

# Global Views on Immigration and the Refugee Crisis

2017

©2017 Ipsos. All rights reserved. Contains Ipsos' Confidential and Proprietary information and may not be disclosed or reproduced without the prior written consent of Ipsos.

# Contents

1

---

Overall attitudes to immigration

---

2

---

Impact of immigration

---

3

---

Attitudes to refugee crisis

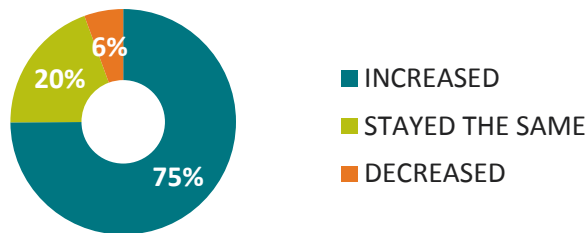
---



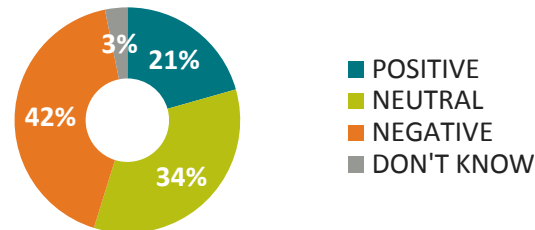
# OVERALL ATTITUDES TO IMMIGRATION

## Global attitudes toward immigration: general belief it is increasing, with negative consequences

Over the last 5 years, in your opinion has the amount of migrants in your country...

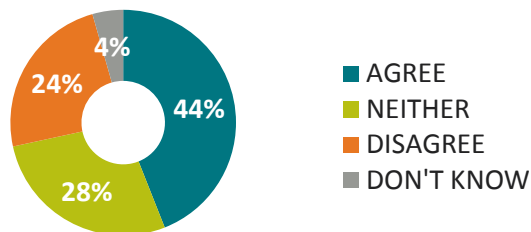


Would you say that immigration has generally had a positive or negative impact on your country?

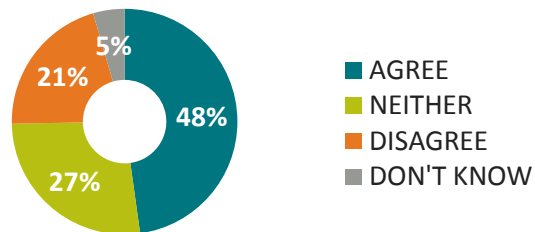


Base: 12361/17903 adults aged 16-64 across Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United States, Serbia, Peru, July 2017

“Immigration is causing my country to change in ways that I don’t like”

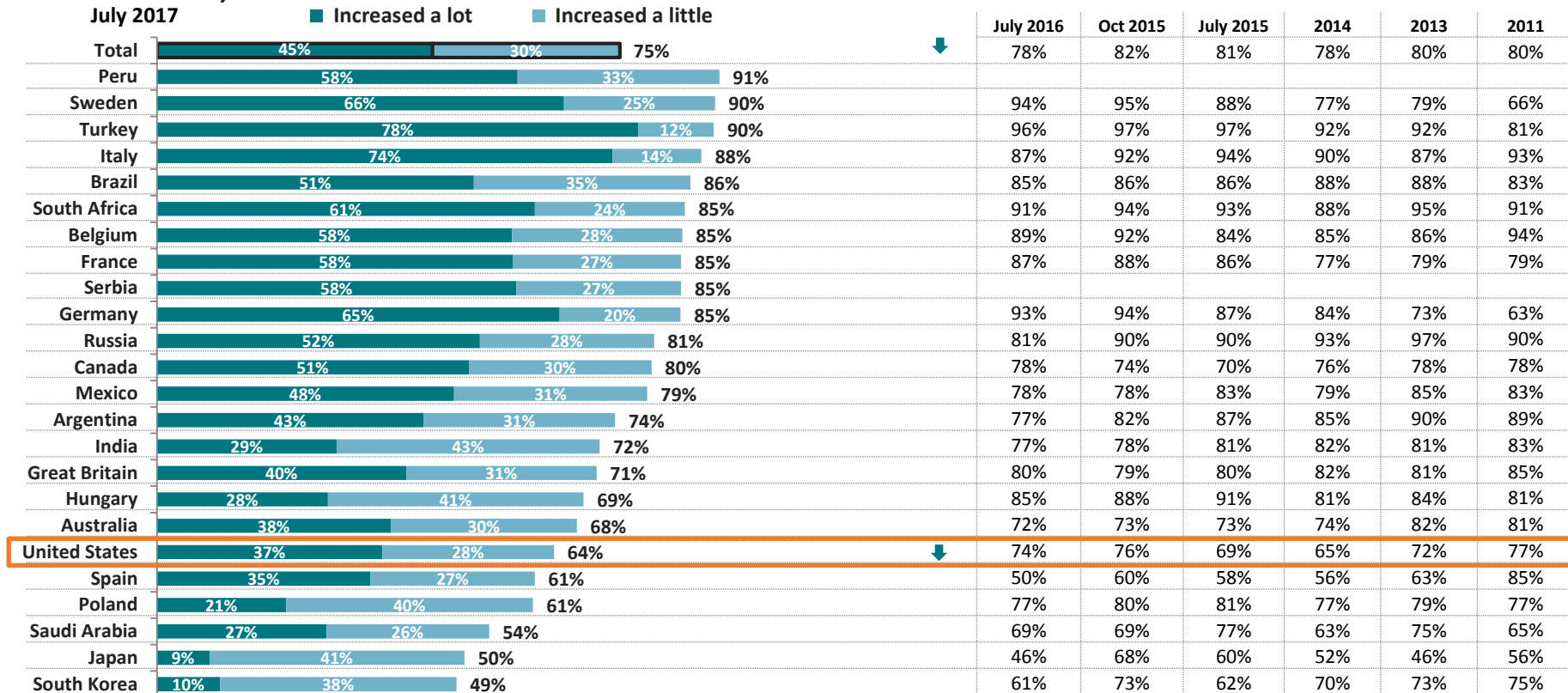


“There are too many immigrants in our country”



# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

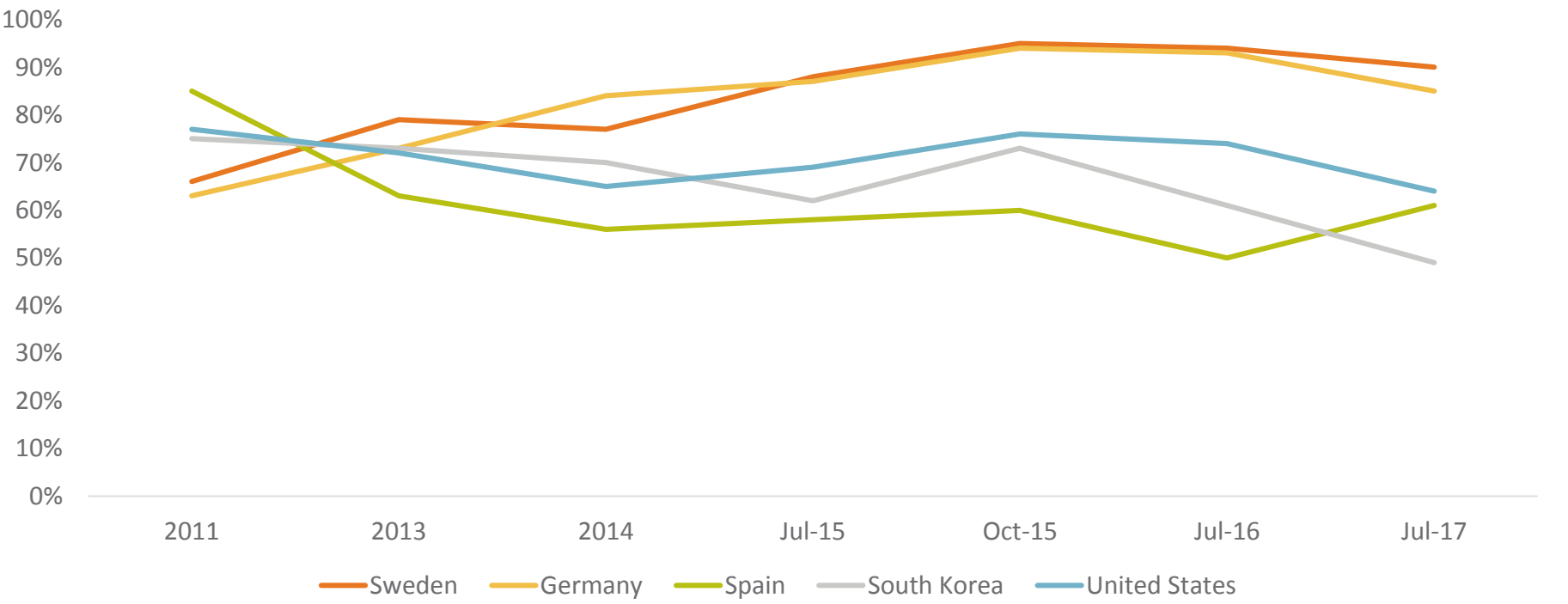
In nearly all countries, most think immigration in their country has increased in last five years – it is the case in the US, but to a somewhat lesser extent than in 2016



Over the last 5 years, in your opinion has the amount of migrants in your country decreased or increased?

# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

Since 2011, the perception that immigration is on the rise has gained ground most in Sweden and Germany and ebbed most in South Korea and Spain; it is down 13 points in the US



Over the last 5 years, in your opinion has the amount of migrants in your country decreased or increased?

# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

Globally, few think immigration has had a positive impact, but more do in the US and in other English-speaking countries than elsewhere

July 2017- Very positive/Fairly positive

		July 2016	Oct 2015	July 2015	2014	2013	2011
Total	21%	20%	21%	21%	21%	20%	21%
Saudi Arabia	45%	48%	50%	52%	30%	33%	38%
India	44%	45%	42%	49%	41%	41%	43%
Great Britain	40%	35%	31%	28%	26%	25%	19%
Canada	38%	36%	38%	37%	33%	31%	39%
Australia	38%	33%	42%	36%	32%	30%	31%
United States	35%	35%	28%	25%	25%	22%	18%
Sweden	25%	24%	29%	31%	39%	38%	37%
Brazil	22%	17%	21%	23%	35%	29%	30%
Spain	20%	20%	19%	21%	21%	21%	19%
South Korea	18%	14%	17%	19%	25%	23%	27%
South Africa	18%	18%	15%	20%	16%	12%	10%
Germany	18%	18%	21%	20%	15%	17%	16%
Peru	17%						
Poland	15%	14%	14%	15%	20%	22%	22%
France	14%	11%	13%	11%	12%	11%	14%
Belgium	11%	11%	10%	12%	10%	8%	9%
Japan	11%	9%	15%	13%	13%	13%	17%
Mexico	10%	10%	13%	16%	14%	14%	17%
Argentina	10%	12%	17%	15%	17%	12%	15%
Italy	10%	10%	9%	5%	9%	12%	14%
Russia	9%	8%	7%	11%	8%	8%	10%
Turkey	9%	6%	6%	2%	7%	7%	6%
Serbia	6%						
Hungary	5%	6%	9%	6%	8%	6%	8%

Would you say that immigration has generally had a positive or negative impact on your country?

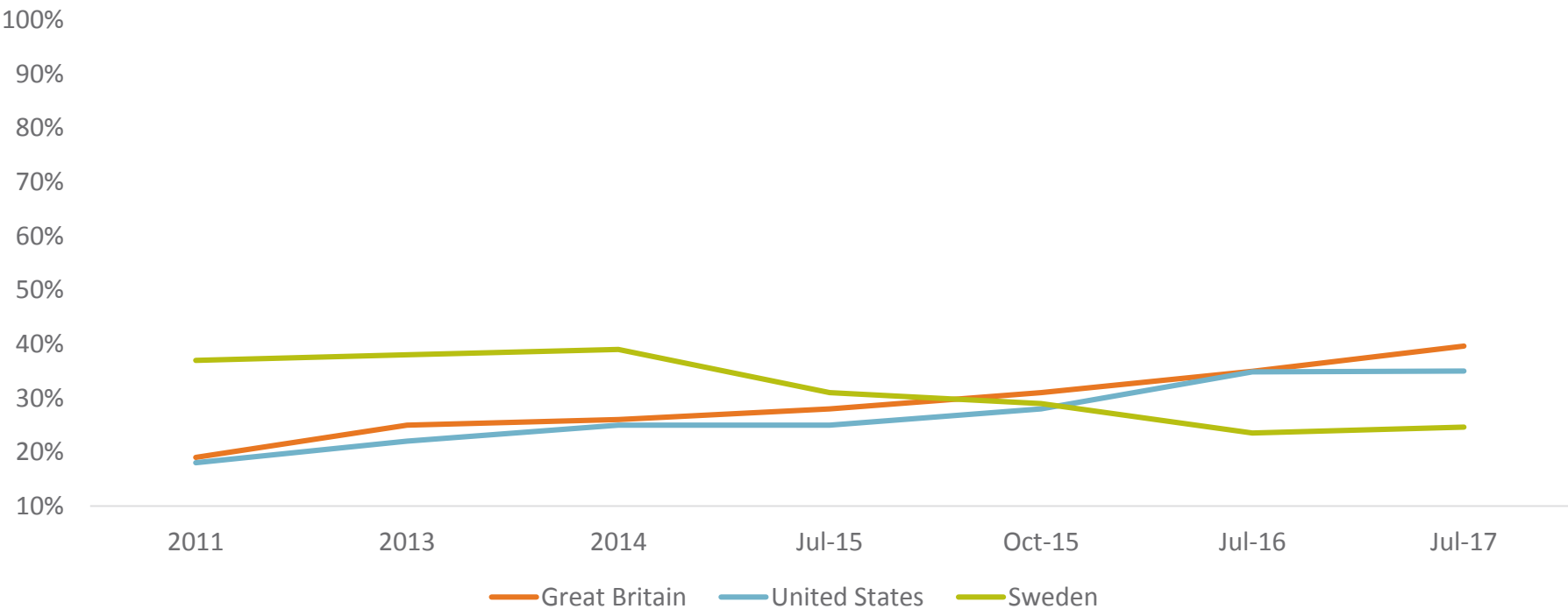
Base: 17,903 adults aged 16-64 across Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United States, Serbia, Peru, July 2017

GAME CHANGERS



# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

Since 2011, Britain and the US show the largest increase in opinions that immigration has had a positive impact while Sweden shows the steepest drop

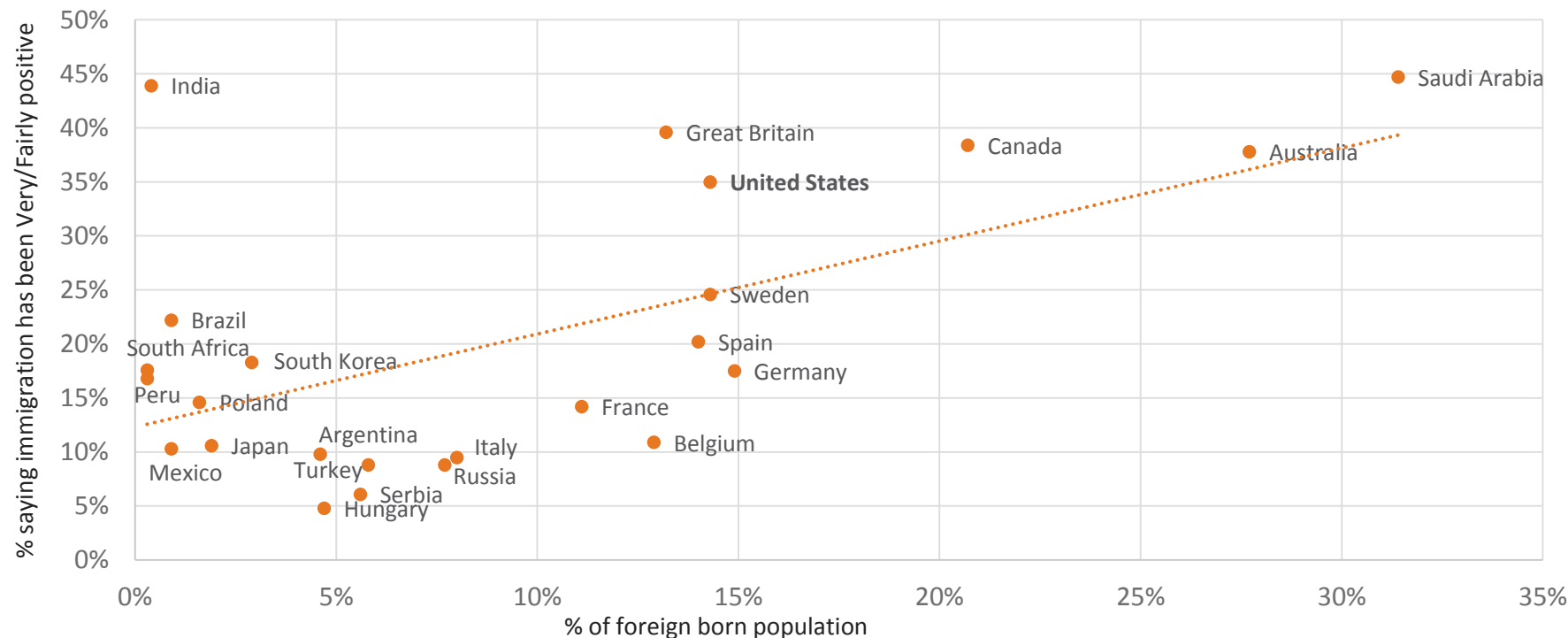


Would you say that immigration has generally had a positive or negative impact on your country?



# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

**Countries surveyed with highest proportion of foreign-born population have more positive views about immigration than nearly all other countries; while all have a similar share of immigrants, Britain and the US show more positive opinions than Sweden, Spain, Germany, Belgium and France**



Would you say that immigration has generally had a positive or negative impact on your country?

