

The National Citizen Survey™

Decatur, GA

Technical Appendices

2014

Appendix A: Complete Survey Responses

Responses excluding “don’t know”

The following pages contain a complete set of responses to each question on the survey, excluding the “don’t know” responses. The percent of respondents giving a particular response is shown followed by the number of respondents (denoted with “N=”).

Table 1: Question 1

Please rate each of the following aspects of quality of life in Decatur:	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		Total	
Decatur as a place to live	71%	N=338	27%	N=126	2%	N=9	0%	N=0	100%	N=473
Your neighborhood as a place to live	67%	N=316	28%	N=130	4%	N=20	1%	N=5	100%	N=471
Decatur as a place to raise children	72%	N=284	25%	N=99	3%	N=13	0%	N=2	100%	N=398
Decatur as a place to work	52%	N=163	38%	N=118	7%	N=22	4%	N=11	100%	N=313
Decatur as a place to visit	55%	N=247	37%	N=170	8%	N=36	0%	N=0	100%	N=453
Decatur as a place to retire	43%	N=151	34%	N=119	16%	N=56	7%	N=25	100%	N=352
The overall quality of life in Decatur	61%	N=283	36%	N=169	3%	N=13	0%	N=0	100%	N=465

Table 2: Question 2

Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Decatur as a whole:	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		Total	
Overall feeling of safety in Decatur	30%	N=140	57%	N=269	12%	N=57	2%	N=8	100%	N=473
Overall ease of getting to the places you usually have to visit	35%	N=164	43%	N=202	20%	N=95	2%	N=7	100%	N=469
Quality of overall natural environment in Decatur	32%	N=152	55%	N=256	11%	N=52	2%	N=8	100%	N=468
Overall "built environment" of Decatur (including overall design, buildings, parks and transportation systems)	25%	N=115	55%	N=258	18%	N=86	2%	N=9	100%	N=468
Health and wellness opportunities in Decatur	35%	N=152	52%	N=225	12%	N=52	1%	N=5	100%	N=434
Overall opportunities for education and enrichment	43%	N=183	48%	N=202	9%	N=39	0%	N=1	100%	N=425
Overall economic health of Decatur	35%	N=151	55%	N=241	10%	N=43	0%	N=1	100%	N=436
Sense of community	49%	N=227	42%	N=192	9%	N=40	0%	N=2	100%	N=461
Overall image or reputation of Decatur	59%	N=274	37%	N=172	4%	N=21	0%	N=1	100%	N=468

Table 3: Question 3

Please indicate how likely or unlikely you are to do each of the following:	Very likely		Somewhat likely		Somewhat unlikely		Very unlikely		Total	
Recommend living in Decatur to someone who asks	84%	N=388	13%	N=60	2%	N=10	1%	N=4	100%	N=461
Remain in Decatur for the next five years	69%	N=312	23%	N=106	5%	N=24	3%	N=13	100%	N=454

Table 4: Question 4

Please rate how safe or unsafe you feel:	Very safe		Somewhat safe		Neither safe nor unsafe		Somewhat unsafe		Very unsafe		Total	
In your neighborhood during the day	71%	N=329	26%	N=119	2%	N=11	1%	N=6	0%	N=1	100%	N=466
In Decatur's downtown/commercial area during the day	69%	N=319	27%	N=124	2%	N=11	2%	N=7	0%	N=1	100%	N=462

