

Student Career Surveys

Directions for Administering Student Equity Career Surveys—All Levels

Introduction. This questionnaire is designed to yield information about students' perceptions and knowledge about vocational equity issues. It contains questions about career equity in four areas: school, work, family, and self-awareness. Surveys for students in grades three, six, eight, ten, and twelve are being administered to groups of students in your school district. The information from these surveys will be used to develop a vocational equity plan for your school district. Note that students in adjacent grades may also respond to the surveys for the above grades. The level of each survey is indicated on the upper right-hand corner of the survey's first page.

The needs assessment is part of the Wisconsin Model for Sex Equity for Career and Vocational Education, which emphasizes curriculum development in equity through strategies, programs, and materials already proven effective. It will expand emphasis on equity by developing a network of school personnel expertise in equity issues. By being sensitive to equity issues, administrators, teachers, counselors, and other school staff members can build an equitable school environment.

Planning for equity in schools is a major step toward excellence in education. In a rapidly changing society, schools need to provide environments that encourage male and female K-12 students to plan for productive and satisfying lives. It is important to help students understand that women and men work for pay for the same reasons: self-fulfillment and career development, but primarily out of economic necessity. Educators must do more than provide equal access for students. They must plan for equal treatment, achievement, and outcomes.

In a country of 215 million people and a large, diverse work force, it is important that all workers think about all careers for which they are qualified and then plan to prepare for those careers. We need to focus on helping male and female students do this.

This is what the diverse and broad idea of equity is about. Planning for equity is on the agenda for excellence in schools, now and in the future.

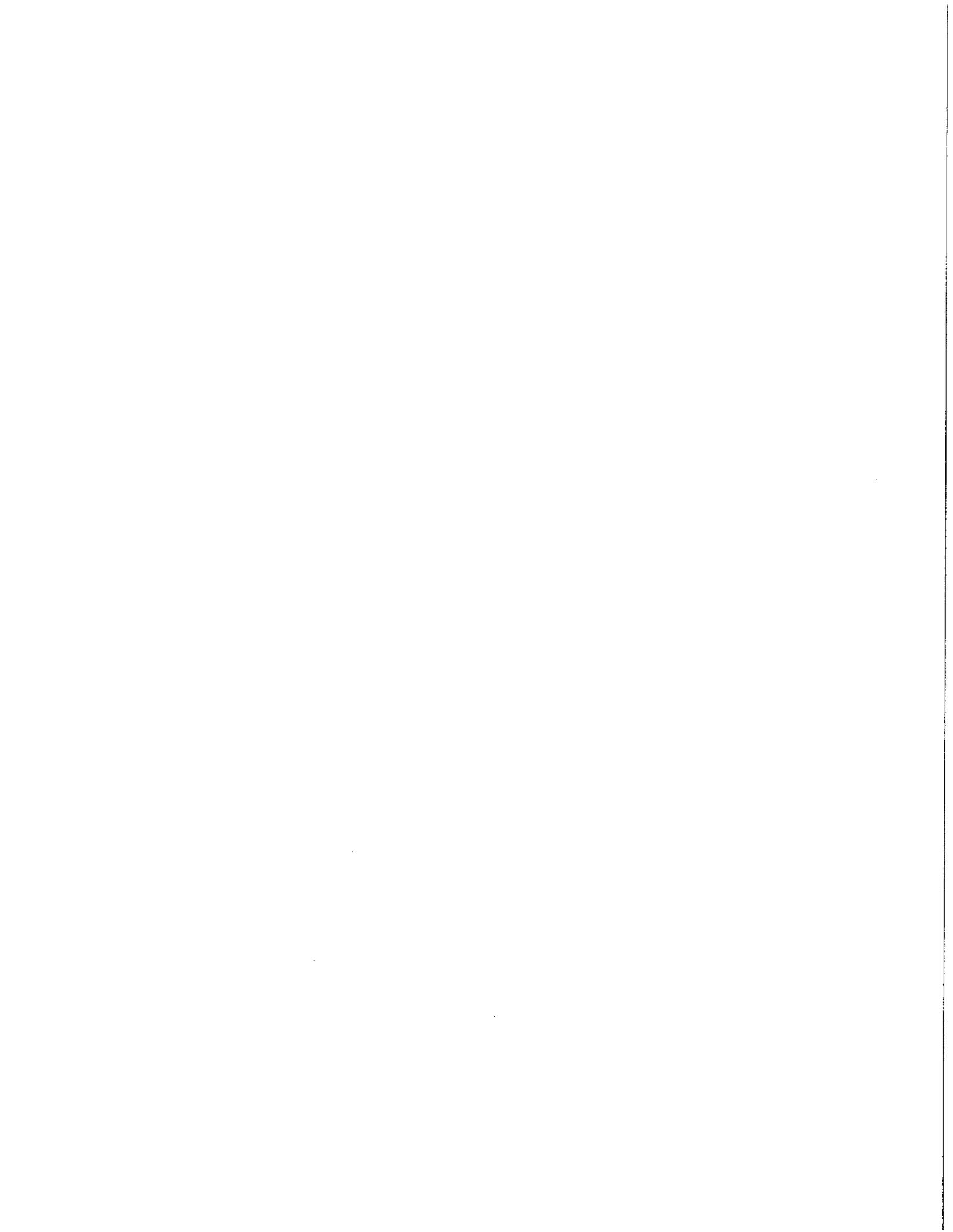
Sample Directions. Before distributing the surveys, brief the students as follows:

