

Dear Teacher Name,

Recently, the National Center for Education Statistics of the U.S. Department of Education contacted you to obtain your insight into the teaching profession by completing the Teacher Follow-up Survey (TFS). We rely on professionals like you to tell us the effects of school policies and practices on teachers' decisions to remain in or leave the teaching profession.

If you have already completed the survey, thank you for your assistance and please disregard this communication. If you haven't had the opportunity to take the survey yet, **please complete and return your questionnaire in the postage-paid return envelope within two weeks.**

Any personal information you provide will be protected from disclosure and is protected by law. Information you provide on teacher working conditions, commitment, job satisfaction, and perceptions and attitudes is combined with the teachers from all over the country to give an overall portrait of today's teachers. Your responses are protected by federal statute (P.L. 107-279, Title I, Part E, Sec. 183). Your answers may be used only for statistical purposes and may not be disclosed, or used, in identifiable form for any other purpose except as required by law. Your decision to participate is voluntary.

If you have any questions, please contact the Census Bureau staff by either writing to the address below or calling 1-866-872-6868. Staff will be available to take your call Monday thru Friday between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time).

U.S. Census Bureau
Education Surveys Branch
Demographic Surveys Division 8400
Washington, D.C. 20233

For additional information about the TFS, please see the reverse side of this letter.

Thank you, again, in advance for your cooperation in this important survey effort.

Sincerely,

Freddie Cross
Project Director
Teacher Follow-up Survey
National Center for Education Statistics

Enclosures

What is the purpose of this survey?

The purpose of this survey is to obtain information about the career paths of new teachers, including current teachers' experiences and satisfaction, and about former teachers' current employment and reasons for leaving the teaching profession.

Who authorizes this survey?

This survey is authorized by Title I, Part E, Sections 151(b) and 153(a) of Public Law 107-279, the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002. The U.S. Census Bureau is conducting this survey for The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) of the U.S. Department of Education.

Why should you participate in this survey?

Policymakers and educational leaders rely on data from this survey to inform their decisions concerning K-12 schools. This survey provides important insight into the career paths of beginning teachers and your participation will contribute to the success of this data collection. Because it is a sample survey, your responses represent the responses of many. Higher response rates give us confidence that the findings are accurate.

Will your responses be kept confidential?

Your responses are protected by federal statute (P.L. 107-279, Title I, Part E, Sec. 183). Your answers may be used only for statistical purposes and may not be disclosed, or used, in identifiable form for any other purpose except as required by law.

How will your information be reported?

The information you provide will be combined with the information provided by others in statistical reports. No individually-identifiable data will be included in the statistical reports.

Paperwork Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1850-0617. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average __ minutes per response, including the time spent to review instructions, search existing data sources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC 20202-4651. If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, e-mail: dsd.sass@census.gov, or write directly to: Schools and Staffing Survey, National Center for Education Statistics, 1990 K Street, N.W., #9018, Washington, DC 20006.