

**NHES:96 Youth Civic Involvement Interview**

YINTRO. Hello, this is [INTERVIEWER]. I'm calling for the U.S. Department of Education. We are asking students across the country to volunteer to participate in a confidential study. We are interested in types of learning activities both in school and out of school. These questions usually take about 12 minutes.

**Family Involvement in Education** [Path = All]

*If FIPATH = H, go to YA2.*

YA1. First, how often do you talk with [(your parents)/(your mother/stepmother/foster mother/father/ stepfather/foster father/grandmother/grandfather/aunt/uncle/cousin)]/(ADULT RESPONDENT)/(or mother/stepmother/foster mother/father/stepfather/foster father/grandmother/grandfather/aunt/ uncle/cousin) (or (the) other adult(s) in your household)] about school? Would you say...

- |                 |                                   |   |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>FESCHOOL</b> | Never, . . . . .                  | 1 |
|                 | Less than once a month, . . . . . | 2 |
|                 | Once or twice a month, . . . . .  | 3 |
|                 | About once a week, or . . . . .   | 4 |
|                 | Almost every day? . . . . .       | 5 |

YA2. (First,) In the past month, have you discussed future high school courses or plans after high school with [(your parents)/(your mother/stepmother/foster mother/father/stepfather/foster father/grandmother/grandfather/aunt/uncle/cousin)]/(ADULT RESPONDENT)/(or mother/stepmother/ foster mother/father/stepfather/foster father/grandmother/grandfather/aunt/ uncle/cousin) (or (the) other adult(s) in your household)]/(them/her/him)?

- |                 |               |   |
|-----------------|---------------|---|
| <b>FEFUTURE</b> | YES . . . . . | 1 |
|                 | NO . . . . .  | 2 |

*If FIPATH = H, go to YA6.*

YA3. Would you say that your family is less involved in your (current) school than you would like, about as involved as you would like, or more involved than you would like?

- |                 |                                |   |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>FESCHINV</b> | LESS THAN WOULD LIKE . . . . . | 1 |
|                 | ABOUT RIGHT . . . . .          | 2 |
|                 | MORE THAN WOULD LIKE . . . . . | 3 |

NOTE: Response categories shown in mixed cases (upper and lower) are read to the respondent by the interviewer. Those shown in all upper case are not read.

YA4. Since school started this year, how often has your (current) school expected you to bring home written information or notices for your family? Would you say...

- |                 |                                     |   |             |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|---|-------------|
|                 | Never, . . . . .                    | 1 | (GO TO YA6) |
| <b>FENOTICE</b> | Less than once a month, . . . . .   | 2 | (GO TO YA5) |
|                 | Once or twice a month, or . . . . . | 3 | (GO TO YA5) |
|                 | Once a week or more? . . . . .      | 4 | (GO TO YA5) |

A5. Would you say that you give them the written information or notices...

- |                 |                          |   |
|-----------------|--------------------------|---|
|                 | Almost always, . . . . . | 1 |
| <b>FENOTGIV</b> | Sometimes, or . . . . .  | 2 |
|                 | Hardly ever? . . . . .   | 3 |

YA6. Does your family have any rules for you about...

- |                 |  | YES | NO |
|-----------------|--|-----|----|
| <b>FERBED</b>   | a. [GRD/EQ 6-8] What time you go to bed on school nights? . . . . .              | 1   | 2  |
| <b>FERSCHNT</b> | b. [GRD/EQ 9-12] What time you have to be home on school nights? . . . . .       | 1   | 2  |
| <b>FERHMWRK</b> | c. Doing your homework? . . . . .  | 1   | 2  |
| <b>FERTVTIM</b> | d. Rules about the amount of time you are allowed to watch television? . . . . . | 1   | 2  |
| <b>FERTVPRG</b> | e. Rules about what television programs you are allowed to watch? . . . . .      | 1   | 2  |

YA7. (Do/Does) [(your parents)/(your mother/stepmother/foster mother/father/stepfather/foster father/grandmother/grandfather/aunt/uncle/cousin)/(ADULT RESPONDENT)/(and mother/stepmother/foster mother/father/stepfather/foster father/grandmother/grandfather/aunt/uncle/cousin)(or (the) other adult(s) in your household)]...

