

EARTH DAY 2022

Public opinion on climate change



A CLOSER LOOK AT CANADA

April 2022

Ipsos Global Advisor

The public ask: “What is the plan?”



Despite not being the top worry for the Canadian public, concerns about climate change remain. Canadians are **concerned about the impacts of climate change at home and abroad**. Yet, there is a **lack of faith** that we have the **necessary plans in place** and will **make significant progress** in tackling climate change in this next decisive decade. Relatively few said that they had heard of COP26, and of those who were aware, only a minority said they had heard about the commitments that countries had made.



Only **30% agree that the Canadian government has a clear plan in place** for how the government, businesses and people are going to work together to tackle climate change. Canadians are more pessimistic than optimistic about whether their country – or other countries around the world – will make significant progress on mitigating climate change in the next ten years.



Canadians believe in a **shared responsibility among government, businesses and individuals** to tackle climate change, but they place more emphasis on government and business than on individuals. Some business sectors are seen as having greater responsibility for reducing their contribution to climate change – particularly energy companies, car manufacturers, airlines and public transport providers.



Little progress has been seen in intentions to take individual action and there is still **confusion** about which actions make the most impact in tackling climate change.

How worried are we?

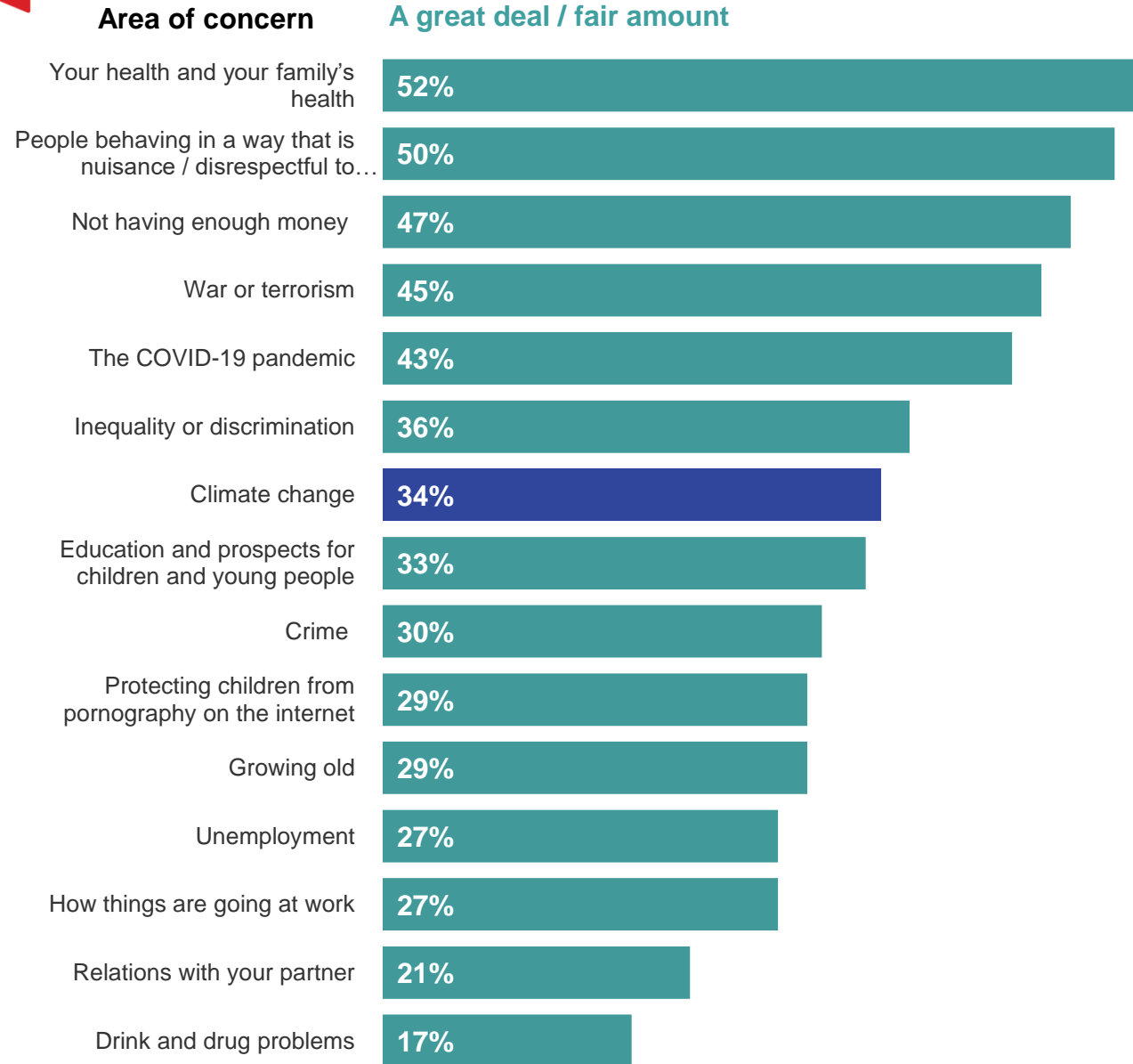


Amongst the things that Canadians worry about, climate change is somewhere in the middle of the list.

