

Annual world survey on quality of life and people's mood: reflections on pre and post Covid-19

WIN International, the world's leading association in market research and polling, has published the Annual WIN World Survey (WWS - 2019) exploring the views and beliefs of 29575 people from 40 countries across the globe about their quality of life and on the population's mood. The mood index was obtained from a psychological test, "The Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing scales", which evaluates 7-items with a scale from 1 to 5 that summed results in a mood index.

INTRODUCTION

The main goal of the WWS is to investigate thoughts, expectations, worries, and perceptions related to relevant topics for society and business. It becomes clear how all of these can change in **times of crises**, like the one we are living right now.

The **spread of Covid-19**, besides presenting many challenges to the health care systems and to the economic structure of many countries, it also **deeply impacts society at so many levels**.

The WWS data were collected between **October and December 2019**, and the interesting results entailing quality of life and the population's general mood are probably the most affected now: even those who are lucky enough not to experience any direct consequence from the Coronavirus are afflicted by quarantine and general lockdowns; and people who suffered the loss of someone or something (e.g. their job) due to the virus are even more affected. All these significant changes are **inevitably changing people's feelings as well**.

As researchers, we questioned the meaning of our data: the picture of the society deriving from them does not reflect anymore the society we are living in right now. However, it provides insights on what people worldwide used to think before Covid-

19: besides being a hopeful picture of what society might look like in the future again, it presents an interesting point of view for future research and for comparison with data coming from Covid-19 studies. WIN members all over the world are contributing with so many interesting research on the topic of Coronavirus (you can find them all here: <https://www.winmr.com/research-and-studies-on-covid-19/>). The WWS section on mood and quality of life might definitely be used as a comparison or as a valuable reference for studies focusing on pre and post Covid-19 perceptions.

HEADLINES

Quality of life

More than half of the population (60% net score, TTB-BTB) enjoyed a good quality of life; no significant differences were found between men and women. Of the 40 countries surveyed, 25 of them were above the global net score: Nigeria (93%), Ecuador (92%) and Vietnam (90%) were the countries whose respondents declared to have a high quality of life.

On the other hand, at the end of the ranking, we find countries from Asia and MENA region: Palestinian Territories (-7%), followed by Japan (7%) and Hong Kong (17%), are the countries in which the largest number of the population is dissatisfied with their quality of life.

In general, the higher the level of respondents' education, the higher the perceived quality of life. Students and retired people are the most optimistic, which is reflected when considering age categories as well: young people (18 to 24) and people over 65 years old are the most satisfied with their quality of life.

It will be interesting to compare these data with future research on the coronavirus crisis: will the level of education still have such an influence when asked about the quality of life, or is Covid-19 leveling off educational differences? Will there still be a correlation between age and life satisfaction? These questions remain open to future studies.

Mood Index

The mood index evaluates the state of well-being of a person during the two weeks prior to the survey. Of the 7 aspects evaluated, 66% of people declared that they felt able to make their own decisions, while 19% didn't feel optimistic about the future.

The global index revealed a neutral mood (22.8). Very few countries showed a high mood index, although there are several countries above the average. Ecuador is one of the 4 countries with the highest mood index and it ranked first among all countries (26.50), followed by India (25.43), Slovenia (25.25), and Pakistan (25.04).

On the other side, there are a few countries with a lower mood index: in particular, Ireland (16.97), Japan (19.60), and Malaysia (20.40).

Although there are several factors that might have affected people's mood, the index is a good indicator of the situation people were facing in their countries before the spread of Covid-19 virus. The global crisis will definitely increase the need to work towards better mental health support and these data provide a reliable benchmark.

Vilma Scarpino, President of WIN International Association, said:

“This survey reveals that progress and technology, which contribute to improving people's quality of life, do not necessarily reflect people's mood, which is affected by many other aspects as well. This was the case before the Covid-19 crisis, and we can assume the picture won't be better now, considering the situation.

People's feelings and emotions were deeply affected by the speed of changes and the transformation of society even before the spread of the virus; now, people are facing even more changes, feelings of instability, and loss. These results provide an opportunity for governments to reflect on the importance of working for a public health system that can face and assist people for these issues.”

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NOTES FOR EDITORS**Methodology:**

The WWS (WIN Worldwide Survey) is a study conducted every year with the purpose to measure people's thoughts, expectations, worries, and perceptions related to relevant topics for society and business.

Sample Size and Mode of Field Work:

A total of 29,575 people were interviewed globally. See below for sample details. The fieldwork was conducted during October 2019 – December 2019. The margin of error for the survey is between 2.4 and 4.4 at 95% confidence level.

The global average has been computed according to the covered adult population of the surveyed countries.

About the WIN survey:

The Worldwide Independent Network of Market Research (WIN) is a global network conducting market research and opinion polls in every continent.

