



15TH EUROPEAN PUBLIC HEALTH CONFERENCE

Strengthening health systems: improving population health and being prepared for the unexpected

**hub27, Berlin, Germany
9 - 12 November 2022**



**RESULTS
OF THE PARTICIPANTS' EVALUATION**

This publication arises from the conference 'EPH 2022 Conference'.
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Summary of main results

A total of 2.544 delegates from 77 countries attended the EPH Conference 2022 held in Berlin, Germany to discuss and debate the state of global and European health from the perspective of research, methods and practices. A total of 266 delegates (10,5% of all invitees) filled out the evaluation form.

Overall outcome:

75% of the participants rated the quality of the Berlin 2022 Conference as excellent/good

Networking:

57% of the participants rated the possibilities for meeting colleagues as excellent/good

Participation:

75% participated in parallel programme sessions

13% in plenary sessions

Exhibition:

81% of the respondents confirmed they visited the exhibition area

Abstract submission:

70% of the respondents rated the information to submit the abstracts as excellent/good

60% of the respondents rated the information to submit the presentation as excellent/good

Plans for the Future:

43% of participants will prefer an in-person conference

71% of respondents plan to attend EPH Conference in Dublin, Ireland

Introduction

The 15th European Public Health Conference was held from 9 to 12 November 2022 and was attended by 2,544 delegates from 77 countries. The conference offered them the opportunity to share their work with colleagues and learn about the state of European health from the perspective of research, policy, education and practices. The conference included 7 plenary sessions, 16 pre-conferences, 123 workshops, 53 oral sessions and 22 poster walks.

During the three conference days, delegates had the opportunity to share findings from research and experiences with innovation in all fields of public health and health services.

The theme of 15th EPH Conference was '**Strengthening health systems: improving population health and being prepared for the unexpected**'. From the COVID-19 pandemic we learned that infectious diseases know no boundaries. Although we saw the successful development of vaccines, we also learned that these vaccines have not yet been available to everyone. At Berlin 2022, we explored ways in which the public health community can rally around the principle of bringing about better population health for all. The growing health inequalities around the globe lead to a simple conclusion: Europe must take on a more active role in global health. This includes taking a stand on issues such as planetary health, climate change, environmental degradation, water and food security, migration, gender, and poverty. Europe must use its knowledge and influence to balance out market forces, expand regulatory oversight and create socially responsible systems for health, especially when it comes to the distribution of vaccines and essential medicines.

EPH Conference 2022 was organised in collaboration with a vast number of national and international partners.

Each European Public Health Conference is subject to a multi-layered evaluation. The objectives of this evaluation are to learn from our experiences and to improve the organisation of future conferences. This part of the evaluation, the Participants' Evaluation, is made publicly accessible on the conference website.

The results presented here are based on the evaluation by the conference participants. 2,544 participants received two emails shortly after the conference inviting them to evaluate the conference through a web-based questionnaire. A total of 266 delegates (10,5% of all invitees) filled out the evaluation form.

The questionnaire was divided in six parts:

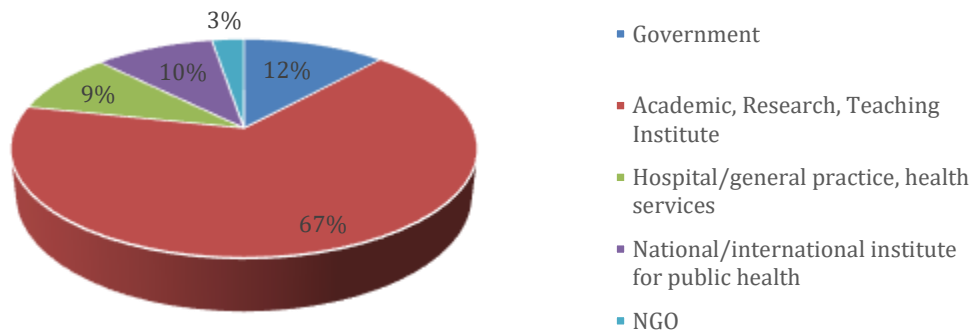
1. Berlin 2022 Conference in general
2. Programme
3. Your attendance
4. Exhibition area
5. Abstract submission
6. Plans for the future

1. Berlin 2022 Conference in General

75% of the participants rated the quality of the Berlin 2022 conference as excellent/good

EPH Conferences are known for the excellent organisation, the high number of participants and a broad programme covering relevant public health topics. Berlin 2022 was no exception to this with 2,544 delegates, scoring high overall satisfaction by delegates and with a varied programme of plenary sessions, workshops, oral and E-poster presentations and displays.

