

Appendix table 7-18

Public assessment of whether science makes life change too fast, by respondent characteristic: 2012

(Percent)

Characteristic	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
All adults (n = 2,256)	9	33	51	5	3
Sex					
Male (n = 1,011)	9	33	50	6	2
Female (n = 1,245)	9	34	51	4	3
Formal education					
< High school (n = 308)	12	43	33	4	8
High school diploma (n = 671)	7	38	49	3	2
Some college (n = 608)	10	31	53	4	2
Bachelor's degree (n = 429)	8	25	59	7	1
Graduate/professional degree (n = 240)	7	28	57	7	1
Science/mathematics education ^a					
Low (n = 1,248)	8	37	47	3	4
Middle (n = 398)	10	31	52	5	1
High (n = 484)	8	25	60	8	*
Family income (quartile) ^b					
Top (n = 446)	5	28	56	10	1
Second (n = 494)	8	31	56	3	2
Third (n = 521)	9	37	48	4	2
Bottom (n = 563)	13	34	47	3	3
Age (years) ^b					
18–24 (n = 140)	5	32	52	10	1
25–34 (n = 357)	7	36	53	3	2
35–44 (n = 385)	11	30	51	4	3
45–54 (n = 423)	10	34	49	3	5
55–64 (n = 420)	10	36	47	4	3
≥ 65 (n = 504)	7	33	54	4	2
Trend factual knowledge of science scale (quartile) ^c					
Top (n = 616)	6	25	60	8	1
Second (n = 655)	10	31	54	5	1
Third (n = 583)	9	44	44	1	2
Bottom (n = 402)	11	38	38	3	10

* = < 0.5% responded.

^a Low = ≤ 5 high school and college science/mathematics courses; middle = 6–8 courses; high = ≥ 9 courses. Categories do not add to total n because "don't know" responses and refusals to respond are not shown.

^b Categories do not add to total n because "don't know" responses and refusals to respond are not shown.

^c Quartiles are based on the percentage of the nine questions in the trend factual knowledge of science scale that were answered correctly. See notes to appendix table 7-8 for the questions.

NOTES: Responses to *Science makes our way of life change too fast*. Percentages may not add to 100% because of rounding.

SOURCE: University of Chicago, National Opinion Research Center, General Social Survey (2012).

Science and Engineering Indicators 2014