

# IPSOS EDUCATION MONITOR 2025

A 30-Country Ipsos  
Global Advisor Survey

August 2025



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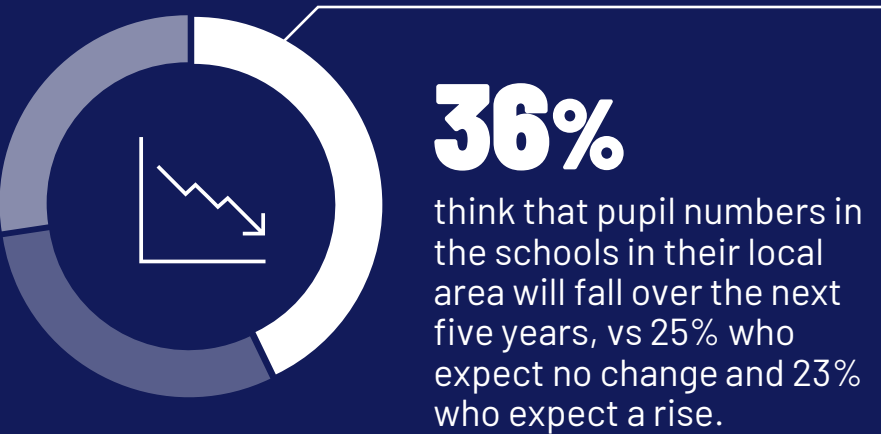
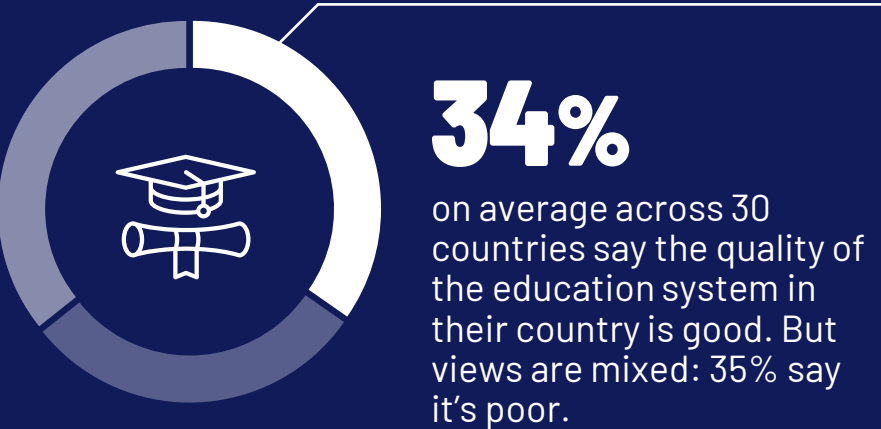
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Methodology

# PART ONE: Headlines



# At a glance



## Most popular school subjects

- 1. History
- 2. Maths
- 3. Science



## Least popular school subjects

- 1. Maths
- 2. Religion
- 3. History



# Key findings



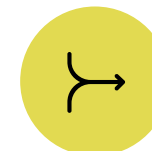
## A majority support banning social media for under 14s

Seven in 10 (71%) support banning children from using social media both inside and outside of school, up 6pts from 2024. A majority support this in all 30 countries, with support rising in all countries except India, Hungary and Thailand.



## You either love or hate history and maths

History (32%), maths (30%) and science (26%) rank as the three most popular school subjects, globally. But both history and maths also appear in the top three least popular school subjects too (maths at #1, history at #3).



## A closing gender gap on favourite school subjects

Among Baby Boomers, there's a clear distinction between subjects which were popular with boys (science, maths) and popular with girls (local language, literature). But among younger generations, this gap has shrunk significantly - and almost disappeared for science and maths.



## Mental health seen as the biggest issue for young people

On average, a third of people globally place mental health as the biggest challenge facing young people today, making it the #1 issue. This climbs to 54% in Sweden. A majority (53%) say the mental health of young people in their country today is poor, with Gen Z the most likely to describe it as "very poor".



## Each country's education system faces its own challenges

There is no uniform picture when it comes to the challenges facing education across countries. Every issue in our survey ranks as a top-three issue somewhere. On average globally, an outdated curriculum comes top (29%).



## Many expect pupil numbers to fall over next five years

On average across 30 countries, 36% think pupil numbers in the schools in their local area will fall over the next five years. This is higher in countries with very low fertility rates. Eighty-one per cent in South Korea and 68% in Japan expect pupil numbers to fall.



# Young people and mental health

**Fifty-three per cent on average across 30 countries think the mental health of children in their country is poor. Only 37% say the same about children's physical health.**

When we asked people what are the top challenges affecting young people, [mental health comes out top](#), ahead of issues like the country's economy and social media. [Parents are just as likely](#) as those without kids to think it's the most important challenge facing young people.

According to [the WHO](#), one in seven 10–19-year-olds suffer from a mental disorder.

**Is mental health among young people getting worse?**

The [Lancet Psychiatry Commission on](#)

[Youth Mental Health](#) from 2024 reported: "There is now substantial evidence showing that youth mental health has deteriorated since the early 2010s, with rising anxiety, depression, psychological distress, self-harm, and suicide.

"Since the Covid-19 pandemic, young people have experienced disproportionately poorer mental health outcomes."

Like for many adults, the pandemic had a detrimental impact on the mental health of children. Research in the UK found over half of teens met the criteria for [post-traumatic stress disorder related to Covid](#).

In terms of what's driving this decline in mental health, [the Lancet cited](#): "The

growing existential threats of climate change, unregulated and harmful social media, declining social cohesion, and socioeconomic precarity—as reflected in insecure employment, reduced access to affordable housing, rapidly growing intergenerational inequality, and polarisation of political views—have combined to create a bleak present and future for young people."

This "loss of the future" is something that Ipsos has observed since [the start of this century](#). While three in four believe it is natural for each generation to have a higher standard of living than their parents, for many young people today in much of the west this seems unlikely.

*Continued overleaf.*



# 31%

of parents with school-age children think mental health challenges is one of the biggest issues affecting young people.

## Young people and mental health

Our research into [people's perceptions of their mental health](#) has already found many young adults are struggling. Four in ten (40%) Gen Z (in our survey that is those aged between 16 and 29) say in the last 12 months there have been several times where they have felt so stressed that they could not cope. Only 19% of Baby Boomers (the oldest generation in our survey) feel the same.

And this has real world consequences. One in two (54%) Gen Z say they have had to miss work in the last year because of stress.

What's clear is people feel mental health among children is a major problem. In nearly all countries surveyed people are more likely to think

children have poor mental health than poor physical health. However, in many countries getting access to help is harder for children than for adults.

The public is aware that there is a mental health crisis among young people. What needs to follow now is the resources to tackle the problem.

### Spotlight on Sweden

In our survey, Sweden is the country where people are most likely to think poor mental health is the biggest challenge for young people; 62% describe the mental health of young people in the country as poor.

Self-reported mental health problems among 10-17-year-olds in Sweden

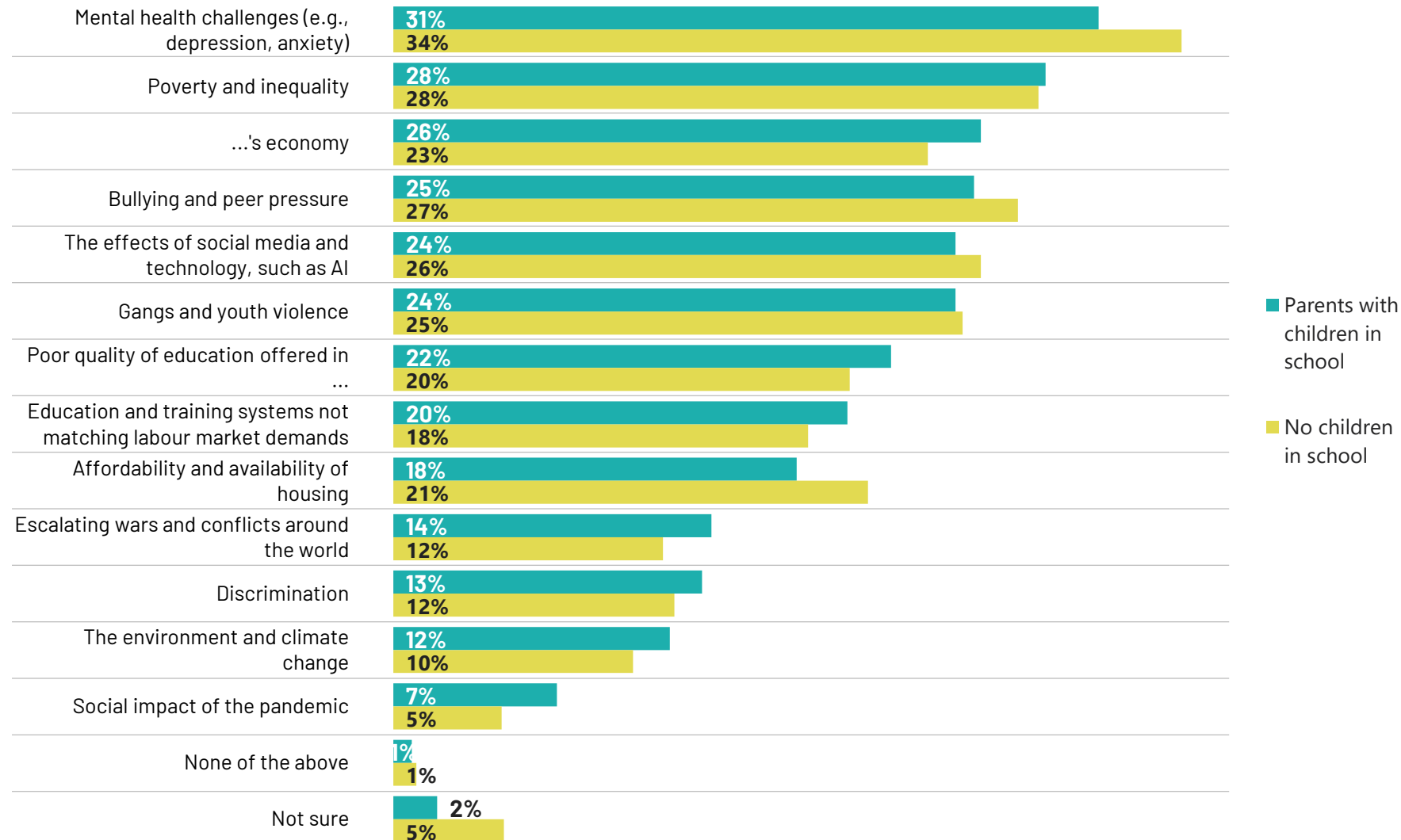
increased by 100% between 2010 and 2020. However, [similar rises have been seen in comparable countries](#).

Mental health is not just an issue for young people in Sweden, but the country as a whole. In our research looking at [people's perceptions of their country's health service](#), 68% of Swedes say mental health is one of the biggest issues affecting the country. However, only 19% say [mental health is treated the same](#) as physical health. Last year, 51% of Swedes reported that, in the previous 12 months, there had been several points where stress had affected their daily life - the highest in our survey.

In your opinion, what do you believe are the greatest challenges facing young people in your country today?  
(Select up to three answers)

### 30-country average

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.

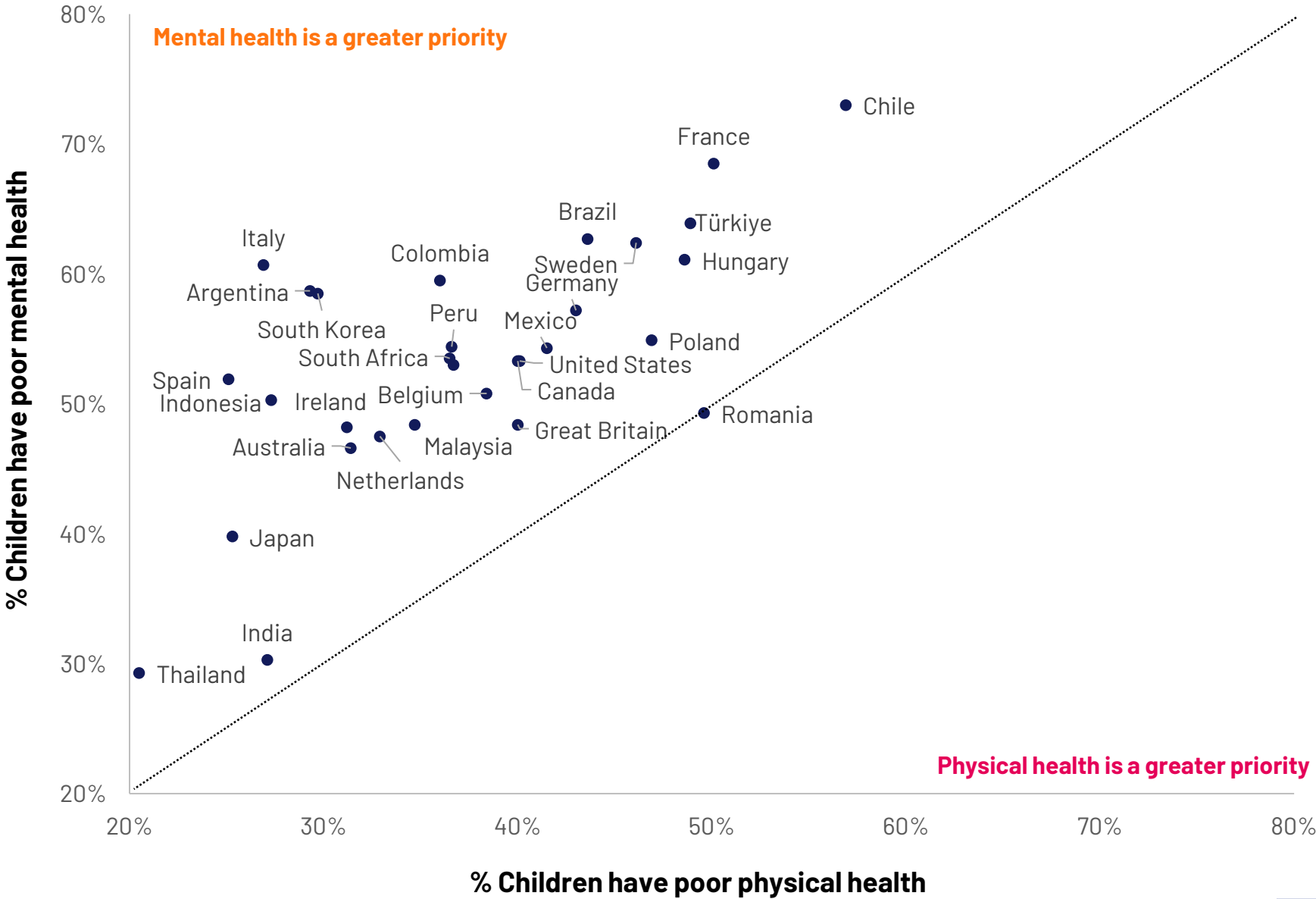




In 29 of the 30 countries surveyed, people are more likely to say children have poor mental health than poor physical health.

Despite this, in many countries, mental health services do not reflect the scale of the problem that exists in many people’s eyes.

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.



# Use of technology and social media

**Earlier this year Netflix drama *Adolescence* started conversations around the world on social media and its effects on young people. In the final episode the protagonist's mother says they thought their son was safe from harm inside their home, in his room, on his computer.**

Our survey finds parents are [more likely to support age restrictions on social media](#) than those without children in school. Three-quarters (74%) of school-age parents say they think children under 14 should be banned from social media. For those who do not have children in school 69% feel the same.

Fifty-five per cent on average think smartphones should be banned in school (57% for parents).

While in all 30 countries a majority feel under-14s should be banned from social media, there is less consensus across countries on banning smartphones in schools.

European countries are the most likely to support [the removal of smartphones from schools](#) (France 80% in favour), Asia is where support is lowest (Thailand 35% in favour).

This division is evident when it comes to role of AI in schools. [Much of Asia is in favour of AI](#) having a role to play in the classroom and are more likely to feel that technology will have a positive impact on education going forward.

English-speaking countries and Western Europe are on the other end of the spectrum. They are more likely

to be in favour of keeping AI out of schools and less likely to think technology will help education in their country.

Over the last two years, as AI has become a greater part of our lives, people are starting to feel more strongly about where the technology has a place and where it does not.

Fifty-five per cent of Canadians feel that AI should be banned in schools, up from 41% in 2023 (the year Chat GPT-4 was introduced). The same goes for social media. Last year 40% of Germans thought under-14s should be banned from social media. In 2025 this figure has grown to 53%.

*Continued overleaf*

# 74%

of parents with school-age children support a ban on social media for children under-14.

# Use of technology and social media

## Can you ban social media for children?

[Indonesia is the country most likely](#) to think the effects of social media is one of the biggest challenges facing young people, as well as the most likely to feel under 14s should be banned from social media.

This year the Indonesian government has discussed the introducing a minimum age for accessing social media.

According to the Indonesia Internet Service Provider Association, [48% of children below the age of 12](#) have access to social media platforms.

Once the genie is out of the bottle and children already have social media accounts, is it just as simple as taking

them away and everything will be fixed? On top of this if there is one thing teenagers are good at it's getting round the rules set for them. For example, does banning alcohol for under-18s stop young people drinking?

