

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

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U.S. Version

**THE
POLICY
INSTITUTE**

KING'S
College
LONDON

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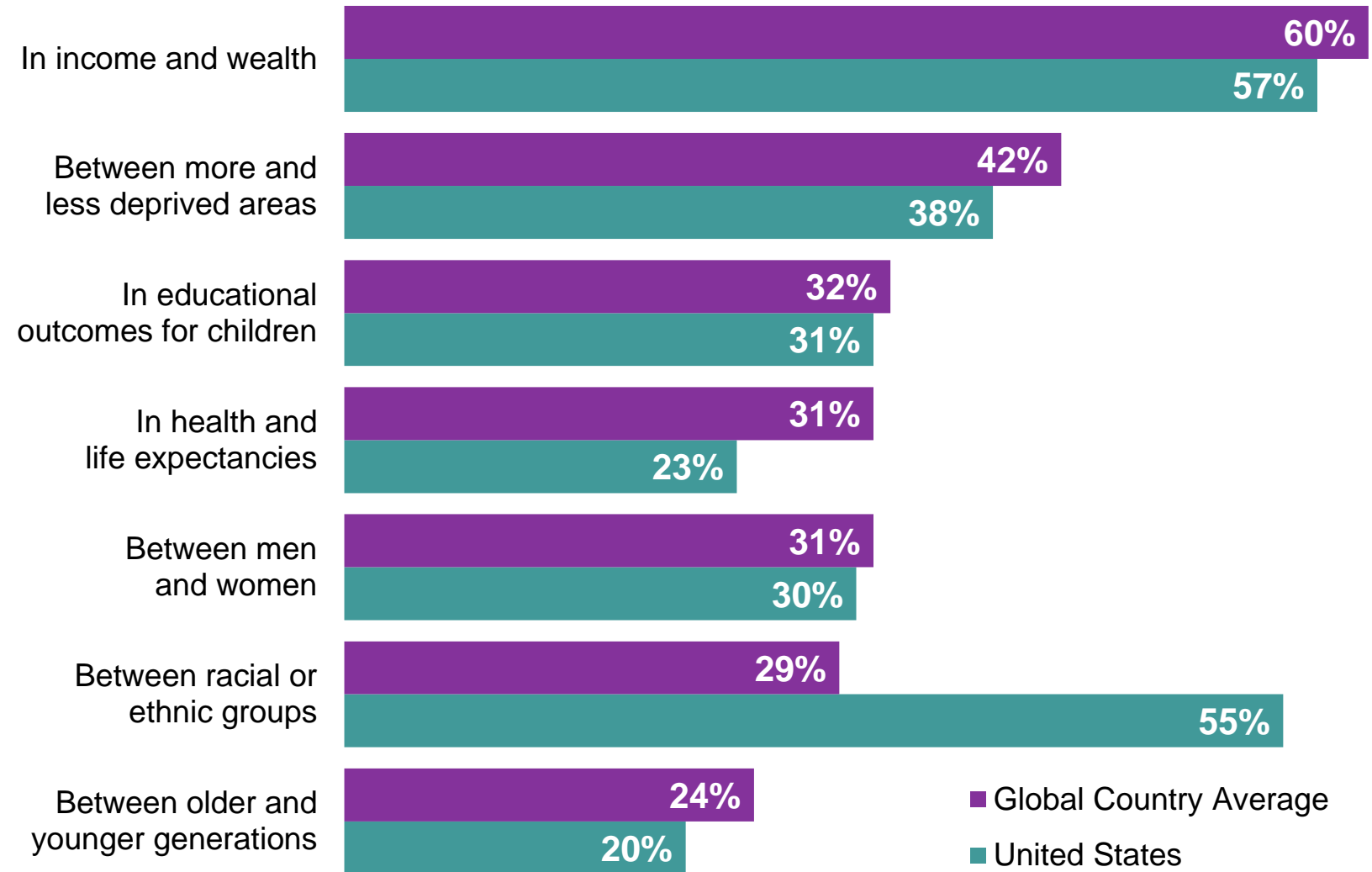
Which types of inequality do people see as most serious?



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

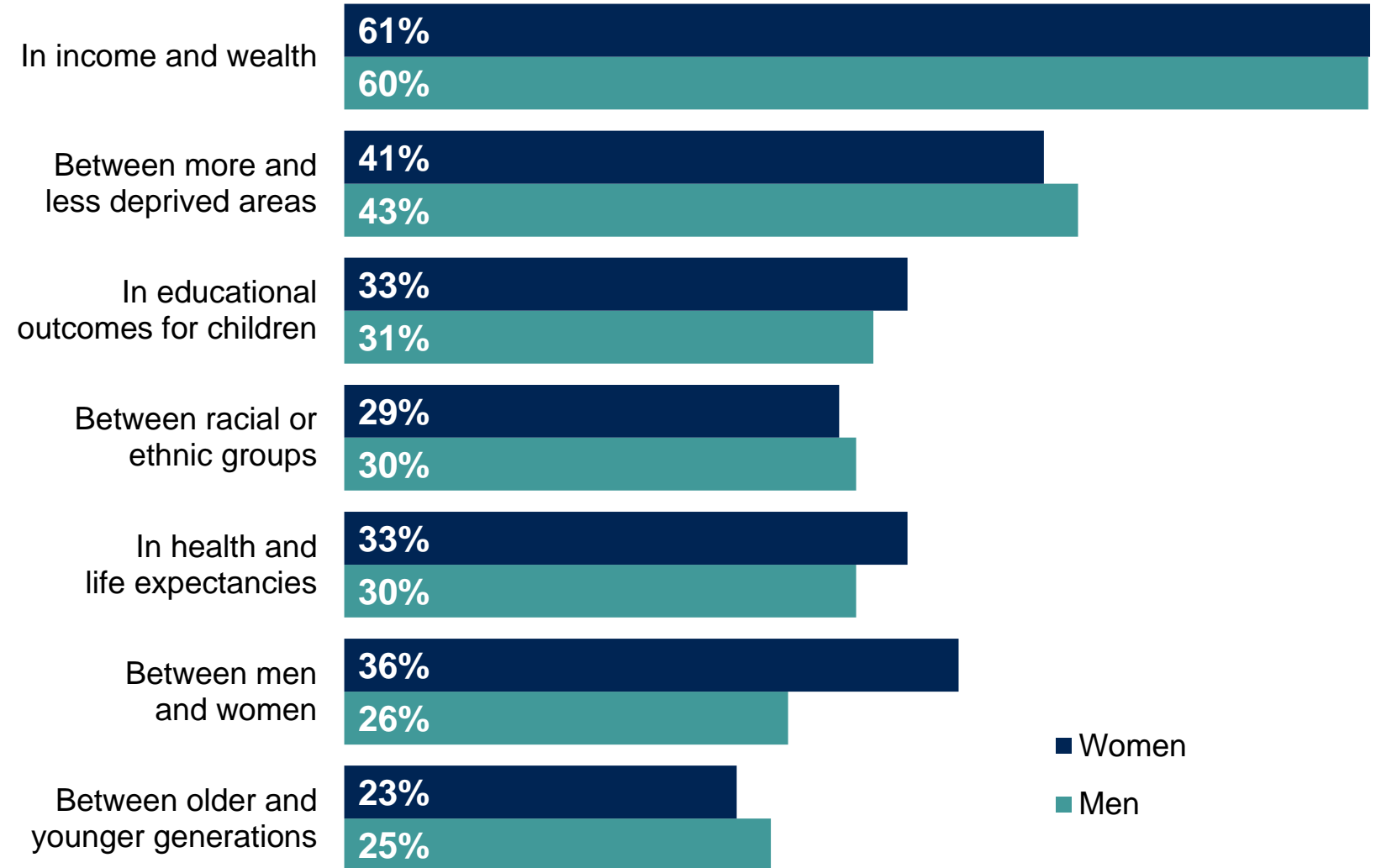
Across 28 countries surveyed, an average of six in ten adults say inequalities in income and wealth are those they see as the most serious ones. Inequalities between more and less deprived areas rank second.

