

MITRE

 **The Harris Poll**
Harris Insights & Analytics, A Stagwell LLC Company

MITRE-Harris Poll Survey on Innovation

A survey exploring U.S. residents' awareness and perceptions around technology R&D, cyber attacks, and artificial intelligence.

January 2022

Research Method



Sample Size:
n=2,037



Mode:
Online survey



Field Dates:
October 5-7, 2021



Qualification Criteria:
U.S. residents
Adults Ages 18+



Weighting:
Data weighted to ensure
results are projectable to
U.S. adults ages 18+



In Tables & Charts:
Percentages may not add up
to 100% due to weighting,
computer rounding, and/or the
acceptance of multiple responses.

This survey was conducted by The Harris Poll via its Harris On Demand omnibus product on behalf of MITRE.

Findings

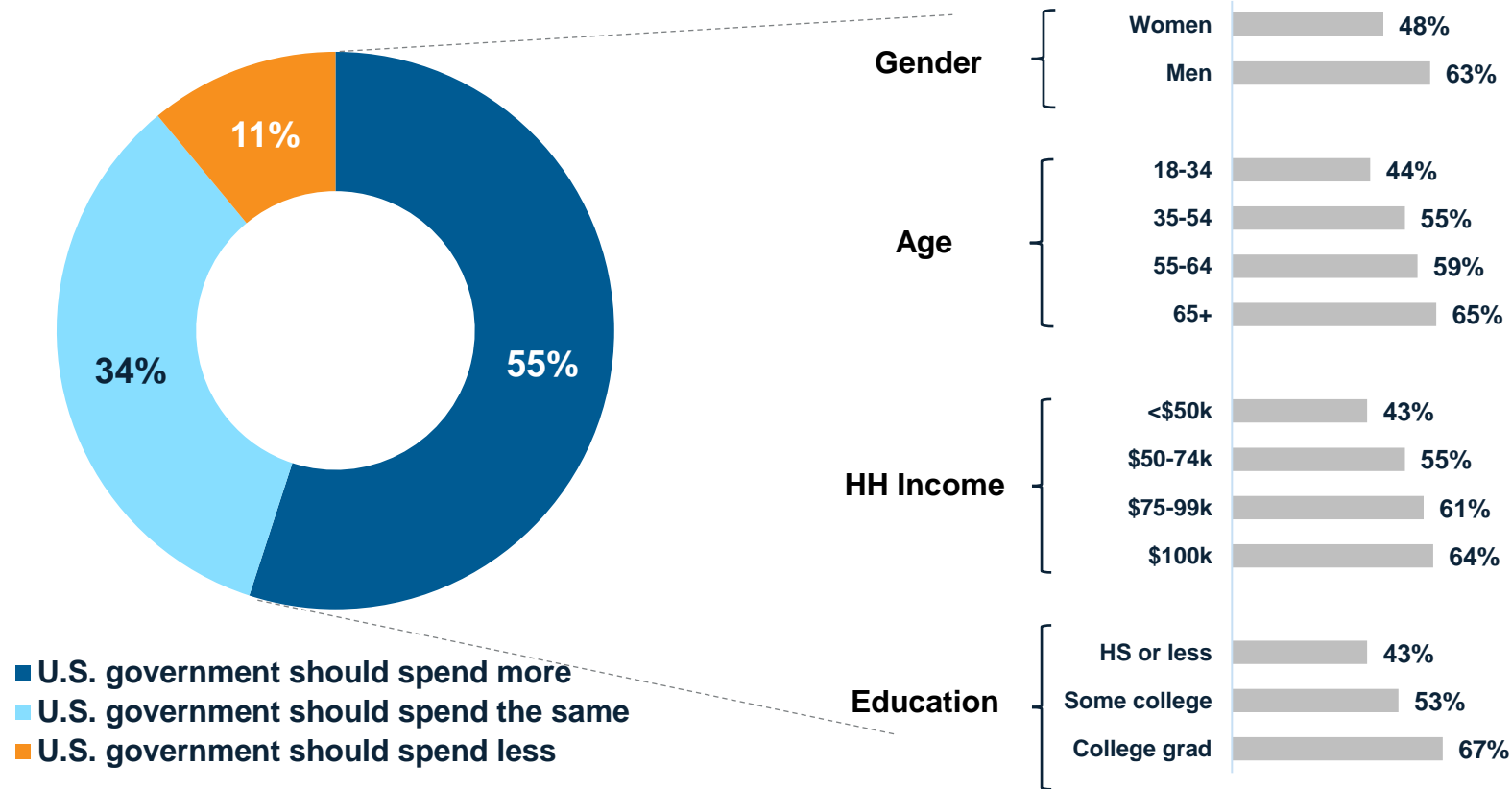
77% of U.S. residents
are concerned about ransomware,
IP theft and attacks on
critical infrastructure

