



BIOSCIENTISTS

ISSUES & OPINIONS FROM THE 2008 SURVEY OF SCIENTISTS

Jack Sommer

University of North Carolina at Charlotte

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Origins

- 1988 Sigma Xi Survey of Scientists (U.S.)
- 1994 NZAS Survey (NZ)
- 1996 Survey of New Zealand Scientists and Technologists
- 2008 Survey of New Zealand Scientists and Technologists



Fields of Science

Biological Sciences = “BIOSCIENTISTS”

Agriculture & Soil Sciences

Earth & Environmental Sciences

Engineering & Applied S&T

Medical & Health Sciences

Mathematics & Computer Sciences

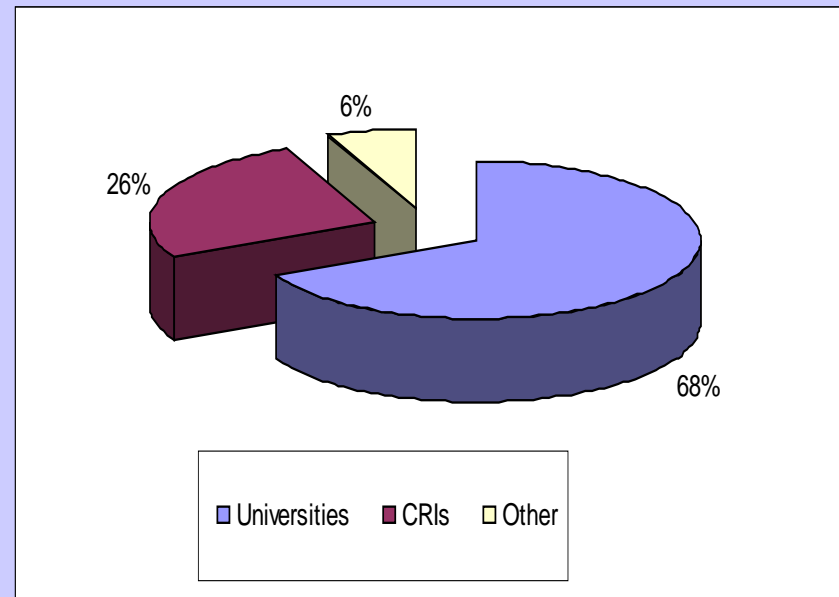
Physical Sciences

Social & Behavioural Sciences



Sources of Survey Population

Universities	4033
CRIs	1549
Polytechnics	241
Research Assns.	100
Museums	25
Other	18



Purpose

Voice for the science community

Information for policy making

Measuring stick for policy

Source for public understanding

Hypothesis generation



ARE BIOSCIENTISTS DIFFERENT?



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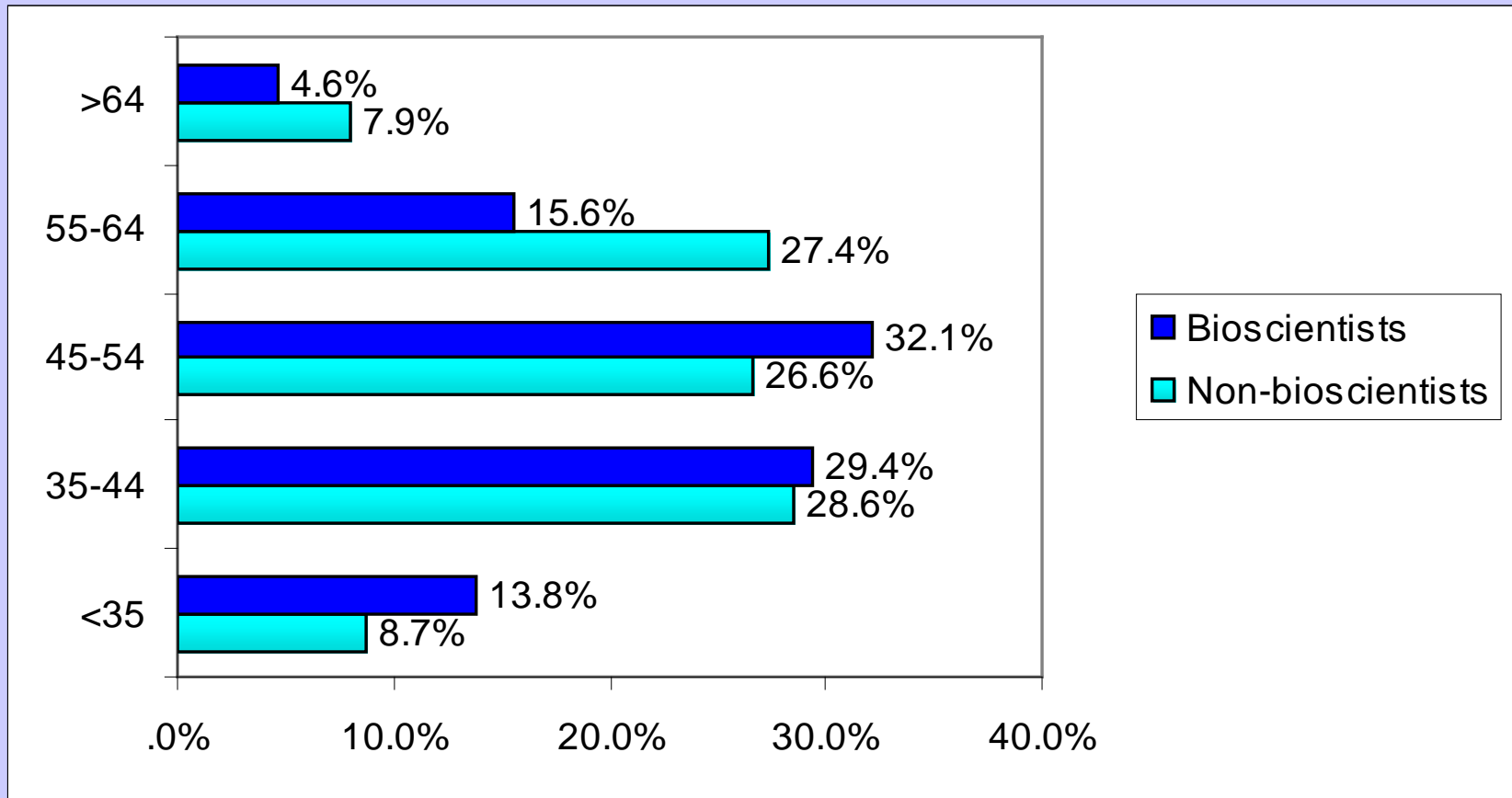
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Scientist's Most Important Issues

