INEQUALITIES AROUND THE GLOBE: WHAT THE WORLD SEES AS MOST SERIOUS

March 2021







Which types of inequality do people see as most serious?

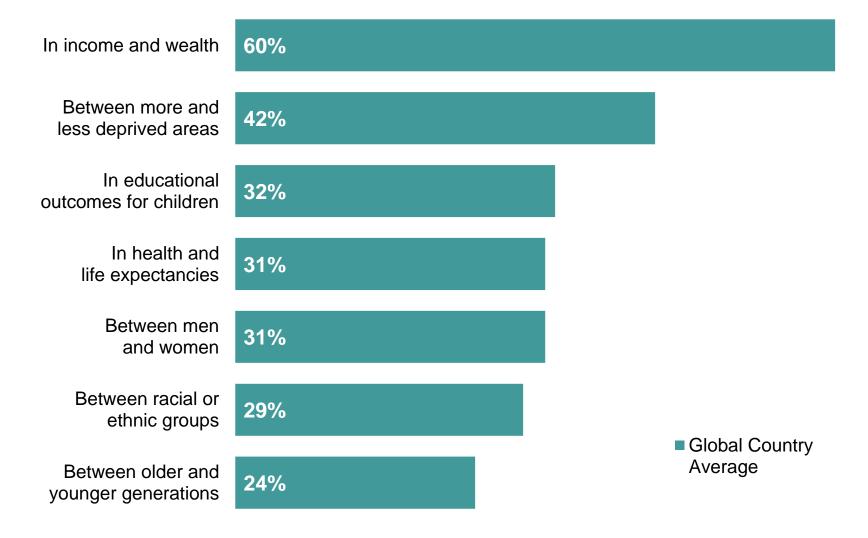






Across the 28 countries, six in ten on average say inequalities in income and wealth are seen as the most serious. Area based inequalities between more and less deprived areas seen as the second most serious.

Which three or four of the following types of inequality, if any, do you think are most serious in [country]?

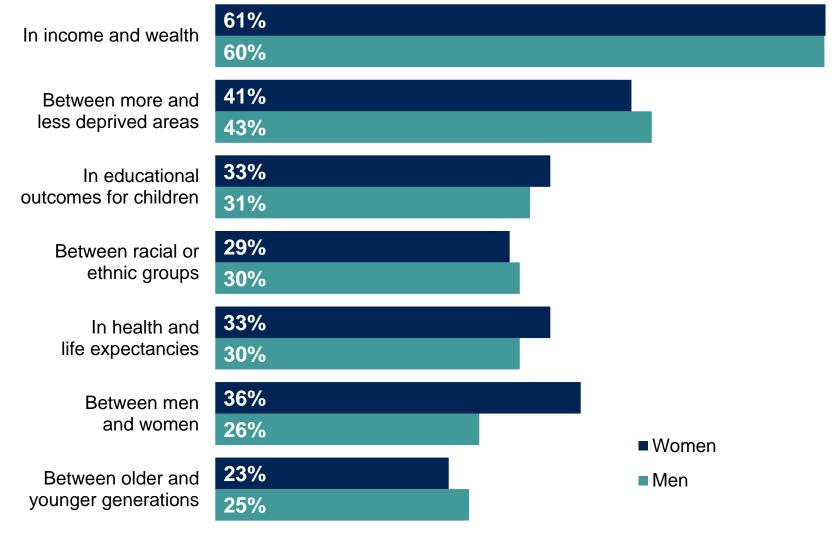






Women are more concerned than men about gender inequality and slightly more concerned about inequalities in health and life expectancies.

Which three or four of the following types of inequality, if any, do you think are most serious in [COUNTRY]?



