

# WHAT WORRIES THE WORLD?

June 2022



GAME CHANGERS



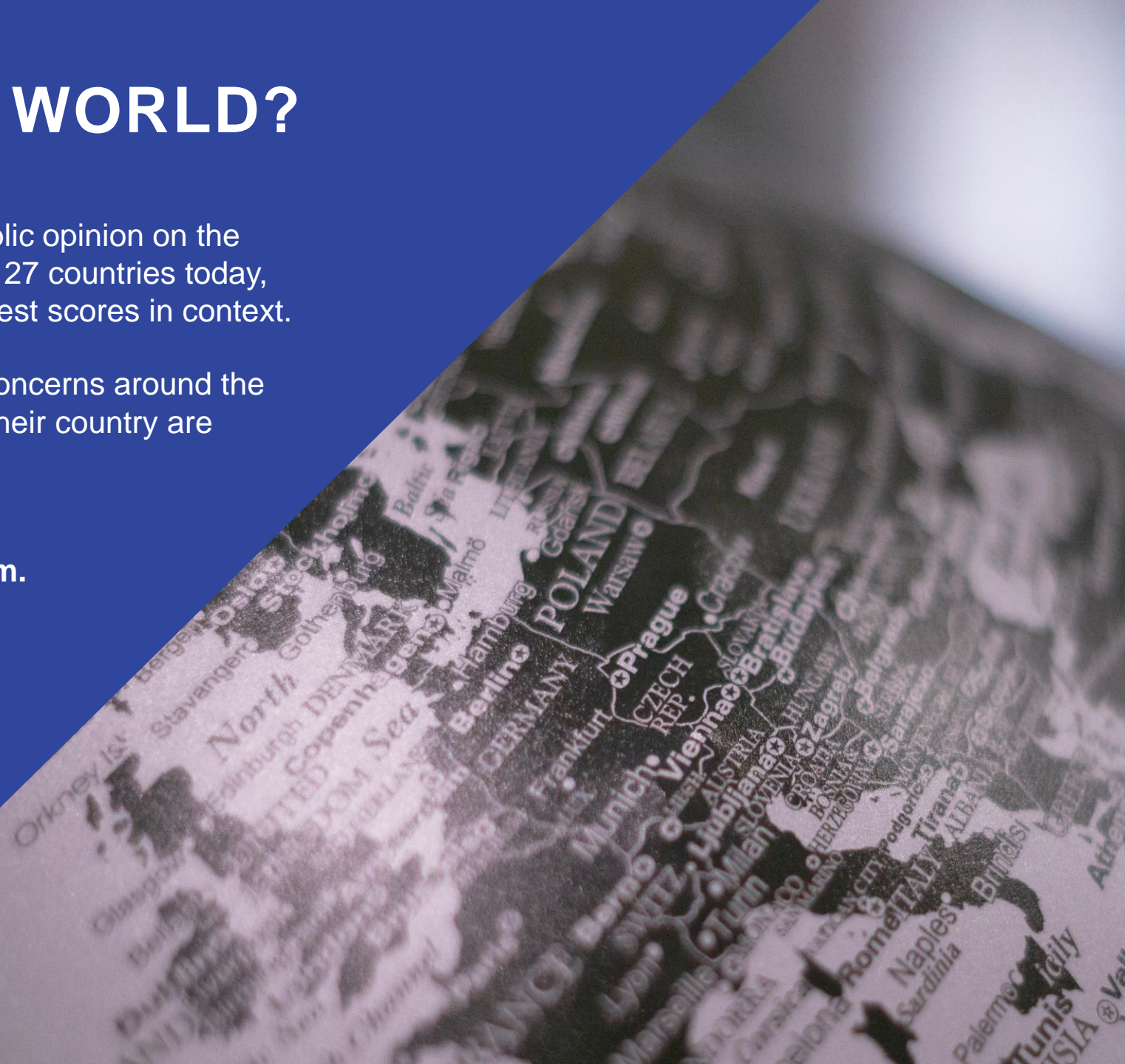
# WHAT WORRIES THE WORLD?

Ipsos' *What Worries the World* survey tracks public opinion on the most important social and political issues across 27 countries today, drawing on over 10 years of data to place the latest scores in context.

This **global summary report** presents the top concerns around the world, alongside whether people think things in their country are heading in the right or wrong direction.

Full breakdowns of findings for each country and each issue are also available on [www.ipsos.com](http://www.ipsos.com).

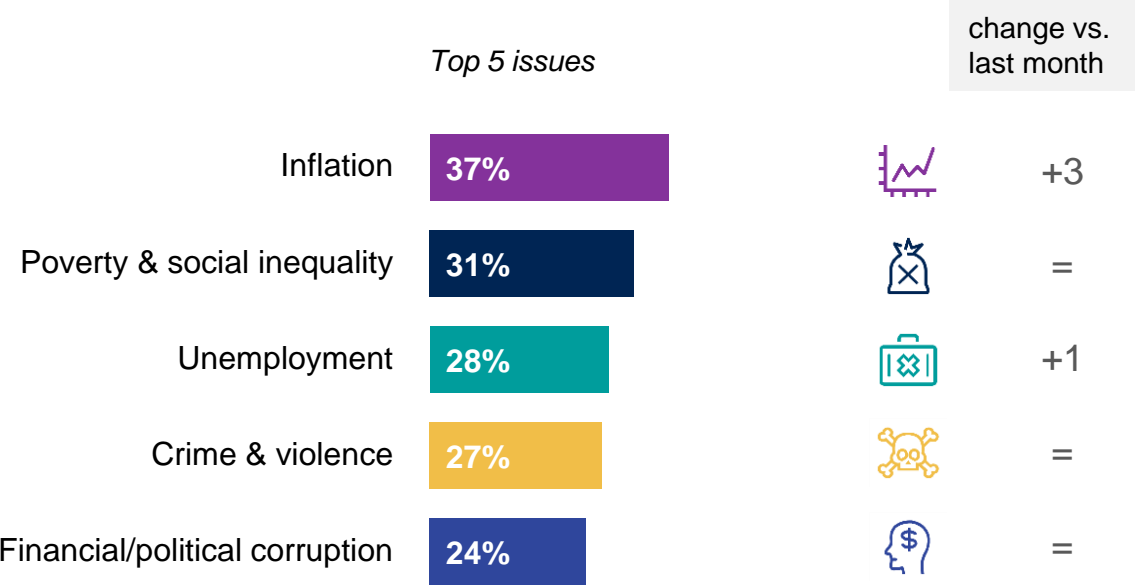
Please contact [Teodros.Gebrekal@ipsos.com](mailto:Teodros.Gebrekal@ipsos.com) for more information.



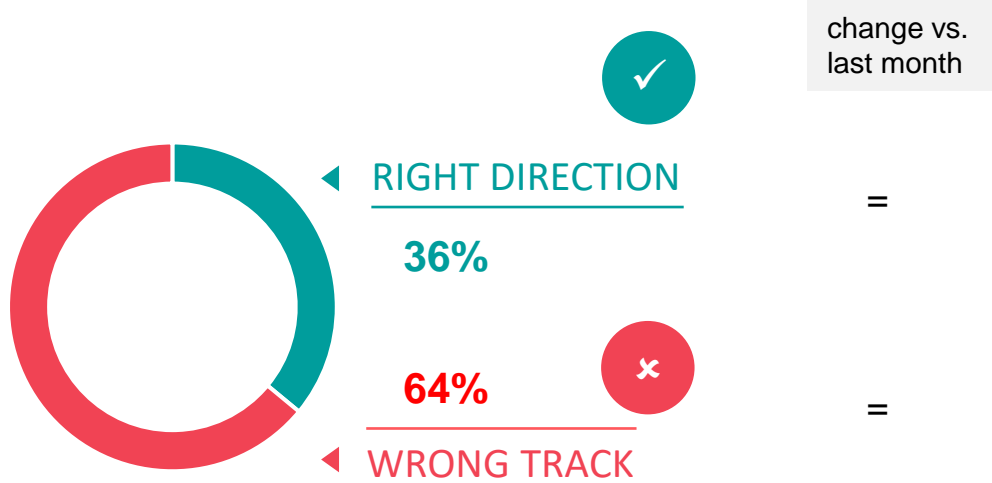
# WHAT WORRIES THE WORLD? JUNE 2022

Concern about inflation has continued to rise and June marks the third consecutive month where it is a top worry globally. Concern about Coronavirus has continued to decline and, for the first time since its introduction, Covid-19 is not the number one worry for any of the 27 countries surveyed. Meanwhile, two-thirds of people say their country is heading in the wrong direction.

**Q** Which three of the following topics do you find the most worrying in your country?



**Q** Generally speaking, would you say things in this country are heading in the right direction, or are they off on the wrong track?



Base: Representative sample of c.19,000 adults aged 16-74 in 27 participating countries, May 27<sup>th</sup> - 2022 – June 6<sup>th</sup> 2022.

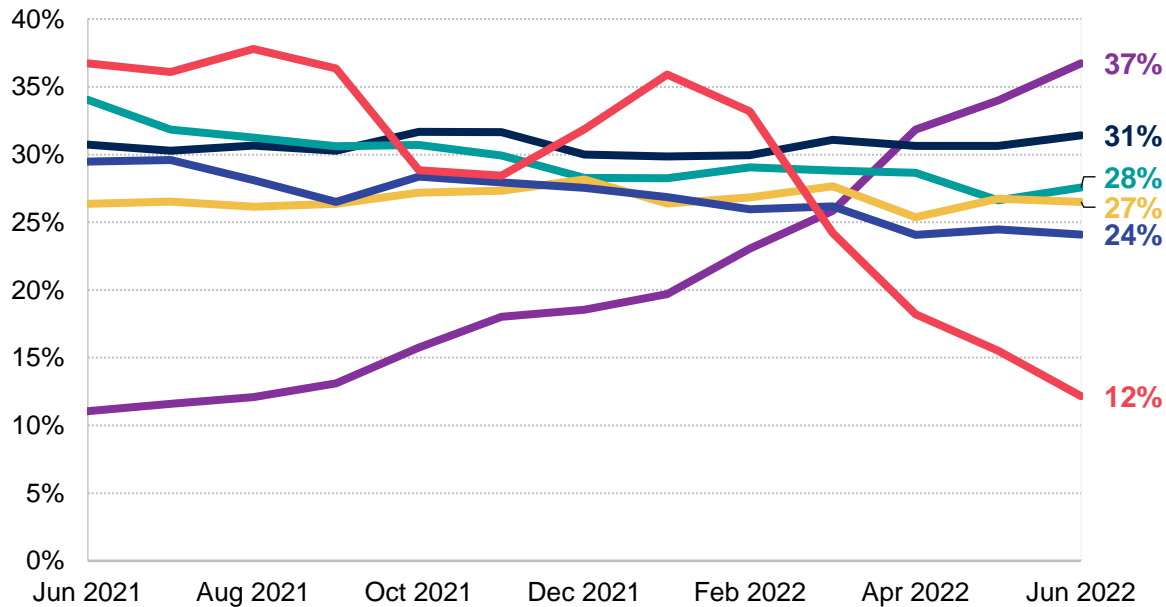
Source: Ipsos Global Advisor. Global score is a Global Country Average. See methodology for details.



