

IPSOS PRESS RELEASE:  
**WHAT DO MALAYSIANS  
THINK ABOUT THE STATE  
OF THE COUNTRY?**

Tuesday, 8th July 2025



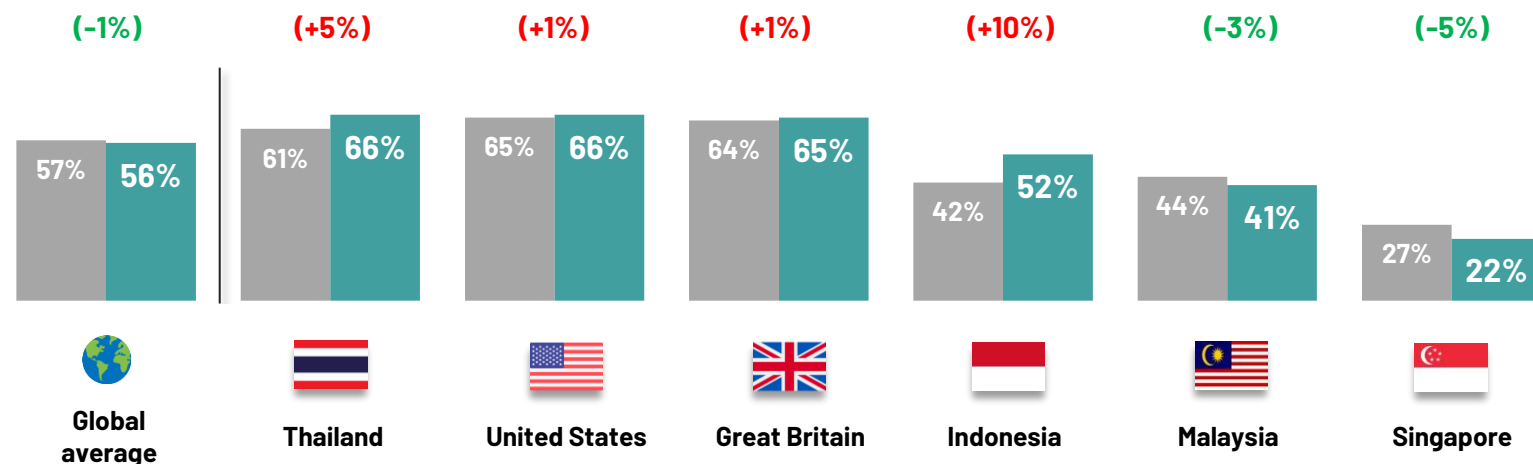
# Fewer Malaysians now believe that society is broken and the country is in decline, compared to 2023

The proportion of Malaysians who think the country is in decline has dropped by 12%, suggesting a positive shift in their outlook on the country's direction.

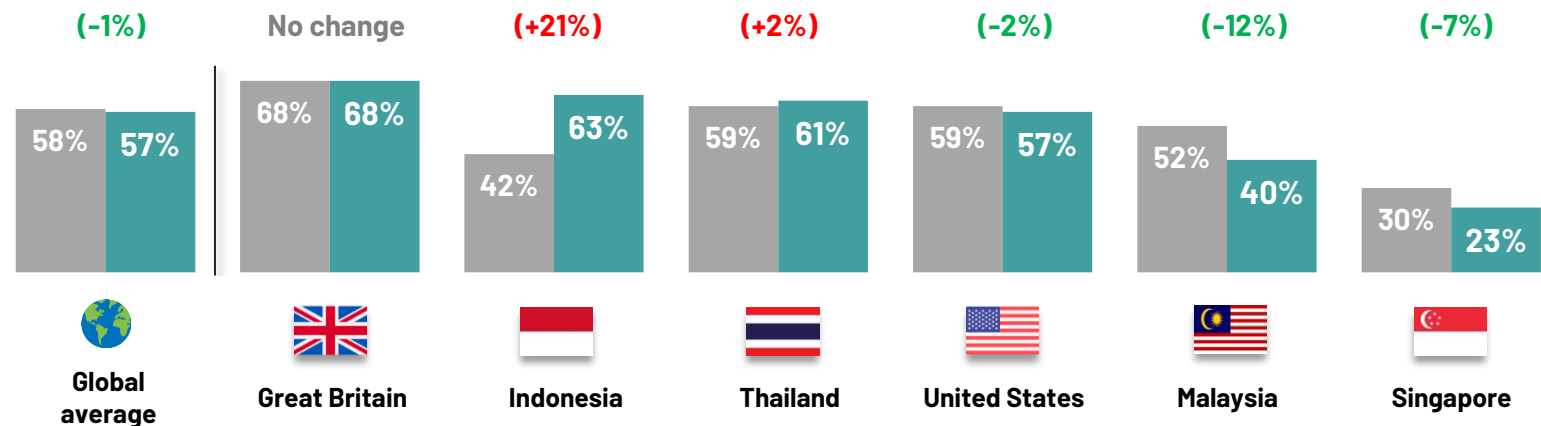
In contrast, Indonesians are showing increasing concern about their society and nation.

