

Survey Introduction

OMB CONTROL NUMBER: XXXX-XXXX

OMB EXPIRATION DATE: XX/XX/XXXX

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This survey focuses on opportunities for civics education that prepare young people to contribute to a democratic society. The survey requests information on academic and cocurricular activities, including activities sponsored by various national organizations and the Department of Defense. We define civics education as opportunities that promote:

- Civic knowledge: an understanding of government structure, government processes, and relevant social studies knowledge and concepts
- Civic skills: abilities that enable students to participate in a democracy as responsible citizens; and
- Civic dispositions: attitudes important in a democracy such as a sense of civic duty and concern for the welfare of others¹

This survey will be open for four weeks. As a thank you for your time, you will receive a \$10 gift code at the end of the survey.

¹ Source: Brookings 2018 Brown Center Report on American Education Ch 2: An inventory of state civics requirements

Survey Instrument

Section 1. General Civics, Fitness, Graduation, Alternative Education

1. Has your school adopted standards for civics education?

- 01 Yes
- 02 No
- 03 I don't know

[If #1==01, else skip to #3]

2. At what level were these standards set?

- 01 State
- 02 Region
- 03 District or Charter Management Organization
- 04 School
- 05 Other, please explain [open response box]
- 06 I don't know

3. Do students in your school have to pass a civics exam for graduation? ²

- 01 Yes
- 02 No
- 03 I don't know

4. Where do students in your school receive exposure to civics education? ³

SELECT ALL THAT APPLY

- 01 Through standalone civics courses
- 02 Through structured lessons in related subject instruction (e.g., history, social studies)
- 03 Through structured lessons in other subject instruction (e.g., math, English, science)
- 04 Through structured lessons in elective courses
- 05 Through out-of-classroom or out-of-school time activities
- 06 They do not receive civics education at this school
- 07 Other, please explain [open response box]

5. To what extent are the following considerations a challenge to teaching civics at your school?

² Hover over text: A civics exam includes any standalone assessment that a student must successfully pass for high school graduation (e.g., naturalization assessment, citizenship exam). This does not include a requirement for students to successfully complete coursework in civics, history, government, or social studies.

³ [adapted from Education Week Research Center – Civics in K-12 Schools]

	This condition does not exist in my school [00]	This condition exists but is not a challenge [01]	Somewhat of a challenge [02]	A challenge [03]	Very much a challenge [04]
a. Pressure to focus on core academic subjects leaves little time for civics					
b. Civics education is not a district or state priority					
c. Students do not have an interest in civics education					
d. Student class schedules cannot accomodate additional instruction time					
e. This school does not have the necessary resources (e.g., textbooks)					
f. Staff do not have the necessary training/skills to provide civics instruction					
g. Parents and family members do not support teaching civics in school					
h. Community members do not support teaching civics in schools					
i. The current political environment is too controversial for collegial discussion among students					

6. Which of the following academic and cocurricular opportunities does your school offer?

SELECT ALL THAT APPLY

- 01 Athletics, interschool competition
- 02 Athletics, club
- 03 Blood drives
- 04 Civics course(s), required for graduation
- 05 Civics course(s), elective
- 06 Civics lessons or curricula, in non-civics courses
- 07 Class or field trips with a civic or leadership focus
- 08 Community service, required for graduation
- 09 Community service, elective
- 10 Debate team
- 11 Internships/Apprenticeships, for academic credit
- 12 Internships/Apprenticeships, not for academic credit
- 13 Military recruitment at education/career fairs
- 14 Mock election
- 15 Mock trial
- 16 Model UN

- 17 Out-of-school time clubs, organizations, or programs with a civic-focus (e.g., Key Club, Rotary Interact Club)
- 18 Student participation in school governance (e.g., school board seat)
- 19 Student government
- 20 Student-run news outlet(s) (e.g., newspaper, radio, television, vlog)
- 21 Voter registration
- 22 Other, please explain [\[open response box\]](#)

[If 6.08 is selected go to #7, else skip to #9]

7. You identified that students must complete community service for graduation. How many hours of community service are required? [\[Textbox\]](#)

8. As part of this community service requirement, must students complete a follow-up project or reflection to share what they have learned?

