



DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION & SCIENCE SURVEY OF SCHOOL LEAVERS, Spring/Summer 2007
LEAVERS OF SCHOOL YEAR, 2004/2005

PIN No. Date of Birth [Int: verify from assignment sheet] / /

Interviewer's Name _____ Interviewer's Number _____

Start Date of Interview: ___ / ___ / ___ Time Began (24 hour clock): ___ : ___ Mode: phone....1 In Person...2

Thank-you for agreeing to participate in our survey. We would like to reiterate that all of the information provided is confidential and will not be disclosed to anyone outside the ESRI. The reports we produce deal only with general results. Individual information is not reported.

A. Are you?: Male 1 Female 2

B. Did you leave this school _____? [Int: transfer school name from assignment sheet]

Yes.....1 No.....2 → TERMINATE INTERVIEW

C. When did you leave this school? ___ Month ___ Year

D. Have you attended another mainstream second-level school since then? Yes.....1 No 2

D1. [if yes at D] Name of School _____

E. [if yes at D] When did you leave this school? ___ Month ___ Year

INTERVIEWER CHECK BOX – check date when respondent finally left school (date at C or E above)

If date is between 1st Sept 2004 and 31st Aug 2005 CONDUCT INTERVIEW

If date is before 1st Sept 2004 or after 31st Aug 2005 TERMINATE INTERVIEW

[If date is between 1st Sept 2004 and 31st Aug 2005 at C & resp attended Grind (private) school at D CONDUCT INTERVIEW]

EXPERIENCES AT SCHOOL

Thinking of the last second-level school you attended

1. In general, do you think that your second-level education has benefited you in the following ways?

[Int: Please circle one number on each line.]

	Yes, a lot	Yes, some	No help
In increasing your self-confidence	1	2	3
In being able to talk and communicate well with others	1	2	3
In knowing how to go out about finding things out for yourself	1	2	3
In giving you reading and writing skills	1	2	3
In preparing you for the world of work	1	2	3
In giving you computer skills	1	2	3
In preparing you for adult life	1	2	3

2. (a) At second-level, were you involved in any regular sporting activities, NOT counting PE lessons? As well as traditional sports, DO include any 'exercise' activities like dance or gym.

Yes...1 No.....2 → Go to Q3.

Please list the activities you undertook, starting with the one you did most:

(b) Which activities?	(c) In what school years were you regularly involved? [Int: tick all that apply]	(d) Are you involved in these activities now? [Int: tick one]
	1 st 2 nd JC TY 5 th LC	Yes, regularly Yes, sometimes No
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		

(d) [Int: If resp *never sat for any exam.* – code 6 at 8(a)] **What year were you in when you left school?**

- First year 1→ Go to Q.11
- Second year 2→ Go to Q.11
- Third year 3→ Go to Q.11
- Other (specify) 4→ Go to Q.11

9. **Did you ever participate in the Transition Year?** Yes 1 No.....2

10. **(a) Were you ever enrolled in the Leaving Certificate Applied (LCA) or Leaving Certificate Vocational (LCVP) programmes.**

LCA..... 1 LCVP..... 2 Neither3

(b) If resp did LCA OR LCVP:

Why did you decide to enrol in this programme?[Int: read out & circle all that apply]

- Everyone in the school was taking it (obligatory) 1
- Most of my friends were taking it..... 2
- I was told by the school to take it 3
- I wanted to do more practical subjects 4
- My teacher(s) advised me to take it 5
- I did not think I would do well on the Established (regular) Leaving Cert 6
- Other (specify)..... 7

8(c) Would you have liked to take part in one of these programmes?

- Yes, LCA 1
- Yes, LCVP..... 2
- No..... 3

JUNIOR CERT, LEAVING CERT, LEAVING CERT VOCATIONAL OR LEAVING CERT APPLIED RESULTS

11. We are interested in finding out how students get on in the Junior and Leaving Certificate exams. This is very important as it means we can discover what helps students do well at school in order to improve the school system. We would be very grateful if you could give us permission to access your most recent exam results from the State Examinations Commission. The information will be completely confidential. You will not be identified in any way. We are only interested in overall patterns not in individual students or schools.