"This is a survey to find out what your ideas and opinions are concerning careers. You do not have to fill out this survey. Your participation is voluntary. However, the survey is very important, and your opinion would be appreciated. You will NOT be graded on this survey. In fact, you will not even put your name on it."

Now read to the students the directions at the top of the survey. Illustrate possible responses on the chalkboard as you explain. For instance, to eighth graders you might say, "For each statement on the survey, mark whether you agree, disagree, or are not sure. Circle the number 3 if you agree with the statement. Circle 2 if you are unsure, are neutral, or have no opinion. Circle 1 if you disagree with the statement."

Distribute the survey with the following admonition: "Don't do anything with the survey until I tell you what to do." After all the students have a copy of the survey, give them the following directions:

"At the top of the survey, you will see a box labeled 'School Name.' PRINT your school's name in this box. Do NOT put your name on the survey. Now, read the directions silently while I read them aloud. (Read the directions aloud.) Give each statement some thought and respond honestly. Are there any questions? (Clarify instructions or give examples as needed.) You may begin."



Student Career Survey

Completion of this survey is voluntary. There are no penalties for not completing it.

School Name

Directions: We would like to know what you think about careers and work. Please help us by answering the following questions. If you **agree** with the statement, put an "x" in the yes column. If you **do not agree**, put an "x" in the no column.

	Yes	No
1. Being good at math and science will help me be ready for a good job	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. I think doing well in school will help me get a job when I grow up	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. At school, I am encouraged to be good at math.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Sometimes at school different things are expected of boys and girls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. At school, I am encouraged to be good at reading.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Sometimes at school I get the feeling boys and girls are treated differently	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. The main reason people work is because they need the money they earn	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Today, more women are working at paying jobs than in the past.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Some jobs pay more than others	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. I believe I will work at a job or career for most of my life	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. It is important to me how much money I will earn when I grow up	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. I think doctors make more money than secretaries.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Usually, the pay is the same for jobs men do and jobs women do	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. I think about becoming a medical doctor when I grow up	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- | | Yes | No |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 15. I think about becoming a nurse when I grow up | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 16. Today, both boys and girls can grow up to be firefighters | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 17. Many women work because they need the money | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 18. Many men work because they need the money | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 19. Today, more children live in homes with just one parent than
in the past | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 20. My grandmother works or has worked at a paying job | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 21. My family believes it is important that I work at a job when I
grow up | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 22. I believe that when I grow up both husband and wife will need
to work to pay the bills | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 23. It would be okay with my parents if I decided to be a carpenter .. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 24. It would be okay with my parents if I decided to be a secretary ... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 25. Doing good work in school is important to me | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 26. I feel that I am a leader in my class | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 27. I feel boys can do any jobs that girls can do | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 28. I feel good about myself..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 29. My friends and I talk about what we are going to be when we
grow up | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 30. People should choose jobs because they are good at that job | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 31. I feel girls can do any job that boys can do | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 32. I am good at math..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 33. Check one: <input type="checkbox"/> boy <input type="checkbox"/> girl | | |
| 34. Check the grade you are in: <input type="checkbox"/> 2nd <input type="checkbox"/> 3rd <input type="checkbox"/> 4th | | |

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School Name

Directions: We would like to know what you think about careers and work. Please help us by answering the following questions. If you **agree** with the statement, **circle 3**; if you **disagree**, **circle 1**; if you are **unsure**, **circle 2**.