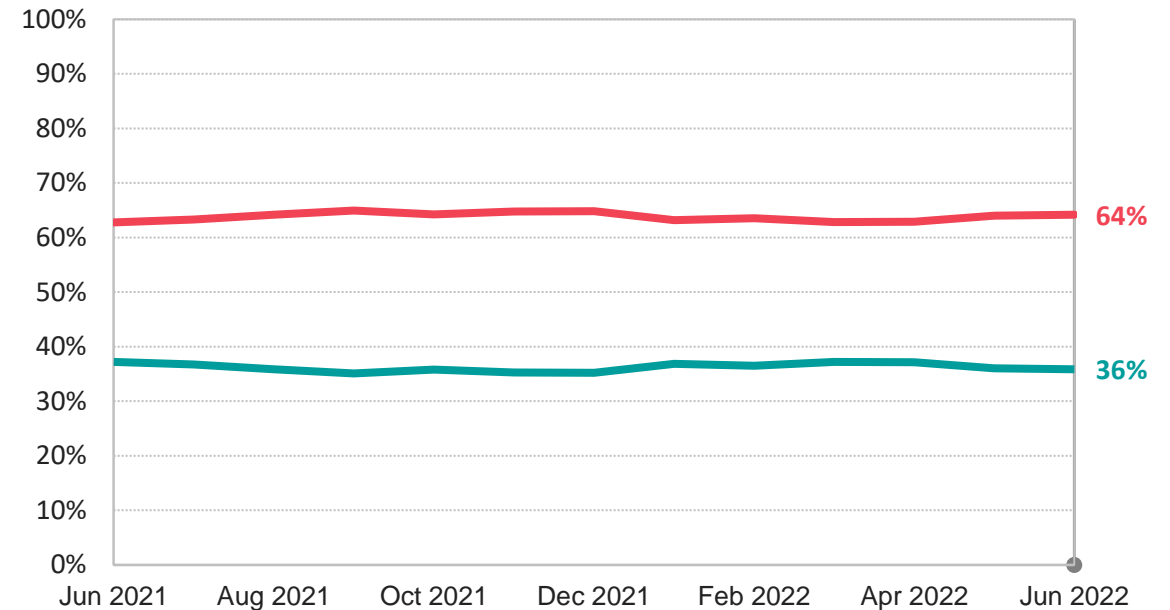
# WHAT WORRIES THE WORLD? 12-MONTH TREND

**Q** Which three of the following topics do you find the most worrying in your country?

Chart shows top 5 issues plus Coronavirus



**Q** Generally speaking, would you say things in this country are heading in the right direction, or are they off on the wrong track?



**Right Direction** **Wrong Track**

**Base:** Representative sample of c.19,000 adults aged 16-74 in 27 participating countries, May 27<sup>th</sup> - 2022 – June 6<sup>th</sup> 2022.

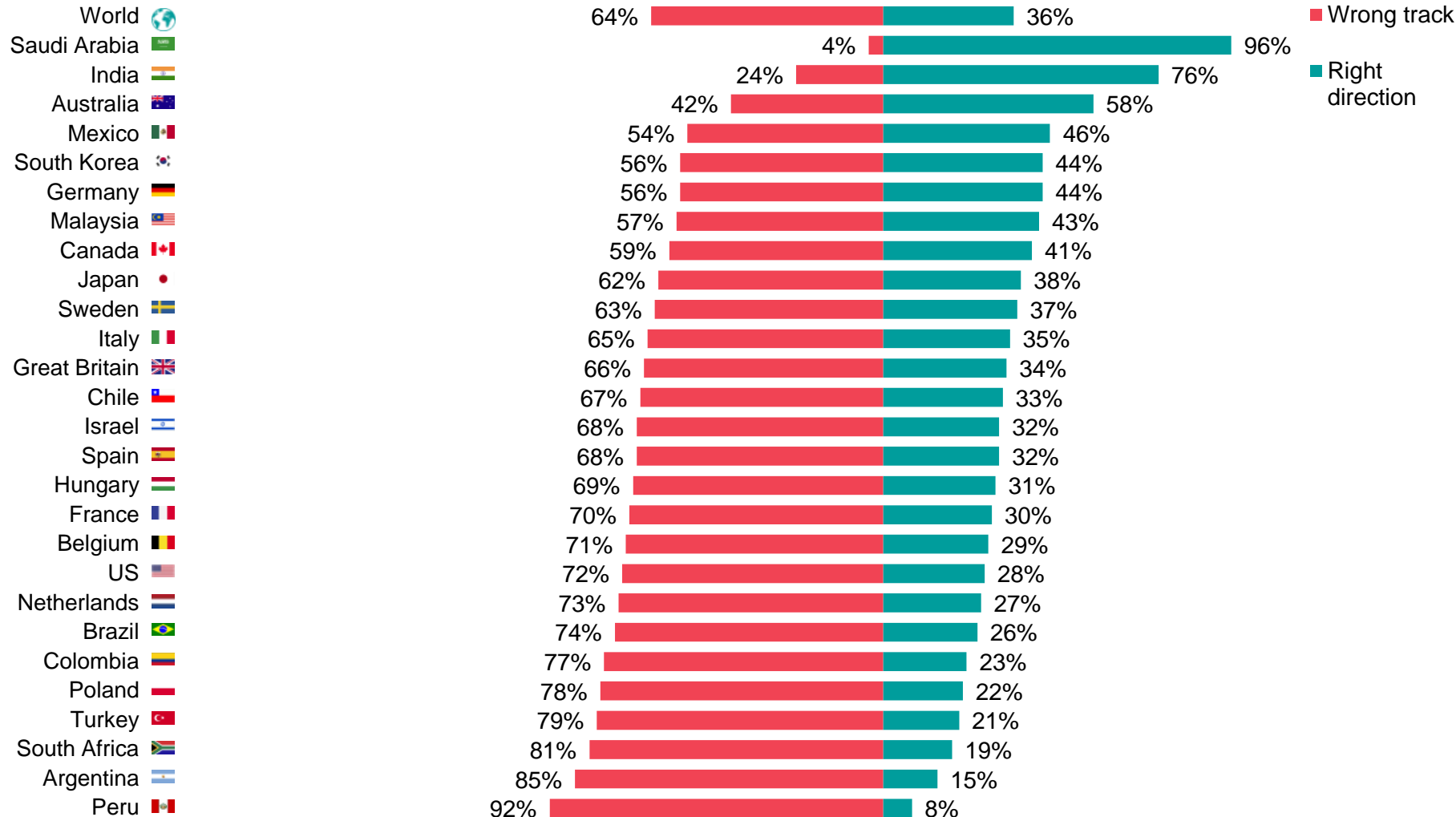
**Source:** Ipsos Global Advisor. *Global score is a Global Country Average. See methodology for details.*

# DIRECTION OF TRAVEL **ALL COUNTRIES**



# RIGHT DIRECTION VS. WRONG TRACK MONITOR

**Q** Would you say things in this country are heading in the right direction, or are they off on the wrong track? (June 2022)



Across the 27 nations surveyed, 64% on average say that things in their country are on the wrong track while 36% think they are heading in the right direction.

Peru and Argentina have the largest proportion saying that their country is heading in the wrong direction (92% and 85%). This month, the largest increases in the “wrong-track” score are in the US (+9), Israel and Malaysia (both +6).

Meanwhile, there is a 9-point increase on the “right direction” score in Australia and an 8-point increase in South Korea.

Saudi Arabia remains the country where the largest proportion of people say the country is heading in the right direction.

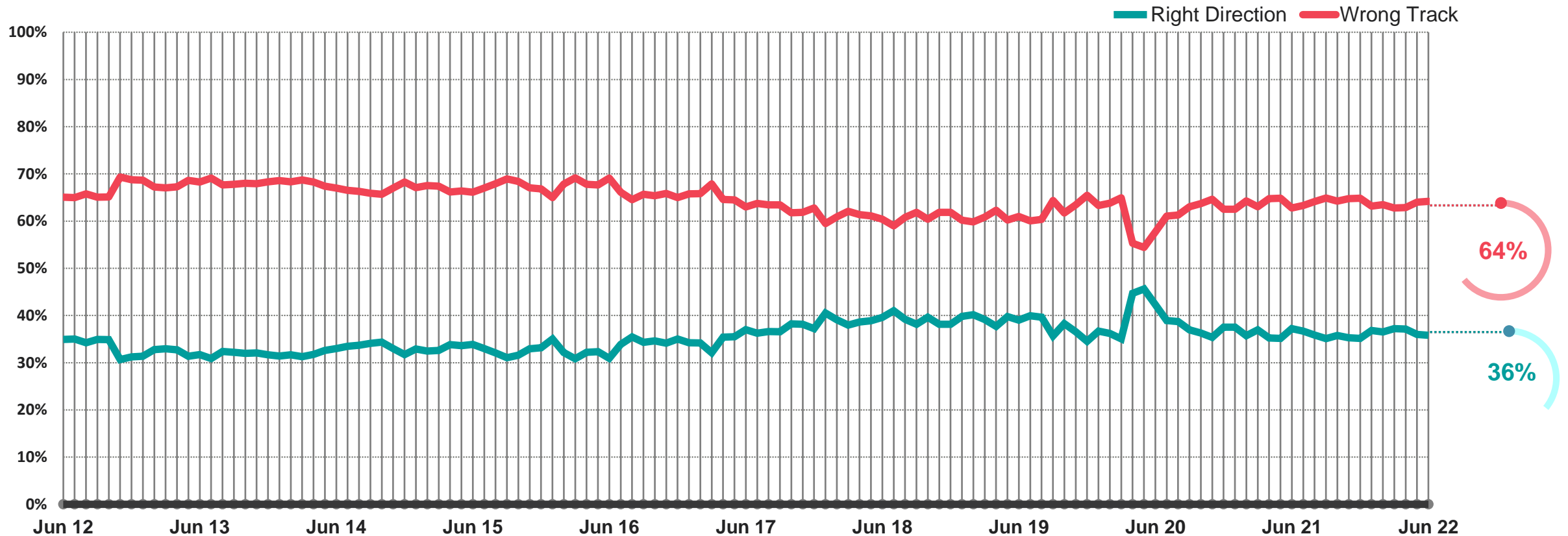
**Base:** Representative sample of c.19,000 adults aged 16-74 in 27 participating countries, May 27<sup>th</sup> - 2022 – June 6<sup>th</sup> 2022.