Q. Here is a list of some things that some people worry about these days. To what extent, if at all, have you worried about each one in the last 2-3 weeks?



Canada: Overall



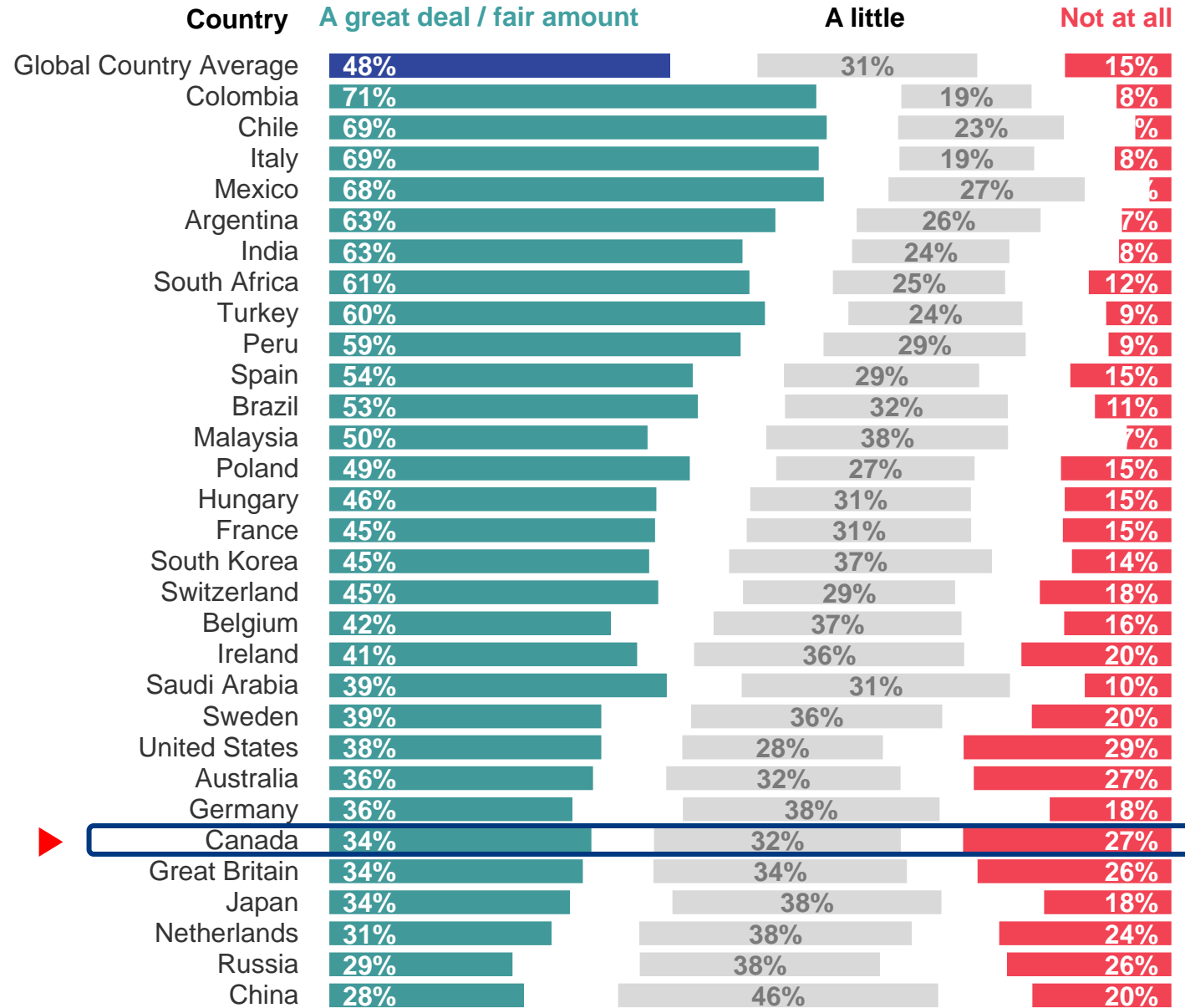
Base: 22, 534 online adults aged 16-74 across 30 countries, 18 Feb – 4 Mar 2022.

Climate change is a regular concern for fewer Canadians than citizens of most other countries.

Country data

Q. Here is a list of some things that some people worry about these days. To what extent, if at all, have you worried about each one in the last 2-3 weeks?

