

Polling on Extreme Wealth in G20 Countries

Our world is facing a series of historic crises. Inflation is spiraling out of control and forcing people to go without essentials like food, housing, and fuel. Climate change is ravaging homes and communities with increasingly extreme wildfires, droughts, floods, and hurricanes. Social unrest is escalating, and desperate people are becoming increasingly attracted to power-hungry authoritarian figures.

Why is this all happening? There are many answers to this question, but the common denominator amongst them all is extreme wealth and inequality.

The world's richest have truly never been richer and the gap between the rich and the poor in most countries has truly never been wider. In the first two years of the COVID-19 pandemic, the world's ten richest men doubled their collective fortunes - from \$700 billion to \$1.5 trillion - at the same time that incomes for 99% of humanity fell.¹ In countries like Russia and Mexico, the top 1% of income earners take home roughly a quarter of all national income.² Wealth inequality is significantly worse. In places like South Africa, the top 1% of asset holders hold no less than 55% of all wealth.³

A direct line can be drawn between extreme inequality and our world's most pressing problems. The cost of living crisis has escalated thanks to the outrageous spending and profiteering on the part of the ultra-rich. Climate change continues to ratchet as the world's multi-millionaires and billionaires flit around the globe on private jets. The masses have lost faith in democratic institutions and have turned their affections to authoritarians as they watch the wealthy puppeteer politicians for personal gain.

Our research has found that the general public have taken notice of the global emergency that is extreme wealth and want their lawmakers to do something about it. We found polls conducted in the last six years in all G20 countries (excluding the European Union) - Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States - that indicate strong levels of support for reducing inequality and various measures that would raise taxes on the rich.

Our findings are listed in the report below. For each G20 country, we provide: the names of organizations that conducted polls, hyperlinks for polls, the year in which polls were conducted, and questions posed along with their respective levels of support.

The time is ripe for lawmakers around the world to save our planet and society as we know it by curbing the extreme fortunes of the ultra-rich. If our polling research is any guide, they won't be hard-pressed to find support for such action among their constituents.

¹ <https://policy-practice.oxfam.org/resources/inequality-kills-the-unparalleled-action-needed-to-combat-unprecedented-inequal-621341/>

² https://wid.world/world/#sptinc_p99p100_z/US;FR;DE;CN;ZA;GB;WO/last/eu/k/p/yearly/s/false/5.3985/30/curve/false/country

³ <https://wid.world/country/south-africa/>

Argentina

- Pew Research Center (2019)
 - o 52% of Argentines, when thinking about the future, feel generally pessimistic about reducing the gap between the rich and poor (suggesting a concern over inequality)
 - o Link: <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/08/06/many-around-the-world-were-pessimistic-about-inequality-even-before-pandemic/>
- Ipsos survey (2018)
 - o 80% of Argentines believe rich people should be taxed more to support the poor
 - o Link: <https://www.ipsos.com/en-au/globally-half-think-socialist-ideals-are-great-value>

Australia

- Millionaires for Humanities and Glocalities (2021)
 - o 54% of Australians support 1% wealth tax on people with net wealth over \$10 million
 - o Link: https://humanact.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/HumanAct_AnnualReport_2021_Final.pdf
- Pew Research Center (2019)
 - o 68% of Australians, when thinking about the future, feel generally pessimistic about reducing the gap between the rich and poor (suggesting a concern over inequality)
 - o Link: <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/08/06/many-around-the-world-were-pessimistic-about-inequality-even-before-pandemic/>
- Ipsos survey (2018)
 - o 76% of Australians believe rich people should be taxed more to support the poor
 - o Link: <https://www.ipsos.com/en-au/globally-half-think-socialist-ideals-are-great-value>
- OECD (2017)
 - o 69% of Australians believe that income differences in their country are too large
 - o Link: <https://www.oecd.org/social/does-inequality-matter-3023ed40-en.htm>