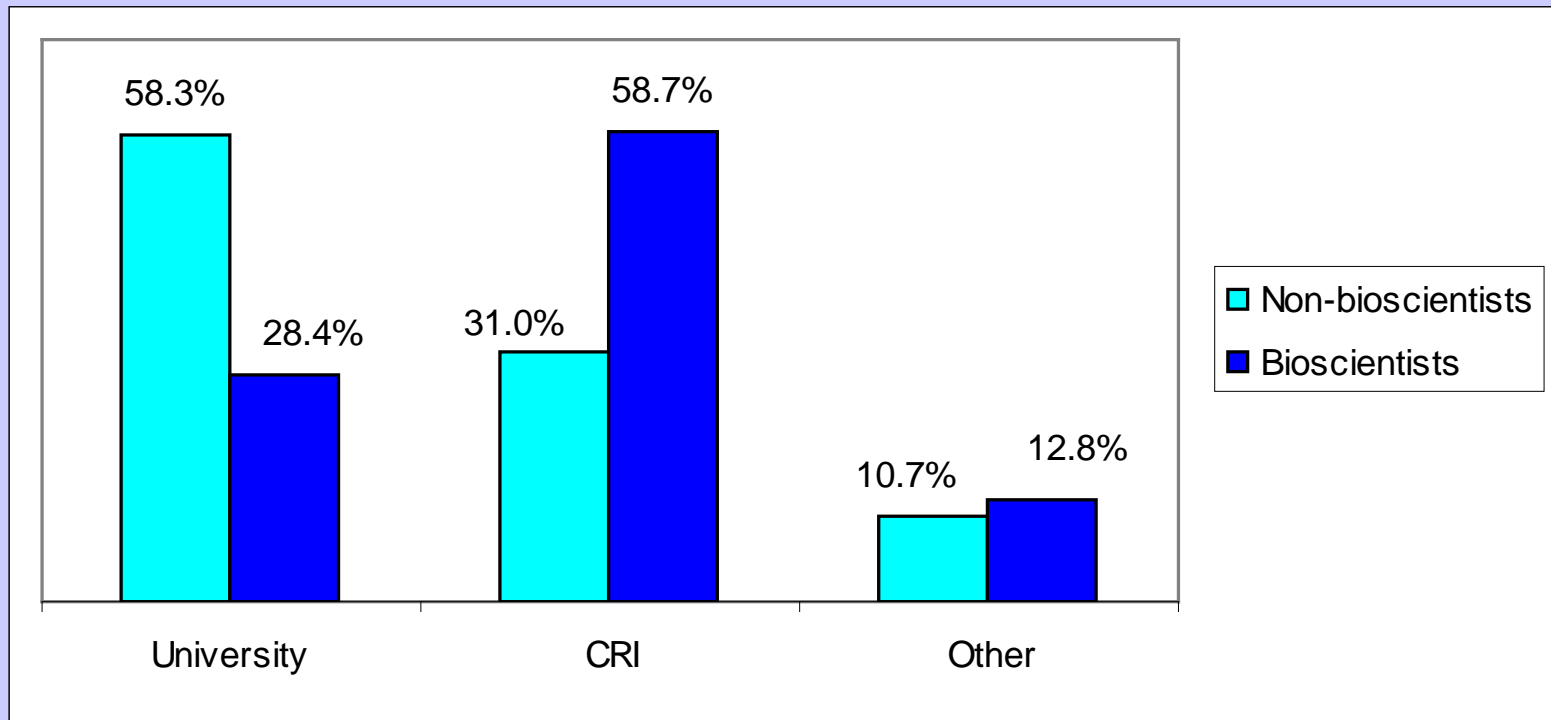
	<u>Bioscientists</u>	<u>All Others</u>
Interruptions in Research Funding	28.9%	23.0%
Bureaucracy & Red Tape	20.7%	23.0%
Emphasis on Applied Research	15.1%	13.3%
Five Other Choices Combined	35.3%	40.7%



