

Table 1A. Standard errors for percentage of adult participants who gave selected reasons for participation in work-related courses, by adult characteristics: 2002–03

Characteristic	Reasons for participation						
	Number of adults (thousands)	All adult participants				Employed adult participants ³	
		To maintain or improve skills or knowledge	To learn completely new skills or knowledge	To help change job or career field ¹	To get or keep certificate or license ²	Because employer required or recommended it	To receive a promotion or pay raise
Total	1,052.7	0.5	0.8	0.8	0.9	0.9	0.9
Age							
16 to 30 years	693.1	1.7	1.3	2.0	2.0	2.1	2.3
31 to 40 years	616.0	1.0	1.6	1.6	1.9	1.9	1.7
41 to 50 years	660.9	1.0	1.8	1.3	1.9	1.6	1.4
51 to 65 years	434.9	0.9	1.8	1.1	1.5	1.7	1.2
66 years or older	139.9	3.1	3.5	1.6	3.8	5.2	3.4
Sex							
Male	889.5	0.8	1.3	1.1	1.4	1.3	1.5
Female	696.0	0.8	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.2	1.1
Race/ethnicity							
White, non-Hispanic	967.5	0.7	0.9	0.8	1.1	0.9	1.0
Black, non-Hispanic	364.0	1.5	2.3	2.7	2.5	2.9	3.0
Hispanic	422.1	2.3	2.6	4.0	2.9	3.1	3.4
Asian or Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic	228.8	3.0	5.8	4.9	4.9	5.2	4.2
Other race, non-Hispanic	139.5	3.8	5.8	4.9	5.7	6.7	5.4
Highest education level completed							
Less than a high school diploma/ equivalent	349.7	6.6	5.7	6.7	5.7	6.1	5.0
High school diploma/equivalent	593.7	1.7	2.1	1.6	2.4	2.3	2.7
Some college/vocational/associate's degree	774.7	1.0	1.2	1.5	1.6	1.5	1.5
Bachelor's degree	461.5	0.7	1.5	1.2	1.6	1.4	1.2
Graduate or professional degree	439.8	0.6	2.2	1.3	2.0	1.8	1.2
Employment and occupation							
Employed in last 12 months	1,018.9	0.6	0.9	0.8	1.0	0.9	0.9
Professional/managerial	730.6	0.5	1.2	0.9	1.2	1.3	1.1
Sales/service/clerical	739.5	1.0	1.4	1.3	1.4	1.4	1.8
Trades and labor	552.0	2.6	2.9	2.7	3.1	2.5	2.8
Not employed in last 12 months	292.2	2.8	3.8	3.3	3.7	†	†
Household income							
\$20,000 or less	391.3	4.2	2.5	4.2	3.6	4.6	4.5
\$20,001 to \$35,000	468.6	1.3	2.4	2.6	2.7	2.1	2.8
\$35,001 to \$50,000	497.9	1.5	1.8	2.0	2.5	2.1	2.6
\$50,001 to \$75,000	612.3	1.1	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.8	1.4
\$75,001 or more	858.2	0.7	1.5	0.9	1.5	1.3	1.4

† Not applicable.

¹ Full text as worded in the survey: "To help you change your job or career field, enter the workforce, or start your own business."

² Full text as worded in the survey: "To get or keep a state or industry certificate or license."

³ These items were asked only of adults who reported having worked in the past 12 months and who were not only self-employed.

NOTE: Formal work-related courses include any training, courses, or classes that had an instructor and were related to a job or career, whether or not the respondent had a job when he or she took them. Excluded from this type of adult education are basic skills or GED classes, as well as courses that participants took in pursuit of a formal postsecondary credential or as part of an apprenticeship program. Information was collected on up to four work-related courses or trainings taken in the previous 12 months and reported as work-related. If an adult took more than four courses, four were sampled for data collection.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Adult Education for Work-Related Reasons Survey of the 2003 National Household Education Surveys Program.