American Time Use Survey

Eating & Health Module Questionnaire

May 2008
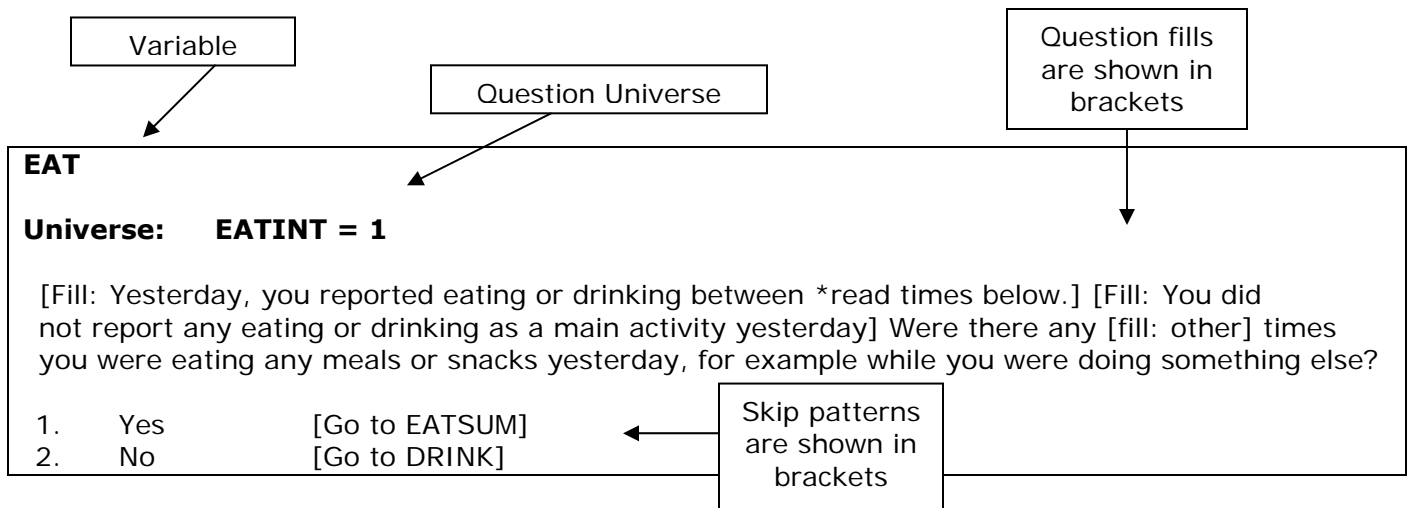
Sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service (ERS) and the National Institutes of Health's National Cancer Institute, the Eating and Health (EH) Module was introduced into the American Time Use Survey (ATUS) in January 2006. The ATUS is a continuous survey that started in January 2003. The EH Module consists of questions designed to examine relationships between time use; purchasing, preparing, and consuming food; and obesity. It contains questions on secondary eating habits (eating while doing other activities such as driving or watching TV); respondent's height and weight; his/her household's participation in the Food Stamp Program; children's consumption of meals prepared at day care, school, or summer programs; grocery shopping and meal preparation; and household income.

The EH Module questionnaire is intended to provide the data user with question universes, question wording, response choices, and skip patterns based on different responses. It includes descriptions of most survey variables defined in the EH Module data dictionary, and any variables necessary to understand the creation of those variables. Information for each variable is contained within individual boxes in this document. (See example below.) Text, as well as selected screen shots, is included to provide further explanation of the data collection instrument.

Please note that not all EH Module variables are on the data files available to the public. Some variables are processed further after collection to improve data quality, and some are suppressed to protect the confidentiality of ATUS respondents as required by law. For more information, please see the section titled ATUS Naming Conventions and Definitions in the ATUS EH Module Data Dictionary (http://www.bls.gov/tus/dictionaries.htm).

Variable

Question Universe

Question fills are shown in brackets

EAT

Universe: EATINT = 1

[Fill: Yesterday, you reported eating or drinking between *read times below.] [Fill: You did not report any eating or drinking as a main activity yesterday] Were there any [fill: other] times you were eating any meals or snacks yesterday, for example while you were doing something else?

