



Americans' Views on Child Abuse and Neglect

September 2018

National public opinion survey commissioned by
Research!America

Partner

Support for this survey was provided, in part, by EndCAN:

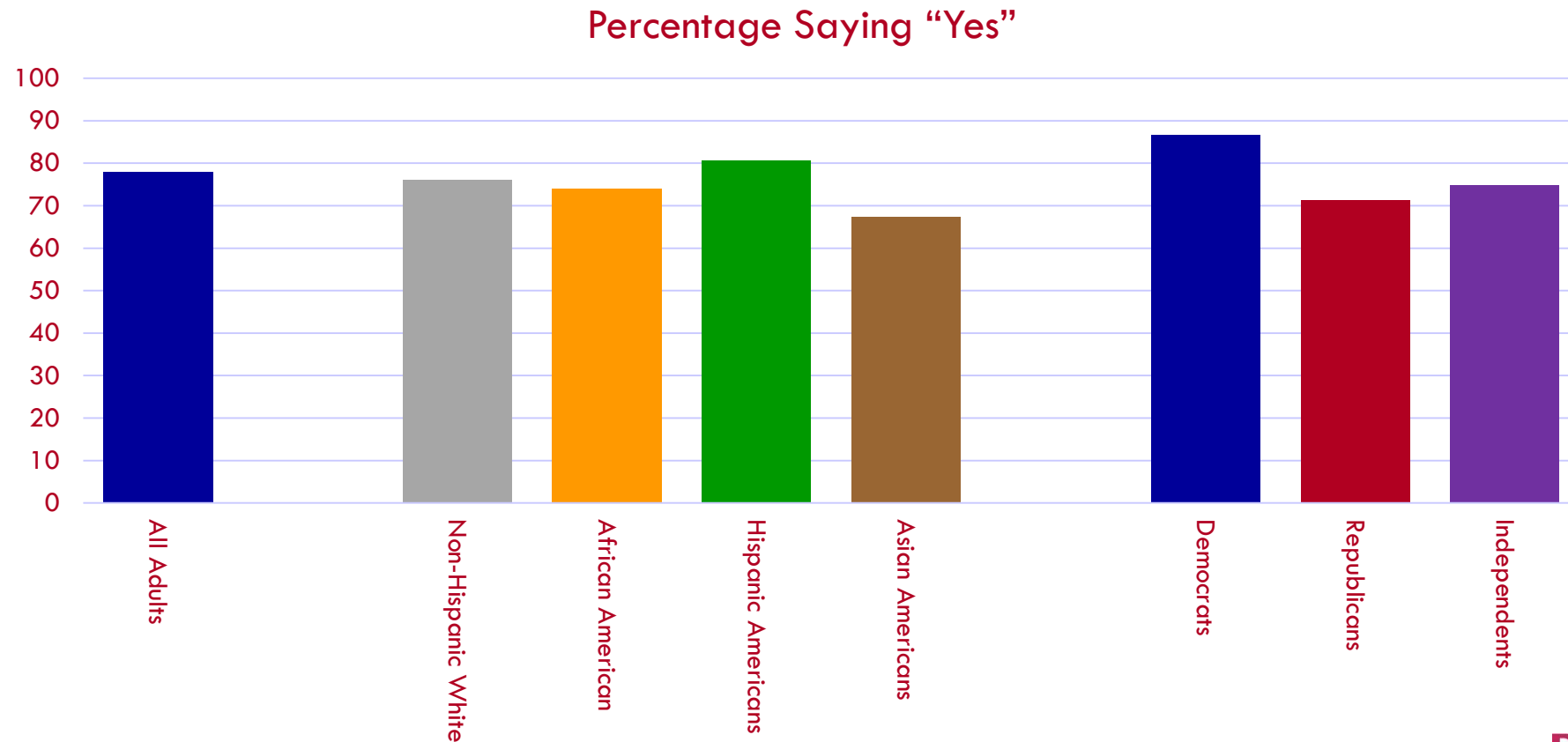


Survey Methodology

- This nationwide online survey was conducted by Zogby Analytics on behalf of Research!America in June 2018 among 1,010 adults in the U.S. This survey has a theoretical sampling error of +/- 3.1 percentage points.
- In addition, we oversampled for minority groups:
 - African-American: sample size, 418; margin of error, +/-4.8%
 - Asian: sample size, 417; margin of error, +/- 5.6%
 - Hispanic: sample size, 420; margin of error, +/- 4.8%
- Due to rounding, the total may not add to 100% on some charts.

Strong Majorities View Child Abuse as Public Health Problem in U.S.