**Source:** Ipsos Global Advisor. *Global score is a Global Country Average. See methodology for details.*



# GLOBAL: RIGHT DIRECTION/WRONG TRACK

**Q** Would you say things in this country are heading in the right direction, or are they off on the wrong track?  
(Global country average score)



**Base:** Representative sample of c.19,000 adults aged 16-74 in 27 participating countries, May 27<sup>th</sup> - 2022 – June 6<sup>th</sup> 2022.

**Source:** Ipsos Global Advisor. *Global score is a Global Country Average. See methodology for details.*

# WORRIES THE WORLD? TOP ISSUES RANKED

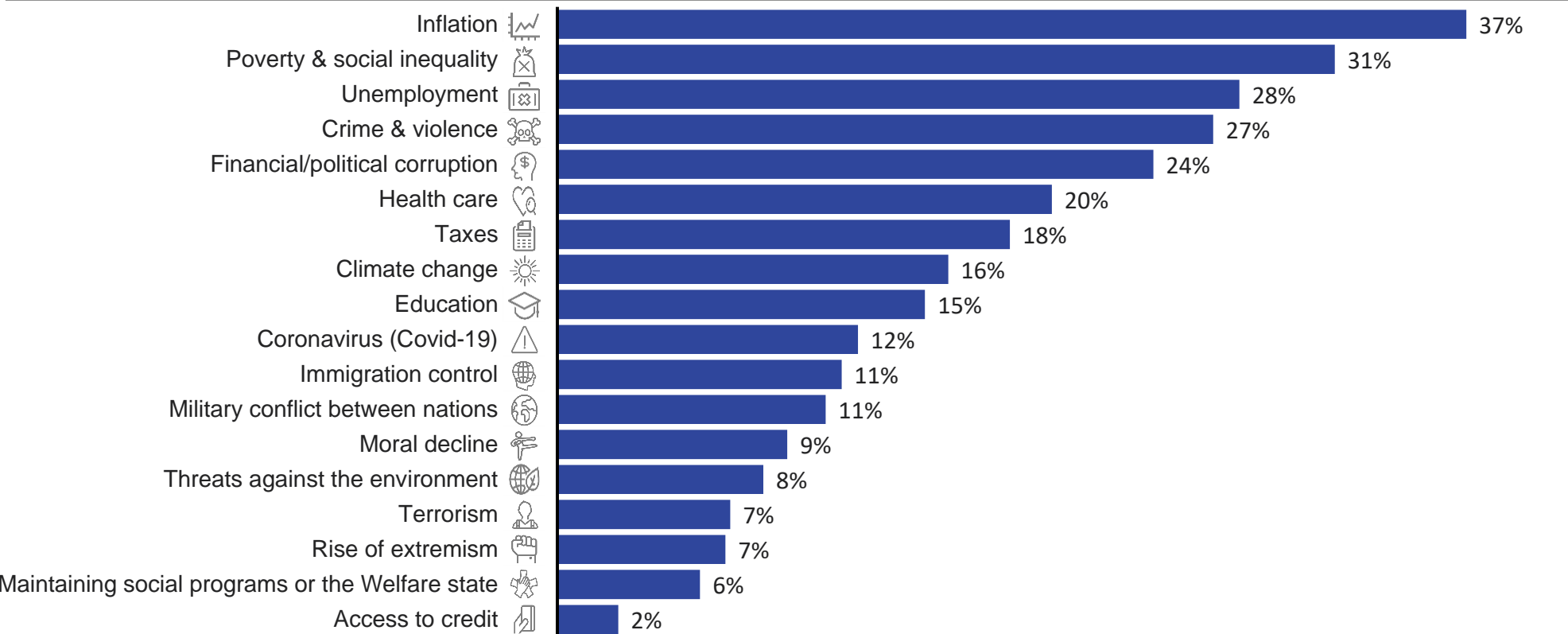




# WORLD WORRIES: THE FULL LIST

**Q** Which three of the following topics do you find the most worrying in your country?

% mentioned in June 2022 (Global country average)



This full ranking of the 18 issues in our survey gives an overview of what people in 28 countries worry about today.

Inflation (37%) remains the top global concern and rises a further three points this month.

Worry about Coronavirus has fallen four points and it drops two places down to 10<sup>th</sup> position.

Meanwhile, military conflict between nations is down three points to 11%.

**Base:** Representative sample of c.19,000 adults aged 16-74 in 27 participating countries, May 27<sup>th</sup> - 2022 – June 6<sup>th</sup> 2022.

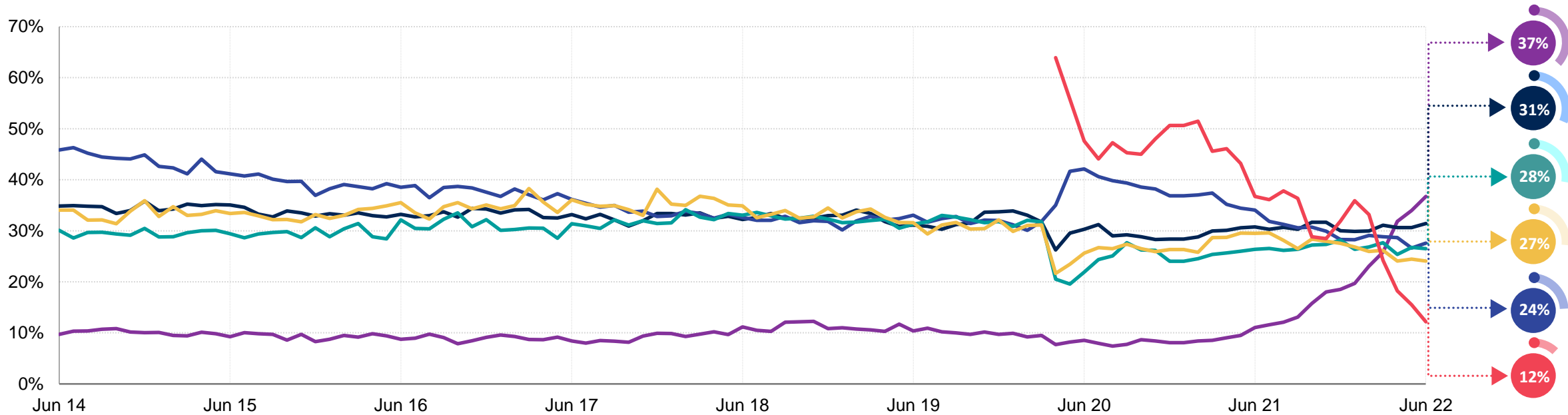
**Source:** Ipsos Global Advisor. *Global score is a Global Country Average. See methodology for details.*



# WORLD WORRIES: LONG-TERM TREND

**Q** Which three of the following topics do you find the most worrying in your country?

Global country average - chart shows top 5 issues plus Coronavirus



**Inflation**



**Poverty & social inequality**



**Unemployment**



**Crime & violence**



**Financial/political corruption**



**Coronavirus**  
10th place this month

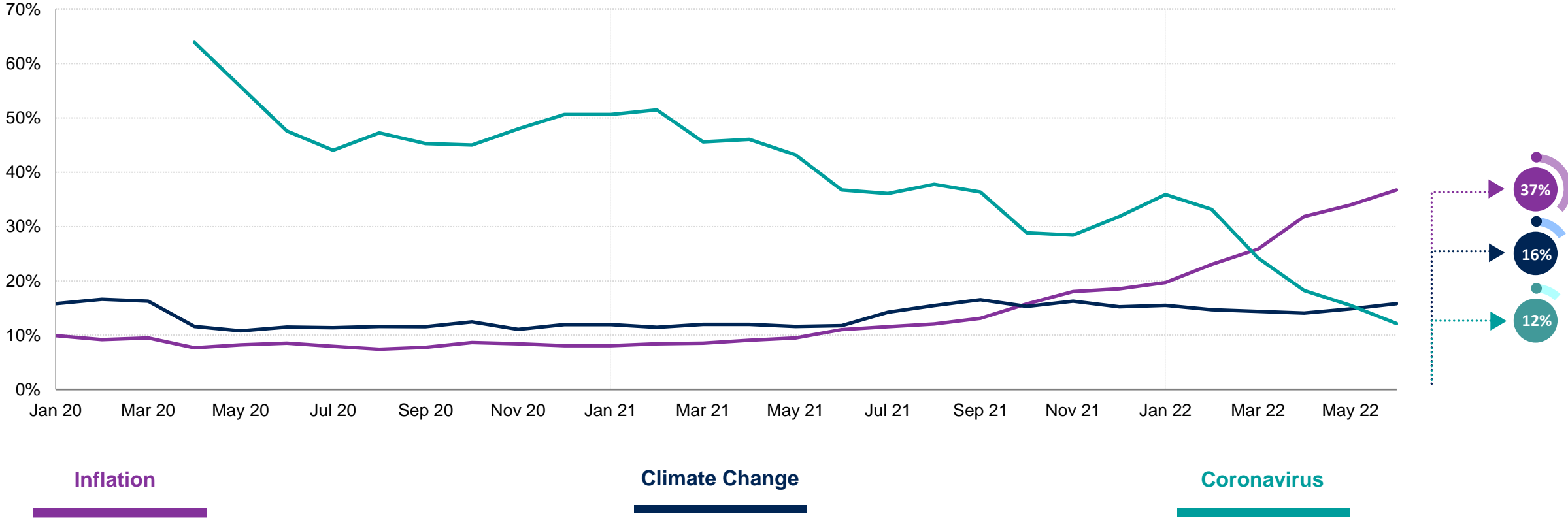
**Base:** Representative sample of c.19,000 adults aged 16-74 in 27 participating countries, May 27<sup>th</sup> - 2022 – June 6<sup>th</sup> 2022.