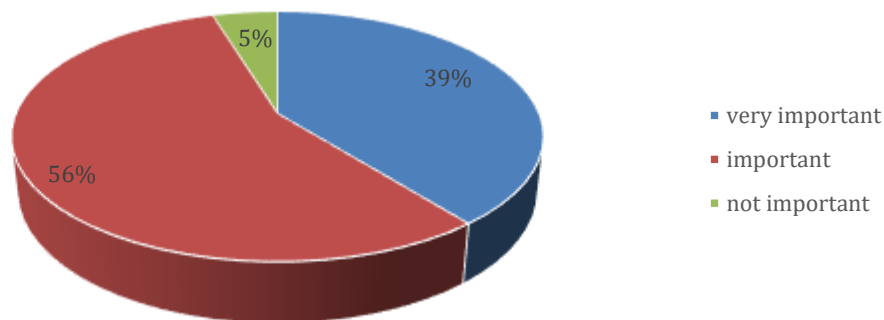
1.1. What is your background/work field?



67% the respondents had a background in research/academia. Otherwise, the professional background of the participants showed a balanced mix of policy, practice and training.

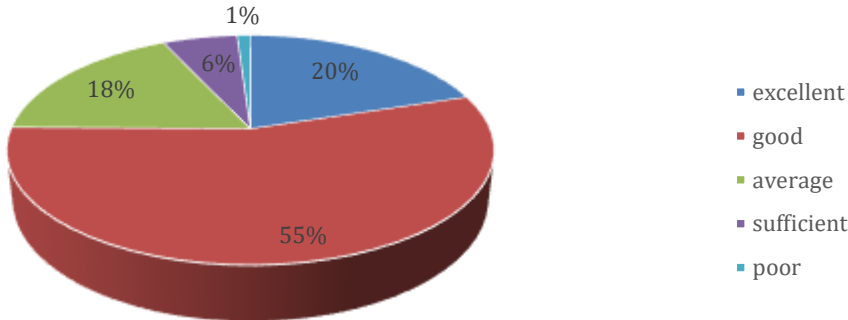
1.2. How would you rate the relevance of the conference for your work?

The theme of the 15th EPH conference was **Strengthening health systems: improving population health and being prepared for the unexpected**. 95% of the respondents rated the relevance of the conference as relevant (and very relevant) for their work.



1.3. How would you rate the quality of the conference as a whole?

75% of the participants rated the quality of the Berlin 2022 Conference as excellent/good.



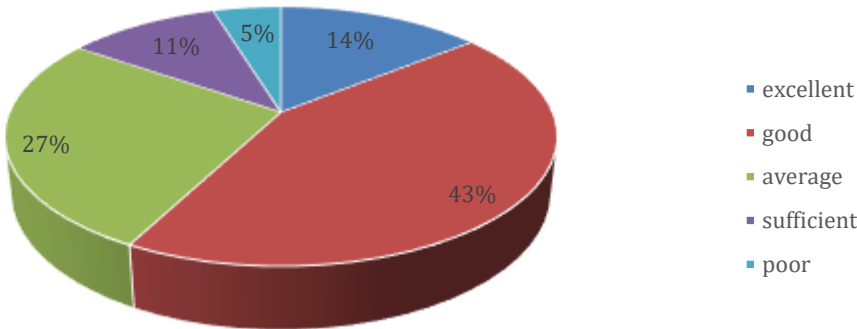
1.4. What lessons from the Berlin 2022 conference do you take home?

The following lessons were specifically mentioned:

- Public Health needs further integration with practice.
- Public Health is universal and inclusive
- Climate changes requires immediate, sustainable action in all sectors.
- These conferences are perfect networking places.
- Lunch breaks and lunch sessions are extremely useful.
- Nursing participation in EPH and EUPHA should increase in the future.
- Need for better cooperation between PH actors and policy makers.
- Data need to be more available across countries.
- Meeting in person brings a lot of unexpected opportunities for learning and collaboration.
- A lot of lessons have been learned from COVID-19. A lot of them still need to be transformed into practice.
- International exchange is of great value.
- Increased interest in health workforce.
- Policy and research need to work more closely together for healthy populations.
- The importance of interdisciplinary working.
- Pandemic preparedness is need of hour.
- We do need on-site conferences. The digital realm cannot replace the social and physical component of what EPHC is capable of providing to the public health community.

