

The Global Learner Survey

September 2019

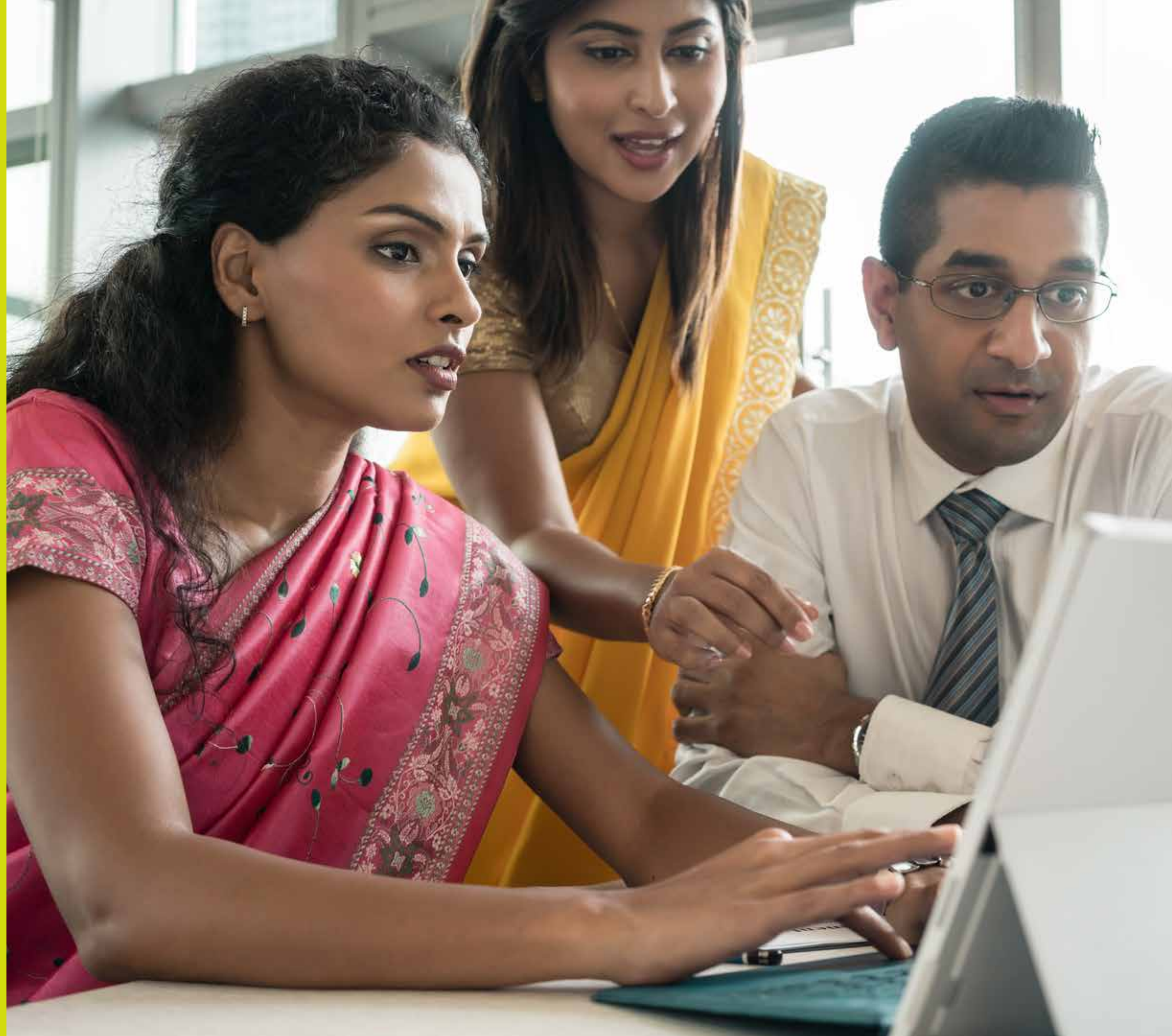


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Opportunity in the Era of the Talent Economy

A learner-driven revolution in education is unfolding around the world. That's the message from the 11,000 people who responded to the inaugural Pearson Global Learner Survey, a new study capturing the opinions of learners worldwide.

As these learners well know, we are in the midst of the single biggest economic shift since the Industrial Revolution. Technology, automation, globalization and an unpredictable political environment are affecting everything about our world — especially work and education.

Pearson conducted this study so learners in 19 countries could have their say on subjects such as the quality of their nation's education system; careers and the future of work; and technology. It's the first time the world has heard the collective voice of this many learners on such a wide range of education topics.

Around the world, learners still place a great deal of faith in education to help them achieve success. But, the way they are obtaining that education is changing and it's all because the new talent economy has arrived with its gig jobs, unconventional career paths and tech disruption. To meet the demands of this new world of work, learners tell us they are relying less on traditional institutions that have shaped learning for generations and are adopting a "do-it-yourself" approach to education.

This opens a new universe of opportunities to help people learn in more accessible ways, more affordably and with better outcomes. The learners in our survey embrace technology and online learning. They also want more vocational education, soft skills training and bite-size learning across the course of their lifetime. Virtual learning for children, online degrees and micro and stackable credentials for adults and on-demand learning for everyone can help meet the needs of today's sophisticated learner.

Governments, educational institutions, employers and social and tech disruptors are uniquely positioned to apply their vast and unique expertise to help drive this change. The smartest of these innovators already know what the learners in our survey do: that generations of career paths are increasingly outdated. As we embrace the talent economy together, we also need to embrace the lifelong learning that comes with it. Higher education is beginning to do that by re-imagining the learning opportunities it offers with online courses and degrees. More employers now see education, like healthcare, as an employee benefit. Vocational training, like Pearson's BTEC offering in the UK, is giving people more career pathways than ever before.

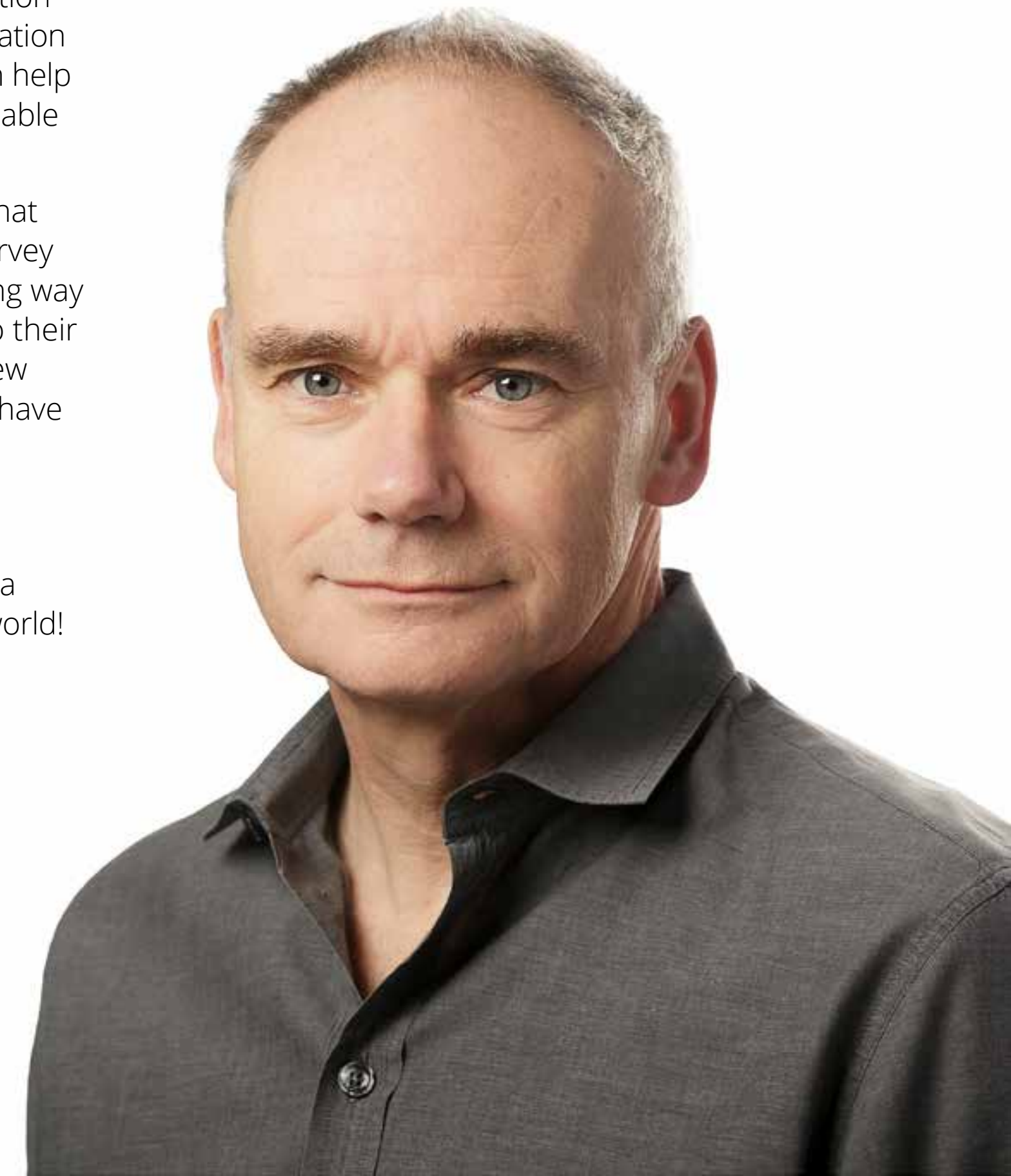
But we shouldn't stop there. We should be building a wider ecosystem to meet the needs of the learners in our study. Universities should expand access to mid-career adults with short courses, soft skill training and stackable credentials. Employers could be working together with learning institutions to re-skill their workforce. Innovators and education companies can use technology to make education engaging and accessible and government can help address ways to make education more affordable and widely available.

Most importantly, we need to understand what learners think about these solutions. Our survey starts this conversation but there is still a long way to go. By embracing learners and listening to their voice, we can all help lead the growth of a new economy. The advances of the 21st century have given us the greatest opportunity in human history to improve lives through education.

I look forward to seeing the progress we will achieve together to make the learner's vision a reality. Here's to all the learners around the world!



John Fallon, CEO Pearson



Methodology

This survey was conducted on behalf of Pearson in May 2019 by The Harris Poll, a global market research firm based in NYC with over 50 years of history in polling. A 20-minute online survey was completed by 11,083 people aged between 16-70 years old across the globe. All pages show general online population data unless noted otherwise.



Results are weighted for age, gender, region, urbanicity, race/ethnicity, education, marital status, household income, and/or socio-economic status to align respondents with actual proportions in their respective countries. Survey respondents were selected based on their age and quality of response from leading online research panels.

Markets	Sample Size	Margin of Error
Global	n=11,083	+/- 0.90
US	n=1000	+/- 3.00
UK	n=1001	+/- 3.00
Australia	n=1000	+/- 3.00
Canada	n=1001	+/- 3.00
South Africa	n=1001	+/- 3.00
Brazil	n=1000	+/- 3.00
China	n=1000	+/- 3.00
India	n=1000	+/- 3.00
Europe excl. UK (Italy, Spain, Germany, France)	n=1004	+/- 3.00
Hispano-America (Mexico, Argentina, Colombia)	n=1043	+/- 2.94
Middle East (UAE, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Egypt)	n=1033	+/- 2.96

Key Trends

Our survey uncovered eight key trends that learners across the globe tell us characterize the way they seek education in 2019.

1 A DIY mindset is reshaping education.

With ready access to technology and a changing global economy, people are taking matters into their own hands. They are patching together their education from a menu of options and they believe that self-service learning will become even more commonplace as people seek education across their lives.

2 The 40-year career is gone, replaced by life-long learning and diverse career paths.

The talent economy has arrived and the traditional, linear career path is a thing of the past. Learners are molding education into what they need for today's work world, which means 'bite-sized' learning across their entire life.

3 People expect digital and virtual learning to be the new normal in the next decade.

People are using technology in every aspect of their lives and they are now embracing it as part of their education. From online degrees, artificial intelligence (AI) tools and smart devices, people see the future of learning made easier and more engaging with technology.



4 Confidence in educational institutions is wavering.

Many around the world feel education somehow isn't working for them. It's failing their generation, not preparing them for work, is too costly, or out of reach.

5 Some young workers think you can do OK in life without a college degree.

The incoming workforce in many countries is open to alternative pathways, especially vocational training.

6 Markets like China and India are leading the world in upskilling while the US and UK lag behind.

Workers in China, India, Brazil and Hispano-America are upskilling at far higher rates than their US and UK counterparts, driven in large part by the influence of technology and automation on their jobs.



7 Learners believe soft skills will give them the advantage over automation.

While STEM skills aren't forgotten, people realize the skills which make us uniquely human are actually the hardest to learn. Skills like creativity, originality, problem-solving and the ability to learn give humans an advantage over machines and learners say they need help mastering them.

8 People now cite social media and bullying as contributing factors to school safety concerns.

Acts of violence have always been the main driver of concerns over school safety. But now learners say that online bullying and social media are making school more difficult for today's students.

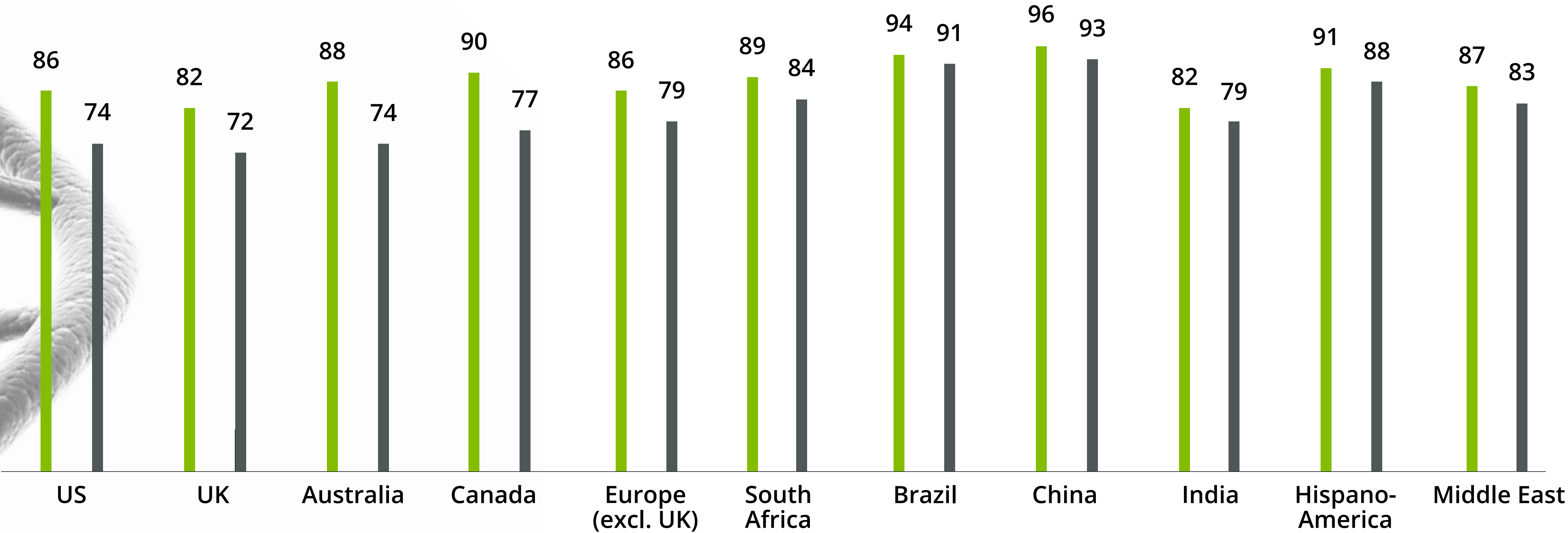
People are moving beyond traditional learning

The incoming generation of workers value college education as much as previous generations — but they place similar value on alternatives, such as vocational or trade training.