Do you view child abuse and neglect as a public health problem in the United States?



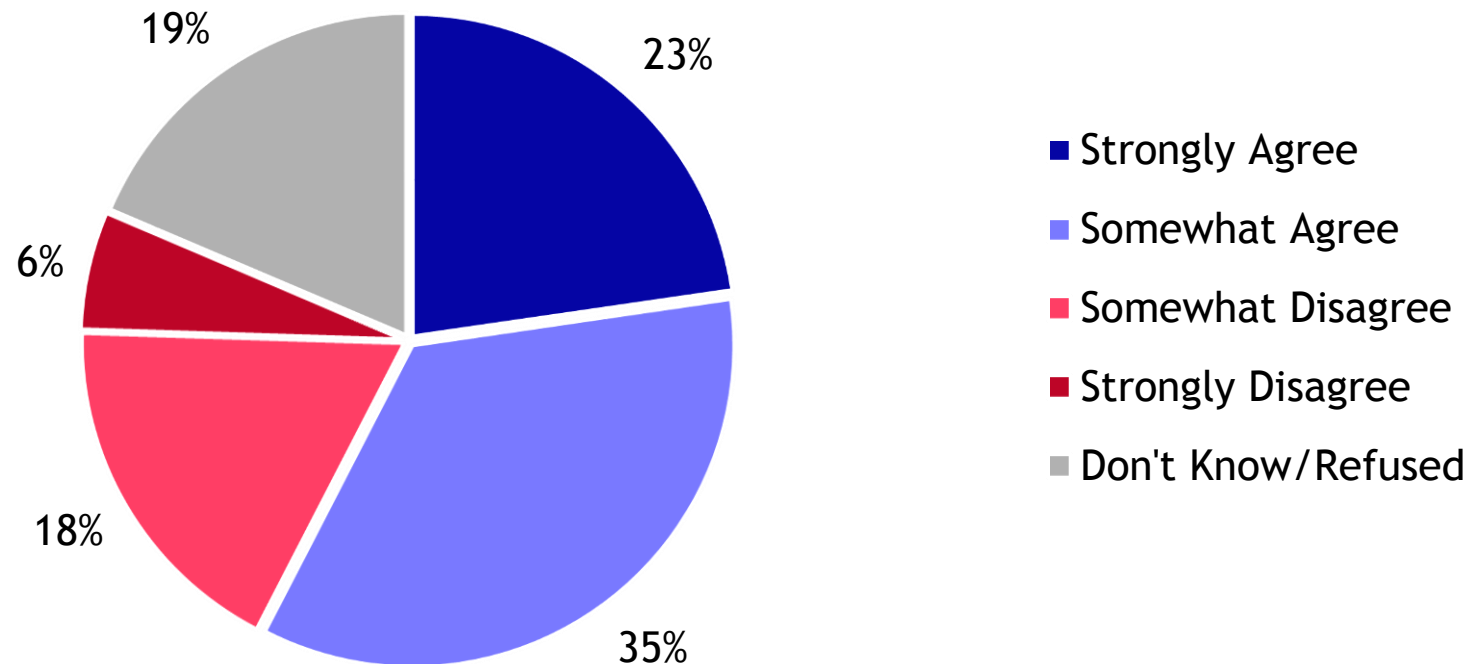
Child Abuse/Neglect Among TOP Public Health Concerns

Which of the following would you say are the *top* public health concerns facing the nation?
(Choose all that apply)

Drug addiction	67%
Cancer	55%
Nutrition, physical activity and obesity	46%
Child abuse/neglect	42%
Heart disease and stroke	39%
Alzheimer's disease	34%
Alcohol abuse	33%
Food safety	28%
Tobacco use	27%
Healthcare-associated infections	19%

Majorities Across Populations Say Child Abuse is Problem in their Communities

Do you agree or disagree that child abuse and neglect is a problem in your local community?



