

***COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY
NEEDS ASSESSMENT RESULTS***

REGION VIII

DICKINSON

Prepared By

Danielson and Associates

407 Main Avenue

Fargo, North Dakota

July 2006



INTRODUCTION

This report represents part of a statewide needs assessment study of low-income individuals in North Dakota. The study was sponsored by the North Dakota Community Action Agency. The North Dakota Community Action Association represents all of the Community Action Agencies in the state. This report presents findings from the Region VIII Community Action Agency in Dickinson, North Dakota. The data for this study were gathered through an eight page self-administered questionnaire. Individuals accessing services from Community Action and a variety of other partnering human service organizations completed the questionnaire during the Spring and early Summer of 2006. Data reports were developed for each of the eight Community Action service regions. In addition, a system wide report provides aggregate data for the entire state.

The survey instrument contained 32 questions although many questions had multiple response items. In total, there were 114 items that could generate separate responses from each participant in the study. Data from 218 clients are presented in this report.



FINDINGS

The first question on the survey stated, “The list below includes needs that are basic to everyone’s well being. Please circle a number for each *unmet* need for you or a member of your household. Circle 1 if the area is a need (IS), 2 if it is not (NOT), or 3 if the category does not apply to you (NA).” Seventeen needs were presented to the respondents. Table 1 presents the responses from this question in rank order by highest percentage.

TABLE 1
RANKING OF NEEDS THAT ARE BASIC TO WELL-BEING

	<i>Is A Need</i>	<i>Not A Need</i>	<i>Does Not Apply</i>
Utilities	45.9% (100)	39.9% (87)	14.2% (31)
Dental Health Care	44.0% (96)	42.7% (93)	13.3% (29)
Food	40.4% (88)	46.3% (101)	13.3% (29)
General Health Care	37.2% (81)	48.6% (106)	14.2% (31)
Housing/Shelter	36.7% (80)	49.1% (107)	14.2% (31)
Employment	33.0% (72)	51.4% (112)	15.6% (34)
Transportation	30.7% (67)	53.2% (116)	16.1% (35)
Budgeting Skills Training	30.3% (66)	53.2% (116)	16.5% (36)
Clothing	28.0% (61)	58.3% (127)	13.8% (30)
Income Tax Preparation	23.4% (51)	62.4% (136)	14.2% (31)
Referrals/Info About Available Assistance	22.5% (49)	60.1% (131)	17.4% (38)
Education	22.0% (48)	61.9% (135)	16.1% (35)
Immediate/Crisis Assistance	20.2% (44)	57.3% (125)	22.5% (49)
Child Care Services	17.4% (38)	59.2% (129)	23.4% (51)
Legal Services	13.3% (29)	67.9% (148)	18.8% (41)
Family Or Individual Counseling	11.5% (25)	67.0% (146)	21.6% (47)
Access To Alcohol Or Drug Counseling	7.8% (17)	66.5% (145)	25.7% (56)

The most frequently mentioned needs include utilities (45.9%), dental health care (44.0%), food (40.4%), general health care (37.2%), housing/shelter (36.7%), employment (33.0%), transportation (30.7%), budgeting skills training (30.3%), and clothing (28.0%). Other

frequently mentioned needs include income tax preparation (23.4%), referrals/info about available assistance (22.5%), education (22.0%), immediate/crisis assistance (20.2%), child care services (17.4%), legal services (13.3%), family or individual counseling (11.5%) and access to alcohol or drug counseling (7.8%).

The respondents were then presented with a matrix question that stated, “Please indicate which, if any, of the following sources you are currently using in order to meet each of the needs listed below. *Circle as many sources as you are using for each need (You can circle more than one response for a need). Circle a 1 for yourself, 2 for family/friends, 3 for Agency Assistance, 4 if you are receiving help from no source, and 5 if that area is not a need.*” Table 2 presents data from this question.

