

ITALY IN THE TIME OF COVID-19

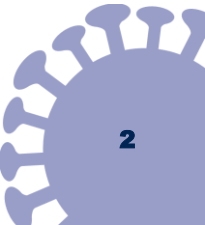
Update no. 14 | 19 May 2020





Summary | 1

- **10 days after the start of Phase 2**, there are still several points of uncertainty with the end of lockdown about what is allowed vs. what is prohibited, leading to a deadlock in opinions.
- **The perception of threat isn't significantly decreasing compared to when lockdown was still in place**, and it's still far from the pre-COVID crisis levels.
- **Belief that the worst is now over stands at just over 30%**; however there is still strong opinion (almost the same level) that we are still at the peak of the emergency.
- **The general uncertainty around how the situation is evolving** is keeping the level of citizens worried for their health high, and twice as high as those who are worried about jobs and the economy.
- **We see a downturn – although by 4 points only – in those who are in favor of reopening** vs. people who believe that it would be better to be more cautious. There is a similar dynamic in the opinions around **the respect of lockdown rules**, where the level of citizens who are convinced that too many people are breaking them is up 5% from last week.
- **For 8 in 10 Italians, the spread of the virus isn't finished at all**: a minority (7%) believe that it will peak again and we will need to close down the country for the second time. One-third believe there might be peaks here and there, and that red zones will need to be re-established. Among the optimists, one-third believe that the growth of the virus will be limited and it won't be necessary to close anything, while for the remaining 9% the decrease will be constant.

