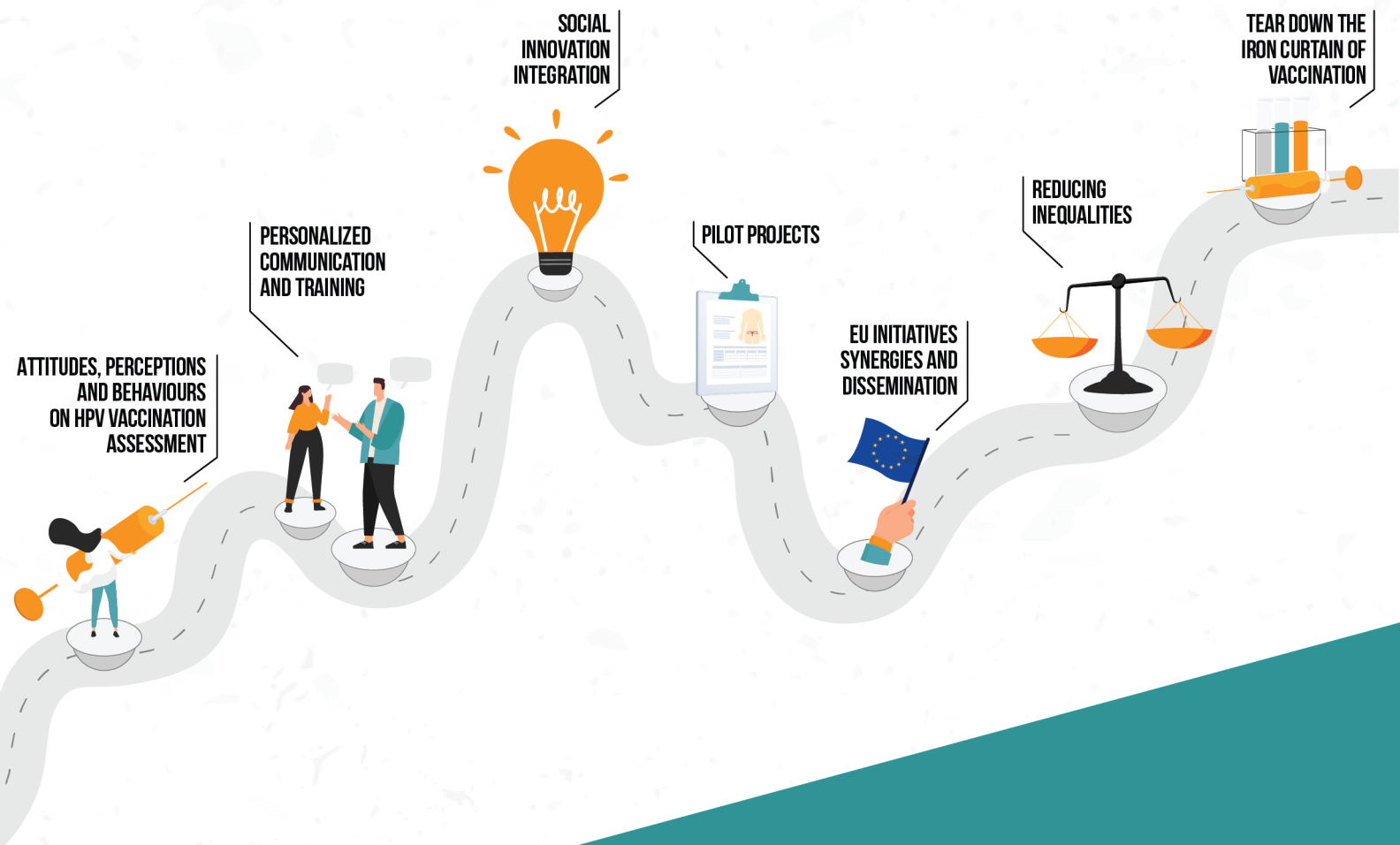


Rethink and Reduce inequalities in HPV vaccination through personalized communication and training, based on social innovation and behavioural determinants of health



BEHAVIOR, ATTITUDES AND PERCEPTIONS ON HPV VACCINATION IN ROMANIA AT NATIONAL LEVEL (2023) VS. ARGEȘ COUNTY (2024)

NOVEMBER 2023 - APRIL 2024



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Deliverable D5.2 is a report on attitudes, perceptions, and behaviours towards HPV vaccination (D5.2 Behavior, attitudes, and perceptions towards HPV vaccination in Argeş County) and will inform deliverables D5.1 and D5.3.

Representing the collaboration of RF and EUROCC partners, it is the latest study assessing Behavior, Attitudes and Perception regarding HPV vaccination in Argeş County, providing a comparative perspective between the county and national situation surveyed in November 2023.

METHODOLOGY

This sociological study was carried out within the project "Rethink and Reduce inequalities in HPV vaccination through personalized communication & training, based on social innovation and behavioural determinants of health (ReThinkHPVaccination)", a project implemented by the "Renaşterea" Foundation, in partnership with the Center for Innovation in Medicine and Eurocommunication Association.

The present study is a quantitative one, carried out using the questionnaire-based sociological survey method. The questionnaire was administered online through CAWI (Computer Assisted Web Interviewing) data collection method.

The research objectives were:

- O1. To assess the level of knowledge about HPV infection and HPV vaccination (how study participants self-assess themselves) among the population of Argeş County;
- O2. Assessment of perceptions and opinions on the relationship between HPV infection and cancer in the population of Argeş County;
- O3. To identify the position of the inhabitants of Argeş County towards the sources of information on medical topics;
- O4. Identifying the specifics of the doctor-patient relationship for the inhabitants of Argeş County;

The questionnaire followed the following themes of interest:

- Information on HPV infection
- Respondents' level of HPV vaccination
- Opinions on the safety of the HPV vaccine
- Immunizing children against HPV
- Link between HPV and cancers
- Position on health information sources
- Key actors in the vaccination decision-making process
- Doctor-patient relationship
- Positioning towards COVID - 19
- Perception of giving women aged 19-45 a 50% deduction on the cost of the HPV vaccine.

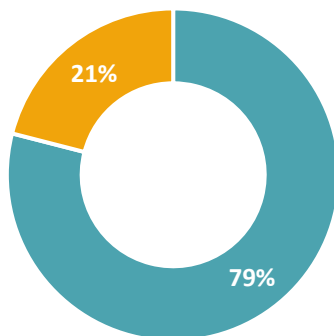
The sample consisted of 600 respondents from the national adult population (18 years and over) in Argeş County, with a margin of error of $\pm 3.92\%$.

This report contains comparisons between the results of the present survey conducted in Argeş County and the previous survey conducted in November 2023 at the national level on a sample of 1110 people. This comparison helps to form a bigger picture and better understand the differences in opinion about the HPV vaccine among people in Argeş County compared to the overall opinion resulting from the previous nationwide survey.

RESULTS

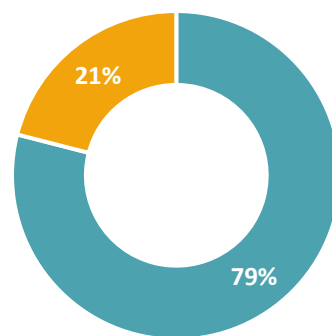
HPV INFECTION

HPV infection rates in 2024 in Argeş county (N=600)



■ Yes ■ No

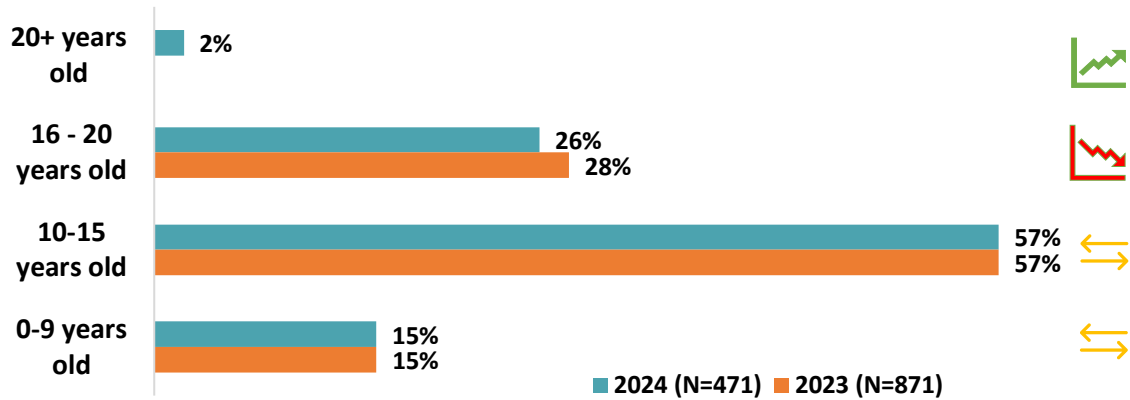
HPV awareness in Romania in 2023 (N=1110)



■ Yes ■ No

Q11. Have you heard of HPV - human papilloma virus?

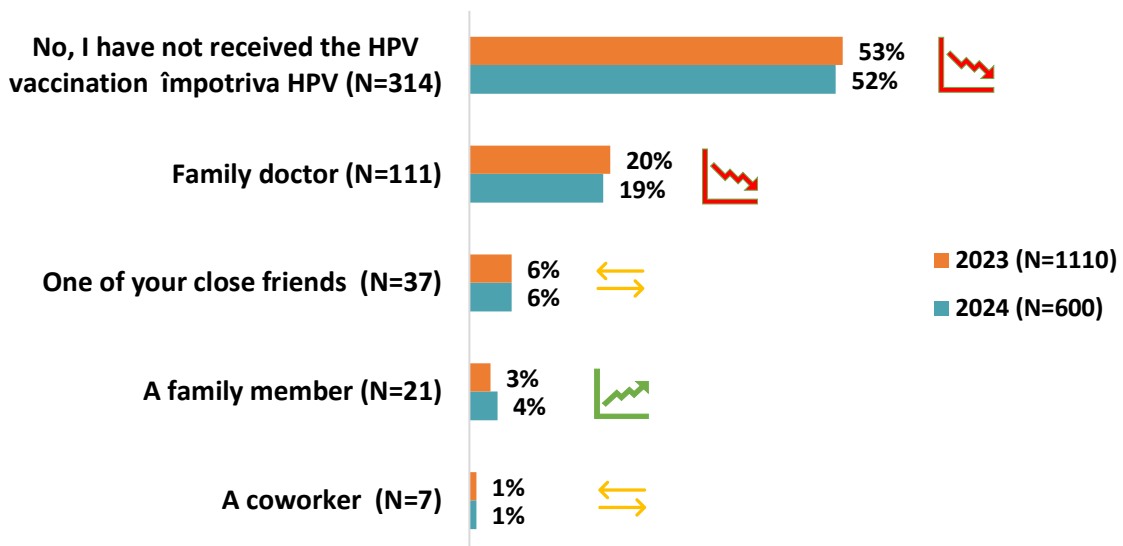
Opinion on the minimum age for HPV vaccination



Q12. What do you think is the right age for HPV vaccination?

In Argeş County, the majority of respondents (79%) have heard about HPV infection. Of these, almost 6 out of 10 believe that the optimal age range for vaccination is 10 - 15 years old, perceptions similar to the nationwide survey conducted last year in November 2023.

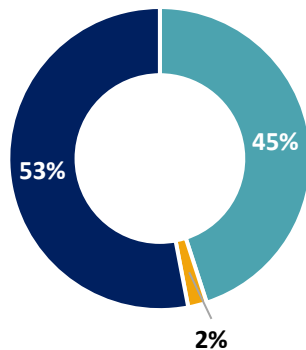
Person who recommended the HPV vaccination



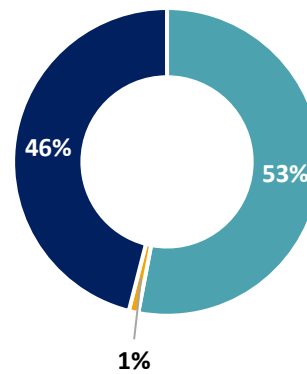
Q13. Has anyone ever recommended HPV vaccination? (multiple answer)

Regarding the HPV vaccine, (52%) of respondents in Argeş County say they have not received any vaccination recommendations, a lower proportion than in the 2023 nationwide survey (53%). Almost one-fifth (19%) of the adult residents of Argeş County have received vaccination recommendations from their family doctor. The fewest related recommendations came from a family member (4%) or a coworker (1%).

Who respondents think should be targeted for HPV vaccination 2024 (N=471)



Who respondents think should be targeted for HPV vaccination 2023 (N=871)

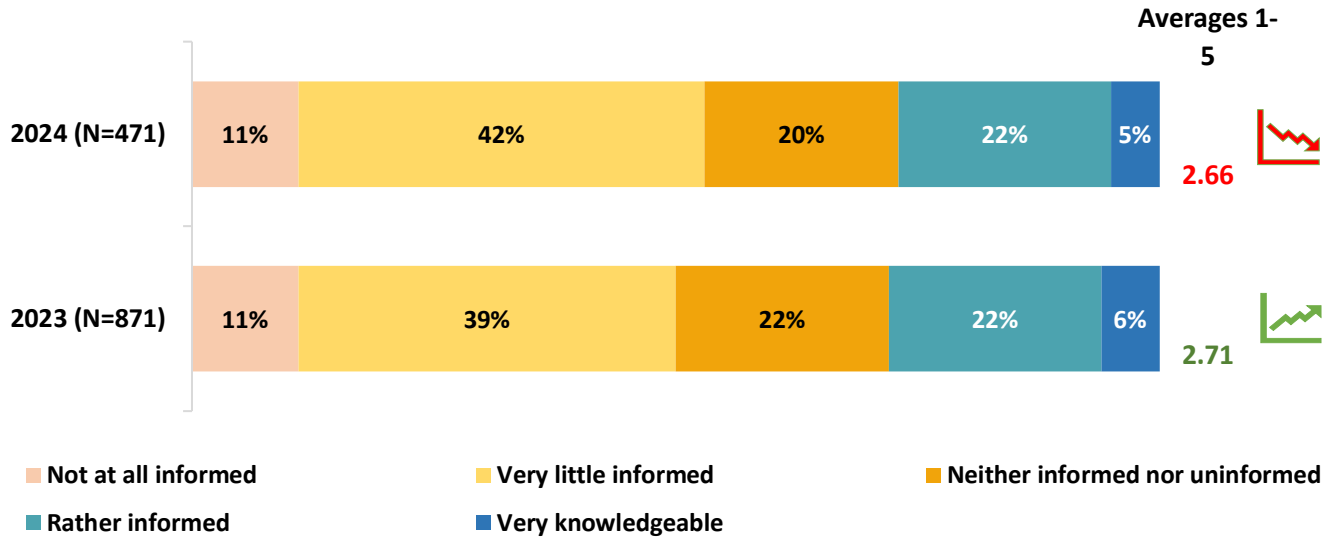


■ Girls only ■ Boys only ■ Both girls and boys alike ■ Girls only ■ Boys only ■ Both girls and boys alike

Q14. To the best of your knowledge, to whom is HPV vaccination targeted?

In this year's survey conducted in Argeş County, the perception of the need for HPV vaccination is directed towards both girls and boys (53%), in contrast to the 2023 survey conducted at national level in November 2023 in which the majority opinion focused exclusively on girls (53%).

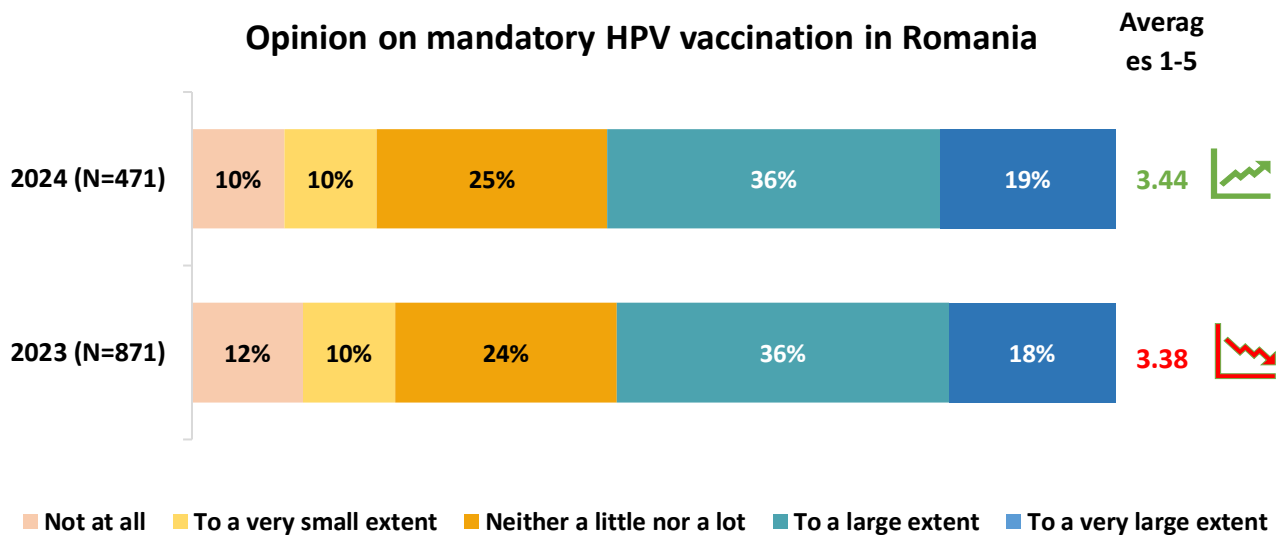
Awareness of HPV infection



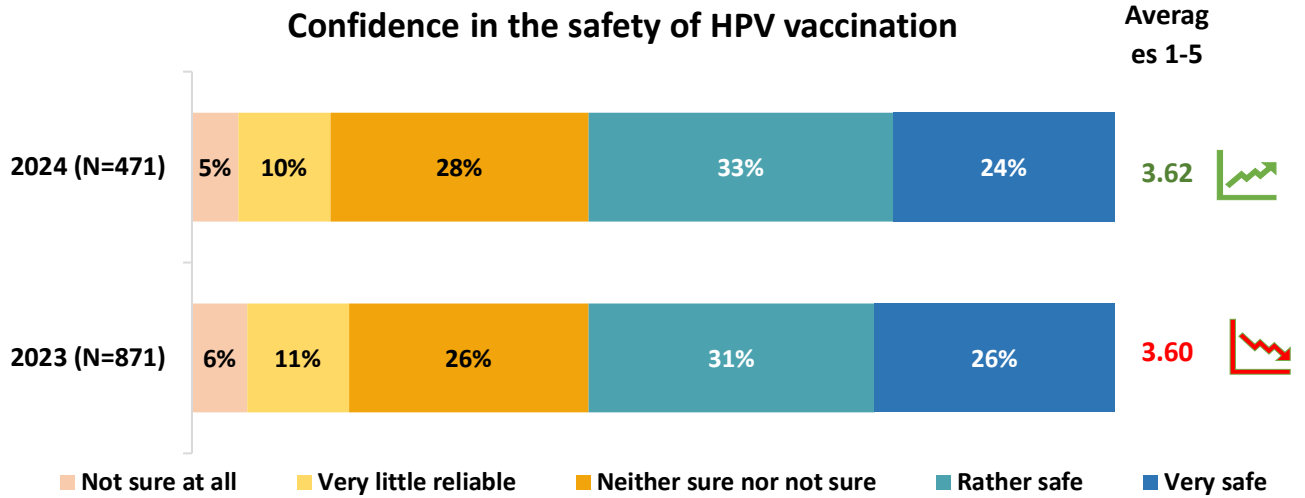
Q15. How informed do you feel you are about HPV infection?

Over half of the inhabitants of Argeş County (53%) consider themselves rather uninformed about HPV infection, which is higher than the figure recorded in the 2023 national survey (50%).

Opinion on mandatory HPV vaccination in Romania



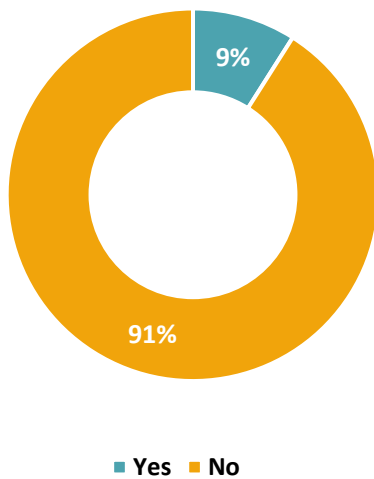
Q16. To what extent do you think HPV vaccination should be mandatory in Romania?



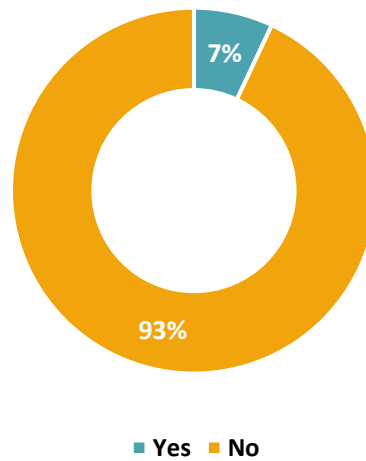
Q17. How safe do you think HPV vaccination is?

Over half (55%) of the inhabitants of Argeş County support mandatory HPV vaccination. The process is considered to be rather safe or very safe (57%) in both surveys.

HPV vaccination rates
2024 (N=471)

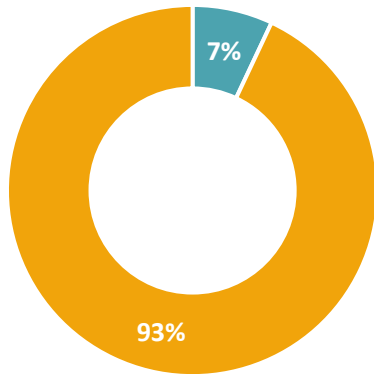


HPV vaccination rates
2023 (N=871)



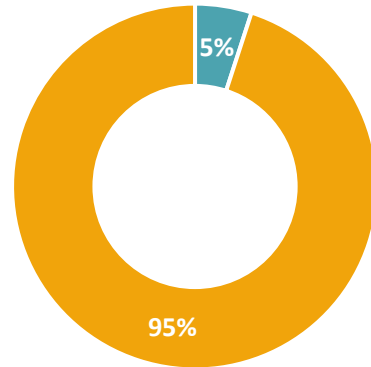
Q18. Are you vaccinated against HPV?

Rate of children immunized against HPV 2024 (N=415)



■ Yes ■ No

Rate of children immunized against HPV 2023 (N=871)

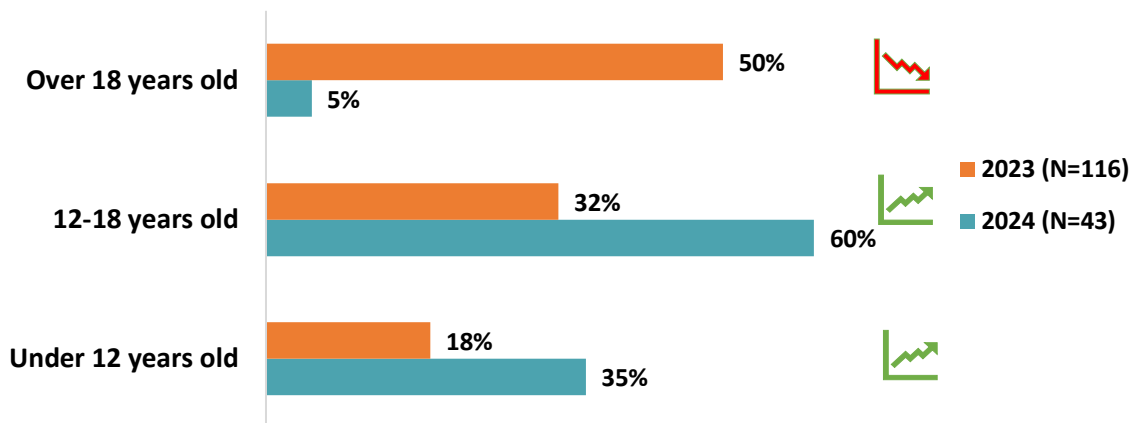


■ Yes ■ No

Q19. Are your child(ren) vaccinated against HPV?

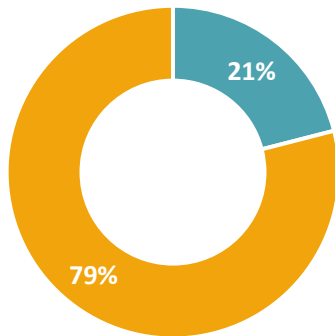
Regarding the rate of vaccination against HPV, both the respondents from Argeş County (91%) and their children (93%) are not vaccinated against HPV. There is also a higher rate of vaccination of children in Argeş (7%) based on the parents' answers compared to the rate of children vaccinated at national level (5%).

Age of vaccinated children



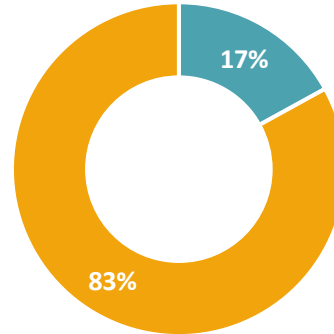
Q20_1_1_1_REC+ Q20_2_1_1_REC. At what age were your children vaccinated against HPV?

Gender of children vaccinated against HPV 2024 (N=43)



■ Male ■ Female

Gender of children vaccinated against HPV 2023 (N=63)

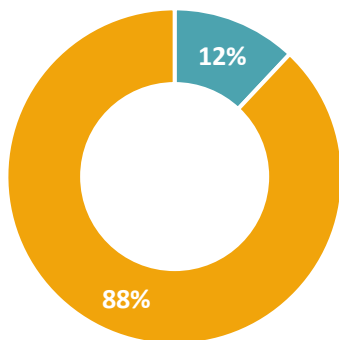


■ Male ■ Female

Q20a. Gender of vaccinated children:

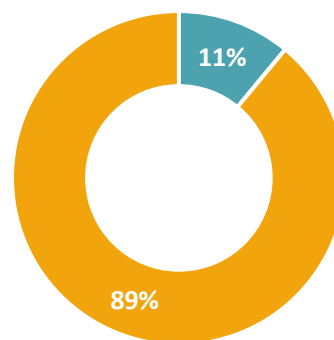
Note: Some of the residents of Argeş County who declared that they have vaccinated their children against HPV confuse this vaccine with other vaccines in the mandatory schedule. This observation resulted from the analysis of the ages at which they reported having had their children vaccinated against HPV. Another explanation for the results could also have to do with the change in legislation: from December 1, 2024, both girls and boys between the ages of 11 and 19 receive the HPV vaccine free of charge.