## Society is broken (% Agree)

■ 2023 ■ 2025



## My country is in decline (% Agree)

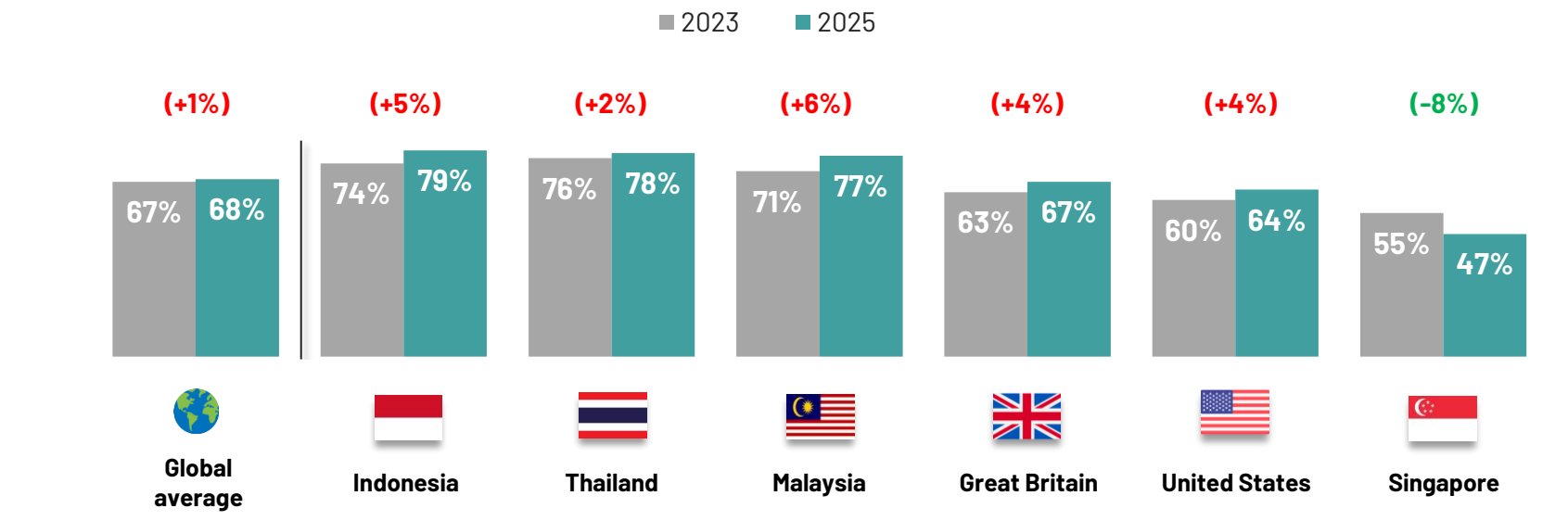


However, many Malaysians feel that the country is largely influenced by the elites and rigged to benefit the rich and powerful

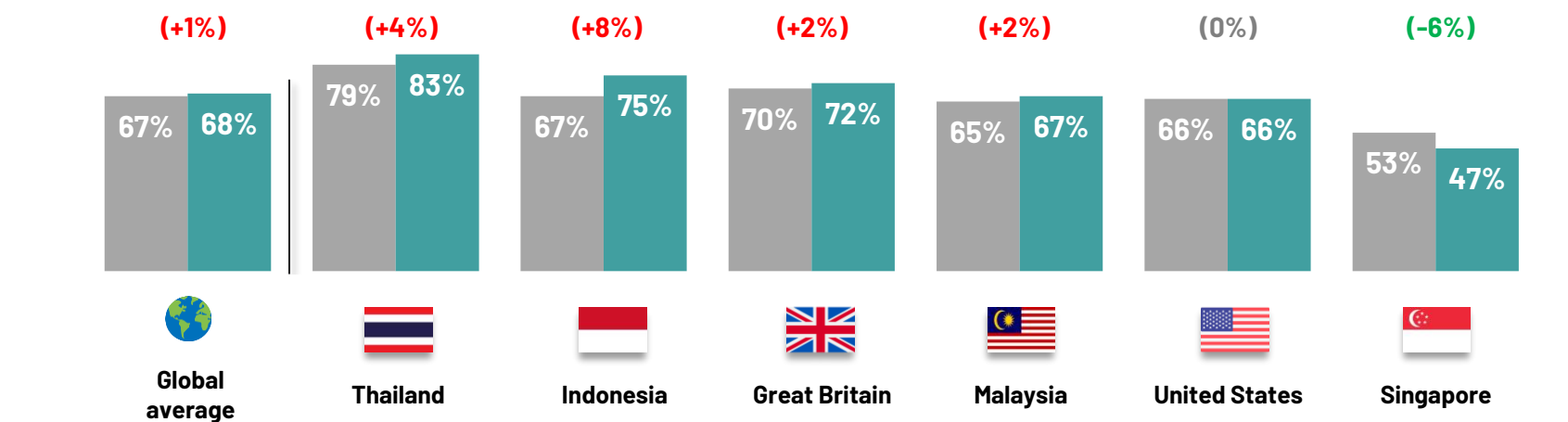
Indonesia and Thailand show consistently high levels of agreement, significantly exceeding the global average on both statements.

