



Economic System Needs 'Major Changes': Global Poll

Major reform of the international economic system is needed in order to solve the current crisis, according to a new global poll of over 29,000 people carried out for BBC World Service.

As G20 leaders prepare to meet in London this week, 70 per cent of those across the 24 countries polled by GlobeScan think 'major changes' are required to the way the global economy is run. Only 4 per cent think no significant changes are needed.

Majorities in most countries - on average 68 per cent - also see the need for major changes to their own country's economy.

Of the 24 countries polled, 15 are part of the G20 and among those countries, 65 per cent think major changes are required to the international economic system, while 62 per cent see the need for major changes to their own country's economy.

When asked whether the downturn in the global economy has negatively affected them and their family over six in ten (62%) said it had affected them at least 'a fair amount'. Thirty-one per cent say that it has affected them 'a great deal'. Both these figures are little changed from a BBC poll in mid-2008.

More than two in five (44%) say that they have been personally affected by shortage of credit for mortgages and other loans at least a fair amount, with one in five saying it has affected them a great deal.

The findings suggest that people in developing countries are being harder hit by the economic downturn than those in richer nations. People in Kenya (74%), Egypt (64%), the Philippines (55%) and Turkey (50%) are most likely to say that the global economic downturn is affecting them personally 'a great deal'. Mexico (55%) and Nigeria (39%), meanwhile, have among the highest proportions of people saying they have been negatively affected 'a great deal' by the credit shortage.

Asked when they expected their situation to improve, those personally affected by the economic downturn were divided between those who think it will last more than two years (45%) and those who say it will recover sooner than that (46%).

The poll also shows that despite recent price falls, the high cost of food continues to negatively affect a much higher proportion of people than the economic downturn. Three in four families (76%) across the 24 countries say it is affecting them at least a fair amount, with 47 per cent saying it is affecting them a great deal, down from 59 per cent six months ago. Again, citizens of developing countries are most likely to report negative impacts from food prices.

The results are drawn from a survey of 29,913 adult citizens across 24 countries, conducted for BBC World Service by the international polling firm GlobeScan, together with the Program on International Policy Attitudes (PIPA) at the University of Maryland. GlobeScan coordinated fieldwork between 24 November 2008 and 27 February 2009.

GlobeScan Chairman Doug Miller commented, “The poll reveals a global mandate for bold action at this week’s G20 leaders summit. Results suggest most people see the global economic system as flawed.”

He added: “The poll also highlights the ‘forgotten crisis’ of high food prices that is still having the most negative impact on many people’s lives.”

Participating Countries



*Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, and Panama
Note: In Brazil, Chile, China, Egypt, Mexico, the Philippines, Portugal, Turkey, and the countries of Central America urban samples were used. Please see methodology for details.

Detailed Findings

Majority support for fundamental reform of the international economic system is found in 20 of the 24 countries polled, led by Portugal (92%), the Philippines (88%), Kenya and Spain (both 84%). The only countries where less than half call for major changes are Russia (47%), Japan (45%), Mexico (42%), and India (40%).

Majorities in 19 of the 24 countries also see the need for major changes to their own country’s economic system. On average 68 per cent think their own country’s economy needs major changes in response to the economic crisis. Some of the largest majorities are found in developed economies that have been particularly affected by the economic crisis, such as Portugal (90%), Spain (82%), the US (75%) and the UK (73%). Japan and India have the smallest numbers calling for major change (both 39%).

Rising food prices continue to be a major concern across many countries, but are a particularly acute problem in the developing world, with very large majorities in countries such as Kenya (91%), Egypt (85%) and the Philippines (83%) saying they are being affected a great deal.

Changes Needed in Economic Systems as a Result of Financial Crisis

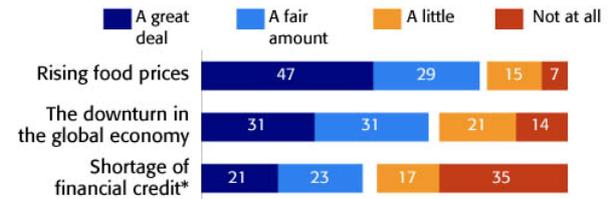
Average of 24 Countries, 2009



The white space in this chart represents "DK/NA."

Effects on Respondent and Family of Recent Developments

Average of 24 Countries, 2009

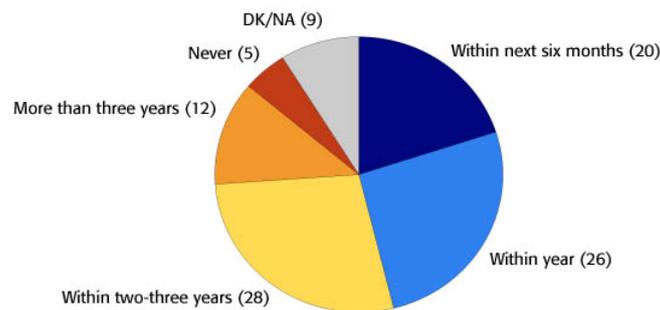


*Not asked in Japan

The white space in this chart represents "DK/NA."

Expect Economy to Improve for Respondent and Family

Average of 24 Countries, 2009



In total 29,913 citizens in Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Central America (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama), Egypt, France, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, the Philippines, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the USA, were interviewed face-to-face or by telephone between 24 November, 2008 to 27 February, 2009. Polling was conducted for BBC World Service by the international polling firm GlobeScan and its research partners in each country. In 9 of the 24 countries, the sample was limited to major urban areas. The margin of error per country ranges from +/-2.3 to 3.5 per cent, 19 times out of 20.

For more details, please visit www.GlobeScan.com or www.WorldPublicOpinion.org.

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GlobeScan Incorporated is a global public opinion and stakeholder research consultancy with offices in London, San Francisco, Toronto and Washington. GlobeScan conducts custom research and annual tracking studies on global issues. With a research network spanning 75+ countries, GlobeScan works with global companies, multilateral agencies, national governments, and non-government organizations to deliver research-based insights for successful strategies.

The Program on International Policy Attitudes (PIPA) of the Center for International and Security Studies at the University of Maryland, undertakes research on attitudes in publics around the world on a variety of international issues and manages the international research project WorldPublicOpinion.org.

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Country Findings

The Americas

Brazil

Brazilians share the global view that the current economic crisis indicates major changes are needed in the international economic system, and they are among the publics that agree major changes should occur in their own economy as well. While a majority of Brazilians believe they have been negatively affected by the downturn in the global economy, they are among the most optimistic that their situation will improve within a year.

- Seventy seven per cent of Brazilians believe major changes are necessary in the international economic system, while nearly as many (71%) say major changes are also necessary in Brazil's economy.
- A slight majority (51%) say the recent downturn in the global economy has negatively affected their family at least a fair amount, although fewer hold this view now than in mid-2008 (61%).
- Seventy eight per cent of Brazilians who have been negatively affected are fairly optimistic that conditions will improve within a year (44% within six months), while only 15 per cent believe it will take two years or longer.
- Thirty seven per cent of Brazilians believe their family has been negatively affected by a shortage of available financial credit, while a majority (59%) believe they have been negatively affected only a little or not at all.
- Nearly eight in ten (79%) say that rising food prices have had a negative effect on their family, although this is fewer than held this view in mid-2008 (91%).

