

What Worries the World?

Ipsos' What Worries the World survey tracks public opinion on the most important social and political issues across 29 countries today, drawing on over ten 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**.

Please contact

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for more information.



Summary

01. Inflation remains the top worry

For 11 out of the 12 months this year, cost of living has been the number concern across 29 nations. This month the proportion concerned is unchanged, with 32% citing it.

04. Corruption top in Spain

After severe floods in Spain, corruption as a concern reached record levels last month. This month the proportion in Spain who think corruption is one of the country's top issues has risen further, reaching a three year high.

02. Peak French pessimism

France has reached a ten-year low for the proportion who think the "country is heading in the right direction" score. After falling 8pp, only one in ten (10%) feel the nation is on the right track.

05. Peru worried about crime

This month sees Peruvians putting crime & violence as the biggest issue facing their country, with two-thirds (65%) expressing worry.

03. Corruption on the rise in Israel

The proportion of Israelis mentioning corruption is up 15pp to 36% in the last month, now a bigger issue than military conflict between nations, but behind the country's top worry terrorism (45%).

06. Unemployment in South Africa

For 47 consecutive months, South Africans have put unemployment as their primary worry. Two-thirds (65%) cite jobs as a problem in December 2024.



What Worries the World? DECEMBER 2024

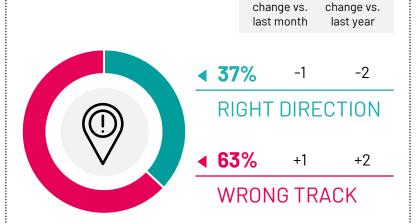
Top five worries

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

		change vs. last month	change vs. last year
Inflation			
	32%	=	-5
Crime & violence			
	31%	-1	+1
Poverty & social inequality			
	29%	-1	-1
Unemployment			
	27%	+1	=
Financial/political corruption			
	27%	+1	+1

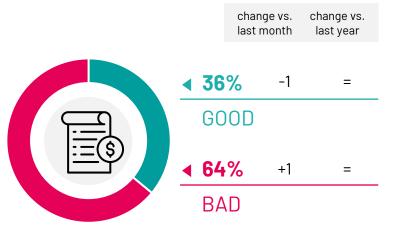
State of the country

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



State of the economy

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



Base: Representative sample of 23,287 adults aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries, November 22nd 2024 - December 6th 2024.

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



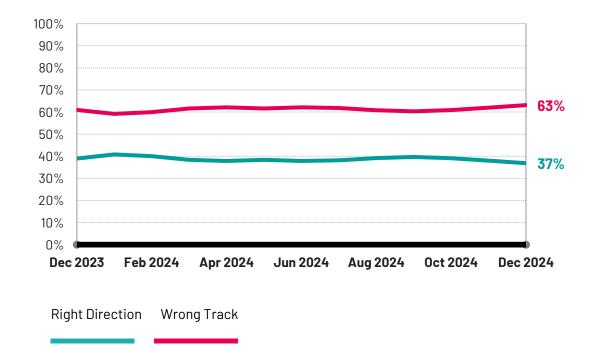
What Worries the World? 12 MONTH TREND

Top five worries Q: Which three of the following topics do you find the most worrying in your country? 40% 35% 30% 25% 20% 15% 10% Dec 2023 Feb 2024 Apr 2024 Jun 2024 Aug 2024 Oct 2024 Dec 2024 Inflation Crime Inequality Jobs Covid-19 Corruption

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State of the 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?

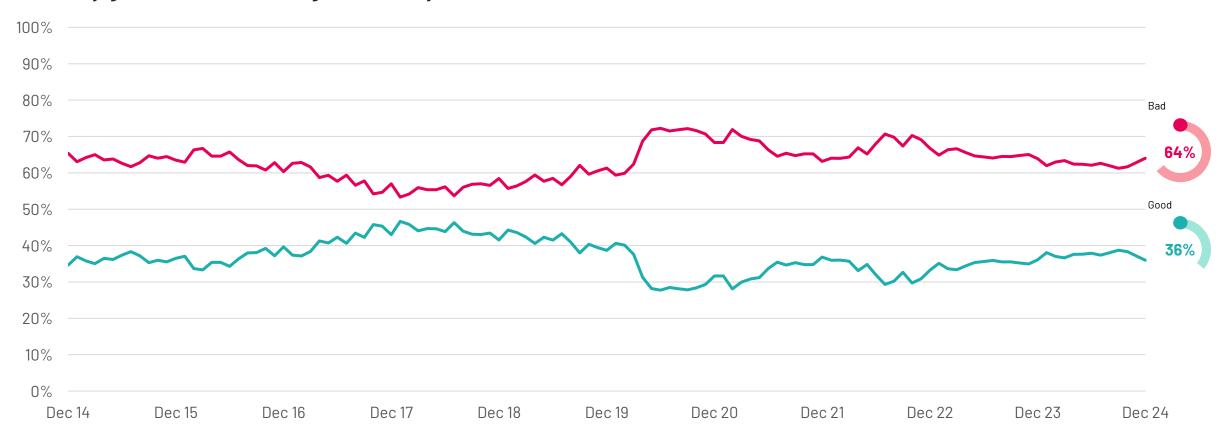




Global: Current Economic Situation

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

(% 'Very good' or 'Somewhat good' & 'Very bad' or 'Somewhat bad')



Base: Representative sample of 23,287 adults aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries, November 22nd 2024 - December 6th 2024.

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Right vs. Wrong Direction Monitor

Base: Representative sample of 23,287 adults aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries, November 22nd 2024 - December 6th 2024.

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

Across 29 countries, the proportion saying their country is headed in the right direction has marginally decreased to 37%.

For 16 consecutive months Peru has been bottom of our list for those believing their nation is moving in the right direction. This month, they have dropped slightly to one in ten (10%) expressing pessimism.

However, Peruvians aren't alone. France is now joint bottom after falling 8pp to 10%, too. This is the most pessimistic the French have been about their country in ten years.

Pessimism seems to be felt elsewhere in Europe. Belgium has also declined by 8pp to 28% feeling their country is on the right track. Germany is down 5pp to below a fifth (18%). Likewise, Poland (38%) and Sweden (26%) are both down 5pp.

