



Intellectual Property Protections

Polling by **Morning Consult** on behalf of the **Bayh-Dole Coalition**

— JANUARY 2024





Methodology

This poll was conducted between December 22-24, 2023, among a sample of 2,202 Adults. The interviews were conducted online, and the data were weighted to approximate a target sample of Adults based on age, gender, race, educational attainment, region, gender by age, and race by educational attainment. Results from the full survey have a margin of error of plus or minus 2 percentage points.

Key Takeaways

1

Americans want the Biden Administration to protect the country's intellectual property (IP) by preserving the WTO's existing standards for inventors' rights, and express concern about the potential consequences of bypassing those standards.

Concern that patients could be exposed to unsafe medications in subpar foreign facilities (66%) and that America's competitors will gain access to American technology for free (69%) is especially high.

2

Two-thirds of U.S. adults do not believe China and other foreign adversaries should be able to replicate and profit from copies of American innovations without the permission of their inventors.

Seven-in-ten respondents agree the Biden Administration should prioritize the preservation of U.S. manufacturing jobs when evaluating potential changes to international agreements regarding IP.

3

Candidates who prioritize protecting the intellectual property rights of American inventors to encourage innovation are popular across party lines.

Most adults characterize current U.S. policies aimed at encouraging development of new medicines as *about right* (40%) or *too restrictive* (15%), and few would be inclined to vote for political candidates who defer to the interests of other nations when changes to IP protections are under consideration.



Agenda

1

WTO Intellectual Property Protections

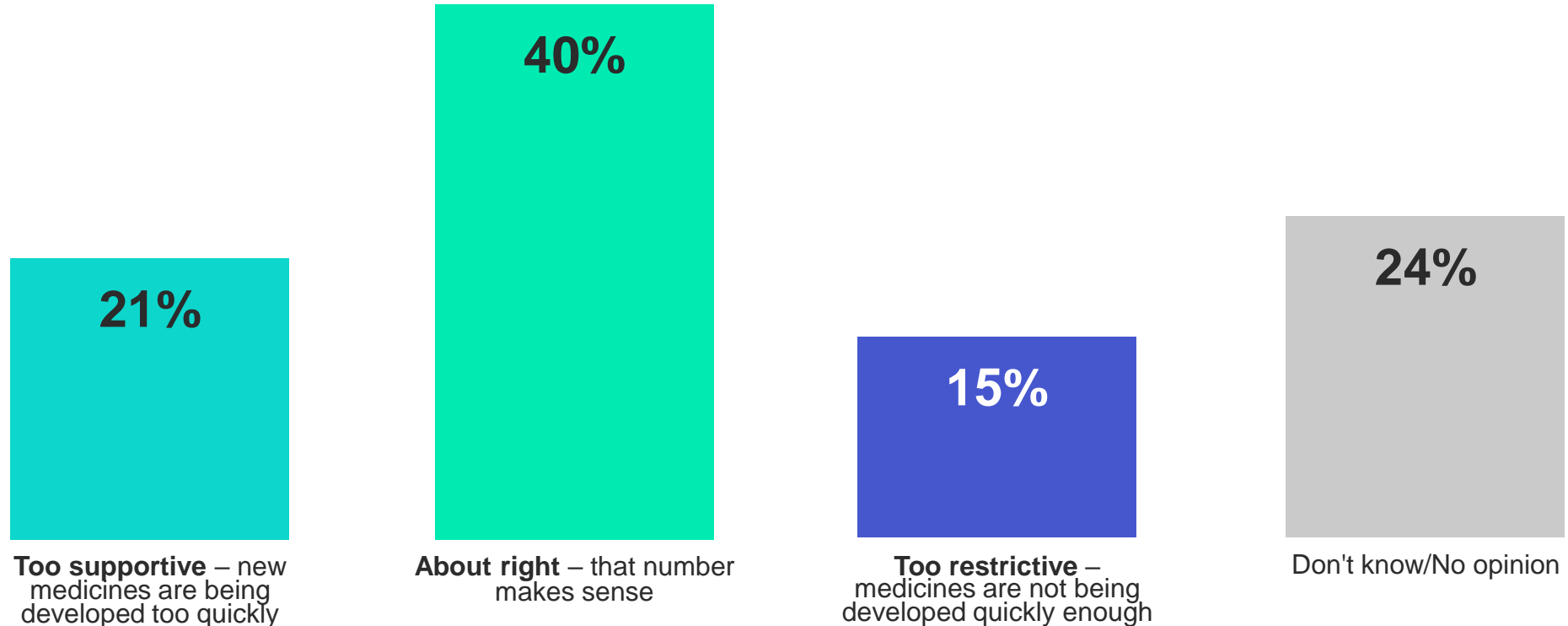
2

WTO Proposal Concerns

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTIONS

A plurality of Americans view existing policies to encourage the development of new medicines in the U.S. as about right – more than the combined share who perceive them as overly permissive or restrictive.