TABLE 2
SOURCES UTILIZED TO MEET NEEDS

	<i>Yourself</i>	<i>Family/ Friends</i>	<i>Agency Assistance</i>	<i>No Source</i>	<i>Do Not Need</i>
Food	52.3% (114)	17.9% (39)	25.2% (55)	8.7% (19)	24.8% (54)
Clothing	49.1% (107)	22.5% (49)	1.4% (3)	9.6% (21)	35.3% (77)
Housing/Shelter	45.4% (99)	15.1% (33)	17.0% (37)	8.7% (19)	33.0% (72)
Transportation	43.6% (95)	17.9% (39)	1.4% (3)	10.1% (22)	37.2% (81)
Child Care Services	20.2% (44)	9.2% (20)	9.6% (21)	6.0% (13)	67.0% (146)
Immediate Crisis Assistance	10.6% (23)	6.9% (15)	10.1% (22)	14.7% (32)	65.6% (143)

**Percentages total to more than 100% because respondents could make more than one response.*

Table 2 shows that clients were most likely to rely on themselves for food (52.3%), clothing (49.1%), housing/shelter (45.4%), and transportation (43.6%). They were most likely to utilize family and friends for clothing (22.5%), food (17.9%), and transportation (17.9%). Agency Assistance was most likely for food (25.2%), housing/shelter (17.0%) and child care services

(9.6%). Clients were most likely to have no source for immediate crisis assistance (14.7%) and transportation (10.1%). The services most likely to be unneeded include immediate crisis assistance (65.6%) and child care services (67.0%).

The next question stated, “Which of the following activities have you participated in during the past two years?” Table 3 presents responses from this question in rank order by highest percentage of those indicating participation in the activity.

TABLE 3
ACTIVITIES YOU HAVE PARTICIPATED IN DURING THE PAST TWO YEARS

Head Start Or Early Head Start	35.3% (77)
Church Related Groups	35.3% (77)
Job Skills Training	25.7% (56)
Adult Education	22.0% (48)
Community Groups	21.6% (47)
College Or Trade/Technical School	19.7% (43)
TANF/TEEM	19.3% (42)
Health/Nutrition Classes	18.8% (41)
Parenting Classes	18.8% (41)
Legal Assistance Services	11.9% (26)
Career Counseling	11.5% (25)
Community Action Self-Reliance Program	10.1% (22)

**Percentages total to more than 100% because respondents could make more than one response.*

The most frequently mentioned activities include Head Start or Early Head Start (35.3%), church related groups (35.3%), job skills training (25.7%), adult education (22.0%), community groups (21.6%), college or trade/technical school (19.7%), and TANF/TEEM (19.3%). Other activities include health/nutrition classes (18.8%), parenting classes (18.8%), legal assistance services (11.9%), career counseling (11.5%), and Community Action Self-Reliance Program (10.1%).

Table 4 presents data from the question, “Please tell us how much of a problem the following barriers are to you and your family in seeking or gaining assistance with your basic needs. Circle a 1 if it is not a problem at all (NP), 2 if it is somewhat of a problem (SP), or 3 if it is a big problem (BP).” Barrier categories are presented in rank order based on the highest percentage indicating that a category was a big problem.

