



# West Virginians Speak Out on Medical and Health Research

October 2017

West Virginia Public Opinion Survey Commissioned by  
Research!America

# Survey Methodology

## West Virginia Survey

This state online survey was conducted by Zogby Analytics on behalf of Research!America in September 2017, among 403 adults in West Virginia. This survey has a theoretical sampling error of +/- 4.9 percentage points.\*

## Clinical Trials National Survey

This nationwide online survey was conducted by Zogby Analytics on behalf of Research!America in July 2017, among 1,000 adults. This survey has a theoretical sampling error of +/- 3.1 percentage points.\*

## National Survey

This nationwide online survey was conducted by Zogby Analytics on behalf of Research!America in January 2017, among 1,005 adults. This survey has a theoretical sampling error of +/- 3.1 percentage points.\*

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

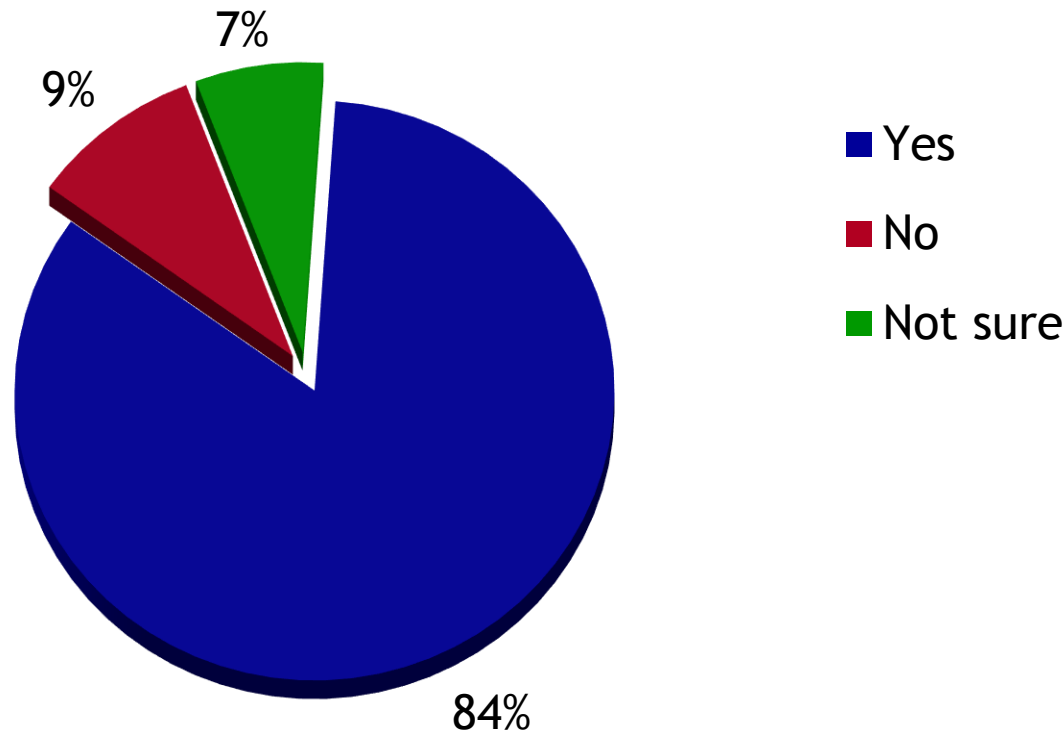
# West Virginians Say Opioid Epidemic Most Important Health Issue

In your opinion, what is the most important health issue facing people in West Virginia today?

Opioid epidemic/Substance abuse	36%
Obesity	22%
Cancer	16%
Not sure	7%
Heart disease	5%
Diabetes	4%
Mental Health	3%
Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)	2%
Arthritis	1%
Asthma	1%
Dental Disease	1%
High blood pressure	1%
Other	1%
Kidney disease	<1%

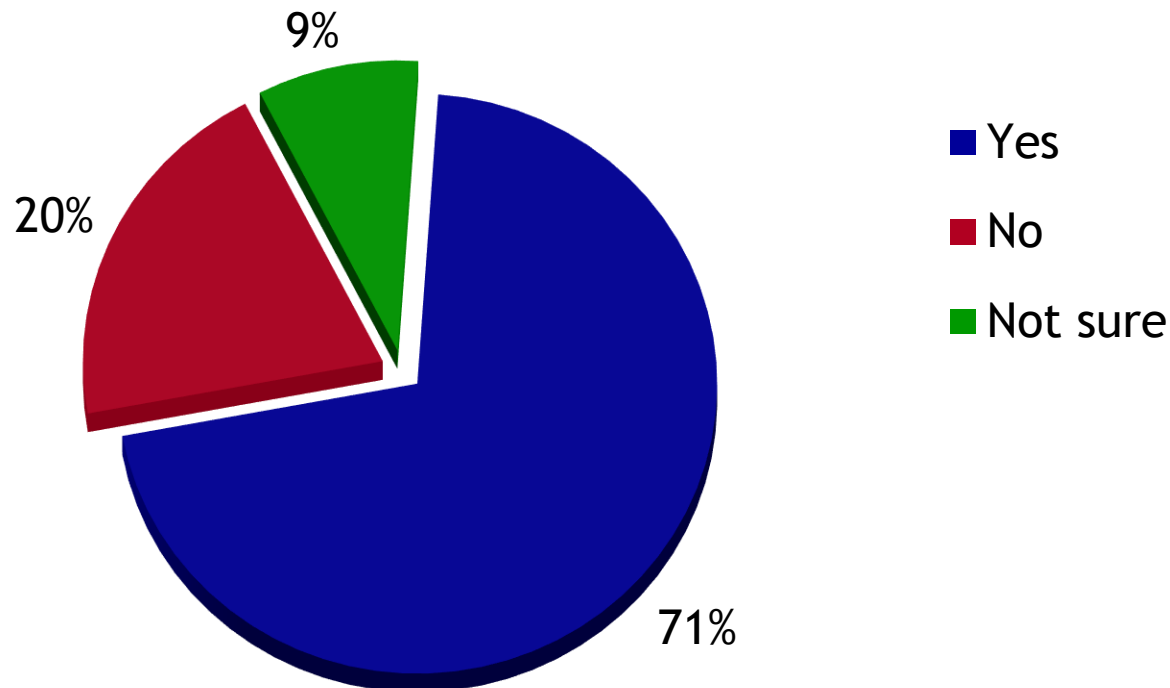
# Strong Majority Say Medication Abuse, Addiction a Major Problem

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



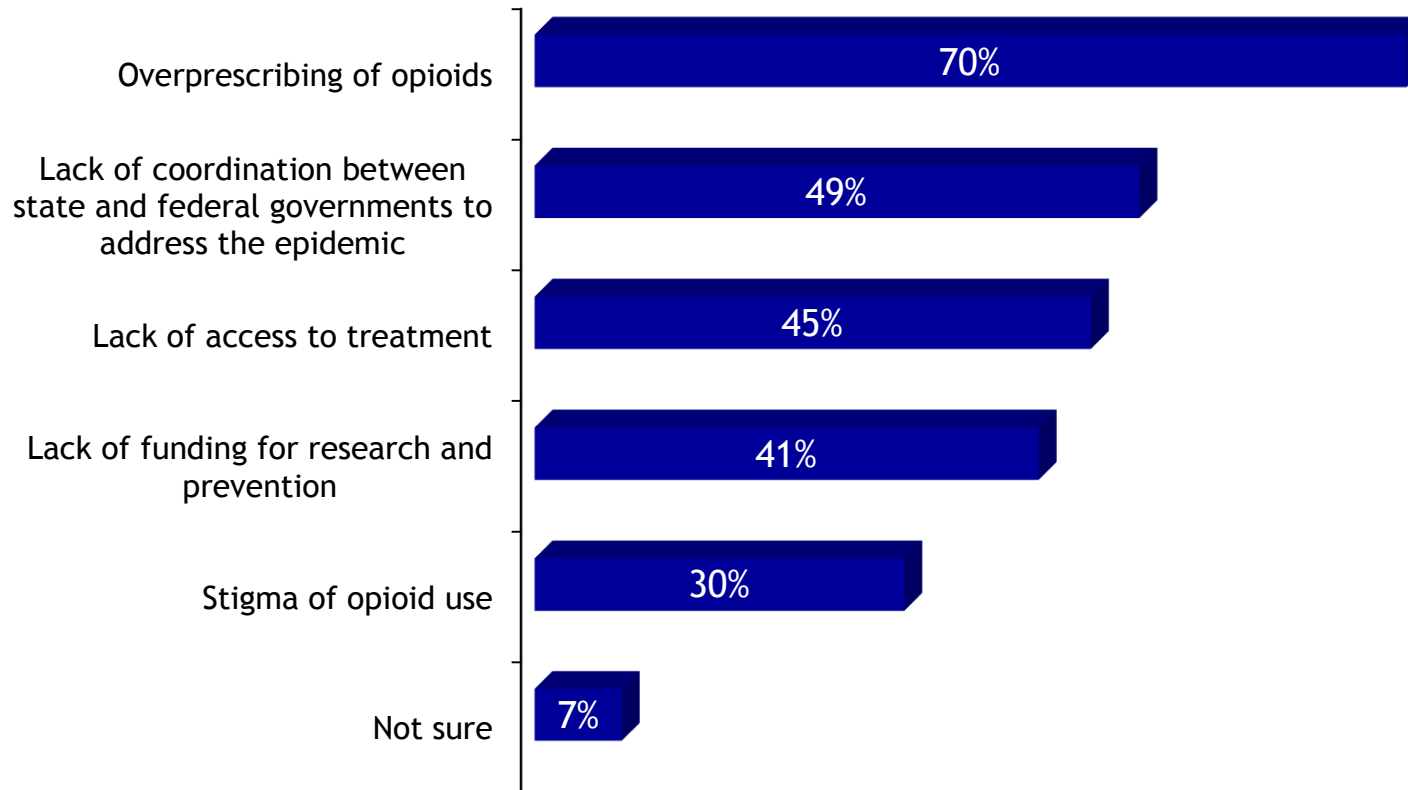
# Majority Know Someone Who Has Sought Prescription Pain Medicines

