

UNITED STATES FINDINGS 2018



GLOBAL

PARENTS' SURVEY



METHODOLOGY

On behalf of the Varkey Foundation, Ipsos MORI interviewed **27,380** parents across **29 countries** using an **online survey** via the Ipsos Online Panel system* between the 8th December 2017 and 15th January 2018. These countries were:

Argentina	Japan	United Kingdom
India	Spain	Finland
Singapore	China	Peru
Australia	Kenya**	United States
Indonesia	Turkey	France
South Africa	Colombia	Poland
Brazil	Malaysia	Vietnam
Italy	Uganda**	Germany
South Korea	Estonia**	Russia
Canada	Mexico	

- 1,000 parents took part in the **United States**. Results contain 1,000 interviews from all other countries except Estonia (500), Kenya (501) and Uganda (371).
- Data has been weighted by age, gender and region of child and corrected for gender of parent.
- As such, the survey is representative of parents of children aged 4-18 in education, against these characteristics, with equal views from mothers and fathers.
- All countries contribute equally to the total global average. Data has not been adjusted for the relative size of population.
- The survey was conducted online. For countries where internet penetration is low (such as India, Uganda, Kenya, Peru and Indonesia), it is important to note that the data is representative of the urban online population, which tends to be better educated and financially better off.



Around **a third (36%)** of US parents list their child's personal safety as among their top three anxieties about them being at school.

Global average 34%

Global rank 14th



US parents are more concerned about their children growing up too early than any other country surveyed, with **35%** of parents saying this is among their top three anxieties about their child at school.

Global average 23%

Global rank 1st



US parents have greater faith in the quality of teaching in their schools than any other country surveyed except Kenya. **Ninety-one percent** think the quality of teaching in their child's school is very or fairly good.

Global average 78%

Global rank 2nd



Fewer parents (**62%**) rate the quality of free to attend schools as good, but this is still considerably above the survey average of **45%**.

Global average 45%

Global rank 7th



Almost two-thirds (**63%**) of parents whose child attends a state school would be fairly or very likely to send their child to a fee-paying school if they could afford it and there was an appropriate place available.

Global average 55%

Global rank 11th



The US is the only major Western economy surveyed where more parents approve (**53%**) than disapprove (**19%**) of religious organisations running free to attend schools.

Global average 40%

Global rank 7th

What, if any of the following, causes you the most anxiety about your child at school?

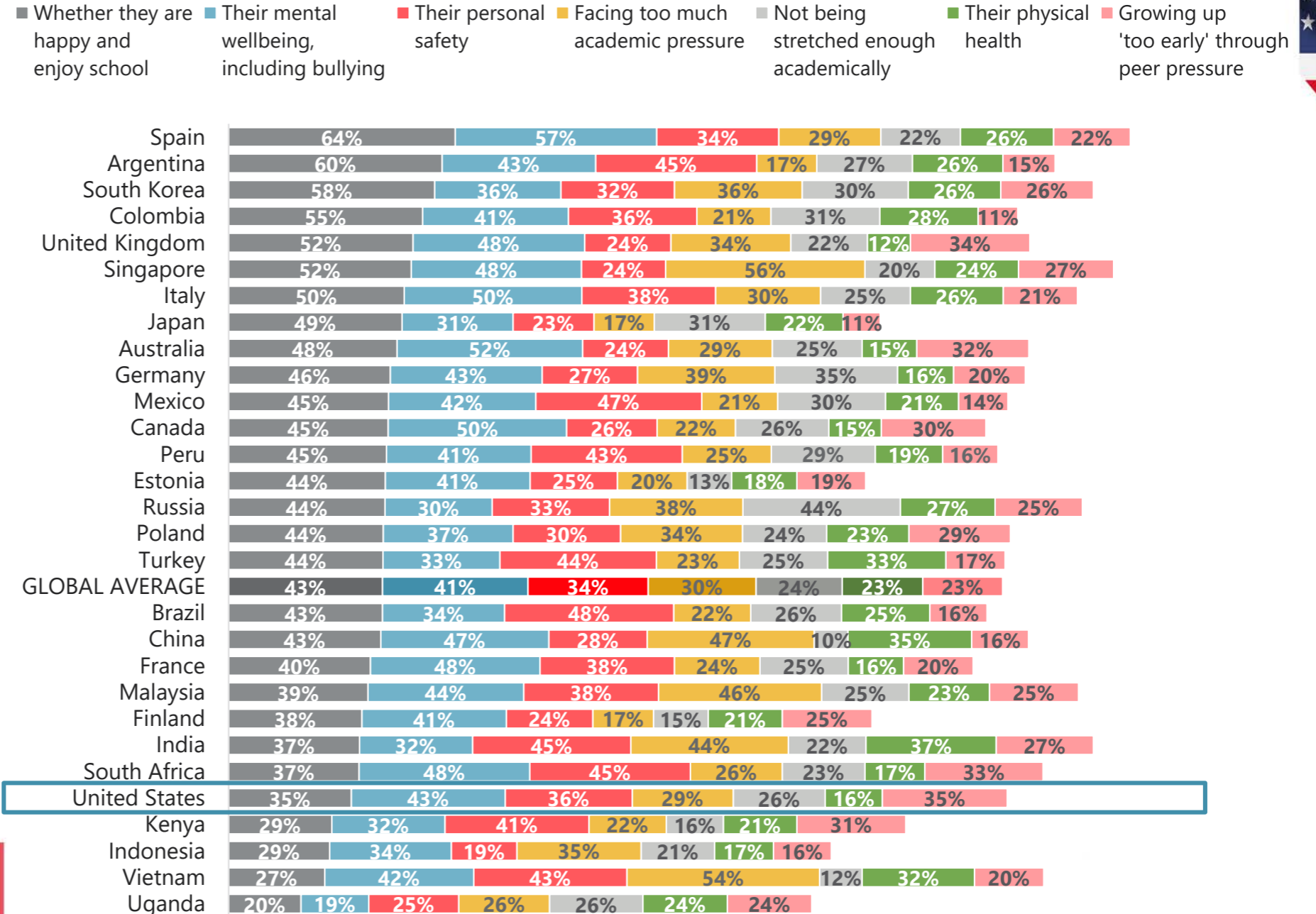
Only around a third (36%) of US parents list their child's personal safety as among their top three anxieties about them being at school, lower than France and Italy (38%) and only marginally above the global average (34%).