	Agree	Unsure	Disagree
School Section			
1. Math is one of my favorite subjects	3	2	1
2. Girls often are better at math than boys	3	2	1
3. Being good at math will help me get a job in the future	3	2	1
4. In our school, both boys and girls are treated the same	3	2	1
5. I think my school gives boys and girls the same chances ...	3	2	1
6. It is important that girls learn to be leaders	3	2	1
7. Both boys and girls should be developing math, science, and computer skills	3	2	1
8. It is important that boys learn to be leaders	3	2	1
9. Generally, teachers expect the same things of girls and boys	3	2	1
10. In school, I am encouraged to do good work in math	3	2	1
11. In school, I am encouraged to do good work in science	3	2	1
12. In school, I am encouraged to do good work in reading	3	2	1
13. Doing good work in school is important to me	3	2	1
Work Section			
14. In school, we learn about different careers	3	2	1
15. Men often are paid more than women for doing the same job	3	2	1
16. Teachers have helped me think about careers	3	2	1
17. Most women work because they need the money	3	2	1
18. The amount of money I will make is important to me when I think about careers	3	2	1
19. It would be okay with me if a man was a nurse	3	2	1
20. It would be okay with me if a woman was an auto mechanic	3	2	1

	Agree	Unsure	Disagree
21. I would consider becoming a carpenter	3	2	1
22. I would consider becoming a secretary	3	2	1
23. Computers and other technology, such as robots, are changing the kind of jobs there will be in the future	3	2	1
24. I feel the work I do in school is preparing me for jobs of the future	3	2	1
25. I would consider owning my own business	3	2	1
26. Boys should be able to have any job	3	2	1
27. Girls should be able to have any job	3	2	1
28. Most men work because they need the money	3	2	1
29. I believe I will work at a paying job most of my life	3	2	1

Family Section

30. Women work at paid jobs nearly as many years as men	3	2	1
31. More and more children live in homes with just one parent	3	2	1
32. I plan to have a job	3	2	1
33. I plan to have a family and a job	3	2	1
34. I have learned about different jobs from watching TV	3	2	1
35. My family has helped me plan what I should be when I grow up	3	2	1
36. In our family, males and females share work at home	3	2	1

Self-Awareness Section

37. I feel good about myself	3	2	1
38. I feel that I could be whatever I want to be when I grow up	3	2	1
39. The way I feel about myself affects how well I do something	3	2	1
40. I enjoy learning to do new things	3	2	1
41. My friends and I talk about what we will be when we grow up	3	2	1
42. The career I choose is important to my parents	3	2	1
43. My parents would support me in whatever career I choose	3	2	1
44. I think people should choose careers they think they would be good at	3	2	1
45. Check one: <input type="checkbox"/> male <input type="checkbox"/> female			
46. Check the grade you are in: <input type="checkbox"/> 5th <input type="checkbox"/> 6th <input type="checkbox"/> 7th			

Student Career Survey

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School Name

Directions: We would like to know what you think about careers and work. Please react to the following statements by circling the number that best describes how you feel about each statement.

Definitions: **Nontraditional careers** are those that were not selected by one sex or the other in the past. For example, a **nontraditional** career for a woman would be an electrician or mechanic. A nontraditional career for a man would be a nurse or secretary.

	Agree	Unsure	Disagree
School Section			
1. In our school, teachers treat boys and girls the same way .	3	2	1
2. Teachers help me consider many different career choices, including those that are nontraditional	3	2	1
3. In our school, there are courses that are clearly "boys' courses" and "girls' courses"	3	2	1
4. Teachers expect the same things from girls and boys	3	2	1
5. In my classes, boys and girls are placed in separate groups for activities or projects	3	2	1
6. I believe I have the right to enroll in any course in the school	3	2	1
I will plan my high school classes based on:			
7. my interests	3	2	1
8. what I am good at	3	2	1
9. what classes my friends are taking	3	2	1
10. what I need for education beyond high school	3	2	1
11. what I need for a career	3	2	1
In school, I am encouraged to do good work in:			
12. math	3	2	1
13. science	3	2	1
14. reading	3	2	1
15. Doing good work in school is important to me	3	2	1
16. Doing good work in school will help me prepare for a good career	3	2	1
Work Section			
17. Most women work because they need the money	3	2	1
18. Most people living below the poverty level are women and their children	3	2	1

