



National Poll: Chronic Pain and Drug Addiction

April 2013

Results of a New Public Opinion Poll

National Poll on Chronic Pain and Drug Addiction

The National Poll on Chronic Pain was conducted online in March 2013 by Zogby Analytics for Research!America. The survey has a sample size of 1,016 with a theoretical sampling error of +/- 3.1%.

*Due to rounding, the total may not add to 100 on some slides.

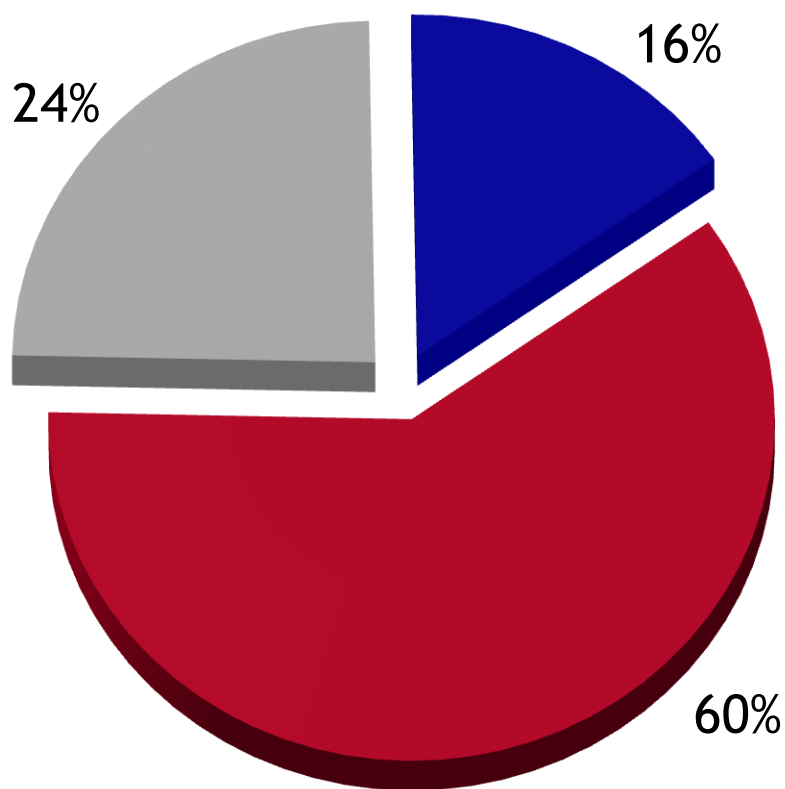
Chronic Pain Ranks Below Many Other Conditions as Major Health Problem

Which of the following would you describe as a major health problem in the U.S.? (multiple responses allowed)

Cancer	59%
Heart disease	52%
Diabetes	52%
Drug addiction	47%
Depression	42%
Alcoholism	37%
Alzheimer's disease	34%
Chronic pain	18%
Parkinson's disease	15%
Not sure	15%

Majority: Chronic Pain Tends to be Dismissed by Doctors, Public

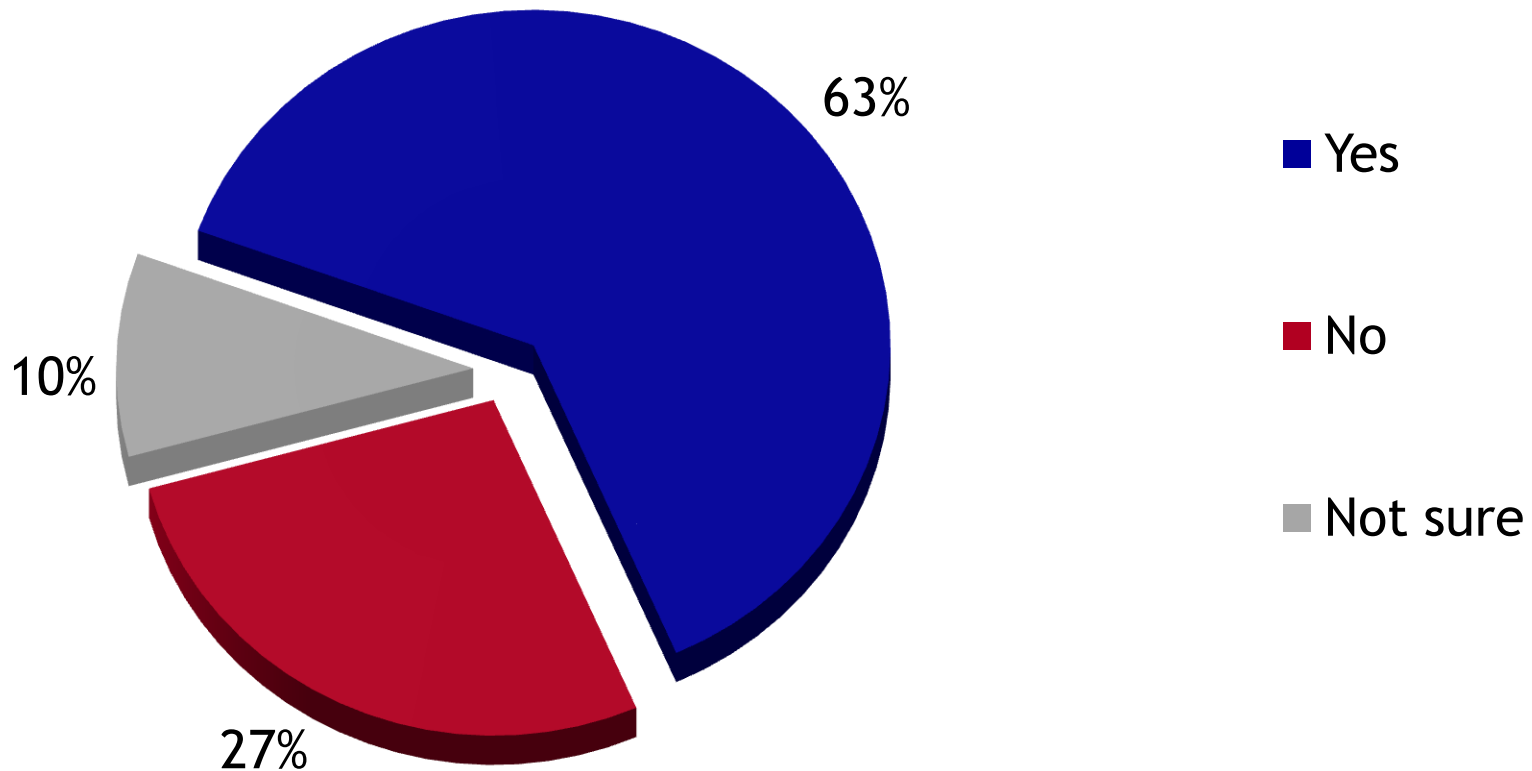
Which statement is closer to your view?



