

2008 MEMBERSHIP SURVEY FINAL REPORT



Introduction

The Project Management Institute's Montgomery, Alabama, chapter conducted its second annual membership survey October 1–21, 2008. The survey's purpose was to determine the extent to which the chapter was meeting its members' expectations of a professional project management association. Forty survey questions were presented in the following categories:

- Respondent Demographics
- Monthly Membership Meetings
- Chapter-Sponsored Roundtables
- Seminars
- Areas of Interest for Future Programs, Roundtables, and Seminars
- Communications
- Likes, Dislikes, and Opportunities

The survey was prepared by the chapter's Vice President, Membership, and administered online through SurveyMonkey.com. Invitations to participate were e-mailed to 140 chapter members on October 1, 2008. Forty-six members began the survey, and 43 completed all required questions. Respondents were not required to submit any identifying information.

This document reports survey results exactly as they were received. Most survey questions were multiple choice and required the respondents to provide answers. In the following pages, the number of responses to each multiple choice question is shown at the end of the question (e.g., N=45). There also were several optional open-ended response questions that invited respondents to submit narrative remarks. Narrative responses were not edited to correct non-standard grammar or spelling. However, they *were* edited in two circumstances:

- Narrative remarks that might clearly identify the respondent were edited to remove the identifying information.
- Narrative remarks that might be perceived as critical of individual speakers or programs were edited to remove the speakers' or program names.

Where a narrative response was edited, a bracketed ellipse [...] was inserted.

Editorial comments appear in this report only when a respondent's narrative remarks questioned the design or function of the survey. Editorial comments are clearly identified. The intent is not to argue with the respondent's remarks. Instead, it is to clarify the original intent of the survey instrument.

Questions 10, 16, 21, 24, 28, and 33 asked respondents to rate chapter services on a 5-point Likert scale (Poor–Fair–Good–Very Good–Excellent or Not Interested–Not Very Interested–Somewhat Interested–Very Interested–Extremely Interested). Each response is reported with a Rating: a weighted average score computed by assigning a value of 1 to the least favorable option (Poor or Not Interested), 2 to the next option, and so on up to 5 for the most favorable option (Excellent or Extremely Interested). The assigned values were multiplied by the number of respondents selecting each value. The products of those calculations were summed and divided by the number of respondents. Thus, higher Rating scores indicate more favorable responses.

The survey employed a feature SurveyMonkey.com calls "skip logic," which allows the survey designer to direct a respondent to a specific follow-on question depending upon the respondent's answer to a particular survey item. For example, question 8 asked, "Have you attended any monthly membership meeting in the past 12 months?" If the respondent answered "Yes," the respondent proceeded to questions 9–12, which asked for opinions about the meetings. If the respondent answered "No," the survey directed the respondent past the opinion questions and moved to the next topic, Chapter-Sponsored Roundtables. Skip logic was applied at questions 8, 13, 19, 26, and 31.

The Montgomery PMI Chapter Board of Directors deeply appreciates the thoughts, opinions, and ideas of those members who participated in this survey.

2008 Montgomery PMI Chapter Membership Survey

1. How long have you been a member of the Montgomery PMI Chapter? (N=46)

Option	Count	%
Less than 6 months	5	10.9%
6 months to 1 year	4	8.7%
More than 1 year to 3 years	22	47.8%
More than 3 years	15	32.6%

2. Which PMI credential(s) do you hold, if any? Please select all that apply. (N=46)

Option	Count	%
I do not hold a PMI credential	13	28.3%
Certified Associate in Project Management (CAPM)	1	2.2%
PMI Scheduling Professional (PMI-SP)	0	0.0%
PMI Risk Management Professional (PMI-RMP)	0	0.0%
Project Management Professional (PMP)	33	71.7%
Program Management Professional (PgMP)	0	0.0%

3. What is the nature of the organization where you are employed? Please select one.
(N=46)

Option	Count	%
I am not currently employed	2	4.3%
Banking/Financial Services	3	6.5%
Charitable/Nonprofit/Religious	0	0.0%
Construction/Architecture	1	2.2%
Consulting	6	13.0%
Education/Training	2	4.3%
Engineering	0	0.0%
Government	5	10.9%
Health Care	2	4.3%
Insurance	2	4.3%
Manufacturing	10	21.7%
Military	4	8.7%
Other (please specify)	9	19.6%
Accounting for HW/SW contracts with Government		
Defense Contractor		
Government Contractor		
Information Technology		
IT System Development		
Software development: Education Data Management		

