2023 NTIA Internet Use Survey Cognitive Testing Round 1 Conducted by CBSM at U.S. Census Bureau Document prepared by Jonathan Katz, Alexandra Piccirillo, Caitlyn Keeve, and Jessica Holzberg 5/25/2023

#### Introduction

This document contains the results and recommendations from cognitive testing of Round 1 of the 2023 National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Internet Use Survey; it has been reviewed for disclosure avoidance and approved under CBDRB-FY23-CBSM003-005. For questions or comments, please contact <u>ionathan.m.katz@census.gov</u>. In addition to the authors, we want to acknowledge Kevin Younes for his help recruiting on this project.

### Methods

The main goal of testing was to evaluate a series of revised items that were streamlined for clarity but also length to reduce time administered in the interview, at the request of NTIA and ADDP (Associate Directorate for Demographic Programs).

We interviewed 20 participants for Round 1 of 2023 NTIA Internet Use Survey testing. Participants came from existing Center for Behavioral Science Methods (CBSM) databases where they had either completed a screener for a prior testing project or completed a cognitive or usability interview. Participants were re-contacted for this study and asked to complete either a Qualtrics self-administered screener or an interviewer-administered screener specific to this study prior to interviewing.

Interviews were conducted either remotely via Microsoft Teams or by telephone. Interviewers completed an interviewer-administered Qualtrics programmed instrument with which they could follow along. Participants were asked about internet use of the household and of a randomly selected household member. A section of Table 1 (below) shows the relationship between the participant and the individual they served as a proxy for, if any. Following the completion of the survey, participants were asked retrospective probes about their answers to the survey questions.

### **Participant characteristics**

The participant characteristics are listed in the table below. We attempted to recruit a variety of participants included those from both related and unrelated households and also those that may have had limited Internet experience. Based on the interview data we collected and retrospective probing, we were able to recruit three participants who appeared to be a limited Internet user or didn't use the Internet across many devices. One of these three participants was visually impaired and the other two participants were 65 and older. We did not have any participants who did not use the Internet as this was not the main focus of testing. Participants were from a variety of states across the country: California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, and Washington.

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Table 1. Participant Characteristic	CS	
	Single member	2
Household	Related	13
	Unrelated	5
	Less than high school	0
	Completed high school	2
	Some college, no degree	4
Education	Associate's degree (AA/AS)	5
	Bachelor's degree (BA/BS)	5
	Post-Bachelor's degree (for example, MA, MS, Ph. D, JD)	4
	Other degree or studies	0
Cov	Female	13
Sex	Male	7
Llisponis	Yes	3
Hispanic	No	17
	White	14
Race*	Black or African American	5
Kale	American Indian or Alaska Natïve	1
	Asian	2

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Table 1. Participant Characteristics		
•	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0
	18-34	4
<b>A</b>	34-50	9
Age	51-64	3
	65 and over	4
	Less than \$15,000	1
	\$15,000 to \$24,999	1
Income	\$25,000 to \$49,999	8
	\$50,000 to \$100,000	8
	More than \$100,000	2
Interview Type	Microsoft Teams	17
Interview Type	Telephone	3
	Self	2
	Husband/wife/spouse	4
Relationship to Participant for	Unmarried partner	3
Proxy Questions <sup>1</sup>	Parent(s)	3
(EMAIL to HOMIOT)	Children	1
	Siblings	2
	Roommates	5

\*A participant could select one or more races so total sum may not equal to the number of participants interviewed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Two participants did not report as a proxy for someone else.

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
CMPINT Production Wording This month we are asking some additional questions about the Internet, as well as computers, mobile phones, tablets, and other devices that connect to the Internet. First, we will ask what types of computers and other devices [you/members of your household] currently use. Please focus on devices [you/members of your household] currently have access to, and have used at least occasionally during the past six months. We are interested in devices used at any location, whether at home, work, school, a library, or anywhere else. Round 1 Wording This month we are asking some additional questions about Internet use. First, we will ask what types of computers and other devices [you/members of your household] currently use. Please focus on devices [you/members of your household] currently use. Please focus on devices [you/members of your household] currently use. Please focus on devices [you/members of your household] currently use. Please focus on devices [you/members of your household] currently use. Please focus on devices [you/members of your household] currently use at least occasionally during the past six months. We are interested in devices used at home, work, school, a library, or any other place.	Participants did not have any questions when read this intro. Although we did not probe for this, participants generally seemed to be thinking of the correct time frame for these questions. Based on think aloud feedback during the interview questions, one participant may have been thinking about which household members own specific devices rather than use them. This seemed to be the only case where this happened. Another participant was correctly thinking of "use" rather than "ownership" when answering. For example, when asked the tablet question, the participant mentioned their husband owned a tablet but hadn't used it, so they reported 'No'.	Since the revised wording is shorter and seemed to test well, we recommend this updated wording for production: "This month we are asking some additional questions about Internet use. First, we will ask what types of computers and other devices [you/members of your household] currently use. Please focus on devices [you/members of your household] currently have access to, and have used at least occasionally during the past six months. We are interested in devices used at home, work, school, a library, or any other place."
Production Wording DESKTP [Do you/Does anyone in this household, including you,] use a desktop computer at least occasionally? Include any desktop computers [you/members of your household] currently have access to and have used during the past six months. (If needed) A desktop is a personal computer that is too large or heavy to be frequently moved from place to place. (If yes & is multi-person household) Who is that? LAPTOP What about a laptop? [Do you/Does anyone in this household] use a laptop computer? (If needed) A laptop is a personal computer that is portable and includes a built-in keyboard and screen. (If yes & is multi-person household) Who is that?	<ul> <li>Prior to the first round of testing, we updated the "if needed" wording for desktop as we thought this would be a more accurate definition given changes in construction of desktops.</li> <li>In the first 16 interviews, three participants had trouble answering whether they had a desktop computer. One participant who reported "Yes" to desktop computer seemed to have a laptop as they mentioned it was a "desk laptop" during probing.</li> <li>A second participant asked, "is a desktop the same as a laptop?" and the interviewer read the 'if needed' text. This participant then said "Yes". This participant later said during probing that their laptop was work-issued and is essentially used as a desktop. They then added it could be a considered a desktop if it's not moved around.</li> </ul>	We recommend having the laptop question precede the desktop question for production to lessen the chances a participant categorizes a laptop computer as a desktop computer LAPTOP [Do you/Does anyone in this household, including you] use a laptop computer at least occasionally? Include any laptop computers [you/members of your household] currently have

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
DESKTP (Main question wording the same). (If needed) A desktop is a personal computer that must be plugged into a power outlet and is typically at a single location. (If yes & is multi-person household) Who is that? LAPTOP Full question wording the same. Round 1 Wording (Last 4 interviews)* LAPTOP [Do you/Does anyone in this household, including you] use a laptop computer at least occasionally? Include any laptop computers [you/members of your household] currently have access to and have used during the past 6 months (If needed) A laptop is a personal computer that is portable and includes a built-in keyboard and screen. (If yes & is multi- person household) Who is that? DESKTP What about a desktop? [Do you/Does anyone in this household] use a desktop computer? (If needed) A desktop is a personal computer that must be plugged into a power outlet and is typically at a single location. (If yes & is multi-person household) Who is that? *Order was flipped for last 4 interviews	A third participant who answered "Yes" to desktop originally later said during probing that they realized they don't have a desktop, just a laptop. One other participant who correctly answered this question mentioned during probing that her elderly parents use their laptop as a desktop computer as they do not move it. Because a few participants struggled answering the desktop question, we suggested re-ordering the desktop and laptop questions with laptop coming first for the last 4 interviews. We thought if participants heard the laptop computer first, they would be more likely to say "Yes" to that question and then they would properly answer "No" to the desktop question after hearing that second. For the last four interviews, no participants appeared to incorrectly categorize a desktop computer as a laptop computer. Two of the four participants reported not having a desktop computer and were able to adequately describe what a desktop was.	access to and have used during the past 6 months ( <i>If needed</i> ) A laptop is a personal computer that is portable and includes a built-in keyboard and screen. ( <i>If</i> <i>yes</i> & <i>is multi-person household</i> ) Who is that? DESKTOP What about a desktop? [Do you/Does anyone in this household] use a desktop computer? ( <i>If needed</i> ) A desktop is a personal computer that must be plugged into a power outlet and is typically at a single location. ( <i>If yes</i> & <i>is multi-person</i> <i>household</i> ) Who is that?
TABLET         Production and Round 1 Wording         What about a tablet or e-book reader, such as an iPad or Kindle? (If needed) A tablet or e-book reader is a personal computer that is portable and has a built-in screen, but does not have a built-in physical keyboard. (If yes & is multi-person household) Who is that?	All participants were able to answer this question without issue. During the interview, one participant mentioned their spouse using a Microsoft Surface and initially answered 'Yes' to the laptop question. However, they were unsure if it was actually a laptop, and they changed their answer to 'No' after further thinking. They then answered 'Yes' to the tablet question. These were the correct answers to those two questions given their situation.	We recommend the current wording for production.
	During probing, participants were asked about the difference between a	