US parents are more concerned about their children growing up too early through peer pressure than any other country surveyed, with 35% of parents saying this is among their top three anxieties about their child at school.

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Top 7 categories most often chosen as 1st, 2nd or 3rd choice globally



NB: 21% of parents from Indonesia and Finland gave an answer of 'none'

Base: All parents (27380). Research commissioned by the Varkey Foundation, conducted by Ipsos MORI between 8th December 2017 - 15th January 2018.

How would you rate the quality of teaching at your child's current school?

US parents have greater faith in the quality of teaching in their schools than any other country surveyed apart from Kenya. **Ninety-one percent** of US parents think the quality of teaching in their child's school is very good or fairly good versus **92%** in Kenya.

*Mean science score in PISA Science 2015

Countries/economies with a mean performance/share of top performers above the OECD average; countries/economies with a share of low achievers below the OECD average

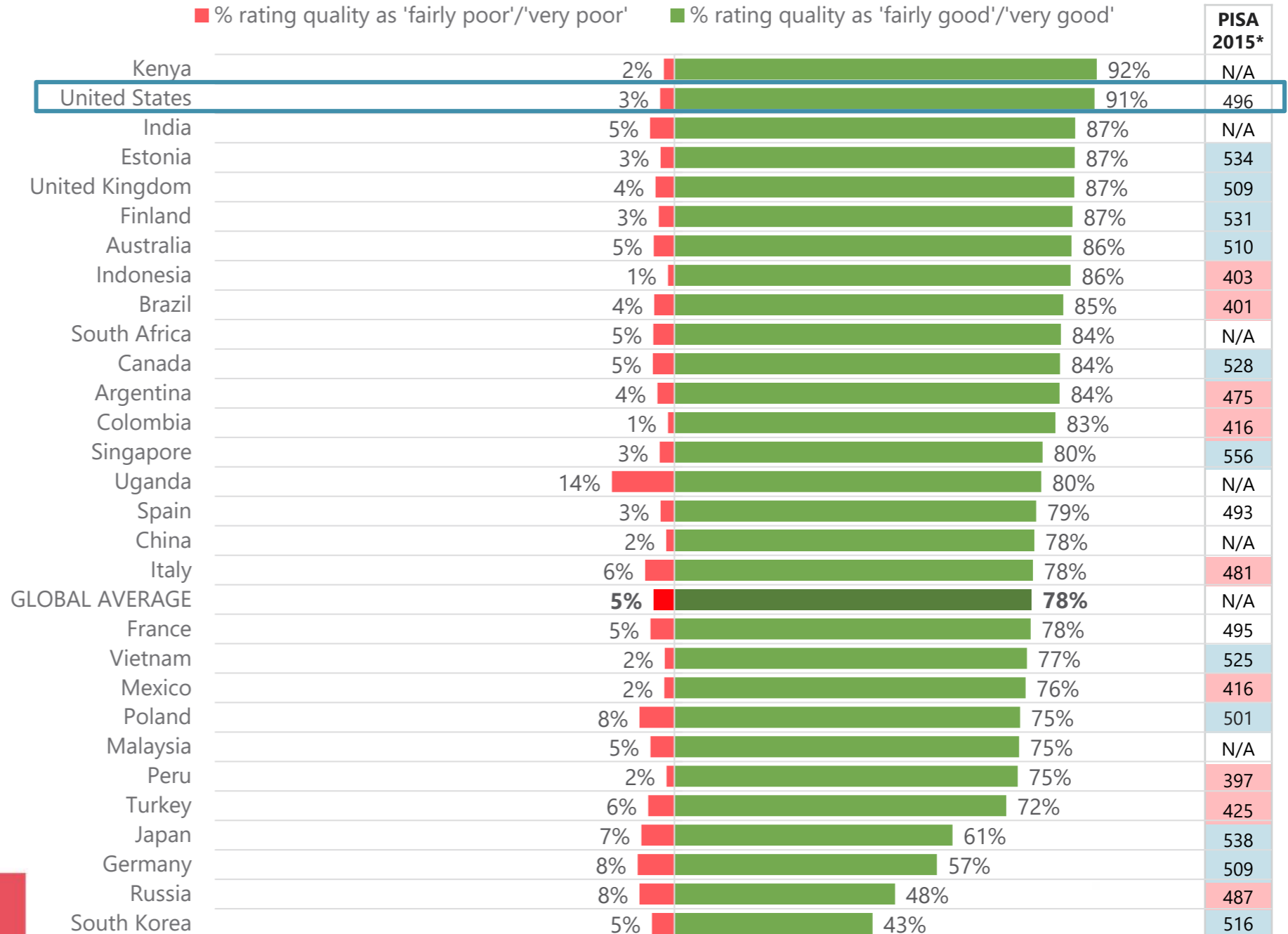
Countries/economies with a mean performance/share of top performers/share of low achievers not significantly different from the OECD average