Please note, fieldwork took place between November 22nd – December 6th. South Korea introduced martial law on 3rd/4th by which time 95% of respondents in South Korea had completed our survey. 10%

in France say their country is headed in the right direction – the lowest level in ten years.



Right vs. **Wrong Direction Monitor**

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Source: Ipsos Global Advisor. Global score is a Global Country Average. See methodology for details. Filter: Country: World | Current Wave: Dec 24

Country

World

India

Malaysia

Thailand

Australia

Mexico

Brazil

Poland US

Spain

Chile

Canada

Belgium

Sweden

Japan

Türkiye

Hungary

Germany

Peru

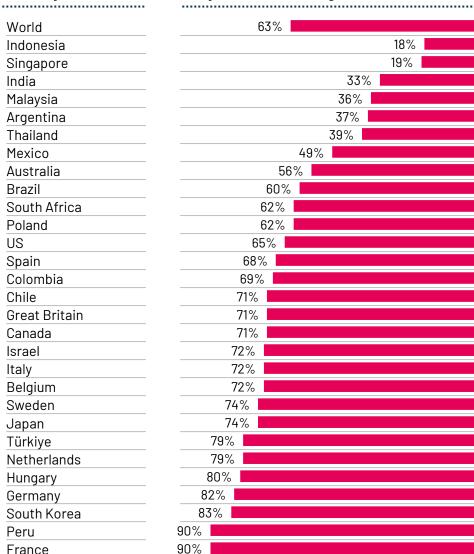
France

Israel

Italy

Colombia

Q: Would you say things in this country are heading in the right direction, or are they off on the wrong track? (December 2024)



Right Direction

82%

81%

67%

64%

63%

61%

51%

44%

40%

38%

38%

35%

32%

31%

29%

29%

29%

28%

28%

28%

26%

26%

21%

21%

20%

10%

10%

37%

Wrong Track



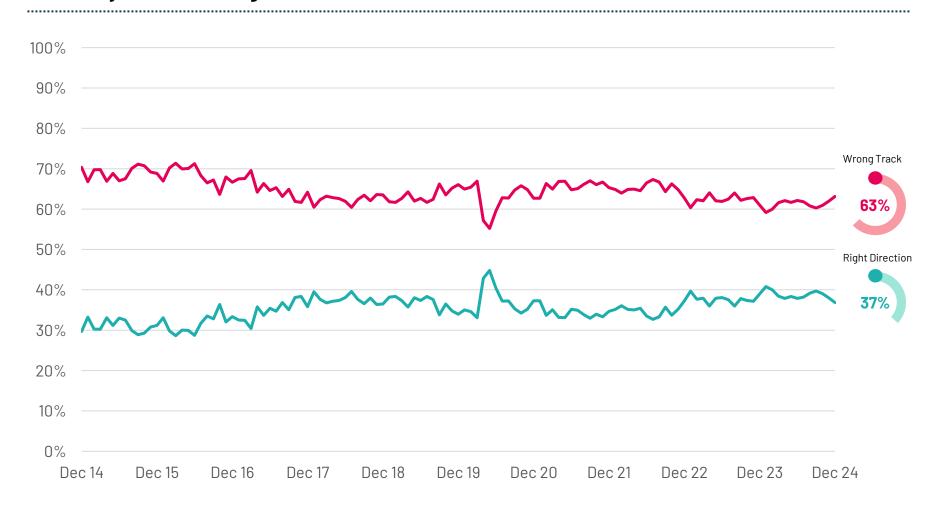
Global Right/Wrong Direction

Global country average score

Base: Representative sample of 23,287 adults aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries, November 22nd 2024 - December 6th 2024.

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

Q: Would you say things in this country are heading in the right direction, or are they off on the wrong track?







World Worries: Full List

Base: Representative sample of 23,287 adults aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries, November 22nd 2024 - December 6th 2024.

Source: Ipsos Global Advisor. Global score is a Global Country Average. See methodology for details. **Filter:** Country: World | Current Wave: Dec 24

Inflation is the number one concern across 29 countries in December 2024. One in three (32%) choose it as an issue, 5pp lower compared to the same time last year.

Last month crime & violence was the joint top worry alongside inflation. This month concern for crime has fallen slightly to 31%.

For 11 out of 12 months, inflation has been the primary concern globally. In September, crime & violence was top.

Meanwhile, for the rest of the

top five concerns, there has been little change this month, with inequality falling marginally to three in ten (29%) and unemployment and corruption increasing fractionally to 27%, for both.

Taxes has moved up one position from seventh to sixth this month, with just under a fifth (18%) across 29 countries expressing worry.

Immigration control has dipped to joint 8th (along side climate change) to 16% expressing concern.

11/12

months inflation has been the number one concern this year.

