

PUBLIC PERSPECTIVES



Immigration and Refugees

Canada much more welcoming
than most other countries, but
many concerns remain

August 2016



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General themes from the data are...

Canadians among most open to immigration and refugees

Canadians consistently express more positive opinions on immigration and refugees than residents in most of the other 21 countries included in this study. This extends from opinions on the impact of immigration generally (e.g., positive impact on country, lower belief that immigration creates unwanted changes) to refugees specifically (e.g., lower belief in need to close borders, that refugees are not really refugees).

But Canadians do not speak with one voice

There are some significant differences in opinions by demographics and region.

Higher educated, Millennials, Atlantic and BC residents are consistently more positive toward immigration than lower educated, Gen X and Baby Boomers, and Prairie and Quebec residents.

Women, higher educated, Millennials, Atlantic and BC residents are significantly more positive toward refugees than lower educated, Gen X and Baby Boomers, and Prairie and Quebec residents.

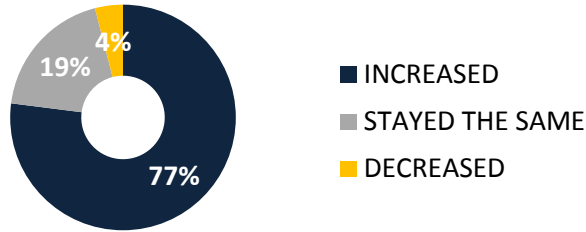
And, there are serious lingering concerns

Furthermore, while more open to immigration and refugees than residents in most other countries, this is more relative than absolute. For example, only 36% believe that immigration has generally had a positive impact on the country, 44% that immigration is causing Canada to change in ways they don't like, 51% that immigration has placed too much pressure on public services, 51% that there are terrorists pretending to be refugees who will enter Canada, and only a slight majority of 54% are confident that most refugees who come to Canada will successfully integrate into their new society.

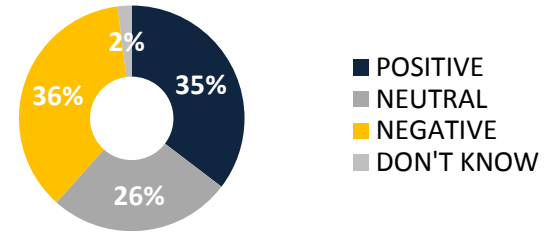
Attitudes Toward Immigration

In Canada, general belief immigration is increasing, split opinion on impact on the country, more negative than positive re changes and volume

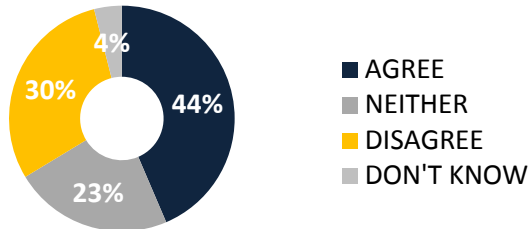
Over the last 5 years, in your opinion has the amount of migrants in Canada...



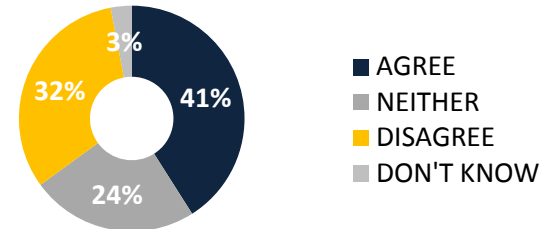
Would you say that immigration has generally had a positive or negative impact on Canada?



“Immigration is causing Canada to change in ways that I don’t like”



“There are too many immigrants in Canada”



In Canada, concerns over pressure on public services, more positive than negative that immigrants make country more interesting and impact on economy

Immigration has placed too much pressure on public services in Canada



Priority should be given to immigrants with higher education and qualifications who can fill shortages among certain professions in Canada



Immigrants make Canada a more interesting place to live



Immigrants in Canada have made it more difficult for people of your nationality to get jobs



Immigration is good for the economy of Canada



STRONGLY/TEND TO AGREE

NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE

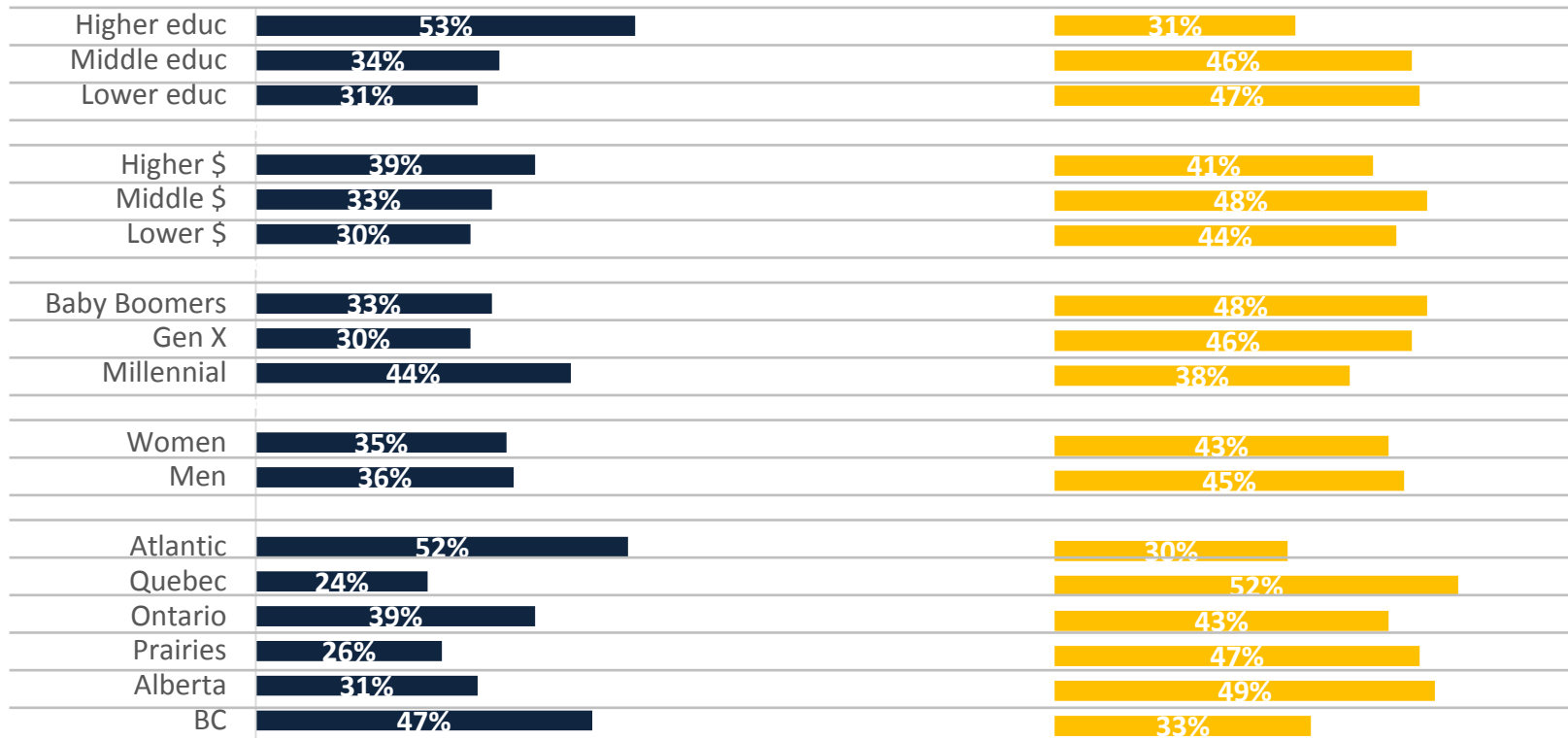
TEND TO/STRONGLY DISAGREE

DON'T KNOW

Higher education, Millennials, Atlantic and BC more positive toward immigration generally

Immigration has generally had a positive impact on Canada

"Immigration is causing Canada to change in ways that I don't like"

