



January National Survey Results

Released 2/16/22

Selected results from a public opinion survey conducted in January 2022

Survey Methodology

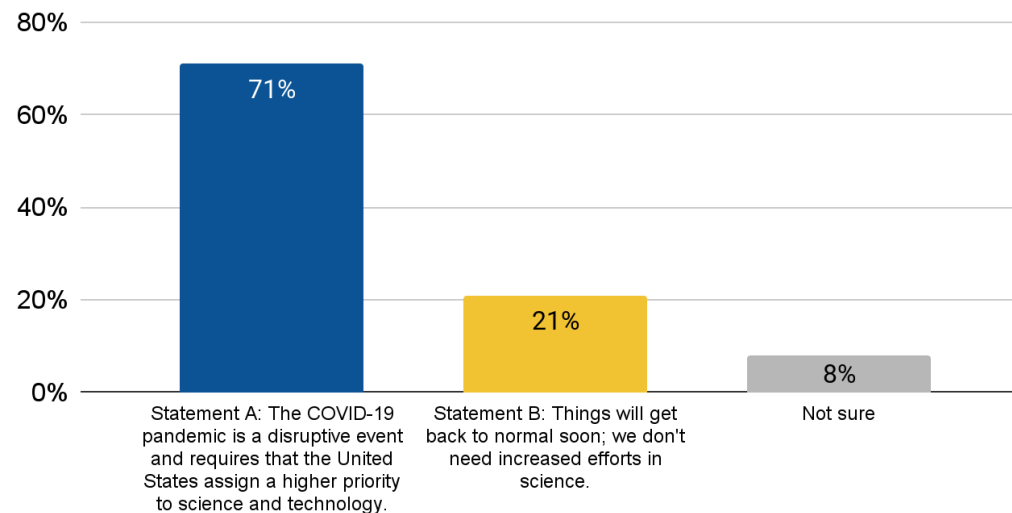
This online survey was conducted by Zogby Analytics on behalf of Research!America in January 2022, among 1,000 adults. The survey has a theoretical sampling error of +/- 3.1 percentage points.* Subsets of the data have a larger margin of error than the full data set. The sample is weighted to best represent the demographics of the population being surveyed. Weighted variables may include age, race, gender, region, party, education, and religion.

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

COVID-19 is a disruptive event; U.S. should prioritize S&T

Which statement is closest to your view?

- Statement A: The COVID-19 pandemic is a disruptive event and requires that the United States assign a higher priority to science and technology.
- Statement B: Things will get back to normal soon; we don't need increased efforts in science.



86%

Chose "Statement A"



61%

Chose "Statement A"

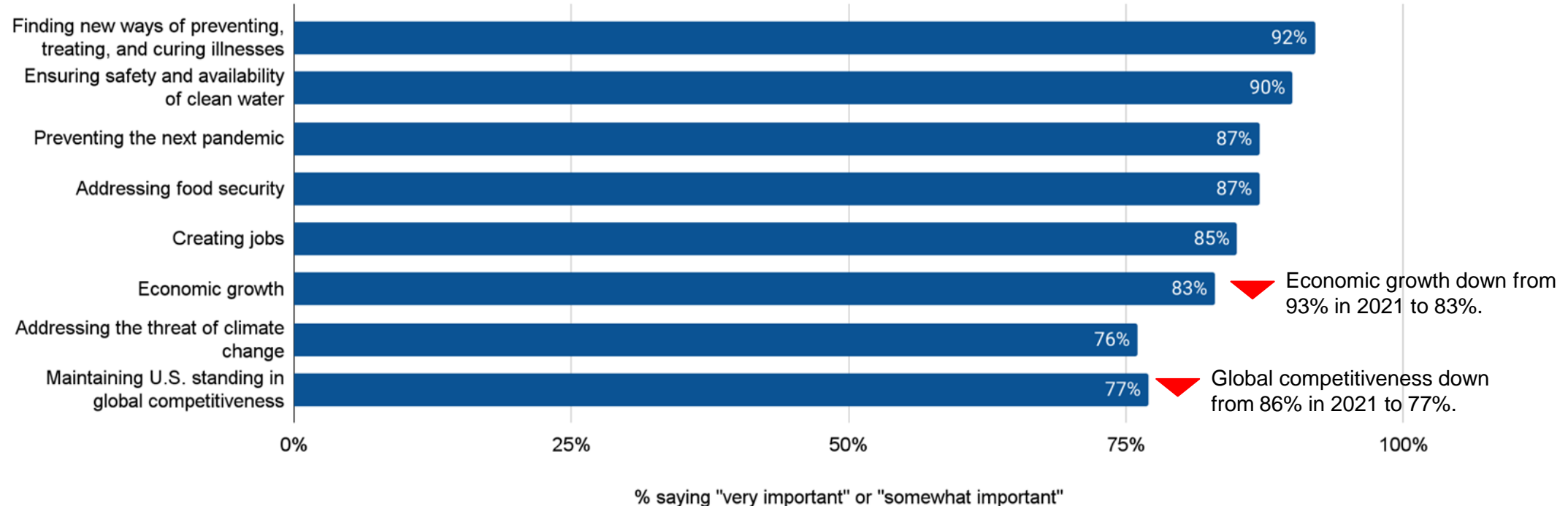


63%

Chose "Statement A"

Over three-quarters say investing in research is important to achieving...

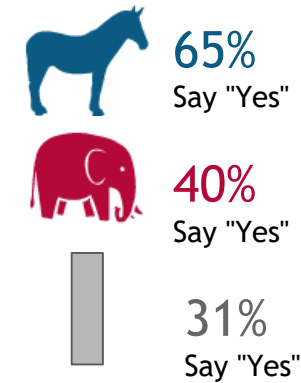
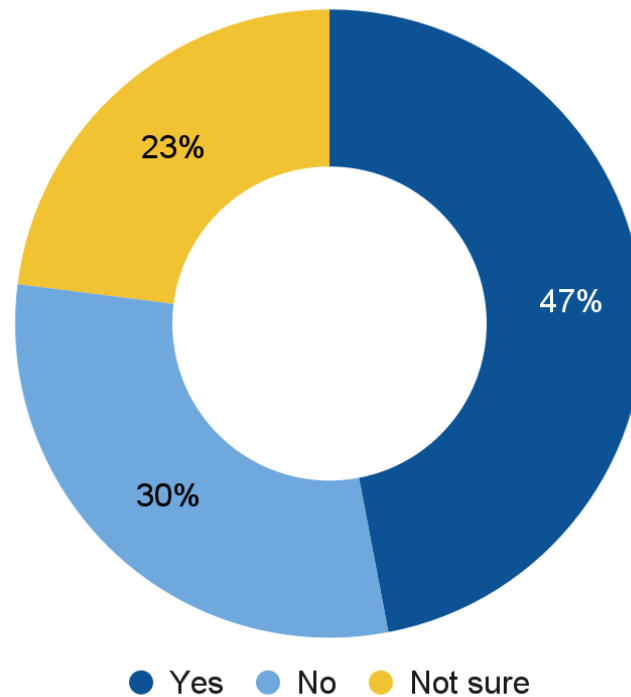
How important is investing in research to each of the following?



Half say S&T investments are creating jobs for them or people they know

In general, do you believe investments in science and technology are creating employment opportunities for you or people you know?

Young people (18-29) more likely to say “yes”(57%), while older people (65+) are less likely to say “yes”(30%).

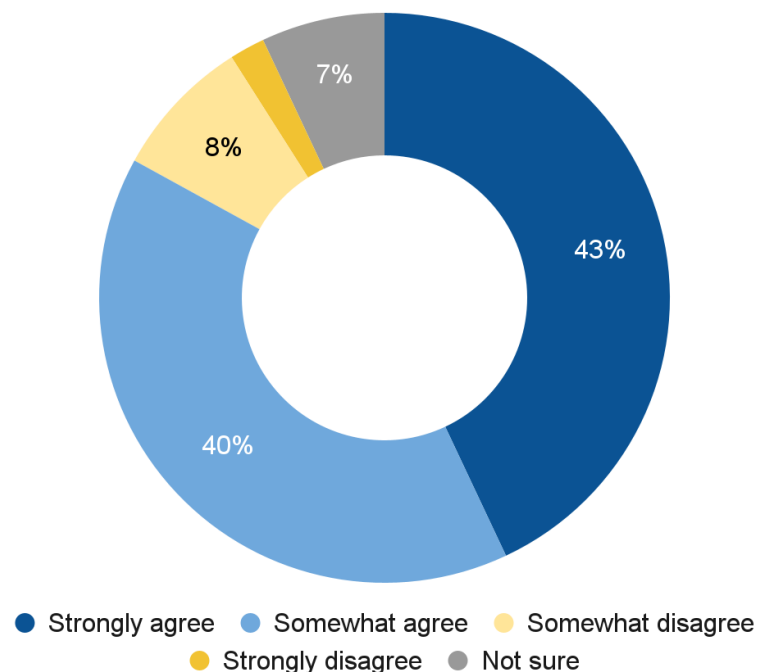


High bipartisan support for basic research

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.

