



Virginians' Views on Medical and Health Research

Virginia Tech, Roanoke
April 27, 2022

Highlights from a public opinion survey conducted April 2022

Many thanks to our survey partner

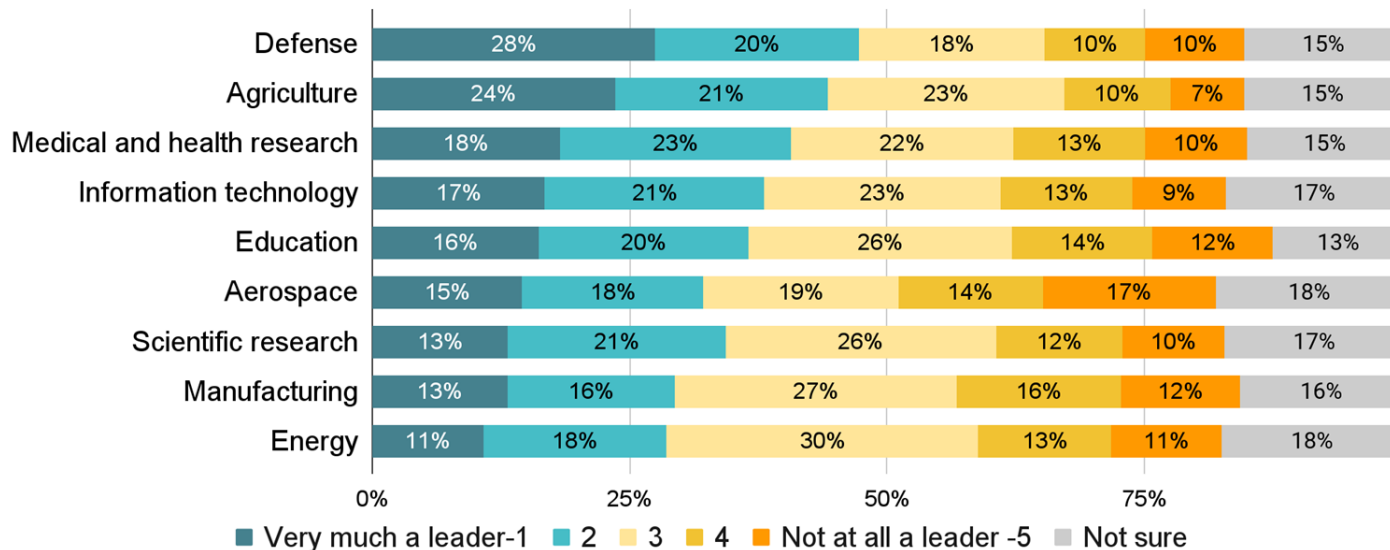


Survey Methodology

This online survey was conducted by Zogby Analytics on behalf of Research!America in March and April 2022, among 1,003 adults in the Commonwealth of Virginia. 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 using weighting techniques designed to best represent the demographics of the population being surveyed. Weighted variables may include age, race, gender, region, party, education, and religion.

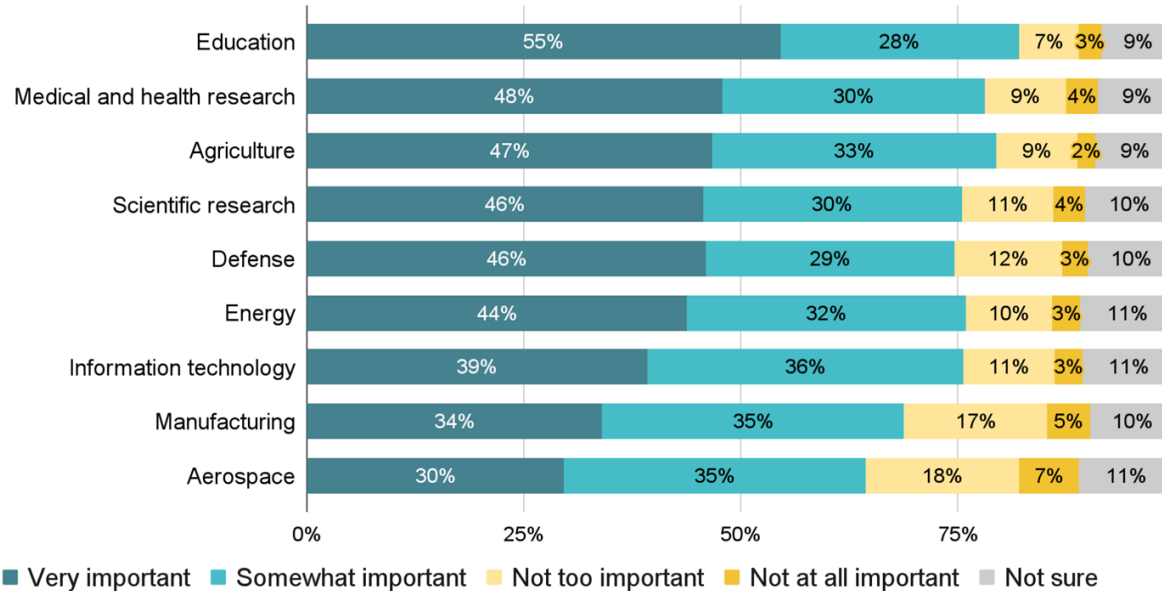
Virginians rate leadership in key sectors

Please indicate whether or not you believe Virginia is a leader in each of the following areas, using a scale of 1 to 5 where 1 is very much a leader and 5 is not at all a leader.