TABLE 4
RANKING OF BARRIERS TO SEEKING OR GAINING ASSISTANCE
WITH YOUR BASIC NEEDS

	<i>Not A Problem</i>	<i>Somewhat of A Problem</i>	<i>A Big Problem</i>
Can't Afford Fees Or Costs (Co-insurance, etc)	62.4% (136)	23.4% (51)	14.2% (31)
Not Eligible/Don't Qualify For Assistance	65.6% (143)	20.2% (44)	14.2% (31)
Inadequate Transportation/Distance	69.3% (151)	21.1% (46)	9.6% (21)
Pride (Don't Want To Ask For Help)	70.2% (153)	22.0% (48)	7.8% (17)
Don't Know Where To Go For Help	74.8% (163)	18.8% (41)	6.4% (14)
Programs Not Available In The Area	78.4% (171)	15.6% (34)	6.0% (13)
Lack Of Child Care	86.2% (188)	8.7% (19)	5.0% (11)
Concern About Confidentiality	89.0% (194)	6.0% (13)	5.0% (11)
Don't Know The Guidelines/Rules Of Eligibility	74.8% (163)	20.6% (45)	4.6% (10)
Had A Prior Bad Experience	79.8% (174)	15.6% (34)	4.6% (10)
Poor Health/Disabilities Make It Difficult To Get There	84.9% (185)	10.6% (23)	4.6% (10)
Services Available During Limited Hours	82.1% (179)	14.2% (31)	3.7% (8)
Too Much Trouble/Red Tape	78.9% (172)	18.3% (40)	2.8% (6)
Can't Read	95.9% (209)	1.4% (3)	2.8% (6)
Drug Or Alcohol Usage	89.9% (196)	8.3% (18)	1.8% (4)

Difficulty affording fees or costs (14.2%) and not eligible/don't qualify for assistance (14.2%) were the most frequently mentioned “big problems” inadequate transportation/distance (9.6%), pride (7.8%), don't know where to go for help (6.4%), programs not available in the area (6.0%),

lack of child care (5.0%), and concern about confidentiality (5.0%). Results for other issues rated as “big problems” include don’t know the guidelines/rules of eligibility (4.6%), had a prior bad experience (4.6%), poor health/disabilities make it difficult to get there (4.6%), services available during limited hours (3.7%), too much trouble/red tape (2.8%), can’t read (2.8%) and drug or alcohol use (1.8%).

Table 5 presents data from the question, “Do you need child care services?”

**TABLE 5
DO YOU NEED CHILD CARE SERVICES?**

Yes	15.6% (34)
No	84.4% (184)

The results show that 15.6% of the respondents need child care services.

Those who needed child care services were directed to a question that stated, “Which of the following have you found to be barriers to obtaining child care services?” Table 6 presents data from this question. In Table 6 the data are again presented in rank order in terms of the barriers receiving the largest percentages.

**TABLE 6
BARRIERS TO OBTAINING CHILD CARE SERVICES**

Cost	91.2% (31)
Not Enough Providers	58.8% (20)
Times Service Is Available	41.2% (14)
Issues Regarding Reimbursement To Provider	41.2% (14)
Quality Of Providers	41.2% (14)
Location	17.6% (6)
Special Needs Child	17.6% (6)

**Percentages total to more than 100% because respondents could make more than one response.*

Table 6 indicates that cost (91.2%) is the barrier that received the highest percentage of responses followed by not enough providers (58.8%), time service is available (41.2%), issues regarding reimbursement to provider (41.2%), and quality of providers (41.2%). Location and special needs

child were each mentioned by 17.6%.

The respondents were then presented with a series of questions about employment. The first of these questions stated, “Please indicate which of the following you feel are barriers to finding employment?” Table 7 presents data from this question in rank order based on highest percentages.

TABLE 7
BARRIERS TO FINDING EMPLOYMENT

Low Wages	47.7% (104)
Lack Of Training Or Experience	33.5% (73)
Jobs Not Available	30.7% (67)
Work Hours	30.3% (66)
Transportation	24.3% (53)
Family Conflicts	21.1% (46)
Child Care	18.8% (41)
Mental Health	15.1% (33)
Physical Disability/Chronic Health Problems	14.2% (31)
Alcohol And/Or Drug Usage	7.8% (17)

**Percentages total to more than 100% because respondents could make more than one response.*

Table 7 shows that the most frequently mentioned barrier to finding employment is low wages (47.7%) followed by lack of training or experience (33.5%), jobs not available (30.7%), work hours (30.3%), transportation (24.3%) and family conflicts (21.1%). A total of 18.8% indicated that child care was a barrier and 15.1% indicated that mental health was a barrier. Other barriers include physical disability/chronic health problems (14.2%), and alcohol and or drug usage (7.8%).

A follow-up question stated, “Please indicate which of the following you feel are barriers to maintaining employment?” Table 8 presents data from this question in rank order.