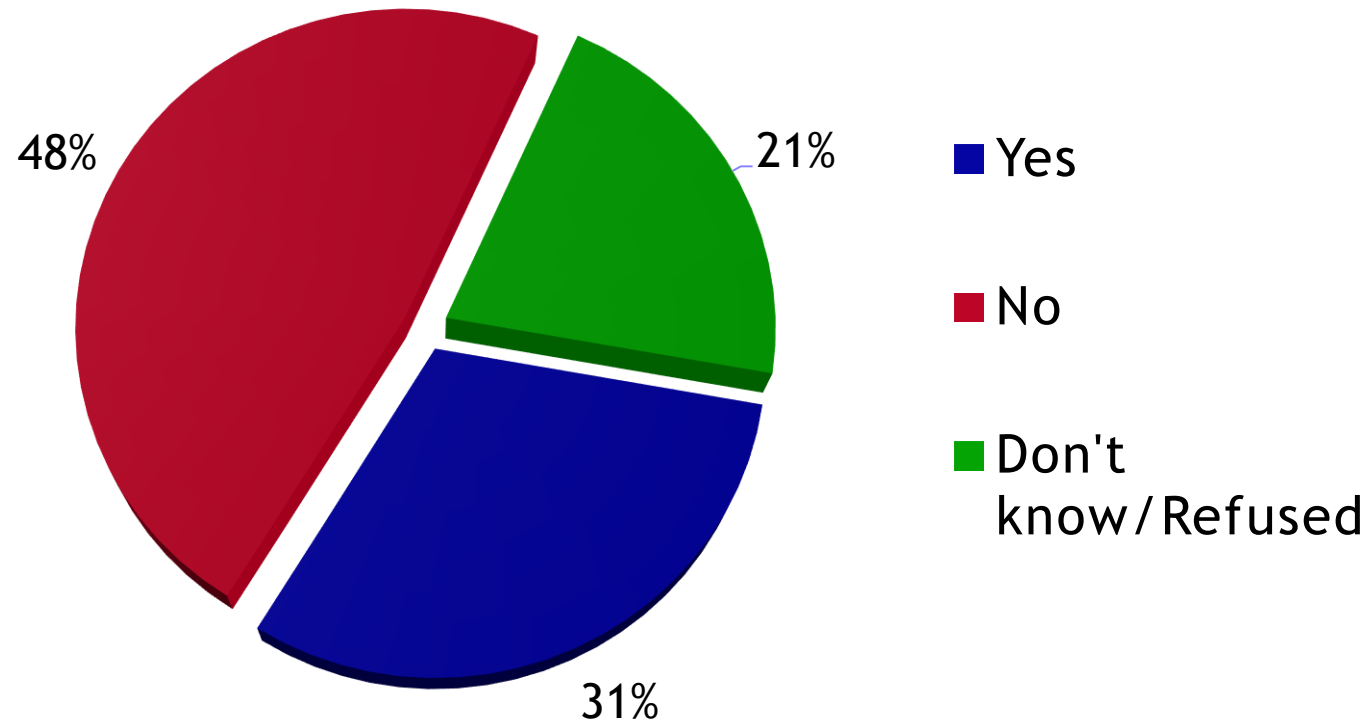
Impact of Child Abuse and Neglect

Those surveyed think child abuse and neglect contributes to the following “a great deal” (5 out of a scale of 1 to 5):

- Depression - 64%
- Problems at School - 58%
- Substance Abuse - 56%
- Violence - 55%
- Suicide - 53%
- Obesity/Eating Disorders - 40%

Nearly Half Say Health Professionals not Effective in Addressing Abuse

Do you think health professionals are effective in intervening, preventing, or stopping abuse and appropriately treating victims?



Child and Family Services, Law Enforcement Should Bear Responsibility to End Child Abuse

Who bears the responsibility to end child abuse and neglect? (Choose all that apply)

Child and Family Services	58.9%
Law Enforcement	52.9%
State Government	51.4%
Federal Government	47.6%
Education System	39.4%
Medical Institutions	31.0%
Faith-Based Communities	25.3%
Don't Know/Refused	12.2%
Other	10.5%

Prevention and Treatment Should be Prioritized in Research

Which of the following areas should be prioritized in research to address child abuse and neglect?
(Choose all that apply)

How best to prevent each form of child abuse and neglect	63%
Best treatments for victims of abuse and neglect	62%
Causes of abusive behavior and treatment to stop it	61%
Measure the quality of services provided to the children and families who are in the child protective services system	50%
Measure the outcomes (e.g. what happens over time) to children and families served by the child protection system	47%
Don't know/refused	9%
Other (Specify)	2%

State and Federal Government Should Fund Research to Understand, Prevent Child Abuse

Which of the following should fund research to better understand, prevent and intervene in child abuse and neglect? (Choose all that apply)

State Government	67%
Federal Government	64%
Non-Profit Organizations	47%
Private sector/Industry	34%
Academia	18%
Don't know/refused	10%
None of these	3%
Other (specify)	2%

Americans Want Action on Child Abuse and Neglect

The data are clear:

- Americans view child abuse and neglect as a public health problem.
- They want action: better treatment, intervention, and prevention.
- They want to see state and federal government support research to address child abuse and neglect.