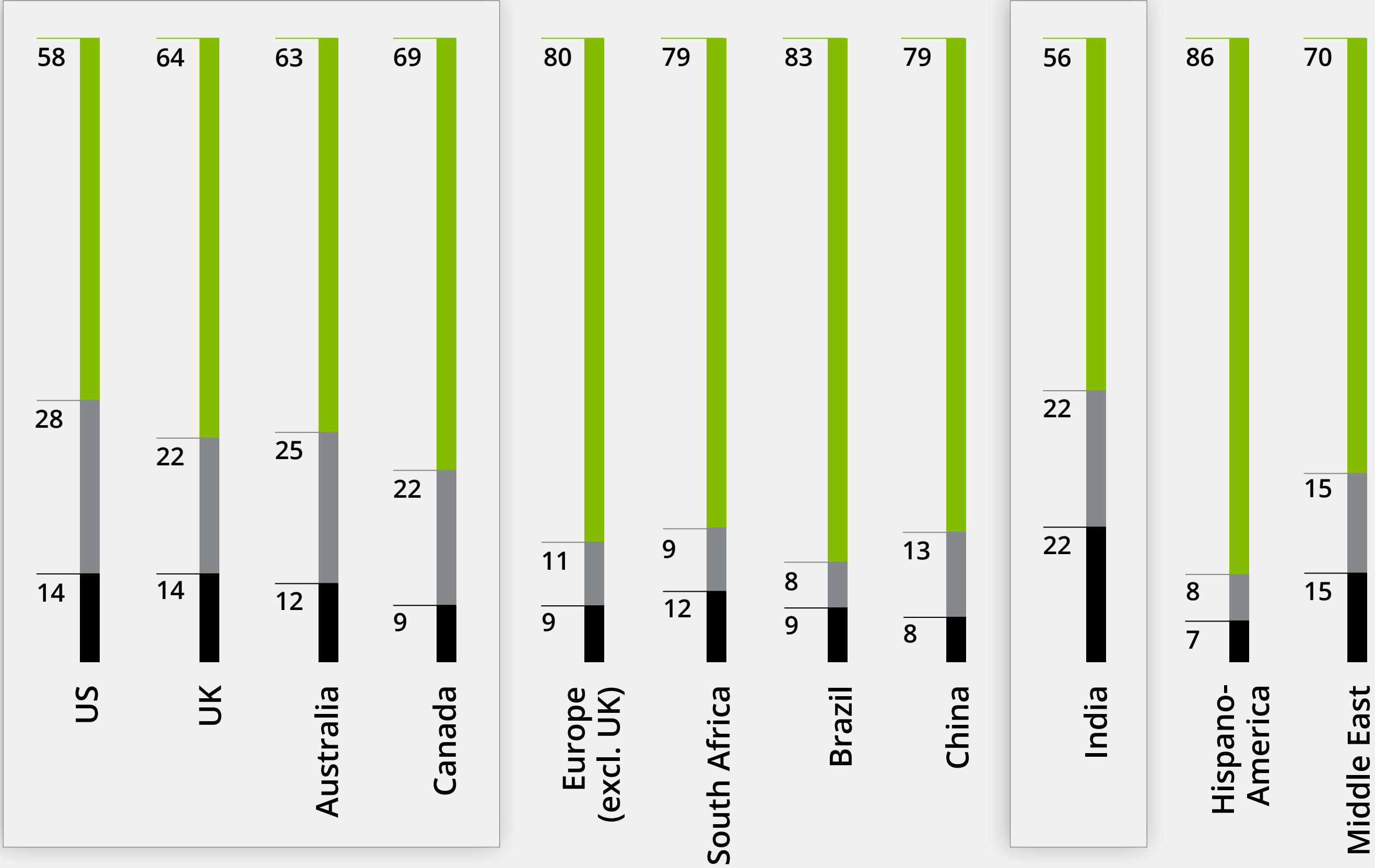
Education is in our DNA:

People agree education has played a significant role in shaping their identity



Thinking about the role that education has played in your life or that of other people, how strongly do you agree that: (%)

■ Education helps people live a better life. ■ My education has played an important role in shaping who I am as a human being.



Formal education still reigns supreme but a more relaxed attitude is emerging

Which of the following best describes your view on formal education? A formal education is... (%)

- An important stepping stone. You need to invest in it to achieve your work and life goals.
- Nice, but not necessary.
- Not relevant today. You can create your own success and prosperity without it.



Those we surveyed in the **US, UK, Australia, Canada and India** indicated growing ambivalence towards traditional notions of education. Meanwhile, those in **China, Brazil, South Africa, Hispano-America, the Middle East and Europe (excluding the UK)** still place great value on a college education.

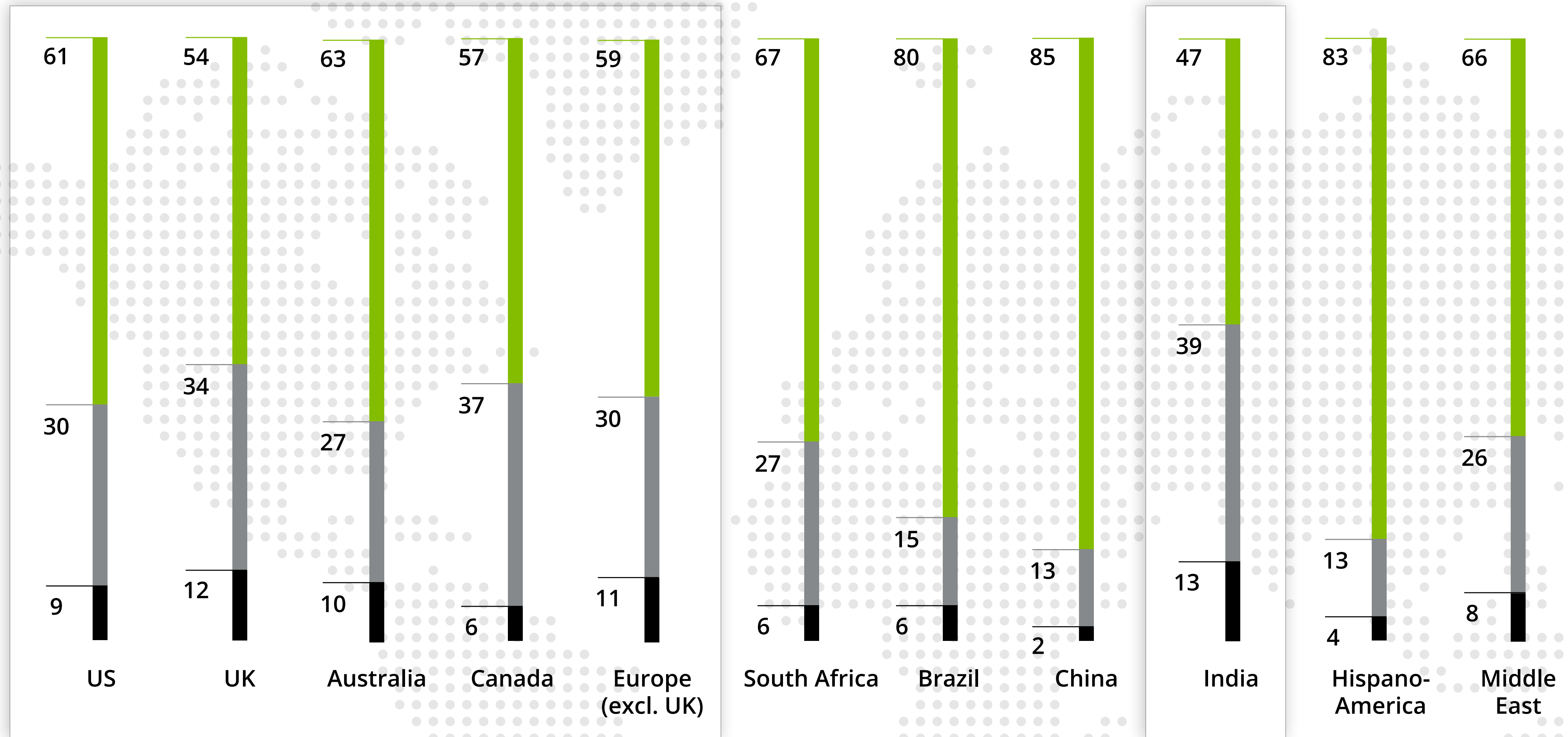
In hindsight, many would take an alternate path to learning

Which of the following best reflects your opinion about your higher education experience? If I had to make the choice again... (%)

Asked among those with post-secondary educational attainment

(which includes higher ed. coursework, degrees, certifications, vocational, etc.)

- I would still go to college.
- I would get some kind of trade or vocational training instead of college.
- I would go straight to work after leaving high school or secondary education.



The career divide: almost half of those in the US, UK, Australia, Canada, and Europe don't think that higher education prepared them for their career



Which of the following best reflects your opinion about your higher education experience? (%)
Asked among those with post-secondary educational attainment (which includes higher ed. coursework, degrees, certifications, vocational, etc.)

	US	UK	Australia	Canada	Europe (excl. UK)	South Africa	Brazil	China	India	Hispano-America	Middle East
Did prepare me for my career	56	49	58	58	55	60	67	67	63	71	64
Did NOT prepare me for my career	44	51	42	42	45	40	33	33	37	29	36

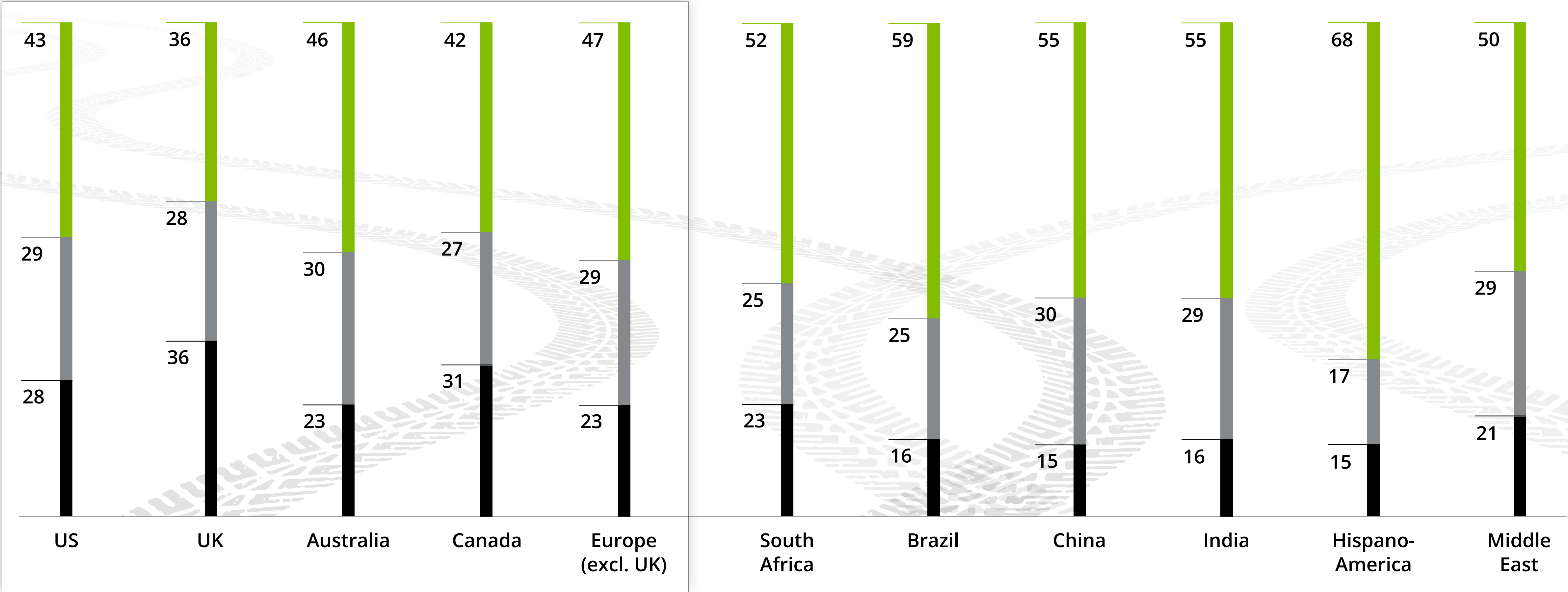
High % believing you can do OK without a college degree

People think subject majors don't have a major impact on career paths

In the US, UK, Australia, Canada, and Europe many people are not working in fields that they majored in. People in China, India, Brazil, and Hispano-America tend to be more pragmatic — choosing careers that were related to their subject majors. This could be impacting their perceptions around the value of education.

Which of the following best reflects your opinion about your higher education experience? (%)
Asked among those with post-secondary educational attainment (which includes higher ed. coursework, degrees, certifications, vocational, etc.)

