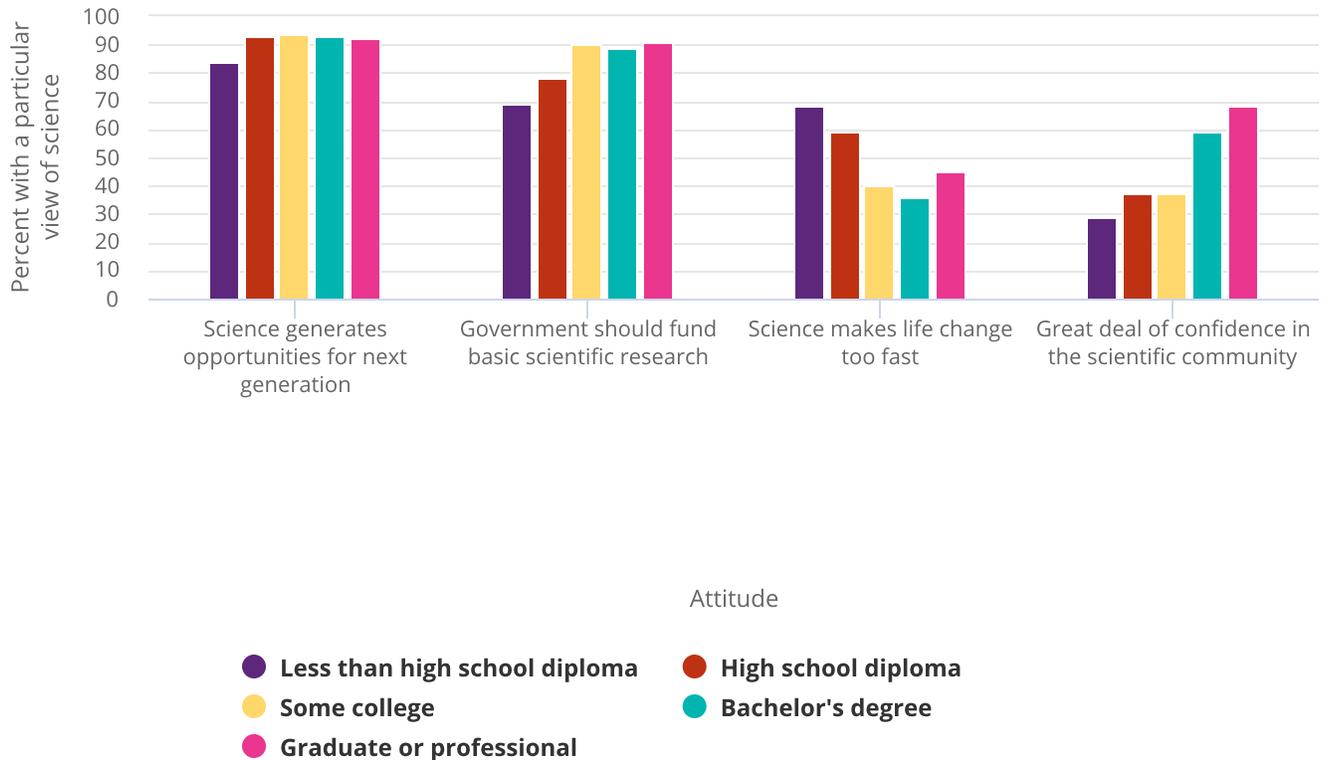


FIGURE 30

Americans' views of science, by education level: 2018

**Note(s)**

The most recent attitudes data are from the General Social Survey (GSS) 2018 (available at <https://gss.norc.org/getthedata/Pages/Home.aspx>), conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago. Historical attitudes data are from the Survey of Consumer Attitudes, conducted by the University of Michigan, and from the Survey of Public Attitudes Toward and Understanding of Science and Technology, conducted by NCSES (both available at <https://www.icpsr.umich.edu/icpsrweb/ICPSR/studies/28368>). The following questions from these surveys are used in these figures:

- Agree that science generates opportunities for next generation: Data show responses of "strongly agree" and "agree" with the statement, *Because of science and technology, there will be more opportunities for the next generation.*
- Agree that government should fund basic scientific research: Data show responses of "strongly agree" and "agree" with the statement, *Even if it brings no immediate benefits, scientific research that advances the frontiers of knowledge is necessary and should be supported by the federal government.*
- Agree that science makes life change too fast: Data show responses of "strongly agree" and "agree" with the statement, *Science makes our way of life change too fast.*
- Have a great deal of confidence in the scientific community: Data show respondents expressing a "great deal of confidence" when asked, *As far as the people running these institutions are concerned, would you say that you have a great deal of confidence, only some confidence, or hardly any confidence at all in them?*

Source(s)

NCSES, special tabulations (2019) by SRI International of the 2018 General Social Survey, NORC at the University of Chicago.

Indicators 2020: Public Attitudes and Understanding