

Appendix A: Current Information Booklet excerpts

Small electrical kitchen appliances, including –

blender	electric grill	mixer
bread maker	electric iron	pizza oven
coffee grinder	electric knife	popcorn maker
coffee maker	electric timer	rice cooker
crockpot	electric wine chiller	sandwich grill
deep fryer	electric wok	slow cooker
electric barbecue	food processor	smoothie maker
electric can opener	hot plate	toaster
electric fondue set	ice cream maker	toaster oven
electric frying pan	juicer	waffle iron

Electrical personal care appliances, including –

curling iron	electric toothbrush	heating pad
denture cleaner	facial sauna	make-up mirror
digital scale	flat iron	massager
electric hair trimmer	foot bath	Waterpik
electric razor	hair dryer	

Computers, computer systems, or related hardware, including

cables	memory
CD/DVD drive	modems
computer printers	monitors
external hard drive	mouse
keyboards	netbooks
laptops	scanner

Musical instruments, supplies, or accessories, including –

brass instruments	rosin
carrying case	saxophone
clarinet	sheet music
drums	stringed instruments
guitar	strings for musical instruments
keyboards	trombone
music books	trumpet
music stand	valve oil
piano picks	woodwinds
reeds	any other musical accessories

Do not include repairs, music lessons, or band uniforms.

Lawn mowing machinery or other yard equipment, including –

edger	snow blower
electric lawn trimmer	spreader
garden hose	tiller
lawn mower	tractor (farm, garden, etc.)
rake	weed digger
shovel	wheelbarrow

General sports equipment, including –

badminton set	lawn games
baseball bat	pads
baseball glove	racquetball
basketball	racquetball racket
basketball hoop	roller blades
bowling ball	skateboard
boxing equipment	soccer ball
football	sports protective equipment
Frisbee	sports uniform
golf bag	table tennis equipment
golf clubs	tennis racket
helmets	volleyball
karate equipment	

Do not include any shoes for sports.

Do not include any equipment for water sports.

Closet and storage items, including –

drawer organizers	hampers	shoe bag
drawers	hangers	shoe rack
garment bag	hanging bags	storage bins
garment racks	shelf organizers	underbed storage

Recreational lessons or other instructions, including –

cooking	music	sewing
dancing	needlepoint	skiing
driving	painting	skydiving
golf	photography	swimming
horseback riding	sailing	tennis
instructional day camps	self defense	

Appendix A: Protocol

Welcome! Thanks for your interest in our survey. You're here because we have asked you to participate in our research to improve survey questions. We are asking you and hundreds of other people to tell us about what they think.

Unlike some surveys or online tasks you may be familiar with, we ask that you complete this survey all at one time and that you only start once you are in a quiet place where you won't be disturbed. The survey takes about 10 minutes, on average. Only share information you're comfortable with - nothing too personal - but please be honest and follow the instructions.

Please do not use your browser's back button.

This voluntary study is being collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics under OMB No. 1220-0141 (Expiration Date: April 30, 2018). You are not required to respond to this collection unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. We will use the information you provide for statistical purposes only. Your participation is voluntary, and you have the right to stop at any time. This survey is being administered by Qualtrics 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. By proceeding, you give your consent to participate in this study.

---page break---

We are asking for your help to improve our survey questions. We are considering changing one of our surveys and we need to learn whether the new version will make sense to respondents.

On the following pages, you'll be asked to answer questions about expenditures your household may or may not have had over the last three months. We will then ask you some additional questions to better understand your answers.

Let's get started!

---page break---

We'll start by asking a few questions about you.

What is your age in years?

What is your gender?

- Male
- Female
- Prefer not to say

What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?

- Grades 1-12/No Diploma
- High School Diploma or Equivalent
- Some College
- Associate's Degree
- Bachelor's Degree
- Master's Degree

- Doctorate or Professional Degree

Are you Hispanic or Latino?

- Yes
- No

What is your race? (you may select more than one)

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African-American
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White

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Now we'll ask you about your recent expenses:

Since the first of April, have you or any members of your household had any expenses for [FILL]?

[Here are some examples of the kinds of expenses that would fit in this category:]

[Item	Item	Item	Item]
[Item	Item	Item	Item]
[Item	Item	Item	Item]
[Item	Item	Item	Item]

[Do not include XX]

- Yes
- No

---page break---

If Yes to the expense question:

What was the total expense?

[numeric text entry]

---page break---

If Yes to the expense question:

Please tell us what individual expenses went into that total expense that you just reported.

[table with 5 rows and columns for Item and Amount Paid]

---page break---

If Yes to the expense question:

Were there any items or services that your household had expenses for that you considered might fit into this category (FILL), but that you decided to exclude from your initial response?

[5 text-entry boxes]

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We are trying to understand what kinds of expenses the phrase “(FILL)” makes people think of. What are the FIRST five expenses that would fit into this category that come to mind? Even if you have never had that expense yourself, please include it.

[5 text-entry boxes]

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Please look through the items listed below and mark whether you would consider the item as part of “(FILL)”. If you are not sure, mark “not sure”.

	Definitely YES	Definitely NO	Not sure
[Item]			
[Item]			
[Item]			

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If saw any Information Booklet examples:

At the beginning of this survey, we showed you a list of examples of items that were included in the category “FILL”. We want to learn if the examples we showed are “typical” of this category – by typical, we mean common or usual.

Here’s an example of what we mean:

How typical is each of these items of the category “Fruit”?

Apple = Very typical

Pomelo = Not at all typical

Please tell us below your opinion about how typical of the category “FILL” each item is.

	Very typical	Somewhat typical	Not at all typical
[Item]			
[Item]			
[Item]			

---page break---

Thanks so much for your participation! Your unique completion code for mTurk is: [FILL].