

Impact of COVID-19 on children and young people's education, wellbeing and life opportunities: What do the public think?

Global Advisor
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GAME CHANGERS



Key findings



A Global Country Average of 40% think maintaining focus and concentration will be one of the biggest issues affecting children and young people as they return to the classroom.



Worse mental health and wellbeing, as well as missed formal education resulting in worse qualifications, are expected to be the longest-lasting outcomes of the pandemic for children and young people. Nevertheless, the public remain supportive of school closures. A global country average of 62% think school closures were/are an acceptable price to pay to reduce the spread of the virus, despite their perceived negative outcomes.



Support for families who need it to fund education-related expenses is seen as key to improving access to education post-COVID-19. Despite this, a global country average of just 27% want their governments to prioritise spending on primary and secondary education, while a global country average of just 15% think vocational education and training should be a priority area for public spending.



Issues affecting wellbeing as children return to school

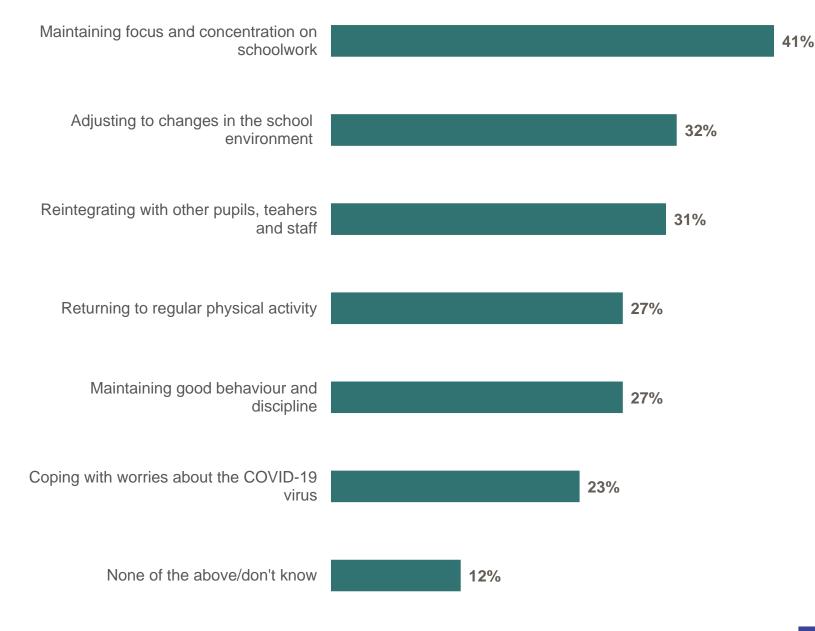
What do the public perceive to be the biggest issues affecting children and young people returning to school after Coronavirus-related school closures?



Biggest issues affecting the wellbeing of children aged up to 11 as they return to school: Global country average

During the COVID-19 pandemic, schools in some places had to close. Some schools moved their classes online so that children could attend classes from their homes. In [COUNTRY], as children return to the classroom, which of the following, if any, do you think will be the biggest issues affecting the wellbeing of schoolchildren - aged up to 11

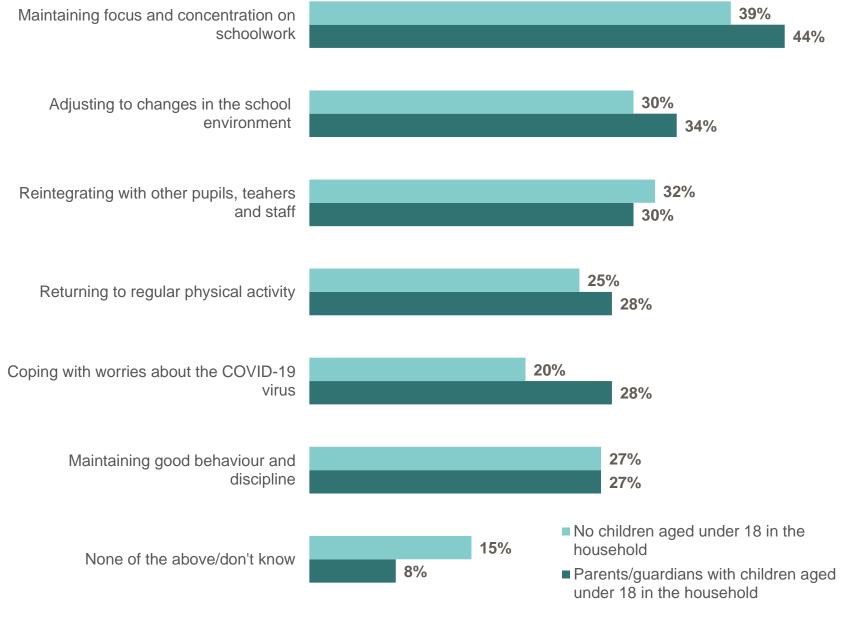
Select up to three.





Biggest issues affecting the wellbeing of children aged up to 11 as they return to school: Children in household

During the COVID-19 pandemic, schools in some places had to close. Some schools moved their classes online so that children could attend classes from their homes. In [COUNTRY], as children return to the classroom, which of the following, if any, do you think will be the biggest issues affecting the wellbeing of schoolchildren - aged up to 11





Maintaining focus and concentration is seen as the biggest issue affecting the wellbeing of children aged up to 11 as they return to the classroom.