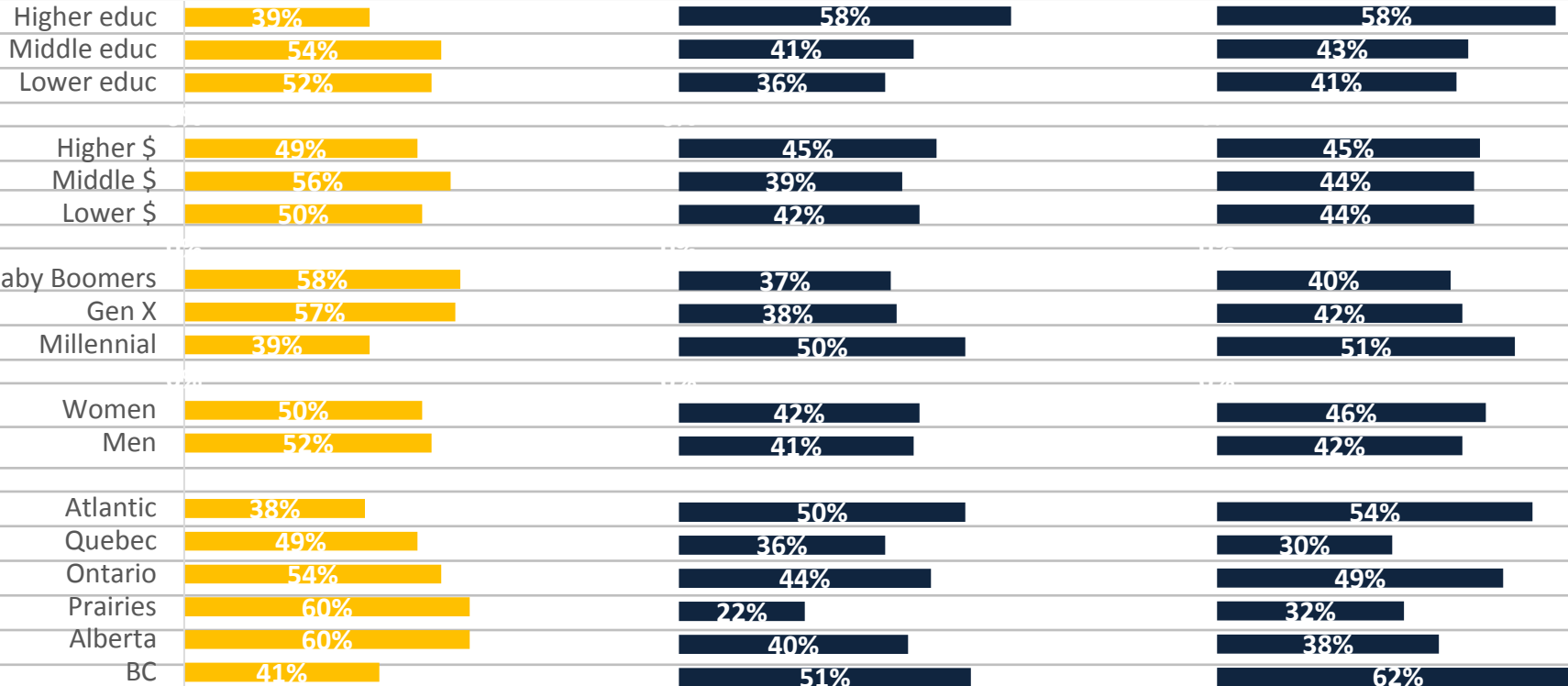


Higher education, Millennials, Atlantic and BC more positive toward impact of immigration

Immigration has placed too much pressure on public services in Canada

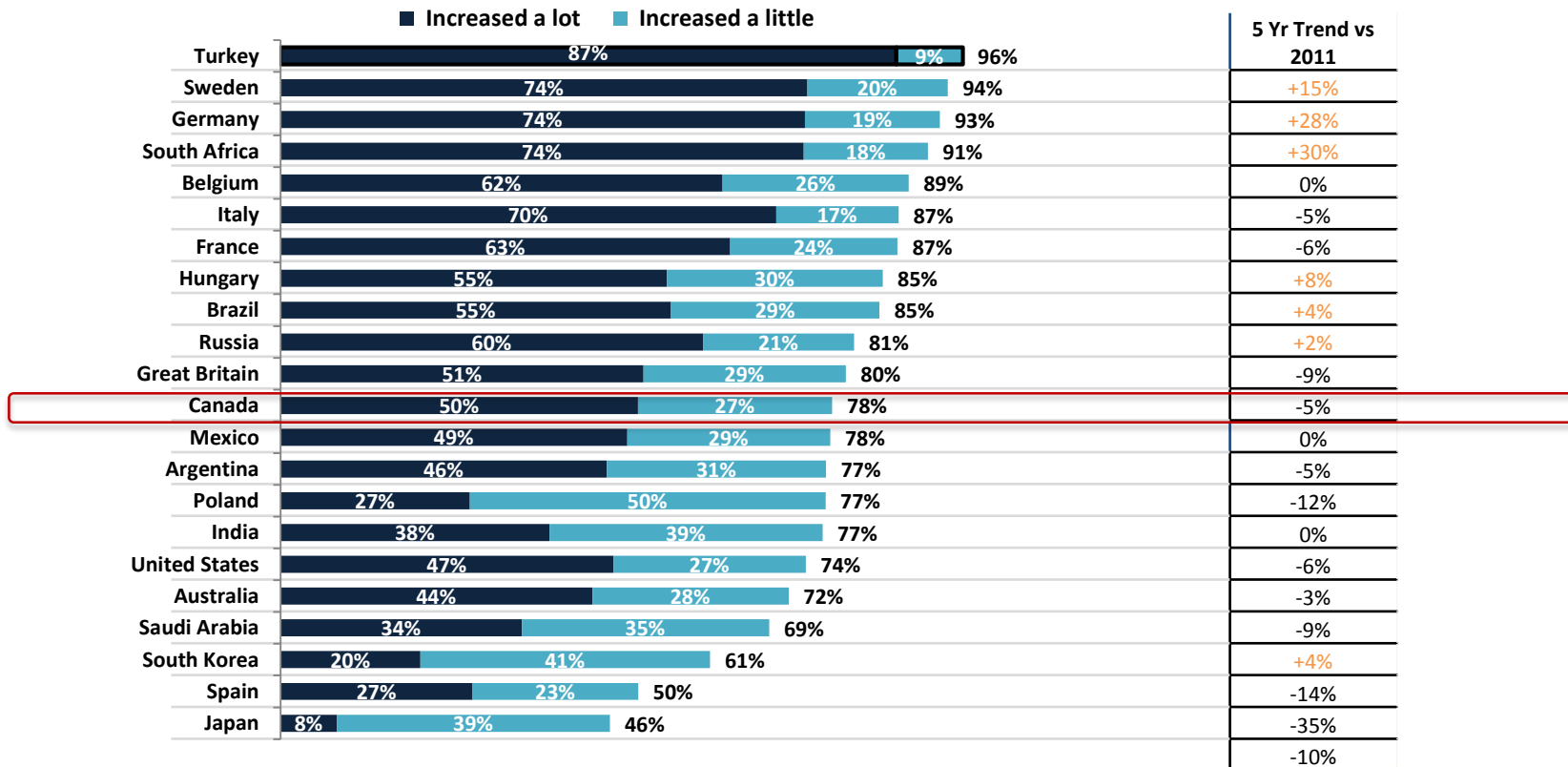
Immigration is good for the economy of Canada

Immigrants make Canada a more interesting place to live



Most countries, including Canada, believe immigration has increased over last five years

