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Iowa Food Stamp Leavers Survey

Methodology Report

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Abstract

The Iowa Food Stamp Leavers survey was conducted to evaluate the status of people who had left the Iowa Food Stamp Program in 1997. This report describes the sample design, location strategies, data collection methodologies, and weighting procedures used in conducting the survey and preparing the data for analysis.

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Methodology Report

1. Introduction

The Iowa Food Stamp Leavers survey was conducted to evaluate the status of persons who had left the Iowa Food Stamp Program (FSP) during 1997. A case is defined as leaving the FSP if the case experienced a minimum of two months absence from the program during the period December 1996 through January 1998. Special emphasis was placed on assessing conditions for ABAWD1 (able-bodied adult without dependents) cases and on making comparisons among rural and metropolitan cases. Part of the assessment for FSP leavers also involved obtaining information on the status of cases that were active in 1997, but that were not considered to have left the FSP.

The target population for the survey was defined to be all Iowa FSP cases that were active at least one month during 1997 and that were living in Iowa at the time of the survey. Because of resource constraints, cases that had left Iowa were defined to be ineligible. A stratified random sample of cases was selected, and a telephone survey was conducted with case heads who were located and willing to participate. This report describes the sample design, location strategies, data collection methodologies, and weighting procedures used in conducting the survey and preparing the data for analysis.

2. Sampling Frame

A data file containing all cases receiving food stamps between December 1996 and January 1998 was obtained from the Iowa Department of Human Services (IDHS). This file contained 111,435 records. Records in the file correspond to unique cases. Each case is associated with individuals identified as the case name (the person who applied for food stamps) and the person name (the case head, the oldest person in the household on food stamps). The variables available in the data file and an interpretation of these variables are presented in Table 1. The processing activities used to prepare a sampling frame are described below.

It was possible for the same individual to be associated with more than one case record. In these instances, the following actions were taken.

- Records referring to the same case head (person name, identified by the state ID) were combined by summing benefit amounts for each month.
- For each combined case, a new case type (i.e., food stamps ended in 1997, food stamps were paid in all months, or other cases with food stamps) and a new reference month (i.e., last month on food stamps or, if on food stamps all 12 months, December 1997) was assigned based on the summed benefits in the newly combined record.

¹ An ABAWD is defined as a person 18-49 years of age, who does not have a FSP household member who is 17 or younger, who is not pregnant, and who is not exempt from work registration.

- For each combined case, the most recent county of residence, program indicator, and number of children in the household were taken from the source record that matched the new reference month for the combined record.

The file contained additional cases that did not belong to the target population. Records with out-of-state addresses and records that received benefits only in December 1996 or January 1998 (no benefits received in 1997) were removed from the file.

The data file that formed the basis for the sampling frame contained 104,196 records after these processing steps were executed. Three additional variables were used to partition the frame into 18 strata (2 FS leaver levels \times 3 household composition levels \times 3 population density levels). These three variables and their values were defined as follows.

1. FS leaver

- *Leaver* (case was active in 1997 and left the FSP for at least two consecutive months during the period December 1996 and January 1998)
- *Non-leaver* (case was active in 1997 and either did not leave the FSP or left only during single nonconsecutive months)

2. Household composition

- *Family* (number of children in household $>$ 0), or case head work registration status = exempt due to pregnancy, or receives FIP in reference month)
- *Likely ABAWD* (no children in household, case head is 18-49 years old, case does not receive FIP)
- *Other* household, not families and unlikely to be ABAWD (case head work registration status is exempt², or case head is a child under 18 years of age, or case head is an adult 50 years or older)

3. Population density, based on rural-urban continuum codes for counties (Butler and Beale, 1993)

- *Metro* (codes 2 and 3: counties in metropolitan areas of 250,000 to 1 million population and in metropolitan areas of fewer than 250,000 population. Metropolitan status was officially designated by the Office of Budget and Management in 1993.)
- *Adjacent to metro* (codes 4, 6, and 8: counties with an urban population of 20,000 or more, adjacent to metropolitan area; urban population of 2,500 to 19,999, adjacent to metropolitan area; and completely rural or less than 2,500 urban population, adjacent to metropolitan area)

² Reasons for exemption from work registration include physically or mentally unfit to work; cares for dependent child(ren) under age 6, not necessarily own child(ren); cares for incapacitated person; enrolled in Promise Jobs; receives FIP-UP benefits; receives UI benefits; enrolled in certified alcohol or drug rehab program; is a migrant or seasonal worker; already working the required number of hours; or enrolled in school half-time.

- *Nonadjacent* to metro (codes 5, 7, and 9: counties with urban population of 20,000 or more, not adjacent to metropolitan area; urban population of 2,500 to 19,999, not adjacent to metropolitan area; and completely rural or less than 2,500 urban population, not adjacent to metropolitan area)

3. Sample Allocation

Resource constraints dictated a target sample size of approximately 700 completed cases. Since the subpopulations of primary interest are ABAWDs, FSP leavers, and especially ABAWD FSP leavers, it was desirable to allocate proportionately more cases to these categories. Target sample sizes (i.e., desired number of completed interviews) for these subpopulations are presented in Table 2.

4. Sample Selection

4.1 Overview

Although only a single draw was planned for selecting the sample, ultimately three separate samples were selected to achieve the target sample size. This occurred because initial assumptions regarding location rates, cooperation rates, and the percentage of true ABAWDs in the Likely ABAWD stratum required adjustment. In summary, the three samples selected were as follows.

Sample 1: This is a sample of 1621 cases, divided into three replicates. A portion of this sample (all but 211 cases) was used to provide new estimates of location, cooperation, and true ABAWD rates for each stratum. This partial sample is referred to as Interim Sample 1, having 369 interim completed cases from the 1410 initialized cases.

Sample 2: The design used for Sample 2 was identical to that of Sample 1, and was drawn to keep interview production rates on schedule. Only Replicate 1 was used, which contained 406 cases.

Sample 3: This sample consists of 498 *Likely ABAWD* cases. It was drawn to improve number of true ABAWD cases in sample, in response to analysis of Interim Sample 1.

4.2 Sample 1

Table 3 presents the number of cases in the frame and target sample sizes (i.e., the desired number of completed interviews) for each stratum. To determine the initial sample size to be drawn for Sample 1 (i.e., the sample size selected from the frame), assumptions were required regarding the percentage of true ABAWDs in the *Likely ABAWD* stratum. Further, location rates (i.e., the fraction of sample cases that are located) and cooperation rates (i.e., the fraction of located cases that generate completed interviews) were assumed for each stratum to determine the initial sample size required to achieve the target sample sizes desired for analysis purposes.

We assumed that 80% of the *Likely ABAWD* stratum cases in the frame would be classified as true ABAWDs based on interview data, and that the other 20% of cases would belong to either the *Family* or the *Other* household composition strata.

To adjust the target sample size, the number of cases allocated to the *Likely ABAWD* stratum was divided by 0.80. Since it was assumed that the other 20% of cases would belong to the remaining household composition strata corresponding to *Other* and *Family*, the target sample sizes for these two groups were decreased proportionally to their target sample sizes, by total amount equal to the number of cases by which the ABAWD stratum was increased. The reallocated target sample sizes are listed in the second to last column of Table 3.

There was a considerable amount of missing contact information in the sampling frame. The proportion of missing phone numbers was 16% for *Families* and around 30% for the *Other* and *Likely ABAWD* strata. Because of this, and because ABAWDs are a mobile population, it was assumed that 80% of the families and 57% of the *Other* and *Likely ABAWD* strata would be locatable. Further, a 70% cooperation rate was assumed based on earlier studies using welfare participant lists for a sample frame. The final allocation for initial stratum sample sizes for Sample 1 is presented in the last column of Table 3.

