The **Philosophical** Metasurvey A **PhilPapers** project

Introduction

This is a survey of professional philosophers and others, concerning their views on the distribution of philosophical views within the profession.

For each of the 30 questions on the Philosophical Survey (which you should have already answered), we will ask for your prediction about the percentage of respondents in the **target population** who will either "accept" or "lean toward" each one of the main options (with acceptances and leanings grouped together), or that will choose one of the "other" alternatives (including skipping the questions).

The target population includes the regular faculty members (about 2000 altogether) in 100 leading departments of philosophy: 63 in the US, 18 in the UK, 7 each in Canada and in Europe outside the UK, and 5 in Australasia. The full list of departments is here.

You may skip a question if you choose to. However, we encourage you to answer as many of these questions as you can.

Use of information

Your answers will be available to the small PhilPapers research team, and to a limited number of other researchers with whom we may share our data (with names stripped out). We will use the information you provide to calculate statistics concerning the body of answers to the survey as a whole. We may publicly release such statistics. At the end of the survey we will ask for your consent to use your answers in this way. Your answers will not be publicly associated with any identifying information.

Important: Your answers will not count toward our statistics unless you consent to this explictly at the end of the survey on the Background & Consent page.

For further information regarding the purpose and methodology of the survey and regarding privacy issues, see our information page (opens in new window).

Identity Check

Name: David Bourget (Australian National University, University of London)
Status: survey not started

If this is not you, please log out.

Proceed to the survey

Information Page | Contact us

The Philosophical Metasurvey A PhilPapers project

Question 1 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

A priori knowledge: no or yes?

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: no or **Lean toward: no**

| 0 | %

Accept: yes or **Lean toward: yes**

| 0 | %

Other (one of: Accept both, Reject both, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

| 100 | %

Question 2 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

Abstract objects: Platonism or nominalism?

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: Platonism or **Lean toward: Platonism**

| 0 | %

Accept: nominalism or **Lean toward: nominalism**

| 0 | %

Other (one of: Accept both, Reject both, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

| 100 | %

Question 3 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

Aesthetic value: objective or subjective?

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: objective or **Lean toward: objective**

| 0 | % |

Accept: subjective or **Lean toward: subjective**

| 0 | % |

Other (one of: Accept both, Reject both, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

| 100 | % |

Question 4 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

Analytic-synthetic distinction: no or yes?

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: no or **Lean toward: no**

| 0 | % |

Accept: yes or **Lean toward: yes**

| 0 | % |

Other (one of: Accept both, Reject both, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

| 100 | % |

Question 5 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

Epistemic justification: internalism or externalism?

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: internalism or **Lean toward: internalism**

`0` %

Accept: externalism or **Lean toward: externalism**

`0` %

Other (one of: Accept both, Reject both, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

`100` %

Question 6 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

Free will: compatibilism, libertarianism, or no free will?

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: compatibilism or **Lean toward: compatibilism**

`0` %

Accept: libertarianism or **Lean toward: libertarianism**

`0` %

Accept: no free will or **Lean toward: no free will**

`0` %

Other (one of: Accept more than one, Reject one, undecided between others, Reject all, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

`100` %

Question 7 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

God: atheism or theism?

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: atheism or **Lean toward: atheism**

| 0 | % |

Accept: theism or **Lean toward: theism**

| 0 | % |

Other (one of: Accept both, Reject both, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

| 100 | % |

Question 8 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

> **External world: non-skeptical realism, skepticism, or idealism?**

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: non-skeptical realism or **Lean toward: non-skeptical realism**

| 0 | % |

Accept: skepticism or **Lean toward: skepticism**

| 0 | % |

Accept: idealism or **Lean toward: idealism**

| 0 | % |

Other (one of: Accept more than one, Reject one, undecided between others, Reject all, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

| 100 | % |

Question 9 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

> **Knowledge: empiricism or rationalism?**

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: empiricism or **Lean toward: empiricism**

| 0 | % | ══════════ |

Accept: rationalism or **Lean toward: rationalism**

| 0 | % | ══════════ |

Other (one of: Accept both, Reject both, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

| 100 | % |

Question 10 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

Knowledge claims: relativism, invariantism, or contextualism?