Inequalities in income and wealth are also seen as the most serious ones in the U.S. (by 57%). However, Americans are almost as likely to say so of inequalities between racial or ethnic groups (55% vs. a global average of 31%).



On average across all countries surveyed, women are more concerned than men about gender inequality and slightly more concerned about inequalities in health and life expectancies.

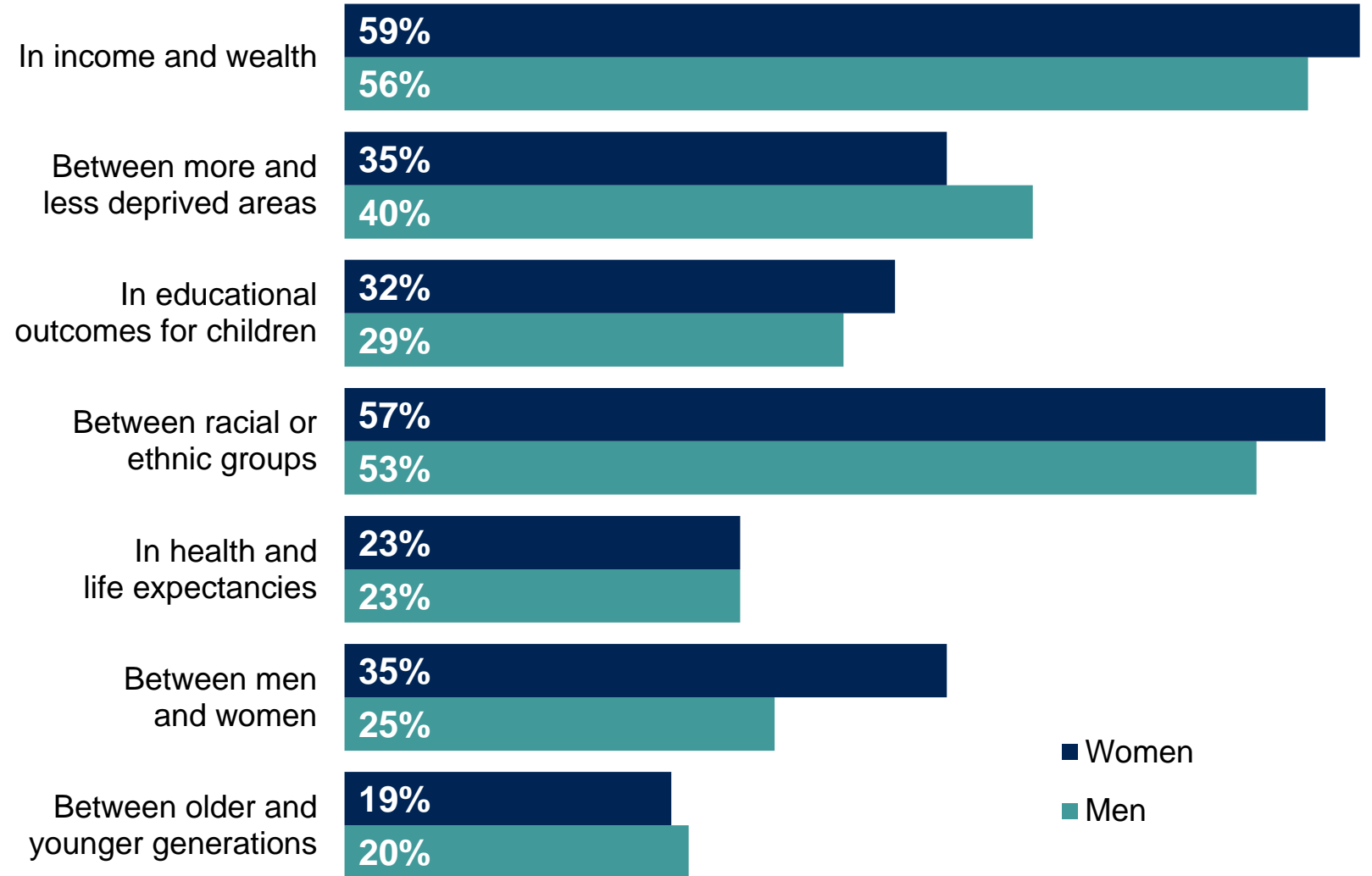
Which three or four of the following types of inequality, if any, do you think are most serious in [COUNTRY]?





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

In the U.S., as is the case on average globally, there is a 10-point difference between the percentages of women and men who are especially concerned about gender inequalities.