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Table 5: Question 5

Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Decatur as a whole:	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		Total	
Traffic flow on major streets	6%	N=29	43%	N=202	40%	N=187	11%	N=52	100%	N=469
Ease of public parking	7%	N=34	30%	N=138	38%	N=172	25%	N=112	100%	N=455
Ease of travel by car in Decatur	10%	N=46	43%	N=199	40%	N=187	7%	N=32	100%	N=464
Ease of travel by public transportation in Decatur	22%	N=83	44%	N=165	25%	N=93	8%	N=30	100%	N=372
Ease of travel by bicycle in Decatur	22%	N=78	44%	N=155	29%	N=103	5%	N=19	100%	N=354
Ease of walking in Decatur	49%	N=229	39%	N=182	10%	N=46	1%	N=6	100%	N=462
Availability of paths and walking trails	27%	N=117	47%	N=203	23%	N=101	3%	N=13	100%	N=434
Air quality	20%	N=88	57%	N=258	21%	N=93	3%	N=13	100%	N=452
Cleanliness of Decatur	33%	N=153	56%	N=261	11%	N=52	1%	N=3	100%	N=470
Overall appearance of Decatur	36%	N=170	56%	N=261	8%	N=36	0%	N=1	100%	N=468
Public places where people want to spend time	45%	N=210	44%	N=207	9%	N=41	2%	N=9	100%	N=467
Variety of housing options	19%	N=82	42%	N=181	30%	N=128	10%	N=41	100%	N=431
Availability of affordable quality housing	10%	N=42	28%	N=117	38%	N=159	23%	N=96	100%	N=413
Fitness opportunities (including exercise classes and paths or trails, etc.)	27%	N=118	52%	N=234	20%	N=88	1%	N=6	100%	N=446
Recreational opportunities	32%	N=142	47%	N=208	20%	N=87	2%	N=7	100%	N=443
Availability of affordable quality food	41%	N=194	42%	N=195	14%	N=67	3%	N=12	100%	N=467
Availability of affordable quality health care	33%	N=117	47%	N=169	18%	N=63	3%	N=9	100%	N=359
Availability of preventive health services	34%	N=106	45%	N=141	19%	N=59	3%	N=9	100%	N=315
Availability of affordable quality mental health care	30%	N=61	43%	N=86	19%	N=38	8%	N=16	100%	N=201

Table 6: Question 6

Please rate each of the following characteristics as they relate to Decatur as a whole:	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		Total	
Availability of affordable quality child care/preschool	31%	N=78	44%	N=110	20%	N=50	4%	N=11	100%	N=249
K-12 education	63%	N=200	32%	N=100	5%	N=15	1%	N=2	100%	N=317
Adult educational opportunities	24%	N=64	49%	N=133	26%	N=70	1%	N=3	100%	N=270
Opportunities to attend cultural/arts/music activities	37%	N=164	52%	N=231	10%	N=43	2%	N=8	100%	N=445
Opportunities to participate in religious or spiritual events and activities	44%	N=148	48%	N=161	8%	N=26	1%	N=2	100%	N=336
Employment opportunities	11%	N=28	44%	N=114	33%	N=86	12%	N=32	100%	N=261
Shopping opportunities	27%	N=121	47%	N=213	22%	N=101	4%	N=17	100%	N=452
Cost of living in Decatur	6%	N=28	38%	N=176	43%	N=200	13%	N=58	100%	N=462
Overall quality of business and service establishments in Decatur	36%	N=162	51%	N=230	13%	N=59	0%	N=1	100%	N=452
Vibrant downtown/commercial area	59%	N=266	35%	N=157	7%	N=32	0%	N=0	100%	N=455
Overall quality of new development in Decatur	28%	N=117	48%	N=201	19%	N=78	6%	N=23	100%	N=419
Opportunities to participate in social events and activities	42%	N=182	49%	N=213	9%	N=39	1%	N=3	100%	N=438
Opportunities to volunteer	51%	N=193	41%	N=156	7%	N=28	1%	N=4	100%	N=381
Opportunities to participate in community matters	44%	N=179	43%	N=174	10%	N=40	2%	N=10	100%	N=402
Openness and acceptance of the community toward people of diverse backgrounds	48%	N=212	34%	N=149	14%	N=62	4%	N=20	100%	N=442
Neighborliness of residents in Decatur	44%	N=199	39%	N=176	16%	N=72	1%	N=6	100%	N=454