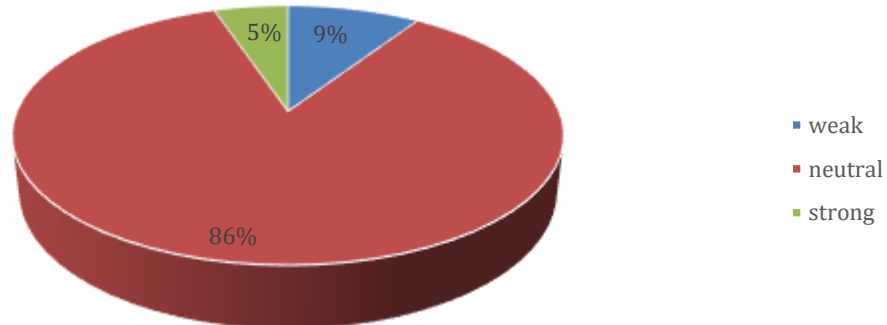
1.5. Did the conference offer ample time for networking? How would you rate the possibilities for meeting colleagues at EPH2022?

57% of the participants rated the possibilities for meeting colleagues as excellent/good. Only 5% rated this as poor.



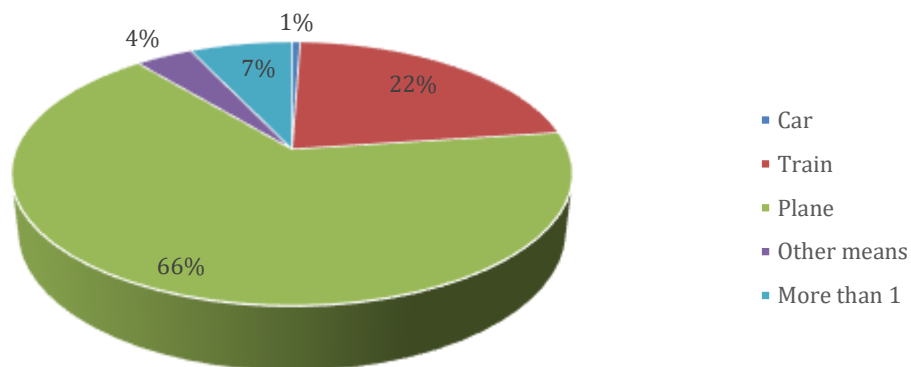
1.6. How do you rate the commercial bias in the programme of EPH2021?

86% of the participants rated the commercial bias in the conference programme as neutral, i.e. well balanced.



1.7. How did you travel to Berlin?

66% of participants travelled to Berlin by plane, 22% by train and only 1% by car.



1.8. General comments.

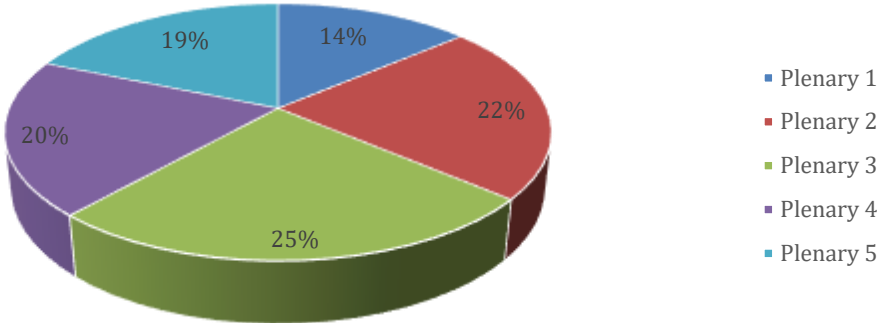
Most comments received appreciated the scientific content and organisation. Participants had in general a very good opinion about the Berlin 2022 Conference. Some technical issues were mentioned. Most comments advised having more healthy food during the conference.