Proportion of children immunized against HPV 2024 (N=43) out of (N=354)



■ Vaccinated ■ Unvaccinated

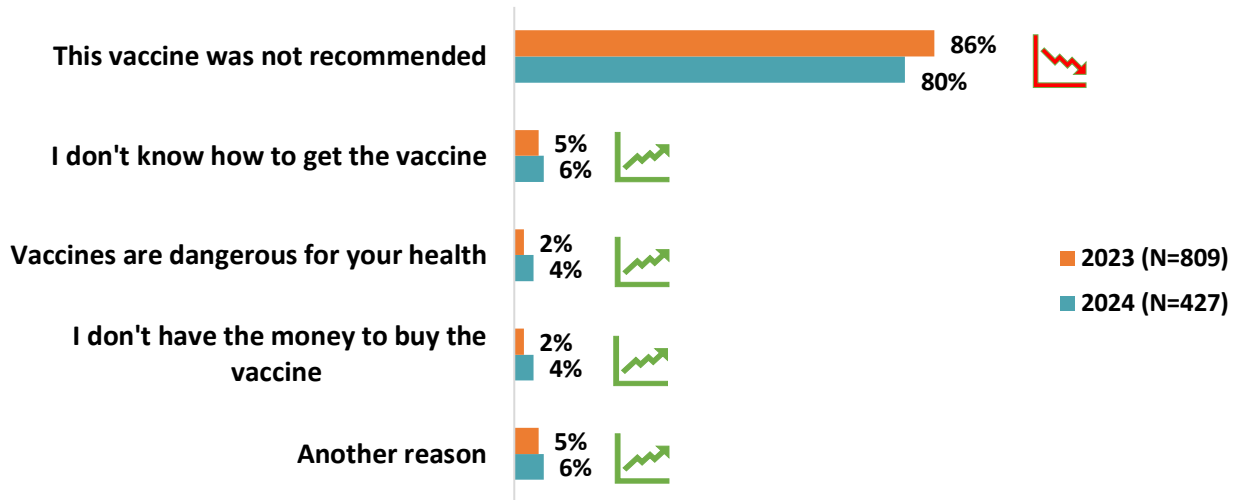
Proportion of children immunized against HPV 2023 (N=63) out of (N=593)



■ Vaccinated

Proportion of vaccinated children in the sample

The main reason against HPV vaccination? (for those who are not vaccinated)

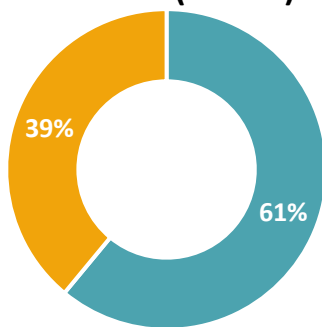


Q21. What is the main reason why you have not been vaccinated against HPV? (for those who are not vaccinated)?

The survey shows that 8 out of 10 people in Argeş say they are not vaccinated against HPV because they have not been advised to do so. Also, (6%) say they do not know how they can get the vaccine and (4%) say they either do not have the money to buy the vaccine or consider it dangerous. The same perceptions are found at national level in similar proportions.

Opinion on vaccination anti-HPV testing of girls who start having sex before coming of age

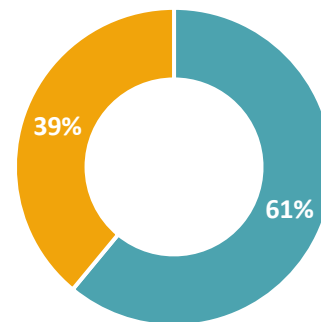
2024 (N=600)



■ Yes ■ No

Opinion on HPV vaccination for girls who start sex before they come of age

2023 (N=871)



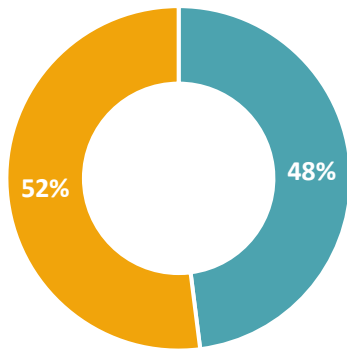
■ Yes ■ No

Q22. Do you think that HPV vaccination should be given mainly to girls who start their sexual life before they come of age?

Regardless of the survey, more than half of respondents (61%) say the vaccine needs to be given more often to girls who start having sex before they come of age.

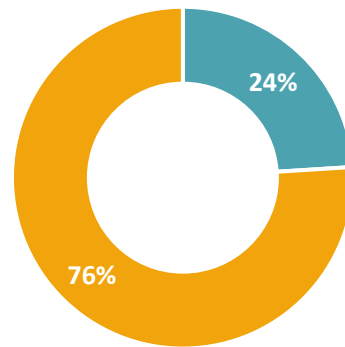
HPV AND CANCER

**Cancer diagnosis
2024 (N=309)**



■ Yes ■ No

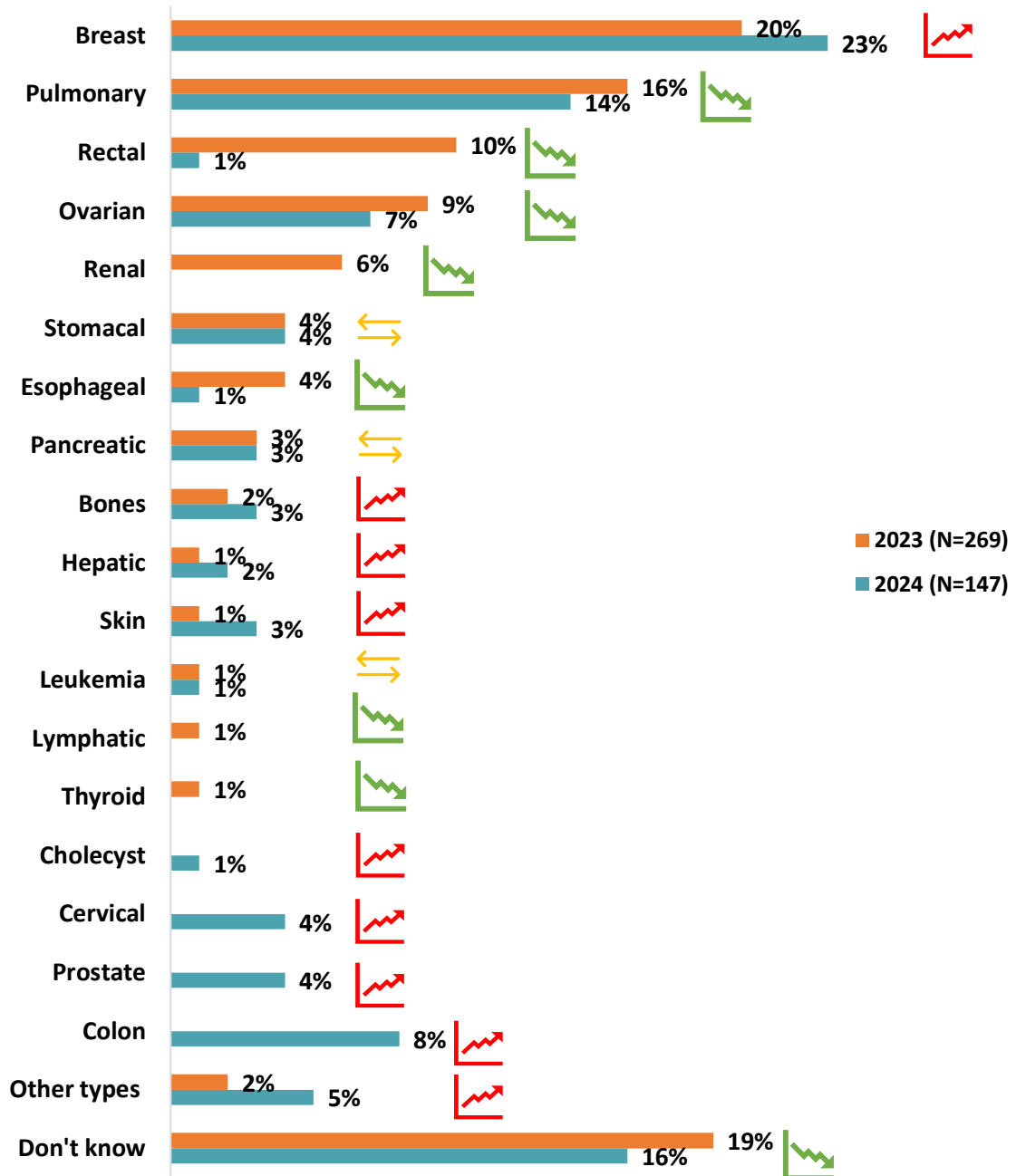
**Cancer diagnosis
2023 (N=1110)**



■ Yes ■ No

Q23. Have you or anyone in your family been diagnosed with cancer?

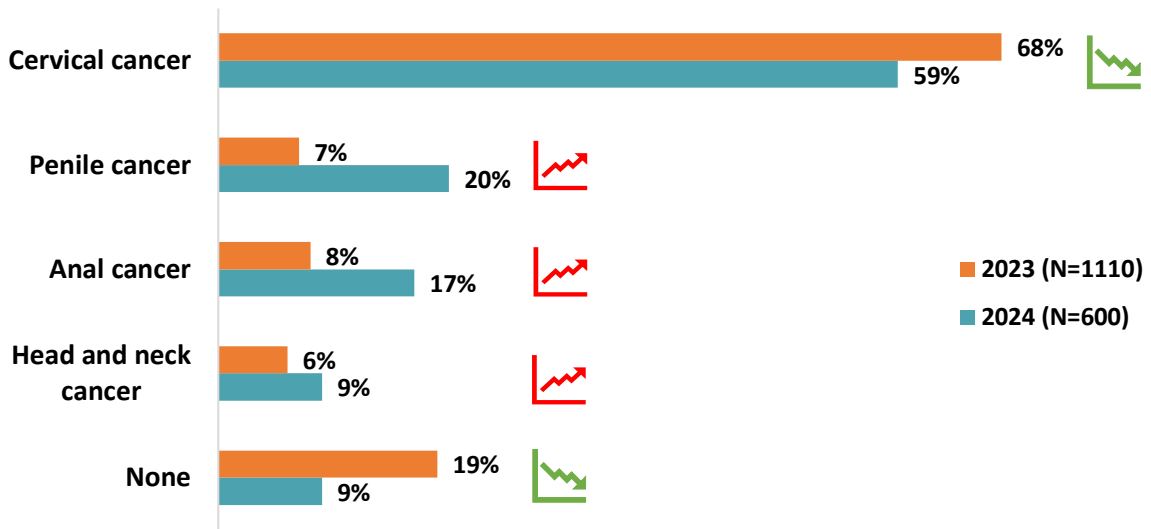
Types of cancer



Q23b_REC. What type of cancer?

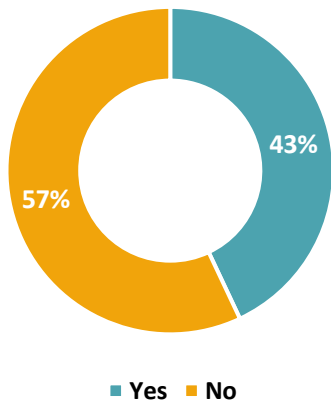
Almost half of respondents (48%) say that they or someone in their family has been diagnosed with cancer. Of those diagnosed with this disease, almost a quarter (23%) suffer from breast cancer in Argeş County and (20%) in the national survey.

Cancer types linked to HPV infection

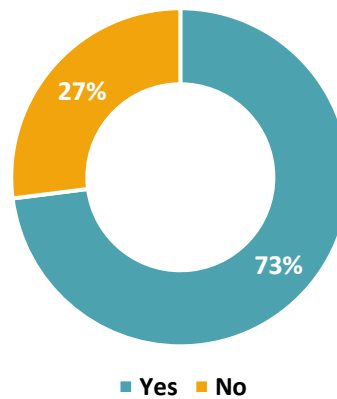


Q24. HPV infection is involved in which types of cancer? (multiple choice)

Prevent cervical cancer with HPV vaccination 2024 (N=600)



Prevent cervical cancer with HPV vaccination 2023 (N=1110)



Q25. To your knowledge, does HPV vaccination prevent cervical cancer?

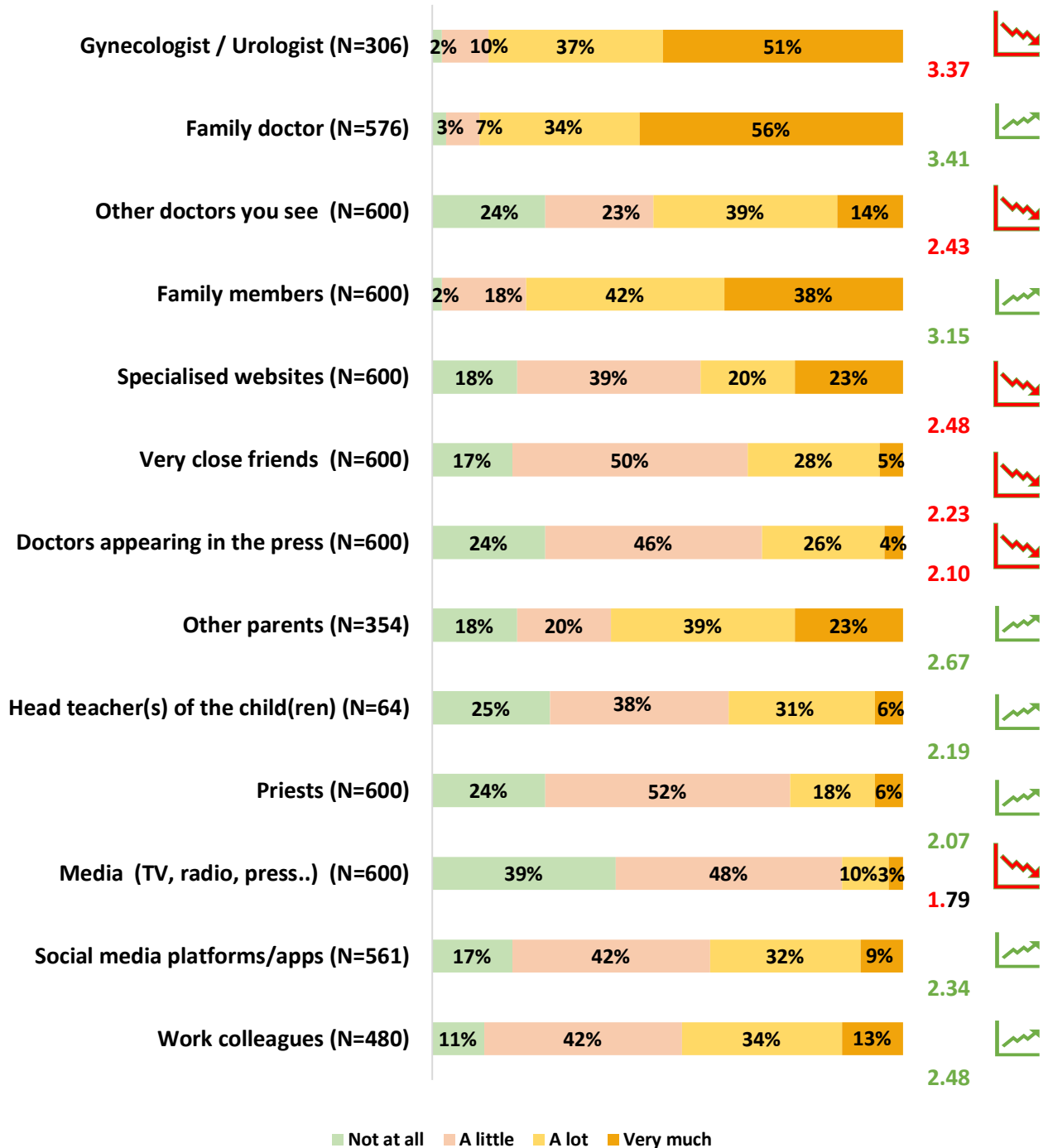
In terms of the types of cancers associated with HPV infection, more than half of the respondents in Argeş County (59%) associate cervical cancer with HPV infection. However, in another question in the survey, most people in Argeş County (57%) believe that HPV vaccination **does not** prevent cervical cancer, double the percentage recorded in the 2023

nationwide survey (27%). This shows that in Argeş County there is a significant proportion of people who do not believe in the effectiveness of HPV vaccination.

POSITION ON INFORMATION SOURCES

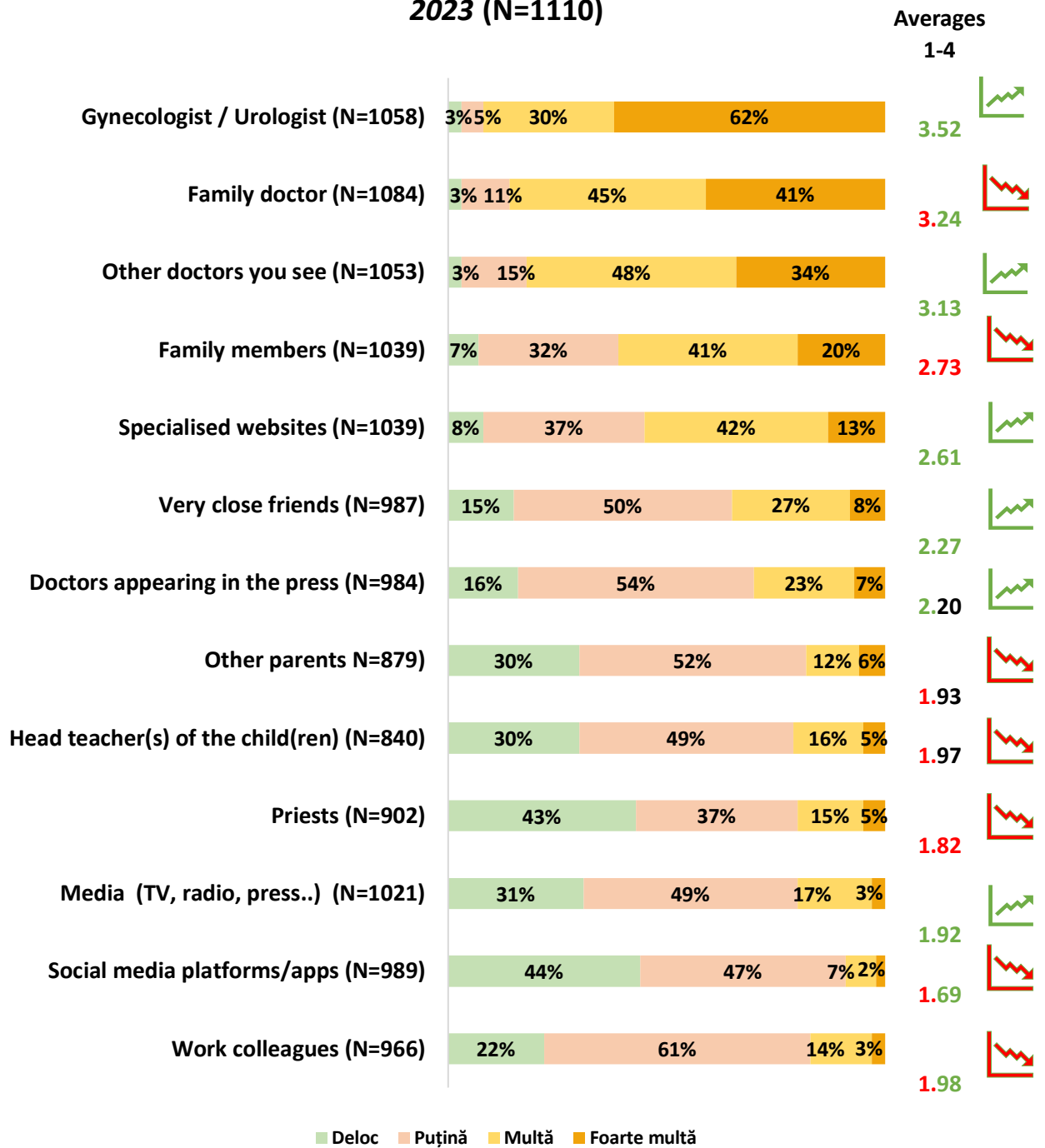
Reliance on medical information from different sources 2024 (N=600)

Averages
1-4



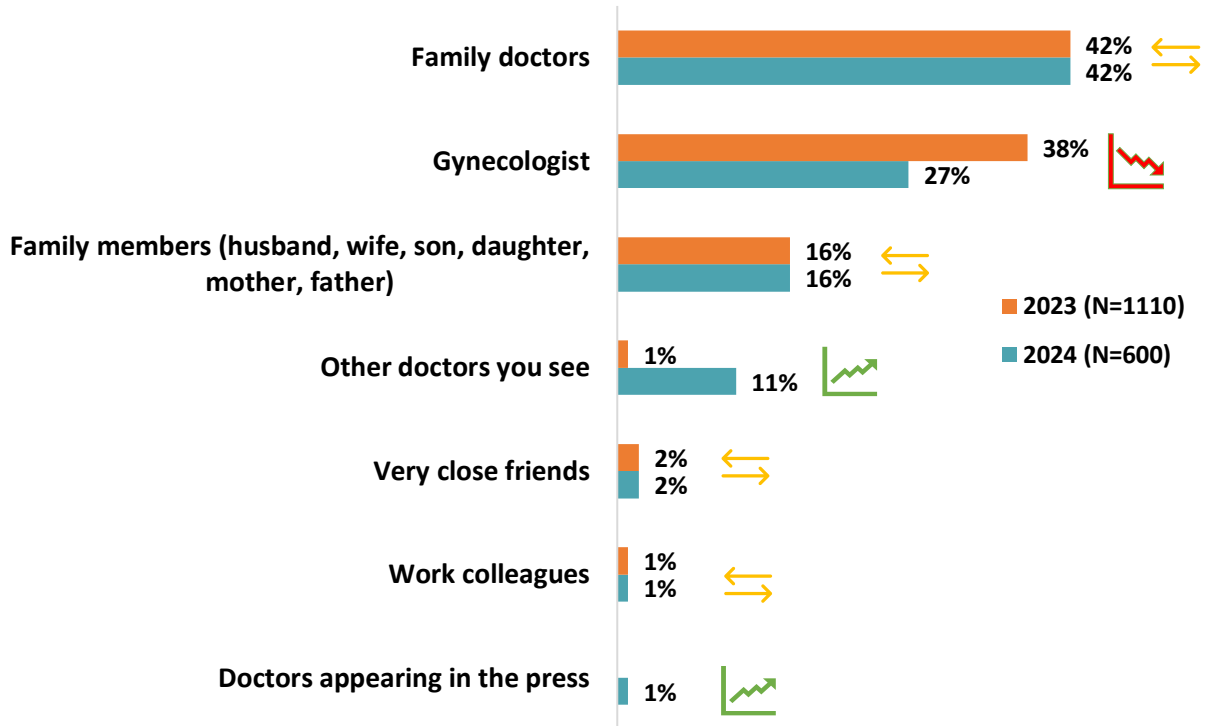
Q26. How much do you trust the medical information you receive from the following sources ?

Reliance on medical information from different sources 2023 (N=1110)



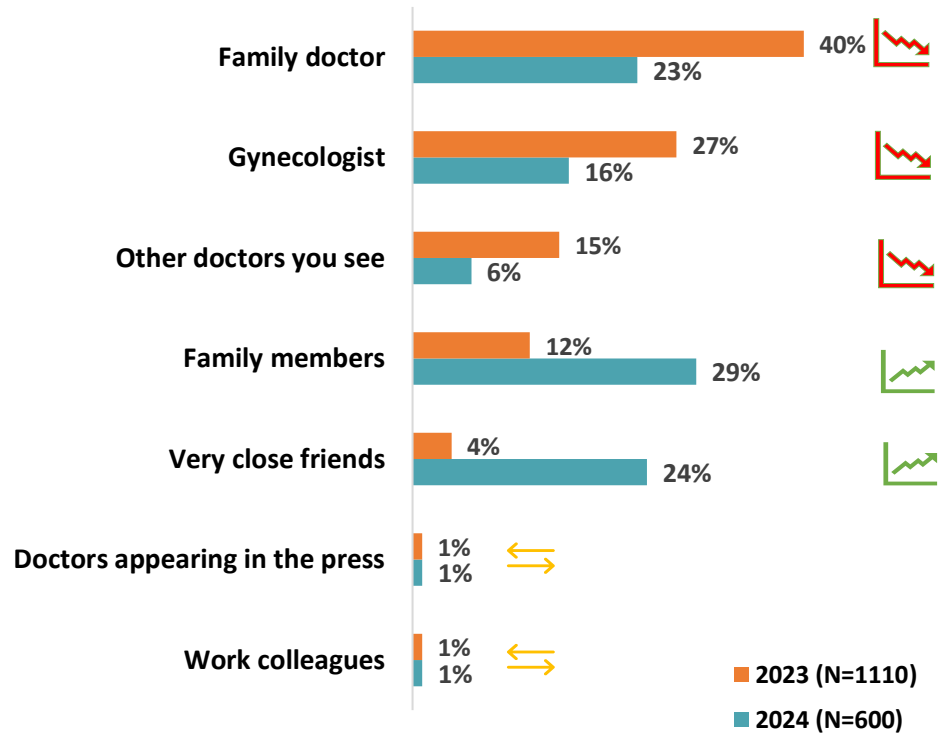
Q26. How much do you trust the medical information you receive from the following sources?

The trusted person to ask for first opinion on HPV vaccination



Q38. Where do you go for your first opinion on HPV vaccination?

Trusted person asked for a second opinion on HPV vaccination

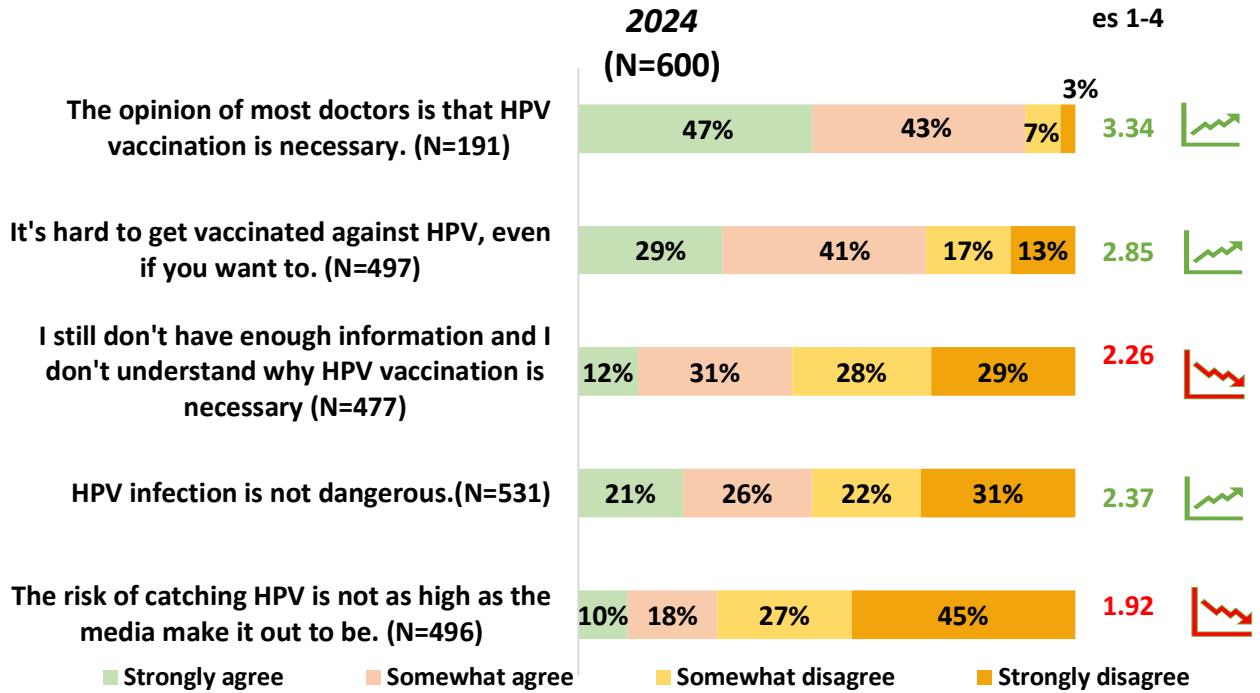


Q39. What about the second opinion on HPV vaccination?

In terms of trusted sources for information in the field of medicine, family doctors (90%) are the top choice for the people of Argeş, followed by gynecologists/urologists (88%). On the other hand, at national level, the most consulted were gynecologists/urologists (92%) and family doctors (86%). In terms of trusted sources consulted regarding HPV vaccination, both in Argeş and at national level, family doctors and gynecologists are mentioned. The second opinion of residents in Argeş is formed after discussions with family (29%) or friends (24%). At national level, family doctors (40%) and gynecologists (27%) are the priority options for second opinions.

