

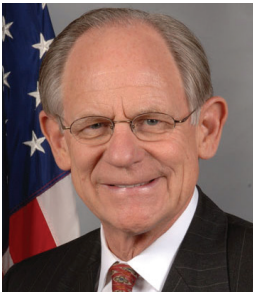
America Speaks!

POLL DATA SUMMARY • VOLUME 19

Survey data reflecting the views of
Americans on medical, health and
scientific research



MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP



The Hon. Michael N. Castle
Chair
Research!America

Research!America's mission is to advocate for science, discovery, and innovation to achieve better health for all, and this year marks the alliance's 30th year of doing just that.

We were founded during a challenging period for the research enterprise: a recession jeopardized federal research funding and policymakers appeared to be increasingly dismissing the value of science.

We began surveying the public, believing then – as we do now – that effective science advocacy begins with understanding the public's attitudes about science-relevant topics.

Over the years, the surveys we've commissioned have sometimes reinforced and sometimes confounded our assumptions (A prime example: Americans appreciate the role the federal government plays in financing noncommercial basic research, but most cannot name a single institution where research is conducted or a single living scientist who has conducted it). Surveys have surfaced plenty of policy-relevant results (e.g. enduring support for stem cell research) and trends (a recent one: declining trust in vaccine development). And fundamentally, they've empowered action (a case in point: strong and steady support for faster medical progress provided a sturdy foundation for doubling the NIH budget.)

Keeping a finger on the pulse of public opinion has not only helped us shape our public awareness and advocacy efforts, but has produced an historical record that in important ways reflects back the astounding value and impact of research. When we commissioned our first survey in 1992, most Americans cited HIV/AIDS as the biggest health concern in the US. Today, just 1% do. Public- and private-sector research has played a pivotal role in transforming HIV/AIDS from a death sentence into a manageable chronic illness.

As this summary of recent survey findings goes to print, we are once again facing significant challenges to the future of medical, health and scientific research. Scientific progress requires investment; yet, we know that our nation's growing debt and deficit will force increasingly difficult budget tradeoffs, and the challenge of rising health care costs could result in policies that inadvertently choke off the very innovation we need to stop diseases and the costs they generate. The use of science to inform sound policy is challenged in an era during which "fake news" seeds confusion and mistrust.

But as our most recent survey results affirm, Americans understand the significance of science. They want federal policymakers to invest in it and encourage the private sector to do the same. Americans know that research is a problem solver. Armed with this information, our role as advocates is to work with our members and partners to ensure federal policymakers champion science like never before, putting it to work to advance the goals and aspirations of the American people.



Mary Wooley
President and CEO
Research!America

Survey Highlights:

- **A strong majority (84%)** say the President and Congress should assign a high priority to ensuring faster medical progress.
- **A majority of 63% - an 11% increase since 2018** – say that current spending on research to prevent, treat, and cure disease is not enough.
- **Three out of four agree** that the federal government should increase its response to the threat of antibiotic resistance.
- Confidence in vaccines is waning – **70% say they believe vaccines are very important to the health of society, reflecting a 10% decrease since 2008.**
- A majority – **62% - lack confidence that America's global preeminence in science and innovation will increase** by the year 2050.

MESSAGE FROM THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



James L. Madara, MD
CEO
AMA

The American Medical Association (AMA) is pleased to once again join Research!America in releasing the latest volume in the America Speaks series. This year's edition, Poll Data Summary, Volume 19, marks Research!America's 30 years of advocacy, leadership and outreach supporting medical and scientific research to improve the nation's health and well-being.

The AMA's partnership with Research!America is a natural one given our shared commitment to improving public health, and our rich history of advocacy and engagement in achieving that goal. We are proud to be a founding member of Research!America and to be united on this common mission of improving the lives of all Americans.

This year's poll data reflects this commitment by documenting the strong public support for biomedical and health-related research today, and in the future. The summary also demonstrates widespread public concern over a full range of threats to public health, including increasing resistance to antibiotics, shrinking access to quality care, shorter life expectancies linked to the opioid epidemic and other broad health trends, and higher costs for health care and insurance coverage.

The AMA and America's physicians share the public's concern and are engaged at the state and federal levels to push for policies that would reduce or eliminate these health threats by attacking the dysfunction that permeates our health care system and contributes to so much waste, inefficiency and frustration.

The goal of Research!America – to build support for greater research into the cure, treatment and prevention of physical diseases and mental disorders – remains a key element in overcoming these threats and so many others. Our nation's dedicated researchers have made enormous advancements over the past three decades, but so much more remains to be done.