Key Findings

- More U.S. residents believe we are behind China than ahead of China on technology R&D, and more than half believe the U.S. government should invest more on technology R&D in order to stay ahead of China.
- More U.S. residents believe we are behind China than ahead of China on the development of semiconductors. The majority of U.S. residents are familiar with the shortage of semiconductors and computers chips causing delays in technology production.
- While U.S. residents believe the United States has a slight edge on China on the development of 5G and advanced telecommunications, more than half are concerned about the U.S. falling behind, and two-thirds have concerns about using telecommunications equipment developed in non-democratic countries such as China.
- 3-in-4 U.S. residents are very concerned or somewhat concerned about foreign attacks on American infrastructure, theft of American intellectual property, and ransomware attacks.
- U.S. residents agree ransomware and cyberattacks on the U.S. are akin to terrorism, criminal activity, and corporate espionage. Nearly 8-in-10 think companies should be prohibited from paying ransom to hackers to prevent future attacks.
- Despite many positive applications of artificial intelligence, most U.S. residents express concerns about AI. Half are very concerned about AI being used for malicious intent.

55% of U.S. residents believe the U.S. government should spend more on technology R&D to stay ahead of China. Men, older residents, and those with higher incomes and education are more likely to say the government should spend more.

Do you think the U.S. government should spend more, less, or the same as now on technology R&D to stay ahead of China?