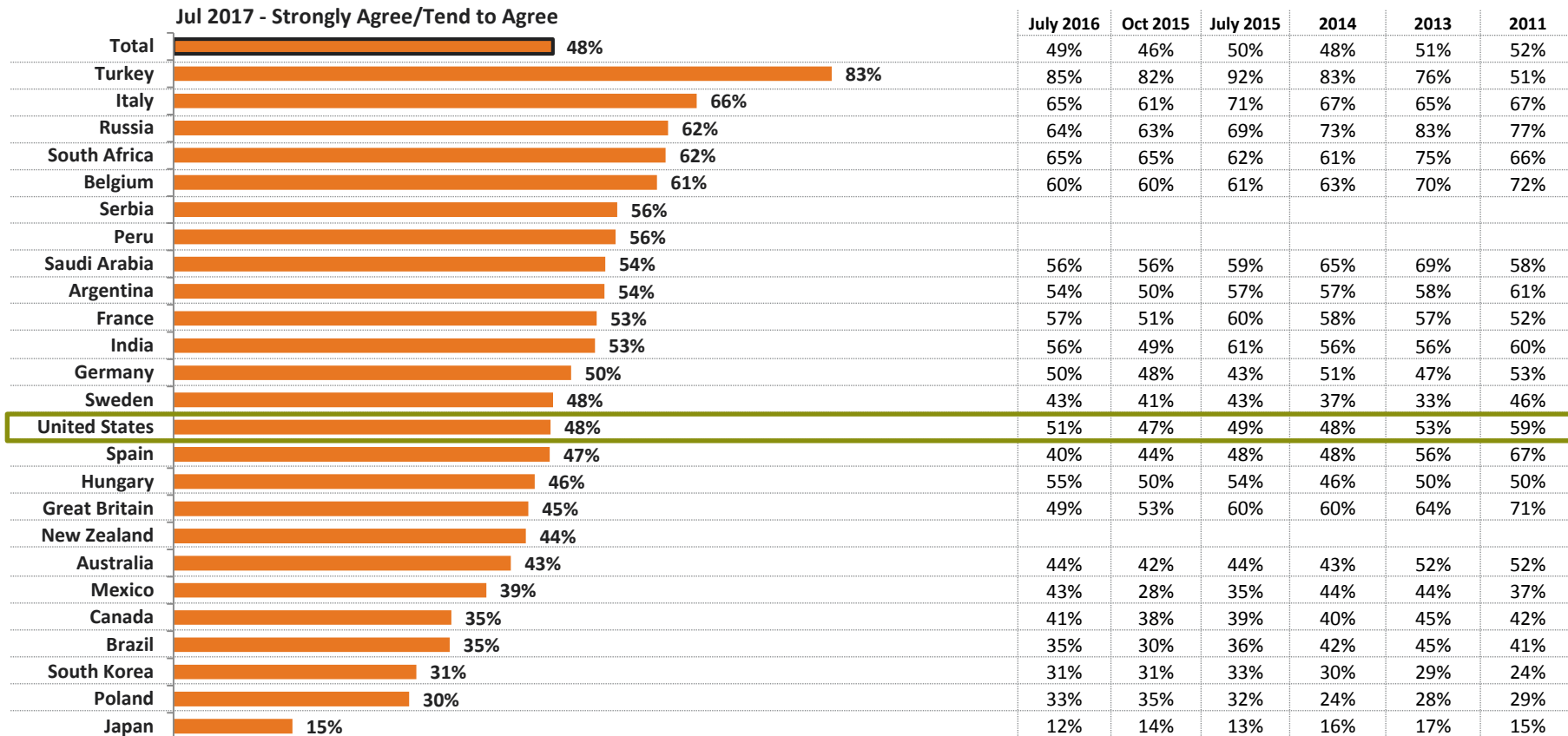
Base: 17,903 adults aged 16-64 across Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United States, Serbia, Peru, July 2017

\* Foreign born population figures: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division. 2015.

# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

Globally, and in the US, nearly half believe “there are too many immigrants in our country”

Jul 2017 - Strongly Agree/Tend to Agree



Please tell whether you agree or disagree with the following statement – “There are too many immigrants in our country”

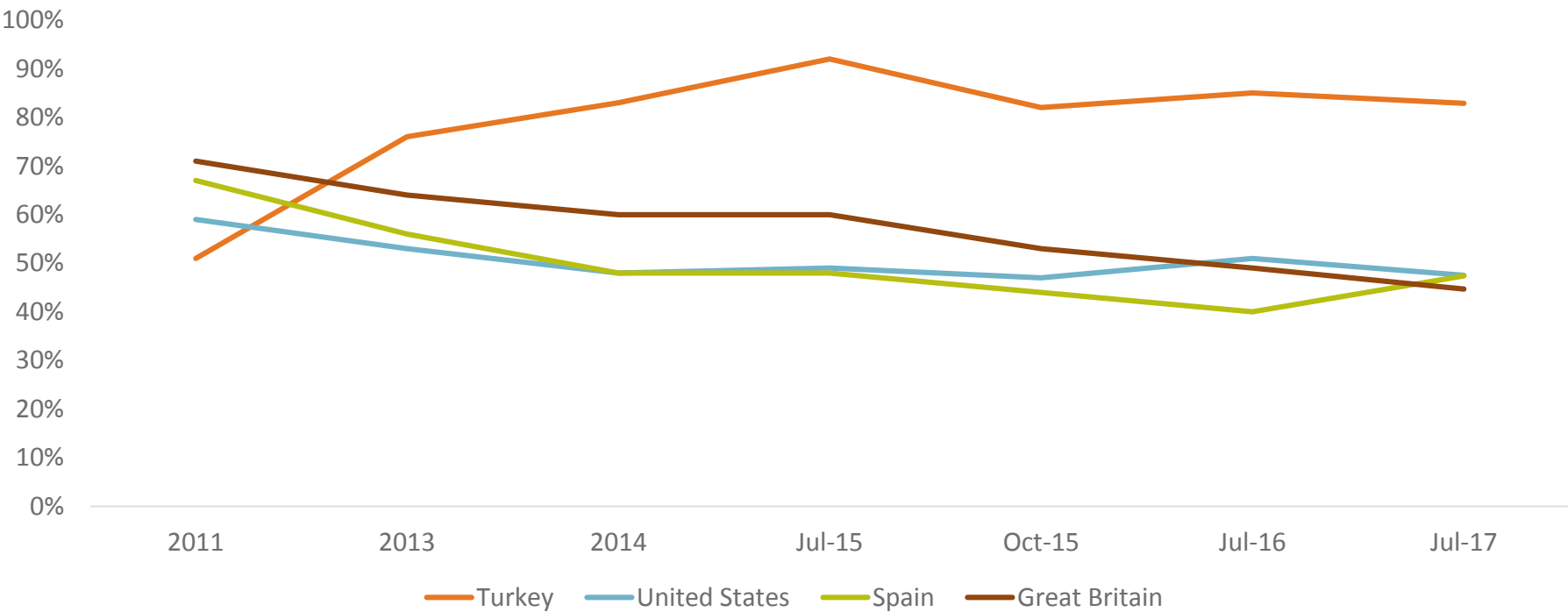
Base: 17,903 adults aged 16-64 across Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United States, Serbia, Peru, New Zealand, July 2017

GAME CHANGERS



# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

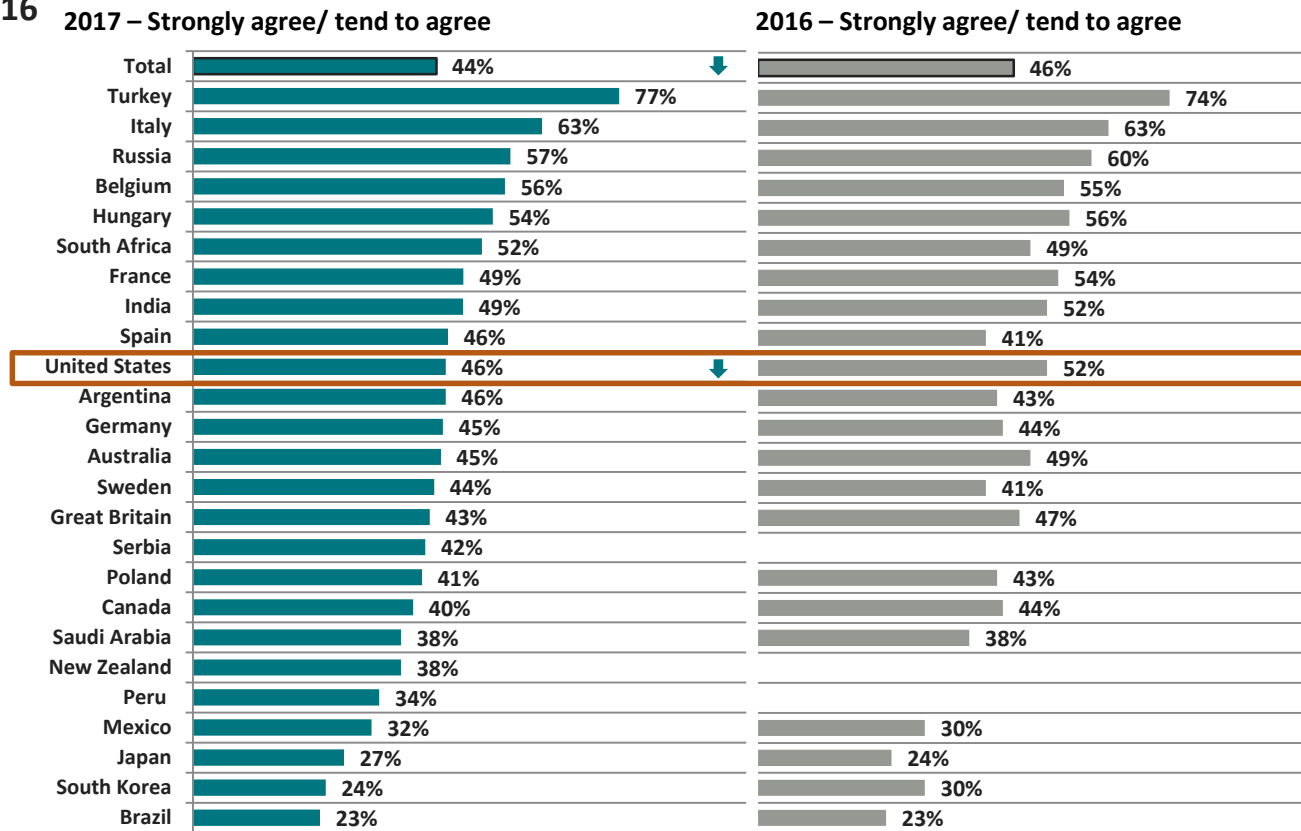
Since 2011, views that there are “too many immigrants” have most declined in Britain, Spain and the US and most increased in Turkey



Please tell whether you agree or disagree with the following statement – “There are too many immigrants in our country”

# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

Nearly half globally and in the US are uncomfortable with changes brought on by immigration, but unease ebbed slightly vs. 2016



Please tell whether you agree or disagree with the following statement – “Immigration is causing my country to change in ways that I don’t like”.