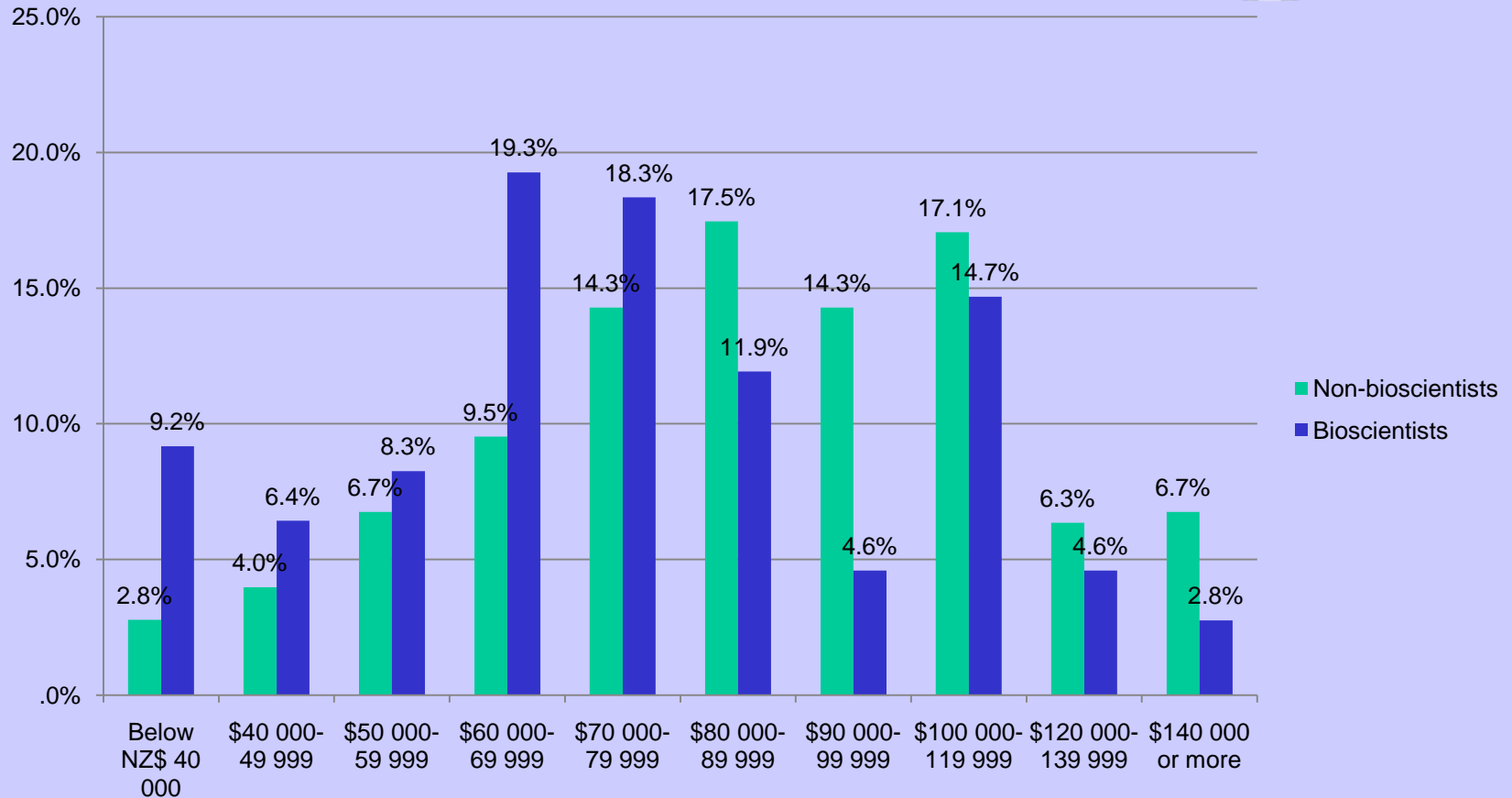
Age



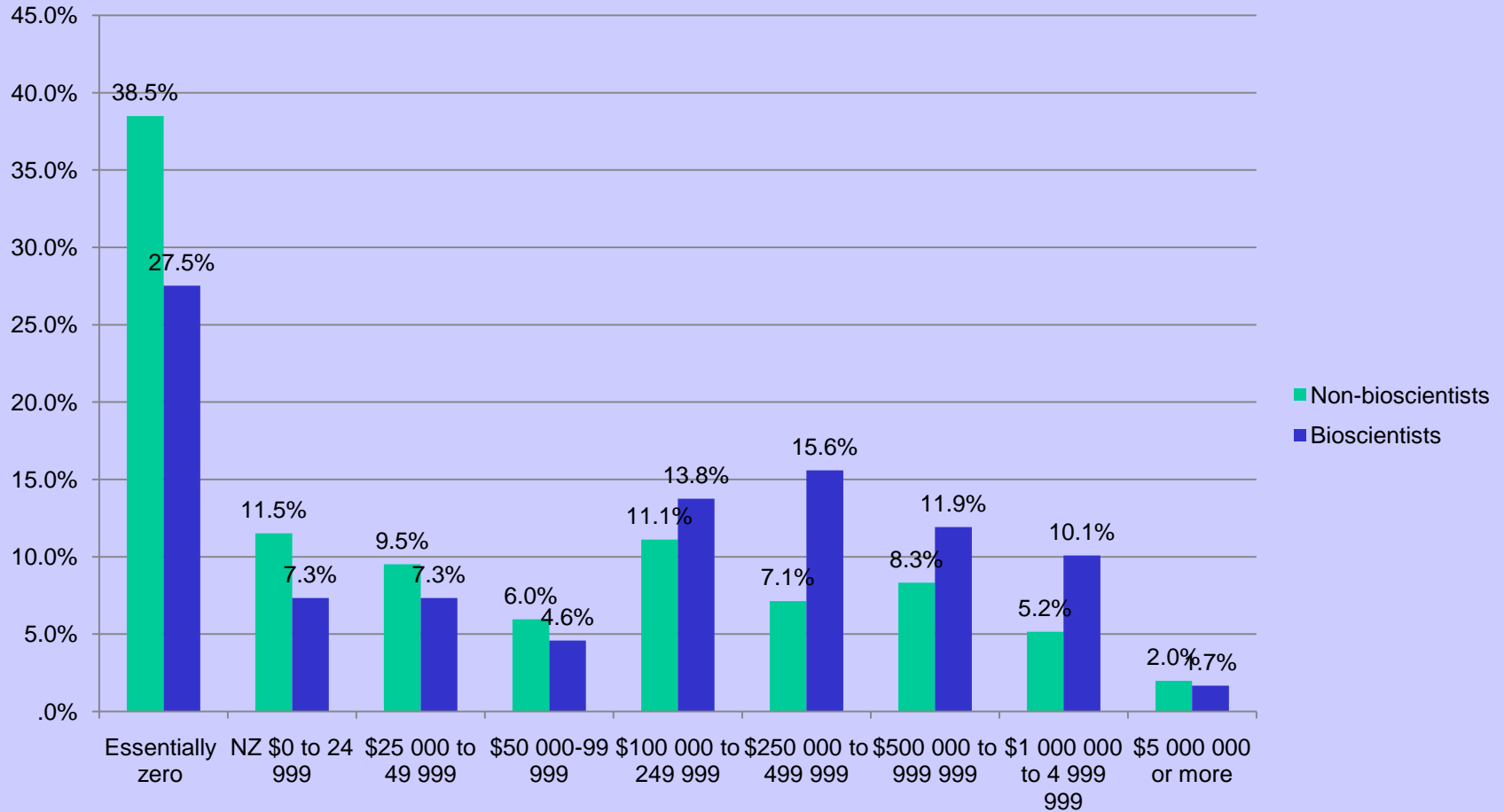
Work Location



Personal Income



Research Budget