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



# Majority Say Overprescribing of Opioids a Barrier to Combating Opioid Epidemic

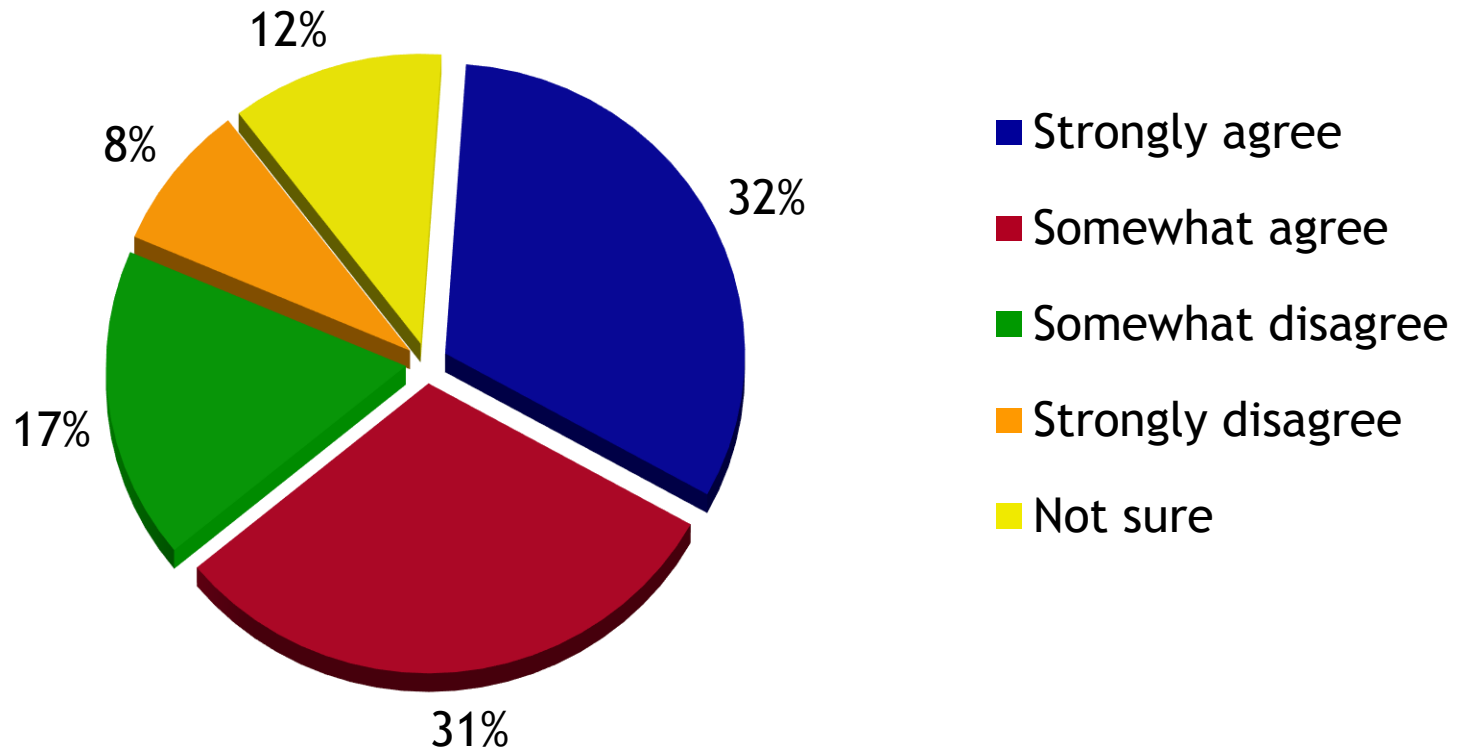
Do you agree or disagree that the following are barriers to effectively combating the opioid epidemic? (Choose all that apply)



Source: A Research!America survey of adults in West Virginia conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in September 2017.

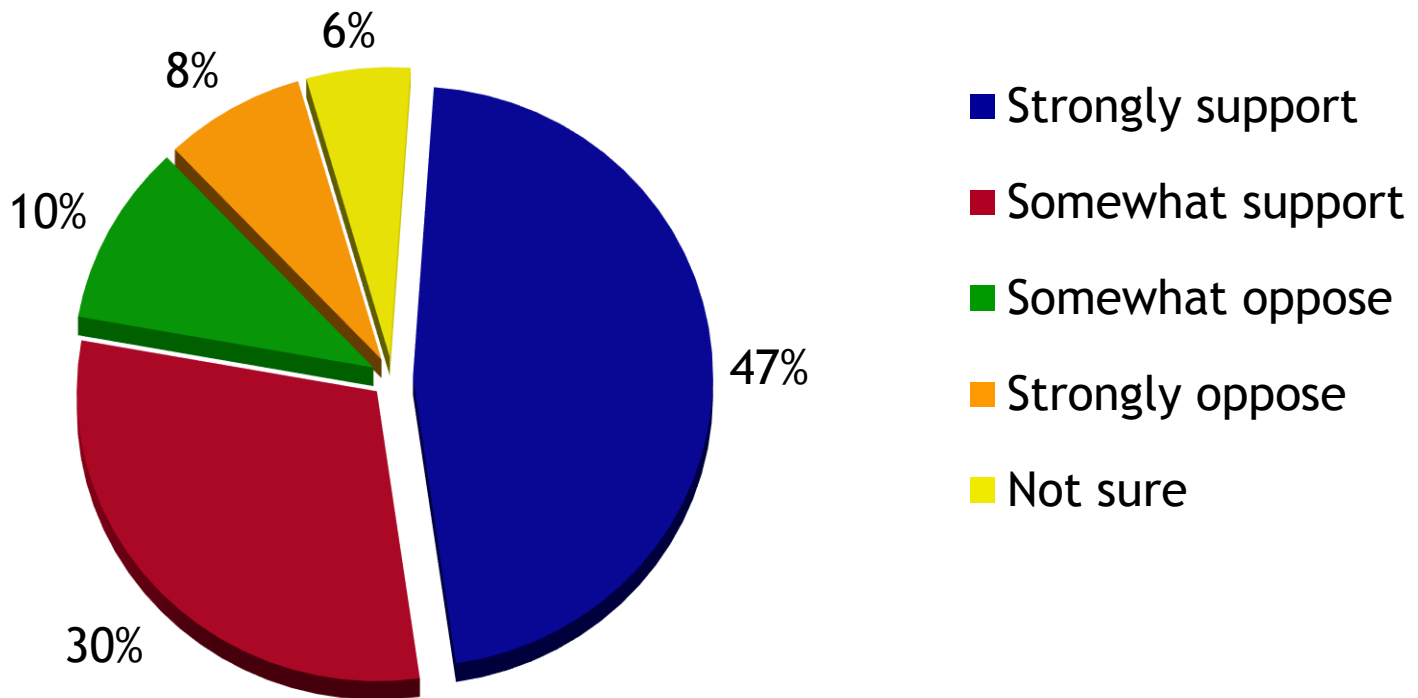
# Majority Agree White House Declaration Will Help Localities

Do you agree or disagree that a White House declaration that the opioid epidemic is a national emergency will support local efforts to address the crisis?



# Strong Support for Federal Research Funding to Combat Opioid Addiction

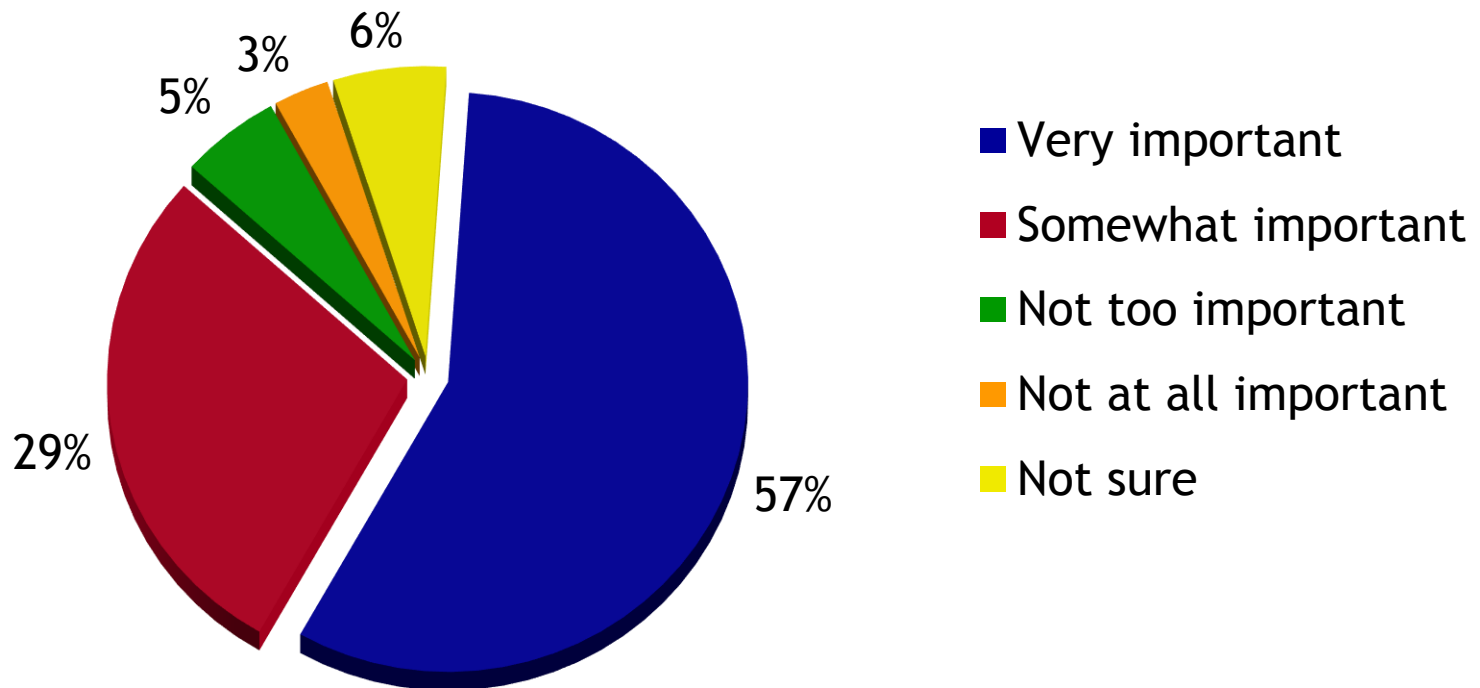
Do you support or oppose increased federal funding for research to better understand and combat the opioid addiction?





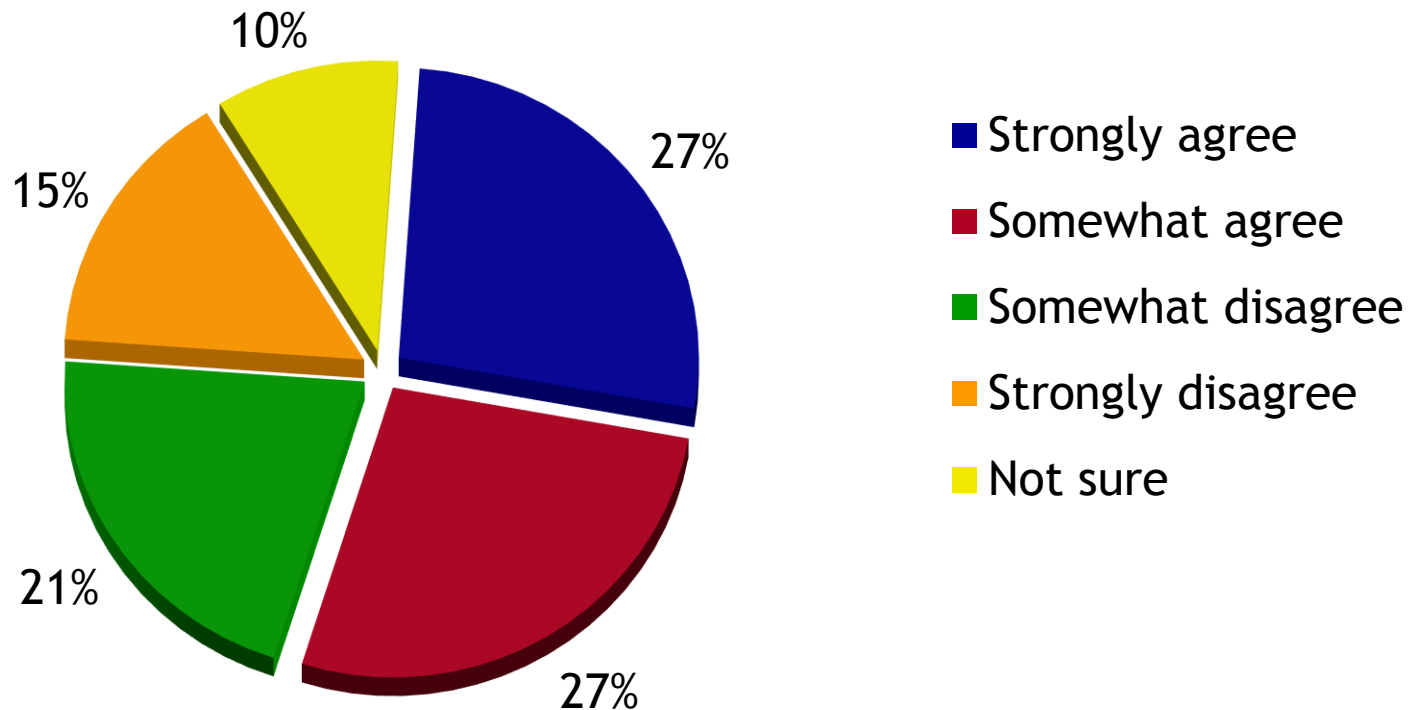
# Important to Flag Medical Records for Opioid Addiction

How important is it for medical records to prominently state whether a patient is recovering from addiction to prevent overprescribing of opioids in the same way they are marked if a patient is allergic to penicillin?