1.   Yes   [Go to EATSUM]
2.   No   [Go to DRINK]

Skip patterns are shown in brackets

Section 1: Introduction

The EH Module begins with an introductory screen explaining the purpose of the module questions, and then proceeds to the screen asking the secondary eating questions.

EATINT

Universe: ALL

We're interested in finding out more about how people fit meals and snacks into their schedules.

Enter 1 to Continue   [Go to EAT]

Section 2: Secondary Eating

Secondary eating questions are designed to provide information on the amount of time that respondents spend eating while engaged in other activities during their diary day.

EAT

Universe: EATINT = 1

[Fill: Yesterday, you reported eating or drinking between *read times below.] [Fill: You did not report any eating or drinking as a main activity yesterday] Were there any [fill: other] times you were eating any meals or snacks yesterday, for example while you were doing something else?

1.   Yes   [Go to EATSUM]
2.   No   [Go to DRINK]

EATSUM

Universe: EAT =1

[*Times: [FILL:] until [FILL:]]   During which activities?
     *Read if necessary: Were there any other times you were eating yesterday?

1.	Select activities	[Go to EATWHN]
96.	All Day	[Go to DRINK]
97.	None/no more eating activities	[Go to DRINK]
	Don't Know/Refused	[Go to DRINK]

EATWHN

Universe: EATSUM=1

Were you eating the entire time you were [fill: ACTIVITY]?

* Use up/down arrow keys to move to the correct row.

1. Yes   [Go to next row in the grid]
2. No   [Go to HOURDUR]
    Don't Know/Refused   [Go to next row in the grid]

HOURDUR

Universe: EATWHN=1

About how long would you say you were eating while you were [fill: ACTIVITY]?

 * Enter hours

 0-24 hours, empty   [Go to MINDUR]
 Don't Know/ Refused   [Go to next line of grid]

MINDUR

Universe: Entry in HOURDUR

About how long would you say you were eating while you were [fill: ACTIVITY]?

* Enter minutes

 0-1440 minutes, empty   [Go to next line of grid. When grid complete, go to DRINK]
 Don't Know/Refused   [Go to next line of grid. When grid complete, go to DRINK]

This screen demonstrates the secondary eating summary questions:

Forms	Answer	Navigate	Options	Help

Main | Roster | EDays | FAQ | S3 | S4 | S5 | S7 | S8 | S9 | Exit

During which activities? ← Question text
• Read only if necessary:
Were there any other times you were eating yesterday?
• Enter "1" for activities done while eating.   ← Interviewer instructions
• Enter "96" for All day.
• Enter "97" for None/no more eating activities.
• Use up/down arrow keys to move to the correct row.

○ 1. Select
○ 96. All day
● 97. None

	Start	Activity	Stop	Eating	Entire	E-Hr	E-Min
[14]	1:50PM	Working at main job	4:45PM	1	2		15
[15]	4:45PM	Driving home	5:25PM	97			
[16]	5:25PM	Preparing meals and snack	5:55PM				
[17]	5:55PM	Eating and drinking	7:20PM	1			
[18]	7:20PM	Cleaning kitchen	7:45PM				
[19]	7:45PM	Talking to friends	10:00PM				
[20]	10:00PM	Grooming	10:30PM				
[21]	10:30PM	Sleeping	6:30AM				
[22]							
[23]							
[24]							
[25]							
[26]							

← Variables

00000009	EATSUM	4:46:19 PM	3/15/2007		

5

Section 3: Secondary Drinking

The secondary drinking questions are similar to the secondary eating questions. They are designed to provide information on the amount of time that respondents spend drinking all beverages, except for water, while engaged in the activities that they reported on their diary day.

DRINK

Universe: EAT = 2, Don't Know, Refused or EATSUM = 96, 97

Not including plain water, were there any other times yesterday when you were drinking any beverages?

 Read if necessary: I'm asking about any type of beverage, other than plain water, including things like coffee, tea, juice, milk, and soda, as well as alcoholic beverages.

