

*Final version*

##### Questionnaire VA Barometer 2017

Sample: Representative sample of the Swedish population aged 16–74

Number of telephone interviews: approx. 1,000

Telephone interviews carried out: 11 September–1 October 2017

Questions asked to everyone, unless otherwise indicated in the respective question. NB that the questions were originally asked in Swedish, and that this questionnaire is a translation of the original questions.

Introduction to the survey

Hello, my name is …

On behalf of the organisation VA (Public & Science), we are conducting a national survey to find out about the public’s attitudes to research and science. I would like to ask you some questions. It will take about eight minutes.

**A. Questions**

**1. How interested are you in the following subjects? Answer on a five-point scale where 1 = not at all interested, 2 = not particularly interested 3 = neutral 4 = fairly interested and 5 = very interested. Let’s start with …**

*(rotate a-e)*

1. Politics
2. Economics
3. Culture
4. Sport
5. Research

2. *Split ballot between a) and b)*

**When I say …, what do you think of?**

a) researchers

b) research

*Open-ended response*

3. *Split ballot between 3:1 and 3:2*

**3.1** **How much confidence do you have in the following people? You should say if you have very high, fairly high, fairly low or very low confidence.** **Let’s start with …**

*(rotate a–e. c always follows after a and b).*

1. Researchers at universities
2. Researchers at companies
3. Researchers at research institutes
4. Science journalists i.e. journalists, who cover research and report research findings
5. News journalists, i.e. journalists, who are general reporters and cover current affairs and news

**3.2** **How much confidence do you have in the following people? Answer on scale from 1 to 5 where 1 = very low, 2 = fairly low 3 = neither high nor low 4 = fairly high and 5 = very high.** **Let’s start with …**

*(Rotate a–e, c always follows after a and b).*

1. Researchers at universities
2. Researchers at companies
3. Researchers at research institutes
4. Science journalists i.e. journalists, who cover research and report research findings
5. News journalists, i.e. journalists, who are general reporters and cover current affairs and news

*Note to the interviewer regarding questions 3:1 and 3:2. If the respondent asks what a research institute is, you can give the following explanation: A research institute is an organisation, whose only or main activity is research. Unlike a university, it does not offer educational courses.*

*If the respondent asks: Karolinska Institute is NOT a research institute but a medical university.*

*Make a note*

* *if the respondent asks for an explanation about what a research institute is.*
* *if the respondent names the researcher Paolo Macchiarini or Karolinska Institute in any of the questions about confidence.*

**4.** **Generally speaking, how much confidence do you have in research? Answer on a five-point scale where 1 = very low, 2 = fairly low, 3 = neither high nor low, 4 = fairly high and 5 = very high.**

**5.** *Follow-up question to question 4 (excluding those who respond “don’t know” to question 4).*

**Is there a specific reason why you chose that alternative?**

*Open-ended response*

**6. If you had the opportunity to talk to a researcher, what you like to talk about?**

*(Pre-coded options DON’T READ ALOUD)*

1. Crime
2. Physical and mental illnesses
3. History
4. Integration
5. Climate change
6. Diet and lifestyle
7. Politics
8. Space
9. Socio-economics
10. Schools
11. Language
12. Terrorism
13. Other … (open response)
14. Don’t want to discuss with a researcher
15. Don’t know (DON’T READ ALOUD)
16. No response (DON’T READ ALOUD)

**7. To what extent do you think research is taken into account when political decisions are made in Sweden? Is research taken into account too much, too little or to a reasonable extent?**

1. Too much
2. To a reasonable extent
3. Too little
4. Differs depending on the field
5. Don’t know (DON’T READ ALOUD)
6. No response (DON’T READ ALOUD)

**8. Which political party do you think best represents research issues?**

*(Pre-coded options DON’T READ ALOUD)*

1. Centre Party
2. Christian Democrats
3. Liberals
4. Green Party
5. Moderate Party
6. Swedish Social Democratic Party
7. Sweden Democrats
8. Left Party
9. Another part
10. One of the alliance parties
11. One of the red-green coalition parties
12. No party represents research issues well/best
13. Don’t know

**9.***Split ballot between a (asked to young people aged 16–29) and b (asked to everyone else*)

**9a) Would you like to work as a researcher in the future?** *(only to young people 16–29 years old)*

**9b) Would you recommend becoming a researcher to someone you know** *(to respondents aged 30 and over)*

1. Yes
2. No
3. Don’t know (DON’T READ ALOUD)
4. No response (DON’T READ ALOUD)

**10. There has been a lot of media coverage about the physician and researcher Paolo Macchiarini’s trachea operations. Are you aware about this?**

1. Yes
2. No (Go to question 12)
3. Don’t know (Go to question 12)

*11a and 11b (asked to those who answer “yes” to question 10)*

**11. Has it affected your confidence in …**

**11a) … medical research positively or negatively, or is it unchanged?**

1) Positively

2) Negatively

3) Unchanged

4) Don’t know (DON’T READ ALOUD)

**11b) … research in other fields positively or negatively, or is it unchanged?**

1) Positively

2) Negatively

3) Unchanged

4) Don’t know (DON’T READ ALOUD)

**B. Background questions**

**12. Do you work in research?**

1. Yes
2. No
3. No, but work/have worked in a research-related job (research administration)
4. No, but have previously
5. Don’t know (DON’T READ ALOUD)
6. No response

**13. Does any member of your family, relations or close friends work in research?**

1. Yes
2. No
3. No, but have previously
4. Don’t know (DON’T READ ALOUD)
5. No response

**14. What is your occupation?**

1. Employed
2. Self-employed
3. Student
4. Retired
5. Jobseeker
6. Other
7. Don’t want to say

**15. What type of education do you have?**

*Read aloud options 1–5*

1. Compulsory-level
2. Upper secondary
3. Post upper secondary education, less than three years
4. Post upper secondary education, three years or more
5. Postgraduate education
6. Don’t know (DON’T READ ALOUD)
7. Don’t want to say

**16. Which political party would you vote for if there was an election today?**

1. Centre Party
2. Christian Democrats
3. Liberal Party
4. Green Party
5. Moderate Party
6. Social Democrats
7. Sweden Democrats
8. Left Party
9. Another party
10. One of the alliance parties
11. One of the red-green coalition parties
12. Would vote blank
13. Would not vote
14. Don’t know
15. No response

**17. Sex (information on record, not to be asked in the interview)**

1. Female
2. Male

**18. Age (information on record, not be asked in the interview)**

1. 16–20
2. 20–29
3. 30–44
4. 45–59
5. 60–74

**19. SKL’s municipal classification (information on record, not to be asked in the interview)**

Location types: city, other towns, rural area (SKL’s municipal groups)