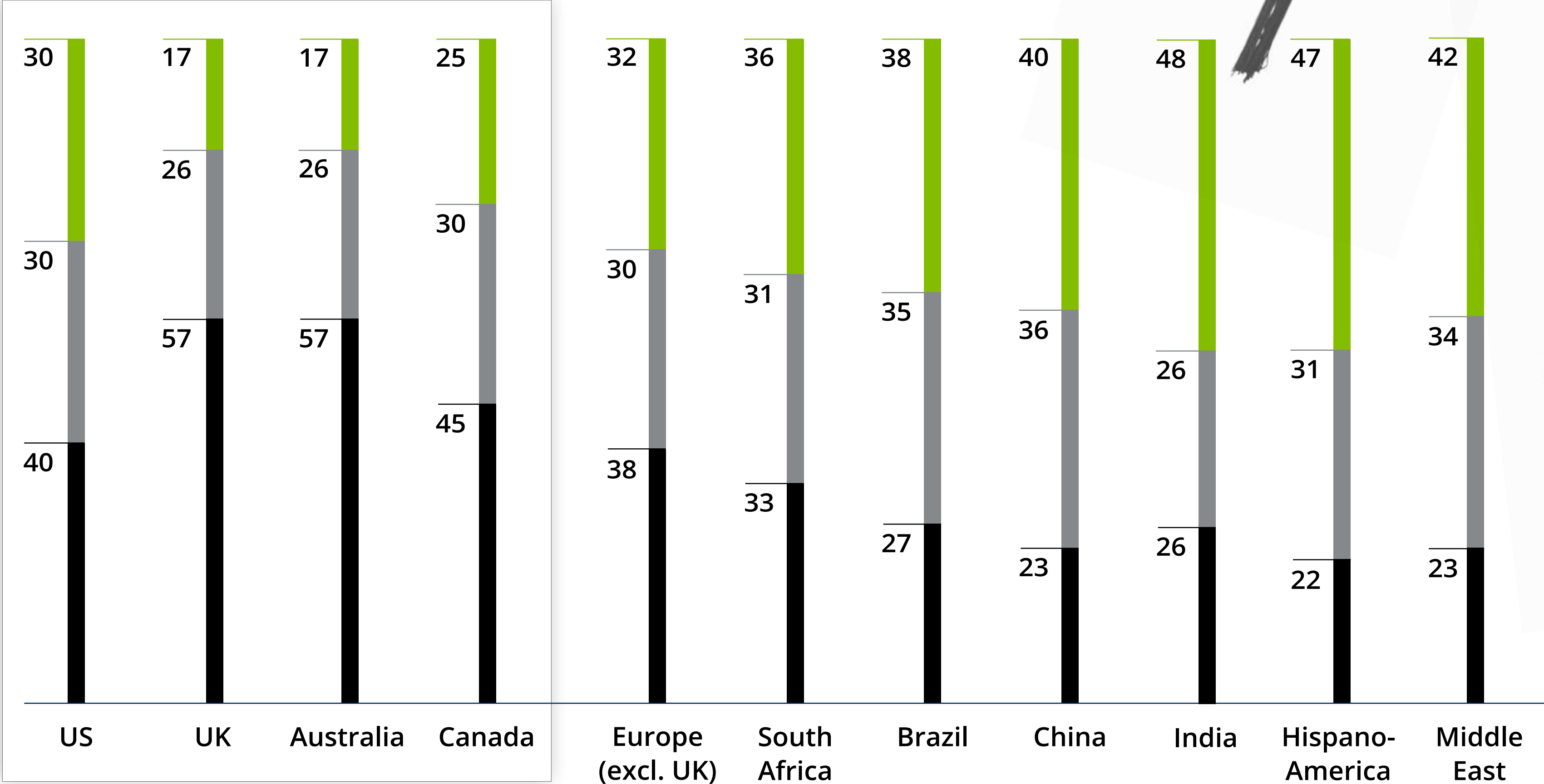
- I chose a career related to the subject matter that I majored in.
- I initially chose a career related to the subject matter that I majored in, but I eventually changed careers.
- I didn't choose a career that directly reflects the subject matter I majored in.



People are thinking beyond university degrees for their futures

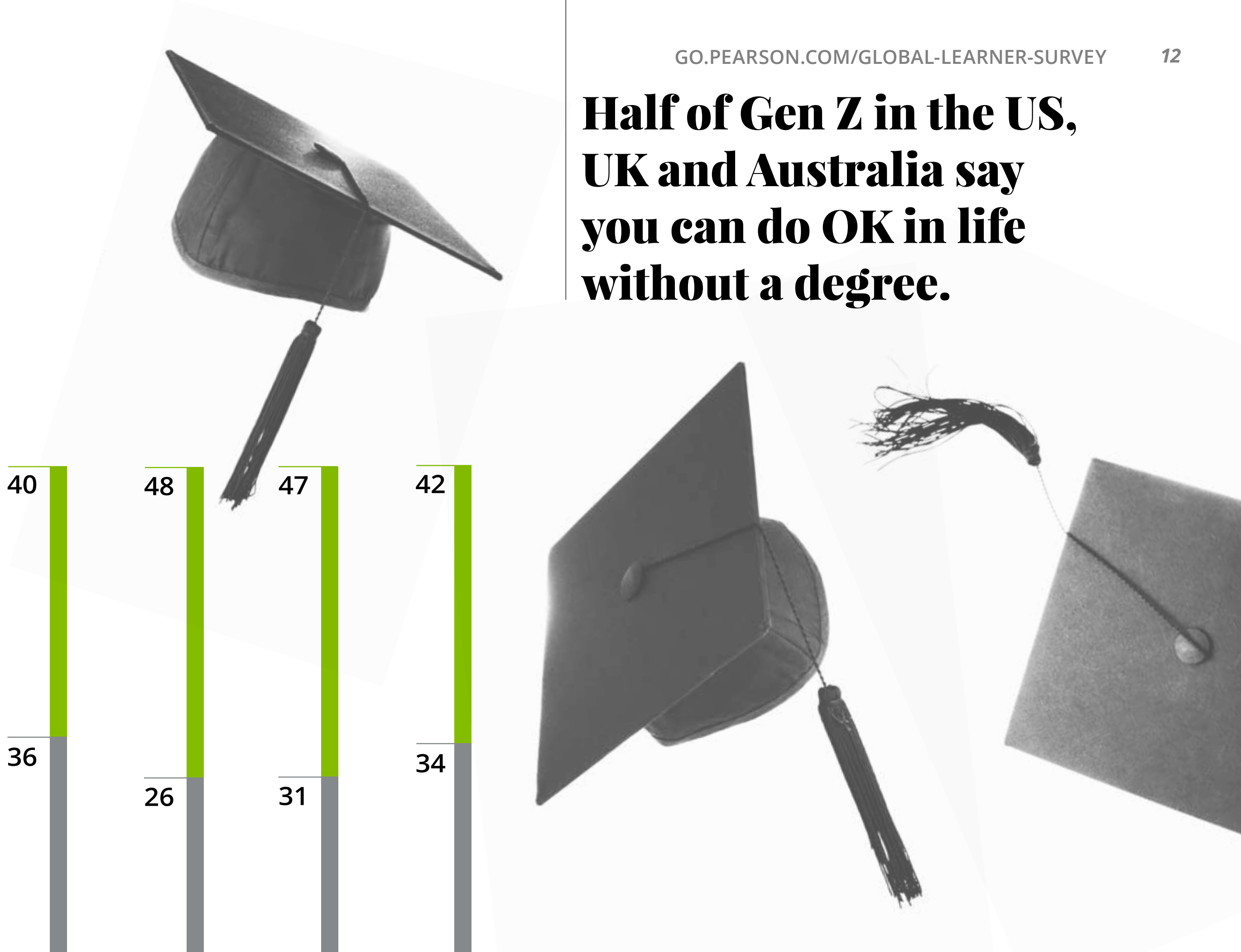
While markets like China, India, Brazil, South Africa, the Middle East and Hispano-America are more likely to see the value of a traditional college degree, those responding to our survey in the US, UK, Australia and Canada increasingly believe that you don't need a college degree to succeed.

Half of Gen Z in the US, UK and Australia say you can do OK in life without a degree.



Which of the following statements best reflects your opinion regarding higher education (colleges and universities)? (%)

- A college degree is essential to achieving a successful and prosperous career.
- You need some college education (courses, associate's degree, or certificate) to make a decent living.
- You can do OK in life today without a college degree.

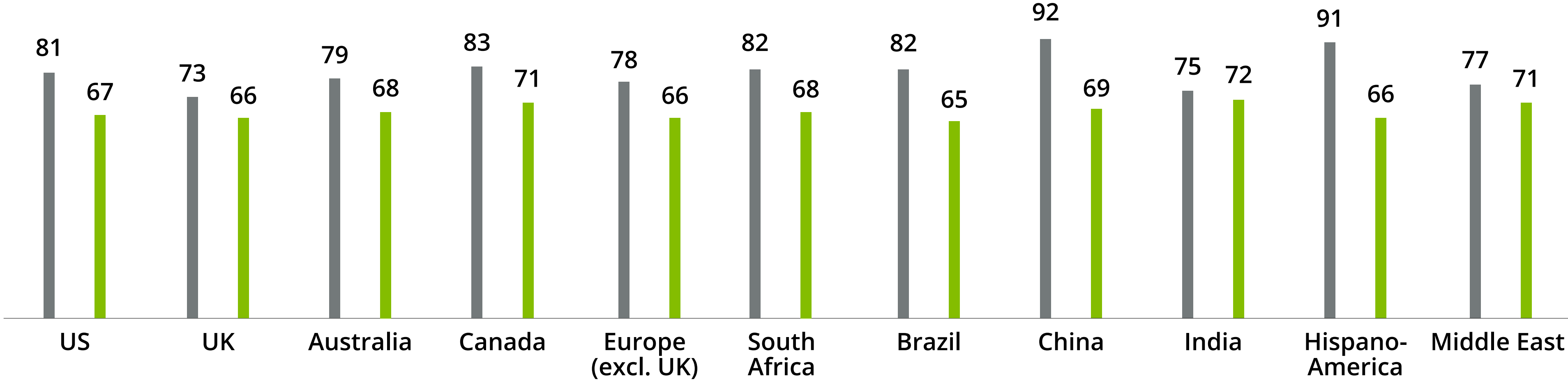




Vocational and trade schools are strong alternatives to a university degree

Thinking about how colleges and universities are preparing students today, to what extent do you agree that: (%)

- Getting a university or college degree gives you an advantage in getting a job.
- A degree or certificate from a vocational college or trade school is more likely to result in a good job with career prospects than a university degree.



The 40-year career is giving way to an era of reinvention

The traditional, linear career path is a thing of the past. People are molding learning and work into what they need it to be in today's world, which means life-long learning and diverse career paths.

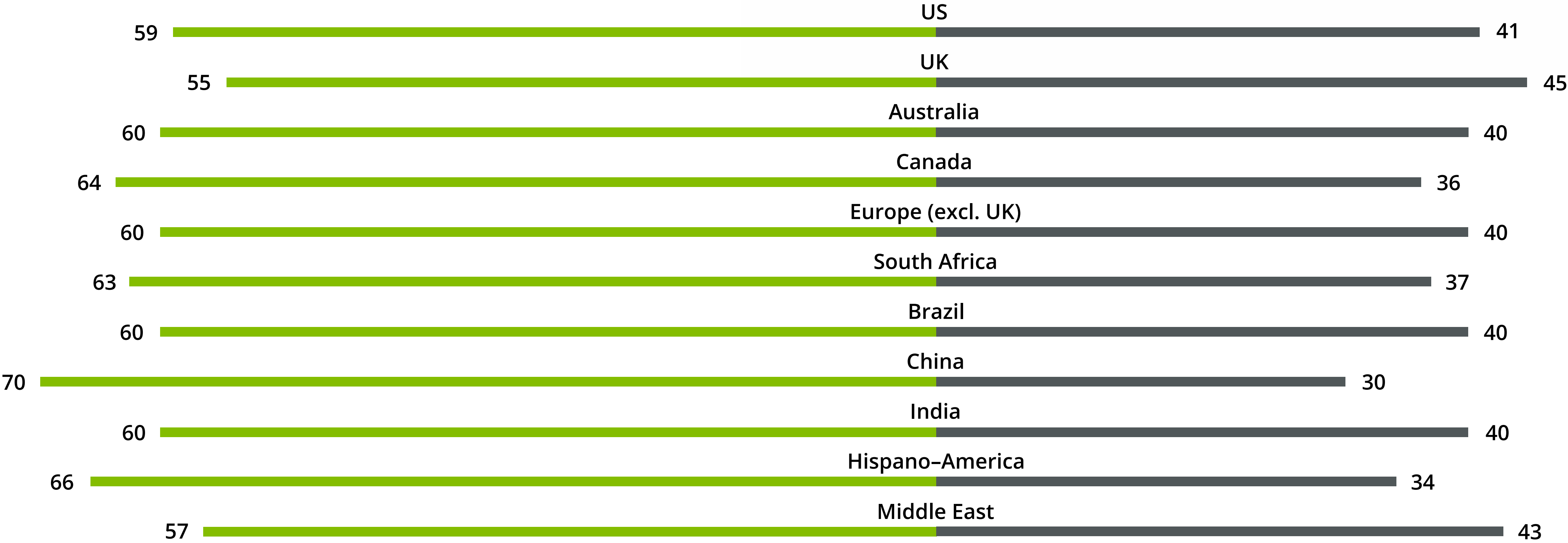


The traditional classroom is being turned upside down

Education is anywhere, all the time; not just in traditional academic settings, and not just for young people.

Which of the following statements best reflects your opinion on the education system globally, including primary, secondary and higher education? (%)

- The world is shifting to a model where people participate in education over a lifetime.
- Education still happens mostly for children and young adults in academic settings.

