

Appendices

Appendix 1

Data collection rounds and corresponding periods

Round*	Period of data collection	Main COVID-19 regulations**	Pandemic stringency index***	Average number of daily occupied COVID-19 hospital beds****
1	17– 24 April 2020	- 1.5 meter distancing in all public spaces;	79	2530
2	7 – 12 May 2020	- Washing hands regularly;	79	1410
3	27 May – 1 June 2020	- Avoiding shaking hands; - Avoiding visiting vulnerable groups (e.g., older people, people with health conditions); - Working from home, except for essential jobs; - Closure of schools, child care centres, restaurants and cafés, places with contact professions (e.g., hair salons); - Lockdown imposed on March 23.	71	810
4	17 – 21 June 2020	- Relaxed regulations - Lockdown ended on June 1. - Restaurants and cafés allowed to open with restrictions	63	310
5	8 – 12 July 2020	- Further relaxed regulations: - No limit of number of people that can be together in public spaces, on the condition that a 1.5-meter distance is kept between all individuals (besides children <18).	45	110
6	19 – 23 August 2020	- Stricter regulations; - Restriction on the number of people that one can receive at home daily (no more than 6).	45	120
7	30 September – 4 October 2020	- Stricter regulations; - Restriction on the number of people that one can receive at home daily (no more than 3).	62	460
8	11 – 15 November 2020	- Stricter regulations; - Restriction on the number of people that one can receive at home daily (no more than 2). - Restaurants and cafés - Public events prohibited; - Sport activities of max. 2 people, group sport activities prohibited; - General advice to stay as much as possible at home.	62	1800
9	30 December 2020 - 3 January 2021	- Stricter regulations; - Lockdown imposed on December 15; - Wearing masks in all public spaces; - Shops closed.	79	1880

10	10 - 14 February 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stricter regulations; - Curfew from 21.00 – 4.30 am; - People can receive a max. of one visitor (>13) at home; - Schools, child care centres, restaurants, cafés, shops closed. - On January 8, vaccination campaign started. 	79	1490
11	24 – 28 March 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Somewhat relaxed regulations; - Shops can open, but only for customers with appointments; - Young people (< 26) are allowed to sport in groups outside. 	75	1500
12	5 – 9 May 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More relaxed regulations; - Curfew is ended; - Higher education, terraces, shops open with restrictions; - Max 2 guests older than 13 daily. 	68	1890
13	16 – 20 June 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More relaxed regulations; - Restaurants and cafés, theatres, museums, cinemas allowed to open with restrictions; - Team sport activities allowed outside, up to 50 people; - For other activities, max. 4 people together in public spaces. 	68	460
14	28 July – 1 August 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More relaxed regulations since June 26; - Most public spaces are allowed to be open, with the rule of keeping 1.5 meter distance; - Clubs and discos are allowed to be open, with the Corona Pass; - Work from office allowed for a max. of half of the workweek; - Shortly afterwards, on July 5, stricter regulations are reimposed; - Fixed seats in restaurants, cafes and public events; - Clubs and discos closed again. 	42	390
15	8 – 12 September 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Travelling to certain countries only possible with the Corona Pass; - On campus higher educations allowed with restrictions. 	42	450
16	20 – 24 October 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Access to restaurants, cafes and public events with the Corona Pass; - 1.5 meter social distancing rule not mandatory anymore, but recommended; - Work from the office allowed, if necessary. 	41	430
17	24 – 28 November 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Stricter regulations; - Shops, restaurants and cafes open with restrictions and need to close at 5pm; - 1.5 social distancing rule imposed; - Max. 4 visitors at home, daily; - Facemasks required in schools for pupils and teachers. 	47	1860

18	19 – 23 January 2022	- On December 19, lockdown imposed, most public venues, schools, child care centres closed; - Starting January 15 2022, more relaxed regulations; - Nonessential shops, educational institutions, and sport clubs reopen.	66	970
19	9 – 13 March 2022	-Relaxed regulations: - Almost all restrictions are given up; - Face masks only mandatory in public transport and airports; - Access to events of more than 500 people only allowed based on COVID-19 negative tests	31	1330
20	8 – 12 June 2022	-More relaxed regulations -Face masks no longer mandatory in public transport and airports;	16	340
21	7 – 11 September 2022	-Corona Pass is no longer needed for access to public venues.	16	460