**Source:** Ipsos Global Advisor. *Global score is a Global Country Average. See methodology for details.*

# WORLD WORRIES: LONG-TERM TREND (INFLATION, CLIMATE CHANGE & CORONAVIRUS)

**Q** Which three of the following topics do you find the most worrying in your country?

*Global country average*

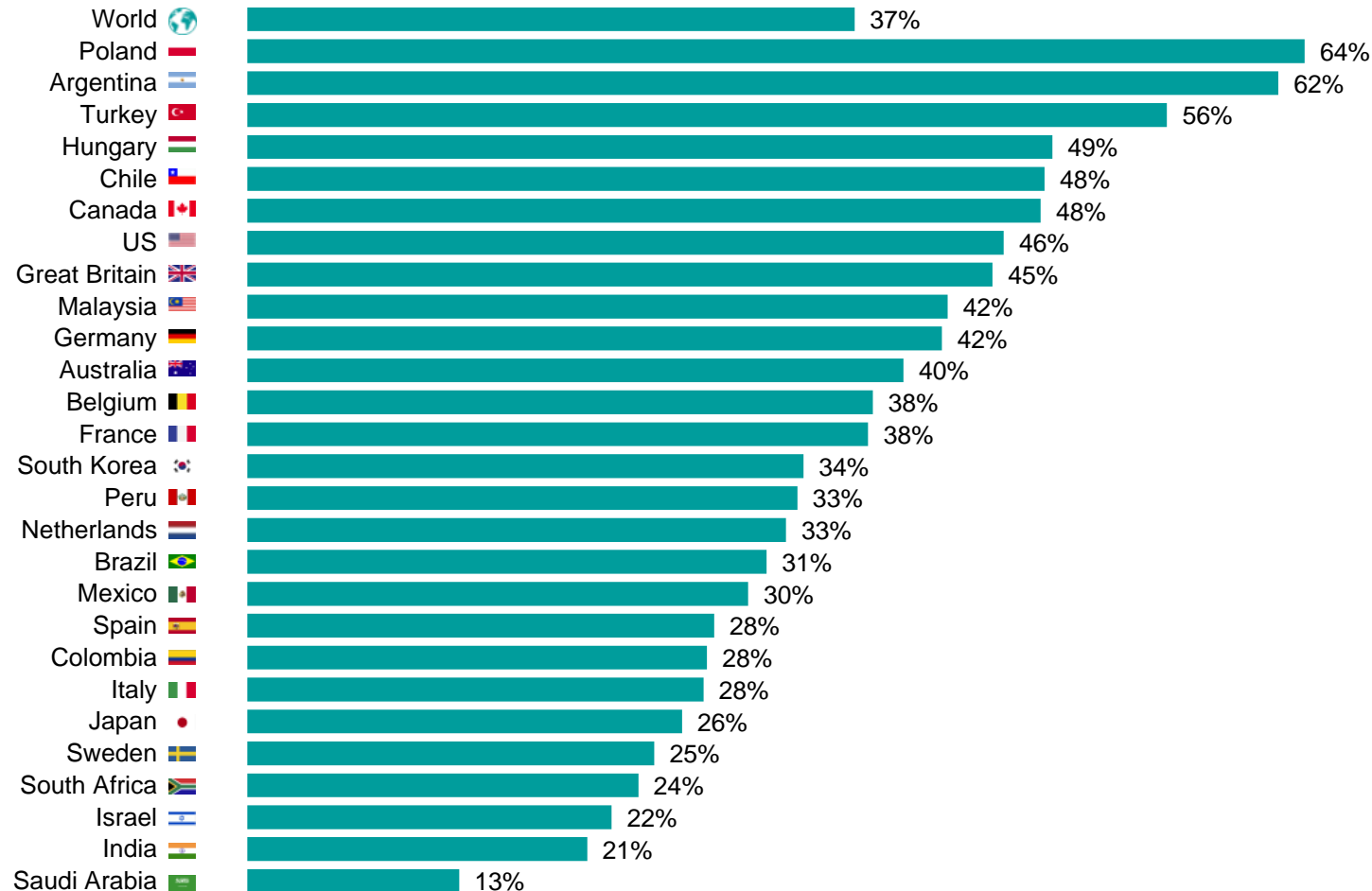


**Base:** Representative sample c. 18,000-21,000 adults aged 16-74 in 27 participating countries, Jan 2020 – June 2022.  
**Source:** Ipsos Global Advisor. *Global score is a Global Country Average. See methodology for details.*  
**Source:** Ipsos Global Advisor. *Coronavirus was introduced into the survey in April 2020.*



# 1 | INFLATION

## (%) worried in June 2022 in each country



Inflation has now spent three consecutive months as the world's top concern, rising a further three points this month.

In May, inflation was the number one concern in Argentina, Australia, Canada, Great Britain, Poland, the US and Turkey. This month, Belgium, France and Germany have joined that list.

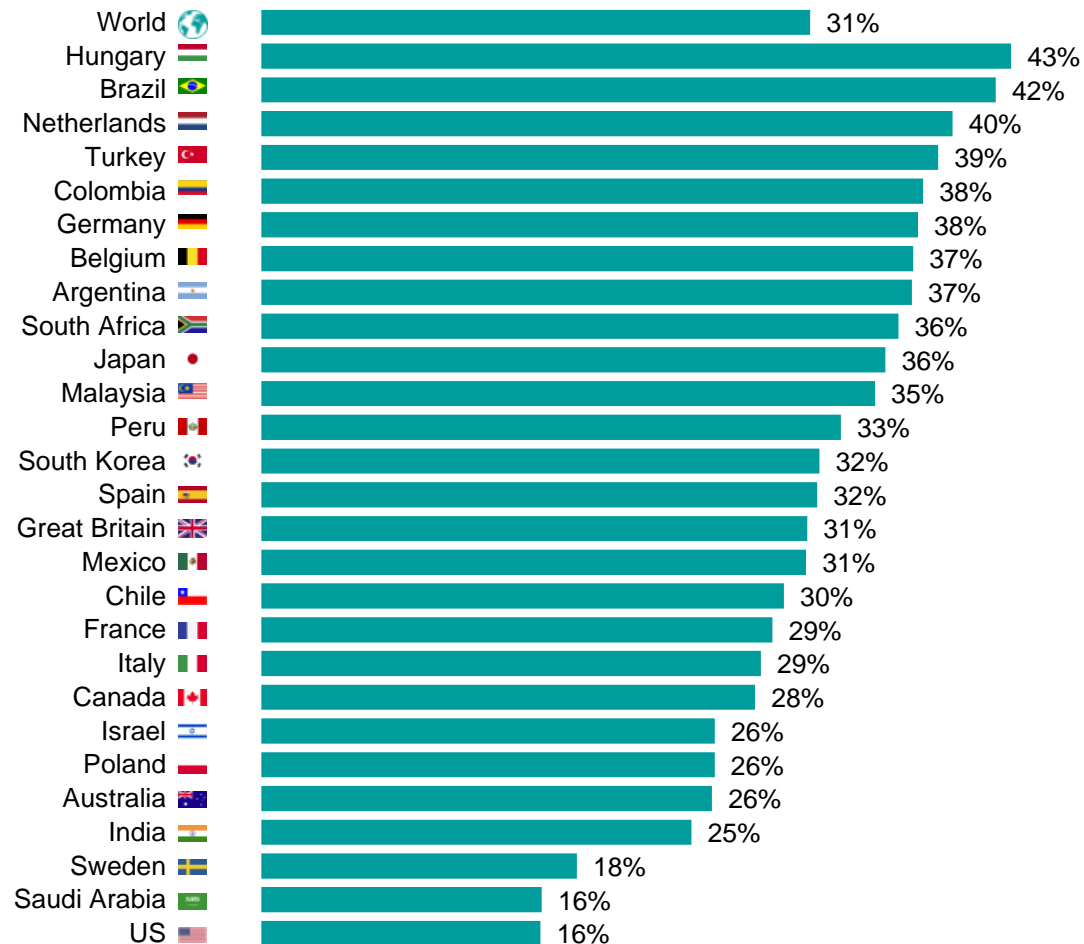
Poland is the country with the highest level of concern (64%), with Argentina moving into second place (62%).

Worry about inflation has risen compared to last month in 20 of the 27 countries, with the largest increases in Malaysia (+15 points) and South Africa (+9).

Small decreases in concern are recorded in Netherlands (-1), Brazil (-2), Colombia (-3), Chile (-3) and Argentina (-4).

## 2 | POVERTY & SOCIAL INEQUALITY

### (%) worried in June 2022 in each country



Poverty and social inequality is the second largest global concern, with three in ten listing it as a top issue for their country (31%).

Hungary is the country where concern is most prevalent (43%), followed by Brazil (42%), the Netherlands (40%), Turkey (39%) and Colombia (38%).

