

GLOBAL INFRASTRUCTURE INDEX 2026

29 country study, 24 April – 8 May 2026

Global Summary

In partnership with:



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2026 | Internal



Key findings



A largely static picture for overall citizen satisfaction

Across our global country average, four in ten (38%) are satisfied with their national infrastructure, in line with figures from recent years. Three in ten (30%) are dissatisfied. A third say they are neither satisfied or dissatisfied (29%) or don't know (3%).



Sharpest falls in some G7 nations

There have been falls in satisfaction between 2024 and 2026 in Britain and Germany (both 11 percentage points) and in the U.S. (8 points). This year, Singapore tops the list of most satisfied citizens (74%), compared with just 16% in Hungary and 22% in Spain.



Priorities for investment have changed and vary

Flood defences are a lower priority in 2026 (perhaps reflecting fewer extreme flooding events) while rail has moved up as a priority. But there is considerable variation – e.g. water supply and sewerage is chosen by 72% in South Africa and only 19% in South Korea.



Recognised economic and environment dividend of investment

Seven in ten (72%) think that investment would create jobs and boost the economy, six in ten (59%) that it can make an important contribution to combating climate change. But investment in maintenance matters as much as investment in new infrastructure for three-quarters (73%).



An openness to private sector role if it gets results

In the context of public sector funding shortfalls, 70% say they are comfortable with private sector investment if it delivers necessary improvements. A majority believe private sector funding on its own or in combination with public sector funding is likely to improve infrastructure in several ways.



But limited appetite for paying and confidence in ability to deliver

Only a third (34%) believe their country has a good record of delivering infrastructure projects, and 57% feel their country is not doing enough to meet infrastructure needs. But 38% are comfortable with funding extra spending through higher taxes or costs for consumers to improve infrastructure.

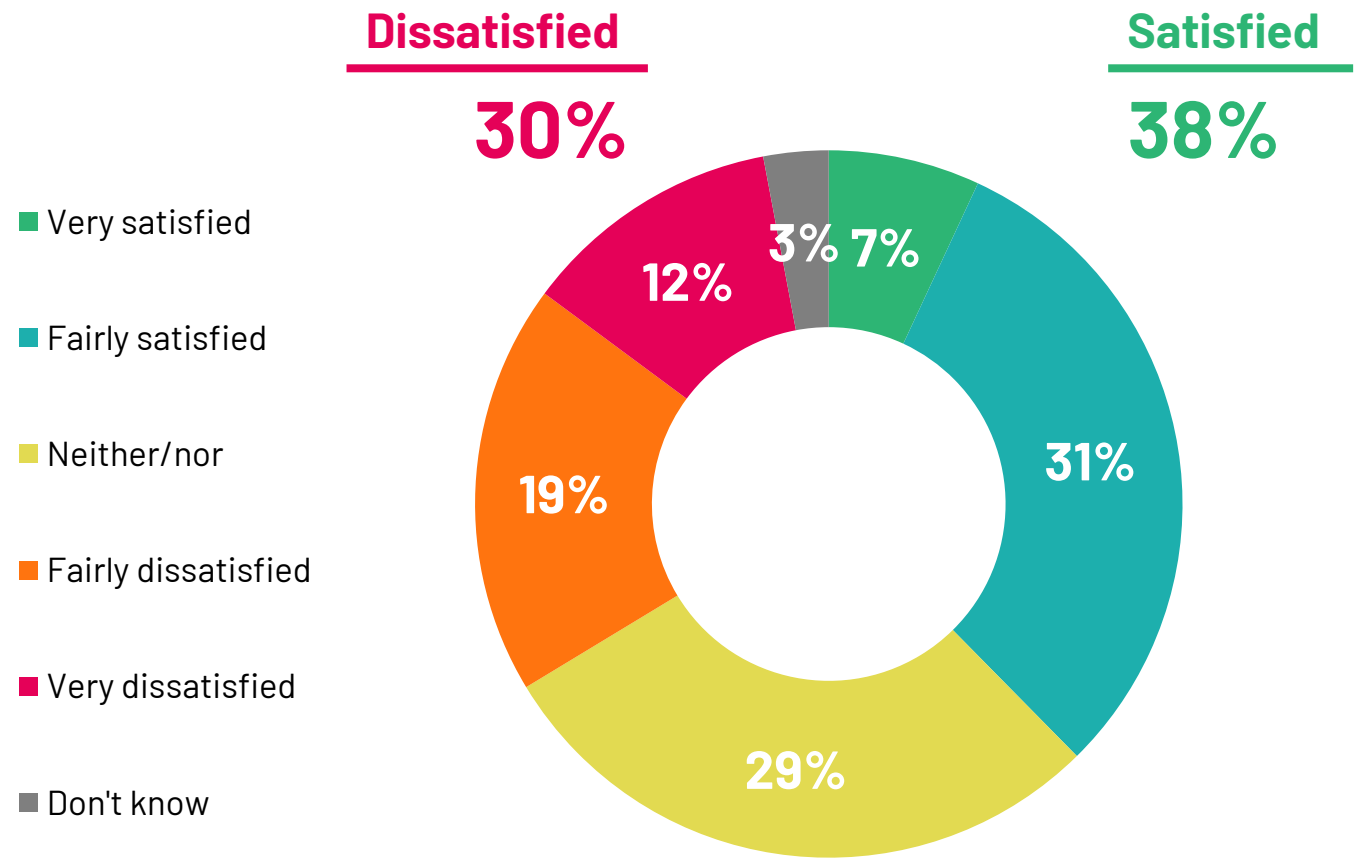
A higher proportion are satisfied with infrastructure overall than are not, but many are unsure.

Q. We now want you to think about [COUNTRY'S] infrastructure. By infrastructure we mean things we rely on like road, rail and air networks, utilities such as energy and water, and broadband and other communications.

Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with [COUNTRY'S] national infrastructure?

Base: 21,521 adults (online), 29 countries
April - May 2026

Global Country Average*



* N.B. "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. The number of countries involved has changed over time e.g. 26 in 2016, 32 in 2024, 29 in 2026.

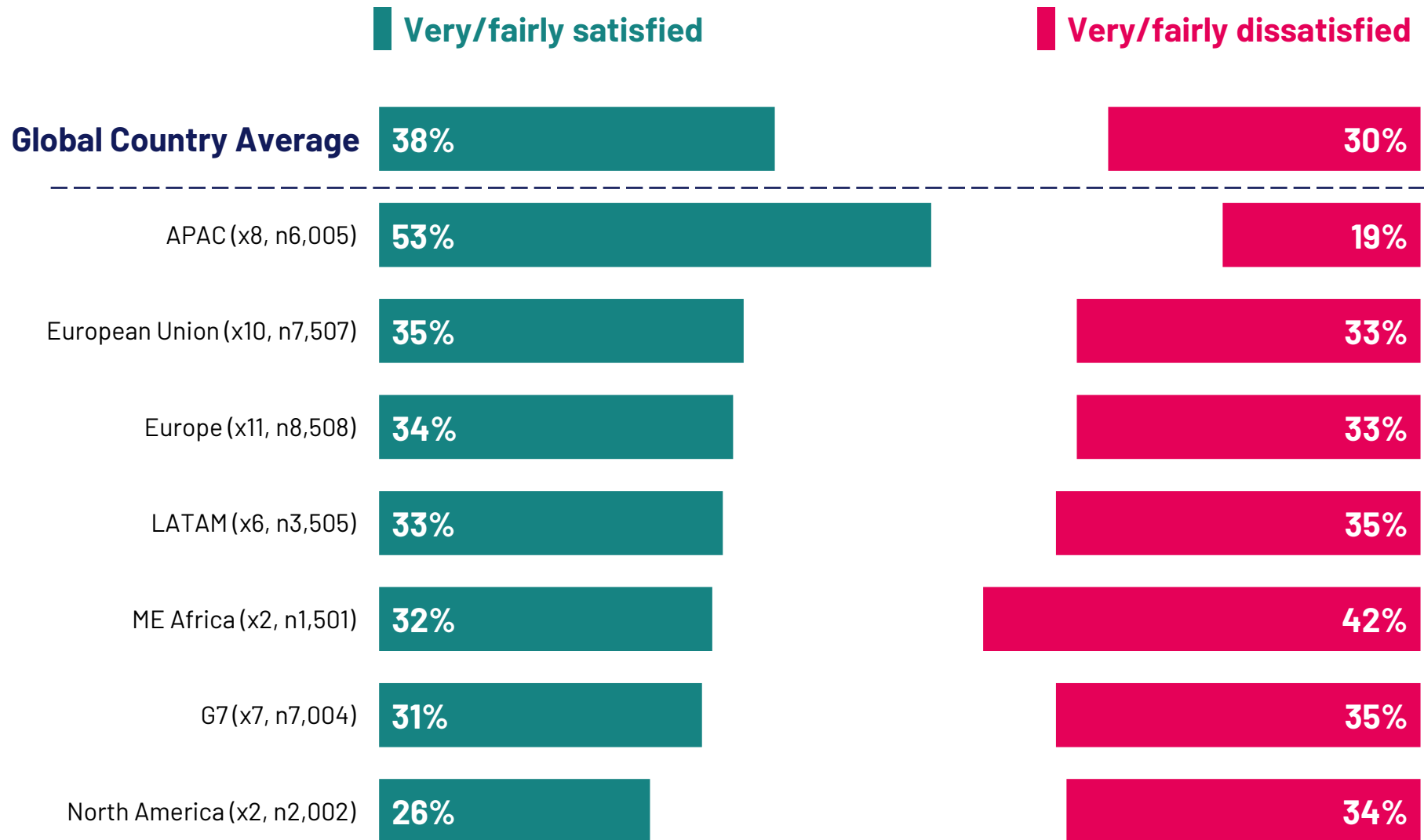
Satisfaction is relatively higher in APAC.

Q. We now want you to think about [COUNTRY'S] infrastructure. By infrastructure we mean things we rely on like road, rail and air networks, utilities such as energy and water, and broadband and other communications.

Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with [COUNTRY'S] national infrastructure?

See **Appendix** for note on regional classifications. Number of countries and aggregate base size in each region shown in ().