Brazil

- Millionaires for Humanities and Glocalities (2021)
 - o 72% of Brazilians support 1% wealth tax on people with net wealth over \$10 million
 - o Link: https://humanact.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/HumanAct_AnnualReport_2021_Final.pdf
- Pew Research Center (2019)
 - o 72% of Brazilians, when thinking about the future, feel generally pessimistic about reducing the gap between the rich and poor (suggesting a concern over inequality)
 - o Link: <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/08/06/many-around-the-world-were-pessimistic-about-inequality-even-before-pandemic/>
- Ipsos survey (2018)
 - o 66% of Brazilians believe rich people should be taxed more to support the poor
 - o Link: <https://www.ipsos.com/en-au/globally-half-think-socialist-ideals-are-great-value>

Canada

- Abacus Data (August 2021)
 - o 82% of Canadians believe now is the time to tackle wealth and income inequality by increasing taxes on wealthy Canadians and large, profitable corporations
 - o 92% support closing tax loopholes used primarily by the wealthy to lower their overall income tax rate
 - o 89% support (50% strongly support) a wealth tax paid by the richest Canadians every year
 - o 89% support (44% strongly support) increasing the income tax rate for those who earn \$750,000 or more to 37%
 - o Link: <https://abacusdata.ca/tax-fairness-canada-poll/>
- Millionaires for Humanities and Glocalities (2021)
 - o 55% of Canadians support 1% wealth tax on people with net wealth over \$10 million
 - o Link: https://humanact.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/HumanAct_AnnualReport_2021_Final.pdf
- Pew Research Center (2019)
 - o 70% of Canadians, when thinking about the future, feel generally pessimistic about reducing the gap between the rich and poor (suggesting a concern over inequality)
 - o Link: <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/08/06/many-around-the-world-were-pessimistic-about-inequality-even-before-pandemic/>
- OECD poll (2018) - Response to "Should the government tax the rich more than they currently do in order to support the poor?"
 - o Close to 70% in Canada said "yes" or "definitely yes"
 - o Link: <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/9266e48a-en.pdf?expires=1667780927&id=id&accname=guest&checksum=423F7002F433A02E801DB6B25AF51CCE>
- Ipsos survey (2018)
 - o 80% of Canadians believe rich people should be taxed more to support the poor
 - o Link: <https://www.ipsos.com/en-au/globally-half-think-socialist-ideals-are-great-value>

China

- Ipsos survey (2018)
 - o 86% of Chinese believe rich people should be taxed more to support the poor
 - o Link: <https://www.ipsos.com/en-au/globally-half-think-socialist-ideals-are-great-value>

France

- Millionaires for Humanities and Glocalities (2021)
 - o 66% of French support 1% wealth tax on people with net wealth over \$10 million
 - o Link: https://humanact.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/HumanAct_AnnualReport_2021_Final.pdf
- Pew Research Center (2019)
 - o 86% of French, when thinking about the future, feel generally pessimistic about reducing the gap between the rich and poor (suggesting a concern over inequality)

- Link: <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/08/06/many-around-the-world-were-pessimistic-about-inequality-even-before-pandemic/>
- OECD poll (2018) – Response to “Should the government tax the rich more than they currently do in order to support the poor?”
 - Over 60% in France said “yes” or “definitely yes”
 - Link: <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/9266e48a-en.pdf?expires=1667780927&id=id&accname=guest&checksum=423F7002F433A02E801DB6B25AF51CCE>
- Ipsos survey (2018)
 - 77% of French believe rich people should be taxed more to support the poor
 - Link: <https://www.ipsos.com/en-au/globally-half-think-socialist-ideals-are-great-value>
- OECD (2017)
 - 84% of French believe that income differences in their country are too large
 - Link: <https://www.oecd.org/social/does-inequality-matter-3023ed40-en.htm>

