



# Consumer Expenditure Surveys

Diary Survey

## Information Booklet

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

*Helping You Make Informed Decisions*

**CE-805**  
(1-1-2009)



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## Hispanic Origin

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

## Race

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**(Please choose one or more)**

- 1 – White
- 2 – Black or African American
- 3 – American Indian or Alaskan Native
- 4 – Asian
- 5 – Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander

## Asian Origin

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- 1 – Chinese
- 2 – Filipino
- 3 – Japanese
- 4 – Korean
- 5 – Vietnamese
- 6 – Asian Indian
- 7 – Other group not listed



# Education

- 0** – Never attended, preschool, kindergarten
- 1 - 11** – 1<sup>st</sup> grade through 11<sup>th</sup> grade
- 38** – 12<sup>th</sup> grade, no diploma
- 39** – High school graduate – high school diploma, or the equivalent (For example: GED)
- 40** – Some college but no degree
- 41** – Associate degree in college – Occupational/Vocational
- 42** – Associate degree in college – Academic program
- 43** – Bachelor's degree (For example: BA, AB, BS)
- 44** – Master's degree (For example: MA, MS, MEng, MEd, MSW, MBA)
- 45** – Professional School Degree (For example: MD, DDS, DVM, LLB, JD)
- 46** – Doctorate degree (For example: PhD, EdD)

# OCCUPATIONS

## 01 – Administrator, Manager

administrator                      manager                      funeral director

## 02 – Teacher

teacher                                  guidance counselor

## 03 – Professional

registered nurse                      accountant                      physician                      social worker                      computer systems  
lawyer                                  engineer                                  clergy                                  computer programmer                      analyst

## 04 – Administrative Support, including Clerical

secretary                                  bookkeeper                                  clerk  
receptionist                                  computer assistant                                  typist

## 05 – Sales, Retail

cashier    commodity salesperson    door to door salesperson  
apparel salesperson                                  motor vehicle salesperson

## 06 – Sales, Business Goods and Services

mining sales representative    real estate salesperson  
financial services    wholesale sales representative  
manufacturing sales representative    insurance salesperson

## 07 – Technician

health technician                                  practical nurse                                  drafting                                  clinical laboratory technician  
electronic technician

## 08 – Protective Service

private guard                                  police officer                                  firefighter

## 09 – Private Household Service

nanny    household worker

## 10 – Other Service (except private household)

janitor    cook    waiter/waitress    food preparer    food counter/fountain  
child care worker    hairstylist    maid/houseman    orderly    worker

## 11 – Machine Operator, Assembler, Inspector

machine operator                                  assembler    inspector

## 12 – Transportation Operator

truck driver    bus driver    tractor operator    taxi driver

## 13 – Handler, Helper, Laborer

stock handler    freight handler    material handler    packager    construction laborer

## 14 – Mechanic or Repairer, Precision Production

automobile mechanic    machine repairer    machinist    meat cutter    sheet metal worker

## 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

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

# 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 check box 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.

# DIARY SURVEY CHECKS (continued)

## 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.

### 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 if 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 an oil change, brake adjustment, etc.

BUS, TRAIN - Specify intercity or intracity fare

TUITION - Specify high school, college, etc.

BOOKS - Specify whether it was a 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

## 2009

JANUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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FEBRUARY						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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MARCH						
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APRIL						
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MAY						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JUNE						
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28	29	30				

JULY						
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AUGUST						
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SEPTEMBER						
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OCTOBER						
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NOVEMBER						
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DECEMBER						
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# CALENDAR

## 2010

JANUARY						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

JULY						
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FEBRUARY						
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AUGUST						
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MARCH						
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28	29	30	31			

SEPTEMBER						
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APRIL						
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OCTOBER						
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MAY						
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NOVEMBER						
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JUNE						
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DECEMBER						
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# CALENDAR

## 2011

JANUARY						
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JULY						
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FEBRUARY						
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AUGUST						
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MARCH						
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SEPTEMBER						
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APRIL						
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OCTOBER						
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MAY						
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NOVEMBER						
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JUNE						
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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 survey's 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 ensure the completeness and accuracy of these data.





**U.S. Department of Commerce**  
Economics and Statistics Administration  
U.S. Census Bureau