

WHAT WORRIES THE WORLD

Global summary report

February 2021



GAME CHANGERS



<https://www.ipsos.com/en/what-worries-world-february-2021>

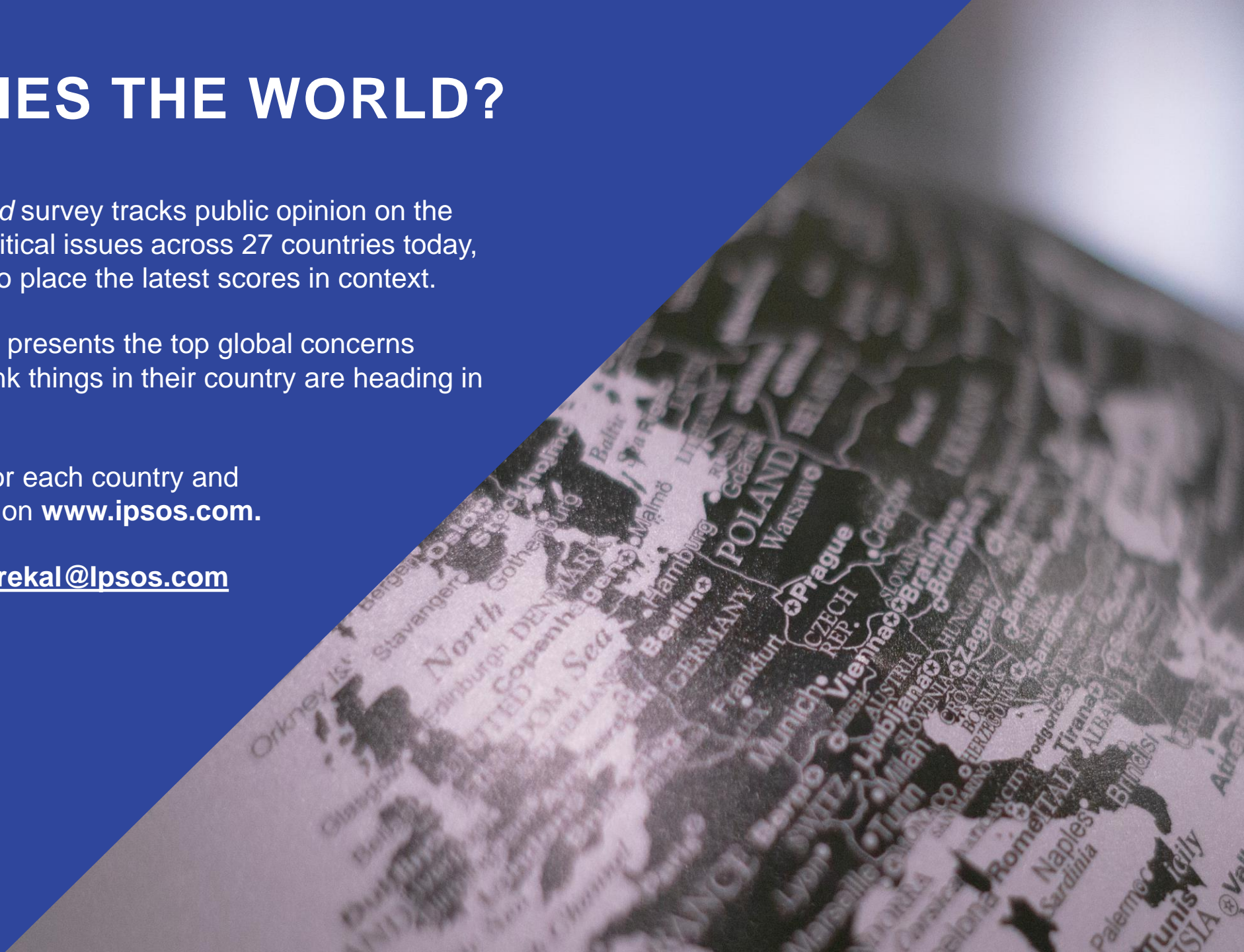
WHAT WORRIES THE WORLD?

Ipsos' *What Worries the World* survey tracks public opinion on the most important social and political issues across 27 countries today, drawing on 10 years of data to place the latest scores in context.

This **global summary report** presents the top global concerns 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**.

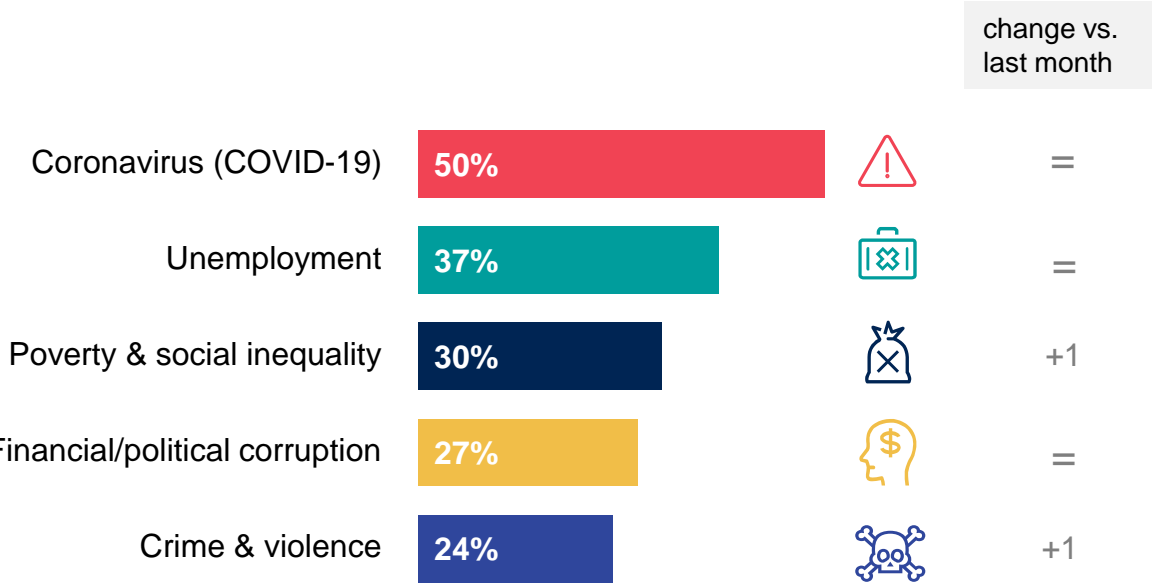
Please contact **Teodros.Gebrekal@ipsos.com** for more information.



