

June 29, 2012

NOTE TO THE
REVIEWER OF:

OMB CLEARANCE 1220-0141
“Cognitive and Psychological Research”

FROM:

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Office of Survey Methods Research

SUBJECT:

Submission of Materials for the *CE*
Globals Cognitive Study

Please accept the enclosed materials for approval under the OMB clearance package 1220-0141 “Cognitive and Psychological Research.” In accordance with our agreement with OMB, we are submitting a brief description of the study.

The total estimated respondent burden hours for the study is a maximum of 40.

If there are any questions regarding this project, please contact Jennifer Edgar at 202-691-7528.

Introduction and Purpose

Global Questions

The use of global questions, questions asked at a level of aggregation higher than traditionally used, in the Consumer Expenditure Survey (CEQ) has long been discussed. They have the potential to collect expenditure estimates much more efficiently by asking a single question about a category of expenses rather than a series of detailed questions about individual expenses.

Recently the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and the Consumer Expenditure Survey program offices carefully reviewed the data required from the CE surveys and identified many expenditure categories which do not have to be collected at a level of detail which had been required in the past (e.g., appliances rather than refrigerators, stoves and dishwashers). Although asking questions at this higher level is a tempting way to significantly shorten the CEQ, research must be done to evaluate the quality of the data and the comparability between the expenditure estimates.

Therefore, before CE can adopt the use of global questions to reflect the reconciled expenditure data requirements CPI and CE developed, there are several issues that need to be resolved. Addressing these issues will help identify the appropriate level of aggregation for the studied expenditure categories, and evaluate the quality and comparability of the collected data. Three main issues have been identified and will be addressed in this study:

1. Comprehension: do participants define the questions as intended? Do they include/exclude subcategories correctly?
2. Response Strategy: do respondents answer the question in a way that suggests a complete and accurate expenditure amount?
3. Recall effort: do respondents put enough effort to identify all relevant types of expenditures?

Comprehension will be evaluated through use of a self-administered questionnaire (Appendix B), as well as through debriefing questions during a cognitive interview. Response strategy and recall effort will be both evaluated by asking participants to describe how they arrived at their answer during the cognitive interviews.

The global categories were selected from the CPI-CE reconciled requirements, based on a careful review of the level of aggregation, and number of intended subcategories associated with each requirement (Table 1). Categories thought to be potentially well suited for global questions, and categories expected to have some comprehension, response strategy or recall effort issues were included.

Although the production CEQ is conducted with an Information Booklet which provides examples of items in each expenditure category, this study will be conducted without the book. Although the Information Booklet has been shown to dramatically improve question comprehension and recall in a lab study, less than half of production CEQ respondents are reported to use the Information Booklet, so we are attempting to evaluate the questions independent of the Booklet.

Table 1. Global categories to be tested

Proposed question wording (Reconciled data requirement)	Included subcategories¹
Household linens Window coverings Area rugs Slipcovers (Household textiles)	280110 BATHROOM LINENS 280120 BEDROOM LINENS 280130 KITCHEN AND DINING ROOM LINENS 280210 CURTAINS AND DRAPES 280220 SLIPCOVERS/DECORATIVE PILLOWS 280900 OTHER LINENS 320111 FLOOR COVERINGS (NON-PERM.) 320120 WINDOW COVERINGS
Furniture for living, family or recreation rooms Dining room or kitchen furniture Bedroom furniture Office furniture Infant furniture or equipment Outdoor furniture <i>Purchase or rental of</i> (Furniture)	290110 MATTRESS AND SPRINGS 290120 OTHER BEDROOM FURNITURE 290210 SOFAS 290310 LIVING ROOM CHAIRS 290320 LIVING ROOM TABLES 290410 KITCHEN/DINING ROOM FURNITURE 290420 INFANTS FURNITURE 290430 OUTDOOR FURNITURE 290440 WALL UNITS, CABINETS, OCCAS FURN 320901 OFFICE FURNITURE HOME USE 340904 RENTAL OF FURNITURE
Major kitchen appliances Minor kitchen appliances Washers or dryers Air conditioners or heating cooling equipment	300111 PURCH/INST REFRIG/FREEZER RNTR 300112 PURCH/INST REFRIG/FREEZER OWND 300211 PURCH/INST CLOTHES WASHER RNTR 300212 PURCH/INST CLOTHES WASHER

¹ The number indicates the Universal Classification Code used by the Consumer Price Index and the CE programs to identify expenditure categories. The text is the label used for each code.

