

Changes to the Interview Survey CAPI Instrument for 2026

(Wording changes are in red)

Section	Changes	
DEMO	Added a hard edit when 3 or more parents are reported. There shouldn't be more than 2 parents related as the relationships reported are in relation to the reference person. These are to be coded as stepparents or in-laws instead.	
3 Changed MCHANGE answer list to clarify the response options	<p>Since the first of ^REF_MONTH, did ^YOU_YRCU pay a different amount on this loan due to refinancing, ^ACHANGEDINTERESTRATE change in escrow, paying off the loan, or paying more or less than the amount due?</p> <p>1 Yes 2 No</p>	<p>Since the first of ^REF_MONTH, did ^YOU_YRCU pay a DIFFERENT amount on this loan due to refinancing, ^ACHANGEDINTERESTRATE change in escrow, paying off the loan, or paying more or less than the amount due?</p> <p>1 Paid a DIFFERENT amount 2 Paid the SAME amount</p>
6B Updated wording for items 1-4, 12, 28, 32, 33, 36 for APB_ITEM, APB_CMB and APBMORE	<p>Old Answer list:</p> <p>1 Small electrical kitchen appliances 2 Electrical personal care appliances 3 Electric floor cleaning equipment 4 Other household appliances 5 Sewing machines 6 GPS devices, calculators, and fax machines 7 Digital book readers or tablets 8 Computers, computer systems, or related hardware 9 Computer software including computer games 10 Computer accessories 11 Portable memory, such as flash drives, memory cards, and recordable discs and tapes 12 Video game hardware or</p>	<p>New Answer list:</p> <p>1 Small electric kitchen appliances like blenders, air fryers, or toasters 2 Electric personal care items, such as hair dryers or electric razors 3 Vacuum or other electric floor cleaning equipment 4 Other household appliances, not for cooking 5 Sewing machines 6 GPS devices, calculators, and fax machines 7 Digital book readers or tablets 8 Computers, computer systems, or related hardware 9 Computer software including computer games 10 Computer accessories 11 Portable memory, such as flash drives, memory cards, and recordable discs and tapes 12 Video game hardware or</p>