Agree with the following statements:

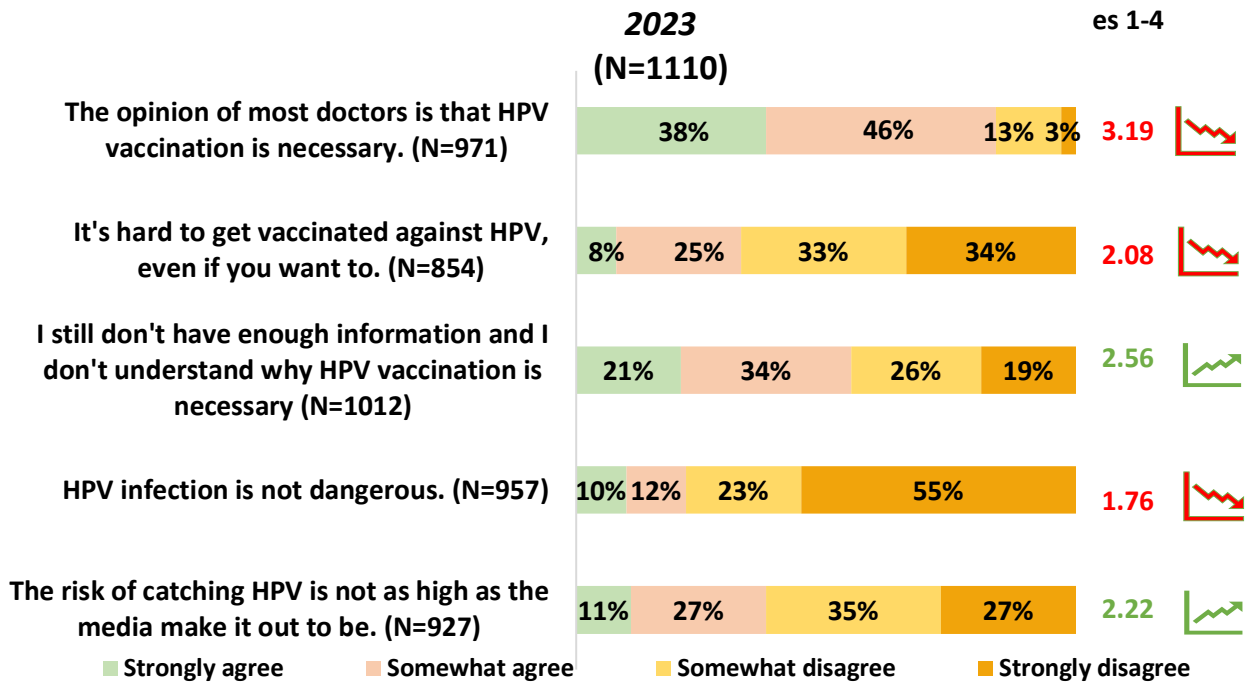
Averages 1-4



Q40. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Agree with the following statements:

Averages 1-4

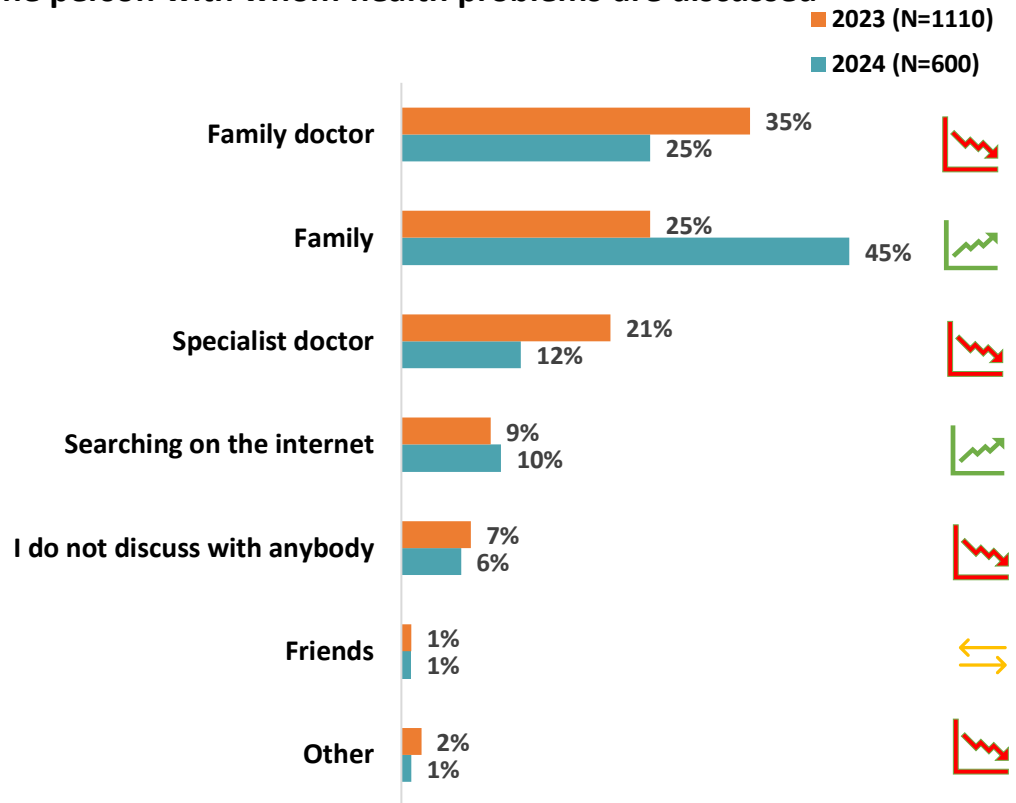


Q40. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

There is a consensus that doctors encourage HPV vaccination both in Argeş County and nationally. In addition, (70%) of the inhabitants of Argeş perceive the vaccine as inaccessible, compared to the national population that perceives it in the same way, but in a proportion of (33%). Almost half of the inhabitants of Argeş (47%) do not consider HPV infection dangerous, compared to (22%) at national level.

KEY ACTORS

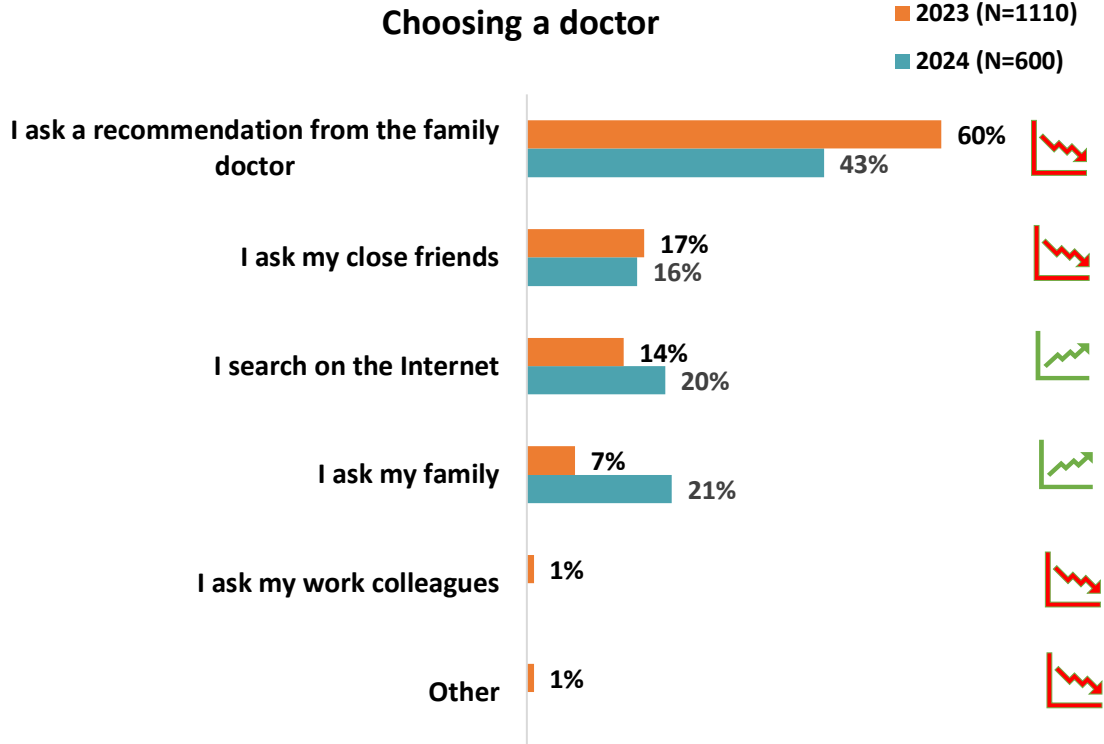
The person with whom health problems are discussed



Q45_REC. With whom do you usually discuss health issues?

About half of the respondents in Argeş County (45%) discuss their health problems with their family, and a quarter (25%) of them prefer their family doctor for such discussions. In the survey conducted at national level in 2023, the same options are mentioned, but the family doctor is preferred (35%) as the main source used to discuss health issues and the family as the second mention (25%).

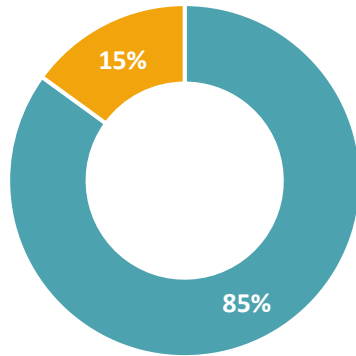
DOCTOR-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP



Q46. If you need a doctor, how do you choose?

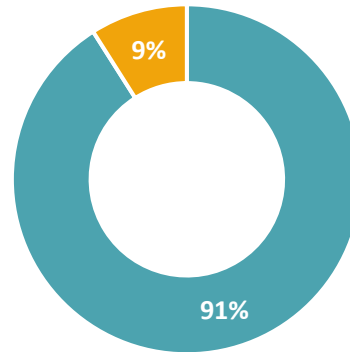
The choice of a specialist doctor is for 43% of the respondents from Argeş based on the recommendation of the family doctor, 21% of them prefer to ask for recommendations from family, and 20% search on the Internet for possible doctors to turn to. Also, in the previous nationwide survey (2023) the recommendation of the family doctor (60%) was most often considered, followed by the advice of friends (17%) or family (7%).

Vaccines in the mandatory scheme 2024 (N=354)



■ Yes ■ No

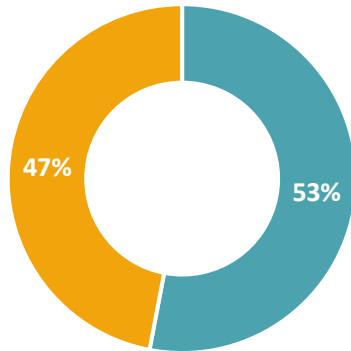
Vaccines in the mandatory scheme 2023 (N=593)



■ Yes ■ No

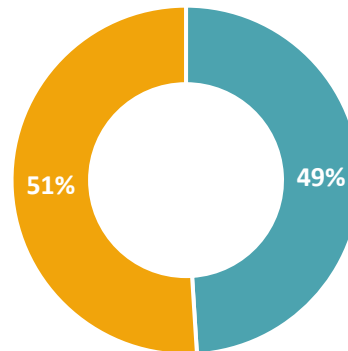
Q47. Have you immunized your child with the vaccines in the mandatory schedule?

Flu vaccine 2024 (N=354)



■ Yes ■ No

Flu vaccine 2023 (N=593)



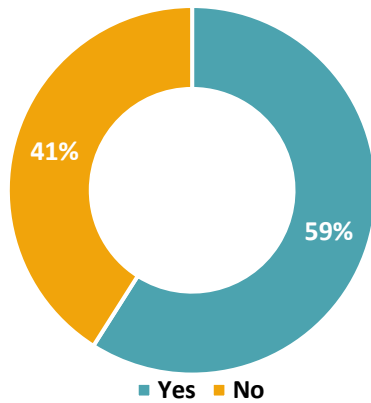
■ Yes ■ No

Q48. Have you immunized your child with the flu vaccine?

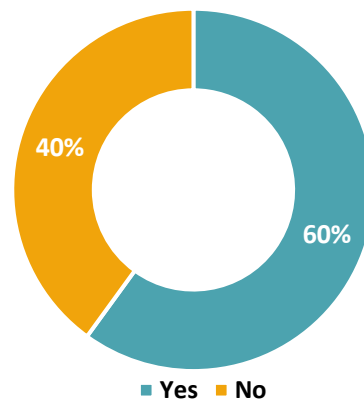
Among those who have children, 9 out of 10 parents have had their child immunized according to the mandatory immunization schedule. When it comes to the flu vaccine, just over half (52%) of Argeşians have had their child vaccinated. Similar figures (49%) were recorded in the national survey.

POSITIONING TOWARDS COVID-19

**Are you vaccinated against COVID-19?
2024 (N=600)**

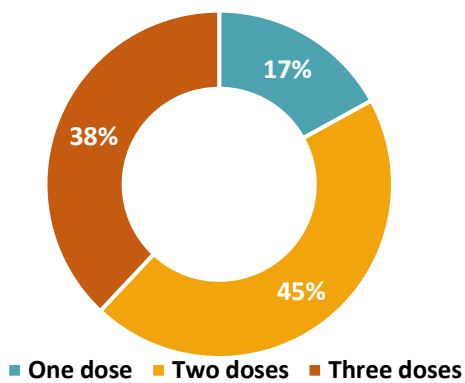


**Are you vaccinated against COVID-19?
2023 (N=1110)**

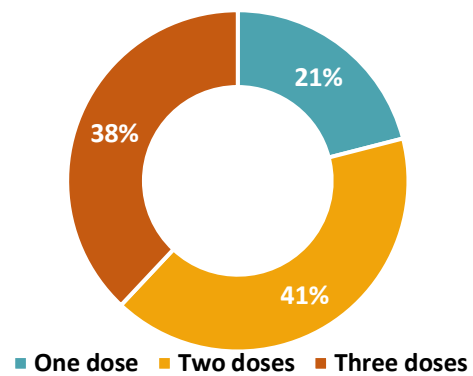


Q49. Are you vaccinated against COVID-19?

**Number of vaccine doses performed against COVID-19
2024 (N=354)**

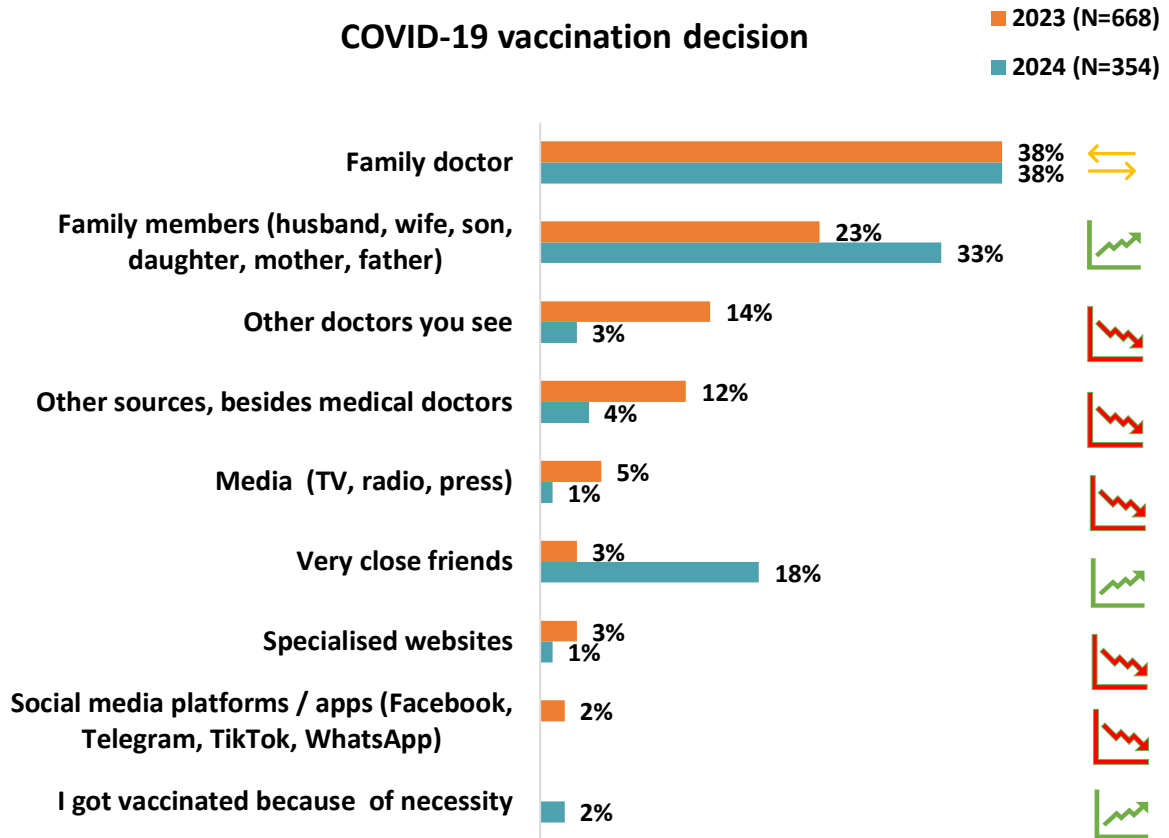


**Number of vaccine doses performed against COVID-19
2023 (N=668)**



Q49a. How many doses?

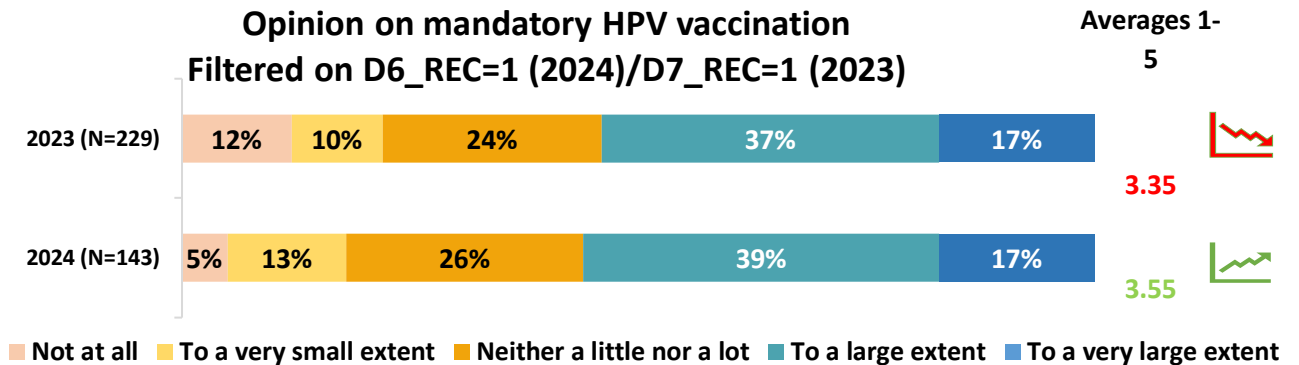
COVID-19 vaccination decision



Q50. Who guided your decision to vaccinate against COVID-19?

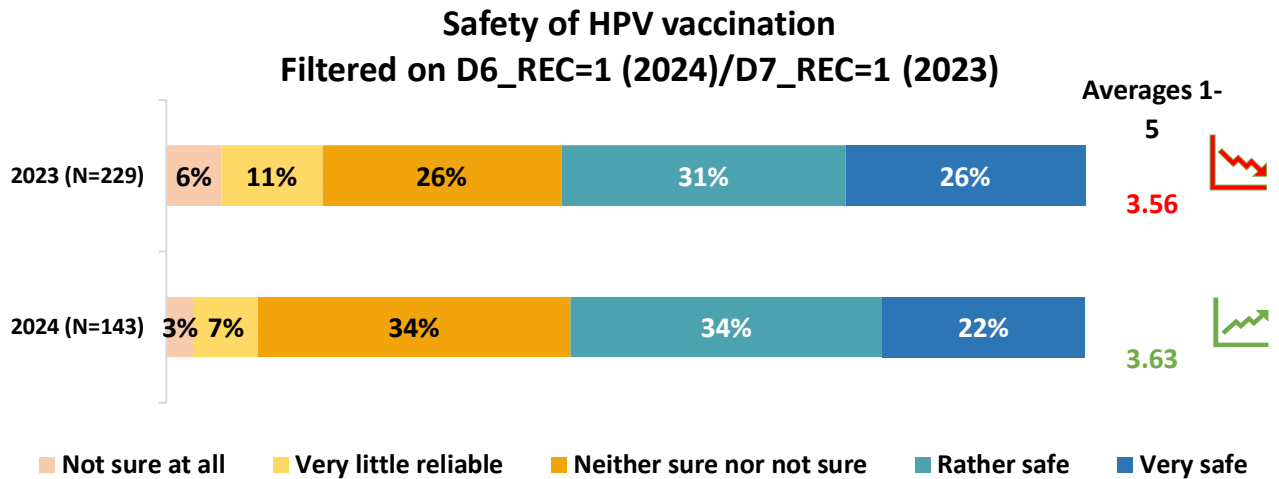
In terms of vaccination against COVID-19, more than half of the people in Argeş (59%) and almost two thirds of the national sample (60%) say they have been vaccinated. Most have used the two-dose regimen, both in Argeş and nationally. Of these (38%) did so on the recommendation of their family doctor.

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS HAVING AT LEAST ONE MINOR CHILD IN CARE



Q16. To what extent do you think HPV vaccination should be mandatory in Romania?

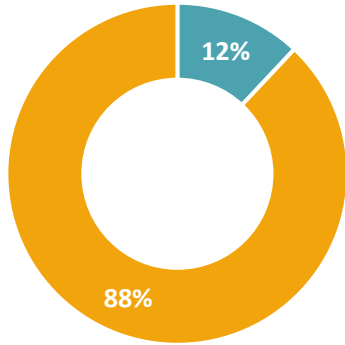
More than half (56%) of parents in Argeş who have at least one minor child in their care think that HPV vaccination should be mandatory in Romania, a slightly higher interest than the previous national survey (54%).



Q17. How safe do you think HPV vaccination is?

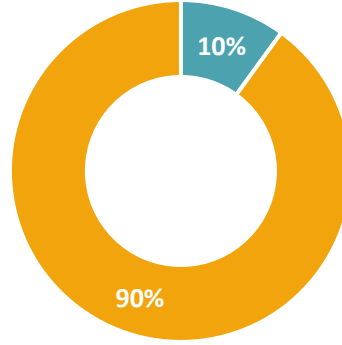
Vaccination against HPV is perceived as safe by more than half of parents in Argeş who have at least one minor child in their care (56%), a similar percentage as in the national survey (57%).

**Vaccinating your child/children against HPV
2024 (N=143)
Filtered by D6_rec**



■ Yes ■ No

**Vaccinating your child/children against HPV
2023 (N=229)
Filtered on D7_REC**

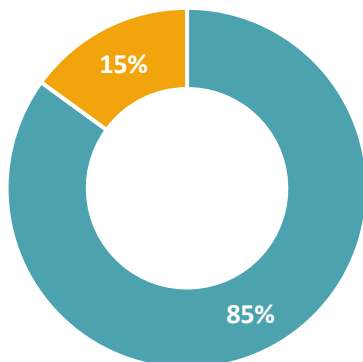


■ Yes ■ No

Q19. Are your child(ren) vaccinated against HPV?

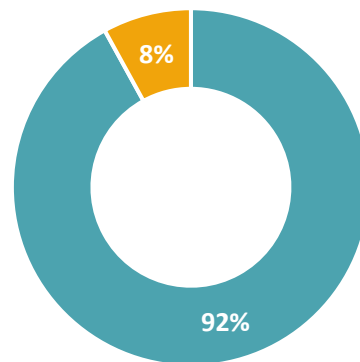
Vaccinating children against HPV is not yet widespread. At the moment, the prevalence is higher in Argeş (12%) than in the national survey (10%).

**Immunization of child/children with the compulsory schedule
2024 (N=173)
Filtered by D6_rec**



■ Yes ■ No

**Immunization of child/children with the compulsory schedule
2023 (N=282)
Filtered on D7_REC**

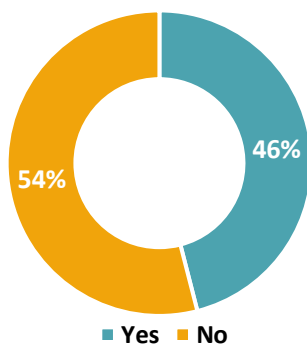


■ Yes ■ No

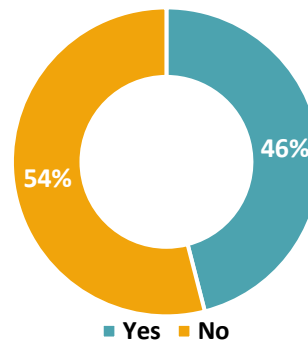
Q47. Have you immunized your child with the vaccines in the mandatory schedule?

On the other hand, at the national level, there is a greater interest in immunizing children with the vaccines in the mandatory schedule (92%), compared to what parents in Argeş County (85%) stated in the survey.

Immunizing your child with the flu vaccine 2024
(N=173)
Filtered by D6_rec



Immunizing your child with the flu vaccine 2023
(N=282)
Filtered on D7_REC

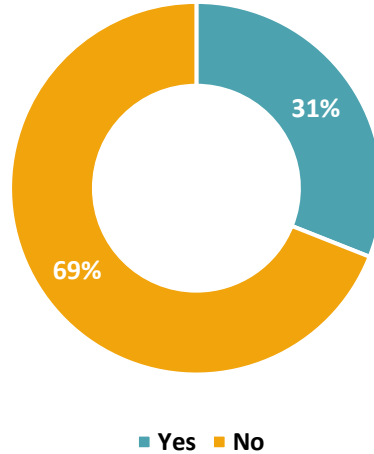


Q48. Have you immunized your child with the flu vaccine?

Almost half of the parents in Argeş, and parents in the national sample who have at least one minor child (46%) have had their child immunized with the flu vaccine.

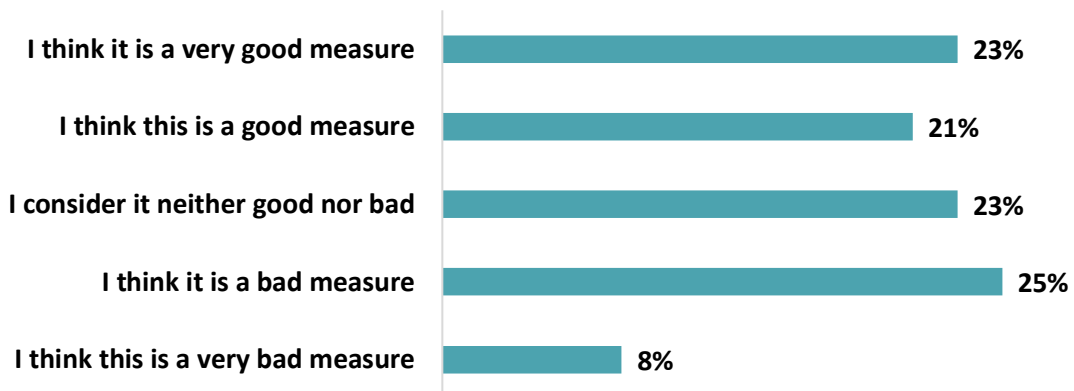
HPV AWARENESS IN 2024 IN ARGEŞ COUNTY

Level of information
(N=600)



N1. "As of December 1, 2023, women aged 19 to 45 can get the HPV vaccine by prescription from their family doctor at a 50% discount." Did you know this information before participating in this survey?

