HYBRID

ESCAIDE

European Scientific Conference
on Applied Infectious Disease Epidemiology

Evaluation report
20 December 2022

ESCAIDE

ecdc
EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR
DISEASE PREVENTION
AND CONTROL

#ESCAIDE 2022

Table of contents

ESCAIDE 2022 in numbers

+2400 online +600 in-person

Registrations, representing 123 countries

+200

Speakers and moderators involved in plenary sessions, fireside sessions, poster tours and side-events.

+40

Sessions, discussing the latest scientific research and challenges in infectious disease epidemiology, public health microbiology and related scientific fields.
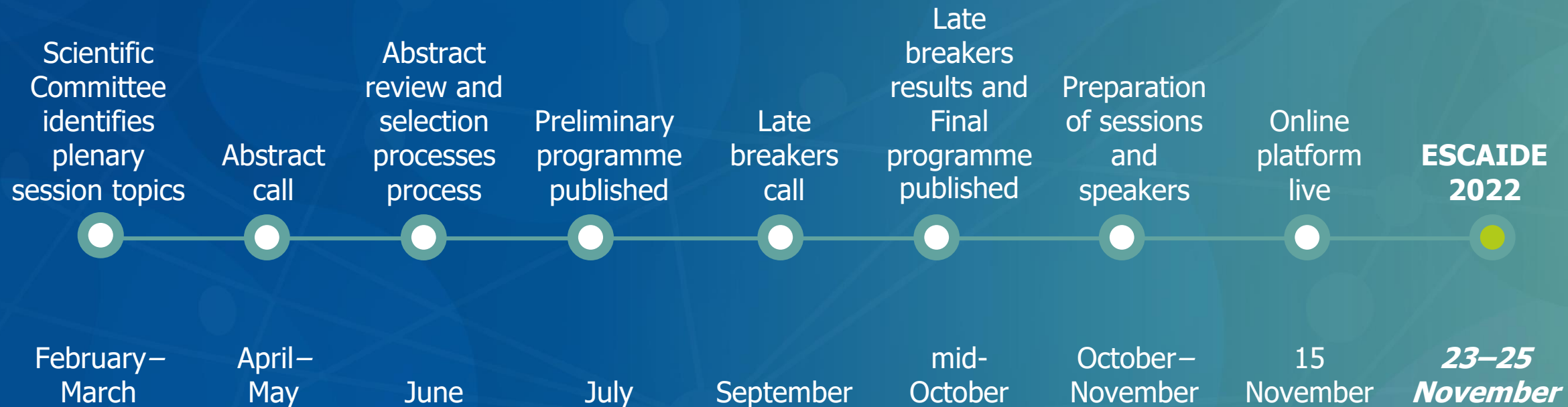
2427

Active participants on the web and mobile app during the conference to view sessions, add new contacts, bookmark info-stands, etc.

+3000

Comments, questions, polls and messages exchanged during the conference.

ESCAIDE 2022 timeline overview

Scientific Committee identifies plenary session topics	Abstract call	Abstract review and selection processes process	Preliminary programme published	Late breakers call	Late breakers results and Final programme published	Preparation of sessions and speakers	Online platform live	**ESCAIDE 2022**
February–March	April–May	June	July	September	mid-October	October–November	15 November	*23–25 November*

Programme

Overview of the programme and main features of the conference

Programme

The programme for ESCAIDE 2022 was packed with 5 plenaries, 9 Fireside sessions, 13 Poster tours, side events and networking opportunities. ESCAIDE 2022 offered more than 40 sessions, with more than 200 speakers and moderators. ESCAIDE 2022 presentations and scientific posters remain accessible for registered participants to view or review for three months, until end of February 2022.

Plenary Sessions	Abstract-led content			Side-sessions		Welcome & Wrap-up Sessions	Networking & drinks
5 Sessions	54 oral abstract presentations	76 poster presentations	52 online-only posters	10 side events		5 sessions	2 events
	9 Fireside sessions	13 Poster tours		7 scientific sessions	3 mindfulness sessions		
15 speakers 11 moderators	125 presenters 22 moderators			20 speakers 9 moderators		12 speakers 1 moderator	

ESCAIDE 2022 Programme

Programme

Plenary sessions at ESCAIDE provide an opportunity to discuss public health challenges and scientific advances, bring together experts in cross-cutting fields to enable evidence from infectious disease research and epidemiology to be translated into improvements in public health. The content of the plenaries is proposed by the ESCAIDE Scientific Committee (10 cross-field members), who invite high level speakers to deliver inspiring presentations and address questions from the audience. There were five plenary sessions at ESCAIDE 2022, developed and chaired by the ESCAIDE Scientific Committee.

Plenaries

Controlling a pandemic – what are the ethical boundaries?	Refugees and refuge: how to promote and protect the health of displaced people	Revolutions in vaccination in the age of COVID-19	Cutting through the noise: the role of Public Health experts in managing an infodemic	The COVID-19 pandemic – a surveillance game changer?

Plenaries at ESCAIDE 2022

Plenary speakers at ESCAIDE 2022

Programme

Abstracts are submitted to ESCAIDE and reviewed by a group of reviewers and the Scientific Committee. Those selected represent the latest in cutting-edge research from a broad spectrum of fields including infectious disease epidemiology, microbiology, surveillance, implementation science, modelling, preparedness and more. Abstracts are either presented as oral presentations (Fireside sessions) or as posters (Poster tours and online-only posters). In the programme, there were moderated fireside sessions and poster tours, in which presenters have the opportunity to delve deeper into their research and take questions from the audience.
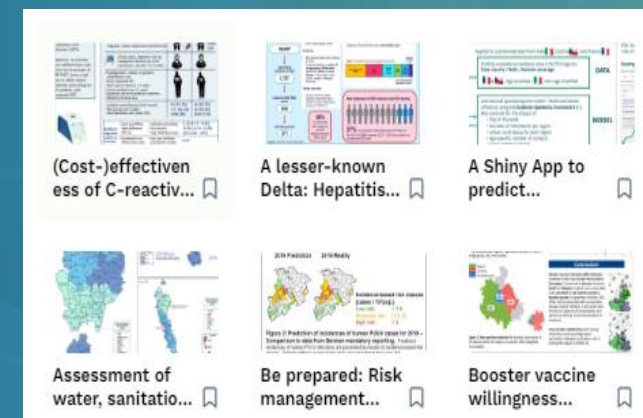
Abstract presentations

9 Fireside sessions (53 oral presentations) | **13 Poster tours (76 poster presentations)** | **52 Online-only**

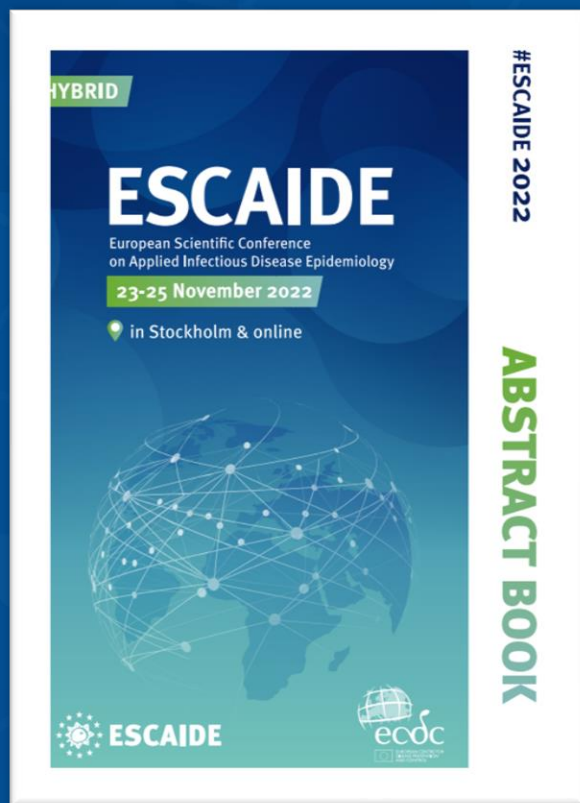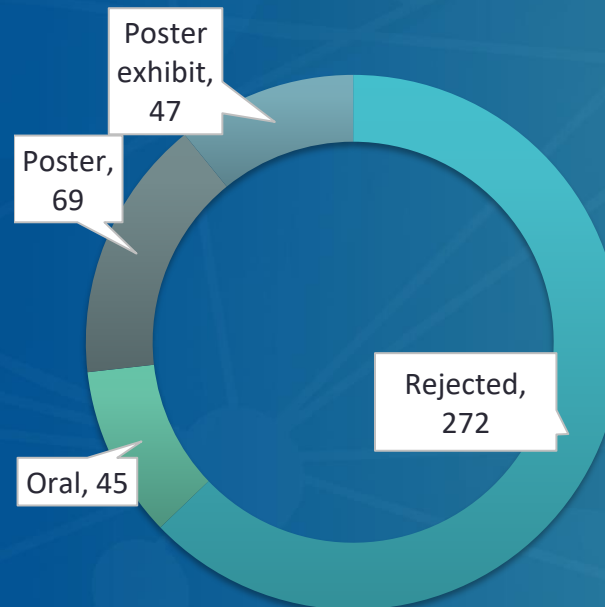
Abstract presentations at ESCAIDE 2022

Abstract book ESCAIDE 2022

Programme

ESCAIDE 2022 received 527 abstract submissions. 54 were accepted for oral presentation, 76 were presented in poster tours, and 52 were exhibited as online-only posters. The acceptance rate was 36%, which is lower than previous years (48% in 2021 and 2020, and 46% in 2019). The lower acceptance rate was due to limited programme capacity of the hybrid event, with only two parallel sessions for firesides and a need to reduce the poster terminals for poster tours.

Standard call

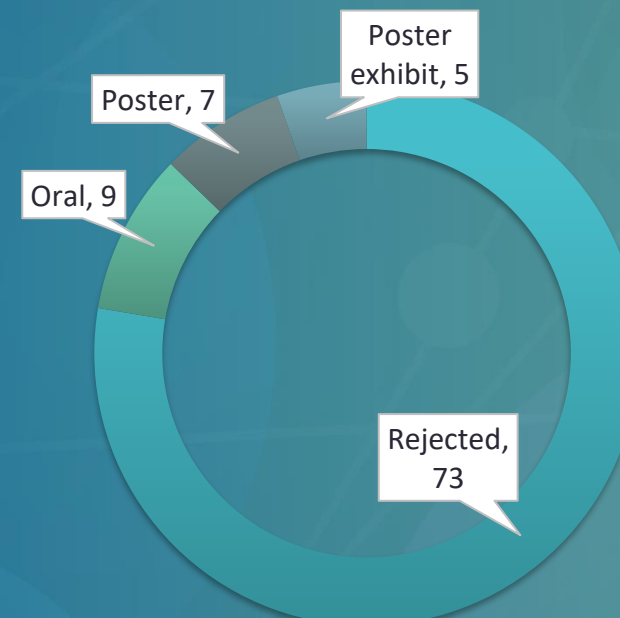Poster exhibit, 47
Poster, 69
Oral, 45
Rejected, 272

Total submitted: 433
Total accepted: 170

Late breaker call

Poster exhibit, 5
Poster, 7
Oral, 9
Rejected, 73

Total submitted: 94
Total accepted: 21

[Abstract book ESCAIDE 2022](#)

Programme

ESCAIDE side-events aim to seed discussion on topics that were particularly relevant during the year, or to show case relevant work done in a certain field. They can take several formats (presentations, trainings, workshops, symposia, debates, etc.) and are organised by third parties, who are given latitude to self-organise and are free to experiment with form and content.

Side-sessions and events

Modelling session: Modelling the future of living alongside COVID-19 in Europe	***Eurosurveillance* Seminar:** Communicating science: social media and other means - *Pitfalls and benefits*	**Social sciences session:** Use of social science methods to support the prevention and control of infectious diseases in Europe
Career Compass: Q&A session about the different career paths of established public health professionals	**MediPIET session:** The role of national FETPs in strengthening countries' capacities for infectious disease prevention and response	**BarCamp**

Side events at ESCAIDE 2022

Programme

Alongside a packed scientific programme, other events were hosted at ESCAIDE this year. On the first day, a networking cocktail was offered with views from Münchenbryggeriet over Stockholm. Every day at lunch time, there was a mindfulness sessions, brought together by ECDC colleagues to offer moments of relaxation.

Other events

Mindfulness session: be your own coffee or chamomile tea, with Aiga Berke	Vitamin groove, with Irina Ljungqvist	Yoga for body and mind stretching, with Maria Keramarou	Networking cocktail

[Visit the ESCAIDE 2022 content archive](#)

[View ESCAIDE 2022 photos](#)

Registrations

Overview of online and in-person registrations and participation

Registrations

3031	2402	Online registrations
Registrations in total	629	In-person registrations over 3-days

ESCAIDE 2022 received a total of 3031 registrations for in-person and online participation. This was comparable to the overall registration numbers in last year's online edition of the conference.

2402 registrations were received for participants wishing to attend only online, whereas a total of 629 registrations were received for in-person, with many participants registering for different conference days.

Registrations

123	29	EU/EEA countries
Countries represented	94	Outside EU/EEA countries

ESCAIDE 2022 registered participants indicated they were from 29 countries inside EU/EEA (2042) and from 94 countries outside EU/EEA (989).