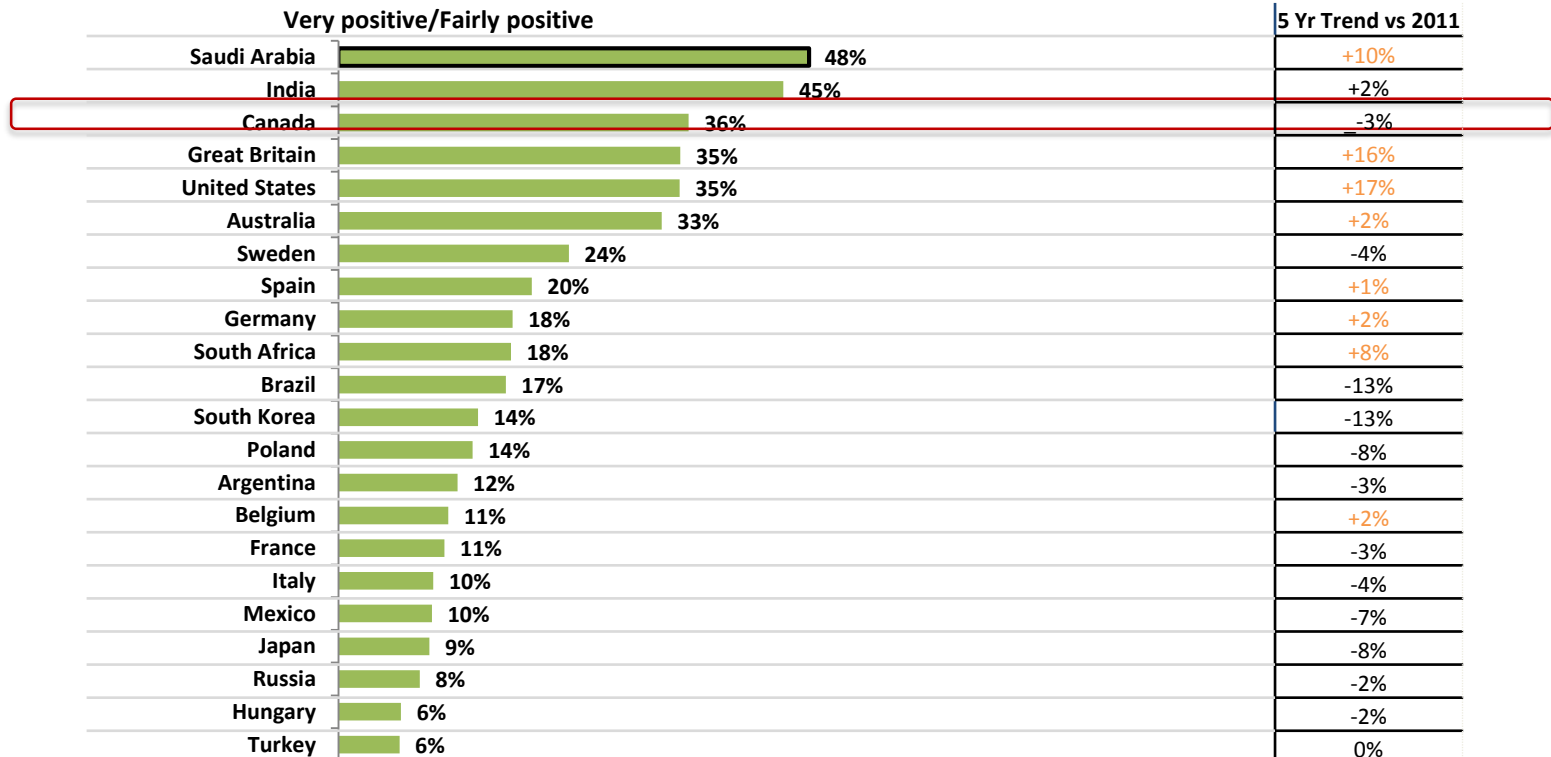
Over the last 5 years, in your opinion has the amount of migrants in your country decreased or increased?



Base: 16,040 adults aged 16-64 across Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United States., July 2016

Little positive perceived impact of immigration in most countries; Canadians among most positive impact, but not an overwhelming belief

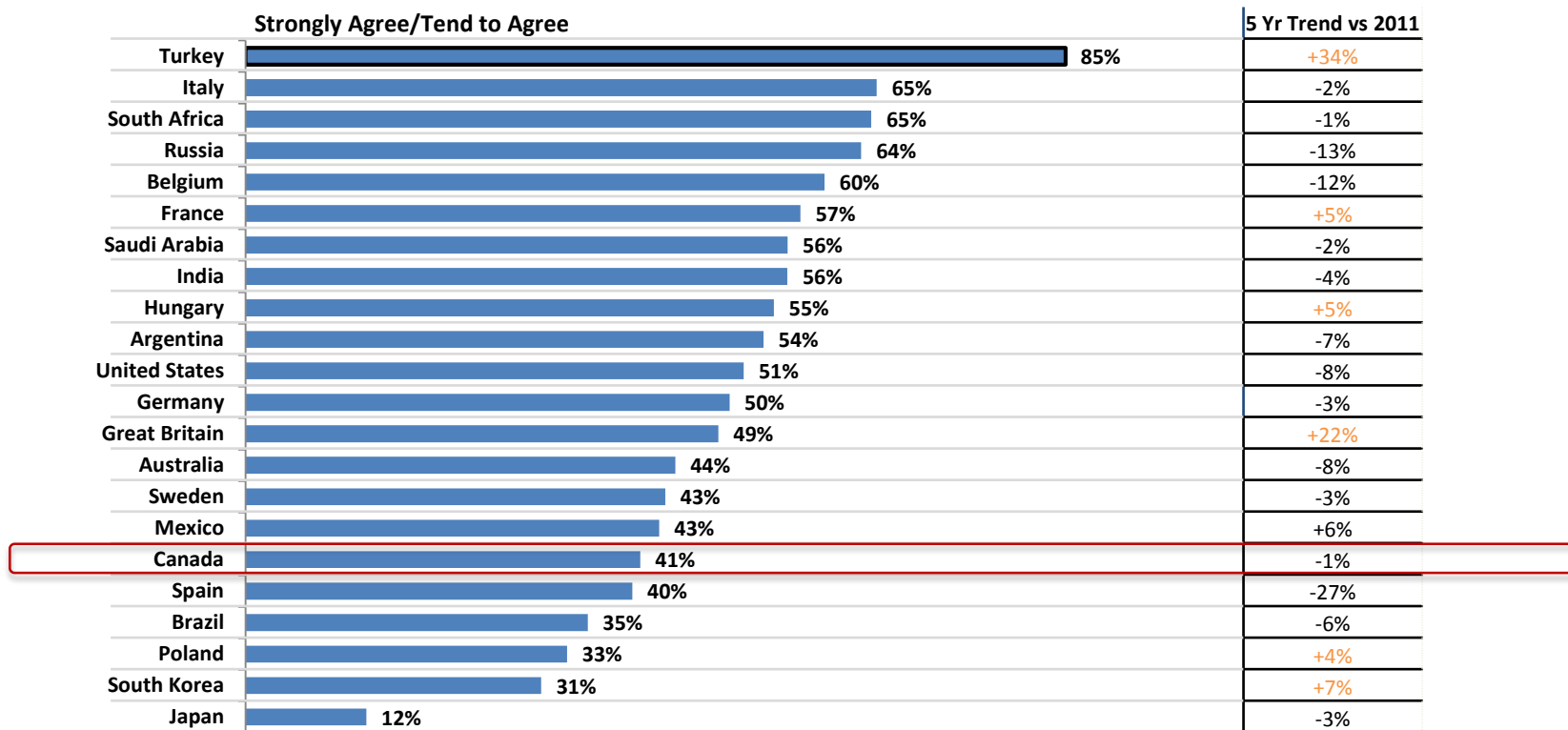
Would you say that immigration has generally had a positive or negative impact on your country?



