



Medical Research is a Priority in Montana and Nationally

Mary Woolley, President, Research!America

August 15, 2011

McLaughlin Research Institute National Development Council
Great Falls, MT

McLaughlin Research Institute and Research!America

- MRI ranks fifth in Montana in the number of NIH research grants.



McLaughlin Research Institute
for Biomedical Sciences

- Among Association of Independent Research Institutes members funded by the NIH, MRI ranks 54th.
- MRI is one of 23 independent research institutes that are Research!America members.



Research!America: 22 Years of Putting Research on the Public Agenda

- Non-profit alliance with over 400 member organizations drawn from academia, business, patient organizations and scientific societies representing more than 125 million Americans
- Distinguished, all-volunteer board includes former elected and appointed officials, media and public relations leaders, and leaders from alliance member organizations

Research!America

Our mission:

**Making research to improve health
a higher national priority**

Our accomplishments:

- Leadership in doubling the NIH budget
- Leadership in stem cell research advocacy
- Raising awareness of research through the media (*PARADE*, *The New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*)

*Research!America is an innovator
in advocacy for research*

Research Matters to Montana

State	NIH Funding (2010)	NIH Funding Rank	Population Rank
Montana	\$31 million	44	44
Idaho	\$8.3 million	50	39
Alaska	\$11.3 million	42	47

- Montana benefits from the NIH Institutional Development Awards (IDeA) programs, which provide opportunities for the state to greatly expand in bioscience.

Research Matters to Montana



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Guest opinion: Scientific research investment pays off for Montana

Missoulian

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helena.com | **Independent Record**

Montana is research country

Research Matters to Montana

Research & Innovation: **RESEARCH AMERICA** Montana

Montana Health Facts

- Alzheimer's disease affected 21,000 Montanans in 2010.¹
- Cancer was the leading cause of death between 2003 and 2009, killing more than 9,500 Montanans.²
- Heart disease was the second leading cause of death in Montana, causing more than 9,000 deaths from 2005 to 2009.³
- Health challenges include low immunization coverage and a high occupational death rate.⁴

National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded research at the McLaughlin Research Institute

- Important discoveries in neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer's disease, Prion disease and Parkinson's disease.⁵
- Research to improve recovery from hearing loss.⁶



NIH-funded research at Montana State University (MSU)

- Discovery of a compound to eliminate biofilms on medical equipment⁷, which will aid in preventing infections in hospitals and other public settings.⁸
- MSU is developing therapies for lung damage from pneumonia⁹, which along with influenza killed more than 900 Montanans between 2005 and 2009.³

Growth of the bioscience industry in Bozeman

- LigaCyte Pharmaceuticals works with MSU to create drugs that fight inflammation.¹⁰
- Microbe partners with MSU to develop its effective compound for biofilm removal, which is necessary to sterilize hospital equipment.¹¹



National Institutes of Health

NIH grants lead to new discoveries at the University of Montana (UMT)

- Research to repair damaged blood vessels in collaboration with the International Heart Institute, another Montana research center.¹²
- UMT is exploring novel treatments for Alzheimer's disease.¹³

Biotechnology companies formed

- Propitid Biopharma, a startup company developed through UMT, develops antifungal and antibacterial products to alleviate the spread of contamination and infection.¹⁴
- Rocky Mountain Biological, a startup from UMT, develops technology for blood analysis and provides products for research use.¹⁵



National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

The NIH's Rocky Mountain National Labs

- The National Institute for Autoimmune and Infectious Diseases of the NIH has provided a research base in Montana¹⁶, focusing on treatments and cures for infectious diseases.
- Employs 400 Montanans.¹⁷

Billings is home to NIH-funded clinical research

- The Montana Cancer Consortium is a nonprofit, NIH funded institute that sponsors clinical trials for new cancer treatments.¹⁸
- The Montana Health Research Institute is a nonprofit institute that conducts clinical trials for drugs to treat diseases such as Type II Diabetes and High blood pressure.¹⁹

1. Alzheimer's Association, *Montana*
2. *Montana Health and Human Services*
3. *MMRIS* 4. *MMRIS* 5. *MMRIS*
6. *MMRIS* 7. *MMRIS* 8. *MMRIS*
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Why is funding from the National Institutes of Health important?

- Supports university and independent research institute research
- Trains new scientists
- Creates cures, preventions and treatments
- Builds the biosciences industry
- Keeps Montana competitive

Bioscience Centers in Montana



- University of Montana, Rocky Mountain National Labs, Missoula and Hamilton
- Montana State University, Bozeman
- McLaughlin Research Institute, Great Falls

Investing in Montana's Future

- Montana bioscience institutions directly employ more than 1,700 Montanans and support more than 5,100 jobs state-wide.²⁰
- The average annual salary for a Montana biotech employee is \$49,500.²¹ (The average annual state-wide salary is \$36,000.²²)
- Bioscience employees account for 44% of Montana's manufacturing work-force.²³
- \$54 million in NIH funding in 2010 supported approximately 1,000 in-state jobs.²⁴
- Montana benefits from the NIH Institutional Development Awards (IDAs) programs, which provide opportunities for the state to greatly expand in bioscience.²⁵
- Montana start-up bioscience companies have received millions in NIH Small Business Innovation Research Funds to develop pharmaceuticals and health products for the market.^{26,27}

Source: ²⁰NIH.gov, ²¹Montana Bioscience Alliance, ²²BLS Report, 2011, ²³Department of Labor, ²⁴National Center for Research Resources, ²⁵NIH.gov, ²⁶NIH.gov

Most Americans Think R&D is Important to State Economies

How important do you think research and development is to your state's economy?



Source: Your Congress Your Health Poll, March 2011, Chaffin Research Company for ResearchAmerica



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Research Matters to Montanans

Excerpt of a letter from National Development Council Chair Gerald Molen to Rep. Denny Rehberg:

GERALD R. MOLEN
357 EAGLE BEND DRIVE BIGFORK, MONTANA 59911-6210

JULY 20, 2011
CONGRESSMAN DENNIS REHBERG
2248 RHOB
INDEPENDENCE AVE & S. CAPITAL ST., SW
WASHINGTON, DC 20515

RE: McLAUGHLIN RESEARCH INSTITUTE

DEAR DENNY,

SINCE YOU CHAIR THE LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES, IT IS MY CONSIDERED OPINION YOU ARE THE PERSON TO WHOM I SHOULD DIRECT MY CONCERNS FOR MONIES ALLOCATED TO THE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND THE IMPACT ANY REDUCTION IN MONEY DIRECTLY AND CURRENTLY WILL HAVE ON THE FUTURE OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND ESPECIALLY THE PROGRAMS THAT ARE CURRENTLY WORKING TOWARDS EFFECTUAL DISCOVERIES.