Note. *No data on general news consumption were collected in rounds 17, 18, and 20. No data on usage of the different news information channels were collected in rounds 2, 4, 11-18, and 20. The rounds with complete data collection included in the analyses are emphasized in bold. ** The main COVID-19 regulation at place in the weeks preceding the start of the data collection round. ***Pandemic stringency index measured from 0 to 100, with 100 indicating the highest stringency. ****Average number of daily occupied hospital beds for COVID-19 cases in the seven days preceding the start of the data collection round.

Appendix 2

News information channels included in the survey

News information channel	
1.	Website of the Dutch government
2.	Website of the <i>RIVM</i>
3.	Website of my regional <i>GGD</i>
4.	Website of the municipality where I live
5.	General practitioner
6.	Medical websites, such as <i>thuisarts.nl</i>
7.	National newspapers
8.	Regional and local media
9.	Online news websites or apps, such as <i>nos.nl</i> or <i>nu.nl</i>
10.	Social media, such as <i>Facebook</i> , <i>Twitter</i> , or <i>Instagram</i>
11.	People in my environment, such as neighbours, colleagues, or family
12.	News bulletins on public broadcasting channels, such as <i>NOS Journaal</i>
13.	News bulletins on commercial broadcasting channels, such as <i>RTL Nieuws</i>
14.	News background programmes, such as <i>Nieuwsuur</i> or <i>EenVandaag</i>
15.	Talkshows, such as <i>Op1</i> or <i>De Vooravond</i>
16.	Radio

Appendix 3

Socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents

Characteristic	Category	Percentage of responses
Gender identity	woman	62.8%
	man	37.2%
	other	.1%
Age	16-24 years	2.2%
	25-39 years	15.3 %
	40-54 years	27.5%
	55-69 years	35.1%
	70-84 years	19.3%
	85 years or older	.7%
Education	lower education	12.0%
	medium education	27.5%
	higher education	60.5%
Migration background	western	2.4%
	non-western	1.9%
	no migration background	95.7%
Living situation	living alone	19.5%
	living together with someone	80.5%
Work situation (being employed)	being employed with contract	49.3%
	not being employed with contract	50.7%
Work situation (being self-employed)	being self-employed	11.0%
	not being self-employed	89.0%
Having a health vulnerability	yes	24.7 %
	no	75.3 %

Note. For presentation purposes, the samples characteristics are shown based on unique responses in the whole sample (N = 306,692 responses, pertaining to 83,180 unique respondents).

Appendix 4

Socio-demographic characteristics of the respondents in the robustness analyses

Characteristic	Category	Percentage of respondents
Age	16-39 years	6.8%;
	40-54 years	21.5%
	55-69 years	44.9%
	70-84 years	25.8%
	85 years or older	0.8%
Gender	women;	55.7%
	men	44.2%
	other	.1%
Education	lower education	12.5%
	medium education	24.6%
	higher education	62.7%
Migration background	western;	2.1%
	non-western;	2.2%:
	no migration background	95.7%:
Living situation	Living alone	22.3%
Work situation	Being employed with contract	41.2%
	Being self-employed	9.5%
Having a health vulnerability	yes	25.7%

Appendix 5

Overview of usage of the news information channels within different socio-demographic groups, in different data measurement rounds