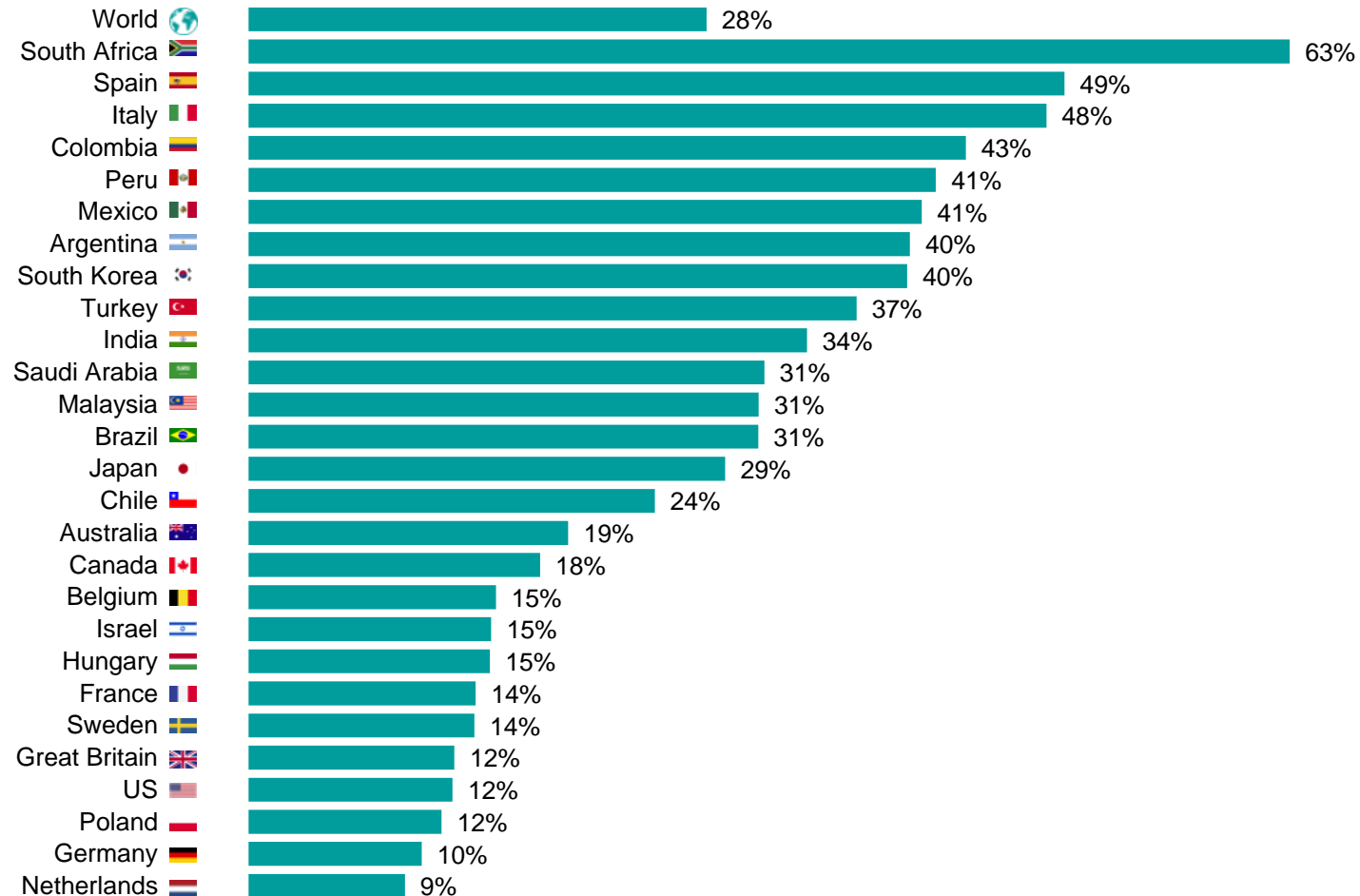
Poland sees the largest increase in concern, up seven points from last month, followed by Turkey, up six points.

The largest decreases are in France, down five points and Great Britain, Israel and Chile, all down three points.

Three countries have poverty and social inequality as their top concern: Brazil, Japan, and the Netherlands.

# 3 | UNEMPLOYMENT

## (%) worried in June 2022 in each country



Concern about unemployment has risen by one point in June and it now moves into third place on the list of world worries.

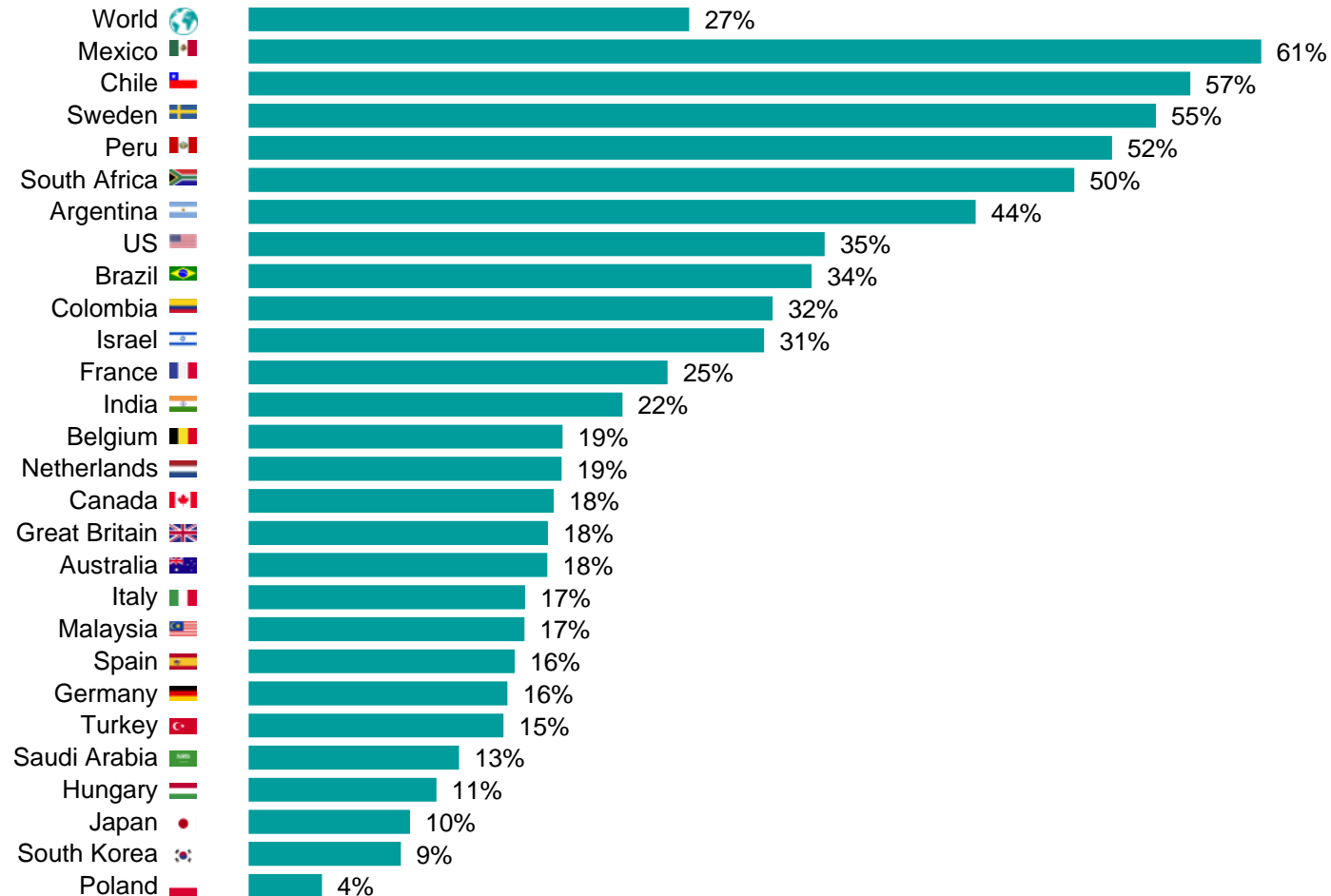
Six in ten South Africans list unemployment as a top worry facing their country (63%). Rounding out the top countries most concerned about inflation are Spain (49%), Italy (48%), Colombia (43%), Peru and Mexico (both 41%).

Concern has risen most this month in Peru, Hungary and Mexico, all seeing a rise of four points. Meanwhile, concern falls by six points in India.

Unemployment is the top concern in seven countries in June: Colombia, India, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain and Italy.

# 4 | CRIME & VIOLENCE

(%) worried in June 2022 in each country



More than one in four people globally cite crime and violence as a top issue facing their country (27%), no change from last month.

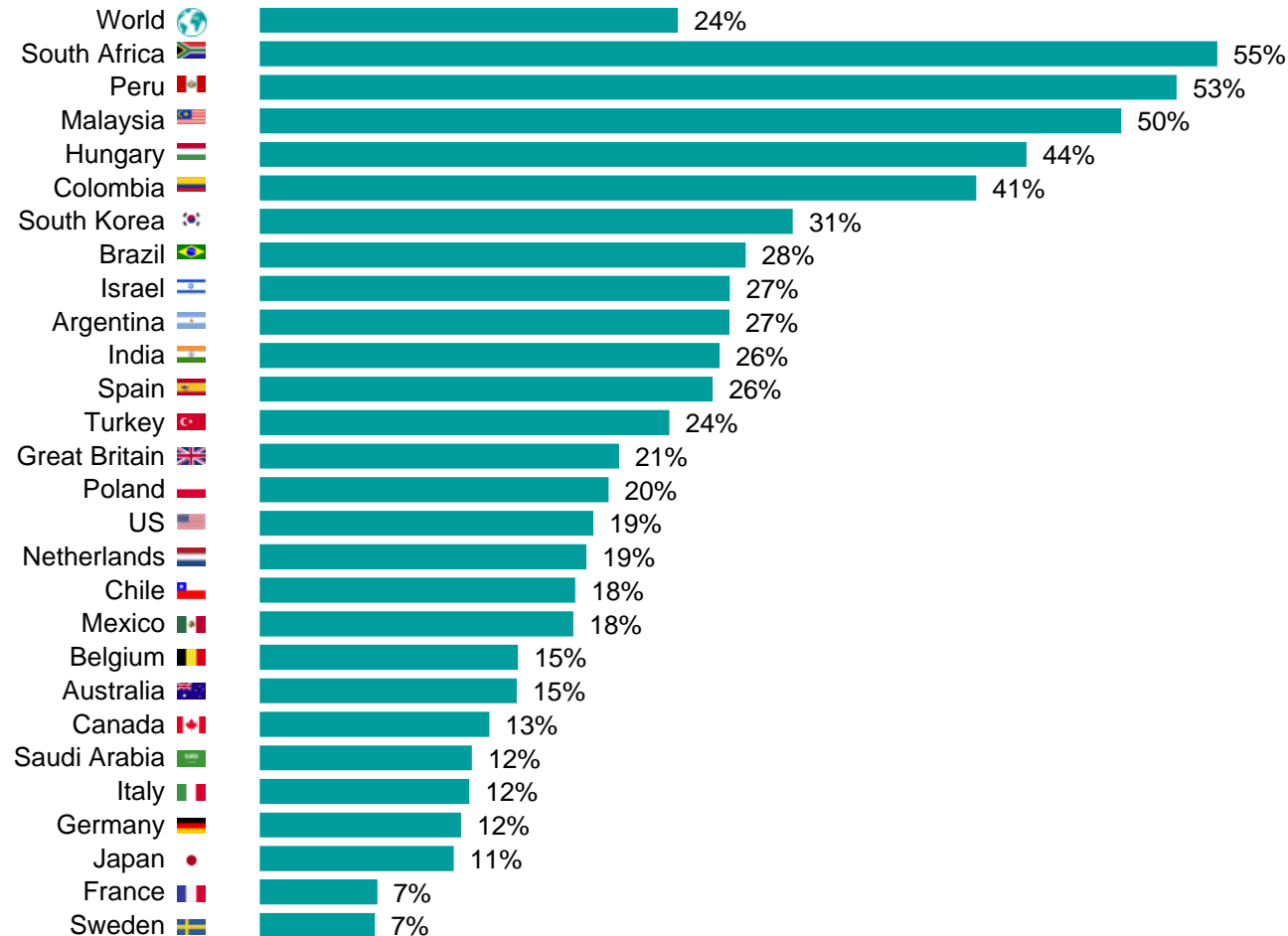
Concern is highest in Mexico (61%), followed by Chile (57%), Sweden (55%), Peru (52%) and South Africa (50%)

Following the recent mass shootings, concern about crime and violence has risen by eight points in the US. This is the largest month-on-month increase for this category in June and the US has risen three places in the list of countries concerned.

