

**CE-805**  
(1-1-2004)

# **Consumer Expenditure Surveys**

## **Diary Survey**

# **Information Booklet**

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



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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** – African American, or Black

**3** – American Indian, or Alaskan 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 group not listed

## **EDUCATION**

- 1** – Never attended, preschool, kindergarten
- 2** – 1st grade through 11th grade
- 3** – 12th grade, no diploma
- 4** – High school graduate — high school diploma, or the equivalent (For example: GED)
- 5** – Some college but no degree
- 6** – Associate degree in college — Occupational/Vocational program
- 7** – Associate degree in college — Academic program
- 8** – Bachelor’s degree (For example: BA, AB, BS)
- 9** – Master’s degree (For example: MA, MS, MEng, MEd, MSW, MBA)
- 10** – Professional School Degree (For example: MD, DDS, DVM, LLB, JD)
- 11** – Doctorate degree (For example: 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**

- 1** – Loss
- 2** – \$0 – \$999
- 3** – \$1,000 – \$1,999
- 4** – \$2,000 – \$2,999
- 5** – \$3,000 – \$3,999
- 6** – \$4,000 – \$4,999
- 7** – \$5,000 – \$9,999
- 8** – \$10,000 – \$14,999
- 9** – \$15,000 – \$19,999
- 10** – \$20,000 – \$29,999
- 11** – \$30,000 – \$39,999
- 12** – \$40,000 – \$49,999
- 13** – \$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 eNONEr box in the upper left
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 Away From Home, check to assure that the yes/no box is appropriately marked. If the mYesm box is marked under column d, which indicates that alcoholic beverages were purchased, there should also be an amount entered in column e. There should always be a total cost in column c.
5. In Part 2, Food for Home Consumption, and Part 3, Food and Beverages Purchased as Gifts, be sure there is an entry in column c to indicate whether the food is fresh, frozen, etc.
6. In Part 4, Clothing, Shoes, and Jewelry, be sure there is an entry in column d to indicate whether the purchase was for someone outside the consumer unit. Be sure that column e indicates for whom the item was purchased.
7. In Part 5, All Other Purchases and Expenses, be sure there is an entry in column d to indicate whether the purchase was for someone outside the consumer unit.

## II. EXPENDITURE DETAIL CHECKS

### FOOD AWAY FROM HOME

MEALS - Specify the type of meal (lunch, breakfast, snack, dinner) and place in the appropriate category based on the type of establishment used. Indicate whether alcohol is included with the yes/no alcohol question for all meals. If alcohol is included specify the type (beer, wine, whiskey, etc.) and the cost

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES - If the purchase is exclusively alcohol, specify the type of alcohol (beer, wine, etc.) and both the total cost and the alcohol cost, which should be identical. Both cost entries must be recorded. Be sure that the yes/no question is answered.

# DIARY SURVEY CHECKS

(Continued)

## FOOD 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, AND JEWELRY

- 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 PURCHASES AND EXPENSES

- MEDICINE – Specify if prescription or nonprescription
- DOCTOR BILLS – Specify type of doctor, such as dentist, internist
- 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 builtin
- FURNITURE – Specify type such as kitchen chair, living room chair, etc.
- TELEVISION – Specify black/white, color portable, color console
- 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

## 2003

JANUARY						
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# CALENDAR

## 2004

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FEBRUARY						
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# CALENDAR

## 2005

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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?"**