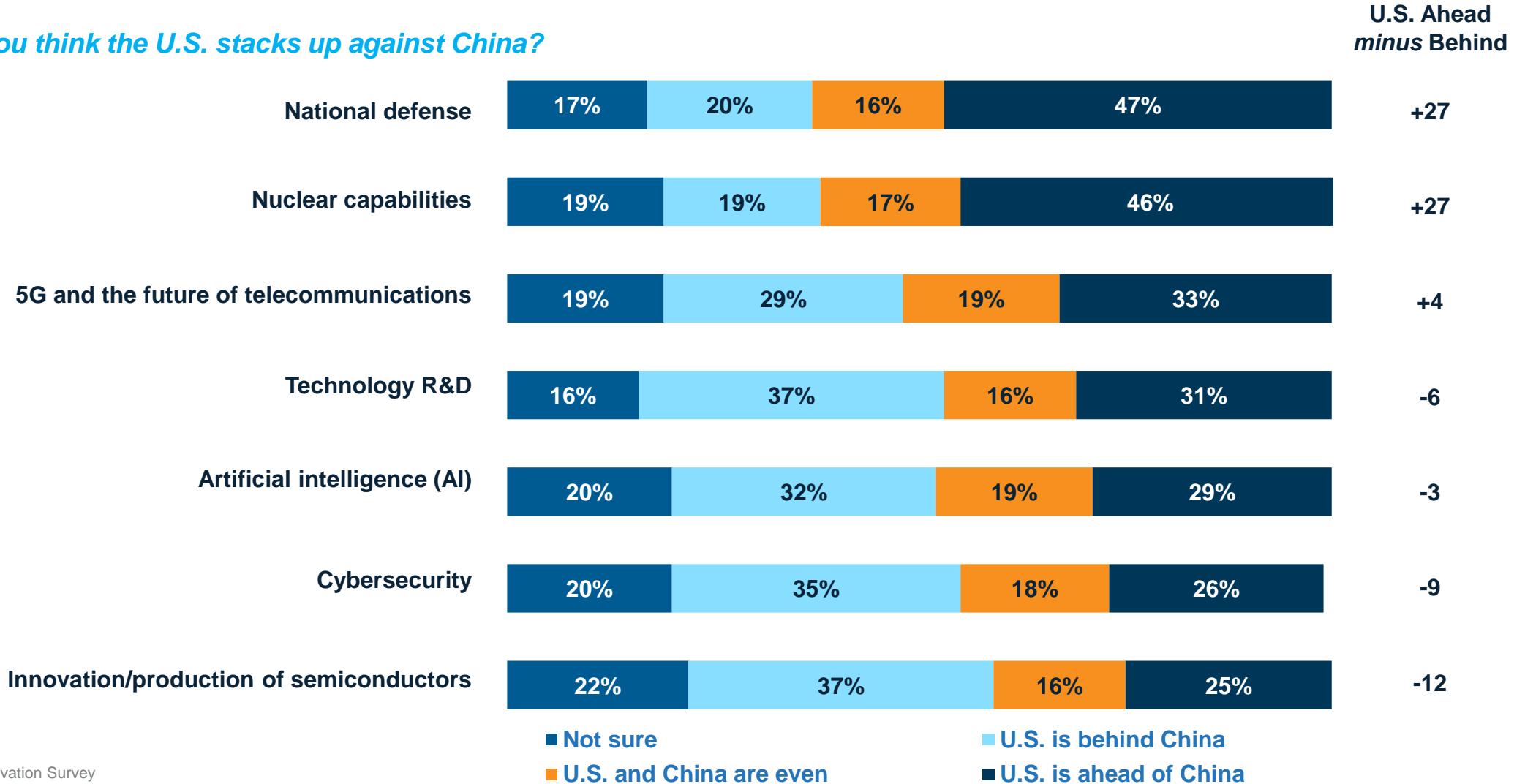


Source: MITRE Innovation Survey
 BASE: ALL RESPONDENTS (n=2037)

Q1 The U.S. currently has the lead in technology research & development (R&D) spending, but China is catching up fast. In fact, China outspent us 3:1 on R&D just last year. Independent experts predict that the United States will fall behind China for government investment in technology R&D within the next few years. How aggressive should the U.S. be when it comes to staying ahead of China on R&D? Do you think the U.S. government should spend more or less on technology R&D to stay ahead of China?

U.S. residents believe the U.S. is ahead of China on national defense and nuclear capabilities, but behind China on semiconductors, cybersecurity and tech R&D.

How do you think the U.S. stacks up against China?



Source: MITRE Innovation Survey
 BASE: ALL RESPONDENTS (n=2037)