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Tested Wording	Findings         Recommendations
	laptop and tablet. Participants generally were able to explain the difference
	between the two. Some of the responses included that laptop had a
	keyboard:
	• "Laptop has a built-in keyboard where tablet does not"
	Some participants also thought about how a laptop uses a mouse and has
	more memory storage compared to a tablet. Another couple of participants
	thought of a laptop similar to a desktop but made to be portable:
	"Tablets are limited to certain information or capabilities whereas
	laptop to me sounds kind of similar to a desktop except that it's made to be portable".
	Only one participant did not seem to be able to understand the difference
	between a laptop and tablet as this participant said they were the same
	thing which was incorrect.

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
MPHONE	All participants said 'Yes' to this question as at least one person in their	We recommend the current
	household uses a smartphone. One participant incorrectly reported that	wording for production.
Production and Round 1 Wording	one of the people in the household uses a smartphone when they did not.	
What about a smartphone, or a cell phone that connects to the Internet? (If needed) [Do	The reason this participant erroneously said another household member	
you/Does anyone in this household] use a smartphone? (If yes & is multi-person household)	was a user is because they mistakenly thought we were asking simply about	
Who is that?	"cell phone" without the Internet so they included the other household	
	member's flip phone. This participant struggled with other questions in the	
	interview, so we think what happened for this question is a unique issue.	
WEARAB	Prior to testing, we modified the examples of a smart watch and fitness	Question for NTIA: Are Virtual
	band to be read only if the respondent needed clarification. This was done	Reality headsets out of scope for
Production Wording	to reduce interview time. The question was tested to ensure that removing	this question? If so, we don't
[Do you/Does anyone in this household] use a wearable device that is connected to the	the examples would not affect comprehension.	recommend additional wording
Internet, such as a smart watch or fitness band? Examples include an Apple Watch or Fitbit.		changes at this time for the final
(If yes & is multi-person household) Who is that?	Fifteen of the twenty participants reported that a person in their household	Blaise wording but may
	uses a wearable device to connect to the Internet. None of the participants	recommend some additional
Round 1 Wording	were read the 'if needed' text as it appeared that no participants had	testing on this issue in the future.
[Do you/Does anyone in this household] use a wearable device that is connected to the	trouble answering. Participants were later probed if they found the	
Internet, such as a smart watch or fitness band? (If needed) Examples include an Apple	question easy or difficult to answer and participants generally found this	Otherwise, the tested wording
Watch or Fitbit. (If yes & is multi-person household) Who is that?	easy.	worked well, and we recommend
		this for production.
	When participants were asked of other examples of wearable devices,	
	multiple participants thought about Apple Watches, Fitbits, pedometers,	
	Samsung watches, blood and heart monitors, Virtual Reality headsets, and	
	wearable devices in your sleep (a ring for sleep). One participant also	
	thought about Garmin and another participant mentioned using an Amazon	
	Halo.	
	Four participants were asked if the examples in the 'if needed' text would	
	have been helpful. Two participants said they would have been helpful in	
	answering the question, but the other participants thought the question	
	itself without the 'if needed' text was easy to understand. For participants	
	who said the examples would have been helpful, they still seemed to	
	answer the question accurately based on their responses to the interview	
	question and probes.	

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
Tested Wording TVBOX Production Wording [Do you/Does anyone in this household] use a smart TV, a game or video system, or another device that connects to the Internet and plays through a TV? Examples include an Xbox, Apple TV, PlayStation, Roku, or a Blu-Ray player that can access the Internet. ( <i>If yes &amp; is multi-person household</i> ) Who is that? <b>Round 1 Wording</b> [Do you/Does anyone in this household] use a smart TV, a game system, or another device that connects to the Internet and plays through a TV? Examples include an Apple TV, Xbox, or Roku that can access the Internet. ( <i>If yes &amp; is multi-person household</i> ) Who is that?	<ul> <li>Findings</li> <li>Prior to testing, we made a slight change to remove "PlayStation" from the question wording. This was done to reduce interview length and we thought the word "PlayStation" was redundant since Xbox and other examples were already mentioned.</li> <li>Thirteen of the twenty participants reported that their household uses a Smart TV or a game or video system that connects to the Internet and plays through a TV. The majority of participants seemed to answer this question without much issue. The omission of the word PlayStation did not seem to affect participant's understanding that they should include PlayStation as an example. Seven participants mentioned "PlayStation" as an example when responding to the probing questions.</li> <li>However, a few participants had trouble answering this question. Two participants answered this incorrectly as they reported 'No' but they should have answered 'Yes'. During the administration of the survey, one participant mentioned having an Apple TV but did not consider it a smart TV, so they answered 'No':</li> <li>Participant: "We do have an Apple TV box but not a smart TV. Does that answer your question?"</li> <li>(Interviewer repeated survey question)</li> <li>Participant: "No"</li> <li>It was unclear why they did not consider an Apple TV as a smart TV.</li> <li>A second participant who also said 'No' but should have said 'Yes' reported that originally, she was thinking of "touch screen TVs". During probing, she realized she in fact had a smart TV. This participant mentioned having a clearer definition or separating the questions by device type would be helpful.</li> <li>One participant who answered correctly also had trouble identifying what constituted a device that plays through a TV during probing. One participant</li> </ul>	Recommendations Although a few participants had trouble answering this question, we still think the tested wording is most optimal. We should carefully test this question in sel administered testing to see if similar problems occur.

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
	said that if someone downloaded a movie and used an HDMI cable to	
	connect the laptop to a smart TV, they would consider that in scope (this	
	participant said 'Yes' to the survey question because they have a smart TV	
	that is connected to an Xbox). Another participant mentioned that this	
	question could be difficult because of "potential add-ons" to a regular	
	television (Firestick, Wii-U remote).	
	One participant also was not sure of the word "use" in this context as the	
	participant had a brother with a disability that watches the smart TV but	
	isn't able to use or interact with the television capabilities.	

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DEVQUA         In previous production vorkes, DEVQUA had taken a long time to be ministered in interviews. As a result, we modified "They rarely work well" to "They work poorly".         The is concern that participants or fiscing work poorly".           Production Wording         All of the participants said the devices at least "somewhat work", with two not include home Wi-Fi routers or similar equipment.         All of the participants said the devices at least "somewhat work", with two participants said the devices at least "somewhat work", with two participants said the devices at least "somewhat work", with two participants said the devices at least "somewhat work", with two participants said the devices at least "somewhat work", with two participants said the devices at least "somewhat work", with two participants said the devices at least "somewhat work", with two participants said the devices at least "somewhat work", with two participants said the devices at least "somewhat work", with two participants said the devices at least "somewhat work", with two participants said the devices at least "somewhat work", with two participants said the devices at least "somewhat work", with two participants said the devices at least "somewhat work", with two participants said the devices at least "somewhat work", with two participants said the devices at least "somewhat work", with two participants said the devices worked.         If NTIA wants to, we can add examples not to include for self- some confusing.           Round 1 Wording         During probing, only two participants said the dould's question mainte and would not be sure if it was difficult because they would other interret-connected devices (you use/used by this household work voreral? Please do the participants said the following:         If NTIA wants to, we can add examples not to include for self- some of these p
there had recently been connectivity issues that sometimes were a result of

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Tested Wording	Findings         Recommendations
	and they were without one for a period of time (this participant said "they work well").
	Participants were also asked what does "they work poorly" mean and generally were able to interpret this phrase. Participants said this means that the devices don't meet expectations, cannot accomplish a goal, or they do not work:
	<ul> <li>"They work but they don't give you exactly what you want, and they aren't very reliable".</li> <li>"Computer crashes a lot, maybe it doesn't charge well, maybe doesn't have the capacity to do the work you need to do on it".</li> </ul>
	A couple participants were also thinking of specific thresholds when asked what "they work poorly" mean:
	• "It works less than 30% of the time".
	A couple participants did think about the Internet connection when thinking about what "they work poorly" meant.