TABLE 8
BARRIERS TO MAINTAINING EMPLOYMENT

Low Wages/Benefits	52.3% (114)
Work Hours	29.8% (65)
Stress Management/Balancing Family & Work	27.1% (59)
Employment Income Would Impact Eligibility	27.1% (59)
Lack Of Permanent Affordable Housing	26.1% (57)
Transportation	25.7% (56)
Child Care	20.2% (44)
Family Conflicts	17.4% (38)
Lack Of Opportunity For Advancement	17.0% (37)
Mental Health	12.8% (28)
Getting Along With Supervisor	12.8% (28)
Physical Disability/Chronic Health Problems	11.9% (26)
Getting Along With Co-workers	10.1% (22)
Alcohol And/Or Drug Usage	5.0% (11)

**Percentages total to more than 100% because respondents could make more than one response.*

The most frequently mentioned barriers to maintaining employment include low wages/benefits (52.3%), work hours (29.8%), stress management/balancing family and work (27.1%), employment would impact eligibility (27.1%), lack of permanent affordable housing (26.1%), and transportation (25.7%). Other barriers include childcare (20.2%), family conflicts (17.4%), lack of opportunity for advancement (17.0%), mental health (12.8%), physical disability/chronic health problems (11.9%), getting along with co-workers (10.1%), and alcohol and/or drug usage (5.0%).

The respondents were then asked a series of demographic questions. The first demographic asked for their age. Table 9 presents data from this question.

**TABLE 9
AGE OF RESPONDENTS**

Under 20	4.7% (9)
20-29	40.4% (78)
30-39	27.4% (53)
40-49	18.2% (35)
50-59	5.7% (11)
60 and over	3.6% (7)

Table 9 indicates that 4.7% of the clients are under 20 and 40.4% are 20-29. An additional 27.4% are 30-39, 18.2% are 40-49, 5.7% are 50-59, and 3.6% are 60 and over.

Table 10 presents data on gender of the respondents.

**TABLE 10
GENDER OF RESPONDENTS**

Male	25.2% (55)
Female	74.8% (163)

The results in Table 10 indicate that 25.2% of the respondents in the Region 8 needs assessment are male and 74.8% are female.

Table 11 presents data on marital status.

TABLE 11
MARITAL STATUS OF RESPONDENTS

Single	41.3% (90)
Married	33.9% (74)
Divorced	18.8% (41)
Widowed	1.8% (4)
Separated	4.1% (9)

The largest percentage of respondents are in the single category (41.3%) followed by married (33.9%) and divorced (18.8%). A total of 4.1% are separated and 1.8% are widowed.

Next, the clients were asked, “Are you a single parent?” Table 12 presents data from this question.

TABLE 12
ARE YOU A SINGLE PARENT?

Yes	31.3% (68)
No	68.7% (149)

Table 12 shows that 31.3% of those in the Region 8 Needs Assessment study are single parents.

Table 13 presents responses from the question, “Which of the following best describes the place where you live?”

TABLE 13
TYPE OF RESIDENCE?

In A Rental Unit	54.4% (118)
In A Home You Own (or make mortgage payments)	27.6% (60)
With Family Or Friends	13.4% (29)
Other	1.8% (4)
Shelter	1.4% (3)
Homeless	0.9% (2)
Treatment Center	0.5% (1)

The data in Table 13 show that 54.4% of the respondents live in rental units and 27.6% live in their own home. An additional 13.4% live with family or friends and the remainder have various other arrangements.

A follow-up question asked, “How many people, including yourself, live in your residence?” Table 14 presents data from this question.

TABLE 14
NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING IN RESIDENCE?

One	21.8% (47)
Two	24.1% (52)
Three	14.8% (32)
Four	16.2% (35)
Five	13.4% (29)
Six or more	9.7% (27)

A total of 21.8% have only one person in the residence and 24.1% have two. The results show that 14.8% had three people in their residence and 16.2% had four. Finally, 13.4% had five people and 9.7% had six or more people living in the residence.

