



AMERICA

Speaks!

RESEARCH
AMERICA
DISCOVERY. INNOVATION. HEALTH.

POLL DATA SUMMARY VOL. 23

MESSAGE FROM

Leadership



Mary Woolley

President and CEO
Research!America

Research!America's latest Poll Data Summary presents an important snapshot of public priorities as they concern medical and health research as well as science and technology more broadly. Understanding public sentiment is vital to assuring that public investment and public policies reflect public priorities. This 23rd edition of our Poll Data Summary, made possible with the generous support of the American Medical Association, shows strong public agreement concerning the value of our nation's science and technology (S&T) enterprise and the need for investment. The majority of Americans – regardless of political party affiliation – support Congress investing more taxpayer dollars to advance science and technology in the U.S. (62%).

Our national findings strongly underscore that the public not only wants to invest more in S&T, it wants to hear from the science community, with 8 in 10 respondents regarding communication with the public as part of the job of scientists. Americans also want scientists and public health officials to speak to elected officials about the impacts of their research (90%).

Americans also tell us that the U.S. is experiencing a mental health crisis, and say it is important to increase funding for research in

this area. Additional high-profile health concerns for Americans include opioid addiction, climate change, and antibiotic resistance, among other issues. Public sentiment is clear: research can deliver solutions, but increased investment in medical and scientific progress is needed to keep pace!

Our recent work commissioning surveys has benefitted from partnerships that allowed us to assess public sentiment in specific areas. Our survey in partnership with Virginia Tech highlighted state-level concerns; our survey in partnership with the Dana Foundation showed Americans' views on brain health. We would love to partner with you as well – what issue or demographic would you like to understand better?

We hope you will share this summary with your network. Research!America will continue to work with our members to make public perspectives broadly known; to support public engagement by the science community; and to work together with all stakeholders to raise the volume of advocacy for science. We are strongest when we work together!

SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS:

- More than 3 in 4 Americans (85% of Democrats, 71% of Republicans, 73% of independents) say investing in research and development is creating employment opportunities for people in the United States.
- Most Americans (91%) say it is important for the U.S. to be a global leader in science and technology and 77% are concerned that China will surpass the U.S. as the world's leading S&T power.
- Cost of health care was cited as the single most important health issue facing the nation, with COVID-19, cancer, and mental health close behind. (COVID-19 was by far the top-cited issue in last year's Poll Data Summary.)
- Regardless of party affiliation, Americans are concerned about the impact of misinformation/disinformation on public health (88%), climate change (79%), and stable democracy (85%).
- More than half of Americans feel curious, hopeful, and optimistic about brain health research and a strong majority, across party lines, are in favor of increased federal funding for brain health research (78%).

MESSAGE FROM THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



James L. Madara, MD
CEO, American Medical Association

The Mission of the American Medical Association (AMA) to promote the art and science of medicine and the betterment of public health aligns with and is advanced by the work of Research!America. That is why the AMA is proud to be one of its founding members, and why we continue to work closely with Research!America as vigorous advocates for evidence-based science, discovery, and innovation.

The insights found in *America Speaks! Poll Data Summary, Volume 23* provide the basis for a great deal of optimism while also highlighting areas of concern. For example, a January 2023 survey showed that public confidence in physicians, nurses, and scientists has grown considerably compared to 2022, identifying all three professions as the most trusted to act in the public's best interests.

However, that same survey showed that nearly half of those responding believed the crisis of opioid addiction had worsened in their community over the past five years, with a particular emphasis on growing problems in rural areas.

Other poll results show that health care costs have supplanted COVID-19 as the single most important health issue currently confronting our nation. And while Democrats and Republicans have difficulty finding common ground on many issues, it is encouraging that well over 80% of survey participants strongly or somewhat agreed with the statement that federal officials should give much greater emphasis to science, technology, engineering, and math education and careers.

Because our missions are so intertwined, the AMA is always eager to partner with Research!America to provide advocacy, leadership, and outreach that supports expanded medical and scientific research. Our proactive advocacy on behalf of physicians and their patients has aligned perfectly with Research!America's ongoing work.

On behalf of all of us at the AMA, we thank Research!America for your continued efforts to build public support for expanded research into the cure, treatment, and prevention of disease and mental illness.

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Look for these indications throughout this publication:



NEW QUESTION
New question since Poll
Data Summary Volume 22.



DECREASED

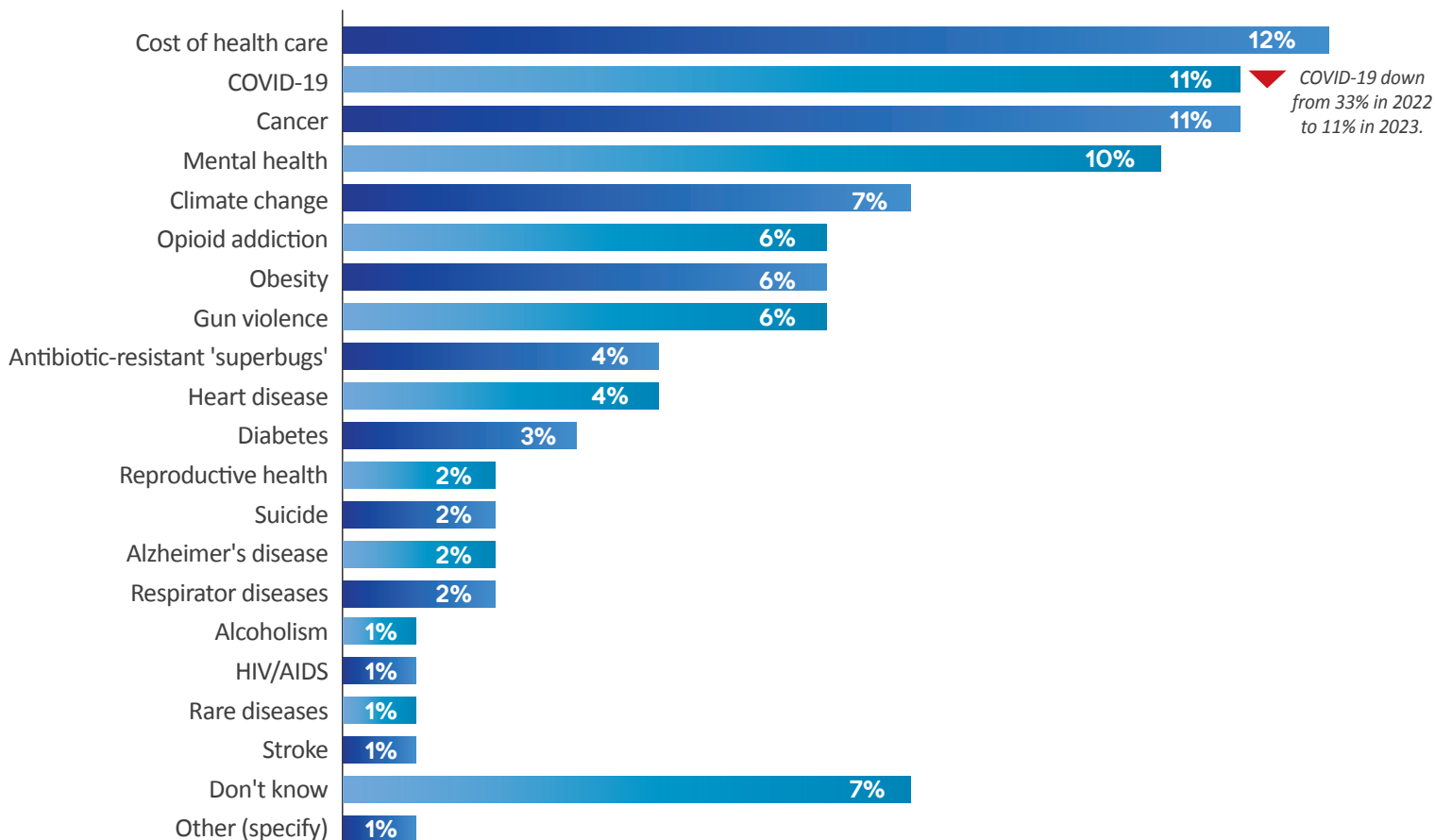


INCREASED

PRIORITIES

COST OF HEALTH CARE IS THE MOST IMPORTANT HEALTH ISSUE

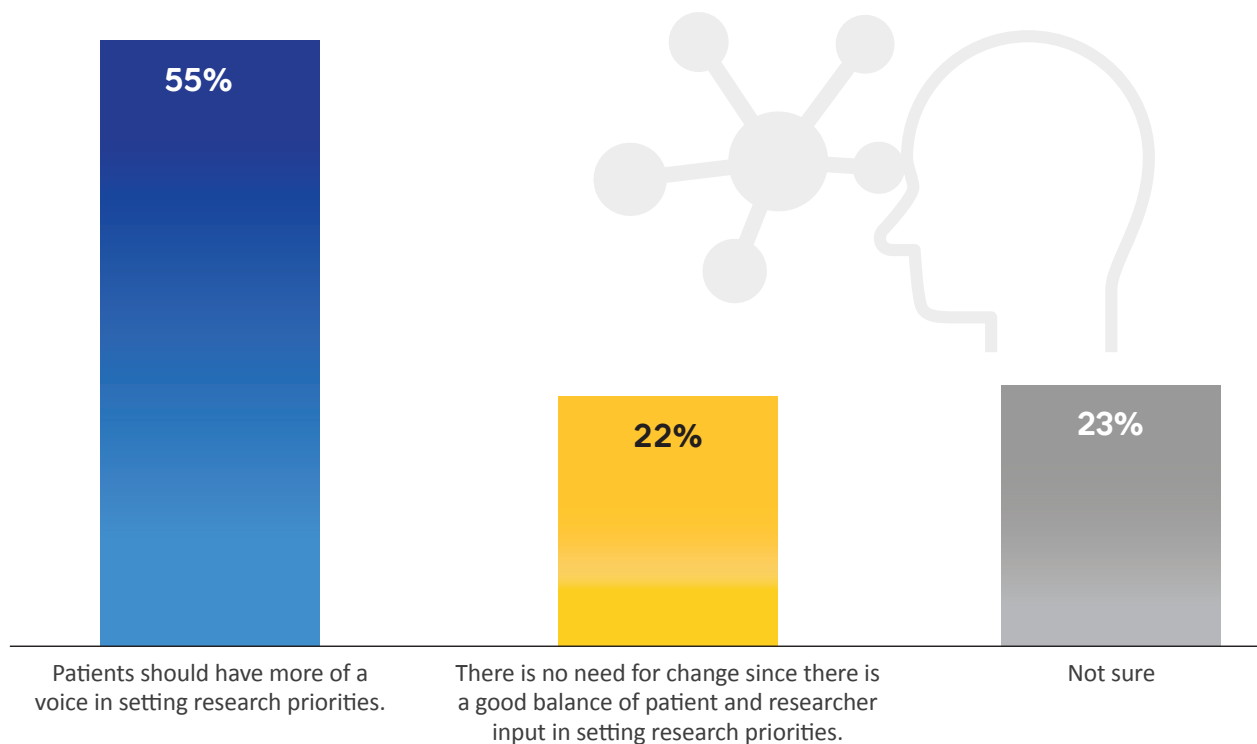
What would you say is the single most important health issue facing the nation?



Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

MORE THAN HALF SAY PATIENTS SHOULD HAVE A VOICE IN SETTING HEALTH RESEARCH PRIORITIES

Some people say that patients should have more of a voice in determining health research priorities. In general, which statement most closely matches your view?

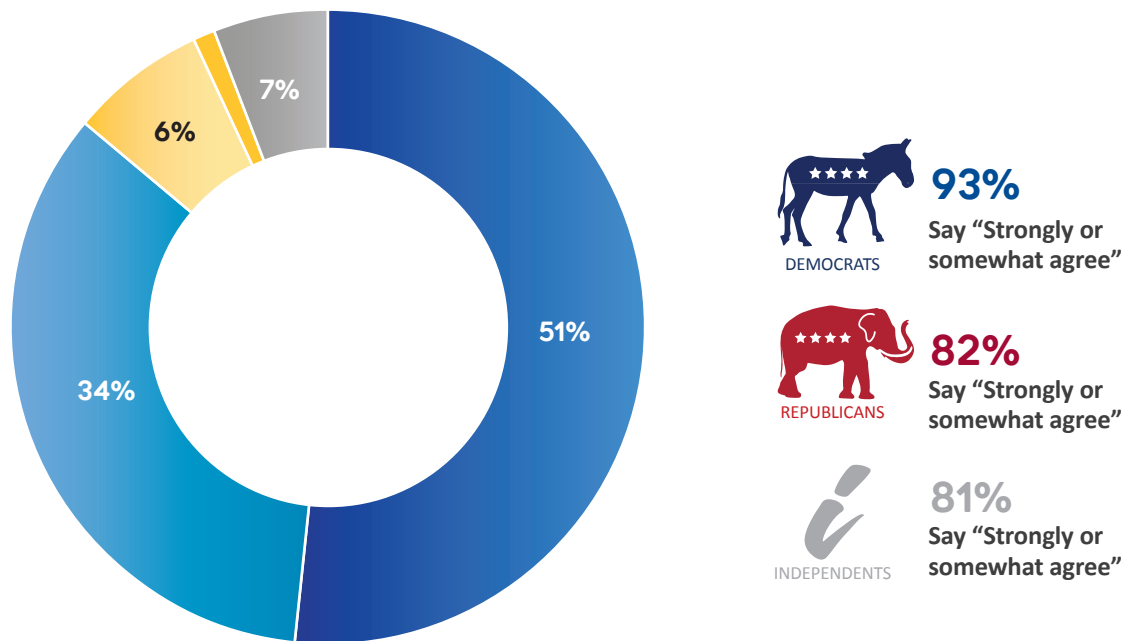


“The only way to achieve our goals is through advancing science but in a way that reflects the kind of solidarity with those most in need.”

– Margaret Hamburg, MD, Co-chair InterAcademy Partnership, Former FDA Commissioner

STRONG SUPPORT FOR IMPROVING K-12 STEM EDUCATION

Do you agree or disagree that the federal government should assign a higher priority to improving K-12 education focused on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics and careers in those fields?

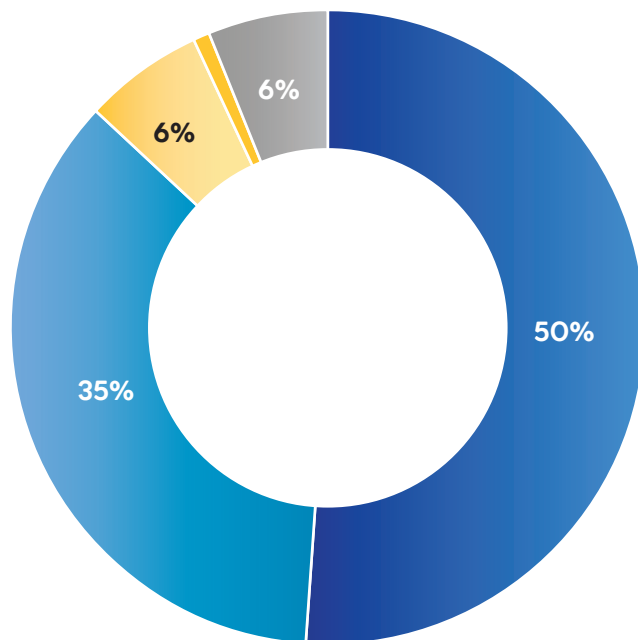


● Strongly agree ● Somewhat agree ● Somewhat disagree ● Strongly disagree ● Not sure

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

85% SUPPORT RESEARCH TO ADDRESS HEALTH DISPARITIES

Studies show that in addition to increased risk from COVID-19, some health problems such as cancer, diabetes, heart disease, and infant mortality happen more often among certain minorities or citizens with lower incomes. How important do you feel it is to conduct research to combat health disparities?



