

# AHS 2025 Cognitive Testing – Protocol

## Section I – Introduction

[Note for Interviewer: Have your camera on when you begin the Microsoft Teams meeting]

Hello, my name is [NAME OF COGNITIVE INTERVIEWER] and I work for the Census Bureau. It's nice to meet you and thank you very much for helping us out today.

IF PARTICIPANT'S CAMERA IS NOT ON:

If you can, please turn your camera on. We would like to use the camera on Teams so we can see you.

[Wait for Participant to turn on camera]

[If Participant cannot turn on camera, proceed with the interview without video]

Let me begin by telling you a little more about what we'll be doing today. The United States Census Bureau counts the population in the U.S and also conducts various kinds of surveys.

Today, with your help, we will be testing some new questions that were developed for a national survey called the American Housing Survey. I will ask you the survey questions and you'll answer the questions based on your real life situation.

Our goal here is to get a better idea how well the new questions work with people such as yourself before we actually use them in the survey. So, the purpose of our session today is to collect information on how these new questions work for you. Your experience will be very useful for helping make sure these questions will make sense to other people.

Do you have any questions before we begin?"

[Wait for questions, then proceed]

## Section II – Interview Consent

Prior to today, you were emailed a consent form providing information about your rights as a participant.

Just as a reminder, the consent form explains a little bit about the purpose of this study, which is to test questions for the American Housing Survey. The document provides information about your rights as a participant, such as that all information you provide is confidential and we won't use your name or specific circumstances in any report. It also asks for your permission to have this session recorded.

Did you receive the email and if so, were you able to take a look at the consent form?

IF PARTICIPANT SAYS YES (DID RECEIVE EMAIL AND DID LOOK AT CONSENT FORM):

[Skip To “Do You Have Any Questions” below. Do Not Resend Consent Form. Do Not Read Consent Form Out Loud.]

IF PARTICIPANT SAYS NO (DID NOT RECEIVE THE EMAIL AND/OR DID NOT LOOK AT CONSENT FORM):

**That’s ok. I can resend it to you now to take a look at. Are you able to check your email if I send it to you?**

IF PARTICIPANT SAYS YES (CAN ACCESS THEIR EMAIL)

[Resend Participant the consent form and ensure they receive it. Ensure they look at it]

[Once Participant receives and looks at consent form, Skip to “Do You Have Any Questions” below. Do Not Read Consent Form Out Loud.]

IF PARTICIPANT SAYS NO (CANNOT ACCESS THEIR EMAIL)

**That’s no problem. I can read you the information from the consent form now.**

Each year the Census Bureau conducts many different surveys. The Census Bureau routinely tests the questions used on these surveys to produce the best information possible.

By agreeing to participate, you consent to take part in a study to improve the questions that will be used in the American Housing Survey. To have a complete record of all comments, the interview session will be recorded. The Census Bureau plans to use the recordings to improve the questionnaire. Staff directly involved in the questionnaire design research project will have access to the recordings. Participation is voluntary and answers will remain strictly confidential.

The U.S. Census Bureau is conducting this voluntary study on behalf of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) under the authority of 12 U.S.C. Sections 1701z-1, 1701z-2(g), and 1701z-10a, and 13 U.S.C. Section 8(b). Federal law requires that your answers are kept confidential (13 U.S.C. Section 9). Information provided to us may be shared for the work-related purposes in this statement, as identified in the Privacy Act System of Records Notice COMMERCE/Census -3, Demographic Survey Collection (Census Bureau Sampling Frame). The Census Bureau can use your responses only to produce statistics and is not permitted to publicly release your responses in a way that could identify you, your business, organization, or institution.

Additionally, per the Federal Cybersecurity Enhancement Act of 2015, your data are protected from cybersecurity risks through screening of the systems that transmit your data.

This collection has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). This eight-digit OMB approval number, 0607-0725, confirms this approval and expires on 12/31/2025. Without this approval, we could not conduct this study.

I have read and understand the statements above. I have agreed to participate in this Census Bureau questionnaire design study, and I give permission for my recordings to be used for the purposes stated above.

PARTICIPANT SAID YES, THEY DID RECEIVE THE ORIGINAL EMAIL AND DID LOOK AT CONSENT FORM:

or

ONCE PARTICIPANT SAYS YES, THEY DID RECEIVE THE RESENT EMAIL AND WERE ABLE TO LOOK AT CONSENT FORM:

or

ONCE INTERVIEWER HAS FINISHED READING THE CONSENT FORM TO THE PARTICIPANT OUT LOUD:

**Did you have any questions about the consent form?**

[Wait for and answer any questions]

**Okay, I will begin the recording now.**

TURN ON SNAGIT RECORDER

**Okay, great. For our purposes, we need to capture your consent orally on the recording. Please state, "I give consent to participate in this research and to be recorded."**

[Wait for Participant to give consent]

**Thank you for that. Okay, let's begin.**

### Section III – Cognitive Interview

**READ:** For the upcoming questions, I am interested in your answers, but I am also interested in the process you go through in your mind when you answer the questions. So, I'd like you to think aloud as you answer the questions, just tell me everything you are thinking about as you go about answering each question. From time to time, I'll ask you some questions about your answers, or about the questions themselves.