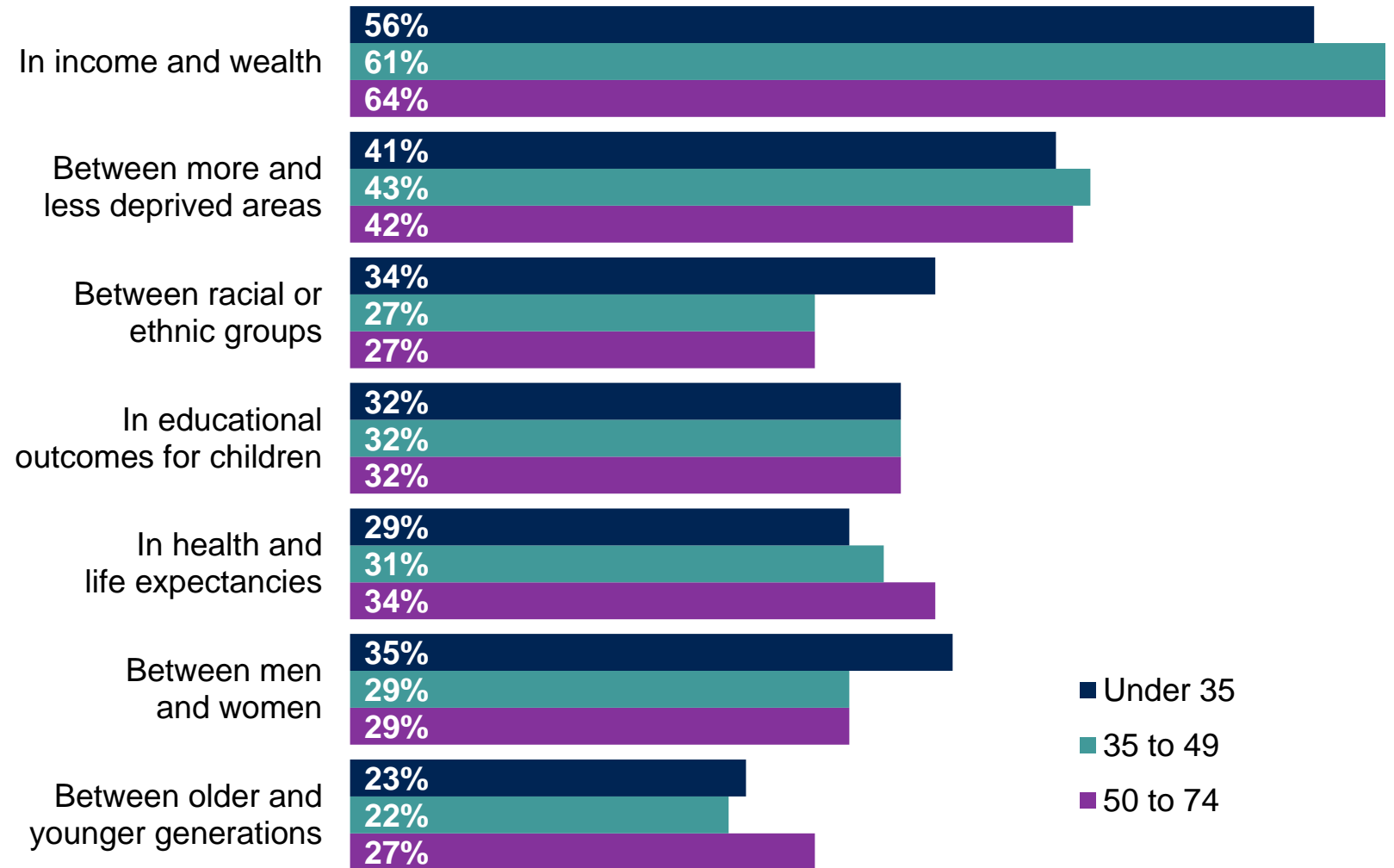




Which three or four of the following types of inequality, if any, do you think are most serious in [COUNTRY]?

On average, across the 28 countries surveyed, 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.



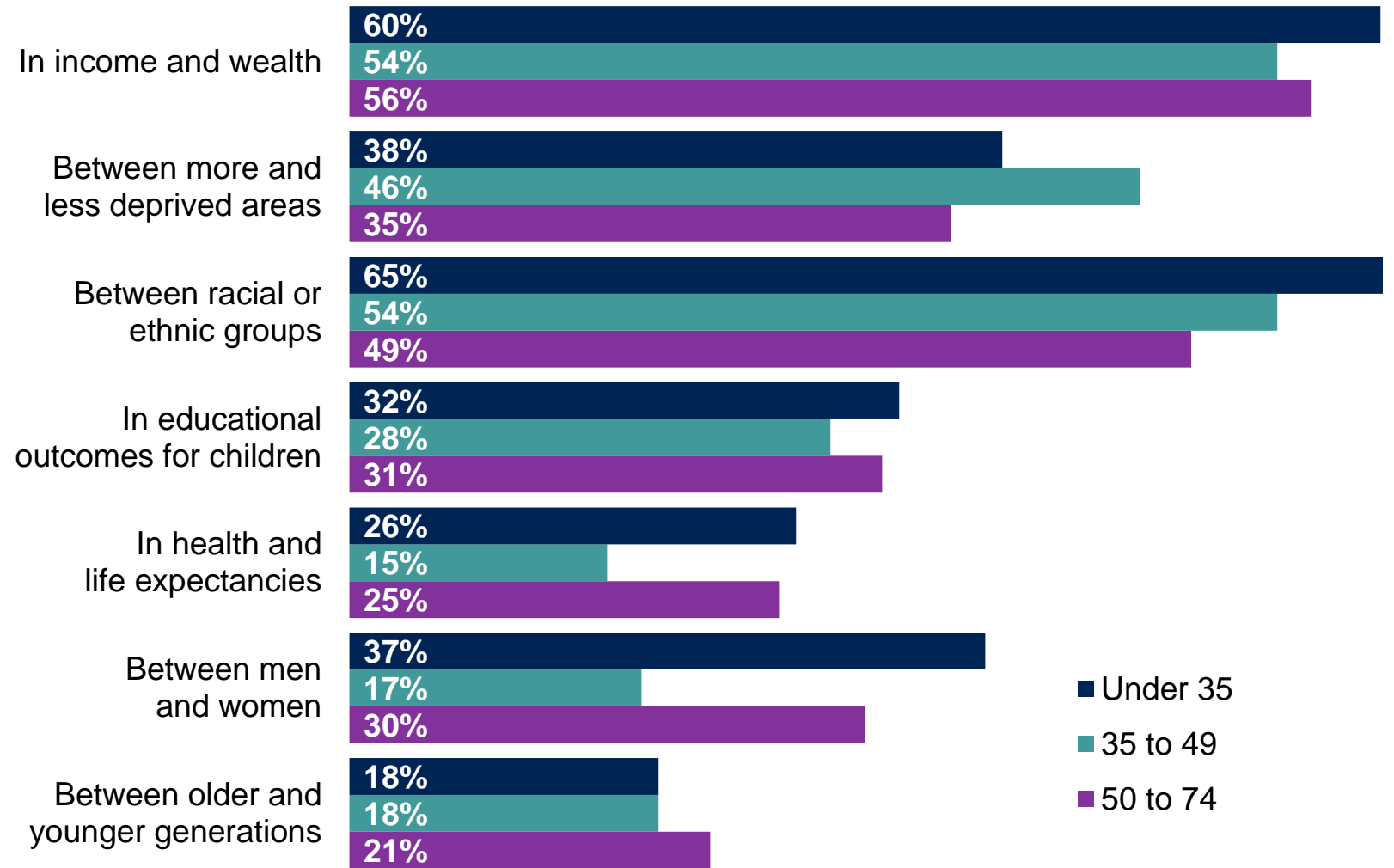


Which three or four of the following types of inequality, if any, do you think are most serious in the United States?