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
DEVSTA	Similar to DEVQUA, this question had taken a long time to be administered in previous production cycles. As a result, we modified this question to be a	Although some participants didn't provide an initial codable
Production Wording	Yes/No question.	response which increased
During the last six months, how often were [you/members of your household] unable to use		interview time, we think this
a computer or other Internet-connected device because it was in use by someone else,	The distribution was split as ten participants answered, 'Yes' and ten	revised question tested well and
located elsewhere, or otherwise inaccessible?	participants answered 'No'.	participants were able to answer
		their situation accurately.
Read and select best match	Participants generally seemed to be able to answer this question without	Therefore, we recommend the
	much issue. A couple of participants didn't provide a codable response	following:
1) Never	when read the question initially. One participant took a while to answer as	Tonowing.
2) During one or two days	they mentioned having outages and was wondering if we're including	"At any point during the past six
3) During three or four days	outages. This participant eventually said "Yes" which was the correct	months, were [you/members of
4) During five or six days	response.	your household] unable to use a
5) During seven or more days		computer or other Internet-
by During seven of more days	Another participant said during the survey administration they have had	connected device because it was
Round 1 Wording	computers not functioning the way they want to, so they had a friend look	in use by someone else, located
At any point during the past six months, were [you/members of your household] unable to	at it. The participant added that they had occasional difficulties and then it	elsewhere, or otherwise
use a computer or other Internet-connected device because it was in use by someone else,	got fixed. After probing for a 'Yes' or 'No' response, the participant said	inaccessible?"
located elsewhere, or otherwise inaccessible?	'Yes'. Later in retrospective probing, they said the screen was frozen and	
1) Yes	the computer would not follow the commands as additional examples.	
2) No	the computer would not follow the community us dualitonal examples.	
2, 10	During retrospective probing, all participants except one said that the	
	question was easy to answer. The one participant that said it was difficult	
	seemed to be confused by the "someone else, located elsewhere" phrasing.	
	They said "Yes" to this question as they seemed to be thinking of instances	
	where they let someone in their household use their devices, thus making	
	the devices temporarily inaccessible. This participant also mentioned an	
	instance where someone else in their household damaged their device and	
	they were no longer able to use it. This interpretation of the question	
	seemed to be in scope.	
	Participants who reported "Yes" to this question were thinking of instances	
	where they had to share devices or if there were any outages (power,	
	weather). One participant also mentioned an example of leaving	

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
	phones/laptops or chargers in other places that affected device use.	
	Many participants who reported "No" mentioned examples of everyone having their own devices or having enough devices in the house. One participant wasn't sure what "located elsewhere" meant but still answered this question correctly.	

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
INTINT Production Wording Next, we will ask where [you/members of your household] currently use the Internet. Please focus on places where [you/members of your household] have used the Internet at least occasionally during the past six months. Internet use includes a wide variety of activities, from checking email or browsing the Web to watching videos or using mobile apps. We are interested in Internet use on all devices, including the ones we just discussed. Round 1 Wording Next, we will ask where [you/members of your household] currently use the Internet. Please focus on places where [you/members of your household] have used the Internet at least occasionally during the past six months. Internet use includes a wide variety of activities, from checking email or browsing the Web to watching videos or using mobile apps.	All participants understood this question as written. When asked which devices they were thinking of when answering this series of questions, a majority of respondents said that they were thinking of their cellphones and laptops. Some mentioned only thinking of one device. Several said the device that came to mind was dependent upon the question being asked. One participant, who was visually impaired, was thinking about when they used "Alexa" when answering this series of question.	Given that some respondents only thought of a single device, we recommend instructing all respondents to think about all devices they use. Consider using the following wording: "Next, we will ask where [you/members of your household] currently use the Internet. Please focus on places where [you/members of your household] have used the Internet at least occasionally during the past six months. Internet use includes a wide variety of activities on ALL devices, from checking email or browsing the Web to watching videos or using mobile apps." Question for NTIA: Would Alexa be considered in scope for using Internet? We can see this being relevant for visually impaired individuals who use the Internet via voice commands.
INHOME Production and Round 1 Wording [Do you/Does anyone in this household, including you,] use the Internet at home? This includes accessing the Internet with a cell phone, computer, tablet, or other device. (If yes & is multi-person household) Who is that?	All participants understood this question as written.	We recommend the current wording for production.

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
INWORK	We removed the sentence "What about at work?" prior to testing because we thought it was redundant and we wanted to reduce time in the	We recommend using the tested wording of this question for
Production Wording	interview. One participant incorrectly reported they use the Internet at	production:
What about at work? [Do you/Does anyone in this household] use the Internet at work? Do	work even though they are not currently working for pay or profit (note, the	
not include work from home. (If yes & is multi-person household) Who is that?	question was asked since another household member works). The participant interpreted the question incorrectly and mentioned using the	"[Do you/Does anyone in this household] use the Internet at
	Internet at the library. Otherwise, there were no problems with	work? Do not include work from
Round 1 Wording	understanding this question.	home. (If yes & is multi-person
[Do you/Does anyone in this household] use the Internet at work? Do not include work		household) Who is that?"
from home. (If yes & is multi-person household) Who is that?		
INSCHL	We removed the sentence "What about at school?" prior to testing because	We recommend using the tested
	we thought it was redundant and we wanted to reduce time in the	wording of this question for
Production Wording	interview. We also streamlined the question text. All participants	production:
What about at school? [Do you/Does anyone in this household] use the Internet at school? Please [only include use at school as a student/count students only], and do not include	understood the question as written.	"[Do you/Does anyone in this
taking online classes from a location other than a school campus. (If yes & is multi-person		household] use the Internet at
household) Who is that?		school? Please [only include use
		at school as a student/count
Round 1 Wording		students only]. Do not include
[Do you/Does anyone in this household] use the Internet at school? Please [only include use		taking online classes from a
at school as a student/count students only]. Do not include taking online classes from a		location other than a school
location other than a school campus. (If yes & is multi-person household) Who is that?		campus. (If yes & is multi-person household) Who is that?"
INCAFE	Most participants understood this question as written. One participant	We recommend the current
	(who was not a student) said the "library" when answering this question	wording for production.
Production and Round 1 Wording	originally. This participant should have included "library" in INLICO.	
What about at a coffee shop or other business that offers Internet access? (If needed) [Do you/Does anyone in this household] use the Internet while at a coffee shop or other	Otherwise, there were no other issues participants had when answering.	
business that offers Internet access? (If yes & is multi-person household) Who is that?		

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
INTRAV Production Wording What about while going from one place to another? Examples include using the Internet while riding public transit, or using the GPS on your cell phone while driving. (If needed) [Do you/Does anyone in this household] use the Internet while going from one place to another? (If yes & is multi-person household) Who is that? Round 1 Wording What about while going from place to place? Examples include using the Internet while riding public transit, or using Google Maps or Waze on your cell phone while driving. (If needed) [Do you/Does anyone in this household] use the Internet while going from one place to place? Examples include using the Internet while riding public transit, or using Google Maps or Waze on your cell phone while driving. (If needed) [Do you/Does anyone in this household] use the Internet while going from one	Prior to testing, we updated the question wording to include "Google Maps" and "Waze" to assist the participant in comprehension. This question had been found to take longer to administer than other questions in the series in prior production cycles. All participants found this question to be easy to answer and no participants were read the 'if needed' text. A majority of participants noted that they used a service such as Google Maps or Waze and seemed to understand these examples as GPS apps. We asked participants in probing if there were other ways they might use the internet while traveling from place to place, and those mentioned included: fitness apps to track distance when using a bicycle to move from place to place; using music streaming services (such as Spotify); listening to podcasts; using messaging services. One participant mentioned that they were also thinking	We recommend using the revised wording that was tested: "What about while going from place to place? Examples include using the Internet while riding public transit, or using Google Maps or Waze on your cell phone while driving. ( <i>If needed</i> ) [Do you/Does anyone in this household] use the Internet while going from one place to
place to another? (If yes & is multi-person household) Who is that?	of using technology while on an airplane.	another? (If yes & is multi-person household) Who is that?"
INLICO Production and Round 1 Wording	All participants seemed to understand the question as written. One did ask if a library on a school campus counts as a public place or if it should be counted as a school; he ultimately said that he or somebody in his	We recommend the current wording for production.
What about at a library, community center, park, or other public place? ( <i>If needed</i> ) [Do you/Does anyone in this household] use the Internet at a library, community center, park, or other public place? ( <i>If yes &amp; is multi-person household</i> ) Who is that?	household used the internet at a library which seemed to be the correct response.	Question for NTIA: If a participant answers 'Yes' for a member using the Internet on a school campus library, that is in scope, correct?
INELHO Production and Round 1 Wording What about at someone else's home? (If needed) [Do you/Does anyone in this household] use the Internet at someone else's home? (If yes & is multi-person household) Who is that?	Sixteen of the twenty participants answered 'Yes' to this question. Most participants understood and answered this question without much issue. One participant said 'No' to this question originally but then once they were read INOTHR, they asked what the prior question was. After the interviewer read the intro text to the section, the participant changed their answer to 'Yes' for INELHO. This may have been a unique case where the participant didn't encode the question correctly at first. Otherwise, there were no other issues answering this question.	We recommend the current wording for production.