Smoke alarms Other household appliances (Appliances)	OWND 300221 PURCH/INST CLOTHES DRYER RNTR 300222 PURCH/INST CLOTHES DRYER OWND 300311 STOVES, OVENS RNTR 300312 STOVES, OVENS OWND 300321 MICROWAVE OVENS RNTR 300322 MICROWAVE OVENS OWND 300331 PURCH/INST PORT DISHWASHER RNTR 300332 PURCH/INST PORT DISHWASHER OWND 300411 PURCH/INST WINDOW A/C RNTR 300412 PURCH/INST WINDOW A/C OWND 300900 MISC HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES 320511 ELECTRIC FLOOR CLEANING EQUIP 320512 SEWING MACHINES 320521 SMALL ELECTRIC KITCHEN APPLIANCES 320522 PORTABLE HEATING/COOLING EQUIP 340907 RENTAL OF HOUSEHOLD EQUIPMENT 690241 SMOKE ALARM PUR/RENT RNTR 690242 SMOKE ALARM PUR/RENT OWND 690243 SMOKE ALARM PUR/RENT OWNV 690244 OTH HH APPL RNTR 690245 OTH HH APPL OWND
Sports or exercise equipment Camping, hunting or fishing equipment Bicycles Playground equipment Other recreation equipment (Sporting goods)	600210 GENERAL SPORT/EXCERCISE EQUIP 600310 BICYCLES 600410 CAMPING EQUIPMENT 600420 HUNTING, FISHING EQUIPMENT 600430 WINTER SPORT EQUIPMENT 600901 WATER SPORT EQUIPMENT 600902 OTHER SPORT EQUIPMENT 610120 PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT 620908 RENT/REPAIR OF MISC SPORTS EQU
Photography equipment, supplies or fees (Photography)	610210 FILM 610220 OTHER PHOTOGRAPHIC SUPPLIES 610230 PHOTOGRAPHIC EQUIPMENT 620320 PHOTOGRAPHER FEES 620330 FILM PROCESSING 620905 RENT/REP PHOTO EQUIP

2. Research Design

To address the research questions, two methods will be used: (1) an interviewer-administered cognitive interview, and (2) a self-administered web survey. All participants will complete a background form to collect demographic information (Attachment A).

Interviewer administered

To begin the interview, participants will be asked questions from the selected CEQ expenditure categories (listed in Table 1). After completing the selected CEQ questions, participants will be asked a series of questions aimed at understanding their comprehension, response strategy and recall effort for the global questions (Attachment B). Responses will be audio recorded and captured by a note taker.

After the debriefing, comprehension will be explored by having participants complete a self-administered survey (Attachment C). These questions will ask them to indicate whether a series of items (selected from the current CEQ questions and Information Booklet) is included or excluded from a specified category (selected from the CPI-CE reconciled data requirements). They will also be asked to indicate which, if any, items they were unsure how to classify.

Web Survey

To take advantage of the large number of web participants, the web survey will focus on the comprehension issues associated with global questions. Web participants will be given the same self-administered survey (Attachment C) as the lab participants, but will then be asked additional questions to evaluate their comprehension of the global categories (Attachment D). The web survey will also include select sections from the CEQ, with the current detailed questions replaced with the proposed global questions. Web participants will be asked to explain their response strategy after the CEQ questions. The time it takes to complete the CEQ sections will be recorded from the video, and the verbal responses to the response strategy question will be transcribed.