In the U.S., concerns about income and wealth inequalities are high among all age groups, especially among those under 35.

Younger people are much more likely to be concerned about racial gender inequality than older people and about gender inequality than those aged 35-49.

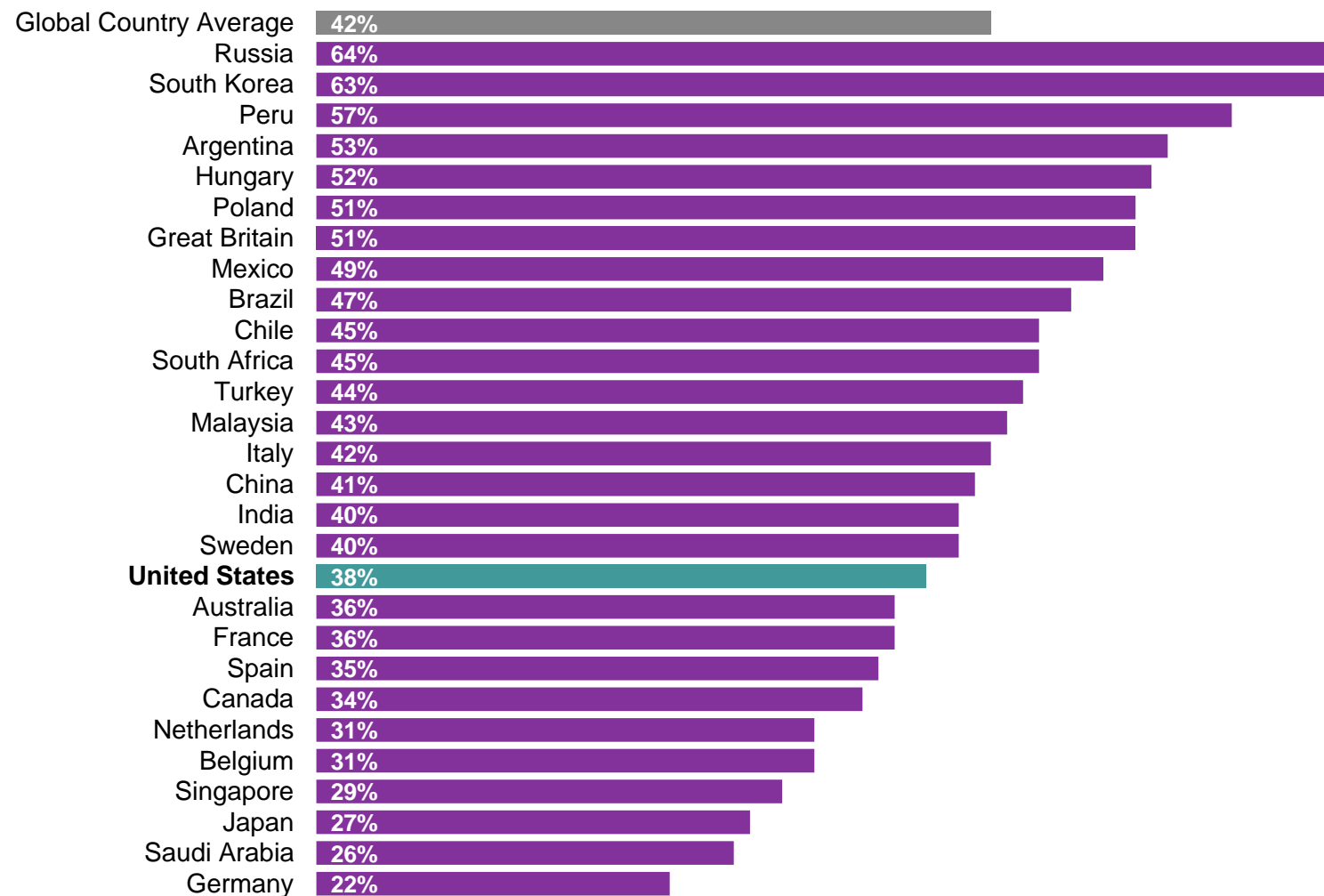
Americans aged 35-49 are more likely to be concerned about geographic differences than their elders.



Where countries rank on concern about different types of inequality

Four in 10 Americans (38%) believe inequalities between more and less deprived areas are especially important, slightly less than the Global Average (42%).

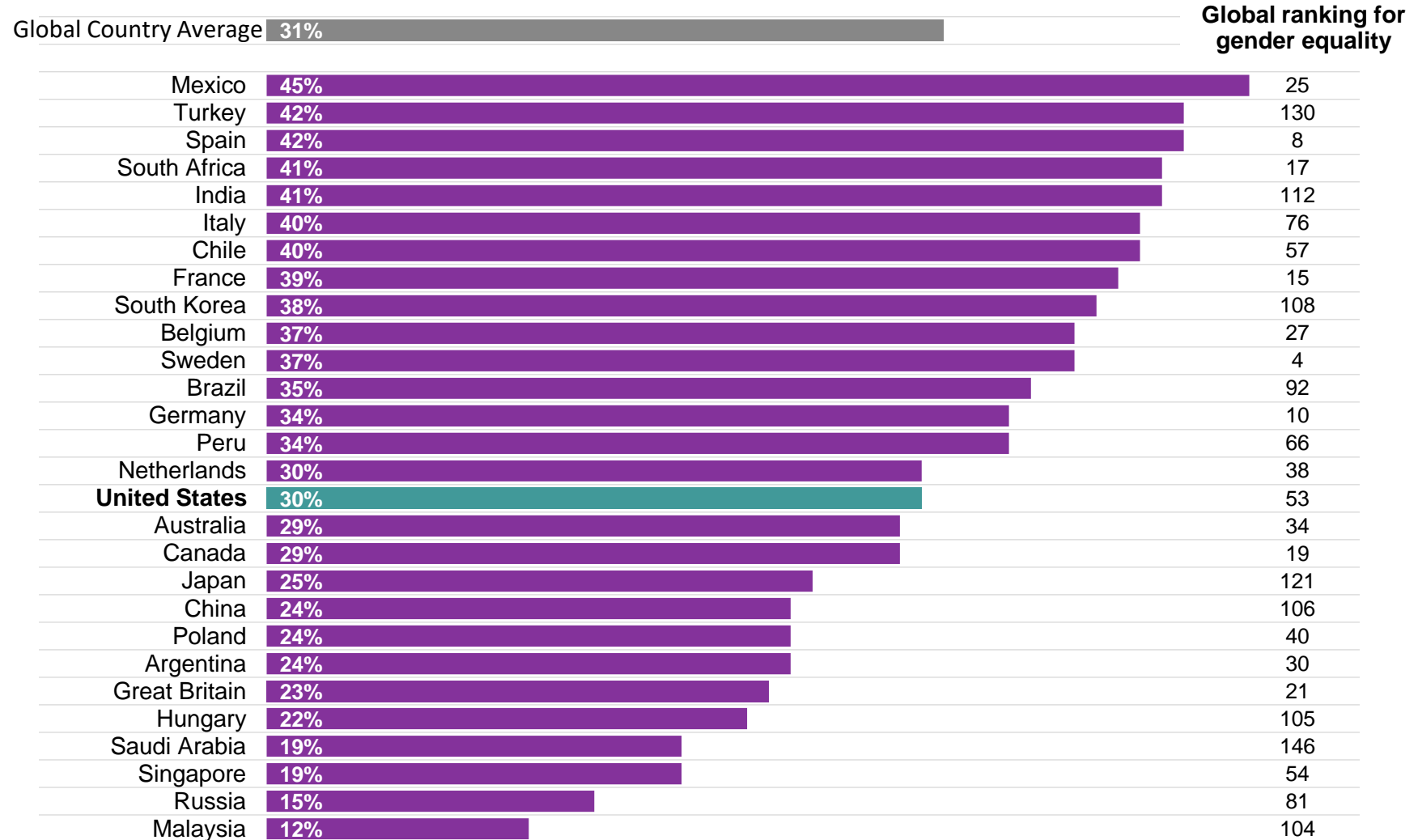
% who say *inequalities between more and less deprived areas* are one of the three or four most serious types of inequality in their country



