

CONSUMER EXPENDITURE DIARY SURVEY  
PUBLIC USE MICRODATA  
2011 User's Documentation  
September 25, 2012

U.S. Department of Labor  
Bureau of Labor Statistics  
Division of Consumer Expenditure Survey

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|  |    |
|--|----|
| I. INTRODUCTION .....  | 3  |
| II. CHANGES FROM THE 2010 MICRODATA FILES .....                      | 3  |
| III. FILE INFORMATION .....  | 6  |
| A. DATA SET NAMES .....  | 6  |
| B. RECORD COUNTS .....   | 7  |
| C. DATA FLAGS .....  | 7  |
| D. INCOME IMPUTATION .....   | 8  |
| E. FILE NOTATION .....   | 9  |
| F. NOTES ON FILES .....  | 10 |
| 1. CONSUMER UNIT CHARACTERISTICS AND INCOME FILE (FMLY) .....        | 10 |
| 2. MEMBER CHARACTERISTICS AND INCOME FILE (MEMB) .....               | 10 |
| 3. DETAILED EXPENDITURES FILE (EXPN) .....                           | 10 |
| 4. INCOME FILE (DTBD) .....  | 10 |
| 5. IMPUTED INCOME FILE (DTII) .....                                  | 11 |
| 6. PROCESSING FILES) .....   | 11 |
| a. Dstub file .....  | 11 |
| b. UCC file .....  | 11 |
| IV. TOPCODING AND OTHER NONDISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS .....             | 12 |
| A. CU CHARACTERISTICS AND INCOME FILE (FMLY) .....                   | 12 |
| B. MEMBER CHARACTERISTICS AND INCOME FILE (MEMB) .....               | 16 |
| C. DETAILED EXPENDITURE FILE (EXPN) .....                            | 19 |
| D. INCOME FILE (DTBD) .....  | 20 |
| V. ESTIMATION PROCEDURES .....                                       | 22 |
| A. DEFINITION OF TERMS .....   | 22 |
| B. ESTIMATION OF TOTAL AND MEAN EXPENDITURES .....                   | 23 |
| C. ESTIMATION OF MEAN ANNUAL INCOME .....                            | 24 |
| VI. RELIABILITY STATEMENT .....                                      | 25 |
| A. DESCRIPTION OF SAMPLING ERROR AND NONSAMPLING ERROR .....         | 25 |
| B. ESTIMATING SAMPLING ERROR .....                                   | 25 |
| 1. VARIANCE ESTIMATION .....   | 25 |
| 2. STANDARD ERROR OF THE MEAN .....                                  | 26 |
| 3. STANDARD ERROR OF THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TWO MEANS .....          | 27 |
| VII. MICRODATA VERIFICATION AND ESTIMATION METHODOLOGY .....         | 28 |
| VIII. DESCRIPTION OF THE SURVEY .....                                | 37 |
| IX. DATA COLLECTION AND PROCESSING .....                             | 38 |
| A. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS ACTIVITIES .....                             | 38 |
| B. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS ACTIVITIES .....                       | 38 |
| X. SAMPLING STATEMENT .....  | 39 |
| A. SURVEY SAMPLE DESIGN .....  | 39 |
| B. COOPERATION LEVELS .....  | 39 |
| C. WEIGHTING .....   | 40 |
| D. STATE IDENTIFIER .....  | 40 |
| XI. INTERPRETING THE DATA .....                                      | 41 |
| XII. APPENDIX 1--GLOSSARY .....                                      | 41 |
| XIII. APPENDIX 2 -- UNIVERSAL CLASSIFICATION CODE (UCC) TITLES ..... | 43 |
| A. EXPENDITURE UCC's ON EXPN FILE .....                              | 43 |
| B. INCOME AND RELATED UCC's ON DTBD FILE .....                       | 54 |
| XIV. APPENDIX 3 -- UCC AGGREGATION .....                             | 56 |
| XV. APPENDIX 4 - PUBLICATIONS AND DATA RELEASES .....                | 56 |
| XVI. INQUIRIES, SUGGESTIONS, AND COMMENTS .....                      | 57 |

## I. INTRODUCTION

The Consumer Expenditure Survey (CE) program provides a continuous and comprehensive flow of data on the buying habits of American consumers. These data are used widely in economic research and analysis, and in support of revisions of the Consumer Price Index. To meet the needs of users, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) produces population estimates (for consumer units or CUs) of average expenditures in news releases, reports, and articles in the Monthly Labor Review. Tabulated CE data are also available on the Internet and by facsimile transmission (see [Section XV, Appendix 4](#)). The microdata are available on the public BLS website for free download.

These microdata files present detailed expenditure and income data for the Diary component of the CE. They include weekly expenditure (EXPN), annual income (DTBD), and imputed income (DTID) files. The data in EXPN, DTBD, and DTID files are categorized by a Universal Classification Code (UCC). The advantage of the EXPN and DTBD files is that with the data classified in a standardized format, the user may perform comparative expenditure (income) analysis with relative ease. The FMLY and MEMB files contain data on the characteristics and demographics of CUs and CU members. The summary level expenditure and income information on the FMLY files permits the data user to link consumer spending, by general expenditure category, to household characteristics and demographics on one set of files.

Estimates of average expenditures from the Diary survey, integrated with data from the Interview survey, are published online in the CE annual reports.. A number of recent publications containing data from the CE are available on the public website as well.

The microdata files are in the public domain and, with appropriate credit, may be reproduced without permission. A suggested citation is: —U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, Diary Survey, 2011.”

## II. CHANGES FROM THE 2010 MICRODATA FILES

### A. FMLY Files

#### Variable Additions

Beginning in 2011Q1 the following additions will be applied to the data.

| Variable name | Description   | Format  |
|---------------|---|---------|
| HIGH_EDU      | Highest level of education within the CU<br>00 Never Attended<br>10 1 <sup>st</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Grade<br>11 9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Grade (no high school diploma)<br>12 HS Graduate<br>13 Some college, no degree<br>14 AA degree<br>15 Bachelors degree<br>16 Masters degree<br>17 Professional/doctorate degree | CHAR(2) |

#### Variable Changes

Beginning in 2011Q1, the following variable will be changed in the data:

| Variable name | Description   |
|---------------|---|
| HORREF1       | The following Hispanic codes deleted<br>7 – Central or South American<br>8 – Other group not listed<br>The following Hispanic code renamed<br>6 – Other groups not listed |
| HORREF2       | The following Hispanic codes deleted<br>7 – Central or South American<br>8 – Other group not listed<br>The following Hispanic code renamed<br>6 – Other groups not listed |

**B. MEMB Files**

**Variable Changes**

Beginning in 2011Q1, the following MEMB variables will be changed in the data:

| Variable name | Description of change   |
|---------------|---|
| HISPANIC      | The following Hispanic codes deleted<br>7 – Central or South American<br>8 – Other group not listed<br>The following Hispanic code renamed<br>6 – Other groups not listed |

**C. EXPN Files**

Beginning in 2011Q1 the following UCCs will be added to the data:

| UCC    | TITLE                               |
|--------|-------------------------------------|
| 690119 | Computer software                   |
| 690120 | Computer accessories                |
| 690118 | Digital book readers                |
| 310231 | Video game software                 |
| 310232 | Video game hardware and accessories |
| 640430 | Adult diapers                       |

Beginning in 2011Q1 the following UCCs will be deleted from the data:

| UCC    | TITLE  |
|--------|--|
| 310230 | Video/Computer Game Hardware/Software                                      |
| 690110 | Computers for non-business use,<br>hardware/software excluding video games |

**D. DTBD Files**

No changes in 2011

**E. DTID Files**

No changes in 2011

### III. FILE INFORMATION

The microdata are provided as SAS, STATA, SPSS data sets or ASCII comma-delimited files. The 2011 Diary release contains five sets of data files (FMLY, MEMB, EXPN, DTBD, DTID) and three processing files. The FMLY, MEMB, EXPN, DTBD, and DTID files are organized by the quarter of the calendar year in which the data were collected. There are four quarterly data sets for each of these files. The FMLY files contain CU characteristics, income, and summary level expenditures; the MEMB files contain member characteristics and income data; the EXPN files contain detailed weekly expenditures at the UCC level; the DTBD files contain the CUs' reported income values or the mean of the five imputed income values in the multiple imputation method; and the DTID files contain the five imputed income values.

The three processing files enhance computer processing and tabulation of data, and provide descriptive information on item codes. The three processing files are: an aggregation scheme file used in the published consumer expenditure tables (DSTUB), a UCC file that contains UCCs and their abbreviated titles, identifying the expenditure, income, or demographic item represented by each UCC, and a sample program file that contains the computer program used in [Section VII](#) of the documentation. The processing files are further explained in [Section III.F.6. PROCESSING FILES](#).

In addition to these processing files, there is a "[User's Guide to Income Imputation in the CE](#)," which includes information on how to appropriately use the imputed income data.

**Note that the variable NEWID, the CU's identification number, is the common variable among files by which matching is done. Values for NEWID have a leading –blank." Because of this, it appears the NEWID values are only 7 characters long, when actually they are 8.**

#### A. DATA SET NAMES

The file naming convention in the SAS subfolder, X:\FILEPATH\diary11, (where "X" references the designated drive where your data is downloaded, and FILEPATH is the directory where the data resides) is listed in the table below. The STATA, SPSS, and ASCII comma-delimited files use the same dataset names as SAS, but have a different file extension as follows:

STATA files: \*.dta

SPSS files: \*.sav

Comma-delimited ASCII files: \*.csv

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| \DIARY11\FMLD111.sas7bdat | (Diary FMLY file for first quarter, 2011) |
| \DIARY11\MEMD111.sas7bdat | (Diary MEMB file for first quarter, 2011) |
| \DIARY11\EXPD111.sas7bdat | (Diary EXPN file for first quarter, 2011) |
| \DIARY11\DTBD111.sas7bdat | (Diary DTBD file for first quarter, 2011) |
| \DIARY11\DTID111.sas7bdat | (Diary DTID file for first quarter, 2011) |
| \DIARY11\FMLD112.sas7bdat |   |
| \DIARY11\MEMD112.sas7bdat |   |
| \DIARY11\EXPD112.sas7bdat |   |
| \DIARY11\DTBD112.sas7bdat |   |
| \DIARY11\DTID112.sas7bdat |   |
| \DIARY11\FMLD113.sas7bdat |   |
| \DIARY11\MEMD113.sas7bdat |   |
| \DIARY11\EXPD113.sas7bdat |   |
| \DIARY11\DTBD113.sas7bdat |   |

```

\DIARY11\DTID113.sas7bdat
\DIARY11\FMLD114.sas7bdat
\DIARY11\MEMD114.sas7bdat
\DIARY11\EXPD114.sas7bdat
\DIARY11\DTBD114.sas7bdat
\DIARY11\DTID114.sas7bdat
\DIARY11\UCCD11.txt

```

Note: All data files are compressed. These files can be uncompressed using most unzip utilities.

## B. RECORD COUNTS

The following are number of records in each data set. The OBS count is also applicable to the STATA and SPSS files:

| <u>SAS data set</u> | <u>2011<br/>Record<br/>Count</u> |
|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| FMLD111.sas7bdat    | 3494                             |
| MEMD111.sas7bdat    | 8745                             |
| EXPD111.sas7bdat    | 124640                           |
| DTBD111.sas7bdat    | 59744                            |
| DTID111.sas7bdat    | 90345                            |
| FMLD112.sas7bdat    | 3508                             |
| MEMD112.sas7bdat    | 8753                             |
| EXPD112.sas7bdat    | 126497                           |
| DTBD112.sas7bdat    | 59538                            |
| DTID112.sas7bdat    | 89121                            |
| FMLD113.sas7bdat    | 3468                             |
| MEMD113.sas7bdat    | 8597                             |
| EXPD113.sas7bdat    | 119696                           |
| DTBD113.sas7bdat    | 58664                            |
| DTID113.sas7bdat    | 88299                            |
| FMLD114.sas7bdat    | 3455                             |
| MEMD114.sas7bdat    | 8660                             |
| EXPD114.sas7bdat    | 123236                           |
| DTBD114.sas7bdat    | 57867                            |
| DTID114.sas7bdat    | 87098                            |

## C. DATA FLAGS:

Data fields on the FMLY and MEMB files are explained by flag variables following the data field. The names of the flag variables are derived from the names of the data fields they reference. In general the rule is to add an underscore to the last position of the data field name, for example WAGEX becomes WAGEX\_. However, if the data field name is eight characters in length, then the fifth position is replaced with an underscore. If this fifth position is already an underscore, then the fifth position is changed to a zero, so that PENSIONX becomes PENS\_ONX, EDUC\_REF becomes EDUC0REF.

The flag values are defined as follows:

A flag value of "A" indicates a valid blank; that is, a blank field where a response is not anticipated.

A flag value of "B" indicates a blank resulting from an invalid nonresponse; that is, a nonresponse that is not consistent with other data reported by the CU.

A flag value of "C" refers to a blank resulting from a "don't know", refusal, or other type of nonresponse.

A flag value of "D" indicates that the data field contains a valid or good data value.

A flag value of "T" indicates topcoding has been applied to the data field.

Some Primary Sampling Units (PSUs) in some states are given "false" STATE codes for nondisclosure reasons. See [Section IV.A.CU CHARACTERISTICS AND INCOME FILE \(FMLY\)](#) on topcoding of CU characteristics and income for more detail.

## D. INCOME IMPUTATION

Beginning in 2004, the CE has implemented multiple imputation of income data. Imputation allows income values to be estimated when they are not reported. Many income variables and other income related variables will be imputed using a multiple imputation process. These imputed income values will be included in the FMLY, MEMB, DTBD, and DTID files. The multiple imputation process derives five imputation values and a mean imputation value per income variable. More information on the imputation process and how to appropriately use the data are found in the document "[User's guide to Income Imputation in the CE](#)".

In the public-use microdata, not all of the imputed income variables will contain the derived imputation values. For some income variables, the five derived imputations are excluded and only the mean of those imputations is available. For these variables, there are 3 associated income variables in the FMLY and MEMB files (INCOMEM, INCOMEM\_, and INCOMEI). For all other imputed income variables, there are 7 associated variables in the FMLY and MEMB files:

- INCOME1 - the first imputed income value or the reported income value, if non-missing
- INCOME2 - the second imputed income value or the reported income value, if non-missing
- INCOME3 - the third imputed income value or the reported income value, if non-missing
- INCOME4 - the fourth imputed income value or the reported income value, if non-missing
- INCOME5 - the fifth imputed income value or the reported income value, if non-missing
- INCOMEM - the mean of the five imputed income values
- INCOMEM\_ - the flag variable for the imputed variable (see [Section III.C. Data Flags](#))
- INCOMEI - the imputation indicator

Income variables that have imputed values as components (ex: FINCBEFM) will also have 5 imputed values and a mean based on each of the imputed components.

The imputation indicator variable is a 3 digit number that is coded as follows:

The first digit in the 3 digit code defines the imputation method. The meanings are:

- 1: No Imputation
- 2: Multiple Imputation due to invalid blank only
- 3: Multiple Imputation due to bracketing only
- 4: Multiple Imputation due to invalid blanks and bracketing
- 5: Multiple Imputation due to conversion of a valid blank to an invalid blank (this occurs only when initial values for all sources of income for the CU were valid blanks).



The meaning of the last two digits of the three digit code differs depending on whether you are looking at one of the components of overall income, like FWAGEXM, or you are looking at the summary level variable FINCBEFM. For the components, the last 2 digits represent the number of family members who had their data imputed for that source. For example, if a family had a value of 302 for FWAGEXI that would mean that 2 of the members in the family had their salary income imputed and that in both cases the imputation was due to bracketing only. For the summary level variable FINCBEFM which is a summation of all of the income components, the last 2 digits represent the number of income sources imputed for each member added together. For example, if a family had 3 members and 2 had salary income imputed due to invalid blank only, and 2 had nonfarm income imputed due to bracketing only, and that was the only income data imputed for members of that family, then FWAGEXI for the family would be 202, FBSNSXI would be 302, and FINCBEFI would be 404.

The DTBD file includes income UCCs mapped from the associated INCOMEM variables and the income variables that are not imputed in the FMLY files. The DTID file includes UCCs mapped from income variables subject to income imputation, including the variable IMPNUM to indicate the imputation number 1 - 5.

## E. FILE NOTATION

Every record from each data file includes the variable NEWID, the CU's unique identification number, which can be used to link records of one CU from several files.

Data fields for variables on the microdata files have either numeric or character values. The format column in the diary data dictionary distinguishes whether a variable is numeric (NUM) or character (CHAR) and shows the number of field positions the variable occupies. Variables that include decimal points are formatted as NUM(t,r) where t is the total number of positions occupied, and r is the number of places to the right of the decimal.

In addition to format, the diary data dictionary gives an item description, questionnaire source, and identification of codes where applicable for each variable.

An asterisk (\*) is shown in front of new variables, those which have changed in format or definition, and those which have been deleted.

Some variables require special notation. The following notation is used throughout the documentation for all files:

\*D(Yxxq) identifies a variable that is deleted as of the quarterly file indicated. The year and quarter are identified by the xx' and q' respectively. For example, the notation \*D(Y111) indicates the variable is deleted starting with the data file of the first quarter of 2011.

\*N(Yxxq) identifies a variable that is added as of the quarterly file indicated. The year and quarter are identified by the xx' and q' for new variables in the same way as for deleted variables.

\*C(Yxxq) identifies a variable whose description has been changed. The year and quarter are identified by the xx' and q' for new variables in the same way as for new and deleted variables.

\*L indicates that the variable can contain negative values.