# Overdose Reversal Drugs Can Reduce Opioid Deaths

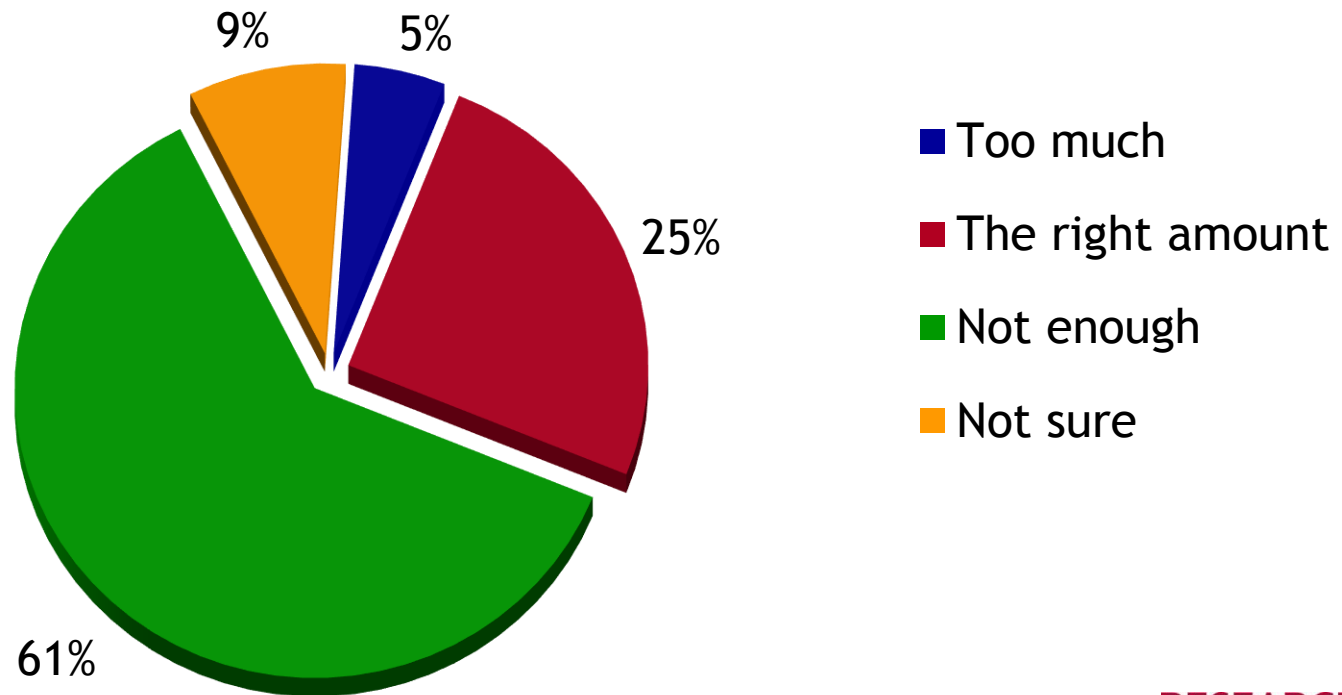
Do you agree or disagree that opioid deaths in the state can be reduced by increasing access to opioid overdose reversal drugs in West Virginia schools and public facilities such as libraries?



# Strong Majority Don't Think U.S. Spends Enough on Medical and Health Research

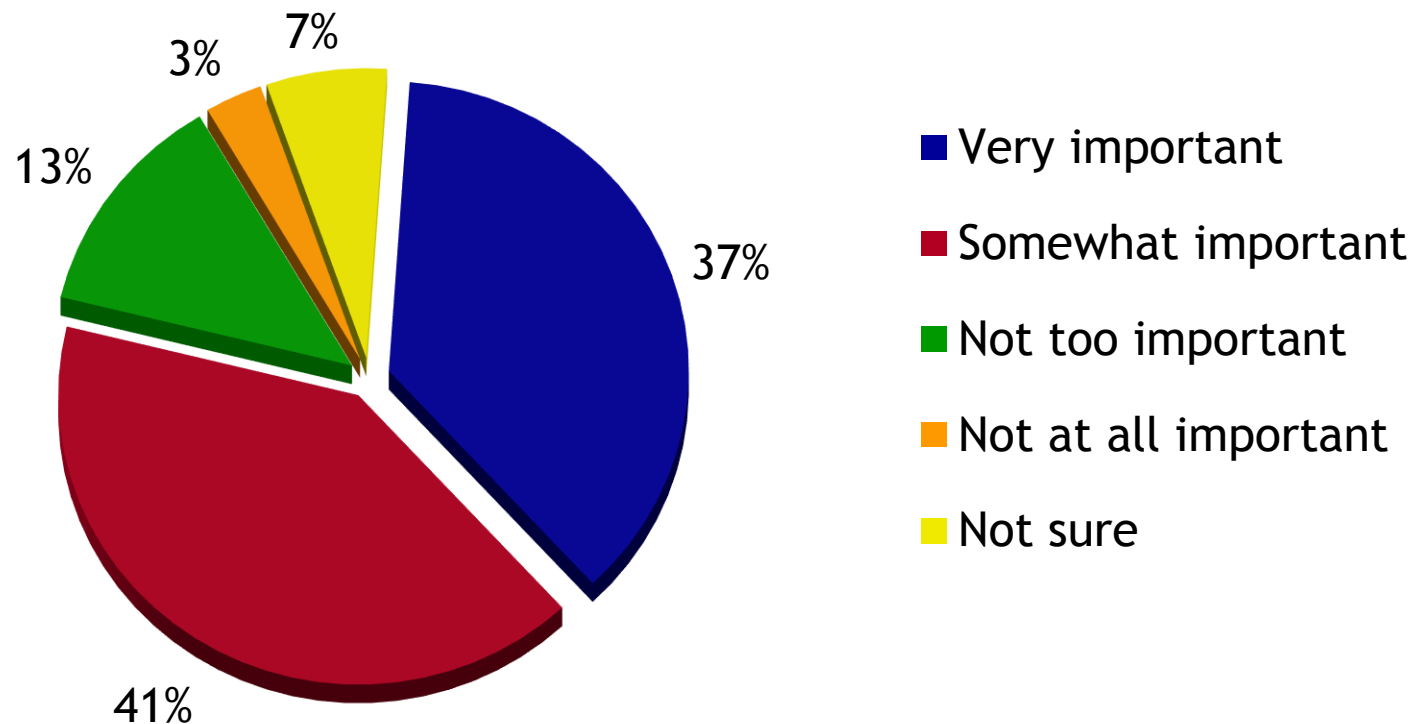
The U.S. spends about 5 and a half cents of each health dollar on research to prevent, cure, and treat disease and disability. Do you think that is too much, the right amount, or not enough?

*A higher percentage of West Virginians (61%) say 'not enough,' compared to 40% of the general U.S. population.*



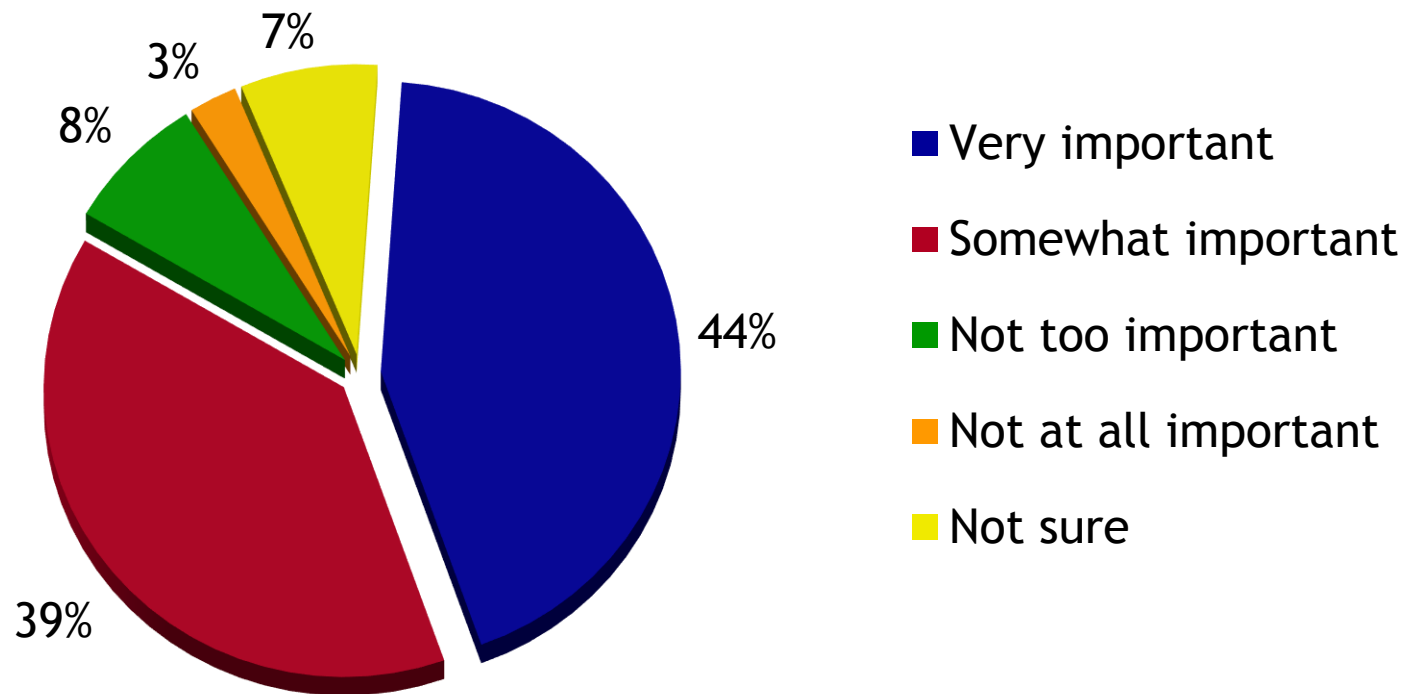
# Investing in Medical Research Is Important to West Virginia's Economy

In terms of jobs and incomes, how important do you think spending money on medical research is to West Virginia's economy?