Three in 10 Americans view gender inequalities among the most serious types of inequality in their country, on par with the global average.

The U.S. ranks in 53rd place in the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Index 2020.

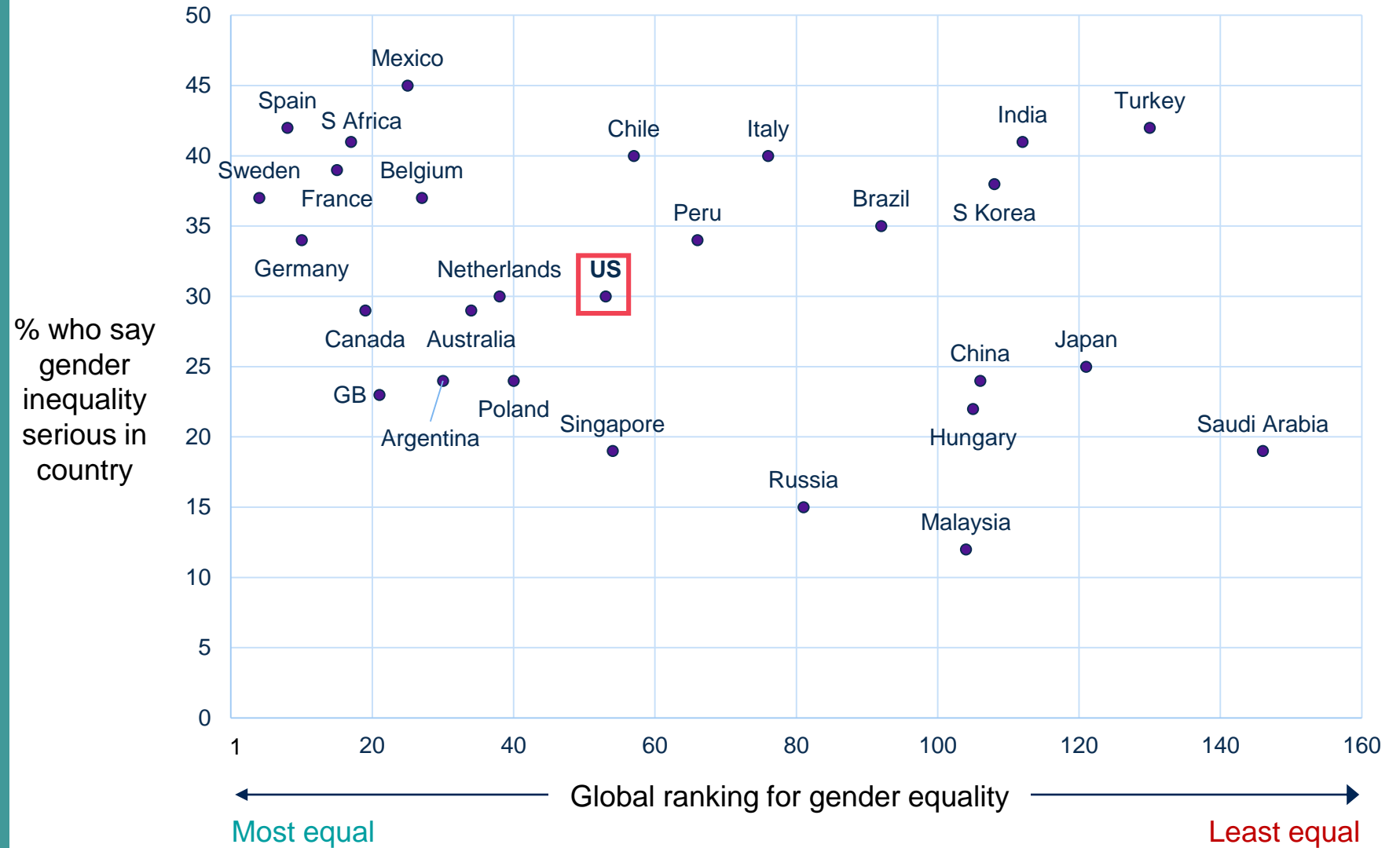
% who say **inequalities between men and women** are one of the three or four most serious types of inequality in their country



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.

