

Civics, Geography, U.S. History & Writing School Background Questionnaire

2010 Grade 8

SCHOOL QUESTIONNAIRE GRADE 8

During the 2009–2010 school year, a sample of students across the country, including some students from your school, will be given a series of questions as part of the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). The current assessment focuses on achievement in civics, geography, U.S. history, and writing. As part of the assessment, NAEP will investigate the relationship between students' achievement and various school, teacher, and home factors that may influence this achievement. We are asking your school to complete this questionnaire about school factors. This questionnaire should be completed by the principal or other head administrator.

We realize that you are very busy; however, we urge you to complete the questionnaire as carefully as possible. The information you provide is being collected for research purposes only and will be kept strictly confidential.

NAEP is authorized under Public Law 107–110. While your participation is voluntary, your responses to these questions are needed to make this survey accurate and complete.

Instructions

Please record your answers online, following the instructions on the front cover. If you do not have Internet access, please answer questions directly on this questionnaire by filling in the appropriate ovals.

If you do answer questions directly on this questionnaire, please return the questionnaire to your school's NAEP coordinator when you are finished.

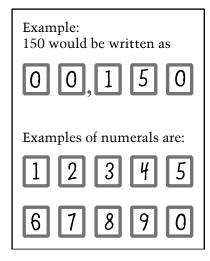
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

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School Questionnaire - Grade 8

This questionnaire should be completed by the principal or the head of the school.

Some of the questions that follow ask you to fill in specific numbers. For those questions, please print the appropriate numbers in the boxes provided. Please PRINT LEGIBLY. Using one number per box, fill in every box. Keep all printing within the boxes. Do not make any stray marks. Use only a No. 2 pencil.



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Part I: School Characteristics and Policies

1. Wha	at grades are taught in your school? Fill in all ovals that apply.	VB337248
	Pre-kindergarten	
®	Kindergarten	
0	1st grade	
(2nd grade	
(Ē)	3rd grade	
Ð	4th grade	
©	5th grade	
\oplus	6th grade	
Ф	7th grade	
(8th grade	
€	9th grade	
(10th grade	
(M)	11th grade	
\bigcirc	12th grade	
		VB556165
2. Do a	all students in your school follow the same school calendar?	
(A)	Yes \rightarrow Go to Question 3.	
$^{ ext{ B}}$	No \rightarrow Skip to Question 4.	
3. Plea	use indicate the number of hours of instruction that eighth-grade students in your scappleted as of February 1, 2010. Fill in the blocks below and then <i>skip to Question 5</i> .	vc346268 hool
	hours of instruction as of February 1, 2010	
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VR60	17887

4. For each group of students following a separate calendar, please indicate the number of hour of instruction that eighth-grade students in your school completed as of February 1, 2010.						
First group: hours of instruction a	s of February 1, 2010	VB607888				
Second group: hours of instruction a	s of February 1, 2010	VB607889				
Third group: hours of instruction as of February 1, 2010						
5. What is the current enrollment in your school?		VB337250				
6. Approximately what percentage of eighth-graders in your (Please be sure your answers sum to 100%.)	school	VC189012				
a. is new this year ?	%	VC189050				
b. has been attending your school for 1–2 years?	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	VC189051				
c. has been attending your school for 3 or more years?	\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\\	VC189053				
TOTAL	100%					

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7. Of	the students	currently	enrolled in	your school,	what per	centage has	s been	identifi	ied as
lin	nited-English	proficient	?		-	<u> </u>			

◎ 0%

® 1–5%

© 6-10%

① 11-25%

© 26-50%

© 51-75%

© 76–90%

① Over 90%

VC310911

8. Is your school a public **charter** school?

(A charter school is a public school that, in accordance with an enabling state statute, has been granted a charter exempting it from selected state or local rules and regulations. A charter school may be a newly created school or it may previously have been a public or private school.)

A Yes

® No

774	\mathbb{C}^3	11	Ω 1	1

9. What other type of school is this? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Yes	No	
a. Regular elementary school	(A)	® '	/C311014
b. A regular school with a magnet program	(A)	® '	C311015
c. A magnet school or a school with a special program emphasis, e.g., science/math school, performing arts school, talented/gifted school, foreign language immersion school	(A)	® '	7C311016
d. Special education: a school that primarily serves students with disabilities	(A)	®	C311017
e. Alternative: a school that offers a curriculum designed to provide alternative or nontraditional education, not clearly categorized as regular, or special education, or vocational	A	(B)	7C311018
f. Private (independent)	(A)	B	C311020
g. Private (religiously affiliated)	(A)	B	/C311021
h. Privately run public school	(A)	B	/C311022
i. Other	A	B '	/C311024

HE000917

10. About what percentage of your students is absent on an average day? (Include excused and unexcused absences in calculating this rate.)