France and Belgium also see significant rises this month, up six and five points respectively. Meanwhile, concern in Israel has fallen 11 points compared to May.

# 5 | FINANCIAL/POLITICAL CORRUPTION

## (%) worried in June 2022 in each country



Financial or political corruption remains in fifth place in June, with one in four globally listing it as a top issue facing their country (24%).

Concern is highest in South Africa where more than one in two people list it as a top issue (55%). Financial or political corruption is also the number one issue in both Peru and Malaysia, where 53% and 50% are concerned about it, respectively.

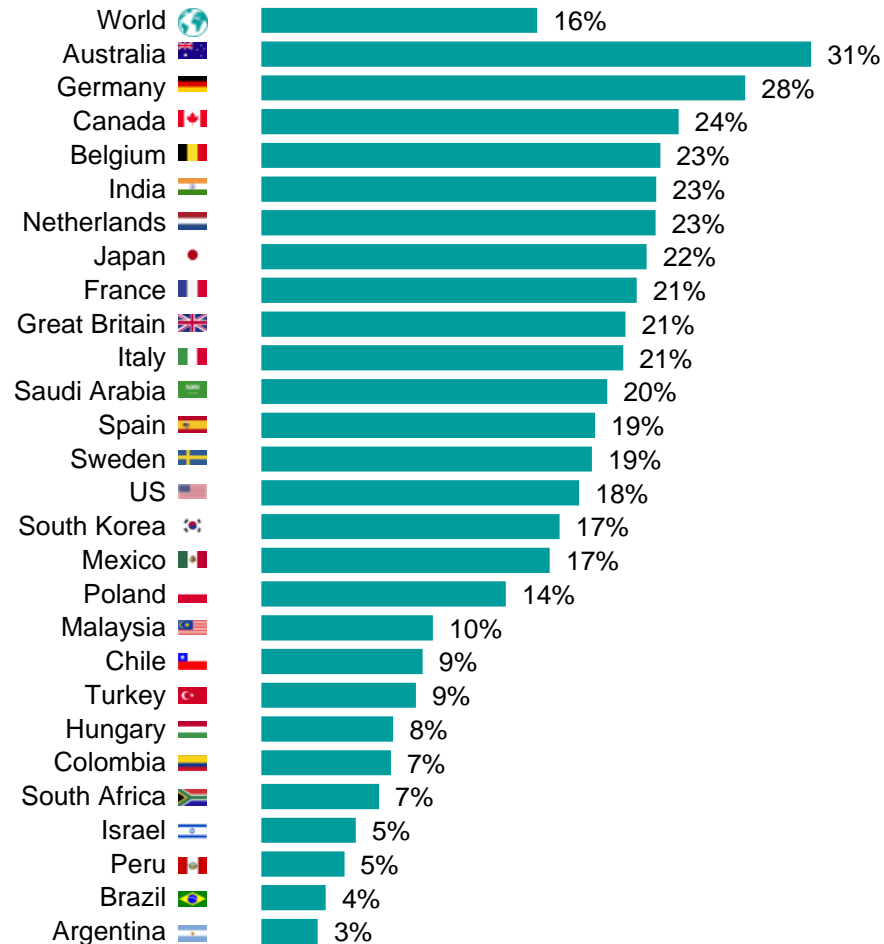
The largest increases in June are in South Africa, Chile and the Netherlands, which all see a four-point increase.

Meanwhile, there is a six-point decrease in South Korea.



# 8 | SPOTLIGHT ON CLIMATE CHANGE

## (%) worried in June 2022 in each country



On average across the 27 countries surveyed, 16% say that climate change is a top issue facing their country, up one point from last month.

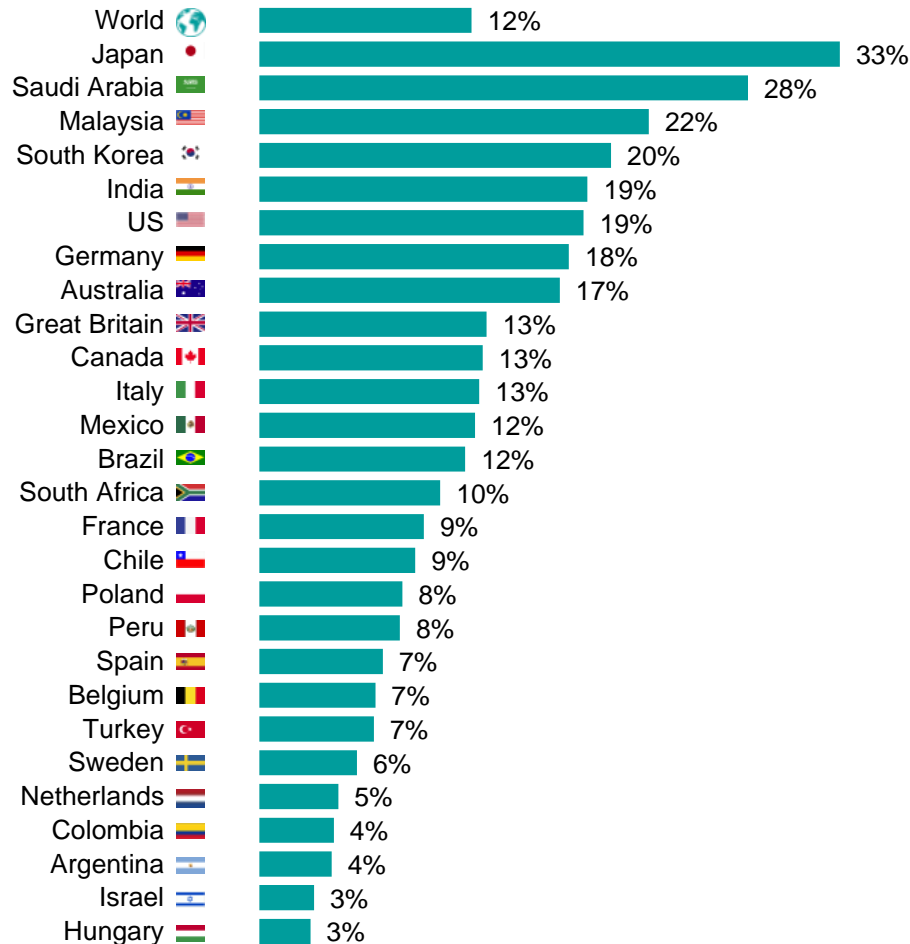
Concern is highest in Australia, where almost a third of people list it as a top concern (31%). Germany (28%), Canada (24%), Belgium (23%), India (23%) and the Netherlands (23%) follow.

The largest month-on-month increases in June are in Spain (up six points) and South Korea and Italy (both up five points).

Meanwhile, concern has fallen slightly in the US and Great Britain, both down three points.

# 10 | SPOTLIGHT ON CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

## (%) worried in June 2022 in each country



Concern about Coronavirus has fallen a further four points this month and it has fallen two places down to 10<sup>th</sup> on our list of world worries.

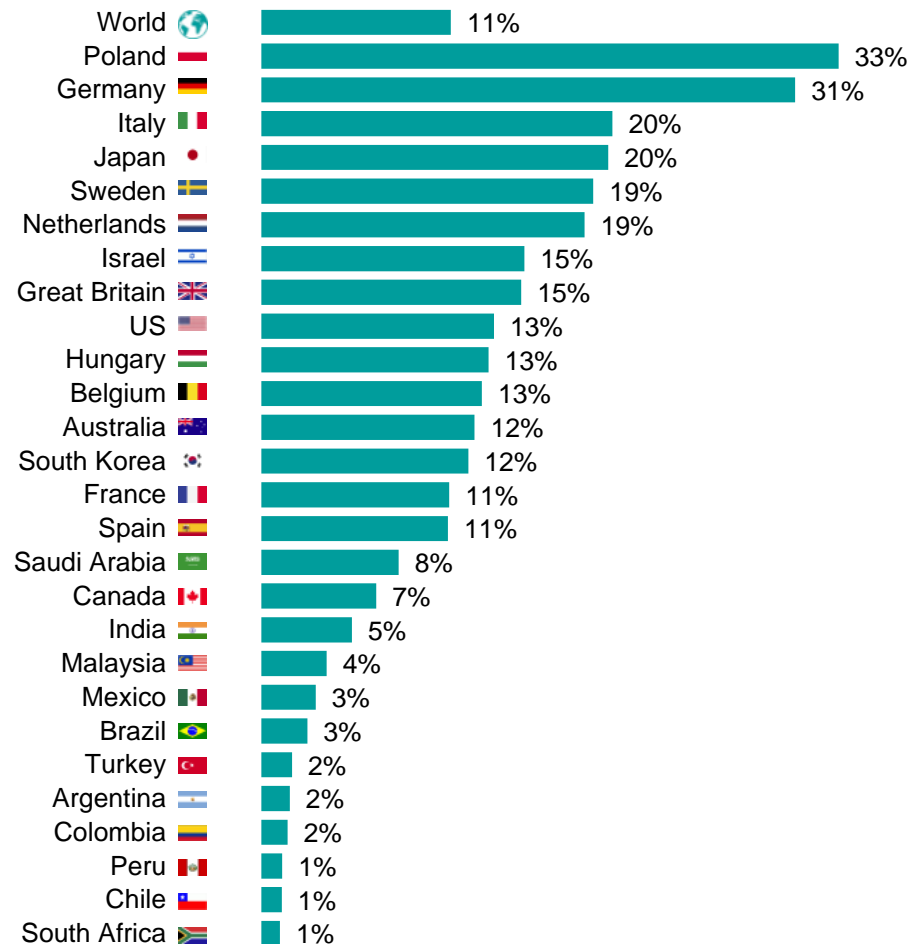
This month's score of 12% is its lowest score since it was introduced into the survey in April 2020 and registered 63%.

For the first time since its introduction, Covid-19 is not a top worry for any of the 27 countries surveyed. This is despite being the top global worry in February 2022, and the number one worry in 11 countries in January 2022.

The largest decreases in June are in Spain (-15), Malaysia (-9) and Canada (-9). Meanwhile, concern has crept back up in the US and Saudi Arabia (both +3).

