

### **What are indices, and why were they used in the analyses in the survey?**

Determining the extent of negative attitudes in a population group is no easy task. In any survey, the distribution of responses to a specific question will depend not only on the subject matter but also on the wording and the response options provided. It is therefore expedient to use multiple questions with varied content and form, and analyse the overall pattern of the responses. This can be done by constructing indices that combine multiple questions with related content. Using multiple questions provides more reliable measurements because it reduces the impact of random errors. It also produces more valid measurements of complex features that cannot be captured by a single question. We therefore constructed indices for each of the three dimensions of attitudes (cognitive, affective, and social distance) and then combined them in an overall index.