



FACTSHEET: Public consultation on an EU pollinators initiative

Basic figures:

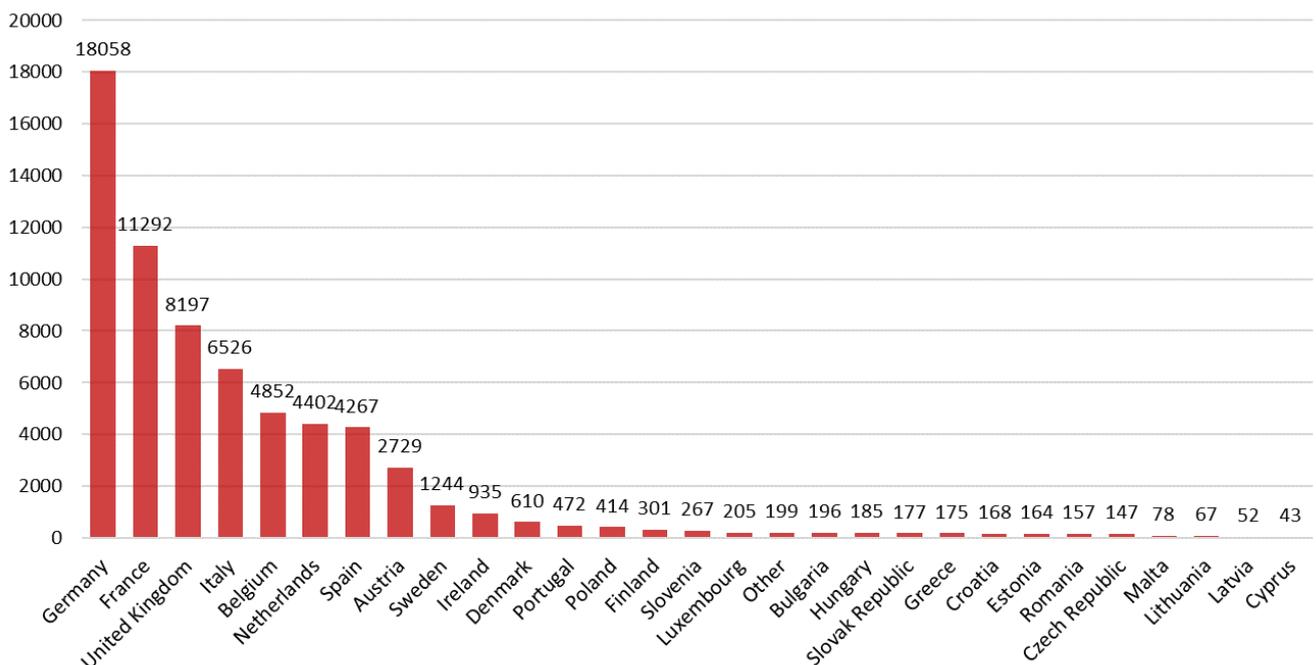
66,579 replies to the online public questionnaire:

- **65,190 from individuals (98%)**
- **1,389 from organisations (2%)** covering public authorities, NGOs, private enterprises, business or professional associations, research and academia, consultancies and others.