# 12 | SPOTLIGHT ON MILITARY CONFLICT BETWEEN NATIONS

(%) worried in June 2022 in each country



Military conflict between nations has fallen one place to 12<sup>th</sup> position this month, with the proportion of people listing it as a top issue facing their country down three points to 11% globally.

In Poland and Germany, three in ten list it as a top issue facing their country (33% and 31% respectively).

The level of concern has decreased in 19 out of 27 countries this month, and risen marginally in only three: Hungary (+2), Mexico (+1) and Brazil (+1).

Three countries see decreases of ten points or more: Belgium (-12), Germany, where it was the top concern last month (-10), and Italy (also -10).

# ECONOMIC FOCUS



# THE STATE OF THE ECONOMY IN MY COUNTRY

Running alongside our *What Worries the World* survey, Ipsos' monthly *Global Consumer Confidence* study asks the public in 27 countries questions relating to the economy and finance, on a country and personal level.

The following section draws on some of this data to provide extra context to this month's *What Worries the World* report. It shows how the public rate the current economic climate in their country.

Find out more on our consolidated global economic indicator portal:  
<https://www.ipsosglobalindicators.com/>

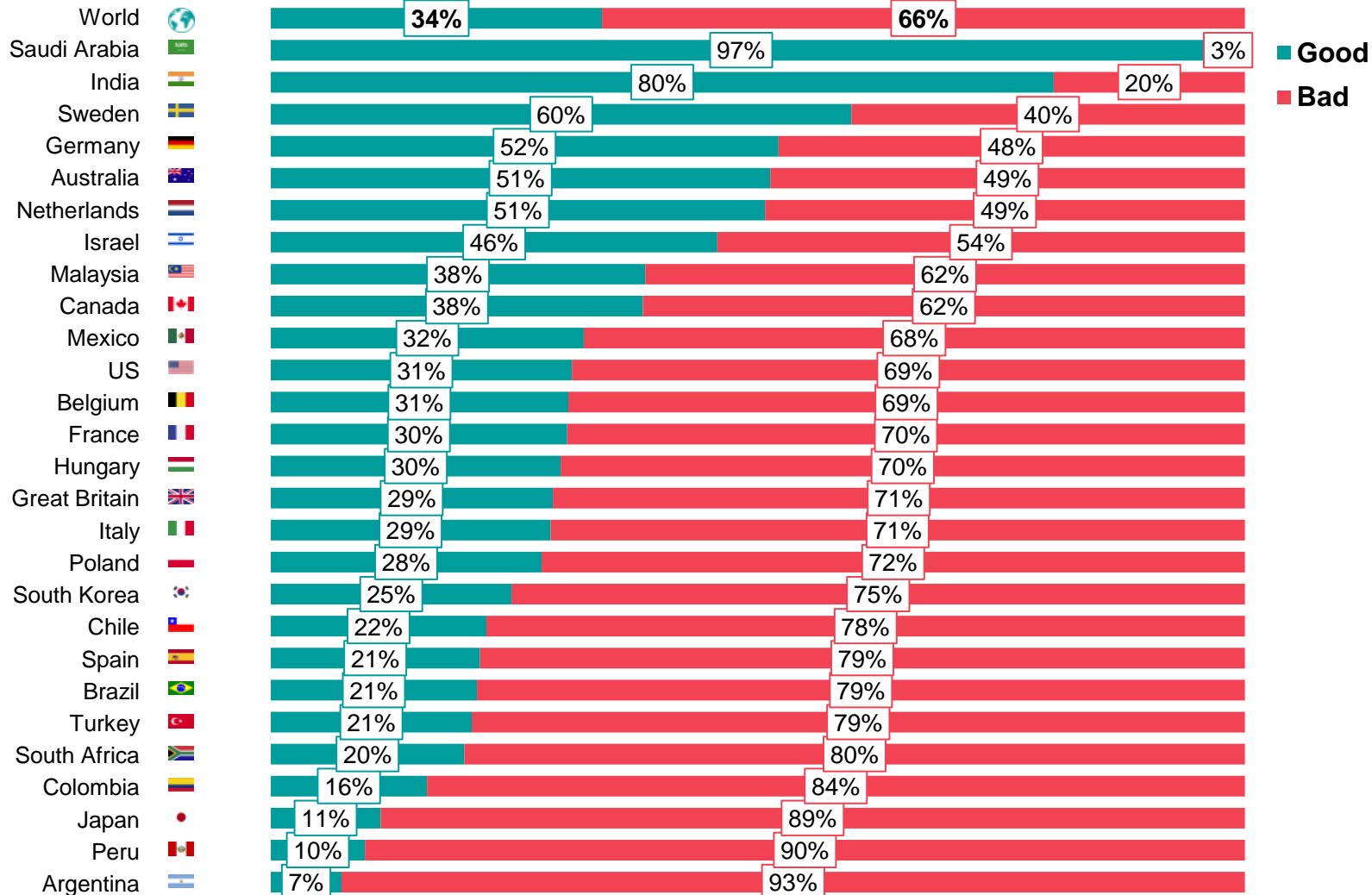
Please contact: [Nicolas.Boyon@Ipsos.com](mailto:Nicolas.Boyon@Ipsos.com) for more information.



# CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION

Read more about perceptions of the economy in the Ipsos Global Consumer Confidence survey and explore the data in the [Ipsos Global Economic Indicator portal](#).

## Q How would you describe the current economic situation in your country?



Across 27 countries, 34% on average say that the current economic situation in their country is good, while a majority (66%) say that it is bad.

India sees the largest increase in the proportion saying that the current economic situation is good, up six points from last month to 80%. This marks India's highest score since March 2019 (80%).

Only four other countries see increases in their "good economic situation" score: Saudi Arabia (+5), Spain (+3), Italy (+3) and Turkey (+3).

The largest decrease is in Malaysia which has fallen by 11 points from last month. The Netherlands, South Africa, and Australia also see a five-point decrease in the proportion describing the current economic situation as good.

# CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION: FRANCE

France's score has increased since the pandemic and seems to be fluctuating at a higher level than pre-pandemic.

**Q** How would you describe the current economic situation in your country?  
(% 'Very good' or 'Somewhat good')



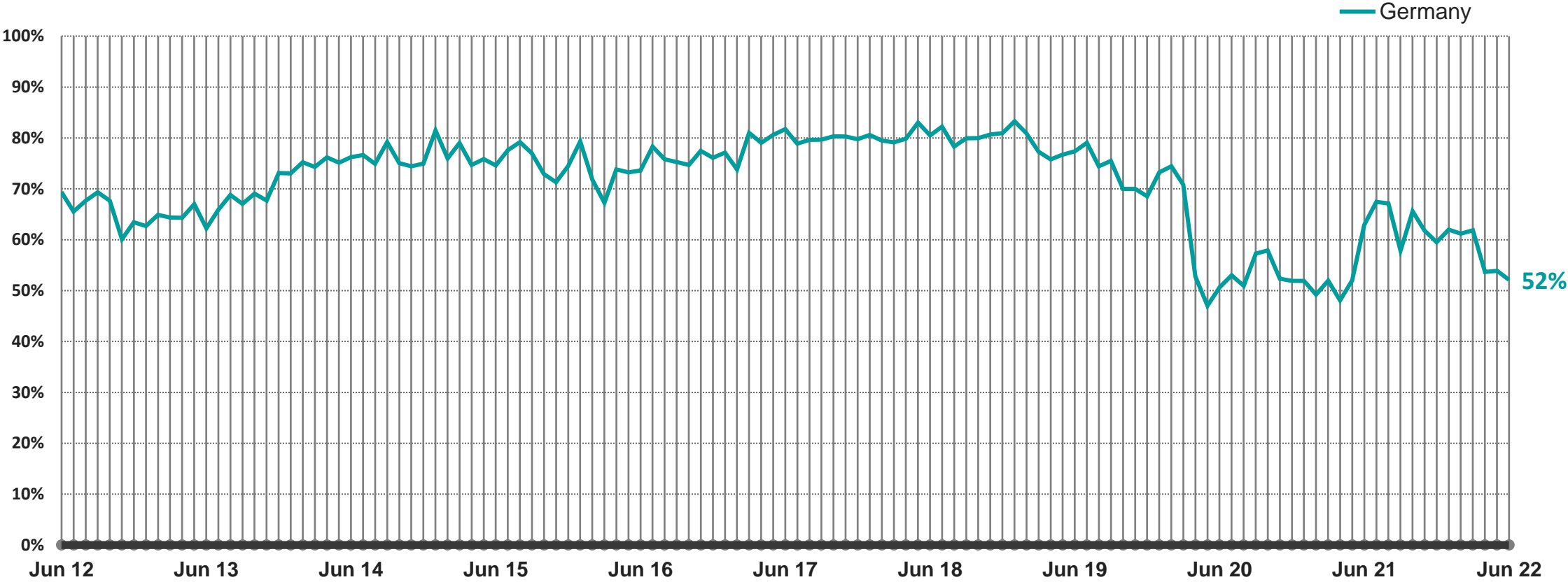
Base: Representative sample c. 1000 adults aged 16-74 in France, 2010 - 2022.  
Source: Ipsos Global Advisor. Global score is a Global Country Average. See methodology for details.



# CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION: GERMANY

After a strong recovery from the effects of the pandemic, Germany's score has been steadily decreasing. June 2022 marks its lowest score outside of the midst of the pandemic.

**Q** How would you describe the current economic situation in your country?  
(% 'Very good' or 'Somewhat good')



Base: Representative sample c. 1000 adults aged 16-74 in Germany, 2010 - 2022.  
Source: Ipsos Global Advisor. Global score is a Global Country Average. See methodology for details.