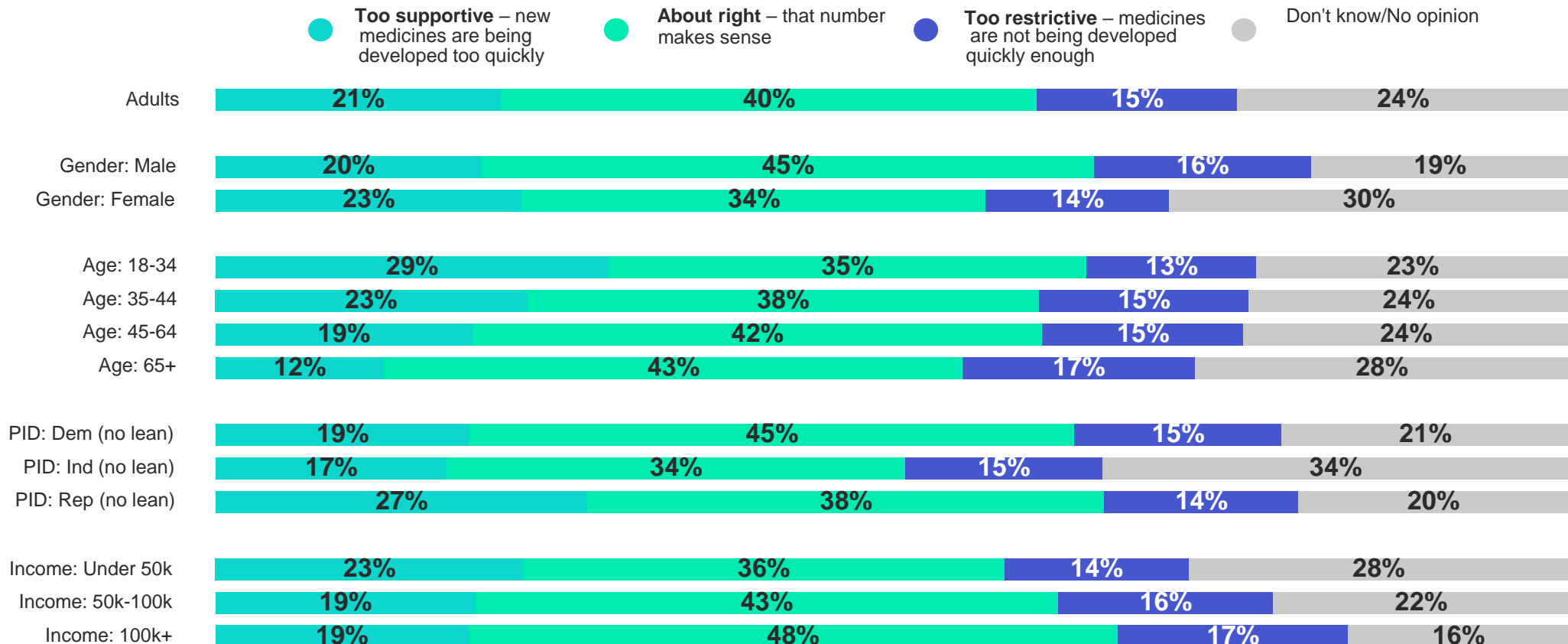
The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved an average of 43 new drugs each year over the past decade. Knowing that, do you think existing government policies to encourage the development of new medicines in the United States are...



INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTIONS

Pluralities across key demographics tend to believe U.S. policies aimed at encouraging domestic R&D of new medicines are *about right*. Political independents, women, seniors, and lower earners express greater ambivalence than others.

