

VERSION B QUESTIONNAIRE  
for Split-sample Field Test  
at the Hagerstown Telephone Center

VOTING AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT (VCE) SUPPLEMENT TO CPS

Color codes:

Orange text = questions included for only the HTC test to aid evaluation.. Not intended for production instrument.

Red text = questions that are for the volunteer supplement to the CPS that will use the VCE HTC split-panel test as a vehicle to test these questions.

Blue text = questions that are included on HTC test to provide CNCS with more information about how the questions work, but these questions will NOT be included on the production VCE survey.

\* next to question number indicates that the item is worded or response options formatted differently than the other questionnaire version.

12/18/07

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LABOR FORCE QUESTIONS INTRO

**I am going to ask a few questions about work-related activities LAST WEEK.**

**By last week, I mean the week beginning on Sunday, January/February \_\_\_\_\_, and ending on Saturday, January/February\_\_\_\_\_.**

**LF1 Last week, did you do any work for either pay or profit?**

- Yes - Go to LF3
- No - Go to LF2
- Retired - Go to LF4
  
- Don't know - Go to LF4
- Refused - Go to LF4

**LF2 Last week, were you temporarily absent from a job?**

- Yes - Go to LF3
- No - Go to LF5
- Retired - Go to LF4
  
- Don't know - Go to LF-4
- Refused - Go to LF-4

**LF3 How many hours per week do you usually work at your job?**

- \_\_\_\_\_ hours - Go to LF4
- Hours vary - Go to LF4
  
- Don't know - Go to LF4
- Refused - Go to LF4

**LF4 During the last four weeks, have you been actively looking for work?**

- Yes - Go to V1
- No - Go to V1
- Retired - Go to V1
- Don't know - Go to V1
- Refused - Go to V1

VOTING SUPPLEMENT

**V1. This month we have some additional questions concerning voting and registration.**

**In any election, some people are not able to vote because they are sick or busy or have some other reason, and others do not want to vote. On November 7, 2006, there were general national elections for political offices such as senators, congressman, and governors. Did you vote in the election held on Tuesday, November 7, 2006?**

- Yes - Go to V3
- No - Go to V2
- DK - Go to V2
- Refused - Go to V2

**V2. Were you registered to vote in the November 7, 2006 election?**

- Yes - Go to V6
- No - Go to V6
  
- DK- Go to V6
- Refused - Go to V6

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**V3. Did you vote in person or did you vote by mail?**

- In person
- By mail
  
- Don't know
- Refused

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**V4. Was that on election day or before election day?**

- On election day
- Before election day
  
- Don't know
- Refused

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**V6. How long have you lived at this address?**

- Less than 1 month
- 1-6 months
- 7-11 months
- 1-2 years
- 3-4 years
- 5 years or longer
  
- Don't know
- Refused

VOTING AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT SUPPLEMENT

**Q1.\* In any election, some people are not able to vote for various reasons. Thinking about elections for LOCAL government officials since November 2006, have you voted in none of them, some of them, most of them, or all of them?**

- None of them
- Some of them
- Most of them
- All of them
- DK
- Refused

PRE-SUP

Lead-in - **The next set of questions are about people's involvement and communication within their communities.**

**Q2.\* During a TYPICAL MONTH in the past year, when communicating with family and friends, how often were politics discussed -- not at all, once a month, a few times a month, a few times a week or basically every day?**

- Not at all
- Once a month
- A few times a month
- A few times a week
- Basically every day
- DK
- Refused

**Q3.\* I am going to read some ways that people get news and information. Please tell me how often you did each of the following during a TYPICAL MONTH in the past year:**

**(a) Read a newspaper in print or on the Internet - not at all, once a month, a few times a month, a few times a week or basically every day?**

- Not at all
- Once a month
- A few times a month
- A few times a week
- Basically every day
- DK
- Refused

**(b) Read news magazines such as Newsweek or Time, in print or on the Internet - not at all, once a month, a few times a month, a few times a week or basically every day?**

- Not at all
- Once a month
- A few times a month
- A few times a week
- Basically every day
- DK
- Refused

**(c) Watch the news on television or get news from television internet sites - not at all, once a month, a few times a month, a few times a week or basically every day?**

- Not at all
- Once a month
- A few times a month
- A few times a week
- Basically every day
- DK
- Refused

**(d) Listen to the news on the radio or get news from radio internet sites - not at all, once a month, a few times a month, a few times a week or basically every day?**

- Not at all
- Once a month
- A few times a month
- A few times a week
- Basically every day
- DK
- Refused