	Gender		Age categories						Education level			Living situation		Migration background			Health vulnerability		Trust in government			
	Round	woman	man	16-24 years	25-39 years	40-54 years	55-69 years	70-84 years	85+ years	low	medium	high	alone	not alone	no	Western	not Western	no	yes	low trust	medium trust	high trust
General news consumption (frequency)	1	3,22	3,23	2,88	3,11	3,24	3,33	3,35	3,32	3,22	3,21	3,24	3,29	3,16	3,18	3,21	3,29	3,19	3,25	3,16	3,17	3,34
	2	3,15	3,15	2,88	2,98	3,10	3,25	3,30	3,35	3,13	3,15	3,17	3,20	3,09	3,11	3,15	3,18	3,11	3,19	3,07	3,09	3,28
	3	2,76	2,83	2,37	2,52	2,75	2,92	3,01	3,02	2,79	2,77	2,83	2,80	2,73	2,75	2,82	2,82	2,75	2,84	2,59	2,74	2,97
	4	2,47	2,60	2,04	2,24	2,51	2,77	2,90	2,85	2,49	2,51	2,59	2,58	2,53	2,50	2,57	2,54	2,49	2,58	2,42	2,46	2,78
	5	2,32	2,45	2,35	2,20	2,64	2,68	2,71	2,59	2,33	2,37	2,46	2,50	2,55	2,31	2,42	2,43	2,34	2,43	2,33	2,49	2,77
	6	2,96	2,93	2,64	2,81	2,99	3,20	3,26	2,99	2,91	2,92	3,00	3,04	2,92	2,93	2,91	3,00	2,90	2,99	2,87	2,96	3,11
	7	3,17	3,11	2,90	2,95	3,07	3,22	3,29	3,53	3,13	3,11	3,18	3,21	3,10	3,11	3,13	3,19	3,11	3,16	3,08	3,12	3,28
	8	2,97	2,97	2,64	2,75	2,94	3,11	3,22	3,27	2,97	2,95	2,99	3,05	2,92	2,93	3,01	2,97	2,93	3,01	2,73	3,01	3,22
	9	2,92	2,93	2,58	2,68	2,88	3,07	3,16	3,21	2,89	2,89	2,98	2,99	2,86	2,91	2,92	2,94	2,90	2,95	2,81	2,90	3,07
	10	2,81	2,87	2,52	2,60	2,78	3,00	3,10	3,13	2,82	2,80	2,90	2,90	2,80	2,81	2,87	2,84	2,81	2,87	2,67	2,86	3,01
	11	2,84	2,90	2,45	2,65	2,81	3,09	3,19	3,24	2,84	2,83	2,93	2,96	2,84	2,79	2,93	2,88	2,85	2,88	2,70	2,92	3,09
	12	2,68	2,77	2,40	2,49	2,70	2,95	3,00	3,04	2,71	2,67	2,80	2,82	2,70	2,65	2,79	2,74	2,71	2,74	2,59	2,76	2,95
	13	2,52	2,65	2,51	2,42	2,58	2,75	2,75	2,78	2,52	2,54	2,69	2,68	2,59	2,48	2,63	2,64	2,56	2,61	2,36	2,63	2,91
	14	2,49	2,57	2,23	2,31	2,56	2,79	2,79	2,74	2,45	2,46	2,67	2,62	2,53	2,44	2,68	2,46	2,52	2,54	2,40	2,54	2,78
	15	2,28	2,39	1,99	2,05	2,33	2,55	2,63	2,59	2,26	2,28	2,46	2,40	2,31	2,28	2,39	2,33	2,29	2,37	2,15	2,34	2,58
	16	2,27	2,37	1,87	2,07	2,35	2,58	2,63	2,56	2,24	2,27	2,45	2,38	2,31	2,27	2,32	2,37	2,29	2,35	2,21	2,30	2,52
19	2,04	2,20	1,89	1,85	2,06	2,29	2,41	2,41	2,09	2,08	2,19	2,18	2,12	2,06	2,18	2,12	2,07	2,17	1,99	2,08	2,39	
21	1,25	1,44	0,78	0,93	1,20	1,51	1,71	1,73	1,30	1,28	1,46	1,32	1,30	1,42	1,28	1,34	1,27	1,42	1,20	1,20	1,53	
Average	2,54	2,61	2,27	2,34	2,56	2,77	2,85	2,84	2,53	2,53	2,65	2,65	2,56	2,53	2,60	2,59	2,54	2,61	2,44	2,58	2,80	
TV news (% respondents)	1	73%	73%	60%	61%	71%	78%	82%	84%	71%	74%	74%	75%	71%	79%	68%	71%	72%	74%	66%	73%	80%
	3	66%	67%	48%	51%	65%	76%	81%	77%	65%	67%	67%	67%	65%	71%	63%	66%	66%	67%	57%	67%	75%
	5	56%	59%	38%	38%	54%	67%	75%	73%	56%	58%	59%	58%	57%	62%	54%	58%	57%	58%	48%	56%	68%
	6	64%	65%	48%	49%	59%	72%	78%	80%	63%	65%	65%	65%	64%	71%	58%	64%	63%	66%	60%	65%	71%
	7	69%	70%	52%	54%	68%	78%	83%	84%	68%	70%	71%	71%	69%	75%	66%	68%	70%	70%	64%	71%	75%
8	64%	64%	49%	46%	62%	72%	77%	79%	62%	65%	66%	65%	63%	70%	59%	64%	64%	65%	52%	67%	74%	

