

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
National Center for Education Statistics

Conducted by:  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Economics and Statistics Administration  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

# **TEACHER FOLLOW-UP SURVEY**

## **QUESTIONNAIRE FOR CURRENT TEACHERS 2008-09 SCHOOL YEAR**

**THIS SURVEY HAS BEEN ENDORSED BY MANY ORGANIZATIONS. THE NAMES OF  
THESE ORGANIZATIONS ARE SHOWN ON THE NEXT PAGE.**

NOTICE> 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 results will only be produced as statistical summaries.

**THIS SURVEY HAS BEEN ENDORSED BY:**

American Federation of Teachers  
Association Montessori International  
Association of Christian Schools International  
Association of Christian Teachers and Schools  
Bureau of Indian Affairs, Office of Indian Education Programs  
Christian Schools International  
Council for American Private Education  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Islamic School League of America  
Jesuit Secondary Education Association  
Jewish Community Day School Network  
Jewish Education Services of North America  
Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod  
National Association of Elementary School Principals  
National Association of Episcopal Schools  
National Association of Independent Schools  
National Association of Private Special Education Centers  
National Association of Secondary School Principals  
National Catholic Educational Association  
National Coalition of Girls' Schools  
National Council for Private School Accreditation  
National Education Association  
National Independent Private Schools Association  
National Indian Education Association  
North American Division of Seventh-Day Adventists  
Oral Roberts University Educational Fellowship  
Solomon Schechter Day School Association  
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod

**Dear Teacher:**

You have been selected to be part of the Teacher Follow-up Survey because you completed the 2007-08 Schools and Staffing Survey. Your participation is important. Below are answers to some general questions.

**What is the purpose of this survey?**

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

**Who is conducting this survey?**

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. 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 from disclosure by federal statute (P.L. 107-279, Title I, Part E, Sec. 183). All responses that relate to or describe identifiable characteristics of individuals may be used only for statistical purposes and may not be disclosed, or used, in identifiable form for any other purpose, **except** as provided for in the Patriot Act (P.L. 107-056, Section 508).

**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.

**Where should you mail your completed questionnaire?**

Please return your completed questionnaire in the enclosed pre-addressed, postage-paid envelope or mail it to:

U.S. Census Bureau  
ATTN: DCB 60A  
1201 E. 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Jeffersonville, IN 47132-0001

**We hope you will participate in this voluntary effort.**

Sincerely,

Mark Schneider  
Commissioner for Education Statistics  
National Center for Education Statistics

**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 16 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](mailto: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.

## INSTRUCTIONS

Please print all information clearly in ordinary characters, using a **blue or black ballpoint pen**.

**Correct** marking example – *(Use care to keep characters in their designated spaces.)*

**Incorrect** marking example –

- a. If you are the teacher named on the cover page label, please complete the questionnaire.
- b. Please do not write any comments near the answer boxes.
- c. If you are unsure about how to answer a question, please give the best answer you can rather than leaving it blank.
- d. If you have any questions, call the U.S. Census Bureau at 1-800-872-6868. Someone will be available to take your call Monday through Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (Eastern Time). The U.S. Census Bureau is also available to answer your questions via e-mail at: [dsd.sass@census.gov](mailto:dsd.sass@census.gov).

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Please correct any errors in name, address, and ZIP code.

Teacher name

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Address

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City

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State

ZIP Code

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Please note you will be asked to record how many minutes it takes you to complete this questionnaire.

## I. ASSIGNMENTS AT YOUR CURRENT SCHOOL

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**1. a. Do you CURRENTLY TEACH any regularly scheduled class(es) in any of grades pre-K – 12?**

*\*If you work as a library media specialist or librarian at your current school, do not include classes in which you teach students how to use the library (e.g., library skills or library research).*

Yes

No → Please STOP now and return this questionnaire to the U.S. Census Bureau. You will be sent a different form to complete.

