

HOW TO READ THE TABLES

ACTION for Healthy Communities - 2003 Countywide Telephone Survey Results

This document explains how to read the tables containing the results of the 2003 ACTION for Healthy Communities Countywide Telephone survey. The results are contained in a series of Excel¹ files available on the United Way website (<http://unitedwayslo.org/action03/index.html>).

All of the Excel files contain the results (answers) to all survey questions. The results are presented in the same order (going down the sheet in the Excel file) in which the questions were asked.

One file contains the results for all 522 respondents in the Countywide Telephone survey. Other files, indicated by items on the website menu, contain the results broken out by subgroups. These subgroups include:

- Respondents under and over the age of 60
- Respondents under 35, 35 to 54, 55 to 64, and 65 and over
- Respondents with children age 5 and under, 6 to 12, 13 to 17, and no children
- Respondents in each of 4 regions in the County
- Respondents in each of 5 income categories
- Whites, Latinos, and other ethnic groups
- Men and women
- Owners and renters
- Respondents living in households of 1 to 2, 3 to 4, and 5 or more people (Q9)
- Recipients and non-recipients of government program benefits (Q85a)
- Respondents who say they did and did not vote in the 2002 general election
- Respondents living in households where someone has a disability (Q23)
- Someone in household is a caregiver to a disabled person (Q25a)

These Excel files² may be downloaded from the website for further analysis and reporting.

Descriptions of the methods used in the two surveys are contained in separate files that may be read by clicking the Survey Methods link on the website.

¹ Excel is a trademark of Microsoft Corporation

² In Excel 2002 format

The following is an example of a table from the Excel file containing the results for those respondents in the telephone survey who said they voted or did not vote in the November 2002 election³.

Cell A1 indicated the question number for the results shown in the table, and cell A6 shows a brief summary of that question. Question 1 in the telephone survey asked the gender of the respondent.

Further down column A are the answer choices for the question. In this case, Male, Female, and No Answer.

Column B contains results for all respondents: 522 for the telephone survey. This column is the same in all the files.

Column C, D, and others in some files, contain the results for subgroups of respondents. These will change from file to file. In example below, the columns are: those who said they voted (381 respondents) and those who said they did not (140 respondents).

	A	B	C	D
1	Table Q1			
2				
3	prepared by UCSB Social Science Survey Center			
4				
5				
6	Gender of Respondent			
7				
8				
9		All respondents	Vote	Not vote
10		-----	-----	-----
11				
12		522	381	140
13		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
14	Male	226	165	60
15		43.3%	43.3%	42.9%
16	Female	296	216	80
17		56.7%	56.7%	57.1%
18	NO ANSWER			

³ Some respondents may exaggerate when answering questions about behavior that is generally accepted to be socially desirable.

The first row beneath the headings (rows 12 in this example) shows the number of respondents in the subgroup. The next row shows the percentage total for that column, usually 100.0%.

Subsequent rows show the number of respondents who gave each answer, and the percentage of the group the number represents. In the above example there were 381 respondents who said they voted. 165 of those were Males. These 165 are 43.3% of the 381 who voted. Thus, the percentages in the tables add up and down, not across.

Some questions are only asked of subgroups of respondents, parents for example. In the results of these questions, the respondents who were not asked are included in the NO ANSWER rows.

In the above example, there were no respondents who did not answer, so the cells in that row are blank. In other tables there will be No Answers, as well as respondents who indicated they don't know (DK), or who were asked the question but could not answer (NA).

In tables reporting the results of questions asked of only some respondents (parents for example), the reader may wish to repercentage the results based on only those respondents who were asked the question (total number less the No Answer number). The Excel file based on All Respondents contains the percentages based on those who were asked the question as well as the percentages based on total respondents.

Readers are encouraged to use, and publish, the results of the 2003 Countywide Telephone Survey, as well as other data contained in the ACTION for Healthy Communities reports. When publishing such data please identify the source as "ACTION for Healthy Communities Countywide Telephone Survey, as reported in 2003 Indicator (or Comprehensive) Report."

If you have questions about the 2003 surveys please contact:

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