- ♠ 0-2%
- ® 3-5%
- © 6-10%
- More than 10%

LC		

- 11. About what percentage of your teachers is absent on an average day? (Include all absences in calculating this rate.)
 - ♠ 0-2%
 - ® 3–5%
 - © 6-10%
 - More than 10%

HE000918

- 12. About what percentage of students who are enrolled at the beginning of the school year is still enrolled at the end of the school year? (Exclude students who transfer into the school during the school year in figuring this rate.)

 - ® 95–97%
 - © 90–94%
 - © 80-89%
 - © 70–79%
 - © 60-69%
 - © 50-59%
 - ⊕ Less than 50%

HE002230

- 13. About what percentage of this year's eighth-graders was held back and is repeating eighth grade?
 - **(A)** 0%
 - **®** 1–2%
 - © 3–5%
 - © 6-10%
 - © More than 10%

14. Of the full-time te	eachers who started i	n your school last	year, what percer	ntage left before the
end of the school y		•		

- **(A)** 0%
- ® 1−2%
- © 3–5%
- © 6-10%
- © 11-15%
- © 16-20%
- © More than 20%

HE002094

15. Does your school participate in the National School Lunch Program?

- **®** No → *Skip to Question 19.*

VB556173

16. How does the school operate the program?

- Student eligibility is determined individually, and eligible students receive free or reduced-price lunch. → Skip to Question 18.
- B All students in school receive free lunch under special provisions (e.g., Provision 2 or 3). \rightarrow *Go* to *Question 17*.

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- 17. If your school distributes free lunch to all students under Provision 2 or 3, what was the base year during which individual student eligibility was collected?
 - This school does not distribute free lunch to all students under Provision 2 or 3—eligibility is determined annually.
 - ® 2009
 - © 2008
 - © 2007
 - © 2006
 - © 2005
 - © 2004 or earlier

VB608487

- 18. During this school year, about what percentage of students in your school was eligible to receive a free or reduced-price lunch through the National School Lunch Program?
 - **a** 0%
 - **®** 1−5%
 - © 6-10%
 - © 11-25%
 - © 26-34%
 - © 35-50%
 - © 51-75%
 - ⊕ 76–99%
 - **100%**

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- 19. Does your school receive Title I funding? (Title I is a federally funded program that provides educational services, such as remedial reading or remedial math, to children who live in areas with high concentrations of low-income families.)
 - No
 - Yes, our school receives funds, which are targeted to eligible students.
 - Tes, our school receives funds, which are used for schoolwide purposes.

VB485284

20. Approximately what percentage of students in your school receives the following services? Fill in **one** oval on each line. Students who receive more than one service should be counted for each service they receive. Please report the percentage of students who receive each of the following services as of the day you respond to this questionnaire.

	None	1-5%	6-10%	11-25%	26-50%	51-75%	76-90%	Over 90%	
a. Targeted Title I services	lack	B	0	•	(E)	(Ē)	©	\oplus	VB610145
b. Gifted and talented program	(A)	®	0	0	Œ	(Ē)	©	\oplus	VB485286
c. Instruction provided in student's home language (non-English)	(A)	B	©	0	(E)	(F)	©	\oplus	VB485287
d. English-as-a-second- language (not in a bilingual education program)	(A)	B	©	•	©	(Ē)	©	\oplus	VB485288
e. Special education	lack	B	©	((E)	(Ē)	©	\oplus	VB485289

