

EPIC x MRA SURVEY -- High-School Students' Attitudes Toward Computers And Related Technology - August 2001

[FREQUENCY REPORT of SURVEY RESPONSES – 445 SAMPLE – ERROR ±4.6%]

SEQUENCE # _____ ZIPCODE: _____ DATE: ____/____/____
PHONE # _____ INTERVIEWER _____
COUNTY _____ JURIS ____ WARD _____ PRECINCT _____

Intro

Hello, this is (NAME) from EPIC x MRA, a Lansing based survey research firm. We're conducting a statewide survey of young people in Michigan to get their opinions about computers and related technology. We are not trying to sell anything and no one will be called again for participating in this survey. The phone number of your household was randomly selected, and if there is a high-school junior or senior at home, I'd like to take just a few minutes to include the opinions of your household.

Is there someone living in the household, who will be a junior or senior in high school this fall, whom I may speak with?

If Yes **[ASK]** "May I please speak to that person." **[IF NOT HOME, ASK]** "Is there a time later tonight they might be available?" [Make note of call back time on call sheets].

If No ----- **THANK RESPONDENT AND TERMINATE**

INTERVIEW

Refused ----- **THANK RESPONDENT AND TERMINATE INTERVIEW**

[WHEN NEW PERSON COMES TO PHONE, RESTATE INTRO THEN GO TO Q. 01]

__01. This coming fall, will you be enrolled as a junior in high school, a senior in high school, something else, or will you not be enrolled in high school?

61% A junior
39% A senior

__02. In general, how interested would you say you are in computers and related technology? Would you say you're ... **[READ CHOICES 1-4]**

21% Extremely interested
66% Fairly interested **87% Total INTERESTED**
12% Not particularly interested
1% Not at all interested **13% Total NOT INTERESTED**
--% **[volunteered]** Don't know
--% **[DO NOT READ]** Refused

___03. And in general, how would you describe the level of your skill or proficiency in using computers and related technology? Would you say you're ... **[READ CHOICES 1-4]**

14%	Extremely proficient	
74%	Fairly proficient	98% Total PROFICIENT
10%	Not very proficient	
2%	Not at all proficient	12% Total NOT PROFICIENT

--- **GO TO Q. 39**

I'm going to ask you about some things a person might do with a computer. For each one, please tell me how comfortable you would feel if you had to do this for some reason. The first/next one is ...

___04. Creating a newsletter with graphics and text in columns, using a word processor. Would you feel ... **[READ CHOICES 1-4]**

2%	Not at all confident that you could do this
38%	Confident that you could do this if you had help
35%	Confident that you could do this without help
25%	Confident enough that you could teach others to do this

___05. Using file management tools by copying files from one storage device to another, creating folders and subfolders, and deleting files. Would you feel ... **[READ CHOICES 1-4]**

5%	Not at all confident that you could do this
29%	Confident that you could do this if you had help
31%	Confident that you could do this without help
35%	Confident enough that you could teach others to do this

___06.. Creating charts and graphs of numerical data using a spreadsheet. Would you feel ... **[READ CHOICES 1-4]**

4%	Not at all confident that you could do this
33%	Confident that you could do this if you had help
38%	Confident that you could do this without help
25%	Confident enough that you could teach others to do this

___07. Sending and receiving e-mail. Would you feel ... **[READ CHOICES 1-4]**

2%	Not at all confident that you could do this
4%	Confident that you could do this if you had help
20%	Confident that you could do this without help
74%	Confident enough that you could teach others to do this

___08. Searching the World Wide Web for information to make a choice about a product you want to buy. Would you feel ... **[READ CHOICES 1-4]**

- 1% Not at all confident that you could do this
- 9% Confident that you could do this if you had help
- 31% Confident that you could do this without help
- 59% Confident enough that you could teach others to do this

___09. Capturing images using a digital camera or scanner and transferring them to a computer. Would you feel ... **[READ CHOICES 1-4]**

- 7% Not at all confident that you could do this
- 35% Confident that you could do this if you had help
- 27% Confident that you could do this without help
- 31% Confident enough that you could teach others to do this

___10. Creating your own web site with text, graphics and links to other sites. Would you feel ... **[READ CHOICES 1-4]**

- 14% Not at all confident that you could do this
- 57% Confident that you could do this if you had help
- 15% Confident that you could do this without help
- 14% Confident enough that you could teach others to do this