TryMyUI

TryMyUI (www.TryMyUI.com) is an online usability testing company which allows participants to participate in usability studies from their homes. Once they have joined the TryMyUI participant group, they are screened based on various demographic characteristics and sent links to usability tests they qualify for. Each usability test is limited to twenty minutes and one URL. During the testing session, participants follow online instructions and use a think-

aloud approach to complete the task described. A video showing the participant completing the task is then provided.

For this study, this usability testing site is being used as a way to collect a large amount of data in an efficient (both in terms of financial and staff resources) way. TryMyUI is responsible for recruitment, screening, administration of the survey, and data collection. The company has been found to be able to provide high quality, qualitative data within hours of receiving a request from a study sponsor. The same data would take weeks for OSMR to collect in the usability lab. Participants are used to providing qualitative feedback as they work on online tasks, and have been found to make very insightful, in-depth comments about their response process as they work on the self-administered survey. This allows for both quantitative and qualitative data to be collected in a very time efficient manner.

Participants will receive a link to an online survey (hosted by Survey Monkey) as noted in Attachment C. For most of the tasks, they will be instructed to simply answer the questions, typing or clicking their response as on a standard web survey. To take advantage of the video and talk aloud capabilities of TryMyUI, a few questions will have instructions for participants to describe their thought processes as they answered (retrospective) or answer (concurrent) the questions.

3. Participants

Interviewer-administered Interview

Participants will be recruited from the OSMR participant database. Efforts will be made to select participants with varying levels of age, gender, and education based on self-reported information provided during the initial recruitment process. All participants will be screened to ensure they have purchased something from at least three of the expenditure categories being studied.

Web Survey

Participants are recruited by TryMyUI. TryMyUI qualifies candidate users based on their ability to stay on task and to clearly voice everything they, see, read, think, or do as they are interacting with a website. They are volunteers who respond to a recruitment ad on the TryMyUI website. Participants will be selected with varying levels of age, gender, and education. As with the lab participants, web participants will be screened to ensure they have purchased something from at least three of the expenditure categories being studied. (Screening questions shown in Attachment D).

4. Payment

Interviewer-administered Interview

Participants will receive \$40.

Self-administered Survey

In the TryMyUI framework, participants are paid \$10 per completed survey. This is a fixed amount set by the company.

5. Burden Hours

The self-administered survey is limited to twenty minutes, with up to 60 participants completing it. The interviewer-administered interview is expected to take up to 60 minutes, with up to 20 participants completing it, for a maximum of 40 burden hours.

5. Data Confidentiality

Interviewer-administered Interview

Participants will be informed as to the voluntary nature of the study, and that the study will be used for internal purposes to improve the design of a national consumer expenditure interview survey. Information related to this study will not be released to the public in any way that would allow identification of individuals except as prescribed under the conditions of the Privacy Act Notice. OMB Control Number: 1220-0141. Prior to the interview, participants will be given a consent form to read and sign (Attachment D).

Self-administered Survey

Participants obtained through TryMyUI sign separate agreements with TryMyUI, and although BLS follows steps to ensure that their confidentiality is maintained, no pledge of confidentiality is provided to these respondents.

The following notice will be placed on the first page of the survey: “Note: This survey is being administered by surveymonkey.com and resides on a server outside of the BLS Domain. The BLS cannot guarantee the protection of survey responses and advises against the inclusion of sensitive personal information in any response.”

Attachment A: Background Questions

1. How old are you?

2. What is the highest level of education you've completed?
 - Some high school
 - High school diploma
 - Some college
 - College degree
 - Advanced degree

3. What is your household income?
 - Less than or equal to \$40,000
 - \$40,001 to \$60,000
 - \$60,001 to \$75,000
 - More than \$75,000

4. How many people live in your household?

PID _____

Attachment B: Interviewer administered Cognitive Interview Protocol

CEQ Questions with Globals. The full question, including expenditure categories will be read to the participant, and each “yes” reply will be followed by a ‘how much was the expense?’ and ‘in what month was the expense?’

