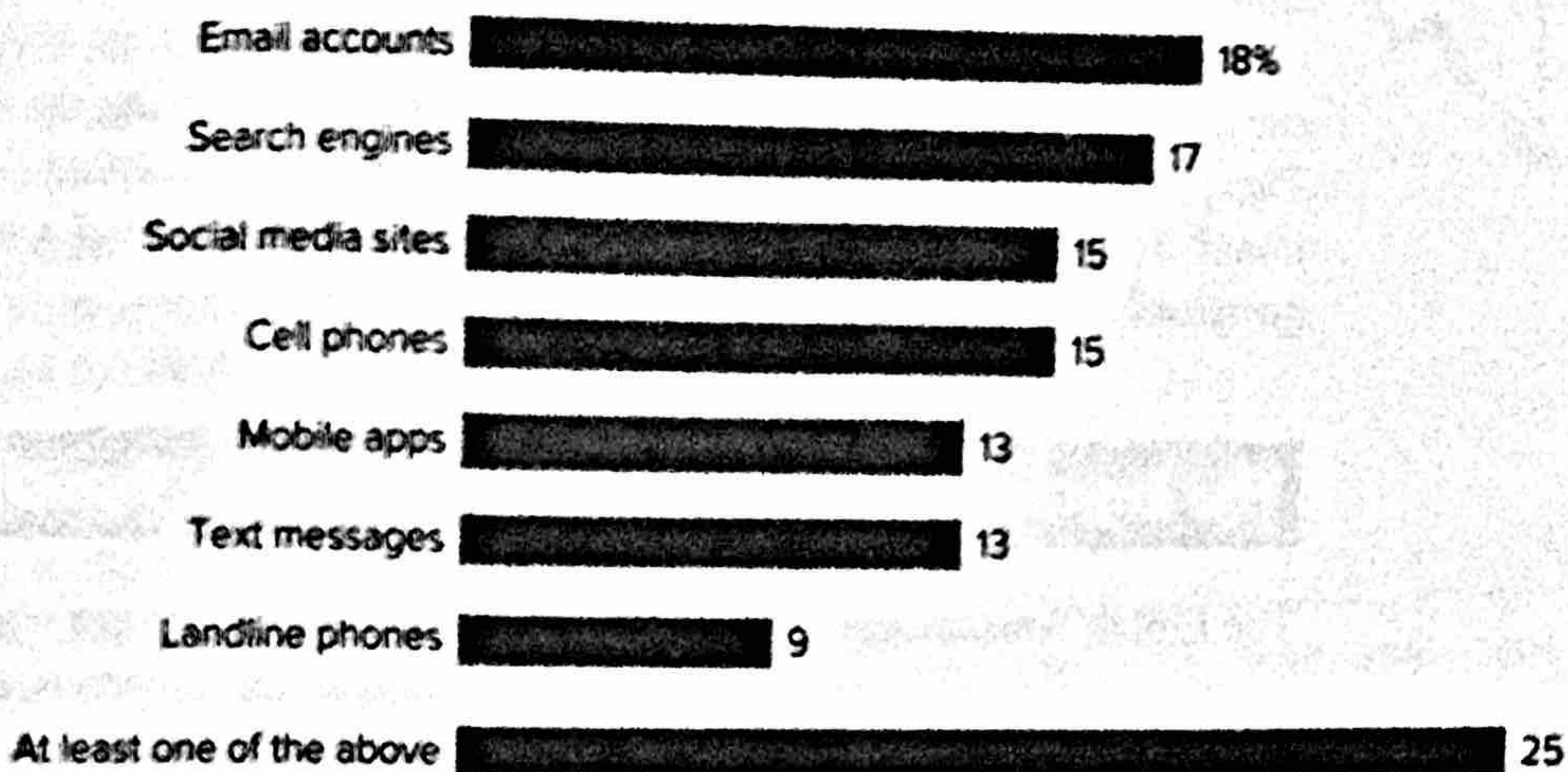


Surveillance Programs Prompt Some to Change the Way They Use Technology

Among the 87% of U.S. adults who have heard of the government surveillance programs, the percentage who have changed their use of ... "a great deal" or "somewhat"



As a result of the government's surveillance program, some Americans have changed their technology habits, but the overall percentage change is surprisingly not as high as one might expect.

Source: Survey of 475 adults on GfK panel November 26, 2014-January 3, 2015.

to assess attitudes toward him and his revelations of NSA surveillance.** The 2015 poll found that Europeans had a positive view of Snowden whereas 64 percent of Americans of all ages held a negative opinion. Among American millennials, however, 56 percent had a "very" or "somewhat" positive view of Snowden. They perceived his actions as basically benign and believed that he has done nothing to undermine efforts to stop terrorist groups from attacking the West. Younger Americans are more concerned about phone and Internet intercepts and ACLU executive director, Anthony Romero, believes they will continue to be: "It is unlikely this generation of digital natives will shed a fundamental commitment to the free exchange of information even when they become older."†

From a civil liberties perspective, citizen attitudes toward living in a surveillance society have a more enduring quality than attitudes toward Edward Snowden. A 2015 survey revealed that a majority of Americans oppose the government collecting bulk data on its citizens. (See Americans Views of NSA Surveillance table.)

Although most Americans don't see a need to sacrifice civil liberties to be safe from terrorism, Americans also say anti-terrorism policies have not gone far enough to protect them. At the same time, only 9 percent say they have a lot of control

over how much information is collected about them and just 6 percent have confidence that government agencies can keep their records private and secure.‡ Recently, 87 percent of Americans responded that they are aware of the government's surveillance programs and some have changed their use of technology "a great deal" or "somewhat" because of it.¶ This may only represent the beginning of Americans' adaptation to the surveillance state. (See Surveillance Programs Prompt Some to Change the Way They Use Technology table.)

* James Risen and Laura Poitras, "N.S.A. Gathers Data on Social Connections of U.S. Citizens," September 28, 2013, http://www.nytimes.com/2013/09/29/us/usa-examines-social-networks-of-us-citizens.html?page-wanted=all_r=0.

† Catherine Herridge, "NSA Data Center Front and Center in Debate over Liberty, Security, and Privacy," April 12, 2013, <http://www.fox-news.com/tech/2013/04/12/nsa-data-center-front-and-center-in-debate-over-liberty-security-and-privacy/>.

‡ Ibid.

** Elliot Jager, "Most Americans Dislike Snowden, But He's Popular Abroad. Poll," April 22, 2015, <http://www.newsmax.com/Newsfront/edward-snowden-nsa-surveillance-aclu/2015/04/22...>

‡‡ Ibid.

§ Pew Research Center, "What Americans Think about NSA Surveillance, National Security and Privacy," May 29, 2015, <http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/05/29/what-americans-think-about-nsa-surveillance>.

¶ Ibid.

over the criminal justice system. In 2016, the Court announced in *Luis v. U.S.* that the government's holding of a defendant's assets that were not traceable to a criminal offense violated the constitutional right to obtain counsel.

The Sixth Amendment: Trial by Jury

The Sixth Amendment guarantees criminal defendants the right to a jury trial. Although 95 percent of all criminal cases are settled out of court by an informal process known as plea bargaining, the right to a jury trial remains a cornerstone of our criminal justice system. The courts