

American Express: Which of these pieces of information would be most useful in estimating the number of people who work in a 30-story building?



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- a. The number of cars in the parking lot.
- b. The number of people eating lunch in the cafeteria.
- c. The number of people on the 11th floor.

As recently as June 2013, American Express asked candidates for the position of Manager-Strategic Analysis and Testing to answer this question.

Any one of these three are pretty inadequate without more data. If you can get information on whether the building's suburban or urban, you can make a guess as to how many people might drive or take public transportation, and go with . Otherwise, the number of people on one floor will give some idea of the building's capacity.

Mostly, you need to be able to justify your answer well while eliminating the others.