

Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics

Science Education Department



PRISE:

Persistence Research in Science & Engineering Survey of Students in Introductory College English

Researchers at the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics are interested in your experiences in learning science. By filling out this questionnaire you will help us find ways to improve science education for future students. Make your best estimate for each item and answer as many questions as possible. Thank you for your help.

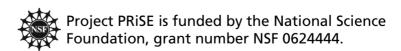
This survey should take between 15 – 25 minutes to complete.

Confidentiality: Your name and any other identifying information will NOT be included in any reports, published or unpublished, arising from this study. Your anonymity is guaranteed.

Thank you for your time!

Use a No. 2 pencil or blue or black ink pen only.

CORRECT MARK INCORRECT MARKS VX



ABOUT YOUR CAREER PLAN DEVELOPMENT:

1. Which of the following BEST describes what you want(ed) to be in middle school, high school (beginning and end), and in college? Mark only ONE choice per column.

	Middle School (Choose one)	Beginning of High School (Choose one)	End of High School (Choose one)	In College (Choose one)
Medical professional (e.g., doctor, dentist, vet.)				
Health professional (e.g., nursing, pharmacy)				
Biologist				
Earth/Environmental scientist				
Astronomer				
Chemist				
Physicist				
Engineer				
Computer scientist				
Other scientist				
Mathematician				
Science teacher				
Math teacher				
Other teacher				
Social scientist (e.g., psychologist, sociologist)				
Business person				
Lawyer				
English/Language Arts specialist				
Other non-science related career				

2. Rate the following factors in terms of their importance for your future career satisfaction:

	lot at all nportant		U/V			Very important
a. Making money	1	2	3	4	5	6
b. Becoming well known	1	(2)	13	4	5	6
c. Helping other people	D \	2	3	4	5	6
d. Having others working under my supervision	1)	(2) \ \	(3)	4	5	6
e. Having job security	1	2	3	4	5	6
f. Working with people rather than objects	1	2	3	4	5	6
g. Inventing new things	1	2	3	4	5	6
h. Developing new knowledge and skills	1	2	3	4	5	6
i. Having lots of family time	1	2	3	4	5	6
j. Having lots of time for myself/friends	Ø 7 _	2	3	4	5	6
k. Making my own decisions	1	2	3	4	5	6
I. Having an easy job	1	2	3	4	5	6
m. Having an exciting job	1	2	3	4	5	6
n. Making use of my talents/abilities	1	2	3	4	5	6
o. Working in an area with lots job opportunities	1	2	3	4	5	6

AROUT VOUR MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE EXPERIENCES:

3	What was your average	grade in	middle	school	science?
э.	wilat was your average	uraue III	IIIIuuie	SCHOOL	Science:

AT	^	Α-	DT	D	D-	CT	•	C-	U	г

4. What was your average grade in middle school math?

Think was your average grade in initialic school matrix.													
A+	Α	A-	B+	В	B-	C+	c	C-	D	F			

5. In middle school, how confident were you about your abilities in

N	lot confident at a	ıll				Extremely confident
Science	1	2	3	4	5	6
Mathematics	1	2	3	4	5	6

6. In middle school, how interested were you in

	t interested at	all	,			Extremely interested
Science	1	2	3	4	5	6
Mathematics	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)

7. What type of school did you go to? Mark all that apply.

Private	Public Charter	Magnet School	 Baccalaureate 	All-male
Public	 Private Religious 	Vocational	Home Schooled	All-female

8. To help us estimate the size of the community you come from, please provide your home ZIP Code and bubble in the corresponding numbers.

	_		_	_
0	0	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9	9

9. What grade did you get in your last high school English course?

A+	Α	A-	B+	В	B-	C+	c	C-	D	F

10. Which of the following math courses did you take in high school? Mark all that apply.

	Algebra IIIntegrated Math	Pre-CalculusTrig./Analytic Geometry	Calculus AP Calculus AB	○ AP Calculus BC
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11. For the most advanced math course you took what was your final grade?