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Table 7: Question 7

Please indicate whether or not you have done each of the following in the last 12 months.	No		Yes		Total	
Made efforts to conserve water	19%	N=89	81%	N=382	100%	N=471
Made efforts to make your home more energy efficient	28%	N=132	72%	N=334	100%	N=467
Observed a code violation or other hazard in Decatur	60%	N=277	40%	N=185	100%	N=463
Household member was a victim of a crime in Decatur	85%	N=396	15%	N=71	100%	N=467
Reported a crime to the police in Decatur	74%	N=343	26%	N=121	100%	N=464
Stocked supplies in preparation for an emergency	41%	N=189	59%	N=274	100%	N=463
Campaigned or advocated for an issue, cause or candidate	70%	N=326	30%	N=138	100%	N=464
Contacted the City of Decatur (in-person, phone, email or web) for help or information	49%	N=231	51%	N=238	100%	N=469
Contacted Decatur elected officials (in-person, phone, email or web) to express your opinion	75%	N=350	25%	N=114	100%	N=464

Table 8: Question 8

In the last 12 months, about how many times, if at all, have you or other household members done each of the following in Decatur?	2 times a week or more		2-4 times a month		Once a month or less		Not at all		Total	
Used Decatur recreation centers or their services	7%	N=34	15%	N=70	32%	N=148	46%	N=214	100%	N=466
Visited a neighborhood park or City park	25%	N=117	34%	N=160	32%	N=147	9%	N=43	100%	N=467
Used DeKalb County Public Library (in downtown Decatur) or its services	9%	N=41	30%	N=138	35%	N=164	27%	N=124	100%	N=466
Participated in religious or spiritual activities in Decatur	8%	N=38	15%	N=69	14%	N=63	63%	N=293	100%	N=464
Attended a City-sponsored event	4%	N=16	11%	N=52	63%	N=293	22%	N=102	100%	N=463
Used bus, rail, subway or other public transportation instead of driving	16%	N=77	16%	N=74	36%	N=168	32%	N=147	100%	N=466
Carpooled with other adults or children instead of driving alone	17%	N=79	20%	N=92	17%	N=78	46%	N=215	100%	N=464
Walked or biked instead of driving	41%	N=193	29%	N=137	17%	N=82	12%	N=56	100%	N=467
Volunteered your time to some group/activity in Decatur	7%	N=33	12%	N=57	25%	N=115	56%	N=260	100%	N=465
Participated in a club	5%	N=22	7%	N=32	9%	N=41	79%	N=369	100%	N=464
Talked to or visited with your immediate neighbors	52%	N=243	27%	N=124	15%	N=69	6%	N=29	100%	N=466
Done a favor for a neighbor	21%	N=100	32%	N=151	34%	N=159	12%	N=57	100%	N=467

Table 9: Question 9

Thinking about local public meetings (of local elected officials like City Council or County Commissioners, advisory boards, town halls, HOA, neighborhood watch, etc.), in the last 12 months, about how many times, if at all, have you or other household members attended or watched a local public meeting?	2 times a week or more		2-4 times a month		Once a month or less		Not at all		Total	
Attended a local public meeting	2%	N=11	5%	N=24	26%	N=118	67%	N=310	100%	N=463
Watched (online or on television) a local public meeting	2%	N=12	4%	N=19	16%	N=76	77%	N=360	100%	N=466

Table 10: Question 10

Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Decatur:	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		Total	
Police services	49%	N=208	43%	N=186	7%	N=30	1%	N=4	100%	N=428
Fire services	60%	N=229	38%	N=145	2%	N=8	0%	N=1	100%	N=383
Crime prevention	27%	N=104	51%	N=200	20%	N=77	3%	N=11	100%	N=392
Fire prevention and education	44%	N=130	44%	N=130	9%	N=26	2%	N=7	100%	N=293
Traffic enforcement	22%	N=89	45%	N=184	22%	N=91	10%	N=42	100%	N=406
Street repair	12%	N=53	34%	N=148	35%	N=156	19%	N=83	100%	N=440