YOU AND I HAVE DISCUSSED THE IMPORTANT WORK BEING DONE AT THE McLAUGHLIN RESEARCH INSTITUTE AND HOW PROUD WE ARE TO HAVE IT DOING IT'S WONDERFUL WORK IN GREAT FALLS. PLEASE KNOW THERE ARE MANY OF US WHO UNDERSTAND THE DIFFICULT DECISIONS BEFORE YOU BUT WE ALSO KNOW THERE ARE COUNTLESS INDIVIDUALS, NOT ONLY WHO LIVE IN MONTANA, BUT EVEN AROUND THE WORLD, WHO ARE IN NEED OF THE RESULTS OF THE RESEARCH ONGOING AND SO CLOSE TO FRUITION. THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR ANY AND ALL CONSIDERATIONS IN THIS MATTER. I AM CONFIDENT WE SHARE A COMMON GOAL OF SEEING GREAT THINGS EMANATING FROM THE WORK GOING ON AT MRI AND FURTHER UNDERSTAND YOU REALIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF THE FUNDING SO DESPERATELY NEEDED TO COMPLETE THE WORK NOW IN PROGRESS.

National Institutes of Health

Federal
Taxes



- NIH's mission is to seek fundamental knowledge about the nature and behavior of living systems and the application of that knowledge to enhance health, lengthen life, and reduce the burdens of illness and disability.

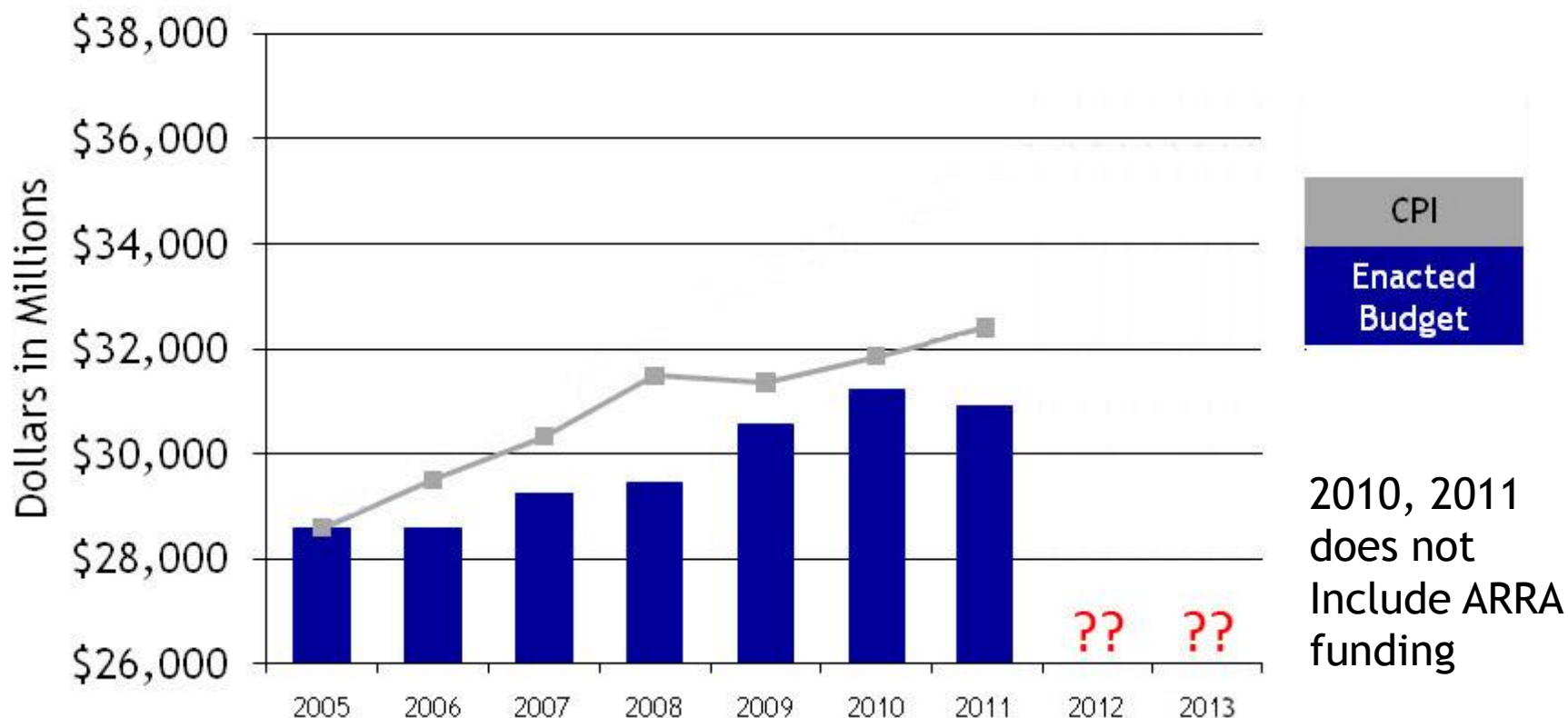
NIH Soundbites

- NIH FY11 budget: \$30.2 billion, or around \$100 per person in the U.S.; NIH funding represents less than 1% of the total federal budget
- Less than six cents of every health dollar is spent on research; less than 1.4 cents goes to the NIH
- Research funded by NIH provides the groundwork for new product development in the private sector, which creates jobs and improves local economies
- NIH employees: nearly 20,000 (400 in Montana)
- NIH funding supports 487,900 jobs (over 1,000 in Montana)

Sources: Research!America, National Institutes of Health, United for Medical Research