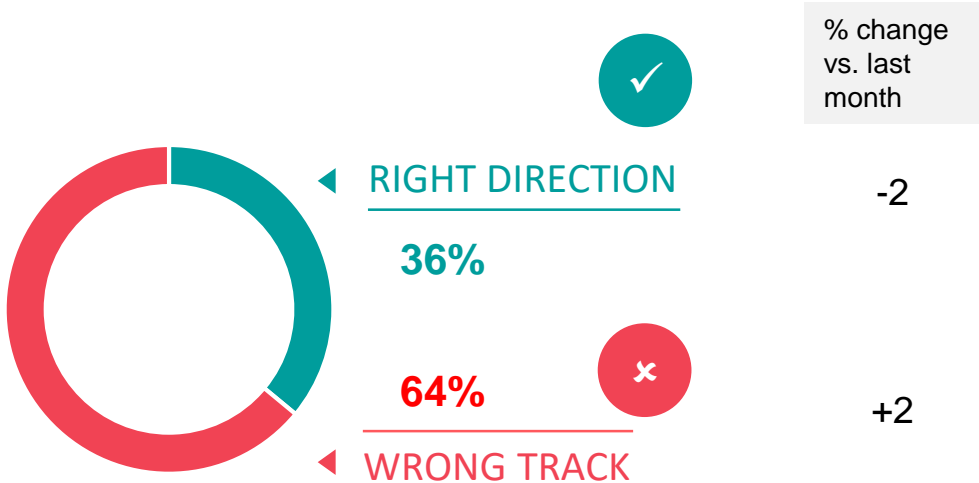
WHAT WORRIES THE WORLD? FEBRUARY 2021

Coronavirus remains the top concern since April 2020. The global average from our 27-country survey shows that one in two consider COVID-19 to be one of the most worrying issues facing their country today. Meanwhile, almost two-thirds (64%) say things in their country are on the “wrong track”.

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

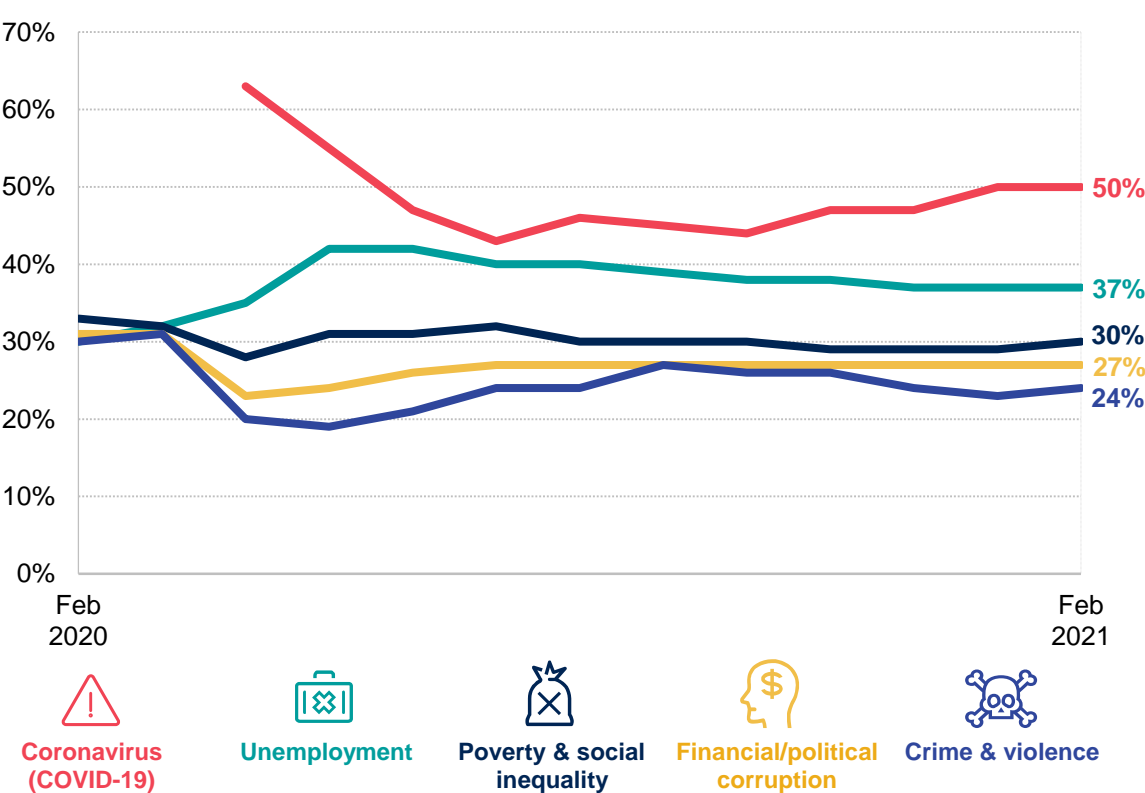


Base: Representative sample of 19,520 adults aged 16-74 in 27 participating countries, January 18th 2021 – February 5th 2021.

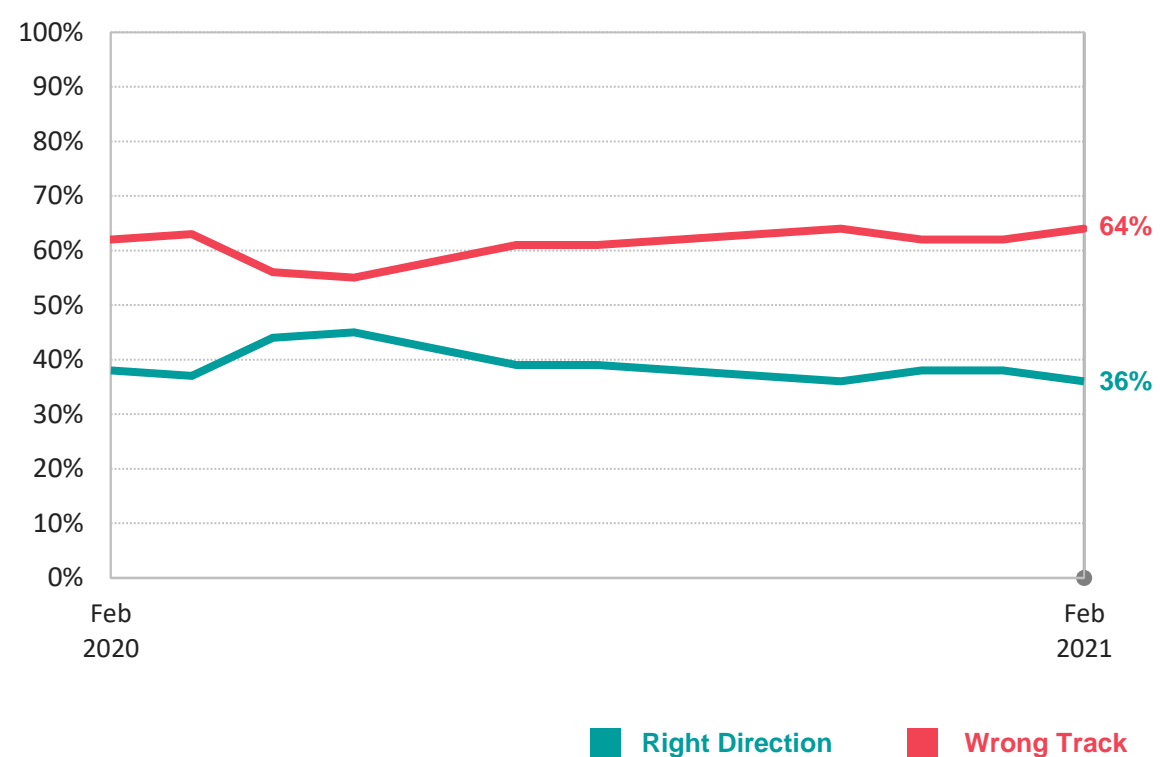
Source: Ipsos Global Advisor. *Global score is a Global Country Average. See methodology for details.*

WHAT WORRIES THE WORLD? 12-MONTH TREND

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



Base: Representative sample of 19,520 adults aged 16-74 in 27 participating countries, January 18th 2021 – February 5th 2021.
Source: Ipsos Global Advisor. *Global score is a Global Country Average. See methodology for details.*