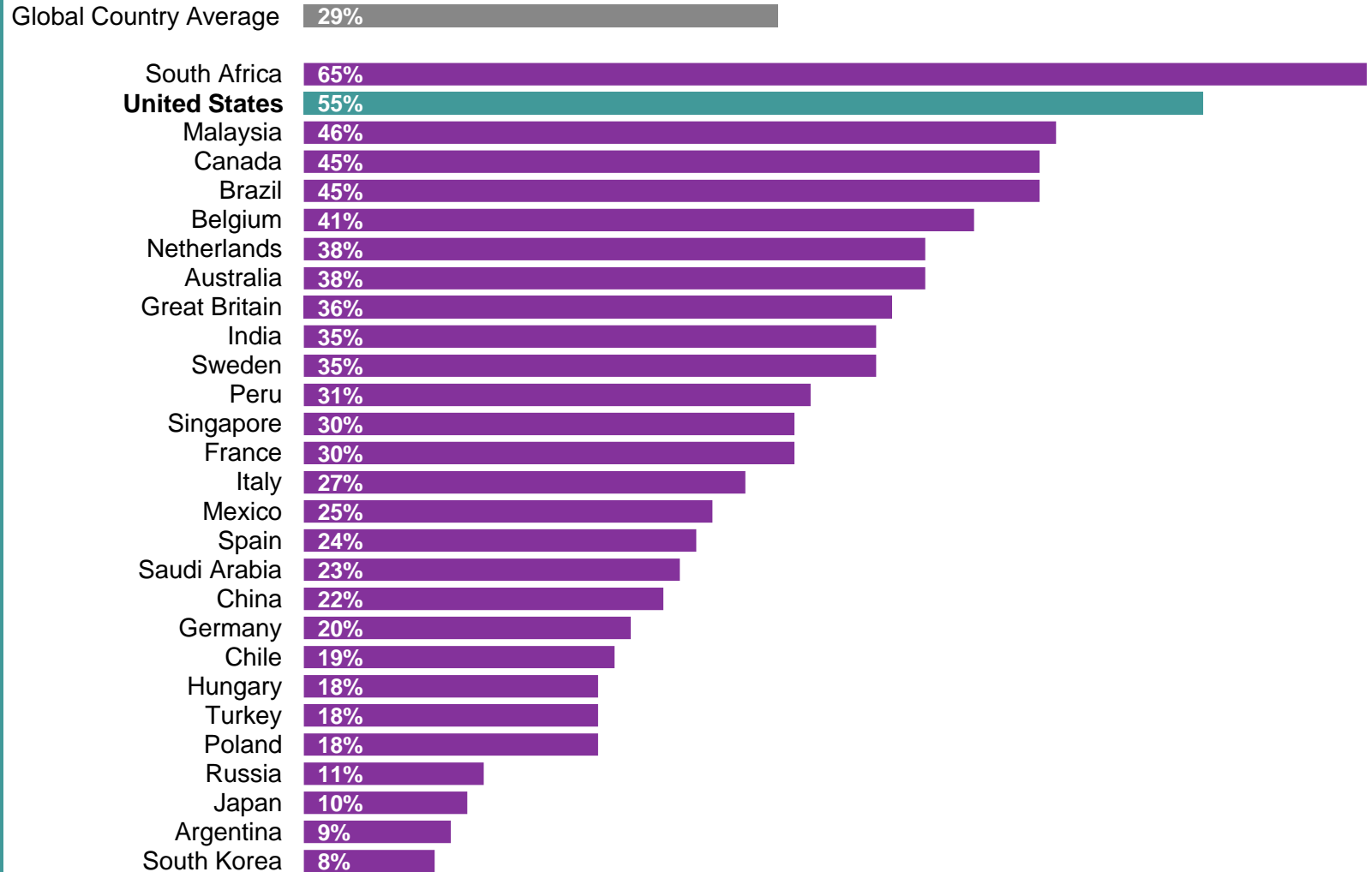
While the U.S. ranks relatively well on this metric (53rd in the world), three in ten Americans believe gender inequalities are a pressing issue.

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



55% of U.S. adults believe racial inequalities are among the most serious types of inequality in their country, 26 percentage points above the global average (29%) and second only to South Africa (65%).

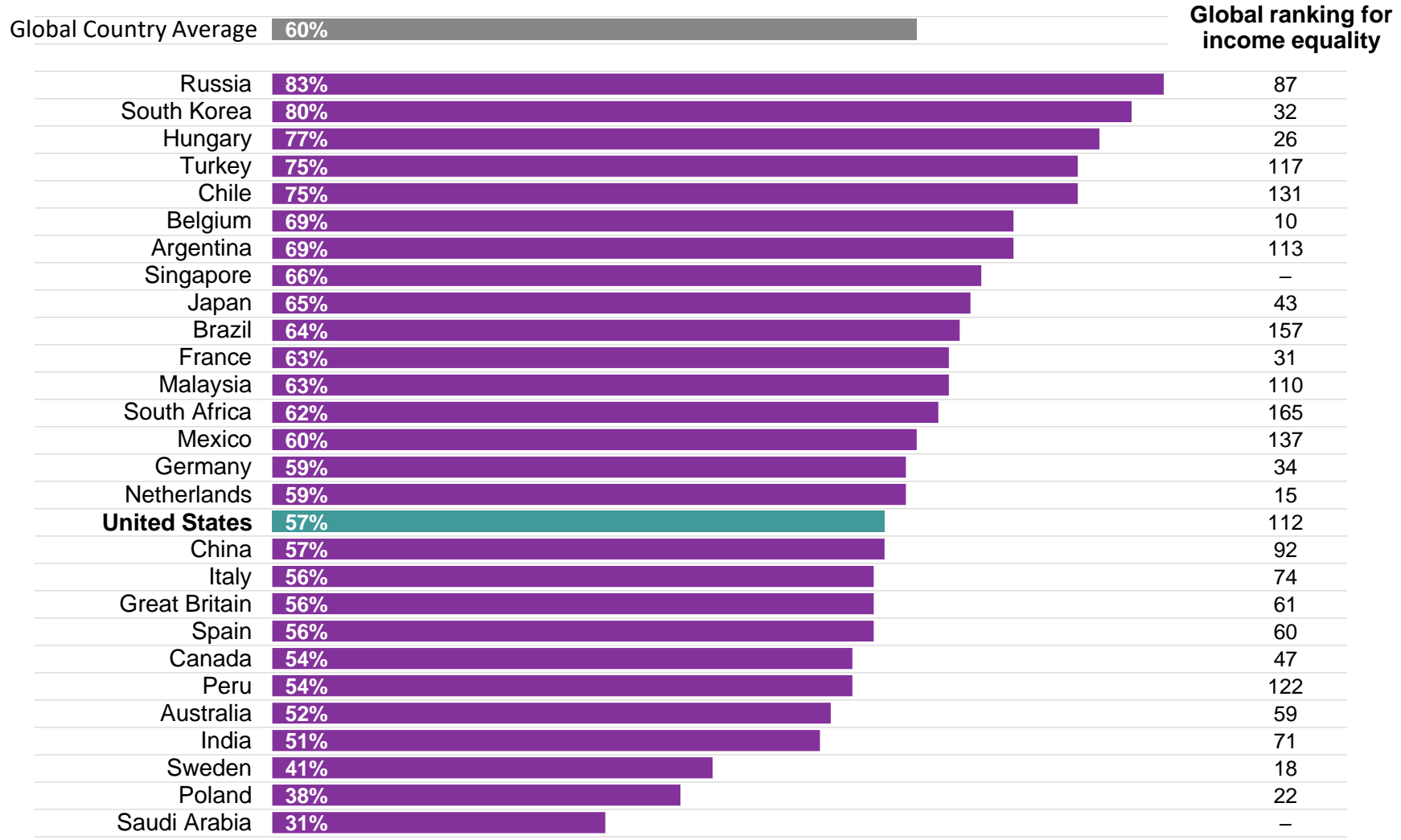
% who say inequalities between racial or ethnic groups are one of the three or four most serious types of inequality in their country



57% of Americans are seriously concerned about income inequality, slightly less than the global average of 60%.