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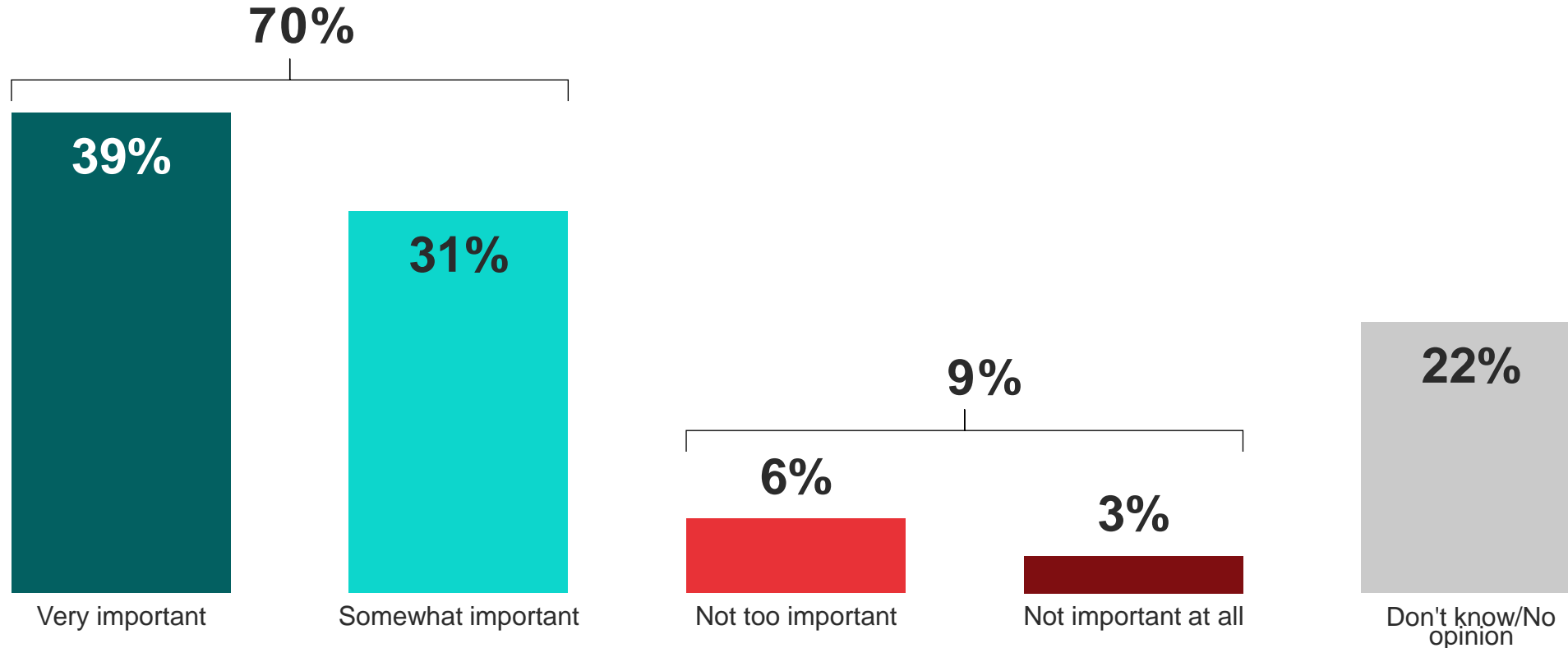


INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTIONS

Seven-in-ten Americans find it important for the Biden Administration to preserve WTO standards for protecting intellectual property, most of whom say it is *very important*.

In 1995, the World Trade Organization (WTO) agreed to minimum standards for protecting intellectual property that are required of all member countries. These rules are meant to account for the immense time and expense required to bring new medicines to market by enforcing the patent rights of those who invent new medicines.

In your view, how important (if at all) is it for the Biden administration to protect those WTO safeguards in the interest of preserving the United States' intellectual property?