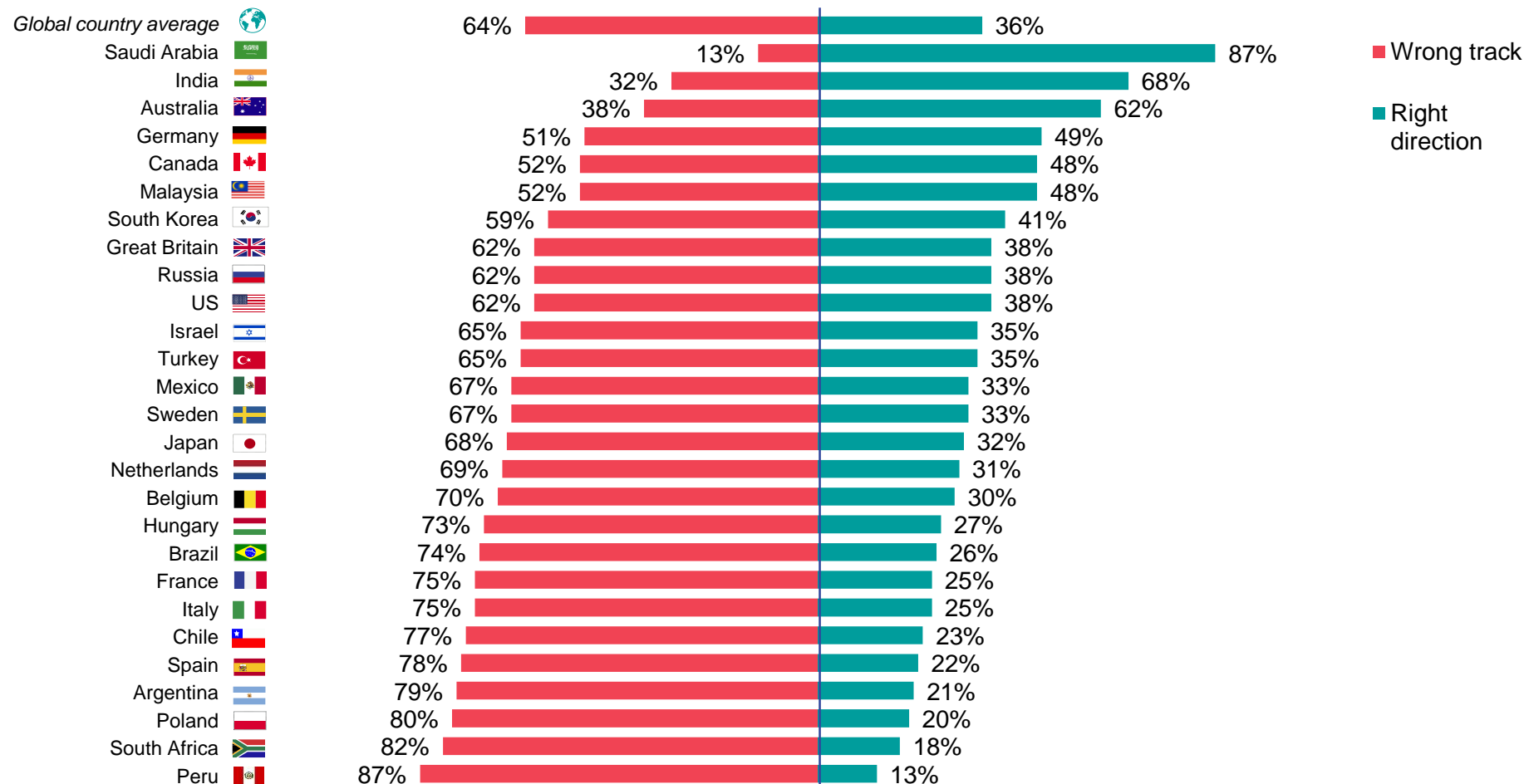


DIRECTION OF TRAVEL **ALL COUNTRIES**



RIGHT DIRECTION VS. WRONG TRACK MONITOR

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



Across the 27 nations, almost two-thirds (64%) on average, and a majority in 24 countries, say that things in their country are on the wrong track.

This view is most widely shared by those in Peru (87%), South Africa (82%) and Poland (80%). Three-quarters or more in Argentina, Spain, Chile, Italy and France also say that things heading in the wrong direction.

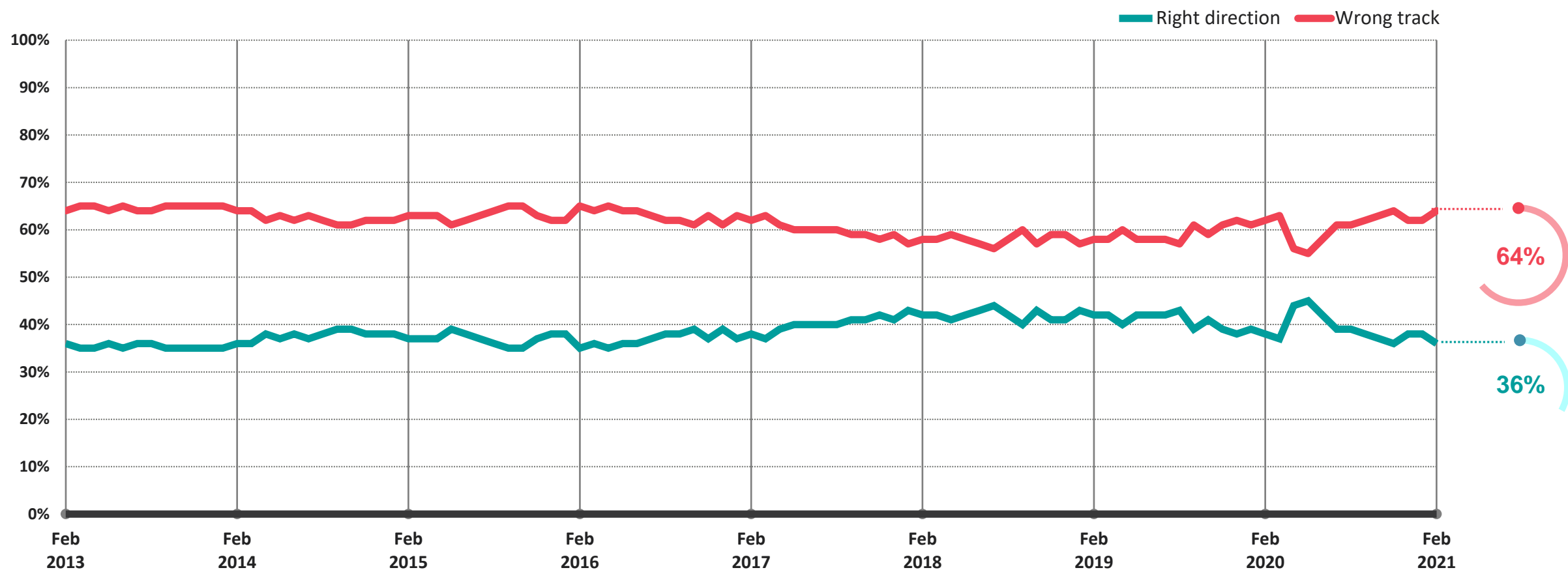
In both Belgium and Spain, those saying their country is on the “wrong track” has increased by 10 percentage points since the last month. On the other hand, the percentage saying things are heading in the right direction in the US is up 13 points.