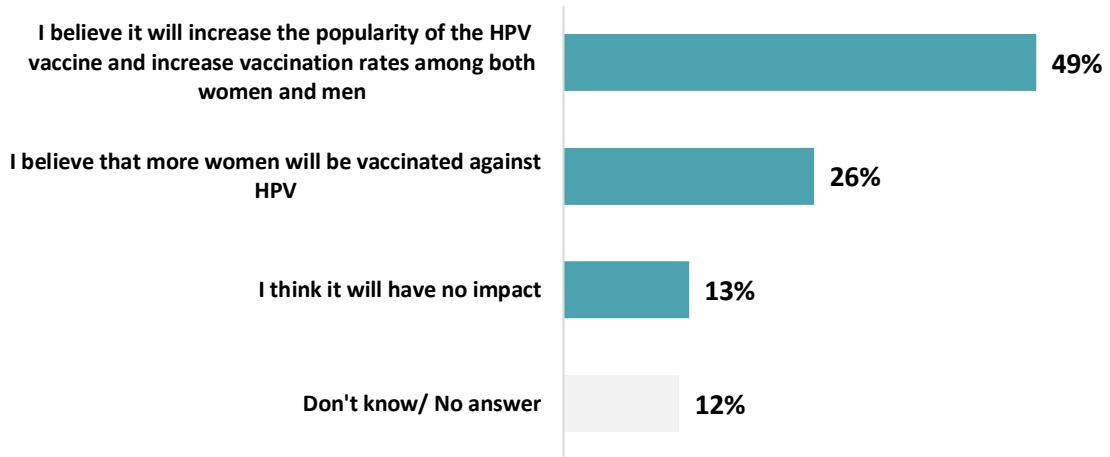
Perceptions on HPV vaccine reduction
N=600



N2. What is your opinion on the 50% reduction in the cost of the HPV vaccine for women aged 19-45?

Almost a third (31%) of people in Argeş say they are informed about the reduction in the HPV vaccine for women. About a quarter (23%) consider this measure to be very good. On the other hand, 8% of the inhabitants of Argeş county consider this measure as very bad.

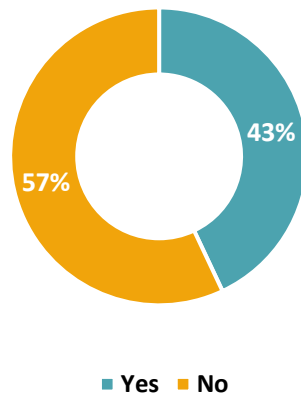
Impact of the HPV vaccine cost reduction (N=600)



N3. What impact do you think the 50% reduction in the cost of the HPV vaccine for women aged 19-45 will have?

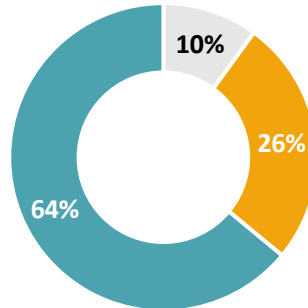
On the other hand, almost half (49%) of people in Argeş believe that applying the reduction would increase vaccination rates among both women and men.

Knowledge about the HPV vaccine (N=600)



N4. Did you know before this survey that the HPV vaccine is also for boys?

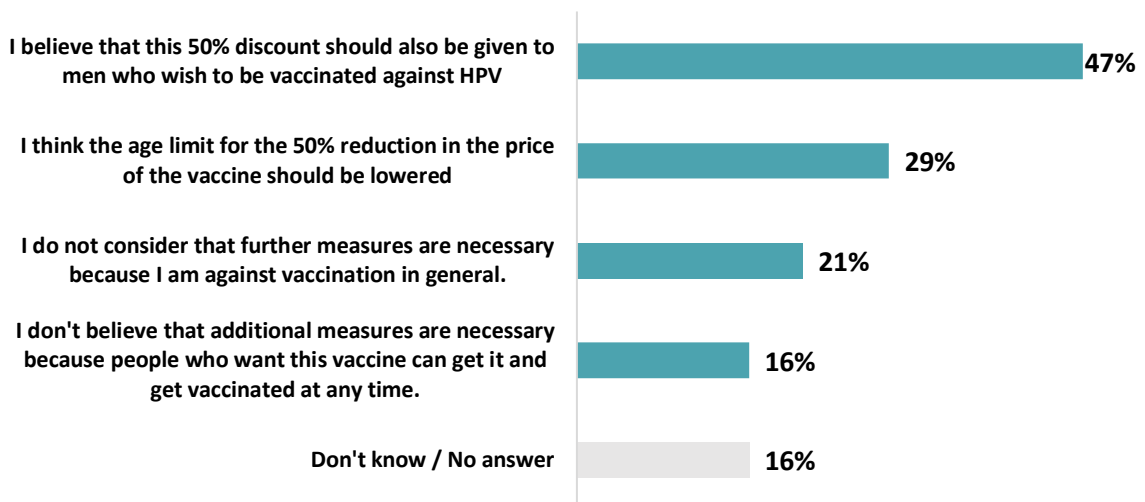
Perception about HPV vaccine compensation (N=600)



- I believe that men should also benefit from the vaccination
- I think this is a good measure
- Don't know/No answer

N5. What do you think about the fact that the HPV vaccine for men over 19 is not compensated and has to be paid for entirely by the patient?

Measures to be implemented (N= 600)



N6. What other measures do you think need to be implemented to increase the incidence of HPV vaccination? (multiple answer)

Of the people from the Argeş county, 43% knew about the fact that the vaccine is also intended for boys. Almost two thirds of them (64%) believe that men should also benefit from the vaccine compensation. Thus, the measure considered the most appropriate by almost half of the respondents (47%) is to give the 50% discount also to men who want to be vaccinated against HPV.

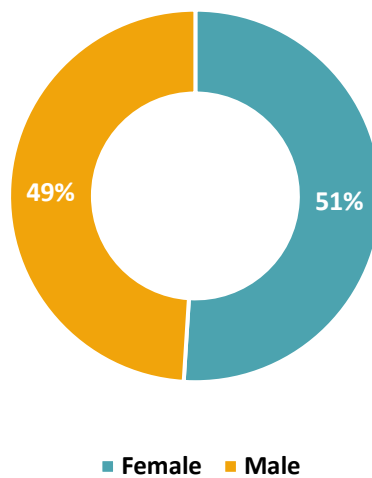
SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC DATA RELATED TO PERSONS PARTICIPATING IN THE SURVEY CONDUCTED IN ARGEŞ COUNTY

**Age groups
(N=600)**



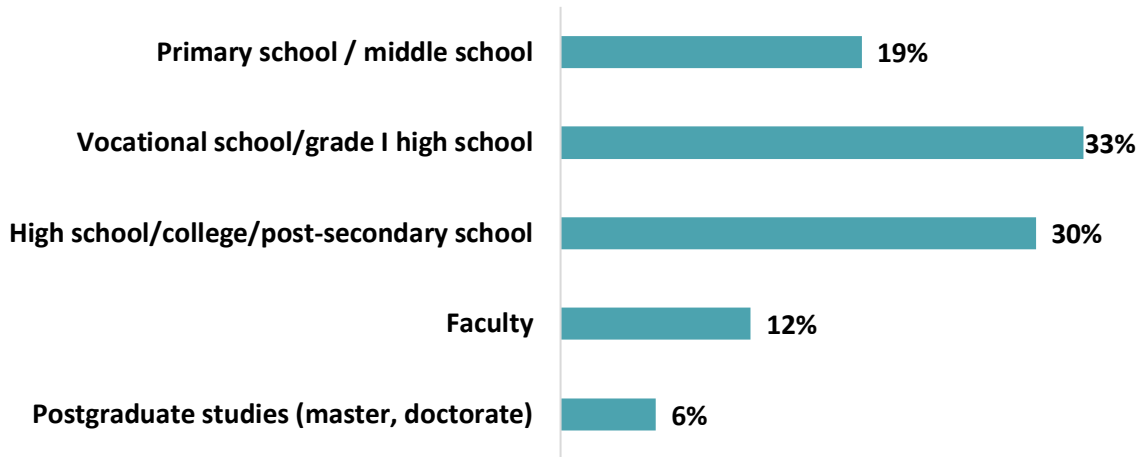
D1. Age groups

**Gender
(N=600)**



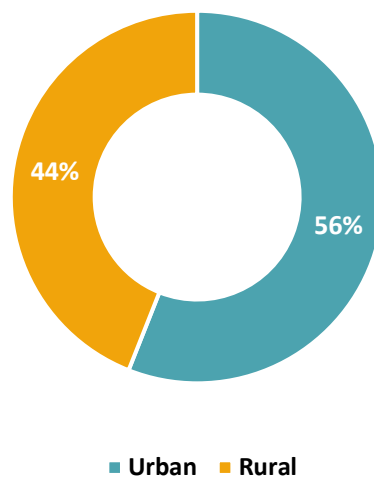
D2. Gender:

**Last education completed
(N=600)**



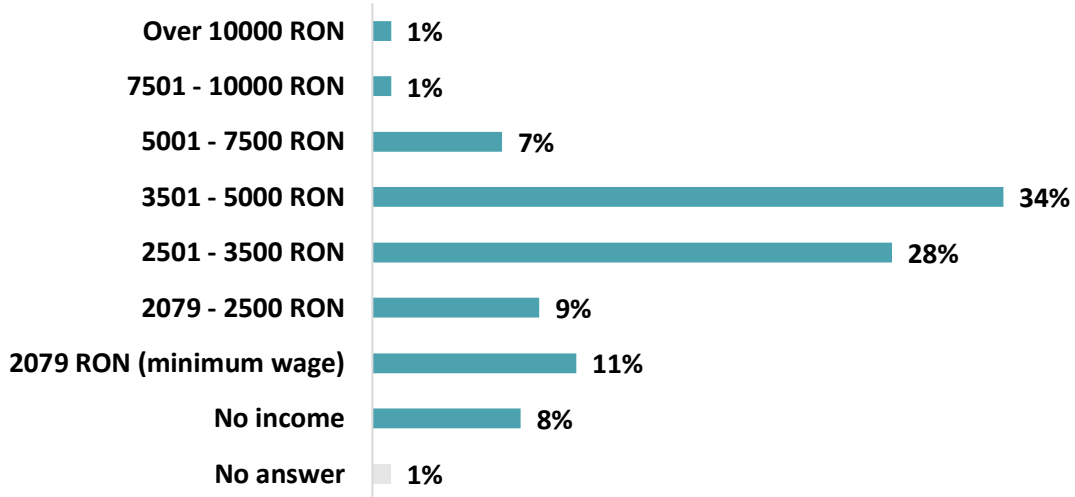
D3. What is the last form of education you completed?

**Residence environment
(N=600)**



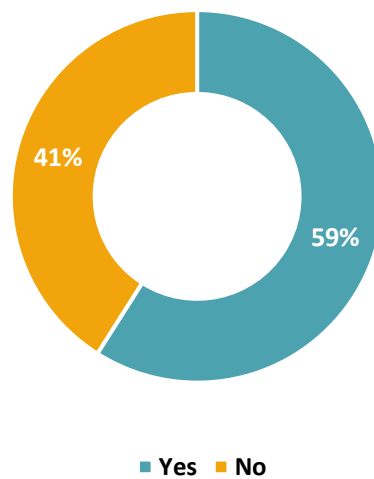
D4. Residence environment:

**Income
(N=600)**



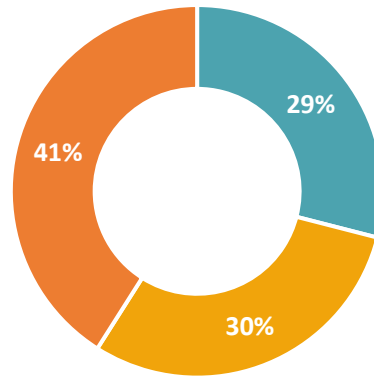
D5. Please indicate your income. NET (cash on hand) from all sources in the last month into one of the following categories:

**Children
(N=600)**



D6. Do you have children?

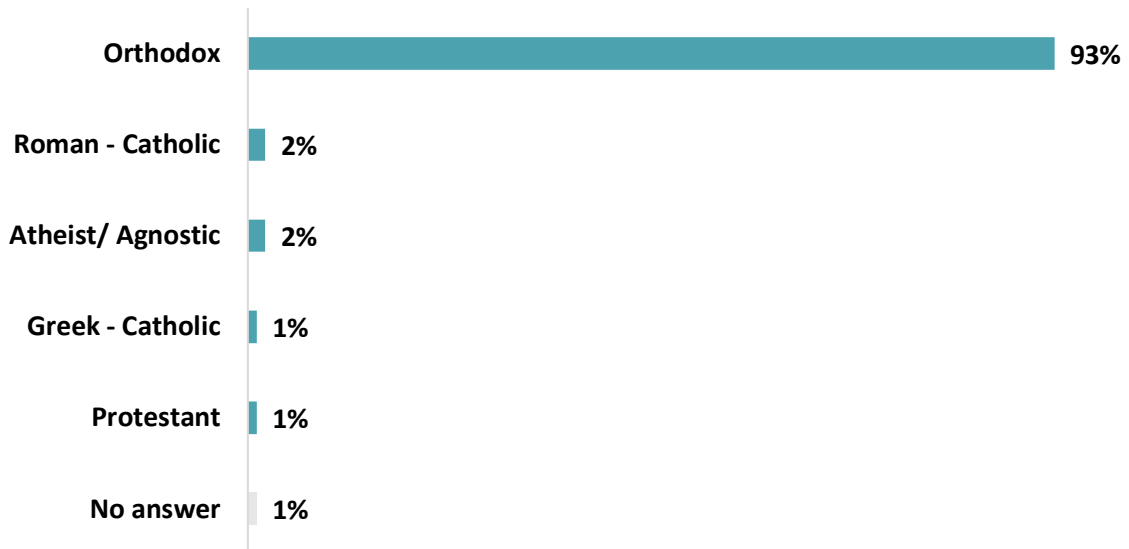
**Frequency of parents
2024 (N=600)**



■ Parents with minor children ■ Parents with adult children ■ No children

D6_REC. Parents with minor children + Parents with adult children

**Religion
(N=600)**



D10. What is your religion?

CONCLUSIONS

CONCLUSIONS. GENERAL ANALYSIS OF THE SURVEY CONDUCTED IN ARGEŞ COUNTY

- The majority of respondents (79%) have heard about HPV infection, and almost 6 in 10 believe that the optimal vaccination interval is between 10 and 15 years. These perceptions are similar to the national survey conducted in November 2023.
- Almost half of respondents (48%) say that they or someone in their family has been diagnosed with cancer. Of those diagnosed with this disease, almost a quarter (23%) suffer from breast cancer in Argeş County and (20%) in the national survey.
- In terms of the types of cancers involved in HPV infection, more than half of the respondents in Argeş County (59%) associate cervical cancer with HPV infection. However, in another question in the survey, most people in Argeş County (57%), believe that HPV vaccination **does not** prevent cervical cancer, double the percentage recorded in the 2023 nationwide survey (27%). This shows that there is a significant proportion of people in Argeş County who do not believe in the effectiveness of HPV vaccination.
- Regarding the HPV vaccine, 52% of respondents in Argeş County say they have not received any recommendations for vaccination, down from 67% in the 2023 national survey. Vaccination recommendations come mainly from the family doctor (19%), with the fewest coming from family members or work colleagues.
- The perception of the need for HPV vaccination was directed towards both girls and boys in this year's survey conducted in Argeş County (53%), in contrast to the national survey in 2023, when the majority opinion was focused exclusively on girls (53%).
- More than half of the inhabitants of Argeş (53%) consider themselves uninformed about HPV infection, which is higher than the percentage recorded in the national survey in 2023 (50%).
- Regarding the safety of HPV vaccine, more than half of the inhabitants of Argeş (55%) support mandatory vaccination, and (57%) consider it safe or very safe, a value similar to the national level.
- The rate of those who are not vaccinated against HPV is high for both respondents from Argeş (91%) and their children (93%).

- The main reasons given by 8 out of 10 people in Argeş for not vaccinating against HPV are the lack of vaccine recommendation or lack of information on how to get the vaccine (6%). The same perceptions were also found at national level.
- Despite this, more than half of respondents (61%) believe that the vaccine should be given especially to girls who start having sex before they come of age.
- The most trusted sources of information on medicine are family doctors (90%) and gynecologists/urologists (88%) for the inhabitants of Argeş, and at the national level are gynecologists/urologists (92%) and family doctors (86%).
- There is a consensus on doctors' encouragement of HPV vaccination both in Argeş and nationally, but (70%) of Argeş citizens consider the vaccine inaccessible, compared to (33%) nationally.
- In terms of discussing health problems, 45% of people from Argeş prefer their family and 25% their family doctor, while at national level the main preference is the family doctor (35%).
- The choice of a specialist doctor is for 43% of the respondents from Argeş based on the recommendation of the family doctor, 21% of them prefer to ask for recommendations from family, and 20% search on the Internet for possible doctors to turn to. Also, in the previous national survey, the recommendation of the family doctor was most often considered (60%), followed by the advice of friends (17%) or family (7%).
- Over 50% of parents in Argeş are in favor of mandatory HPV vaccination (56%) and consider it safe (56%).

CONCLUSIONS. ANALYSIS ON THE SEGMENT OF PERSONS HAVING AT LEAST ONE MINOR CHILD IN CARE

- Almost half of the parents in Argeş, and parents in the national sample who have at least one minor child (46%) have had their child immunized with the flu vaccine.
- More than half (56%) of parents in Argeş who have at least one minor child in their care consider that HPV vaccination should be mandatory in Romania, a similar interest to the national level (57%).
- HPV vaccination is perceived as safe by more than half of parents in Argeş who have at least one minor child in their care (56%), a similar percentage as in the national survey (57%).
- Vaccinating children against HPV is not yet widespread. Currently, 1 in 10 children is vaccinated against HPV.

CONCLUSIONS ON THE LEVEL OF AWARENESS OF THE HPV VACCINE IN 2024 IN ARGEŞ COUNTY

- Almost 7 out of 10 (69%) of the respondents from Argeş do not know that they can get the HPV vaccine on prescription from their family doctor, with a 50% discount (in some cases).
- Almost half of the respondents in Argeş county (44%) think it is a good and very good measure that women aged between 19 and 45 years should be given a 50% discount on the cost of the HPV vaccine.
- Almost half of the sample of the survey conducted in Argeş county (49%) believe that the popularity of the HPV vaccine will increase the vaccination rate among women as well as men.
- Slightly more than half (57%) of the inhabitants of Argeş county are unaware that the HPV vaccine is also recommended for men.
- The majority of people from Argeş (64%) believe that boys over 19 should also benefit from HPV vaccine compensation.
- Almost half (47%) of the total sample of the survey conducted in Argeş county believe that this 50% discount should also be given to men who want to be vaccinated against HPV.

Questionnaire HPV vaccination survey

County level survey (Argeş)

Hello! We are currently conducting a survey on Romanians' awareness of HPV. Please be so kind to answer the following questions, assuring that we will keep your answers confidential. The questionnaire takes about 10 minutes. The data will be analyzed strictly statistically. Your answers are anonymous and will not be associated with your identity. Thank you!

Disclaimer:

Cult Market Research, the company carrying out this survey, has implemented all the provisions in force regarding the processing of personal data (GDPR). Our contact details are available on our website: cultresearch.ro.

SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONS

D1. Your age in years: (numerical answer)

D2. Gender:

1. Female
2. Male

D3. What is the last form of education you completed? (simple answer)

1. Primary school / middle school
2. Vocational school/grade I high school
3. High school/college/post-secondary school
4. Faculty
5. Postgraduate studies (master, doctorate)
99. I do not wish to declare

D4. Residence environment:

1. Urban
2. Rural

D4a. County where you live:

1. Argeş
2. Vrancea

D5. Please classify your income. NET (cash on hand) from all sources in the last month into one of the following categories:

1. No income
2. 2079 RON (minimum wage)
3. 2079 - 2500 RON
4. 2501 - 3500 RON
5. 3501 - 5000 RON
6. 5001 - 7500 RON
7. 7501 - 10000 RON
8. Over 10000 RON
99. No answer

D6. Do you have children?

1. Yes
2. No

Q6.a. How many children do you have? (open - numerical)

D7. (If 1 to D6) How old is/are your child/children?

Child 1	...
Child 2	...
Child 3	...
Child 4	...
Child 5	...
Child 6	...

D8. Gender of child/children:

	Female	Male
Child 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
Child 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2

Child 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
Child 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
Child 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
Child 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2

D9. School grade of child/children:

Child 1	Kindergarten or younger	Grade 0	Grade I	Grade II	Grade III	Grade XII
Child 2			...				
Child 3			...				
Child 4			...				
Child 5			...				
Child 6			...				

D10. What is your religion?

1. Orthodox
2. Greek-Catholic
3. Roman Catholic
4. Protestant
5. Neoprottestant
6. Atheist / agnostic
7. Another religion. What religion?
99. No answer

HPV INFECTION

[11] #HPV: Have you heard of HPV - human papilloma virus?

1. Yes
2. No - go to 23

If she/he hasn't heard, she/he no longer gets the HPV question set, but continues with the generic questions.

[12] #HPV: What do you think is the right age for HPV vaccination? (open answer) [Exact minimum age. No range]

[13] #HPV: Has anyone ever recommended HPV vaccination?

1. No, I have not received the HPV vaccination recommendation
2. Family doctor
3. One of your close friends
4. A family member
5. A coworker
6. Someone else. Who else?

[14] To the best of your knowledge, who is the HPV vaccination for?

1. Girls only
2. Boys only
3. Both girls and boys alike

[15] How informed do you think you are about HPV infection?

1. Not at all informed
2. Very little informed
3. Neither informed nor uninformed
4. Rather informed
5. Very knowledgeable

[16] #HPV: To what extent do you think that HPV vaccination should become mandatory in Romania for both women/girls and men/boys?

1. Not at all
2. To a very small extent
3. Neither a little nor a lot
4. To a large extent
5. To a very large extent

[17] #HPV: How safe do you think HPV vaccination is?

1. Not sure at all
2. Very little reliable
3. Neither sure nor not sure
4. Rather safe
5. Very safe

[18] #HPV: Are you vaccinated against HPV?

1. Yes
2. No

[19] #HPV: Is your child(ren) vaccinated against HPV?

1. Yes
2. No

[20] #HPV: At what age were your children vaccinated against HPV?

	Child's age	Gender of the child
Child 1	...	
Child 2	...	
Child 3	...	
Child 4	...	
Child 5	...	
Child 6	...	

[21] #HPV: What is the main reason why you haven't been vaccinated against HPV? (*for those who are not vaccinated*)

1. I don't know how to get the vaccine
2. Vaccines are dangerous for your health
3. I don't have the money to buy the vaccine
4. This vaccine was not recommended
5. Another reason. What reason?

[22] #HPV: Do you think that HPV vaccination should be given mainly to girls who start their sexual life before they come of age?

1. From
2. No

[23] #HPV: Do you think that HPV vaccination should be given mainly to boys who start their sexual life before they come of age?

1. From
2. No

[N1] #HPV vaccine reduced by 50%: "From December 1, 2023, women aged 19-45 can get the HPV vaccine by prescription from their GP at a 50% discount. " Did you know this information before participating in this survey?

1. Yes
2. No

[N2] #HPV vaccine reduced by 50%: What is your opinion on the 50% reduction given to women aged 19-45 years on the cost of the HPV vaccine?

1. I think this is a very bad measure
2. I think it is a bad measure
3. I consider it neither good nor bad
4. I think this is a good measure
5. I think it is a very good measure

[N3] #HPV vaccine reduced by 50%: What impact do you think the 50% reduction in the cost of the HPV vaccine for women aged 19-45 will have?

1. I think it will have no impact
2. I believe that more women will be vaccinated against HPV
3. I believe it will increase the popularity of the HPV vaccine and increase vaccination rates among both women and men
99. Don't know/ No answer

[N4] #HPV vaccine reduced by 50%: Did you know before this poll that the HPV vaccine is also for boys?

1. Yes
2. No

[N5] #HPV vaccine reduced by 50%: What do you think about the fact that the HPV vaccine for men over 19 is not compensated and that it has to be paid for entirely by the patient?

1. I believe that men should also benefit from the vaccination
2. I think this is a good measure
99. Don't know/No answer

[N6] #HPV vaccine reduced by 50%: What other measures do you think need to be implemented to increase the incidence of HPV vaccination? (multiple response)

1. I do not consider that further measures are necessary because I am against vaccination in general.
2. I don't believe that additional measures are necessary because people who want this vaccine can get it and get vaccinated at any time.
3. I think the age limit for the 50% reduction in the price of the vaccine should be lowered
4. I believe that this 50% discount should also be given to men who wish to be vaccinated against HPV

99. Don't know / No answer

HPV AND CANCER

[23] #CANCER: Have you or anyone in your family been diagnosed with cancer?

1. Yes
2. No

Q23A. (If 23=1) If yes, who has been diagnosed with cancer? (multiple answer)

1. Mother
2. Father
3. Grandfather
4. Grandmother
5. Brother/sister
6. Uncle / aunt
7. Cousin
8. Another relative. Which one?

Q23B. (If 23=1) What type of cancer? (open question)

[24] #CANCER HPV infection is involved in which types of cancer? (multiple choice)

1. Cervical cancer
2. Head and neck cancer
3. Anal cancer
4. Penile cancer
5. None
6. Another type of cancer. What kind?

[25] To your knowledge, does HPV vaccination prevent cervical cancer?

1. Yes
2. No

POSITION ON INFORMATION SOURCES

[26] How much trust you have in the medical information you receive, on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "not at all" and 5 means "very much trust":

		Very much	Lots	A little	Not at all	Not the case	NS / NR
[26]	Very close friends	5	4	2	1	98	99
[27]	Work colleagues	5	4	2	1	98	99
[28]	Family members (husband, wife, son, daughter, mother, father)	5	4	2	1	98	99
[29]	Family doctor	5	4	2	1	98	99
[30]	Gynecologist (If D2=1)	5	4	2	1	98	99
[31]	Other doctors you see	5	4	2	1	98	99
[32]	Priests	5	4	2	1	98	99
[33]	Doctors appearing in the press	5	4	2	1	98	99
[34]	Media (TV, radio, press, ...)	5	4	2	1	98	99
[35]	Social media platforms/apps (Facebook, Telegram, TikTok, WhatsApp)	5	4	2	1	98	99
[35a]	Specialized websites	5	4	2	1	98	99
[36]	Head teacher(s) of the child(ren)	5	4	2	1	98	99
[37]	Other parents	5	4	2	1	98	99

[38] #Info: Who do you turn to for your first opinion on HPV vaccination?

1. Family members (husband, wife, son, daughter, mother, father)
2. Very close friends
3. Work colleagues
4. Family doctor
5. Gynecologist
6. Other doctors you see
7. Priests
8. Doctors appearing in the press
9. Head teacher(s) of the child(ren)
10. Other parents

[39] What about the second opinion on HPV vaccination?

1. Family members (husband, wife, son, daughter, mother, father)
2. Very close friends

3. Work colleagues
4. Family doctor
5. Gynecologist
6. Other doctors you see
7. Priests
8. Doctors appearing in the press
9. Head teacher(s) of the child(ren)
10. Other parents

Q40. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements, on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is Strongly Disagree and 5 is Strongly Agree? (RANDOM)

		Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	NS / NR
[40]	The risk of catching HPV is not as high as the media make it out to be.	5	4	2	1	99
[41]	HPV infection is not dangerous.	5	4	2	1	99
[42]	I still don't have enough information and I don't understand why HPV vaccination is necessary	5	4	2	1	99
[43]	It's hard to get vaccinated against HPV, even if you want to.	5	4	2	1	99
[44]	The opinion of most doctors is that HPV vaccination is necessary.	5	4	2	1	99

KEY ACTORS

Q45. With whom do you usually discuss issues related to your health? (open question)

DOCTOR-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP

Q46. If you need a doctor, how do you choose?

