

Appendix table 7-5
Level of public interest in science and technology issues: Most recent year
 (Percent)

Issue	United States (2001) (n = 1,574)				Europe (2005) (n = 24,895)				China (2001) (n = 8,350)					South Korea (2004) (n = 1,007)				Japan (2001) (n = 2,146)			Malaysia (2000) (n = 5,000)				
	VI	MI	NI	Index score	VI	MI	NI	Index score	GI	FI	NMI	NI	Index score	VI	MI	NI	Index score	VI	Index score	NI	I	MI	SI	NI	Index score
Agriculture and farming	29	46	25	53	—	—	—		38	37	18	7	69	33	39	28	53	—	42	—	—	—	—	—	—
Economy and business conditions	45	45	10	67	—	—	—		17	36	32	15	52	57	35	8	75	—	73	—	21	30	27	22	50
Environmental pollution	48	43	8	70	38	49	12	63	30	42	20	9	64	58	36	7	76	—	75	—	32	36	21	11	63
International and foreign policy	28	49	23	52	—	—	—		25	36	25	14	58	19	49	32	44	—	52	—	8	21	30	41	32
Local schools.....	59	31	10	74	—	—	—		—	—	—	—	—	49	36	15	67	—	52	—	16	27	28	29	43
Military and defense policy	38	44	18	60	—	—	—		32	34	22	11	62	24	42	35	45	—	44	—	—	—	—	—	—
New inventions and technologies.....	43	47	10	66	30	48	21	54	30	43	20	7	66	27	45	28	49	—	48	—	23	28	28	21	51
New medical discoveries	65	32	4	80	33	50	16	58	27	41	24	8	62	27	48	25	51	—	61	—	18	26	29	27	45
New scientific discoveries.....	47	45	9	69	30	48	20	54	37	41	17	5	70	27	45	28	50	—	44	—	18	24	27	31	43
Space exploration	26	47	27	50	—	—	—		15	26	36	23	44	—	—	—	—	—	40	—	18	20	26	37	39

— = not asked

VI = very interested; MI = moderately interested; NI = not interested; GI = great interest; FI = fair interest; NMI = not much interest; I = interested; SI = slightly interested

NOTES: Responses to: *There are a lot of issues in the news, and it is hard to keep up with every area. I'm going to read you a short list of issues, and for each one—as I read it—I would like you to tell me if you are very interested, moderately interested, or not at all interested.* "Don't know" responses not included. Responses converted to 0–100 scale with 100 for VI, 50 for MI, and 0 for NI. In China, values were 100 for GI, 67 for FI, 33 for NMI, and 0 for NI. Values for Malaysia were 100 for I, 67 for MI, 33 for SI, and 0 for NI. Indices were obtained by adding all values for each policy issue and computing average. Detail may not add to total because of rounding.

SOURCES: National Science Foundation, Division of Science Resources Statistics, Survey of Public Attitudes Toward and Understanding of Science and Technology (2001); Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology, *China Science and Technology Indicators 2002* (2002); Korea Science Foundation, Survey on Public Attitude of Science & Technology 2004 (2004); 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 & Technology in Japan (2002); Malaysian Science and Technology Information Centre, Ministry of Science, Technology and the Environment, *Public Awareness of Science and Technology Malaysia 2000* (2001); and European Commission, Research Directorate-General, Eurobarometer 224/Wave 63.1: *Europeans, Science and Technology* (2005).

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