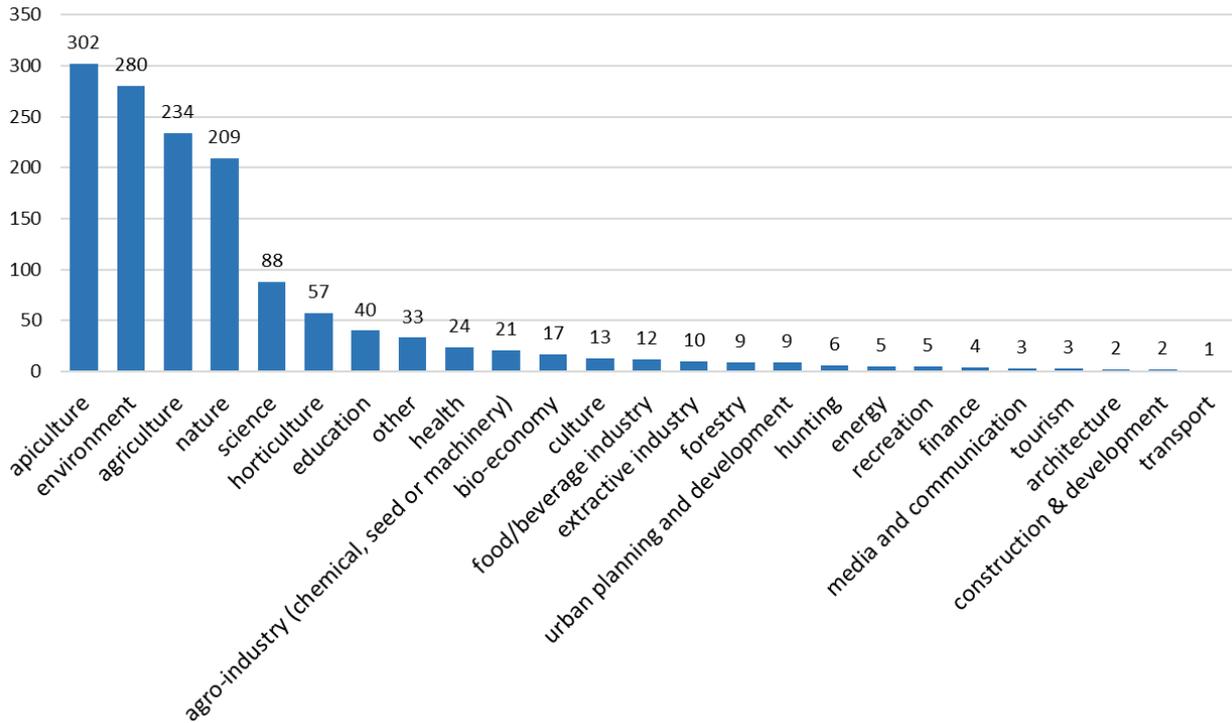
112 position papers

The public consultation on the EU Pollinators Initiative confirmed high public interest in pollinators, their decline and an EU response to it. A total of 66,579 replies were received, including 112 position papers. Stakeholders from all over Europe participated in the survey, particularly from Germany (27%), France (17%) and the UK (12%). As regards organizations, the highest response came from apiculture, environment, agriculture and nature sectors.

Number of replies by country



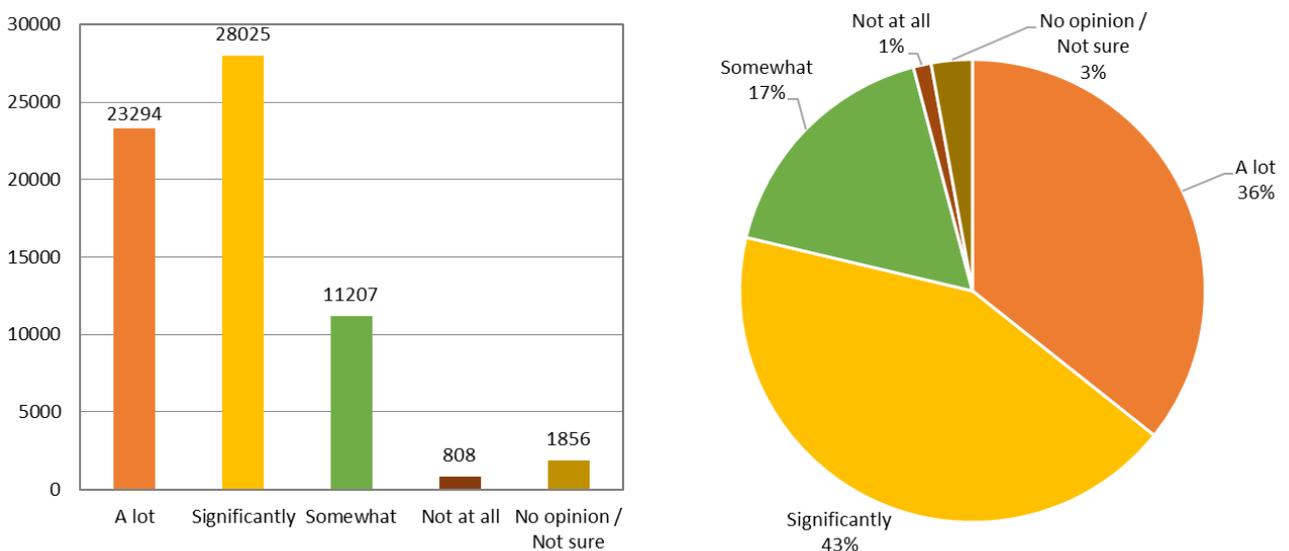
Organisations - number of replies by main field of activity