This year Australia became the first country to set minimum age controls for social media platforms. Under the legislation under-16s will be banned from the sites from December.

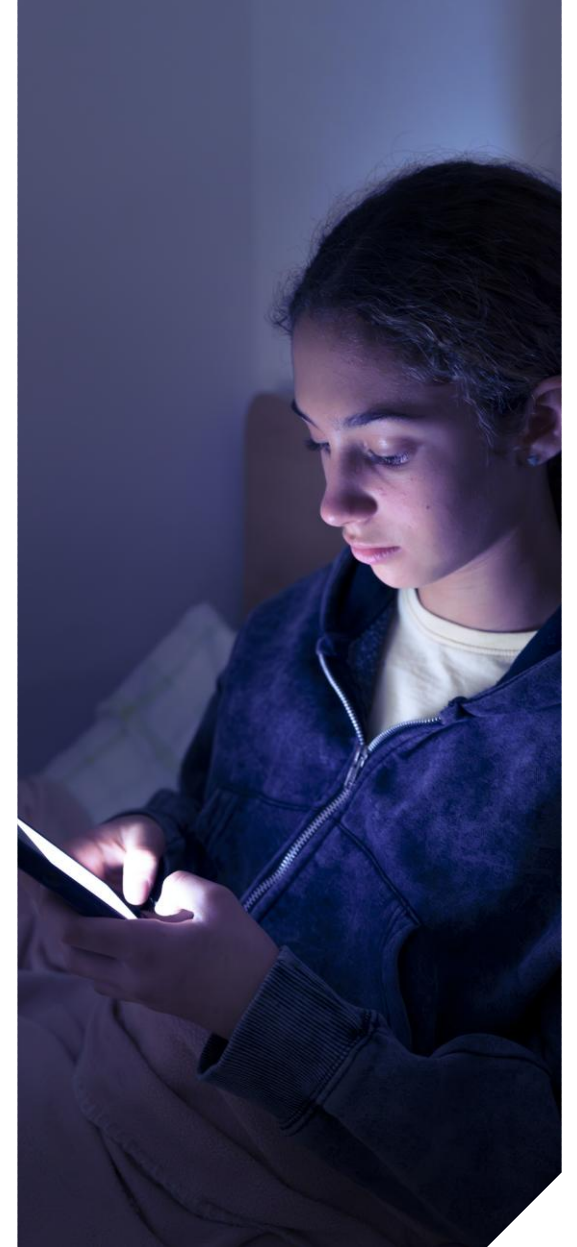
In 2024, [80% of Australian children aged between 8-12](#) used one or more social media services. Under the legislation, social media companies will need to take reasonable steps to ensure accounts belong to those 17 and older.

However, there are questions being raised about the viability of the restrictions.

Facial-scanning technology is seen as one potential area for enforcement, but some recent investigations from Australian broadcaster ABC found the [technology could only guess people's ages](#) within an 18-month range 85% of the time.

While there are questions around the effectiveness of implementing a ban, a lot of countries will be watching to see how Australia fares.

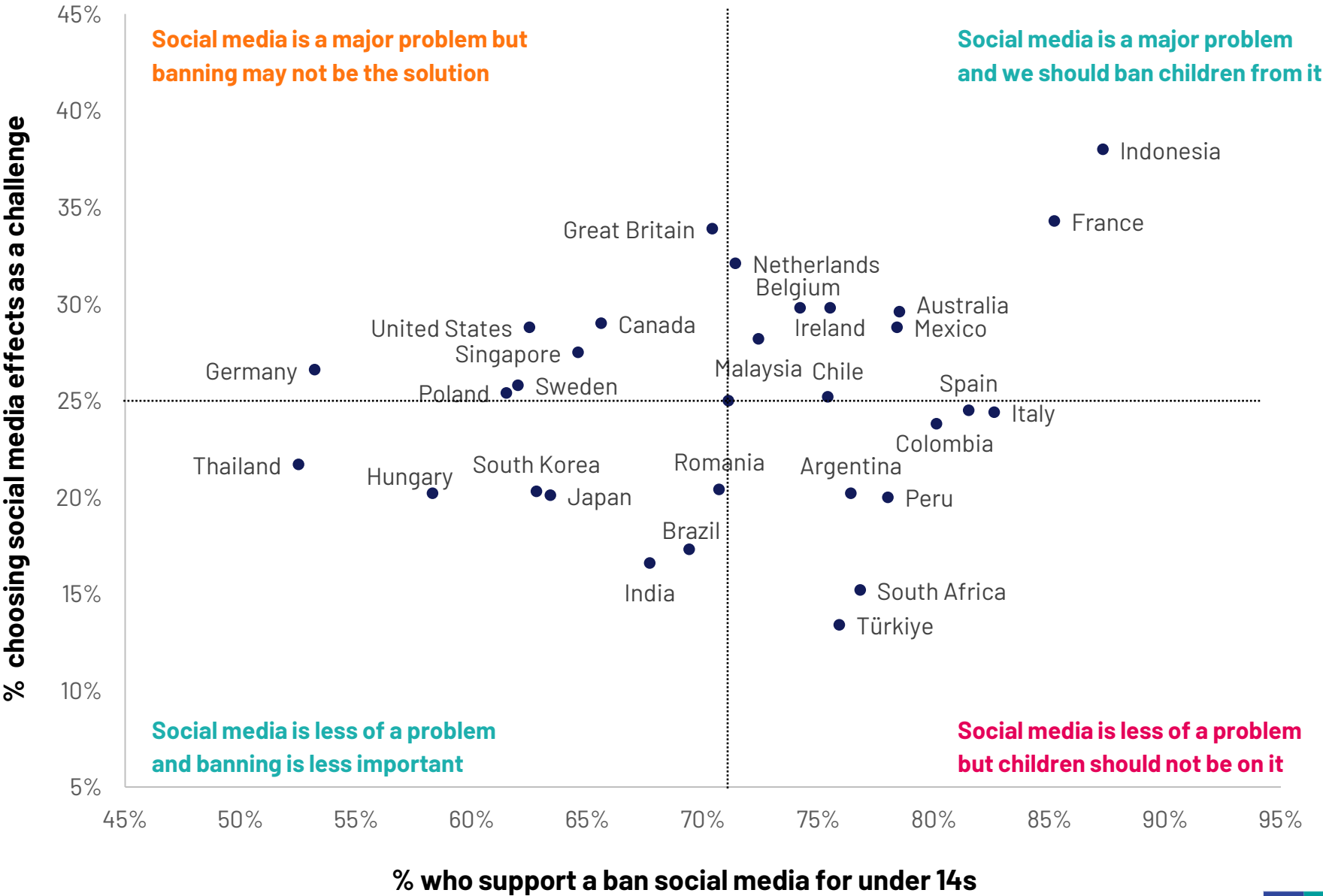
Governments should feel emboldened to act, as we have seen the general public – and in particular parents – feel action is needed.



Indonesia and France are the most likely to think social media is one of the biggest challenges affecting young people and are the biggest supporters of a ban.

While in the US and Germany people see it is a challenge but are less likely to support a ban than the global average.

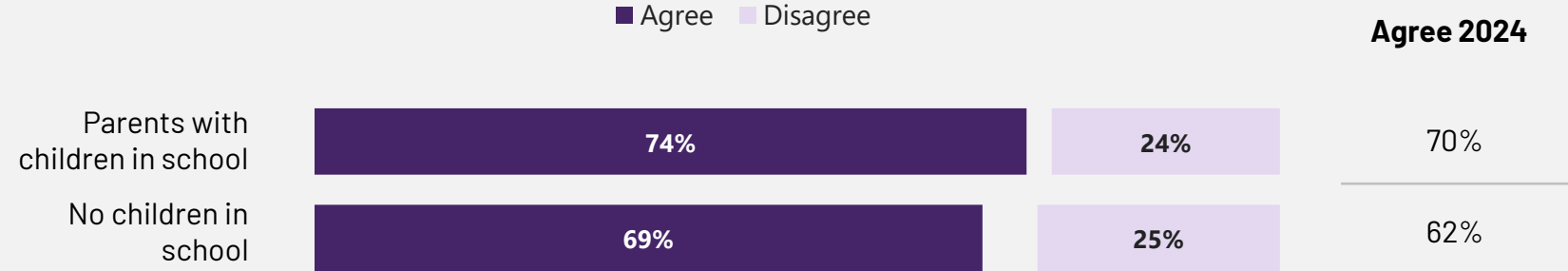
Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.



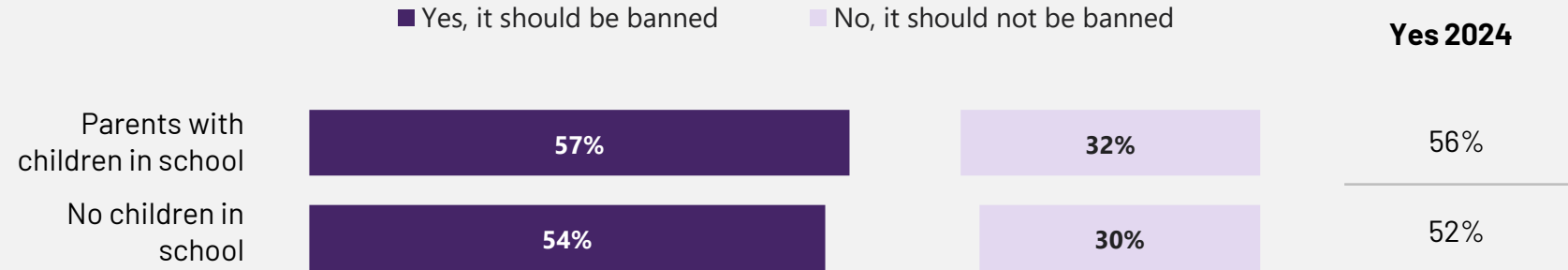
Parents with children in school are more in favour of banning children under 14 from using social media and banning smartphones in school.

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.

Children under 14 should be banned from using social media both inside and outside of school



Q. Do you think the use of smartphones should be banned in schools?





# Your favourite school subject and the role of gender

**Looking back on their school days, people are most likely to say history was their favourite subject.**

[Thirty-two per cent on average](#) across 30 countries say history was their favourite subject, with [Americans most likely](#) to say they enjoyed it most (41%).

Maths is something of a [Marmite subject](#): people either love it or hate it. [Thirty per cent on average](#) say it was their favourite subject, highest in Singapore (42%). However, 37% across 30 countries say it was their least favourite subject.

One in two Romanians (48%) say it was their least favourite subject. Even in Singapore there are people who have bad memories of studying the subject (28%).

## Boy subjects and girl subjects

When it comes to people's favourite subjects, there are some that men tended to favour and some that women preferred.

Men are more likely to have enjoyed studying history, physical education and computer science, while women are more likely to have favoured art and languages.

However, age plays a role in this. The idea of "boy subjects" and "girl subjects" is greater among the oldest generation in our survey: Baby Boomers.

With STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) there is no gap in preference between men and women

in the youngest generation in the survey.

For science, among Baby Boomers there is [a 13-percentage point difference](#), with men more likely to have liked science. For Gen Z there is no difference between men and women in enjoying science.

In recent decades there has been a strong push for more girls to take up STEM subjects and it appears this has been working.

However, women remain under-represented in these subjects. In the UK, [only 31% of students](#) studying STEM subjects in university are female. While some progress has been made there is still a long way to go.



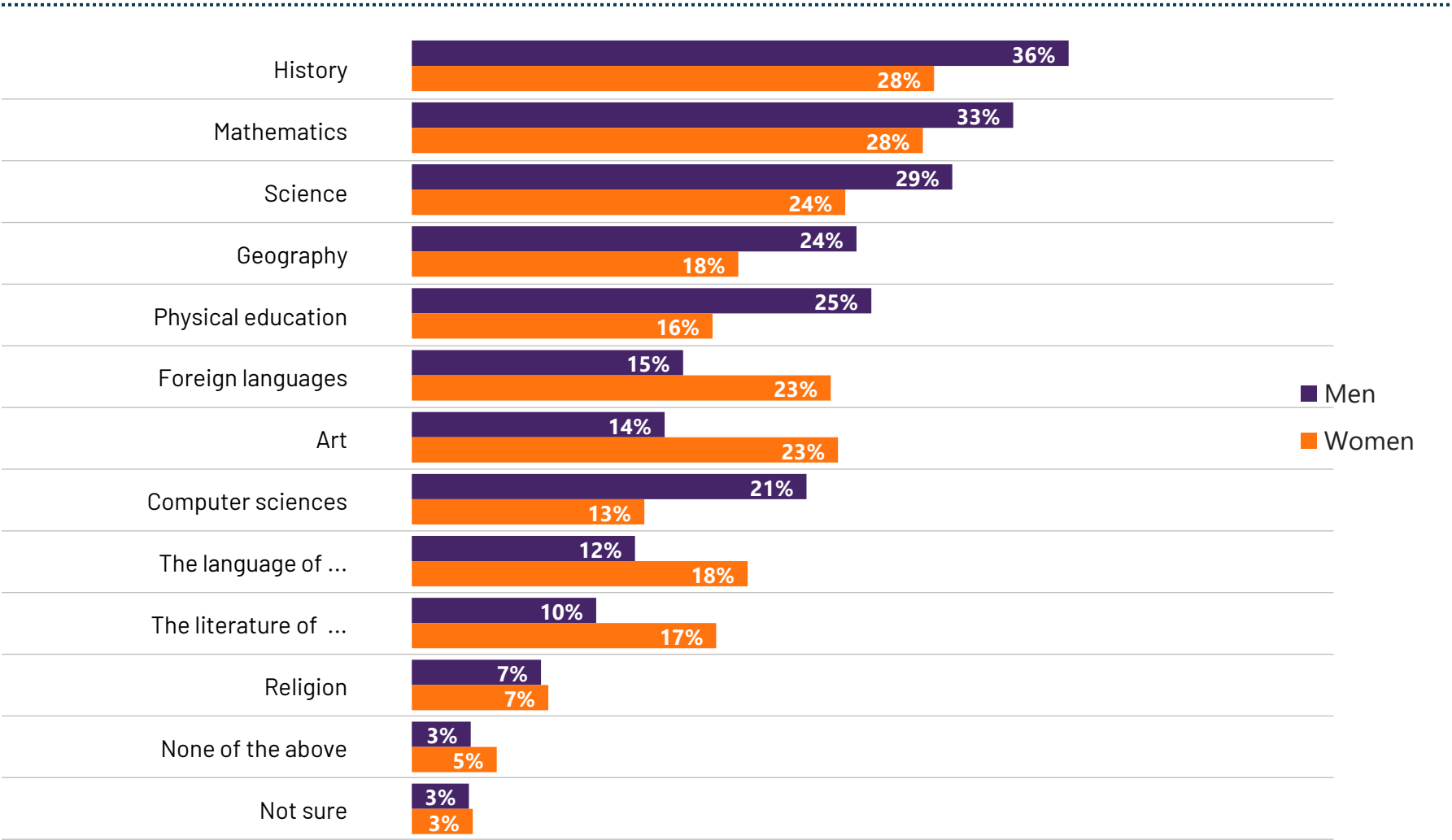
There’s a clear gender divide among the popularity of many of these subjects, with falling along the lines of stereotypical ‘subjects for boys’ and ‘subjects for girls’.

Which, if any, of the following topics were your favourite subjects when you were at school?

(Select up to three answers)

30-country average

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.