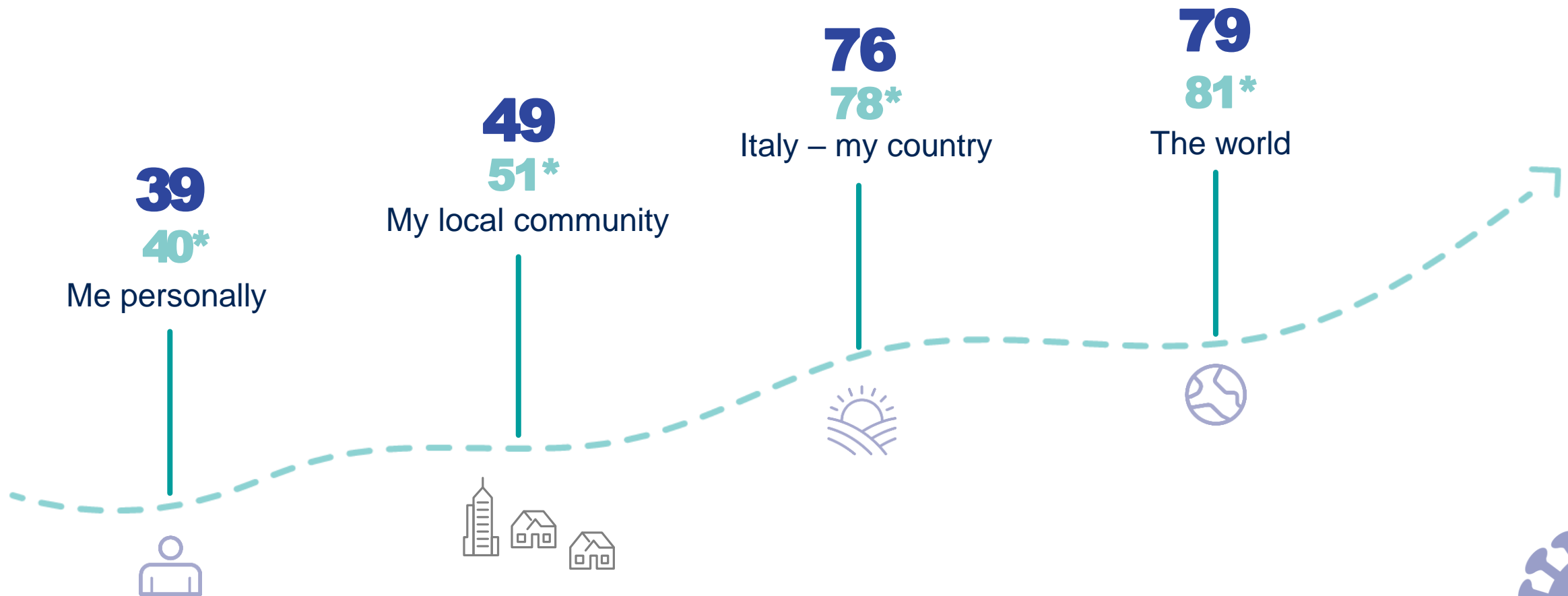




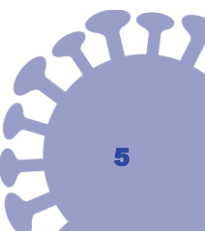
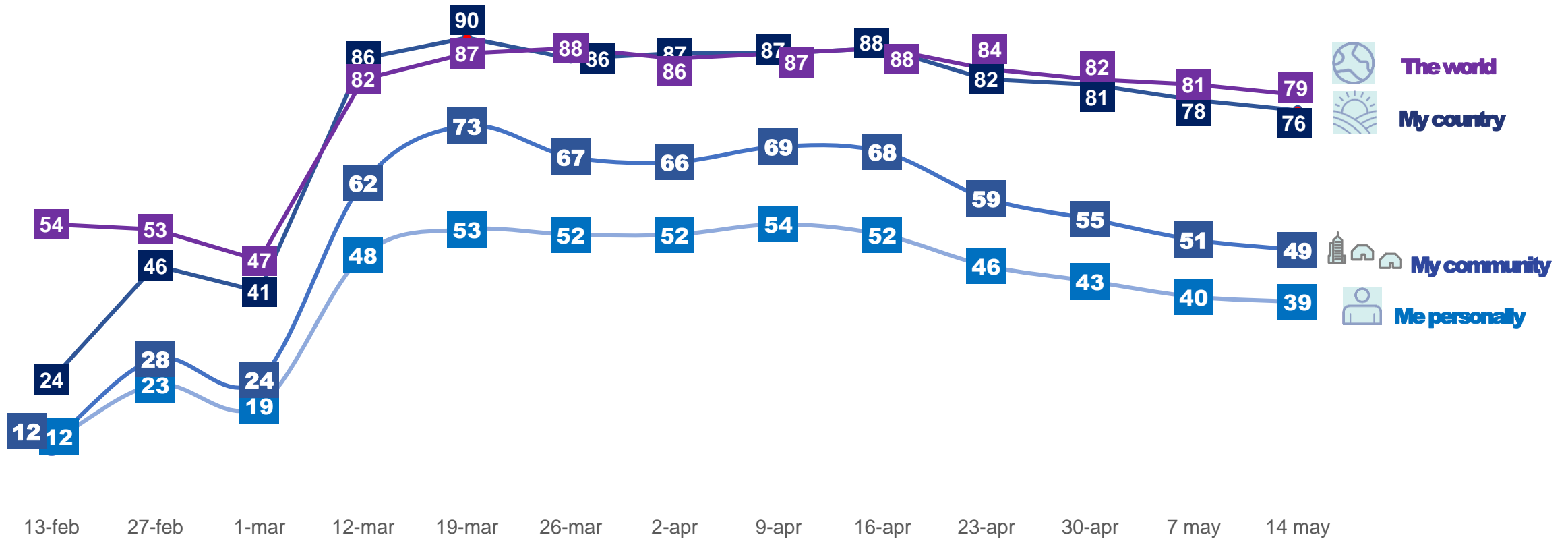
Summary | 2

- **The same as one week ago, the majority are in favor of how the reopening was managed** both at national and at local levels: 6 in 10 approve of the government, the regions and the cities.
- **Rules for Phase 2 are “very clear” for only 7 citizens out of 100**, and “fairly clear” for 35%.. More than one half believe that the rules are not clear, with the issue about visiting “relatives” being the main one – where the **understanding on who is a relative and who is not is generating confusion**. There are similar **doubts on what kind of movement is allowed, within one’s own region and around the reasons for moving**. Rules on vacation homes, travelling to other regions and usage of public transport are also not clear enough.
- **As for visiting**, the preference for seeing family again is much higher than that of visiting friends, and only 1 in 5 Italians believe friends should have been included in the first reopening groups.

