

Athens Survey Results

Surveys Returned - 489

1. Where in Athens do you live?	Area 2 - Town					Completed Answers (out of 489)	Percent Answered (out of 489)
	Area 1 - Village	North of Village	Area 3 - Town East of I87	Area 4 - Town West of I87	Do not live in Athens		
Number of Responses	172	69	82	76	34	433	89%
Percent of Completed Answers	39.7%	15.9%	18.9%	17.6%	7.9%		
2. How many years have you lived in Athens?						Completed Answers (out of 489)	Percent Answered (out of 489)
	5 or less	6 to 10	11 to 15	16 to 20	21 to 25		
Number of Responses	77	50	48	49	27	408	84%
Percent of Completed Answers	18.8%	12.2%	11.7%	12.0%	6.6%		
	26 to 30	31 to 35	36 to 40	40 to 45	45 to 50		
Number of Responses	32	30	14	12	15		
Percent of Completed Answers	7.8%	7.3%	3.4%	2.9%	3.7%		
	51 to 55	56 to 60	61 to 65	66 to 70	71 to 75		
Number of Responses	15	14	3	6	6		
Percent of Completed Answers	3.7%	3.4%	0.7%	1.5%	1.5%		
	76 to 80	81 to 85	More than 85	Average			
Number of Responses	5	5	0	24.4			
Percent of Completed Answers	1.2%	1.2%	0.0%				
3. Do you live in Athens full-time or part-time?					Completed Answers (out of 489)	Percent Answered (out of 489)	
	Full-time	Part-time					
Number of Responses	343	82			425	87%	
Percent of Completed Answers	80.7%	19.3%					
4. Do you own or rent your home?					Completed Answers (out of 489)	Percent Answered (out of 489)	
	Own	Rent					
Number of Responses	428	3			431	88%	
Percent of Completed Answers	99.3%	0.7%					
5. What is your age?					Completed Answers (out of 489)	Percent Answered (out of 489)	
	Average Age						
	57.1				444	91%	
6. Looking back 5 years, is the quality of life in Athens generally improved, the same, or worse?					Completed Answers (out of 489)	Percent Answered (out of 489)	
	Better	Worse	Still the same	No opinion			
Number of Responses	123	48	229	65	465	95%	
Percent of Completed Answers	26.5%	10.3%	49.2%	14.0%			

7. Are additional affordable housing opportunities needed in the community?	Yes	No	Undecided	Completed Answers (out of 489)	Percent Answered (out of 489)		
Number of Responses	163	160	145	468	96%		
Percent of Completed Answers	34.8%	34.2%	31.0%				
8. If you answered yes to #7, how would you like to see affordable housing provided?	Accessory Dwelling Units such as in-law apartments	Additional Apartment Complexes	Moderately Priced Dwelling	Townhouses	Condo-miniums	Number of items checked	(multiple checks per resonder)
Number of Responses	33	64	113	39	24	273	
Percent of Completed Answers	12.1%	23.4%	41.4%	14.3%	8.8%		
How satisfied are you with your local government?	Satisfied	Not satisfied	No opinion	Completed Answers (out of 489)	Percent Answered (out of 489)		
Hours of operation (town/village hall)	319 68.5%	42 9.0%	105 22.5%	466	95%		
Responsiveness to resident's concerns	206 45.9%	98 21.8%	145 32.3%	449	92%		
Accessibility and communication with officials	267 58.2%	59 12.9%	133 29.0%	459	94%		
Accessibility to public records	213 46.5%	33 7.2%	212 46.3%	458	94%		
Rescue Squad/Ambulance	255 55.7%	31 6.8%	172 37.6%	458	94%		
Fire Protection	338 72.8%	16 3.4%	110 23.7%	464	95%		
Police/Law Enforcement	241 52.7%	95 20.8%	121 26.5%	457	93%		
Recycling	237 52.0%	92 20.2%	127 27.9%	456	93%		
Road Maintenance/snow removal	328 70.2%	80 17.1%	59 12.6%	467	96%		
Code Enforcement and permitting	201 44.0%	112 24.5%	144 31.5%	457	93%		
Zoning	149 33.4%	109 24.4%	188 42.2%	446	91%		
Other	9 8.2%	33 30.0%	68 61.8%	110	22%		

