

Global Attitudes
Towards Immigration
EOY 2015



MENA & SOUTHWEST ASIA



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WIN/Gallup International's Global Poll Shows the World is divided on Immigration

WIN/Gallup International, the world's leading association in market research and polling, has published its 39th Annual Survey exploring the outlook, expectations, views and beliefs of 68595 people from 69 countries across the globe. The poll shows that of the 69 countries, popular opinion in 42 countries is opposed to immigration, while it is favourable in 27 countries.

Globalization and the possibilities of travel and relocation divide the world into three groups of countries: the Poor countries where the majority supports immigration, the Middle and Upper Income countries where the majority is in opposition to immigration and the Rich whose majorities are divided between supporting and opposing nations. Among the 18 Poor countries, where the average per capita annual income is less than 10,000 USD, the majority is opposed in only 3 of them. Among the Middle and Upper Income countries, that have an average annual per capita income of between 10,000 USD and 35,000 USD, the views held by the majorities are exactly the opposite: only 3 are in favour while 31 are opposed. Interestingly in the Rich countries with incomes above 35,000 USD, the majorities are divided: In 8 of the 17 countries polled, 9 were in favour of and 8 were opposed to immigration.

RICH COUNTRIES	
Annual per capita income > 35,000 USD	
COUNTRY NAME	NET SUPPORT
Iceland	+39%
Saudi Arabia	+39%
Finland	+35%
Sweden	+27%
Canada	+11%
Japan	+7%
Ireland	+7%
Germany	+5%
United States	+5%
Denmark	-11%
Austria	-12%
United Kingdom	-21%
Australia	-22%
Hong Kong	-23%
Netherlands	-28%
France	-37%
Belgium	-49%

MIDDLE INCOME COUNTRIES	
Annual per capita income between 10,000 USD and 35,000 USD	
COUNTRY NAME	NET SUPPORT
China	+74%
Mexico	+10%
Peru	+8%
Argentina	-3%
Spain	-5%
Portugal	-10%
Brazil	-11%
Panama	-11%
Korea, Rep (South)	-15%
Russian Federation	-17%
South Africa	-24%
Indonesia	-25%
Romania	-26%
Latvia	-33%
Azerbaijan	-33%

Colombia	-34%
Turkey	-35%
Poland	-38%
Czech Republic	-39%
Serbia	-40%
Tunisia	-41%
Italy	-44%
Greece	-45%
Macedonia	-46%
Lebanon	-50%
Bulgaria	-51%
Algeria	-51%
Bosnia and Herzegovina	-53%
Ecuador	-53%
Slovenia	-55%
Mongolia	-58%
Iran	-59%
Iraq	-62%
Thailand	-65%

POOR COUNTRIES	
Annual per capita income < 10,000 USD	
COUNTRY NAME	NET SUPPORT
Pakistan	+65%
Ethiopia	+55%
Vietnam	+47%
Congo	+46%
Ghana	+45%
Nigeria	+44%
Bangladesh	+40%
Fiji	+38%
India	+28%
Philippines	+24%
Ukraine	+22%
Afghanistan	+19%
Morocco	+13%
Papua New Guinea	+13%
Armenia	+10%
Palestinian territories (West Bank and Gaza)	-20%
Georgia	-21%
Kosovo	-42%

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS FROM GLOBAL FINDINGS

There are important differences in attitudes towards immigration across age and income groups. The Young, under Age 35 are globally more favourable than the older population towards immigration, the net support among them is +30%, compared to over Age 55, among whom the net support drops to +15%. Among the Bottom Income quintile, the net support globally is only +2%, but among the top quintile it is +53%. Thus globally as well as within regions, the Poor are more opposed to immigration than the Rich in the same societies.

REGIONAL OBSERVATIONS (MENA & SOUTHWEST ASIA)

On the whole attitudes towards immigration are favourable in these Regions, scoring a net favourable result of +22% (58% favourable and 37% unfavourable). However there is wide variation within these Regions. Attitudes in both MENA and West Asia are unfavourable, -18% in MENA and -40 % in West Asia. The net attitude is only favourable in South Asia, scoring +33%.

Furthermore, it comes as a surprise that Saudi Arabia which is a labour importing country is strongly favourable on immigration (net favourable rating of +39%). On the contrary, several countries which export labor are net unfavourable, such as Algeria (-51%), Iraq (-62%), Tunisia (-41%), Lebanon (-50%) and Palestine (-20%). The only exception among labor exporting countries is Morocco where attitudes are net favorable (+13%).

