**SUPPORTING STATEMENT FOR
THE CONSUMER EXPENDITURE SUREYS**

OMB CONTROL NO. 1220-0050

B. COLLECTIONS OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS

1. Describe (including a numerical estimate) the potential respondent universe and any sampling or other respondent selection methods to be used. Data on the number of entities (e.g., establishments, State and local government units, households, or persons) in the universe covered by the collection and in the corresponding sample are to be provided in tabular form for the universe as a whole and for each of the strata in the proposed sample. Indicate expected response rates for the collection as a whole. If the collection had been conducted previously, include the actual response rate achieved during the last collection.

The Consumer Expenditure (CE) Survey is a nationwide household survey conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics to find out how Americans spend their money. The CE Survey actually consists of two sub-surveys, a Quarterly Interview survey (CEQ), and a two-week Diary survey (CED). The Interview survey collects detailed information on large expenditures such as property, automobiles, and major appliances, as well as on recurring expenditures such as rent, utilities, and insurance premiums. By contrast, the Diary survey collects detailed information on small, frequently purchased items such as food and apparel. The data from the two surveys are then combined to provide a complete picture of consumer expenditures in the United States.

The data for both surveys are collected from a representative sample of households around the country. Both surveys have the same sample design, which is a two-stage sampling process. In the first stage a representative sample of counties from around the United States is selected for the survey. And then in the second stage a representative sample of households from those counties is selected for the survey. This two-stage sampling process is designed to generate a sample of households in which every demographic group and every wealth level is well-represented in the survey. The rest of this section describes the two sampling processes in more detail.

Primary Sampling Units (PSUs)
In the first stage of sampling all 3,143 counties or county equivalents in the United States are partitioned into small geographic clusters called "primary sampling units" (PSUs) from which a representative sample of 91 of them are randomly selected for the survey. The clusters are the "core-based statistical areas" (CBSAs) defined by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and they range in size from 1 to 29 counties with the average size being 5 counties. The same sample of 91 PSUs is used in both the CEQ and CED surveys, and the 91 PSUs fall into three categories:

PSU "size class"	Number of PSUs	Description

S	23	Large Metropolitan Core Based Statistical Areas. These are CBSAs with over 2.5 million people, and they are self-representing PSUs.
N	52	Small Metropolitan Core Based Statistical Areas, and Micropolitan Core Based Statistical Areas. These are CBSAs with under 2.5 million people, and they are non-self-representing PSUs.
R	16	Non-Core Based Statistical Areas. These are small clusters of counties in "rural" areas created by CE staff, and they are non-self-representing PSUs.

BLS selected its sample of 91 PSUs from a stratified sample design in which all 23 self-representing PSUs (the S PSUs) were selected for the survey with certainty, while all the non-self-representing PSUs (the N and R PSUs) were stratified into 68 (=52+16) strata using a 4-variable model whose independent variables were latitude, longitude, median household income, and median household property value. Then one PSU was randomly selected from each stratum with its probability of selection being proportional to its population.

All 91 PSUs are used by the CE survey. However, one of CE's major customers is the Consumer Price Index (CPI) which is an urban survey, not a national survey, that uses CE's data for its expenditure weights, so CPI uses only the 75 (=23+52) urban PSUs in its survey.

Sampling Households Within PSUs
After selecting a sample of PSUs, a sample of households was then selected from the civilian non-institutional portion of those PSUs. That includes people living in houses, condominiums, and apartments, as well as people living in group quarters such as college dormitories and boarding houses. However, it excludes the non-civilian and institutional portions of the population, such as military personnel living on base, nursing home residents, and prison inmates.

Addresses for the CEQ and CED surveys are selected from two sampling frames maintained by the Census Bureau: the Unit frame and the Group Quarters (GQ) frame. Both frames are derived from the Master Address File (MAF), which is basically a list of all residential addresses identified in the 2010 census and is updated twice per year with information from the U.S. Postal Service. The Unit frame is the larger of the two frames and it contains both existing housing units and newly constructed housing units. It has approximately 99% of the MAF's civilian non-institutional addresses and it is updated twice per year. The GQ frame is also derived from the MAF but it is much smaller; it has the remaining 1% of the MAF's civilian non-institutional addresses and it is updated every three years.