Do you AGREE that we can access your last exam results? Yes1 No2

[Int: Please PRINT Respondent NAME] _____ SIGNATURE (if in person) _____

[INT: If respondent agreed that we can access their last exam results please go to question 13, otherwise go to Q.11(a)]

11(a). (a) [Int: If respondent sat Junior Certificate, Junior Certificate School Programme, Established Leaving Certificate or Leaving Certificate Vocational Programme i.e. codes 1, 2, 3 or 5 at Question 8(a)]. **At this examination, what subjects did you sit for, what level paper did you take and what grades did you get?** [Int: Enter Subject, Level and Grade below. Note this does not include PLCs]

(b) If you never sat for an official examination i.e. code 6 at Question 6(a)] **What subjects did you take in your final year at school?** List Subjects below, leaving Level and Grade blank.]

Subject	Level	Grade
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		

[Int: For those who sat the **Leaving Certificate Applied exam** (code 4 at Question 8(a), go to question 11c)]

(c) (If resp sat the **Leaving Certificate Applied:**)

Did he/she receive: [Circle one only]

- Pass 1
- Merit 2
- Distinction 3
- Record of experience 4

(ii) Vocational Specialisms taken

(iii) Languages Taken

- (d) [Int: For those who answered codes 1, 2, 3 or 5 on Question 8(a)] **In summary, perhaps you could tell me: (a) how many honours and pass subjects you sat for in your last examination; (b) of these, in how many did you achieve an A, B or C; a D; or an E, F or NG?**

[Interviewer: This summary is particularly important if you are not able to get the detailed information at 11a and 11b above]

LEVEL	No. of Subjects	No. of A,B,C's	No. of D's	No. of E,F or NG's
Higher Level (Honours)				
Ordinary/Common Level (Pass)				
Foundation Level				

12. [For those who answered code 3 or 5 on Question 8 (a)] **For those who sat the Leaving Cert or Leaving Cert Vocational (LCVP) exam, how many CAO points did you receive in this exam?**
 _____ CAO points _____ Don't know.

WORK EXPERIENCE, PART-TIME WORK WHILE AT SCHOOL

13. (a) **Did you take part in any periods of work experience as part of your school courses?** (Int: Circle all that apply)
- Yes, Transition Year..... 1 → Go to Q13b
 - Yes, Leaving Cert Applied..... 2 → Go to Q13b
 - Yes, Leaving Cert Vocational 3 → Go to Q13b
 - Yes, other (specify) 4 →Go to Q13b
 - No..... 5 → Go to Q14a

- (b) (If YES), **In relation to the last period of work experience, how many days in total did you spend on work experience?**
 _____ days

- (c) **In relation to the last period of work experience, what type of business was the employer engaged in (if there was more than one period of work experience, please tell us for the most recent)?**

- (d) **How helpful did you find this work experience in deciding what to do after leaving school?**

[Int: Please circle one only]

Very helpful1 Helpful 2 Not very helpful 3 Not at all helpful...4

14. (a) **Thinking back to when you were in school could you tell me whether or not you held a part-time job or jobs during term-time while you were still at school?**

Yes, held a part-time job.....1 No..... 2 → Go to Q15

- (b) **In which years did you hold a part-time job or jobs?** [Int: Please circle all that apply]

6th yr6 5th yr5 Transition year 4 3rd yr 3 2nd yr..... 2 1st yr..... 1

- (c) **Thinking about the most recent year in which you held this job/these job(s), did you usually work?** [Please circle either 'Yes' or 'No' in respect of each]

Yes No Yes No Yes No

Saturdays 1 2 Sundays..... 1 2 Weekdays..... 1 2

- (d) **In total, about how many hours per week did you work in this/these part-time job(s) in the most recent year in which you held the job?**
 _____ hours per week

15. **Thinking back to before you left school, could you tell me whether or not you held a part-time or full-time job or jobs outside of term-time, such as a summer or holiday job, while you were still at school?**

