



## PRESS RELEASE

### One in three globally report rising crime, violence in their neighborhood

In the past year, just under half say the level of crime in their neighborhood stayed the same, while few say crime has decreased

**June 13, 2023** – The latest global Ipsos survey on perceptions on crime and law enforcement across 29 countries finds that many around the world report a range of crimes in their neighborhood, from vehicle theft and people using illegal drugs to assault and gangs.

Other findings include:

- On average among the 29 countries polled, vehicle thefts (50%) and illegal drug consumption (50%) were the most reported crimes occurring in people's neighborhoods out of the 10 crimes polled. Under half reported violence against women in their neighborhood (40%), followed by violence against children (36%) and violence against men (34%).
- When it comes to the government prioritizing issues, three times more people on average globally (57%) want to see their government prioritize the economy over stopping crime (20%). Countries that are more likely to report a rise in crime in the last 12 months are more likely to want their governments to prioritize fighting crime.
- On average across 29 countries, only half are confident that law enforcement can stop violent or non-violent crimes.
- Similar shares are confident in law enforcement arresting the correct person after a crime and treating all citizens with the same level of respect.

The survey was conducted by Ipsos on its Global Advisor online platform between March 24 and April 7, 2023, among 23,039 adults under the age of 75.<sup>1</sup>

#### *Perceived Incidence of Crimes*

In the 29 countries polled, around half of all respondents report seeing or hearing of crimes like vehicle thefts (50%), illegal drug use (50%), vandalism (49%) and burglaries (45%) in their neighborhood. Just over a third reported violence against women (40%), men (34%), or children (36%). On average, 39% say they have seen or heard about groups or people linked to drug trafficking in their neighborhood, while 32% say they have seen or heard about the presence of gangs in their communities.

Respondents in every country are more likely to report that crime was increasing rather than decreasing in their neighborhood in the past 12 months, though in 21 out of the 29 countries, more respondents say that crime levels stayed the same.

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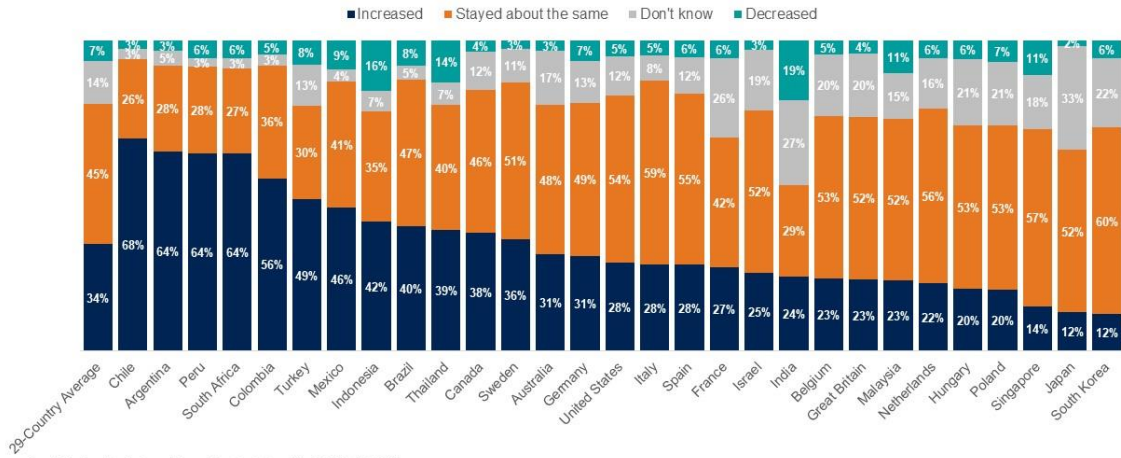
<sup>1</sup> All countries surveyed adults under the age of 75 with the exception of India where the adult 18+ population was surveyed.



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## One in three report rising crime, violence in their neighborhood

Q2. In the past 12 months, has the amount of crime or violence in your neighborhood increased, decreased, or stayed about the same as the previous year?



Base: 23,039 online adults under the age of 75 across 29 countries, interviewed March 24, 2022, to April 7, 2022. The "29 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 or market and is not intended to suggest a total result. The samples in Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Indonesia, Israel, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand, and Turkey are more urban, more educated, and/or more affluent than the general population.