In each PSU, a "systematic sample" of households is selected from the two frames. The first step in the selection process is sorting the households by variables that are correlated with their expenditures. The purpose of this is to ensure that households of every wealth level are well-represented in the sample. In the systematic sampling process the first household in the sample is selected from the sorted list using a random number generator. Then after the initial household is selected every k-th household down the list is selected where "k" is the PSU's sampling interval. The sampling interval "k" is computed as the number of addresses in the PSU

divided by the number of addresses in the PSU that are selected for the sample. The Unit and GQ frames have different sorting variables, but they have the same sampling interval.

Table 1 below shows how the households are sorted in the Unit frame. It has codes ranging from 10 to 99 with the lower codes being for low-wealth households, and the higher codes being for high-wealth households. For the Unit frame, the sorting or "stratification" variable is created from the number of occupants in each household, their housing tenure (owner/renter), and the market value of their home (for owners) or the rental value of their apartment or home (for renters). These variables are used because they are correlated with expenditures: households with more people tend to be wealthier than those with fewer people; homeowners tend to be wealthier than renters; and people living in high-price housing units tend to be wealthier than people living in low-price housing units.

All the renters are at one end of the stratification and all the owners are at the other end of the stratification. The renters and owners are further subdivided into quartiles based on monthly rental and property values in order to ensure that households of every wealth level are well represented in the survey. Vacant housing units are put in the middle column for the number of household occupants because although they were vacant at the time of the decennial census, when CE's field representatives visit them most will be occupied and they could be in any of the four non-zero categories. Thus the middle column is their "expected" location.

Table 1. CE Unit Frame Stratification Code Values

Renter/Owner Quartile	Number of Occupants				
	1 person	2 persons	Vacant	3 persons	4+ persons
Renters 1st Quartile	10	11	12	13	14
Renters 2nd Quartile	25	24	23	22	21
Renters 3rd Quartile	30	31	32	33	34
Renters 4th Quartile	45	44	43	42	41
Owners 1st Quartile	50	51	52	53	54
Owners 2nd Quartile	65	64	63	62	61
Owners 3rd Quartile	70	71	72	73	74
Owners 4th Quartile	85	84	83	82	81
Other			99		

To draw a systematic sample from the Unit frame, the addresses are sorted first by PSU, then by State Federal Information and Processing Standards (FIPS) code, County FIPS code, the CE stratification variable described above, Census Tract code, Census Block code, Street name, Street number, and MAFID code.

To draw a systematic sample from the GQ frame, the addresses are sorted first by PSU, then by State FIPS code, County FIPS code, Census Tract code, CHPCT (the percent of people in the tract living in college housing), and Census Block code. CHPCT is used because people living in college housing units are very different than the rest of the people in the GQ frame, so using it as a stratification variable helps produce a more representative sample.

For more information on the sample design in general, please see the paper by Susan King on "Selecting a Sample of Households for the Consumer Expenditure Survey" (Attachment R); or the paper by Danielle Neiman et. al., "Review of the 2010 Sample Redesign of the Consumer Expenditure Survey" (Attachment S). For more information on the geographic portion of CE's sample design, please see the memorandum from Jay Ryan to Richard Schwartz on "PSUs for the Consumer Expenditure Survey's 2010 Census-Based Sample Design," December 18, 2012 (Attachment T).

Consumer Units

A consumer unit (CU) is the unit from which the CE seeks to collect its detailed expenditure information. It is basically the same thing as a "household," although there are some technical differences between them. A CU is a group of people living together in a housing unit (1) who are related by blood, marriage, adoption, or some other legal arrangement such as foster children; (2) who are unrelated but pool their incomes to make joint expenditure decisions; or (3) is a person living alone or sharing a housing unit with other people but who is financially independent of the other people.[1] In most cases, CUs and households are identical so the terms are often used interchangeably. Approximately 99 percent of all occupied housing units are occupied by one CU, and there are approximately 130 million CUs in the United States. The following table shows the estimated number of CUs in all 91 strata from which CE's sample of 91 PSUs was selected.[2]

Estimated Number of CUs in CE's 91 Strata

Stratum Code	Estimated Number of CUs in the Stratum					
S11A	1,916,829	S35B	2,343,038	S49E	1,303,309
S12A	8,239,029	S35C	2,226,023	S49F	572,767
S12B	2,511,760	S35D	1,171,909	S49G	220,279
S23A	3,983,681	S35E	1,141,275	N11B	2,107,733
S23B	1,808,974	S37A	2,705,813	N11C	1,782,731
S24A	1,410,066	S37B	2,492,843	N12C	1,711,973
S24B	1,173,786	S48A	1,765,452	N12D	1,466,621
S35A	2,373,185	S48B	1,070,955	N12E	1,652,789
		S49A	5,401,694	N12F	1,499,951
		S49B	1,825,454	N23C	1,429,854
		S49C	1,778,910	N23D	1,371,790
		S49D	1,448,362	N23E	1,582,553

[1] Unrelated people who share a housing unit are considered to be separate CUs if they are responsible for paying their own expenses in at least two of these three categories: food, shelter, and all other expenses. Likewise college students living away from home are considered to be separate CUs from their parents if they are responsible for paying their own expenses in at least two of these three categories.

