

Biotechnology
(New Poll Results Since Last Revision of Online Analysis)

*Searches for polling data that appear on "[Americans and the World](#)" are done with the aid of the IPOLL Database at the *Roper Center for Public Opinion Research at the University of Connecticut*.

Some foods contain genetically modified ingredients in order to make them taste better and last longer. How much have you heard or read about this--a lot, some, not much or nothing at all?

17% A lot
39 Some
27 Not much
17 Nothing at all

Organization: CBS News/New York Times
Dates: April 25-April 29, 2008

Do you think foods that contain genetically modified ingredients should be labeled indicating that or don't you think that is necessary?

87% Yes, should be label
11 No, not necessary
2 Don't know/No answer

Organization: CBS News/New York Times
Dates: April 25-April 29, 2008

How likely is it that you would buy food that is labeled as having been genetically modified--very likely, somewhat likely, not very likely, or not at all likely?

12% Very likely
31 Somewhat likely
24 Not very likely
29 Not at all likely
4 Don't know/No answer

Organization: CBS News/New York Times
Dates: April 25-April 29, 2008

Which comes closer to your view? Decisions about science and technology should be based primarily on...an analysis of the risks and benefits involved or the moral and ethical issues involved?

- 51% An analysis of the risks and benefits involved
- 32 The moral and ethical issues involved
- 9 Neither/Both (Vol.)
- 8 Don't know/Refused

Organization: Virginia Commonwealth University Life Sciences
 Dates: November 26-December 9, 2007

(Now I am going to read you another series of statements on some different topics. For each statement, please tell me if you completely agree with it, mostly agree with it, mostly disagree with it or completely disagree with it.)...I am worried that science is going too far and is hurting society rather than helping it....Do you completely agree, mostly agree, mostly disagree, or completely disagree?

	7/03 (2,528)	12/06 (2,007)
Completely agree	17%	16%
Mostly agree	25	18
Mostly disagree	36	36
Completely disagree	18	26
Don't know/Refused	4	4

Organization: Pew Research
 Dates: as noted

Here is another public issue: genetically modified foods. Genetically modified foods come from plants or animals whose characteristics have been changed by alteration, addition, or deletion of DNA in their genetic material using advanced laboratory techniques. Some say that genetically modified foods are unsafe and pose risks for human health. Others say that they are safe and necessary to reduce world hunger. Please look at Card B15. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means 'very well' and 5 means 'not at all,' how well do the following groups understand the risks posed by genetically modified foods?...Medical researchers...(If Asked what 'advanced laboratory techniques' means, say:) This typically involves 'recombinant DNA' or 'gene splicing,' in which genetic material from one organism is inserted into the genes of another. Sometimes, the two organisms are members of different species.

Subpopulation/Note: Asked of 1/5 sample

- 32% 1 Very well
- 32 2
- 18 3
- 8 4
- 5 5 Not at all
- 5 Don't know

Organization: National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago
Dates: March 10-August 7, 2006

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Subpopulation/Note: Asked of 1/5 sample

3%	1	Very well
6	2	
24	3	
33	4	
29	5	Not at all
6		Don't know

Organization: National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago
Dates: March 10-August 7, 2006

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Subpopulation/Note: Asked of 1/5 sample

4%	1	Very well
7	2	
24	3	
32	4	

27 5 Not at all
6 Don't know

Organization: National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago
Dates: March 10-August 7, 2006

Please look at Card B16. On a scale of 1 to 5, where 1 means 'near complete agreement' and 5 means 'no agreement at all' to what extent do medical researchers agree on the risks and benefits of genetically modified foods?

Subpopulation/Note: Asked of 1/5 sample

8% 1 Near complete agreement
19 2
41 3
11 4
7 5 No agreement at all
13 Don't know

Organization: National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago
Dates: March 10-August 7, 2006

Some say that the government should restrict the sale of genetically modified foods. Other say there is no need for such restrictions. Please look at Card B17. How much influence should each of the following groups have in deciding whether to restrict the sale of genetically modified foods?...Medical researchers...Would you say a great deal of influence, a fair amount, a little influence, or none at all?

Subpopulation/Note: Asked of 1/5 sample

42% A great deal of influence
40 A fair amount
10 A little influence
3 None at all
5 Don't know

Organization: National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago
Dates: March 10-August 7, 2006

(Some say that the government should restrict the sale of genetically modified foods. Other say there is no need for such restrictions. Please look at Card B17. How much influence should each of the following groups have in deciding whether to restrict the sale of genetically modified foods?)...Elected officials...Would you say a great deal of influence, a fair amount, a little

influence, or none at all?

Subpopulation/Note: Asked of 1/5 sample

7% A great deal of influence
30 A fair amount
37 A little influence
21 None at all
5 Don't know

Organization: National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago

Dates: March 10-August 7, 2006

(Some say that the government should restrict the sale of genetically modified foods. Other say there is no need for such restrictions. Please look at Card B17. How much influence should each of the following groups have in deciding whether to restrict the sale of genetically modified foods?)...Business leaders...Would you say a great deal of influence, a fair amount, a little influence, or none at all?

Subpopulation/Note: Asked of 1/5 sample

4% A great deal of influence
16 A fair amount
41 A little influence
34 None at all
6 Don't know

Organization: National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago

Dates: March 10-August 7, 2006

Please look at Card B18. When making policy recommendations about genetically modified foods, to what extent do you think the following groups would support what is best for the country as a whole or what serves their own narrow interests? (If Asked what narrow interest means, say:) Well, someone might gain financially if a certain policy were adopted or it might advance his or her career....Medical researchers

Subpopulation/Note: Asked of 1/5 sample

34% 1 What is best for the country
29 2
19 3
7 4
6 5 Own narrow interests
5 Don't know

Organization: National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago
Dates: March 10-August 7, 2006

(Please look at Card B18. When making policy recommendations about genetically modified foods, to what extent do you think the following groups would support what is best for the country as a whole or what serves their own narrow interests? (If Asked what narrow interest means, say:) Well, someone might gain financially if a certain policy were adopted or it might advance his or her career.)...Business leaders

Subpopulation/Note: Asked of 1/5 sample

2%	1	What is best for the country
4	2	
24	3	
32	4	
32	5	Own narrow interests
6		Don't know

Organization: National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago
Dates: March 10-August 7, 2006

Which statement best describes your own view about eating foods that have been genetically modified?...I don't care whether the food I eat has been genetically modified. I am willing to eat genetically modified foods, but would prefer unmodified foods if they are available. I will not eat food that I know has been genetically modified.

Subpopulation/Note: Asked of 1/5 sample

16%	I don't care whether the food I eat has been genetically modified
52	I am willing to eat genetically modified foods but would prefer unmodified foods if they are available
30	I will not eat food that I know has been genetically modified
3	Don't know

Organization: National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago
Dates: March 10-August 7, 2006