Climate Change



Base: 22, 534 online adults aged 16-74 across 30 countries, 18 Feb – 4 Mar 2022.

However, six-in-ten Canadians are concerned about the impacts of climate change in their country and other countries (although lower than the global country average).

I am concerned about the impacts of climate change that are already being seen in my country



I am concerned about the impacts of climate change that are already being seen in other countries around the world



Base: 23,577 online adults across 31 countries, 18 Feb – 4 Mar 2022. NB surveyed adults aged 16-74 in 30 countries, adults aged 16-99 in Norway.

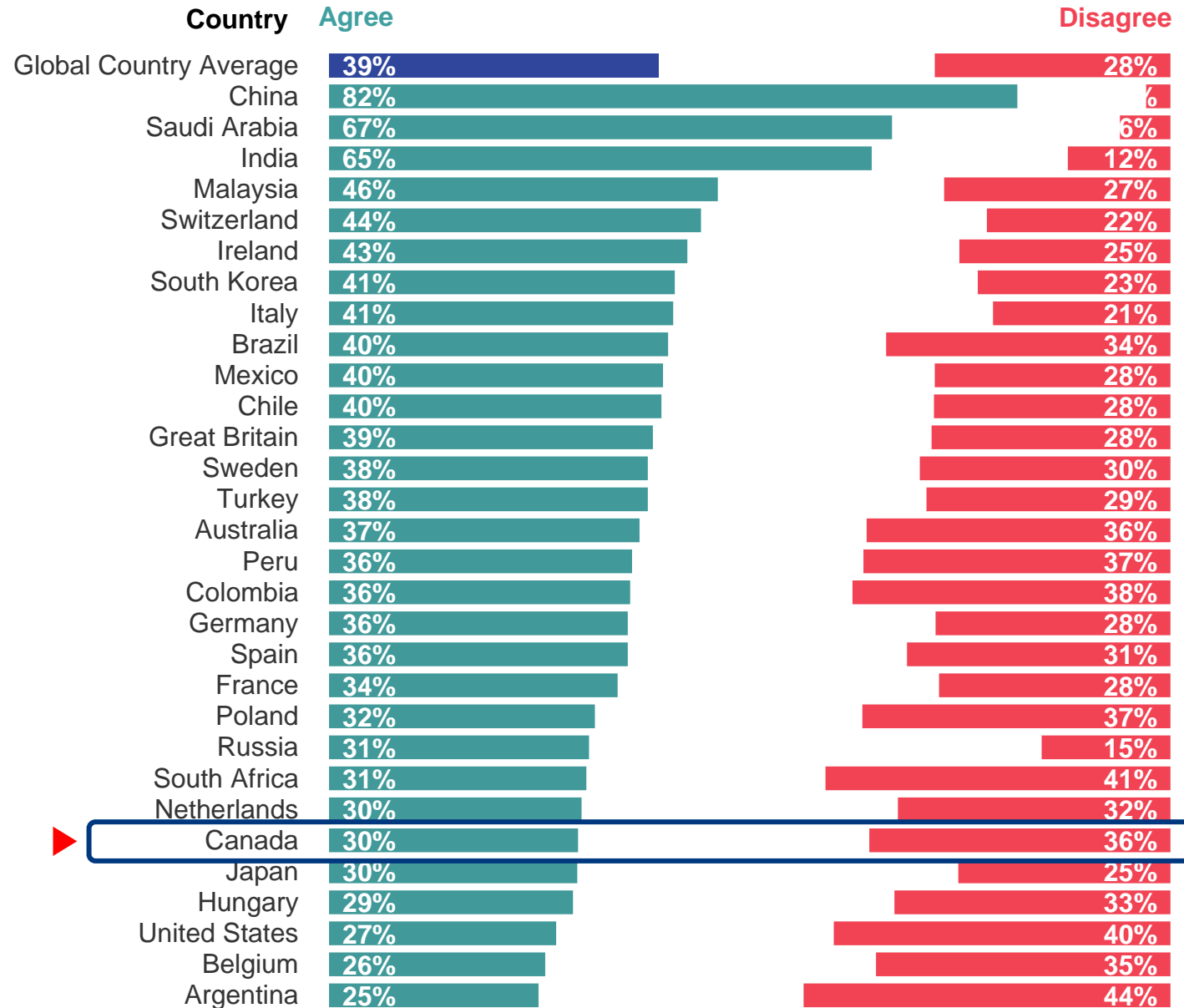
What is the plan?

Who should act to combat climate change?

Awareness of government plans to tackle climate change in Canada is low, and lower than in most other countries.

Q. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following:

[COUNTRY]'s government has a clear plan in place for how government, businesses and people themselves are going to work together to tackle climate change



Base: 22, 534 online adults across 30 countries, 18 Feb – 4 Mar 2022. NB excludes Norway due to methodological differences in how question was asked.

