



National Survey of **Early Care & Education**

Workforce [Classroom Staff]

Questionnaire – revised 11/28/11

Classroom Staff Questionnaire

QUEXLANG

PLEASE SELECT THE LANGUAGE IN WHICH YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONDUCT THE INTERVIEW

- ENGLISH
- SPANISH

INTRODUCTION Intro

This study is about the experiences of people who work in early care and education programs for children under age 13. It is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago. Your participation in this study will help the government better support the people who care for our nation's children.

This interview takes about 20 minutes, and your participation is voluntary. You may choose not to answer any questions you don't wish to answer, or end the interview at any time. We have systems in place to protect your identity and keep your responses private. There is only a small chance that your information could be accidentally disclosed. For that reason we avoid questions that could cause difficulty for you. This study also has a Federal Certificate of Confidentiality from the government which protects researchers and other staff from being forced to release information that could be used to identify participants in court proceedings. You should understand, however, that we would take necessary action to prevent serious harm to children, including reporting to authorities.

Parts of this interview may be recorded for quality control purposes. This will not compromise the strict confidentiality of your responses. May I continue with the recording?

R CONSENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SURVEY..... 1

R CONSENTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SURVEY BUT DOES NOT WANT TO BE RECORDED..... 2

WEB: Thank you for taking part in this study, which is about the experiences of people who work in early care and education programs for children under age 13. It is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago. Your participation in this study will help the government better support the people who care for our nation's children.

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Please enter your login ID and password below and then click the "Continue" button.

You can click on the 'PREVIOUS' button to go back and change your answers if needed. Clicking 'STOP' will save your responses and allow you to return to the last question you answered the next time you

access the survey.

Please enter your login ID and password below.

C1_1. C1_Agegroup

This questionnaire asks about your work at [PROGRAM]. We selected you for this survey based on time you spent in a classroom or group for [INSERT AGE GROUP] children. Is that the age group that you work with most often?

1 YES (GO TO A1)

2 NO (ASK C1_2)

C1_2. C1_mostoften

What age group do you work with most often?

1. Infant and Toddler (birth to age 3)
2. Pre-school (age 3 years to kindergarten)
3. School-age (kindergarten and older)

Section A. Capacitación y experiencia

A1. The first questions are about your experiences providing early or school-age care and education and your training to do this work.

How long have you worked in your program?

Years Months

A2. *How many years of paid experience do you have working with children other than your own, who are under age 13? Please include any paid experience in a home or center-based setting, including relatives, or paid experience you may have from another country.*

Years Months

A2a.

Since you turned 18, have you done paid work with children under age 13 in a home-based setting?

1 YES

2 NO

A3. What is the highest grade or level of schooling that you have ever completed?

INTERVIEWER: READ IF NECESSARY

1 8th GRADE OR LESS (SKIP TO A6)

2 9th-12th GRADE NO DIPLOMA (SKIP TO A6)

3 GED OR HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY (SKIP TO A6)

3 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE (SKIP TO A6)

4 SOME COLLEGE CREDIT BUT NO DEGREE

- 5 ASSOCIATE DEGREE (AA, AS)
- 6 BACHELOR'S DEGREE (BA, BS, AB)
- 7 GRADUATE OR PROFESSIONAL DEGREE

Programmer: only ask A5 if response to A3 = 4-7. Otherwise skip to A6.

A5. What was your major for the highest degree you have or have studied for?

- 1 ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
- 2 SPECIAL EDUCATION
- 3 CHILD DEVELOPMENT OR PSYCHOLOGY
- 4 EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION OR EARLY OR SCHOOL-AGE CARE
- 5 OTHER _____

A6. Do you have a state certification or endorsement for early care and education or school -age care, such as a certificate from the state or a Child Development Associate (CDA) certificate?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO

A7. In the past 12 months, have you done any of the following to improve your skills or gain new skills in working with children?

a. Participated in any workshops, for example, those offered by professional associations, resource and referral networks, etc.? 1 YES 2 NO

b. (In the past 12 months, have you done any of the following to improve your skills or gain new skills in working with children?) Participated in coaching, mentoring or ongoing consultation with a specialist?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO

c. (In the past 12 months, have you done any of the following to improve your skills or gain new skills in working with children?) Made visits to classrooms in other programs?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO

d. (In the past 12 months, have you done any of the following to improve your skills or gain new skills in working with children?) Attended a meeting of a professional organization (such as Zero-to-Three, Association for Education of Young Children; Association for Family Child Care, National After School Association, or another group)?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO

e. (In the past 12 months, have you done any of the following to improve your skills or gain new skills in working with children?) Enrolled in a course at a community college or four-year college or university relevant to your work with children under age 13?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO

If A7_workshop=1, we need to ask a new follow-up question:

Was that a single workshop or a series of several sessions?