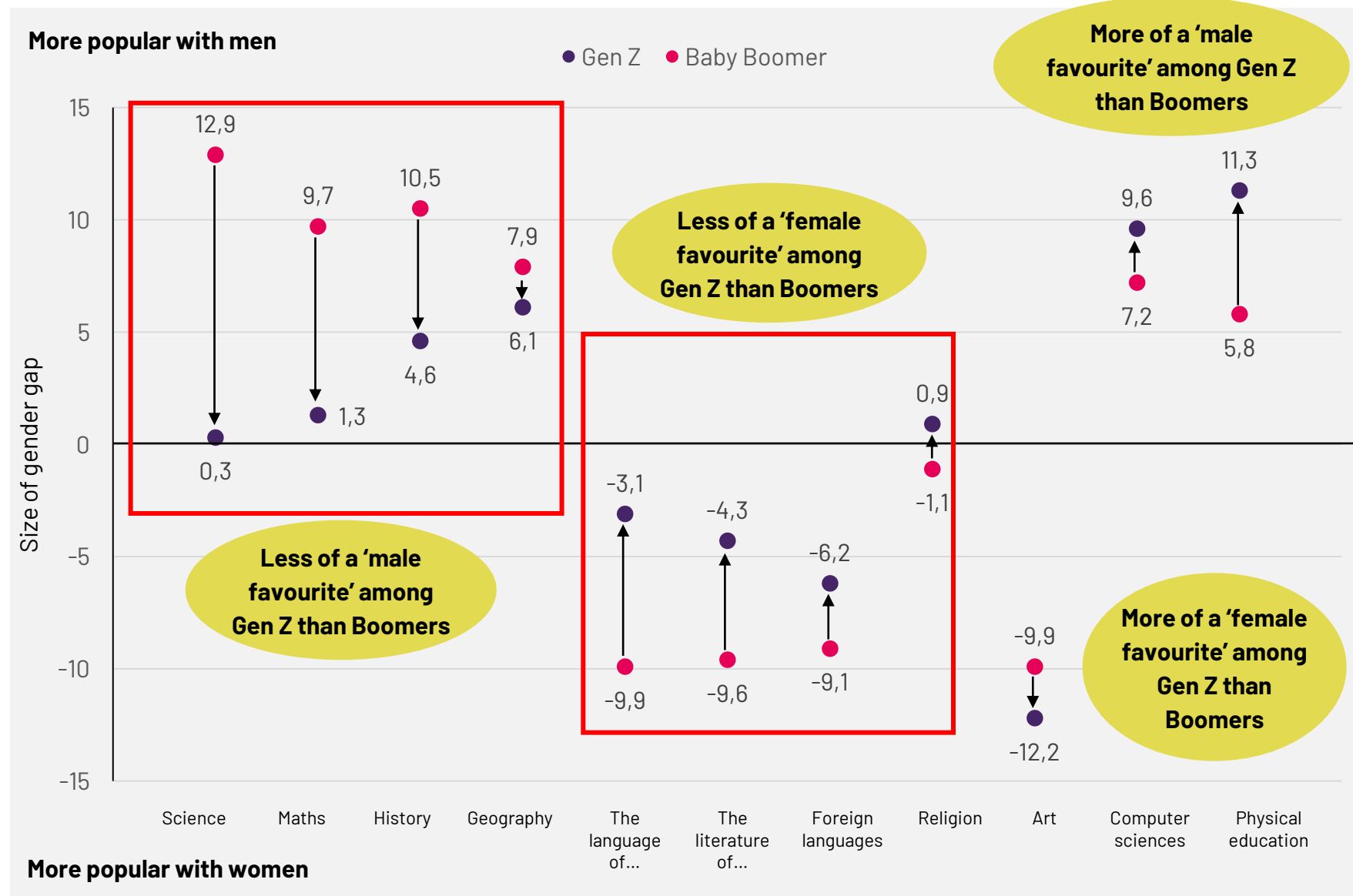
**But encouragingly, for many subjects like science, maths, literature, and language, this gap has shrunk over the generations.**

Which, if any, of the following topics were your favourite subjects when you were at school?

(Select up to three answers)

**30-country average**

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.



Science, history and maths are popular subjects across generations. Religion and PE consistently rank as unpopular.

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.

Q: Which, if any, of the following topics were your **favourite** subjects when you were at school? (Select up to three answers)

Gen Z		Millennials		Gen X		Baby Boomers	
Science	32%	Science	41%	History	31%	History	48%
Maths	32%	History	30%	Science	23%	Maths	33%
History	28%	Maths	28%	Geography	21%	Science	25%
Geography	24%	Computer science	24%	Maths	19%	Geography	24%
Art	19%	Art	19%	PE	19%	Language of....	19%

Q: Which, if any, of the following topics were your **least favourite** subjects when you were at school? (Select up to three answers)

Gen Z		Millennials		Gen X		Baby Boomers	
Religion	30%	Maths	35%	Maths	37%	Religion	41%
PE	22%	PE	29%	Religion	28%	Maths	31%
Science	22%	Religion	27%	PE	25%	Foreign languages	27%
Maths	19%	Foreign Languages	18%	Art	24%	Art	25%
Geography	17%	History	15%	Foreign languages	19%	Science	25%

# PART TWO: Detailed results



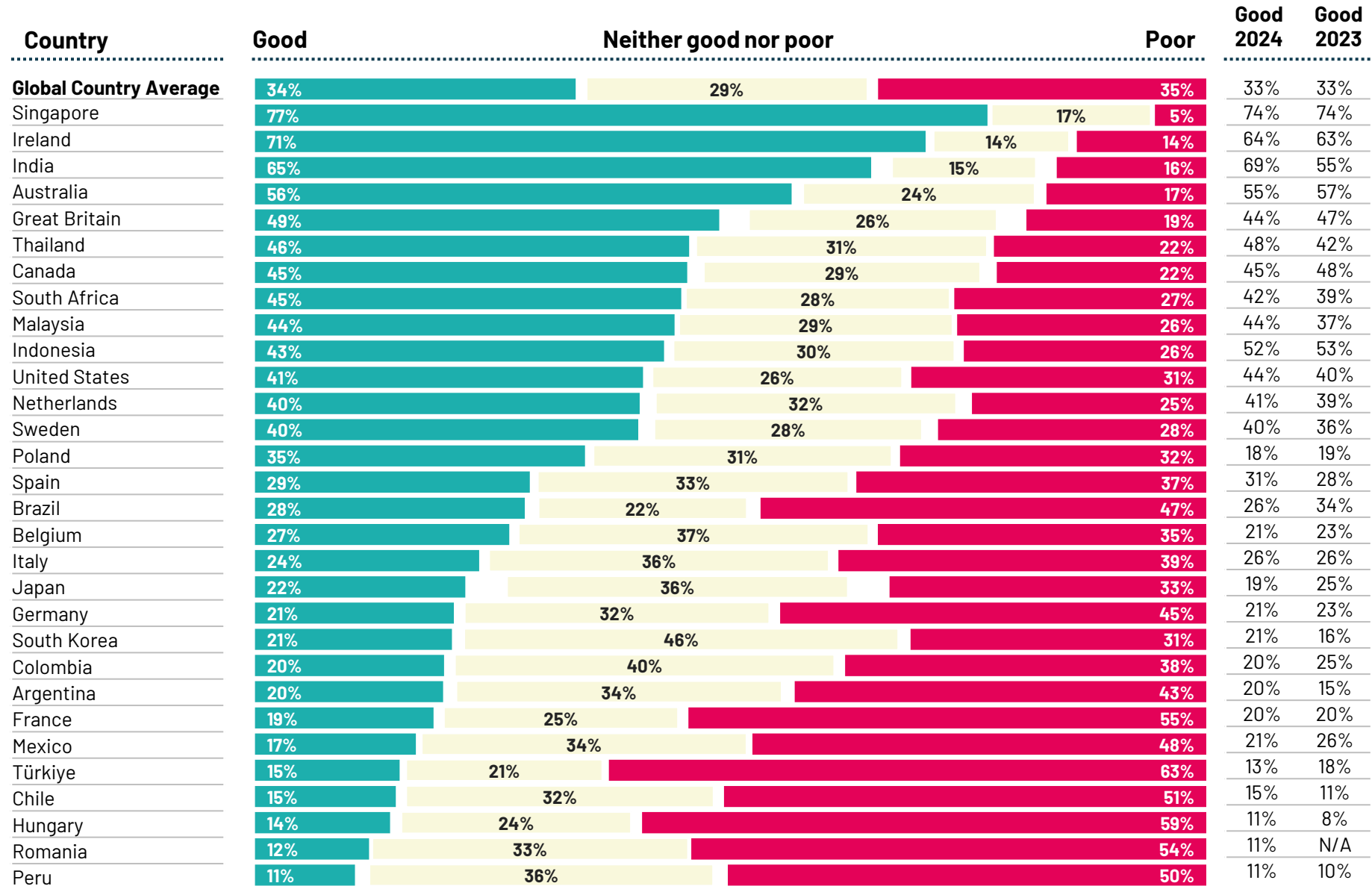


# Perceptions and expectations



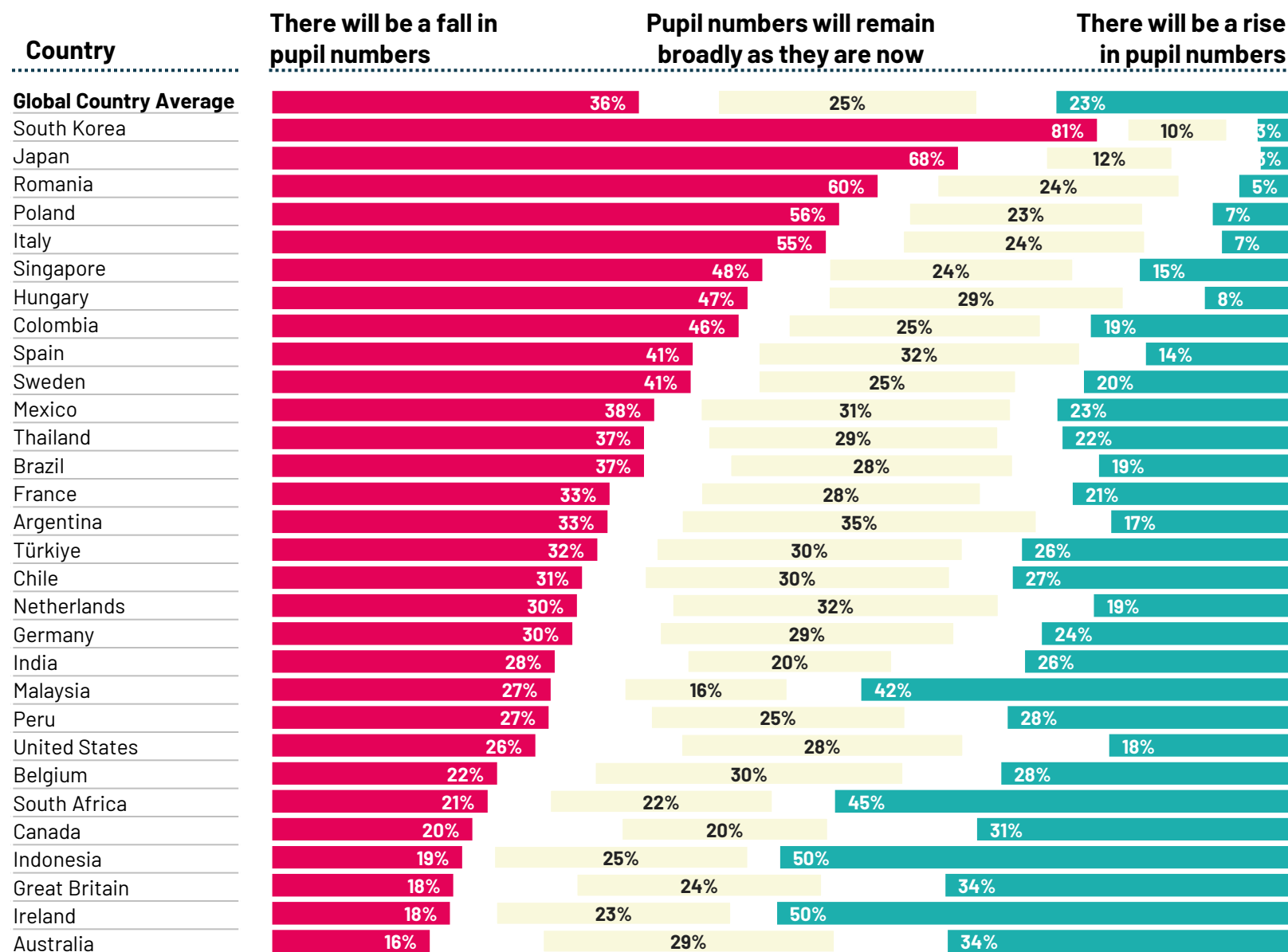
How would you rate the overall quality of the education system in your country?

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.



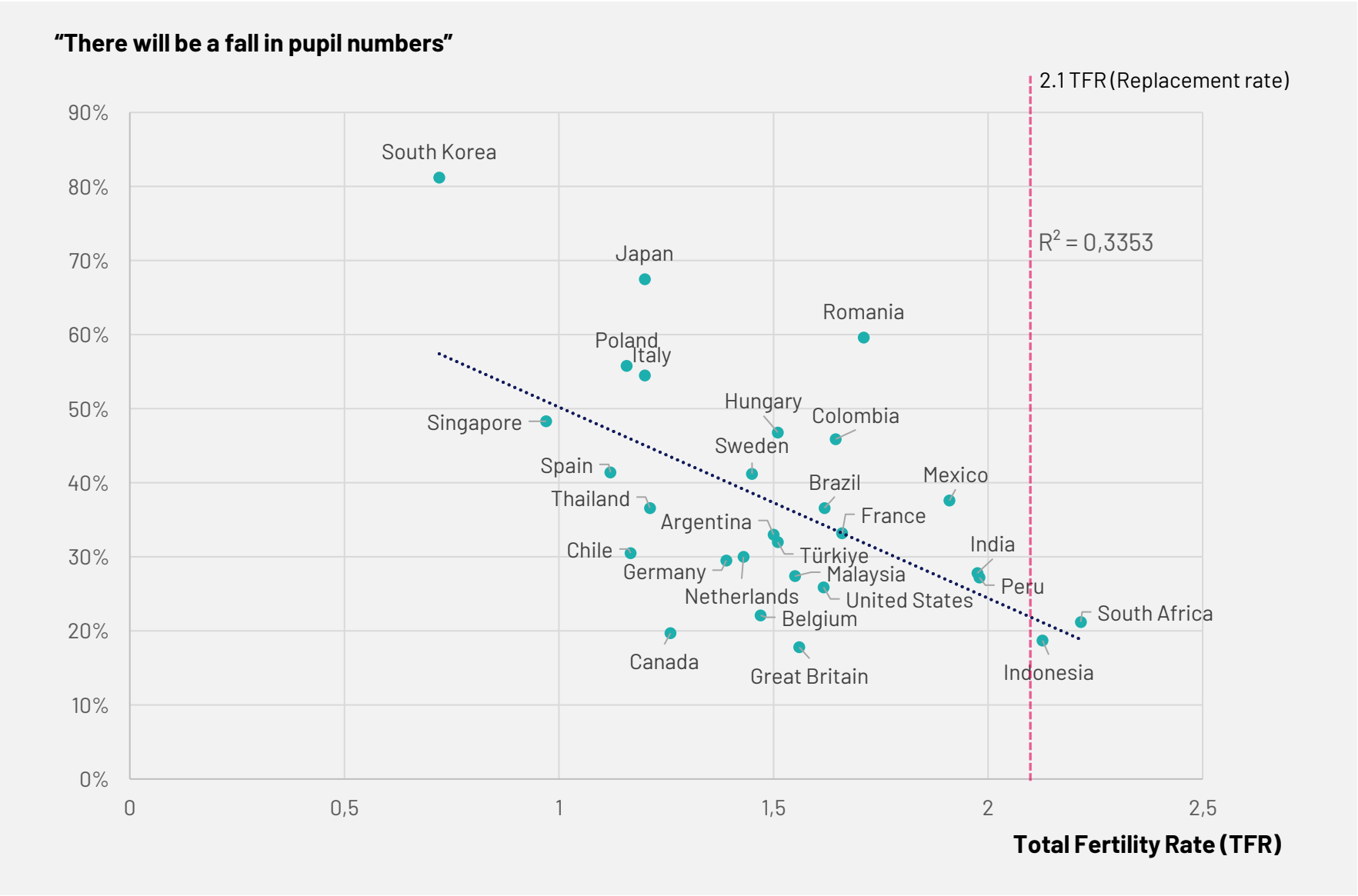
Over the next 5 years or so, which of the following do you think will happen to schools in your local area?

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.



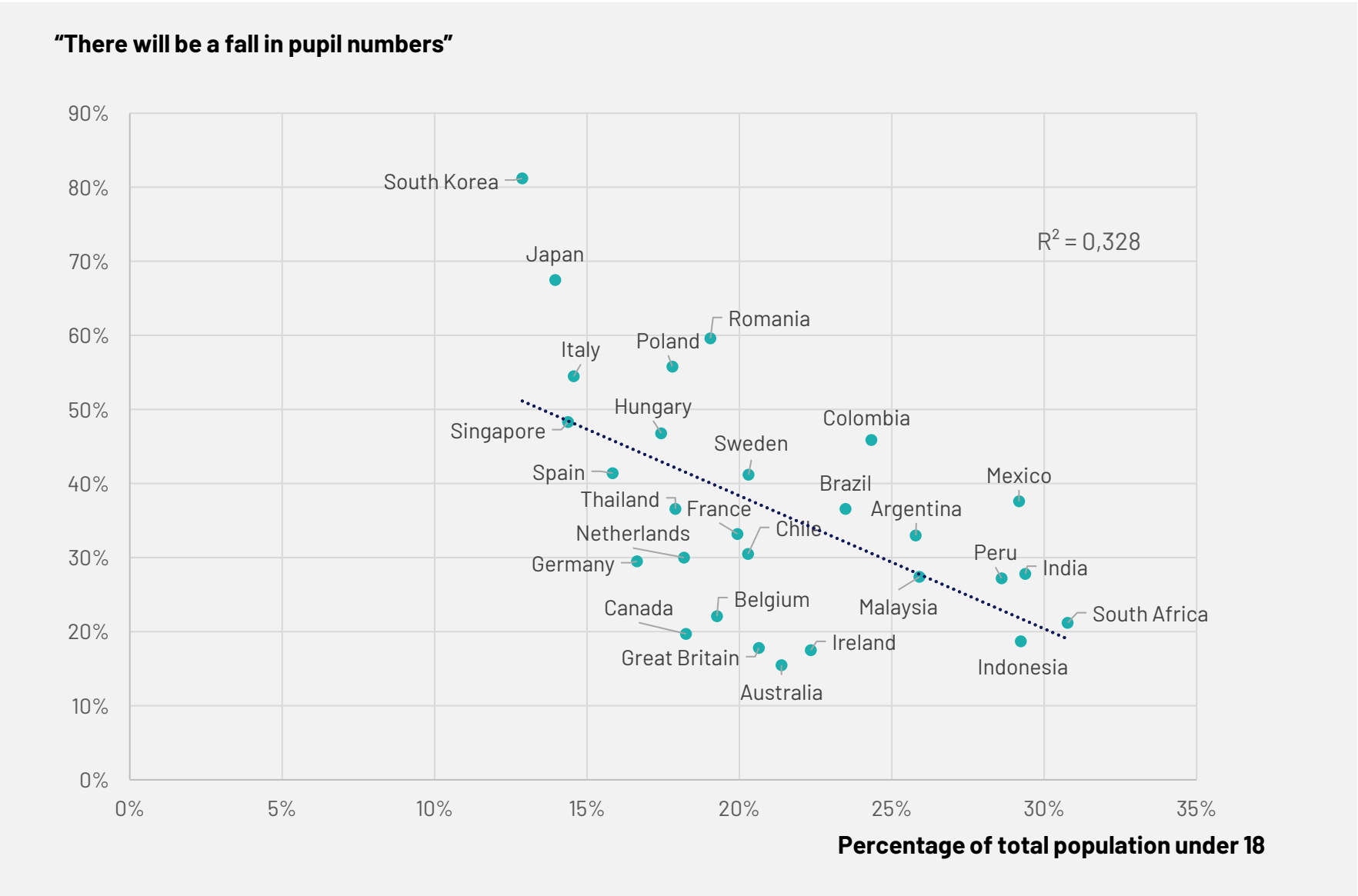
Generally speaking, the lower the fertility rate, the more likely people are to expect a fall in pupil numbers. But there are marked variations by country.