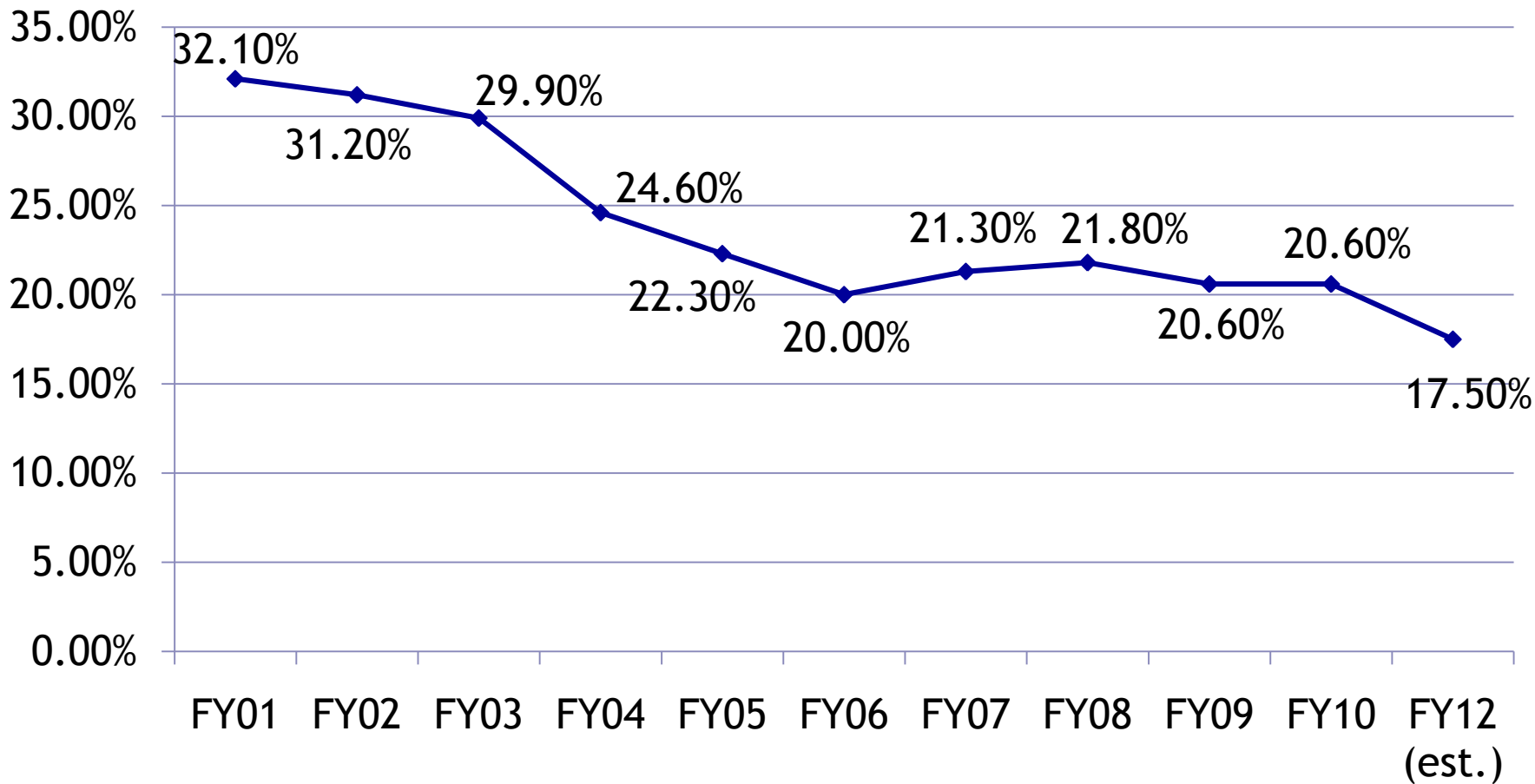
The Budget for NIH

Budget Authority, FY 2005-2012



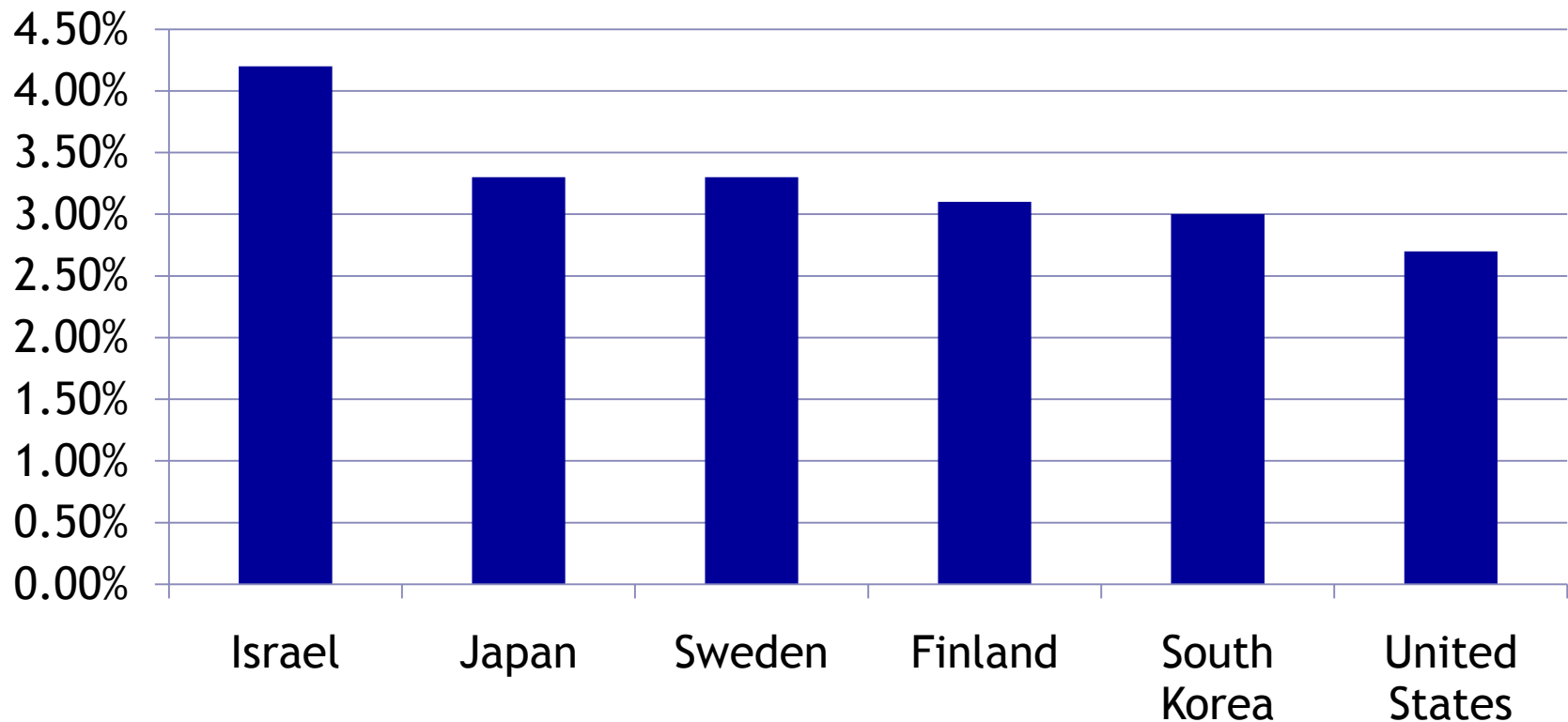
Source: NIH Office of Budget, House Committee on Appropriations, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Success Rates of Research Proposals to NIH: FY01-FY12



U.S. Science is Still Doing Well, But Consider...