83% say they strongly or somewhat agree it should be supported by the federal government.

This is up from 77% in August 2020, and 80% in January 2019.



92%

Say "Strongly or somewhat agree"



81%

Say "Strongly or somewhat agree"

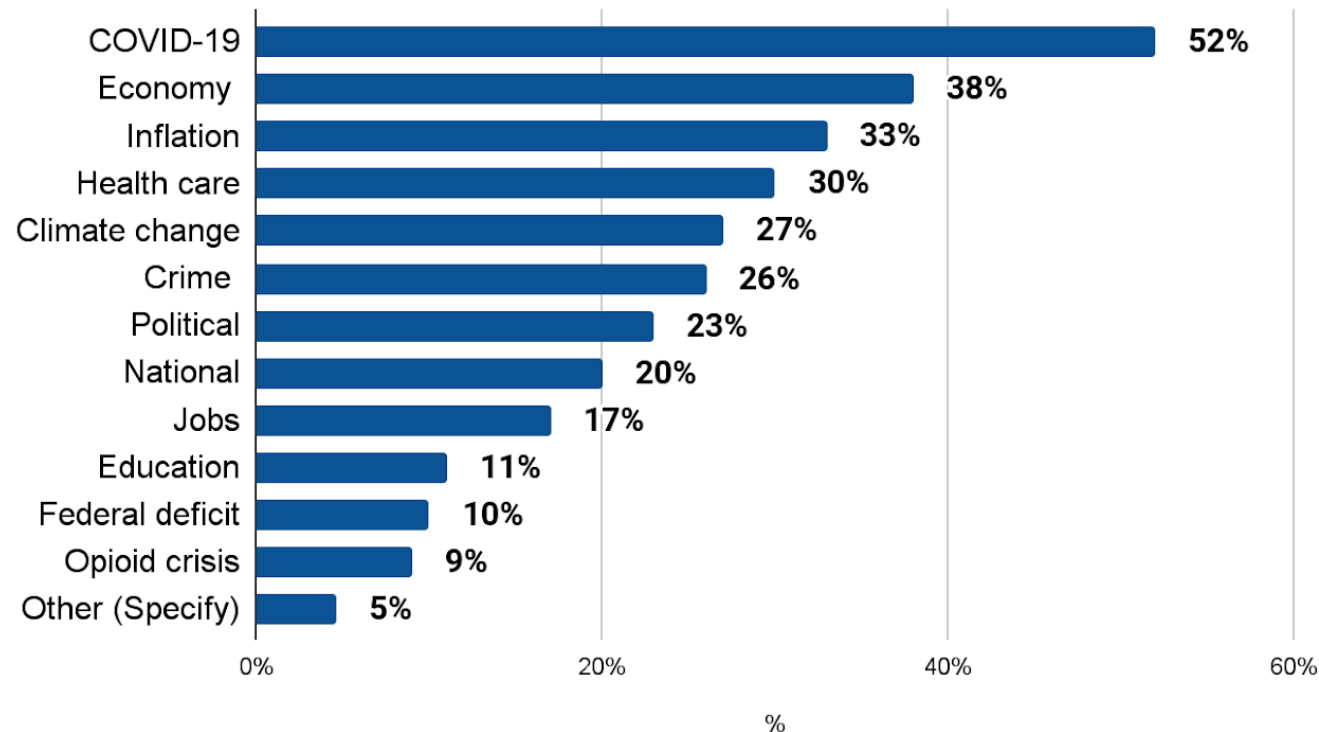


74%

Say "Strongly or somewhat agree"

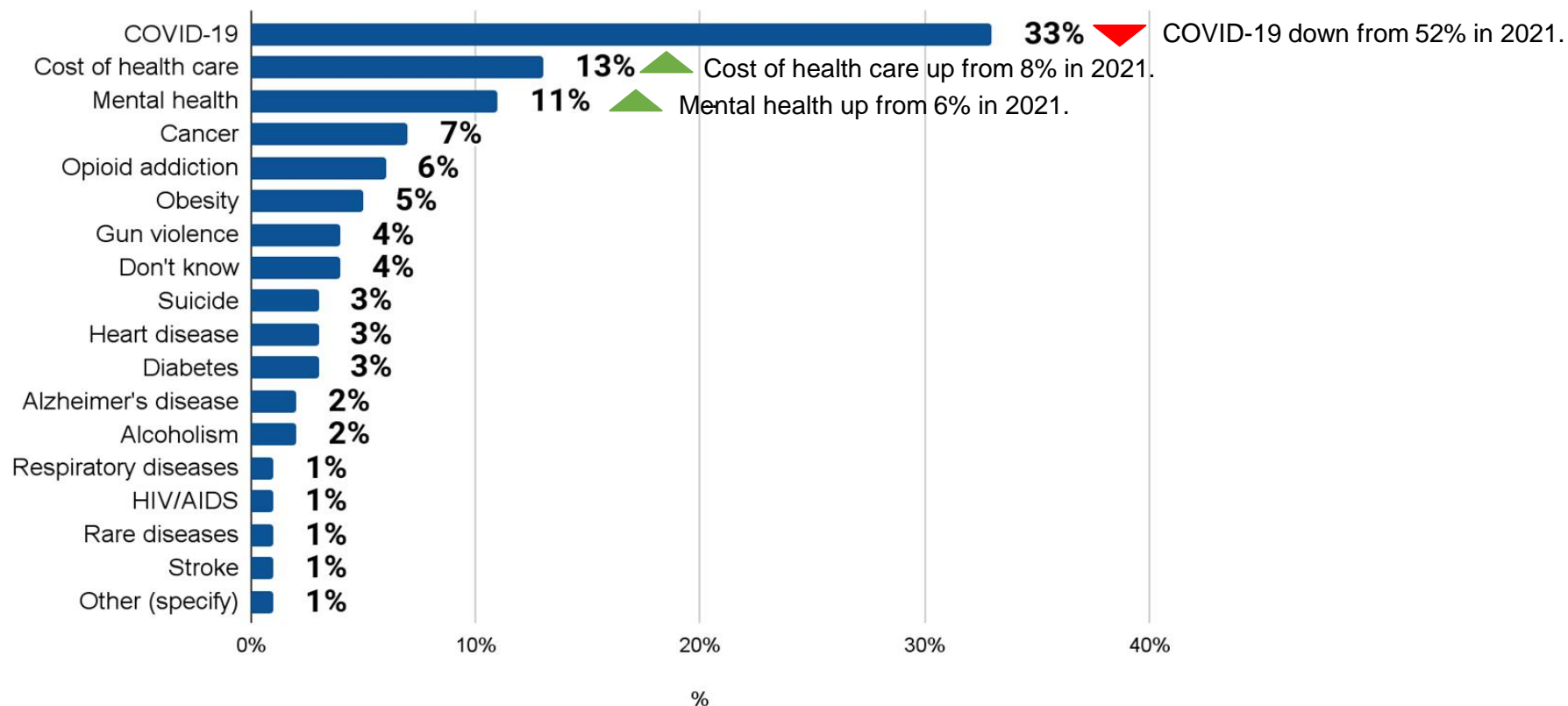
COVID-19 pandemic remains the top concern

In your opinion, which of the following are the most serious issues facing this country?