The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) represents the average number of children a woman is expected to have in her lifetime.



Q: Over the next 5 years or so, which of the following do you think will happen to schools in your local area? vs Total Fertility Rate  
<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.DYN.TFRT.IN>

Countries with a lower percentage of under 18s tend to be more likely to expect a fall in pupil numbers.



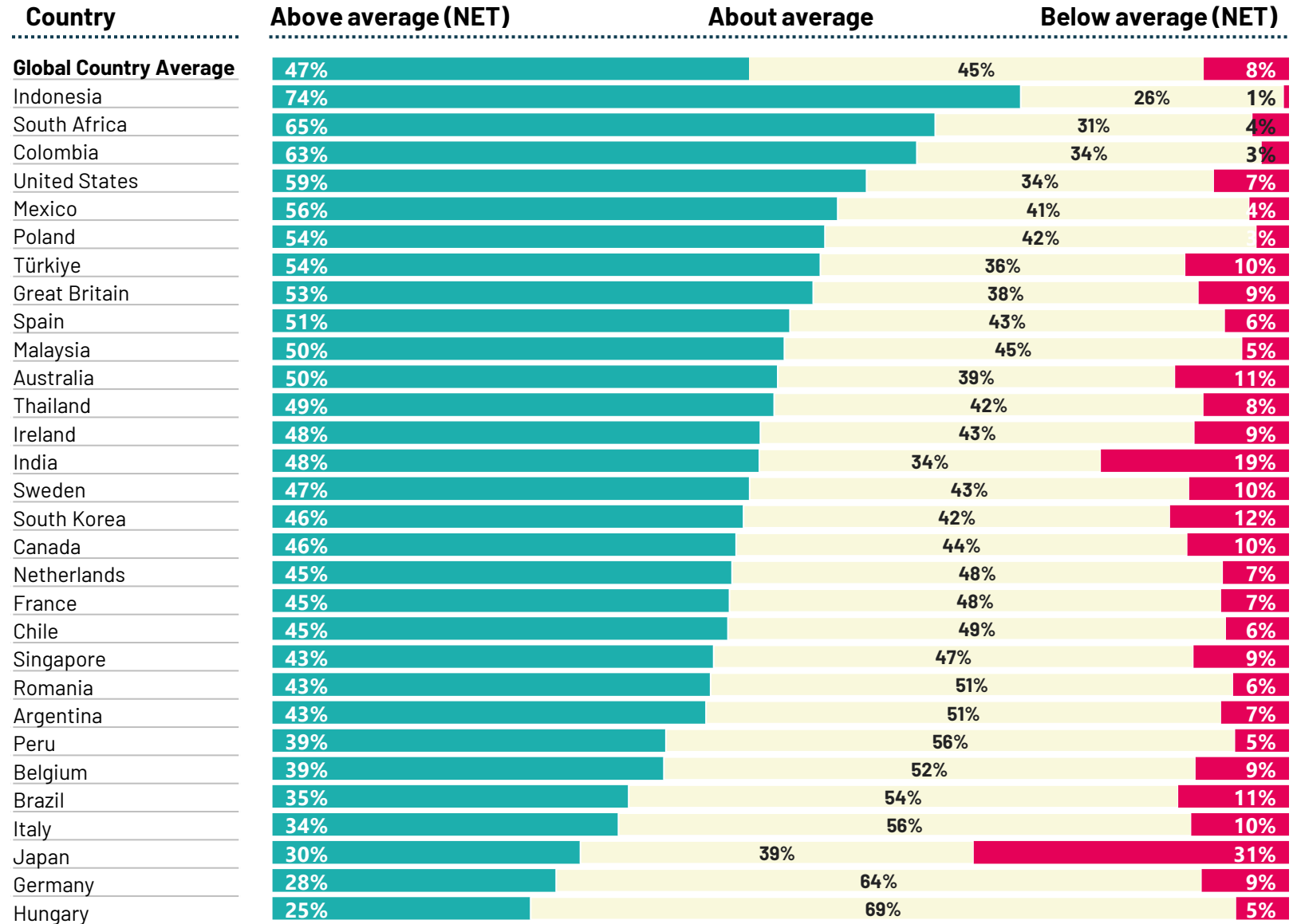
Q: Over the next 5 years or so, which of the following do you think will happen to schools in your local area? vs Percentage of total population under 18.  
United Nations, Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division (2024). *World Population Prospects: The 2024 Revision*, custom data acquired via website.  
<https://population.un.org/wpp/>



In many countries, people think they were better in school than they likely were. In nine countries, a majority of people say their own academic performance was above average.

Thinking back to when you were at school, how would you rate your own academic performance?

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.



# Challenges facing education and young people



In your opinion, what do you believe are the greatest challenges facing the education system in your country?

(Select up to three answers)

### 30-country average

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.

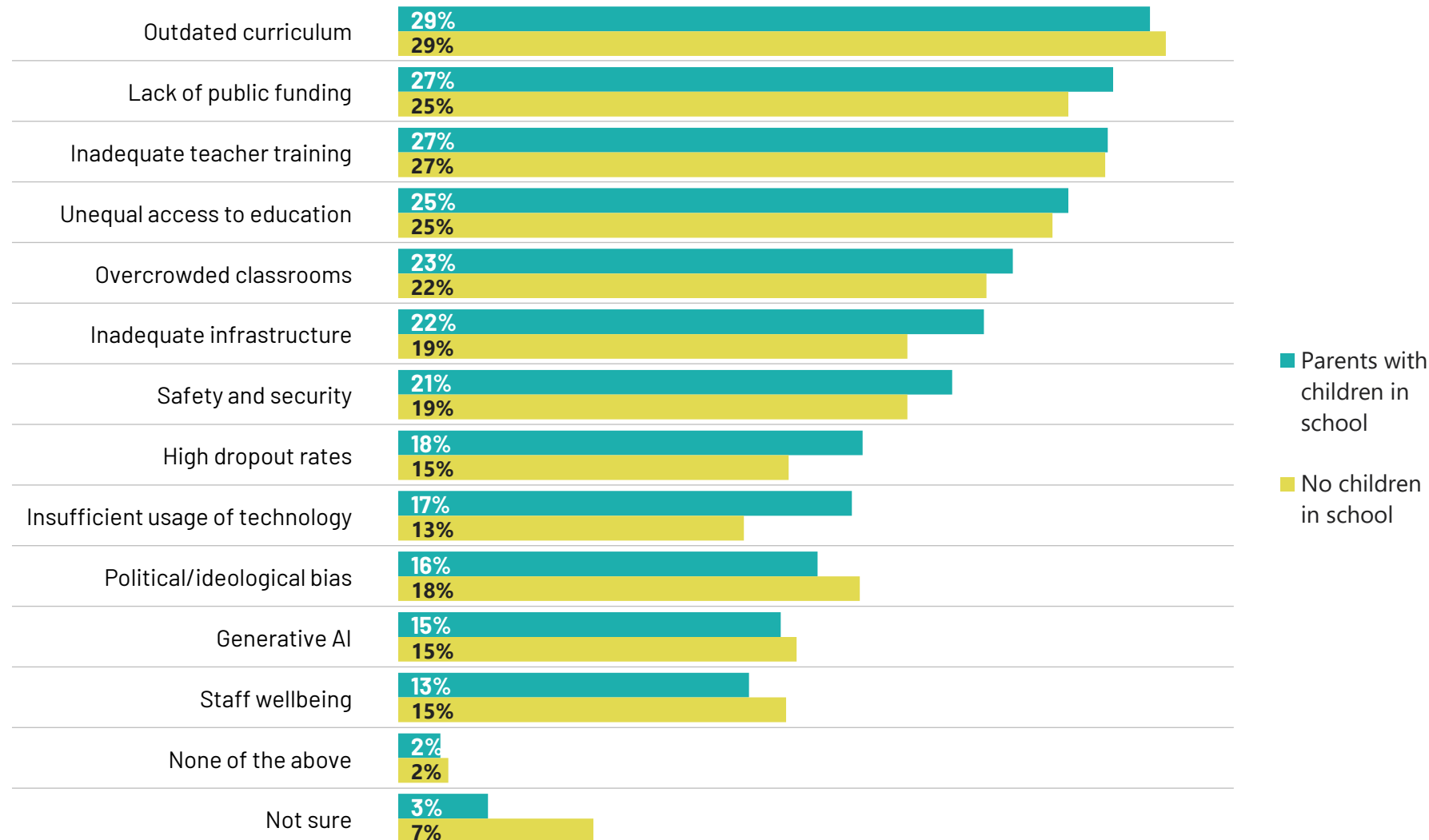
		2024	2023
Outdated curriculum	29%	29%	30%
Inadequate teacher training	27%	27%	25%
Lack of public funding	26%	26%	27%
Unequal access to education	25%	26%	29%
Overcrowded classrooms	23%	26%	29%
Inadequate infrastructure	21%	22%	24%
Safety and security	20%	17%	17%
Political/ideological bias	17%	18%	21%
High dropout rates	16%	17%	18%
Insufficient usage of technology	15%	16%	20%
Generative AI	15%	10%	N/A
Staff wellbeing	14%	15%	N/A
None of the above	2%	2%	2%
Not sure	6%	6%	7%

In your opinion, what do you believe are the greatest challenges facing the education system in your country?

(Select up to three answers)

### 30-country average

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.



# Biggest educational challenges

Q. In your opinion, what do you believe are the greatest challenges facing the education system in your country?

#1 challenge  
#2 challenge  
#3 challenge

	30-Country Average	Argentina	Australia	Belgium	Brazil	Canada	Chile	Colombia	France	Germany	Great Britain	Hungary	India	Indonesia	Ireland	Italy	Japan	Malaysia	Mexico	Netherlands	Peru	Poland	Romania	Singapore	South Africa	South Korea	Spain	Sweden	Thailand	Türkiye	United States
Outdated curriculum	29%	37%	22%	25%	10%	23%	29%	28%	29%	36%	22%	40%	22%	25%	28%	35%	30%	24%	38%	19%	38%	44%	51%	21%	19%	29%	35%	17%	40%	33%	20%
Inadequate teacher training	27%	30%	24%	25%	20%	18%	26%	26%	23%	30%	17%	27%	23%	30%	19%	33%	42%	26%	37%	26%	38%	32%	38%	21%	21%	26%	22%	29%	19%	39%	19%
Lack of public funding	26%	43%	29%	29%	34%	34%	30%	36%	30%	18%	37%	35%	16%	18%	30%	29%	19%	22%	26%	27%	24%	19%	26%	10%	27%	10%	32%	27%	24%	12%	33%
Unequal access to education	25%	26%	17%	13%	37%	11%	33%	30%	16%	24%	17%	25%	22%	59%	16%	15%	14%	35%	19%	21%	28%	19%	22%	14%	28%	46%	18%	29%	46%	32%	21%
Overcrowded classrooms	23%	13%	27%	37%	18%	38%	30%	18%	39%	31%	31%	7%	22%	13%	40%	11%	6%	19%	17%	40%	17%	13%	9%	15%	40%	4%	23%	41%	8%	35%	23%
Inadequate infrastructure	21%	24%	13%	16%	29%	19%	25%	30%	11%	18%	20%	19%	12%	37%	19%	39%	8%	27%	28%	4%	41%	12%	19%	5%	29%	19%	18%	6%	24%	34%	11%
Safety and security	20%	16%	20%	17%	23%	17%	37%	22%	41%	18%	20%	13%	19%	8%	20%	16%	17%	12%	24%	16%	23%	17%	19%	14%	30%	24%	13%	19%	15%	16%	34%
Political/ideological bias	17%	16%	15%	11%	15%	20%	11%	14%	13%	16%	16%	29%	16%	8%	15%	14%	9%	26%	11%	17%	9%	32%	10%	13%	15%	28%	20%	14%	18%	26%	31%
High dropout rates	16%	24%	11%	22%	18%	11%	16%	22%	14%	13%	8%	12%	19%	22%	8%	14%	6%	20%	18%	23%	12%	12%	34%	10%	26%	7%	19%	21%	15%	11%	12%
Insufficient usage of technology	15%	14%	7%	10%	11%	6%	14%	20%	5%	19%	8%	14%	18%	29%	13%	16%	13%	27%	22%	8%	25%	19%	17%	12%	25%	7%	9%	6%	31%	14%	9%
Generative AI	15%	7%	29%	19%	7%	22%	7%	10%	12%	15%	17%	7%	9%	13%	27%	15%	7%	20%	10%	24%	7%	17%	13%	43%	9%	13%	16%	12%	12%	8%	19%
Staff wellbeing	14%	7%	26%	25%	7%	14%	9%	6%	20%	11%	24%	10%	13%	14%	19%	11%	20%	10%	10%	25%	6%	14%	9%	28%	8%	13%	11%	31%	6%	5%	14%

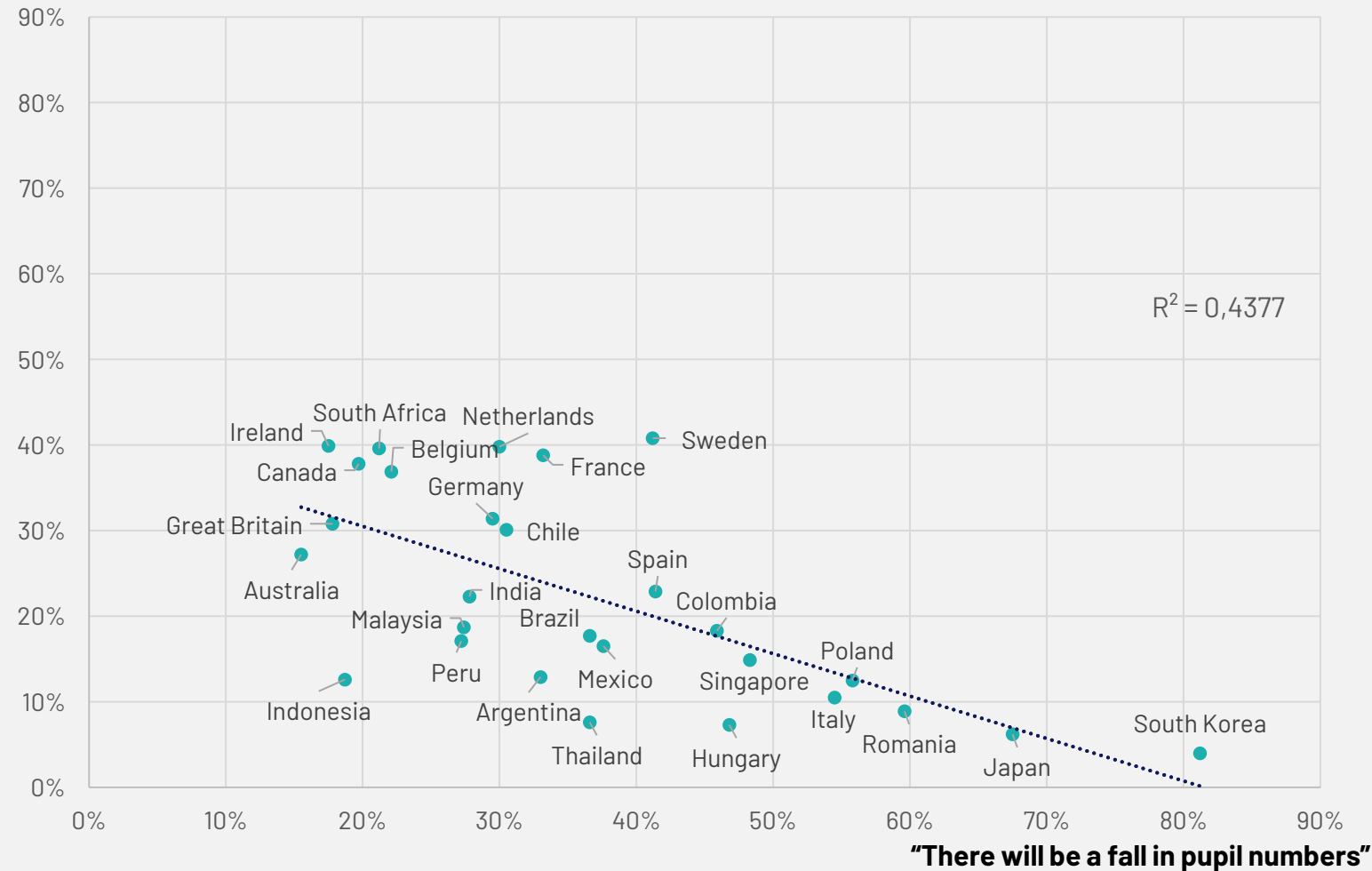
Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.