Base: 21,521 adults (online), 29 countries
April - May 2026



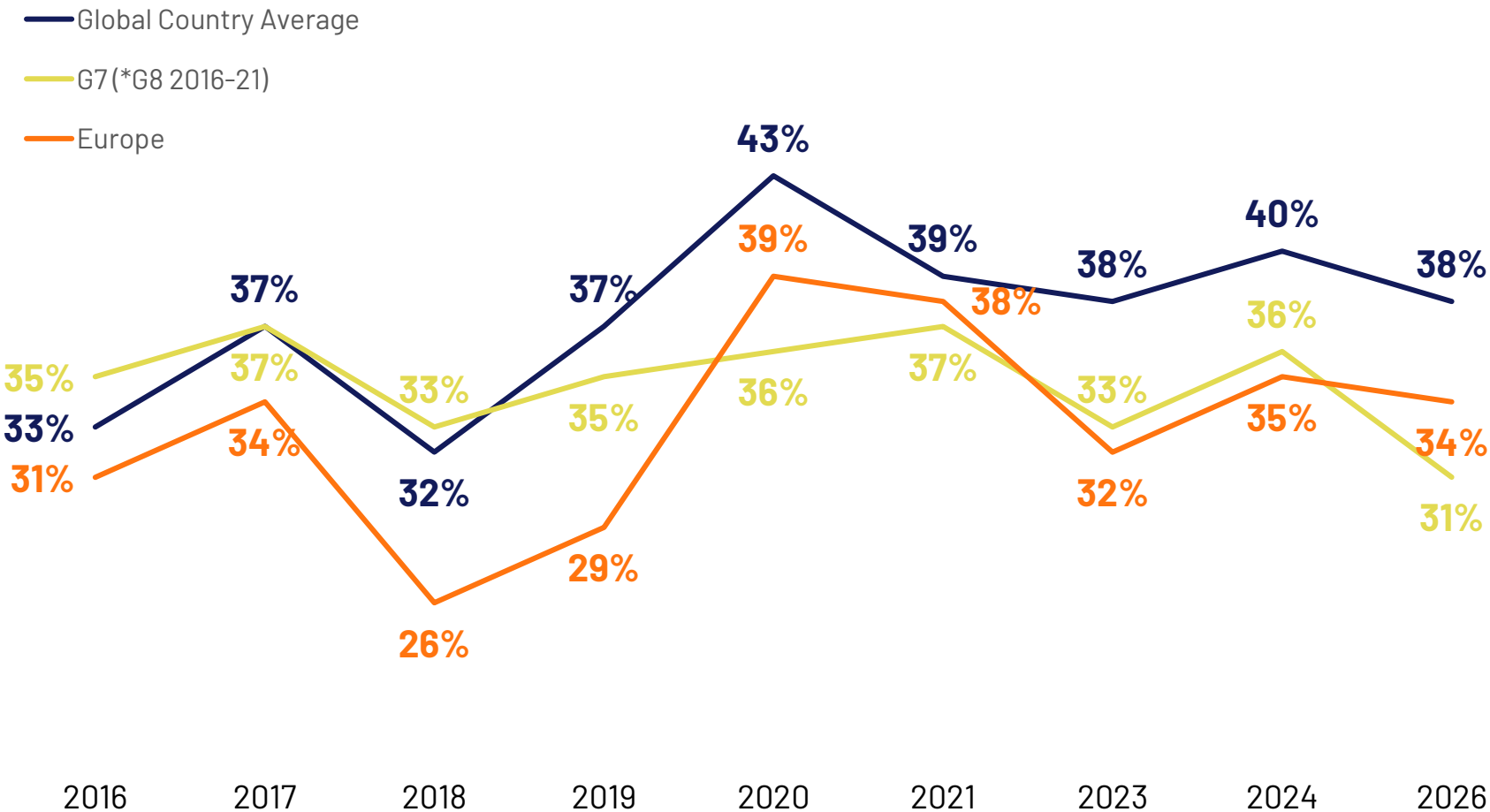
Global average satisfaction dipped in 2018 but bounced back during early pandemic period then fell back to 2019 levels and has been fairly flat since.

Q. We now want you to think about [COUNTRY'S] infrastructure. By infrastructure we mean things we rely on like road, rail and air networks, utilities such as energy and water, and broadband and other communications.

Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with [COUNTRY'S] national infrastructure?

Base: 21,521 adults (online), 29 countries
April - May 2026

% very/fairly satisfied



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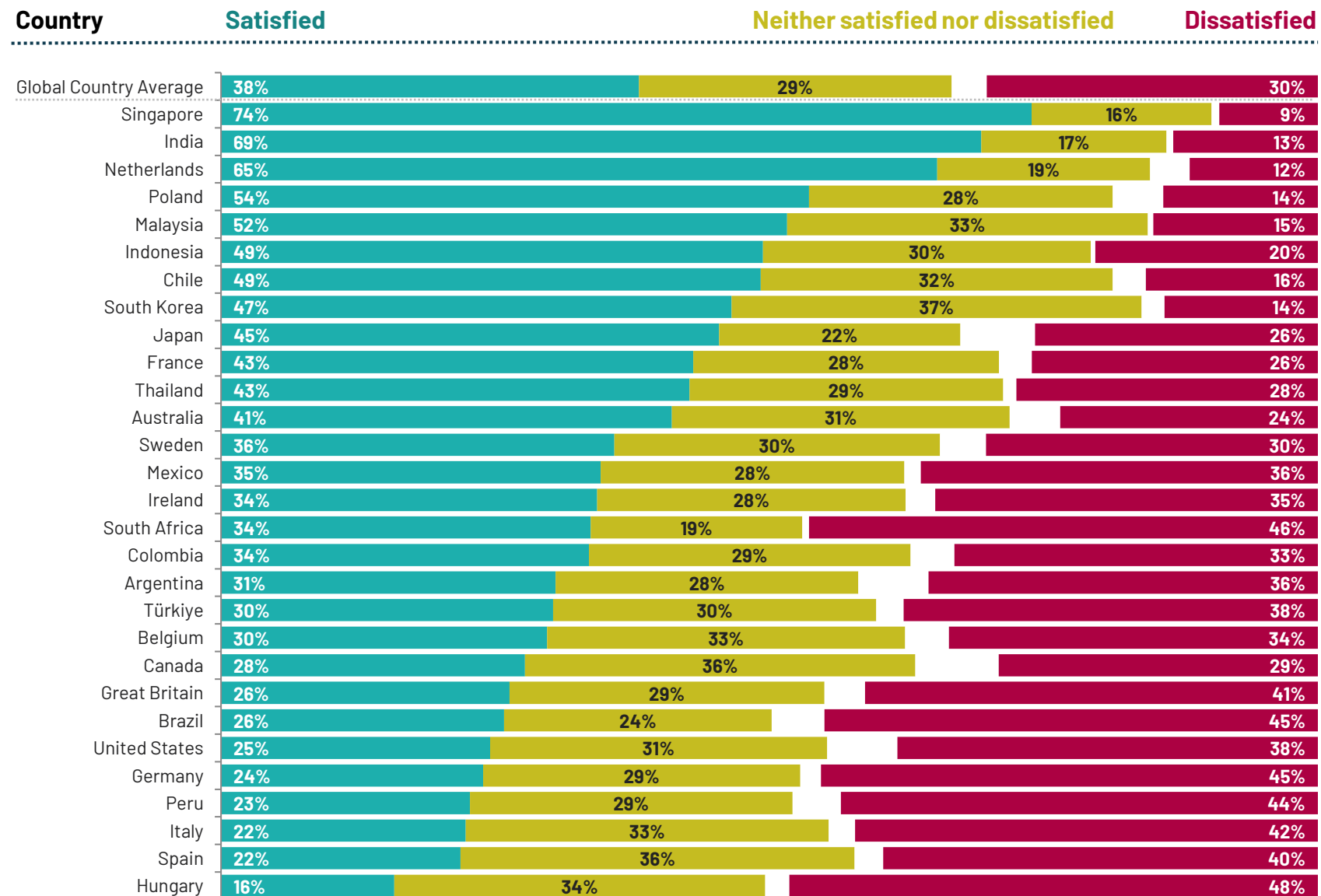


There is considerable variation in satisfaction across the 29 countries.

Q. We now want you to think about [COUNTRY'S] infrastructure. By infrastructure we mean things we rely on like road, rail and air networks, utilities such as energy and water, and broadband and other communications.

Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied are you with [COUNTRY'S] national infrastructure?

Base: 21,521 adults (online), 29 countries
April - May 2026

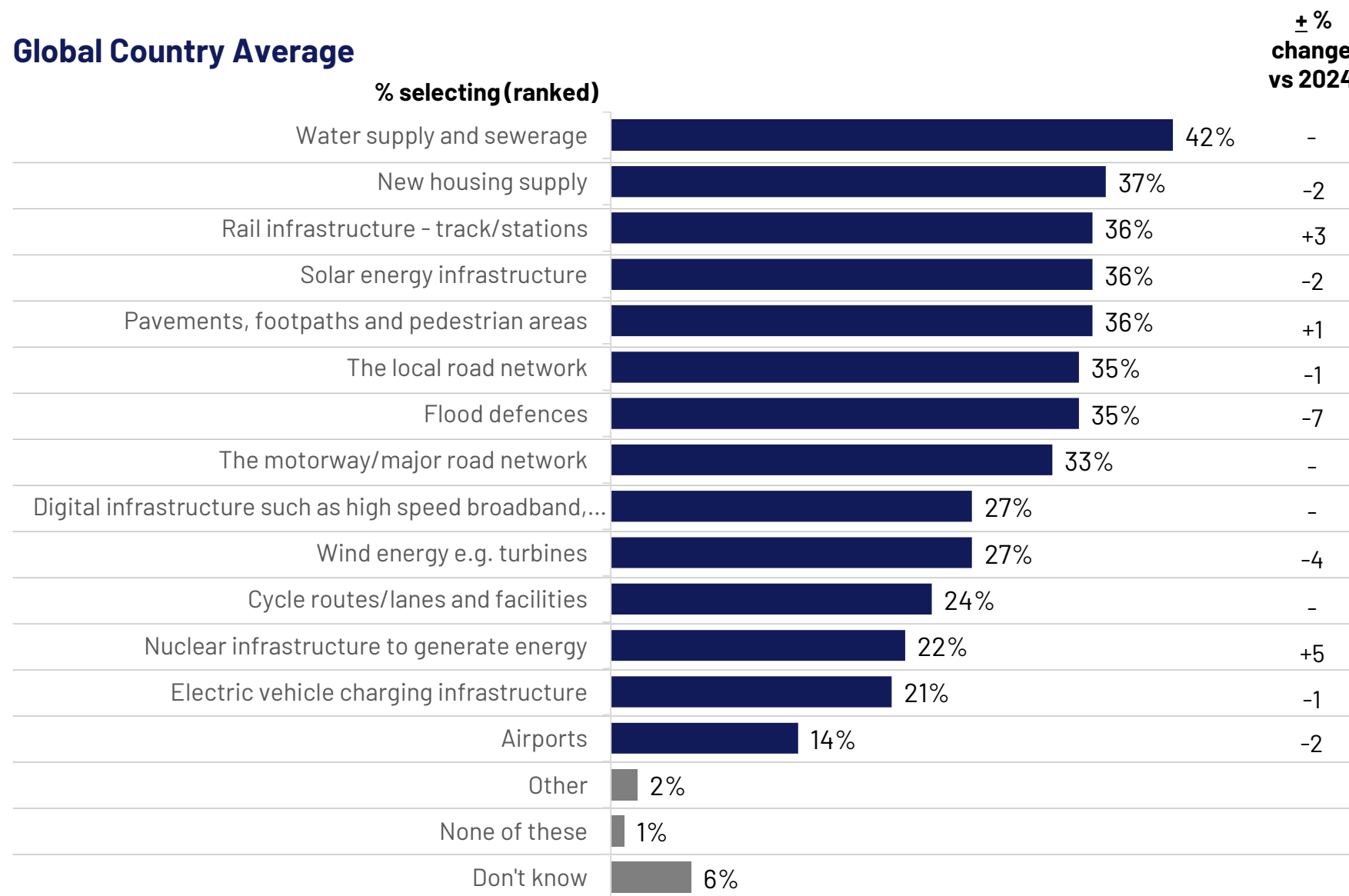


Across the 29 countries, water supply/sewerage is the top priority, but several categories are similarly ranked highly.