Base: Representative sample of 19,520 adults aged 16-74 in 27 participating countries, January 18th 2021 – February 5th 2021.

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

GLOBAL: RIGHT DIRECTION/WRONG TRACK

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



Base: Representative sample c. 20,000 adults aged 16-74 in 27 participating countries, 2013 - 2021.

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

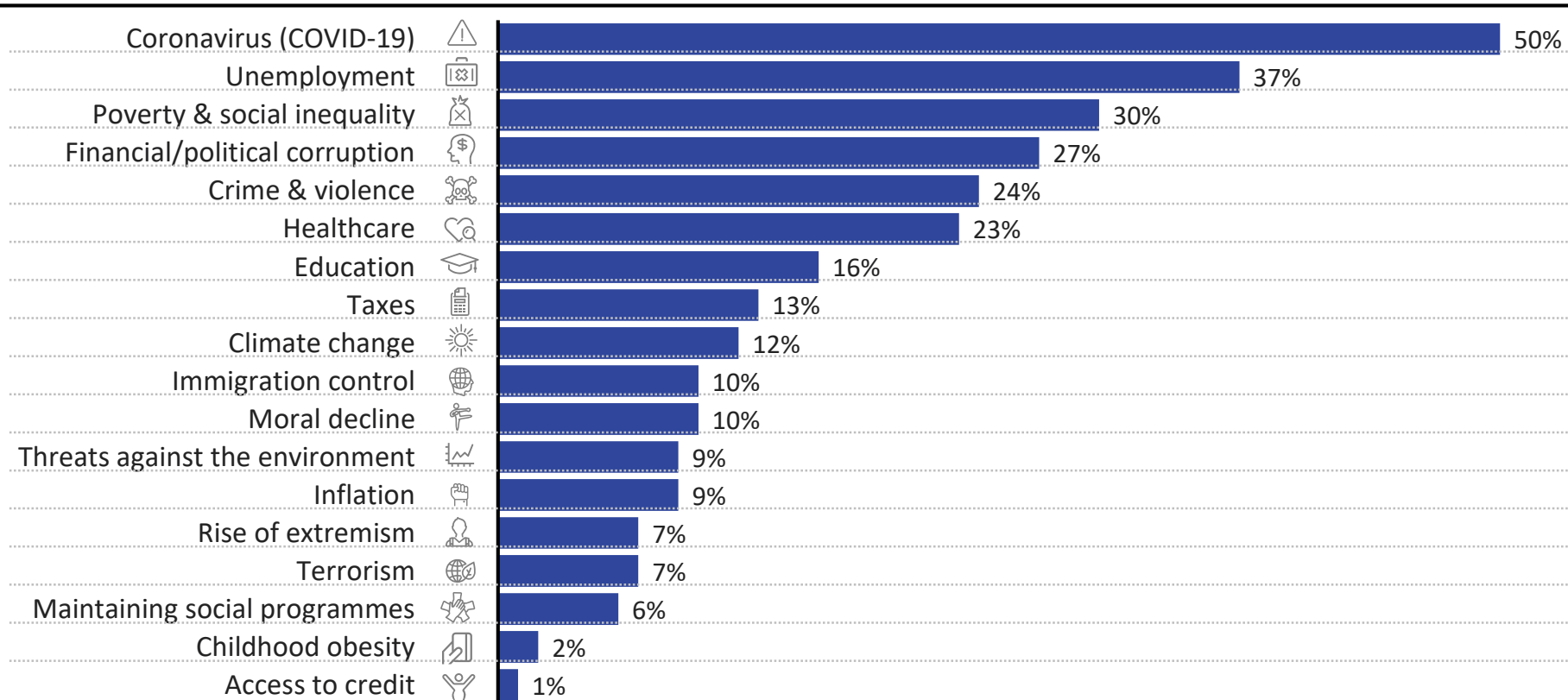
WORRIES THE WORLD? TOP ISSUES RANKED



WORLD WORRIES: THE FULL LIST

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

% mentioned in February 2021 (global country average)



Our full ranking of the 18 issues in our survey gives an overview of what people in 27 countries worry about today.

Half of our respondents worldwide (50%) say that COVID-19 is one of the top issues facing their country.

Unemployment is the second greatest issue across all countries at 37%, followed by Poverty & social inequality (30%) and Financial/political corruption (27%).

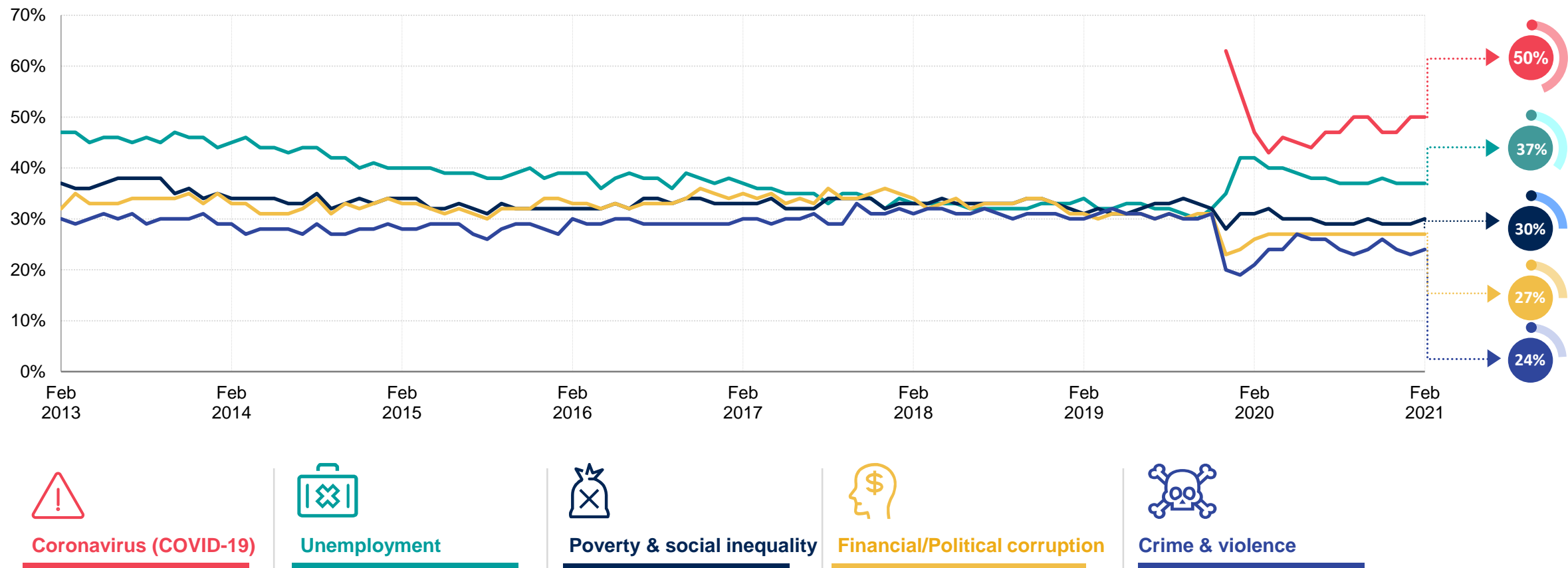
Crime & violence is the fifth top issue this month (24%), with Healthcare just behind (23%).

