



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

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

Race

(Please choose one or more)

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

Asian Origin

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



Education

- 0** – Never attended, preschool, kindergarten
- 1 - 11** – 1st grade through 11th grade
- 38** – 12th 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						
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FEBRUARY						
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MARCH						
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APRIL						
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JUNE						
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JULY						
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NOVEMBER						
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CALENDAR

2010

JANUARY						
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JULY						
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FEBRUARY						
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AUGUST						
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DECEMBER						
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CALENDAR

2011

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FEBRUARY						
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JUNE						
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JULY						
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AUGUST						
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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