Base: 17,903 adults aged 16-64 across Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United States, Serbia, Peru, New Zealand, July 2017



# IMPACT OF IMMIGRATION

GAME CHANGERS



# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

Globally, attitudes are split on the impact of immigration, but most concerns are over pressure on public services and jobs/economy

*Immigration has placed too much pressure on public services in your country*



*Immigrants in your country have made it more difficult for people of your nationality to get jobs*



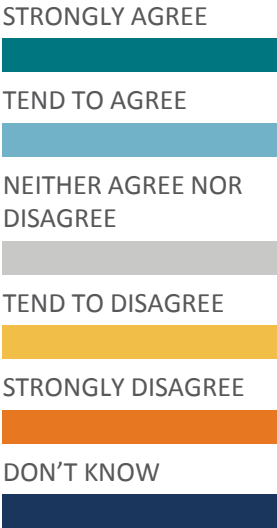
*Immigration is good for the economy of your country*



*Priority should be given to immigrants with higher education and qualifications who can fill shortages among certain professions in your country*



*Immigrants make your country a more interesting place to live*



# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

Citizens from most countries, including the US, are concerned about immigration placing pressure on public services

July 2017 - Strongly Agree/Tend to Agree

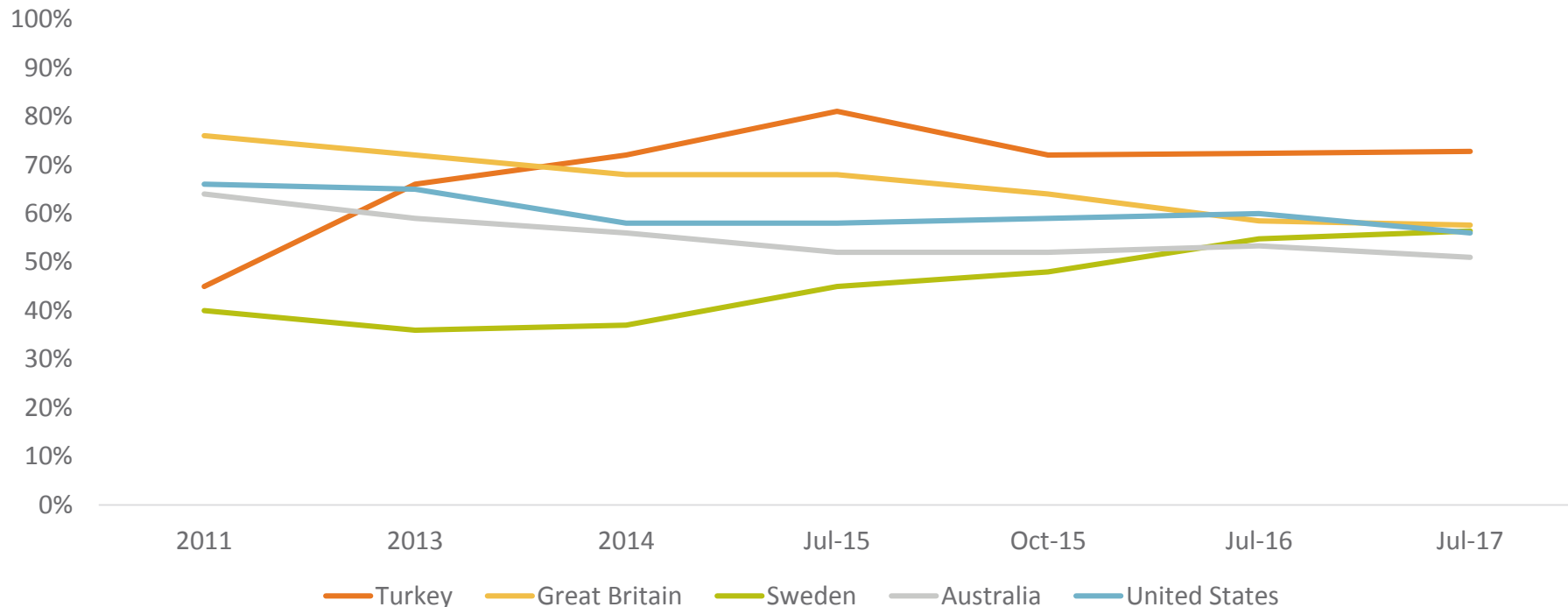
		July 2016	Oct 2015	July 2015	2014	2013	2011
Total	49%	50%	50%	50%	49%	52%	51%
Turkey	73%	72%	72%	81%	72%	66%	45%
South Africa	65%	62%	62%	59%	61%	74%	63%
Italy	61%	59%	58%	67%	63%	59%	56%
Great Britain	58%	59%	64%	68%	68%	72%	76%
Belgium	57%	58%	63%	56%	63%	68%	68%
Sweden	56%	55%	48%	45%	37%	36%	40%
United States	56%	60%	59%	58%	58%	65%	66%
India	55%	57%	51%	61%	59%	58%	58%
France	55%	60%	64%	60%	61%	63%	56%
Hungary	53%	57%	62%	53%	53%	58%	59%
Spain	53%	50%	51%	52%	56%	59%	70%
New Zealand	53%						
Argentina	52%	55%	48%	53%	53%	55%	62%
Serbia	51%						
Germany	51%	52%	53%	47%	52%	50%	58%
Australia	51%	53%	52%	52%	56%	59%	64%
Canada	50%	51%	47%	45%	51%	56%	56%
Russia	45%	45%	49%	43%	48%	52%	43%
Peru	36%						
Saudi Arabia	36%	45%	42%	49%	59%	54%	44%
Poland	35%	34%	42%	34%	30%	30%	27%
South Korea	35%	35%	39%	31%	34%	36%	25%
Brazil	33%	36%	32%	37%	35%	43%	37%
Mexico	32%	32%	27%	34%	34%	38%	33%
Japan	26%	21%	25%	21%	25%	29%	28%

Please tell whether you agree or disagree with the following statement – “Immigration has placed too much pressure on public services in your country”

Base: 17,903 adults aged 16-64 across Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United States, Serbia, Peru, New Zealand, July 2017

## IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

**Turkey and Sweden have become more worried about pressure from immigration on public services since 2011 while Britain, Australia, and the US have become less concerned**



Please tell whether you agree or disagree with the following statement – “Immigration has placed too much pressure on public services in your country”



# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

Over 4 in 10 globally (and in the US) blame immigration for nationals' difficulty to get jobs, but trend is slightly down

Jul 2017 - Strongly Agree/Tend to Agree		July 2016	Oct 2015	July 2015	2014	2013	2011
Total	41%	44%	43%	45%	46%	49%	48%
Turkey	78%	78%	80%	85%	72%	70%	61%
Russia	64%	69%	65%	68%	71%	77%	75%
South Africa	58%	56%	60%	54%	58%	69%	64%
India	56%	51%	49%	55%	52%	52%	51%
Argentina	49%	50%	43%	56%	57%	54%	61%
Italy	47%	49%	51%	54%	57%	58%	52%
United States	45%	49%	46%	48%	51%	56%	60%
New Zealand	44%						
Australia	44%	45%	45%	46%	51%	53%	50%
Belgium	43%	45%	49%	52%	50%	54%	46%
Peru	42%						
Saudi Arabia	41%	43%	37%	47%	57%	53%	52%
Spain	41%	41%	45%	41%	45%	51%	52%
Hungary	40%	41%	39%	40%	53%	62%	54%
Canada	40%	43%	41%	39%	47%	44%	41%
France	37%	41%	42%	48%	46%	50%	41%
Poland	37%	40%	41%	46%	36%	44%	35%
Great Britain	34%	38%	43%	48%	51%	53%	62%
South Korea	34%	35%	40%	32%	38%	39%	30%
Brazil	33%	34%	31%	36%	39%	42%	38%
Germany	30%	28%	30%	30%	35%	34%	37%
Mexico	29%	29%	32%	29%	32%	40%	35%
Japan	26%	26%	28%	24%	29%	35%	38%
Serbia	21%						
Sweden	21%	25%	24%	25%	18%	21%	23%

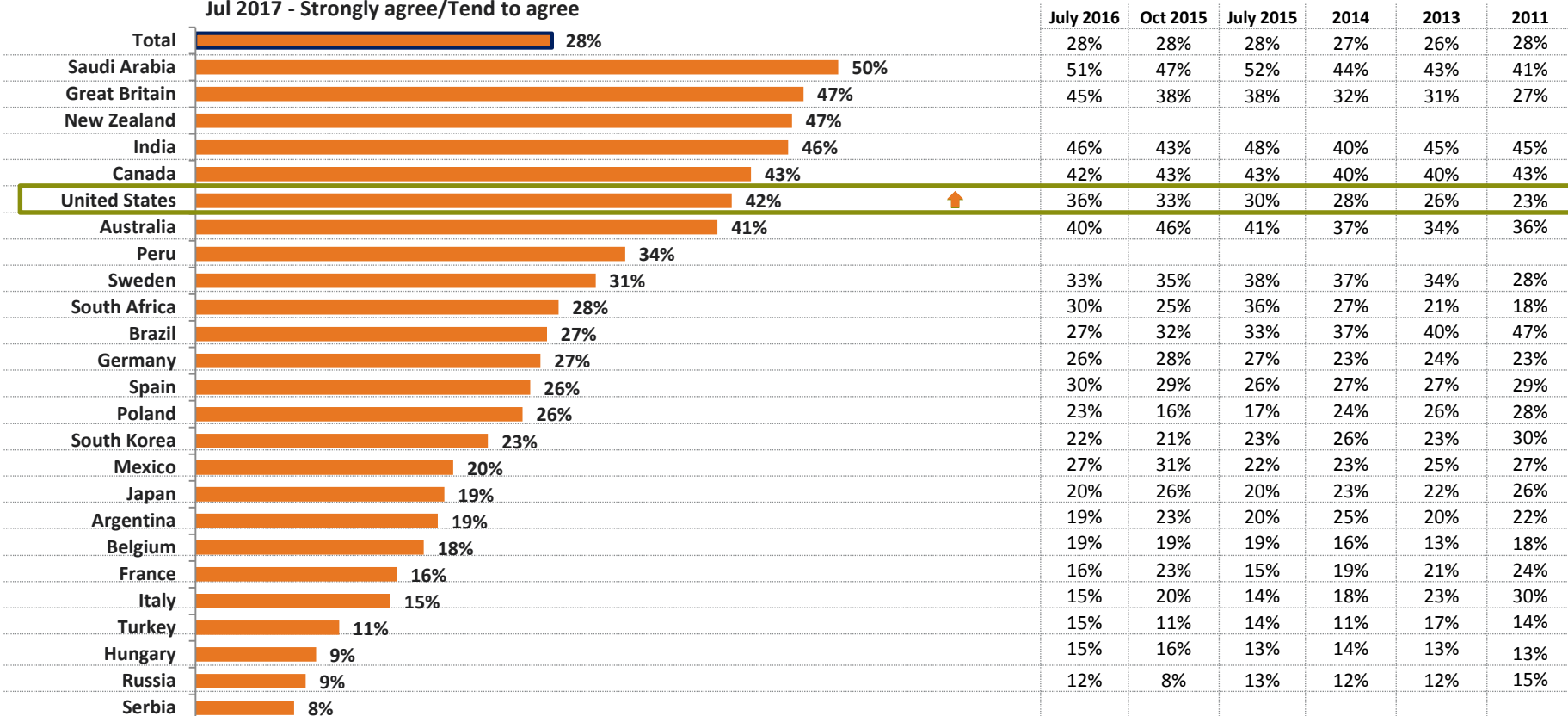
Please tell whether you agree or disagree with the following statement – “Immigrants in your country have made it more difficult for people of your nationality to get jobs”