- |                 |   |   | SOME- OFTEN TIMES | HARDLY EVER |
|-----------------|---|---|-------------------|-------------|
| <b>FEFAMDEC</b> | a. Talk over important family decisions with you often, sometimes, or hardly ever? . . . . .      | 1 | 2                 | 3           |
| <b>FEYRSIDE</b> | b. Listen to your side of an argument often, sometimes, or hardly ever? . . . . .                 | 1 | 2                 | 3           |
| <b>FERULES</b>  | c. Let you have a say in making up rules that concern you often, sometimes, or hardly ever? . . . | 1 | 2                 | 3           |

*If FIPATH = H, go to YBINTRO. Else, go to YA8.*

YA8. Now I'd like your opinion about your (current) school. Please tell me whether you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree with the following statements:

		SA	A	D	SD
<i>FECHALNG</i>	a. I am challenged at school [ACADEMICALLY] . . . . .	1	2	3	4
<i>FEENJOY</i>	b. I enjoy school . . . . .	1	2	3	4
<i>FETEADIS</i>	c. My teachers maintain good discipline in the classroom . . . . .	1	2	3	4
<i>FERESPCT</i>	d. In my school, most students and teachers respect each other . . . . .	1	2	3	4
<i>FEPRIDIS</i>	e. The principal and assistant principal maintain good discipline at my school . . . . .	1	2	3	4
<i>FEWATCH</i>	f. My family keeps a close watch on how I am doing in school . . . . .	1	2	3	4
<i>FELISTEN</i>	g. In my school, the opinions of the students are listened to . . . . .	1	2	3	4

**Activities that Promote or Indicate Personal Responsibility [Path = All]**

YBINTRO. Next I'd like to ask you about (activities that students can do in school, and then I'll ask you about) some activities outside of school. (Please think about the school you go to now.)

*If FIPATH = H, go to YB4.*

YB1. First, does your (current) school have a student government?

<i>PRSTUGOV</i>	YES . . . . .	1	(GO TO YB2)
	NO . . . . .	2	(GO TO YB3)

YB2. This school year, have you served as an officer or representative or run for office or worked on a campaign for your student government?

<i>PRREPGOV</i>	YES . . . . .	1
	NO . . . . .	2

YB3. During this school year, have you participated in any (other) school activities such as sports teams, safety patrol, or school clubs?

<i>PRSCHACT</i>	YES . . . . .	1
	NO . . . . .	2
	SCHOOL DOES NOT OFFER ANY . . . . .	3

YB4. During this school year, have you participated in any activities outside of school, such as music lessons, scouting, church or temple youth group, or organized team sports like soccer?

<i>PRGRPACT</i>	YES . . . . .	1
	NO . . . . .	2

<sup>3</sup>Items with comparable questions on the parent interview show that item number in parentheses.

YB5. During this school year, have you worked at a job for pay, for example, in a restaurant or babysitting?

PRWORK YES ..... 1 (GO TO YB6)  
 NO ..... 2 (GO TO YB7)

YB6. On average, how many hours do you work each week during the school year?

PRWRKHRS HOURS PER WEEK .....  (GO TO YCINTRO)

YB7. Did you try to find a job during this school year?

PRLOOK YES ..... 1  
 NO ..... 2

**Service Activities** [Path = All]

YCINTRO. Now I would like to ask you about community service or volunteer activity in your school or community. This includes ongoing activities like tutoring other students, visiting senior citizens, and so on, but does not include work for pay. It might be something done through your school, through your church or synagogue, or on your own.

YC1. During this school year, have you participated in any community service activity or volunteer work at your school or in your community?

SACTY YES ..... 1  
 NO ..... 2

*If YC1 = 1 (participated) go to YC2. Else, if YC1 = 2 (did not participate) and FIPATH = H, go to YC14. Else, if YC1 = 2 (did not participate) and FIPATH = M or S, go to YC8.*

YC2. Please tell me what your service activities were this school year.

SASPEC1/R- FIRST ACTIVITY \_\_\_\_\_  
 SASPEC3/R SECOND ACTIVITY \_\_\_\_\_  
 THIRD ACTIVITY \_\_\_\_\_

*Ask YC3 through YC6 for up to three activities.*

YC3. Are you participating in (ACTIVITY) now?

SANOW1- YES ..... 1  
 SANOW3 NO ..... 2

YC4. (Do you/Did you) do (ACTIVITY) on a regular basis, or only once or twice?