1. SINGLE WORKSHOP
2. WORKSHOP SERIES

IF YES TO A7A TO A7E, ASK A8A. ELSE GO TO A9.

A8a. Did you participate in any of these activities as part of a group from your program?

- 1 YES
2 NO

A8b: During the past 12 months, did you receive any of the following types of assistance with the costs of improving your skills, either from your employer or from a local or state agency, college or university?

1. Assistance with direct costs such as tuition or registration fees

- 1 YES 2 NO

2. (During the past 12 months, did you receive) Help with other costs of participation such as travel or child care for your own children

- 1 YES 2 NO

3. (During the past 12 months, did you receive) Release time to participate in the activity

- 1 YES 2 NO

A8c. What would you say was the main topic of the most recent activity you participated in to improve or gain skills in working with children? For example, was it focused on health and safety, working with families, preparing children to do well in school, techniques for discipline and classroom management, or some other topic? (READ IF NECESSARY) [IF SELF-ADMINISTERED, RECORD VERBATIM/DO NOT SHOW CODES]

1. HEALTH AND SAFETY IN THE CLASSROOM
2. COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING EARLY READING OR MATH
3. DOING WELL IN SCHOOL, INCLUDING HOMEWORK ASSISTANCE, INSTRUCTION OR CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES.
4. HELPING CHILDREN'S SOCIAL OR EMOTIONAL GROWTH, INCLUDING HOW TO BEHAVE WELL.
5. PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT AND HEALTH
6. HOW TO WORK WITH FAMILIES
7. SERVING CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL OR BEHAVIORAL NEEDS.
8. WORKING WITH CHILDREN WHO SPEAK MORE THAN ONE LANGUAGE
9. PLANNING ACTIVITIES THAT MEET THE NEEDS OF THE WHOLE CLASS
10. OTHER _____ Please specify what the main topic of the most recent activity you participated in to improve or gain skills in working with children was.

A9. Are you a member of a professional association focused on caring for children (such as the National Association for the Education of Young Children, the National Family Child Care Association, the National Institute on Out of School Time, a religiously identified child care organization, or a similar organization)?

1 YES

2 NO

A10. Are you a member of a union (such as Service Employees International Union, American Federation of Teachers, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) or the Teamsters)?

1 YES

2 NO

A11. Which one of the following best describes the main reason that you work with young children?

CODE ONE ONLY.

1. It is my career or profession
2. It is a step towards a related career
3. It is my personal calling
4. It is a job with a paycheck
5. It is work I can do while my own children are young
6. It is a way to help children
7. It is a way to help parents
8. None of these reasons apply
9. DK/REF

Section B.

These next questions are about your work hours and compensation.

B1. Approximately how many hours per week do you usually work at this program?

NUMBER OF HOURS

B1a. How many different classrooms or groups do you work with during a usual week?

_____ Number of classrooms or groups

B2. How many months out of the last twelve have you worked at this or another child care program?

_____ NUMBER (RANGE: 0 TO 12)

B4. How much are you paid before taxes and deductions? Is it per....PROBE FOR BEST ESTIMATE IF NEEDED.

\$ _____ per
1 hour

- 2 day
- 3 week
- 4 month
- 5 year
- 6 other _____

B5. In this job, do you work mostly with children who have mental, physical or other disabilities or delays?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO

B6. What is your title at this program?

- 1 Director and Teacher
- 2 Program Coordinator
- 3 Lead Teacher or Lead Instructor
- 4 Teacher or Instructor
- 5 Assistant Teacher or Instructor
- 6 Aide,
- 7 or Something else (please specify: _____)

B7.

What kind of health insurance or health care coverage do you have for yourself? (CODE ALL MENTIONS, USE CATEGORIES TO PROBE AS NEEDED).