Base: Representative sample of 19,520 adults aged 16-74 in 27 participating countries, January 18th 2021 – February 5th 2021.

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

WORLD WORRIES: LONG-TERM TREND

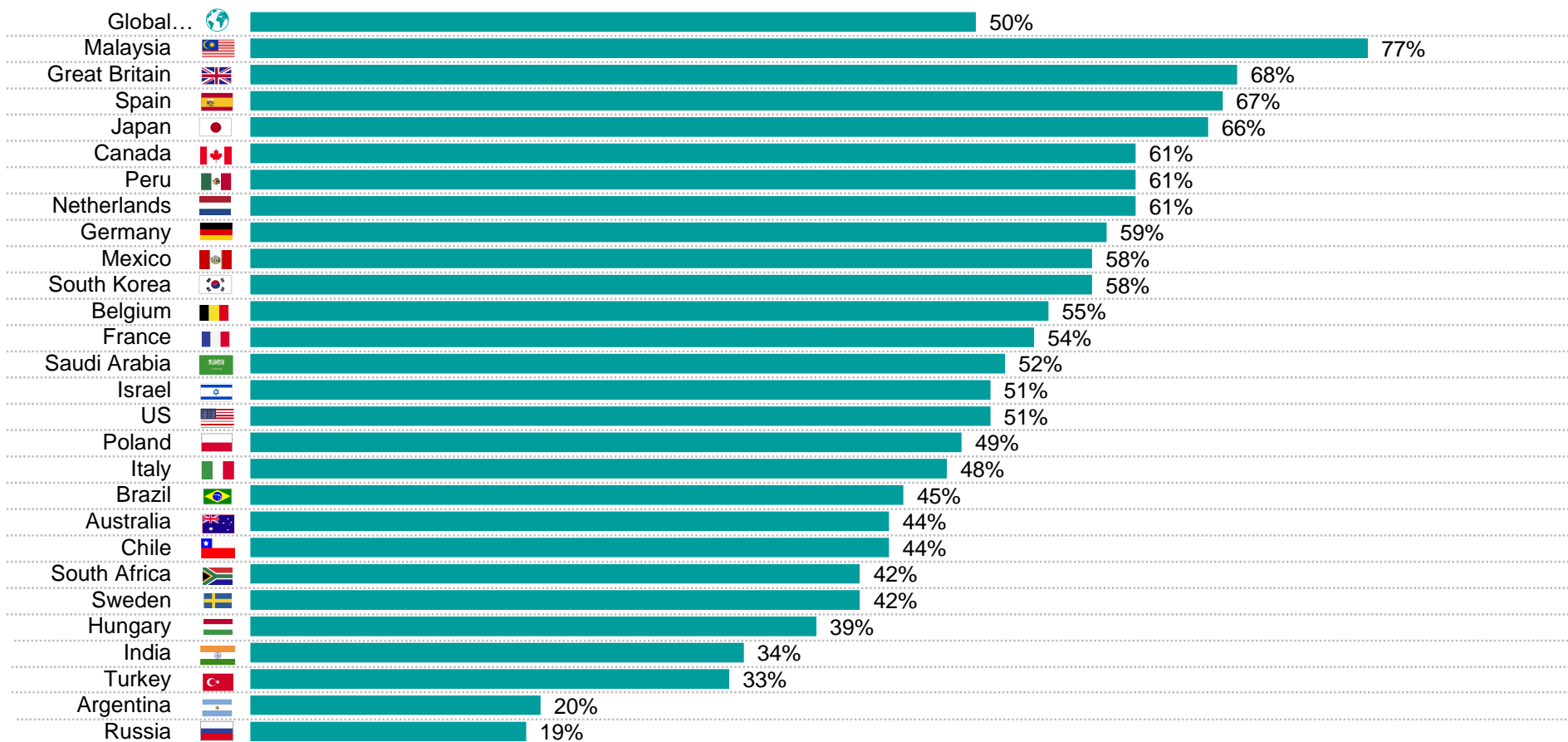
Q Which three of the following topics do you find the most worrying in your country?



Base: Representative sample c. 20,000 adults aged 16-74 in 27 participating countries, 2013 - 2021.
Source: Ipsos Global Advisor. *Global score is a Global Country Average. See methodology for details.*

1 | CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19)

(%) worried in February 2021 in each country



One in two (50%) worldwide say Coronavirus is one of the biggest issues facing their country today, level with last month.

With over three-quarters (77%) of the public selecting COVID-19 as a top issue, Malaysia is the country showing highest levels of concern about the pandemic this month.

Two-thirds of respondents also say this is a top issue in Great Britain (68%), Spain (67%) and Japan (66%).

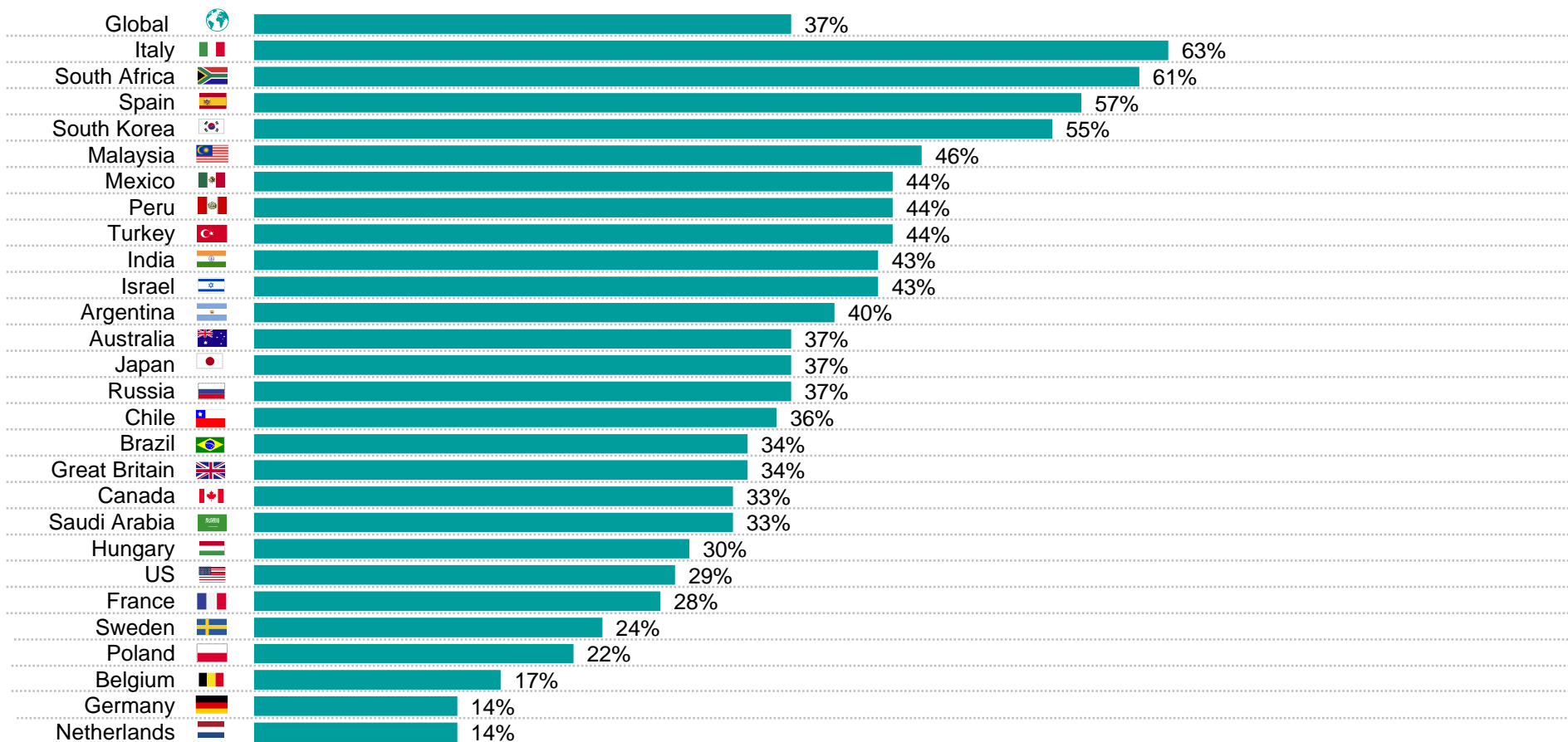
The largest month-on-month increases are seen in Belgium (+11 points), France (+10) and Israel (+10).