DEMOCRATS

95%

Say "Very or somewhat important"



REPUBLICANS

79%

Say "Very or somewhat important"



INDEPENDENTS

84%

Say "Very or somewhat important"

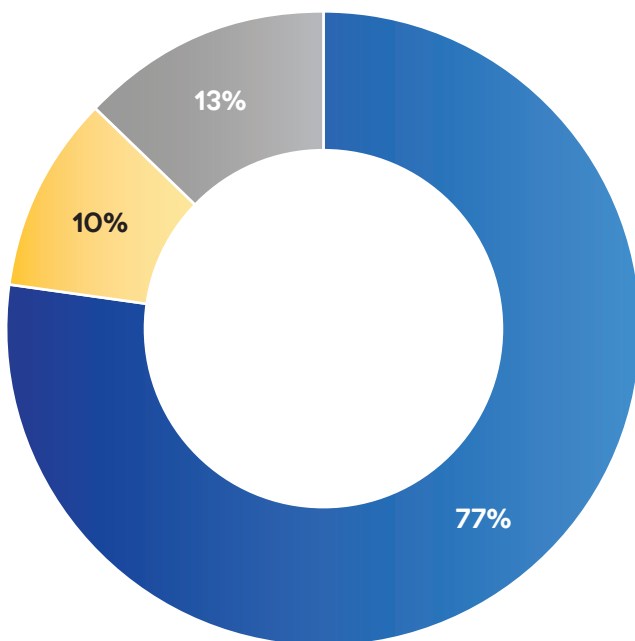
● Very important ● Somewhat important ● Not very important ● Not at all important ● Not sure

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

AMERICANS AGREE THAT THERE IS A MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS IN U.S.

NEW!

Is there a mental health crisis in the U.S. today?



● Yes ● No ● Not sure



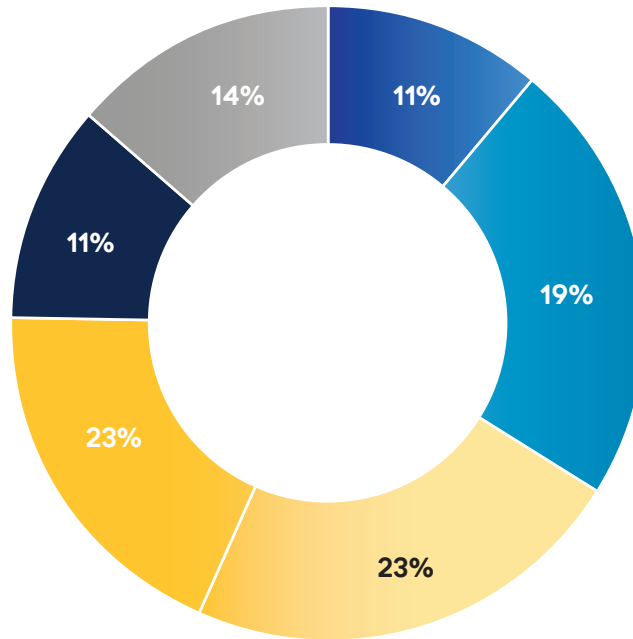
“Alliances across scientists, engineers, innovators, entrepreneurs, health leaders, policymakers, and the public are essential to unlocking the power of breakthrough science.”

– William N. Hait, MD, PhD, Executive VP, Chief External Innovation & Medical Safety Officer, Interim Head, Janssen R&D

OPIOID ADDICTION CONTINUES TO BE A MAJOR PROBLEM

In the past 5 years, do you think the problem of people being addicted to opioids in your local community has gotten better, gotten worse, or remained about the same?

Respondents in a rural area are more likely (68%) to say “Somewhat worse or A lot worse”



● A lot better ● Somewhat better ● Somewhat worse ● A lot worse ● Mostly the same ● Not sure

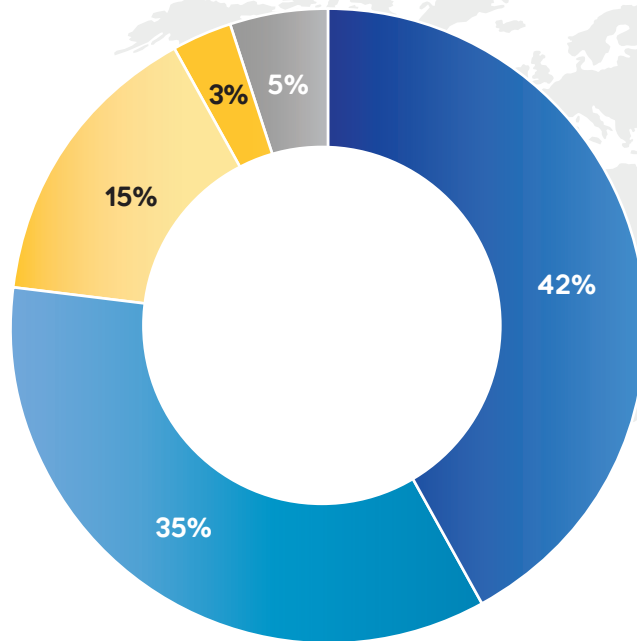
Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

77% ARE CONCERNED THAT CHINA WILL SURPASS THE U.S. AS A GLOBAL S&T POWER

NEW!

How concerned are you with the possibility of China surpassing the U.S. as the world's leading science and technology power?

Young people (aged 18-24) less likely (65%) to say "Very or somewhat concerned".



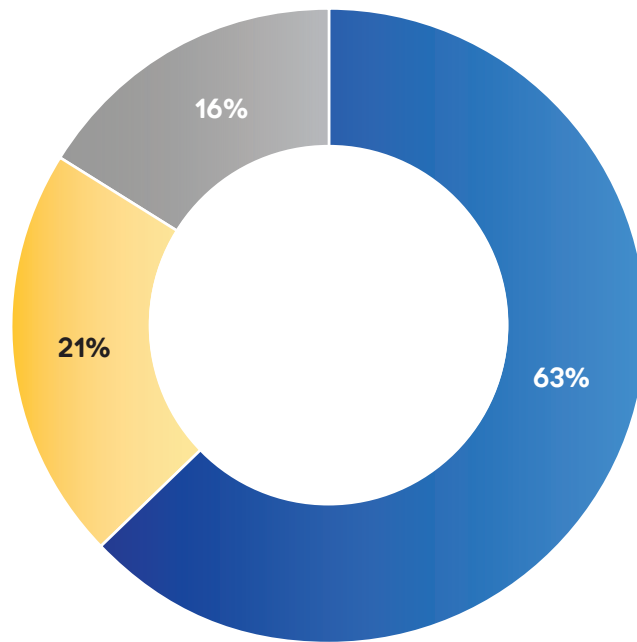
● Very concerned ● Somewhat concerned ● Not too concerned ● Not at all concerned ● Not sure

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

SUPPORT FOR HEALTH RESEARCH

63% WILLING TO PAY MORE TAXES IN SUPPORT OF HEALTH RESEARCH

Would you be willing to pay \$1 per week more in taxes if you were certain that all of the money would be spent on additional medical research?



● Yes ● No ● Not sure



DEMOCRATS

72%

Say "Strongly or somewhat favor"



REPUBLICANS

57%

Say "Strongly or somewhat favor"



INDEPENDENTS

60%

Say "Strongly or somewhat favor"

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

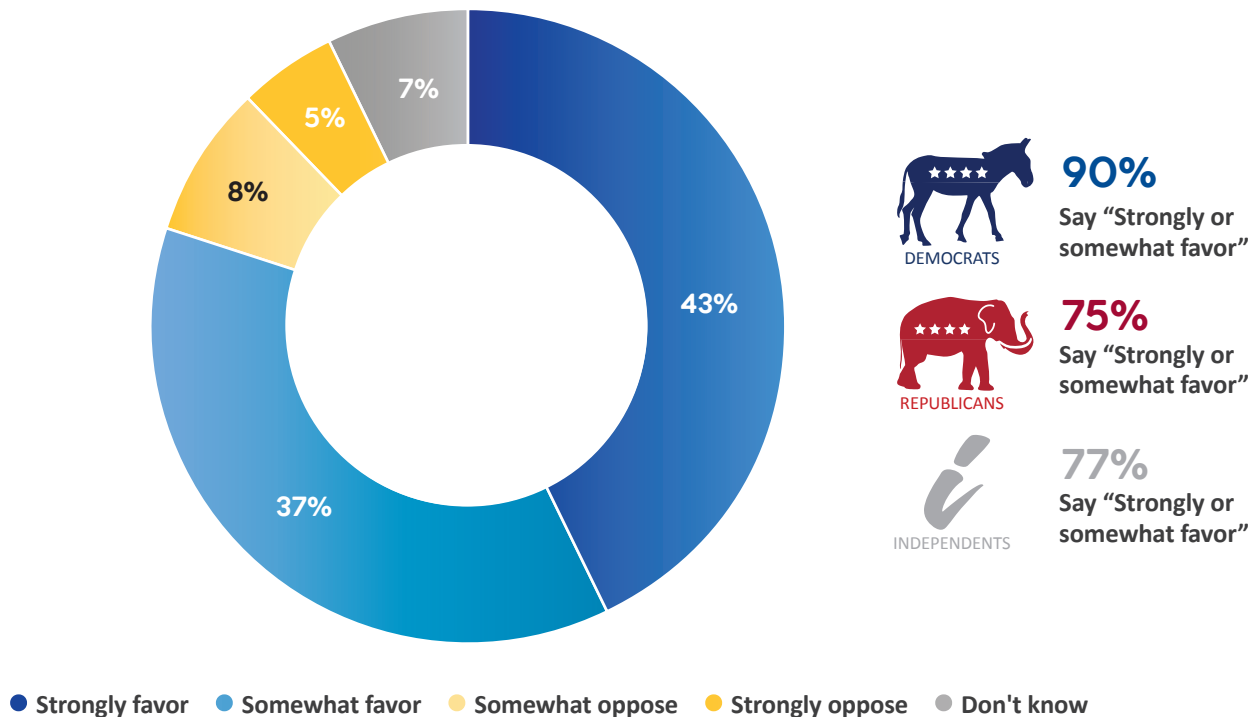


"We reap the rewards of research every single day — from vaccines to maternal health practices, Alzheimer's care to substance use therapy, and most recently, COVID-19 prevention and treatment — the benefits are literally life-saving."

– Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY)

8 IN 10 FAVOR INCREASED FEDERAL SPENDING ON VACCINE RESEARCH

Do you favor or oppose increased federal spending on research to improve and find new vaccines?

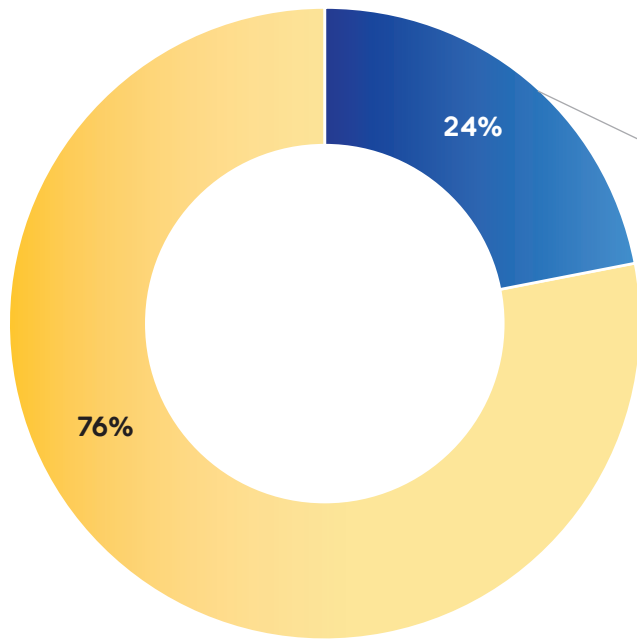


Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

VISIBILITY

3 IN 4 CANNOT NAME A LIVING SCIENTIST

Can you name a living scientist?



Those saying “Yes” down from 37% in 2022 to 24% in January 2023.

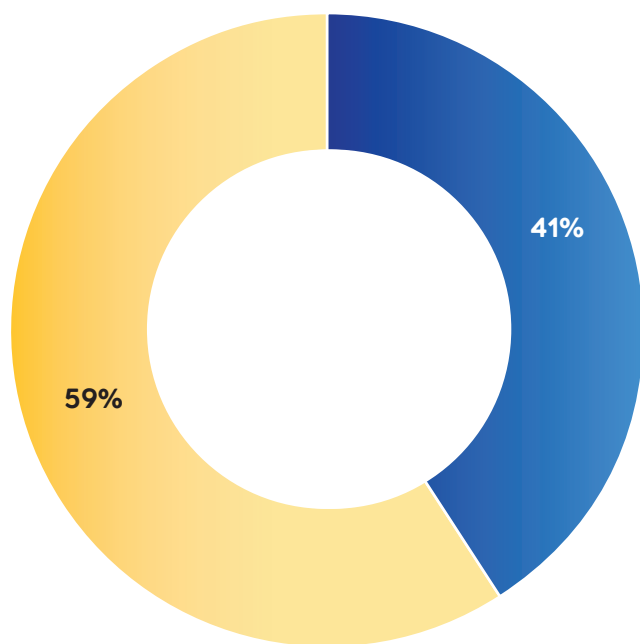
- Anthony Fauci..... 45%
- Neil deGrasse Tyson 12%
- Bill Nye 7%
- Alain Aspect 5%
- Stephen Hawking* 3%
- Tim Berners-Lee 2%
- Elon Musk 2%
- Allen Bard 2%
- James Watson 2%
- Alan Guth 2%
- Jane Goodall 2%
- Other 14%

*Deceased

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

2 IN 3 CANNOT NAME A MEDICAL OR HEALTH RESEARCH INSTITUTION

Can you name any institution, company, or organization where medical or health research is conducted?



● Yes ● No/Not sure

Mayo Clinic.....	18%
Johns Hopkins	18%
Pfizer	8%
National Institutes of Health (NIH)	8%
St. Jude	8%
World Health Organization..	3%
MD Anderson	2%
UCLA.....	2%
Yale University.....	2%
Stanford University.....	2%
Other	30%



Mayo Clinic up from 11% in 2022 to 18% in 2023.

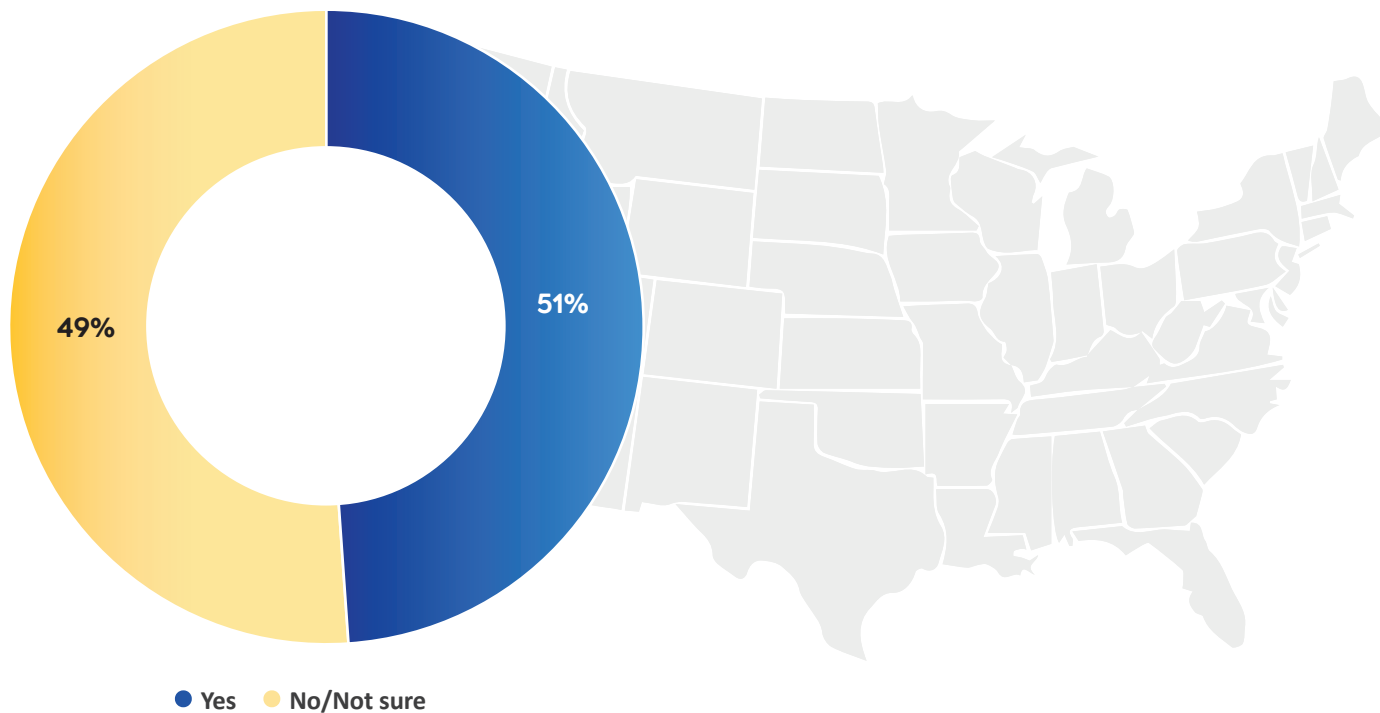


Johns Hopkins up from 8% in 2022 to 18% in 2023.