A+	A	Α-	R+	В	R-	C+	(<u> </u>	ָט	F
						0	9 F	7	6	\supset

12. For each of the following standardized tests, please indicate the score you earned on each subtest by marking the appropriate numbers.

- p p p			/	_ \	1 1 1			
SAT		SAT Exam		(ACT)	\ \\	ACT Exa	am	
Score	Math Subtest	Writing C Subtest	Critical Reading Subtest	Score	Math Subtest	English Subtest	Science Reasoning	Reading Subtest
200-300	0 (P	82	\\\\\\\-\4	1100			
310-400				5-8				
410-500		/ 💆)	1 91	9-12				
510-600			\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \	13–16				
610–700		1	$\setminus \bigcirc \setminus \setminus$	17–20				
710–800			1014	21–24				
				25–28				
Did r	not take SAT	│	take ACT	29–32				
				33–36				

13. For the high school <u>science</u> courses you took in biology, chemistry, and physics, please indicate the level of the course, in what high school year you took the course, what grade you earned, and the gender of the teacher. *Mark only ONE level, year, grade, and gender per row. Leave the row blank if you did not take the corresponding course.*

HS		Cou	rse Lev	el		Voor		Toodhair
Course Subject	Regular	Honors	AP	IB	Other Advanced	Year Taken in HS	Final Grade	Teacher Gender
1st Biology						8 9 10 11 12	A+ A A- B+ B B- C+ C C- D F	MF
1st Chem.						8 9 10 11 12	A+ A A- B+ B B- C+ C C- D F	M F
1st Physics						8 9 10 11 12	A+ A A- B+ B B- C+ C C- D F	M F
2 nd Biology						9 10 11 12	A+ A A- B+ B B- C+ C C- D F	M F
2 nd Chem.						9 10 11 12	A+ A A- B+ B B- C+ C C- D F	M F
2 nd Physics						9 10 11 12	A+ A A- B+ B B- C+ C C- D F	M F
Other:	0				0	9 10 11 12	(A+ (A) (A- (B+ (B) (B- (C+ (C- (D) (F)	M F

14. For each of the AP exams you took, please indicate your test score.

1 1 1	2 2 2	3	4	5	○ AP exam not taken ○ AP exam not taken
			4	5	AP exam not taken
1	2				O 711 CAUTITION CURCET
	(2)	3	4	5	AP exam not taken
1	2	3	4	5	AP exam not taken
1	2	3	4	5	AP exam not taken
1	2	3	4	5	AP exam not taken
1	2	3	4	5	AP exam not taken
1	2	3	4	5	AP exam not taken
1	2	3	4	5	AP exam not taken
	1 1	1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2	1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3	1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5 1 2 3 4 5

ABOUT YOUR LAST BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY, AND PHYSICS COURSES IN HIGH SCHOOL:

15. What was required of you to learn the material in your last high school science courses?

Biology:	Very little memorization of facts	1	2	3	4	5	6	A lot of memorization of facts
	Very little conceptual understanding	1	2	3	4	5	6	A lot of conceptual understanding
Chemistry:	Very little memorization of facts	1	2	3	4	5	6	A lot of memorization of facts
	Very little conceptual understanding	1	2	3	4	5	6	A lot of conceptual understanding
Physics:	Very little memorization of facts	1	2	3	4	5	6	A lot of memorization of facts
	Very little conceptual understanding	1	2	3	4	5	6	A lot of conceptual understanding

16. How often did a lab directly address a belief or view you had about the world in your last high school science courses?