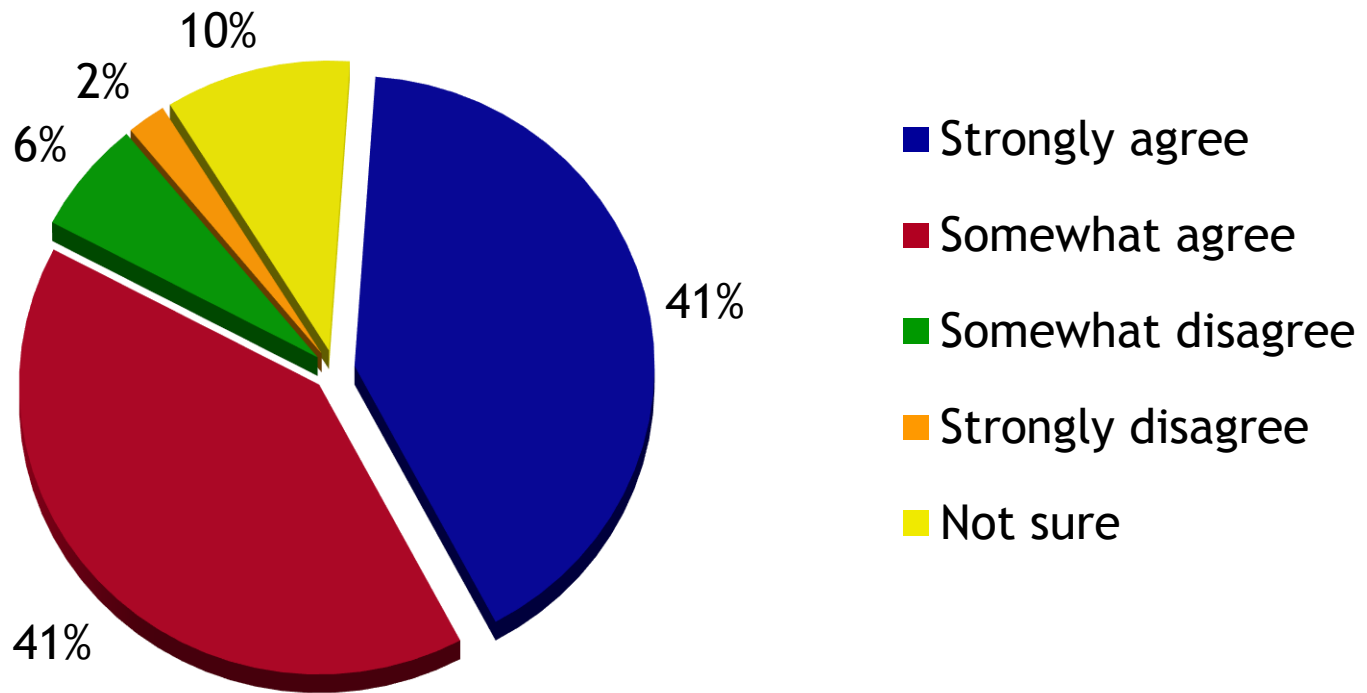
# Federal Government Should Support Incentives for Private Sector Investments

How important is it for the federal government to support incentives for private sector investment in new treatments and cures?



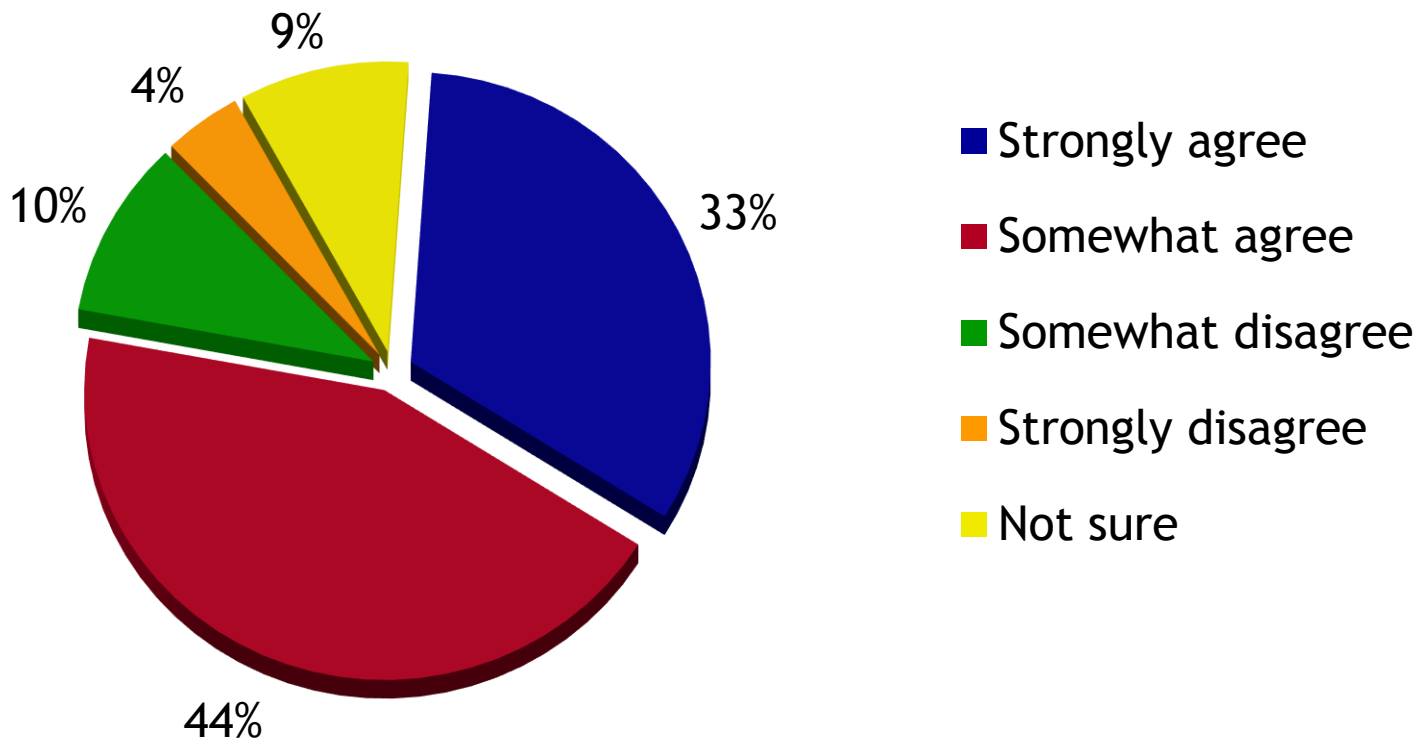
# West Virginia Should Support Private Investments in Research

Do you agree or disagree that the West Virginia state legislature should support legislation that will encourage private investments in medical research?



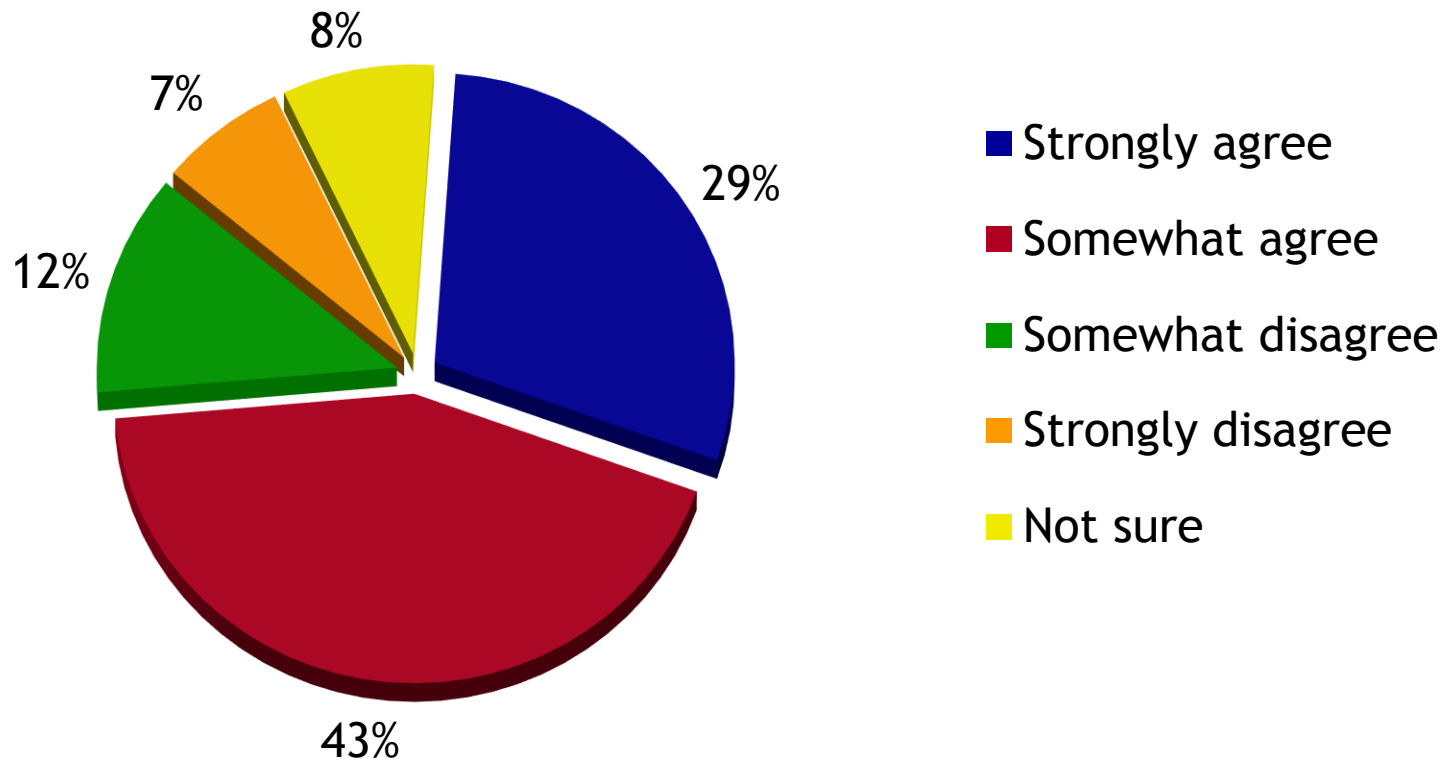
# Federal Funds Should Support Scientific Research at Universities

Do you agree or disagree that federal (taxpayer) funds should be used to support scientific research at public universities?



# State Funds Should Support Scientific Research at Universities

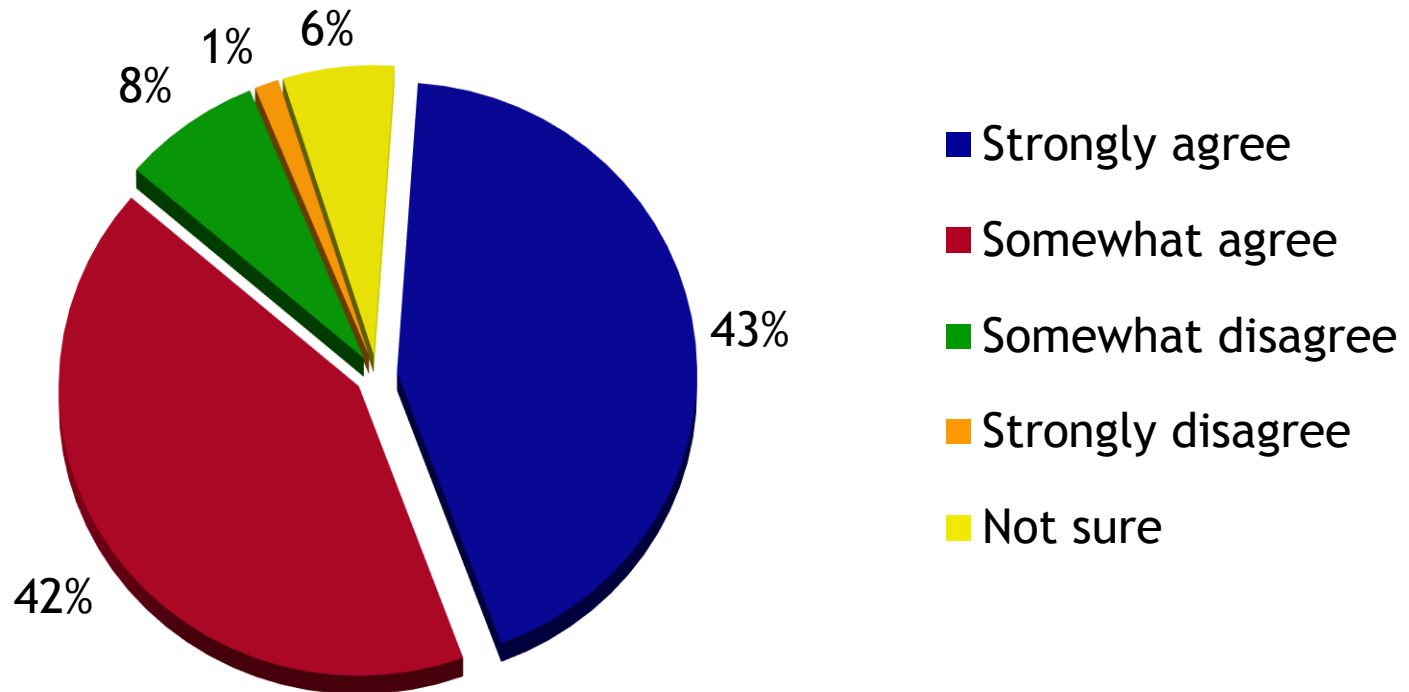
Do you agree or disagree that the state of West Virginia (taxpayer) funds should be used to support scientific research at public universities?