Top three areas:

#1 in country

#2 in country

#3 in country

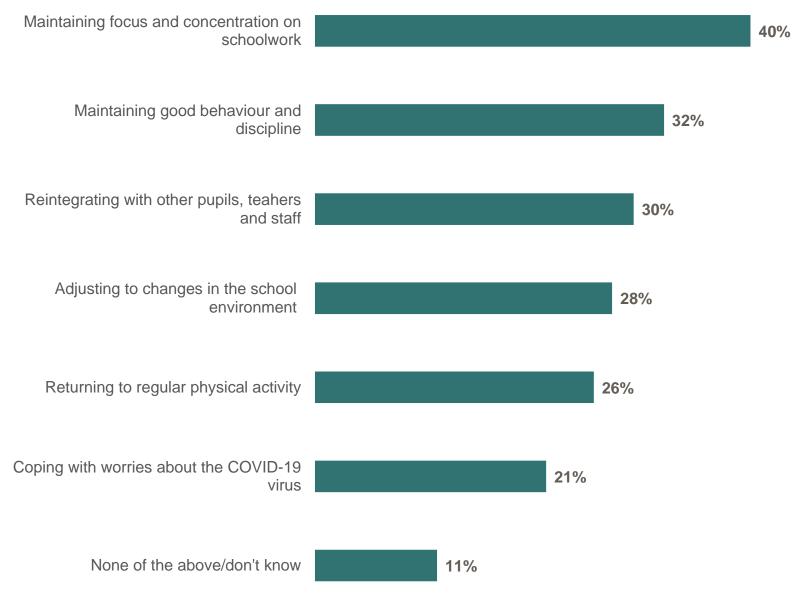
Q. In [COUNTRY], as children return to the classroom, which of the following, if any, do you think will be the biggest
issues affecting the wellbeing of schoolchildren aged up to 11? Please select up to three.

	ТОТ	ARG	AUS	BEL	BRA	CAN	CHL	CHN	COL	ESP	FRA	GB	GER	HUN	IND	ITA	JAP	KSA	KOR	MAL	MEX	NLD	PER	POL	RUS	SAF	SE	SIN	TUR	US
Maintaining focus and concentration on schoolwork	41%	57%	32%	36%	44%	40%	45%	41%	45%	32%	36%	38%	34%	58%	42%	36%	26%	34%	32%	38%	46%	37%	41%	41%	37%	56%	42%	51%	59%	399
Adjusting to changes in the school environment	32%	34%	28%	22%	37%	28%	38%	33%	41%	31%	15%	29%	16%	24%	43%	20%	31%	27%	48%	45%	45%	24%	42%	23%	33%	47%	17%	41%	40%	319
Reintegrating with other pupils, teachers and staff at school	31%	32%	26%	31%	26%	26%	27%	33%	28%	30%	21%	30%	24%	34%	29%	39%	33%	34%	40%	36%	39%	23%	34%	31%	34%	28%	40%	32%	32%	299
Maintaining good behaviour and discipline	27%	27%	26%	29%	21%	22%	26%	33%	32%	23%	34%	31%	21%	26%	32%	26%	21%	28%	23%	29%	30%	30%	23%	30%	34%	33%	20%	33%	27%	289
Returning to regular physical activity	27%	22%	17%	31%	17%	15%	27%	32%	25%	25%	20%	15%	25%	24%	31%	28%	40%	31%	41%	19%	22%	21%	30%	28%	33%	27%	39%	33%	31%	189
Coping with worries about the COVID-19 virus	23%	19%	17%	16%	39%	19%	27%	29%	28%	20%	16%	17%	12%	14%	38%	18%	21%	36%	26%	49%	30%	13%	35%	9%	13%	36%	11%	23%	33%	149
None of the above/don't know	12%	8%	21%	15%	10%	21%	7%	9%	4%	10%	19%	19%	26%	10%	2%	10%	20%	10%	7%	8%	4%	23%	4%	16%	12%	4%	19%	5%	6%	229



Biggest issues affecting the wellbeing of children aged 12-15 as they return to school: Global country average

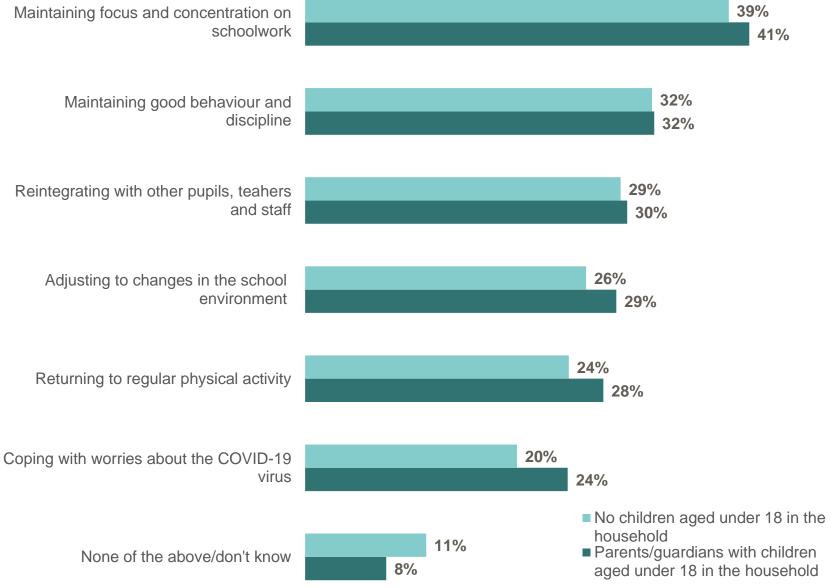
During the COVID-19 pandemic, schools in some places had to close. Some schools moved their classes online so that children could attend classes from their homes. In [COUNTRY], as children return to the classroom, which of the following, if any, do you think will be the biggest issues affecting the wellbeing of schoolchildren - aged 12-15





Biggest issues affecting the wellbeing of children aged 12-15 as they return to school: Children in household

During the COVID-19 pandemic, schools in some places had to close. Some schools moved their classes online so that children could attend classes from their homes. In [COUNTRY], as children return to the classroom, which of the following, if any, do you think will be the biggest issues affecting the wellbeing of schoolchildren - aged 12-15 Please select up to three.





Maintaining good behaviour and discipline is expected to be a bigger issue affecting the wellbeing of children aged 12-15 as they return to the classroom.