Newspapers and local media (% respondents)	9	68%	69%	54%	51%	65%	77%	82%	83%	67%	69%	70%	70%	68%	73%	63%	69%	68%	69%	61%	71%	74%
	10	67%	68%	52%	52%	66%	75%	80%	78%	65%	68%	68%	68%	66%	73%	62%	67%	67%	68%	58%	69%	74%
	19	50%	57%	44%	37%	47%	58%	66%	69%	52%	54%	55%	54%	53%	53%	51%	56%	53%	54%	42%	55%	63%
	Average	64%	66%	49%	49%	62%	73%	78%	79%	63%	65%	66%	66%	64%	70%	60%	65%	64%	66%	56%	66%	73%
	1	60%	65%	52%	51%	59%	68%	73%	74%	58%	63%	68%	65%	60%	69%	62%	57%	63%	62%	58%	64%	67%
	3	54%	60%	44%	43%	52%	64%	71%	69%	52%	56%	63%	59%	56%	63%	57%	52%	58%	57%	51%	58%	62%
	5	49%	56%	34%	36%	46%	60%	67%	69%	46%	52%	58%	53%	51%	58%	51%	47%	53%	51%	44%	52%	60%
	6	59%	65%	50%	48%	55%	68%	73%	77%	58%	60%	67%	64%	60%	67%	63%	55%	62%	62%	62%	62%	65%
	7	61%	66%	49%	48%	58%	71%	76%	80%	60%	62%	68%	65%	62%	69%	62%	60%	64%	63%	59%	66%	66%
	8	57%	62%	46%	43%	52%	64%	71%	78%	54%	59%	64%	61%	57%	65%	58%	56%	60%	59%	50%	62%	65%
	9	59%	64%	49%	46%	55%	66%	72%	79%	56%	60%	67%	63%	59%	67%	59%	57%	61%	61%	56%	62%	65%
10	54%	60%	45%	43%	51%	63%	70%	69%	52%	55%	64%	59%	55%	63%	54%	54%	58%	56%	52%	59%	60%	
19	40%	51%	34%	27%	36%	51%	61%	65%	41%	44%	52%	47%	44%	51%	41%	45%	46%	46%	39%	48%	51%	
Average	55%	61%	45%	43%	52%	64%	70%	73%	53%	57%	64%	60%	56%	64%	56%	54%	58%	57%	52%	59%	62%	
Governmental channels (% respondents)	1	44%	39%	50%	52%	49%	43%	30%	23%	40%	41%	43%	42%	41%	37%	44%	43%	42%	41%	41%	40%	42%
	3	33%	30%	39%	39%	38%	34%	24%	15%	30%	31%	33%	33%	30%	27%	38%	29%	29%	34%	30%	30%	34%
	5	28%	25%	26%	33%	34%	32%	22%	13%	25%	27%	28%	27%	26%	21%	36%	25%	25%	28%	22%	25%	32%
	6	39%	35%	45%	48%	43%	39%	29%	21%	35%	37%	40%	38%	36%	32%	44%	36%	35%	40%	36%	36%	41%
	7	42%	36%	50%	49%	47%	41%	27%	22%	35%	39%	43%	41%	38%	37%	46%	34%	37%	41%	36%	38%	44%
	8	36%	33%	43%	43%	41%	37%	28%	15%	32%	35%	37%	36%	33%	31%	43%	30%	32%	37%	28%	35%	40%
	9	32%	29%	33%	39%	35%	34%	24%	19%	28%	31%	34%	31%	30%	29%	38%	25%	29%	32%	26%	30%	36%
	10	36%	35%	36%	41%	39%	38%	29%	30%	33%	35%	38%	36%	35%	31%	46%	29%	33%	38%	30%	35%	41%
	19	25%	23%	31%	26%	26%	25%	21%	15%	22%	24%	26%	26%	22%	22%	29%	21%	22%	26%	21%	22%	28%
	Average	35%	32%	39%	41%	39%	36%	26%	19%	31%	33%	36%	34%	32%	30%	40%	30%	32%	35%	30%	32%	38%
Medical channels (% respondents)		7%	6%	7%	7%	6%	6%	7%	5%	5%	7%	7%	7%	6%	6%	6%	7%	5%	8%	9%	5%	5%
	3	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%	4%	4%	4%	4%	3%	4%	4%	3%	5%	4%	4%	4%
	5	4%	4%	6%	4%	4%	4%	4%	2%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	3%	3%	6%	3%	5%	4%	4%	4%
	6	4%	4%	6%	4%	4%	4%	4%	2%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	3%	3%	6%	3%	5%	5%	4%	4%
	7	4%	4%	4%	4%	3%	4%	4%	6%	4%	4%	5%	4%	4%	4%	4%	5%	3%	5%	4%	5%	4%
	8	3%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	2%	3%	4%	4%	4%	3%	3%	4%	4%	3%	5%	4%	3%	4%