- Chronic pain is overstated as a health condition
- Chronic pain tends to be dismissed by doctors and the public
- Not sure

Most Americans Know Someone Who Sought Pain Medicine

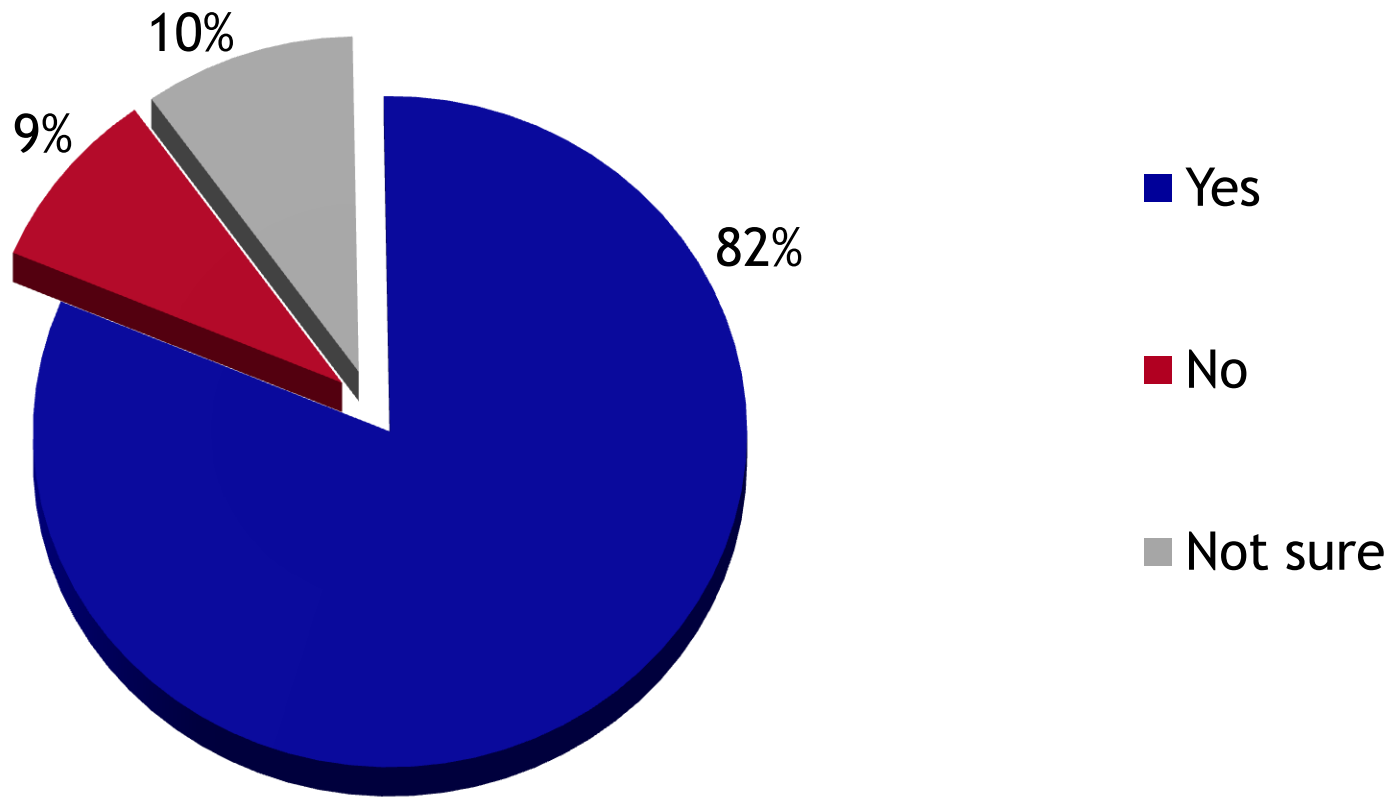
Do you know anyone who experienced pain so severe that they sought prescription medicines to treat it?



Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in March 2013.