Q. Which of these types of infrastructure, if any, do you think should be made a priority for investment for [COUNTRY]?

Base: 21,521 adults (online), 29 countries
April - May 2026

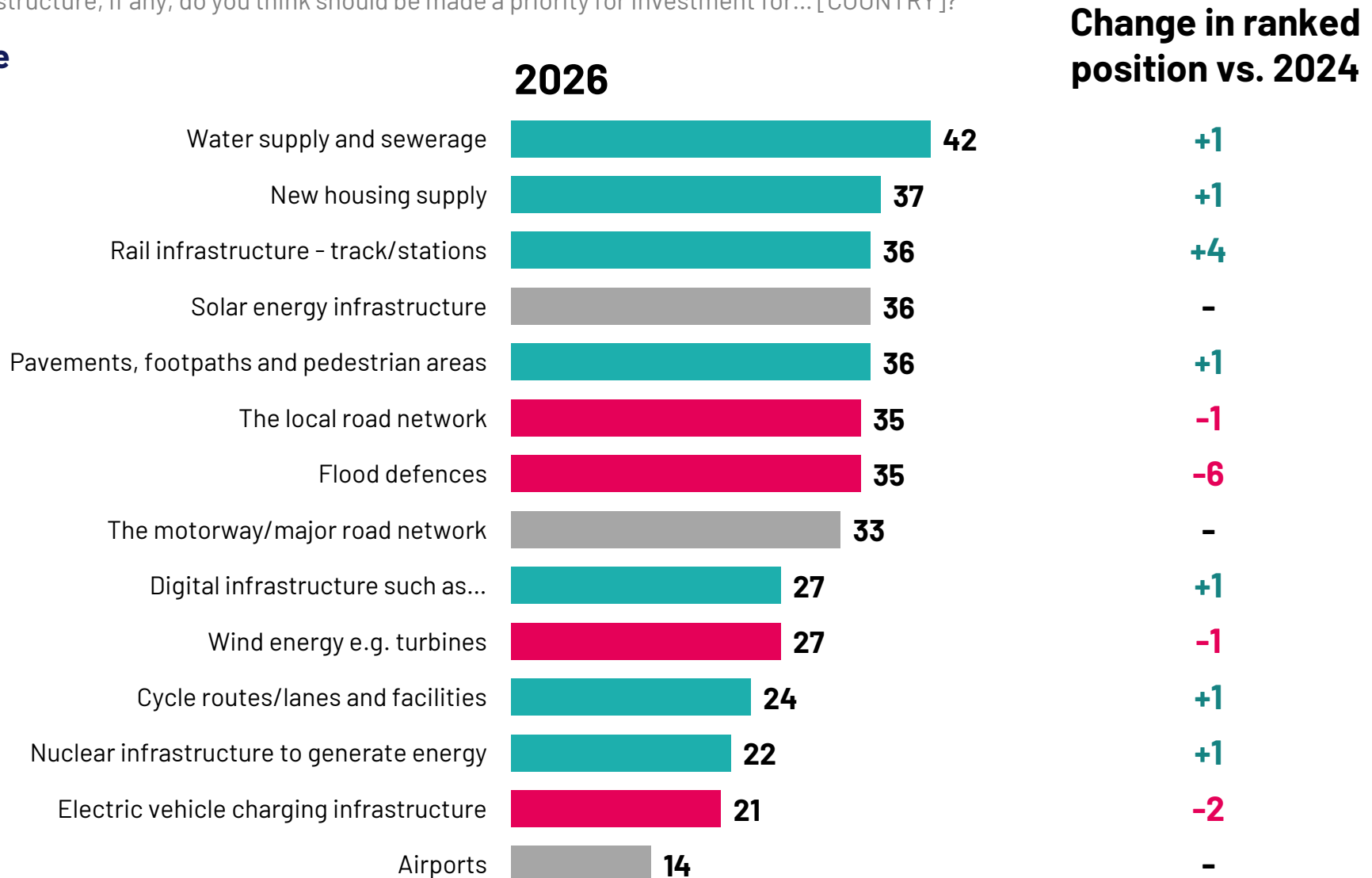
Global Country Average



Between 2024 (32 countries) and 2026 (29), there has been some change in the hierarchy of investment priorities, and movement away from flood defences and towards rail.

Q. Which of these types of infrastructure, if any, do you think should be made a priority for investment for... [COUNTRY]?

Global Country Average
% selecting



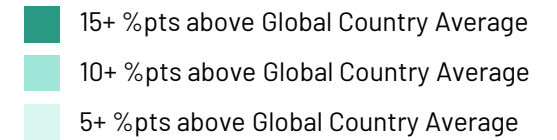
Base: 21,521 adults (online), 29 countries April - May 2026

* Digital infrastructure such as high speed broadband, full fibre networks (FTTP), 5G - data centres added in 2026

Base: 23,530 adults (online), 32 countries, May-June 2024 Source: Ipsos/GIA



Investment priorities and their salience vary considerably by country.



Q. Which of these types of infrastructure, if any, do you think should be made a priority for investment for [COUNTRY]?

(ranked by % selected – global country average)

Sector	GLOBAL	ARG	AUS	BEL	Brazil	Canada	Chile	COL	France	GER	Great Britain	HUN	India	INDO	Ireland	Italy	Japan	MAL	Mexico	NETH	Peru	Poland	SING	South Africa	South Korea	Spain	SWE	THA	TUR	United States
Water supply and sewerage	42%	55%	32%	22%	55%	39%	42%	45%	32%	22%	52%	49%	54%	44%	32%	30%	44%	43%	64%	36%	60%	27%	37%	72%	19%	34%	42%	45%	37%	51%
New housing supply	37%	45%	52%	29%	46%	50%	50%	46%	40%	51%	35%	31%	25%	23%	55%	27%	5%	26%	37%	58%	36%	38%	37%	52%	31%	21%	38%	30%	31%	34%
Rail infrastructure - track/stations	36%	41%	37%	26%	32%	23%	39%	31%	36%	45%	40%	64%	40%	27%	43%	41%	25%	32%	22%	31%	25%	35%	36%	43%	20%	58%	63%	37%	30%	31%
Solar energy infrastructure	36%	35%	39%	28%	33%	28%	41%	42%	32%	33%	35%	39%	54%	27%	32%	40%	23%	33%	41%	35%	31%	27%	43%	52%	31%	29%	35%	47%	49%	38%
Pavements, footpaths and pedestrian areas	36%	41%	25%	42%	38%	28%	47%	43%	30%	35%	38%	50%	34%	41%	28%	37%	34%	31%	53%	25%	45%	36%	30%	41%	24%	29%	34%	45%	31%	35%
The local road network	35%	24%	38%	45%	23%	43%	22%	29%	36%	44%	47%	64%	44%	40%	39%	45%	21%	31%	22%	25%	24%	44%	24%	50%	16%	32%	38%	39%	21%	43%
Flood defences	35%	52%	25%	29%	55%	24%	37%	40%	38%	25%	32%	28%	31%	50%	31%	38%	31%	47%	36%	19%	41%	35%	29%	37%	20%	38%	21%	61%	31%	29%
The motorway/major road network	33%	36%	36%	39%	34%	37%	23%	41%	14%	36%	34%	46%	33%	28%	29%	37%	17%	44%	26%	30%	31%	35%	19%	35%	24%	53%	41%	24%	28%	38%
Digital infrastructure*	27%	21%	27%	15%	21%	19%	19%	26%	19%	33%	23%	19%	43%	39%	22%	23%	19%	48%	21%	18%	23%	28%	38%	35%	27%	19%	25%	43%	36%	23%
Wind energy e.g. turbines	27%	25%	26%	25%	21%	27%	28%	23%	21%	30%	36%	39%	33%	14%	33%	32%	18%	18%	27%	25%	17%	32%	17%	30%	16%	22%	34%	29%	42%	29%
Cycle routes/lanes and facilities	24%	28%	14%	34%	27%	16%	27%	21%	25%	35%	15%	36%	25%	16%	18%	21%	31%	18%	19%	34%	24%	30%	23%	18%	15%	15%	32%	29%	28%	16%
Nuclear infrastructure to generate energy	22%	16%	19%	26%	14%	22%	12%	13%	31%	17%	30%	16%	33%	14%	15%	26%	22%	19%	17%	22%	14%	30%	19%	31%	28%	22%	34%	16%	35%	26%
Electric vehicle charging infrastructure	21%	13%	26%	19%	16%	20%	22%	21%	22%	24%	22%	15%	44%	20%	27%	17%	11%	25%	16%	21%	10%	13%	25%	26%	25%	17%	24%	31%	27%	17%
Airports	14%	13%	14%	8%	12%	14%	13%	20%	5%	6%	11%	8%	26%	11%	18%	8%	8%	17%	13%	6%	17%	16%	23%	19%	7%	13%	15%	15%	19%	26%

*Full text: Digital infrastructure such as high-speed broadband, full fibre networks (FTTP), 5G, and data centres

When considering local priorities, road infrastructure becomes relatively more salient to people, rail less so.

Q. Here is the same list of types of infrastructure. Which, if any, do you think should be made a priority for investment for your local area?