___11. Applying troubleshooting strategies with a computer that isn't working properly. Would you feel ... **[READ CHOICES 1-4]**

- 27% Not at all confident that you could do this
- 49% Confident that you could do this if you had help
- 19% Confident that you could do this without help
- 5% Confident enough that you could teach others to do this

___12. Accessing a protected program or system without knowing the access code or password. Would you feel ... **[READ CHOICES 1-4]**

- 48% Not at all confident that you could do this
- 32% Confident that you could do this if you had help
- 14% Confident that you could do this without help
- 6% Confident enough that you could teach others to do this

__13. Of the following descriptions, which single one best describes your view of what a computer is? [**READ AND ROTATE 1-6**]

- 20% An entertainment device
- 21% A communications tool
- 26% An information source
- 6% A business tool
- 22% An educational resource
- 5% A word processor

__14. And of the other descriptions you didn't choose, which one is the second-best description of your view of what a computer is? [**DROP RESPONSE IN Q. 13 -- READ AND ROTATE REMAINING OPTIONS IN 1-6**]

- 17% An entertainment device
- 27% A communications tool
- 24% An information source
- 10% A business tool
- 13% An educational resource
- 9% A word processor

__15. How important are computers to your work at school? [**READ AND ROTATE 1-3**]

- 54% Very important
 - 41% Somewhat important
 - 5% Not important at all
- 95% Total IMPORTANT**

__16. How important are computers in your day-to-day life? [**READ AND ROTATE 1-3**]

- 32% Very important
 - 59% Somewhat important
 - 9% Not important at all
- 91% Total IMPORTANT**

__17. How important are computers to your future career success? [**READ AND ROTATE 1-3**]

- 54% Very important
 - 39% Somewhat important
 - 6% Not important at all
 - 1% DK/Ref
- 93% Total IMPORTANT**

__18. Generally speaking, how many hours do you spend each week reading and surfing on the Internet? [READ CHOICES 1-5]

- 25% 1 to 2 hours a week
- 39% 3 to 7 hours a week
- 16% 8 to 14 hours a week
- 16% 15 or more hours a week
- 4% Or don't you use the Internet ----- **GO TO Q. 21**

I'm going to read several types of Web sites. For each one that I read please tell me on a scale of 0 to 5 – with zero being the least trustworthy and five being the most trustworthy – how you would rate that type of Web site for providing accurate and unbiased information for use as a research tool. The first type of Web sites are [ROTATE 18a-18e] please give that type of Web site a rating of 0 -- meaning least trustworthy -- to 5 – meaning most trustworthy.

	not trustworthy	<u>Least</u>	<u>Neutral</u>			<u>Most</u>				
Sites that end with:	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>undec</u>	<u>mean</u>	<u>median</u>	
__18a. "dot-com"	1%	3%	13%	26%	28%	25%	4%	3.81	4.00	
__18b. "dot-org"	1%	1%	9%	20%	29%	30%	10%	4.31	4.00	
__18c. "dot-net"	2%	3%	15%	30%	28%	13%	9%	3.79	3.00	
__18d. "dot-edu"	2%	3%	7%	8%	18%	52%	10%	4.64	5.00	
__18e. "dot-gov"	3%	4%	10%	14%	24%	35%	10%	4.28	4.00	

__18f. How many times last year did you use the Internet to find information for a school project? [READ CHOICES 1-5]

- % Never ----- **GO TO Q. 20**
- 3% 1 or 2 times
- 14% 3 to 5 times
- 20% 6 to 10 times
- 63% More than 10 times

__19. When you used the Internet for a school project, how often did you make judgments about the quality and reliability of the information? [READ CHOICES 1-5]

- 8% Never
- 26% Seldom
- 25% Usually
- 25% Often
- 16% Always

__20. How many times in your first year of college do you expect to use the Internet to find research information for a school project? **[READ CHOICES 1-5]**

- % Never
- 3% 1 or 2 times
- 7% 3 to 5 times
- 14% 6 to 10 times
- 73% More than 10 times
- 1% Won't go to college (*volunteered*)
- 2% DK/Ref

__21. How many times did you use your school or public library last year to find information for a school project? **[READ CHOICES 1-5]**