It is not surprising that attitudes in Turkey, which is currently faced with over 2 million refugee influx from Syria, are net unfavorable (-35%).

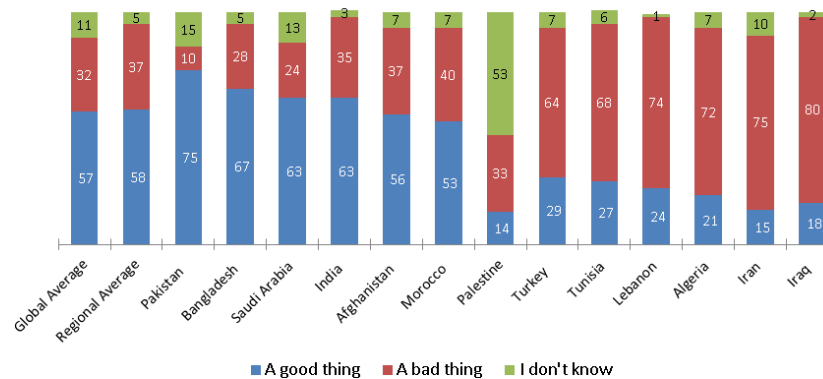
In all of three large South Asian nations, attitudes on Immigration are favorable: India (+28%), Pakistan (+65%), Bangladesh (+40%). All three are labor exporting nations.

REGIONAL INTERPRETATIONS (MENA & SOUTHWEST ASIA)

“FIRE INFLAMES WHERE IT TOUCHES”

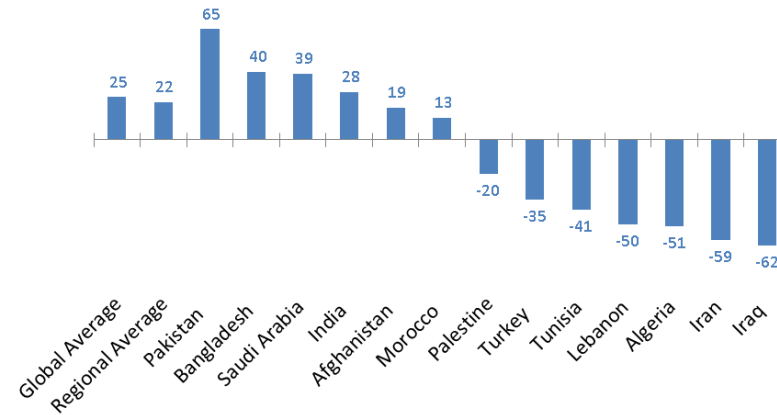
MENA and West and South Asia region has almost one third of the world population and is dominated by Hindus and Muslims. In wider region, average net support for immigration (22%) is slightly lower than the global average (25%). There is wide variation within sub regions. Attitudes in both MENA (-18%) and West Asia (-40 %) are opposing while South Asia (+33%) is favourable. Similar to the global results; countries in the region is divided on immigration. Popular opinion in six countries is favourable to immigration while in other seven is opposed.

MENA and South West Asia Region
Opinions for Immiration



Question: Generally speaking do you think the immigration of foreign workers is a good thing or a bad thing for your country?

MENA and South West Asia Region Net Support for Immigration



The net support is equal to the % of people that believe it is a good thing minus the % of people that believe it is a bad thing.

A Turkish idiom explains the general situation best: “Fire inflames where it touches”. In general when economy in a country benefits from immigration, net support to immigration is positive, otherwise negative. This pragmatic inference is proven for different countries for different reasons.

Saudi Arabia is the richest country in the wider region and more than 9 million foreign workers in all levels is the pillar of Saudi economy. So it is not a surprise seeing more Saudi people believe immigration is a good thing (63%) than believing it is a bad thing (24%).

It is not the case for South Asian immigration supporters; namely **Pakistan** (net support + 65%), **Bangladesh** (+ 40%) and **India** (+28%). In these countries people, who can't find good work opportunities, leave their countries to work and send back money to their relatives. This is why it is regarded as a good thing in those countries.