In contrast, Singapore shows a steady decline in agreement since 2023, indicating more positive perceptions about the state of the country.

The main divide in our society is between ordinary citizens, political and economic elites (% Agree)



Our economy is rigged to advantage the rich and powerful (% Agree)

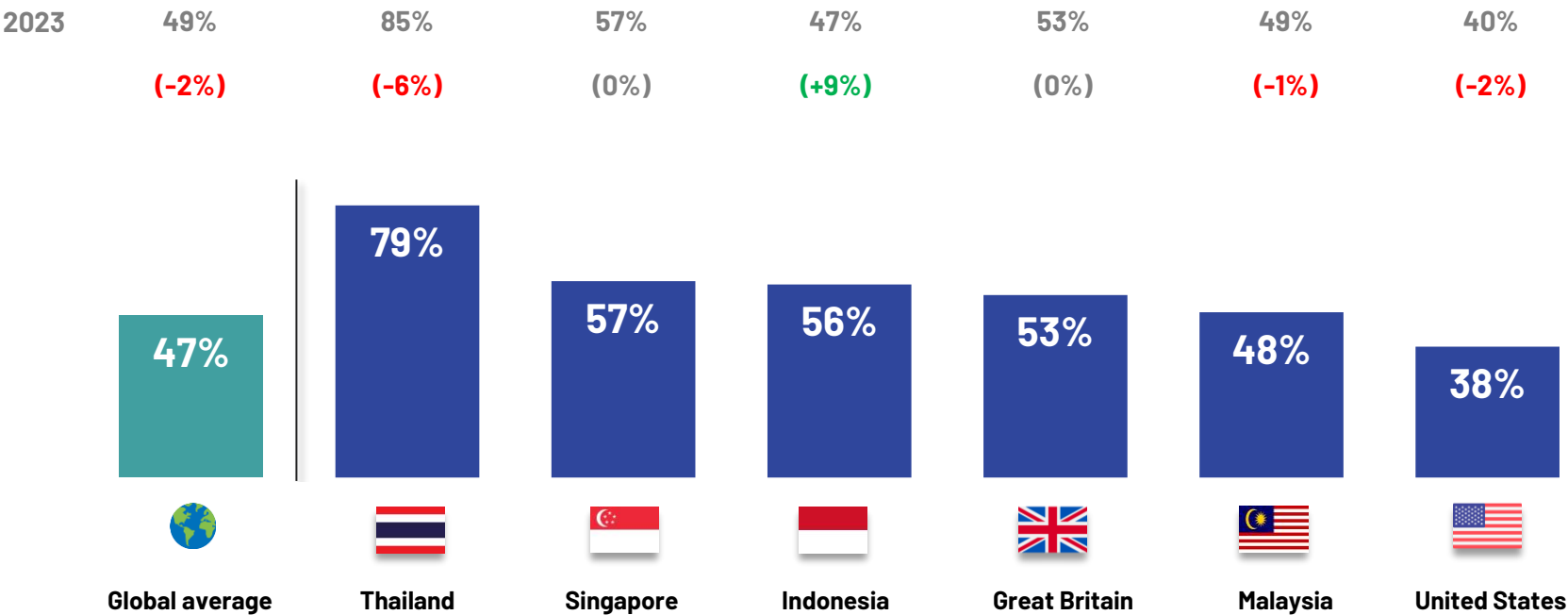



# About half of Malaysians believe there is a need for a strong leader to fix the country

Malaysia shows a stable level of agreement compared to 2023, indicating a consistent desire for a strong leader who is willing to break the rules.

Indonesia shows a growing desire for such a rule-breaking leader, reflecting increasing frustration with the country's current state and a deepening societal divide.

To fix my country, we need a strong leader willing to break the rules (% Agree)





## What do Malaysians think about the state of the country?

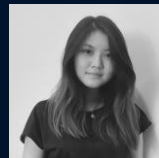
Our latest survey reveals that Malaysians are showing less negativity about the state of the country. The proportion of those who believe the country is in decline has decreased by 12%, while the number who feel that society is broken has fallen by 3%.

Despite this improved outlook, about two-thirds of Malaysians still perceive a significant societal divide and an economic imbalance that favors the rich and powerful elites. This sentiment highlights a potential push for social change and a need to rebuild trust in key institutions. To address these concerns, half of Malaysians believe that a strong leader—one who is willing to break the rules—is necessary.

As the world faces growing uncertainties and emerging challenges, Malaysia, like many other nations, must prepare for potential disruptions. In these turbulent times, fostering social cohesion through effective leadership is essential to ensuring a stable future for all Malaysians.



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