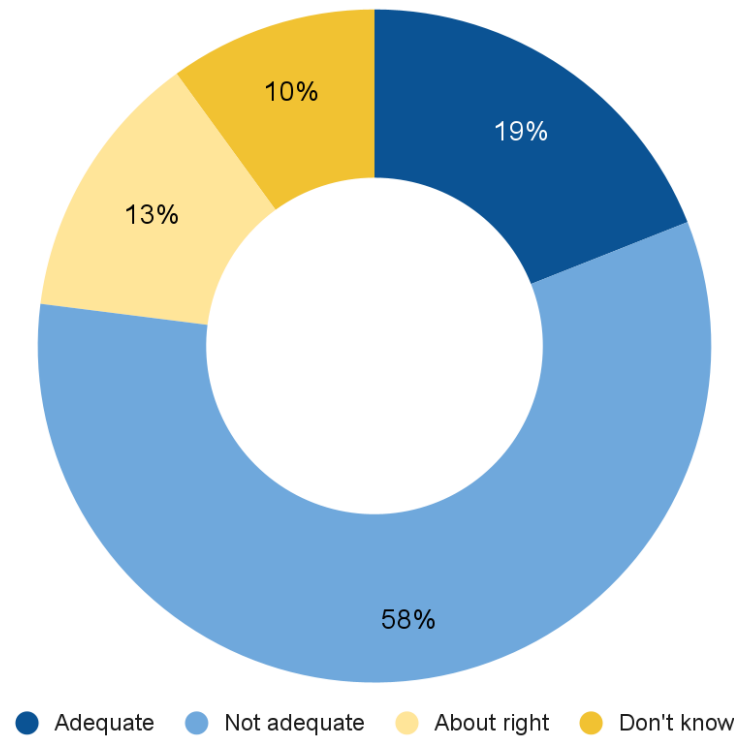
Mental health has overtaken cancer as top-3 health concern

What would you say is the single most important health issue facing the nation?



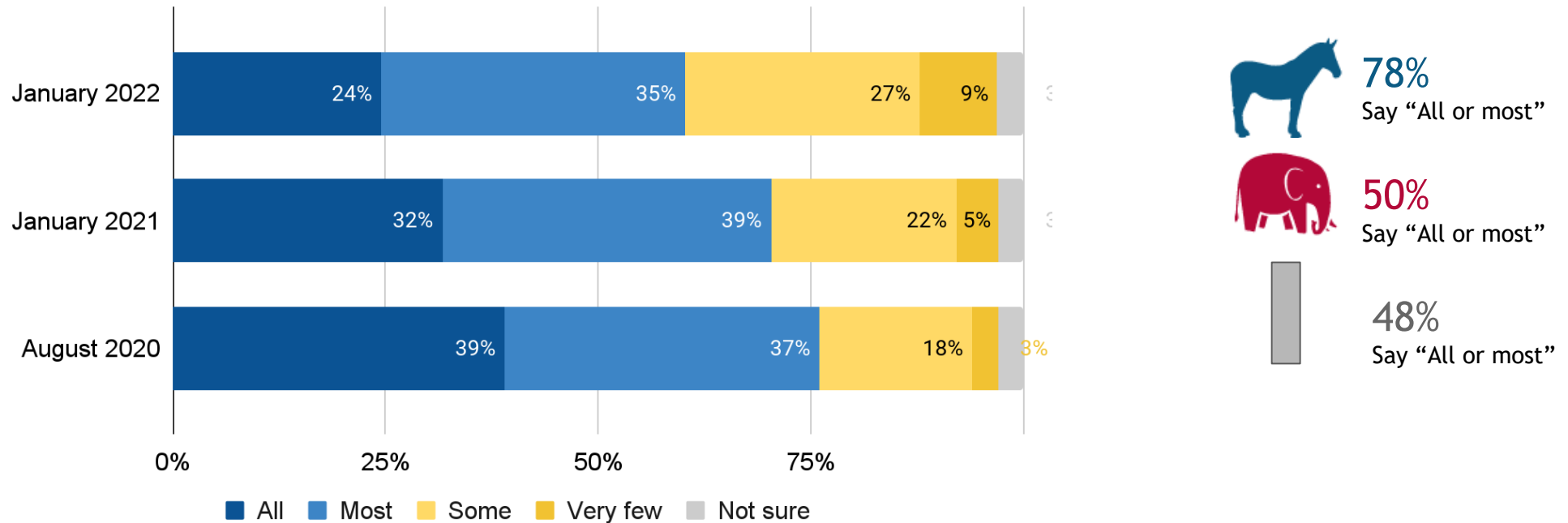
Investment in mental health is not adequate

Do you think federal investment in mental health research has been adequate, not adequate or about right?



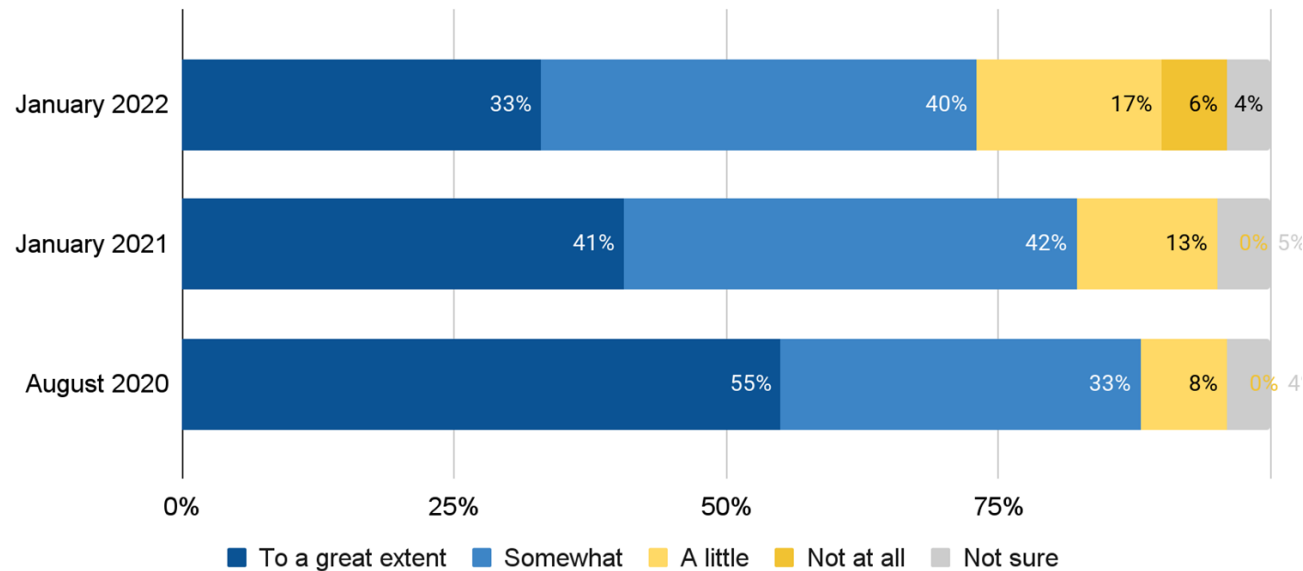
6 in 10 think the work of scientists benefits all or most in America, but percentages are slipping

In general, do you think the work that scientists do benefits all, most, some, very few, or no people in this country?



Three quarters think the work of scientists benefits them, but that share is slipping

In general, do you think the work that scientists do benefits you?



85%

Say "To a great extent or somewhat"



65%

Say "To a great extent or somewhat"

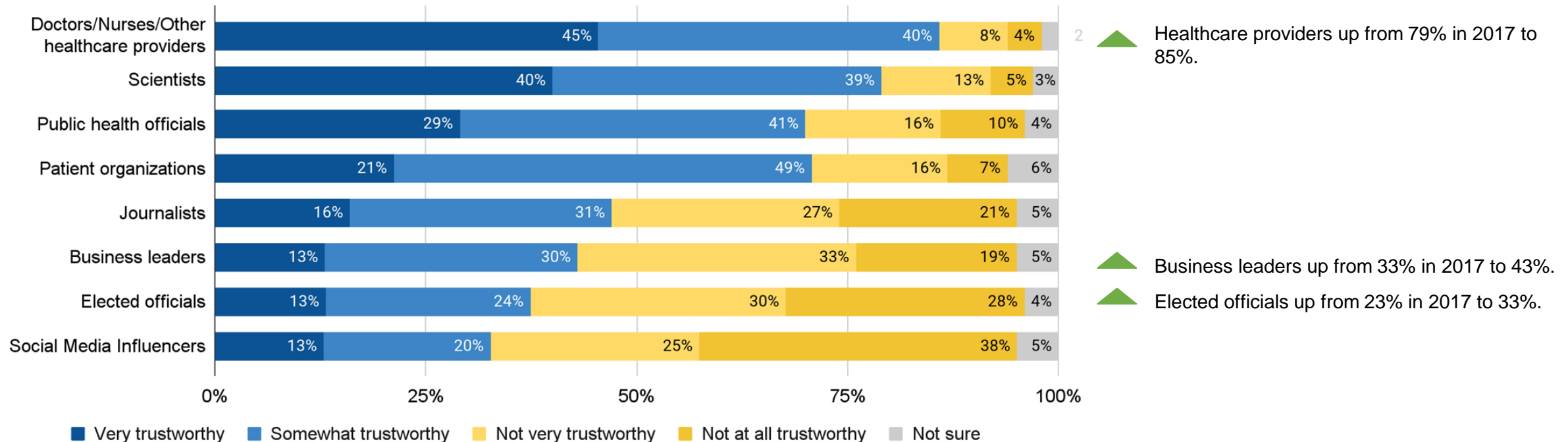


64%

Say "To a great extent or somewhat"