	Agree	Unsure	Disagree
19. Women and men should be trained to get good jobs	3	2	1
20. Nine out of ten women work for pay sometime during their lives	3	2	1
21. Most men work because they need the money	3	2	1
22. Women make up 8 percent (two out of 25) of engineers in the United States	3	2	1
23. Engineers make an average annual salary of \$35,000	3	2	1
24. Ninety-seven percent of all secretaries are women	3	2	1
25. Secretaries make an average annual salary of \$14,500	3	2	1
26. Overall, women make 70 cents for every dollar men make.	3	2	1
27. "Women's jobs" and "men's jobs" are becoming a thing of the past	3	2	1

Family Section

28. More and more children live in homes with just one parent today	3	2	1
29. I have learned about different careers from watching TV ..	3	2	1
30. In our family, males and females share jobs at home	3	2	1
31. I plan to have a career	3	2	1
32. I plan to have a family and a career	3	2	1
33. In most families, both parents work at jobs outside the home	3	2	1

Self-Awareness Section

34. I would like to find out more about possible careers	3	2	1
35. The career I choose is important to my parents	3	2	1
36. I feel good about myself	3	2	1
37. I feel I could be whatever I want to be when I grow up	3	2	1
38. The way I feel about myself affects how well I do something	3	2	1
39. I enjoy learning to do new things	3	2	1
40. I feel that I am good at many things	3	2	1
41. My parents would support me in whatever career I choose	3	2	1

The place I would go to get help in planning my career is:

42. parents	3	2	1
43. teachers	3	2	1
44. other people I know	3	2	1
45. school counselors	3	2	1

46. Check one: male female

47. Check the grade you are in: 7th 8th 9th

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School Name

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Definitions: **Nontraditional careers** are those that were not selected by one sex or the other in the past. For example, a **nontraditional** career for a woman would be an electrician or mechanic. A **nontraditional** career for a man would be a nurse or secretary.

	Agree	Unsure	Disagree
School Section			
1. I have been encouraged to enroll in vocational courses based on my abilities and interests	3	2	1
2. Women and men in nontraditional careers have come to talk about their jobs to students in our school	3	2	1
3. I know someone who is in a nontraditional career	3	2	1
4. Teachers generally treat male and female students the same	3	2	1
5. Teachers actively encourage me to consider a wide range of career choices, including those that are nontraditional..	3	2	1
6. In our school, there are support groups for students enrolled in nontraditional classes	3	2	1
7. Teachers expect the same achievement from males and females	3	2	1
8. Teachers point out examples of stereotyping in textbooks and other materials	3	2	1
9. My counselor suggests classes I need for my career choice.	3	2	1
10. The counselors maintain up-to-date career information that can be used in making career choices	3	2	1
11. Counselors have helped me with my career choices	3	2	1
12. In our school, there are courses that clearly are "boys' courses" and "girls' courses"	3	2	1
13. Career and vocational courses are designed so the content is appropriate to both males and females	3	2	1
Work Section			
14. I will work at a paying job most of my life	3	2	1
15. Fifty-three percent of the people living below the poverty level are women who are the main source of income for their families	3	2	1

	Agree	Unsure	Disagree
16. Nine out of ten women work for pay sometime during their lives	3	2	1
17. The average woman will work outside the home between 20 to 40 years in her lifetime	3	2	1
18. Women make up 17 percent of physicians in Wisconsin	3	2	1
19. The average physician's salary in the U.S. is \$164,000	3	2	1
20. Nurses earn an average annual salary of \$32,885 in Wisconsin	3	2	1
21. Ninety-seven percent of all secretaries are women	3	2	1
22. Secretaries make an average annual salary of \$14,500	3	2	1
23. On average, women make 70 cents for every dollar men make	3	2	1
24. "Women's jobs" and "men's jobs" are becoming a thing of the past	3	2	1

Family Section

25. My parents encourage me to explore different career possibilities	3	2	1
26. My parents believe the career I choose should pay well	3	2	1
27. I have learned about different careers from watching TV ..	3	2	1
28. I plan to have a career	3	2	1
29. I plan to have a family and a career	3	2	1
30. My parents would support me in whatever career I choose	3	2	1