1.	Yes	[Go to DRNKSUM]
2.	No	[Go to FODPRP]
	Don't Know/Refused	[Go to FODPRP]

DRNKSUM

Universe: DRINK=1

During which activities?

 Read if necessary: Were there any other times yesterday when you were drinking anything other than plain water?

1.	Select activity	[Go to DRNKWHN]
96.	All day	[Go to FODPRP]
97.	None/no more activities	[Go to FODPRP]

DRNKWHN

Universe: DRINKSUM=1

Were you drinking the entire time you were [fill: ACTIVITY]?

 Read if necessary: Were there any other times yesterday when you were drinking anything other than plain water?

1.   Select activity   [Go to DRNKWHN]
97.   None   [Go to FODPRP]
         Don't Know/ Refused   [Go to next row in grid]

HOURDUR

Universe: DRINKWHN=2

 About how long would you say you were drinking while you were [fill: ACTIVITY]?

* Enter hours

0-24 hours, empty   [Go to MINDUR]
Don't Know/Refused   [Go to next row in grid]

MINDUR

Universe: Entry in HOURDUR

About how long would you say you were eating while you were [fill: ACTIVITY]?

*Enter minutes

0-1440 minutes, empty   [Go to next line of grid. When grid complete, go to FODPRP]
Don't Know/Refused   [Go to next line of grid. When grid complete, go to FODPRP]

Section 4: Food Preparation

FODPRP

Universe: All

Now I'd like to ask a couple of questions about food preparation.

Enter 1 to Continue   [Go to GROSHP]

GROSHP

Universe: FODPRP=1

Are you the person who usually does the grocery shopping in your household?

1.   Yes
2.   No
3.   I split it equally with other household member(s)
      Don't Know/Refused

 All entries: [Go to PRPMEL]

PRPMEL

Universe: FODPRP=1, 2, 3, Don't Know, Refused

 Are you the person who usually prepares the meals in your household?

1.   Yes
2.   No
3.   I split it equally with other household member(s)
      Don't Know/Refused

All entries: [Go to FODSTP]

FODSTP

Universe: PRPMEL=1, 2, 3, Don't Know, Refused

In the past 30 days, [fill: did you/did anyone in your household] get food stamp benefits?

1.   Yes
2.   No
      Don't Know/Refused

All entries: [If there is at least one person on the roster that meets the following criteria:
                     HHMEM = 1 and AGE < 19 and DELDEC not equal 1-3, Go to CHDMEL]

                    [ELSE Go to HEALTH]

Section 4.1 Food preparation away from home

CHDMEL

Universe: **Roster contains at least one person meeting the following criteria: HHMEM = 1 and AGE < 19 and DELDEC not equal 1-3**

Now I'd like to ask about how [fill: you / the children in your household] fit [fill: your / their] meals in when [fill: you / they] are away from home.

Enter 1 to Continue   [Go to SCLBRK]

SCLBRK

Universe: **CHDMEL=1**

Please think back over the past week starting last [fill: interview day of week] up to today, [fill: interview day of week]. In the past week, did [fill: you / names of household children under the age of 19/you or names of household children under the age of 19] eat a BREAKFAST that was prepared and served at a school, [fill: a paid day care], [fill: a Head Start center], [fill: or] [fill: a summer day program]? This question refers ONLY to BREAKFASTS prepared at the school or center—not meals brought from home.

   * Read if necessary: PAID but informal day care, such as neighbors' or family members' households SHOULD count.

1.   Yes   [if HHMEM = 1 and AGE < 19 and DELDEC not equal 1-3 for more than one household member Go to BWCHLD]
                    [Else Go to SCLLCH]

2.   No   [Go to SCLLCH]

3.   Child / Children did not attend school, day care, Head Start, or summer day program
              [Go to HEALTH]

Forms Answer Navigate Options Help

Main | Roster | EDays | FAQ | S3 | S4 | S5 | S7 | S9 | Exit

Please think back over the past week starting last Friday up to today.
In the past week, did
  Dierdre Boe
 eat a BREAKFAST that was prepared and served at a school or a paid day care?
This question refers ONLY to BREAKFASTS prepared at the school or center- not meals brought from home.