Canadians are divided, and leaning towards pessimism in predicting the progress Canada or other countries will make against climate change this decade.

Canadians are more pessimistic in comparison to the global average.

Q. How likely or unlikely do you think it is that each of the following will have made significant progress in reducing climate change in the next 10 years?

Your country will make significant progress in reducing climate change in the next 10 years



Other countries around the world will make significant progress in reducing climate change in the next 10 years



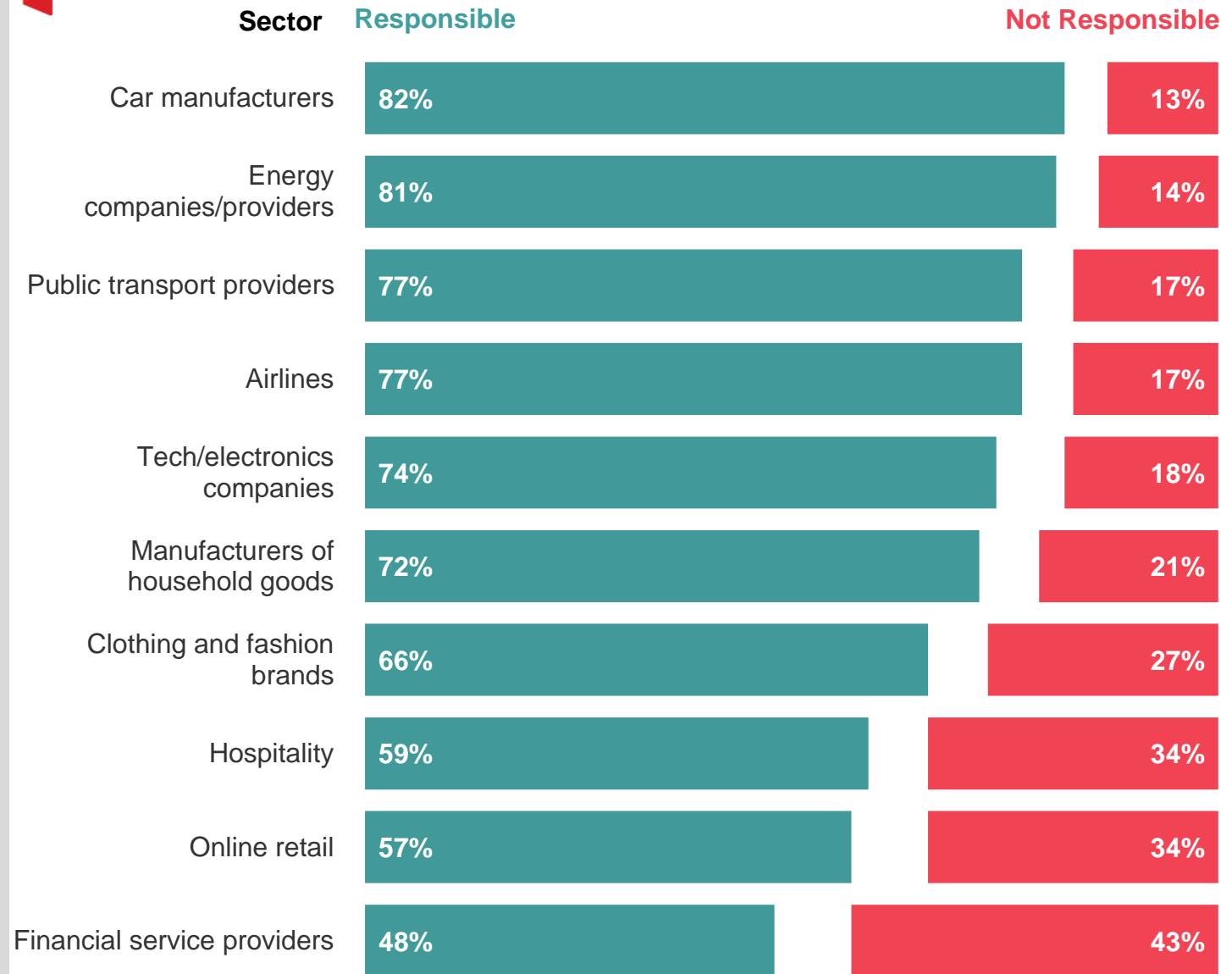
Base: 23,577 online adults across 31 countries, 18 Feb – 4 Mar 2022. NB surveyed adults aged 16-74 in 30 countries, adults aged 16-99 in Norway.

Canadians see high-profile carbon emitting sectors, like energy and automotive, as having a higher responsibility for reducing their contribution to climate change.