Sample 1 was drawn according to the specifications in Table 3 using systematic sampling from a frame that was sorted within each of the 18 strata by FIPS code and reference month. To facilitate call management, the sample was divided into three replicates³. However, because locating respondents turned out to be more problematic than expected, all three replicates from Sample 1 were needed earlier than expected in the interviewing process. Calling began immediately on the first two replicates and a week later, work was begun on Replicate 3 of Sample 1.

4.3 Sample 2

In order to quickly obtain more telephone numbers for processing, Sample 2 was drawn in the same manner as the first sample, although only Replicate 1 of Sample 2 was actually used.

Locating and interviewing were initiated for Replicate 1 of Sample 2, while the interim completed interviews from Sample 1 were analyzed to determine whether additional adjustments were needed. These 369 completed interviews from Sample 1 are hereafter referred to as the Interim Completed Interviews. The remaining 211 cases from Replicate 3 of Sample 1 were combined with Replicate 1 of Sample 2 for call management purposes. The second and third replicates of Sample 2 were discarded and not used.

4.4 Sample 3

Data from the 369 Interim Completed Interviews associated with Sample 1 were analyzed to assess sample design assumptions. Table 4 presents call outcomes for the Interim Completed

³ The first replicate included 25% (406 cases) of Sample 1 for each of the strata, and was to be used to evaluate whether assumptions on frame error, location rates, nonresponse rates, and ineligibility rates, were approximately correct. The second replicate, containing 35% (566 cases) of Sample 1, was to be worked on while completing Replicate 1 for analysis. The third replicate, 40% (649 cases) of Sample 1, was to be used if the observed Replicate 1 data analyses indicated results from interview data were consistent with initial assumptions used to determine the initial sample sizes for Sample 1 in Table 3. If Replicate 1 data indicated an adjustment was necessary to obtain the sample sizes required to meet analysis objectives given budget constraints, Replicate 3 was to be discarded and reselected.

Interviews from Sample 1. Initial assumptions regarding the fraction of true ABAWDS in the *Likely ABAWD* stratum were evaluated by classifying each Interim completed case as being a true ABAWD, Family, or Other case, using interview data on 1997 conditions.

In analyzing Interim Completed Interviews from Sample 1, it was not possible to assess the composition of strata with respect to 1997 Population Density and 1997 FS Leaver status. In particular, we were unable to determine the 1997 FS leaver status from the interview data since FSP data were collected only for 1999 during the interview. Similarly, for 1997 Population Density, only 1999 data were available for county of residence. Thus, only 1997 Household Composition as determined by the frame and the interview could be analyzed for each stratum. Table 5 shows the number of interim completed cases for each stratum (i) using the original frame assignment for household composition (n_i^F) and using the interview data to define the 1997 household composition (n_i^I). Note that for the *Likely ABAWD* Household Composition ($k = 2$ in Table 5), $n_i^F > n_i^I$; conversely, for the *Family* ($k = 1$) and *Other* ($k = 3$) Household Composition groups, $n_i^F \ll n_i^I$. That is, for analysis purposes, many of the cases in the *Likely ABAWD* group ($k = 2$) within a given FS Leaver status and Population Density class were classified as non-ABAWD. While this was expected when the sample was drawn, the fraction of non-ABAWD cases within the *Likely ABAWD* group for a given FS Leaver status and Population Density class was higher than expected. Of all the interim respondents from the *Likely ABAWD* stratum, 48% were found to be true ABAWDs in 1997, rather than 80% as assumed for allocating Sample 1.

The last column of Table 5 provides, for a given FS Leaver status and Population Density, the proportion (p_{ik}) of Interim Completed Interviews in the *Likely ABAWD* group that were classified as having Household Composition k (the given FS Leaver status, Population Density, and Household Composition k define the stratum index, i). For example, for the *FS Leaver-Family-Adjacent* stratum ($i = 1$), $p_{11} = 0.29$ indicates 29% of cases in the *FS Leaver-Likely ABAWD-Adjacent* stratum were classified as *Family* ($k = 1$) on the basis of interim interview data. Similarly, for the *Not FS Leaver-Likely ABAWD-Metro* stratum ($i = 14$), the proportion of interim completes whose data indicated a 1997 ABAWD status ($k = 2$) was $p_{14,2} = 0.50$. Note that $p_{i1} + p_{i+3,2} + p_{i+6,3} = 1$, for $i = 1, 2, 3, 10, 11, 12$ (corresponding to the six FS Leaver status and Population Density combinations).

The next step in developing design specifications for Sample 3 was to estimate the number of cases needed beyond Interim Completed Interviews from Sample 1 to reach target subpopulation sample sizes. Interim completes were analyzed to determine the number of cases needed to attain the target for each stratum, t_{ik} , where i indexes the stratum and k indexes Household Composition group (Table 6). This value was determined by subtracting n_i^I , the number of cases per stratum based on Interim Completed Interviews in Table 5, from s_i , the subpopulation target sample size in Table 3.

In determining the sample size from stratum i needed to achieve the target sample size t_{ik} , adjustments are needed to account for cases in stratum i whose interview data indicate a different household composition from the frame stratum designation. For example, if the $t_{14,2}$ cases are drawn from the *Not FS Leaver-Likely ABAWD-Metro* stratum, a portion of the cases will be found to have a 1997 household composition using interview data of *Family* ($k = 1$) or *Other*

($k = 3$), rather than *Likely ABAWD* ($k = 2$) from the frame assignment. To estimate a_{i2} , the number of cases out of t_{i2} cases that have a 1997 household composition of ABAWD ($k = 2$) based on the interview data, we used the following formula:

$$a_{i2} = t_{i2} p_{i2} \quad [1]$$

Similarly, for *Family* and *Other* strata, the target t_{ik} would need to be reduced by the fraction of Family ($k = 1$) and Other ($k = 3$) cases found in the *Likely ABAWD* stratum ($k = 2$). The estimated adjustment, a_{ik} cases for $k = 1$ or 3, was calculated as follows:

$$a_{i1} = - \frac{a_{i2} p_{i1}}{p_{i1} + p_{i3}} \quad [2]$$

and

$$a_{i3} = - \frac{a_{i2} p_{i3}}{p_{i1} + p_{i3}} \quad [3]$$

Results from these calculations are noted in Table 6.

The sum of the target sample size plus the adjustment for each stratum, $t_{ik} + a_{ik}$, are presented in the last column of Table 6. Adjusted (nonnegative) target sample sizes were calculated as

$$t_{ik}^{adj} = \max\{t_{ik} + a_{ik}, 0\}, \quad [4]$$

and are presented in Table 7.

The next step was to calculate actual sample sizes to be drawn from the frame, by estimating interim location and cooperation rates. Using the Interim Completed Interviews from Sample 1, consisting of s_i^F cases from stratum i , the interim location rate (f_i) and cooperation rate (r_i) were calculated as follows:

$$f_i = \frac{l_i}{s_i^F}$$

and

$$r_i = \frac{n_i^F}{l_i},$$

where l_i is the number of cases located in the interim sample, equal to the sum of interim cases with classifications of interview completed, appointment scheduled, nonrespondent, and ineligible (Table 4). Estimated rates are presented in Table 7.

The target adjusted sample size was further adjusted to account for the interim cooperation rate and the fraction locatable as follows:

$$s_i^P = \frac{t_{ik}^{adj}}{f_i r_i}$$

(Table 7). This provides an estimate of the preliminary sample sizes that are needed beyond Interim Sample 1.

The next step was to subtract cases remaining from the Sample 2 (s_i^2) and the 211 cases from Sample 1 not initiated at the beginning of these analyses (s_i^{211}) from the preliminary sample size (s_i^P) to obtain a preliminary frame sample size for Sample 3 (s_i^{P3}). The following calculation was used:

$$s_i^{P3} = \max\left\{s_i^P - (s_i^{211} + s_i^2), 0\right\}$$

(Table 8). These analyses indicated that the proportion of *Family* and *Other* households in the *Likely ABAWD* stratum cases was high enough that Sample 3 should be drawn entirely from the *Likely ABAWD* stratum within each of the FS Leaver and Population Density strata.

