

ITUC Frontlines 2015 Poll

Special Topic: Wages

November 2015

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Commentary

In this second wave of the ITUC Frontlines 2015 Poll, the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) chose to assess whether a small to moderate increase in their monthly wage would make a significant difference to the standards of living for respondents and their family.

Across the 10 countries polled (Chile, China, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Turkey, the UK, the USA and Vietnam) each respondent was asked whether the equivalent of a \$US100 increase in their monthly wage would have an impact on theirs and their family's standard of living.

The amount presented to respondents in each country is listed in the methodology.

Overall, across the 10 countries, more than a quarter said that the increase would have a 'big impact' on their standard of living.

26% of respondents across the 10 countries said that an increase of \$US100 (or local equivalent) would have a big impact on them and their family's standard of living.

A further 56% said it would have at least some impact, leading to a total of 82% stating that this increase would have at least some impact of their standard of living.

The three countries where the respondents were most likely to state that there would be a big impact were Hungary, Vietnam and the UK.

Almost half (43%) of those in Hungary, 36% of those in Vietnam and 31% of those in the UK said that a \$US100 increase (or local equivalent) would have a big impact of theirs and their families standard of living.

In total, 95% of those in Hungary, 92% in Vietnam and 82% in the UK said that this increase would have at least some impact.

Those in India (30%), the USA (28%), Turkey (27%), and Chile (22%) were less likely to think that this increase would have a big impact. They did however have very large majorities who thought that the increase would have at least some impact: 89% in India, 78% in the USA, 88% in Turkey and 77% in Chile.

At just over one in 10, China was the country with the smallest proportion of respondents who thought that a \$US100 increase would have a big impact.

11% of those in China thought that this increase would have a big impact. This was followed by Germany (14%) and France (14%).

However, large proportions of those populations thought that this increase would have at least **some** impact; 74% in China, 68% in Germany and 76% in France.

Across the G20 countries almost one quarter of respondents indicated that the increase would make a big impact on their standard of living.

22% of respondents across the seven G20 countries included in this poll (China, France, Germany, India, Turkey, the UK and the USA) indicated that this increase of \$US100 a month (or local equivalent) would have a big impact on their standard of living.

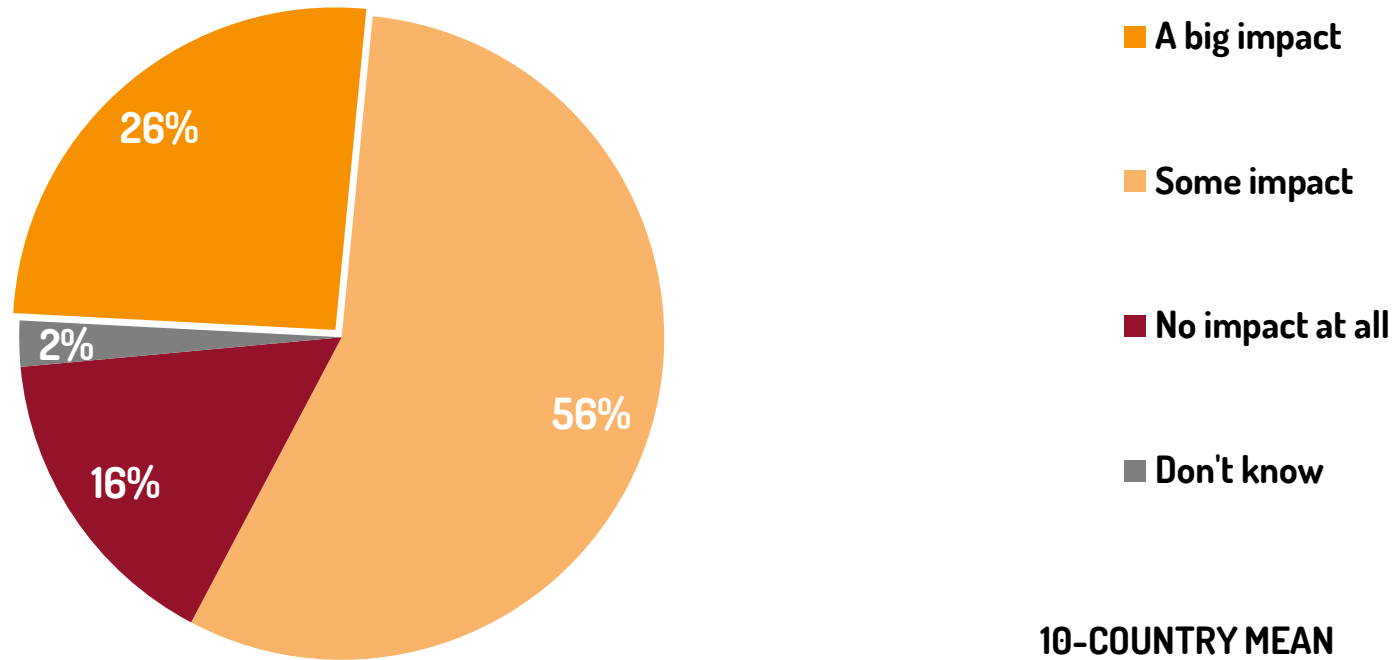
In addition, an average of 57% across the seven G20 countries said that this increase would have some impact, resulting in a total of 79% saying that the increase would have at least some impact.

