

# **Diversifying Media Environment in the Classroom and Teachers' Choice of Media: From 2014 and 2015 Surveys on School Teachers' Media Usage and Attitudes**

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(Summary)

New tools such as interactive whiteboards and tablets are gradually being introduced in schools across Japan. Online educational content such as digital textbooks and NHK's educational service "NHK for School" are available on the screens of these devices and used by teachers and children on daily basis. "ICT in Education" that has been accelerating since 2010 is undoubtedly changing lessons.

The NHK Broadcasting Culture Research Institute has been carrying out surveys on school teachers' media usage and attitudes since 2013. The survey series was introduced to replace the "NHK School Broadcast Utilization Survey" that had been regularly conducted for over 60 years from 1950 to 2012, aiming at "schools" across Japan. The new survey changed its target to individual "teachers," and the survey method and content are renovated. The purpose of the survey is to gain data that indicate the future direction of educational services by accurately and precisely grasping the changing needs of the classroom.

This paper reports the results of the surveys of elementary school teachers (2014) and of junior-high school teachers (2015) and analyzes them from new perspectives. The author analyzed the demographics such as age groups, what grades they teach, and subjects of the elementary school teachers and junior-high teachers, respectively, as well as their "attitudes towards digital devices" and "attitudes towards lessons." Then, the author compared their media use and attitudes.

The analyses indicate teachers' media usage varies depending on the grade and the subject, regardless of whether they teach at elementary school or at junior-high. They choose media that will meet the needs of specific content of each lesson. The survey also revealed a generational difference in media use. In general, the use of network-type media materials that can be used anytime and anywhere is high among younger teachers while older teachers tend to use packaged materials that they can use at ease without depending on the network.

The author examines how teachers are planning to utilize media in education in the age where diverse media can be available to use, but, at the same time, teachers are required to be prepared beforehand and versed in digital devices and software.