## **F. NOTES ON FILES**

### **1. CONSUMER UNIT (CU) CHARACTERISTICS AND INCOME FILE (FMLY)**

The "FMLY" file, also referred to as the "Consumer Unit Characteristics and Income" file, contains CU characteristics, CU income, and characteristics and earnings of the reference person and of the spouse. The file includes weights needed to calculate population estimates and variances. (See [Sections V. ESTIMATION PROCEDURES](#) and [VI. RELIABILITY STATEMENT](#))

Summary expenditure variables in this file can be combined to derive weekly estimates for broad consumption categories. Demographic characteristics, such as family size, refer to the CU status on the date of the interview. Income variables contain annual values, covering the 12 months prior to the date of the interview. When there is a valid nonresponse, or where nonresponse occurs and there is no imputation, there will be missing values. The type of nonresponse is explained by associated data flag variables described in [Section III.C. DATA FLAGS](#).

#### **a. SUMMARY EXPENDITURE DATA**

The variables FOODTOT through HOUSKEEP contain summary expenditure data. They are all BLS derived. The UCCs comprising each summary expenditure variable are listed below the variable description. UCCs may not be represented in all Diary quarters. When UCCs are added to or deleted from the summary variable definition, the quarter in which the addition (deletion) to the summary expenditure variable occurs is denoted by a leading character directly after the UCC code in the —Changes to the 2011 Microdata section." For example, N111<UCC> or D111<UCC> identifies a new or deleted UCC for a given summary expenditure variable beginning in Q111.

### **2. MEMBER CHARACTERISTICS AND INCOME (MEMB) FILE**

The "MEMB" file, also referred to as the "Member Characteristics and Income" file, contains selected characteristics for each CU member, including identification of relationship to reference person. Characteristics for the reference person and spouse appear on both the MEMB file and FMLY file. Demographic characteristic data, such as age of CU member, refer to the member status at the placement of each diary. Income data are collected for all CU members over 13 years of age. Income taxes withheld and pension and retirement contributions are shown both annually and as deductions from the member's last paycheck. Income variables contain annual values for the 12 months prior to the interview month. When there is a valid nonresponse, or where nonresponse occurs and there is no imputation, there will be missing values. The type of nonresponse is explained by associated data flag variables described in [Section III C. DATA FLAGS](#).

### **3. DETAILED EXPENDITURES (EXPN) FILE**

In the "EXPN" file, each expenditure recorded by a CU in a weekly diary is identified by UCC, gift/nongift status, and day on which the expenditure occurred. UCC's are six digit codes that identify items or groups of items. (See [Section XIII. A.](#) for a listing of UCC's.) There may be more than one record for a UCC on a single day if that is what was reported in the diary. There are no missing values in this file. If no expenditure was recorded for the item(s) represented by a UCC, then there is no record for the UCC on file.

### **4. INCOME (DTBD) FILE**

The "DTBD" file, also referred to as the "Income" file, contains CU characteristic and income data.

This file is created directly from the FMLY file and contains the same annual and point-of-placement data. It was created to facilitate computer processing when linking CU income and demographic characteristic data with EXPN expenditure data. As such, the file structure is similar to EXPN. Each characteristic and income item is identified by UCC. (See [Section XIII. B](#) for a listing of UCCs.) There are no records with missing values in DTBD. If the corresponding FMLY file variable contained a missing value, there is no record for the UCC.

## 5. **IMPUTED INCOME (DTID) FILE**

As a result of the introduction of multiply imputed income data in the Consumer Expenditure Survey, the Imputed DTID file is now on the Microdata. It is very similar to the DTBD file, except that the variable -HMPNUM" will indicate the number (1-5) of the imputation variant of the income variable and it only contains UCCs from variables subject to income imputation.

## 6. **PROCESSING FILES**

### a. **Dstub file**

X:\FILEPATH\diary11\Dstub2011.txt

The Dstub file shows the aggregation scheme used in the published consumer expenditure tables. It is formatted as follows:

| DESCRIPTION  | FORMAT   |
|--|----------|
| Type: represents whether information in this line contains aggregation data or not | CHAR(1)  |
| Level: aggregation level (lowest number is highest level of aggregation)           | CHAR(1)  |
| Title: title of the line item  | CHAR(60) |
| UCC: UCC number in the EXPN or DTBD file   | CHAR(6)  |
| Survey: Indicates survey source (D = Diary, G = Aggregated item)                   | CHAR(1)  |
| Group: Indicates if the item is an expenditure, income, or asset                   | CHAR(7)  |

Note: this file is an internal BLS file used for processing expenditures. It has other information that may be ignored by users of the public use data.

### b. **UCC file**

X:\FILEPATH\diary11\UCCD11.TXT

The UCC file contains UCCs and their abbreviated titles, identifying the expenditure, income, or demographic item represented by each UCC. It is formatted as follows:

| DESCRIPTION  | FORMAT   |
|--|----------|
| UCC  | CHAR(6)  |
| UCC title<br><br>(See <a href="#">Section XIII. A and B</a> for a list of UCCs and their full titles by file—expenditure (EXPN) or income (DTBD).) | CHAR(50) |

## IV. TOPCODING AND OTHER NONDISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS

Sensitive CU data are changed so that users will not be able to identify CUs who participated in the survey. Topcoding refers to the replacement of data in cases where the value of the original data exceeds prescribed critical values. Critical values for each variable containing sensitive data are calculated in accordance with Census Disclosure Review Board guidelines. Each observation that falls outside the critical value is replaced with a topcoded value that represents the mean of the subset of all outlying observations. All four quarters of data in the CE microdata release are used when calculating the critical value and topcode amount. If an observation is topcoded, the flag variable assigned to that observation is set to T.

Since the critical value and the mean of the set of values outside the critical value may differ with each annual (four-quarter) release, the topcode values may change annually and be applied at a different starting point. By topcoding values in this manner, the first moment will be preserved for each four-quarter data release when using the total sample. This, however, will not be the case when means are estimated by characteristic, because topcode values are not calculated by characteristic.

### A. CU CHARACTERISTICS AND INCOME FILE (FMLY)

The following table lists FMLY file variables that are subject to topcoding as well as their associated critical values and topcode values. For multiply imputed income variables, it is possible for an upper topcode value to be less than the upper critical value or for a lower topcode value to be greater than the lower critical value.

| Variable | Description  | 2011<br>Upper<br>Critical<br>Value | 2011<br>Lower<br>Critical<br>Value | 2011<br>Upper<br>Topcode<br>Value | 2011<br>Lower<br>Topcode<br>Value |
|----------|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ADDFEDX  | Amount of Federal income tax paid in addition to that withheld                           | 30,000                             | NA                                 | 64,563                            | NA                                |
| ADDOTHX  | Amount of other taxes paid but not reported elsewhere                                    | 8,228                              | NA                                 | 13,956                            | NA                                |
| ADDSTAX  | Amount of state and local income tax paid in addition to that withheld                   | 6,000                              | NA                                 | 19,945                            | NA                                |
| ALIOTHX  | Amount received from regular contributions by all CU members                             | 45,000                             | NA                                 | 100,850                           | NA                                |
| ALIOTHXM | Amount received from regular contributions by all CU members                             | 45,000                             | NA                                 | 60,038                            | NA                                |
| CHDLMPX  | Amount received by all CU members for a lump sum child support payment in last 12 months | 2,380                              | NA                                 | 5,543                             | NA                                |
| CHDOTHX  | Amount received by all CU members in last 12 months for other child support              | 15,000                             | NA                                 | 23,394                            | NA                                |
| CHDOTHXM | Amount received by all CU members in last 12 months for other child support              | 15,000                             | NA                                 | 24,121                            | NA                                |
| DIVX     | Amount received from dividends, royalties, estates, or trusts                            | 80,000                             | NA                                 | 183,520                           | NA                                |

| <b>Variable</b> | <b>Description</b>   | <b>2011<br/>Upper<br/>Critical<br/>Value</b> | <b>2011<br/>Lower<br/>Critical<br/>Value</b> | <b>2011<br/>Upper<br/>Topcode<br/>Value</b> | <b>2011<br/>Lower<br/>Topcode<br/>Value</b> |
|-----------------|--|--|--|---|---|
| DIVXM           | Amount received from dividends, royalties, estates, or trusts  | 80,000                                       | NA   | 118,983                                     | NA  |
| FEDREFX         | Amount of refund from Federal income tax   | 9,000  | NA   | 12,146                                      | NA  |
| INSREFX         | Amount of refund from insurance policies   | 13,902                                       | NA   | 47,000                                      | NA  |
| INTX            | Amount received from interest on savings accounts, or bonds  | 35,000                                       | NA   | 88,167                                      | NA  |
| INTXM           | Amount received from interest on savings accounts, or bonds  | 35,000                                       | NA   | 46,799                                      | NA  |
| LUMPX           | Amount from lump sum payments from estates, trusts, royalties, alimony, child support, prizes, games of chance, or persons outside CU              | 150,000                                      | NA   | 338,000                                     | NA  |
| OCCEXPNX        | Amount paid by CU for occupational expenses, last 12 months  | 5,000  | NA   | 12,569                                      | NA  |
| OTHINX          | Amount from other money income, including money from care of foster children, cash scholarships and fellowships, or stipends, not based on working | 29,000                                       | NA   | 59,000                                      | NA  |
| OTHINXM         | Amount from other money income, including money from care of foster children, cash scholarships and fellowships, or stipends, not based on working | 29,000                                       | NA   | 39,947                                      | NA  |
| OTHREFX         | Amount of refund from other sources, including any other taxes   | 2,200  | NA   | 3,533                                       | NA  |
| OTHRNTX         | Amount of net income or loss from other rental units   | 31,800                                       | -10,350                                      | 46,667                                      | -17,933                                     |
| OTHRNTXM        | Amount of net income or loss from other rental units   | 31,800                                       | -10,350                                      | 24,123                                      | -5,929                                      |
| PENSIONM        | Amount received from pensions or annuities from private companies, military or government, IRA or Keogh  | 72,126                                       | NA   | 74,435                                      | NA  |
| PENSIONX        | Amount received from pensions or annuities from private companies, military or government, IRA or Keogh  | 72,126                                       | NA   | 98,550                                      | NA  |
| PTAXREFX        | Amount of refund from property taxes   | 1,500  | NA   | 4,880                                       | NA  |
| ROOMX           | Amount of net income or loss received from roomers or boarders   | 54,000                                       | -21,183                                      | 78,333                                      | -58,667                                     |
| ROOMXM          | Amount of net income or loss received from roomers or boarders   | 54,000                                       | -21,183                                      | 68,089                                      | -49,837                                     |

| Variable | Description  | 2011<br>Upper<br>Critical<br>Value | 2011<br>Lower<br>Critical<br>Value | 2011<br>Upper<br>Topcode<br>Value | 2011<br>Lower<br>Topcode<br>Value |
|----------|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| SALEX    | Amount received from sale of household furnishings, equipment, clothing, jewelry, pets or other belongings, excluding sale of vehicles or property | 6,000                              | NA                                 | 31,278                            | NA                                |
| SSREFX   | Amount of refund from overpayment on Social Security   | 998                                | NA                                 | 1,197                             | NA                                |
| STATREFX | Amount of refund from state or local income tax  | 2,200                              | NA                                 | 4,635                             | NA                                |
| TAXPROPX | Amount of personal property taxes paid but not reported elsewhere  | 1,200                              | NA                                 | 2,207                             | NA                                |

Some income variables that are subject to topcoding are constructed by summing up the values of "lower level" MEMB or FMLY file component variables. These variables are not topcoded by the conventional method of replacement with a topcode value. Instead the variables' components are summed normally and the variables are flagged as topcoded if one of their component variables is topcoded.

Following are the income variables that are calculated using values of their component variables. (See the descriptions of each variable in the diary data dictionary for a list of component variables.)

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| EARNX                               | Amount of CU income from earnings before taxes   |
| FBSNSXM,<br>FBSNSX1-5<br>FBSNSX     | Amount of income from non-farm business  |
| FFARMXM,<br>FFARMX1-5<br>FFARMX     | Amount of income or loss received from own farm  |
| FFEDTXX                             | Amount of Federal tax deducted from last pay, annualized for all CU members                  |
| FGVXM,<br>FGVX1-5<br>FGVX           | Amount of government retirement deducted from last pay, annualized for all CU members        |
| FINCAFTM,<br>FINCAFT1-5<br>FINCAFTX | Amount of CU income after taxes  |
| FINCBEFM,<br>FINCBEF1-5<br>FINCBEFX | Amount of CU income before taxes   |
| FIRAX                               | Amount of money placed in individual retirement plan   |
| FJSSDEDM,<br>FJSSDED1-5<br>FJSSDEDX | Estimated amount of annual Social Security contribution                                      |
| FPVTXM<br>FPVTX                     | Amount of private pension fund deducted from last pay, annualized for all CU members         |
| FRRXM<br>FRRX                       | Amount of Railroad Retirement deducted from last pay, annualized for all CU members          |
| FSTATXXM,<br>FSTATXX1-5<br>FSTATXX  | Amount of State and local income taxes deducted from last pay, annualized for all CU members |

FWAGEXM, Amount received from wage and salary income before deduction  
 FWAGEX1-5  
 FWAGEX  
 OTHRECX Amount of other money receipts excluded from family income  
 PERSTAXM, Amount of personal taxes paid  
 PERSTAX1-5  
 PERSTAX

Here are some examples of situations that may occur. The value for the variable FBSNSX (family income from nonfarm business) is computed as the sum of the values reported for the variable BSNSX (member income from nonfarm business) from the MEMB file. BSNSX is subject to topcoding beyond the critical value of \$150,000 (-\$9,999). The topcode value for BSNSX is \$534,000 (-\$48,441).

| <u>CU</u> |       | <b>BSNSX</b>    |                        | <b>FBSNSX</b> |                             |
|-----------|-------|-----------------|------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
|           |       | <u>REPORTED</u> | <u>AFTER TOPCODING</u> | <u>VALUE</u>  | <u>FLAGGED AS TOPCODED?</u> |
| CU 1:     | MEMB1 | \$148,000       | \$148,000              | 441,000       | No                          |
|           | MEMB2 | 148,000         | 148,000                |               |                             |
|           | MEMB3 | 145,000         | 145,000                |               |                             |
| CU 2:     | MEMB1 | 485,000         | 534,000                | 437,118       | Yes                         |
|           | MEMB2 | -15,000         | -48,441                |               |                             |
|           | MEMB3 | -29,000         | -48,441                |               |                             |
| CU 3      | MEMB1 | 205,000         | 534,000                | 664,000       | Yes                         |
|           | MEMB2 | 130,000         | 130,000                |               |                             |
| CU 4      | MEMB1 | 140,000         | 140,000                | 231,559       | Yes                         |
|           | MEMB2 | 140,000         | 140,000                |               |                             |
|           | MEMB3 | -300,000        | -48,441                |               |                             |

While CUs 1 and 2 each originally report a total of \$441,000 for all members in BSNSX, topcoding is done only on the values reported by the members of CU 2. Thus, the value for FBSNSX for CU 2 is lower than for CU 1 and is flagged as topcoded while CU 1 is not. By using the mean of the subset of observations that are above (below) the critical value as the topcode amount, values on the public use data can be either below or above the actual reported value. Note that while CU 2 has a topcoded value below the reported value, CU 3's topcoded FBSNSX value (\$664,000) is higher than the amount that is reported, \$335,000. The case of CU 4 demonstrates that the reported value for FBSNSXM can be negative, while the topcoded value can be positive. The reverse can also occur.

The value of the variable, STATE, which identifies state of residence, must be suppressed for some observations to meet the Census Disclosure Review Board's criterion that the smallest geographically identifiable area have a population of at least 100,000. STATE data were evaluated vis-à-vis variables POPSIZE, REGION, and BLS\_URBN, which show the population size of the geographic area that is sampled, the four Census regions, and the urban/rural status respectively. Some STATE codes were suppressed because, in combination with these variables, they could be used to identify areas of 100,000 or less. On approximately 13 percent of the records on the FMLY files the STATE variable is blank.

A small proportion of STATE codes are replaced with codes of states other than the state where the CU resides. By re-coding in this manner, suppression of POPSIZE and REGION may be avoided. (In past releases selected observations of POPSIZE and REGION also required suppression.)

|    |      |                      |   |        |                |
|----|------|----------------------|---|--------|----------------|
| RR | 01   | Alabama              | * | 28     | Mississippi    |
|    | 02   | Alaska               |   | 29     | Missouri       |
|    | 04   | Arizona              |   | *30    | Montana        |
|    | *05  | Arkansas             |   | 31     | Nebraska       |
|    | **06 | California           |   | 32     | Nevada         |
|    | **08 | Colorado             |   | 33     | New Hampshire  |
|    | 09   | Connecticut          |   | 34     | New Jersey     |
| R  | R10  | Delaware             |   | **36   | New York       |
|    | 11   | District of Columbia |   | *37    | North Carolina |
|    | 12   | Florida              |   | **39   | Ohio           |
| RR | **13 | Georgia              |   | 40     | Oklahoma       |
|    | 15   | Hawaii               |   | **41   | Oregon         |
|    | 16   | Idaho                |   | 42     | Pennsylvania   |
|    | **17 | Illinois             |   | 44     | Rhode Island   |
|    | **18 | Indiana              |   | 45     | South Carolina |
|    | **20 | Kansas               |   | *46    | South Dakota   |
| RR | R21  | Kentucky             |   | **47   | Tennessee      |
|    | 22   | Louisiana            |   | **48   | Texas          |
|    | **23 | Maine                |   | 49     | Utah           |
| RR | R24  | Maryland             |   | **51   | Virginia       |
|    | 25   | Massachusetts        |   | 53     | Washington     |
|    | **26 | Michigan             |   | **54   | West Virginia  |
|    | R27  | Minnesota            |   | RR**55 | Wisconsin      |

- \* indicates that the STATE code has been suppressed for all sampled CUs in that state.
- \*\* indicates that the STATE code has been suppressed for some sampled CUs in that state.
- R indicates that either all observations from this state have been re-coded or all strata<sup>1</sup> of observations from this state include –e-codes” from other states.
- RR indicates that either some observations from this state have been re-coded or at least one stratum<sup>1</sup> of observations from this state includes –e-codes” from other states.
- R\* indicates that the STATE code has been suppressed for some sampled CUs in that state, and either STATE has been re-coded or the state includes –e-codes” from other states in all strata<sup>1</sup>.
- RR\*\* indicates that the STATE code has been suppressed for some sampled CUs in that state and, either STATE has been re-coded or the state includes –e-codes” from other states in at least one stratum<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> A STATE stratum is a unique POPSIZE and BLS\_URBN combination.