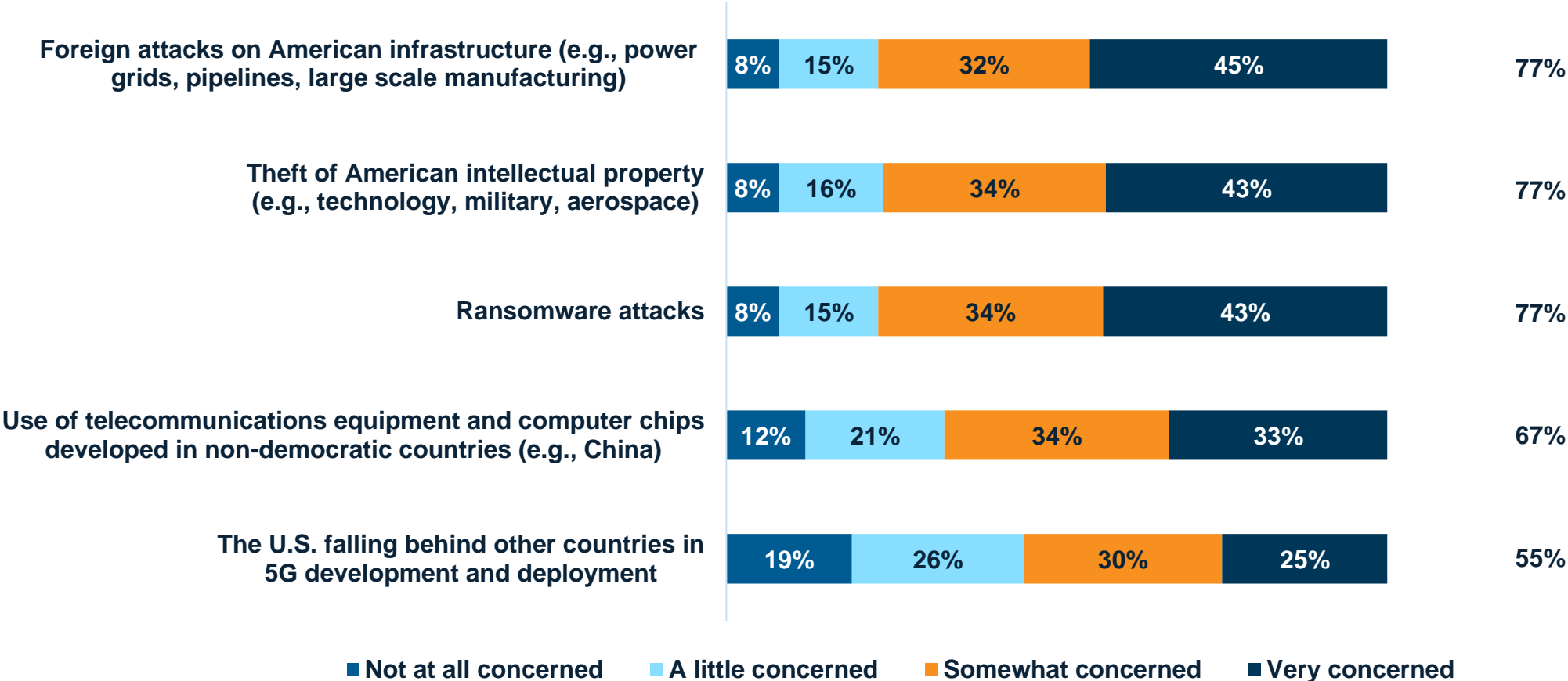
Q2 How do you think the U.S stacks up against China in each of the following areas?

3-in-4 U.S. residents are very or somewhat concerned about foreign attacks on American infrastructure, theft of American intellectual property, and ransomware attacks.



How concerned are you about each of the following?