Although **Iraq** also exports quite a number of people, Iraqi's in general perceive immigration negatively (minimum support, net - 62%). The immigration phenomenon in Iraq has started after 2003 invasion. Around 4 million Iraqi's (more than 13% of the total population) left their country. Most of those who immigrated are young educated Iraqi's. The reasons behind their immigration were mainly security and safety reasons, not economical motivations. This negatively affected not only the demographic structure of Iraq but the social, political and economic life as well.

Lebanon is a country dealing with both inward and outward immigration. The population living inside Lebanon is estimated to be more than 4 million, whereas people from Lebanese origin living abroad or what is called the Lebanese diaspora are estimated to be around 12 million. Despite that those have the automatic right to return to the country, the number is dramatically increasing year after year due to the current political and economic reasons. Also last but not the least the security issues. Normally, this is not in favour of the immigration idea among most of the Lebanese. Beside Lebanon is hosting since 2011, 1.5 million Syrian refugees which make 35% of its population. Those refugees are costing the national economy 6 Billion USD since the beginning in 2011 which is another factor of not being in favour of immigration. This justifies the figure of 74% not being in favour of immigration. As for the 24% who perceive immigration as a good thing, I strongly believe that this is due to the considerable amounts of remittances being transferred to the country from Lebanese expats to their families in Lebanon, as this is estimated to be 7.5 billion USD per year. It is one of the highest figures in the MENA region and equivalent to 18.1 per cent of the country's GDP, earning it the ninth-highest ratio in the world.

In North African neighbouring countries facing sub-Saharan migrants issue, people have different opinions on Immigration; Morocco (net support + 13%), Tunisia (-41%) and Algeria (-51%). **Morocco** is one of the favourable countries, whose economy needs to open abroad, due to tourism sector which counts 18 % of the whole economy, GDP. On the other hand **Algeria** is a country which focuses more on domestic policy with very low tourism sector. Indeed, results for Algeria show the current tension in the Algerian society which develops a fear for foreigners. This is compounded by current poor economic conditions associated with the decline in hydrocarbons prices. Those results strengthen the nationalism which by definition is very present in the mentality of the country. Moreover, immigrant labour is derived mostly from sub-Saharan Africa, causing some image of cheaper workers came to take the place of natives.

TURKEY

Turkey, as the largest refugee host country in the world, is opposed influx immigration. With -35% Net score, it is in the 49th rank among 69 countries. Turkey houses some 2.6 million Syrian refugees, out of the more than 4.7 million Syrians who have fled their country's civil war. The country has spent \$8.5 billion. Syrian refugees are cheap workforce for SMEs, element to demonstrate being great to the region and the world and to benefit in the negotiations with EU for the Government, brothers and sisters for some, coreligionist for some and terrorists for other people in Turkey.

In Turkey, positive perception (29 %) toward immigration is much lower than the negative one (64 %). Net support is -35 percent. When comparing to 2005 results, Turkish people are closer to immigration. Then positive perception was 7 % while negative 87 %. Net support was -79 % ten years ago.

According to 2015 Global results, demographic distribution young and also rich people are more favourable. It is the same for Turkey for youth. While Net support among younger people than 35 years old is 39 %, it decreases to 19% among 35-65 years old. However high income group (net support - 51 %), high socio

economic status group (net support - 53 %) and higher educated groups (net support - 55 %) have the lowest net rates in Turkey.

Table 1:

Results in alphabetical order

Question: Generally speaking do you think the immigration of foreign workers is a good thing or a bad thing for [insert your country]?

Percent of Respondents

	All					Net Support
	Unweighted Count	Col%	A good thing	A bad thing	I don't know / I prefer not to answer	4=2-1
			1	2	3	
Global average	68896	100.00	56%	32%	12%	25%
Afghanistan	2080	.31	56%	37%	7%	19%
Algeria	400	.53	21%	72%	7%	-51%
Bangladesh	981	2.10	67%	28%	5%	40%
India	1107	19.61	63%	35%	3%	28%
Iran	667	1.38	15%	75%	10%	-59%
Iraq	996	.36	18%	80%	2%	-62%
Lebanon	1000	.07	24%	74%	1%	-50%
Morocco	1000	.47	53%	40%	7%	13%
Pakistan	1000	2.51	75%	10%	15%	65%
Palestinian territories (West Bank and Gaza)	1014	.06	14%	33%	53%	-20%
Saudi Arabia	591	.41	63%	24%	13%	39%
Tunisia	994	.11	27%	68%	6%	-41%
Turkey	1027	1.38	29%	64%	7%	-35%

Weighted according to Adult Population 18+
 SOURCE :WIN Gallup International Annual Global Poll/ EOY, December 2015

*figures rounded off to the nearest whole number
 *COMPARATIVE PICTURE: global sample

Table 2:

Net Indicator in Rank Order

Question: Generally speaking do you think the immigration of foreign workers is a good thing or a bad thing for [insert your country]?