States not listed are not in the CE sample.

## B. MEMBER CHARACTERISTICS AND INCOME FILE (MEMB)

The following table lists MEMB file variables that are subject to topcoding as well as their associated critical values and topcode values. For multiply imputed income variables, it is possible for an upper topcode value to be less than the upper critical value or for a lower topcode value to be greater than the lower critical value.



| <b>Variable</b> | <b>Description</b>  | <b>2011<br/>Upper<br/>Critical<br/>Value</b> | <b>2011<br/>Lower<br/>Critical<br/>Value</b> | <b>2011<br/>Upper<br/>Topcode<br/>Value</b> | <b>2011<br/>Lower<br/>Topcode<br/>Value</b> |
|-----------------|---|--|--|---|---|
| AGE             | Age of member   | 82   | NA   | 87  | NA  |
| ANFEDTXM        | Annual amount of Federal income tax deducted from pay           | 25,000                                       | NA   | 51,904                                      | NA  |
| ANFEDTXX        | Annual amount of Federal income tax deducted from pay           | 25,000                                       | NA   | 51,725                                      | NA  |
| ANGVX           | Annual amount of government retirement deducted from pay        | 9,214  | NA   | 12,151                                      | NA  |
| ANGVXM          | Annual amount of government retirement deducted from pay        | 9,214  | NA   | 12,228                                      | NA  |
| ANPVTX          | Annual amount of private pension fund deducted from pay         | 19,000                                       | NA   | 33,126                                      | NA  |
| ANPVTXM         | Annual amount of private pension fund deducted from pay         | 19,000                                       | NA   | 32,707                                      | NA  |
| ANSTATXM        | Annual amount of state and local income taxes deducted from pay | 9,000  | NA   | 19,206                                      | NA  |
| ANSTATXX        | Annual amount of state and local income taxes deducted from pay | 9,000  | NA   | 19,425                                      | NA  |
| BSNSX           | Amount of income or loss received from nonfarm business         | 150,000                                      | -9,999                                       | 534,000                                     | -48,441                                     |
| BSNSXM          | Amount of income or loss received from nonfarm business         | 150,000                                      | -9,999                                       | 208,282                                     | -21,643                                     |
| FARMX           | Amount of income or loss received from own farm                 | 50,000                                       | -4,000                                       | 80,333                                      | -9,000                                      |
| FARMXM          | Amount of income or loss received from own farm                 | 50,000                                       | -4,000                                       | 45,731                                      | -9,637                                      |
| FEDTXX          | Amount of Federal income tax deducted from last pay             | 1,200  | NA   | 3,727                                       | NA  |
| GROSPAYX        | Amount of last gross pay  | 6,670  | NA   | 14,783                                      | NA  |
| GVX             | Amount of government retirement deducted from last pay          | 680  | NA   | 10,351                                      | NA  |
| IRAX            | Amount of money placed in an individual retirement plan         | 25,000                                       | NA   | 51,963                                      | NA  |
| JSSDEDX         | Estimated annual Social Security contribution                   | 8,797  | NA   | 13,847                                      | NA  |
| JSSDEDXM        | Estimated annual Social Security contribution                   | 8,797  | NA   | 9,804                                       | NA  |
| PVTX            | Amount of private pension fund deducted from last pay           | 1,300  | NA   | 9,276                                       | NA  |
| RRX             | Railroad retirement deducted from last pay                      | 87   |  | 1,350                                       |   |
| SLFEMPSM        | Amount of self-employment Social Security contributions         | 17,593                                       | NA   | 15,248                                      | NA  |
| SLFEMPSS        | Amount of self-employment Social Security contributions         | 17,593                                       | NA   | 27,825                                      | NA  |

| Variable | Description   | 2011<br>Upper<br>Critical<br>Value | 2011<br>Lower<br>Critical<br>Value | 2011<br>Upper<br>Topcode<br>Value | 2011<br>Lower<br>Topcode<br>Value |
|----------|---|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| STATXX   | Amount of state and local income taxes deducted from last pay | 400                                | NA                                 | 1,151                             | NA                                |
| WAGEX    | Amount received from wage and salary income before deductions | 150,000                            | NA                                 | 300,459                           | NA                                |
| WAGEXM   | Amount received from wage and salary income before deductions | 150,000                            | NA                                 | 197,966                           | NA                                |

### Special suppression for MEMB file variables

The five MEMB file variables--FEDTXX, GVX, PVTX, RRX, and STATXX--describe deductions from the most recent pay. These variables are used in conjunction with GROSPAYX (amount of last gross pay) and WAGEXM (annual wage and salary income) to derive ANFEDTXM, ANGVXM, ANPVTXM, ANRRXM, and ANSTATXM, which represent the estimated annual deductions for each of these income deduction categories. For example, the estimated annual Federal income tax deduction from pay is calculated as

$$(1) \quad \text{ANFEDTXM} = (\text{WAGEXM} (\text{FEDTXX}/\text{GROSPAYX})).$$

Note that WAGEX can be estimated by using the above terms and rearranging such that

$$(2) \quad \text{WAGEXM} = (\text{ANFEDTXM} (\text{GROSPAYX}/\text{FEDTXX})).$$

In the above example, a problem with disclosure may arise when neither ANFEDTXM, GROSPAYX, nor FEDTXX (calculation components) are topcoded, *but WAGEXM is*. In this situation WAGEXM can be recalculated to obtain its original value by inserting the non-topcoded values into equation (2) and solving it. In order to prevent this, the non-topcoded terms in equation (2) will be suppressed (blanked out) and their associated flags will be assigned a value of T.

The following chart describes in detail the specific rules that are applied to prevent the potential disclosure outlined above.

If WAGEXM is greater than the critical value but ANFEDTXM, GROSPAYX, and FEDTXX are not, then the values for ANFEDTXM, GROSPAYX, and FEDTXX are suppressed and their flag variables are assigned a value of T.

If WAGEXM is greater than the critical value but ANGVXM, GROSPAYX, and GVX are not, then the values for ANGVXM, GROSPAYX, and GVX are suppressed and their flag variables assigned a value of T.

If WAGEXM is greater than the critical value but ANPVTXM, GROSPAYX, and PVTX are not, then the values for ANPVTXM, GROSPAYX, and PVTX are suppressed and their flag variables assigned a value of T.

If WAGEXM is greater than the critical value but ANRRXM, GROSPAYX, and RRX are not, then the values for ANRRXM, GROSPAYX, and RRX are suppressed and their flag variables assigned a value of T.

If WAGEXM is greater than the critical value but ANSTATXM, GROSPAYX, and STATXX are not, then the values for ANSTATXM, GROSPAYX, and STATXX are suppressed and their flag variables assigned a value of T.

The same special suppression for MEMB file variables occurs with the original (pre-income imputation) variables that correspond to the variables noted above (WAGEX, ANFEDTXX, etc)

### C. DETAILED EXPENDITURE FILE (EXPN)

The following table lists UCCs for which the EXPN variable COST is subject to topcoding as well as their associated critical values and topcode values (rounded to the nearest dollar). If the value of COST is greater (less) than the designated critical values for the above UCCs, COST is set to the topcode value and the associated flag variable, COST\_, is set to 'T'.

| Variable | Description                                    | 2011<br>Upper<br>Critical<br>Value | 2011<br>Lower<br>Critical<br>Value | 2011<br>Upper<br>Topcode<br>Value | 2011<br>Lower<br>Topcode<br>Value |
|----------|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 001000   | Purchase price of stocks, bonds, mutual funds  | 266                                | NA                                 | 6,170                             | NA                                |
| 009000   | Mortgage payment including coop                | 3,278                              | NA                                 | 4,962                             | NA                                |
| 210110   | Rent of dwelling, includes parking fees        | 1,967                              | NA                                 | 3,332                             | NA                                |
| 210210   | Lodging away from home                         | 493                                | NA                                 | 1,147                             | NA                                |
| 210310   | Housing for someone at school                  | 325                                | NA                                 | 1,626                             | NA                                |
| 220400   | Purchase of property                           | 680                                | NA                                 | 18,751                            | NA                                |
| 550320   | Medical equipment for general use              | 186                                | NA                                 | 571                               | NA                                |
| 550330   | Supportive convalescent or medical equipment   | 129                                | NA                                 | 776                               | NA                                |
| 560110   | Physicians' services                           | 205                                | NA                                 | 484                               | NA                                |
| 560210   | Dental services                                | 977                                | NA                                 | 2,825                             | NA                                |
| 560310   | Eyecare services                               | 628                                | NA                                 | 2,245                             | NA                                |
| 560330   | Lab tests and x-rays                           | 292                                | NA                                 | 575                               | NA                                |
| 560400   | Service by professionals other than physicians | 389                                | NA                                 | 1,070                             | NA                                |
| 570000   | Hospital care not specified                    | 898                                | NA                                 | 2,110                             | NA                                |
| 570220   | Nursing or convalescent home care              | 0                                  | NA                                 | 244                               | NA                                |
| 570230   | Other medical care service                     | 63                                 | NA                                 | 169                               | NA                                |
| 570901   | Rental of medical equipment                    | 30                                 | NA                                 | 105                               | NA                                |

## D. INCOME FILE (DTBD)

The following table lists UCCs for which the DTBD variable AMOUNT is subject to topcoding as well as their associated critical values and topcode values (rounded to the nearest dollar). If the value of AMOUNT is greater (less) than the designated critical values for the above UCCs, AMOUNT is set to the topcode value and the associated flag variable, AMOUNT\_, is set to 'T'

| Variable | Description  | 2011<br>Upper<br>Critical<br>Value | 2011<br>Lower<br>Critical<br>Value | 2011<br>Upper<br>Topcode<br>Value | 2011<br>Lower<br>Topcode<br>Value |
|----------|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 900040   | Amount received from pensions or annuities                                       | 72,126                             | NA                                 | 74,435                            | NA                                |
| 900050   | Amount received from regular income from dividends, royalties, estates or trusts | 80,000                             | NA                                 | 118,983                           | NA                                |
| 900060   | Amount received from net income or loss received from roomers or boarders        | 54,000                             | -21,183                            | 68,089                            | -49,837                           |
| 900070   | Amount received from other rental income   | 31,800                             | -10,350                            | 24,123                            | -5,929                            |
| 900080   | Amount received from interest on savings accounts or bonds                       | 35,000                             | NA                                 | 46,799                            | NA                                |
| 900131   | Amount received from other child support payments                                | 15,000                             | NA                                 | 24,121                            | NA                                |
| 900132   | Amount received from other regular contributions, including alimony              | 45,000                             | NA                                 | 60,038                            | NA                                |
| 900140   | Amount received from other money income  | 29,000                             | NA                                 | 39,947                            | NA                                |
| 910000   | Amount received from lump sum payments from estates, trusts, etc.                | 150,000                            | NA                                 | 338,000                           | NA                                |
| 910010   | Amount received from money from sale household furnishings etc.                  | 6,000                              | NA                                 | 31,278                            | NA                                |
| 910020   | Amount of overpayment on Social Security   | 998                                | NA                                 | 1,197                             | NA                                |
| 910030   | Amount of refund from insurance policies   | 13,902                             | NA                                 | 47,000                            | NA                                |
| 910040   | Amount of refunds from property taxes  | 1,500                              | NA                                 | 4,880                             | NA                                |
| 910041   | Amount received from lump sum child  | 2,380                              | NA                                 | 5,543                             | NA                                |
| 950001   | Amount received from federal income tax refunds                                  | NA                                 | -9,000                             | NA                                | -12,146                           |
| 950003   | Amount of additional federal income tax paid (not deducted)                      | 30,000                             | NA                                 | 64,563                            | NA                                |
| 950011   | Amount received from state/local income tax refunds                              | NA                                 | -2,200                             | NA                                | -4,635                            |
| 950013   | Amount of additional state/local income tax paid (not deducted)                  | 6,000                              | NA                                 | 19,945                            | NA                                |
| 950021   | Amount of other taxes paid   | 8,228                              | NA                                 | 13,956                            | NA                                |
| 950022   | Amount of personal property taxes paid   | 1,200                              | NA                                 | 2,207                             | NA                                |

| Variable | Description  | 2011<br>Upper<br>Critical<br>Value | 2011<br>Lower<br>Critical<br>Value | 2011<br>Upper<br>Topcode<br>Value | 2011<br>Lower<br>Topcode<br>Value |
|----------|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 950023   | Amount of other tax refund received from other sources | NA                                 | -2,200                             | NA                                | -3,533                            |

<sup>1</sup> ADDFEDX (amount of Federal tax paid in addition to that withheld) and FFEDTXX (Federal tax withheld from last pay annualized for all CU members) are mapped to UCCs 950003 and 950002, respectively, as separate records. Records for UCC 950002 that represent FFEDTXX are topcoded through their components (ANFEDTXM) at the MEMB level and thus, these records will not have a DTBD critical value. DTBD records for UCC 950003 that represent ADDFEDX are topcoded for all amounts greater than \$30,000.

<sup>2</sup> ADDSTAX (amount of state and local taxes paid in addition to that withheld) and FSTATXX (state and local income tax deduction from last pay annualized for all CU members) are mapped to UCCs 950013 and 950012, respectively, as separate records. Records for UCC 950012 that represent FSTATXX are topcoded through their components (ANSTATXM) at the MEMB level and thus, these records will not have a DTBD critical value. Create the DTBD VALUE field for these records by dividing FSTATXX by 12. If FSLTAXX is topcoded, then set VALUE\_ to 'T'. DTBD records for UCC 950013 that represent ADDSTAX are topcoded for all amounts greater than \$6,000.

AMOUNT for the following UCC's is topcoded because the FMLY file variables corresponding to these UCC's are topcoded due to recalculation. (See [Section IV.A. CU CHARACTERISTICS AND INCOME FILE](#) on topcoding of FMLY variables.)

| <u>UCC</u> | <u>FMLY variable</u>                 | <u>Description</u>  |
|------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| 800910     | FGVXM, FGVX                          | Amount of government retirement deducted from last pay, annualized for all CU members |
| 800920     | FRRXM ,FRRX                          | Amount of Railroad Retirement deducted from last pay, annualized for all CU members   |
| 800931     | FPVTXM, FPVTX                        | Amount of private pension fund deducted from last pay, annualized for all CU members  |
| 800932     | FIRAX                                | Amount of money placed in individual retirement plan                                  |
| 800940     | FJSSDEDM,<br>FJSSDED1-5,<br>FJSSDEDX | Estimated amount of annual Social Security contribution                               |
| 900000     | FWAGEXM,<br>FWAGEX1-5,<br>FWAGEX     | Amount received from wage and salary income before deduction                          |
| 900010     | FBSNSXM,<br>FBSNSX1-5,<br>FBSNSX     | Amount of income from non-farm business   |
| 900020     | FFARMXM,<br>FFARMX1-5,<br>FFARMX     | Amount of income or loss received from own farm                                       |
| 980000     | FINCBEFM,<br>FINCBEF1-5,<br>FINCBEFX | Amount of CU income before taxes  |
| 980070     | FINCAFTM,<br>FINCAFT1-5,<br>FINCAFTX | Amount of CU income after taxes   |

## V. ESTIMATION PROCEDURE

This section provides users of the CE Diary microdata files with procedures for estimating means and variances of data associated with any U.S. subpopulation. The production of *Consumer Expenditures in 2011* used an integration methodology which incorporated information from both Diary and Interview Surveys. Diary data users will not be able to match published CE estimates because of this. In addition, users will not be able to match all values because of suppression of some values, due to topcoding. See the topcoding and other nondisclosure requirements in Section IV.

### A. DEFINITION OF TERMS

Consider the following general situation. We wish to estimate expenditures on certain food items for a special group (subpopulation) of U.S. CUs; for example, all CUs of three persons. Our specific objective is to estimate the expenditures for item  $k$  over a period of  $q$  months, where data collected over  $r$  months are used in the estimate. The following definitions will be helpful in formulating the above type of estimate.

#### Definition of Terms:

Let

$S$  = all CUs in the subpopulation of interest  
 $k$  = expenditure item(s) of interest  
 $q$  = number of months for which estimate is desired  
 $r$  = number of months in which expenditures were made to be used in calculating the estimate  
 $D$  = number of days in each of the months in which expenditures were made  
 $j$  = individual CU in subpopulation  $S$   
 $t$  = month of expenditure

Then

$X_{(j,k,t)}$  = the amount of money CU  $(j)$  spent on item  $k$  for a week during month  $t$   
 $W_{(j,t,F21)}$  = the weight assigned to CU  $(j)$  during month  $t$

The F21 denotes FINLWT21 which is used for population estimates.

NOTE: The CUs on the Diary Survey microdata files represent the U.S. population. Some CUs represent more of the population than others; and hence carry more weight. The weight,  $W_{(j,t,F21)}$ , is a complex estimate of this representation. Refer to [Section X.C. WEIGHTING](#) for an explanation of weights. The weights have been adjusted so that the sum of all CU weights for one month approximates one third of the U.S. population. Consequently, the weights for three months (one quarter) of data approximate the total U.S. population.