4. Please select the items your employer pays in whole or in part, either directly or by reimbursement. Please select all that apply. (N=46)

Option	Count	%
My employer does not pay any PMI expenses	13	28.3%
Annual PMI dues	27	58.7%
Annual chapter dues	25	54.3%
Monthly membership meeting fees	7	15.2%
Seminar fees	18	39.1%
Initial certification expenses (all or some)	24	52.2%
Recertification fees	17	37.0%

5. What type of presentation do you prefer at monthly membership meetings?
Please select one. (N=46)

Option	Count	%
Lecture / information	26	56.5%
Participatory	5	10.9%
No preference	15	32.6%

6. What meeting day(s) best suit your schedule? Please select all that apply. (N=46)

Option	Count	%
Monday	4	8.7%
Tuesday	22	47.8%
Wednesday	12	26.1%
Thursday	35	76.1%
Friday	5	10.9%

7. What meeting time is best for you? Please select one. (N=46)

Option	Count	%
Breakfast	1	2.2%
Lunch	21	45.7%
Dinner	17	37.0%
No preference	7	15.2%

8. Have you attended any monthly membership meetings in the past 12 months? (N=46)

Option	Count	%
Yes	28	60.9%
No	18	39.1%

9. How many monthly membership meetings have you attended in the past 12 months? (N=28)

Option	Count	%
1-3	9	32.1%
4-8	10	35.7%
9 or more	9	32.1%

10. Please rate the chapter's monthly membership meetings according to these dimensions (N=28):

Parameter	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Rating
Location	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	5 17.9%	9 32.1%	14 50.0%	4.32
Amount of food	0 0.0%	1 3.6%	4 14.3%	11 39.3%	12 42.9%	4.21
Quality of food	0 0.0%	2 7.1%	3 10.7%	13 46.4%	10 35.7%	4.11
Quality of program presentations	0 0.0%	2 7.1%	13 46.4%	11 39.3%	2 7.1%	3.46
Relevance of program topics to your needs	0 0.0%	6 21.4%	9 32.1%	10 35.7%	3 10.7%	3.36

11. Please rate the cost of the monthly dinner meeting (\$22) for the value received. (N=28)

Option	Count	%
Too high	5	17.9%
About right	23	82.1%
Too low	0	0.0%

12. How can we improve the chapter's monthly membership meetings? (Optional)

- Have more globally known project management professionals speak about how we project managers can improve doing our day to day jobs.
- 1. Seating is too crowded. 2. May check with the CCC about other alternates than chicken fingers or vegetarian 3. Review more "basics" of PM - the nine knowledge areas & 5 process groups - the reivew about teamwork was excellent - back to basic - nothing new - good review.
- Keep getting informative speakers (or occasionally good participatory meetings). If local leaders with some known name recognition can be acquired, that might be interesting if their topic is appropriate. Of course, if I knew of any, I would pursue this for the chapter. Since I've stated the above, I'll actually try to find one myself.
- Friday at lunch or Thursday at dinner is a good time Stabalize the BOD - there is no reason to change our board member every year. Certainly hold elections - but don't replace everyone for the sake of replacing them. Okay to bring in leaders of the community, but let's also look inside the chapter to the tallent. All project managers need to be better communicators, including presentations. So, start a pool of volunteers, specifically designed to allow junior speakers work on their skills. Use more

of the PMBoK in the presentations. Show us how to relate what we do to the details presented in this reference. Give us updates from PMI (international and national). Allow us to feel like we are a part of a larger, unified community.

- Have only been a member since [...] 08.
- Have presentations from other industries other than IT
- Open bar :-)
- Perhaps a night of short presentations by PMI chapter member who can relate the experiences of a recent project, lessons learned, how the PMI meeting lecture benefitted them, etc.
- I think we have a great chapter and my situation is flexible enough financially and timewise that I can do almost anything. I think the cost of going to a meeting (\$22) is a barrier for some people though and I think having the meetings in the evenings is a barrier for some people. I know lunch meetings in a less expensive venue would have other draw backs (less time, less conducive for networking etc). Maybe we should consider some "test" lunch time meetings next year and see how they work out?
- Better programs. Don't bring back the same program again, even though it was good the first time, like [...]. Don't repeat speakers so much like [...]. Mr. Jung is an exception. He's a tradition.