Canada

Canadians agree with the global view that major changes are needed in the international economic system, as well as believing that such changes are needed in the Canadian economy. Canadians are one of seven countries with a majority saying they have not been negatively affected by the downturn in the global economy, and unlike most other countries polled, only half of Canadians say they have been negatively affected by rising food costs. Very few say they have felt negative effects from a shortage of available financial credit.

- Sixty nine per cent of Canadians feel that major changes in the international economic system are needed in the face of the current economic crisis, whereas only 22 per cent feel that only minor changes are necessary. A majority (56%) also believe that major changes are needed in their own economy.
- A substantial number (47%) of Canadians agree that they have been negatively affected by the downturn in the global economy, however, a slight majority (52%) say they have felt little or no negative effects, showing little change from mid 2008.
- Of those Canadians who feel that they have been negatively affected by the economy, 53 per cent say it will improve within a year or less, while 40 per cent say it will take two years or longer.
- Only 22 per cent of Canadians say that a shortage of available financial credit for loans and mortgages has had a negative effect on their family, while a majority (75%) do not feel that they have been negatively affected.
- Canadians are divided about whether rising food costs have negatively affected their families, with only half (50%, down from 60% in mid 2008) agreeing that they have been negatively affected.

Chile

Chileans broadly agree that the current economic crisis warrants major changes in both the international economic system and their own economy. A majority of Chileans also believe they have been negatively affected both by the economic downturn and the rising cost of food, however, a modest number believe their economic situation will improve within the next year.

- Four in five Chileans (80%) believe that the current economic crisis points to the need for major changes in the international economic system and three in four (75%) feel that changes are needed in Chile's economy.
- Two-thirds (67%) of Chileans feel that their families have been negatively affected by the economic downturn.
- A plurality of Chileans (42%) feel that their economic situation will improve within the next year, while twenty six per cent say it will take two or more years.
- A slight majority of Chileans (51%) say they have been negatively affected by the shortage of available financial credit for mortgages and other loans, while forty seven per cent say the shortage has not significantly affected them.
- A very large majority (82%) believe that they have been negatively affected by rising food costs. Only 15 per cent say that they have not been significantly affected by these rising costs.

Central America

Central Americans widely believe that major changes in the international and local economic systems are needed to deal with the current economic crisis, and the majority has felt negatively affected by the global downturn. However, people living in Central America are more optimistic about how long it will take their economic situations to improve than most other countries polled, with a significant number believing their situation will improve within six months.

- Eighty per cent of respondents in Central America agree that major changes in the international economic system are needed to deal with the current economic crisis, and 75 per cent believe that changes are also needed in their local economic systems.
- Seventy two per cent of people in Central America say they have been negatively affected by the global economic downturn, while one quarter (24%) say they have felt little or no effects.
- A slight majority (52%) of respondents who say they have been negatively affected by the economic crisis believe that their economic situation will improve in the next year or less (33% within six months), whereas 19 per cent feel that it will take two or more years.
- Sixty one per cent of respondents in Central America believe that they have been negatively affected by the shortage of available financial credit for mortgages and other loans, while 35 per cent say they do not feel significantly affected.
- Nearly nine in ten (89%) in Central America say they feel negative effects from rising food prices, while 9 per cent feel that they have been only slightly affected or not at all.

Mexico

Mexicans express relatively modest agreement that major changes are necessary in the international economic system in comparison to other publics polled. They are one of just a few countries where even more of the public say the current crisis indicates changes are needed in their own economic system. Mexicans who have been negatively affected by the crisis are the most pessimistic out of all publics that their situation will improve in the near future. Since mid-2008, Mexico has seen the most dramatic increase out of all countries

polled in those who feel they have been negatively affected by the shortage of financial credit for mortgages and other loans.

- Forty two percent of Mexicans believe that the current economic crisis necessitates major changes to the international economic system, while 27 per cent call for minor changes. However, a slight majority (52%) believe that major changes are necessary in the Mexican economy.
- Eighty two per cent of Mexicans say they have felt negatively affected by the downturn in the global economy, while 17 per cent say they have felt few or no effects.
- Just one-quarter (25%) of Mexicans who say that have been negatively affected by the downturn expect their situation to improve within the next year and 69 per cent do not expect an improvement for at least two years or more (64% two to three years).
- More than nine in ten Mexicans (91%) say they have been negatively affected by the shortage of financial credit for mortgages and other loans, up sharply from 49 per cent in mid-2008. Those saying they have not been affected significantly have fallen to 8 per cent (down from 50%).
- Nearly all Mexicans (94%) feel their families have been negatively affected by rising food prices.

United States

Americans agree with the largely held global view that major changes are needed in the international economic situation, but an even greater number believe major changes are also needed in their own country's economy. Majorities say they have been negatively affected by rising food prices and the global economic downturn, but those Americans negatively affected are split on whether their situation will improve in the immediate future or whether improvements will only occur in the longer term.

- Sixty four per cent of Americans think that the current economic crisis indicates the need for major changes in the international economic system, while three-quarters (75%) agree that major changes are also needed for the American economy.
- A majority of Americans (58%) say the recent economic downturn in the global economy has negatively affected their family at least a fair amount.
- Less than half (47%) of Americans negatively affected by the recent economic developments expect the situation to improve within a year or less, while nearly the same number (46%) believe it will take two years or longer.
- Twenty nine per cent of Americans say that a shortage of available financial credit for loans and mortgages has negatively affected their family, while a majority (70%) say it has not had a significant negative effect.
- A majority of Americans (62%) feel that rising food prices have negatively affected their families (down from 70% in mid-2008), while 38 per cent say the rising prices have not had a significant negative effect (up from 29% in mid-2008).

Europe

France

The French have among the largest majorities out of all countries polled agreeing that the current economic crisis indicates major changes are needed in the international economic system. And nearly as many believe major changes should occur in their own economy as well. Although relatively small numbers in France say they have been negatively affected by the global economic downturn and the shortage of financial credit and loans, those who have been affected are more pessimistic that their situation will improve in the immediate future.

- More than eight in ten (83%) in France believe that the current economic crisis points to the need for major changes in the international economic system, and 79 per cent feel that major changes are needed in the French economic system as well.

- Less than half (43%, down from 49% in mid-2008) say they or their families have felt negative effects from the global economic downturn, while a majority (54%) say that it has had few or no negative effects on their lives.
- Fifty per cent of those negatively affected believe that their personal economic situation will not improve for two or more years, whereas 37 per cent believe that it will only take a year or less to improve.
- Twenty two per cent say that the shortage of available financial credit for mortgages and loans has had a negative effect on their families, while three out of four (75%) say this has not negatively affected them.
- Nearly seven in ten (69%) French respondents agree that rising food prices are having a negative effect on their lives (down from 81% in mid-2008).

Germany

Germans agree with the global consensus that major changes in the international and national economic systems are needed to deal with the current economic crisis. The majority of Germans say they have not personally felt negative effects from the global economic downturn or the shortage of available financial credit. Yet, those who have felt the negative effects are more pessimistic that their situation will improve in the near future than those in other countries polled.

- Seventy five per cent of Germans think that the current economic crisis points to the need for major changes in the international economic system, while slightly fewer (67%) feel that major changes are also necessary in the German economy.
- Fewer than three in ten (29%) say that the downturn in the global economy has had a significant negative effect on them or their families, while nearly two-thirds (66%) do not believe that it has negatively affected them.
- Of those who feel negatively affected by the economic crisis, 61 per cent say it will take two years or longer (28% three or more years) for their situation to improve, while 17 per cent say it will improve in a year or less.
- Seventeen per cent say the shortage of available financial credit for mortgages and other loans has had significant negative effects on them or their families, while nearly eight in ten (79%, up from 71% in mid-2008) do not feel negatively affected.
- A majority (58%) in Germany say they have been negatively affected by rising food prices, although this has fallen from 69 per cent in mid-2008.

Italy

Italians share the global view that major changes are needed in the international economic system due to the current economic crisis, as well as the view that changes are also needed in their own country's economy. Those Italians who have been negatively affected by recent economic developments are somewhat less confident than those in most other countries that their situation will improve in the near future, with most saying it will take two years or longer.

- More than eight in ten (81%) Italians agree that major changes in the international economic system are necessary, while nearly as many (79%) say that major changes are also needed for their country's economy.
- Sixty two per cent say that the recent downturn in the global economy has negatively affected them (down from 72% in mid-2008), while thirty six per cent feel they have not been negatively affected (up from 25%).
- Of those negatively affected, half (50%) believe that their situation will improve after two to three years or more, while 36 per cent say they believe their situation will improve within a year or less.
- Thirty per cent of Italians say they have been negatively affected by a shortage of available financial credit, while nearly two-thirds (66%) say they have experienced little or no negative effects.

- Seventy eight per cent say that rising food prices have had a negative effect on them and their families (down from 88% in mid-2008), while 21 per cent say they have not been significantly affected.

Portugal

Portugal has the largest majority out of all countries polled that feel the current economic crisis points to the need for major changes in the international economic system, and the second-largest majority that see a need for major changes in their own country's economy.

- More than nine in ten Portuguese (92%) agree that the current crisis points to the need for major changes in the international economic system, while nearly the same number (90%) believe there is also a need for major changes in their own country.
- Fifty nine per cent of Portuguese say that the downturn in the global economy has negatively affected them at least a fair amount, although 39 per cent say they have experienced little or no negative effects.
- Only one-quarter of respondents (25%) who felt they have been negatively affected by the recent economic developments believe their situation will improve within the next year, while a majority (61%) feel it will take two years or longer.
- One-third (33%) say that a shortage of available financial credit for loans and mortgages has negatively affected their family at least a fair amount.
- More than three in four Portuguese (76%) have felt significant negative effects from rising food prices.

Russia

Compared to the other publics polled, Russians offer only modest support for the view that the financial crisis indicates the need for major changes in both the international economic system and its own national economy. Relatively few Russians also say they have experienced negative effects from recent economic developments. Rising food prices are an exception to this pattern for Russians, where they are largely in line with the rest of the world in feeling negative effects.

- Less than half (47%) of Russians believe that the current economic crisis points to the need for major changes in the international economic system (36% say minor changes are necessary), while an equal number (47%) feel major changes are necessary in Russia's economy as well (41% say minor changes).
- Thirty one per cent of Russians say that the recent economic developments have had a negative effect on themselves and their families, with 59 per cent (up from 43% in mid-2008) saying they have felt little or no negative effects.
- Of those Russians who feel they have been negatively affected, 27 per cent believe their situation will improve in a year or less and 39 per cent feel it will take two years or longer.
- Twenty five per cent of Russians say a shortage of financial credit for loans and mortgages has had a negative effect on their family, while 66 per cent say it has not negatively affected their family (up from 61% in mid-2008).
- A majority (72%) of respondents feel they have been negatively affected by rising food prices (down from 84% in mid-2008), whereas 27 per cent (up from 15%) feel they have not been negatively affected.

Spain

Spaniards are among the publics that most widely agree the current crisis indicates the need for major changes in the international economic system and in their own country's economy. Among European publics polled, Spain has one of the largest numbers saying that the shortage of financial credit for loans has negatively affected them, although a majority of Spaniards still believe they have not experienced negative effects from this development.

- Eighty four per cent of Spaniards agree that major changes are needed in the international economic system in order to address the global economic crisis, while nearly the same number (82%) say major changes are also necessary in Spain's economy.
- Fifty six per cent say that the recent downturn in the global economy has negatively affected them at least a fair amount, while 42 per cent say they have experienced little or no negative effects.
- Of those who feel negatively affected by the economic developments, a slight majority (51%) believe it will take two years or longer for their situation to improve, while 42 per cent believe that it will take less than a year.
- Thirty five per cent of Spaniards say they have experienced at least a fair amount of negative effects due to the shortage of financial credit for mortgages and other loans, while a majority (64%) do not think that they have been negatively affected.
- More than three in four (77%) see rising food prices as having a negative effect on their families.

United Kingdom

Britons widely agree with the global consensus that the current economic crisis points to the need for major changes in the international economic system and a similar percentage of Britons support major changes in their country's economy to address the crisis. Although a majority say they have been negatively affected by the global economic downturn and rising food prices, the United Kingdom is one of two countries with the largest majority saying that the shortage of financial credit has not negatively affected them or their families.

- Nearly equal majorities of Britons believe that major changes are necessary due to the current economic crisis, in both the international economic system (76%) and their own country's economy (73%).
- Fifty five per cent of Britons say that the recent economic developments have only affected them a little or not at all, while 44 per cent say they have had a negative impact.
- A slight majority (52%) of Britons who have been negatively affected believe it will take two years or longer for their situation to improve, while 37 per cent are more optimistic and believe it will take a year or less.
- Less than one-fifth (19%) in the United Kingdom report that the shortage of available financial credit has negatively affected their families.
- A majority of Britons (57%) see rising food prices as negatively affecting their families (down from 67% in mid-2008), while 42 per cent do not feel the rising costs have had any significant negative effects (down from 33%).

The Middle East

Egypt

Egyptians broadly agree with most other countries polled that the current economic crisis indicates major changes are needed in the international economic system, and they are among the publics that widely agree major changes should occur in their own economy as well. Egyptians have the largest majority saying they have been negatively affected by rising food prices and the shortage of financial credit for mortgages and loans out of all publics polled.

- Seventy three per cent of Egyptians believe the current economic crisis suggests major changes are necessary in the international economic system, while 68 per cent believe major changes are also necessary in Egypt's economy as well.
- A very large majority of Egyptians (86%) feel that they have been negatively affected by the global economic downturn at least a fair amount.