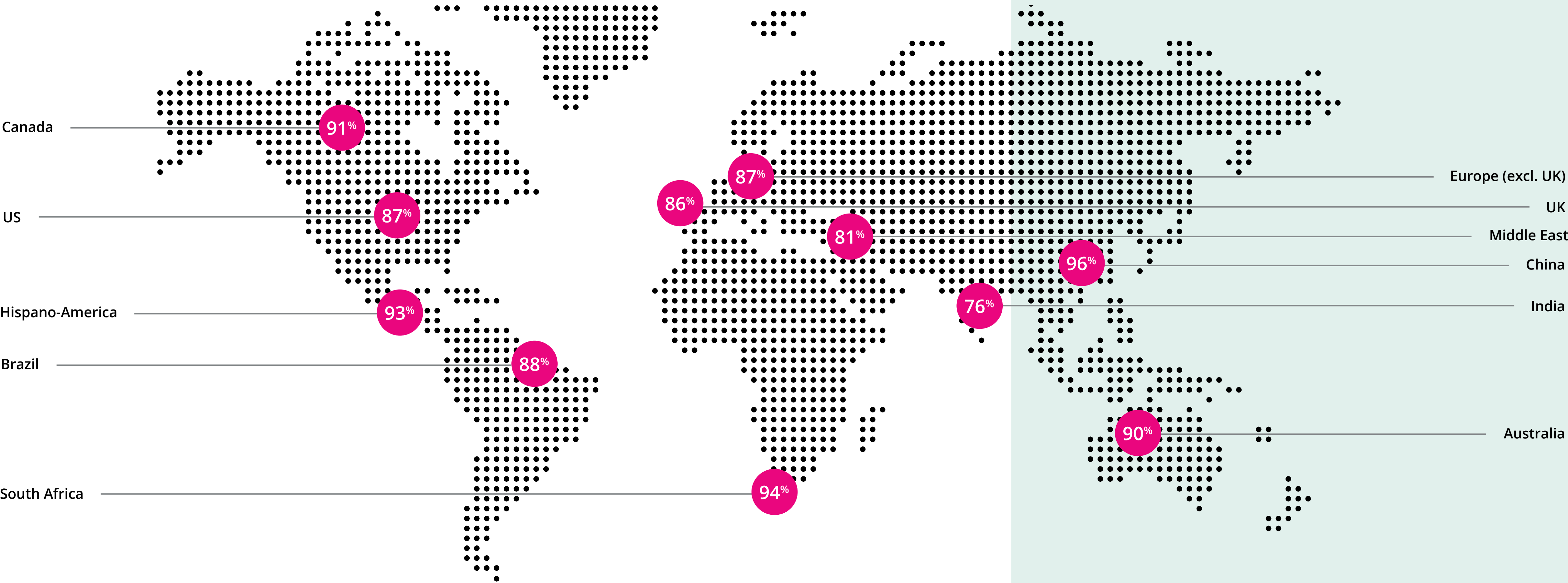


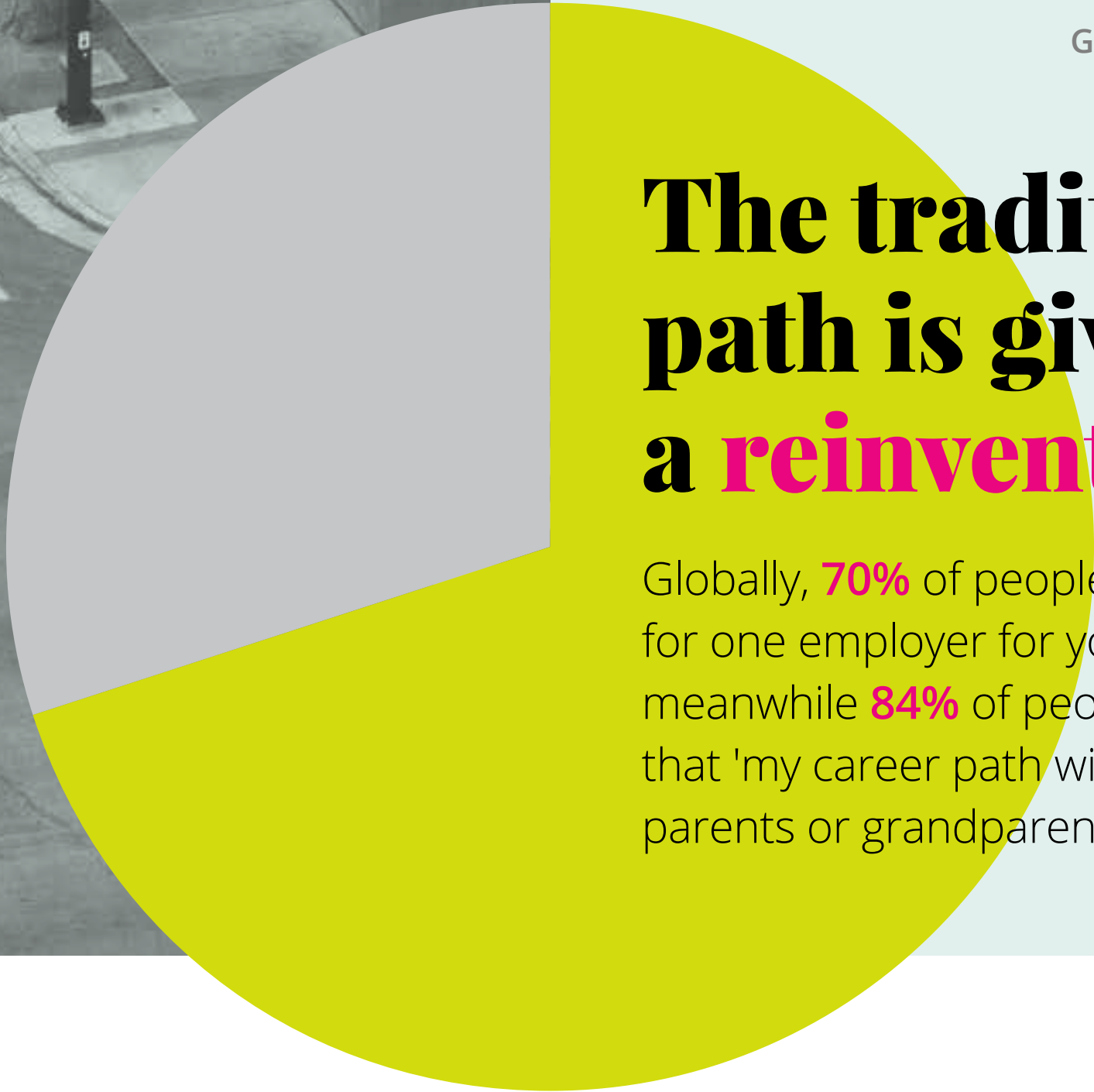
What you learn tomorrow is as important as what you learned in school

Globally, everyone believes that you need to keep learning even after you leave college to stay relevant in your career.

Thinking about how colleges and universities are preparing students today, to what extent do you agree that: (%)

Education doesn't stop at school. People need to keep learning or re-training throughout their career to stay up-to-date.





The traditional career path is giving way to a reinvention mindset

Globally, **70%** of people agree that the notion of working for one employer for your entire career is old-fashioned, meanwhile **84%** of people globally agree with the statement that 'my career path will be significantly different from my parents or grandparents'.

Thinking about your personal development and career path, to what extent do you agree...? (Showing % agree)

	US	UK	Australia	Canada	Europe (excl. UK)	South Africa	Brazil	China	India	Hispano-America	Middle East
The notion of working for one employer for your entire career is old-fashioned	64	65	70	64	73	75	64	77	76	72	73
My career path will be significantly different from my parents or grandparents	84	81	85	85	80	93	85	90	74	91	79
I think I will change career at some point in my life	61	64	68	55	55	77	72	83	74	59	70
I like reinventing myself at work every few years by learning new skills	73	69	75	73	75	91	84	88	81	91	81

Personal reinvention and new careers are replacing retirement

Globally 65% think that the notion of traditional retirement is old-fashioned. Many are eschewing free time and hobbies in favor of part-time jobs, starting a business, or starting a second career.

Thinking about your personal development and career path, to what extent do you agree...? (Showing % agree)

	US	UK	Australia	Canada	Europe (excl. UK)	South Africa	Brazil	China	India	Hispano-America	Middle East
I think the notion of traditional retirement is old-fashioned	59	58	59	56	66	75	64	68	76	61	71

Which statement most applies to how you think of retirement? When I retire from my job... (%)

	US	UK	Australia	Canada	Europe (excl. UK)	South Africa	Brazil	China	India	Hispano-America	Middle East
I hope to spend time only on hobbies or leisure, not work at all	36	41	39	40	43	26	26	35	19	31	24
I'd love to start a second career doing something I love	14	10	12	12	14	20	21	28	20	14	25
I hope for a part-time job to get some form of income	17	19	19	20	15	11	17	16	15	16	15
I want to start my own business	14	12	11	8	9	37	26	7	25	30	26
I'd love to take some college classes for fun	7	10	6	8	8	4	8	13	15	7	6
I'm not currently working and I don't plan to work	12	8	13	11	10	1	2	1	5	2	4

A global upskilling divide is emerging

Workers in China, India, Brazil and Hispano-America are more likely to retrain or upskill for their jobs than those in the US and in the UK.

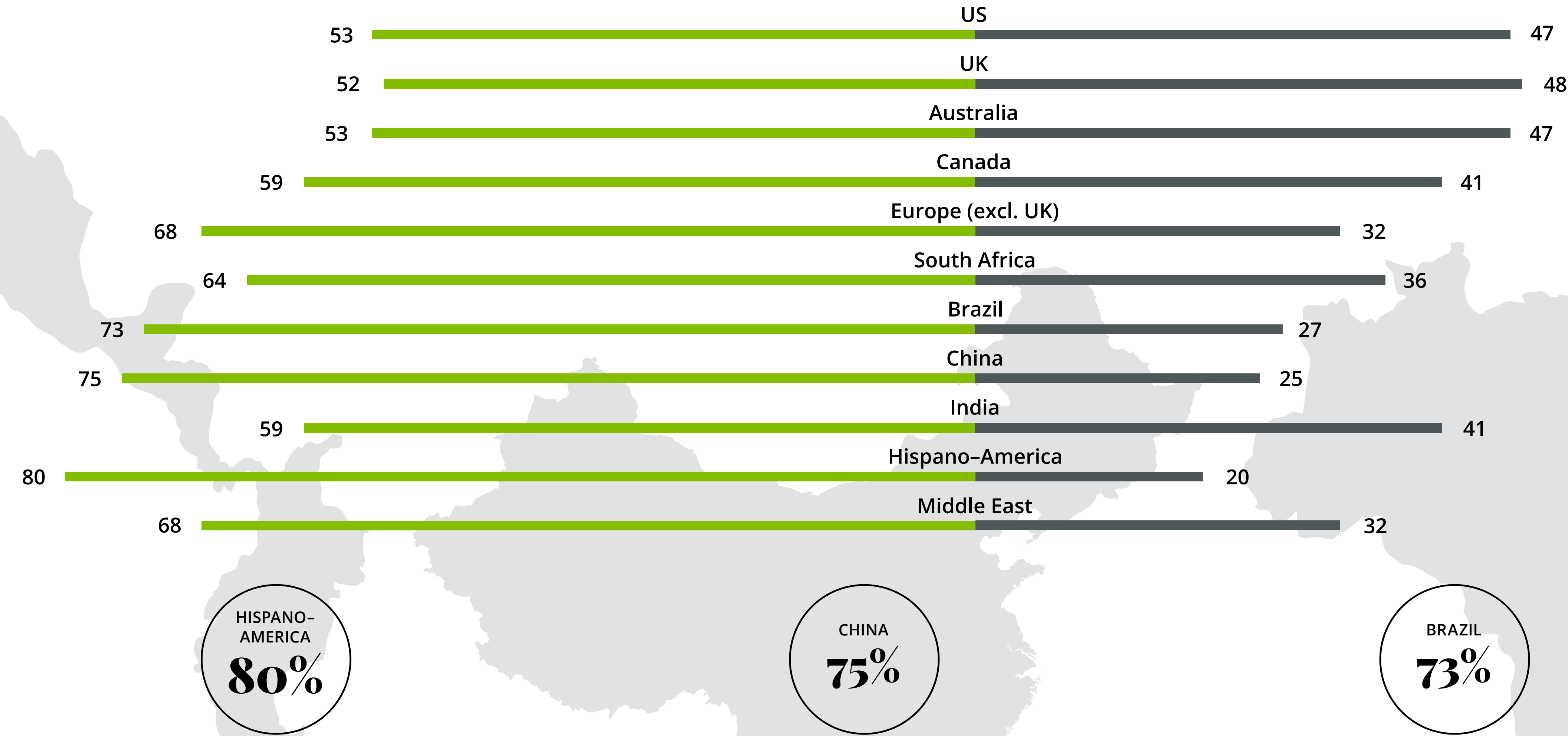


In Hispano-America, China and Brazil, education is the answer to building the global economy

Hispano-America, China and Brazil in particular show serious focus on how education can move the global economy; this sentiment is lowest in the US, UK, and Australia.

Which of the following statements best reflects your opinion on the education system globally, including primary, secondary and higher education? (%)

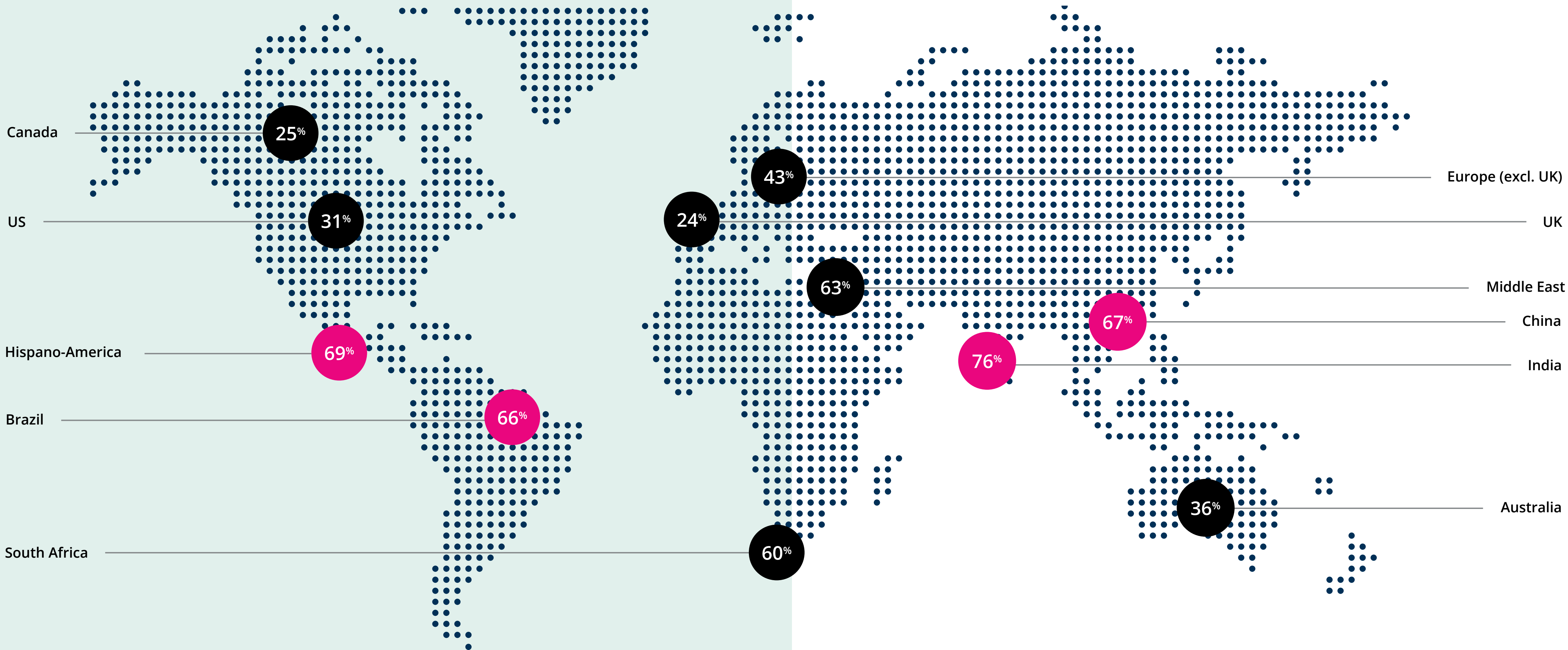
- Education is a key driver of the global economy today.
- There are other, more important factors than education driving the global economy today.