2. Berlin 2022 Conference Programme

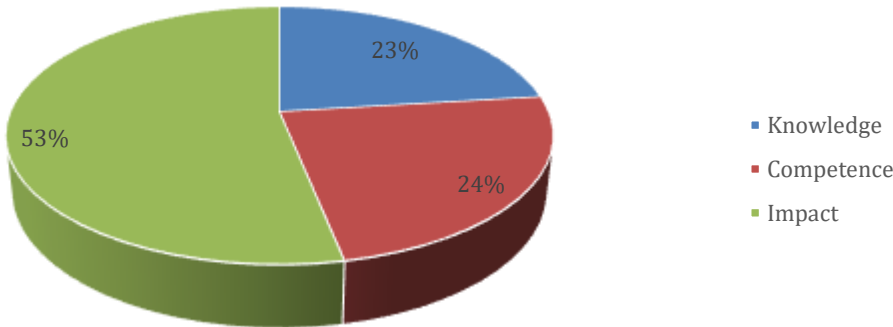
Many different sessions were mentioned as being highly appreciated, which highlights the good quality of the scientific programme. All plenary sessions were mentioned, as well as many workshops, pre-conferences, poster sessions and others.

2.1. Which plenary session was most interesting to you?

All plenaries were interesting to participants. 25% respondents indicated Plenary 3: **Health systems performance assessment for policy: uses and abuses**.



2.2. Which aspects/domains were mostly influenced by this session?

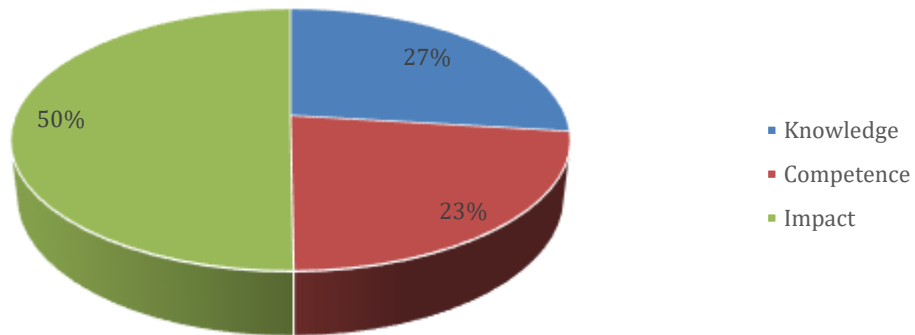


53% of participants indicated impact.

2.3. Which parallel session was most interesting to you?

This question cannot be summarised as there were so many sessions were mentioned.

2.4. Which aspects/domains were mostly influenced by this session?



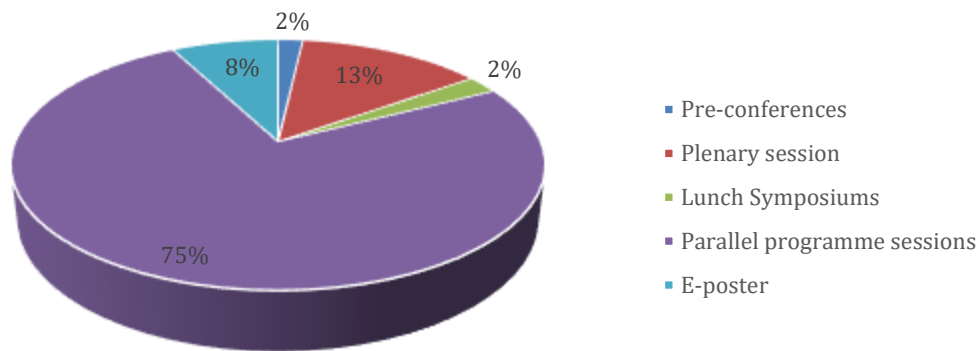
50% of participants indicated impact.

2.5. Comments

Participants appreciated the interaction, discussion and innovative character of parallel sessions. The social programme was also mostly appreciated. The idea of co-chairing was appreciated.

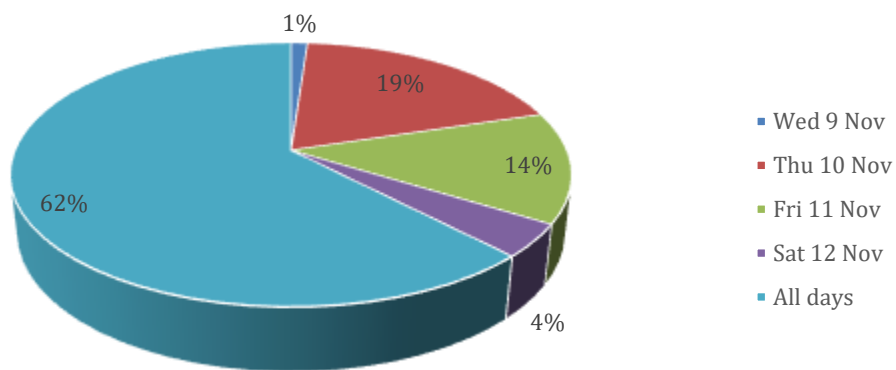
3. Your participation

3.1. Which sessions of EPH2022 did you attend predominantly?



75% respondents participated in parallel programme sessions, while 13% attended the plenary sessions.