Countries/economies with a mean performance/share of top performers below the OECD average; countries/economies with a share of low achievers above the OECD average

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■ % rating quality as 'fairly poor'/'very poor' ■ % rating quality as 'fairly good'/'very good'



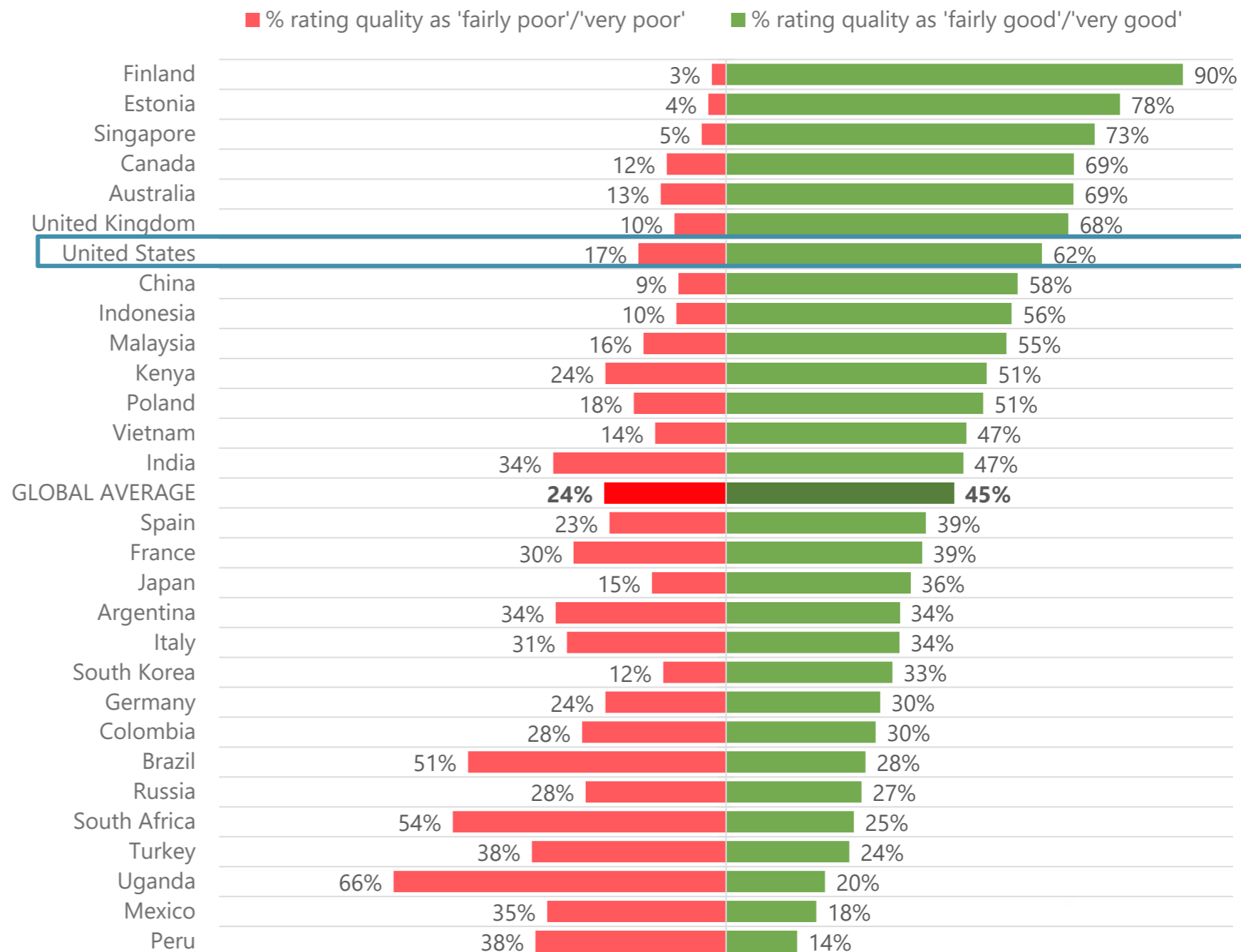
Base: All parents (27380). Research commissioned by the Varkey Foundation, conducted by Ipsos MORI between 8th December 2017 - 15th January 2018.

How would you rate the quality of free to attend government-funded schools in your country?

Fewer parents (62%) rate the quality of free to attend schools as good, but this is still considerably above the survey average of 45%.

Faith in the quality of teaching and free education in the US is at odds with the country's relatively low PISA international education ranking of 25th out of 70 countries. By contrast, South Korea (43%) and Japan (61%) have among the lowest levels of confidence in quality of teaching at their child's school despite being ranked 11th and 2nd out of 30 in PISA.

