

2004 JA Worldwide Poll on Global Business

Notes on Methodology

Junior Achievement (JA Worldwide, as of July 1, 2004) contacted 13 countries that are part of the international JA network, requesting participation in this first JA Worldwide Poll. International network staff members were asked to distribute the survey to 200 students age 12-19 in their country. Offices were instructed that participating students did not have to currently be involved in JA programs. Offices in the respective countries selected the schools and administered the questionnaires in partnership with school leaders and teachers.

The questionnaires were translated to the appropriate languages and mailed to respective area offices. In some cases, international offices requested the English-version copy of the survey so that translations could be refined.

Ten countries returned surveys. Due to mailing problems, surveys from Russia were received too late to be included in these survey results. Brazil's surveys also arrived too late to be included. Because of some confusion in translation, responses from Chinese students were not available for questions 13 and 14.

The selection process for students participating in this survey was not random, so no "sampling error" or "margin of error" of the results can be calculated. Demographic results by country reflect the bias resulting from the selection process. For example, nearly 100% of responses from Spain were from students age 12-13. Nearly 60% of the 1,799 total survey responses were from female teens.

Disproportionate responses from students of a particular age or gender will influence results from a particular country. When comparing results among participating countries, it is important to note that differences can be explained partially by the demographic characteristics of a country's respondents.

RESULTS

A. Age of Participants

Country	12-13	14-15	16-17	18-19
Canada	30%	18%	35%	16%
China	3	26	59	12
Hungary	10	4	63	23
Poland	---	12	54	34
Romania	---	9	64	28
South Africa	---	4	70	26
Spain	98	2	---	---
Turkey	1	66	33	---
United States	22	49	26	2
TOTAL	22%	19%	43%	15%

Due to rounding, percentages may not add to 100%.

B. Gender of Participants

Country	Male	Female
Canada	38%	62%
China	43	57
Hungary	26	74
Poland	37	63
Romania	38	62
South Africa	36	64
Spain	49	51
Turkey	54	46
United States	44	56
TOTAL	41%	59%

Due to rounding, percentages may not add to 100%.

C. Participating Countries

Country	Responses	Percent
Canada	106	6%
China	220	12
Hungary	216	12
Poland	220	12
Romania	200	11
South Africa	165	9
Spain	331	18
Turkey	202	11
United States	139	8
Total	1,799	100.0%

Due to rounding, percentages may not add to 100%.

Most nations allow people to work in their country who are not citizens. Many nations are exporting work to other countries that was previously performed by their own citizens. The reason for exporting work abroad is that these jobs can be done for less money.

Do you think that using labor from other countries to perform work in your own country:

	TOTAL	Canada	China	Hungary	Poland
Is good because it makes products less expensive for consumers and allows domestic labor to take higher paid jobs	32%	32%	63%	15%	20%
Is not good because it results in temporary and perhaps permanent unemployment for some of the country's labor force.	51	35	26	65	70
I don't know	17	32	11	19	10

	Romania	South Africa	Spain	Turkey	United States
Is good because it makes products less expensive for consumers and allows domestic labor to take higher paid jobs	27%	27%	44%	15%	33%
Is not good because it results in temporary and perhaps permanent unemployment for some of the country's labor force.	61	62	34	76	29
I don't know	13	11	22	8	38

Due to rounding, percentages may not add to 100%.

Do you think that your country's taxes are too high?

Country	Yes	No
Canada	89%	11%
China	48	52
Hungary	98	2
Poland	93	7
Romania	95	5
South Africa	69	31
Spain	71	29
Turkey	84	16
United States	72	28
TOTAL	79%	21%

Due to rounding, percentages may not add to 100%.

What do you think is the greatest threat to your nation's economy? (Two selections allowed)

Students were allowed to select two response options for this question. Percentages shown in this table are based on total responses for all eight "threats" not on total students responding.

Percentages Based on Total Number of Responses

	TOTAL	Canada	China	Hungary	Poland
Unemployment	30%	20%	25%	40%	42%
Poverty	18	19	27	17	7
Lack of education	11	8	23	2	1
Terrorism	11	13	4	5	1
Trade barriers	3	5	7	2	1
Political instability	12	11	6	14	35
National and personal debt	6	14	2	8	10
Inflation	9	10	6	12	3

	Romania	South Africa	Spain	Turkey	United States
Unemployment	25%	46%	24%	19%	26%
Poverty	28	22	17	3	10
Lack of education	10	15	5	40	9
Terrorism	2	4	32	2	28
Trade barriers	4	1	4	3	1
Political instability	12	4	6	16	6
National and personal debt	2	1	3	12	14
Inflation	16	7	9	5	6

Percentages are based on total responses

Which of the following languages is most important for you to speak and write fluently in order to be successful in a GLOBAL economy?