Top three areas:

#1 in country

#2 in country

#3 in country

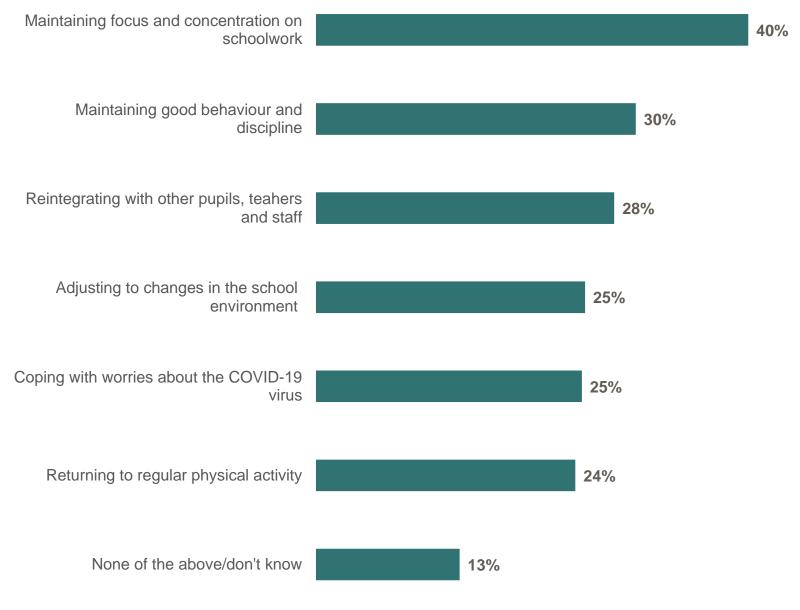
Q. In [COUNTRY], as children return to the classroom, which of the following, if any, do you think will be the biggest
issues affecting the wellbeing of schoolchildren aged 12-15? Please select up to three.

	тот	ARG	AUS	BEL	BRA	CAN	CHL	CHN	COL	ESP	FRA	GB	GER	HUN	IND	ITA	JAP	KSA	KOR	MAL	MEX	NLD	PER	POL	RUS	SAF	SE	SIN	TUR	US
Maintaining focus and concentration on schoolwork	40%	56%	38%	42%	42%	39%	41%	40%	38%	34%	36%	43%	31%	45%	46%	33%	30%	30%	39%	42%	37%	40%	38%	35%	37%	52%	47%	49%	53%	36%
Maintaining good behaviour and discipline	32%	34%	28%	31%	26%	25%	32%	35%	37%	29%	38%	34%	29%	32%	35%	33%	24%	38%	29%	36%	38%	34%	36%	29%	35%	37%	26%	35%	35%	27%
Reintegrating with other pupils, teachers and staff at school	30%	31%	22%	26%	24%	27%	28%	32%	28%	28%	24%	25%	24%	31%	31%	36%	29%	25%	35%	35%	38%	26%	29%	31%	31%	25%	37%	33%	38%	30%
Adjusting to changes in the school environment	28%	26%	25%	19%	31%	24%	33%	30%	35%	25%	13%	24%	14%	25%	31%	18%	28%	25%	38%	34%	38%	21%	33%	23%	23%	46%	13%	38%	35%	29%
Returning to regular physical activity	26%	22%	16%	30%	20%	17%	27%	32%	27%	20%	17%	17%	24%	26%	29%	25%	36%	26%	36%	21%	23%	20%	29%	29%	38%	26%	38%	29%	29%	18%
Coping with worries about the COVID-19 virus	21%	18%	18%	13%	36%	19%	26%	27%	25%	23%	14%	20%	13%	13%	32%	15%	16%	29%	22%	45%	25%	16%	31%	11%	12%	29%	10%	21%	27%	13%
None of the above/don't know	11%	6%	20%	16%	8%	20%	6%	8%	5%	9%	19%	19%	24%	10%	3%	10%	20%	10%	6%	7%	3%	18%	3%	16%	11%	3%	17%	6%	6%	229



Biggest issues affecting the wellbeing of children aged 16-18 as they return to school: Global country average

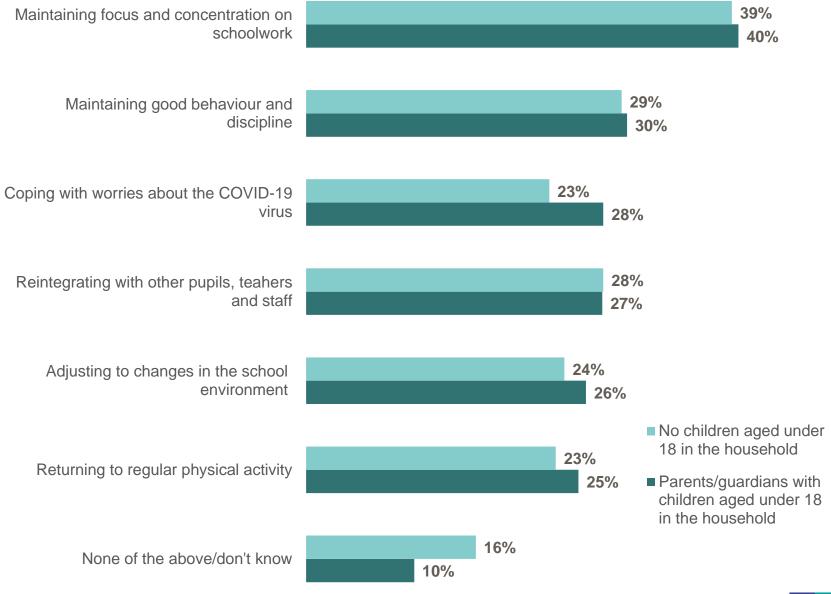
During the COVID-19 pandemic, schools in some places had to close. Some schools moved their classes online so that children could attend classes from their homes. In [COUNTRY], as children return to the classroom, which of the following, if any, do you think will be the biggest issues affecting the wellbeing of schoolchildren - aged 16-17





Biggest issues affecting the wellbeing of children aged 16-18 as they return to school: Children in household

During the COVID-19 pandemic, schools in some places had to close. Some schools moved their classes online so that children could attend classes from their homes. In [COUNTRY], as children return to the classroom, which of the following, if any, do you think will be the biggest issues affecting the wellbeing of schoolchildren - aged 16-17





Maintaining focus and concentration is also seen as the biggest issue affecting the wellbeing of children aged 16-18 as they return to the classroom.