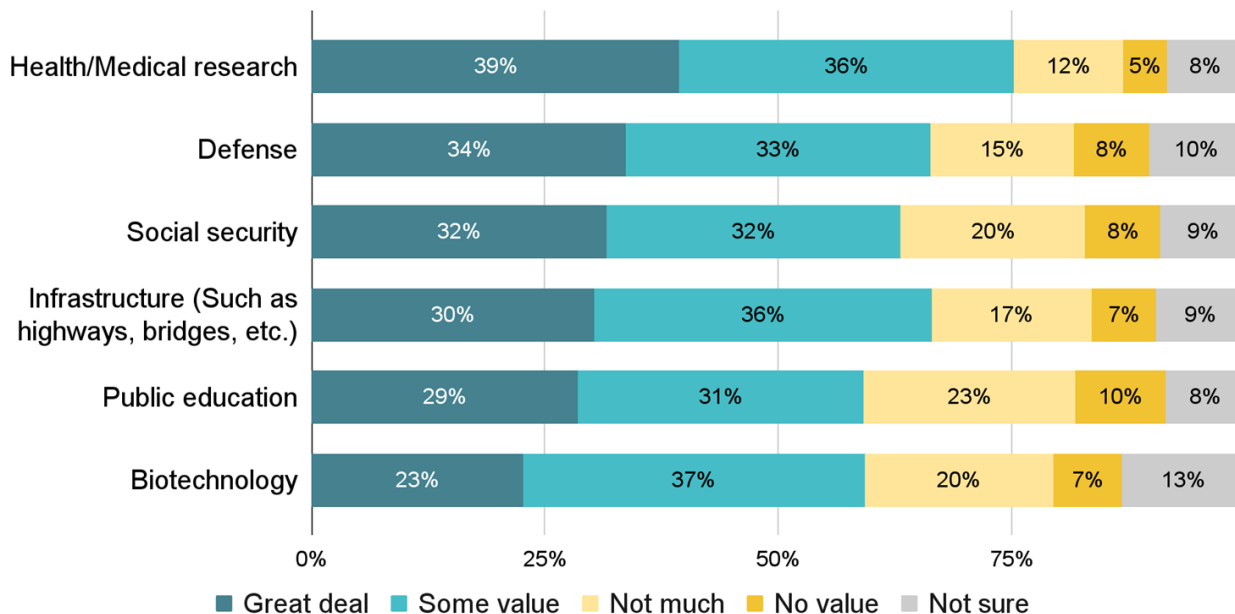
Important for Virginia to be a leader

Please indicate how important it is that Virginia be a leader in the following categories



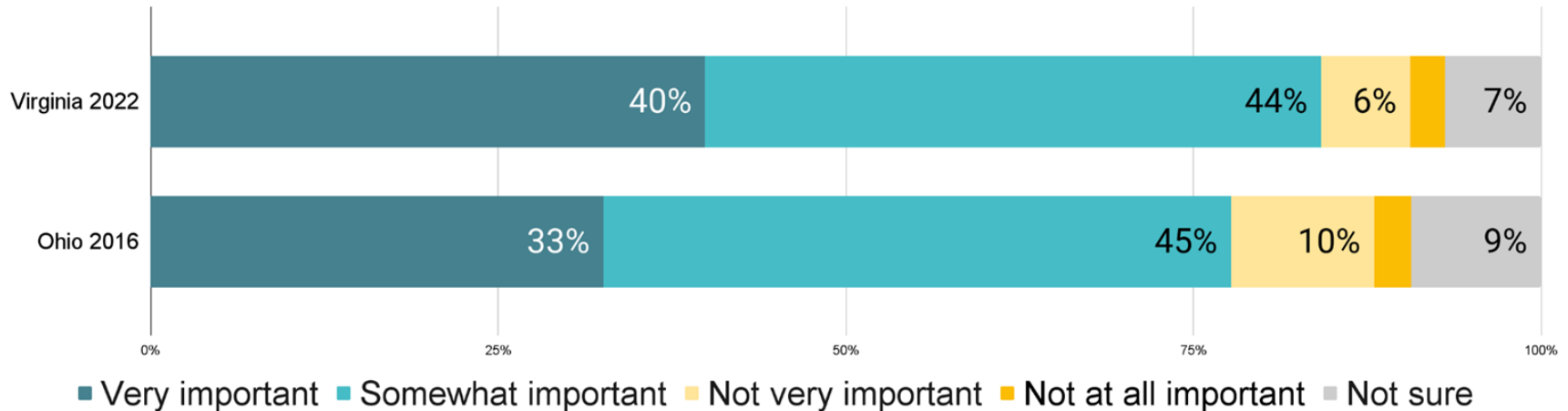
Virginians feel health research is delivering value

Please indicate how much value you feel you receive for federal dollars spent on each of the following:



