

Economics

Student Background Questionnaire

2012

Grade 12

DIRECTIONS

In the next two sections, you will be asked questions about yourself and your education. The choices for some questions will be written across the page as shown. Fill in the oval for the best answer.

Example 1

	Never or hardly ever	Once or twice a month	Once or twice a week	Almost every day
1. How often do you watch movies on TV?	<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ	<input type="radio"/> Ⓓ

You should have filled in the oval below the answer that best tells how often you watch movies on TV.


The choices for some questions will be written down the page as shown. Now read Example 2 and indicate your answer.

Example 2

2. Which event would you prefer to attend?
<input type="radio"/> Ⓐ basketball game
<input type="radio"/> Ⓑ car show
<input type="radio"/> Ⓒ concert
<input type="radio"/> Ⓓ play

Make your answer mark clear and dark in the oval. If you make a mistake or want to change your answer, be sure to completely erase any unwanted marks.



Do not go past the  **sign at the end of each section until you are told to do so.**
If you finish before time is called, go back and check your work on that section only. Use your time carefully. Do as much as you can in each section.



SECTION 3

Section 3

In this section, please tell us about yourself and your family. The section has 13 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet. Fill in only **one** oval for each question except where instructed otherwise.

1. Are you Hispanic or Latino? Fill in **one** or more ovals.

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- Ⓐ No, I am not Hispanic or Latino.
- Ⓑ Yes, I am Mexican, Mexican American, or Chicano.
- Ⓒ Yes, I am Puerto Rican or Puerto Rican American.
- Ⓓ Yes, I am Cuban or Cuban American.
- Ⓔ Yes, I am from some other Hispanic or Latino background.

2. Which of the following best describes you? Fill in **one** or more ovals.

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- Ⓐ White
- Ⓑ Black or African American
- Ⓒ Asian
- Ⓓ American Indian or Alaska Native
- Ⓔ Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

Section 3

For the rest of the questions in this section, fill in only **one** oval for each question.

3. Does your family get any magazines regularly? VB331334
- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No
- Ⓒ I don't know.
4. About how many books are there in your home? VB331335
- Ⓐ Few (0–10)
- Ⓑ Enough to fill one shelf (11–25)
- Ⓒ Enough to fill one bookcase (26–100)
- Ⓓ Enough to fill several bookcases (more than 100)
5. Is there a computer at home that you use? VB331336
- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No
6. Is there an encyclopedia in your home? It could be a set of books, or it could be on the computer. VB331337
- Ⓐ Yes
- Ⓑ No
- Ⓒ I don't know.
7. About how many pages a day do you have to read in school and for homework? TB001101
- Ⓐ 5 or fewer
- Ⓑ 6–10
- Ⓒ 11–15
- Ⓓ 16–20
- Ⓔ More than 20
8. How often do you talk about things you have studied in school with someone in your family? VB331339
- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once every few weeks
- Ⓒ About once a week
- Ⓓ Two or three times a week
- Ⓔ Every day
9. How many days were you absent from school in the last month? VB331447
- Ⓐ None
- Ⓑ 1 or 2 days
- Ⓒ 3 or 4 days
- Ⓓ 5 to 10 days
- Ⓔ More than 10 days

10. How far in school did your mother go? VB330870

- Ⓐ She did not finish high school.
- Ⓑ She graduated from high school.
- Ⓒ She had some education after high school.
- Ⓓ She graduated from college.
- Ⓔ I don't know.

11. How far in school did your father go? VB330871

- Ⓐ He did not finish high school.
- Ⓑ He graduated from high school.
- Ⓒ He had some education after high school.
- Ⓓ He graduated from college.
- Ⓔ I don't know.

12. How often do people in your home talk to each other in a language other than English? VB331451

- Ⓐ Never
- Ⓑ Once in a while
- Ⓒ About half of the time
- Ⓓ All or most of the time

13. Which of the following best describes your high school program? HE002549

- Ⓐ General
- Ⓑ Academic or college preparatory
- Ⓒ Vocational or technical



SECTION 4

Section 4

This section has 14 questions. Mark your answers in your booklet. Fill in only **one** oval for each question except where instructed otherwise.

1. Which **economics-related** courses have you taken from ninth grade to the present? Count each course only once. Include courses you are currently taking as well as courses taken in summer school. Fill in **one or more** ovals on each line.

	Not taken	Taken/taking in Grade 12	Taken in Grade 11	Taken in Grade 10	Taken in Grade 9	
a. Economics course (general course other than Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate®, or honors economics)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VB595239
b. Government and economics course (combined course)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VB595241
c. Consumer economics or personal finance course	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VB595662
d. Advanced Placement Economics course	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VB595663
e. International Baccalaureate Economics course	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VB595664
f. Honors economics course (other than Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate Economics)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VB595665
g. Business course such as entrepreneurship or business principles	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VB595666
h. Any other economics course (specify) _____	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VB595667
i. Any other course that includes an extended (at least 8-week long) unit on economics (specify) _____	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	<input type="radio"/> D	<input type="radio"/> E	VB595668

Section 4

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2. Which of the following statements best describes your overall course-taking in economics?