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Perceived levels of violent crimes are notably higher across some of the countries polled. Reported violence against women is most prevalent in South Africa (68%), Turkey (65%), and Peru (63%). Indonesia stood out among all 29 countries in terms of violence against minors, with 66% of people reporting violence against minors taking place in their communities. Violence against men is most reported in South Africa (55%), Brazil (55%), and Thailand (54%).

Countries with the highest levels of reported violence in their communities tended to be in South or Latin America, while countries with lower rates of perceived violence tended to be in Europe.

In most of the 29 countries, reported violence against women is more likely to be reported by women, while perceptions of violence against men is more likely to be reported by men. Violence against children is more likely to be reported by women.

Japan stood out as an outlier for its lack of perceived criminal activity. In all the categories of crime asked, respondents in Japan are among the least likely, if not the least likely, to say that the crime occurred in their neighborhood.

### Confidence in law enforcement

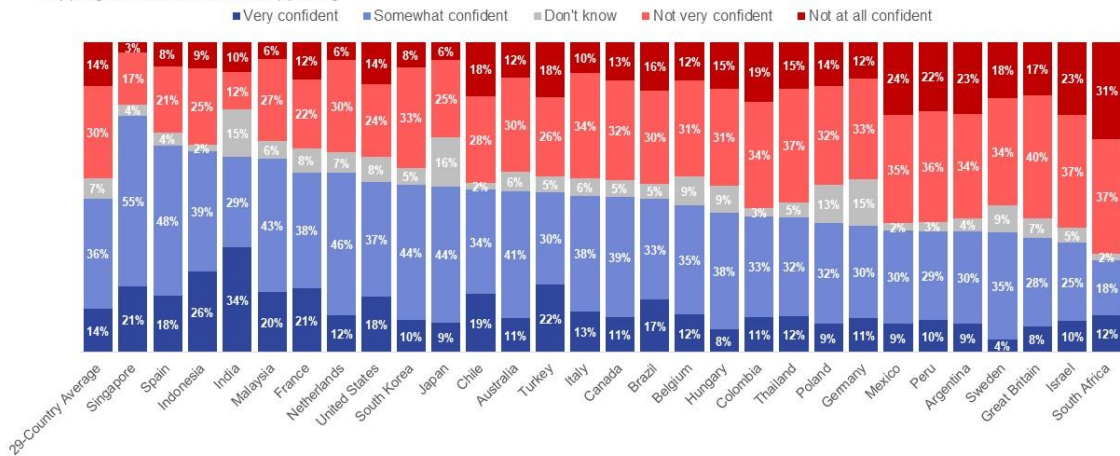
On average across all 29 countries, around half are confident that law enforcement in their neighborhood can stop violent (50%) or non-violent (48%) crimes from happening and find and arrest the correct criminal after a crime (53%).

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Respondents in Singapore are by far the most confident in their law enforcement, ranking first in respondents' stated confidence in their law enforcement's ability to stop violent crimes (76%), non-violent crimes (78%), finding and arresting the correct criminal (78%), and treating all citizens with respect (80%). In contrast, South Africa ranks last among all 29 countries in respondents' confidence in their law enforcement to stop violent (30%) or non-violent crimes (30%), find the correct criminal after a crime (32%), and treat all citizens with the same level of respect (35%).

## Half confident that law enforcement can stop violent crime

Q4: How confident are you, if at all, in law enforcement (e.g., the police) to do the following in your neighborhood? - Stopping violent crimes from happening



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## Most would rather prioritize creating jobs, boosting the economy than fighting crime

Most respondents across the 29 countries preferred that their governments prioritized creating jobs and boosting the economy (57%) or protecting local citizens' health and environment (23%) rather than stopping or reducing crime (20%). The same was true in every other country, with the exception of Chile.

Countries that reported an increase in the levels of crime tended to be more likely to demand government action on stopping crime. Respondents in countries such as Turkey and South Africa have perceived an increase in crime in the past 12 months but aren't prioritizing government action on the issue. These tend to be countries with ongoing economic crises, such as rampant inflation in Turkey and unemployment in South Africa.