Similarly to last year, when ESCAIDE went online for the second time, this is again an indication that the hybrid format with the option for online participation has created more opportunities for attendance for participants who might not attend in normal circumstances due to costs, travel, etc.

Participants

Participants per day
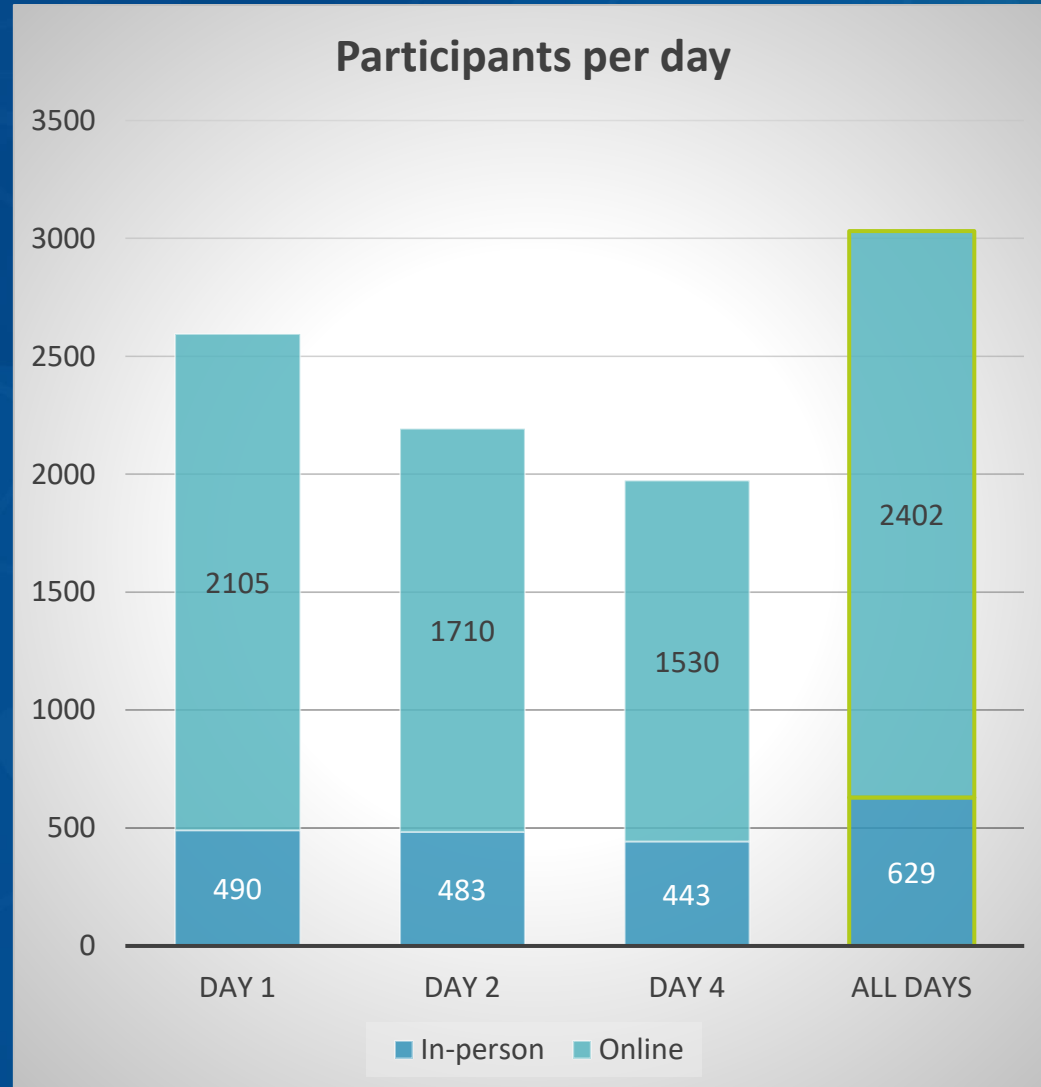
Even though 3031 participants registered for ESCAIDE 2022, not all of them attended the conference every day.

During the conference days, the number of in-person and online participants varied from 2595 on Day 1, 2193 on Day 2, and 1973 on Day 3.

EU/EEA representation

Participants per EU/EEA country

Chart data (In-person / Online):

Country	Online	In-person
GERMANY	168	61
ECDC	85	138
ROMANIA	191	9
(THE) NETHERLANDS	125	47
SWEDEN	98	30
SPAIN	115	11
PORTUGAL	100	21
ITALY	105	15
BELGIUM	82	22
IRELAND	72	10
FRANCE	54	23
DENMARK	42	20
GREECE	49	9
NORWAY	33	16
HUNGARY	46	1
FINLAND	30	14
POLAND	29	7
AUSTRIA	19	4
SLOVENIA	17	5
LUXEMBOURG	18	4
SLOVAKIA	20	1
MALTA	11	
CZECH REPUBLIC	12	
LITHUANIA	11	
CYPRUS	8	1
ESTONIA	9	
CROATIA	3	4
LATVIA	5	2
ICELAND	0	

■ In-person ■ Online

Participants registered either online or in-person from all 27 countries in the EU, along with Norway and Iceland.

Represented by the highest number of total participants were Germany (229), Romania (200), and the Netherlands (172).

There were 223 ECDC employees in total registered at the conference.

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Outside EU/EEA representation

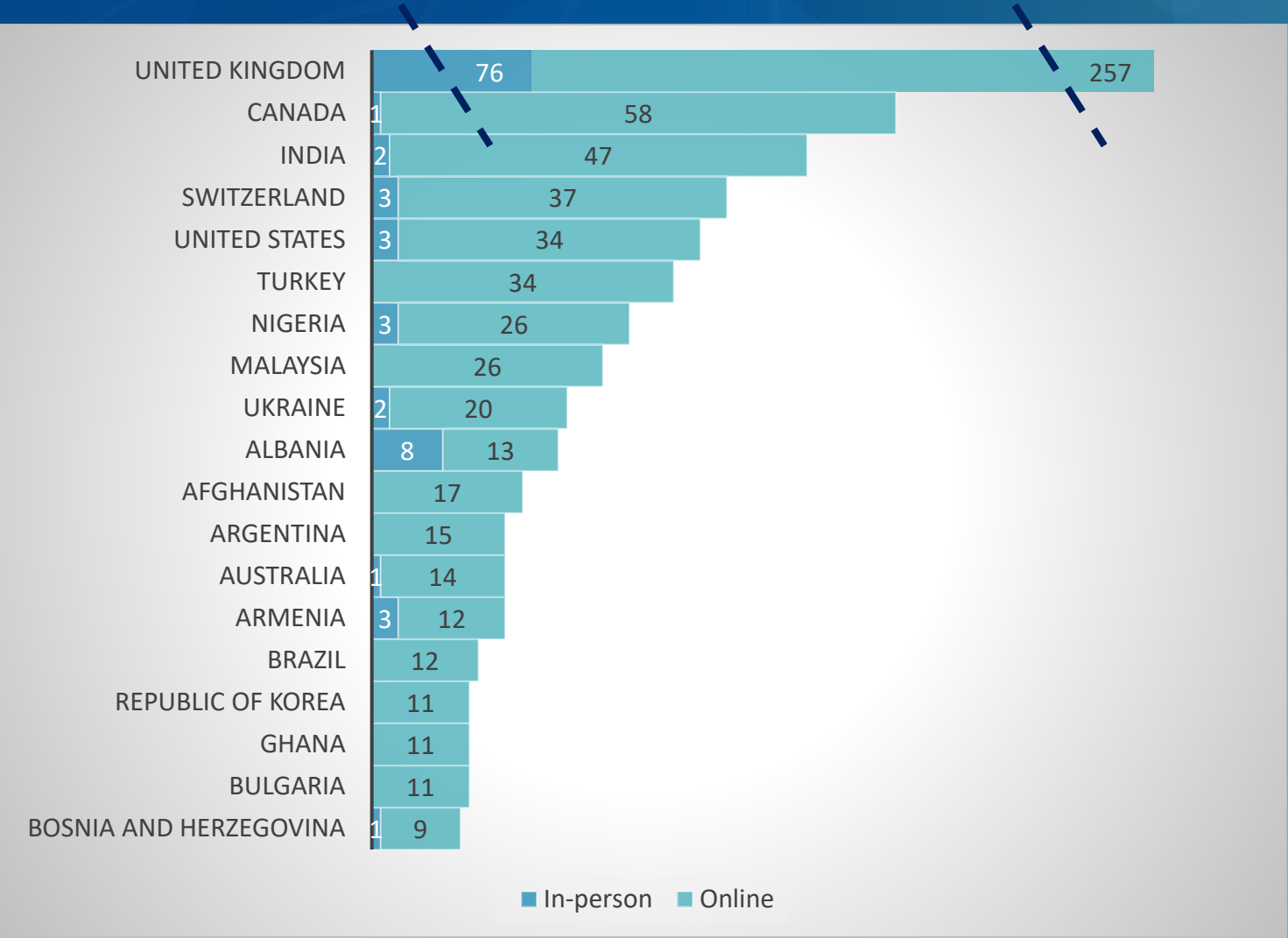| Country	In-person	Online
UNITED KINGDOM	76	257
CANADA	1	58
INDIA	2	47
SWITZERLAND	3	37
UNITED STATES	3	34
TURKEY		34
NIGERIA	3	26
MALAYSIA		26
UKRAINE	2	20
ALBANIA	8	13
AFGHANISTAN		17
ARGENTINA		15
AUSTRALIA	1	14
ARMENIA	3	12
BRAZIL		12
REPUBLIC OF KOREA		11
GHANA		11
BULGARIA		11
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA	1	9

■ In-person ■ Online

From outside Europe the countries with the biggest total representation were the United Kingdom (333), Canada (59) and India (49).

There are 75 countries from which less than 10 participants registered (total online and in-person) to ESCAIDE, not represented in this graphic.

Ethiopia
Lebanon
North Macedonia
Israel
Saudi Arabia
Kazakhstan
Philippines
Tajikistan
Kenya
Mexico
Pakistan
Azerbaijan
Jordan
Kyrgyzstan
Liberia
South Africa
Taiwan (Province of China)
Libya
Montenegro
Bahrain
Gambia
Guatemala
Hong Kong
Morocco
Russian Federation
Bangladesh
Vietnam
Algeria
Antigua and Barbuda
Belize

Burundi
China
Colombia
Democratic Republic Of The Congo
Indonesia
Mozambique
Oman
Peru
Thailand
Uganda
United Arab Emirates
Yemen
Belarus
Botswana
Cameroon
Cape Verde
Central African
Chile
Ecuador
Gabon
Guyana
Iraq
Jamaica
Kuwait
Madagascar
Malawi
Myanmar
Nepal
Panama
Sao Tome and Principe
Senegal
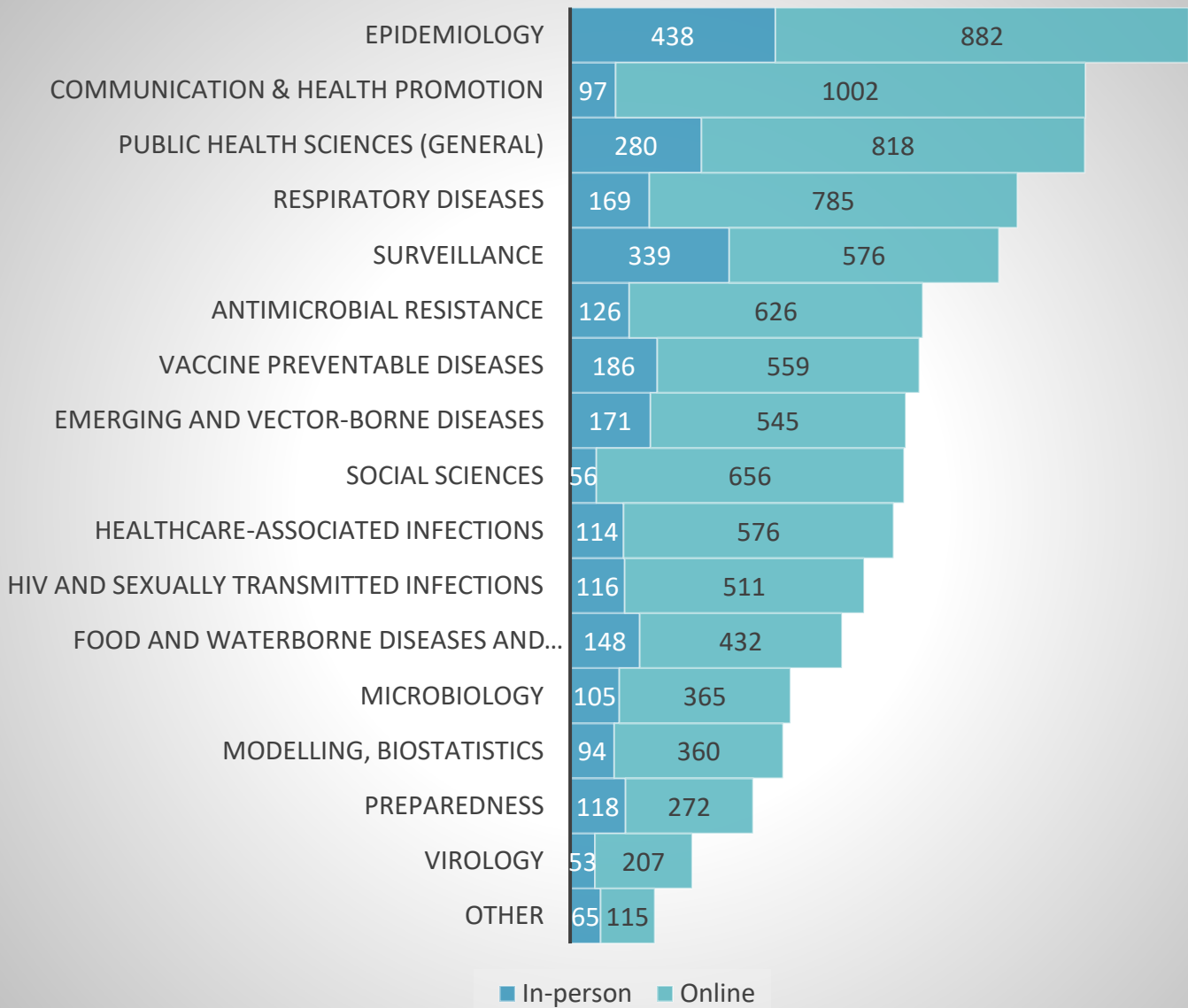Sierra Leone
Singapore
Somalia
Sri Lanka
Sudan
Tanzania
Zambia