Q. Now think about some specific business sectors. How much responsibility, if any, do each of the following have to reduce their contribution to climate change by reducing carbon emissions?



Canada: Overall



Base: 23,577 online adults across 31 countries, 18 Feb – 4 Mar 2022. NB surveyed adults aged 16-74 in 30 countries, adults aged 16-99 in Norway.

What is the public prepared to do?

WE STAND
WITH YOU

The public perceive combatting climate change as a shared responsibility

The public believes that governments, businesses and individuals need to play their part, although they place more emphasis on business and government than individuals



Canada: Overall



68% feel that individuals have a responsibility

Vs Global Country avg 74%



76% feel that businesses have a responsibility

Vs Global Country avg 76%



76% feel that government has a responsibility

Vs Global Country avg 77%

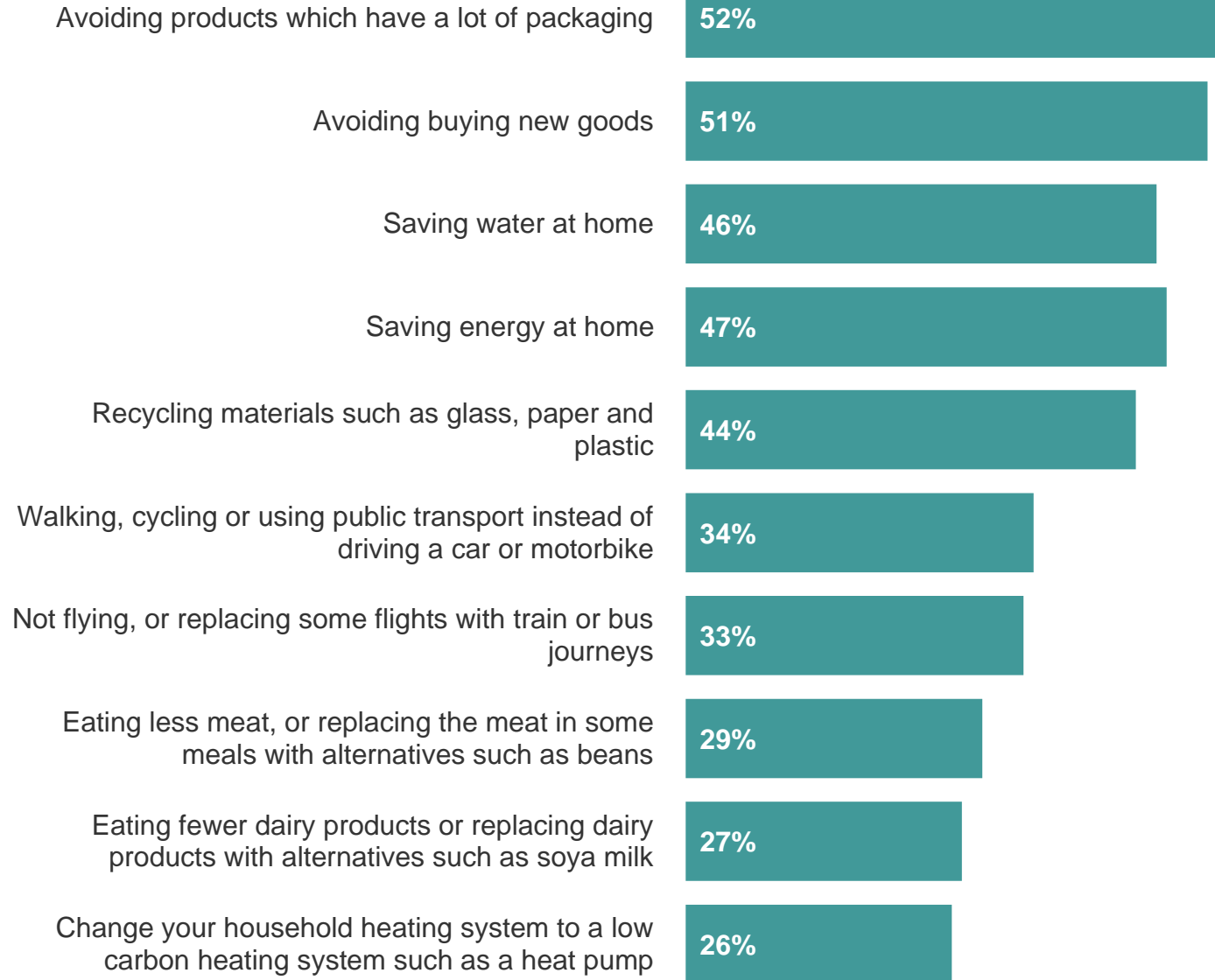
Canadians are still least likely to change behaviours which would have the most impact.

Q. Thinking about things you might do in order to limit your own contribution to climate change, how likely or unlikely would you be to make the following changes within the next year?



