Americans’ Attitudes about Science and Scientists in 2017
## Scientists Most Trusted Spokespersons for Science

How trustworthy do you consider each of the following to be as spokespersons for science?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Spokespersons</th>
<th>Very trustworthy</th>
<th>Somewhat trustworthy</th>
<th>Not very trustworthy</th>
<th>Not at all trustworthy</th>
<th>Not sure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scientists</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health care professionals</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patient organizations</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journalists</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloggers</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business leaders</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elected officials</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Scientists Should Play Major Role in Shaping Public Policy

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Somewhat agree</th>
<th>Somewhat disagree</th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
<th>Not sure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medical and health research</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drug safety and efficacy</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air and water quality</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food safety</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Energy</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads, bridges, infrastructure</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Defense</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job creation</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Most Americans Don’t Know Where Research is Conducted

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

- Yes, I can name [33%]
- No, I cannot name/Not sure [67%]


Institutions mentioned:
- Mayo Clinic (17%)
- Johns Hopkins University (10%)
- St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital (6%)
- NIH (4%)
- Cleveland Clinic (4%)
- MD Anderson Cancer Center (2%)
- Harvard University (3%)
- American Cancer Society (2%)
- CDC (1%)
Most Americans Cannot Name a Living Scientist

Can you name a living scientist?

- Yes, I can name: 19%
  - Stephen Hawking (27%)
  - Neil deGrasse Tyson (19%)
  - Bill Nye (5%)
  - Richard Dawkins (3%)
  - Jane Goodall (2%)
  - Anthony Fauci (2%)
  - Michio Kaku (2%)
  - Me (2%)
  - James Watson (1%)

- No, I cannot name/Not sure: 81%
Less Than A Quarter Know Medical Research Is Conducted Nationwide

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

- 50% Not sure
- 29% No
- 21% Yes

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

- **Military**: 37% A lot, 38% Some, 13% Not much, 6% None at all, 7% Don't know/No opinion
- **Small businesses**: 27% A lot, 51% Some, 11% Not much, 4% None at all, 8% Don't know/No opinion
- **Police**: 26% A lot, 43% Some, 17% Not much, 8% None at all, 6% Don't know/No opinion
- **Scientific institutions**: 25% A lot, 46% Some, 15% Not much, 6% None at all, 8% Don't know/No opinion
- **The church/organized religion**: 19% A lot, 38% Some, 19% Not much, 16% None at all, 7% Don't know/No opinion
- **Universities**: 18% A lot, 45% Some, 21% Not much, 9% None at all, 7% Don't know/No opinion
- **Public schools**: 13% A lot, 46% Some, 26% Not much, 9% None at all, 7% Don't know/No opinion
- **U.S. Supreme Court**: 12% A lot, 43% Some, 26% Not much, 11% None at all, 8% Don't know/No opinion

Americans Not Confident in Congress, Large Corporations

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

- The presidency: 11% A lot, 35% Some, 24% Not much, 22% None at all, 9% Don't know/No opinion
- Criminal Justice System: 10% A lot, 43% Some, 28% Not much, 12% None at all, 7% Don't know/No opinion
- The health care system: 10% A lot, 39% Some, 31% Not much, 14% None at all, 6% Don't know/No opinion
- Organized labor: 9% A lot, 36% Some, 27% Not much, 15% None at all, 12% Don't know/No opinion
- Television news: 8% A lot, 42% Some, 28% Not much, 16% None at all, 6% Don't know/No opinion
- Newspapers: 8% A lot, 44% Some, 27% Not much, 14% None at all, 6% Don't know/No opinion
- Congress: 7% A lot, 24% Some, 36% Not much, 27% None at all, 6% Don't know/No opinion
- Large Corporations: 6% A lot, 34% Some, 36% Not much, 16% None at all, 8% Don't know/No opinion

Americans Split on U.S. Progress in Science and Innovation Under President Trump

Do you agree or disagree that great strides in science and innovation will continue while Donald Trump is President?

- Strongly agree: 20%
- Somewhat agree: 26%
- Somewhat disagree: 14%
- Strongly disagree: 18%
- Not sure: 22%

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democrat</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>24</td>
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Important to Assign High Priority to Health Research and Innovation

In your view, how important is it for President Trump to assign a high priority to putting health research and innovation to work to assure continued medical progress?

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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Democrat</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>9</td>
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