Yes, held a part-time job..... 1 Yes, held a full-time job..... 2 No 3

16. **I would like you to think back to your last year in school. When you were deciding what to do after you left school:**

- (a) **did you get any advice from any of the following people?** [Int: Please circle all that apply in column (A)]

- (b) **of those who gave you advice who do you think was the most help to you in deciding what to do after you left school.** [Int: Please circle one only in column (B)]

	(A) Any Advice	(B) Most Helpful	
1. Career guidance counsellor in school.....	1	1	
2. Another teacher in school	2	2	
3. Parent(s)	3	3	
4. Other family member (specify)	4	4	→ Which one? _____
5. Friend(s)	5	5	
6. Someone else (specify).....	6	6	→ Which one? _____

VPT OR PLC

We would like to find out about participation in Post Leaving Certificate courses ...

17. (a) Did you ever go on to do any form of full-time vocational preparation, secretarial or Post Leaving Cert. Course (PLC) in a second level school or further education college, even if only for a few days?

Yes, did vocational course (VPT, PLC etc.)1 No, no vocational course..... 2 → go to Q18(a)

(b) What year did you start this course? _____ (yr)

(c) How long is/was the course? 1 year....1 2 years....2 other....3

(d) Did you do the Vocational Course in

Secondary/Vocational/Community or Comprehensive School..... 1
Further Education or Senior College..... 2

(e) Name of school/college _____

(f) Did you complete the course? Yes..... 1 No.....2

(g) Did you receive a grant while attending this course? Yes..... 1 No..... 2

(h) Did you receive a certificate or diploma on completion? Yes1 No ...2

(i) What was the name/title of this cert/diploma? _____

(j) If you received a cert/diploma, what was the source of this cert/diploma?

FETAC/NCVA 1 Other (Specify).....2 Don't Know3

APPRENTICESHIP OR TRAINING

18. (a) Have you ever participated in any state-sponsored training programme for young people since leaving school?

Yes.....1 No.....2

(b) Which ones? [Int: Read out options and circle all that apply]

Apprenticeship with FÁS/other agency 1
Any other FÁS training scheme (specify) 2
Failte Ireland (CERT) Course 3
YOUTHREACH programme 4
Bord Iascaigh / TEAGASC Training..... 5
Other state-sponsored training scheme (specify) 6

HIGHER EDUCATION (THIRD LEVEL) SINCE LEAVING SCHOOL

The following asks about attendance at a higher education institution since leaving school: this includes Universities, Institutes of Technology and Colleges of Education.

19. (a) Since leaving school, have you undertaken any form of education or training at a third level college or institution?

Yes, full-time1 Yes, part-time..... 2 No..... 3 → Go to Q.23

(b). Give the name and address of the college or institution you are attending [attended].

[Int: If more than one, give the most recent].

- (c) (If attending full-time education) Are you receiving (did you receive) any type of scholarship or grant for attendance at third level to cover such expenses as fees or maintenance?

Yes.....1 No.....2

(d) Was this... [Int: Read out & tick all that apply]:

Higher Education Grant from Local Authority (under 1968 Act)1
VEC Scholarship (transfers from Cert/Diploma to degree)2
Trainee Grant Scheme (Cert/Diploma in IOTs)..... 3
Disadvantaged 'Top Up' Grant4
Other grant scheme (specify) 5

20. (a) Give brief details of the main course(s) you followed (e.g. B.A. History and English, National Certificate – Mechanical Engineering). [If more than one, please give details of the most recent].
- _____
- _____

- (b) **Date Course Started:** Year _____
- (c) **Expected total duration of course from beginning to end:** _____ Months
- (d) **What qualification or certificate is normally given on successful completion of this course?**
- | | |
|-------------------------------------------|---|
| Level 8 - Honours Degree | 1 |
| Level 7 - Ordinary Degree | 2 |
| Level 6 - Higher Certificate | 3 |
| Other qualification, please specify _____ | 4 |

21. **Are you still on this course, did you complete it or did you leave before completion?**
- Still on course..... 1 Completed course..... 2 Left Before Completion.....3
22. **Thinking back to the end of May 2006, were you undertaking full-time higher education at that time?**
- Yes..... 1 No 2

APPLICATION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

23. (a) **Did you ever apply for a place in higher education (third level) in Ireland and/or overseas?** [Int:Circle all that apply]

Yes, in Ireland 1 **Go to (b)** Yes, overseas 2 **Go to (b)** No 3 **Go to (d)**

(b) If Yes in Ireland, was this through?