**(e) Obtain news from any other Internet sources that we have not previously asked about such as blogs, chat rooms, independent news services, etc - not at all, once a**

**month, a few times a month, a few times a week or basically every day?**

- Not at all
- Once a month
- A few times a month
- A few times a week
- Basically every day
- DK
- Refused

**Q4. I am going to read a list of things some people have done to express their views. Please tell me whether or not you have done any of the following in the last 12 months, that is between January 2007 and now:**

<p><b>(a) Contacted or visited a public official - at any level of government - to express your opinion?</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> No  <input type="checkbox"/> DK  <input type="checkbox"/> Refused</p>	
<p><b>(b) Attended a meeting where political issues are discussed?</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> No  <input type="checkbox"/> DK  <input type="checkbox"/> Refused</p>	
<p><b>(c) Bought or boycotted a certain product or service because of the social or political values of the company that provides it?</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> No  <input type="checkbox"/> DK  <input type="checkbox"/> Refused</p>	
<p><b>(d) Taken part in a march, rally, protest or demonstration?</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes  <input type="checkbox"/> No  <input type="checkbox"/> DK  <input type="checkbox"/> Refused</p>	
<p><b>(e) Showed support for a particular political candidate or party by distributing campaign materials, fundraising, making a donation or in some other way?</b></p>	

- Yes
- No
- DK
- Refused

**Q5.\* The next questions are about the groups or organizations in which people sometimes participate. I will read a list of types of groups and organizations. Please tell me whether or not you participated in any of these groups during the last 12 months, that is between January 2007 and now:**

**(a) A school group, neighborhood, or community association such as PTA or neighborhood watch groups?**

- Yes
- No
- DK
- Refused

**(b) A service or civic organization such as Goodwill, American Legion, or Lions Club?**

- Yes
- No
- DK
- Refused

**(c) An ethnic, political or advocacy group?**

- Yes
- No
- DK
- Refused

**(d) A sports or recreation organization such as a soccer club or tennis club?**

- Yes
- No
- DK
- Refused

**(e) A cultural, arts or hobby organization such as a theater group or book club?**

- Yes
- No
- DK
- Refused



**(f) A labor union or business, trade, farm or professional association?**

- Yes
- No
- DK
- Refused

**(g) A church, synagogue, mosque or other religious institutions or organizations, NOT COUNTING your attendance at religious services.**

- Yes
- No
- DK
- Refused

**(h) Any other type of organization that I have not mentioned?**

- Yes    Probe: What type of organization? \_\_\_\_\_
- No
- DK
- Refused

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**Q6. In the last 12 months, between January 2007 and now, have you been an officer or served on a committee of any group or organization?**

- Yes
- No
- DK
- Refused

**Q7. In the last 12 months, between January 2007 and now, have you attended a meeting of any group or organization?**

- Yes
- No
- DK
- Refused

(Do not ask Q8 for one person households.)

**Q8.\* During a TYPICAL MONTH in the past year, how often did you eat dinner with any of the other members of your household - not at all, once a month, a few times a month, a few times a week or basically every day?**

- Not at all
- Once a month
- A few times a month
- A few times a week
- Basically every day
- DK
- Refused

**Q9.\* During a TYPICAL MONTH in the past year, how often, if at all, did you communicate with friends and family by Email or on the Internet - not at all, once a month, a few times a month, a few times a week or basically every day?**

- Not at all
- Once a month
- A few times a month
- A few times a week
- Basically every day
- DK
- Refused

**Q10.\* During a TYPICAL MONTH in the past year, how often did you talk with any of your neighbors - not at all, once a month, a few times a month, a few times a week or basically every day?**

- Not at all
- Once a month
- A few times a month
- A few times a week
- Basically every day
- DK
- Refused

**Q11.\* During a TYPICAL MONTH in the past year, how often did you and your neighbors do favors for each other? By favors we mean such things as watching each other's children, helping with shopping, house sitting, lending garden or house tools, and other small acts of kindness - not at all, once a month, a few times a month, a few times a week or basically every day?**

- Not at all
- Once a month
- A few times a month
- A few times a week
- Basically every day
- DK
- Refused

**Q12a.\*NOT COUNTING family members, about how many CLOSE FRIENDS do you currently have, if any? These are people you feel at ease with, can talk to about private matters, or call on for help.**

Number —>\_\_ \_\_ (If “0,” Go to Q13)

- DK (Go to Q13)
- Refused (Go to Q13)

