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Hard of Hearing Survey on Assistive Technology Use Continues

Here's a peek at the results

You may have been alerted to this survey from another database and already participated in it but, in case you were not, here's a place where reporting your experience with some kinds of hearing loss technology is really needed. The more people who participate, the more meaningful the results of the survey will be.

As it enters its second week, visitor statistics for the website of the Committee for Communication Access in America (CCAA) shows many hard of hearing people from all over America have already participated in the Committee's Utilization of Assistive Communication Technology in Public Venues survey. Here's your chance to make your voice heard.

A peek at the current survey results finds that the largest group of respondents thus far is people in the over 61 age group, accounting for 80% of all participants. 73% of all participants report a self-defined severe to profound hearing loss, dwarfing the 6.64% percentage the National Center for Biotechnical Information reports those two categories represent among the hard of hearing population.

The 30-question survey reportedly takes participants only 10 to 12 minutes of their valuable time to complete. Some participants have inquired and been assured that the survey is capturing neither their names nor their email addresses. It is still open and US based hearing aid and cochlear or bone implant users, as well as hard of hearing people who have no such devices, are being encouraged to participate by a long list of supporters. Those wishing to participate in the survey can do so ► [here](#) ◀.

The purpose of the survey is to document and quantify the experience and preferences of consumers with hearing loss in the use of various assistive communication technologies currently found (or sometimes not) in public venues. The results will offer guidance to service providers and decision makers on the furnishing of suitable communication access to the public. The Frost Center for Data and Research at Hope College in, Holland, MI, using the Qualtrics platform, is handling the mechanics of the survey.

The survey has had support in recruiting participants from a number of hearing loss and hearing care entities that includes Hearing Tracker, Hearing Health and Technology Matters, the Hearing Health Foundation, Living With Hearing Loss, Soundly and others.

The information gathered by this survey could be instrumental in convincing more and more places of worship, theaters, legislative chambers, meeting halls, airports and other places to provide the communication access those of us with hearing loss need.

CCAA member Professor David Myers, an internationally known psychologist, educator and author, said, "As social animals—as people who need people—hearing is vital to our emotional and cognitive health. Thankfully, today's hearing technologies can enable those of us with this great invisible disability to escape the deafness that caused Beethoven to lament living 'like an exile' and experiencing social encounters with 'a hot terror.'"

Help yourself and others avoid that terror, please participate in the survey [HERE](#).

For more information, contact:

Stephen O. Frazier
ccainamerica@gmail.com or (505) 401-4195

About the CCAA

The Committee for Communication Access in America is an ad hoc committee of nationally known advocates for people with hearing loss who have come together to gather and then share information on the use of assistive communication technology. The membership of the committee includes hearing care professionals, hearing related media members, and hard of hearing consumers. Their names and backgrounds are included in the information on the Committee's website: <http://www.ccaa.name/>.

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If you are aware of a newsworthy story regarding hearing loops, neckloops or telecoils and would like to have it considered for publication in a future edition of this newsletter, please send the details to: intheloop@juno.com.

Submissions are welcome from any of the private individuals, hearing care providers or looping advocates, installers, distributors and manufacturers receiving this newsletter.

If a friend or associate forwarded this newsletter to you and you would like to be added to the mailing list for future copies, send your request to the address above and you'll be in the loop.

Stephen O. Frazier, Editor
Hearing Loss Support Specialist and Freelance Writer

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