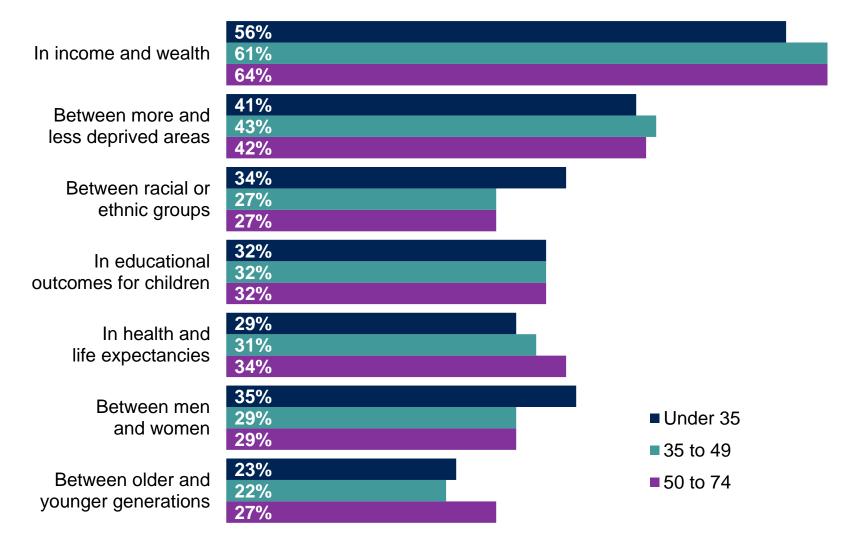




Concerns about income and wealth inequalities are higher among older people than those aged under 35.

Younger people are much more likely to be concerned about racial and ethnic inequalities and gender inequality than older people.

Which three or four of the following types of inequality, if any, do you think are most serious in [COUNTRY]?







Where countries rank on concern about different types of inequality

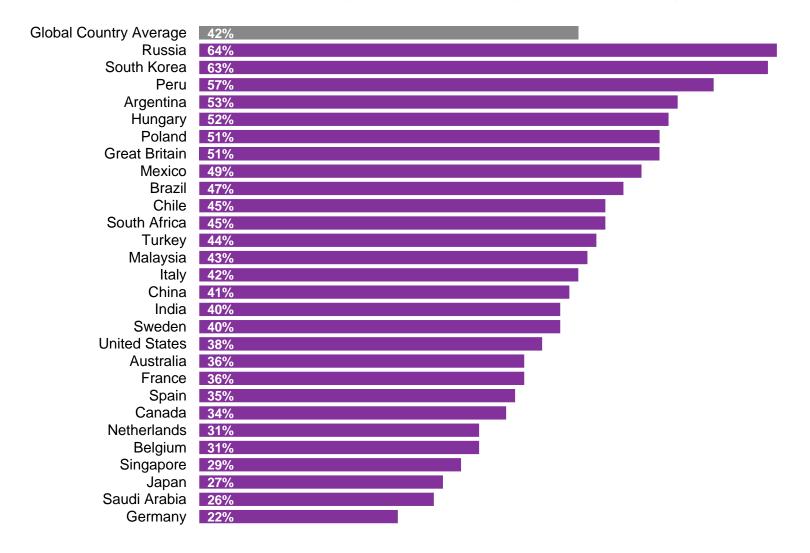




People in Russia, South Korea and Peru are much more likely than average to be concerned about inequality between more and less deprived areas.

This is far less of an issue in Germany, Saudi Arabia and Japan.

% who say inequalities between more and less deprived areas are one of the three or four most serious types of inequality in their country