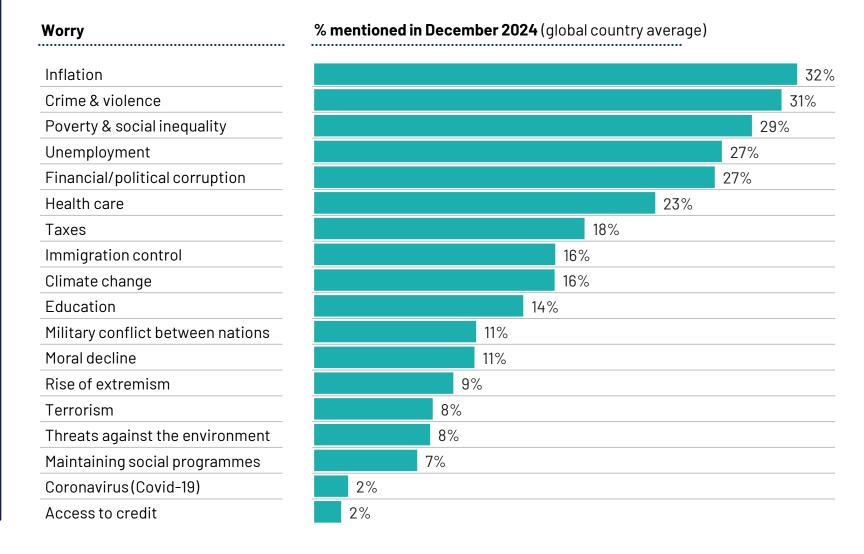


World Worries: Full List

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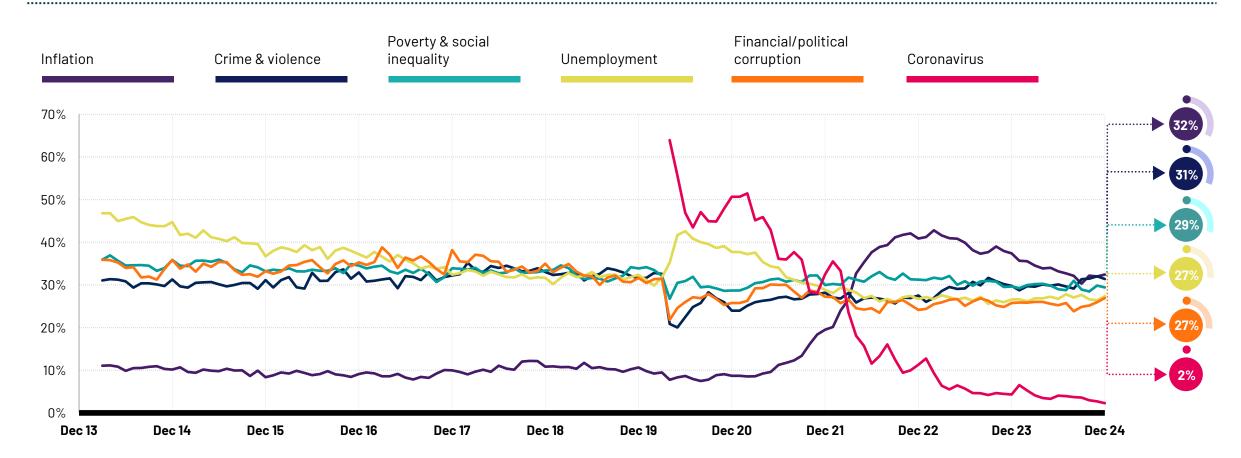
Q: Which three of the following topics do you find the most worrying in your country?





World Worries: Long-Term Trend

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



Base: Representative sample of 23,287 adults aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries, November 22nd 2024 - December 6th 2024.



1. Inflation

Base: Representative sample of 23,287 adults aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries, November 22nd 2024 - December 6th 2024.

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

This December, across 29 countries, inflation remains the number one concern, with a third (32%) expressing worry. Although still the biggest concern, it is 5pp lower than the same time last year.

The number of countries citing cost of living as their primary concern has risen from six to eight over the last month, with Canada and France being the new additions, both of which have seen substantial increases.

Taking a longer-term view, in January, 11 countries identified inflation as their top issue, including Argentina, Germany, and South Korea

The proportion of Canadians worried about prices has risen 7pp over the

month to half (49%) saying it's a problem. Similarly, concern in France has moved up 6pp, although not to as high a level (37%).

This time last year, Argentina's level of concern was 32pp higher than it is in December 2024, where we now have just shy of two-fifths (38%) citing it.

Countries where INFLATION is the #1 concern:

- Singapore (60%) India (45%)
- Türkiye (51%)
 Poland (43%)
- Australia (49%)
 France (37%)
- Canada (49%)
- The US (46%)

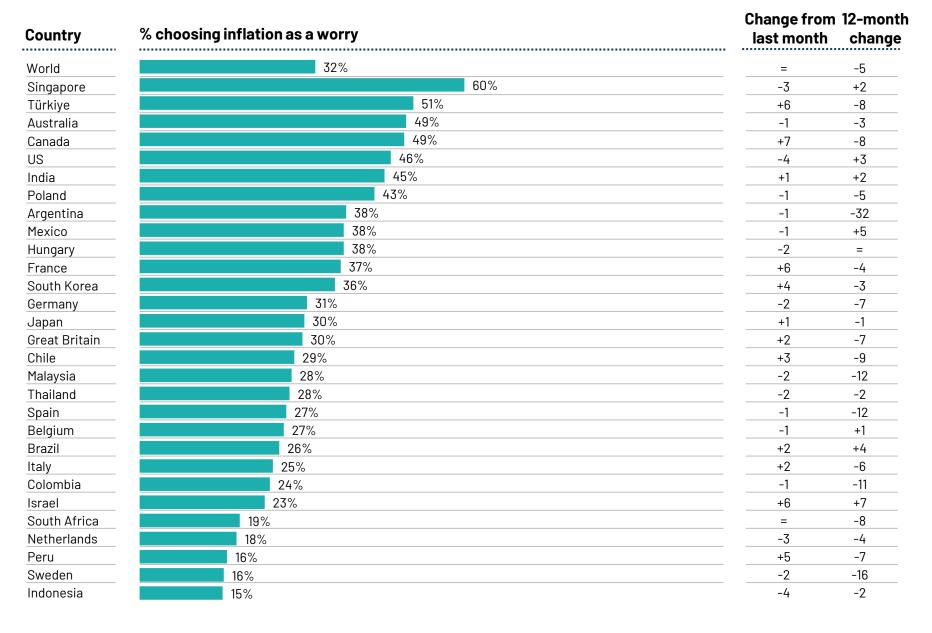
32%

say **inflation** is one of the key issues facing their country



1. Inflation

Base: Representative sample of 23,287 adults aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries, November 22nd 2024 - December 6th 2024.





2. Crime & Violence

Base: Representative sample of 23,287 adults aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries, November 22nd 2024 - December 6th 2024.

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

Having shared the top position last month, crime and violence has now shifted to second place on our global concerns ranking, reflecting a moderate decline in worry levels since November.

Last month, for Peru, inequality was their primary issue. This month, crime & violence has become the biggest concern facing the country, with two-thirds (65%) expressing worry. This is 7pp higher than last December. November's score (66%) was Peruvians' highest score since March 2020, when it

was at 71%.

Notably, the proportion mentioning crime in Türkiye has fallen 10pp to three in ten (29%). Despite the sharp fall, this level is still 11pp higher than this time last year.