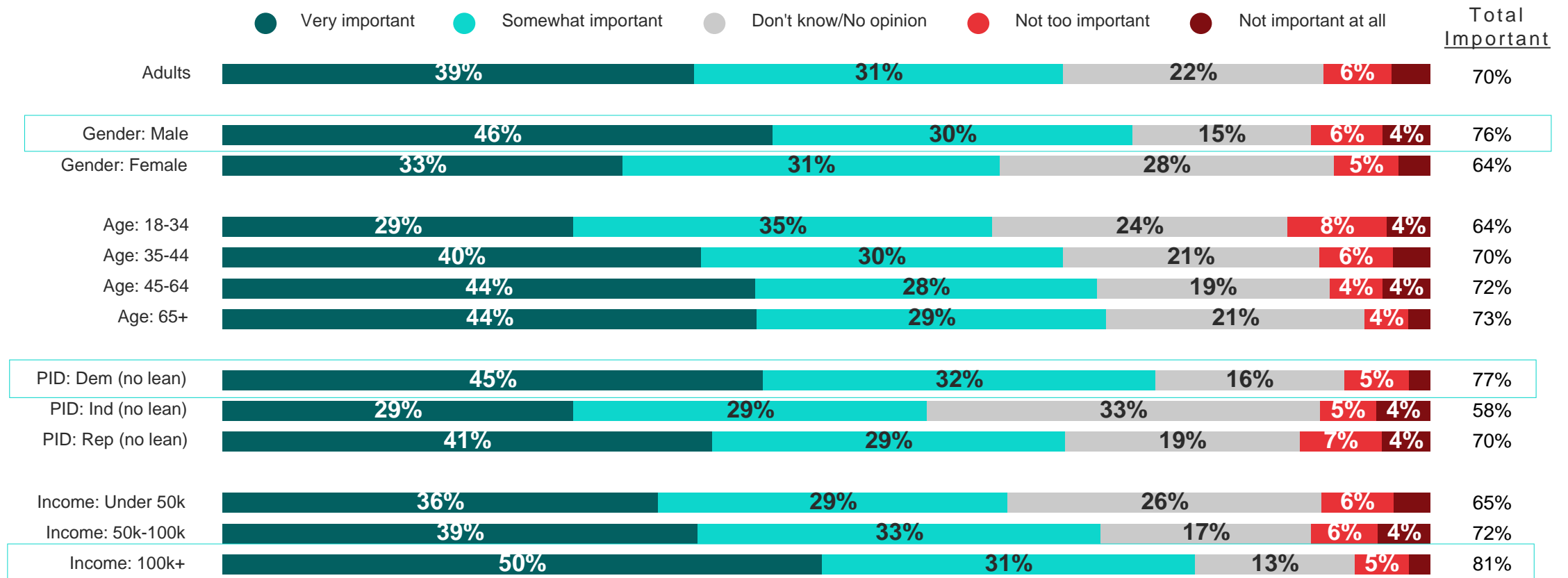


INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTIONS

Preserving the WTO's intellectual property safeguards is widely regarded as an important priority for the Biden Administration. Men, partisans, older and/or higher-earning adults tend to ascribe greater importance to it than others.

In 1995, the World Trade Organization (WTO) agreed to minimum standards for protecting intellectual property that are required of all member countries. These rules are meant to account for the immense time and expense required to bring new medicines to market by enforcing the patent rights of those who invent new medicines.

In your view, how important (if at all) is it for the Biden administration to protect those WTO safeguards in the interest of preserving the United States' intellectual property?