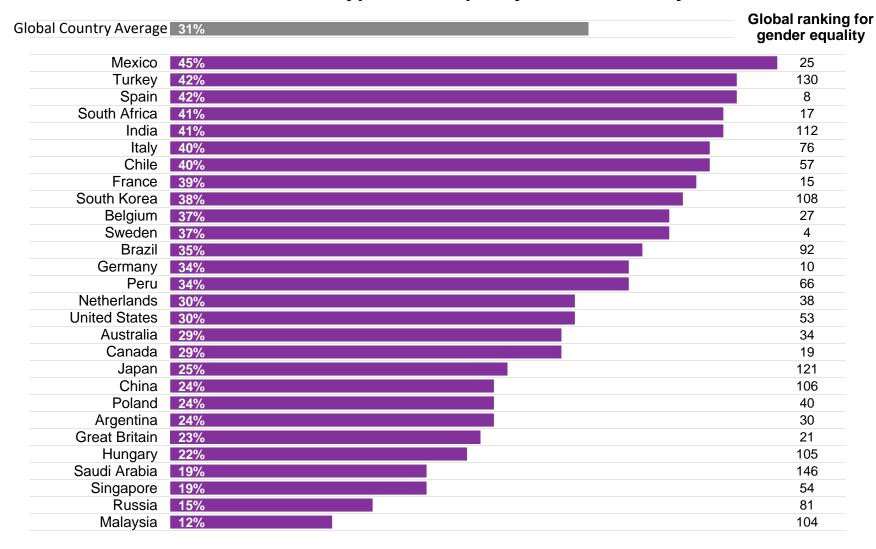




People in Mexico, Turkey and Spain are most concerned about gender inequality.

On the other hand, concern about gender inequality is relatively low in Malaysia, Russia, Saudi Arabia and Hungary – yet these countries rank relatively low down on the gender equality index.

% who say inequalities between men and women are one of the three or four most serious types of inequality in their country







Even though some countries - such as Spain, Sweden, France and Germany – rank highly on objective measures of gender equality, they still have greater levels of concern about this issue than other nations that fare much worse on this type of inequality – such as Russia, Malaysia and Saudi Arabia.

By contrast, Turkey is ranked 130th for equality between men and women one of the worst countries in the world by this measure yet people there are among the most concerned about this issue.

% who say inequalities between men and women are one of the three or four most serious types of inequality in their country







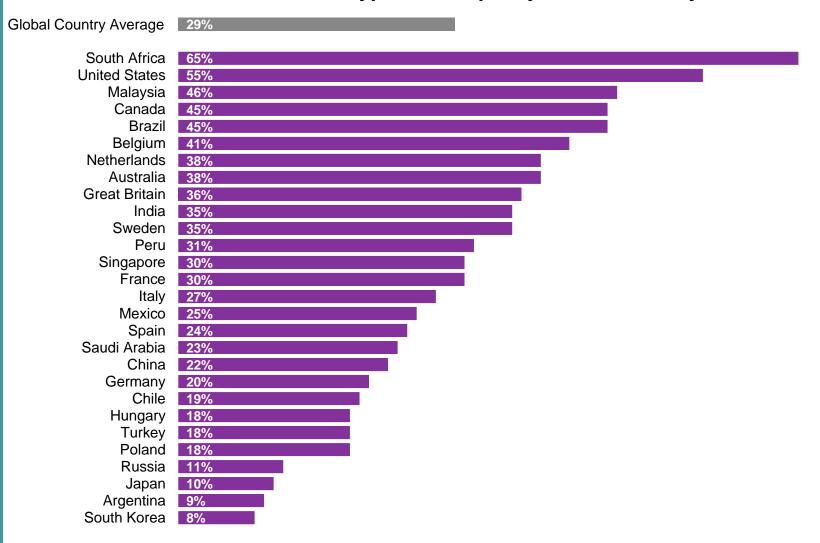
gender

country

Two-thirds of South
Africans and over half of
Americans consider racial
and ethnic inequalities to
be among the most serious
forms of inequality in their
country.

Concerns about racial and ethnic inequality are much lower in South Korea, Argentina and Japan.

% who say inequalities between racial or ethnic groups are one of the three or four most serious types of inequality in their country



