% of consumers continue to **reduce their yearly meat intake**, more than 5% than in 2021. Germany (59%), Italy (59%) and France (57%) are reducing the most meat intake. The decrease in meat intake is mostly coming from flexitarians (71%), when compared to Omnivores (43%).<sup>1</sup>
- **Beef** (35%) and **pork** (31%) are the products with the **biggest reduction** in consumption. Consumption of dairy products (Milk: 6%; Cheese: 5%; Eggs: 4%; Yoghurt: 3%) were barely reduced.
- Health (47%) is by far the most important motive for people to reduce meat or dairy consumption. Animal welfare (29%), followed by environmental reasons (26%), especially for Flexitarians.

1: Share of people who selected 'A lot less'+'Slightly less' at the respective statement

### **Detailed results, by topic (2/4)**



#### Plant-based food alternatives

- European consumers are most likely to go to the **supermarket** (60%) and **discount stores** (41%) when purchasing plant-based alternatives. Compared to 2021, more consumers now shop at organic supermarkets, online grocery stores and drug stores.
- European consumers are most likely to eat plant-based alternatives **at home** (67%) or at a **restaurant** (37%). Out of those who eat at the restaurant, the majority eats at restaurants that serve both, animal and plant-based meals (56%), compared to restaurants only serving plant-based food (44%).
- Europeans consumers are most likely to replace animal-based meat with legumes (43%), followed by plantbased dairy alternatives (37%) and legume-based foods (37%). Plant-based meat alternatives received the lowest share of agreement (34%).<sup>1</sup>
- Europeans most likely agree to consuming **legumes** (53%), **plant-based dairy alternatives** (41%) and **plant-based meat alternatives** (39%) in the next 6 months.<sup>2</sup>
- European consumers are most likely agree to purchase **legumes** (53%) and **plant-based dairy alternatives** (41%) in the next 6 months.<sup>3</sup>

1, 2, 3: Share of people who selected 'Strongly agree'+'Agree'+'Somewhat agree' to the respective statement

### Detailed results, by topic (3/4)



#### **Plant-based food alternatives**

- **Taste** (53%), **health** (46%) and **price** (45%) are most important, when choosing plant-based alternatives. Compared to 2021, price now plays a bigger role then freshness.
- **Price** (38%) and **taste** (30%) **are main barriers** when choosing plant-based alternatives. Especially flexitarians think that plant-based food is too expensive, while omnivores think that they are not tasty enough.
- Consumers are asking for more plant-based sweets and snacks (30%), meat alternatives (30%) and plantbased milk (29%).
- **Trust** towards plant-based alternatives **has increased** by 46% compared to three years ago. Especially consumers in Italy (58%) and in Denmark (50%) have gained trust in plant-based alternatives.<sup>1</sup>
- Consumers trust that plant-based alternatives are **safe** (57%), **accurately labelled** (56%) and **reliable** (55%).<sup>2</sup>
- Flexitarians trust **plant-based proteins** the most, followed by **fungi** and **algae-based proteins**. Insect-based protein was trusted the least.<sup>3</sup>

## **Detailed results, by topic (4/4)**



#### Attitudes, beliefs and social media influence

- 63% of consumers ask **for increased standards for transparency in product certifications**. Another 62% ask policymakers to remove the tax on healthy and sustainable food products.<sup>1</sup>
- Consumers trust **health or nutrition society websites** (45%) and **search engines** (44%) the most, when it comes to information about plant-based alternatives. Online blogs (28%) and online forums (25%) were trusted the least among individuals.<sup>2</sup>
- YouTube (41%), Facebook (36%), Instagram (33%), and TikTok (32%) are the most used social media platforms.<sup>3</sup>
- 27% of consumers use social media to search for information or discounts or promotions about plant-based alternatives. 26% of customers said they use it to read about opinions about certain plant-based alternatives from people with the same interests.<sup>4</sup>
- 27% of consumers notice **new food information they were not looking for**, when using social media.<sup>5</sup>
- 44% of consumers' **desire to eat increases when seeing food on social media**. 37% state that they are especially interested in dishes **shared by food influencers** on social media.<sup>6</sup>

1: Share of people who selected 'Strongly agree'+'Somewhat agree'+'Agree' 2: Share of people who selected 'Very trustful'+'Fairly trustful' with the respective statement 3: Share of people who stated that they spent '4 or more hours+'2-4 hours'+'1-2 hours' on this platform daily 4,5: Share of people who selected 'Very often'+'Often' 6: Share of people who selected 'Strongly Agree'+'Somewhat agree'





## **IV. Detailed results**





## **Current dietary lifestyles and outlook**

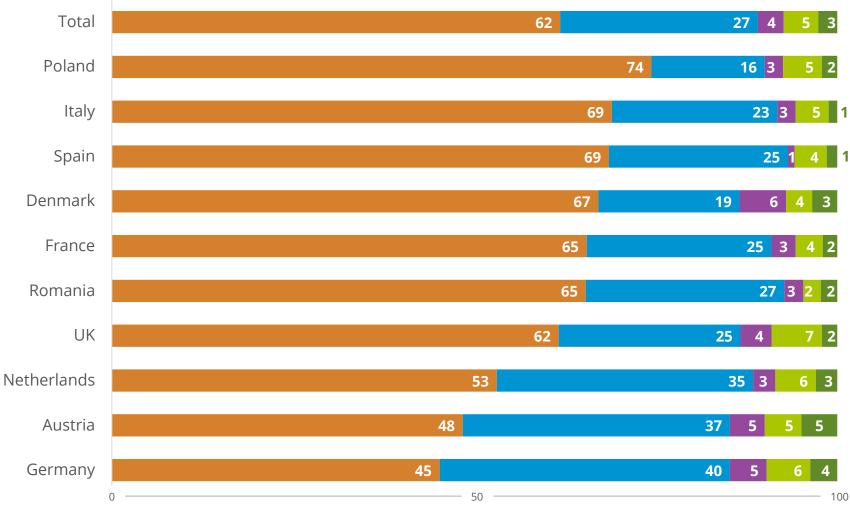




# **Q3** "Which category best describes your current dietary lifestyle?"

## **Flexitarians** continue to be an important consumer group in EU. Germany, Austria and NL take the lead

#### **Dietary lifestyle by country (%)**



- Flexitarian I sometimes eat meat, but I am trying to reduce my meat consumption and often choose plantbased foods instead
- Pescatarian I eat fish and/or shellfish, but no other types of meat
- Vegetarian I don't eat meat and fish of any kind, but I do eat eggs and/or dairy products2
- Vegan I don't eat meat, fish, eggs, dairy products, or any other animalbased ingredients

Q3: Which category best describes your current dietary lifestyle? | Single selection

otal: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750

Omnivore – I frequently eat meat (such as beef, pork, chicken, turkey, fish and/or shellfish)

#### Some countries have increased their number of omnivores. Germany stands out opposite to the overall trend

Dietary lifestyle by country 2021 vs. 2023 (%)

	<b>Omnivore</b> – I frequently eat meat (such as beef, pork, chicken, turkey, fish and/or shellfish)		ef, pork, h and/or	Flexitarian – I sometimes eat meat, but I am trying to reduce my meat consumption and often choose plant-based foods instead		<b>Pescatarian</b> – l eat fish and/or shellfish, but no other types of meat		and fich of any kind but I do			<b>Vegan</b> – I don't eat meat, fish, eggs, dairy products, or any other animal-based ingredients				
Year / +- pp	2023	2021	+/- pp	2023	2021	+/- pp	2023	2021	+/- pp	2023	2021	+/- pp	2023	2021	+/- pp
Sample Size	750	750		750	750		750	750		750	750		750	750	
Total	62	61	1	27	30	-3	4	3	1	5	5	0	3	2	1
Austria	48	56	-8	37	35	2	5	2	3	5	5	0	5	2	3
Denmark	67	62	5	19	24	-5	6	5	1	4	5	-1	3	4	-1
France	65	65	0	25	27	-2	3	4	-1	4	4	0	2	2	0
Germany	45	58	-13	40	30	10	5	3	2	6	7	-1	4	3	1
Italy	69	67	2	23	25	-2	3	3	0	5	5	0	1	1	0
Netherlands	53	48	5	35	42	-7	3	4	-1	6	5	1	3	2	1
Poland	74	68	6	16	24	-8	3	2	1	5	5	0	2	1	1
Romania	65	54	11	27	40	-13	3	3	0	2	3	-1	2	1	1
Spain	69	62	7	25	30	-5	1	2	-1	4	3	1	1	3	-2
UK	62	65	-3	25	23	2	4	3	1	7	6	1	2	3	-1

Q3: Which category best describes your current dietary lifestyle? | Single selection | +/- pp= increase/decrease in percentage point

Total: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750

## **The intention to reduce meat consumption** transcends generational boundaries

#### Dietary lifestyle by generations 2023 (%)

	Boomers (1946- 1964)	Gen X (1965-1980)	Millennials (1981-1996)	Gen Z (1997-2012)
Flexitarians	29%	27%	28%	26%
Omnivores	64%	64%	61%	58%
Pescatarian	3%	3%	3%	5%
Vegetarian	1%	2%	3%	4%
Vegan	3%	4%	5%	7%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%

Q3: Which category best describes your current dietary lifestyle? | Single selection

Total= 7500 | Boomer n= 1013 | Gen X n=2238 | Gen Z n=1811 | Millennial n=2438 | Flexitarians n=2044 | Omnivores n=4635 | Pescatarian n=267 | Vegan n=197 | Vegetarian=357

## **The intention to reduce meat consumption** is mostly visible among female and diverse\*\* consumers

#### Dietary lifestyle by gender 2023 (%)

	Female	Male	Diverse**
Flexitarians	31%	23%	43%
Omnivores	58%	66%	26%
Pescatarian	3%	4%	4%
Vegetarian	2%	3%	13%
Vegan	6%	3%	13%
Total	100%	100%	100%

Q3: Which category best describes your current dietary lifestyle? | Single selection | \*\*Sample size below 30 and it is showed only for reference

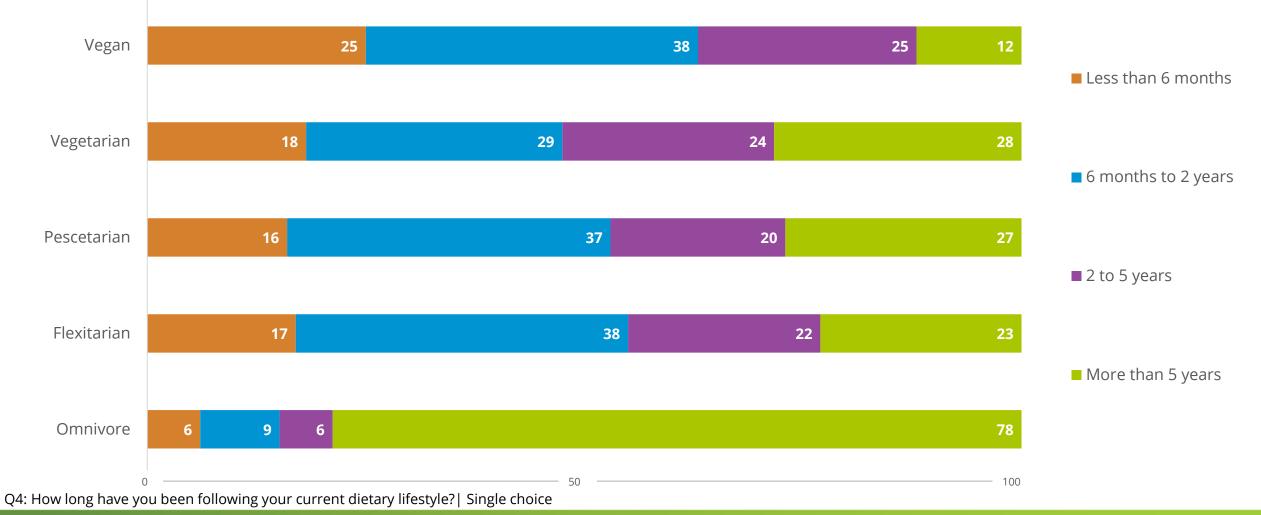




# **Q4** "How long have you been following your current dietary lifestyle?"

## **45%** of EU consumers have been **flexitarian for more than two years**

**Dietary lifestyle length Total (%)** 



#### Many consumers are shifting away from omnivore diets as they continue to change their dietary lifestyles

#### Dietary lifestyle length Total 2021 vs. 2023 (%)

	Less than 6 months			6 months to 2 years			2	to 5 yea	rs	More than 5 years			
	2023	2021	+/- pp	2023	2021	+/- pp	2023	2021	+/- pp	2023	2021	+/- pp	
Flexitarian	17	14	3	38	36	2	22	23	-1	23	27	-4	
Omnivore	6	7	-1	9	6	3	6	3	3	78	84	-6	
Vegetarian	18	10	8	29	28	1	24	21	3	28	40	-12	
Pescatarian	16	19	-3	37	27	10	20	21	-1	27	32	-5	
Vegan	25	20	5	38	28	10	25	31	-6	12	21	-9	

Q3: Which category best describes your current dietary lifestyle? | Single selection

Q4: How long have you been following your current dietary lifestyle? | Single choice | +/- pp= increase/decrease in percentage point





The Smart Protein project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 862957

# **Q5** "Which of the following phrases best describes your current dietary habits or situation?"

www.smartproteinproject.eu

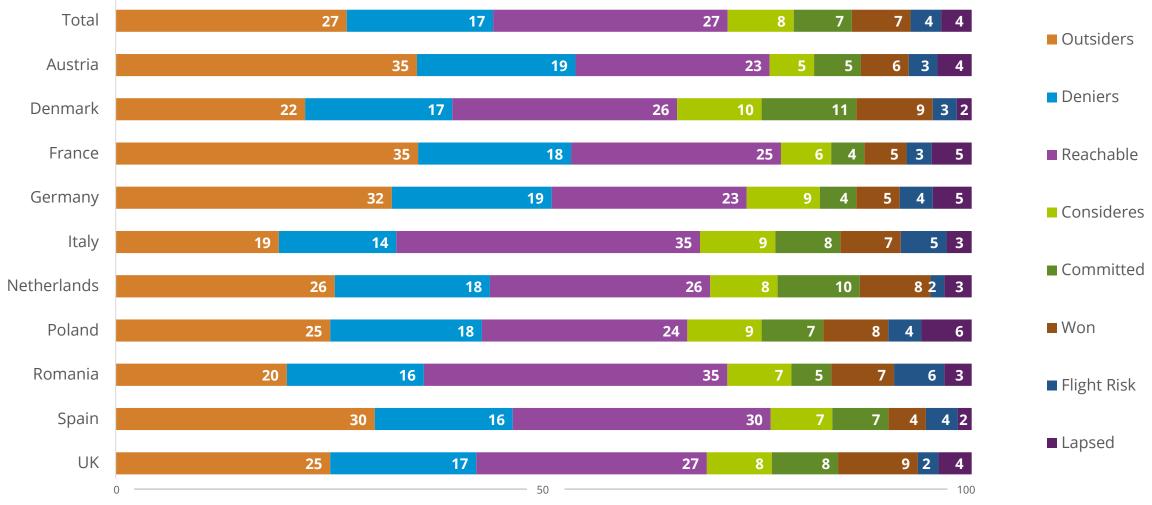
## There is a visible majority of consumers being either **Outsiders** (27%) or **Reachable** (27%)



Q5: Which of the following phrases best describes your current dietary habits or situation? | Single choice

#### Italy and Denmark are **the most open** to plant-based diets, while the UK and the Netherlands are the **most committed**

Transition stage by country (%)



Q5: Which of the following phrases best describes your current dietary habits or situation? | Single choice

Total: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750

# **Boomers are the generation most disconnected** from plant-based eating, with Gen Z being the most connected

#### **Transition stage by generations (%)**

	Total	Boomer	Gen X	Millennial	Gen Z
I am <b>working to maintain</b> a plant-based diet but it is getting more challenging every day.	4	3	3	4	4
<b>No one in my social environment</b> (including myself) eats plant-based meals or thinks about adopting a plant-based diet.	27	37	30	24	21
I realize the importance of a plant-based diet, but I'm not sure that I'm ready to change.	27	27	27	28	28
<b>Some people in my social environment</b> think I should eat mostly plant-based meals, but I don't want to change.	17	12	15	18	21
<b>I plan to start</b> a plant-based diet in the next six months.	8	5	8	9	8
I had a plant-based diet but I lost interest/motivation.	4	3	4	4	4
I have taken definite actions to adopt a plant-based diet in the past six months.	7	8	7	7	7
I feel confident about maintaining my plant-based diet for six months or longer.	7	6	6	7	7
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Q5: Which of the following phrases best describes your current dietary habits or situation? | Single choice

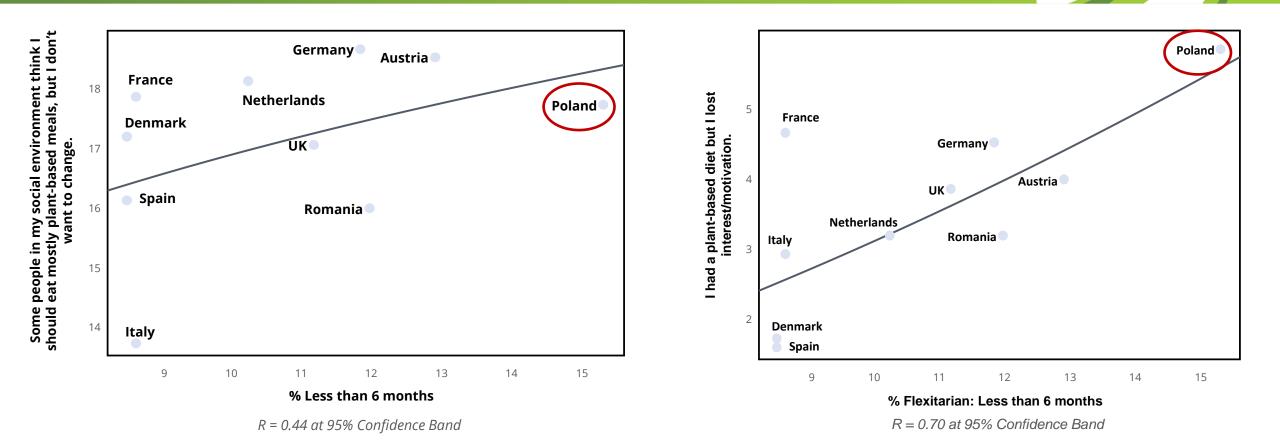
#### The **biggest difference between flexitarians and omnivores** can be observed within the **Outsider** group

#### Transition stage by dietary lifestyles (%)

	Omnivores	Flexitarians
I <b>realise the importance of a plant-based diet</b> , but I'm not sure that I'm ready to change.	28	30
No one in my social environment (including myself) eats plant- based meals or thinks about adopting a plant-based diet.	34	16
Some people in my social environment think I should eat mostly plant-based meals, but I don't want to change.	17	16
I have <b>taken definite actions to adopt a plant-based diet</b> in the past six months.	4	11
I feel <b>confident about maintaining my plant-based diet</b> for six months or longer.	3	10
I plan to <b>start a plant-based diet in the next six months</b> .	7	8
I am <b>working to maintain a plant-based diet</b> but it is getting more <b>challenging</b> every day.	3	5
I had a plant-based diet <b>but I lost interest/motivation</b> .	4	3
Total	100	100

Q5: Which of the following phrases best describes your current dietary habits or situation? | Single choice

**Social pressure** often drives dietary change at first, but there's a high chance of **lapsing within six months**, especially in Poland



Please note that the presented correlation analyses in this study aim to identify potential relationships between variables. While significant correlations may suggest associations, they do not necessarily imply causation. Additional factors and complexities that influence the observed patterns might need further analysis.

Q5: Which of the following phrases best describes your current dietary habits or situation? | Single choice Q4: How long have you been following your current dietary lifestyle?| Single choice

Total: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750

**Correlation measurements** 

0.1 to 0.3

0.3 to 0.5

0.5 to 1.0

Weak positive correlation

Strong positive correlation

Moderate positive correlation





The Smart Protein project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 862957

## Familiarity and current consumption patterns: animal and plant-based food products

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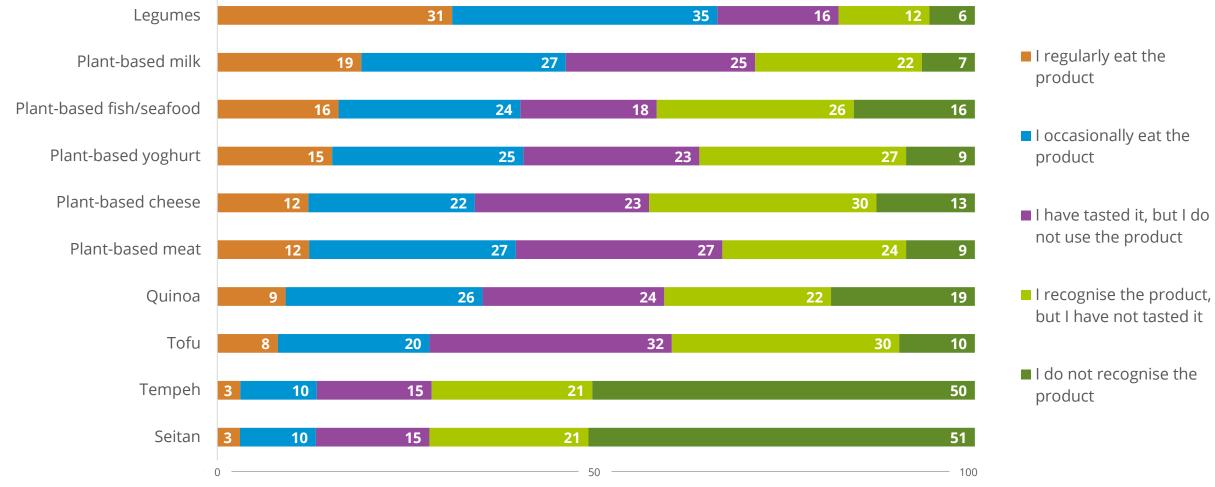
The Smart Protein project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 862957

# **Q6** "How familiar are you with the following food products?"

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# **Legumes are eaten the most often**, while tofu is the most frequently tried product

#### Familiarity with plant-based products total sample (%)

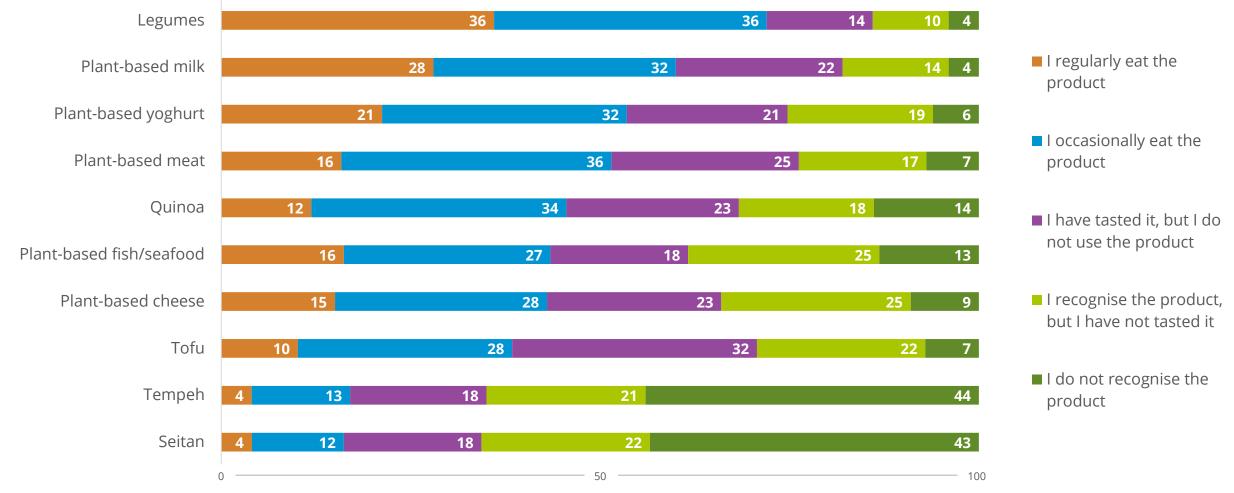


Q6: How familiar are you with the following food products?| Single choice

Total: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750

#### Flexitarians consume plant-based foods more frequently than the average EU consumer

#### Familiarity with plant-based products Flexitarians (%)



Q6: How familiar are you with the following food products? – Flexitarians | Single choice