Although the impact would be felt across all countries included, some will experience a bigger impact than others.

The countries have been ranked below in order of impact (largest percentage who said 'big impact'), with the G20 countries in **bold**.

1. **Hungary (43%)**
2. Vietnam (36%)
3. **The UK (31%)**
4. **India (30%)**
5. **The USA (28%)**
6. **Turkey (27%)**
7. Chile (22%)
8. **France (14%)**
9. **Germany (14%)**
10. China (11%)

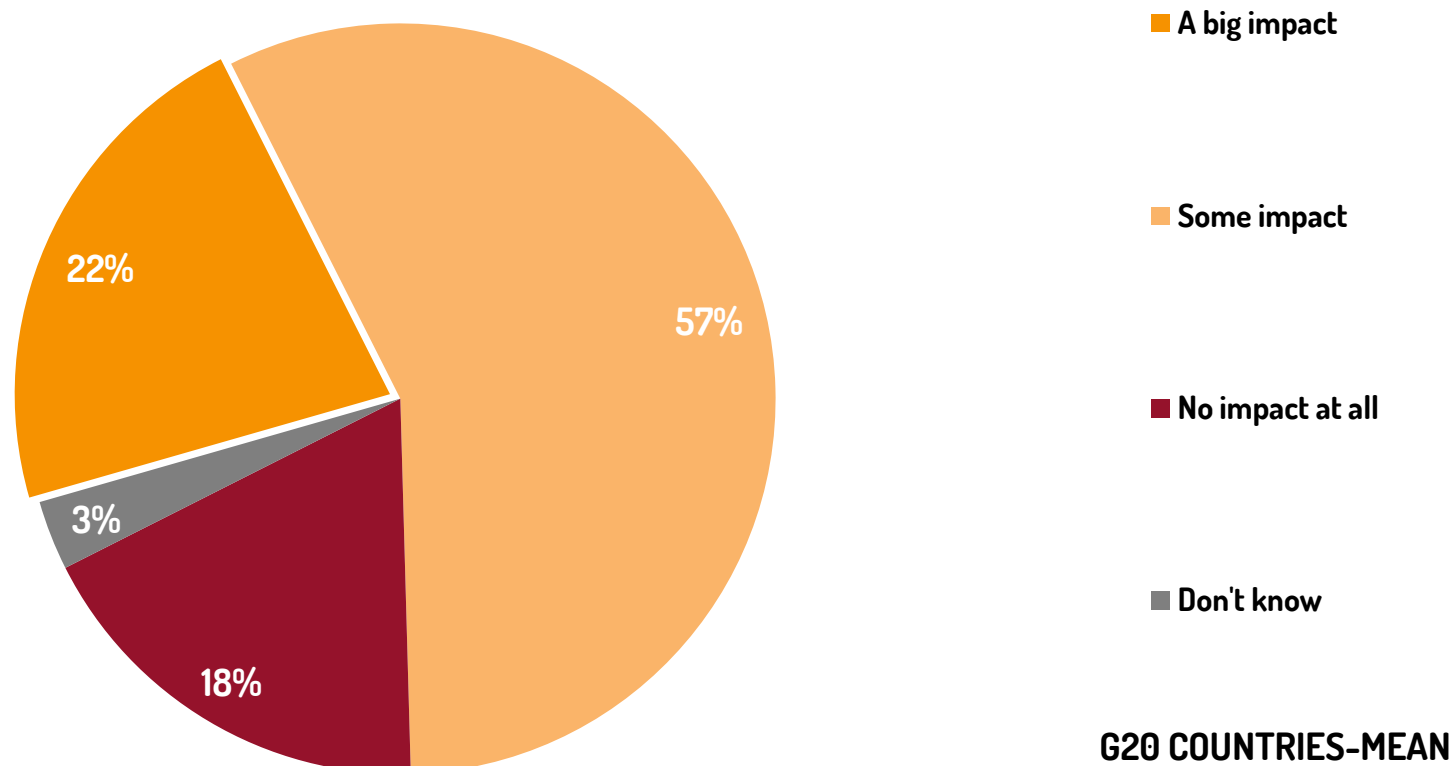
Chart 1: Impact of increasing monthly wage (10-COUNTRY MEAN)