Top three areas:

#1 in country

#2 in country

#3 in country

Q. In [COUNTRY], as children return to the classroom, which of the following, if any, do you think will be the biggest issues affecting the wellbeing of schoolchildren aged 16-18? Please select up to three.

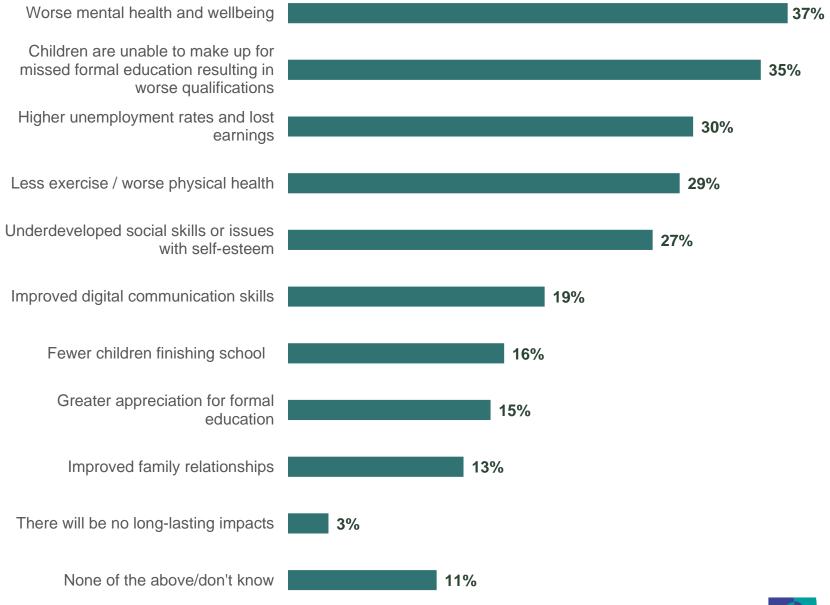
	TOT	ARG	AUS	BEL	BRA	CAN	CHL	CHN	COL	ESP	FRA	GB	GER	HUN	IND	ITA	JAP	KSA	KOR	MAL	MEX	NLD	PER	POL	RUS	SAF	SE	SIN	TUR	US.
Maintaining focus and concentration on schoolwork	40%	50%	37%	44%	42%	42%	38%	40%	36%	31%	38%	45%	29%	49%	43%	31%	33%	28%	54%	42%	35%	37%	39%	31%	36%	52%	48%	49%	43%	37%
Maintaining good behaviour and discipline	30%	33%	24%	33%	23%	24%	30%	34%	30%	30%	32%	25%	27%	29%	35%	34%	24%	36%	29%	34%	27%	31%	33%	25%	26%	36%	24%	34%	31%	26%
Reintegrating with other pupils, teachers and staff at school	28%	28%	22%	26%	21%	23%	27%	33%	27%	20%	22%	23%	20%	31%	27%	30%	25%	27%	29%	34%	36%	21%	31%	31%	36%	28%	37%	30%	29%	289
Adjusting to changes in the school environment	25%	23%	23%	19%	27%	23%	29%	24%	30%	23%	13%	22%	13%	22%	30%	20%	29%	21%	29%	32%	36%	22%	27%	20%	21%	35%	21%	32%	31%	26%
Coping with worries about the COVID-19 virus	25%	23%	22%	14%	39%	21%	30%	33%	30%	28%	13%	22%	16%	13%	35%	19%	19%	29%	22%	47%	30%	19%	35%	9%	13%	41%	11%	28%	33%	19%
Returning to regular physical activity	24%	25%	15%	27%	19%	17%	28%	30%	27%	16%	17%	15%	21%	20%	27%	22%	31%	26%	35%	21%	25%	20%	26%	29%	32%	22%	31%	26%	31%	169
None of the above/don't know	13%	8%	20%	16%	10%	21%	7%	9%	8%	12%	21%	22%	28%	14%	4%	11%	21%	11%	6%	7%	7%	21%	6%	20%	17%	3%	17%	, 9%	8%	239





Longest lasting impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on children and young people: Global country average

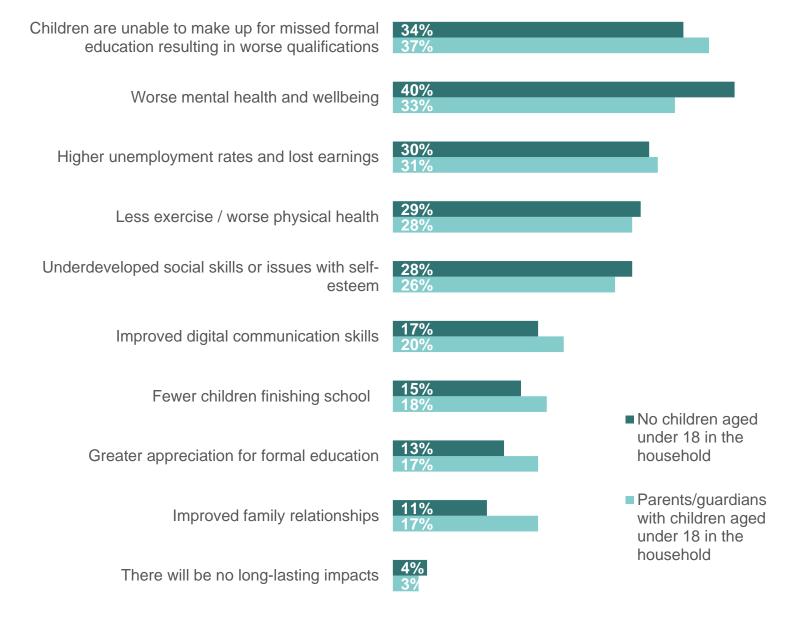
Q: Looking towards the future, which of the following, if any, do you think will be the longest-lasting outcomes of the COVID-19 pandemic for children and young people in [COUNTRY]?





Longest lasting impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on children and young people: children in household

Q: Looking towards the future, which of the following, if any, do you think will be the longest-lasting outcomes of the COVID-19 pandemic for children and young people in [COUNTRY]?





