

Survey question wording and topline

**2023 PEW RESEARCH CENTER'S AMERICAN TRENDS PANEL
WAVE 135 – SCIENCE TOPLINE
Sep 25-Oct 1, 2023
N=8,842**

ASK ALL:

CONF

How much confidence, if any, do you have in each of the following to act in the best interests of the public? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

	A great deal of <u>confidence</u>	A fair amount of <u>confidence</u>	Not too much <u>confidence</u>	No confidence <u>at all</u>	<u>No answer</u>
a. Elected officials					
Sep 25-Oct 1, 2023	2	23	52	23	<1
Sep 13-18, 2022	2	26	50	21	<1
Nov 30-Dec 12, 2021	2	22	52	23	<1
Nov 18-29, 2020	4	32	47	15	1
Apr 20-26, 2020	3	33	49	14	1
Jan 7-21, 2019	4	32	50	14	<1
Nov 27-Dec 10, 2018	4	33	48	15	<1
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	3	22	52	23	<1
May 10-Jun 6, 2016	3	24	54	19	1
b. Journalists					
Sep 25-Oct 1, 2023	6	36	37	21	<1
Sep 13-18, 2022	6	38	36	19	<1
Nov 30-Dec 12, 2021	6	34	36	24	1
Nov 18-29, 2020	9	37	31	23	<1
Apr 20-26, 2020	9	39	33	19	<1
Nov 27-Dec 10, 2018	15	41	28	16	<1
TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
<i>The news media</i>					
Jan 7-21, 2019	9	38	34	19	<1
Nov 27-Dec 10, 2018	10	38	33	19	<1
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	8	32	35	25	<1
May 10-Jun 6, 2016	5	33	40	21	1
c. The military					
Sep 25-Oct 1, 2023	26	48	19	6	<1
Sep 13-18, 2022	29	48	17	6	<1
Nov 30-Dec 12, 2021	25	49	18	7	1
Nov 18-29, 2020	39	44	13	4	<1
Apr 20-26, 2020	38	45	13	4	<1
Jan 7-21, 2019	36	46	14	4	<1
Nov 27-Dec 10, 2018	41	41	12	4	1
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	39	41	15	4	<1
May 10-Jun 6, 2016	33	46	15	5	1

CONF CONTINUED ...

	<u>A great deal of confidence</u>	<u>A fair amount of confidence</u>	<u>Not too much confidence</u>	<u>No confidence at all</u>	<u>No answer</u>
d. Religious leaders					
Sep 25-Oct 1, 2023	11	43	31	15	1
Sep 13-18, 2022	12	41	31	16	<1
Nov 30-Dec 12, 2021	12	43	30	15	1
Nov 18-29, 2020	15	45	29	12	<1
Apr 20-26, 2020	17	46	26	11	1
Jan 7-21, 2019	13	44	30	12	<1
Nov 27-Dec 10, 2018	15	47	27	11	1
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	9	40	34	16	1
May 10-Jun 6, 2016	13	39	32	14	1
e. Business leaders					
Sep 25-Oct 1, 2023	3	32	48	16	<1
Sep 13-18, 2022	4	35	46	14	<1
Nov 30-Dec 12, 2021	4	36	45	15	1
Nov 18-29, 2020	5	41	41	12	<1
Apr 20-26, 2020	5	43	41	11	1
Jan 7-21, 2019	6	40	43	11	<1
Nov 27-Dec 10, 2018	4	39	43	14	<1
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	5	40	42	13	<1
May 10-Jun 6, 2016	4	37	44	14	1

ASK FORM 1 ONLY**[N=4,412]:**

f. Medical scientists					
Sep 25-Oct 1, 2023	25	53	17	5	<1
Sep 13-18, 2022	30	50	16	4	<1
Nov 30-Dec 12, 2021	29	49	17	5	<1
Nov 18-29, 2020	40	45	12	2	<1
Apr 20-26, 2020	43	46	9	2	<1
Jan 7-21, 2019	35	52	11	2	<1
May 10-Jun 6, 2016	24	60	12	3	1

ASK FORM 2 ONLY**[N=4,430]:**

g. Scientists					
Sep 25-Oct 1, 2023	23	50	22	5	1
Sep 13-18, 2022	28	49	18	5	1
Nov 30-Dec 12, 2021	29	49	17	5	1
Nov 18-29, 2020	39	45	13	3	<1
Apr 20-26, 2020	39	48	10	2	1
Jan 7-21, 2019	35	51	11	2	<1
Nov 27-Dec 10, 2018	33	49	14	3	<1
Jan 29-Feb 13, 2018	27	52	17	5	<1
May 10-Jun 6, 2016	21	55	18	4	1

NO ITEM H

CONF CONTINUED ...

