

Topline AAAS Scientists Survey

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
 2014 SURVEY OF AAAS SCIENTISTS
 TOPLINE
 SEPTEMBER 11 - OCTOBER 13, 2014
 N=3,748

NOTE: ALL NUMBERS ARE PERCENTAGES. ANY PERCENTAGES GREATER THAN ZERO BUT LESS THAN 0.5% ARE REPLACED BY AN ASTERISK (*). COLUMNS/ROWS MAY NOT TOTAL 100% DUE TO ROUNDING.

ALL TREND COMPARISONS TO PEW RESEARCH SURVEY OF AAAS SCIENTISTS CONDUCTED MAY 1 TO JUNE 14, 2009, N=2,533

ALL OTHER QUESTIONS [PREVIOUSLY RELEASED](#) IN APPENDIX D OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

QUESTIONS 1 through 4 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED
 [RANDOMIZE ITEMS Q5A TO Q5D]

ASK ALL:

Q5 How much of a problem, if at all, do you think each of the following are for science in general?

	Major <u>problem</u>	Minor <u>problem</u>	Not a <u>problem</u>	No <u>answer</u>
a. The public expects solutions to problems too quickly	49	44	7	*
Trend 2009	49	45	6	*
b. The news media oversimplify scientific findings	52	43	5	*
Trend 2009	48	45	6	*
c. News reports don't distinguish between well-founded and not well-founded scientific findings	79	20	2	*
Trend 2009	76	22	2	*
d. The public does not know very much about science	84	14	1	*
Trend 2009	85	14	1	*

QUESTIONS 6 THROUGH 14 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS]

ASK ALL:

Q15 Which of these statements comes closer to your own view, even if neither is exactly right?

2014

87	Scientists should take an active role in public policy debates about issues related to science and technology
13	Scientists should focus on establishing sound scientific facts and stay out of public policy debates
*	No answer

QUESTIONS 16 THROUGH 34 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**ASK ALL:**

Q37 How important for career advancement is it for scientists in your specialty area to get their research covered by the news media?

<u>2014</u>		<u>2009</u>
11	Very important	8
33	Important	29
43	Not too important	48
12	Not at all important	14
1	No answer	1

ASK ALL:

Q38 How important for career advancement is it for scientists in your specialty area to promote their findings on social media sites such as Twitter, LinkedIn or Facebook?

<u>2014</u>	
4	Very important
18	Important
46	Not too important
30	Not at all important
1	No answer

QUESTIONS 39 THROUGH 46 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED

[RANDOMIZE QUESTIONS Q47 AND Q48]**ASK ALL:**

Q47 How much debate is there in the media over research findings in your primary scientific specialty area?

2014

17	A lot
36	Some
32	Not too much
14	None at all
1	No answer

ASK ALL:

Q48 How much would you say non-expert citizens are interested in your primary scientific specialty area?

2014

27	A lot
44	Some
23	Not too much
5	None at all
*	No answer

[RANDOMIZE ITEMS A TO G WITH ITEM H 'OTHER-SPECIFY' ALWAYS LAST]**ASK ALL:****Q49 Which of these do you do or use to stay up-to-date in your specialty area?***[Check all that apply.]*

	<u>Selected</u>	NET Not selected/ <u>No answer</u>
a. Get email alerts from journals in your specialty area	58	42
b. Get email alerts from general science journals	56	44
c. Read journal articles outside of your primary field or scientific discipline	84	16
d. Follow tweets or other social media by experts in your specialty area	12	88
e. Follow blogs by experts in your specialty area	19	81
f. Attend professional meetings, workshops or lectures	79	21
g. Belong to listservs	32	68
h. Other (please specify) OPEN END	10	90

[RANDOMIZE QUESTIONS Q50A TO Q50F]**ASK ALL:****Q50a How often, if ever, do you ... write for a blog about science?**

<u>2014</u>		<u>2009</u>
2	Often	2
6	Occasionally	5
12	Rarely	11
80	Never	82
1	No answer	1

ASK ALL:**Q50b How often, if ever, do you ... talk with reporters about new research findings?**

<u>2014</u>		<u>2009</u>
3	Often	3
18	Occasionally	20
30	Rarely	31
48	Never	45
1	No answer	*

ASK ALL:**Q50c How often, if ever, do you ... talk with non-scientists about science or research findings?**

<u>2014</u>		<u>2009</u>
37	Often	39
49	Occasionally	48
12	Rarely	11
1	Never	2
*	No answer	*

ASK ALL:**Q50d How often, if ever, do you ... use social media to talk about science (such as Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn)?**

<u>2014</u>	
7	Often
16	Occasionally
18	Rarely
57	Never
1	No answer

ASK ALL:**Q50e How often, if ever, do you ... follow tweets about research in your specialty area?**

<u>2014</u>	
5	Often
8	Occasionally
13	Rarely
74	Never
1	No answer

ASK ALL:**Q50f How often, if ever, do you ... write a blog post that describes your research and specialty areas?**

<u>2014</u>	
2	Often
6	Occasionally
12	Rarely
79	Never
1	No answer

COMBINED Q50a (How often, if ever, do you ... write for a blog about science?) and Q50f (How often, if ever, do you ... write a blog post that describes your research and specialty areas?)

2014

24	Ever blog about science/research
74	Never blog about science/research
1	No answer

COMBINED Q50d (How often, if ever, do you ... use social media to talk about science (such as Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn)? And Q50e (How often, if ever, do you ... follow tweets about research in your specialty area?)

2014

47	Ever use social media to talk/follow science
52	Never use social media to talk/follow science
1	No answer

ASK IF USE SOCIAL MEDIA TO TALK ABOUT SCIENCE (Q50D=1,2,3)

Q51 When you talk about science on social media (such as Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn), is your message intended...

BASED ON TOTAL

2014

42	Ever use social media to talk about science Q50d
7	Primarily for science experts
15	Primarily for non-expert citizens
18	Both groups equally
1	No answer
57	Never use social media to talk about science Q50d
1	No answer Q50d

BASED THOSE WHO EVER USE SOCIAL MEDIA TO TALK ABOUT SCIENCE N=1,472

2014

16	Primarily for science experts
37	Primarily for non-expert citizens
44	Both groups equally
4	No answer

NO QUESTIONS 52 THROUGH 54

QUESTIONS 55 THROUGH OTHER BACKGROUND Q'S PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

ASK ALL:

QC. What advice would you give to scientists and others who want to encourage societal support for scientific research today? Please mention any efforts you think would be especially effective.

[Please type your response in the box.]

2014

65	Gave response
35	No answer

OPEN END, MULTIPLE RESPONSES ALLOWED

BASED ON THOSE ANSWERING N=2,481

2014

21	Communicate (general)
21	Explain the impact of scientific research to our daily lives
20	Volunteer/teach in schools/focus on improving education, including STEM
16	Reach out to politicians/get involved in politics or policy/vote
14	Reach out to the media (all forms)/educate media on science news
8	Do not oversell research findings/make sure work is ethical/transparent
6	Treat lay audience as smart/don't talk down/listen to concerns
5	Communicate research more clearly, use less technical terms
4	Get involved with non-science community-based organizations
3	Talk with kids about science (outside of school)/be a mentor
3	Focus on necessity of scientific research to future innovation
3	Explain the necessity of scientific research to future innovation
2	Support or promote scientific TV shows
2	Talk with friends/family/neighbors about science
2	Support scientific organizations
2	Work hard/focus on high quality work
1	Speak out against scientific misconceptions
1	Reach out to U.S. and international business community
14	Other ideas and comments