Base: 16,040 adults aged 16-64 across Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United States., July 2016

Turkey, Italy and Russia among most likely to believe that there are too many immigrants in their country; Canada lower although four-in-ten do

“There are too many immigrants in our country”



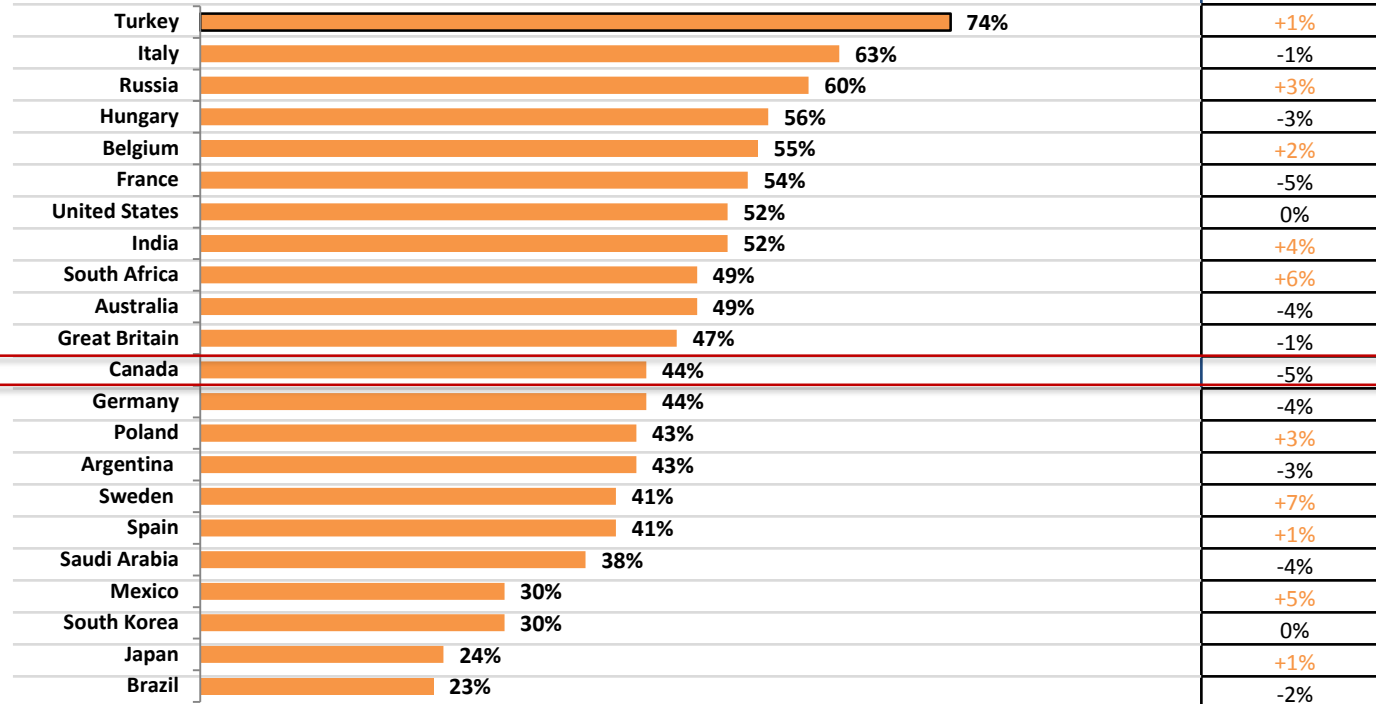
Base: 16,040 adults aged 16-64 across Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United States., July 2016

Turkey, Italy and Russia most uncomfortable with changes brought on by immigration; Canada lower but over four-in-ten are

“Immigration is causing my country to change in ways that I don’t like”

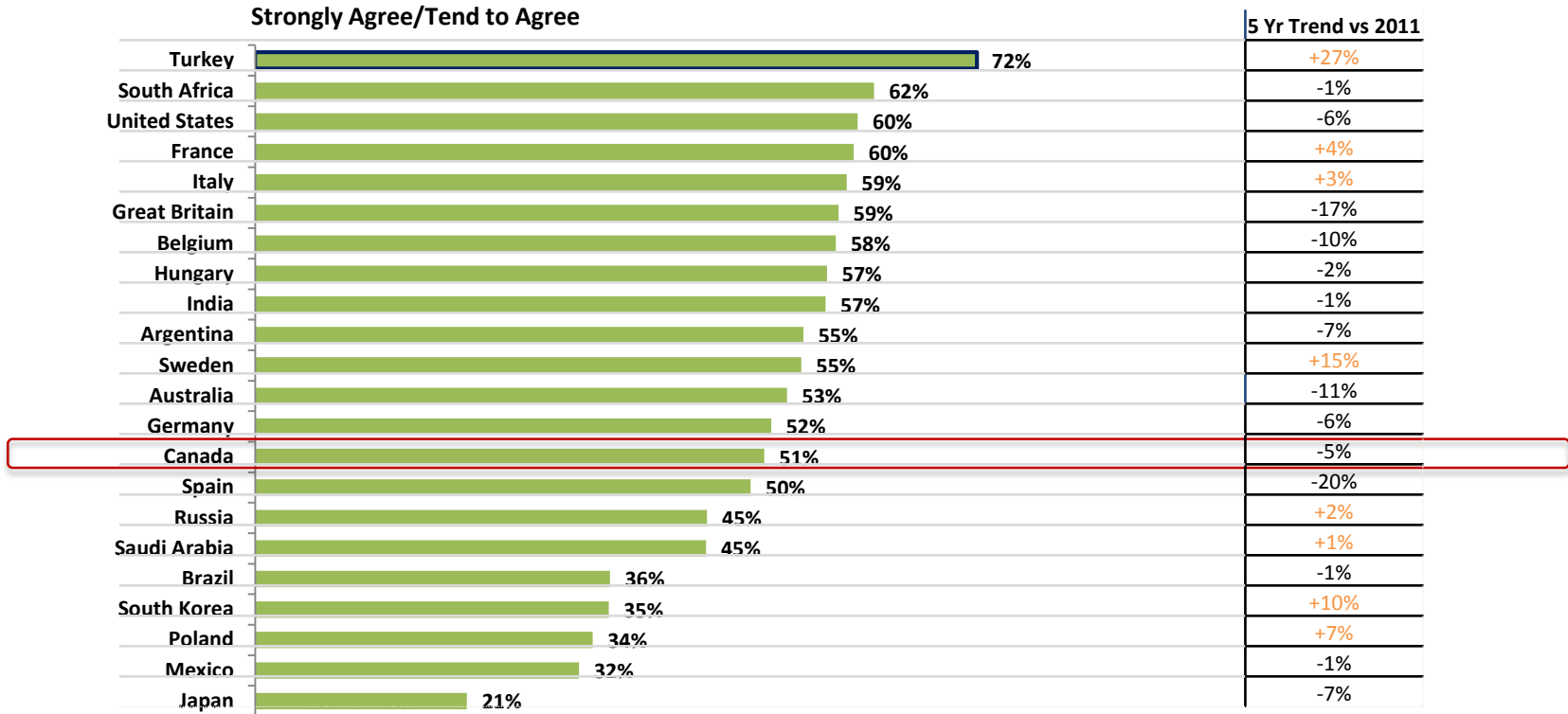
Strongly agree/ Tend to agree

1 Yr Trend vs 2015



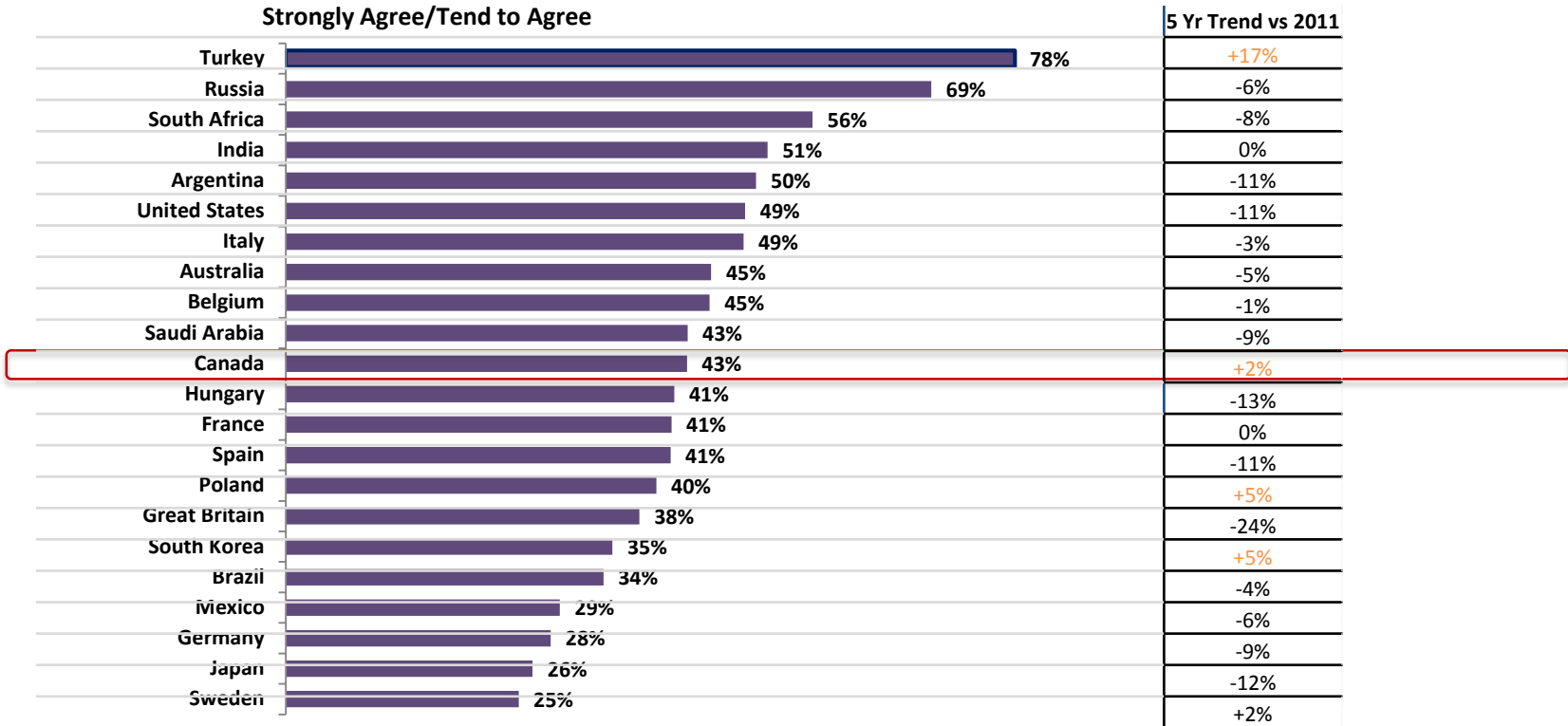
Majority in most countries concerned about immigration placing pressure on public services; Canada half but lower than in many other countries

