

STUDY SERIES
(*Survey Methodology* #2007-6)

**Report on the Behavior Coding of Pilot Interviews
for Food and Nutrition Service Supplement**

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Report Issued: March 8, 2007

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Bureau of the Census
Washington, DC 20233-0001

June 9, 1994

Dr. Bruce Klein
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Food and Nutrition Service
3101 Park Center Drive
Alexandria, VA 22302

Dear Bruce:

Enclosed is our report on the behavior coding of the pilot interviews and the revised questionnaire. I have also enclosed the pilot test questionnaire and the behavior coding manual for your reference.

Please note that we have defined school age children as those ages 5 through 17 and adults as those 18 and over. You may want to revise these definitions if they do not meet your needs.

If you have any questions regarding any of these materials, please contact Jennifer Hess on (301) 763-1447. I will be out of the country until our next status meeting on June 21.

Sincerely,

JCH for
Eleanor Singer

Eleanor Singer
Center for Survey Methods Research

enclosures

cc:

R. Tucker	(DSD)	w/o enclosures
M. Reed	"	"
J. Feliciano	"	w/enclosures
S. Proudfoot	"	w/o enclosures
E. Martin	(CSMR)	w/o enclosures
J. Hess	"	w/ enclosures

Report on Behavior Coding of Pilot Interviews
for Food and Nutrition Service Supplement

June 6, 1994

During the week of May 2, 1994, four experienced Current Population Survey (CPS) interviewers carried out 37 interviews using the revised Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) supplement. The 37 interviews were divided among elderly people (N=8), younger ones with families (N=17), and others including non-elderly individuals and multi-generational families (N=12). Respondents were recruited through a variety of channels: expired CPS rotations, flyers left at management offices of low-income housing projects and food distribution sites, and word of mouth. All respondents were supposed to have family incomes at or below 200% of poverty, but in fact 6 of the 37 had incomes above the cutoff point. Respondents were paid \$15 for the interview.

Thirty-five of the 37 interviews were tape-recorded and subsequently the interviewer/respondent interactions were behavior-coded. A description of behavior coding, together with rules for coding these interviews, is attached to this report.

The report is divided into seven sections. First, we discuss the overall results of the behavior coding and recommendations from the interviewer debriefing. In sections two through six, we describe specific problems uncovered by the behavior coding, and sketch out our attempts to remedy them. In a few cases, problems

emerged not as a result of the behavior coding but from listening to the interviews themselves and from the respondent debriefing questions asked at the end of the interview. The seventh section consists of the proposed revised questionnaire. Question numbers refer to the draft questionnaire used in the pilot test, which is also attached to this report.

1. Overall Results and Interviewer Recommendations

With some exceptions, the pilot interviews went well. The exceptions had to do chiefly with language problems (approximately three Hispanic respondents), which increased the time needed for administering the instrument and required interviewers to translate many terms ad hoc. Even then, interviewers felt that respondents did not always understand the questions or answer them appropriately. They strongly recommended that a Spanish-language instrument be made available for the April supplement. The pretest sample included two or three respondents from India, who also had difficulty in understanding the questions.

In addition to the problems faced by non-English speakers, some words were not well understood by English-speaking respondents. These are discussed in relation to specific questions below.

Only 9 of the 74 questions (12%) asked of more than 6 respondents had interviewer problems, as indicated by less than 85% exact readings, or readings with only slight changes. (For purposes of this report, only questions asked of more than 6 respondents were analyzed.) Although 19 of the 74 questions (26%) had respondent problems (as indicated by less than 85% adequate or qualified

answers), 8 of these respondent problems occurred in the last section--i.e., on the questions about concerns with food safety. Thus, behavior coding of the pilot interviews revealed problems with 36 percent of the questions (since there was virtually no overlap among the questions causing problems for interviewers and respondents).

In addition to the 27 questions identified as having interviewer or respondent problems, we identified a number of others as giving rise to respondent interruptions before being answered adequately. For example, a respondent might interrupt an interviewer with an adequate answer before all the response categories had been read. In that case, both "interrupt" and "adequate answer" were coded. The percentages in the paragraph above are based on the adequate or qualified answers, but we also looked at those questions on which several interruptions preceded an adequate answer, tried to diagnose the reason for the interruption, and revised the question accordingly.

The sections that follow describe the problems identified in the pilot interviews and our attempts to remedy them. In revising the questions we relied not only on the code assigned to the interviewer's reading and the respondent's answer, but more especially on the comments recorded for each question by the coders who had listened to the entire interview.

We timed a sample of 8 interviews, with the following results (times are averaged over the 8 interviews):

Food expenditures and program participation	5.7 minutes
Food sufficiency and coping	7.3
Food safety	<u>2.6</u>
Total	15.6

Since most people will be asked only the first and last sections, the length seems to be acceptable, at least for the field test in August. However, as noted below, we have tried to shorten the time required for administering the questionnaire.

2. Food Expenditures and Program Participation

Food Expenditures (Q.1-9, and Q.11)

Four general problems and several specific problems were identified in connection with the food expenditure section. The first general problem involved questions about other members in the household: Respondents tended to interrupt the interviewer during these questions because, in most households, no one else was reported to have spent money for food at supermarkets, convenience stores, or specialty stores.

Accordingly, and in order to reduce the amount of time required for this section, we omitted the questions about other members of the household except for the

question pertaining to food purchased in restaurants, cafeterias, and the like. Seven persons in our sample (and, we suspect, a larger proportion in the more affluent portion of the CPS sample) reported that someone else in their household had spent money in such places. We also added one general question about food bought by other household members before the restaurant questions.

The second problem involved Q.7X. Because of an incorrect skip instruction, Q.7X was not asked of most people in the pilot test. We have therefore retained it for the field test, but we may be able to eliminate it before April by incorporating the places named in response to Q.7XA in one or more of the preceding questions.

The third problem involved frequency of shopping at supermarkets (Q.1A). Three people in the pilot test (8%) indicated that they did not shop at the supermarket every week. We have, therefore, added a question about frequency of shopping at supermarkets. Those people who indicate they shop at a supermarket less often than once a week are then asked to estimate their monthly expenditure. In analyzing the data, it will be possible to substitute a weekly estimate (derived from the monthly estimate) for actual supermarket expenditures during the preceding week for that small portion of the sample that does not shop every week.

The fourth general problem has to do with the length of the food expenditures section. Although the new questions take longer to administer than the original FNS composite question, we believe the length is justified by the quality of the data obtained. This is especially true because these are the only questions

(aside from Section 5) that will be asked of everyone in the CPS sample, and will therefore provide good comparative data on food expenditures for poorer and more affluent people. These data will also provide a better baseline for comparison with Q.11 regarding the least amount of money needed to feed everyone in the household for a week. Please note that Q.11 was difficult for respondents and accounted for some of the time required for section 1.

In addition to these more general problems, we identified specific interviewer problems with questions Q.2A, 6A, and 8. Interviewers tended to tailor Q.2A and 6A to incorporate information provided by respondents in Q.2 and 6. For example, if respondents reported shopping at Walmart or eating at McDonald's during the week, they were asked how much they had spent at Walmart or McDonald's, instead of having the question read exactly as worded. We will include an interviewer instruction about these questions for the August field test. On Q.8, interviewers departed greatly from the question wording, and in some cases backed up and corrected the original estimates, instead of using Q.9 for that purpose. Computerizing the questionnaire, and self-study, should eliminate these errors.

Respondent problems occurred with Q.1B and 11. We have revised Q.1B so that it is read as a single sentence and have eliminated the parenthetical phrase in order to shorten the question.

Almost half the respondents (16 out of 35) had difficulties with Q.11 about the least amount of money they would need to spend per week in order to have enough food for everyone in the household. We don't think there is a way to make this question easier. In the end, almost everyone answered the question, though it

took a few turns of requests for clarification, clarification by the interviewer, and sometimes calculations by respondents to arrive at an answer.