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Participants by field of expertise

Field	In-person	Online
EPIDEMIOLOGY	438	882
COMMUNICATION & HEALTH PROMOTION	97	1002
PUBLIC HEALTH SCIENCES (GENERAL)	280	818
RESPIRATORY DISEASES	169	785
SURVEILLANCE	339	576
ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE	126	626
VACCINE PREVENTABLE DISEASES	186	559
EMERGING AND VECTOR-BORNE DISEASES	171	545
SOCIAL SCIENCES	56	656
HEALTHCARE-ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS	114	576
HIV AND SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED INFECTIONS	116	511
FOOD AND WATERBORNE DISEASES AND...	148	432
MICROBIOLOGY	105	365
MODELLING, BIOSTATISTICS	94	360
PREPAREDNESS	118	272
VIROLOGY	53	207
OTHER	65	115

■ In-person ■ Online

Participants were asked to chose which field(s) of best described their expertise. Almost half of the total registered participants (1320) indicated epidemiology as a field of expertise, and the communication and health promotion field was chosen by 1099 participants, followed by public health sciences (1098), respiratory diseases (954), and surveillance fields.

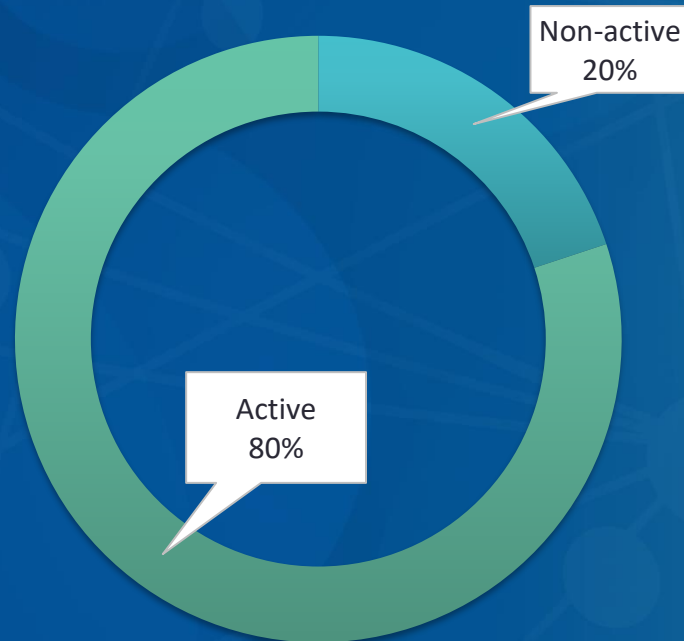180 participants indicated 'Other' fields of expertise and specified them in a free text box.

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Mobile and web app
Usage and engagement from
23-25 November

Mobile and web app usage

2427 active users during the conference days

Non-active
20%

Active
80%

From the total of 3031 registered participants, 2427 logged in during the conference days and engaged in the platform by viewing sessions, adding new contacts, bookmarking info-stands or registering to sessions.

It seems that 604 users registered to ESCAIDE 2022 but did not log in to the app during the conference days. Part of these participants could possibly have attended in-person without downloading the app.

Mobile and web app usage

Unique number of logins by device

Web App ⓘ
78.3% · 2,325 users

iOS
11.7% · 348 users

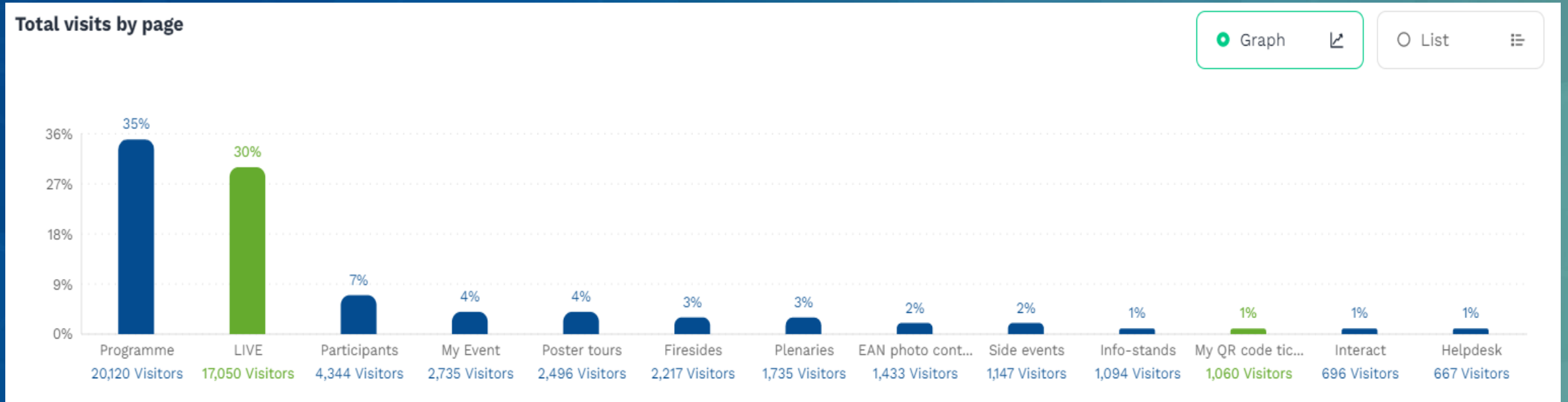Android
10% · 296 users

The majority of participants (2325) accessed ESCAIDE online via the Swapcard Web App (78.3%). The mobile App had an average usage of 22.7%, where 11.7% accessed via a iOS device and 10% via Android.

Mobile and web app usage

The platform feature most used by participants was the "Programme" page. This is not surprising as all the content could be accessed via that page.

Mobile and web app usage
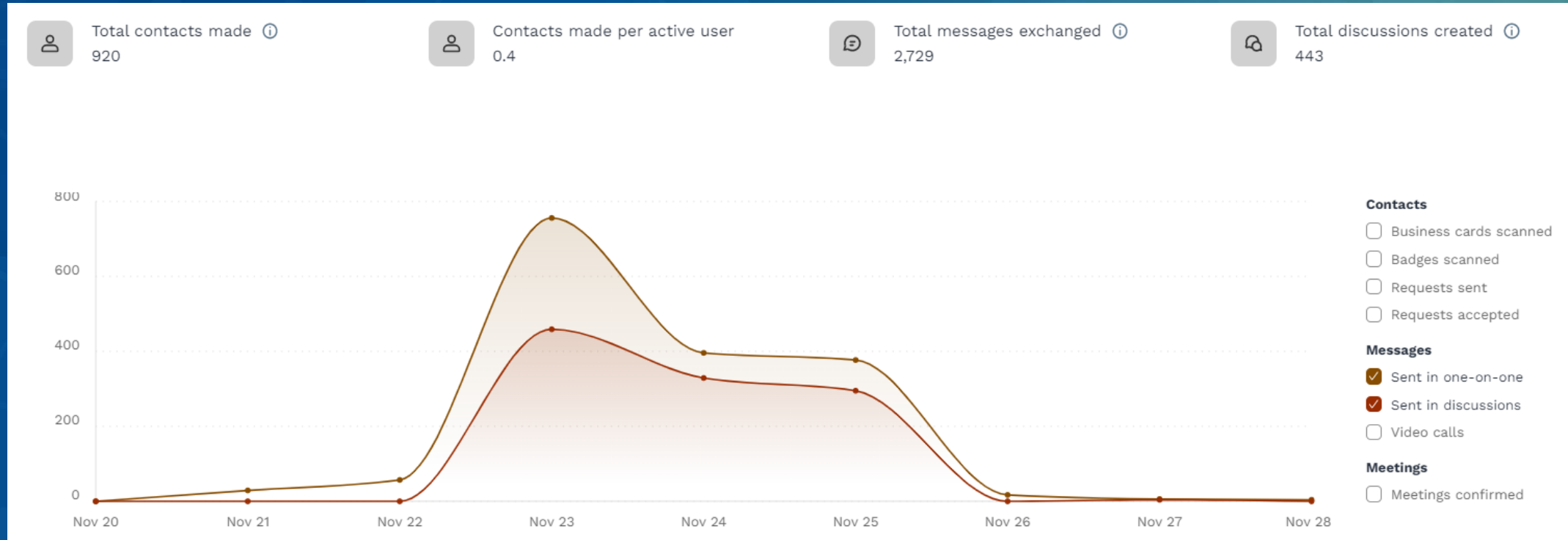
In general terms, ESCAIDE online created opportunities to establish connections and network. Across the conference, 2729 messages, comments and questions were sent on the mobile and web app (hosted by *Swapcard*), in a total of 443 discussions. The amount of comments, questions and discussions made in the chat boxes for sessions demonstrate active participation of the viewers. This number does not include the additional comments made in sessions held on MS Teams.

Content views
From 23-25 November

Plenary sessions
ONLINE views

Number of unique viewers

Plenary	Viewers
PLENARY A | CONTROLLING A PANDEMIC – WHAT ARE THE ETHICAL BOUNDARIES?	766
PLENARY B | REFUGEES AND REFUGE: HOW TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT THE HEALTH OF DISPLACED PEOPLE	381
PLENARY C | REVOLUTIONS IN VACCINATION IN THE AGE OF COVID-19	651
PLENARY D | CUTTING THROUGH THE NOISE: THE ROLE OF PUBLIC HEALTH EXPERTS IN MANAGING AN INFODEMIC	335
PLENARY E |THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC – A SURVEILLANCE GAME CHANGER?	631

Charts in this section represent the online viewers. Viewers were counted as "unique viewers", which means that even if they watch more than once, that person counts as one unique viewer. Measuring "unique viewers" gives a clearer picture of the audience size.

Plenary sessions took place in hybrid format: they could be viewed either through the web and mobile app, or attended in-person.

The in-person attendance was 490 participants on Day 1, 483 participants per on Day 2 and 443 participants on Day 3.

The sessions in the morning (Plenaries A, C and E) had more online viewers than the sessions in the afternoon (B and D).

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Fireside sessions

ONLINE views

Number of unique viewers
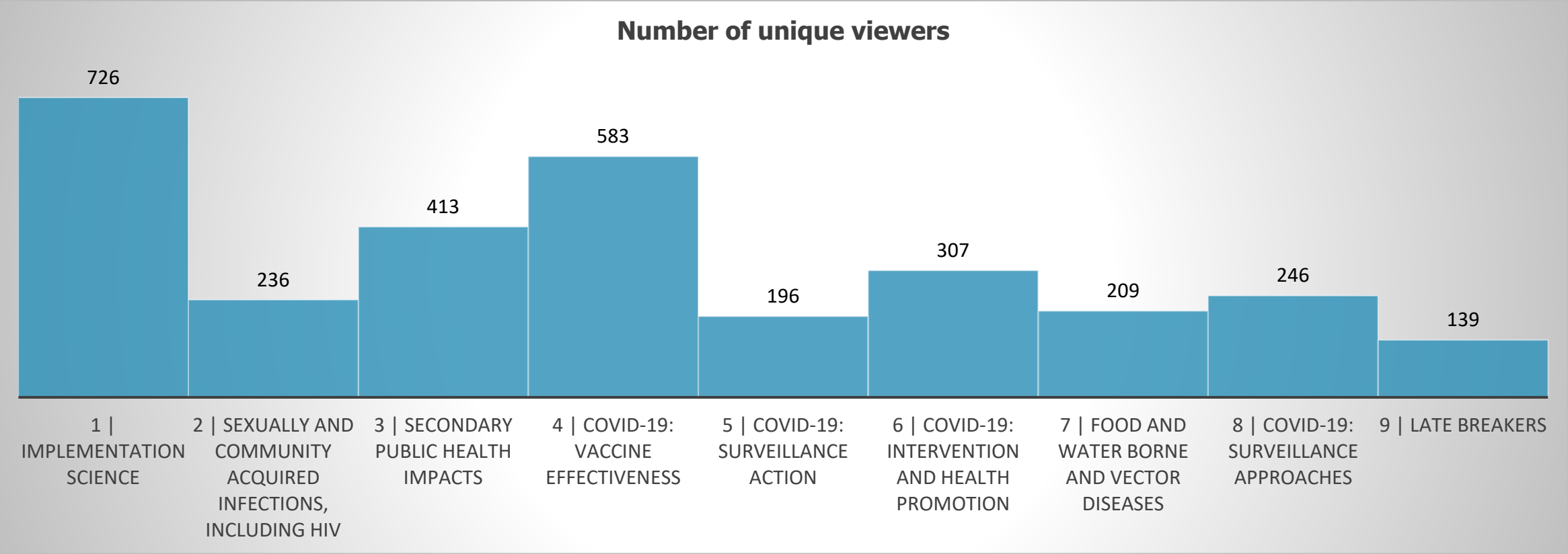
Session	Viewers
1	IMPLEMENTATION SCIENCE	726
2	SEXUALLY AND COMMUNITY ACQUIRED INFECTIONS, INCLUDING HIV	236
3	SECONDARY PUBLIC HEALTH IMPACTS	413
4	COVID-19: VACCINE EFFECTIVENESS	583
5	COVID-19: SURVEILLANCE ACTION	196
6	COVID-19: INTERVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION	307
7	FOOD AND WATER BORNE AND VECTOR DISEASES	209
8	COVID-19: SURVEILLANCE APPROACHES	246
9	LATE BREAKERS	139

Fireside sessions were held in parallel, two at a time in hybrid format: they could be viewed either through the web and mobile app, or attended in-person. The average in-person attendance was 230 participants per fireside session.