**Q12b. How many of these close friends completed high school?**

Number —>\_\_ \_\_

- DK
- Refused

**Q12c. How many have a college degree?**

Number —>\_\_ \_\_

- DK
- Refused

**Q12d. How many are of a different race than you?**

- DK
- Refused

**Q13.\* We would like to ask questions about how you view other people generally, that is, those people OTHER THAN your immediate family and close friends.**

**(a) How much do you agree with the following statement: “You cannot be too careful in dealing with people.” Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, neither agree nor disagree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with that statement?**

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree
- DK
- Refused

**(b) How much do you agree with the following statement: “Most people can be trusted.” Do you strongly agree, somewhat agree, neither agree nor disagree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with that statement?**

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree
- DK
- Refused

**Q14. Do you think that most people would try to take advantage of you if they got a chance, or would they try to help?**

- Most people would try to take advantage of your if they got a chance
- They would try to help
- DK
- Refused

**Q15. Would you say that most of the time people try to be helpful or that they are mostly looking out for themselves?**

- Most of the time people try to be helpful
- They are mostly looking out for themselves
- DK
- Refused

**Q16. Now I'd like to ask a question about donations to charitable and religious**

**organizations. Charitable organizations focus on areas such as poverty and disaster relief, health care and medical research, education, arts, and the environment.**

**During the past 12 months, did you or anyone in your household donate money, assets, or property with a combined value of more than \$25 to charitable or religious organizations?**

- Yes**
- No**
- DK**
- Refused**

**Q19.\* People nowadays have a lot to keep up with and no one can keep up with everything. I have two questions about federal laws. If you don't happen to know the answers, just tell me and we'll move on.**

**(a) What individual or group of individuals has the responsibility to make the final decision on whether a law is constitutional or not - is it the President of the United States, the Supreme Court, or the Congress?**

- President of the United States
- Supreme Court
- Congress
- DK
- Refused

**(b) Do you know how much of a majority is required for the U.S. Senate and House to override a presidential veto? Is it 80 percent, 67 percent 60 percent or 51 percent?**

- 80 percent
- 67 percent
- 60 percent
- 51 percent
- DK
- Refused

**RESPONDENT DEBRIEFING QUESTIONS BEGIN ON NEXT PAGE**

## RESPONDENT DEBRIEFING QUESTIONS

Lead-in: **That concludes the main interview. Now I would like to finish by asking a few followup questions that will be helpful to us in making improvements to our survey.**

● If Q5a through Q5h has an entry of “yes” in any item, ask:

**RD1. Earlier we talked about different types of groups and organizations in which people participate. During the last 12 months, that is between January 2007 and now, about how many groups and organizations would you say you belonged to or donated money to?**

Number —> \_ \_

- DK
- Refused

**RD2. In a TYPICAL MONTH, how often do you participate in group and organization-related activities - - Not at all, once a month, a few times a month, a few times a week or basically every day?**

- Not at all
- Once a month
- A few times a month
- A few times a week
- Basically every day
- DK
- Refused

● Ask all respondents

**RD3a. Earlier in the interview we asked about your participation in local elections since November 2006. To the best of your knowledge, how many local elections have been held in your area since November 2006?**

Enter number —> \_ \_ (Go to RD3b)

- DK (Go to RD4)
- Refused (Go to RD4)

**RD3b. How confident are you of your answer, very confident, somewhat confident, or not confident at all?**

- Very confident
- Somewhat confident
- Not confident at all

● Ask all respondents:

RD4. Now I **would like to ask a few other questions** about how you view other people generally, that is, those people **OTHER THAN** your immediate family and close friends. Would you say that you cannot be too careful in dealing with people or that most people can be trusted.

- You cannot be too careful in dealing with people
- Most people can be trusted
- It depends
- DK
- Refused

RD5. In your own words what is that question asking?

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- DK
- Refused

RD6. When answering the question were you thinking about strangers, people you know or people in general?

- Strangers
- People you know
- People in general
- DK
- Refused

RD7. What was your overall opinion about **ALL of** the survey questions you were asked?

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- DK
- Refused

**RD8. Did you find any of the questions sensitive or offensive?**

- Yes - Go to RD 9
- No - Go to RD 10
- DK - Go to RD 10
- Refused - Go to RD 10

**RD9. Which questions seemed sensitive or offensive?**

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- DK
- Refused

**RD10. Did you find any of the questions difficult to answer?**

- Yes - Go to RD 11
- No - End interview
- DK - End interview
- Refused - End interview

**RD11. Which questions seemed difficult to answer?**

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- DK
- Refused

**Thank you very much for participating in this survey. The information you provided will help us improve the questions we use in Census Bureau surveys.**