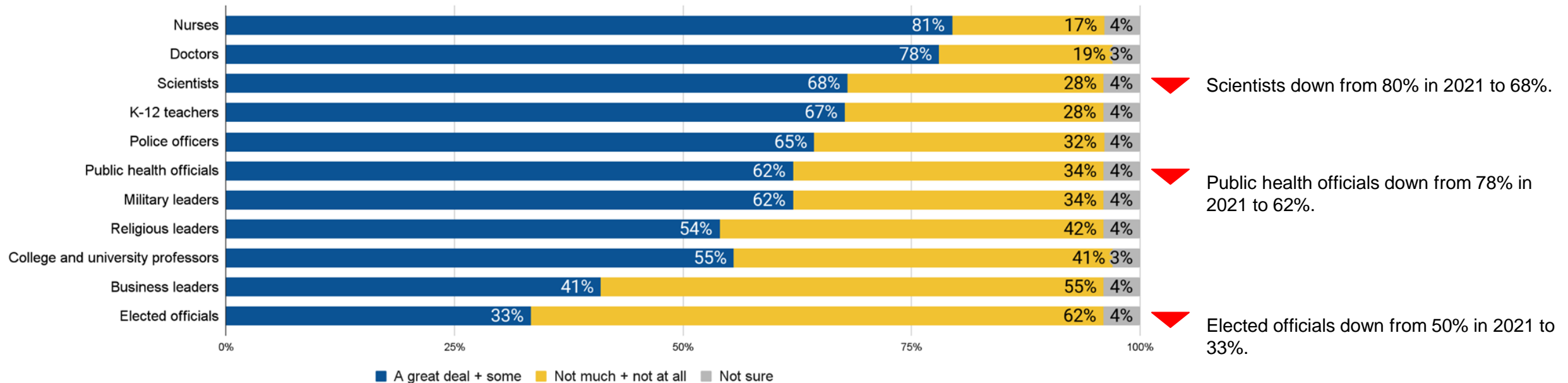
Americans have highest trust in healthcare providers and scientists as spokespersons for health research

How trustworthy do you consider each of the following to be as spokespersons for medical and health research:



Confidence in scientists and public health officials high, but losing ground

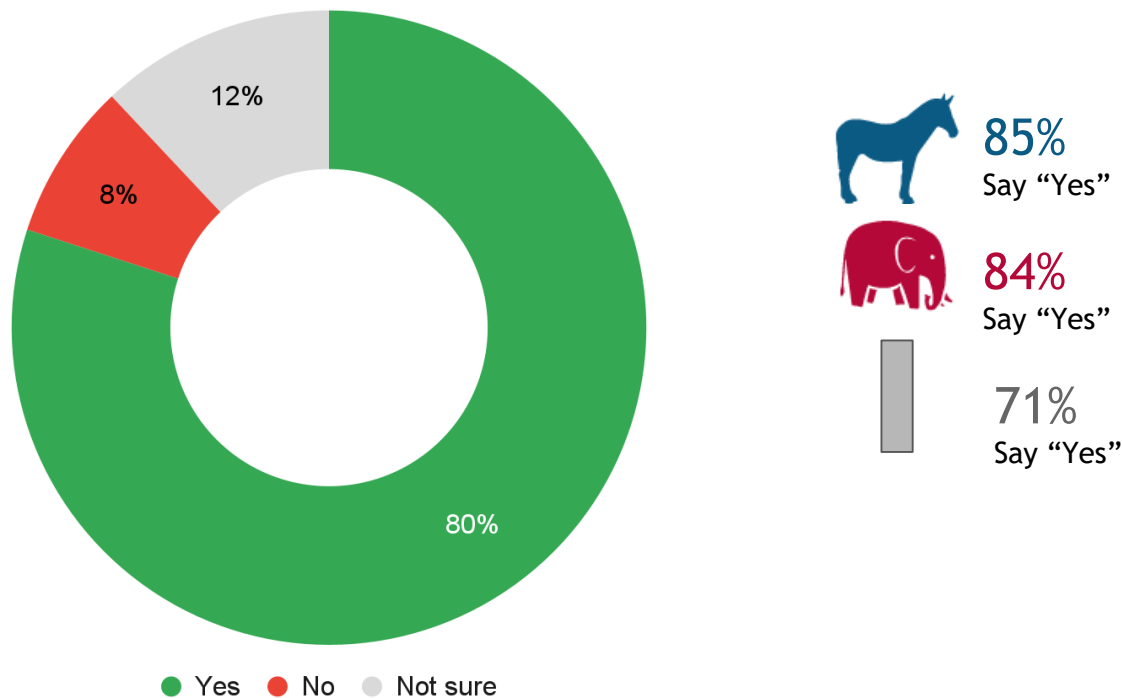
How much confidence do you have in each of the following to act in your best interest



8 in 10 say scientists' job should include communicating their research to the public

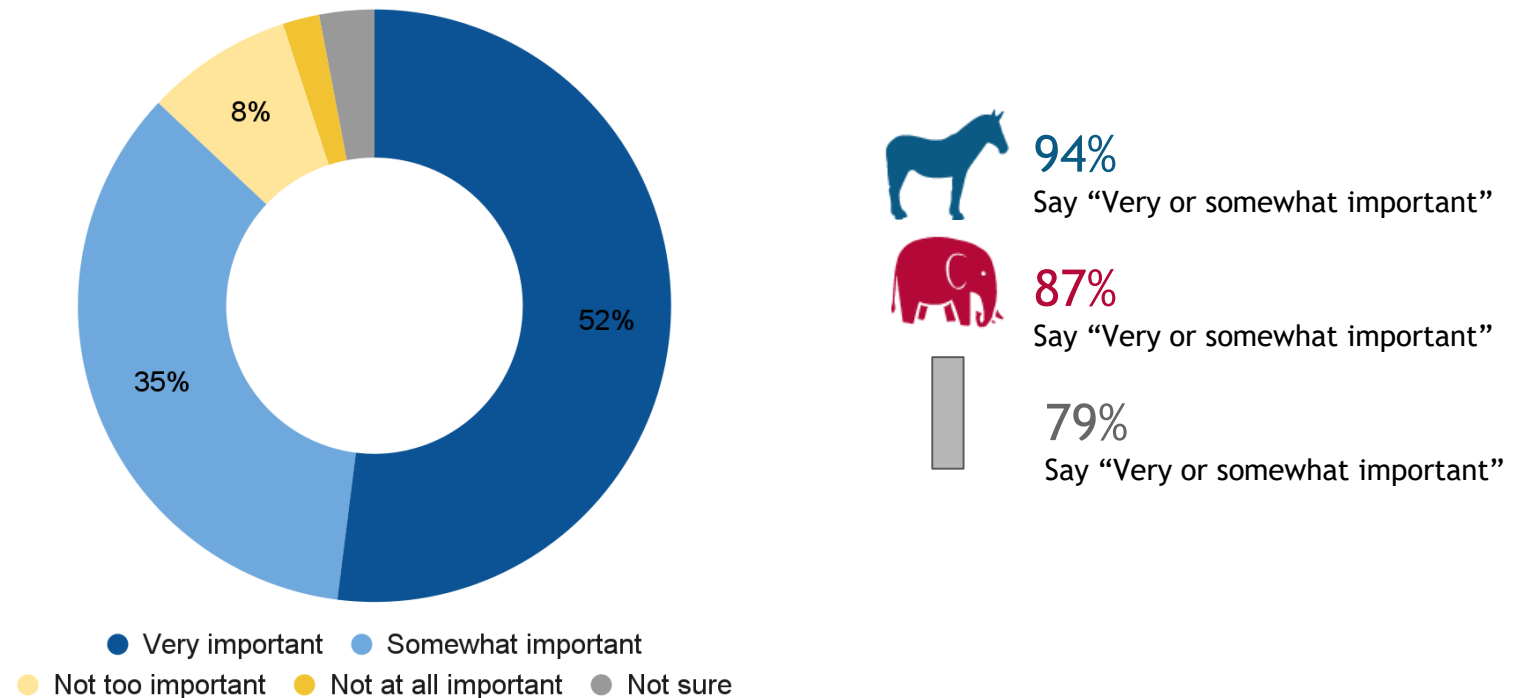
Should scientists consider it part of their job to inform the public about their research and its impact on society? *