Canada: Overall

Likely



Base: 23,577 online adults across 31 countries, 18 Feb – 4 Mar 2022. NB surveyed adults aged 16-74 in 30 countries, adults aged 16-99 in Norway.

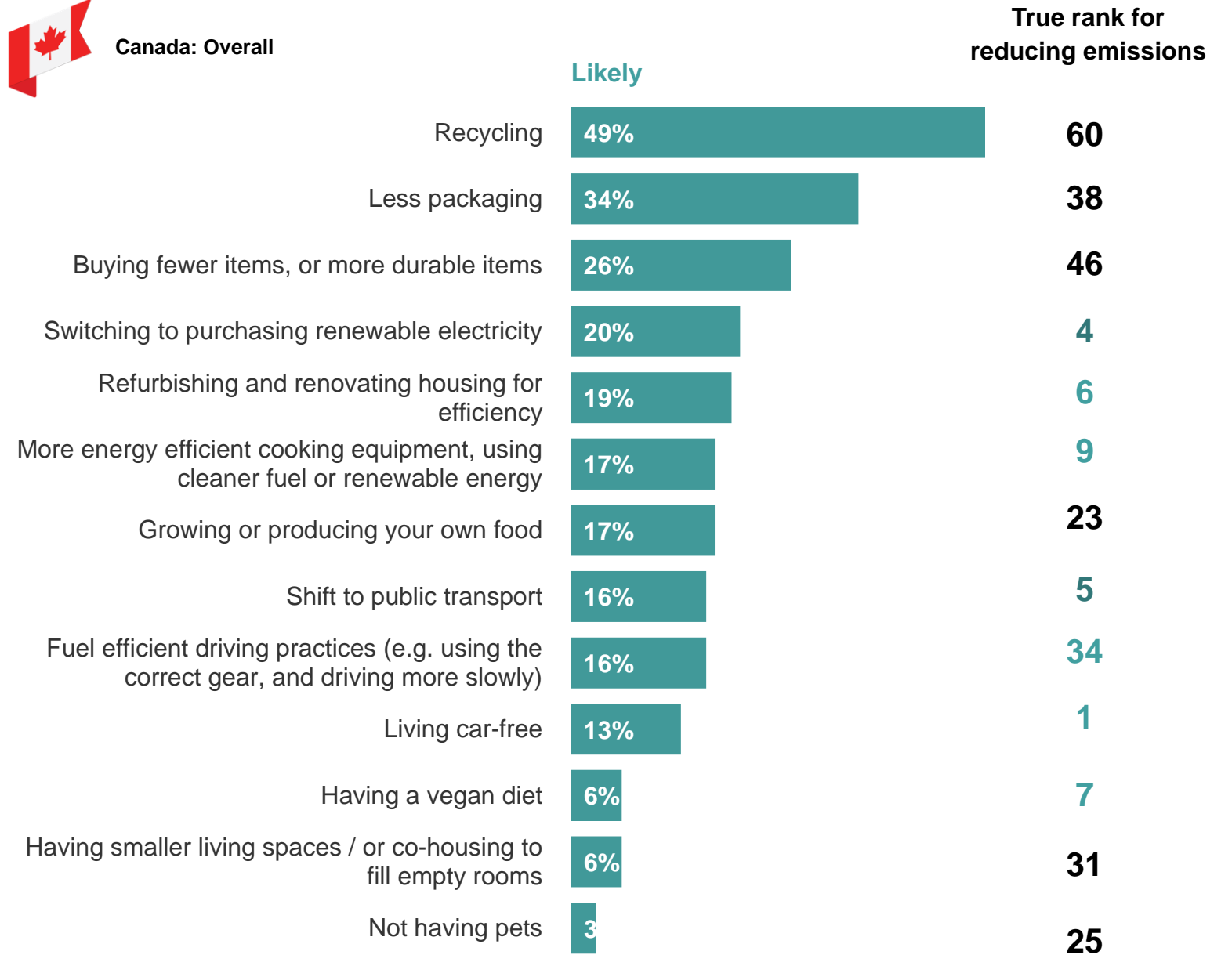
The public perceive many actions as having a far greater impact on reducing emissions than they actually do.

Global Country Average

Q. Which three of the following actions, if any, do you think would have most impact on reducing greenhouse gas emissions?