Using the above terminology, we may define:

$X_{(S,k)(q,r)}$  as an estimate for the expenditures of subpopulation  $S$  on item  $k$  over a period of  $q$  months, where data collected over  $r$  months are used.

and

$\bar{X}_{(S,k)(q,r)}$  as an estimate of the mean expenditures of subpopulation  $S$  on item  $k$  over a period of  $q$  months, where data collected over  $r$  months are used.

## B. ESTIMATION OF TOTAL AND MEAN EXPENDITURES

As an example, let us estimate total expenditures on milk (item  $k$ ) of subpopulation  $S$  over a 12-month period. Data collected over 6 months will be used to make the estimate. Users may use less than 12 months of data to perform seasonal calculations. In the notation described above, the estimate is  $X_{(S,k)(12,6)}$ .

$$X_{(S,k)(12,6)} = 3 \left( \frac{12}{6} \right) \sum_{t=1}^6 \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \left( \frac{D(t)}{7} \right) W_{(j,t,F21)} X_{(j,k,t)} \right)_t \quad (1a)$$

where the inner summation sums expenditures for all  $j$  in  $S$ , indexed from  $j = 1$  through  $n$  and the outer summation sums over months  $t = 1$  through 6. The factor "3" compensates for the fact that the weights for the CUs visited in one month have been adjusted to represent one third of the U.S. population. The factor "12" reflects our desire to estimate expenditures over a 12-month period; and the "6" is the adjustment made because data for 6 months are used. Since the data  $X_{(j,k,t)}$  are in terms of weekly expenditures, the factors, (number of days in the month)/7, are used to convert weekly expenditures into their monthly equivalents.

The above formula can be generalized to estimate the total expenditures of subpopulation  $S$  on item  $k$  for  $q$  months, but using data collected over  $r$  months. The generalization is

$$X_{(S,k)(q,r)} = 3 \left( \frac{q}{r} \right) \sum_{t=1}^r \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \left( \frac{D(t)}{7} \right) W_{(j,t,F21)} X_{(j,k,t)} \right)_t \quad (1b)$$

where the inner summation sums expenditures for all  $j$  in  $S$ , indexed from  $j = 1$  through  $n$  and the outer summation sums over months  $t = 1$  through  $r$ .

An estimate for the expenditures for two or more items may be obtained by summing those expenditures at the CU level and then proceeding as before.

The next example will give an estimate,  $\bar{X}_{(S,k)(12,6)}$ , of mean expenditures over twelve months ( $q$ ), on item  $k$ , of CUs in subpopulation  $S$ , where data collected over a six month period ( $r$ ) are used. The result is

$$\bar{X}_{(S,k)(12,6)} = \frac{3 \left( \frac{12}{6} \right) \sum_{t=1}^6 \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \left( \frac{D(t)}{7} \right) W_{(j,t,F21)} X_{(j,k,t)} \right)_t}{\frac{3 \sum_{t=1}^6 \left( \sum_{j=1}^n W_{(j,t,F21)} \right)_t}{6}} \quad (2a)$$

where the numerator is an estimate of aggregate expenditures as formulated in equation (1a), and where the denominator is an estimate of the population of CUs in the U.S. during the six-month period for which the expenditure data are collected. The inner summation in the denominator of (2a) sums FINLWT21 for a given month ( $t$ ), for all  $j$  in  $S$ , indexed from  $j = 1$  through  $n$ , and the outer summation in the denominator of (2a) sums over months  $t = 1$  through 6.

As in the estimate of aggregate expenditures, the factor  $\frac{1}{3}$  to the left of the outer summation in the denominator of equation (2a) adjusts FINLWT21 to represent the entire population for each month of data used. The proper U.S. population count is arrived at by dividing the denominator by  $r$ , or in this case “6”, (representing the 6 month period of collected data in this example).

The above formula generalizes to  $\bar{X}_{(S,k)(q,r)}$ , (i.e., the estimate of the mean expenditure by subpopulation  $S$  on item  $k$  for  $q$  months using data collected over  $r$  months). In detail:

$$\bar{X}_{(S,k)(q,r)} = \frac{q \sum_{t=1}^r \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \left( \frac{D_{(t)}}{7} \right) W_{(j,t,F21)} X_{(j,k,t)} \right)_t}{\sum_{t=1}^r \left( \sum_{j=1}^n W_{(j,t,F21)} \right)_t} \quad (2b)$$

Note: The factors  $\frac{1}{3}$  (adjustment of FINLWT21 to one U.S. population) and  $\frac{1}{6}$ , (number of months,  $r$ , for which the data are collected), which appear both in the numerator and the denominator of (2a), cancel. These scalars are dropped from the general form of  $\bar{X}_{(S,k)(q,r)}$ .

The estimates for total ( $X_{(S,k)(q,r)}$ ) and mean expenditures ( $\bar{X}_{(S,k)(q,r)}$ ) are based on all CUs; not just the CUs with positive expenditures for item  $k$ . Consider the calculation for the mean expenditure of tobacco. The formula  $\bar{X}_{(S,k)(q,r)}$  includes all CUs, both smoking and nonsmoking. One might be more interested in the mean expenditures on tobacco but only for those CUs that actually have expenditures. This can be accounted for by properly defining the initial subpopulation  $S$  so as to restrict it to CUs with positive tobacco expenditures.

### C. ESTIMATION OF MEAN ANNUAL INCOME

Let  $\bar{Z}_{(S,r)}$  be an estimate of the mean annual income of CUs in subpopulation  $S$ , where income data collected over  $r$  months is to be used.

Let  $Z_{(j,t)}$  = the annual income reported by CU<sub>(j)</sub> in month  $t$ . Then the estimated mean annual income is

$$\bar{Z}_{(S,r)} = \frac{\sum_{t=1}^r \left( \sum_{j=1}^n W_{(j,t,F21)} Z_{(j,t)} \right)_t}{\sum_{t=1}^r \left( \sum_{j=1}^n W_{(j,t,F21)} \right)_t}$$



## VI. RELIABILITY STATEMENT

### A. DESCRIPTION OF SAMPLING ERROR AND NONSAMPLING ERROR

Sample surveys are subject to two types of errors, sampling and nonsampling. Sampling errors occur because observations are not taken from the entire population. The standard error, which is the accepted measure for sampling error, is an estimate of the difference between the sample data and the data that would have been obtained from a complete census. The sample estimate and its estimated standard error enable one to construct confidence intervals.

Assuming the Normal Distribution applies to the means of expenditures, the following statements can be made:

- (1) The chances that an estimate from a given sample would differ from a complete census figure by less than one standard error are approximately 68 out of 100.
- (2) The chances that the difference would be less than 1.6 times the standard error are approximately 90 out of 100.
- (3) The chances that the difference would be less than two times the standard error are approximately 95 out of 100.

Nonsampling errors can be attributed to many sources, such as definitional difficulties, differences in the interpretation of questions, inability or unwillingness of the respondent to provide correct information, mistakes in recording or coding the data obtained, and other errors of collection, response, processing, coverage, and estimation for missing data. The full extent of the nonsampling error is unknown. Estimates using a small number of observations are less reliable. A small amount of nonsampling error can cause a small difference to appear significant even when it is not. It is probable that the levels of estimated expenditure obtained in the Diary Survey are generally lower than the "true" level due to the above factors.

### B. ESTIMATING SAMPLING ERROR

#### 1. VARIANCE ESTIMATION

Variance estimation can be done in many ways. The method illustrated below (a pseudo-replication technique) is chosen because it is accurate yet simple to understand. The basic idea is to artificially construct several "subsamples" from the original sample data. This construction is done in a manner so that the variance information of the original data is preserved in these subsamples. These subsamples (or pseudo-replications) can then be used to obtain approximate variances for the estimates.

The Diary microdata files contain information that facilitates this form of variance estimation procedure. Specifically, 45 weights are associated with each CU. The forty-fifth weight, called FINLWT21 at BLS, (which is the weight for the total sample) is used for estimations of total or mean expenditures. The other weights (replicates 1 through 44) are used for variance estimation of the totals or means. Note that half of the weights in each replicate are zero. This reflects the fact that in this technique only half the CUs are used in each of the 44 pseudo-replicates. Recall

that  $X_{(S,k)(q,r)}$  is an estimate for the expenditures of subpopulation S on item k over a period of q months, where data collected over r months are used. This notation does not reveal the fact that 45 replicate weights are to be used for estimation of variance. We expand the notation to include this information. Specifically, let

$X_{(S,k)(q,r),a}$  = an estimate of the same quantity as  $X_{(S,k)(q,r)}$ , but using the weights of the a<sup>th</sup> replicate.

That is  $X_{(S,k)(q,r),a}$  is an estimate of the total expenditures by CUs in subpopulation S on item k over q months using r months of collection data, and where the weights from the a<sup>th</sup> replicate are used. Note that the estimate using any one of the first 44 replicate weights only uses part of the data; hence in general  $X_{(S,k)(q,r),a}$  is not equal to  $X_{(S,k)(q,r)}$ .

An estimate for the variance of  $X_{(S,k)(q,r)}$  (denoted by  $V(X_{(S,k)(q,r)})$ ) can be calculated using the following formula:

$$V(X_{(S,k)(q,r)}) = \frac{1}{44} \sum_{a=1}^{44} (X_{(S,k)(q,r),a} - X_{(S,k)(q,r)})^2$$

Estimates for the variances of  $\bar{X}_{(S,k)(q,r)}$  and  $\bar{Z}_{(S,r)}$  are similar and are given below.

$$V(\bar{X}_{(S,k)(q,r)}) = \frac{1}{44} \sum_{a=1}^{44} (\bar{X}_{(S,k)(q,r),a} - \bar{X}_{(S,k)(q,r)})^2$$

and

$$V(\bar{Z}_{(S,r)}) = \frac{1}{44} \sum_{a=1}^{44} (\bar{Z}_{(S,r),a} - \bar{Z}_{(S,r)})^2$$

where  $\bar{X}_{(S,k)(q,r),a}$  and  $\bar{Z}_{(S,r),a}$  are estimates similar to  $\bar{X}_{(S,k)(q,r)}$  and  $\bar{Z}_{(S,r)}$  except weights of the a<sup>th</sup> replicates are used.

## **2. STANDARD ERROR OF THE MEAN**

The standard error of the mean,  $S.E.(\bar{x})$ , is defined as the square root of the variance of the mean.  $S.E.(\bar{x})$ , is used to obtain confidence intervals that evaluate how close the estimate may be to the true population mean. A 95 percent confidence interval can be constructed around an estimate, bounded by values 1.96 times the standard error less than and greater than the estimate. For example, the average weekly expenditure for beef for All CUs in 2011 was \$4.28. The standard error for this estimate is \$0.11. Hence, the 95 percent confidence interval around this estimate is from \$4.06 to \$4.50. Therefore, we could conclude with 95 percent confidence that the mean weekly expenditures for beef all CUs in 2011 lies within the interval \$4.06 to \$4.50.

### **3. STANDARD ERROR OF THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TWO MEANS**

Standard errors may also be used to perform hypothesis testing, a procedure for distinguishing between population parameters using sample estimates. The most common types of hypotheses are: 1) the population parameters are identical; versus 2) they are different.

For example, in 2011 the estimated average weekly expenditures for total food for CUs in the \$30,000 to \$39,999 income range is \$97.36 and the estimate for CUs in the \$40,000 to \$49,999 income range is \$93.00. The apparent difference between the two mean expenditures is \$97.36 – \$93.00 = \$4.36. The standard error on the estimate of \$97.36 is \$3.23 and the estimated standard error for the \$93.00 estimate is \$2.97. The standard error (S.E.) of a difference is approximately equal to

$$S.E.(\bar{X}_1, \bar{X}_2) = \sqrt{V(\bar{X}_1) + V(\bar{X}_2)}$$

where

$$V(\bar{X}_i) = (S.E.(\bar{X}_i))^2$$

This assumes that  $\bar{x}_1$  and  $\bar{x}_2$  are disjoint subsets of the population. Hence, the standard error of the difference in food expenditures between CUs in the \$30,000 to \$39,999 and in the \$40,000 to \$49,999 income ranges is about

$$\sqrt{(3.23)^2 + (2.97)^2} = 4.39$$

This means that the 95 percent confidence interval around the difference is from -\$4.19 to \$12.96. Since this interval includes zero, we can conclude with 95 percent confidence that the mean weekly food expenditures for the \$40,000 to \$49,999 income group is not less than the mean weekly food expenditures for the \$30,000 to \$39,999 income group.

Analyses of the difference between two estimates can also be performed on non-disjoint sets of population, where one is a subset of the other. The formula for computing the standard error (S.E.) of the difference between two non-disjoint estimates is

$$S.E.(\bar{X}_1, \bar{X}_2) = \sqrt{V(\bar{X}_1) + V(\bar{X}_2) - 2r(V(\bar{X}_1) * V(\bar{X}_2))}$$

where

$$V(\bar{X}_i) = (S.E.(\bar{X}_i))^2$$

and where  $r$  is the correlation coefficient between  $\bar{x}_1$  and  $\bar{x}_2$ . The correlation coefficient is generally no greater than 0.2 for CE estimates.

## VII. MICRODATA VERIFICATION AND ESTIMATION METHODOLOGY

This section is designed to help users become familiar with the microdata files. The following program illustrates the methodology CE uses in producing publication tables, and offers an example of coding to access the data and produce a sample table. The program is written in SAS and shows usage of the SAS datasets available online. (Note: CE data published by BLS may not match some values estimated using the microdata due to topcoding of data and CE publication programming methodology.) All variables and ranges referred to in the program are described in detail in the diary data dictionary.

This program produces a table of selected expenditures by income class of the Consumer Unit (CU). The first section reads in the processing file and manipulates it into a usable form suitable for formatting an expenditure table. The second section of the program extracts the relevant variables from the FMLY files, while the third section extracts the expenditure and income data from the EXPN and DTBD files. These three datasets are then used along with the Dstub processing file to construct the sample table output. This output is the product of two SAS arrays. The values in one array are divided by the value in the other array to obtain weighted mean expenditures. The base, or denominator, for the division is a vector consisting of the weighted total population for the U.S. and selected income class categories. The numerator is a matrix of aggregate weighted costs for each line item in the table for the total U.S. population and each income class category.

It should be emphasized that this program has been written solely for the verification of the microdata and as an illustration of the CE estimation methodology. It should not be used for any other purpose.

Note: This program processes large amounts of data. If you are using a PC with limited capabilities it may be necessary to run this program in sections.

```

1  /*****
2  /* PROGRAM NAME:  CEX DIARY SURVEY SAMPLE PROGRAM (SAS)          */
3  /* LOCATION:  D:\PROGRAMS                                         */
4  /* FUNCTION:  CREATE A DIARY SURVEY EXPENDITURE TABLE BY INCOME CLASS USING */
5  /*           MICRODATA FROM THE BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTIC'S CONSUMER   */
6  /*           EXPENDITURE SURVEY.                                         */
7  /*
8  /* WRITTEN BY:  ERIC KEIL                                          */
9  /* MODIFICATIONS:
10 /* DATE-        MODIFIED BY-      REASON-
11 /* -----      -----
12 /* 03/21/02    ERIC KEIL          IMPROVE EFFICIENCY
13 /* 10/22/03    ERIC KEIL          UPDATE FOR 2002 DATA
14 /* 11/20/03    ERIC KEIL          INCLUDE ROUTINE TO AGGREGATE EASIER
15 /*
16 /*
17 /* FOR SAS VERSION 8 OR HIGHER
18 /*
19 /* DATA AND INPUT FILES USED IN THIS SAMPLE PROGRAM WERE UNZIPPED
20 /* OR COPIED TO THE LOCATIONS BELOW:
21 /*
22 /* DIARY DATA -- C:\2011_CEX\DIARY11
23 /* DSTUB2011.TXT -- C:\2011_CEX\Programs
24 /*
25 /*****
26
27 /*Enter Data Year*/
28   %LET YEAR = 2011;
29 /*Enter location of the unzipped microdata file*/
30   %LET DRIVE = C:\2011_CEX;
31
32 /*****
33 /* STEP1: READ IN THE STUB PARAMETER FILE AND CREATE FORMATS      */
34 /* -----
35 /* 1 CONVERTS THE STUB PARAMETER FILE INTO A LABEL FILE FOR OUTPUT */
36 /* 2 CONVERTS THE STUB PARAMETER FILE INTO AN EXPENDITURE AGGREGATION FILE */
37 /* 3 CREATES FORMATS FOR USE IN OTHER PROCEDURES
38 /*****
39
40
41 %LET YR1 = %SUBSTR(&YEAR,3,2);
42 LIBNAME D&YR1 "&DRIVE\DIARY&YR1";
NOTE: Libref D11 was successfully assigned as follows:
      Engine:          V9
      Physical Name:  C:\2011_CEX\DIARY11
43
44
45 DATA STUBFILE (KEEP= COUNT TYPE LEVEL TITLE UCC SURVEY GROUP LINE);
46   INFILE "&DRIVE\PROGRAMS\DSTUB&YEAR..TXT"
47   PAD MISSOVER;
48   INPUT @1 TYPE $1. @ 4 LEVEL $1. @7 TITLE $CHAR60. @70 UCC $6.
49          @80 SURVEY $1. @86 GROUP $7.;
50   IF (TYPE = '1');
51   IF GROUP IN ('CUCHARS' 'FOOD' 'EXPEND' 'INCOME');
52   IF SURVEY = 'T' THEN DELETE;
53   RETAIN COUNT 9999;
54   COUNT + 1;
55   LINE = PUT(COUNT, $5.)||LEVEL ;
WARNING: Variable COUNT has already been defined as numeric.
56   /* READS IN THE STUB PARAMETER FILE AND CREATES LINE NUMBERS FOR UCCS */
57   /* A UNIQUE LINE NUMBER IS ASSIGNED TO EACH EXPENDITURE LINE ITEM   */
58   RUN;

NOTE: The infile "C:\2011_CEX\PROGRAMS\DSTUB2011.TXT" is:
      Filename=C:\2011_CEX\PROGRAMS\DSTUB2011.TXT,
      RECFM=V,LRECL=256,File Size (bytes)=75894,
      Last Modified=31Aug2012:13:39:20,
      Create Time=13Sep2012:13:23:45

NOTE: 808 records were read from the infile "C:\2011_CEX\PROGRAMS\DSTUB2011.TXT".
      The minimum record length was 27.