SAREG1- REGULAR BASIS ..... 1 (GO TO BOX)  
 SAREG3 ONCE OR TWICE ..... 2 (GO TO BOX)

*If YC4 = 1 (regular activity), go to YC5. Else, if there is another activity in YC2, ask YC3 about next activity. Else, go to box after YC60V.*

YC5. During this school year, how many weeks (have you participated/did you participate) in (ACTIVITY)?

<b>SAWKS1- SAWKS3</b>	NUMBER GIVEN . . . . .	1	(GO TO YC50V)
<b>SAWKSOS1/R- SAWKSOS3/R</b>	SINCE BEGINNING OF SCHOOL YEAR . . . . .	2	(GO TO YC6)
	OTHER . . . . .	91	(GO TO YC6)
	SPECIFY _____		

YC50V. NUMBER OF WEEKS . . . . .    
**SAWKSNU1-  
SAWKSNU3** [CODE FRACTION TO NEAREST WHOLE NUMBER.]

YC6. During the weeks you (have done/did) (ACTIVITY), how many hours per week did you do it?

<b>SAHRS1- SAHRS3</b>	NUMBER GIVEN . . . . .	1	(GO TO YC60V)
<b>SAHRSOS1/R- SAHRSOS3/R</b>	OTHER . . . . .	91	(GO TO BOX)
	SPECIFY _____		

YC60V. NUMBER OF HOURS PER WEEK . . . . .    
**SAHRSNU1-  
SAHRSNU3** [CODE FRACTION TO NEAREST WHOLE NUMBER.]

*If there is another activity, go to YC3.  
Else, go to next box.*

*If FIPATH = H, go to YC15.*

YC7. (Is/Was) (any of) your community service activity this year arranged or offered by your (current) school?

<b>SAARRYOU</b>	YES . . . . .	1	(AUTOCODE YC8 = 1 AND GO TO YC9)
	NO . . . . .	2	(GO TO YC8)

YC8. Does your school arrange or offer any service activities that students can participate in?

<b>SAARRSER</b>	YES . . . . .	1
	NO . . . . .	2

YC9. Is participation in a service activity required for students in your school, for example, do all students have to do a certain number of hours of community service before graduating?

<b>SAREQSER</b>	YES . . . . .	1
	NO . . . . .	2

*If YC1 = 1 (participated in a service activity) and YC9 = 1 (service activity required by the school), ask YC10. Else, if YC1 = 1 (participated in a service activity) and YC9 = 2 (service activity not required by the school), go to YC11. Else, if YC1 = 2 (did not participate in a service activity), go to YC14.*

YC10. (Is/Was) your participation in any service activity this school year required by your (current) school?

**SAREQYOU** YES ..... 1  
 NO ..... 2

YC11. (Do you/Did you) have a chance to talk about your service experience in class or in a group session with other students?

**SATALK** YES ..... 1  
 NO ..... 2

YC12. (Are you/Were you) required to keep a journal or write an essay about your service experience?

**SAJOURNL** YES ..... 1  
 NO ..... 2

YC13. (Does/Did) your service activity contribute toward your grade in any class?

**SAGRADE** YES ..... 1 (GO TO YC15)  
 NO ..... 2 (GO TO YC15)

YC14. Will you participate in any kind of community service activity sometime before the end of this school year?

**SASCHLYR** YES ..... 1  
 NO ..... 2

YC15. Do you think you will be doing any kind of community service activity next year?

**SANEXTYR** YES ..... 1  
 NO ..... 2

YC16. Have you ever heard of...

		YES	NO
<b>PSPEACE</b>	a. The Peace Corps? .....	1	2
<b>PSVISTA</b>	b. VISTA? .....	1	2
<b>PSAMCORP</b>	c. AmeriCorps? .....	1	2

YC17. [(Do either or both of your parents)/Does (your (mother/stepmother/foster mother/father/stepfather/foster father/grandmother/grandfather/aunt/uncle/cousin)/(ADULT RESPONDENT))/(or your mother/stepmother/foster mother/father/stepfather/foster father/grandmother/grandfather/aunt/uncle/cousin)/(or any other adult in your household)] participate in any ongoing community service activity, for example, volunteering at a school, coaching a sports team, or working with a church or neighborhood association?

(PK9)  
 YES . . . . . 1  
 SASERV  
 NO . . . . . 2

**Activities that Promote Civic Involvement** [Path = All]

*Information About Politics and National Issues*

YD1. Now I have some questions about the national news. This means, for example, news about what is happening in Congress, what the President is doing, or what political candidates are saying. How often do you read about the national news in a newspaper or newsmagazine like *Newsweek*, *Time*, or *U.S. News and World Report*? Would you say...