#### THINK-ALOUD PRACTICE

Let's begin with a practice question. Remember to try to think aloud as you answer.

**Practice Question 1.** How many windows are there in the house or apartment where you live?

WINDOWS \_\_\_\_\_

**[IF NEEDED:]** *Try to visualize the place where you live and think about how many windows there are in that place. As you count up the windows, tell me what you are seeing and thinking about.*

#### PROBES:

- Keep talking
- How did you come up with that answer?
- Tell me more about that. Why did you say [ANSWER]?
- I noticed that you hesitated. Tell me what you were thinking.

**Okay, let's get started. Please answer the questions as you would if an interviewer had come to your home. I will now begin with the first set of questions in the survey.**

#### NOTE TO COGNITIVE INTERVIEWER:

START INTERVIEW. NOTE ANY PROBLEMS /COMMENTS /QUESTIONS / PUZZLED LOOKS/EXASPERATED SIGHS RESPONDENT HAS DURING THE INTERVIEW. WHEN NECESSARY, PROBE ON THESE **AFTER** THE RESPONDENT ANSWERS THE QUESTION.

## Housing Unit, Demographics, & Other Context Modules

NOTE TO INTERVIEWER:

DO NOT PROBE THIS MODULE. ALLOW PARTICIPANT TO MOVE QUICKLY THROUGH THE THINK ALOUD.  
THIS MODULE IS NOT FOR FORMAL TESTING.

Ask Q1. NAME, Q2. AGE, and Q3. REL for 1<sup>st</sup> HH member (respondent). Then ask for next HH member. Repeat for every member of HH.

Once completed, proceed to Q4. TENURE.

1. NAME

**Now I will ask you some questions about the people who live here.  
What are the names of all persons living or staying here? Start with yourself.**

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

2. AGE

**What is [your/NAME's] age?**

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

3. REL

**IF NOT RESPONDENT: How is [NAME] related to you?**

- |                                                                  |                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Spouse                                                        | 7. Foster Child        |
| 2. Unmarried Partner                                             | 8. Housemate/Roommate  |
| 3. Child                                                         | 9. Roomer/Boarder      |
| 4. Grandchild                                                    | 10. Other Non-relative |
| 5. Parent                                                        | 11. DK                 |
| 6. Other relative (Aunt, Cousin,<br>Nephew, Mother-in-law, etc.) | 12. Ref                |

NOTE TO INTERVIEWER: LOOP THROUGH ALL THE PEOPLE TO RECORD HOW THEY ARE RELATED TO THE RESPONDENT

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

4. TENURE

**Is your home...**

(Read categories until “yes” reply is received)

1. • **Owned or being bought by someone in your household?**
2. • **Rented?**
3. • **Occupied without payment of rent?**

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

5. OWNER

**In whose name or names is this home [fill with answer to TENURE]?**

(Place an asterisk ( \*) next to owners’/renters’ name on Household Roster)

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

6. HTYPE

**Is this unit a house, an apartment, a manufactured/mobile home, or some other type of residence?**

(Help text:

Housing Unit Definition: A housing unit is a house, apartment, group of rooms, or single room occupied or intended for occupancy as separate living quarters. Separate living quarters are those in which the occupants live separately from any other people in the structure and that have direct access from the outside of the structure or through a common hall, lobby, or vestibule that is used or intended for use by the occupants of more than one unit or by the general public. This means that the hall, lobby, or vestibule is not part of any unit but must be clearly separate from all units in the structure.

Examples:

If the household at the sampled address lives in an apartment connected to a house, has direct access to the apartment, and lives separately from the household in the main house, then HTYPE is (2), an apartment.

If the household at the sampled address lives in a house with an attached apartment, has direct access to the house, and lives separately from the household in the attached apartment, then HTYPE is (1), a house.

For housing units such as an apartment over a garage, attached to a house, or behind a store, janitor’s living quarters in an office building, or housing units in such structures as converted barns or sheds, mark ‘house’ if only 1 unit (counting both occupied and vacant units) is in the building. Otherwise, mark apartment.

Vacant Units: For vacant units, apply the criteria of separateness and direct access to the intended occupants whenever possible. If the information cannot be obtained, apply the criteria to the previous occupants.

Coding Cooperatives and Condominiums: Cooperatives and condominiums are not housing unit types, but rather a type of ownership. Cooperative or condominium

ownership may apply to various types of housing unit types, such as houses and apartments.)

1. • House
2. • Apartment
3. • Manufactured/mobile home – skip to Q9. WHENYR/MON
4. • Other residence

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

7. STYPE

**Are your living quarters in a...**

*(Read categories until “yes” reply is received. Refer to separate Help Screen if needed)*

1. • 1 unit building, detached from any other building?
2. • 1 unit building, attached to one or more buildings?
3. • Building with two or more apartments?