Finally, the number of completed interviews that are generated from sample, based on preliminary sample sizes for Sample 3 (s_i^{P3}) was estimated for each stratum as follows:

$$c_i = s_i^{P3} f_i r_i$$

(Table 8). These analyses indicated that the proportion of *Family* and *Other* households in the *Likely ABAWD* stratum cases was high enough that Sample 3 should be drawn entirely from the *Likely ABAWD* stratum within each of the FS Leaver and Population Density strata.

This calculation indicated that a total of 470 completed cases were expected, with 307 from the preliminary third sample alone. Because of budget constraints, only 100 new interviews from the third sample were feasible, even if this meant that the completed ABAWD cases fell short of the target sample size. The sample size in each stratum in the preliminary third sample was multiplied by one-third (100/307) to obtain 498 for the initial sample size of Sample 3 (s_i^3 in last column of Table 8).

5. Telephone Survey Methodology

A questionnaire was developed jointly by H.H. Jensen, S. Garasky and D.G. Anderson (Appendix 1). A computer-assisted survey instrument was programmed using the BLAISE computer-assisted telephone interviewing software package.

Sample case heads were mailed letters prior to receiving a first telephone contact (Appendix 2). Respondents with telephone numbers were sent a letter introducing the study that included a toll free number should they have questions about the study. Respondents with no known telephone number were sent a letter that included a business reply postcard to return with

updated contact information. Non-responders were mailed a second letter and postcard later in the study in an additional effort to reach them.

Telephone interviewers were trained in Statistical Laboratory standard interviewing techniques and procedures to conduct project interviews. A manual of interviewing procedures and question by question specifications was used for training and as a reference throughout the interviewing process.

Telephone interviews were conducted during June, July, and August of 1999. When conducting data collection, the following protocols were followed by Statistical Laboratory staff.

All cases were rotated through a minimum of 12 call attempts. Phone numbers that required multiple attempts were tried at varying times (e.g., days and evenings, weekdays and weekends).

If an answering machine was reached, additional attempts were made to that number and messages identifying the study were left on the machine. Suspected fax lines and modems were attempted at several additional and varied times to determine if they were associated with the sample household. All cases with disconnected or incorrect phone numbers, as well as those with no phone numbers and/or addresses were placed in a tracking queue (see Section 6). When updated locating information was found, these cases were placed back into the interviewing queue. Proxy interviews were conducted for non-English speaking respondents and for incompetent respondents when possible. A \$25 gift certificate to a local food store was provided to all respondents completing the interview as an incentive.

All interviews were conducted under the direct supervision of a telephone interviewing supervisor. Interviewers were monitored at random intervals as a quality control measure, and completed interviews were edited by a supervisor. The computer-assisted survey instrument was programmed to include edit checks for detecting illegal values and logic errors as responses were entered into the computer during the interview. Discrepancies, omissions and unclear responses were clarified with the interviewer if possible, and a data retrieval callback was made to the respondent by the original interviewer or the supervisor when required. Open-ended data were edited and coded by supervisory staff. Corrections in the data were made as inaccuracies were found.

6. Locating Strategies and Case Outcomes

Because the study population was highly mobile and locating information from the IDHS database for 1997 FS participants was often incomplete or inaccurate, the following strategies were implemented to locate respondents.

1. Because the IDHS updates case name, address and telephone information on a regular basis, the selected sample was submitted to the IDHS just prior to the June data collection. It was then re-submitted to IDHS in July to obtain the most current locating information available.
2. Some cases required directory assistance searches through telephone companies and/or internet directory listings.
3. Reverse directory searches were used for cases in the metropolitan areas of Des Moines, Davenport, and Cedar Rapids.
4. Cases with incorrect addresses were submitted for a National Change of Address (NCOA) search.

5. Cases with incorrect or missing phone numbers were submitted to Lortondata for updated phone information.
6. Some respondents provided more accurate or complete locating information by calling the project's toll-free number, and some returned business-reply postcards (included with the introductory letter) indicating current telephone/address information.
7. Information was also gathered through a third party (relative, neighbor, friend) when possible.

Final case dispositions are presented in Table 9. Table 10 summarizes call outcomes by stratum.

A case is defined as "located" if any contact information was obtained for the case head that led to a telephone number for the case, whether or not we were able to verify it as accurate. Of the total sample of 2526 cases, 1275 (50.5%) were located for a possible interview. The large unlocatable fraction was partially a product of the difficulties presented by tracking 1997 FSP cases from a statewide sample dispersed throughout Iowa in 1999. The fraction of unlocatables was about twice that of a 1998 sample tracked in a few months after a frame was created from the same welfare database.

A case was considered eligible if the respondent was living in Iowa in a non-institutionalized setting at the time of the study and verified receipt of 1997 FSP benefits. Of the 1275 located cases, 199 (15.6%) were classified as ineligible (deceased, out-of-state, institutionalized, never in FSP). Over two-thirds of ineligible cases had moved out of state. Over one-fifth had been institutionalized. Very few stated that they had not received FSP benefits in 1997.

Of the 1076 remaining cases, 735 generated completed interviews, and 106 were known to be living in Iowa in a non-institutional setting but did not provide interviews (mainly refusals), and 235 were not contactable (no phone or maximum call attempts).

The cooperation rate for the located and presumed eligible cases was 87.4% (735 out of 841 cases). The refusal rate for this group was 10.8% (91 out of 841 cases).

The response rate for the entire sample, including the 1251 (49.5%) unlocatable cases, was 36.0%. This response rate was adjusted for the 80.9% eligibility rate (841 presumed eligible out of 1040 cases with known eligibility status), using an estimated $[(.809 * 1486) + 841] = 2042.7$ eligible cases in the denominator (AAPOR, 1998).

7. Weighting

Weights were calculated to adjust for unequal selection probabilities and nonresponse. Because there appeared to be a large fraction of ineligibles, the frame total for stratum i was adjusted by a final estimated eligibility rate stratum i , f_i^* , defined as

$$f_i^* = \frac{e_i}{e_i + u_i} ,$$

where e_i is the number of known eligibles (complete interviews, refusals, respondents unavailable for study, incompetents, cases with language barriers) in stratum i , and u_i is the number of known ineligibles in stratum i . Cases of unknown eligibility (unlocatables, maximum calls, and messages) were not used in the adjustment (Table 12). The adjusted frame total for stratum i is defined as

$$N_i^{adj} = f_i^* N_i ,$$

where N_i is the original frame total.

The initial weight for case j in stratum i is defined as

$$w_{ij}^0 = n_i^{-1} N_i^{adj} ,$$

where n_i is the final number of completed interviews in stratum i (Table 10). The initial weights, w_{ij}^0 , were cumulated and rounded to generate integer weights, w_{ij} , that sum to the adjusted frame total in each stratum,

$$\sum_j w_{ij} = N_i^{adj}$$

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, 18$ strata. The final weights are in units of case heads (or households associated with the case head).

8. References

- Butler, M.A. and Beale, C.L., 1993. *Rural-Urban Continuum Codes for Metro and Nonmetro Counties*. Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- AAPOR. 1998. Final Disposition of Case Codes and Outcome Rates for RDD Telephone Surveys and In-Person Household Surveys. *American Association for Public Opinion Research*.

Table 1. Variables in 1997 Food Stamp case database provided by IDHS.