3.2. Which days of the conference did you attend predominantly?



62% respondents participated all days of the conference.

3.3. Comments

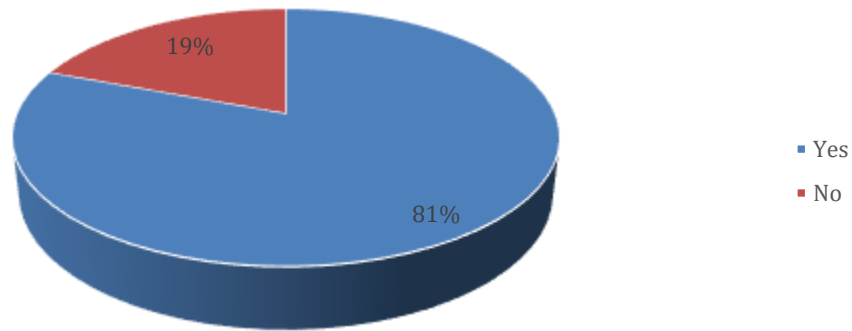
Many respondents were impressed with the quality of speakers at the plenary, but they felt the real value was in the parallel sessions and the opportunity to hear about the broad range of research happening on the ground.

4. Exhibition area

81% of the participants visited the exhibition area

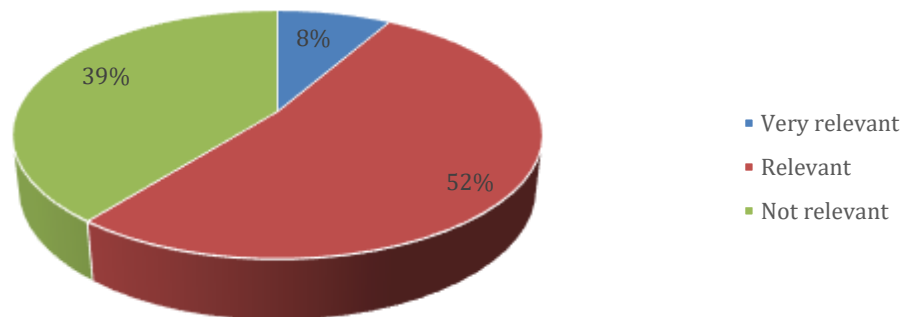
4.1 Did you visit the exhibition area?

81% of the respondents confirmed they visited the exhibition area.



4.2. How relevant was the exhibition for your work?

The exhibition stands were seen as very relevant/relevant by 91% respondents.



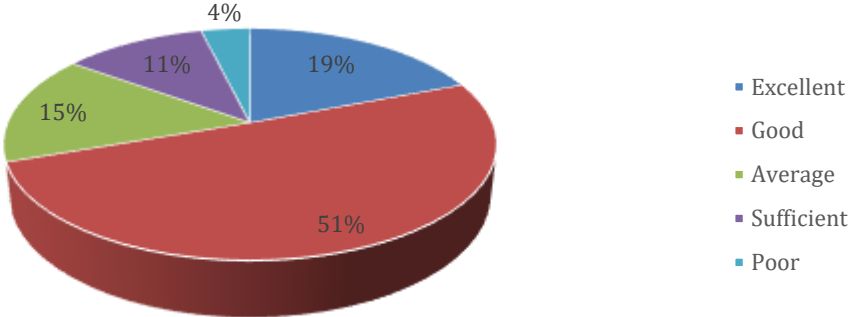
4.3. Comments

Participants found the exhibition relevant especially in terms of connecting with people. The German Pavilion was much appreciated.

5. Berlin 2022 Conference Abstract submission

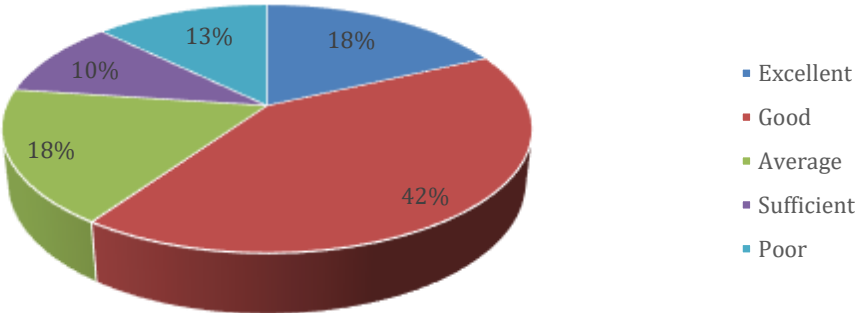
5.1. How would you rate the information you received to submit your abstract?