Percent of Respondents

		Net Support
Global average		25%
	Pakistan	65%
	Bangladesh	40%
	Saudi Arabia	39%
	India	28%
	Afghanistan	19%
	Morocco	13%
	Palestinian territories (West Bank and Gaza)	-20%
	Turkey	-35%
	Tunisia	-41%
	Lebanon	-50%
	Algeria	-51%
	Iran	-59%
	Iraq	-62%
Weighted according to Adult Population 18+ SOURCE :WIN Gallup International Annual Global Poll/ EOY, December 2015 *figures rounded off to the nearest whole number		

*COMPARATIVE PICTURE; global sample

Table 3:

Regional Results (MENA & South West Asia)

Question: Generally speaking do you think the immigration of foreign workers is a good thing or a bad thing for [insert your country]?

	Unweighted Count	Col%	A good thing	A bad thing	I don't know / I prefer not to answer	NET SUPPORT
			1	2	3	4=2-1
ALL MENA & WEST ASIA	13158	100.00	58%	37%	5%	22%
MENA Sub-Region	5995	6.84	36%	55%	9%	-18%
West Asia Sub-Region	4075	10.87	26%	66%	8%	-40%
South Asia Sub-Region	3088	82.29	64%	32%	4%	33%
MENA Sub-Region	5995	6.84	36%	55%	9%	-18%
Algeria	400	1.82	21%	72%	7%	-51%
Iraq	996	1.22	18%	80%	2%	-62%
Morocco	1000	1.58	53%	40%	7%	13%
Saudi Arabia	591	1.40	63%	24%	13%	39%
Tunisia	994	.38	27%	68%	6%	-41%
Lebanon	1000	.23	24%	74%	1%	-50%
Palestinian territories (West Bank and Gaza)	1014	.21	14%	33%	53%	-20%
West AsiaSub-Region	4075	10.87	26%	66%	8%	-40%
Iran	667	4.68	15%	75%	10%	-59%
Turkey	1027	4.68	29%	64%	7%	-35%
Afghanistan	2080	1.05	56%	37%	7%	19%
South Asia Sub-Region	3088	82.29	64%	32%	4%	33%
India	1107	66.63	63%	35%	3%	28%
Pakistan	1000	8.52	75%	10%	15%	65%
Bangladesh	981	7.14	67%	28%	5%	40%

Weighted according to Adult Population 18+
SOURCE :WIN Gallup International Annual Global Poll/ EOY, December 2015

*figures rounded off to the nearest whole number
 *COMPARATIVE PICTURE; global sample

Table 4:

Demographics-wise Results (MENA & South West Asia)

Question: Generally speaking do you think the immigration of foreign workers is a good thing or a bad thing for [insert your country]?

		Unweighted Count	Col%	A good thing	A bad thing	I don't know / I prefer not to answer	NET SUPPORT 4=2-1
				1	2	3	
Gender		13158	100.00	58%	37%	5%	22%
D1. Gender	Male	6861	51.44	57%	39%	5%	18%
	Female	6297	48.56	60%	34%	5%	26%
Age		13158	100.00	58%	37%	5%	22%
D2A. Age.	Under 34	7238	59.50	60%	35%	5%	26%
	35 - 54	4858	29.09	57%	37%	6%	20%
	55+	1062	11.41	51%	45%	4%	6%
Monthly Household Income		13158	100.00	58%	37%	5%	22%
D3. Income	Low	5157	44.00	55%	41%	4%	15%