Case Name & Location Information	Case Name	The individual who applied for the FS assistance, may or may not be on assistance. May be spouse, mother, etc. of case head.
	Address	
	Zip	
	County of residence	
Program Participation for case	Phone	
	Food Stamp benefits One variable for each month from 12/96 to 01/98	Dollar amount per month
	Case type	1 = Left food stamps in 1997 (using definition of leaving FSP for ≥ 2 months)
		2 = On FS for all months in 1997
		3 = Other cases with food stamps from 12/96 - 01/98
	Month of examination	Type 1: Last month on FS
		Type 2: December, 1997
		Type 3: Last month on FS from 12/96 - 01/98
	Aidtype of case	Same aidtypes that were used in SPD
		Hierarchy: FIP, FSP, Medicaid
		If a case has all three programs, aidtype indicates FIP.
If FSP and Medicaid, then aidtype indicates FSP		
Program indicator	Aidtype indicates Medicaid if it is only Medicaid	
	The information in this variable may not be correct (not updated)	
	1 = Only food stamps	
	2 = FIP also	
ABAWD indicator	3 = Title 19 only (Medicaid)	
	4 = Both Title 19 and FIP	
	0 = No ABAWD	
	No one in the household was cancelled from food stamps for being an ABAWD	
Total people in household in month	1 = ABAWD when case cancelled	
	Indicates existence of ABAWD on the case (anyone on the case).	
	Case could be cancelled for any reason, not necessarily ABAWD.	
	2 = ABAWD (either closed or reinstated)	
Total adults in household in month	Household is defined as everyone in the home that month who received assistance (food stamps, FIP, or Title 19)	
	An adult is anyone 18 or older.	
Case head information	Total children in household in month	
	Person name	Oldest person on food stamps. Can be a child.
		Type 1: Last month on FS
		Type 2: December 1997
		Type 3: Last month on FS from 12/96 - 01/98
	SID	State ID, identifies individual
	Birthdate	
	Gender	
Ethnicity		
Food Stamp registration status	1 = Mandatory includes all ABAWDS (but not limited to ABAWDS)	
	2 = Mandatory - exempt - pregnant	
	3 = Mandatory - exempt for other reasons	
	4 = Exempt from registration	
		No ABAWDS are present in registration groups with codes 2,3,4

Table 2. Desired number of completed cases (i.e., target sample size) for each subpopulation of interest.

a. Target sample sizes for FS Leaver subpopulations

Household Composition	Population Density			Total
	Metro	Adjacent	Nonadjacent	
Family	50	50	50	150
ABAWD	100	100	100	300
Other	33	33	34	100
Total	183	183	184	550

b. Target sample sizes for Non-FS Leaver subpopulations

Household Composition	Population Density			Total
	Metro	Adjacent	Nonadjacent	
Family	15	15	15	45
ABAWD	25	25	25	75
Other	10	10	10	30
Total	50	50	50	150

Table 3. Number of cases per stratum for the frame, target sample size for each subsubpopulation, reallocated target sample size for each stratum, and initial sample size for Sample 1.

Stratum					Subpopulation Target Sample Size (s_i)	Reallocated Stratum Target Sample Sizes	Initial Sample Size to Begin Study	
i	FS Leaver Status	k	Household Composition	Population Density	Frame			
1	FS Leaver	1	Family	Adjacent	5,505	50	35	61
2				Metro	12,419	50	35	61
3				Nonadjacent	7,702	50	35	61
4		2	Likely	Adjacent	1,093	100	125	307
5			ABAWD	Metro	4,222	100	125	307
6				Nonadjacent	1,788	100	125	307
7		3	Other	Adjacent	2,878	33	23	57
8				Metro	7,974	33	23	57
9				Nonadjacent	4,788	34	24	59
10	Not FS Leaver	1	Family	Adjacent	6,314	15	11	20
11				Metro	16,229	15	11	20
12				Nonadjacent	9,559	15	11	20
13		2	Likely	Adjacent	318	25	31	77
14			ABAWD	Metro	852	25	31	77
15				Nonadjacent	535	25	31	77
16		3	Other	Adjacent	4,656	10	8	18
17				Metro	9,603	10	8	18
18				Nonadjacent	7,761	10	8	18
					104,196	700	700	1621

Table 4. Call outcomes for household composition strata for Interim Completed Interviews from Sample 1.

Interim Call Outcome	Household Composition Stratum						Total Number
	Family		Likely ABAWD		Other		
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	
Interview completed	88	42.7	213	21.1	68	34.5	369
Appointment scheduled	4	1.9	24	2.4	2	1.0	30
Nonrespondent	5	2.4	27	2.7	8	4.1	40
Disconnected or other problem	72	35.0	505	50.1	70	35.5	647
No contact	32	15.5	197	19.6	38	19.3	267
Ineligible	5	2.4	41	4.1	11	5.6	57
Total	206	100.0	1007	100.0	197	100.0	1410

Table 5. Number of Interim Completed Interviews from Sample 1 for each stratum, and proportion of interim completes for which original *Likely ABAWD* frame stratum generated a given Household Composition as determined from interview data.

Stratum					Number of Interim Completed Interviews		Proportion of Interim Cases in Corresponding <i>Likely ABAWD</i> Stratum ^a (p_{ik})
<i>i</i>	FS Leaver Status	<i>k</i>	Household Composition	Population Density	Using Frame Definition for Household Composition (n_i^F)	Using Interim Interview Data for 1997 Household Composition (n_i^I)	
1	FS Leaver	1	Family	Adjacent	22	41	0.29 ^b
2				Metro	19	32	0.14 ^b
3				Nonadjacent	18	34	0.18 ^b
4		2	Likely ABAWD	Adjacent	55	25	0.40 ^c
5				Metro	43	26	0.53 ^c
6				Nonadjacent	66	37	0.56 ^c
7		3	Other	Adjacent	14	25	0.31 ^d
8				Metro	17	21	0.33 ^d
9				Nonadjacent	16	29	0.26 ^c
10	Not FS Leaver	1	Family	Adjacent	9	13	0.20 ^b
11				Metro	10	12	0.17 ^b
12				Nonadjacent	10	17	0.38 ^b
13		2	Likely ABAWD	Adjacent	15	8	0.47 ^c
14				Metro	18	11	0.50 ^c
15				Nonadjacent	16	6	0.31 ^c
16		3	Other	Adjacent	5	8	0.33 ^d
17				Metro	8	13	0.33 ^d
18				Nonadjacent	8	11	0.31 ^d
					369	369	

- a For a given FS Leaver Status and Population Density, proportion of Interim Completed Interviews in corresponding *Likely ABAWD* stratum for which interim interview data indicated the given household composition ($k = 1$ for *Family*, $k = 2$ for *Likely ABAWD*, $k = 3$ for *Other*).
- b Proportion of *Family* households in corresponding *Likely ABAWD* stratum, using interview data for 1997 status ($k = 1$).
- c Proportion of *Likely ABAWD* households in stratum using interview data for 1997 status ($k = 2$).
- d Proportion of *Other* households in corresponding *Likely ABAWD* stratum using interview data for 1997 status ($k = 3$).

Table 6. Number of completed cases needed to reach target sample sizes given stratum sample sizes for Interim Completed Interviews from Sample 1, adjusted to account for differences in frame and interview household composition assignments.

Stratum					Number of Cases Needed to Attain Target (t_{ik})	Estimated Number of Cases Using Interview Data (a_{ik})	Adjusted Number of Cases Needed to Attain Target ^d ($t_{ik} + a_{ik}$)
i	FS Leaver	k	Household Composition	Population Density			
1	FS Leaver	1	Family	Adjacent	9	-21.75 ^a	-13 ^d
2				Metro	18	-10.36 ^a	8
3				Nonadjacent	16	-11.34 ^a	5
4		2	Likely	Adjacent	75	45.00 ^b	120
5			ABAWD	Metro	74	34.78 ^b	109
6				Nonadjacent	63	27.72 ^b	91
7		3	Other	Adjacent	8	-23.25 ^c	-15
8				Metro	12	-24.42 ^c	-12
9				Nonadjacent	5	-16.38 ^c	-11
10	Not FS Leaver	1	Family	Adjacent	2	-3.40 ^a	-1
11				Metro	3	-2.38 ^a	1
12				Nonadjacent	-2	-7.22 ^a	-9
13		2	Likely	Adjacent	17	9.01 ^b	26
14			ABAWD	Metro	14	7.00 ^b	21
15				Nonadjacent	19	13.11 ^b	32
16		3	Other	Adjacent	2	-5.61 ^c	-4
17				Metro	-3	-4.62 ^c	-8
18				Nonadjacent	-1	-5.89 ^c	-7
					331	0	331

a See equation [2] in text.

b See equation [1] in text.

c See equation [3] in text.

d Negative values were set to 0; see Table 7 for t_{ik}^{adj} using equation [4] in text.