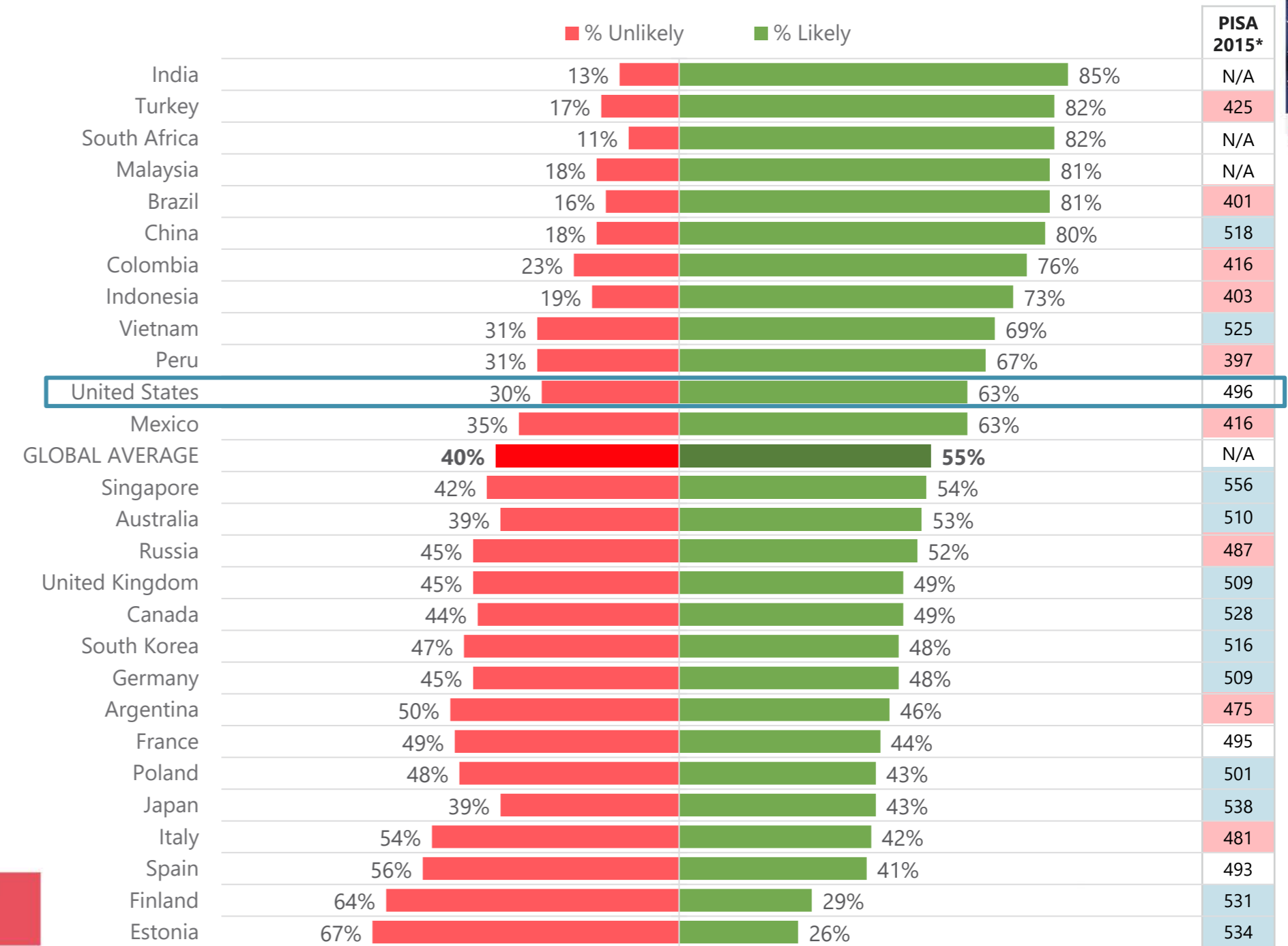
GLOBAL PARENTS' SURVEY



If it was affordable for you, and if there was an appropriate local place available, how likely would you be to send your child to a fee-paying school?

Americans show high levels of support for the private sector's involvement in education. **Almost two-thirds (63%)** of parents whose child attends a state school would be fairly or very likely to send their child to a fee-paying school if they could afford it and there was an appropriate place available, above the global average (55%).

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NB: For this filtered question, Uganda and Kenya excluded due to a base size of below 100. Base: Parents of children who attend free to attend government funded schools (16767). Research commissioned by the Varkey Foundation, conducted by Ipsos MORI between 8th December 2017 - 15th January 2018.