1. I ask the family
2. I ask close friends

3. Ask your family doctor for a recommendation
4. I ask coworkers
5. Search the internet
6. Another method. What other way?

Q47. Have you immunized your child with the vaccines in the mandatory schedule?

1. From
2. No

Q48. Have you immunized your child with the flu vaccine?

1. From
2. No

POSITIONING TOWARDS COVID-19

Q49. Are you vaccinated against COVID-19?

1. Yes
2. No

Q49a (If Q49=1) If yes, how many doses?

1. A dose
2. Two doses
3. Three doses

Q50. (If Q49=1) Who guided your decision to vaccinate against COVID-19?

1. Very close friends
2. Family members (husband, wife, son, daughter, mother, father)
3. Family doctor
4. Other doctors you see
5. Priests
6. Media (TV, radio, press ...)
7. Social media platforms/apps (Facebook, Telegram, TikTok, WhatsApp)
8. Specialized websites
9. Sources other than medical professionals _____
10. Someone else. Who? _____

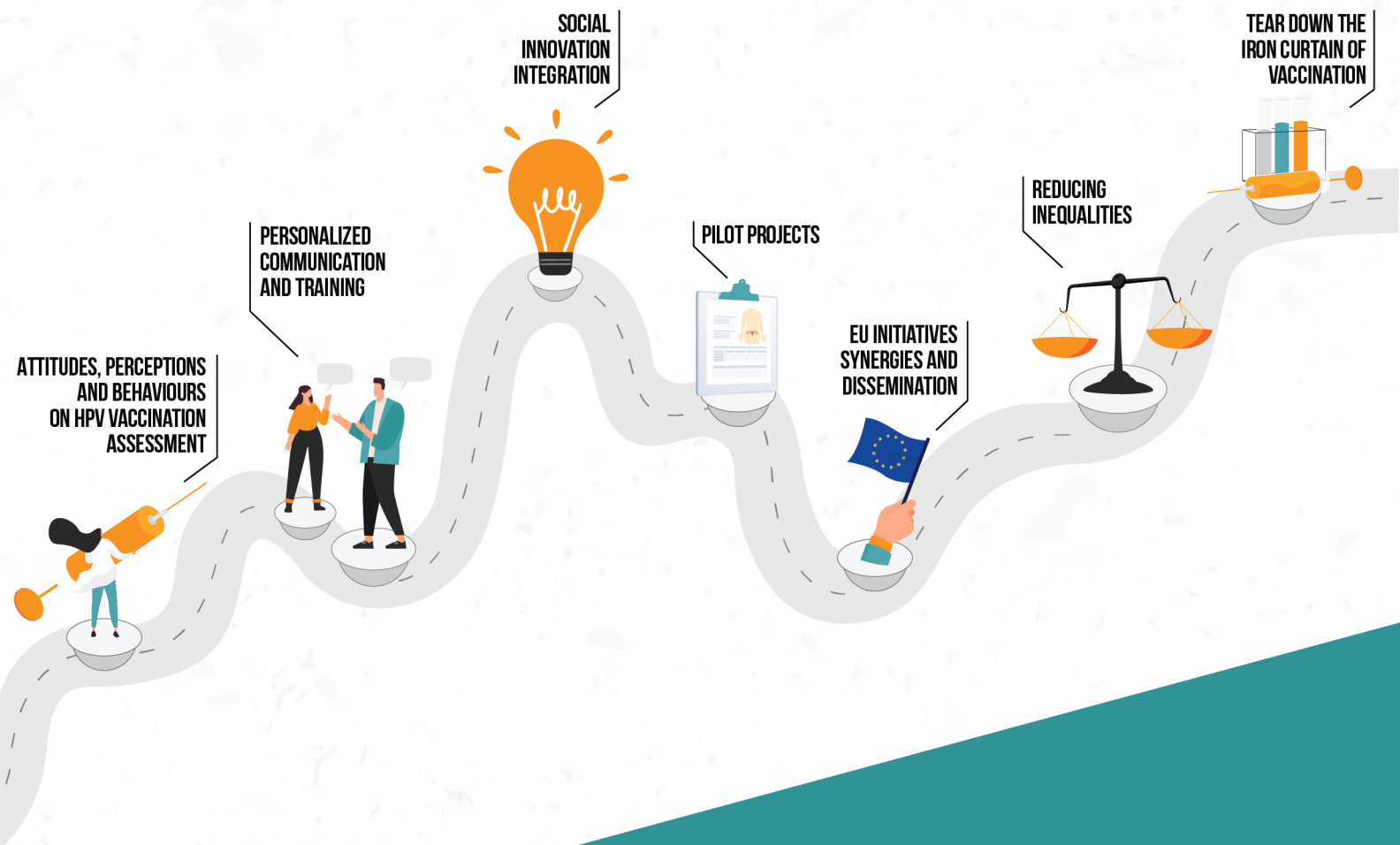
Thank you for your time and have a nice day!

Rethink and Reduce inequalities in HPV vaccination through personalized communication and training, based on social innovation and behavioural determinants of health



BEHAVIOR, ATTITUDES AND PERCEPTIONS REGARDING HPV VACCINATION IN ROMANIA AT NATIONAL LEVEL (2023) VS. VRANCEA COUNTY (2024)

NOVEMBER 2023 - APRIL 2024



Project number: 101080000

Project name: Rethink and Reduce inequalities in HPV vaccination through personalized communication and training, based on social innovation and behavioural determinants of health

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Statement of originality *This deliverable contains original unpublished work except where clearly indicated otherwise. Acknowledgment of previously published material and of the work of others has been made through appropriate citation, quotation or both.*

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Deliverable D5.2 is a report on attitudes, perceptions, and behaviours towards HPV vaccination (D5.2 Behavior, attitudes, and perceptions towards HPV vaccination in Argeş County) and will inform deliverables D5.1 and D5.3.

Representing the collaboration of RF and EUROCC partners, it is the latest study assessing Behavior, Attitudes and Perception regarding HPV vaccination in Argeş County, providing a comparative perspective between the county and national situation surveyed in November 2023.

METHODOLOGY

This sociological study was carried out within the project "Rethink and Reduce inequalities in HPV vaccination through personalized communication & training, based on social innovation and behavioural determinants of health (ReThinkHPVaccination)", a project implemented by the "Renaşterea" Foundation, in partnership with the Center for Innovation in Medicine and Eurocommunication Association.

The present study is a quantitative one, carried out by means of a questionnaire-based sociological survey. The questionnaire was administered online through CAWI (Computer Assisted Web Interviewing) data collection method.

The research objectives were:

- O1. To assess the level of knowledge about HPV infection and HPV vaccination (how study participants self-assess themselves) among the population of Vrancea County;
- O2. To assess the perceptions and opinions on the relationship between HPV infection and cancer of the population of Vrancea County;
- O3. To identify the position of the Vrancea county's inhabitants in relation to the sources of information on medical topics;
- O4. To identify the specifics of the doctor-patient relationship for the inhabitants of Vrancea County;

The questionnaire followed the following themes of interest:

- Information on HPV infection
- Respondents' level of HPV vaccination
- Opinions on the safety of the HPV vaccine
- Immunizing children against HPV
- Link between HPV and cancers
- Position on health information sources
- Key actors in the vaccination decision-making process
- Doctor-patient relationship
- Positioning towards Covid - 19
- Perception of giving women aged 19-45 a 50% deduction on the cost of the HPV vaccine.

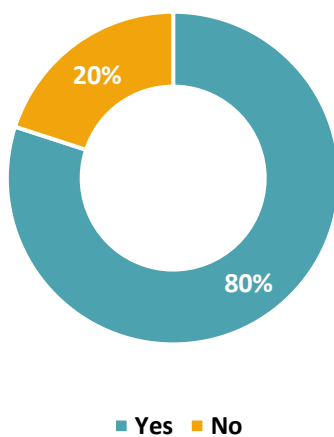
The sample consisted of 600 respondents from the national adult population (18 years and over) in Vrancea County, with a margin of error of $\pm 3.92\%$.

This report contains comparisons between the results of the present Vrancea County-wide survey and the previous survey conducted in November 2023 at the national level on a sample of 1110 people. This comparison helps to form a bigger picture and better understand the differences in opinion about the HPV vaccine among people in Vrancea County versus the overall opinion resulting from the previous nationwide survey.

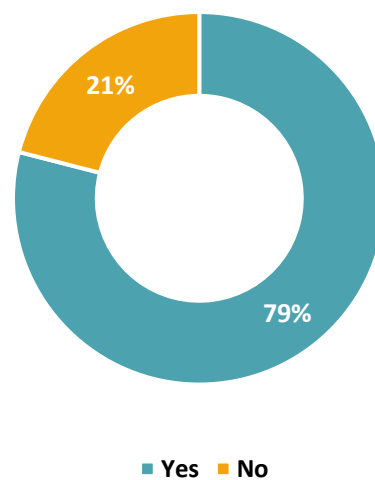
RESULTS

HPV INFECTION

HPV infection prevalence in 2024 in Vrancea county (N=600)

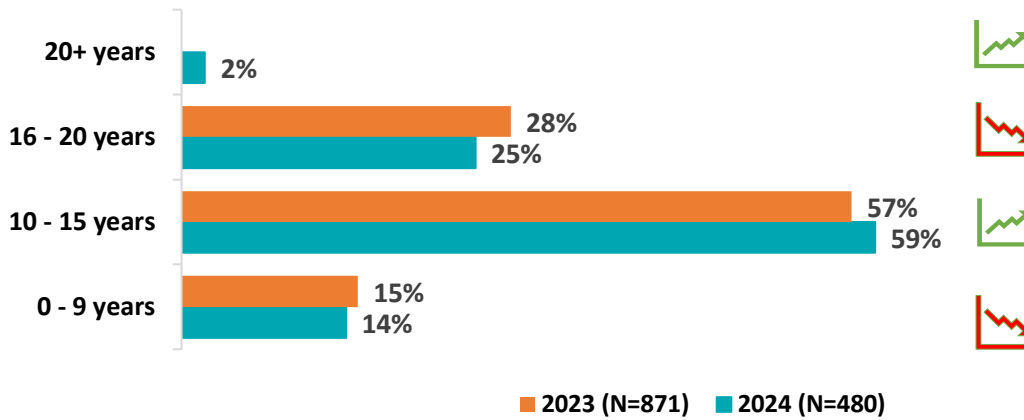


HPV infection awareness in 2023 in Romania (N=1110)



Q11. Have you heard of HPV - human papilloma virus?

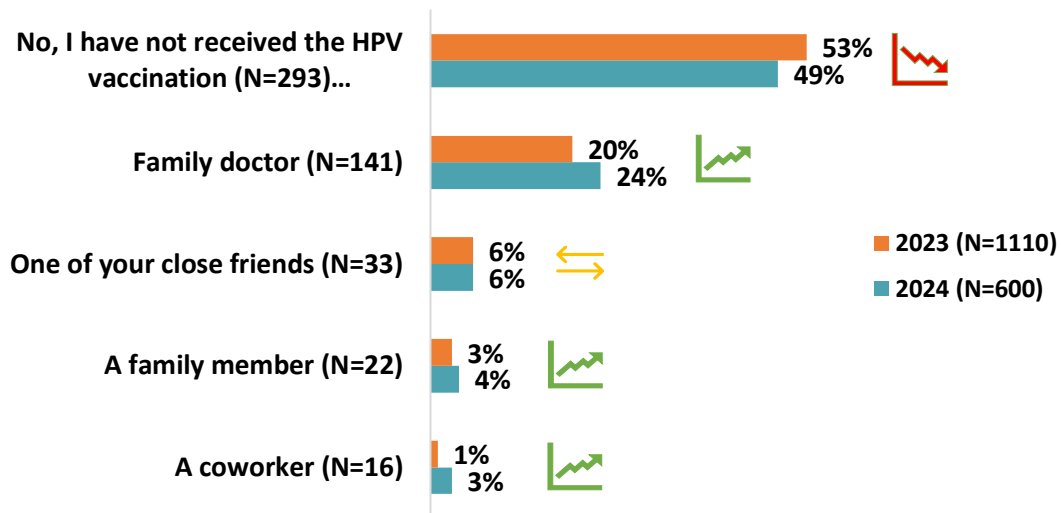
Opinion on the minimum age for HPV vaccination



Q12. What do you think is the right age for HPV vaccination?

More than three quarters of people participating in the study (80%) have heard about HPV infection. Of these, almost 6 in 10 believe that the optimal age range for vaccination is 10-15 years. Fewer respondents believe that vaccination is optimal after age 20 (2%).

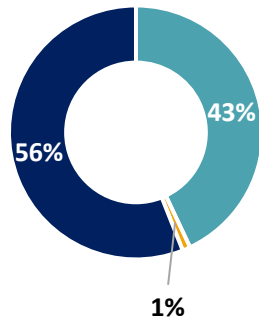
Person who recommended the HPV vaccination



Q13. Has anyone ever recommended HPV vaccination? (multiple answer)

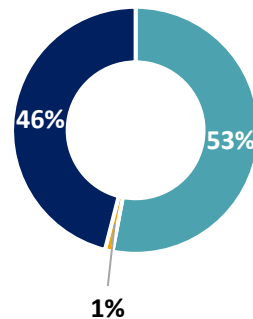
Regarding the HPV vaccine, 49% of respondents said that they had not received any vaccination recommendations. Almost a quarter of the inhabitants of Vrancea county (24%) have received recommendations from their family doctor regarding HPV vaccination. The fewest recommendations on this topic are those received from a family member (4%) and from a coworker (3%).

**Who respondents think is targeted for HPV vaccination
2024 (N=600)**



- Girls only
- Boys only
- Both girls and boys alike

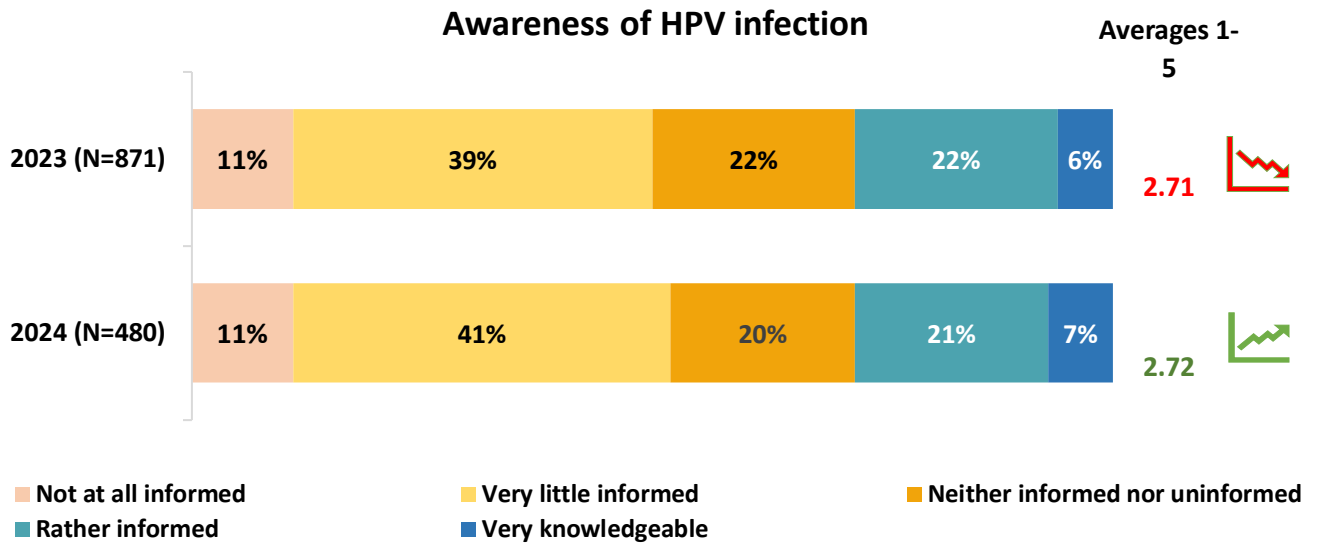
**Who respondents think is targeted for HPV vaccination
2023 (N=871)**



- Girls only
- Boys only
- Both girls and boys alike

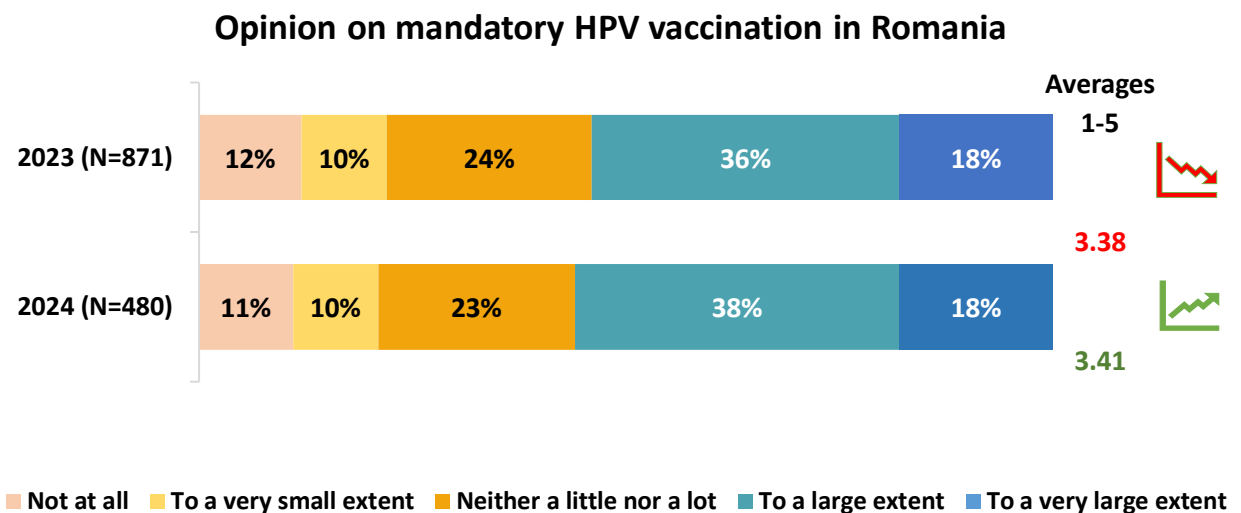
Q14. To the best of your knowledge, to whom is HPV vaccination targeted?

56% of survey participants in Vrancea County think that the HPV vaccine is equally aimed at both girls and boys, and 43% of them believe that it is only for girls. Only 1% of those surveyed believe that the HPV vaccine is mainly aimed at boys.



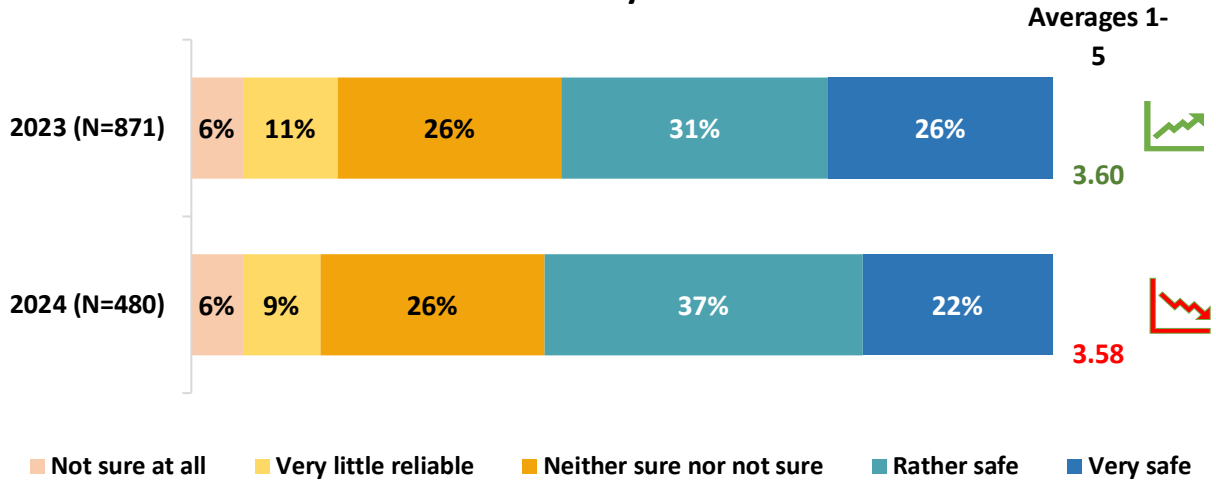
Q15. How informed do you feel you are about HPV infection?

More than half of Romanians in general, as well as of the inhabitants of Vrancea county (52%) consider themselves to be very little or not at all informed about HPV infection, 21% consider themselves rather informed, and 7% consider themselves very informed about this issue.



Q16. To what extent do you think HPV vaccination should be mandatory in Romania?

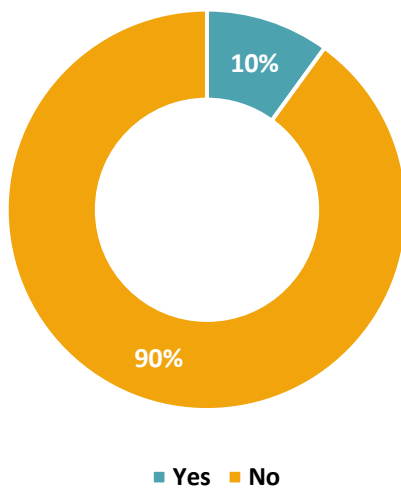
Confidence in the safety of HPV vaccination



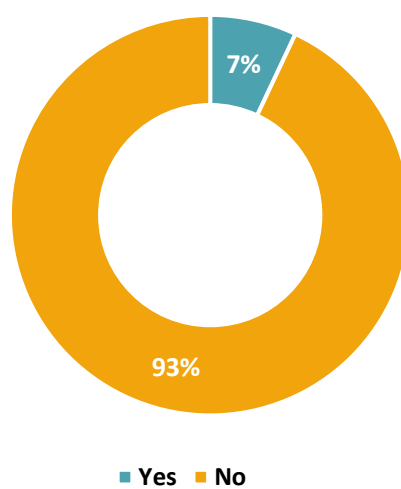
Q17. How safe do you think HPV vaccination is?

Vaccination against HPV is considered rather safe or very safe by 59% of respondents in Vrancea. Only 6% of those who have heard about HPV infection consider HPV vaccination not at all safe. Concerning the mandatory introduction of vaccination, 56% of respondents in Vrancea strongly or very strongly support that the HPV vaccine should be made mandatory.

HPV vaccination rates
2024 (N=600)



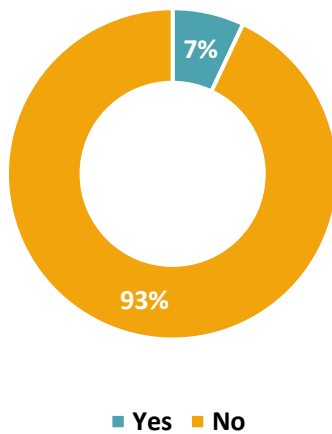
HPV vaccination rates
2023 (N=871)



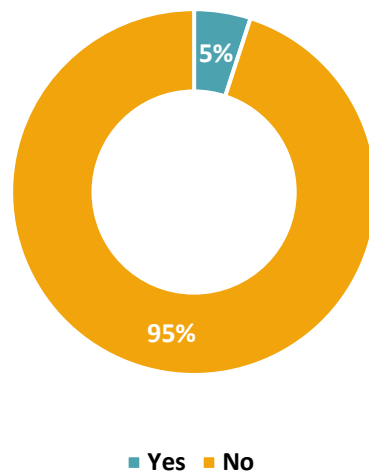
Q18. Are you vaccinated against HPV?

Compared to the study conducted in 2023 at the national level, in this year's (2024) Vrancea County survey, the number of self-reported HPV vaccinated individuals in Vrancea County is 3 percent higher. A possible explanation could be the change in the legislation, which provides, starting December 1, 2023, free of charge when purchasing the vaccine for children (girls and boys aged 11-19 years) and 50 percent compensation for women aged 19-45 years.

Rate of children immunized against HPV 2024 (N=405)



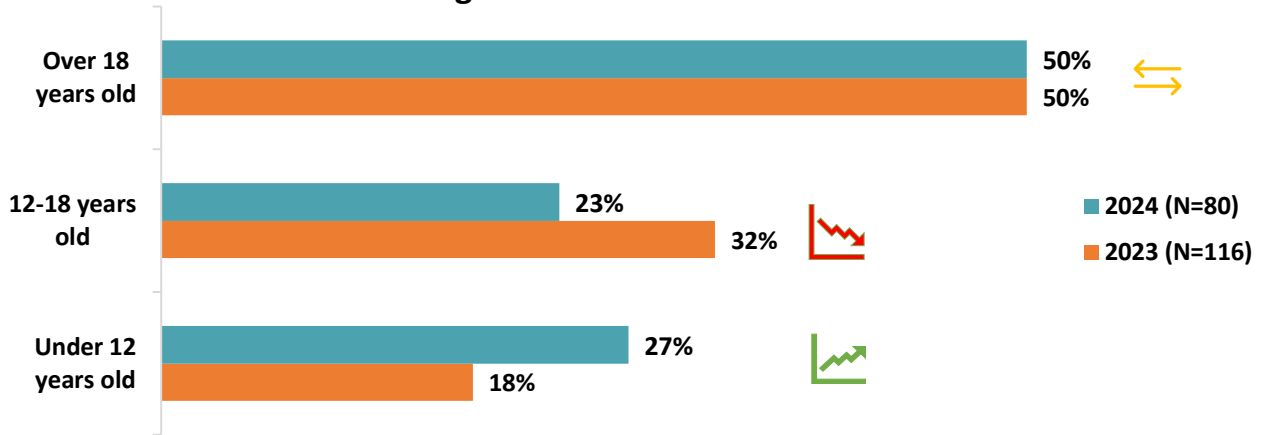
Rate of children immunized against HPV 2023 (N=871)



Q19. Are your child(ren) vaccinated against HPV?

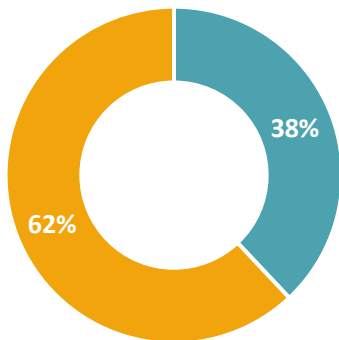
Regarding the rate of vaccination against HPV, both respondents from Vrancea county (90%) and their children (93%) are not vaccinated against this virus.

Age of vaccinated children



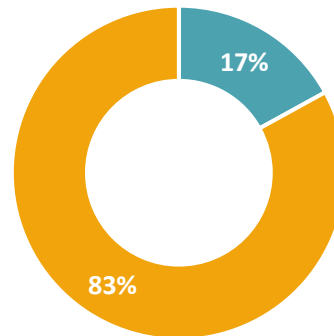
Q20_1_1_1_REC+ Q20_2_1_1_REC. At what age were your children vaccinated against HPV?

Gender of children vaccinated against HPV 2024 (N=42)



■ Male ■ Female

Gender of children vaccinated against HPV 2023 (N=63)

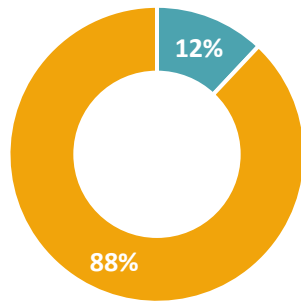


■ Male ■ Female

Q20a. Gender of vaccinated children:

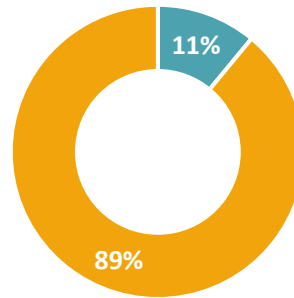
Mention: Some of the Vrancea county residents who declared that they have vaccinated their children against HPV confuse this vaccine with other vaccines in the mandatory schedule. This observation resulted from the analysis of the ages at which they reported having had their children vaccinated against HPV.

