

AIPI Toplines

Online sample of 1228 respondents fielded over web panels from January 19 to January 21 and weighted to education, age, gender, race, and 2020 election results. The margin of error is +/- 3.5.

1) On the whole when thinking about artificial intelligence would you say you are more excited about growth in artificial intelligence or more concerned?

	All	D	I	R
Mostly excited.....	8	10	5	7
Somewhat excited.....	17	16	17	18
Totally neutral.....	25	25	27	23
Somewhat concerned.....	26	24	25	29
Mostly concerned.....	24	24	25	24

2) Which goal do you prioritize more in artificial intelligence policy?

	All	D	I	R
Keeping powerful AI models out of the hands of America's enemies	52	50	52	56
Giving AI developers the freedom to innovate and bring benefits of AI to the public	27	30	26	24
Not sure	21	20	22	20

3) Some policymakers are proposing mandatory cybersecurity standards for companies developing advanced AI systems, to protect this technology from theft by foreign adversaries. Do you support or oppose this policy?

	All	D	I	R
Support this policy	68	68	70	66
Oppose this policy	9	8	6	12
Not sure	23	23	24	22

4) There is currently a debate over whether there should be mandatory cyber security requirements for AI companies.

Those in support of cyber security requirements say that we need these requirements to protect these vital systems for national security from foreign adversaries like China.

Those against cyber security requirements say that this is burdensome regulation which will deter innovation and make it harder to allow everyone to access AI systems.

Who do you agree with more?

	All	D	I	R
Those arguing for cybersecurity requirements	64	64	65	64
Those arguing against cybersecurity requirements	15	16	13	16
Not sure	21	20	22	21

5) The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is a federal agency that supports consistent measurement and technology standards, and enhances cybersecurity and safety in technology. It plays a key role in artificial intelligence, housing the US AI Safety Institute. Currently, it is strapped for federal funding.

Some policymakers have proposed creating an independent foundation to support the work at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). This foundation could accept private sector and philanthropic funding and support the work of the federal agency.

Do you support or oppose creating this independent foundation?

	All	D	I	R
Support creating this independent foundation.....	43	48	41	40
Oppose creating this independent foundation	18	18	16	19
Not sure	39	35	43	41

6) Some have argued that Congress should pass a bill that makes it illegal for powerful AI models to be exported to China and other potential US adversaries.

Supporters argue that Chinese access to powerful AI models from the US is dangerous. China's ability to increase the power of their own AI models currently relies on US technology. Additionally, terrorists could use powerful US AI models to aid cyber and biological attacks on the US.

Detractors say that export controls are a threat to US innovation. They claim that export controls benefit large AI companies over small AI companies which will have a difficult time complying. Additionally, they say that export controls will be difficult to enforce without threatening open source AI models and increasing the cost of AI.

What do you think? Should we make it illegal for powerful AI models to be exported to potential US adversaries?

	All	D	I	R
Yes, we should make it illegal to export powerful AI models to potential US adversaries	63	62	59	66
No, we should not make it illegal to export powerful AI models to potential US adversaries.....	15	16	13	14
Don't know	23	21	28	20

7) Below are two types of interventions which could help the US retain a lead over China on AI. Which type of intervention do you most prefer?

	All	D	I	R
Export controls and security requirements to restrict China’s ability to develop powerful AI quickly	45	47	41	45
Subsidies and limiting regulation to increase America’s ability to develop powerful AI quickly	25	22	26	27
Not sure	30	30	33	27

8) The US AI Safety Institute, housed within the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), is a government initiative aimed at advancing the science and practice of AI safety to ensure the responsible development and use of artificial intelligence. Its mission is to evaluate AI capabilities and risks, develop safety guidelines, and foster collaboration among diverse communities to maximize AI's benefits while mitigating potential harms to national security, public safety, and individual rights. The US national AI Safety Institute creates voluntary safety standards for companies developing powerful AI models.

Some policymakers are considering giving this institution legislative authorization through legislation, meaning it would remain as a stable institution regardless of administration. Would you support or oppose authorizing this agency through legislation?

	All	D	I	R
Support authorizing the AI safety institute	56	63	57	48
Oppose authorizing the AI safety institute	12	11	9	14
Not sure	32	26	34	38

9) The US national AI Safety Institute creates voluntary safety standards for companies developing powerful AI models.

Some policymakers have introduced a bill that authorizes the US national AI Safety Institute as a stable institution. The bill also establishes testing facilities at government labs, sets up prize competitions for AI breakthroughs, makes datasets available for research, and promotes international collaboration on AI standards and research.

Do you support or oppose this bill?

	All	D	I	R
Support this bill	47	52	45	42
Oppose this bill.....	16	15	12	19
Not sure.....	38	33	43	38

10) Which approach to AI regulation would you prefer?

Ban:

Under this approach, building AI systems larger than those currently in existence would be made illegal for the time being. More powerful systems would only be allowed to be built after more research has been conducted to prove that these more powerful models would be safe.

No regulation:

Under this approach, AI systems themselves would not be subject to regulatory requirements. All regulation would fall on users of foundation AI models, who would be responsible for how to use models for illegal activity. Producers of the models would not face additional regulation.

	All	D	I	R
Ban	48	47	48	48
No regulation.....	18	20	16	18
Not sure.....	34	32	37	34

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Safety mandates:

Under this approach, companies developing advanced AI systems would be mandated to implement safety measures and security standards for their most advanced models. They could only release the model once a government oversight board certifies they have properly accounted for extreme risks, including preventing AI from being used to create bioweapons and launch cyberattacks.

	All	D	I	R
Ban	20	16	19	25
Safety mandates.....	58	62	56	55
Not sure	22	22	25	20

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	All	D	I	R
No regulation	7	7	5	8
Safety mandates.....	73	74	70	74
Not sure	20	19	25	18