Data Vis 2008 RRW Text

2008 Concerns: Text

Recession and unemployment was #3 of 19 trended concerns in 2008. It was among the top five issues in 16 countries and was #1 in three: South Korea, Taiwan, and Thailand.

Inflation and high prices was the #1 concern globally in 2008, up 2 places from 2003, when it ranked 3rd. It was in the top five in 17 countries and was #1 in seven, including the US, China, Germany, and Russia.

Having money enough to live right and pay the bills was the world’s 4th-ranked concern in 2008. It was in the top five in 15 countries and was #1 in one, Canada.

Crime and lawlessness ranked 2nd among the world’s concerns in 2008. It was the most pervasive concern, ranking among the top five in 23 of 25 countries and #1 in eight countries, including Brazil, India, and Spain.

Environmental pollution was the world’s 5th-ranked issue in 2008. It had the largest gain of any trended issue from 2003-2008, +3 ranks. It was among the top five concerns in nine countries and was #1 in three: Australia, Japan, and Sweden.

Wrongdoing and corruption on the part of elected government officials was the 9th-ranked concern globally in 2008. It was in the top five in five countries, ranking highest in the Czech Republic (#3).

Educational quality was the #6 issue globally in 2008. It was in the top five in nine countries, ranking highest in Argentina, at #2.

The future of retirement and pension plans funded by government ranked #14 of 19 trended issues globally in 2008. It was in the top five in two countries, Japan and Germany.

The cost of health care was the 8th-ranked issue globally in 2008. It was in the top five in two countries: the US (#3) and Czech Republic (#5).

Economic inequality was the 13th-ranked issue globally in 2008. It did not register in the top five in any of Roper Reports Worldwide’s core-25 countries, although it reached 7th place in Brazil and South Korea.

Global warming and climate change was the 10th-ranked worry globally in 2008. It was in the top five in four countries, ranking #2 in Australia, Japan, and Sweden, and #5 in Canada.

Terrorism was the #12 concern globally in 2008, down markedly from 2003, when it ranked 5th. It was in the top five in five countries, led by Turkey (#1) and Spain (#2).

Drug abuse was the #7 concern globally in 2008. It ranked in the top five in 13 countries, led by Brazil and Mexico, where it ranked second.

Religious extremism and fundamentalism ranked #16 among 19 global concerns in 2008. It did not make the top five in any country.

Immigration ranked 14th as a global concern in 2008. It ranked in the top five in just one country, the UK (#2).

Foreign relations ranked 18th of 19 concerns globally in 2008. It was not a top-five issue in any country.

AIDS was the world’s 11th-ranked worry in 2008. It was among the top five issues in four countries, led by South Africa (#1) and Indonesia (#2).

Relations between racial and ethnic groups was the #17 issue in the world in 2008. It did not make the top five in any country, ranking highest in Sweden (#9).

Aid to countries in the Third World was last of 19 trended issues in 2008. It did not make the top five in any country.