Total: n= 2044 | Austria n=276 | Denmark n=146 | France n=191 | Germany n=300 | Italy n=171 | Netherlands n=265 | Poland n=117 | Romania n=205 | Spain n=185 | UK n=188

#### Flexitarians are more familiar with plant-based yogurt and milk compared to the average European

Familiarity with plant-based products Flexitarians vs total sample (%)

	l sometimes eat	<b>Flexitarian</b> – I sometimes eat meat, but I am trying to reduce my meat consumption and often choose plant-based foods instead										
% difference to total sample	l regularly eat the product	egularly eat the product but I have tasted it, but I product, but I have not product but I										
Legumes	+5	+1	-2	-2	-2							
Tofu	+2	+8	0	-8	-3							
Tempeh	+1	+3	+3	0	-6							
Seitan	+1	+2	+3	+1	-8							
Quinoa	+3	+8	-1	-4	-5							
Plant-based yoghurt	+6	+7	-2	-8	-3							
Plant-based cheese	+3	+6	0	-5	-4							
Plant-based milk	+9	+5	-3	-8	-3							
Plant-based meat	+4	+9	-2	-7	-2							
Plant-based fish/seafood	0	+3	0	-1	-3							

Q3: Which category best describes your current dietary lifestyle? – Flexitarians | Single selection Q6: How familiar are you with the following food products?| Single choice

## **Among omnivores, most plant-based foods** are already widely consumed occasionally

#### Legumes 12 5 I regularly eat the Plant-based fish/seafood product Plant-based milk I occasionally eat the Plant-based yoghurt product Plant-based cheese I have tasted it, but I do not use the product Plant-based meat I recognise the product, Ouinoa but I have not tasted it Tofu I do not recognise the Tempeh product Seitan

Familiarity with plant-based products Omnivores (%)

Q6: How familiar are you with the following food products? - Omnivores | Single choice

Total: n= 4635 | Austria n=363 | Denmark n=503 | France n=491 | Germany n=339 | Italy n=517 | Netherlands n=398 | Poland n=558 | Romania n=490 | Spain n=514 | UK n=462

# Omnivores are as familiar with plant-based fish, seitan, and tempeh as the average European consumer

Familiarity with plant-based products Omnivores vs total sample (%)

	<b>Omnivore</b> – I frequently eat meat (such as beef, pork, chicken, turkey, fish and/or shellfish)										
% difference to total sample	l regularly eat the product	l occasionally eat the product	l have tasted it, but l do not use the product	l recognize the product, but l have not tasted it	l do not recognize the product						
Legumes	-2	2	+1	0	-1						
Tofu	-3	-4	+1	+5	+1						
Tempeh	-1	-3	-3	0	+7						
Seitan	-1	-3	-3	-1	+8						
Quinoa	-3	-4	+1	+3	+3						
Plant-based cheese	-2	-4	0	+4	+2						
Plant-based yoghurt	-4	-2	+2	+4	+2						
Plant-based milk	-6	-2	+2	+4	+2						
Plant-based meat	-4	-3	+2	+5	+1						
Plant-based fish/seafood	-1	0	-1	+1	+2						

Q6: How familiar are you with the following food products? - Omnivores | Single choice

Fotal: n= 4635 | Austria n=363 | Denmark n=503 | France n=491 | Germany n=339 | Italy n=517 | Netherlands n=398 | Poland n=558 | Romania n=490 | Spain n=514 | UK n=462





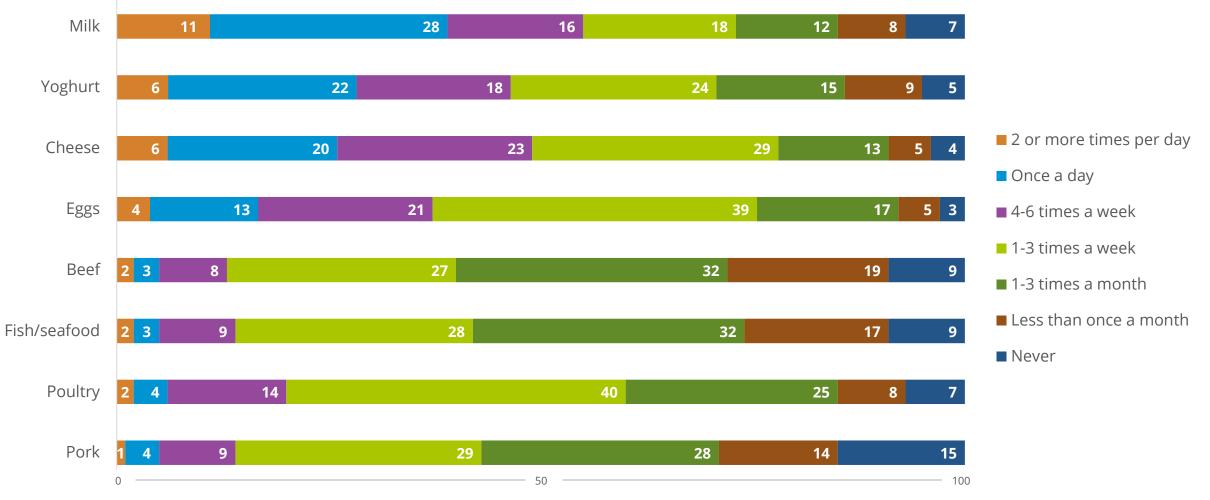
The Smart Protein project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 862957

# **Q7** "Which statement best describes how frequently you consume the following food products?"

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# Milk, yoghurt, and cheese are daily staples, while eggs and poultry are more typically consumed on a weekly basis

Frequency of animal-based food consumption total sample (%)



Q7: Which statement best describes how frequently you consume the following food products?| Single choice

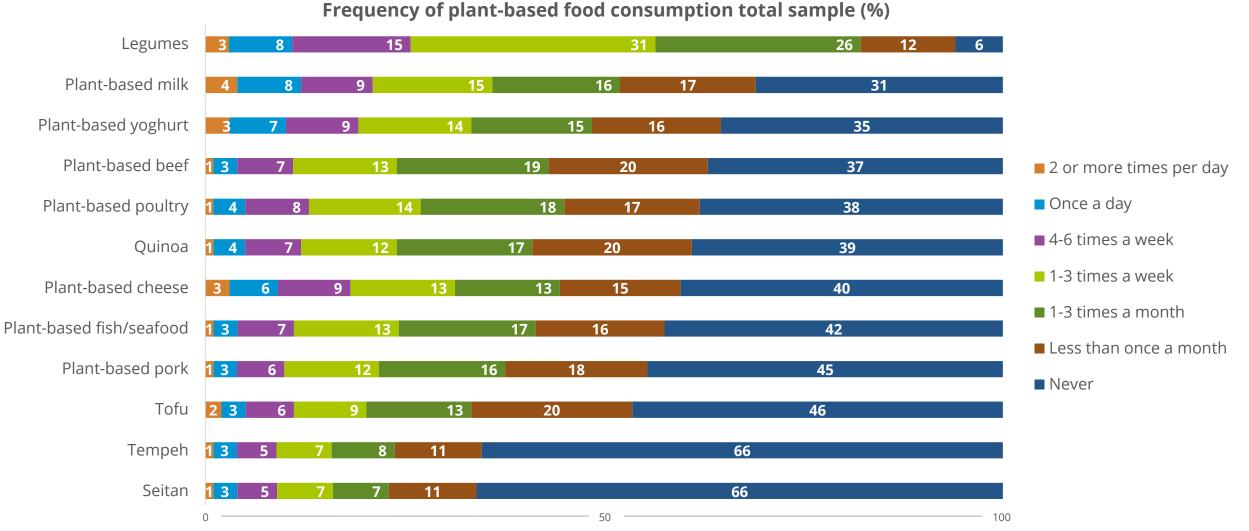
#### Compared to 2021, there has been **an overall increase** in selfreported consumption of **animal-based products**

Frequency of animal-based food consumption 2023 vs. 2021 (%)

	Never			Less than once a month		1-3 times a month		1-3 times a week		4-6 times a week		Once a day			2 or more times per day						
	2023	2021	+/- pp	2023	2021	+/- pp	2023	2021	+/- pp	2023	2021	+/- pp	2023	2021	+/- pp	2023	2021	+/- pp	2023	2021	+/- pp
Beef	9	11	-2	19	24	-5	32	32	0	27	23	4	8	6	2	3	3	0	2	1	1
Poultry	7	8	-1	8	10	-2	25	27	-2	40	40	0	14	11	3	4	3	1	2	1	1
Pork	15	14	1	14	17	-3	28	29	-1	29	28	1	9	8	1	4	3	1	1	1	0
Fish/seafood	9	12	-3	17	19	-2	32	31	1	28	28	0	9	6	3	3	3	0	2	1	1
Milk	7	10	-3	8	9	-1	12	11	1	18	18	0	16	14	2	28	26	2	11	12	-1
Yoghurt	5	7	-2	9	11	-2	15	16	-1	24	24	0	18	17	1	22	20	2	6	5	1
Cheese	4	5	-1	5	6	-1	13	13	0	29	29	0	23	22	1	20	19	1	6	6	0
Eggs	3	3	0	5	7	-2	17	22	-5	39	42	-3	21	16	5	13	8	5	4	2	2
Average			-1.4			-2.3			-0.9			+0.3			+2.3			+1.5			+0.6

Q7: Which statements best describes how frequently you consume the following food products? | Single choice | +/- pp= increase/decrease in percentage point

#### **Plant-based dairy and legumes are the most-consumed** plant-based product categories



Q7: Which statement best describes how frequently you consume the following food products?| Single choice

#### Compared to 2021, **regular consumption of plant-based products is increasing**

#### Frequency of plant-based food consumption 2023 vs. 2021 (%)

		Never			than o month		1-3 tir	nes a r	nonth	1-3 ti	mes a	week	4-6 ti	mes a	week	0	nce a d	ay	2 or m	ore tin day	nes per
	2023	2021	+/- pp	2023	2021	+/- pp	2023	2021	+/- pp	2023	2021	+/- pp	2023	2021	+/- pp	2023	2021	+/- pp	2023	2021	+/- pp
Quinoa	39	48	-9	20	19	1	17	13	4	12	10	2	7	6	1	4	3	1	1	1	0
Legumes	6	6	0	12	13	-1	26	26	0	31	31	0	15	15	0	8	6	2	3	3	0
PB Yoghurt	35	51	-16	16	15	1	15	11	4	14	10	4	9	7	2	3	4	3	3	2	1
PB Poultry	38	50	-12	17	16	1	18	13	5	14	11	3	8	6	2	3	3	1	2	1	0
PB Pork	45	54	-9	18	15	3	16	12	4	12	9	3	6	6	0	3	3	0	1	1	0
PB Milk	31	44	-13	17	16	1	16	12	4	15	11	4	9	7	2	8	7	1	4	3	1
PB fish/seafood	42	55	-13	16	14	2	17	12	5	13	10	3	7	5	2	3	3	0	1	1	0
PB Cheese	40	55	-15	15	14	1	13	11	2	13	10	3	9	6	3	6	3	3	3	1	2
PB beef	37	45	-8	20	17	3	19	16	3	13	12	1	7	6	1	3	3	0	1	1	0
Average			-10.6			+1.3			+3.4			+2.6			+1.4			+1.2			+0.4

Q7: Which statement best describes how frequently you consume the following food products? | Single choice | +/- pp= increase/decrease in percentage point | \*Tofu was not asked in 2021

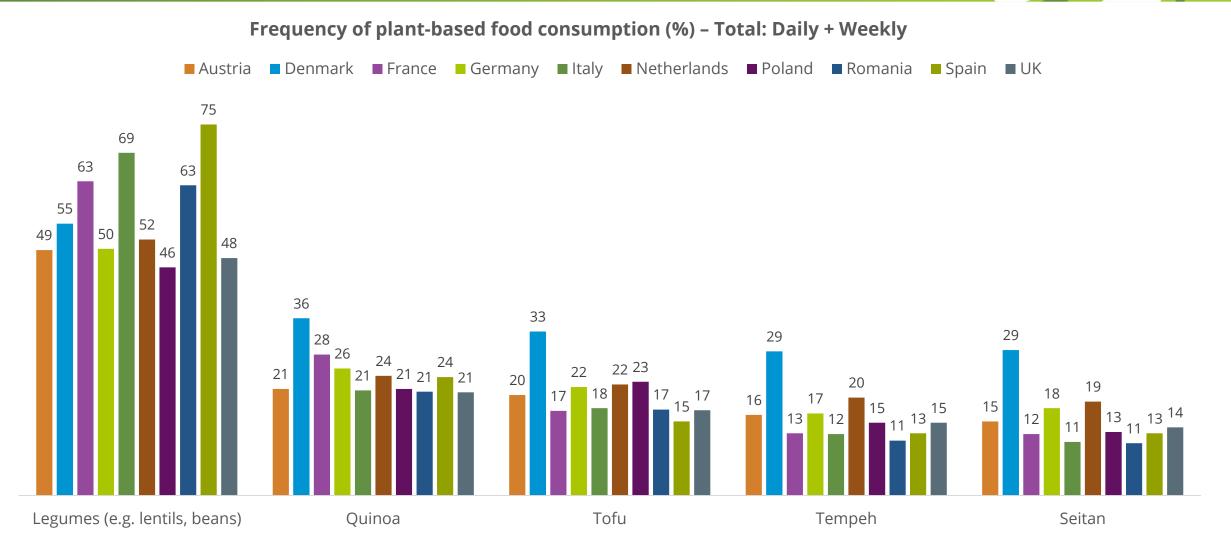
#### **Conversion rates: plant-based foods**



Conversion rates, in the context of consumption frequency, refer to the percentage of individuals who transition from lower consumption levels to higher consumption levels over a given period. Essentially, it measures how successful a product or concept is in persuading individuals to increase their frequency of consumption. Conversion rates allow organizations to assess the success of their efforts in convincing consumers to adopt higher consumption frequencies.

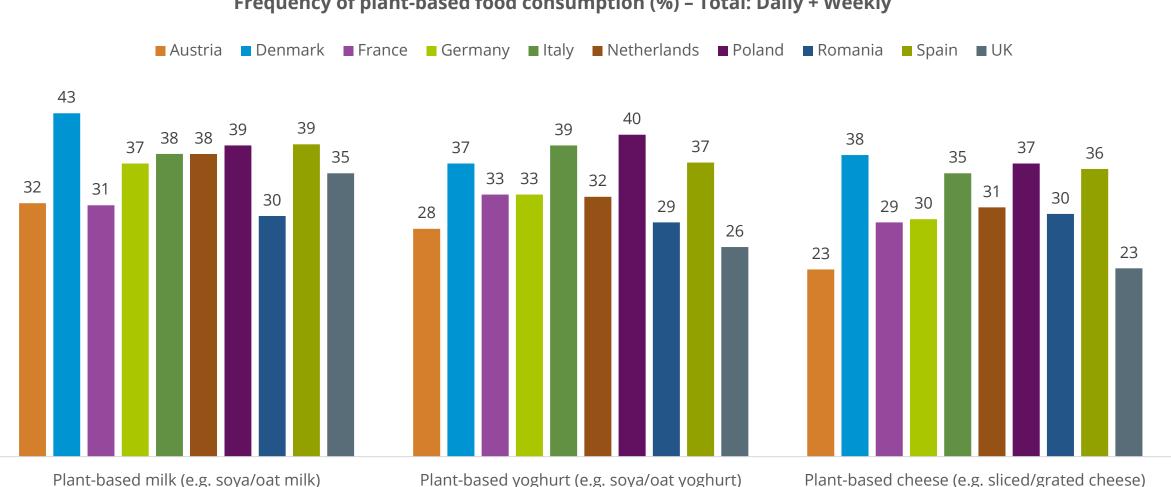
For example, if a plant-based product aims to encourage consumers to switch from consuming it once a month to consuming it once a week, the conversion rate would represent the percentage of individuals who successfully make this transition within the specified timeframe.

#### **Legumes are highly consumed in Italy,** while other plantbased foods are highly consumed in Denmark



Q7: Which statement best describes how frequently you consume the following food products? | Single choice

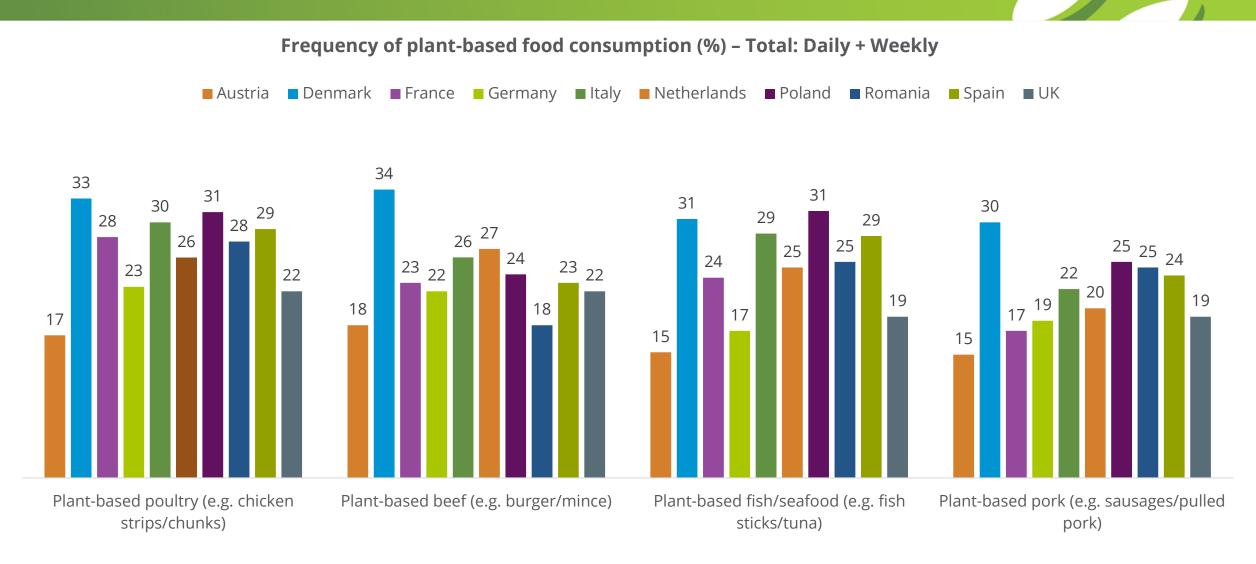
#### **Consumers in Denmark consume the most plant-based** dairy alternatives vs. other countries



Frequency of plant-based food consumption (%) – Total: Daily + Weekly

Q7: Which statement best describes how frequently you consume the following food products? | Single choice

# A similar trend is observed within plant-based meat alternatives

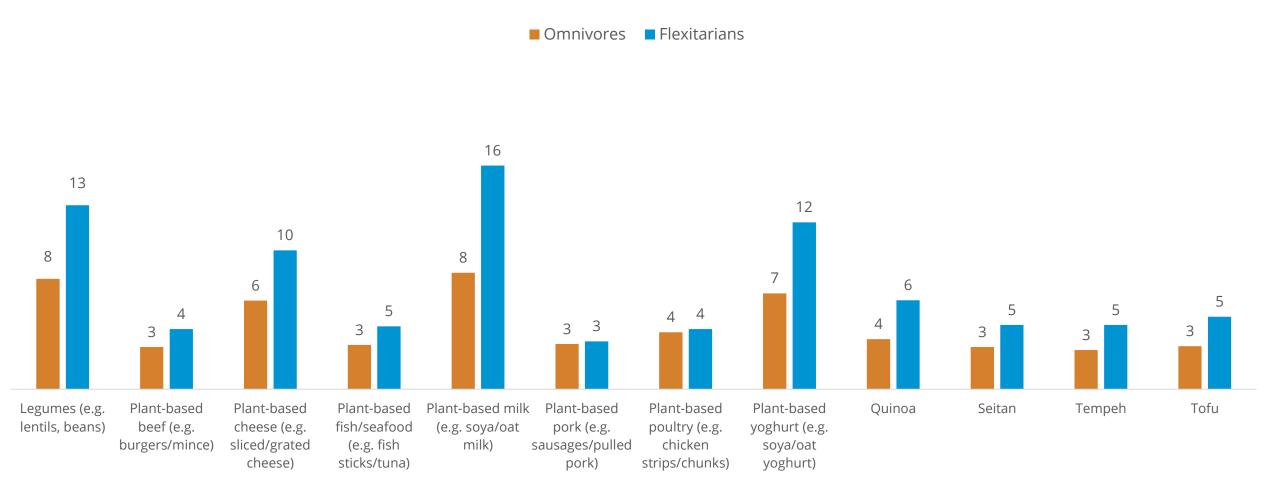


Q7: Which statement best describes how frequently you consume the following food products? | Single choice

Total: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750

### **Daily** consumption, by dietary lifestyle

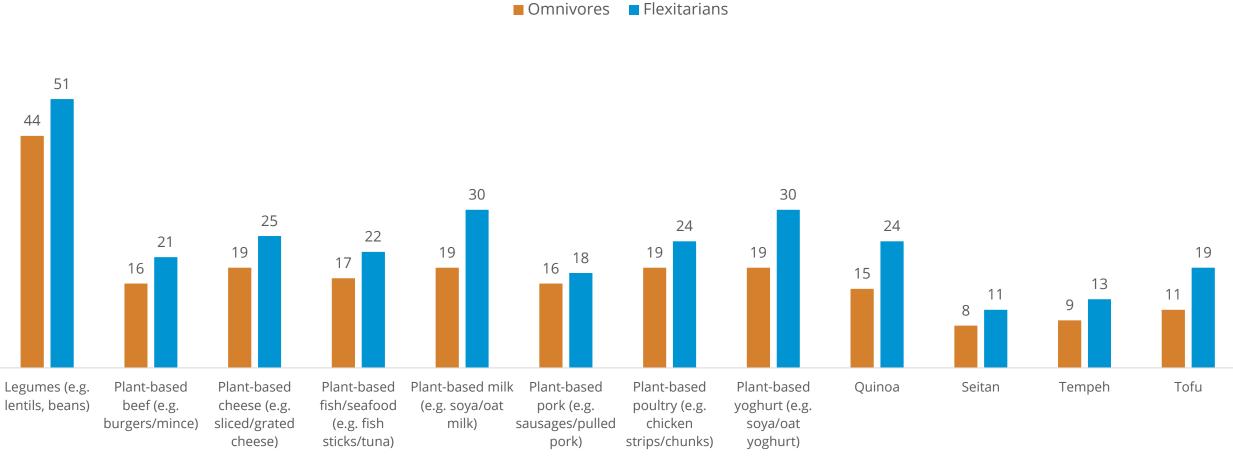
Everyday consumption by dietary lifestyles (%) (Omnivores and Flexitarians)