**b. How do you classify your position at your CURRENT school, that is, the activity at which you spend most of your time during this school year?**

*\*Mark (X) only one box.*

Regular teacher (full-time or part-time)

Itinerant teacher (i.e., your assignment requires you to provide instruction at more than one school)

Long-term substitute (i.e., your assignment requires that you fill the role of a regular teacher on a long-term basis, but you are still considered a substitute)

Administrator (e.g., principal, assistant principal, director, school head)

Library media specialist or librarian

Other professional staff (e.g., counselor, curriculum coordinator, social worker)

Support staff (e.g., secretary)

Short-term substitute → Please STOP now and return this questionnaire to the U.S. Census Bureau. You will be sent a different form to complete.

Student teacher → Please STOP now and return this questionnaire to the U.S. Census Bureau. You will be sent a different form to complete.

Teacher aide → Please STOP now and return this questionnaire to the U.S. Census Bureau. You will be sent a different form to complete.

**2. Are you teaching full-time or part-time?**

*\*Mark (X) only one box.*

Teaching full-time

Teaching part-time

## II. INFORMATION ABOUT CHANGES FROM LAST SCHOOL YEAR TO THIS SCHOOL YEAR

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3. a. Are you currently teaching in the SAME SCHOOL as you were last year (2007-08)?

- Yes → GO TO item 11 on page 9.  
 No

b. If no, are you currently teaching in the SAME STATE as you were last year (2007-08)?

- Yes → GO TO item 4 below.  
 No

c. Are you currently teaching in a school OUTSIDE the United States?

- Yes → In what country? \_\_\_\_\_ → GO TO item 5 below.  
 No

4. Please provide the following information about your current school.

Name of School \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code \_\_\_\_\_

Name of school district (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of county \_\_\_\_\_

5. Which of the following grades are offered in your current school?

*\*Mark (X) all that apply.*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prekindergarten |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Kindergarten    | <input type="checkbox"/> 7 <sup>th</sup>  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1 <sup>st</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> 8 <sup>th</sup>  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <sup>nd</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> 9 <sup>th</sup>  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3 <sup>rd</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> 10 <sup>th</sup> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <sup>th</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> 11 <sup>th</sup> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5 <sup>th</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> 12 <sup>th</sup> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6 <sup>th</sup> | <input type="checkbox"/> Ungraded         |

**6. Which of the following best describes your move from last year's school to your current school?** (For this question, all charter and Bureau of Indian Education [BIE]-funded schools are considered public schools.)

*\*Mark (X) only one box.*

- Moved from one public school to another public school in the SAME SCHOOL DISTRICT → GO TO item 8a below.
- Moved from one public school district to ANOTHER PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT → GO TO item 8a below.
- Moved from a PRIVATE school to a PUBLIC school → GO TO item 8a below.
- Moved from one PRIVATE school to another PRIVATE school
- Moved from a PUBLIC school to a PRIVATE school

**7. Is the private school in which you currently teach affiliated with the Roman Catholic Church, some other religious organization, or is it nonsectarian?**

*\*Mark (X) only one box.*

- Religious – Roman Catholic
- Religious – other than Roman Catholic
- Nonsectarian – not religiously affiliated

**8. a. Did you change schools because your contract was NOT renewed at last year's school?**

- Yes
- No → GO TO item 9 below.

**b. Which of the following best describes the reason why your contract was NOT renewed?**

- I was laid off as part of a reduction in force
- I did not meet Highly Qualified Teacher (HQT) requirements  
*(Generally, to be Highly Qualified, teachers must 1) have a bachelor's degree; 2) hold full state certification or licensure, including an "alternative certification"; and 3) demonstrate competency in the subject area(s) they teach. The HQT requirement is a provision under No Child Left Behind [NCLB].)*
- I was not given a reason for why my contract was not renewed.
- My contract was not renewed for other reason(s)  
→ please specify \_\_\_\_\_

→ GO TO item 12 on page 9.