	Medium	3089	20.87	57%	37%	6%	20%
	High	3467	17.52	61%	34%	6%	27%
	DK/NR	1445	17.60	65%	29%	5%	36%
Education		13158	100.00	58%	37%	5%	22%
D4. Education: Highest attained	Low	3932	48.90	60%	35%	5%	26%
	Medium	4670	20.46	60%	33%	7%	26%
	High	4440	29.12	54%	43%	3%	11%
	DK/NR	116	1.52	60%	26%	14%	34%
Religion		13158	100.00	58%	37%	5%	22%
D6. Do you consider yourself:	All christian	456	.23	33%	43%	24%	-10%
	Muslims	11071	31.92	50%	41%	9%	10%
	Others religion	94	.51	49%	44%	7%	5%
	No religion	64	.19	11%	84%	5%	-73%
	DK/NR	1473	67.15	63%	35%	3%	28%

Weighted according to Adult Population 18+
SOURCE :WIN Gallup International Annual Global Poll/ EOY, December 2015

*figures rounded off to the nearest whole number

*COMPARATIVE PICTURE; global sample

Table 5:

National Income-Wise Results

Question: Generally speaking do you think the immigration of foreign workers is a good thing or a bad thing for [insert your country]?

Percent of Respondents

	GNI per capita, PPP (current international \$)	Net Support
Saudi Arabia	51,320	39%
Turkey	19,020	-35%
Lebanon	17,190	-50%
Iran	16,140	-59%
Iraq	14,440	-62%
Algeria	13,880	-51%
Tunisia	10,600	-41%
Morocco	7,100	13%
India	5,640	28%
Pakistan	5,110	65%
Palestinian territories (West Bank and Gaza)	5,080	-20%
Bangladesh	3,330	40%
Afghanistan	1,960	19%

Weighted according to Adult Population 18+
SOURCE :WIN Gallup International Annual Global Poll/ EOY, December 2015

*figures rounded off to the nearest whole number
 *COMPARATIVE PICTURE; global sample

METHODOLOGY & CONTACT SHEET (MENA & SOUTHWEST ASIA)

	Country	Company name	Method	Sample	Coverage	Population	Pop. represented by sample	Field Dates	Weighting factors
1	AFGHANISTAN	ACSOR-Surveys	F2F	2000	National	27 000 000	12 100 000	November 4- 15, 2015	Yes
2	ALGERIA	IMMAR MAGHREB	CATI	400	National	38 100 000	29 180 000	November 1-11, 2015	Yes
3	BANGLADESH	SRGB (SRG Bangladesh Limited)	CATI	1000	National	144 043 698	82 100 000	October-November, 2015	Yes
4	INDIA	DataPrompt International	Online	1000	National	1 210 193 422	854 396 556	October 23- November 7, 2015	No
	INDIA	CVoter/Friendly Company	CATI	1133	National	1 210 193 422	854 396 556	November 24 – November 30, 2015	Yes
5	IRAN	EMRC	CATI	600	Urban	75 000 000	53 600 000	October 20-31, 2015	Yes
6	IRAQ	IIACSS	CAPI	1000	Urban	30 000 000	14 045 617	October 12- November 7, 2015	Yes
7	LEBANON	REACH	CATI	1000	National	4 140 289	2 687 156	October 13-27, 2015	No
8	MOROCCO	BJ Group	CAPI	1000	National	34 000 000	18 200 000	October 12- November 5, 2015	No
9	PAKISTAN	Gallup Pakistan	F2F	1000	National	191 000 000	98 000 000	October 17- November 2, 2015	Yes

10	PALESTINIAN TERR.	Palestinian Center for Public Opinion (PCPO)	F2F	1014	National- West Bank, including East Jerusalem , and Gaza Strip	4 293 309	2 467 964	October 22- November 15, 2015	No
11	SAUDI ARABIA	PARC (Pan Arab Research Center)	CATI	608	Urban	29 000 000	17 500 000	November 10- 25, 2015	No
12	TUNISIA	bjka Consulting	F2F	1000	National	10 980 000	4 392 000	November 1-15, 2015	No
13	TURKEY	Barem	CATI	1000	National	76 481 847	53 827 088	October 16- November 10, 2015	Yes

NOTES:

1. Considering the special circumstances and the size of the Indian population, support for the field work was provided by our Member Data Prompt International and our friendly company C team Voter;
2. **Weighting and Coverage:** Weighting to compute Global and Regional averages was done on the basis of adult national population, age 18+ of every country in the sample for standardization across all sampled countries. Details on computations of averages can be made available upon request. The age groups covered in the sample are age 18 and above. In some cases respondents above the age of 65 were not interviewed, the details can be made available. Any interviews below the age of 18 were removed from the sample.

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