Base: 17,903 0 adults aged 16-64 across Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United States, Serbia, Peru, New Zealand, July 2017

# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

Globally, less than 3 in 10 view the economic impact of immigration positively, but proportions are greater in the US and other English speaking countries; more Americans say it's good for the country than at any time since 2011

Jul 2017 - Strongly agree/Tend to agree



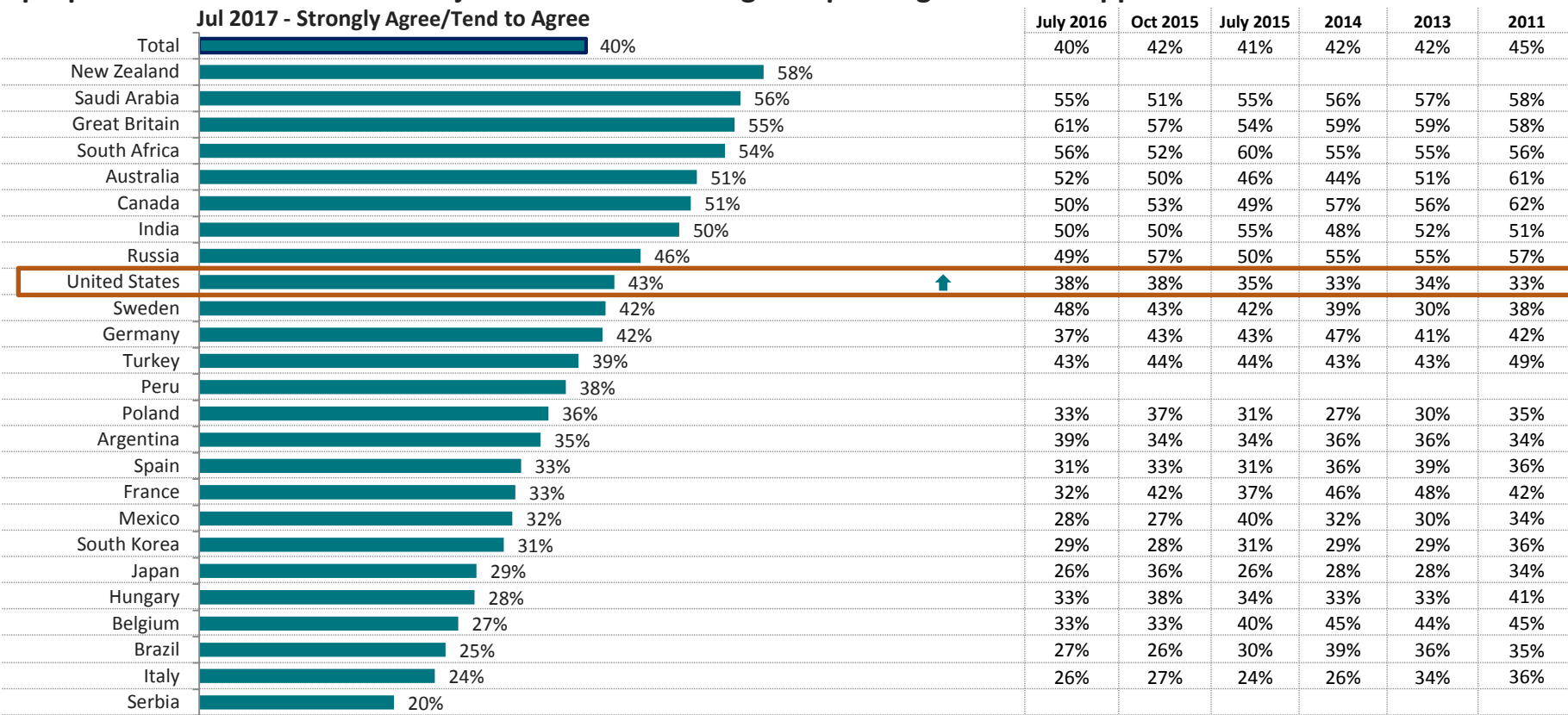
Please tell whether you agree or disagree with the following statement – “Immigration is good for the economy of your country”

Base: 17,903 adults aged 16-64 across Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United States, Serbia, Peru, New Zealand, July 2017

# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

Opinions vary widely across countries about giving priority to high-skilled immigrants to fill shortages; a growing proportion of Americans and majorities in all other English-speaking countries support it

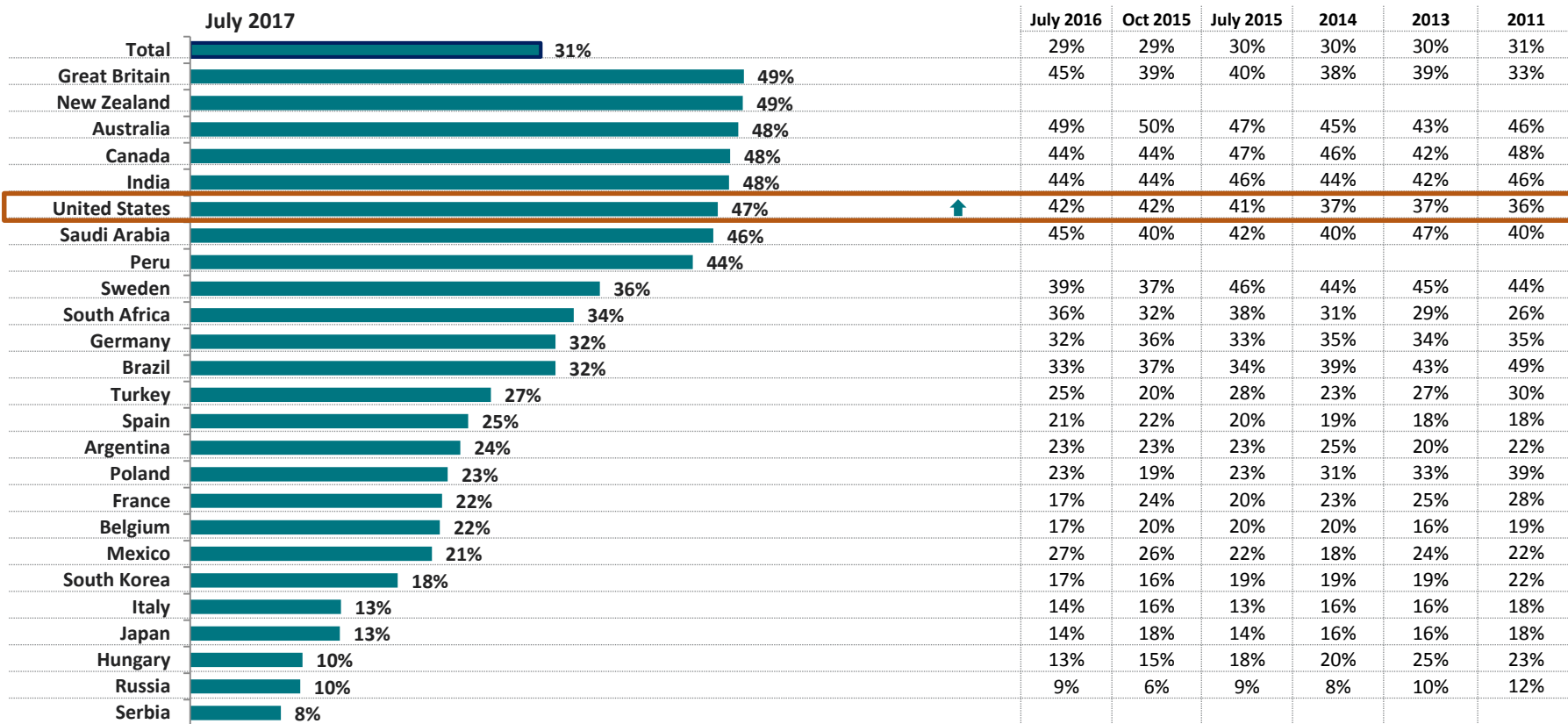
Jul 2017 - Strongly Agree/Tend to Agree



Please tell whether you agree or disagree with the following statement – “Priority should be given to immigrants with higher education and qualifications who can fill shortages among certain professions in your country”

# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

Americans and nationals from other English-speaking countries are far more likely than others to say immigrants make their country a more interesting place to live



Please tell whether you agree or disagree with the following statement – “Immigrants make your country a more interesting place to live”