- Thirty eight per cent of Egyptians who say they have been negatively affected by economic developments believe that it will take two years or more for their situation to improve, while 37 per cent believe it will take a year or less.
- Seven in ten (70%) Egyptians agree they have felt negative effects from the shortage of available financial credit for mortgages and other loans, up from 57 per cent that held this opinion in mid-2008.
- Egyptians near-unanimously (99%) agree that they have been negatively affected by rising food costs, although the number saying they have felt “a great deal” of negative effects has fallen slightly from mid-2008 (85%, down from 94%).

Turkey

Large majorities of Turks agree with the global consensus that the current economic crisis indicates the international economic system needs major changes and also that their own country’s economy is in need of such changes. Turkey has seen the most significant improvement in those saying that the shortage of financial credit for mortgages and other loans has negatively affected them or their families, although a growing number report that they have been negatively affected by rising food costs.

- Two-thirds (67%) in Turkey think that major changes to the international economic system are necessary in response to the current economic crisis and slightly more (69%) believe that similar changes are necessary for Turkey’s own economy.
- Eight in ten Turks (79%) say that the downturn in the global economy has negatively affected their family.
- Fewer than one in three (29%) of those who have been negatively affected believe their situation will improve in less than a year, while 52 per cent believe it will take two years or longer.
- Thirty five per cent of Turkey’s populace report that the shortage of available financial credit for mortgages and other loans has negatively affected their family (down from 57% in mid-2008).
- A growing majority (87%, up from 81% in mid-2008) say that rising food prices have had a negative effect on their family.

Africa

Ghana

Ghanaians widely support the idea that the current economic crisis indicates major changes are needed in the international economic system and they are among the publics that agree major changes should occur in their own economy as well. Although the majority of respondents feel personally affected by the economic downturn, they are among the most optimistic out of all countries polled that their economic situation will improve in the immediate future.

- Seventy two per cent in Ghana say the current economic crisis shows the need for major changes in the international economic system and almost the same number (71%) say major changes are also needed in Ghana’s economy.
- Seven in ten (70%) respondents say they have felt significant negative effects from the global economic downturn, compared to 21 per cent who feel that they have only been affected a little or not at all.
- Seventy five per cent of Ghanaians who feel negatively affected by these economic developments believe their situation will improve within one year (32% within six months), while twenty per cent believe it will take two or more years.
- A majority (62%) say they have been negatively affected by the shortage of available financial credit for mortgages and other loans.
- Eight in ten (80%) in Ghana say that they have been negatively affected by rising food prices.

Kenya

Kenyans widely agree with the global consensus that major changes are needed in the international economic system, and they are one of the few countries where an even larger majority see a need for major changes in their own economy. Kenya has the largest majority that feel they have been negatively affected by the downturn in the global economy.

- Eighty four per cent of Kenyans think that the current economic crisis indicates a need for major changes in the international economic system, while even more (87%) think that major changes are also necessary in Kenya's economy.
- More than nine in ten (92%) say that the recent downturn in the global economy has affected their family at least a fair amount, roughly the same number as in mid-2008 (88%).
- Of those saying they have been negatively affected, less than one in four (23%) believe their situation will improve in a year or less, while a majority (61%) believe it will take two years or longer.
- Although a majority of Kenyans (67%) say they have been negatively affected by the shortage of available financial credit for mortgages and other loans (down from 81% in mid-2008), those saying they have experienced few or no negative effects has grown to 28 per cent (up from 18%).
- Almost all Kenyans (98%) feel their families have been negatively affected by rising food prices.

Nigeria

Nigeria expresses modest agreement with the global consensus that the current economic crisis points to the need for major changes in the international economic system; however, their demand for changes on the national level is similar to most other publics polled. A large majority of Nigerians have felt negatively affected by recent economic developments, but they are among the most optimistic that their situation will improve in the near future compared to other countries polled.

- Fifty five per cent of Nigerians believe that the current economic crisis points to the need for major changes to international economic system (28% say minor changes are necessary), while an even greater two-thirds (66%) believe that major changes to the country's own economy are necessary (22% say minor changes).
- Nearly three in four (73%) say they have been negatively affected by the downturn in the global economy (down from 88% in mid-2008), while a small but growing number (16%, up from 11%) feel they have experienced few or no negative effects.
- Of those who say they have been negatively affected, 72 per cent believe that their economic situation will improve within the next year (33% within six months), while only 17 per cent believe it will take two years or longer.
- Two-thirds of Nigerians (67%, down from 79% mid-2008) say the shortage of available financial credit for mortgages and other loans has had a negative effect on their families.
- A very large majority of Nigerians (84%, down from 95% in mid-2008) say they have been negatively affected by rising food prices.

Asia-Pacific

Australia

Australians broadly agree with the global consensus that major changes are needed in the international economic system, however, they less widely demand major changes within their own economy than most other countries polled. Australians also perceive less negative

effects on their own families from the shortage of financial credit and the downturn in the global economy than publics in most other countries polled, although they feel just as negatively affected by rising food prices.

- More than three in four Australians (76%) agree that the current economic crisis points to the need for major changes in the international economic system, while slightly less than half (48%) agree that major changes are also needed for their own economy.
- A majority of Australians (55%) say that the recent downturn in the global economy has affected them a little or not at all, while 44 per cent say that it has had a negative effect on their family.
- Slightly more than half (51%) believe their economic situation will improve within the next year, while 41 per cent believe it will take two years or longer.
- Twenty two per cent of Australians say a shortage of available financial credit for loans and mortgages has had a negative effect on their family, while a growing number (76%, up from 69% in mid-2008) feel that this has not negatively affected them.
- Fifty five per cent see rising food prices having a negative effect on their family (down from 63% in mid-2008).

China

The Chinese agree with the global consensus that the economic crisis points to the need for major changes in the international economic system, as well as in their own economy. Although relatively fewer people in China say they have experienced negative effects from recent economic developments in comparison to other countries polled, growing numbers say they have been negatively affected compared to mid-2008. The Chinese who have been negatively affected, are also among the most optimistic that their situation will improve in the immediate future.

- Seventy five per cent in China say that the current economic crisis indicates the need for major changes in the international economic system, while 59 per cent say that such major changes are needed in their own economy (35% say minor changes).
- Forty four per cent in China say they have been negatively affected by the downturn in the global economy (up from 22% in mid-2008), while 56 per cent feel they have experienced few or no negative effects (down from 73%).
- Of those who say they have felt negative effects from recent economic developments, 82 per cent are optimistic their situation will improve within a year (50% within six months), while just fifteen per cent believe it will take two years or longer.
- Twenty seven per cent in China feel they or their family have been negatively affected by the shortage of financial credit for mortgages and other loans (up from 20% in mid-2008), while 70 per cent say they have not (down from 76%).
- A slight majority (51%, up from 44% in 2008) say they have experienced negative effects from rising food prices, while 48 per cent say they have not been significantly affected (down from 56%).

India

A plurality of Indians agree on the need for major changes in the international economic system. Indians also show modest support for major changes in their own economy. Indians who believe that they have been negatively affected by the recent economic developments are somewhat confident that their situation will improve in the near future, with half saying that it will take a year or less.