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

HALF UNAWARE RESEARCH IS CONDUCTED IN ALL 50 STATES

To the best of your knowledge, would you say that science and technology research in the U.S. is conducted in all 50 states?

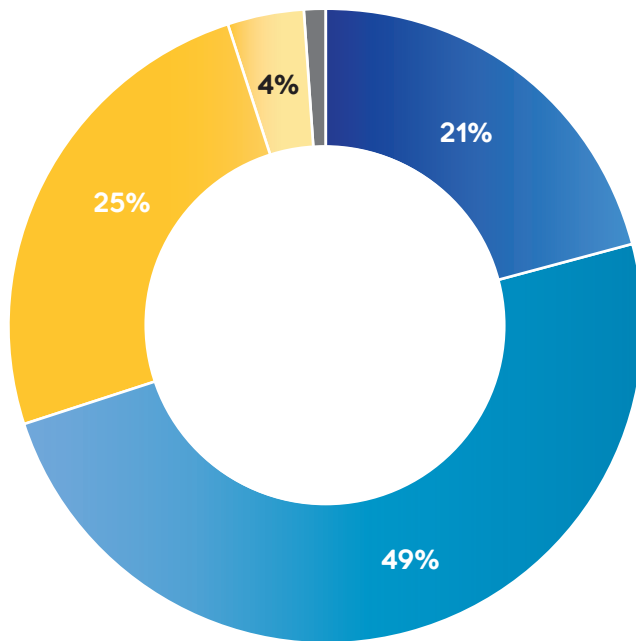


Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

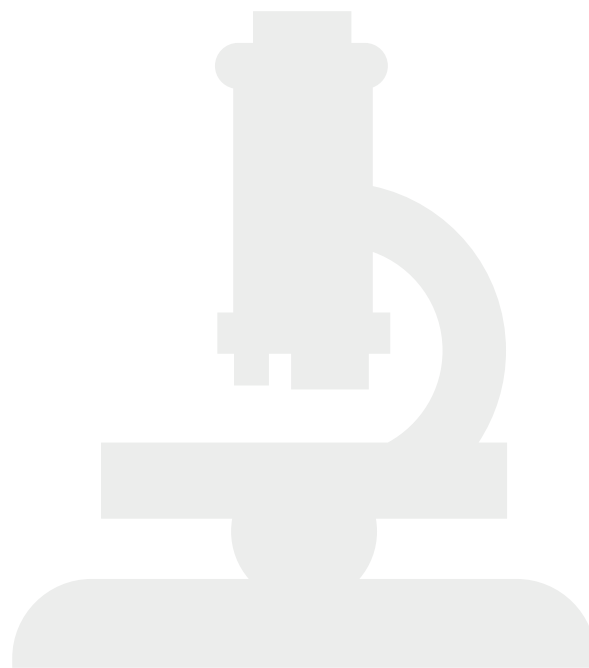
7 IN 10 HAVE AT LEAST SOME SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE

NEW!

How much do you, personally, know about science?



● A lot ● Some ● Not much ● Nothing at all ● Not sure

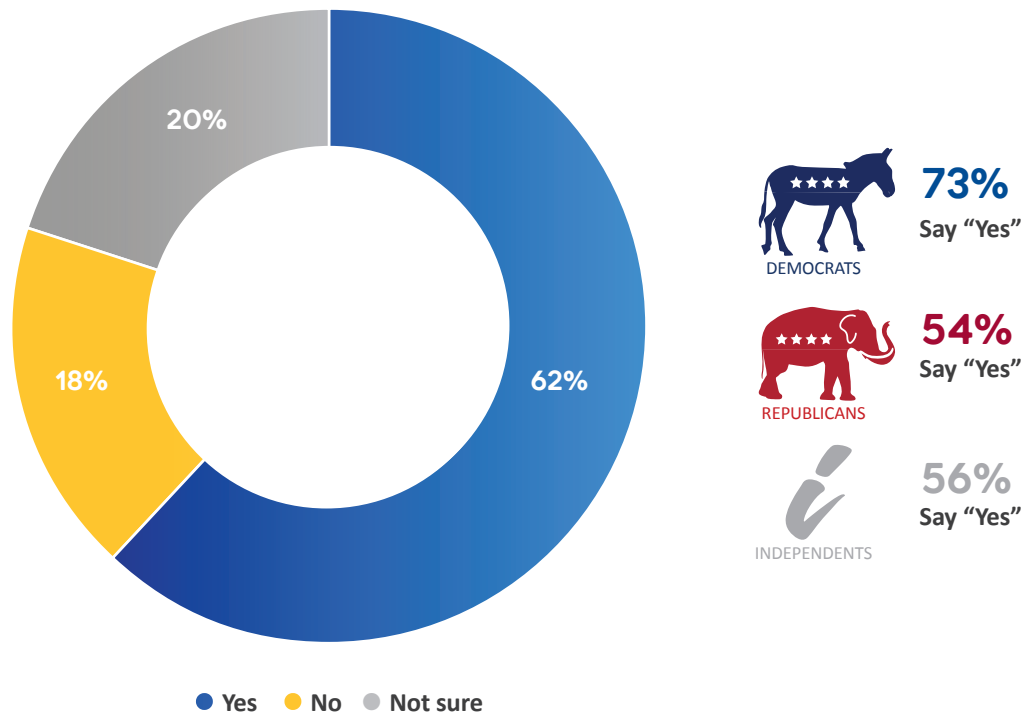


Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

STRENGTHENING SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

6 IN 10 SAY MORE TAXPAYER DOLLARS SHOULD BE INVESTED IN S&T

Do you believe Congress should invest more taxpayer dollars to advance science and technology in the U.S.?



Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

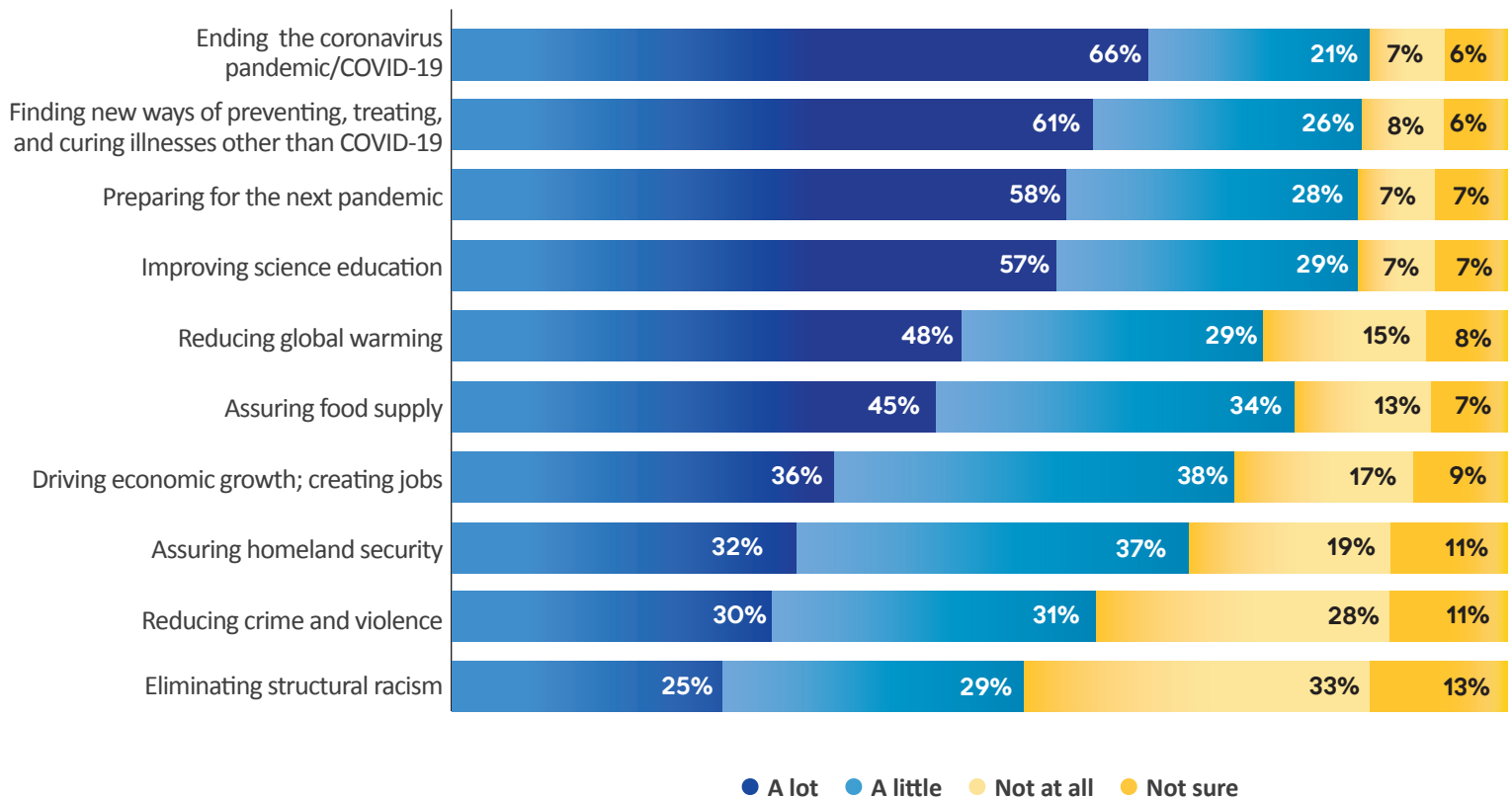


“Maintaining and encouraging R&D activities here in the United States is critical to providing high-quality jobs for Americans and ensuring our country remains competitive with our international rivals, most notably China.”

– Senator Todd Young (R-IN)

AMERICANS SAY S&T CAN HELP ADDRESS CHALLENGES FACING THE U.S.

How much can science, technology, and innovation help address the following issues?

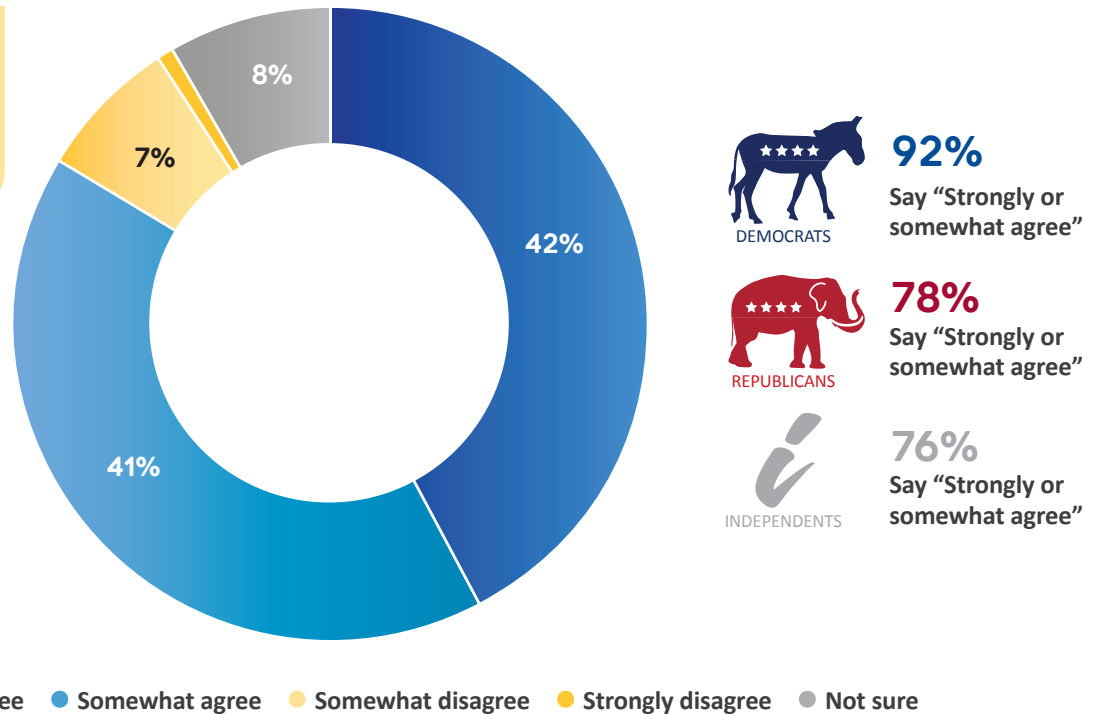


Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

HIGH BIPARTISAN SUPPORT FOR BASIC RESEARCH

Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Even if it brings no immediate benefits, basic scientific research that advances the frontiers of knowledge is necessary and should be supported by the federal government.

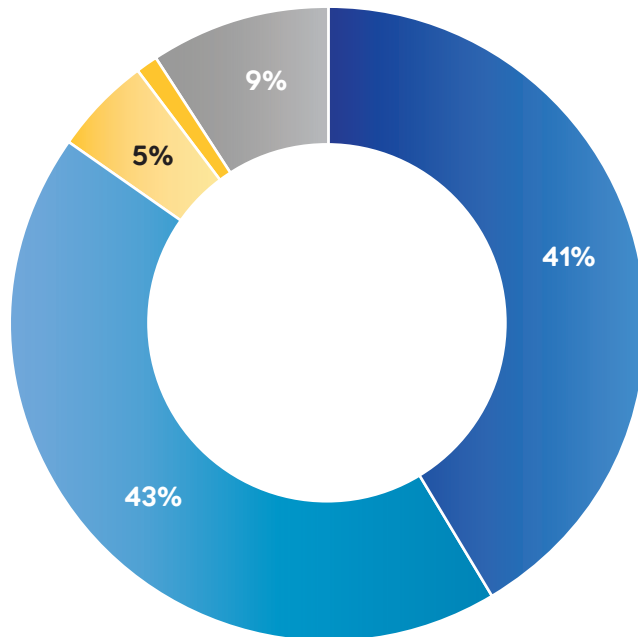
Young people (aged 18-24) less likely (74%) to say “Strongly or somewhat agree”.



Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

STRONG SUPPORT FOR GOVERNMENT TO INCENTIVIZE PRIVATE SECTOR S&T INVESTMENT

How important is it for the federal government to support incentives for private sector investment in science and technology?



