National Poll

Results of a New Public Opinion Poll

March 2012
National Public Opinion Poll

The National Public Opinion Poll was conducted online in March 2012 by JZ Analytics for Research!America. The poll has a sample size of 1,005 likely U.S. voters with a theoretical sampling error of +/- 3.2%.
Over Half Skeptical that U.S. Will Be a Leader in Health Care

In your view, which of the following will be considered the No. 1 world leader in health care in the year 2020?

- United States: 47%
- China: 3%
- India: 28%
- European Union: 2%
- Brazil: 18%
- Not sure: 2%

Source: A Research!America poll of likely voters conducted in partnership with JZ Analytics in March 2012.
Over Half Doubt U.S. Leadership in Science and Technology in 2020

In your view, which of the following will be considered the No. 1 world leader in science and technology in the year 2020?

- United States: 42%
- China: 26%
- India: 7%
- European Union: 2%
- Brazil: 0%
- Not sure: 23%

Source: A Research!America poll of likely voters conducted in partnership with JZ Analytics in March 2012.
Despite Skepticism, Americans Aspire to World Leadership

... If current trends continue, other nations will soon match U.S. investment in research and development. In your opinion, how important is it for the United States to maintain its world leadership role?

- Very important: 64%
- Somewhat important: 27%
- Somewhat unimportant: 4%
- Very unimportant: 2%
- Not sure: 3%

Source: A Research!America poll of likely voters conducted in partnership with JZ Analytics in March 2012.
Which of the following statements is closer to your view? Statement A: It is important that the U.S. is a leader in medical and health research. Or Statement B: It does not matter where in the world medical and health research takes place – in today’s world, U.S. consumers will benefit regardless.

65% Statement A
23% Statement B
12% Not sure

Source: A Research!America poll of likely voters conducted in partnership with JZ Analytics in March 2012.
Which of the following statements is closer to your view? Statement A: Some people say that it is important for U.S. economic competitiveness and prosperity that our nation continues to lead in the sciences. Or Statement B: Other people say that it is now other countries’ time to lead in the sciences.

78% 9% 13%

Statement A  Statement B  Not sure

Source: A Research!America poll of likely voters conducted in partnership with JZ Analytics in March 2012.
Science and Innovation Important Theme for Presidential Debate

Presidential debates can follow themes. For each of the following themes, please indicate how important you think it is for the candidates to debate each theme.

- **The economy and taxes**: 75% very important, 18% somewhat important, 3% somewhat unimportant, 33% very unimportant, 18% not sure.

- **Foreign policy and national security**: 46% very important, 41% somewhat important, 9% somewhat unimportant, 3% very unimportant, 21% not sure.

- **Science, innovation and health**: 38% very important, 46% somewhat important, 12% somewhat unimportant, 2% very unimportant, 22% not sure.

- **The environment**: 32% very important, 36% somewhat important, 21% somewhat unimportant, 9% very unimportant, 22% not sure.

- **Faith and values**: 23% very important, 29% somewhat important, 23% somewhat unimportant, 9% very unimportant, 22% not sure.

Source: A Research!America poll of likely voters conducted in partnership with JZ Analytics in March 2012.
Majority Likely to Support Candidates Who Support Research

If a candidate for president were supportive of increased government funding for medical and health research, would you be more likely to vote for the candidate or less likely to vote for the candidate?

- 16% Much more likely
- 48% Somewhat more likely
- 22% Somewhat less likely
- 10% Much less likely
- 4% Not sure

Source: A Research!America poll of likely voters conducted in partnership with JZ Analytics in March 2012.
Less Than A Quarter Believe U.S. is World Leader in Medical Research

In the area of medical and health research, compared to other countries, do you think the U.S. is first in the world, is it ahead of other leading countries, behind other leading countries or about the same as other leading countries?

- First in the world: 23%
- Ahead of other leading countries: 45%
- Behind other leading countries: 12%
- Not sure: 20%

Source: A Research!America poll conducted in partnership with JZ Analytics in March 2012.
Majority Has Negative Reaction to Decreased Medical Research Funding

After adjusting for inflation, the amount of money spent by the federal government on medical and health research has declined over the past 5 years. Hearing this, what is your reaction to the decline in spending?

- Very positive: 7%
- Somewhat positive: 18%
- Somewhat negative: 18%
- Very negative: 20%
- Not sure: 0%
- Refused: 0%

Source: A Research!America poll conducted in partnership with JZ Analytics in March 2012.
Science and technology are responsible for about half of our economic growth since World War II. Flat and decreasing federal investment in research creates an uncertain future for scientists. As a result, scientists may leave their profession or move abroad and use their scientific training in countries with strong and stable investments in research. In your judgment, what level of concern is this to the United States?

Source: A Research!America poll conducted in partnership with JZ Analytics in March 2012.
The Budget Control Act of 2011 includes provisions that will require an across-the-board cut of approximately 9% to discretionary spending programs – including spending on medical and health research. In consideration of this, which of the following statements is closer to your view?

- Government spending on medical and health research saves lives, creates jobs and fuels innovation and should be exempt from across-the-board cuts
- Funding for health research is adequate and the country has other budget priorities now, including the deficit
- Not sure

Source: A Research!America poll conducted in partnership with JZ Analytics in March 2012.
Americans Believe Science, Math Education Will Impact Future of U.S.

On a scale from 1 to 5, please rate science and math education relative to how seriously you believe each will impact the future of the United States.

31% 5: Serious impact on the nation
18% 4
2% 3
5% 2
5% 1: No serious impact on the nation
2% Not sure

Source: A Research!America poll conducted in partnership with JZ Analytics in March 2012.
Majority Feels Medical Research Will Impact U.S. in the Future

On a scale from 1 to 5, please rate government investment in medical and health research relative to how seriously you believe each will impact the future of the United States.

Source: A Research!America poll conducted in partnership with JZ Analytics in March 2012.
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