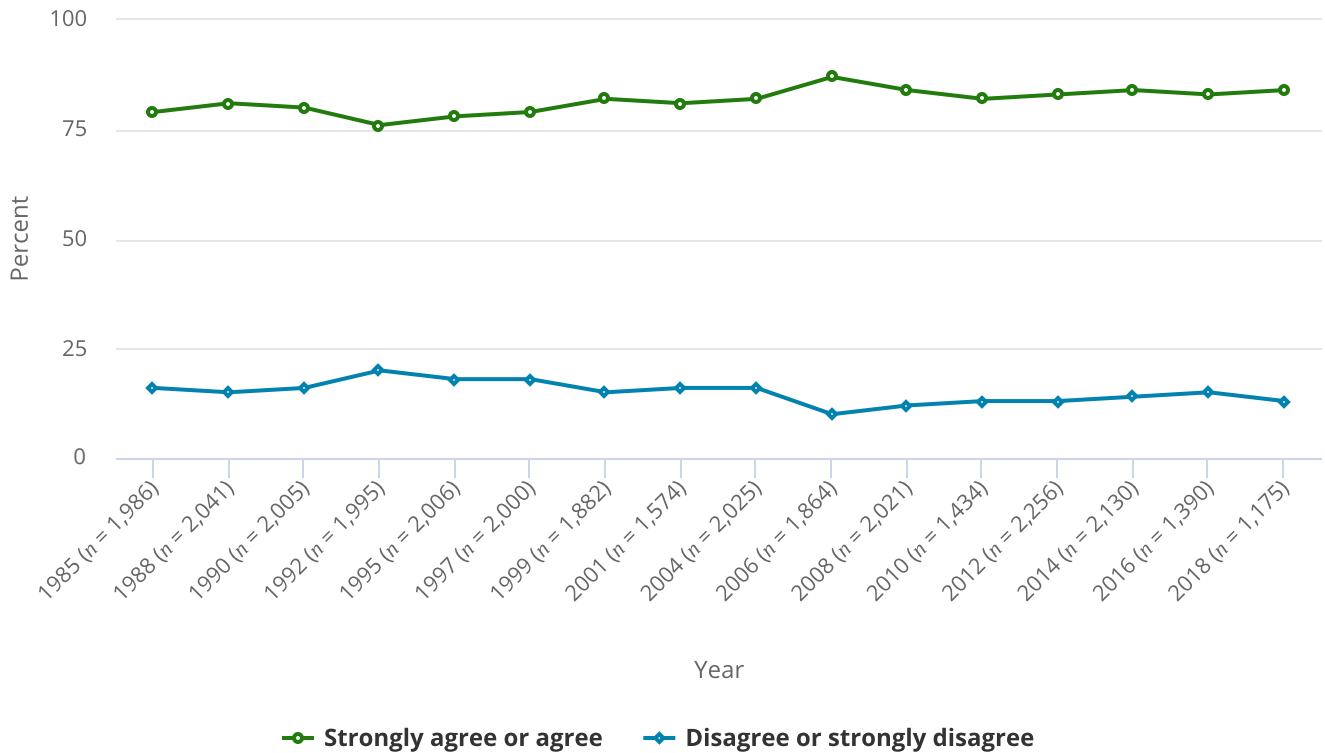


FIGURE 7-7

Public opinion on whether the federal government should fund basic scientific research: 1985–2018



Note(s)

Responses are to the following: *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. Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree?* Responses of "don't know" are not shown. Data in this figure may differ slightly from data in *Science and Engineering Indicators 2018* because of the rounding procedure used. See Table S7-11 and Table S7-12.

Source(s)

National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics, National Science Foundation, Survey of Public Attitudes Toward and Understanding of Science and Technology (1985–2001); University of Michigan, Survey of Consumer Attitudes (2004); NORC at the University of Chicago, General Social Survey (2006–18).