- 9% Never
- 18% 1 or 2 times
- 26% 3 to 5 times
- 19% 6 to 10 times
- 28% More than 10 times
- % DK/Ref

__22. When you do research for a school project, do you primarily use information... **[READ CHOICES 1-5]**

- 3% That you already know
- 2% Only from books and magazines
- 6% Only from the Internet
- 88% From a combination of the Internet, books, magazines and other sources
- 1% Or, would you say that you have never had to do research
- % DK/Ref

__23. How long was the longest research paper with footnotes or endnotes and a bibliography that you ever wrote in high school? **[READ CHOICES 1-5]**

- 15% 1 to 4 pages
- 43% 5 to 8 pages
- 26% 9 to 12 pages
- 14% More than 12 pages
- 1% Or, have you never written a research paper
- 1% DK/Ref

24. If you had to find Internet sources to use in a school project, would you most likely...
[READ CHOICES 1-5]

- % Not know where to begin to ask for help
- 10% Ask a friend to help you find reliable information
- 25% Ask people like parents, teachers, or librarians for help finding reliable information
- 61% Work alone and be able to find enough reliable information
- 3% Or, look in a book for guidelines on how to use the Internet
- 1% DK/Ref

25. If you had to guess today, what do you think are the chances you'll be earning your living in 10 years doing something directly related to computers? **[READ CHOICES 1-5]**

- 18% Excellent
- 27% Very good
- 27% Good **72% Total POSITIVE**
- 17% Fair
- 11% Poor **28% Total NEGATIVE**

26. In the next section of the survey we'll be considering the computer specifically as a communication tool. How frequently do you send or receive e-mail? Would you say daily, every few days, weekly, every few weeks, only a few times ever, or never?

- 50% Daily
- 24% Every few days
- 9% Weekly
- 5% Every few weeks
- 7% Only a few times ever ----- **GO TO Q. 31**
- 5% Never ----- **GO TO Q. 31**

27. Thinking about e-mail in comparison with other ways of communicating such as telephones, which of the following best describes how you feel about e-mail vs. the others?
[READ AND ROTATE CHOICES 1-3]

- 11% In general e-mail is better than the others.
- 9% In general e-mail is not as good as the others.
- 80% Both e-mail and other ways of communicating have their advantages and disadvantages.

28. Who do you usually send and receive e-mails with the most? Would you say ... [**READ CHOICES 1-6**]

- 89% Friends
- 5% Family
- 1% Teachers
- 1% Businesses
- 1% Strangers
- 3% Groups or clubs with which you are involved

29. Who do you usually send and receive e-mails with the next most? Would you say ... [**DROP CHOICE IN Q. 28 -- READ REMAINING CHOICES 1-5**]

- 9% Friends
- 50% Family
- 6% Teachers
- 10% Businesses
- 4% Strangers
- 18% Groups or clubs with which you are involved
- 3% DK/Ref

30. Compared to a phone call, do you expect an e-mail response to be more personal, less personal, or about the same?

- 12% More personal
- 42% Less personal
- 46% About the same

Now let's talk about chatting. There are several ways to chat online. For each of the following ways, please tell me whether you do this kind of chatting often, occasionally, seldom or never.

31. Chatting with a chat group where you know everyone in the group. Would you say you do this [**READ CHOICES 1-3**] ...

- 19% Often
- 16% Occasionally
- 65% Seldom or never

32. Visual chatting, where you can see the person you're chatting with, and they can see you, via webcams. Would you say you do this [**READ CHOICES 1-3**] ...

- 3% Often
- 4% Occasionally
- 93% Seldom or never

___ 33. Blind chatting, where you don't know the people you're chatting with except by a screen name. Would you say you do this **[READ CHOICES 1-3]** ...

- 23% Often ----- **CONTINUE WITH Q. 34**
 18% Occasionally ----- **CONTINUE WITH Q. 34**
 59% Seldom or never ----- **GO TO Q. 35**

___ 34. Have you ever thought that you may have provided too much personal information when you were blind chatting, or not?

- 22% Yes
 78% No

___ 35. How frequently do you spend time chatting online? Would you say daily, every few days, weekly, every few weeks, only a few times ever, or never?

