

Global consumer sentiment still reviving slowly

More countries show gains than losses in economic confidence, but none has recovered to pre-pandemic levels – except China

Washington, **DC**, **September 15**, **2020** — At 42.2, the Global Consumer Confidence Index is up slightly over last month (41.8). September is the fourth consecutive month showing gains-in consumer sentiment at the global level after bottoming out in June. However, the index remains 6.4 points lower than its pre-pandemic level recorded in January and nearly five points lower than its historic average spanning over 10 years.

The Global Consumer Confidence Index is the average of each of the 24 world markets' National Indices. It is based on a monthly survey of more than 17,500 adults under the age of 75 conducted on Ipsos' Global Advisor online platform.

This month, eight countries show significant growth (1.5 points or more) in their National Index: China (+3.0), Japan (+2.5), Australia (+2.5), Mexico (+2.2), South Africa (+2.1), Brazil (+1.7), Saudi Arabia (+1.7) and the United States (+1.6). Japan and Mexico have shown significant gains in each of the past two months, while Brazil has seen significant growth in the past three.

Argentina (-1.6) and Turkey (-1.7) show significant drops in their National Index this month. This is the third straight month Argentina's National Index (33.4) has dropped and the lowest point since the beginning of the pandemic. At 31.5, Turkey's National Index is not the lowest it has been since the beginning of pandemic, but lower than any pre-pandemic year.

National Index Trends

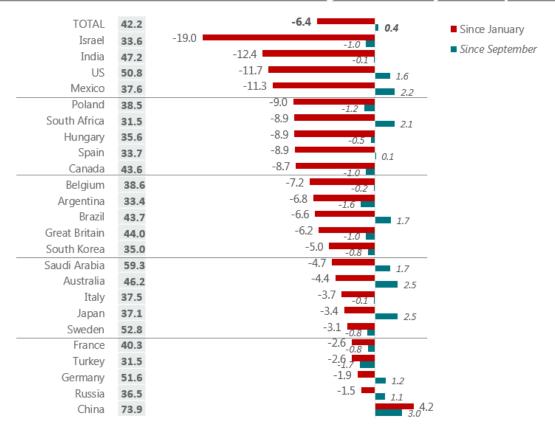
Compared to January, every single country's National Index is down except for China's (+4.2). The National Index of four countries (Israel, India, the U.S., and Mexico) is down by over ten points vs. January and that of fifteen other countries is down by between five and ten points.

- While 11 of the 24 countries surveyed had a National Index higher than 50 back in January, this is now the case of only five countries: China (73.9), Saudi Arabia (59.3), Sweden (52.8), Germany (51.6) and the U.S. (50.8).
- At the other end of the spectrum, six countries now have a National index at 35 or below, compared to just one (Turkey) in January: South Korea (35.0), Spain (33.7), Israel (33.6), Argentina (33.4), South Africa (31.5) and Turkey (31.5).





October 2020 National Index and Change vs. January and September



Expectations, Jobs, and Investment Index Trends

At a global level, each of the Jobs Index (+0.3), the Expectations Index (+0.2), and the Investment Index (+0.6) shows a small growth over the last month.

- The Jobs Index, indicative of confidence in job security and the employment outlook (48.0 globally), is showing significant gains in seven countries (compared to five last month, nine in August, six in July, and none in June). It is down significantly in only two countries, continuing a trend (it was down in 14 countries in June, five in July, four in August, and two in September).
- The Expectations Index, reflective of consumers' outlook on their local economy, financial situation, and employment (52.8 globally), is up significantly in six countries for the second month.





• The Investment Index, indicative of the investment climate (36.2 globally) is up significantly in nine countries, including Brazil for the third month in a row. It is down significantly only in Argentina (-2.1), Turkey (-2.1) and Poland (-1.5). For comparison, the Investment Index showed significant drops from May to June in as many as 15 countries.

