

## Factors Affecting Survey Length

OurSCHOOL survey length is less a function of the number and/or type of measures selected, and more a function of survey preparation. Listed below are some examples of things that can impact survey length as well as questions to consider as you prepare to implement your survey.

- Reading level of students within a given school;
- The number of rotated and filtered questions each student receives;
- How long students take to respond to OEQ questions;
- The addition of custom MCQs/MAQs/OEQs at the school level;
- How long students are granted permission to complete the survey;
- Instructions from teachers that may slow down the students filling out the survey, including:
  - Providing instructions only after all students log in,
  - requiring students to wait until everyone has finished a page before moving to the next one and;
  - Asking students to keep the survey open until the end of the class period.
- Is it the first time an OurSCHOOL survey has been implemented in your school?
- Did the survey 'time-out' or were there other interruptions during the survey administration?
- Did classrooms or grades decide to complete the survey in multiple sittings or across multiple class periods?
- Is there a large population of ESL students within the school?

There is a lot of variability in how the survey is administered between and within schools. Our analyses show schools that compose shorter surveys do not always have the shortest survey lengths, and schools that compose longer surveys do not always have the longest survey lengths. Further, a recent analysis shows that a survey with a time clock estimate of 33 minutes can take students from between 24 to 46 minutes to complete. This clearly indicates that survey completion times are not solely a function of measure selection, as our results show that there can be almost a 22-minute difference between schools using the same survey definition.