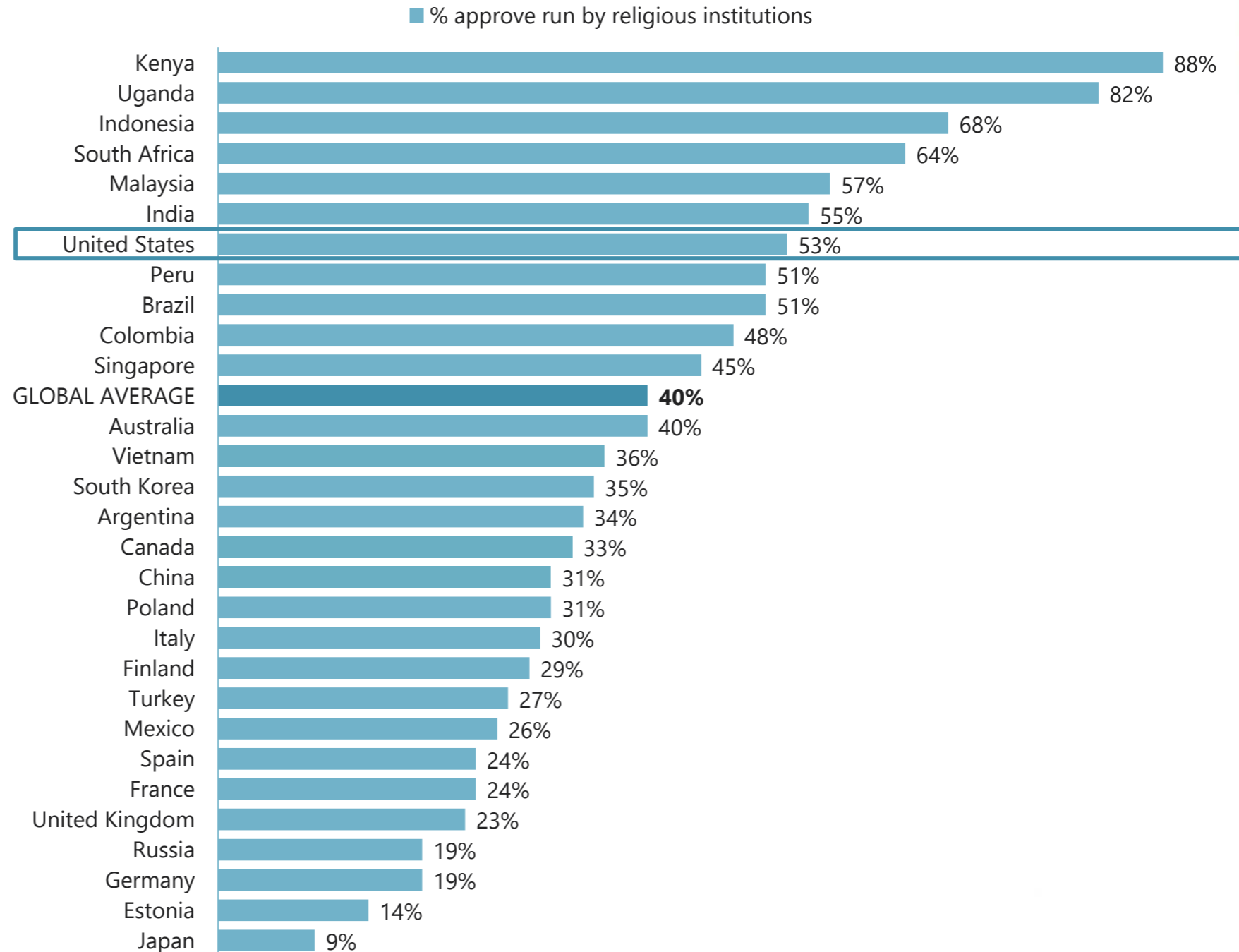


To what extent do you approve or disapprove of the following organisations running free to attend schools?

Religious institutions

The US is the only major Western economy surveyed where more parents approve (53%) than disapprove (19%) of religious organisations running free to attend schools. More men (58%) approve than women (49%). More parents in the South (58%) approve than in the Northeast (47%).