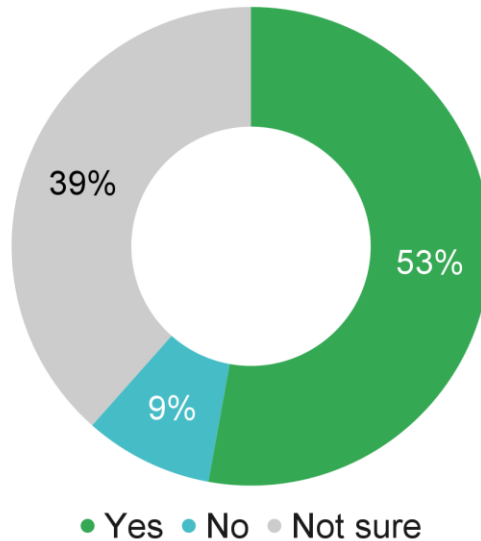
Most say investing in research is important to Virginia's economy

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



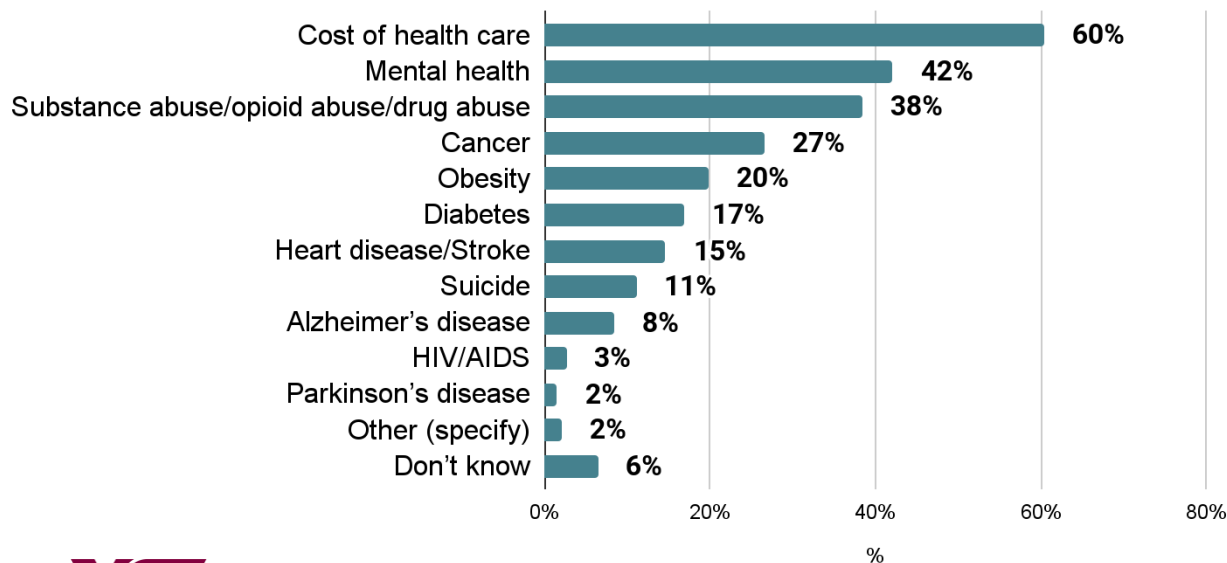
Only half aware federally funded health research is conducted in Virginia

To the best of your knowledge, would you say that medical or health research funded by the federal government is conducted in the commonwealth of Virginia?



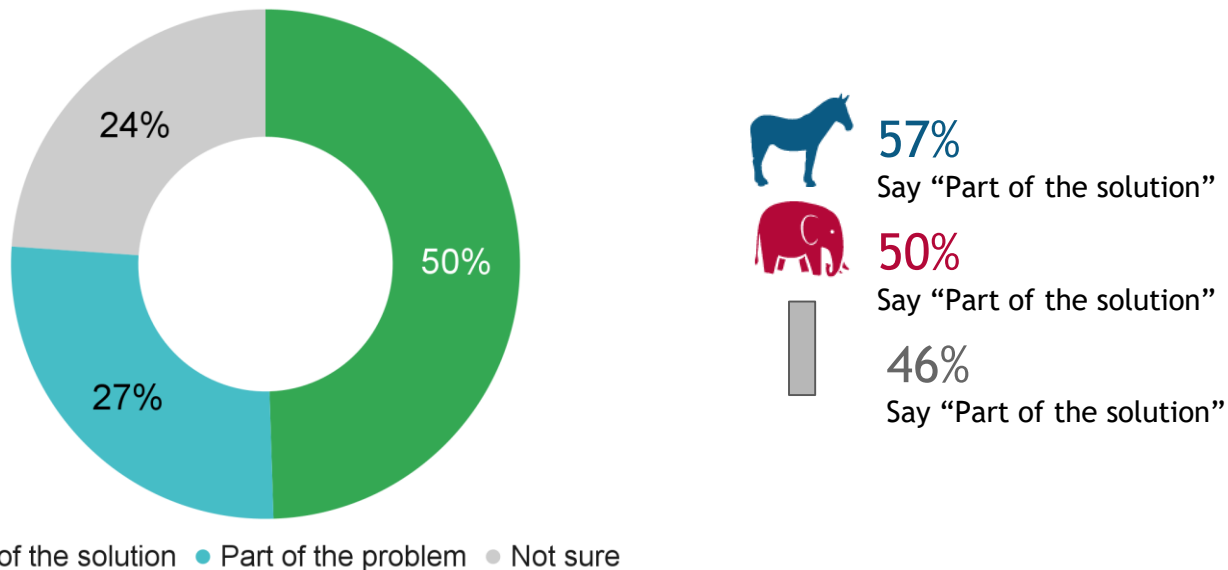
Virginians identify cost of healthcare as a top health issue