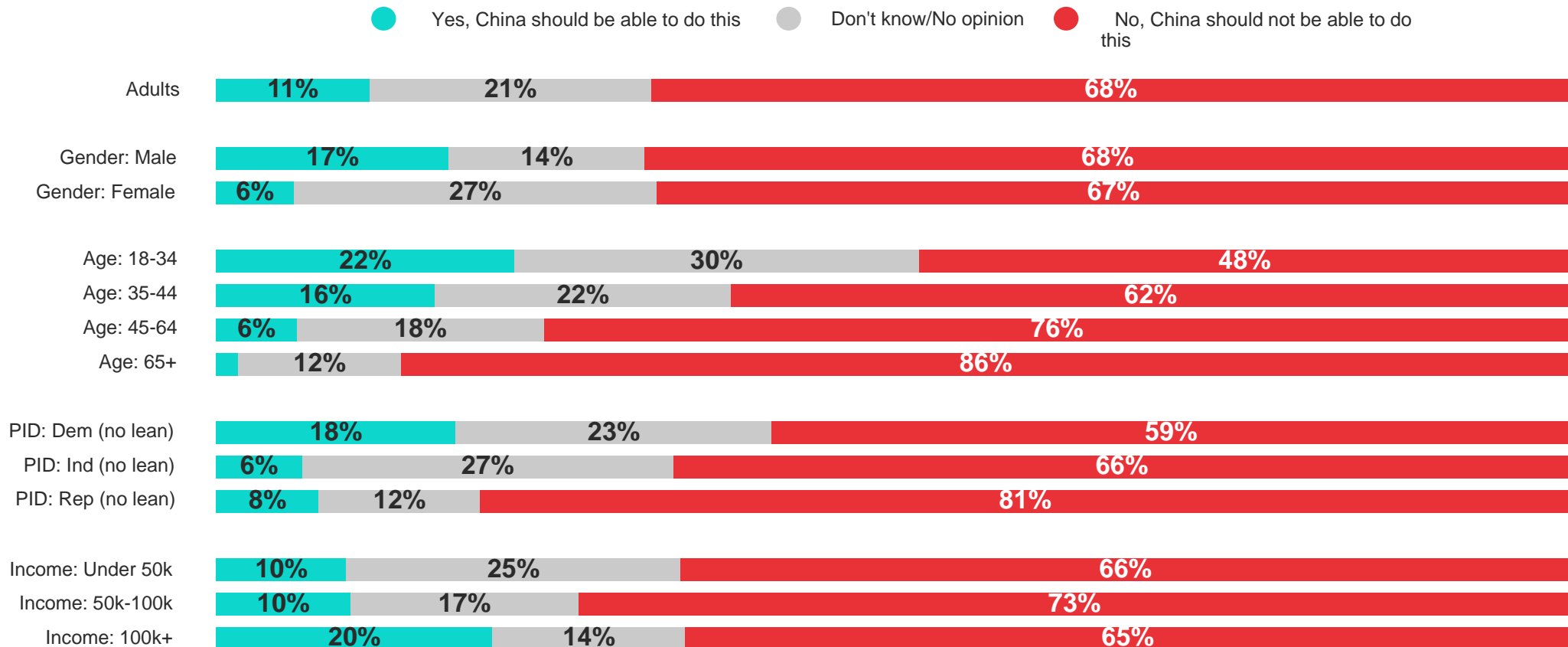


Total important = % Very important + % Somewhat important

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTIONS

More than six-times as many Americans oppose U.S. adversaries like China being able to replicate American-made technologies without permission from their inventors (68% vs 11%). Older adults and Republicans stand out for their widespread opposition.

Do you think China and other U.S. adversaries should be able to copy and manufacture technology developed in U.S. labs without the permission of American inventors?