The AMA will continue to work closely with Research!America and its diverse membership of institutions, professional societies and private companies to promote medical research funding and scientific study for another 30 years, and beyond.

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“ **In this age, in this country, public sentiment is everything. With it, nothing can fail; against it, nothing can succeed.** ”

— President Abraham Lincoln, August 21, 1858 —

Look for these indications
throughout this publication:



new question
Not previously asked by
Research!America.



decreased



increased

30 YEARS OF RESEARCH, INNOVATION, AND PROGRESS



Most Important Medical Achievements of the Last 30 Years

What would you say was the single most important medical achievement of the past 30 years? *(Choose one)*

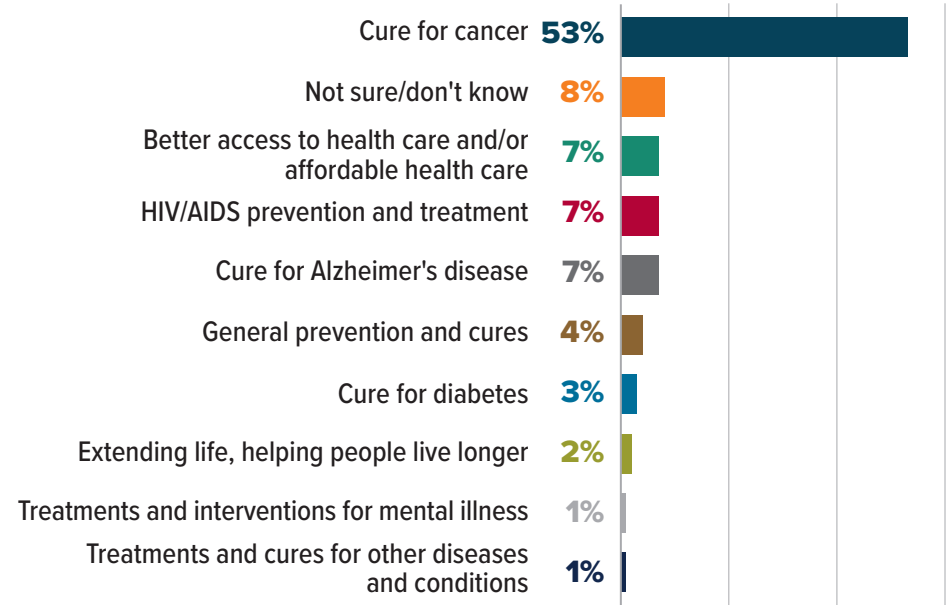
Reduction in cancer death rates	24%
Diagnostic tests to stop the spread of disease	20%
Vaccine development	17%
HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment	16%
Advances in transplantation	13%
Reduction in cardiovascular disease death rates	7%
Other (specify) (open-ended)	3%

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019



Hope for the future

What is the single most important medical achievement you hope to see by the year 2050? *(open-ended)*



Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019

“ Without research, there is no hope. ”

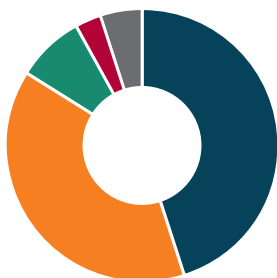
— The Honorable Paul G. Rogers (1921-2008), U.S. Representative, Florida, 1955-1979, Research!America Chair Emeritus —

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

NEW

Strong Majority Say the President and Congress Should Assign a High Priority to Faster Medical Progress

How important is it for the President and Congress to assign a high priority to ensuring faster medical progress?



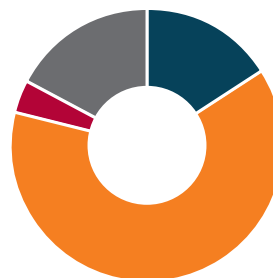
- 45%** Very important
- 39%** Somewhat important
- 8%** Not too important
- 3%** Not at all important
- 5%** Not sure

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019

Majority Say Current Spending on Research to Prevent, Cure and Treat Disease Is Not Enough

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

↑ Increase in those saying “not enough” – up 11% from 52% in 2018



- 16%** The right amount
- 63%** Not enough
- 4%** Too much
- 17%** Not sure

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019

“ **If you think research is expensive, try disease.** ”
 — Mary Lasker (1901-1994), health activist and philanthropist, Founder, the Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation —



Majority Support More Investment in Medical Research, Despite Deficit

Which statement comes closer to your views?

