Survey Finds Americans Strongly Support Organ and Tissue Donation for Research

January 2020

National public opinion survey commissioned by Research!America and the National Disease Research Interchange
This online survey was conducted by Zogby Analytics on behalf of Research!America and the National Disease Research Interchange (NDRI) in January 2020, among 1,028 adults. This survey has a theoretical sampling error of +/- 3.1 percentage points.*

Sample sizes and margin of error for oversampled groups are as follows: African Americans, 405, +/- 4.9 percentage points; Hispanics, 414, +/- 4.8 percentage points; Asians, 408, +/-4.9 percentage points.

*Due to rounding, the total may not add up to 100 on some slides
Support for this survey was provided, in part, by the National Disease Research Interchange (NDRI).

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with the National Disease Research Interchange (NDRI) and Zogby Analytics in January 2020
Most Americans Agree Organ/Tissue Donations Help Make Medical and Health Breakthroughs

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statement: Donated organs and tissues help researchers make medical and health breakthroughs

- **Strongly agree**: 62%
- **Somewhat agree**: 30%
- **Somewhat disagree**: 3%
- **Strongly disagree**: 1%
- **Not sure**: 3%

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with the National Disease Research Interchange (NDRI) and Zogby Analytics in January 2020
Agreement Across Groups that Organ/Tissue Donation Helps Make Medical and Health Breakthroughs

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statement: Donated organs and tissues help researchers make medical and health breakthroughs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Strongly agree</th>
<th>Somewhat agree</th>
<th>Somewhat disagree</th>
<th>Strongly disagree</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with the National Disease Research Interchange (NDRI) and Zogby Analytics in January 2020
Americans Support Organ/Tissue Donation for Transplant at Death

In general, do you support or oppose the donation of organs and tissue for transplant at death?

- **63%** Strongly support
- **22%** Somewhat support
- **10%** Neither support nor oppose
- **2%** Somewhat oppose
- **1%** Strongly oppose
- **1%** Not sure

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with the National Disease Research Interchange (NDRI) and Zogby Analytics in January 2020.
Americans Support Organ/Tissue Donation for Research at Death

In general, do you support or oppose the donation of organs and tissue for research at death?

- **59%** Strongly support
- **25%** Somewhat support
- **11%** Neither support nor oppose
- **2%** Somewhat oppose
- **2%** Strongly oppose
- **2%** Not sure

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with the National Disease Research Interchange (NDRI) and Zogby Analytics in January 2020
Americans Aware of Organ/Tissue Shortages and Agree the Public Should be Encouraged to Donate

Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statement: There are significant shortages of both organs and tissues for donation and for research and the public should be encouraged to become donors.

- Strongly agree: 51%
- Somewhat agree: 30%
- Somewhat disagree: 9%
- Strongly disagree: 3%
- Not sure: 8%

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with the National Disease Research Interchange (NDRI) and Zogby Analytics in January 2020.
Only Roughly Half of Americans Reported Being Registered Organ or Tissue Donors

Are you registered to be an organ or tissue donor?

- Yes: 55%
- No: 41%
- Not sure: 4%

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with the National Disease Research Interchange (NDRI) and Zogby Analytics in January 2020
Of Those Who Don’t Wish to Donate Organs or Tissues for Transplant Upon Death, Many are Undecided

Is there a particular reason you do not want to have your organs donated for transplant upon your death? If yes, what might that reason be? (Select as many as apply.)

- Undecided: 27%
- No particular reason: 26%
- Don't want body cut up or disfigured: 14%
- Can't donate for medical reasons: 12%
- Not interested: 11%
- Feel I am too old to donate: 8%
- Not sure: 7%
- Other (Specify): 7%
- Against religion: 6%

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with the National Disease Research Interchange (NDRI) and Zogby Analytics in January 2020
Of Those Who Don’t Wish to Donate Organs or Tissues for Research Upon Death, Many Are Unsure

Is there a particular reason you do not want to have your organs donated for research upon your death? If yes, what might that reason be? (Select as many as apply.)

- No particular reason: 29%
- Undecided: 22%
- Don’t want body cut up or disfigured: 15%
- Not interested: 12%
- Can’t donate for medical reasons: 9%
- Against religion: 8%
- Feel I am too old to donate: 8%
- Not sure: 8%
- Other (Specify): 4%

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with the National Disease Research Interchange (NDRI) and Zogby Analytics in January 2020
Only One-Third of Americans Have Sought Information About Organ and Tissue Donation

Have you ever sought information about organ and tissue donation, from any source?

- Yes: 33%
- No: 63%
- Not sure: 4%

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with the National Disease Research Interchange (NDRI) and Zogby Analytics in January 2020
Admiration of People Who Donate Organs/Tissue is High

Please rate how much you admire each of the following groups of people on a scale of 1 to 4, where 1 means you do not admire them at all, and where 4 means you admire them a great deal.

- **People who donate organs/tissues for transplant**: 77% admire a great deal, 15% admire a little, 1% admire somewhat, and 7% are not sure.
- **People who donate organs/tissues for research**: 71% admire a great deal, 20% admire a little, 7% admire somewhat, and 2% are not sure.
- **People who give blood**: 68% admire a great deal, 21% admire a little, 7% admire somewhat, and 3% are not sure.
- **People who participate in clinical trials to determine the effectiveness of treatment**: 59% admire a great deal, 29% admire a little, 7% admire somewhat, and 5% are not sure.
- **People who use technology like apps, phones, or other monitoring devices to collect their health data and make it available to researchers**: 39% admire a great deal, 36% admire a little, 8% admire somewhat, and 7% are not sure.

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with the National Disease Research Interchange (NDRI) and Zogby Analytics in January 2020.
Americans More Comfortable with Donated Organ and Tissue Being Used by Non-profit Organizations

How comfortable would you be with each of the following ways your donated organ and tissue might be used in research?

- For storage in a biobank for future use:
  - Very comfortable: 38%
  - Somewhat comfortable: 29%
  - Not very comfortable: 13%
  - Not at all comfortable: 11%
  - Not sure: 10%

- For research by a for-profit organization:
  - Very comfortable: 32%
  - Somewhat comfortable: 25%
  - Not very comfortable: 18%
  - Not at all comfortable: 14%
  - Not sure: 10%

- For research by a non-profit organization:
  - Very comfortable: 56%
  - Somewhat comfortable: 23%
  - Not very comfortable: 7%
  - Not at all comfortable: 5%
  - Not sure: 8%

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with the National Disease Research Interchange (NDRI) and Zogby Analytics in January 2020