Countries where CRIME & VIOLENCE is the #1 concern:

- Peru (65%)
- Colombia (44%)
- Chile (64%)
- Brazil (41%)
- Mexico (59%)
- Sweden (57%)

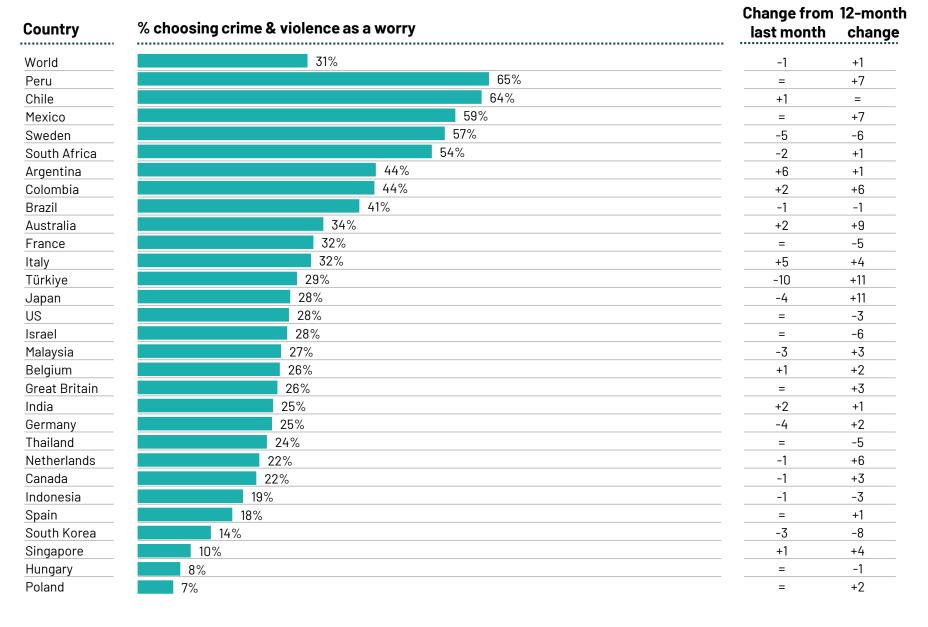
31%

say **crime & violence** is one of the key issues facing their country



2. Crime & Violence

Base: Representative sample of 23,287 adults aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries, November 22nd 2024 - December 6th 2024.





3. Poverty & Social Inequality

Base: Representative sample of 23,287 adults

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

November 22nd 2024 - December 6th 2024.

aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries,

The proportion mentioning poverty & social inequality across 29 countries has marginally decreased to 29% this month.

In November, inequality was Peru's top worry. However, after the number of people mentioning it dropped 4pp to 29%, it is now second to crime & violence.

In Belgium, inequality has emerged as a top concern, marking the first time in eight months that taxes are no longer the primary issue for the public. Mentions of inequality have risen by four percentage points, with 31% of Belgians now citing it as a major issue. This represents a seven percentage point increase compared to the same time last year.

Countries where POVERTY & SOCIAL INEQUALITY is the #1 concern:

- Japan (34%)
- Belgium (31%, joint with taxes)
- Netherlands (31%)

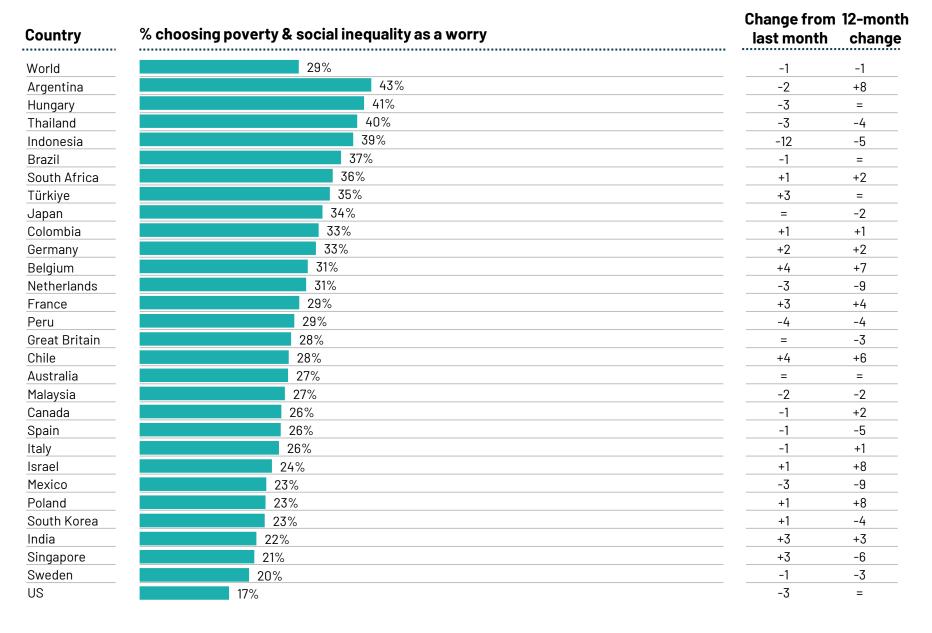
29%

say **poverty & social inequality** is one of the key issues facing their country



3. Poverty & Social Inequality

Base: Representative sample of 23,287 adults aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries, November 22nd 2024 - December 6th 2024.





4. Unemployment

Base: Representative sample of 23,287 adults aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries, November 22nd 2024 - December 6th 2024.

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

Concern about unemployment, across 29 countries, has increased slightly to just over a quarter (27%) choosing it.

For 47 consecutive months (three years, eight months)
South Africa has had unemployment as their primary concern. This December is no different, with only a marginal decrease to two-thirds (65%) mentioning it.

In APAC, there seems to be a surge in worry. Indonesia is the most concerned APAC country, with nearly half (48%) citing it, after increasing 8pp.
Additionally, Singapore is up
6pp to 45% and Thailand is up
7pp to 36%. South Korea (43%)
has risen 7pp, but we should
note that 95% of respondents
had completed the survey
before martial law was enacted.