Base: 17,903 adults aged 16-64 across Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United States, Serbia, Peru, New Zealand, July 2017

GAME CHANGERS





# ATTITUDES TO REFUGEE CRISIS

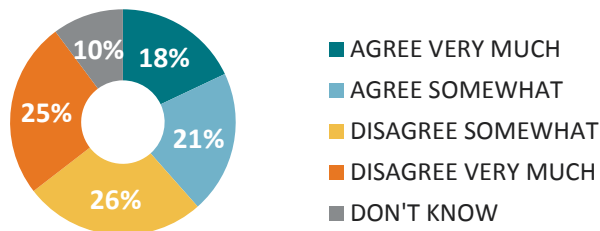
GAME CHANGERS



# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

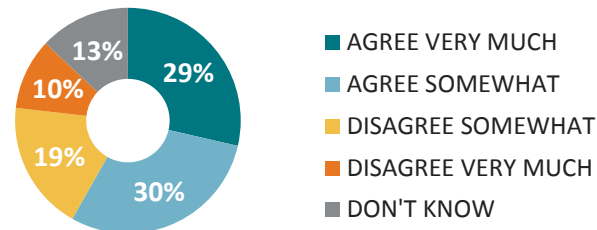
**Globally, only two in five want to close borders to refugees, but majorities have concerns about their motives and the risk of terrorism; less than half think they will successfully integrate**

***“We must close our borders to refugees entirely—we can’t accept any at this time***



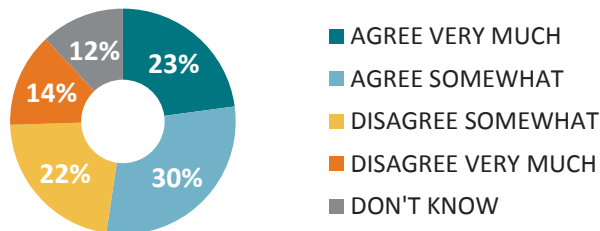
Base: 12361/17903 adults aged 16-64 across Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United States, Serbia, Peru, July 2017

***“There are terrorists pretending to be refugees who will enter my country to cause violence and destruction”***



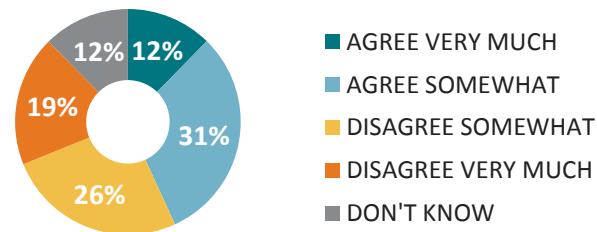
Base: 11861/17401 adults aged 16-64 across Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United States, Serbia, Peru, July 2017

***“Most foreigners who want to get into my country as a refugee really aren’t refugees. They just want to come here for economic reasons, or to take advantage of our welfare services”***



Base: 12361/17903 adults aged 16-64 across Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United States, Serbia, Peru, July 2017

***“I’m confident that most refugees who come to my country will successfully integrate into their new society”***

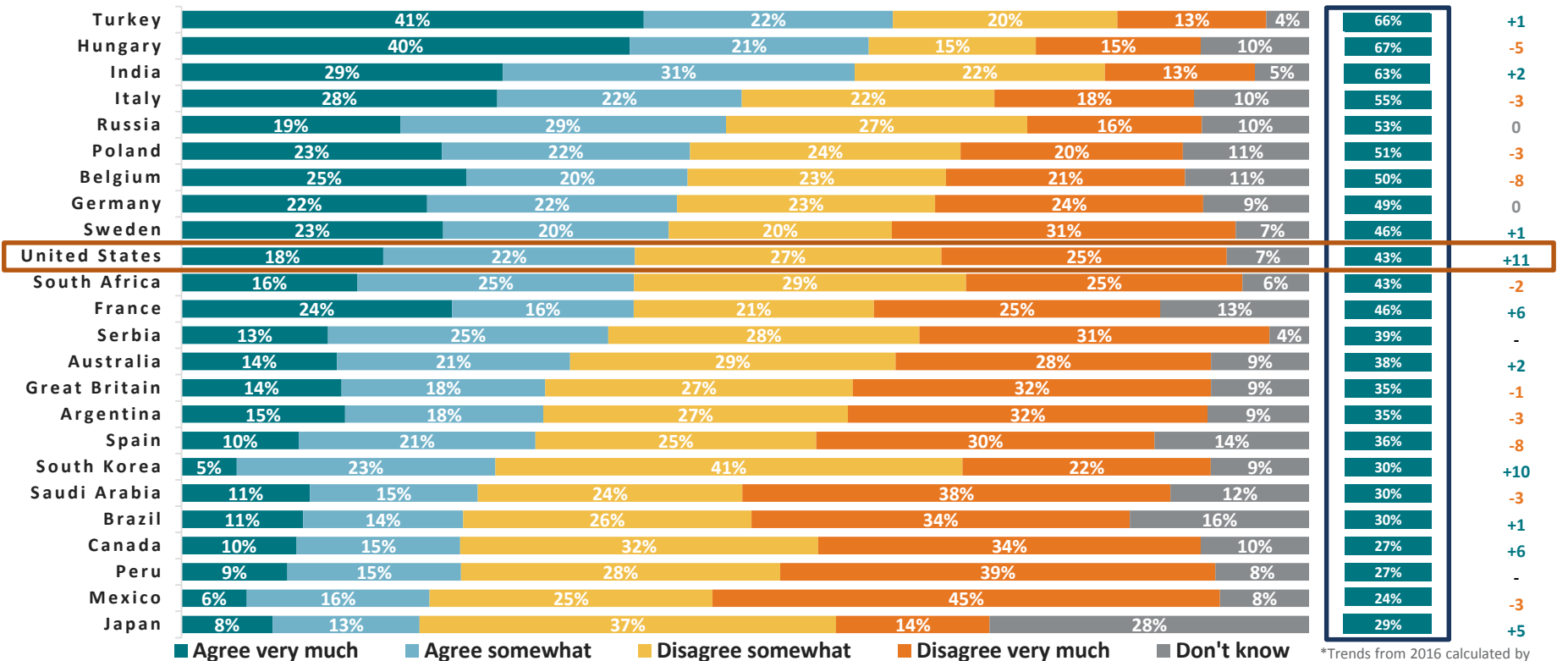


**GAME CHANGERS**



# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

**Closing borders to refugees is most popular in Turkey, Hungary and India; while still a minority hold this view in the US, support for it is up sharply**



Please tell whether you agree or disagree with the following statement – “We must close our borders to refugees entirely - we can't accept any at this time”

\*Trends from 2016 calculated by repercentaging 2017 figures to exclude don't knows

**GAME CHANGERS**

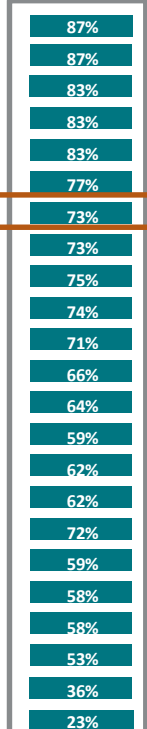
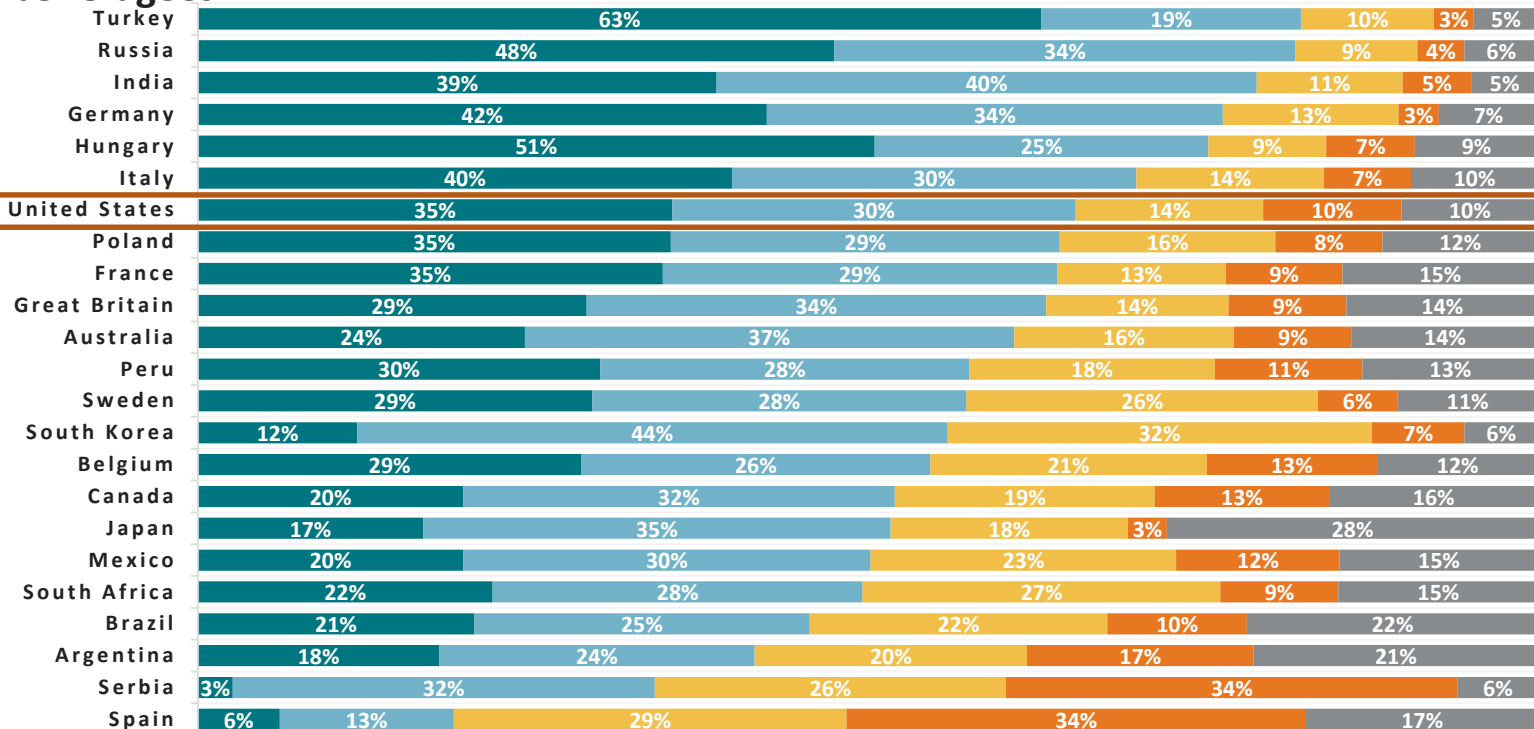


# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

## Majority in most countries, including the US, believe there are terrorists pretending to be refugees

Total Agree  
2017 excl. DK

Change  
since  
2016\*



■ Agree very much
 ■ Agree somewhat
 ■ Disagree somewhat
 ■ Disagree very much
 ■ Don't know

Please tell whether you agree or disagree with the following statement – “There are terrorists pretending to be refugees who will enter my country to cause violence and destruction”

\*Trends from 2016 calculated by repercentaging 2017 figures to exclude don't knows

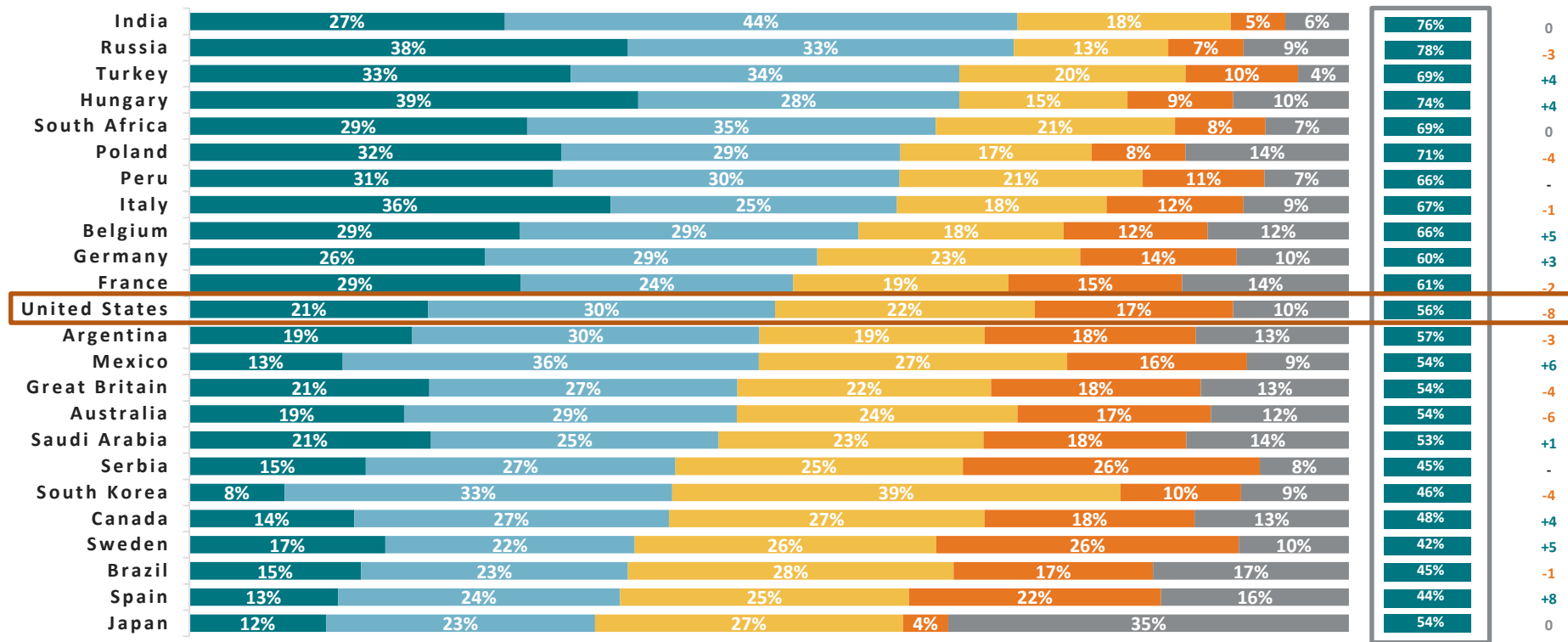


# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

## Many, including a majority of Americans, doubt most refugees really are refugees

Total Agree  
2017 excl. DK

Change  
since  
2016\*



■ Agree very much ■ Agree somewhat ■ Disagree somewhat ■ Disagree very much ■ Don't know

Please tell whether you agree or disagree with the following statement – “Most foreigners who want to get into my country as a refugee really aren’t refugees. They just want to come here for economic reasons, or to take advantage of our welfare services”

\*Trends from 2016 calculated by repercentaging 2017 figures to exclude don't knows

GAME CHANGERS

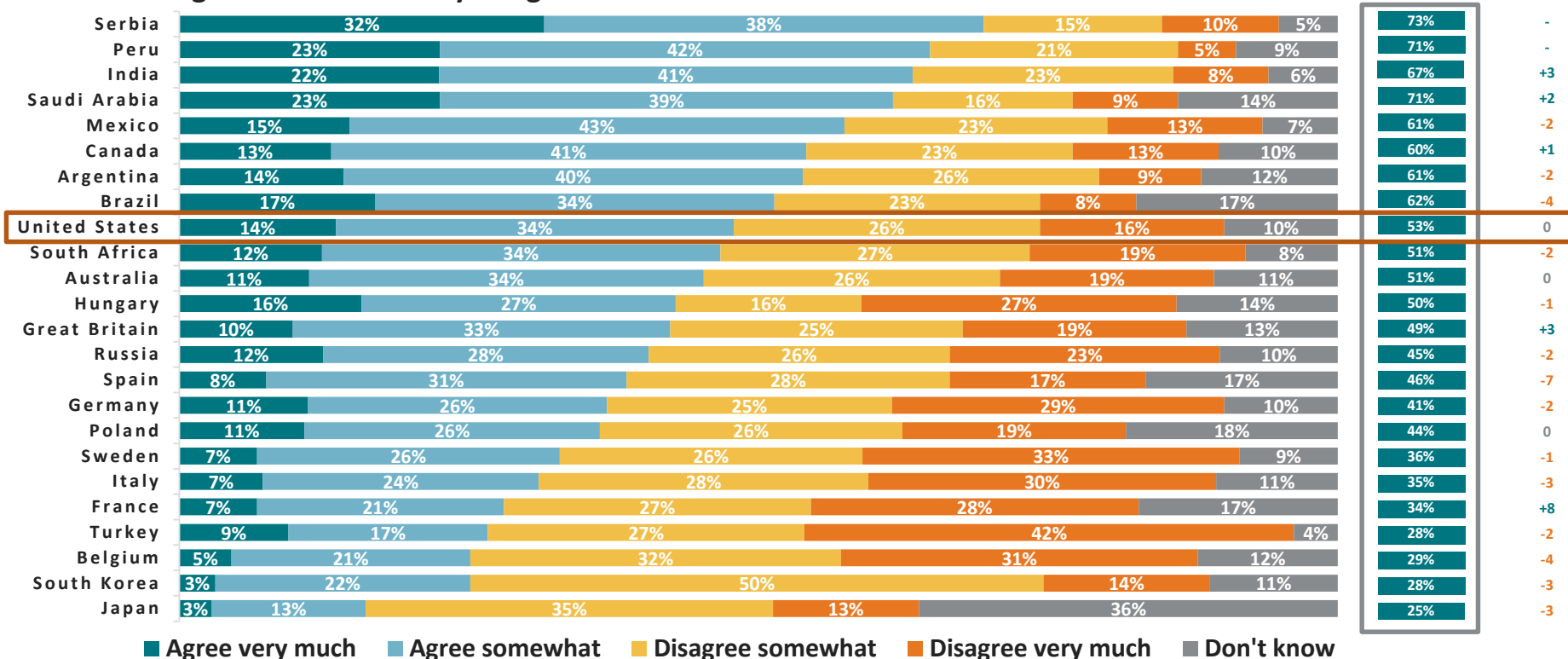


# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

**Confidence in refugees' ability to integrate varies widely across countries, a plurality of Americans are trust refugees will successfully integrate into the US**

**Total Agree**  
2017 excl. DK

**Change**  
since 2015\*



■ Agree very much ■ Agree somewhat ■ Disagree somewhat ■ Disagree very much ■ Don't know

