This survey is authorized by law (20 U.S.C. 1221e-1). While you are not required to respond, your cooperation is needed to make the results of this survey comprehensive, accurate, and timely.

DEFINITIONS FOR THIS SURVEY:

prekindergarten - program primarily for 4-year-olds prior to kindergarten

transitional (or readiness) kindergarten - extra year of school for kindergarten-age eligible children who are judged not ready for kindergarten

kindergarten - traditional year of school primarily for 5-year-olds prior to first grade

transitional first grade - extra year of school for children who have attended kindergarten and have been judged not ready for first grade

class - refers to the child’s total school day, including time spent with any teacher, as well as time spent on meals, naps, recess, and between activities

activity center - clearly delineated, organized, thematic work and play area where children interact with materials and other children without the teacher’s constant presence or direction (such as a language arts area, a block area, a dramatic play area)

IF ABOVE INFORMATION IS INCORRECT, PLEASE CORRECT DIRECTLY ON LABEL.

Name of person completing this form: ___________________________ Telephone number: ___________________________

What is the best day/time to reach you at this number, if we have any questions? Day: ___________________________ Time: ___________________________

RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO: IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, CALL:

WESTAT, INC., Sheila Heaviside
1650 Research Boulevard 1-800-937-8281, Ext. 8391
Rockville, Maryland 20850
ATTN: Heaviside, 928122

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Education, Information Management and Compliance Division, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651; and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project 1850-0676, Washington, D.C. 20503.
Do you teach (circle one answer in each row):

- A full-day class? ........................................... Yes No
- A half-day morning class? ........................................... 1 2
- A half-day afternoon class? ........................................... 1 2

If you teach separate a.m. and p.m. classes, answer questions 2-8 with respect to the morning class.

What type of class is this? (See cover page for definitions. Circle one.)
- Kindergarten class ........................................... 1
- Transitional (or readiness) kindergarten class ........................................... 2
- Transitional first grade class ........................................... 3
- Multigrade or ungraded class with at least some kindergarten-age children (specify) .......... 4

How many children were enrolled in this class as of October 1? __________

As of October 1, how many children in this class were: (If none, please enter 0)
- American Indian or Alaskan Native ........................................... __________
- Asian or Pacific Islander ........................................... __________
- Black, non-Hispanic ........................................... __________
- Hispanic ........................................... __________
- White, non-Hispanic ........................................... __________

Four years old or younger ........................................... __________
Six years old ........................................... __________
Seven years old or older ........................................... __________

On average, how many hours per week does each adult paid assistant or co- or team teacher spend in this class? __________

On average, how many hours per week does each adult volunteer assistant spend in this class? Yes No

Does each child have his or her own desk? ........................................... 1

Do you have activity centers (see cover page for definition) in this classroom? ........................................... 1

How often does a typical child in your class engage in each of the following activities in a typical week?

- Running, climbing, jumping, and other gross motor activities ........................................... 1 2 3 4
- Free play ........................................... 1 2 3 4
- Choosing from a set of specified options (like building blocks, manipulatives, or books) ........................................... 1 2 3 4
- Using manipulatives for math or science ........................................... 1 2 3 4
- Using worksheets for math or science ........................................... 1 2 3 4
- Using worksheets for literacy skills ........................................... 1 2 3 4
- Listening to stories read aloud ........................................... 1 2 3 4
- Dramatic play, arts and crafts, music (creative activities) ........................................... 1 2 3 4

On average, how much time each day does your class spend in formal group instruction by the teacher in reading, numbers, or the alphabet? __________ hours minutes

On average, how much time each day does your class spend in individual or small group activities planned by the teacher and selected by the child ran? __________ hours minutes

Here is a list of statements that different kindergarten teachers have made regarding their views of readiness. Indicate the extent to which you agree with the following statements. 1 = strongly disagree; 2 = disagree; 3 = neither; 4 = agree; 5 = strongly agree.