13. Have you ever attended any project management roundtables sponsored by the Montgomery PMI Chapter? (N=46)

Option	Count	%
Yes	11	23.9%
No	35	76.1%

14. How many chapter-sponsored roundtable meetings have you attended? (N=11)

Option	Count	%
1-3	7	63.6%
4-9	2	18.2%
10 or more	2	18.2%

15. How often do you attend roundtable meetings as a substitute for monthly membership meetings? (N=11)

Option	Count	%
Never	5	45.5%
Sometimes	5	45.5%
Frequently	0	0.0%
Always	1	9.1%

16. Please rate the roundtable meetings according to these dimensions (N=11):

Parameter	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Rating
Quality of roundtable presentations/discussions	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	7 63.6%	2 18.2%	2 18.2%	3.55
Relevance of roundtable information to your needs	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	5 45.5%	4 36.4%	2 18.2%	3.73

17. How can we improve the chapter-sponsored roundtable meetings? (Optional)

- Have noit attended - survey issue here - results should be diregarded - could not continue without providing answer

EDITORIAL COMMENT

A respondent should not have been able to reach this question if he or she responded “No” to question 13, “Have you ever attended any project management roundtables sponsored by the Montgomery PMI Chapter?” In this case, one of two circumstances must have occurred. Either an anomaly with the survey software permitted the respondent to answer opinion questions regarding the roundtables, or the respondent mistakenly answered “Yes” to question 13.

- Are they published on the Montgomery PMI website?

18. What seminar format do you MOST prefer? Please select one. (N=45)

Option	Count	%
Weekday morning	4	8.9%
Weekday afternoon	16	35.6%
Weekday evening	5	11.1%
Weekday full day	7	15.6%
Saturday, half or full day	3	6.7%
No preference	10	22.2%

19. Have you attended any chapter seminars, including those you might have attended before joining the chapter? (N=45)

Option	Count	%
Yes	29	64.4%
No	16	35.6%

20. How many chapter seminars have you attended, including those you might have attended before you joined the chapter? (N=29)

Option	Count	%
1	8	27.6%
2	7	24.1%
3	8	27.6%
4 or more	6	20.7%

21. Please rate the chapter's seminars according to these dimensions (N=29):

Parameter	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Rating
Location	0 0.0%	1 3.4%	6 20.7%	10 34.5%	12 41.4%	4.14
Quality of seminar presentations	0 0.0%	1 3.4%	4 13.8%	16 55.2%	8 27.6%	4.07
Relevance of seminar topics to your needs	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	5 17.2%	18 62.1%	6 20.7%	4.03

22. Please rate the cost of the chapter's seminars for the value received. (N=29)

Option	Count	%
Too high	0	0.0%
About right	29	100.0%
Too low	0	0.0%

23. How can we improve the chapter's seminars? (Optional)

- same as input given for dinner meetings
- More of them
- - Site that avoids downtown traffic and limited parking spaces, and one that is roomier. Space in current room is very cramped. - Alternate method to online registration. Have

problems accessing current registration site. - Use survey to determine topics of interest -

- The last one with Tom Mocal was one of the best, so I suggest doing the next one's similarly. I would like to see a full day seminar, with lunch being the monthly meeting.

24. Please indicate your interest in attending or participating in a program dealing with these knowledge areas and process groups (N=45):

Topic	Not Interested	Not Very Interested	Somewhat Interested	Very Interested	Extremely Interested	Rating
Project integration	2 4.4%	2 4.4%	16 35.6%	23 51.1%	2 4.4%	3.47
Scope management	2 4.4%	4 8.9%	11 24.4%	23 51.1%	5 11.1%	3.56
Time management	2 4.4%	5 11.1%	10 22.2%	22 48.9%	6 13.3%	3.56
Cost management	2 4.4%	3 6.7%	8 17.8%	26 57.8%	6 13.3%	3.69
Quality management	2 4.4%	3 6.7%	9 20.0%	25 55.6%	6 13.3%	3.67
Human resource management	4 8.9%	8 17.8%	17 37.8%	16 35.6%	0 0.0%	3.00
Communication management	2 4.4%	3 6.7%	12 26.7%	23 51.1%	5 11.1%	3.58
Risk management	1 2.2%	3 6.7%	7 15.6%	21 46.7%	13 28.9%	3.93
Procurement management	3 6.7%	12 26.7%	15 33.3%	14 31.1%	1 2.2%	2.96
Professional conduct	6 13.3%	13 28.9%	17 37.8%	7 15.6%	2 4.4%	2.69
Initiating a project	3 6.7%	5 11.1%	12 26.7%	19 42.2%	6 13.3%	3.44
Planning a project	3 6.7%	1 2.2%	10 22.2%	19 42.2%	12 26.7%	3.80
Executing a project	2 4.4%	3 6.7%	11 24.4%	19 42.2%	10 22.2%	3.71
Monitoring and controlling a project	1 2.2%	1 2.2%	11 24.4%	21 46.7%	11 24.4%	3.89
Closing a project	4 8.9%	3 6.7%	15 33.3%	18 40.0%	5 11.1%	3.38

