Commonly Asked Questions

Q: How did you get my address?
A: Your address was randomly selected from among all of the home addresses in the nation. It was selected using scientific sampling methods to represent other households in the U.S.

Q: Why don’t you ask more questions about education in this questionnaire?
A: The purpose of this questionnaire is to find out if anyone in your household is eligible for the next stage of the survey. If so, we will send a second questionnaire that will ask about educational experiences of a member of your household.

Q: If there are no children or anyone currently in school in my household, should I respond?
A: Yes, you should respond to this survey. Once you return the questionnaire, the study will be able to see if anyone in your household is eligible for the next and final survey. If no one is eligible, you will not receive another survey.

Q: Why should I take part in this study? Do I have to do this?
A: This survey is the only way that the Department of Education can learn about children’s care, early learning activities, and schooling from your perspective. You represent thousands of other households like yours, and you cannot be replaced. Your answers and opinions are very important to the success of this study. You may choose not to answer any or all questions in this survey. In order for the survey to be representative, it is important that you complete and return this questionnaire. Those who do not return the survey will not be represented in key statistics used by policymakers and researchers.

Q: How will the information I provide be used? Will my privacy be protected?
A: Your responses will be combined with those of others to produce statistical summaries and reports. Your individual data will not be reported. 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 (Section 9573, 20 U.S. Code).

Q: How much time will it take?
A: On average, it should take 3 minutes for you to respond, including the time for reviewing instructions and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

Q: Who is sponsoring the study? Is this study conducted by the Federal Government?
A: The National Center for Education Statistics, within the Department of Education, is authorized to conduct this survey under Section 9543, 20 U.S. Code. This study has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget, the office that reviews all federally sponsored surveys. The approval number assigned to this study is 1850-0768. You may send any comments about this survey, including its length, to the Federal Government. Write to: Andrew Zukerberg, National Center for Education Statistics, U.S. Department of Education, 1900 K Street NW, Room 9036, Washington, DC 20006-5650. You may send email to NHES@census.gov. If you have any questions about the study, contact us toll-free at 1-888-840-8353.

The National Center for Education Statistics is authorized to conduct this survey under Section 9543, 20 U.S. Code. Your participation is voluntary. 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 (Section 9573, 20 U.S. Code). The information you provide will be combined with information from other participants to produce statistical summaries and reports.
National Household Education Survey

Start Here

The Department of Education is studying households with youth or children age 20 or younger. Each household is different, and we need your response so we can send you a survey that is right for your household.

1. Are there any youth or children age 20 or younger living in this household?
   - No → GO TO box A at the bottom.
   - Yes

2. How many youth or children age 20 or younger live in this household?

 Continue answering questions 3 through 7 for each youth or child living in this household.

3. What is his or her first name, initials, or nickname? . . . . . . .
   First names will be used only to ask you questions about the education of a specific child.

4. How old is this child in years? . . . . . . .
   - Mark for babies less than 1 year old
   - Mark for babies less than 1 year old
   - Mark for babies less than 1 year old
   - Mark for babies less than 1 year old
   - Mark for babies less than 1 year old

5. What is this child’s sex? . . . . . . . . . .
   - Male
   - Female

6. Is this child currently in . . . . . . . .
   - Public or private school, or preschool,
   - Homeschool instead of school for some or all classes, or
   - Not in school?

7. What is this child’s current grade or equivalent? . . . . . . . . .
   - Preschool
   - Kindergarten
   - College or vocational school
   - None of these

Please verify you have listed the 5 youngest youth or children living in this household in columns 1 through 5 above.

Thank you. Please return this form in the postage-paid envelope provided or mail it to:

U.S. Census Bureau
ATTN: DCB 60-A (7198)
1201 E. 10th Street
Jeffersonville, IN 47132-0001

Toll-free number for questions: 1-888-840-8353

A: If you marked in question 1 that no one in your household is age 20 or younger, please stop here and return this survey to us in the enclosed envelope. It is important that we receive a response from every household selected for this study.

Thank you for your time.