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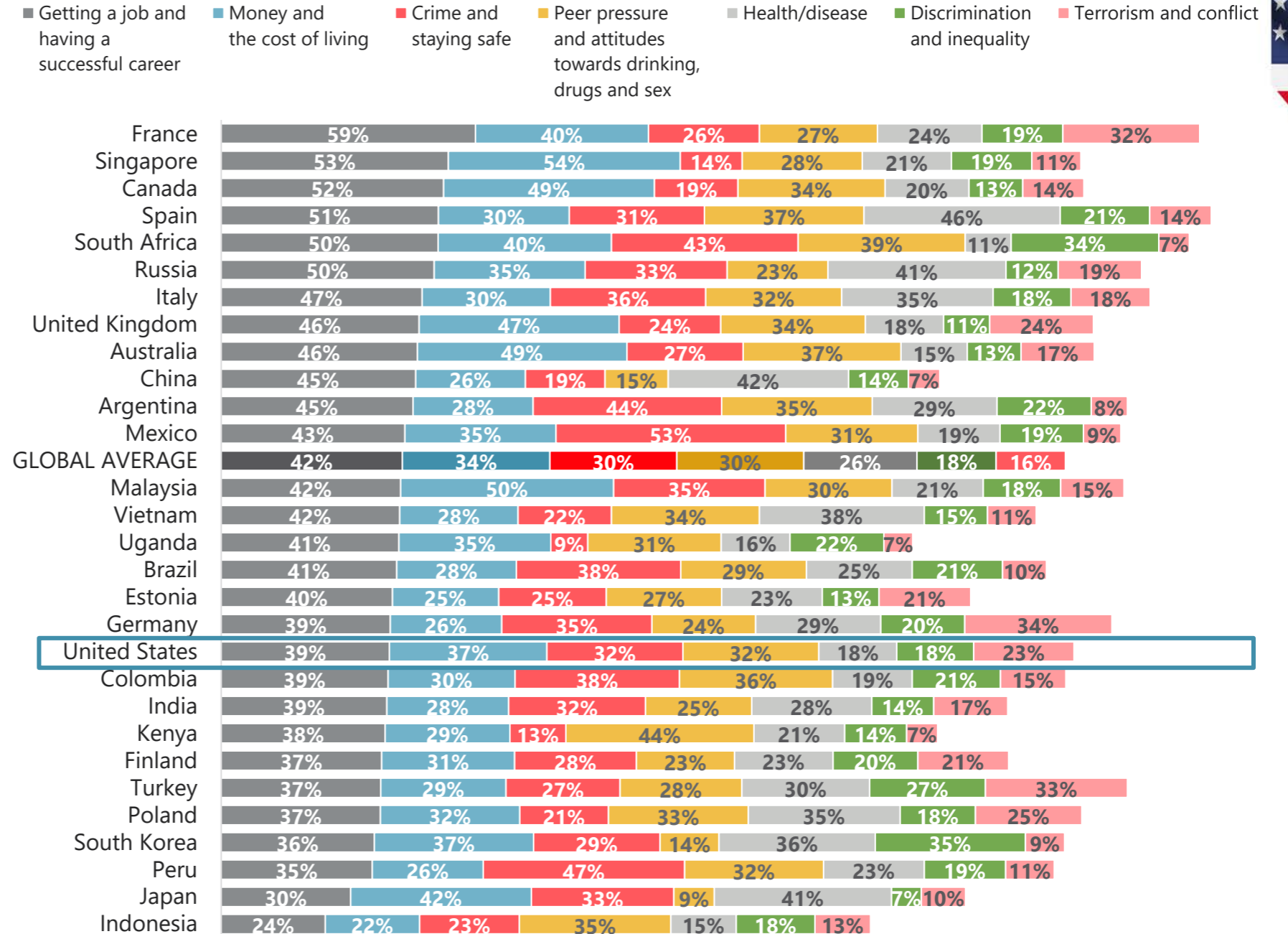
Base: All parents (27380). Research commissioned by the Varkey Foundation, conducted by Ipsos MORI between 8th December 2017 - 15th January 2018.

What, if any of the following, causes you the most anxiety about your child's future?

Almost a quarter (23%) of Americans list terrorism and conflict as among the top three anxieties about their child's future. This is higher than the global average of 16% and sixth highest of all the countries surveyed after Turkey (33%), which sits on the border of the Syrian civil war and is engaged in conflict with the PKK, Germany (34%), where the refugee crisis resulting from Syria has had a huge impact on popular discourse, France (32%) which has been subject to a string of devastating terror attacks in recent years, Poland (25%), and the UK (24%) which has seen a rise in terror attacks recently.

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Top 7 categories most often chosen as 1st, 2nd or 3rd choice globally



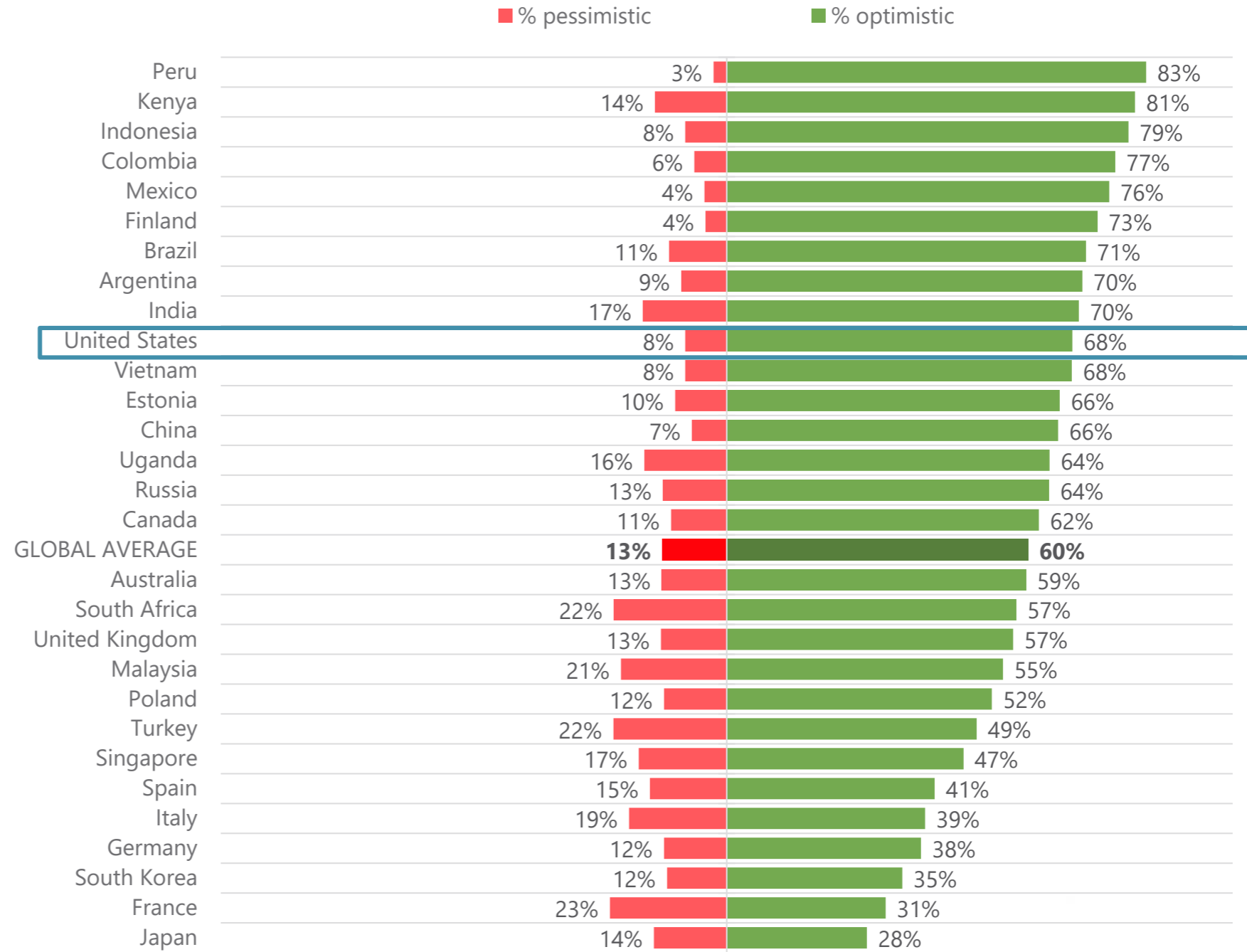
NB: 30% of parents from Indonesia gave an answer of 'don't know'