```

Sets the calendar year and drive used as macro variables that can be used throughout the program.

Reads in the aggregation stub file and dynamically creates numbers associated with each expenditure line item.

Note: This aggregation file can be modified to accommodate any customized aggregation scheme.

One needs only to make sure that the column start positions in the file match the start positions in the input statement.

The maximum record length was 112.  
NOTE: The data set WORK.STUBFILE has 487 observations and 8 variables.  
NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):  
real time 0.09 seconds  
cpu time 0.04 seconds

```

59
60
61 DATA AGGFMT1 (KEEP= UCC LINE LINE1-LINE10);
62 SET STUBFILE;
63 LENGTH LINE1-LINE10 $6.;
64 ARRAY LINES(9) LINE1-LINE9;
65 IF (UCC > 'A') THEN
66     LINES(SUBSTR(LINE,6,1)) = LINE;
67 RETAIN LINE1-LINE9;
68 IF (UCC < 'A') THEN
69     LINE10 = LINE;
70 IF (LINE10);
71 RUN;

```

NOTE: Character values have been converted to numeric values at the places given by:  
(Line):(Column).  
66:15 70:7

NOTE: There were 487 observations read from the data set WORK.STUBFILE.  
NOTE: The data set WORK.AGGFMT1 has 361 observations and 12 variables.  
NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):  
real time 0.03 seconds  
cpu time 0.01 seconds

```

72
73
74 PROC SORT DATA= AGGFMT1 (RENAME=(LINE= COMPARE));
75 BY UCC;
76 /* MAPS LINE NUMBERS TO UCCS */
77 RUN;

```

NOTE: There were 361 observations read from the data set WORK.AGGFMT1.  
NOTE: The data set WORK.AGGFMT1 has 361 observations and 12 variables.  
NOTE: PROCEDURE SORT used (Total process time):  
real time 0.07 seconds  
cpu time 0.03 seconds

```

78
79
80 PROC TRANSPOSE DATA= AGGFMT1 OUT= AGGFMT2 (RENAME=(COL1= LINE));
81 BY UCC COMPARE;
82 VAR LINE1-LINE10;
83 RUN;

```

NOTE: There were 361 observations read from the data set WORK.AGGFMT1.  
NOTE: The data set WORK.AGGFMT2 has 3610 observations and 4 variables.  
NOTE: PROCEDURE TRANSPOSE used (Total process time):  
real time 0.06 seconds  
cpu time 0.01 seconds

```

84
85
86 DATA AGGFMT (KEEP= UCC LINE);
87 SET AGGFMT2;
88 IF LINE;
89 IF SUBSTR(COMPARE,6,1) > SUBSTR(LINE,6,1) OR COMPARE=LINE;
90 /* AGGREGATION FILE. EXTRANEIOUS MAPPINGS ARE DELETED */
91 /* PROC SQL WILL AGGANGE LINE#/UCC PAIRS FOR USE IN PROC FORMAT */
92 RUN;

```

NOTE: Character values have been converted to numeric values at the places given by:  
(Line):(Column).

Subsequent program steps  
manipulate the aggregation  
stub file into a dataset that  
associates UCCs with line  
numbers.

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <pre> 88:8 NOTE: There were 3610 observations read from the data set WORK.AGGFMT2. NOTE: The data set WORK.AGGFMT has 1443 observations and 2 variables. NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):       real time          0.06 seconds       cpu time           0.01 seconds  93 94 95 PROC SQL NOPRINT; 96   SELECT UCC, LINE, COUNT(*) 97   INTO   :UCCS SEPARATED BY " ", 98          :LINES SEPARATED BY " ", 99          :CNT 100  FROM AGGFMT; NOTE: The query requires remerging summary statistics back with the original data. 101  QUIT; NOTE: PROCEDURE SQL used (Total process time):       real time          0.10 seconds       cpu time           0.00 seconds  102 RUN; 103 104 105 %MACRO MAPPING; 106   %DO I = 1 %TO &amp;CNT; 107     "%SCAN(&amp;UCCS,&amp;I,%STR( ))" = "%SCAN(&amp;LINES,&amp;I,%STR( ))" 108   %END; 109 %MEND MAPPING; 110 111 112 DATA LBLFMT (RENAME=(LINE= START TITLE= LABEL)); 113   SET STUBFILE (KEEP= LINE TITLE); 114   RETAIN FMTNAME 'LBLFMT' TYPE 'C'; 115   /* LABEL FILE. LINE NUMBERS ARE ASSIGNED A TEXT LABEL */ 116   /* DATASET CONSTRUCTED TO BE READ INTO A PROC FORMAT */ 117 RUN;  NOTE: There were 487 observations read from the data set WORK.STUBFILE. NOTE: The data set WORK.LBLFMT has 487 observations and 4 variables. NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):       real time          0.04 seconds       cpu time           0.04 seconds  118 119 120 PROC FORMAT; 121 122   VALUE \$AGGFMT (MULTILABEL) 123     %MAPPING 124     OTHER= 'OTHER'; NOTE: Format \$AGGFMT has been output. 125   /* CREATE AGGREGATION FORMAT */ 126 127 128   VALUE \$INC (MULTILABEL) 129     '01' = '01' 130     '01' = '10' 131     '02' = '02' 132     '02' = '10' 133     '03' = '03' 134     '03' = '10' 135     '04' = '04' 136     '04' = '10' 137     '05' = '05' 138     '05' = '10' 139     '06' = '06' 140     '06' = '10' </pre> | <p>Creates a Dataset that can be used to associate titles with line numbers with a format procedure.</p> <p>Formats:</p> <p>Puts the aggregation scheme into a SAS format.</p> <p>Puts the income groupings into a SAS format.</p> <p>Note: The multilabel option is necessary in the aggregation format and income format since multiple mappings occur. This option is available in SAS V8 or higher.</p> |
|---|---|

```

141 '07' = '07'
142 '07' = '10'
143 '08' = '08'
144 '08' = '10'
145 '09' = '09'
146 '09' = '10';
NOTE: Format $INC has been output.
147 /* CREATE INCOME CLASS FORMAT */
148 RUN;

NOTE: PROCEDURE FORMAT used (Total process time):
      real time      2.34 seconds
      cpu time       2.26 seconds

149
150
151 PROC FORMAT LIBRARY= WORK CNTLIN= LBLFMT;
NOTE: Format $LBLFMT has been output.
152 /* CREATE LABEL FILE FORMATS */
153 RUN;

NOTE: PROCEDURE FORMAT used (Total process time):
      real time      0.01 seconds
      cpu time       0.00 seconds

NOTE: There were 487 observations read from the data set WORK.LBLFMT.

154
155
156 /*****
157 /* STEP2: READ IN ALL NEEDED DATA */
158 /* ----- */
159 /* 1 READ IN THE DIARY FMLY FILES */
160 /* 2 READ IN THE DIARY EXPM AND DTBD FILES */
161 /* 3 MERGE FMLY AND EXPENDITURE FILES TO DERIVE WEIGHTED EXPENDITURES */
162 /*****
163
164
165 DATA FMLY (KEEP = NEWID INCLASS REPWT1-REPWT45);
166 SET D&YR1..FMLD&YR1.1
167     D&YR1..FMLD&YR1.2
168     D&YR1..FMLD&YR1.3
169     D&YR1..FMLD&YR1.4;
170 BY NEWID;
171 /* READ IN FMLY FILE DATA */
172
173 ARRAY REPS_A(45) WTREP01-WTREP44 FINLWT21;
174 ARRAY REPS_B(45) REPWT1-REPWT45;
175
176 DO i = 1 TO 45;
177 IF REPS_A(i) > 0 THEN
178     REPS_B(i) = (REPS_A(i) / 4);
179 ELSE REPS_B(i) = 0;
180 END;
181 /* ADJUST WEIGHTS TO COMPENSATE FOR HAVING FOUR QUARTERS OF DATA */
182 RUN;

NOTE: There were 3494 observations read from the data set D11.FMLD111.
NOTE: There were 3508 observations read from the data set D11.FMLD112.
NOTE: There were 3468 observations read from the data set D11.FMLD113.
NOTE: There were 3455 observations read from the data set D11.FMLD114.
NOTE: The data set WORK.FMLY has 13925 observations and 47 variables.
NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):
      real time      2.10 seconds
      cpu time       1.01 seconds

183
184
185

```

Puts the titles into a SAS format for use in the final output.

Reads in the necessary variables from the fmly files. Newid is the code given to a consumer unit each time it participates. Finlwt21 and Wtrep01-Wtrep44 are weight variables used to weight each consumer unit such that it represents some portion of the population. Inclass is a code that represents the range within which the consumer unit's annual income falls.

Lines 176-180 adjust the weights so that they will sum up to US populations.



```

186 DATA EXPEND (KEEP = NEWID UCC COST);
187 SET D&YR1..DTBD&YR1.1 (RENAME=(AMOUNT=COST))
188 D&YR1..DTBD&YR1.2 (RENAME=(AMOUNT=COST))
189 D&YR1..DTBD&YR1.3 (RENAME=(AMOUNT=COST))
190 D&YR1..DTBD&YR1.4 (RENAME=(AMOUNT=COST))
191 D&YR1..EXPD&YR1.1
192 D&YR1..EXPD&YR1.2
193 D&YR1..EXPD&YR1.3
194 D&YR1..EXPD&YR1.4;
195 BY NEWID;
196 /* READ IN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE DATA */
197 RUN;

NOTE: There were 59744 observations read from the data set D11.DTBD111.
NOTE: There were 59538 observations read from the data set D11.DTBD112.
NOTE: There were 58664 observations read from the data set D11.DTBD113.
NOTE: There were 57867 observations read from the data set D11.DTBD114.
NOTE: There were 124640 observations read from the data set D11.EXP111.
NOTE: There were 126497 observations read from the data set D11.EXP112.
NOTE: There were 119696 observations read from the data set D11.EXP113.
NOTE: There were 123236 observations read from the data set D11.EXP114.
NOTE: The data set WORK.EXPEND has 729882 observations and 3 variables.
NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):
      real time          1.03 seconds
      cpu time           0.68 seconds

198
199
200
201 DATA PUBFILE (KEEP = NEWID INCLASS UCC RCOST1-RCOST45);
202 MERGE FMLY (IN = INFAM)
203 EXPEND (IN = INEXP);
204 BY NEWID;
205 IF INEXP AND INFAM;
206
207 IF COST = . THEN
208 COST = 0;
209
210 ARRAY REPS_A(45) REPWT1-REPWT45;
211 ARRAY REPS_B(45) RCOST1-RCOST45;
212
213 DO i = 1 TO 45;
214 IF REPS_A(i) > 0
215 THEN REPS_B(i) = (REPS_A(i) * COST);
216 ELSE REPS_B(i) = 0;
217 END;
218 /* MERGE FMLY FILE WEIGHTS AND CHARACTERISTICS WITH EXPN/DTBD COSTS */
219 /* MULTIPLY COSTS BY WEIGHTS TO DERIVE WEIGHTED COSTS */
220 RUN;

NOTE: There were 13925 observations read from the data set WORK.FMLY.
NOTE: There were 729882 observations read from the data set WORK.EXPEND.
NOTE: The data set WORK.PUBFILE has 729882 observations and 48 variables.
NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):
      real time          11.29 seconds
      cpu time           1.39 seconds

221
222
223 /*****
224 /* STEP3: CALCULATE POPULATIONS */
225 /* -----
226 /* 1 SUM ALL 45 WEIGHT VARIABLES TO DERIVE REPLICATE POPULATIONS */
227 /* 2 FORMAT FOR CORRECT COLUMN CLASSIFICATIONS */
228 /*****
229
230
231 PROC SUMMARY NWAY DATA=FMLY;
232 CLASS INCLASS / MLF;

```

Reads in all DTBD income data and EXPN expenditure data.

Newid is the consumer unit code. UCC is a code that represents the type of expenditure variable. Cost is the value that corresponds to the UCC code.

Merges the FMLY and EXPEND data sets together and changes missing cost values to zero.

Weights the cost values by the 44 replicate weights and full sample weight. RCOST1-RCOST45 represents the weighted costs for each expenditure.

The weights in the FMLY file are summed to create

```

233 VAR REPWT1-REPWT45;
234 FORMAT INCLASS $INC.;
235 OUTPUT OUT = POP (DROP = _TYPE_ _FREQ_) SUM = RPOP1-RPOP45;
236 /* SUMS WEIGHTS TO CREATE POPULATIONS PER REPLICATE */
237 /* FORMATS TO CORRECT COLUMN CLASSIFICATIONS */
238 RUN;

```

NOTE: There were 13925 observations read from the data set WORK.FMLY.  
NOTE: The data set WORK.POP has 10 observations and 46 variables.  
NOTE: PROCEDURE SUMMARY used (Total process time):  
real time 0.12 seconds  
cpu time 0.06 seconds

```

239
240
241
242 /*****
243 /* STEP4: CALCULATE WEIGHTED AGGREGATE EXPENDITURES */
244 /* ----- */
245 /* 1 SUM THE 45 REPLICATE WEIGHTED EXPENDITURES TO DERIVE AGGREGATES */
246 /* 2 FORMAT FOR CORRECT COLUMN CLASSIFICATIONS AND AGGREGATION SCHEME */
247 /*****
248
249
250 PROC SUMMARY NWAY DATA=PUBFILE SUMSIZE=MAX COMPLETETYPES;
251 CLASS UCC INCLASS / MLF;
252 VAR RCOST1-RCOST45;
253 FORMAT UCC $AGGFMT. INCLASS $INC.;
254 OUTPUT OUT=AGG (DROP= _TYPE_ _FREQ_ RENAME=(UCC=LINE))
255 SUM = RCOST1-RCOST45;
256 /* SUMS WEIGHTED COSTS PER REPLICATE TO GET AGGREGATES */
257 /* FORMATS INCOME TO CREATE COMPLETE REPORTING COLUMN */
258 /* FORMATS EXPENDITURES TO CORRECT AGGREGATION SCHEME */
259 RUN;

```

NOTE: There were 729882 observations read from the data set WORK.PUBFILE.  
NOTE: The data set WORK.AGG has 4770 observations and 47 variables.  
NOTE: PROCEDURE SUMMARY used (Total process time):  
real time 7.78 seconds  
cpu time 9.03 seconds

```

260
261
262
263 /*****
264 /* STEP5: CALCULATE MEAN EXPENDITURES */
265 /* ----- */
266 /* 1 READ IN POPULATIONS AND LOAD INTO MEMORY USING A 2 DIMENSIONAL ARRAY */
267 /* POPULATIONS ARE ASSOCIATED BY INCLASS(i), AND REPLICATE(j) */
268 /* 2 READ IN AGGREGATE EXPENDITURES FROM AGG DATASET */
269 /* CALCULATE MEANS BY DIVIDING AGGREGATES BY CORRECT SOURCE POPULATIONS */
270 /* 4 CALCULATE STANDARD ERRORS USING REPLICATE FORMULA */
271 /*****
272
273
274 DATA TAB1 (KEEP = LINE MEAN SE);
275
276 /* READS IN POP DATASET. _TEMPORARY_ LOADS POPULATIONS INTO SYSTEM MEMORY */
277 ARRAY POP{01:10,45} _TEMPORARY_;
278 IF _N_ = 1 THEN DO i = 1 TO 10;
279 SET POP;
280 ARRAY REPS(45) RPOP1-RPOP45;
281 DO j = 1 TO 45;
282 POP{INCLASS,j} = REPS(j);
283 END;
284 END;
285
286 /* READS IN AGG DATASET AND CALCULATES MEANS BY DIVIDING BY POPULATIONS */
287 SET AGG (KEEP = LINE INCLASS RCOST1-RCOST45);

```

replicate populations and the full US population for each income class. Replicate populations (Repwt1-Repwt44) and the US population (Repwt45) are used as the denominator in means estimation.

Weighted costs are summed and formatted into income classes and by the aggregation scheme of the stub file. These aggregate expenditures will become the numerator in means estimation.

This data step calculates means and standard errors:

Lines 277-284 read in the column populations and stores them into temporary memory. Populations in memory are associated with INCLASS(i), and REPLICATE(j).

```

288 ARRAY AGGS(45) RCOST1-RCOST45;
289 ARRAY AVGS(45) MEAN1-MEAN44 MEAN;
290 DO k = 1 TO 45;
291 IF AGGS(k) = . THEN AGGS(k) = 0;
292 AVGS(k) = AGGS(k) / POP(INCLASS,k);
293 END;
294
295 /* CALCULATES STANDARD ERRORS USING REPLICATE FORMULA */
296 ARRAY RMNS(44) MEAN1-MEAN44;
297 ARRAY DIFF(44) DIFF1-DIFF44;
298 DO n = 1 TO 44;
299 DIFF(n) = (RMNS(n) - MEAN)**2;
300 END;
301 SE = SQRT((1/44)*SUM(OF DIFF(*)));
302 RUN;

```

Line 288 reads in the aggregated expenditures.

