



Do 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 will be used for statistical purposes only and will not be disclosed, or used, in identifiable form for any other purpose except as provided by law.

Where do I get more information?

To obtain additional information about the study, go to <http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/btls>. To read the results from the first three waves of the study, go to <http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2011/2011318.pdf>.



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 U.S. Census Bureau is conducting this survey for the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) of the U.S. Department of Education. 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 1850-0868.



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

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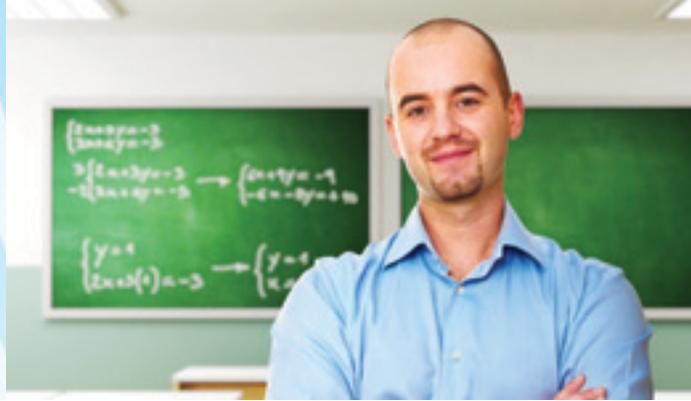
<http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/btls>

NCES 2012-306
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



THANK YOU
*for being a part of the
Beginning Teacher
Longitudinal Study!*





What is the Beginning Teacher Longitudinal Study?

The Beginning Teacher Longitudinal Study (BTLS) is a study of a group of public school teachers who began teaching in 2007 or 2008. The study has followed this cohort for 4 years. The 2011–12 year is the fifth and final year.

For many of you, this will be the fifth time that you have provided information regarding your teaching status. The information gathered will permit a better understanding of how beginning teachers respond to different transitions. These transitions might include life transitions (i.e., changes in marital status, moving, having children) or career transitions (i.e., moving to a different school, teaching a different grade or subject, becoming a mentor, exiting teaching to pursue a nonteaching career).

Why is your continued involvement important?

BTLS is the only study that follows beginning teachers from all around the United States. The unique value of this study comes from having information about the same people collected over time, those who provided data about their first year of teaching in the Schools and Staffing Survey in 2007–08. The sample for this study was selected to be representative of the entire population of public

school teachers who began teaching in 2007 or 2008. 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 gain deeper insight into what influences a teacher's decision to leave the teaching profession. The information you have given us so far is being used to inform policymakers about the reasons beginning teachers remain in teaching or leave to pursue other endeavors.

How does the fifth interview compare to the previous ones?

While some questionnaire items have been revised, the fifth interview is similar to the previous ones. 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 position that may have occurred; as well as background information. It is especially important in this final year that we hear from you in order to understand when life transitions happen and what actions you have taken on your career path. We greatly appreciate your support for this wave of the study.

How are the data collected?

The data will be collected through a web-based questionnaire. You will receive e-mails from the National Center for Education Statistics containing a username, password, and link to the questionnaire. We know that you are very busy, but remember that the questionnaire can be completed at a time and place that is convenient for you.

Planning on moving?

It can be difficult to keep in touch with people on the move, so please let us know if your contact information is changing by logging on to <https://surveys.nces.ed.gov/btls> using your username and password and updating your profile. You can also e-mail us at dsd.education.surveys@census.gov.

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. Please know that your participation is completely voluntary. If you would like to be removed from the study, please contact Freddie Cross at freddie.cross@ed.gov. However, we hope you will want to be a part of this important and exciting study.