**9. Indicate the level of importance EACH of the following played in your decision to leave LAST YEAR'S SCHOOL.**

*\*Mark (X) one box on each line.*

*\* If any of the reasons for leaving last year's school do not apply to you, mark 1 for 'Not at all important.'*

(The following scale is used for the items below: 1) Not at all important, 2) Slightly important, 3) Somewhat important, 4) Very important, 5) Extremely important)

**I left last year's school –**

Personal Life Factors

- a. Because I changed residence or wanted to work in a school more convenient to my home.**
- b. Because my health or the health of a loved one required that I change schools.**

Assignment and Credential Factors

- c. Because I have not taken or could not pass the required test(s).**
- d. Because I was being involuntarily transferred and did not want the offered assignment.**
- e. Because I was dissatisfied with changes in my job description or responsibilities at last year's school.**
- f. Because I was dissatisfied with the grade level or subject area I taught at last year's school.**

Salary and Other Job Benefits

- g. Because my salary did not allow me to meet my financial obligations (e.g., rent, loans, credit card payments).**
- h. Because I needed better benefits than I received at last year's school.**
- i. Because I wanted a higher standard of living than my salary provided.**
- j. Because I was concerned about job security at last year's school.**

Classroom Factors

- k. Because I did not have enough autonomy over my classroom at last year's school.**
- l. Because I was dissatisfied with the large number of students I taught in last year's school.**
- m. Because I did not feel prepared to mainstream special needs (e.g., disabled) students in my regular classes at last year's school.**
- n. Because I felt that there were too many intrusions on my teaching time (i.e., time spent with students) at last year's school.**

School Factors

- o. Because I was dissatisfied with opportunities for professional development at last year's school.**



- p. Because I was dissatisfied with workplace conditions (e.g., facilities, classroom resources, school safety) at last year's school.
- q. Because student discipline problems were an issue at last year's school.
- r. Because I was dissatisfied with administrator(s) at last year's school.
- s. Because I was dissatisfied with the lack of support I received from the administration at last year's school.
- t. Because I was dissatisfied with the lack of influence I had over school policies and practices at last year's school.

Student Performance Factors

- u. Because I was dissatisfied with how student assessments and school accountability measures impacted my teaching at last year's school.
- v. Because I was dissatisfied with having some of my compensation, benefits, or rewards tied to the performance of my students at last year's school.
- w. Because I was dissatisfied with the support I received for preparing my students for student assessments at last year's school.
- x. Because I was dissatisfied with the influence student assessments had on the curriculum at last year's school.
- y. Because I was dissatisfied with other aspects of accountability measures at last year's school not included above.

Other Factors

- z. Because of other factors not included previously in items a - y. → *please specify* \_\_\_\_\_

**10. From the items above, which do you consider the one most important reason in your decision to leave LAST YEAR'S SCHOOL?**

*\*Enter the letter from item 9 above.*

Most important reason in my decision to leave → GO TO item 12.

**11. Has there been a change in the principal/school head in your school since the 2007-08 school year?**

- Yes
- No

**12. How would you rate your CURRENT teaching position relative to LAST YEAR'S teaching position in terms of each of the following aspects?**

*\*If you are teaching in the same school as you were last year, report on your current teaching conditions and assignment(s) relative to last year's teaching conditions and assignment(s).*

*\*Mark (X) one box on each line.*

(The following scale is used for the items below: 1) Better in last year's position, 2) Not better or worse, 3) Better in current position)

- a. Salary
- b. Benefits (e.g., health insurance, retirement plan)
- c. Opportunities for professional **ADVANCEMENT** or **PROMOTION**
- d. Opportunities for professional **DEVELOPMENT**
- e. Opportunities for learning from colleagues
  
- f. Social relationships with colleagues
- g. Recognition and support from administrators/managers
- h. Safety of environment
- i. Influence over workplace policies and practices
- j. Autonomy or control over your own work
  