A global upskilling divide is emerging

People in **China, India, Brazil and Hispano-America** are more likely to upskill or retrain than workers in the US and UK.

In the last two years, have you found yourself in need of further education in order to do your job, because the job has changed since you started? (Among those employed) Yes (%)



Individuals — and employers — are leading the **reskilling/ upskilling** efforts

In North America and Europe, the use of short courses offered by employers is proportionally high. In other markets, a greater proportion of people rely on being self-taught or enrolling in certification programs.



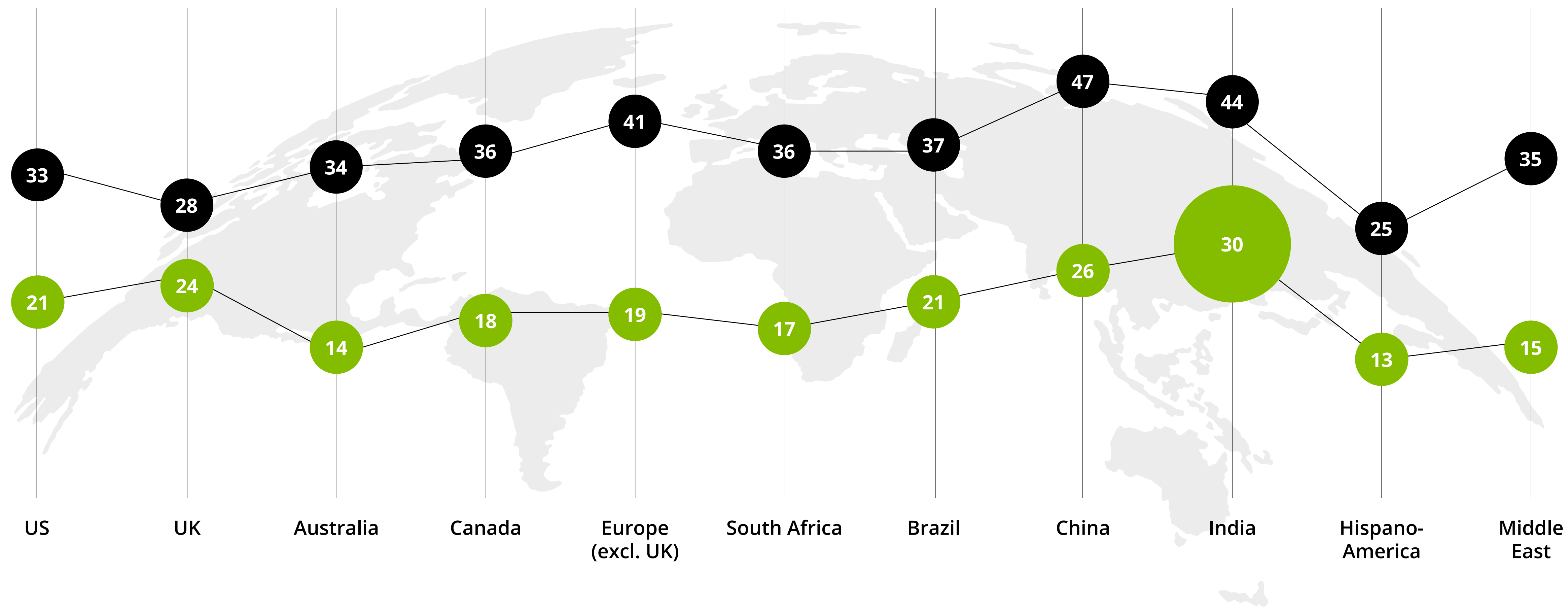
What kind of training did you undertake? (Among those employed who said they needed further education)	US	UK	Australia	Canada	Europe (excl. UK)	South Africa	Brazil	China	India	Hispano-America	Middle East
I enrolled in a university-level degree program	25	17	19	18	19	27	21	38	41	19	17
I enrolled in a professional certification program	28	25	28	19	24	26	26	56	36	25	30
I found information or training on the internet and self-taught	42	30	33	35	35	39	46	50	50	44	43
I took a course or training offered by my employer, a professional association or a boot-camp	41	51	46	33	39	37	45	57	48	37	45
I didn't do anything to further my knowledge or skills	12	5	7	6	7	8	2	5	2	4	6

Human skills are more important than ever, especially when it comes to tech and automation

Workers everywhere want to brush up on skills that machines and Artificial Intelligence (AI) can't yet compete with — critical thinking, problem-solving and creativity. Educational institutions aren't yet meeting this need.



Upskilling is the way to beat automation and technological disruption



Among those who said they needed to upskill in their jobs in the last two years, globally **20%** say they did it to combat automation; this is most pronounced in India where **30%** indicated this was the case.

What caused the need for further education? (%)

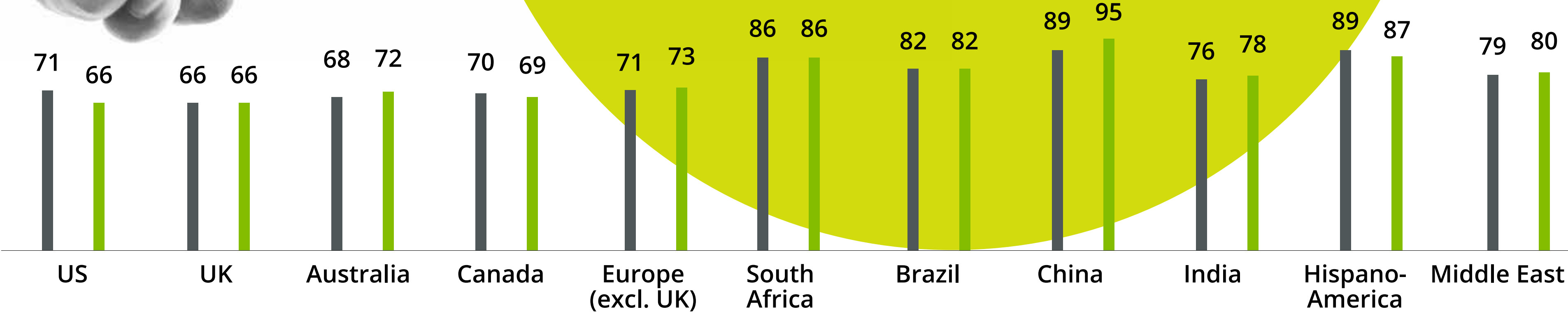
- I was required to use a new form of technology or a new software.
- Some part of my job was automated.

Workers want to build their soft skills in addition to their STEM skills

Globally, **78%** of people think they need to develop their soft skills, such as critical thinking, problem-solving and creativity.

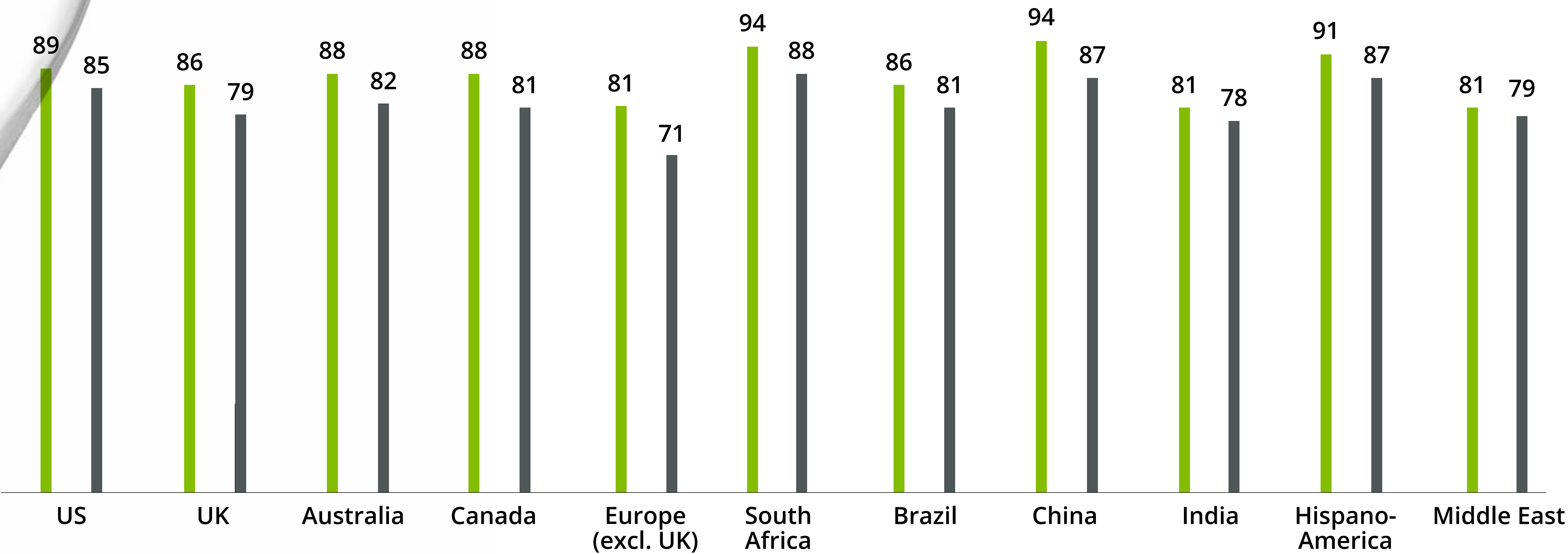
Thinking about your personal development and career path, to what extent do you agree... (%)

- I need to do more to develop my knowledge of STEM subjects/tech.
- I need to develop my soft skills, e.g. critical thinking, problem-solving and creativity.



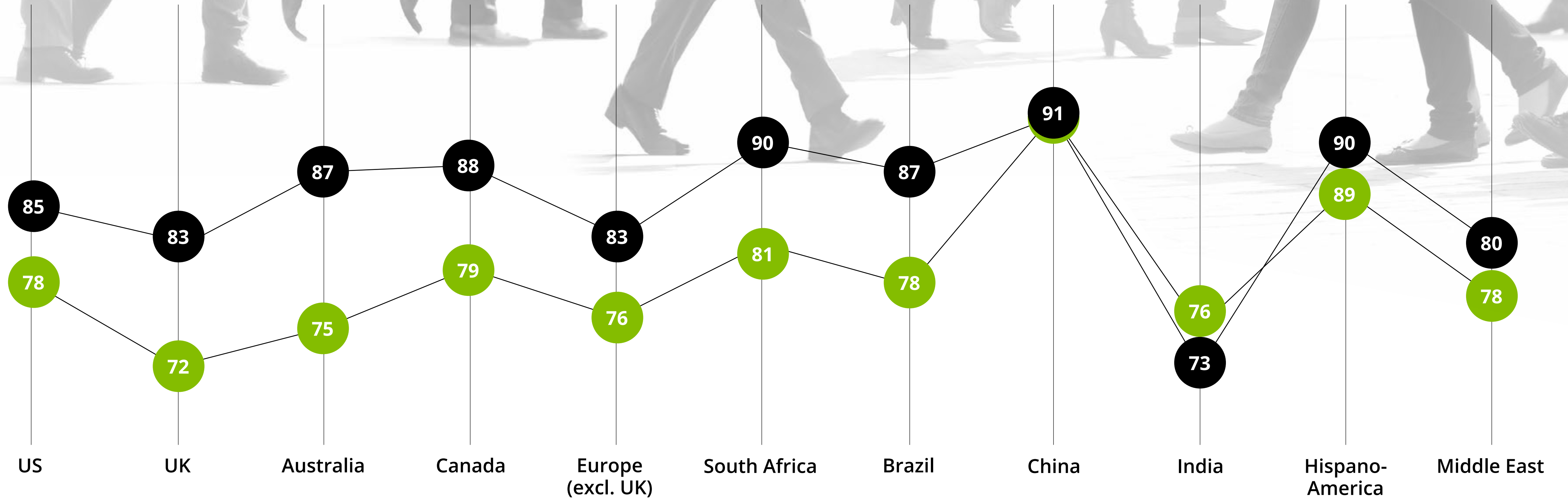
People think that human skills will become even more important in the future

Most respondents to our survey, wherever they live, agree that human skills are as important as technical skills.



Thinking about how jobs are changing, to what extent do you agree that: (%)

- Workers will need to improve uniquely human skills like creative thinking, reasoning & collaboration.
- Workers will need to keep up with STEM.

