

The Anger Monitor

COUNTRY PROFILE

France

January 2023

Country Profile: France

Round 1: January 2023

Current Anger Index: 3

[What does this mean?](#)

Living on top of a volcano

While France is economically better positioned than others to face the cost-of-living crisis, the country is facing a drawn-out battle between President Macron and the unions for his unpopular attempts to reform the pension system. Meanwhile, there has been a worrying growth in distrust and disillusionment with the political system, demonstrated by the high protest votes during the last election and the legacy of the *gilets jaunes*, a movement representing those feeling frustrated and underrepresented by the political elites. Add the rise and normalisation of the far-right. and there is a sense amongst many that France is sat atop a social volcano that could explode at any moment.

Key Data Insights

France's anger culture leans towards extroverted

- 27% described themselves as anger introverts (they don't show their anger to others), 25% as extroverts (when they are angry they tell people) with another 19% also extroverted but express their anger by getting active either in protests or by helping people that are suffering.
- 56% said they are happy to see people in their country openly expressing their anger.

Over half of the country feels angry about the cost of living crisis

- 57% said they felt angry about the crisis
- The angriest age groups were 25 - 34 year olds (74% vs 57% avg.)
- Those with Very Conservative views also tended to be much angrier about the crisis (82% vs 57% avg)
- While French Women are angrier than men (63% vs 52%)

Most French people also feel anxious and powerless about the crisis

- 86% of French people were taking the crisis seriously and 60% of French people were taking the crisis "Extremely Seriously" (the highest of all three countries)
- 69% said the cost of living crisis made them feel powerless (the highest of all three countries) and 69% said they felt worried
- 79% felt their anger would fade when they feel more secure about their country's future and 71% when they felt more in control of their lives.
- Almost half (47%) of French people felt agreed or strongly agreed that their suffering was being ignored.

A small group felt motivated by the crisis

- 25% said they felt motivated by the crisis.
- The percentage was highest amongst 18-24 year olds (33%), those with a low level university degree (28%), those who identify as Very Liberal (37%)

French people mostly blame the government and the Oil & Gas Industry for the cost of living crisis but also the EU...

- 66% of people blame the Oil and Gas industry for the crisis and 66% blame the French government
- Over 50% of French people blamed the EU for the crisis and this was higher than any other country).
- The "Very Conservative" group had some of the highest levels of blame across the board (91% blame the govt vs 66% avg., 86% blame the EU vs 56% avg. and 73% Oil & Gas vs 66% avg.,)

A year of discontent ahead

- 81% were worried the crisis would escalate into protests and 80% were worried it would escalate into violent protests.
- 39% of French people said they would participate in protest in the next six months with 20% saying they would join protests even if they got violent
- Over 50% of French people felt more people should participate in protests to express their anger.

Want to know what to do with this data and how to campaign on anger? [Find our recommendations in **The Anger Handbook**.](#)

Research methodology

Mindworks partnered with international polling company Critical Research to conduct online interviews with n=500 French adults. Interviews were conducted online from a panel of potential respondents. All respondents qualified for the survey. The survey was designed by Mindwork and carried out by Critical Research. Invitations were issued to potential respondents and completed interviews verified and quality checked by Critical Research. It has a minimum confidence level of 95% and a maximum margin of error 5%).

You can explore the [full French data set in graph form here](#).

You can explore the [full French raw data here](#).

Credits

Cover photo by: [Guillaume Issaly](#) on [Unsplash](#)



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