Countries where UNEMPLOYMENT is the #1 concern:

- South Africa (65%)
- Argentina (44%)
- South Korea (43%)

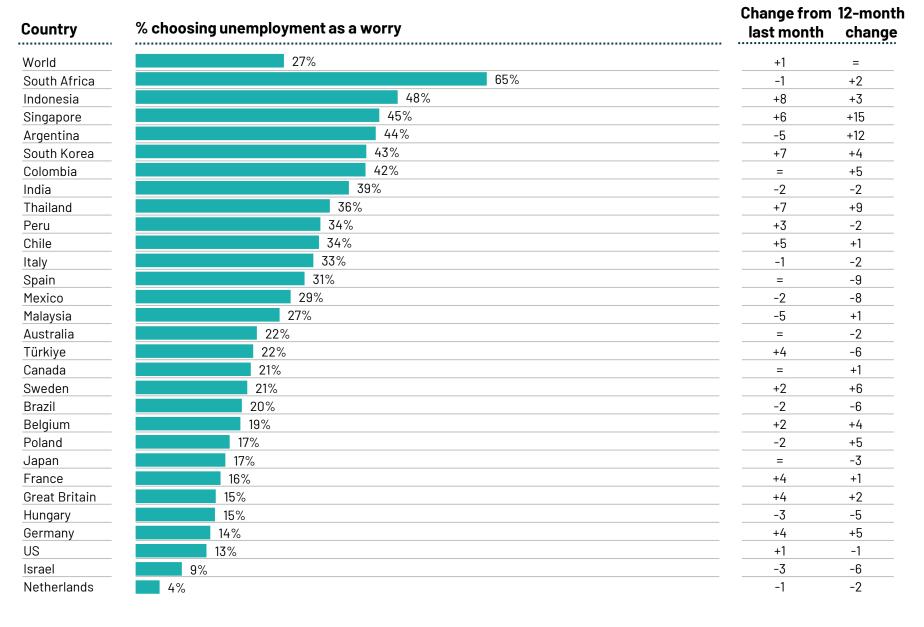
27%

say **unemployment** is one of the key issues facing their country



4. Unemployment

Base: Representative sample of 23,287 adults aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries, November 22nd 2024 - December 6th 2024.





5. Financial/Political Corruption

Base: Representative sample of 23,287 adults aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries, November 22nd 2024 - December 6th 2024.

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

The proportion mentioning corruption across our 29 countries has fractionally increased this month, joint with unemployment at 27%.

In a month which has seen
Benjamin Netanyahu back in court
for an ongoing corruption trial,
Israel has experienced the largest
increase in mentions. Up 15pp to
over a third (36%) citing it.
Corruption has become more of an
issue than military conflict (35%)
and is second only to terrorism
(45%). This is 6pp higher than a
year ago.

Last month, Spain's score reached

a record level after the country faced severe flooding. This month concern has reached another new high, with a further rise of 3pp to 33%. This is 13pp higher than a year ago and the highest it has been since March 2021 (when it was 34%).

Countries where FINANCIAL/POLITICAL CORRUPTION is the #1 concern:

- Indonesia (59%)
 Spain (34%)
- Malaysia (49%)
- Thailand (45%)

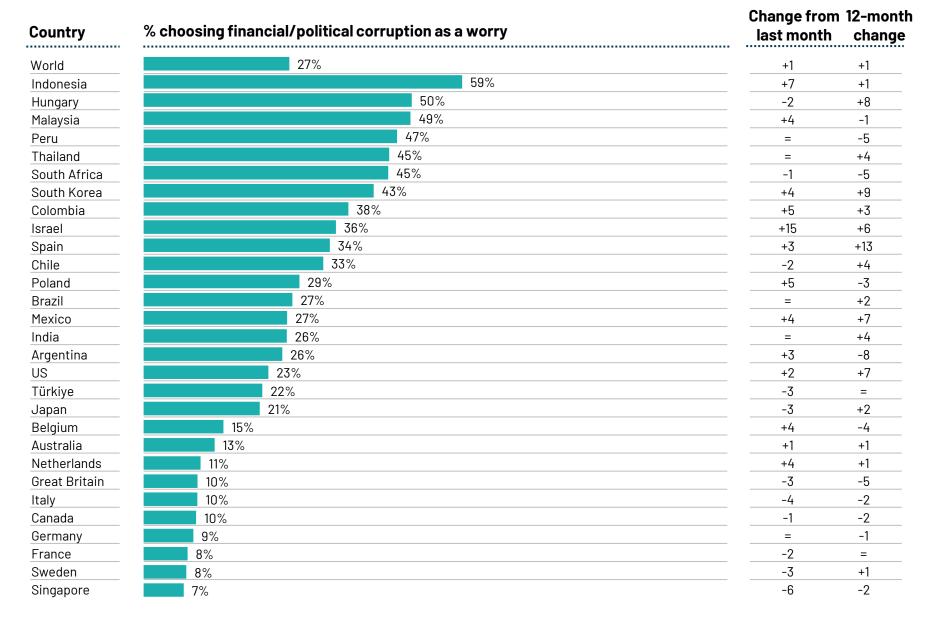
27%

say financial/political corruption is one of the key issues facing their country



5. Financial/ Political Corruption

Base: Representative sample of 23,287 adults aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries, November 22nd 2024 - December 6th 2024.





6. Health Care

Worry for health care remains the same this month but is slightly elevated from this point last year. Just shy of a quarter (23%) express worry for this issue.

Hungary has had health care as their top worry for 16 consecutive months and they are by far the most concerned nation about the issue. This month, the number of Hungarians expressing worry is up 5pp to nearly two-thirds (64%). This is 6pp higher than this time last year.

Great Britain is also a consistently worried nation. This month sees Brits putting health care top again, however, the proportion citing it has dropped 4pp to two-fifths (40%).