Everyday consumption: Sum of 'Once a day' + '2 or more times per day' Q7: Which statements best describes how frequently you consume the following food products? | Single choice

### Weekly consumption, by dietary lifestyle

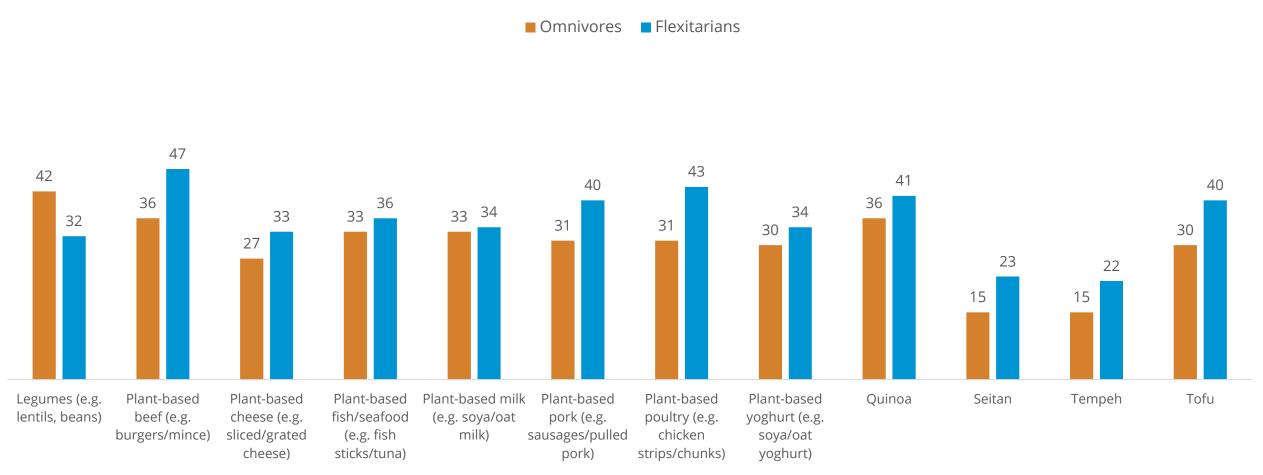
Weekly consumption by dietary lifestyles (%) (Omnivores and Flexitarians)



Weekly consumption: Sum of '1-3 times a week' + '4-6 times a week' Q7: Which statements best describes how frequently you consume the following food products? | Single choice

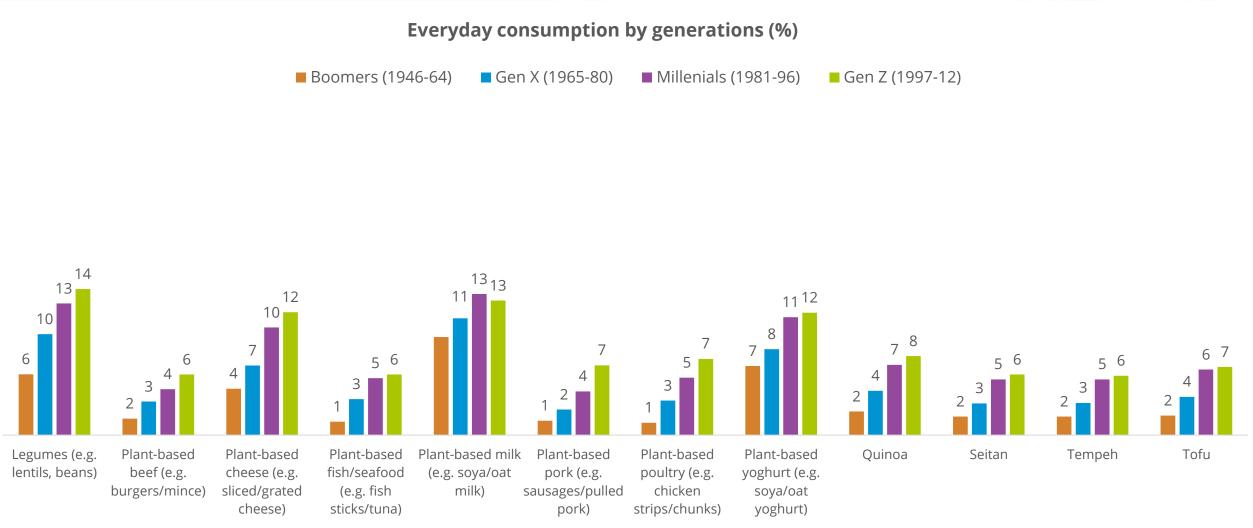
### Monthly consumption, by dietary lifestyle

Monthly consumption by dietary lifestyles (%) (Omnivores and Flexitarians)



Monthly consumption: Sum of '1-3 times a month' + 'Less than once a month' Q7: Which statements best describes how frequently you consume the following food products? | Single choice

## **Daily** consumption, by generation



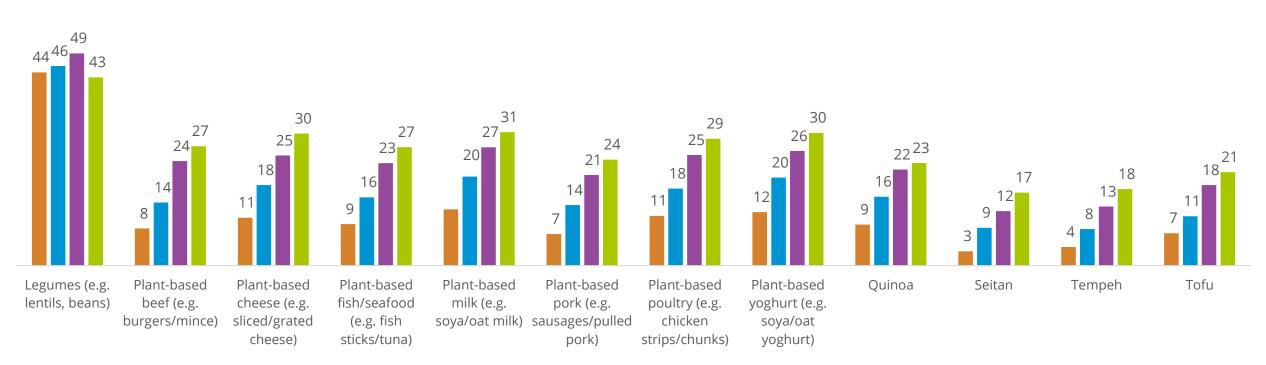
Everyday consumption: Sum of 'Once a day' + '2 or more times per day'

Q7: Which statements best describes how frequently you consume the following food products? | Single choice

## Weekly consumption, by generation

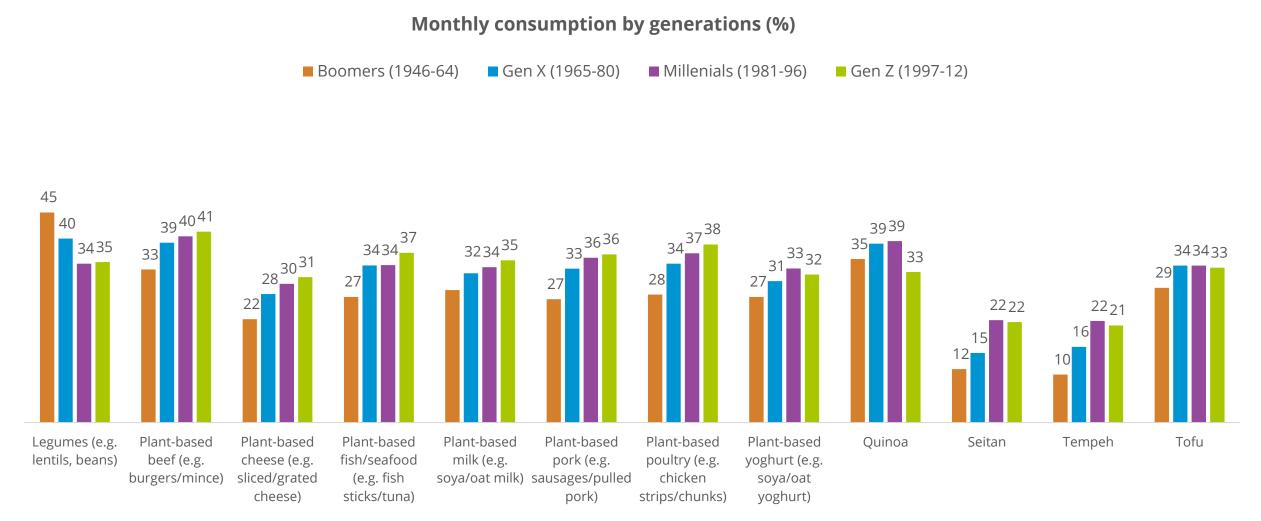
Weekly consumption by generations (%)





Weekly consumption: Sum of '1-3 times a week' + '4-6 times a week' Q7: Which statements best describes how frequently you consume the following food products? | Single choice

## Monthly consumption, by generation



Monthly consumption: Sum of '1-3 times a month' + 'Less than once a month' Q7: Which statements best describes how frequently you consume the following food products? | Single choice





The Smart Protein project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 862957

# **Q8** "Compared to a year ago, how much meat (e.g. beef, pork, chicken) are you eating now?"

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## 51% of European meat consumers are actively reducing their meat consumption, up from 46% in 2021

Actual meat consumption vs a year ago (Omnivores and Flexitarians) (%)

	2023	2021	
A lot less	15%	14%	
Slightly less	36%	32%	
No change	39%	48%	
Slightly more	7%	5%	
A lot more	2%	1%	

Q8: Compared to a year ago, how much meat (e.g. beef, pork, chicken) are you eating now? | Single choice

#### Meat consumers in Germany, France, and Italy are leading in terms of **reducing their meat consumption**

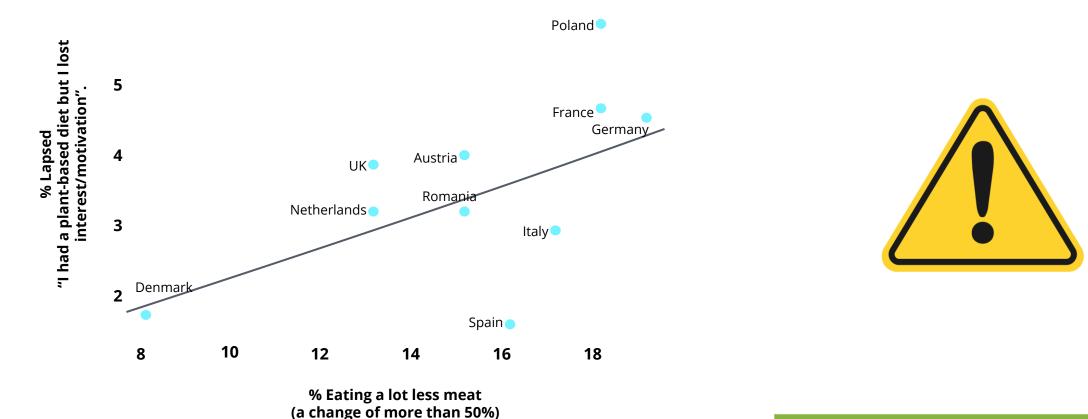
#### Changes in meat consumption since last year (%) – by country

	<b>A lot less</b> (a change of more than 50%)	<b>Slightly less</b> (a change of less than 50%)	No change	<b>Slightly more</b> (a change of less than 50%)	<b>A lot more</b> (a change of more than 50%)
Total	15%	36%	39%	7%	2%
Germany	19%	40%	34%	5%	2%
France	18%	39%	34%	6%	2%
Poland	18%	30%	44%	6%	2%
Italy	17%	42%	33%	7%	2%
Spain	16%	32%	43%	7%	2%
Austria	15%	36%	41%	6%	2%
Romania	15%	33%	40%	10%	2%
Netherlands	13%	36%	43%	7%	1%
υк	13%	35%	41%	8%	3%
Denmark	8%	39%	39%	11%	2%

Q8: Compared to a year ago, how much meat (e.g. beef, pork, chicken) are you eating now? | Single choice

# When reduction surpasses 50%, lapses are more likely, emphasising the importance of a gradual approach





Please note that the presented correlation analyses in this study aim to identify potential relationships between variables. While significant correlations may suggest associations, they do not necessarily imply causation. Additional factors and complexities that influence the observed patterns might need further analysis.

Q5: Which of the following phrases best describes your current dietary habits or situation? | Single choice Q8: Compared to a year ago, how much meat (e.g. beef, pork, chicken) are you eating now? | Single choice

Total: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750

#### Meat consumption is declining mainly among flexitarians. Omnivores are making more modest reductions

Actual meat consumption vs a year ago (Omnivores and Flexitarians) (%)

	Total	Omnivores	Flexitarians
A lot less (a change of more than 50%)	15%	10%	27%
Slightly less (a change of less than 50%)	36%	33%	44%
No change	39%	48%	20%
Slightly more (a change of less than 50%)	7%	8%	7%
A lot more (a change of more than 50%)	2%	2%	2%
Total	100%	100%	100%

Q8: Compared to a year ago, how much meat (e.g. beef, pork, chicken) are you eating now? | Single choice Q3: Which category best describes your current dietary lifestyle? | Single selection





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## **Q9** "Which of the following food products have you decreased your consumption of the most?"

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#### **Beef and pork consumption has substantially declined,** while dairy products show only a minor reduction

Decrease of food consumption (%) – Total sample

	2023	
Beef	35%	
Pork	31%	
Fish	7%	
Poultry	6%	
Milk	6%	
Cheese	5%	
Eggs	4%	
Yoghurt	3%	
l don't know	3%	

Q9: For which of the following food products have you decreased your consumption of the most? | Multiple choice

## Most demographics tend to focus on decreasing beef consumption rather than pork.

Decrease of annual pork and beef consumption (%) – by key demographics

	Pork	Beef
Flexitarians	36%	36%
Omnivores	35%	26%
Boomers	47%	35%
Gen X	39%	32%
Gen Z	27%	25%
Millennials	32%	31%
Deniers	33%	28%
Committed	36%	32%
Lapsed	26%	29%

Q9: For which of the following food products have you decreased your consumption of the most? | Multiple choice

## **Consumption of beef and pork** more than three times a week, by country

### +3 times per week consumption of pork and beef - by country 2023

% of people who	Eats Beef + 3 times per week	Eats Pork + 3 times per week	Eats Poultry + 3 times per week	Eats Fish +3 times per week	Intent to reduce total meat consumption
Total	13%	14%	20%	14%	51%
Denmark	24%	19%	26%	20%	47%
France	16%	14%	23%	14%	57%
Netherlands	15%	14%	18%	13%	49%
UK	12%	8%	20%	14%	48%
Italy	12%	11%	17%	12%	59%
Poland	11%	17%	26%	15%	48%
Spain	11%	13%	16%	13%	48%
Germany	10%	14%	18%	12%	59%
Austria	10%	11%	14%	9%	51%
Romania	8%	20%	23%	13%	48%

Q9: For which of the following food products have you decreased your consumption of the most? | Multiple choice | Top 3 per column highlighted in green, Top 4 & 5 highlighted in yellow





# Readiness and intention to change current food choices





### **Q10** "Which of the following reasons best describe why you have chosen to decrease your consumption of meat or dairy products?"

## Health is the primary reason for people reducing their meat consumption, with animal welfare coming second

Reasons for decrease of meat/dairy consumption (%) – Omnivores and flexitarians

	Total	Omnivores	Flexitarians
Health	47	42	54
Animal welfare	29	22	40
Environment	26	21	32
Taste	15	15	15
Concerns over antibiotics	15	12	18
Other	12	17	6
My social environment	10	10	9
Major outbreaks of animal-to- human diseases (e.g. COVID-19)	9	8	10

Q10: Which of the following reasons best describe why you have chosen to decrease your consumption of meat or dairy products? | Multiple choice

## For **all generations**, the top drivers are health, animal welfare, and environmental factors

### **Reasons for decrease of meat/dairy consumption (%) – by generations**

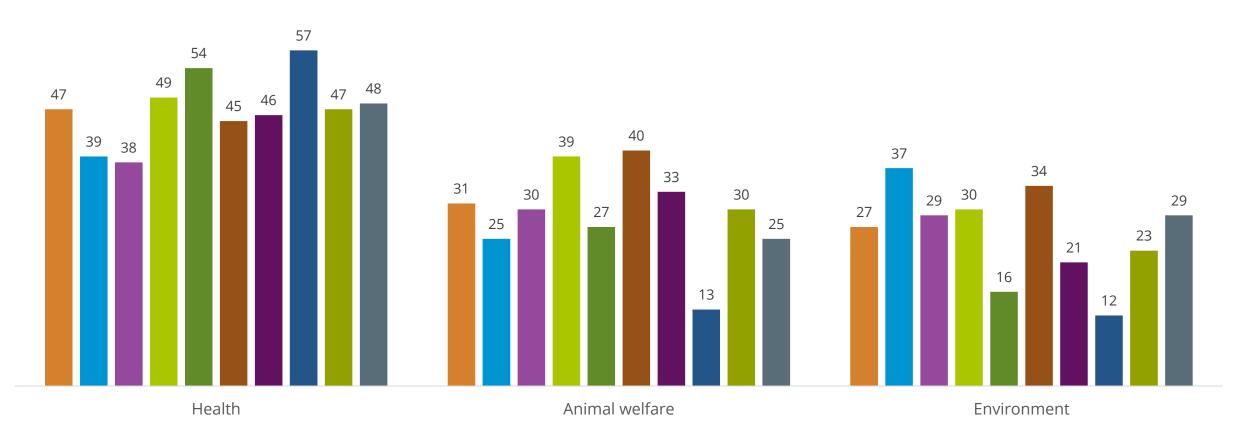
	Total	Boomers	Gen X	Millennials	Gen Z
Health	47	57	52	45	36
Animal welfare	29	36	29	29	27
Environment	26	33	24	26	22
Taste	15	11	11	15	22
Concerns over antibiotics	15	19	16	15	10
Other	12	13	15	11	9
My social environment	10	7	9	11	11
Major outbreaks of animal-to- human diseases (e.g. COVID-19)	9	9	8	9	9

Q10: Which of the following reasons best describe why you have chosen to decrease your consumption of meat or dairy products? | Multiple choice

### In **Romania**, **health concerns** are driving reductions, while in **Germany** and the **Netherlands**, it's **animal welfare**

Top 3 reasons for decrease of meat/dairy consumption (%) - by country

■ Austria ■ Denmark ■ France ■ Germany ■ Italy ■ Netherlands ■ Poland ■ Romania ■ Spain ■ UK



Q10: Which of the following reasons best describe why you have chosen to decrease your consumption of meat or dairy products? | Multiple choice

Total: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750

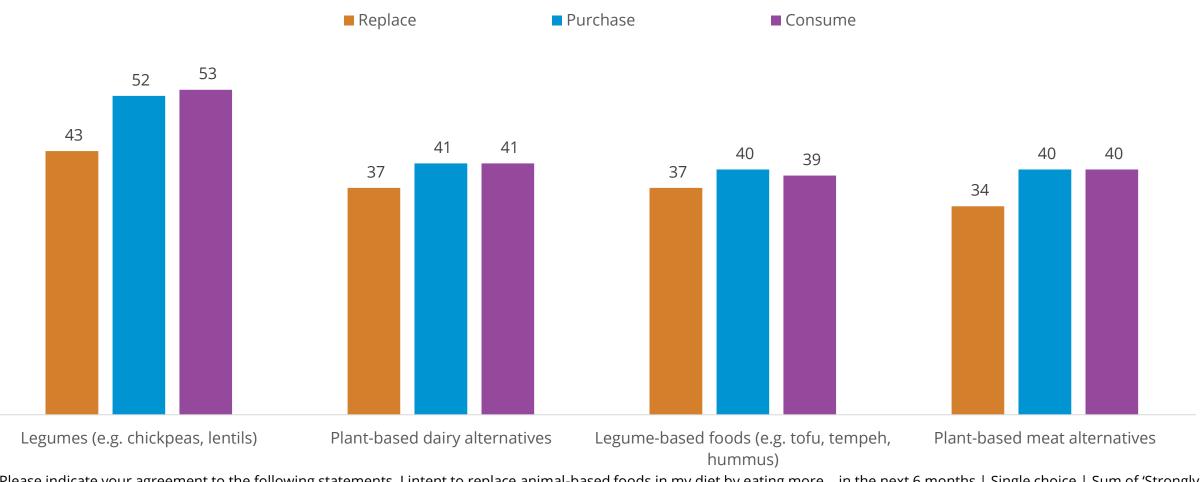




# **Q 11/12/13** "Please indicate your agreement to the following statements."

### In general, Europeans are open to including more plantbased foods in their dietary lifestyles

Intention to replace, consume and purchase more in the next 6 months (%) - Total sample



Q11: Please indicate your agreement to the following statements. I intent to replace animal-based foods in my diet by eating more... in the next 6 months | Single choice | Sum of 'Strongly agree' + 'Agree' + 'Somewhat agree'

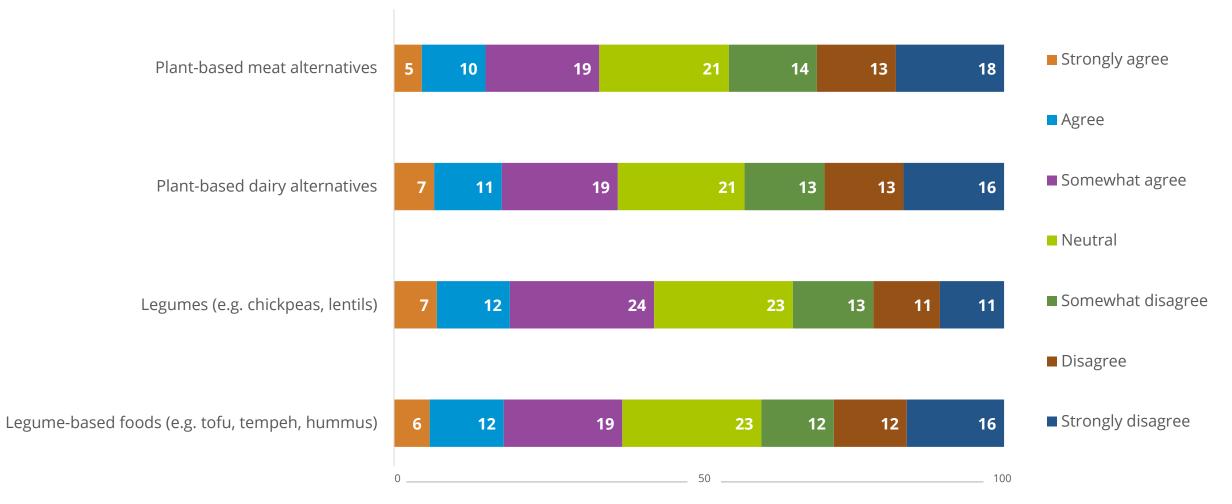




### **Q11** "I intend to <u>replace</u> animal-based foods in my diet by eating more... in the next 6 months."

Most consumers intend **replacing** animal-based meat with legumes, plant-based dairy, and legume-based foods