Germany

- Bertelsmann Foundation (2021)
 - 75.3% of Germans agree that “The state should make sure that the gap between rich and poor is narrowed.”
 - 76.5% of Germans agree that “A wealth tax for the rich would be good or very good.”
 - Link: <https://www.iamexpat.de/expat-info/german-expat-news/three-quarters-germans-favour-higher-taxes-super-rich>
- Millionaires for Humanities and Glocalities (2021)
 - 66% of Germans support 1% wealth tax on people with net wealth over \$10 million
 - Link: https://humanact.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/HumanAct_AnnualReport_2021_Final.pdf
- WELT (2019)
 - 58% of Germans supported Social Democrat wealth tax proposal
 - Link: <https://www.dw.com/en/can-a-wealth-tax-bridge-germanys-divide-between-rich-and-poor/a-50185609>
- Pew Research Center (2019)
 - 79% of Germans, when thinking about the future, feel generally pessimistic about reducing the gap between the rich and poor (suggesting a concern over inequality)
 - Link: <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/08/06/many-around-the-world-were-pessimistic-about-inequality-even-before-pandemic/>
- OECD poll (2018) – Response to “Should the government tax the rich more than they currently do in order to support the poor?”
 - Close to 80% in Germany said “yes” or “definitely yes”
 - Link: <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/9266e48a-en.pdf?expires=1667780927&id=id&accname=guest&checksum=423F7002F433A02E801DB6B25AF51CCE>
- Ipsos survey (2018)
 - 81% of Germans believe rich people should be taxed more to support the poor
 - Link: <https://www.ipsos.com/en-au/globally-half-think-socialist-ideals-are-great-value>

- OECD (2017)
 - o 82% of Germans believe that income differences in their country are too large
 - o Link: <https://www.oecd.org/social/does-inequality-matter-3023ed40-en.htm>

India

- Fight Inequality Alliance India (2022)
 - o More than 80% of Indians support a “covid surcharge” on those earning more than \$266,000 per year
 - o Link: <https://qz.com/white-women-were-up-in-arms-when-roe-v-wade-was-overtu-1849762162>
- Millionaires for Humanities and Glocalities (2021)
 - o 72% of Indians support 1% wealth tax on people with net wealth over \$10 million
 - o Link: https://humanact.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/HumanAct_AnnualReport_2021_Final.pdf
- Ipsos survey (2018)
 - o 85% of Indians believe rich people should be taxed more to support the poor
 - o Link: <https://www.ipsos.com/en-au/globally-half-think-socialist-ideals-are-great-value>

Indonesia

- Millionaires for Humanities and Glocalities (2021)
 - o 79% of Indonesians support 1% wealth tax on people with net wealth over \$10 million
 - o Link: https://humanact.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/HumanAct_AnnualReport_2021_Final.pdf

Italy

- Millionaires for Humanities and Glocalities (2021)
 - o 66% of Italians support 1% wealth tax on people with net wealth over \$10 million
 - o Link: https://humanact.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/HumanAct_AnnualReport_2021_Final.pdf
- Pew Research Center (2019)
 - o 65% of Italians, when thinking about the future, feel generally pessimistic about reducing the gap between the rich and poor (suggesting a concern over inequality)
 - o Link: <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/08/06/many-around-the-world-were-pessimistic-about-inequality-even-before-pandemic/>
- OECD poll (2018) – Response to “Should the government tax the rich more than they currently do in order to support the poor?”
 - o Over 70% in Italy said “yes” or “definitely yes”
 - o Link: <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/9266e48a-en.pdf?expires=1667780927&id=id&accname=guest&checksum=423F7002F433A02E801DB6B25AF51CCE>
- Ipsos survey (2018)
 - o 82% of Italians believe rich people should be taxed more to support the poor
 - o Link: <https://www.ipsos.com/en-au/globally-half-think-socialist-ideals-are-great-value>
- OECD (2017)

- 89% of Italians believe that income differences in their country are too large
- Link: <https://www.oecd.org/social/does-inequality-matter-3023ed40-en.htm>

Japan

- Pew Research Center (2019)
 - 70% of Japanese, when thinking about the future, feel generally pessimistic about reducing the gap between the rich and poor (suggesting a concern over inequality)
 - Link: <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/08/06/many-around-the-world-were-pessimistic-about-inequality-even-before-pandemic/>
- Ipsos survey (2018)
 - 70% of Japanese believe rich people should be taxed more to support the poor
 - Link: <https://www.ipsos.com/en-au/globally-half-think-socialist-ideals-are-great-value>
- OECD (2017)
 - 72% of Japanese believe that income differences in their country are too large
 - Link: <https://www.oecd.org/social/does-inequality-matter-3023ed40-en.htm>