- Four in ten (40%) Indians agree that major changes in the international economic system are necessary, while thirty three per cent say that only minor changes are

necessary. They are divided on whether the current economic crisis points to the need for major (39%) or minor (36%) changes in their own economy.

- Nearly two-thirds (66%) say that the recent economic developments have negatively affected them (up from 60% in mid-2008), while 27 per cent feel that they have not been negatively affected.
- Of those negatively affected, half (50%) believe that their situation will improve within a year or less, while 28 per cent believe that their situation will improve only in two years or more.
- A majority of Indians (56%) say they have been negatively affected by a shortage of available financial credit, while thirty six per cent (up from 25% in mid-2008) say that they have experienced little or no effects.
- Two-thirds (67%) say that rising food prices have had a negative effect on them and their families, while 27 per cent say they have not been negatively affected.

Indonesia

Indonesians widely believe that major changes are necessary in the international economic system, yet they are one of only a few countries with an even larger majority believing that the current crisis indicates the need for major changes in their own economy. Indonesians who say they have been negatively affected by the economic developments are the most optimistic out of those in any country polled that their situation will improve in the immediate future.

- Sixty two per cent in Indonesia say that the current economic crisis points to the need for major changes in the international economic system, while 73 per cent say that major changes are also necessary in their own country's economy.
- Nearly eight in ten (78%) say that the recent downturn in the global economy has had a negative effect on them and their families.
- Those saying that they have been negatively affected are optimistic that their situations will improve in the near future – 83 per cent say their conditions will improve within a year or less (60% in the next six months), while only twelve per cent say their conditions will take two or more years to improve.
- A majority (55%) say that they have been negatively affected by the availability of financial credit for mortgages and other loans.
- An overwhelming majority (92%) say that rising food prices have had a negative effect on them or their families.

Japan

The Japanese are the only public divided on whether the current economic crisis shows a need for major changes or minor changes in the international economic system and they are the only public out of all countries polled that has a majority saying only minor changes are needed in their own economy. Those who have been negatively affected by the global economic downturn are also the most pessimistic that their situation will improve in the near future, with most saying it will take two years or longer.

- The Japanese are divided on whether the current economic crisis points to the need for major (45%) or minor changes (45%) in the international economic system, while a slight majority (51%) think only minor changes are necessary in the Japanese economy (39% say major changes are needed).
- Sixty five per cent in Japan say they have experienced at least a fair amount of negative effects from the downturn in the global economy, while 34 per cent say they have been negatively affected a little or not at all.
- Those saying they have been negatively affected in Japan are largely pessimistic that their situation will improve in the near future – 69 per cent say their condition will only improve in two years or more, while just 9 per cent say conditions will improve within a year.

- Three in four (75%) Japanese say that they have been negatively affected at least a fair amount by rising food prices.

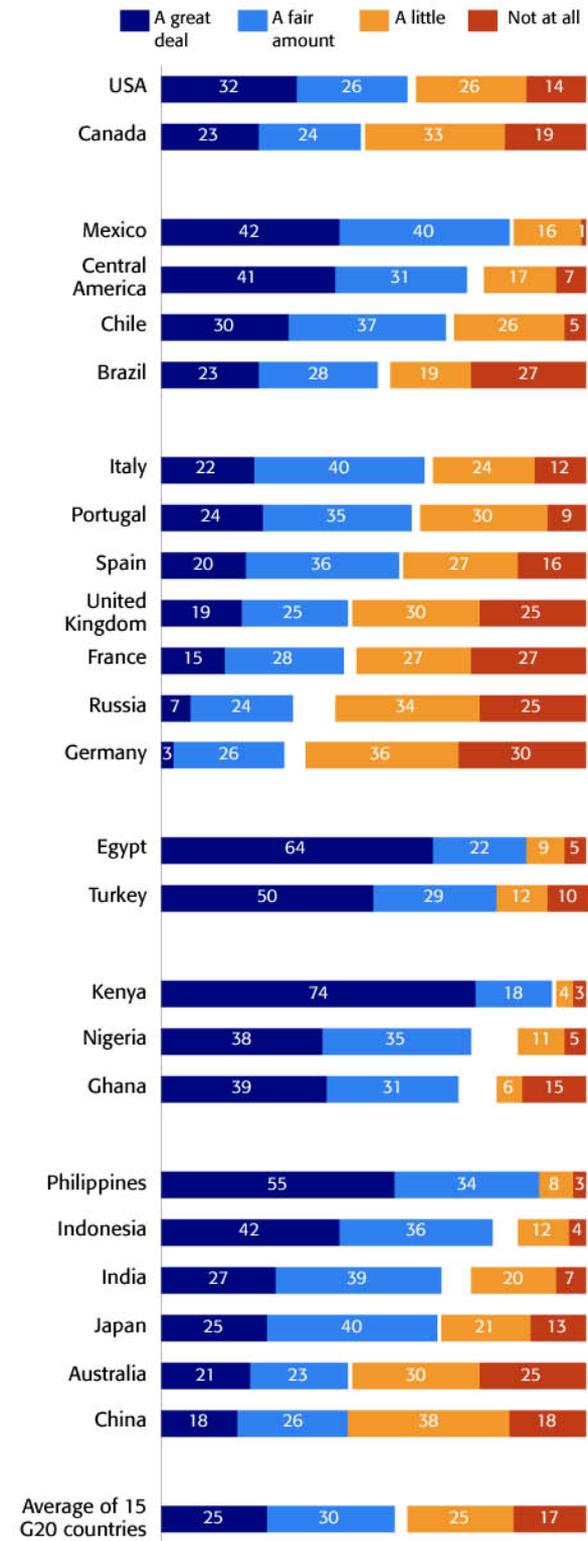
The Philippines

The Philippines has the second largest majority that agrees that major changes to the international economic system are needed as a result of the worldwide financial crisis and they have the largest majority that say the crisis indicates the need for major changes in the Filipino economy. While a relatively large number of Filipinos, relative to other countries, say they have been affected by recent economic developments, a large majority of these remain optimistic that their situation will improve in near future.

- A large majority of Filipinos (88%) say that major changes to the international economic system are necessary in order to address the current economic crisis, while 92 per cent believe that changes must also be made to their own country's economy.
- Nearly nine in ten Filipinos (89%) feel they have been negatively impacted by the downturn in the global economy.
- Of the majority who feel they have been negatively affected by recent economic developments, 68 per cent are optimistic that their situation will improve within a year, while 24 per cent expect the situation to take two years or longer to improve.
- A majority (69%) say that the shortage of available financial credit for mortgages and loans has had a negative effect on their family.
- Filipinos near-unanimously (95%) believe that rising food prices have negatively affected them.