(online) Interpersonal Communication (% of respondents)	Online news websites (% respondents)	9	4%	4%	5%	3%	3%	3%	4%	5%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	3%	4%	3%	5%	4%	3%	4%
		10	5%	6%	4%	5%	5%	6%	7%	6%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%	4%	6%	6%	4%	7%	6%	5%	5%
		19	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	2%	3%	5%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	2%	3%	4%	3%	4%	4%	3%	3%
		Average	4%	4%	5%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	5%	3%	5%	5%	4%	4%
		1	47%	52%	65%	61%	59%	50%	36%	27%	41%	49%	59%	52%	47%	53%	49%	47%	50%	49%	44%	50%	55%
		3	43%	48%	63%	61%	57%	46%	29%	20%	37%	45%	55%	47%	44%	47%	47%	43%	46%	46%	40%	46%	52%
		5	39%	38%	51%	52%	52%	41%	25%	16%	39%	39%	38%	39%	39%	37%	39%	40%	37%	40%	46%	35%	35%
		6	46%	51%	66%	61%	58%	46%	31%	26%	39%	48%	57%	50%	47%	51%	46%	48%	48%	48%	44%	49%	52%
		7	49%	54%	72%	64%	59%	50%	34%	27%	42%	50%	61%	52%	50%	54%	48%	51%	52%	50%	50%	50%	53%
		8	43%	48%	65%	59%	56%	46%	30%	18%	38%	45%	54%	47%	44%	49%	42%	46%	46%	46%	37%	48%	52%
	9	45%	48%	66%	60%	57%	44%	30%	21%	39%	45%	55%	48%	44%	50%	45%	44%	47%	45%	46%	46%	47%	
	10	45%	49%	70%	60%	57%	45%	31%	20%	40%	46%	56%	49%	46%	48%	48%	45%	48%	47%	44%	48%	49%	
	19	33%	38%	55%	45%	44%	35%	24%	12%	28%	34%	44%	36%	36%	38%	36%	33%	36%	35%	33%	36%	39%	
	Average	43%	47%	64%	58%	55%	45%	30%	21%	38%	45%	53%	47%	44%	47%	44%	44%	46%	45%	43%	45%	48%	
	Radio (% respondents)	1	28%	28%	24%	23%	24%	27%	32%	27%	25%	27%	26%	26%	26%	27%	29%	22%	27%	25%	22%	27%	29%
		3	21%	26%	24%	22%	22%	24%	26%	23%	22%	24%	25%	22%	25%	24%	26%	21%	25%	22%	20%	23%	28%
		5	17%	21%	14%	17%	18%	21%	24%	21%	16%	20%	21%	18%	20%	21%	20%	17%	20%	18%	15%	19%	23%
		6	21%	24%	19%	19%	20%	22%	25%	27%	20%	22%	24%	22%	23%	24%	22%	20%	23%	21%	18%	23%	26%
		7	21%	25%	18%	21%	24%	27%	28%	23%	20%	24%	26%	23%	24%	26%	24%	20%	25%	22%	18%	25%	26%
		8	23%	27%	26%	21%	23%	24%	27%	30%	23%	26%	26%	25%	25%	26%	27%	22%	26%	24%	20%	26%	29%
9		22%	25%	26%	20%	20%	22%	24%	27%	20%	24%	26%	23%	24%	26%	24%	19%	24%	22%	20%	24%	26%	
10		19%	23%	20%	20%	20%	22%	25%	23%	19%	21%	24%	21%	22%	23%	22%	18%	22%	20%	18%	23%	24%	
19		11%	16%	13%	11%	13%	15%	18%	12%	12%	13%	15%	12%	15%	17%	14%	10%	14%	13%	9%	14%	17%	
Average		20%	24%	20%	19%	20%	23%	25%	24%	20%	22%	24%	21%	23%	24%	23%	19%	23%	21%	18%	23%	25%	
(online) Interpersonal Communication (% of respondents)	1	51%	48%	71%	62%	55%	45%	35%	31%	50%	50%	49%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%	53%	49%	48%		
	3	47%	44%	74%	56%	51%	40%	31%	22%	47%	45%	45%	45%	46%	44%	46%	48%	46%	46%	53%	42%	43%	
	5	39%	38%	59%	46%	44%	36%	27%	20%	39%	39%	38%	39%	39%	37%	39%	40%	37%	40%	46%	35%	35%	
	6	46%	44%	68%	58%	48%	39%	29%	28%	45%	46%	44%	45%	45%	45%	50%	40%	44%	46%	48%	42%	44%	
	7	46%	42%	71%	53%	50%	40%	31%	19%	45%	44%	43%	44%	44%	45%	43%	44%	43%	45%	46%	42%	44%	
8	45%	41%	70%	53%	49%	38%	29%	20%	44%	44%	41%	42%	44%	42%	46%	42%	43%	44%	46%	41%	43%		