“Immigration has placed too much pressure on public services in your country”



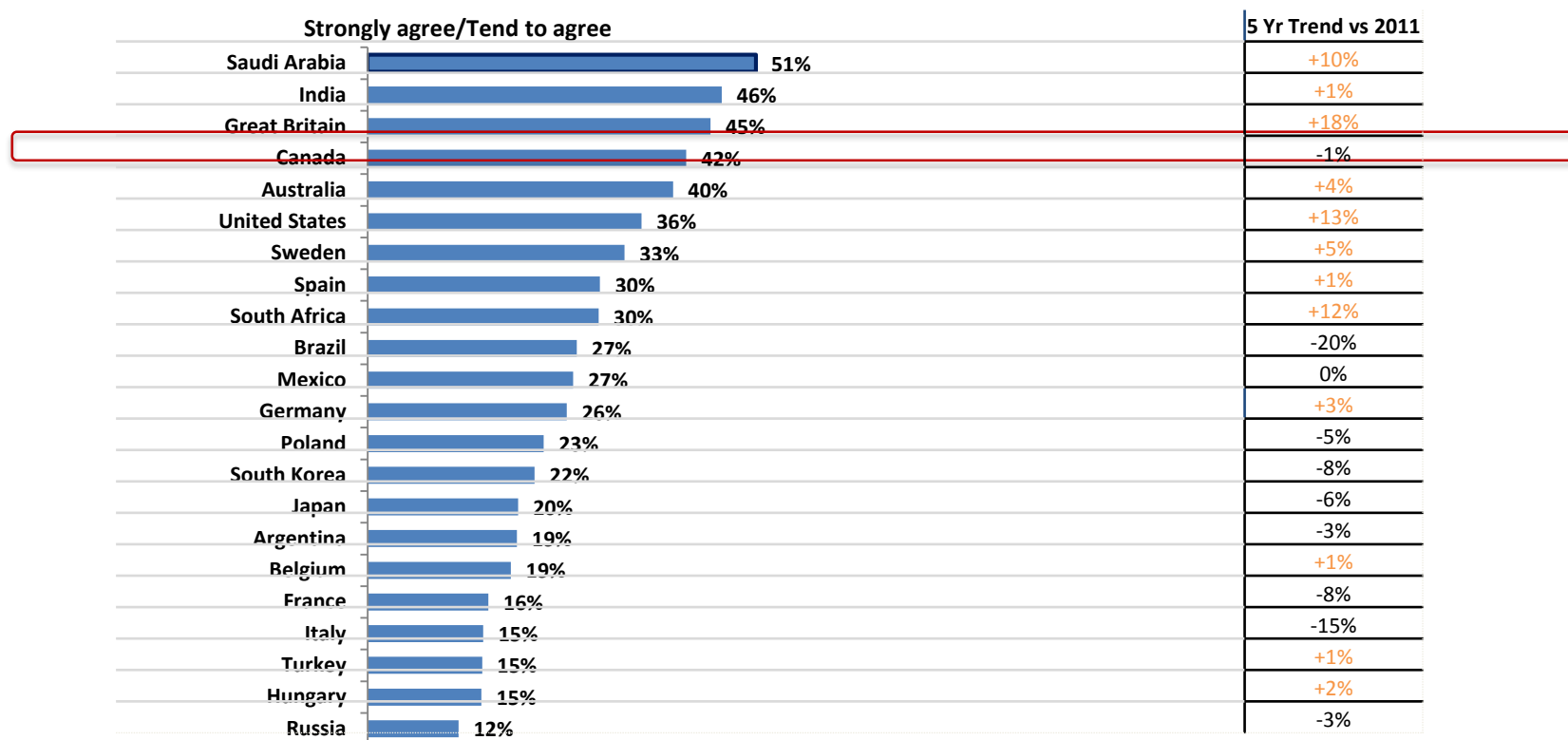
Worry about immigration's impact on jobs highest in Turkey and Russia; Canada in the middle of the pack

“Immigrants in your country have made it more difficult for people of your nationality to get jobs”



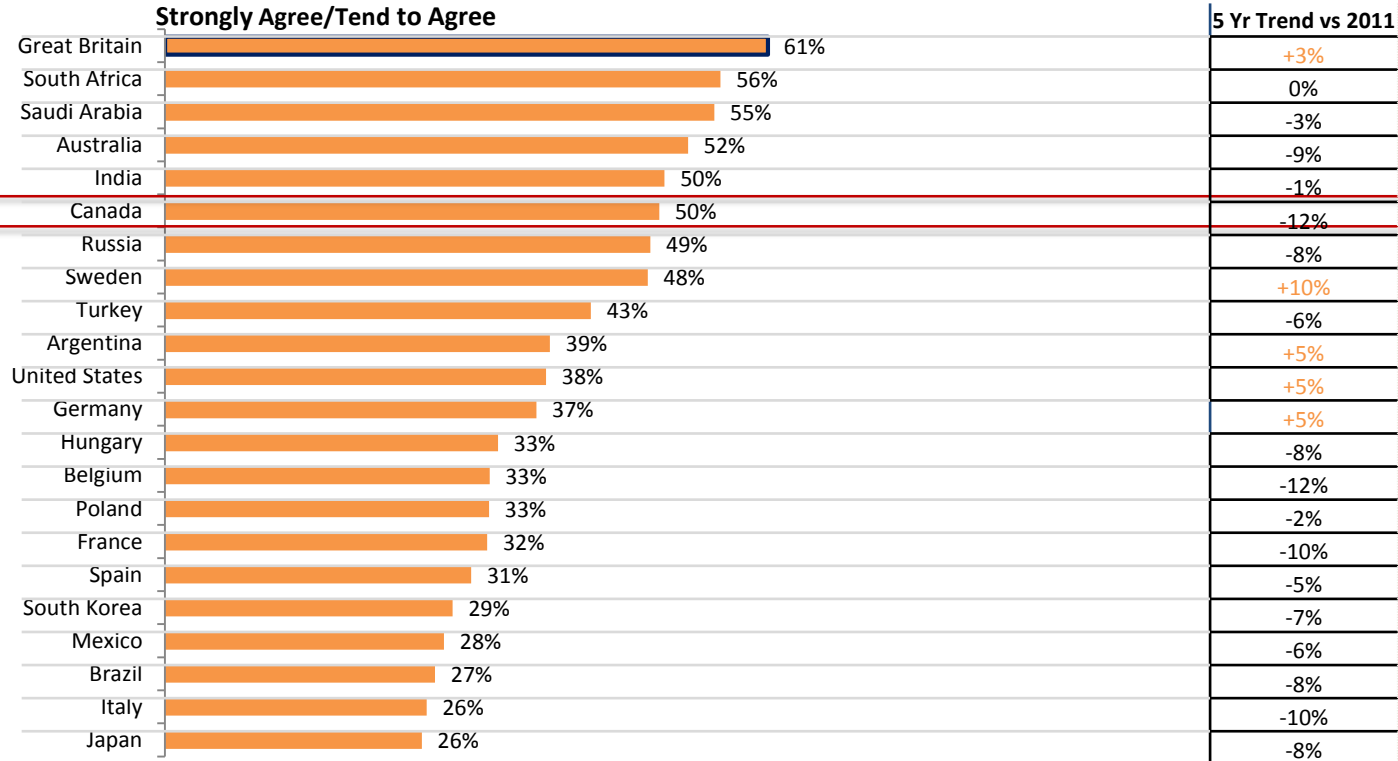
Big country differences on economic impact of immigration – but rarely majority positive