- 01 Yes
- 02 No
- 03 I don't know

9. Does your school require students to complete courses in the following subject areas for graduation?

	Yes [01]	No [02]	I don't know [03]
Physical Education			
Health Education			

10. How many years of physical education must a student complete for graduation?

- 00 0.0 – 0.99
- 01 1.0 – 1.99
- 02 2.0 – 2.99
- 03 3.0 – 3.99
- 04 4
- 05 I don't know.

11. Please indicate your awareness of the following youth programs:

	Aware and offer or have access [01]	Aware but do not offer or have access [02]	Unaware [03]
a. National Guard Youth Challenge			
b. Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC)			
c. STARBASE			

d. Civil Air Patrol			
e. 4-H			
f. Future Farmers of America (FFA)			
g. Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)			
h. Youth Conservation Corps			
i. Youth Build			
j. Job Corps			

12. Please identify the educational opportunities offered by your district for students struggling to complete a high school degree in a traditional school setting.

SELECT ALL THAT APPLY

- 01 Campus-based alternative schooling
- 02 Online or virtual schooling
- 03 Credit recovery programs, school year
- 04 Credit recovery programs, summer
- 05 Diploma equivalency testing
- 06 GED, HiSET, or TASC preparation courses
- 07 Mentoring and/or tutoring
- 08 Other, please explain [\[open response box\]](#)

13. Based on your best mental approximation, what percentage of students attending your school last year were transferred to an alternative program or school, such as one with a program, curriculum, or teaching approach that helps students who are at risk of dropping out?⁴

[\[Textbox\]](#)

14. Based on your best mental approximation, what percentage of your students, in grades 9 through 12, are currently enrolled in a dropout prevention program, either on-site or off-site?⁵

[\[Textbox\]](#)

15. Based on your best mental approximation, what was the graduation rate of the Class of 2019?⁶

[\[numerical entry\]](#)

16. Based on your best mental approximation, what percentage of the Class of 2018-19 graduates (Numbers do not need to add up to 100 percent. If you do not know, please leave the box blank):⁷

- a. Enrolled in a 2-year or 4-year college or university? [\[Textbox\]](#)

⁴ From HLHS

⁵ From HLHS

⁶ Hover over shown to respondent: Graduation rate is defined as the percentage of a 9th grade class who completed high school with a regular diploma within four years.

⁷ Adapted from HLHS

- b. Enrolled in a career technical training or development program⁸? [Textbox]
- c. Entered the labor market, non-military? [Textbox]
- d. Entered the military? [Textbox]

[If 11b=02 go to #17

If 11b=01, go to #20

If 11b=03 AND 11a=01, go to #25

If 11b=03 AND 11a=02, go to #27

If 11b=03 AND 11a=03, go to #28]

Section 2. Aware of but No Access to JROTC

17. Has your school applied for a JROTC program?

- 01 Yes
- 02 No
- 03 I don't know

18. Does another high school in your district/community offer a JROTC program?

- 01 Yes
- 02 No
- 03 I don't know

[If #17=02, go to 19

If #17=01 or = 03 AND 11a=01, go to #25

If #17=01 or = 03 AND 11a=02, go to #27

Else if #17=01 or = 03 AND 11a=03, go to #28]

19. Please select all of the factors that have contributed to your school not applying to have a program.

SELECT ALL THAT APPLY

- 01 Do not know enough about the program
- 02 Do not know what is required to host a program
- 03 Do not know the process for applying
- 04 Cost of the program
- 05 Difficult finding instructors
- 06 Program does not work well with the student daily school schedule
- 07 Program does not work well with the school curriculum
- 08 Students do not want a JROTC program
- 09 Parents and family members do not want a JROTC program
- 10 School staff do not want a JROTC program
- 11 Community members do not want a JRTOC program

⁸ Hover over text: Career training or development programs include, but are not limited to, technical or occupational training/certification programs (e.g., welding, HVAC), JobCorps, or AmeriCorps.