Program Participation (Q.10-10G)

One purpose of the pilot test was to see whether we could use Q.10 to screen out persons from the series of questions Q.10A-10G without losing any information. In order to find this out, persons who answered that they did not receive any food or vouchers for food in Q.10 were asked about the specific programs (Q.10A-10F) in the respondent debriefing.

Only 3 of the 20 people who had answered "no" to Q.10 answered affirmatively to any of the debriefing questions--all of them to the question about free school lunches. To remedy this, we have revised Q.10 to draw more attention to the specific programs. Alternatively, Q.10 could be asked only of people above 200% poverty, and the specific questions (Q.10A-10G) could be asked of everyone else without the screener.

Only Q.10D was counted as problematic on the basis of respondent answers, and that question, along with Q.10, 10A, and 10F caused problems for interviewers.

We believe our revision of Q.10 will eliminate the problems with this question. Q.10A involved silent verifies on the part of interviewers (i.e. respondents who had answered Q.10 with "yes, food stamps," were not asked Q.10A), which can be corrected by interviewer instructions. Q.10D also involved silent verifies (i.e. respondents who answered that their children were too young to be in school in

Q.10C were not asked Q.10D). To remedy this, we changed the instructions so that Q.10C and 10D would be asked only about school age children. Interviewers sometimes omitted asking question Q.10F for women. We have revised the target population for this question (women of childbearing age), and believe that interviewer instructions and a computerized instrument should take care of this problem.

3. Food Sufficiency (Q.12-16)

None of the questions in this section caused problems for interviewers, but Questions 12 and 16 caused problems for respondents. For Q.12, we propose two solutions. First, a change in the appearance of the question so that interviewers do not pause after the word "household"; and second, a return to the original wording of the question, omitting the word "always" before "enough." Respondents seem to be made uncomfortable by the absolute quality of the word "always," and inserting it here probably lessens comparability with earlier askings of this question.

Q.16 also caused problems for respondents. Some 30% gave inadequate answers to this question or requested clarification. The question has too many response alternatives, and those offered did not fit respondents' frameworks very well.

Our proposed solution for the problems posed by Q.16 is based on the purpose for including it, as described in the documentation supplied to CSMR by FNS. The purpose of including Q.16, as described there, is to permit reconstruction of the

USDA question that had been asked in many previous surveys. As currently worded, Q.16 will not permit such a reconstruction; the response categories of Q.16 will not map onto those of the original USDA question (nor would the categories in the FNS draft of the questionnaire). In order to reproduce the categories of the original question, we recommend asking Q.12 (revised as suggested above), and then asking only those who say they have enough to eat a new question (Q.13 on the proposed revised questionnaire): Whether they have the kind of food they like, or not always the kind of food they like. (This is a technique known as "unfolding.") This solution would solve the problem noted in FNS's documentation regarding the cognitive difficulty of commenting simultaneously on the quantity and quality of food eaten.

However, if FNS wants to ask the "quality" question of all respondents, we recommend revising the categories as indicated below and administering the questions in a split-ballot version: Everyone would be asked Q.12; half of those who say "enough" would be asked the "unfolding" version, and everyone else would be asked the revised Q.16:

Q16. Which of the following best describes the kind of food eaten in your household--always the kind of food you want to eat, almost always the kind of food you want to eat, sometimes the kind of food you want to eat, almost never the kind of food you want to eat?

- always
- almost always
- sometimes
- almost never

(In the current version of the questionnaire, almost half of those who say they sometimes or often don't have enough to eat say they always or almost always have the kind of food they want. This seems counterintuitive, suggesting problems with one or both questions. Please note that in the pilot test no one chose the

response alternative "Never" and we, therefore, omitted it from the response categories.)

Although Q.15 did not pose problems for interviewers or respondents, interviewers tended to tailor Q.15 by inserting the responses marked in Q.13 at the end of the question. We incorporated this tailoring into Q.15 and deleted Q.14, since verbatim responses indicated that respondents were elaborating on money-related problems. Additionally, if none of the reasons listed in Q.13 is appropriate for the respondent, Q.15 will read "What is the main reason you don't always have enough to eat?" Interviewers will be able to record answers other than those listed in Q.13 in the "Other" category. Analysis of the verbatim responses after the August pretest will indicate if additional categories are needed in Q.13.

4. Coping Mechanisms and Food Scarcity (Q.17-53)

General Issues.--Three general issues are addressed in connection with this section. One has to do with **who** is to be asked the questions. The second has to do with the **time periods** asked about. And the third has to do with the **sequence** of the child and adult questions.

1. Who is to be asked? In the original FNS version, questions about food scarcity were to be asked of everyone under 200% of poverty and everyone who had said "Sometimes" or "Often" not enough to eat. To avoid asking this long series of questions of people who had never run short of food or money for food, we inserted Q.17 as a possible screener to be used in subsequent versions of the

questionnaire. We did not actually screen out anyone on the basis of this question in the pilot test.

Nine people said "No" to Q.17 even though only 4 of them were above the poverty level. Among all those who said "No" to 17, only 2 respondents said "Yes" to any of the following questions. One was a Spanish-speaking respondent who may have had difficulty in understanding the screening question; the other was an elderly respondent who said "Yes" to only one subsequent question--namely, that she had gotten food from a food pantry (and again, there may have been a misunderstanding of the question).

We recommend that the screener and all subsequent questions be asked in the field test and that responses to the screener be cross-tabulated against subsequent responses. If very few people who say "No" to the screener answer subsequent questions affirmatively, we recommend using the screener to shorten the questionnaire for those who would otherwise be asked a long series of questions inappropriately.

2. Time periods. We recommend keeping the 4-months-ago and 2-weeks-ago time periods on the field test. They seem to have worked well in the pilot test, and research on memory suggests that two weeks is the longest period for which events such as those asked about here can be recalled accurately.

We understand that FNS wants to ask about the past thirty days. In the respondent debriefing, we asked respondents to comment on the longest period of time they could accurately answer whether or not they had skipped meals, cut the

size of their meals, etc. (We did not ask for the longest period of time they could accurately answer about the number of days they did such behaviors.) Although 80% of our respondents said they thought they could report accurately whether these events occurred for periods of a month or longer, it is not at all clear what time period people would actually be reporting on if they were asked about the past 30 days. The past week, or the past two weeks, can be reckoned fairly easily from the day of the interview. But to what does "the past thirty days" refer? There is nothing to anchor the time period to, and we suspect that responses are likely to be very inaccurate.

The other problem is what other time period, if any, should be asked about. Only a third of the sample say they could accurately answer whether they did such behaviors for the past year. Should we ask them only about the past month? That seems too short a period. About the past four months and the past month? That presents too little contrast. About the past year and the past month? Neither of these is likely to yield accurate estimates; for that reason, we would certainly recommend against asking about the number of days in the past month. Should we ask about the past month and the past week? That would yield the most accurate short-term estimates, but would not give any estimates for the longer term.

For all of these reasons, the two time periods in the pilot instrument seem to offer the best compromise between long-term estimates and short-term precision. Because of differences in sample design and data collection, the data about to be collected cannot really be compared with earlier surveys in any case. It therefore seems preferable to construct a good baseline instrument for this survey, which will be carried out on a national probability sample with a high

response rate, than to try to replicate questions that have been asked on earlier surveys based on local nonprobability samples.

If any changes are made, we would recommend asking about the past year and the past two weeks. The former is probably equivalent to asking "Did this ever happen?" and the latter would yield a fairly accurate short-term estimate. An alternative is to ask about the past 30 days, and then about frequency in the last week.

3. Sequence of Questions. A number of requests for clarification by respondents as to whether the question pertained to them or to their children in Q.36, 39, and 42, as well as some misreading of Q.48 by interviewers, led us to the conclusion that it would be best to ask all the questions about adults first (Q.17-31 and Q.36-44), and all the questions about children later (Q.32-35 and Q.45-53). The revised questionnaire uses this ordering, which should eliminate the kind of confusion manifested in the pilot test.

Problems with Specific Questions.-- Q.39 and 48 caused problems for interviewers. Interviewer problems with these questions seem to be related to the length of the question, and we have recommended shorter, revised versions for the field test.