	accessories 13 Telephones or accessories 14 Photographic equipment 15 Musical instruments, supplies, or accessories 16 Lawn mowing machinery or other yard equipment 17 Power tools 18 Non-power tools 19 Window air conditioners 20 Portable cooling or heating equipment 21 Televisions, all types including those installed in vehicles 22 DVD Players, VCRs, DVRs, or video cameras 23 Satellite dishes, receivers or accessories 24 Handheld personal music players 25 Stereos, radios, speakers, and sound components, including those installed in vehicles 26 Other sound or video equipment, including accessories 27 General sports equipment (exclude athletic shoes for sports related use, such as football, baseball, soccer or bowling) 28 Health and exercise equipment 29 Camping equipment 30 Hunting and fishing equipment, including all guns 31 Winter sports equipment 32 Water sports equipment 33 Outboard motors 34 Bicycles or bicycle equipment 35 Tricycles or battery powered riders 36 Playground equipment	and tapes 12 Gaming consoles or accessories 13 Telephones or accessories 14 Photographic equipment 15 Musical instruments, supplies, or accessories 16 Lawn mowing machinery or other yard equipment 17 Power tools 18 Non-power tools 19 Window air conditioners 20 Portable cooling or heating equipment 21 Televisions, all types including those installed in vehicles 22 DVD Players, VCRs, DVRs, or video cameras 23 Satellite dishes, receivers or accessories 24 Handheld personal music players 25 Stereos, radios, speakers, and sound components, including those installed in vehicles 26 Other sound or video equipment, including accessories 27 General sports equipment (exclude athletic shoes for sports related use, such as football, baseball, soccer or bowling) 28 Health and exercise equipment for the home 29 Camping equipment 30 Hunting and fishing equipment, including all guns 31 Winter sports equipment 32 Water sports equipment. Do not include boats or vehicles. 33 Outboard motors. Do not include boats.
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	<p>37 Other sports or recreation equipment</p>	<p>34 Bicycles or bicycle equipment</p> <p>35 Tricycles or battery powered riders</p> <p>36 Children's outdoor or water play structures</p> <p>37 Other sports or recreation equipment</p>
8A Updated wording for items 12, 15, 17, 18, 26 for FRA_ITEM, FRA_CMB, FRAMORE	<p>Old Answer list:</p> <p>1 Sofas?</p> <p>2 Living room chairs?</p> <p>3 Living room tables?</p> <p>4 Ping-pong, pool tables, or other similar recreation room items?</p> <p>5 Other living, family, or recreation room furniture?</p> <p>6 Living room furniture combinations?</p> <p>7 Dining room or kitchen furniture?</p> <p>8 Mattresses or box springs?</p> <p>9 Bedroom furniture other than mattresses or box springs?</p> <p>10 Infants furniture?</p> <p>11 Infants equipment?</p> <p>12 Patio, porch, or outdoor furniture?</p> <p>13 Barbeque grills or outdoor decorative items?</p> <p>14 Office furniture for home use?</p> <p>15 Lamps, lighting fixtures, or ceiling fans?</p> <p>16 Other household decorative items?</p> <p>17 Closet and storage items?</p> <p>18 Travel items including luggage?</p> <p>19 Stainless, silver, or other flatware?</p> <p>20 Non-electric cookware?</p> <p>21 Dishes, glasses, or serving pieces?</p> <p>22 Bedroom linens?</p> <p>23 Bathroom linens?</p> <p>24 Kitchen, dining room, or other linens?</p>	<p>New Answer list:</p> <p>1 Sofas?</p> <p>2 Living room chairs?</p> <p>3 Living room tables?</p> <p>4 Ping-pong, pool tables, or other similar recreation room items?</p> <p>5 Other living, family, or recreation room furniture?</p> <p>6 Living room furniture combinations?</p> <p>7 Dining room or kitchen furniture?</p> <p>8 Mattresses or box springs?</p> <p>9 Bedroom furniture other than mattresses or box springs?</p> <p>10 Infants furniture?</p> <p>11 Infants equipment?</p> <p>12 Patio or outdoor furniture?</p> <p>13 Barbeque grills or outdoor decorative items?</p> <p>14 Office furniture for home use?</p> <p>15 Lighting fixtures, lamps, or ceiling fans?</p> <p>16 Other household decorative items?</p> <p>17 Closet or storage items, such as shoe bins or garment bags?</p> <p>18 Travel items or luggage?</p> <p>19 Stainless, silver, or other flatware?</p> <p>20 Non-electric cookware?</p> <p>21 Dishes, glasses, or serving pieces?</p> <p>22 Bedroom linens?</p> <p>23 Bathroom linens?</p> <p>24 Kitchen, dining room, or other linens?</p>

	<p>25 Slipcovers, decorative pillows, or cushions?</p> <p>26 Rugs or other non-permanent floor coverings, including carpet squares?</p> <p>27 Curtains or drapes?</p> <p>28 Blinds, shades or other window coverings?</p>	<p>25 Slipcovers, decorative pillows, or cushions?</p> <p>26 Rugs?</p> <p>27 Curtains or drapes?</p> <p>28 Blinds, shades or other window coverings?</p>
11B	Deleted many items from displaying the option 13 same amount each month option, where offering the option of the same amount each month was not appropriate	
13	Corrected skip for MEDPMTX to account for selection of same amount each month	
16 New wording for items 1, 4, 7-9, 12- 13, 16-17, 23 in SUB_ITEM, and SUBMORE.	<p>Old Answer List:</p> <p>1 Recreational lessons or other instructions</p> <p>2 Golf courses or country clubs</p> <p>3 Health clubs, fitness centers, swimming pools, weight loss centers, or other sports or recreational organizations</p> <p>4 Fees for participating in sports such as golf, bowling, biking, hockey, football, or swimming</p> <p>5 Vacation clubs</p> <p>6 Civic, service, fraternal, or other social organizations. Do not include contributions to or membership in religious, professional, business, or other tax deductible organizations</p> <p>7 Credit card membership fees</p> <p>8 Shopping club memberships including warehouse clubs like Sam's Club and discount memberships like Amazon Prime</p> <p>9 Direct or online dating services</p> <p>10 Single or season tickets to spectator sports events such as football, baseball, hockey, racing, or track events</p>	<p>New Answer List:</p> <p>1 Instructional lessons for sports, music, art, or other recreation</p> <p>2 Golf courses or country clubs</p> <p>3 Health clubs, fitness centers, swimming pools, weight loss centers, or other sports or recreational organizations</p> <p>4 Fees to participate in sports such as golf, bowling, biking, hockey, football, or swimming</p> <p>5 Vacation clubs</p> <p>6 Civic, service, fraternal, or other social organizations. Do not include contributions to or membership in religious, professional, business, or other tax deductible organizations</p> <p>7 Credit card annual membership fees</p> <p>8 Shopping membership fees, such as for Amazon Prime and Sam's Club</p> <p>9 Dating or matchmaking services</p> <p>10 Single or season tickets to spectator sports events such as football, baseball, hockey, racing, or track events</p> <p>11 Single or season tickets</p>