CAO1 Access Programme/Direct Entry.....2

(c) Which type of course(s) did you apply for? [Circle all that apply]

Honours Degree (Level 8)..... 1
 Ordinary Degrees and Higher Certificates (Levels 6&7) 2
 Overseas 3

Now go to Q.24

(d) If you did not apply, why not?

[Int: Read out & Circle as many as apply]

Wasn't interested or didn't think it was for me	1
Didn't think I would get the grades	2
Wanted to earn money straight away	3
Felt I couldn't afford it/ too expensive	4
Wanted to travel/have gap year/take time out	5
Wanted to do other education/training instead	6
My family didn't encourage me to	7
My school/teachers didn't encourage me to	8
Other (please specify) _____	9

Now go to Q.25

[Int: If yes in Ireland or yes overseas at Q23a – Ask Q24a]

24. (a) **Were you offered a place on a higher education (third level) course in Ireland and/or Overseas?**

Yes 1 No2 **(Go to Q25)**

(b) If yes, which of the following were you offered? [Int: Read out options and circle all that apply]

Honours Degree (Level 8) 1
 Ordinary Degree and/or Higher Certificate (Levels 6&7) 2
 Other specify (i.e. Overseas Qualification) 3

(c) Did you accept any offer?

Yes 1

No 2 → **go to Q.24 (e)**

(d) If yes, which level? (circle one option)

Honours Degree (Level 8)	1
Ordinary Degree and/or Higher Certificate (Levels 6&7)	2
Other	3

(e) If you did not accept any offer, why not? [Int: Read out options and circle only 1, the main reason]

Wasn't interested or didn't think it was for me	1
Didn't get my preferred course	2
Did not get location of choice	3
Wanted to earn money straight away	4
Felt I couldn't afford it/ too expensive	5
Wanted to travel/have gap year/take time out	6
Wanted to do other education/training instead	7
Wanted to repeat my Leaving Certificate	8
My family didn't encourage me to	9
Other (please specify) _____	10

Economic Activity Since Leaving School

25 (a) Now I would like you to cast your mind back to the time since you left school. I would like you to think back to June 2005 and tell me what your main situation was with regard to employment in each month from June 2005 to date (current month).

Categories to describe situation with regard to employment

Working for payment.....	1
Apprenticeship	2
Unemployed, having lost or given up previous job.....	3
Looking for first regular job since leaving school.....	4
On a FÁS/CERT or Private training scheme	5
Student	6
Engaged in home duties	7
Unable to work due to permanent disability or illness	8
Other.....	9

So, which of these categories best describes your usual situation with regard to employment in June 2005, July 2005 etc. [Int: Read out categories and tick one box for each month since June 2005.]

	Working	Apprenticeship	Unemployed	Looking for 1st job	Training	Student	Home Duties	Disability/ Illness	Other
2005									
June									
July									
August									
September									
October									
November									
December									
2006									
January									
February									
March									
April									
May									
June									
July									
August									
September									
October									
November									
December									
2007									
January									
February									
March									
April									
May									
June									
July									
August									
September									
October									
November									
December									

25 (b) [Int: code 5 or 6 (training or a student) in **MAY 2006** go to Question 25b. Otherwise go to Question 26a.]

Please describe fully the type training you were doing or the main educational course you were following in May 2006. _____

26(a) [Int: If code 3 or 4 (unemployed/ looking for 1st job) in May 2006 in Q.25a] Were you unemployed or seeking your first job at the end of May 2006?

Yes... 1

No 2 → Go to Q.27

(b) Thinking back to that period of unemployment which you were experiencing at the end of May 2006, when did that period of unemployment begin?

_____ day _____(mth) _____(yr.)

CURRENT JOB

27. Did you hold a job last week, even for a short time?

Yes 1 No 2 → Go to Q.35

28. (a) How would you describe the job you held last week?

Regular, full-time 1
 Temporary, full-time 2
 Regular, part-time 3
 Temporary, part-time 4

(b) When did you take up this job that you held last week? Month _____ Year _____

[Int: If resp held more than one job, answers to this and subsequent questions on job held last week should refer to the main or principal job - i.e. the one which accounted for most of their income last week]

29. Please give the name of the job held last week and a full description of the work done. (If farmer or relative assisting, give acreage. Be sure to describe job exactly. If relevant give rank e.g. Civil Service, Gardaí, Army etc)

30. In this job which was held last week, what was your employment status?

Employer 1
 Self-employed, without paid employees 2
 Employee 3
 Assisting a relative (not receiving a fixed salary or wage) 4

31. What is/was the nature of the business carried out by your employer (or yourself, if you are self-employed)? (Please describe the process carried out, and the end-product, if any.)

32. (a) What was the total number of hours you worked in this job last week including overtime (if any)?

Number of hours _____

(b) Was this the normal number of hours worked in this job each week? Yes..... 1 No 2

33. How much did you earn in this job last week? (to nearest €)

(a) Gross (before deductions) Gross € _____ (b) Net (i.e. take-home pay) € _____

34. (a) Were you receiving any form of training at your place of work during last week?

Yes 1 No 2 → Go to Q35

(b) (If Yes) In the job where you received this training were you:

Employed on a Statutory* Apprenticeship Scheme 1
 Employed on a Non-Statutory Apprenticeship Scheme 2
 Receiving other type of training 3

*Statutory Apprenticeship is one where apprentice is entitled to FÁS Apprentice Registration Card.

JOB ON MAY 31ST 2006

35. Perhaps you could cast your mind back to the 31st May 2006. Could you tell me if you held a job in the last week of May 2006, even if this was only a short-term or temporary job. How would you describe this job?

Regular, full-time 1 → Go to Q.36
 Regular, part-time 2 → Go to Q.36
 Temporary, full-time 3 → Go to Q.36
 Temporary, part-time 4 → Go to Q.36
 No job held at end May 2006 5 → Go to Q.43

36. Could you tell me whether this is the same job as the job you currently hold? [job at (Q.27)]

Yes, same job 1 (go to Q.43) No, other job 2 (go to Q.37)

37. When did you take up that job which you held at the end of May 2006? _____ (month) _____ (year)
38. Please give the exact name of that job which you held at the end of May 2006 and a full description of the work done. (If farmer or relative assisting, give acreage. If relevant, give grade or rank e.g. Civil Service, Gardaí, Army, etc.)

39. What was the nature of the business carried out by your employer (or yourself; if you were self-employed) in the job which you held at the end of May 2006? (Describe the process carried out and the end-product if any).

40. What was your employment status in this job which you held at the end of May 2006?
Employer..... 1
Self-employed, without paid employees..... 2
Employee 3
Assisting a relative (not receiving a fixed salary or wage)..... 4
41. What was the total number of hours usually worked per week in that job which you held at the end of May 2006.
_____ hrs per week
42. And how much did you usually earn per week in that job which you held at the end of May 2006.
(a) Gross (before deductions) Gross € _____ (b) Net (i.e. take-home pay) € _____