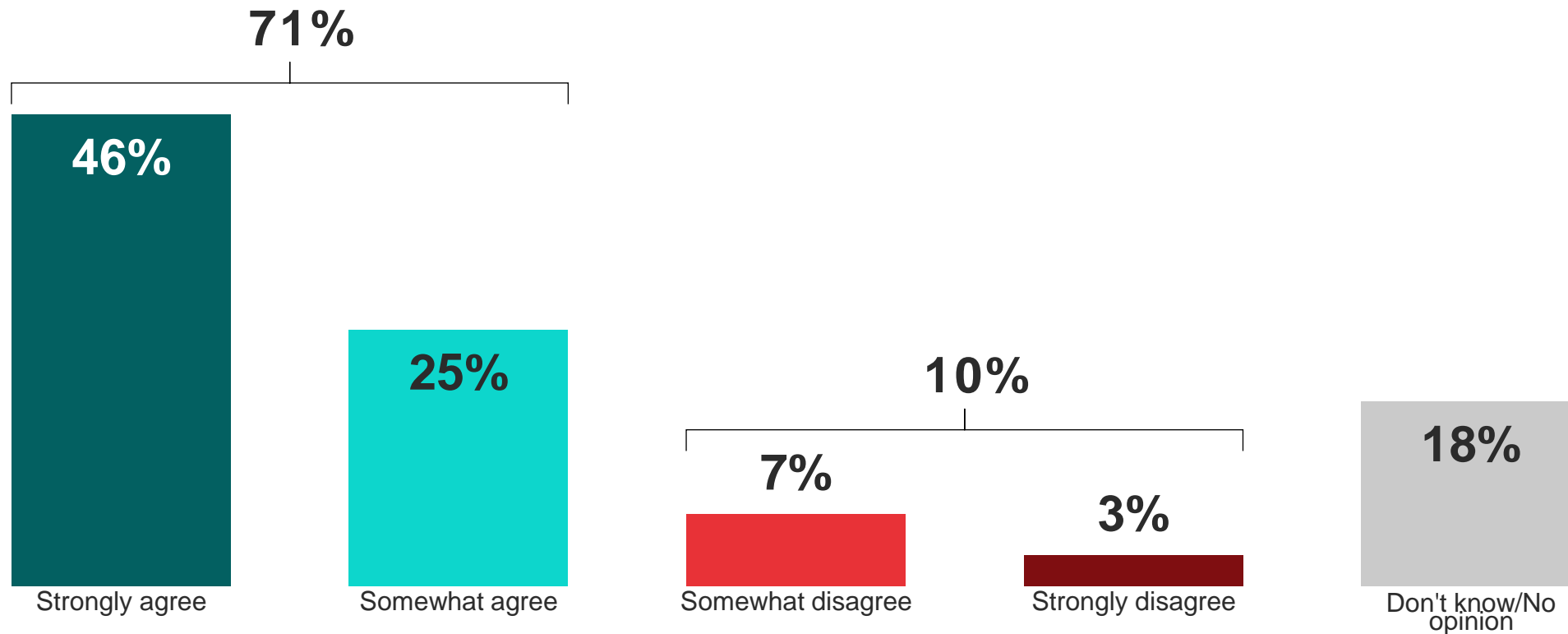


INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTIONS

Nearly half of Americans *strongly agree* the Biden Administration should prioritize protecting American manufacturing jobs when considering international agreements regarding intellectual property protections.

India has consistently pushed the WTO to weaken intellectual property protections for innovative medicines, as doing so would provide a large boost to the country's generic drug industry (already the world's largest). With that in mind, do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

President Biden should prioritize protecting American manufacturing jobs when considering international agreements regarding intellectual property protections.

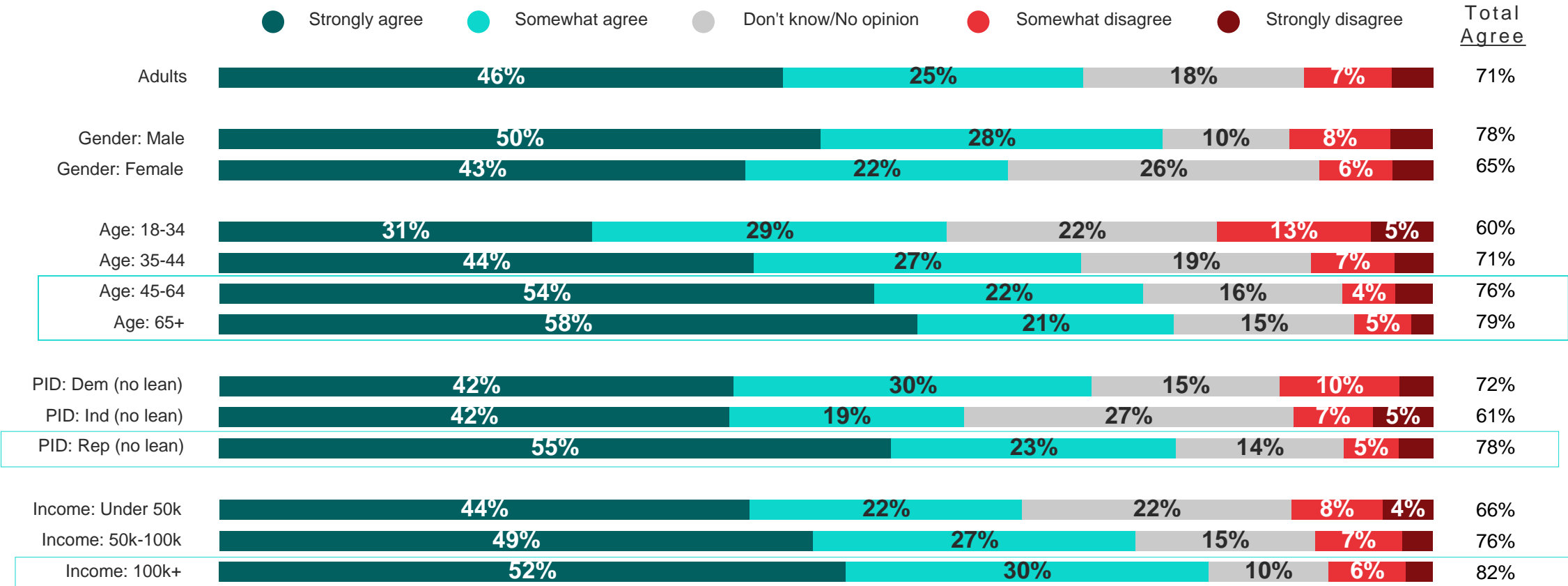


INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROTECTIONS

Agreement that President Biden should prioritize protecting U.S. manufacturing jobs when considering international agreements re: IP protections is particularly strong among Republicans, adults over 45, and higher earners.

India has consistently pushed the WTO to weaken intellectual property protections for innovative medicines, as doing so would provide a large boost to the country's generic drug industry (already the world's largest). With that in mind, do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

President Biden should prioritize protecting American manufacturing jobs when considering international agreements regarding intellectual property protections.