70% of the respondents rated the information received to submit the abstracts as excellent/good.



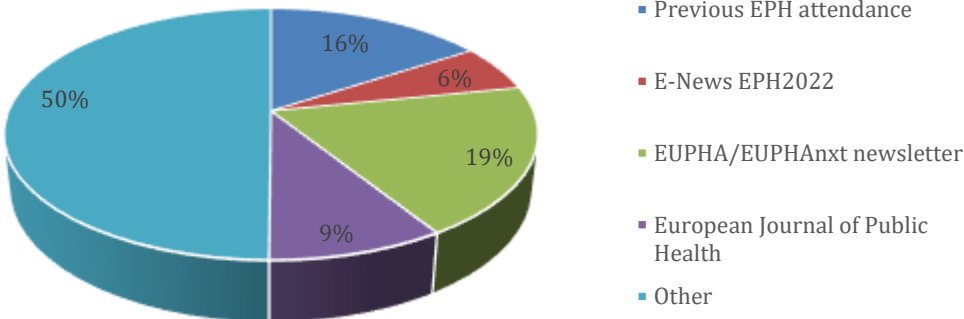
5.2. How would you rate the information you received to submit your presentation?

60% of the respondents rated the information received to submit the presentation as excellent/good.



5.3. How did you find us when submitting an abstract or registering?

16% of the participants find the EPH Conference from previous attendance.



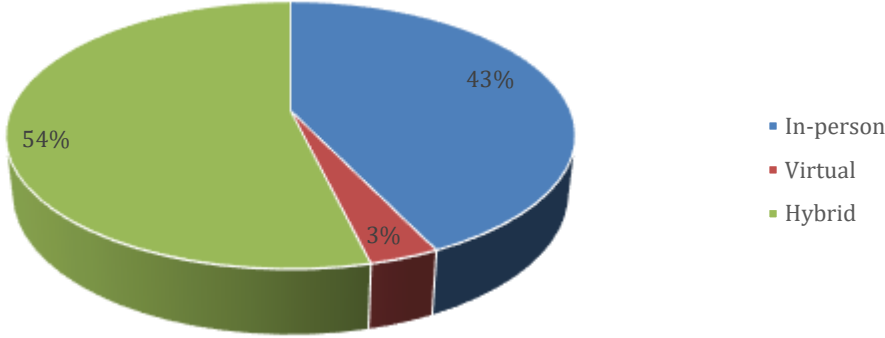
5.4. Comments

Some general comments mentioned an excellent organization in timing and explanations. Some comments advised to promote more the winning abstracts and researchers.

6. Plans for the future

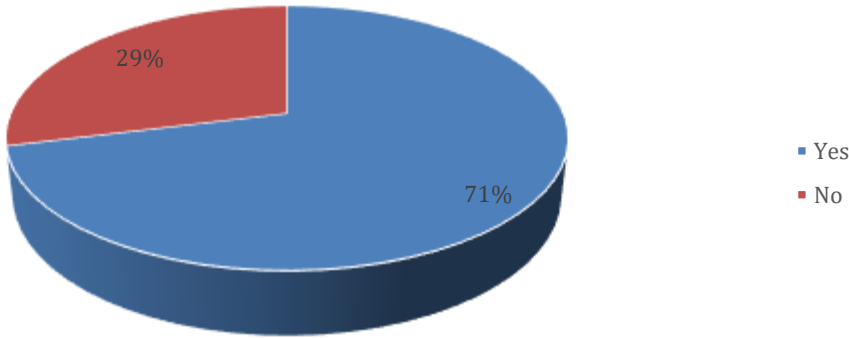
6.1. What sort of future public health conference would have your preference?

43% of participants will prefer an in-person conference.



6.2. Do you have plans to attend the EPH Conference in 2023?

71% of respondents plan to attend EPH Conference in Dublin, Ireland.



6.3. Comments

Some comments mentioned the organisation, breadth, and quality of the speakers. Some stressed that real connecting and knowledge exchange happen only live.