The clients were then asked, “Which of the following best describes where you live?” Table 15 presents data from this question.

**TABLE 15
LOCATION OF RESIDENCE?**

On A Farm	5.5% (12)
In A City Or Town	86.2% (187)
In The Country, But Not On A Farm	8.3% (18)

The Region 8 sample has 5.5% of the respondents living on a farm and 86.2% living in a city or town. An additional 8.3% live in the country but not on a farm.

Table 16 presents data on the educational level of the clients.

**TABLE 16
LEVEL OF EDUCATION**

Some Grade School	0.9% (2)
Completed Grade School	3.2% (7)
Some High School	15.3% (33)
Completed High School	31.9% (69)
Some Technical School	6.5% (14)
Completed Technical School	4.2% (9)
Some College	25.5% (55)
Completed College	12.5% (27)

Those with a college degree or higher comprise 12.5% of those in the Region 8 study and 25.5% have some college. An additional 4.2% have completed technical school and 6.5% have some

technical school training. A total of 31.9% are high school graduates and 15.3% have some high school. The results show that 3.2% have completed grade school and 0.9% have only some grade school education.

The clients were then asked, “Please indicate how many household members, 18 years of age and older, are in each of the following work categories.” Table 17 presents data from this question.

TABLE 17
NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS 18 AND OVER
BY EMPLOYMENT STATUS

	Steady full-time work	Steady part-time work	Seasonal work	Temporary or short-term work	Did not have work	Currently not working or unemployed
One	31.1% (68)	20.6% (45)	4.6% (10)	6.4% (14)	5.0% (11)	21.5% (47)
Two	8.7% (19)	0.9% (2)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.5% (1)	1.8% (4)
Three Or More	1.4% (3)	0.5% (1)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.0% (0)	0.5% (1)
Column Total	41.2% (90)	22.0% (48)	4.6% (10)	6.4% (14)	5.5% (12)	23.8% (52)

Dickinson has 218 respondents in the needs assessment survey. Assuming that each respondent represents one household, the number in each cell is divided by 218 to determine the percentage of household members in each work category for the sample. The results show that 31.1% of the households have one person with steady full-time work, 8.7% have two persons over 18 with steady full time work, and 1.4% have three or more persons in that category. In total 41.2% of the households have one or more members with steady full-time work, 22.0% have one or more with steady part-time work, 4.6% have one or more with seasonal work, 6.4% have one or more with temporary or short-term work, 5.5% did not have work, and 23.8% currently are not working or are unemployed. The sum of the column totals at the bottom approximate 100% although rounding may cause a total over or under 100%.

The clients were also asked, “Do you have to work more than one job to meet basic needs to support yourself and/or a family?” Table 18 presents data from this question.

TABLE 18
NEED MORE THAN ONE JOB TO MEET BASIC NEEDS?

Yes	37.3% (79)
No	62.7% (133)

Slightly more than one-third (37.3%) of the respondents in the Dickinson study need more than one job to meet their basic needs.

Table 19 presents data from the question, “How many members of your household are NOT currently covered by some type of health insurance including Medicaid, Medicare, or other governmental programs?”

TABLE 19
NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING IN HOUSEHOLD NOT COVERED BY SOME TYPE OF HEALTH INSURANCE?

None	55.1% (119)
One	23.1% (50)
Two	11.6% (25)
Three	2.3% (5)
Four	4.2% (9)
Five	1.9% (4)
Six Or More	1.9% (4)

The results show that 55.1% of the households have all members covered by some type of health insurance. A total of 23.1% of the households had one person not covered, 11.6% had two not

covered, 2.3% had three, 4.2% had four, 1.9% had five uncovered, and 1.9% had six or more uncovered.

A related question asked, “How many of those not currently covered by some type of health insurance are children under the age of 18?” Table 20 presents data from this question.