(PK1)  
 Almost every day, . . . . . 1  
 At least once a week, . . . . . 2  
 CYRDNEU  
 At least once a month, or . . . . . 3  
 Hardly ever? . . . . . 4

YD2. How often do you watch the national news on television or listen to the national news on the radio? Would you say...

(PK3)  
 Almost every day, . . . . . 1 (GO TO YD3)  
 At least once a week, . . . . . 2 (GO TO YD3)  
 CYWATCHU  
 At least once a month, or . . . . . 3 (GO TO YD3)  
 Hardly ever? . . . . . 4 (GO TO YD4)

YD3. During the past week, did you watch or listen to the national news with [(your parents) (your mother/stepmother/foster mother/father/stepfather/foster father/grandmother/grandfather/aunt/uncle/cousin)/(ADULT RESPONDENT)) (or mother/stepmother/foster mother/father/stepfather/foster father/grandmother/grandfather/aunt/uncle/cousin) (or (the) other adult(s) in your household)]?

(PK6)  
 YES . . . . . 1  
 CYNEWSHH  
 NO . . . . . 2

YD4. Thinking about the current school year, how often do you usually talk about politics or national issues with [(your parents) (your mother/stepmother/foster mother/father/stepfather/foster father/grandmother/grandfather/aunt/uncle/cousin)/(ADULT RESPONDENT)) (or mother/stepmother/foster mother/father/stepfather/foster father/grandmother/grandfather/aunt/uncle/cousin) (or (the) other adult(s) in your household)]? Would you say...

Almost every day, . . . . . 1  
 At least once a week, . . . . . 2  
 CYISTALK  
 At least once a month, or . . . . . 3  
 Hardly ever? . . . . . 4

Political Attitudes and Knowledge

*If FIPATH = S or [FIPATH = H and (grade equivalent = 9 through 12) or (grade equivalent = U and AGE95 >= 14)], go to YD5. Else, go to YD10.*

YD5. (PK12) Now I'd like your opinion on some things. There are no right or wrong answers.

		YES	NO
<i>CYCOMPLI</i>	a. People might say, "Politics and government seem so complicated that a person like me can't really understand what's going on." Is this true for you? . . . . .	1	2
<i>CYFAMSAY</i>	b. Also, people might say, "My family doesn't have <u>any</u> say in what the federal government does." Is this true for your family? . . . . .	1	2
<i>CYAGNST</i>	c. If a person wanted to make a speech in your community against churches and religion, should he or she be allowed to speak? . . . . .	1	2
<i>CYBOOK</i>	d. Suppose a book that most people disapproved of was written, for example, saying that it was all right to take illegal drugs. Should a book like that be kept <u>out</u> of a public library? . . . . .	1	2

YD6. (PK13) Suppose you wanted to write a letter to someone in the government about something that concerned you. Do you feel that you could write a letter that clearly gives your opinion?

<i>CYLETTER</i>	YES . . . . .	1	
	NO . . . . .	2	

YD7. (PK14) Imagine you went to a community meeting and people were making comments and statements. Do you think you could make a comment or a statement at a public meeting?

<i>CYMTG</i>	YES . . . . .	1	
	NO . . . . .	2	
	DEPENDS ON MEETING, DEPENDS ON ISSUE, ETC. . . . .	3	
	WOULD NEVER WANT TO MAKE A STATEMENT . . . . .	4	

*If telephone number ends with an odd number, ask YD8. Else, ask YD9.*

YD8. (PK15) Now, here are a few questions about the government in Washington. Many people don't know the answers to these questions, so if there are some you don't know, just tell me and we will go on. [BEGIN WITH RANDOM START.]

<i>CYVP</i>	a. What job or political office is now held by Al Gore?		
	VICE PRESIDENT . . . . .	1	
	ANOTHER ANSWER . . . . .	2	
	DON'T KNOW . . . . .	3	
	REFUSED TO ANSWER . . . . .	4	



- b. Whose responsibility is it to determine if a law is constitutional or not...is it the president, the Congress, or the Supreme Court?

**CYLA**

SUPREME COURT . . . . .	1
PRESIDENT . . . . .	2
CONGRESS . . . . .	3
ANOTHER ANSWER . . . . .	4
DON'T KNOW . . . . .	5
REFUSED TO ANSWER . . . . .	6

- c. Which party now has the most members in the House of Representatives in Washington?