Canada: Overall



Base: 23,577 online adults across 31 countries, 18 Feb – 4 Mar 2022. NB surveyed adults aged 16-74 in 30 countries, adults aged 16-99 in Norway. *Source: Ivanova et al., 2020. Quantifying the potential for climate change mitigation of consumption options. Available here: <https://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/ab8589/pdf>

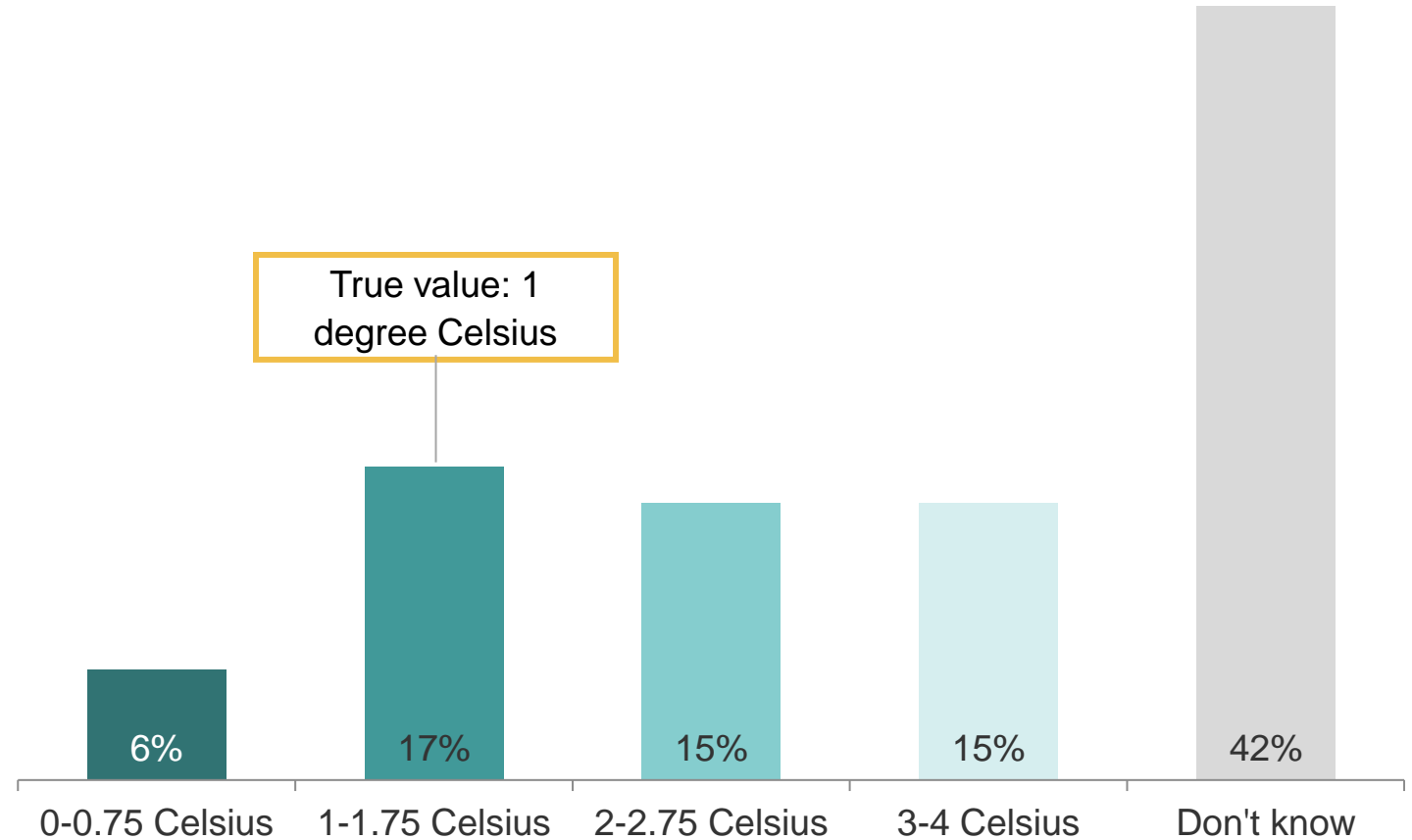


Canadians are more likely to overestimate than underestimate how much the earth has warmed – although many simply don't know.