Lines 289-293 calculate means by dividing the aggregate expenditures by the appropriate populations in memory as determined by INCLASS and REPLICATE.

Lines 296-301 calculate standard errors using the replicate weight formula.

NOTE: Character values have been converted to numeric values at the places given by:  
(Line):(Column).  
282:13 292:33

NOTE: There were 10 observations read from the data set WORK.POP.  
NOTE: There were 4770 observations read from the data set WORK.AGG.  
NOTE: The data set WORK.TAB1 has 4770 observations and 3 variables.  
NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):  
real time 0.04 seconds  
cpu time 0.04 seconds

```

303
304
305
306 /*****
307 /* STEP6: TABULATE EXPENDITURES */
308 /* ----- */
309 /* 1 ARRANGE DATA INTO TABULAR FORM */
310 /* 2 SET OUT DIARY POPULATIONS FOR POPULATION LINE ITEM */
311 /* 3 INSERT POPULATION LINE INTO TABLE */
312 /* 4 INSERT ZERO EXPENDITURE LINE ITEMS INTO TABLE FOR COMPLETENESS */
313 /*****
314
315
316 PROC TRANSPOSE DATA=TAB1 OUT=TAB2
317 NAME = ESTIMATE PREFIX = INCLASS;
318 BY LINE;
319 VAR MEAN SE;
320 /*ARRANGE DATA INTO TABULAR FORM */
321 RUN;

```

Arranges output for tabulation. This will give a rough expenditure table.

NOTE: There were 4770 observations read from the data set WORK.TAB1.  
NOTE: The data set WORK.TAB2 has 954 observations and 12 variables.  
NOTE: PROCEDURE TRANSPOSE used (Total process time):  
real time 0.04 seconds  
cpu time 0.03 seconds

```

322
323
324 PROC TRANSPOSE DATA=POP (KEEP = RPOP45) OUT=CUS
325 NAME = LINE PREFIX = INCLASS;
326 VAR RPOP45;
327 /* SET ASIDE POPULATIONS FROM DIARY */
328 RUN;

```

All populations are put into dataset POP. A special dataset, CUS, is created specifically for inserting the full US population into the output.

NOTE: There were 10 observations read from the data set WORK.POP.  
NOTE: The data set WORK.CUS has 1 observations and 11 variables.  
NOTE: PROCEDURE TRANSPOSE used (Total process time):  
real time 0.06 seconds  
cpu time 0.00 seconds

```

329
330

```

```

331 DATA TAB3;
332 SET CUS TAB2;
333 IF LINE = 'RPOP45' THEN DO;
334 LINE = '100001';
335 ESTIMATE = 'N';
336 END;
337 /* INSERT POPULATION LINE ITEM INTO TABLE AND ASSIGN LINE NUMBER */
338 RUN;

```

NOTE: There were 1 observations read from the data set WORK.CUS.  
NOTE: There were 954 observations read from the data set WORK.TAB2.  
NOTE: The data set WORK.TAB3 has 955 observations and 12 variables.  
NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):  
real time 0.06 seconds  
cpu time 0.01 seconds

```

339
340
341 DATA TAB;
342 MERGE TAB3 STUBFILE;
343 BY LINE;
344 IF LINE NE '100001' THEN DO;
345 IF SURVEY = 'S' THEN DELETE;
346 END;
347 ARRAY CNTRL(10) INCLASS1-INCLASS10;
348 DO i = 1 TO 10;
349 IF CNTRL(i) = . THEN CNTRL(i) = 0;
350 IF SUM(OF CNTRL(*)) = 0 THEN ESTIMATE = 'MEAN';
351 END;
352
353 IF GROUP IN ('CUCHARS' 'INCOME') THEN DO;
354 IF LAG(LINE) = LINE THEN DELETE;
355 END;
356 /* MERGE STUBFILE BACK INTO TABLE TO INSERT EXPENDITURE LINES */
357 /* THAT HAD ZERO EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR */
358 RUN;

```

NOTE: There were 955 observations read from the data set WORK.TAB3.  
NOTE: There were 487 observations read from the data set WORK.STUBFILE.  
NOTE: The data set WORK.TAB has 888 observations and 20 variables.  
NOTE: DATA statement used (Total process time):  
real time 0.01 seconds  
cpu time 0.00 seconds

```

359
360
361 PROC TABULATE DATA=TAB;
362 CLASS LINE / GROUPINTERNAL ORDER=DATA;
363 CLASS ESTIMATE;
364 VAR INCLASS1-INCLASS10;
365 FORMAT LINE $LBLFMT.;
366
367 TABLE (LINE * ESTIMATE), (INCLASS10 INCLASS1 INCLASS2 INCLASS3 INCLASS4
368 INCLASS5 INCLASS6 INCLASS7 INCLASS8 INCLASS9)
369 *SUM='' / RTS=25;
370 LABEL ESTIMATE=ESTIMATE LINE=LINE
371 INCLASS1='LESS THAN $5,000' INCLASS2='$5,000 TO $9,999'
372 INCLASS3='$10,000 TO $14,999' INCLASS4='$15,000 TO $19,999'
373 INCLASS5='$20,000 TO $29,999' INCLASS6='$30,000 TO $39,999'
374 INCLASS7='$40,000 TO $49,999' INCLASS8='$50,000 TO $69,999'
375 INCLASS9='$70,000 AND OVER' INCLASS10='ALL CONSUMER UNITS';
376 OPTIONS NODATE NOCENTER NONUMBER LS=167 PS=MAX;
377 WHERE LINE NE 'OTHER';
378 TITLE "DIARY EXPENDITURES FOR &YEAR BY INCOME BEFORE TAXES";
379 RUN;

```

NOTE: There were 886 observations read from the data set WORK.TAB.  
WHERE LINE not = 'OTHER';  
NOTE: PROCEDURE TABULATE used (Total process time):

Population totals per income class are inserted into the output.

This data step further processes data by deleting unwanted table line items and inserting zero expenditure lines for items that are not reported. This is to get the output as close to publication tables as possible.

Tabulate the data. Line numbers are formatted to give titles.

|           |              |  |
|-----------|--------------|--|
| real time | 0.26 seconds |  |
| cpu time  | 0.04 seconds |  |

## VIII. DESCRIPTION OF THE SURVEY

The CE program consists of two separate components, each with its own questionnaire and independent sample:

1) A Diary or recordkeeping survey completed by the sample CUs for two consecutive 1-week periods; the sample is surveyed across a 12-month period.

2) An Interview panel survey in which each CU in the sample is interviewed once every 3 months over five consecutive quarters to obtain a year's worth of data. New panels are initiated every month of the year.

Data are collected by the Bureau of the Census under contract with BLS. All data collected in both surveys are subject to The U.S. Census Bureau confidentiality requirements, which prevent the disclosure of the CU member's identity.

The Diary survey collects expenditure data for items purchased each day over two one-week periods. This survey is designed to collect expenditure data for small, frequently purchased items such as food, beverages, food consumed away from home, gasoline, housekeeping supplies, nonprescription drugs and medical supplies, and personal care products and services. Respondents are not limited to recording expense for these items only.

A Household Characteristics Questionnaire is completed to record demographic and family characteristics data pertaining to age, sex, race, marital status, and CU relationships each CU member. Income information, such as wage, salary, unemployment compensation, child support, and alimony, as well as information on the employment of each CU member age 14 and over is collected. The expenditure collection instrument is a self-reporting, product-oriented diary on which respondents record all expenses for two consecutive one-week periods. It is divided by day of purchase and by broad classification of goods and services, a format designed to aid the respondents when recording daily purchases.

At the beginning of the two-week collection period, the interviewer uses the Household Characteristics Questionnaire to record demographic and characteristics information pertaining to CU members. Also at this time, a diary for the first week is left with the participating CU. At the completion of the first week, the interviewer picks up the diary, reviews the entries, clarifies any questions, and leaves a second diary for the following week. At the end of the second week, the diary is picked up and reviewed. At this point, the interviewer again uses the Household Characteristics Questionnaire to collect information on CU income, employment and earnings of CU members. These data, along with the other household characteristics information, permit data users to classify sample units for research purposes, and allow BLS to adjust population weights for CUs who do not cooperate in the survey.

## **IX. DATA COLLECTION AND PROCESSING**

In addition to its data collection duties, the U.S. Census Bureau is responsible for field editing and coding, consistency checking, quality control, and data transmittal to BLS. BLS performs additional review and editing procedures in preparing the data for publication and release.

### **A. BUREAU OF THE CENSUS ACTIVITIES**

Data collection activities have been conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau on a continuing basis since October 1979. Due to differences in format and design, the Diary Survey and the Interview Survey data are collected and processed separately. Preliminary Diary survey data processing carried out by the U.S. Census Bureau includes programming the Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI) instrument used to collect household characteristics, keying the expenditure data from the diary questionnaire, clerical data editing, and correcting for inconsistencies in the collected data.

The data collected on household characteristics using CAPI are sent directly to the Census Demographic Surveys Division (DSD). Upon completion of the written questionnaire by respondents, the diaries are sent from the regional offices to the Census National Processing Center (NPC) in Jeffersonville, IN. At the NPC, the expenditure data are keyed and codes are applied. The keyed expenditure data are sent to DSD, where they are merged with the household characteristic data. Inconsistencies and errors in the combined data are identified and corrected.

After clerical processing at the NPC, the data are transmitted to the Census Processing Center in Suitland, MD, where they pass through basic quality checks of control counts, missing values, etc. The data are then electronically transmitted to BLS in Washington, DC.

### **B. BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS ACTIVITIES**

Upon receipt from the U.S. Census Bureau, the data undergo a series of computer edits that identify and correct irregularities and inconsistencies. Other adjustments apply appropriate sales taxes and derive CU weights based on BLS specifications. In addition, demographic and work experience items are imputed when missing or invalid. All data changes and imputations are identified with flags on the Interview data base.

Next, BLS conducts an extensive review to ensure that severe data aberrations are corrected. The review takes place in several stages: a review of counts, weighted means, and unweighted means by region; a review of family relationship coding inconsistencies; a review of selected extreme values for expenditure and income categories; and a verification of the various data transformations.

Cases of extreme data values are investigated by reviewing images of the questionnaires. Errors discovered through this procedure are corrected prior to release of the data.

Two major types of data adjustment routines--imputation and allocation--are carried out to improve and classify the estimates derived from the Diary Survey. Data imputation routines correct for missing or invalid entries among selected CU characteristic fields. Allocation routines are applied when respondents provided insufficient expenditure detail to meet tabulation requirements. For example, reports of combined expenditures for fuels and utilities are allocated among gas, electricity, and other items in this group. To analyze the effects of these adjustments, tabulations are made before and after the data adjustments.

## **X. SAMPLING STATEMENT**

### **A. SURVEY SAMPLE DESIGN**

Samples for the CE are national probability samples of households designed to be representative of the total U. S. civilian population. Eligible population includes all civilian noninstitutional persons.

The first step in sampling is the selection of primary sampling units (PSUs), which consist of counties (or parts thereof) or groups of counties. The set of sample PSUs used for the 2011 sample is composed of 91 areas. The design classifies the PSUs into four categories:

- 21 "A" certainty PSUs are Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA's) with a population greater than 1.5 million.
- 38 "X" PSUs, are medium-sized MSAs.
- 16 "Y" PSUs are nonmetropolitan areas that are included in the CPI.
- 16 "Z" PSUs are nonmetropolitan areas where only the urban population data will be included in the CPI.

The sampling frame (that is, the list from which housing units were chosen) for the 2011 survey is generated from the 2000 Population Census file. The sampling frame is augmented by new construction permits and by techniques used to eliminate recognized deficiencies in census coverage. All Enumeration Districts (EDs) from the Census that fail to meet the criterion for good addresses for new construction, and all EDs in nonpermit-issuing areas are grouped into the area segment frame.

To the extent possible, an unclustered sample of units is selected within each PSU. This lack of clustering is desirable because the sample size of the Diary Survey is small relative to other surveys, while the intraclass correlations for expenditure characteristics are relatively large. This suggests that any clustering of the sample units could result in an unacceptable increase in the within-PSU variance and, as a result, the total variance.

Each selected sample unit is requested to keep two 1-week diaries of expenditures over consecutive weeks. The earliest possible day for placing a diary with a household is predesignated with each day of the week having an equal chance to be the first of the reference week. The diaries are evenly spaced throughout the year.

### **B. COOPERATION LEVELS**

The annual target sample size at the United States level for the Diary Survey is 7,050 participating sample units. To achieve this target the total estimated work load is 12,100 sample units. This allows for refusals, vacancies, or nonexistent sample unit addresses.

Each participating sample unit selected is asked to keep two 1-week diaries. Each diary is treated independently, so response rates are based on twice the number of housing units sampled.

The response rate for the 2011 Diary Survey is 70.2% as shown below. This response rate refers to all diaries in the year.

| <u>Number of diaries designated for the survey</u> | <u>Type B or C ineligible cases</u> | <i>Eligible housing unit interviews</i> |                            |                                    |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|----------------------------|------------------------------------|
|  |                                     | <u>Number of potential diaries</u>      | <u>Type A nonresponses</u> | <u>Total respondent interviews</u> |
| 25,258   | 5,435                               | 19,823                                  | 5,898                      | 13,925                             |

Type B or C cases are housing units that are vacant, nonexistent, or ineligible for diary placement. Type A nonresponses are housing units which the interviewers were unable to contact or the respondents refused to participate in the survey. The response rate stated above is based only on the eligible housing units (i.e., the designated sample cases less type B and type C ineligible cases).

### **C. WEIGHTING**

Each CU included in the CE represents a given number of CUs in the U.S. population, which is considered to be the universe. The translation of sample families into the universe of families is known as weighting. However, since the unit of analysis for the CE is a CU, the weighting is performed at the CU level. Several factors are involved in determining the weight for each CU for which a diary is obtained. There are four basic steps in the weighting procedure:

- 1) The basic weight is assigned to an address and is the inverse of the probability of selection of the housing unit.
- 2) A weight control factor is applied to each diary if subsampling is performed in the field.
- 3) A noninterview adjustment is made for units where data could not be collected from occupied housing units. The adjustment is performed as a function of region, housing tenure, family size and race.
- 4) A final adjustment is performed to adjust the sample estimates to national population controls derived from the Current Population Survey. The adjustments are made based on both the CU's member composition and on the CU as a whole. The weight for the CU is adjusted for individuals within the CU to meet the controls for the 14 age/race categories, 4 regions, and 4 region/urban categories. The CU weight is also adjusted to meet the control for total number of CUs and total number of CU who own their living quarters. The weighting procedure uses an iterative process to ensure that the sample estimates will meet all the population controls.

NOTE: The weight for a consumer unit (CU) can be different for each week in which the CU participates in the survey as the CU may represent a different number of CUs with similar characteristics.

### **D. STATE IDENTIFIER**

Since the CE is not designed to produce state-level estimates, summing the consumer unit weights by state will not yield state population totals. A CU's basic weight reflects its probability of selection among a group of primary sampling units of similar characteristics. For example,



sample units in an urban nonmetropolitan area in California may represent similar areas in Wyoming and Nevada. Among other adjustments, CUs are post-stratified nationally by sex-age-race. For example, the weights of consumer units containing a black male, age 16-24 in Alabama, Colorado, or New York, are all adjusted equivalently. Therefore, weighted population state totals will not match population totals calculated from other surveys that are designed to represent state data.

To summarize, the CE sample was not designed to produce precise estimates for individual states. Although state-level estimates that are unbiased in a repeated sampling sense can be calculated for various statistical measures, such as means and aggregates, their estimates will generally be subject to large variances. Additionally, a particular state-population estimate from the CE sample may be far from the true state-population estimate.

## **XI. INTERPRETING THE DATA**

Several factors should be considered when interpreting the expenditure data. The average expenditure for an item may be considerably lower than the expenditure by those CUs that purchased the item. The less frequently an item is purchased, the greater the difference between the average for all consumer units and the average of those purchasing. (See [Section V.B.ESTIMATION OF TOTAL AND MEAN EXPENDITURES](#)). Also, an individual CU may spend more or less than the average, depending on its particular characteristics. Factors such as income, age of family members, geographic location, taste and personal preference also influence expenditures. Furthermore, even within groups with similar characteristics, the distribution of expenditures varies substantially.

Expenditures reported are the direct out-of-pocket expenditures. Indirect expenditures, which may be significant, may be reflected elsewhere. For example, rental contracts often include utilities. Renters with such contracts would record no direct expense for utilities, and therefore, appear to have no utility expenses. Employers or insurance companies frequently pay other costs. CUs with members whose employers pay for all or part of their health insurance or life insurance would have lower direct expenses for these items than those who pay the entire amount themselves. These points should be considered when relating reported averages to individual circumstances.

## **XII. APPENDIX —1—GLOSSARY**

### Population

The civilian non-institutional population of the United States as well as that portion of the institutional population living in the following group quarters: Boarding houses, housing facilities for students and workers, staff units in hospitals and homes for the aged, infirm, or needy, permanent living quarters in hotels and motels, and mobile home parks. Urban population is defined as all persons living in a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA's) and in urbanized areas and urban places of 2,500 or more persons outside of MSA's. Urban, defined in this survey, includes the rural populations within MSA. The general concept of an MSA is one of a large population nucleus together with adjacent communities that have a high degree of economic and social integration with that nucleus. Rural population is defined as all persons living outside of an MSA and within an area with less than 2,500 persons.

### Consumer unit (CU)

A consumer unit comprises either: (1) all members of a particular household who are related by blood, marriage, adoption, or other legal arrangements; (2) a person living alone or sharing a household with others or living as a roomer in a private home or lodging house or in permanent living quarters in a hotel or motel, but who is financially independent; or (3) two or more persons living together who use their income to make joint expenditures. Financial independence is determined by the three major expense categories: housing, food, and other living expenses. To be considered financially independent, at least two of the three major expense categories have to be provided entirely or in part by the respondent.