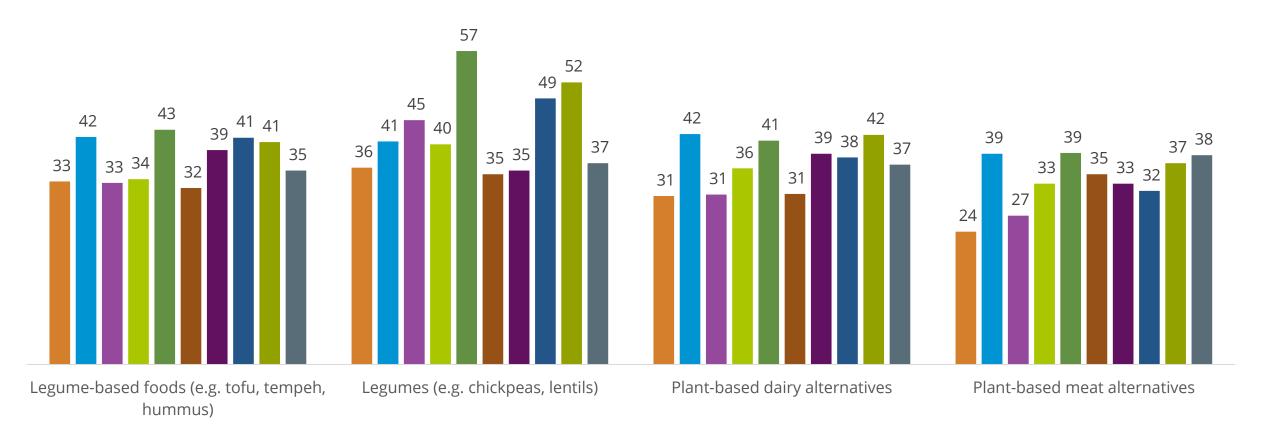


Q11: Please indicate your agreement to the following statements. I intent to replace animal-based foods in my diet by eating more... in the next 6 months | Single choice

### **Danish, Italian and Spanish consumers stand out** within the overall European trend

Level of agreement to replace animal meat with ... by country (%)

■ Austria ■ Denmark ■ France ■ Germany ■ Italy ■ Netherlands ■ Poland ■ Romania ■ Spain ■ UK



Q11: Please indicate your agreement to the following statements. I intent to replace animal-based foods in my diet by eating more... in the next 6 months | Single choice | Sum of 'Strongly agree' + 'Agree' + 'Somewhat agree'

## **Replacement intentions,** by dietary type, generation, and dietary stage

Level of agreement to replace animal meat with ... by key demographics (%)

Replace	Legumes	Legume-based	Plant-based dairy	Plant-based meat
Flexitarians	57%	50%	49%	47%
Omnivores	35%	29%	29%	25%
Boomers	48%	29%	28%	26%
Gen X	43%	34%	34%	31%
Gen Z	35%	40%	39%	34%
Millennials	46%	42%	41%	39%
Deniers	33%	33%	31%	27%
Committed	62%	60%	63%	59%
Lapsed	40%	36%	30%	28%

Q11: Please indicate your agreement to the following statements. I intent to replace animal-based foods in my diet by eating more... in the next 6 months | Single choice | Sum of 'Strongly agree' + 'Agree' + 'Somewhat agree'





# **Q12** "I intend to <u>consume</u> more ... in the next 6 months."



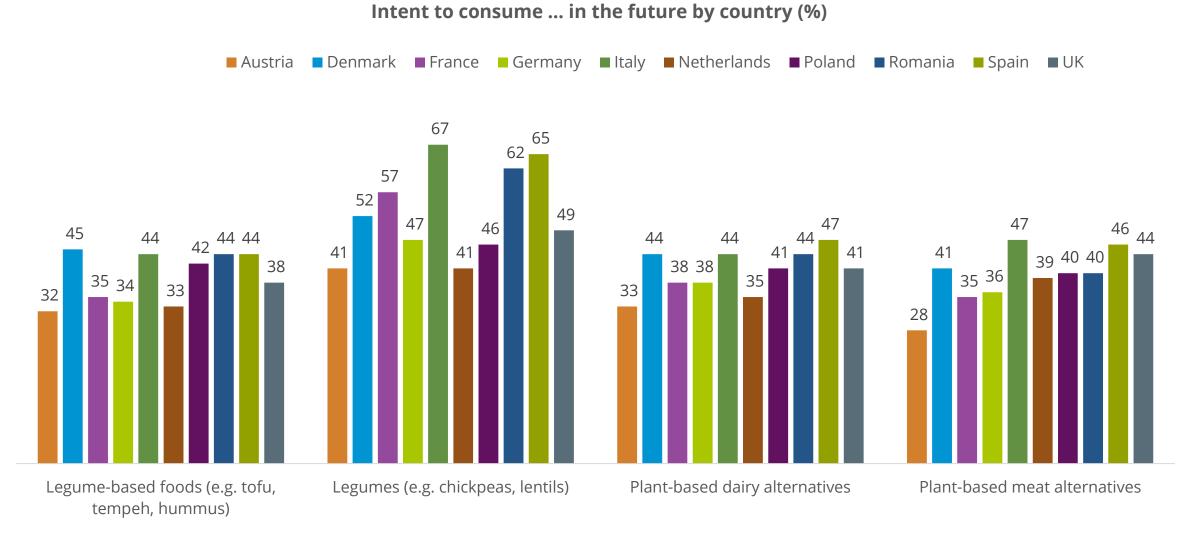
### Most consumers intend consuming **more legumes** in the future, followed by **plant-based dairy** products





Q12: Please indicate your agreement to the following statements. I intend to consume more ... in the next 6 months. | Single choice

### **Danish, Italian and Spanish consumers stand out** within the overall European trend



Q12: Please indicate your agreement to the following statements. I intend to consume more ... in the next 6 months. | Single choice

Total n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=75

## **Intention to purchase**, by dietary type, generation, and dietary stage

#### Intent to consume ... in the future by key demographics (%)

Consume	Legumes	Legume-based	Plant-based dairy	Plant-based meat
Flexitarians	63%	53%	54%	52%
Omnivores	47%	30%	33%	31%
Boomers	56%	31%	30%	30%
Gen X	54%	35%	39%	36%
Gen Z	46%	42%	43%	43%
Millennials	45%	44%	45%	44%
Deniers	46%	35%	36%	35%
Committed	70%	62%	66%	64%
Lapsed	48%	38%	37%	37%

Q12: Please indicate your agreement to the following statements. I intend to consume more ... in the next 6 months. | Single choice | Sum of 'Strongly agree' + 'Agree' + 'Somewhat agree'

Total n=7500 | Boomer n= 1013 | Gen X n=2238 | Gen Z n=1811 | Millennial n=2438 | Flexitarians n=2044 | Omnivores n=4635 | Deniers n=1275 | Committed n=525 | Lapsed n=300

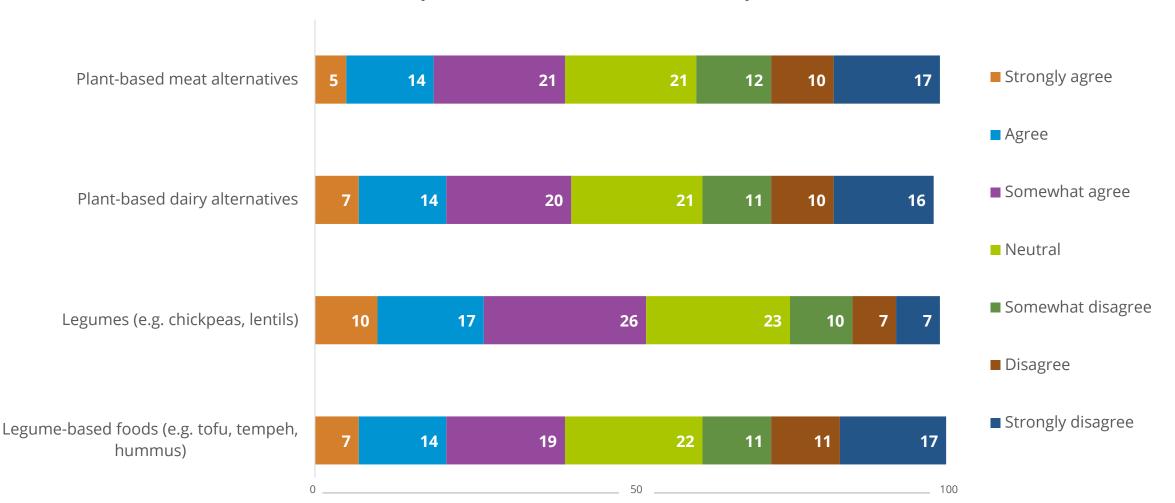




# **Q13** "I intend to <u>purchase</u> more ... in the next 6 months."



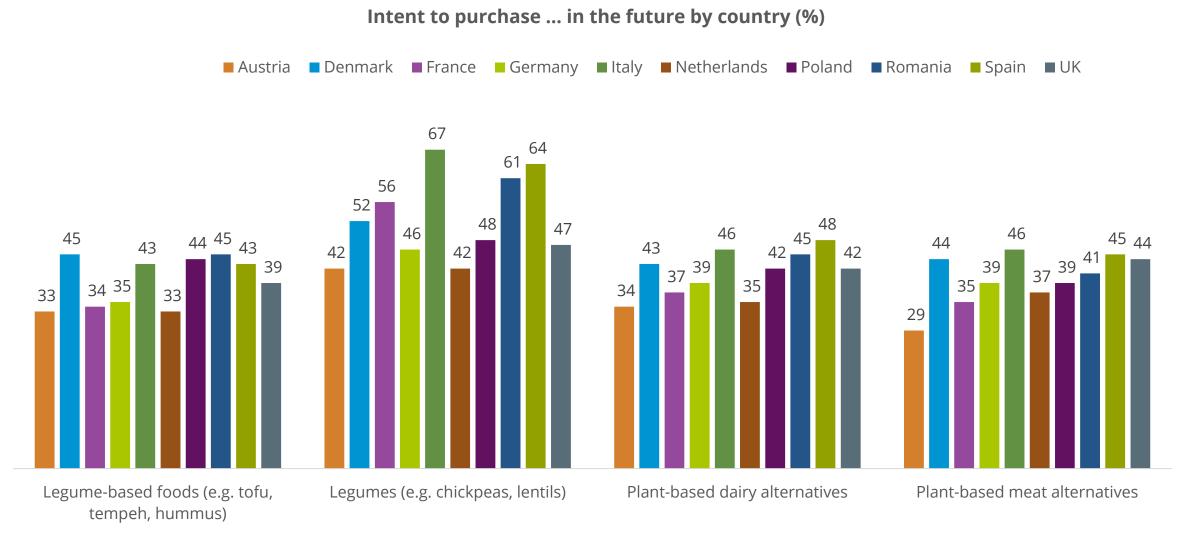
### Most consumers intend purchasing **more legumes** in the future, followed by plant-based dairy products



Intent to purchase ... in the future total sample (%)

Q13: Please indicate your agreement to the following statements. I intend to purchase more ... in the next 6 months. | Single choice

### Intention to consume, by country



Q13: Please indicate your agreement to the following statements. I intend to purchase more ... in the next 6 months. | Single choice

Total n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750

## **Purchase intentions**, by dietary type, generation, and dietary stage



### Intent to purchase ... in the future key demographics (%)

Purchase	Legumes	Legume-based	Plant-based dairy	Plant-based meat
Flexitarians	62%	52%	54%	52%
Omnivores	47%	31%	33%	31%
Boomers	48%	29%	30%	45%
Gen X	53%	37%	49%	42%
Gen Z	56%	42%	55%	46%
Millennials	59%	44%	53%	46%
Deniers	45%	36%	35%	35%
Committed	71%	59%	63%	65%
Lapsed	50%	36%	40%	38%

Q13: Please indicate your agreement to the following statements. I intend to purchase more ... in the next 6 months. | Single choice | Sum of 'Strongly agree' + 'Agree' + 'Somewhat agree'

Total n=7500 | Boomer n= 1013 | Gen X n=2238 | Gen Z n=1811 | Millennial n=2438 | Flexitarians n=2044 | Omnivores n=4635 | Deniers n=1275 | Committed n=525 | Lapsed n=300

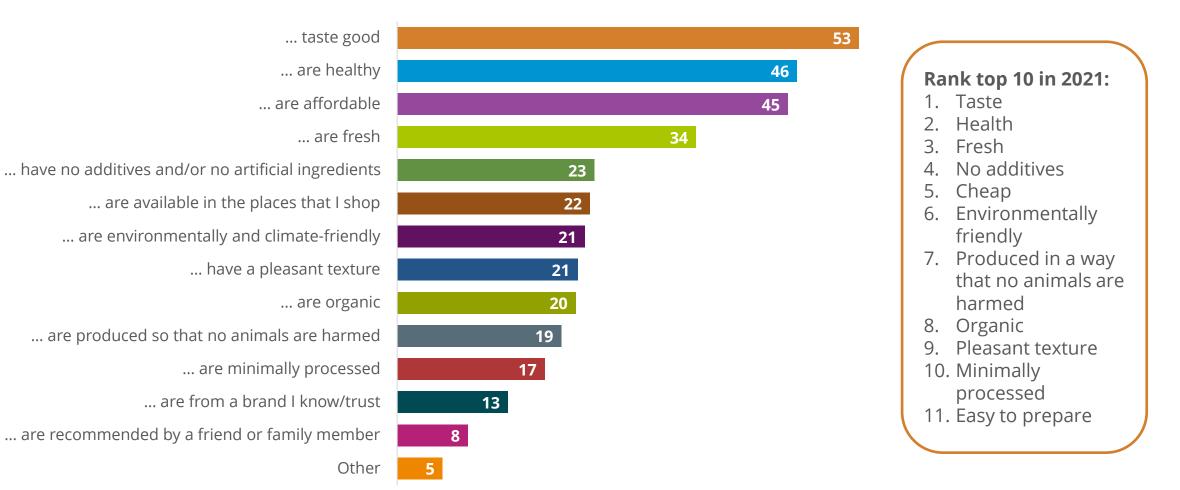




# **Q14** "What are the most important factors when choosing plant-based food alternatives?"

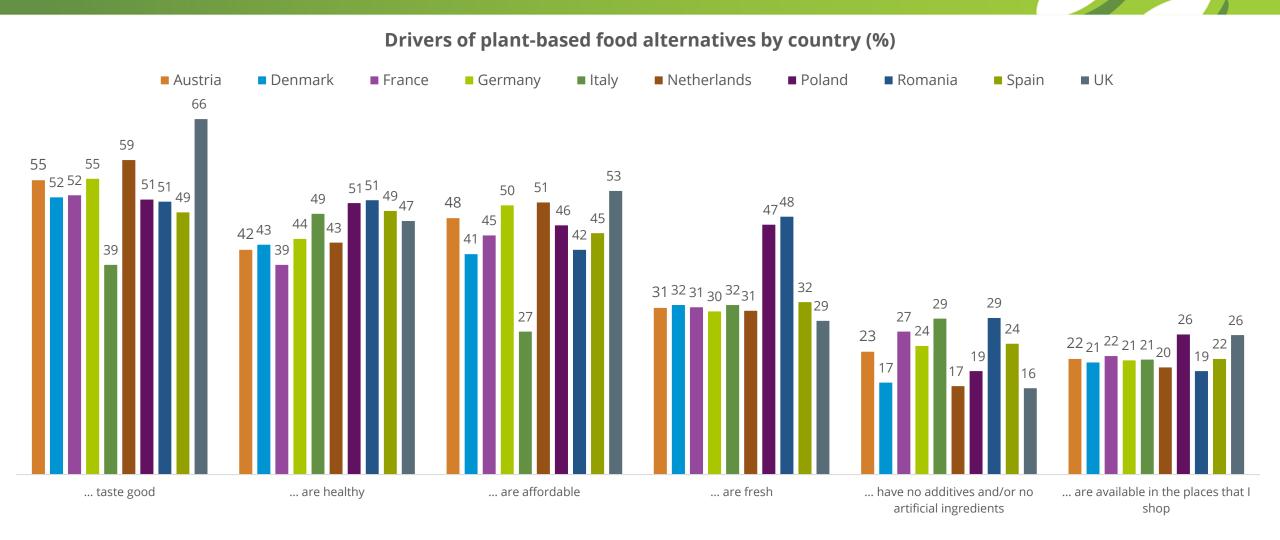
## Taste, health and price are the most important factors to consumers when choosing plant-based food alternatives.

### Drivers of plant-based food alternatives total sample (%)



Please note that we made changes to the attributes in 2023, which means that the data is not directly comparable to 2021. However, we can still observe trends and draw valuable insights from the data. Q14: What are the most important factors when choosing plant-based food alternatives? It is important to me that the plant-based food alternatives I choose... | Multiple choice (max 5)

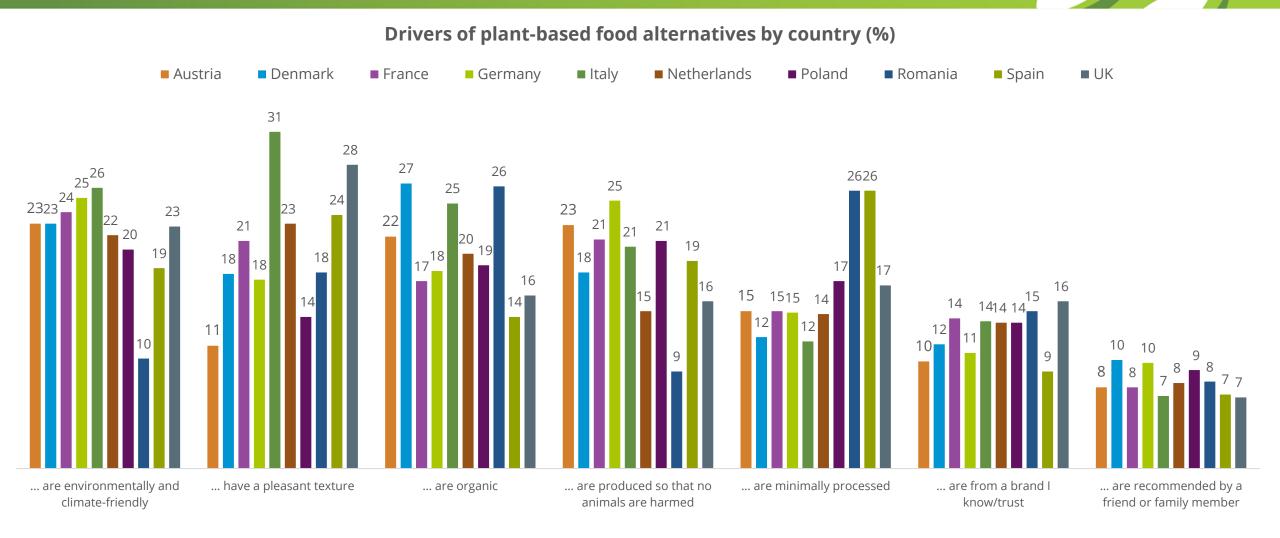
## **Taste and affordability** are key drivers in the UK and the Netherlands...



Q14: What are the most important factors when choosing plant-based food alternatives? It is important to me that the plant-based food alternatives I choose... | Multiple choice (max 5)

Total: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750

## ...while health and freshness are key drivers in Poland and Romania.



Q14: What are the most important factors when choosing plant-based food alternatives? It is important to me that the plant-based food alternatives I choose... | Multiple choice (max 5)

Total: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750

## **Intention to purchase,** by dietary type, generation, and dietary stage

Top 3 drivers of plant-based food alternatives by key demographics (%)

Intent to Purchase	Taste	Affordability	Health
Flexitarians	54%	48%	52%
Omnivores	54%	45%	44%
Boomers	56%	47%	47%
Gen X	54%	46%	47%
Gen Z	51%	43%	43%
Millennials	51%	44%	46%
Deniers	50%	42%	41%
Committed	50%	45%	53%
Lapsed	55%	49%	46%

Q14: What are the most important factors when choosing plant-based food alternatives? It is important to me that the plant-based food alternatives I choose... | Multiple choice (max 5)

Total n=7500 | Boomer n= 1013 | Gen X n=2238 | Gen Z n=1811 | Millennial n=2438 | Flexitarians n=2044 | Omnivores n=4635 | Deniers n=1275 | Committed n=525 | Lapsed n=300

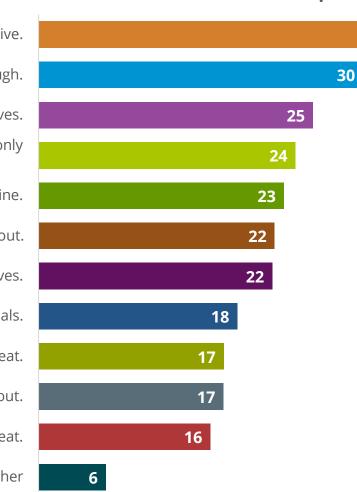




# **Q15** "Which of the following do you encounter as barriers when choosing plant-based food alternatives?"

### Price and taste are the main barriers when choosing plant-based alternatives

### **Barriers of plant-based food alternatives total sample (%)** Plant-based food alternatives are too expensive. Plant-based food alternatives are not tasty enough. I need more information about plant-based food alternatives. I would be worried about my health (other than iron and protein) if I were only eating plant-based food alternatives. I don't want to change my eating habits or routine. There is not enough choice of plant-based food alternatives when I eat out. My family/partner won't eat plant-based food alternatives. I don't know how to prepare plant-based meals. I don't know what to eat instead of animal-based meat. Plant-based food alternatives are not available when I eat out. I think humans are meant to eat lots of animal-based meat. Other



#### Rank top 10 in 2021:

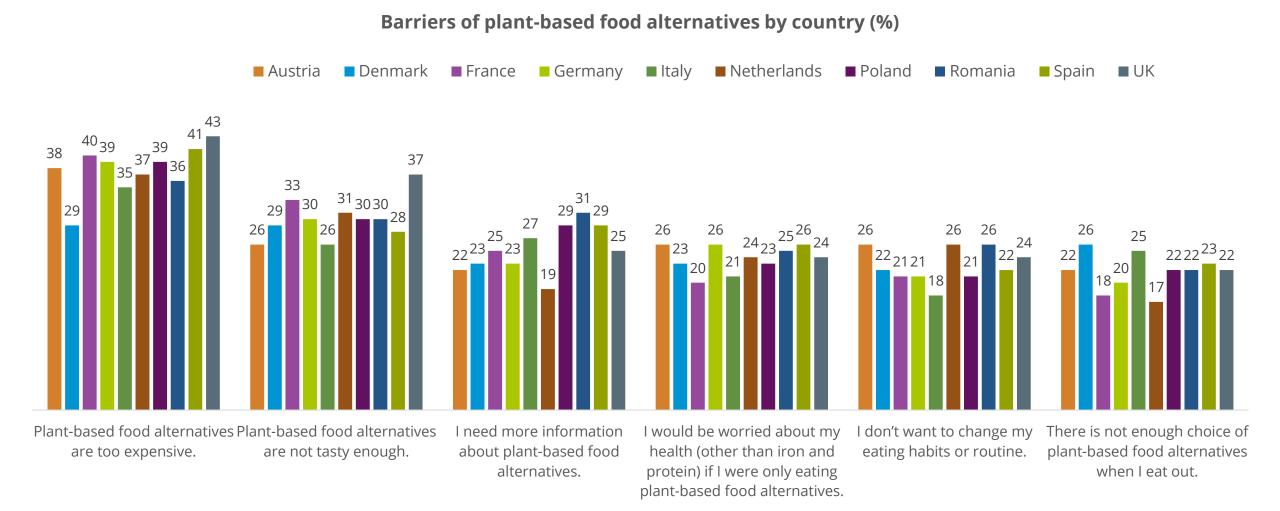
- Too expensive
- Not enough choice
- Family/partner 3
- Not tasty 4

38

- Don't want to 5. change habits
- Need more 6. information
- Not available when eating out
- 8. Would be worried about my health
- 9 Humans are meant to eat lots of animal-based meals
- 10. Don't know how to prepare
- 11 Don't know what to eat

Please note that we made changes to the attributes in 2023, which means that the data is not directly comparable to 2021. However, we can still observe trends and draw valuable insights from the data. Q15: Which of the following do you encounter as barriers when choosing plant-based food alternatives? | Multiple choice (max 5)

### **Denmark, Italy, and Romania** are the least price-sensitive when it comes to plant-based products



Q15: Which of the following do you encounter as barriers when choosing plant-based food alternatives? | Multiple choice (max 5)

Total: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750

### ... while the UK and Spain are the most price sensitive.

Barriers of plant-based food alternatives by country (%) France Denmark Germany Italy Netherlands Poland Romania Spain UK Austria 2424 21 21 2020 19 19 19 19 18<sup>19</sup>1 7 16 15 15 15 14 14 13 I don't know how to I don't know what to eat Plant-based food My family/partner won't I think humans are meant Other eat plant-based food prepare plant-based instead of animal-based alternatives are not to eat lots of animal-based alternatives. available when I eat out. meals. meat. meat.