	<p>events</p> <p>11 Single or season tickets to plays, concerts, comedy shows, or other live in-person events</p> <p>12 Movie tickets</p> <p>13 Tickets to parks or museums</p> <p>14 Single copies of newspapers, magazines, or periodicals, including digital</p> <p>15 Subscriptions to newspapers, magazines, or periodicals, including digital</p> <p>16 Books, digital books, or book subscriptions. Do not include school books or reference books.</p> <p>17 Photo printing or processing</p> <p>18 Photographic film or disposable cameras</p> <p>19 Purchased music files, CDs, or records</p> <p>20 Sirius or XM satellite radio service</p> <p>21 Subscription music services such as Spotify or Pandora</p> <p>22 Purchased video files, Blu-Ray discs, or DVDs</p> <p>23 Rented video files or DVDs or streaming video subscriptions</p> <p>24 Purchased video games, not including computer games</p> <p>25 Rented video games</p> <p>26 Applications, games, or ringtones for a cellphone or mobile device not already reported</p> <p>27 Online games or other internet entertainment sites</p>	<p>to plays, concerts, comedy shows, or other live in-person events</p> <p>12 Movie theater tickets or memberships</p> <p>13 Tickets or passes to parks, amusement parks, or museums</p> <p>14 Single copies of newspapers, magazines, or periodicals, including digital</p> <p>15 Subscriptions to newspapers, magazines, or periodicals, including digital</p> <p>16 Books, audiobooks, or subscriptions, not already reported</p> <p>17 Photo services, including printing, processing, or digital conversions. Do not include home printing supplies</p> <p>18 Photographic film or disposable cameras</p> <p>19 Purchased music files, CDs, or records</p> <p>20 Satellite radio service, like SiriusXM Radio</p> <p>21 Subscription music services such as Spotify or Pandora</p> <p>22 Purchased video files, Blu-Ray discs, or DVDs</p> <p>23 Streaming video subscriptions, video or DVD rentals</p> <p>24 Purchased video games, not including computer games</p> <p>25 Rented video games</p> <p>26 Applications, games, or ringtones for a cellphone or mobile device not already reported</p> <p>27 Online games or other internet entertainment sites</p>
19A	Old answer list:	New Answer List:

Updated wording for items 2-7, 9, 11-12.	<p>1 Fresh flowers or potted plants?</p> <p>2 Professional photography?</p> <p>3 Services of lawyers or other legal professionals?</p> <p>4 Accounting fees?</p> <p>5 Occupational expenses, such as union dues or professional licenses?</p> <p>6 Stamp or coin collecting?</p> <p>7 Lotteries or games of chance?</p> <p>8 Toys or games?</p> <p>9 Arts or crafts kits?</p> <p>10 Sewing, knitting, or quilting materials and items?</p> <p>11 Purchase of pets, pet supplies, or medicine for pets? Do not include pet food.</p> <p>12 Pet services?</p> <p>13 Veterinarian expenses for pets?</p> <p>14 Catering?</p> <p>15 Arrangement of live entertainment for special occasions?</p> <p>16 Rental of party supplies?</p> <p>17 Purchase or upkeep of cemetery lots or vaults?</p> <p>18 Funerals, burials, or cremation?</p>	<p>1 Fresh flowers or potted plants?</p> <p>2 Professional event or portrait photography?</p> <p>3 Services of lawyers or other legal professionals?</p> <p>Do not include legal fees related to real estate closing costs.</p> <p>4 Accounting services, including tax preparation?</p> <p>5 Union dues or professional licenses?</p> <p>6 Collectibles including trading cards, coins, and stamps?</p> <p>7 Lotteries, gambling, or sports betting?</p> <p>8 Toys or games?</p> <p>9 Art or craft supplies?</p> <p>10 Sewing, knitting, or quilting materials and items?</p> <p>11 Pets or pet supplies, including medicine and toys but not pet food?</p> <p>12 Pet services, including grooming?</p> <p>13 Veterinarian expenses for pets?</p> <p>14 Catering?</p> <p>15 Arrangement of live entertainment for special occasions?</p> <p>16 Rental of party supplies?</p> <p>17 Purchase or upkeep of cemetery lots or vaults?</p> <p>18 Funerals, burials, or cremation?</p>
POP1-19	Population groups rotation collection of outlets--adjust POP15 so that questions are always turned on for T10, T11, T12 (unless #6 is reported for T12) to improve outlet data collection	
20B	Old question wording for SALONX: Since the first of ^REF_MONTH, not including ^CUR_MONTH have ^YOU_ANYMEM had any expenses for haircutting,	2026 question wording for SALONX: Since the first of ^REF_MONTH, not including ^CUR_MONTH have ^YOU_ANYMEM had any expenses for hair, nail, or

	<p>styling, attached hair pieces, manicures, massages or other salon services?</p>	<p>skincare services, including massages or tanning?</p>
<p>BACK Deletion of questions: RES02, RES03, RES04, TRVLTIME, INTVTIME, OTHTIME, TYPERECS, SPECRECS.</p> <p>Updated skip patterns.</p> <p>Edited section introduction.</p>	<p>Deleted questions:</p> <p>RES02 How difficult was it for you to answer the questions in this survey?</p> <p>1 Not at all difficult 2 A little difficult 3 Somewhat difficult 4 Very difficult 5 Extremely difficult</p> <p>RES03 How sensitive did you feel the questions I asked today were?</p> <p>1 Not at all sensitive 2 A little sensitive 3 Somewhat sensitive 4 Very sensitive 5 Extremely sensitive</p> <p>RES04 In thinking about the length of today's survey, would you say that it was...</p> <p>1 Very short? 2 Somewhat short? 3 Neither short nor long? 4 Somewhat long? 5 Very long?</p> <p>TRVLTIME We would like to understand the time required to collect CEQ interviews. Your responses will be used for sample planning and research only, and will not be used for evaluation. What was the TOTAL time (in minutes) you spent this month to complete this interview for: Traveling to and from the sample unit? Exclude travel from another sample unit.</p> <p>INTVTIME What was the TOTAL time (in minutes) you spent this month to complete this interview for: Interviewing the respondent?</p>	

	<p>OTHTIME What was the TOTAL time (in minutes) you spent this month to complete this interview for:All other activities, such as non-interview contact attempts, finding phone numbers, or closing the case?</p> <p>TYPERECS What types of bills, receipts, or records did the respondent(s) use to answer expenditure questions? Enter all that apply, separate with commas.</p> <p>1 Bills 2 Checkbook ledger or check stubs 3 Personal finance or budgeting software records 4 Receipts or e-mail receipts 5 Home file (provided by Census Bureau) 6 Contracts or agreements 7 Credit card, bank, or online bill-paying statements 8 Pay stub 9 Other- specify</p> <p>SPECRECS Specify</p>
Information booklet references	Added references to the online information booklet section and subsection to screens which have references to the paper information booklet pages