Proportion of children immunized against HPV 2024 (N=42) out of (N=354)



■ Vaccinated ■ Unvaccinated

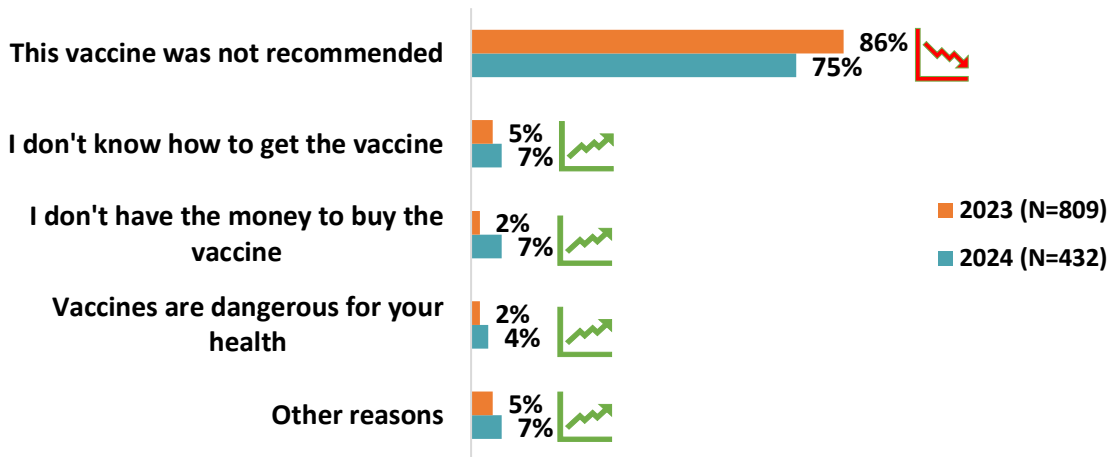
Proportion of children immunized against HPV 2023 (N=63) out of (N=593)



■ Vaccinated ■ Unvaccinated

Proportion of vaccinated children in the sample

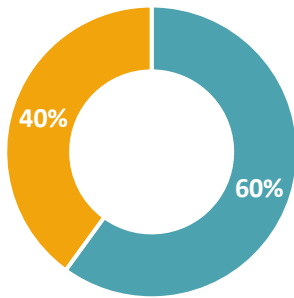
The main reason against HPV vaccination? (for those who are not vaccinated)



Q21. What is the main reason why you have not been vaccinated against HPV? (for those who are not vaccinated)?

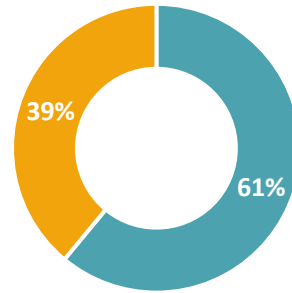
Three quarters of respondents (75%) say that they are not vaccinated against HPV because they have not been recommended the vaccine. Also, 7% of respondents in Vrancea do not know how to get the vaccine and 7% do not have the money to buy the HPV vaccine, while 4% consider it dangerous for their health.

**Opinion on HPV vaccination
for girls who start sex before
they come of age
2024 (N=600)**



■ Yes ■ No

**Opinion on HPV vaccination
of girls who start their sexual
debut before the age of
majority 2023 (N=871)**



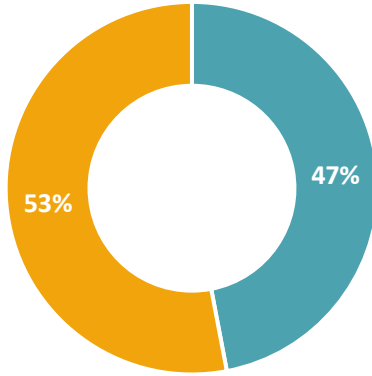
■ Yes ■ No

Q22. Do you think that HPV vaccination should be given mainly to girls who start their sexual life before they come of age?

More than half of the respondents (60%) say that the vaccine needs to be given especially to girls who start their sexual life before they come of age.

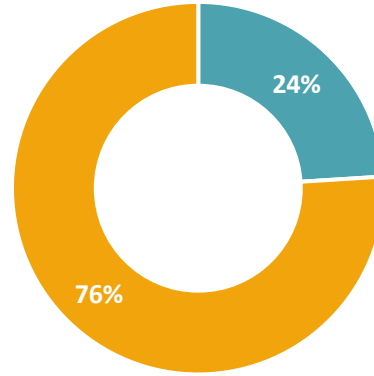
HPV AND CANCER

Cancer diagnosis
2024 (N=600)



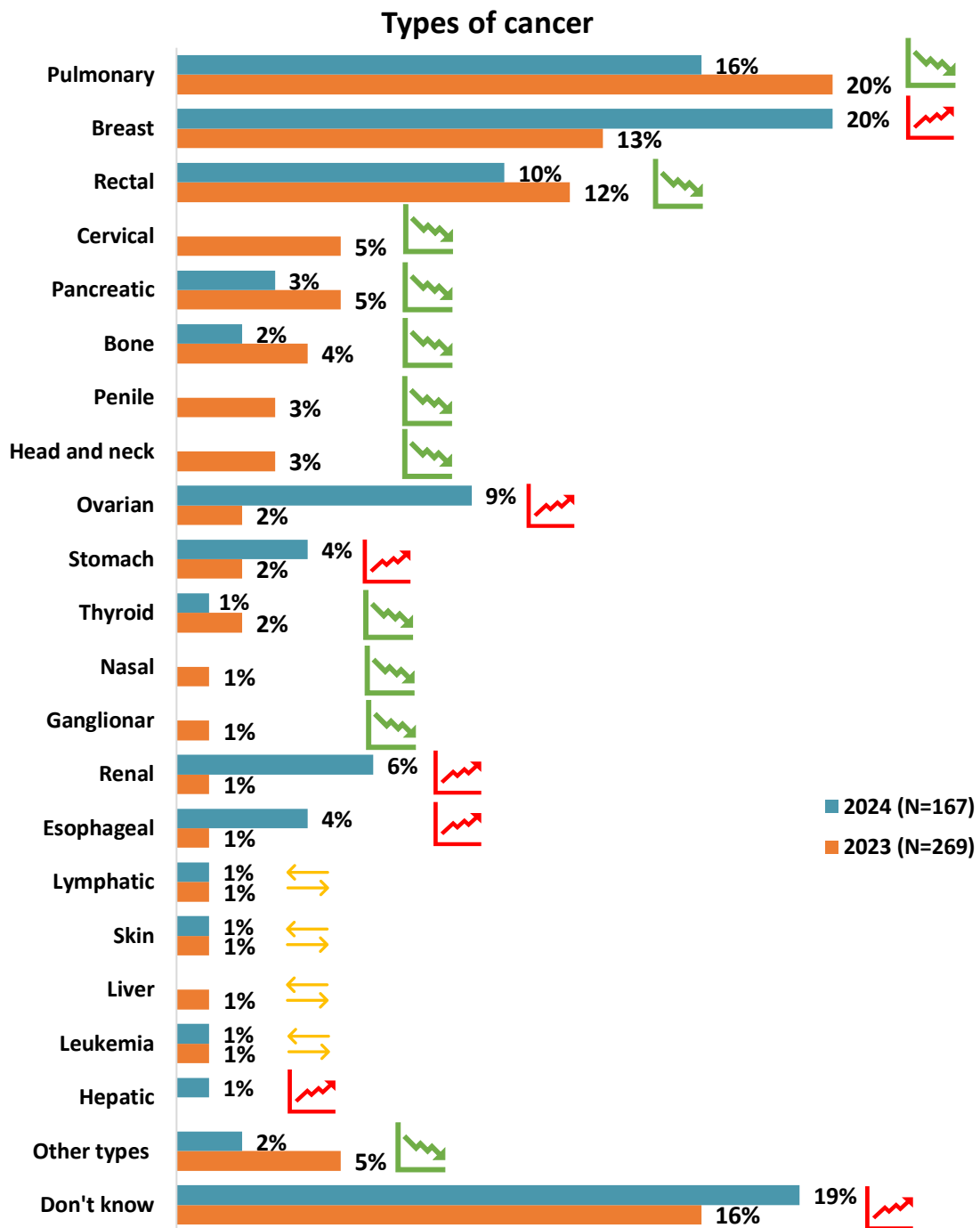
■ Yes ■ No

Cancer diagnosis
2023 (N=1110)



■ Yes ■ No

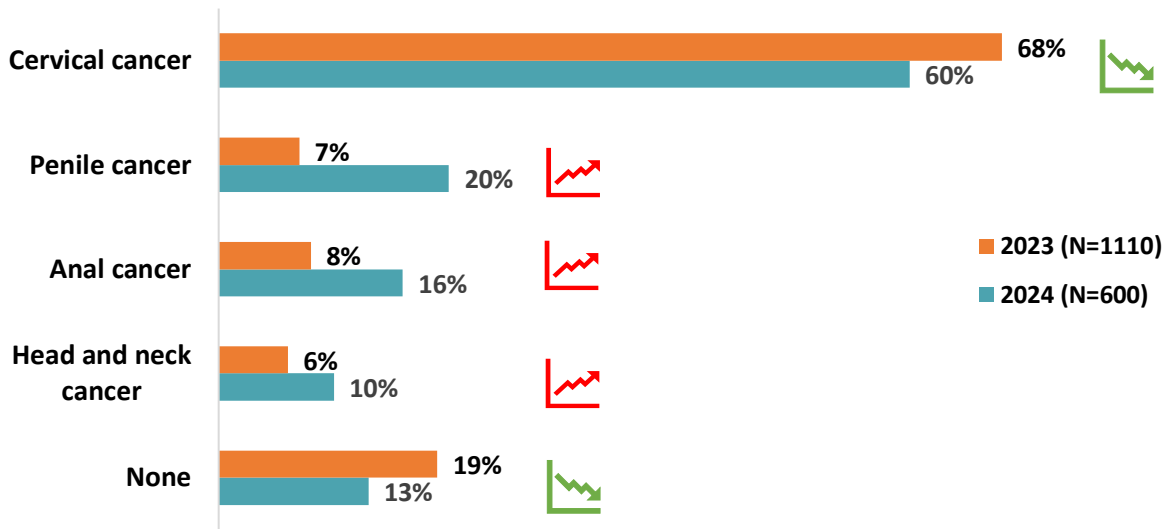
Q23. Have you or anyone in your family been diagnosed with cancer?



Q23b_REC. What type of cancer?

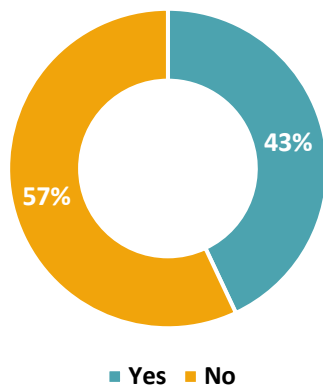
Almost half of the respondents in Vrancea County (47%) say that they or someone in their family has been diagnosed with cancer. Of those diagnosed with the disease, 1 in 5 suffer from lung cancer or breast cancer (13%), an increase of 4% compared to last year's survey.

Cancer types linked to HPV infection

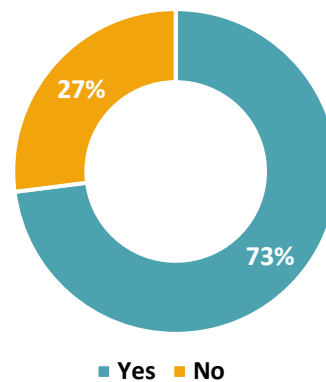


Q24. HPV infection is involved in which types of cancer? (multiple choice)

Prevent cervical cancer with HPV vaccination 2024 (N=600)



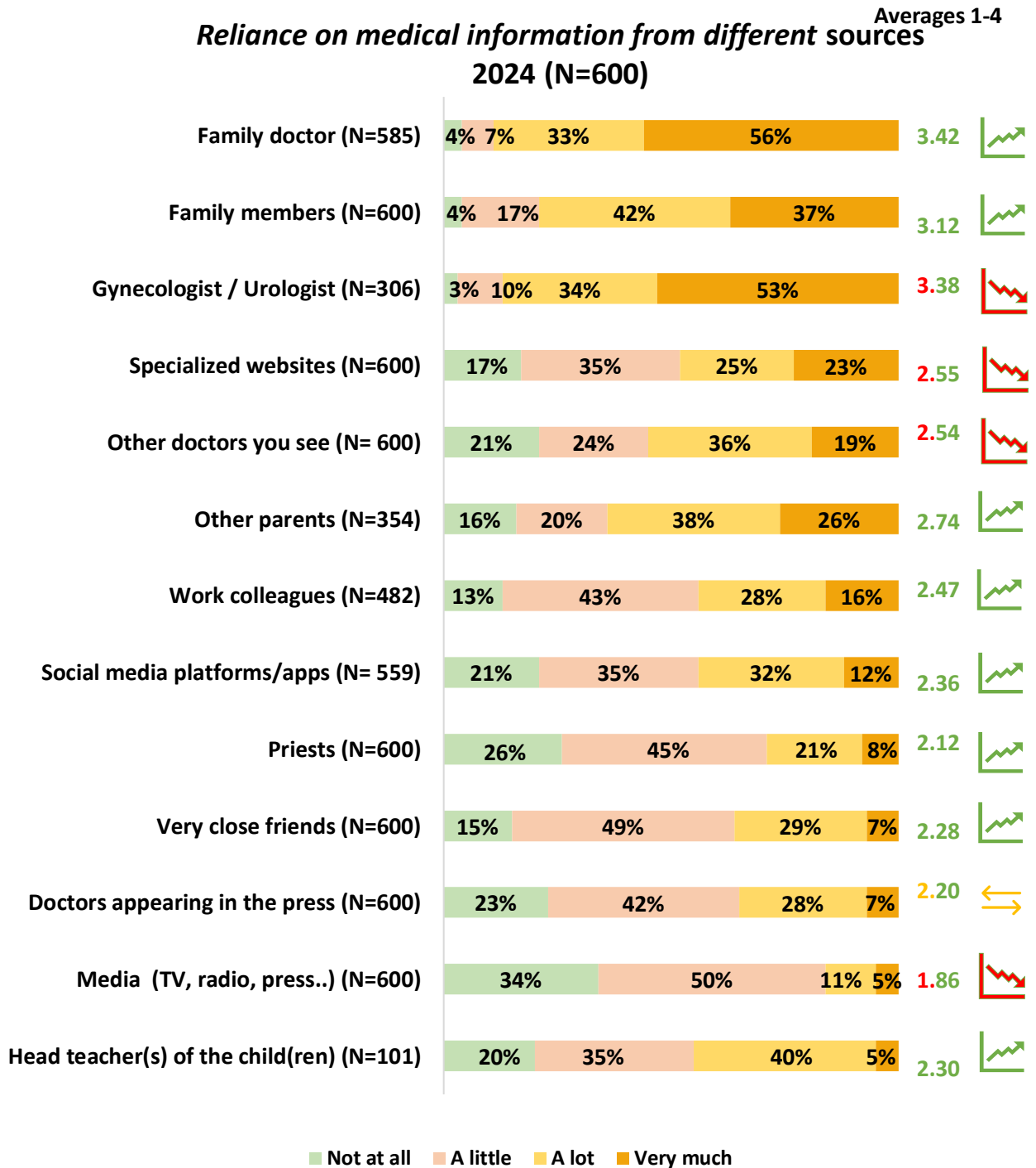
Prevent cervical cancer with HPV vaccination 2023 (N=1110)



Q25. To your knowledge, does HPV vaccination prevent cervical cancer?

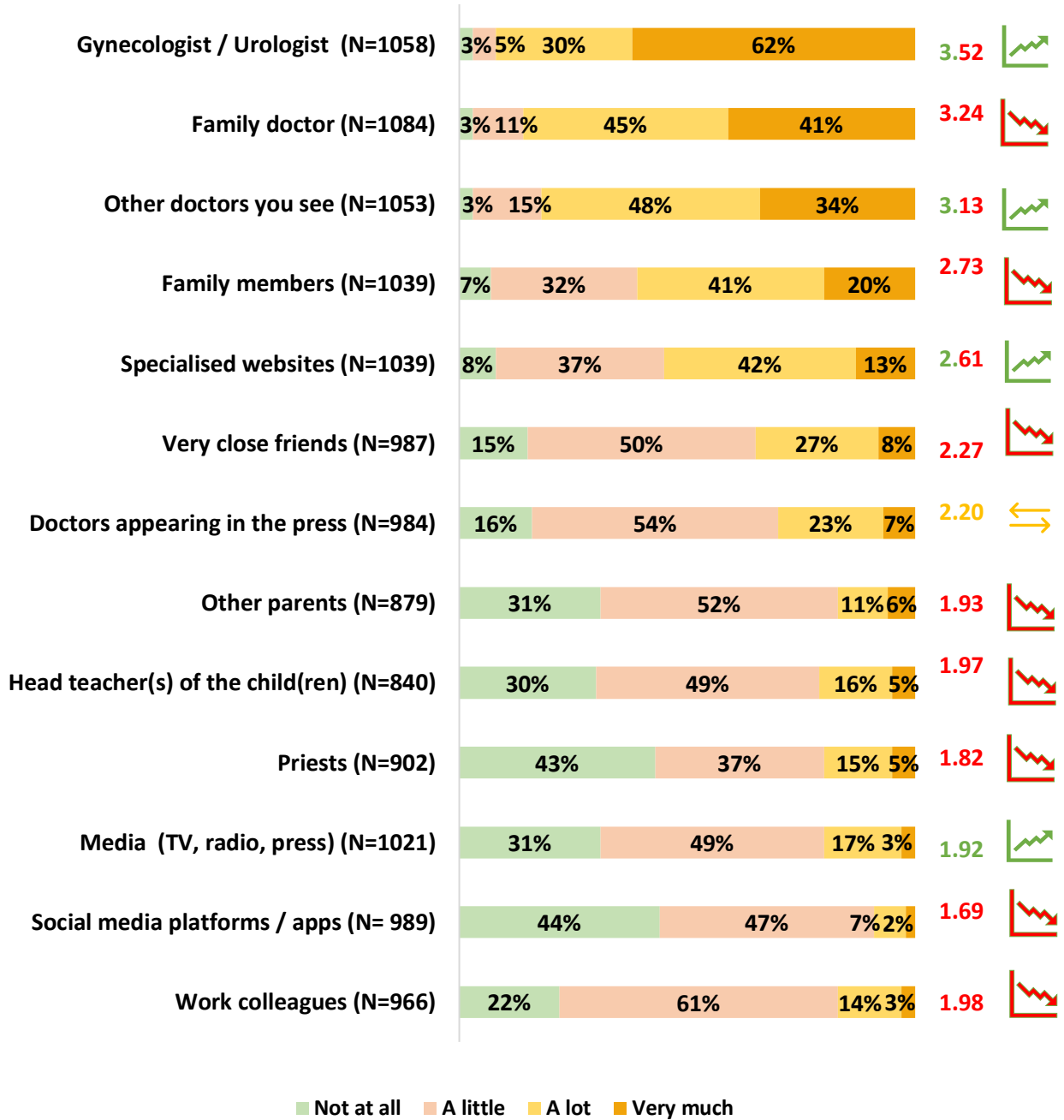
Regarding the occurrence of cancers involved in HPV infection, more than half of the respondents in Vrancea County (60%) associate the occurrence of cervical cancer as being caused by HPV infection. However, the majority of respondents (57%) believe that HPV vaccination does not prevent cervical cancer. This indicates that there is a significant proportion of people in Vrancea County who do not believe in the effectiveness of HPV vaccination.

POSITION ON INFORMATION SOURCES



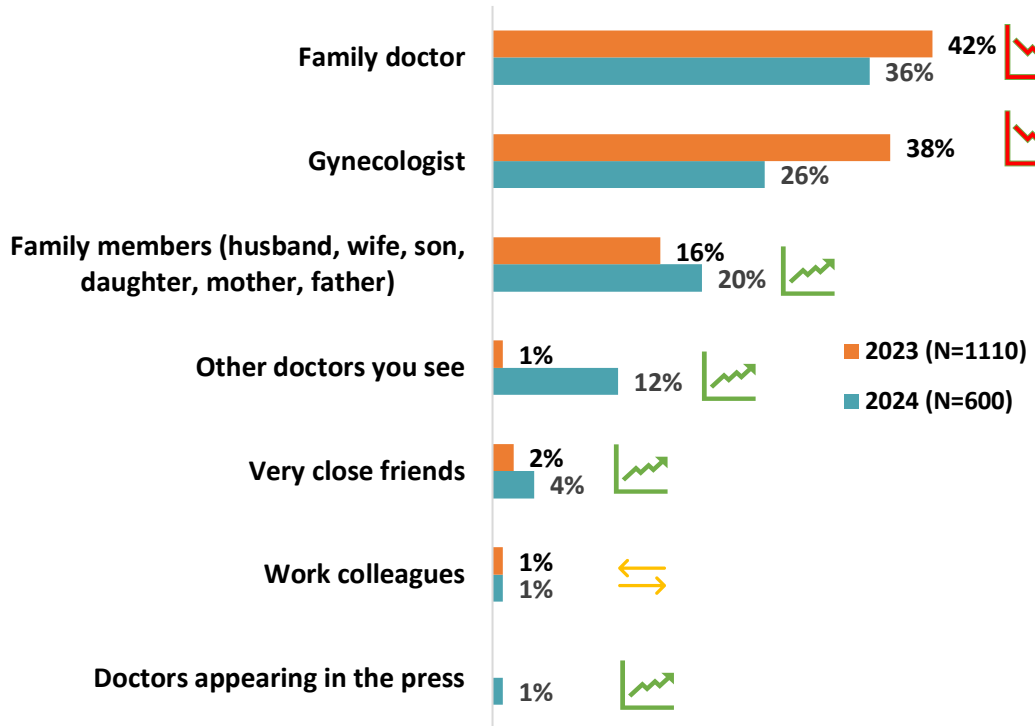
Q26. How much do you trust the medical information you receive from the following sources?

Reliance on medical information from different sources ^{Averages 1-4} 2023 (N=1110)



Q26. How much do you trust the medical information you receive from the following sources?

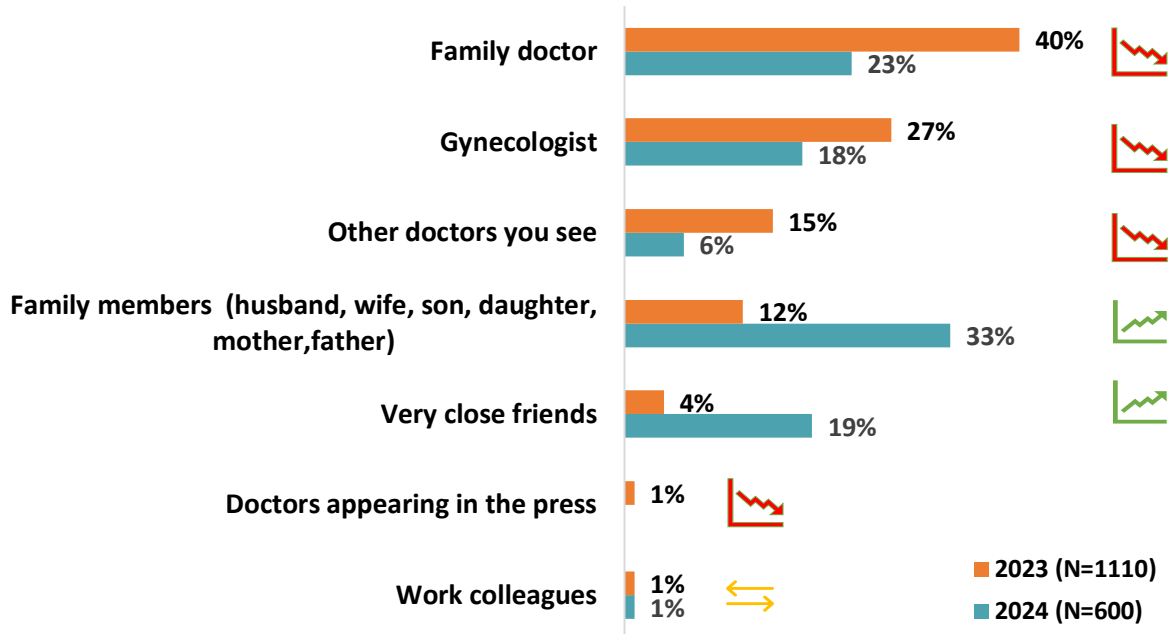
The trusted person to ask for first opinion on HPV vaccination



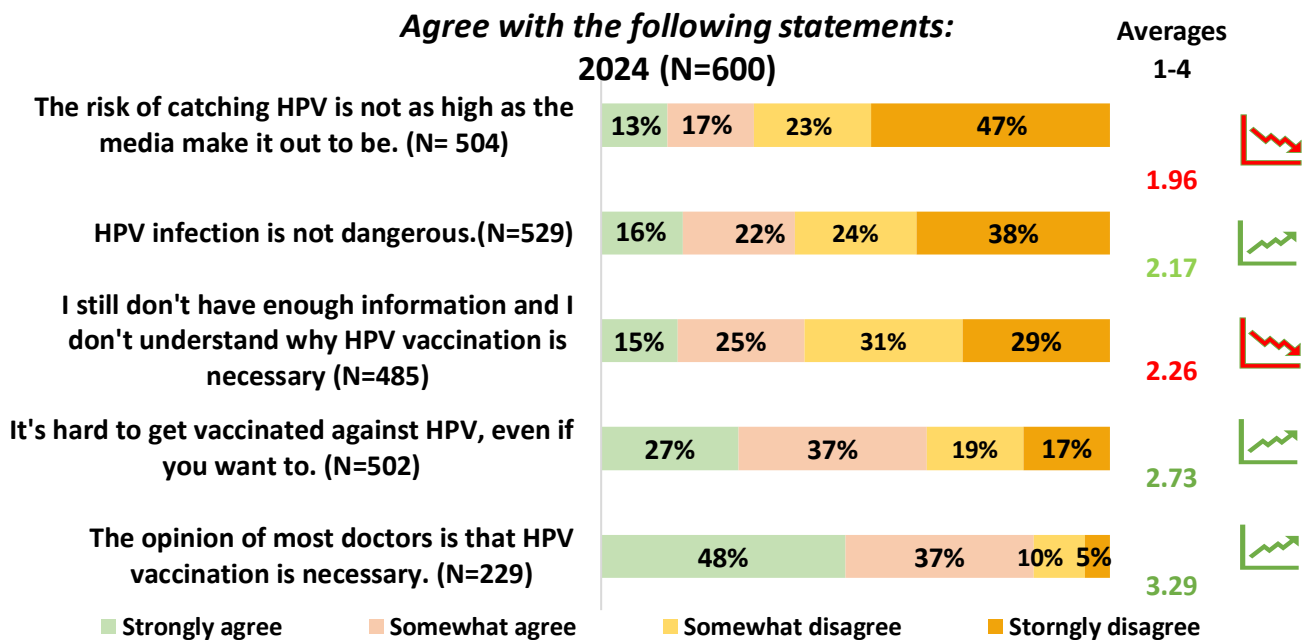
Q38. Where do you go for your first opinion on HPV vaccination?

The main sources of reliable information on vaccination for people in Vrancea are family doctors (36%) and gynecologists (26%), followed by family members (20%) and doctors of other specialties.