◆ Read only if necessary:
   PAID but informal day care, such as neighbors' or family members' households SHOULD count.

○ 1. Yes   ○ 3. Child / Children did not attend school, day care, head start, or summer day
○ 2. No   program.

Intro to food preparation	1	Intro to child meals	1
Usually Grocery Shops	1	School Breakfasts	
Usually Prepares Meals	1	Children Names	
Food Stamp Benefits	1	School lunches?	
		Children Names	

| 00000101 | SCLBRK | 5:05:21 PM | 2/8/2008 | | |

BWCHLD

Universe: SCLBRK = 1 and HHMEM = 1 and AGE < 19 for more than one hh member

 Which children?

        *Read names
        *Check all that apply

        Check lines 1-30
        Don't Know/Refused

        All entries: [Go to SCLLCH]

Forms Answer Navigate Options Help

| Main | Roster | EDays | FAQ | S3 | S4 | S5 | S7 | S9 | Exit |

Which children?
- Read names
- Check all that apply

☑ 3. Dierdre Boe

Enter at most 30 values

Intro to food preparation	1	Intro to child meals	1
Usually Grocery Shops	1	School Breakfasts	1
Usually Prepares Meals	1	Children Names	3
Food Stamp Benefits	1	School lunches?	
		Children Names	

| 00000101 | BWCHLD | 5:07:19 PM | 2/8/2008 | | |

SCLLCH

Universe: **CHDMEL=1**

What about LUNCH? In the past week, did [you / names of household children under the age of 19 / you or names of household children under the age of 19] eat a LUNCH that was prepared and served at a school, [a paid day care], [a Head Start center], [or] [a summer day program]? This question refers ONLY to LUNCHES prepared at the school or center—not meals brought from home.

* Read if necessary: PAID but informal day care, such as neighbors' or family members' households SHOULD count.

1.   Yes   [if HHMEM = 1 and AGE < 19 and DELDEC not equal 1-3 for more than one household member Go to LWCHLD]

[Else Go to HEALTH]
2.   No   [Go to HEALTH]
3.   Child / Children did not attend school, day care, Head Start, or summer day program [Go to HEALTH]

LWCHLD

Universe: **SCLLCH = 1 AND (HHMEM = 1 and AGE < 19 and DELDEC ≠ 1-3 for more than one household member)**

Which children?

Select lines 1-30
Don't Know/Refused

All entries: [Go to HEALTH]

Section 5: Physical Health

HEALTH

Universe: ALL

Alright, we're almost done here. I'm going to switch topics and ask you a few final questions about your physical health that might affect how you use your time.

Enter 1 to continue [Go to GENHTH]

GENHTH

Universe: ALL

In general, would you say that your physical health is Excellent, Very Good, Good, Fair, or Poor?

1.   Excellent
2.   Very Good
3.   Good
4.   Fair
5.   Poor
        Don't Know/Refused

All entries: [Go to HEIGHT]

HEIGHT

Universe: ALL

How tall are you without shoes?

1.   U.S. Customary   [Go to HEIGHT_FT]
2.   Metric   [Go to HEIGHT_M]
        Don't Know/Refuse   [Go to WGHT]

HEIGHT_FT

Universe: HEIGHT = 1

How tall are you without shoes?

 *Enter height in feet.

0 – 8 feet   [Go to HEIGHT_IN]
Don't Know/Refused   [Go to WGHT]

HEIGHT_IN

Universe: HEIGHT_FT = 0 – 8

 How tall are you without shoes?

 *Enter inches.
 *Enter 0 if exactly [fill: HEIGHT_FT] tall.
 *Enter a value between 0 - 97.

0 – 97 inches   [Go to WGHT]

Don't Know/Refused   [Go to WGHT]

HEIGHT_M

Universe: HEIGHT = 2

How tall are you without shoes?

*Enter height in meters.
*Enter a value between 0 - 8.

