

CE-805  
(1-1-2005)

# Consumer Expenditure Surveys

Diary Survey

# Information Booklet

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Economics and Statistics Administration  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

U S C E N S U S B U R E A U



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## **HISPANIC ORIGIN**

- 1** – Mexican
- 2** – Mexican-American
- 3** – Chicano
- 4** – Puerto Rican
- 5** – Cuban
- 6** – Cuban-American
- 7** – Central or South American
- 8** – Other

**RACE**

**(PLEASE CHOOSE ONE OR MORE)**

**1** – White

**2** – Black or African American

**3** – American Indian or Alaska Native

**4** – Asian

**5** – Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander

## **ASIAN ORIGIN**

**1** – Chinese

**2** – Filipino

**3** – Japanese

**4** – Korean

**5** – Vietnamese

**6** – Asian Indian

**7** – Other

## **EDUCATION**

**0** – Never attended, preschool, kindergarten

**1-11** – 1st grade through 11th grade

**38** – 12th grade NO DIPLOMA

**39** – HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE — DIPLOMA, or the equivalent

**40** – Some college but no degree

**41** – Associate degree in college — Occupational program

**42** – Associate degree in college — Academic program

**43** – Bachelor's degree (ex: BA, AB, BS)

**44** – Master's degree (ex: MA, MS, MEng, MEd, MSW, MBA)

**45** – Professional School Degree (ex: MD, DDS, DVM, LLB, JD)

**46** – Doctorate degree (ex: PhD, EdD)

## **RECALL QUESTIONS – Section 3**

### **Examples of vending machine purchases:**

- beverage from soda machine
- candy bar from a snack machine

## **RECALL QUESTIONS – Section 3**

### **Examples of alcoholic beverages purchased at full-service restaurants:**

- glass of wine with dinner
- beer at a pub
- cocktails at a bar



## **RECALL QUESTIONS – Section 3**

### **Examples of tobacco purchases**

- cigarettes
- pipes
- cigars
- chewing tobacco

# OCCUPATIONS

- 1 — ADMINISTRATOR, MANAGER**  
 administrator            manager            funeral director
- 2 — TEACHER**  
 teacher            guidance counselor
- 3 — PROFESSIONAL**  
 registered nurse            accountant            computer programmer  
 computer systems analyst            social worker            lawyer  
 engineer            physician            clergy
- 4 — ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT, INCLUDING CLERICAL**  
 secretary            bookkeeper            clerk  
 computer assistant            receptionist            typist
- 5 — SALES, RETAIL**  
 cashier            commodity salesperson            apparel salesperson  
 motor vehicle salesperson            door to door salesperson
- 6 — SALES, BUSINESS GOODS AND SERVICES**  
 mining sales representative            real estate salesperson  
 financial services            wholesale sales representative  
 manufacturing sales representative            insurance salesperson
- 7 — TECHNICIAN**  
 health technician            practical nurse            clinical laboratory technician  
 drafting            electronic technician
- 8 — PROTECTIVE SERVICE**  
 private guard            police officer            firefighter
- 9 — PRIVATE HOUSEHOLD SERVICE**  
 nanny            household worker
- 10 — OTHER SERVICE**  
 janitor            cook            waiter/waitress  
 food preparer            food counter/fountain worker            orderly  
 child care worker            hairstylist            maid/houseman
- 11 — MACHINE OPERATOR, ASSEMBLER, INSPECTOR**  
 machine operator            assembler            inspector
- 12 — TRANSPORTATION OPERATOR**  
 truck driver            bus driver            tractor operator
- 13 — HANDLER, HELPER, LABORER**  
 stock handler            freight handler            material handler  
 construction laborer            packager
- 14 — MECHANIC, REPAIRER, PRECISION PRODUCTION**  
 automobile mechanic            machine repairer            machinist  
 sheet metal worker            meat cutter            tailor
- 15 — CONSTRUCTION, MINING**  
 carpenter            electrician            painter  
 plumber            mining worker
- 16 — FARMING**  
 farmer            farm worker
- 17 — FORESTRY, FISHING, GROUNDSKEEPING**  
 forestry worker            fisher            groundskeeper  
 animal caretaker
- 18 — ARMED FORCES**  
 armed forces