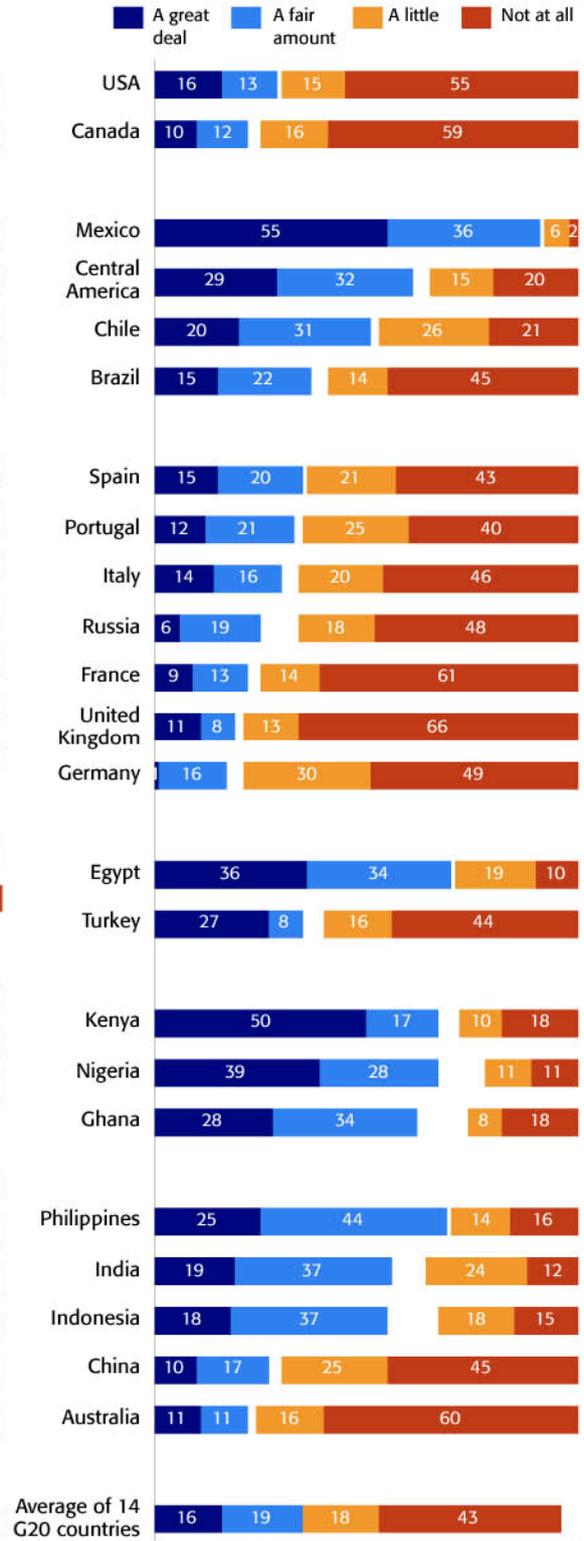
Effect of Downturn in Global Economy on Respondent and Family

By country, 2009



Effect of Shortage of Financial Credit on Respondent and Family

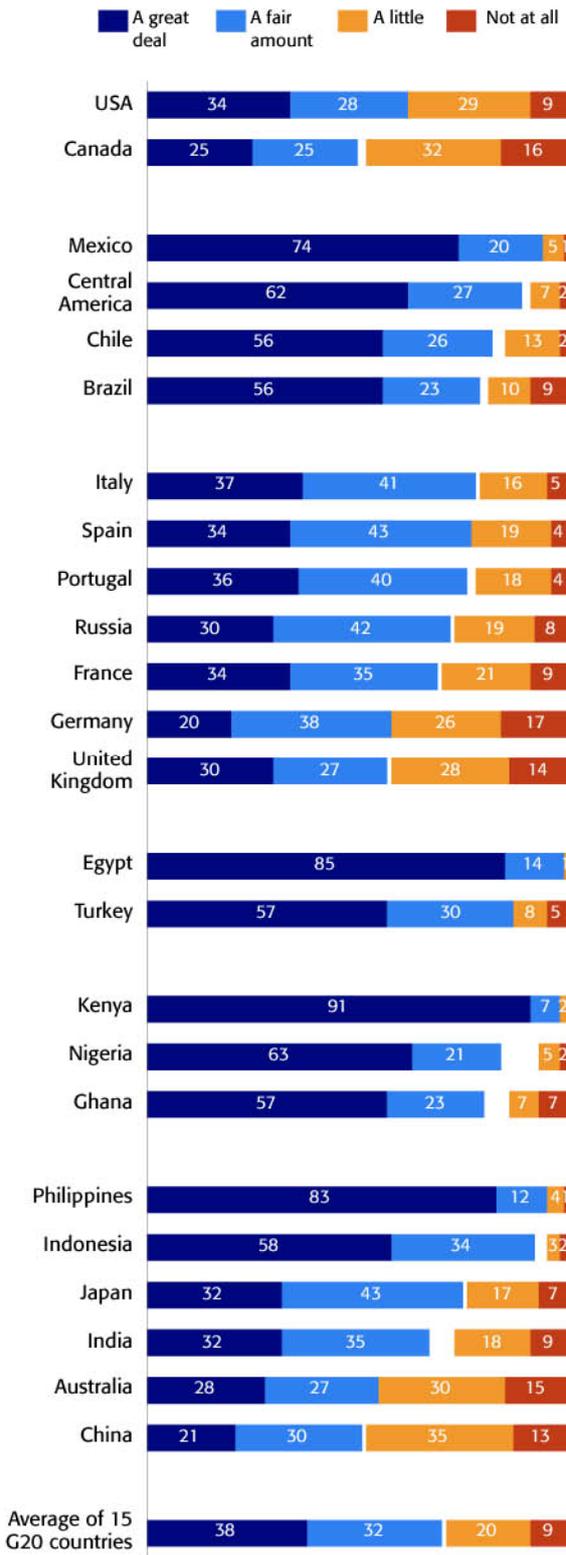
By country, 2009



The white space in these charts represents "DK/NA."

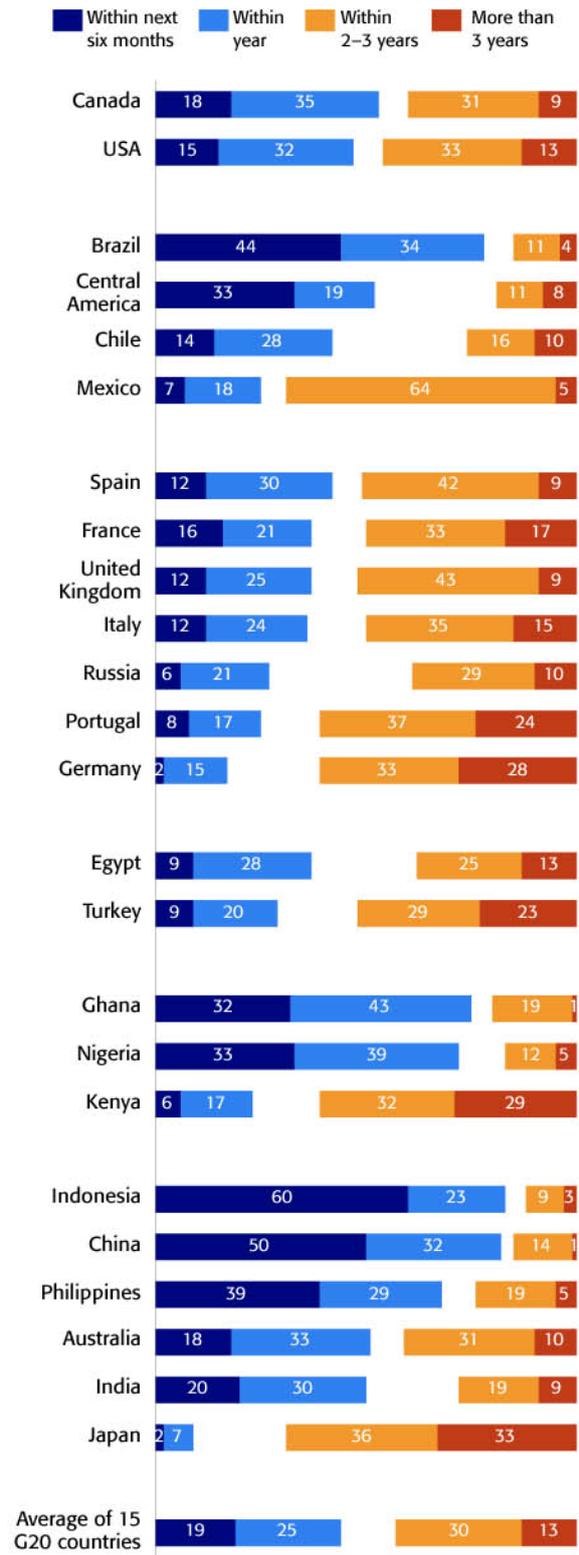
Effect of Rising Food Prices on Respondent and Family