People who expect to see a decline in pupil numbers over the next five years are also less likely to see overcrowded classrooms as a key challenge facing their country's education system.

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.

% “overcrowded classrooms” are one of the greatest challenges facing the education system in my country

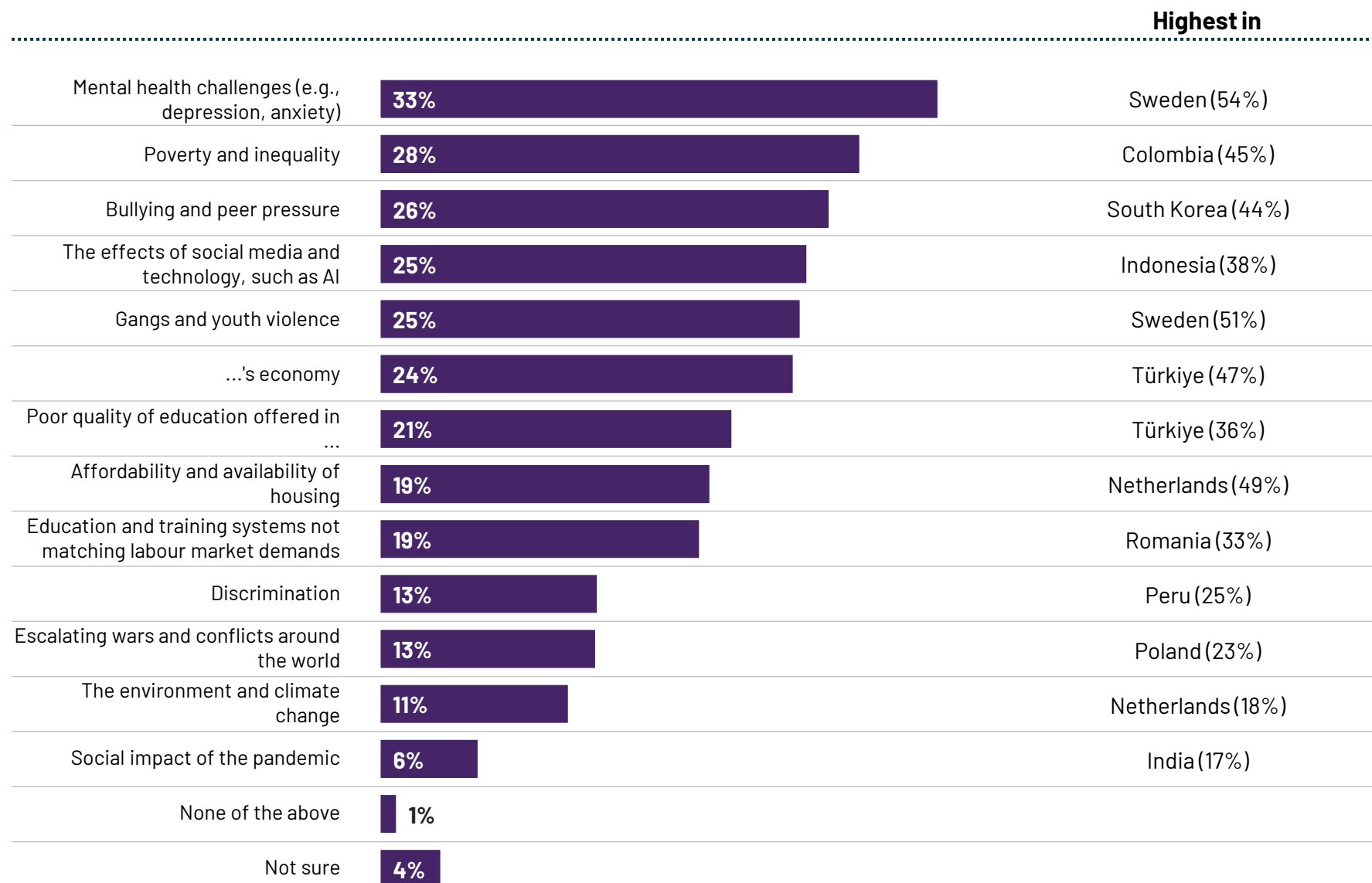


Q: In your opinion, what do you believe are the greatest challenges facing the education system in your country? vs. Q: Over the next 5 years or so, which of the following do you think will happen to schools in your local area?

In your opinion, what do you believe are the greatest challenges facing young people in your country today?  
(Select up to three answers)

### 30-country average

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.



# Biggest challenges facing young people

Q. In your opinion, what do you believe are the greatest challenges facing young people in your country today?

#1 challenge  
#2 challenge  
#3 challenge

	30- Country Average	Argentina	Australia	Belgium	Brazil	Canada	Chile	Colombia	France	Germany	Great Britain	Hungary	India	Indonesia	Ireland	Italy	Japan	Malaysia	Mexico	Netherlands	Peru	Poland	Romania	Singapore	South Africa	South Korea	Spain	Sweden	Thailand	Türkiye	United States
Mental health challenges (e.g., depression, anxiety)	<b>33%</b>	37%	38%	28%	30%	40%	43%	37%	26%	24%	32%	34%	15%	28%	44%	27%	33%	37%	26%	33%	29%	33%	19%	49%	32%	38%	29%	54%	39%	14%	39%
Poverty and inequality	<b>28%</b>	30%	19%	22%	40%	23%	29%	45%	17%	25%	23%	38%	18%	38%	22%	21%	31%	27%	35%	20%	43%	17%	37%	13%	41%	23%	22%	18%	30%	44%	21%
Bullying and peer pressure	<b>26%</b>	43%	37%	30%	30%	27%	21%	8%	35%	33%	29%	18%	14%	30%	29%	32%	33%	26%	10%	29%	8%	29%	41%	32%	37%	44%	19%	27%	11%	30%	29%
The effects of social media and technology, such as AI	<b>25%</b>	26%	30%	30%	17%	29%	25%	24%	34%	27%	34%	20%	17%	38%	30%	24%	20%	28%	29%	32%	20%	25%	20%	28%	15%	20%	25%	26%	22%	13%	29%
Gangs and youth violence	<b>25%</b>	13%	29%	28%	20%	16%	41%	38%	33%	23%	32%	11%	14%	26%	20%	29%	7%	17%	28%	19%	37%	16%	18%	14%	38%	36%	16%	51%	16%	19%	20%
...s economy	<b>24%</b>	24%	17%	18%	19%	25%	20%	28%	15%	14%	19%	26%	19%	29%	18%	25%	34%	33%	27%	9%	27%	17%	27%	23%	30%	19%	27%	12%	47%	47%	21%
Poor quality of education offered in ...	<b>21%</b>	16%	11%	18%	31%	10%	30%	24%	27%	25%	9%	27%	15%	31%	5%	21%	16%	19%	35%	15%	34%	18%	33%	4%	24%	9%	16%	14%	14%	36%	19%
Affordability and availability of housing	<b>19%</b>	16%	33%	28%	5%	34%	11%	8%	12%	19%	26%	38%	14%	5%	47%	8%	6%	13%	10%	49%	6%	26%	8%	37%	10%	10%	43%	19%	14%	8%	21%
Education and training systems not matching labour market demands	<b>19%</b>	24%	11%	15%	22%	16%	19%	23%	18%	18%	12%	19%	13%	23%	11%	23%	11%	19%	26%	12%	23%	23%	34%	14%	29%	15%	18%	13%	20%	24%	15%
Discrimination	<b>13%</b>	14%	8%	12%	16%	8%	16%	15%	14%	13%	7%	11%	12%	12%	9%	12%	6%	17%	16%	8%	25%	12%	12%	10%	12%	15%	9%	9%	17%	14%	15%
Escalating wars and conflicts around the world	<b>13%</b>	7%	12%	17%	6%	8%	6%	11%	12%	20%	14%	11%	16%	11%	14%	15%	11%	18%	9%	20%	6%	23%	14%	14%	3%	9%	14%	18%	14%	13%	14%
The environment and Climate change	<b>11%</b>	7%	13%	13%	5%	11%	4%	6%	18%	14%	11%	10%	15%	8%	13%	17%	11%	10%	10%	18%	6%	16%	6%	15%	2%	15%	13%	14%	14%	8%	10%
Social impact of the pandemic	<b>6%</b>	4%	6%	3%	4%	7%	6%	2%	3%	7%	8%	3%	17%	5%	7%	4%	3%	10%	7%	5%	6%	6%	5%	8%	6%	4%	3%	2%	8%	6%	8%

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.

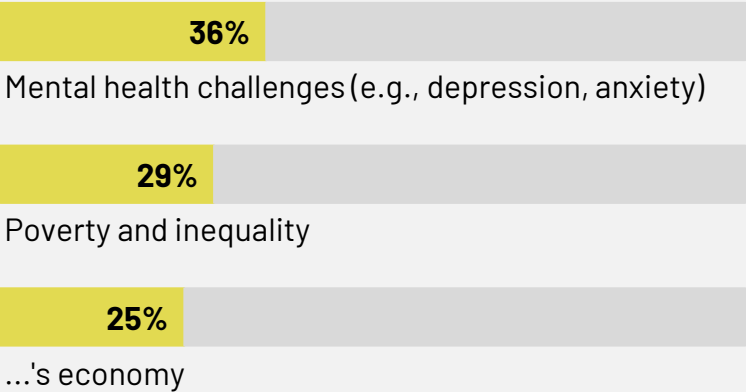
In your opinion, what do you believe are the greatest challenges facing young people in your country today?

(Select up to three answers)

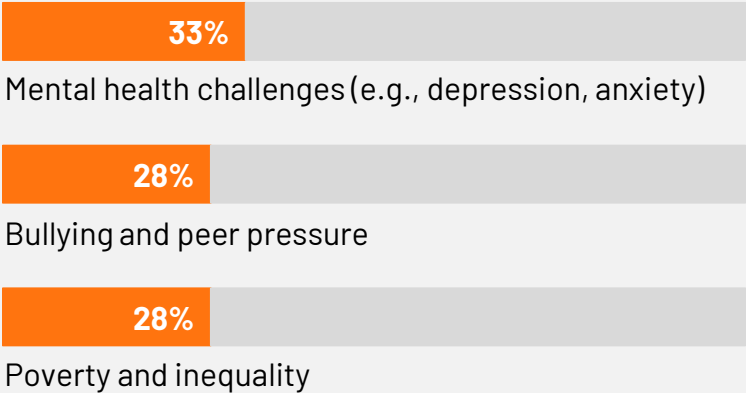
Top three challenges by generation. 30-country average.

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.