[2] The number of CUs comes from combining information about the total number of housing units in the Census Bureau's sampling frames (i.e., the MAF) with observations made by CE's field representatives about the number of CUs living in those housing units. CE's observations in the field show the average number of CUs per occupied housing unit is approximately 1.015. For every 1,000 occupied housing units there are approximately 1,015 CUs. The number of CUs per stratum shown in the table above comes from allocating the nationwide total of 130 million CUs by the number of people living in each stratum according to the 2010 census.

N23F	1,371,175		R36H	592,418
N23G	1,652,369		R37K	553,860
N23H	1,646,840		R37L	668,619
N23I	1,576,918		R48G	202,807
N23J	1,443,122		R48H	168,146
N24C	1,252,236		R48I	188,377
N24D	1,196,973		R49L	300,802
N24E	1,384,575		**Total**	**130,000,000**
N24F	1,241,240			
N35F	1,277,976			
N35G	1,112,833			
N35H	1,274,905			
N35I	1,073,353			
N35J	1,302,974			
N35K	1,110,367			
N35L	1,301,557			
N35M	1,081,592			
N35N	1,226,603			
N35O	1,152,152			
N35P	1,305,536			
N35Q	1,079,215			
N36A	1,065,120			
N36B	1,045,744			
N36C	1,103,424			
N36D	1,179,553			
N36E	1,073,872			
N36F	1,009,410			
N37C	1,025,739			
N37D	1,184,416			
N37E	1,071,009			
N37F	1,029,420			
N37G	1,086,768			
N37H	1,160,487			
N37I	1,103,594			
N37J	1,200,835			
N48C	1,359,161			
N48D	1,568,137			
N48E	1,617,161			
N48F	1,350,234			
N49H	2,193,028			
N49I	2,174,208			
N49J	1,946,697			
N49K	1,837,364			
R11D	274,844			
R12G	347,740			
R23K	676,088			
R23L	569,043			
R24G	773,937			
R24H	651,715			
R35R	649,702			
R35S	780,518			
R36G	660,108			

Sample Size and Response Rates

The table below shows the expected annual sample sizes and response rates for the CEQ and CED surveys for 2022-2024. The sample sizes were recently increased from their previous levels due to the CPI program changing the source of its outlet frame information from the Telephone Point of Purchase Survey (TPOPS) to the CEQ and CED surveys. The CEQ's sample size used to be 48,000 addresses per year but it was increased to 52,700 addresses per year in April 2020, and the CED's sample size used to be 12,000 addresses per year but it was increased to 17,800 addresses per year in January 2020. The CPI program relied on TPOPS as its source of outlet sampling frame information since 1998, but due to its low response rate the duty of providing outlet information to the CPI program was transferred to the CE program, hence CE's sample size was increased.

Category	Quarterly Interview Survey			Diary Survey		
	2022	2023	2024	2022	2023	2024
Total Sample Size (addresses)	52,700	52,700	52,700	17,800	17,800	17,800
Type B and C Noninterviews (vacant, demolished, etc.)						
Number	9,000	9,000	9,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
Percent of Total Sample	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0	17.0
Eligible Units (occupied housing units)						
Number	43,700	43,700	43,700	14,800	14,800	14,800
Percent of Total Sample	83.0	83.0	83.0	83.0	83.0	83.0
Type A Noninterviews						
Number	24,000	24,000	24,000	8,100	8,100	8,100
Percent of Eligible Units	55.0	55.0	55.0	55.0	55.0	55.0
Completed Interviews						
Number	19,700	19,700	19,700	6,700	6,700	6,700
Percent of Eligible Units (Response Rate)	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0	45.0

As the table above shows, 83% of the sample addresses are expected to have occupied housing units, and the other 17% are expected to have unoccupied housing units or to be addresses that are nonexistent, nonresidential, vacant, demolished, etc. Such addresses are called "Type B/C" noninterviews. Then 45% of the occupied housing units are expected to complete an interview, and the other 55% are expected to be "Type A" noninterviews, which are occupied housing units that do not complete an interview. That is expected to yield 19,700 quarterly interviews and 13,400 (= 6,700 × 2) weekly diaries per year in 2022-2024.