*New question for 2022



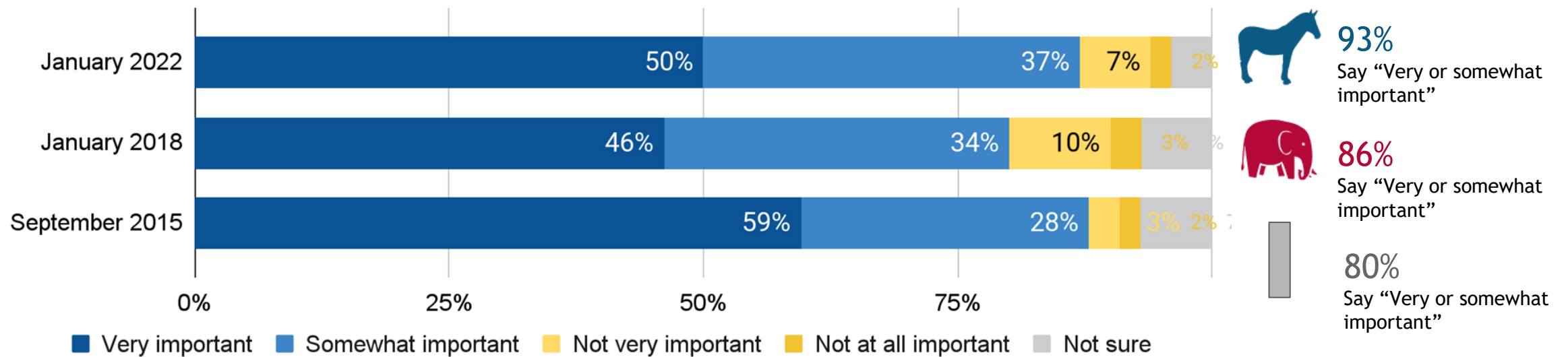
87% say it's important that scientists inform elected officials about their research

How important is it for scientists to inform elected officials about their research and its impact on society?



Parties agree congressional candidates should understand S&T issues

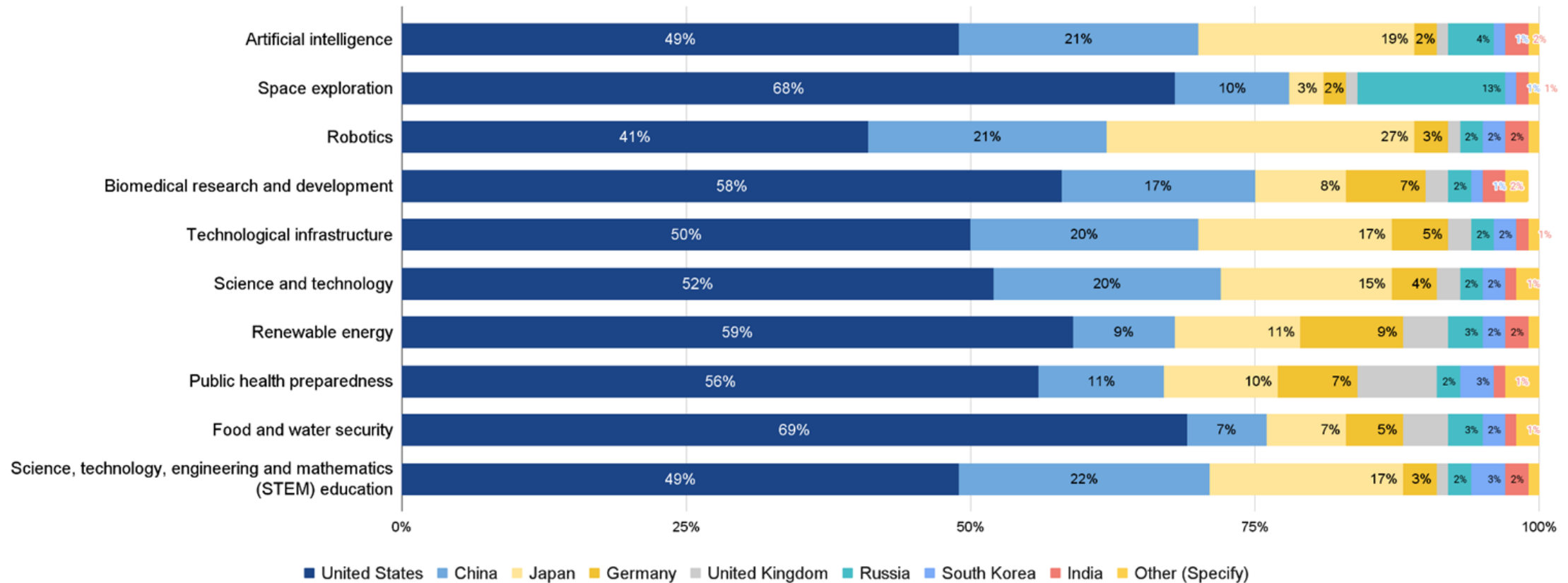
How important is it for candidates running for Congress to have a basic understanding of issues that involve science and technology?



Americans believe U.S. will be the number one world leader in 2030

In your view, which of the following will be the number one world leader in the following areas in the year 2030?*

*New question for 2022

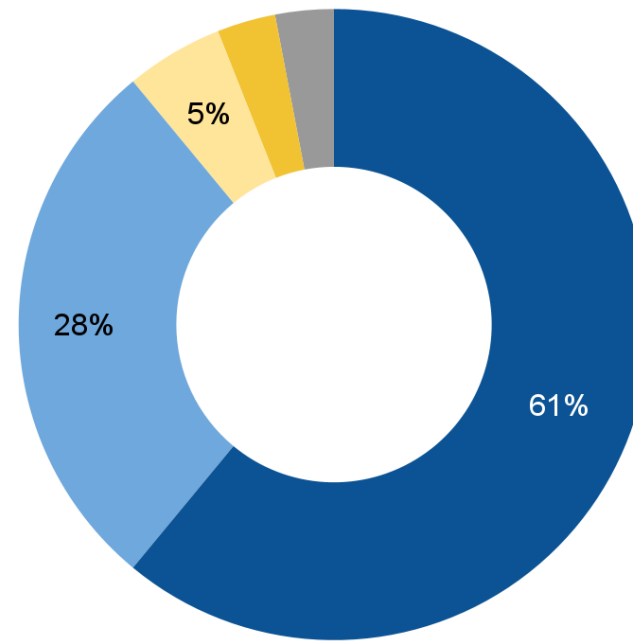


9 in 10 say global leadership in S&T is important

How important do you think it is that the U.S. is a global leader in science and technology?*

*New
question
for 2022

Young people (18-29) less likely (78%) to say “very or somewhat important”



● Very important ● Somewhat important
● Not too important ● Not at all important ● Not sure



92%

Say “Very or somewhat important”



89%

Say “Very or somewhat important”



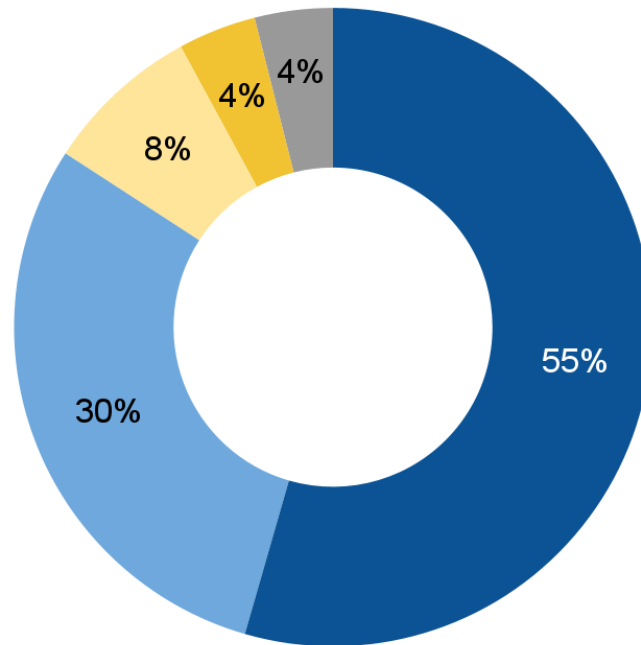
84%

Say “Very or somewhat important”

85% say U.S. should be a global leader in health research

How important do you think it is that the U.S. is a global leader in research to improve health?

