



# Tool 3.1: Domestic Workers United Survey Template

Surveyor Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Site of Survey: \_\_\_\_\_ Borough: \_\_\_\_\_

This survey is being conducted by Domestic Workers United, a city-wide alliance of domestic workers that have come together to gain respect and recognition for domestic workers, and to establish fair labor standards for our industry. We are an independent, nonprofit, non-governmental alliance. The purpose of this survey is to document working conditions for domestic workers. This information will help DWU to establish more rights and higher labor standards for domestic workers. All information is confidential and anonymous.

## Opening Questions

These questions will ask you about your work as a domestic worker. If you are currently working, please answer the following questions about your current job(s). If you are unemployed, please answer the questions based on the most recent job(s) you had.

### 1. Are you currently employed as a domestic worker?

- Yes
  - No
- (If No, ask #2, if Yes, skip to #3)

### 2. If you are unemployed, what month and year did your last job as a domestic worker end?

Mo\_\_\_\_\_ Yr\_\_\_\_\_

### 3. Which of the following tasks do/(did) you do at your job(s) as a domestic worker? (check all that apply)

- Childcare
- Baby-nursing
- Elderly companion
- Provide medication
- House cleaning
- Laundry and Ironing
- Cooking
- Running Errands
- Home repairs

### 4. Who pays/(paid) your salary?

- An agency
- Family that I work for
- Not Sure
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. In your last month of employment, how many different households did you do domestic work for, including part time jobs?

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- More than 6



**6. Are/were any of these jobs full time (40 or more hrs/week)?**

- Yes
- No

**7. How many hours per week do/(did) you work in each household?**

(Write down hours worked per week for each household, starting with (a) as the most hours and ending with the least)

- a. Household 1 \_\_\_\_ hrs/wk
- b. Household 2 \_\_\_\_ hrs/wk
- c. Household 3 \_\_\_\_ hrs/wk
- d. Household 4 \_\_\_\_ hrs/wk
- e. Household 5 \_\_\_\_ hrs/wk
- f. Household 6 \_\_\_\_ hrs/wk

**8. How many other workers, besides you, work in the household (s) where you work?**

- a. Household 1 \_\_\_\_ # workers
- b. Household 2 \_\_\_\_ # workers
- c. Household 3 \_\_\_\_ # workers
- d. Household 4 \_\_\_\_ # workers
- e. Household 5 \_\_\_\_ # workers
- f. Household 6 \_\_\_\_ # of workers

**9. Are/(were) you a live-in employee for the household where you work(ed) the most hours?**

- Yes/Live-in
- No/Live-out

**10. On average, how much do/ (did) you get paid per week for all of your domestic work jobs?**

- \$ \_\_\_\_ dollars per week
- Not Sure

**Benefit Questions**

For currently employed: Now I want you to think about the employer where you work the most hours.

For unemployed: Now I want you to think about your most recent employer, where you worked the most hours.

*In the questions that come next, only answer for that employer.*

**SICK DAYS:** First I'm going to ask you about sick days. These are days that you can take off of work because of illness or injury; if you need to go to the doctor or if you need to care for a family member that is ill or injured.

**11. Do/ (did) you have an agreement with your employer about sick days?**

- Yes
- No
- Not Sure

(If Yes, ask #12...If No or Not Sure, skip to 13)

**12. If you made an agreement with your employer about sick days, was the agreement kept or broken?**

- Agreement kept
- Agreement was broken
- Not sure
- N/A

**13. In your last year of employment, did you take any sick days? (If yes, how many days did you take?)**

- Yes \_\_\_ # of days
  - No
  - Not Sure
- (If Yes, ask #14...If No or Not Sure, skip to 15)

**14. Are/ (were) the sick days paid or unpaid?**

- Paid
- Unpaid
- Both paid and unpaid
- Not Sure

**15. What is the maximum number of paid sick days that you can/(could) take per year? (if none, write zero)**

- \_\_\_ # of days
- Not Sure
- N/A

**16. What is the maximum number of unpaid sick days that you can/ (could) take per year? (if none, write zero)**

- \_\_\_ # of days
- Not Sure
- N/A

**17. If you don't/(didn't) use your sick days in a certain amount of time, what happens?**

- I get paid for the sick days I didn't use
- Days roll-over to the next year
- I lose the sick days
- Not Sure
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- N/A

**18. How comfortable or uncomfortable do/(did) you feel talking with your employer about sick days?**

- Very Comfortable
- Comfortable
- Somewhat Comfortable
- Uncomfortable
- Very Uncomfortable
- Not Sure

**19. In your last year of employment, how many times did you go to work, even though you were sick?**

- Never
- 1-2 times
- 3-5 times
- More than 5 times
- Not Sure



**Current Demographic Information (See Sample Demographic Questions for more options)**

**Age:** • 20yrs or less • 21-31yrs • 32-42yrs • 43-53yrs • 54-64yrs • 65yrs and older

**Gender:** • Female • Male • Transgender • Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Race/Ethnicity:**

• African American • Caribbean • Latino/a • White  
• South Asian • East Asian • Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Do you have children?**

• Yes • No

**Number of children:**

• 1 • 2 • 3 • 4 • 5 • More than 5

**Neighborhood(s)/ zip code where you work:** \_\_\_\_\_

**zip code** \_\_\_\_\_

**Neighborhood/zip code where you live:** \_\_\_\_\_

**zip code** \_\_\_\_\_