

At the end of 2021 global hope and happiness are decreasing around the world compared to last year. Fears of upcoming economic difficulties remain high and steadily growing. The global pandemic clearly still impacts the world's hopes, fears and expectations - but there are significant differences by region and country by country.

These are some of the findings of “End of Year” survey – the world’s longest running global survey started in 1979 by Gallup International. “End of Year” is an established tradition throughout the world – with its Hope Index, Happiness Index and economic situation expectations trend.

As 2021 draws to a close there is hope for a brighter future around the world, although not reaching high levels measured some years ago. 38% of the world’s population now think that 2022 will be better than 2021, 28% expect a worse year and 27% believe 2022 will be the same as 2021. The picture looks similar to the end of 2020. 2008 still remains the year with largest pessimism around the world in the new century.

People in Indonesia seem to be most hopeful (76% there expecting a better year), along with people in Albania (70%), Nigeria (68%), Azerbaijan (62%) and Vietnam (59%). Hope is low in Afghanistan (56% expecting a worse year), Turkey (56%), Bulgaria (48%), Poland (47%), Czech Republic (45%) and Pakistan (41%).

The citizens of the Republic of Korea (with 54% expecting the upcoming year to be the same), Italy (48%), Serbia (42%), etc. rather expect 2022 to be the same as 2021.

According to our Gallup International Association HOPE INDEX (answers “better” minus answers “worse”) the top 5 optimists are: Indonesia (+72), Albania (+65), Azerbaijan (+53), Nigeria (+51), Mexico and Vietnam (both with net score of +47).

Top 5 pessimists are Turkey (-34), Bulgaria (-34), Afghanistan (-32), Poland (-30) and Czech Republic (-25).

In terms of regions and heavy weight countries optimism/pessimism ratio seems to show a relatively stable pattern over recent years. Europe, Russia and the Middle East tend to be more pessimistic, while countries in Asia, for instance, seem to be more optimistic. Hope in the USA, in Germany, in the U.K., Australia and India is decreasing sharply compared to last year’s survey while Japan, Mexico and Korea is significantly growing. Turkey is a unique case with a record increase of pessimism (due in part to the severe inflation factor).

Expectations about the economy show anxiety. However, there is no further growth in worries – in comparison to last year. Today 26% of the people now expect economic prosperity for their country in the year to come, 41% are prepared for economic difficulties and 26% think that 2022 will be the same as 2021 in terms of economy.

In Nigeria (61% optimists), Indonesia (58%), Vietnam (55%) and Azerbaijan (52%), Albania, India (both with 49%) economic optimism is visibly prevailing against pessimism. Expectations for economic difficulty are most predominant in Turkey (72% there expecting difficulties), Bosnia and Herzegovina (72%), Bulgaria (64%), Poland (64%), Romania (61%), Afghanistan (60%) and Germany (59%).

Europe seems more pessimistic as a whole and noticeably Eastern Europe, a pattern we have seen emerging over the years in GIA surveys. Developing regions, on the other hand, are often more cheerful and hopeful. National optimism is not usually just a matter of wellbeing but also matter of age of the population and perceptions of growth possibilities ahead.

Despite the pandemic and economic difficulties personal happiness prevails – as is always the case.

There used to be some better times about five years ago, but still in terms of personal happiness people across the globe now remain rather satisfied. 56% of world's population now consider themselves "rather happy or very happy", over a tenth say that they are more or less unhappy, while near a third say that they are "neither happy, nor unhappy".

People in Colombia (83% declaring to be happy), Kazakhstan (81%), Albania (74%), Malaysia (78%), Nigeria (78%) are most happy according to their self-evaluation. Most unhappy are people in Afghanistan (36% saying they are unhappy or very unhappy), Ghana, Iraq (31%), Ukraine (31%), Turkey (23%), Pakistan (23%) and Russia (23%).