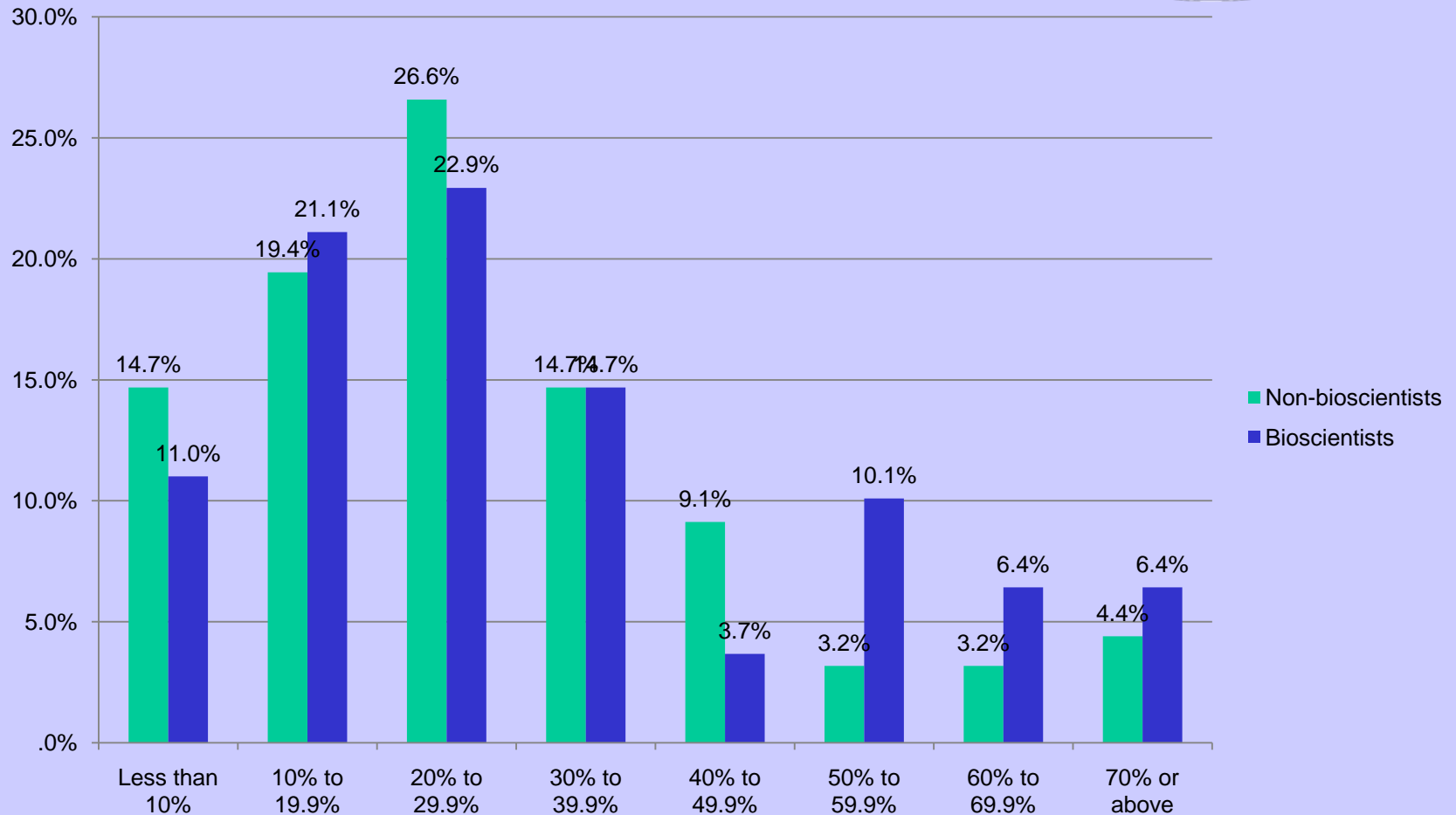


Main Source of Research Funds

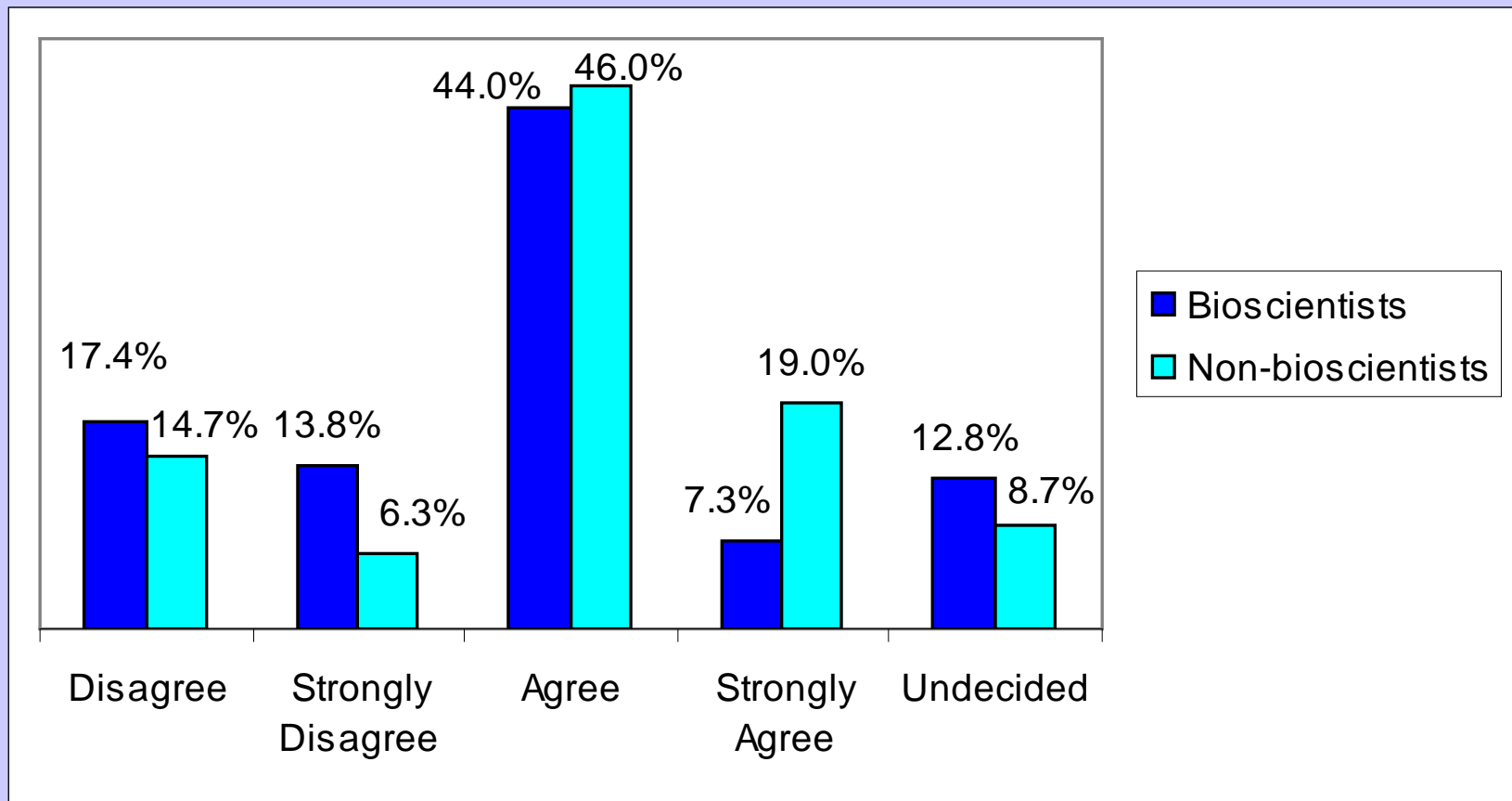
	<u>Bioscientists</u>	<u>All Others</u>
FRST	48.6%	26.6%
Marsden	5.5%	6.3%
Universities	9.2%	26.6%
CRIs	6.9%	6.3%
Commercial Contract	10.1%	5.6%
Others Combined	19.7%	28.6%