Table 8. Calculation of preliminary and final frame sample sizes for Sample 3.

Stratum	Household Composition	Population Density	Preliminary Sample Size Needed (s_i^p)	Remaining 211 Cases From Sample 1 (s_i^{211})	Sample 2 (s_i^2)	Preliminary Sample Size for Sample 3 (s_i^{p3})	Expected Number of Completes from s_i^{p3} (c_i)	Initial Sample Size for Sample 3 ^a (s_i^3)
1	FS Leaver	Family	0	10	15	0	11	0
2		Metro	20	10	15	0	10	0
3		Nonadjacent	14	8	15	0	8	0
4	Likely	Adjacent	585	39	77	469	120	153
5	ABAWD	Metro	673	41	77	555	109	181
6		Nonadjacent	367	40	77	250	91	81
7	Other	Adjacent	0	7	14	0	6	0
8		Metro	0	11	14	0	9	0
9		Nonadjacent	0	5	15	0	6	0
10	Not FS Leaver	Family	0	3	5	0	4	0
11		Metro	1	2	5	0	4	0
12		Nonadjacent	0	3	5	0	5	0
13	Likely	Adjacent	120	8	19	93	26	30
14	ABAWD	Metro	79	9	19	51	21	17
15		Nonadjacent	138	8	19	111	32	36
16	Other	Adjacent	0	4	5	0	3	0
17		Metro	0	2	5	0	4	0
18		Nonadjacent	0	1	5	0	3	0
			1997	211	406	1529	470	498

a Adjusted to produce 100 expected completes.

Table 7. Calculation of interim cooperation and location rates, and of preliminary sample sizes needed beyond Interim Completed Interviews from Sample 1 to attain target sample sizes for stratum subpopulations.

Stratum	i	FS Leaver	k	Household Composition	Population Density	Number of completed cases using frame stratum definition (n_i^F)	Number of cases in interim sample (s_i^F)	Number of Cases Located (l_i)	Interim Fraction Locatable (f_i)	Interim Cooperation Rate (r_i)	Adjusted Number of Cases Needed to Attain Target (t_{ik}^{adj})	Preliminary Sample Size Needed (s_i^P)
1	FS Leaver	1	Family	Adjacent	22	50	23	0.46	0.96	0	0	0
2			Metro		19	50	27	0.54	0.70	8	20	20
3			Nonadjacent		18	54	20	0.37	0.90	5	14	14
4		2	Likely	Adjacent	55	268	79	0.29	0.70	120	585	585
5			ABAWD	Metro	43	266	70	0.26	0.61	109	673	673
6			Nonadjacent		66	267	86	0.32	0.77	91	367	367
7		3	Other	Adjacent	14	50	22	0.44	0.64	0	0	0
8			Metro		17	46	23	0.50	0.74	0	0	0
9			Nonadjacent		16	54	19	0.35	0.84	0	0	0
10	Not FS Leaver	1	Family	Adjacent	9	17	11	0.65	0.82	0	0	0
11			Metro		10	18	10	0.56	1.00	1	1	1
12			Nonadjacent		10	17	11	0.65	0.91	0	0	0
13		2	Likely	Adjacent	15	69	20	0.29	0.75	26	120	120
14			ABAWD	Metro	18	68	29	0.43	0.62	21	79	79
15			Nonadjacent		16	69	21	0.30	0.76	32	138	138
16		3	Other	Adjacent	5	14	6	0.43	0.83	0	0	0
17			Metro		8	16	8	0.50	1.00	0	0	0
18			Nonadjacent		8	17	11	0.65	0.73	0	0	0
						369	1410	496	0.35	412	1997	

Table 9. Final call outcomes for entire sample.

Final Case Disposition	Number of Cases
Completed interviews	735
Non-interviews: likely eligible ^a	
Refused	91
Language barrier, no proxy	7
Not available during study period	6
Incompetent, no proxy	<u>2</u>
Subtotal (assumed eligible)	106
Non-interviews: known ineligible ^b	
Moved out of state	135
Institutionalized ^f	43
Deceased	16
Did not receive Food Stamps	<u>5</u>
Subtotal (ineligible)	199
Non-interviews: unknown eligibility	
No phone ^d	133
Maximum call attempts ^e	102
Unlocated cases	<u>1251</u>
Subtotal (unknown eligibility)	1486
Total Cases	2526

- a Respondent was deemed to be living in Iowa in a non-institutionalized setting, but 1997 FSP receipt was generally not verified.
- b Respondent did not meet at least one of the three eligibility criteria: (1) living in Iowa during study period, (2) living in a non-institutionalized setting, and (3) not a FSP recipient during 1997.
- c Living in jail, nursing home, or half-way house.
- d The lack of a phone for the respondent was verified with a secondary contact. A message was left with the secondary contact.
- e A respondent was reached at some point during the call process for 28 of the 79 maximum call attempt cases.

Table 10. Final call outcomes by sampling stratum for entire sample.

FS Leaver	Household Composition	Population Density	Interviews Completes	Refused & Likely Eligible	Non-Interviews	
					Known Ineligible	Unknown
FS Leaver	Family	Adjacent	37	2	2	34
		Metro	37	5	7	26
		Nonadjacent	28	3	5	41
	Likely ABAWD	Adjacent	117	25	47	348
		Metro	115	21	40	390
		Nonadjacent	131	15	36	283
	Other	Adjacent	25	5	10	31
		Metro	26	4	8	33
		Nonadjacent	32	1	9	32
Not FS Leaver	Family	Adjacent	15	2	1	7
		Metro	16	0	0	9
		Nonadjacent	13	2	1	9
	Likely ABAWD	Adjacent	34	5	8	79
		Metro	33	4	11	65
		Nonadjacent	43	4	7	78
	Other	Adjacent	9	2	2	10
		Metro	13	2	3	5
		Nonadjacent	11	4	2	6
Totals			735	106	199	1486

Table 11. Initial weights using frame totals adjusted by eligibility rates.

FS Leaver	Household Composition	Population Density	Frame Total	Eligibility Rate	Adjusted Frame Total	Completed Interviews	Initial Weight	
FS Leaver	Family	Adjacent	5,505	0.95	5,236	37	141.51	
		Metro	12,419	0.86	10,645	37	287.70	
		Nonadjacent	7,702	0.86	6,632	28	236.86	
	Likely ABAWD	Adjacent	1,093	0.75	821	117	7.02	
		Metro	4,222	0.77	3,262	115	28.37	
		Nonadjacent	1,788	0.80	1,434	131	10.95	
	Other	Adjacent	2,878	0.75	2,159	25	86.36	
		Metro	7,974	0.79	6,295	26	242.12	
		Nonadjacent	4,788	0.79	3,762	32	117.56	
	Not FS Leaver	Family	Adjacent	6,314	0.94	5,963	15	397.53
			Metro	16,229	1.00	16,229	16	1014.31
			Nonadjacent	9,559	0.94	8,962	13	689.38
Likely ABAWD		Adjacent	318	0.83	264	34	7.76	
		Metro	852	0.77	657	33	19.91	
		Nonadjacent	535	0.87	466	43	10.84	
Other		Adjacent	4,656	0.85	3,940	9	437.78	
		Metro	9,603	0.83	8,003	13	615.62	
		Nonadjacent	7,761	0.88	6,848	11	622.55	
Total			104,196		91,578	735		

Appendix 1

Questionnaire Draft Used to Program BLAISE Survey Instrument

CASE ID: _____

**A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC WELL-BEING
OF IOWA HOUSEHOLDS**

Hello, this is (INTERVIEWER NAME) calling for Iowa State University. May I please speak to (NAME)?