9	33%	32%	55%	42%	37%	27%	19%	16%	35%	32%	31%	31%	34%	35%	31%	32%	32%	33%	37%	31%	30%
10	35%	34%	58%	44%	39%	29%	23%	13%	37%	34%	32%	34%	35%	35%	33%	35%	34%	35%	38%	32%	32%
19	27%	28%	45%	30%	29%	23%	19%	20%	29%	28%	27%	26%	29%	28%	28%	27%	27%	28%	32%	24%	27%
Average	37%	36%	55%	43%	40%	32%	26%	20%	37%	36%	35%	36%	37%	36%	37%	35%	36%	36%	39%	34%	35%

Note. Highlighted cells represent the most used news information channels, on average, within a socio-demographic group

Appendix 6

Robustness analyses: overview of the substantial odd ratios in the five preselected data collection rounds

	TV news					(online) Interpersonal					Newspapers					Government					Medical					Online news					Radio				
	1	5	8	10	19	1	5	8	10	19	1	5	8	10	19	1	5	8	10	19	1	5	8	10	19	1	5	8	10	19	1	5	8	10	19
Gender					.72										.63																				
Age	1.66	1.76	1.67	1.60	1.43	.70	.73	.69	.70		1.42	1.61	1.47	1.46	1.73											.63	.66	.62	.62	.68					
Education																										1.43		1.46	1.43	1.43					
Migr. not western	.58		.70	.69							.60	.67	.73	.66		.54	.50	.67			2.40					2.73									.65
Migr.-western	.48	.64	.54	.54							.70	.70	.69	.65																					
Living alone	.72																																		
Employed																									.66										
Self-employed																																			
Health vulner.																										1.82	1.87	1.96	1.99	1.52					
Trust	1.47	1.49	1.57	1.42	1.46																														

Note. Blank cells indicate unsubstantial odd ratios values, either $>.70$ or $<.1.40$.