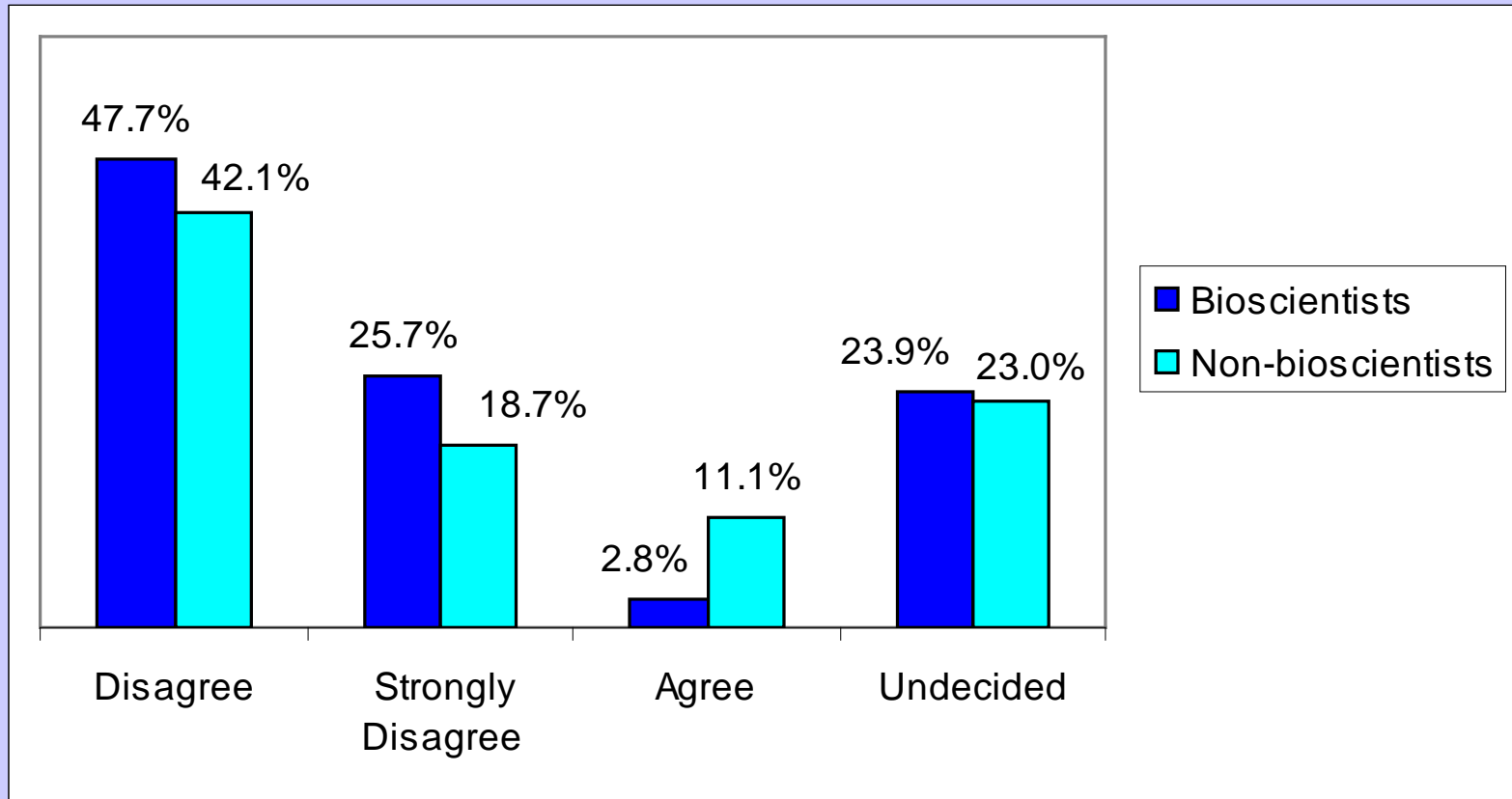
Research versus Compliance



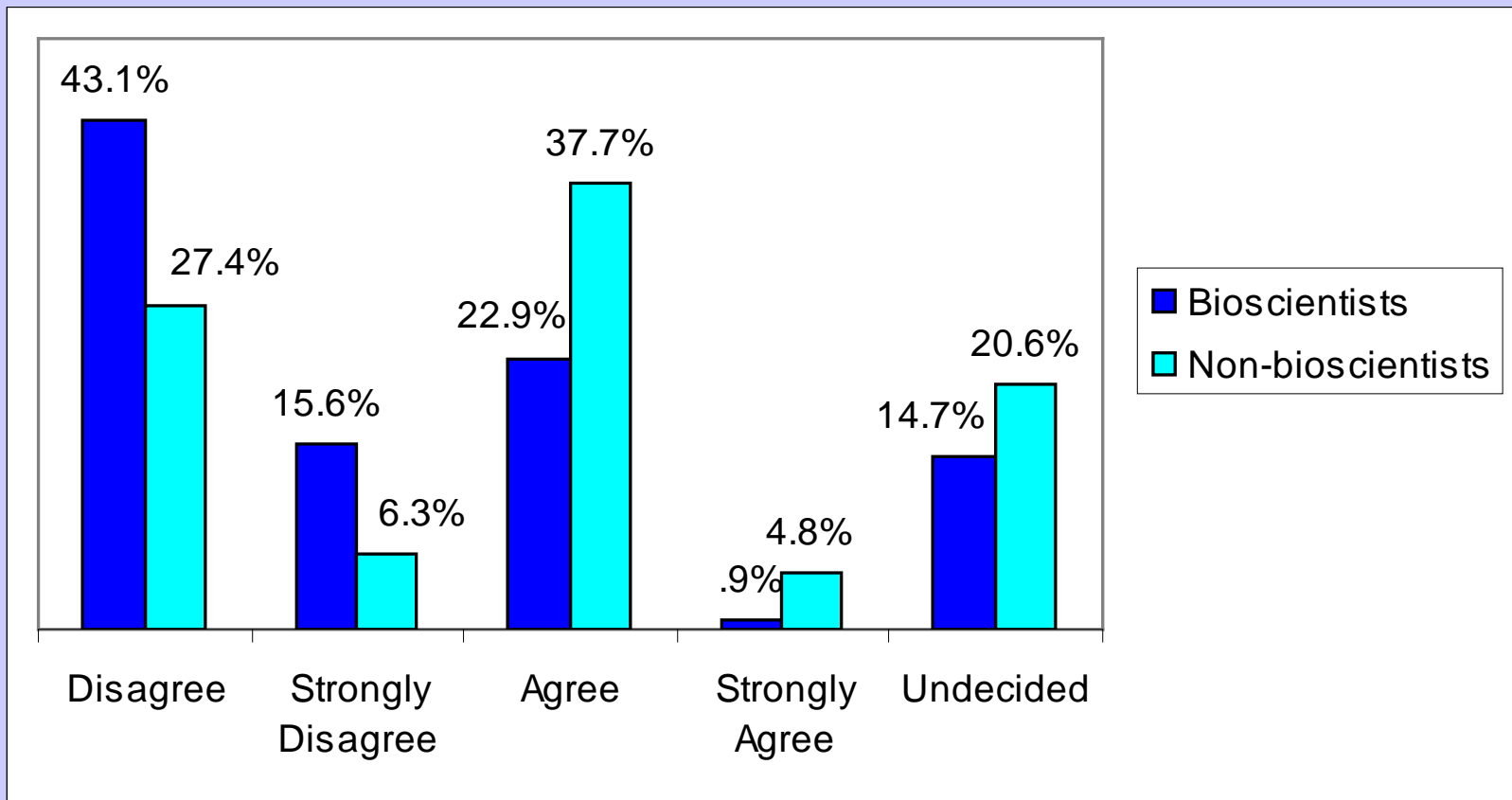
Key Opinion: Job Security



Key Opinion: Management



Key Opinion: Career Advice



What's Up?