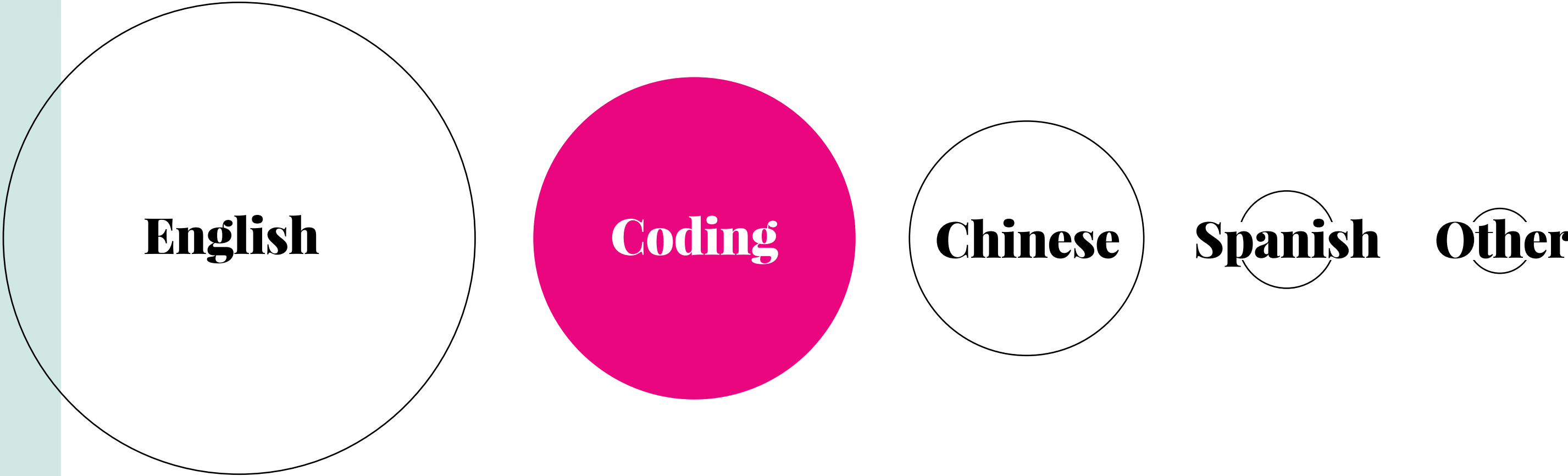
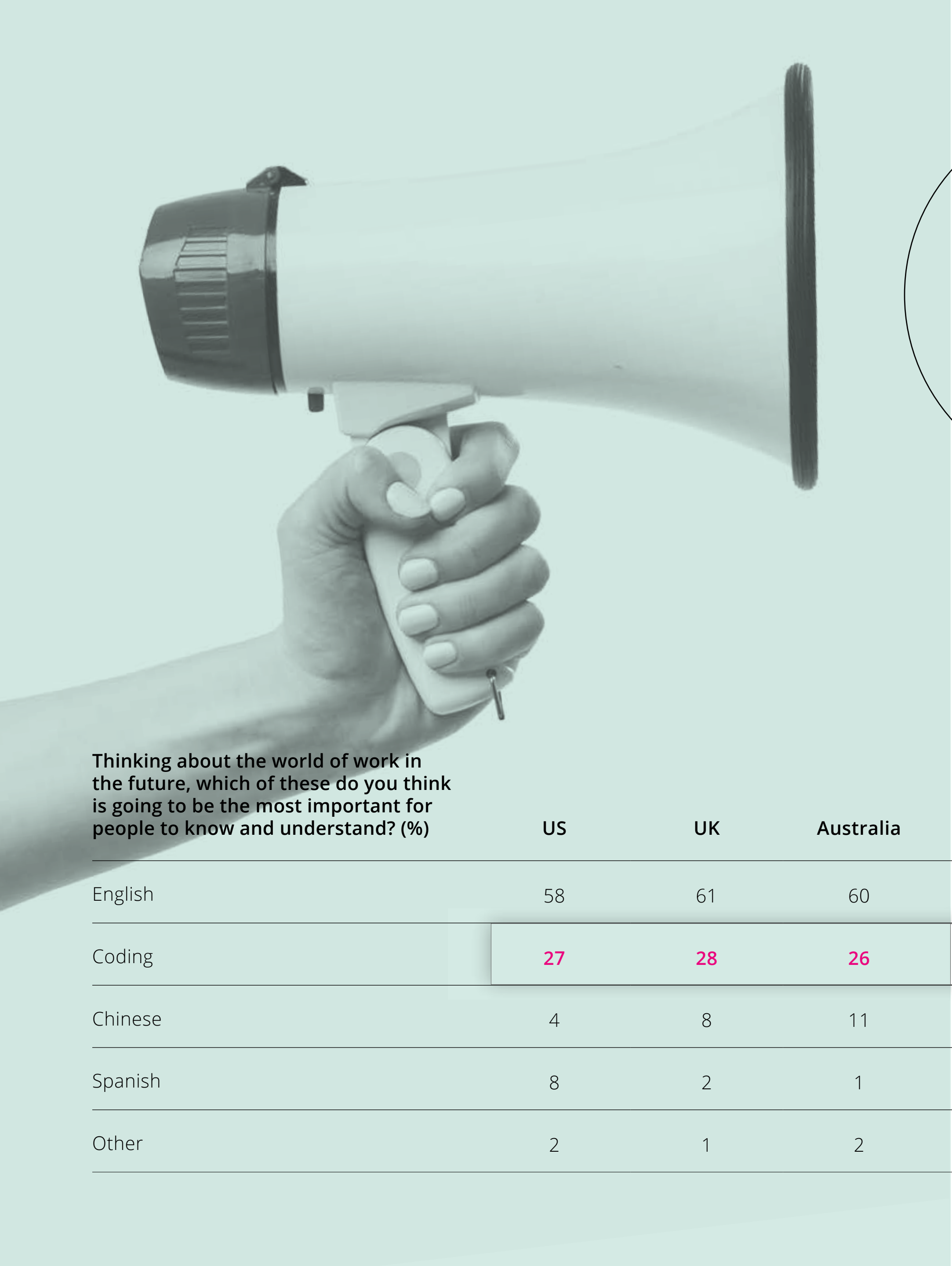


Universities and colleges can — and must — help workers do more to build human skills of the incoming workforce

Globally, universities have an opportunity to use their expertise to increase soft skill offerings.

Thinking about how colleges and universities are preparing students today, to what extent do you agree that: (%)

- Colleges/universities should do more to teach 'soft skills' like complex problem-solving, critical thinking, teamwork & collaboration to prepare for today's job market.
- Colleges/universities need to focus more on STEM subjects to prepare people for today's job market.



Coding is the new second language

People believe coding, along with a knowledge of English, will help them better compete in the new economy.

Thinking about the world of work in the future, which of these do you think is going to be the most important for people to know and understand? (%)

	US	UK	Australia	Canada	Europe (excl. UK)	South Africa	Brazil	China	India	Hispano-America	Middle East
English	58	61	60	60	56	61	73	31	73	61	62
Coding	27	28	26	27	21	33	17	33	18	19	28
Chinese	4	8	11	7	14	5	5	36	3	10	7
Spanish	8	2	1	2	8	0	4	1	4	8	3
Other	2	1	2	3	2	1	1	0	2	2	1

Confidence in educational institutions is wavering

Most respondents to our survey think traditional educational institutions are failing to reach working adults with the skills they need for the future of their working lives. They also want to see governments doing more to make this kind of learning accessible to all.



There is a divide on the belief that the education system is failing the current generation

In the US, South Africa, Brazil and Hispano-America people feel that their domestic educational institutions are failing the generation coming into work now. Conversely, those responding to our survey from China, India and the Middle East feel their educational systems work well for that generation. However, there is evidence that these are the markets where people often seek formal education overseas or hire specialist private tutors for their children.

Which of the following statements best reflects your opinion on the full education system in your country, including primary, secondary and higher education? (%)

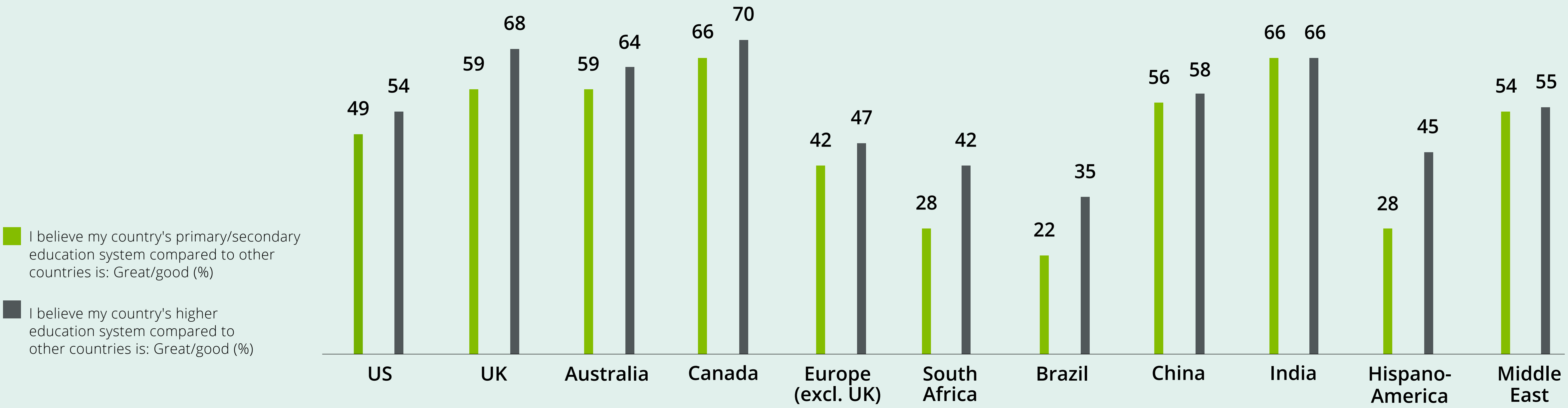
■ The education system in my country works well for the current generation.

■ The education system in my country is failing the current generation.



South Africa, Hispano-America and Brazil show a lack of confidence in their education systems

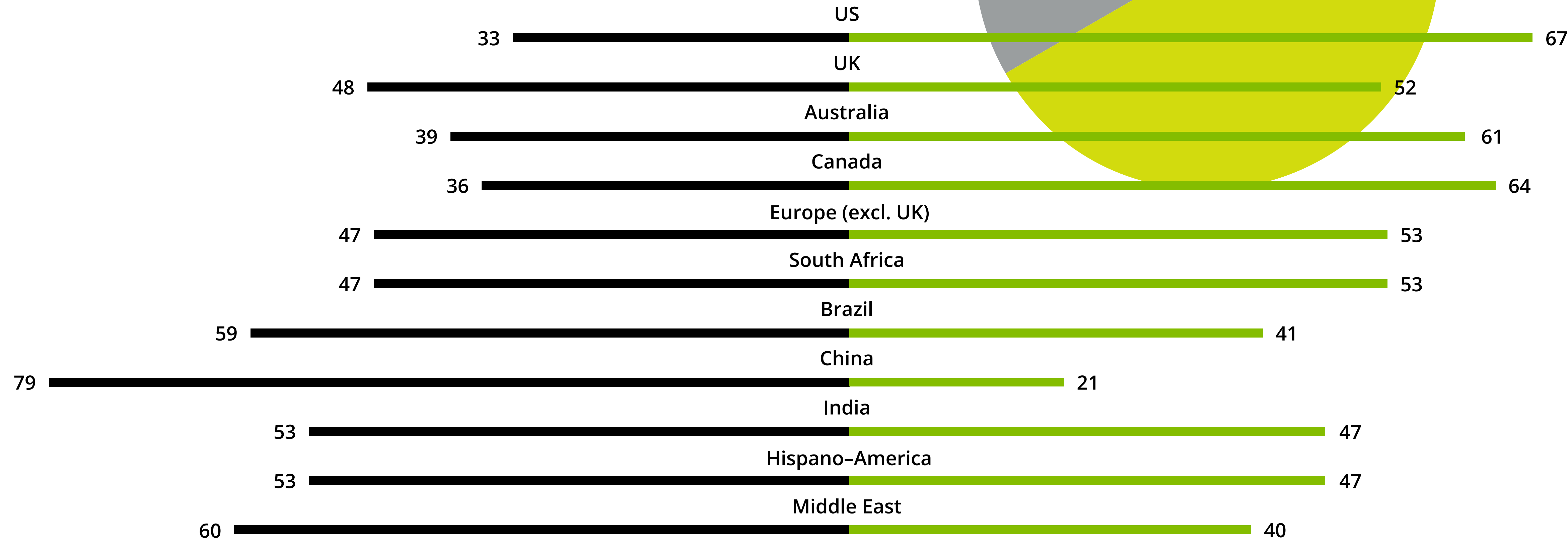
People in other countries are more likely to believe that their education systems are good compared to others.



Most see higher education as getting more out of reach for the average person

Which of the following statements best reflects your opinion about colleges and universities? (%)

- College/university is getting more attainable for the average person.
- College/university is getting more out of reach for the average person.



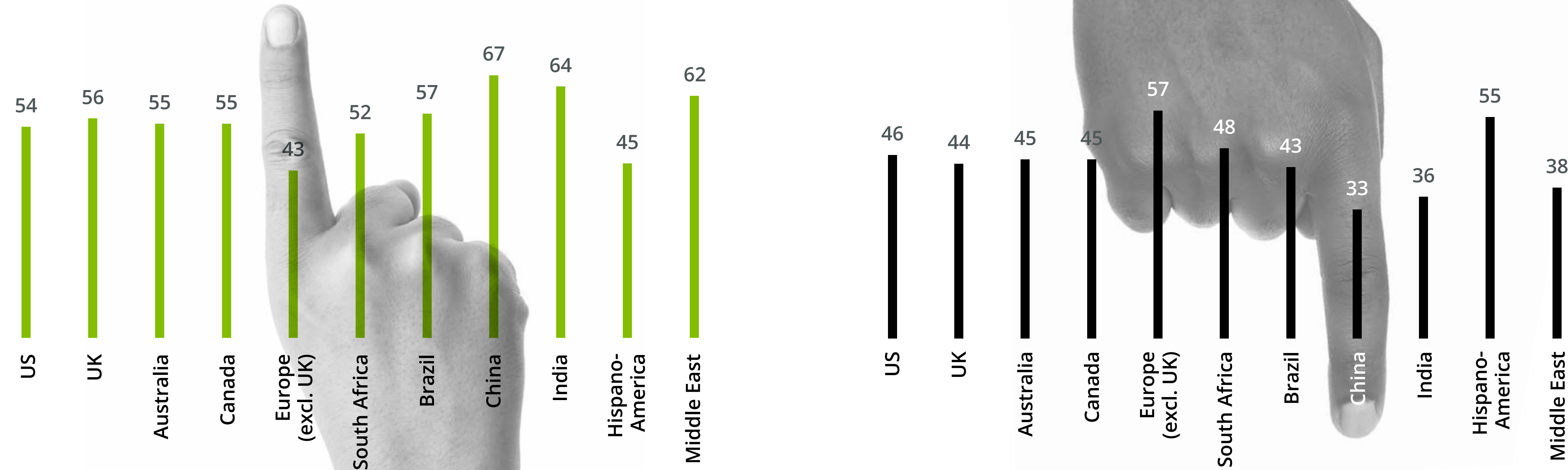
In the US 67% of people see higher education as getting more out of reach for the average person.

