



Social Studies School Questionnaire

**2014
Grade 8**

SCHOOL QUESTIONNAIRE

GRADE 8

During the 2013–2014 school year, a sample of students across the country, including some students from your school, will be given a series of questions as part of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The current assessment focuses on achievement in civics, geography, U.S. history, and science. As part of the assessment, NAEP will investigate the relationship between students' achievement and various school, teacher, and home factors that may influence this achievement. We are asking your school to complete this questionnaire about school factors. **This questionnaire should be completed by the principal or other head administrator.**

We realize that you are very busy; however, we urge you to complete the questionnaire as carefully as possible. The information you provide is being collected for research purposes only and will be kept strictly confidential.

NAEP is authorized under Public Law 107–110. While your participation is voluntary, your responses to these questions are needed to make this survey accurate and complete.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

Part I: School Characteristics and Policies

This questionnaire should be completed by the principal or the head of the school.

1. What grades are taught in your school? Fill in **all** ovals that apply.

- Ⓐ Pre-kindergarten
- Ⓑ Kindergarten
- Ⓒ 1st grade
- Ⓓ 2nd grade
- Ⓔ 3rd grade
- Ⓕ 4th grade
- Ⓖ 5th grade
- Ⓗ 6th grade
- Ⓙ 7th grade
- Ⓝ 8th grade
- Ⓚ 9th grade
- Ⓛ 10th grade
- Ⓜ 11th grade
- Ⓝ 12th grade

2. Can your school be described by any of the following? Fill in ovals for **all** that apply.

- Ⓐ Elementary school
- Ⓑ Middle or junior high school
- Ⓒ Secondary school
- Ⓓ Regular school with a magnet program
- Ⓔ A magnet school or a school with a special program emphasis, e.g., science/mathematics school, performing arts school, talented/gifted school, foreign language immersion school
- Ⓕ Special education school: primarily serves students with disabilities
- Ⓖ Alternative school: offers a curriculum designed to provide alternative or nontraditional education, not clearly categorized as regular, special, or vocational education
- Ⓗ Private independent school
- Ⓙ Private religiously affiliated school
- Ⓚ Independent charter school
- Ⓛ Charter school administered by local school district
- Ⓜ Other (specify): _____

3. What is the current enrollment in your school?

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4. Approximately what percentage of eighth-graders in your school is new this year?

%

5. Of the students currently enrolled in your school, what percentage has been identified as limited-English proficient?

- Ⓐ 0%
- Ⓑ 1–5%
- Ⓒ 6–10%
- Ⓓ 11–25%
- Ⓔ 26–50%
- Ⓕ 51–75%
- Ⓖ 76–90%
- Ⓗ Over 90%

6. Last school year, approximately what percentage of students at your school enrolled after the first day of school?

- Ⓐ 0%
- Ⓑ 1–3%
- Ⓒ 4–6%
- Ⓓ 7–10%
- Ⓔ 11–20%
- Ⓕ Over 20%

7. Last school year, approximately what percentage of students at your school left before the end of the school year?

- Ⓐ 0%
- Ⓑ 1–3%
- Ⓒ 4–6%
- Ⓓ 7–10%
- Ⓔ 11–20%
- Ⓕ Over 20%

8. About what percentage of your students is absent on an average day? (Include excused and unexcused absences in calculating this rate.)

- Ⓐ 0–2%
- Ⓑ 3–5%
- Ⓒ 6–10%
- Ⓓ More than 10%

9. About what percentage of your teachers is absent on an average day? (Include all absences in calculating this rate.)

- Ⓐ 0–2%
- Ⓑ 3–5%
- Ⓒ 6–10%
- Ⓓ More than 10%

10. About what percentage of this year's eighth-graders was held back and is repeating eighth grade?

- Ⓐ 0%
- Ⓑ 1–2%
- Ⓒ 3–5%
- Ⓓ 6–10%
- Ⓔ More than 10%

11. Does your school participate in the National School Lunch Program?

- Ⓐ Yes →Go to Question 12.
- Ⓑ No →Skip to Question 15.

12. How does the school operate the program?

- Ⓐ Student eligibility is determined individually, and eligible students receive free or reduced-price lunch. →Skip to Question 14.
- Ⓑ All students in school receive free lunch under special provisions (e.g., Provision 2 or 3). →Go to Question 13.

13. If your school distributes free lunch to all students under Provision 2 or 3, what was the base year during which individual student eligibility was collected?
- Ⓐ This school does not distribute free lunch to all students under Provision 2 or 3—eligibility is determined annually.
 - Ⓑ 2013
 - Ⓒ 2012
 - Ⓓ 2011
 - Ⓔ 2010
 - Ⓕ 2009
 - Ⓖ 2008 or earlier

14. During this school year, about what percentage of students in your school was eligible to receive a free or reduced-price lunch through the National School Lunch Program?
- Ⓐ 0%
 - Ⓑ 1–5%
 - Ⓒ 6–10%
 - Ⓓ 11–25%
 - Ⓔ 26–34%
 - Ⓕ 35–50%
 - Ⓖ 51–75%
 - Ⓗ 76–99%
 - Ⓘ 100%

15. Does your school receive Title I funding? (Title I is a federally funded program that provides educational services, such as remedial reading or remedial math, to children who live in areas with high concentrations of low-income families.)