Statement A: While we need to reduce the deficit, our nation should invest more in medical research.

Statement B: Since we need to reduce the deficit, the government should not invest more in medical research.



61% Statement A
20% Statement B
18% Not sure

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019

Half of Americans Willing to Pay Additional Taxes to Support Medical Research

Would you be willing to pay \$1 per week more in taxes if you were certain that all of the money would be spent on additional medical research?

10% increase in “yes” since 2015



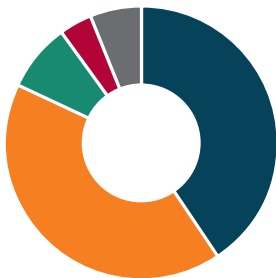
53% Yes
25% No
22% Not sure

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019



Strong Majority Support Prioritizing Science, Technology & Engineering to Strengthen American Infrastructure

How important is it for the President and Congress to assign a high priority to putting science, technology and engineering to work to strengthen our nation's infrastructure?

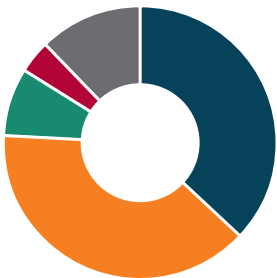


- 41% Very important
- 42% Somewhat important
- 8% Not too important
- 4% Not at all important
- 6% Not sure

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019

Majority Support Federal Incentives for Private Investment in New Treatments & Cures

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



- 37% Very important
- 39% Somewhat important
- 8% Not too important
- 4% Not at all important
- 12% Not sure

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019

“ There is literally no better time in the history of this planet or any better place on earth to be **engaging the quest for scientific knowledge and understanding** than right here, right now, in America. ”

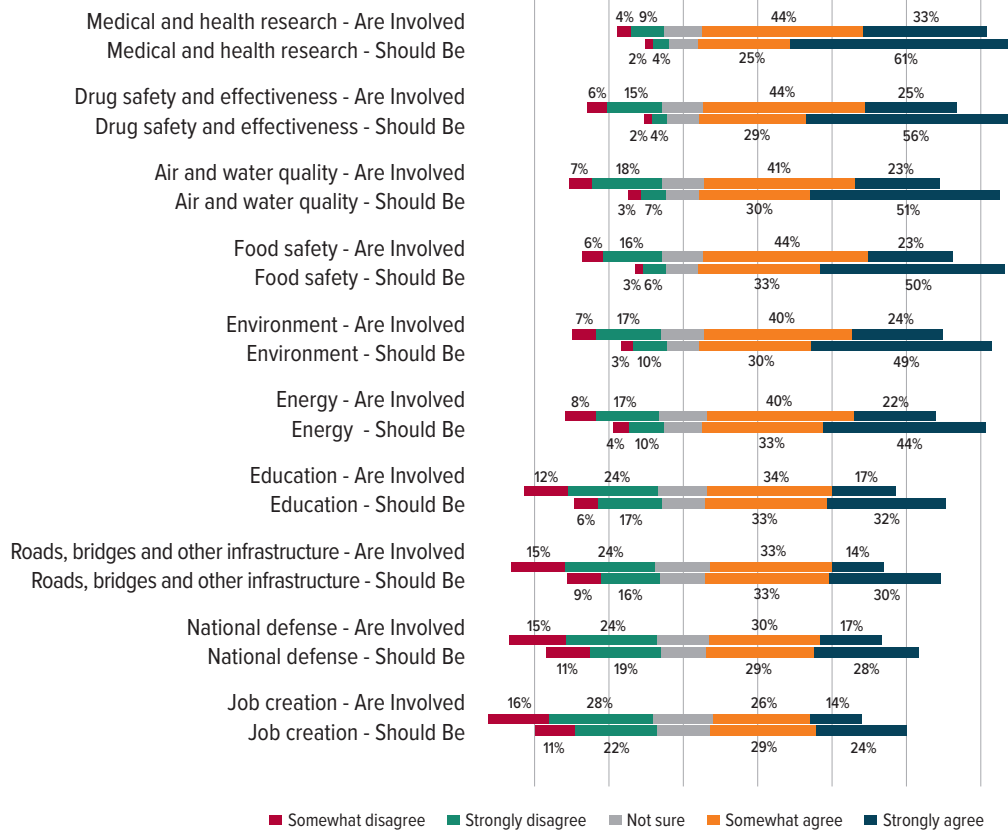
— Kelvin Droegemeier, PhD, Director, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy —

SCIENCE IN PUBLIC POLICY

Support for Role of Scientists in Shaping Public Policy

To the best of your knowledge, do you agree or disagree that scientists ARE playing a major role in shaping policy...