Very/
Somewhat
Concerned

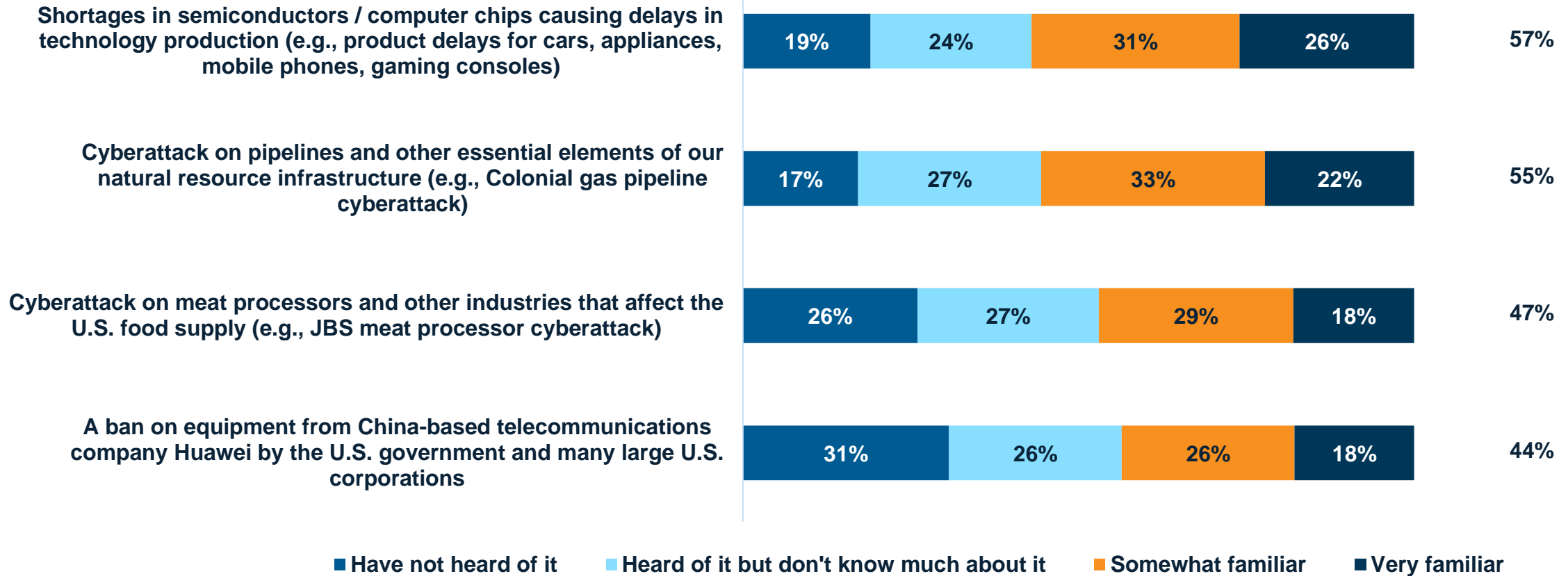


Source: MITRE Innovation Survey
 BASE: ALL RESPONDENTS (n=2037)
 Q3. Thinking about global competitiveness and the national security of the United States, how concerned are you about each of the following?

Most U.S. residents have heard of these issues, and more than half are very or somewhat familiar with cyberattacks on our national resource infrastructure and shortages of semiconductors.

