

## Appendix C: Topline

PEW RESEARCH CENTER  
 2014 SURVEY OF AAAS MEMBERS  
 SEPTEMBER 11 - OCTOBER 13, 2014  
 N=3,748

NOTE: ALL NUMBERS ARE PERCENTAGES. ANY PERCENTAGES GREATER THAN ZERO BUT LESS THAN 0.5 ARE REPLACED BY AN ASTERISK (\*). COLUMNS/ROWS MAY NOT TOTAL 100 DUE TO ROUNDING.

ALL TREND COMPARISONS TO PEW RESEARCH SURVEY OF AAAS SCIENTISTS CONDUCTED MAY 1 TO JUNE 14, 2009, N=2,533

In this survey we will be asking you both about issues pertaining to science in general and to your scientific field or specialty. Most questions will be about science in general, and we will specify when we are particularly interested in your views about your specialty.

### QUESTIONS 1-15 PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE

[RANDOMIZE Q16-Q17 BLOCK WITH Q18-Q19 BLOCK]

[DISPLAY FOR ALL WITH FIRST QUESTION IN SET:]

Next, a few questions about issues being debated by the public.

#### ASK ALL:

**Q16 Which comes closer to your view:** [RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS: Humans and other living things have evolved over time; Humans and other living things have existed in their present form since the beginning of time]

**ASK IF EVOLVED (Q16=1): Q17 Do you think that...** [RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS: Humans and over living things have evolved due to natural processes such as natural selection; A supreme being guided the evolution of living things for the purpose of creating humans and other life in the form it exists today]

<u>2014<sup>13</sup></u>		<u>2009</u>
98	Humans and other living things have evolved over time	97
90	Humans and other living things have evolved due to natural processes such as natural selection	87
8	A supreme being guided the evolution of living things for the purpose of creating humans and other life in the form it exists today	8
1	No answer Q17	2
2	Humans and other living things have existed in their present form since the beginning of time	2
*	No answer Q16	1

[RANDOMIZE Q16-Q17 BLOCK WITH Q18-Q19 BLOCK]

<sup>13</sup> The nested Q17 responses do not sum to the net of 98 on Q16 due to rounding.

**ASK ALL:****Q18 From what you've read and heard, do you think... [RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS 1 AND 2]:**

<u>2014</u>		<u>2009<sup>14</sup></u>
9	The Earth is getting warmer mostly because of natural patterns in the Earth's environment	10
87	The Earth is getting warmer mostly because of human activity such as burning fossil fuels	84
3	There is no solid evidence that the Earth is getting warmer	4
1	No answer	2

**[RANDOMIZE Q16-Q17 BLOCK WITH Q18-Q19 BLOCK]****ASK ALL:****Q19 In your view, how serious a problem is climate change? Is it a...**

<u>2014</u>		<u>2009<sup>15</sup></u>
77	Very serious problem	70
17	Somewhat serious problem	22
4	Not too serious a problem	4
2	Not a problem	2
*	No answer	*

**NO QUESTIONS 20 THROUGH 21****[RANDOMIZE QUESTIONS Q22A THROUGH Q22E]****ASK ALL:****Q22a Do you favor or oppose the use of animals in scientific research?**

<u>2014</u>		<u>2009</u>
89	Favor	93
9	Oppose	5
2	No answer	2

**ASK ALL:****Q22b Do you favor or oppose building more nuclear power plants to generate electricity?**

<u>2014</u>		<u>2009</u>
65	Favor	70
33	Oppose	27
2	No answer	3

**ASK ALL:**

<sup>14</sup>In the 2009 survey, one of the response options was worded differently. It read "the Earth is getting warmer mostly because of natural changes in the atmosphere."

<sup>15</sup> In the 2009 survey, the question stem asked, "In your view, how serious a problem is global warming..."

