

A Majority of American Voters Support Federal Investment in Science

KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM TSC'S 2018 POLL



A majority of Democratic and Republican voters believe that investment in scientific research should be a priority for the U.S. federal government.

82%
of voters approve of the federal government **investing taxpayer funds** in scientific research.

77%

87%

79%

Since 2015, more women and Republican voters have increased their support for federal investment in scientific research.

36%
more stay-at-home moms

34%
more midwestern voters

32%
more Republican base voters

60%
of voters feel strongly that the federal government should **invest more** in scientific research.

45%

75%

56%

72%
of voters feel that scientific research **helps grow** the U.S. economy.

69%

78%

62%

94%
of voters believe it is important for the United States to be the **global leader** in science and technology.

95%

96%

89%

Voters' views about the importance of the United States being the global leader in scientific research and technology are on the rise. Today, 61% of voters say it is "very important" compared to 48% in 2015.

The most important contributions science makes to the U.S. economy and society are:

(when ranked by personal importance)

-  developing **new medicines** and curing diseases
-  developing **new energy technologies**
-  identifying the best ways to protect our **environment**
-  developing new **national security technologies**
-  creating new technologies for **business/job growth**
-  keeping America competitive in a **global economy**
-  exploring and better **understanding the world** in which we live
-  exploring **space**



WHEN RANKING
**FEDERAL FUNDING
PRIORITIES,**
VOTERS THINK...



Scientific
Research



Transportation

OR



Unemployment
Benefits



Scientific
Research



Energy

OR



Agriculture

The Science Coalition (TSC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization based in Washington, D.C., comprised of more than 50 of the nation's leading public and private research universities. Serving as a public affairs organization, we are dedicated to promoting the need for sustained federal investment in basic or fundamental scientific research. To learn more about public support for federal investment in scientific research, visit www.sciencecoalition.org.


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