DEMOCRATS

94%

Say "Very or somewhat important"



REPUBLICANS

78%

Say "Very or somewhat important"



INDEPENDENTS

79%

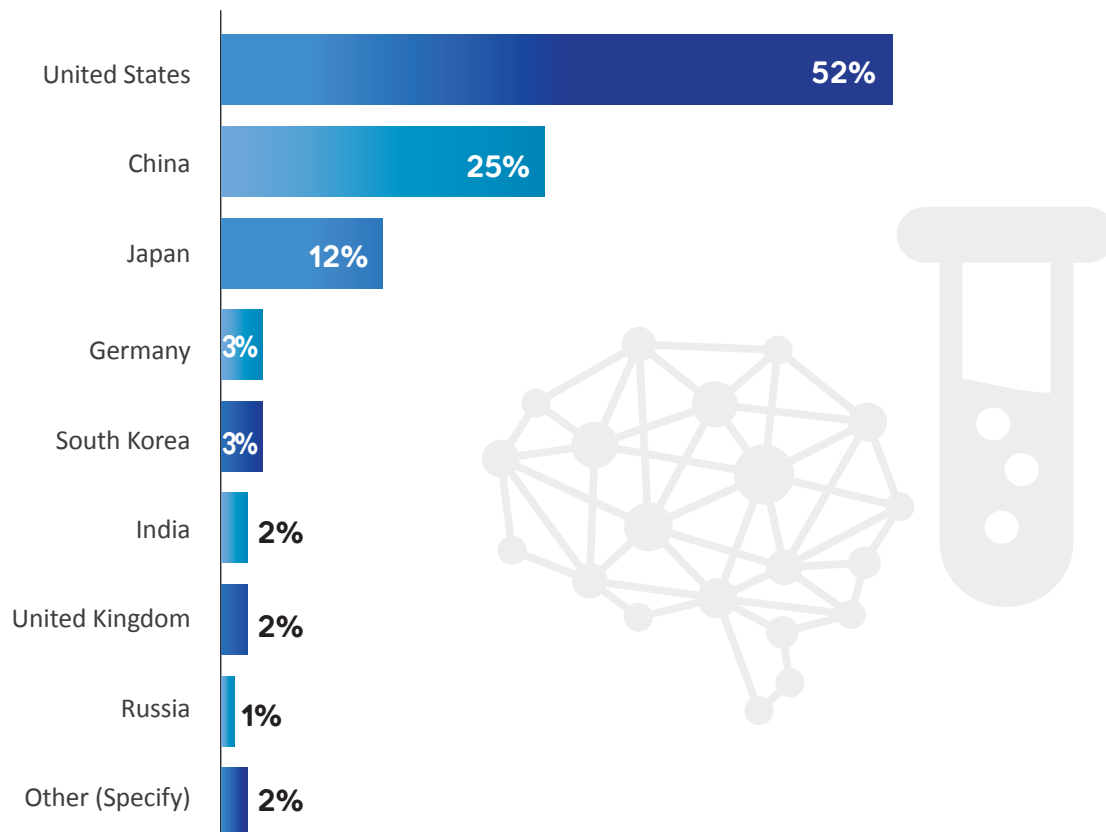
Say "Very or somewhat important"

● Very important ● Somewhat important ● Not very important ● Not at all important ● Not sure

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

AMERICANS BELIEVE U.S. WILL BE S&T WORLD LEADER IN 2030, FOLLOWED BY CHINA

In your view, which of the following will be the number one world leader in science and technology in the year 2030?

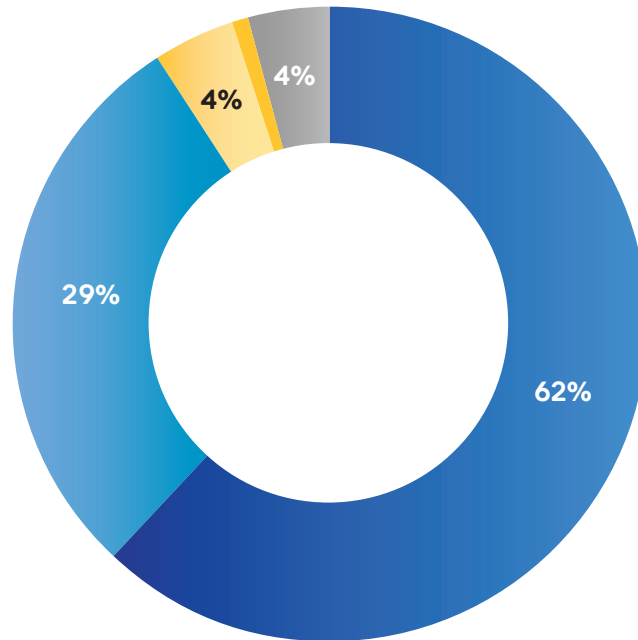


Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

MOST AMERICANS SAY IT IS IMPORTANT THAT THE U.S. BE A LEADER IN S&T

How important do you think it is that the U.S. is a global leader in science and technology?

Young people (aged 18-24) less likely (74%) to say "Very or Somewhat important".



● Very important ● Somewhat important ● Not very important ● Not at all important ● Not sure

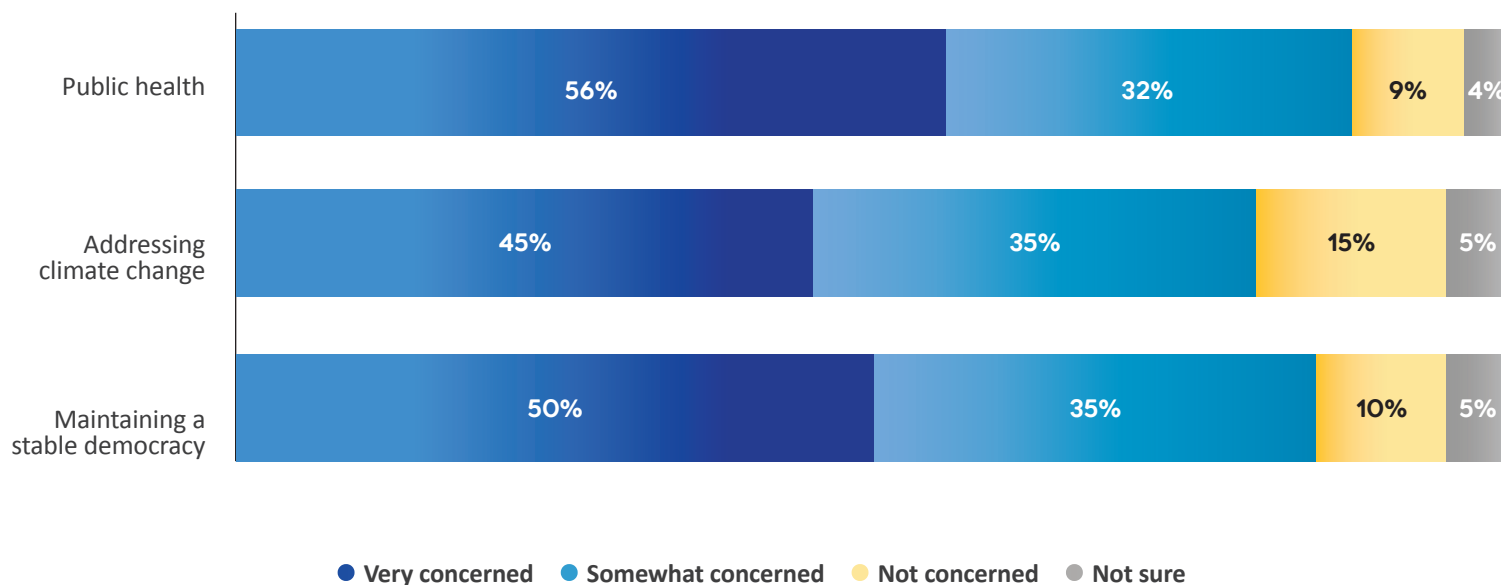
Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

TRUST IN SCIENCE

MOST AMERICANS ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE IMPACT OF MISINFORMATION



Misinformation is false or inaccurate information, while disinformation is false information which is deliberately intended to mislead. Please indicate to what extent you are concerned with the impact of misinformation/disinformation on the following?



Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

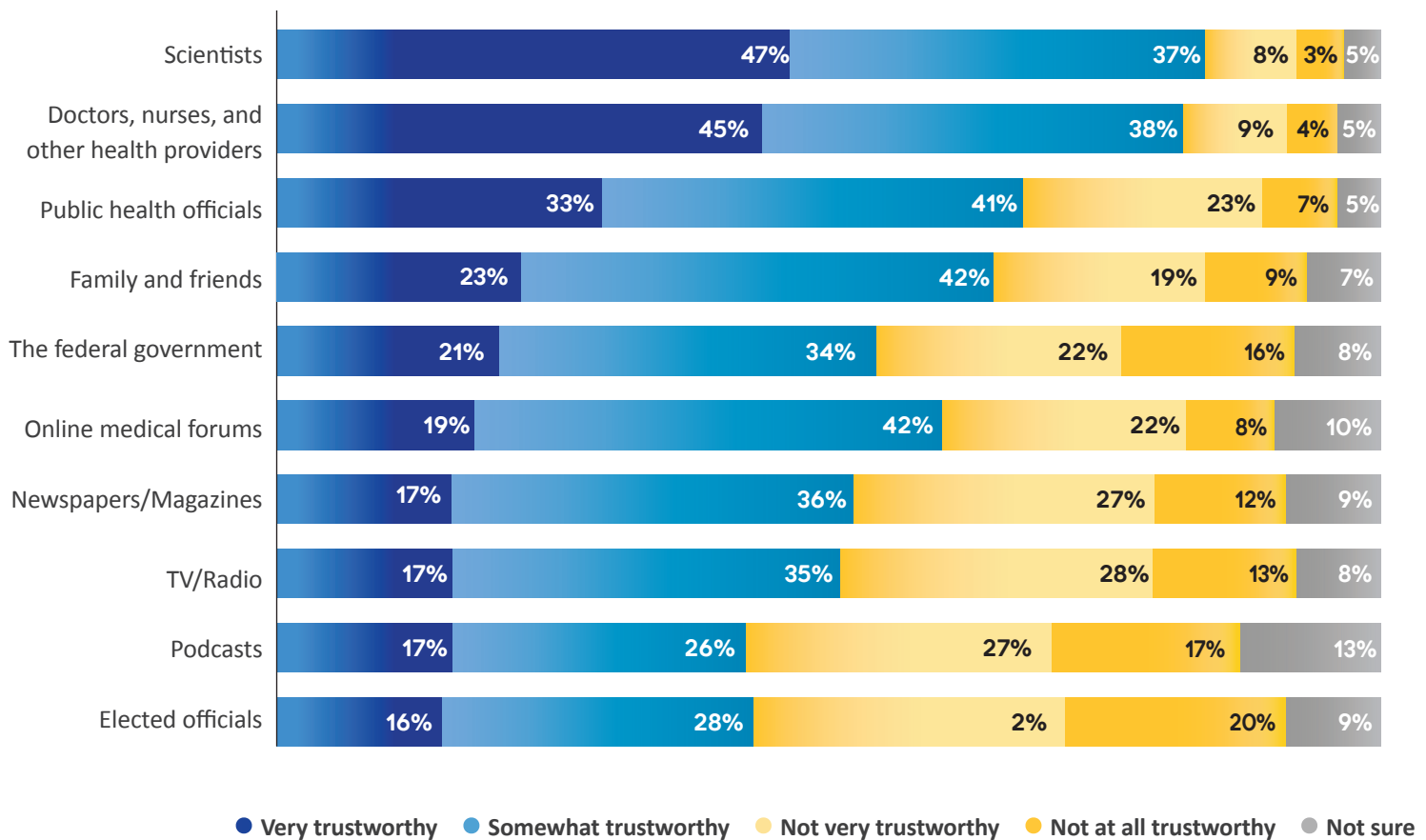


“Trust in the healthcare and research teams led to participation in clinical trials, drug advances, and uptake of proven therapies. You can’t have the trust without communication or without faithfulness, consistency, and repeated contact. It is earned, but it takes time.”

– Pamela B. Davis, MD, PhD, Arline H. and Curtis F. Garvin Research Professor, Case Western University

SCIENTISTS AND HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS ARE MOST TRUSTED SOURCES OF HEALTH INFORMATION

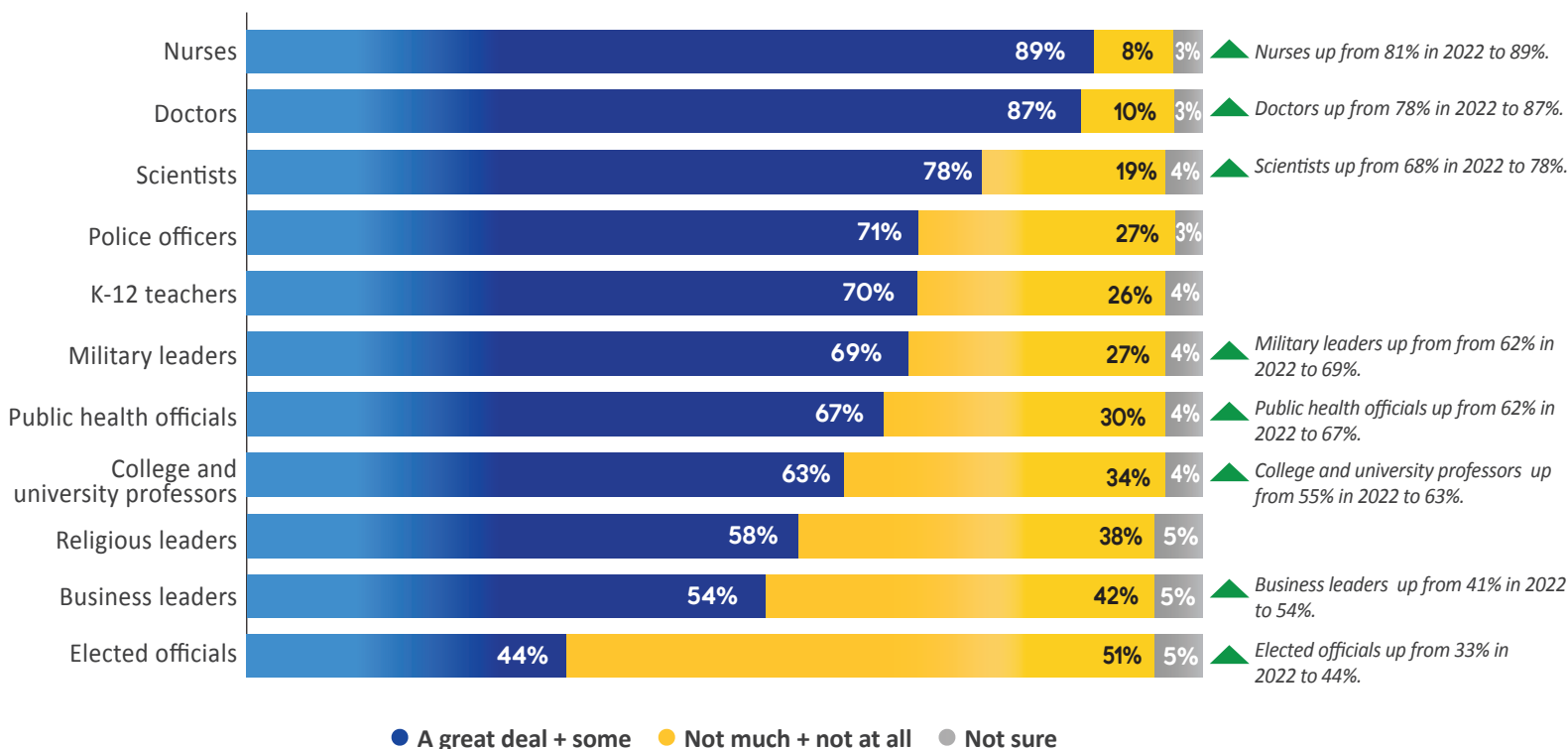
How trustworthy are the following sources of medical and health information?



Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

CONFIDENCE IN HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS AND SCIENTISTS IS HIGH

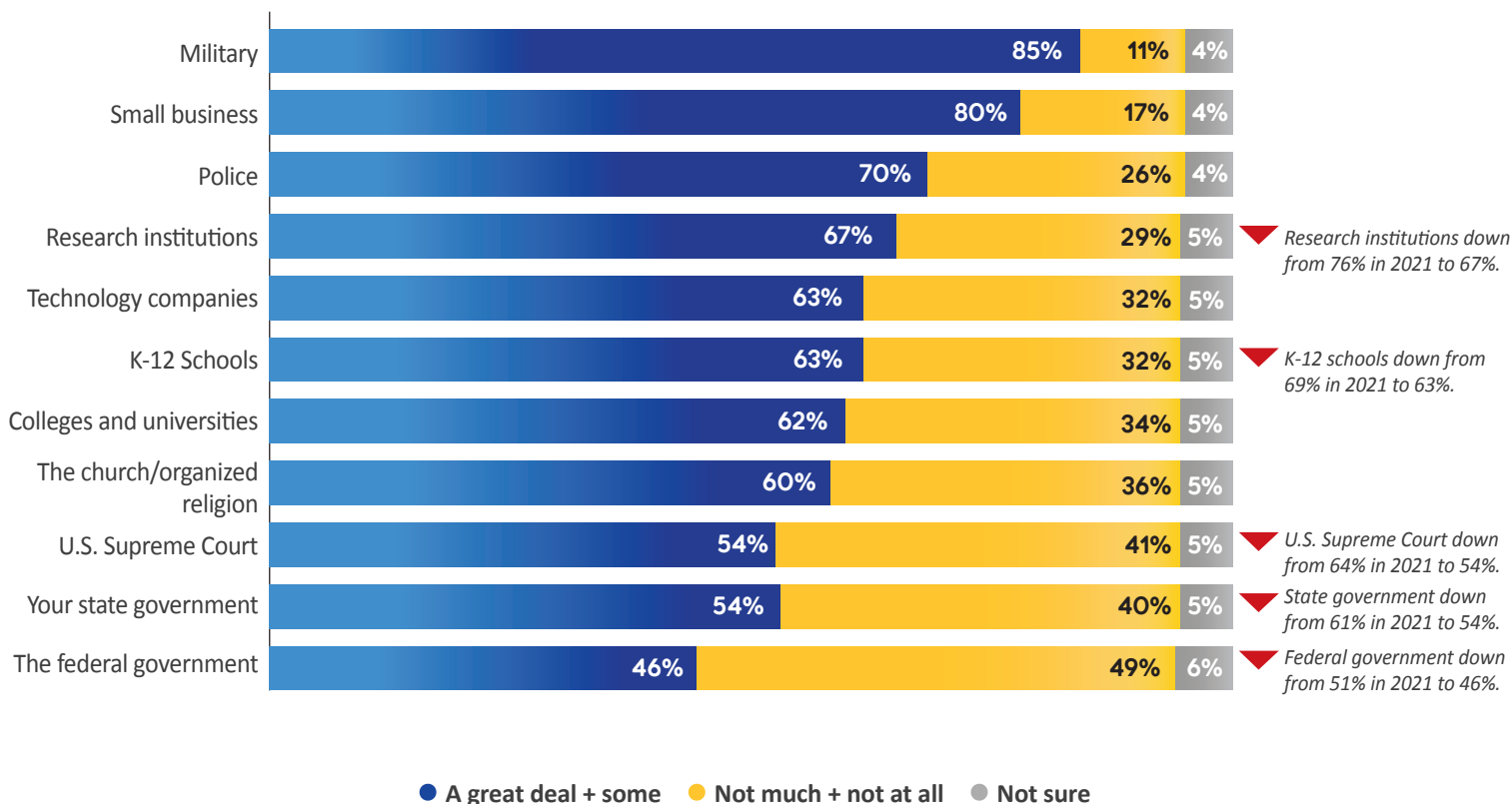
How much confidence do you have in each of the following to act in your best interest?



Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

CONFIDENCE IN INSTITUTIONS

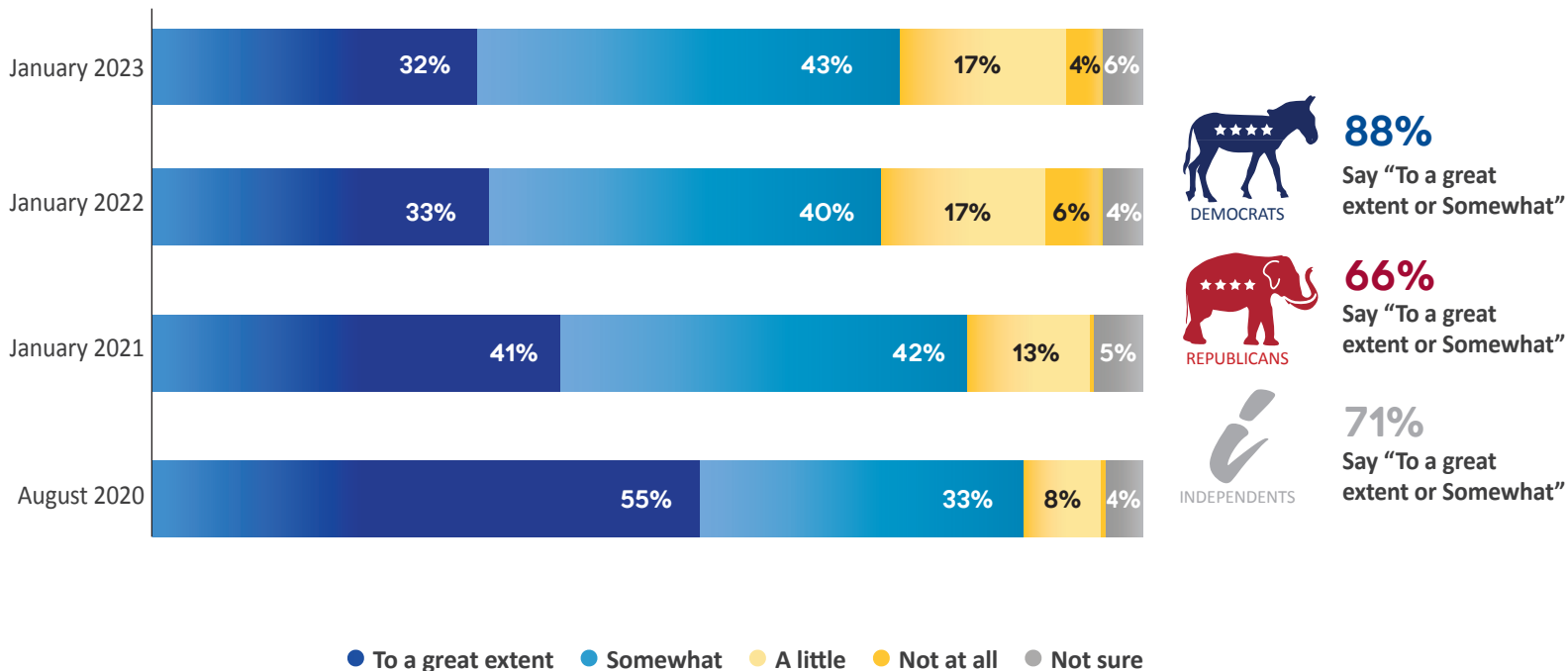
How much confidence do you have in each of the following institutions?



Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

BELIEF IN THE BENEFIT OF THE WORK OF SCIENTISTS IS DECLINING

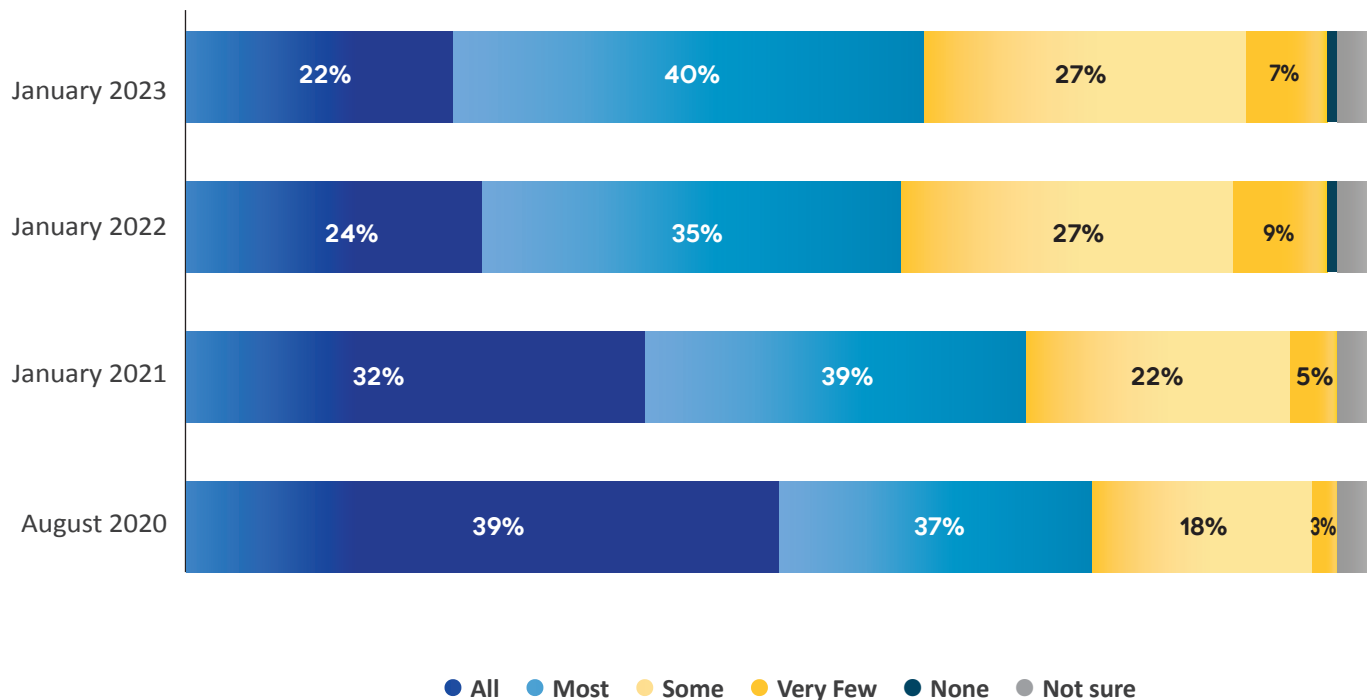
In general, do you think the work that scientists do benefits you?



Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

6 IN 10 THINK THE WORK OF SCIENTISTS BENEFITS ALL OR MOST IN AMERICA, BUT PERCENTAGES ARE SLIPPING

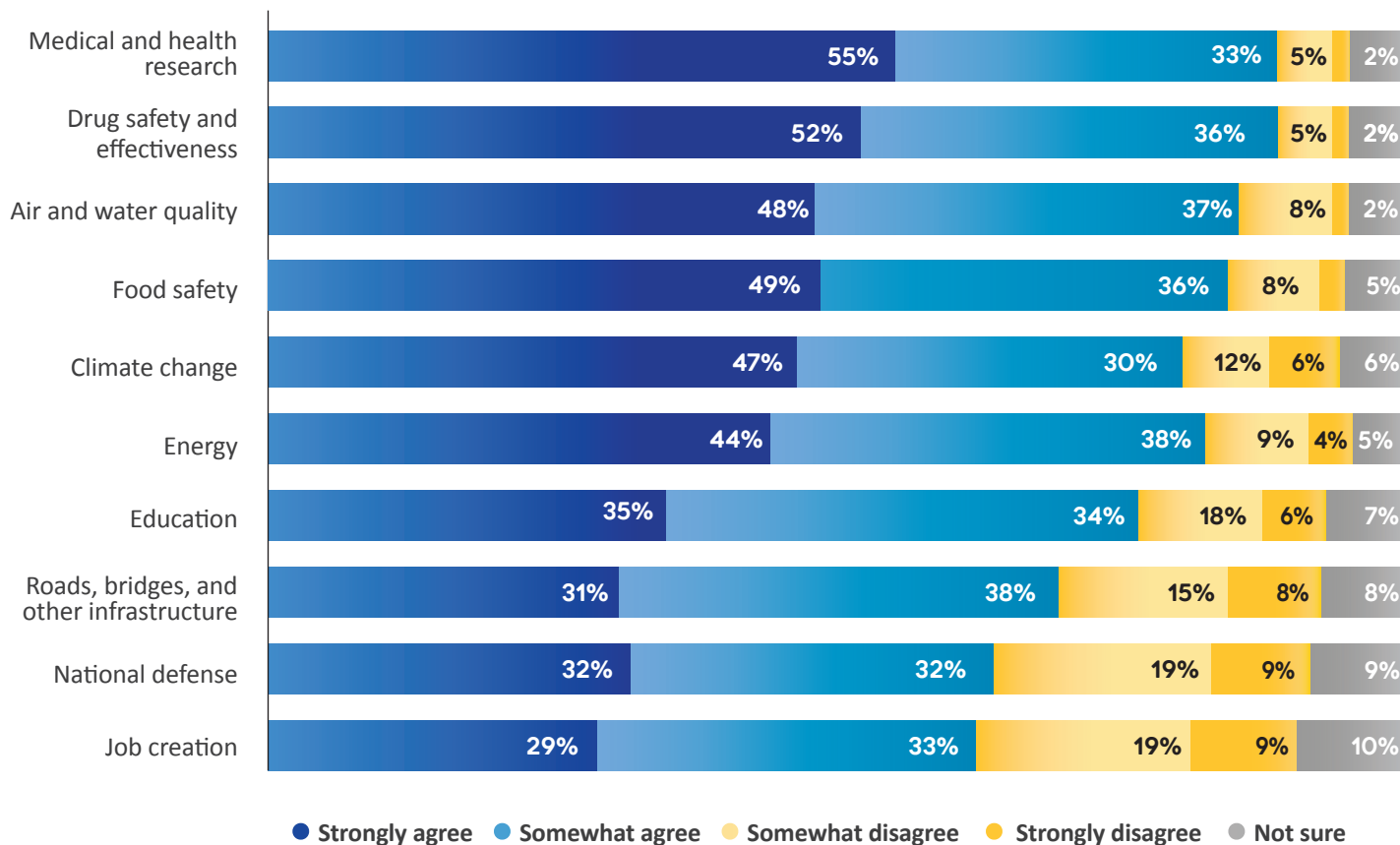
In general, do you think the work that scientists do benefits all, most, some, very few people, or none in this country?



Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

AMERICANS AGREE SCIENTISTS SHOULD PLAY A ROLE IN SHAPING POLICY

Do you agree or disagree that scientists SHOULD play a major role in shaping policy for each of the following?



“With science as one of the reliable foundations to guide us into the future, it’s critical that science is communicated with a uniform voice, relying on rigor, transparency, and quality.”

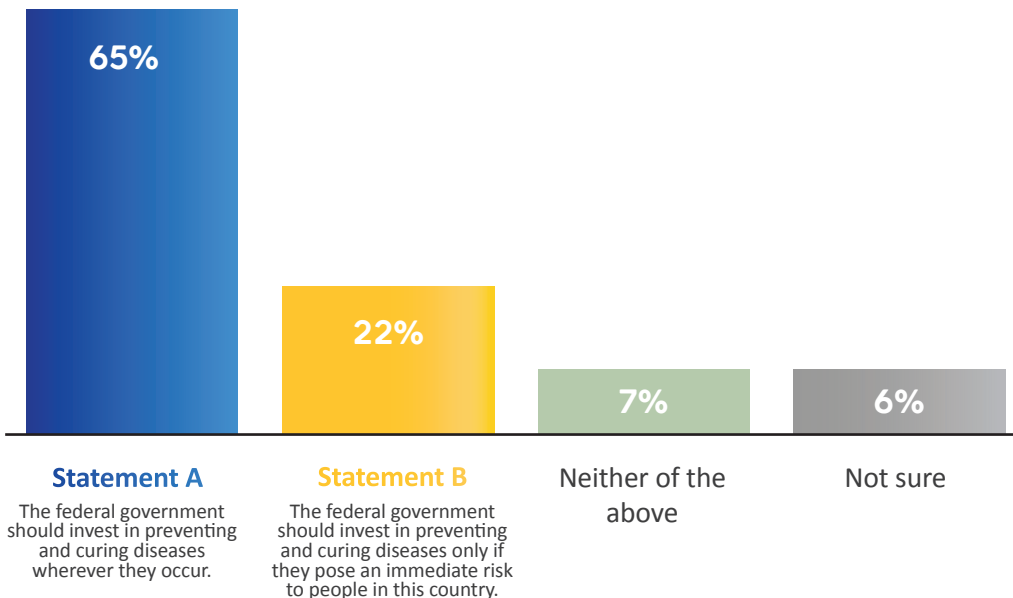
— Mikael Dolsten, MD, PhD, Chief Scientific Officer and President of Worldwide Research, Development and Medical, Pfizer Inc.