Poster tours

ONLINE views

Number of unique viewers Day 1

- KNOWLEDGE FOR POLICY AND PRACTICE: 83
- EMERGING AND VECTOR-BORNE DISEASES: 78
- RESPIRATORY DISEASES: 81
- FOOD -AND WATER BORNE DISEASES AND ZOONOSES: 85

Number of unique viewers Day 2

- COVID-19: VACCINATION AND IMMUNITY: 73
- INTERVENTION AND HEALTH PROMOTION: 75
- ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE: 71
- SURVEILLANCE: OPPORTUNITIES AND EVALUATION: 67
- LATE BREAKERS: 66

Poster tours

ONLINE views

**Number of unique viewers
Day 3**

Category	Value
SURVEILLANCE: OPPORTUNITIES AND EVALUATION	67
LATE BREAKERS	66
SURVEILLANCE APPROACHES	81
FOOD -AND WATER BORNE DISEASES AND ZOONOSES: OUTBREAKS	84

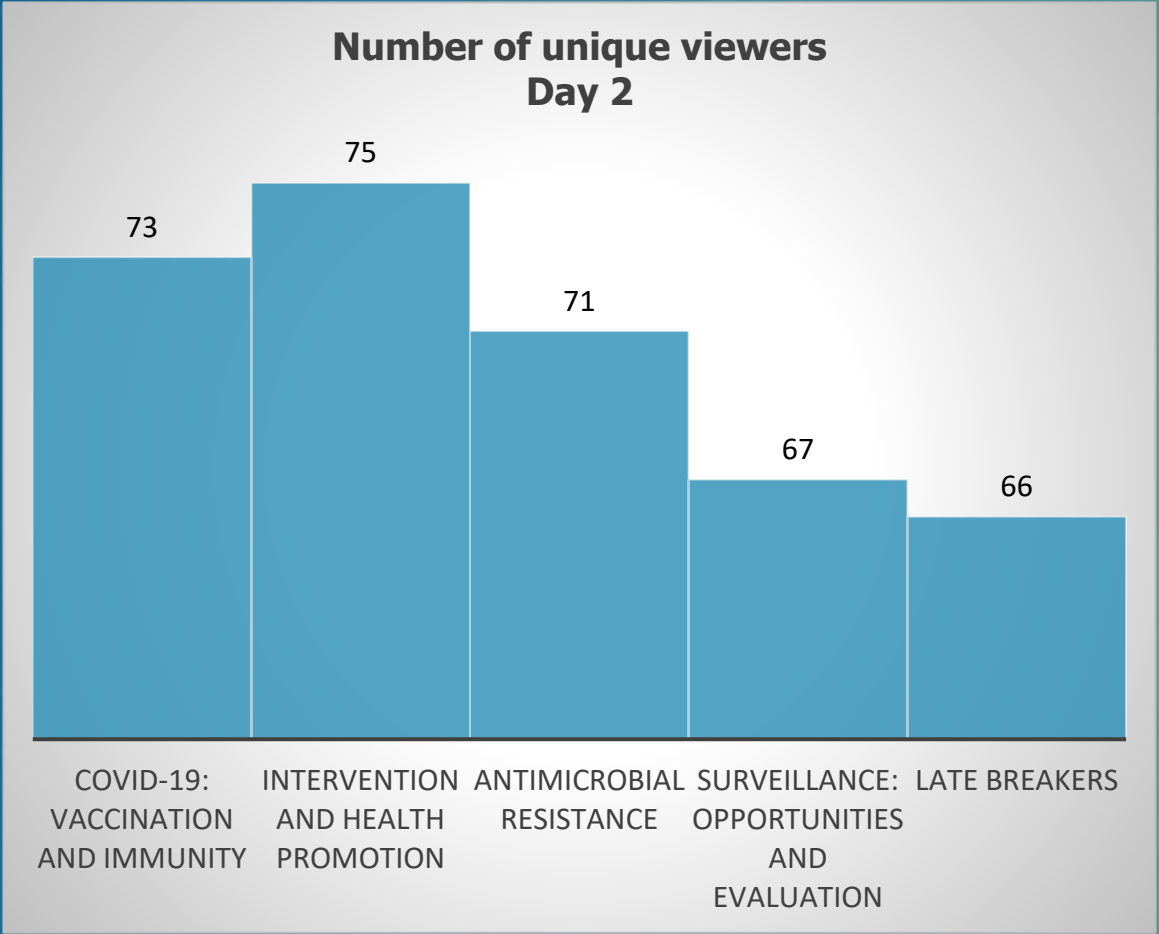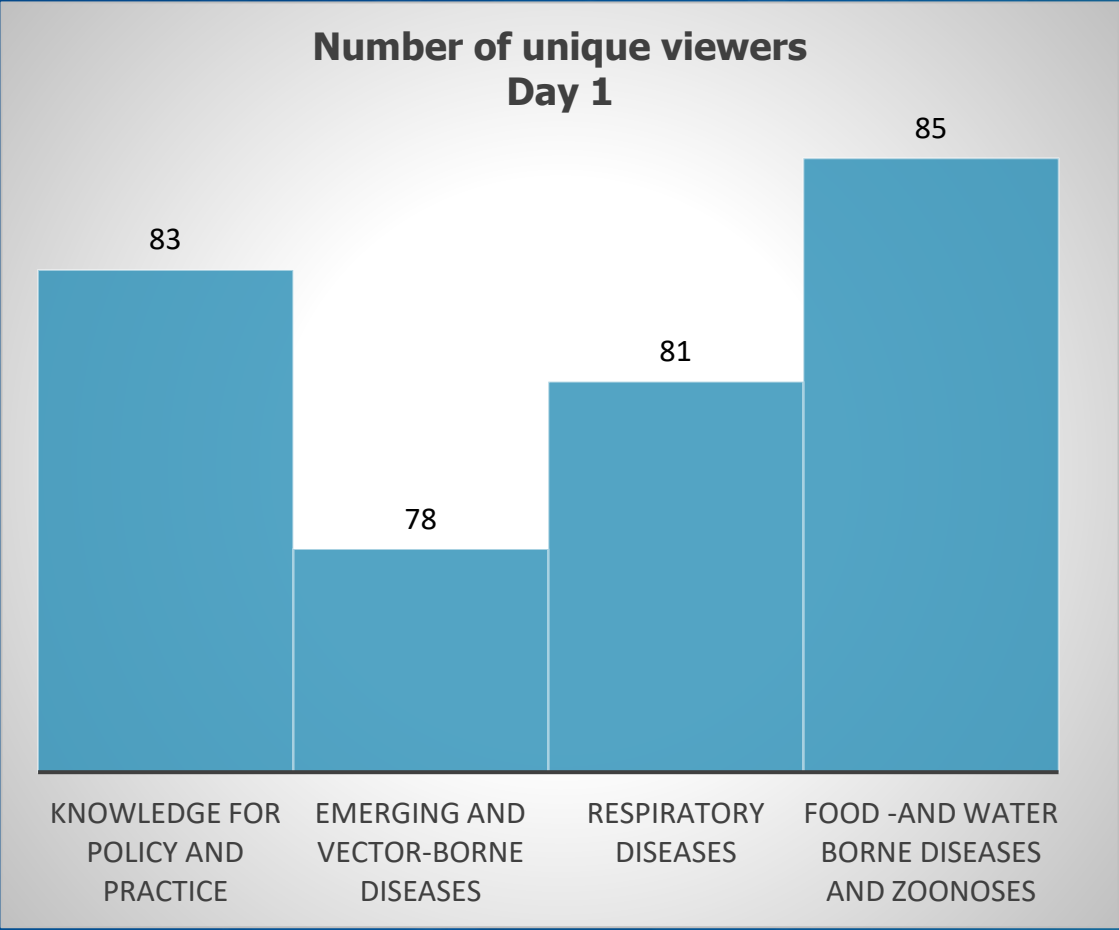Poster tours sessions were held in parallel, 4-5 at a time in hybrid format: they could be viewed either through the web and mobile app, or attended in-person. The average in-person attendance was 70 participants per poster tour.
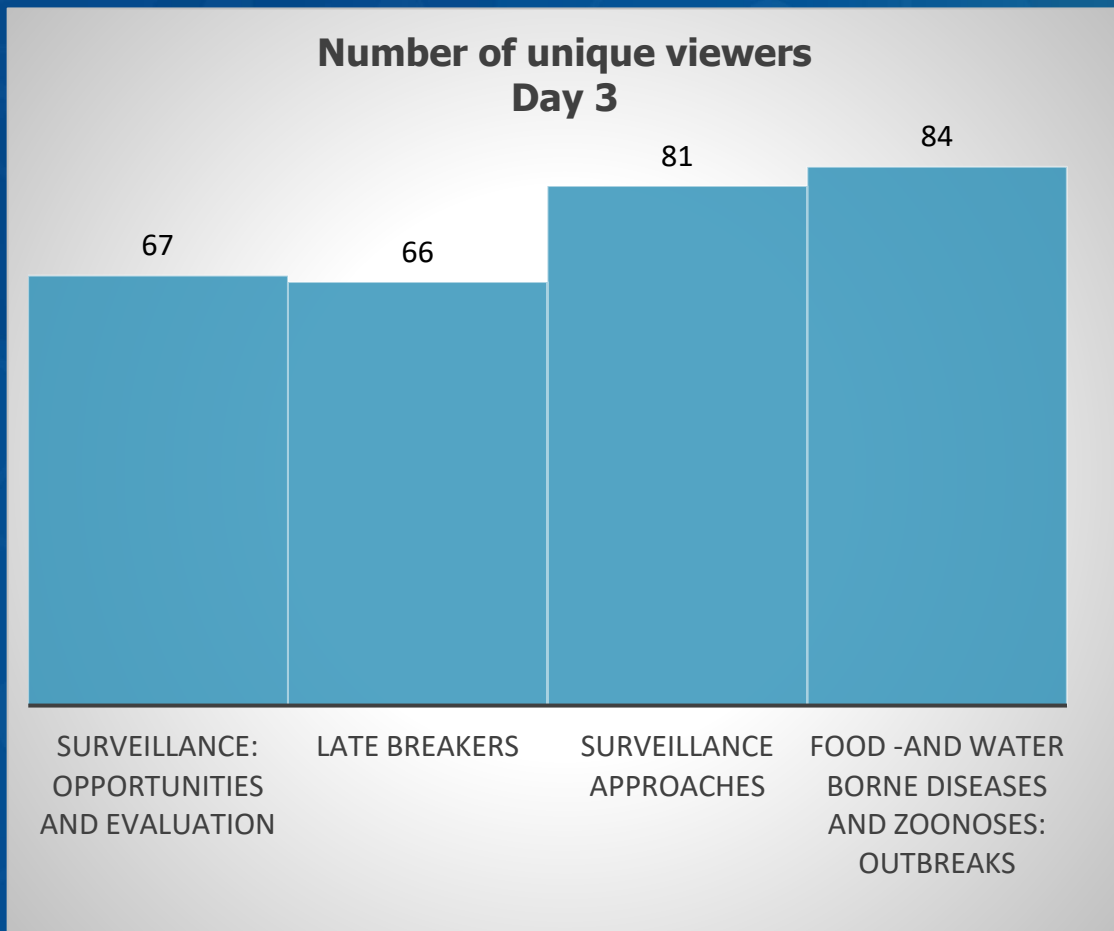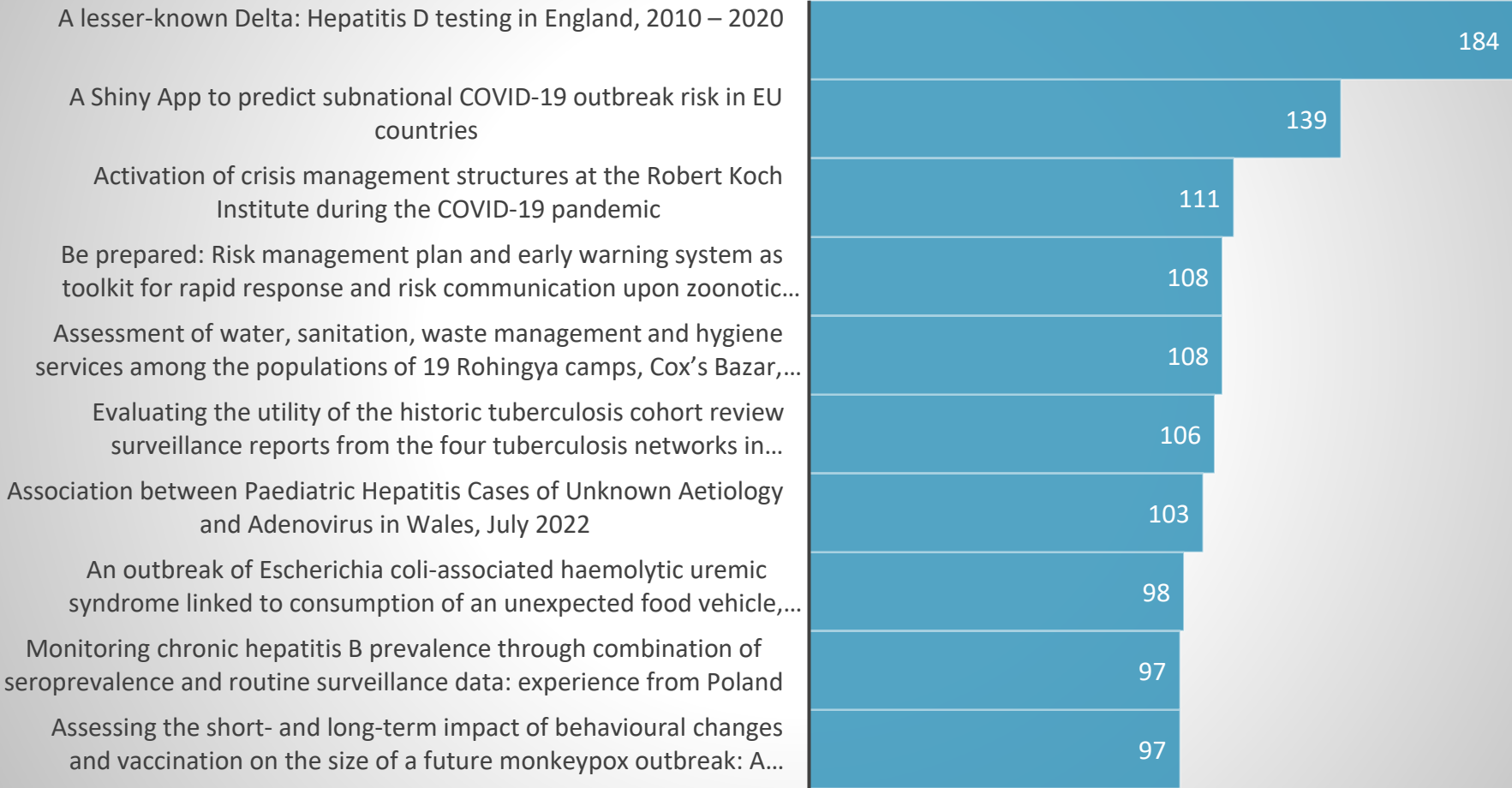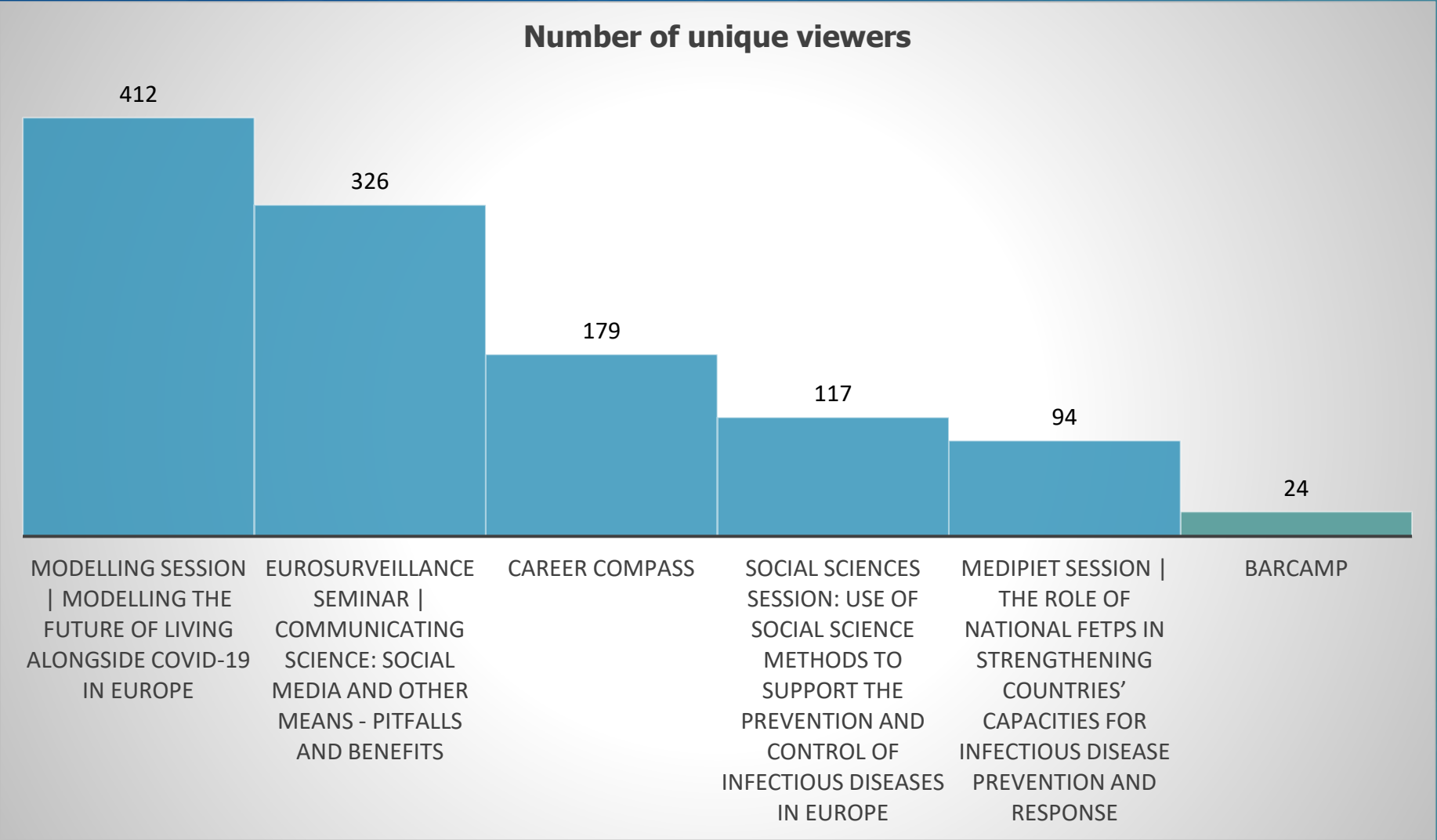
Posters