**CYHOUSE**

REPUBLICAN PARTY . . . . .	1
DEMOCRATIC PARTY . . . . .	2
ANOTHER ANSWER . . . . .	3
DON'T KNOW . . . . .	4
REFUSED TO ANSWER . . . . .	5

- d. How much of a majority is required for the U.S. Senate and House to override a presidential veto?

**CYVETO**

TWO-THIRDS/67 PERCENT/67 OR MORE SENATORS AND 291 OR MORE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE . . . . .	1
ANOTHER ANSWER . . . . .	2
DON'T KNOW . . . . .	3
REFUSED TO ANSWER . . . . .	4

- e. Which of the two major parties is more conservative at the national level?

**CYCONSRV**

REPUBLICAN PARTY . . . . .	1	(GO TO YD10)
DEMOCRATIC PARTY . . . . .	2	(GO TO YD10)
NEITHER ONE . . . . .	3	(GO TO YD10)
ANOTHER ANSWER . . . . .	4	(GO TO YD10)
DON'T KNOW . . . . .	5	(GO TO YD10)
REFUSED TO ANSWER . . . . .	6	(GO TO YD10)

YD9. Here are a few questions about the government in Washington. Many people don't know the answers to these questions, so if there are some you don't know, just tell me and we will go on. [BEGIN WITH RANDOM START.]

(PK16)

- a. What job or political office is now held by Newt Gingrich?

**CYSPKR**

SPEAKER (HEAD) OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES . . . . .	1
CONGRESSMAN/REPRESENTATIVE (TO CONGRESS) (FROM GEORGIA) . . . . .	2
ANOTHER ANSWER . . . . .	3
DON'T KNOW . . . . .	4
REFUSED TO ANSWER . . . . .	5

b. Whose responsibility is it to nominate judges to the federal courts... the President, the Congress, or the Supreme Court?

- CYJUDGE**
- PRESIDENT . . . . . 1
  - CONGRESS . . . . . 2
  - SUPREME COURT . . . . . 3
  - ANOTHER ANSWER . . . . . 4
  - DON'T KNOW . . . . . 5
  - REFUSED TO ANSWER . . . . . 6

c. Which party now has the most members in the U.S. Senate?

- CYSENATE**
- REPUBLICAN . . . . . 1
  - DEMOCRATIC . . . . . 2
  - ANOTHER ANSWER . . . . . 3
  - DON'T KNOW . . . . . 4
  - REFUSED TO ANSWER . . . . . 5

d. What are the first ten amendments to the U.S. Constitution called?

- CYCONST**
- BILL OF RIGHTS . . . . . 1
  - ANOTHER ANSWER . . . . . 2
  - DON'T KNOW . . . . . 3
  - REFUSED TO ANSWER . . . . . 4

e. Which of the two major parties is in favor of the larger defense budget?

- CYDFENS**
- REPUBLICAN . . . . . 1
  - DEMOCRATIC . . . . . 2
  - ANOTHER ANSWER . . . . . 3
  - DON'T KNOW . . . . . 4
  - REFUSED TO ANSWER . . . . . 5

YD10. During this school year, have you had any courses that required you to pay attention to government, politics, or national issues?

- CYCRSE**
- YES . . . . . 1
  - NO . . . . . 2

YD11. Last year, did you have any courses that required you to pay attention to government, politics, or national issues?

- CYCRSLST**
- YES . . . . . 1
  - NO . . . . . 2

*If YD10 or YD11 = 1 (courses about government, politics, or national issues), ask YD12.  
Else, go to YD13.*

YD12. As a result of the(se) course(s) at school, would you say your interest in things like politics and national issues increased...

- CYINTRST*
- A good deal, . . . . . 1
  - Some, or . . . . . 2
  - Not much at all? . . . . . 3

YD13. During this school year, have you done any of the following things in any class at (your current) school...

- |                 |   | YES | NO |
|-----------------|---|-----|----|
| <i>CYSCHLET</i> | a. Written a letter to someone you did not know? . . . .  | 1   | 2  |
| <i>CYCHSPE</i>  | b. Given a speech or an oral report? . . . . .  | 1   | 2  |
| <i>CYCHDEB</i>  | c. Taken part in a debate or discussion in<br>which you had to persuade others about<br>your point of view? . . . . . | 1   | 2  |

CLOSE. Thank you very much. Those are all the questions I have. Please hold on for a moment while I check to see if there is anyone else I need to speak with.

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