0 - 8   meters   [Go to HEIGHT_CM]
Don't Know/Refused   [Go to WGHT]

HEIGHT_CM

Universe: HEIGHT_M = 0 - 8

How tall are you without shoes?

        *Enter value in centimeters.
        *Enter a value between 0 - 997.

0 – 997 centimeters   [Go to WGHT]
Don't Know/Refused   [Go to WGHT

WGHT

Universe: ALL

How much do you weigh without shoes? [fill: Since pregnancy effects weight, please let me know if you are currently pregnant.**]

 1.   U.S. Customary   [Go to WEIGHT_LB]
 2.   Metric   [Go to WEIGHT_KG]
 3.   Pregnant   [Go to INCOME]
        Don't Know/Refused   [Go to INCOME]

 **For the DP, if SEX = 2 and AGE = 18-50, fill "Since pregnancy effects weight, please let me know if you are currently pregnant"

WEIGHT_LB

Universe: WGHT = 1

 How much do you weigh without shoes?

 *Enter weight in pounds.

 0-997 pounds   [Go to INCOME]
 Don't Know/Refused   [Go to INCOME]

WEIGHT_KG

Universe: WGHT = 2

How much do you weigh without shoes?

 *Enter weight in kilograms.

0 – 997 kilograms   [Go to INCOME]
Don't Know/Refused   [Go to INCOME]

Section 6: Income

INCOME

Universe: ALL

The next question is about your household income.

Enter 1 to continue   [Go to INCOME1]

INCOME1

Universe: INCOME = 1

Last month, was your total household income before taxes more or less than [fill 1] per month?

 *Probe (if necessary): that would be [fill 2] per year.

1.   More   [Go to THANKYOU]
2.   Less   [Go to INCOME2]
       Don't Know/Refused   [Go to INCOME2]

       Fill 1:   See Appendix A for complete list of values.

INCOME2

Universe: INCOME1 = 2

Was it more or less than [fill 1] per month?

Probe (if necessary): that would be [fill 2] per year.

1.   More   [Go to THANKYOU]
2.   Less   [Go to THANKYOU]
      Don't Know/Refused   [Go to THANKYOU]

      Fill 1:   See Appendix A for complete list of values.

Appendix A

INCOME1

INCOME1 is a variable that provides information on the respondent's household income. A respondent is asked if his or her household income is greater or less than a given amount. This amount approximates 185 percent of the poverty threshold for a household the size of the respondent's household. The fill amount changes depending on when the interview was conducted because poverty thresholds are revised annually by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Number of persons in household	Fill 1 (185 percent of FY 2006 poverty thresholds)	Fill 1 (185 percent of FY 2007 poverty thresholds)
1	$1,487	$1,600
2	$1,901	$2,000
3	$2,323	$2,500
4	$2,976	$3,100
5	$3,520	$3,700
6	$3,976	$4,200
7	$4,507	$4,700
8 or more	$5,032 + ($503 x each additional household member) (round up to nearest 100.)	$4,700 + ($524 x each additional household member) (round up to nearest 100)

INCOME2

INCOME2 is the second of two questions relating to income on the EH Module. Respondents are asked if their monthly household income is greater or less than a given amount (different from the amount asked in INCOME1). This second amount approximates 130 percent of the poverty threshold for a household the size of the respondent's household. The given income amount is determined by the number of people living in the household. This amount changes depending on when the interview was conducted because poverty thresholds are revised annually by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Number of persons in household	Fill 1 (130 percent of FY 2006 poverty thresholds)	Fill 1 (130 percent of FY 2007 poverty thresholds)
1	$1,045	$1,200
2	$1,336	$1,500
3	$1,632	$1,800
4	$2,092	$2,300
5	$2,473	$2,700
6	$2,794	$3,000
7	$3,167	$3,400
8 or more	$3,536 + ($354 x each additional household member) (round up to nearest 100)	$3,400 + ($379 x each additional household member) (round up to nearest 100)

For more information about these variables, see the EH Module User's Guide, hosted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service at http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/ATUS.