Skip to Q9

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

8. NUNITS1

**How many apartments are in the building?**

*(Enter 998 if 998 or more)*

- DK
- Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

9. WHENYR/MON

**When did you move to this [house / apartment / manufactured/mobile home / living quarters]?**

*If lived there since birth, ask for birth month and year.*

\_\_\_\_\_ Month      \_\_\_\_\_ Year

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

10. BUYI1

*(if Q4. TENURE = 1)* **Does this household have homeowner's insurance?**

1. • Yes
2. • No
- DK



skip to next module

- Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

11. PMTINS

**Is homeowner's insurance included in your mortgage or loan payment?**

1.
  - Yes
2.
  - No
3.
  - Do not have a mortgage or loan
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

12. BUYI2

*(if Q4. TENURE = 2,3)* **Does this household have renter's property insurance?**

1.
  - Yes
2.
  - No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

END OF MODULE

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS (DO NOT READ ALOUD): Housing Unit, Demographics, & Other Context



## Doubling Up Module

Refer to Q2. AGE and Q3. REL of the Housing Unit, Demographics, & Other Context Modules section.

Ask Q1. DB1 through Q6. DB4 at HHs with at least one adult aged 18 and older who is not the householder or their spouse or partner. Read the names of the adult(s) as indicated in the question text.

Otherwise, skip to Q7. DBALT1 for HHs with at least one adult aged 18 and older.

NOTE TO INTERVIEWER: THE PURPOSE OF INITIAL QUESTIONS OF THIS MODULE ARE TO CAPTURE RISK OF HOMELESSNESS. ADJUST PROBING AS NECESSARY.

1. DB1

The next questions are about adults who are living or staying here.

Thinking about \*READ NAME(S), are any of these adults staying here because they do not have a regular or adequate place to stay?

1. • Yes
2. • No
- DK
- Ref



skip to Q3. DB2

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem unsure about the meaning of “regular or adequate place to stay?”
  - o \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Not sure
- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

PROBE(S):

- What do you think this question is asking you?
  - o If needed: What does “regular or adequate place to stay” mean to you?)
- How did you arrive at your answer? (You responded yes because... OR You responded no because... OR Tell me more about why you responded don't know)

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

2. WHYSTAY1

**Do any of these adults not have a regular or adequate place to stay due to a lack of money or other means of financial support?**

1.
  - Yes
2.
  - No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem unsure about the meaning of “regular or adequate place to stay?”  
o \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Not sure
- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:  
o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **What do you think this question is asking you?**
- **How did you arrive at your answer?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

3. DB2

**Are any of these adults staying here because they have nowhere else to go?**

1.
  - Yes
2.
  - No
  - DK
  - Ref



skip to Q5. DB3

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **What do you think this question is asking you?**
  - o *If needed: What does the phrase “nowhere else to go” mean to you in this question?*
- **How did you arrive at your answer? (You responded yes because... OR You responded no because... OR Tell me more about why you responded don't know)**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

4. HINOWHR1      **Did any of these adults have to leave where they were living before and had no other place to stay?**

1. • Yes
2. • No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **What do you think this question is asking you?**
- **How did you arrive at your answer?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

5. DB3      **Are any of these adults staying here because they can't afford housing of their own?**

- Yes

- No
- DK
- Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **What do you think this question is asking you?**
- **How did you arrive at your answer?**
- **Would these adults prefer to live on their own if they could afford housing?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

Refer to response in Q9. WHENYR/MON of the Housing Unit, Demographics, & Other Context Modules section for timeframe fill throughout.

Fill “you have lived here” if household moved in less than 12 months ago.  
Otherwise, fill the date 12 months prior to the interview date.

6. DB4

Since [date 12 months prior to interview date/you have lived here] who contributed to your rent or mortgage payment?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- DK
- Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

*o If needed: How did you arrive at your answer?*

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

7. DBALT1

**The next questions are about adults who moved out.**

**Aside from the adults living here now, since [date 12 months prior to interview date / you have lived here], have any other adults aged 18 or older moved out?**

*Include only those adults who have lived or stayed in the housing unit for 2 weeks or more.*

1.
    - Yes
  2.
    - No
    - DK
    - Ref
- } skip to next module

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

8. DBALT1a

**How many adults moved out?**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- DK
- Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

9. DBALT2

**[Was the adult/Were the adults]...**

*(Read categories)*

1. • **Your own child(ren)?**
2. • **[The spouse or partner of REFERENCE PERSON NAME?]**
3. • **The Ex-spouse or partner of [REFERENCE PERSON NAME]?**
4. • **Other relative(s)?**
5. • **Roommate(s)?**
6. • **Other unrelated person(s)?**
  - DK
  - Ref

*Fill Instructions:*

If Q8. DBALT1a = 1 fill "Was the adult".

Otherwise, fill "Were the adults". Use instructions throughout.

Do not read the 2nd answer category if there is a spouse/partner on the current household roster.

For categories 2 and 3, fill the owner's/renter's name from Q5. OWNER in Housing Unit, Demographics, & Other Context Modules section.

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_term/phrase meaning

10. DB9

**[Was the adult/Were the adults] staying here because they did not have a regular or adequate place to stay?**

1. • Yes
  2. • No
    - DK
    - Ref
- } skip to Q14. DB10

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with defining "regular or adequate place to stay?"
  - \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Not sure
- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- What do you think this question is asking you?
- How did you arrive at your answer?

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

11. DB9a

**Earlier you mentioned, [the adult was/the adults were] staying here because they had no regular or adequate place to stay. Did they have children who moved out with them?**

1.
  - Yes
2.
  - No
  - DK
  - Ref

*Fill Instructions*

If Q8. DBALT1a = 1 fill "the adult was". Otherwise, fill "the adults were". Use instructions throughout.