- Attending preschool is very important for success in kindergarten ........................................... 12345
- Children who begin formal reading and math instruction in preschool (nursery or prekindergarten) will do better in elementary school ........................................... 12345
- Parents should make sure that their children know the alphabet before they start kindergarten ........................................... 1 2 3 4 5
- If a child appears to be unready for kindergarten, I would suggest he or she wait a year before enrolling ........................................... 12345
e. Children with readiness problems should enter school as soon as they are eligible so they can be exposed to the things they need ................................. 1 2 3 4 5
f. Readiness comes as children grow and mature; you can't push it ................................. 1 2 3 4 5
g. I can enhance children's readiness by providing experiences they need to build important skills ............................................. 1 2 3 4 5
h. Parents should set aside time every day for their kindergarten children to practice schoolwork ................................................................. 1 2 3 4 5
i. Homework should be given in kindergarten almost every day ........................................ 1 2 3 4 5
j. I assume that by the end of the kindergarten year all children will be ready for first grade ................................................................. 1 2 3 4 5
k. I hesitate to send children onto first grade if I feel they are not ready for the demands that they will meet there ............................................. 1 2 3 4 5
l. I communicate with the first grade teachers so they can proceed from where I have left off ............................................................................. 1 2 3 4 5
m. Parents should read to their children and play counting games at home regularly ................................................................. 1 2 3 4 5
n. Most children should learn to read in kindergarten ............................................................. 1 2 3 4 5
o. The best way to learn how to read is to practice matching letters and sounds over and over ............................................................................. 1 2 3 4 5
p. One of the best ways to help children learn to read is by reading to them ................................................................. 1 2 3 4 5
q. Kindergarten children should not be given reading instruction unless they show an interest ............................................................................. 1 2 3 4 5

10. In your professional judgment, how important do you believe the following characteristics are for a child to be ready for kindergarten? 
1 = not at all important; 2 = not very important; 3 = somewhat important; 4 = very important; 5 = essential.

Not at all important
Essential

a. Is physically healthy, rested, well-nourished ............................................................................. 1 2 3 4 5
b. Finishes tasks ................................................................................................................................. 1 2 3 4 5
c. Can count to 20 or more ............................................................................................................. 1 2 3 4 5
d. Takes turns and shares ............................................................................................................... 1 2 3 4 5
e. Has good problem-solving skills ................................................................................................. 1 2 3 4 5
f. Is enthusiastic and curious in approaching new activities ................................................................ 1 2 3 4 5
g. Is able to use pencils or paint brushes ...................................................................................... 1 2 3 4 5
h. Is not disruptive of the class ......................................................................................................... 1 2 3 4 5
i. Knows the English language ....................................................................................................... 1 2 3 4 5
j. Is sensitive to other children's feelings ...................................................................................... 1 2 3 4 5
k. Sits still and pays attention ......................................................................................................... 1 2 3 4 5
l. Knows the letters of the alphabet ............................................................................................... 1 2 3 4 5
m. Can follow directions .................................................................................................................. 1 2 3 4 5
n. Identifies primary colors and basic shapes .................................................................................. 1 2 3 4 5
o. Communicates needs, wants, and thoughts verbally in child's primary language .................. 1 2 3 4 5

11. Using the list in question 10, select the 3 characteristics most important for a child's readiness for kindergarten. (Enter the letter from a to o for your 3 choices.)

Most important
Second most important
Third most important

a. How many years have you been teaching? 

b. How many years have you been teaching kindergarten?

12. Did you major in early childhood education in college or graduate school? Yes… 1

13. No… 2

14. How many courses in early childhood education have you completed? 

15. Are you currently a member of a professional association for early childhood education? Yes… 1

No… 2

16. What is your sex? Male … 1

Female … 2

17. What is your racial/ethnic background?

American Indian or Alaskan Native … 1

Asian or Pacific islander … 2

Black, non-Hispanic … 3

Hispanic … 4

White, non-Hispanic … 5

Other, (specify) … 6