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TRENDS IN INTERNATIONAL MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE STUDY

School Questionnaire

Grade 8

National Center for Education Statistics
U.S. Department of Education
Potomac Center Plaza (PCP), 550 12th St., SW, 4th floor
Washington, DC 20202
USA

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TIMSS & PIRLS
International Study Center
Lynch School of Education
BOSTON COLLEGE

School Questionnaire

Your school has agreed to participate in TIMSS 2019 (Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study), an educational research project sponsored by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA). TIMSS measures trends in student achievement in mathematics and science and studies differences in national education systems in almost 60 countries in order to help improve teaching and learning worldwide.

This questionnaire is addressed to school principals and department heads who are asked to supply information about their schools. Since your school has been selected as part of a nationwide sample, your responses are very important in helping to describe eighth-grade education in the United States.

It is important that you answer each question carefully so that the information provided reflects the situation in your school as accurately as possible. Some of the questions will require that you look up school records, so you may wish to arrange for the assistance of another staff member to help provide this information.

Since TIMSS is an international study and all countries are using the same questionnaire, you may find that some of the questions seem unusual or are not entirely relevant to you or schools in the United States. Nevertheless, it is important that you do your best to answer all of the questions so comparisons can be made across countries in the study.

It is estimated that you will need about 30 minutes to complete the questionnaire. We appreciate the time and effort this takes and thank you for your cooperation and contribution.

When you have completed the questionnaire, please place it in the accompanying envelope and return it to the TIMSS school coordinator.

NCES is authorized to collect information from this questionnaire under the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 (ESRA 2002, 20 U.S.C. §9543). You do not have to provide the information requested. However, the information you provide will help the U.S. Department of Education's ongoing efforts to understand better how the educational system in the United States compares to that in other countries. There are no penalties should you choose not to participate in this study. All of the information you provide 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 (20 U.S.C. §9573 and 6 U.S.C. §151). Your responses will be combined with those from other participants to produce summary statistics and reports.

This survey is estimated to take an average of 30 minutes, including time for reviewing instructions, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing burden to: Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS), National Center for Education Statistics, Potomac Center Plaza (PCP), 550 12th St., SW, 4th floor, Washington, DC 20202.

Thank you.

TIMSS 2019

School Enrollment and Characteristics

1

What is the total enrollment of students in your school as of April 1, 2019?

_____ students
Write in the number.

2

What is the total enrollment of eighth-grade students in your school as of April 1, 2019?

_____ students
Write in the number.

3

Approximately what percentage of students in your school have the following backgrounds?

Fill in only **one** circle for each row.

	0 to 10%	11 to 25%	26 to 50%	More than 50%
a) Come from economically disadvantaged homes -----	①	②	③	④
b) Come from economically affluent homes -----	①	②	③	④

4

Around the 1st of October 2018, what percentage of students at this school were eligible to receive free or reduced-price lunches through the National School Lunch Program?

_____ percentage of students
Write in the number.

5

Approximately what percentage of students in your school have English as their native language?

Fill in **one** circle only.

- More than 90% --- ①
- 76 to 90% --- ②
- 51 to 75% --- ③
- 26 to 50% --- ④
- 25% or less --- ⑤

6

Of the students currently enrolled in your school, what percentage has been identified as limited-English proficient (LEP)/English language learners (ELL)?

Fill in **one** circle only.

- 0% -- ①
- 1 - 5% -- ②
- 6 - 10% -- ③
- 11 - 25% -- ④
- 26 - 50% -- ⑤
- 51 - 75% -- ⑥
- 76 - 90% -- ⑦
- Over 90% -- ⑧

7**What type of school is this?***Fill in **one** circle only.*

Regular public school - ①

A regular public school with
a magnet program - ②A magnet school or school with a special program
emphasis (e.g., Montessori, science/math school,
performing arts school, talented/gifted school,
foreign language immersion school) - ③Special education: a school that primarily
serves students with disabilities - ④Alternative: a school designed to address the
needs of students, typically at risk of educational
failure, which cannot be met in regular schools - ⑤

Vocational - ⑥

Charter School - ⑦

Private (independent) - ⑧

Private (religiously affiliated) - ⑨

Other - ⑩

8**A. How many people live in the city, town, or area
where your school is located?***Fill in **one** circle only.*