Young people (18-29) less likely (73%) to say “Very or somewhat important”



● Very important ● Somewhat important ● Not too important
● Not at all important ● Not sure



90%

Say “Very or somewhat important”



84%

Say “Very or somewhat important”



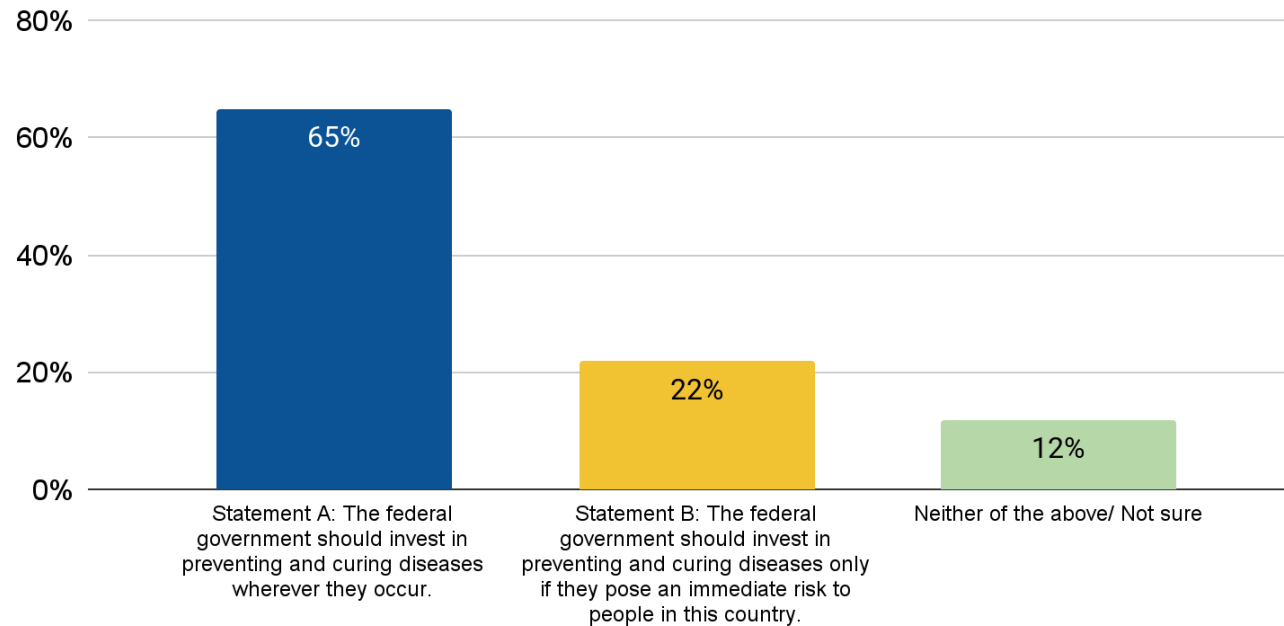
79%

Say “Very or somewhat important”

Federal government should invest in preventing and curing diseases wherever they occur

Which statement is closest to your view:

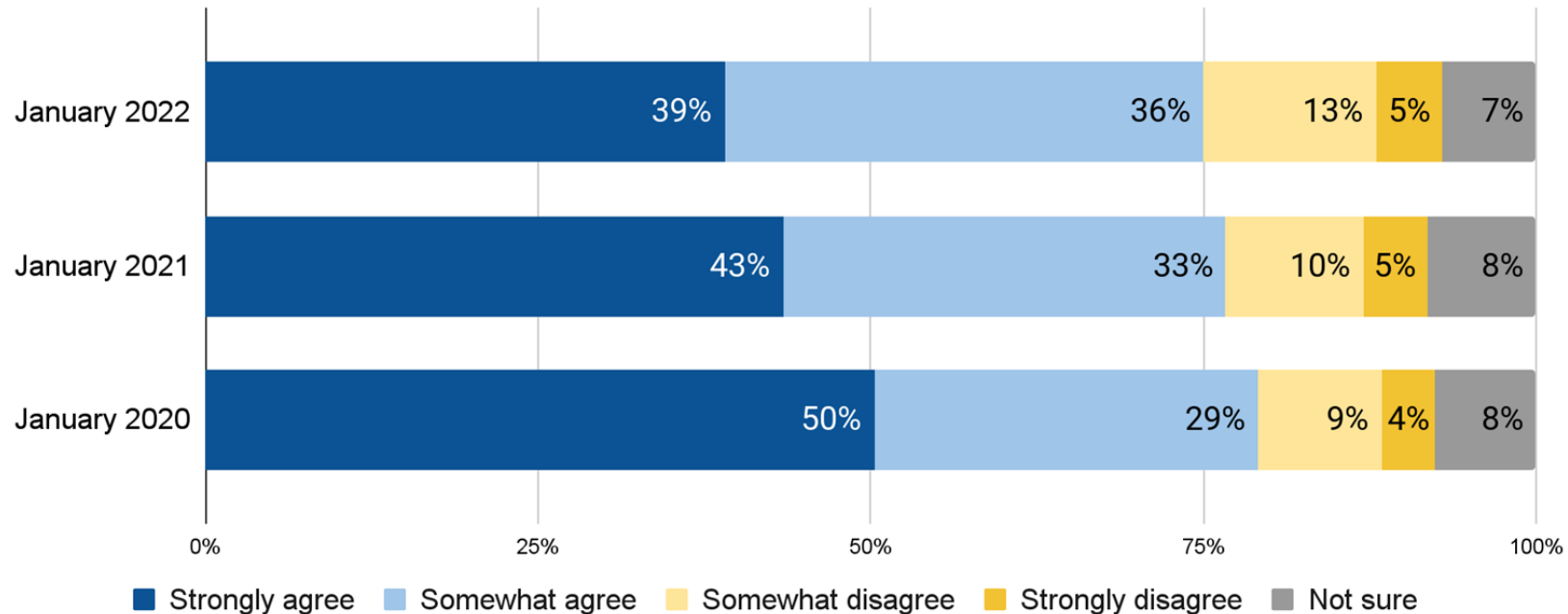
- Statement A: The federal government should invest in preventing and curing diseases wherever they occur.
- Statement B: The federal government should invest in preventing and curing diseases only if they pose an immediate risk to people in this country.



Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2022.

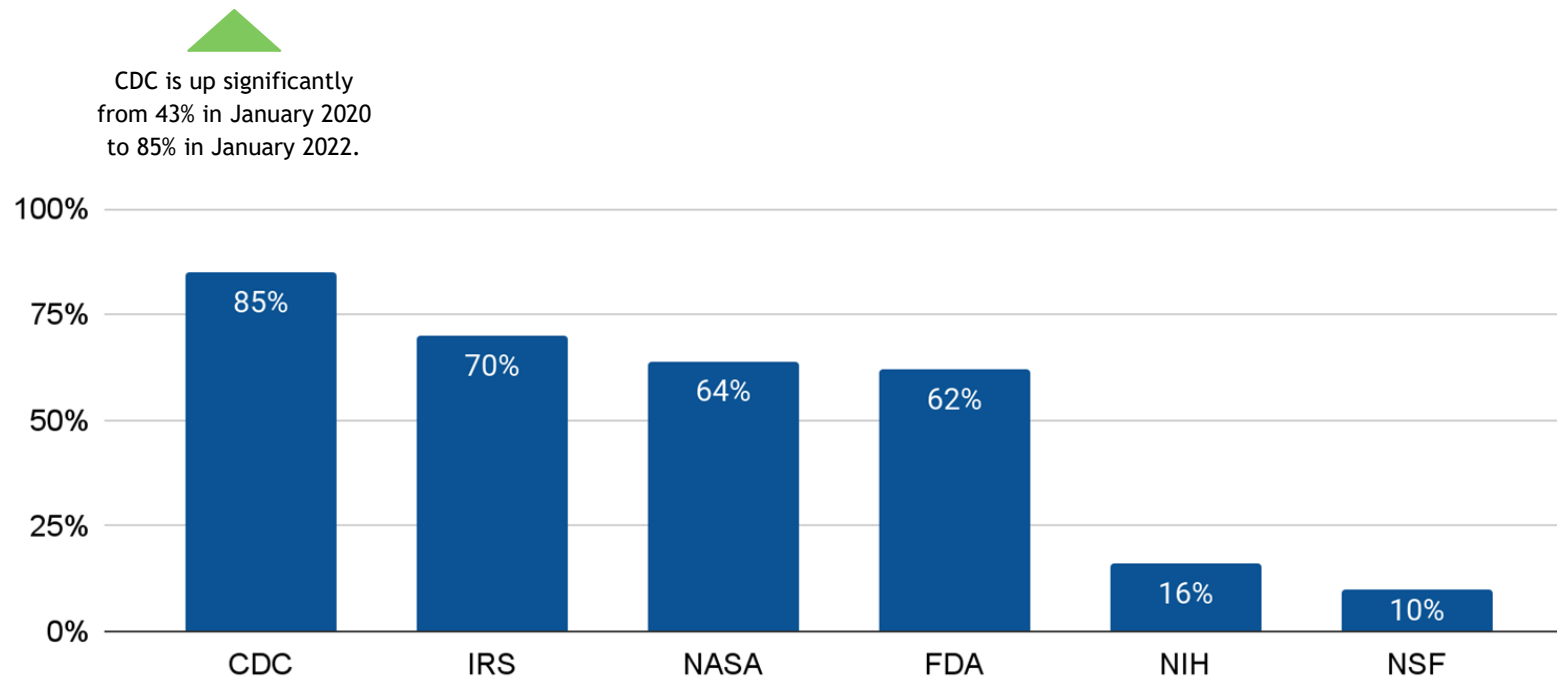
Opioid abuse continues to be seen as a major problem