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VE101901
21. During a typical week of school, what is the total number of regularly scheduled volunteers working in the school?
(A) 0
® 1-3
© 4-6
© 7–10
© More than 10
VEI01552
For all teacher counts entered in item 22:
INCLUDE these types of teachers:
 Regular Special area or resource teachers (e.g., special education, Title I, art, music,
physical education)
• Long-term substitute teachers
INCLUDE these types of teachers:
 Itinerant teachers who teach part-time at this school
 Employees reported in other items of this section if they also have a part-time teaching assignment at this school
teaching assignment at this school
DO NOT INCLUDE:
 Student teachers Short-term substitute teachers
• Teachers who teach ONLY pre-kindergarten or adult education
22. Around the first of October, how many TEACHERS held full-time or part-time positions or assignments in this school? <i>If none, mark (0) in the boxes.</i>
a. Full-time
Full-time teachers
b. Part-time
Part-time teachers

Part II: Civics, Geography, and U.S. History

For the purposes of this questionnaire, "civics" means the study of basic concepts about the theory and practice of constitutional democracy in the United States. Also included is the development of intellectual and participatory civic skills, as well as the disposition to assume the rights and responsibilities of individuals in society.

VB33839

1. At what grade do students in your school typically take the following classes? Fill in **all** ovals that apply.

	6th grade	7th grade	8th grade	9th grade	is not offered in my school.	
a. A class primarily focused on U.S. history	A	₿	0	0	Œ	VB338392
b. A class primarily focused on geography	(A)	B	0	0	Ē	VB338393
c. A class primarily focused on civics or government	(A)	₿	0	0	(E)	VB608491

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E015667

2. To what extent have you emphasized each of the following topics in your eighth-grade U.S. history curriculum? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	This topic is not offered in my school.	
a. Change and continuity in U.S. democracy	A	®	©	0	Œ	VE015668
b. Gatherings and interactions of people from various cultures	(A)	(B)	©	0	©	VE015669
c. Technological changes	(A)	$^{ ext{ B}}$	©	0	€	VE015670
d. Economic changes	(A)	$^{ ext{ B}}$	©	0	(E)	VE015671
e. Changing role of the U.S. in the world	(A)	$^{ ext{ B}}$	©	0	Œ	VE015672

VE015673

3. To what extent have you emphasized each of the following topics in your eighth-grade civics or government curriculum? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	is not offered in my school.	
a. Politics and government	lack	®	©	0	Œ	VE015674
b. Foundations of the U.S. political system	A	₿	0	•	Œ	VE015675
c. The U.S. Constitution	A	₿	©	(Œ	VE015676
d. World affairs	lack	₿	©	0	Œ	VE015677
e. Roles of citizens in U.S. democracy	A	$^{ ext{ B}}$	©	•	(Ē)	VE015678

VE015679

4. To what extent have you emphasized each of the following topics in your eighth-grade geography curriculum? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	This topic is not offered in my school.	
a. Space and place (i.e., basic concepts of physical and human geography)	A	₿	©	0	Œ	VE015680
b. Environment and society (i.e., how people adapt to, depend on, and are affected by the natural environment)	(A)	(B)	©	0	©	VE015681
c. Spatial dynamics and connections (i.e., variation among regions and how people interact across space via communication, transportation, trade)	(A)	(B)	©	•	©	VE015682

VE015686

5. Does your school offer any of the following services for eighth-grade students who fall behind or need extra help in social studies (e.g., U.S. history, civics, or geography)? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Yes	No	
a. Tutoring	(A)	®	VE015687
b. Placement of instructional aides in classrooms to provide assistance	A	®	VE015690
c. Use of instructional aides for pull-out instruction	(A)	®	VE015691
d. Extra work or homework	(A)	®	VE015694
e. Before- or after-school programs	(A)	®	VE015695
f. Saturday classes	(A)	®	VE015696
g. Summer school program	(A)	®	VE015697
h. Extra help for English language learners	lack	®	VE015698

VE015700

6. To what extent is your school's social studies program for eighth-graders (e.g., U.S. history, civics, or geography) structured according to the following resources? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	
a. District curriculum standards or frameworks	(A)	B	0	•	VE015702
b. State curriculum standards or frameworks	(A)	B	0	(D)	VE015701
c. National curriculum standards or frameworks	(A)	$^{ ext{ B}}$	0	0	VE230059
d. School-based curriculum standards or frameworks	(A)	B	0	0	VE015703
e. Results from district or school assessments	A	B	0	0	VE015705
f. Results from state assessments	(A)	®	©	•	VE015704
g. Results from national assessments	(A)	®	0	•	VE230060
h. Recommendations from district social studies department	A	®	0	•	VE015706
i. Discretion of individual teachers	(A)	®	©	•	VE015707
j. Commercially designed programs	(A)	®	©	(VE015708