A very small decrease in the perception of threat over one week



Perceived threat : Trend 13 February – 14 May





Just over 30% believe that the worst is over, although almost 3 in 10 are still convinced we are in full emergency

Vs. previous poll

20	The worst has yet to come	--
28	We are now at the peak of the emergency	-1%
31	The worst is over	+3%
21	(DK)	-2%





Stability, over one week, is in proportion between those worried by the outbreak, and those worried about income and occupation

vs. previous poll

59

More worried about getting infected, either themselves or family/relatives

+1%

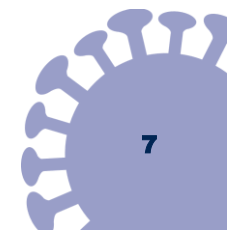
30

More worried for the loss of jobs, income, savings

-1%

11

(DK)



Slow down of opinions favourable to reopening all activities

vs. previous poll

27

Better to stay in lockdown without reopening activities, to avoid the risk of revitalising the spread of the infection

+3%

54

Better to try and reopen most of the activities as soon as possible, to avoid the deterioration of the economic situation of the country

-4%

19

(DK)

+1%



There is an increase in those who believe that a majority of citizens are still violating the rules of limitation

vs previous poll

35

Italians are proving their sense of civic duty and compliance to rules

-5%

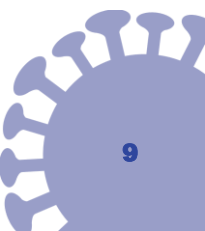
54

There are too many violations, Italians haven't totally understood the importance of staying at home and of following the rules

+5%

11

(DK)





For 8 in 10 Italians, the outbreak hasn't finished yet. However, pessimism and optimism around the need for a new lockdown are fairly balanced.

7

New flare-up of COVID-19, a new country lockdown will be necessary

36

An increase in infections, it might be necessary to locally close down and to identify «red zones»

35

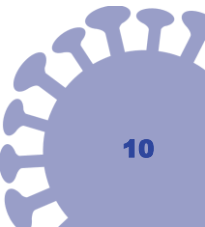
Slight increase in infections, but not so severe as to require a new lockdown

9

The decrease trend will continue as it is currently

13

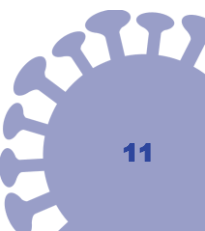
(DK)





Phase 2: The majority of citizens have confidence in the management of the reopening by the government, the regions and the cities

<i>Government</i>	<i>Regions</i>	<i>Cities</i>	
56	58	56	Very + fairly effective
38	36	32	Poorly + not effective at all
6	6	12	(DK)





Phase 2: However, the majority ask for clearer instructions on what is allowed vs. what is prohibited

42

Very (7%) + fairly clear (35%)

54

Poorly (36%) + not clear at all (18%)

6

(DK)



Phase 2: There are several points of uncertainty

54 Aren't clear about

35 ... who are the people we are allowed to visit

29 ... how to use self-certifications

25 ... which are the transfers allowed within one region

19 ... rules to go for a walk, to a park, to a garden

18 ... what kind of working activities are re-opening

And also...

16 ... which shops will re-open

14 ... the transfers outside the Region

13 ... bars' and restaurants' openings

12 ... going to vacation homes

10 ... rules to access the public transport



Phase 2: Friends or family, if you could chose?

24

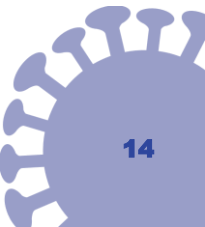
Would preferably see friends

58

Would preferably see family

18

(DK)





Visiting friends in Phase 2: Only 1 in 5 Italians think that visiting friends should have been included in the first reopening rules

21

Friends should have been included

41

It would have been nice, but the contacts would grow too much and the infections could have peaked again

31

Not necessary in this phase

7

(DK)



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