10. Beyond the basic services you expect to be provided, would you be in favor of spending public funding to accomplish any of the following, and if so, to what extent?	Yes, Spend more money even if taxes go up	Yes, Spend more money only if taxes are not raised	Spend same amount as now	Spend less than now	11. Number of Times Chosen as most important:	Completed Answers (out of 489)	Percent Answered (out of 489)
1. Protect open spaces	90 20.7%	151 34.7%	144 33.1%	50 11.5%	92	435	89%
2. Protect working farms and farmlands	93 21.0%	177 40.0%	134 30.2%	39 8.8%	99	443	91%
3. Further develop Riverfront Park	103 23.2%	188 42.3%	106 23.9%	47 10.6%	91	444	91%
4. Develop waterfront access and recreation opportunities	104 23.0%	201 44.4%	110 24.3%	38 8.4%	100	453	93%
5. Protect historic buildings and sites	81 17.8%	183 40.1%	147 32.2%	45 9.9%	100	456	93%
6. Protect scenic landscapes	77 17.0%	202 44.7%	138 30.5%	35 7.7%	91	452	92%
7. Protect sensitive environmental sites	86 19.4%	180 40.5%	142 32.0%	36 8.1%	82	444	91%
8. Provide for public water and sewers	106 24.3%	154 35.3%	135 31.0%	41 9.4%	101	436	89%
9. Convert empty buildings into commercial space	57 13.2%	210 48.7%	111 25.8%	53 12.3%	75	431	88%
10. Expand economic development activities	71 16.6%	197 46.1%	116 27.2%	43 10.1%	81	427	87%
11. Sidewalks, curbs, signs, and similar infrastructure	58 13.1%	176 39.8%	171 38.7%	37 8.4%	54	442	90%
12. Street beautification	54 12.2%	186 42.0%	162 36.6%	41 9.3%	52	443	91%
13. Downtown revitalization	94 21.5%	185 42.2%	119 27.2%	40 9.1%	118	438	90%
14. Create a micro-enterprise assistance program to help small businesses	60 13.9%	188 43.4%	129 29.8%	56 12.9%	48	433	89%
15. Create an industrial park	43 10.4%	133 32.0%	116 28.0%	123 29.6%	61	415	85%
16. Create a Housing Rehabilitation program	44 10.6%	154 36.9%	129 30.9%	90 21.6%	41	417	85%
17. Helping provide affordable housing for: Senior citizens	73 16.5%	199 44.9%	139 31.4%	32 7.2%	86	443	91%
18. Helping provide affordable housing for: First time home buyers	28 6.5%	153 35.7%	179 41.7%	69 16.1%	29	429	88%
19. Helping provide affordable housing for: Renters	11 2.6%	104 25.0%	189 45.4%	112 26.9%	14	416	85%

20. Local Police and Emergency Services	100 22.6%	163 36.8%	147 33.2%	33 7.4%	129	443	91%
21. Provide Added Senior Services	56 12.9%	188 43.3%	156 35.9%	34 7.8%	60	434	89%
22. New Town Hall	44 10.3%	125 29.1%	121 28.2%	139 32.4%	37	429	88%
23. Other:	22 31.4%	17 24.3%	17 24.3%	14 20.0%	19	70	14%
					13. Number of Times Chosen as most important:	Completed Answers (out of 489)	Percent Answered (out of 489)
12. How important are the following for you and your family to have in Athens?	Important	Not Important	No Opinion				
1. Affordable housing for first time home buyers	167 37.1%	194 43.1%	89 19.8%		44	450	92%
2. Additional commercial development	227 50.4%	161 35.8%	62 13.8%		57	450	92%
3. Affordable housing for renters	138 31.0%	229 51.5%	78 17.5%		35	445	91%
4. Affordable housing for seniors	292 64.6%	112 24.8%	48 10.6%		80	452	92%
5. Cable television	223 49.8%	183 40.8%	42 9.4%		40	448	92%
6. Cultural activities	262 58.5%	130 29.0%	56 12.5%		24	448	92%
7. Day care	146 33.3%	196 44.6%	97 22.1%		16	439	90%
8. Educational facilities	294 66.4%	94 21.2%	55 12.4%		48	443	91%
9. Enhanced tourism	196 44.6%	189 43.1%	54 12.3%		18	439	90%
10. Farms and farmland	296 65.9%	95 21.2%	58 12.9%		40	449	92%
11. Forestlands/Wildlife habitats	328 73.4%	70 15.7%	49 11.0%		52	447	91%
12. Garbage Removal	257 57.5%	128 28.6%	62 13.9%		30	447	91%
13. High speed internet connection	237 52.9%	140 31.3%	71 15.8%		28	448	92%