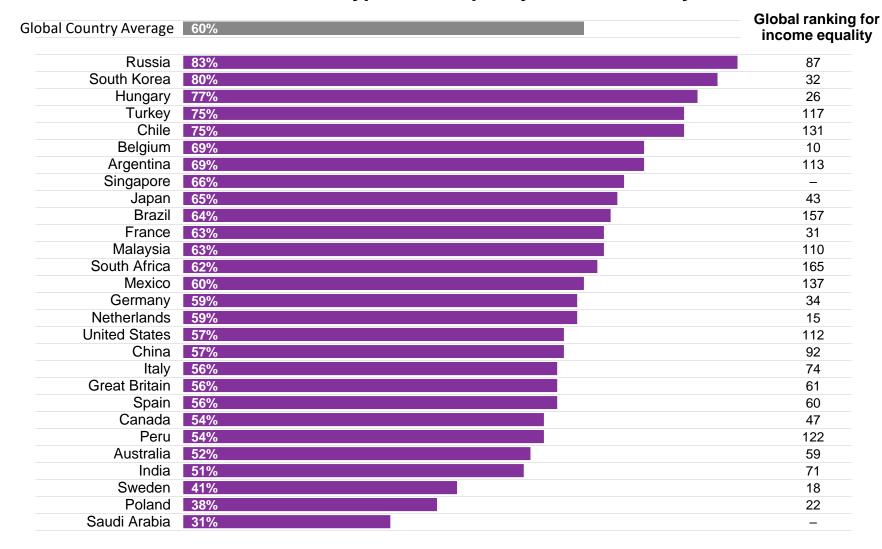




Concerns about income inequality are highest in Russia, South Korea and Hungary.

Whereas people in Saudi Arabia, Poland and Sweden are least concerned.

% who say income inequality are one of the three or four most serious types of inequality in their country







There's no overall relationship between actual inequality and how serious a problem it's seen to be relative to other inequalities.

Sweden ranks highly on objective measures of income equality. In line with this, people there have comparatively very low levels of concern about this issue.

Belgium and the Netherlands, on the other hand, rank even higher for income equality, yet those countries are much more likely to be worried about disparities in income, underscoring that how serious people perceive this type of inequality to be seems unrelated to actual performance on this issue.

This dynamic can also be seen with the US and South Africa – two countries which in reality fare very poorly on measures of income equality but nonetheless have relatively average levels of concern about it.

Selected countries' ranking for income equality vs % who say income inequality is one of the most serious types of inequality in their country



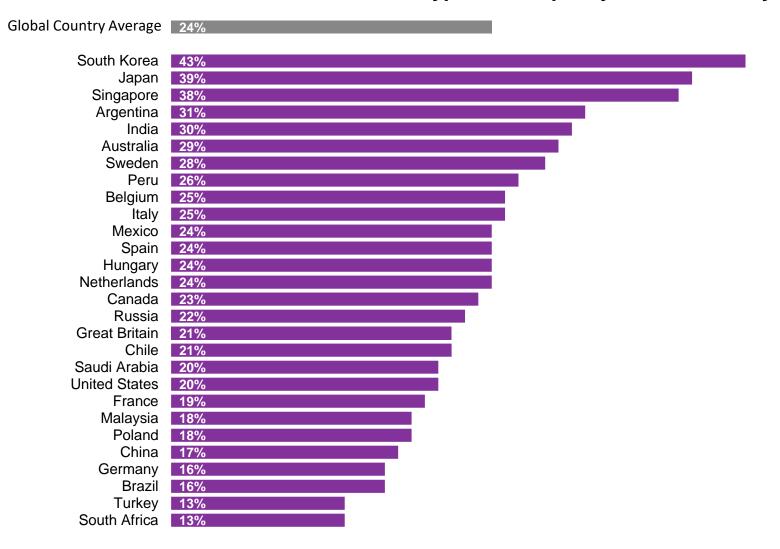




South Korea, Japan and Singapore come top for concern about generational inequality in their countries.

Levels of concern lower in South Africa, Turkey, Brazil and Germany.

% who say inequalities between older generations and younger generations are one of the three or four most serious types of inequality in their country