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
INOTHR	Seven of the twenty participants answered 'Yes' to this question. Although	We recommend the current
	participants were not probed about this other location, some of the	wording for production.
Production and Round 1 Wording	participants who answered 'Yes' voluntarily mentioned the other place they	
[Do you/Does anyone in this household] use the Internet at some other location we haven't	were thinking about. Two participants mentioned hotels and two other	
covered? (If yes & is multi-person household) Who is that?	participants mentioned airports. One participant mentioned the social	
	services building.	
NETCHK	This question was only asked of household members who did not use the	We recommend adding a "you"
	Internet at any location in the past 6 months. Only two participants were	fill to be consistent with the rest
Production and Round 1 Wording	asked this question. One participant answered as a proxy for their parent	of the questionnaire.
Based on your responses, it sounds like (list names where all IN* != 1) [does/do] not use the	and they said "No". The other participant, who is visually impaired,	
Internet. [Does/Do] [he/she/these people in your household] use the Internet from any	answered for themselves and said they did not use the Internet at any	
location, and for any purpose? (If additional users) Who uses the Internet from any location,	location. This participant said "No" but also said the following while	
and for any purpose?	answering:	
	Participant: "No unless it's considering calling on the iPhone. I don't know if	
	that's considered using the Internet or Alexa. That's the only things I can	
	think of."	
	Interviewer: "If I were not here, how would you answer?" (paraphrased)	
	Participant: "No"	
	This was the same participant mentioned earlier that uses Alexa to access	
	the Internet.	
	Question for NTIA: Is there a reason why "you" isn't a fill with "he", "she",	
	and "these people in your household"? We have the "you" fill for other	
	questions in the questionnaire	
MOBDAT	All participants said 'Yes' to this question except one participant who said	Although one participant
	"Don't Know" as they were not sure.	reported "Don't Know", we thin
Production and Round 1 Wording	,	this is a unique case and the
[Do you/Does anyone in this household] access the Internet using a data plan for a cell	Almost all participants found this question easy to answer. A few	current question wording is mos
phone, smartphone, tablet, mobile hotspot, or other device? This type of Internet service is	participants mentioned being on family plans or being able to use the	optimal.
provided by a wireless carrier, and may be part of a package that also includes voice calls	Internet on a hot spot or off Wi-Fi.	•
from a cell phone or smartphone.		

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
1) Yes	We probed on the second sentence of the item, "This type of Internet	
	service is from a cell phone or smartphone", to see if participants thought	
2) No	this was necessary wording to include to help them answer the question.	
	Most of the participants found the second sentence helpful when	
	answering. About six participants seemed to indicate that the second	
	sentence was helpful but not necessary in answering the question.	
	When probed, one participant did find the "voice calls" phrase confusing	
	and wasn't sure what that meant (they answered the survey question	
	correctly). Another participant who was a limited Internet user found the	
	second sentence a little confusing, but he mentioned that he was not up to	
	date with the technology vocabulary.	
	The one participant who said "Don't Know" seemed to have a data plan but	
	her husband handles the plan. When we showed the question on screen,	
	she indicated that it was easier reading it than hearing it (this person was	
	an older adult). She thought maybe the "hotspot" wording confused her	
	when first hearing it. This participant struggled with other questions in the	
	questionnaire.	
	One other participant also mentioned the question was a little more	
	difficult since they're on a family plan but someone else controls the data.	
	They did mention the "hotspot" wording could be confusing because they	
	don't use it and they believed it could be separate from the data plan. This	
	participant correctly answered "Yes" during the interview.	
HOMTE	Both tested wordings for this question were problematic for participants.	Since the revised wording did not
	Eighteen participants said, "High-speed Internet service", three participants	perform well, we recommend
Production Wording	said, "Satellite Internet service", and four participants said, "Some other	additional CAPI testing of this
I am going to read a list of ways that people access the Internet from their homes, <b>other</b>	service".	item in the next testing cycle. We
than a mobile data plan. At home, [do you/does anyone in this household] access the		recommend testing revised
Internet using:	In the first 10 interviews, one participant said "No" originally to "High-speed	versions of this question in self-
Read and select all that apply	Internet service" but after hearing the other options, they mentioned that	administered testing (mentioned

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
1) High-speed Internet service installed at home, such as cable, DSL, or fiber-optic service?	their answer to "High-speed Internet service" may have been 'Yes'. After re-	later in the recommendations).
(If needed) This type of Internet service is often provided by a cable company or phone	reading the question and the 'if needed' text multiple times, the participant	
company.	finally reported 'Yes' which was the correct answer. In probing, the	For CAPI production, we
2) Satellite Internet service? (If needed) This type of Internet service is received through a	participant mentioned that he wasn't sure what DSL was and he thought	recommend the wording that
satellite dish installed at home.	fiber-optic service was not laid everywhere (he didn't have cable but had a	was used in the first 10
3) Dial-up service?	router through Xfinity).	interviews:
4) Some other service?		
5) (Do not read) None	Another participant reported that they had "Satellite" which was incorrect.	I am going to read a list of ways
	This participant mentioned having a Xfinity subscription shared with a	that people access the Internet
Round 1 Wording (First 10 interviews)	neighbor, but they don't have a router and use a hotspot. In retrospective	from their homes, <b>other than a</b>
	probing, this participant also mentioned they use a combination of the	mobile data plan. At home, [do
Same question wording except removed Dial-up service from the list of options	hotspot on their phone and a hotspot purchased separately to access the	you/does anyone in this
	internet at home. (Question for NTIA: How should this participant have	household] access the Internet
Round 1 Wording (Last 10 interviews)	answered this question?)	using:
		Read and select all that apply
Same question wording as first 10 interviews except revised the first option to the	After the first 10 interviews, we modified the wording so the examples	(1) High-speed Internet service
following:	would be read only 'if needed'. This did not seem to help participants in	installed at home, such as
	answering correctly. One participant said only "Some other service" when	cable, DSL, or fiber-optic
High-speed Internet service. This type of service is often provided by a cable company or	answering and said "Wi-Fi router" as the other service. They answered this	service? (If needed) This type
phone company. (If needed) This can include cable, DSL, or fiber-optic service.	way because they did not think their Verizon plan was high-speed Internet	of Internet service is often
F,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	service, though it seems like they should have answered "High-speed	provided by a cable company
	Internet service." Another participant answered both "High-speed Internet	
		or phone company.
	service" and "some other service" because they thought Xfinity and	(2) Satellite Internet service? (If
	Internet were two different providers (it seemed like they should have	needed) This type of Internet
	answered just "High-speed Internet").	service is received through a
		satellite dish installed at
	Another participant reported both "High speed Internet service" and	home.
	"Satellite". However, based on responses in retrospective probing, it seems	(3) Some other service?
	like they should have just reported the former option as they incorrectly	(4) (Do not read) None
	interpreted the "Satellite" question.	
		We also are comfortable
	Participants were probed on whether they liked the revised testing wording	removing 'Dial-up service' since
	used in the last ten interviews or the production wording tested in the first	this is not as common to Internet
	10 interviews. There seemed to be a slight preference for the wording used	users anymore.