AND Do you agree or disagree that scientists SHOULD play a major role in shaping policy for each of the following:



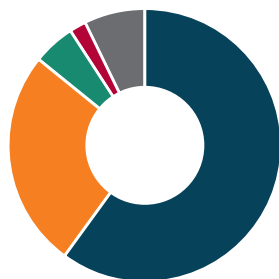
Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019

“ You can change the image of things to come but you cannot do it sitting on your hands, you have to reach out to the Congress and build bridges. ”

— John Edward Porter, U.S. Representative, Illinois, 1980-2001, Chair Emeritus, Research!America —

Important for Scientists to Engage with Public on Research

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

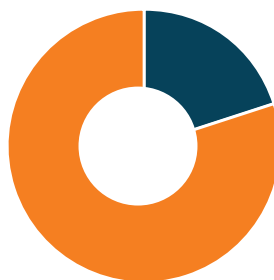


- 60%** Very important
- 26%** Somewhat important
- 5%** Not too important
- 2%** Not at all important
- 7%** Not sure

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in July 2017.

Most Americans Cannot Name a Living Scientist

Can you name a living scientist?



- 20%** Yes, I can name
- Neil deGrasse Tyson **(30%)**
 - Bill Nye **(9%)**
 - James Watson **(9%)**
 - Jane Goodall **(9%)**
 - Stephen Hawking **(4%)***
 - Alan Guth **(3%)**
 - Michio Kaku **(3%)**
 - Richard Dawkins **(3%)**
 - Tim Berners-Lee **(3%)**
 - Elon Musk **(2%)**
 - Noam Chomsky **(2%)**

* deceased

- 80%** No/Not sure

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019.

Most Americans Don't Know Research is Conducted in All 50 States

To the best of your knowledge, would you say that medical research in the U.S. is conducted in all 50 states?



- 27%** Yes
- 32%** No
- 41%** Not sure

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019

“ **When it comes to government-funded research, we are accountable to the public — to the taxpayers who provide the funds and to the lawmakers who appropriate those funds. It is our responsibility to actively engage with and communicate frequently to both about the value and impact of basic research.** ”

— France A. Córdova, PhD, Director, National Science Foundation —

4 out 5 Agree Basic Research is Critical

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.

↑ 16% increase in strong agreement since 2017



- 40% Strongly agree
- 40% Somewhat agree
- 6% Somewhat disagree
- 3% Strongly disagree
- 10% Don't know

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019

Most Americans Don't Believe the U.S. Has the Best Health Care System in the World

Do you believe the United States has the best health care system in the world?

↓ "Yes" has decreased 10% since 2011.

↑ "No" has increased 8% since 2011.



- 21% Yes
- 61% No
- 18% Not sure

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019

GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

NEW

U.S. Global Standing in Science and Innovation in 2050: Public Confidence Lacking

Which statement comes closer to your views?

Statement A: America’s global preeminence in science and innovation will strengthen by the year 2050.

Statement B: America’s global preeminence in science and innovation will weaken by the year 2050



38% Statement A
28% Statement B
12% Neither of the above
22% Not sure

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019

NEW

Many Unsure Which Nation Will Be the World Leader in Health Care in 2050

In your view, which of the following nations will be considered the number one world leader in health care in the year 2050? (Choose one)

NOT SURE 27%
UNITED STATES 27%
CANADA 16%

JAPAN 7%
CHINA 6%
OTHER 5%
GERMANY 5%
UNITED KINGDOM 4%
FRANCE 2%
SOUTH KOREA 0.9%
RUSSIA 0.2%

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019

“ **The U.S. biomedical enterprise sets the standard for discovery and innovation excellence for the rest of the world.** ”

— Francis Collins, MD, PhD, Director, NIH —

OVERCOMING CHALLENGES

Two Thirds Concerned Life Expectancy Will Continue to Decline

For the third year in a row, the average life expectancy in the U.S. has declined. The average life expectancy is now 78. The average life expectancy in other industrialized nations is higher. How concerned are you that life expectancy in the U.S. will continue to decline?