Q.31, 38, and 41 seemed to cause problems for respondents. The concept of "stretching" one's food money in Q.31 seemed difficult for respondents; we have revised the wording. Also, it was not necessarily the case that respondents used 3 foods; it often seemed as if interviewers had to work very hard to get three

mentions. Therefore, we have revised the question to ask simply about foods used most often, and will insert an instruction for interviewers to probe for "any others".

Q.38 and 41 reflect problems with asking about "days" when "times" is the more natural unit. Notes from the behavior coding indicate that respondents answered these questions in terms of "times" even though they were asked about "days". We recommend a return to the word "times" in these questions. (For Q. 38, number of times is probably equal to number of days. If respondents had skipped several meals a day, wouldn't they be likely to say they had gone without food altogether?)

In addition to the problems identified above, we also encountered respondent interruptions of Q.36, 39, 42, and 51. Accordingly, we have revised and shortened Q.39, 42, and 51 and eliminated the introduction to Q.36; see the revised questionnaire.

The respondent debriefing and behavior coding indicated that there are problems with the concept "nutritious," especially as used in Q.34 and 35. In the debriefing, we asked respondents who said they had served foods that were less nutritious than they wanted what "less nutritious" meant to them. The data suggest that some respondents don't have a very good understanding of this concept. Responses included: "Whatever I can grab to throw together to make a meal," "Well it means a whole lot to me," "Because of our health we can't eat what we would like", "Don't know what nutritious means--(language barrier)." Additionally, notes from the behavior coding indicate that in Q.34 and 35, some

respondents say they feed the children more than they themselves ate. Since respondents are hearing the concept of "more nutritious" simply as "more" and since we are already asking whether the adults and children cut or skipped meals, it seems reasonable to omit these two questions altogether. Aside from the matter of comprehension, these questions also seem to invite socially desirable answers: If you are running out of food, you should feed the children first, and take care of your own needs second.

5. Concern about Food Sufficiency (Q.54-58)

None of the questions in Section 4 caused problems for interviewers, but Q.55, 56, and 57 caused problems for respondents.

On the basis of comments recorded for these questions, we concluded that the response categories created problems for respondents, and we are proposing to remind respondents of the object of worry by saying, "Do you worry about this often, sometimes, or never?" in every other question. We have also shortened Q.55 and 57. In Q.58, we have substituted "to feed your children properly" for "to give your children nutritious food" because the term "nutritious" is not well understood by these respondents. (Of course, "properly" is pretty vague, too!)

The notes from the behavior coding indicated that respondents had difficulty switching between the behavioral items in the previous sections and the attitudinal items in this section. For example, in Q.55 some respondents answered in terms of whether their money ran out, rather than how often they worried about this happening. We have revised the introduction to better focus the respondents on the dimension of "worry".

6. Concern about Food Quality and Safety (Q.59-60B)

Interviewers had no problems with any of these questions, but respondents had problems with all but three of them. Part of the problem seemed to be lack of familiarity with some of the terms, and we recommend deleting the questions about antibiotics and hormones for that reason. The list also seems excessively long, and we recommend that Q.59I also be deleted. Responses to this question emphasized spoilage and price; the former is included in Q.60A and 60B, and the latter is not a focus of this question.

Behavior coding results indicate that the questions in this section experienced a high number of respondent interruptions stemming from the number of response categories offered and their repetition. We therefore recommend reducing the response alternatives to 3: very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, and we have also reduced the number of times they are repeated. We have also revised Q.60A and 60B to make their format consistent with that of the other questions in this section.

Perhaps the major problem with Q.59E-59H is that for items asking about fat, salt, etc. respondents tend to answer in terms of "I don't use it," rather than in terms of how concerned they are about it. Perhaps we should be asking whether they "try to watch" the amount of fat, salt, sugar, etc. in the food they buy, rather than how concerned they are about it, but we have not made these changes, in part because of our understanding the FNS may drop or substantially revise this section.

FOOD SECURITY SUPPLEMENT
FIELD TEST

INTRODUCTION

The Food and Nutrition Service of the Department of Agriculture wants to find out about hunger in America. The purpose of this interview is to help them develop the best questions for a study that will be done next year, in the Spring of 1995.

We'd like to talk to the person who knows most about the food that's bought and eaten in this household. Would that be you or someone else? (If someone else): Please give me the name of that person. May I talk to (him/her)?

- Most knowledgeable person is available. PROCEED WITH INTERVIEW.
- Most knowledgeable person is not at home. MAKE APPOINTMENT FOR CALLBACK.
- One person is most knowledgeable about shopping, another about eating. INTERVIEW PERSON WHO IS MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT EATING.
- There is no one person who is most knowledgeable. INTERVIEW RESPONDENT, AND ENCOURAGE HIM/HER TO ANSWER AS BEST THEY CAN.

[PROCEED WHEN DESIGNATED RESPONDENT HAS BEEN CONTACTED]

FIELD TEST QUESTIONNAIRE

I. FOOD SHOPPING

1. The first few questions are about buying food for your household.
During the last week, did you shop for food at a supermarket?

Yes (ASK 1A)
 No (SKIP TO 1C)
 DK (SKIP TO 1C)

- 1A. How often did you shop for food at a supermarket last week?

_____ times

DK

- 1B. How much did you spend for food at a supermarket last week, NOT counting money spent on nonfood items, such as cleaning or paper products, pet food, or cigarettes.

\$ _ _ _ .00 (ACCEPT RANGE)

DK

- 1C. How often do you usually shop for food at a supermarket --once a week or more, 2 to 3 times a month, once a month or less, or do you never shop at a supermarket?

Once a week or more (SKIP TO 2)
 2 to 3 times a month (ASK 1D)
 Once a month or less (ASK 1D)
 Never shop at a supermarket (SKIP TO 2)
 DK (SKIP TO 2)

- 1D. How much do you usually spend for food at a supermarket each month?

\$ _ _ _ .00 (ACCEPT RANGE)

DK

2. Last week, did you buy food at a convenience store or grocery store other than a supermarket?

Yes (ASK 2A)
 No (SKIP TO 3)
 DK (SKIP TO 3)

2A. How much did you spend for food at convenience stores or grocery stores other than a supermarket last week?

\$ _ _ _ .00 (ACCEPT RANGE)

[] DK

3. Last week, did you buy food at any kind of a specialty store or food vender, such as a bakery, meat market, produce stand, delicatessen, or health food store?

[] Yes (ASK 3A)

[] No (SKIP TO 4)

[] DK (SKIP TO 4)

3A. How much did you spend for food at all such places last week?

\$ _ _ _ .00 (ACCEPT RANGE)

[] DK

4. [IF MORE THAN ONE PERSON AGE 8 OR OVER IN HOUSEHOLD, ASK 4. OTHERWISE SKIP TO 5.]

Did anyone else in your household buy food at a supermarket or grocery store, convenience store, or specialty store last week?

[] Yes (ASK 4A)

[] No (SKIP TO 5)

[] DK (SKIP TO 5)

4A. How much did other members of your household spend for food at all such places last week?

\$ _ _ _ .00 (ACCEPT RANGE)

[] DK

5. Last week, did you buy food at a restaurant, fast food place, cafeteria, or a vending machine?

[] Yes (ASK 5A)

[] No (SKIP TO 6)

[] DK (SKIP TO 6)

5A. How much did you spend for food at restaurants, fast food places, cafeterias, or vending machines last week?

\$ _ _ _ .00 (ACCEPT RANGE)

[] DK

6. [IF MORE THAN ONE PERSON AGE 8 OR OVER IN HOUSEHOLD, ASK 6. OTHERWISE SKIP TO 7.]

Did any other members of your household buy food at a restaurant, fast food place, cafeteria, or a vending machine last week?

- Yes (ASK 6A)
- No (SKIP TO 7)
- DK (SKIP TO 7)

6A. How much did other members of your household spend for food at restaurants, fast food places, cafeterias, or vending machines last week?

\$ _ _ _ .00 (ACCEPT RANGE)

DK

7. Did you buy food at any other places last week?

- Yes (ASK 7A)
- No (SKIP TO 8)
- DK (SKIP TO 8)

7A. Where did you buy food?