[IF NOT AVAILABLE, GET CALL-BACK INFORMATION & END CALL]

Recently we sent you a letter about a research study we are conducting with Iowans who have participated in the Food Stamp Program. Did you receive this letter?

[IF NO, READ LETTER AND EXPLAIN PROJECT]

As the letter stated, we are interested in how changes in federal and state policies have affected Food Stamp recipients and their families. We would like to interview you over the telephone for about 30 minutes, and when the interview is complete we will send you a \$25 gift certificate to any Hy-Vee or Drugtown store to thank you for your time. Is now a good time for you?

[IF NO, GET CALL-BACK INFORMATION & END CALL]

Before we begin, I want to assure you that all of the information you provide will be kept strictly confidential, and you may refuse to answer any question that seems too personal.

SECTION A: HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS AND STATUS

A1. First, I'd like to verify some information about your household. Our records indicate that you received food stamp benefits for all or part of 1997. Is that correct?

1 = Yes → CONTINUE

2 = No

9 = DK

}

Have you ever received food stamps?

1 = Yes

2 = No → TERMINATE

9 = DK, Unsure → CONTINUE

Next, we'd like some information about your household.

A2. Including yourself, how many people currently live in this household?

___ #HH Members

[IF ONLY ONE, GO TO Q A3d]

- A3. We need to know a little about each person in the household. Please give me the first names (or initials) of all the people who currently are living in your household, starting with you.
[LIST FIRST NAMES OF EACH HOUSEHOLD MEMBER, THEN ASK Q3 FOR EACH PERSON, AS APPROPRIATE.]

	Name #1	Name #2	Name #3
a. (What is the first name of each household member, beginning with you?)	_____	_____	_____
	Respondent		
[ASK RESPONDENT ABOUT ALL OTHER HH MEMBERS]			
b. What is (NAME'S) relationship to you? 01 = Spouse 02 = Unmarried partner/boyfriend/ girlfriend 03 = Biological or adopted child 04 = Stepchild 05 = Grandchild 06 = Other custodial child/foster child 07 = Other (specify) _____			
c. [IF CHILD IS STEP, GRANDCHILD, OR OTHER CUSTODIAL (04, 05, 06) ASK:] Are you financially responsible or providing for this child? 1 = Yes 2 = No			
d. (Are you / Is NAME) male or female? 1 = Male 2 = Female			
e. What was (your/NAME'S) age on (your/his/her) last birthday? _____ age			
f. What is your birth date? [RECONCILE IF A3e AND A3f ARE INCONSISTANT]	_____ mo _____ day _____ year		

	Name #1	Name #2	Name #3
<p>g. [ASK ONLY FOR 18 & OLDER]</p> <p>What is the highest level of school (you have/NAME has) completed?</p> <p>1 = Less than high school 2 = High school / GED 3 = Some vocational/business school (incl. certificate) 4 = Some college 5 = College graduate or beyond 8 = NA, not 18 or older</p>			
<p>[IF AGES 3-6, ASK h, i & j. ALL OTHERS GO TO NEXT HH MEMBER OR Q A4a.]</p> <p>h. Has [NAME] been in pre-school at all in 1999?</p> <p>1 = Yes 2 = No → GO TO Qj 8 = NA</p>			
<p>i. Was this a Head Start program?</p> <p>1 = Yes } GO TO NEXT 2 = No } PERSON OR A4a 8 = NA</p>			
<p>j. Has [NAME] been in school at all in 1999?</p> <p>1 = Yes 2 = No 8 = NA</p>			

A4a. We also are interested in your household in 1997, a year when some of Iowa's welfare laws changed. You may or may not have been living with the same people then that you are now. Think back. Did you have any dependents living with you during any part of 1997?

- 1 = Yes → GO TO Q A5
- 2 = No
- 9 = DK, Unsure

IF RESPONDENT IS FEMALE >55 YRS OR MALE, GO TO Q A5.
ASK Q4b ONLY FOR WOMEN 55 AND YOUNGER.

A4b. Were you pregnant in 1997?

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = DK, Unsure

Now, I need a little additional information about you.

[GO TO Q A6 IF R MARRIED]

A5. What is your current marital status? Are you . . .

- 1 = Married
- 2 = Living as married,
- 3 = Separated,
- 4 = Divorced,
- 5 = Widowed, or
- 6 = Single, never married?

A6. What is your race? Do you consider yourself . . .

- 1 = White,
- 2 = African American,
- 3 = American Indian, Aleut, or Eskimo,
- 4 = Asian or Pacific Islander, or
- 5 = Something else? (Specify _____)

A7. Are you Hispanic?

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No

A8. Are you a U.S. citizen?

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No

SECTION B: EMPLOYMENT

The next questions are about jobs you may have had for pay. This includes full-time or part-time jobs, odd jobs or temporary jobs, paid babysitting or housekeeping jobs, work at your own business, or any other types of jobs you may have had.

B1. Were you working at a job for pay last month, that is, in [LAST MONTH]?

1 = Yes

2 = No → GO TO Q B19

B2. How many different jobs for pay did you have in [LAST MONTH]?

__ __ # of jobs

B3a. (IF MORE THAN ONE JOB: We are interested in the job that you worked most hours last month.)

What kind of work were you doing at this job, that is, what was your occupation?

PROBE: What were your main activities or duties at this job?

b. At this job were you . . .

1 = employed by the government,

2 = by a private company,

3 = a non-profit organization,

4 = self employed, or

5 = working in a family business or farm?

c. How many miles (is/was) it from your home to work?

__ __ miles

B3d. How (do/did) you usually get to work? Do you . . .

- 1 = drive, → GO TO B3i
 2 = ride with a friend or relative,
 3 = ride in a car pool, } GO TO B3e
 4 = take public transportation,
 5 = walk,
 6 = or do something else? (Specify) _____ } GO TO B3i

e. Do you pay for this?

- 1 = Yes
 2 = No → GO TO B3i

f. How much do you pay? \$ ____ . ____

ENTER ZERO IF DO NOT
 PAY MONEY

g. RECORD PAYMENT:

- 1 = per day
 2 = per week
 3 = per month
 4 = some other way (h. Specify: _____)

i. Which days (do/did) you usually work at your job? Would you say . . .

- 1 = Monday through Friday
 2 = Another regular daily schedule, or
 3 = No usual schedule?

j. What type of shift did you usually work at this job? Did you work . . .

- 1 = Days,
 2 = Evenings,
 3 = Nights,
 4 = A rotating shift, (one that changes regularly from days to evenings to nights),
 5 = A split shift, (consisting of two distinct periods each day),
 6 = Or something else?

B4. What month and year did you start working at this job (for this employer)?

___ \ ___
MO YR

PROBE: Your best estimate is fine.

B5. Have you ever been promoted or given more responsibilities at this job?

1 = Yes
2 = No

**THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE STANDARD
COST-OF-LIVING PAY RAISES.**

B6. Are you still working at this job?

1 = Yes → GO TO Q B8
2 = No

B7. Why did you stop working there? Did you quit, were you laid off, or were you fired?

1 = Quit
2 = Laid off
3 = Fired
4 = Another reason (B7a. Specify: _____)

B8. How many hours a week did you work at this job in (LAST MONTH)?

___ Hours per week

PROBE: Your best estimate is fine.

B9. What was your hourly rate of pay (before taxes and deductions) at this job last month?

\$ ___ . ___ per hour

**REPEAT R's ANSWER TO VERIFY.
WATCH DECIMAL POINT.**

[DOES NOT KNOW OR NOT PAID BY HOUR → GO TO Q B11]

[REFUSED → GO TO Q B12]

B10. a. Did you get any tips, bonuses, or commissions last month?

1 = Yes →

b. How much did you make last month on tips, bonuses, or commissions?