More than 500,000 people --- ①

100,001 to 500,000 people --- ②

50,001 to 100,000 people --- ③

30,001 to 50,000 people --- ④

15,001 to 30,000 people --- ⑤

3,001 to 15,000 people --- ⑥

3,000 people or fewer --- ⑦

**B. Which best describes the immediate area in which
your school is located?***Fill in **one** circle only.*

Urban—Densely populated --- ①

Suburban—On fringe or
outskirts of urban area --- ②

Medium size city or large town --- ③

Small town or village --- ④

Remote rural --- ⑤

9**Which best characterizes the average income level
of the school's immediate area?***Fill in **one** circle only.*

High --- ①

Medium --- ②

Low --- ③

10

For the eighth-grade students in your school:

A. How many days per year is your school open for instruction?

_____ days

Write in the number.

B. What is the total instructional time, excluding breaks, in a typical day?

_____ hours _____ minutes

Write in the number of hours and minutes per day.

C. In one calendar week, how many days is the school open for instruction?

*Fill in **one** circle only.*

6 days --- ①

5 1/2 days --- ②

5 days --- ③

4 1/2 days --- ④

4 days --- ⑤

Other --- ⑥

11

How many computers (including tablets) does your school have for use by eighth-grade students?

_____ computers
Write in the number.

12

A. Does your school have a science laboratory that can be used by eighth-grade students?

Fill in **one** circle only.

Yes--- ①

No--- ②

B. Do teachers usually have assistance available when students are conducting science experiments?

Fill in **one** circle only.

Yes--- ①

No--- ②

13

Does your school use an online learning management system to support learning (e.g., teacher-student communication, management of grades, student access to course materials)?

Fill in **one** circle only.

Yes--- ①

No--- ②

14

A. Does your school have a school library?

Fill in **one** circle only.

Yes--- ①

No--- ②

(If No, go to question 15)

If Yes,

B. Approximately how many books (print) with different titles does your school library have (exclude magazines and periodicals)?

Fill in **one** circle only.

2,000 books or fewer--- ①

More than 2,000 books--- ②

15

Does your school have classroom libraries?

Fill in **one** circle only.

Yes--- ①

No--- ②

16

Does your school provide students access to digital learning resources (e.g., books, videos)?

Fill in **one** circle only.

Yes--- ①

No--- ②

How much is your school's capacity to provide instruction affected by a shortage or inadequacy of the following?

Fill in only **one** circle for each row.

Not at all _____
A little _____
Some _____
A lot _____

A. General School Resources

a) Instructional materials (e.g., textbooks) ----- (1) — (2) — (3) — (4)

b) Supplies (e.g., papers, pencils, materials) ----- (1) — (2) — (3) — (4)

c) School buildings and grounds ----- (1) — (2) — (3) — (4)

d) Heating/cooling and lighting systems ----- (1) — (2) — (3) — (4)

e) Instructional space (e.g., classrooms) ----- (1) — (2) — (3) — (4)

f) Technologically competent staff ----- (1) — (2) — (3) — (4)

g) Audio-visual resources for delivery of instruction (e.g., interactive white boards, digital projectors) ----- (1) — (2) — (3) — (4)

h) Computer technology for teaching and learning (e.g., computers or tablets for student use) ----- (1) — (2) — (3) — (4)

i) Resources for students with disabilities ----- (1) — (2) — (3) — (4)

Fill in only **one** circle for each row.

Not at all _____
A little _____
Some _____
A lot _____

B. Resources for Mathematics Instruction

a) Teachers with a specialization in mathematics ----- (1) — (2) — (3) — (4)

b) Computer software/ applications for mathematics instruction ----- (1) — (2) — (3) — (4)

c) Library resources relevant to mathematics instruction --- (1) — (2) — (3) — (4)

d) Calculators for mathematics instruction ----- (1) — (2) — (3) — (4)

e) Concrete objects or materials to help students understand quantities or procedures ----- (1) — (2) — (3) — (4)

C. Resources for Science Instruction

a) Teachers with a specialization in science ----- (1) — (2) — (3) — (4)

b) Computer software/ applications for science instruction ----- (1) — (2) — (3) — (4)

c) Library resources relevant to science instruction ----- (1) — (2) — (3) — (4)

d) Calculators for science instruction ----- (1) — (2) — (3) — (4)

e) Science equipment and materials for experiments ----- (1) — (2) — (3) — (4)

18

How would you characterize each of the following within your school?