- A No
- B Yes, our school receives funds, which are targeted to eligible students.
- C Yes, our school receives funds, which are used for schoolwide purposes.

16. Approximately what percentage of students in your school receives the following services? Fill in **one** oval on each line. Students who receive more than one service should be counted for each service they receive. Please report the percentage of students who receive each of the following services as of the day you respond to this questionnaire.

	None	1-5%	6-10%	11-25%	26-50%	51-75%	76-90%	Over 90%	
a. Targeted Title I services	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	<input type="radio"/> F	<input type="radio"/> G	<input type="radio"/> H	VB610145
b. Gifted and talented program	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	<input type="radio"/> F	<input type="radio"/> G	<input type="radio"/> H	VB485286
c. Instruction provided in student's home language (non-English)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	<input type="radio"/> F	<input type="radio"/> G	<input type="radio"/> H	VB485287
d. English-as-a-second-language (not in a bilingual education program)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	<input type="radio"/> F	<input type="radio"/> G	<input type="radio"/> H	VB485288
e. Special education	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	<input type="radio"/> F	<input type="radio"/> G	<input type="radio"/> H	VB485289

17. During a typical week of school, what is the total number of regularly scheduled volunteers, including parents, working in the school?

- Ⓐ 0
- Ⓑ 1–5
- Ⓒ 6–10
- Ⓓ 11–15
- Ⓔ 16–25
- Ⓕ More than 25

18. Approximately what percentage of students in your school have parents or guardians who do each of the following activities? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Not applicable	0–10%	11–25%	26–50%	Over 50%	
a. Volunteer regularly to help in the classroom or another part of the school	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE588679
b. Attend teacher–parent conferences	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE588681

19. For all teacher counts entered in item 19:*INCLUDE these types of teachers:*

- Regular
- Special area or resource teachers (e.g., special education, Title I, art, music, physical education)
- Long-term substitute teachers

INCLUDE these types of teachers:

- Itinerant teachers who teach part-time at this school
- Employees reported in other items of this section if they also have a part-time teaching assignment at this school

DO NOT INCLUDE:

- Student teachers
- Short-term substitute teachers
- Teachers who teach *ONLY* pre-kindergarten or adult education

Around the first of October, how many TEACHERS held full-time or part-time positions or assignments in this school? *If none, mark (0) in the boxes.*

a. Full-time
 Full-time teachers
b. Part-time
 Part-time teachers

VF096612

20. Does your school offer tenure to teachers?

- A Yes
- B No

VE588721

21. Of the following categories of teachers who were full-time teachers at your school at the end of the last school year, what percentage stayed on as full-time teachers for this school year? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	0–10%	11–25%	26–50%	51–75%	76–90%	Over 90%	
a. Nontenured teachers who had taught for at least one year	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	<input type="radio"/> F	VE588765
b. Tenured teachers	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	<input type="radio"/> F	VE588766

VE600319

22. In the last school year, how many full-time teachers were new to your school?

If you answered 1 or any number greater than 1, go to Question 23.

If you answered 0, skip to Part II.

23. Of the full-time teachers who were new to your school last year, what percentage stayed on as full-time teachers for this school year?
- Ⓐ 0–10%
 - Ⓑ 11–25%
 - Ⓒ 26–50%
 - Ⓓ 51–75%
 - Ⓔ 76–90%
 - Ⓕ Over 90%

For the purposes of this questionnaire, “civics” means the study of basic concepts about the theory and practice of constitutional democracy in the United States. Also included is the development of intellectual and participatory civic skills, as well as the disposition to assume the rights and responsibilities of individuals in society.

1. At what grade do students in your school typically take the following classes? Fill in **all** ovals that apply.

	6th grade	7th grade	8th grade	9th grade	This class is not offered in my school.	
a. A class primarily focused on U.S. history	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VB338392
b. A class primarily focused on geography	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VB338393
c. A class primarily focused on civics or government	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VB608491

2. To what extent have you emphasized each of the following topics in your eighth-grade U.S. history curriculum? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	This topic is not offered in my school.	
a. Change and continuity in U.S. democracy	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE015668
b. Gatherings and interactions of people from various cultures	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE015669
c. Technological changes	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE015670
d. Economic changes	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE015671
e. Changing role of the U.S. in the world	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE015672