Base: 21,521 adults (online), 29 countries
April - May 2026

Global Country Average

	% selecting (ranked)	[±] % difference vs national priority	[±] <u>ranked</u> difference vs national priority
The local road network	34%	-1	+5
Water supply and sewerage	32%	-10	-1
New housing supply	31%	-6	-1
Pavement, footpaths and pedestrian areas	30%	-6	+1
Solar energy infrastructure	25%	-11	-1
Rail infrastructure - track/stations	24%	-12	-3
Flood defences	24%	-11	-
The motorway/major road network	22%	-11	-
Cycle routes/lanes and facilities	20%	-4	+2
Digital infrastructure such as high speed...	19%	-8	-1
Wind energy e.g. turbines	15%	-12	-1
Electric vehicle charging infrastructure	15%	-6	+2
Nuclear infrastructure to generate energy	12%	-10	-1
Airports	9%	-5	-
Don't know	7%		
None of these	2%		
Other	1%		

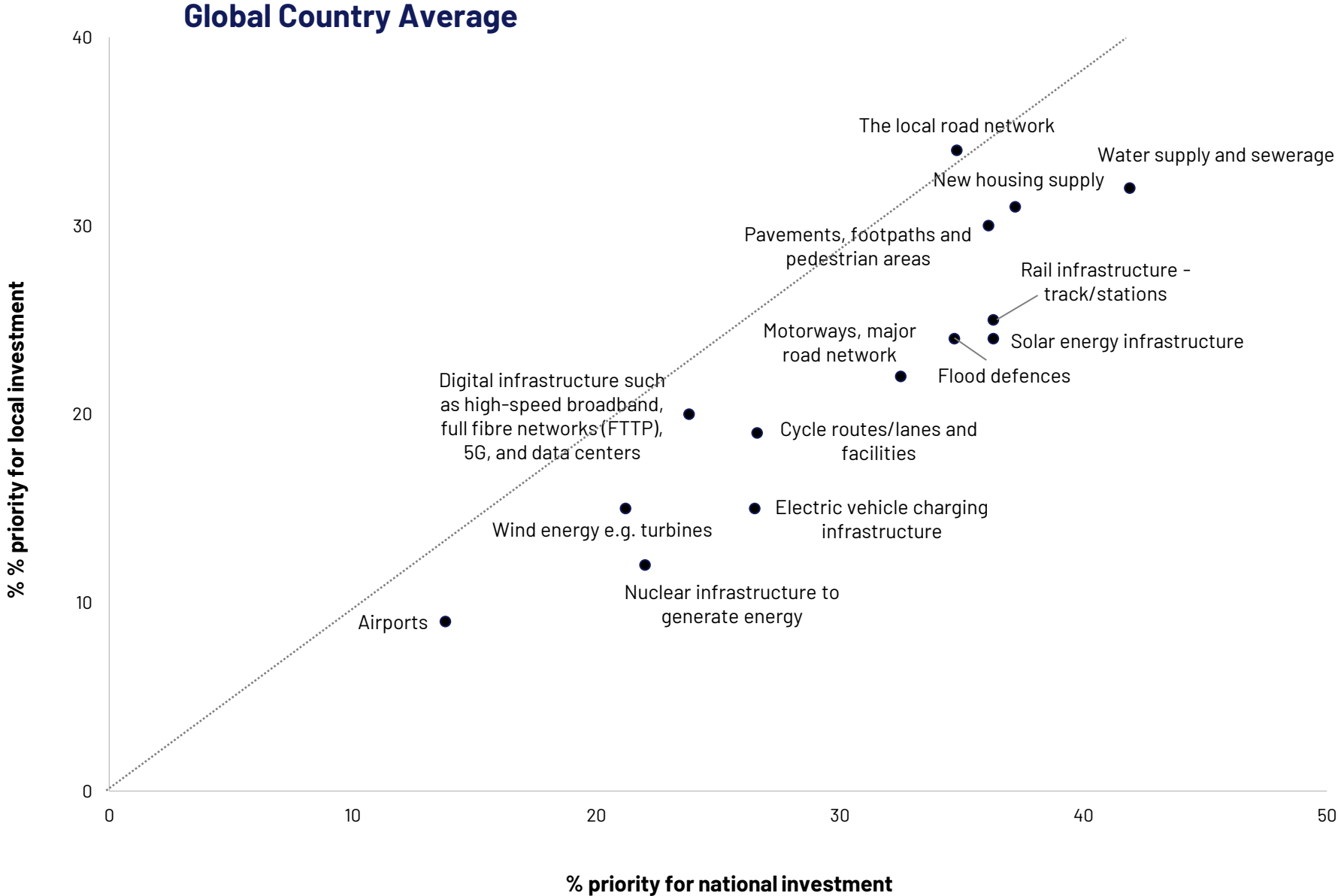
Source: Ipsos/GIIA



Investment in infrastructure is more likely to be regarded as a national priority than a local one.

Q. Here is the same list of types of infrastructure. Which, if any, do you think should be made a priority for investment for [COUNTRY] / your local area?

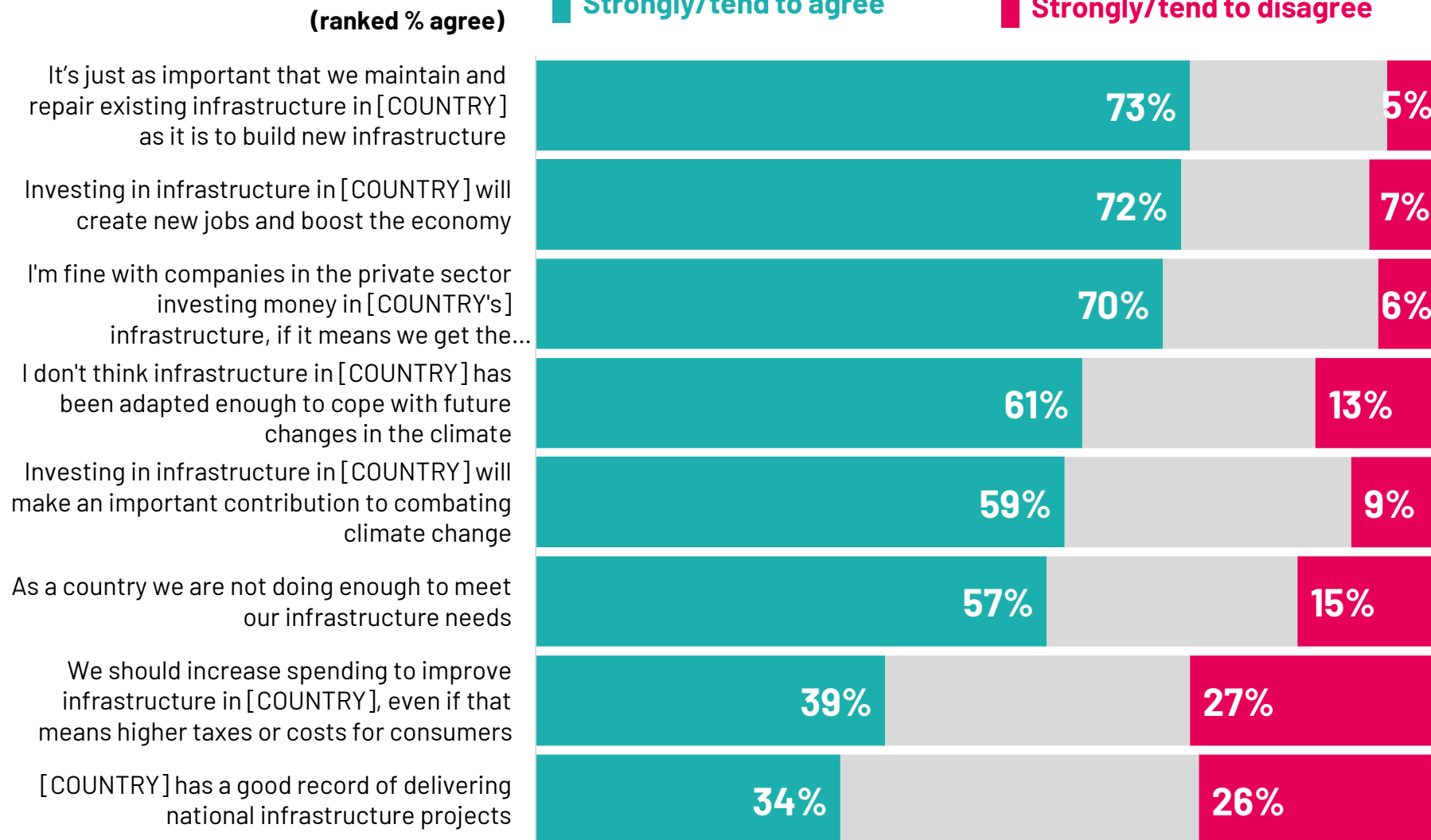
Base: 21,521 adults (online), 29 countries
April - May 2026



People are sure that maintenance and investment are necessary and impactful, much less sure about raising revenue through taxes and in national delivery.

Q. Still thinking about infrastructure – the things we rely on like road, rail and air networks, utilities such as energy and water, and broadband and other communications – to what extent do you agree or disagree...?

Base: 21,521 adults (online), 29 countries
April – May 2026

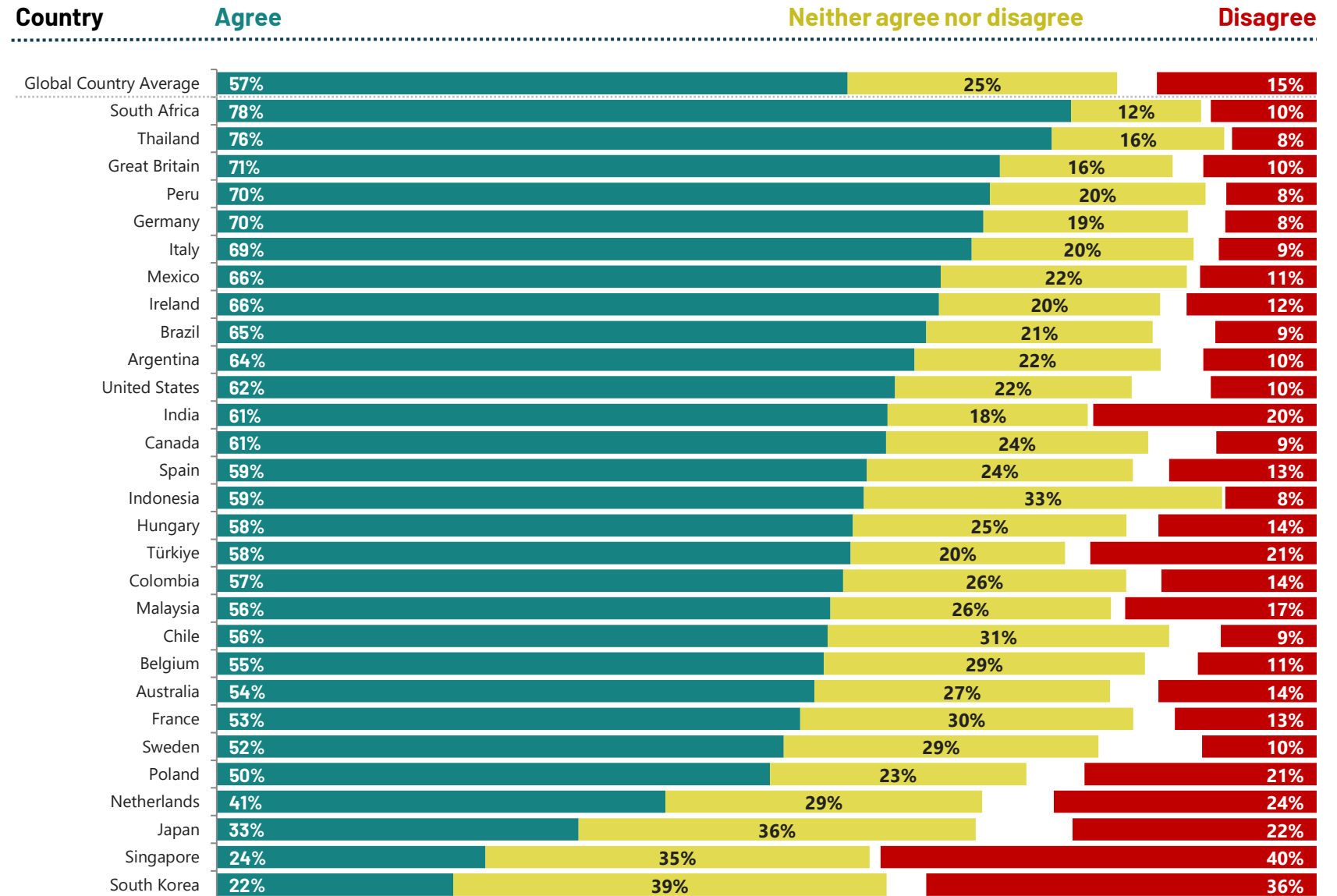


A majority in most countries agree that their country is not doing enough to meet needs.