TABLE 20
NUMBER OF PEOPLE LIVING IN HOUSEHOLD NOT COVERED
BY SOME TYPE OF HEALTH INSURANCE UNDER THE AGE OF 18?

None	87.0% (180)
One	4.3% (9)
Two	3.9% (8)
Three	2.9% (6)
Four	1.4% (3)
Five	0.0% (0)
Six Or More	0.5% (1)

The data in Table 20 indicate that 87.0% of the households have all individuals under the age of 18 covered by health insurance. A total of 4.3% have one who is not covered, 3.9% have two not covered, 2.9% of the clients have three, 1.4% have four, none have five and 0.5% have six.

The respondents were then asked, “How many times in the past year have you needed dental care but were unable to see a dentist?” Table 21 presents data from this question.

TABLE 21
NUMBER OF TIMES UNABLE TO SEE DENTIST IN LAST YEAR?

None	59.3% (128)
One	24.1% (52)
Two	6.0% (13)
Three	4.6% (10)
Four	1.4% (3)
Five	0.5% (1)
Six Or More	4.2% (9)

The results show that 59.3% did not have a problem in seeing a dentist in the last year but 24.1% were unable to see a dentist once, and 6.0% were unable to see one twice. An additional 4.6% have need for contact on three occasions, 1.4% for four, 0.5% for five and 4.2% for six or more.

Those eighty-eight who were unable to see a dentist were asked, “If you were not able to see a dentist, please tell us why.” Table 22 presents data from this question.

TABLE 22
WHY WERE YOU UNABLE TO SEE A DENTIST?

No Insurance	93.2% (82)
Not Enough Money	90.9% (80)
Fear Of Dental Procedures	14.8% (13)
Other	8.0% (7)
Transportation	4.5% (4)
Dentist Would Not Accept Medical Assist/Medicaid	4.5% (4)
Child Care	3.4% (3)

**Percentages may total to more than 100% because respondents could select more than one response.*

Table 22 shows that 93.2% did not have insurance and 90.9% indicated that they did not have enough money. An additional 14.8% said that they had a fear of dental procedures and 8.0% indicated other problems. A total of 4.5% had transportation problems and another 4.5% indicated that the dentist would not accept Medical Assistance/Medicaid. Finally, 3.4% had child care problems.

The next question asked, “Do you have enough money to meet you/your family’s basic needs (food, shelter, clothing, etc.)?” Table 23 presents data from this question.

TABLE 23
HAVE ENOUGH MONEY TO MEET BASIC NEEDS?

Yes	55.0% (120)
No	45.0% (98)

The data in Table 23 show that 55.0% have enough money to meet basic needs and 45.0% do not.

Those ninety-eight who gave a response of “no” to the previous question were asked, “If

you responded NO to Question #23, what do you need to help you become more self-sufficient or independent?" Respondents could circle as many responses as apply. Table 24 presents data from this question.

TABLE 24
WHAT DO YOU NEED TO BECOME MORE SELF-SUFFICIENT?

Higher Income	80.6% (79)
Employment	35.7% (35)
Affordable Housing	28.6% (28)
Budgeting Skills	23.5% (23)
Education/Training	22.4% (22)
Reliable Transportation	22.4% (22)
Clothing For Work/Interviews	19.4% (19)
Child Care	19.4% (19)
Medical Care	18.4% (18)
Personal Care Needs	16.3% (16)
Self-Confidence	13.3% (13)
Help With Writing A Resume	8.2% (8)
Interviewing Skills	8.2% (8)
Help With Setting And Reaching Goals	5.1% (5)
Other	2.0% (2)

The top three needs include higher income (80.6%), employment (35.7%), and affordable

housing (28.6%) followed by budgeting skills (23.5%), education/training (22.4%), reliable transportation (22.4%), clothing for work/interviews (19.4%), and child care (19.4%). Additional needs include medical care (18.4%), personal care needs (16.3%), and self confidence (13.3%). Lower rated needs include help with writing a resume (8.2%), interviewing skills (8.2%), help with setting and reaching goals (5.1%), and other (2.0%).