GLOBAL HEALTH AND LEADERSHIP

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD INVEST IN PREVENTING AND CURING DISEASES WHEREVER THEY OCCUR

Which statement is closest to your view:

- **Statement A:**
The federal government should invest in preventing and curing diseases wherever they occur.
- **Statement B:**
The federal government should invest in preventing and curing diseases only if they pose an immediate risk to people in this country.



73%
Say "Statement A"



59%
Say "Statement A"

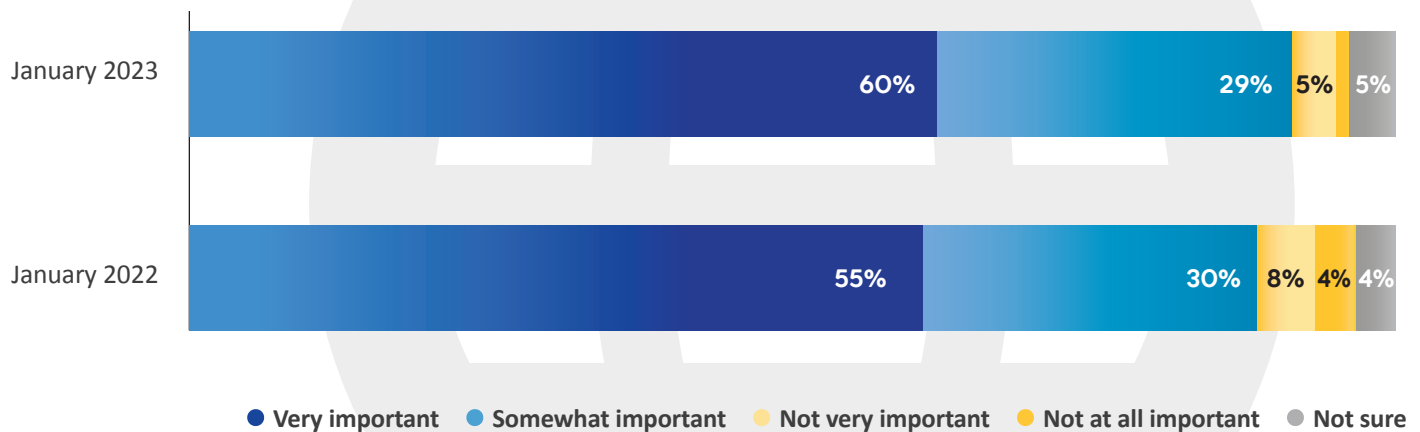


63%
Say "Statement A"

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

9 IN 10 SAY IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE U.S. TO BE A GLOBAL LEADER IN HEALTH RESEARCH

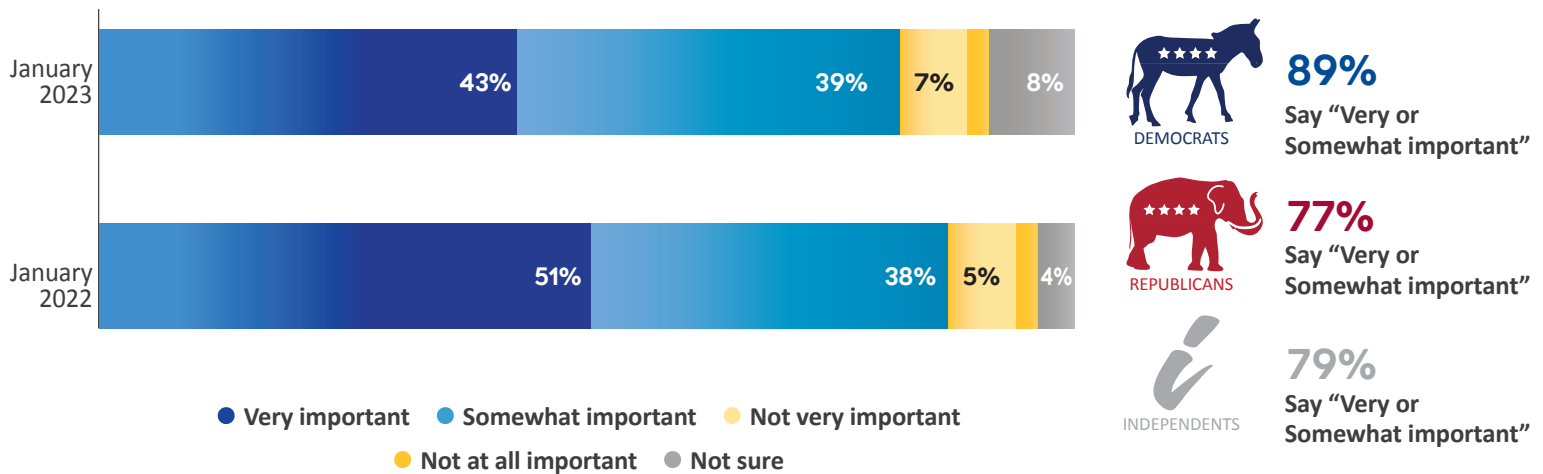
How important do you think it is that the U.S. is a global leader in research to improve health?



Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

STRONG SUPPORT FOR FEDERAL FUNDING OF INTERNATIONAL INFECTIOUS DISEASE DETECTION PROGRAMS

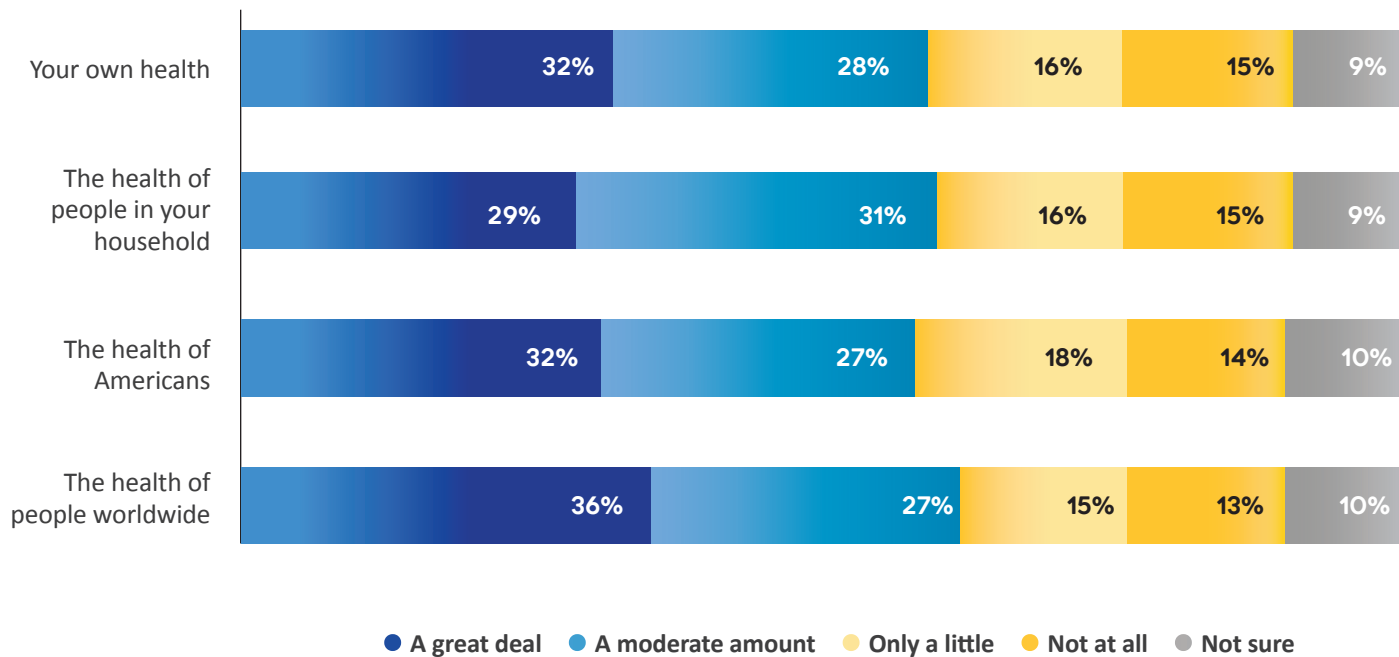
How important is it for the federal government to fund international programs on detection of infectious disease outbreaks?



Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

MAJORITY SAY CLIMATE CHANGE WILL BE A HEALTH THREAT OVER THE NEXT DECADE

How much, if at all, do you think climate change will harm the following, in the next ten years...



Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2023.

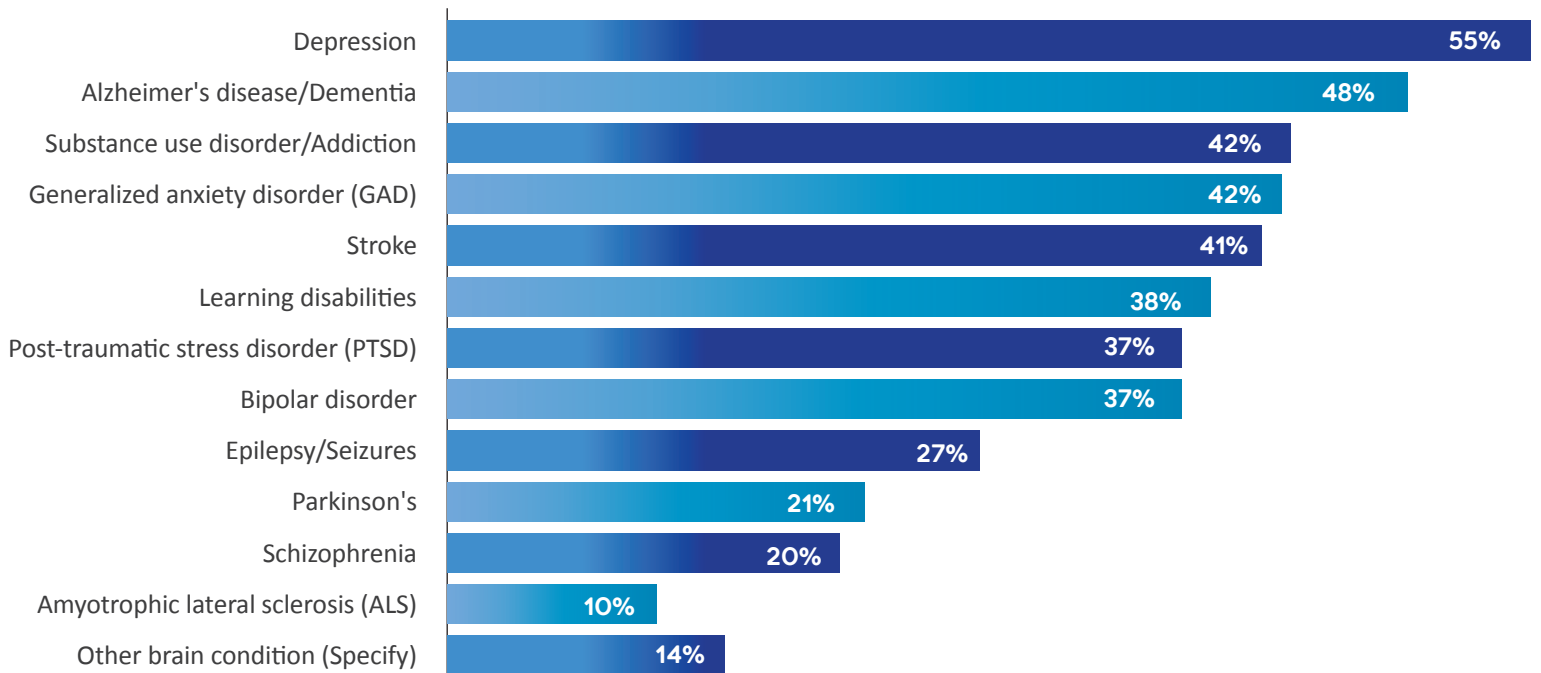


ADVANCING BRAIN HEALTH

AMERICANS' EXPERIENCE WITH BRAIN HEALTH CONDITIONS

Have you or anyone close to you had or have any of the following conditions. (Percent saying "Yes")

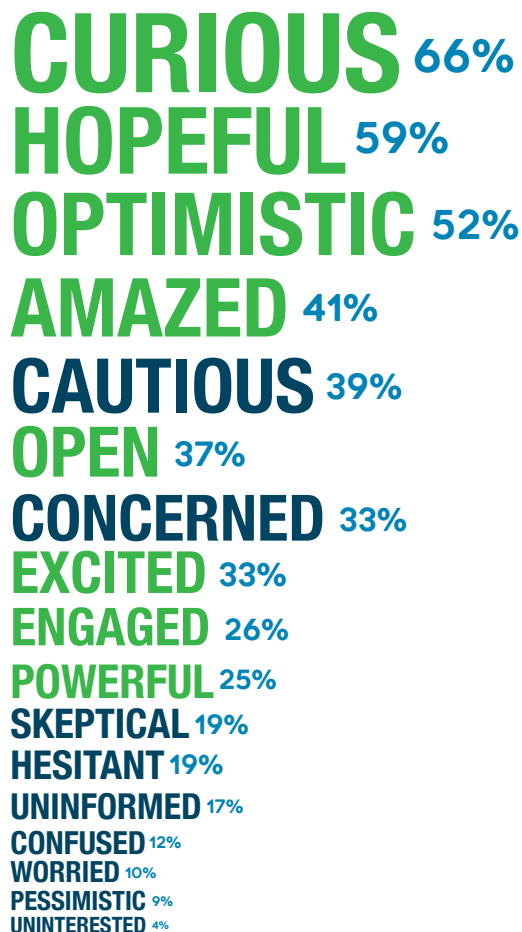
82% say they know someone or have themselves experienced at least one brain disorder or mental health condition.



Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with the Dana Foundation and Zogby Analytics in August 2022.

AMERICANS ARE CURIOUS AND HOPEFUL ABOUT BRAIN HEALTH RESEARCH

Please select from the following the top five words that best reflect your attitudes towards brain health research:

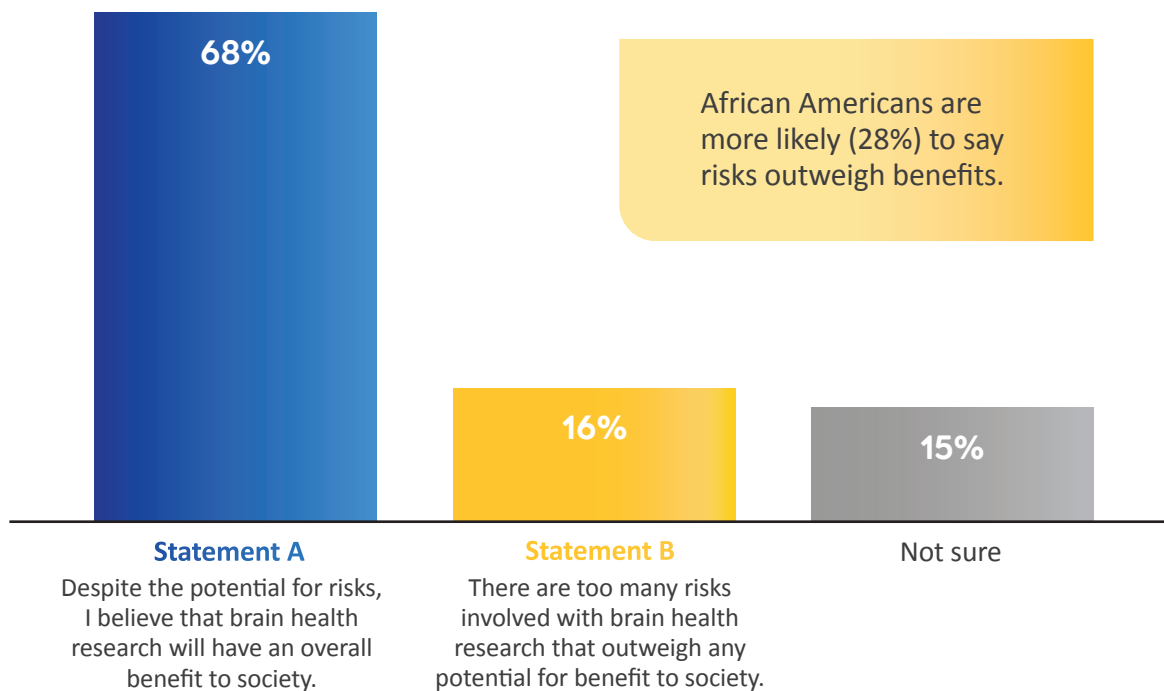


Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with the Dana Foundation and Zogby Analytics in August 2022.