“Immigration is good for the economy of your country”



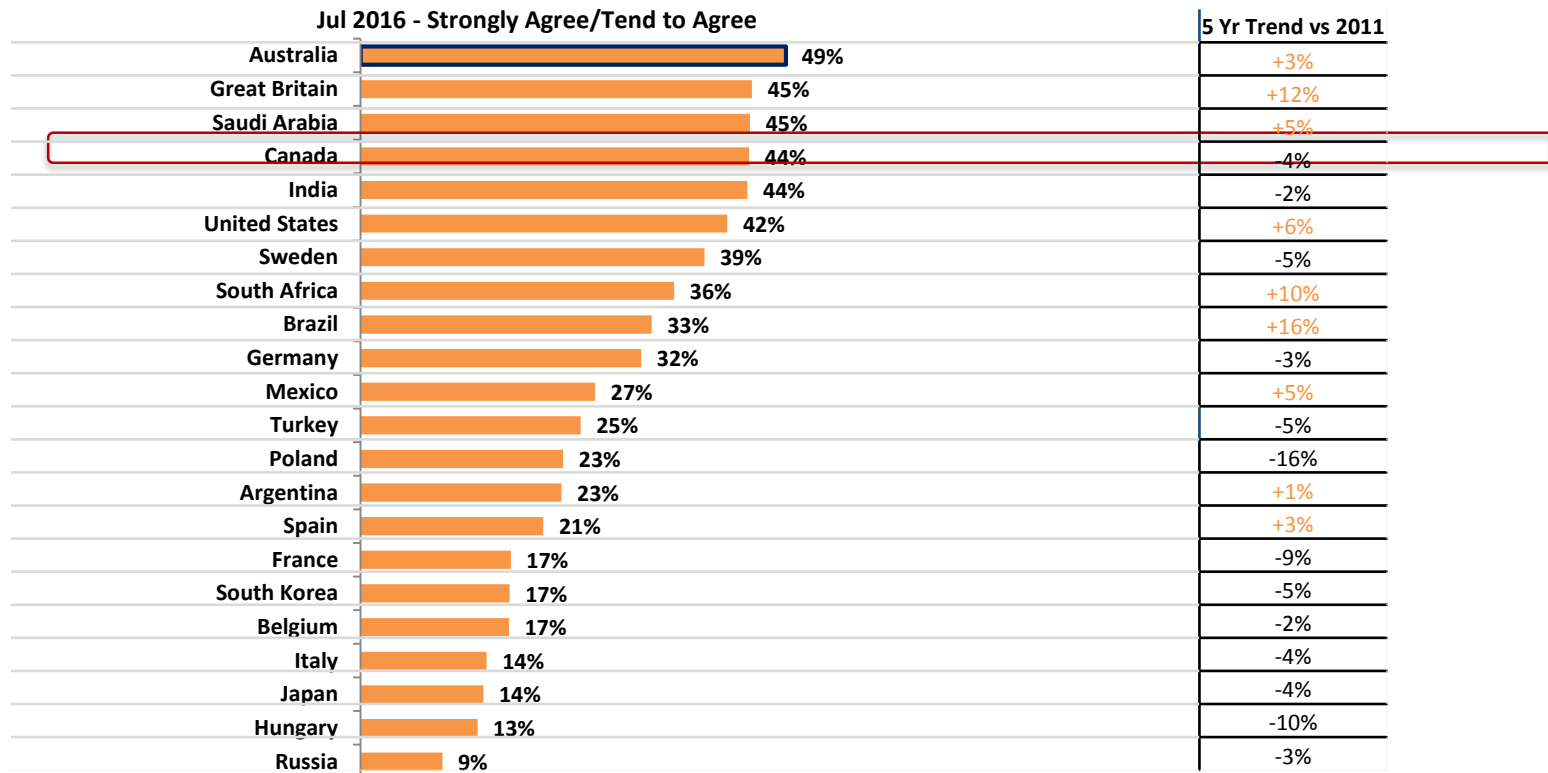
Britons most likely to want to give priority to high-skilled immigrants to fill shortages; Canada also higher than most countries

“Priority should be given to immigrants with higher education and qualifications who can fill shortages among certain professions in your country”



Australians, Britons, Canadians and Americans among the most likely to believe that immigrants make their country more interesting

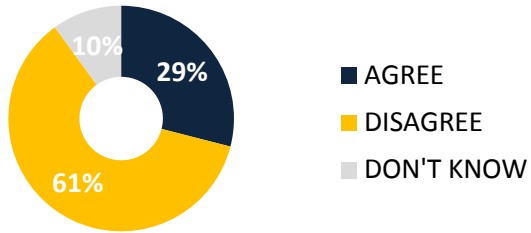
“Immigrants make your country a more interesting place to live”



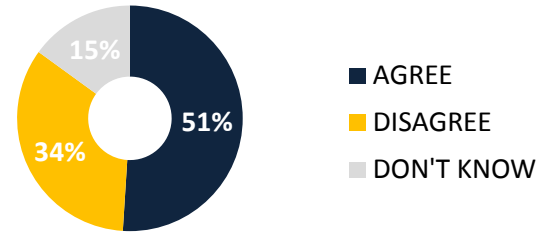
Attitudes Toward Refugees

In Canada, little support for closing borders, more confident than not that refugees will integrate, but some concern re hidden terrorists

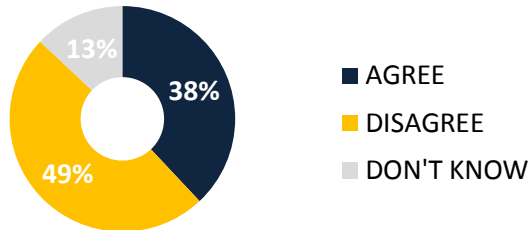
“We must close our borders to refugees entirely—we can’t accept any at this time”



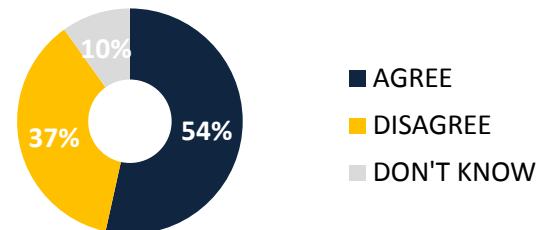
“There are terrorists pretending to be refugees who will enter my country to cause violence and destruction”



“Most foreigners who want to get into my country as a refugee really aren’t refugees. They just want to come here for economic reasons, or to take advantage of our welfare services”



“I’m confident that most refugees who come to my country will successfully integrate into their new society”



Women, higher education, Millennials, Atlantic and BC more positive toward refugees

“We must close our borders to refugees entirely—we can’t accept any at this time”

“There are terrorists pretending to be refugees.. cause violence and destruction”