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_term/phrase meaning

12. WHYSTAY2

**[Was the adult/Were the adults] staying here because they did not have a regular or adequate place to stay due to a lack of money or other means of financial support?**

1.
    - Yes
  2.
    - No
    - DK
    - Ref
- } skip to Q14. DB10

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

13. WHYSTAY2a

**Earlier you mentioned, [the adult was/ the adults were] staying here because they did not have a regular or adequate place to stay due to a lack of money or other means of financial support. Did they have children who moved out with them?**

1.
  - Yes
2.
  - No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

14. DB10

**[Was the adult/Were the adults] staying in this household because they had nowhere else to go?**

1.
    - Yes
  2.
    - No
    - DK
    - Ref
- } skip to Q18. DB11

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):



- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

15. DB10a

**Earlier you mentioned, [the adult was/ the adults were] staying here because they had nowhere else to go. Did they have children who moved out with them?**

- Yes
- No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

16. HINOWHR2

**[Was the adult/Were the adults] staying here because they had to leave where they were living before and had no other place to stay?**

- Yes
  - No
    - DK
    - Ref
- } skip to Q18. DB11

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

17. HINOWHR2a      **Earlier you mentioned, [the adult was/ the adults were] staying here because they had to leave where they were living before and had no other place to stay. Did they have children who moved out with them?**

1.   • Yes
2.   • No  
     • DK  
     • Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o   \_\_\_ question comprehension   \_\_\_ memory/recall   \_\_\_term/phrase meaning

18. DB11      **[Was the adult/Were the adults] staying in this household because they couldn't afford housing of their own?**

1.   • Yes
  2.   • No  
     • DK  
     • Ref
- }   skip to Q20. DB12

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o   \_\_\_ question comprehension   \_\_\_ memory/recall   \_\_\_term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

19. DB11a                      **Earlier you mentioned, [the adult was/ the adults were] staying here because they couldn't afford housing of their own. Did they have children who moved out with them?**

1.    • Yes
2.    • No
- DK
- Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o    \_\_\_ question comprehension    \_\_\_ memory/recall    \_\_\_term/phrase meaning

20. DB12                      **Since [date 12 months prior to interview date/you have lived here], did [the adult/any of the adults] who moved out contribute to your rent or mortgage payments?**

1.    • Yes
  2.    • No
  - DK
  - Ref
- } skip to next module

*Fill Instructions:*

If Q8. DBALT1a = 1 fill "the adult". Otherwise, fill "the adults".

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o    \_\_\_ question comprehension    \_\_\_ memory/recall    \_\_\_term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

21. DB13 (if Q8. DBALT1a > 1) Did all of them contribute?

1.
  - Yes
2.
  - No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

Please describe the reasons why FILL NAMES OF ADULTS live with you.

*If needed:* In your opinion are any of the adults who live or lived with you at risk for homelessness if they did not live with you?

END OF MODULE

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS (DO NOT READ ALOUD): Doubling Up Module

## Accessory Dwelling Units Module

### Accessory Dwelling Units Module

#### 1. ADU\_Intro

Some properties have both a primary unit and a secondary unit, called an accessory dwelling unit. A primary unit is the main unit on a residential property. An accessory dwelling unit is an independent residence with its own entrance and exit, a fully functioning kitchen and bathroom, and is smaller than the primary unit. They are inside, attached to, or detached but on the same property as a primary residence. (Examples of secondary units include in-law suites, basement or garage apartments, guest houses, and manufactured or tiny homes on the same property as a primary residence. A secondary unit could be rented out by the owners of the primary unit.)

*Respondents should include rooms rented out if they have a bathroom and kitchen facilities, and direct access from the outside, (i.e., a large basement room).*

*Respondents should not include spare bedrooms/rooms rented out.*

NOTE TO INTERVIEWER: BE AWARE THAT ADU DEFINITION INCLUDES KITCHEN AND BATHROOM. CONSIDER PROBING IF THERE IS ANY UNCERTAINTY THAT THE PARTICIPANT IS NOT USING THIS DEFINITION.

RECORD FEEDBACK & OBSERVATION: *If P comments on ADU\_intro  
(Note if P appears to struggle with the introduction AND/OR the meaning of ADU.)*

#### 2. ADU1

Is this housing unit...

1. • A primary unit with an accessory dwelling unit?
2. • An accessory dwelling unit that is part of a primary unit?
3. • Neither? – skip to next module
  - DK – skip to next module
  - Ref – skip to next module

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with answering this question?  
o \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Not sure
- Does P seem unsure about the meaning of ADU?

0 \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Not sure

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:

0 \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

(Note if P appears to struggle with the question AND/OR the meaning of ADU during probes.)

0 If needed / If P did not provide enough information during think aloud: How did you come up with your answer?

- Did you find this question easy or difficult to answer?

0 If they say difficult, What do you think made this question difficult to answer.

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

Refer to responses in Q4. TENURE and Q8. NUNITS1 of the Housing Unit, Demographics, & Other Context Modules section.