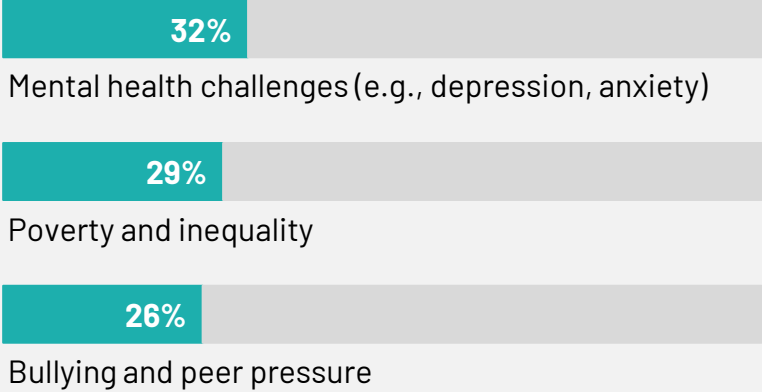
Gen Z



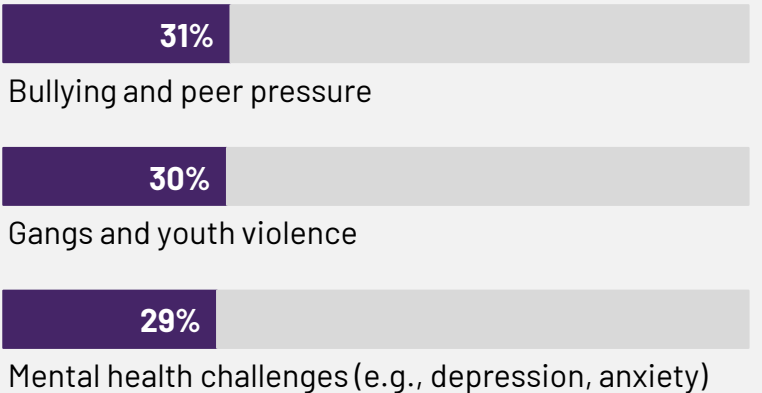
Gen X



Millennials

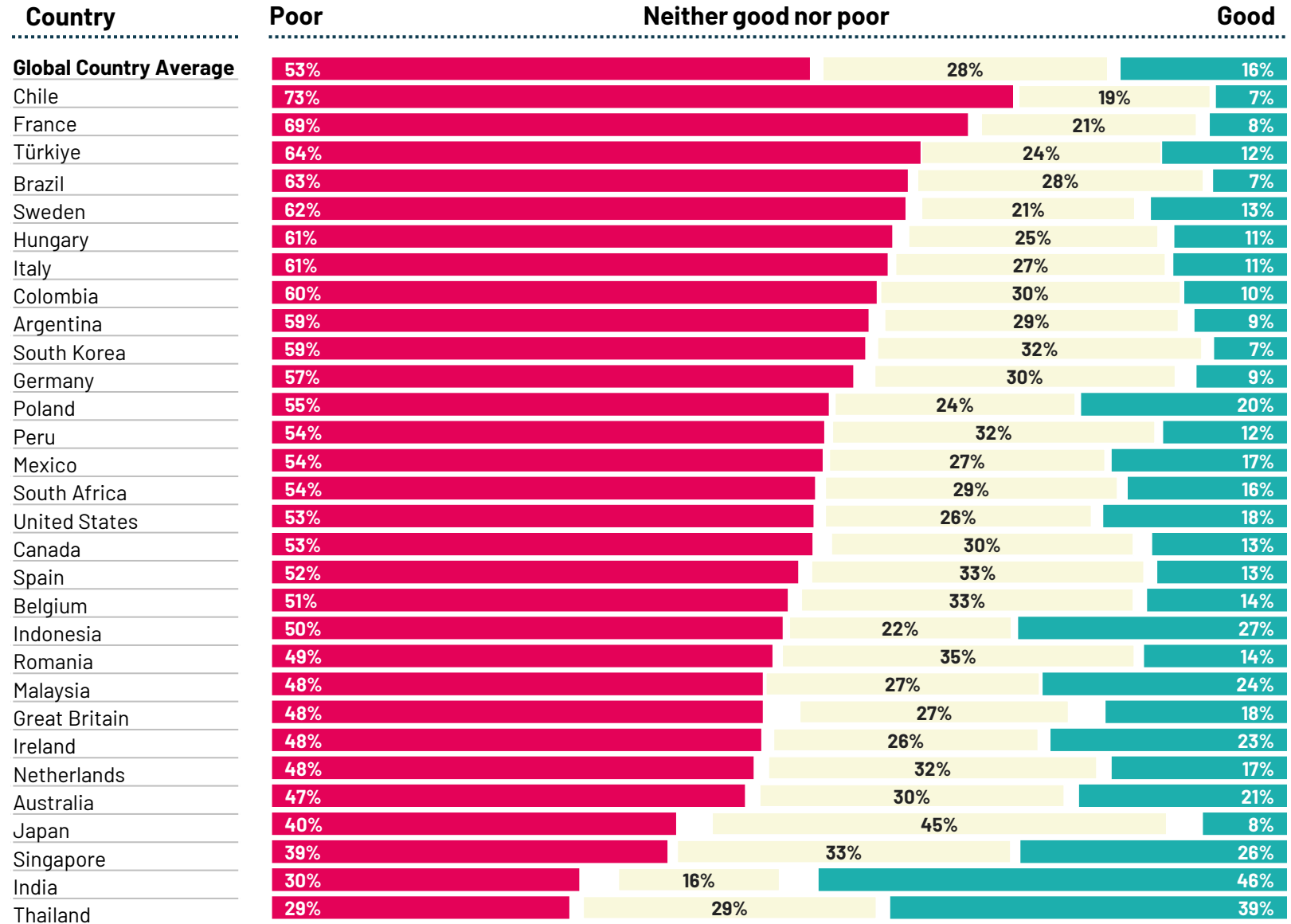


Boomers



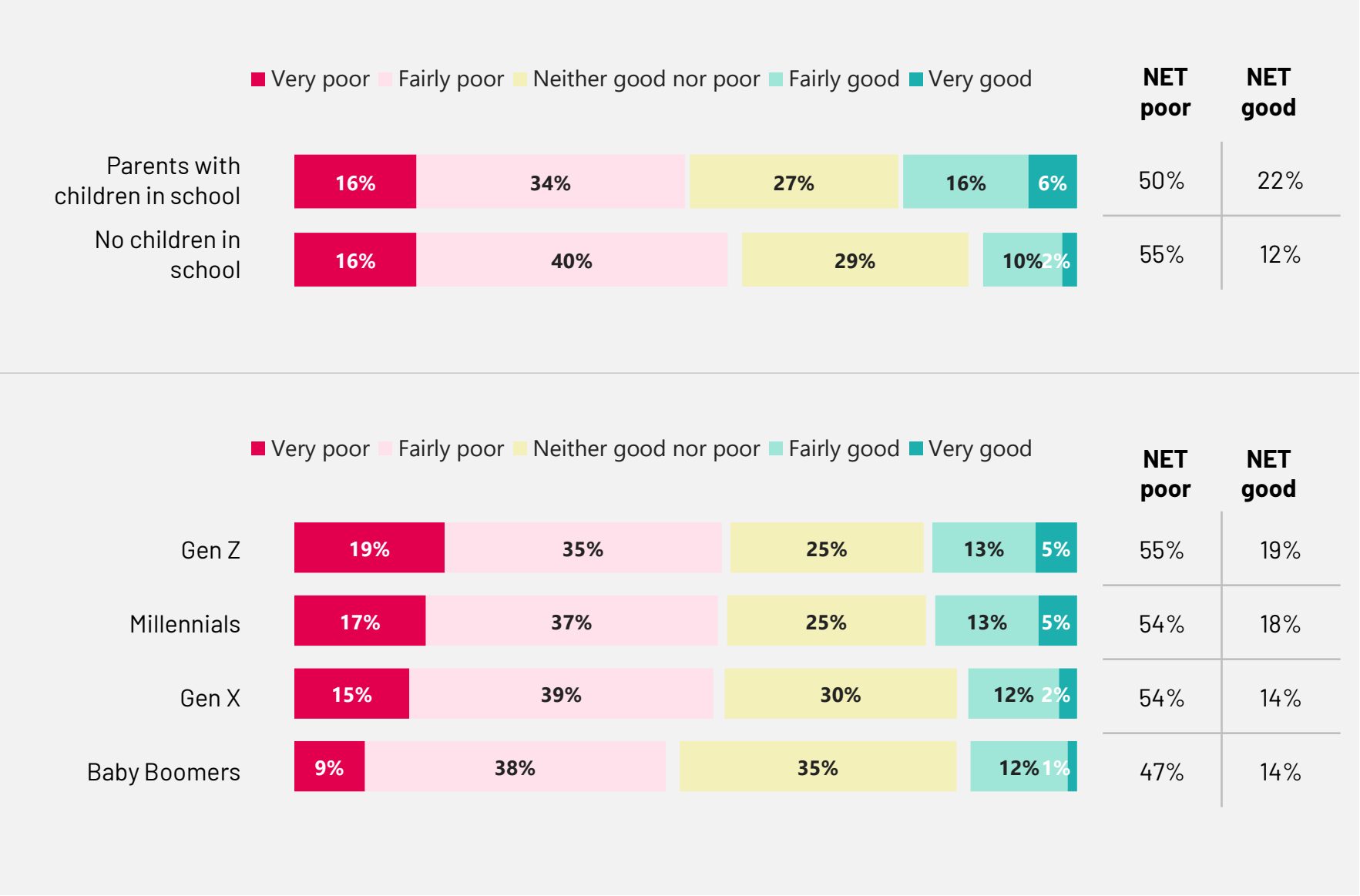
How would you describe the state of the following? – The mental health of young people in ... today

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.



How would you describe the state of the following? – The mental health of young people in ... today

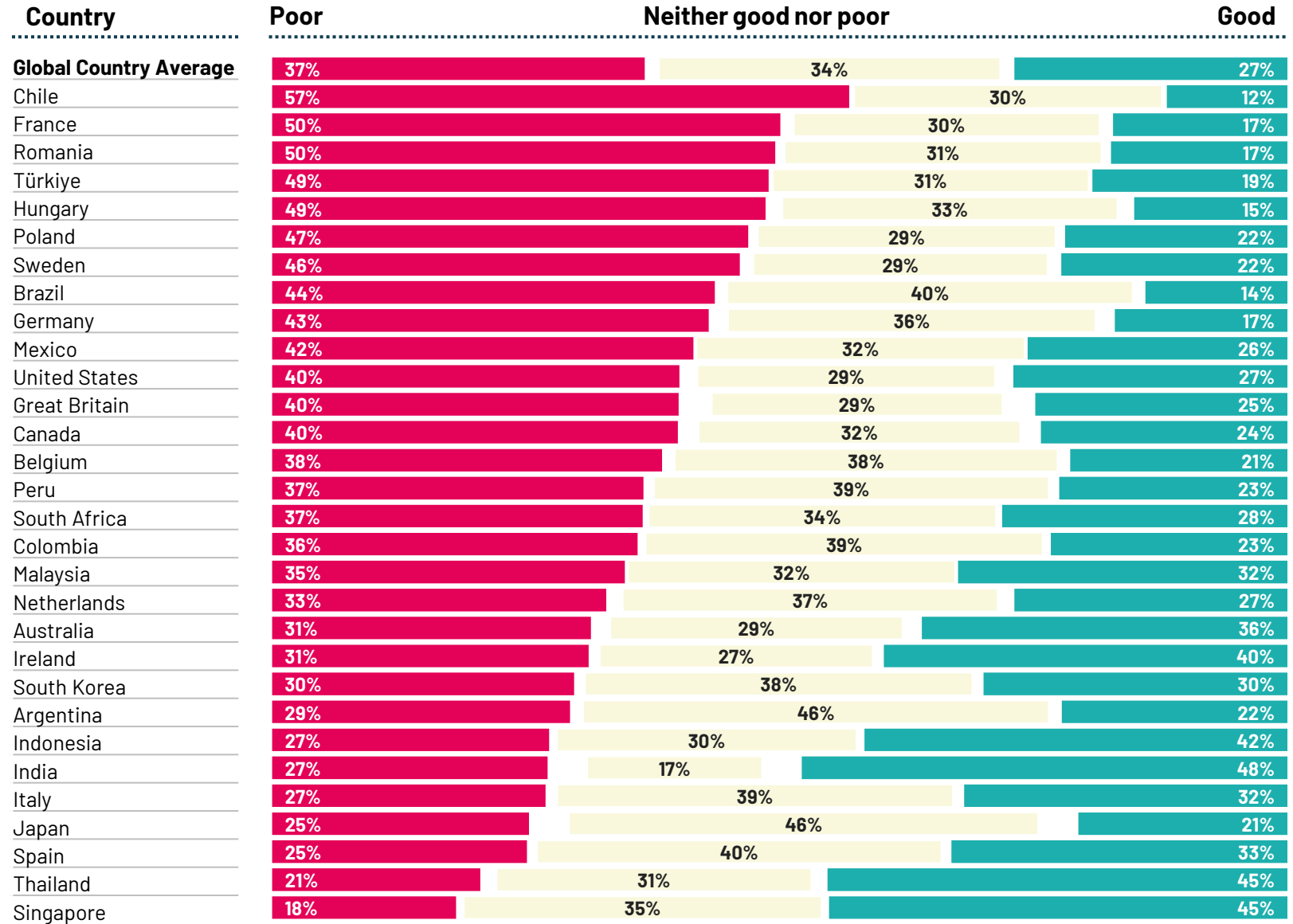
Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.





How would you describe the state of the following? – The physical health of young people in ... today

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.



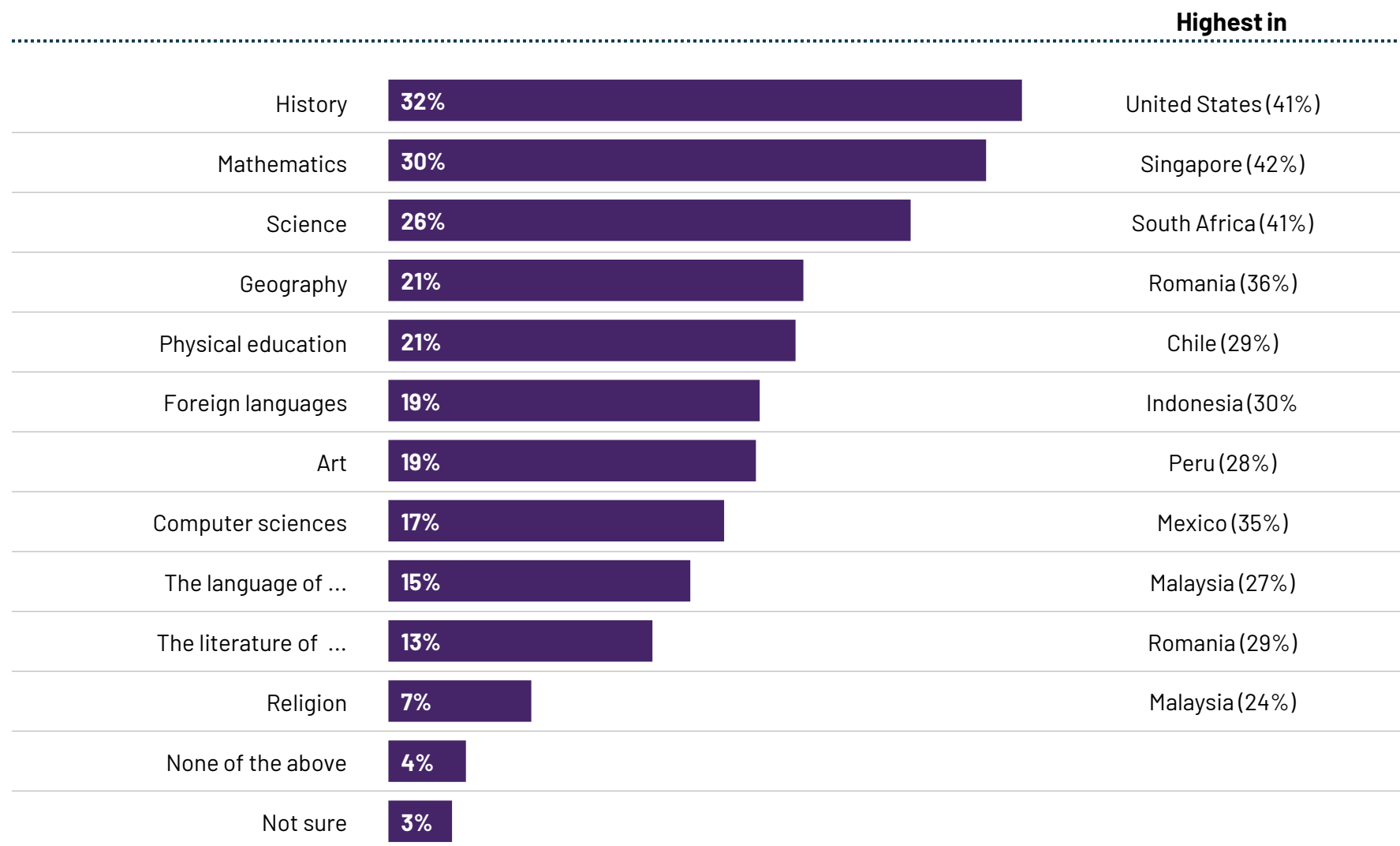
# My favourite school subjects

Which, if any, of the following topics were your favourite subjects when you were at school?

(Select up to three answers)

**30-country average**

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.



# Favourite school subjects

Q. Which, if any, of the following topics were your favourite subjects when you were at school?

#1 favourite  
#2 favourite  
#3 favourite

	30-Country Average	Argentina	Australia	Belgium	Brazil	Canada	Chile	Colombia	France	Germany	Great Britain	Hungary	India	Indonesia	Ireland	Italy	Japan	Malaysia	Mexico	Netherlands	Peru	Poland	Romania	Singapore	South Africa	South Korea	Spain	Sweden	Thailand	Türkiye	United States
History	<b>32%</b>	34%	32%	35%	36%	33%	36%	33%	37%	29%	34%	29%	24%	32%	35%	31%	25%	31%	34%	38%	33%	28%	31%	22%	26%	33%	33%	36%	26%	31%	41%
Mathematics	<b>30%</b>	37%	31%	28%	27%	29%	33%	36%	29%	29%	28%	23%	22%	32%	27%	29%	21%	39%	34%	28%	39%	25%	27%	42%	40%	23%	30%	32%	23%	33%	30%
Science	<b>26%</b>	24%	33%	32%	29%	31%	28%	29%	26%	18%	31%	13%	26%	28%	27%	27%	17%	37%	28%	24%	25%	19%	20%	31%	41%	20%	29%	19%	20%	24%	36%
Geography	<b>21%</b>	22%	21%	24%	23%	24%	16%	22%	20%	16%	21%	22%	16%	12%	27%	24%	13%	20%	25%	26%	17%	29%	36%	17%	32%	11%	20%	24%	12%	23%	16%
Physical education	<b>21%</b>	28%	23%	22%	20%	24%	29%	23%	18%	26%	16%	18%	10%	27%	18%	14%	15%	16%	23%	15%	25%	23%	18%	21%	16%	19%	19%	26%	24%	23%	18%
Foreign languages	<b>19%</b>	21%	9%	25%	14%	5%	26%	24%	25%	25%	12%	19%	10%	30%	21%	24%	14%	10%	22%	27%	18%	22%	23%	8%	4%	21%	19%	20%	29%	27%	9%
Art	<b>19%</b>	24%	23%	13%	19%	22%	22%	25%	12%	16%	17%	17%	14%	23%	22%	18%	14%	20%	19%	12%	28%	11%	13%	16%	15%	21%	17%	18%	23%	15%	27%
Computer sciences	<b>17%</b>	25%	13%	18%	6%	14%	19%	31%	13%	8%	14%	20%	14%	28%	12%	16%	6%	16%	35%	12%	27%	14%	17%	16%	20%	12%	19%	11%	22%	17%	14%
The language of ...	<b>15%</b>	11%	5%	15%	8%	8%	22%	12%	16%	15%	15%	10%	23%	17%	9%	14%	22%	27%	10%	23%	13%	21%	23%	9%	20%	14%	7%	18%	22%	17%	10%
The literature of ...	<b>13%</b>	14%	9%	7%	14%	9%	10%	18%	14%	7%	16%	19%	13%	9%	11%	23%	10%	6%	14%	10%	16%	18%	29%	6%	11%	17%	16%	8%	8%	26%	13%
Religion	<b>7%</b>	4%	4%	6%	7%	3%	4%	8%	2%	6%	7%	2%	12%	23%	7%	3%	1%	24%	3%	4%	12%	7%	4%	7%	8%	2%	4%	13%	11%	12%	5%

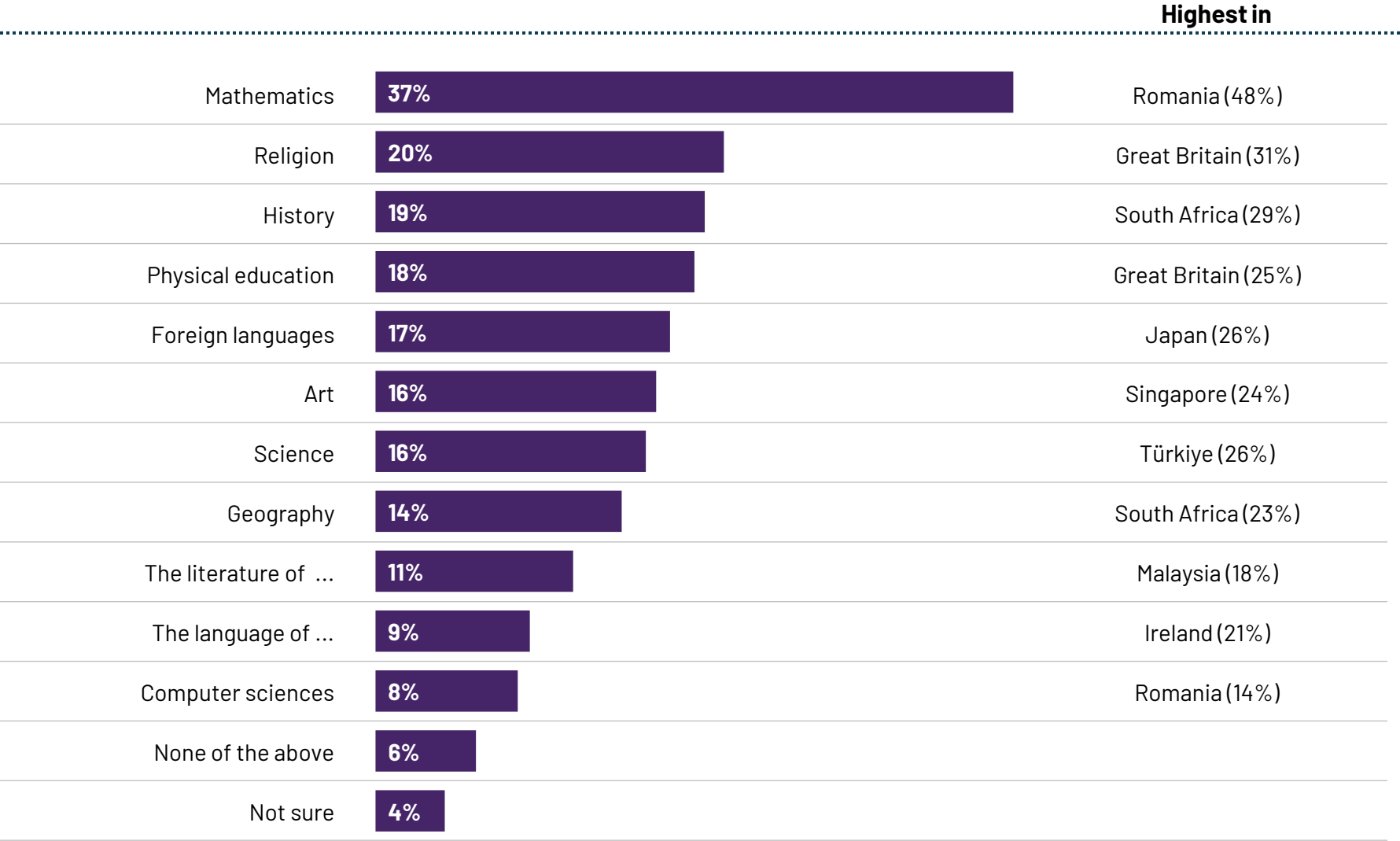
Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.