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in the first interviews. A few of the participants who preferred the originally tested wording appeared to like the examples in the beginning of the question.For s reco to cognitive testing, we removed "Dial-up service" as a response option because not many respondents answered "Yes" to that option in the previous production cycle and there were many more responses in "Some other service".1.ITo the other participants not already mentioned who said, "some other service", one participant reported a hot spot and the other participant mentioned Internet came through a landline because Internet and Iandline were on the same bill.Do y hous litter hous litterTo ensure that "Dial-up service" is not a common Internet service anymore, we asked participants during retrospective probing if there were any types of ways that people can access the Internet. Only three participants mentioned "dial-up service" but none of these participants mentioned "dial-up service" or spontaneously said they know someone who has it.HEight participants mentioned a hot spot as an "other service" while a couple of participants mentioned Ethernet and one participant tentoned a digital SIM card. The other participants who were asked could not come up with
another service.

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
		from their homes, <b>other than a</b>
		<b>mobile data plan</b> . At home, [do
		you/does anyone in this
		household] access the Internet
		using:
		Read and select all that apply
		1) High-speed Internet service
		installed at home, such as
		cable, DSL, or fiber-optic
		service? (If needed) This type
		of Internet service is often
		provided by a cable company
		or phone company, such as
		Xfinity or Verizon.
		2) Satellite Internet service? (If
		needed) This type of Internet
		service is received through a
		satellite dish installed at
		home, such as DirectTV.
		3) Some other service?
		4) (Do not read) None

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
<ul> <li>HNETQL</li> <li>Production and Round 1 Wording</li> <li>In [your/your household's] experience over the past six months, does your [household's]</li> <li>Internet connection at home fill [your/the household's] needs, including for speed, reliability, and, if applicable, data caps?</li> <li>1) Yes</li> <li>2) No</li> </ul>	Seventeen of the twenty participants answered "Yes" to this question. Participants did not have difficulty answering this question. One participant who said "Yes" mentioned the Internet only somewhat meets their needs. Another participant who said "Yes" mentioned that the Internet goes in and out, but their service provider is not the most reliable.	We recommend the current wording for production.
HNETST Production and Round 1 Wording At any point during the past six months, did [you/this household] temporarily lose a home Internet connection due to difficulty paying? 1) Yes 2) No	<ul> <li>Only two of the twenty participants answered "No" to this question. Two participants needed the question re-read to them but both participants still answered correctly. One of these participants seemed to have trouble understanding the question because it was a question they had difficulty encoding (even though they had the right interpretation):</li> <li>"Question is confusing to me because it's asking me did you lose your connection because you did not pay your bill".</li> <li>The participant said they only lost Internet because it was down in the community, so they correctly answered 'No'.</li> </ul>	We recommend the current wording for production.
USEINT Production Wording We are interested in learning about the applications and services people commonly use with on the Internet. [(If is multi-person household) We have randomly selected one member of your household for this section.] Consider how [you personally/NAME] currently use[s] the technologies we've been discussing, whether at home or any other location. Please focus on activities [you have/NAME has] done online at least occasionally during the past six months, using an Internet-connected device such as a computer, tablet, or cell phone. Round 1 Wording We are interested in learning about the applications and services people use on the	Participants generally did not have any problems understanding this instruction although we did not explicitly probe on this. A couple of participants needed clarification we were asking about the past 6 months during these series of questions. Once the interviewer clarified the time frame, there were no issues understanding the time frame. During retrospective probing, participants were asked how easy or difficult it was to answer this series of questions as a proxy for the other household member. Most participants said these questions were easy to answer. One participant did mention these questions were a little more difficult because she and her roommate did not discuss everything; she did mention being confident but not 100% in her answers about the roommate's Internet use. Another participant mentioned the questions about Internet use outside of	We recommend the tested wording for production.

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
Internet. [(If is multi-person household) We have randomly selected one member of your	home were particularly difficult.	
household for this section.] Consider how [you personally/NAME] currently use[s] the		
technologies we've been discussing, whether at home or any other location. Please focus on	A couple of participants mentioned some questions being difficult as they	
activities [you have/NAME has] done online at least occasionally during the past six months.	weren't able to observe some activities. For example, one participant said	
	that those activities social in nature (Facetime, anything with audio	
	component) were easier to notice compared to paying bills online.	
EMAIL	This question was clear to all participants, and all answered with no	We recommend the current
	difficulty.	wording for production.
Production and Round 1 Wording		
[Do you/Does NAME] use email?		
1) Yes		
2) No		
TEXTIM	Prior to testing, we modified the second sentence to be read 'if needed'.	We recommend the tested
	We thought this second sentence was unnecessary to be read to everyone	wording for production:
Production Wording	and we wanted to reduce time in the interview. Generally, there was no	
What about texting or instant messaging? [Do you/Does NAME] text or use instant	issue with this question. One participant said 'No' originally but then when	What about texting or instant
messaging?	they heard 'instant message', they changed their answer to 'Yes'. They were	messaging? (If needed) [Do

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
<ol> <li>Yes</li> <li>No</li> <li>Round 1 Wording</li> <li>What about texting or instant messaging? (<i>If needed</i>) [Do you/Does NAME] text or use instant messaging?</li> <li>Yes</li> <li>Yes</li> <li>No</li> </ol>	thinking about how their spouse sends an "instant message" through the computer when they can't leave voicemails to their friends. This participant, who was visually impaired, mentioned that their spouse can read and respond to texts better than he can but does not text very often.	you/Does NAME] text or use instant messaging? 1) Yes 2) No
SOCIAL         Production and Round 1 Wording         What about using social networks, such as Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram? (If needed) [Do you/Does NAME] use social networks?         1) Yes         2) No	This question was clear to all participants and the 'if needed' text was not read. One participant said their "housemate rarely uses social media" so they were confident in their answer of 'No'. Another participant mentioned that their spouse only uses Facebook out of these options. During retrospective probing about proxy answers, the social media question was found to be the easiest for participants to answer. For example, several participants mentioned that they knew for sure that the person they were reporting for only used one social media network (Facebook), which made it easy to answer.	We recommend the current wording for production.
GAMING Production and Round 1 Wording	Most participants did not hesitate when thinking about their answers to this question. However, one participant expressed uncertainty and said:	We recommend the current wording for production.
<ul> <li>What about playing video games online, whether on a smartphone, console, PC, or any other computing device? (<i>If needed</i>) [Do you/Does NAME] use the Internet to play video games?</li> <li>1) Yes</li> <li>2) No</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>"Gaming question is pretty broad, there are very different kinds of gaming. Playing an app on the phone like Candy Crush is different than playing Call of Duty on the Xbox via the TV. Gaming on a TV is more intense and [you] can be connected to, calling in friends to play at the same time".</li> <li>This person answered 'Yes' to this question which appeared to be the correct answer but they were unsure why these types of gaming were all included into one category when they seem like different activities.</li> <li>One participant said that this was the most difficult question out of the series to answer on behalf of their spouse because they wouldn't know if the spouse plays games on their phone, but they would know if they played</li> </ul>	

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
	video games on the TV in the living room. Their final answer was 'Yes' to	
	this question.	

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
CONFER	Prior to testing, we removed "Skype" from the list of examples as we	We recommend the revised
Production Wording	thought that example was redundant, and the application is much less commonly used nowadays.	testing wording for production:
In the past six months, [have you/has NAME] participated in video or voice calls or		In the past six months, [have
conferencing over the Internet, such as with Skype, FaceTime, or Zoom? (If needed) [Do	All participants found this question easy to answer. During retrospective	you/has NAME] participated in
you/Does NAME] participate in video or voice calls or conferencing?	probing, participants were asked if there were any video call applications	video or voice calls or
1) Yes	they were thinking about that weren't mentioned in the question wording.	conferencing over the Internet,
2) No	Teams and Google Meet were common voice call apps mentioned and one	such as with FaceTime or Zoom?
	participant said WhatsApp would be helpful since anyone who has family	(If needed) [Do you/Does NAME]
Round 1 Wording	overseas uses that for voice calls. One participant suggested we consider	participate in video or voice calls
In the past six months, [have you/has NAME] participated in video or voice calls or	asking if people use Zoom and Teams for work meetings and video calls and other platforms like Facetime and Facebook video for personal use. In this	or conferencing?
conferencing over the Internet, such as with FaceTime or Zoom? (If needed) [Do you/Does	case, using conferencing apps for work versus personal use seemed like	1) Yes
NAME] participate in video or voice calls or conferencing?	different concepts for her. This participant answered 'Yes'.	1) 105
		2) No
1) Yes	One participant also mentioned that for certain apps she doesn't turn her	
	camera on, but for others she does. This did not stop them from answering	Future testing should continue to
2) No	the question though, and they answered, 'Yes', which seemed to be the	evaluate including other video or
	correct answer.	voice call applications like
N/DEO		WhatsApp.
VIDEO	All participants found this question easy to answer and had no issues with	We recommend the current
Production and Round 1 Wording	the terms "streaming or downloading". All seemed familiar with the terms YouTube and Netflix, but we did not ask any probes about this.	wording for production.
What about streaming or downloading videos? [Do you/Does NAME] watch videos over the	fourube and Netrix, but we did not ask any probes about this.	
Internet? Examples include YouTube and Netflix.		
1) Yes		
•		
2) No		
AUDIO	All participants found this question easy to answer and had no issues with	We recommend the current
	the terms "streaming or downloading" in reference to audio, but we did not	wording for production.
Production and Round 1 Wording	ask any probes about this.	
What about streaming or downloading music, radio programs, or podcasts? (If needed) [Do		