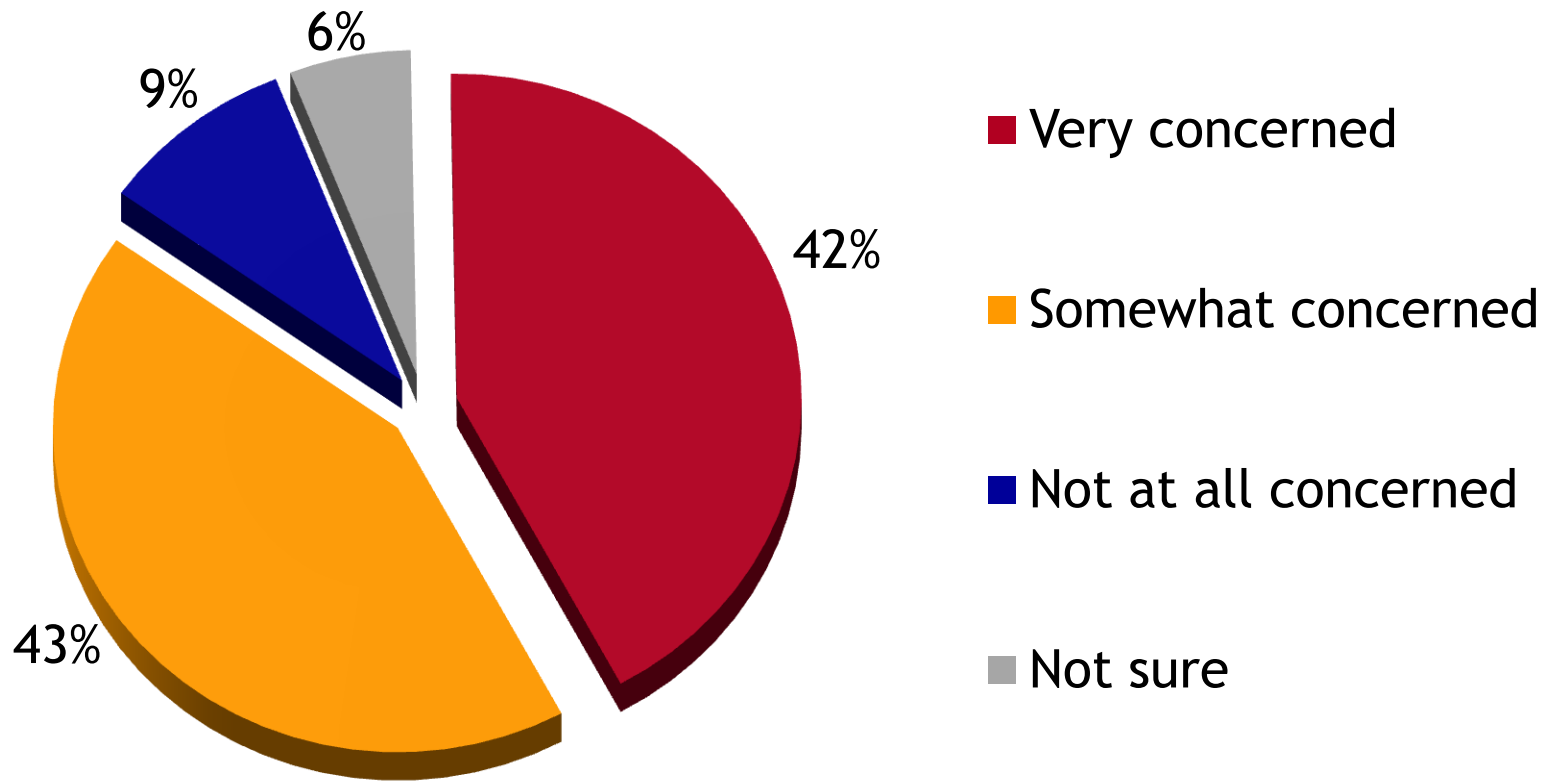
Americans Believe Using Painkillers Can Result in Addiction

Do you think that taking prescription painkillers for long-term, chronic pain could result in addiction?



85% Say They're Concerned About Misuse of Medication

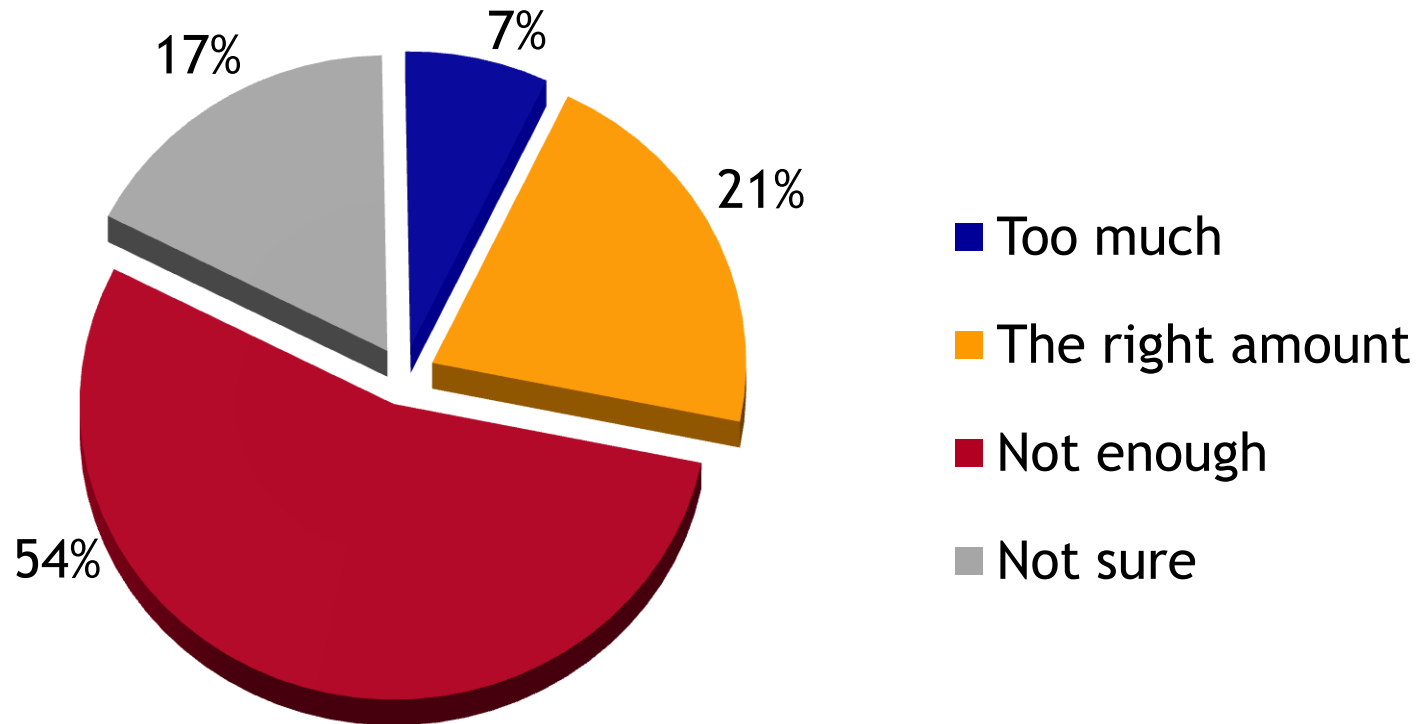
How concerned are you that prescription pain medication can be abused or misused?



Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in March 2013.

Majority Does Not Believe Doctors Discuss Dependence Enough with Patients

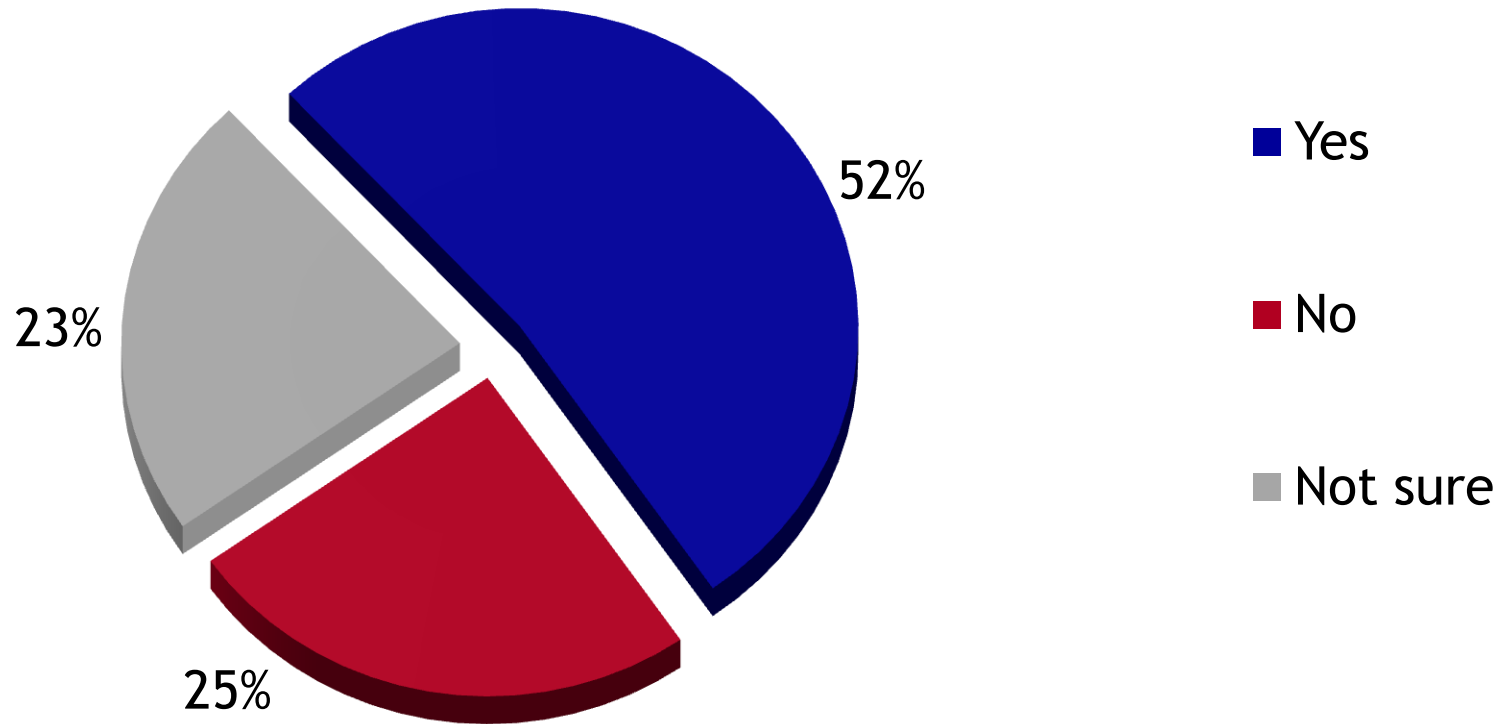
Do you think doctors discuss the possibility of developing dependence or addiction to pain medication too much with their patients, not enough with their patients, or about the right amount with their patients?



Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in March 2013.

Majority: Limits Needed on Amount of Pain Medication Doctors can Prescribe

Some states put limits on doctors when prescribing pain medication. Do you think that doctors should have limits on the amount and dosage of pain medication they are allowed to prescribe?