Mexico

- Millionaires for Humanities and Glocalities (2021)
 - 51% of Mexicans support 1% wealth tax on people with net wealth over \$10 million
 - Link: https://humanact.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/HumanAct_AnnualReport_2021_Final.pdf
- Ipsos survey (2018)
 - 94% of Mexicans believe rich people should be taxed more to support the poor
 - Link: <https://www.ipsos.com/en-au/globally-half-think-socialist-ideals-are-great-value>
- OECD poll (2018) – Response to “Should the government tax the rich more than they currently do in order to support the poor?”
 - Nearly 70% in Mexico said “yes” or “definitely yes”
 - Link: <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/9266e48a-en.pdf?expires=1667780927&id=id&accname=guest&checksum=423F7002F433A02E801DB6B25AF51CCE>
- OECD (2017)
 - 72% of Mexicans believe that income differences in their country are too large
 - Link: <https://www.oecd.org/social/does-inequality-matter-3023ed40-en.htm>

Russia

- National Public Opinion Research Center (2020)
 - 63% of Russians support increasing the tax on accumulated profits
 - Link: <https://investforesight.com/russians-support-increasing-wealth-tax-poll/>
- Pew Research Center (2019)
 - 67% of Russians, when thinking about the future, feel generally pessimistic about reducing the gap between the rich and poor (suggesting a concern over inequality)
 - Link: <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/08/06/many-around-the-world-were-pessimistic-about-inequality-even-before-pandemic/>
- Ipsos survey (2018)

- 98% of Russians believe rich people should be taxed more to support the poor
- Link: <https://www.ipsos.com/en-au/globally-half-think-socialist-ideals-are-great-value>

Saudi Arabia

- Ipsos survey (2018)
 - 90% of Saudi Arabians believe rich people should be taxed more to support the poor
 - Link: <https://www.ipsos.com/en-au/globally-half-think-socialist-ideals-are-great-value>

South Africa

- Millionaires for Humanities and Glocalities (2021)
 - 60% of South Africans support 1% wealth tax on people with net wealth over \$10 million
 - Link: https://humanact.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/HumanAct_AnnualReport_2021_Final.pdf
- Pew Research Center (2019)
 - 56% of South Africans, when thinking about the future, feel generally pessimistic about reducing the gap between the rich and poor (suggesting a concern over inequality)
 - Link: <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/08/06/many-around-the-world-were-pessimistic-about-inequality-even-before-pandemic/>
- Ipsos survey (2018)
 - 77% of South Africans believe rich people should be taxed more to support the poor
 - Link: <https://www.ipsos.com/en-au/globally-half-think-socialist-ideals-are-great-value>

South Korea

- Economic Reform Research Institute (2019)
 - 48.9% of South Koreans think the wealthy are at an advantage in regards to tax policy
 - Link: https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/biz/2022/08/488_261653.html?utm_source=WA
- Pew Research Center (2019)
 - 72% of South Koreans, when thinking about the future, feel generally pessimistic about reducing the gap between the rich and poor (suggesting a concern over inequality)
 - Link: <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/08/06/many-around-the-world-were-pessimistic-about-inequality-even-before-pandemic/>
- Ipsos survey (2018)
 - 81% of South Koreans believe rich people should be taxed more to support the poor
 - Link: <https://www.ipsos.com/en-au/globally-half-think-socialist-ideals-are-great-value>

Turkey

- Pew Research Center (2019)
 - 61% of Turkish, when thinking about the future, feel generally pessimistic about reducing the gap between the rich and poor (suggesting a concern over inequality)
 - Link: <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/08/06/many-around-the-world-were-pessimistic-about-inequality-even-before-pandemic/>
- Ipsos survey (2018)