This is similar to China (57%), Italy (56%), Great Britain (56%), and Spain (56%).

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



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

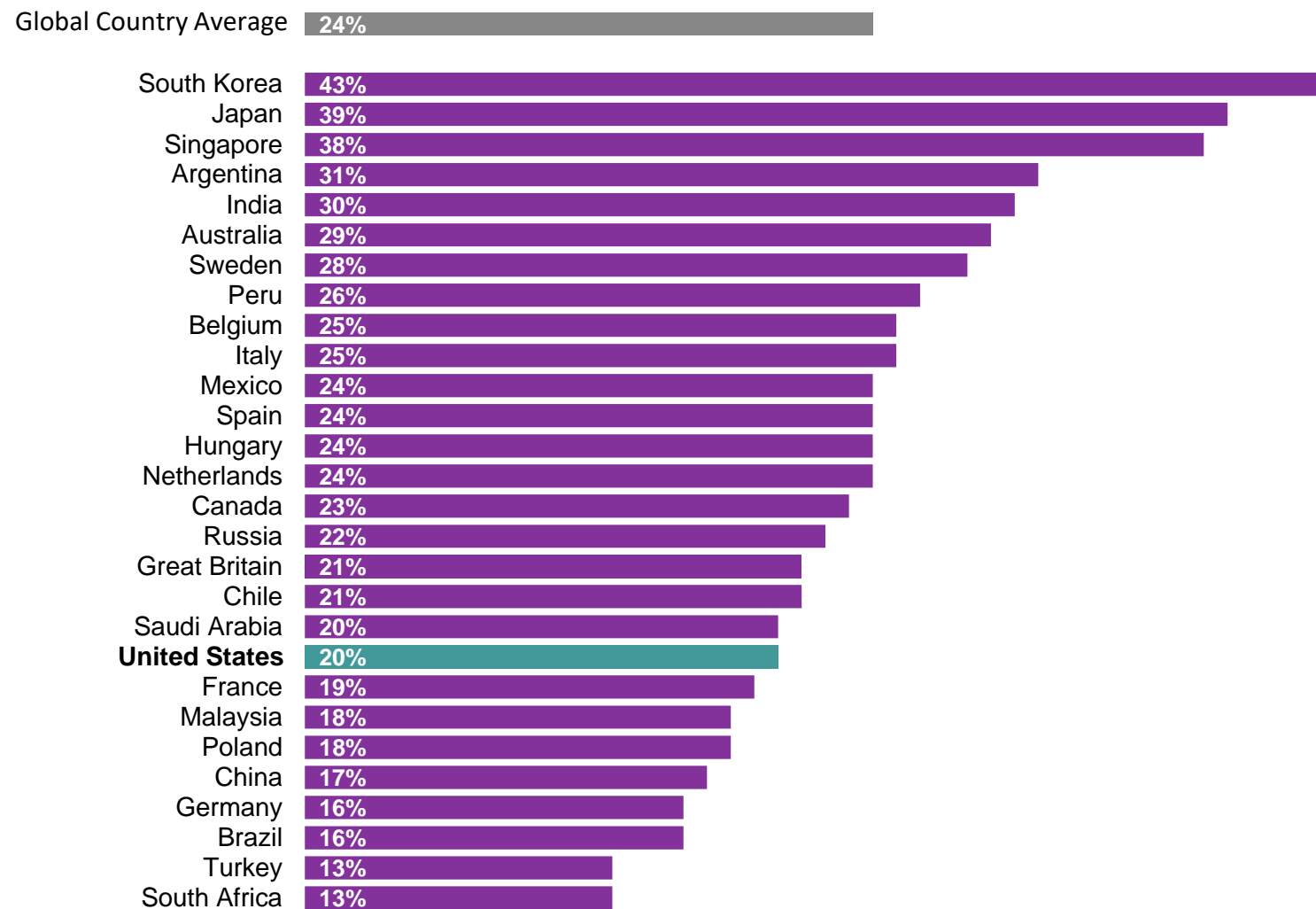
This dynamic can be seen in the US, which scores poorly on measures of income equality as (ranking 112th in the world based on its Gini index) but nonetheless has relatively average levels of concern about it.