(verbatim) _____

7B. How much did you spend for food at (this place/these places) last week?

\$ _ _ _ .00 (ACCEPT RANGE)

DK

8. [ADD AMOUNTS IN 1B, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A, 7B]

[IF DOLLAR AMOUNTS IN 4A OR 6A, FILL PARENTHETICAL.]

Let's see, you've told me you (and other members of your household) spent a total of \$ _____.00 last week on all your food. Is that the right amount?

- Yes (SKIP TO 10)
- No

9. What is the correct amount?

\$ _ _ _ .00 (ACCEPT RANGE)

DK

10. Some people also get food, or vouchers for food, from government or other kinds of programs. During the past month, did anyone in this household get food, or vouchers for food, from any programs such as Food Stamps, WIC, free or reduced-cost meals for the elderly, or free or reduced-cost school lunches?

- Yes (ASK 10A)
- No (SKIP TO 11)
- DK (SKIP TO 11)

10A. During the past month, did anyone in this household get food stamps?

- Yes (ASK 10A1)
- No (SKIP TO 10B)
- DK (SKIP TO 10B)

10A1. What was the total value of the food stamps received by the household during the last month?

\$ _ _ _ .00

DK

10B. [IF ANYONE IN HOUSEHOLD IS 60 YEARS OLD OR OLDER, ASK 10B. OTHERWISE SKIP TO 10C.]

During the past month, did anyone in the household receive free or reduced-cost meals for the elderly?

- Yes
- No
- DK

10C. [IF CHILDREN AGES 5 TO 17, ASK 10C. OTHERWISE SKIP TO 10F.]

During the past month, did any children in the household receive free or reduced-cost lunches at school?

- Yes
- No
- DK

10D. During the past month, did any children in the household receive free or reduced-cost breakfasts at school?

- Yes
- No
- DK

10E. [IF CHILDREN UNDER 5, ASK 10E. OTHERWISE SKIP TO 10F.]
During the past month, did any children in the household receive free or reduced-cost food at a day-care center or Head Start program?

- Yes
- No
- DK

10F. [IF WOMEN AGES 15 TO 45 OR CHILDREN UNDER AGE 5 IN HOUSEHOLD, ASK 10F. OTHERWISE SKIP TO 10G.]
[IF CHILDREN UNDER AGE 5, FILL PARENTHETICAL.]
During the past month, did any women (or children) in this household get food through the WIC program?

- Yes
- No
- DK

10G. During the past month, did anyone in the household get food, or vouchers to buy food, from any other kind of program?

- Yes (specify) _____
- No
- DK

11. [READ PARENTHETICAL ONLY IF RESPONDENT HAS INDICATED ANY SOURCES OF FREE OR REDUCED-COST FOOD.]
(If you had to pay for all the food yourself) What is the least amount of money you would need to spend per week in order to have enough food for everyone in the household?

\$ _ _ _ .00 (ACCEPT RANGE)

- DK

II. FOOD SUFFICIENCY

12. These next questions are about the food eaten in your household.

Which of the following statements best describes the amount of food eaten in your household--enough food to eat, sometimes not enough to eat, or often not enough to eat?

- Enough food to eat
- Sometimes not enough to eat (SKIP TO 14)
- Often not enough to eat (SKIP TO 14)
- DK (SKIP TO 16)

13. Do you have enough AND the kind of food you want to eat, or do you have enough BUT NOT ALWAYS the kind of food you want to eat?

- enough and the kind you want (SKIP TO CK1)
- enough but not always the kind you want (SKIP TO CK1)
- DK (SKIP TO CK1)

14. Here are some reasons why people don't always have enough to eat. For each of these, please tell me whether or not it applies to you.
[READ LIST. MARK ALL THAT APPLY.]

	YES	NO	DK
Not enough money for food	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Too hard to get to the store	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No working stove	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No working refrigerator	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not able to cook because of health problems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

15. [IF NO REASON MARKED IN 14, PLUG "WHAT" INSTEAD OF "WHICH" IN FIRST PARENTHETICAL.
IF ONLY ONE REASON INDICATED IN 14, FILL AS MAIN REASON AND GO TO 16.
IF MORE THAN ONE REASON INDICATED IN 14, PLUG FIRST PARENTHETICAL WITH "WHICH" AND SECOND PARENTHETICAL WITH CATEGORIES MARKED IN 14.]

(Which/What) is the main reason you don't always have enough to eat(--fill with items marked in 13)?

[MARK ONLY ONE.]

- Not enough money for food
- Too hard to get to the store
- No working stove
- No working refrigerator
- Not able to cook because of health problems
- Other (specify) _____
- DK

III. COPING MECHANISMS AND FOOD SCARCITY

CK1.

If 12 is "enough to eat" and household is
more than 200% poverty.....(SKIP TO 56)
Otherwise.....(ASK 16)

16. People do different things when they are running out of money for food in order to make their food or their food money go further.

In the last 4 months, since January 1, 1994, did you ever run short of money and try to make your food or your food money go further?

- Yes
 No
 DK

17. During the last 4 months, since January 1, did you ever serve less expensive meals because you were running out of money to buy food?

- Yes
 No (SKIP TO 19)
 DK (SKIP TO 19)

18. Now think about the last two weeks. Did you ever serve less expensive meals in the last two weeks to make your food money go further?

- Yes
 No
 DK

[IF MORE THAN ONE PERSON AGE 18 OR OVER IN HOUSEHOLD, FILL PARENTHEICAL REGARDING OTHER ADULTS IN HOUSEHOLD IN QUESTIONS 19 THROUGH 39.]

19. Since January 1, did you (or other adults in your household) ever borrow food or money for food?

- Yes
 No (SKIP TO 21)
 DK (SKIP TO 21)

20. Did you (or other adults in your household) borrow food or money for food in the last two weeks?

- Yes
 No
 DK

21. In the last 4 months, since January 1, did you ever serve foods that were less nutritious than you wanted to make your food money go further?
- Yes
 No (SKIP TO 23)
 DK (SKIP TO 23)
22. Did you serve foods that were less nutritious than you wanted in the last two weeks?
- Yes
 No
 DK
23. Since January 1, did you (or other adults in your household) get food from a food bank or food pantry?
- Yes
 No (SKIP TO 25)
 DK (SKIP TO 25)
24. Did you (or other adults in your household) get food from a food bank or food pantry in the last two weeks?
- Yes
 No
 DK
25. In the last 4 months, since January 1, did you (or other adults in your household) eat at a soup kitchen?
- Yes
 No (SKIP TO 27)
 DK (SKIP TO 27)
26. Did you (or other adults in your household) eat at a soup kitchen in the last two weeks?
- Yes
 No
 DK
27. Since January 1, did you put off paying a bill so that you would have money to buy food?
- Yes
 No (SKIP TO 29)
 DK (SKIP TO 29)

28. Did you put off paying a bill in the last two weeks so that you would have money to buy food?

- Yes
- No
- DK

29. Sometimes people limit the kinds of foods they use in order to make their food money go further. In the last 4 months, since January 1, did you limit yourself to certain kinds of foods to make your food money go further?

- Yes
- No (SKIP TO 31)
- DK (SKIP TO 31)

30. Which foods did you use most often to make your food money go further?
[PROBE: Any others?]

(specify) _____

31. Sometimes people skip meals when there isn't enough money to buy food. In the last 4 months, since January 1, did you (or other adults in your household) ever skip a meal because there wasn't enough money for food?

- Yes
- No (SKIP TO 34)
- DK (SKIP TO 34)

32. Now think about the last two weeks. Did you (or other adults in your household) skip a meal in the last two weeks because there wasn't enough money for food?