↑ 6% increase in total concerned – up from 61% in 2018

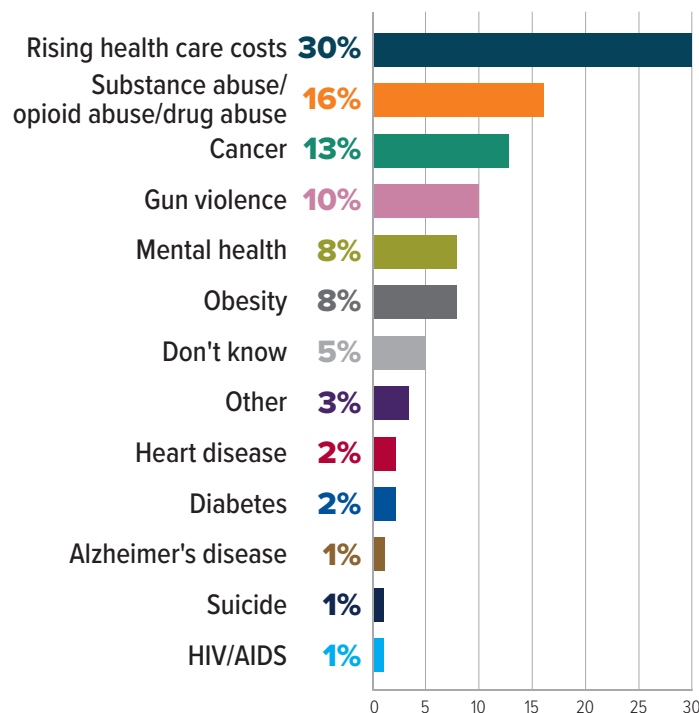


31% Very concerned
36% Somewhat concerned
19% Not too concerned
9% Not at all concerned
5% Not sure

Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019

Rising Health Care Costs Are Top Health Concern

What is the single most important health issue facing America?
 (Choose one)



Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019

“What’s clear is that **our nation’s healthcare landscape remains in flux**. We have entered a new digital age and there is growing emphasis on moving from volume to value.”

— Gopal Khanna, Director, AHRQ —

Overwhelming Agreement: Infectious Diseases Pose Threat to the U.S.

In general, to what extent do you think infectious and emerging diseases facing other countries will pose a threat to the U.S. in the next few years?

↑ 7% increase in those saying “major threat” since 2008.



- 46% Will pose a major threat to the U.S.
- 49% Will pose a minor threat to the U.S.
- 4% Will not pose a threat to the U.S.

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in May 2018.



Shaky Confidence in U.S. Government Capacity to Prevent Infectious Disease Outbreak

How confident are you that the federal government can prevent a major infectious disease outbreak in the U.S.?



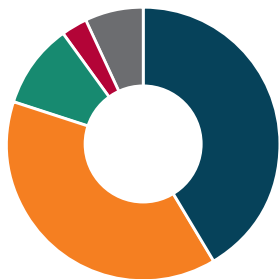
- 14% Very confident
- 47% Somewhat confident
- 26% Not too confident
- 10% Not at all confident
- 3% Don't know/Refused

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in May 2018.

NEW

Over 80% Concerned About Impact of Antibiotic Resistance

How concerned are you that antibiotic resistance will make more infections difficult or impossible to treat and even deadly?



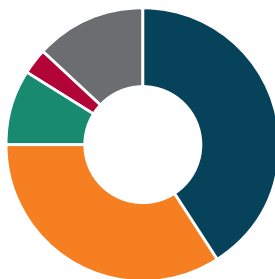
- 42%** Very concerned
- 39%** Somewhat concerned
- 10%** Not too concerned
- 3%** Not at all concerned
- 7%** Don't know/Not sure

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in October 2018.

NEW

3 out of 4 Agree: Federal Government Should Increase Response to Antibiotic Resistance

Do you agree or disagree: The federal government should increase funding for research and public health initiatives to address antibiotic resistance



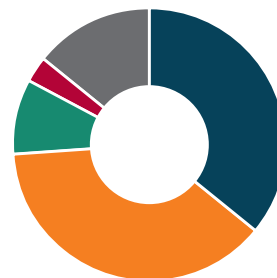
- 41%** Strongly agree
- 34%** Somewhat agree
- 9%** Somewhat disagree
- 3%** Strongly disagree
- 13%** Don't know/Not sure

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in October 2018.

NEW

Three Quarters Agree: Federal Government Should Incentivize Private Sector Investment in New Antibiotics

Do you agree or disagree: The federal government should provide incentives to encourage increased private sector investment in the development of new antibiotics



- 36%** Strongly agree
- 38%** Somewhat agree
- 9%** Somewhat disagree
- 3%** Strongly disagree
- 14%** Don't know/Not sure

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in October 2018.