Self-Awareness Section

31. My future career is important, so I want to start preparing for it now by taking the right classes	3	2	1
32. Women, as well as men, work to provide for themselves and for their families	3	2	1
33. I believe I have the right to enroll in any course in our school	3	2	1
34. I feel good about myself	3	2	1
35. I view my career primarily as a way to make some extra money	3	2	1
36. I view my career primarily as something to do before marriage	3	2	1
37. I view my career primarily as a way to use and develop my abilities	3	2	1
38. I view my career primarily as a lifetime experience that helps meet economic and psychological needs	3	2	1
39. I feel I could be whatever I want to be	3	2	1
40. I feel that I am good at many things	3	2	1
41. Check one: <input type="checkbox"/> male <input type="checkbox"/> female			
42. Check the grade you are in: <input type="checkbox"/> 9th <input type="checkbox"/> 10th <input type="checkbox"/> 11th			

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School Name

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Definitions: **Nontraditional careers** are those that were not selected by one sex or the other in the past. For example, a **nontraditional** career for a woman would be an electrician or mechanic. A **nontraditional** career for a man would be a nurse or secretary.

Agree Unsure Disagree

School Section

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. I am encouraged to take courses that I need for careers of the future | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 2. I would like to know more about future career possibilities | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 3. Teachers actively encourage me to consider a wide range of career choices, including those that are nontraditional.. | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 4. In our school, there are support groups for students choosing nontraditional careers | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 5. The counselor maintains up-to-date career publications that help me make career choices | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 6. Some courses in our school are "boys' courses" and some are "girls' courses" | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 7. Generally, teachers treat male and female students the same | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 8. Teachers pay more attention to boys | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 9. Teachers pay more attention to girls | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 10. Career and vocational courses are designed so the content is appropriate to both females and males | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 11. Teachers expect the same achievement from females and males | 3 | 2 | 1 |

Work Section

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 12. Most women work because of economic need | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 13. Ninety percent of women work for pay most of their life ... | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 14. Women make up 17 percent of physicians in Wisconsin ... | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 15. The average physician's salary in the U.S. is \$164,000 a year | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 16. Nurses earn about \$32,885 a year in Wisconsin | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 17. Women make up 8 percent (two out of 25) of the engineers in the United States | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 18. Most men will work for pay most of their lives | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 19. Starting annual salary for engineers is \$35,000 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 20. Ninety-seven percent of all secretaries are women | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| 21. Secretaries annually earn about \$14,500 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

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. . . over, please . . .

	Agree	Unsure	Disagree
22. Most men work because of economic need	3	2	1
23. I think it is okay that both women and men are moving into jobs that may not be usual for their sex	3	2	1
24. "Women's jobs" and "men's jobs" are becoming a thing of the past	3	2	1
25. I expect to work at a paying job most of my life	3	2	1
26. Women, as well as men, work to provide for themselves and for their families	3	2	1
27. I would support a man's choice to be a nurse	3	2	1
28. I would support a woman's choice to be a carpenter	3	2	1
29. A person has a legal right to seek any job and may not be refused a job based on his or her sex	3	2	1
30. I would consider owning my own business	3	2	1

Family Section

31. Nearly half of single-parent families live in poverty	3	2	1
32. Fifty-three percent of the people in poverty are women who are the main source of income for their families	3	2	1
33. My parents have helped me explore possible careers	3	2	1
34. My parents know about job market demands and training required for jobs	3	2	1
35. I have learned about a wide variety of careers from watching TV	3	2	1

Self-Awareness Section

36. My friends and I generally have the same kinds of career goals	3	2	1
37. I plan to have a career	3	2	1
38. I plan to have a career and a family	3	2	1
39. I feel good about myself	3	2	1
40. My parents would support me in whatever career I choose	3	2	1
41. My male friends would support me in whatever career I choose	3	2	1
42. My female friends would support me in whatever career I choose	3	2	1
43. I believe it is important to be independent and economically self-sufficient	3	2	1
44. I enjoy trying new and different things	3	2	1
45. I feel I can be whatever I want to be	3	2	1
46. I am good at making decisions	3	2	1
47. The way I feel about my abilities affects my willingness to try new things	3	2	1
48. Check one: <input type="checkbox"/> male <input type="checkbox"/> female			
49. Check the grade you are in: <input type="checkbox"/> 11th <input type="checkbox"/> 12th			