Q15: Which of the following do you encounter as barriers when choosing plant-based food alternatives?| Multiple choice (max 5)

Total n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750

## **Barriers to plant-based consumption**, by dietary type, generation, and dietary stage

### **Barriers of plant-based food alternatives by key demographics (%)**

	Expensive	Not Tasty	Need more information
Flexitarians	42%	28%	28%
Omnivores	36%	32%	24%
Boomers	38%	32%	27%
Gen X	37%	31%	26%
Gen Z	36%	27%	25%
Millennials	39%	30%	24%
Deniers	32%	29%	25%
Committed	38%	26%	29%
Lapsed	43%	30%	22%

Q15 What are the most important factors when choosing plant-based food alternatives? It is important to me that the plant-based food alternatives I choose... | Multiple choice (max 5)

Total n=7500 | Boomer n= 1013 | Gen X n=2238 | Gen Z n=1811 | Millennial n=2438 | Flexitarians n=2044 | Omnivores n=4635 | Deniers n=1275 | Committed n=525 | Lapsed n=300

## **Barriers** to plant-based consumption, by consumption location

### **Barriers of plant-based food alternatives by location (%)**

	At a restaurant that serves both animal and plant-based meals	At a restaurant that serves only plant-based meals	At home	School or work canteen	Takeaways or when ordering online
Plant-based food alternatives are too expensive.	42%	37%	42%	38%	40%
Plant-based food alternatives are not tasty enough.	32%	30%	32%	32%	31%
l need more information about plant-based food alternatives.	33%	34%	28%	31%	32%
l would be worried about my health (other than iron and protein) if I were only eating plant-based food alternatives.	29%	30%	24%	31%	31%
There is not enough choice of plant-based food alternatives when I eat out.	31%	32%	24%	28%	30%
My family/partner won't eat plant-based food alternatives.	25%	25%	22%	27%	26%
I don't want to change my eating habits or routine.	22%	20%	19%	24%	21%
l don't know how to prepare plant-based meals.	23%	24%	18%	25%	24%
Plant-based food alternatives are not available when I eat out.	23%	28%	18%	28%	26%
l don't know what to eat instead of animal-based meat.	20%	22%	17%	23%	23%
I think humans are meant to eat lots of animal-based meat.	18%	18%	14%	22%	19%
Other	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%

Q15: Which of the following do you encounter as barriers when choosing plant-based food alternatives?| Multiple choice (max 5)





# Place of purchase for plant-based food: by location and occasion

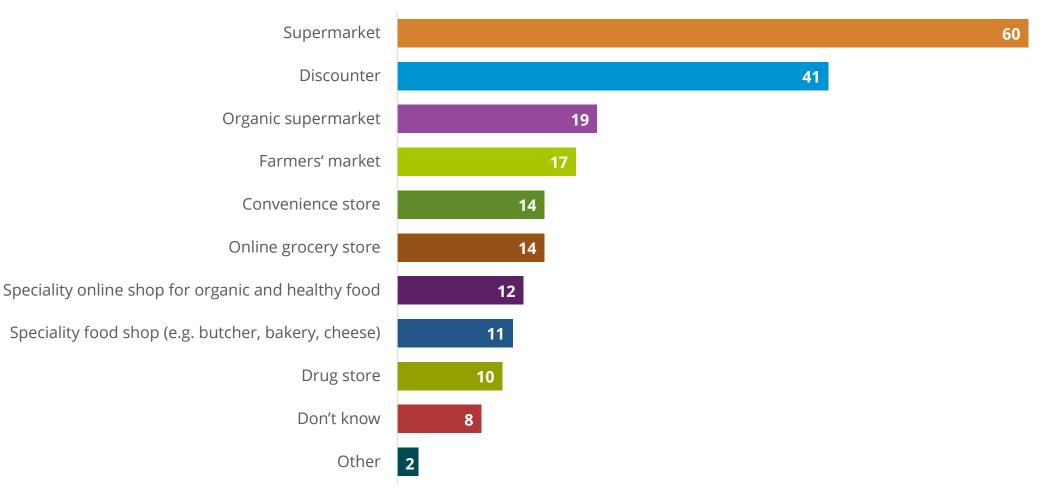




### **Q16** "Where are you likely to purchase plant-based food alternatives most frequently in the future?"

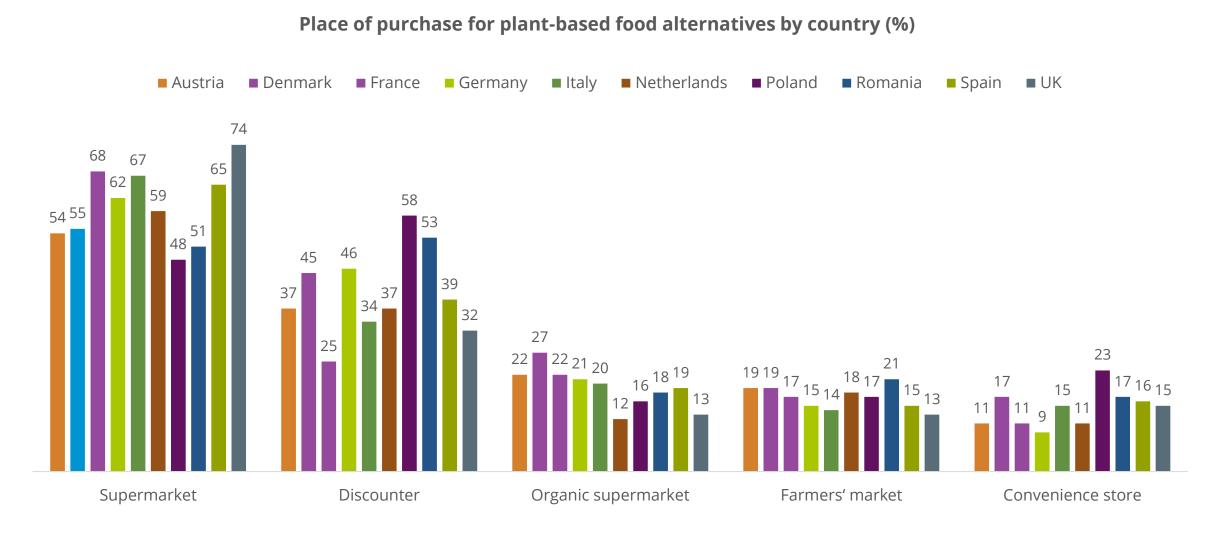
### **Supermarkets** and **discounters** are the most common purchase locations for plant-based food alternatives

Place of purchase for plant-based food alternatives total sample (%)



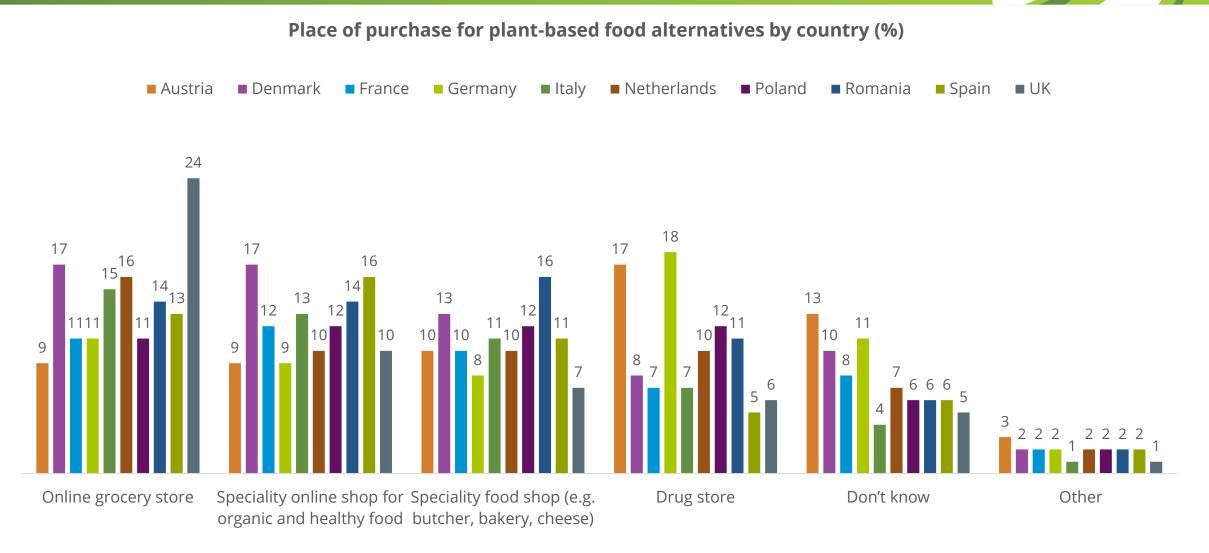
Q16: Where are you likely to purchase plant-based food alternatives most frequently in the future? |Multiple choice

### In the UK, France, and Italy, plant-based alternatives **are predominantly purchased in supermarkets**...



Q16: Where are you likely to purchase plant-based food alternatives most frequently in the future? |Multiple choice

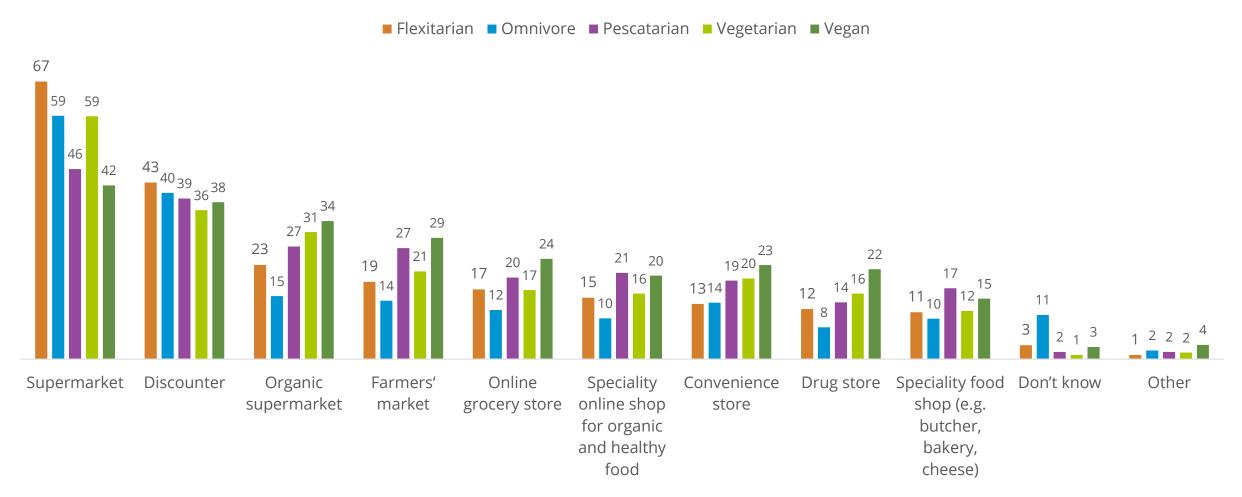
# ...while **UK** consumer by far use **online grocery stores** the most.



Q16: Where are you likely to purchase plant-based food alternatives most frequently in the future? |Multiple choice

## Purchase location, by dietary lifestyle

Place of purchase for plant-based food alternatives by dietary lifestyle (%)

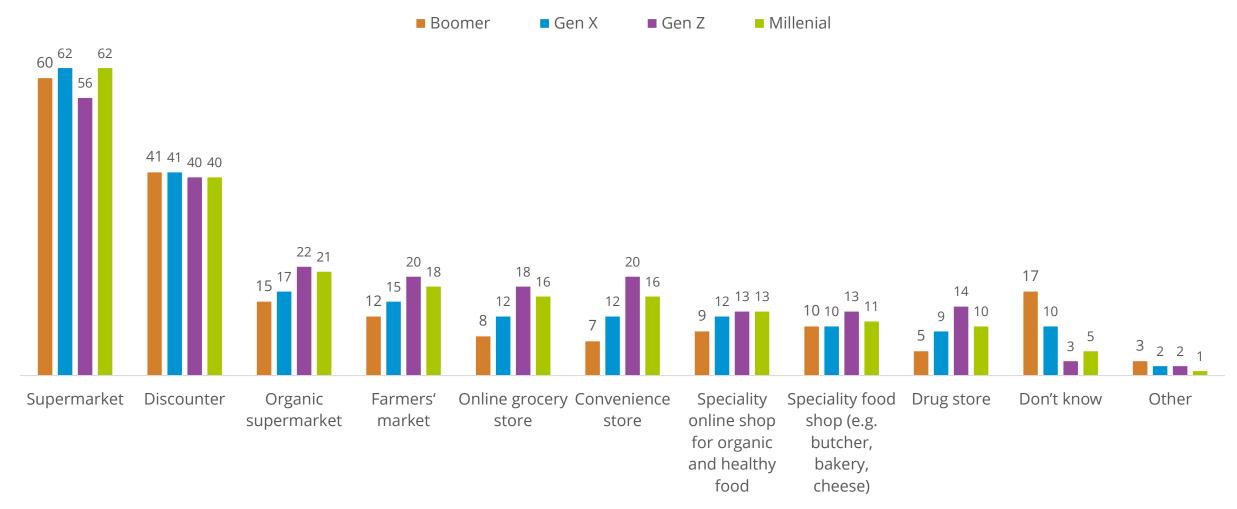


Q16: Where are you likely to purchase plant-based food alternatives most frequently in the future? |Multiple choice

## Purchase location, by generation



Place of purchase for plant-based food alternatives by generation (%)



Q16: Where are you likely to purchase plant-based food alternatives most frequently in the future? |Multiple choice

Total n=7500 | Boomer n=1013 | Gen X n=2238 | Gen Z n=1811 | Millennial n=2438



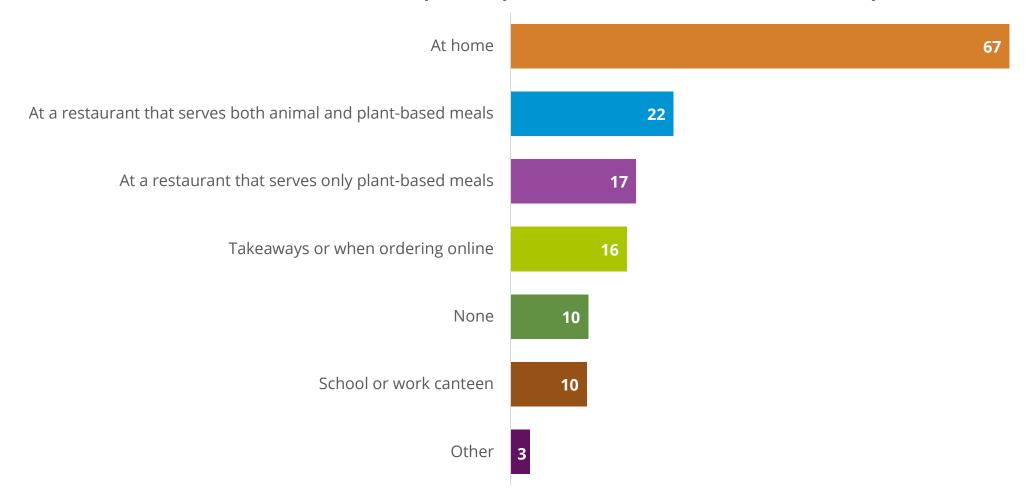


# **Q17** "In which of the following locations do you normally consume plant-based food alternatives?"

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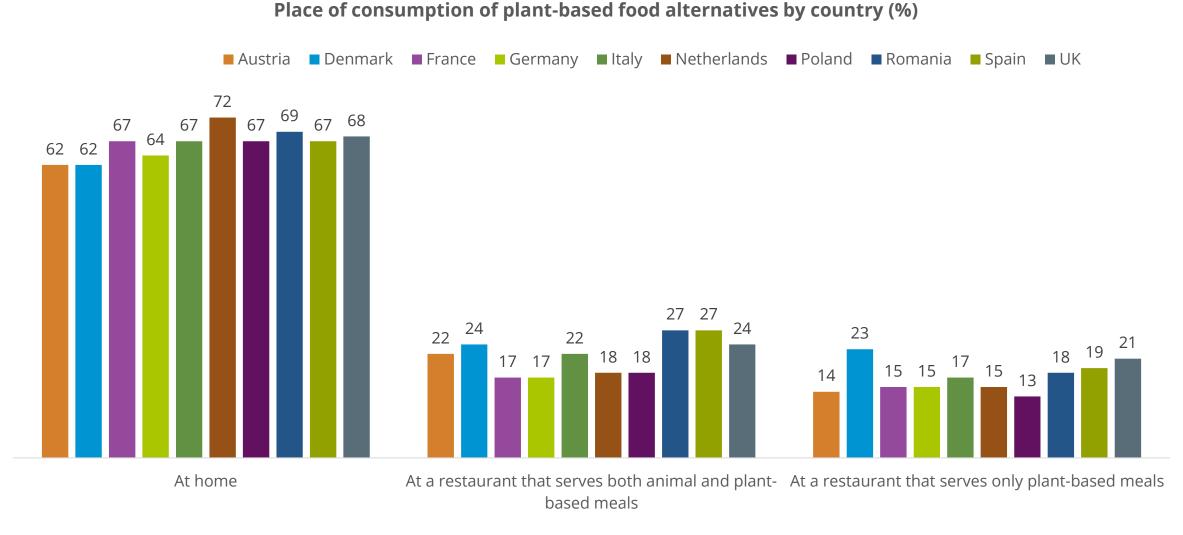
# Consumers are most likely to eat plant-based alternatives **at home** and **in restaurants**

Place of consumption of plant-based food alternatives total sample (%)



Q17: Where are you likely to consume plant-based food alternatives most frequently in the future? |Multiple choice

# **Dutch** consumers prefer to consumer plant-based food alternatives **at home**...



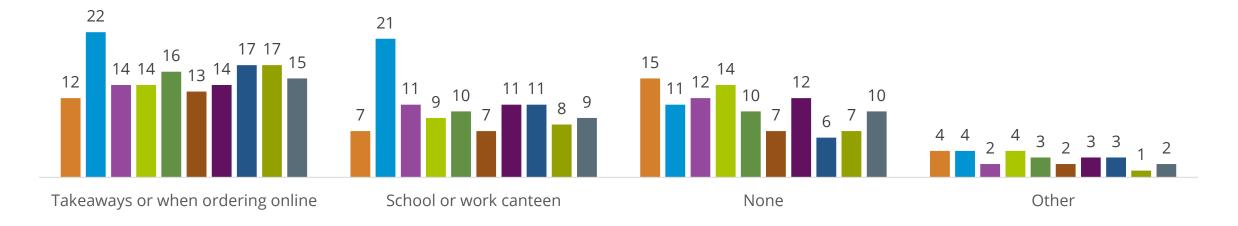
Q17: In which of the following locations do you normally consume plant-based food alternatives? |Multiple choice

otal: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750

...while **Denmark** leads in the consumption of plant-based food in canteens, and via online and takeout orders

Place of consumption of plant-based food alternatives by country (%)

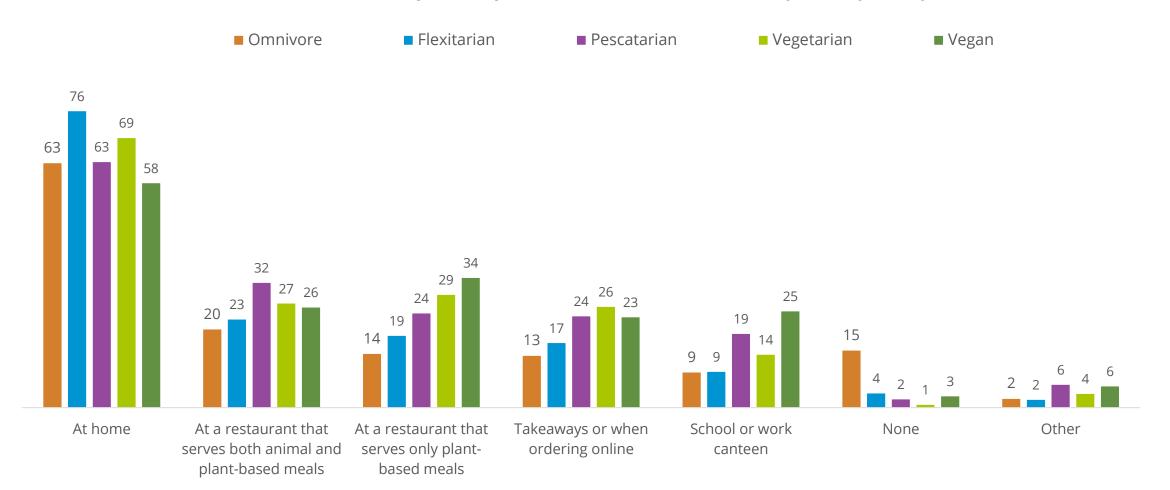
■ Austria ■ Denmark ■ France ■ Germany ■ Italy ■ Netherlands ■ Poland ■ Romania ■ Spain ■ UK



Q17: In which of the following locations do you normally consume plant-based food alternatives? |Multiple choice

## **Consumption location**, by dietary lifestyle

Place of consumption of plant-based food alternatives by dietary lifestyle (%)

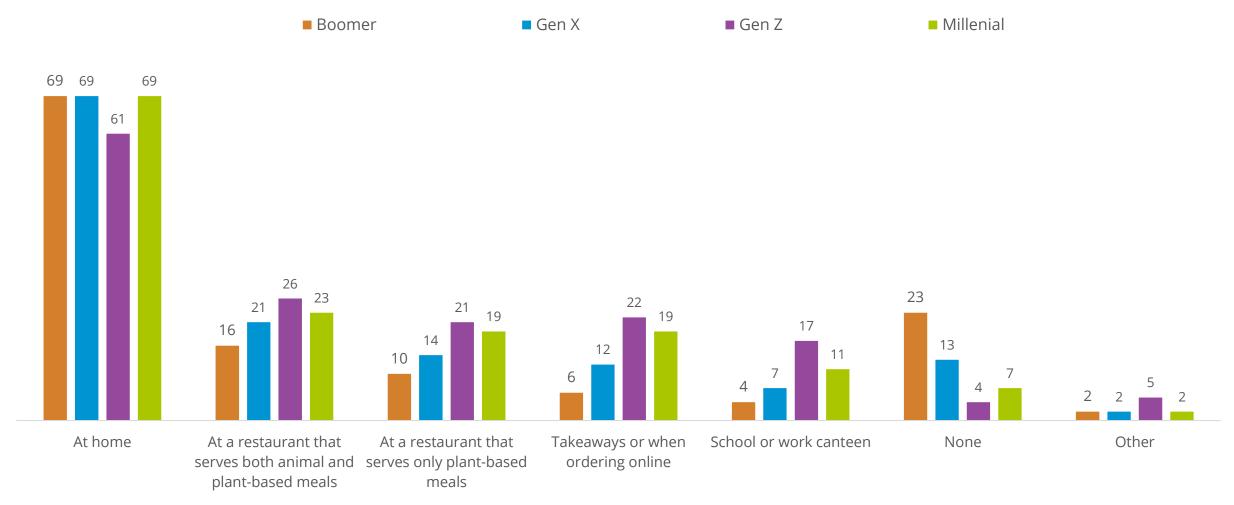


Q17: In which of the following locations do you normally consume plant-based food alternatives? |Multiple choice

## **Consumption location**, by generation



Place of consumption of plant-based food alternatives by generations (%)



Q17: In which of the following locations do you normally consume plant-based food alternatives? |Multiple choice





## **Consumers expectations at points of purchase or consumption: Plantbased food alternatives**

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## **Q18** "What kind of plant-based food alternative(s) do you wish you could buy more often in the supermarket or at points of consumption (e.g. restaurants, cafes, etc.)?"