ONLINE views

Number of unique viewers
10 most viewed posters

Poster	Viewers
A lesser-known Delta: Hepatitis D testing in England, 2010 – 2020	184
A Shiny App to predict subnational COVID-19 outbreak risk in EU countries	139
Activation of crisis management structures at the Robert Koch Institute during the COVID-19 pandemic	111
Be prepared: Risk management plan and early warning system as toolkit for rapid response and risk communication upon zoonotic…	108
Assessment of water, sanitation, waste management and hygiene services among the populations of 19 Rohingya camps, Cox's Bazar,…	108
Evaluating the utility of the historic tuberculosis cohort review surveillance reports from the four tuberculosis networks in…	106
Association between Paediatric Hepatitis Cases of Unknown Aetiology and Adenovirus in Wales, July 2022	103
An outbreak of Escherichia coli-associated haemolytic uremic syndrome linked to consumption of an unexpected food vehicle,…	98
Monitoring chronic hepatitis B prevalence through combination of seroprevalence and routine surveillance data: experience from Poland	97
Assessing the short- and long-term impact of behavioural changes and vaccination on the size of a future monkeypox outbreak: A…	97

In total, 128 posters were exhibited online, and received in total 10,666 online views during the three days of the conference.

Side-sessions

ONLINE views

Number of unique viewers

Session	Number of unique viewers
MODELLING SESSION | MODELLING THE FUTURE OF LIVING ALONGSIDE COVID-19 IN EUROPE	412
EUROSURVEILLANCE SEMINAR | COMMUNICATING SCIENCE: SOCIAL MEDIA AND OTHER MEANS - PITFALLS AND BENEFITS	326
CAREER COMPASS	179
SOCIAL SCIENCES SESSION: USE OF SOCIAL SCIENCE METHODS TO SUPPORT THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN EUROPE	117
MEDIPIET SESSION | THE ROLE OF NATIONAL FETPS IN STRENGTHENING COUNTRIES' CAPACITIES FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASE PREVENTION AND RESPONSE	94
BARCAMP	24

Side-sessions took place in hybrid format: they could be viewed either through the web and mobile app, or attended in-person.
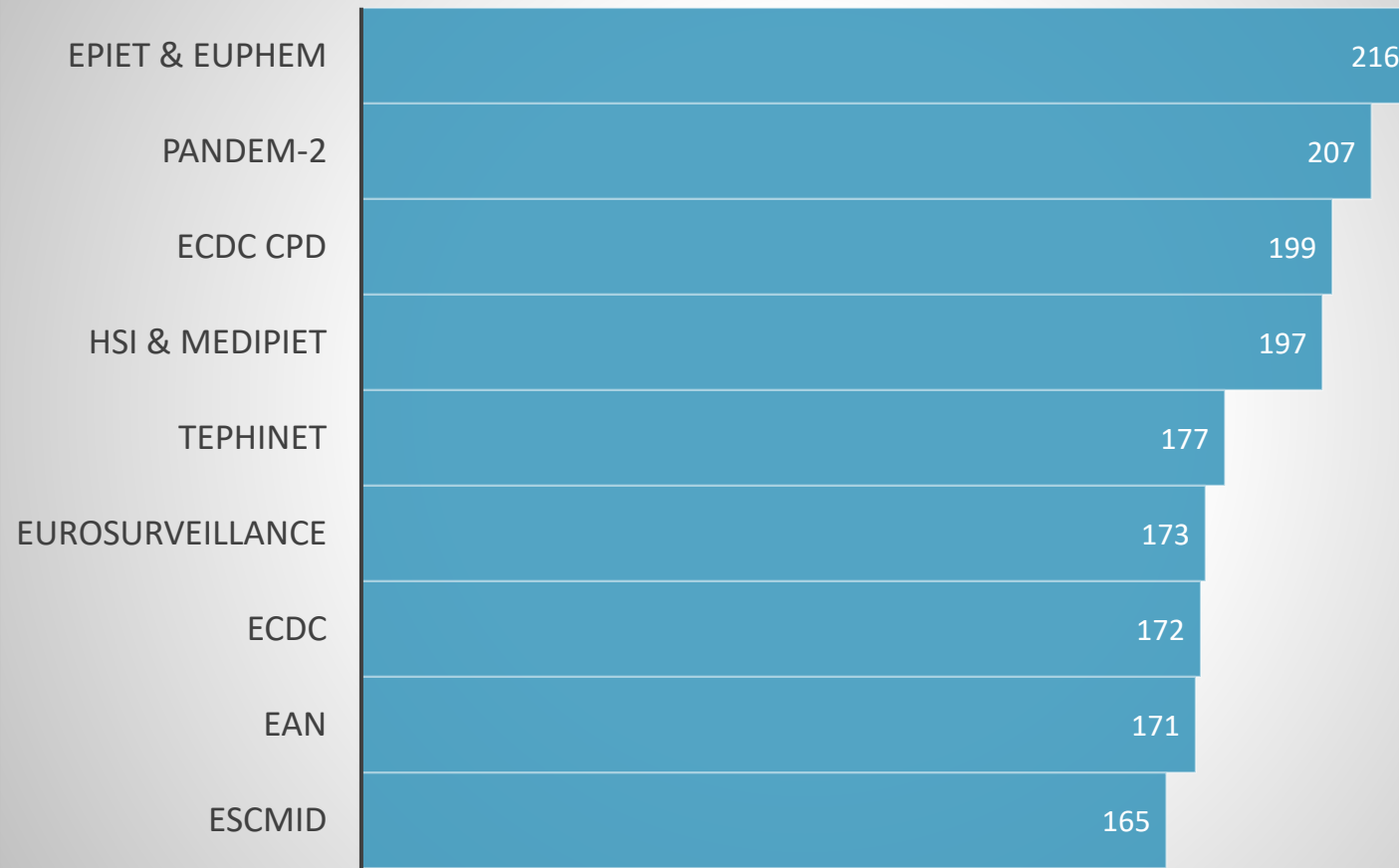
The side-sessions were almost at full capacity in the in-person rooms.

BarCamp number refer to attendance to the MS Teams meeting.

Info-Stands

ONLINE views

Total unique visitors

Info-Stand	Visitors
EPIET & EUPHEM	216
PANDEM-2	207
ECDC CPD	199
HSI & MEDIPIET	197
TEPHINET	177
EUROSURVEILLANCE	173
ECDC	172
EAN	171
ESCMID	165

Exhibitors had the opportunity to show case their work onsite, in the info-stand area, and online.