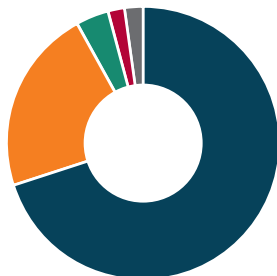
“ **We are seeing resistance to life-saving antibiotics, and scientists worldwide are uncovering new types of resistance.** Our shared commitment to confront this threat is critical to all American communities and companies, protecting our progress in healthcare outcomes, food production and even life expectancy. ”

— Robert Redfield, MD, Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention —

Strength of Belief in Importance of Vaccines Declining

Thinking about the common vaccines available today such as polio, tetanus, measles, and flu, how important do you believe vaccines are to the health of our society today?

↓ Decrease in those who say “very important” – down 10% since 2008



70% Very important
22% Somewhat important
4% Not too important
2% Not at all important
2% Don't know/Refused

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in May 2018.

Strength of Belief in Benefits of Vaccines Declining

Do you believe that you have personally benefited from the development of vaccines over the last 50 years?

↓ Decrease in those who say “strongly, yes” – down 16% since 2008



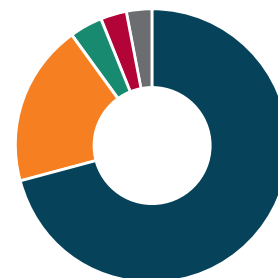
59% Strongly, Yes
28% Somewhat, Yes
4% Somewhat, No
5% Strongly, No
5% Don't know/Refused

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in May 2018.

Decline in Belief of Importance of Child Vaccination

How important do you believe it is for parents to have their children vaccinated?

↓ Decrease in those saying “very important” – down 11% since 2008



71% Very important
19% Somewhat important
4% Not too important
3% Not at all important
3% Don't know/Refused

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in May 2018.

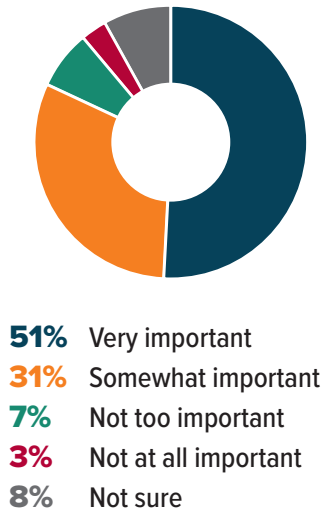
“ As we continue to invest in the future of manufacturing and vaccine technology, we also need to remember the importance of simply **ensuring that more people are vaccinated with available vaccines** each flu season. ”

— Scott Gottlieb, MD, Commissioner, FDA —

Increasing Support for Research into Health Disparities

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

↑ Those who say “important” has increased 2 years in a row. Up from 73% in 2017. Now 82%



Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019

Strong Majority Feel it is Important for the U.S. to Invest in the Prevention of Suicide

How important is it for the U.S. to invest public dollars in the prevention of suicide?

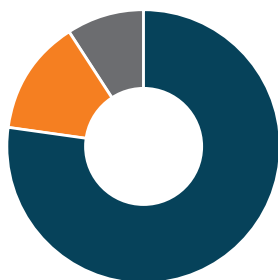


Source: A Research!America poll of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019

NEW

Strong Majority View Child Abuse as Public Health Problem in U.S.

Do you view child abuse and neglect as a public health problem in the United States?



78% Yes
14% No
9% Don't know/Refused

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in June 2018.

NEW

Very Important to Increase Federal Funding For Research on Child Abuse

How important is it to increase federal funding for research on child abuse and neglect?



53% Very important
29% Somewhat important
5% Not too important
4% Not at all important
9% Don't know

Source: A Research!America survey of U.S. adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in June 2018.

“ Our goal is first, **to change the conversation in this country around abuse** as just a social and legal issue to a health- mental health and public health- issue, and then try to accelerate the research, training, prevention, and advocacy. ”