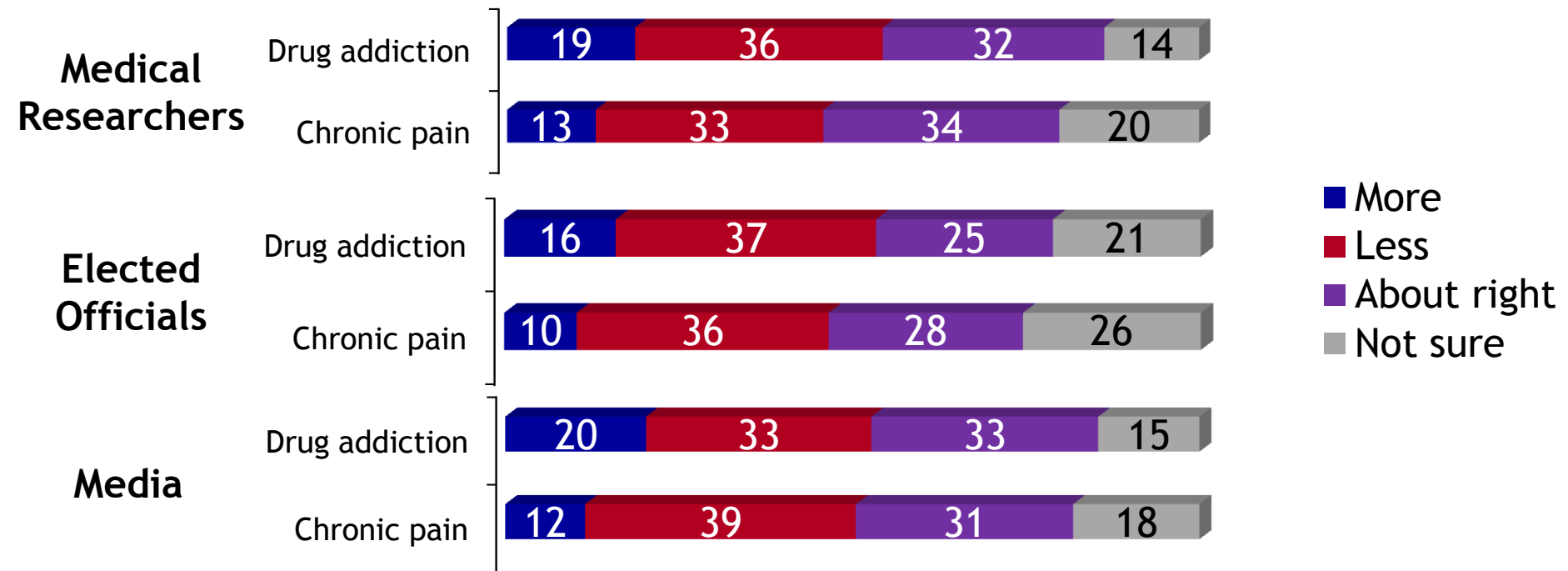
Few Recognize Role of Law Enforcement in Prescription Drug Abuse Problem

Whose responsibility should it be to address the prescription drug abuse problem?

A combination of people or organizations	27%
Individuals and families	17%
Physicians	15%
Federal government	12%
Pharmaceutical companies	9%
State government	5%
Law enforcement	4%
Faith-based organizations	>1%
Not sure	10%

Drug Addiction, Chronic Pain Gets Less Attention from Researchers, Officials, Media

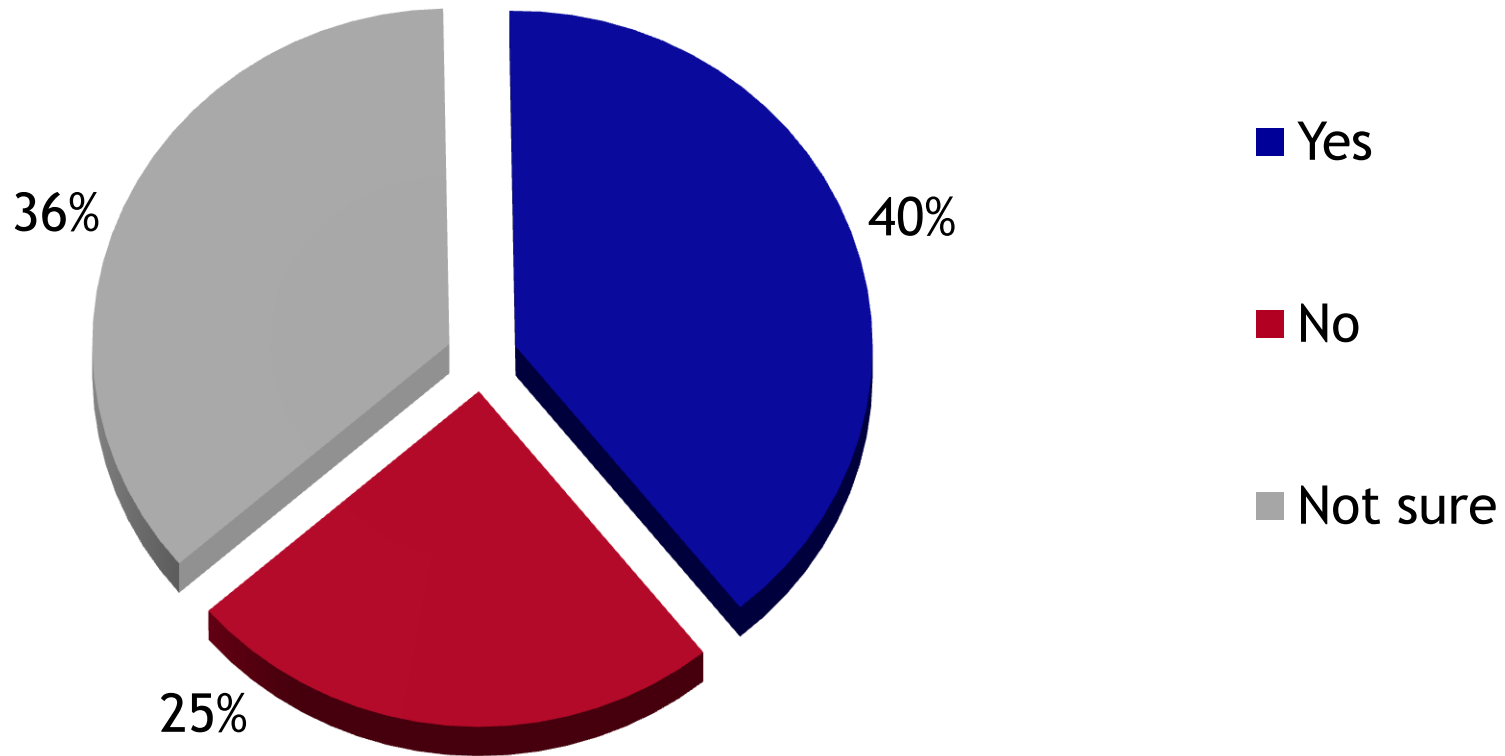
For each of the following, do you think they have received more attention, less attention or about the right amount of attention that they deserve by medical researchers, elected officials and media?



Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in March 2013.

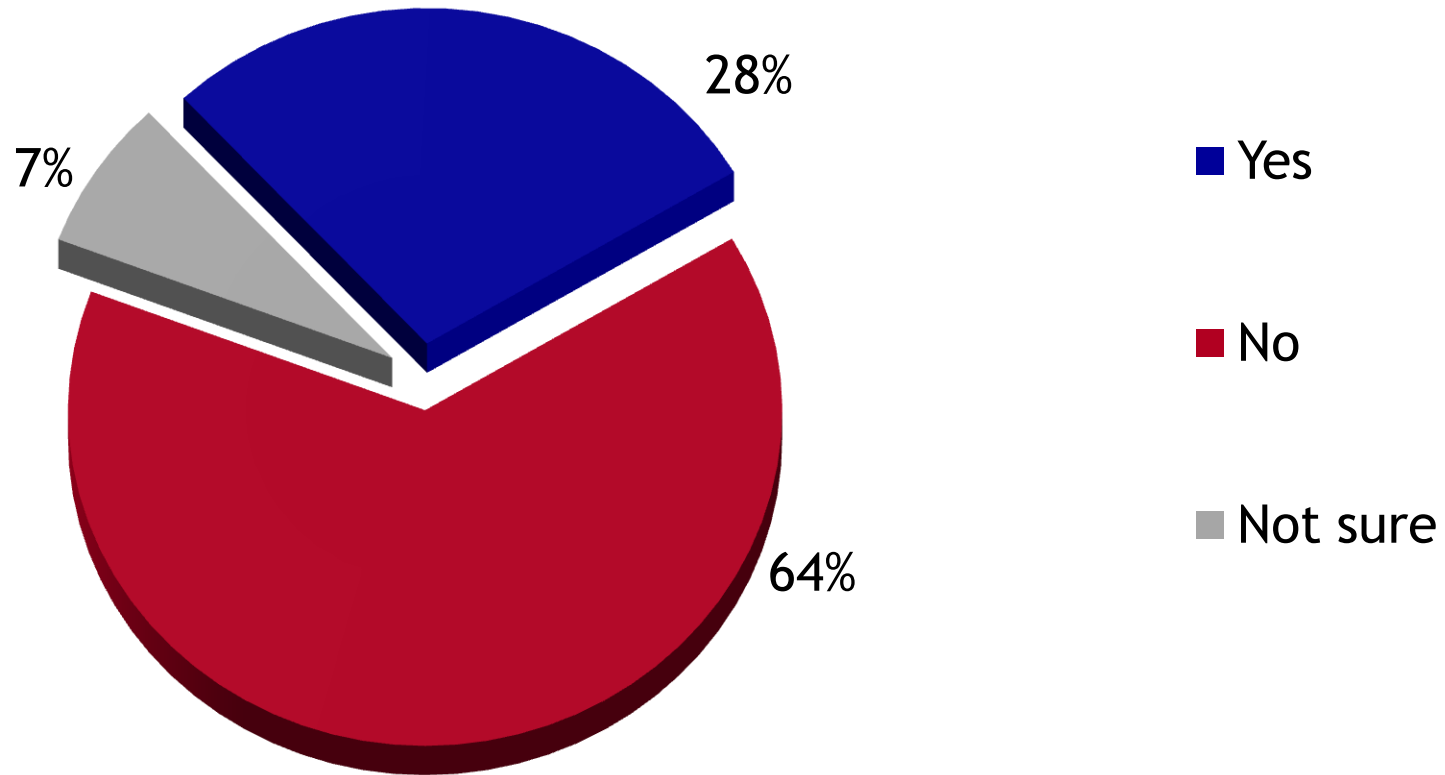
Only One-Fourth Say Abuse, Addiction Not a Major Problem in Their Community

Is prescription pain medication abuse and addiction a major problem in your community?



Less Than a Third of Americans Have Extra Pain Medication

Do you have extra (expired, unwanted or unused) prescription pain medication in your home?



Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in March 2013.

