

2008
U.S. Home Builder Perceptions
Of Wood and Non-Wood Products

Table of Contents

Executive summary

<i>Key findings</i>	1
<i>Building techniques and material use</i>	3
<i>Attributes demanded and performance of building materials</i>	9

List of Tables

<i>Table 1. Number of participants per metro area</i>	17
<i>Table 2. Satisfaction with structural building materials for the structure of a house by metro area</i>	22
<i>Table 3. The importance of a green label on structural wood products by metro area</i>	24
<i>Table 4. Importance of attributes to be included in a green label for structural wood products (by area)</i>	26
<i>Table 5. Types of foundations used by metro area</i>	28
<i>Table 6. Types of above-grade structural floors built by metro area</i>	30
<i>Table 7. Preference for foundation when building with no basement</i>	32
<i>Table 8. A look at the future use of concrete as a structural floor material</i>	34
<i>Table 9. Sheathing materials used in floor systems by metro area</i>	37
<i>Table 10. Attributes demanded for structural floor materials</i>	39
<i>Table 11. Wood performance on selected structural floors attributes</i>	41
<i>Table 12. Concrete performance on selected structural floors attributes</i>	42
<i>Table 13. Types of wall systems built by metro area</i>	44
<i>Table 14. Attributes demanded for structural wall materials</i>	46
<i>Table 15. Wood performance on selected structural wall attributes</i>	48
<i>Table 16. Concrete performance on selected structural wall attributes</i>	49
<i>Table 17. Steel performance on selected structural wall attributes</i>	50
<i>Table 18. Sheathing materials used in wall systems by metro area</i>	52
<i>Table 19. Attributes demanded for wall sheathing materials</i>	54
<i>Table 20. The performance of OSB and Plywood on selected wall sheathing attributes</i>	56
<i>Table 21. The performance of Foam on selected wall sheathing attributes</i>	57
<i>Table 22. Types of deck surfacing materials used by metro area</i>	61
<i>Table 23. Attributes demanded in decking material purchases</i>	65

List of Figures

<i>Figure 1. Types of foundations used by metro area</i>	3
<i>Figure 2. Types of above-grade structural floors built by metro area</i>	4
<i>Figure 3. Sheathing materials used in floor systems by metro area</i>	5
<i>Figure 4. Types of wall systems built by metro area</i>	6
<i>Figure 5. Sheathing materials used in wall systems by metro area</i>	7

Figure 6. Types of deck surfacing materials used by metro area.....	8
Figure 7. Attributes demanded for structural floor materials (number of respondents in parentheses).....	9
Figure 8. Wood and concrete performance on selected structural floors attributes	10
Figure 9. Attributes demanded for structural wall materials (number of respondents in parentheses).....	11
Figure 10. Wood, concrete, and steel performance on selected structural wall attributes	12
Figure 11. Attributes demanded for wall sheathing materials (number of respondents in parentheses).....	13
Figure 12. The performance of OSB and Plywood compared to Foam on selected wall sheathing attributes.....	14
Figure 13. Attributes demanded in decking material purchases	15
Figure 14. Evaluation of wood versus non wood materials for decking surfaces	16
Figure 15. Satisfaction with structural building materials for the structure of a house.....	18
Figure 16. Satisfaction with lumber and engineered wood products for the structure of a house	19
Figure 17. Satisfaction with concrete for the structure of a house	20
Figure 18. Satisfaction with steel for the structure of a house.....	21
Figure 19. The importance of a green label on structural wood products	23
Figure 20. Importance of attributes to be included in a green label for structural wood products.	25
Figure 21. Types of foundations used by metro area.....	27
Figure 22. Types of above-grade structural floors built by metro area.....	29
Figure 23. Preference for foundation when building with no basement.....	31
Figure 24. A look at the future use of concrete as a structural floor material	33
Figure 25. Proportion of builders indicating that concrete use as a structural floor material would increase greatly or somewhat	35
Figure 26. Sheathing materials used in floor systems by metro area.....	36
Figure 27. Attributes demanded for structural floor materials (number of respondents in parentheses).....	38
Figure 28. Wood and concrete performance on selected structural floors attributes	40
Figure 29. Types of wall systems built by metro area	43
Figure 30. Attributes demanded for structural wall materials (number of respondents in parentheses).....	45
Figure 31. Wood, concrete, and steel performance on selected structural wall attributes	47
Figure 32. Sheathing materials used in wall systems by metro area	51
Figure 33. Attributes demanded for wall sheathing materials (number of respondents in parentheses).....	53
Figure 34. The performance of OSB and Plywood compared to Foam on selected wall sheathing attributes.....	55
Figure 35. Percentage of new homes built including a deck.....	58
Figure 36. Average decking surface in new homes	59
Figure 37. Types of deck surfacing materials used by metro area.....	60
Figure 38. Builders satisfaction with the decking material mostly used.....	62
Figure 39. Satisfaction with decking materials by metro area	63
Figure 40. Attributes demanded in decking material purchases	64
Figure 41. Evaluation of wood versus non wood materials for decking surfaces	66