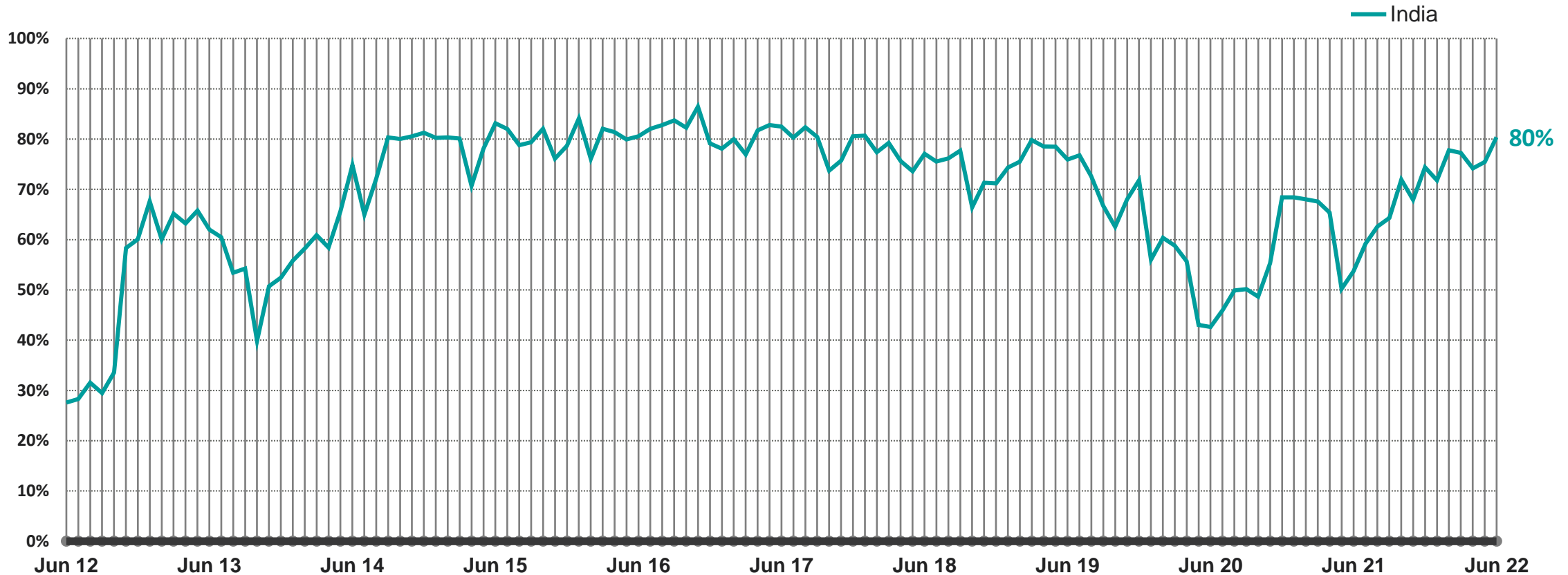




# CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION: INDIA

This month sees India's score reach 80% for the first time since March 2019.

**Q** How would you describe the current economic situation in your country?  
(% 'Very good' or 'Somewhat good')



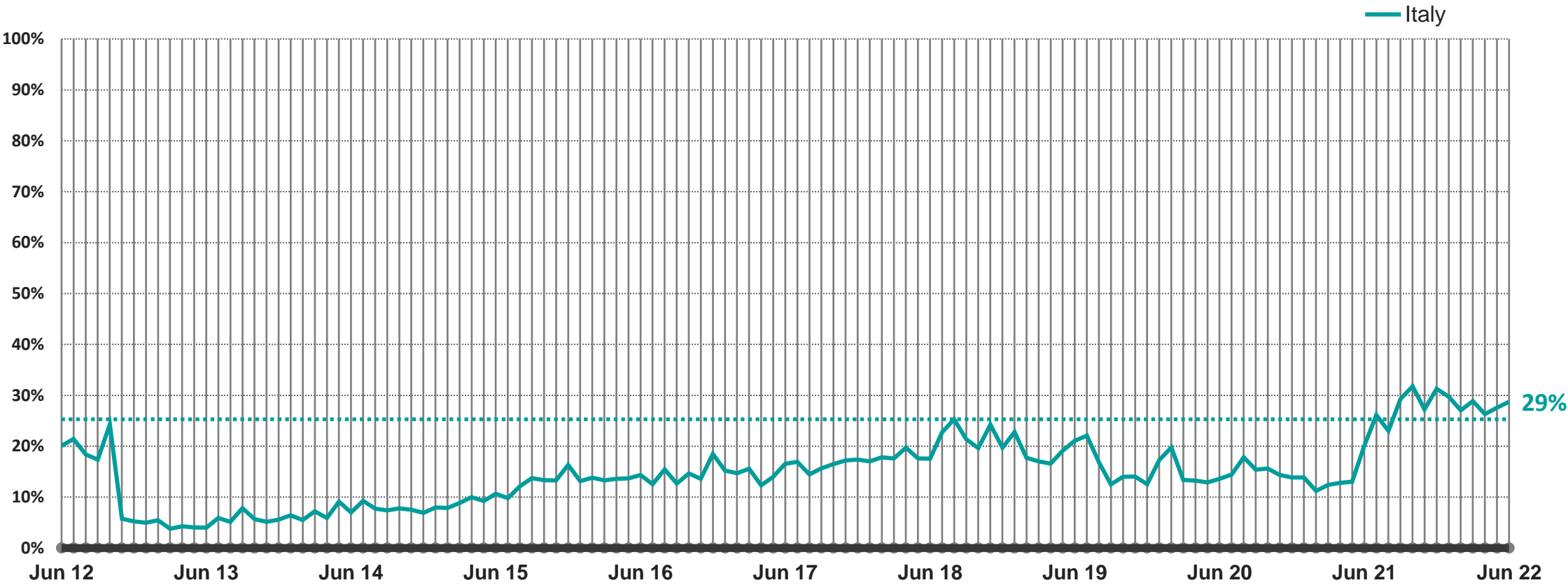
**Base:** Representative sample c. 500 adults aged 16-74 in India, 2010 - 2022.

**Source:** Ipsos Global Advisor. *Global score is a Global Country Average. See methodology for details.*

# CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION: ITALY

Despite placing towards the bottom of the rankings, sentiment in Italy is relatively high compared to the last decade.

**Q** How would you describe the current economic situation in your country?  
(% 'Very good' or 'Somewhat good')



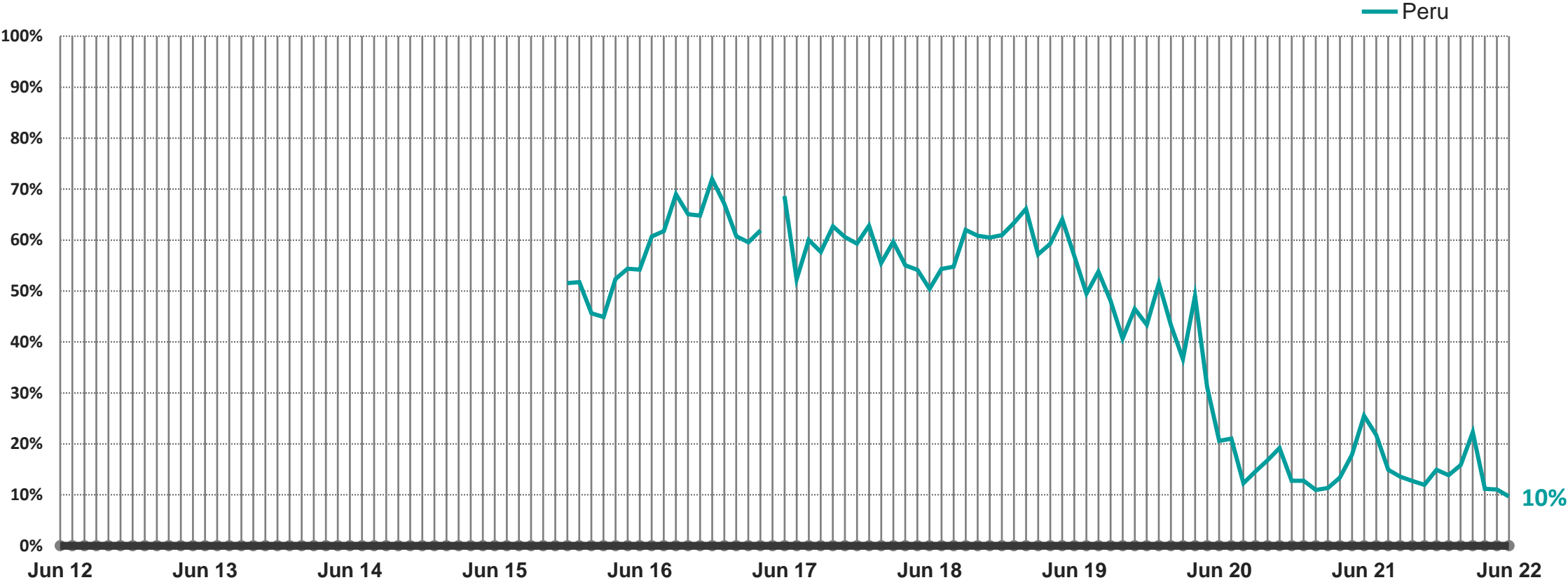
Base: Representative sample c. 1000 adults aged 16-74 in Italy, 2010 - 2022.  
Source: Ipsos Global Advisor. Global score is a Global Country Average. See methodology for details.



# CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION: PERU

June 2022: Peru has reached an all time low score of 10%

**Q** How would you describe the current economic situation in your country?  
(% 'Very good' or 'Somewhat good')



Base: Representative sample c. 500 adults aged 16-74 in Peru, 2010 - 2022.  
Source: Ipsos Global Advisor. Global score is a Global Country Average. See methodology for details.



# METHODOLOGY

This 27-country Global Advisor survey was conducted between May 27<sup>th</sup> 2022 and June 6<sup>th</sup> 2022 via the Ipsos Online Panel system among 19,000 adults aged 18-74 in Canada, Israel, Malaysia, South Africa, Turkey and the United States, and 16-74 in all 20 other countries.

The “Global Country Average” reflects the average result for all the countries where the survey was conducted. It has not been adjusted to the population size of each country and is not intended to suggest a total result.

The sample consists of approximately 1000+ individuals in each of Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Israel, Japan, Mexico, Spain, Sweden, and the US, and approximately 500+ individuals in each of Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Hungary, India, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, and Turkey.

The samples in Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Poland, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, and the US can be taken as representative of these countries’ general adult population under the age of 75.

The samples in Brazil, Chile, Colombia, India, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, and Turkey are more urban, more educated, and/or more affluent than the general population. The survey results for these markets should be viewed as reflecting the views of the more “connected” segment of these populations.

Weighting has been employed to balance demographics and ensure that the sample’s composition reflects that of the adult population according to the most recent census data.

The precision of Ipsos online polls are calculated using a credibility interval with a poll of 1,000 accurate to +/- 3.5 percentage points and of 500 accurate to +/- 5.0 percentage points. For more information on the Ipsos use of credibility intervals, please visit the Ipsos website.

Where results do not sum to 100 or the ‘difference’ appears to be +/-1 more/less than the actual, this may be due to rounding, multiple responses, or the exclusion of don't knows or not stated responses

The publication of these findings abides by local rules and regulations.