This chart represents the total of online visitors. We do not have an estimation for in-person visitors of each info-stand, as that is tracked by the info-stand owners.

Feedback survey

Feedback from participants collected via online survey from 25 November until 7 December

Feedback survey results

5. Overall, how satisfied are you with ESCAIDE 2022?

Satisfaction by number of respondents

EXTREMELY	13% (Online) / 23% (In-person)
VERY MUCH	20% (Online) / 38% (In-person)
SOMEWHAT	3% (Online) / 3% (In-person)
NOT MUCH	1%
NOT AT ALL	0%

■ In-person ■ Online
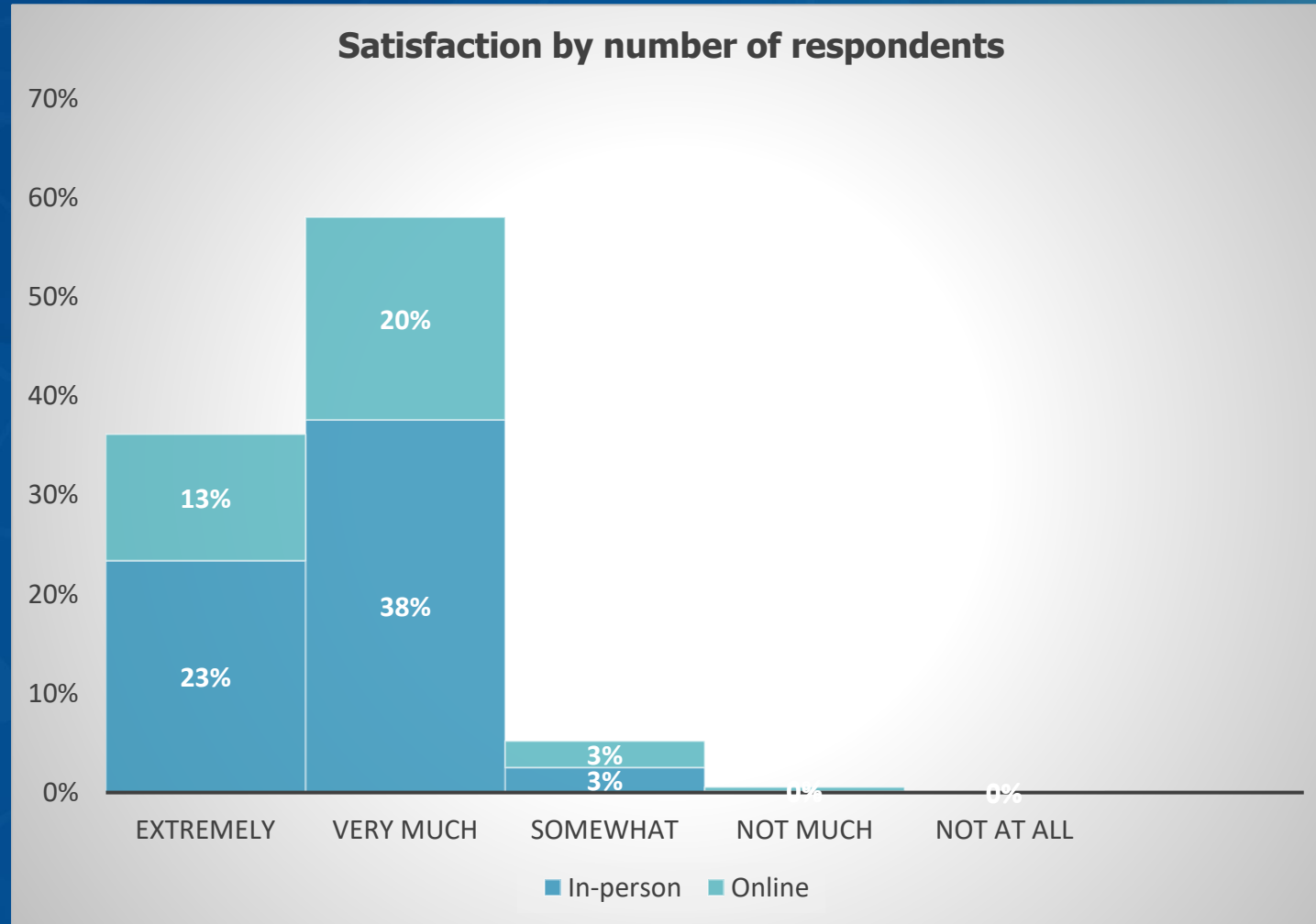
Two email invitations and a notification to complete the survey reached out to 3031 registered participants and 753 completed the survey, from 25 November until 7 December.

The response rate was 25% percent, higher than 2021 (18%).

The results of the feedback survey were overwhelmingly positive. 94% of respondents indicated they were 'extremely' or 'very much' satisfied with the event.

n=753

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Feedback survey results

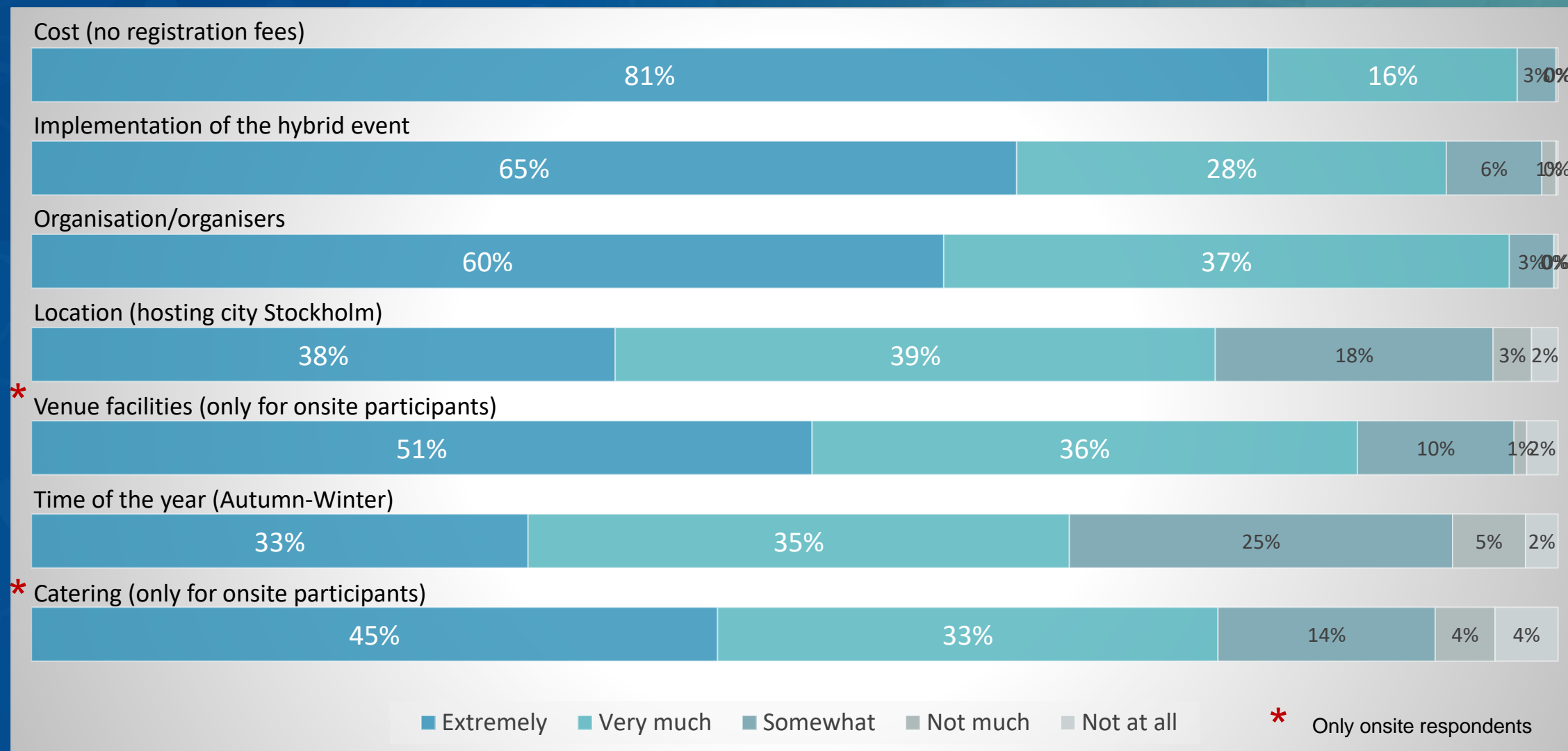## 6. To what extent do you agree with the following statements about ESCAIDE 2022?

n=753

ESCAIDE topics were relevant to my interests and/or work

Extremely	Very much	Somewhat	Not much	Not at all
39%	50%	10%	1%	0%

The overall quality of the programme and calibre of speakers were good

Extremely	Very much	Somewhat	Not much	Not at all
42%	53%	4%	1%	0%

ESCAIDE fulfilled my educational goals and expected learning outcomes

Extremely	Very much	Somewhat	Not much	Not at all
34%	49%	15%	2%	0%

What I learned will be implemented in my practice

Extremely	Very much	Somewhat	Not much	Not at all
25%	41%	30%	4%	0%

The information presented was supported by a valid scientific evidence base

Extremely	Very much	Somewhat	Not much	Not at all
43%	51%	5%	0%	0%

ESCAIDE created opportunities to establish meaningful connections and network

Extremely	Very much	Somewhat	Not much	Not at all
39%	38%	17%	5%	2%

The programme was free of commercial and other biases

Extremely	Very much	Somewhat	Not much	Not at all
55%	39%	5%	1%	0%

Legend: ■ Extremely ■ Very much ■ Somewhat ■ Not much ■ Not at all

Feedback survey results

7. To what extent are you satisfied with the following organisational aspects of ESCAIDE 2022?

n=753

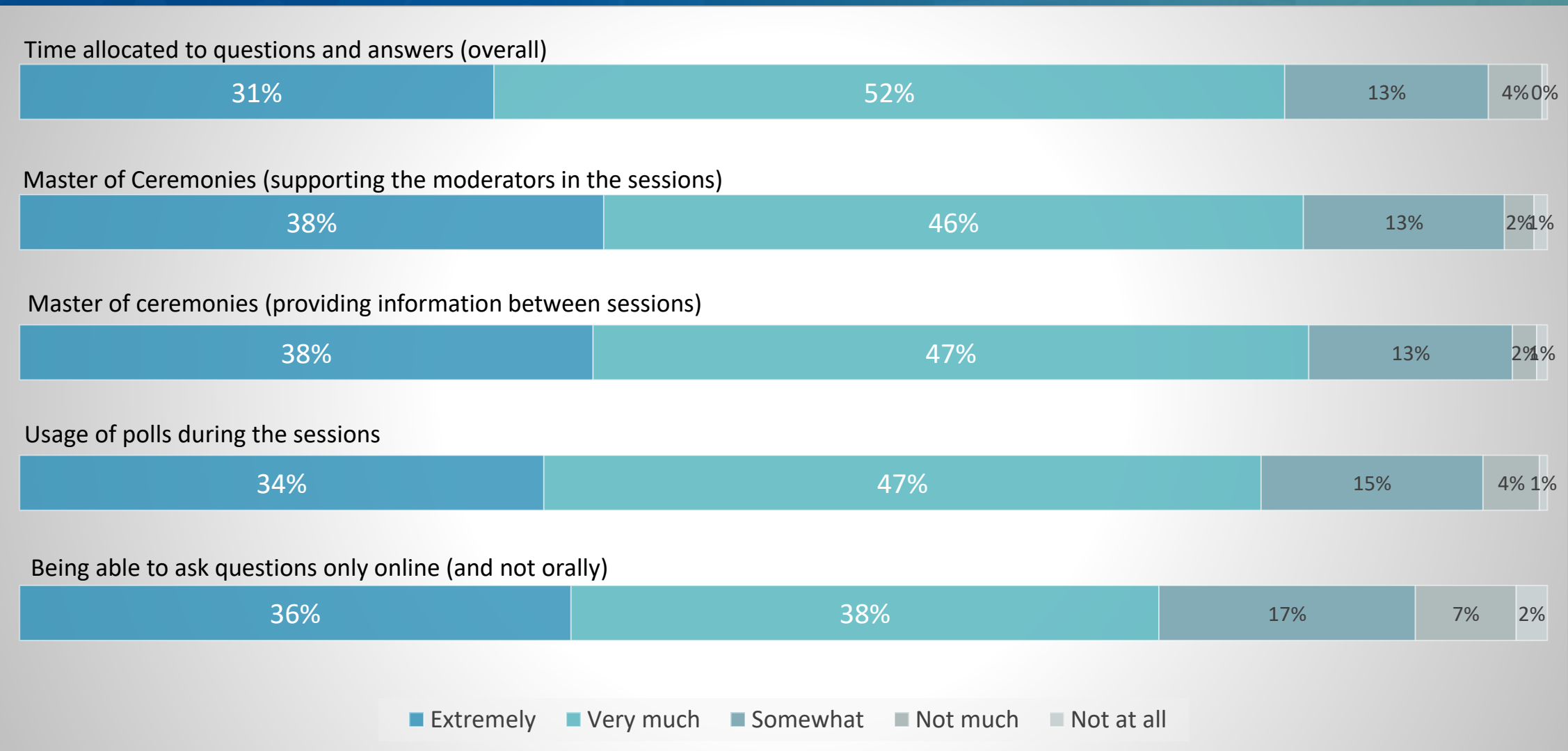**Cost (no registration fees)**
| 81% | 16% | 3% | 0% |