	<u>A great deal of confidence</u>	<u>A fair amount of confidence</u>	<u>Not too much confidence</u>	<u>No confidence at all</u>	<u>No answer</u>
i. Public school principals for grades K-12					
Sep 25-Oct 1, 2023	14	52	26	8	<1
Sep 13-18, 2022	15	53	23	8	<1
Nov 30-Dec 12, 2021	14	51	26	9	1
Nov 18-29, 2020	21	54	19	6	<1
Apr 20-26, 2020	28	55	14	3	<1
Jan 7-21, 2019	21	56	18	4	1
Nov 27-Dec 10, 2018	25	55	16	4	<1
TREND FOR COMPARISON:					
<i>Public school principals and superintendents for grades K-12</i>					
Nov 27-Dec 10, 2018	22	55	17	5	1
May 10-Jun 6, 2016	13	53	27	7	1
j. Police officers					
Sep 25-Oct 1, 2023	19	50	22	8	1
Sep 13-18, 2022	21	49	22	8	<1
Nov 30-Dec 12, 2021	20	49	22	9	<1
Nov 18-29, 2020	26	48	19	7	<1
Apr 20-26, 2020	24	54	17	4	<1
Nov 27-Dec 10, 2018	30	48	16	5	<1

ASK ALL:

SC1 Overall, would you say science has had a mostly positive effect on our society or a mostly negative effect on our society?

	<u>Mostly positive</u>	<u>Mostly negative</u>	<u>Equal positive and negative effects</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Sep 25-Oct 1, 2023	57	8	34	<1
Nov 1-7, 2021	65	7	28	<1
Feb 16-21, 2021	67	6	27	1
Jan 7-21, 2019	73	3	23	<1
Mar 2-28, 2016	67	4	27	2

ASK ALL:

SCIPACE

Do you think developments in science are changing our way of life... **[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF OPTIONS 1 AND 2, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

Sep 25-Oct 1,

2023

33	Too quickly
15	Too slowly
51	At about the right pace
1	No answer

ASK ALL:

SCI_US1

Thinking about all the important goals for the United States, how important do you think it is for the U.S. to be a world leader in scientific achievements?

	<u>Very important</u>	<u>Somewhat important</u>	<u>Not too important</u>	<u>Not at all important</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Sep 25-Oct 1, 2023	52	37	8	2	1
Sep 13-18, 2022	54	37	7	1	1

TREND FOR COMPARISON:

Pew Research Center survey conducted by telephone: Thinking about all the important goals for the United States, how important do you think it is for the United States to be a world leader in scientific achievements? Do you think it is very important, somewhat important, not too important or not at all important?

Oct 1-28,

2019

69	<i>Very important</i>
24	<i>Somewhat important</i>
3	<i>Not too important</i>
3	<i>Not at all important</i>
1	<i>DK/Refused</i>

ASK ALL:

SCI_US2

Do you think government investments in scientific research aimed at advancing knowledge are usually... **[RANDOMIZE]**

	<u>Worthwhile investments for society over time</u>	<u>Not worth the investments</u>	<u>No answer</u>
Sep 25-Oct 1, 2023	78	20	2
Sep 13-18, 2022	81	18	1

TREND FOR COMPARISON:

Pew Research Center survey conducted by telephone: In your opinion, are government investments in scientific research aimed at advancing knowledge usually worthwhile for society over time, or are they not worth the investment?

Oct 1-28,

2019

82	Yes, they are worthwhile for society over time
15	No, they are not worth the investment
3	DK/Refused

TREND FOR COMPARISON:

SCI3 In your opinion, do you think government investments in the following usually pay off in the long run, or are they not worth it? **[RANDOMIZE ITEMS]**

	Government investments usually pay off in the long run	Government investments usually aren't worth it	No answer
a. Basic scientific research Apr 23-May 6, 2018	77	22	1

TREND FOR COMPARISON:

Pew Research Center survey conducted by telephone: In your opinion, do government investments in **[INSERT ITEM; RANDOMIZE]** usually pay off in the long run, or are they not worth it?

	Yes, pay off in the long run	No, aren't worth it	DK/Ref (VOL.)
a. Basic scientific research Aug 15-25, 2014	71	24	5
Apr 28-May 12, 2009	73	18	9

ASK ALL:

SCI_US3

When it comes to scientific achievements, compared with other countries around the world, do you think the United States is... **[RANDOMIZE ORDER OF OPTIONS 1 AND 2, WITH OPTION 3 ALWAYS LAST]**

	Gaining ground	Losing ground	Staying in about the same place	No answer
Sep 25-Oct 1, 2023	14	39	45	1
Sep 13-18, 2022	14	38	47	1

**ASK IF LOSING GROUND OR STAYING IN ABOUT THE SAME PLACE (SCI_US3 = 2,3)
[N=7,615]:**

SCI_US3b How much does it bother you that the U.S. is not gaining ground in scientific achievements compared with other countries?

Sep 25-Oct 1,
2023

14	A great deal
27	Quite a bit
32	Some
12	A little
15	Not at all
<1	No answer

OTHER QUESTIONS PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE