BACKGROUND

What is the purpose of this data collection?
The Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) seeks to work collaboratively with districts to provide effective and data-driven support that helps develop tailored policy interventions, making it easier to solve teacher shortages in the long run. In that spirit, the Short Form Teacher Exit Survey has three aims: a) To understand the leading reasons and patterns of why teachers in Oklahoma leave the profession, b) to consistently collect comparable data across regions and districts, and c) to get more timely, detailed and actionable information on why teachers choose to leave.

Which entity will report teacher exit data?
All school districts in the state are expected to share the OSDE Short Form Teacher Exit Survey with teachers leaving their jobs. Eligible survey respondents are teachers in public elementary and secondary schools (both brick-and-mortar and virtual charter schools) who stop teaching altogether.

What survey instrument is used for data collection?
To maximize the data’s usefulness, the OSDE will collect exit data using a validated questionnaire developed by the U.S. Department of Education’s National Center for Education Statistics, which collects information every other year from sampled teachers who leave the K-12 teaching profession across states.

What type of information is requested in the teacher exit survey?
The survey collects information on the job that is being left, including reasons for leaving and type of separation. Estimates of school enrollment and information about school type, level and teaching assignments are also requested. No personally identifiable information about respondents will be collected or stored as part of the survey.

Why should teachers who leave the K-12 teaching profession complete the Short Form Teacher Exit Survey?
The reasons are twofold. First, aggregated answers to survey questions will pinpoint areas in the retention process that need immediate attention. Second, a high response rate will help the state make meaningful inferences from the data. To ensure the independence of the process, school districts will have no interaction with potential respondents beyond providing a QR code with the survey link.

SURVEY ADMINISTRATION

When is the exit data collected?
The Short Form Teacher Exit Survey collects data continuously throughout the year and as soon as possible after termination of employment. School districts are asked to actively share the OSDE information sheet, which includes the QR code with a link to the survey, with all teachers leaving their jobs.
What are the reference dates for the exit data?
Most questions refer to the school year during which the teacher taught, whether full-time or part-time, and whether they worked during the entire year or only a portion.

How long will the survey take?
We anticipate that the survey will take an average of five minutes or less to complete, though survey duration varies depending on the teacher’s exit/retention experience.

How long will teachers who leave the profession have access to the survey?
It is best for teachers to start and complete the survey as soon as they receive the QR code with the survey link. However, the survey itself does not expire.

What happens if survey completion was not achieved in one sitting?
Survey respondents do not need to start the survey all over again. Respondents may simply log back in using the QR code with the survey link and continue where they left off.

What if the survey link doesn’t work or the QR code with the link to the survey is lost?
If the survey link or the QR code do not work, please use this one: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7NFQ3PS

DATA REPORTING

How will information be reported?
Information reported on the survey will be aggregated, and quarterly summary reports with high-level description of findings will be produced. These reports will be available on the OSDE website.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any comments or questions concerning the report/use of teacher exit data, please contact Naneida Lazarte-Alcalá at Naneida.Lazarte@sde.ok.gov.