Base: Representative sample of 19,520 adults aged 16-74 in 27 participating countries, January 18th 2021 – February 5th 2021.

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

2 | UNEMPLOYMENT AND JOBS

(%) worried in February 2021 in each country



Unemployment is currently the second greatest worry worldwide with 37% selecting it as one of the most important issues facing their country today.

Unemployment is currently ranked second in our survey. On average across all countries, 37% select it as one of the most important issues facing their country today.

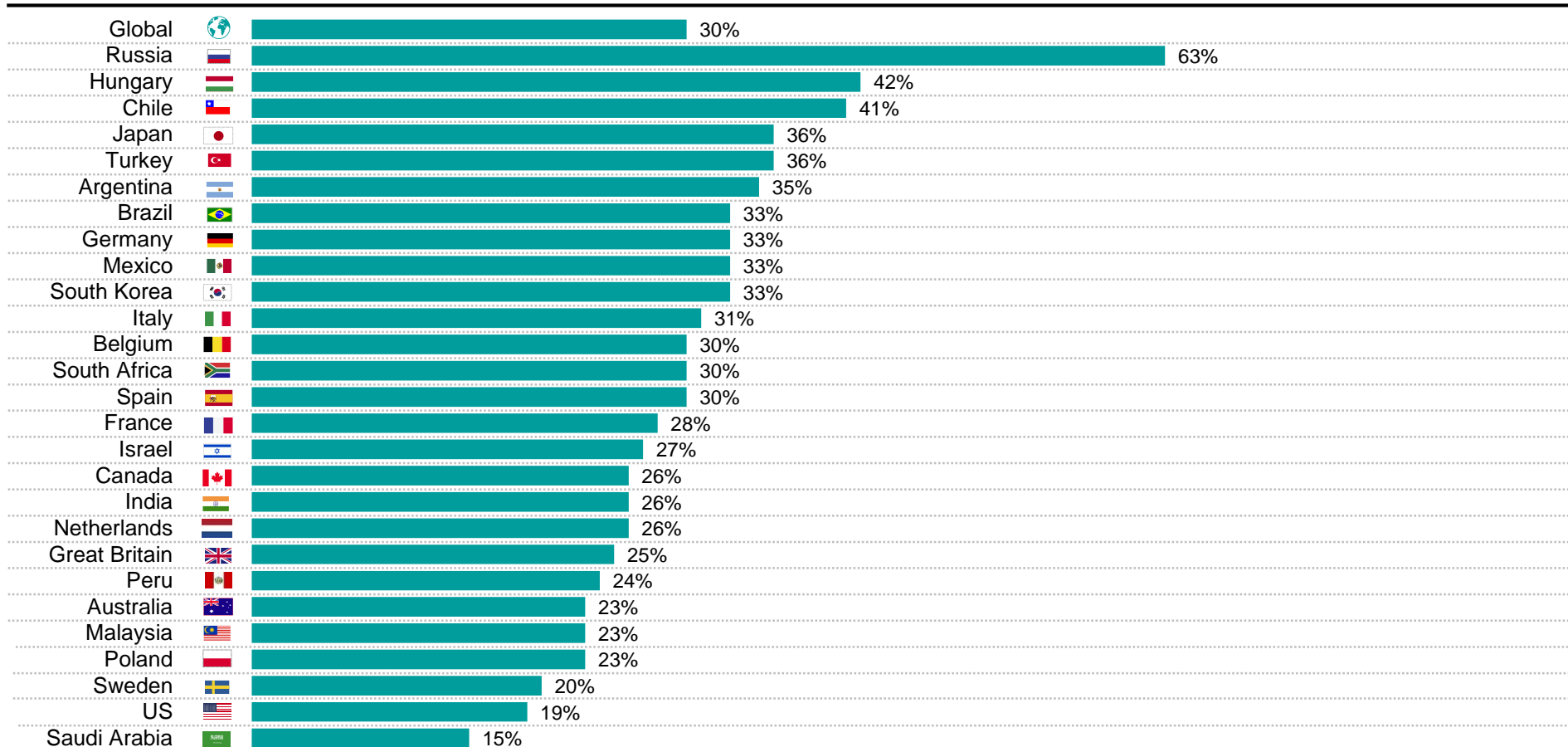
With a similar proportion in South Africa (61%), the country ranks second of all 27 when it comes to concern about Unemployment. Spain remains in third with 57%.

Base: Representative sample of 19,520 adults aged 16-74 in 27 participating countries, January 18th 2021 – February 5th 2021.

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

3 | POVERTY & SOCIAL INEQUALITY

(%) worried in February 2021 in each country



Base: Representative sample of 19,520 adults aged 16-74 in 27 participating countries, January 18th 2021 – February 5th 2021.