- 1. PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN FROM YOUR EMPLOYER OR WORKPLACE
- 2. Private health insurance plan through your spouse or partner's employment
- 3. PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN PURCHASED DIRECTLY
- 4. PRIVATE HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN THROUGH A STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT OR COMMUNITY PROGRAM
- 5. MEDICAID
- 6. MEDICARE
- 7. MILITARY HEALTH CARE/VA OR CHAMPUS/TRICARE/CHAMP-VA
- 8. NO COVERAGE OF ANY TYPE
- 9. OTHER (SPECIFY)

B7_Other

Please specify the kind of health insurance or health care coverage you have for yourself.

B9. In the past 3 months, have you done anything to look for a new job or an additional job?

- 1 YES (ASK B9A)
- 2 NO (SKIP TO SECTION C)

B9a. What is the main reason you have looked for work? [IF INTERVIEWER ADMINISTERED, USE CATEGORIES ONLY TO PROBE. IF SELF-ADMINISTERED, RECORD VERBATIM WITH NO FRAME PRESENT.]

- 1 TO FIND A SECOND JOB
- 2 TO FIND A JOB THAT PAYS MORE
- 3 WORRIED THAT THIS JOB MAY END
- 4 HOPE TO REDUCE COMMUTE OR IMPROVE SCHEDULE

- 5 TO FIND IMPROVED WORK CONDITIONS IN PROGRAM
- 6 WANT TO LEAVE THIS FIELD
- 7 TO SEE WHAT ELSE IS AVAILABLE
- 8 TO FIND SUMMER EMPLOYMENT
- 9 OTHER _____

B9_reason_other

What is the main reason you have looked for work?

Section C. Activities

C1.C1_dayswork

Last week, how many days did you work at this program?

____ days (range 0-7)

C1A. C1_curriculum

Do you use a curriculum or prepared set of learning and play activities?

- 1. YES
- 2. NO

IF C1A=1, ASK C1B. ELSE GO TO C3.

IF C1A=1, ASK C1B. ELSE GO TO C3.

C1B. What is the name of the curriculum or approach used?

- 0. A curriculum we developed ourselves
- 6. Other (specify _____)
- 7. None

Non School-age

C3. Do you plan or help plan the daily activities of the children in this classroom or group?

- 1 YES →ASK C3A
- 2 NO → (SKIP TO C4)

C3a. _whenplan

When do you plan daily activities ?

- 1 While caring for children
- 2 Time while at work, but not caring for children
- 3 Don't make specific plans
- 4 personal time when I am not at work
- 5 DK/REF

C3b. C3b3_timeplan

How much time do you spend each week planning children's activities?

Hours per week

Range: 0-168

C4. C4_screen

Last week, **when children were with you**, how many days did they use something with a screen, such as a TV, computer or electronic game, even if it was for a short time?

1 _____ NUMBER OF DAYS

WE NEVER USE ANYTHING WITH A SCREEN

C2a. How many days in the past week did you do any of the following with the children as a planned activity? Please enter 0 if you did not do these things with children any day last week, or if they were done, but they had not been planned.

(Children not yet school-age)

A. Learning activities that you planned for child(ren) such as learning letters and reading or numbers and counting: _____ DAYS

B. Free time for children to read or explore on their own _____ DAYS

C. Vigorous activity in games that you organize and supervise _____ DAYS

D. Vigorous activity that the children select and do without direct supervision ____ DAYS

E. Singing and movement planned in advance _____ DAYS

F. Helping children with basic needs such as eating, toileting/diapering, or getting dressed.
_____ DAYS

(School-age children)

A. Learning activities that you planned for child(ren) such as learning reading, math or science ____ DAYS

B. Free time for children to do homework or read on their own _____ DAYS

C. Vigorous activity in games that you organize and supervise _____ DAYS

D. Vigorous activity that the children select and do without direct supervision ____ DAYS

E Free time for social activities or socializing with other children _____ DAYS

Section D. Staff attitudes and orientation to caregiving:

Attitudes toward education and caregiving are important parts of how people do their work.

D1. Please indicate how much you personally agree or disagree with the following statements.