	Never				Alı	most every lab	
Biology:	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Chemistry:	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Physics:	1	2	3	4	5	6	

17. How large a role did a textbook play in your last high school science courses?

ı	lot used at a	ıll			Fol	lowed it closely	у
Biology:	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Chemistry:	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Physics:	1	2	3	4	5	6	

18. How many MINUTES, on average, did you spend studying or doing work outside of class each day for your last high school

science course	-3.						60°⊙r
	0	5	10	15	30	45	more
Biology:					ϕ		10
Chemistry:						$\setminus \setminus \bigcirc \setminus$	1 0 1
Physics:			7	Q	10	1101	

19. Please indicate how often the following activities or events occurred:

		None	Very rarely	Once/ month	2–3 times/ month	Once/ week	2-3 times/ week	Every day
Biology:	The teacher lectured to the class							
	Spent time doing individual work in class							
	Tests or guizzes were given							
	You taught your classmates							
	Watched science videos							
	Went on field trips							
	Guest speakers visited your class							
	Did hands-on or lab work							
Chemistry:	The teacher lectured to the class							
	Spent time doing individual work in class							
	Tests or quizzes were given							
	You taught your classmates							
	Watched science videos							
	Went on field trips							
	Guest speakers visited your class							
	Did hands-on or lab work							
Physics:	The teacher lectured to the class							
	Spent time doing individual work in class							
	Tests or quizzes were given							
	You taught your classmates							
	Watched science videos							
	Went on field trips							
	Guest speakers visited your class							
	Did hands-on or lab work							

20a. What was the distribution of male and female students in your last high school science courses?

	All females	More females than males	About equal	More males than females	All males
Biology:	1	2	3	4	5
Chemistry:	1	2	3	4	5
Physics:	1	2	3	4	5

20b. How frequently were all the members of your group during group or lab work the same sex as you?

	Never				A	lmost always	
Biology:	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Chemistry:	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Physics:	(1)	2	(3)	4	(5)	6	

21. Please indicate how often the following occurred during your last high school science class:

		None	Very rarely	Once/ month	2–3 times/ month	Once/ week	2–3 times/ week	Every class
Biology:	Whole class discussions were held							
	Small group work was held							
	Connected science to your everyday-life							
	Connected science to other disciplines							
	You asked questions							
	You answered questions or made comments							
	Other students answered questions or made comments							
	Students were disrespectful to you							
	Students were disrespectful to the teacher							
Chemistry:	Whole class discussions were held	0	0	10	0	0	0	0
	Small group work was held							
	Connected science to your everyday-life			1				
	Connected science to other disciplines		10					
	You asked questions		10	10				
	You answered questions or made comments	9/						
	Other students answered questions or made comments		$\int \Phi$					
	Students were disrespectful to you	$\setminus \bigcirc \setminus$		ϕ				
	Students were disrespectful to the teacher	$(\ \)$	$ \ \ $	ϕ				
Physics:	Whole class discussions were held	16						
	Small group work was held	10	3		Ö		$\overline{}$	
	Connected science to your everyday-life							
	Connected science to other disciplines							
	You asked questions							
	You answered questions or made comments							
	Other students answered questions or made comments							
	Students were disrespectful to you							
	Students were disrespectful to the teacher							

22. Please indicate whether the following were discussed or occurred in your last high school science class:

	Biology	Chemistry	Physics
Science career stages and options			
Benefits of becoming a scientist			
Under-representation of women in science			
Work of female scientists			
Female scientist guest speakers			
Currently relevant science topics (e.g., global warming)			
Ethics related to doing science			
Teacher's science-related personal experiences/stories			

23. Please indicate the number of problems of each type you had to answer in class and for homework:

		None	One/week	Two/week	1-2/Day	3-4/day	5-6/day	6+/day
	Problems with:							
Biology	Long written explanations							
	Calculations							
Chemistry	Long written explanations							
	Calculations							
Physics	Long written explanations							
	Calculations							

24.	Please indicate whether	r the following type	es of questions were ty	pically included on	your science tests or quizzes
47.	riease illulcate wiletilei	i the following type	es di questidiis weie ty	pically iliciduced oil	your science tests or quizzes