Other than COVID-19, what would you say are the most important health issues facing people in Virginia today?
(Choose top three)



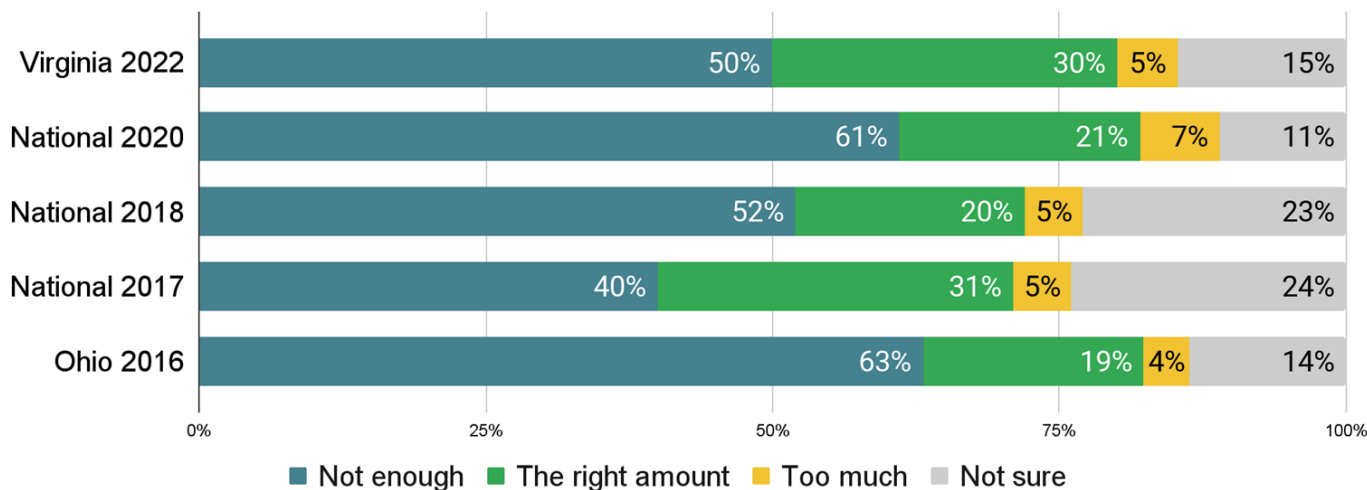
Half feel research is part of the solution to healthcare costs

When it comes to rising health care costs, would you say medical research is part of the problem or part of the solution?



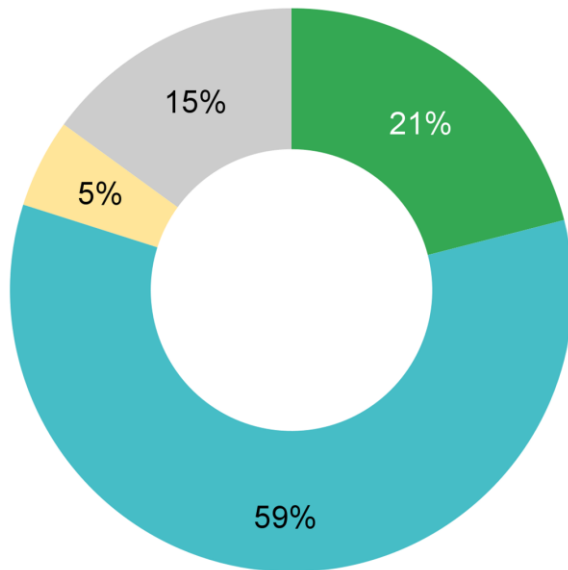
50% of Virginians say spending on health research is not enough

The U.S. spends about 6 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?



6 in 10 say mental health research investment hasn't been adequate

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



● Adequate ● Not adequate ● About right ● Don't know



68%

Say "Not adequate"



50%

Say "Not adequate"

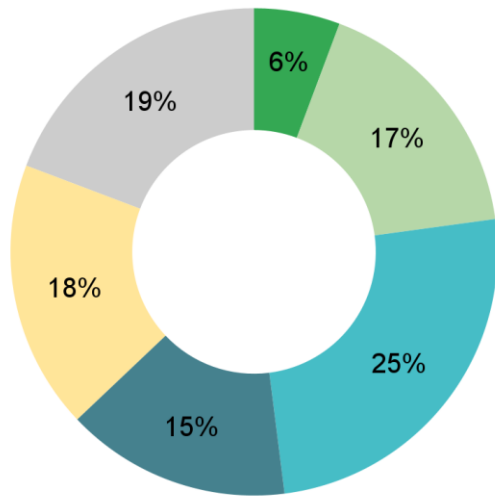


58%

Say "Not adequate"

Virginians more likely to say opioid addiction is worse than better in their community

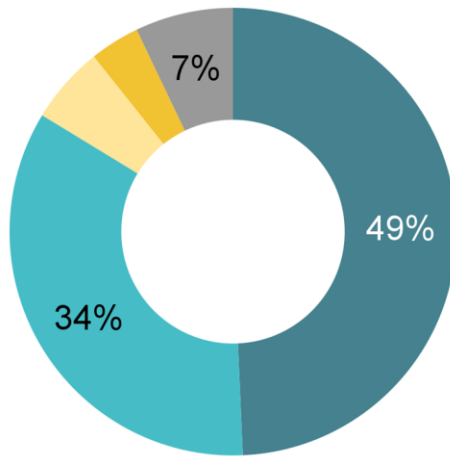
In the past year, do you think the problem of people being addicted to opioids in your local community has gotten better, gotten worse, or remained about the same?