AMERICANS SAY BENEFITS OF BRAIN HEALTH RESEARCH OUTWEIGH RISKS

Which of the following statements do you agree most with?

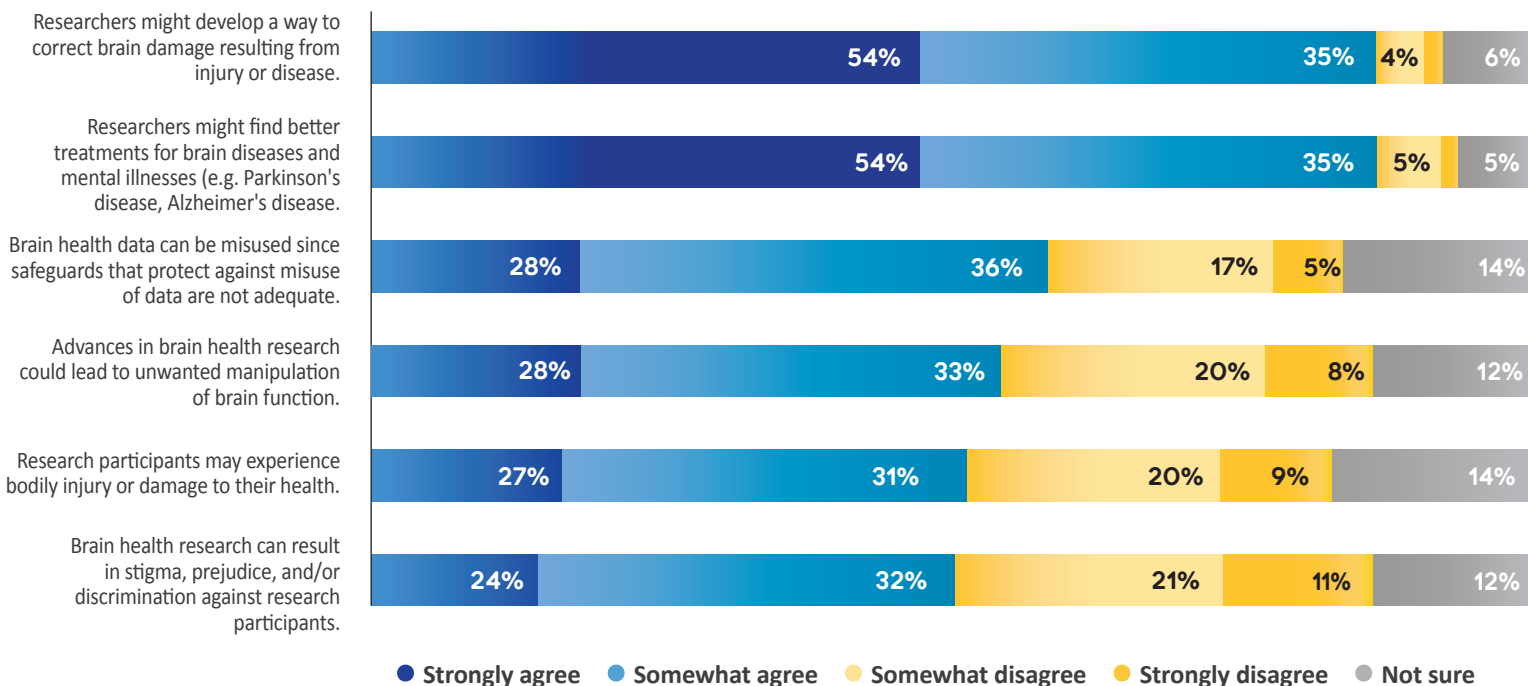


Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with the Dana Foundation and Zogby Analytics in August 2022.



AMERICANS FEEL POSITIVE ABOUT THE POSSIBLE OUTCOMES OF BRAIN HEALTH RESEARCH, BUT CONCERNS REMAIN

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following:



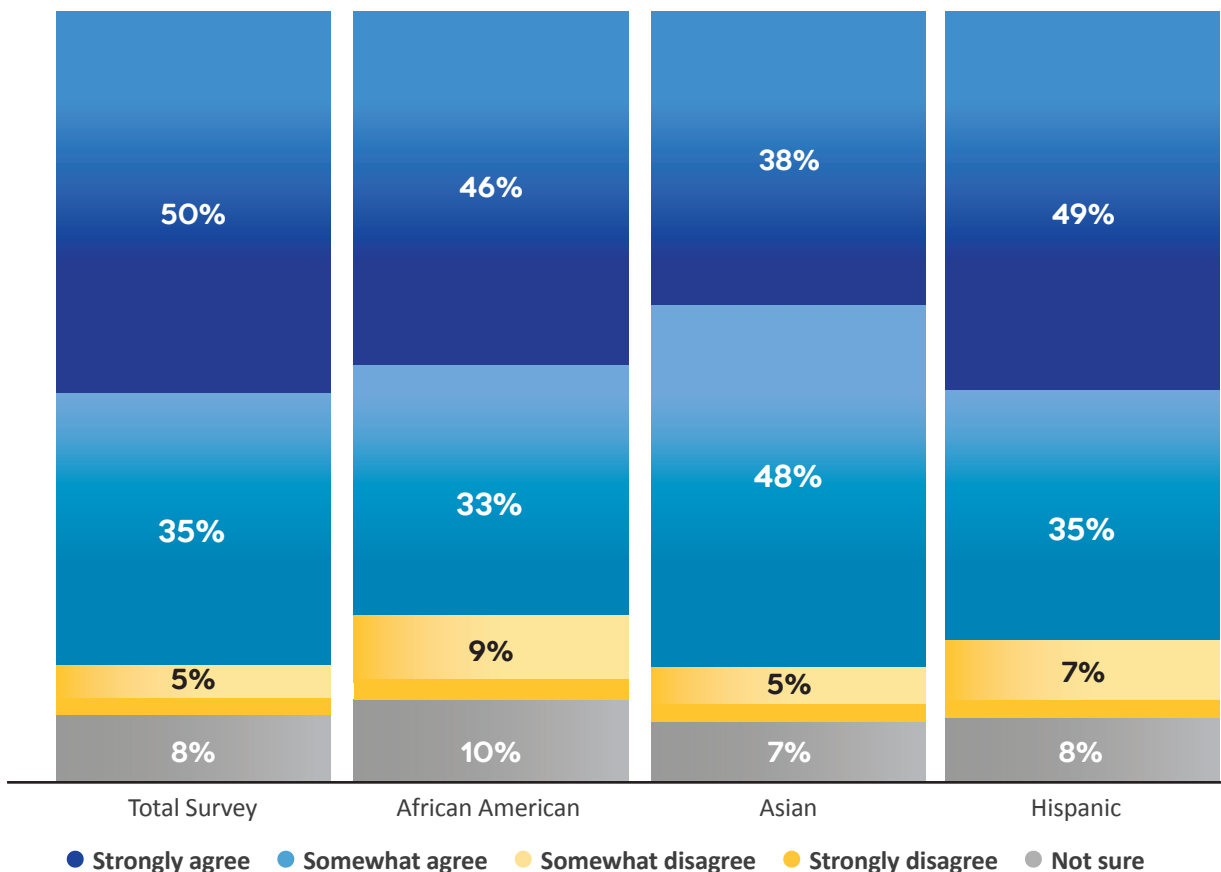
Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with the Dana Foundation and Zogby Analytics in August 2022.



85% AGREE THAT BRAIN HEALTH RESEARCH IS IMPORTANT TO ADVANCING HEALTH

Do you agree or disagree that brain health research is important to advancing health?

▼ African Americans less likely (79%) to agree that brain health research advances health.

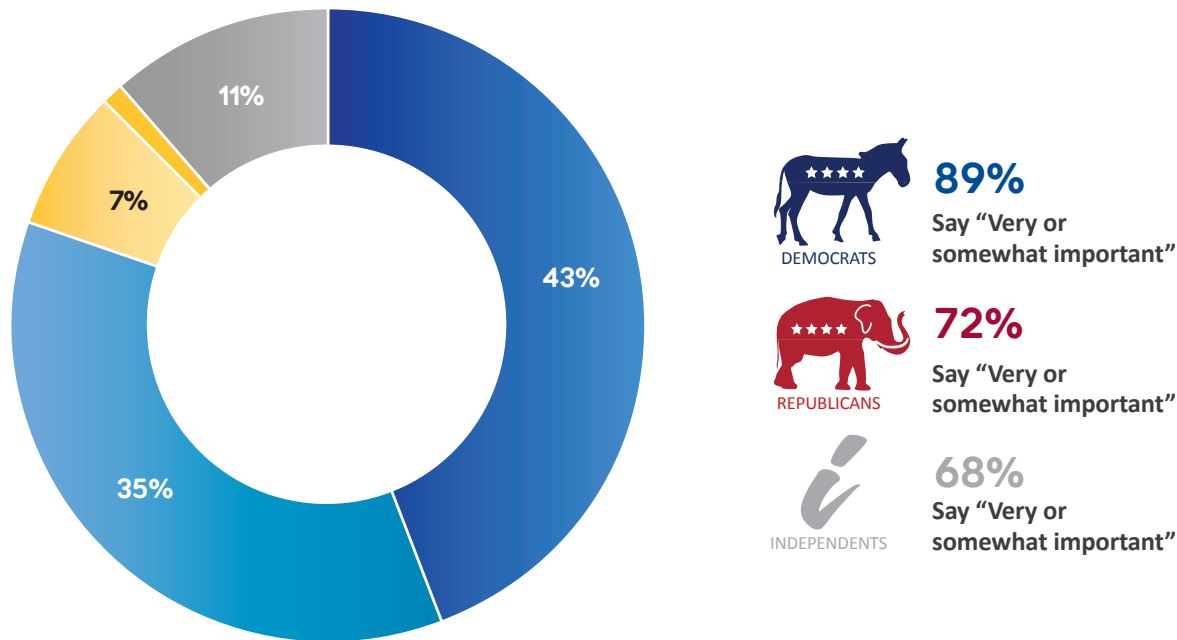


Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with the Dana Foundation and Zogby Analytics in August 2022.



4 IN 5 AGREE IT'S IMPORTANT TO INCREASE FEDERAL FUNDING FOR BRAIN HEALTH RESEARCH

How important is it to increase federal funding for research in brain health?



● Very important ● Somewhat important ● Not very important ● Not at all important ● Not sure



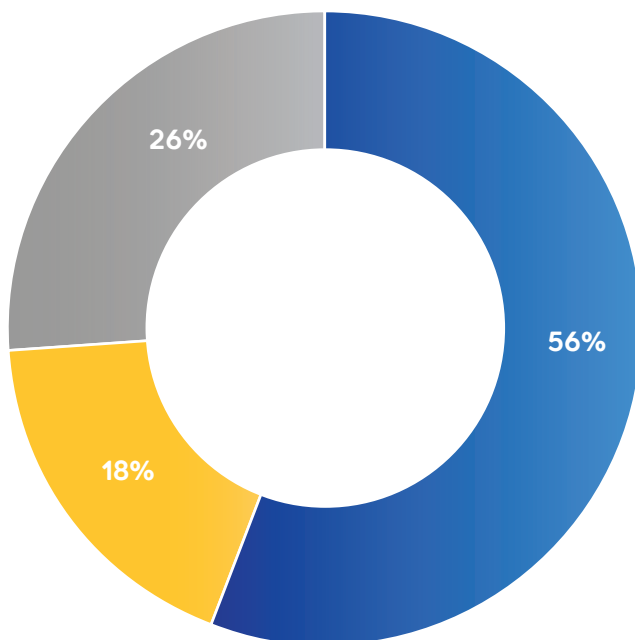
"The survey results support the need for increased education on brain health, and for the inclusion of public voices — especially those of patients — in research."

– Caroline Montojo, PhD, President and CEO, Dana Foundation

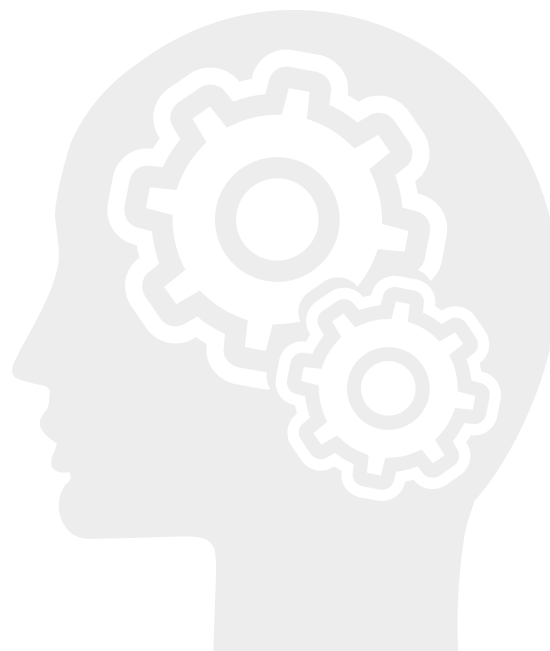


MORE THAN HALF SAY ADVANCES IN BRAIN HEALTH RESEARCH SHOULD INFORM POLICY DECISIONS

Should advances in brain health research help inform policy decisions and legislation?



● Yes ● No ● Not sure



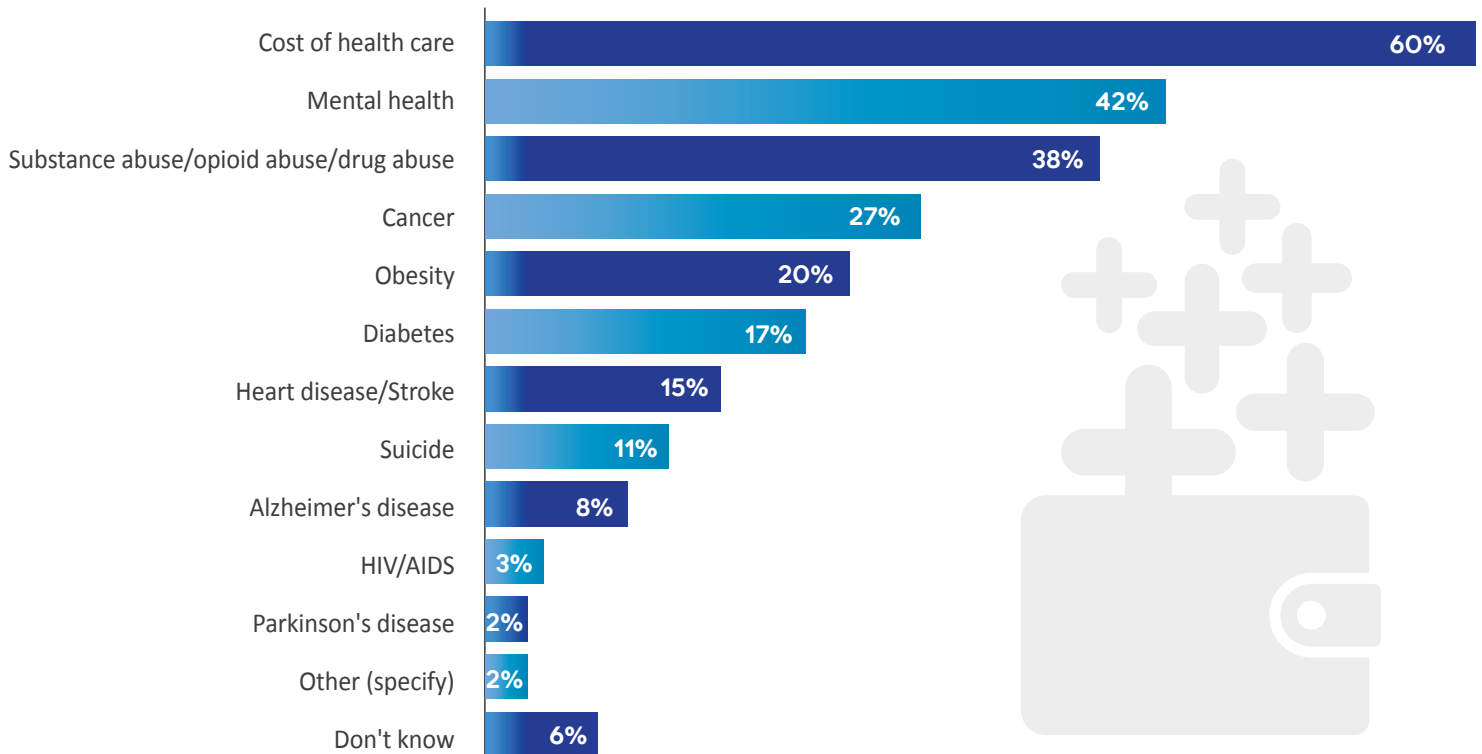
Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with the Dana Foundation and Zogby Analytics in August 2022.