Worse mental health and wellbeing is expected to be the longestlasting outcome Top three areas:

#3 in country

#1 in country

#2 in country

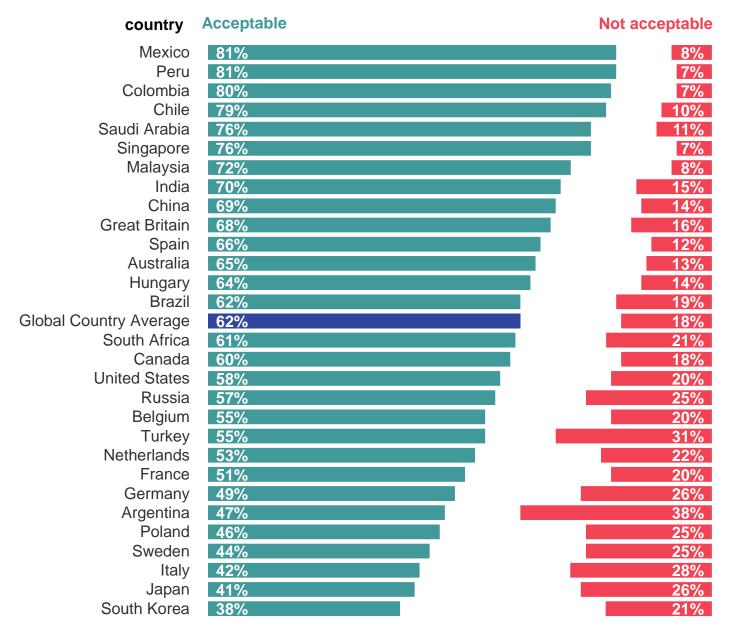
Q. Looking towards the future, which of the following, if any, do you think will be the longest-lasting outcomes of the COVID-19 pandemic for children and young people in ...?

	TOT	ARG	AUS	BEL	BRA	CAN	CHL	CHN	COL	ESP	FRA	GB	GER	HUN	IND	ITA	JAP	KSA	KOR	MAL	MEX	NLD	PER	POL	RUS	SAF	SE	SIN	TUR	US/
Worse mental health and wellbeing	37%	40%	41%	44%	40%	50%	46%	33%	30%	44%	38%	45%	42%	35%	31%	35%	41%	19%	31%	28%	23%	38%	32%	45%	32%	33%	51%	36%	30%	38%
Children are unable to make up for missed formal education resulting in worse qualifications	35%	43%	19%	33%	42%	26%	35%	21%	30%	25%	33%	32%	44%	45%	38%	27%	32%	27%	55%	51%	45%	29%	34%	40%	41%	43%	34%	24%	36%	31%
Higher unemployment rates and lost earnings	30%	42%	27%	29%	34%	20%	33%	34%	42%	46%	26%	24%	15%	29%	41%	28%	38%	19%	20%	39%	35%	13%	32%	17%	31%	56%	22%	32%	38%	21%
Less exercise / worse physical health	29%	17%	21%	28%	15%	24%	29%	40%	22%	30%	24%	23%	35%	42%	28%	32%	38%	26%	45%	27%	18%	33%	22%	36%	43%	15%	37%	30%	32%	24%
Underdeveloped social skills or issues with self-esteem	27%	19%	27%	28%	19%	36%	30%	18%	21%	28%	15%	34%	24%	36%	28%	27%	27%	17%	47%	26%	20%	28%	24%	38%	26%	28%	27%	34%	33%	32%
Improved digital communication skills	19%	23%	19%	10%	14%	12%	23%	22%	29%	19%	8%	12%	12%	18%	29%	19%	11%	22%	16%	26%	24%	15%	32%	8%	13%	25%	15%	37%	13%	16%
Fewer children finishing school	16%	30%	10%	23%	27%	14%	15%	12%	24%	17%	24%	8%	10%	13%	14%	14%	6%	11%	7%	14%	33%	10%	22%	11%	4%	32%	15%	4%	26%	12%
Greater appreciation for formal education	15%	19%	15%	6%	14%	13%	18%	27%	27%	9%	11%	14%	11%	9%	16%	16%	4%	19%	9%	20%	25%	16%	24%	6%	15%	13%	7%	16%	12%	13%
Improved family relationships	14%	12%	14%	11%	14%	11%	15%	21%	23%	12%	9%	11%	5%	7%	25%	11%	4%	28%	6%	23%	19%	7%	22%	9%	6%	15%	6%	22%	14%	14%
There will be no long lasting impacts	3%	3%	5%	3%	2%	4%	3%	7%	2%	3%	4%	5%	5%	3%	2%	4%	3%	8%	3%	1%	1%	7%	2%	3%	6%	1%	2%	2%	4%	4%



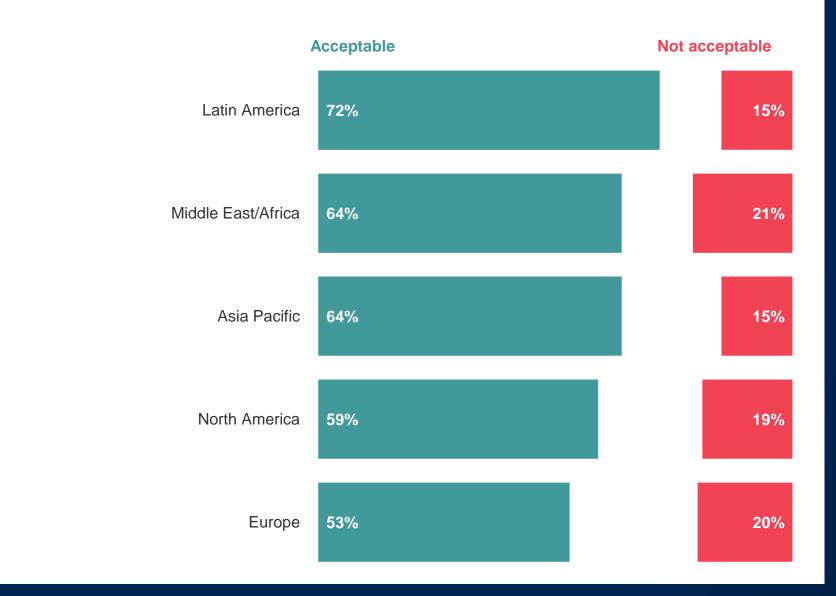


Acceptability of school closures to prevent coronavirus transmission: Global country average