Job satisfaction

Memberships on company boards

Access to equipment and staff

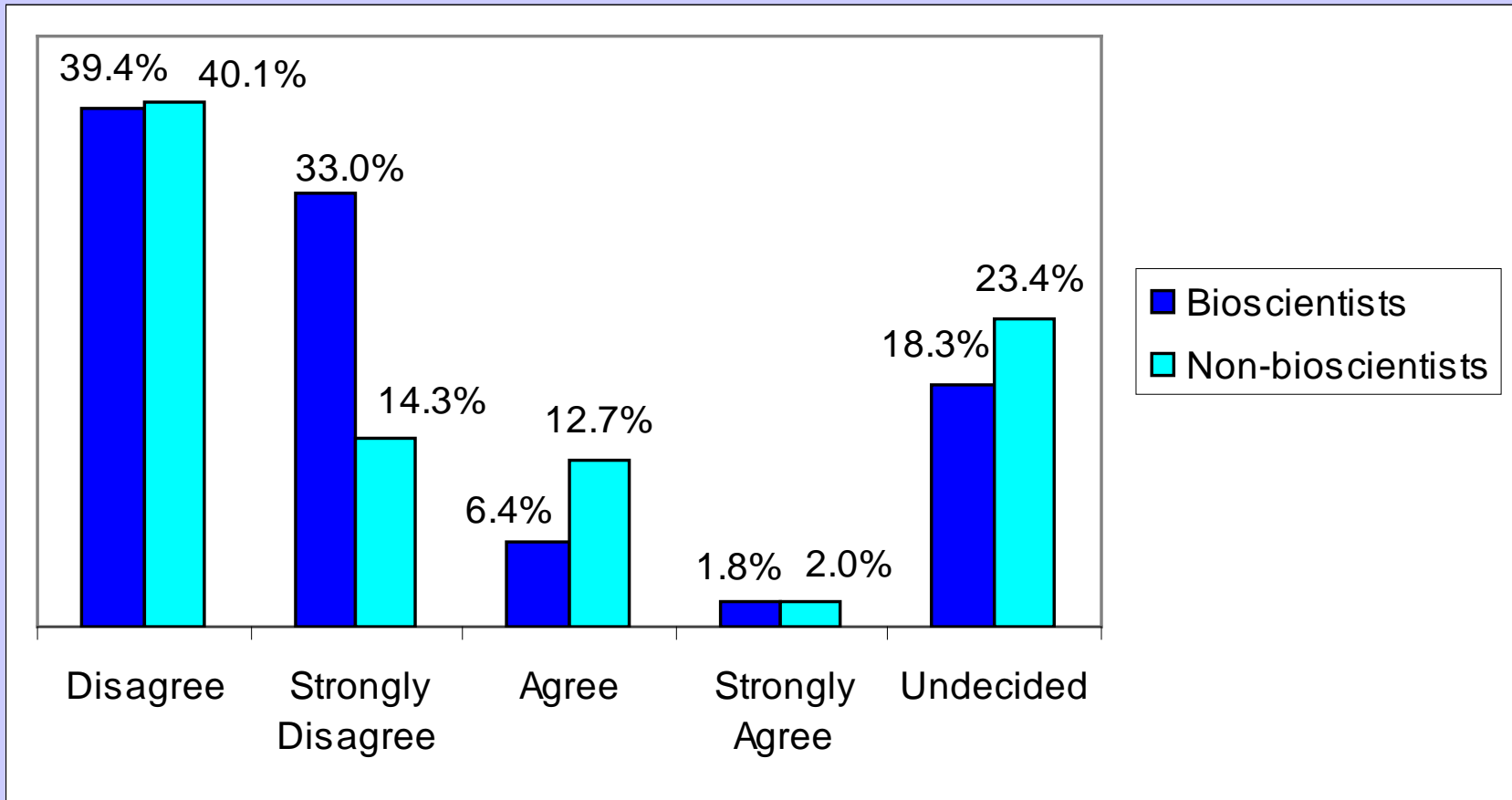
Award of patents

Inter-institutional collaboration

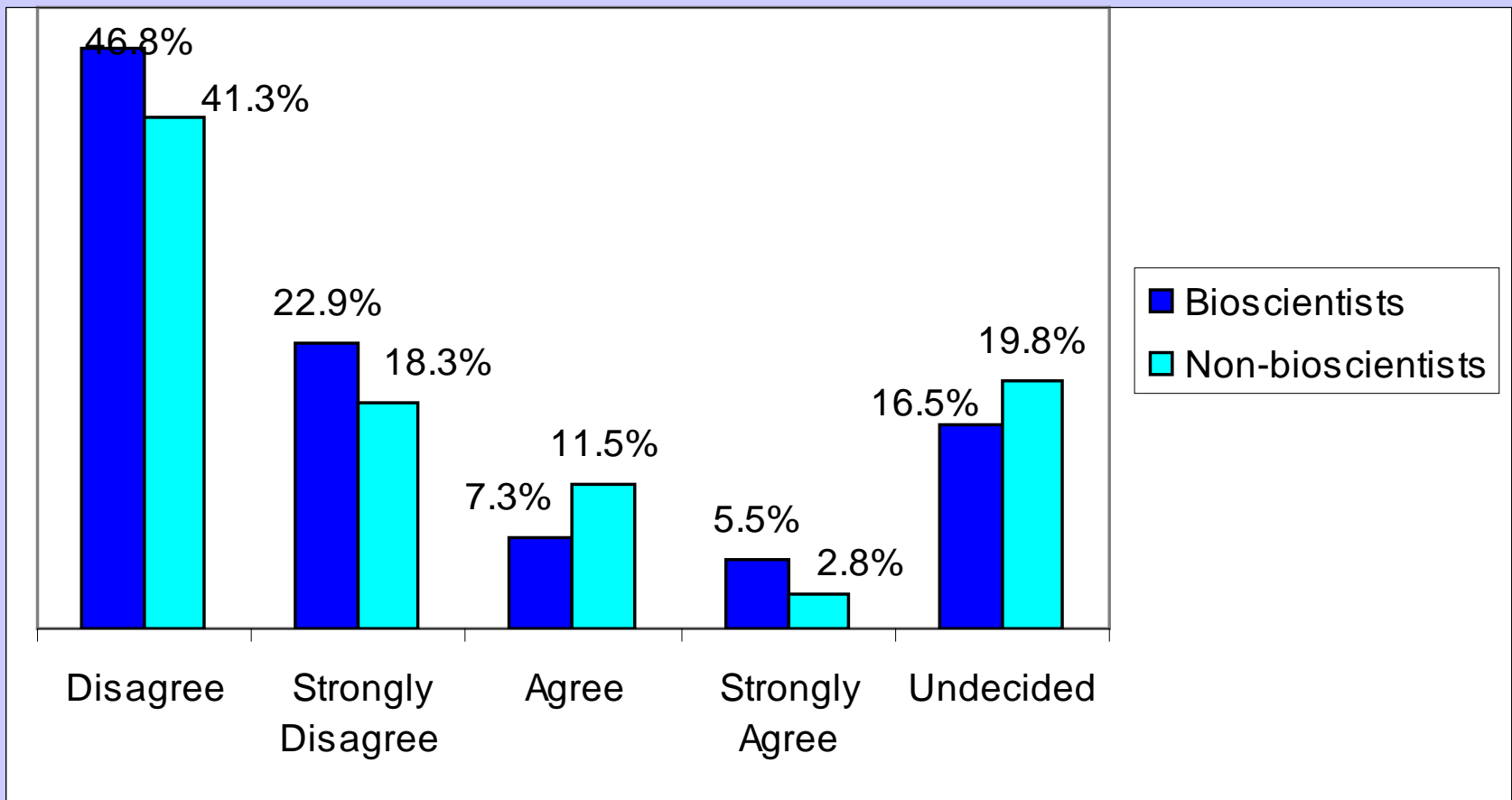
Doubling of the percent of Maori in survey



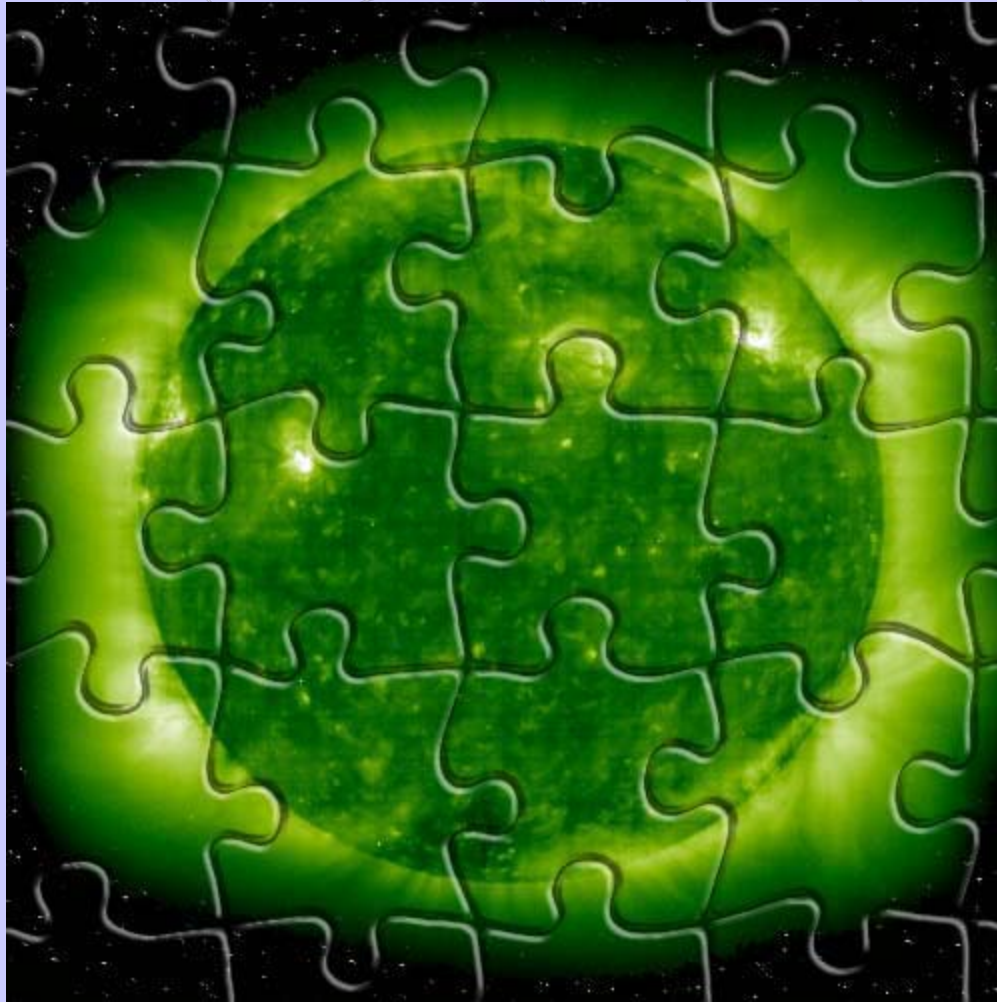
Genetic Modification



Stem Cell Research



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What are the Prospects?

Devolution of Decision-making

Stable Funding

From Competition to Collaboration

Focus and Freedom

Appointment of the Chief Scientist



HYPOTHESES ANYONE?

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2008 Survey of NZ Scientists and Technologists Report is available at:
http://nzas.rsnz.org/publish/contents/NZSR_67_1.pdf

Your insights and speculations are welcome!

Email us at: jwsommer@uncc.edu
csun1@uncc.edu



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