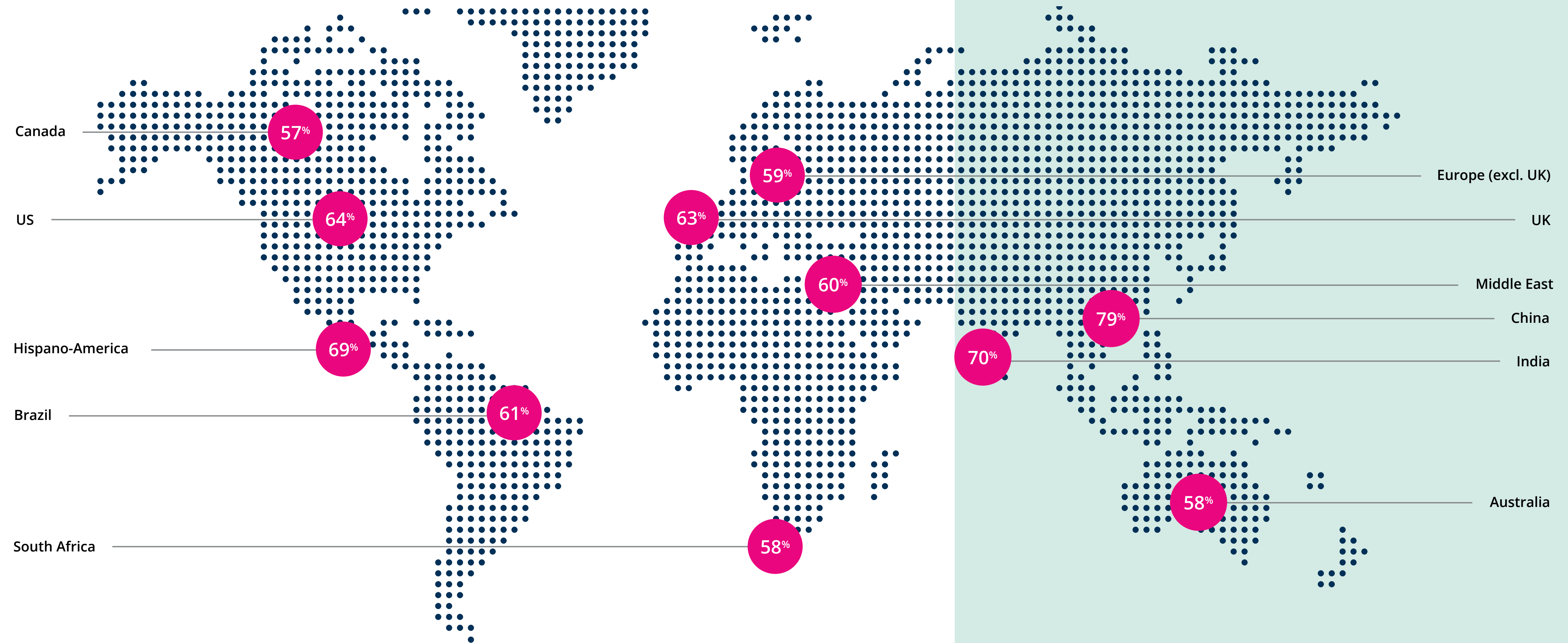
People are split on whether education systems are keeping up with workforce trends

Again, the exceptions are China, India and Middle East, where respondents believe that education systems are doing a good job in keeping up with workforce trends.

Which of the following statements best reflects your opinion on the education system globally, including primary, secondary and higher education? (%)

- Education systems are doing a good job keeping up with the latest trends in technology and a changing workforce.
- Education systems are NOT doing a good job keeping up with the latest trends in technology and a changing workforce.





Learners say universities need to do more to serve the job market

63% globally believe that colleges and universities aren't teaching the right skills.

Thinking about how colleges and universities are preparing students today, to what extent do you agree that: (%)

Colleges and universities aren't teaching the right skills for today's job market.

Universities are perceived as being too focused on themselves and traditional students

Globally, 70% of people agree that colleges and universities care more about their reputation than educating students.

In addition, 74% of respondents agree that colleges and universities focus too much on young students and should offer better options for working adults.

Thinking about the current state of higher education, to what extent do you agree...? (Showing % Agree)

	US	UK	Australia	Canada	Europe (excl. UK)	South Africa	Brazil	China	India	Hispano-America	Middle East
Colleges and universities care more about their reputation than educating students	72	72	72	68	71	70	72	60	71	73	68
Public colleges and universities are just as good, in most cases, as elite institutions	82	72	81	76	66	75	71	72	70	76	64
Elite colleges and universities give people a real advantage in the job market over public colleges and universities	67	72	66	64	67	76	66	85	69	75	68
Colleges and universities are concerned about ensuring that disadvantaged students have equal access to education	58	59	56	56	62	62	64	93	72	63	61
I believe that disadvantaged students have a good shot at getting a college education	57	60	57	49	51	61	62	75	69	65	58
Colleges and universities focus too much on young students and should offer better options for working adults	67	74	71	70	72	74	78	87	71	80	71

People look to government to level the playing field when they can't do it themselves

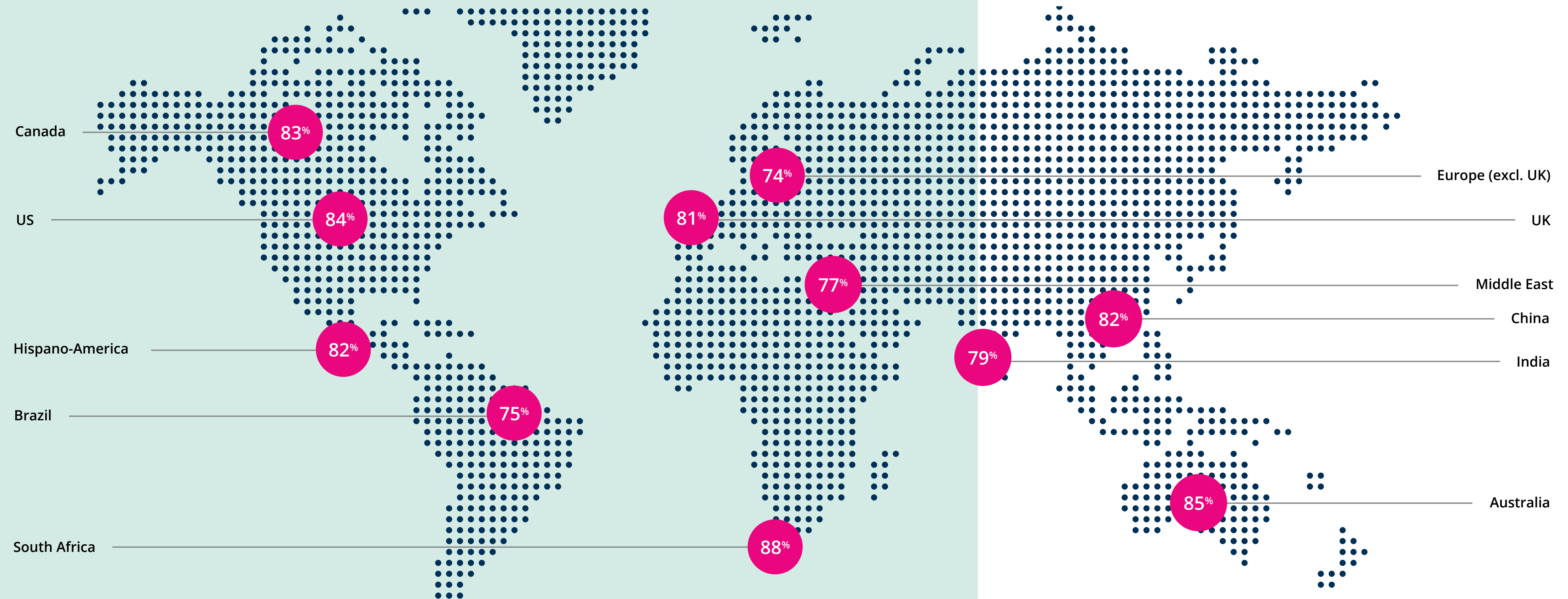
This holds true both in terms of making education more accessible — but also in terms of helping people upskill and connect to jobs.

Regarding the role government plays in higher education, to what extent do you agree...? (Showing % Agree)	US	UK	Australia	Canada	Europe (excl. UK)	South Africa	Brazil	China	India	Hispano-America	Middle East
Government should help to improve access to a college education	80	86	90	90	85	92	87	95	80	94	80
Government should play a role in offering training or credentials to help people learn new skills	75	88	90	88	80	93	87	96	78	91	84
Government should play a role in connecting people to jobs	65	78	85	80	76	89	86	93	74	86	80
Government should regulate or cap tuition fees	81	87	90	89	84	90	82	95	76	66	81
Government should provide some kind of free higher education for all	71	83	86	80	81	86	87	88	75	92	81

Self-service learning not only exists, but will increase

With ready access to online learning, free online resources, short courses and certifications – versus declining trust in traditional education institutions – people believe that DIY learning is the future.





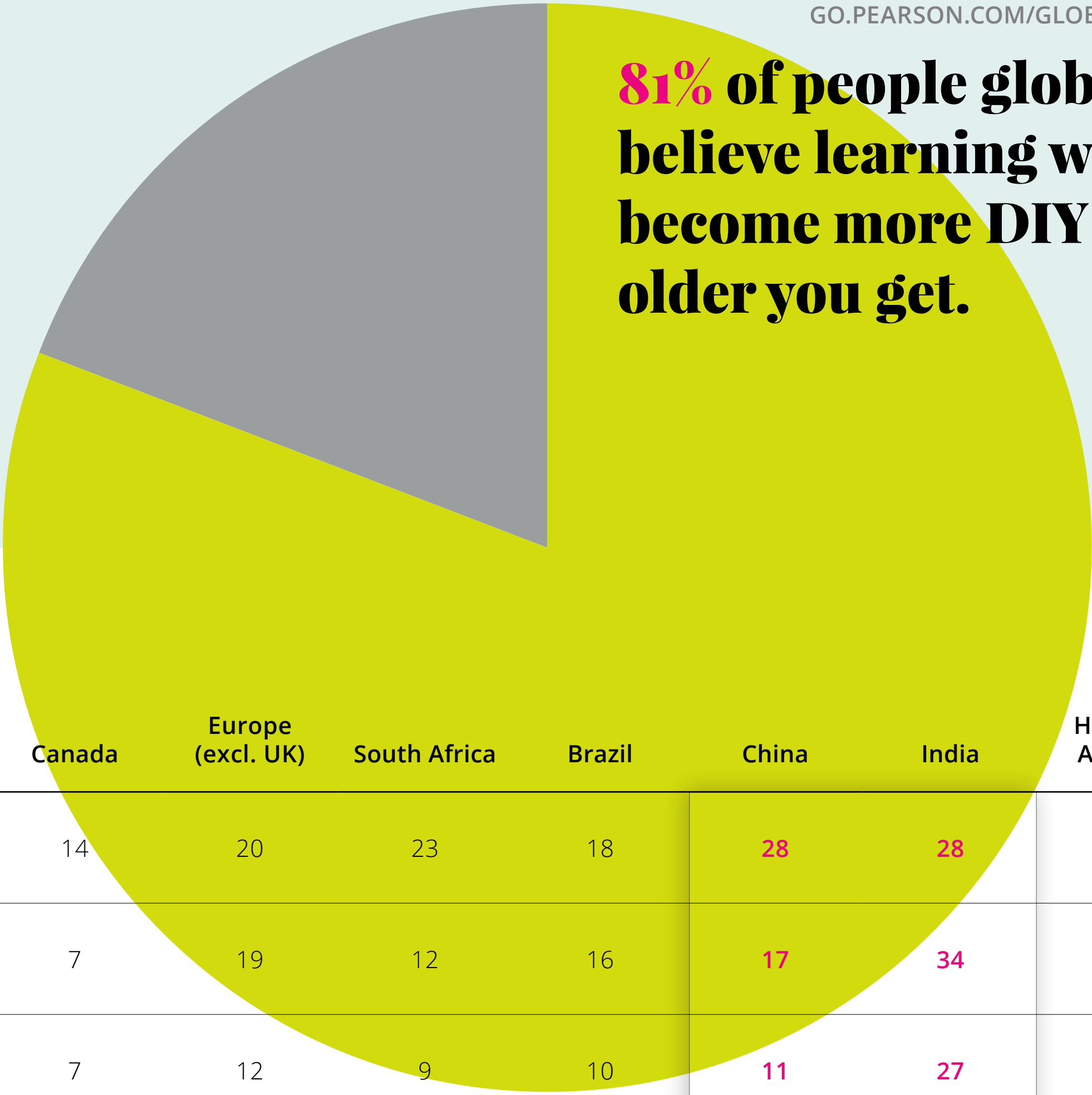
People believe learning will increasingly become more self-service

A DIY approach allows people from all walks of life, ages, jobs and levels of educational attainment to engage in life-long learning.

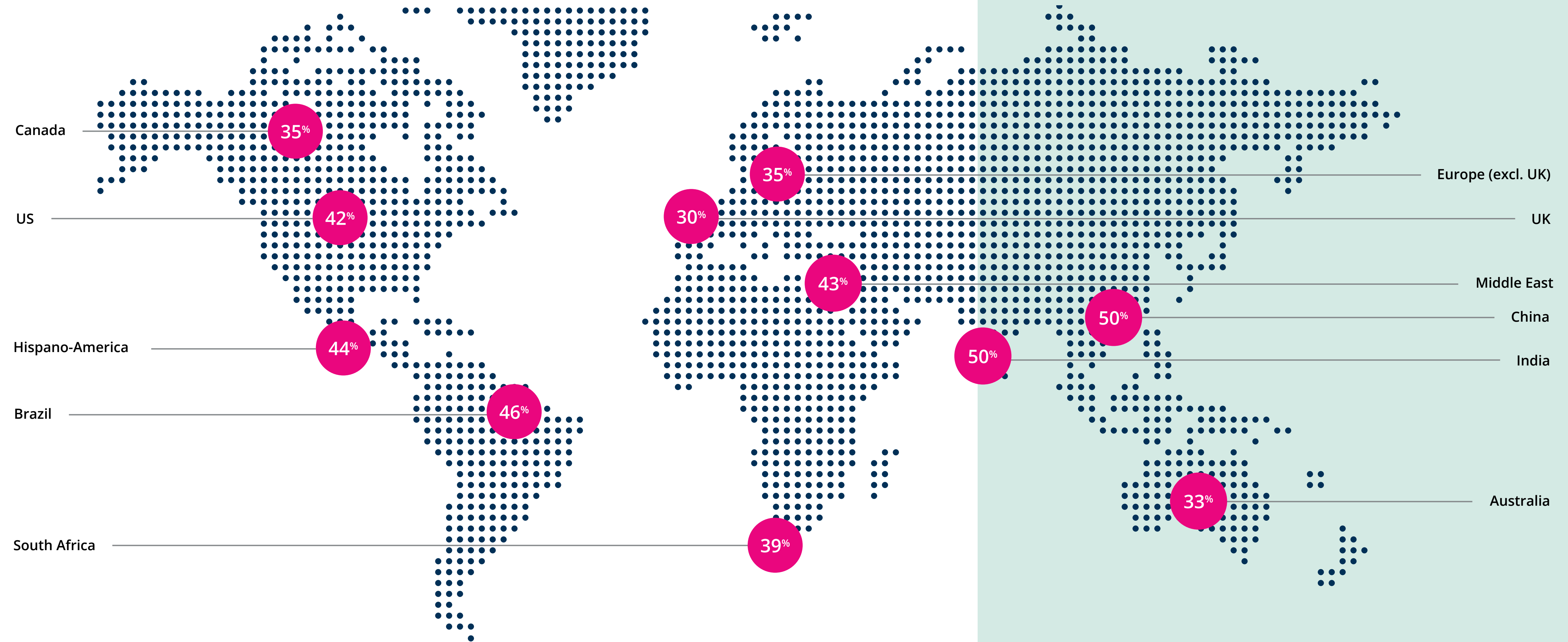
When you think about the future of schools and education, how likely is it that: (%)
Learning will become more self-service the older you get.