Which, if any, of the following topics were your least favourite subjects when you were at school?

(Select up to three answers)

**30-country average**

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.



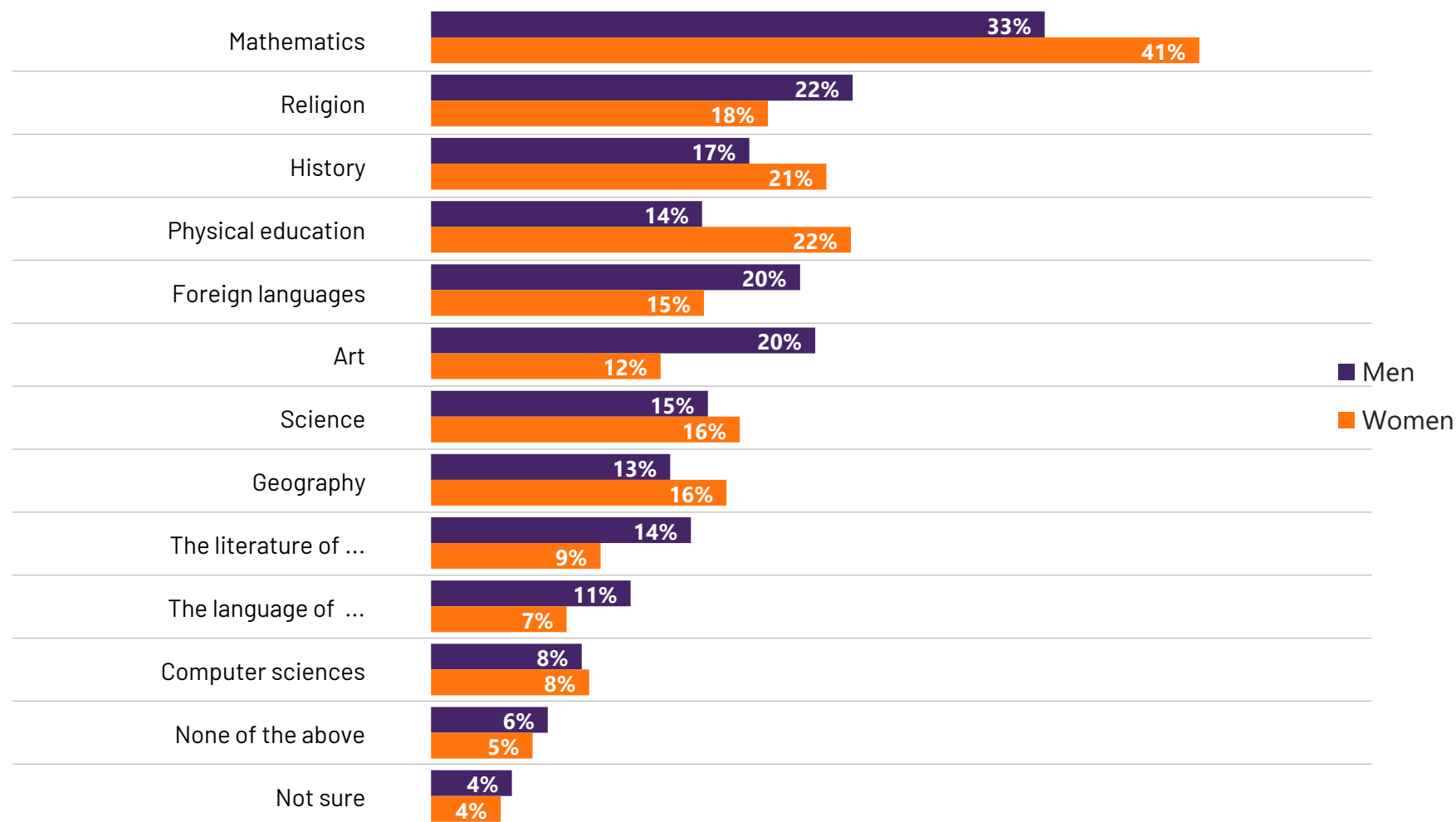
Which, if any, of the following topics were your least favourite subjects when you were at school?

(Select up to three answers)

**30-country average**

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.

### % selecting subject as one of their least favourites





# Least favourite school subjects

Q. Which, if any, of the following topics were your least favourite subjects when you were at school?

#1 least favourite  
#2 least favourite  
#3 least favourite

	30- Country Average	Argentina	Australia	Belgium	Brazil	Canada	Chile	Colombia	France	Germany	Great Britain	Hungary	India	Indonesia	Ireland	Italy	Japan	Malaysia	Mexico	Netherlands	Peru	Poland	Romania	Singapore	South Africa	South Korea	Spain	Sweden	Thailand	Türkiye	United States
Mathematics	<b>37%</b>	34%	35%	41%	41%	36%	40%	35%	38%	34%	31%	40%	22%	47%	36%	37%	39%	33%	37%	31%	35%	32%	48%	28%	35%	47%	37%	36%	39%	38%	41%
Religion	<b>20%</b>	28%	27%	30%	13%	25%	29%	30%	18%	27%	31%	13%	13%	4%	28%	20%	4%	11%	26%	31%	23%	20%	15%	9%	15%	15%	28%	24%	14%	17%	15%
History	<b>19%</b>	27%	16%	18%	13%	19%	22%	17%	15%	15%	12%	21%	20%	18%	21%	18%	12%	27%	26%	19%	19%	16%	24%	27%	29%	14%	15%	13%	15%	22%	20%
Physical education	<b>18%</b>	22%	21%	21%	15%	20%	20%	16%	20%	23%	25%	20%	9%	20%	16%	15%	22%	14%	15%	23%	18%	19%	13%	15%	14%	20%	22%	25%	15%	12%	22%
Foreign languages	<b>17%</b>	20%	15%	16%	13%	18%	20%	25%	16%	14%	20%	16%	13%	14%	18%	12%	26%	18%	17%	12%	19%	11%	14%	8%	14%	23%	19%	16%	23%	21%	20%
Art	<b>16%</b>	20%	17%	16%	13%	14%	19%	20%	15%	19%	19%	8%	12%	17%	16%	14%	14%	21%	17%	20%	18%	12%	15%	24%	19%	11%	11%	18%	15%	18%	14%
Science	<b>16%</b>	13%	20%	16%	9%	17%	15%	13%	12%	7%	19%	6%	22%	23%	17%	13%	20%	18%	12%	13%	17%	18%	14%	15%	22%	23%	10%	10%	13%	26%	19%
Geography	<b>14%</b>	16%	14%	16%	13%	12%	13%	14%	12%	12%	14%	9%	17%	20%	14%	14%	9%	21%	17%	15%	18%	12%	10%	15%	23%	12%	11%	12%	9%	21%	15%
The literature of ...	<b>11%</b>	13%	10%	13%	10%	10%	15%	10%	13%	9%	8%	9%	9%	13%	8%	12%	6%	18%	15%	13%	13%	11%	9%	16%	8%	6%	15%	9%	12%	17%	13%
The language of ...	<b>9%</b>	10%	6%	9%	7%	6%	17%	12%	5%	5%	6%	7%	12%	8%	21%	8%	9%	7%	9%	10%	12%	10%	6%	6%	9%	5%	7%	8%	12%	11%	8%
Computer sciences	<b>8%</b>	10%	10%	7%	6%	6%	7%	10%	8%	8%	9%	4%	12%	7%	9%	9%	3%	11%	9%	9%	6%	5%	14%	10%	10%	5%	6%	9%	8%	11%	10%

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.

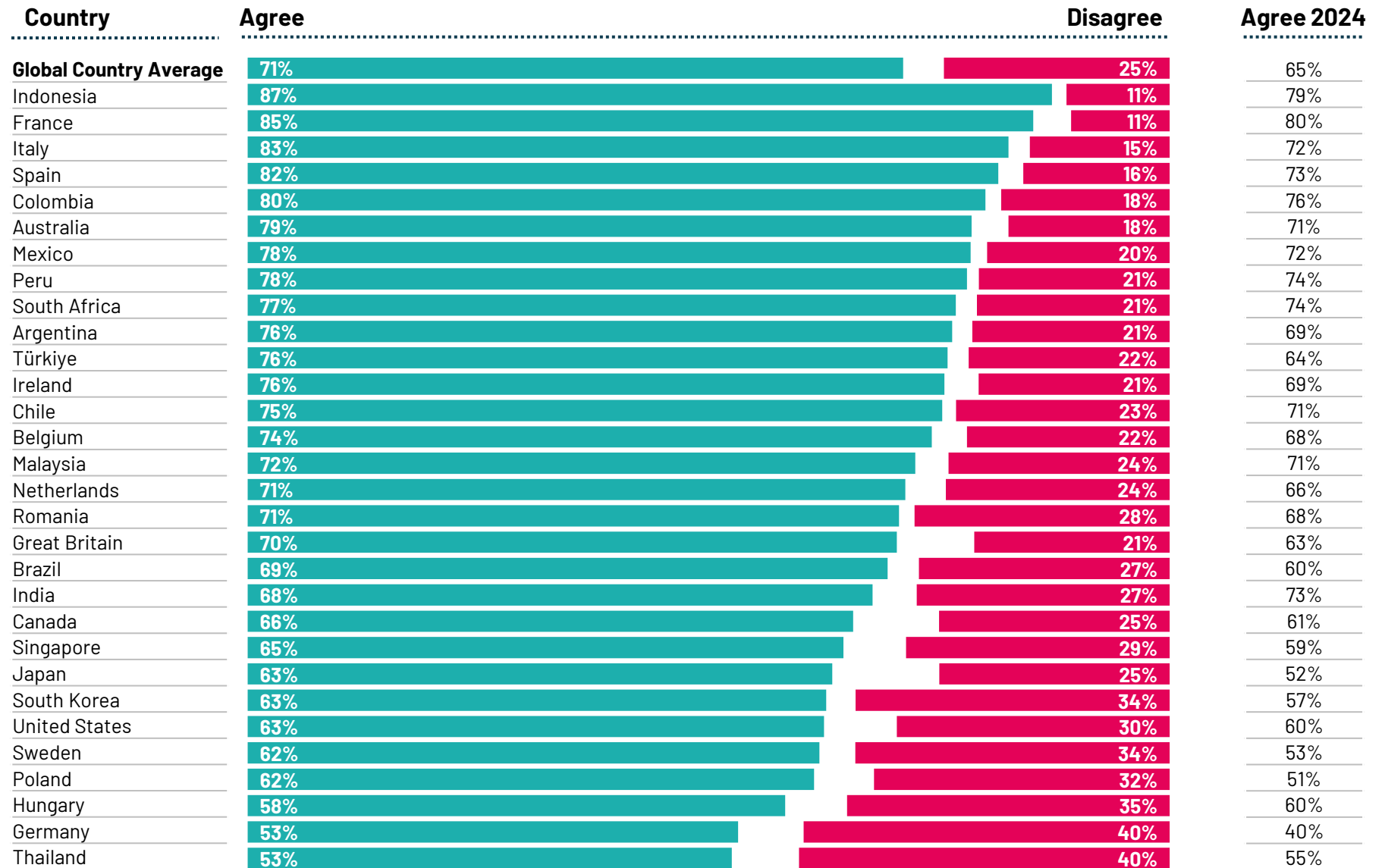
# Education, technology – and the future



How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements? -

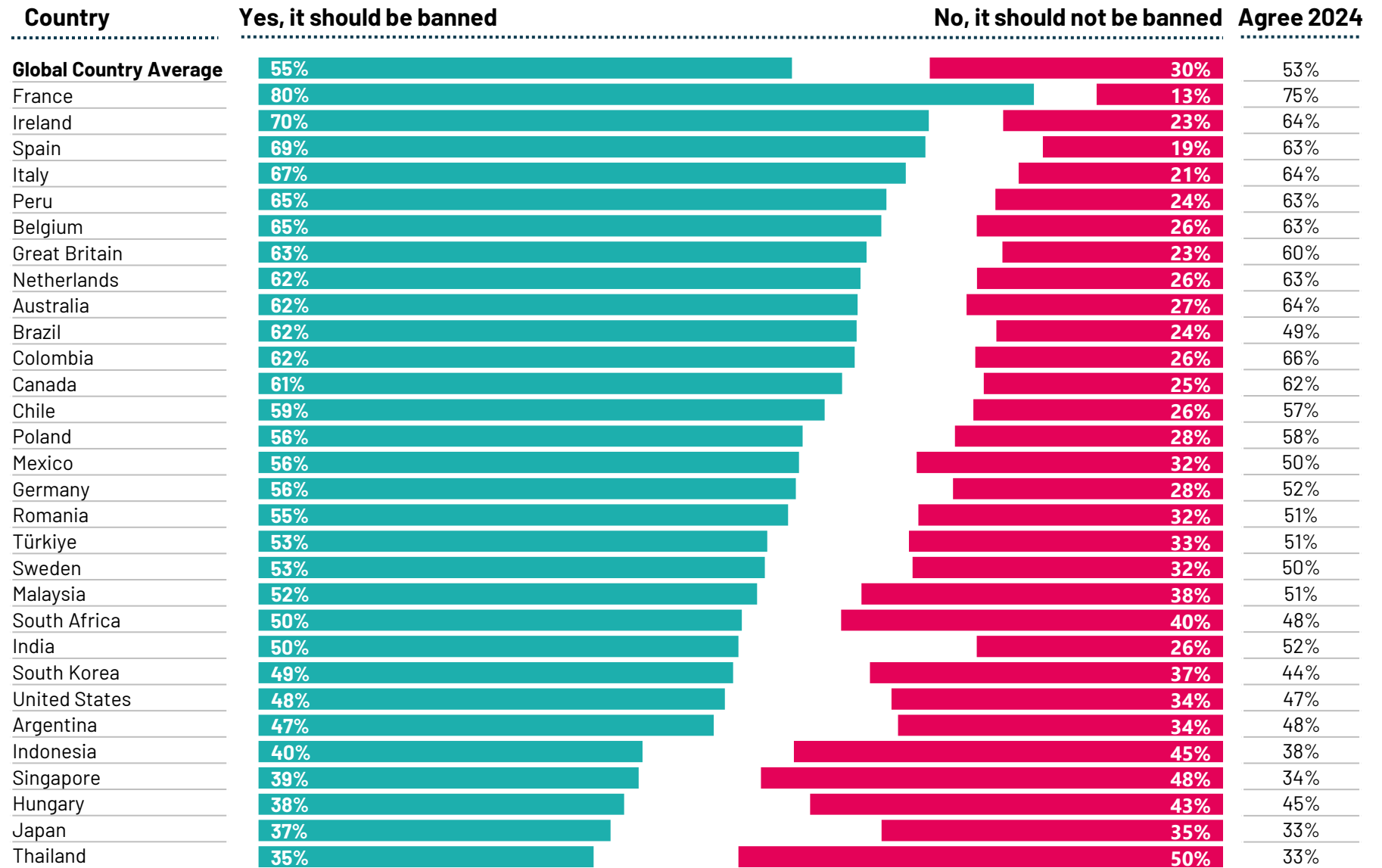
**Children under 14 should be banned from using social media both inside and outside of school**

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.



Do you think the use of smart phones should be banned in schools?