Ask Q3. ADU1a if Q2. ADU1 = 1 or 2 and Q4. TENURE = 2 and Q8. NUNITS1 = 2.

Else, skip to Q4. ADU1b if Q2. ADU1 = 1.

Otherwise, skip to Q7. ADU3.

3. ADU1a

**Earlier you said that there are two apartments on this property, is one of the two apartments an accessory dwelling unit?**

1. • Yes
2. • No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:

0 \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you come up with your answer to this question?**
  - o *If needed: What do you think this question is asking you?*

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

Ask Q4. ADU1b if Q2. ADU1 = 1.

Otherwise, skip to Q7. ADU3.

4. ADU1b

**Is anyone currently living in the accessory dwelling unit and considers it their usual residence?**

1. • Yes
  2. • No
  - DK
  - Ref
- } skip to Q6. ADU2

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem unsure about the meaning of “usual residence?”
  - o \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Not sure
- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How would you define “usual residence?”**
- **Would you have answered the question differently if I had asked, "Is the Accessory Dwelling Unit currently occupied?"**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

5. ADU1c

**Do the current occupants of the accessory dwelling unit pay rent?**

1. • Yes
  2. • No
  - DK
  - Ref
- } skip to Q7. ADU3

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**
  - a. *If needed: How certain or uncertain were you of your answer to this question?*

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

6. ADU2

**Do the owners of the primary unit plan to rent out the accessory dwelling unit?**

1. • Yes
2. • No
- DK
- Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**
  - a. *If needed: How certain or uncertain were you of your answer to this question?*

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

7. ADU3

**Where is [the accessory dwelling unit/your home] in relation to the primary residence? [(If more than one accessory dwelling unit on the property, provide the location of the accessory dwelling unit with the largest total square footage).]**



1. • Above a garage
2. • In a basement
3. • In an attic
4. • Attached to the side
5. • Separated elsewhere on the property
6. • Somewhere else (specify)
  - DK
  - Ref

*Fill Instructions*

1. If Q2. ADU1=1, fill "the ADU"; if ADU1=2, fill "your home".
2. If Q2. ADU1=1, display the optional text; if ADU1=2, do not display the optional text.

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

**PROBE(S):**

- Can you tell me how you came up with your answer to this question?

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

8. ADU4

**Does [the accessory dwelling unit/your home] have a mailing address that is different from the primary residence? (Mail is delivered directly to the accessory dwelling unit itself rather than to a P.O. box or to the primary residence where it must then be separated following delivery.)**

1. • Yes
2. • No
- DK
- Ref

} skip to next module

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

9. ADU5

**What is the mailing address of the [the accessory dwelling unit/primary residence]?**

- \_\_\_\_\_
- DK

- Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

**PROBE(S):**

- **Please describe how mail is delivered to the property?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

END OF MODULE

**OVERALL PROBE:**

- **What is your definition of an accessory dwelling unit?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS (DO NOT READ ALOUD): Accessory Dwelling Units

## Climate Risk & Insurance Module

Refer to response in Q9. WHENYR/MON of the Housing Unit, Demographics, & Other Context Modules section for timeframe fill throughout.

Fill “Since you have lived here” if household moved in less than 12 months ago.  
Otherwise, fill “In the last 12 months’.

1. CRI1                      **[In the last 12 months/Since you have lived here], has your home experienced significant damage from a flood caused by the weather or a natural disaster?**  
(Do not include floods from leaking pipes inside or outside your home.)
1. • Yes
  2. • No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **Can you tell me what “significant damage” means to you in this question?**
  - o *If needed: Can you give me some examples of significant damage?*
- **Can you tell me what “natural disaster” means to you in this question?**
  - o *If needed: Can you give me some examples of a natural disaster?*
- **When you were answering this question, were you thinking about a particular event (natural disaster)?**
- **(If Yes) When did that event occur? How well do you remember the event?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

2. CRI2 (If Q1. CRI1 = 1) Is your home elevated to reduce the risk of flooding?
1. • Yes
  2. • No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:  
o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- (If yes) Please describe how it is elevated?

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

3. CRI3 (If Q1. CRI1 = 1) Is your home protected by a berm? Berms are compacted or vegetated structures designed to divert, pond, or filter runoff.
1. • Yes
  2. • No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem unsure about the meaning of “berm?”  
o \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Not sure
- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:  
o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- Are you familiar with the term Berm?

- o (if yes) Please describe the structure you're thinking about?
- o (if no) Do you think that influenced how you answered the question?

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

Refer to responses in Q10. BUYI and Q12. BUYI2 of the Housing Unit, Demographics, & Other Context Modules section.

Ask 4. CRI4 if Q10. BUYI1 = 1.

Else ask 5. CRI5a if Q12. BUYI2 = 1.

Otherwise, skip to Q9. CRI6a.