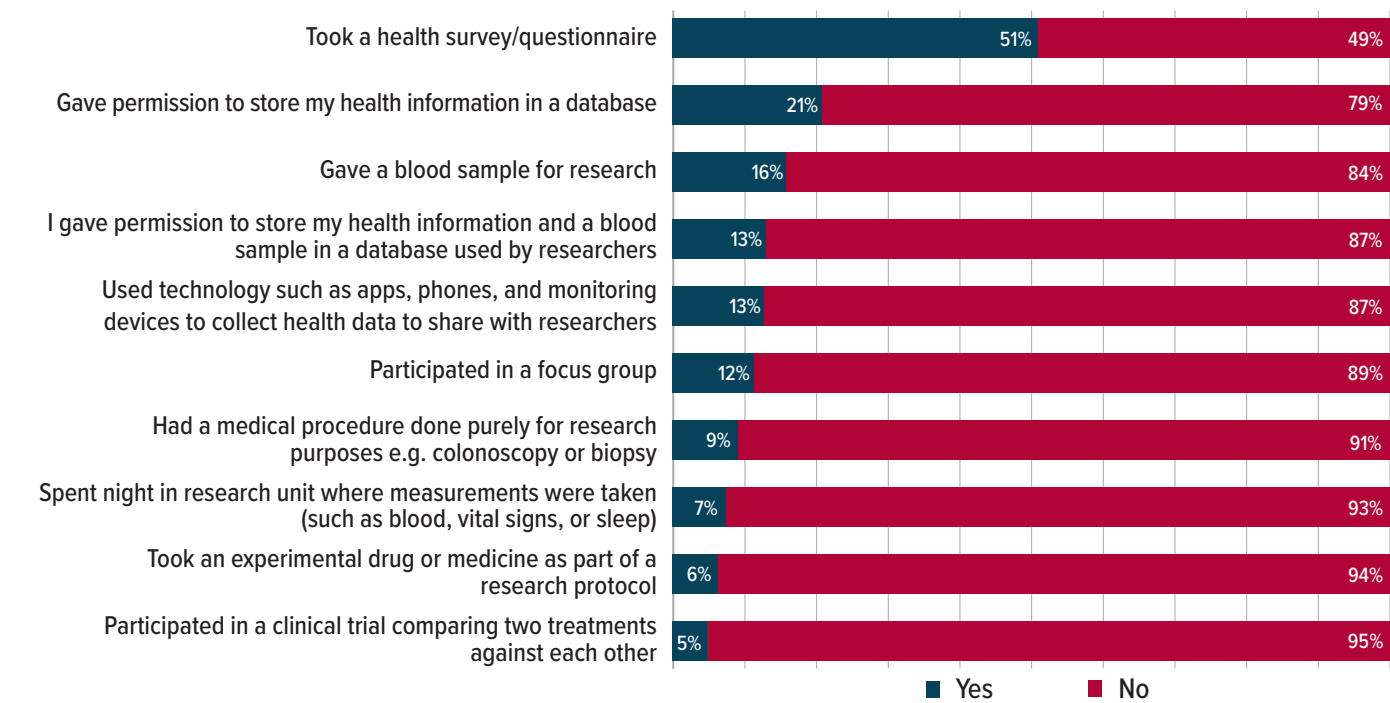
— Richard Krugman, National Foundation to End Child Abuse and Neglect (EndCAN) —

CHICAGO FOCUS: PARTICIPATION IN HEALTH RESEARCH

NEW

Participation Rates in Health Research Vary

Have you ever participated in any kind of health research? Please select yes or no for each:



Source: A Research!America poll of Chicago-area adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019