## **INCOME - CARD A**

- 0**—Loss
- 1**—\$0—\$4,999
- 2**—\$5,000—\$9,999
- 3**—\$10,000—\$14,999
- 4**—\$15,000—\$19,999
- 5**—\$20,000—\$29,999
- 6**—\$30,000—\$39,999
- 7**—\$40,000—\$49,999
- 8**—\$50,000—\$69,999
- 9**—\$70,000—\$89,999
- 10**—\$90,000—\$119,999
- 11**—\$120,000 and over

## **INCOME - CARD B**

- 1**—Less than \$300
- 2**—\$300—\$399
- 3**—\$400—\$499
- 4**—\$500—\$599
- 5**—\$600—\$699
- 6**—\$700—\$799
- 7**—\$800—\$899
- 8**—\$900—\$999
- 9**—\$1,000—\$1,499
- 10**—\$1,500 and over

## **INCOME - CARD C**

- 0** – Loss
- 1** – \$0 – \$999
- 2** – \$1,000 – \$1,999
- 3** – \$2,000 – \$2,999
- 4** – \$3,000 – \$3,999
- 5** – \$4,000 – \$4,999
- 6** – \$5,000 – \$9,999
- 7** – \$10,000 – \$14,999
- 8** – \$15,000 – \$19,999
- 9** – \$20,000 – \$29,999
- 10** – \$30,000 – \$39,999
- 11** – \$40,000 – \$49,999
- 12** – \$50,000 and over

## **POST-DIARY ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS – Section 5**

**(PLEASE SELECT ONE)**

**1** – Very Easy

**2** – Easy

**3** – Difficult

**4** – Very Difficult

## **POST-DIARY ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS – Section 5**

**(PLEASE SELECT ONE)**

- 1** – As soon as a purchase was made during the day
- 2** – At the end of the day when a purchase was made
- 3** – A day or so after a purchase was made
- 4** – At the end of the week

## **POST-DIARY ASSESSMENT QUESTIONS – Section 5**

**(PLEASE SELECT ONE)**

**1** – 30 minutes or less

**2** – 31 – 60 minutes

**3** – 61 – 90 minutes (1-1/2 hours)

**4** – 91 minutes or more



## **DIARY SURVEY CHECKS**

When reviewing the Diary, check each page in the form. Be sure that ALL entries have as much detail as possible. The following are EXAMPLES of information that is often omitted.

### **I. CONTENT CHECKS**

- 1.** All entries should be clearly readable. If there is an entry which is not, rewrite it. Entries that contain brand names, local names or acronyms should be clarified and rewritten.
- 2.** If the respondent reports no expenditures for a day, mark the NONE box at the bottom of the page.
- 3.** Be sure there is an amount entered in the total cost column for every item entry in the diary and that the amount entered is reasonable. If an amount is unusually high or low, confirm it with the respondent. Whenever possible, a single cost for each item is required. Investigate any combined expense to determine if individual costs can be identified.
- 4.** In Part 1, Food and Drinks Away From Home, be sure that all the checkboxes are appropriately marked. If an alcohol checkbox is marked, indicating that alcoholic beverages were purchased, there should also be an amount entered in the last column. There should always be an amount entered in the total cost column.
- 5.** In Part 2, Food and Drinks for Home Consumption, be sure a checkbox indicating whether the food is fresh, frozen, etc. is marked.
- 6.** In Part 3, Clothing, Shoes, Jewelry, and Accessories, be sure the checkboxes for gender and age are marked.
- 7.** In Part 4, All Other Products, Services, and Expenses, be sure there is an entry in the last column to indicate if the item was purchased for someone not on your list.

### **II. EXPENDITURE DETAIL CHECKS**

#### **FOOD AND DRINKS AWAY FROM HOME**

MEALS – Check the type of meal (lunch, breakfast, dinner, snack/other) and the type of vendor. If alcohol is included, make sure the type is specified in the checkboxes and the cost is recorded.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – If the purchase is exclusively alcohol, make sure the type is specified and that the total cost and the alcohol cost are the same. Both cost entries must be recorded.