Base: All parents (27380). Research commissioned by the Varkey Foundation, conducted by Ipsos MORI between 8th December 2017 - 15th January 2018.

Taking everything into consideration, how optimistic or pessimistic are you about your child's future?

The survey revealed that **more than two-thirds (68%)** of Americans are optimistic about their children's futures – much higher than in most European countries surveyed such as France (31%). Southerners are the most optimistic (72%) and those in the Northeast the least (60%). Optimism is generally high in Midwest (68%) and West (69%).

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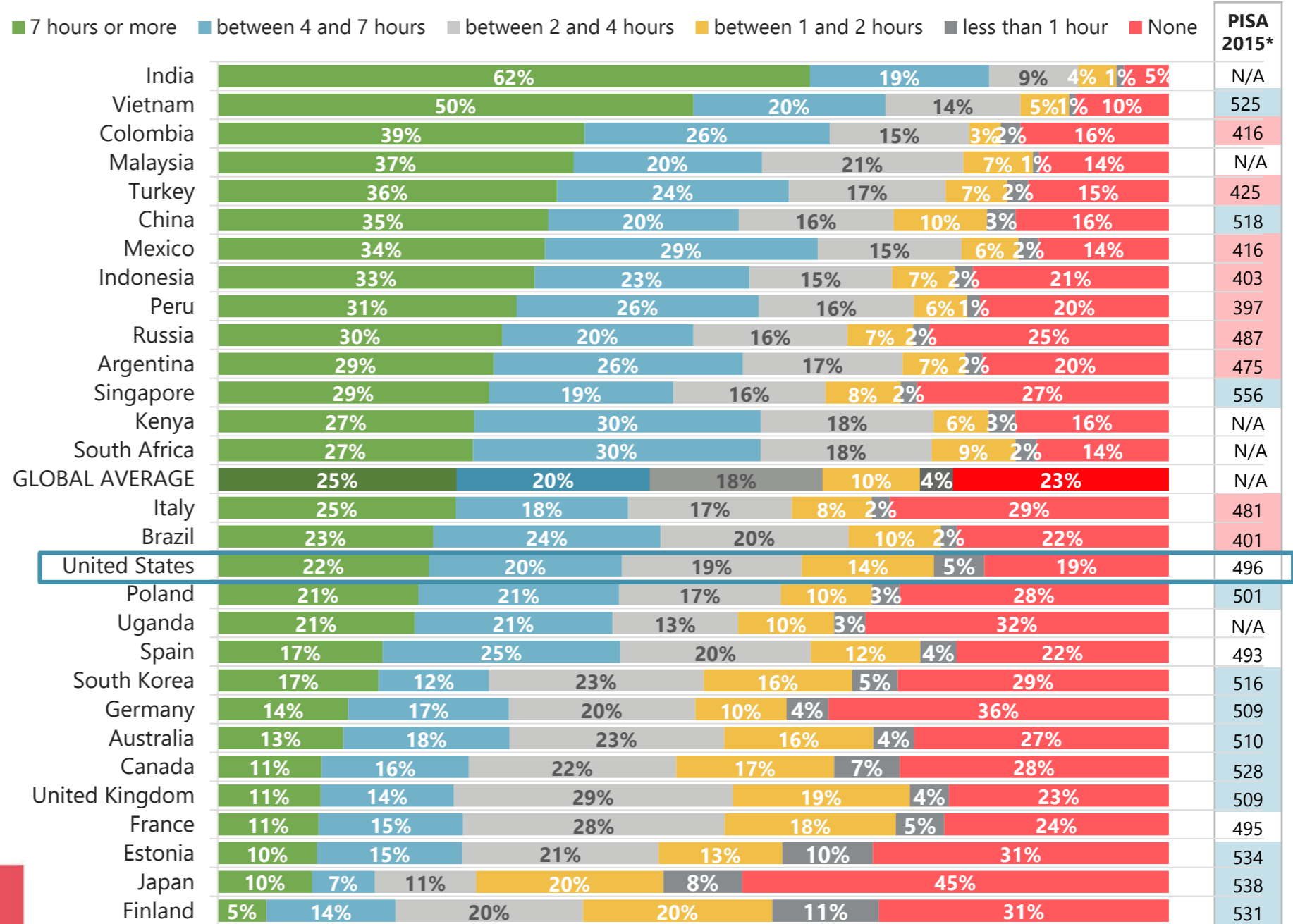
Base: All parents (27380). Research commissioned by the Varkey Foundation, conducted by Ipsos MORI between 8th December 2017 - 15th January 2018.