**Q22c Do you favor or oppose the increased use of fracking, a drilling method that uses high-pressure water and chemicals to extract oil and natural gas from underground rock formations?**

<u>2014</u>	
31	Favor
66	Oppose
3	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

**Q22d Do you favor or oppose the increased use of genetically engineered plants to create a liquid fuel replacement for gasoline?**

<u>2014</u>	
78	Favor
21	Oppose
2	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

**Q22e Do you favor or oppose allowing more offshore oil and gas drilling in U.S. waters?**

<u>2014</u>	
32	Favor
66	Oppose
2	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

**Q23 Thinking about childhood diseases, such as measles, mumps, rubella and polio, do you think...  
[RANDOMIZE RESPONSE OPTIONS]**

<u>2014</u>		<u>2009</u>
13	Parents should be able to decide NOT to vaccinate their children	17
86	All children should be required to be vaccinated	82
1	No answer	1

**ASK ALL:**

**Q24 Which of these statements comes closest to your point of view, even if neither is exactly right?**

<u>2014</u>	
17	The growing world population will NOT be a major problem because we will find a way to stretch our natural resources
82	The growing population WILL be a major problem because there won't be enough food and resources to go around
*	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

**Q25 Do you think the space station has been a good investment for this country, or don't you think so?**

2014

68	Good investment
31	Not a good investment
2	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

**Q26 The cost of sending human astronauts to space is considerably greater than the cost of using robotic machines for space exploration. As you think about the future of the U.S. space program, do you think it is essential or not essential to include the use of human astronauts in space?**

2014

47	Essential
52	Not essential
1	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

**Q27 Do you think it is generally safe or unsafe to eat foods grown with pesticides?**

2014

68	Generally safe
31	Generally unsafe
1	No answer

**ASK ALL:**

**Q28 Do you think it is generally safe or unsafe to eat genetically modified foods?**

2014

88	Generally safe
11	Generally unsafe
1	No answer

**QUESTIONS 29 to END PREVIOUSLY RELEASED OR HELD FOR FUTURE RELEASE**

**QUESTIONS USED TO IDENTIFY NARROWER SUBGROUPS OF SCIENTISTS****ASK ALL:****Q42 What is your primary field or scientific discipline?**

<u>2014</u>		<b>TREND FOR COMPARISON</b>	<u>2009<sup>16</sup></u>
50	Agriculture, Biological & Medical Sciences	Biological & Medical	51
11	Chemistry	Chemistry	14
7	Earth Sciences	Geosciences	6
7	Engineering	Engineering	6
5	Mathematics & Computer science	Math & Computer science	3
8	Physics & Astronomy	Physics & Astronomy	8
9	Social & Behavioral Sciences	Social Sciences & Policy	7
4	Other [please specify]	Other	3
*	No answer	No answer	2

**ASK ALL:****Q57 Within the last five years, have you received any funding for a research project?**

<u>2014</u>	
56	Yes
43	No
1	No answer

**ASK ALL:****E3 Are you now employed full-time, part-time or not employed?**

<u>2014</u>		<u>2009</u>
62	Full-time	71
12	Part-time	10
25	Not employed	17
1	No answer	1

**ASK IF EMPLOYED FULL OR PART-TIME (E3=1,2):****EMPORG. Which of these best describes your current employer?****BASED ON EMPLOYED FULL OR PART-TIME N=2,753**

<u>2014</u>		<u>2009</u>
10	Government	9
58	University or college	63
21	Business or industry	15
9	Non-profit organization	8
2	Other (please specify)	5
*	No answer	*

<sup>16</sup> In the 2009 survey, primary field or scientific discipline was categorized based on open-end responses and may not be directly comparable to 2014.

**ASK ALL:**

**EDUC** For each of the following, indicate if you currently hold this degree: *[Check all that apply.]*  
Response options a. Master's Degree b. Doctor of Philosophy c. Doctor of Medicine d. Doctor of Dentistry e. Other advanced degree (s) (please specify)

<u>2014</u>	<b>HIGHEST DEGREE OBTAINED</b>
72	Doctorate or medical-related doctorate
16	Master's degree
12	All others: includes those with B.S., degrees in progress, and unclear responses