Fill in only **one** circle for each row.

- | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|------|--------|-----|----------|
| | Very high | High | Medium | Low | Very low |
| a) Teachers' understanding of the school's curricular goals | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| b) Teachers' degree of success in implementing the school's curriculum | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| c) Teachers' expectations for student achievement | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| d) Teachers' ability to inspire students | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| e) Parental involvement in school activities | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| f) Parental commitment to ensure that students are ready to learn | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| g) Parental expectations for student achievement | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| h) Parental support for student achievement | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| i) Students' desire to do well in school | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| j) Students' ability to reach school's academic goals | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| k) Students' respect for classmates who excel academically | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

19

How much do you agree with these statements about mathematics and science education within your school?

Fill in only **one** circle for each row.

- | | | | | |
|---|-------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| | Agree a lot | Agree a little | Disagree a little | Disagree a lot |
| a) The school provides students with information about career options in mathematics and science | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| b) The school has initiatives to promote student interest in mathematics and science (e.g., student clubs, competitions) | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| c) The school promotes professional development for teachers of mathematics and science | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| d) The school provides extra lessons to help students excel in mathematics and science | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| e) The school provides special activities in mathematics and science for interested students | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| f) The school has a specific goal to improve mathematics and science education | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| g) The school encourages students to continue studying mathematics and science in the future | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| h) Mathematics and science teachers in this school spend extra time working with students interested in mathematics and science | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |

20

To what degree is each of the following a problem among eighth-grade students in your school?

Fill in only **one** circle for each row.

		Not a problem			
			Minor problem		
				Moderate problem	
				Serious problem	
a) Arriving late at school	-----	①	②	③	④
b) Absenteeism (i.e., unjustified absences)	-----	①	②	③	④
c) Classroom disturbance	-----	①	②	③	④
d) Cheating	-----	①	②	③	④
e) Profanity	-----	①	②	③	④
f) Vandalism	-----	①	②	③	④
g) Theft	-----	①	②	③	④
h) Intimidation or verbal abuse among students (including texting, emailing, etc.)	-----	①	②	③	④
i) Physical injury to other students	-----	①	②	③	④
j) Intimidation or verbal abuse of teachers or staff (including texting, emailing, etc.)	-----	①	②	③	④
k) Physical injury to teachers or staff	-----	①	②	③	④

21

To what degree is each of the following a problem among teachers in your school?

Fill in only **one** circle for each row.

		Not a problem			
			Minor problem		
				Moderate problem	
				Serious problem	
a) Arriving late or leaving early	-----	①	②	③	④
b) Absenteeism	-----	①	②	③	④

22

In your school, are any of the following used to evaluate the practice of eighth-grade mathematics teachers?

Fill in only **one** circle for each row.

		Yes		No
a) Observations by the principal or senior staff	-----	①	②	
b) Observations by inspectors or other persons external to the school	-----	①	②	
c) Student achievement	-----	①	②	
d) Teacher peer review	-----	①	②	

23

In your school, are any of the following used to evaluate the practice of eighth-grade science teachers?

Fill in only **one** circle for each row.

		Yes		No
a) Observations by the principal or senior staff	-----	①	②	
b) Observations by inspectors or other persons external to the school	-----	①	②	
c) Student achievement	-----	①	②	
d) Teacher peer review	-----	①	②	

24 _____

By the end of this school year, how many years altogether will you have been a principal?

_____ years
Please **round** to the nearest whole number.

25 _____

By the end of this school year, how many years will you have been a principal at this school?

_____ years
Please **round** to the nearest whole number.

26 _____

What is the highest level of formal education you have completed?

Fill in **one** circle only.

Did not complete Bachelor's degree
(4-year college program) --- ①

Bachelor's degree
(4-year college program) --- ②

Master's degree or professional degree
(MD, DDS, lawyer, minister) --- ③

Doctorate (Ph.D., Ed.D.) --- ④

27 _____

Do you hold the following qualifications or credentials in educational leadership?

Fill in only **one** circle for each row.

	Yes	No
a) Principal Certification -----	①	②
b) Master's degree or professional degree (MD, DDS, lawyer, minister) -----	①	②
c) Doctorate (Ph.D., Ed.D.) -----	①	②

Thank You

Thank you for the thought, time, and effort you have put into completing this questionnaire.



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Grade 8



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