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



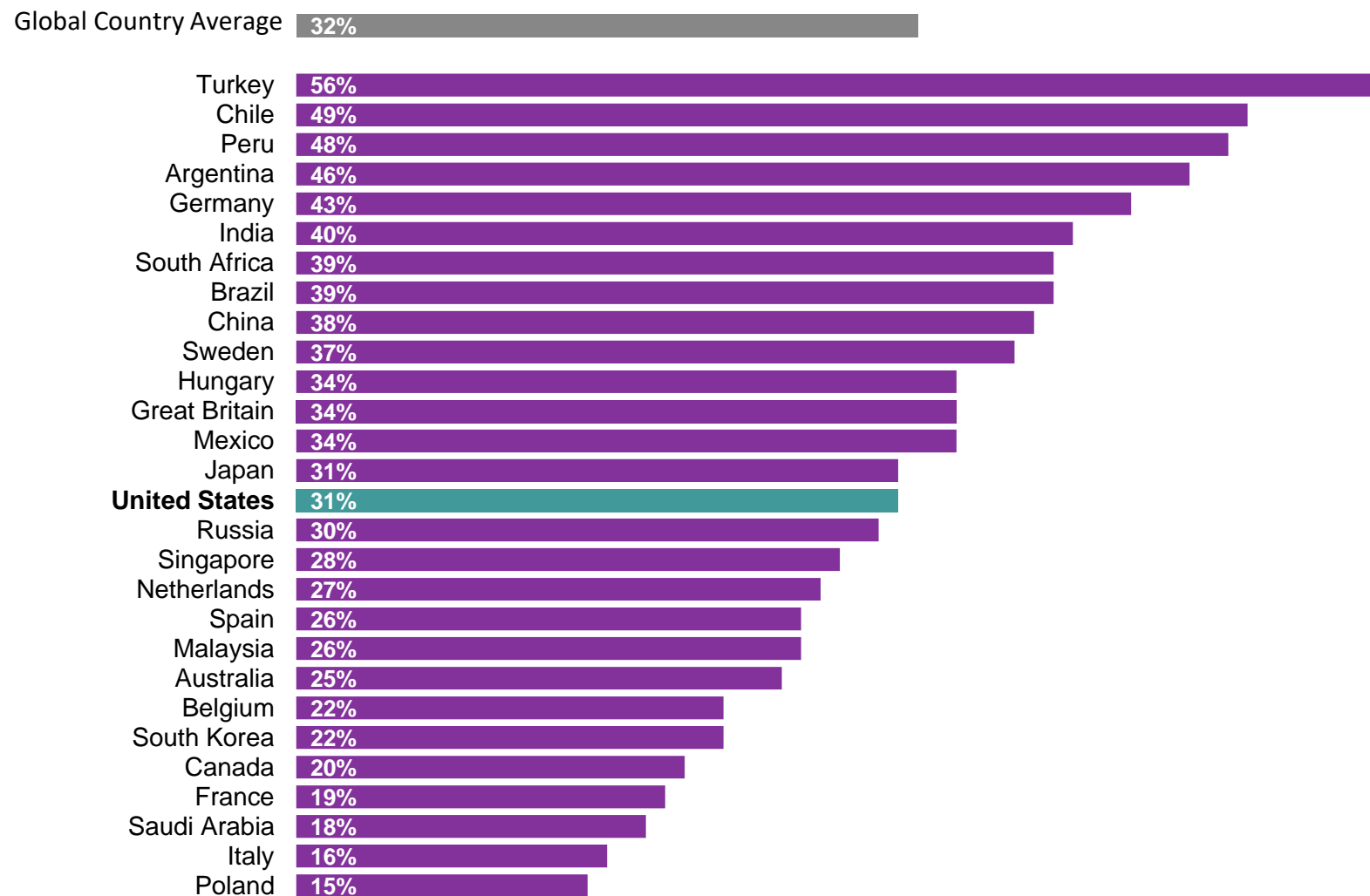
Generational inequalities are not widely perceived as a pressing issue in the U.S., with only two in ten Americans saying it is one of the most serious inequalities in the country.

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



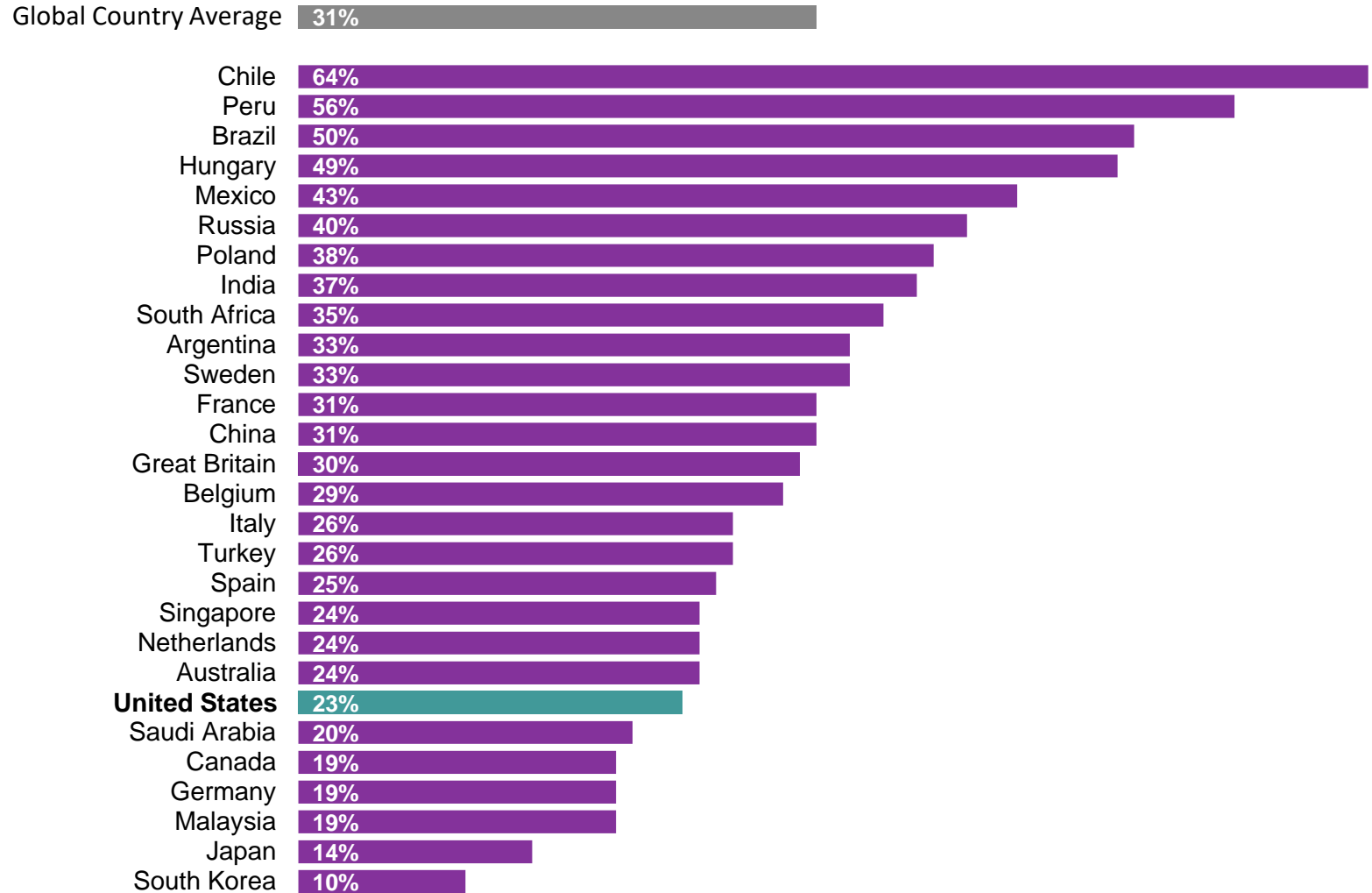
Three in 10 Americans believe inequalities in educational outcomes for children are among the most serious inequalities, in line with the global average (32%) and similar to Japan (31%) and Russia (30%).

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



Only 23% of Americans cite health disparities as an especially problematic form of inequality in their country. This is almost ten points lower than the global average (31%) and similar to Australia, the Netherlands and Singapore (all 24%).

% 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

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Chris Jackson

Senior Vice President, U.S.
Public Affairs
chris.jackson@ipsos.com

Mallory Newall

Director, U.S.
Public Affairs
mallory.newall@ipsos.com

Nicolas Boyon

Senior Vice President, U.S.
Public Affairs
nicolas.boyon@ipsos.com