		STRONGLY DISAGREE	DISAGREE	NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE	AGREE	STRONGLY AGREE
A	In my opinion, children should always obey their parents. Would you say you strongly disagree, disagree, neither agree or disagree, agree, or strongly agree?	1	2	3	4	5
B	In my opinion, children will not do the right thing unless they must. (Would you say you strongly disagree, disagree, neither agree or disagree, agree, or strongly agree?)					
C	In my opinion, the most important thing to teach children is absolute obedience to whomever is the authority. (Would you say you strongly disagree, disagree, neither agree or disagree, agree, or strongly agree?)					
D	In my opinion, a child's ideas should be considered in family decisions. (Would you say you strongly disagree, disagree, neither agree or disagree, agree, or strongly agree?)					
E	In my opinion, children have a right to their own point of view and should be allowed to express it. (Would you say you strongly disagree, disagree, neither agree or disagree, agree, or strongly agree?)					
F	In my opinion, children should be allowed to disagree with their parents if they feel their own ideas are better. (Would you say you strongly disagree, disagree,					

	neither agree or disagree, agree, or strongly agree?)					
G	In my opinion, children will be bad unless they are taught what is right. (Would you say you strongly disagree, disagree, neither agree or disagree, agree, or strongly agree?)					
H	In my opinion, children should always obey the teacher. (Would you say you strongly disagree, disagree, neither agree or disagree, agree, or strongly agree?)					
I	In my opinion, it is alright for a child to disagree with his or her own parents. (Would you say you strongly disagree, disagree, neither agree or disagree, agree, or strongly agree?)					
J	In my opinion, parents should go along with the game when their child is pretending something. (Would you say you strongly disagree, disagree, neither agree or disagree, agree, or strongly agree?)					

**Please indicate the degree to which you agree/disagree with the following statements.
Indique la medida en que está de acuerdo o en desacuerdo con las siguientes afirmaciones.**

D2A. Preschool children are too young to benefit from activities that teach them how to read. Would you say you strongly agree, agree, neither agree or disagree, disagree or strong disagree with this statement?

1. STRONGLY AGREE
2. AGREE
3. NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE
4. DISAGREE
5. STRONGLY DISAGREE

D2B. **(Please indicate the degree to which you agree/disagree with the following statements.)** Young children do best when teachers are actively involved in organizing their play and activities, rather than

letting them decide their own activities. (Would you say you strongly agree, agree, neither agree or disagree, disagree or strong disagree with this statement?)

1. STRONGLY AGREE
2. AGREE
3. NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE
4. DISAGREE
5. STRONGLY DISAGREE

D2C. (Please indicate the degree to which you agree/disagree with the following statements.)

After-school programs help children most when they focus on help with homework and other academically-oriented activities. (Would you say you strongly agree, agree, neither agree or disagree, disagree or strong disagree with this statement?)

1. STRONGLY AGREE
2. AGREE
3. NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE
4. DISAGREE
5. STRONGLY DISAGREE

D2D. (Please indicate the degree to which you agree/disagree with the following statements.)

Children gain the most from after-school activities that focus on recreation and social interaction. (Would you say you strongly agree, agree, neither agree or disagree, disagree or strong disagree with this statement?)

1. STRONGLY AGREE
2. AGREE
3. NEITHER AGREE NOR DISAGREE
4. DISAGREE
5. STRONGLY DISAGREE

D3. How often did the following things happen to you last week at this program?

D3a. Parents came late to pick up their children. Would you say never, once, or more than once in the last week?

- Never
- Once
- More than once

D3b. Parents blamed their child's bad behavior on the program. (¿Diría usted que nunca, una vez o más de una vez durante la semana pasada?)

- Never
- Once
- More than once

D3c. There were children with behavior problems that were hard to deal with. (Would you say never, once, or more than once in the last week?)

- Never
- Once
- More than once

D3d. I knew the children are happy with me. (Would you say never, once, or more than once in the last week?)

- Never
- Once
- More than once

D3e. There were major sources of stress in the children's lives that I couldn't do anything about (Would you say never, once, or more than once in the last week?)

- Never
- Once
- More than once

D3h. (Would you say never, once, or more than once in the last week?)

- Never
- Once
- More than once

D3i. I had the chance to solve difficult problems. (Would you say never, once, or more than once in the last week?)

- Never
- Once
- More than once

D3j. I was moved to a different classroom or group of children. (Would you say never, once, or more than once in the last week?)

- Never
- Once
- More than once

D4. How often last week did you talk with a parent about something happening in the child's family (for example child-parent relationships, stresses like parent's finances and employment; family tensions)? (Would you say not at all, once or twice, or three or more times in the last week?)

- Not at all
- Once or twice
- Three or more times

C10B_C10_interpret

Do you ever need an interpreter or a child to help you speak with the parents of children in your program?