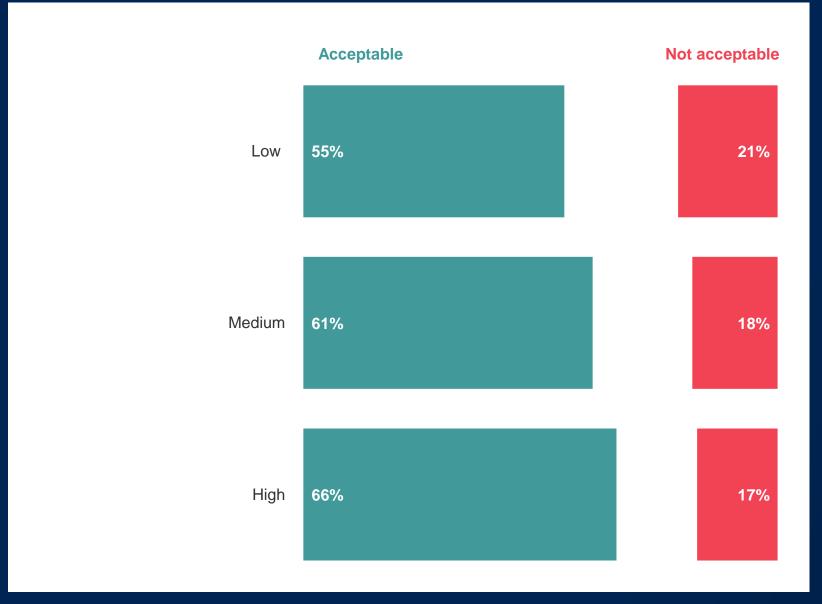


Acceptability of school closures: Geographic region.





Acceptability of school closures: Education level





Acceptability of school closures: Children in household



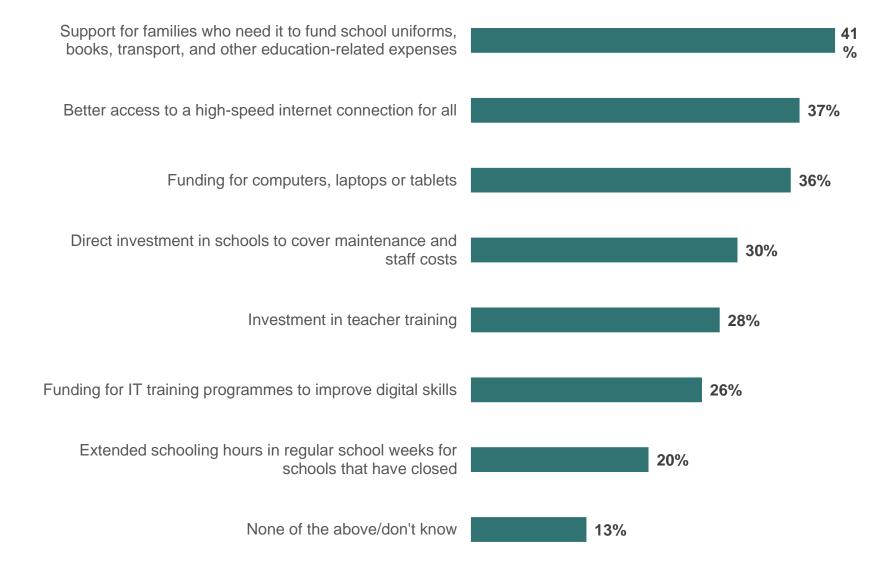




Improving access to education after COVID-19: Global country average

Which of the following, if any, do you think are most important to improving access to education in your country in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic?







Financial support for school related expenses is seen as most important for improving access to education post pandemic followed by access to digital technology

Top three areas:

#1 in country

#2 in country

#3 in country

Q. Which of the following, if any, do you think are most important to improving access to education in your country in
the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic? Please select up to three.

	тот	ARG	AUS	BEL	BRA	CAN	CHL	CHN	COL	ESP	FRA	GB	GER	HUN	IND	ITA	JAP	KSA	KOR	MAL	MEX	NLD	PER	POL	RUS	SAF	SE	SIN	TUR	US
Support for families who need it to fund school uniforms, books, transport, and other education-related expenses'		44%	44%	39%	47%	32%	43%	46%	56%	50%	25%	40%	30%	23%	53%	48%	24%	29%	29%	39%	59%	40%	41%	38%	59%	54%	43%	51%	31%	31%
Better access to a high-speed internet connection for all	37%	44%	27%	28%	38%	33%	55%	41%	50%	31%	32%	25%	38%	42%	33%	32%	31%	39%	31%	66%	43%	17%	59%	37%	23%	37%	13%	42%	51%	41%
Funding for computers, laptops or tablets	36%	37%	28%	36%	32%	32%	42%	21%	38%	34%	28%	37%	41%	52%	31%	23%	43%	37%	34%	55%	44%	26%	39%	33%	27%	38%	17%	57%	56%	32%
Direct investment in schools to cover maintenance and staff costs	30%	36%	29%	30%	28%		30%	30%	39%	40%	26%	34%	27%	34%	35%	35%	20%	21%	22%	16%	32%	36%	25%	25%	44%	32%	39%	17%	20%	29%
Investment in teacher training	28%	35%	39%	25%	39%	20%	35%	31%	26%	28%	25%	25%	15%	32%	31%	28%	20%	25%	18%	12%	28%	26%	42%	19%	32%	36%	36%	21%	36%	249
Funding for IT training programmes to improve digital skills	26%	20%	21%	23%	17%	17%	30%	26%	30%	21%	18%	17%	26%	38%	34%	23%	25%	39%	53%	39%	18%	17%	25%	19%	24%	33%	19%	42%	28%	169
Extended schooling hours in regular school weeks for schools that have closed	20%	33%	10%	16%	19%	14%	17%	38%	21%	13%	17%	29%	19%	7%	25%	25%	19%	19%	22%	16%	24%	16%	24%	14%	20%	27%	17%	15%	18%	169
None of the above	4%	2%	5%	5%	4%	7%	3%	7%	2%	4%	10%	4%	7%	1%	1%	2%	7%	3%	5%	2%	3%	7%	2%	5%	4%	1%	4%	3%	2%	10%