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
you/Does NAME] listen to music, radio programs, or podcasts using the Internet? 1) Yes		
2) No		
PUBLISH	When probing about proxy responses, one participant mentioned that having an example of what it means to 'upload content' would be helpful	We recommend the current wording for production.
Production and Round 1 Wording	for the average person. Despite this comment, they were able to answer	wording for production.
What about posting or uploading blog posts, original videos, or other content that	the question confidently as a proxy. Another participant mentioned that	
[you/NAME] created? Do not include photos or videos taken for personal use and shared to	this one required much more thought than the other proxy question, "to	
social media. (If needed) [Do you/Does NAME] publish or upload original content that	make sure he understood question". However, after hearing the phrase "Do	
[you/NAME] created to the Internet? 1) Yes	not include" the participant had all they needed to answer correctly.	
1) Tes		
2) No		
TELEWK	Generally, there was no difficulty with the question. However, one	We recommend the current
Due due tien and Devue d 4 Manding	participant mentioned that their mother (target person) is a teacher so	wording for production.
<b>Production and Round 1 Wording</b> [Do you/Does NAME] use the Internet to telecommute or work while away from	during the pandemic she created lesson plans online from home. However, the participant answered 'No' to this question because it had not happened	
[your/his/her] usual workplace, such as working from home?	in the last 6 months.	
1) Yes		
2) No		
27 110		
JOBSCH	Most participants were able to answer this question without issue. One participant wanted it to be clear that they only "searched" for a job using	Although one participant incorrectly interpreted the
Production and Round 1 Wording	the internet but did not apply online. This participant said 'No' but it seems	question, we still think the
In the past six months, [have you/has NAME] used the Internet to search or apply for a job?	like they should have answered 'Yes' to this question based on the current	current wording for JOBSCH is
(If needed) [Do you/Does NAME] use the Internet to search or apply for a job?	question wording.	the most optimal.

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
1) Yes	Another participant said their roommate searched and found a job online	
	but not in the past 6 months. This participant had trouble calculating back	
2) No	to six months and said they may have been off with the date her roommate	
	found the job. Ultimately, they answered 'No' to this question.	
EDTRAI	All participants found this question easy to answer and had no issues with	We recommend the current
	the terms "online classes" or "job training".	wording for production.
Production and Round 1 Wording		
What about online classes or job training? (If needed) [Do you/Does NAME] use the Internet		
for educational classes or job training?		
1) Yes		
2) No		
EGOVTS	Most participants did not have trouble answering this question. This	We recommend the current
	question needed to be repeated for one participant due to them needing	wording for production.
Production and Round 1 Wording	clarity that we were still referring to the past 6 months. Their answer was,	
What about accessing government services, such as registering to vote or renewing your	"no, not in the last 6 months". Another participant mentioned that their	
driver's license? (If needed) [Do you/Does NAME] use the Internet to access government	roommate had looked up this kind of information but didn't actually do the	
services?	service online (voting), so they answered 'No' which appeared to be the	
1) Yes	correct response.	
2) No		
USESVC	Prior to testing, we modified the wording slightly. Changes were made to	We recommend the tested
	streamline the text and because Angie's List had been renamed to Angi.	wording for production.
Production Wording		
What about requesting services provided by other people, for example hailing a ride using	This question had no issues and participants were familiar with the	
Uber, ordering food using DoorDash or Instacart, reserving a room through Airbnb, or	examples used.	
requesting a home repair through Angie's List? ( <i>If needed</i> ) [Do you/Does NAME] use the		
Internet to request services provided by other people?		
חנכוווכו נט ובקעבצו צבו אוכש או טאועבע אין טנוופו אַפטאופ:	1	

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
1) Yes		
2) No		
Round 1 Wording		
What about requesting services provided by other people? Examples include hailing a ride		
using Uber, ordering food using Door Dash or Instacart, reserving a room through Airbnb, or		
requesting a home repair through Angi? (If needed) [Do you/Does NAME] use the Internet		
to request services provided by other people?		
1) Yes		
2) No		
ESRVCS	One participant hesitated on this question and expressed some difficulty	We recommend the current
	answering. This participant found this question difficult because her and her	wording for production.
Production and Round 1 Wording	housemate listed their spare room online for a new permanent housemate,	
What about offering [your/his/her] own services for sale via the Internet? Examples include	which they do not consider an Airbnb. This participant was unsure if that	
offering rentals on Airbnb and driving for Uber or Lyft. Do not include any goods or	counted as a "offering a service". The interviewer repeated the question,	
possessions sold online, such as clothing, shoes, or crafts. (If needed) [Do you/Does NAME]	and their final answer was 'No' which was the correct answer.	
offer [your/his/her] own services for sale via the Internet?		
1) Yes	All other participants had no difficulty answering this question.	
2) No		
ECOMME	Participants had no issues answering this question and were able to answer	We recommend the current
	within the time frame of the past 6 months. Participants seemed to	wording for production.
Production and Round 1 Wording	understand the terms used. However, we did not probe on this wording.	
n the past six months, [have you/has NAME] used the Internet for online shopping, travel		
reservations, or other consumer services on the Internet? (If needed) [Do you/Does NAME]		
use the Internet for online shopping, travel reservations, or other consumer services?		
1) Yes		
		1
2) No		

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
EGOODS	Participants had no issues answering this question and seemed familiar with	We recommend the current
	the examples used. However, we did not probe on this wording.	wording for production.
Production and Round 1 Wording		
[Do you/Does NAME] use the Internet to sell goods? Examples include selling items on Etsy		
or eBay.		
1) Yes		
2) No		
FINANC	Most participants did not have any difficulty answering this question. When	Since one participant erroneously
	the 'if needed' text was read during probing, several participants thought	did not include applications
Production Wording	the examples were helpful, however, most were able to think of examples	where users send money to each
[Do you/Does NAME] use the Internet for financial services such as banking, investing,	on their own that were in scope. One participant thought "Financial	other, we recommend the
paying bills online, or sending money to other people? Examples include using your bank's	services" is a broad term, but they did not have difficulty answering this	following revised wording for
website or app, paying a credit card or utility bill online, or sending money using Venmo or	question.	FINANC:
PayPal.		
	Similarly, after showing the question wording, one participant who said	[Do you/Does NAME] use the
Round 1 Wording	'Yes' during the interview mentioned that the examples of PayPal and	Internet for financial services
[Do you/Does NAME] use the Internet for financial services such as online banking,	Venmo would have "definitely been helpful" in answering the question.	such as online banking, investing,
investing, paying bills, or sending money to other people? (If needed) Examples include	They added they would have thought of more financial services besides just	paying bills, or sending money to
using your bank's website or app, paying a credit card or utility bill online, or sending money	their personal banking apps. Another participant said "No" to the survey	other people using services like
using Venmo or PayPal.	question but should have said "Yes" since they didn't think of the other	CashApp, Venmo, or PayPal? (If
1) Yes	person in the household sending money to other people on the Internet.	<i>needed</i> ) Examples include using your bank's website or app,
2) No	During retrospective probing, a couple of participants mentioned CashApp	paying a credit card or utility bill
	and Zelle as other applications where individuals send each other money.	online?
VOICEA	Participants seemed familiar with the examples of digital assistants in the	Although one participant
	question wording. However, we did not probe on these examples. One	answered this question
Production and Round 1 Wording	participant wanted to clarify that this question was referring to behaviors	incorrectly, we still think this
What about communicating with a digital assistant, such as Alexa, Siri, or Google Assistant?	"in the past 6 months". When the interviewer confirmed this timeframe,	current wording and the question
1) Yes	the participant answered 'No'. Another participant was unsure whether a	order of VOICEA and HOMIOT is
	Ring doorbell was in scope but chose to include it in their answer and said	most optimal.
2) No	'Yes'. It seems this participant should have answered 'No' to this question;	
	this participant did correctly answer 'Yes' in HOMIOT where the Ring	

# 2023 NTIA Internet Use Survey Cognitive Testing Round 1 Conducted by CBSM at U.S. Census Bureau Document prepared by Jonathan Katz, Alexandra Piccirillo, Caitlyn Keeve, and Jessica Holzberg 5/25/2023 Tested Wording Findings

Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
	doorbell was in scope.	