Q. How much do you think the climate of the Earth has warmed since 1850, if at all?



Canada: Overall

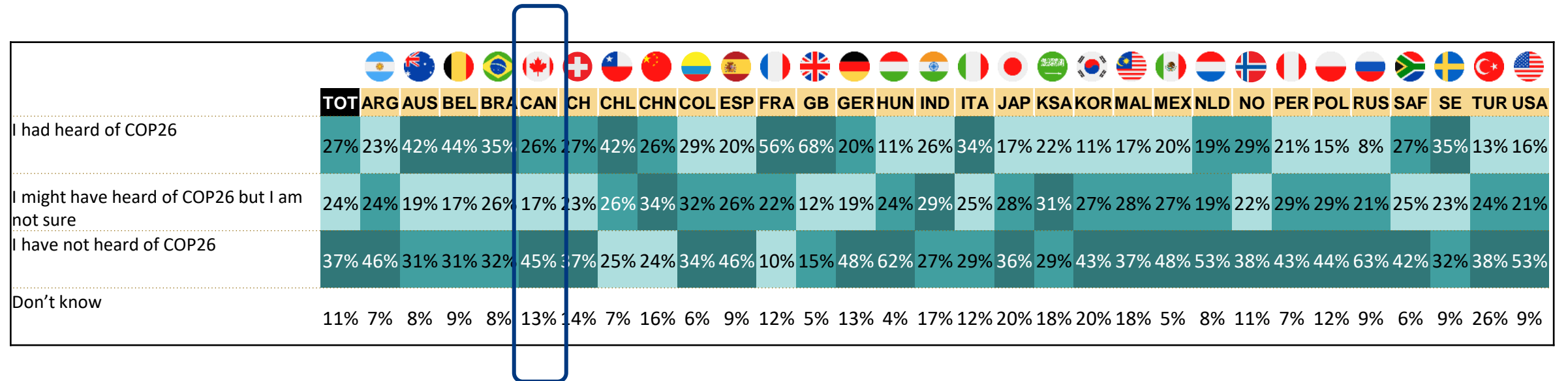


What was the impact of COP26?



Only a minority of Canadians are aware of COP26

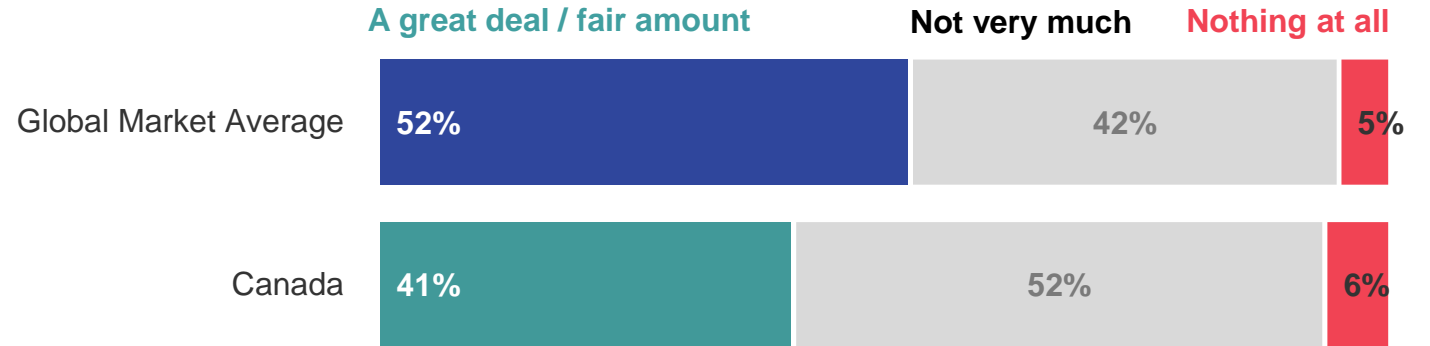
Q. Before this interview, had you heard or not heard of COP26, the UN Climate Change Conference that took place in the UK between 31 October to 13 November 2021?



Only four-in-ten Canadians who were aware of COP26 had also heard about Canada's commitments.

And only one-third are optimistic about the impact of the commitments.

And how much, if at all, would you say you had heard about the commitments countries made to tackle climate change at COP26?



Do you think the commitments made by countries to tackle climate change at COP26 will have a positive or negative impact on climate change around the world, or will it make no difference?



Base: 6,995 online adults who had heard of COP26 across 31 countries, 18 Feb – 4 Mar 2022. NB surveyed adults aged 16-74 in 30 countries, adults aged 16-99 in Norway.

These are the findings of the *Global Advisor* wave 167 (GA 167) an Ipsos survey conducted between February 18 and March 4, 2022.

The survey instrument is conducted monthly in 31 countries around the world via the Ipsos Online Panel system.

The countries reporting herein are Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, mainland China, Chile, Colombia, France, Great Britain, Germany, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United States of America.

For the results of the survey presented herein, an international sample of 23, 577 adults aged 18-74 in the US, Canada, Hong Kong, Malaysia, South Africa, and Turkey, aged 16-99 in Norway and age 16-74 in all other countries, were interviewed. Approximately 1000+ individuals participated on a country-by-country basis via the Ipsos Online Panel

with the exception of Argentina, Belgium, Chile, Colombia, Hungary, India, Ireland, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland and Turkey, where each have a sample of approximately 500+. 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.

18 of the 31 countries surveyed online generate nationally representative samples in their countries (Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway Poland, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United States).

The samples in Brazil, Chile, mainland China, Colombia, India, Ireland Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and Turkey are more urban & educated, and/or more affluent than the general population. They are not nationally representative of their country. The survey results for these countries should be viewed as reflecting the views of the more “connected” segment of their population.

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