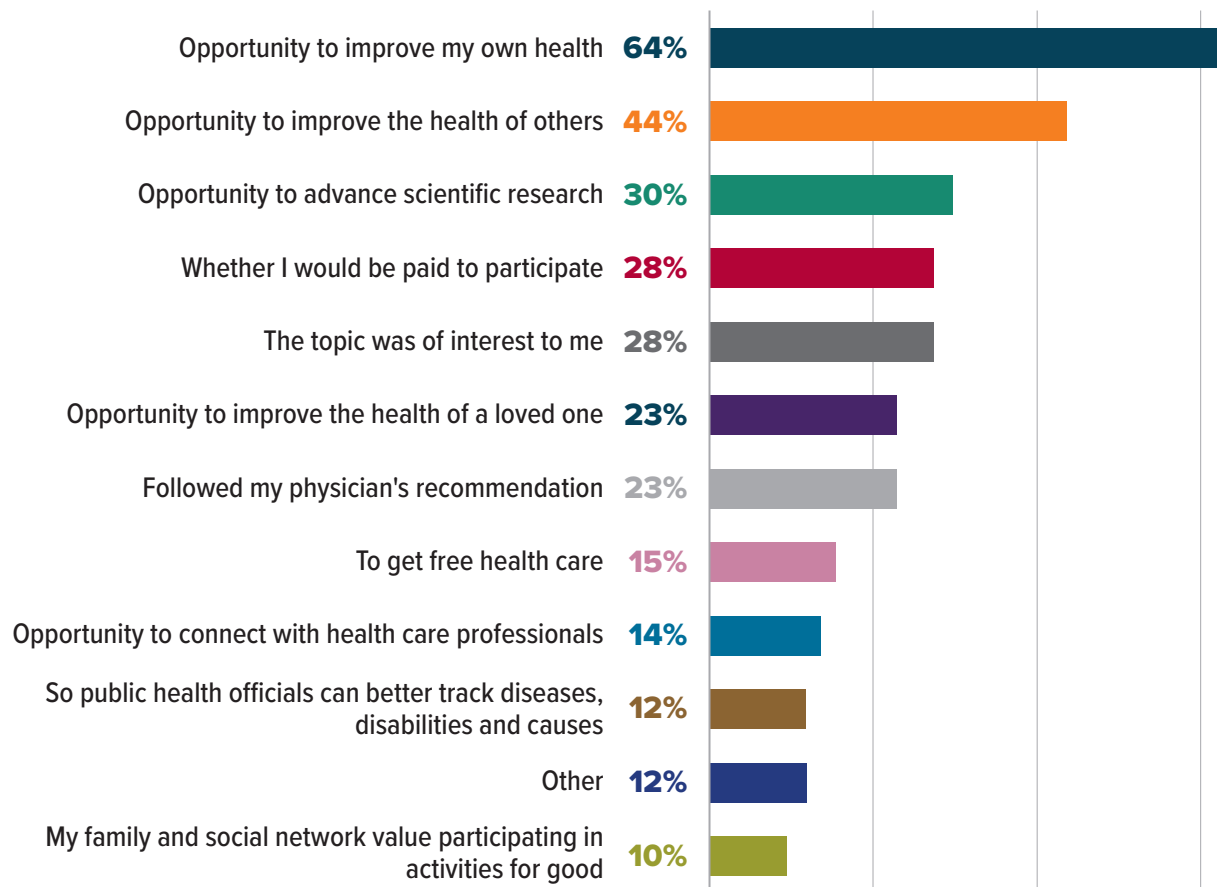
“From finding new cures to finding ways to stay healthier in the first place, we all benefit from health research. But right now it takes far too long for that benefit to be realized. If more people participate in health research, we can speed the innovation pipeline.”

— Julian Solway, MD, Founding Director of the Institute for Translational Medicine (ITM) and Dean for Translational Medicine at the University of Chicago —

NEW

Variety of Factors Motivates Chicago-area Public to Participate in Health Research

If yes, what motivated you to participate in the health research? Select the top three.

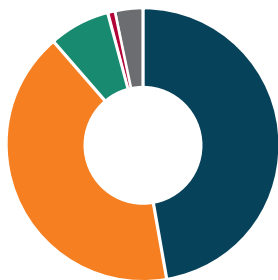


Source: A Research!America poll of Chicago-area adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019

NEW

Strong Majority in Chicago Agree that Health Care Professionals Should Discuss Research with Patients

Do you agree or disagree that health care professionals should discuss recent research with patients as part of their routine care?



- 46% Strongly agree
- 40% Somewhat agree
- 7% Somewhat disagree
- 1% Strongly disagree
- 3% Don't know

Source: A Research!America poll of Chicago adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019

NEW

Plurality Agree it is Important for Everyone to Take Part in Health Research

Please indicate if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements: It is important for everyone to take part in health research



- 20% Strongly agree
- 37% Somewhat agree
- 27% Somewhat disagree
- 7% Strongly disagree
- 9% Not sure

Source: A Research!America poll of Chicago-area adults conducted in partnership with Zogby Analytics in January 2019

METHODOLOGY

- Online surveys are conducted with an approximate sample size of 800-1000+ adults (ages 18 and up) and a maximum theoretical sampling error of +/- 3.5%.
- Data are demographically representative of adult U.S. residents.
- Survey data in this publication was conducted by Zogby Analytics.
- Due to rounding, the total may not add to 100% on some charts.

Research!America began commissioning polls in 1992 in an effort to understand public attitudes toward medical, health and scientific research. The results of Research!America's polls have proven invaluable to our alliance of member organizations and, in turn, to the fulfillment of our mission to advocate for science, discovery, and innovation to achieve better health for all. In response to growing usage and demand, Research!America has expanded its portfolio, which includes state, national and issue-specific polling.

Poll data is available by request or at www.researchamerica.org.

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