- Yes
- No (SKIP TO 34)
- DK (SKIP TO 34)

33. How many times did you (or other adults in your household) skip a meal in the last two weeks?

_____ times

- DK

34. [IF 31 IS "YES", FILL FIRST PARENTHETICAL.]
(Sometimes people cut the size of their meals when there isn't enough money to buy food.) In the last 4 months, since January 1, did you (or other adults in your household) ever cut the size of your meals because there wasn't enough money for food?
- Yes
 No (SKIP TO 37)
 DK (SKIP TO 37)
35. In the last 2 weeks, did you (or other adults in your household) cut the size of your meals because there wasn't enough money for food?
- Yes
 No (SKIP TO 37)
 DK (SKIP TO 37)
36. How many times did you (or other adults in your household) cut the size of your meals in the last two weeks?
- _____ times
- DK
37. [IF 34 IS "YES", FILL FIRST PARENTHETICAL.]
(Sometimes people don't eat for a whole day when there isn't enough money to buy food.) In the last 4 months, since January 1, did you (or other adults in your household) ever not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food?
- Yes
 No (SKIP TO 40)
 DK (SKIP TO 40)
38. In the last 2 weeks, did you (or other adults in your household) not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food?
- Yes
 No (SKIP TO 40)
 DK (SKIP TO 40)
39. How many times did you (or other adults in your household) not eat for a whole day in the last two weeks?
- _____ times
- DK

40. [IF CHILDREN UNDER 18 IN HOUSEHOLD, ASK 40. OTHERWISE SKIP TO 51.]
[IF ONLY ONE CHILD UNDER 18 IN HOUSEHOLD, FILL PARENTHETICAL WITH CHILD'S FIRST NAME.]

The next questions are about (children living in the household who are under 18 years old).

In the last 4 months, since January 1, did you ever send (the children) to the homes of friends or relatives for a meal because you were running out of food?

- Yes
 No (SKIP TO 42)
 DK (SKIP TO 42)

41. Did you send (the children) to the homes of friends or relatives for a meal in the last two weeks?

- Yes
 No
 DK

42. In the last 4 months, since January 1, did you ever cut the size of (any of the children)'s meals because there wasn't enough money for food?

- Yes
 No (SKIP TO 45)
 DK (SKIP TO 45)

43. Did you cut the size of (the children)'s meals during the last two weeks?

- Yes
 No (SKIP TO 45)
 DK (SKIP TO 45)

44. How many times in the last two weeks did you cut the size of (the children)'s meals because there wasn't enough money for food?

_____ times

- DK

45. In the last 4 months, since January 1, did (any of the children) skip a meal because there wasn't enough money for food?

- Yes
 No (SKIP TO 48)
 DK (SKIP TO 48)

46. Did (the children) skip a meal during the last two weeks?
- Yes
 No (SKIP TO 48)
 DK (SKIP TO 48)
47. How many times in the last two weeks did (the children) skip a meal because there wasn't enough money for food?
- _____ times
- DK
48. In the last 4 months, since January 1, did (any of the children) ever not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food?
- Yes
 No (SKIP TO 51)
 DK (SKIP TO 51)
49. Did (the children) not eat for a whole day in the last two weeks?
- Yes
 No (SKIP TO 51)
 DK (SKIP TO 51)
50. How many times in the last two weeks did (the children) not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food?
- _____ times
- DK

IV. CONCERN ABOUT FOOD SUFFICIENCY

51. Even when they have enough to eat, people may worry about not having enough food or enough money to buy food. Please tell me how often you worry about each of the following.

How often do you worry whether the food you can afford to buy for your household will be enough--do you worry about this often, sometimes, or never?

- Often
- Sometimes
- Never
- DK

52. How often do you worry that your food will run out before you get money or food stamps to buy more--often, sometimes, or never?

- Often
- Sometimes
- Never
- DK

53. How often do you worry about where the next day's food is coming from--do you worry about this often, sometimes, or never?

- Often
- Sometimes
- Never
- DK

54. How often do you worry about not being able to eat properly--often, sometimes, or never?

- Often
- Sometimes
- Never
- DK

55. [IF CHILDREN UNDER 18 IN HOUSEHOLD, ASK 55. OTHERWISE SKIP TO 56.] How often do you worry about not being able to feed your children properly--do you worry about this often, sometimes, or never?

- Often
- Sometimes
- Never
- DK

V. CONCERN ABOUT FOOD QUALITY AND SAFETY

56. Some people are concerned about the safety of their food. Tell me how concerned you are about each of the following.

56A. How about pesticides in the fruits and vegetables you buy--are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, or not very concerned?

- very concerned
- somewhat concerned
- not very concerned
- DK

56B. How about additives and artificial ingredients in the food you buy--are you very, somewhat, or not very concerned?

- very concerned
- somewhat concerned
- not very concerned
- DK

56C. How about the amount of fat in the food you buy--are you very, somewhat, or not very concerned?

- very concerned
- somewhat concerned
- not very concerned
- DK

56D. The amount of sugar in the food you buy--are you very, somewhat, or not very concerned?

- very concerned
- somewhat concerned
- not very concerned
- DK

56E. The amount of salt in the food you buy--are you very, somewhat, or not very concerned?

- very concerned
- somewhat concerned
- not very concerned
- DK

56F. The amount of cholesterol in the food you buy--are you very, somewhat, or not very concerned?

- very concerned
- somewhat concerned
- not very concerned
- DK

57A. How concerned are you about eating spoiled or contaminated food at restaurants or take-outs--are you very, somewhat, or not very concerned?

- very concerned
- somewhat concerned
- not very concerned
- DK

57B. How concerned are you about eating spoiled or contaminated food at home--are you very, somewhat, or not very concerned?

- very concerned
- somewhat concerned
- not very concerned
- DK

PILOT TEST QUESTIONNAIRE

Respondent Name:
Address:
Telephone Number:

Case ID:

PRETEST FOR FOOD SECURITY SUPPLEMENT

The Food and Nutrition Service of the Department of Agriculture wants to find out about hunger in America. The purpose of this interview is to help them develop the best questions for a study that will be done next year, in the Spring of 1995. The interview is being done by the Bureau of the Census for the Department of Agriculture.

Your answers to the questions are confidential and may be seen only by sworn Census employees and used only for statistical purposes.

We'd like to talk to the person who knows most about the food that's bought and eaten in this household. Would that be you, or someone else? (If someone else): Please give me the name of that person. May I talk to (him/her)?

- Most knowledgeable person is available. PROCEED WITH INTERVIEW.
- Most knowledgeable person is not at home. MAKE APPOINTMENT FOR CALLBACK.
- One person is most knowledgeable about shopping, another about eating. INTERVIEW PERSON WHO IS MOST KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT EATING.
- There is no one person who is most knowledgeable. INTERVIEW RESPONDENT, AND ENCOURAGE HIM/HER TO ANSWER AS BEST THEY CAN.

[PROCEED WHEN DESIGNATED RESPONDENT HAS BEEN CONTACTED]
First, I need to list all of the members of this household.

What is your name?

What is your age?

Now I need the names of all of the people who live in your household.

NAME

What is ...'s age?

What is ...'s relationship to you?

To help us improve the questionnaire, we would like to tape-record this interview. The tape recording will help researchers determine how well the questions work. No information about you as an individual can be identified from the tape.

May I have your permission to tape-record the interview?

- Yes (ASK A)
 No (Try to reassure respondent. If respondent is still unwilling, proceed with interview and do not record it.)

A. I must record your permission on the tape. Therefore, I'm going to turn on the tape recorder and ask your permission again. [Turn on recorder, ask respondent for permission, and record permission.]

I. FOOD SHOPPING

1. The first few questions are about buying food for your household. During the last week, did you shop for food at a supermarket?

- Yes (ASK 1A)
 No (SKIP TO 1C)
 DK (SKIP TO 1C)

1A. How often did you shop for food at a supermarket last week?

_____ times

1B. [IF 1A GREATER THAN 1, READ PARENTHETICAL]
How much did you spend for food at a supermarket (counting all the times you shopped there) last week? Don't include money spent on nonfood items, such as cleaning or paper products, pet food, or cigarettes.

\$ _ _ _ .00

DK

1C. [IF MORE THAN 1 PERSON IN HOUSEHOLD, ASK 1C. OTHERWISE SKIP TO 2.]
Did anyone else in the household shop for food at a supermarket last week?