● A lot better ● Somewhat better ● Somewhat worse ● A lot worse
● Mostly the same ● Not sure

84% of Virginians support increased funding for childhood disease research

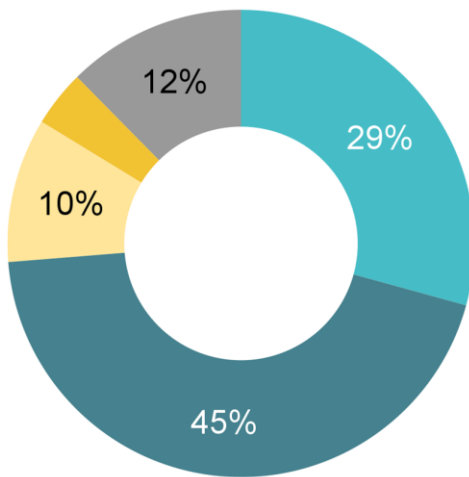
The Commonwealth of Virginia is a national leader to find better care and treatments for childhood diseases. How important is it to increase funding for researching childhood diseases?



- Very important
- Somewhat important
- Not very important
- Not at all important
- Not sure

75% of Virginians agree veterinary science is important to understanding human health

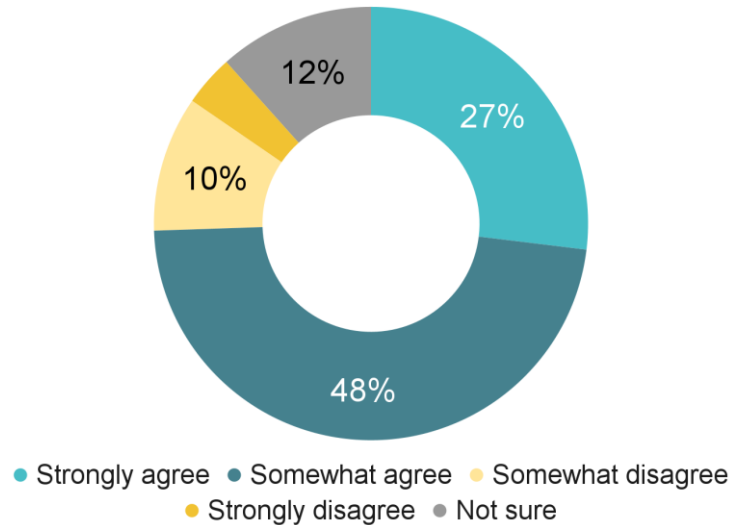
Please indicate the extent to which you agree that veterinary science is important to advancing our understanding of human health.



● Strongly agree ● Somewhat agree
● Somewhat disagree ● Strongly disagree ● Not sure

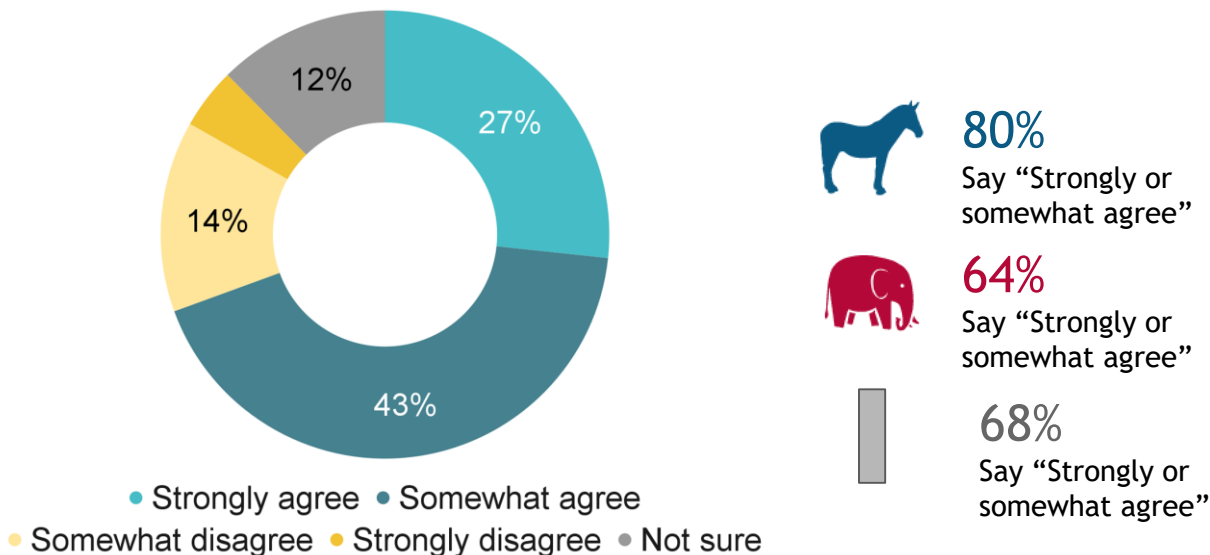
75% agree Virginia should invest in improving health research infrastructure

Other states have invested in attracting health and medical research to their state by improving research facilities, equipment, and other resources. Do you agree or disagree that Virginia (taxpayer) funds should be invested in these improvements?



