

# The use of the collaborative economy

#### Flash Eurobarometer 467

#### **METHODOLOGY**

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- Survey conducted by telephone
- Fieldwork: 23-30 April 2018
- Population: representative sample of population 15+
- Coverage: 28 Member States of the EU
- Number of interviews: 26,544



#### I. USE OF SERVICES OFFERED VIA COLLABORATIVE PLATFORMS



#### Almost one quarter of the respondents (23%) have used services offered via collaborative platforms at least once or a few times



D8 Have you ever used a service offered via a collaborative platform?(% - EU)



Although question and answers were worded differently, there seems to be an increase in the proportion who used services via collaborative platforms compared with 2016

#### FL438 (March 2016)

Q1 Which of the following matches your experience regarding this type of platform? (% - EU)



Base: all respondents (n= 14,050)



2018

2016

#### At least one in ten in Malta (11%), Ireland and Latvia (both 10%) regularly use services offered via collaborative platforms





## In 10 countries, at least three in ten have used a service offered via collaborative platforms

D8 Have you ever used a service offered via a collaborative platform? (% - TOTAL 'YES')





D8 Have you ever used a service offered via a collaborative platform?
(% - EU28)

	Total 'Yes'
EU28	23
🖬 Age	
15-24	37
25-39	38
40-54	26
55 +	11
Education (End of)	
15-	5
16-19	16
20+	32
Still studying	39
Subjective urbanisation	
Rural village	19
Small/mid size town	22
Large town	34
Respondent occupation scale	
Self-employed	37
Employee	34
Manual workers	15
Not working	16

Base: all respondents (n= 26,544)

The highest proportions of users can be found among those aged less than 40, the most educated, those living in large towns and selfemployed or employees

## More than half of the users have used services in accommodation (57%) and transport (51%)

**Q2** In which of the following sectors have you used a service offered via a collaborative platform? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

(% - EU)





#### Accommodation or transport are the most mentioned sectors by users in almost all countries

 Q2 In which of the following sectors have you used a service offered via a collaborative platform? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)





#### Almost three quarters of users (73%) say that collaborative platforms allow a more convenient access to services compared to traditional channels

Q4 In your personal experience, what are the advantages of using collaborative platforms compared with traditional channels, if any? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)

50 70 80 0 10 20 30 40 60 A MORE CONVENIENT ACCESS TO SERVICES 73 THE AVAILABILITY OF RATINGS AND REVIEWS BY USERS 60 CHEAPER OR FREE SERVICES OFFERED 59 VIA COLLABORATIVE PLATFORMS A WIDER CHOICE OF SERVICES UNAVAILABLE 56 VIA TRADITIONAL CHANNELS THE OPPORTUNITIES THEY OFFER TO INTERACT 34 WITH INTERESTING PEOPLE POSSIBILITY OF EXCHANGING SERVICES 31 INSTEAD OF PAYING FOR THEM OTHER (SPONTANEOUS) 1 NONE, THERE ARE NO ADVANTAGES 2 (SPONTANEOUS) DON'T KNOW 1



#### A more convenient access to services is the most frequently mentioned advantage in all but 4 countries

Q4 In your personal experience, what are the advantages of using collaborative platforms compared with traditional channels, if any? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

(% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)





### Those who used collaborative finance services are the most likely to mention each of the advantages

Q4 In your personal experience, what are the advantages of using collaborative platforms compared with traditional channels, if any? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

(% of users of services offered via collaborative platforms - EU)

	A more convenient access to services	The availability of <b>ratings and reviews</b> by users	<b>Cheaper or free</b> services offered via collaborative platforms	A <b>wider choice</b> of services unavailable via traditional channels	The opportunities they offer to <b>interact with</b> <b>interesting people</b>	Possibility of <b>exchanging</b> <b>services</b> instead of paying for them
EU28	73	60	59	56	34	31
Sectors in which collabor	rative platforms were u	used				
Transport	76	62	68	58	40	35
Accommodation	75	66	64	61	33	31
Food	85	68	59	65	34	33
Household services	79	67	57	62	32	29
Professional services	75	58	53	60	37	32
Collaborative finance	89	74	76	72	46	54

Base: respondents who have used services offered via collaborative platforms (n= 6,389)

highest proportions per item



lowest proportions per item

## Lack of clarity about who is responsible in case of a problem is the most mentioned disadvantage of collaborative platforms (49%)

**Q5** In your personal experience, what are the disadvantages of using collaborative platforms compared with traditional channels, if any? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

(% - EU)





## In most countries, lack of clarity about who is responsible in case of a problem is the most frequently mentioned disadvantage

Q5 In your personal experience, what are the disadvantages of using collaborative platforms compared with traditional channels, if any? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)