2 = No

\$ _____ . _____

9 = DK / Refused

GO TO Q B12

B11. a. How much did you earn from this job in [LAST MONTH]? This would be before taxes and other deductions. Please include tips, bonuses, commissions, and overtime pay you may have received

\$ __ , __ __ __ → GO TO Q B12

DK → GO TO Q B11b

REFUSED → GO TO Q B12

REPEAT R's ANSWER TO VERIFY.

PROBE: Your best estimate is fine.

b. Would you say you earned . . .

1 = less than \$250,

2 = \$250 up to \$500,

3 = \$500 up to \$750,

4 = \$750 up to \$1,000

5 = \$1,000 up to \$1,500,

6 = \$1,500 up to \$2,000

7 = \$2,000 or more?

9 = DK / Refused

B12. During [LAST MONTH], was health insurance or an HMO plan made available to you with this job? (This includes benefits that are **offered at a cost to you**)

1 = Yes IF MORE THAN ONE JOB, GO TO Q B16

2 = No → IF ONLY ONE JOB, GO TO Q B20

B13. Were you enrolled in one of these health insurance plans?

1 = Yes → IF ONLY ONE JOB, GO TO Q B20
IF MORE THAN ONE JOB, GO TO Q B16

2 = No

B14. Why didn't you enroll in health insurance on that job? Is it because . . .

01 = you were covered by Medicaid,

02 = you were covered by another insurance plan,

03 = the cost was too high, or

04 = because of some other reason? (a. Specify: _____)

99 = DK / Refused

B15. (Did/Does) your job provide any of the following benefits?

(Did/Does) it provide you with . . .

	Yes	No
a) paid sick days?	1	2
b) paid vacation days?	1	2
c) assistance with paying for child care?	1	2
d) a pension plan or retirement benefits?	1	2
e) any other benefits? (If YES, specify: _____)	1	2

IF ONLY ONE JOB → GO TO Q B20

B16. During [LAST MONTH] how many hours per week did you usually work at **all** of your jobs?

_____ # hrs worked

B17. In [LAST MONTH], what were your total earnings from **all** of your jobs, before taxes and deductions? Please include tips, bonuses, commissions, and overtime pay you received.

\$ __ , _____ → GO TO Q B20

DON'T KNOW → GO TO Q B18

REFUSED → GO TO Q B20

REPEAT R's ANSWER TO VERIFY.

PROBE: Your best estimate is fine.

B18. Would you say your total earnings were . . .

1 = less than \$250,

2 = \$250 up to \$500,

3 = \$500 up to \$750,

4 = \$750 up to \$1,000

5 = \$1,000 up to \$1,500,

6 = \$1,500 up to \$2,000

7 = \$2,000 or more?

9 = DK / Refused

} GO TO Q B20

GO TO Q B20

B19. What was the main reason you were not working for pay in [LAST MONTH]?

B20. Did you spend any time looking for a job last month?

1 = Yes

2 = No → IF Q B6 = 1 (EMPLOYED LAST MONTH & STILL WORKING THERE), GO TO SECTION C. IF Q B6 = 2 or BLANK, GO TO Q B23

B21. During [LAST MONTH] did you do any of the following to find a job?

Did you . . .	Yes	No
a. contact a public or private employment agency, a school or employment center?	1	2
b. contact potential employers directly or send out a resume or fill out an application?	1	2
c. contact friends or relatives (for example, asked a friend for a job lead)?	1	2
d. check the newspaper, answer a job ad, or use any other active method to find a job (e.g., auditioning for a play)?	1	2

B22. During [LAST MONTH] how many hours per week did you usually spend looking for a job?
Would you say . . .

1 = up to 5 hours,

2 = 5 hours up to 10 hours, or

3 = 10 hours or more?

IF Q B6 = 1 (EMPLOYED LAST MONTH & STILL WORKING THERE), GO TO SEC. C.

B23. Are you currently employed?

1 = Yes

2 = No → GO TO SECTION C

B24 a. What kind of work are you doing, that is, what is your occupation?

PROBE: What are your main activities or duties at this job?

B24 b. At this job are you . . .

- 1 = employed by the government,
- 2 = by a private company,
- 3 = a non-profit organization,
- 4 = self-employed, or
- 5 = working in a family business or farm?

c. How many miles is it from your home to work?

___ ___ miles

PROBE FOR ACTUAL MILES TO WORK.

d. How do you usually get to work? Do you . . .

- 1 = drive, → GO TO B24i
 - 2 = ride with a friend or relative,
 - 3 = ride in a car pool,
 - 4 = take public transportation,
 - 5 = walk,
 - 6 = or do something else? (Specify) _____
- } GO TO B24e
- } GO TO B24i

e. Do you pay for this?

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No → GO TO Q 24i

f. How much do you pay? \$ ___ . ___

**ENTER ZERO IF DO NOT
PAY MONEY**

g. RECORD PAYMENT:

- 1 = per day
- 2 = per week
- 3 = per month
- 4 = some other way (h. Specify: _____)

i. Which days do you usually work at your (main) job? (By main job, I mean the one which you work most hours.) Would you say . . .

- 1 = Monday through Friday,
- 2 = another regular daily schedule,
- 3 = or no usual schedule?

B24 j. What type of shift did you usually work at this job last month? Did you work . . .

1 = Days,

2 = Evenings,

3 = Nights,

4 = A rotating shift, (one that changes regularly from days to evenings to nights),

5 = A split shift, (consisting of two distinct periods each day),

6 = Or something else?

SECTION C: EARNINGS AND OTHER INCOME

- C1. a. Was there anyone living with you last month who received money from jobs in [LAST MONTH]? (Please include full-time and part-time jobs as well as any odd jobs, paid babysitting or housekeeping, work done off the books or on the side, or income from other work activities. Please be sure to include your spouse or partner and any other person living with you.)

1 = Yes

2 = No → GO TO Q C4

- b. How many other household members received money from jobs last month, that is in [LAST MONTH], **not** including yourself?

___ # OTHER HH MEMBERS

99 = DK / REFUSED

IF NONE, GO TO Q C4

- C2. What was the total amount of money received by (this/these) household member(s) in [LAST MONTH] from all of their jobs before taxes and other deductions.

\$ ___ , ___ → GO TO Q C4

DK → GO TO Q C3

REFUSED → GO TO Q C4

REPEAT R's ANSWER TO VERIFY.
PROBE: Your best estimate is fine.

- C3. Would you say it was . . .

1 = less than \$250,

2 = \$250 up to \$500,

3 = \$500 up to \$750,

4 = \$750 up to \$1,000

5 = \$1,000 up to \$1,500,

6 = \$1,500 up to \$2,000

7 = \$2,000 or more?

9 = DK / Refused

- C4. Now I'd like you to think about **other** income your household may have received that we have not already talked about.

In [LAST MONTH] did (you/or anyone in this household) receive income or assistance from . . .

Source	Yes	No
a. unemployment compensation?	1	2
b. workers compensation?	1	2
c. social security?	1	2
d. supplemental security income (SSI)?	1	2
e. veteran's payments?	1	2
f. survivor's benefits?	1	2
g. disability income?	1	2

IF NO TO ALL, GO TO Q C7

- C5. What was the total amount of this **other** income for (you/all members of the household) in [LAST MONTH]?

\$ _____, _____ → GO TO Q C7

IF DK, ASK Q C6:

REPEAT R's ANSWER TO VERIFY.

PROBE: Your best estimate is fine.

- C6. Would you say it was . . .

- 1 = less than \$250,
- 2 = \$250 up to \$500,
- 3 = \$500 up to \$750,
- 4 = \$750 up to \$1,000
- 5 = \$1,000 up to \$1,500,
- 6 = \$1,500 up to \$2,000
- 7 = \$2,000 or more?
- 9 = DK / Refused

IF NO CHILDREN UNDER 18 IN HH, GO TO SECTION D

C7. a. Is there a court order for child support in effect for any children in your household?
(any children that you are responsible for)

1 = Yes

2 = No → GO TO Q C7d

b. Last month, did you receive any formal child support payments? (either from the state or directly from the (child's / children's) other parent? By formal we mean child support payments that are court ordered or agreed on in writing.)