In many countries, “DIY-ing” your education starts at a young age

In countries like China and India, there is a more significant focus on hiring tutors or consultants to help students better compete in the college admissions process.



Have you ever done any of the following to help a child or loved one prepare for college? (%)	US	UK	Australia	Canada	Europe (excl. UK)	South Africa	Brazil	China	India	Hispano-America	Middle East
Hired a tutor to help improve grades	16	9	14	14	20	23	18	28	28	20	25
Hired a tutor specifically to prepare for an entrance exam	13	9	8	7	19	12	16	17	34	24	18
Hired a consultant to help with the college admission process	10	7	6	7	12	9	10	11	27	11	16
Purchased materials or hired a tutor to improve English skills	13	14	10	8	25	25	24	36	40	25	29
I've done none of these	67	68	72	72	49	53	52	36	20	46	40



People have sought out self-learning to upskill

Among those who said they needed to upskill for their jobs in the last two years, **globally 43%** said they found information online and self-taught.

What kind of training did you undertake in the last two years?

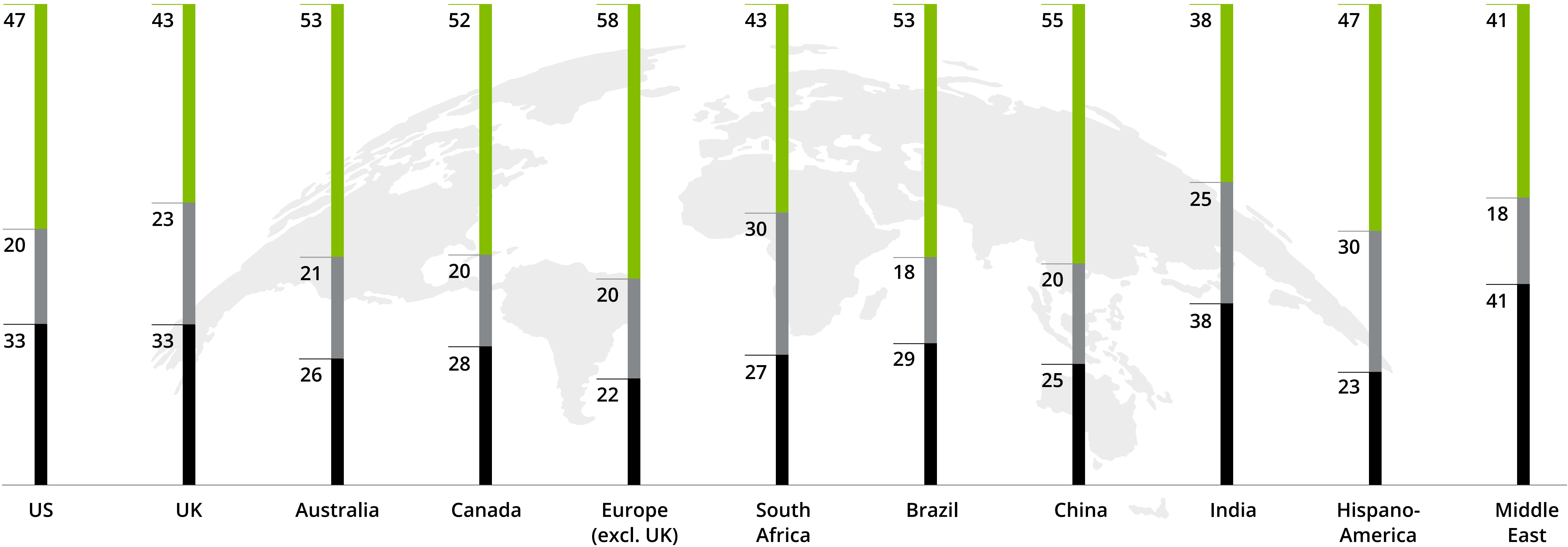
I found information or training on the internet and self-taught

People will continue to upskill — learning on their own terms

With ready access to online learning, short courses and certifications, people believe that DIY learning is the future.

If you had to learn something new for your career quickly, which method would you most likely pursue? (%)

- A short training program such as a boot-camp, certificate program, or something offered by a professional association.
- An accredited university or college program.
- A free resource such as YouTube, Lynda.com or Khan Academy.



People expect digital and virtual learning to be the new normal in the next decade

Technology can enhance the learning experience and increase accessibility; people of all ages are embracing it as the future of education.

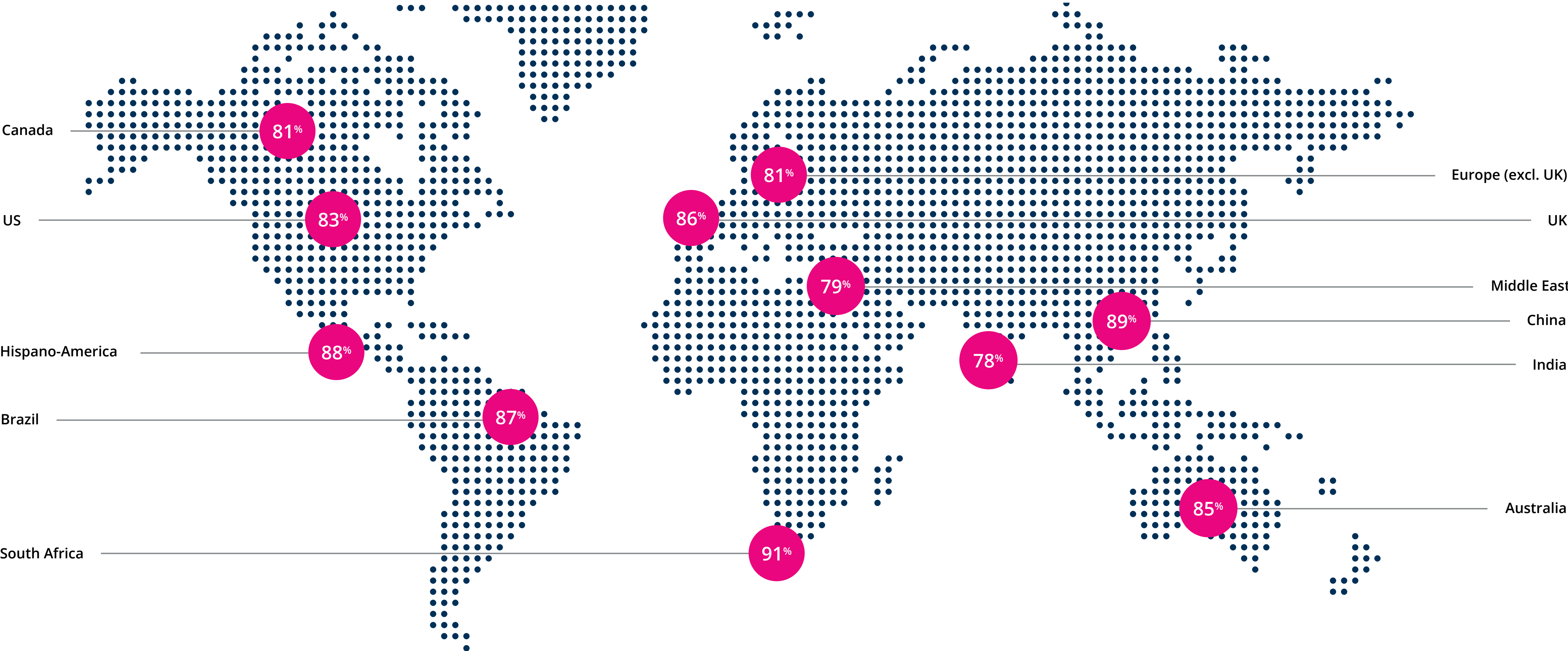


People see how technology can enhance education

Most respondents to our survey see the opportunity for Artificial Intelligence (AI) and other innovations to make learning more engaging.

Thinking specifically about primary and secondary education in your country, to what extent do you agree: (%)

Students today have the benefit of using technology to support their learning, which makes learning easier and more fun.



In: Smart Devices and Virtual Learning Out: Print Textbooks

Most interestingly, respondents in China are the least likely to prefer virtual learning or digital textbooks, yet they are very open to learning using smart devices.



When you think about the future of schools and education, how likely do you think each of the following are? (Showing % Likely)

	US	UK	Australia	Canada	Europe (excl. UK)	South Africa	Brazil	China	India	Hispano-America	Middle East
Smart devices or apps (Amazon Echo, Google Home etc.) will be used to help learners at home or in the classroom.	80	76	83	79	75	92	83	89	77	86	78
More primary and secondary students will attend school virtually (online) versus attending a traditional school within ten years.	74	56	67	64	57	71	73	59	76	77	66
More college and university students will attend school virtually (online) vs. attending a traditional school within ten years.	81	68	81	78	71	83	79	67	79	84	71
Print textbooks will be obsolete by 2025.	70	59	73	67	67	77	71	52	74	79	68
Learning will become more self-service the older you get	84	81	85	83	74	88	75	82	79	82	77
YouTube will become a primary learning tool.	59	54	62	57	53	77	76	68	77	77	70

Everyone sees the benefits of AI, though there are concerns surrounding data abuse and the role of the teacher

China and Hispano-America lead the world in the acceptance of AI in education and are among the biggest champions of its benefits.

When you think about the use of AI in education, to what extent do you agree...? (Showing % Agree)	US	UK	Australia	Canada	Europe (excl. UK)	South Africa	Brazil	China	India	Hispano-America	Middle East
Negative: I worry that AI would displace classroom teachers	66	63	73	68	69	76	71	61	73	75	67
Negative: I'm concerned that AI would collect too much data on students	70	71	74	71	69	74	72	75	72	74	68
Positive: I believe that AI could really help people learn by making it more fun and engaging	69	69	68	65	69	79	77	86	78	82	75
Positive: I think AI could make a positive impact in the world of education	68	70	67	68	65	80	77	90	78	83	74
Positive: I think the algorithms used in AI could help provide highly personalized educational content	66	67	67	67	70	81	79	90	78	86	75

School safety, online bullying and social media are real concerns, especially in the US

While school violence is a main driver of safety perceptions, social media and online behaviors like bullying are having an effect too, making the school environment more difficult for today's students.





Worries about social media and bullying compound school safety concerns

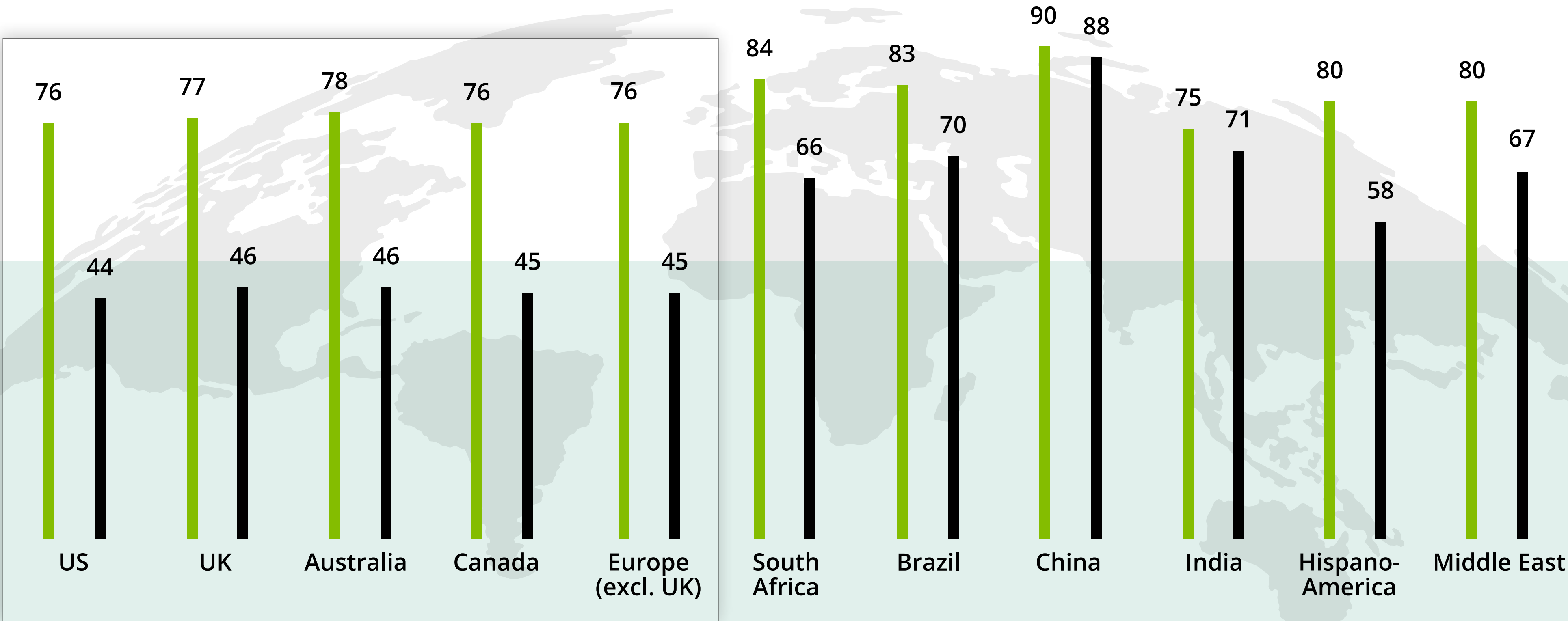
Concerns surrounding school safety are undoubtedly driven by ongoing school violence issues. But people do say school is more difficult than it was 25 years ago, in part, because of online bullying and social media

Thinking specifically about primary and secondary education in your country, to what extent do you agree...?
(Showing % Agree)

	US	UK	Australia	Canada	Europe (excl. UK)	South Africa	Brazil	China	India	Hispano- America	Middle East
Schools are less safe today than they were 25 years ago	84	71	68	72	69	82	80	48	59	81	62
Bullying (in person and online) has made school more difficult for students	84	84	88	85	85	88	75	64	66	81	68
Social media has made the school environment more difficult for students today	76	77	79	74	68	68	56	45	63	72	56

One more digital divide: how countries view social media’s impact on learning

In the US, UK, Australia, Canada and Europe there is less acceptance that social media will help learning, even though they believe in its ability to build global connectivity.



Thinking about the role that education has played in your life or that of other people, how strongly do you agree that:

- Social media is helping students connect with other students around the world.
- Social media is helping to improve the learning experience.

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