The response rates in the table above are lower than they were in previous years due to COVID-19. The expected response rates are normally the CEQ's and CED's actual response rates from the most recent five-year period minus five percentage points to account for their downward trend, which would have been 55 percent for the CEQ survey and 50 percent for the CED survey. However, COVID-19 made data collection more difficult, and based on the few months of data available in the COVID-19 era we selected 45 percent for the expected response rate for 2022-2024.

Nonresponse Bias
In 2018 CE staff conducted a nonresponse bias study to determine whether the CEQ and CED surveys' nonrespondents are "missing completely at random" (MCAR), and whether their missing-ness generates any bias in the published expenditure estimates. The study was undertaken in response to an OMB directive, and it concluded that the nonrespondents are not MCAR, but the amount of bias they generate is small.

The MCAR part of the study had four sub-studies. They found different demographic groups have different response rates; respondents have different demographic characteristics than the American population as a whole; respondents' demographic characteristics change over time; and a mathematical model predicting response rates had parameters on many of its demographic variables that were statistically significant. Within these four sub-studies the most significant finding was that high-income households have lower response rates than low-income households, which is a concern because CE is an economic survey that focuses on expenditures, and income is correlated with expenditures. Nevertheless, all four sub-studies indicated that CE's nonrespondents are not MCAR.

The bias part of the study also had four sub-studies. They examined four different nonresponse weighting adjustment procedures to get an idea of the range of possible values the "correct" nonresponse-adjusted expenditure estimates might have. All four procedures increased the CEQ's expenditure estimates by about one percent from its base-weighted (i.e., unadjusted) values, and all four procedures decreased the CED's expenditure estimates by about one percent from its base-weighted values. Thus in both surveys CE's expenditure estimates would have been biased by about one percent if the nonresponse weighting adjustment procedure had been ignored. The consistency of all four weighting procedures within each survey suggests that the results are robust.

So, overall, the study showed that CE's nonresponse weighting adjustment procedure is working well. The nonrespondents are not MCAR, but the amount of bias they generate is small, and the nonresponse weighting adjustment procedure is doing a good job compensating for the bias. The study provided a counterexample to the commonly-held belief that if a survey's data are not missing completely at random then its estimates are subject to nonresponse bias.

For more information on the calculation of response rates, see the memorandum from Sharon Krieger to David Swanson on "Response Rates in the Consumer Expenditure Survey" (2020) (Attachment U). For more information on the nonresponse bias studies, see "Assessing Nonresponse Bias in the Consumer Expenditure Interview Survey" (Attachment V).

Self-Administered Diary test

Additionally, as part of the Self-Administered Diary test, the BLS contractor (Ipsos) will use a national online panel named KnowledgePanel® (KP). KP is an online panel that is representative of the U.S. adult population with recruitment to the panel via address-based sampling. KP includes about 60,000 US residents (age 18 and older) representing 247,431,811 adults (age 18 and older) in the overall universe. The sample design uses a single sampling frame: the Delivery Sequence File (DSF) of the United States Postal Service, covering almost 100% of the U.S. population. A random sample of households from across the United States are sent a mail invitation to join the panel.

The contractor will select a sample of approximately 4,102 panel members to achieve a minimum survey cooperation rate of 65 percent for the Household Characteristics Survey. The contractor anticipates a minimum survey cooperation rate of 75 percent for the subsequent Spending Diary. This will result in 2,000 completed Spending Diaries (4102 x .65 x .75 =2000). Expected response rates are based on actual response rates achieved by the contractor for other studies using the same KP.

For selection of general population samples from KP, the sample is weighted to U.S. Census Bureau benchmarks from the latest American Community Survey (ACS) and the most recent March supplement of the Current Population Survey (CPS) along the following dimensions, with additional nesting of dimensions as well:

- Gender (Male, Female)
- Age (18–29, 30–44, 45–59, and 60+)
- Race/Ethnicity (White/Non-Hispanic, Black/Non-Hispanic, Other/Non-Hispanic, 2+ Races/Non-Hispanic, Hispanic)
- Education (Less than High School, High School, Some College, Bachelor and beyond)
- Census Region (Northeast, Midwest, South, West)
- Household Income (Under $10K, $10K to <$25K, $25K to <$50K, $50K to <$75K, $75K to <$100K, $100K to <$150K, and $150K+)
- Home ownership status (Own, Rent/Other)
- Household Size (1, 2, 3, 4+)
- Metropolitan Area (Yes, No)
- Hispanic Origin (Mexican, Puerto Rican, Cuban, Other, Non-Hispanic)

Using these panel weights as the measure of size (MOS) for each panel member, a PPS (probability proportional to size) procedure is used to select study specific samples.