4. CRI4

**Some homeowners' insurance policies include dwelling coverage that pays for the rebuilding or repair of the home if damaged by a covered hazard.**

**Does your homeowner's insurance cover the full rebuilding and replacement cost of your home?**

1. • Yes
2. • No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**
  - o *If needed: What types of hazards were you thinking of?*
  - o *If needed: Please give me an example?*

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

5. CRI5a

**Does your [homeowner's/renter's property] insurance cover wildfire risk?**

1. • Yes
2. • No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

6. CRI5b

**Earlier we asked about [homeowner's/renter's property] insurance, now we'd like to ask about supplemental insurance.**

**Do you have supplemental wildfire insurance?**

1. • Yes
  2. • No
    - DK
    - Ref
- } skip to Q9. CRI6a

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**
  - o *If needed: Can you tell me more about what you think supplemental wildfire insurance is?*

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

7. CRI5c

**Is supplemental wildfire insurance included in [reported payments]?**

1. • Yes – skip to Q9. CRI6a
2. • No
  - DK
  - Ref

*Fill Instruction:*

If Q4. TENURE = 1 and Q11. PMTINS = 1, then fill “your mortgage or any other payments”.

Else if Q4. TENURE= 1 and Q11. PMTINS = 2), then fill “your homeowners’ insurance or any other payments”.

Else if Q4. TENURE = 2,3 , then fill “your renters’ insurance or any other payments”.

Otherwise, fill "included in any other payments you reported".

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

8. CRI5d

**[In the last 12 months/Since you have lived], what was the total cost of your supplemental wildfire insurance?**

- \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- DK
- Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

9. CRI6a

**Do you have flood insurance either from the National Flood Insurance Program or another insurance provider?**

1. • Yes
  2.
    - No
    - DK
    - Ref
- } skip to Q12. CRI7a

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **(If yes to flood insurance) Please describe the type of insurance that you have that covers floods.**
- **(If R does not have NFIP Insurance) Are you familiar with National Flood Insurance Program?**



RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

10. CRI6b

**Is flood insurance included in [reported payments]?**

1.
  - Yes – skip to Q12. CRI7a
2.
  - No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

11. CRI6c

**[In the last 12 months/Since you have lived here], what was the total cost of your flood insurance?**

- \$\_\_\_\_\_
- DK
- Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

12. CRI7a

**Do you have supplemental wind and/or hail insurance?**

- |          |                |
|----------|----------------|
| 1. • Yes | } see text box |
| 2. • No  |                |
| 3. • DK  |                |
| 4. • Ref |                |

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**
- **(If yes to supplemental wind/hail insurance) Please describe the type of insurance that you have that covers wind and/or hail.**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

13. CRI7b

**Is supplemental wind and hail insurance included in [reported payments]?**

- Yes – see text box
- No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

14. CRI7c

**[In the last 12 months/Since you have lived here], what was the total cost of your supplemental wind and hail insurance?**

- \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- DK
- Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

Refer to responses in Q4. TENURE, Q6. HTYPE, Q7. STYPE, and Q8. NUNITS1 of the Housing Unit, Demographics, & Other Context Modules section.

Ask 15. CRI8 if Q4. TENURE = 1.

Else skip to Q18. EVC1 if Q6. HTYPE = 3 or Q7. STYPE = 1 or 2 or Q8. NUNITS1 = 2 - 4.

Otherwise, skip to Q19. EVC2.

15. CRI8                      **Since [date 2 years prior to interview date / you have lived here], have you experienced a lapse in your homeowner's insurance?**  
*Include lapses in any supplemental insurance.*

1. • Yes
2. • No
- DK
- Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **Please tell me how you came up with your answer to this question?**
  - o *If needed: What timeframe were you thinking of?*
  - o *If needed: Were you thinking of your standard homeowner's insurance or supplemental insurance?*

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

16. CRI9                      **(If Q15. CRI8 = 1) Was the lapse because your insurance premium became unaffordable due to a significant price increase?**

1. • Yes
2. • No
- DK

- Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **What were you thinking about when you answered this question?**
- **What does the phrase “significant price increase” mean to you in this question?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

17. CRI10 (If Q15. CRI8 = 1) **Was the lapse because your insurer withdrew from your local market in response to increased disaster risk?**

1. • Yes
2. • No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **Can you describe the reason for the lapse in your insurance?**
- **(if no lapse in insurance) How long have you been with your insurance carrier?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

Refer to responses in Q6. HTYPE, Q7. STYPE, and Q8. NUNITS1 of the Housing Unit, Demographics, & Other Context Modules section.

Ask Q18. EVC1 if Q6. HTYPE = 3 or Q7. STYPE = 1 or 2 or Q8. NUNITS1 = 2 - 4.

Otherwise, skip to Q19. EVC2.

18. EVC1

**The next question is about the availability of electric vehicle (EV) charging.**

**Is there a working electrical outlet on your home within 20 feet of where someone could park a vehicle?**

1. • Yes
2. • No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_term/phrase meaning

19. EVC2

**The next question is about the availability of electric vehicle (EV) charging.**

**Do you have access to a working electric vehicle charger at your apartment building or complex?**

1. • Yes
2. • No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**
  - *If needed: What does the phrase “electric vehicle charging” mean to you in this statement?*
  - *If needed: How certain or uncertain were you of your answer to this question?*
- **(if yes to have access to charger) Does anyone currently charge their vehicle at your home?**
- **(if yes to currently charge) Please describe how someone could charge their vehicle.**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

END OF MODULE

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS (DO NOT READ ALOUD): Climate Risk & Insurance

## Real Estate Module

1. OWNINTRO

The next questions are about how you acquired your home, taxes, mortgages and other loans that are secured by the property.

