



Does data remain confidential?

All responses are protected by Public Law 107-279, the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002, Title I, Part E, Section 183. Your answers may be used for statistical purposes only and may not be disclosed, or used, in identifiable form for any other purpose except as provided by law. The information you provide will be combined with the information provided by others in statistical summaries.

How was I selected?

Participants in this study were selected from among those who provided data about their first year of teaching in the most recent Schools and Staffing Survey. The sample for this new study was selected to be representative of the entire population of public school teachers who began teaching in 2007 or 2008.

What kinds of questions are asked?

You will be asked questions about your employment status (e.g, if you are currently teaching, working in a nonteaching position, or not working); characteristics of your current teaching or nonteaching position; your opinions of your current position, including the reasons for any change in your position that may have occurred; as well as background information.

Where do I get more information?

To see our publications and to obtain additional information, go to <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/btls>



The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) is the primary federal entity for collecting and analyzing data related to education in the United States and other nations.

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2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016

WHAT IS THE BEGINNING TEACHER LONGITUDINAL STUDY?



The Beginning Teacher Longitudinal Study (BTLS) is an important new study of a group of public school teachers who began teaching in 2007 or 2008. The study will follow this cohort of teachers for a decade to create an unfolding “story.” You have been selected to be in this study as a representative of this cohort.



Over time, the information gathered will permit a better understanding of the impact that different life events have on teachers’ careers and how teachers respond to transitions in their lives. These transitions might include moving to a different school or grade or subject, becoming a mentor, exiting teaching to enter the nonteaching workforce, starting a family, and so forth.



Why is the BTLS important?

This study will contribute to policymakers’ understanding of the lives and careers of teachers over the course of time—even of those who leave the profession. More specifically, the BTLS will gather information regarding

- *attitudes* about the teaching profession and job satisfaction;
- *characteristics* of those who stay in the teaching profession, move from one school to another, leave the profession temporarily, or leave permanently;
- the *percentage* of your cohort that leaves the profession—and the percentage that later re-enters it;
- *career patterns* of those who remain in teaching and, in contrast, the career patterns of former teachers after they leave the profession; and
- *personal educational activities* and plans for the future.

The BTLS is a *major, national long-term study* of people who began teaching in 2007 or 2008. It will provide an excellent way for the voices of teachers to be heard.

Why should I participate?

Policymakers and education researchers want to learn about *your* impressions of your experiences as a teacher. They want to know about, for example, whether you believe you receive adequate support from your school, your training and educational background, and your impressions of your current job situation.

Even if you have left teaching, your continuing participation is very important because the decisions you make and the path you follow can help researchers and planners gain deeper insight into what influences a person’s decision to leave the teaching profession.

Your participation is crucial to making sure that the survey results will provide a true picture of teachers—and former teachers—across the country. By contributing information about your individual experience, you will be contributing to the future of the teaching profession as a whole.

How are the data collected?

You will receive e-mails containing a username, password, and link to the web-based questionnaire. Your responses to the survey are stored on a secure server, much like using PayPal™.