Research investment as a percentage of GDP in 2010:



The situation may get worse

The public supports strong research investment, but budget cuts threaten America's global lead in biomedical innovation. Montana's congressional delegation is well-positioned to help.

Montana's Congressional Delegation: Leaders for Health



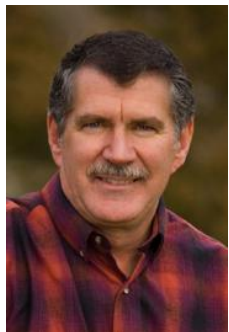
Sen. Max Baucus

- Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Program (HIDTA)
- CHIP implementation and reauthorization
- Leadership in the Indian Health Care Improvement Act



Sen. Jon Tester

- Food Safety Amendment
- Indian Health Care Improvement Act
- Rural Veterans Health Care Improvement Act of 2009



Rep. Denny Rehberg

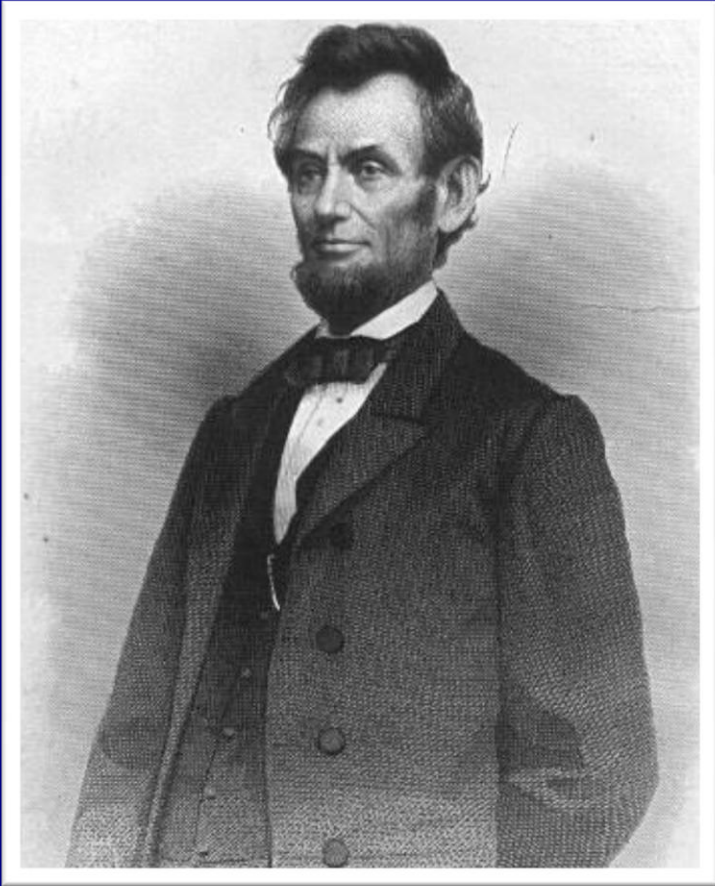
- Bipartisan CHIP expansion; co-founder of Congressional Baby Caucus
- Original cosponsor of Social Security and Medicare Lock-Box Act
- Leadership on expanded medical services for veterans
- Chair of Labor/Health and Human Services/Education Subcommittee; **responsible for NIH appropriations**



“The people we really listen to are the voters. Not once have I heard anyone at a public meeting ask me, ‘what are you doing for medical research?’ Not even from a researcher!”

Rep. Mike Simpson (R-ID),
Appropriations Committee Member

Public Support Matters



“...public sentiment is everything. With public sentiment, nothing can fail; without it nothing can succeed.”

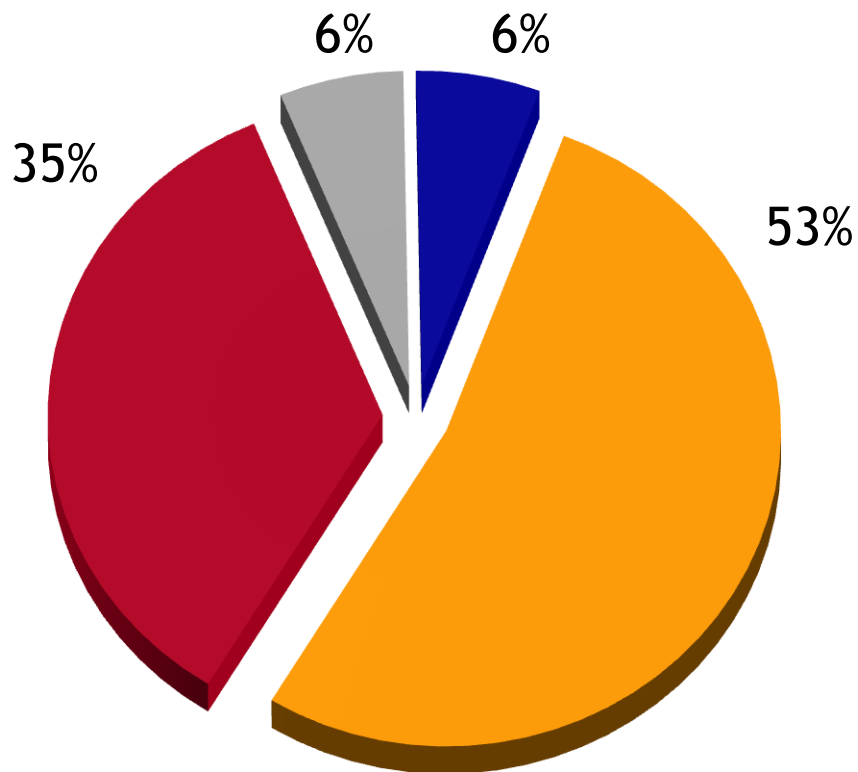
President Abraham Lincoln

Keeping a Finger on the Public Pulse

- Research!America has commissioned public opinion polls for 20 years:
 - National Polls
 - State-Based Polls
 - Issue-Specific Polls
- Telephone (random-digit dialing) polls are conducted with a sample size of 800-1000 adults (age 18+) and a maximum theoretical sampling error of +/- 3.5%. Data are demographically representative of adult U.S. residents (state or national).
- Online polls are conducted with a sample size of 1000-2000 adults and sampling error of +/-3.1%. The data are weighted in two stages to ensure accurate representation of the U.S. adult population.