- 30% Daily
 25% Every few days
 9% Weekly
 10% Every few weeks
 15% Only a few times ever ----- **GO TO Q. 37**
 11% Never ----- **GO TO Q. 37**

___ 36. Thinking about chatting in comparison with other ways of communicating such as telephones, which of the following best describes how you feel about chatting vs. the others? **[READ AND ROTATE CHOICES 1-3]**

- 11% In general chatting is better than the others.
 17% In general chatting is not as good as the others.
 72% Both chatting and other ways of communicating have their advantages and disadvantages.

___ 37a. –c. I'm going to read some possible sources of information about computers. Please tell me which ones have been important sources for you. The sources are.. **[READ & ROTATE 1-11. RECORD UP TO THREE AS Q. 37a, Q. 37b, Q. 37c ON LINES BELOW.]**

- 18% Yourself, through trial and error
 17% A teacher in regular school
 14% Your father or stepfather
 12% A male friend
 10% Your mother or stepmother
 9% A female friend
 6% Your brother
 5% Some other family member such as a cousin, aunt or uncle
 4% Printed sources like books, magazines or newspapers
 3% Your sister

__38. And where have you learned the most about computers? Would it have been ... [**READ AND ROTATE CHOICES 1-5**]

- 50% At home
- 6% At someone else's home
- 41% At school
- 1% At a computer camp
- 1% At a job
- 1% DK/Ref

Now a few questions to help us classify your responses.

__39. What was your age on your last birthday? [**RECORD AS STATED**]

- 2% 11-14 years
 - 11% 15 years
 - 49% 16 years
 - 32% 17 years
 - 6% 18 - more years
- MEAN: 16.286 years MEDIAN: 16 years

__40. Do you yourself have a cell phone? [**CODE BEST RESPONSE**]

- 31% Yes, have own cell phone
- 5% Yes, have regular use of cell phone
- 3% Yes, have occasional use of cell phone
- 61% No

__41. Do you yourself have a computer? [**CODE BEST RESPONSE**]

- 44% Yes, have own computer
- 40% Yes, have regular use of household
- 5% Yes, have occasional use of household computer
- 11% No

__42. How many computers are there in your household, including Macs and PCs, desktops, laptops and palmtops, even if you don't have use of all of them? [**FREE RESPONSE. RECORD ANSWER AS STATED**] _____

- 3% None
 - 34% One
 - 33% Two
 - 19% Three
 - 5% Four
 - 3% Five
 - 3% More than five
- MEAN: 2.126 computers MEDIAN: 2.000 computers

__43. What kind of grades do you usually get in school? Do you get ... **[READ CHOICES 1-4]**

- 44% Mostly As
- 44% Mostly Bs
- 10% Mostly Cs
- 1% Mostly lower than Cs
- 1% Refused (*volunteered*)

__44. What are your plans for when you finish high school? **[DO NOT READ -- CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

- 76% I'll go to a 4-year college
- 7% I'll go to a 2-year college, trade or technical school
- 4% I'll get a job
- 4% I'll go in the service
- 9% I'm undecided
- % Refused

__45. What is your favorite subject in high school? **[DO NOT READ -- CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

- 27% Mathematics (any form)
- 23% Science (any form)
- 19% English/literature/writing
- 12% History/social studies
- 6% Art/music/choir/band/orchestra/theater
- 5% Shop/technology
- 2% Foreign language (any)
- 2% Physical education
- 3% Other [SPECIFY] _____
- 1% Refused

__46. What is your least favorite subject in high school? **[DO NOT READ -- CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

- 40% Mathematics (any form)
- 27% English/literature/writing
- 15% History/social studies
- 13% Science (any form)
- 2% Foreign language (any)
- 1% Physical education
- 2% Refused

__47a. – c. Do you participate in any of the following extracurricular activities? **[READ 1-5. RECORD UP TO THREE AS Q. 47a, Q. 47b, Q. 47c ON LINES BELOW.]**

- 39% Sports, any level, varsity, junior varsity, or intramural
- 20% Music, any form, band, choir, orchestra, solo instrument, etc.
- 18% Clubs or interest groups, any, such as languages, chess, role-playing, computers, scouting, FFF
- 14% Theater or arts, any
- 6% Forensics, such as debate, public speaking, etc.
- 3% None
- 1% Refused

__48. Gender **[BY OBSERVATION ONLY]**

- 54% Male
- 46% Female

THANK RESPONDENT FOR HIS OR HER TIME AND TERMINATE