On average, how much time, if any, do you personally spend helping your child academically with their education per week (e.g. help reading to them or helping with homework)?

22% of US parents say they spend 7 or more hours a week helping their children with their education, close to the global average of 25%.

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Time spent helping academically with homework per week

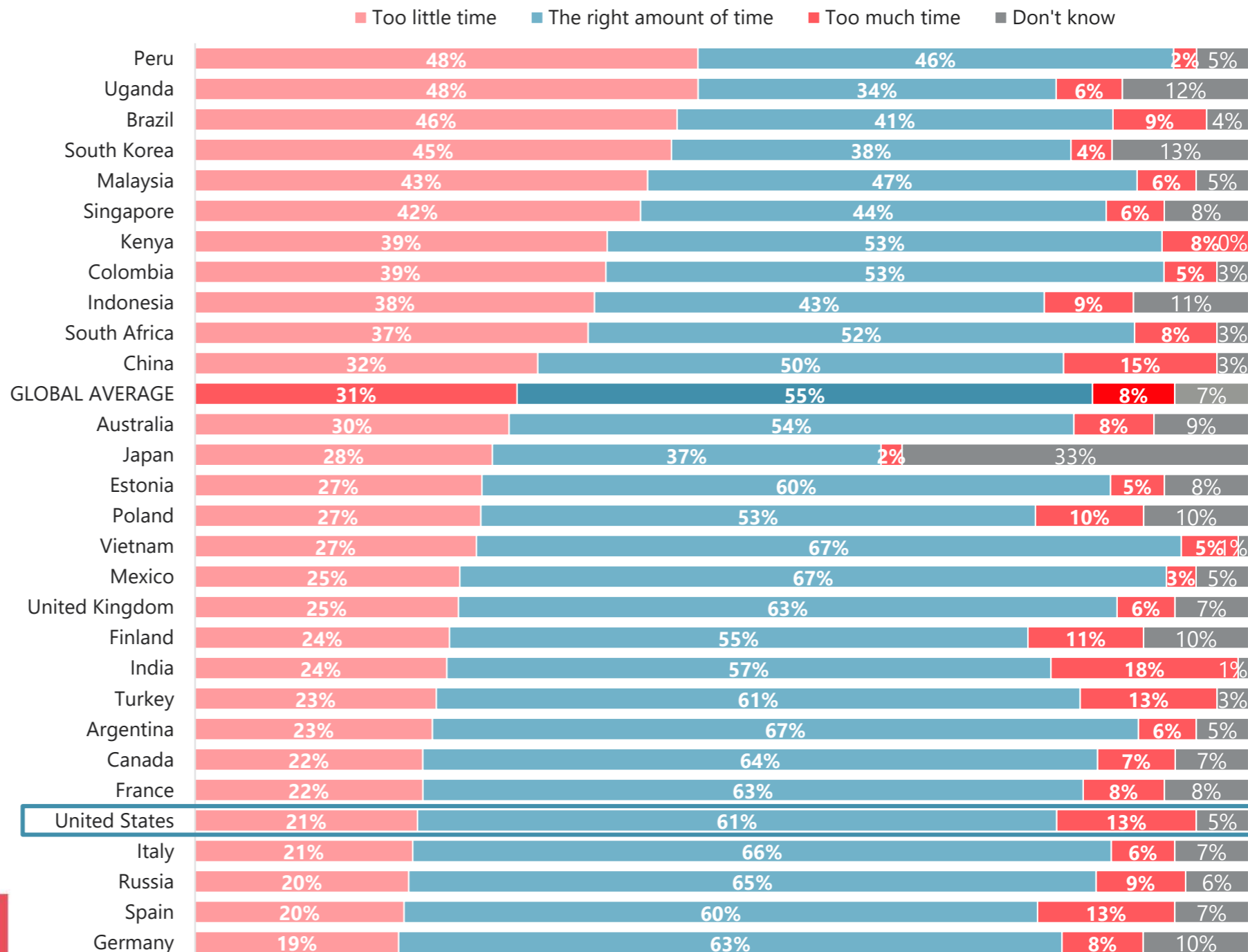


Base: All parents (27380). Research commissioned by the Varkey Foundation, conducted by Ipsos MORI between 8th December 2017 - 15th January 2018.

Do you feel you spend too much, too little, or about the right amount of time helping your child academically with their education?

However, **21%** of US parents feel that they don't spend enough time helping their children - significantly lower than the survey average of **31%**.

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Base: All parents (27380). Research commissioned by the Varkey Foundation, conducted by Ipsos MORI between 8th December 2017 - 15th January 2018.