- 12 Most students in my school would not benefit from JROTC
- 13 My school offers other, similar leadership programs. Please name those programs: [open response box]
- 14 I don't know
- 15 Other, please explain [open response box]

If 11a=01, go to #25
 If 11a=02, go to #27
 Else if 11a=03, go to #28

Section 3. Your JROTC Program

20. Approximately how many students are enrolled in the JROTC program this school year?
 [Textbox with numeric entry]

21. Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

	Strongly Disagree [0]	Disagree [1]	Agree [2]	Strongly Agree [3]	I don't know [4]
JROTC					
a. Provides important leadership opportunities for students					
b. Provides opportunities to increase physical activity					
c. Causes conflict in our community					
d. Encourages civic participation					
e. Builds student confidence					
f. Is not of interest to many students					
g. Improves academic performance					
h. Improves school graduation rates					
i. Helps students prepare for college					
The JROTC Curriculum					
j. Contributes to student success					
k. Conflicts with our school curriculum					
l. Enriches our school curriculum					
The following groups <i>approve</i> of JROTC					
m. Students					
n. Parents and family members					
o. School staff					
p. Community members					

22. Please indicate how JROTC cadets in your school compare with their peers on each of the following dimensions:

	Much less likely [0]	Somewhat less likely [1]	About the same [2]	More likely [3]	Much more likely [4]	I don't know [5]
a. Act as positive influences for their peers						
b. Engage in our school community						
c. Are involved disciplinary infractions						
d. Attend school daily						
e. Graduate in four years						

23. If you would like, please describe in your own words your impression of, the benefit or challenges of, or other critical information we should know about your JROTC program [\[open response box\]](#)

24. What type of academic course credit, if any, do JROTC cadets receive for their successful participation in a JROTC?

- 01 Physical education
- 02 Health education
- 03 Civics/government
- 04 History/Social Studies
- 05 Science
- 06 Career/job preparation
- 07 Other, please explain: [\[open response box\]](#)
- 08 None

If 11a=01, go to #25

If 11a=02, go to #27

Else if 11a=03, go to #28

Section 4. National Guard Youth Challenge

25. Have any students from your high school enrolled in Youth Challenge?

- 01 Yes
- 02 No
- 03 I don't know

[\[If #25=01, else skip to #27\]](#)

26. Do you believe the Challenge program was effective for the student(s) who enrolled in it?

- 01 Yes
- 02 No

- 03 I don't know
- 04 Please explain your response [\[open response box\]](#)

27. Earlier you responded that you are aware of STARBASE, ChalleNGe, and/or Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC). How have these programs influenced your impression of the military?

- 01 Less positive impression
- 02 Unchanged impression
- 03 More positive impression
- 04 I'm not sure

Section 5. Sentiment and Other

28. Thinking about your school community, approximately how many community members would agree with each of the following statements:

	None [0]	A few [1]	About half [2]	Most [3]	Nearly all [4]	I don't know [5]
a. I am supportive of the military.						
b. Military-operated programs for youth enhance the relationship between the community and the military.						

29. Is there anything else you would like us to know about the civics education opportunities, in your school, that prepare young people to contribute to a democratic society? [\[open response box\]](#)

30. Please select all that apply regarding your military service:

- 01 I am currently active duty.
- 02 I am currently a reservist.
- 03 I previously served on active duty.
- 04 I previously served as a reservist.
- 05 I have never served in the military.

31. Please select all that apply regarding your family's military service:⁹

- 01 A member of my family is currently active duty.
- 02 A member of my family is currently a reservist.
- 03 A member of my family previously served on active duty.
- 04 A member of my family previously served as a reservist.
- 05 No member of my family previously served on active duty.
- 06 No member of my family previously served as a reservist.

⁹ Hover over text: Family includes, but is not limited to, a grandparent, parent, sibling, spouse/significant other, and/or child.

Section 6. Professional Background

32. What is the highest degree you have earned?

- 01 Associate's degree
- 02 Bachelor's degree (B.A., B.S., etc.)
- 03 Master's degree (M.A., M.A.T., M.B.A., M.Ed., M.S., etc.)
- 04 Educational specialist or professional diploma (at least one year beyond master's level)
- 05 Doctorate or first professional degree (Ph.D., Ed.D., M.D., L.L.B., J.D., D.D.S.)
- 06 None of the above

33. Including the current school year (2020-21), how many years have you:

PLEASE ROUND TO THE NEAREST WHOLE NUMBER.

- 1 Worked in education, including all positions (e.g., teacher, counselor, principal)?
[Textbox with numeric entry]
- 2 Served as a principal or school leader? [Textbox with numeric entry]
- 3 Served as the principal or school leader at your current school? [Textbox with numeric entry]