Some Spending Cuts & Strategic Investment Needed for Economy

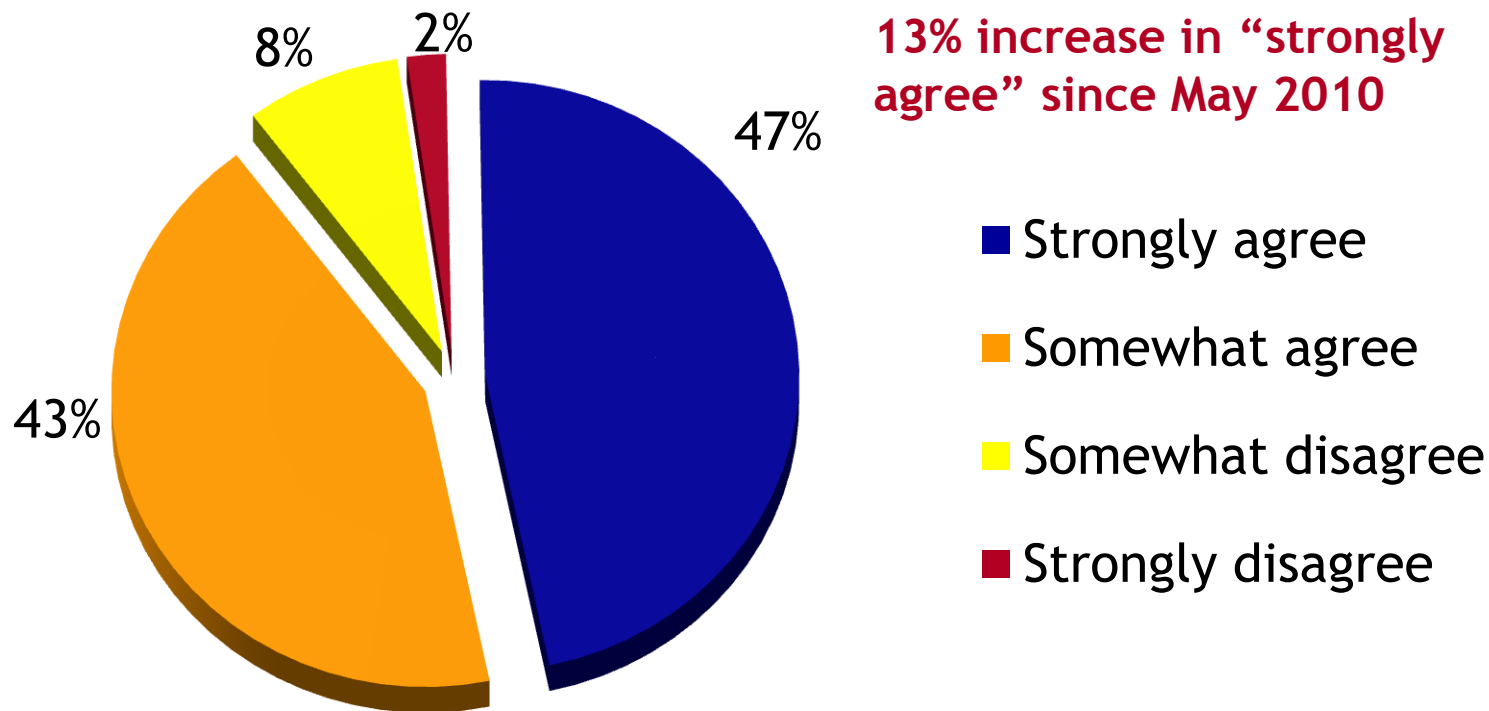
Considering the current economic situation, which statement comes closest to your view:



- Spending cuts are not a priority now, as our economy recovers from the recession
- Some spending cuts are necessary but the U.S. must invest strategically to improve the health of the economy
- Across-the-board spending cuts are necessary to reduce the federal budget deficit and improve the health of the U.S. economy
- Don't know

U.S. Competitive Edge in Innovation

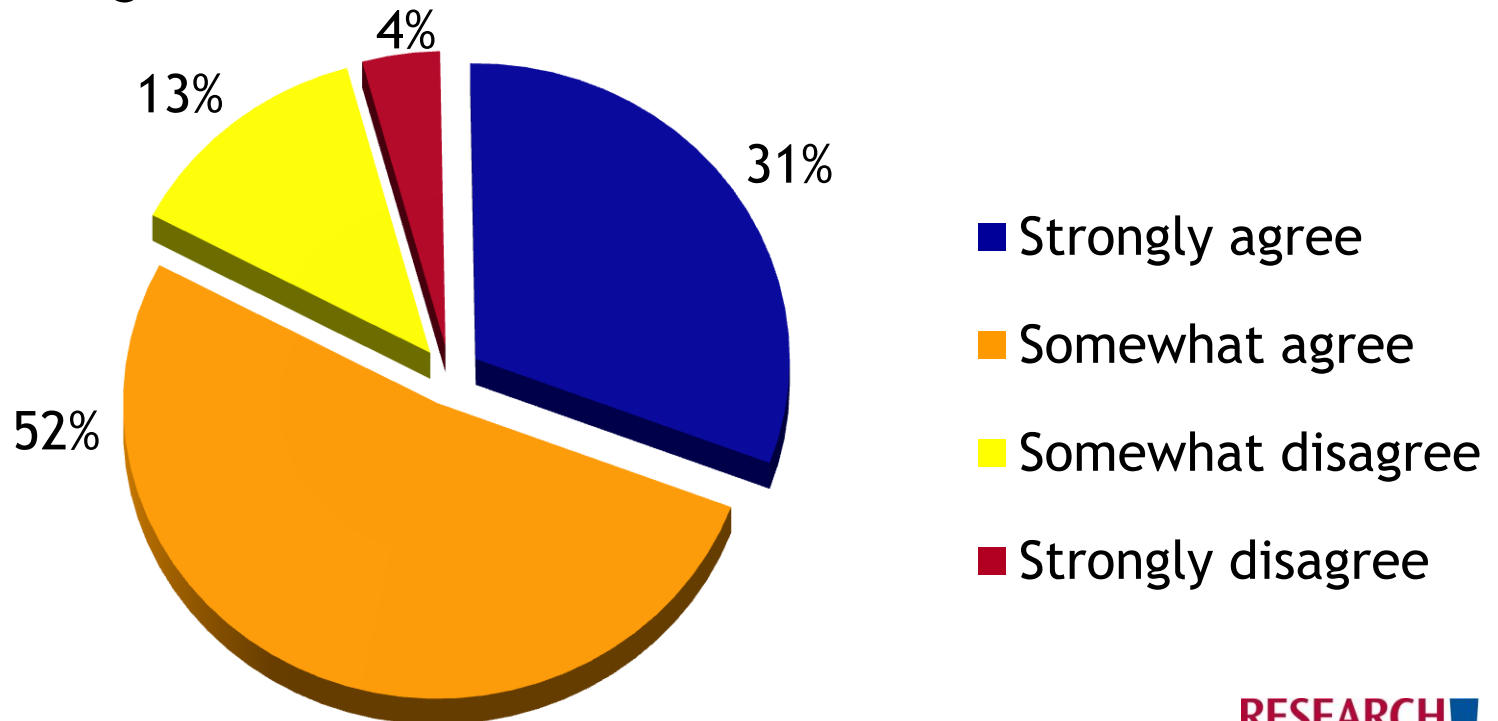
Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? "The U.S. is in danger of losing its global competitive edge in science, technology and innovation."