# DIARY SURVEY CHECKS

(Continued)

## **FOOD AND DRINKS FOR HOME CONSUMPTION**

- BREAD – Specify if white, whole wheat, rye, pumpernickel, etc.
- BAKERY PRODUCTS – Specify type such as cupcakes, apple pie, etc.
- BEEF – Specify the cut of beef and describe, such as ground beef, prime rib, etc.
- PORK – Specify the cut and describe, such as pork loin roast, whole ham, etc.
- POULTRY – Specify whether it is chicken, turkey, or other
- CHICKEN – Specify if whole or parts, such as chicken legs, chicken wings, etc.
- JUICE, BEVERAGE – Specify type such as orange juice, fruit punch, etc.
- SOFT DRINKS – Specify if cola or other type; if not cola, specify if carbonated or noncarbonated
- COFFEE – Specify if instant or ground
- OTHER FOOD – Give a complete description, such as boxed scalloped potatoes

## **CLOTHING, SHOES, JEWELRY, AND ACCESSORIES**

- CLOTHING – Specify the type of clothing and give a description of the item
- SHOES – If sport shoes, specify sport such as football cleats, ice skates, etc.
- JEWELRY – Specify the type of jewelry, such as watches, etc.

## **ALL OTHER PRODUCTS, SERVICES, AND EXPENSES**

- MEDICINE – Specify if prescription or nonprescription
- DOCTOR BILLS – Specify type of doctor, such as dentist, internist, etc.
- SOAP – Specify hand soap or laundry soap
- LAUNDRY/DRY CLEANING – Specify if coin operated or not coin operated; specify whether household item (such as drapes) or apparel
- TABLEWARE – Specify type, such as china, flatware, silver service pieces, etc.
- DISHWASHER – Specify whether it is portable or built-in
- FURNITURE – Specify type such as kitchen chair, living room chair, etc.
- TOOLS – Specify if power or hand tool, such as power saw, etc.
- ALBUM – Specify photo album or record album
- GAS – Specify if gasoline or household fuel. If household fuel, indicate whether piped or bottled
- VEHICLE – Specify new or used and type of vehicle purchased
- VEHICLE REGISTRATION – Specify state or local
- VEHICLE REPAIR – Specify type of repair done such as brake work other than brake adjustment, exhaust system repair
- VEHICLE SERVICE – Specify the type of service such as oil change, brake adjustment, etc.
- BUS, TRAIN – Specify intercity or intracity fare
- TUITION – Specify high school, college, etc.
- BOOKS – Specify whether it was part of a book club, a school book, or a non-school book. If the purchase was for school, then specify whether it was college, high school, or other.

# CALENDAR

## 2005

JANUARY						
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FEBRUARY						
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MAY						
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JUNE						
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JULY						
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OCTOBER						
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NOVEMBER						
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DECEMBER						
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# CALENDAR

## 2006

JANUARY						
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FEBRUARY						
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MARCH						
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APRIL						
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MAY						
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JUNE						
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JULY						
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SEPTEMBER						
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DECEMBER						
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# CALENDAR

## 2007

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FEBRUARY						
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MARCH						
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APRIL						
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JUNE						
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JULY						
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AUGUST						
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OCTOBER						
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NOVEMBER						
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DECEMBER						
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## **PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT**

**The U.S. Census Bureau is conducting the Consumer Expenditure Surveys for the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor under title 29, United States Code. The surveys' purpose is to obtain information on what Americans are purchasing in order to update the Consumer Price Index (CPI). All survey information will be used for statistical purposes only.**

**Any information you provide for this survey is confidential, by law, under title 13, United States Code. Participation in this survey is voluntary and there are no penalties for refusing to answer any question(s). However, your cooperation is extremely important to help insure the completeness and accuracy of these data.**

## **INTRODUCTION**

**"Good morning. I am (your name) from the U.S. Census Bureau. Here is my identification card. We are conducting a Consumer Expenditure Survey for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. I have some questions I would like to ask you. Did you receive a letter saying someone would call on you?"**