- k. Professional prestige
- l. Procedures for performance evaluation
- m. Manageability of workload
- n. Ability to balance personal life and work
- o. Availability of resources and materials/equipment for doing your job
  
- p. General work conditions
- q. Job security
- r. Intellectual challenge
- s. Sense of personal accomplishment
- t. Opportunities to make a difference in the lives of others
- u. Teaching assignment (subject area or grade level)

**13. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement:  
I am generally satisfied with being a teacher at this school.**

*\*Mark (X) only one box.*

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

### III. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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**14. DURING THE CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR, what is your academic year base teaching salary?**

*\*Report amounts in whole dollars.*

\$ |\_\_|\_\_|\_\_| , |\_\_|\_\_|\_\_| . 00

**15. Are you currently receiving a pension from a teacher retirement system?**

*\* Report amounts in whole dollars.*

Yes → **How much, BEFORE TAXES?** \$ |\_\_|\_\_|\_\_| , |\_\_|\_\_|\_\_| . 00 Per year  
 No

**16. What is your citizenship status?**

*\*Mark (X) only one box.*

- U.S. citizen or U.S. national
- Resident alien (excluding U.S. nationals)  
*(A resident alien is a permanent resident of the U.S. who does not have citizenship, but who 1) either currently has or in the last calendar year has had a green card or 2) has been in the U.S. for more than 31 days during the current year and for at least 183 days over a three-year period that includes the current year.)*
- Asylee, Refugee, or Temporary Protected Status (TPS) beneficiary  
*(Temporary Protected Status (TPS) is a temporary immigration status granted to eligible nationals of designated countries (or parts thereof) who are temporarily unable to return to their homeland because of ongoing armed conflict, environmental disasters, or other extraordinary and temporary conditions.)*
- In the country on a visa

**17. a. What is your current marital status?**

*\*Mark (X) only one box.*

- Married
- Widowed
- Separated
- Divorced
- Never married
- Living with a partner in a marriage-like relationship

**b. Has your marital status changed since December 31, 2007?**

- Yes
- No → GO TO item 18 on page 12.

**c. What was your marital status on December 31, 2007?**

*\*Mark (X) only one box.*

- Married
- Widowed
- Separated
- Divorced
- Never married
- Living with a partner in a marriage-like relationship

**18. How many people did you (and your spouse/partner) support between July 1, 2008 and June 30, 2009?**

*\*Please include yourself, spouse/partner, and those who received more than more than half of their support from you.*

*\* If none, please mark (X) the box.*

- a. Yourself [ 1 ]
- b. Your spouse/partner, including former spouses  
that you support  None or [  ]
- c. Children younger than 5 years of age  None or [  ]
- d. Children ages 5 through 17  None or [  ]
- e. Children/parents/others 18 years of age or older not  
already counted  None or [  ]

## IV. CONTACT INFORMATION

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19. Please provide the following information in case we have questions about the responses you provided on this questionnaire.

a. First Name                                      Middle Name                                      Last Name

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b. Primary phone number  
Area code      Number

----- - ----- - -----

Is this  home

work

cell

c. Alternate phone number  
Area code      Number

----- - ----- - -----

Is this  home

work

cell

d. Home e-mail address

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e. Work e-mail address

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20. Please indicate how much time it took you to complete this form, not counting interruptions.

*\*Please record the time in minutes, e.g., 50 minutes, 65 minutes, etc.*

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Minutes

Thank you very much for your participation in this survey. If you have any questions, please contact us, toll-free, at: 1-800-872-6868 or by e-mail at: [dsd.sass@census.gov](mailto:dsd.sass@census.gov).

To learn more about this survey and to access reports from earlier collections, see the Schools and Staffing Survey (SASS) website at:

<http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/sass>

Additional data collected by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) on a variety of topics in elementary, secondary, postsecondary, and international education are available from NCES' website at:

<http://nced.ed.gov>

For additional data collected by various Federal agencies, including the Department of Education, visit the Federal Statistics clearinghouse at:

<http://www.fedstats.gov>