Please indicate the extent to which you agree that opioid abuse and addiction is a major problem in your community.



Significant increase in public awareness of CDC

What is the name of the government agency that is responsible for [Agency description]?



Percentage of correct responses based on the description of each agency.

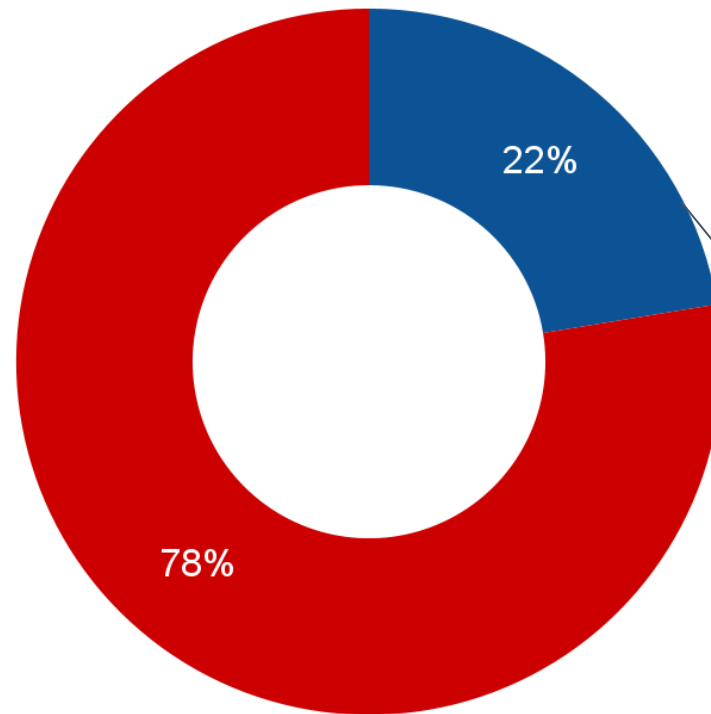
Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2022.

Most Americans cannot name a living scientist

Can you name a living scientist?



Of those saying “yes”, Dr. Fauci named by 50%, up from 35% in January 2021.



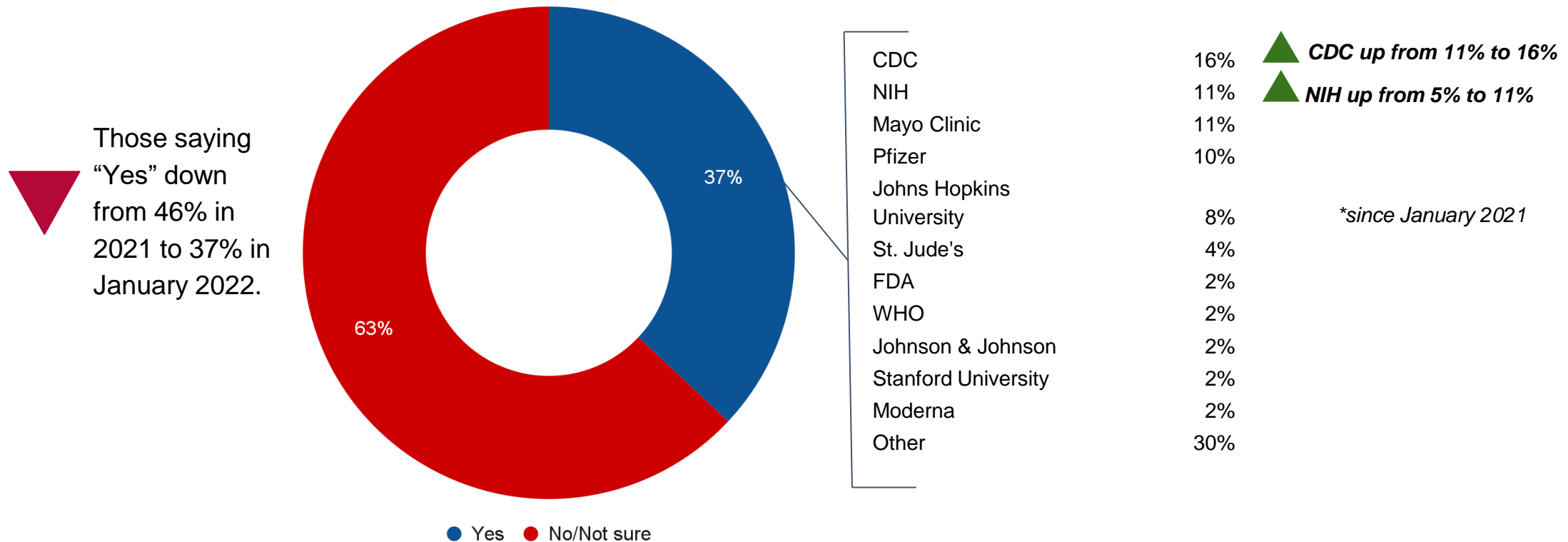
● Yes ● No/Not sure

Anthony Fauci	50%
Neil Degrasse Tyson	12%
Bill Nye	7%
Jane Goodall	4%
Stephen Hawking*	3%
Timothy Berners-Lee	2%
Allen Bard	2%
David Baltimore	2%
Albert Einstein*	2%
Other	17%

