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MARY WOOLLEY
President, Research!America

At the intersection of our nation's top two domestic challenges, the economy and health reform, there is a game-changing solutionresearch. Investing in research now will yield both short-term and long-term economic gains and improve the health of Americans.

The Research!America alliance is working to make research to improve health a national priority, a goal that aligns with the sentiments of most Americans as demonstrated in this summary of recent public opinion findings.

Americans think the cost of health care can be lowered while improving quality and that research is part of the solution. When it comes to the economy, an overwhelming majority recognize the importance of research.

To facilitate the national conversation on the intertwined topics of health, research and the economy, Research!America and our partners have invited all members of the $111^{\text {th }}$ Congress to participate in Your Congress-Your Health. This constituent education initiative is designed to provide Americans with information on where their members of Congress stand on critical issues in a single, easy-tosearch online resource. Please visit www.yourcongressyourhealth.org.

Highlighted throughout this publication are public opinion findings that correspond to the Your Congress-Your Health questions we asked of members of Congress. It is clear that Americans think research is important to resolving our economic and health care challenges.

We extend special thanks to the United Health Foundation for generously supporting America Speaks every year since 2001. Research!America is proud to present our poll findings on behalf of the more than 125 million voices represented by our members.

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THROUGHOUT THIS PUBLICATION:

Not previously asked by Research!America
Indicates significant change from previous years
Corresponds to Your Congress-Your Health questions asked of Congress.
Visit www.yourcongressyourbealth.org

## Reforming Health Through Research

## Accelerating Investment in Research

 a Priority in Health ReformConsidering all aspects of health reform, how much of a priority is it to accelerate our nation's investment in research to improve health?

SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
$28 \%{ }_{\text {Atop prioity }}$
$45 \%$ High prioity
$21 \%$ somewhat of aprioity $4 \%$ Low priority
$2 \%$ Not a prioity atall

## NEW QUESTION

## Most Americans Dissatisfied with Health Care

Thinking about the country as a whole, please indicate whether you are generally satisfied or dissatisfied with health care in this country?

SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
$7{ }^{\%}$ Very satisfied
$34 \%$ somewhat satisfied $35 \%$ somewhat dissatisfied $24{ }^{\%}$ very dissatisfied

## Government Should Ensure All Americans Have Basic Coverage

Do you agree or disagree that it is the responsibility of the federal government to ensure all Americans have basic health care coverage?

SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

\(\left.\begin{array}{l}37^{\%} strongly agree <br>

34^{\%} somewhat agree\end{array}\right\}\)| Somree responses |
| :--- |
| increased |
| significantly |
| since 2007 |

$16 \%$ strongy disagee

## NEW QUESTION

## YOURCONGRESS YOURHEALTH.ORG

## Americans Think Lower Costs and Improved Quality Possible

In a recent survey, $77 \%$ of Americans said they are dissatisfied with the cost of health care in this country. As the U.S. considers health reform, do you think costs can be lowered while improving the quality of care, or not?

SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

## YOURCONGRESS YOURHEALTH.ORG

## Research is a Solution to Rising Health Care Costs

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


# 6 The principle that science should guide the way is important to health reform—knowing what works and what doesn't. 

Hon. Kathleen Sebelius | Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services

## National Commitment to Health Research Should be Higher

As we look for ways to deal with health care costs in our country, do you think that the national commitment to health-related research should be higher, lower or about the same as it is now?


SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

## NEW QUESTION

YOURCONGRESS YOUR HEALTH.ORG

## Americans Believe CER Will Improve Health Care

Comparative effectiveness research (CER) is meant to compare ways to prevent, diagnose, treat and monitor health conditions in order to match the right treatment to the right patient at the right time. What effect do you think CER will have on our health system?

$54 \%$ Comparative effectiveness research will improve health care
$16 \%$ comparative effectiveness research 1 will have no effect on health care
30 \% Comparative effectiveness research will limit health care options

## 6 Medicine is performed best when doctors and patients together make choices based on the best available information. That's what comparative effectiveness research does: it weighs the evidence to help guide your decisions and presents that information to you and your doctors in a way you can use.

Carolyn M. Clancy, MD | Director, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

## NEW QUESTION

## Important to Learn From Data in National HIT System

How important do you think it is to ensure that a nationally coordinated health information technology (HIT) system allows us to learn from the data gathered - to facilitate research, track disease and disability and evaluate the impact of health reform?


SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

## NEW QUESTION

## Americans Willing to Share Health Information to Improve System

Assuming that appropriate privacy protections were used, would you be willing to share your health information so: 1) doctors and hospitals can improve their services; 2) researchers can better study diseases and learn about the quality of health care overall; 3) public health officials can better track disease and disability and the causes?

SOURCE: National Poll, September 2008
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
6 The main shortcoming of our health care system is that it inn't designed to maximize health. ... The only way we can change this is to get an information system that will allow us to revolutionize prevention in health care.

Thomas R. Frieden, MD, MPH | Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

## Leadership, Competitiveness \& Economic Impact

## YOURCONGRESSYOURHEALTH.ORG

Americans Think Research is Important to the U.S. Economy
How important do you think research is to the U.S. economy?
SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

U.S. Should Be Global Leader in Research to Improve Health<br>How important do you think it is that the U.S. is a global leader in research to improve health?<br>SOURCE: National Poll, November 2008<br>Charlton Research Company for Research!America



## NEW QUESTION

YOUR CONGRESS YOURHEALTH.ORG

## Majority Think STEM Education is Very Important for Competitiveness

How important do you think education and training in science, technology, engineering and mathematics is to U.S. competitiveness and our future economic prosperity?


SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

## YOUR CONGRESS YOURHEALTH.ORG

## Important to Create Incentives for Careers in Health Care

Current evidence suggests that the U.S. is experiencing shortages and poor distribution of health care professionals. How important would you say it is for policy makers to create more incentives to encourage individuals to pursue careers as...

SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009 Charlton Research Company for Research!America


6 There are four words that describe the domestic agenda in this country, and those words are science, science, science and science.

Hon. Nancy Pelosi | Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives

## Investment

## U.S. is Not Spending Enough on Research

In 2007, the U.S. spent 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?

SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009

## Majority of Americans Want More Funding for Research

How many cents out of each health dollar do you think we SHOULD spend?

SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009
Charlton Research Company for Research!America



SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

## TREND CHANGE

Scientists Should Have Most Influence over Research Spending
Which one of the following do you feel should have the most influence on how government funds for research to improve health are spent?


SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
6 At such a difficult moment, there are those who say we cannot afford to invest in science. ... I fundamentally disagree. Science is more essential for our prosperity, our security, our health, our environment and our quality of life than it has ever been before.

WWith both long-term and short-term investments in basic science, the United States is poised to continue its leadership in sciencebased innovation.

Arden L. Bement Jr., PhD | Director, National Science Foundation

## Prevention, Wellness \& Public Health

Very Important to Include Prevention \& Wellness in Reform

How important do you think it is to include strategies to prevent disease and promote wellness in health reform?


SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

## Americans See Value in Preventing Disease

Which do you think is most valuable, research on how to prevent disease, or research on how to cure disease?

SOURCE: National Poll, November 2008
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

49\% Research on preventing disease
$42 \%$ Research on curing and
$7 \%$ Bothequally important
$2 \%$ Don't know

## YOURCONGRESS YOURHEALTH.ORG

## Most Believe Health Disparities Research is Important

Certain health issues are more prevalent among people with lower incomes and among certain racial and ethnic populations. How important do you feel it is to conduct research to understand and eliminate these differences?

SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009

Charlton Research Company for Research!America


## Causes of Health Disparities

When considering possible causes for health differences among minority groups, which of the following possible causes do you think has the most impact?

SOURCE: National Poll, September 2008
Charlton Research Company for Research!America


## TREND CHANGE

## Mental Health Services Should be Part of All Health Care Plans

Do you agree or disagree that mental health services should be part of all health care plans in the public and private sectors?

SOURCE: National Poll, September 2008
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

\(\left.\begin{array}{c}51^{\%} Strongly agree <br>

39{ }^{\%} Somewhat agree\end{array}\right\}\)\begin{tabular}{l}

somewhat disagree | strongly agree |
| :--- |
| responses |
| decreased while |
| somewhat agree |
| responses |
| increased |

\end{tabular}

6 For most people, it's just common sense. If we can use costeffective screenings and other up-front interventions to prevent tens of millions of occurrences of cancer, diabetes, cardiovascular disease, then we're going to slash health care costs very significantly.