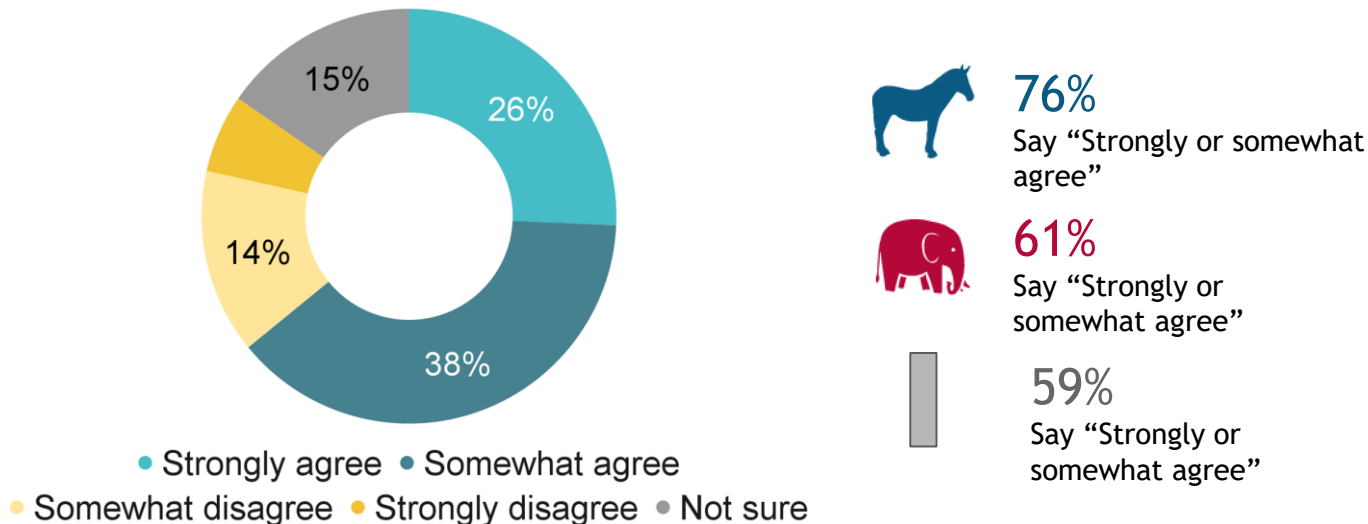
70% support investing in Virginia-based medical and health start-ups

To what extent do you agree or disagree that Virginia taxpayer funds should be invested to grow Virginia-based medical or health start-up companies?



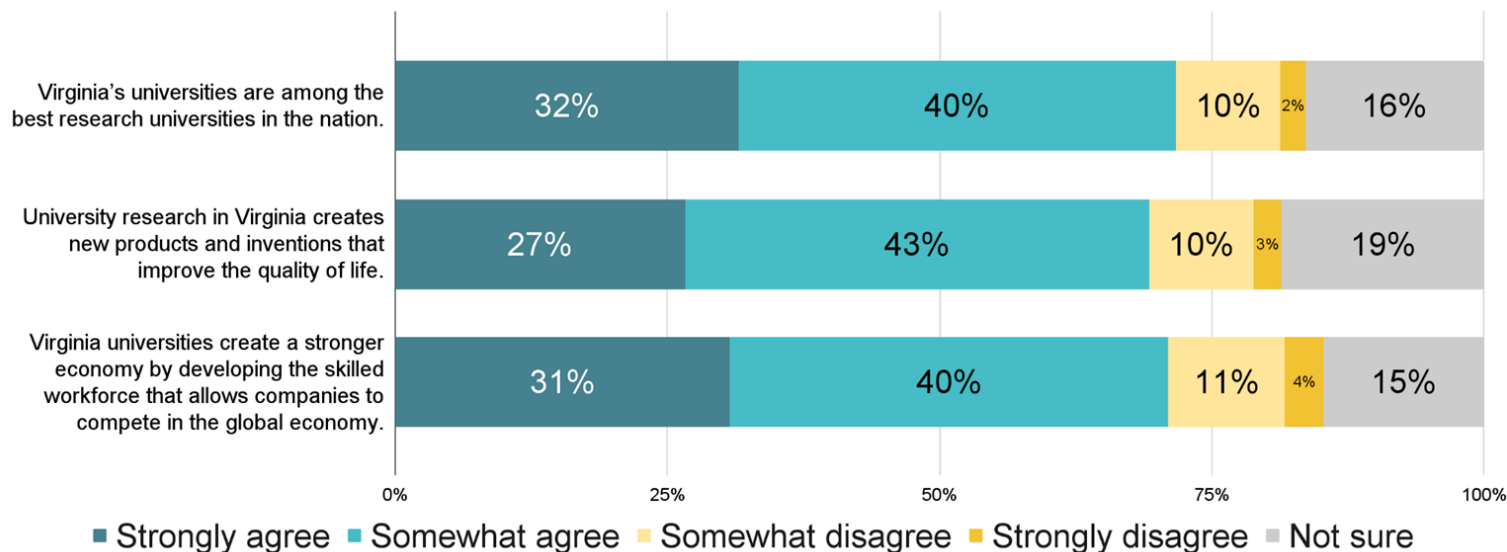
64% of Virginians agree taxpayer funds should be invested to attract health start-ups

Some states have decided to invest more in attracting start-up companies that conduct health or medical research. Do you agree or disagree that Virginia (taxpayer) funds should be invested to attract and retain these companies?