- Ⓐ I have **taken at least one** of the courses listed in Question 1. → *Go to Question 3.*
- Ⓑ I have **not taken any** of the courses listed in Question 1. → *Skip to Question 7.*

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3. For the course(s) you marked “Taken/taking in Grade 12” in **Question 1**, which of the following is true for you? Fill in **all ovals** that apply.

- Ⓐ I am not taking any of these courses in grade 12.
- Ⓑ I am currently enrolled in a year-long course.
- Ⓒ I completed a semester-long course this school year.
- Ⓓ I just started a semester-long course.

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4. Think about the courses in **Question 1**. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements about those courses that you took? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Strongly disagree	Somewhat disagree	Somewhat agree	Strongly agree	
a. Taking the course(s) helped me understand the U.S. economy.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VB595671
b. Taking the course(s) helped me understand the international economy.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VB595672
c. Taking the course(s) helped me understand what I hear on the news about current events and public policy.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VB595673
d. Taking the course(s) helped me understand how to manage my personal finances, now and in the future.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VB595674
e. Taking the course(s) helped me make choices about my future education and career.	Ⓐ	Ⓑ	Ⓒ	Ⓓ	VB595675

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5. In your current or most recent course that included economics, how often are you or were you asked to write long answers to questions or assignments?

- Ⓐ Never
- Ⓑ Once or twice a year
- Ⓒ Once or twice a month
- Ⓓ At least once a week

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6. In your current or most recent course that included economics, how often do you or did you use the Internet to get economic data or information? Include both class work and homework.

- Ⓐ Never or hardly ever
- Ⓑ Once every few weeks
- Ⓒ About once a week
- Ⓓ Two or three times a week
- Ⓔ Every day

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7. **Not including things you do for school**, how often do you watch, read about, or listen to information on the following topics? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Never or hardly ever	A few times a year	Once or twice a month	At least once a week	
a. The local economy (unemployment in your area, job opportunities, prices of goods and services, taxes, public budgets, etc.)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VB595680
b. The U.S. economy (unemployment, inflation, economic growth, national economic policy, interest rates, the stock market, etc.)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VB595681
c. The international economy (the state of economies in other countries, trade agreements and restrictions, globalization, etc.)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VB595962
d. Personal finance (saving, investment, taxes, credit cards, etc.)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VB595963

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8. To what extent do you use the following sources to learn about **economic issues**? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	
a. Newspapers and magazines	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VB595965
b. Radio and television	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VB595966
c. Internet	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VB595967
d. Family and friends	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VB595968
e. Personal experiences (such as having a job or keeping a budget)	(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	VB595969

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9. Since the beginning of ninth grade, have you ever participated in any of the following **economics-related activities**? Fill in **one or more** ovals on each line.

	Yes, did this for a class	Yes, did this, but <u>not</u> for a class	No, never did this	
a. Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VB595972
b. DECA (an association of marketing students)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VB595973
c. Junior Achievement	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VB595974
d. Club (includes such things as an economics, entrepreneurship, or investment club)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VB595975
e. Academic competition (includes such things as Fed Challenge, Economics Challenge, or Academic Decathlon)	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VB595976
f. Stock market game/simulation	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VB595979
g. Student-managed school store	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VB595980
h. Student-managed credit union or bank	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VB595981
i. Other (specify) _____	<input type="radio"/> A	<input type="radio"/> B	<input type="radio"/> C	VB607182

Section 4

10. **Last summer**, how much did you work?
Include work you did for pay or for a family business.

VB607183

- Ⓐ Did not work at all
- Ⓑ Worked once in awhile or less than 5 hours a week
- Ⓒ Worked between 5 and 10 hours a week
- Ⓓ Worked between 11 and 20 hours a week
- Ⓔ Worked more than 20 hours a week

11. **Currently**, how much do you work?
Include work you do for pay or for a family business.

VB607184

- Ⓐ Do not work at all
- Ⓑ Work once in awhile or less than 5 hours a week
- Ⓒ Work between 5 and 10 hours a week
- Ⓓ Work between 11 and 20 hours a week
- Ⓔ Work more than 20 hours a week

12. How hard was this test compared to most other tests you have taken this year in school?

VB595182

- Ⓐ Easier than other tests
- Ⓑ About as hard as other tests
- Ⓒ Harder than other tests
- Ⓓ Much harder than other tests

13. How hard did you try on this test compared to how hard you tried on most other tests you have taken this year in school?

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- Ⓐ Not as hard as on other tests
- Ⓑ About as hard as on other tests
- Ⓒ Harder than on other tests
- Ⓓ Much harder than on other tests

14. How important was it to you to do well on this test?

VB595184

- Ⓐ Not very important
- Ⓑ Somewhat important
- Ⓒ Important
- Ⓓ Very important