1. Have there been any expenses that deal with the upkeep or improvement of your home, or any other unit you’ve owned or rented since the first of [reference month]:

- a. Repairing outdoor patios, walls, fences, driveways or swimming pools
- b. Inside painting or papering
- c. Outside painting
- d. Plastering or painting
- e. Plumbing or water heating installation or repair
- f. Electrical work
- g. Heating or air conditioning jobs

2. Now I am going to ask about the purchase or rental of household appliances. Since the first of [reference month] have you or any members of your household purchased or rented any:

- a. Major kitchen appliances**
- b. Minor kitchen appliances**
- c. Washers or dryers
- d. Air conditioners or heating and cooling equipment
- e. Smoke alarms
- f. Other household appliances

3. Now I am going to ask you about expenses for the purchase or rental of other household items. Since the first of [reference month] have you or any members of your household purchased or rented any of the following items?

- a. Photography equipment, supplies or fees**
- a. Musical instruments, supplies and accessories
- b. Sports or exercise equipment**
- c. Camping, hunting or fishing equipment**
- d. Bicycles
- e. Playground equipment
- f. Other recreation equipment

4. Now I am going to ask you about expenses for home furnishing and related household items. Since the first of [reference period] have you or any members of your household purchased any:

a. Furniture for living, family or recreation rooms

b. Dining room or kitchen furniture

c. Bedroom furniture

d. Infant furniture

e. Outdoor furniture

f. Household linens

g. Window coverings

h. Area rugs

i. Slipcovers

Debriefing

The debriefing will immediately follow each selected CEQ section (home improvement, appliances, household items and furniture). The bolded questions/global categories from the CEQ questions included in the debriefing questions will be used to fill in the blanks below.

Recall/Response Strategy

1. *If >0*, You said that you had spent \$___ on _____. How did you arrive at that answer? Were you thinking of specific purchases or items in general?

Probe as needed to identify the specific, detailed, items purchased:

- What did you buy exactly?
- How much did that cost?
- What else did you buy? How much did it cost?
- What did you include in your answer?

2. *If >\$0 reported*: Please look at this list of items, other than the things you've told me already, have you or anyone in your household had any expenses for these in the past three months?

3. *If \$0 reported*: Please look at this list of items (show list for that global category). In the past three months, have you or anyone in your household had any expenses for any of these?

Comprehension

1. What comes to mind when you hear the term _____?
2. What are some examples of _____ expenses? Any others?
3. Are there any expenses that you think might be included in _____ but aren't sure about?
4. What are some other words you would use for _____?

Instructions: Below you will find several categories marked in **bold**. Each category is followed by a list of items. Circle the items that you believe clearly fit within each category. Place a line through the items that you believe should not be included in the category. When you come across items that you are unsure about, leave those items blank.

Window Coverings

Curtains	Curtain liner
Tension rods **	Tiebacks *
Shades	Valances
Panels	Blinds

Household Linens

Fitted sheet	Bedspread	Cloth napkins
Pillowcases	Bath sheet	Napkin rings **
Pillows	Shower curtain *	Doilies
Comforter	Bath mat	Chair pads
Mattress pad	Face cloth	Coasters **
Quilt	Bath towel	Futon cover **
Baby blanket	Toilet cover *	Bed skirt
Electric blanket	Tablecloths	Shams *
Duvet	Dish towels	Upholstered headboard **
Blanket	Placemats	

Instructions: Consider the categories marked in **bold**. Circle the items that fit within the category. Place a line through the items that do not fit. If you are unsure about an item, leave it blank.

Furniture for Living, Family, or Recreation Rooms

Sofabed *	Bookcase
Chaise lounge	Entertainment center *
Loveseat	Ping pong table
Futon	Pool table
Recliner	Coat rack
Bean bag chair	Bar stools
Convertible chair	Gun cabinet *
Television **	Desk
Rocker	Table lamp **
Swivel chair *	TV remote **
Coffee table	Armchair
Refrigerator **	

Instructions: Consider the categories marked in **bold**. Circle the items that fit within the category. Place a line through the items that do not fit. If you are unsure about an item, leave it blank.