# State Government Should Assign Higher Priority to STEM Education

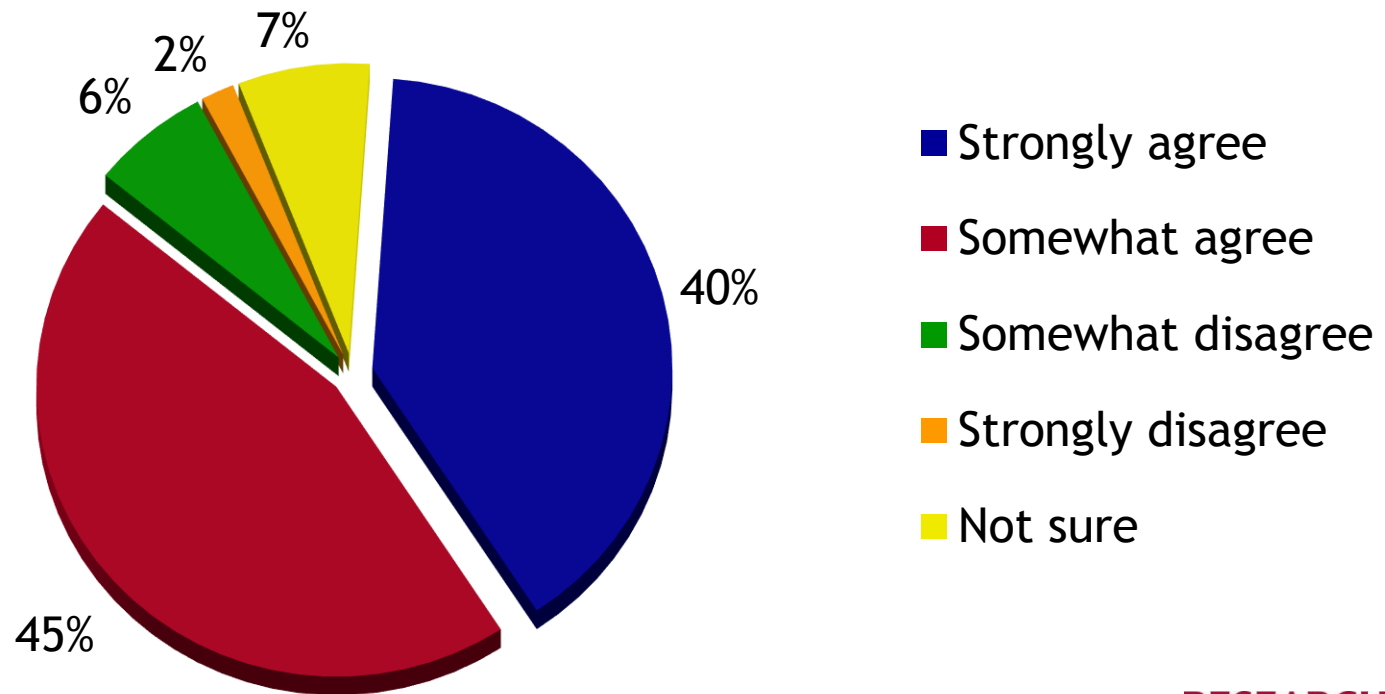
Do you agree or disagree West Virginia's state government should assign a higher priority to improving education focused on science, technology, engineering and mathematics and careers in those fields?



# Federal Government Should Assign Higher Priority to STEM Education

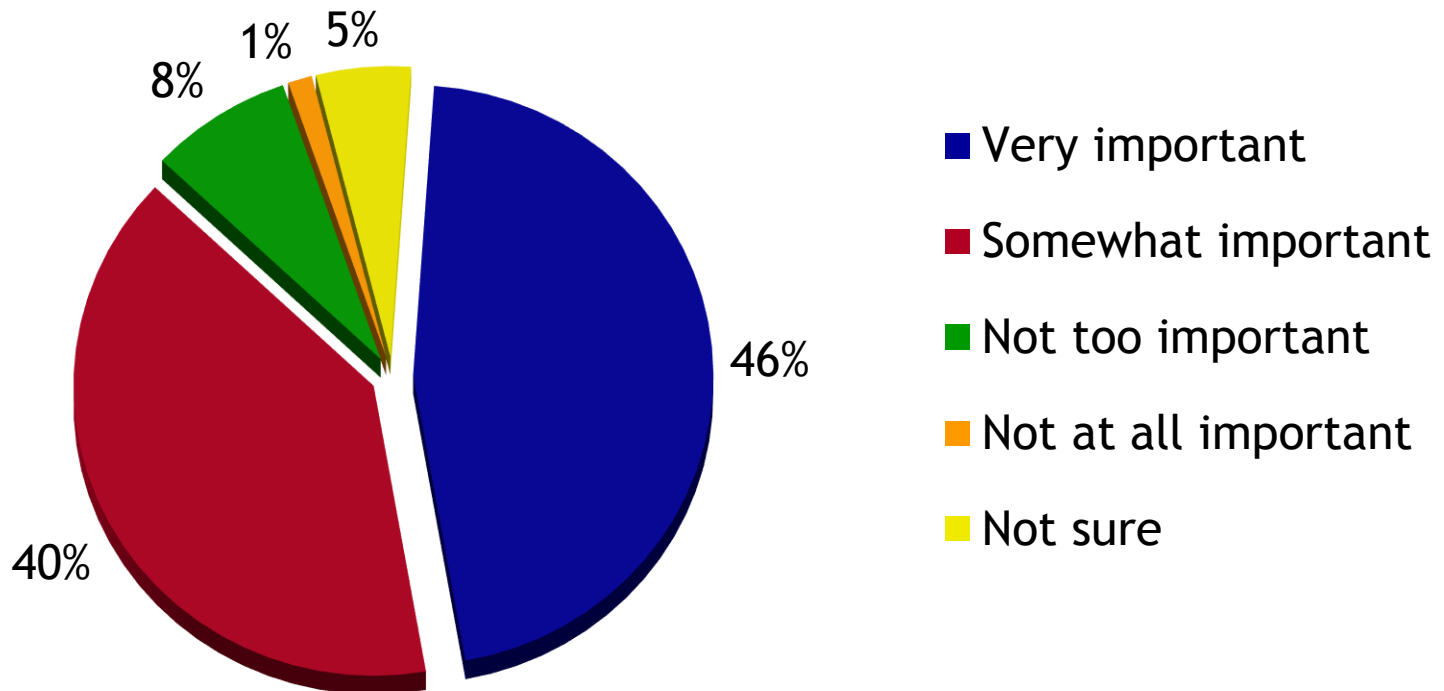
Do you agree or disagree the federal government should assign a higher priority to improving education focused on science, technology, engineering and mathematics and careers in those fields?

*A higher percentage of West Virginians (85%) 'strongly' or 'somewhat' agree, compared to 69% of the general U.S. population.*



# Strong Majority Say It's Important to Increase Funding for Rural Health Research

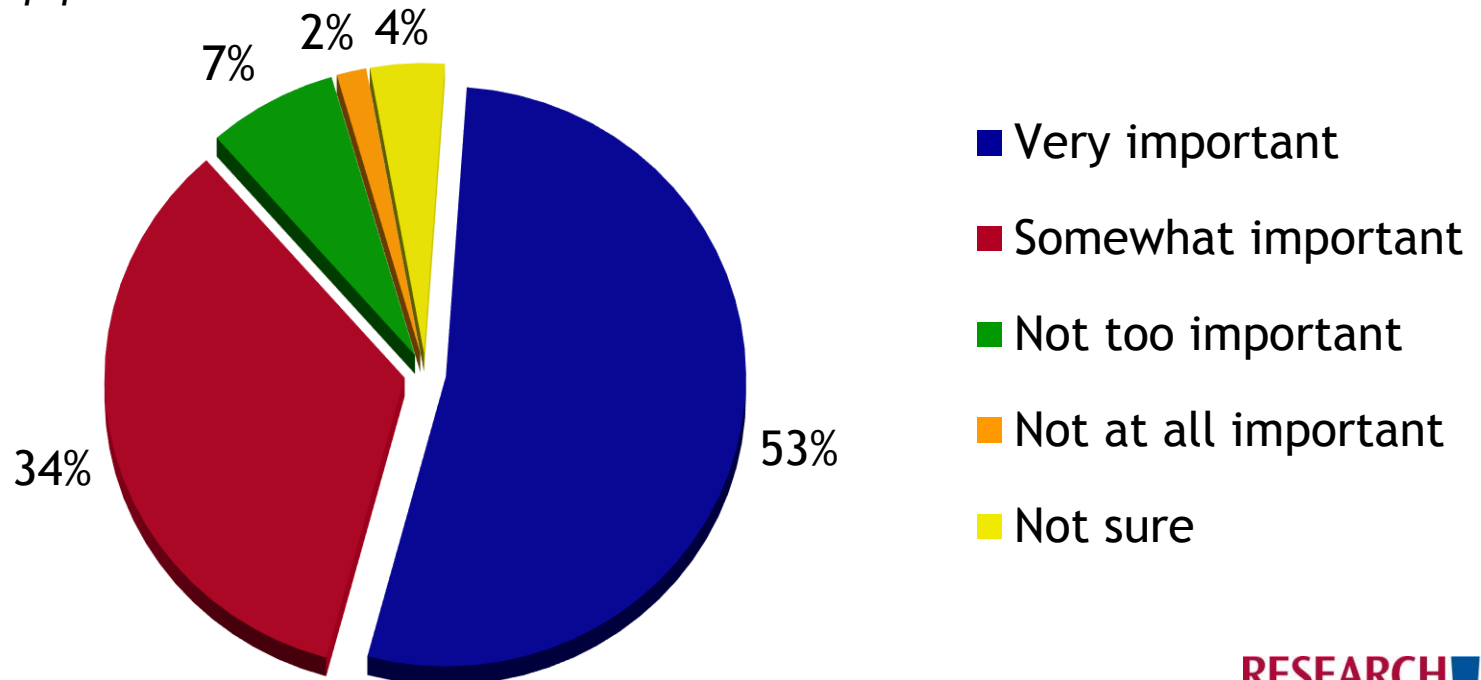
Rural health research focuses on issues important to the delivery of rural medical services, the viability of rural healthcare facilities, and the health of individuals in rural areas. How important is it to increase funding for such research?



# Strong Majority Support Research to Eliminate Health Disparities

Studies show that certain health problems such as diabetes, heart disease, and infant mortality happen more often among people with lower incomes and among minorities. How important do you feel it is to conduct medical or health research to understand and eliminate these differences?