Countries where HEALTH CARE is the #1 concern:

- Hungary (64%)
- Italy (41%)
- Great Britain (40%)

23%

say **health care** is one of the key issues facing their country

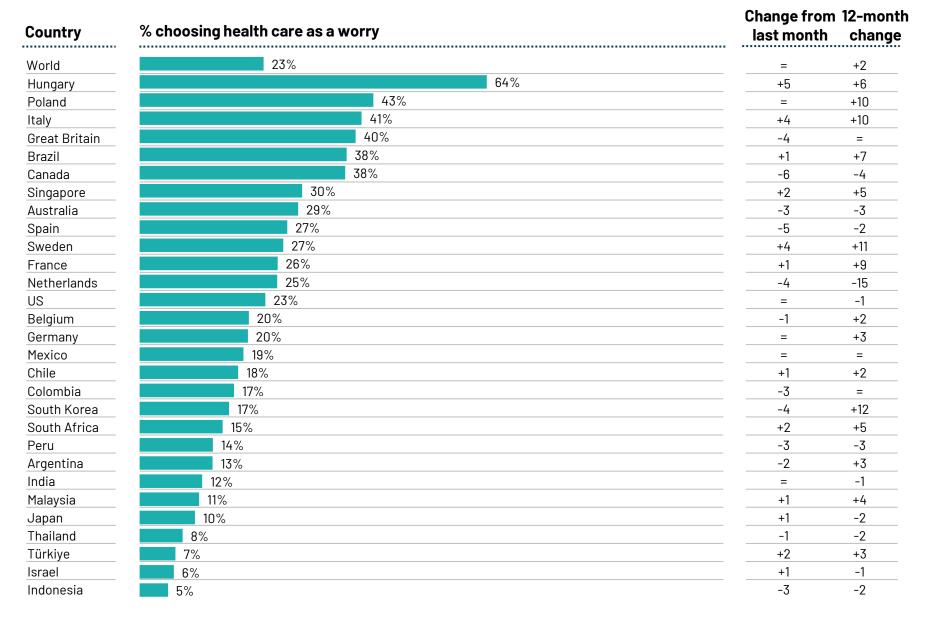
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6. Health Care

Base: Representative sample of 23,287 adults aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries, November 22nd 2024 - December 6th 2024.





9. Climate Change

Base: Representative sample of 23,287 adults aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries, November 22nd 2024 - December 6th 2024.

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

This month, the number of mentions for climate change, across 29 countries, has dropped fractionally to 16%.

The US has experienced the second biggest drop this month after falling 5pp to 17%. This is the joint lowest score for 2024. The last time the level dropped below 17% was April 2022, when it hit 16%.

The proportion of Swedes expressing worry about climate change has increased slightly by 4pp. Despite being a relatively small hike, it is the highest level

of concern for the nation since March 2022, when it was at a quarter (24%).

Countries where CLIMATE CHANGE is the #1 concern:

None

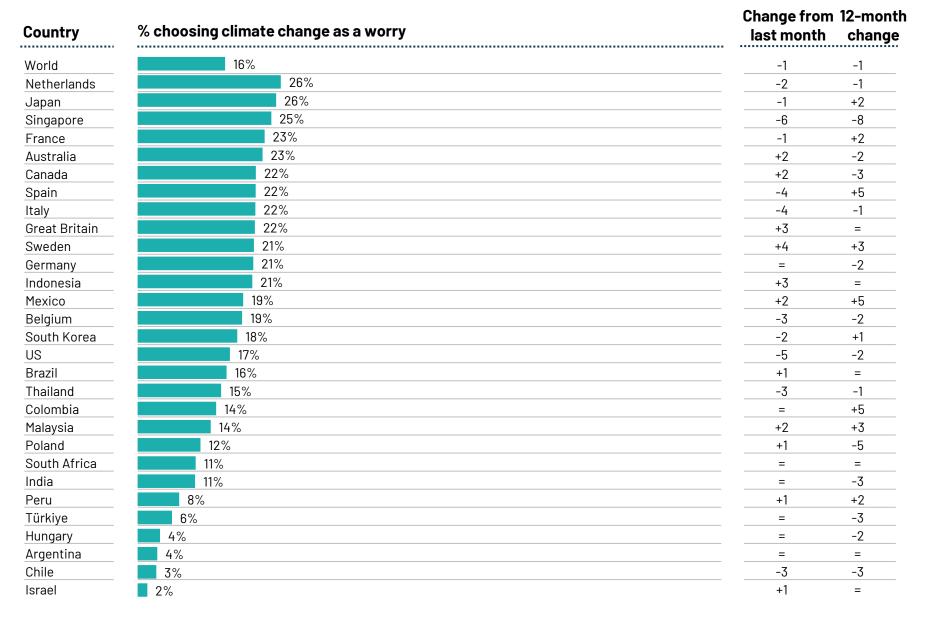
16%

say **climate change** is one of the key issues facing their country



9. Climate Change

Base: Representative sample of 23,287 adults aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries, November 22nd 2024 - December 6th 2024.





14. Terrorism

The proportion mentioning terrorism across 29 countries is down slightly around one in 12 (8%). This is also marginally fewer than this time last year.

Israel is again, by far, the most concerned country, with 45% saying this is the main issue facing their country. However, this score is 3pp lower than last month and 19pp lower than last December. With the exception of a couple of spikes in March and June 2024, concern for terrorism has been slowly declining as a worry.

8%

say **terrorism** is one of the key issues facing their country

Countries where TERRORISM is the #1 concern:

Israel (45%)

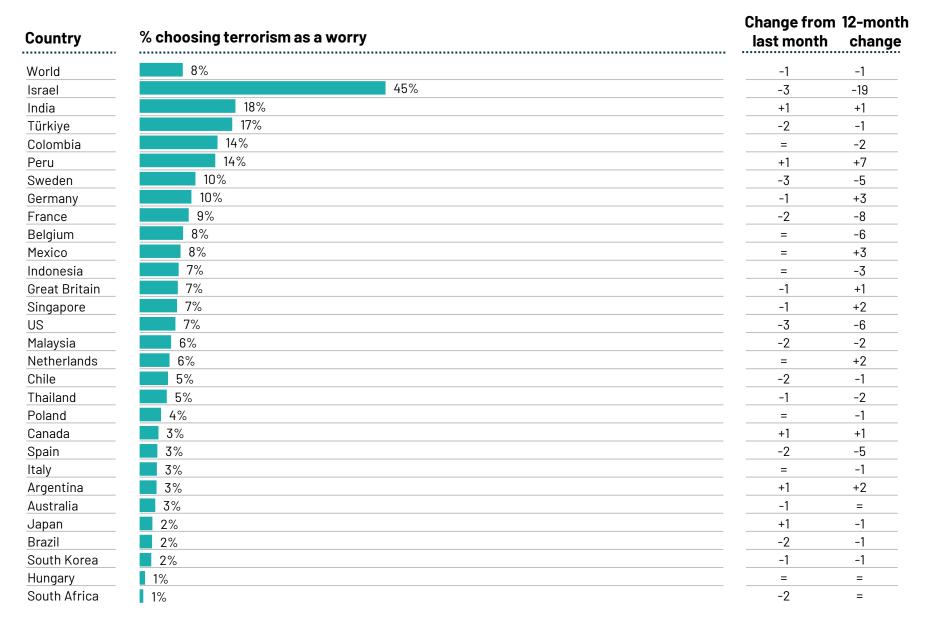
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14. Terrorism