Please refer to your mortgage loan statement or any additional records that you may have regarding mortgages on the property.

RECORD FEEDBACK & OBSERVATION: *If P comments on OWNINTRO*

2. WHNGET

**When did you buy or take ownership of the [house / apartment / manufactured/mobile home / living quarters]?**

*If land and building bought at different times, building only*  
\_\_\_\_\_ Year

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

3. INHERITQ

**Did you receive this home as a gift or inheritance?**

1. • Yes – *skip to next module*
2. • No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

4. CUSHOM

**How did you obtain this home? Did you...**

*Read categories until a "Yes" is obtained*



1. • Buy the house already built
2. • Sign a sales agreement that included the land as well as the cost of building the house? (INCLUDE BOTH UNITS THAT WERE UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND THOSE NOT YET STARTED)
3. • Have a general contractor build it on your own land? (ALSO INCLUDES LEASED LAND)
4. • Build it yourself on your own land? (INCLUDE PERSON ACTING AS OWN GENERAL CONTRACTOR. ALSO INCLUDES LEASED LAND)
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- How did you arrive at your answer?

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

5. DOWNPAY

**Did you make a down payment when you [bought/built/acquired] the [house / apartment / manufactured/mobile home / living quarters]?**

1. • Yes – skip to Q8. DWNAMT
2. • No
  - DK
  - Ref

*Fill instruction:*

If Q4. CUSHOM = 1,2, fill "bought"; if Q4. CUSHOM = 3, 4, fill "built"; otherwise fill "acquired".

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

6. NODOWNPAY

**Did you borrow the full purchase price, pay the full purchase price upfront, or do something else?**

1. • Borrowed the full purchase price – skip to next module.
2. • Paid the full purchase price upfront – skip to next module.
3. • Something else; specify
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**
- **How well do you remember?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

7. NODOWNSP

*(if Q5. DOWNPAY = DK, Ref [Generally, buyers either pay a percentage of the total purchase price, which is a down payment, borrow the full purchase price, or pay the full purchase price up front. However, there may be other arrangements for purchasing a home.] )*

Specify other arrangement

- \_\_\_\_\_
- DK
- Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

8. DWNAMT

(If Q5. DOWNPAY = 1) **Considering all sources of money, what was the total amount of the down payment? You may answer in dollars or percent.**

- \$\_\_\_\_\_ - skip to next module
- \_\_\_\_\_% - skip to next module
- DK
- Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

9. DWNCAT

**As a percentage of the purchase price, was the down payment amount from...?**

(Read all categories)

1. • 0 to 5 percent
  2. • 6 to 15 percent
  3. • 16 to 20 percent
  4. • More than 20 percent
- DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:  
0 \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**
- **How well do you remember?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

|  |
|--|
|  |
|--|

END OF MODULE

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS (DO NOT READ ALOUD): Real Estate

|  |
|--|
|  |
|--|

## Taxes & Fees & Utilities Module Questions

Refer to responses in Q4. TENURE of the Housing Unit, Demographics, & Other Context Modules section.

Ask Q1. FRENT if Q4. TENURE = 1.

Otherwise, skip to Q3. CUTIL1a.

1. FRENT

**How many times a year is the rent on your [house / apartment / manufactured/mobile home / living quarters] due?**

*(Enter 12 for monthly)*

*(Enter 53 for 53 times or more)*

- \_\_\_\_\_
- DK
- Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

2. RENT

**How much does this household pay out of pocket for rent each [month?/year?/quarter?/week?/time?]**

*Fill Instructions*

If Q1. FRENT = 12, fill "month?", if 1 fill "year?", if 4 fill "quarter?", if 52 fill "week?", if any other answer fill "time?"

**Do not include any amount paid by government assistance programs towards the rent. If you pay an additional amount for parking, do not count it as part of your rent.**

*(Enter 29998 for \$29,998 or more)*

- \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- DK
- Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

*Note to interviewer: Be sure to record if you think participant understandings that the question is asking about the rent paid by the entire household, not each individual person/roommate/etc.*

- **In your own words what this instruction is asking of you?**
- **What does the phrase “government assistance program” mean to you in this question?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

3. CUTIL1a                      **Some states allow consumers to choose the source of their electricity. Does any portion of your electricity come from renewable sources like solar and wind energy?**

1. • Yes – skip to next module
2. • No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

4. CUTIL1b                      **Do you have the option to choose that part or all of your electricity comes from renewable sources like solar and wind energy?**

1. • Yes
2. • No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**
  - o If needed: How certain or uncertain were you of your answer to this question?*

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

|  |
|--|
|  |
|--|

END OF MODULE

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS (DO NOT READ ALOUD): Taxes, Fees, & Utilities

|  |
|--|
|  |
|--|

## Home Improvement Module

Refer to response in Q4. TENURE of the Housing Unit, Demographics, & Other Context Modules section.

Ask Q1. HMRSCREEN if Q4. TENURE = 1.

Otherwise, proceed to next module.

### 1. HMRSCREEN

**The next questions are about work done to your home. We want to know about all of the work done, including annual routine work, as well as major home improvements and replacements. In the last two years, did you have any work done to your home?**

1.
    - Yes
  2.
    - No
    - DK
    - Ref
- } skip to next module

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

FYI, this is not an actual question in the survey. This language was however adapted from existing module language. The actual home improvement job questions were too extensive to include here.