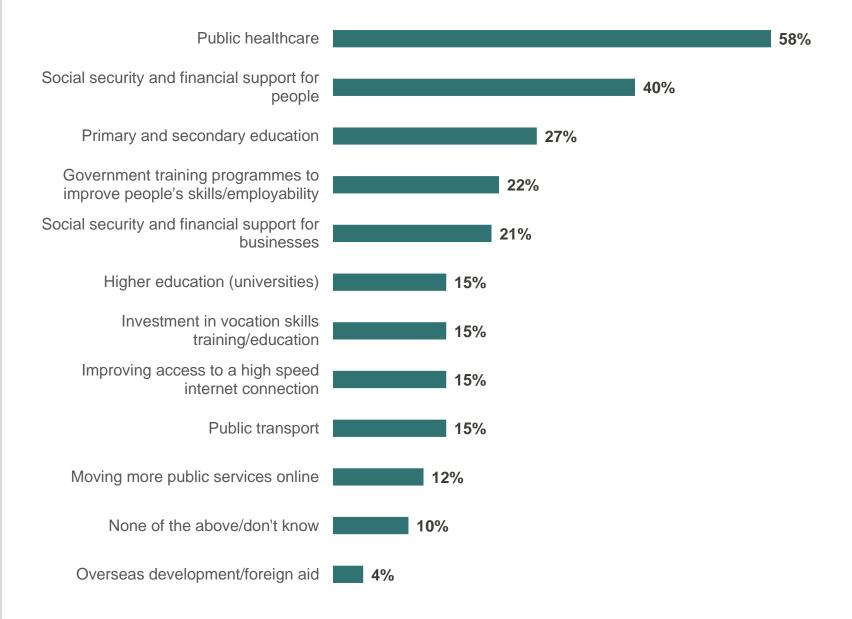




Priority areas for public spending after COVID-19: Global country average

Q. Which of the following, if any, do you think should be priority areas for public spending in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic?

Please select up to three priority areas.

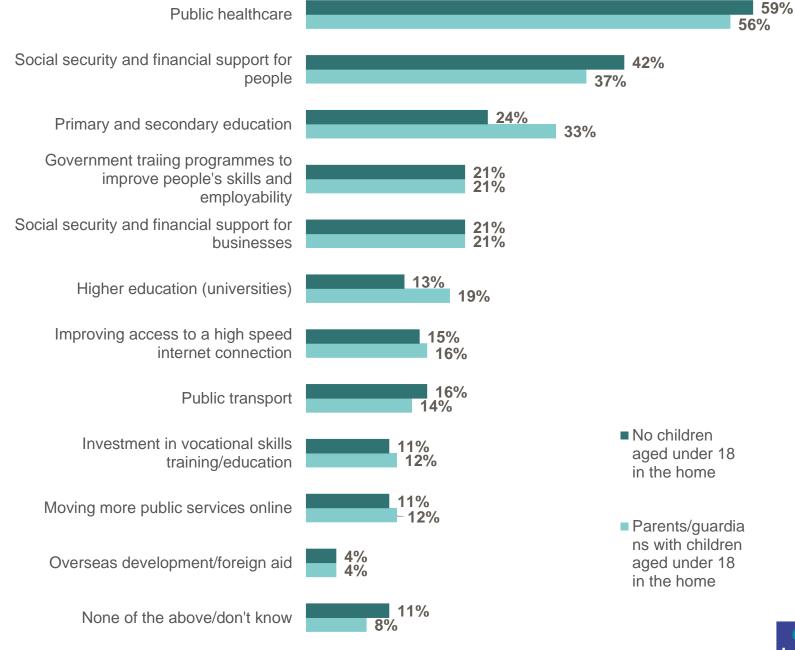




Priority areas for public spending after COVID-19: Children in household

Q. Which of the following, if any, do you think should be priority areas for public spending in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic?

Please select up to three priority areas.





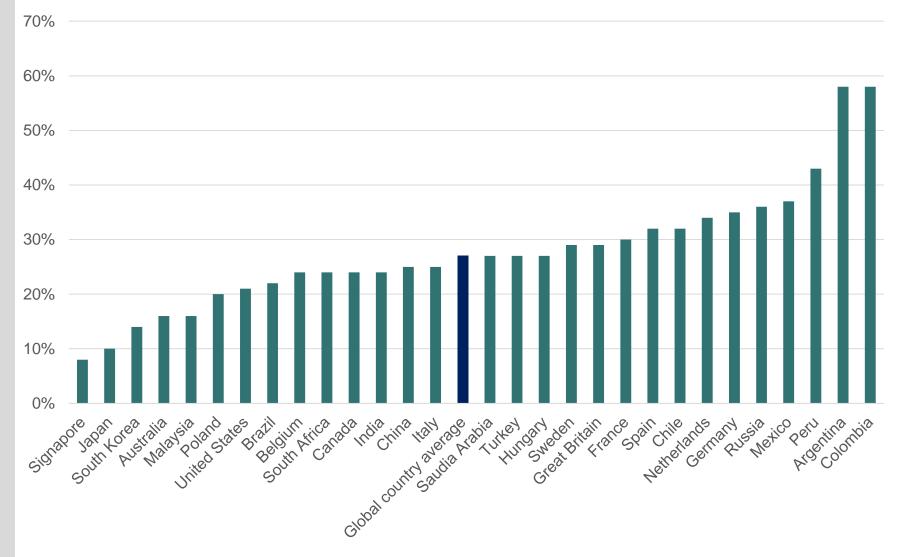
Priority areas for public spending after COVID-19: Primary and secondary education

Q. Which of the following, if any, do you think should be priority areas for public spending in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic?