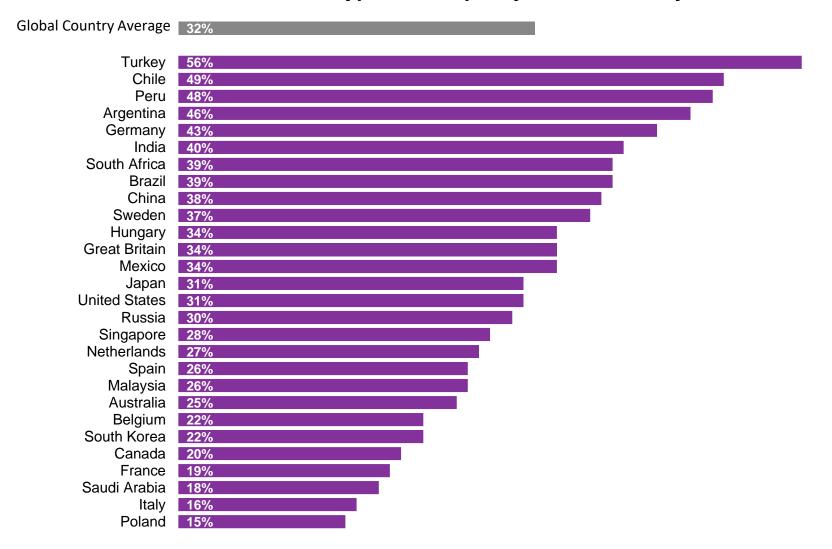




People in Turkey, Chile and Peru are most likely to think that inequalities in educational outcomes for children area among the most serious in their country.

This is much less of a concern in Poland, Italy and Saudi Arabia.

% who say inequalities in educational outcomes for children are one of the three or four most serious types of inequality in their country



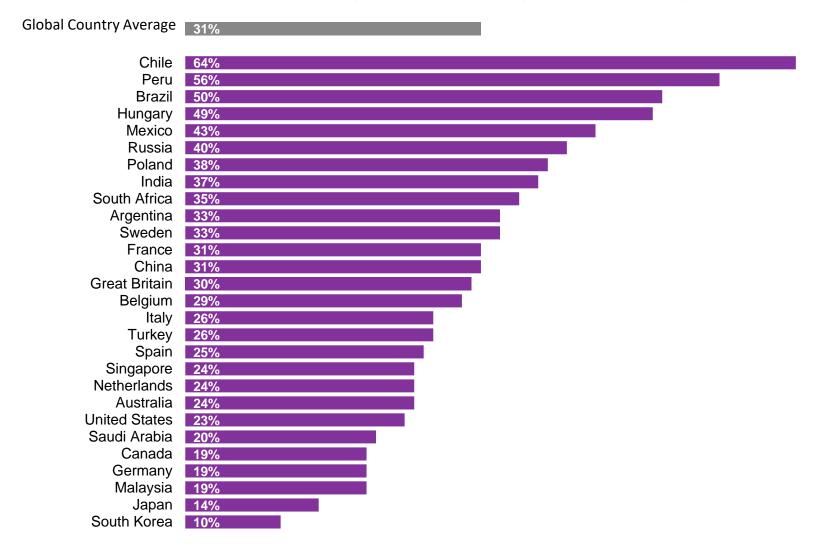




Across all the countries surveyed, people in Chile, Peru and Brazil are most likely to say health disparities are an especially problematic form of inequality in their country.

By comparison, people in South Korea, Japan and Malaysia are less than half as likely to cite such inequalities as a serious problem.

% who say inequalities in health and life expectancies are one of the three or four most serious types of inequality in their country







Technical details

These are the results of a 28-market survey conducted by Ipsos on its Global Advisor online platform. Ipsos interviewed a total of 23,004 adults aged 18-74 in the United States, Canada, Malaysia, South Africa, and Turkey, 21-74 in Singapore, and 16-74 in 22 other markets between Wednesday, December 23, 2020 and Friday, January 8, 2021.

The sample consists of approximately 1,000 individuals in each of Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, mainland China, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Spain, and the U.S., and 500 individuals in each of Argentina, Chile, Hungary, India, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Sweden, 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 U.S. can be taken as representative of their general adult population under the age of 75.

The samples in Brazil, Chile, mainland China, India, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, and Turkey are more urban, more educated, and/or more affluent than the general population. The survey results for these countries should be viewed as reflecting the views of the more "connected" segment of their population.

The data is weighted so that each country'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 know" or not stated responses.

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.

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

Sources for rankings:

Slide 8 &9: World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap Index 2020

http://www3.weforum.org/docs/WEF GGGR 2020.pdf

Slide 11 &12: Gini index ranking

https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SI.POV.GINI?most_recent_value_desc=true





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