By country, 2009



When Economy Expected to Improve for Respondent and Family

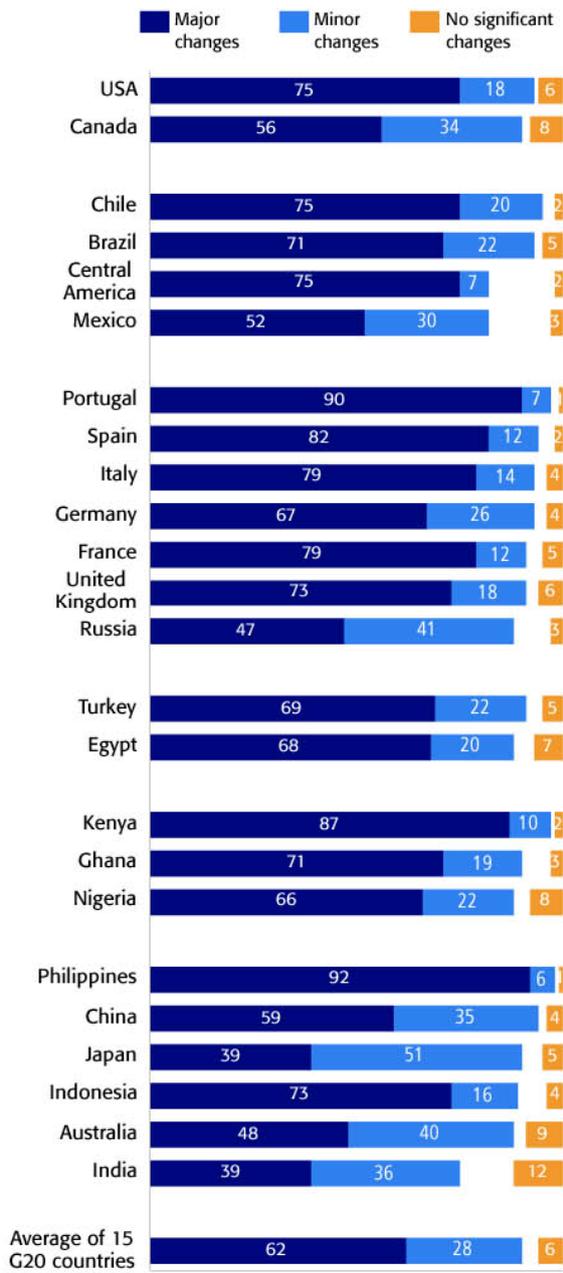
By country, 2009



The white space in these charts represents "DK/NA."

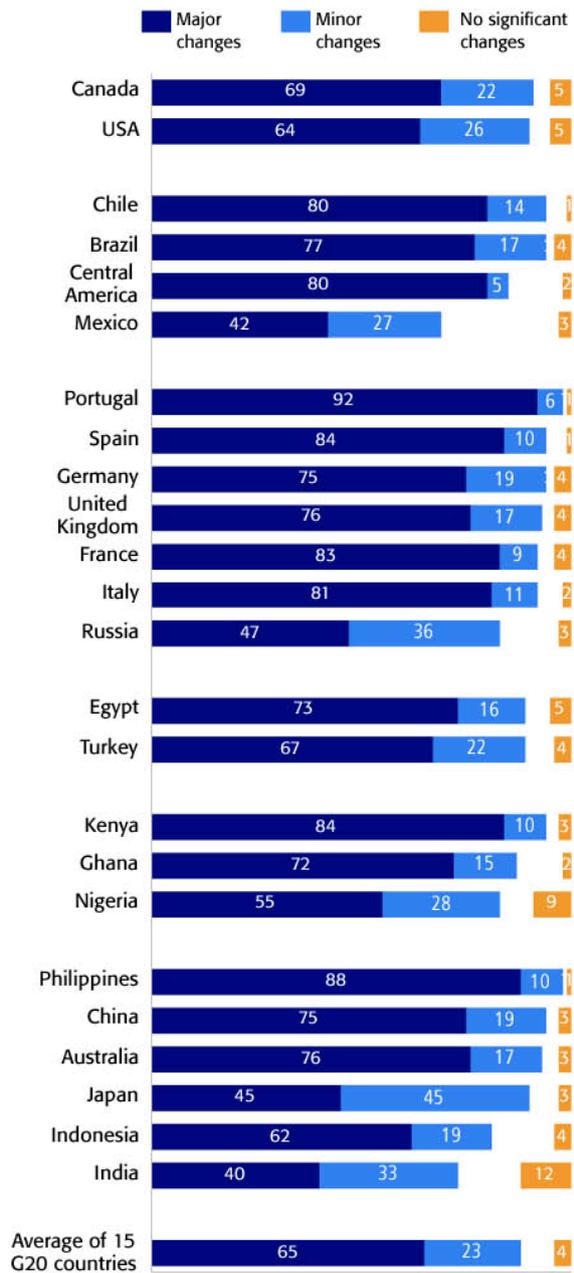
Economic Crisis Points to Need for Change in Respondent's National Economy

By country, 2009



Economic Crisis Points to Need for Change in International Economic System

By country, 2009



The white space in these charts represents "DK/NA."

Questionnaire

Q4 Now I would like to ask you whether some recent economic developments have had a negative effect yet on you and your family. For each, please tell me if it has negatively affected you and your family a great deal, a fair amount, a little or not at all?

READ AND ROTATE. CODE ONE EACH.

a) The downturn in the global economy

01 A great deal

02 A fair amount

03 A little

04 Not at all

VOLUNTEERED (DO NOT READ)

99 DK/NA

b) Shortage of available financial credit for mortgages and other loans

c) Rising food prices

ASK THOSE WHO SAY AT LEAST 'A LITTLE' AT Q4A OR Q4B

Q5 You said that recent economic developments are having a negative effect on you and your family. When do you expect the situation to start to improve for you and your family?