25. Do you have any suggestions for specific topics and/or speakers? If so, please enter them here. (Optional)

- Cost management and EIA/ANSI-748 compliant EVMS

- How about a pool of volunteers from within the chapter. Sort of the Stone - Sharpening - the - Stone approach.
- Successes or failures--lessons learned
- Successes and failures -- Lessons learned
- Creating a WBS and getting "bottum up" estimates from the WBS on a reasonably legitimate project. Mt exposure to these concepts typically deal with something like building a house or a bicycle and are never deep enough to really get beyond the THEORY, and I would like something deeper. This might take a seminar (4 hours) and it might be a real project that someone has accomplished, if they can share publically.
- Join as was hoping to get pmp but with montgomery being only closest one avaleble it isnt possible to make or attend anything. My interest is mainly the cert which seems folks are interested in but due to lack of resources in this area for me looks like it will be put off.
- No.
- I don't see that responding to these categories is relevant. I like a GOOD, experienced speaker in any of these categories, with a good, relevant PM topic.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

The purpose of this question was to determine what topics might be of greatest relevance to members. By asking the question, we discovered that our members would like to see programs on Risk Management, Monitoring and Controlling Projects, and Planning Projects. On the other hand, they expressed less interest in Human Resource Management, Procurement Management, and Professional Conduct.

26. Have you ever read the chapter's newsletter, the Capital Project Manager? (N=45)

Option	Count	%
Yes	43	95.6%
No	2	4.4%

27. How many issues of the chapter's newsletter do you read? (N=43)

Option	Count	%
1-2 per year	5	11.6%
3-4 per year	21	48.8%
5-6 per year	17	39.5%

28. Please rate the chapter's newsletter according to these dimensions (N=43):

Parameter	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Rating
Amount of information	0 0.0%	7 16.3%	21 48.8%	12 27.9%	3 7.0%	3.26
Quality of information	0 0.0%	4 9.3%	23 53.5%	14 32.6%	2 4.7%	3.33
Presentation/appearance	0 0.0%	3 7.0%	17 39.5%	16 37.2%	7 16.3%	3.63
Relevance of information to your needs	0 0.0%	8 18.6%	20 46.5%	13 30.2%	2 4.7%	3.21

29. The chapter's newsletter is published every two months. Please rate the publication frequency. (N=43)

Option	Count	%
Too often	1	2.3%
About right	39	90.7%
Not often enough	3	7.0%

30. How can we improve the chapter's newsletter? (Optional)

- Open a column to the chapter members. Encouraging them to identify a project that went well. Focused on how we can all benefit from their success.
- No suggestions
- I have no suggestions.
- I think it would be nice if the newsletter was monthly to encourage more participation. Chapter meeting up to include the presentation for those not able to attend.
- Have it shorter and monthly. Make sure you cover upcoming events, like seminars and monthly programs, more than past events, although past coverage is good, too. Have some articles about members who are doing interesting PM things.

31. Have you ever visited the chapter's web site? (N=45)

Option	Count	%
Yes	40	88.9%
No	5	11.1%

32. How often do you visit the chapter's web site? (N=39)

Option	Count	%
Less than one time a month on average	24	61.5%
Once or twice a month	11	28.2%
3 or more times a month	4	10.3%

33. Please rate the chapter's web site according to these dimensions (N=39):

Parameter	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good	Excellent	Rating
Amount of information	1 2.6%	2 5.1%	20 51.3%	12 30.8%	4 10.3%	3.41
Quality of information	0 0.0%	2 5.1%	22 56.4%	12 30.8%	3 7.7%	3.41
Presentation/appearance	0 0.0%	2 5.1%	18 46.2%	11 28.2%	8 20.5%	3.64
Organization of the site	0 0.0%	3 7.7%	20 51.3%	12 30.8%	4 10.3%	3.44
Relevance of information to your needs	0 0.0%	5 12.8%	20 51.3%	11 28.2%	3 7.7%	3.31

34. How can we improve the chapter's web site? (Optional)

- Solicit inputs from the membership. Run a campaign to identify the best project, most improved PMO or Program Office. Goal is to help us gain insight on how others were successful.
- None
- Maybe have a page of useful PM links to places like - TenStep, PDUs for Pennies, PMLG, and other sites members find useful. You could survey the members for sites they use and maybe group the links based on key concept, whether the site is mainly training, theory, consulting, etc.
- There are July attendance numbers on the home page. Some of the program info is different than Sharon has in her slide show for the meeting. We need to keep this and other info up to date.