- Yes (ASK 1D)
 No (SKIP TO 2)
 DK (SKIP TO 2)

1D. Altogether, how much did other members of your household spend for food at a supermarket last week?

\$ _ _ _ .00

DK

2. Last week, did you buy food at a convenience store or a grocery store other than a supermarket?

- Yes (ASK 2A)
- No (SKIP TO 3)
- DK (SKIP TO 3)

2A. How much did you spend for food at convenience stores or grocery stores other than a supermarket last week?

\$ _ _ _ .00

DK

3. [IF MORE THAN 1 PERSON IN HOUSEHOLD, ASK 3. OTHERWISE SKIP TO 4.]
Did anyone else in your household buy food at a convenience store or grocery store other than a supermarket last week?

- Yes (ASK 3A)
- No (SKIP TO 4)
- DK (SKIP TO 4)

3A. How much did other members of your household spend for food at convenience stores or grocery stores other than a supermarket last week?

\$ _ _ _ .00

DK

4. Last week, did you buy food at any kind of a specialty store or food vender, such as a bakery, meat market, produce stand, delicatessen, or health food store?

- Yes (ASK 4A)
- No (SKIP TO 5)
- DK (SKIP TO 5)

4A. How much did you spend for food at all such places last week?

\$ _ _ _ .00

DK

5. [IF MORE THAN 1 PERSON IN HOUSEHOLD, ASK 5. OTHERWISE SKIP TO 6.]
Did anyone else in your household buy food at any kind of specialty store or food vender last week?

- Yes (ASK 5A)
- No (SKIP TO 6)
- DK (SKIP TO 6)

5A. How much did other members of your household spend for food at such specialty stores and food venders last week?

\$ _ _ _ .00

[] DK

6. Last week, did you buy food at a restaurant, fast food place, cafeteria, or a vending machine?

[] Yes (ASK 6A)

[] No (SKIP TO 7)

[] DK (SKIP TO 7)

6A. How much money did you spend for food at restaurants, fast food places, cafeterias, or vending machines last week?

\$ _ _ _ .00

[] DK

7. [IF MORE THAN 1 PERSON IN HOUSEHOLD, ASK 7. OTHERWISE SKIP TO 7X.]
Did any other members of your household buy food at a restaurant, fast food place, cafeteria, or a vending machine last week? (PROBE TO BE SURE ALL OTHER HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS HAVE BEEN INCLUDED.)

[] Yes (ASK 7A)

[] No (SKIP TO 8)

[] DK (SKIP TO 8)

7A. How much money did other members of your household spend for food at restaurants, fast food places, cafeterias, or vending machines last week?

\$ _ _ _ .00

[] DK

7X. Did you buy food at any other places last week?

[] Yes (ASK 7XA)

[] No (SKIP TO 8)

[] DK (SKIP TO 8)

7XA. Where did you buy food?

(verbatim) _____

7XB. How much did you spend for food at (this place/these places) last week?

\$ _ _ _ .00

[] DK

8. [ADD AMOUNTS IN 1B, 1E, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A, 7A, 7XB]
Let's see, you've told me you (and other members of your household) spent a total of \$ ____ .00 last week on all your food, counting money spent at grocery stores and supermarkets, specialty stores, restaurants, and all other places. Is that the right amount?

- Yes (SKIP TO 10)
- No

9. What is the correct amount?

\$ _ _ _ .00

- DK

10. Some people also get food, or vouchers for food, from government or other kinds of programs such as Food Stamps, WIC, free or reduced-cost school lunches, or free or reduced-cost meals for the elderly. During the past month, did anyone in this household get food, or vouchers for food, from any programs like these?

- Yes (ASK 10A)
- No (SKIP TO 11)
- DK (SKIP TO 11)

10A. During the past month, did anyone in this household get food stamps?

- Yes (ASK 10A1)
- No (SKIP TO 10B)
- DK (SKIP TO 10B)

10A1. What was the total value of the food stamps received by the household during the last month?

\$ _ _ _ .00

- DK

10B. [IF ANYONE IN HOUSEHOLD IS 60 YEARS OLD OR OLDER, ASK 10B. OTHERWISE SKIP TO 10C.]

During the past month, did anyone in the household receive free or reduced-cost meals for the elderly?

- Yes
- No
- DK

5A. How much did other members of your household spend for food at such specialty stores and food vendors last week?

\$ _ _ _ .00

[] DK

6. Last week, did you buy food at a restaurant, fast food place, cafeteria, or a vending machine?

[] Yes (ASK 6A)

[] No (SKIP TO 7)

[] DK (SKIP TO 7)

6A. How much money did you spend for food at restaurants, fast food places, cafeterias, or vending machines last week?

\$ _ _ _ .00

[] DK

7. [IF MORE THAN 1 PERSON IN HOUSEHOLD, ASK 7. OTHERWISE SKIP TO 7X.]
Did any other members of your household buy food at a restaurant, fast food place, cafeteria, or a vending machine last week? (PROBE TO BE SURE ALL OTHER HOUSEHOLD MEMBERS HAVE BEEN INCLUDED.)

[] Yes (ASK 7A)

[] No (SKIP TO 8)

[] DK (SKIP TO 8)

7A. How much money did other members of your household spend for food at restaurants, fast food places, cafeterias, or vending machines last week?

\$ _ _ _ .00

[] DK

7X. Did you buy food at any other places last week?

[] Yes (ASK 7XA)

[] No (SKIP TO 8)

[] DK (SKIP TO 8)

7XA. Where did you buy food?

(verbatim) _____

7XB. How much did you spend for food at (this place/these places) last week?

\$ _ _ _ .00

[] DK

8. [ADD AMOUNTS IN 1B, 1E, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A, 7A, 7XB]
Let's see, you've told me you (and other members of your household) spent a total of \$ ____ .00 last week on all your food, counting money spent at grocery stores and supermarkets, specialty stores, restaurants, and all other places. Is that the right amount?

Yes (SKIP TO 10)

No

9. What is the correct amount?

\$ _ _ _ .00

DK

10. Some people also get food, or vouchers for food, from government or other kinds of programs such as Food Stamps, WIC, free or reduced-cost school lunches, or free or reduced-cost meals for the elderly. During the past month, did anyone in this household get food, or vouchers for food, from any programs like these?

Yes (ASK 10A)

No (SKIP TO 11)

DK (SKIP TO 11)

10A. During the past month, did anyone in this household get food stamps?

Yes (ASK 10A1)

No (SKIP TO 10B)

DK (SKIP TO 10B)

10A1. What was the total value of the food stamps received by the household during the last month?

\$ _ _ _ .00

DK

10B. [IF ANYONE IN HOUSEHOLD IS 60 YEARS OLD OR OLDER, ASK 10B. OTHERWISE SKIP TO 10C.]

During the past month, did anyone in the household receive free or reduced-cost meals for the elderly?

Yes

No

DK

- 10C. [IF CHILDREN UNDER 18, ASK 10C. OTHERWISE SKIP TO 10F.]
 During the past month, did any children in the household receive free or reduced-cost lunches at school?
- Yes
 No
 DK
- 10D. During the past month, did any children in the household receive free or reduced-cost breakfasts at school?
- Yes
 No
 DK
- 10E. [IF CHILDREN UNDER 5, ASK 10E. OTHERWISE SKIP TO 10F.]
 During the past month, did any children in the household receive free or reduced-cost food at a day-care center?
- Yes
 No
 DK
- 10F. [IF WOMEN OR CHILDREN UNDER AGE 5 IN HOUSEHOLD, ASK 10F. OTHERWISE SKIP TO 10G.]
 During the past month, did any women (or children) in this household get food through the WIC program?
- Yes
 No
 DK
- 10G. During the past month, did anyone in the household get food, or vouchers to buy food, from any other kind of program?
- Yes (specify) _____
 No
 DK
11. [READ PARENTHETICAL PHRASE ONLY IF RESPONDENT HAS INDICATED ANY SOURCES OF FREE OR REDUCED-COST FOOD.]
 (If you had to pay for all the food yourself) What is the least amount of money you would need to spend per week in order to have enough food for everyone in the household?
- \$ _ _ _ .00
- DK

II. FOOD SUFFICIENCY

12. These next questions are about the food eaten in your household.

Which of the following statements best describes the amount of food eaten in your household?