Agenda

1

Intellectual Property Protections

2

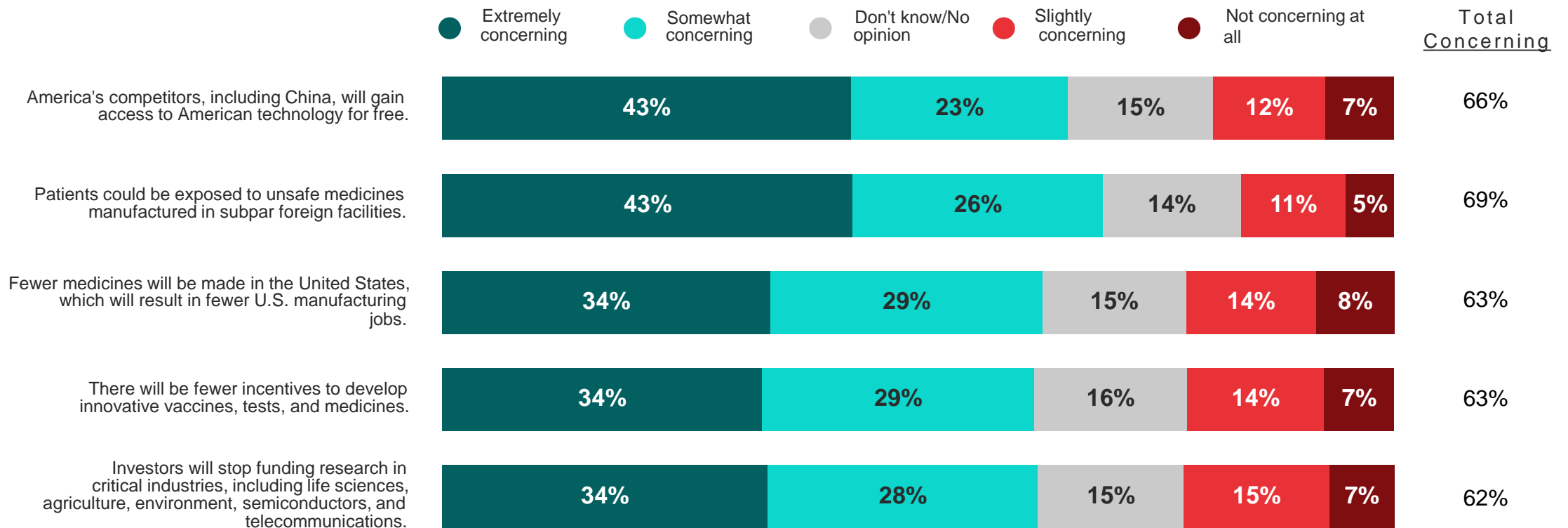
WTO Proposal Concerns

WTO PROPOSAL CONCERNS

Majorities of Americans find each of the potential outcomes of bypassing the WTO's IP protections for COVID-19 treatments concerning, with the prospects of a) exposing patients to unsafe medicines and b) adversaries like China having free access to U.S. technologies garnering the deepest concern.

The WTO is considering a proposal that would allow foreign countries to copy patented medicines for Covid-19 that were developed in the United States without the permission of their inventors. Supporters say the proposal will expand access to Covid-19 treatments globally. Opponents say it will discourage the development of treatments for future pandemics by undercutting the financial benefits of finding a cure.

Please indicate how concerning, if at all, you find the following potential consequences of this proposed action by the WTO?



WTO PROPOSAL CONCERNS

Across all potential consequences tested re: the WTO's potential waiver of IP protections for COVID-19 treatments, seniors and Republicans express greater concern than other Americans surveyed.