Implementation of the hybrid event
| 65% | 28% | 6% | 1% | 0% |

Organisation/organisers
| 60% | 37% | 3% | 0% | 0% |

Location (hosting city Stockholm)
| 38% | 39% | 18% | 3% | 2% |

* Venue facilities (only for onsite participants)
| 51% | 36% | 10% | 1% | 2% |

Time of the year (Autumn-Winter)
| 33% | 35% | 25% | 5% | 2% |

* Catering (only for onsite participants)
| 45% | 33% | 14% | 4% | 4% |

■ Extremely   ■ Very much   ■ Somewhat   ■ Not much   ■ Not at all   ***** Only onsite respondents

Feedback survey results

7.1. To what extent are you satisfied with the following format aspects of ESCAIDE 2022?

n=753

Aspect	Extremely	Very much	Somewhat	Not much	Not at all
Time allocated to questions and answers (overall)	31%	52%	13%	4%	0%
Master of Ceremonies (supporting the moderators in the sessions)	38%	46%	13%	2%	1%
Master of ceremonies (providing information between sessions)	38%	47%	13%	2%	1%
Usage of polls during the sessions	34%	47%	15%	4%	1%
Being able to ask questions only online (and not orally)	36%	38%	17%	7%	2%

Feedback survey results

8. How would you best describe the following Plenary Sessions at ESCAIDE 2022?

n=753

Plenary A: 'Controlling a pandemic – what are the ethical boundaries?'

| 46% | 39% | 2% | 2% | 12% |

Plenary B: 'Refugees and refuge: how to promote and protect the health of displaced people'

| 52% | 36% | 2% | 1% | 10% |

Plenary C: 'Revolutions in vaccination in the age of COVID-19'

| 48% | 37% | 3% | 1% | 12% |

Plenary D: 'Cutting through the noise: the role of public health experts in managing an infodemic'

| 48% | 31% | 5% | 2% | 14% |

Plenary E: 'The COVID-19 pandemic – a surveillance game changer?'

| 56% | 35% | 2% | 1% | 7% |

■ Improved my knowledge ■ Useful for my work ■ Not relevant ■ Didn't like ☐ Didn't attend

n=753

Feedback survey results

9. How would you best describe the abstract-led events at ESCAIDE 2022?

n=753

Online-only posters (only on the online platform)

| 32% | 30% | 2% | 4% | 32% |

Poster tours

| 39% | 40% | 3% | 2% | 16% |

Fireside sessions (Oral abstract presentations)

| 56% | 35% | 1% | 0% | 8% |

■ Improved my knowledge   ■ Useful for my work   ■ Not relevant   ■ Didn't like   ■ Didn't attend

Feedback survey results

10. How would you best describe the following side-events at ESCAIDE 2022?

n=753

Eurosurveillance Seminar: Communicating science: social media and other means Pitfalls and benefits

| 42% | 29% | 3% | 1% | 25% |

Modelling session: Modelling the future of living alongside COVID-19 in Europe

| 38% | 29% | 2% | 1% | 30% |

MediPIET session: The role of national FETPs in strengthening countries' capacities for infectious disease prevention and response

| 37% | 27% | 3% | 1% | 31% |

Social Sciences Session: Use of social science methods to support the prevention and control of infectious diseases in Europe

| 35% | 23% | 3% | 0% | 39% |

Career Compass

| 29% | 23% | 6% | 0% | 42% |

BarCamp

| 26% | 18% | 8% | 2% | 46% |
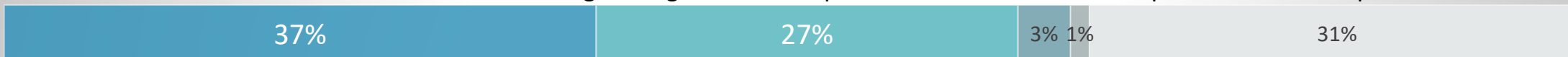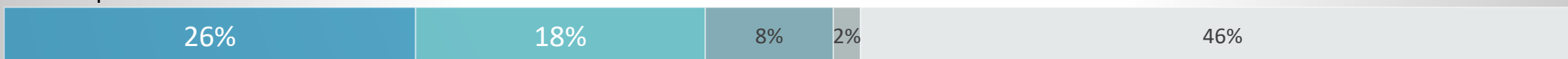
Mindfulness/Yoga/Groove sessions
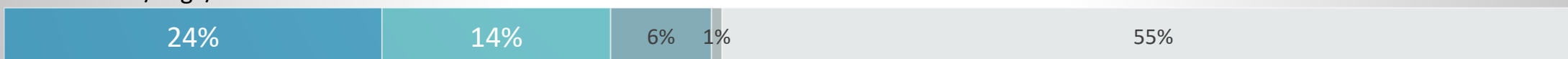
| 24% | 14% | 6% | 1% | 55% |

■ Improved my knowledge ■ Useful for my work ■ Not relevant ■ Didn't like □ Didn't attend

Feedback survey results

11. To what extent do you agree with the following statements about the ESCAIDE online platform.

n=753

The app facilitates access to conference information

Extremely	Very much	Somewhat	Not much	Not at all	Don't know
44%	41%	7%	1%	1%	7%

The app was user friendly

Extremely	Very much	Somewhat	Not much	Not at all	Don't know
42%	42%	7%	1%	1%	7%

I prefer to ask questions in the app and I did not miss to have questions asked orally by the audience

Extremely	Very much	Somewhat	Not much	Not at all	Don't know
31%	29%	18%	9%	5%	8%

The app enhanced my networking opportunities

Extremely	Very much	Somewhat	Not much	Not at all	Don't know
30%	29%	19%	9%	4%	9%

I would like ESCAIDE to use the same app in future editions

Extremely	Very much	Somewhat	Not much	Not at all	Don't know
35%	40%	11%	2%	1%	10%

Legend: ■ Extremely ■ Very much ■ Somewhat ■ Not much ■ Not at all ■ Don't know

Feedback survey results

12. How do you like to receive ESCAIDE related content?
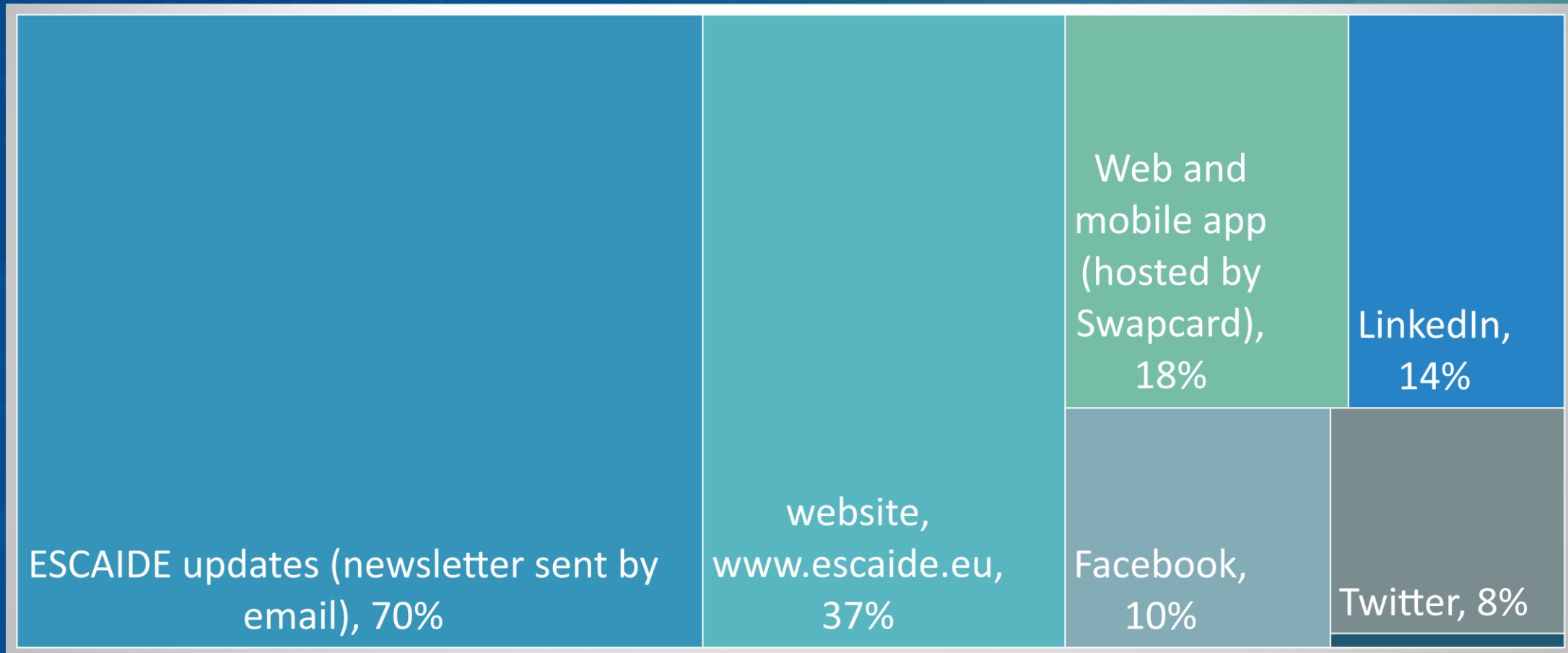
Web and mobile app (hosted by Swapcard), 18%

LinkedIn, 14%

ESCAIDE updates (newsletter sent by email), 70%

website, www.escaide.eu, 37%

Facebook, 10%

Twitter, 8%

n=753

Feedback survey results

**13. What did you LIKE about ESCAIDE 2022, and would like us to continue with in future conferences?
What did you DISLIKE about ESCAIDE 2022, and how could we improve it?**

General comments received	
Positive	283
Negative	180
Specific comments received	
Oral abstract presenter	23
Poster presenter	23
Reviewer	9
Moderator	11
Speaker	6
Press and media	2
Scientific committee	1
Side-event organiser	5
Info-stand owner	1
TOTAL	544

The respondents were invited to add anything they liked or disliked about the conference and identify areas for improvement free text questions. Additionally, those who had an active role at ESCAIDE (e.g. reviewers, presenters, moderators, etc.) were asked to comment on their experience. In total, 544 comments were received.

The responses were categorised according to which aspect of the conference they referred to, grouped by similar comments and summarised with verbal qualifiers according to frequency. For this exercise, 811 statements were categorised. In the next pages, we highlight comments that show the general perceptions of attendees, and include some comments made by a few respondents that expressed certain areas of interest.

Feedback survey results

13. What did you LIKE about ESCAIDE 2022, and would like us to continue with in future conferences?
What did you DISLIKE about ESCAIDE 2022, and how could we improve it?

	LIKE	DISLIKE
Conference and Programme (general)	• Hybrid format of the conference, providing the possibility to attend both in person and online • Content and topics, described as relevant, interesting, informative, interdisciplinary • Networking opportunities • Speakers, in terms of relevance and gender balance • Access to conference recordings • Many attendees were glad to be able to attend in-person • Opportunities to network – thoughtfully planned lunch breaks, coffee breaks and end-of-day activities • Absence of registration fees increased accessibility • Recordings of sessions quickly available in the app	• Excessive focus on COVID-19 • Lack of possibility to ask direct oral questions • Insufficient time dedicated to discussions and Q&A • Difficult access to poster tours for online participants • Lack of engagement with online-only posters • BarCamp was reported to be loud due to overlapping of people presenting and people networking – the two activities should be separated
Plenaries	• Speakers, described as engaging and passionate • Format, in terms of number of speakers per session and time allocation • Discussed topics, spanning across different areas • Active and participative discussions • Moderation of the sessions	• Insufficient time dedicated to discussion and interaction, many questions left unanswered • Too much focus on COVID-19 • Plenary speakers should all be onsite (not remotely). It should be known in advance who will be presenting remotely • Duration of afternoon plenaries (too long) • Polls should be replaced by discussions and Q&A with audience

Feedback survey results

13. What **did you LIKE** about ESCAIDE 2022, and would like us to continue with in future conferences?
What **did you DISLIKE** about ESCAIDE 2022, and how could we improve it?