Notes: Sample size is n=10,261. Approximately n=1000 respondents were interviewed. Exact sample size for each country is listed in the methodology.

Question: *If you were to receive a 100 dollars a month pay rise, how much of an impact would this have on you and your family's standard of living: a big impact, some impact, no impact at all, don't know*

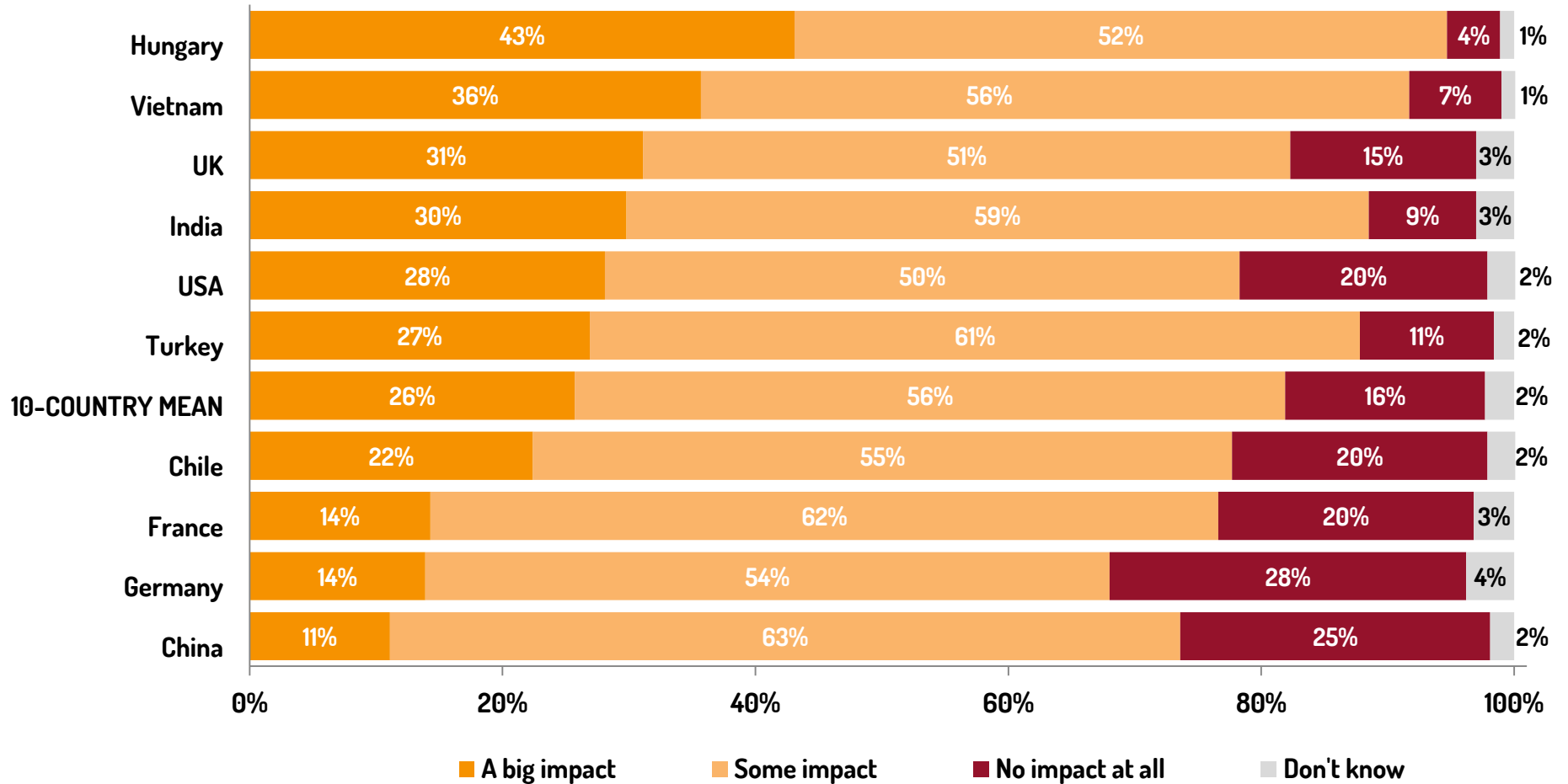
Chart 2: Impact of increasing monthly wage (G20 COUNTRIES-MEAN)