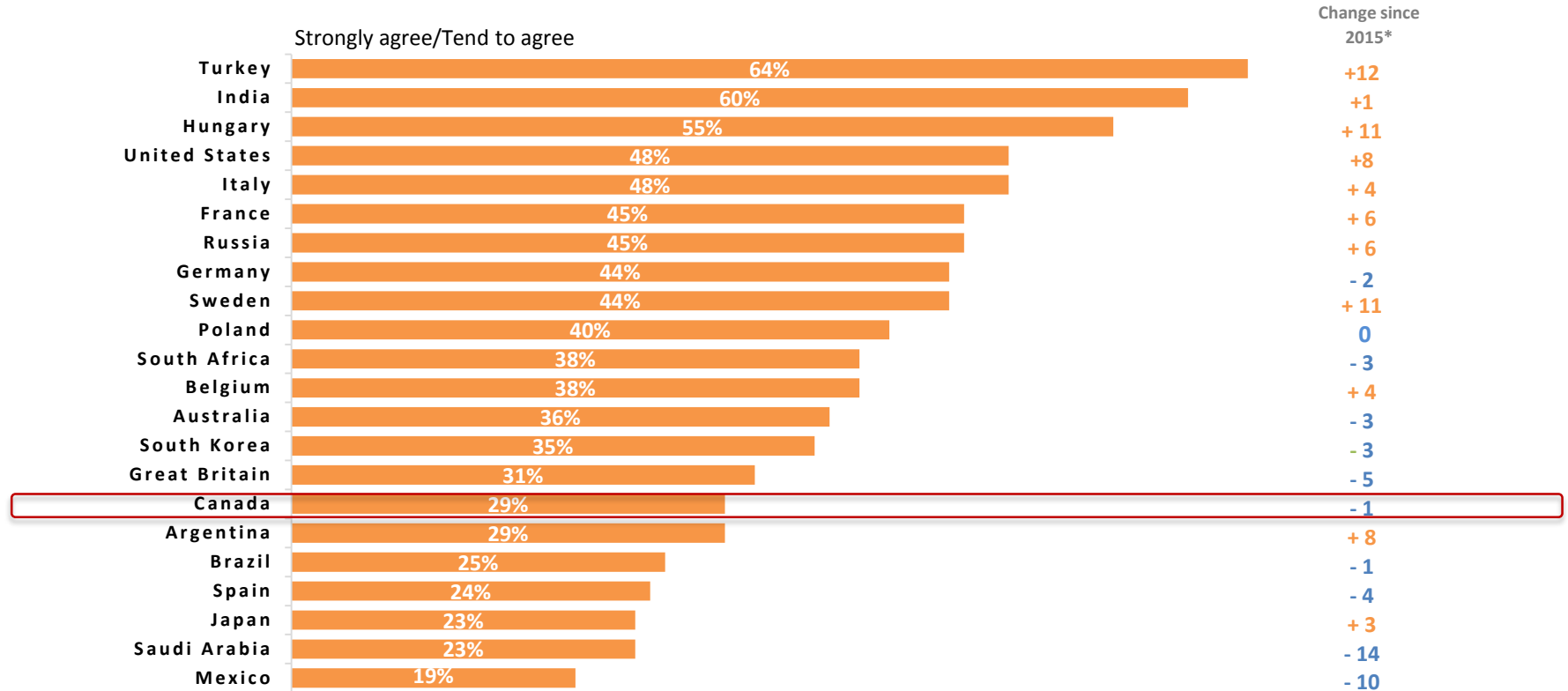
“Most foreigners who want in really aren’t refugees... advantage of welfare services”

“Confident most refugees who come will successfully integrate into their new society”

	18%	40%	32%	59%
Higher educ	18%	40%	32%	59%
Middle educ	29%	49%	35%	53%
Lower educ	34%	56%	43%	52%
Higher \$	26%	50%	36%	55%
Middle \$	32%	53%	42%	49%
Lower \$	39%	52%	45%	54%
Baby Boomers	30%	61%	42%	53%
Gen X	35%	56%	39%	51%
Millennial	24%	36%	32%	56%
Women	28%	48%	33%	57%
Men	31%	55%	43%	49%
Atlantic	16%	44%	20%	64%
Quebec	35%	57%	45%	45%
Ontario	31%	51%	40%	57%
Prairies	27%	56%	40%	41%
Alberta	34%	61%	44%	46%
BC	18%	35%	24%	65%

Support for closing borders highest in Turkey, India, Hungary, the US and Italy; among lowest in Canada

“We must close our borders to refugees entirely - we can’t accept any at this time”

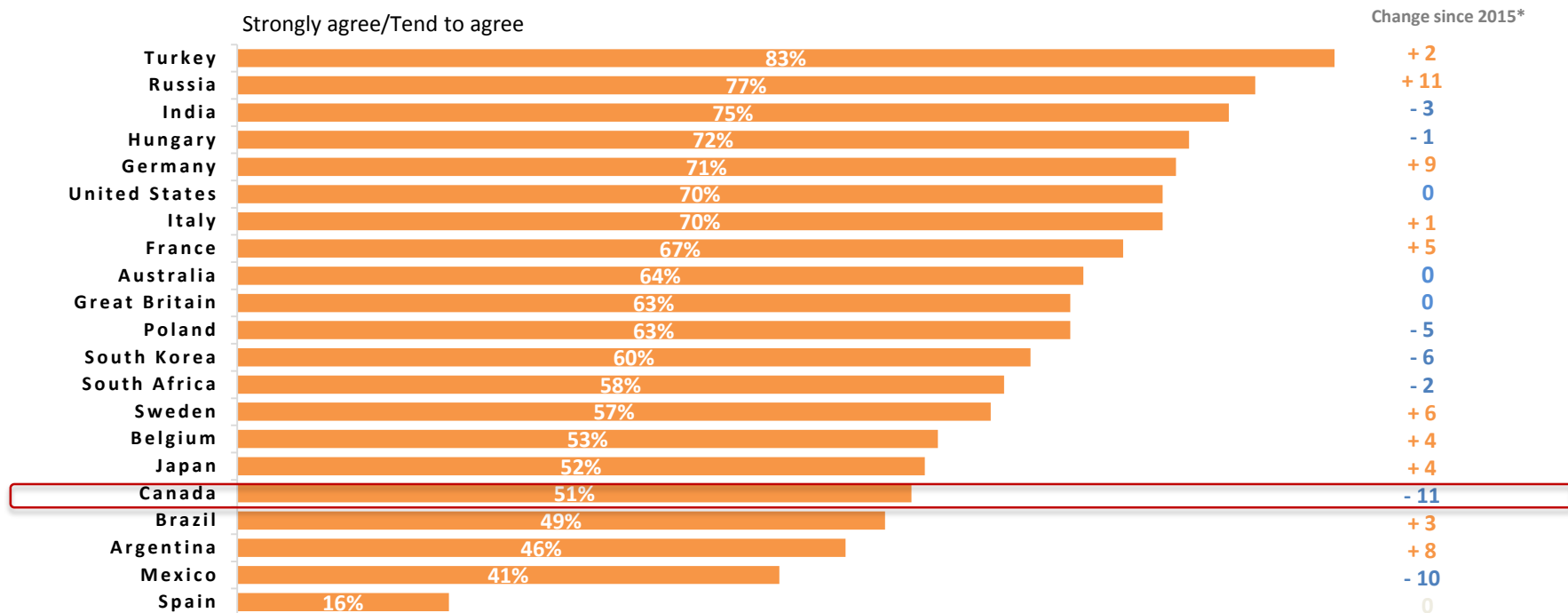


Base: 16,040 adults aged 16-64 across Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United States., July 2016

*Trends from 2015 calculated by repercentaging 2016 figures to exclude don't knows

Majority in most countries believe terrorists are pretending to be refugees, less but still a majority in Canada

“There are terrorists pretending to be refugees who will enter my country to cause violence and destruction”



