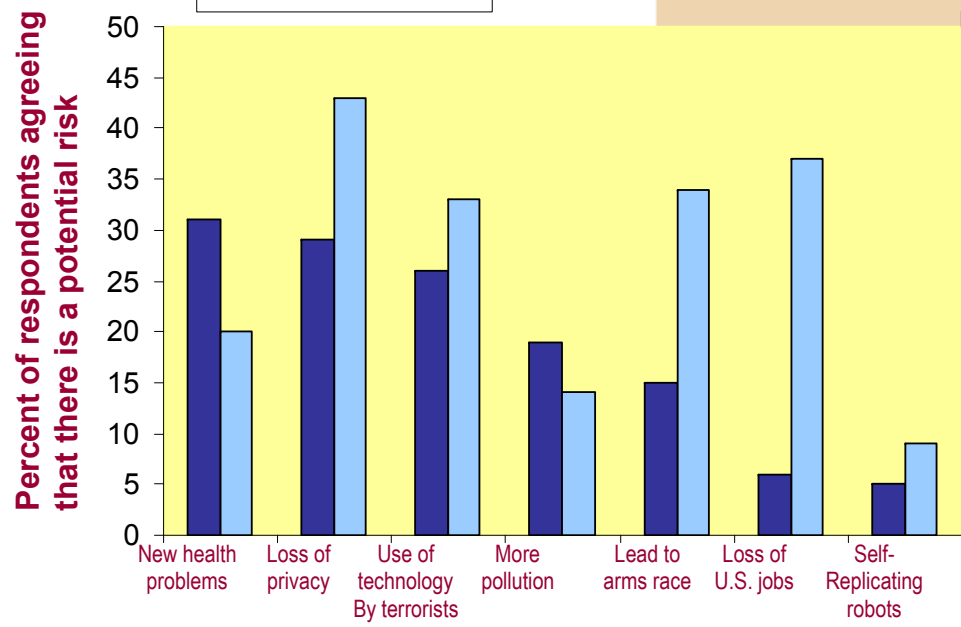


Scientists Worry about Nanotechnology's Health & Environmental Impacts

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In spring 2007, two surveys compared the public's and scientists' perceptions of the risks and benefits of nanotechnology.

The results indicate that scientists are more optimistic about the potential benefits of nanotechnology than is the public; however, the unknown human health and environmental impacts are a bigger worry for scientists than for the public. The study reveals that those scientists with the most insight into nanotechnology's potential are nevertheless unsure what health and environmental problems it might pose.



Finally, less than ten percent of either group was concerned about the risks associated with "self-replicating robots," a suggested outcome of nanotechnology that has received media attention in the past.