Dining Room or Kitchen Furniture

Garbage disposal **	Serving table
Wine cabinet	Serving cart
Dinette set	Spice rack **
Kitchen chairs	Faucet **
Buffet	Dining table
China cabinet	Dining chairs
Step stool **	Spotlight **
Base cabinet	Paper towel holder **
Island *	

Bedroom Furniture

Mattress	Mattress topper *
Box Spring	Mirror
Rollaway bed	Entertainment center **
Headboard	Armoire
Wooden bed frame *	Bunk bed
Chest	Night table
Dresser	Water bed
Vanity	Modular sofa **

Instructions: Consider the categories marked in **bold**. Circle the items that fit within the category. Place a line through the items that do not fit. If you are unsure about an item, leave it blank.

Infant Furniture

Crib	Changing table
Playpen	Car seat **
High chair	Swing **
Telephone **	Mattress *
Dresser	Baby clothes **
Toy chest	Baby toys **
Bassinet	

Outdoor Furniture

Patio umbrella	Lounge chair	Decorative
Patio lantern	Patio table	torches
Patio statues	Patio chairs	Serving cart
Bird houses	Fire pit *	Bar
Wind chimes **	Gazebo	

Instructions: Consider the categories marked in **bold**. Circle the items that fit within the category. Place a line through the items that do not fit. If you are unsure about an item, leave it blank.

Major Kitchen Appliances

Oven	Cooktop
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Refrigerator	Freezer
Crockpot **	Range
Garbage disposal	Blender **
Built-in dishwasher	Microwave oven

Minor Kitchen Appliances

Blender	Electric iron
Breadmaker	Food processor *
Coffee grinder	Hot plate
Coffee maker	Juicer
Ice cream maker	Pizza oven *
Deep fryer *	Popcorn maker
Electric barbecue *	Rice cooker
Electric can opener	Slow cooker
Electric grill	Desktop computer **
Electric frying pan	Toaster oven
Electric toothbrush **	

Instructions: Consider the categories marked in **bold**. Circle the items that fit within the category. Place a line through the items that do not fit. If you are unsure about an item, leave it blank.

Air Conditioners or Heating and Cooling Equipment

Dehumidifier *	Table-top fan
Electric fireplace **	Floor fan

Humidifier *	Portable air-conditioner
Convection heater	Refrigerator **
Oil heater	Oven **
Window air-conditioner	

Other Household Appliances

Air purifier	Burglar alarm console
Water filter *	Burglar alarm control modules
Carbon monoxide detector	Trash compactor
	Reclining armchair **

Instructions: Consider the categories marked in **bold**. Circle the items that fit within the category. Place a line through the items that do not fit. If you are unsure about an item, leave it blank.

Sports or Exercise Equipment

Roller blades	Baseball glove	Football
Sports uniform	Skateboard *	Video game system **
Sports shoes **	Baseball bat	Scuba gear *
Tennis racket	Camera **	Basketball

Racquetball	Trampoline *	Ski poles
Ping pong paddle	Weights	Ice skates
Ping pong table **	Rowing machine	Sled
Frisbee	Exercise mat *	Water skis
Boxing equipment	Exercise bike	Life jacket *
Golf cart (non-riding) *	Weight bench	Wakeboard
Badminton set *	Treadmill	Water ski vest
Sports protective gear	Snow skis	Surf board
Golf clubs	Ski boots	Raft *
Foosball **	Snowboard	Wind surf board
Basketball hoop		

Instructions: Consider the categories marked in **bold**. Circle the items that fit within the category. Place a line through the items that do not fit. If you are unsure about an item, leave it blank.