Table 25 presents data from the question, “What is your total yearly household income, from all sources, before taxes?”

TABLE 25
TOTAL YEARLY HOUSEHOLD INCOME?

Less than \$5,000	18.6% (40)
\$5,000 to \$9,999	15.3% (33)
\$10,000 to \$14,999	20.9% (45)
\$15,000 to \$19,999	15.3% (33)
\$20,000 to \$24,999	14.0% (30)
\$25,000 to \$34,999	10.2% (22)
\$35,000 to \$49,999	3.7% (8)
\$50,000 or above	1.9% (4)

Table 25 shows that 18.6% of the clients have incomes of less than \$5,000 and 15.3% have incomes between \$5,000 and \$9,999. A total of 20.9% have incomes of \$10,000 to \$14,999 and 15.3% have \$15,000 to \$19,999. The remaining categories show 14.0% with \$20,000 to \$24,999, 10.2% with \$25,000 to \$34,999, 3.7% with \$35,000 to \$49,999 and 1.9% with \$50,000 or more.

The respondents were then asked, “Do you own a car?” Table 26 presents data from this question.

TABLE 26
DO YOU OWN A CAR?

Yes	72.9% (159)
No	27.1% (59)

The data in Table 26 indicate that 72.9% of the respondents own a car and 27.1% do not.

Table 27 presents data from the question, “Do you have Internet access?”

TABLE 27
DO YOU HAVE INTERNET ACCESS?

Yes	50.5% (110)
No	49.5% (108)

Approximately one-half of the respondents (50.5%) have Internet access.

Those one hundred and ten who have Internet access were asked where they had their connection. Table 28 presents data from that question. Respondents could select more than one response.

TABLE 28
WHERE DO YOU HAVE INTERNET ACCESS?*

Home	65.5% (72)
Friend Or Family	21.8% (24)
School Or College	21.8% (24)
Library	13.6% (15)
Work	11.2% (13)

**Percentages total to more than 100% because of multiple responses*

The largest percentage of respondents that have Internet access have it at home (65.5%) followed by friend or family (21.8%) and school or college (21.8%). An additional 13.9% listed the library and 11.2% noted work.

The respondents were then asked, “Do you have a phone?” Table 29 presents data from this question.

TABLE 29
DO YOU HAVE A PHONE?

Yes	87.6% (191)
No	12.4% (27)

The survey results in Table 29 indicate that 87.6% of the respondents have a phone.

Table 30 presents data from the question, “Do you have a computer?”

TABLE 30
DO YOU OWN A COMPUTER?

Yes	55.0% (120)
No	45.0% (98)

Table 30 shows that nearly two thirds of the respondents (55.0%) own a computer.

Next, the respondents were asked, “Did you vote in the last presidential election?” Table 31 presents data from this question.

TABLE 31
DID YOU VOTE IN THE LAST PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION?

Yes	43.6% (95)
No	56.4% (123)

The data in Table 31 show that less than one-half (43.6%) of those in the study voted in the last presidential election.

Those one hundred and twenty-three who indicated “no” to the previous question were asked, “If you responded NO to Question 31, please indicate why.” Respondents could circle as many responses as appropriate. Table 32 presents data from this question.

TABLE 32
WHY DID YOU NOT VOTE?

Don't Feel Like It Matters	36.6% (45)
No Knowledge Of Issues/Candidates	31.7% (39)
Other	16.2% (20)
Time/Job Constraints	8.9% (11)
Lack of Voter Education/Don't Know How	7.3% (9)
Transportation	4.9% (6)
Child Care	0.8% (1)

The most frequently circled response was don't feel like it matters (36.6%), no knowledge of issues/candidates (31.7%), other (16.2%), time/job constraints (8.9%), lack of voter education/don't know how (7.3%), transportation (4.9%), and childcare (0.8%). The category of other had the following write-in responses: Not old enough (5), choose not to vote (4), felony (4), not a citizen (3), residency issue (2), and very sick in bed (2).

NOTES