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
НОМІОТ	Although most participants appeared to answer this question correctly,	Although several participants had
	several participants seemed to have some difficulty in answering. During	difficulty answering this question,
Production Wording	the interview, a couple of participants expressed some hesitation. After the	we still think the tested wording
What about interacting with household equipment or appliances that are connected to the	'if needed' text was read, one participant said they were unsure whether	is the most optimal:
Internet, such as a connected thermostat, light bulb, or security system? (If needed) [Do	they had any of these devices and ultimately answered 'No' to the question.	
you/Does NAME] use the Internet to interact with household equipment or appliances?	Other respondents who expressed some hesitation and were read the 'if	"What about interacting with
	needed' text also requested the question to be repeated so they could think	household equipment or
	about their answer.	appliances that are connected to
Round 1 Wording		the Internet, such as a smart
What about interacting with household equipment or appliances that are connected to the	During retrospective probing, a few participants mentioned being unsure	thermostat, light bulb, or security
Internet, such as a smart thermostat, light bulb, or security system? (If needed) [Do	whether their devices fell into this category (e.g., Amazon echo dot, Ring	system? (If needed) [Do
you/Does NAME] use the Internet to interact with household equipment or appliances?	camera). The one participant who had an Amazon echo dot answered 'Yes'	you/Does NAME] use the
	to the survey question and the other participant who had a Ring camera	Internet to interact with
1) Yes	answered 'Yes'; both of these participants appeared to answer the question	household equipment or
2) No	correctly. One additional participant who said 'No' during the interview	appliances?"
	mentioned in probing that she has a "smart garage" where she gets phone app notifications about the garage; this participant should have answered	1) Yes
	'Yes' it seems based on this response.	1/ 105
		2) No
	One participant was unsure whether to think about devices that their	
	roommate (target person) only accesses in their home when they (the	
	participant) are out of town, but decided to answer 'Yes' to this question as	The wording "smart" also
	a proxy. Another participant thought about a Smart TV when answering this	seemed to resonate more with
	question but ended up deciding not to count it under this category which	participants so we recommend
	was correct.	using that phrasing.
	When presented with the first question wording ("smart") and alternative	One alternative is to also include
	question ("connected") wording, most respondents preferred the use of	examples in the 'if needed' text
	'smart' because it seemed to be a "more modern term" and made more	like Amazon Echo and Google
	sense in this context compared to the term 'connected'. Several mentioned	Nest:
	that 'smart' is commonly used, a familiar term, and "the way most devices	"Matchest interreting and the
	are marketed in today's world".	"What about interacting with household equipment or
	One reasonable to the environment (Ver) to this succession and the second second	appliances that are connected to
	One respondent who answered 'Yes' to this question said they only use a	

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home security system. They suggested that we should consider asking which smart devices they use in a list format so people would be able to choose which one they use rather than having to provide a blanket yes to this question.the Internet, such as a smart thermostat, light bulb, or security system? (If needed) [Do you/Does NAME] use the Internet to interact with householder or appliances, such as Amazon Echo and Google Nest?"the Internet, such as a smart thermostat, light bulb, or security system? (If needed) [Do you/Does NAME] use the Internet to interact with householder or appliances, such as Amazon Echo and Google Nest?"1) Yes2) No	Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
		home security system. They suggested that we should consider asking which smart devices they use in a list format so people would be able to choose which one they use rather than having to provide a blanket yes to	the Internet, such as a smart thermostat, light bulb, or security system? ( <i>If needed</i> ) [Do you/Does NAME] use the Internet to interact with household equipment or appliances, such as Amazon Echo and Google Nest?" 1) Yes

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
MEDINT Production and Round 1 Wording (If multi-person household) Our remaining questions are about your household as a whole. (All) I'm going to ask a couple of questions about how [you have/your household has] used the Internet for health-related activities during the past six months.	<ul> <li>Participants were largely answering this question thinking of their entire household's experiences with online health related activities. Twelve participants were thinking of their household while four participants, who were from multimember households, were thinking of just themselves. The participants who were answering only for themselves were not technically incorrect when answering 'Yes', but in instances where the answer was 'No', there is a risk that there were inaccuracies in reporting.</li> <li>One participant who works in healthcare mentioned that she was answering the medical questions in the context of her work. This is a unique</li> </ul>	We recommend the current wording for production.
	situation and does not present issues with the question wording as tested.	
MEDREC Production and Round 1 Wording [Do you/Does anyone in this household, including you,] access health records or health insurance records online? (1) Yes (2) No	Participants had no difficulties in answering this question.	We recommend the current wording for production.
MEDDOC Production Wording What about communicating with a doctor or other health professional using the Internet? ( <i>If needed</i> ) [Do you/Does anyone in this household] communicate with a doctor or other health professional using the Internet? 1) Yes 2) No	<ul> <li>Prior to testing, this question was revised for clarity. We removed the first sentence and modified the 'if needed' text to be read as the main question stem. We added a new 'if needed' text to include examples of communicating with a doctor and health professional.</li> <li>Participants responded well to the new wording and there were no difficulties in answering. Most participants appreciated the 'if needed' text, which was shown to them in probing. With the exception of one participant who was read the if needed text during the interview, the remaining</li> </ul>	We recommend the revised wording that was tested: "[Do you/Does anyone in this household] communicate with a doctor or other health professional using the Internet? ( <i>If needed</i> ) Examples include telehealth appointments and
<b>Round 1 Wording</b> [Do you/Does anyone in this household] communicate with a doctor or other health professional using the Internet? ( <i>If needed</i> ) Examples include telehealth appointments and communicating over a patient portal or email.	participants were able to answer this question accurately without the 'if needed' text. Those who were not read the 'if needed' text did seem to be thinking of telehealth services. One participant noted that they felt that some examples of telehealth services (ex. Teladoc) might be helpful.	communicating over a patient portal or email."

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
1) Yes 2) No		
<ul> <li>MEDINF</li> <li>Production and Round 1 Wording</li> <li>[Do you/Does anyone in this household] research health information online, such as with WebMD or similar services?</li> <li>1) Yes</li> <li>2) No</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Most participants had no difficulties in responding to this question. One participant seemed a little unsure about his response during the interview. He said the following:</li> <li>"I'm a little unsure about [MEDINF] as the example of WebMDI guess I feel like there's a distinction between health information and health care information. I'm going to say Yes to that one."</li> <li>This participant seemed to answer correctly. This was a unique case so we don't think there are any issues with the question wording.</li> </ul>	We recommend the current wording for production.
<ul> <li>MEDMON</li> <li>Production and Round 1 Wording</li> <li>[Do you/Does anyone in this household] use an electronic health monitoring service that collects and sends data to your doctor or health care provider through the Internet?</li> <li>Examples include connected devices that monitor vital statistics, blood glucose levels, or blood pressure.</li> <li>1) Yes</li> <li>2) No</li> </ul>	Participants had no difficulties in answering this question. One participant did say 'Yes' when the interviewer was reading the question but then switched to 'No' after the question was fully read. During probing, the participant mentioned that her parent used to have a heart monitor where the information would go directly to the doctor, but it hadn't happened in the last 6 months, so the participant was thinking of the correct time frame.	We recommend the current wording for production.
UHHINT Production and Round 1 Wording (If multi-person household) We are interested in learning generally, without identifying specific people, what challenges your household has had while using the Internet. (If single-person household) We are interested in learning what challenges you have had while using the Internet.	Participants had no difficulties in understanding the direction as written.	We do not recommend changes to this direction at this time.
PSPRE	Prior to testing, we streamlined the response options to reduce time	We recommend removing "doing