Trusted person asked for a second opinion on HPV vaccination



Q39. What about the second opinion on HPV vaccination?

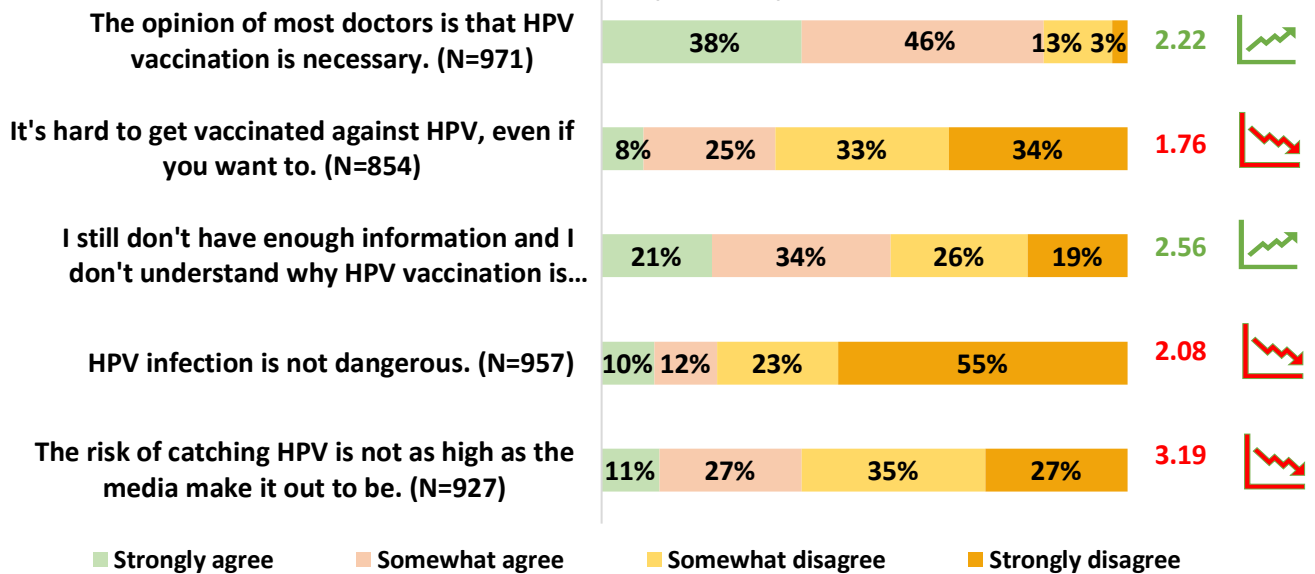


Q40. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Agree with the following statements:

2023 (N=1110)

Averages 1-4

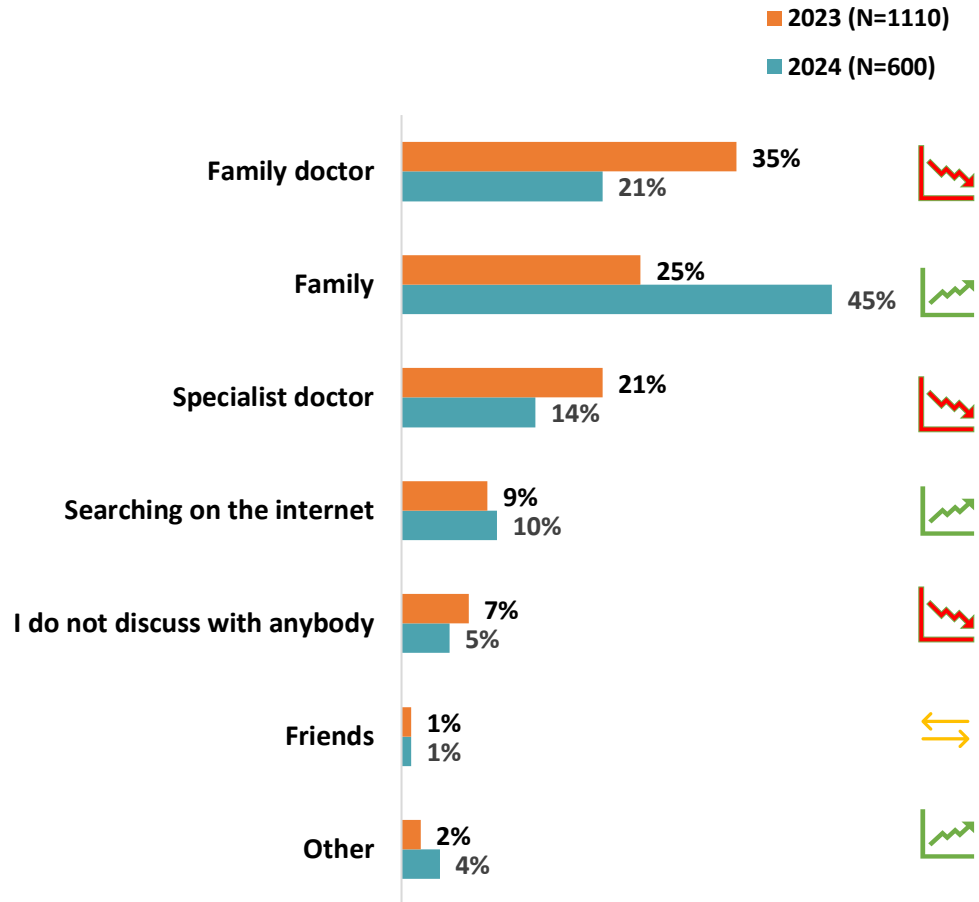


Q40. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

A quarter (25%) of respondents in Vrancea County say that the risk of HPV infection is not as high as reported in the media, and more than a third (34%) believe that HPV infection is not dangerous.

KEY ACTORS

The person with whom health problems are discussed

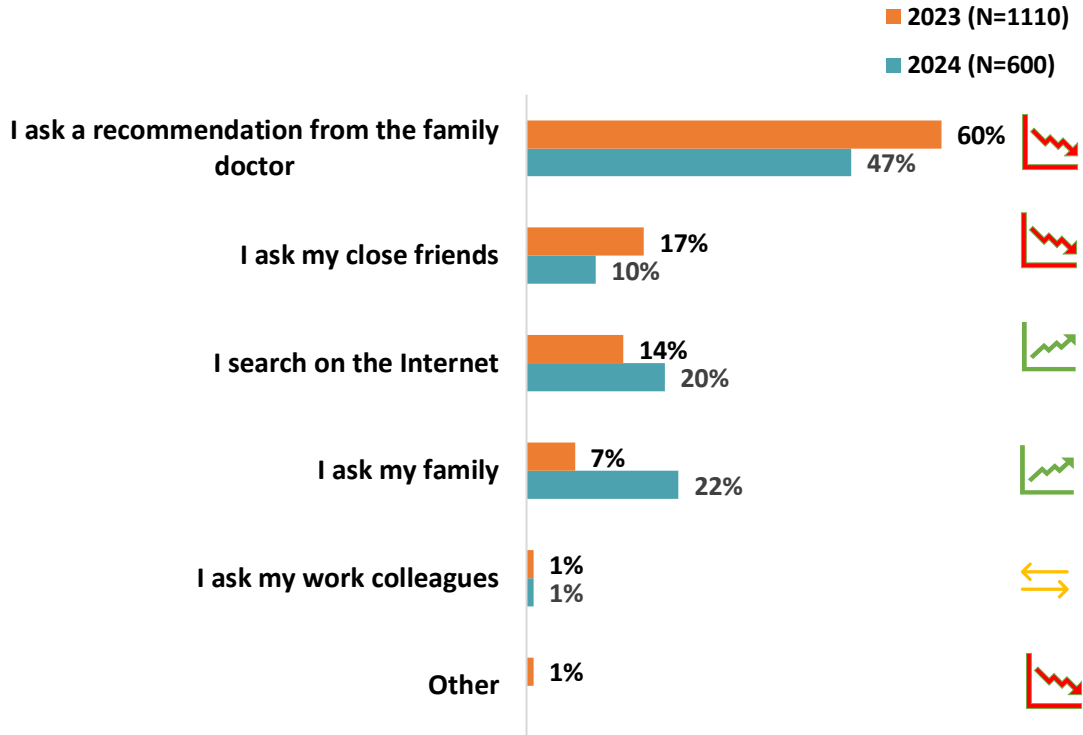


Q45_REC . With whom do you usually discuss your health issues?

Almost half of the respondents in Vrancea (45%) discuss their health problems with their family, and almost a quarter (21%) of them prefer their family doctor for such discussions. A small proportion of respondents (7%) search the Internet for information about the health problems they face.

DOCTOR-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP

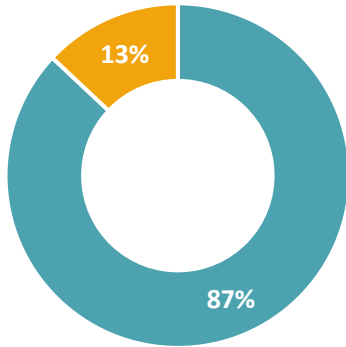
Choosing a doctor



Q46. If you need a doctor, how do you choose?

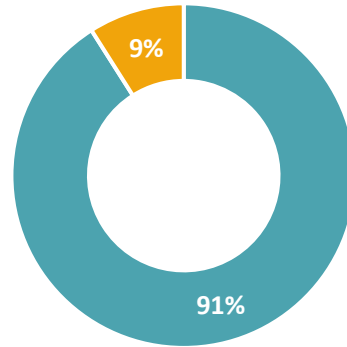
Almost half (47%) of the respondents in Vrancea rely on the recommendation of their family doctor, 10% of them prefer to ask for recommendations from friends, 20% of them search the Internet for possible doctors to turn to.

**Vaccines in the mandatory scheme
2024 (N=354)**



■ Yes ■ No

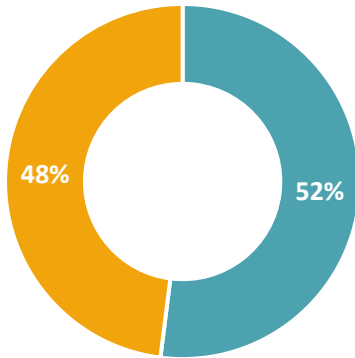
**Vaccines in the mandatory scheme
2023 (N=593)**



■ Yes ■ No

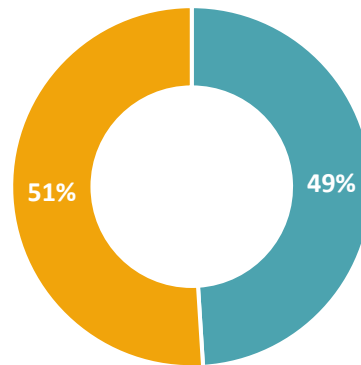
Q47. Have you immunized your child with the vaccines in the mandatory schedule?

**Flu vaccine
2024 (N=354)**



■ Yes ■ No

**Flu vaccine
2023 (N=593)**



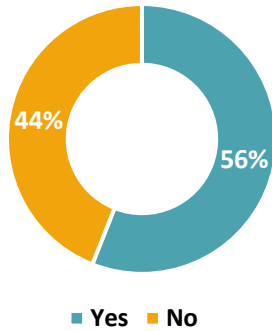
■ Yes ■ No

Q48. Have you immunized your child with the flu vaccine?

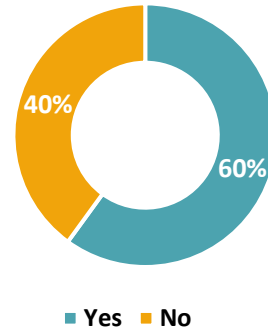
Among those who have children, 9 out of 10 respondents say that they have had their child immunized according to the mandatory immunization schedule. When it comes to the flu vaccine, slightly more than half (52%) of people in Vercre have had their child vaccinated.

POSITIONING TOWARDS COVID-19

**Are you vaccinated against COVID-19?
2024 (N=600)**

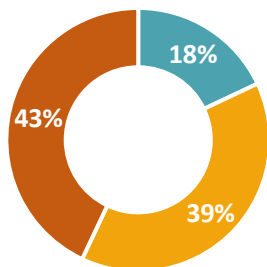


**Are you vaccinated against COVID-19?
2023 (N=1110)**



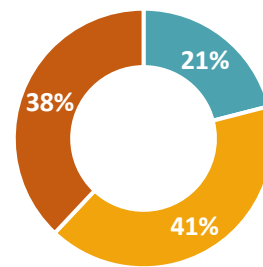
Q49. Are you vaccinated against COVID-19?

**Number of doses carried out against Covid-19
2024 (N=337)**



■ One dose ■ Two doses ■ Three doses

**Number of doses carried out against Covid-19
2023 (N=668)**



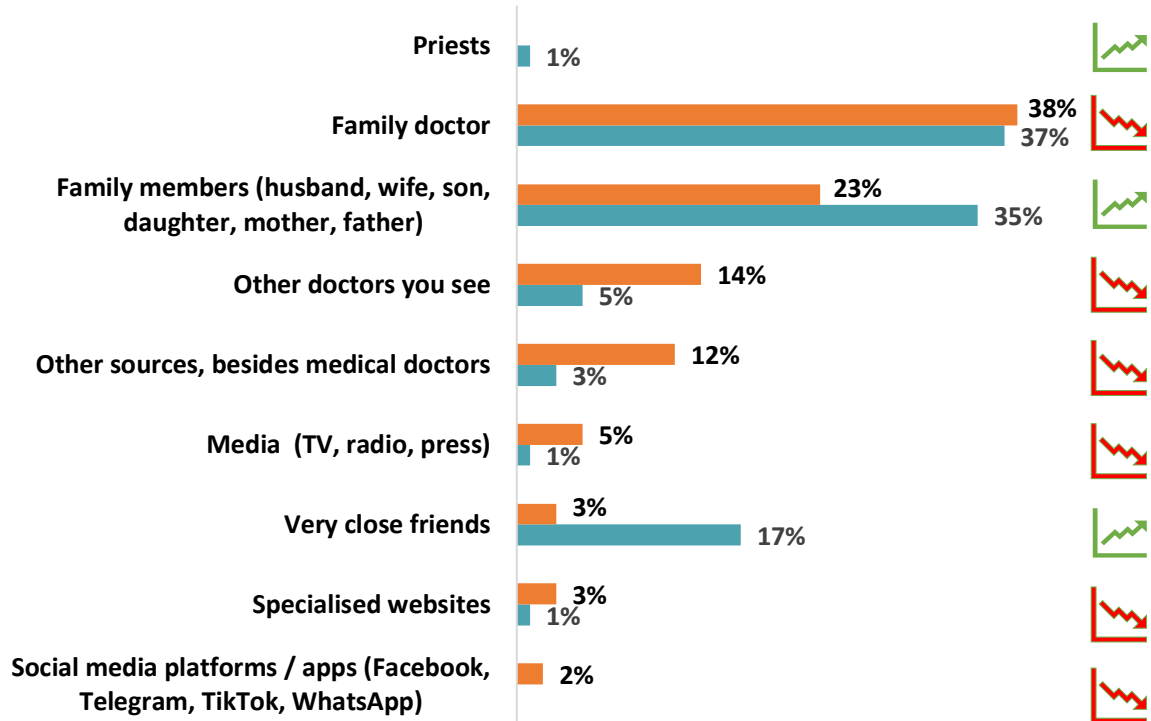
■ One dose ■ Two doses ■ Three doses

Q49a. How many doses?

COVID-19 vaccination decision

■ 2023 (N=668)

■ 2024 (N=337)

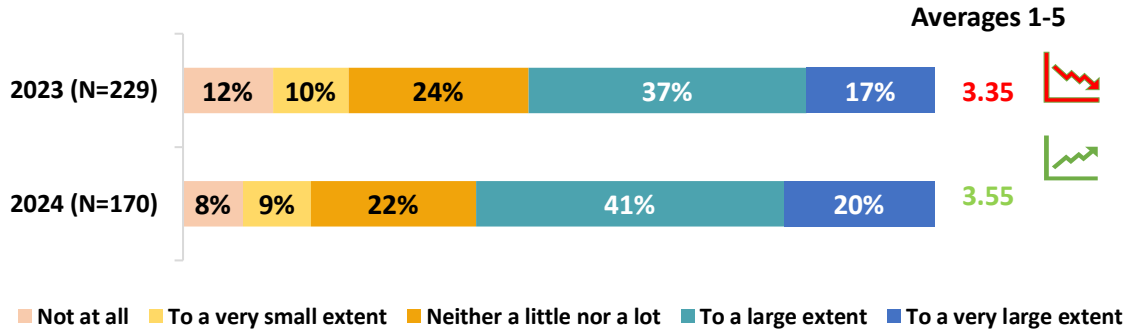


Q50. Who guided your decision to vaccinate against COVID-19?

More than half of the participants in the study conducted in Vrancea county (56%) are vaccinated against Covid-19, and 37% of them have done so on the recommendation of their family doctor.

ANALYSIS OF PERSONS HAVING AT LEAST ONE MINOR CHILD IN CARE

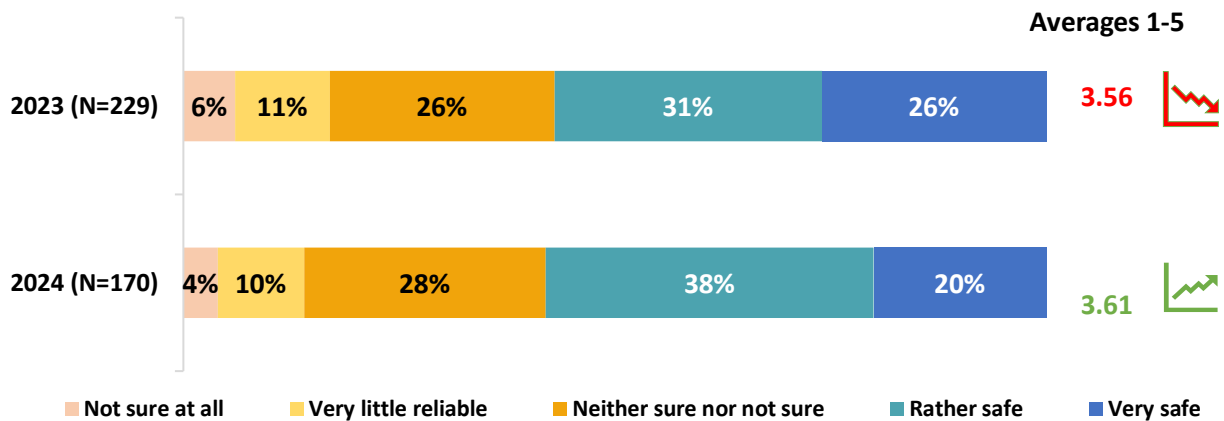
Opinion on mandatory HPV vaccination in Romania Filtered on D6_REC=1 (2024)/D7_REC=1 (2023)



Q16. To what extent do you think HPV vaccination should be mandatory in Romania?

More than half of the parents in Vrancea (61%) who have at least one minor child in their care think that HPV vaccination should be mandatory in Romania.

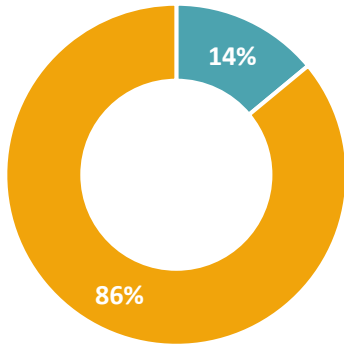
Safety of HPV vaccination Filtered on D6_REC=1 (2024)/D7_REC=1 (2023)



Q17. How safe do you think HPV vaccination is?

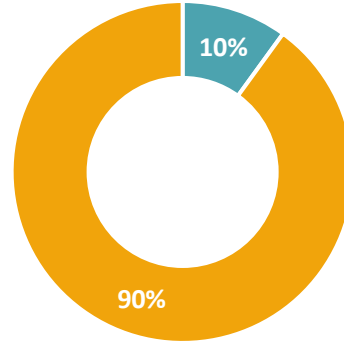
HPV vaccination is perceived as safe by more than half of parents who have at least one minor child in their care and live in Vrancea county (57%).

**Vaccinating your child/children against HPV
2024 (N=170)
Filtered on D6_REC=1**



■ Da ■ No

**Vaccinating your child/children against HPV
2023 (N=229)
Filtered on D7_REC=1**

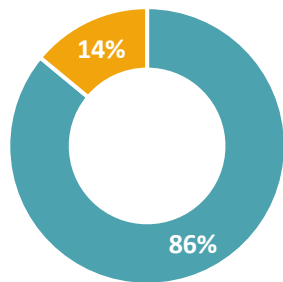


■ Yes ■ No

Q19. Are your child(ren) vaccinated against HPV?

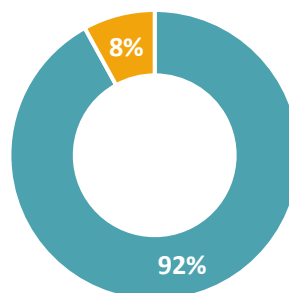
Only 1 in 10 parents with minor children in their care have had their child/children vaccinated against HPV. In Vrancea County, 14 percent of those surveyed in Vrancea County said they had vaccinated their child/children against HPV, 4 percent more than the national result in November 2023. It should be noted that the higher proportion of vaccinated children may be an effect of the free HPV vaccine for children aged 11-19 years (girls and boys), according to regulations that came into force in December 2023.

**Immunization of child/children with the compulsory schedule
2024 (N=206)
Filtered on D6_REC=1**



■ Yes ■ No

**Immunization of child/children with the compulsory schedule
2023 (N=282)
Filtered on D7_REC=1**

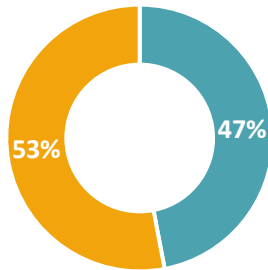


■ Yes ■ No

Q47. Have you immunized your child with the vaccines in the mandatory schedule?

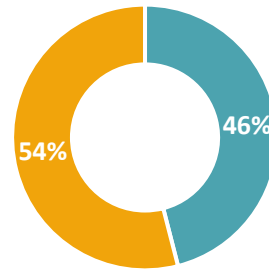
Of the parents with at least one minor child in their care living in Vrancea County, 86% have vaccinated their children with the vaccines in the mandatory schedule.

Immunizing your child with the flu vaccine 2024 (N=206)
Filtered on D6_REC=1



■ Yes ■ No

Immunizing your child with the flu vaccine 2023 (N=282)
Filtered on D7_REC=1



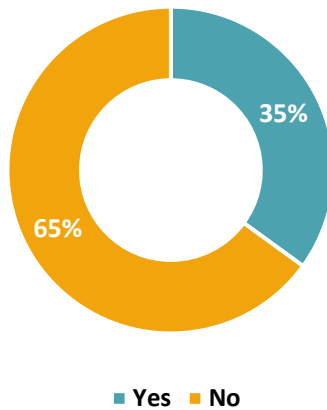
■ Yes ■ No

Q48. Have you immunized your child with the flu vaccine?

Almost half (47%) of parents with at least one minor child in Vrancea have immunized their children with the flu vaccine.

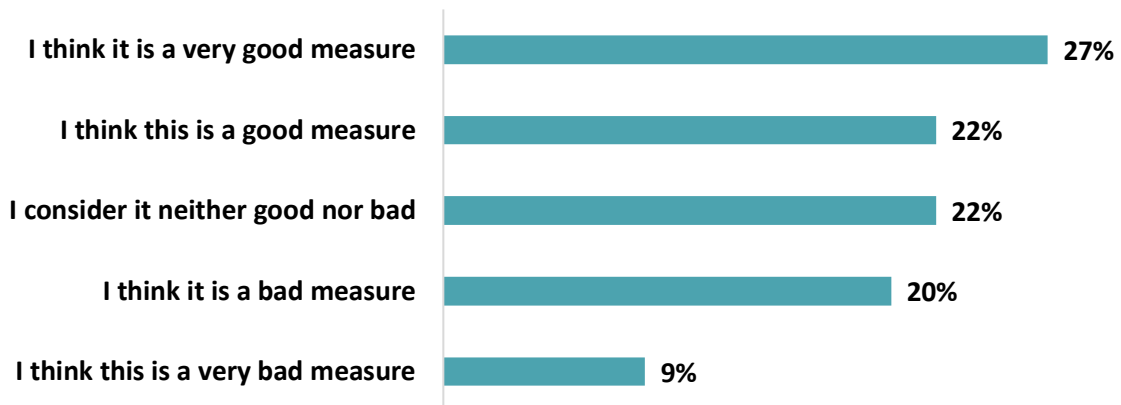
LEVEL OF AWARENESS OF HPV VACCINE IN 2024 IN VRANCEA COUNTY

Level of information
2024 (N=600)



N1. "As of December 1, 2023, women aged 19 to 45 can get the HPV vaccine by prescription from their family doctor at a 50% discount." Did you know this information before participating in this survey?

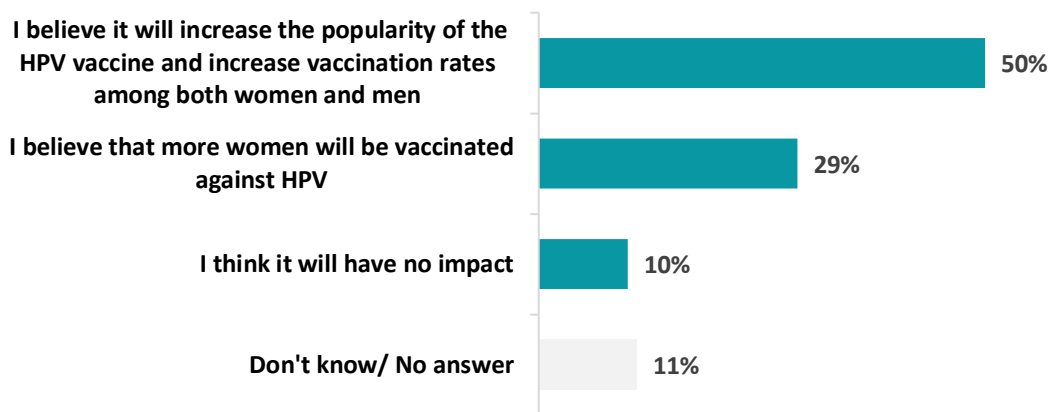
Perception of HPV vaccine cost reduction
N=600



N2. What is your opinion on the 50% reduction in the cost of the HPV vaccine for women aged 19-45?

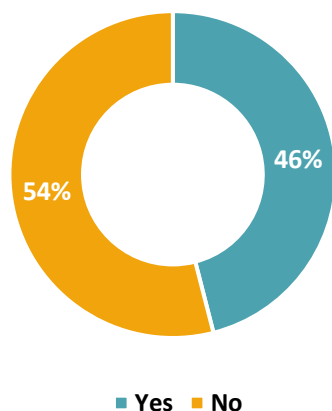
More than half of the respondents in Vrancea county (65%) were unaware that the HPV vaccine can be obtained from the family doctor with a 50% discount (in certain cases), while only 35% of them were aware of this information regarding the HPV vaccine. Of those who knew about the 50% discount, almost half (49%) think that it is a good and very good measure that the vaccine is discounted by 50%.

Impact of the HPV vaccine cost reduction (N=600)



N3. What impact do you think the 50% reduction in the cost of the HPV vaccine for women aged 19-45 will have?

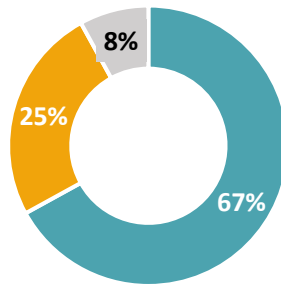
Knowledge about the HPV vaccine (N=600)



N4. Did you know before this survey that the HPV vaccine is also for boys?