### 2. HMRENEFF

**Did you do any of these home improvements to improve energy efficiency?**

1.
    - Yes
  2.
    - No
    - DK
    - Ref
- } skip to next module

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**



- o (If needed / if yes to energy efficiency improvements) When you were answering this question, were you thinking about any specific improvements to energy efficiency you had done to your home?

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

3. CHMR1 (if Q2. HMRENEF = 1) **For what reason or reasons did you make energy efficiency improvements?**

(Enter All That Apply)

1. • **To reduce your energy expenses or energy consumption**
2. • **Tax credits, rebates, or other incentives**
3. • **Other monetary incentives, specify**

- 
- DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **In your own words, what were the reasons you made these energy efficient improvements?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

4. CHMR2 (if Q2. HMRENEF = 1) **Did you receive Federal or state or local tax incentives for making energy efficiency improvements or purchasing energy efficient appliances?**

1. • Yes
2. • No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**
  - o *If needed: How certain or uncertain were you of your answer to this question?*

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

5. CHMR3 (if Q2. HMRENEF = 1) **Did you receive financial incentives from your utility company for making energy efficiency improvements or purchasing energy efficient appliances?**

1.
  - Yes
2.
  - No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer?**
  - o *If needed: How certain or uncertain were you of your answer to this question?*

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

END OF MODULE

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS (DO NOT READ ALOUD): Home Improvement

|  |
|--|
|  |
|--|

## Recent Movers Module

Refer to response in Q9. WHENYR/MON of the Housing Unit, Demographics, & Other Context Modules section.

Ask Q1. MOVDISAS if respondent moved in within the last two years.

Otherwise, proceed to next section.

### 1. MOVDISAS

**Were you forced to move because of a natural disaster or fire, whether the fire started inside or outside of your home?**

1. • Yes
  2. • No
  - DK
  - Ref
- } skip to Q3

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

### 2. MOVDISASTYP

**What happened? Was it a...**

*(Read all categories.)*

*(Enter all that apply.)*

1. • Fire that started inside your home, such as from an electrical shortage or cooking equipment?
  2. • Fire that started outside your home, such as from a wildfire?
  3. • Earthquake?
  4. • Tornado?
  5. • Hurricane?
  6. • Landslide?
  7. • Flood?
  8. • Other?
  - DK
  - Ref
- } skip to Q6

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

3. WMCOMMUTE

**Did you choose to move  
...to reduce commuting time?**

1. • Yes
2. • No
- DK
- Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

4. WMPUBTRAN

**(Did you choose to move)  
...to be closer to public transportation?**

3. • Yes
4. • No
- DK
- Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

5. WMDISAS

**(Did you choose to move)  
...to avoid natural disasters, such as wildfires, earthquakes, tornados,  
hurricanes, landslides, and floods?**

1. • Yes
2. • No
- DK
- Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning
  - o Does the participant spontaneously comment that Q was already asked

**PROBE(S):**

- **How did you arrive at your answer for those three questions?**
- **What are the reasons you moved?**

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

6. HEARSHSNET

**Did you find your home on an internet site (such as craigslist, apartment.com, realtor.com, or Zillow)?**

1.
  - Yes
2.
  - No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

7. RMOVHS1

**(Did you find your home)**

**Through some other advertising by the owner?**

1.
  - Yes
2.
  - No
  - DK
  - Ref

RECORD THINK ALOUD OBSERVATION (Do not read to participant):

CONFIDENCE CHECKS (do not read to participant):

- Does P seem to struggle with any of the following:
  - o \_\_\_ question comprehension \_\_\_ memory/recall \_\_\_ term/phrase meaning

**PROBE(S):**

- **Can you tell me in your own words what this question is asking?**
  - o *If needed: Can you tell me what “some other advertising” means to you in this question?*
  - o *If needed: Can you give me some examples of “some other advertising?”*

RECORD ANSWERS to PROBES (Do not read to participant):

END OF MODULE

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS (DO NOT READ ALOUD): Recent Movers

## Section IV – Debriefing Questions

JUST A FEW FINAL QUESTIONS TO WRAP UP –

- Overall, do you think some people might find any of these questions sensitive?
- Were there any questions that you think some people might find difficult?
- Do you have anything else you would like to tell us that you haven't had a chance to mention yet?

### VOUCHER FORM BEFORE INTERVIEW

Thank you very much for your time and participation today. We will get your \$60 incentive mailed to you within the next few days.

You will need to sign a document before we can send the \$60 incentive. I can send it to {fill email address} or I can put the link in the chat for the teams meeting. What would you like me to do?

We will send the money via Priority Mail and we will email you the tracking number.

Box for email address

TURN OFF THE TAPE RECORDER.

### CLOSE OUT STEPS

1. CHECK RECORDING IS THE RIGHT LENGTH AND SAVE TO THE PARTICIPANT'S FOLDER.
2. MAKE A NOTE OF ANY TECHNOLOGICAL ISSUES YOU HAD DURING THE INTERVIEW BELOW:

Box for Notes on Technological Issues