To what extent do you agree or disagree...?

As a country we are not doing enough to meet our infrastructure needs

Base: 21,521 adults (online), 29 countries
April - May 2026

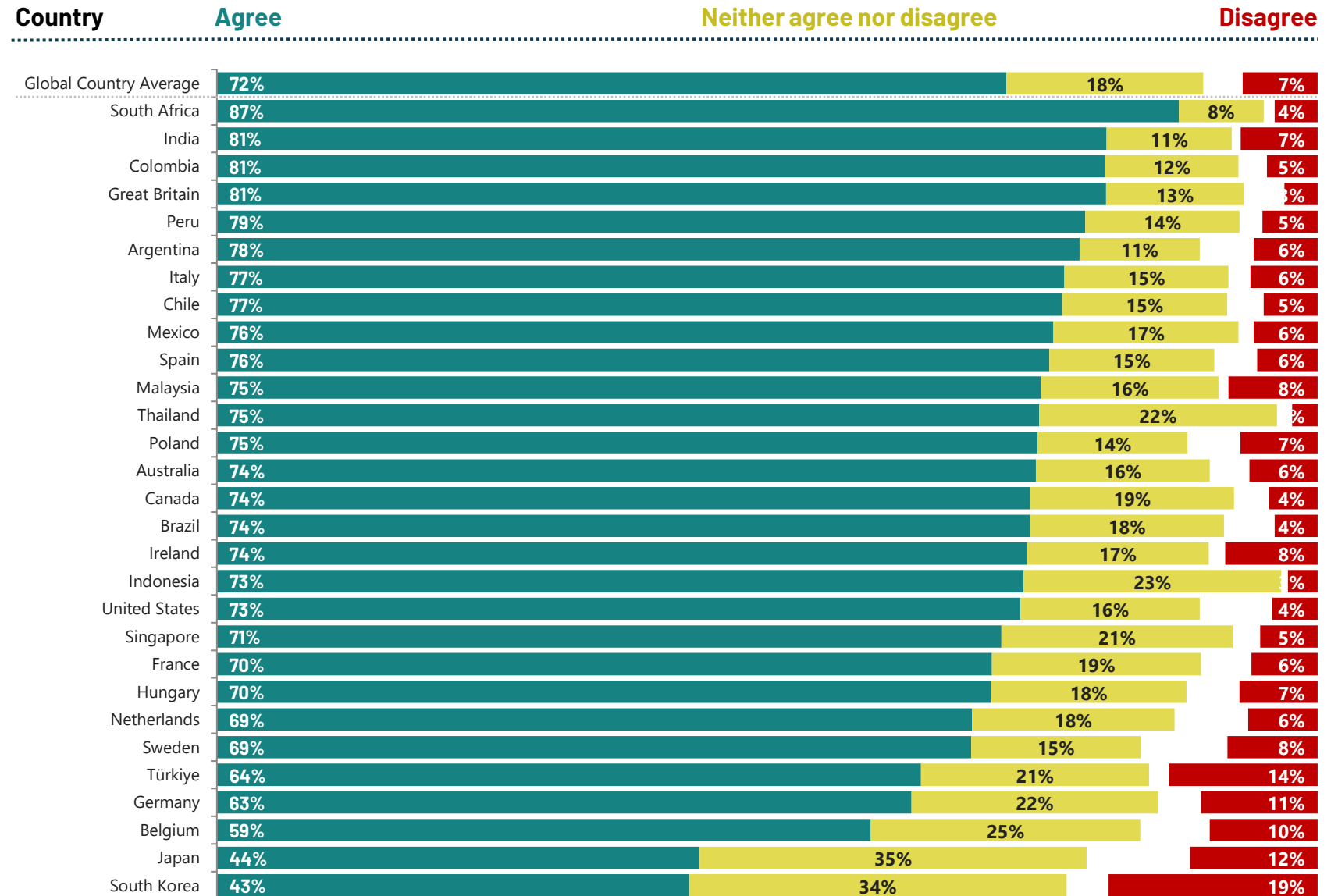


Investment in infrastructure is seen as having economic upside...

To what extent do you agree or disagree...?

Investing in infrastructure will create new jobs and boost the economy

Base: 21,521 adults (online), 29 countries
April - May 2026

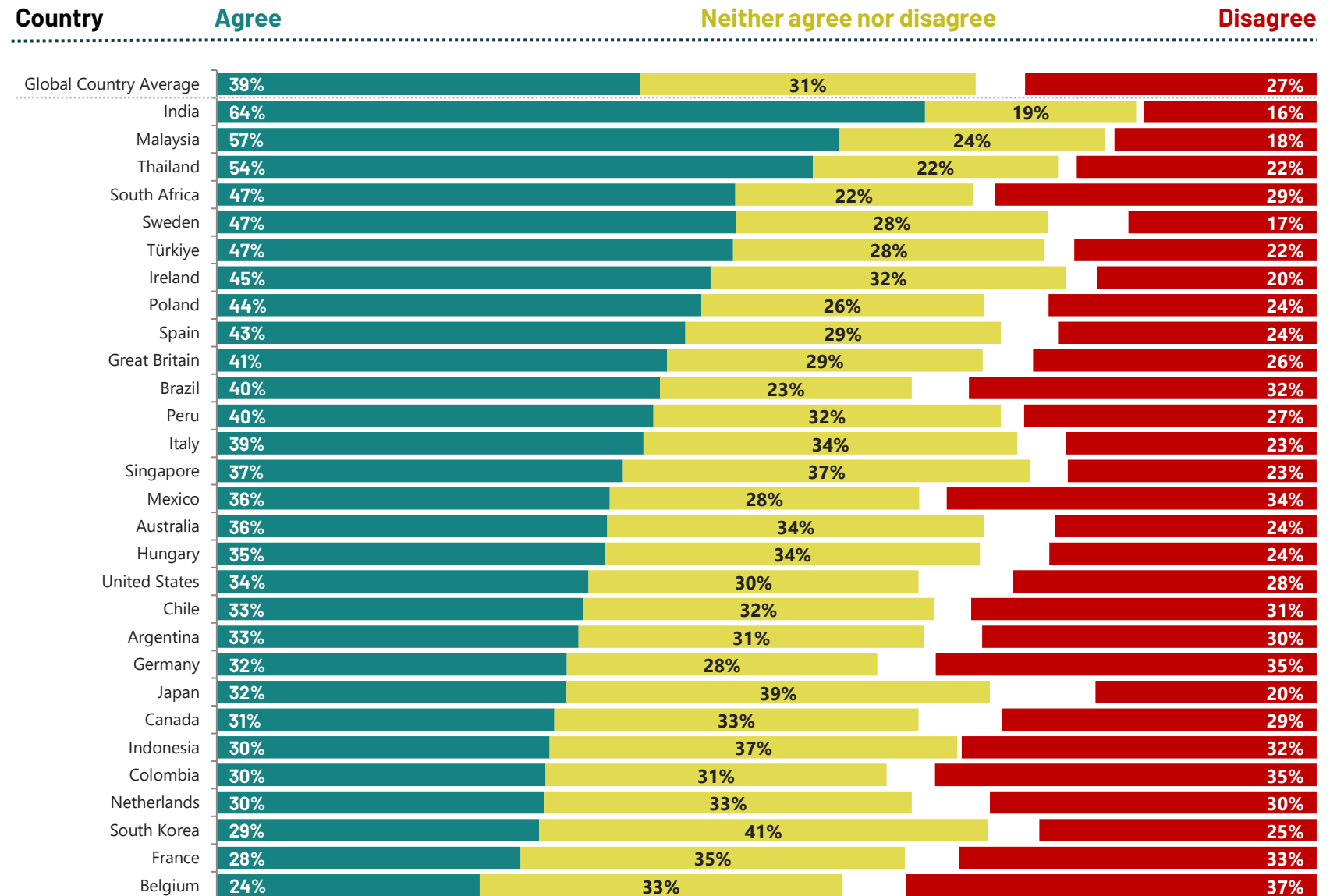


...but fewer want to increase spending if it means higher taxes or costs...

To what extent do you agree or disagree...?

