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High Hopes for 2012: Seven in Ten (72%) Global Citizens Online Think It Will Be a Better Year Than 2011

But Only Four in Ten (41%) Agree Global Economy Will Be Stronger

Washington, DC — A new poll conducted by global research company Ipsos for Reuters News finds that a majority (72%) of online citizens in 24 countries 'agree' they are optimistic that 2012 will be a better year for them than 2011 – 30% agree very much, 42% agree somewhat.

Optimism reins among the vast majority of those living in France and Indonesia, where 91% in each country 'agree' they are optimistic that 2012 will be a better year. Following next is Brazil (90%), India (89%) and Mexico (85%). On the other end, those in Italy (45%), Japan (46%), Sweden (55%) Hungary (56%) and Great Britain (58%) are least likely to agree.

Only four in ten (41%) citizens online in 24 countries 'agree,' however, that the global economy will be stronger in 2012 than in 2011 – 9% agree strongly, 32% agree somewhat.

Hesitancy towards the future of the global economy is not prevalent everywhere; in fact, a majority of those in India (74%), Brazil (70%), Indonesia (68%) and Saudi Arabia (63%) 'agree' the global economy will be stronger. On the flip side, those living in France (19%), Hungary (20%), Belgium (21%), Italy (22%) and Sweden (22%) are least likely to respond this way.

Demographically, global citizens under the age of 35 (77% 'agree' 2012 will be better, 47% economy will be stronger), with a 'high' household income (77% 'agree' 2012 will be better, 43% economy will be stronger) and with a 'high' level of education (75% 'agree' 2012 will be better, 44% economy will be stronger) appear to have the highest hopes for 2012.

% 'agree' (strongly + somewhat)	**2012 will be better year**	**Economy will be stronger**
Total	72%	41%
France	91%	19%
Indonesia	91%	68%
Brazil	90%	70%
India	89%	74%
Mexico	85%	51%
Argentina	82%	37%
Canada	80%	51%
Russia	80%	38%
South Africa	79%	47%
Saudi Arabia	78%	63%
Australia	77%	38%
Belgium	76%	21%
China	76%	54%
United States	74%	46%
South Korea	73%	39%
Turkey	67%	37%
Germany	63%	32%
Poland	61%	32%
Spain	59%	36%
Great Britain	58%	24%
Hungary	56%	20%
Sweden	55%	22%
Japan	46%	36%
Italy	45%	22%

These are some of the findings of an Ipsos Global @dvisor poll conducted between on behalf of Reuters News. The survey instrument is conducted monthly in 24 countries via the Ipsos Online Panel system. The countries reporting herein are Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United States of America. An international sample of 21,245 adults aged 18-64 in the US and Canada, and age 16-64 in all other countries, were *interviewed between December 6 – December 19, 2011. Approximately 1000+ individuals participated on a country by country basis with the exception of Argentina, Indonesia, Mexico, Poland, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Sweden, Russia and Turkey, where each have a sample 500+. Weighting was then employed to balance demographics and ensure that the sample's composition reflects that of the adult population according to the most recent country Census data and to provide results intended to approximate the sample universe. A survey with an unweighted probability sample of this size and a 100% response rate would have an estimated margin of error of +/-3.1 percentage points for a sample of 1,000 and an estimated margin of error of +/- 4.5 percentage points for a sample of 500 19 times out of 20 per country of what the results would have been had the entire population of the specifically aged adults in that country been polled.*

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