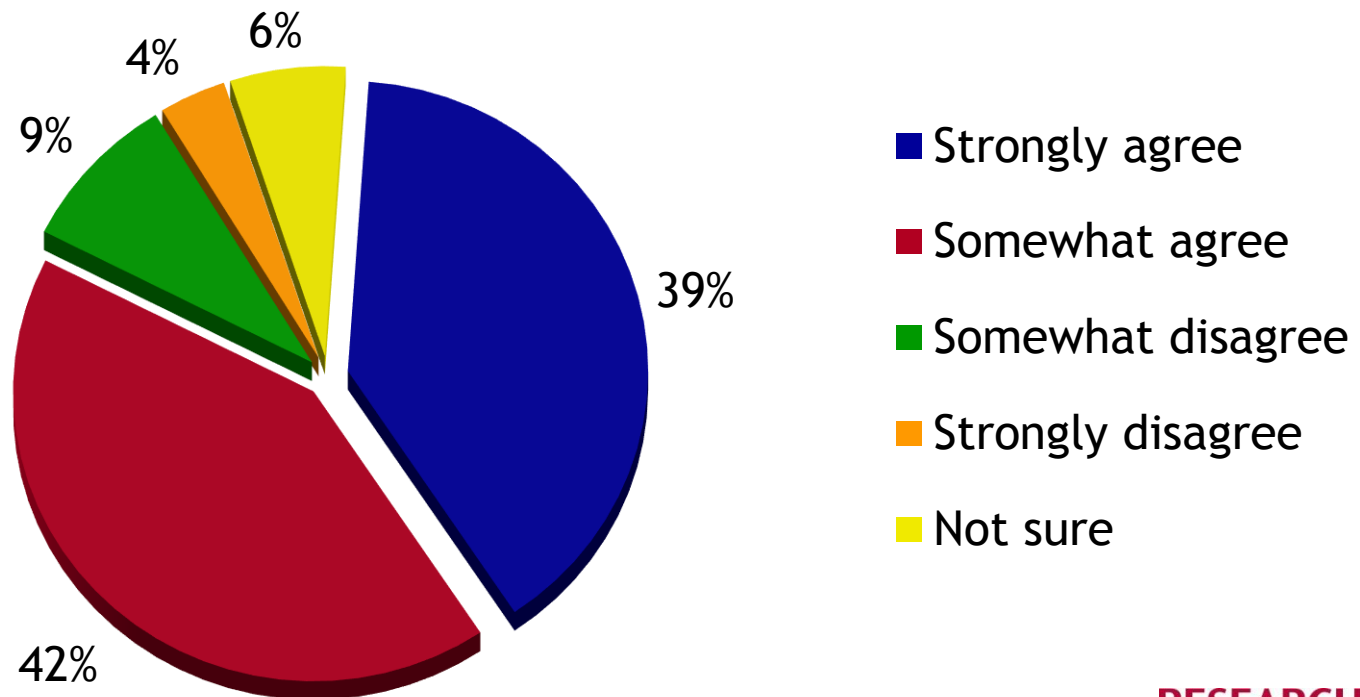
*A higher percentage of West Virginians (87%) say 'very' or 'somewhat' important compared to 73% of the general U.S. population.*



# Federal Government Should Support Basic Scientific 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.

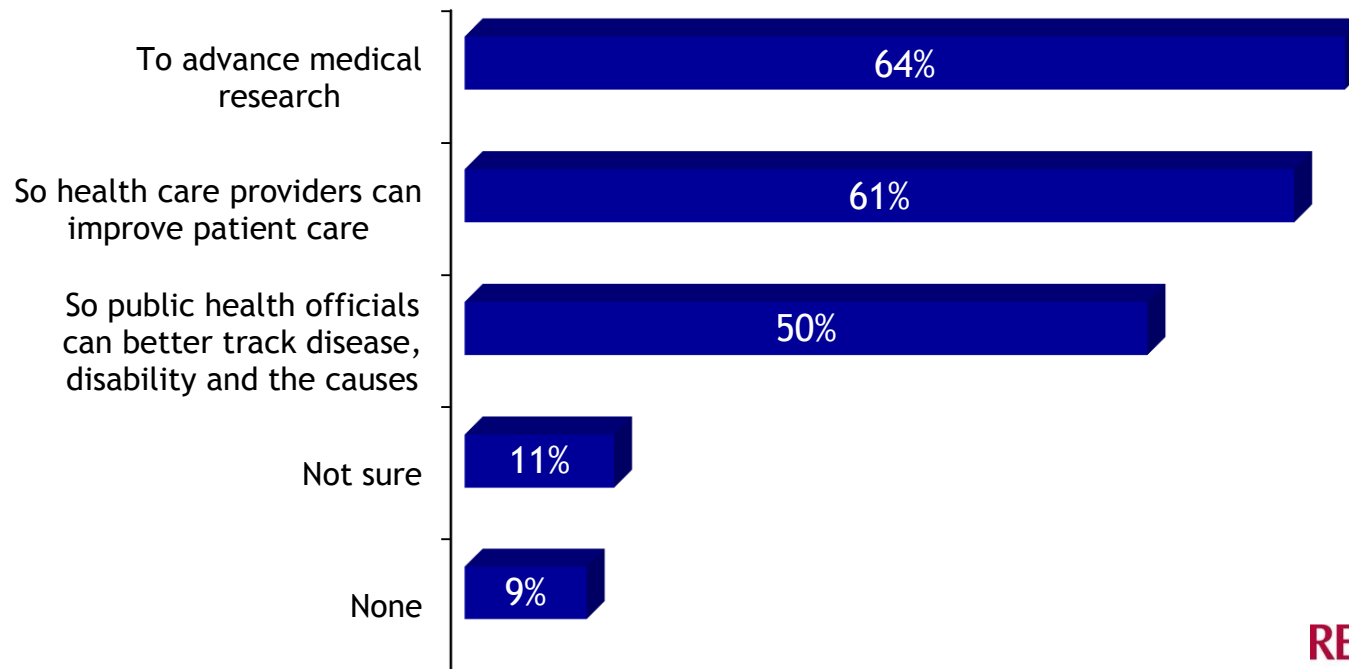
*A higher percentage of West Virginians (82%) 'strongly' or 'somewhat' agree, compared to 63% of the general U.S. population.*



# Many Willing to Share Personal Data to Advance Research, Improve Patient Care

For the following, please indicate your willingness to share your personal health information, assuming that appropriate privacy protections are in place. (Choose all that apply)

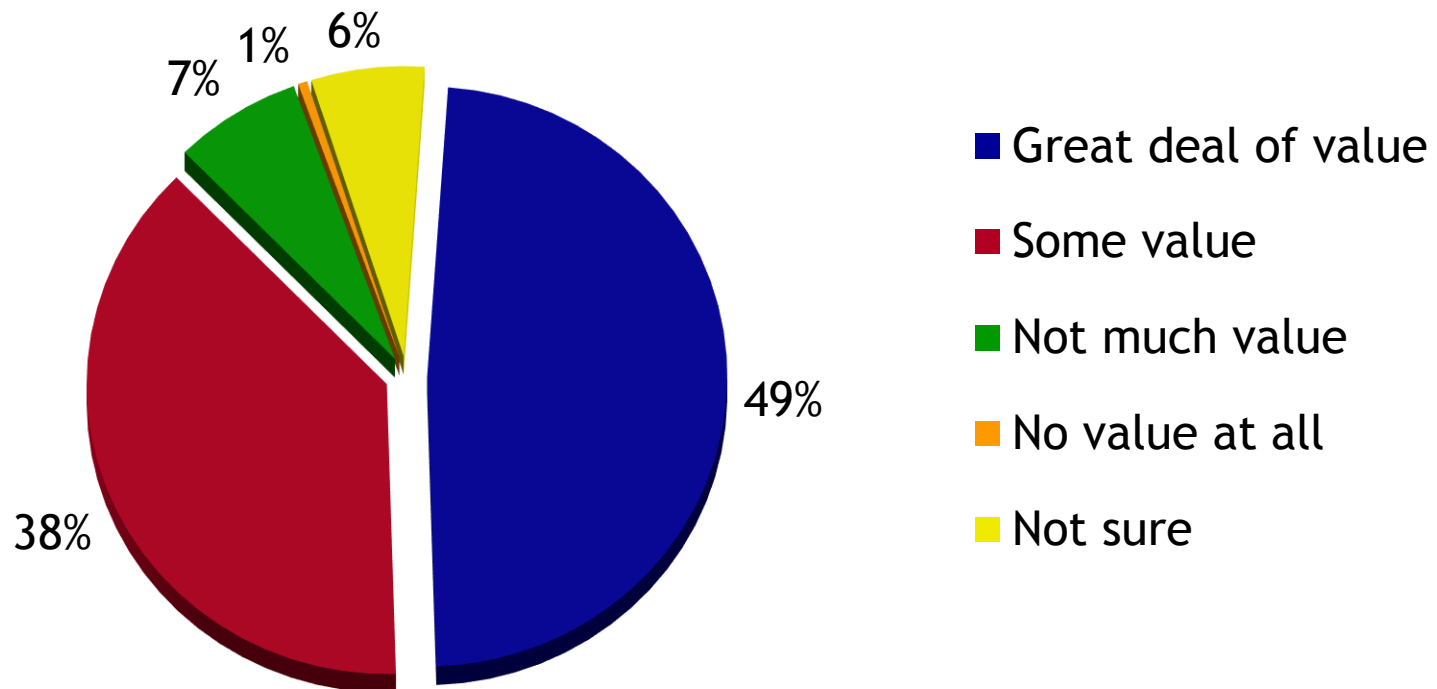
*A lower percentage of West Virginians (50%) are willing to share personal health information so public health officials can better track disease, disability and the causes, compared to 74% of the general U.S. population.*



Source: A Research!America survey of adults in West Virginia conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in September 2017.

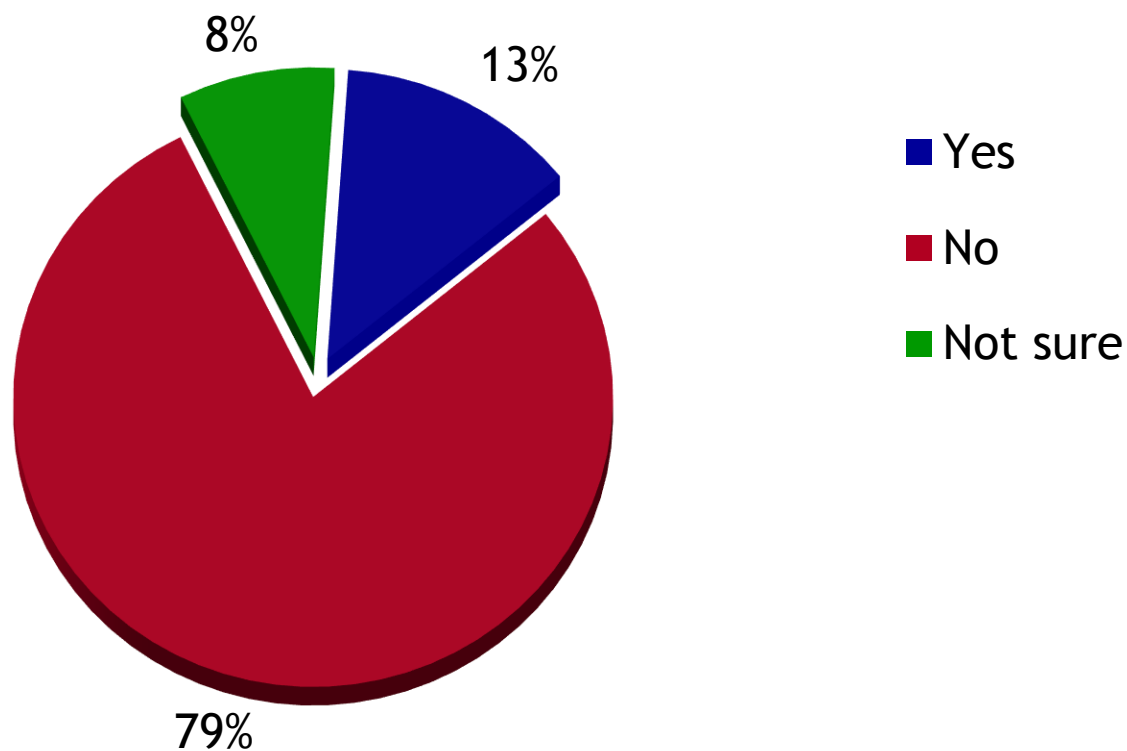
# Strong Majority Value Clinical Research

One kind of research, often referred to as clinical trial, is clinical research. In this volunteers choose to participate to test the effectiveness of certain treatments in improving the care of patients. How do you perceive the value of this kind of research?