Our assets are:

- Thought leadership: access to a group of the most prominent experts and business entrepreneurs in Market Research, Polling, and Consultancy
- Flexibility: tailor-made global and local solutions to meet clients' needs
- Innovation: access to the latest strategic consultancy, tool development and branded solutions
- Local experts: access to a network of experts that truly understand the local culture, market, and business needs
- Trust: the highest quality of talented members in all countries covered

In the years, WIN has demonstrated wide competences and ability to conduct multi-country surveys following the highest standards requested by the market. The accumulated expertise of the Association is formidable: among others, researched themes are gender equality and young people, communication and media research, and brand studies.

Methodology Sheet

	Country	Company Name	Methodology	Sample	Coverage	Field Dates
1	ARGENTINA	Voices! Research & Consultancy	CATI	519	8 MAIN CITIES	DEC 2019
2	AUSTRALIA	Bastion Latitude	CAWI	1000	NATIONAL	NOV 2019
3	BRAZIL	Market Analysis	CAWI	560	NATIONAL	NOV 2019
4	CANADA	Leger 360	ON LINE	500	NATIONAL	NOV 2019
5	CHILE	Activa Research	CAWI	1000	NATIONAL	DEC 2019
6	CHINA	Wisdom Asia	CAWI	1000	URBAN	NOV 2019
7	CROATIA	Mediana	CAWI	501	NATIONAL	NOV 2019
8	DENMARK	DMA Research A/S	CAWI	500	NATIONAL	NOV 2019
9	ECUADOR	CEDATOS	CAPI	600	National TWO CITIES	DEC 2019
10	FINLAND	Taloustutkimus Oy	CAWI	1000	National Except Aland Islands	DEC 2019
11	FRANCE	BVA	CAWI	1000	NATIONAL	NOV 2019
12	GERMANY	Produkt + Markt	CAWI	1000	NATIONAL	OCT/NOV 2019
13	GREECE	Alternative Research Solutions	CAWI	500	NATIONAL	OCT 2019
14	HONG KONG	CSG (Consumer Search Group)	CAWI	537	NATIONAL	NOV 2019
15	INDIA	DataPrompt International	CAWI	500	NATIONAL	NOV 2019
16	INDONESIA	Deka International	CAPI	1032	5 MAIN CITIES	NOV/DIC 2019
17	IRAN	EMRC	CATI	700	URBAN	NOV/DIC 2019
18	IRELAND	RED C Research and Marketing Ltd	CAWI	1011	NATIONAL	OCT/NOV 2019
19	ITALY	BVA DOXA	CAPI	1000	NATIONAL	OCT 2019
20	JAPAN	NRC (Nippon Research Center)	CAWI	1000	NATIONAL	NOV 2019
21	LEBANON	REACH SAL	CATI	500	National	OCT/NOV 2019
22	MALAYSIA	Compass Insights	CAWI	502	URBAN PENINSULAR	OCT/NOV 2019
23	MEXICO	Brand Investigation S.A de C.V (Brain)	CAWI ON LINE	500	URBAN	NOV/DIC 2019
24	NIGERIA	MARKET TRENDS GROUP	CAWI	1000	NATIONAL	NOV 2019
25	PALESTINE	PCPO Palestinian Centre for Public	TAPI	120	NATIONAL	DEC 2019

		Opinion				
26	PAKISTAN	Gallup Pakistan	CAPI FACE TO FACE	1000	NATIONAL	DEC 2019
27	PARAGUAY	ICA Consultoría Estratégica	CATI 25% CAWI 75%	500	NATIONAL	DEC 2019
28	PERU	DATUM Internacional	CAWI	1000	NATIONAL	DEC 2019
29	PHILIPPINES	PSRC (Philippines Survey & Research Center Inc.)	PAPI	1000	NATIONAL	NOV 2019
30	POLAND	MARECO POLSKA	CAWI	500	NATIONAL	OCT 2019
31	SLOVENIA	Mediana	CAWI	511	NATIONAL	NOV 2019
32	SOUTH AFRICA	Freshly Ground Insights (FGI)	CAPI/CAWI	744	NATIONAL	DEC 2019
33	SOUTH KOREA	Gallup Korea	PAPI	1500	NATIONAL	NOV 2019
34	SPAIN	Instituto DYM	CAWI	1017	NATIONAL	NOV 2019
35	SWEDEN	Origo Group	CAWI	500	NATIONAL	DEC 2019
36	THAILAND	Infosearch co.ltd	F2F	600	NATIONAL	OCT/NOV 2019
37	TURKEY	Barem	CATI	601	NATIONAL	NOV/DEC 2019
38	UK	ORB International (Opinion Research Business)	CAWI	1000	NATIONAL	DEC 2019
39	USA	SSRS	CAWI	509	NATIONAL	NOV 2019
40	VIETNAM	Indochina Research	F2F	501	TWO PROVINCES	2019