Source: *Your Congress - Your Health* Survey, March 2011
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

Most Agree That Basic Research is Necessary

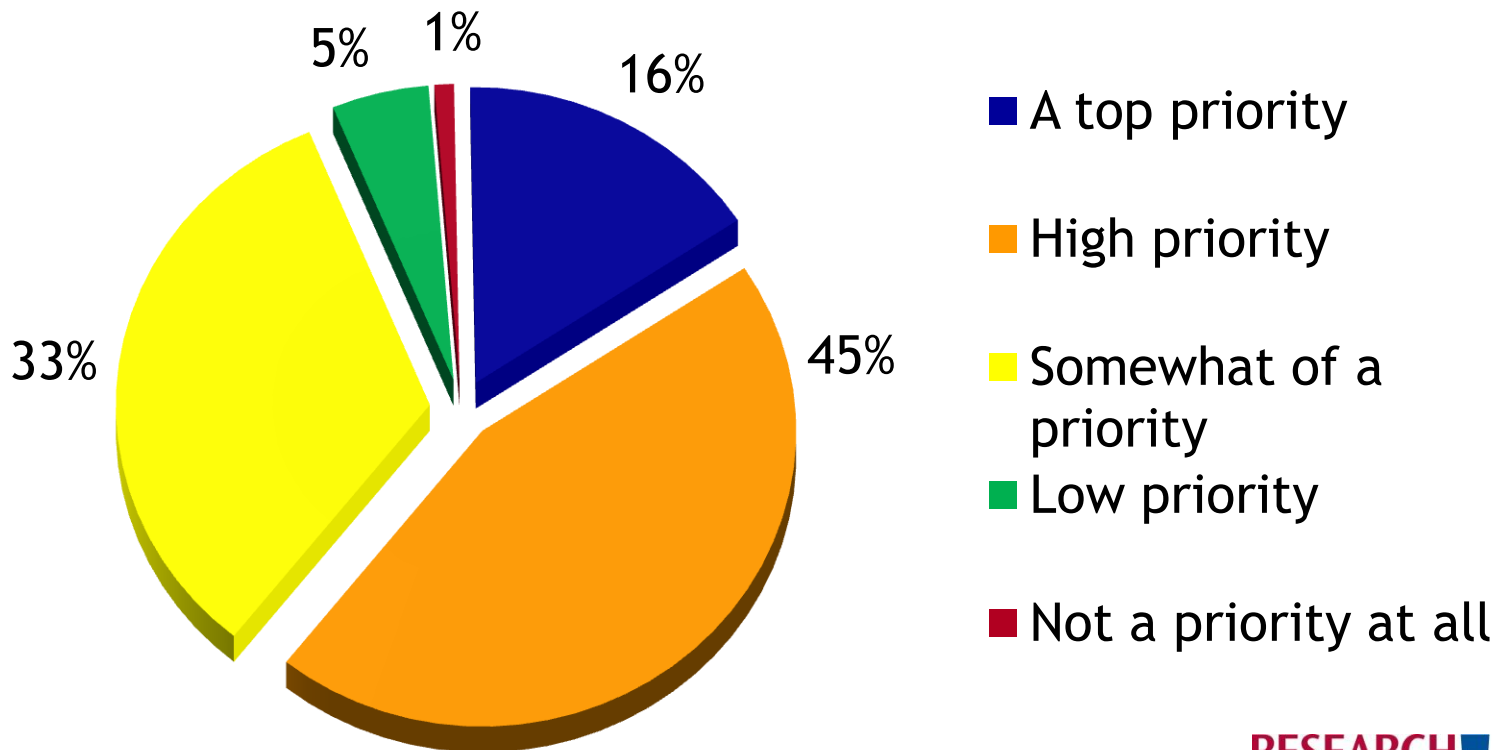
Do you agree or disagree with the following statement? “Even if it brings no immediate benefits, basic scientific research that advances the frontiers of knowledge is necessary and should be supported by the federal government.”



Source: *Your Congress - Your Health* Survey, March 2011
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

