

Survey: Americans are Stressed Out by Their Computers

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Survey Reveals 1 in 2 Americans are Unhappy with the Performance of Their Computer In the Past 6 Months and 94% of Those Who Have Had Performance Problems Say Their Computer is a Source of Stress

BOISE, Idaho--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- New research commissioned by <u>Crucial.com</u>, a leading online destination for memory upgrades, provides greater insight into the frustration experienced by Americans when it comes to the overall performance of their computers. The nationwide survey, conducted online by **Harris Interactive** on behalf of <u>Crucial.com</u>, revealed that more than half (52%) of U.S. adults who own a computer have been unhappy with the performance of their computer in the past 6 months, with an overwhelming majority (94%) of those who have experienced performance problems indicating that their computer performance issues have caused them to experience stress.

When those who have experienced stress as a result of their computer's performance issues were asked to compare computer-induced stress with other forms of stress, they indicated that their computer performance issues, such as slow loading programs, unresponsiveness, and crashes, were more stressful than choosing what to wear (47%), traffic jams (27%), going through airport security (21%), dealing with finances (19%), filing taxes (18%), managing their overall health (14%), and arguing with their spouse (13%).

"Computers are supposed to make our lives easier, but as we depend on our computers more and more for both professional and personal use, performance issues such as slow loading programs, unresponsiveness, memory warnings, and system crashes often result in a computer becoming a significant source of unneeded stress and frustration for users," said Roddy McLean, marketing director of Crucial.com.

Still, despite the high level of computer-induced stress and frustration among Americans, nearly two-thirds (63%) of computer owners have never attempted to install memory into their computer themselves. A simple memory upgrade could resolve their computer's problems.

"It is stunning to see that although computers have become such a part of the fabric of our everyday lives, most computer users are seemingly still unaware that a simple do-it-yourself memory upgrade can often times resolve performance issues and renew the life of an existing computer," added McLean.

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Survey Methodology

This survey was conducted online within the United States by Harris Interactive on behalf of Crucial.com from June 20-22, 2012 among 2,214 adults ages 18 and older, among which 2,172 are computer owners. This online survey is not based on a probability sample and therefore no estimate of theoretical sampling error can be calculated. For complete survey methodology, including weighting variables, please contact Will Ostedt at wostedt@ppmgcorp.com.

About Crucial.com

Crucial.com is a leading online retailer specializing in computer memory (RAM) and solid state drives (SSD), and is operated by a subsidiary of Micron Technology, Inc., one of the world's leading manufacturers of computer memory products. Crucial.com offers more than 250,000 compatible products for nearly every computer system: home and business, old and new, PC and Mac® computers. Utilizing a suite of easy-to-use, free online tools, including the Crucial® System Scanner and the Crucial Memory Advisor™ toolcrucial.com makes it easy to find a compatible upgrade to improve computer performance and restore system reliability. For more information, visit www.crucial.com.

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