# Consumers especially ask for more plant-based sweets and snacks, plant-based meat and plant-based milk

#### Plant-based food alternatives by missing categories total sample (%)



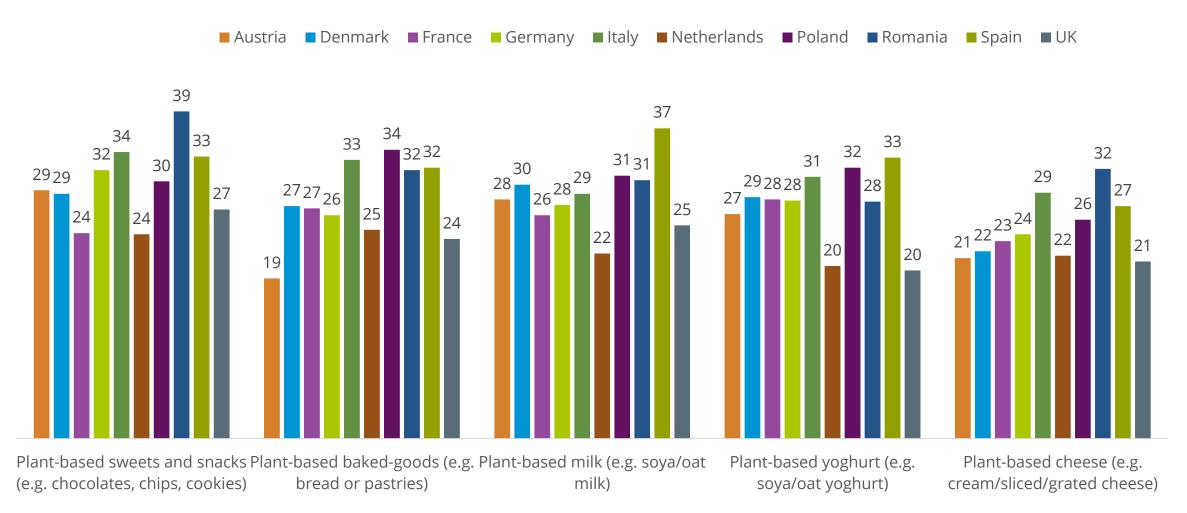
Q18: What kind of plant-based food alternative(s) do you wish you could buy more often in the supermarket or at points of consumption (e.g restaurants, cafes, etc.)? | Multiple choice

30

30

# Consumers in **Spain**, **Poland**, **Romania and Italy** express a **need for more** plant-based food across all categories

Plant-based food alternatives categories missing by country (%)

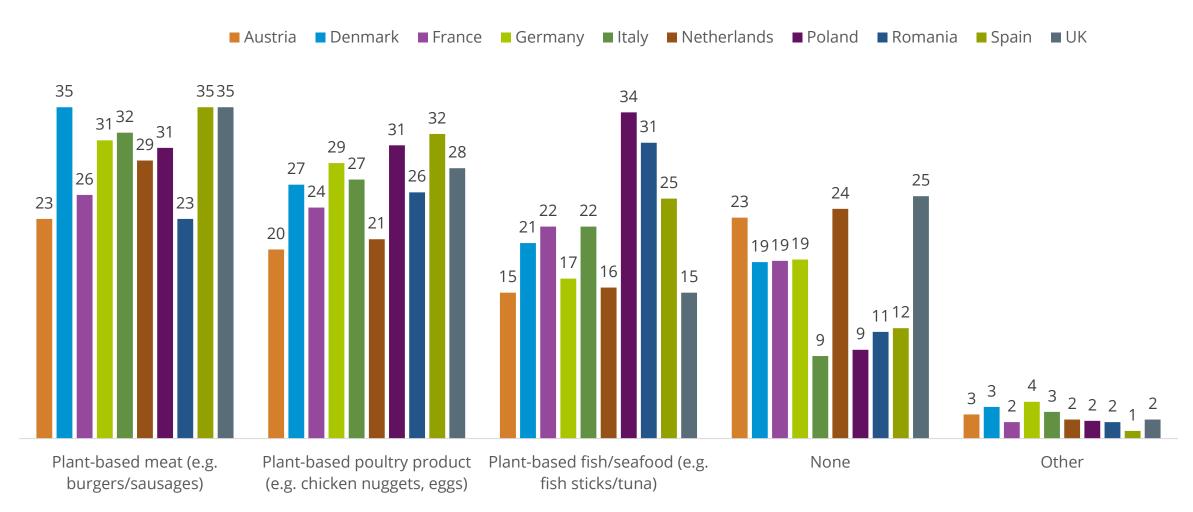


Q18: What kind of plant-based food alternative(s) do you wish you could buy more often in the supermarket or at points of consumption (e.g restaurants, cafes, etc.)? |Multiple choice

Total: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750

# Consumers in **Spain**, **Poland**, **Romania and Italy** express a **need for more** plant-based food across all categories

Plant-based food alternatives categories missing by country (%)

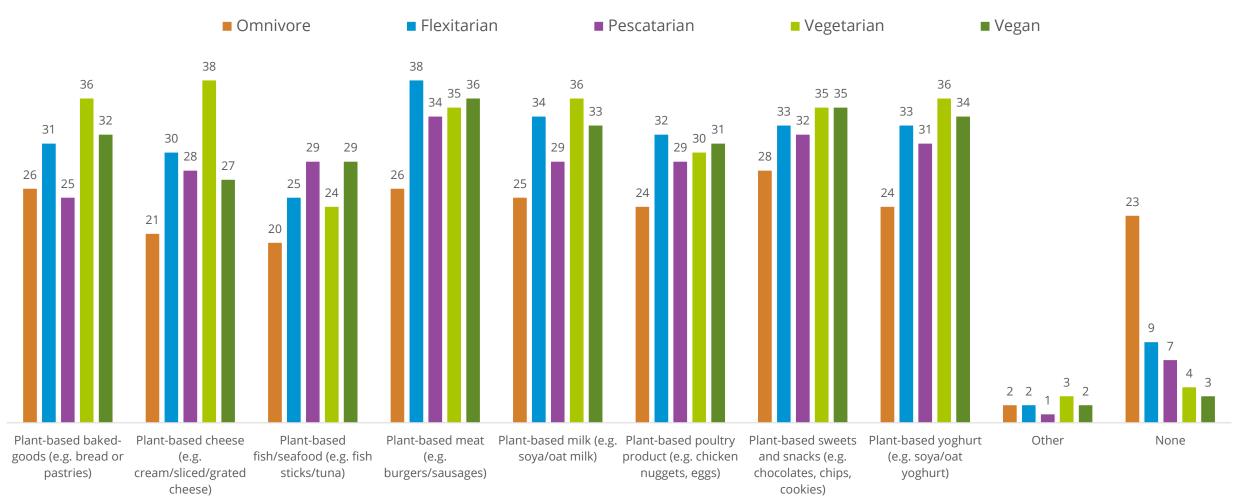


Q18: What kind of plant-based food alternative(s) do you wish you could buy more often in the supermarket or at points of consumption (e.g restaurants, cafes, etc.)? |Multiple choice

Total: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750

## Category missing, by dietary lifestyles

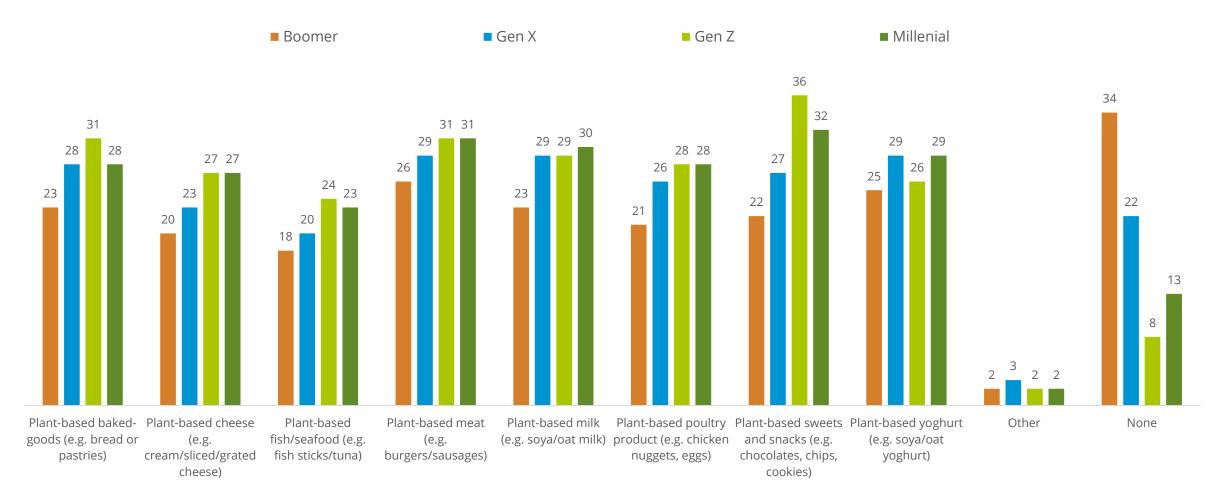
Plant-based food alternatives missing by dietary lifestyles (%)



Q18: What kind of plant-based food alternative(s) do you wish you could buy more often in the supermarket or at points of consumption (e.g restaurants, cafes, etc.)? |Multiple choice

## Category missing, by generation

Plant-based food alternatives missing by generations (%)



Q18: What kind of plant-based food alternative(s) do you wish you could buy more often in the supermarket or at points of consumption (e.g restaurants, cafes, etc.)? |Multiple choice





## Levels of trust towards plant-based food alternatives: a change in perceptions

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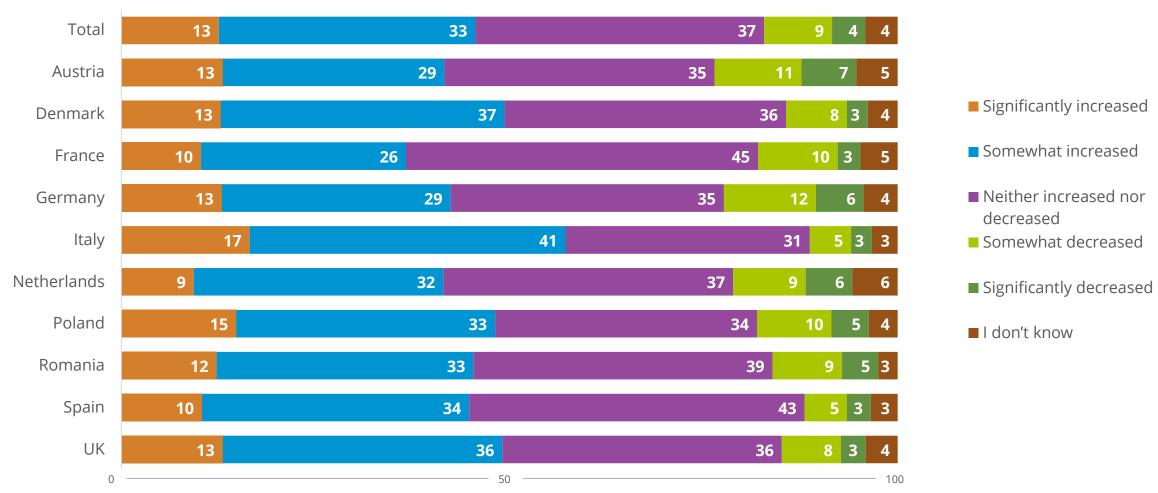




# **Q19** "When thinking about your overall knowledge and experience with plant-based food alternatives, has your current trust increased or decreased in comparison to three years ago?"

# **Trust levels** for plant-based alternatives **have increased** overall, particularly **in Italy and Denmark**

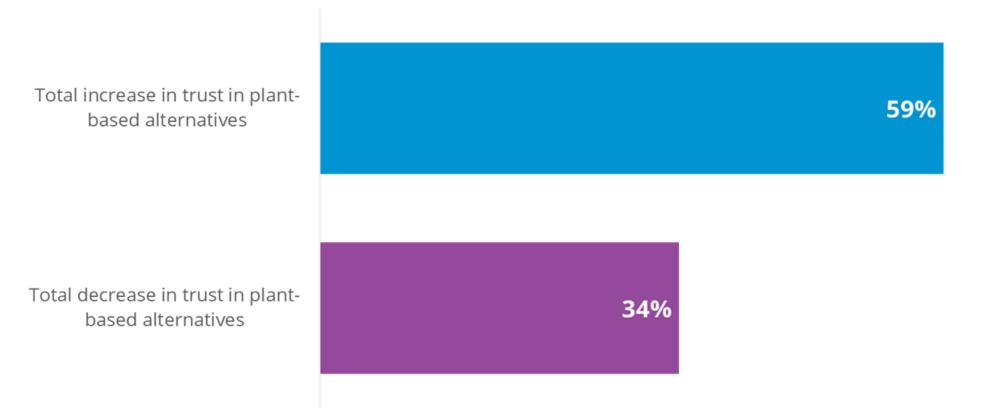
Trust towards plant-based food alternatives (%)



Q19: When thinking about your overall knowledge and experience with plant-based food alternatives, has your current trust increased or decreased in comparison to three years ago? Single choice

# **Europeans who trust plant-based food alternatives** are more likely to increase their consumption

Intent to consume more plant-based food alternatives in the next months by... total sample



Q19: When thinking about your overall knowledge and experience with plant-based food alternatives, has your current trust increased or decreased in comparison to three years ago? | Single choice | Q12 Please indicate your agreement to the following statements: I intend to consume more ... in the next 6 months. (5 scale answer)

# **Changes in trust levels**, by dietary lifestyle, generation, and dietary-transition stage

	Increased (Top3Box)	Decreased (Bottom3Box)	
Flexitarians	57%	39%	
Omnivores	39%	13%	
Boomers	39%	8%	
Gen X	43%	11%	
Gen Z	48%	17%	
Millennials	49%	14%	
Deniers	42%	16%	
Committed	65%	10%	
Lapsed	45%	12%	

Q19: When thinking about your overall knowledge and experience with plant-based food alternatives, has your current trust increased or decreased in comparison to three years ago? | Single choice





## **Q20** "When thinking specifically about plant-based food alternatives, please indicate how much you disagree or agree with each of the following statements."

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# Honesty, truthfulness, and integrity are perceived as key elements in building trust

#### Trust towards plant-based food alternatives total sample (%)



Q20: When thinking specifically about plant-based food alternatives, please indicate how much you disagree or agree with each of the following statements. I trust that plant-based food alternatives... |Single choice | Total agreement level (Strongly agree + Agree + Somewhat Agree)

#### Consumers in most countries, especially in Spain and Italy, think that **plant-based food alternatives are authentic**

Denmark France Germany ■ Italy ■ Netherlands ■ Poland ■ Romania Austria Spain UK 68 66 61 60 60 60 59 58 54 5051 52 51 50 47 **4**3<sup>45</sup> 46 40 38 35 ... are fully traceable back to ... are honest ... are truthful ... have integrity ... are authentic their origin

Trust towards plant-based food alternatives by country (%)

Q20: When thinking specifically about plant-based food alternatives, please indicate how much you disagree or agree with each of the following statements. I trust that plant-based food alternatives... |Single choice | Total agreement level (Strongly agree + agree)

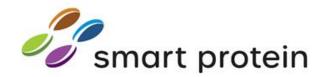
Total: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750

# Consumers in most countries, especially in Spain and Italy, think that **plant-based food alternatives are safe**

■ Denmark ■ France ■ Germany Italy ■ Netherlands ■ Poland ■ Romania Spain UK Austria 73 71 70 68 66 63 63 63 61 61 59 5758 58 56 55 54 55 54 5353 53 53 52 51 52 52 41 ... are trustworthy ... are of high quality ... are reliable ... are accurately labelled ... are safe

Trust towards plant-based food alternatives by country (%)

Q20: When thinking specifically about plant-based food alternatives, please indicate how much you disagree or agree with each of the following statements. I trust that plant-based food alternatives... |Single choice | Total agreement level (Strongly agree + agree)

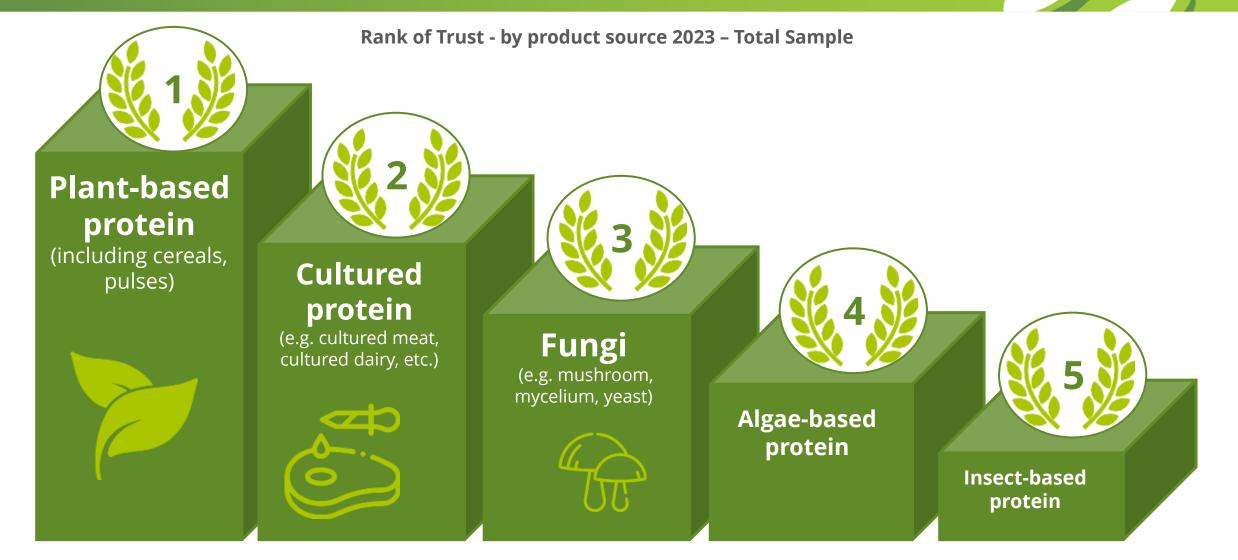




# **Q21** "Which of the following alternative proteins do you trust the most? Rank them from 1 (trust the most) to 5 (trust the least)."

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# **European trust plant-based protein** the most, followed by cultured protein and fungi-based protein



Q21: Which of the following alternative proteins do you trust the most? Rank them from 1 (trust the most) to 5 (trust the least). | Single choice

# Plant-based protein and cultivated meat both showed significant increases in trust levels in 2023

#### Ranking (1) of alternative proteins – 2023 vs. 2021 (%)

	2023	2021	% change
Plant-based protein (including cereals, pulses)	43	39	+4
Cultivated protein (e.g. cultivated meat, cultivated dairy, etc.)	20	14	+6
Fungi (e.g. mushroom, mycelium, yeast)	17	18	-1
Algae-based	11	13	-2
Insect-based protein	9	16	-7

Q21: Which of the following alternative proteins do you trust the most? Rank them from 1 (trust the most) to 5 (trust the least). | Single choice

# **Plant-based protein is especially trusted by females**, flexitarians or vegetarians

**Ranking alternative proteins – by mentions – most trustworthy** 

	By dietary lifestyle Top 2 segments	By generation Top 2 segments	By gender
Plant-based protein (including cereals, pulses)	Flexitarians, Vegetarians	Boomer, Gen X	Female
Cultivated protein (e.g. cultivated meat, cultivated dairy, etc.)	Omnivores, Vegans	Gen Z, Millennial	Male
Fungi (e.g. mushroom, mycelium, yeast)	Vegans, Omnivores	Boomer, Gen X	Male
Algae-based	Pescatarian, Vegan/Vegetarian	Gen Z, Millennial	Male
Insect-based protein	Pescatarian, Vegan	Gen Z, Millennials	Male

Q21: Which of the following alternative proteins do you trust the most? Rank them from 1 (trust the most) to 5 (trust the least). | Single choice

Total n=7500 | Boomer n= 1013 | Gen X n=2238 | Gen Z n=1811 | Millennial n=2438 | Flexitarians n=2044 | Omnivores n=4635 | Deniers n=1275 | Committed n=525 | Lapsed n=300

### Plant-based protein is most trusted by Italian consumers while cultivated protein is most trusted in Denmark

Ranking alternative proteins - by mentions - most trustworthy

	Top 1	Top 2	Тор З
Plant-based protein (including cereals, pulses)	Italy	Netherlands	Poland, Spain, UK
Cultivated protein (e.g. cultivated meat, cultivated dairy, etc.)	Denmark	Germany	Spain
Fungi (e.g. mushroom, mycelium, yeast)	Austria	Poland, Romania, UK	Denmark, France, Germany
Algae-based	France, Romania	Spain	Italy
Insect-based protein	Netherlands	Austria, Germany	Denmark, France

Q21: Which of the following alternative proteins do you trust the most? Rank them from 1 (trust the most) to 5 (trust the least). | Single choice





# Opinion on actions required from policymakers

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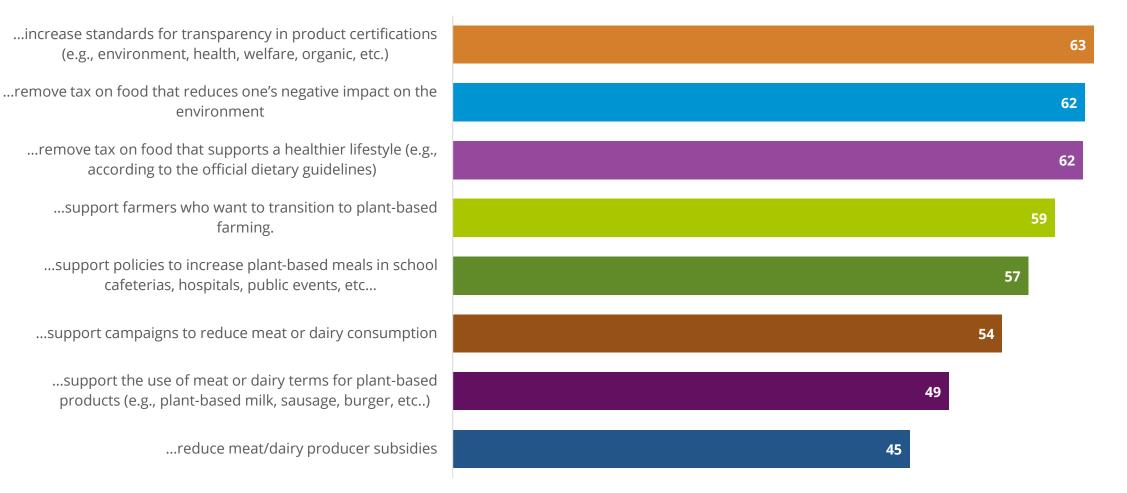




## **Q22** "In your opinion, how much do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the actions that policymakers should take?"