7 in 10 agree university research benefits Virginians

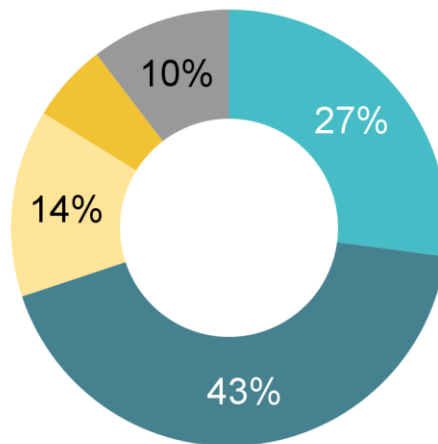
Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements:



70% agree Commonwealth of VA tax dollars should support scientific research at public universities

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

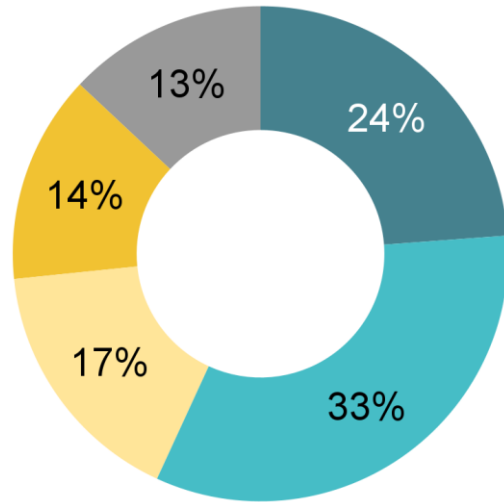
Young people ages 18-29 less likely (55%) to say “Strongly or somewhat agree”



● Strongly agree ● Somewhat agree
● Somewhat disagree ● Strongly disagree ● Not sure

Support is mixed on tax increase to support scientific research

Would you support or oppose paying \$1 more per week in taxes for more scientific research?



● Strongly support ● Somewhat support
● Somewhat oppose ● Strongly oppose ● Not sure



74%

Say "Strongly or somewhat support"



48%

Say "Strongly or somewhat support"



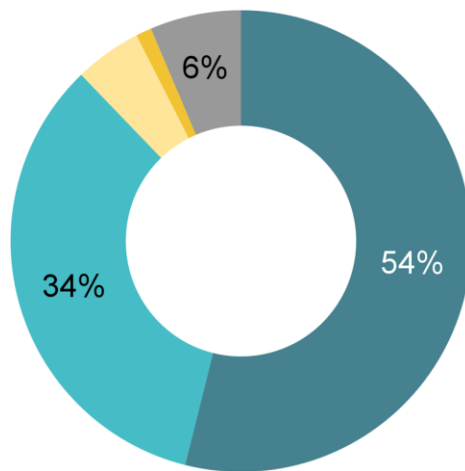
49%

Say "Strongly or somewhat support"

Most Virginians say STEM education is important to the economy

How important do you think education and training in science, technology, engineering and mathematics is to Virginia's competitiveness and our future economic prosperity?

18-29 are less likely to agree (77% say "strongly or somewhat agree")



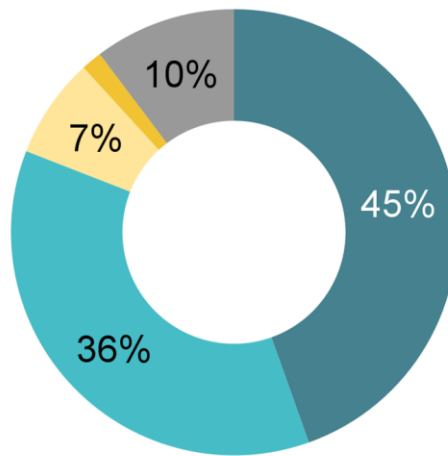
● Strongly agree ● Somewhat agree
● Somewhat disagree ● Strongly disagree ● Not sure

Source: A Research!America survey of adults in Virginia conducted in partnership with Virginia Tech and Zogby Analytics in March and April 2022.