VE015709

7. To what extent does your school's eighth-grade social studies curriculum (e.g., U.S. history, civics, or geography) focus on preparation for the following types of assessments? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Not at all	Small extent	Moderate extent	Large extent	
a. District or school assessments	A	®	0	0	VE015711
b. State assessments	A	®	0	0	VE015710
c. National assessments	(A)	®	©	(VE230061

G2SQ-CGH

Part III: Writing

VE230116 1. In your school, are any of the following resources available to English/language arts teachers? Fill in one oval on each line. Yes No VE230117 \bigcirc a. Mentor or lead teacher assigned to help new B English/language arts teachers with lesson plans, teaching strategies, classroom organization, etc. VE230118 b. Mentor or lead teacher assigned to help **(A)** B experienced English/language arts teachers with lesson plans, teaching strategies, classroom organization, etc. VE230119 c. Reading and/or English/language arts specialist **(A)** B VE032835 2. Are the following activities/programs offered in your school? Fill in **one or more ovals** on each line. Yes, provided by Yes. provided professionals by school outside of or district my school or district No personnel VE032874 B 0 \bigcirc a. Schoolwide writing initiative, such as specific guidelines or objectives for school writing instruction VE032877 \bigcirc B 0 b. Literacy or writing coaching for teachers VE032894 c. Professional development in writing or teaching **(A)** B \odot writing—for English/language arts teachers only VE032897 d. Professional development in writing or teaching **(A)** B 0 writing—for all teachers

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3. To what extent are students at your school asked to write in content areas other that English/language arts—for example, in social studies, science, or mathematics class	
Not at all	
® Small extent	
© Moderate extent	
① Large extent	
4. Does your school evaluate students' computer proficiency?	VE23012
♠ Yes	
® No	
5. Does your school have policies on what students are allowed to do on school composition (for example, access to the Internet, downloading, or use of certain software)?	vE230123 uters
(A) Yes	
® No	
6. Does your school offer school-sponsored extracurricular activities such as clubs, competitions, fairs, or exhibits involving writing activities?	VE230124
Yes	
® No	

7. Does your school or district offer summer programs in writing remediation or enrichment to students? Fill in one oval on each line.			
	Yes	No	
a. Remediation	A	®	VE230145
b. Enrichment	A	®	VE230147
8. How many computers does your school have for	student use?		VE230150

Part IV: Supplemental Charter School Questions

This section should be completed by the principal or the head of the school. If your school is a <u>charter</u> school, please continue. If your school is <u>not</u> a charter school, you have finished the survey. Thank you for your time.

1.	Is your school a public charter school?	VC311248
	(A charter school is a public school that, in accordance with an enabling state statute been granted a charter exempting it from selected state or local rules and regulation charter school may be a newly created school or it may previously have been a pub private school.)	ns. A
	igorplus Yes ightharpoonup Go to Question 2.	
	® No \rightarrow You have finished the survey. Thank you for your time.	
2.	In which year did your school start providing instruction as a charter school?	VC104697
3.	How many times has your charter been renewed ? (Enter 0 if you have not had to re your charter yet.)	vC311249 enew
	Times If "0 Times" skip to Question 6.	
4.	In which year was your charter most recently renewed?	VC104700

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VC104701	
VC104703	
ımbia	
vc104705 school?	

5.	For	how many years was your charter renewed?	VC104701
	(A)	1 to 3 years	
	®	4 to 5 years	
	0	6 to 10 years	
	(11 or more years	
6.	Wh	o granted your school's original charter?	VC104703
	lack	School district	
	lacktriangle	State board of education (includes State Board of Regents and District of Columboard of Education)	nbia
	0	Postsecondary institution	
	0	State charter-granting agency	
	(E)	City or state public charter school board	
	Ð	Other	
7.	Is y	our charter school a newly created school or was it converted from a pre-existing s	vc104705 school?
	(A)	Newly created school → <i>Skip to Question 9</i> .	
	$^{ ext{ $	Converted from a pre-existing school \rightarrow <i>Go to Question</i> 8.	
8.	Was	s the pre-existing school a public school or a private school?	VC104756
	lack	Public school	
	$^{ ext{ B}}$	Private school	