01 Within the next six months

02 Within a year

03 Within 2-3 years

04 More than 3 years

05 Never

VOLUNTEERED (DO NOT READ)

99 DK/NA

ASK ALL

Q6a) Do you think that the current economic crisis points to the need for major changes, minor changes, or no significant changes in [country's] economy?

01 Major changes

02 Minor changes

03 No significant changes

VOLUNTEERED (DO NOT READ)

99 DK/NA

ASK ALL

Q6b) What about the international economic system? Do you think that the current economic crisis points to the need for major changes, minor changes, or no significant changes in the international economic system?

04 Major changes

05 Minor changes

06 No significant changes

VOLUNTEERED (DO NOT READ)

99 DK/NA

Methodology

In total 29,913 citizens in Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Central America (Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama), Egypt, France, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Nigeria, the Philippines, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States of America, were interviewed face-to-face or by telephone between 24 November, 2008 to 27 February, 2009.

The poll was fielded in 15 of the G20 countries: Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the USA.

Question M4b was not fielded in Japan.

Polling was conducted for BBC World Service by GlobeScan and its research partners in each country. In 9 of the 24 countries, the sample was limited to major urban areas. The margin of error per country ranges from +/-2.3 to 3.5 per cent, 19 times out of 20.

Country	Sample size (unweighted)	Field dates	Sample	Survey methodology	Type of sample
Australia	1,000	Dec. 15, 2008 – Jan. 19, 2009	18+	Telephone	National
Brazil	802	Nov 28 – Dec 29, 2008	18–69	Face-to-face	Urban ¹
Canada	1,000	Dec. 1, 2008 – Jan. 14, 2009	18+	Telephone	National
Chile	1,000	Dec. 10–21, 2008	18+	Face-to-face	Urban ²
China	1,000	Dec. 5–20, 2008	18+	Telephone	Urban ³
Costa Rica	1,002	Dec. 14-19, 2008	18-64	Face-to-face	Urban ⁴
Egypt	1,000	Dec. 15, 2008 – Jan. 5, 2009	18+	Face-to-face	Urban ⁵
El Salvador	1,015	Dec. 13-17, 2008	18-64	Face-to-face	Urban ⁶
France	1,002	Dec. 9–15, 2008	15+	Telephone	National
Germany	1,013	Nov. 26 – Dec. 22, 2008	16-70	Telephone	National
Ghana	1,000	Dec. 10–20, 2008	18+	Face-to-face	National
Guatemala	1,044	Dec.13-22, 2008	18-64	Face-to-face	Urban ⁷
Honduras	1,000	Dec. 12-22, 2008	18-64	Face-to-face	Urban ⁸
India	1,241	Jan. 1–4, 2009	18+	Face-to-face	National
Indonesia	1,000	Dec. 3–20, 2008	17+	Face-to-face	National
Italy	1,001	Dec. 9–13, 2008	18+	Telephone	National
Japan	1,782	Jan. 31-Feb. 1, 2009	20+	Face-to-face	National
Kenya	1,000	Feb 20–27, 2009	18+	Face-to-face	National
Mexico	1,000	Dec. 1–13, 2008	18+	Telephone	Urban ⁹
Nicaragua	1,001	Dec. 12-14, 2008	18-64	Face-to-face	Urban ¹⁰
Nigeria	1,000	Dec. 12–19, 2008	18+	Face-to-face	National
Panama	1,000	Dec. 12-14, 2008	18-64	Face-to-face	Urban ¹¹
Philippines	1,000	Dec. 4, 2008 – Jan. 11, 2009	18+	Face-to-face	Urban ¹²
Portugal	1,002	Jan. 15 – Feb. 18, 2009	18+	Telephone	Urban ¹³

Russia	1,006	Nov. 29 – Dec. 17, 2008	18+	Face-to-face	National
Spain	1,002	Nov. 28 – Dec. 12, 2008	18+	Telephone	National
Turkey	1,000	Dec. 15–28, 2008	15+	Face-to-face	Urban ¹⁴
United Kingdom	1,000	Nov. 27 – Dec. 24, 2008	16+	Telephone	National
USA	1,000	Nov. 24 – Dec. 24, 2008	18+	Telephone	National

¹In Brazil the survey was conducted in Belo Horizonte, Brasília, Curitiba, Goiânia, Porto Alegre, Recife, Rio de Janeiro, Salvador, and São Paulo, representing 17.5% of the total national adult population.

²In Chile the survey was conducted in 80 cities, representing 85% of the adult national population. The cities were located in Aisen del General Carlos Ibanez del Campo, Antofagasta, Araucania, Atacama, Biobio, Coquimbo, Libertador General Bernardo O'Higgins, Los Lagos, Magallanes y la Antartica Chilena, Maule, Metropolitan, Tarapáca, and Valparaiso regions.

³In China the survey was conducted in Beijing, Beiliu, Chengdu, Dujiangyan, Feyang, Fuyang, Guangzhou, Hangzhou, Manzhouli, Quanzhou, Qijing, Shanghai, Shenyang, Shuangcheng, Wuhan, Xi'an, Xining, and Zhengzhou, representing 43% of the total national adult population.

⁴In Costa Rica the survey was conducted in n=36 cities/towns, representing 20% of the total national adult population.

⁵In Egypt the survey was conducted in urban areas of Alexandria, Cairo, Giza, and Shobra Al Khima representing 21% of the total national adult population.

⁶In El Salvador the survey was conducted in n=26 cities/towns, representing 30% of the total national adult population.

⁷In Guatemala the survey was conducted in n=13 cities/towns, representing 21% of the total national adult population.

⁸In Honduras the survey was conducted in n=15 cities/towns, representing 33% of the total adult population.

⁹In Mexico the survey was conducted in Acapulco, Cuernavaca, Guadalajara, Hermosillo, Juarez, Leon, Mexico City, Monterrey, Morelia Mérida, Oaxaca, Pachuca, Puebla, Tampico, Tijuana, and Veracruz, representing 21% of the total national adult population, and 80% of the residential land lines.

¹⁰In Nicaragua the survey was conducted in n=12 cities/towns, representing 28% of the total national adult population.

¹¹In Panama the survey was conducted in n=52 cities/towns, representing 41% of total urban adult population.

¹²In the Philippines the survey was conducted in the National Capital Region representing 12% of the total national adult population.

¹³In Portugal the survey was conducted in Almada, Amadora, Beja, Braga, Castelo Branco, Évora, Faro, Guarda, Leiria, Lisboa, Loures, Oeiras, Porto, Santarém, Setubal, Vila Nova Famalica, Vila Nova Gaia, and Viseau, representing 20% of the total national adult population.

¹⁴In Turkey the survey was conducted in Adana, Ankara, Antalya, Bursa, Diyarbakir, Erzurum, Istanbul, Izmir, Konya, Samsun, and Zonguldak, representing 34% of the total national adult population.

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