Virginians agree prioritizing STEM education is important

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

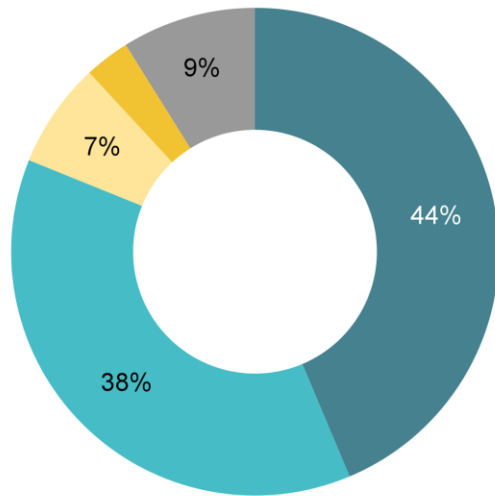
18-29 are less likely to agree (74% say "strongly or somewhat agree")



● Strongly agree ● Somewhat agree
● Somewhat disagree ● Strongly disagree ● Not sure

8 in 10 Virginians agree federal government should support 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.

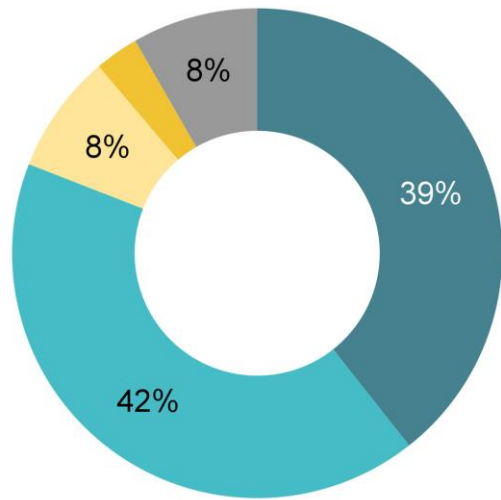


• Very important • Somewhat agree
• Somewhat disagree • Strongly disagree • Not sure

Source: A Research!America survey of adults in Virginia conducted in partnership with Virginia Tech and Zogby Analytics in March and April 2022.

Most Virginians approve of federal funding for basic research at universities

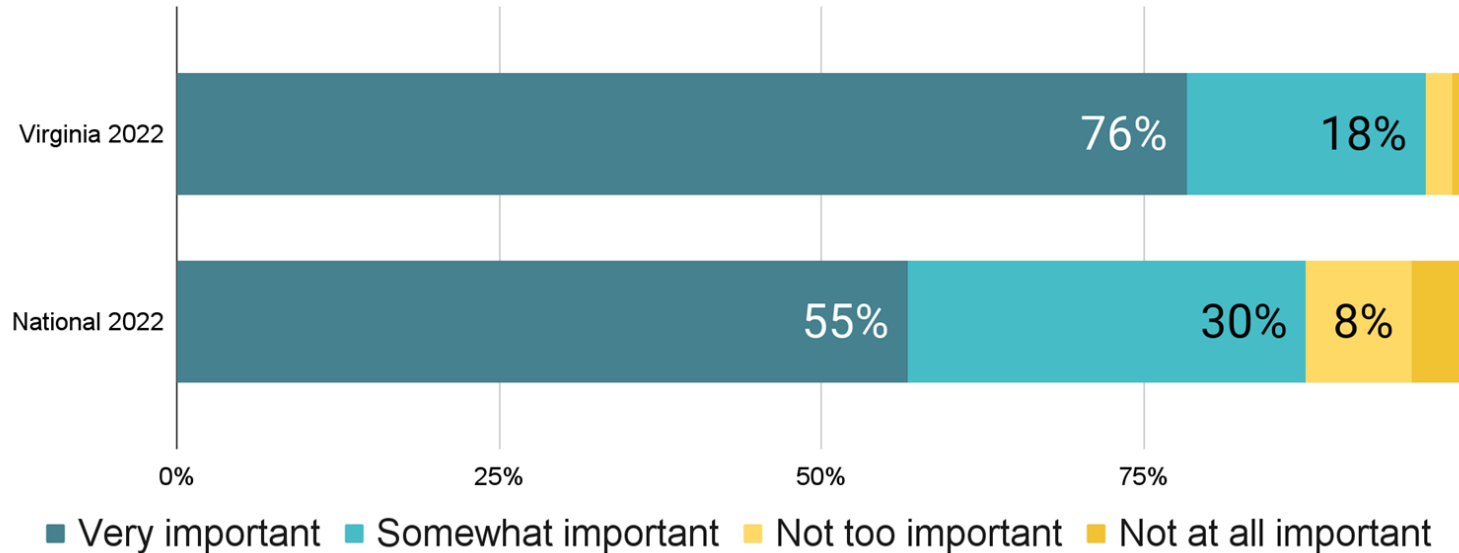
As you may know, the federal government provides public funds on a competitive basis to universities to conduct basic scientific research. Do you approve or disapprove of the federal government spending to sponsor scientific research at universities?



● Strongly approve ● Somewhat approve
● Somewhat disapprove ● Strongly disapprove ● Not sure

Virginians believe the U.S. should be a world leader in medical research

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



Survey Takeaways - Leadership for Virginia

- Virginians aspire to having the Commonwealth be a leader in education and medical and health research.
 - Investing in research is important to Virginia's economy (Jobs and incomes).
- Virginians support a number of actions to achieve that leadership.
 - Investing taxpayer funds
 - Incentivizing innovation
 - Attracting and supporting start-ups
 - Increasing funding for childhood disease research
- Virginians are very concerned about mental health, opioid addiction, and cost of health care.
 - Support is strong for research and education to address these issues and drive progress.

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