Source: Ipsos Global Advisor

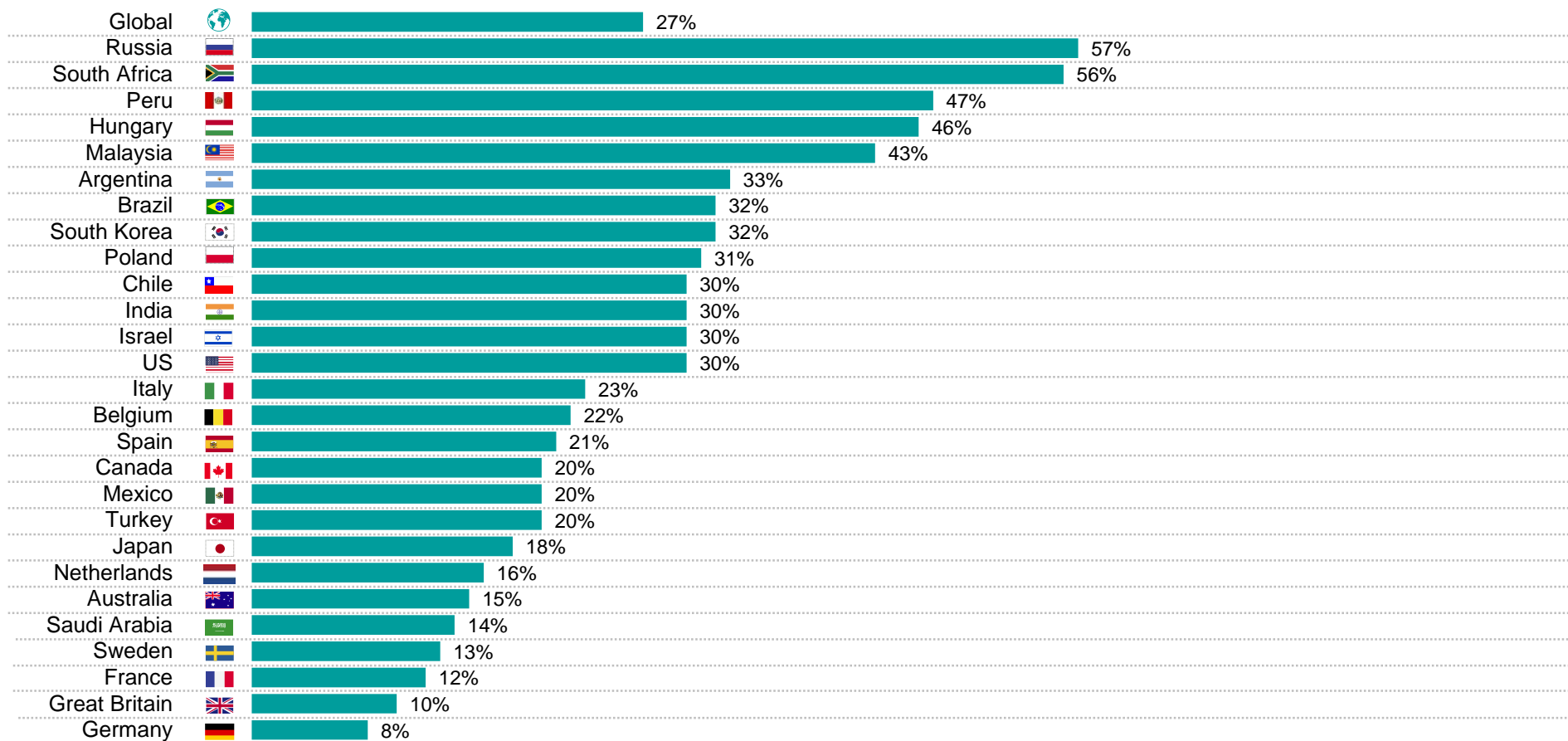
Three in ten on average across all nations say Poverty & social inequality is one of the top issues in their country today.

Russia continues to be most concerned nation in our survey. Last month's 6-point increase is repeated in February, moving reported concern up from 51% in December 2020 to 63% today.

Other countries showing increased recent concern about Poverty & social inequality include Japan (+6 points to 36%), Poland (+6 points to 23%) and Malaysia (+5 points to 23%).

4 | FINANCIAL/POLITICAL CORRUPTION

(%) worried in February 2021 in each country



Base: Representative sample of 19,520 adults aged 16-74 in 27 participating countries, January 18th 2021 – February 5th 2021.

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

Financial/Political Corruption is the fourth greatest global concern, with 27% on average saying it is one of the big issues facing their country today.

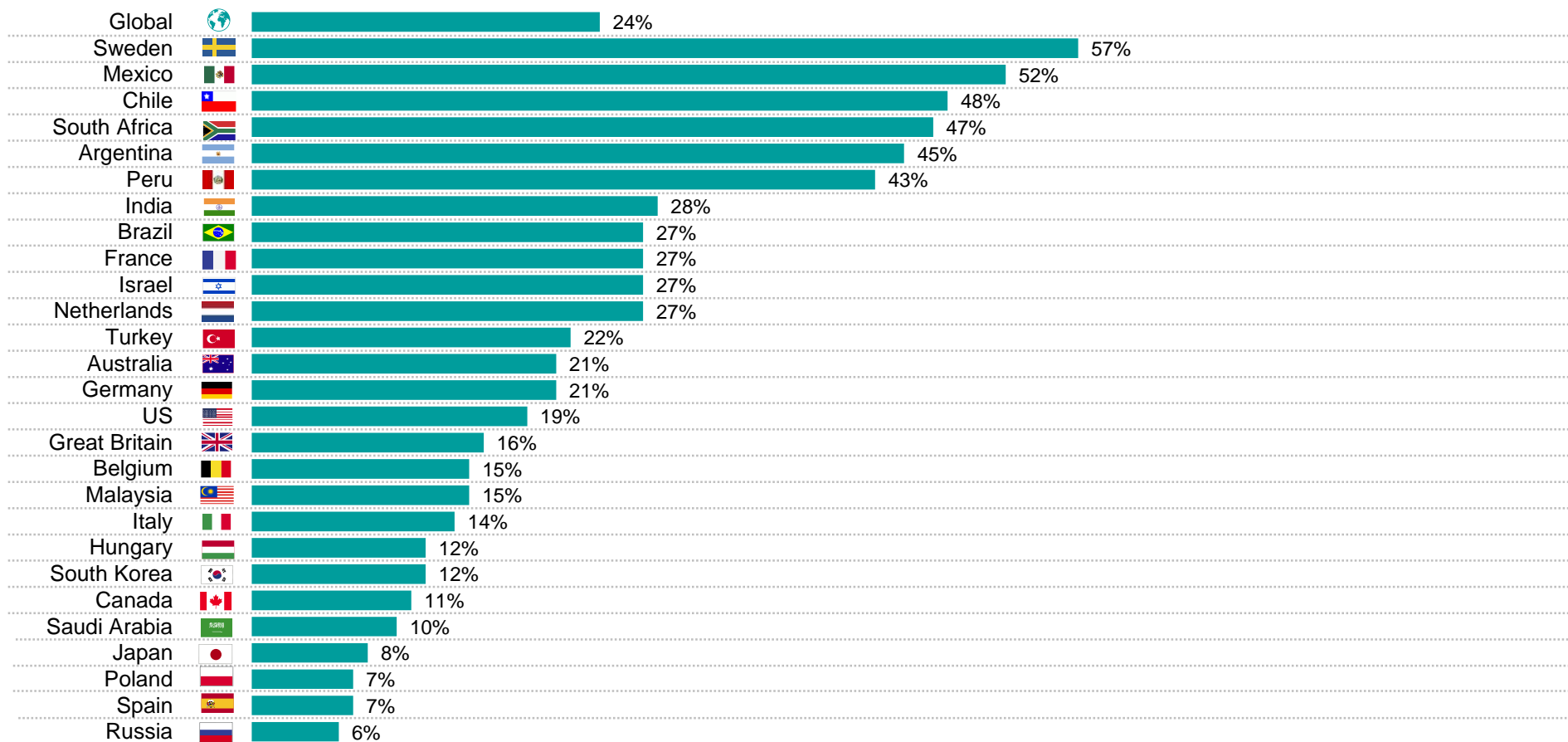
Russia is also at the top of the table on this issue: 57% select corruption as an important concern, a 9-point increase vs. January 2021.

South Africa is just behind Russia's score with 56% of citizens saying this is a top concern.

Peru, Hungary and Malaysia complete the five nations most worried about Financial/Political corruption.

5 | CRIME & VIOLENCE

(%) worried in February 2021 in each country



Crime & violence is the 5th top issue of concern in February with an average of 24% across all countries selecting this. Healthcare, which was fifth in January, is just behind with 23%.

This month, Crime & violence is the number one concern in Argentina, Chile and Sweden.

Although Crime & violence has been the top worry in Mexico since 2016, in February it is overtaken by COVID-19.