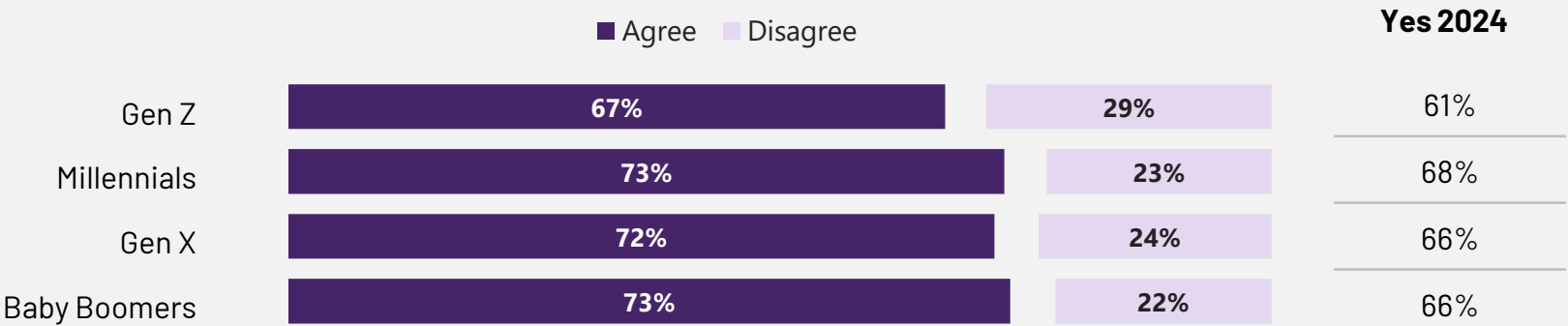
Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.



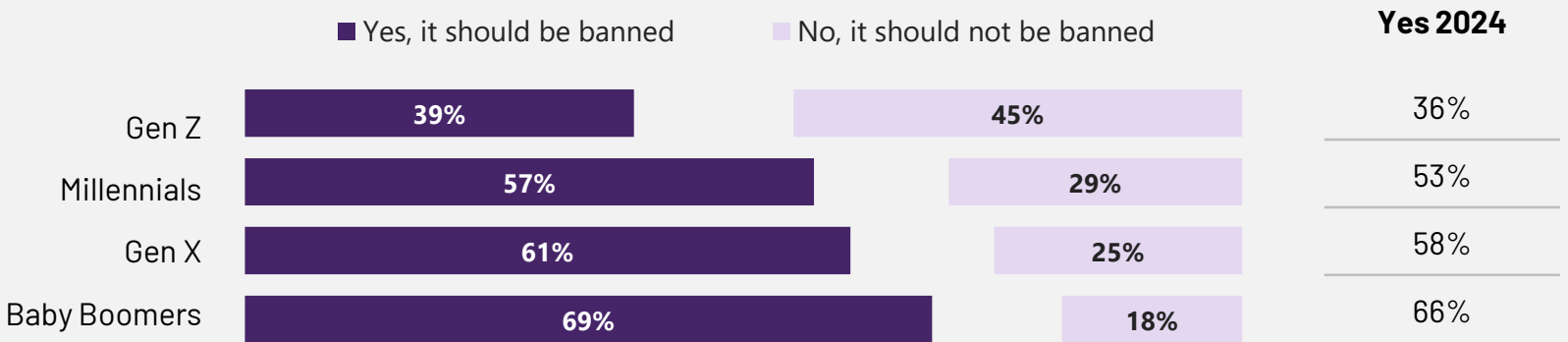
There is unanimous support across generations for banning under 14s from using social media, with increases in support across all generations from 2024. However, there is more division when it comes to banning smartphones, with older generations much more supportive than Gen Z.

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.

Children under 14 should be banned from using social media both inside and outside of school

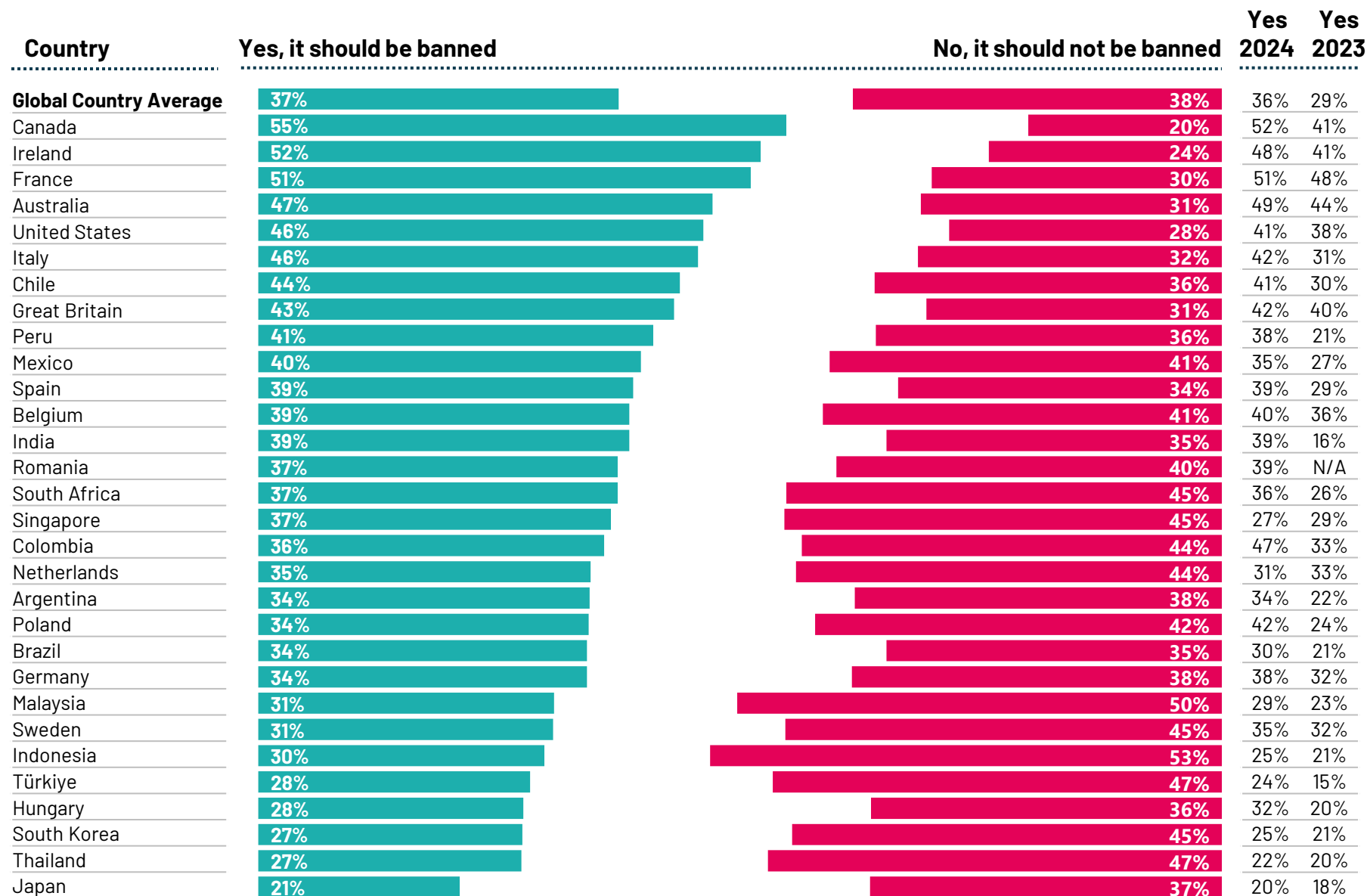


Q. Do you think the use of smartphones should be banned in schools?



Do you think the use of AI  
(including ChatGPT) should be  
banned in schools?

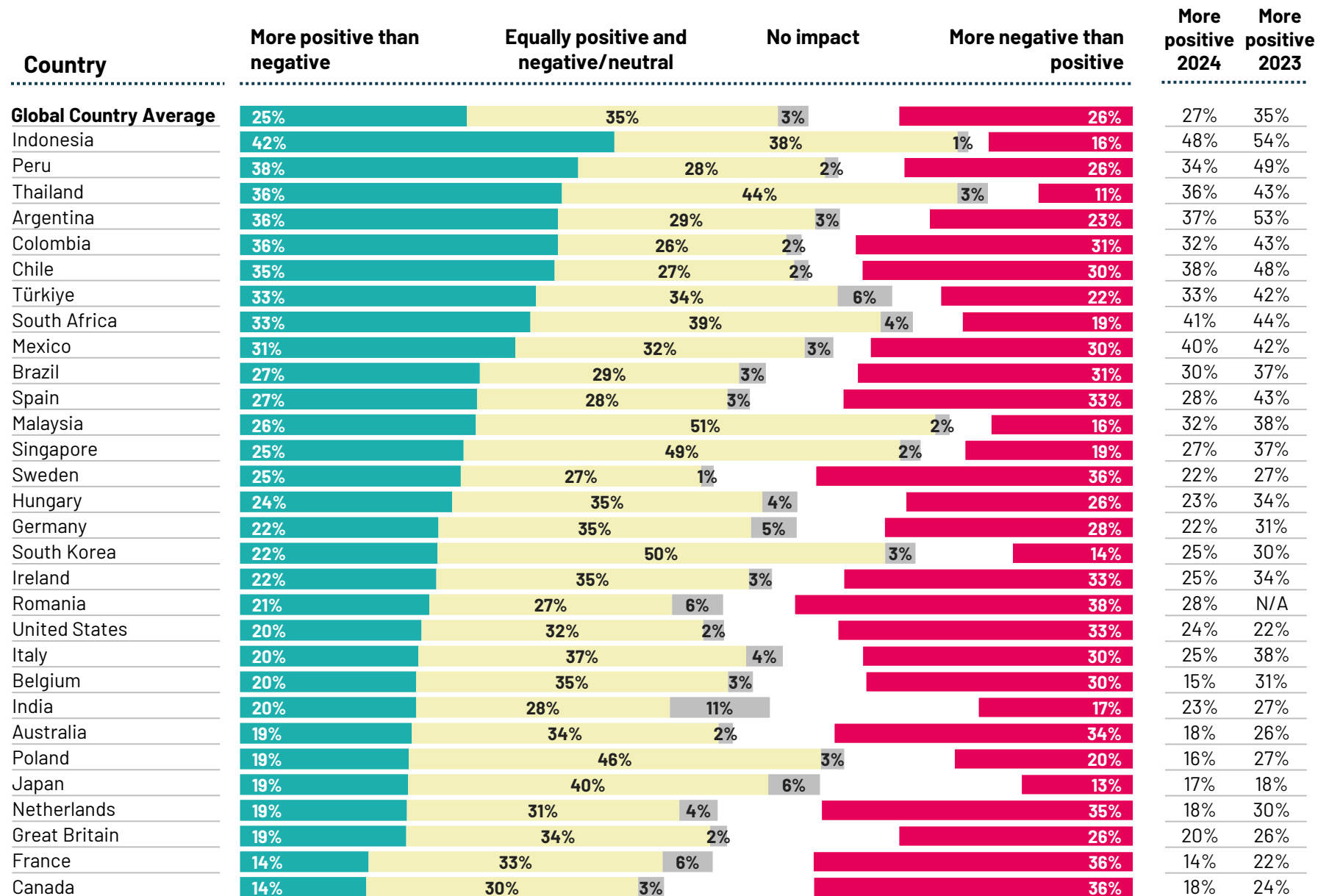
Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75  
across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July  
2025.





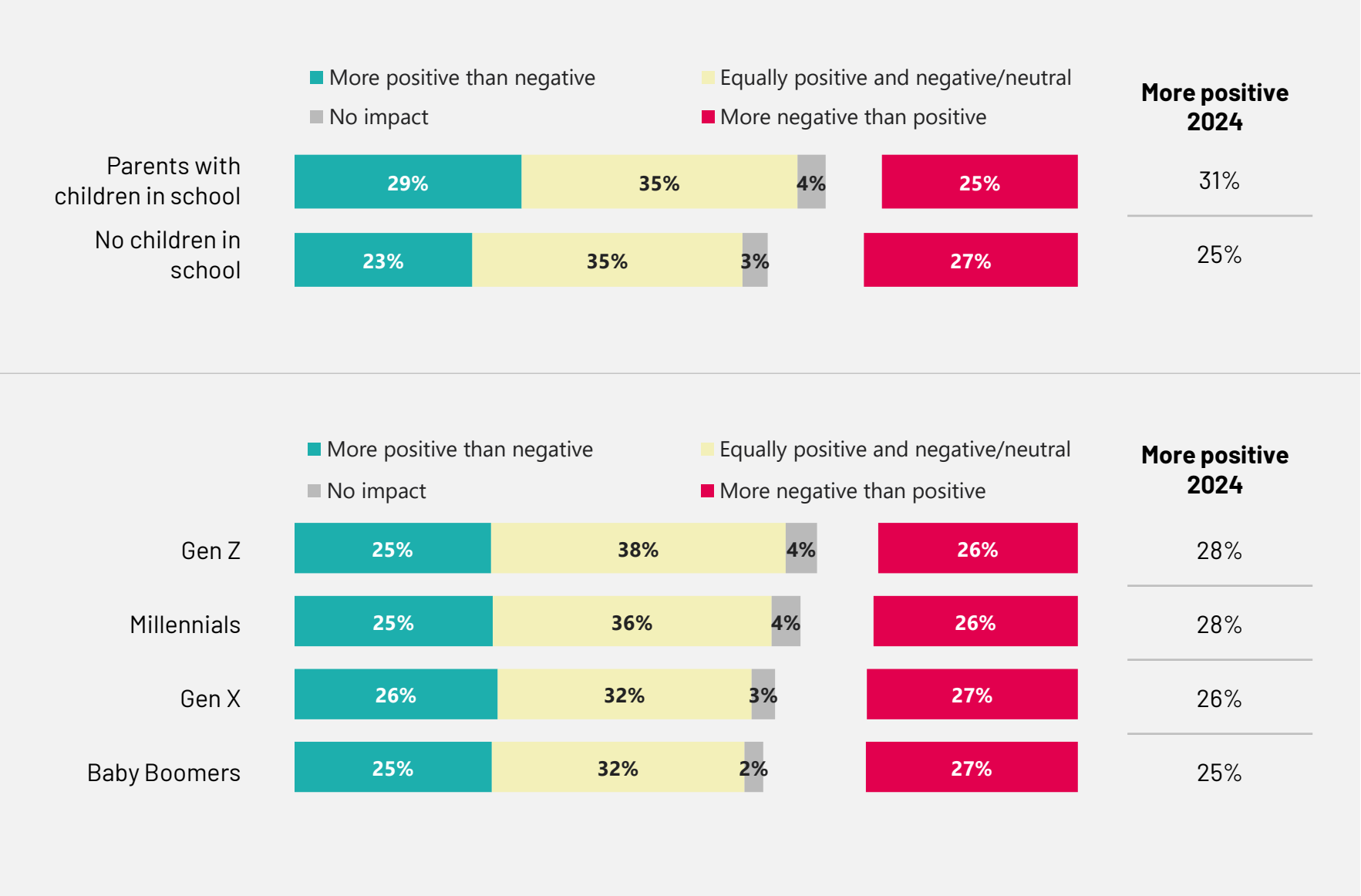
How do you think advances in technology (including artificial intelligence) will affect education in the future? Will they have an impact that is...

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.



How do you think advances in technology (including artificial intelligence) will affect education in the future? Will they have an impact that is...

Base: 23,700 online adults under the age of 75 across 30 countries, interviewed 20 June – 4 July 2025.



# Methodology



# METHODOLOGY

These are the results of a 30-country survey conducted by Ipsos on its Global Advisor online platform and, in India, on its IndiaBus platform, between Friday, June 20, and Friday, July 4, 2025. For this survey, Ipsos interviewed a total of 23,700 adults aged 18 years and older in India, 18-74 in Canada, Republic of Ireland, Israel, Malaysia, South Africa, Türkiye, and the United States, 20-74 in Thailand, 21-74 in Indonesia and Singapore, and 16-74 in all other countries.

The sample consists of approximately 2,000 individuals in Japan, 1,000 individuals each in Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Mexico, Spain, and the U.S., and 500 individuals each in Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Romania, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Sweden, Thailand, and Türkiye. The sample in India consists of approximately 2,200

individuals, of whom approximately 1,800 were interviewed face-to-face and 400 were interviewed online.

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 considered representative of their general adult populations under the age of 75.

Samples in Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Indonesia, Ireland, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Romania, Singapore, South Africa, Thailand, and Türkiye 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.

India's sample represents a large subset of its urban population – social economic classes A, B and C in metros and tier 1-3 town classes across all four zones.

The data is weighted so that the composition of each country's sample best reflects the demographic profile of the adult population according to the most recent census data. "The Global Country Average" reflects the average result for all the countries and markets in which the survey was conducted. It has not been adjusted to the population size of each country or market and is not intended to suggest a total result.

When percentages do not sum up to 100 or the 'difference' appears to be +/- 1 percentage point more/less than the actual result, 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 where N=1,000 being accurate to +/- 3.5 percentage points and of where N=500 being accurate to +/- 5.0 percentage points. For more information on Ipsos' use of credibility intervals, please visit the Ipsos website.

# For more information

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