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Societal and personal concerns, their associations with stress, and the implications for progress and the future

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Highlights

- Concern with a range of personal and societal issues was examined in four nations
- Personal issues of greatest concern were health, wellbeing and financial issues
- Societal issues causing greatest concern were social and political issues
- Both sets of concerns, but especially personal, predict perceived personal stress

Abstract

A survey of more than 2,000 people in four countries examined levels of concern across 19 personal and 23 societal issues. On average, 49% were moderately or seriously concerned about the personal issues, with health, wellbeing and financial concerns topping the ranking. Country differences were small, but generational differences were substantial. An average of 58% of Generation Y were moderately or seriously concerned, compared to 35% of Pre-boomers, with significant differences for 14 of the 19 issues. In terms of societal issues, an average of 41% were moderately or seriously

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