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

ECONOMIC FOCUS



IPSOS GLOBAL ECONOMIC OUTLOOK SURVEY

Running alongside our *What Worries the World* survey, Ipsos' Global Consumer Confidence study asks the public in 27 countries questions relating to the economy and finance, on a country and personal level.

The following slides use some of this data to provide extra information on the public view of the present economic climate and future expectations in 27 countries.

Find out more on our consolidated global economic indicator portal: <https://www.ipsosglobalindicators.com/>

Please contact: Nicolas.Boyon@Ipsos.com for more information.



ECONOMIC FOCUS

A majority in most of the 27 countries surveyed say that the current economic situation in their country is “bad”.

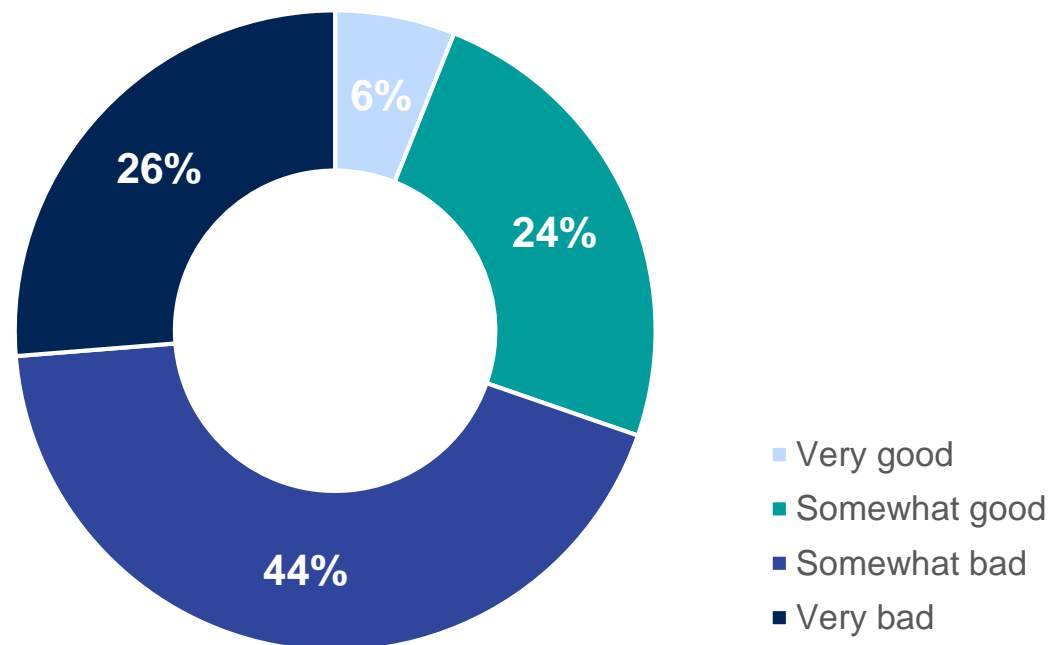
Q

How would you describe the economic situation in your country?

Global country average

Good: 30%

Bad: 70%



We find a broadly negative outlook as **seven in 10** (according to our global country average) consider the **economic situation in their country to be “bad”** while three in 10 say it is “good”.

People are more likely to rate their country’s economy as “very” or “somewhat” good in:

1. Saudi Arabia (89%)
2. India (68%)
3. Sweden (60%)
4. Australia (57%)
5. Netherlands (51%)

The nations where larger majorities say their country’s economy is “very” or “somewhat” bad are:

1. Argentina (93%)
2. Japan (92%)
3. Spain (89%)
4. Peru (89%)
5. Italy (89%)

Base: Representative sample of 19,520 adults aged 16-74 in 27 participating countries, January 18th 2021 – February 5th 2021.

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

ECONOMIC FOCUS

Looking ahead six months, people around the world are split on whether the local economy will improve.

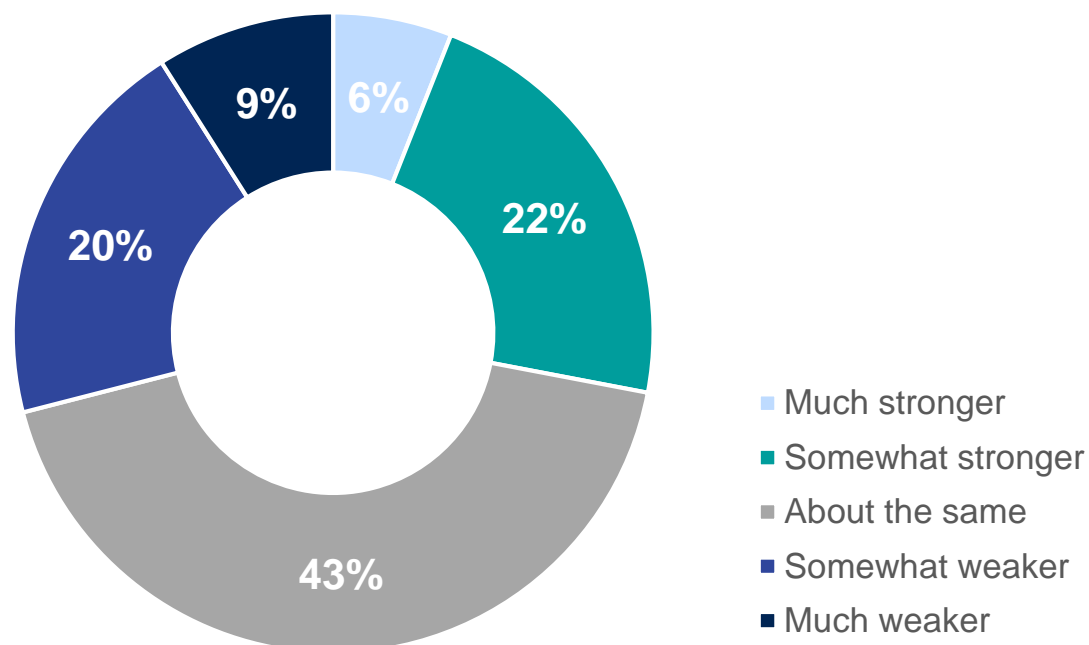
Q Six months from now, do you expect the economy in your local area to be...

Global country average

Stronger: 28%

The same: 43%

Weaker: 29%



Our global country average of the public's economic expectations in 27 countries finds similar proportions expecting the local economy to get stronger (28%) and weaker (29%).

More people say the economy will be "much" or "somewhat" stronger in:

1. Saudi Arabia (73%)
2. India (61%)
3. Brazil (54%)
4. Mexico (41%)
5. Peru (41%)

The following countries have larger segments of the public saying the economy will be "much" or "somewhat" weaker:

1. Japan (52%)
2. France (49%)
3. Belgium (45%)
4. Poland (43%)
5. South Korea (41%)

Base: Representative sample of 19,520 adults aged 16-74 in 27 participating countries, January 18th 2021 – February 5th 2021.

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

METHODOLOGY

This 27-country Global Advisor survey was conducted between January 22nd – February 5th 2021 via the Ipsos Online Panel system among 19,520 adults aged 18-74 in Canada, Israel, Malaysia, South Africa, Turkey and the United States, and 16-74 in all 21 other countries.

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, Israel, Japan, Mexico, Spain, Sweden, and the US, and approximately 500+ individuals in each of Argentina, Chile, Hungary, India, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, and Turkey.

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, India, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, and Turkey 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.

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.