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: relativism or **Lean toward: relativism**

| 0 | % | ══════════ |

Accept: invariantism or **Lean toward: invariantism**

| 0 | % | ══════════ |

Accept: contextualism or **Lean toward: contextualism**

| 0 | % | ══════════ |

Other (one of: Accept more than one, Reject one, undecided between others, Reject all, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

| 100 | % |

Question 11 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

Laws of nature: non-Humean or Humean?

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: non-Humean or **Lean toward: non-Humean**

| 0 | % | ══════════ |

Accept: Humean or **Lean toward: Humean**

| 0 | % | ══════════ |

Other (one of: Accept both, Reject both, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question

is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue,
Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

`100` %

Question 12 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

> **Logic: non-classical or classical?**

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: non-classical or **Lean toward: non-classical**

`0` % ═══════════════════════

Accept: classical or **Lean toward: classical**

`0` % ═══════════════════════

Other (one of: Accept both, Reject both, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question
is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue,
Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

`100` %

Question 13 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

> **Mental content: externalism or internalism?**

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: externalism or **Lean toward: externalism**

`0` % ═══════════════════════

Accept: internalism or **Lean toward: internalism**

`0` % ═══════════════════════

Other (one of: Accept both, Reject both, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question
is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue,
Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

`100` %

Question 14 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

Meta-ethics: moral anti-realism or moral realism?

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: moral anti-realism or **Lean toward: moral anti-realism**

| 0 | % |

Accept: moral realism or **Lean toward: moral realism**

| 0 | % |

Other (one of: Accept both, Reject both, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

| 100 | % |

Question 15 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

Metaphilosophy: naturalism or non-naturalism?

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: naturalism or **Lean toward: naturalism**

| 0 | % |

Accept: non-naturalism or **Lean toward: non-naturalism**

| 0 | % |

Other (one of: Accept both, Reject both, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

| 100 | % |

Question 16 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

Mind: non-physicalism or physicalism?

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: non-physicalism or **Lean toward: non-physicalism**

`0` %

Accept: physicalism or **Lean toward: physicalism**

`0` %

Other (one of: Accept both, Reject both, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

`100` %

Question 17 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

Moral motivation: internalism or externalism?

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: internalism or **Lean toward: internalism**

`0` %

Accept: externalism or **Lean toward: externalism**

`0` %

Other (one of: Accept both, Reject both, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

`100` %

Question 18 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

Moral judgment: non-cognitivism or cognitivism?

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: non-cognitivism or **Lean toward: non-cognitivism**

| 0 | % ════════════════════

Accept: cognitivism or **Lean toward: cognitivism**

| 0 | % ════════════════════

Other (one of: Accept both, Reject both, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

| 100 | %

Question 19 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

> **Newcomb's problem: two boxes or one box?**

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: two boxes or **Lean toward: two boxes**

| 0 | % ════════════════════

Accept: one box or **Lean toward: one box**

| 0 | % ════════════════════

Other (one of: Accept both, Reject both, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

| 100 | %

Question 20 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

> **Normative ethics: deontology, virtue ethics, or consequentialism?**

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: deontology or **Lean toward: deontology**

| 0 | % ════════════════════

Accept: virtue ethics or **Lean toward: virtue ethics**

| 0 | % ════════════════════

Accept: consequentialism or **Lean toward: consequentialism**

0   %   ═══════════════

Other (one of: Accept more than one, Reject one, undecided between others, Reject all, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

100   %

Question 21 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

> **Perceptual experience: representationalism, qualia theory, sense-datum theory, or disjunctivism?**

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: representationalism or **Lean toward: representationalism**

0   %   ═══════════════

Accept: qualia theory or **Lean toward: qualia theory**

0   %   ═══════════════

Accept: sense-datum theory or **Lean toward: sense-datum theory**

0   %   ═══════════════

Accept: disjunctivism or **Lean toward: disjunctivism**

0   %   ═══════════════

Other (one of: Accept more than one, Reject one or two, undecided between others, Reject all, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

100   %

Question 22 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

> **Personal identity: biological view, further-fact view, or psychological view?**

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: biological view or **Lean toward: biological view**

0   %   ═══════════════

Accept: further-fact view or **Lean toward: further-fact view**

0   %   ═══════════════

Accept: psychological view or **Lean toward: psychological view**

| 0 | % |

Other (one of: Accept more than one, Reject one, undecided between others, Reject all, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

| 100 | % |

Question 23 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

Politics: egalitarianism, communitarianism, or libertarianism?