*deceased

2 in 3 cannot name a medical or health research institution

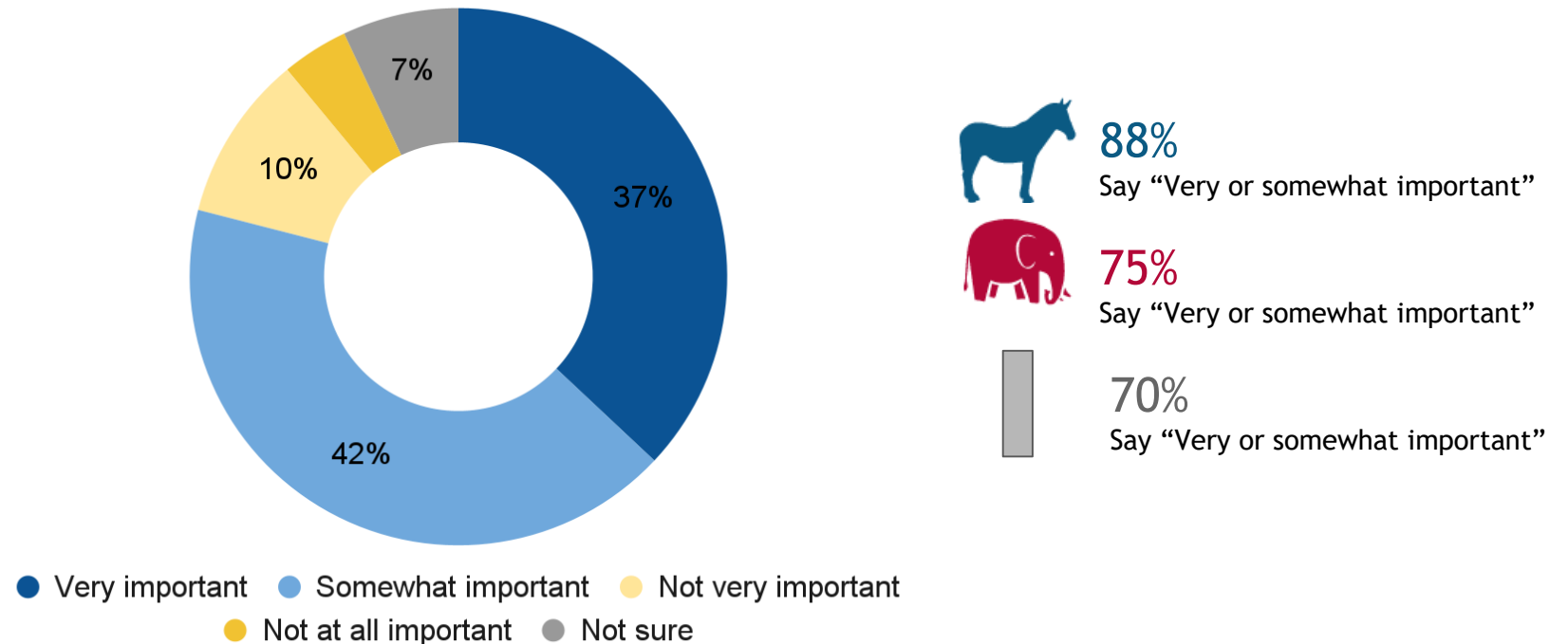
Can you name any institution, company, or organization where medical or health research is conducted?



Strong support for government to incentivize private sector S&T investment

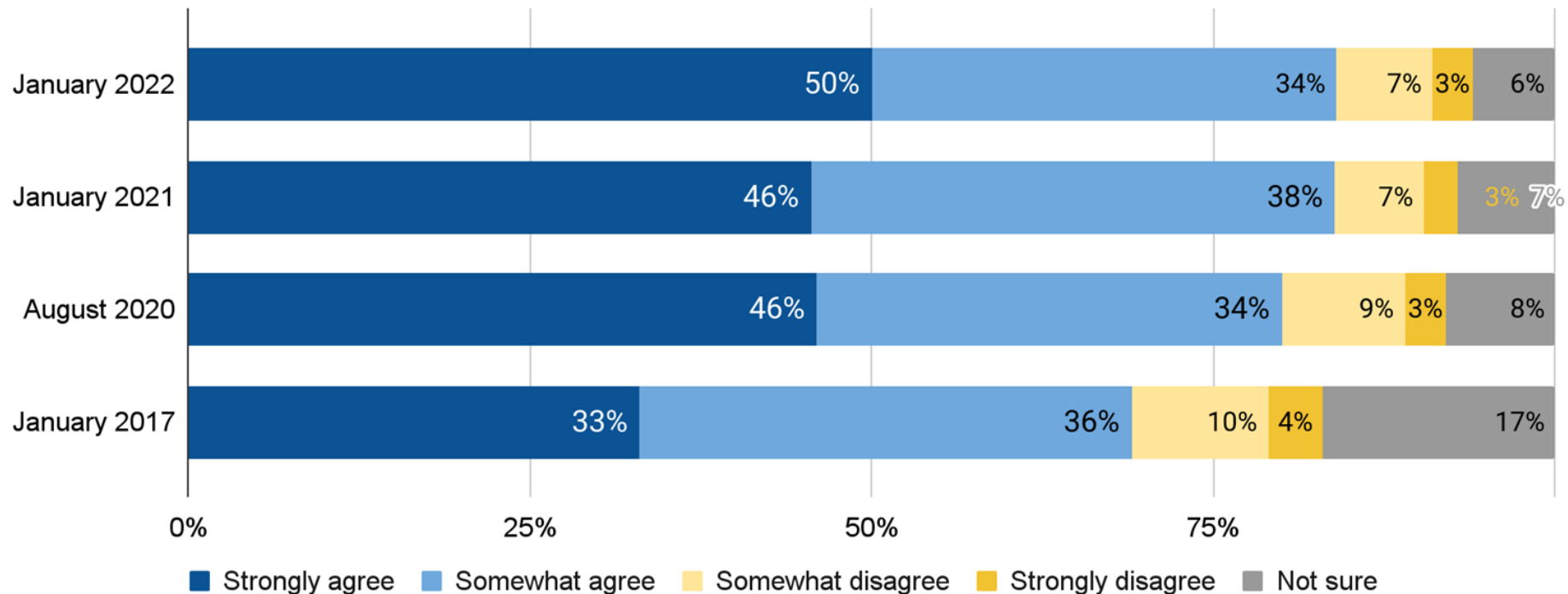
How important is it for the federal government to support incentives for private sector investment in science and technology?

Young people (18-29) less likely (70%) to say “Very or somewhat important”



Increasing support for improving K-12 STEM education

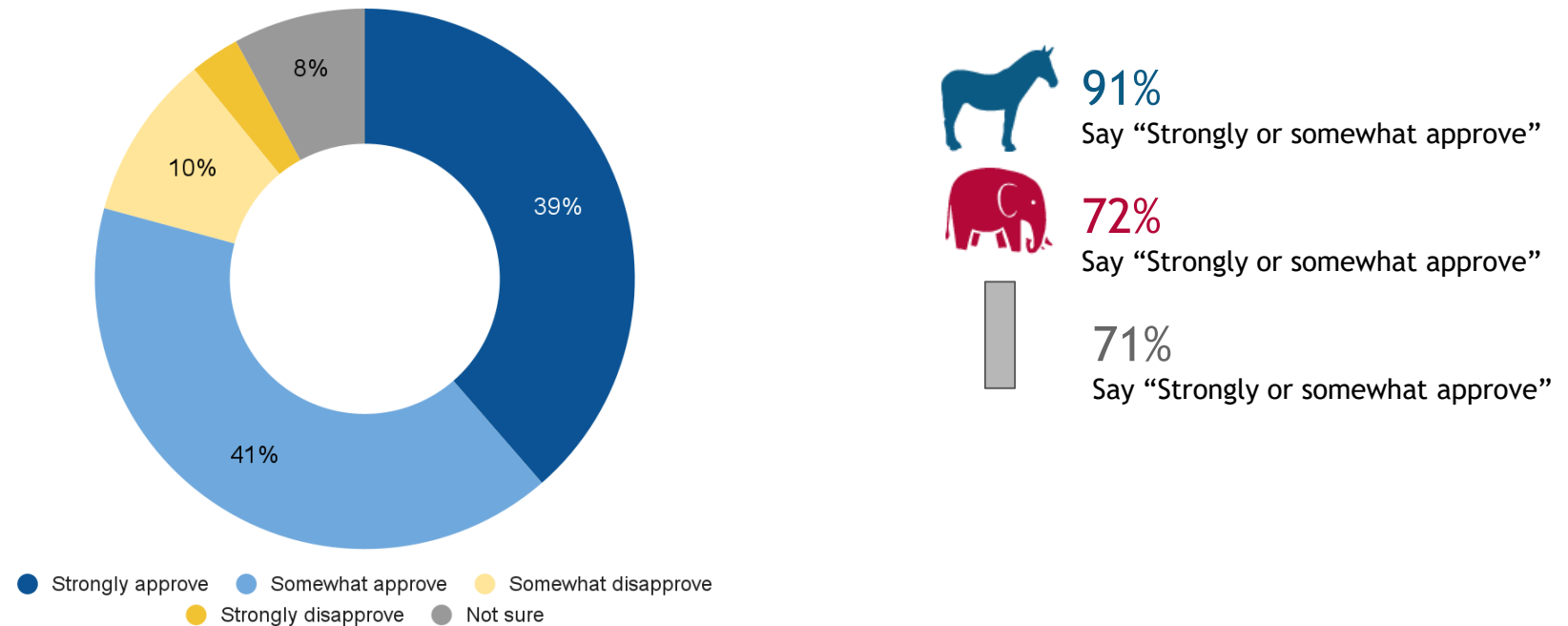
Do you agree or disagree that the federal government should assign a higher priority to improving K-12 education focused on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics?



Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2022.

8 in 10 support public funds for scientific research at universities

As you may know, the federal government provides public funds on a competitive basis to universities to conduct basic scientific research. Do you approve or disapprove of the federal government spending to sponsor scientific research at universities?



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