3. To what extent have you emphasized each of the following topics in your eighth-grade civics or government curriculum? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	This topic is not offered in my school.	
a. Politics and government	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE015674
b. Foundations of the U.S. political system	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE015675
c. The U.S. Constitution	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE015676
d. World affairs	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE015677
e. Roles of citizens in U.S. democracy	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE015678

4. To what extent have you emphasized each of the following topics in your eighth-grade geography curriculum? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	This topic is not offered in my school.	
a. Space and place (i.e., basic concepts of physical and human geography)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE015680
b. Environment and society (i.e., how people adapt to, depend on, and are affected by the natural environment)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE015681
c. Spatial dynamics and connections (i.e., variation among regions and how people interact across space via communication, transportation, trade)	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	Ⓔ	VE015682

5. Does your school offer any of the following services for eighth-grade students who fall behind or need extra help in social studies (e.g., U.S. history, civics, or geography)? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Yes	No	
a. Tutoring	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VE015687
b. Placement of instructional aides in classrooms to provide assistance	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VE015690
c. Use of instructional aides for pull-out instruction	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VE015691
d. Extra work or homework	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VE015694
e. Before- or after-school programs	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VE015695
f. Saturday classes	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VE015696
g. Summer school program	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VE015697
h. Extra help for English language learners	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VE015698

VE015700

6. To what extent is your school’s social studies program for eighth-graders (e.g., U.S. history, civics, or geography) structured according to the following resources? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	
a. District curriculum standards or frameworks	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VE015702
b. State curriculum standards or frameworks	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VE015701
c. National curriculum standards or frameworks	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VE230059
d. School-based curriculum standards or frameworks	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VE015703
e. Results from district or school assessments	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VE015705
f. Results from state assessments	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VE015704
g. Results from national assessments	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VE230060
h. Recommendations from district social studies department	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VE015706
i. Discretion of individual teachers	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VE015707
j. Commercially designed programs	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VE015708

VE015709

7. To what extent does your school’s eighth-grade social studies curriculum (e.g., U.S. history, civics, or geography) focus on preparation for the following types of assessments? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	
a. District or school assessments	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VE015711
b. State assessments	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VE015710
c. National assessments	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VE230061

Part III: Supplemental Charter School Questions

This section should be completed by the principal or the head of the school. If your school is a charter school, please continue. If your school is not a charter school, you have finished the survey. Thank you for your time.

1. Is your school a public **charter** school?

(A charter school is a public school that, in accordance with an enabling state statute, has been granted a charter exempting it from selected state or local rules and regulations. A charter school may be a newly created school, or it may previously have been a public or private school.)

- Ⓐ Yes → *Go to Question 2.*
- Ⓑ No → ***You have finished the survey. Thank you for your time.***

2. In which year did your school start providing instruction as a charter school?

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3. Who granted your school's current charter?

- Ⓐ School district
- Ⓑ State board of education (includes state board of regents and District of Columbia State Board of Education)
- Ⓒ Postsecondary institution
- Ⓓ State charter-granting agency
- Ⓔ City or state public charter school board
- Ⓕ Other (specify): _____

VC104799

4. What is the legal status of your school?
- Ⓐ Officially part of the school district or local education agency (LEA)
 - Ⓑ Independent from the school district or local education agency (LEA)
 - Ⓒ A separate local education agency (LEA) as stipulated by state law

VE600331

5. Is this school operated by a company or organization that also operates other charter schools?
- Ⓐ Yes
 - Ⓑ No

VC104758

6. Which one of the following best describes your charter school's **primary** focus in terms of program content?
- Ⓐ We have a comprehensive curriculum with no specialized area of focus.
 - Ⓑ We have a special curricular focus, for example, the arts, math/science, foreign language immersion.
 - Ⓒ Our curriculum is based on a particular educational theory, for example, Montessori, open school, Core Knowledge.
 - Ⓓ Our curriculum is based on a particular moral philosophy or set of values, for example, African-centered education, character-based education, Eastern philosophy.

VE588897

7. Does your school provide a written contract for parents?
- Ⓐ Yes, and parents are required to abide by it. → *Go to Question 8.*
 - Ⓑ Yes, but signing it is voluntary. → *Go to Question 8.*
 - Ⓒ No → ***You have Finished the survey. Thank you for your time.***

8. Are the following elements addressed in your charter-parent contract? Fill in **one** oval in each row.

	Yes	No	
a. Dress code	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VE588983
b. Home learning environment	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VE588989
c. Homework	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VE588981
d. Parent-teacher communication	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VE588987
e. Parent volunteering	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VE588991
f. School discipline policy	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VE588985
g. Student attendance	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VE588980
h. Student promotion policy	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VE588988
i. Other (specify): _____ _____	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	VE592478

1. If given the choice, would you have preferred to respond to these survey questions on paper or online?
 - Ⓐ On paper
 - Ⓑ Online
 - Ⓒ No preference