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### Majority of people want borders closed as fear about COVID-19 escalates

#### More of us now believe someone close to us will be infected by the coronavirus pandemic

**Paris, March 17, 2020 —** A majority of people across 12 nations think the borders of their country should be closed until the coronavirus outbreak is contained, according to the latest Ipsos survey.

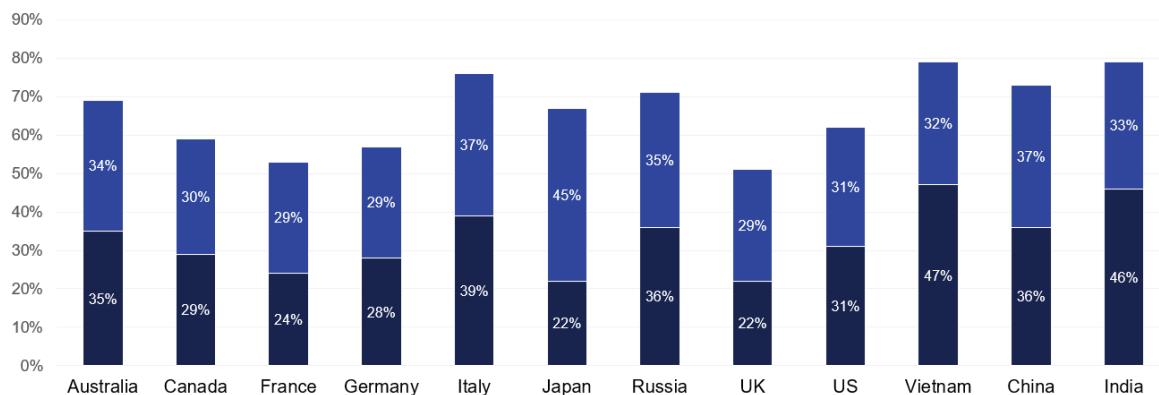
In a survey of 12,000 people across 12 major countries from March 12 to 15, countries in the Asia-Pacific region are most supportive of border closures – led by India (79%) and Vietnam (78%) – which is not surprising, given where the disease was first encountered.

More than 3 in 4 people in the world's other hot spot, Italy (76%), are also in agreement of this drastic measure followed by those in China (73%), and Russia (70%).

#### Majorities agree with the closing of borders

Who **agrees** that we should close the borders of my country and not allow anyone in or out until the virus is proven to be contained

■ Strongly agree ■ Somewhat agree



A significant driver in the growth for concern about COVID-19 is that more of us now believe someone close to us will be infected by the virus. The majority of people in Vietnam (67%), the United Kingdom (57%), India, Australia and Japan (51%) think someone close to them will get the coronavirus.

Meanwhile, the countries that saw the biggest jump in this measure from a previous poll conducted on February 28-29 are all developed markets – the U.K. (+31 points), Australia (+29), and Canada (+28).

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Significant increase in perception that someone close will be infected.



In addition to this, there's been an increase of people who think their job is under threat as the pandemic spreads. There's been a significant rise on this measure from previous polling done in Italy (63%, up 36 points) –considering closures in its economy, followed by France (44%, up 14 points) and the U.K. (33%, up 13 points).

**Perceived threat to your job or business is growing in most countries.**



Overall, the perception of the threat the pandemic poses to a country has increased with a majority of people citing it as least as a high threat in all countries, except for in Canada (32%), Russia (37%), the U.K. (45%) and Australia (46%).



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### About the Study

These are the results of an Ipsos survey conducted March 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>, 2020 on the Global Advisor online platform among 10,000 adults aged 18-74 in Canada and the United States and 16-74 in Australia, China, France, Germany, Italy, India, Japan, Russia, Vietnam and the United Kingdom. Where available, tracking results from Wave 3, conducted February 28-29, February 14-15, and February 7-9 are presented. Sample sizes are consistent wave to wave.

The sample consists of approximately 1,000 individuals in each country. The samples in Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the U.K. and the U.S. can be taken as representative of these countries' general adult population under the age of 75. The sample in China, India, Russia and Vietnam is more urban, more educated and/or more affluent than the general population and should be viewed as reflecting the views of the more "connected" segment of the population. The data is weighted so that each market's sample composition best reflects the demographic profile of the adult population according to the most recent census data.

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 precision of Ipsos online polls are calculated using a credibility interval with a poll of 1,000 accurate to +/- 3.5 percentage points. For more information on the Ipsos use of credibility intervals, please visit the Ipsos website ([www.Ipsos.com](http://www.Ipsos.com)).

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Our passionately curious research professionals, analysts and scientists have built unique multi-specialist capabilities that provide true understanding and powerful insights into the actions, opinions and motivations of citizens, consumers, patients, customers or employees. We serve more than 5000 clients across the world with 75 business solutions.

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