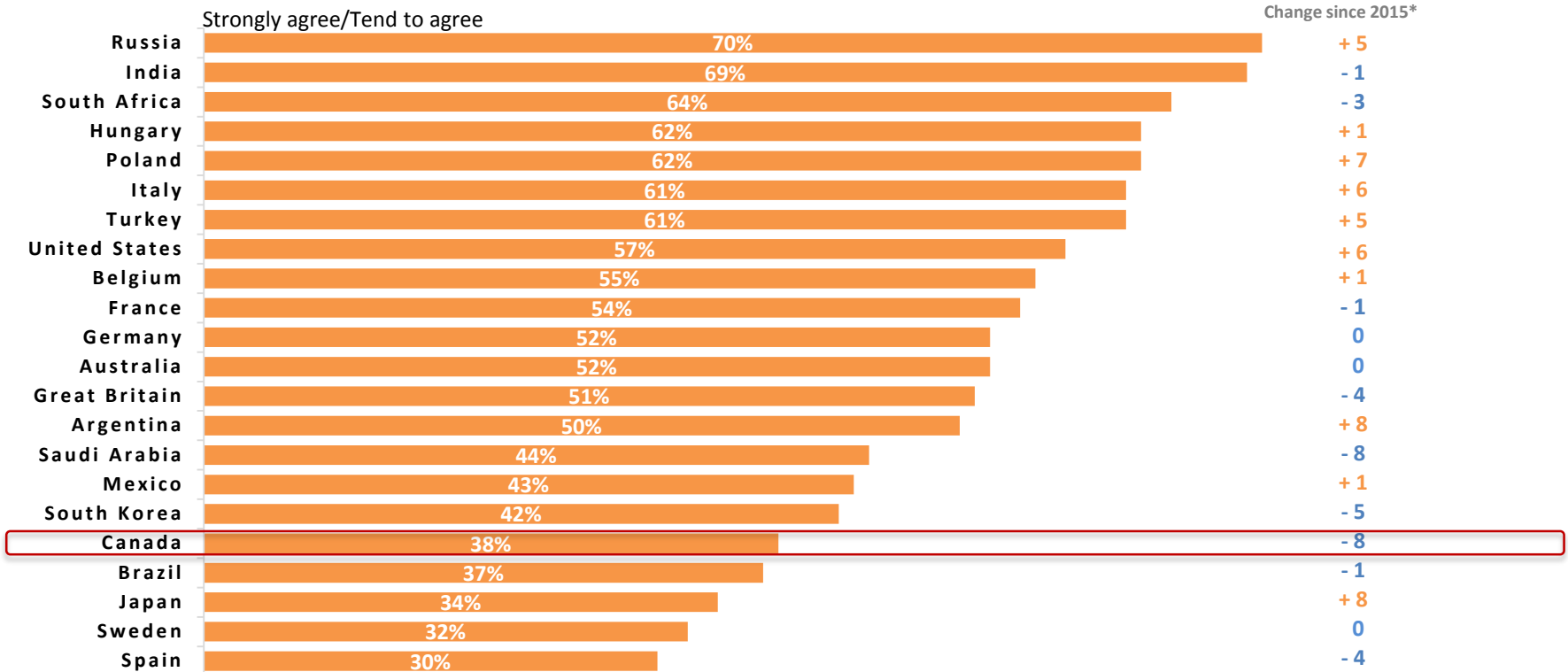
Base: 15,040 adults aged 16-64 across Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United States., July 2016

*Trends from 2015 calculated by repercentaging 2016 figures to exclude don't knows

Majority in most countries doubt whether refugees really are refugees;

Canadians less skeptical

“Most foreigners who want to get into my country as a refugee really aren’t refugees. They just want to come here for economic reasons, or to take advantage of our welfare services”

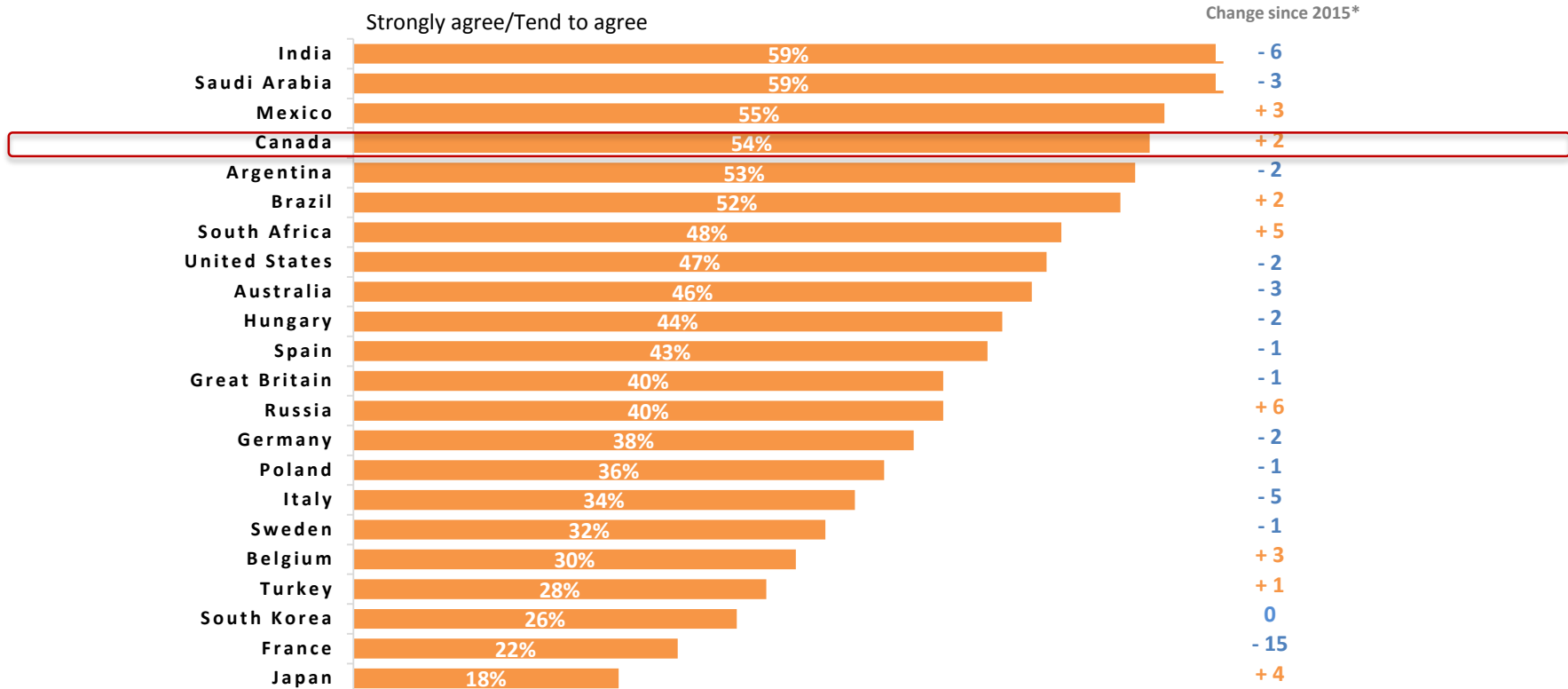


Base: 16,040 adults aged 16-64 across Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United States., July 2016

*Trends from 2015 calculated by repercentaging 2016 figures to exclude don't knows

European countries tend to be less confident about integration; Canada more so but not overwhelming

“I’m confident that most refugees who come to my country will successfully integrate into their new society”



Base: 16,040 adults aged 16-64 across Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United States., July 2016

*Trends from 2015 calculated by repercentaging 2016 figures to exclude don't knows

DATA FOR THIS REPORT WERE TAKEN FROM IPSOS GLOBAL @DVISOR

- These are the findings of the Global @dvisor Immigration tracker 2011-2016. In total 16,040 interviews were conducted between 24 June and 8 July 2016 among adults aged 18-64 in the US and Canada, and adults aged 16-64 in all other countries.
- The survey was conducted in 22 countries around the world via the Ipsos Online Panel system. The countries reporting herein are Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United States of America.
- Between 500 and 1000+ individuals participated on a country by country basis via the Ipsos Online Panel. The sample was 1000+ in Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Spain and the United States of America. In all other countries the sample was 500+. 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 500 accurate to +/- 5.0 percentage points. For more information on Ipsos' use of credibility intervals, please visit the Ipsos website.
- In countries where internet penetration is approximately 60% or higher the data output generally reflects the overall population. Of the 22 countries surveyed online, 17 yield results that are balanced to reflect the general population: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Poland, South Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Great Britain and the United States. The 5 remaining countries surveyed – Brazil (58%), India (19%), Mexico (44%), South Africa (49%) and Turkey (51%) - have lower levels of internet connectivity and reflect online populations that tend to be more urban and have higher education/income than the general population.
- Where results do not sum to 100, this may be due to computer rounding, multiple responses or the exclusion of don't knows or not stated responses.
- Data are weighted to match the profile of the population.

CONTACTS

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