WORK-RELATED EDUCATION AND/OR TRAINING

43. [Int: IF resp CURRENTLY HAS A JOB (Full- or Part-Time) (i.e. YES to Q. 27), complete this section],
[IF NO JOB CURRENTLY (i.e. NO to Q. 27) go to Q.48]
- 43(a). I would like to ask you a few questions about any education or training which has been paid for, or provided, by your current employer over the last year. If you are in your current job for less than 1 year I would like you to think about any education or training which your employer has provided, or paid for, since starting your employment with him or her.
- (a) Have you received any education or training paid for, or provided, by your present employer over the last year?
Yes 1 No 2 **go to Q44**
- (b) Is the education or training continuing or has it been completed? Continuing 1 Completed 2
- (c) How long did (will) the education or training last? Days _____
[Int: Please answer in terms of Days, one week equals 5 days]
- (d) Do you feel that the skills or knowledge which you have acquired in this education or training would be of any use to you in getting a job with another employer or was the education or training specific to your current job only?
Of use in getting job with another employer 1 Of use only in current job..... 2
44. Thinking of all of the tasks involved in your current job, to what extent do you use the knowledge and skills you acquired in the course of your education and training? Please answer on a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 means 'To a very great extent' and 5 means 'Not at all'.
To a very great extent Not at all
1 2 3 4 5
45. Thinking of all aspects of your current job (e.g. position, tasks, pay etc.), to what extent is your current job appropriate to your level of education? Again, please answer on a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 means 'To a very great extent' and 5 means 'Not at all'.
To a very great extent Not at all
1 2 3 4 5
46. How secure do you feel your job is?
Very secure... 1 Fairly secure 2 Insecure 3 Very Insecure 4
47. Are you a member of a trade union? Yes..... 1 No 2
48. Could you say how satisfied or dissatisfied you are with your present economic situation?
Very satisfied..... 1 Satisfied..... 2 Dissatisfied..... 3 Very Dissatisfied 4

BACKGROUND

The following are some questions about you and your family. The information is needed so that we can look at the experiences of people in different situations. I would like to repeat that the information you provide will be treated in the strictest confidence.

49. (a) **What is your place of birth** (write in county or country) _____
 (i.e. usual residence of mother at time of birth, not the address of the hospital where born)

(b) (If born outside Ireland) **In what year did you come to live in Ireland?** _____ (year)

50. (a) [Int: Check address on Assignment sheet] **Is this still your address?** Yes 1 No 2

(b) **If No, what is your present address** _____

51. **What country do you now live in?** Republic of Ireland 1 Elsewhere 2

When did you leave the country? Month _____ Year _____

52. **Which of the following best describes (a) your Father's current situation (b) your Mother's current situation with regard to employment?**

	(a) Father	(b) Mother
At work as an employee	1	1
At work as an employer	2	2
Self-employed without employees	3	3
Unemployed	4	4
Retired	5	5
Engaged on home duties	6	6
Unable to work due to disability	7	7
Deceased	8	8
Other	9	9

53a. **What is (or was) your Father's main occupation?** (If farmer or relative assisting, state acreage.)

53b. **What is (or was) your Mother's main occupation?** (Applies only if Mother worked outside the home at some stage. If farmer or relative assisting, state acreage.)

54. **Could you tell me the highest level of education reached by your (a) father and (b) mother.**

<u>(a) FATHER</u>		<u>(b) MOTHER</u>	
Primary or below	1	Primary or below	1
Lower Secondary (Junior/Inter Cert or equiv)	2	Lower Secondary (Junior/Inter Cert or equiv)	2
Upper Secondary (Leaving Cert or equiv)	3	Upper Secondary (Leaving Cert or equiv)	3
Post-Secondary Non-Tertiary (eg PLC)	4	Post-Secondary Non-Tertiary (eg PLC)	4
Non-Degree (Certificate/Diploma)	5	Non-Degree (Certificate/Diploma)	5
Degree or Higher	6	Degree or Higher	6
Unknown	7	Unknown	7

55. **Are you a member of the Travelling Community?** Yes 1 No 2

56. (a) **Do you have any chronic, physical or mental health problem, illness or disability?** Yes 1 No 2 → Go to 57

(b) **Are you hampered in your daily activities by this physical or mental health problem, illness or disability?**

Yes 1 No 2

57. **Who completed this questionnaire?** School Leaver him(her) self 1 Parent 2 Other (specify) _____ 3

58. [Int: Record Time Interview Ended (24 hour clock)]: ____: ____

Could you please provide us with your phone number *or* email address: we will need contact details in the event you are a winner. We may also wish to follow up with you at a later point in time.

Phone number? _____

Email Address: _____

Thank you very much for your co-operation