	TOTAL	Canada	China	Hungary	Poland
Chinese	2%	1%	6%	1%	1%
English	88	91	80	95	90
French	2	5	5	1	4
German	1	---	3	2	2
Japanese	1	---	2	---	1
Russian	1	1	---	---	2
Spanish	4	2	1	---	1
Other	1	---	2	1	---

	Romania	South Africa	Spain	Turkey	United States
Chinese	1%	1%	1%	7%	2%
English	97	99	85	84	73
French	---	---	2	1	---
German	2	---	1	1	2
Japanese	---	---	1	3	3
Russian	---	---	---	1	---
Spanish	1	1	11	1	17
Other	---	---	---	3	4

Due to rounding, percentages may not add to 100%.

Do you believe someday you will do more business with ...

Country	People in your own city or area	People in your country	People in other countries and/or overseas
Canada	25%	31%	44%
China	13	23	64
Hungary	24	47	29
Poland	10	42	47
Romania	8	36	56
South Africa	6	29	65
Spain	18	49	33
Turkey	11	57	32
United States	33	42	25
TOTAL	16%	41%	43%

Which of the following is MOST important to your economy's future success? (Two selections allowed)

Students were allowed to select two response options for this question. Percentages shown in this table are based on total responses for all eight factors, not on total students responding.

Percentages Based on Total Number of Responses

	TOTAL	Canada	China	Hungary	Poland
Properly trained workforce	18%	20%	20%	16%	14%
Investment to create steady growth of jobs	21	22	20	25	25
A stable currency	11	8	5	20	3
Government policy that encourages people to start their own business	11	4	10	4	18
Trade with other countries	13	15	21	9	8
Tax structure that encourages economic growth	12	12	12	13	11
Political stability	14	19	14	13	21

Percentages Based on Total Number of Responses

	Romania	South Africa	Spain	Turkey	United States
Properly trained workforce	18%	18%	14%	33%	17%
Investment to create steady growth of jobs	27	24	22	6	17
A stable currency	13	13	14	5	10
Government policy that encourages people to start their own business	8	16	11	17	10
Trade with other countries	10	10	18	9	16
Tax structure that encourages economic growth	17	14	7	10	16
Political stability	7	5	14	20	14

Due to rounding, percentages may not add to 100%.

APPENDIX

What do you think is the greatest threat to your nation's economy? (Two selections allowed)

This question allowed students to provide two responses. The percentages in this table are derived by dividing total responses for each "threat" by the number of students responding. In the "results" section, percentages were derived by dividing total responses for a "threat" by all responses provided.

Percentages Based on Number of Respondents

	TOTAL	Canada	China	Hungary	Poland
Unemployment	56%	38%	46%	79%	82%
Poverty	32	36	51	34	14
Lack of education	19	15	42	4	3
Terrorism	21	25	8	9	1
Trade barriers	6	10	13	5	2
Political instability	22	20	11	27	68
National and personal debt	11	26	3	15	20
Inflation	16	19	11	24	6

	Romania	South Africa	Spain	Turkey	United States
Unemployment	50%	86%	46%	21%	46%
Poverty	56	41	35	4	17
Lack of education	20	28	10	44	15
Terrorism	4	8	64	2	49
Trade barriers	8	1	7	3	2
Political instability	24	7	12	18	10
National and personal debt	4	3	6	13	24
Inflation	32	13	18	6	11

Which of the following is MOST important to your economy’s future success? (Two selections allowed)

This question allowed students to provide two responses. The percentages in this table are derived by dividing total responses for each factor by the number of students responding. In the “results” section, percentages were derived by dividing total responses for a factor by all responses provided.

Percentages Based on Number of Respondents

	TOTAL	Canada	China	Hungary	Poland
Properly trained workforce	34%	36%	36%	31%	28%
Investment to create steady growth of jobs	40	40	36	48	47
A stable currency	20	15	10	39	6
Government policy that encourages people to start their own business	21	9	18	9	35
Trade with other countries	25	28	38	18	16
Tax structure that encourages economic growth	22	22	21	26	20
Political stability	26	36	26	26	40

Percentages Based on Number of Respondents

	Romania	South Africa	Spain	Turkey	United States
Properly trained workforce	36%	34%	27%	56%	29%
Investment to create steady growth of jobs	53	43	43	11	29
A stable currency	26	24	28	9	18
Government policy that encourages people to start their own business	16	29	22	28	18
Trade with other countries	20	17	36	15	28
Tax structure that encourages economic growth	34	26	13	16	27
Political stability	13	9	28	34	24

Due to multiple responses allowed, percentages will add to greater than 100%.