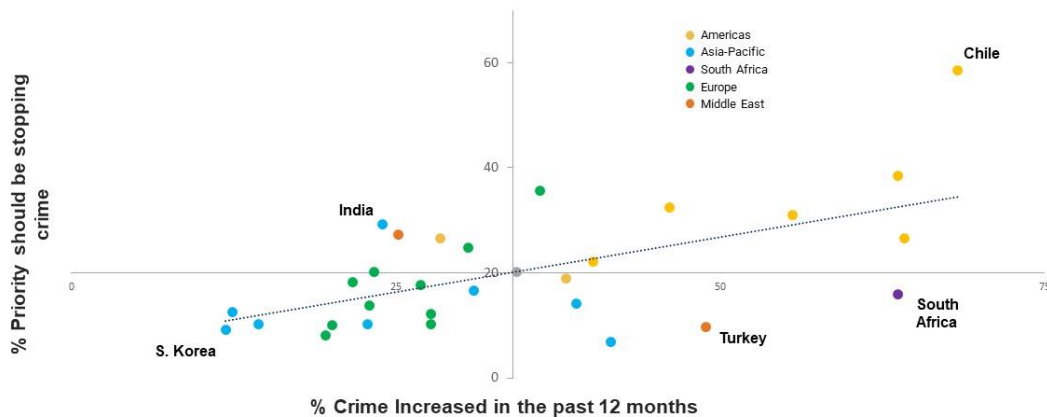
European and Asian nations are less likely to feel that crime increased recently and have a weak appetite for government action on the issue. Meanwhile, the Americas register higher crime perception and signal a need for the government to prioritize the issue.



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### Countries that report increase in crime levels are more likely to demand government action

*% crime has increased in past 12 months vs. % that say the government should prioritize stopping crime*



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### About the Study

These are the results of a 29-country survey conducted by Ipsos on its Global Advisor online survey platform and, in India, on its IndiaBus platform, between Friday, March 24 and Friday, April 7, 2023. For this survey, Ipsos interviewed a total of 23,039 adults aged 18 years and older in India, 18-74 in Canada, Israel, Malaysia, South Africa, Turkey, and the United States, 20-74 in Thailand, 21-74 in Indonesia and Singapore, and 16-74 in all other countries.

The sample consists of approximately 2,000 individuals in Japan, 1,000 individuals each in Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Mexico, Spain, and the U.S., and 500 individuals each in Belgium, Chile, Colombia, Hungary, Indonesia, Israel, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Sweden, Thailand, and Turkey. The sample in India consists of approximately 2,200 individuals, of whom 1,800 were interviewed face-to-face and 400 were interviewed online.

Samples in Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Poland, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, and the U.S. can be considered representative of their general adult populations under the age of 75.

Samples in Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Indonesia, Israel, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand, and Turkey are more urban, more educated and/or more affluent than the general population. The survey results for these countries should be viewed as reflecting the views of the more "connected" segment of their population.

India's sample represents a large subset of its urban population – social economic classes A, B and C in metros and tier 1-3 town classes across all four zones.

The data is weighted so that the composition of each country's sample best reflects the demographic profile of the adult population according to the most recent census data.

The "29-country average" reflects the average result for all the countries and markets in which the survey was conducted. It has not been adjusted to the population size of each country or market and is not intended to suggest a total result.

Where results do not sum to 100 or the 'difference' appears to be +/- 1 percentage point more/less than the actual result, this may be due to rounding, multiple responses, or the exclusion of "don't know/not sure" or not stated responses.

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





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

**For more information on this news release, please contact:**

Chris Jackson  
Senior Vice President, U.S., Public Affairs  
+1 202 420-2025  
[chris.jackson@ipsos.com](mailto:chris.jackson@ipsos.com)

### About Ipsos

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Our research professionals, analysts and scientists have built unique multi-specialist capabilities that provide powerful insights into the actions, opinions and motivations of citizens, consumers, patients, customers or employees. Our 75 business solutions are based on primary data coming from our surveys, social media monitoring, and qualitative or observational techniques.

“Game Changers” – our tagline – summarises our ambition to help our 5,000 clients to navigate more easily our deeply changing world.

Founded in France in 1975, Ipsos is listed on the Euronext Paris since July 1st, 1999. The company is part of the SBF 120 and the Mid-60 index and is eligible for the Deferred Settlement Service (SRD).

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