- 94% of Turkish believe rich people should be taxed more to support the poor
- Link: <https://www.ipsos.com/en-au/globally-half-think-socialist-ideals-are-great-value>
- OECD (2017)
 - 86% of Turkish believe that income differences in their country are too large
 - Link: <https://www.oecd.org/social/does-inequality-matter-3023ed40-en.htm>

The United Kingdom

- Patriotic Millionaires UK (2022)
 - 70% of British believe that very wealthy individuals should be taxed more to help pay for public services and the cost of living crisis
 - Link: https://static1.squarespace.com/static/621f82f3eac1ec38c4568743/t/6328836f94210c5910cfd601/1663599471244/Summary+Patriotic+Millionaires_wealth+%26+taxes+09_2022.pdf
- YouGov (2022)
 - 63% believe that the rich are not paying enough in tax and should have their taxes increased
 - Link: <https://yougov.co.uk/topics/politics/trackers/are-taxes-on-the-rich-too-high-or-low-in-britain>
- Millionaires for Humanities and Glocalities (2021)
 - 66% of British support 1% wealth tax on people with net wealth over \$10 million
 - Link: https://humanact.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/HumanAct_AnnualReport_2021_Final.pdf
- Tax Justice UK (2020)
 - 74% of British wanted to see the wealthy paying more tax
 - 63% wanted to increase taxes on wealth
 - Link: https://www.taxjustice.uk/uploads/1/0/0/3/100363766/talking_tax_-_how_to_win_support_for_taxing_wealth.pdf
- Wealth Tax Commission (2020)
 - 75% of British prefer a wealth tax as a tax increase if taxes were to be raised
 - Link: https://www.wealthandpolicy.com/wp/EP2_PublicAttitudes.pdf
- Pew Research Center (2019)
 - 76% of British, when thinking about the future, feel generally pessimistic about reducing the gap between the rich and poor (suggesting a concern over inequality)
 - Link: <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/08/06/many-around-the-world-were-pessimistic-about-inequality-even-before-pandemic/>
- Ipsos survey (2018)
 - 75% of British believe rich people should be taxed more to support the poor
 - Link: <https://www.ipsos.com/en-au/globally-half-think-socialist-ideals-are-great-value>
- OECD (2017)
 - 76% of British believe that income differences in their country are too large
 - Link: <https://www.oecd.org/social/does-inequality-matter-3023ed40-en.htm>

The United States

- Americans for Tax Fairness polling compilation (2022) https://docs.google.com/document/d/1TqGlut1x0FDagAjjCFArLw_Y5xmd2w5CNmnyq-yJTtk/edit
- POLITICO/Morning Consult poll (2021)
 - o 74% of Americans agreed with statement “The wealthiest Americans should pay higher taxes.”
 - o Link: <https://www.politico.com/f/?id=0000017c-0b90-d9ff-a9fc-3ffc91640000>
- Pew Research Center (2021)
 - o 59% of Americans are bothered that some wealthy people don’t pay their fair share
 - o Link: <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2021/04/30/top-tax-frustrations-for-americans-the-feeling-that-some-corporations-wealthy-people-dont-pay-fair-share/>
- Reuters/Ipsos poll (2020)
 - o 64% of Americans support wealth tax
 - o Link: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-election-inequality-poll/majority-of-americans-favor-wealth-tax-on-very-rich-reuters-ipsos-poll-idUSKBN1Z9141>
- Pew Research Center (2019)
 - o 61% of Americans, when thinking about the future, feel generally pessimistic about reducing the gap between the rich and poor (suggesting a concern over inequality)
 - o Link: <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2020/08/06/many-around-the-world-were-pessimistic-about-inequality-even-before-pandemic/>
- OECD poll (2018) – Response to “Should the government tax the rich more than they currently do in order to support the poor?”
 - o Over 60% in US said “yes” or “definitely yes”
 - o Link: <https://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/docserver/9266e48a-en.pdf?expires=1667780927&id=id&accname=guest&checksum=423F7002F433A02E801DB6B25AF51CCE>
- Ipsos survey (2018)
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 - o Link: <https://www.ipsos.com/en-au/globally-half-think-socialist-ideals-are-great-value>
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