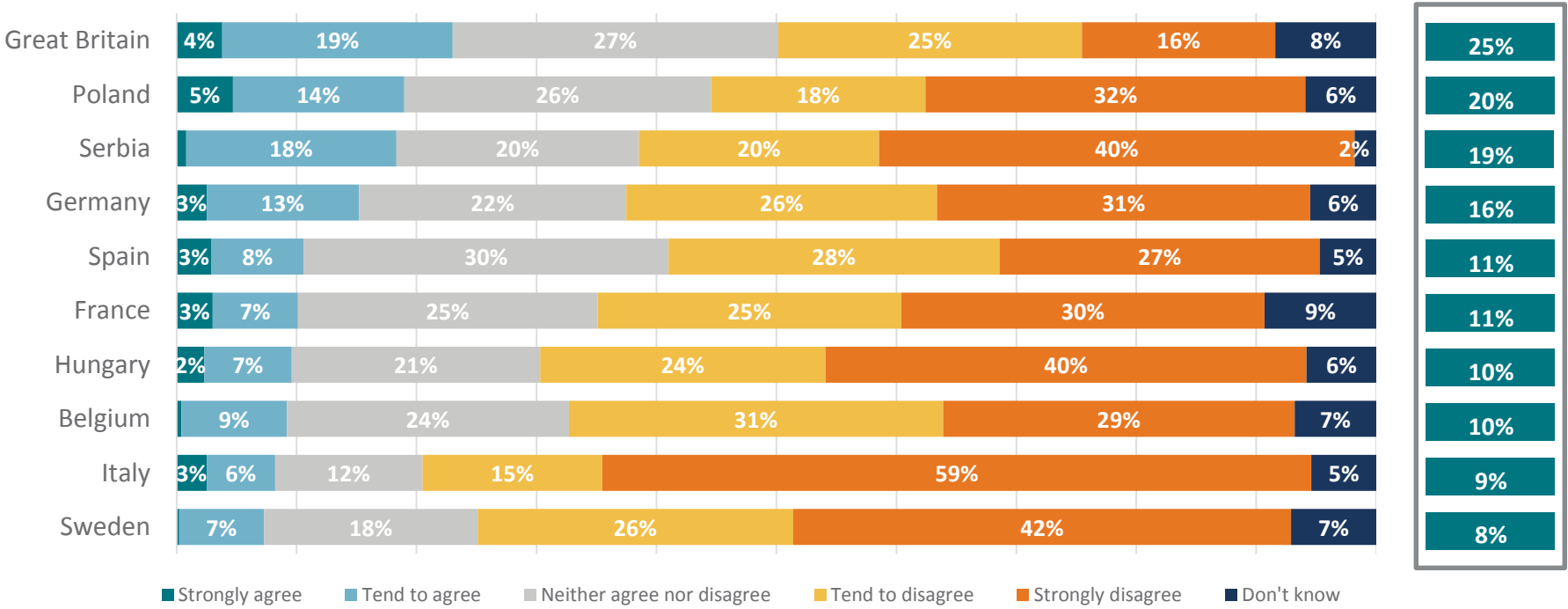
Please tell whether you agree or disagree with the following statement – “I’m confident that most refugees who come to my country will successfully integrate into their new society”

\*Trends from 2016 calculated by repercentaging 2017 figures to exclude don't knows

# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

## Most Europeans do not think the EU responded well to the refugee crisis

Total Agree  
2017 excl. DK

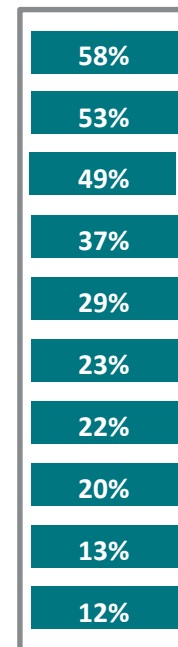
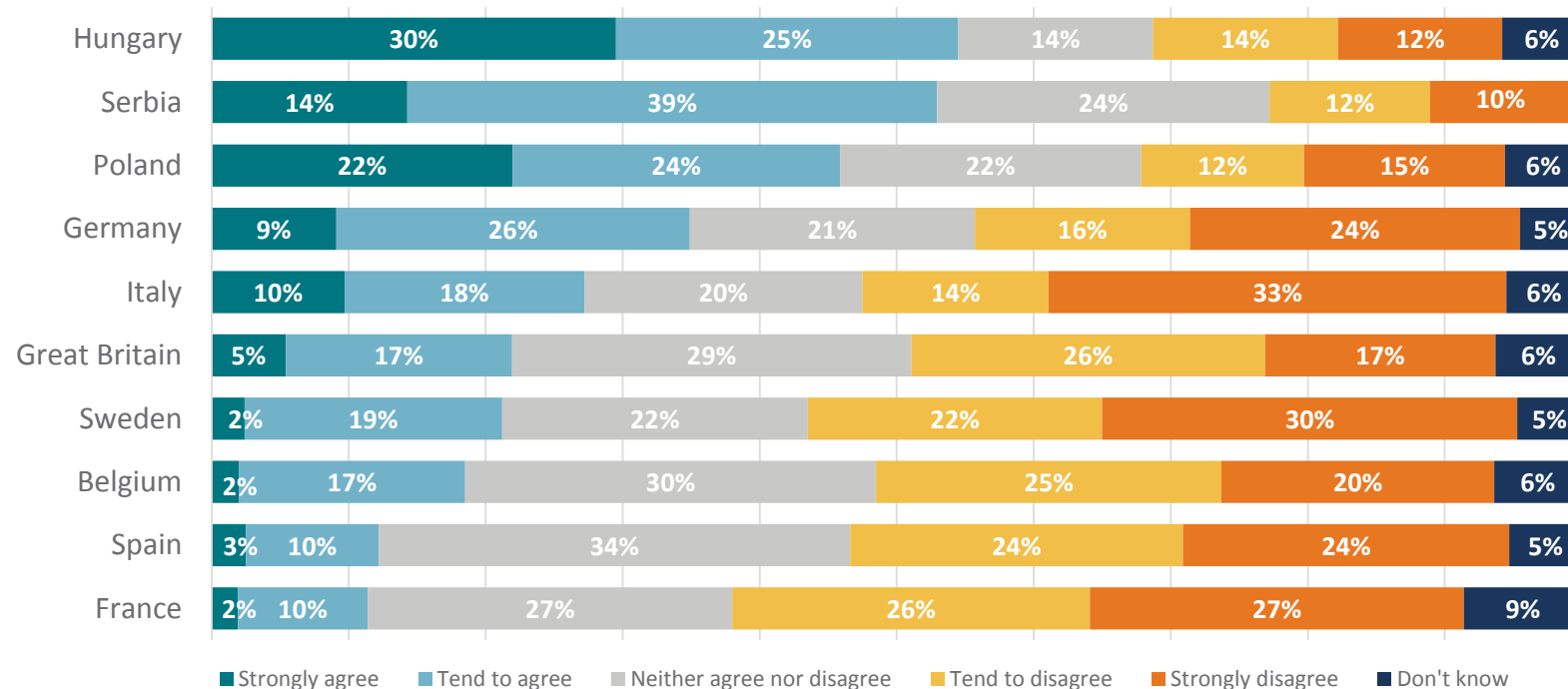


The European Union has responded well to the refugee crisis.

# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

**Central Europeans tend to have a favorable view of their country's response to the refugee crisis, Germans are mixed, citizens from other Western European countries tend to be critical**

Total Agree  
2017excl. DK



Country has responded well to the refugee crisis.

# IPSOS IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES POLL

## Methodology

- These are the findings of the Global @dvisor Immigration tracker 2011-2017. In total 17,903 interviews were conducted between June 24 and July 8, 2017 among adults aged 18-64 in the US and Canada, and adults aged 16-64 in all other countries.
- The survey was conducted in 25 countries around the world via the Ipsos Online Panel system. The countries reporting herein are: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, United States, Serbia, Peru and New Zealand.
- In each country surveyed, between 500+ and 1000+ individuals participated via the Ipsos Online Panel. The sample was 1000+ in Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Spain and the United States of America. In all other countries the sample was 500+. The precision of Ipsos online polls is calculated using a credibility interval with a poll of 1,000 accurate to +/- 3.5 percentage points and of 500 accurate to +/- 5.0 percentage points. For more information on Ipsos' use of credibility intervals, please visit the Ipsos website.
- In countries where internet penetration is approximately 60% or higher, the data output generally reflects the overall population. Of the 25 countries surveyed online, 17 yield results that are balanced to reflect the general population: Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Poland, South Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Great Britain and the United States. The 5 remaining countries surveyed – Brazil (58%), India (19%), Mexico (44%), South Africa (49%) and Turkey (51%) - have lower levels of internet connectivity and reflect online populations that tend to be more urban and have higher education/income than the general population.
- Where results do not sum to 100, this may be due to computer rounding, multiple responses or the exclusion of don't knows or not stated responses.
- Data are weighted to match the profile of the population.

# For more information



---

## Julia Clark

Senior Vice President,  
Ipsos Public Affairs

✉ [julia.clark@ipsos.com](mailto:julia.clark@ipsos.com)

📞 +1 312 526 4919



---

## Chris Jackson

Vice President,  
Ipsos Public Affairs

✉ [chris.jackson@ipsos.com](mailto:chris.jackson@ipsos.com)

📞 + 1 202 420 2025



---

## Nicolas Boyon

Senior Vice President,  
Ipsos Public Affairs

✉ [nicolas.boyon@ipsos.com](mailto:nicolas.boyon@ipsos.com)

📞 + 1 646 309 4879

## ABOUT IPSOS

---

Ipsos ranks third in the global research industry. With a strong presence in 87 countries, Ipsos employs more than 16,000 people and has the ability to conduct research programs in more than 100 countries. Founded in France in 1975, Ipsos is controlled and managed by research professionals. They have built a solid Group around a multi-specialist positioning – Media and advertising research; Marketing research; Client and employee relationship management; Opinion & social research; Mobile, Online, Offline data collection and delivery.

Ipsos is listed on Eurolist - NYSE-Euronext. The company is part of the SBF 120 and the Mid-60 index and is eligible for the Deferred Settlement Service (SRD).

ISIN code FR0000073298, Reuters ISOS.PA, Bloomberg  
IPS:FP  
[www.ipsos.com](http://www.ipsos.com)

## GAME CHANGERS

---

At Ipsos we are passionately curious about people, markets, brands and society. We deliver information and analysis that makes our complex world easier and faster to navigate and inspires our clients to make smarter decisions.

We believe that our work is important. Security, simplicity, speed and substance applies to everything we do.

Through specialization, we offer our clients a unique depth of knowledge and expertise. Learning from different experiences gives us perspective and inspires us to boldly call things into question, to be creative.

By nurturing a culture of collaboration and curiosity, we attract the highest caliber of people who have the ability and desire to influence and shape the future.

“GAME CHANGERS” - our tagline - summarizes our ambition.

**GAME CHANGERS**

