January National Survey

January 2023

Results from a public opinion survey commissioned in January 2023
Survey Methodology

This online survey was conducted by Zogby Analytics on behalf of Research!America in January 2023, among 1,002 adults. 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 to best represent the demographics of the population being surveyed. Weighted variables may include age, race, gender, party, education, and religion.

*Due to rounding, the total may not add up to 100 on some slides
Americans say S&T can help address a number of issues facing the U.S.

How much can science, technology, and innovation help address the following issues?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue</th>
<th>A lot</th>
<th>A little</th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>Not sure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ending the coronavirus pandemic/COVID-19</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finding new ways of preventing, treating, and curing illnesses other than COVID-19</td>
<td>61%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Preparing for the next pandemic</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving science education</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reducing global warming</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assuring food supply</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Driving economic growth; creating jobs</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assuring homeland security</td>
<td>32%</td>
<td>37%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reducing crime and violence</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eliminating structural racism</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Most Americans say it is important for the U.S. to be a global leader in S&T

How important do you think it is that the U.S. is a global leader in science and technology?

Young people (aged 18-24) less likely (74%) than the general population (91%) to say “very or somewhat important”.

Nearly 8 in 10 say R&D investment creates U.S. jobs

In general, do you think investments in research and development are creating employment opportunities for all, most, some, or very few people in this country?

Young people (aged 18-24) more likely (85%) than the general population (77%) to say “All, Most, or Some”.

Hispanics more likely (84%) to say "All, Most, or Some”.

A majority of Americans believe the U.S. will be the world leader in S&T in 2030, followed by China.

In your view, which of the following will be the number one world leader in science and technology in the year 2030?

- United States: 52%
- China: 25%
- Japan: 12%
- Germany: 3%
- South Korea: 3%
- India: 2%
- United Kingdom: 2%
- Russia: 1%
- Other (Specify): 2%

77% are concerned China could surpass the U.S. as the leading global S&T power

How concerned are you with the possibility of China surpassing the U.S. as the world’s leading science and technology power?

Young people (aged 18-24) less likely (65%) than the general population (77%) to say “Very or somewhat concerned”.

Do you believe Congress should invest more taxpayer dollars to advance science and technology in the U.S.?

6 in 10 support more taxpayer support of S&T

High bipartisan support for 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.

Young people (aged 18-24) less likely (74%) than the general population (83%) to say “Strongly or somewhat agree”.

8 in 10 favor increased federal spending on vaccine research

Do you favor or oppose increased federal spending on research to improve and find new vaccines?

8 in 10 support public funds for scientific 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?

Confidence in health care providers and scientists is high

How much confidence do you have in each of the following to act in your best interest?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>2021 Confidence</th>
<th>2022 Confidence</th>
<th>2023 Confidence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nurses</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>89%</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctors</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>87%</td>
<td>87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scientists</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>78%</td>
<td>78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military leaders</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>69%</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public health officials</td>
<td>62%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College and university professors</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious leaders</td>
<td>56%</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business leaders</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>54%</td>
<td>54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elected officials</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Confidence in military is high, trust among other institutions is diminishing

How much confidence do you have in each of the following institutions?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>A great deal</th>
<th>A fair amount</th>
<th>Not too much</th>
<th>None at all</th>
<th>Not sure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Military</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small business</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research institutions</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colleges and universities</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The church/organized religion</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>36%</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-12 Schools</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S. Supreme Court</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology companies</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Your state government</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>24%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8 in 10 say scientists' job should include communicating their research to the public

Should scientists consider it part of their job to inform the public about their research and its impact on society?

90% say it’s important for scientists to inform elected officials about their research

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

Cost of health care is the most important health issue

What would you say is the single most important health issue facing the nation?

63% willing to pay more taxes in support of medical and health 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 and health research?

Most Americans are concerned about mis/disinformation

Misinformation is false or inaccurate information, while disinformation is false information which is deliberately intended to mislead. Please indicate to what extent you are concerned with the impact of misinformation/disinformation on the following?

Opioid abuse continues to be a major problem

In the past 5 years, 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?

Respondents in a rural area are more likely (68%) than the general population (46%) to say “Somewhat worse or A lot worse”.

How important is it for the federal government to fund international programs on detection of infectious disease outbreaks?

- **89%** Say “Very or Somewhat Important”
- **77%** Say “Very or Somewhat Important”
- **79%** Say “Very or Somewhat Important”

Federal government should invest in preventing and curing diseases wherever they occur

Which statement is closest to your view?
Statement A: The federal government should invest in preventing and curing diseases wherever they occur.
Statement B: The federal government should invest in preventing and curing diseases only if they pose an immediate risk to people in this country.

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