

Nature survey of readers regarding the importance of the 2024 US presidential election.

The survey solicited responses on the *Nature* website, on social media and in the *Nature Briefing*, an e-mail newsletter. The poll was open from 7–16 October. Respondents' answers are anonymous, although some left their names and e-mail addresses and said they would be willing to be contacted by *Nature* reporters.

Demographics: 2,012 people completed the survey, although not all of the respondents answered every question, including a question about what field they work in; 1,550 reported being researchers and listed their field of research; 245 said they are not researchers.

How important to you is the outcome of the US presidential election?

Very important	1,459	73%
Fairly important	362	18%
Of average importance	112	6%
Of little importance	46	2%
Not important at all	22	1%
Total	2,001	100%

*Excludes 11 non-responders

What is the main reason that it is important to you?

Climate change	660	34%
Security (global or domestic)	483	25%
Other	478	25%
Public health (global or domestic)	190	10%
Economics/trade	119	6%
Total	1,930	100%

*Excludes 82 non-responders

How important to science is the outcome of the US presidential election?

Very important	1,363	68%
Fairly important	401	20%
Of average importance	146	7%
Of little importance	68	4%
Not important at all	27	1%

Total	2,005	100%
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*Excludes 7 non-responders

What is the main reason that you think the outcome of the election is important to science?

It affects progress on climate change	498	26%
It affects science funding	450	24%
It influences global science policy	437	23%
Other, namely	327	17%
It affects where researchers work and train	98	5%
It affects public health	97	5%
Total	1,907	100%

* Excludes 105 non-responders

Will the outcome of the election affect whether the United States is a good place to build a career in science?

Yes	1,487
No	251
Total	1,738

*Excludes 274 non-responders

Who is your preferred candidate?

Harris	1,717
Trump	120
Prefer not to say	86
Other, namely	82
Total	2,005

*Excludes 7 non-responders

If your preferred candidate does not win the election, would you consider:

	US-based researchers	Non-US-based researchers
Changing where you live	293	79
Finding a different place to study	28	67
Changing your field of research	15	10
None of the above	425	566

Total

761

723

*Totals exclude those who did not respond, did not identify themselves as researchers or say where they are based. Overall, 1,957 people answered the question but did not identify as a researcher or give their location.