Accelerating Investment in Health Research is a High Priority

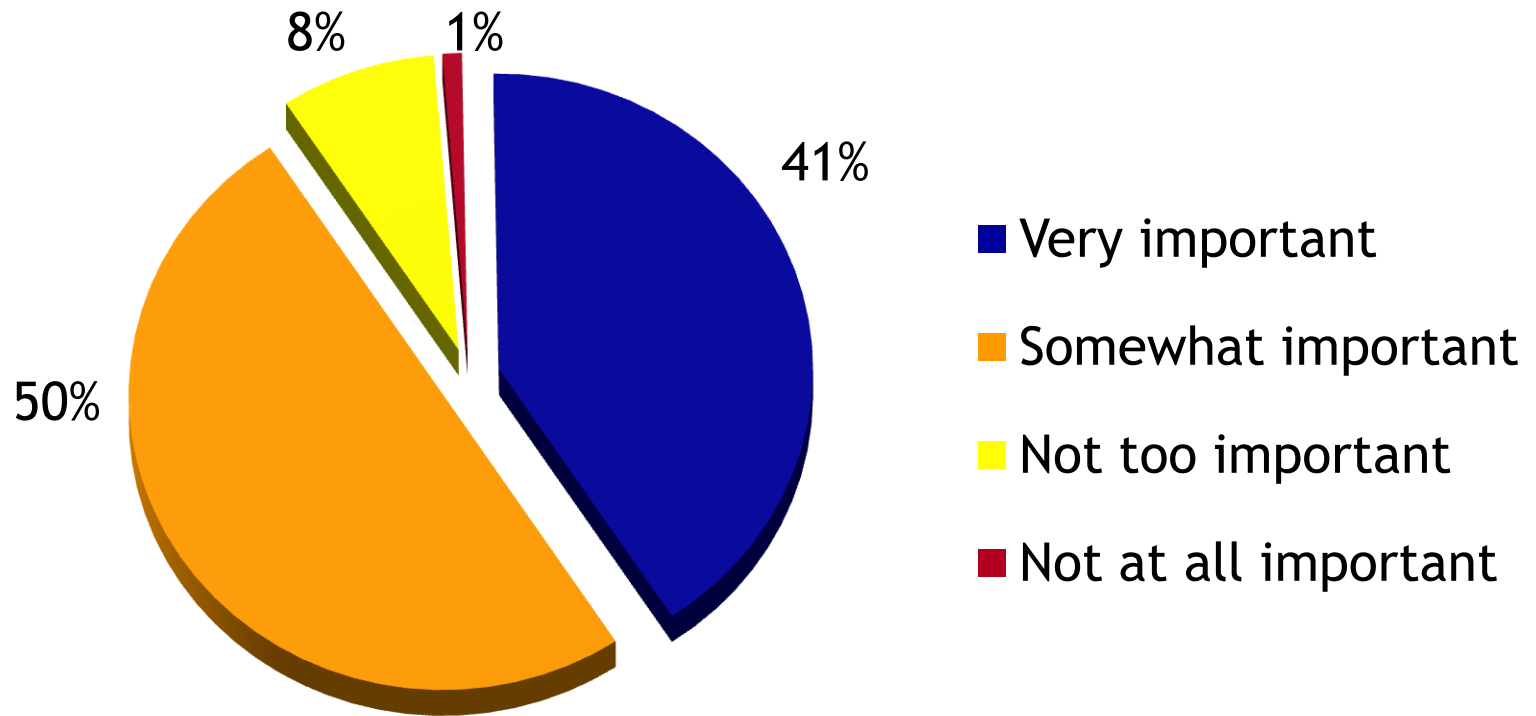
How much of a priority is it to accelerate our nation's investment in research to improve health?



Source: *Your Congress - Your Health* Survey, March 2011
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

Americans Think R&D is Important to State Economies

How important do you think research and development is to your state's economy?

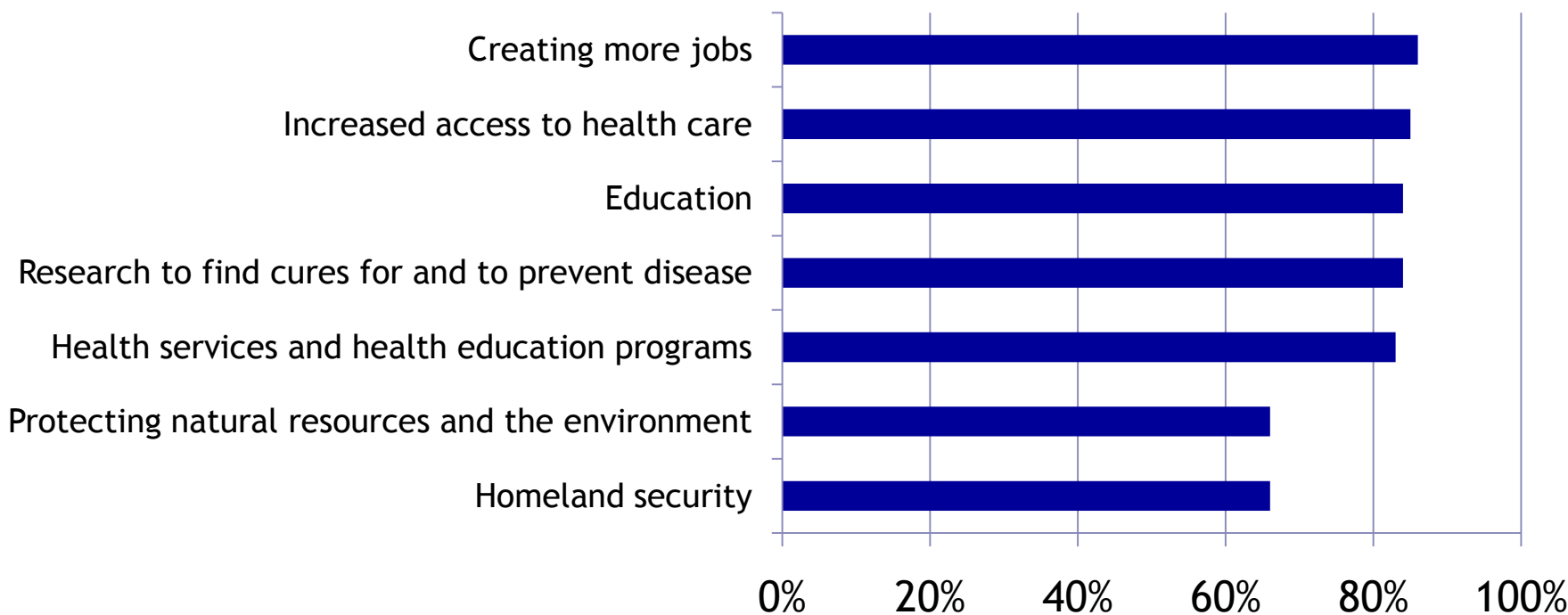


Source: *Your Congress - Your Health* Survey, March 2011
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

Likelihood to Vote for A Candidate

Would you be more or less likely to vote for a candidate for public office if he or she supported increased funding for ...

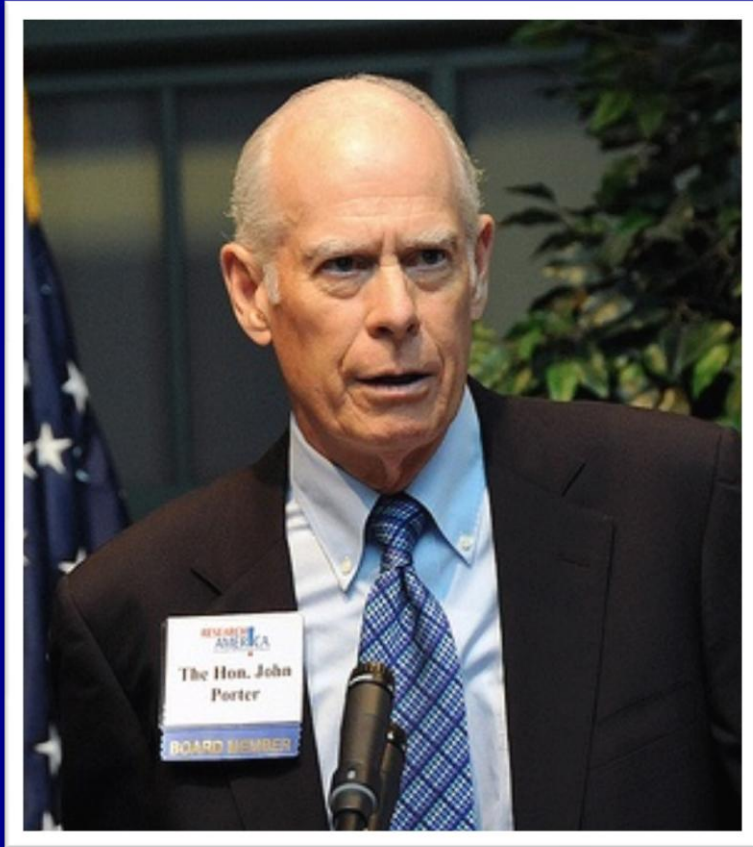
Percent Saying "More Likely"



