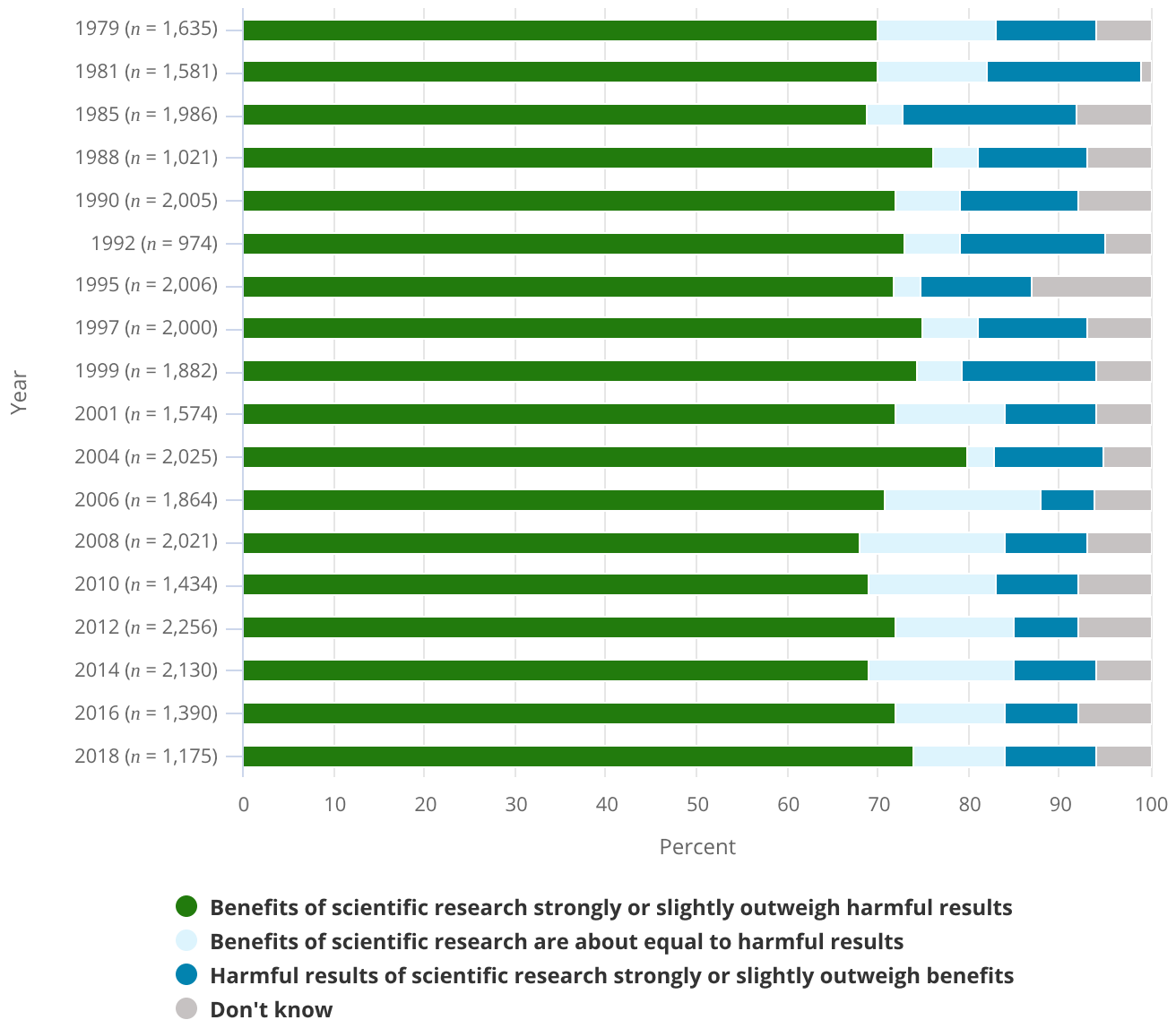


FIGURE 7-1

## Public assessment of benefits and harms of scientific research: 1979–2018

**Note(s)**

Responses are to the following: *People have frequently noted that scientific research has produced benefits and harmful results. Would you say that, on balance, the benefits of scientific research have outweighed the harmful results, or have the harmful results of scientific research been greater than its benefits?* In this figure, "Benefits...outweigh harmful results" and "Harmful results...outweigh benefits" each combine responses of "strongly outweigh" and "slightly outweigh." Percentages may not add to 100% because of rounding. Data in this figure may differ slightly from data in *Science and Engineering Indicators 2018* because of the rounding procedure used. See Table S7-1 and Table S7-2.

**Source(s)**

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Science Foundation, Survey of Public Attitudes Toward and Understanding of Science and Technology (1979–2001); University of Michigan, Survey of Consumer Attitudes (2004); NORC at the University of Chicago, General Social Survey (2006–18).