Please select up to three priority areas

Primary and secondary education.

% who think primary and secondary education should be a priority area for public spending after COVID-19





Top three areas:

Top timee areas.

#1 in country

#2 in country #3 in country

Competing priorities: public healthcare tops the list

Q. Which of the following, if any, do you think should be priority areas for public spending in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic? Please select up to three priority areas.

	ТОТ	ARG	AUS	BEL	BRA	CAN	CHL	CHN	COL	.ESP	FRA	GB	GER	HUN	IND	ITA	JAP	KSA	KOR	MAL	MEX	NLD	PER	POL	RUS	SAF	SE	SG	TUR (JSA
Public Healthcare	58%	73%	51%	59%	73%	56%	73%	52%	58%	73%	46%	59%	37%	74%	50%	68%	50%	42%	50%	56%	65%	55%	74%	61%	72%	55%	64%	56%	31%	43%
Social security and financial support for people	40%	30%	37%	33%	42%	39%	51%	40%	46%	46%	29%	32%	20%	51%	43%	20%	55%	25%	48%	45%	50%	47%	36%	32%	41%	30%	48%	48%	56%	35%
Primary and secondary education	27%	60%	16%	37%	22%	24%	32%	25%	27%	32%	30%	29%	35%	27%	24%	25%	10%	27%	14%	16%	37%	34%	43%	20%	36%	24%	29%	8%	27%	21%
Government training programmes to improve people's skills and employability		20%	30%	19%	19%	20%	18%	28%	22%	18%	17%	26%	9%	23%	29%	22%	11%	19%	29%	19%	19%	12%	18%	16%	30%	42%	20%	34%	27%	22%
Social security and financial support for businesses	21%	20%	18%	16%	15%	17%	15%	30%	22%	26%	15%	14%	10%	19%	28%	31%	28%	16%	24%	38%	16%	21%	16%	24%	7%	24%	27%	32%	39%	15%
Higher education	15%	17%	12%	13%	15%	9%	21%	17%	42%	12%	13%	8%	8%	12%	17%	12%	7%	21%	9%	13%	21%	14%	22%	9%	23%	25%	8%	5%	22%	11%
Investment in vocational skills training/education	15%	16%	20%	18%	17%	14%	8%	16%	14%	20%	23%	22%	15%	15%	14%	18%	6%	18%	16%	10%	10%	11%	11%	15%	11%	24%	14%	15%	15%	20%
Improving access to a high-speed internet connection for all	15%	18%	14%	13%	11%	16%	19%	16%	15%	10%	14%	14%	22%	10%	16%	12%	10%	19%	15%	34%	16%	6%	23%	14%	11%	17%	8%	20%	17%	22%
Public transport	15%	14%	17%	19%	25%	12%	16%	17%	17%	11%	12%	17%	20%	13%	16%	29%	10%	12%	13%	6%	19%	12%	17%	14%	12%	14%	17%	18%	11%	10%
Moving more public services online	12%	4%	11%	9%	8%	9%	11%	20%	6%	12%	7%	6%	11%	9%	18%	13%	17%	20%	18%	22%	10%	4%	8%	11%	13%	17%	7%	19%	11%	10%
Overseas development / foreign aid	4%	2%	4%	4%	3%	3%	4%	6%	4%	3%	3%	6%	5%	1%	8%	4%	2%	5%	5%	6%	2%	9%	4%	6%	3%	6%	5%	4%	1%	2%



These are the findings of a 29-country survey conducted by Ipsos on its Global Advisor online platform.

These are the results of a 29-country survey conducted by Ipsos on its Global Advisor online platform. Ipsos interviewed a total of 20,010 adults, aged 18-74 in the United States, Canada, Malaysia, South Africa, and Turkey, aged 18-65 in Singapore, and age 16-74 in 23 other countries between Friday, May 21st and Friday, June 4th, 2021. Data collection in Singapore took place between 11 and 15 June.

The sample consists of approximately 1,000 individuals in each of Australia, Belgium, Canada, mainland China, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy, Japan, Spain, and the United States, and 500 individuals in each of Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Hungary, India, Malaysia, Mexico, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Singapore, South Korea, Sweden, and Turkey.

The samples in Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Poland, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, and the US can be taken as representative of their general adult populations under the age of 75.

The samples in Brazil, mainland China, Chile, Colombia, India, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, and Turkey 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 each country's sample composition 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 countries where the survey was conducted. It has not been adjusted to the population size of each country or country and is not intended to suggest a total result.

Where results do not sum to 100 or the "difference" appears to be +/-1 more/less than the actual, 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 of 1,000 accurate to +/- 3.5 percentage points and of 500 accurate to +/- 5.0 percentage points. For more information on the Ipsos use of credibility intervals, please visit the Ipsos website.

The publication of these findings abides by local rules and regulations.



THANK YOU.

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ABOUT IPSOS

Ipsos is the third largest country research company in the world, present in 90 countries and employing more than 18,000 people.

Our research professionals, analysts and scientists have built unique multi-specialist capabilities that provide powerful insights into the actions, opinions and motivations of citizens, consumers, patients, customers or employees. Our 75 business solutions are based on primary data coming from our surveys, social media monitoring, and qualitative or observational techniques.

"Game Changers" – our tagline – summarises our ambition to help our 5,000 clients to navigate more easily our deeply changing world.

Founded in France in 1975, Ipsos is listed on the Euronext Paris since July 1st, 1999. The company is part of the SBF 120 and the Mid-60 index and is eligible for the Deferred Settlement Service (SRD).

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GAME CHANGERS

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At Ipsos we believe our clients need more than a data supplier, they need a partner who can produce accurate and relevant information and turn it into actionable truth.

This is why our passionately curious experts not only provide the most precise measurement, but shape it to provide True Understanding of Society, countries and People.

To do this we use the best of science, technology and know-how and apply the principles of security, simplicity, speed and substance to everything we do.

So that our clients can act faster, smarter and bolder. Ultimately, success comes down to a simple truth: You act better when you are sure.