## Those who used transport services are among the least likely to mention each of the disadvantages

Q5

In your personal experience, what are the disadvantages of using collaborative platforms compared with traditional channels, if any? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

(% of users of services offered via collaborative platforms - EU)

	Lack of clarity about who is responsible in the event of a problem	Misleading ratings and reviews from users	Misuse of your <b>personal data</b>	Less trust in the providers of services offered via collaborative platforms	Services offered via collaborative platforms are <b>not as expected</b>	Problems with the online booking process or payments
EU28	49	38	37	34	24	22
Sectors in which collabor	rative platforms wer	re used				
Transport	50	37	38	34	23	23
Accommodation	50	38	38	35	25	22
Food	56	38	38	32	25	27
Household services	54	39	41	36	31	24
Professional services	51	48	41	37	32	22
Collaborative finance	54	39	51	32	26	29

#### highest proportions per item

lowest proportions per item



#### Lack of knowledge (36%) and preference for traditional channels (34%) are the main reasons for not using services via collaborative platforms





Q1 For which of the following reasons have you never used a service offered via a collaborative platform? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

(%)



In all countries, the most frequently mentioned reason is either lack of knowledge of collaborative platforms or preference for traditional channels



Q1 For which of the following reasons have you never used a service offered via a collaborative platform? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) (% - EU)

Vou don't know

	what collaborative platforms are
EU28	36
📅 Age	
15-24	33
25-39	29
40-54	30
55 +	43
Education (End of)	
15-	54
16-19	39
20+	27
Still studying	31
Respondent occupation scale	
Self-employed	29
Employee	28
Manual workers	36
Not working	42

Base: respondents who have never used services offered via collaborative platforms (n= 20,034) The highest proportions of those who don't know what collaborative platforms are can be found among those aged 55+, the least educated and those who are not working



## The large majority of users would recommend services offered via collaborative platforms (88%)

Q6 Overall, would you recommend services offered via collaborative platforms or not? (% - EU)



Base: respondents who have used services offered via collaborative platforms (n= 6,389)



#### In 8 countries, at least half of the users would definitely recommend services offered via collaborative platforms

Q6 Overall, would you recommend services offered via collaborative platforms or not?(%)



Base: respondents who have used services offered via collaborative platforms (n= 6,389)

20



#### In all countries, the overwhelming majority of users would recommend services offered via collaborative platforms

Q6 Overall, would you recommend services offered via collaborative platforms or not? (% - TOTAL 'YES')





#### Around one third of the users use services via collaborative platforms on top of their usage of the same services via traditional channels (33%)

Q3 Thinking about your overall experience with services offered via collaborative platforms in the last 12 months, which of the following statements best describes your experience?
(% - EU)





#### For 60% of users, the usage of collaborative platforms does not come at the expense of their habitual usage of traditional channels

Q3 Thinking about your overall experience with services offered via collaborative platforms in the last 12 months, which of the following statements best describes your experience? (% - EU)





## The highest proportions of users who have completely replaced traditional channels with collaborative platforms are in Portugal, Malta and Slovenia

Q3 Thinking about your overall experience with services offered via collaborative platforms in the last 12 months, which of the following statements best describes your experience?
(%)



Base: respondents who have used services offered via collaborative platforms

(n= 6,389)

		Total 'Use of collaborative platforms <b>on top</b> of traditional channels'	Total 'Collaborative platforms <b>replace</b> traditional channels to at least some extent'
EU28		60	32
BE		62	24
BG		59	35
CZ		47	44
DK		45	38
DE		60	25
EE		39	52
IE		58	33
EL		57	37
ES	<u>&amp;</u>	64	31
FR	<u>&amp;</u>	69	22
HR		59	36
IT		57	41
CY	<u>خ</u>	42	48
LV		65	24
LT		72	22
LU		71	23
HU	=	47	49
MT	*	57	37
NL		54	39
AT	=	59	32
PL		62	32
PT	۲	44	50
RO		55	37
SI		59	38
SK	<b>.</b>	51	44
FI		50	42
SE		59	34
UK		58	32

Around seven in ten in Lithuania, Luxembourg and France use collaborative platforms on top of their usage of traditional channels



#### The users of collaborative finance services are most likely to have completely replaced traditional channels

Q3 Thinking about your overall experience with services offered via collaborative platforms in the last 12 months, which of the following statements best describes your experience?