- Always enough food to eat [SKIP TO 16]
- Sometimes not enough to eat, or
- Often not enough to eat?

DK (SKIP TO 16)

13. Here are some reasons why people don't always have enough to eat. For each of these, please tell me whether or not it applies to you. [MARK ALL THAT APPLY.]

	YES	NO	DK
Not enough money for food	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Too hard to get to the store	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No working stove	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No working refrigerator	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not able to cook because of health problems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

14. Are there any other reasons you don't always have enough to eat?

(specify) _____

15. [IF ONLY ONE REASON INDICATED IN 13 AND 14, MARK AS MAIN REASON AND CONTINUE. OTHERWISE ASK 15.]

Which is the main reason you don't always have enough to eat? [MARK ONLY ONE.]

- Not enough money for food
- Too hard to get to the store
- No working stove
- No working refrigerator
- Not able to cook because of health problems
- Other (specify) _____
- DK

16. Which of the following best describes the kind of food eaten in your household?

- Always the kind of food we want to eat
- Almost always the kind of food we want to eat
- Sometimes the kind of food we want to eat
- Almost never the kind of food we want to eat
- Never the kind of food we want to eat

DK

III. COPING MECHANISMS AND FOOD SCARCITY

17. People do different things when they are running out of money for food in order to make their food or their food money go further.

In the last 4 months, since January 1, 1994, did you ever run short of money and try to make your food or your food money go further?

- Yes
- No
- DK

18. During the last 4 months, since January 1, did you ever serve less expensive meals because you were running out of money to buy food?

- Yes
- No (SKIP TO 20)
- DK (SKIP TO 20)

19. Now think about the last two weeks. Did you ever serve less expensive meals in the last two weeks to make your food money go further?

- Yes
- No
- DK

20. Since January 1, did you (or other adults in your household) ever borrow food or money for food?

- Yes
- No (SKIP TO 22)
- DK (SKIP TO 22)

21. Did you (or other adults in your household) borrow food or money for food in the last two weeks?

- Yes
- No
- DK

22. In the last 4 months, since January 1, did you ever serve foods that were less nutritious than you wanted to make your food money go further?

- Yes
- No (SKIP TO 24)
- DK (SKIP TO 24)

23. Did you serve foods that were less nutritious than you wanted in the last two weeks?

- Yes
- No
- DK

24. Since January 1, did you (or other adults in your household) get food from a food bank or food pantry?

- Yes
- No (SKIP TO 26)
- DK (SKIP TO 26)

25. Did you (or other adults in your household) get food from a food bank or food pantry in the last two weeks?

- Yes
- No
- DK

26. In the last 4 months, since January 1, did you (or other adults in your household) eat at a soup kitchen?

- Yes
- No (SKIP TO 28)
- DK (SKIP TO 28)

27. Did you (or other adults in your household) eat at a soup kitchen in the last two weeks?

- Yes
- No
- DK

28. Since January 1, did you put off paying a bill so that you would have money to buy food?

- Yes
- No (SKIP TO 30)
- DK (SKIP TO 30)

29. Did you put off paying a bill in the last two weeks so that you would have money to buy food?

- Yes
- No
- DK

30. Sometimes people limit the kinds of foods they use in order to make their food money go further. In the last 4 months, since January 1, did you limit yourself to certain kinds of foods to make your food money go further?

- Yes
- No (SKIP TO 32)
- DK (SKIP TO 32)

31. Which three foods did you use most often to stretch your food money?

Food 1: _____

Food 2: _____

Food 3: _____

32. [IF CHILDREN UNDER 18 IN HOUSEHOLD, ASK 32. OTHERWISE SKIP TO 36.]
The next questions are about children living in the household who are under 18 years old.

In the last 4 months, since January 1, did you ever send the child(ren) to the homes of friends or relatives for a meal because you were running out of food?

- Yes
- No (SKIP TO 34)
- DK (SKIP TO 34)

33. Did you send the child(ren) to the homes of friends or relatives for a meal in the last two weeks?

- Yes
- No
- DK

34. Since January 1, did you ever feed the child(ren) more nutritious food than you ate because you were running out of food?

- Yes
- No (SKIP TO 36)
- DK (SKIP TO 36)

35. Did you feed the child(ren) more nutritious food than you ate in the last two weeks?

- Yes
- No
- DK

36. The next questions are about some other things people sometimes do when they don't have enough money to buy food.

Sometimes people skip meals when there isn't enough money to buy food. Think about the last 4 months, since January 1. Did you (or other adults in your household) ever skip a meal in the last 4 months because there wasn't enough money for food?

- Yes
 No (SKIP TO 39)
 DK (SKIP TO 39)

37. Now think about the last two weeks. Did you (or other adults in your household) skip a meal in the last two weeks because there wasn't enough money for food?

- Yes
 No (SKIP TO 39)
 DK (SKIP TO 39)

38. How many days did you (or other adults who live here) skip a meal in the last two weeks?

_____ days

- DK

39. Sometimes people cut the size of their meals when there isn't enough money to buy food. Think about the last 4 months, since January 1. Did you (or other adults in your household) ever cut the size of your meals in the last four months because there wasn't enough money for food?

- Yes
 No (SKIP TO 42)
 DK (SKIP TO 42)

40. Did you (or other adults in your household) cut the size of your meals in the last two weeks because there wasn't enough money for food?

- Yes
 No (SKIP TO 42)
 DK (SKIP TO 42)

41. How many days did you (or other adults who live here) cut the size of your meals in the last two weeks?

_____ days

- DK

42. Sometimes people don't eat for a whole day when there isn't enough money to buy food. Think about the last 4 months, since January 1. Did you (or other adults in your household) ever not eat for a whole day in the last four months because there wasn't enough money for food?

- Yes
- No (SKIP TO 45)
- DK (SKIP TO 45)

43. Did you (or other adults in your household) not eat for a whole day in the last two weeks because there wasn't enough money for food?

- Yes
- No (SKIP TO 45)
- DK (SKIP TO 45)

44. How many times did you (or other adults who live here) not eat for a whole day in the last two weeks?

_____ times

- DK

45. [IF CHILDREN UNDER 18 IN HOUSEHOLD, ASK 45. OTHERWISE SKIP TO 54.]
The next questions are about children living in the household who are under 18 years old.

Think about the last 4 months, since January 1. During that time did you ever cut the size of (any of) the child(ren)'s meals because there wasn't enough money for food?

- Yes
- No (SKIP TO 48)
- DK (SKIP TO 48)

46. Did you cut the size of the child(ren)'s meals during the last two weeks?

- Yes
- No (SKIP TO 48)
- DK (SKIP TO 48)

47. How many days in the last two weeks did you cut the size of the child(ren)'s meals because there wasn't enough money for food?

_____ days

- DK

48. Think about the last 4 months, since January 1. During that time, did (any of) the child(ren) skip a meal because there wasn't enough money for food?

- Yes
- No (SKIP TO 51)
- DK (SKIP TO 51)

49. Did the child(ren) skip a meal during the last two weeks?

- Yes
- No (SKIP TO 51)
- DK (SKIP TO 51)

50. How many days in the last two weeks did the child(ren) skip a meal because there wasn't enough money for food?

_____ days

- DK

51. Think again about the last 4 months, since January 1. During that time, did (any of) the child(ren) ever not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money to buy food?

- Yes
- No (SKIP TO 54)
- DK (SKIP TO 54)

52. Did the child(ren) not eat for a whole day in the last two weeks?

- Yes
- No (SKIP TO 54)
- DK (SKIP TO 54)

53. How many times in the last two weeks did the child(ren) not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food?

_____ times

- DK

IV. CONCERN ABOUT FOOD SUFFICIENCY

54. Sometimes people worry about not having enough food or enough money to buy food. Please tell me how often you worry about each of the following.