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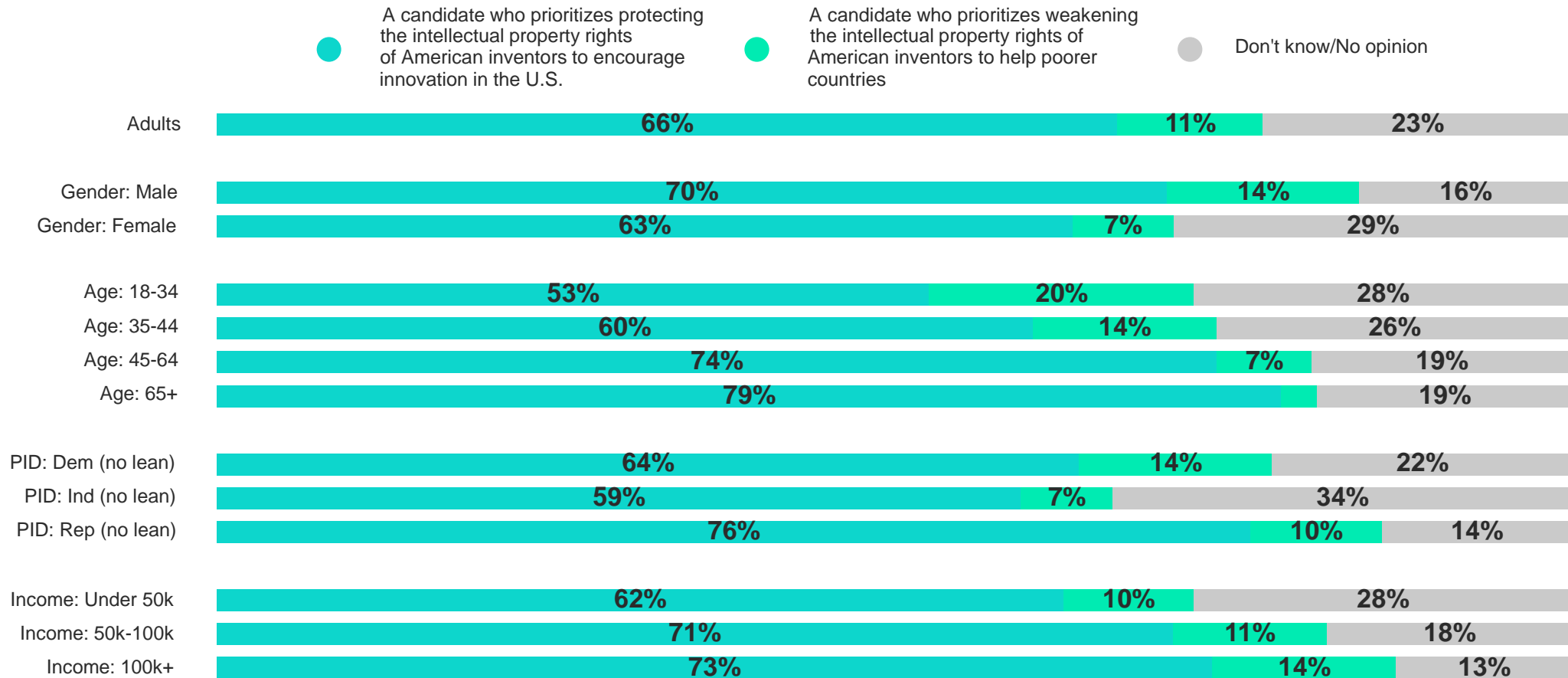
Please indicate how concerning, if at all, you find the following potential consequences of this proposed action by the WTO?

	Adults	Gender: Male	Gender: Female	Age: 18-34	Age: 35-44	Age: 45-64	Age: 65+	PID: Dem (no lean)	PID: Ind (no lean)	PID: Rep (no lean)	Income: Under 50k	Income: 50k-100k	Income: 100k+
Patients could be exposed to unsafe medicines manufactured in subpar foreign facilities.	69%	69%	70%	65%	68%	69%	76%	69%	61%	77%	66%	73%	75%
America's competitors, including China, will gain access to American technology for free.	66%	69%	63%	54%	66%	71%	74%	64%	56%	76%	62%	71%	70%
Investors will stop funding research in critical industries, inc. life sciences, agriculture, the environment., semi-conductors, and telecommunications.	63%	63%	62%	57%	64%	63%	68%	65%	55%	66%	61%	66%	64%
Fewer medicines will be made in the United States, which will result in fewer U.S. manufacturing jobs.	63%	65%	61%	57%	66%	64%	67%	63%	55%	70%	60%	67%	67%
There will be fewer incentives to develop innovative vaccines, tests, and medicines.	62%	66%	59%	55%	60%	65%	69%	62%	54%	69%	59%	66%	68%

WTO PROPOSAL CONCERNS

When it comes to IP safeguards for inventors, candidates who champion America-first policies are overwhelmingly more popular with the general public. Older adults and Republicans respond especially well to policies who protect the interests of U.S. inventors.

Generally speaking, which of the following types of political candidates would YOU be most inclined to vote for?





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