35. How would you prefer to receive the following communications? (N=44)

	E-mail	Download from Chapter Web Site	Print (US Postal Service Delivery)
Monthly meeting reminders	43 97.7%	1 2.3%	0 0.0%
Information about seminars and special events	40 90.9%	3 6.8%	1 2.3%
Chapter newsletter	38 86.4%	5 11.4%	1 2.3%

36. Please grade the chapter on how well it meets your expectations of a professional project management association. (N=43)

Option	Count	%
A	14	32.6%
B	23	53.5%
C	5	11.6%
D	0	0.0%
F	1	2.3%

Other comments regarding the grade you gave the chapter (optional)

- I'm more Involved in the Construction side and would love to see some items that would specific to that industry.
- From what I can tell from the sources of information I receive, it sounds like we have a great chapter here. I have only just joined and to date have had business trips at the same time as the Chapter meetings.
- Tend to feel as an outsider when attending meetings. Not able to always attend but not always very welcoming. I responded to a volunteer request for the last PMI seminar out at East Chase. Was not contacted to assist. Not even an e-mail that my time was not need on this project.
- My participation has wained in the last 1-2 years from ALWAYS being present to about 60% participation, due to work and family priorities. So, part of the grade is due to my inconsistency in attendance, otherwise it may be higher.
- I love this chapter since [...]. However, this year I have been disappointed in the programs. But I am still committed to help and to attend. [...]
- Most of the info seems to be centered arround IT/IS. I am from a manufacturing field.
- Lunch time meetings

37. What do you like about the chapter? (Optional)

- My travel schedule generally limits active participation but the chapter does an exceptional job of communicating activity.
- It is close. The speakers sometimes inspire or influence me.
- It is small
- I'm impressed by the perseverance of the board and chapter.
- The opportunity to increase my knowledge through the presentations offered.
- Diversity of people ... location of meeting ... variation of topics
- The monthly meetings and topics.
- It's a great place to meet others with like interests and swap ideas. CCC is great meeting place. Website is excellent source of info about chapter activities and contact info.
- Good mix of representatives from business areas other than those I work with on a day-to-day basis.

38. What do you dislike about the chapter? (Optional)

- When I am in town, taking an evening away for a chapter meeting is difficult. I would be more likely to attend a lunch time meeting
- It is small
- Lack of advertisement and funding for the chapter, which leads to lack of motivation by the members and potential members.
- That the meetings are in the evening.
- It seems we have "run the course" on topics and have difficulty finding new topics for the long time attendee. The challenge the BoD has is that new members need those topics (since they were not with us the last time it was presented), but long-termers might find some redundant and therefore not attend "repeat" sessions.
- Programs need improvement. Volunteer program seems to be in disarray. I don't know what I've volunteered for or am expected to do. I hear others say they've volunteered but don't expect to do anything except get PDUs.
- My perception is that the local chapter is dominated by State and banking.

39. What activities or services can the chapter offer to better serve your professional needs? (Optional)

- Provide a forum for us to grow. Make the events valuable to the local businesses and they will support us.
- PMP prep seminars at no expense
- Make a printable chapter brochure link on the website that includes the purpose, objective, officers, contact information, services, etc.
- Part of my challenge is that my company does not fully subscribe and follow PM methodology and consequently much of what I "know" is not actually used in my day-to-day job. This is not a chapter issue, but I wonder how many others may be in the same situation and therefore losing their "enthusiasm" for attending. Just a thought ...

40. How can we improve the next membership survey? (Optional)

- Have N/A options on some questions
- This was a great survey. Well done.
- None
- Put some specific topics for program ideas instead of the knowledge areas. Ask for input on specific topics and speakers that respondents can suggest.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Question 25 asked, "Do you have any suggestions for specific topics and/or speakers? If so, please enter them here." The intent was to collect ideas from our members. By listing specific topics within the survey item, we might have risked having members simply vote on our ideas rather than contribute their own.

If you have questions or comments regarding the
2008 Montgomery PMI Chapter Membership Survey,
please contact:

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