# Majority Have Not Participated in Clinical Trials

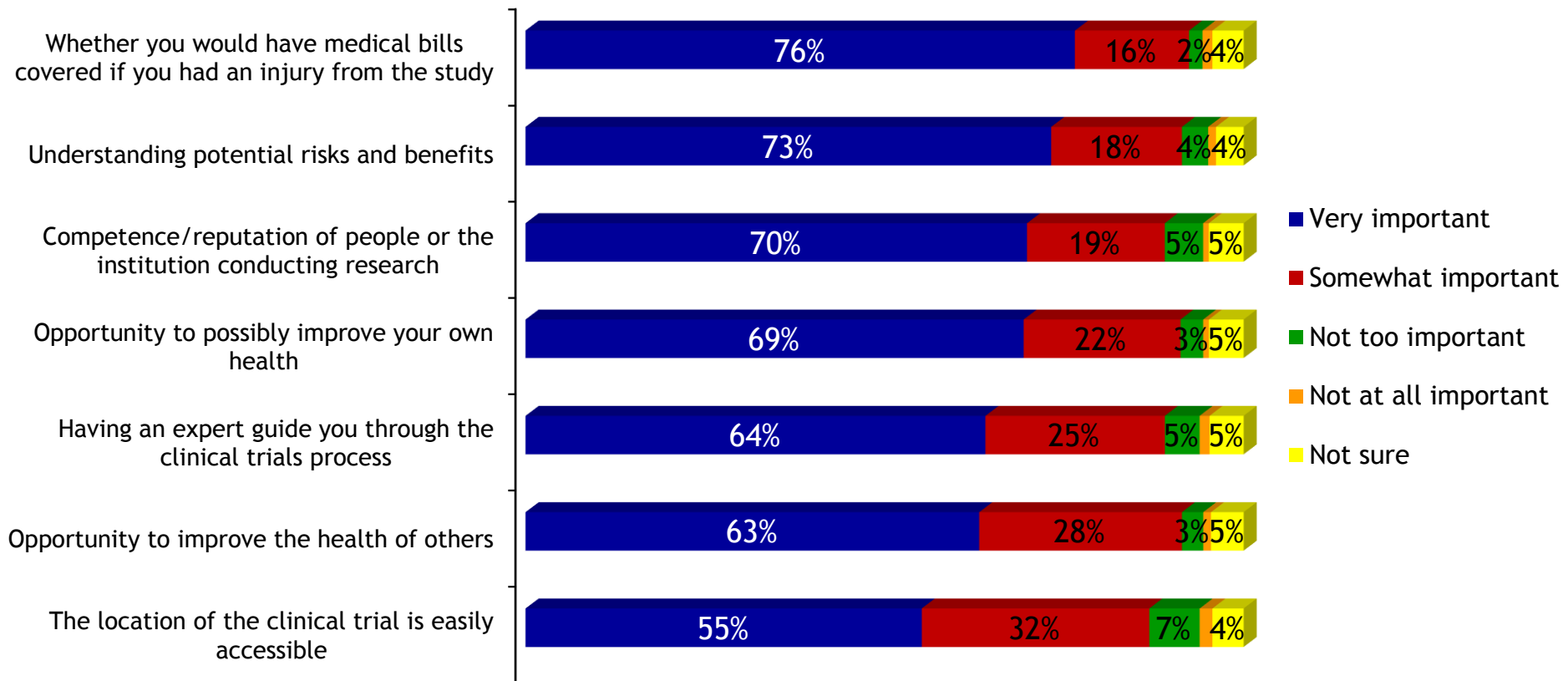
Have you or anyone in your family ever participated in clinical trials?





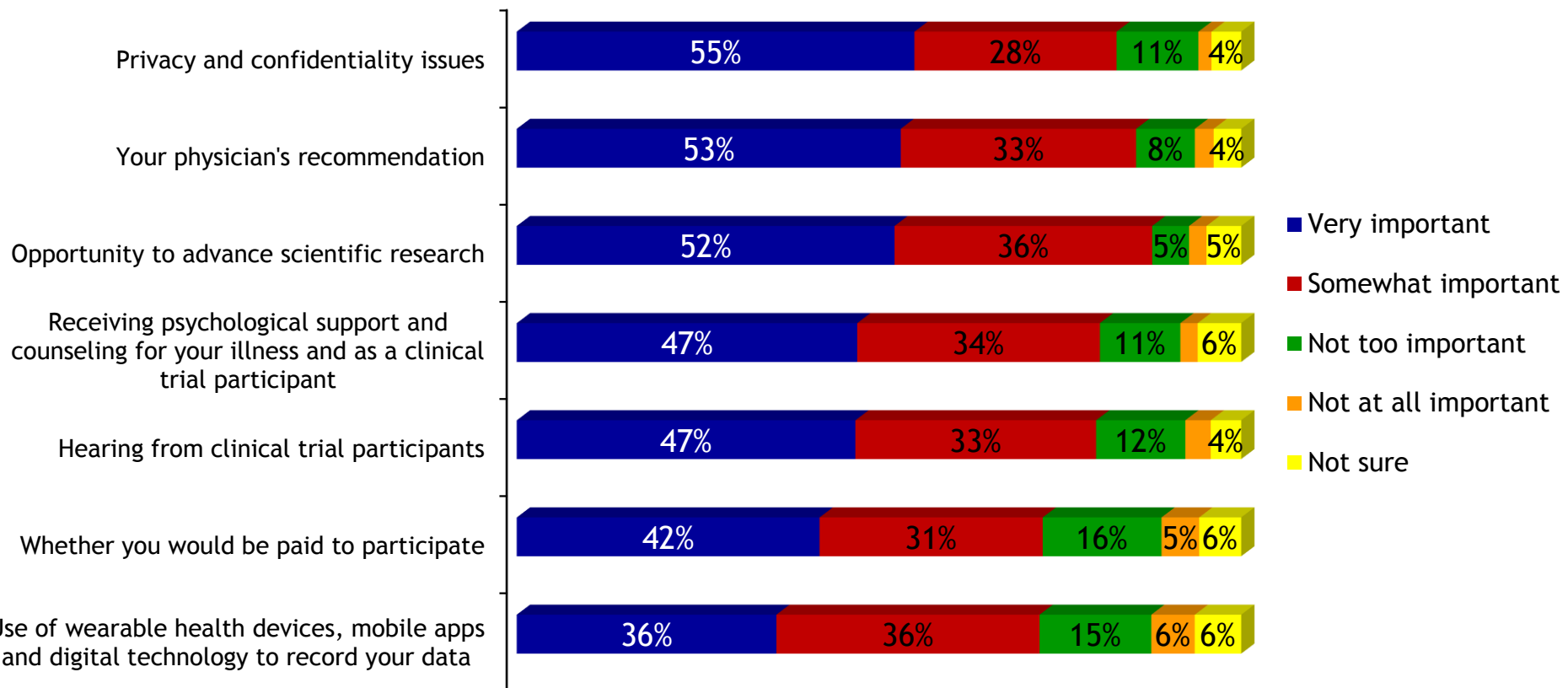
# Medical Bills, Risks, Competence of Researchers Important Factors in Clinical Trial Participation

How important would each of the following factors be in your decision to participate as a volunteer in a clinical trial?



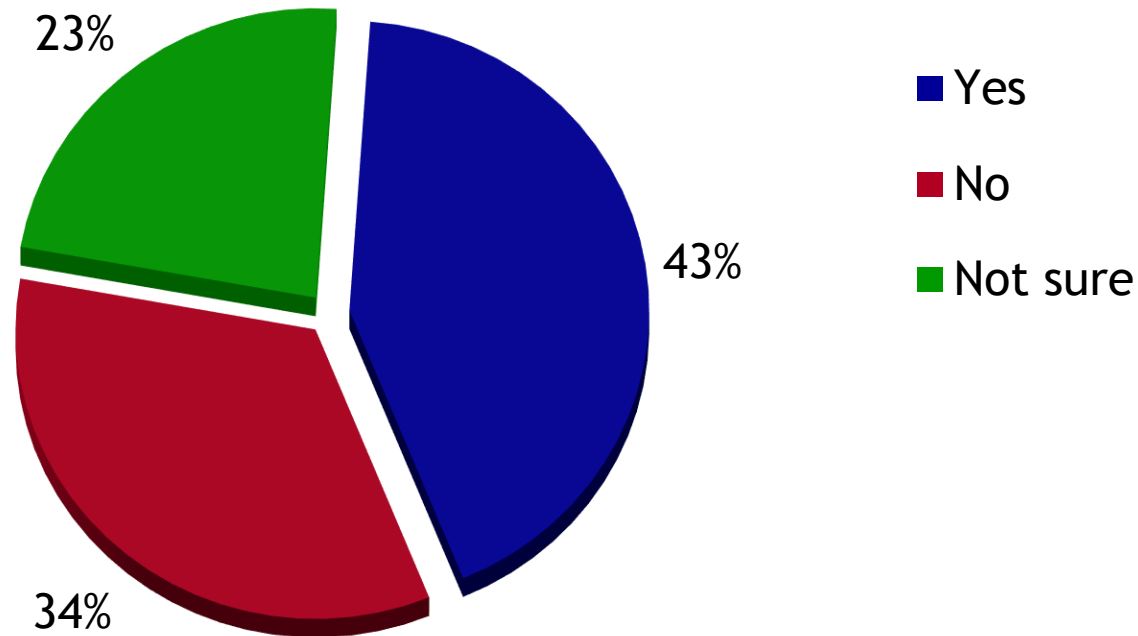
# Medical Bills, Risks, Competence of Researchers Important Factors in Clinical Trial Participation

How important would each of the following factors be in your decision to participate as a volunteer in a clinical trial? (cont'd)



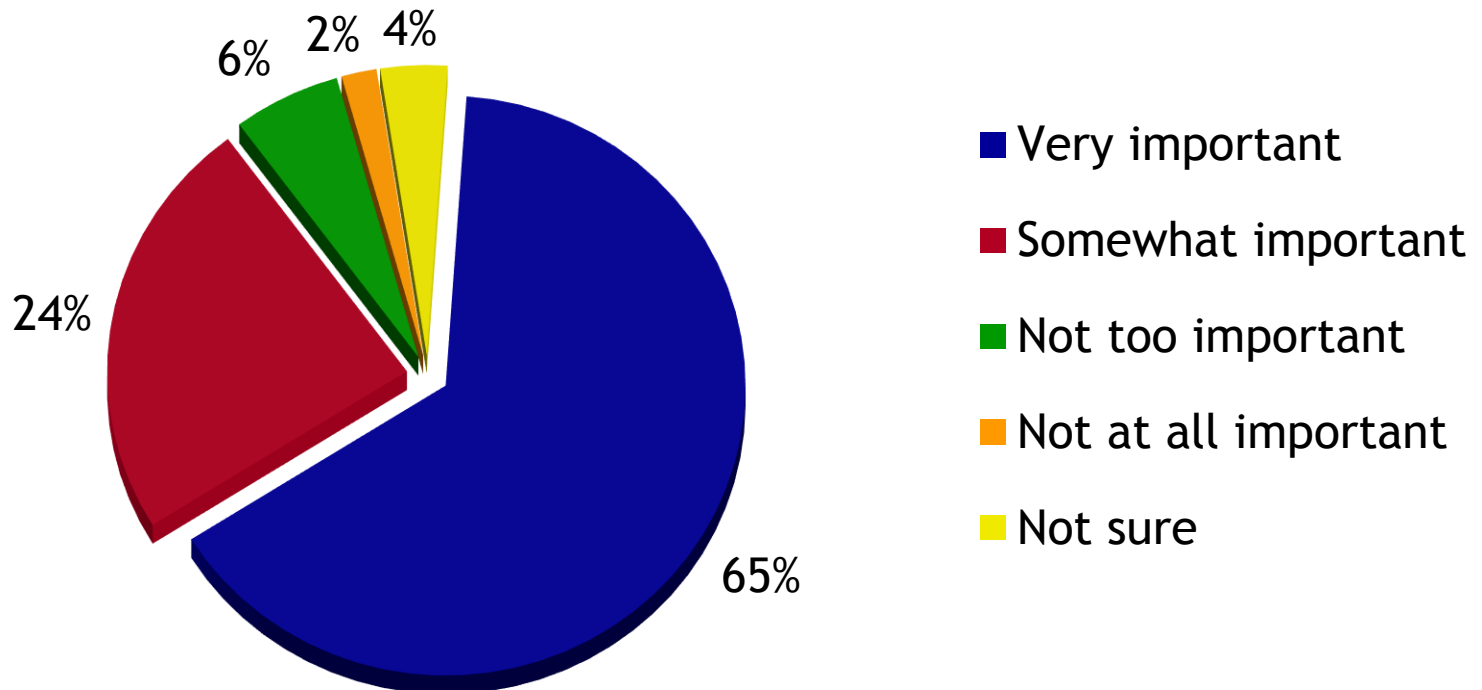
# Opinions Split on Whether Health Care Services Based on Most Recent Research

Do you believe the health care services you personally receive are based on the best and most recent research available?



