

ZA4156

**Flash Eurobarometer 146
(Entrepreneurship 2003)**

**Questionnaire
United States of America**

Questionnaire

Entrepreneurship Study

Prepared by Princeton Survey Research Associates for the European Union

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Hello, my name is _____ and I am calling for Princeton Survey Research. We are conducting a survey to find out what Americans think about some important issues today. May I please speak with the youngest male, **age 15 or older**, who is now at home? (**IF NO MALE, ASK:** May I please speak with the oldest female, **age 15 or older**, who is now at home?)

Q1 Suppose you could choose between different kinds of jobs. Which one would you prefer? (**READ**) *trend*

- 1 Being an employee
- 2 Or being self-employed?
- 3 (None of these) [Volunteered]
- 4 (Don't know/Refused)

Q2 Have you started a business recently or are you taking steps to start one? (**READ; ACCEPT ONE RESPONSE**) *mod trend*

IF NO PLEASE READ CODES 1 THROUGH 2

- 1 Have you never thought about it OR
- 2 Are you thinking about it?

IF YES, THINKING ABOUT IT/ TAKING STEPS - PLEASE READ CODES 3 THROUGH 4

- 3 Had you thought about it or taken steps to start a business but gave up OR
- 4 Are you currently taking steps to start a new business?

IF YES, HAS STARTED BUSINESS - PLEASE READ CODES 5 THROUGH 7

- 5 In the last three years, have you started or taken over an existing business which is still active OR
- 6 Did you start or take over an existing business more than three years ago which is still active, OR
- 7 Had you previously started a business, but currently you are no longer an owner (business failed, business was sold or respondent has retired)
- 8 (Don't know/Refused)

Q3 If you currently had the means to start your own business, would you rather set up a new one or take over an existing one? (**READ; ACCEPT ONE RESPONSE**) *new*

- 1 Set up a new one
- 2 Take over an existing business
- 3 (None of these) [Volunteered]
- 4 (Don't know/Refused)

Q4 In your opinion, at present who seems to be best qualified to advise people on setting up their own business? Is it:.. (**READ; ACCEPT TWO RESPONSES; ROTATE RESPONSES**) *new*

- 1 A lawyer or accountant or private consultant
- 2 A bank
- 3 A chamber of commerce or professional association
- 4 A public support organization for businesses
- 5 Another entrepreneur
- 6 A relative or friend
- 7 (Other – specify)
- 8 (Nobody)
- 9 (Don't know/Refused)

Q5a In your opinion, where should basic knowledge on how to run a business be taught? Is it:... (**READ; ACCEPT MULTIPLE RESPONSES**) *new*

- 1 At secondary schools
- 2 At technical schools
- 3 At college or university
- 4 At adult education classes
- 5 Nowhere, it cannot be taught
- 6 (Somewhere else--specify)
- 7 (Don't know/Refused)

Q5b Which of the following statements do you agree with most: ..? (**READ**) *new*

- 1 In addition to the subject matter taught, our educational system helps to develop an entrepreneurial spirit or mindset in young people that encourages them to go into business
- 2 In addition to the subject matter taught, our educational system does not help to develop an entrepreneurial spirit or mindset in young people that encourages them to go into business
- 3 (Don't know/Refused)

Q6 Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree or strongly disagree with the following statements? **(READ AND ROTATE) mod trend**

- a** It is difficult to start one's own business due to a lack of available financial support. *trend*
- b** It is difficult to start one's own business due to the complex governmental procedures. *US trend*
- c** I would be willing to pay to take courses on how to start and run a business or to spend some of my free time to take courses on starting and running a business. *trend*
- d** People who have started their own business and have failed should be given a second chance. *trend*
- e** I would be reluctant to order products from someone who has already failed in business. *trend*
- f** I would never invest money in a business managed by someone who has already failed in the past. *trend*
- g** One should not start a business if there is a risk it might fail. *Trend*
- h** The economic climate is not favorable for people who want to start their own business. *new*

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Agree
- 3 Disagree
- 4 Strongly disagree
- 5 (Don't know/Refused)

Q7 If you were to set up a business today, which of the following would you worry about most? What is the second thing that would worry you? **(READ AND ROTATE; TWO RESPONSES ACCEPTED)**

- 1 The uncertainty of your income
- 2 Job insecurity
- 3 The risk of losing your property
- 4 The need to devote too much energy or time to it
- 5 The possibility of suffering a personal failure
- 6 The possibility of going bankrupt
- 7 (Don't know/Refused)

Q8 Most businesses are one-person businesses meaning that the business owner does not employ anyone. Which of the following are the two main reasons that could most explain this fact? **(READ AND ROTATE; TWO RESPONSES ACCEPTED)** *new*