Camping, Hunting, or Fishing Equipment

Tent	Crossbow
Kerosene lamp	Knife
Sleeping bag	Rifle
Sleeping pad	Off-road vehicle **
Camouflage shirt **	BB/pellet gun
Canteen	Ammunition
Camping stove	Scopes (not specified) *
Portable heater	Flashlight

Bicycles

Bicycle helmets	Bicycle lights
Motorized scooter **	Tires
Bicycle uniform **	Rack *
Stand	Tubes

Other Recreation Equipment

Telescope	Chaise lounge **
Remote controlled car **	Barbecue grill **
Paintball equipment	
Metal detector *	

Instructions: Consider the categories marked in **bold**. Circle the items that fit within the category. Place a line through the items that do not fit. If you are unsure about an item, leave it blank.

Photography Equipment, Supplies, or Fees

Film camera	Winder
Digital camera	Enlarger
Memory card **	Projector
Photo printer *	Projection screen
Lens	Cellular phone **
Tripod	Strobe light
Camera bag	Battery pack for camera flash
Filter	Battery pack for camera

Motor driven film advancer

Camcorder **

Attachment D: Self-administered Web Survey

Design Notes:

- Pilot test will be used to test timing, the number of global categories will be reduced if current plan takes more than 20 minutes

Screening Questions (to appear on TryMyUI screening screen to determine participant eligibility). Only participants who respond yes to each question will be eligible to participate.

1. In the past few months have you purchased any appliances?
2. In the past few months have you purchased any furniture?
3. In the past few months have you purchased any household decorative items or linens?

Welcome!

Unlike some other TryMyUI studies, you will not be using a website to complete a task for this study. Instead you'll be answering survey questions.

You'll only be asked to talk aloud as you complete some of the sections, but feel free to do so at any point. The instructions will tell you when you need to talk aloud.

This voluntary study is being collected under OMB No. 1220-0141 and it is estimated it will take you no longer than 20 minutes to complete.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics is exploring ways to better measure how Americans spend their money. We will be asking you about recent purchases. Please read instructions for each question carefully, explaining your answer when instructed to.

Note: This survey is being administered by surveymonkey.com and resides on a server outside of the BLS Domain. The BLS cannot guarantee the protection of survey responses and advises against the inclusion of sensitive personal information in any response.

CEQ Questions with Global Categories. The below questions will be listed on the survey screen and each “yes” reply will be followed by ‘how much was the expense?’ and ‘in what month was the expense?’ questions)

1. Have there been any expenses that deal with the upkeep or improvement of your home, or any other unit you’ve owned or rented since the first of [reference month]:

- Repairing outdoor patios, walls, fences, driveways or swimming pools
- Inside painting or papering
- Outside painting
- Plastering or painting
- Plumbing or water heating installation or repair
- Electrical work
- Heating or air conditioning jobs

2. Now I am going to ask about the purchase or rental of major household appliances.

Since the first of [reference month] have you or any members of your household purchased or rented any:

- Major kitchen appliances
- Minor kitchen appliances
- Washers or dryers
- Air conditioners or heating and cooling equipment
- Smoke alarms
- Other household appliances

3. Now I am going to ask you about expenses for the purchase or rental of other household items. Since the first of [reference month] have you or any members of your household purchased or rented any of the following items?

1. Computers, computer systems or related hardware
2. Computer software or accessories
3. Telephones or accessories
4. Photography equipment, supplies or fees

1. Musical instruments, supplies and accessories
 2. Sports or exercise equipment
 3. Camping, hunting or fishing equipment
 4. Bicycles
 5. Playground equipment
 6. Other recreation equipment
4. Now I am going to ask you about expenses for home furnishing and related household items. Since the first of [reference period] have you or any members of your household purchased any:
1. Furniture for living, family or recreation rooms
 2. Dining room or kitchen furniture
 3. Bedroom furniture
 4. Infant furniture
 5. Outdoor furniture
5. Have you purchased any:
1. Household linens
 2. Window coverings
 3. Area rugs
 4. Slipcovers

Debriefing Questions

Thanks for your answers so far! Now please answer some questions about your thought processes during the previous set of questions about things you've purchased.