Hon. Tom Harkin | United States Senate (IA)

## The Research Enterprise

## TREND CHANGE

## Competition or Cooperation in Medical Research?

Do you think the different types of institutions conducting medical research in this country, such as government, universities and private industry, work together to develop new treatments and cures, or do you think they are in competition?
$39 \%$ Work together $54 \%$ competition

Work together
responses increased while
competition
responses
decreased
SOURCE: National Poll, November 2008
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

## Americans Think Research Institutions Should Work Together

Do you think the different types of institutions conducting medical research in this country, such as government, universities and the private industry, should work together to develop new treatments and cures?


SOURCE: National Poll, November 2008
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

Good Idea for Pharmaceutical Companies to Fund Research
Pharmaceutical companies sometimes fund research conducted in conjunction with universities, hospitals and other institutions. Do you think this is a good idea, or a bad idea?
$81 \%_{\text {good itba }}$
$14 \%_{\text {Bad idea }}$
$5 \%$ oon't know

# 6 American investments in science and engineering have driven most of the innovations that underpin our economy today. ... In today's time of economic crisis, we must resist the temptation to reduce our investments in these foundations of our prosperity. 

John P. Holdren, PhD | Director, Office of Science and Technology Policy, Executive Office of the President

Clinical Research is of Great Value
One kind of research, often referred to as clinical trials, is clinical research. In this, patients choose to participate to test the safety and effectiveness of certain treatments, drugs or devices. How important is this kind of research? Would you say it is of...


SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

Few Americans Have Participated in Clinical Research

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

6 With current economic challenges, the place where we might most want to invest is science and technology. That's been the source of more than half our economic growth since World War II, and yet across the world, we are slipping in that regard. ... If we are facing all of these problems in our world and our nation, and science has a chance to offer a solution, then we ought to turn that loose.

Francis S. Collins, MD, PhD | Director, National Institutes of Health

## TREND CHANGE

Many Americans Likely to Volunteer
for Clinical Research

| Please consider your own possible participation as a volunteer in |
| :--- |
| clinical research. How likely would you be to participate in a clinical |
| research study? |

SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

## Most Say Doctors Haven't Suggested Clinical Trials

Has your doctor ever suggested that you participate in a clinical research study?

# 6 Medical science has proven time and again that when the resources are provided, great progress in the treatment, cure, and prevention of disease can occur. 

Michael J. Fox | Advocate and Actor

## Global Health Research

Majority Say U.S. Global Health Research is Important
How important would you say it is that the U.S. work to improve health globally through research?


SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

## U.S. Should Lead in Research to Improve Health Globally

How valuable do you think it is for the U.S. to be a leader in research to improve health globally?

SOURCE: National Global Health Survey, November 2008
Charlton Research Company for Research!America


## NEW QUESTION

U.S. Has Responsibility to Conduct Research
to Prevent Disease Globally
$\begin{aligned} & \text { How much responsibility, if any, does the U.S. have to conduct } \\ & \text { research that would prevent diseases that disproportionately affect } \\ & \text { poorer countries? }\end{aligned}$

SOURCE: National Global Health Survey, November 2008
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

## NEW QUESTION

Americans Better Off if U.S. Invests in Global Health Research

Do you agree or disagree that Americans will be better off if the U.S. government invests in research designed to improve health around the world?


6 Investments in medical research are not only investments in bettering global health but are also investments in America's longstanding diplomatic, economic and security interests. ... Medical research serves as a win/win for U.S. diplomatic and business interests abroad as well as for U.S. researchers at home.

Ambassador Elizabeth F. Bagley | Department of State Special Representative for Global Partnerships

## Issues Impacting Research

## YOURCONGRESS YOURHEALTH.ORG

## Americans Favor Expanding Federal Funding for ESC Research

Do you favor or oppose expanding federal funding for research using embryonic stem cells?

SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
$39 \%_{\text {Strongly favor }}$
$\mathbf{3 4} \%_{\text {Somewhat favor }}$
$12 \%_{\text {Somewhat oppose }}$
$\mathbf{1 5} \%_{\text {strongly oppose }}$

## TREND CHANGE

Many Americans Opposed to Reproductive Cloning

Reproductive cloning is the use of cloning technology to create a child. Do you think research into reproductive cloning should be allowed to go forward?

SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009
Charlton Research Company for Research!America

## TREND CHANGE

Majority of Americans Support
Therapeutic Cloning
$\begin{aligned} & \text { Therapeutic cloning is the use of cloning technology to help in the } \\ & \text { search for possible cures and treatments for diseases and disabilities. } \\ & \text { Do you think research into therapeutic cloning should be allowed to }\end{aligned}$ go forward?

SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009 Charlton Research Company for Research!America

## Animal Research is Necessary for Progress in Human Health

Do you believe the use of animals in medical research is necessary for progress in human health?

SOURCE: Your Congress-Your Health Survey, June 2009
Charlton Research Company for Research!America
6 President Obama's decision to lift the ban on federal funding for human embryonic stem cell research offers renewed hope to millions of Americans. ... It also is gratifying to those of us ... who have worked so hard over the past seven years to overturn the ban, which has hampered our scientists from making progress to the fullest extent possible in this promising field of research.

Hon. Orrin Hatch | United States Senate (UT)

Established in 2007, Your Congress-Your Health is the only constituent education initiative of its kind. Research!America and our partners launched the initiative because health is a domestic priority, impacting the economy and the lives of each and every American. It is essential for constituents to know where their representatives and senators stand on such an important issue.

Research!America and our partners have invited all members of the $111^{\text {th }}$ Congress to complete a questionnaire about research and other issues that affect our health. Your Congress-Your Health and its companion initiative Your Candidates-Your Health provide a rich database of congressional perspectives. All current and past responses submitted by members of the 111th Congress are available on www.yourcongressyourhealth.org.
During the $111^{\text {th }}$ Congress, we are building upon the groundwork that has been established:

- $35 \%$ of the 111th Congress on the record about science, health and research-related issues
- Media coverage including NPR, The New York Times, PARADE, The Baltimore Sun, The Tennessean, The Hill, Nature, The Scientist and other science trade publications
- 111 million media impressions
- A growing online social networking environment that supports science in the service of national and global solutions to our most challenging issues

Your Congress-Your Health is the only initiative with the goal to provide constituents with their congressional delegation's views on health and research in a single, easy-to-search online resource.

Visit www.yourcongressyourhealth.org.


Research!America began commissioning polls in 1992 in an effort to understand public support for medical, health and scientific research. The results of Research!America's polls have proven invaluable to our alliance of 500 member organizations and, in turn, to the fulfillment of our mission to make research a higher national priority. In response to growing usage and demand, Research!America has expanded its portfolio, which now includes state, national and issue-specific polling. Poll data is available by request or at www.researchamerica.org.

## Survey Methodology

- Telephone (random-digit dialing) polls are conducted with a sample size of $800-1000$ adults (age $18+$ ) and a maximum theoretical sampling error of $+/-3.5$ percent. Data are demographically representative of adult U.S. residents (state or national).
- Online polls are conducted with a sample size of $1000-2000$ adults and sampling error of $+/-3.1$ percent. The data is weighted in two stages to ensure accurate representation of the U.S. adult population.
- Figures for age, gender, race, education and income are weighted where necessary to bring them into line with population demographics.
- "Propensity score" weighting is also used to adjust for respondents' propensity to be online.


## Additional Resources

Research!America provides a variety of advocacy tools, including a series of interactive maps, on www.researchamerica.org.

## American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Funding Map

The U.S. Congress and President Obama made an historic $\$ 10.4$ billion reinvestment in the National Institutes of Health through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. American scientists are competing for ARRA grants that will protect and create jobs while advancing research to improve health. Communities across the country are already seeing the benefits. Visit www.researchamerica.org/arra_NIHfunding to see how the funding is distributed in each state.

## Economic Impact of Research by State Map

The local economies of each state are strengthened by health research conducted by industry, universities, medical centers and other organizations. Employment in these research-driven institutions also yields additional jobs in other sectors of the economy. Visit www.researchamerica.org/state_econ to see profiles of each state including the sources of investment in research, statistics for health-related industries and highlights from local economic impact studies.

## Research Funding by State Map

The funds disbursed to the 50 states and the District of Columbia by the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Science Foundation and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality are a vital component of the U.S. investment in health-related research. Visit www.researchamerica.org/state_funding to see how each state ranks in funding from these four federal agencies in comparison to the size of the population.

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www.researchamerica.org info@researchamerica.org

PRINTING OF RESEARCH!AMERICA'S POLL DATA SUMMARY VOLUME 10, AMERICA SPEAKS HAS BEEN GENEROUSLY UNDERWRITTEN BY:

UnitedHealth Foundation
PUBLICATION DATE: AUGUST 2009

