

Appendix table 7-7

Feeling informed about selected policy issues: Selected years, 1979–2004

(Percent)

Issue	1979 (n = 1,635)			1981 (n = 3,195)			1983 (n = 1,631)			1985 (n = 2,005)			1988 (n = 2,041)			1990 (n = 2,033)			1992 (n = 2,001)			1995 (n = 2,006)			1997 (n = 2,000)			1999 (n = 1,882)			2001 (n = 1,574)			2004 (n = 2,025)		
	VI	MI	NI	VI	MI	NI	VI	MI	NI	VI	MI	NI	VI	MI	NI	VI	MI	NI	VI	MI	NI	VI	MI	NI	VI	MI	NI	VI	MI	NI	VI	MI	NI	VI	MI	NI
Agriculture and farming	10	44	45	14	42	44	—	—	—	17	47	35	20	52	27	13	46	42	—	—	—	11	47	42	13	49	38	11	43	45	14	44	43	10	43	47
Economic and business conditions.....	14	55	31	29	51	20	28	52	20	22	51	26	22	55	22	25	55	20	29	54	17	25	53	22	25	51	24	23	53	24	23	56	22	22	58	19
Environmental pollution	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	32	55	13	29	56	15	24	56	20	23	55	21	21	54	25	18	58	24	17	54	29
International and foreign policy	8	54	37	17	54	28	14	51	35	15	53	32	14	55	31	22	57	22	19	54	26	10	52	37	10	52	38	14	52	34	12	46	43	13	50	37
Local schools.....	20	48	32	32	45	22	34	41	25	30	47	22	33	44	23	32	46	21	32	46	22	36	46	18	38	44	17	35	47	18	35	48	17	33	47	20
Military and defense policy	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	50	29	21	48	31	17	51	32	26	51	23	24	51	25	17	47	36	18	42	40	21	46	33	15	48	37	21	48	31
New inventions and technologies.....	10	50	39	11	48	40	14	55	32	12	54	34	12	51	36	11	53	35	10	56	33	12	55	33	16	56	28	17	53	30	12	52	36	14	53	33
New medical discoveries	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	57	18	22	59	19	24	57	20	22	58	21	23	57	20	28	56	16	25	56	19	21	59	20	19	55	26
New scientific discoveries.....	10	52	37	13	49	38	13	53	34	13	59	27	14	55	31	14	55	31	12	54	34	13	58	29	19	58	23	17	56	28	14	57	29	16	52	32
Space exploration	—	—	—	14	46	40	13	52	34	16	52	32	13	52	34	11	51	38	9	48	44	9	48	43	16	50	34	13	48	40	10	45	46	14	43	43

— = not asked

VI = very well informed; MI = moderately well informed; NI = poorly informed

NOTES: Responses to: *Now I'd like to go through this list with you again, and for each issue, I'd like you to tell me if you are very well informed, moderately well informed, or poorly informed.* "Don't know" responses not included. 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 (various years); and University of Michigan, Survey of Consumer Attitudes (2004).

Science and Engineering Indicators 2006