

The Suite 101 Hitch-hiking Survey

If you have ever hitch-hiked, please complete this survey form and send it to:

Bernd Wechner
6 Montagu Street
Mount Stuart 7000
Australia
Fax: +1-509-463-1395
Email: bernd(at)wechner.info

Or, fill the form in on-line at:

<http://bernd.wechner.info/Hitchhiking/Suite101/Survey>

Include your name and address if you like the idea of credit, thanks, or joining an international hitchhikers club or mailing list. Remain anonymous if you prefer.

Larry and Don Evans used a survey almost identical to this one in 1980 in the United States. They got about 1,000 responses after distributing 10,000 questionnaires and compiled what is still the best guidebook to hitch-hiking in America that exists - *Hey Now, Hitchhikers!*

Now, fill in this form, share some experiences, and help us create a broader more current guide! Let's do better.

About You

- Year of birth: _____
- Nationality: _____
- Where you live: _____
- Your sex: male female
- Currently a student? yes no
a university graduate? yes no
Field(s) of study: _____
- Job/profession: _____

Your Hitch Hiking

- Year when you first hitch-hiked: _____
- Year(s) when you hitch-hiked most: _____
Were you a student then? yes no partly
- How many times have you hitched more than a few kilometres? 1-10 10-25 25-50
 50-100 100-500 500+
- Where have you done most of your hitchhiking and how would you rate local attitudes towards hitchhiking there?

 excellent good fair poor bad
- You ordinarily hitch-hike:
 locally alone
 nationally with a male friend
 internationally with a female friend
 globally with 2 or more others
- You hitch-hike with children? with pets?
 yes yes
 sometimes sometimes
 no no
- At a guess, how long is:
your average wait? your average ride?
 less than 15 minutes less than 15 minutes
 15 to 30 minutes 15 to 30 minutes
 30 minutes to 1 hour 30 minutes to 1 hour
 1 to 2 hours 1 to 2 hours
 over 2 hours over 2 hours
- Your longest hitch-hike in one trip was:
 100 km or less 1 day
 100-500 km 2-5 days
 500-1,000 km 5-10 days
 1,000-2,000 km 1 month
 over 2,000 km longer
- Longest Wait(s) Where When

- Do you, use a sign? ask drivers personally?
 always always
 often often
 sometimes sometimes
 seldom seldom
 never never
 - Do you contact rides using:
ride-share services? a CB radio?
 always always
 often often
 sometimes sometimes
 seldom seldom
 never never
 - Hitch-hiking at night - you think: you do it:
 cool, I love it always
 don't care often
 OK under lights sometimes
 if I must, prefer not to seldom
 I hate it. never
 - Do you ever, share expenses? share driving?
 always always
 often often
 sometimes sometimes
 seldom seldom
 never never
 - How often do you ride over five hours,
in cars? in trucks?
 often often
 sometimes sometimes
 seldom seldom
 never never
 - Do you ever turn down rides?
 often seldom
 sometimes never
- Why? _____

- Do you think attitudes towards hitch-hiking are?
 getting better getting worse no change

Drivers

23. What percentage of the drivers do you feel uneasy with? feel very comfortable with?
- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> less than 10% | <input type="checkbox"/> less than 10% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10-25% | <input type="checkbox"/> 10-25% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50% | <input type="checkbox"/> 25-50% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75% | <input type="checkbox"/> 50-75% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 75-90% | <input type="checkbox"/> 75-90% |
| <input type="checkbox"/> more than 90% | <input type="checkbox"/> more than 90% |

24. How many people are usually in the vehicle that picks you up? one two three four+

25. Have the drivers ever hitch-hiked themselves?
- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> always | <input type="checkbox"/> often | <input type="checkbox"/> sometimes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> seldom | <input type="checkbox"/> never | |

26. Do the people who pick you up, share food? invite you home?
- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> always | <input type="checkbox"/> always |
| <input type="checkbox"/> often | <input type="checkbox"/> often |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sometimes | <input type="checkbox"/> sometimes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> seldom | <input type="checkbox"/> seldom |
| <input type="checkbox"/> never | <input type="checkbox"/> never |

27. How often do truck drivers: stop for you, if moving? give you a ride, if already stopped and you ask?
- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> always | <input type="checkbox"/> always |
| <input type="checkbox"/> often | <input type="checkbox"/> often |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sometimes | <input type="checkbox"/> sometimes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> seldom | <input type="checkbox"/> seldom |
| <input type="checkbox"/> never | <input type="checkbox"/> never |

Other Vehicles

28. Have you ever hitch-hiked on a boat/ship? an aeroplane? a motorcycle?
- | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> often | <input type="checkbox"/> often | <input type="checkbox"/> often |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sometimes | <input type="checkbox"/> sometimes | <input type="checkbox"/> sometimes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> seldom | <input type="checkbox"/> seldom | <input type="checkbox"/> seldom |
| <input type="checkbox"/> once | <input type="checkbox"/> once | <input type="checkbox"/> once |
| <input type="checkbox"/> never | <input type="checkbox"/> never | <input type="checkbox"/> never |

29. Have you ever hopped freight trains?
 often sometimes seldom once never

Any good rail yards/bad rail yards? _____

Trouble

30. Have you ever lost something because you left it in the car? you were robbed?
- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> often | <input type="checkbox"/> often |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sometimes | <input type="checkbox"/> sometimes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> seldom | <input type="checkbox"/> seldom |
| <input type="checkbox"/> once | <input type="checkbox"/> once |
| <input type="checkbox"/> never | <input type="checkbox"/> never |

31. Physically, have you ever been threatened? assaulted?
- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> often | <input type="checkbox"/> often |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sometimes | <input type="checkbox"/> sometimes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> seldom | <input type="checkbox"/> seldom |
| <input type="checkbox"/> once | <input type="checkbox"/> once |
| <input type="checkbox"/> never | <input type="checkbox"/> never |

32. Sexually, have you ever been invited? molested? assaulted?
- | | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> often | <input type="checkbox"/> often | <input type="checkbox"/> often |
| <input type="checkbox"/> sometimes | <input type="checkbox"/> sometimes | <input type="checkbox"/> sometimes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> seldom | <input type="checkbox"/> seldom | <input type="checkbox"/> seldom |
| <input type="checkbox"/> once | <input type="checkbox"/> once | <input type="checkbox"/> once |
| <input type="checkbox"/> never | <input type="checkbox"/> never | <input type="checkbox"/> never |

33. Have you ever been (by the police):
- | | | |
|---|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> asked to move? | <input type="checkbox"/> warned? | <input type="checkbox"/> fined? |
| <input type="checkbox"/> searched? | <input type="checkbox"/> arrested? | <input type="checkbox"/> jailed? |

When, where, why? _____

Tips and Things

34. Why do you hitch-hike? _____

35. What is your worst problem when you hitch? How do you avoid it?

36. List a couple of routes that you feel are truly impossible to hitch, and a few that you have found easy or enjoyable.

Anything Else?

If there's anything else, interesting stories, ideas, answers that didn't fit, or contact details, feel free to add another sheet or scrap of paper and share them. We'd love to hear them. Especially interesting stories!