14. Historic character	300 66.7%	96 21.3%	54 12.0%	55	450	92%
15. Historical sites, structures, cemeteries	311 70.4%	78 17.6%	53 12.0%	33	442	90%
16. Limits on new residential density	313 70.7%	75 16.9%	55 12.4%	59	443	91%
17. Litter Control	365 82.0%	42 9.4%	38 8.5%	22	445	91%
18. Local job availability	314 70.4%	86 19.3%	46 10.3%	39	446	91%
19. Locally-owned/ operated businesses	334 75.7%	70 15.9%	37 8.4%	41	441	90%
20. More residential density	84 19.6%	271 63.2%	74 17.2%	9	429	88%
21. Open spaces	291 66.7%	80 18.3%	65 14.9%	19	436	89%
22. Opportunity for community involvement	286 65.4%	92 21.1%	59 13.5%	12	437	89%
23. Parks and playgrounds	300 67.6%	85 19.1%	59 13.3%	30	444	91%
24. Provide water and sewer service	296 66.2%	96 21.5%	55 12.3%	38	447	91%
25. Public access to open space	277 63.7%	92 21.1%	66 15.2%	9	435	89%
26. Public safety	392 87.5%	37 8.3%	19 4.2%	46	448	92%
27. Public transportation	181 41.3%	195 44.5%	62 14.2%	15	438	90%
28. Recreational opportunities	283 63.7%	102 23.0%	59 13.3%	18	444	91%
29. Rural aesthetic character	300 68.6%	77 17.6%	60 13.7%	31	437	89%
30. Scenic views and landscapes	334 74.7%	73 16.3%	40 8.9%	25	447	91%
31. Sensitive environmental sites protected	329 73.8%	69 15.5%	48 10.8%	24	446	91%
32. Services for senior citizens	310 69.8%	87 19.6%	47 10.6%	22	444	91%
33. Small hobby farms/recreational farms	192 44.0%	157 36.0%	87 20.0%	15	436	89%
34. Streams, ponds and wetlands	343 76.7%	55 12.3%	49 11.0%	18	447	91%
35. Well water quality	325 72.5%	71 15.8%	52 11.6%	25	448	92%

36. Well water quantity	295 67.4%	81 18.5%	62 14.2%	13	438	90%
37. Youth Activities	304 68.3%	85 19.1%	56 12.6%	20	445	91%
38. Other:	38 56.7%	10 14.9%	19 28.4%	10	67	14%
38. Other, Text					33	7%
14. Many communities are looking to consolidate services between municipalities as a cost saving measure. How do you feel about the possibility of consolidating services between the Town and Village?	Agree	Disagree	No opinion		Completed Answers (out of 489)	Percent Answered (out of 489)
Number of Responses	380	35	45		460	94%
Percent of Completed Answers	82.6%	7.6%	9.8%			
14 a. If you answered "Agree" above, do agree or disagree with consolidating the following services?	Agree	Disagree	No opinion		Completed Answers (out of 489)	Percent Answered (out of 489)
Police	328 85.0%	44 11.4%	14 3.6%		386	79%
Fire Protection	324 83.9%	51 13.2%	11 2.8%		386	79%
Highway Maintenance	349 89.7%	30 7.7%	10 2.6%		389	80%
Building/Zoning code enforcement	303 79.5%	49 12.9%	29 7.6%		381	78%
Planning Board activities	300 77.7%	56 14.5%	30 7.8%		386	79%
Zoning Board of Appeals activities	295 77.4%	55 14.4%	31 8.1%		381	78%
Government Boards	308 80.6%	45 11.8%	29 7.6%		382	78%
Property tax assessment	302 79.1%	57 14.9%	23 6.0%		382	78%
Other	40 72.7%	3 5.5%	12 21.8%		55	11%
14 b. How do you feel about more reliance on County Services?	Rely more	Rely less	No opinion		Completed Answers (out of 489)	Percent Answered (out of 489)
Number of Responses	210	68	166		444	91%
Percent of Completed Answers	47.3%	15.3%	37.4%			
14 c. How do you feel about having a joint or separate Village/Town Municip Building?	Joint	Separate			Completed Answers (out of 489)	Percent Answered (out of 489)
Number of Responses	406	34			440	90%
Percent of Completed Answers	92.3%	7.7%				