#### Consumers would like to see **increased transparency** and **lower taxes** for healthy food products

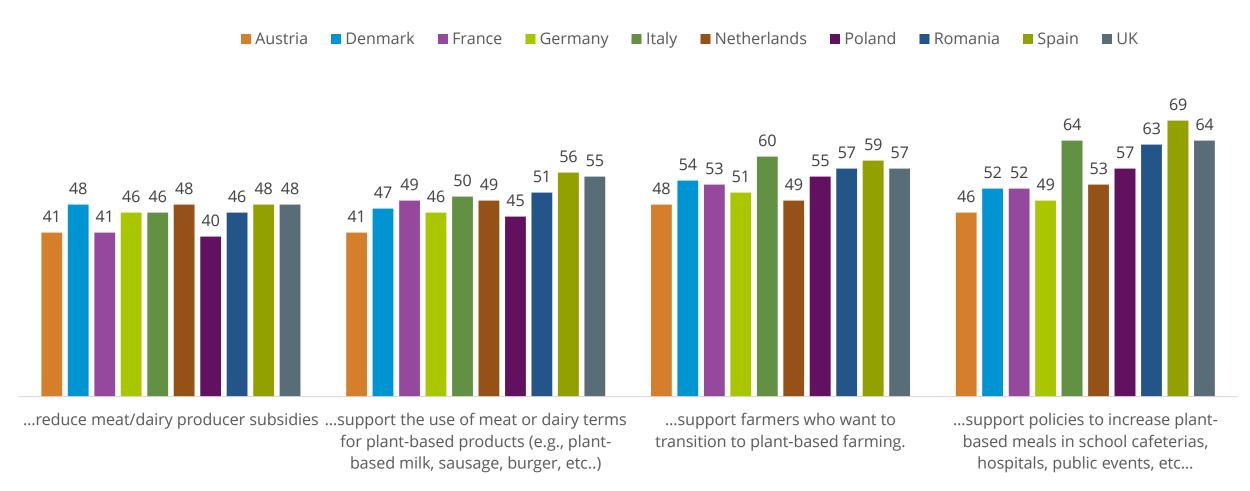
#### Total agreement regarding actions required from policymakers total sample (%)



Q22: In your opinion, how much do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the actions that policymakers should take? I believe that my government should... | Single choice | Total agreement level (Strongly agree + Somewhat agree + Agree)

### Most consumers think that **policymakers should take actions** to support a transition to plant-based diets

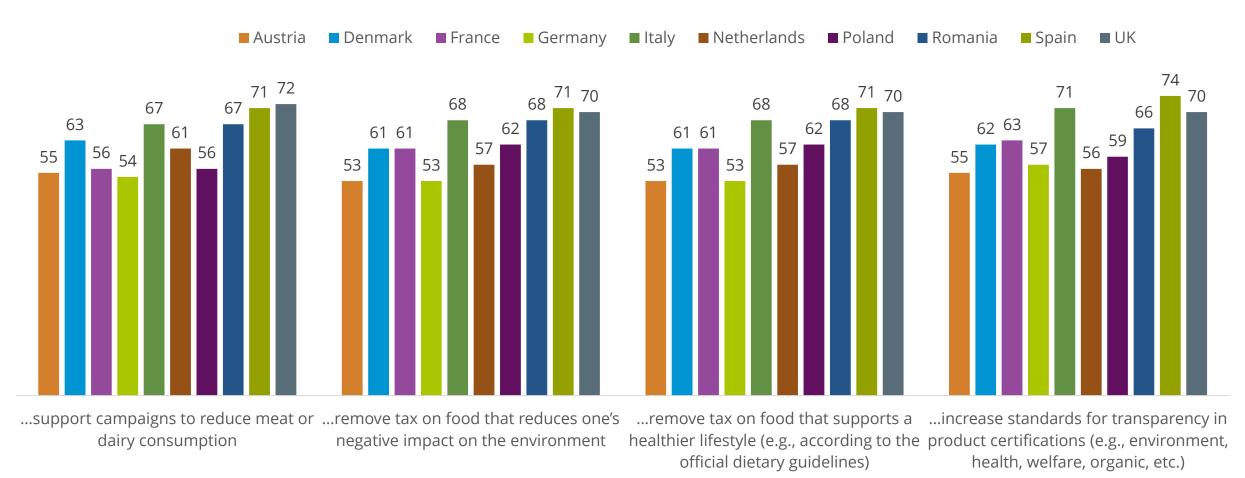
Total agreement regarding actions required from policymakers by country (%)



Q22: In your opinion, how much do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the actions that policymakers should take? I believe that my government should... | Single choice | Total agreement level (Strongly agree + Somewhat agree + Agree)

### Most consumers think that **policymakers should take actions** to support a transition to plant-based diets

Total agreement regarding actions required from policymakers by country (%)



Q22: In your opinion, how much do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding the actions that policymakers should take? I believe that my government should... | Single choice | Total agreement level (Strongly agree + Somewhat agree + Agree)

Total: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750





## Attitudes

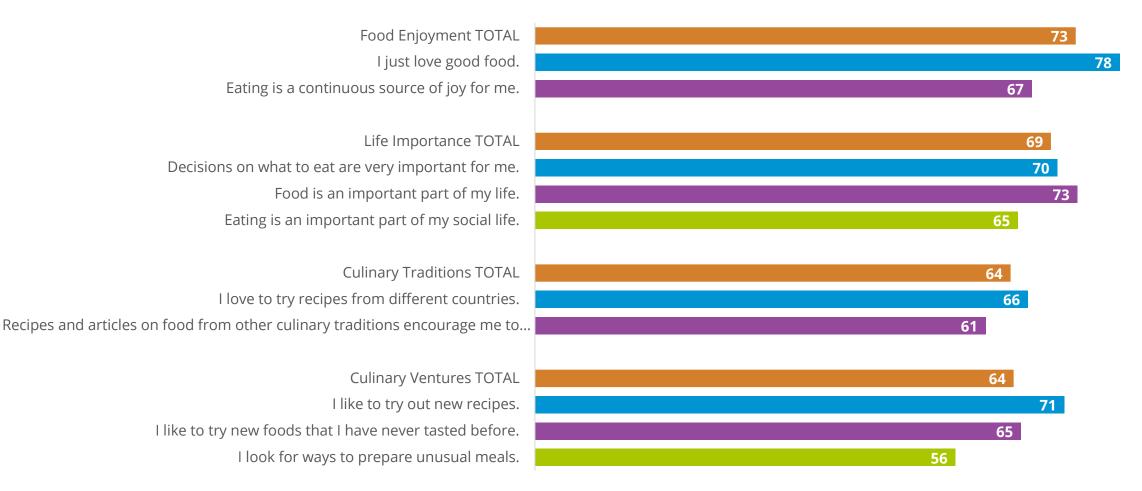






# Food enjoyment constitutes an integral aspect of people's identity

### Attitudes about food total sample (%) - Total Agreement

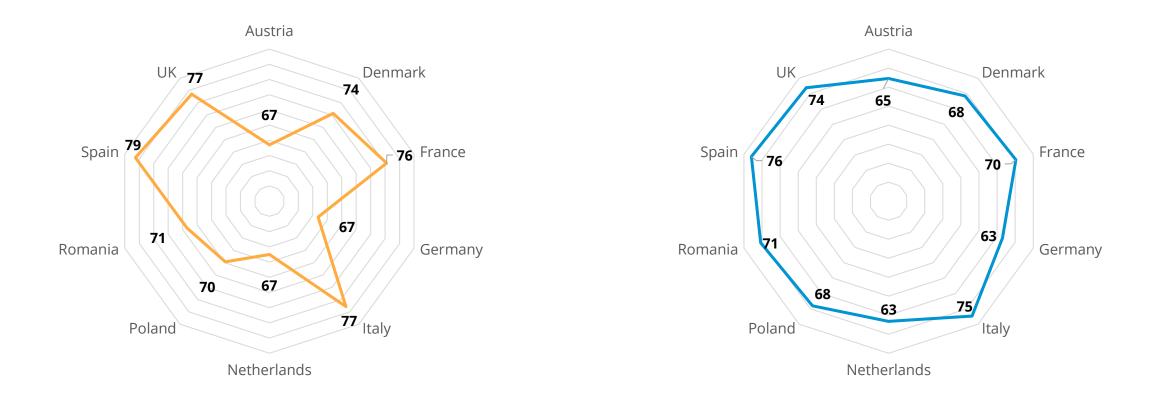


## **Food enjoyment varies by country,** but food choices remain a vital part of people's lives

Attitudes about food by country (%) - Total Agreement

#### Food Enjoyment

Life Importance

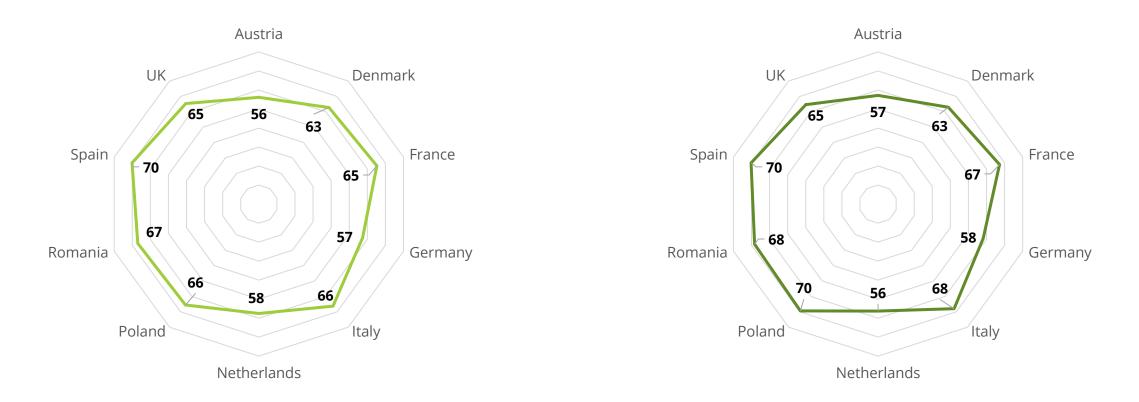


## Consumers across European countries equally value trying new recipes and sticking to traditional cuisine

Attitudes about food by country (%) - Total Agreement

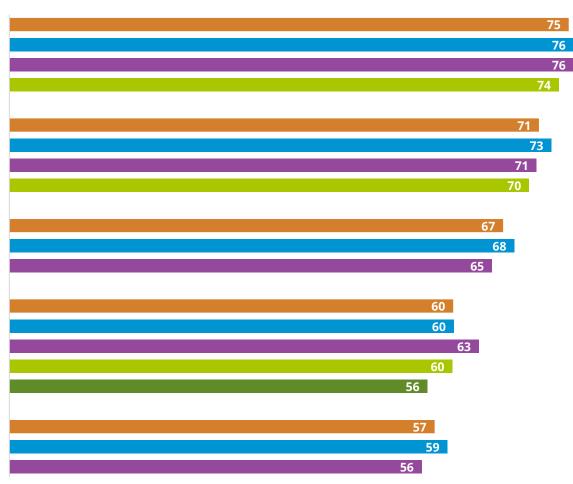
#### **Culinary Traditions**

**Culinary Ventures** 



## **European consumers prioritise price and taste**, with sutainability and naturalness as secondary concerns

### Attitudes about food consumption total sample (%) - Total Agreement



Tasty Food TOTAL When cooking or eating, I first and foremost consider the taste Food should be tasty, no matter what Taste is the most important attribute to me for food choice

#### Price TOTAL

When buying food, I always take prices into account Price strongly influences which foods I buy I often buy foods which are on sale or on promotion

#### Natural Total

I am interested in eating natural and unprocessed foods To me, the naturalness of the food that I buy is the most important quality.

#### Sustainability Total

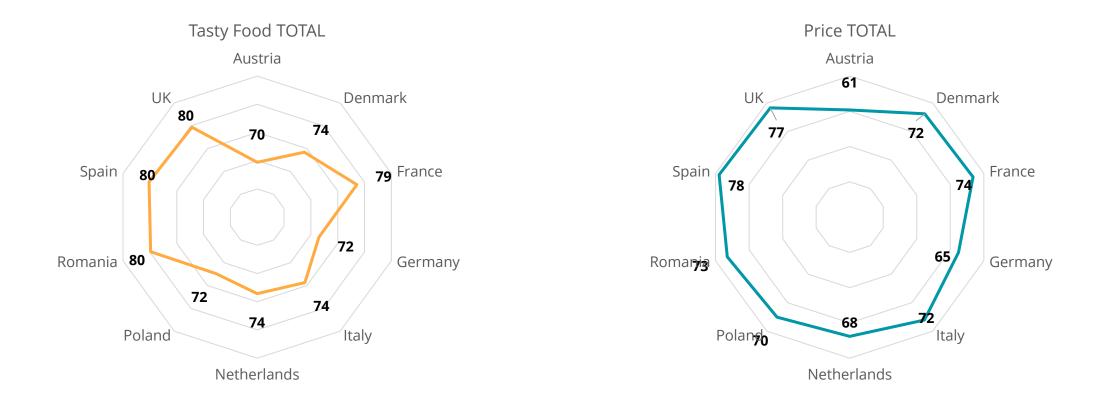
I am concerned about the conditions under which the food I buy is produced. It is important to understand the environmental impact of our eating habits. I try to choose food that is produced sustainably. I try to choose food that has a minimal impact on the environment.

#### Organic TOTAL

I make a point of using natural or organic food products when available I try to buy organically produced foods if possible.

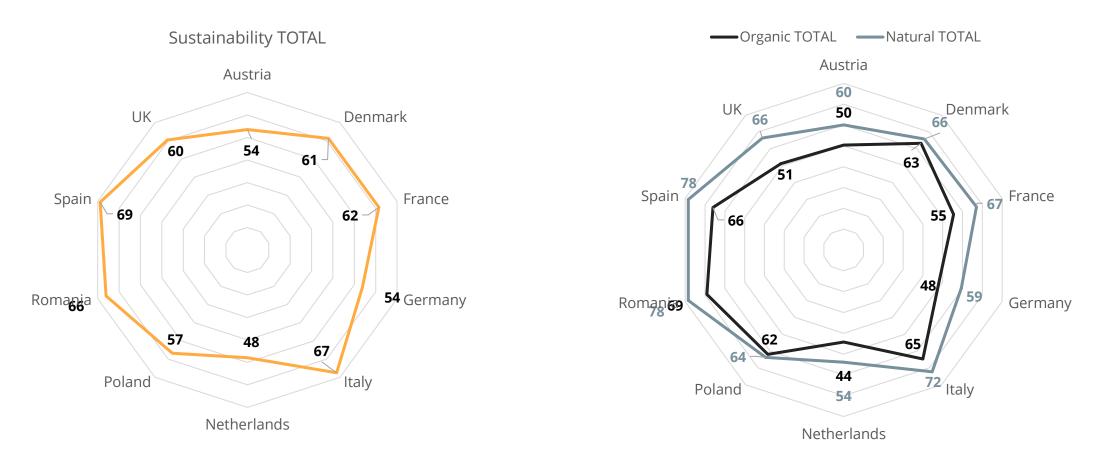
### Taste is more crucial in some countries, while price remains consistent important in all countries

Attitudes about food by country (%) - Total Agreement



## **Italy stands out** for its strong concerns around preparation methods and the impact of food choices

Attitudes about food by country (%) - Total Agreement







## **COM-B:** plant-based alternatives

## The **COM-B model i**s a theoretical framework used to understand and analyse behavior change



## Capabilities

	Total	Austria	Denmark	France	Germany	Italy	Netherlands	Poland	Romania	Spain	UK
Physical Total	41%	33%	43%	38%	34%	45%	38%	45%	48%	46%	44%
l find it easy to locate plant-based food alternatives in (online) supermarkets and stores	48%	41%	48%	44%	42%	51%	44%	51%	54%	49%	51%
l find it easy to get reliable information about plant-based food alternatives	44%	36%	44%	38%	39%	49%	42%	50%	51%	49%	45%
l find it easy to locate plant-based food alternatives in restaurants	37%	28%	41%	35%	29%	40%	31%	40%	45%	42%	41%
l find it easy to locate plant-based food alternatives at takeaways and delivery restaurants	36%	28%	40%	33%	28%	39%	33%	41%	43%	42%	37%
Psychological Total	47%	40%	50%	42%	42%	51%	44%	49%	53%	52%	48%
I know the benefits of consuming plant-based food alternatives	54%	45%	59%	48%	48%	57%	48%	56%	59%	60%	57%
I find it easy to prepare a plant-based meal	46%	40%	48%	43%	41%	51%	43%	49%	54%	51%	46%
I find it easy to come up with meals that are plant-based	44%	39%	46%	39%	38%	50%	41%	44%	50%	49%	45%
I know how to replace animal-based ingredients with plant- based food alternatives in various dishes	43%	35%	47%	38%	40%	44%	42%	45%	50%	46%	46%

Q23/Q24/Q25 "Please indicate your agreement to the following statements regarding eating and cooking/your food consumption/regarding food consumption and cooking." | Single choice (7 point scale)

## Opportunities

	Total	Austria	Denmark	France	Germany	Italy	Netherla nds	Poland	Romania	Spain	UK
Physical TOTAL	44%	40%	47%	41%	45%	43%	46%	45%	48%	40%	46%
are on sale often enough	59%	56%	67%	56%	61%	55%	64%	62%	61%	51%	60%
are easily available (e.g. in supermarkets, restaurants)	47%	41%	47%	42%	44%	47%	48%	51%	54%	43%	54%
are located in easy-to-access places	47%	40%	45%	46%	47%	46%	49%	48%	51%	43%	50%
are easy to find	47%	39%	48%	47%	48%	45%	51%	47%	49%	42%	53%
are available in many varieties	46%	43%	44%	38%	47%	44%	49%	48%	53%	42%	49%
are recommended enough in the media	43%	41%	43%	39%	45%	46%	47%	47%	47%	38%	40%
are advertised enough (e.g. on television, in magazines)	40%	38%	44%	38%	43%	38%	41%	39%	43%	36%	44%
are affordable	35%	33%	42%	31%	36%	33%	33%	34%	40%	33%	33%
are easy to obtain at discounted prices	32%	25%	39%	30%	34%	30%	29%	32%	38%	33%	29%
Social TOTAL	35%	25%	41%	31%	29%	37%	35%	40%	40%	42%	34%
People who are important to me would approve if I ate plant-based food alternatives most of the time	40%	24%	42%	31%	31%	41%	45%	54%	44%	48%	43%
People in my environment eat more and more plant- based food alternatives	37%	30%	45%	33%	32%	37%	37%	41%	41%	43%	36%
People who are important to me think I should eat plant-based food alternatives most of the time	32%	22%	40%	31%	27%	34%	31%	32%	38%	38%	30%
Eating plant-based food alternatives is part of my culture	32%	26%	36%	28%	27%	37%	29%	33%	37%	40%	26%

Q23/Q24/Q25 "Please indicate your agreement to the following statements regarding eating and cooking/your food consumption/regarding food consumption and cooking." | Single choice (7 point scale)

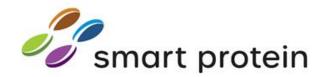
### Motivation

	Total	Austria	Denmark	France	Germany	Italy	Netherla nds	Poland	Romania	Spain	υк
Reflective TOTAL	49%	38%	53%	45%	42%	55%	45%	53%	54%	56%	52%
Eating plant-based food alternatives is good for my health	55%	45%	58%	53%	47%	66%	49%	54%	58%	65%	57%
Eating plant-based food alternatives will reduce negative effects on the environment.	54%	42%	61%	51%	47%	58%	53%	57%	55%	60%	59%
Eating plant-based food alternatives will help me to lose or maintain weight.	46%	35%	50%	40%	38%	53%	39%	53%	54%	55%	47%
Plant-based food alternatives are tasty	46%	36%	49%	41%	40%	47%	43%	49%	53%	50%	48%
Eating plant-based food alternatives is enjoyable	45%	35%	49%	41%	37%	49%	40%	49%	51%	51%	48%
Automatic TOTAL	39%	34%	44%	37%	37%	41%	37%	39%	43%	42%	36%
Eating plant-based food alternatives is something that is natural for me to do	41%	36%	46%	41%	38%	42%	41%	44%	45%	45%	37%
Eating plant-based food alternatives is something that I do without thinking	38%	33%	44%	37%	38%	40%	35%	37%	41%	40%	34%
Eating plant-based food alternatives is something that I do automatically	37%	32%	42%	33%	35%	41%	36%	37%	43%	40%	35%





## Sources of information, by trustworthiness





## **Q31** "In general, how much do you trust information about plant-based food alternatives from..."

# Health and nutrition websites, and search engines are trusted by consumers the most

Social-networking sites (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram,... Search engines (e.g Google) Online videos (e.g Youtube) Very trustful Fairly trustful Online forums (e.g Reddit) Neutral Online collaborative projects (e.g. Wikipedia) Not very trustful Online blogs Not trustful at all I do not use this channel Non-governmental Organisation (NGO) websites News websites Health and/or nutrition society websites Government websites Food-company websites 

Trusted sources regarding plant-based food products total sample (%)

Q31: In general, how much do you trust information about plant-based food products from...| Single choice

### Consumers' levels of **trust** of information about plantbased food **varies substantially** across the countries

Denmark Germany Italy Netherlands Spain Austria France Poland Romania UK 56 50 50 49 48 46 46 42 39 37 37 37 36 36 35 34 34 31 29 29 26 23 22 22 Health and/or nutrition society News websites Non-governmental Organisation Food-company websites Government websites websites (NGO) websites

**Trusted sources regarding plant-based food products by country (%)** 

Q31: In general, how much do you trust information about plant-based food products from... | Single choice | Total trust level (Very trustful + fairly trustful)

Total: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=75

### Consumers' levels of **trust** of information about plantbased food **varies substantially** across the countries

Trusted sources regarding plant-based food products by country (%) Austria Netherlands Poland Denmark France Germany Italy Romania Spain UK 51<sup>53</sup>52 39 3737<sub>36</sub> 35 32 32 28<sup>30</sup> 28 25

Online blogsOnline collaborative<br/>projects (e.g Wikipedia)Online forums (e.g Reddit)Online videos (e.g Youtube) Search engines (e.g Google)Social-networking sites (e.gFacebook, Twitter,