The contractor will recruit a nationally representative sample of adults (age 18 and older) from KP to achieve a minimum of 2,000 completed Spending Diaries. To participate in the Spending Diary, respondents must first participate in the Household Characteristics Survey and agree to participate in the diary component of the study. The contractor will select a sample of

approximately 4,102 panel members to achieve a minimum survey cooperation rate of 65 percent for the Household Characteristics Survey.

2. Describe the procedures for the collection of information including:
- **Statistical methodology for stratification and sample selection,**
- **Estimation procedure,**
- **Degree of accuracy needed for the purpose described in the justification,**
- **Unusual problems requiring specialized sampling procedures, and**
- **Any use of periodic (less frequent than annual) data collection cycles to reduce burden.**

Field representatives from the U.S. Census Bureau, under contract with BLS, personally visit the households in the CEQ's and CED's samples to collect the data. Prior to the first household visit, respondents are sent an advanced letter informing them that they have been selected for the survey and asking them for their cooperation. For subsequent household visits in the CEQ survey, respondents are sent an advanced letter reminding them that it has been 3 months since they last participated in the survey and asking them for their cooperation again.

Field representatives visit each household in the CEQ's sample every 3 months for 4 consecutive quarters to collect information on the expenditures they made during the previous 3 months. The field representatives enter the household's responses into a laptop computer. After participating in the survey for 4 quarters, the household is dropped from the survey and replaced by another household. The households in the CEQ survey are on a rotating schedule with approximately one-fourth of the households in the sample being new to the survey each quarter.

For the CED survey, field representatives visit each household in the sample two times to collect information on the expenditures they make during a 2-week period. On the first visit the field representatives introduce themselves, explain the survey, and leave two weekly diaries, one for each week of the survey period. The household members are asked to record all their expenditures over the 2-week period in those diaries. Then on the second visit, the field representatives pick up the two diaries and thank the household for participating in the survey. After participating in the survey for two weeks, the household is dropped from the survey and replaced by another household. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, procedures have been modified to include contacting the respondent by telephone in lieu of personal visits, emailing a link to a Diary form, telephone transcription of expenditures from the Diary, and the availability of an online Diary. (See Attachment D for a detailed description of CED procedural changes resulting from the coronavirus pandemic including an email template for sending the Diary electronically.) These procedures will continue for the duration of the pandemic.

After completing the second week of the CED survey and the fourth quarter of the CEQ survey, the households are sent a Thank You letter and a certificate of appreciation for their participation in the survey.

Estimation

The estimation procedure for both the CEQ and CED follow well-established statistical principles. The final weight for each sample CU is the product of its base weight (which is the inverse of the CU's probability of selection); an adjustment factor to account for noninterviews; and a calibration adjustment factor that post-stratifies the weights to account for population undercoverage. A typical base weight for a CU in the CEQ is approximately 10,000, which means it represents 10,000 CUs – itself plus 9,999 other CUs that were not selected for the survey. A typical final weight is approximately 25,000, which means it represents 25,000 CUs in the population – itself plus 24,999 other CUs that were not selected for the survey and/or did not participate in the survey.

For additional information on CE's sample design and estimation methodology, please see "Chapter 16, Consumer Expenditures and Income" in the *BLS Handbook of Methods* (Attachment W); Jay Ryan's memorandum to Richard Schwartz on "PSUs for the Consumer Expenditure Survey's 2010 Census-Based Sample Design," December 18, 2012 (Attachment T); and Brian Nix's memo on 'Differences in Response Rates in the Consumer Expenditure Survey' (Attachment X).

Self-Administered Diary test

The sample design of the KP panel uses a single sampling frame: the Delivery Sequence File (DSF) of the United States Postal Service, covering almost 100% of the U.S. population. A random sample of households from across the United States are sent a mail invitation to join the panel.

Data will be collected from a probability-based nationally representative set of American adults using a probability of selection from the panel equal to the panel weights. Panel weights are weighted to U.S. Census Bureau benchmarks from the American Community Survey (ACS) and the supplement of the Current Population Survey (CPS) based on sex, age, race, ethnicity, income, educational attainment, region, and metropolitan area of panel members (age 18 and older), including coverage of non-internet households. Weights will be calculated. The proposed sample size of 4,102 is large enough to provide a sampling variability at the 95-percent confidence level of +/-1.9 percentage points.