Notes: Sample size is n=7,190. Countries included were France, China, Germany, India, Turkey, the USA and the UK. Approximately n=1000 respondents were interviewed per country. Exact sample size for each country is listed in the methodology.

Question: *If you were to receive a 100 dollars a month pay rise, how much of an impact would this have on you and your family's standard of living: a big impact, some impact, no impact at all, don't know*

Chart 3: Impact of increasing monthly wage (BY COUNTRY)



Notes: In each of the 10 countries, approximately n=1000 respondents were interviewed. Exact sample size for each country is listed in the methodology.

Question: *If you were to receive a 100 dollars a month pay rise, how much of an impact would this have on you and your family's standard of living: a big impact, some impact, no impact at all, don't know*

Tables

Table 1: Impact of increasing monthly wage

Question: *If you were to receive a 100 dollars a month pay rise, how much of an impact would this have on you and your family's standard of living:*

	TOTAL	G20 COUNTRIES MEAN	Hungary	China	Germany	France	Chile	Turkey	USA	India	UK	Vietnam
A big impact	26%	22%	43%	11%	14%	14%	22%	27%	28%	30%	31%	36%
Some impact	56%	57%	52%	63%	54%	62%	55%	61%	50%	59%	51%	56%
No impact at all	16%	18%	4%	25%	28%	20%	20%	11%	20%	9%	15%	7%
Don't know	2%	3%	1%	2%	4%	3%	2%	2%	2%	3%	3%	1%

Methodology

These conclusions are based on the second 2015 International Trade Union Confederation Frontlines Poll.

The results in document relate to one of nine questions asked in the second Frontlines Poll 2015.

This question was asked in ten countries (Chile, China, France, Hungary, Germany, India, Turkey, the UK, the USA and Vietnam).

The results to the questions not included in this report will be released separately.

In each of the 10 countries, approximately n=1000 respondents were interviewed. Exact sample sizes are listed below.

Country	Sample Size	Monthly increase figure
Chile	1012	70,000 pesos
China	1029	650 yuan
France	1027	90 euro
Hungary	1049	28,000 forint
Germany	1023	90 euro
India	1025	6,600 rupees
Turkey	1007	300 liras
UK	1036	65 pounds
USA	1043	100 dollars
Vietnam	1010	2,300,000 dong

The sample in each country has been selected by quotas to reflect national proportions in regards to age, gender and region.

SPSS Software and Microsoft Excel were used to analyse the results.

This project was conducted in line with AS: ISO 20252 guidelines.

Essential Media Communications were responsible for questionnaire design, data analysis and reporting.

TNS Opinion carried out the fieldwork between the 1st and the 8th of October, 2015.

Figures have been rounded so tables may not add to 100%.

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