We should increase spending to improve infrastructure in [COUNTRY], even if that means higher taxes or costs for consumers

Base: 21,521 adults (online), 29 countries
April - May 2026

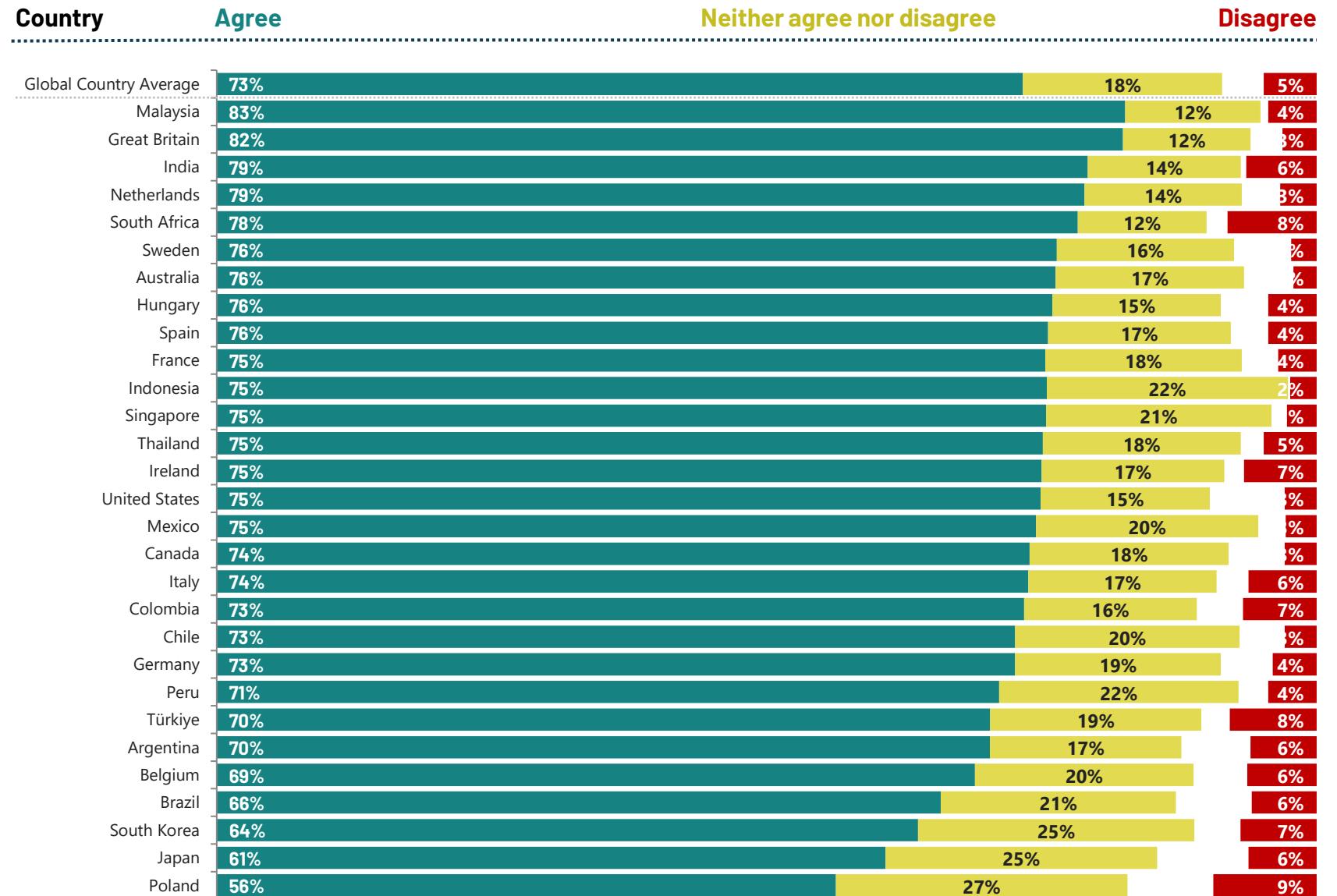


...and they consider maintenance and repair as important as building new infrastructure.

To what extent do you agree or disagree...?

It's just as important that we maintain and repair existing infrastructure in [COUNTRY] as it is to build new infrastructure

Base: 21,521 adults (online), 29 countries
April - May 2026

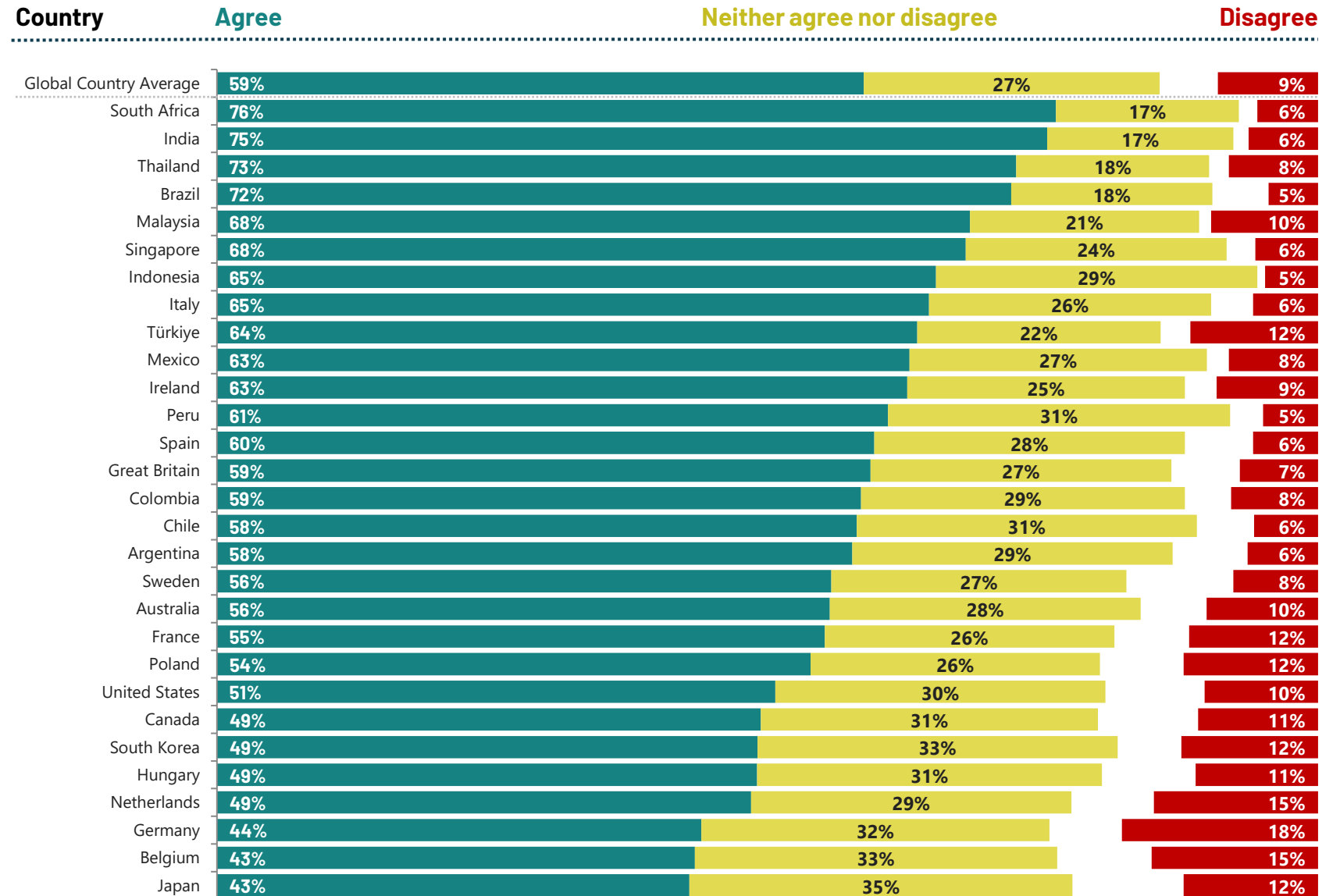


Most countries have a majority view that infrastructure can make an important contribution to combating climate change...

To what extent do you agree or disagree...?

Investing in infrastructure in [COUNTRY] will make an important contribution to combating climate change

Base: 21,521 adults (online), 29 countries
April - May 2026

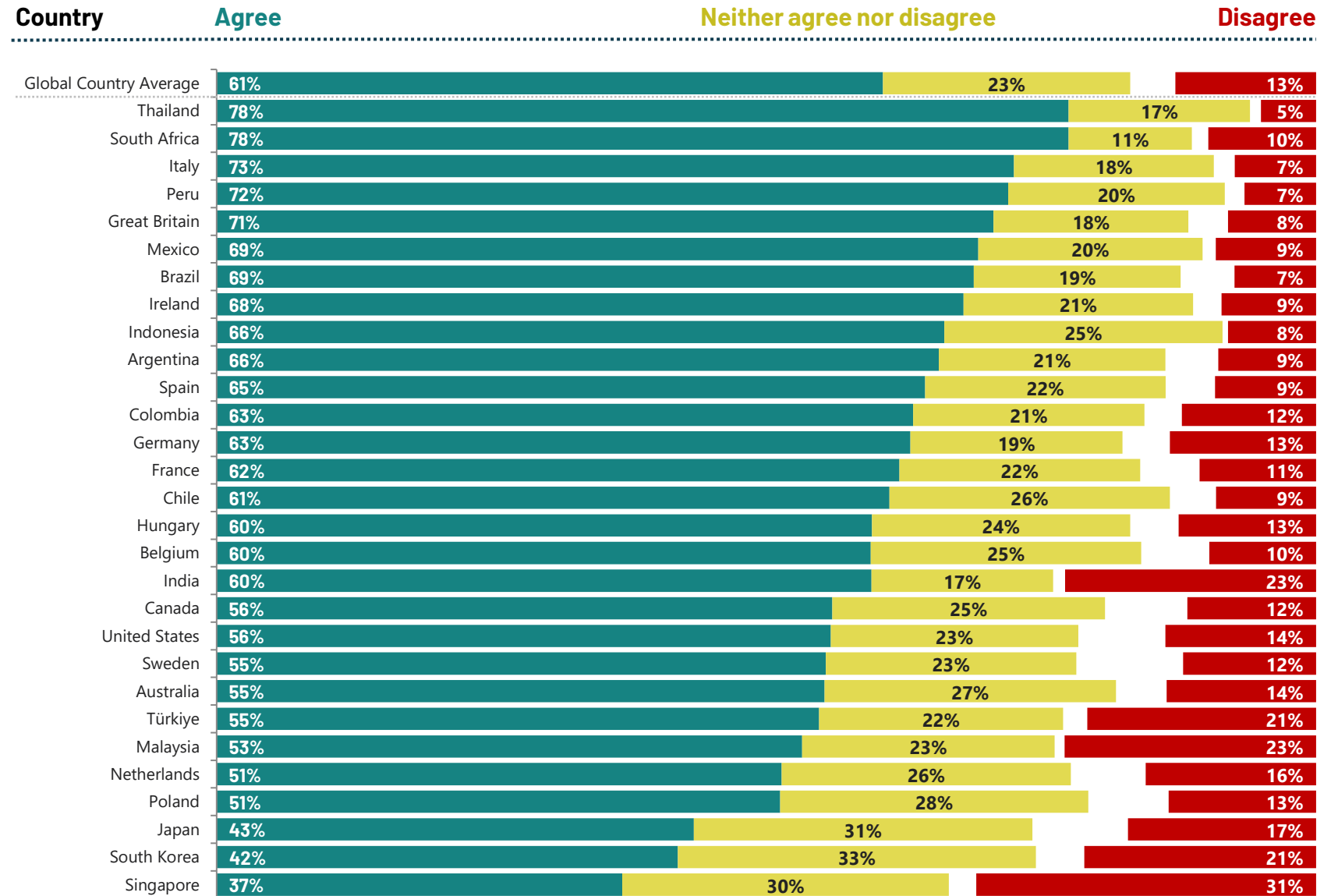


...but most people doubt it has been adapted for future changes in the climate.