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: egalitarianism or **Lean toward: egalitarianism**

| 0 | % |

Accept: communitarianism or **Lean toward: communitarianism**

| 0 | % |

Accept: libertarianism or **Lean toward: libertarianism**

| 0 | % |

Other (one of: Accept more than one, Reject one, undecided between others, Reject all, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

| 100 | % |

Question 24 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

Proper names: Fregean or Millian?

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: Fregean or **Lean toward: Fregean**

| 0 | % |

Accept: Millian or **Lean toward: Millian**

| 0 | % |

Other (one of: Accept both, Reject both, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

| 100 | % |

Question 25 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

> **Science: scientific realism or scientific anti-realism?**

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: scientific realism or **Lean toward: scientific realism**

| 0 | % |

Accept: scientific anti-realism or **Lean toward: scientific anti-realism**

| 0 | % |

Other (one of: Accept both, Reject both, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

| 100 | % |

Question 26 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

> **Teletransporter (new matter): death or survival?**

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: death or **Lean toward: death**

| 0 | % |

Accept: survival or **Lean toward: survival**

| 0 | % |

Other (one of: Accept both, Reject both, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

| 100 | % |

Question 27 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

Time: B-theory or A-theory?

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: B-theory or **Lean toward: B-theory**

| 0 | % |

Accept: A-theory or **Lean toward: A-theory**

| 0 | % |

Other (one of: Accept both, Reject both, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

| 100 | % |

Question 28 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

Trolley problem (five straight ahead, one on side track, turn requires switching, what ought one do?): don't switch or switch?

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: don't switch or **Lean toward: don't switch**

| 0 | % |

Accept: switch or **Lean toward: switch**

| 0 | % |

Other (one of: Accept both, Reject both, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

| 100 | % |

Question 29 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

Truth: correspondence, deflationary, or epistemic?

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: correspondence or **Lean toward: correspondence**

| 0 | % | ════════════ |

Accept: deflationary or **Lean toward: deflationary**

| 0 | % | ════════════ |

Accept: epistemic or **Lean toward: epistemic**

| 0 | % | ════════════ |

Other (one of: Accept more than one, Reject one, undecided between others, Reject all, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

| 100 | % |

Question 30 of 30

Background

Original survey question:

> **Zombies: metaphysically possible, inconceivable, or conceivable but not metaphysically possible?**

(Click here to view the original interface in a new window.)

Question

What percentage of the target group do you think will choose answers among the following sets:

Accept: metaphysically possible or **Lean toward: metaphysically possible**

| 0 | % | ════════════ |

Accept: inconceivable or **Lean toward: inconceivable**

| 0 | % | ════════════ |

Accept: conceivable but not metaphysically possible or **Lean toward: conceivable but not metaphysically possible**

| 0 | % | ════════════ |

Other (one of: Accept more than one, Reject one, undecided between others, Reject all, Accept an intermediate view, Accept another alternative, The question is too unclear to answer, There is no fact of the matter, Insufficiently familiar with the issue, Agnostic/undecided, Other, Skip)

| 100 | % |

The Philosophical Metasurvey **A PhilPapers** project

Consent

For your answers to the survey to count at all, you must give your consent.

Your answers will be available to our small research team, and to a limited number of other researchers with whom we may share our data (with names stripped out) in the future. We will use the information you provide to calculate statistics concerning the body of answers to the survey as a whole. We may publicly release such statistics, but we will not under any circumstances publicly associate your answers or the accuracy of your answers with identifying information. For more information on confidentiality, please see our information page (opens in new window).

○ **I consent** to the use of the information I have provided in the ways specified above.

○ **I do not consent** to the use of the information I have provided in the ways specified above. (**Note: in this case we will discard all your answers**)

We'd appreciate any suggestions or comments you might have about the survey:

Submit   Note: After you press "submit", your answers to the survey will be final.

The **Philosophical Meta**survey **A PhilPapers** project

You have completed the metasurvey. Thanks!

We will let you know the results as soon as possible once the survey is over. We would appreciate it if you encouraged your colleagues to take the survey.

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