1 YES → ASK C10B1

2 NO → SKIP TO D7

C10B1 C10_numinterpret

How many children in your program have parents that you speak with this way?

_____ Number of children

D7. How often have you and your supervisor (such as center director, program director, or lead teacher) discussed each of the following in the last 12 months?

a. How you can improve your skills helping children learn? Would you say...

1. Once a year
2. Several times a year
3. Once a month
4. A few times a month
5. Once a week or more
6. Never

b. How you can improve your skills working with children's behavior? Would you say...

1. Once a year
2. Several times a year
3. Once a month
4. A few times a month
5. Once a week or more
6. Never

D8. Do you receive a formal review and feedback on your performance at least once a year?

1. YES
2. NO

D9. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements about working in this program?

D9_respect

My co-workers and I are treated with respect on a day-to-day basis. (Would you say you strongly agree, agree, neither agree or disagree, disagree or strong disagree with this statement?)

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

D9_team

Team work is encouraged. (Would you say you strongly agree, agree, neither agree or disagree, disagree or strong disagree with this statement?)

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

D9_helpdeal

I have help dealing with difficult children or parents? (Would you say you strongly agree, agree, neither agree or disagree, disagree or strong disagree with this statement?)

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree nor disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

D10. These questions are about feelings you may have experienced over the past 30 days. During the **past 30 days**, how often did you feel...

	All of the time	Most of the time	Some of the time	A little of the time	None of the time
a. ...so sad that nothing could cheer you up? Would you say...					
b. (During the past 30 days, how often did you feel)...nervous? (Would you say..)					
c. (During the past 30 days, how often did you feel).....restless or fidgety? (Would you say..)					
d. (During the past 30 days, how often did you feel).....hopeless? (Would you say..)					
e. (During the past 30 days, how often did you feel).....that everything was an effort? (Would you say..)					
f. (During the past 30 days, how often did you feel).....worthless? (Would you say..)					

We finish the interview with some questions about your personal characteristics.

E1. [IF INTERVIEWER ADMINISTERED: I am required to ask if you] Are you male or female?

- 1 Male
- 2 Female

E2. In what year were you born? _____ [RANGE = 1900...1999]

E3. Are you of Hispanic or Latino descent?

- 1 YES
- 2 NO

E4. Which of the following are you? Please select one or more.

- 1 White
- 2 Black or African American
- 3 Asian
- 4 Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- 5 American Indian or Alaska Native
- 6 OTHER

E5. Do you speak any languages other than English?

- 1 Yes → ASK E6
- No → GO TO E9

E6. About what percent of the time that you are working with children do you speak English?

_____ % of time speaking English

E9. In what country were you born?

[DROP DOWN]

E10. (IF BORN OUTSIDE OF THE U.S.) In what year did you move to the U.S. to stay?

Range : [E2] to 2012.

E11. What is your current marital status?

- 1 Never married, not living with a partner
- 2 Married or living with a partner
- 3 Separated
- 4 Divorced
- 5 Widowed

E12. How many children age 5 or less are living in your household?

_____ Number

E13. How many children between 6 and 12 are living in your household?

_____ Number

E14. Approximately what was your total household income in 2011, before taxes or deductions?
Please include income from wages and salaries earned by you or other adults in your household.
Also include government assistance, gifts, or other income you may have had.

Dollars → GO TO E17

IF DK/REF, GO TO E15.

E15. It can be difficult to remember or report these numbers and an approximate range is fine. What was your total household income in 2011 before taxes or deductions...

- 1 0 to \$7,500
- 2 \$7,501 to \$15,000
- 3 \$15,001 to \$22,500
- 4 \$22,501 to \$30,000
- 5 \$30,001 to \$45,000
- 6 \$45,001 or more

E17. Approximately how much of your household income in 2011 came from your work with children under age 13?

- 1 All
- 2 Almost all
- 2 More than half
- 3 About half
- 4 Less than half
- 5 Very little
- 6 None

E18. Do you currently receive financial or in-kind assistance from any government programs for needy families, such as cash assistance for disabilities, housing assistance, free-reduced lunch for your children or food stamps?

- 1. YES
- 2. NO

THE END: Thank you for completing the NSECE questionnaire for classroom staff.

WEB Version: Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Please feel free to provide any additional comments or information about your answers in the box below. Otherwise, you can click NEXT to end the survey.