#### Reference person

The first member mentioned by the respondent when asked to "Start with the name of the person or one of the persons who owns or rents the home." It is with respect to this person that the relationship of other CU members is determined.

#### Income before taxes

The combined income earned by all CU members 14 years old or over during the 12 months preceding the interview. The components of income are: Wage and salary income, business income, farm income, Social Security income and Supplemental Security income, unemployment compensation, workmen's compensation, public assistance, welfare, interest, dividends, pension income, income from roomers or boarders, other rental income, income from regular contributions, other income, and food stamps.

#### Income after taxes

Income before taxes minus personal taxes, which includes Federal income taxes, state and local taxes, and other taxes.

#### Geographic regions

CUs are classified by region according to the address at which they reside during the time of participation in the survey. The regions comprise the following States:

*Northeast* - Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont

*Midwest* - Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin

*South* - Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia

*West* - Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming

### **XIII. APPENDIX 2—UNIVERSAL CLASSIFICATION CODE (UCC) TITLES**

\*L denotes UCCs that could have negative values.

An underlined UCC represents either a new UCC or a deleted UCC. Please note that new UCCs may not be represented in all quarters. The quarter in which the addition (deletion) occurs is denoted by a leading superscript directly prior to the UCC code. For example, <sup>N(D)</sup>111(UCC) identifies a new (deleted) UCC beginning in Q111.

#### **A. EXPENDITURE UCC's ON EXPN FILE**

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| 001000 | Stocks, bonds, mutual funds  |
| 001100 | Precious metals  |
| 001200 | Miscellaneous investments  |
| 001400 | Employment counseling & fees   |
| 002000 | Savings account deposit  |
| 002100 | Insurance other than health, hospital, vehicle and property  |
| 002200 | Retirement plans   |
| 004000 | Contributions  |
| 004100 | Cash gifts   |
| 004190 | Gifts not specified  |
| 005000 | Alimony and child support  |
| 009000 | Mortgage payment including coop  |
| 009900 | Property assessment  |
| 010110 | Flour  |
| 010120 | Prepared flour mixes   |
| 010210 | Cereal   |
| 010310 | Rice   |
| 010320 | Pasta, cornmeal, other cereal products   |
| 020110 | White bread  |
| 020210 | Bread other than white   |
| 020310 | Fresh biscuits, rolls, muffins   |
| 020410 | Cakes and cupcakes, fresh and other, excluding frozen  |
| 020510 | Cookies, excluding refrigerated dough  |
| 020610 | Crackers, excluding crumbs   |
| 020620 | Bread and cracker products   |
| 020710 | Doughnuts, sweet rolls, coffeecakes, fresh and other, excluding frozen   |
| 020810 | Frozen refrigerated and canned bakery products, such as biscuits, rolls, muffins, cakes, cupcakes, doughnuts, pies, tarts, turnovers, and miscellaneous products, including dough and batter |
| 020820 | Pies, tarts, turnovers, fresh and other, excluding frozen  |
| 030110 | Ground beef, excluding canned  |
| 030210 | Chuck roast, excluding canned  |
| 030310 | Round roast, excluding canned  |
| 030410 | Other beef roast, excluding canned   |
| 030510 | Round steak, excluding canned  |
| 030610 | Sirloin steak, excluding canned  |
| 030710 | Other steak, excluding canned  |
| 030810 | Other beef, excluding canned   |
| 040110 | Bacon  |
| 040210 | Pork chops   |
| 040310 | Ham, excluding canned  |
| 040410 | Other pork, excluding canned   |

040510 Pork sausage, excluding canned  
040610 Canned ham  
050110 Frankfurters, excluding canned  
050210 Bologna, liverwurst, salami, excluding canned  
050310 Other lunchmeat  
050410 Lamb and organ meats, excluding canned  
050900 Mutton, goat, game  
060110 Fresh and frozen whole chicken  
060210 Fresh or frozen chicken parts  
060310 Other poultry  
070110 Canned fish, seafood and shellfish  
070230 Fresh fish and shellfish  
070240 Frozen fish and shellfish  
080110 Eggs  
090110 Fresh milk all types  
090210 Cream  
100110 Butter  
100210 Cheese  
100410 Ice cream and related products, including frozen yogurt  
100510 Other dairy products, including powdered milk, and fresh, canned and non-frozen yogurt  
110110 Apples  
110210 Bananas  
110310 Oranges  
110410 Other fresh fruits  
110510 Citrus fruits excluding oranges  
120110 Potatoes  
120210 Lettuce  
120310 Tomatoes  
120410 Other fresh vegetables  
130110 Frozen orange juice  
130121 Frozen fruits  
130122 Frozen fruit juices  
130211 Fresh fruit juices  
130212 Canned/bottled fruit juices  
130310 Canned fruits  
130320 Dried fruits  
140110 Frozen vegetables  
140210 Canned beans  
140220 Canned corn  
140230 Miscellaneous canned vegetables, not collected in a separate UCC  
140310 Other processed dried vegetables, such as squash, not collected in a separate UCC  
140320 Dried peas  
140330 Dried beans  
140340 Dried carrots, onions, leafy greens, and cabbage  
140410 Frozen vegetable juices  
140420 Fresh/canned vegetable juices  
150110 Candy and chewing gum  
150211 Sugar  
150212 Artificial sweeteners  
150310 Jams, jellies, preserves and other sweets  
160110 Margarine  
160211 Fats and oils  
160212 Salad dressings  
160310 Non-dairy cream substitutes  
160320 Peanut butter  
170110 Cola drinks

170210 Other carbonated drinks  
 170310 Coffee, roasted  
 170410 Coffee, instant or freeze dried  
 170510 Noncarbonated fruit flavored drinks, including lemonade-non frozen  
 170520 Tea  
 170531 Other noncarbonated beverage/ice  
 170532 Bottled water  
 170533 Sports Drinks  
 180110 Soup  
 180210 Frozen meals  
 180220 Frozen prepared food other than meals  
 180310 Potato chips and other snacks  
 180320 Nuts  
 180410 Salt, other seasonings & spices  
 180420 Olives, pickles, relishes  
 180510 Sauces and gravies  
 180520 Other condiments  
 180611 Prepared salads  
 180612 Prepared desserts  
 180620 Baby food  
 180710 Miscellaneous prepared foods including items such as canned meats (see UCC's 030110 - 030810, 040410 - 040510, 050110, 050310 - 050410, 060110 - 060310), fresh and canned ethnic foods, fresh and canned pizza  
 180720 Vitamin supplements  
 190111 Lunch at Fast Food  
 190112 Lunch at Full Service  
 190113 Lunch at Vending Machine  
 190114 Lunch at Employer  
 190115 Lunch at Board  
 190116 Lunch at Catered Affairs  
 190211 Dinner at Fast Food  
 190212 Dinner at Full Service  
 190213 Dinner at Vending Machine  
 190214 Dinner at Employer  
 190215 Dinner at Board  
 190216 Dinner at Catered Affairs  
 190311 Snacks at Fast Food  
 190312 Snacks at Full Service  
 190313 Snacks at Vend Machine  
 190314 Snacks at Employer  
 190315 Snacks at Board  
 190316 Snacks at Catered Affairs  
 190321 Breakfast at Fast Food  
 190322 Breakfast at Full Service  
 190323 Breakfast at Vending Machine  
 190324 Breakfast at Employer  
 190325 Breakfast at Board  
 190326 Breakfast at Catered Affairs  
 190911 Board at Fast Food  
 190912 Board at Full Service  
 190913 Board at Vending Machine  
 190914 Board at Employer  
 190915 Board  
 190916 Board at Catered Affairs  
 190921 Catered Affairs at Fast Food  
 190922 Catered Affairs at Full Service

190923 Catered Affairs at Vending Machine  
 190924 Catered Affairs at Employer  
 190925 Catered Affairs at Board  
 190926 Catered Affairs  
 200111 Beer and ale at home  
 200112 Nonalcoholic beer  
 200210 Whiskey at home  
 200310 Wine at home  
 200410 Other alcoholic beverages at home  
 200511 Beer at Fast Food  
 200512 Beer at Full Service  
 200513 Beer at Vending Machine  
 200514 Beer at Employer  
 200515 Beer at Board  
 200516 Beer at Catered Affairs  
 200521 Wine at Fast Food  
 200522 Wine at Full Service  
 200523 Wine at Vending Machine  
 200524 Wine at Employer  
 200525 Wine at Board  
 200526 Wine at Catered Affairs  
 200531 Alcoholic Beverage Excluding Beer/Wine Fast Food  
 200532 Alcoholic Beverage Excluding Beer/Wine Full Service  
 200533 Alcoholic Beverage Excluding Beer/Wine Vending Machine  
 200534 Alcoholic Beverage Excluding Beer/Wine at Employer  
 200535 Alcoholic Beverage Excluding Beer/Wine at Board  
 200536 Alcoholic Beverage Excluding Beer/Wine Catered Affairs  
 210110 Rent of dwelling, including deposit and parking fees  
 210210 Lodging away from home  
 210310 Housing for someone at school  
 210900 Ground or land rent  
 220000 Capital improvements, not specified  
 220110 Fire/extended coverage insurance  
 220120 Homeowners insurance  
 220210 Property taxes  
 220400 Purchase of property or real estate  
 220510 Capital improvements - commodities  
 220610 Capital improvements - services  
 220900 Parking, owned dwelling  
 230000 Repair, maintenance, and improvements for built in dishwasher, garbage disposal, and range hood  
 230110 Maintenance of property, including items such as ceiling repair, black top, brick, or masonry work, air conditioner repair, roof and awning repair, house painting, papering, chimney cleaning, electrical inspection, furnace inspection and repair, wiring, pest control, carpenter, plumber, etc...  
 230120 Installed hard surface flooring  
 230130 Installed wall-to-wall carpet  
 230140 Repair disposal, dishwasher, range hood  
 230900 Maintenance fees, such as service repair of property fees, management fees, homeowners association dues, condo fees, and community pool fees  
 240110 Paint, wallpaper and supplies  
 240120 Tools and equipment for painting and papering  
 240210 Lumber, paneling, tile, awning, glass, plywood, doors, windows, screens, siding, roofing and fencing materials  
 240220 Blacktop and masonry materials  
 240310 Plumbing supplies, fixtures and equipment

240320 Electric heating and air conditioning supplies and equipment  
 240900 Soft surface floor covering  
 250110 Fuel oil  
 250210 Bottled or tank gas  
 250220 Coal  
 250900 Miscellaneous fuels, such as wood, kerosene, charcoal, oil mix for gas, lawnmower oil, lamp oil, duraflame log, and sterno  
 260110 Electricity  
 260210 Utility - natural gas  
 270000 Telephone service, including public pay phones  
 270210 Water and sewerage maintenance  
 270310 Cable/Satellite/Com Antenna Serv  
 270410 Garbage, trash collection  
 270900 Septic tank cleaning  
 270905 Steam heat  
 280110 Bathroom linens  
 280120 Bedroom linens  
 280130 Kitchen and dining room linens  
 280210 Curtains and drapes, excluding shower  
 280220 Slipcovers, decorative pillows, and cushions  
 280230 Sewing materials for slipcovers, curtains, and other home handiwork  
 280900 Other linens  
 290110 Mattress and springs  
 290120 Other bedroom furniture  
 290210 Sofas  
 290310 Living room chairs  
 290320 Living room tables  
 290410 Kitchen and dining room furniture  
 290420 Infants' furniture  
 290430 Patio, porch or outdoor furniture  
 290440 Modular wall units, shelves or cabinets, or other living room, family or rec-room furniture including desks  
 300110 Refrigerator, home freezer  
 300210 Washers  
 300220 Dryers  
 300310 Stoves, ovens  
 300320 Microwave ovens  
 300330 Portable dishwashers  
 300410 Window air conditioners  
 300900 Miscellaneous household appliances  
 310140 Televisions  
 310210 Video players, video recorders, video tape player, video tape recorder, video disc player, video camera receiver and recorder, and camcorder  
 310220 Video cassettes, tapes and discs, laser discs, reels, prerecorded and blank video cassettes, video tapes, and diskettes  
 D<sup>111</sup> 310230 Video game cartridges, TV computer games and software, Atari cartridges and supplies, computer joystick, games, and game cartridges  
 N<sup>111</sup> 310231 Video game software  
 N<sup>111</sup> 310232 Video game hardware and accessories  
 310311 Radio, not installed in vehicles  
 310312 Phonograph or record player  
 310313 Tape recorder and player  
 310315 Digital media players and recorders  
 310320 Sound components, component systems, amplifiers, receivers, turn tables, tape decks, tuners, stereos, speakers, and compact disc sound systems  
 310241 Streaming Video Files

310242 Downloading Video Files  
 310314 Digital Audio Players  
 310331 Miscellaneous sound equipment  
 310332 Sound equipment accessories  
 310334 Satellite dishes  
 310335 Miscellaneous video equipment  
 310340 Records, CDs, and Audio Tapes  
 310351 Streaming Audio Files  
 310352 Downloading Audio Files  
 310900 Accessories for electronic equipment  
 320110 Room-size rugs and other non-permanent floor coverings  
 320120 Venetian blinds, window shades and other window coverings  
 320130 Infants' equipment  
 320140 Laundry and cleaning equipment  
 320150 Outdoor equipment  
 320220 Lamps and other lighting fixtures  
 320232 Telephones and accessories  
 320233 Clocks and other household decorative items  
 320310 Plastic dinnerware  
 320320 China and other dinnerware  
 320330 Stainless, silver and other flatware  
 320340 Glassware  
 320350 Silver serving pieces  
 320360 Serving pieces other than silver  
 320370 Nonelectric cookware  
 320380 Tableware, nonelectric kitchenware  
 320410 Lawnmowing equipment and other yard machinery, powered and nonpowered  
 320420 Power tools  
 320430 Other hardware, including curtain and drapery hardware, rope, portable ladders, sheds, non-permanent shelves and shelving  
 320511 Electric floor cleaning equipment  
 320512 Sewing machines  
 320521 Small electrical kitchen appliances  
 320522 Portable heating and cooling equipment  
 320610 Miscellaneous supplies and equipment, such as caulking compound, duct tape, carpet tape, carpet knife, bolts, screws, drill bits, door knobs, tool box, keys, mailbox, gutter screens, clamps, shelf brackets, tool table, work bench, etc...  
 320620 Permanent hard surface floor covering  
 320630 Landscaping items, such as grass, grass seed, trees, shrubs, plants, sod, and fork lift  
 320901 Office furniture for home use  
 320902 Non-powered tools  
 320903 Fresh flowers or potted plants  
 320904 Closet and storage items  
 320905 Miscellaneous household equipment and parts  
 320906 Electronic testing equipment  
 330110 Soaps and detergents, excluding hand soaps  
 330210 Other laundry and cleaning products  
 330310 Paper towels, napkins, toilet tissue, facial tissue  
 330410 Stationery, giftwrap and wrap accessories, greeting cards, pens, pencils, tape  
 330510 Miscellaneous household products, including paper, plastic and foil products  
 330610 Lawn and garden supplies, including outdoor plants  
 340110 Postage  
 340120 Delivery services  
 340210 Babysitting or other home care for children  
 340310 Housekeeping service, such as housekeeping, cooking, maid service, interior decorating, and carpet and upholstery cleaning services



340410 Gardening and lawn care services, such as mowing, tree services, fertilizing, and yard work  
 340510 Moving, storage, and freight express  
 340520 Non-clothing household laundry or dry cleaning not coin operated  
 340530 Non-clothing household laundry or dry cleaning - coin-operated  
 340610 Repair of television, radio, and sound equipment, excluding installed in vehicles  
 340620 Repair of household appliances; including stove, vacuum, washer, dryer, sewing machine, refrigerator, and calculator; excluding garbage disposal, range hood, and built-in dishwasher  
 340630 Furniture repair, refurbishing, or reupholstery  
 340901 Rental or repair of lawnmowing equipment and other yard machinery, power and non-power tools  
 340903 Miscellaneous home services and small repair jobs not already specified  
 340904 Rental of furniture  
 340906 Care for invalids, convalescents, handicapped or elderly persons in the CU  
 340907 Rental of household equipment items, such as refrigerators, home freezers, washers, microwave ovens, dishwashers, water cooler, stroller, china; excluding tools and lawn/garden equipment  
 340908 Rental of office equipment for non-business use, includes items such as calculators, typewriters, projectors, and other office machines.  
 340909 Rental of TV or radio sound equipment  
 340913 Repair and alterations of miscellaneous household equipment, furnishings, and textiles  
 350110 Tenants' insurance  
 360110 Men's suits  
 360120 Men's sportcoats and tailored jackets  
 360210 Men's coats, jackets, and furs  
 360311 Men's underwear  
 360312 Men's hosiery  
 360320 Men's sleepwear/loungewear  
 360330 Men's accessories  
 360340 Men's sweaters and vests  
 360350 Men's active sportswear  
 360410 Men's shirts  
 360513 Men's pants and shorts  
 360901 Men's uniforms  
 370110 Boys' coats, jackets, and furs  
 370120 Boys' sweaters  
 370130 Boys' shirts  
 370211 Boys' underwear  
 370212 Boys' sleepwear/loungewear  
 370213 Boys' hosiery  
 370220 Boys' accessories  
 370311 Boys' suits, sportcoats, and vests  
 370314 Boys' pants and shorts  
 370901 Boys' uniforms and active sportswear  
 380110 Women's coats, jackets and furs  
 380210 Women's dresses  
 380311 Women's sportcoats and tailored jackets  
 380312 Women's vests, sweaters, and sweater sets  
 380313 Women's shirts, tops, and blouses  
 380320 Women's skirts and culottes  
 380333 Women's pants and shorts  
 380340 Women's active sportswear  
 380410 Women's sleepwear/loungewear  
 380420 Women's undergarments  
 380430 Women's hosiery  
 380510 Women's suits