How often do you worry whether the food you can afford to buy for your household will be enough--do you worry often, sometimes, or never?

- Often
- Sometimes
- Never
- DK

55. How often do you worry that the food you buy for your household will run out before you get money or food stamps to buy more--often, sometimes, or never?

- Often
- Sometimes
- Never
- DK

56. How often do you worry about where the next day's food is coming from--often, sometimes, or never?

- Often
- Sometimes
- Never
- DK

57. How often do you worry about not being able to afford to eat the way you should--often, sometimes, or never?

- Often
- Sometimes
- Never
- DK

58. [IF CHILDREN UNDER 18 IN HOUSEHOLD, ASK 58. OTHERWISE SKIP TO 59.]
How often do you worry about not being able to give your child(ren) nutritious food--often, sometimes, or never?

- Often
- Sometimes
- Never
- DK

V. CONCERN ABOUT FOOD QUALITY AND SAFETY

59. Some people are concerned about the safety of their food. Tell me how concerned you are about each of the following in the foods you buy--very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, or not at all concerned?

59A. How about antibiotics in the milk, poultry, or meat products you buy--are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, or not at all concerned?

- very concerned
- somewhat concerned
- not very concerned
- not at all concerned
- DK

59B. Pesticides in the fruits and vegetables you buy--are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, or not at all concerned?

- very concerned
- somewhat concerned
- not very concerned
- not at all concerned
- DK

59C. How about hormones in meat and milk products--are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, or not at all concerned?

- very concerned
- somewhat concerned
- not very concerned
- not at all concerned
- DK

59D. How about additives and artificial ingredients--are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, or not at all concerned?

- very concerned
- somewhat concerned
- not very concerned
- not at all concerned
- DK

59E. How about the amount of fat in the food you buy--are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, or not at all concerned?

- very concerned
- somewhat concerned
- not very concerned
- not at all concerned
- DK

59F. How about the amount of sugar--are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, or not at all concerned?

- very concerned
- somewhat concerned
- not very concerned
- not at all concerned
- DK

59G. The amount of salt in the food you buy--are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, or not at all concerned?

- very concerned
- somewhat concerned
- not very concerned
- not at all concerned
- DK

59H. The amount of cholesterol in the food you buy--are you very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, or not at all concerned?

- very concerned
- somewhat concerned
- not very concerned
- not at all concerned
- DK

59I. Are you concerned about anything else in connection with the food you buy?

- Yes (specify) _____
- No

60. How concerned are you about each of the following--very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned, or not at all concerned?

60A. Eating spoiled or contaminated food at restaurants or take-outs?

- very concerned
- somewhat concerned
- not very concerned
- not at all concerned
- DK

60B. Eating spoiled or contaminated food at home?

- very concerned
- somewhat concerned
- not very concerned
- not at all concerned
- DK

We would like to ask you a few additional questions. These questions may sound similar to those you just answered, but your answers will help us to improve the questions we ask next time.

D1. Where do you do most of your food shopping?
 (ASK IF NECESSARY: What kind of store is that?)

(verbatim) _____

D2. It's not easy to remember exactly how much money is spent for food during a whole week. How accurately do you think you were able to remember how much you spent--very accurately, somewhat accurately, not very accurately, or not at all accurately?

- Very accurately (SKIP TO D3)
- Somewhat accurately (SKIP TO D3)
- Not very accurately (ASK D2A)
- Not at all accurately (ASK D2A)
- DK (SKIP TO D3)

D2A. What would help you to answer these questions more accurately?

(verbatim) _____

D3. [IF 10 (PAGE 5) IS "NO", ASK D3. OTHERWISE SKIP TO D4.]
 In the past month, did anyone in this household get food or vouchers for food from any of the following programs?

- | | YES | NO | DK |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| a. Food stamps | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. [IF WOMEN OR CHILDREN UNDER 5, ASK b. OTHERWISE SKIP TO c.]
WIC | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| c. [IF ANYONE IN HOUSEHOLD 60 OR OVER, ASK c. OTHERWISE SKIP TO d.]
Free or reduced-cost meals for the elderly | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. [IF ANY CHILDREN UNDER 18, ASK d. OTHERWISE SKIP TO D4.]
Free or reduced-cost lunches at school | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| e. Free or reduced-cost breakfasts at school | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

D4. [IF DOLLAR AMOUNT GIVEN IN 11 (PAGE 6), ASK D4. OTHERWISE SKIP TO D5.]
 I asked you to estimate the least amount of money you would need to spend per week in order to have enough food for everyone in the household. How did you figure out what the least amount would be?

(verbatim) _____

D5. I asked you about some of the things you do when you're trying to stretch your food money, or when there isn't enough food in the house. I'm going to read you a list of topics. For each one, tell me if you found it hard to remember whether you did it or not in the last four months.

	YES	NO	DK
Was it hard for you to remember whether you served less expensive meals?	[]	[]	[]
Was it hard for you to remember whether you served foods that were less nutritious than you wanted?	[]	[]	[]
Was it hard for you to remember whether you put off paying a bill?	[]	[]	[]
Was it hard for you to remember whether you skipped meals?	[]	[]	[]
Was it hard for you to remember whether you cut the size of your meals?	[]	[]	[]
Was it hard for you to remember whether you did not eat for a whole day?	[]	[]	[]

D6. What is the longest period for which you could answer these questions accurately -- would it be 1 day, 2 days, 1 week, 2 weeks, 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, or 1 year -- or do you think you really can't answer questions like these at all?

- 1 day
- 2 days
- 1 week
- 2 weeks
- 1 month
- 3 months
- 6 months
- 1 year
- Other (specify) _____
- Can't answer questions like these
- DK

D7. [IF 18 (PAGE 8) IS "YES", ASK D7. OTHERWISE SKIP TO D8.]
You told me that you served less expensive meals in the last 4 months because you were running out of money to buy food. What kinds of meals did you serve?

(verbatim) _____

D8. [IF 22 (PAGE 8) IS "YES", ASK D8. OTHERWISE SKIP TO D9.]
You told me that you served foods that were less nutritious than you wanted in the last 4 months. What does less nutritious mean to you? (READ IF NECESSARY: What kinds of foods were these?)

(verbatim) _____

D9. Were you uncomfortable answering any of the following questions:

- | | YES | NO | DK |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| A. Questions about how much you spent for food? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| B. Questions about serving less expensive meals? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| C. Questions about skipping meals? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| D. Questions about not eating for a whole day? | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

D10. Were there any other questions that made you feel uncomfortable? (READ IF NECESSARY: Which questions were those?) (You don't have to tell me the exact question, just what the question or questions were about.)

- Yes (LIST QUESTIONS)
- No (GO TO D11)
- DK (GO TO D11)

(list questions) _____

D11. Were there any questions you did not want to answer? (You don't have to tell me the exact question, just what the question or questions were about.)

- Yes (LIST QUESTIONS)
- No (SKIP TO D13)
- DK (SKIP TO D13)

(list questions) _____

D12. What was it about those questions that made you not want to answer them?

(verbatim) _____

D13. Now think about the questions that asked whether you're concerned about things like pesticides, antibiotics, hormones, and additives in the food you buy. Did you find any of those questions difficult to understand?

- Yes (ASK D13A)
- No (SKIP TO D14)
- DK (SKIP TO D14)

D13A. (ASK IF NECESSARY: Which questions were difficult to understand?)

- [MARK ALL THAT APPLY. READ LIST ONLY IF NECESSARY.]
- Antibiotics in milk, poultry, or meat
 - Pesticides in fruits and vegetables
 - Hormones in meat and milk
 - Additives and artificial ingredients

D14. [SHOW FLASH CARD WITH INCOME RANGES.]

I have one final question on family income. Which category on this card represents the total combined income of all members of this family during the past 12 months? This includes money from jobs, net income from business, farm or rent, pensions, dividends, interest, social security payments and any other money income received by members of this family who are 15 years of age or older.

category number _____
[] DK

Those are all the questions I have. Thank you very much for your help.

100

100

100

100

100