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17. Coronavirus (Covid-19)

across 29 countries has dropped marginally this month and has hit its lowest point in our survey, now at 2% citing it as one of the main issues facing their country.

Concern for the Coronavirus

In no country do at least one in ten people see Coronavirus as a worry. The highest level being 7% in Malaysia.

We will continue to track attitudes to Coronavirus as we enter the fifth anniversary of the pandemic. Countries where CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) is the #1 concern:

None

2%

say coronavirus (Covid-19) is one of the key issues facing their country

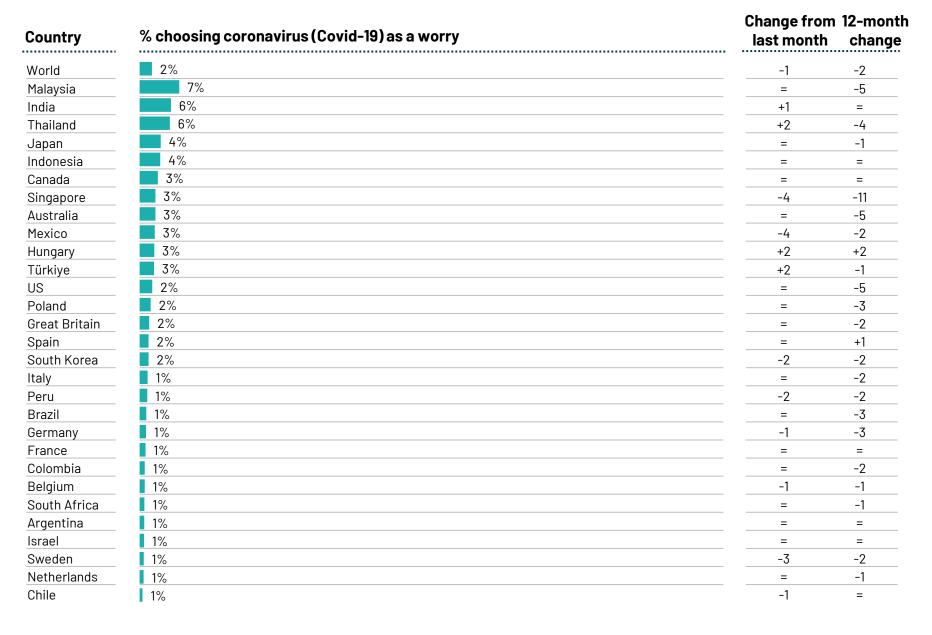
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17. Coronavirus (Covid-19)

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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 29 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.

Please contact:

Emilios.Louca@ipsos.com for more information.





Current Economic Situation

Base: Representative sample of 23,287 adults aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries, November 22nd 2024 - December 6th 2024.

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

Looking back to January 2024, we see big changes. This time last year, Argentina was ranked bottom, with a good economy score of just 6%. This month, it ranks 15th of 29 countries, with a good economy score of 32%: its highest in almost seven years (also 32% in January 2018).

But economic perceptions haven't risen in all countries. Six countries have recorded double digit decreases in their good economy score, led by France (-20pp) and Belgium (-14pp) since January.

This month, a 4pp drop in Germany's good economy score

sees it record a new all-time low (27%). Meanwhile, France (10%) has fallen into the bottom ranked position, with its lowest score since February 2016.

Top countries most worried about the economy:

- France (90% say it's in bad shape)
- South Korea (90%)
- Japan(89%)
- Hungary (84%)
- Peru (83%)

Argentina's good economy score has risen

27 points since Dec 2023.





Current **Economic Situation**

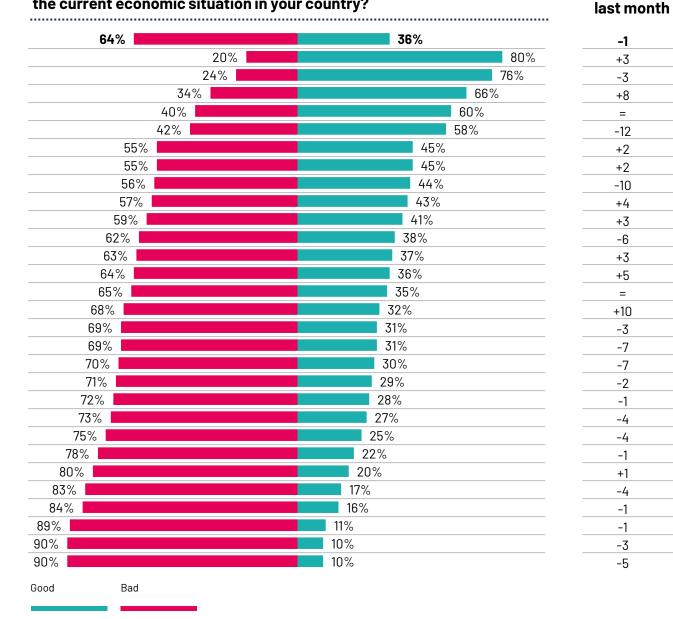
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Country

World Singapore India Indonesia Netherlands Malaysia Thailand Australia Mexico Sweden US Poland Spain Canada Brazil Argentina South Africa Belgium Israel Chile Italy Germany Colombia **Great Britain** Türkiye Peru Hungary Japan South Korea France