It's an important time for our country

What You Can Do Now

- Those who value science-based policy making, evidence-based health care and an economy powered by innovation must step up and contact their congressional delegation.
- Advocacy WORKS. The right advocate in the right place at the right time can have a huge impact.
- A large number of advocates from all around the country cannot be ignored.



“Spending by government is all about priorities. Priorities will be chosen, and money will be spent. We have to be sure that our priorities are included in the discussion.”

Research!America Chair and Former Congressman
John Edward Porter

Why Research is Important NOW More than Ever

- Cutting medical research is *not* a deficit reduction strategy; research improves our health and strengthens our economy.
- Cuts now are more harmful than ever as other countries like China and India rapidly increase investments in R&D.
- Our health and our economy depend on research investments. We cannot afford to fall behind.

“If you think research is expensive, try disease.” – Mary Lasker

Public Perceptions of Science and Scientists

Science's impact on society is:

Mostly positive 84%

Mostly negative 6%

Other/don't know 10%


Professions contributing "a lot to society's well-being":

Members of military 84%

Teachers 77%

Scientists 70%

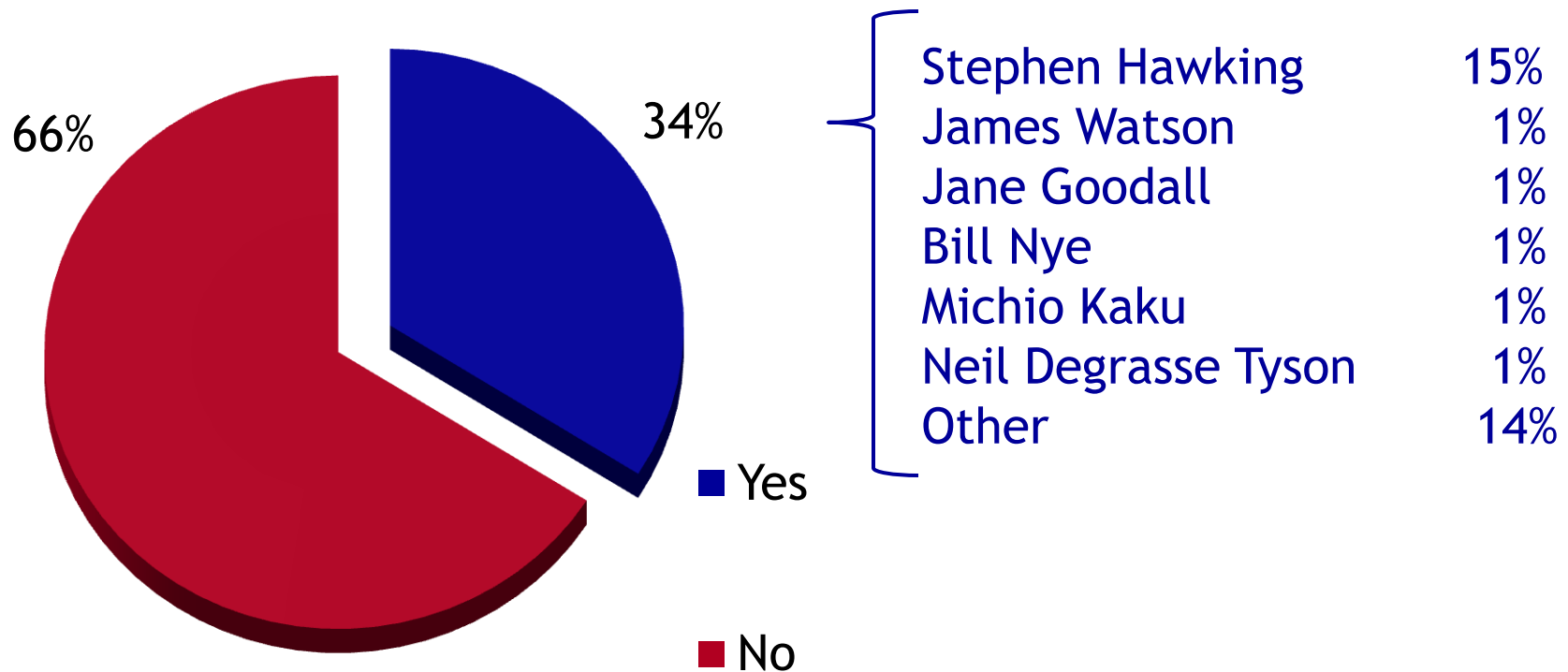
Medical doctors 69%



And Yet, Despite High
Levels of Public
Confidence,
Scientists are Invisible in
Our Society...

Most Americans Can't Name a Living Scientist

Can you name a living scientist? (first volunteered responses)



Source: *Your Congress - Your Health* Survey, March 2011
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

‘A Nobel in the Family: My Brother, the Genius’


“I admire and love my brother [Paul Greengard], but he lives on a higher plane, and what he does is secret, unrevealable. To me, anyway ...

“Every time he took a new job – whether at Albert Einstein College of Medicine or Yale – I’d ask him about it. Then he’d get into electro-physiological properties, and it was all over ...

“Now, he has won the Nobel Prize in physiology or medicine, an honor he shares with two other scientists. In reporting it, the newspapers said their work on the way brain cells communicate might one day help cure diseases like Parkinson’s and Alzheimer’s.

“I’m thrilled he won. **Now I know what he does.**”

– *Chris Chase in a New York Times opinion piece on October 15, 2000*



Scientists serve the public's interest but don't do a great job saying so. Accountability matters to the taxpayer. That's why the most important four words a researcher can say and convey are ...



“I work for you.”

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www.researchamerica.org/facebook



www.twitter.com/researchamerica



www.youtube.com/researchamerica



<http://newvoicesforresearch.blogspot.com>