Please answer a few follow-up questions about **Major Appliances**

1. *If =0*, You said that you haven't spent any money on Major Appliances. Please explain out loud what types of things you thought about when answering this question. *Skip to next expenditure section.*
2. *If >0*, You said that you had spent \$___ on Major Appliances. Please explain out loud how you arrived at that answer.
3. Please list the Major Appliances purchases you've made in the past three months and how much it cost

Description	Cost

4. What comes to mind when you hear the term Major Appliances?
5. Please list as many examples of Major Appliances expenses as you can think of
6. Are there any expenses that you think might be included in Major Appliances but aren't sure about?

Please answer a few follow-up questions about **Minor Appliances**

1. *If =0*, You said that you haven't spent any money on Minor Appliances. Please explain out loud what types of things you thought about when answering this question. *Skip to next expenditure section.*
2. *If >0*, You said that you had spent \$___ on Minor Appliances. Please explain out loud how you arrived at that answer.
3. Please list the Minor Appliances purchases you've made in the past three months and how much it cost

Description	Cost

4. What comes to mind when you hear the term Minor Appliances?
5. Please list as many examples of Minor Appliances expenses as you can think of
6. Are there any expenses that you think might be included in Minor Appliances but aren't sure about?

Please answer a few follow-up questions about **Photography equipment, supplies or fees**

1. *If =0*, You said that you haven't spent any money on Photography equipment, supplies or fees. Please explain out loud what types of things you thought about when answering this question. *Skip to next expenditure section.*
2. *If >0*, You said that you had spent \$___ on Photography equipment, supplies or fees. Please explain out loud how you arrived at that answer.
3. Please list the Photography equipment, supplies or fees purchases you've made in the past three months and how much it cost

Description	Cost

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4. What comes to mind when you hear the term Photography equipment, supplies or fees?
5. Please list as many examples of Photography equipment, supplies or fees expenses as you can think of
6. Are there any expenses that you think might be included in Photography equipment, supplies or fees but aren't sure about?

Please answer a few follow-up questions about **Sports or exercise equipment**

1. *If =0*, You said that you haven't spent any money on Sports or exercise equipment. Please explain out loud what types of things you thought about when answering this question. *Skip to next expenditure section.*
2. *If >0*, You said that you had spent \$___ on Sports or exercise equipment. Please explain out loud how you arrived at that answer.
3. Please list the Sports or exercise equipment purchases you've made in the past three months and how much it cost

Description	Cost

4. What comes to mind when you hear the term Sports or exercise equipment?

5. Please list as many examples of Sports or exercise equipment expenses as you can think of
6. Are there any expenses that you think might be included in Sports or exercise equipment but aren't sure about?

Please answer a few follow-up questions about **Camping, hunting or fishing equipment**

1. *If =0*, You said that you haven't spent any money on Camping, hunting or fishing equipment. Please explain out loud what types of things you thought about when answering this question. *Skip to next expenditure section.*
2. *If >0*, You said that you had spent \$___ on Camping, hunting or fishing equipment. Please explain out loud how you arrived at that answer.
3. Please list the Camping, hunting or fishing equipment purchases you've made in the past three months and how much it cost

Description	Cost

4. What comes to mind when you hear the term Camping, hunting or fishing equipment?
5. Please list as many examples of Camping, hunting or fishing equipment expenses as you can think of
6. Are there any expenses that you think might be included in Camping, hunting or fishing equipment but aren't sure about?

Please answer a few follow-up questions about **Furniture for living, family or recreation rooms**

1. *If =0*, You said that you haven't spent any money on Furniture for living, family or recreation rooms. Please explain out loud what types of things you thought about when answering this question. *Skip to next expenditure section.*
2. *If >0*, You said that you had spent \$___ on Furniture for living, family or recreation rooms. Please explain out loud how you arrived at that answer.
3. Please list the Furniture for living, family or recreation rooms purchases you've made in the past three months and how much it cost

Description	Cost

4. What comes to mind when you hear the term Furniture for living, family or recreation rooms?
5. Please list as many examples of Furniture for living, family or recreation rooms expenses as you can think of
6. Are there any expenses that you think might be included in Furniture for living, family or recreation rooms but aren't sure about?