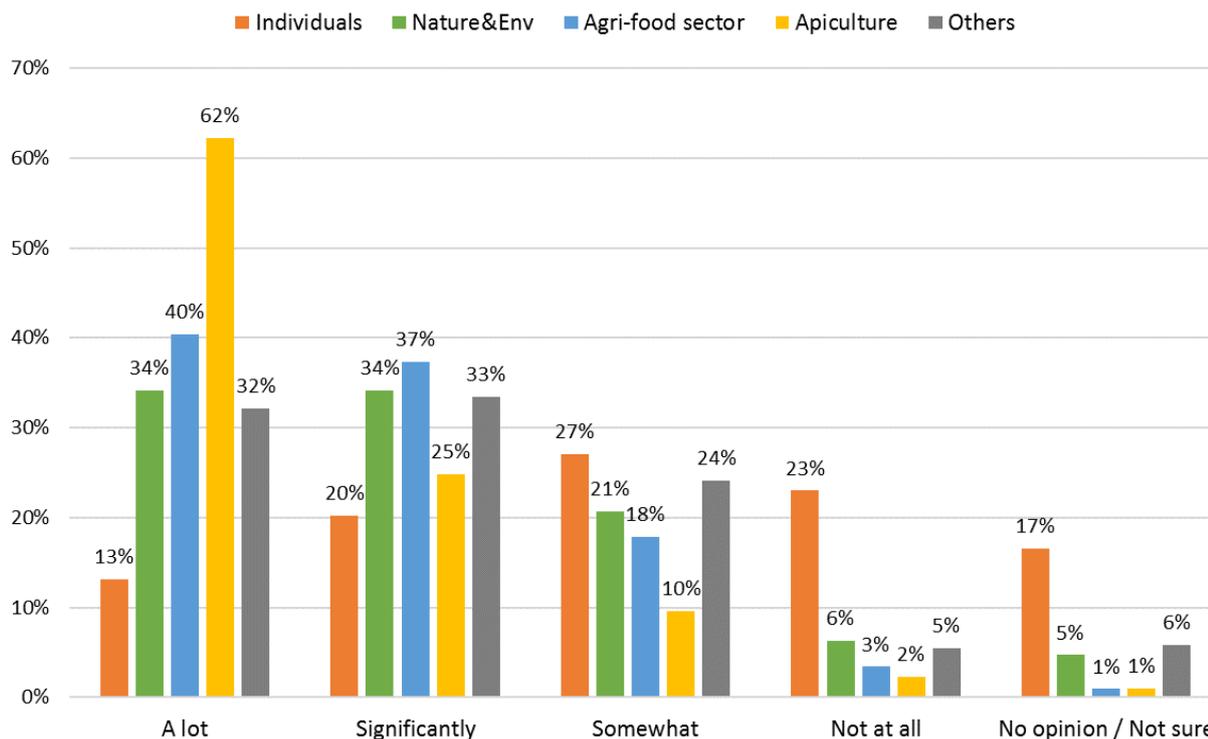
More than two-thirds of all respondents rated themselves as well informed about pollinators: their importance, status and the threats they are facing. One in ten respondents participated in citizen science on pollinators.

Respondents showcased strong awareness about the problem of pollinator decline. More than nine in ten respondents considered the decline of pollinators alarming. At least two-thirds of respondents across all stakeholder groups feel significantly affected by pollinator decline, whether in their private or professional life.

Impact of pollinator decline on respondents' private life (frequency and %)



Impact of pollinator decline on respondents' professional life (%)



While respondents highlighted the importance of a number of factors in pollinator decline, intensive agricultural management and pesticide use ranked the highest. Significant emphasis was also given to environmental pollution (other than pesticides) and climate change.

Almost all respondents acknowledged the importance of pollinators for natural ecosystems, food production and human wellbeing. A large majority, at least two-thirds across all stakeholder groups, thought the role of pollinators in that regard is indispensable.

The public consultation demonstrated strong support for actions to protect pollinators in the EU, at all governance levels but in particular at national and EU level. More than nine in ten respondents thought that efforts to halt the decline of pollinators at EU level should be stepped up a lot. Nine in ten respondents considered that the costs of actions to protect pollinators are lower than the benefits they provide.

While respondents largely acknowledged the importance of all proposed actions to tackle pollinator decline, the following stood out in particular: pollinator monitoring and research, assessing the risk of pesticides to pollinators, and protecting and restoring pollinator habitats in rural areas. Actions supporting collaboration and development of local/regional/national pollinator strategies were also strongly emphasized.