| Jobs Index (Job security confidence, job loss experience, employment outlook) | Expectations Index (Personal financial, community economy, and employment outlook) | Investment Index (Purchasing and investment confidence, personal financial situation and outlook) |
|--|--|--|
| Global Average: 48.0 | Global Average: 52.8 | Global Average: 36.2 |
| Change vs. September globally: +0.3 | Change vs. September globally: +0.2 | Change vs. September globally: +0.6 |
| Largest gains since September: China: +2.4 Mexico: +2.3 United States: +2.3 Brazil +1.9 South Africa: +1.9 Australia: +1.8 Largest drops since September: Sweden: -2.1 | Largest gains since September: South Africa: +4.0 Brazil: +2.7 Australia: +2.4 Mexico: +2.2 Japan: +2.0 Saudi Arabia: +2.0 Largest drops since September: Canada: -2.9 | Largest gains since September: China: +3.7 Japan: +3.5 Australia: +3.1 Mexico: +2.2 South Africa: +2.0 Saudi Arabia: +1.5 Largest drops since t September: Argentina -2.1 |
| ■ Israel: -1.7 | Great Britain: -2.2Turkey: -1.7Israel: -1.6 | ■ Turkey: -2.1 ■ Poland: -1.5 |
| Change vs. January globally: -8.5 | Change vs. January globally: -4.2 | Change vs. January globally: -6.2 |
| Largest gains since January: ■ China: +6.2 | Largest gains since January: ■ China: +6.3 | Largest gains since January: ■ China: +1.7 |
| Largest drops since January: Israel: -26.8 United States: -16.9 Canada: -14.7 Mexico: -14.6 | Largest drops since January: Israel: -15.5 Argentina: -11.3 Belgium: -7.5 Poland -6.8 | Largest drops since January: India: -16.6 Israel: -16.5 Mexico: -12.2 United States: -11.8 |





About the Study

These findings are based on data from Refinitiv /Ipsos' Primary Consumer Sentiment Index (PCSI) collected in a monthly survey of consumers from 24 markets via Ipsos' Global Advisor online survey platform. For this survey, Ipsos interviews a total of 17,500+ adults aged 18-74 in the United States of America, Canada, Israel, Turkey, South Africa; and age 16-74 in all other markets each month. The monthly sample consists of 1,000+ individuals in each of Australia, Brazil, Canada, China (mainland), France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain, Great Britain and the USA, and 500+ individuals in each of Argentina, Belgium, Hungary, India, Israel, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Sweden and Turkey.

Data collected each month are weighted so that each country's sample composition best reflects the demographic profile of the adult population according to the country's most recent census data. Data collected each month are also weighted to give each country an equal weight in the total "global" sample. Online surveys can be taken as representative of the general working age population in Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Poland, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, and the United States. Online samples in Brazil, mainland China, India, Israel, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and Turkey are more urban, more educated and/or more affluent than the general population and the results should be viewed as reflecting the views of a more "connected" population.

Sample surveys and polls may be subject to other sources of error, including, but not limited to coverage error, and measurement error. The precision of the Refinitiv/Ipsos online surveys is measured using a Bayesian Credibility Interval. Here, the poll has a credibility interval of +/- 2.0 points for countries where the 3-month sample is 3,000+ and +/- 2.9 points for countries where the 3-month sample is 1,500+. Please click on this link for more information on <u>credibility intervals</u>.

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

The results reported each month in the Refinitiv/Ipsos' Primary Consumer Sentiment Index are based only on that month's data (hence, the base for each country is 500+ or 1,000+) and comparisons are made against results from other months which are also each based on one month's data. In contrast, the results reported any given month in Ipsos's Global Consumer Confidence at-a-Glance are based on data collected not only that month, but also during to the two previous months and consist of past 3-month "rolling averages". This technique allows for tripling the sample size for each metric. Hence, the base for any country ranges from 1,500+ to 3,000+. This increases the reliability of the findings and the statistical significance of reported variations over time, However, to heighten the freshness of the findings reported any given month, the data from the same month is given a weight of 45%, the data from the previous month a lesser weight of 35%, and the data from the earliest of the three months an even lesser weight of 20%.

The Refinitiv/Ipsos Primary Consumer Sentiment Index (PCSI), ongoing since 2010, is a monthly survey of consumer attitudes on the current and future state of local economies, personal finance situations, savings and confidence to make large investments. The PCSI metrics reported each month for each of the 24 countries surveyed consist of a "Primary Index" based on all 11 questions below and of several "sub-indices" each based on a subset of these 11 questions. Those sub-indices include an Expectations Index; Investment Index; and, Jobs Index.





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