Please answer a few follow-up questions about **Infant furniture**

1. *If =0*, You said that you haven't spent any money on Infant furniture. Please explain out loud what types of things you thought about when answering this question. *Skip to next expenditure section.*
2. *If >0*, You said that you had spent \$___ on Infant furniture. Please explain out loud how you arrived at that answer.

3. Please list the Infant furniture purchases you've made in the past three months and how much it cost

Description	Cost

4. What comes to mind when you hear the term Infant furniture?
5. Please list as many examples of Infant furniture expenses as you can think of
6. Are there any expenses that you think might be included in Infant furniture but aren't sure about?

Please answer a few follow-up questions about **Household linens**

1. *If =0*, You said that you haven't spent any money on Household linens. Please explain out loud what types of things you thought about when answering this question. *Skip to next expenditure section.*
2. *If >0*, You said that you had spent \$___ on Household linens. Please explain out loud how you arrived at that answer.
3. Please list the Household linens purchases you've made in the past three months and how much it cost

Description	Cost

4. What comes to mind when you hear the term Household linens?
5. Please list as many examples of Household linens expenses as you can think of
6. Are there any expenses that you think might be included in Household linens but aren't sure about?

Please answer a few follow-up questions about **Window coverings**

1. *If =0*, You said that you haven't spent any money on Window coverings. Please explain out loud what types of things you thought about when answering this question. *Skip to next expenditure section.*
2. *If >0*, You said that you had spent \$___ on Window coverings. Please explain out loud how you arrived at that answer.
3. Please list the Window coverings purchases you've made in the past three months and how much it cost

Description	Cost

4. What comes to mind when you hear the term Window coverings?
5. Please list as many examples of Window coverings expenses as you can think of
6. Are there any expenses that you think might be included in Window coverings but aren't sure about?

Attachment E: Consent Form

Consent Form

The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is conducting research to increase the quality of BLS surveys. This study is intended to suggest ways to improve the procedures the BLS uses to collect survey data.

The BLS, its employees, agents, and partner statistical agencies, will use the information you provide for statistical purposes only and will hold the information in confidence to the full extent permitted by law. In accordance with the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (Title 5 of Public Law 107-347) and other applicable Federal laws, your responses will not be disclosed in identifiable form without your informed consent. The Privacy Act notice on the back of this form describes the conditions under which information related to this study will be used by BLS employees and agents.

During this research you may be audio and/or videotaped, or you may be observed. If you do not wish to be taped, you still may participate in this research.

We estimate it will take you an average of 60 minutes to participate in this research (ranging from 45 minutes to 70 minutes).

Your participation in this research project is voluntary, and you have the right to stop at any time. If you agree to participate, please sign below.

Persons are not required to respond to the collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. OMB control number is 1220-0141, and expires February 28, 2015.

I have read and understand the statements above. I consent to participate in this study.

Participant's signature

Date

Participant's printed name

Researcher's signature

OMB Control Number: 1220-0141

Expiration Date: [02-28-2015]

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

In accordance with the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (5 U.S.C. 552a), you are hereby notified that this study is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), under authority of 29 U.S.C. 2. Your voluntary participation is important to the success of this study and will enable the BLS to better understand the behavioral and psychological processes of individuals, as they reflect on the accuracy of BLS information collections. The BLS, its employees, agents, and partner statistical agencies, will use the information you provide for statistical purposes only and will hold the information in confidence to the full extent permitted by law. In accordance with the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (Title 5 of Public Law 107-347) and other applicable Federal laws, your responses will not be disclosed in identifiable form without your informed consent.