

Continuous Sum Question Type

Continuous Sum questions allow respondents to enter numeric values (often percentages or dollar amounts) for a list of items that are then summed for a total value.

When To Use It

This question type is used to see how a larger value, such as a budget, is allocated across several items.

What percentage of your time do you spend on the following tasks?

<input type="text" value="20%"/>	Email Support
<input type="text" value="30%"/>	Phone Support
<input type="text"/>	Live Chat Support

50.00% out of 100% Total

Check it out in an [example survey!](#)
[Add a survey](#) with this question to your account!

Setup

1. Click the **Question** link on the page where you would like to add your Continuous Sum question.
2. Select **Continuous Sum** from the **Question Type** dropdown.
3. Add the question you wish to ask and your answer options (these are the categories you wish to sum). Use the **Default Value** column to *pre-fill* fields in your list, if needed.

Question Type

Continuous Sum

What question do you want to ask?

How much was spent per each team:

Require this question

Apply data retention policy to this question's responses. [Learn more.](#)

Multiple Choice Options

OPTION	DEFAULT VALUE
<input type="text" value="Sales"/>	<input type="text" value="Prefill"/>
<input type="text" value="Marketing"/>	<input type="text" value="Prefill"/>
<input type="text" value="Customer Success"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text" value="Engineering"/>	<input type="text"/>

[Common Answer Library](#) [Advanced Option Settings](#)

Getting Started Guide

Continuous Sum questions allow respondents to enter numeric values (often percentages or dollar amounts) for a list of items that are then summed for a total value.

[Learn More](#)

[Click to Add Option](#) [Paste in Options](#)

4. Before saving, navigate to the **Validation** tab to set up validation, such as percent or currency, a max total, and other advanced settings.

Note: Negative values can be used in this question type.

Validation Settings

A number of validation options specific to this question type are available:

Continuous Sum

Max Total

The answers for this question *must* equal the max total

Hide maximum value

Answer Format

Number Force Whole Number

Answer Requirements

Allow values between

min max

Limit answers to options

- **Max Total** - The max total is the desired sum that your respondents' entries should reach. This field is not required.
 - **The answers for this question *must* equal max** - When this option is selected respondents will not be allowed to move past your continuous sum question without entering values that sum to the **Max Total**.
 - **Hide Maximum Value** - This will hide the **Max Total** value from respondents.
- **Answer Format** - By default, Continuous Sum questions are set up to collect numeric data. This validation can be changed to require either **Percent** or **Currency** entries. You can also force a **Whole Number** here, to ensure that no negative values are entered.
- **Allow values between** - You can set a minimum and/or a maximum allowed for each field.
- **Limit answers to** - Use this field to determine the number of fields that must be answered within the list.

Layout Options

There are a couple layout options that can help you customize your continuous sum question.

- By default, the continuous sum labels are placed on the right side of the textboxes. Un-check the **Place labels on the right side of the input** setting to move the labels to the left.
 - If you need to allow more space for your continuous sum entries, use the **Textbox Width** field to do so.
-

Question Logic Validation **Layout** Piping / Repeat

Label Position
 Place labels on the right side of the input

Option Sorting
 Original option order
 Randomize options
 Alphabetize options

Comments
 Allow comments for this question
 Require comments for this question

Textbox Width

Survey Taking

On a desktop and most laptops, the Continuous Sum question type looks like so.

What percentage of your daily calories come from the following nutrients:

<input type="text" value="40%"/>	Carbohydrates
<input type="text" value="20%"/>	Fat
<input type="text" value=""/>	Protein

 100.00% out of 100% Total

When optimized for mobile devices the Continuous Sum question type looks very similar.

By default, survey questions show one at a time on mobile devices to prevent the need for scrolling on smaller screens. You can turn off this [one-at-a-time interaction](#) if you wish.

Survey

What percentage of your daily calories come from the following nutrients:

Carbohydrates

Fat

Protein

60.00% out of 100% Total






◀ 75% ▶

Reporting

Continuous Sum questions report as a table with an average, minimum, maximum, standard deviation, sum and total responses for each item.

How much money (in dollars) do you plan on budgeting for the following departments during the 2018 fiscal year?

Item	Average	Min	Max	StdDev	Sum	Total Responses
Marketing	6.1	0	55	9.9	533.0	88
Sales	4.1	0	29	5.9	360.0	88
Customer Support	7.7	0	52	11.9	677.0	88
Administration	6.3	0	51	10.8	553.0	88

-  Chart Type
-  Filter
-  Layout & Options
-  Move
-  Delete

-  See additional compatible chart types
-  See what other report types are compatible

Exporting

In [CSV/Excel](#) exports each answer option will have its own column header. It will display the row header, then the question.

Note: The total that is displayed for the respondent is not available in reporting or exporting.

V	W	X	Y
Carbohydrate	Fat:What per	Protein:What percentage c	
40%	30%	30%	
25%	25%	50%	
35%	45%	20%	
15%	35%	50%	

Related Articles