

Attitudes toward science and technology, by country/region: most recent year

(Percent)

Statement	United States (2004 or 2006) ^a						Japan (2001)						South Korea (2006)						Russia (1996 or 2003) ^b			
	Total agree	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	Total agree	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	Total agree	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	Total agree	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
Promise of science																						
<i>Science and technology are making our lives healthier, easier, and more comfortable.....</i>	90	27	63	7	2	1	73	6	67	13	1	13	94	36	58	3	0	3	53	53	13	34
<i>With the application of science and new technology, work will become more interesting.</i>	76	13	63	19	2	2	54	4	50	25	2	20	85	27	59	9	1	5	NA	NA	NA	NA
<i>Because of science and technology, there will be more opportunities for the next generation.....</i>	90	41	49	8	1	2	66	6	60	16	1	18	86	34	52	8	1	5	NA	NA	NA	NA
Reservations about science																						
<i>We depend too much on science and not enough on faith.</i>	55	17	39	32	10	2	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	51	9	43	34	6	9	19	19	26	55
<i>It is not important for me to know about science in my daily life.....</i>	14	2	13	55	30	1	25	2	23	57	11	8	28	4	24	45	21	6	31	31	56	13
<i>Science makes our way of life change too fast.....</i>	44	10	34	45	8	3	62	8	54	24	1	13	79	25	54	14	3	5	30	30	48	22
Statement	China (2001)					India (2004)				Malaysia (2004) ^c				EU-25 (2005)								
	Total agree	Agree	Basically agree	Don't agree	Don't know	Total agree	Agree	Disagree	Don't know	Total agree	Agree	Disagree	Not sure	Total agree	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know		
Promise of science																						
<i>Science and technology are making our lives healthier, easier, and more comfortable.....</i>	94	65	30	1	4	77	77	5	19	74	74	4	22	78	32	46	14	5	1	2		
<i>With the application of science and new technology, work will become more interesting.</i>	81	46	35	5	14	61	61	10	30	70	70	3	27	69	24	45	18	7	3	3		
<i>Because of science and technology, there will be more opportunities for the next generation.....</i>	78	45	32	6	16	54	54	12	35	NA	NA	NA	NA	77	35	42	12	6	2	2		
Reservations about science																						
<i>We depend too much on science and not enough on faith.</i>	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	27	27	33	40	39	12	27	26	17	12	4		
<i>It is not important for me to know about science in my daily life.....</i>	17	6	12	74	9	NA	NA	NA	NA	2	2	76	22	37	14	23	16	26	19	1		
<i>Science makes our way of life change too fast.....</i>	73	37	35	16	11	75	75	7	18	66	66	6	28	59	21	38	18	15	5	2		

Appendix table 7-13

Attitudes toward science and technology, by country/region: most recent year

(Percent)

Statement	United States (2006)							Japan (2001)							South Korea (2006)						
	Total benefit	B>>H	B>H	B=H	H>B	H>>B	Don't know	Total benefit	B>>H	B>H	B=H	H>B	H>>B	Don't know	Total benefit	B>>H	B>H	B=H	H>B	H>>B	Don't know
Benefit (B) versus harm (H)																					
<i>Have the benefits of scientific research outweighed the harmful results?.....</i>																					
	70	48	22	17	4	2	6	40	13	27	28	15	6	11	71	33	39	22	2	0	4

Statement	Russia (1996 or 2003) ^a					China (2001)					Malaysia (2004)				EU-25 (2005)						
	Total benefit	B>H	B=H	H>B	Don't know	Total benefit	B>H	B=H	H>B	Unclear	Total benefit	B>H	H>B	Not sure	Total benefit	B>>H	B>H	B=H	H>B	H>>B	Don't know
Benefit (B) versus harm (H)																					
<i>Have the benefits of scientific research outweighed the harmful results?.....</i>																					
	59	59	30	5	6	76	76	7	0	17	69	69	6	25	52	16	36	29	10	3	5

NA = not available, question not asked or different response categories offered

EU = European Union; B>>H = benefits strongly outweigh harmful results; B>H = benefits slightly outweigh harmful results; B=H = benefits about equal harmful results; H>B = harmful results slightly outweigh benefits; H>>B = harmful results strongly outweigh benefits

^aU.S. responses for following items from 2004 survey: "Science and technology are making our lives healthier . . ."; "With the application of science and new technology . . ."; "We depend too much on science . . ."; and "It is not important for me to know . . ." Responses to the other items are from 2006 survey.

^bRussian responses for "Science and technology are making our lives healthier . . ." and "We depend too much on science . . ." are from 1996 survey. Responses for "Have the benefits . . ." and "Science makes our way of life change . . ." are from 2003 survey.

^cMalaysian question corresponding to "It is not important for me to know about science in my daily life" stated in a positive form as "We need to have knowledge about science in order to manage our daily lives." The Malaysian responses of agree and disagree have been reversed to make them correspond to negative form of statement asked by other countries and included in this table.

NOTES: "Benefit versus harm" data for United States, Japan, Korea, Russia, and EU-25 are responses to questions or statements that included words "benefit" and "harm." Russian response category "more benefits" is aggregate of "undoubtedly more benefits" and "probably more benefits"; Russian category "more harms" is aggregate of "undoubtedly more harms" and "probably more harms." EU-25 survey provided statement, "The benefits of science are greater than any harmful effects it may have," and asked respondent to indicate one of following response categories: strongly agree, tend to agree, neither agree nor disagree, tend to disagree, strongly disagree, don't know. Chinese survey asked respondents to indicate whether S&T brings about more "advantages" or more "disadvantages," whether advantages and disadvantages of S&T are about equal, or whether respondent was "unclear" about it. Malaysian survey asked respondents to indicate whether they agreed with, disagreed with, or weren't sure about statement, "Scientific research has more positive effects than negative effects."

SOURCES: United States—University of Michigan, Survey of Consumer Attitudes (2004) and University of Chicago, National Opinion Research Center, General Social Survey (2006); Japan—Government of Japan, National Institute of Science and Technology Policy, Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, The 2001 Survey of Public Attitudes Toward and Understanding of Science and Technology in Japan (2002); South Korea—Korea Science Foundation, Survey of Public Attitudes Toward and Understanding of Science and Technology (2006); Russia—Gokhberg L and Shuvalova O, Russian Public Opinion of the Knowledge Economy: Science, Innovation, Information Technology and Education as Drivers of Economic Growth and Quality of Life, British Council, Russia (2004); China—Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology, China Science and Technology Indicators 2002 (2002); India—National Council of Applied Economic Research, India Science Survey (2004); Malaysia—Malaysian Science and Technology Information Centre, Public Awareness of Science and Technology Malaysia 2004 (2005); and EU—European Commission, Research Directorate-General, Eurobarometer 224/Wave 63.1: Europeans, Science and Technology (2005).