3. Describe methods to maximize response rates and to deal with issues of non-response. The accuracy and reliability of information collected must be shown to be adequate for intended uses. For collections based on sampling, a special justification must be provided for any collection that will not yield "reliable" data that can be generalized to the universe studied.

Keeping the CEQ's and CED's response rates as high as possible requires special efforts, particularly from the Census Bureau's field staff. The field staff are trained in a variety of techniques designed to persuade people to participate in the survey, such as "refusal conversion" techniques which are designed to change the minds of people who are hesitant to participate in

the survey. If someone refuses to participate in the survey, the field office sends a letter trying to persuade them to participate in the survey and a senior interviewer or supervisory field representative is assigned to the case for more refusal conversion efforts. Of course refusal conversion efforts take time and cost money, so regional office staff try to decide which cases to work on and how much effort to put into them based on cost-effectiveness considerations.

Special computer processing techniques are also used in the CEQ to reduce respondent burden, which in turn helps keep response rates up. For example, some data collected in one interview are carried forward to subsequent interviews, such as data on household members and their personal characteristics, along with data on their properties, mortgages, vehicles, and insurance policies. Minimizing respondent burden, including interview length, are important factors in the effort to keep response rates up.

When field staff still cannot convert noninterviews to interviews, the estimation process has a noninterview adjustment to account for them. As mentioned above, every CU in the sample has a base weight equal to the number of CUs in the population it represents. In this process the respondent CUs have their weights increased to account for the nonrespondent CUs. The total sample of CUs (both respondents and nonrespondents) is partitioned into 192 subsets based on their region, CU size, income, and number of contact attempts.[3] Then within each subset the base weights of the respondents are increased by multiplying them by a factor equal to the sum of the base weights for all CUs (both respondents and nonrespondents) divided by the sum of the base weights from just the respondent CUs. This makes the final weights of the respondents add up to the total number of CUs in the population.

4. Describe any tests of procedures or methods to be undertaken. Testing is encouraged as an effective means of refining collections of information to minimize burden and improve utility. Tests must be approved if they call for answers to identical questions from 10 or more respondents. A proposed test or set of test may be submitted for approval separately or in combination with the main collection of information.

CE plans to investigate the use of Computer Audio-Recorded Interviewing (CARI) in the CEQ. CARI gives insight into item effectiveness, interviewer behavior, and (at times) interviewer-respondent dynamics in a way that is otherwise possible only through CEQ observations. This test will allow CE to gain some insights into how CEQ items are performing, how FRs ask questions, and the interaction between respondents and FRs. Since it is not feasible to record entire interviews at this time, CE will determine which question(s) should be recorded and the research question that would be addressed by the recording. The research question will involve

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[3] There are 4 regions of the country, 4 CU size classes, 3 income classes, and 4 contact attempt classes, making 192 = 4 x 4 x 3 x 4 subsets into which the sample is partitioned. For nonrespondents the number of people in the CU is obtained from data collected in previous interviews or from talking to their neighbors. For all CUs (both respondents and nonrespondents) their income is estimated from a publicly available database from the IRS which has the average household income by zipcode. In the nonresponse adjustment process every CU is assumed to have its zipcode's average income value.

something that can be addressed through listening to spoken responses/questions (CE expects to be able to hear both, provided that the interview is not conducted by telephone).

Census has developed an infrastructure for reviewing CARI recordings that are accessible to BLS users with special sworn status and a secure token provided by Census. BLS-CE will work with Census-CE to build upon the existing CARI infrastructure – CARI Interactive Data Access (CIDA) – and apply it to the CEQ for implementation as part of the 2022 CEQ. CE will clear the detailed changes related to this test once full details are available.

5. Provide the name and telephone number of individuals consulted on statistical aspects of the design and the name of the agency unit, contractor(s), grantee(s), or other person(s) who will actually collect and/or analyze the information for the agency.

The sample design is a joint effort between BLS and the Census Bureau, with the two bureaus focusing on different aspects of the sample design. BLS focuses on the PSUs, and the Census Bureau focuses on the households. For more information on the sample design or the data collection effort, you may contact the following individuals.

Sample Design:	Danielle Neiman (Census)	(301) 763-5998
	David Swanson (BLS)	(202) 691-6917
Data Collection:	Jennifer Epps (Census)	(301) 763-5342
	Janel Brattland (BLS)	(202) 691-5427