To what extent do you agree or disagree...?

I don't think infrastructure in [COUNTRY] has been adapted enough to cope with future changes in the climate

Base: 21,521 adults (online), 29 countries
April - May 2026

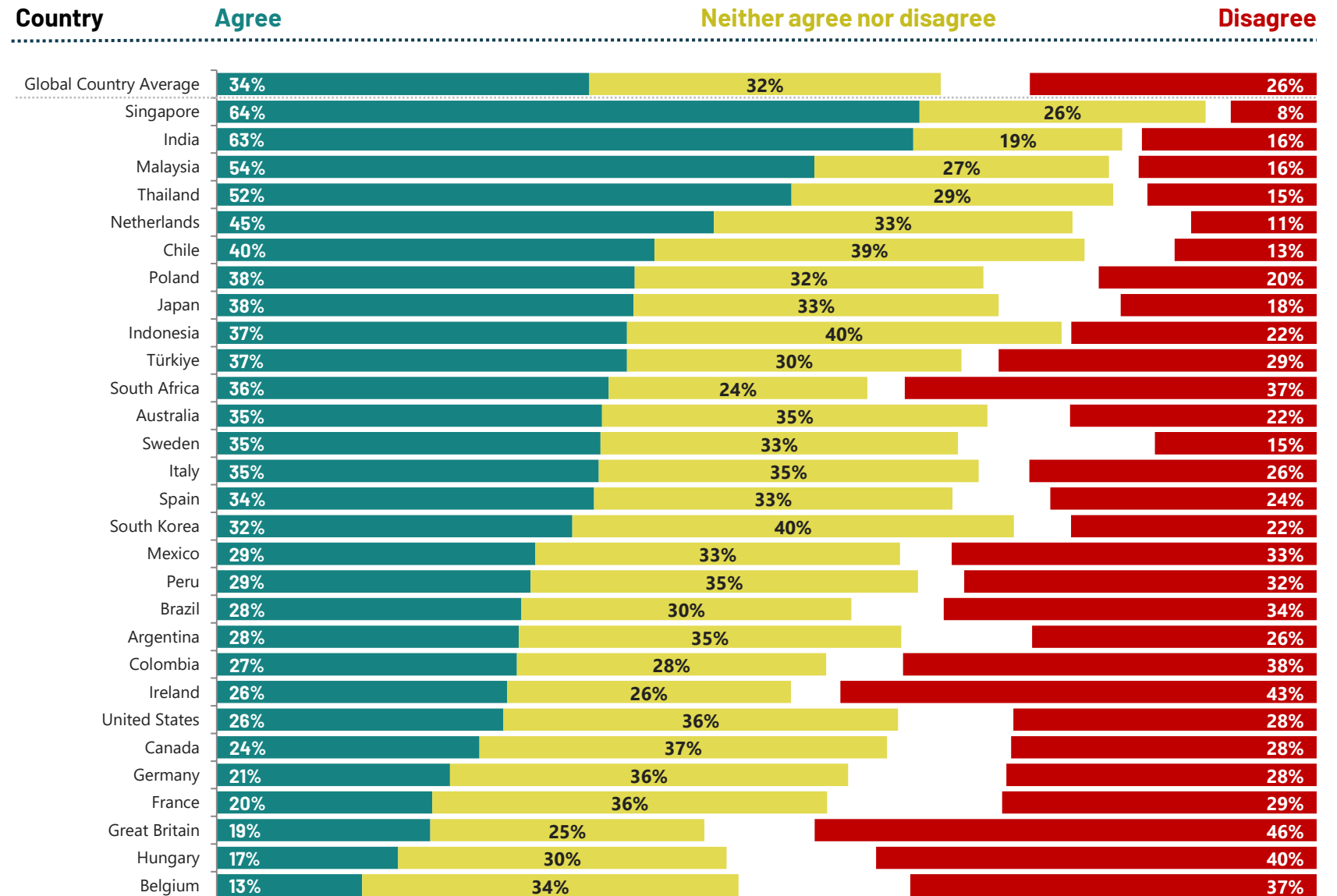


In all but a handful of countries, a minority consider their country as having a good record of delivery.

To what extent do you agree or disagree...?

[COUNTRY] has a good record of delivering national infrastructure projects

Base: 21,521 adults (online), 29 countries
April - May 2026

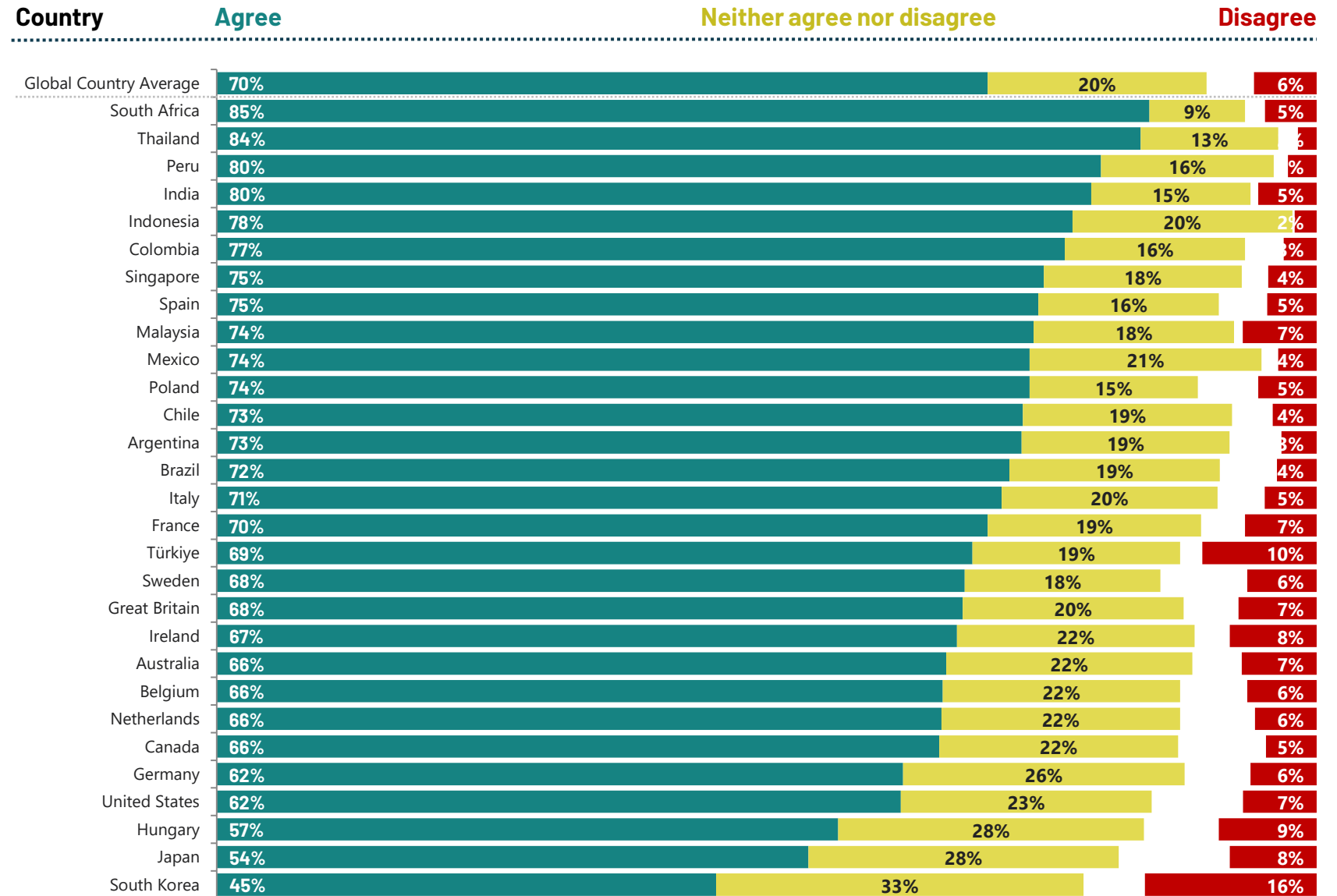


Most people are fine with private investment if it gets results.

To what extent do you agree or disagree...?

I'm fine with companies in the private sector investing money in [COUNTRY'S] infrastructure, if it means we get the improvements we need"

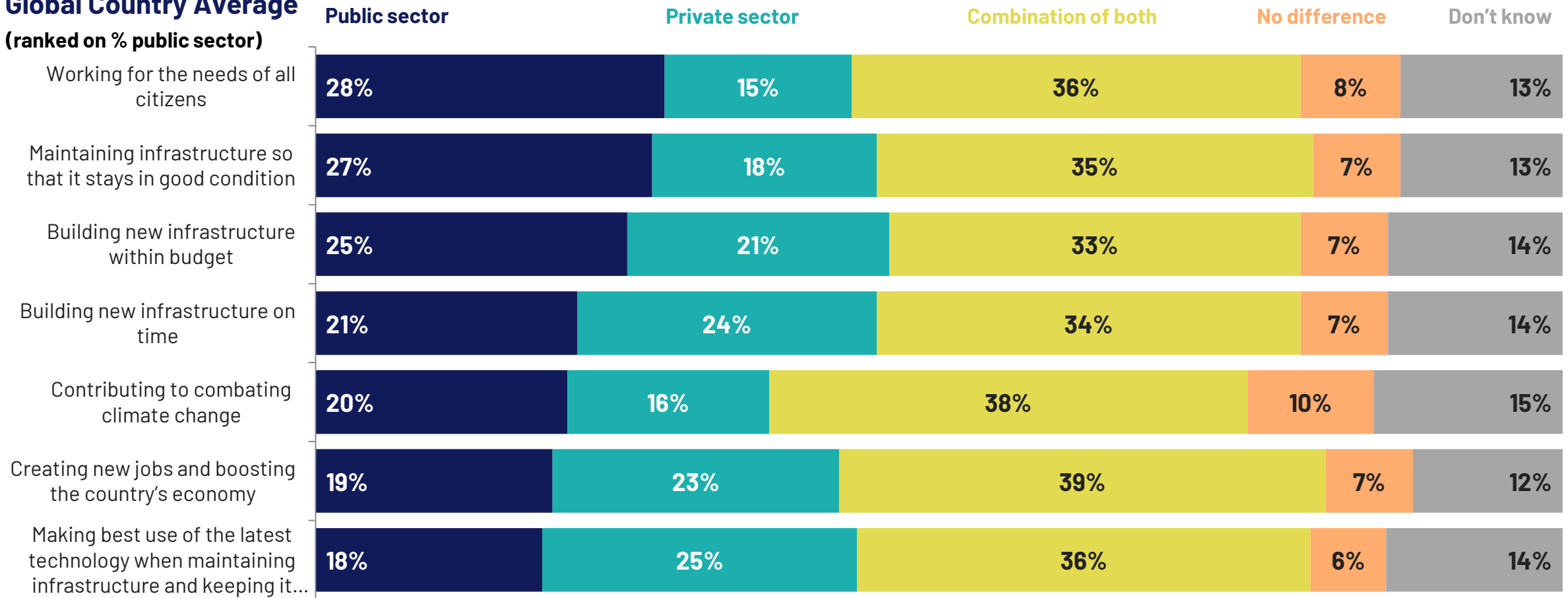
Base: 21,521 adults (online), 29 countries
April - May 2026



The public and private sectors are seen as having some relative benefits as sources of funding but are largely seen in similar terms. Many people see no difference or favour a combination.