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Please rate the quality of each of the following services in Decatur:	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		Total	
Street cleaning	18%	N=82	47%	N=208	28%	N=123	7%	N=33	100%	N=446
Street lighting	20%	N=92	53%	N=243	21%	N=96	6%	N=26	100%	N=457
Sidewalk maintenance	13%	N=60	38%	N=175	35%	N=162	13%	N=62	100%	N=459
Traffic signal timing	9%	N=42	36%	N=164	32%	N=143	23%	N=103	100%	N=453
Bus or transit services	20%	N=64	53%	N=173	19%	N=62	7%	N=24	100%	N=323
Garbage collection	48%	N=211	43%	N=187	7%	N=32	2%	N=7	100%	N=436
Recycling	52%	N=231	39%	N=171	7%	N=32	1%	N=6	100%	N=440
Yard waste pick-up	47%	N=163	40%	N=137	10%	N=35	3%	N=10	100%	N=345
Storm drainage	21%	N=82	47%	N=182	26%	N=101	5%	N=21	100%	N=387
City parks	43%	N=185	49%	N=209	6%	N=28	1%	N=5	100%	N=426
Recreation programs or classes	38%	N=107	50%	N=141	10%	N=28	1%	N=3	100%	N=280
Recreation centers or facilities	42%	N=134	45%	N=143	11%	N=34	2%	N=6	100%	N=317
Land use, planning and zoning	18%	N=63	43%	N=151	29%	N=103	11%	N=38	100%	N=355
Code enforcement (weeds, abandoned buildings, etc.)	18%	N=53	45%	N=136	29%	N=89	8%	N=24	100%	N=303
Animal control	25%	N=64	52%	N=131	18%	N=46	4%	N=11	100%	N=252
Economic development	30%	N=108	54%	N=195	14%	N=52	2%	N=9	100%	N=363
Public library services	48%	N=191	43%	N=170	7%	N=28	2%	N=7	100%	N=396
Public information services	34%	N=113	52%	N=175	11%	N=38	2%	N=8	100%	N=334
Emergency preparedness (services that prepare the community for natural disasters or other emergency situations)	34%	N=106	45%	N=141	18%	N=56	4%	N=12	100%	N=315
Preservation of natural areas such as open space, farmlands and greenbelts	22%	N=81	46%	N=169	25%	N=92	7%	N=27	100%	N=369
Decatur open space	25%	N=97	45%	N=175	25%	N=97	4%	N=17	100%	N=386
City-sponsored special events	46%	N=184	43%	N=170	9%	N=36	2%	N=7	100%	N=397
Overall customer service by Decatur employees (police, receptionists, planners, etc.)	38%	N=158	45%	N=185	14%	N=55	3%	N=12	100%	N=410
Children & Youth Services programs or classes	44%	N=95	45%	N=98	10%	N=22	1%	N=3	100%	N=218

Table 11: Question 11

Overall, how would you rate the quality of the services provided by each of the following?	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		Total	
The City of Decatur	43%	N=193	47%	N=209	10%	N=43	1%	N=3	100%	N=448
The Federal Government	10%	N=42	39%	N=162	35%	N=146	16%	N=67	100%	N=417

Table 12: Question 12

Please rate the following categories of Decatur government performance:	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		Total	
The value of services for the taxes paid to Decatur	19%	N=80	54%	N=227	22%	N=91	5%	N=20	100%	N=418
The overall direction that Decatur is taking	31%	N=135	50%	N=218	16%	N=71	3%	N=14	100%	N=438
The job Decatur government does at welcoming citizen involvement	35%	N=140	48%	N=190	14%	N=54	3%	N=14	100%	N=398
Overall confidence in Decatur government	26%	N=112	51%	N=218	20%	N=87	3%	N=14	100%	N=431
Generally acting in the best interest of the community	28%	N=123	49%	N=215	18%	N=79	5%	N=21	100%	N=439
Being honest	33%	N=122	49%	N=180	13%	N=49	5%	N=20	100%	N=371
Treating all residents fairly	28%	N=107	46%	N=174	20%	N=74	6%	N=22	100%	N=378

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Table 13: Question 13

Please rate how important, if at all, you think it is for the Decatur community to focus on each of the following in the coming two years:	Essential		Very important		Somewhat important		Not at all important		Total	
Overall feeling of safety in Decatur	63%	N=297	30%	N=140	5%	N=25	1%	N=7	100%	N=470
Overall ease of getting to the places you usually have to visit	37%	N=172	49%	N=228	13%	N=59	2%	N=7	100%	N=466
Quality of overall natural environment in Decatur	38%	N=175	46%	N=214	15%	N=68	1%	N=6	100%	N=463
Overall "built environment" of Decatur (including overall design, buildings, parks and transportation systems)	41%	N=191	43%	N=203	13%	N=63	2%	N=11	100%	N=468
Health and wellness opportunities in Decatur	22%	N=103	45%	N=209	30%	N=143	3%	N=14	100%	N=469
Overall opportunities for education and enrichment	33%	N=156	40%	N=188	25%	N=118	1%	N=5	100%	N=466
Overall economic health of Decatur	50%	N=233	42%	N=195	8%	N=38	0%	N=2	100%	N=468
Sense of community	42%	N=199	44%	N=204	12%	N=55	2%	N=11	100%	N=469