- 1 The business does not make enough profit to hire anyone
- 2 The business owner wants to keep full control of the business
- 3 Business owners want to avoid problems with employees
- 4 There are not enough qualified employees
- 5 Wages are too high
- 6 Additional labour costs such as employers contributions to social security are too high
- 7 Administrative procedures for hiring are too complicated and time consuming
- 8 The business owner is afraid it will be too difficult to dismiss an employee
- 9 (Other – specify)
- 10 (Don't know/Refused)

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Q9 How much time do you think is needed for a one-person-business to get through all administrative procedures when a business owner hires his/her first employee? **(READ; ACCEPT ONE RESPONSE)** *new*

- 1 Less than one day
- 2 Two to three days
- 3 One week
- 4 Two to three weeks
- 5 More than three weeks
- 6 (Don't know/Refused)

D1 Record sex

- 1 Male
- 2 Female

D2 At what age did you finish your full time education?

- 15-98 Record age
- 98 98 years old or older
- 0 Refused

D3 Age when finished full time education:

- 1 No full time education
- 5-98 Record age
- 99 Still at full time school
- 0 Refused

D4 What is your occupation? Are you self-employed, a professional or white collar worker, a manual or blue collar worker, or are you not employed for pay? **(DO NOT READ RESPONSES)**

- 1 Self-employed
- 2 Professional or white collar worker
- 3 Manual or blue collar worker
- 4 Not employed for pay
- 99 Don't know/Refused

Based on those who are self employed (D4=1)

D4a More specifically, are you a...? **(READ RESPONSES)**

- 1 Farmer or forester or fisherman
- 2 Owner of shop or company or craftsperson
- 3 Professional (lawyer, medical practitioner, accountant or architect)
- 4 Manager of a company
- 5 Other (Specify) (Do Not Read)

Based on those who are professional or white collar workers (D4=2)

D4b More specifically, are you a...? **(READ RESPONSES)**

- 1 Professional (such as a doctor, lawyer, accountant or architect)
- 2 General manager or director or in top management
- 3 Middle manager
- 4 Civil servant (government worker)
- 5 Office clerk
- 6 Other (Specify) (Do Not Read)

Based on those who are manual or blue collar workers (D4=3)

D4c More specifically, are you a...? **(READ RESPONSES)**

- 1 Supervisor or foreman (team manager, etc.)
- 2 Manual worker
- 3 Unskilled manual worker
- 4 Other (Specify) (Do Not Read)

Based on those who are not employed for pay (D4=4)

D4d More specifically, are you...? **(READ RESPONSES)**

- 1 Not employed outside the home
- 2 A full-time student
- 3 Retired
- 4 Looking for work
- 5 Other (Specify) (Do Not Read)

HISP Are you, yourself, of Hispanic or Latino origin or descent, such as Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, or some other Spanish background?

- 1 Yes
- 2 No
- 9 Don't know/Refused

RACE **(IF HISPANIC, ASK:)** Are you white Hispanic, black Hispanic, or some other race? **(IF NOT HISPANIC ASK:)** What is your race? Are you white, black, Asian, or some other race? **[DO NOT READ RESPONSES]**

- 1 White
- 2 Black
- 3 Asian
- 4 Other or mixed race (Specify)
- 9 Don't know/Refused

D5 Region [listed in sample]

D6 Which of the following best describes the place where you now live? A large city, a suburb near a large city, a small city or town or a rural area?

- 1 Large city
- 2 Suburb of large city
- 3 Small city or town
- 4 Rural area
- 5 Don't know/Refused

D7a Could you tell me the occupation of your father? Is or was he self-employed, a professional or white collar worker, a civil servant (government employee), a manual or blue collar worker, or is or was he not employed for pay? **(READ)** **[INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTION: If does not have father, code as don't know/refused]**

- 1 Self-employed
- 2 Professional or white collar worker
- 3 Civil servant (government worker)
- 4 Manual or blue collar worker
- 5 Not employed for pay
- 6 (Don't know/Refused)

D7b And could you tell me the occupation of your mother? Is or was she self-employed, a professional or white collar worker, a civil servant (government employee), a manual or blue collar worker, or is or was she not employed for pay? **(READ)** [INTERVIEWER INSTRUCTION: If does not have mother, code as don't know/refused]

- 1 Self-employed
- 2 Professional or white collar worker
- 3 Civil servant (government worker)
- 4 Manual or blue collar worker
- 5 Not employed for pay
- 6 (Don't know/Refused)

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END OF INTERVIEW: Thank you very much for taking the time to answer the questions on this survey. We really appreciate it. Have a nice day/evening.