14 d. If you answered "joint" to 14c, do you feel that we should renovate the old, or build a new municipal building?	Build new	Renovate old	Completed Answers (out of 489)	Percent Answered (out of 489)		
Number of Responses	91	309	400	82%		
Percent of Completed Answers	22.8%	77.3%				
15. If you are interested in seeing more industrial development in Athens, what would you like to see, and where would you locate it?			Completed Answers (out of 489)	Percent Answered (out of 489)		
15. - (1) I am not interested in more industrial development anywhere.	154		402	82%		
	38.3%					
15 - (2) I am interested in seeing the following industrial uses developed in Athens:	248					
	61.7%					
	Technology	Manufacturing	Distribution	Light industry	Heavy industry	
	248	159	152	228	42	
	50.7%	32.5%	31.1%	46.6%	8.6%	
16. Are you interested in seeing any of the following recreation uses developed or expanded in Athens?	Strong interest	Some interest	Oppose	No opinion	Completed Answers (out of 489)	Percent Answered (out of 489)
Athletic Fields (baseball, softball, soccer)	82	194	53	105	434	89%
	18.9%	44.7%	12.2%	24.2%		
Bike paths	125	179	57	74	435	89%
	28.7%	41.1%	13.1%	17.0%		
Camping areas	47	149	115	116	427	87%
	11.0%	34.9%	26.9%	27.2%		
Community center	156	175	36	66	433	89%
	36.0%	40.4%	8.3%	15.2%		
Cultural activities (music, theater, etc.)	169	156	41	69	435	89%
	38.9%	35.9%	9.4%	15.9%		
Dog Park	49	102	137	135	423	87%
	11.6%	24.1%	32.4%	31.9%		
Golfing	79	110	131	112	432	88%
	18.3%	25.5%	30.3%	25.9%		
Hiking trails	140	168	47	79	434	89%
	32.3%	38.7%	10.8%	18.2%		

Horse trails	61 14.3%	139 32.5%	97 22.7%	131 30.6%	428	88%	
Ice skating	108 25.1%	183 42.5%	46 10.7%	94 21.8%	431	88%	
Marina	137 31.7%	165 38.2%	52 12.0%	78 18.1%	432	88%	
Playgrounds with equipment	129 29.8%	177 40.9%	50 11.5%	77 17.8%	433	89%	
Public picnic areas	138 31.9%	159 36.7%	55 12.7%	81 18.7%	433	89%	
Public swimming pool	131 30.5%	136 31.7%	76 17.7%	86 20.0%	429	88%	
Senior citizen center	162 37.4%	166 38.3%	30 6.9%	75 17.3%	433	89%	
Snowmobiling trails	43 10.1%	97 22.9%	190 44.8%	94 22.2%	424	87%	
Supervised recreational activities for senior adults	102 23.9%	174 40.7%	39 9.1%	112 26.2%	427	87%	
Teen center	135 30.8%	164 37.4%	43 9.8%	97 22.1%	439	90%	
Tennis courts	73 17.3%	149 35.3%	75 17.8%	125 29.6%	422	86%	
Walking/running path	161 37.3%	156 36.1%	49 11.3%	66 15.3%	432	88%	
Other	20 33.9%	10 16.9%	11 18.6%	18 30.5%	59	12%	
17. Which of the following economic/commercial businesses would you personally support?	Strong need	Some need	No need	No opinion	Preferred Location Village	Preferred Location Town	Preferred Location Route 9W
Additional Restaurants (no drive through)	134 31.6%	193 45.5%	70 16.5%	27 6.4%	175 35.8%	94 19.2%	97 19.8%
Additional Restaurants (with drive through)	34 8.2%	96 23.1%	250 60.1%	36 8.7%	29 5.9%	34 7.0%	86 17.6%
Antique Shop	55 13.0%	140 33.0%	153 36.1%	76 17.9%	142 29.0%	44 9.0%	30 6.1%
Appliance/Electronics Store	50 12.1%	156 37.9%	150 36.4%	56 13.6%	58 11.9%	44 9.0%	68 13.9%
Bakery	168 39.0%	187 43.4%	47 10.9%	29 6.7%	197 40.3%	49 10.0%	36 7.4%
Book Store	115 28.3%	152 37.4%	93 22.9%	46 11.3%	142 29.0%	49 10.0%	28 5.7%