According to GIA's HAPPINESS INDEX the top 5 happy countries are: Colombia (happy and very happy minus unhappy and very unhappy equals +79), Kazakhstan (+76), Albania (+74), Malaysia (+73), Azerbaijan (+70). Top 5 unhappy are Ghana (+2 only), Afghanistan (+9), Hong Kong (+11), Iraq (17) and Russia (+18).

As often, Latin America, Africa and East Asia are among the happiest places in the world. Europe, the Middle East and Russia (again, as expected) are on the gloomier side. USA scores an average for the World result.

Kancho Stoychev, president of GIA:

"The unprecedented state financial support on personal and business levels during the pandemic so far played a positive role and, in a way, limited the spread of mass pessimism around the World. But it didn't stop it. When the crisis started in March 2020 a majority of global citizens were convinced that it will be over by the end of the fall. Year 2021 was marked by the expectation that vaccines are going to solve the problem. Facing 2022 the perception is that we are rather in a chronic situation without a clear end. The growth of inflation was anticipated after the massive printing of money but although it started to pass the 5% threshold barrier in recent weeks, in many countries the real worries are not prevented. And the big tension is not that inflation will become a two digits phenomenon - most probably it will be kept in the single digits scope - but that it will be significantly longer than the usual few months. Together with disrupted global supply chains and an explosion in energy prices, the world's population now faces unprecedented challenges which will spread political tension (not only in the less developed countries)."

Methodology:

The Gallup International End of Year Survey (EoY) is an annual tradition initiated by and designed under the chairmanship of Dr. George Gallup in 1977. The survey is conducted every year since then. This year it was carried out in 44 countries around the world.

Sample Size and Mode of Field Work:

A total of 41 560 persons were interviewed globally. In each country a representative sample of around 1000 men and women was interviewed during October-December 2021 either face to face, via telephone or online.

The margin of error for the survey is between +3-5% at 95% confidence level.

About Gallup International

Gallup International Association (GIA) is the leading global independent association in market research and polling.

For over 70 years Gallup International members have demonstrated their expert ability to conduct multi-country surveys on a comparable basis and deliver the highest quality. Our more than 100 members and partners are leading national institutes with a profound local knowledge of research methods and techniques, statistical sources, customs and culture differences of its own country and carefully selected by the Association Board. With only one member agency per country, members work together on a daily basis to share knowledge, new research techniques and tools, as well as to provide the most appropriate solutions to international research projects and service our clients to the best of our abilities.

For more information:

Kancho Stoychev (in Sofia), +359 88 8611025

Johnny Heald (in London), +44 7973 600308

David Jodice (in Washington), +1 703 424 5757

Andrey Milekhin (in Moscow), +7 499 136 8068

Dr Munqith Dagher (in Baghdad) +962 7 9967 2229

Steven Kang (in Seoul), +82-2-3702-2550

Antonio Asencio Guillen (in Madrid) +34 608191334

For further details see website: www.gallup-international.com

Disclaimer: Gallup International Association or its members are not related to Gallup Inc., headquartered in Washington D.C. which is no longer a member of Gallup International Association. Gallup International Association does not accept responsibility for opinion polling other than its own. We require that our surveys be credited fully as Gallup International (not Gallup or Gallup Poll).



End of Year Survey 2020 Participants
(GIA Members and Partners presented in alphabetical order)