Table 14: Question 14

To what extent would you support or oppose a policy of establishing a 25 mile per hour speed limit on most Decatur roadways?	Percent	Number
Strongly support	34%	N=162
Somewhat support	33%	N=157
Somewhat oppose	19%	N=89
Strongly oppose	13%	N=63
Total	100%	N=471

Table 15: Question 15

Local historic districts require design review for construction and renovation and prohibit demolition of historic buildings. Currently, the Decatur Square is not in a local historic district. To what extent would you support or oppose the creation of a local historic district that would include the Decatur Square and the surrounding blocks?	Percent	Number
Strongly support	50%	N=233
Somewhat support	37%	N=169
Somewhat oppose	9%	N=43
Strongly oppose	4%	N=18
Total	100%	N=462

Table 16: Question 16

Please rate the quality of each of the following aspects of the City's technology services:	Excellent		Good		Fair		Poor		Total	
Online job applications	21%	N=17	48%	N=39	26%	N=22	5%	N=4	100%	N=82
Online service requests	22%	N=35	50%	N=81	23%	N=37	6%	N=9	100%	N=162
Online tax information and payments (www.decaturgatax.com)	22%	N=50	59%	N=130	18%	N=41	1%	N=1	100%	N=222
Citation payments on the City website	22%	N=22	53%	N=53	21%	N=21	5%	N=5	100%	N=101
Online registration for recreation programs	30%	N=48	50%	N=79	17%	N=28	3%	N=5	100%	N=160
Online registration for after-school and summer camp programs	34%	N=43	45%	N=56	17%	N=21	4%	N=5	100%	N=124
Open City Hall (online discussion forum)	27%	N=31	51%	N=57	21%	N=23	1%	N=1	100%	N=111
CodeRed Emergency Notification System	42%	N=85	46%	N=95	10%	N=20	2%	N=4	100%	N=205
Smart911 (safety profile system)	39%	N=65	52%	N=85	8%	N=13	0%	N=1	100%	N=163
Streaming video of City Commission meetings	23%	N=23	56%	N=56	15%	N=15	5%	N=5	100%	N=100
City website overall (www.decaturga.com)	20%	N=61	59%	N=183	21%	N=64	1%	N=4	100%	N=312
Decatur Free Wi-Fi in public areas	19%	N=62	30%	N=94	28%	N=90	23%	N=74	100%	N=320

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Table 17: Question D1

How often, if at all, do you do each of the following, considering all of the times you could?	Never		Rarely		Sometimes		Usually		Always		Total	
Recycle at home	3%	N=12	5%	N=23	6%	N=30	11%	N=52	75%	N=350	100%	N=466
Purchase goods or services from a business located in Decatur	0%	N=1	3%	N=13	30%	N=142	49%	N=227	18%	N=84	100%	N=467
Eat at least 5 portions of fruits and vegetables a day	1%	N=4	13%	N=59	25%	N=117	41%	N=190	20%	N=90	100%	N=460
Participate in moderate or vigorous physical activity	1%	N=3	10%	N=45	28%	N=130	38%	N=178	23%	N=108	100%	N=463
Read or watch local news (via television, paper, computer, etc.)	2%	N=11	14%	N=65	19%	N=88	27%	N=126	38%	N=176	100%	N=467
Vote in local elections	7%	N=33	8%	N=36	11%	N=50	26%	N=120	49%	N=228	100%	N=467

Table 18: Question D2

Would you say that in general your health is:	Percent	Number
Excellent	29%	N=137
Very good	42%	N=195
Good	24%	N=112
Fair	4%	N=20
Poor	1%	N=3
Total	100%	N=466