Bowling Alley	41	87	214	66	34	35	52
	10.0%	21.3%	52.5%	16.2%	7.0%	7.2%	10.6%
Clothing Stores	116	139	119	46	101	59	64
	27.6%	33.1%	28.3%	11.0%	20.7%	12.1%	13.1%
Convenience Store	98	145	146	24	104	67	43
	23.7%	35.1%	35.4%	5.8%	21.3%	13.7%	8.8%
Day Spa	35	92	212	67	54	45	27
	8.6%	22.7%	52.2%	16.5%	11.0%	9.2%	5.5%
Drug Store	164	168	74	23	157	55	50
	38.2%	39.2%	17.2%	5.4%	32.1%	11.2%	10.2%
Dry Cleaner	66	144	143	50	89	45	38
	16.4%	35.7%	35.5%	12.4%	18.2%	9.2%	7.8%
Fabric/Craft Store	65	127	160	60	69	48	42
	15.8%	30.8%	38.8%	14.6%	14.1%	9.8%	8.6%
Garden Center/Nursery	86	168	123	45	40	96	73
	20.4%	39.8%	29.1%	10.7%	8.2%	19.6%	14.9%
Grocery store	222	132	63	15	133	84	88
	51.4%	30.6%	14.6%	3.5%	27.2%	17.2%	18.0%
Health Food Store	62	120	170	60	84	49	34
	15.0%	29.1%	41.3%	14.6%	17.2%	10.0%	7.0%
Home Improvement Center	53	68	266	30	13	30	45
	12.7%	16.3%	63.8%	7.2%	2.7%	6.1%	9.2%
Industrial development	80	128	168	34	12	67	104
	19.5%	31.2%	41.0%	8.3%	2.5%	13.7%	21.3%
Large Scale/Big Box Store	43	63	266	42	6	26	64
	10.4%	15.2%	64.3%	10.1%	1.2%	5.3%	13.1%
Mall style business development	64	77	242	31	15	36	74
	15.5%	18.6%	58.5%	7.5%	3.1%	7.4%	15.1%
Medical/Dental Offices	144	189	62	32	143	103	47
	33.7%	44.3%	14.5%	7.5%	29.2%	21.1%	9.6%
Mini-Storage Units	19	60	275	54	15	30	44
	4.7%	14.7%	67.4%	13.2%	3.1%	6.1%	9.0%
Movie Theater	86	120	172	43	75	52	48
	20.4%	28.5%	40.9%	10.2%	15.3%	10.6%	9.8%
Music Store	33	100	207	63	49	40	27
	8.2%	24.8%	51.4%	15.6%	10.0%	8.2%	5.5%
Plaza style businesses	59	115	178	55	33	48	80
	14.5%	28.3%	43.7%	13.5%	6.7%	9.8%	16.4%
Sporting Goods Store	40	135	180	52	36	49	60
	9.8%	33.2%	44.2%	12.8%	7.4%	10.0%	12.3%
Other	16	6	8	10	15	7	2
	40.0%	15.0%	20.0%	25.0%	3.1%	1.4%	0.4%

18. What could be done in the downtown to encourage you to spend more of your time there?		Completed Answers (out of 489)	Percent Answered (out of 489)
More Retail Uses	249 59.3%	420	86%
More Restaurants	220 52.4%		
More Recreational, Cultural Events and Activities	250 59.5%		
Enhanced Street Beautification	138 32.9%		
More Services	92 21.9%		
More Parking	146 34.8%		
Other	25 6.0%		