How familiar are you with each of the following

Very/ Somewhat Familiar

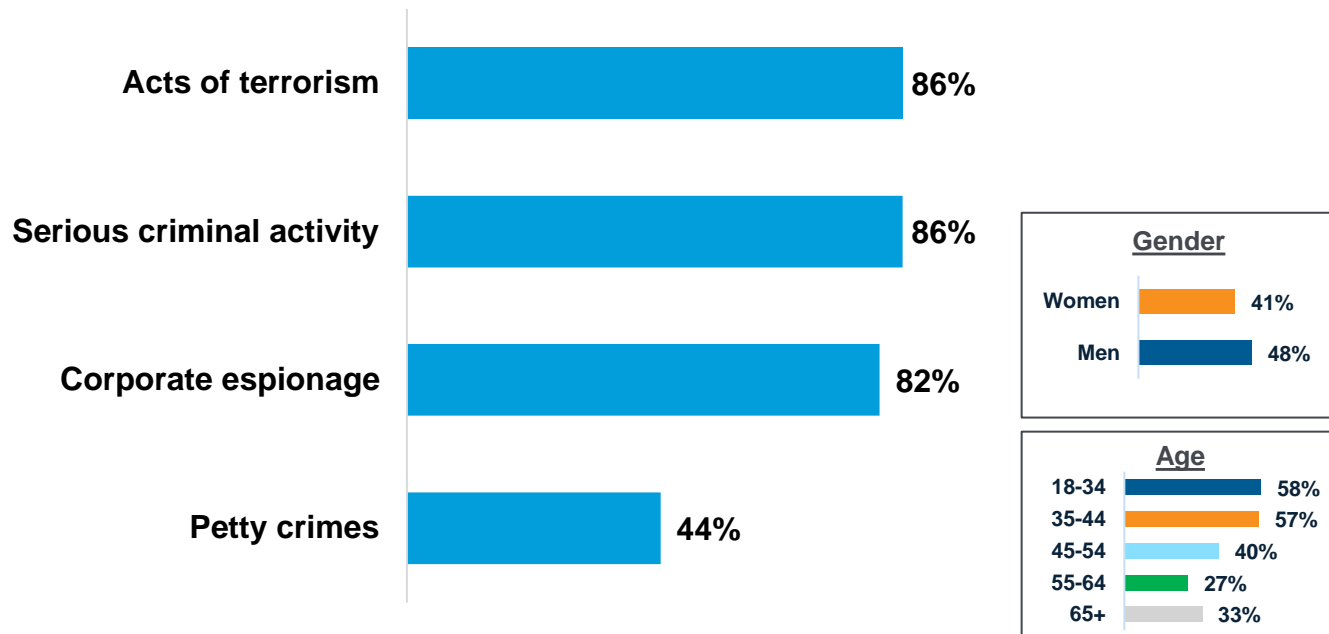


Source: MITRE Innovation Survey
 BASE: ALL RESPONDENTS (n=2037)
 Q4. How familiar are you with each of the following?

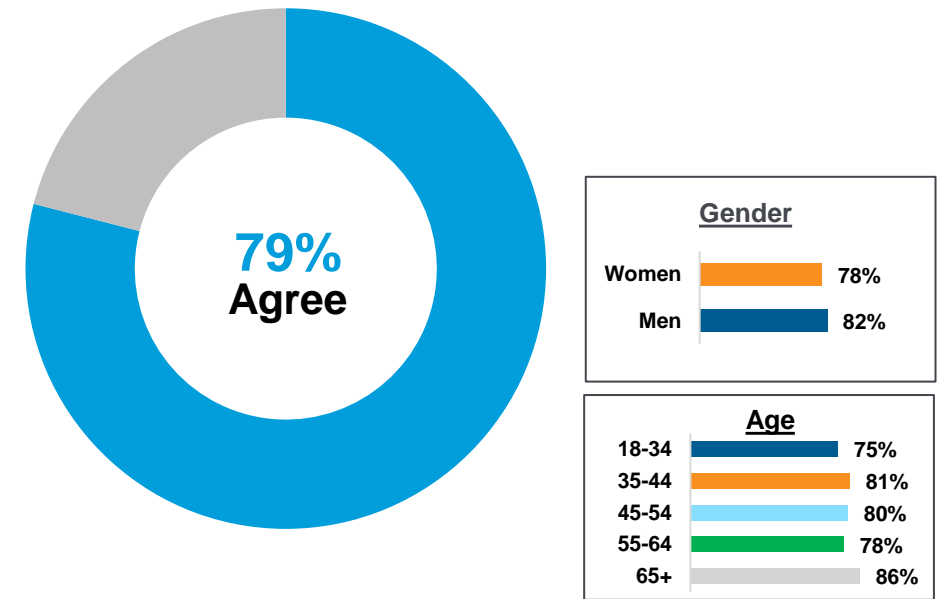
U.S. residents agree ransomware and cyberattacks on the U.S. are akin to terrorism, criminal activity and corporate espionage. Nearly 8-in-10 think companies should be prohibited from paying ransoms.

Younger residents are more likely than others to describe these activities as petty crimes, but even they agree companies should not pay ransom.

% Agree
Describes foreign ransomware and other cyberattacks on U.S. infrastructure and manufacturing



