

1135-VI-918 **Rad Dimitric***, CUNY-CSI, Department of Mathematics, 1S, Staten Island, NY 10314. *What is $1/2$ plus $1/3$?* Preliminary report.

This study attempts to assess the extent of knowledge of basic mathematics in the general population. In particular this one question was used persistently in checking the level of proficiency with fractions. The source of our data consists of A) answers to the question in diagnostic testing for incoming (university) freshmen. B) Interviews with random street people about the question (on a subway, on the street, in a neighborhood, etc) both in the US and some European and Asian countries. We analyse our data from different angles and offer some interpretations and conclusions. (Received September 16, 2017)