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
	administering the question while also maintaining clarity. In the first 10	any of these activities online"
Production Wording	interviews, at least two participants had to be re-read some part of the	from the original production
During the past year, have concerns about privacy or security stopped [you/anyone in this	question. One participant when answering (2) mentioned that they were	wording as that change may have
nousehold] from doing any of these activities online:	reluctant about purchasing goods online so the question was re-read; they	helped participants better
Read and select all that apply	eventually said "Yes". Another participant lost track of what the question	understand the question. We
1) Conducting financial transactions such as banking, investing, or paying bills online?	was asking so the main question stem had to be re-read.	also recommend the tested
2) Buying goods or services online?		wording for each of the five sub-
3) Posting photos, updates, or other information on social networks?	Because of these issues, we modified the main question wording slightly for	items.
4) Expressing an opinion on a controversial or political issue, such as on a blog or social	the last 10 interviews to improve comprehension. In the last 10 interviews,	
network, or in a forum, email or any other venue?	one participant needed the question re-read because they were asking	Regarding the reference periods,
5) Searching for information using a platform such as Google Search, Yahoo Search,	whether it was in the past 6 months (this participant struggled with other	we recommend one of the
Microsoft Bing, or another web search engine?	questions in the survey).	following below:
Do not read) None of the above	When answering this question, one participant mentioned that he was not	1. Use the wording "past 12
	privy to his roommates' security concerns, so he answered on his behalf.	months" in the question
Round 1 Wording (1 <sup>st</sup> 10 interviews)	When talking about (5), another participant asked if we were just asking	stem as previous
During the past year, have concerns about privacy or security stopped [you/anyone in this	about Google or all search engines. The participant mentioned earlier who	questions use months as
nousehold] from doing any of these activities online:	was unsure about the time frame also at first interpreted the question	a unit of measure
Read and select all that apply	"have we used Google? Yes". However, they then corrected themselves and	2. Repeat the reference
1) Conducting financial transactions such as banking, investing, or paying bills online?	said "oh, concerns about security" and then switched the response to 'No'	period "past year" before
2) Buying goods or services online?	which seemed to be the correct answer.	the 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> sub-item
3) Posting photos or other information on social networks?		so participants don't lose
4) Expressing an opinion on a controversial or political issue, such as on a blog or social	When asked what time frame they were thinking of, most said they were	track of the reference
network, or in an email?	thinking about the last year. One mentioned that she was thinking	period.
5) Finding information using Google or another search engine?	specifically of an incident that occurred a month prior to her interview, but	
	later said that these were concerns that she had had prior to the incident.	
(Do not read) None of the above	Another said that they were thinking about the past five to six years when thinking of privacy concerns. A third said that they were not thinking about	
Round 1 Wording (2 <sup>nd</sup> 10 interviews)	thinking of privacy concerns. A third said that they were not thinking about any time frame in particular and instead was thinking "in general", they did	
During the past year, have concerns about privacy or security stopped [you/anyone in this	say that they would rather see the question than hear it asked aloud. This	
nousehold] from:	respondent did not struggle to answer the question, however. Several other	
Read and select all that apply	participants mentioned they were thinking specifically about the past six	
1) Conducting financial transactions such as banking, investing, or paying bills online?	months.	

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
2) Buying goods or services online?		
3) Posting photos or other information on social networks?		
4) Expressing an opinion on a controversial or political issue, such as on a blog or social		
network, or in an email?		
5) Finding information using Google or another search engine?		
(Do not read) None of the above		
PSCON	Participants generally did not have issues answering this question. One	We recommend the current
	participant seemed confused when first read this question as it appeared	wording for production.
Production and Round 1 Wording	they did not realize this was an open-ended question. After interviewer told	
Overall, what concerns [you/members of this household] the most when it comes to online	them it was open-ended and re-read the question, the participant was able	
privacy and security risks?	to answer the question. When another participant was first read the	
Do not read; select all that apply and/or enter verbatim response if other	question, they asked the interviewer "do you mean of the areas mentioned	
1) Identity theft	previously"? The participant was then informed to answer however they	
2) Credit card or banking fraud	interpreted it. The participant responded, "I guess financial issues" which	
3) Data collection or tracking by online services	was coded as "credit card or banking fraud".	
4) Data collection or tracking by government		
5) Loss of control over personal data such as email or social network profiles	Interviewers coded verbatim answers into appropriate categories and	
<ul><li>6) Threats to personal safety, such as online harassment, stalking, or cyber-bullying</li><li>7) No concerns</li></ul>	below is the breakdown of answers:	
8) Other:	1) Identity theft-10	
	2) Credit card or banking fraud-4	
	3) Data collection or tracking by online services-5	
	4) Data collection or tracking my government-2	
	5) Loss of control over personal data such as email or social network	
	profiles-3	
	6) Threats to personal safety, such as online harassment, stalking, or	
	cyber-bullying-0	
	7) No concerns-1	
	8) Other-7	
	The 'Other' responses varied across the participants. One participant who's	
	a parent mentioned that her underage child has access to the Internet at	
	any time. A second participant mentioned "scams". A third participant	

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
	mentioned concerns about net neutrality. A fourth participant mentioned	
	thinking that something is secure when making a purchase when in fact it is	
	not. Another participant mentioned they considered not streaming movies	
	from random web sites due to privacy and online safety concerns.	

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Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
<ul> <li>PSYCBA</li> <li>Production and Round 1 Wording</li> <li>During the past year, [have you/has any member of your household] experienced an online security breach, identity theft, or a similar crime?</li> <li>1) Yes</li> <li>2) No</li> </ul>	Participants were able to answer this question without much issue. Some of the participants that answered 'Yes' voluntarily provided examples during the interview about how they experienced a breach or identity theft. One participant said they did not experience an actual incident but had seen some of the scams that try to get you to go to their web site. After the interviewer re-read the question, this participant answered 'No' which seemed to be the correct answer.	We recommend the current wording for production.
NHMINT, NONINT, EVRHOM, NOHM, PRINOH, and LOPRCE	These questions were not asked in the first round of testing since we did not have any households who did not use the Internet at home.	We recommend the current wording for these group of questions for production.
TVINT Production and Round 1 Wording Our last few questions are about the use of cable TV and satellite TV services not accessed through the Internet.	Participants understood this wording with no issue. However, they were not probed on this.	We recommend the current wording for production.
<ul> <li>TRADTV</li> <li>Production and Round 1 Wording [Do you/Does anyone in this household] subscribe to cable TV or satellite TV? This often requires a cable box or satellite dish. Do not include TV streaming subscriptions, such as Netflix, Sling TV, or Hulu. <ol> <li>Yes</li> <li>No</li> </ol></li></ul>	Nine of the twenty participants said 'Yes' to this question. All participants were able to answer this question and none of them reported any issues.	We recommend the current wording for production.
<ul> <li>PREVTV</li> <li>Production and Round 1 Wording [Have you/Has anyone in this household] ever subscribed to cable TV or satellite TV? Do not include TV streaming subscriptions, such as Netflix, Sling TV, or Hulu. <ol> <li>Yes</li> <li>No</li> </ol></li></ul>	The eleven participants who said 'No' to TRADTV were administered this question. When administered, one participant asked, "did you say anyone ever?" and asked to repeat the question (this participant needed many questions repeated throughout the interview). After re-reading the question, this participant said 'Yes'. Another participant mentioned that their parents' households have cable but no one in their current household has ever individually subscribed to cable TV or satellite TV so they reported 'No', which was the correct	We recommend the current wording for production.

Tested Wording	Findings	Recommendations
	answer.	

#### Time per section

We calculated the time elapsed between the time the interviewer read the first word of a question to the time the last question was answered for the following sets of questions:

- CMPINT ("This month we are asking some additional questions about Internet use...") to HNETST ("Did this household temporarily lose a home Internet connection...")
- USEINT ("We are interested in learning about the applications and services people use...") to HOMIOT ("What about interacting with household equipment or appliances...")
- MEDINT ("how your household has used the Internet for health-related activities...") to PREVTV ("Has anyone in this household ever subscribed to cable TV or satellite...")

#### **CMPINT to HNETST**

Minimum	5:52
Maximum	12:06
Mean	8:51
Median	9:13
Range	6:14

n = 20

#### **USEINT to HOMIOT**

Minimum	3:00
Maximum	6:23
Mean	4:29
Median	4:29
Range	3:23

n = 20

#### **MEDINT to PREVTV**

Minimum	2:35
Maximum	7:02
Mean	4:07
Median	3:46

Note, these section times reported are not meant to reflect how long these sections would take in production. Interviewers used a Qualtrics instrument that was programmed to administer the questions that differs from Blaise. In addition, interviewers sometimes would take notes on specific questions as they were being administered.