(% of users of services offered via collaborative platforms - EU)

	You have <b>to some</b> extent replaced the services you used via traditional channels with services offered via collaborative platforms	with	You use services offered via traditional channels <b>to approximately the</b> <b>same extent</b> , but you <b>now also use</b> these same services via	You only started using the services when they became available via collaborative platforms	
EU28	20	12	33	27	
Sectors in which collabor	Sectors in which collaborative platforms were used				
Transport	22	13	32	27	
Accommodation	22	14	36	23	
Food	21	14	38	23	
Household services	22	11	30	28	
Professional services	21	14	38	21	
Collaborative finance	15	18	37	27	

highest proportions per item

lowest proportions per item

Base: respondents who have used services offered via collaborative platforms

(n= 6,389)



#### **II. PROVISION OF SERVICES OFFERED VIA COLLABORATIVE PLATFORMS**



## Only 6% of the respondents have offered services via collaborative platforms



D9 Have you ever offered a service via a collaborative platform? (% - EU)



## Only very small proportions in each country regularly offer services via collaborative platforms





#### In all countries, less than one in ten have offered services via collaborative platforms, with the only exceptions of Latvia (17%) and France (11%)

D9 Have you ever offered a service via a collaborative platform? (% - TOTAL 'YES')





## Those who have offered services via collaborative platforms have done so mostly in transport (44%) and accommodation (35%) sectors





## Those who have offered services via collaborative platforms have done so mostly in transport (44%) and accommodation (35%) sectors





Q10 In which of the following sectors have you provided a service via a collaborative platform? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% of providers of services via collaborative platforms - EU)

	<b>Transport</b> (e.g. car sharing)	Accommodation (e.g. renting an apartment)			
EU28	44	35			
🜆 Sex					
Male	50	31			
Female	36	40			
🛅 Age					
15-24	50	23			
25-39	53	41			
40-54	32	36			
55 +	35	33			
Education (End of)					
15-	21	28			
16-19	31	34			
20+	49	38			
Still studying	44	28			
Respondent occupation scale					
Self-employed	33	46			
Employee	52	34			
Manual workers	45	32			
Not working	37	33			

Apart from education, significant differences can be observed in the the socio-demographic profiles of providers in the transport and in the accommodation sectors



#### An easy way to interact with consumers (53%) is the most frequently mentioned reason for offering services via collaborative platforms

Q11 For which of the following reasons do you offer services via collaborative platforms? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) (% - EU)





#### Almost half of providers *spontaneously* say they have not encountered problems when providing services via collaborative platforms (46%)





#### 14% of those who have never offered services via collaborative platforms have done so via traditional channels



Q9 Have you ever offered services occasionally as a private individual via traditional channels?(% - EU)



## Only small proportions in each country regularly provide services via traditional channels





#### The highest proportions of service providers via traditional channels are found in Latvia, Poland and the Netherlands

Q9 Have you ever offered services occasionally as a private individual via traditional channels?(% - TOTAL 'YES')





#### Among those who have never offered services via collaborative platforms, almost two in ten would consider doing so occasionally (19%)

Q7 Would you consider offering services occasionally as a private individual via collaborative platforms?
(% - EU)





#### In 7 countries, at least one quarter of those who have never offered services via collaborative platforms would consider doing so occasionally





Q7 Would you consider offering services occasionally as a private individual via collaborative platforms? (% of respondents who have never offered services via collaborative platforms - EU)

	Yes
EU28	19
🛂 Sex	
Male	22
Female	16
📅 Age	
15-24	34
25-39	29
40-54	19
55 +	9
Education (End of)	
15-	9
16-19	15
20+	22
Still studying	36
Subjective urbanisation	
Rural village	16
Small/mid size town	19
Large town	24
Respondent occupation sc	ale
Self-employed	29
Employee	22
Manual workers	17
Not working	15

The highest proportions of 'would-be providers' can be observed among men, the youngest, the most educated, those living in large towns and the selfemployed



#### Not having time nor interest (64%) is the most frequently mentioned reason for not offering services via collaborative platforms

**Q8** For which of the following reasons have you never offered a service via a collaborative platform? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

(% - EU)





#### **III. USER-PROVIDER PROFILING**



#### Three quarters of the respondents are not user nor providers of services via collaborative platforms (75%), while almost two in ten are only users (19%)





## The highest proportions of users and providers are observed in Latvia (15%) and France (10%)





	Not user nor provider
EU28	75
🛗 Age	
15-24	61
25-39	61
40-54	74
55 +	88
Education (End of)	
15-	94
16-19	82
20+	67
Still studying	60
Subjective urbanisation	
Rural village	81
Small/mid size town	78
Large town	65
Respondent occupation sca	ale
Self-employed	62
Employee	66
Manual workers	85
Not working	83

Base: all respondents (n= 26,544)

Those who are not users nor providers tend to be aged 55+, less educated, manual workers or not working, and living in rural villages