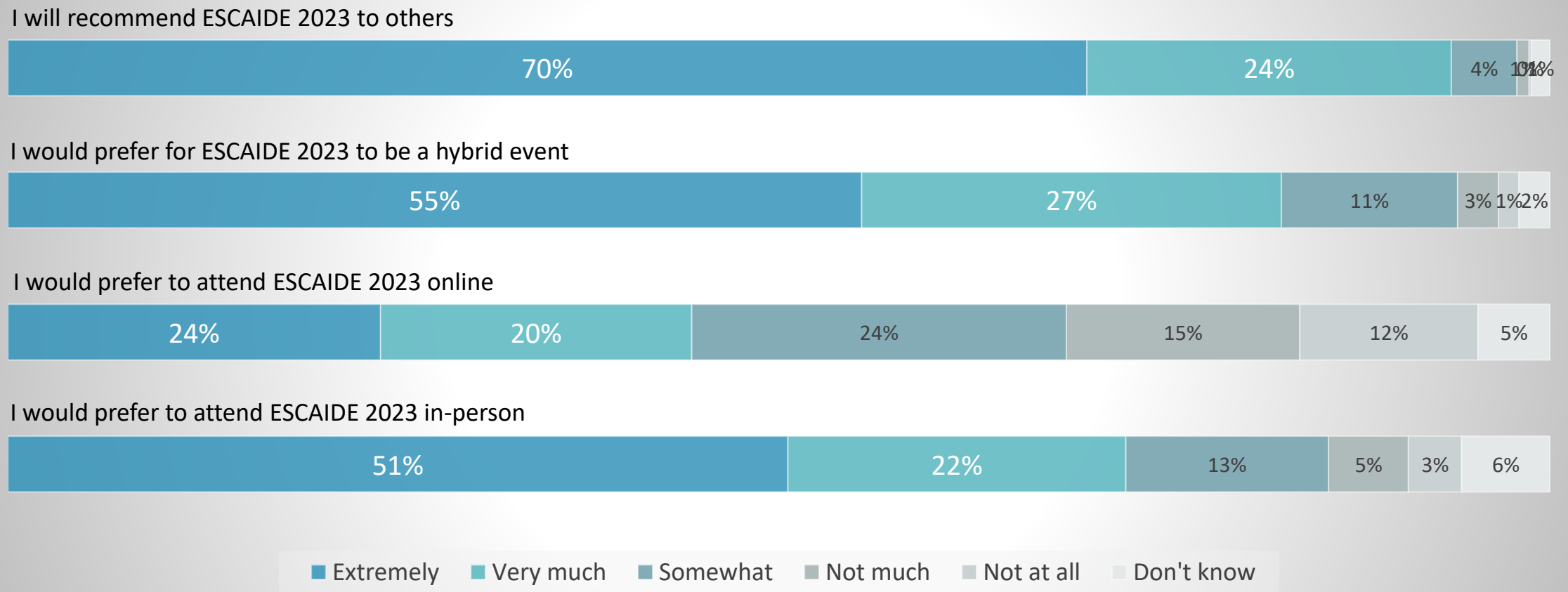|	LIKE	DISLIKE
Fireside sessions	• Timing and interaction • Relevant and diversified topics presented • Informal and intimate setting • Particularly appreciated in terms of format • Perfect timing of presentations	• Fireside individual presentations' duration was too short
Poster tours	• Timing and interaction • Timing of presentations • Poster tours format • Short presentations were well received and perceived as more engaging and catchy	• Difficult access to poster tours for online participants: unclear were the MS Teams link was, online posters had to be downloaded • Online participants could only hear the onsite poster presenter (but not see) • Insufficient number of headsets for some poster tours • Online-only posters didn't get enough attention
Side events	• Format and organisation of the sessions • BarCamp and Career compass were particularly appreciated • Time allocation to each presentation, keeping interest high • Hybrid format • Breathing, groove and yoga sessions appreciated	• The number of Epi/EPIET-related speakers and presentations was considered excessive • BarCamp was reported to be loud due to overlapping of people presenting and people networking – the two activities should be separated • Sessions with all speakers presented remotely, in-person element missing • Rooms at full capacity

Feedback survey results

13. What did you LIKE about ESCAIDE 2022, and would like us to continue with in future conferences?
What did you DISLIKE about ESCAIDE 2022, and how could we improve it?

	LIKE	DISLIKE
Speakers (general)	• Relevance • Presentations • Gender balance • Discussions	• Insufficiently relevant • Plenary speakers should all be onsite (not remotely). It should be known in advance who will be presenting remotely
Format and content (general)	• Topics and content, described as relevant, interesting, informative, varied, inclusive • Informal and friendly atmosphere of the event • Fireside sessions format was particularly appreciated • Short presentations were well received and perceived as more engaging and catchy	• Excessive focus on COVID-19 • Insufficient time for questions and discussion • Afternoon plenaries too long • Moderators should have taken more questions from the audience • Overlapping/parallel sessions make it difficult to attend all interesting sessions
Hybrid format	• Particularly appreciated, especially by online attendees • Positively surprised by optimal organisation • Feeling of inclusion in the event even for online participants • Online participants praised the possibility to ask questions via the app • Technical staff availability and support	• Lack of possibility to ask direct oral question, opposed as uniquely via the app (mentioned by in-person participants) • Inconsistent Wi-Fi quality connection

Feedback survey results

13. What did you LIKE about ESCAIDE 2022, and would like us to continue with in future conferences? What did you DISLIKE about ESCAIDE 2022, and how could we improve it?

	LIKE	DISLIKE
App	• Easy to navigate and user friendly • Possibility to create a personal programme • Possibility to ask questions in the dedicated chat box • Possibility to see the questions askes in the chat box • Networking and make contacts through the app • Possibility to see session recordings shortly after the session • Full screen mode • Keep using the same app	• Perceived in-person audience disengagement deriving from question asked exclusively via the app • Order of the questions changing with the change of number of likes assigned to each question • Highly voted questions tended to be the most controversial, not necessarily the most relevant • Polls should be in the same app (not in Sli.do, with the need to open another link) • Should be possible to see if a participant is attending the conference online-only or in-person • Absence of reply by the people contacted via the app
Catering and venue	• Food quality and venue facilities	• Absence of clear indications to identify vegetarian/vegan meals and allergens • Food running out towards the end of the lunch break • Absence of coffee in between breaks

Feedback survey results

14. ESCAIDE 2023 is planned to be held in Barcelona, from 22 to 24 November. To what extent do you agree with the following statements about ESCAIDE 2023?

I will recommend ESCAIDE 2023 to others

| 70% | 24% | 4% | 1% 1% |

I would prefer for ESCAIDE 2023 to be a hybrid event

| 55% | 27% | 11% | 3% 1% 2% |

I would prefer to attend ESCAIDE 2023 online

| 24% | 20% | 24% | 15% | 12% | 5% |

I would prefer to attend ESCAIDE 2023 in-person

| 51% | 22% | 13% | 5% | 3% | 6% |

- ■ Extremely ■ Very much ■ Somewhat ■ Not much ■ Not at all ■ Don't know

n=753

Feedback survey results

Conclusions (Overall)

	The respondents were asked about their agreement with a set of statements related with the conference. They could either agree or disagree with the statements by choosing 'extremely', 'very much', 'somewhat', 'not much' or 'not at all'.
Satisfaction	There were overwhelmingly positive results. 94% respondents were 'extremely' or 'very much' satisfied with the conference. The overall results of the survey showed that the respondents were highly satisfied with all aspects indicated.
Topics, content and networking	A very large majority of respondents 'extremely' or 'very much' agreed that ESCAIDE topics were relevant to their work (89%), that the programme and speakers were of high quality (95%), that the event fulfilled their educational goals and expectations (83%), that what they learned would be implemented in their practice (66%), that the content was well supported by scientific evidence (92%), that ESCAIDE created opportunities to establish meaningful connections and network (77%) and that the programme was free of commercial and other biases (94%).
Format aspects	There were very positive results overall, over 80% of respondents were either 'extremely' or 'very much' satisfied with most of the format aspects of the conference, such as the time allocated to Q&A, the role of the Master of Ceremonies and the usage of polls. A slightly lowest satisfaction rating was with only being able to ask questions online, where about 75% of respondents were 'extremely' or 'very much' satisfied, and 25% of respondents were only either 'somewhat' or 'not much' satisfied with this aspect of the conference.
Organisational aspects	Immensely positive results overall, indicating a high satisfaction, where respondents 'extremely' or 'very much' agreed with the organisational aspects of the conference, in particular the fact that no registration fees were collected (97%), the implementation of the hybrid event (93%) and the organisation/organisers (97%). The venue and the catering scored slightly lower than the other criteria, but were still positively assessed with 'extremely' or 'very much' satisfaction by about 80% of the respondents. The time of year of the conference in Autumn-Winter and the location of the hosting city being Stockholm scored lower with 77% and 67% of the respondents being 'extremely' or 'very much satisfied with these aspects, respectively.

Feedback survey results

Conclusions (Overall)

The respondents were asked about their agreement with a set of statements related with the conference. They could either agree or disagree with the statements by choosing 'extremely', 'very much', 'somewhat', 'not much' or 'not at all'. A neutral option 'I don't know' was also offered.	
Web and mobile app	The web and mobile app was generally well received by respondents. Most participants 'extremely' or 'very much' agreed that the app facilitates access to conference information (85%), that it was user friendly (84%) and that it should continue to be used in future editions of the conference (75%). There was less agreement on their preference for asking questions only through the app and on the networking opportunities offered by the app, where 60 were 'extremely' or 'very much' satisfied with this aspect but about 32% responded that they were only 'somewhat' or 'not much' satisfied with this aspect. About 8-9% of the respondents indicated that they did not know how to assess this aspect, possibly because they have not used the app.
ESCAIDE 2023	When asked about their plans to attend ESCAIDE in 2023, 73% of respondents said they would 'extremely' or 'very much' prefer to attend in-person. 44% responded that they would consider to participate only online. A large majority (82%) indicated they would like ESCAIDE 2023 to be a hybrid event again.

Feedback survey results

Conclusions (Sessions)

To assess the quality of the sessions, participants could choose one of five aspects to describe different events at ESCAIDE: 'improved my knowledge', 'useful for my work', 'not relevant', 'didn't like', or 'didn't attend'.	
Plenary sessions	There were very positive results overall. Most respondents rated the plenary sessions highly in terms of improving their knowledge and being useful for their work. Only 3-7% of respondents either disliked these sessions or did not find them relevant to their work. The main quality the participants indicated was 'improved my knowledge' (in particular for Plenaries B and E), followed by 'useful for my work' (slightly higher for Plenaries A and C).
Abstract sessions	There were very positive results overall. Most respondents rated the abstract-led sessions highly in terms of improving their knowledge and being useful for their work. Only 1-6% of respondents either disliked these sessions or did not find them relevant to their work.
Side-events	There were very positive results overall. Most respondents rated the side-events highly in terms of improving their knowledge and being useful for their work. Only 3-10% of respondents either disliked these sessions or did not find them relevant to their work.

Feedback survey results

Conclusions (Open text comments)

	The respondents were invited to add anything they liked or disliked about the conference and identify areas for improvement in free text questions.
Overall feedback	A very large number of respondents appreciated the hybrid format of the conference, providing the possibility to attend both in-person and online. The vast majority of attendees were extremely satisfied with the content of the event in terms of topics and content. Several comments described the topics as relevant, interesting, informative, interdisciplinary and were very pleased by the broad variety of topics included. Several people were very appreciative of the availability of recordings during and after the conference. The most debated issue concerned the format of questions posed by the participants: while online attendees were very appreciative of the possibility to ask questions via the app, several in-person attendees were not satisfied with it. Overall, the positive comments significantly exceeded the negative ones, and a lot of attendees showed interest in joining future editions of ESCAIDE.
Sessions	Plenary sessions were the most appreciated by the survey respondents, in particular in terms of speakers, which were described as engaging and passionate. Attendees positively commented also on the format in terms of time allocation and number of speakers per session. With respect to the content of the sessions, the majority of comments were positive, but the the amount of time dedicated to COVID-19 has divided respondents: several people reported an excessive focus on it, but several others asked to dedicate more attention to the topic in the next edition.
Programme and content	The vast majority of survey respondents praised the programme topics and content. Many respondents were also positively surprised by the informal and friendly atmosphere of the entire event. The main concerns related to the format of poster tours, that a few participants found non-intuitive to attend. The online-only posters were not received by some commenters due to the low level of interaction and attention by the audience.
Venue and catering	The venue and the catering served were appreciated by many respondents. The prevalent technical problem reported was Wi-Fi connection, that in some areas of the venue wasn't working well. Besides that, were reported the insufficient number of headsets in some poster tours and some side sessions rooms' at full capacity.

Conclusions
Overall conclusions, considering main numbers, feedback survey and from organisers

Conclusions

ESCAIDE 2022 hybrid edition was able to reproduce the main elements of the conference to both online and in-person audiences.

The conference received 3031 registrations, representing 123 countries. The high number of participants and broader country representations clearly indicates that the online format has created oportunities for attendance for participants who might not attend in normal circumstances due to costs, travel, etc. We note however that attendance was still low from certain countries historically underrepresented at ESCAIDE and on the European public health stage, despite the online format being offered.

Notwithstanding the high number of registered participants, the number of active users on the platform varied every day, with a maximum number on the first day of the conference (2595) and minum on the last day (1973).

ESCAIDE 2022 required a thorough planning, preparing, and practicing to ensure that everything run as smoothly as possible from a technical perspective and in facilitating discussions and interactions. We built on learnings from 2021 to further streamline the hybrid experience and this will be valuable for future editions of ESCAIDE where this aspect will form an important part of the conference.

In general terms, the first ESCAIDE hybrid edition created opportunities to establish connections and network. The amount of comments, questions and discussions left in the chat boxes for sessions demonstrates active participation of the viewers.

The key results from the feedback survey conducted after the conference indicated a overwhelmingly positive satisfaction with the conference. However, it is important to acknowledge that the results in this report refer to the population who completed the survey, and we cannot conclude that the opinions expressed do reflect those of the majority of the participants.

For more on ESCAIDE 2022

Read the Highlights Report, with summaries of the content presented each day

Access ESCAIDE content available on ESCAIDE2022 web and mobile app (only for registered participants, until end of February)

Watch #ESCAIDE2022 YouTube videos (more to be available in January 2023)

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