% Agree
Companies should be prohibited from paying ransom to hackers



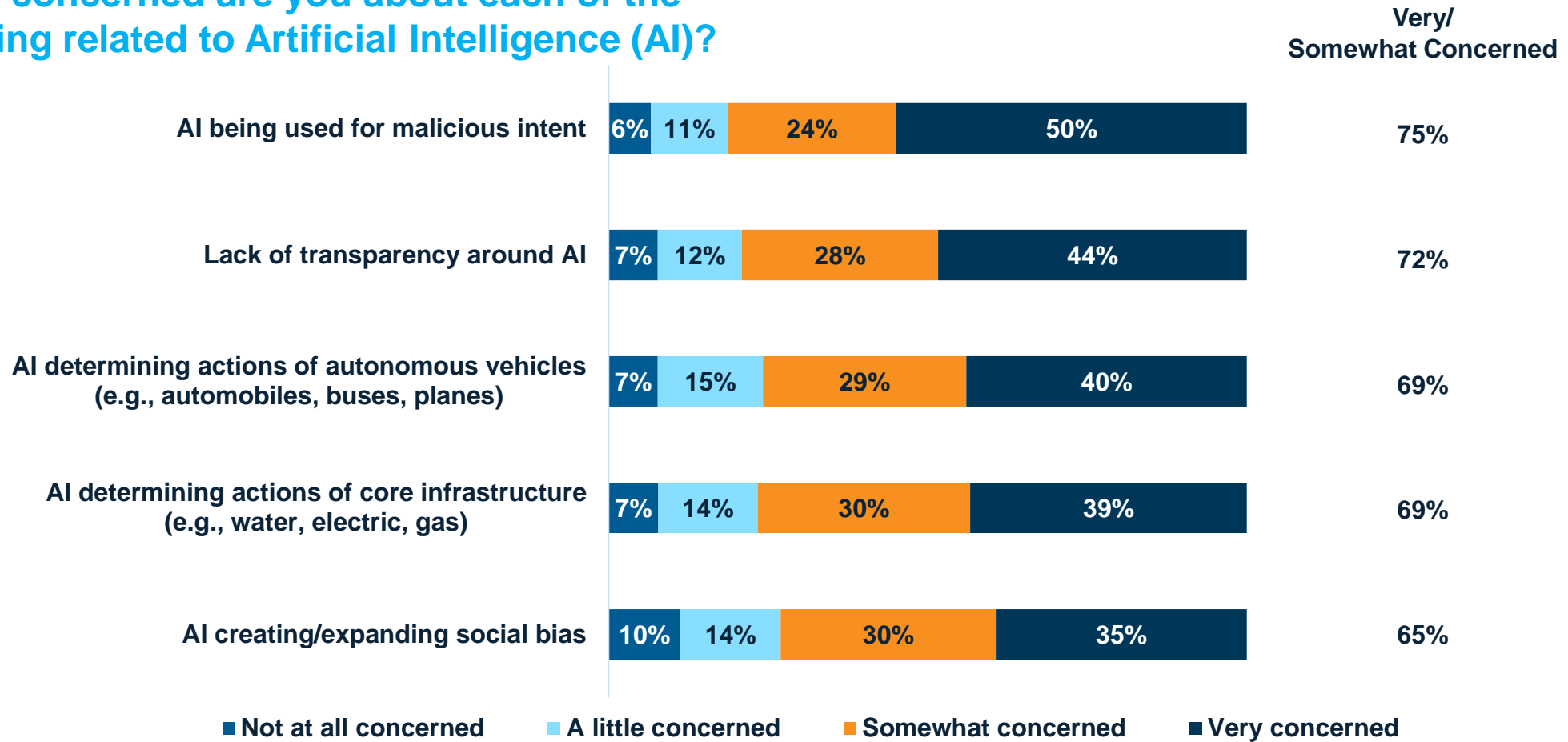
Source: MITRE Innovation Survey
 BASE: ALL RESPONDENTS (n=2037)

Q6. Ransomware is a type of malicious software (malware) that blocks access to data or a computer system, usually by encrypting it, until the victim pays a ransom fee to the attacker, usually with cryptocurrency such as Bitcoin. To what extent do you agree or disagree each of the following describes foreign ransomware and other cyberattacks on U.S. infrastructure (e.g., power grid, pipelines, and hospitals) and manufacturing (e.g., food processing)?

Q7. The White House has warned the private sector that paying ransoms to hackers to regain access to data or a computer system could encourage hackers to increase their activities. To what extent do you agree or disagree that companies should be prohibited from paying ransoms to hackers?

Despite many positive applications of Artificial Intelligence, most U.S. residents express concerns about AI. Half of U.S. residents are *very concerned* about AI being used for malicious intent.

How concerned are you about each of the following related to Artificial Intelligence (AI)?



Source: MITRE Innovation Survey
 BASE: ALL RESPONDENTS (n=2037)

Q8. Artificial Intelligence (AI) has many applications, including the potential to improve customer service and execute dangerous jobs, but there are also potential downsides. How concerned are you about each of the following related to AI?

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Thank you

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