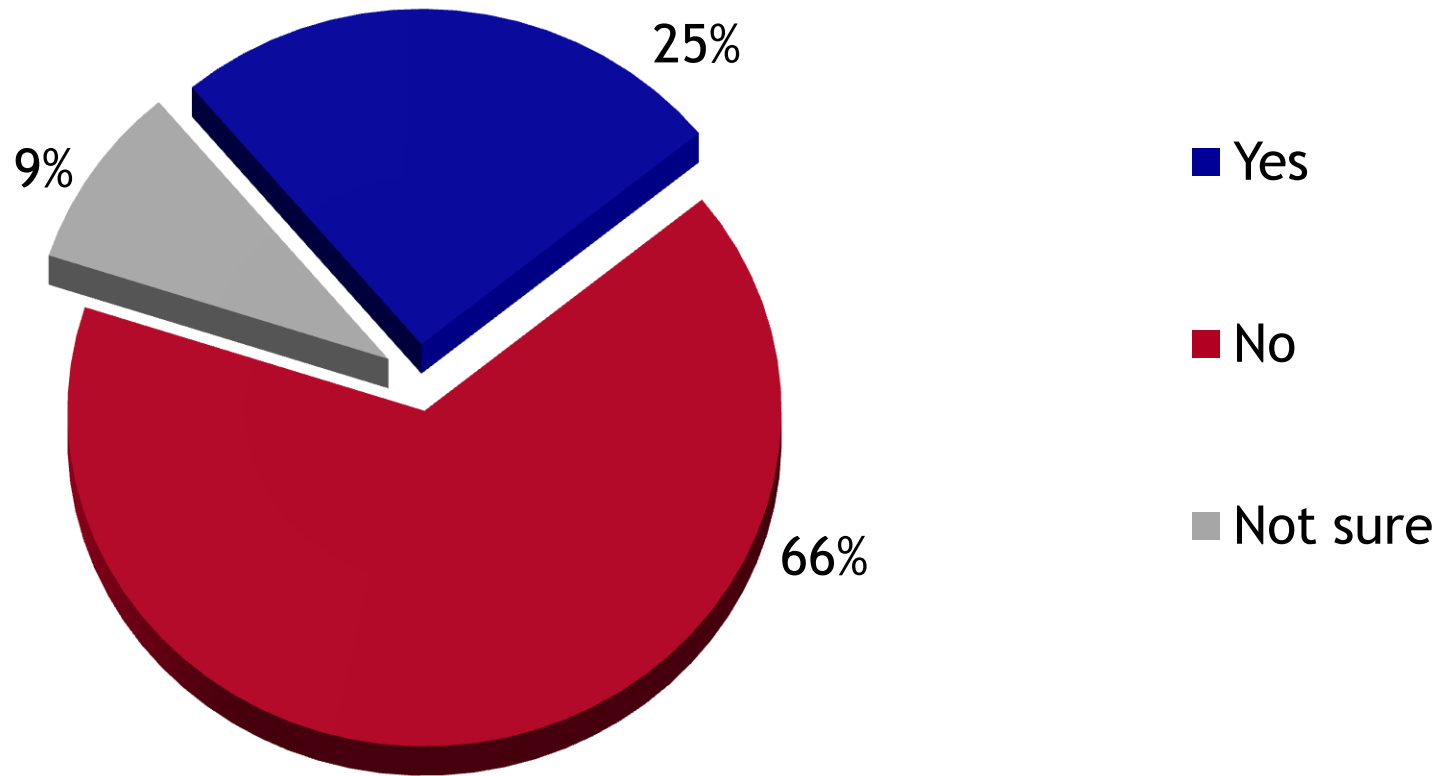
Most Dispose of Extra Pain Medication Through Trash, Flushing

How do you dispose of extra pain medication?

Trash	30%
Flush down sink or toilet	22%
Don't dispose of it	20%
Medication "take back" days	15%
Return to prescriber	5%
Other	8%

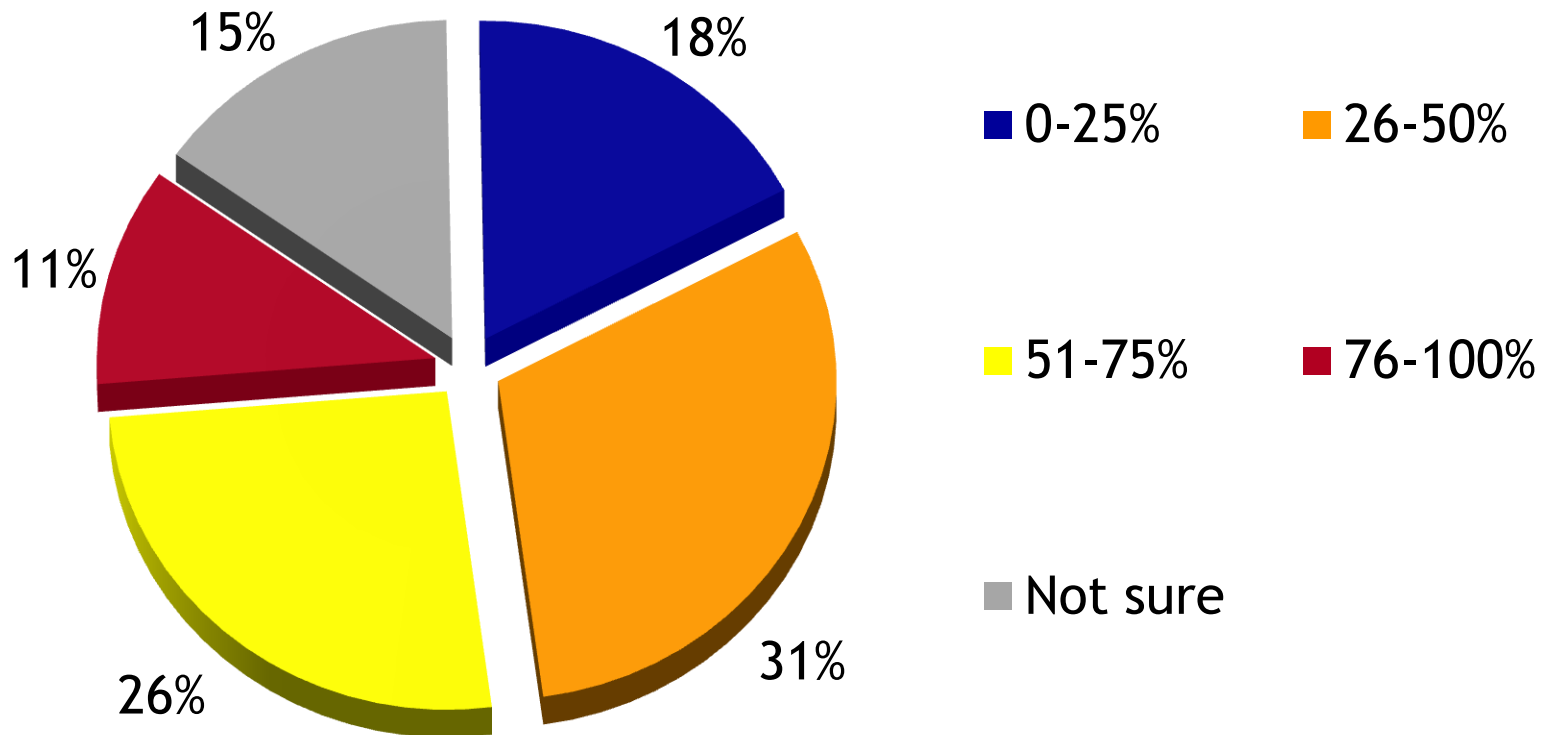
Two-Thirds Unaware that Tamper-, Abuse-Resistant Medications Exist