VIRGINIANS' VIEWS ON MEDICAL AND HEALTH RESEARCH

VIRGINIANS IDENTIFY COST OF HEALTH CARE AS THE TOP HEALTH ISSUE

Other than COVID-19, what would you say are the most important health issues facing people in Virginia today? (Choose top three)

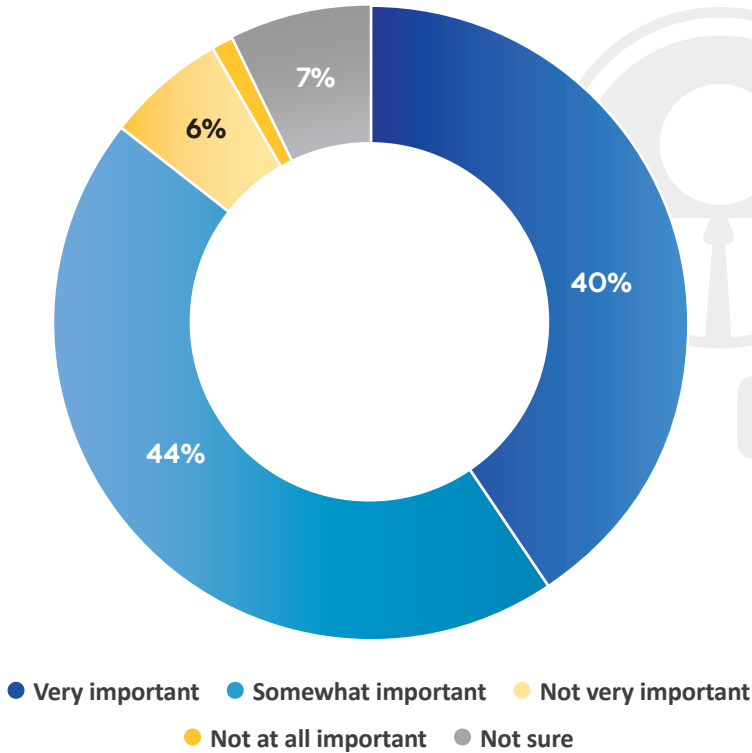


Source: A Research!America survey of adults in Virginia conducted in partnership with Virginia Tech and Zogby Analytics in April 2022.



MOST SAY INVESTING IN RESEARCH IS IMPORTANT TO THE ECONOMY

In terms of jobs and incomes, how important do you think spending money on health or medical research is to Virginia's economy?

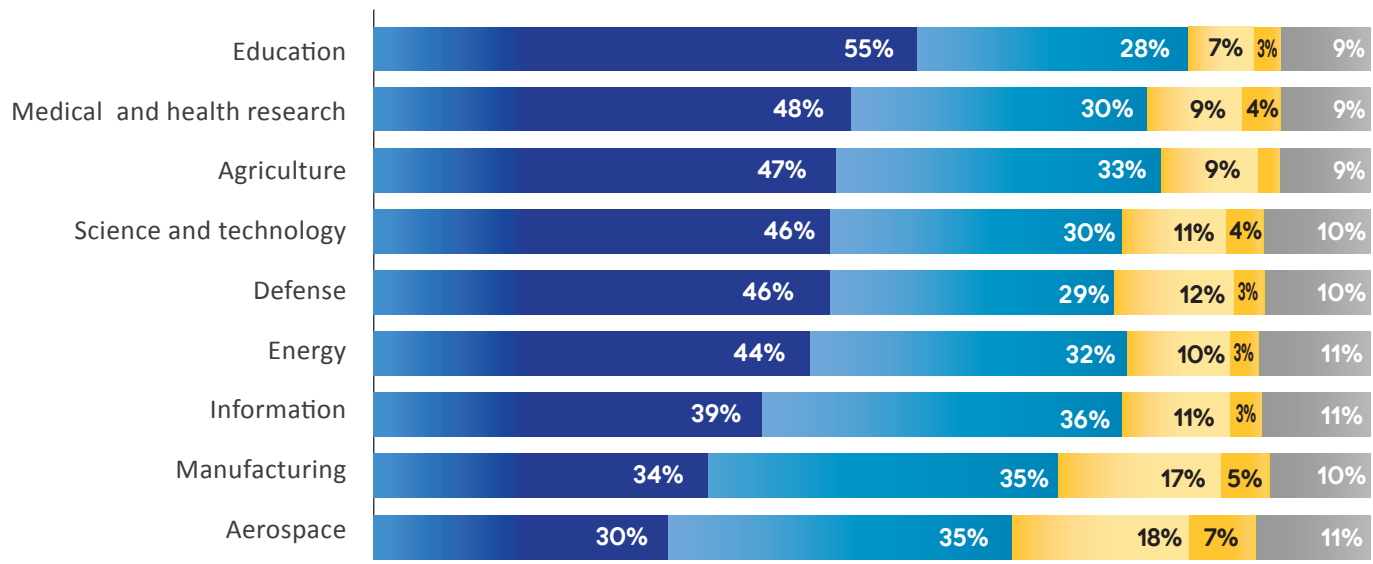


Source: A Research!America survey of adults in Virginia conducted in partnership with Virginia Tech and Zogby Analytics in April 2022.



IMPORTANT FOR VIRGINIA TO BE A LEADER IN MANY AREAS

Please indicate how important it is that Virginia be a leader in the following categories:



● Very important ● Somewhat important ● Not very important ● Not at all important ● Not sure



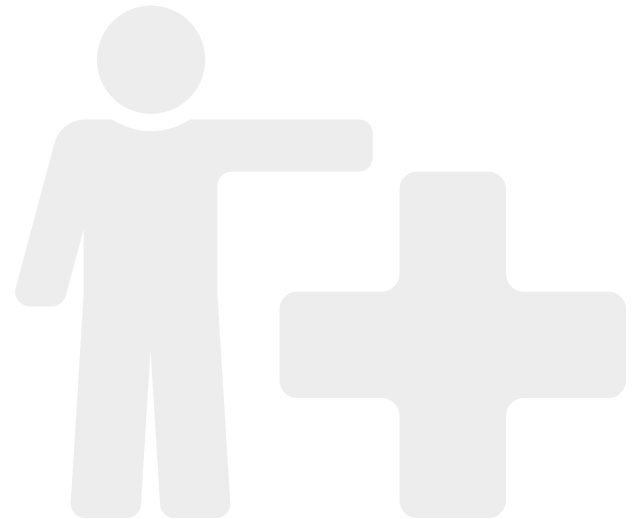
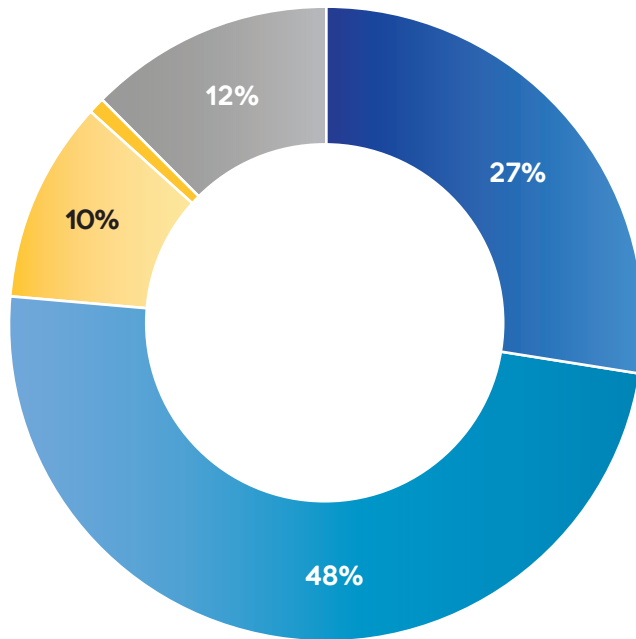
“One of the survey’s messages should be heeded by members of Congress, state legislators maneuvering to reach agreement on a budget, local government officials, and business leaders...that a majority of Virginia citizens broadly support biotechnology research...”

– The Roanoke Times



75% AGREE THAT VIRGINIA SHOULD INVEST IN IMPROVING HEALTH RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE

Other states have invested in attracting health and medical research to their state by improving research facilities, equipment, and other resources. Do you agree or disagree that Virginia (taxpayer) funds should be invested in these improvements?



● Strongly agree ● Somewhat agree ● Somewhat disagree ● Strongly disagree ● Not sure

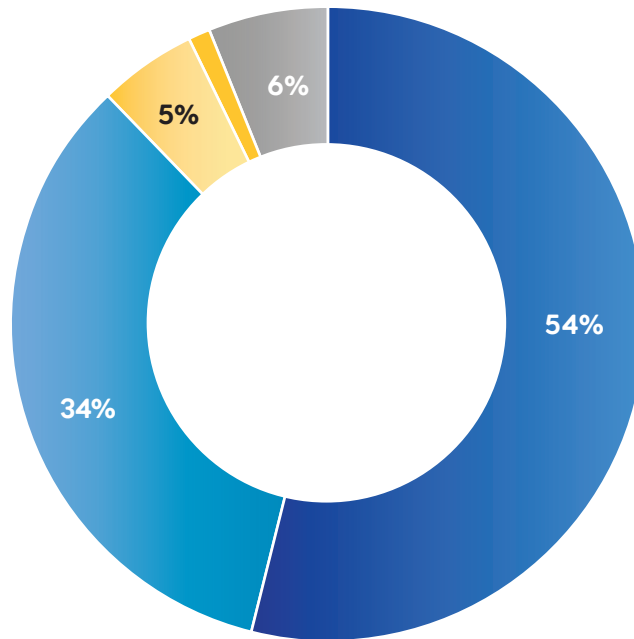
Source: A Research!America survey of adults in Virginia conducted in partnership with Virginia Tech and Zogby Analytics in April 2022.



MOST VIRGINIANS SAY STEM EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT TO THE ECONOMY

How important do you think education and training in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics is to Virginia’s competitiveness and our future economic prosperity?

Respondents aged 18-29 are less likely to agree (77% say “Strongly or Somewhat agree”)

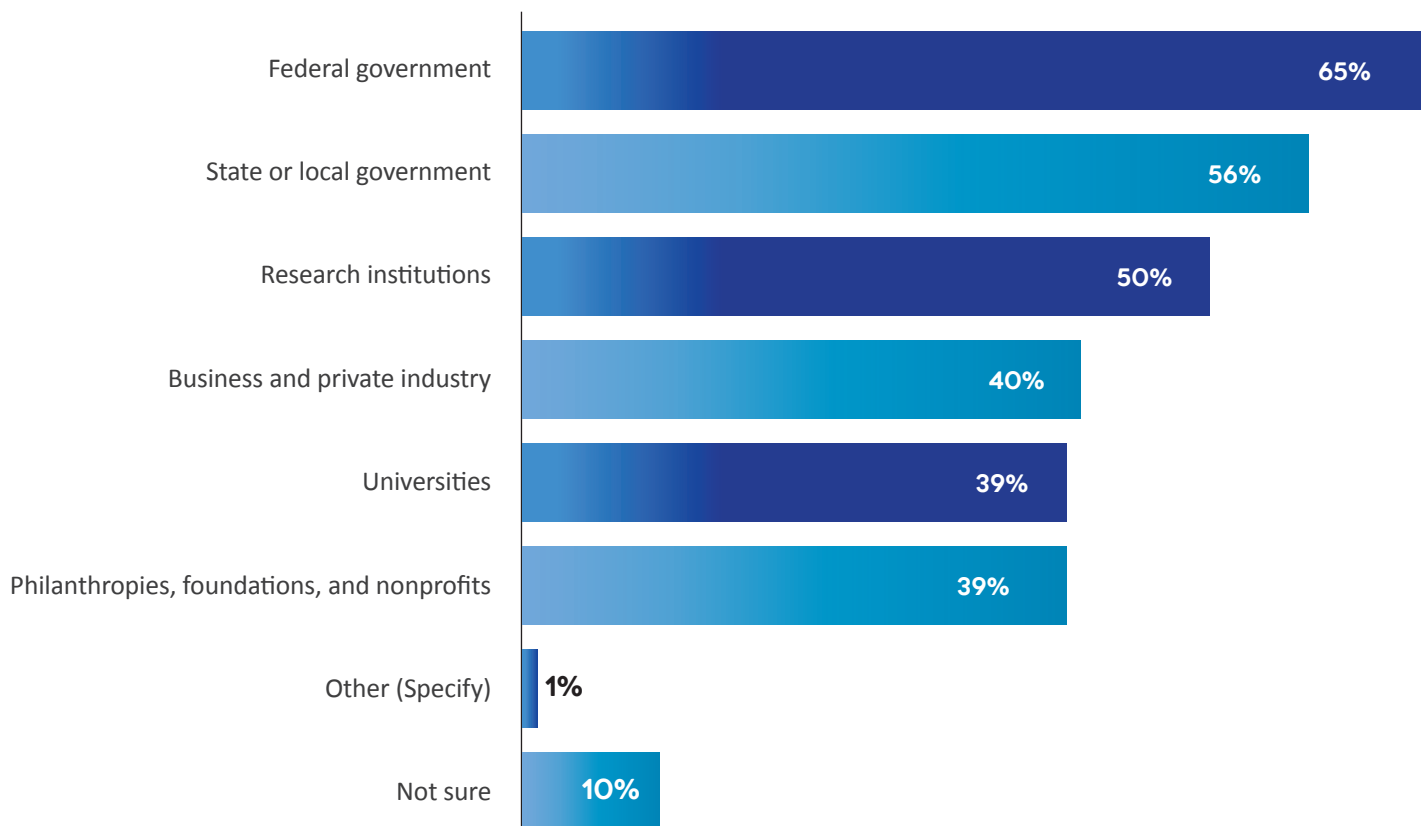


● Strongly agree ● Somewhat agree ● Somewhat disagree ● Strongly disagree ● Not sure

Source: A Research!America survey of adults in Virginia conducted in partnership with Virginia Tech and Zogby Analytics in April 2022.

VIRGINIANS SAY THE FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS SHOULD ACCELERATE INVESTMENT IN RESEARCH

Whose responsibility is it to accelerate our nation's investment in research? (Select all that apply)



Source: A Research!America survey of adults in Virginia conducted in partnership with Virginia Tech and Zogby Analytics in April 2022.

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Former Director, NIH, (2002-2008)

METHODOLOGY

- Online surveys are conducted with an approximate sample size of 1000+, adults (ages 18 and up) and a maximum theoretical sampling error of +/- 3.1%.
- Data are demographically representative of adult U.S. residents.
- Survey data in this publication was conducted by Zogby Analytics.
- Due to rounding, the total may not add to 100% on some charts.

Zogby
Analytics

Research!America began commissioning polls in 1992 in an effort to understand public attitudes toward medical, health, and scientific research. The results of **Research!America's** polls have proven invaluable to our alliance of member organizations and, in turn, to the fulfillment of our mission to advocate for science, discovery, and innovation to achieve better health for all. In response to growing usage and demand, **Research!America** has expanded its portfolio, which includes state, national, and issue-specific polling.

**Poll data is available by request
or at www.researchamerica.org.**

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