Q. ...Which of these main sources of funding do you think is more likely to achieve the following, or is there no difference between them?*

Global Country Average (ranked on % public sector)



Base: 21,521 adults (online), 29 countries, April - May 2026 Source: Ipsos/GIIA

Q (*full text). As you may know, there are different sources of funding for infrastructure. Funding from the PUBLIC sector uses money raised by governments through general taxation, and the PRIVATE sector uses money raised from investors, shareholders, pension funds, and bank loans which is paid back by charging customers who use infrastructure. Which of these main sources of funding do you think is more likely to achieve the following, or is there no difference between them?

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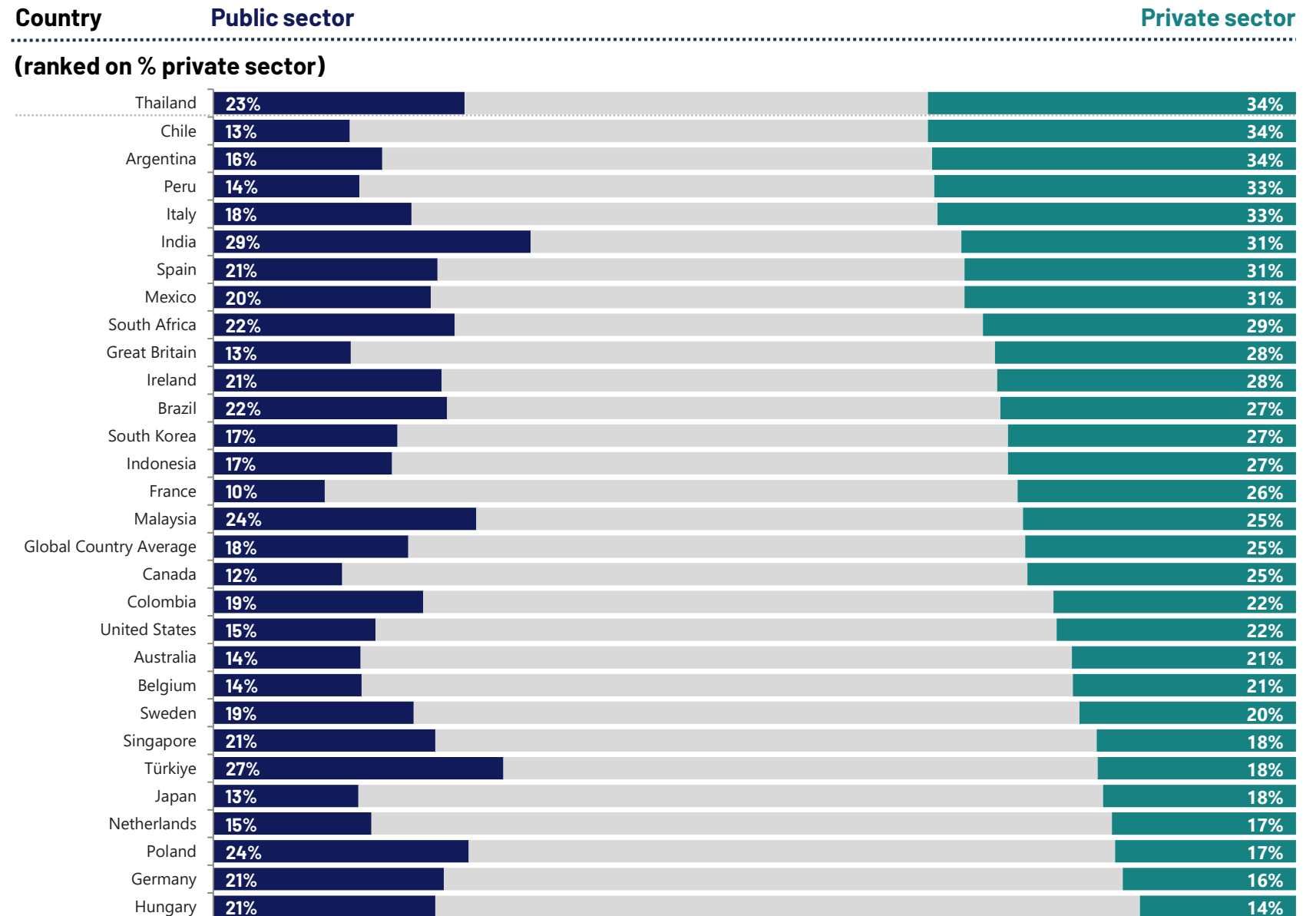


The private sector is seen as a comparatively good source for harnessing technology.

Which of these main sources of funding do you think is more likely to achieve the following, or is there no difference between them?*

Making best use of the latest technology when maintaining infrastructure and keeping it running

Base: 21,521 adults (online), 29 countries
April - May 2026

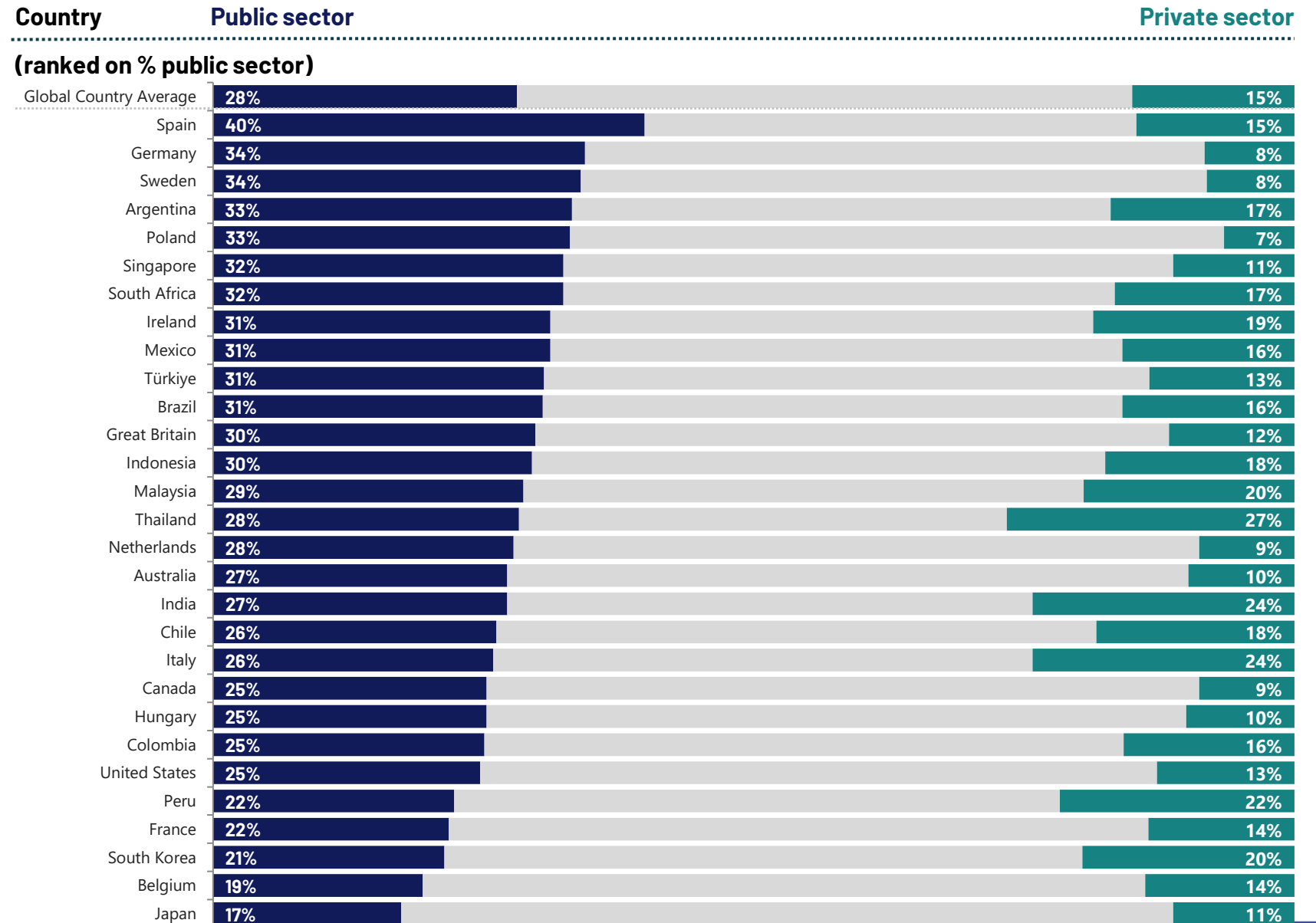


The public sector's comparative strength is working for all citizens.

Which of these main sources of funding do you think is more likely to achieve the following, or is there no difference between them?*

Working for the needs of all citizens

Base: 21,521 adults (online), 29 countries
April - May 2026



APPENDIX

METHODOLOGY

These are the results of a 29-country survey conducted by Ipsos on its Global Advisor online platform, between Friday, April 24, and Friday, May 8, 2026. For this survey, Ipsos interviewed a total of 21,521 adults aged 18 years and older in India, 18-74 in Canada, Republic of Ireland, 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 1,000 individuals each in Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Spain, Türkiye, and the U.S., and 500 individuals each in Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Hungary, Ireland, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Sweden, and Thailand.

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, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, 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.

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.

Regions

Regions - countries and *unweighted sample sizes*

Europe	N. America	LATAM	Asia-Pacific (APAC)	ME Africa	G7
x11	x2	x6	x8	x2	x7
8,508	2,002	3,505	6,005	1,501	7,005
Belgium	Canada	Argentina	Australia	South Africa	Canada
France	U.S.A.	Brazil	India	Türkiye	France
Germany		Chile	Indonesia		Germany
Great Britain		Colombia	Japan		Great Britain
Hungary		Mexico	Malaysia		Italy
Ireland		Peru	Singapore		Japan
Italy			South Korea		U.S.A
Netherlands			Thailand		
Poland					(Russia
Spain					excluded)
Sweden					



FURTHER INFORMATION:

www.ipsos.com

<https://giia.net/>



ben.marshall@ipsos.com

lewis.hill@ipsos.com



VBenn@giia.net