G2SQ-CHC

VICI	04758

9.		ich one of the following best describes your charter school's primary focus in term gram content?	ns of
	(A)	We have a comprehensive curriculum with no specialized area of focus.	
	®	We have a special curricular focus, for example, the arts, math/science, foreign language immersion.	
	0	Our curriculum is based on a particular educational theory, for example, Montess open school, Core Knowledge.	sori,
	•	Our curriculum is based on a particular moral philosophy or set of values, for example, African-centered education, character-based education, Eastern philosophy	phy.
10.		ong eighth-grade students who are new to your charter school this year, approximate at percentage performs at or above average on your state assessment? Percent	e013705 tely
11.	Doe	es your school participate in the National School Lunch Program?	E002094

- 1
 - lacktriangle Yes \rightarrow Skip to Question 13.
 - lacktriangle No \rightarrow Go to Question 12.

- 12. Why does your school **not** participate in the National School Lunch Program?
 - My school has eligible students but chooses not to participate in the program.
 - My school does not have students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches.
 - My school does not have a cafeteria or does not serve lunch.
 - Other

G2SQ-CHC

VC1	04	799

- 13. What is the legal status of your school?
 - ① Officially part of the school district or local education agency (LEA)
 - (LEA) Independent from the school district or local education agency
 - © A separate local education agency (LEA) as stipulated by state law

14. Who has **primary control or authority** over the following aspects of your school? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Your school	Management company	District/ charter- granting agency	Governing board/ board of trustees	Other	
a. Total budget	(A)	®	©	•	Œ	VC104825
b. Purchase of supplies and equipment	A	₿	0	0	(Ē)	VC104832
c. School calendar	A	®	©	•	Œ	VC104838
d. Student discipline policies (e.g., suspension/ expulsion)	(A)	₿	0	0	©	VC104842
e. Curriculum	lack	$^{ ext{ $	©	0	Ē	VC104844
f. Personnel, including hiring of teaching staff	(A)	®	©	0	Œ	VC104846

15. In which of the following areas is your school monitored/audited by the state or your school's charter-granting agency? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Yes, by state	Yes, by charter-granting agency	Not monitored	
a. Curriculum topics taught	(A)	®	©	VC319867
b. Teaching methods used	(A)	₿	0	VC319869
c. Student achievement	(A)	®	0	VC319870
d. Student behavior	(A)	®	0	VC319871
e. Student attendance	(A)	®	0	VC319873
f. School governance	(A)	$^{ ext{ $	0	VC319874
g. School finances	(A)	®	0	VC319875
h. Compliance with state or federal regulations	(A)	®	0	VC319876
i. Special education services	A	B	©	VC319878

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16. Are you **required** to report directly to any of the following groups on your school's progress? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	Yes	No	
a. Chartering agency	A	■ VC	104943
b. Parents	A	® VC	104944
c. Community/general public	A	® VC	104945
d. School governing board	A	® VC	104946
e. Private funders or donors	A	® VC	104947
f. State board of education	A	(B) VC	104948
g. State department of education (if this is not the chartering agency)	(A)	® vc	104949
h. Legislature	(A)	B VC	104950

VC345938

- 17. Have you asked parents why they chose to send their children to your school this year?
 - igotimes No
 ightharpoonup You have finished the survey. Thank you for your time.
 - B Yes, we have asked some parents about this. \rightarrow *Go to Question 18.*
 - \bigcirc Yes, we have asked all or most of the parents. \rightarrow *Go to Question 18.*

18. Of the parents you asked, about how many indicated that they chose to send their children to your school for the following reasons? Fill in **one** oval on each line.

	None	Less than half	About half	About three- quarters	All or almost all	Did not ask	
 a. Their child was performing poorly in another school. 	(A)	B	©	0	Œ	Ð	VC316413
b. They wanted a more rigorous curriculum for their child.	(A)	B	0	0	(E)	(Ē)	VC316414
c. They wanted the particular curricular focus this school has.	(A)	B	0	0	(E)	(Ē)	VC316416
d. They wanted a safer environment for their child.	(A)	B	©	0	Ē	Ð	VC316418
e. They were seeking greater parental involvement in their child's education.	(A)	B	©	•	Œ	(F)	VC316424
f. They wanted smaller class sizes.	(A)	B	©	0	Œ	Ð	VC316428
g. Other reason	(A)	®	©	0	(E)	(Ē)	VC316431