	Biology tests	Chemistry tests	Physics tests
Problems that:			
Required calculations			
Could be solved without math			
Drawn from homework			
Involved data analysis			
Required long written responses			
About material covered on previous tests/quizzes			
Required sketching or drawing			
Required memorizations of terms or facts			
Had multiple-choice/true-false format			

25. Rate the quality of your last high school science teachers:

	Poor					Excellent	
Biology Teacher	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Chemistry Teacher	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Physics Teacher	1	2	3	4	5	6	

26.	When was the earliest ex	perience that v	ou remember l	earning about o	or doing science?
	Wilcii Was the carnest cx	perience that y	ou i cilicilibei i	carring about	or adming selectives

O Pre-K	4–6 th grade	○ 9–10 th grade	

27. How do you characterize your earliest experience?

Strongly negative/discouraging	1		 3	— 4	Strongly	po	sitive/	encouragir
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28. Which of the following applied to your experiences while growing up. Mark all that apply

			/ ()	\ \ \	\ \ \	\
 Tinkered with mechanica 	1 -1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 7 - 1 - 1	The form of the contract of th	III a come all a	1) 11 11 1	A - A 1At -	- 1-1
 Inkered with mechanica 	i devices le d	nicycle car lack bi	IIIevs w	neeinarrow	sewing machir	1 (2) (1

- Tinkered with electrical devices (e.g., cars, batteries and bulbs, radio, TV)
- Watched animal behavior (e.g., bird making a nest)
- Observed or studied stars and other astronomical object
- Planted seeds, watched plants grow
- Other science-related activity:

29. How often did you do the following activities outside of school?

	Never	Rarely	Few times a year	Monthly	Weekly	Daily
Participated in science groups/clubs/camps						
Participated in science/math competitions						
Engaged in personal science hobbies						
Read/Watched non-fiction science						
Read/Watched science fiction						
Played computer/video games						
Played sports						

30. Please rate your general interest in the following:

Please rate your general interest in the f	ollowing: Not at all interested					Very interested
HS biology course topics						
Reproduction & development	1	2	3	4	5	6
Evolution	1	2	3	4	5	6
Ecology	1	2	3	4	5	6
Genetics	1	2	3	4	5	6
History & people of biology	1	2	3	4	5	6

	Not at all interested					Very interested
HS chemistry course topics						
Stoichiometry	1	2	3	4	5	6
Organic chemistry	1	2	3	4	5	6
History & people of chemisrty	1	2	3	4	5	6

	Not at all interested					Very interested
HS physics course topics						
Mechanics	1	2	3	4	5	6
Optics/Waves	1	2	3	4	5	6
Electromagnetism	1	2	3	4	5	6
Relativity/Modern Physics	1	2	3	4	5	6
History & people of physics	1	2	3	4	5	6

4

5

6

3

2

1

Mathematics

	Are you male o	
		○ Female
	What is your ra	ce? (For multi-racial, mark all that apply.)
	○ White	Asian American Indian or Alaskan Native
	Black	Pacific Islander Other:
	Are you of Hisp	panic origin?
	◯ Yes	○ No
	Was Fnalish th	e primary spoken language in your household?
	Yes	No
	<u> </u>	
•	What year are	ou in college?
	Freshman	○ Sophomore ○ Other
_	Was your home	e environment supportive of science, for example, did you often visit science museums, or zoos?
•	Not suppor	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
		and the state of t
•	Who encourag	ed you to take science classes? Mark all that apply.
	O No One	○ Mother/Female Guardian ○ Father/Male Guardian
	Siblings	School Counselor Science Teacher
,	What was the h	sighest level of education for your parents/guardians?
•		Less than High High School Some College/ Bachelor's Master's Degree Not
		School Diploma Diploma/GED Associate Degree Degree or higher applicab
	Male parent/gu	ardian
	Female parent/g	
	14/1 * 1 .	
5.	wnich categor	y best fits you and your parents' or guardians' background?
		Born in United States
	You	
	Male Parent or 0	Suardian Yes No n/a

generation of science educators learn from your insights!