Table 19: Question D3

What impact, if any, do you think the economy will have on your family income in the next 6 months? Do you think the impact will be	Percent	Number
Very positive	7%	N=30
Somewhat positive	32%	N=148
Neutral	50%	N=229
Somewhat negative	11%	N=52
Very negative	0%	N=2
Total	100%	N=462

Table 20: Question D4

What is your employment status?	Percent	Number
Working full time for pay	67%	N=310
Working part time for pay	10%	N=47
Unemployed, looking for paid work	1%	N=4
Unemployed, not looking for paid work	4%	N=20
Fully retired	18%	N=84
Total	100%	N=466

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Table 21: Question D5

Do you work inside the boundaries of Decatur?	Percent	Number
Yes, outside the home	19%	N=86
Yes, from home	11%	N=51
No	70%	N=321
Total	100%	N=458

Table 22: Question D6

How many years have you lived in Decatur?	Percent	Number
Less than 2 years	21%	N=96
2 to 5 years	20%	N=93
6 to 10 years	21%	N=98
11 to 20 years	19%	N=88
More than 20 years	20%	N=94
Total	100%	N=469

Table 23: Question D7

Which best describes the building you live in?	Percent	Number
One family house detached from any other houses	54%	N=253
Building with two or more homes (duplex, townhome, apartment or condominium)	42%	N=196
Other	4%	N=18
Total	100%	N=467

Table 24: Question D8

Is this house or apartment...	Percent	Number
Rented	37%	N=173
Owned	63%	N=291
Total	100%	N=464

Table 25: Question D9

About how much is your monthly housing cost for the place you live (including rent, mortgage payment, property tax, property insurance and homeowners' association (HOA) fees)?	Percent	Number
Less than \$300 per month	5%	N=21
\$300 to \$599 per month	8%	N=37
\$600 to \$999 per month	22%	N=99
\$1,000 to \$1,499 per month	18%	N=83
\$1,500 to \$2,499 per month	31%	N=144
\$2,500 or more per month	16%	N=74
Total	100%	N=459

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Table 26: Question D10

Do any children 17 or under live in your household?	Percent	Number
No	59%	N=276
Yes	41%	N=190
Total	100%	N=466

Table 27: Question D11

Are you or any other members of your household aged 65 or older?	Percent	Number
No	80%	N=374
Yes	20%	N=93
Total	100%	N=467

Table 28: Question D12

How much do you anticipate your household's total income before taxes will be for the current year? (Please include in your total income money from all sources for all persons living in your household.)	Percent	Number
Less than \$25,000	16%	N=70
\$25,000 to \$49,999	13%	N=57
\$50,000 to \$99,999	26%	N=117
\$100,000 to \$149,999	22%	N=100
\$150,000 or more	24%	N=106
Total	100%	N=451

Table 29: Question D13

Are you Spanish, Hispanic or Latino?	Percent	Number
No, not Spanish, Hispanic or Latino	95%	N=435
Yes, I consider myself to be Spanish, Hispanic or Latino	5%	N=21
Total	100%	N=456

Table 30: Question D14

What is your race? (Mark one or more races to indicate what race(s) you consider yourself to be.)	Percent	Number
American Indian or Alaskan Native	1%	N=6
Asian, Asian Indian or Pacific Islander	6%	N=28
Black or African American	15%	N=68
White	78%	N=363
Other	4%	N=18

Total may exceed 100% as respondents could select more than one option.

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Table 31: Question D15

In which category is your age?	Percent	Number
18 to 24 years	1%	N=6
25 to 34 years	27%	N=127
35 to 44 years	22%	N=102
45 to 54 years	20%	N=93
55 to 64 years	12%	N=56
65 to 74 years	12%	N=54
75 years or older	6%	N=29
Total	100%	N=467

Table 32: Question D16

What is your sex?	Percent	Number
Female	59%	N=271
Male	41%	N=191
Total	100%	N=462

Table 33: Question D17

Do you consider a cell phone or landline your primary telephone number?	Percent	Number
Cell	70%	N=324
Land line	17%	N=78
Both	14%	N=64
Total	100%	N=466