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





Change from 12-month

-1

+3

-3

+8

=

-12

+2

+2

-10

+4

+3

-6

+3

+5

=

+10

-3

-7

-2

-1

-4

-4

-1

+1

-4

-1

-1

-3

-5

change

-4

+2

+6

+12

-5

+2

-10

+13

+3

+4

+5

-4

+27

+13

-13

-14

+7

-3

-11

+1

-4

-2

-11

-4

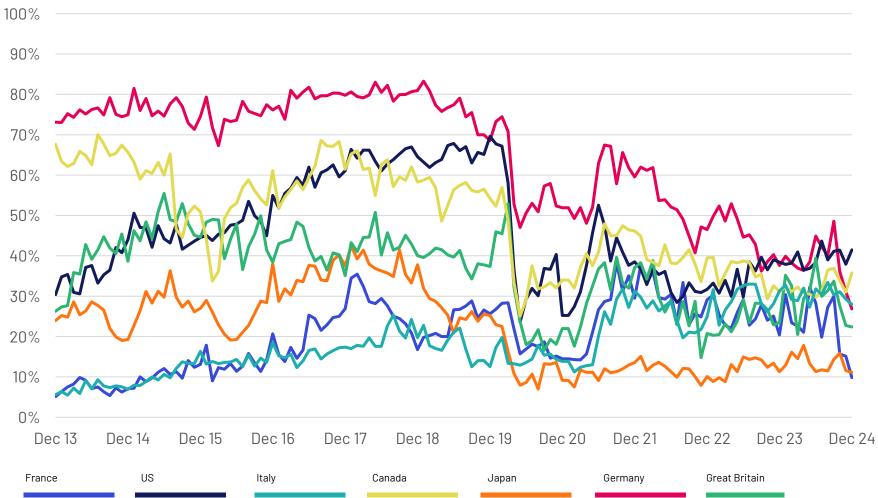
-10

G7

% 'Very good' or 'Somewhat good'

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Argentina

% 'Very good' or 'Somewhat good'

A 26-point rise from January 2024 sees Argentina record its highest good economy score since January 2018 (also 32%).

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

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

100% 90% 80% 70% 60% 50% 40% 32% 30% 10% Dec 13 Dec 14 Dec 15 Dec 23 Dec 24 Dec 16 Dec 17 Dec 18 Dec 19 Dec 20 Dec 21 Dec 22



Canada

% 'Very good' or 'Somewhat good'

Canada has been one of the most stable countries this year, with its good economy score only varying over the course of the year.

However, positivity for the economy is yet to return to its pre-Covid level.

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France

% 'Very good' or 'Somewhat good'

Following a 5pp drop since last month, France now records its lowest good economy score since Feb 2016 (9%).

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

100% 90% 80% 70% 60% 50% 40% 30% 20% 0% Dec 13 Dec 14 Dec 15 Dec 21 Dec 22 Dec 23 Dec 24 Dec 16 Dec 17 Dec 18 Dec 19 Dec 20



Germany

% 'Very good' or 'Somewhat good'

After falling a further four points this month, Germany has recorded a new all-time low good economy score.

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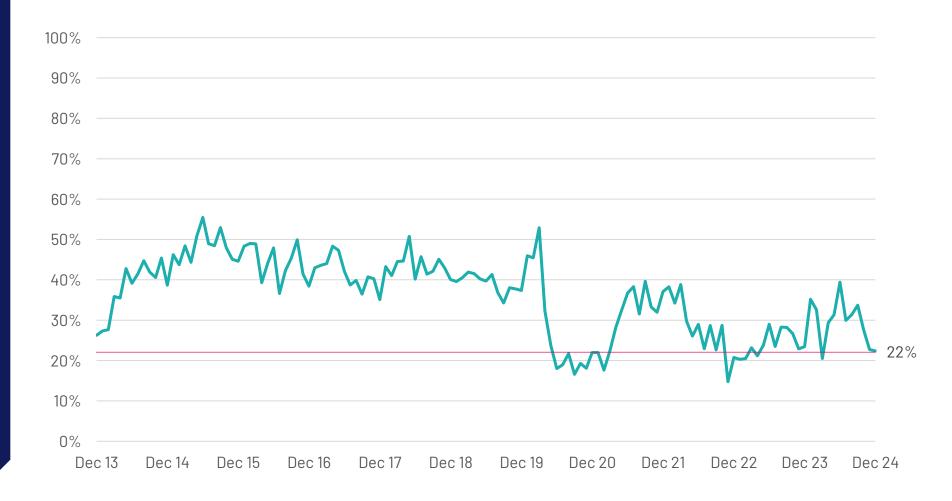


Great Britain

% 'Very good' or 'Somewhat good'

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Israel

% 'Very good' or 'Somewhat good'

Israel has recorded a large drop, down 10 points from January 2024.

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Italy

% 'Very good' or 'Somewhat good'

Italy's good economy score has been one of the most stable in our survey, varying just six points over the past 12 months.

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Japan

% 'Very good' or 'Somewhat good'

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

100% 90% 80% 60% 50% 40% 30% 20% Dec 13 Dec 14 Dec 15 Dec 21 Dec 22 Dec 23 Dec 24 Dec 16 Dec 17 Dec 18 Dec 19 Dec 20



US

% 'Very good' or 'Somewhat good'

Base: Representative sample of 23,287 adults aged 16-74 in 29 participating countries, November 22nd 2024 - December 6th 2024.

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





Methodology

This 29-country Global Advisor survey was conducted between November 22nd 2024 and December 6th 2024 via the Ipsos Online Panel system among 23,287 adults aged 18-74 in Canada, Israel, Malaysia, South Africa, Türkiye and the United States, 20-74 in Indonesia and Thailand, 21-74 in Singapore, and 16-74 in all other nations.

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, Japan, Spain, Sweden, and the US, and approximately 500+ individuals in each of Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Hungary, Indonesia, Israel, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Thailand and Türkiye.

The sample in India consists of approximately 2,200 individuals, of whom approximately 1,800 were interviewed faceto-face and 400 were interviewed online.

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, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand and Türkiye 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.

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.

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.