Country	Vendor Company	Sample size	Method	Fieldwork	Universe
AFGHANISTAN	Company: ACSOR-Surveys	1024	CATI	13–16 October 2021	18+, National
ALBANIA	Index Kosova	501	F2F	November 2021	18+, National
ARGENTINA	Voices!	821	CAWI	11-24 November 2021	18+, National
ARMENIA	MPG LLC	1001	CATI	16-27 November 2021	18+, National
AUSTRALIA	Roy Morgan	1184	Online	25-28 November 2021	18+, National
AUSTRIA	Das Österreichische Gallup Institut GmbH	1000	CAWI	14-20 November 2021	14+, National
AZERBAIJAN	SIAR Research and Consulting Group	500	Telephone	01-10 December 2021	18+, National
BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA	Mareco Index Bosnia	1000	Online	01-21 November 2021	18+, National
BULGARIA	Gallup International Balkan	803	F2F	28 Oct - 05 Nov 2021	18+, National
COLOMBIA	Centro Nacional de Consultoría	775	CATI	10 Nov - 10 Dec 2021	18+, National
CZECH REPUBLIC	Mareco IVP	1000	F2F	October 2021	18+, National
ECUADOR	CEDATOS	730	F2F	01-09 December 2021	16+, Urban
GERMANY	GIA	1000	Online	01-10 December 2021	16+, National
GHANA	Positive Insights	1000	F2F	25 Oct - 26 Nov 2021	18+, National
HONG KONG	CSG	524	Online	19-30 November 2021	18+, cities
INDIA	Convergent	1124	F2F/Telephone	Nov-Dec 2021	18+, 12 Major Cities



End of Year Survey 2020 Participants -contd.
(GIA Members and Partners presented in alphabetical order)

Country	Vendor Company	Sample size	Method	Fieldwork	Universe
INDONESIA	Deka	689	Online	08 Nov- 12 Dec 2021	18+, National
IRAQ	IIACSS	1000	F2F	03-22 November 2021	18-81, Urban
ITALY	DOXA	1046	F2F	15-28 November 2021	15+, National
JAPAN	Nippon Research Center	1154	F2F	02-14 October 2021	18-79, National
KAZAKHSTAN	BISAM - CENTRAL ASIA	493	CATI	December 2021	18+, National
KENYA	Mind Pulse	1000	F2F	Nov-Dec 2021	18+, Major Cities
KOSOVO	Index Kosova	953	CATI	November 2021	18+, National
NORTH MACEDONIA	BRIMA	1210	F2F	15-30 November 2021	18+, National
MALAYSIA	Central Force	1002	CATI	Oct-Nov 2021	18+, National (mobile)
MEXICO	BRAIN	501	Online	October 2021	18-64, 3 Major Cities
MOLDOVA	CBS-Research	1205	CATI	06-12 October 2021	18+, National
NIGERIA	Market Trends International	1000	F2F	Oct - Nov 2021	18+, National
PAKISTAN	Gallup Pakistan	1000	CATI	22 Oct - 03 Nov 2021	18+, National
PERU	DATUM Internacional	1000	Online	24 Sep-05 Oct 2021	18-70, Urban
PHILIPPINES	PSRC	1000	F2F	12 Nov-08 Dec 2021	18-65, National
POLAND	Mareco Polska	1009	F2F	06-20 October 2021	18+, National



End of Year Survey 2020 Participants -*contd.*
(GIA Members and Partners presented in alphabetical order)

Country	Vendor Company	Sample size	Method	Fieldwork	Universe
ROMANIA	Kantar	500	CAWI	October	18-64, National
RUSSIA	ROMIR	960	Online	25 Oct-05 Nov 2021	18+, Cities 10,000+
SERBIA	TMG Insights	1009	F2F	04 Oct-07 Nov 2021	18+, National
REPUBLIC OF KOREA	Gallup Korea	1500	F2F	05-28 Npvenber 2021	19+, National
SPAIN	SIGMA DOS	900	CAWI	October 2021	18, National
SWITZERLAND	Gallup AG Switzerland	1000	Online	01-10 December 2021	16+, National
THAILAND	Infosearch Limited	600	F2F	08-28 November 2021	18+, National
TURKEY	BAREM	1003	CATI	25 Oct - 08 Dec 2021	18+, National
UKRAINE	ROMIR & Kyiv International Institute of Sociology and Democratic Initiatives Foundation	2003	CATI	02-11 November	18+, National
UK	ORB International	1051	Online	06-10 December 2021	18+, National
USA	Survey Monkey	1184	Online	08 December 2021	18+, National
VIETNAM	Indochina Research	601	F2F	26 Oct-10 Nov 2021	18-64, 4 Major Cities