380901 Women's accessories  
 380902 Women's uniforms  
 390110 Girls' coats, jackets, and furs  
 390120 Girls' dresses and suits  
 390210 Girls' sport coats, tailored jackets, shirts, blouses, sweaters, sweater sets, and vests  
 390223 Girls' pants and shorts  
 390230 Girls' active sportswear  
 390310 Girls' undergarments and sleepwear/loungewear  
 390321 Girls' hosiery  
 390322 Girls' accessories  
 390901 Girls' uniforms  
 400110 Men's footwear  
 400210 Boys' footwear  
 400220 Girls' footwear  
 400310 Women's footwear  
 410110 Infants' coats, jackets, and snowsuits  
 410120 Infants' rompers, dresses, and sweaters  
 410130 Infants' undergarments, including diapers  
 410140 Infants' sleeping garments  
 410901 Infants' accessories, hosiery, and footwear  
 420110 Sewing material for making clothes  
 420120 Sewing notions, patterns  
 430110 Watches  
 430120 Jewelry  
 430130 Travel items, including luggage, and luggage carriers  
 440110 Shoe repair and other shoe services  
 440120 Apparel laundry and dry cleaning - coin-operated  
 440130 Alteration, repair, tailoring of apparel and accessories  
 440140 Clothing rental  
 440150 Watch and jewelry repair  
 440210 Apparel laundry and dry cleaning not coin operated  
 440900 Clothing storage  
 450110 New cars  
 450210 New trucks, pick-ups, vans, or jeeps  
 450220 New motorcycles, motor scooters, or mopeds  
 450310 Lease payment (car lease)  
 450410 Lease payment (truck/pick-up/van/jeep lease)  
 460110 Used cars  
 460901 Used trucks or vans  
 460902 Used motorcycles, motor scooters, or mopeds  
 460903 Used aircraft  
 470111 Gasoline  
 470112 Diesel fuel  
 470114 Gasohol  
 470211 Motor oil  
 470220 Coolant/antifreeze, oil, brake & transmission fluids, additives, and radiator/cooling system protectant  
 480110 Tires (new, used or recapped); replacement and mounting of tires, and belting  
 480212 Vehicle products, such as wax, touch up paint, de-icer, protectant, polish, tar and bug remover, polish cloth, rubbing compound, auto freshener, etc...  
 480213 Battery replacement, floor mats, seat covers, filter, brake parts, and other equipment, supplies, parts, and accessories for auto; boating supplies and accessories  
 480214 Vehicle audio equipment, excluding labor  
 490000 Miscellaneous auto repair and servicing  
 490110 Body work, painting, repair and replacement of upholstery, vinyl/convertible top, and glass  
 490211 Clutch and transmission repair

490212 Drive shaft and rear-end repair  
 490220 Brake work, excluding brake adjustment  
 490231 Steering or front end repair  
 490232 Cooling system repair  
 490311 Motor tune-up  
 490312 Lubrication and oil changes  
 490313 Front end alignment, wheel balance and rotation  
 490314 Shock absorber replacement  
 490315 Brake adjustment  
 490316 Gas tank repair and replacement  
 490411 Exhaust system repair  
 490412 Electrical system repair  
 490413 Motor repair and replacement  
 500110 Vehicle insurance  
 520110 State or local vehicle registration  
 520310 Drivers' license  
 520410 Vehicle inspection  
 520511 Auto rental, excluding trips  
 520521 Truck or van rental, excluding trips  
 520531 Parking fees at garages, meters, and lots, excluding fees that are costs of property ownership in home city  
 520541 Tolls or electronic toll passes  
 520550 Towing charges  
 520560 Global Positioning Services  
 520901 Docking and landing fees for boats and planes, boat ramp fees  
 520902 Rental of motorcycle, motor scooters, moped, etc., including mileage charges  
 520904 Rental of non camper-type trailer, such as for boat or cycle  
 530110 Airline fares  
 530210 Intercity bus fares  
 530311 Intracity mass transit fares  
 530412 Taxi fares  
 530510 Intercity train fares  
 530901 Ship fares  
 530902 Private school bus  
 530903 Car/van pool & non-motorized transportation  
 540000 Prescription drugs and medicines  
 550110 Purchase of eye glasses or contact lenses, excluding exam fee  
 550210 Over-the-counter drugs  
 550310 Topicals and dressings, such as band aids, gauze, cotton balls/rolls  
 550320 Purchase of medical or surgical equipment for general use, such as thermometers, needles/syringes, ice bags, heating pads, (not including band aids, gauze, cotton rolls/balls)  
 550330 Purchase of supportive or convalescent medical equipment, such as crutches, wheelchairs, braces, and ace bandages  
 550340 Hearing aids  
 550410 Nonprescription vitamins  
 550900 Recreational drugs  
 560110 Physicians' services  
 560210 Dental services  
 560310 Eye exams, treatment or surgery, glass/lens service, glasses repaired  
 560330 Lab tests and x-rays  
 560400 Services by medical professionals other than physicians  
 570000 Hospital care not specified  
 570220 Care in convalescent in nursing home  
 570230 Other medical care service, such as ambulance service  
 570901 Rental of medical or surgical equipment for general use  
 570902 Repair of medical equipment

570903 Rental of supportive and convalescent equipment  
 580000 Hospital and health insurance not spec.  
 580110 Commercial health insurance  
 580210 Blue Cross or Blue Shield  
 580310 Health maintenance plans  
 580901 Medicare payments  
 590110 Newspapers (single copy and subscriptions)  
 590210 Magazines and periodicals (single copy and subscriptions)  
 590220 Books purchased through book clubs  
 590230 Books not purchased through book clubs  
 590900 Newsletters  
 600110 Outboard motor  
 600120 Unpowered boats, trailers  
 600130 Powered sports vehicles  
 600210 Ping pong, pool tables, other similar items, general sports equipment, and health and exercise equipment  
 600310 Bicycles  
 600410 Camping equipment  
 600420 Hunting and fishing equipment  
 600430 Winter sports equipment  
 600900 Water sports and miscellaneous sports equipment  
 600903 Global Positioning System Devices  
 610110 Toys, games, hobbies, tricycles, and battery powered riders  
 610120 Playground equipment  
 610130 Musical instruments and accessories  
 610140 Stamp And Coin Collecting  
 610210 Film  
 610220 Other photographic supplies  
 610230 Photographic equipment  
 610310 Pet food  
 610320 Pets, pet supplies and medicine for pets  
 610901 Fireworks  
 610902 Souvenirs  
 610903 Visual goods  
 620111 Membership fees for country clubs, health clubs, swimming pools tennis clubs, social or other recreational organizations, civic, service, or fraternal organizations  
 620112 Membership fees for credit card memberships  
 620113 Membership fees for automobile service clubs  
 620121 Fees for participant sports, such as golf, tennis, and bowling  
 620211 Admission fees for entertainment activities, including lectures, movie, theatre, concert, opera or other musical series  
 620221 Admission fees to sporting events  
 620310 Fees for recreational lessons or other instructions  
 620320 Photographer fees  
 620330 Film processing  
 620410 Pet services  
 620420 Veterinarian expenses for pets  
 620510 Miscellaneous fees for admissions  
 620610 Miscellaneous entertainment services  
 620710 Camp fees  
 620810 Rental and repair of sports, photographic and music equipment, passport fees  
 620912 Rental of video cassettes, tapes, and discs  
 620913 Coin-operated pinball/electronic video games  
 620915 Sport vehicle rental  
 620925 Lotteries and Parimutuel Losses  
 620926 Miscellaneous Fees

620930 Online Entertainment Services  
 630110 Cigarettes  
 630210 Cigars, pipe tobacco, and other tobacco products  
 630220 Smoking accessories  
 630900 Marijuana  
 640110 Hair care products  
 640120 Non-electric articles for the hair  
 640130 Wigs, hairpieces, and toupees  
 640210 Oral hygiene products, articles  
 640220 Shaving needs  
 640310 Cosmetics, perfume, cologne, bath preparations, hand soap, face and body powder, skin care products, nail preparations, manicure and eye make-up implements and accessories  
 640410 Deodorant, female hygiene products, miscellaneous personal care products and supplies  
 640420 Electrical personal care appliances  
 N111 640430 Adult diapers  
 650110 Personal care services for females, including haircuts  
 650210 Personal care services for males, including haircuts  
 650900 Rental and repair of personal care appliances  
 660000 School supplies., etc. - unspec., including reference books not in a set  
 660110 School books, supplies, and equipment for college  
 660210 School books, supplies, and equipment for elementary and high school  
 660310 Encyclopedia and other sets of reference books  
 660900 School books , supplies, and equipment for day care center, nursery school and other  
 670110 Tuition for college  
 670210 Tuition for elementary and high school  
 670310 Other expenses for day care centers and nursery schools, including tuition  
 670901 Tuition for other schools  
 670902 Rentals of books and equipment, and other school-related expenses  
 680110 Legal fees, excluding real estate closing costs  
 680140 Funeral, burial or cremation expenses  
 680210 Safe deposit box rental  
 680220 Charges for checking accounts and other banking services, excluding safe deposit  
 680901 Purchase and upkeep of cemetery lots or vaults  
 680902 Accounting fees  
 680903 Miscellaneous personal services, advertising, fines, duplicating services  
 680904 Dating Services  
 U111 690110 Computers for non-business use, hardware and software excluding video games  
 690114 Computer information services  
 690115 Personal Digital Assistants  
 690116 Internet Services Away From Home  
 N111 690118 Digital book readers  
 N111 690119 Computer software  
 N111 690120 Computer accessories  
 690210 Telephone answering devices  
 690230 Typewriters and other office machines for non-business use  
 999000 Home ownership expense not specified  
 999900 Taxes not specified

NOTE: The following lists the UCCs necessary to derive expenditures for these “food away” items:

[1] for LUNCH

190111, 190112, 190113, 190114, 190115, 190116

[2] for DINNER

190211, 190212, 190213, 190214, 190215, 190216

[3] for SNACKS

190311, 190312, 190313, 190314, 190315, 190316

[4] for BREAKFAST

190321, 190322, 190323, 190324, 190325, 190326

[5] for CATERED AFFAIRS

190921, 190922, 190923, 190924, 190925, 190926

[6] for BOARD

190911, 190912, 190913, 190914, 190915, 190916

[7] for BEER

200511, 200512, 200513, 200514, 200515, 200516

[8] for WINE

200521, 200522, 200523, 200524, 200525, 200526

[9] for ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, EXCL. BEER AND WINE

200531, 200532, 200533, 200534, 200535, 200536

## **B. INCOME AND RELATED UCC's ON DTBD FILE**

\*L denotes UCC's could have negative values

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 800700    | Meals received as pay  |
| 800710    | Rent received as pay   |
| 800910    | Payroll deductions for government retirement   |
| 800920    | Payroll deductions for railroad retirement   |
| 800931    | Payroll deductions for private pensions  |
| 800932    | Non-payroll deposit to individual retirement plan, such as IRA's                                 |
| 800940    | Payroll deductions for social security   |
| 900000    | Wages and salaries   |
| *L 900010 | Net business income  |
| *L 900020 | Net farm income  |
| 900030    | Social security and railroad retirement income   |
| 900040    | Pensions and annuities   |
| 900050    | Dividends, royalties, estates, or trusts   |
| *L 900060 | Income from roomers and boarders   |
| *L 900070 | Other rental income  |
| 900080    | Interest from saving accounts or bonds   |
| 900090    | Supplemental security income   |
| 900100    | Unemployment compensation  |
| 900110    | Worker's compensation and veterans payments including education benefits                         |
| 900120    | Public assistance or welfare including money received from job training grants such as job corps |
| 900131    | Child support payments received  |
| 900132    | Other regular contributions received including alimony   |

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 900140    | Other income including money received from care of foster children, cash scholarships and fellowships or stipends not based on working       |
| 900150    | Food stamps  |
| 910000    | Lump sum payments from estates, trusts, royalties, alimony, child support, prizes or games of chance, or from persons outside of the CU      |
| 910010    | Money from sale of household furnishings, equipment, clothing, jewelry, pets or other belongings, excluding the sale of vehicles or property |
| 910020    | Overpayment on social security   |
| 910030    | Refund from insurance policies   |
| 910040    | Refunds from property taxes  |
| 910041    | Lump sum child support payments received   |
| 950002    | Federal income tax (deducted)  |
| 950003    | Additional federal income tax (paid)   |
| *L 950001 | Federal income tax refunds   |
| 950012    | State/local income tax (deducted)  |
| 950013    | Additional state/local income tax (paid)   |
| *L 950011 | State and local income tax refunds   |
| 950021    | Other taxes  |
| 950022    | Personal property taxes  |
| *L 950023 | Other tax refunds  |
| *L 980000 | Income before taxes  |
| 980010    | Family size  |
| 980020    | Age of reference person  |
| 980030    | Number of earners  |
| 980040    | Number of vehicles   |
| 980050    | Number of persons under 18   |
| 980060    | Number of persons 65 and over  |
| *L 980070 | Income after taxes   |

The following UCCs contain values of 100 depending on whether the CU satisfies the condition. For example, if the CU owns the home, then UCC 980090, homeowner, will have a value of 100. These UCCs are used at BLS to compute percentages for the published tables.

|        |  |
|--------|--|
| 980090 | Percent homeowner                                    |
| 980210 | Percent male reference person                        |
| 980220 | Percent female reference person                      |
| 980230 | Percent homeowner with mortgage                      |
| 980240 | Percent homeowner without mortgage                   |
| 980250 | Percent homeowner with mortgage not reported         |
| 980260 | Percent renter                                       |
| 980270 | Percent black reference person                       |
| 980280 | Percent non-black reference person                   |
| 980290 | Percent reference person with elementary education   |
| 980300 | Percent reference person with high school education  |
| 980310 | Percent reference person with college education      |
| 980320 | Percent reference person with no education and other |
| 980330 | Percent vehicle owner                                |

## **XIV. APPENDIX 3 – UCC AGGREGATION**

The Dstub file shows the UCC aggregation used in the sample program.

## **XV. APPENDIX 4—PUBLICATIONS AND DATA RELEASES FROM THE CONSUMER EXPENDITURE SURVEY**

### **CONSUMER EXPENDITURE SURVEY DATA ON THE INTERNET**

CE reports and data tables can be found on-line at <http://www.bls.gov/cex/home.htm>. The following One and Two-year Tables of integrated Diary and Interview data are available under the [Tables Created by BLS](#) heading:

#### **One Year Tables**

- Standard Tables from 1984-2011
- Expenditure Shares Tables from 1998-2011
- Aggregate Expenditure Shares Tables from 1998-2011

#### **Two Year Tables**

- Cross-Tabulated Tables from 1986-2011
- Metropolitan Statistical Area Tables from 1986-2011
- Region Tables from 1998-2011
- High Income Tables from 1998-2002
- Multi-Year Tables for 1984-1992 and 1994-2011

#### **CD-ROMS and Online Downloads**

The data releases are to be made available online in reverse chronological order, starting with the 2010 data release in July 2012, with prior years appearing incrementally until the 1996 data release is posted. Post-1995 data releases will remain available on CD-ROM for purchase until posted online. Please see [PUMD on CD-ROM](#) for ordering information.

Pre-1996 PUMD will continue to only be available on CD-ROM for purchase. Plans for a future project to make pre-1996 data available online are in the works, but no timetable has been set for its release.

For information and downloading of past PUMD releases, please visit the links below. Multiple zip files can also be downloaded at one time. Please see [Instructions for Downloading Consumer Expenditure Survey \(CE\) Microdata and Documentation](#) for information on downloading the files. Public Use Microdata that are not available online must be purchased through the Bureau of Labor Statistics Division of Financial Planning and Management. To purchase CD-ROMs by check or charge, print and complete the order form ([PDF](#)) and return it with payment to: Bureau of Labor Statistics Division of Financial Planning and Management, Room 4135, 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE Washington, DC 20212-0001. Phone (202) 691-7794, Fax (202) 691-7796.

CE microdata on CD-ROM are available from the Bureau of Labor Statistics for 1972-73, 1980-81, 1990-91, 1992-93, and for each individual year from 1994-2009 (excluding those years which are currently available for free download online). The 1980-81 through 2009 releases contain Interview and Diary data, while the 1972-73 CD includes Interview data only. The 1980-81, and



the 1990 files (of the 1990-91 CD) include selected EXPN data, while the 1991 files (from the 1990-91 CD) and the 1992-93 CD do not. In addition to the Interview and Diary data, the CDs from 1994-2004 include the complete collection of EXPN files. A 1984-94 "multi-year" CD that presents Interview FMLY file data is also available. In addition to the microdata, the CD's also contain the same integrated Diary and Interview tabulated data (1984-2009) that are found on the Consumer Expenditure Survey web site (<http://www.bls.gov/cex>).

More information on the particular CD-ROMs available and the order form can be found on the Consumer Expenditure Survey web site: <http://www.bls.gov/cex/pumhome.htm#order>

## **XVI. INQUIRIES, SUGGESTIONS, AND COMMENTS**

If you have any questions, suggestions, or comments about the survey, the microdata, or its documentation please call (202) 691-6900 or email [cexinfo@bls.gov](mailto:cexinfo@bls.gov).

Written suggestions and comments should be forwarded to:

Division of Consumer Expenditure Survey  
Branch of Information and Analysis  
Bureau of Labor Statistics, Room 3985  
2 Massachusetts Ave. N.E.  
Washington, DC. 20212-0001

The Bureau of Labor Statistics will use these responses in planning future releases of the microdata.