Half of the respondents in Vrancea believe that the HPV vaccine will have a positive impact on women, while less than a quarter (10%) believe it will have no impact. Of the total sample, 54% were unaware that the HPV vaccine is also intended for boys, while 46% already knew this information.

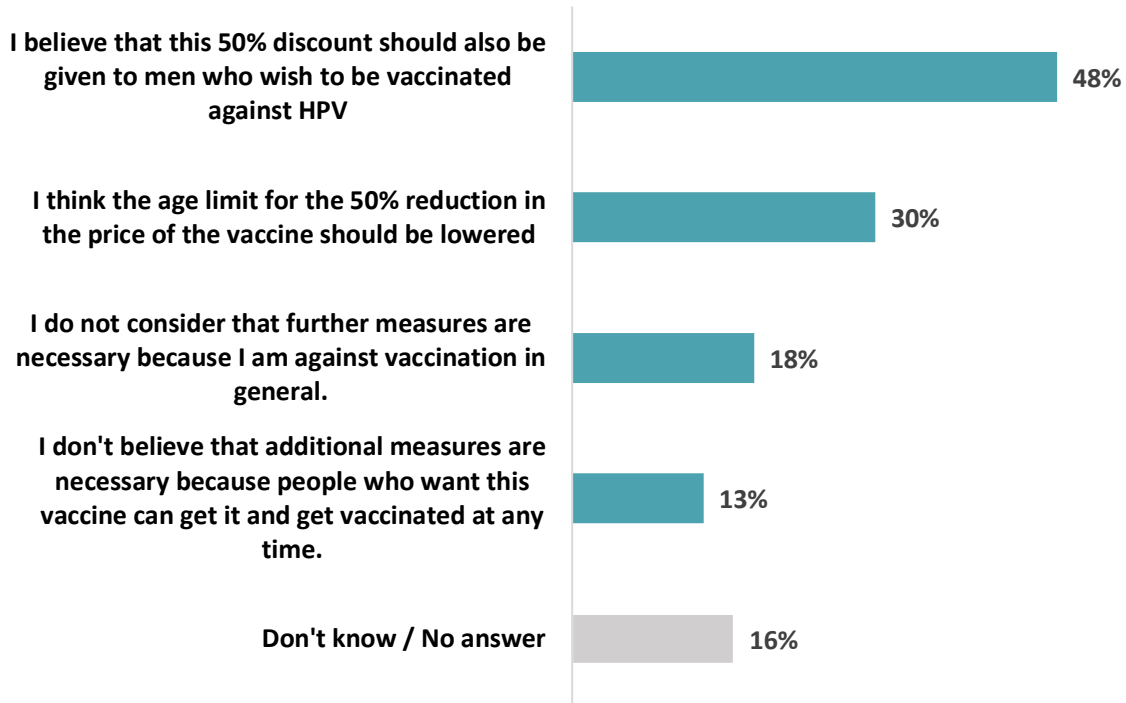
**Perception about vaccine compensation
(N=600)**



- I believe that men should also benefit from the vaccination
- I think this is a good measure
- Don't know/No answer

N5. What do you think about the fact that the HPV vaccine for men over 19 is not compensated and has to be paid for entirely by the patient?

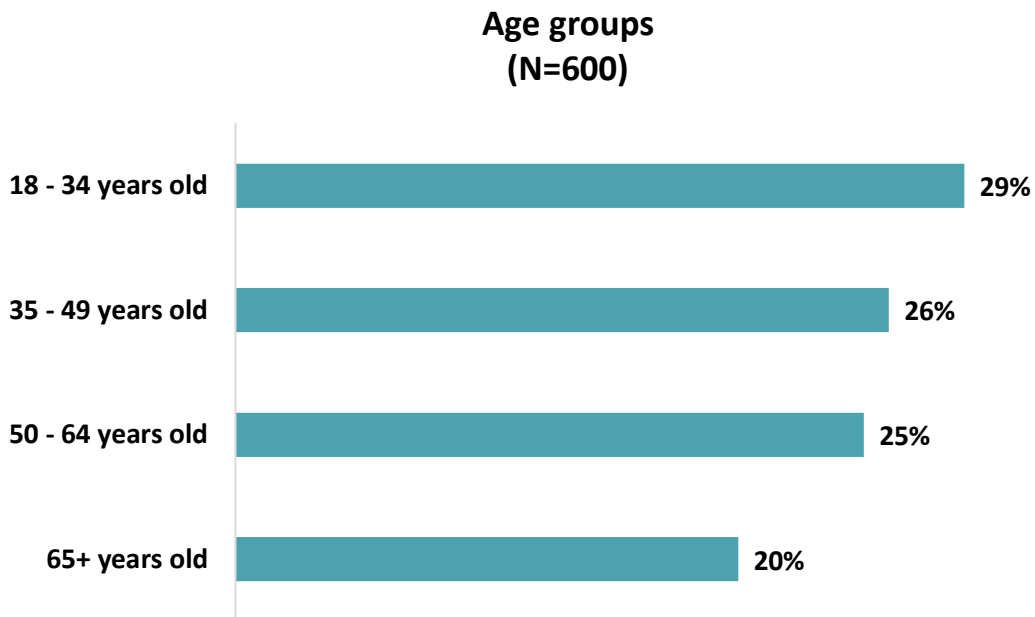
Measures to be implemented (N= 600)



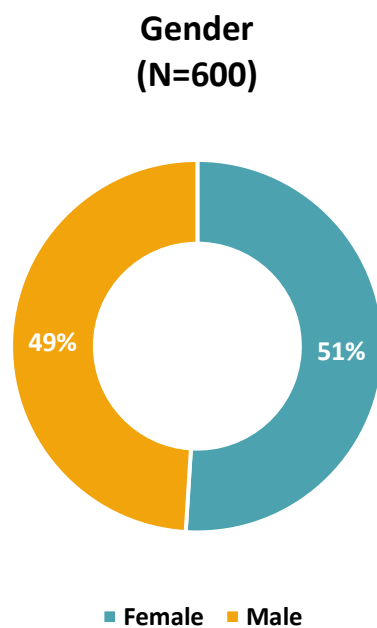
N6. What other measures do you think need to be implemented to increase the incidence of HPV vaccination?
(multiple answer)

Of those who did not know that the HPV vaccine can also be given to boys, almost 2 out of 3 respondents (67%) believe that men should also benefit from the vaccine offset, and a quarter (25%) think it is a good measure to consider. In addition, almost half of the respondents believe that the HPV vaccine should be reduced by 50% for men as well, while for almost a third (30%) of them, the age limit for the 50% reduction in the cost of the vaccine should be lowered.

SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC DATA RELATED TO PERSONS PARTICIPATING IN THE SURVEY CONDUCTED IN VRANCEA COUNTY

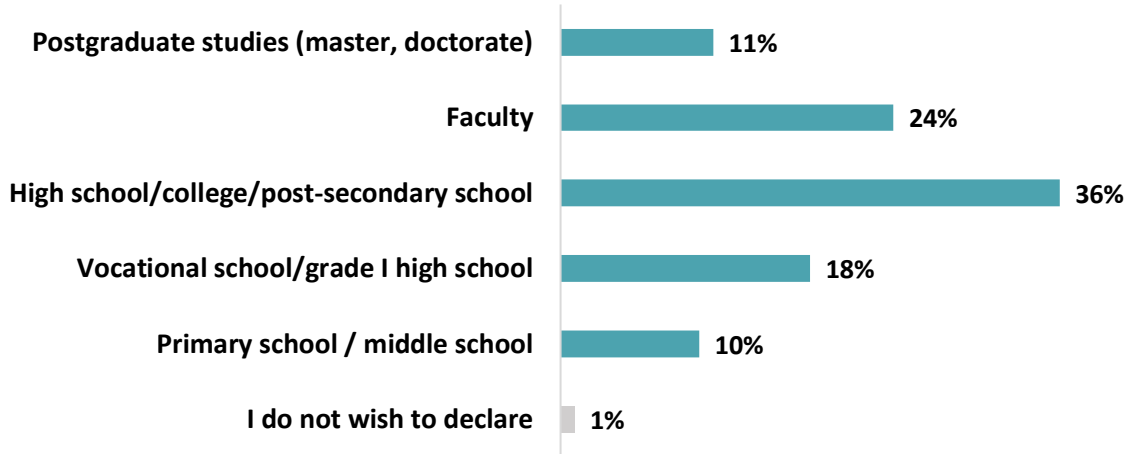


D1. Age groups



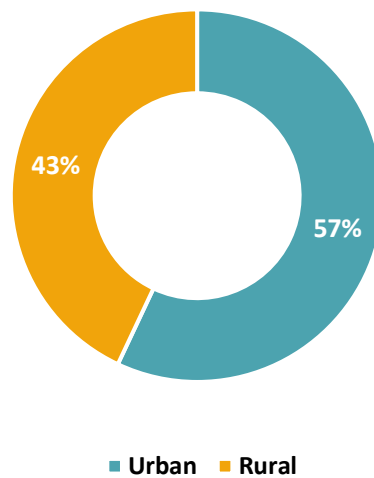
D2. Gender:

Last education completed (N=600)



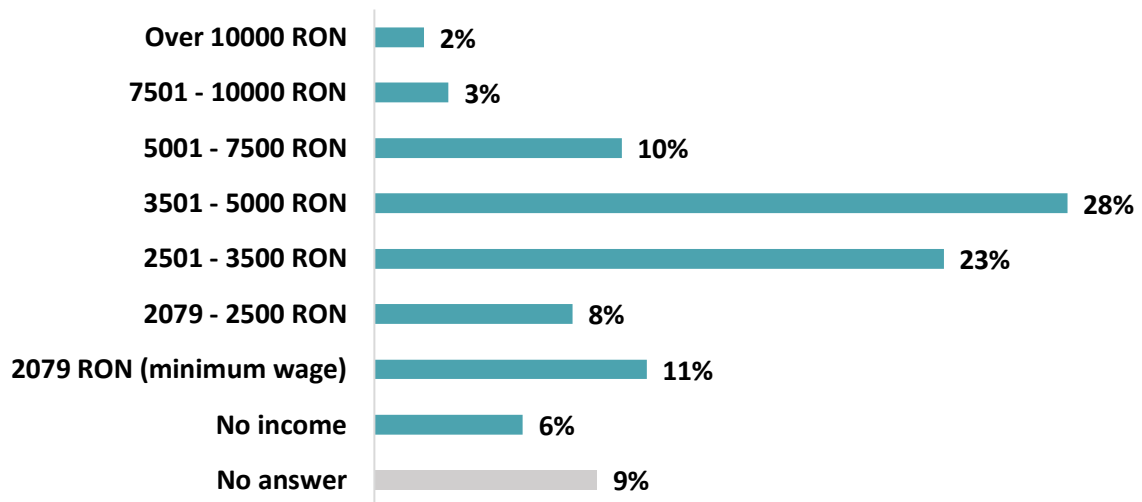
D3. What is the last form of education you completed?

Residence environment (N=600)



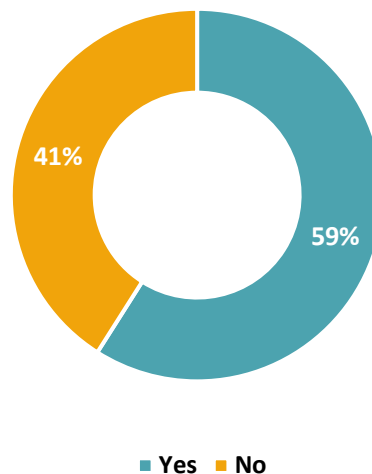
D4. Residence environment:

**Income
(N=600)**



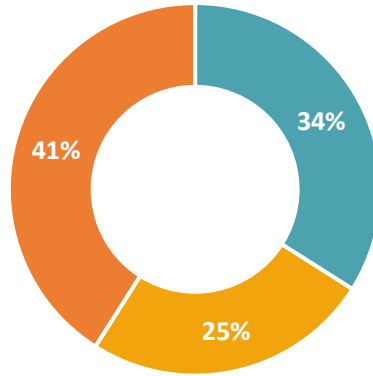
D5. Please indicate your income. NET (cash on hand) from all sources in the last month in one of the following categories:

**Children
(N=600)**



D6. Do you have children?

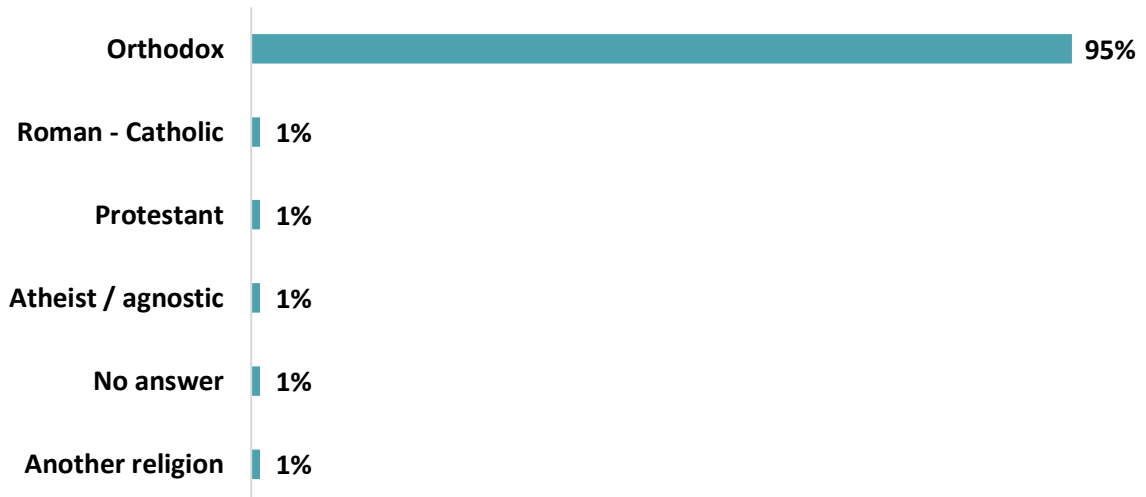
**Frequency of parents
(N=600)**



■ Parents with minor children ■ Parents with adult children ■ No children

D6_REC. Parents with minor children + Parents with adult children

**Religion
(N=600)**



D10. What is your religion?

CONCLUSIONS

CONCLUSIONS. GENERAL ANALYSIS SURVEY CONDUCTED IN VRANCEA COUNTY

- The majority of respondents (80%) from Vrancea county state that they have heard about HPV infection, and almost 6 out of 10 respondents from Vrancea believe that the optimal age range for vaccination is between 10 and 15 years, while 2% of the survey participants believe that the optimal age for vaccination is over 20 years (2%).
- Of the respondents from Vrancea, 49% say they have not received any recommendations on HPV vaccination. More than a quarter of the residents in Vrancea (38%) believe that vaccination should be made mandatory to a large extent. More than half of the respondents in Vrancea county (59%) consider HPV vaccination safe or very safe.
- Both respondents from Vrancea (90%) and their children (93%) are not vaccinated against HPV. The main reason for non-vaccination given by the inhabitants of Vrancea county is lack of recommendation (75%).
- Participants in Vrancea believe there is a strong association between HPV and lung cancer (8 out of 10 respondents). More than half of Vrancea's citizens (60%) believe that HPV vaccination prevents cervical cancer.
- Almost half (47%) of respondents in Vrancea County have had or know someone diagnosed with a form of cancer.
- Family doctors are considered the most trusted source of health information. Information on HPV and vaccination is mainly based on the advice of doctors and family members.
- Over a third of Vrancea county residents (39%) discuss their health problems with their family and almost a quarter (21%) with their family doctor. The choice of a doctor specializing in HPV treatment is largely based on the family doctor's recommendations.
- The majority of parents in Vrancea (8 out of 10) immunize their children according to the mandatory scheme. As for the flu vaccine, only just over half (52%) of Vrancea county's inhabitants vaccinate their children.
- Slightly more than half of the respondents in Vrancea (56%) have been vaccinated against COVID-19, while 37% have done so on the recommendation of their family doctor.

CONCLUSIONS. ANALYSIS ON THE SEGMENT OF PERSONS HAVING AT LEAST ONE MINOR CHILD IN CARE

- HPV vaccination is safe, according to more than half of parents in Vrancea who have at least one minor child in their care (58%).
- About 1 in 10 (14%) of parents with minor children in Vrancea have had their children vaccinated against HPV.
- Of the parents with at least one minor child in their care living in Vrancea County, 86% have vaccinated their children with the vaccines in the mandatory schedule.
- Almost half (47%) of parents with at least one minor child in Vrancea have immunized their child with the flu vaccine.

CONCLUSIONS ON THE LEVEL OF AWARENESS OF THE HPV VACCINE IN 2024 IN VRANCEA COUNTY

- More than half of the respondents (65%) do not know that they can get the HPV vaccine on prescription from their family doctor, with a 50% discount (in some cases).
- Nearly half of the respondents in Vrancea county (49%) think it is a good and very good measure that women aged between 19 and 45 years are given a 50% discount on the cost of the HPV vaccine.
- Half of the Vrancea county survey sample (50%) believe that the popularity of the HPV vaccine will increase the uptake of vaccination among women.

- Slightly more than half (56%) of Vrancea county residents do not know that the HPV vaccine is also recommended for men.
- The majority of Vrancea county residents (67%) believe that boys over 19 should also benefit from HPV vaccine cost compensation.
- Nearly half of the total sample (48%) of the Vrancea county-wide survey believe that this 50% discount should also be given to men who wish to be vaccinated against HPV.

Questionnaire HPV vaccination survey

County level survey (Vrancea)

Hello! We are currently conducting a survey on Romanians' awareness of HPV. Please be so kind to answer the following questions, assuring that we will keep your answers confidential. The questionnaire takes about 10 minutes. The data will be analyzed strictly statistically. Your answers are anonymous and will not be associated with your identity. Thank you!

Disclaimer:

Cult Market Research, the company carrying out this survey, has implemented all the provisions in force regarding the processing of personal data (GDPR). Our contact details are available on their website: cultresearch.ro.

SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC QUESTIONS

D1. Your age in years: (numerical answer)

D2. Gender:

1. Female
2. Male

D3. What is the last form of education you completed? (simple answer)

1. Primary school / middle school
2. Vocational school/grade I high school
3. High school/college/post-secondary school
4. Faculty
5. Postgraduate studies (master, doctorate)
99. I do not wish to declare

D4. Residence environment:

1. Urban
2. Rural

D4a. County where you live:

1. Argeş
2. Vrancea

D5. Please indicate your income. NET (cash on hand) from all sources in the last month into one of the following categories:

1. No income
2. 2079 RON (minimum wage)
3. 2079 - 2500 RON
4. 2501 - 3500 RON
5. 3501 - 5000 RON
6. 5001 - 7500 RON
7. 7501 - 10000 RON
8. Over 10000 RON
99. No answer

D6. Do you have children?

1. Yes
2. No

Q6.a. How many children do you have? (open - numerical)

D7. (If 1 to D6) How old is/are your child/children?

Child 1	...
Child 2	...
Child 3	...
Child 4	...
Child 5	...
Child 6	...

D8. Gender of child/children:

	Female	Male
Child 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
Child 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2

Child 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
Child 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
Child 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
Child 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2

D9. School grade of child/children:

Child 1	Kindergarten or younger	Grade 0	Grade I	Grade II	Grade III	Grade XII
Child 2			...				
Child 3			...				
Child 4			...				
Child 5			...				
Child 6			...				

D10. What is your religion?

1. Orthodox
2. Greek-Catholic
3. Roman Catholic
4. Protestant
5. Neoprottestant
6. Atheist / agnostic
7. Another religion. What religion?
99. No answer

HPV INFECTION

[11] #HPV: Have you heard of HPV - human papilloma virus?

1. Yes
2. No - go to 23

If she hasn't heard, she no longer gets the HPV question set, but continues with the generic questions.

[12] #HPV: What do you think is the right age for HPV vaccination? (open answer) [Exact minimum age. No range]

[13] #HPV: Has anyone ever recommended HPV vaccination?

1. No, I have not received the HPV vaccination recommendation
2. Family doctor
3. One of your close friends
4. A family member
5. A coworker
6. Someone else. Who else?

[14] To the best of your knowledge, who is the HPV vaccination for?

1. Girls only
2. Boys only
3. Both girls and boys alike

[15] How informed do you think you are about HPV infection?

1. Not at all informed
2. Very little informed
3. Neither informed nor uninformed
4. Rather informed
5. Very knowledgeable

[16] #HPV: To what extent do you think that HPV vaccination should become mandatory in Romania for both women/girls and men/boys?

1. Not at all
2. To a very small extent
3. Neither a little nor a lot
4. To a large extent
5. To a very large extent

[17] #HPV: How safe do you think HPV vaccination is?

1. Not sure at all
2. Very little reliable
3. Neither sure nor not sure
4. Rather safe
5. Very safe

[18] #HPV: Are you vaccinated against HPV?

1. Yes
2. No

[19] #HPV: Is your child(ren) vaccinated against HPV?

1. Yes
2. No

[20] #HPV: At what age were your children vaccinated against HPV?

	Child's age	Gender of the child
Child 1	...	
Child 2	...	
Child 3	...	
Child 4	...	
Child 5	...	
Child 6	...	

[21] #HPV: What is the main reason why you haven't been vaccinated against HPV? (for those who are not vaccinated)

1. I don't know how to get the vaccine
2. Vaccines are dangerous for your health
3. I don't have the money to buy the vaccine
4. This vaccine was not recommended
5. Another reason. What reason?

[22] #HPV: Do you think that HPV vaccination should be given especially to girls who start their sexual life before they come of age?

1. Yes
2. No

[23] #HPV: Do you think that HPV vaccination should be given mainly to boys who start their sexual life before they come of age?

1. Yes
2. No

[N1] #HPV vaccine reduced by 50%: "From December 1, 2023, women aged 19-45 can get the HPV vaccine by prescription from their GP at a 50% discount. " Did you know this information before participating in this survey?

1. Yes
2. No

[N2] #HPV vaccine reduced by 50%: What is your opinion on the 50% reduction given to women aged 19-45 years on the cost of the HPV vaccine?

1. I think this is a very bad measure
2. I think it is a bad measure
3. I consider it neither good nor bad
4. I think this is a good measure
5. I think it is a very good measure

[N3] #HPV vaccine reduced by 50%: What impact do you think the 50% reduction in the cost of the HPV vaccine for women aged 19-45 will have?

1. I think it will have no impact
2. I believe that more women will be vaccinated against HPV
3. I believe it will increase the popularity of the HPV vaccine and increase vaccination rates among both women and men
99. Don't know/ No answer

[N4] #HPV vaccine reduced by 50%: Did you know before this poll that the HPV vaccine is also for boys?

1. Yes
2. No

[N5] #HPV vaccine reduced by 50%: What do you think about the fact that the HPV vaccine for men over 19 is not compensated and that it has to be paid for entirely by the patient?

1. I believe that men should also benefit from the vaccination
2. I think this is a good measure
99. Don't know/No answer

[N6] #HPV vaccine reduced by 50%: What other measures do you think need to be implemented to increase the incidence of HPV vaccination? (multiple response)

1. I do not consider that further measures are necessary because I am against vaccination in general.
2. I don't believe that additional measures are necessary because people who want this vaccine can get it and get vaccinated at any time.
3. I think the age limit for the 50% reduction in the price of the vaccine should be lowered
4. I believe that this 50% discount should also be given to men who wish to be vaccinated against HPV
99. Don't know / No answer

HPV AND CANCER

[23] #CANCER: Have you or anyone in your family been diagnosed with cancer?

1. Yes
2. No

Q23A. (If 23=1) If yes, who has been diagnosed with cancer? (multiple answer)

1. Mother
2. Father
3. Grandfather
4. Grandmother
5. Brother/sister
6. Uncle / aunt
7. Cousin
8. Another relative. Which one?

Q23B. (If 23=1) What type of cancer? (open question)

[24] #CANCER HPV infection is involved in which types of cancer? (multiple choice)

1. Cervical cancer
2. Head and neck cancer
3. Anal cancer
4. Penile cancer
5. None
6. Another type of cancer. What kind?

[25] To your knowledge, does HPV vaccination prevent cervical cancer?

1. Yes
2. No

POSITION ON INFORMATION SOURCES

[26] How much trust you have in the medical information you receive, on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means "not at all" and 5 means "very much trust":

		Very much	A lot	A little	Not at all	Not the case	NS / NR
[26]	Very close friends	5	4	2	1	98	99
[27]	Work colleagues	5	4	2	1	98	99
[28]	Family members (husband, wife, son, daughter, mother, father)	5	4	2	1	98	99
[29]	Family doctor	5	4	2	1	98	99
[30]	Gynecologist (If D2=1)	5	4	2	1	98	99
[31]	Other doctors you see	5	4	2	1	98	99
[32]	Priests	5	4	2	1	98	99
[33]	Doctors appearing in the press	5	4	2	1	98	99
[34]	Media (TV, radio, press, ...)	5	4	2	1	98	99
[35]	Social media platforms/apps (Facebook, Telegram, TikTok, WhatsApp)	5	4	2	1	98	99
[35a]	Specialized websites	5	4	2	1	98	99
[36]	Head teacher(s) of the child(ren)	5	4	2	1	98	99
[37]	Other parents	5	4	2	1	98	99

[38] #Info: Who do you turn to for your first opinion on HPV vaccination?

1. Family members (husband, wife, son, daughter, mother, father)
2. Very close friends
3. Work colleagues
4. Family doctor
5. Gynecologist
6. Other doctors you see
7. Priests
8. Doctors appearing in the press
9. Head teacher(s) of the child(ren)
10. Other parents

[39] What about the second opinion on HPV vaccination?

1. Family members (husband, wife, son, daughter, mother, father)
2. Very close friends

3. Work colleagues
4. Family doctor
5. Gynecologist
6. Other doctors you see
7. Priests
8. Doctors appearing in the press
9. Head teacher(s) of the child(ren)
10. Other parents

Q40. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements, on a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 is Strongly Disagree and 5 is Strongly Agree? (RANDOM)

		Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	NS / NR
[40]	The risk of catching HPV is not as high as the media make it out to be.	5	4	2	1	99
[41]	HPV infection is not dangerous.	5	4	2	1	99
[42]	I still don't have enough information and I don't understand why HPV vaccination is necessary	5	4	2	1	99
[43]	It's hard to get vaccinated against HPV, even if you want to.	5	4	2	1	99
[44]	The opinion of most doctors is that HPV vaccination is necessary.	5	4	2	1	99

KEY ACTORS

Q45. With whom do you usually discuss issues related to your health? (open question)

DOCTOR-PATIENT RELATIONSHIP

Q46. If you need a doctor, how do you choose?

1. I ask the family
2. I ask close friends

3. I ask the family doctor for a recommendation
4. I ask coworkers
5. Search the internet
6. Another method. What other way?

Q47. Have you immunized your child with the vaccines in the mandatory schedule?

1. Yes
2. No

Q48. Have you immunized your child with the flu vaccine?

1. Yes
2. No

POSITIONING TOWARDS COVID-19

Q49. Are you vaccinated against COVID-19?

1. Yes
2. No

Q49a (If Q49=1) If yes, how many doses?

1. A dose
2. Two doses
3. Three doses

Q50. (If Q49=1) Who guided your decision to vaccinate against COVID-19?

1. Very close friends
2. Family members (husband, wife, son, daughter, mother, father)
3. Family doctor
4. Other doctors you see
5. Priests
6. Media (TV, radio, press ...)
7. Social media platforms/apps (Facebook, Telegram, TikTok, WhatsApp)
8. Specialized websites
9. Sources other than medical professionals _____
10. Someone else. Who? _____

Thank you for your time and have a nice day!