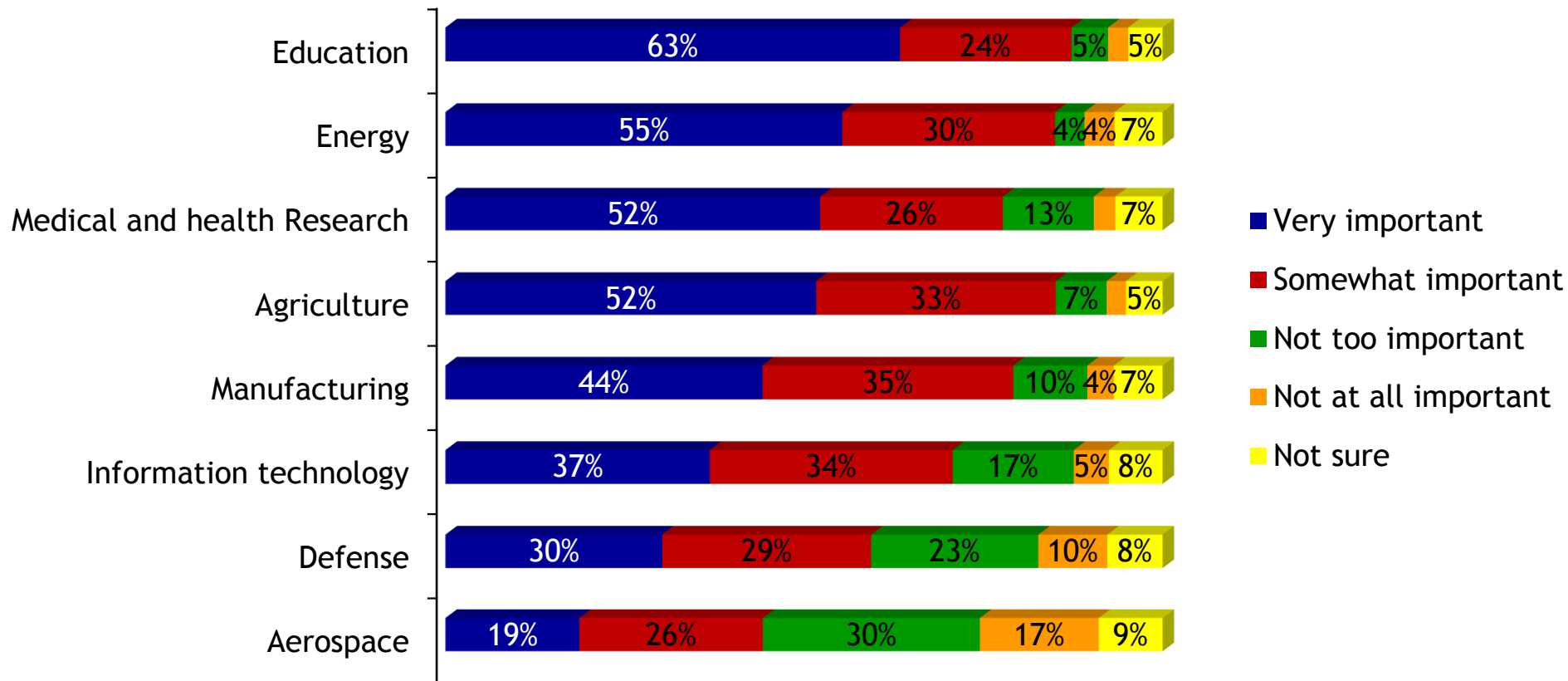
# Important for U.S. to Be a World Leader In Medical Research

How important do you think it is that the US maintain its role as a world leader in medical research?



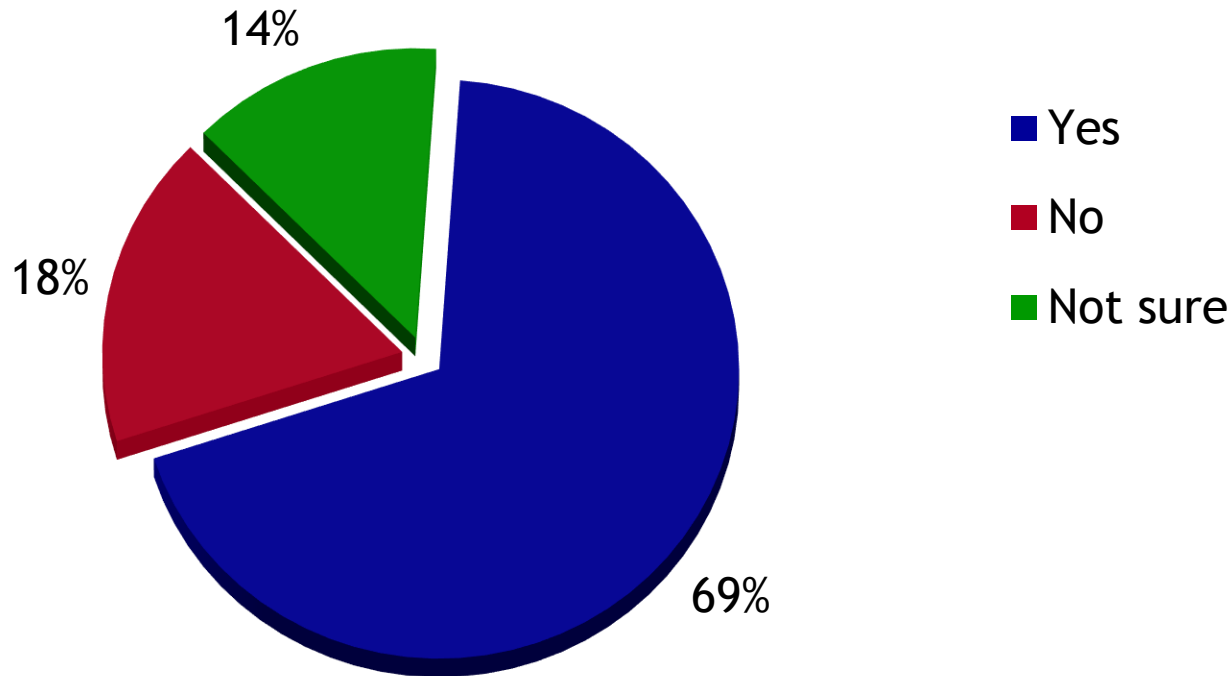
# Important for West Virginia to Be a Leader in Medical & Health Research

How important is it for West Virginia to be a leader in the following categories?



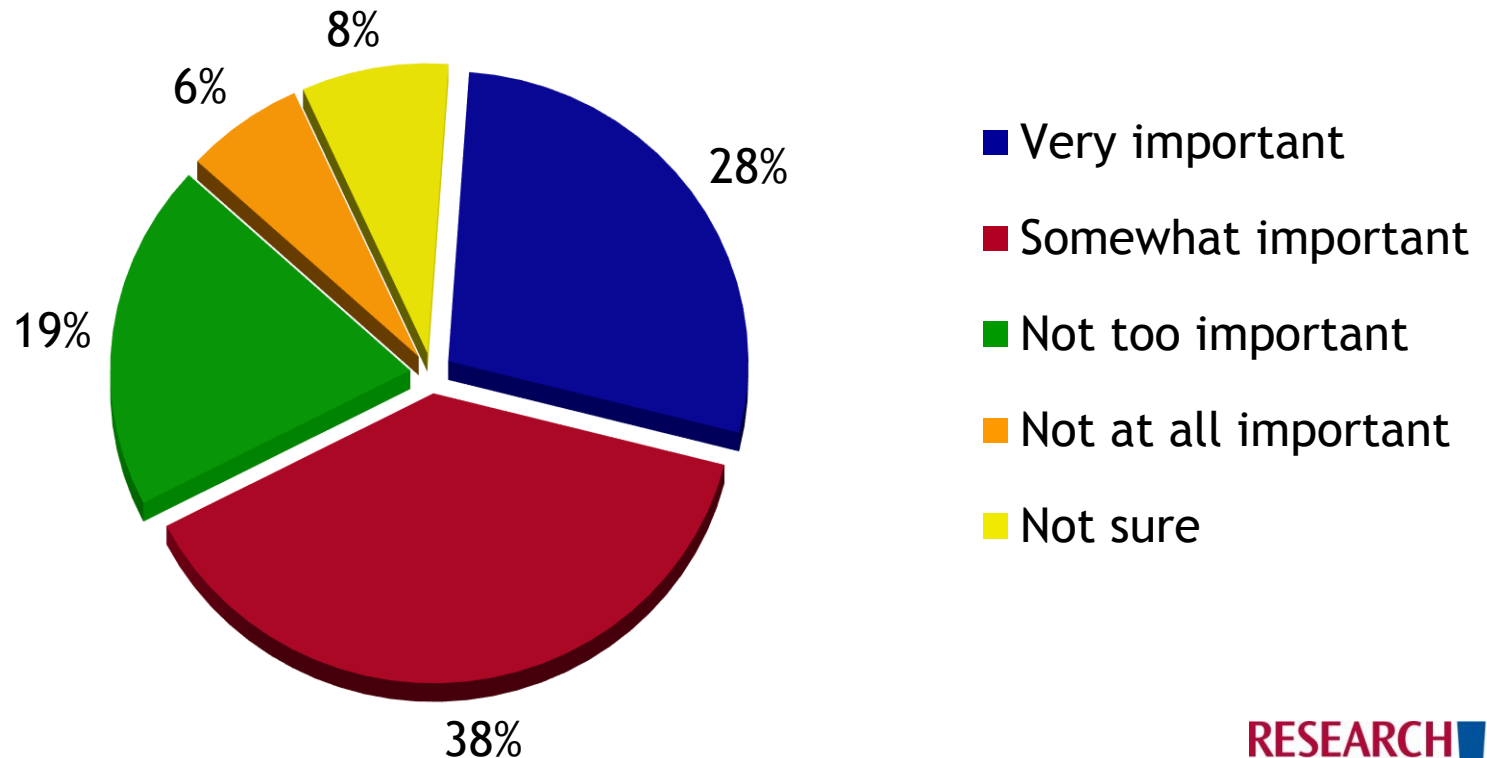
# Majority Believe U.S. Government Should Fund Behavioral Research

Some types of prevention research aims to help people make behavioral changes that can help them overcome health threats such as smoking, obesity, substance abuse, hypertension and diabetes. Do you believe the U.S. government should help fund this prevention research?



# Majority Say It's Important to Increase Funding for Social Sciences Research

Social sciences research seeks to understand aspects of human behavior and the functioning of society. It also studies topics ranging from the causes of unemployment to how and why people vote, to best ways to help people quit smoking or lose weight. How important is it to increase funding for such research?



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