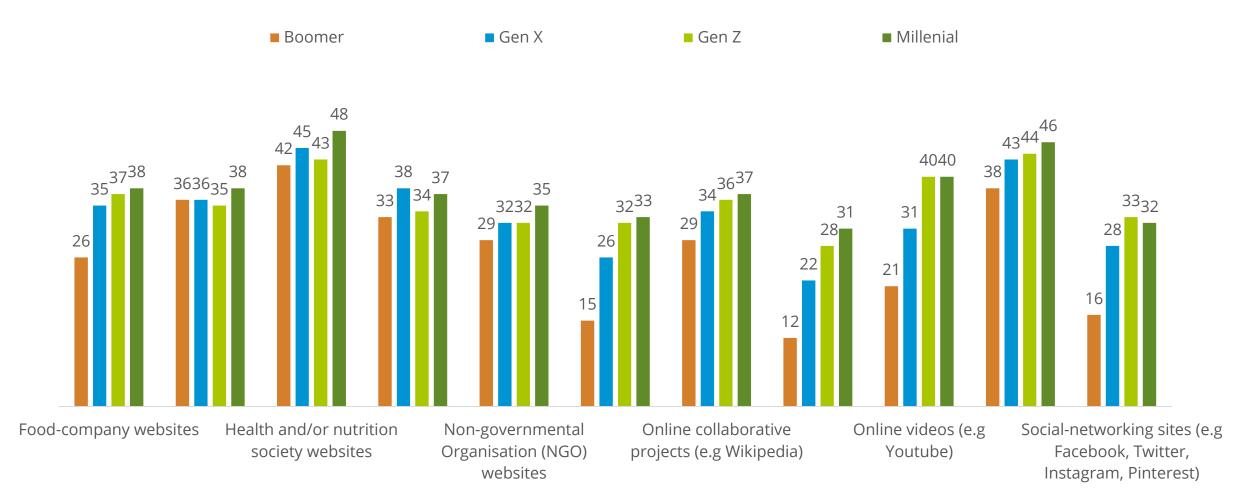
Instagram, Pinterest)

Q31: In general, how much do you trust information about plant-based food products from...| Single choice | Total trust level (Very trustful + fairly trustful)

Fotal: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=75

### Trusted sources, by generation

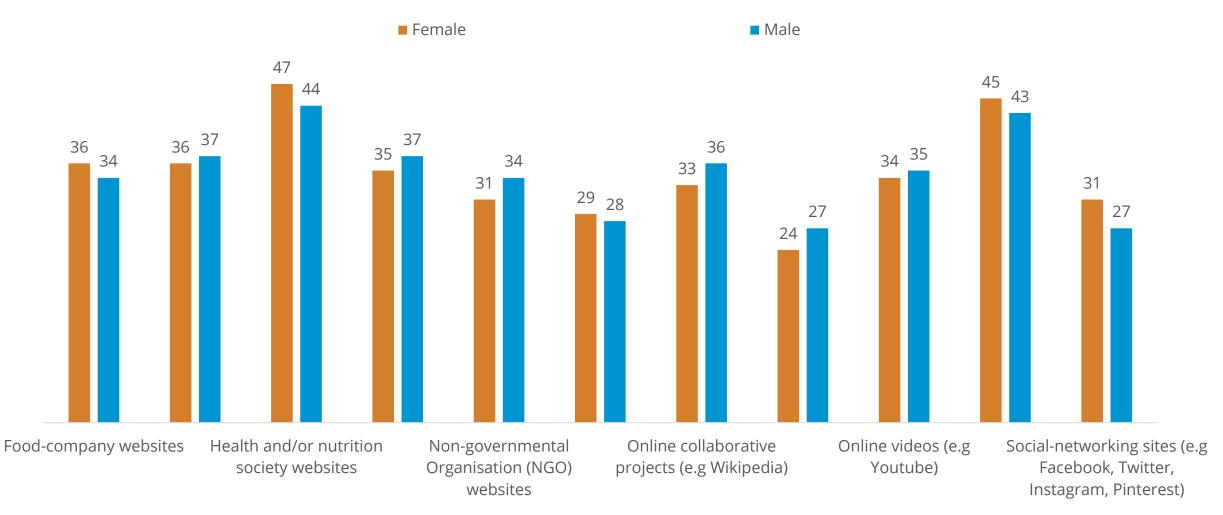
Trusted sources regarding plant-based food products by generations (%)



Q31: In general, how much do you trust information about plant-based food products from...| Single choice | Total trust level (Very trustful + fairly trustful)

### Trusted sources, by gender

**Trusted sources regarding plant-based food products by gender (%)** 



Q31: In general, how much do you trust information about plant-based food products from...| Single choice | Total trust level (Very trustful + fairly trustful)

Total: n= 7500 | Female n= 3742 | Male n=3735





## Social media usage

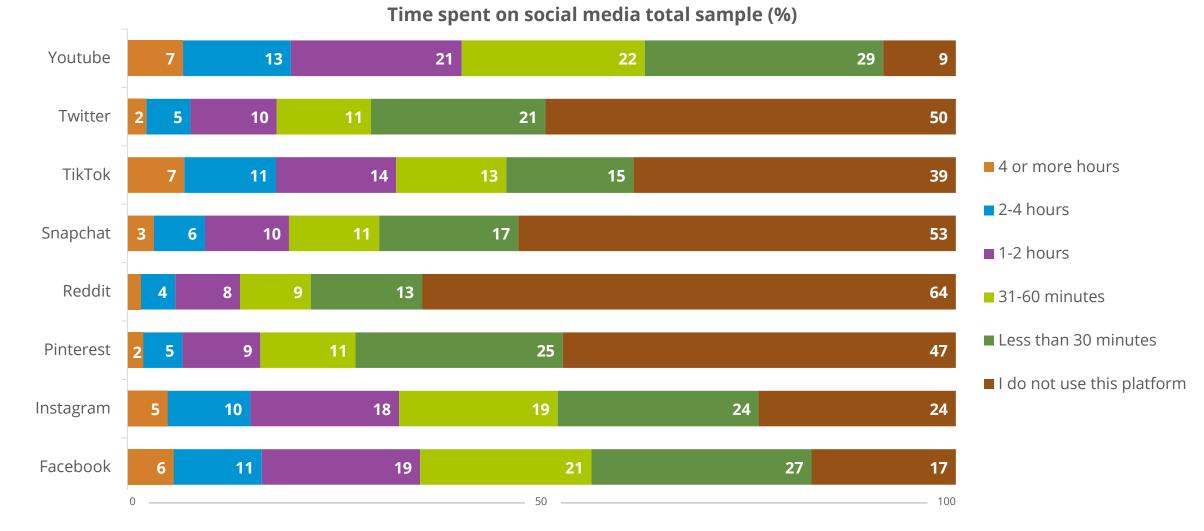






# **Q32** "On a typical day, how much time do you spend on these social media platforms?"

## YouTube, TikTok, Facebook, and Instagram are the most-used social-media platforms



Q32: On a typical day, how much time do you spend on these social media platforms? | Single choice





# **Q33** "How often do you engage with the following activities?"



### Frequency of social-media usage

Very often Often Sometimes Seldom Never 

Frequency of on social media usage social media users (%)

When travelling, I share pictures of food on social media

I use social media to be updated on discounts and promotions on food products

I take photos of food when dining out in order to share with friends on social media

I take photos of food cooked at home in order to share with friends on social media

l search for information about food products on social media

I read opinions about food products on social media from people with the same interests as me

Q33: How often do you engage with the following activities? | Single choice

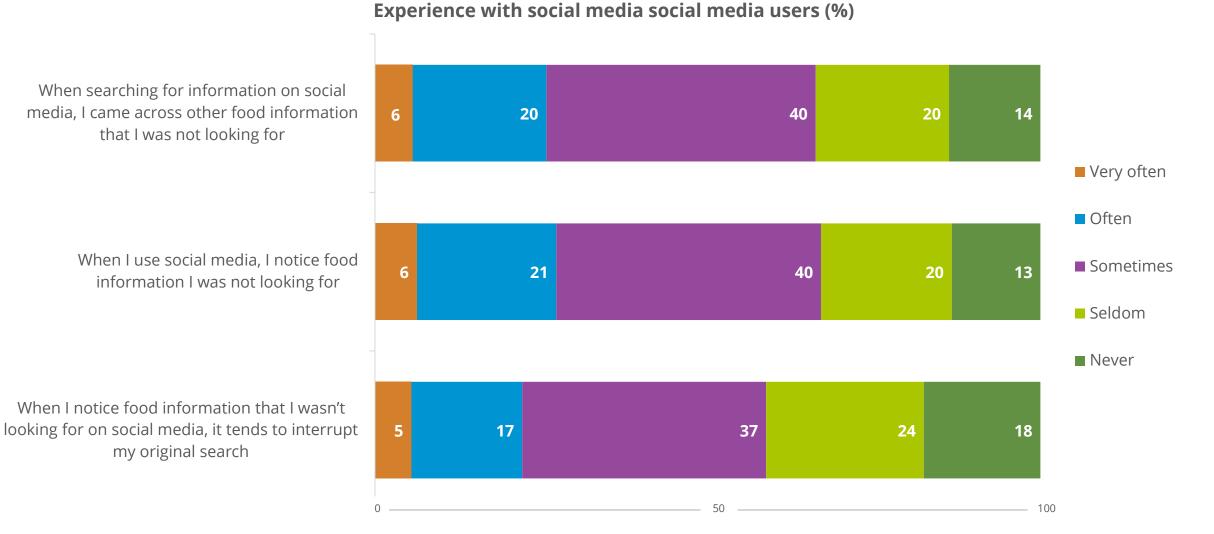




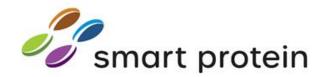
# **Q34** "How often do you experience the following situations?"



### Many consumers become aware of **new food information** when using social media



Q34: How often do you experience the following situations? | Single choice





## **Q35** "Please indicate how much you disagree or agree with each of the following statements concerning social media and food attitudes."

## Consumers' appetites increase when seeing food on social media or when shared by influencers

Influence of social media total social media users (%)

The presence of a food product on social media influences my view of that product

The foods/dishes that I see on social media increase my desire to eat

Social media has an influence on what I buy and eat

I think that food products which appear on social media are more beneficial for my health

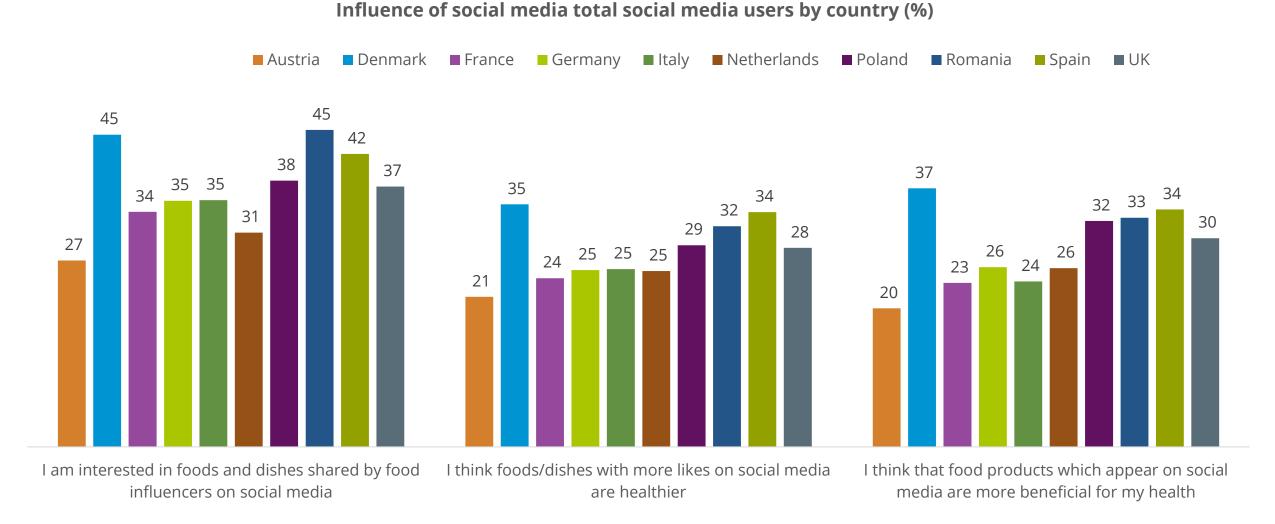
I think foods/dishes with more likes on social media are healthier

I am interested in foods and dishes shared by food influencers on social media



Q35: Please indicate how much you disagree or agree with each of the following statements concerning social media and food attitudes. | Single choice

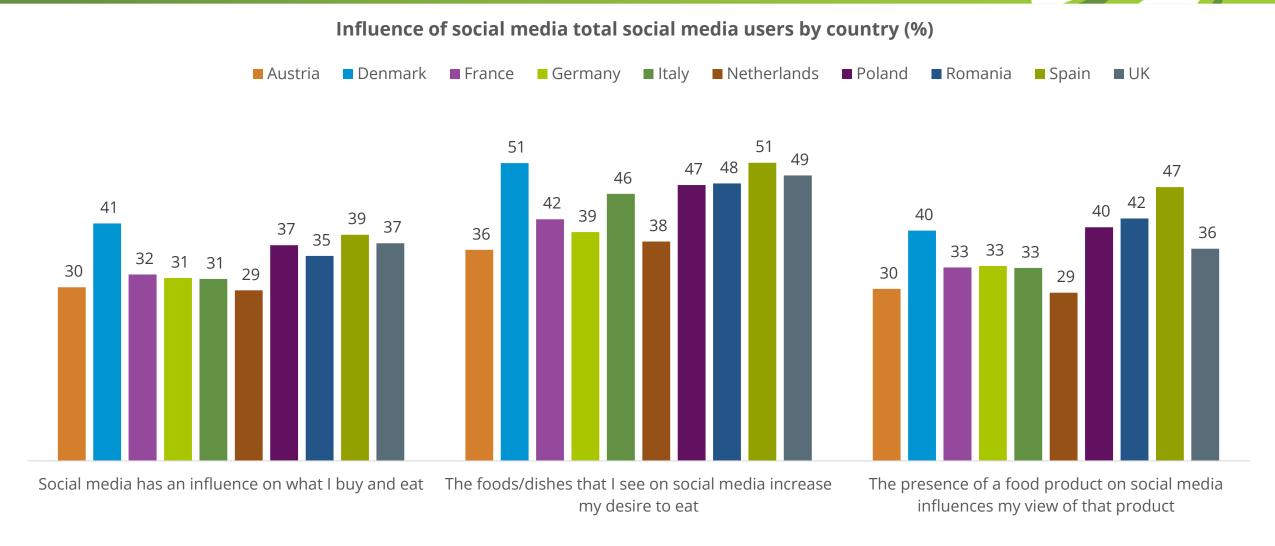
### Especially consumers in **Denmark and Romania are** interested in foods when shared by influencers



Q35: Please indicate how much you disagree or agree with each of the following statements concerning social media and food attitudes. | Single choice

Total: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750

## European consumers, **especially in Spain and Italy** say that food on social media increases their appetite



Q35: Please indicate how much you disagree or agree with each of the following statements concerning social media and food attitudes. | Single choice

Total: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750





## Socio-demographic data

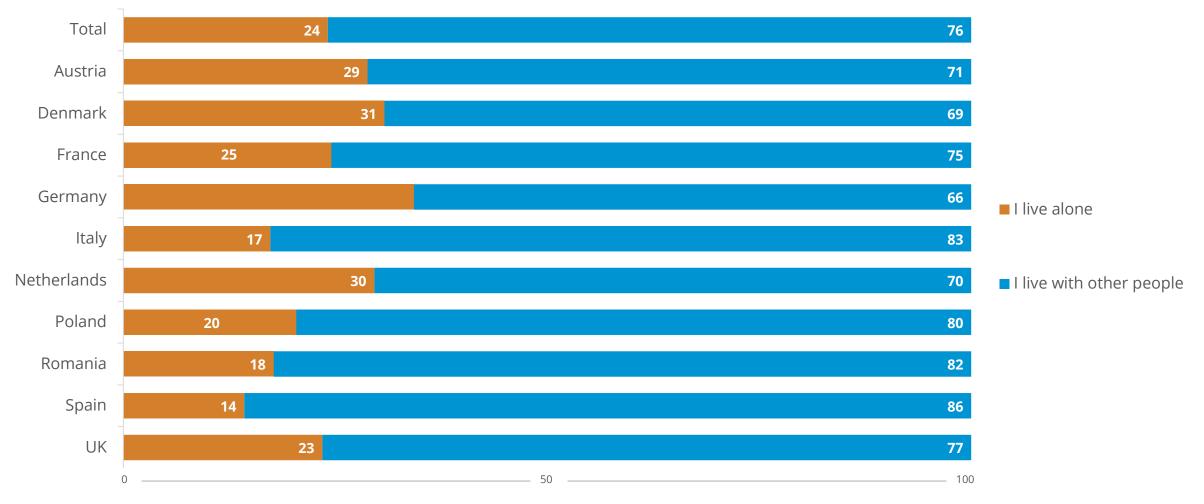




# **Q36** "How many people live in your household, including yourself?

### **Household situation**

### Household situation (%)



Q36: How many people live in your household, including yourself?" | Single choice

Total: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750

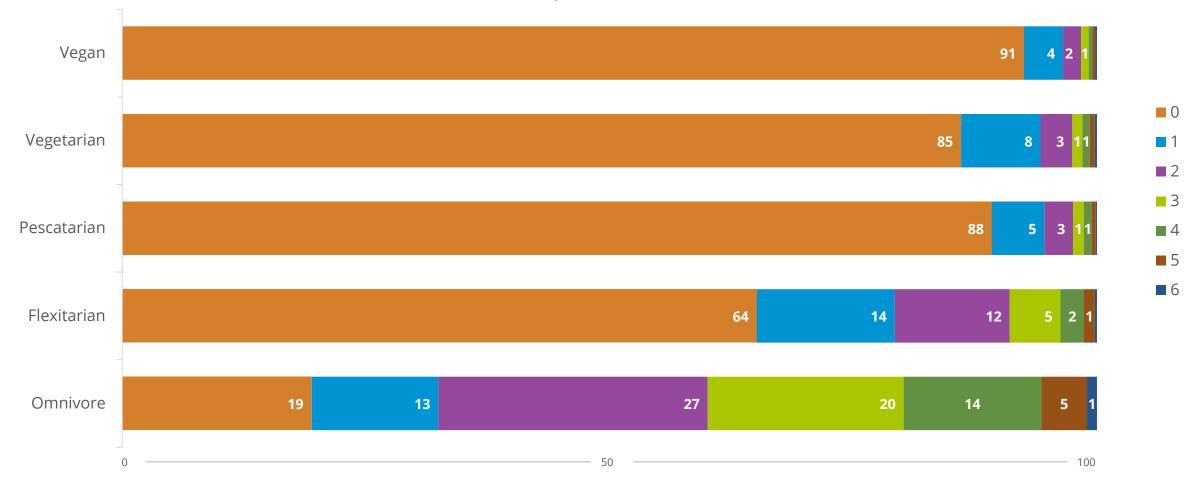




## **Q37** "How many members of your household, including yourself, follow each of the eating patterns indicated below?"

### Shared dietary habits in households

Shared dietary habits in households (%)



Q37: "How many members of your household, including yourself, follow each of the eating patterns indicated below? | Single choice



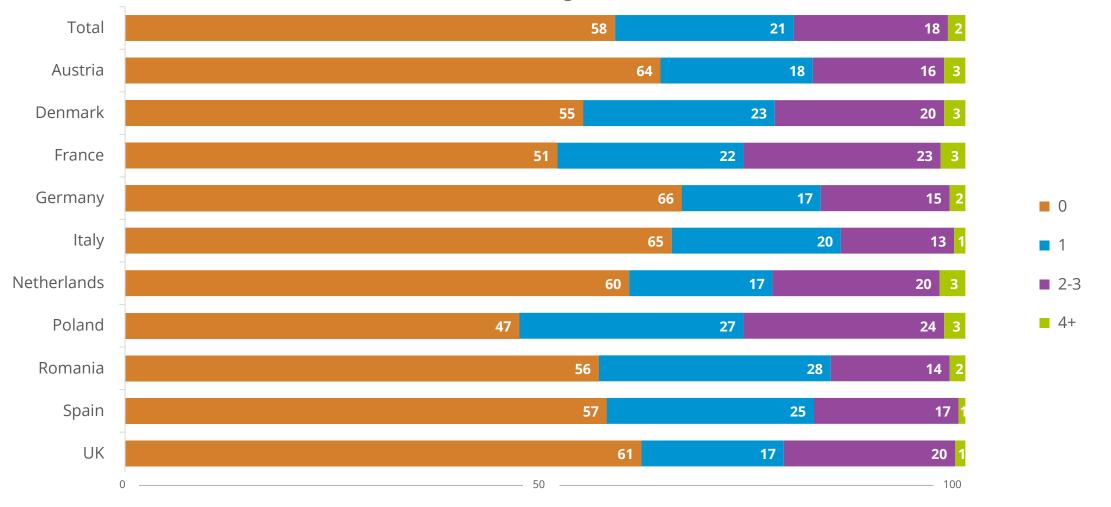


# **Q38** "How many children live in your household?"



### Number of children in household

Children living in household (%)



Q38: How many children live in your household? | Single choice

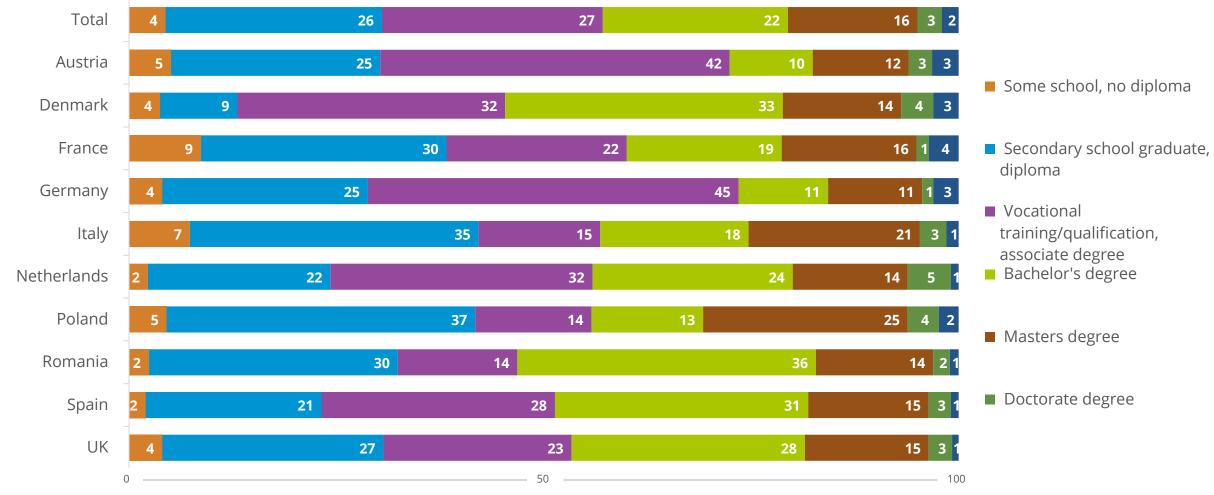




# **Q39** "What is the highest level of education that you have completed?"

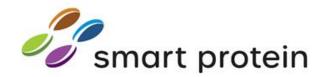
**Education level** 

Completed education (%)



Q39: What is the highes revel of education that you have completed? | Single choice

Total: n= 7500 | Austria n=750 | Denmark n=750 | France n=750 | Germany n=750 | Italy n=750 | Netherlands n=750 | Poland n=750 | Romania n=750 | Spain n=750 | UK n=750





# **Q40** "How would you describe your own financial situation?"



### Financial situation in households

Total Austria Denmark Extremely easy France Somewhat easy Germany 19 3 Italy Neither easy nor difficult 15 2 Netherlands Poland 17 2 Somewhat difficult Romania Spain 13 3 Extremely difficult UK 

**Description of personal financial situation (%)** 

Q40: How would you describe your own financial situation? | Single choice





# **Q41** "Which phrase best describes the area where you live?"



### Rural, suburban, or urban



Q41: Which phrase best describes the area where you live? | Single choice





### Suggested citation:

Evolving appetites: an in-depth look at European attitudes towards plantbased eating. A follow-up to the 2021 survey report, 'What Consumers Want'

European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (No 862957) (2023).

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