Were you aware that tamper- and abuse-resistant formulations of some prescription pain medications are now available?



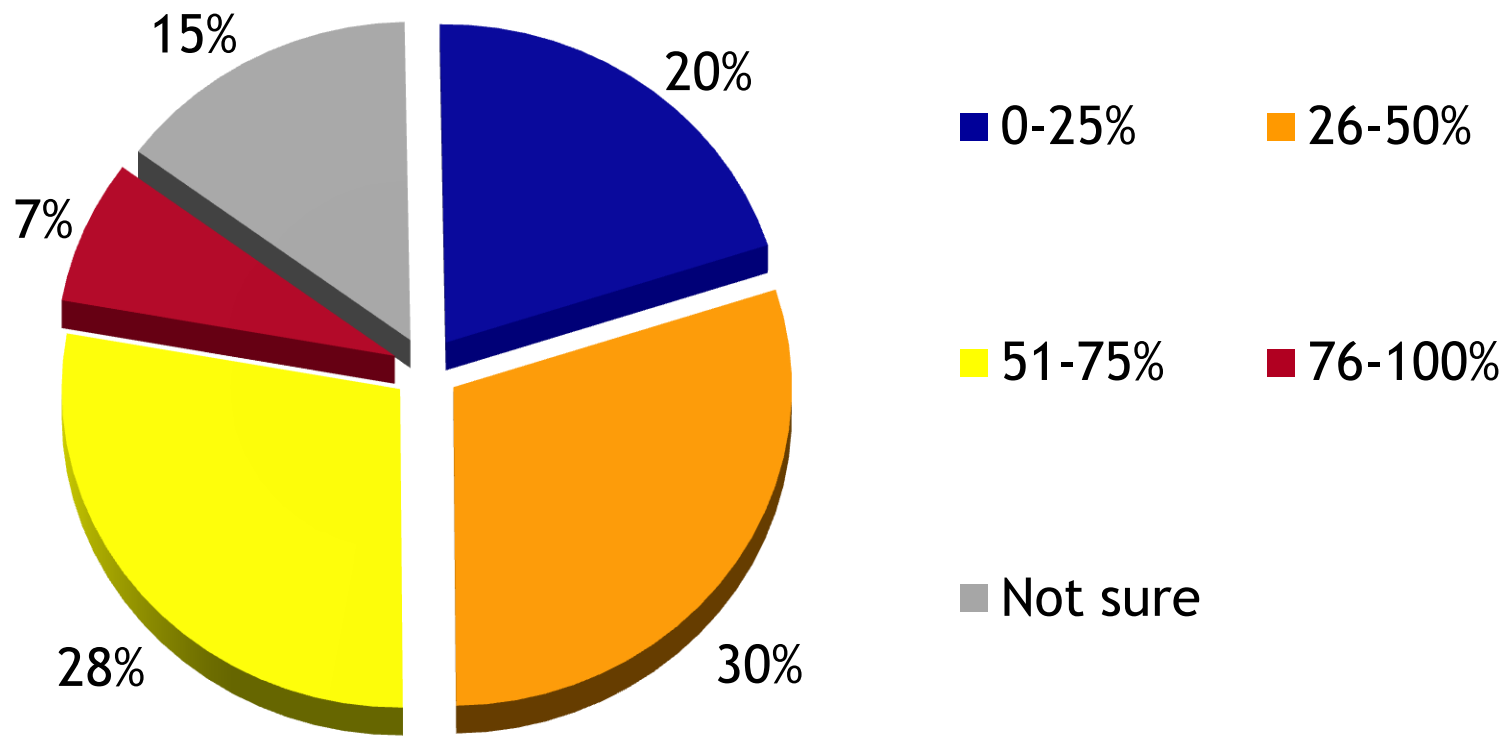
Americans Weigh In on Deaths Caused by Prescription Drugs Obtained Illegally

What percentage of drug overdose deaths would you say involve prescription medication obtained illegally?



Range of Opinion on Deaths Caused by Physician-Prescribed Medication

Just your best guess, what percentage of pharmaceutical drug overdose deaths would you say involve physician-prescribed pain medication?



Americans Open to Many Ways to Manage Chronic Pain

There are many different ways to manage and reduce chronic pain. Based on your experience or what you have heard, which of the following treatments would you try to relieve chronic pain? (multiple responses allowed)

Physical therapy	64%
Over-the-counter pain medication	55%
Diet or lifestyle change	54%
Chiropractor	49%
Prescription pain medication	47%
Herbal remedies	38%
Acupuncture	36%
Not sure	12%

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