1 = Yes

2 = No → GO TO Q C7d

c. How much did you receive in child support payments last month?

\$ __, ___

RECORD:

1 = Weekly

2 = Every 2 weeks

3 = Twice a month

4 = Once a month

d. Have you ever asked a public agency for help in obtaining child support?
(such as the child support enforcement office or welfare agency)

1 = Yes

2 = No → GO TO SECTION D

e. What type of help did you ask for? CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY

1 = Locate other parent

2 = Establish support obligation

3 = Enforce support order

4 = Establish paternity

5 = Establish medical support

6 = Modify an order

7 = Other (Specify: _____)

SECTION D: FOOD STAMPS / FIP / WIC

D1. a. Since Jan. 1, 1999, (have you/has anyone in this household) received food stamp benefits? (This includes food stamp coupons or EBT; electronic benefit transfer.)

1 = Yes → GO TO Q D2a

2 = No

b. You indicated earlier that you have received food stamps in the past. Why did you stop receiving food stamps?

IF Q D1a = No, ASK D1b & THEN GO TO Q D3.

D2. a. Which months did your household receive food stamps?

01 = Jan

02 = Feb

03 = March

04 = April

05 = May

06 = June

07 = July

08 = August

IF RECEIVED ALL OF 1999, GO TO Q D3

IF FOOD STAMPS STOPPED FOR ONE MONTH OR MORE ASK Q D2b

b. Why did your household stop receiving food stamps in (MONTH, 1999)?

D3. (Have you / Has anyone in this household) received FIP (Family Investment Program) benefits since Jan. 1, 1999?

1 = Yes

2 = No → GO TO Q D5

D4. a. Which months did your household receive FIP (Family Investment Program)?

- 01 = Jan
- 02 = Feb
- 03 = March
- 04 = April
- 05 = May
- 06 = June
- 07 = July
- 08 = August

IF FIP RECEIVED LAST MONTH, ASK:

b. How much money did you receive from FIP in [LAST MONTH]?

\$ __, __ __ __ → GO TO Q D5

IF DK, ASK:

c. Would you say it was . . .

- 1 = less than \$100,
- 2 = \$100 up to \$200,
- 3 = \$200 up to \$300,
- 4 = \$300 up to \$400
- 5 = \$400 up to \$500,
- 6 = or \$500 or more?
- 9 = DK / Refused

**[IF HOUSEHOLD DID NOT RECEIVE FIP DURING AT LEAST ONE MONTH
ASK:]**

d. Why did (you/your household) stop receiving public assistance from FIP in [MONTH]?

D5. a. (Have you/Has anyone in your household) received WIC benefits since January 1,1999?

1 = Yes

2 = No → GO TO SECTION E

b. Which months?

01 = Jan

02 = Feb

03 = March

04 = April

05 = May

06 = June

07 = July

08 = August

SECTION E: ELIGIBILITY AND ASSETS

These next few questions are about your living arrangements and transportation.

- E1. What is your current housing arrangement? Do you rent, own your home, live with a friend or relative, or live somewhere else?

01 = rent → GO TO Q E2

02 = own

03 = live with friend or relative

04 = other (Specify): _____

99 = DK, Refused

} GO TO Q E3

- E2. Do you **currently** receive a rent subsidy or pay lower rent because the government pays part of the cost?

1 = Yes

2 = No

9 = DK, Refused

- E3. Do you own a car, van, or truck? (Do not include leased vehicles, recreational vehicles, or motorcycles.)

1 = Yes → GO TO SECTION F

2 = No

- E4. When you need to go somewhere other than to work, how do you **usually** get around? Do you . . .

1 = walk,

2 = ride a bicycle,

3 = ride with a relative, neighbor, or friend,

4 = borrow a vehicle,

5 = take a bus,

6 = or do something else? (Specify): _____

SECTION F: EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The next few questions are about education and training.

F1. a. Since January 1, 1999, have you been enrolled in school?

1 = Yes

2 = No → GO TO Q F2a

PROBE: Include any regular school, such as high school or college, or any vocational, technical, or business school beyond high school.

b. Was it full time or part-time?

1 = full time

2 = part-time

c. Was it . . .

1 = high school,

2 = college,

3 = vocational, technical, business school, or

4 = something else (Specify): _____

IF D1a = YES & F1b = PART-TIME, ASK F1d BELOW. IF NOT, GO TO F2a.

d. Did this part-time school enrollment count toward your work requirements for Food Stamps?

1 = Yes

2 = No

3 = Exempt from work requirements

F2. a. Since January 1, 1999 have you received any training to help you look for or train for a new job?

1 = Yes

2 = No → GO TO SECTION G

b. Were you **required** to enroll in this training in order to receive public assistance or other benefits?

1 = Yes

2 = No

F2. c. Was this training designed to teach you how to look for a job, or was it designed to teach you specific job skills needed for a new job or career?

1 = How to look for a job → ASK F3a

2 = Specific skills → ASK F3b

3 = Both → ASK F3a AND F3b

PROBE: Look for a job: resume preparation, job search techniques, interviewing skills.
Specific skills: auto mechanics, typing, computer software, etc.

F3. a. Did you use this training to find or get a job?

1 = Yes

2 = No

b. Have you used this training on a job you have had, or have you been looking for work that will use this training?

1 = Yes

2 = No

SECTION G: HEALTH AND INSURANCE COVERAGE

G1. Since January 1, 1999, would you say your overall health has been . . .

- 1 = excellent,
- 2 = very good,
- 3 = good,
- 4 = fair, or
- 5 = poor?

[IF B6 = YES OR B23 = YES OR RESPONDENT'S AGE >= 65, GO TO G3]

G2. Do you currently have a physical or mental condition that prevents you from working?

- 1 = Yes → GO TO Q G4
- 2 = No

G3. Have you **ever** had a physical or mental condition that prevented you from working?

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No → GO TO Q G6

[IF YES TO Q G3, ASK QG4 AND THEN SKIP Q G5 (GO TO Q G6)]

G4. Did you have that condition in 1997?

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No
- 9 = DK

G5. Is it likely that you will be able to work at some time in the next 12 months?

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No

- G6. Have you been covered at any time in 1999 by any of the following types of insurance?
Have you been covered by . . .

	Yes	No
a. Medicare, (the government medical plan for persons 65 and over or for persons with disabilities)?	1	2
b. Medicaid, also called Title19 or Medipas (the government medical plan for persons with low incomes)?	1	2
c. any other government provided health insurance (Champus, Tricare, ChampVA, Military Health, Indian Health Service)?	1	2

- G7. Have you been covered at any time in 1999 by a plan provided by **another** person in this household through that person's current or past employer or union?

1 = Yes → GO TO Q G9

2 = No

[IF Q B13 ON PAGE 8 IS YES, RECORD YES IN Q G8 BELOW AND SKIP TO Q G9]

- G8. In 1999, have you been covered by any other private insurance plan?

1 = Yes

2 = No

[IF QA2 = 1, GO TO SECTION H]

- G9. Now we want to know about others in the household. Has **everyone** in the household been covered at any time in 1999 by some type of health insurance?

1 = Yes → GO TO SECTION H

2 = No

- G10. Why were you or others in the household not covered by health insurance?

SECTION H: FOOD SECURITY/ECONOMIC HARDSHIP/COMMUNITY RESOURCES

These next questions are about the food eaten in your household in the last 12 months, since (MONTH) of last year, and whether you were able to afford the food you need.

H1. Which one of these statements best describes the food eaten in your household in the last 12 months? READ THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS:

1 = Enough of the kinds of food we want to eat → GO TO Q H3

2 = Enough, but not always the kinds of food we want → GO TO Q H2a

3 = Sometimes not enough to eat, or → GO TO Q H2b

4 = Often not enough to eat. → GO TO Q H2b

H2. a. Here are some reasons why people don't always have the quality or variety of food they want. For each one, please tell me if that is a reason why **you** don't always have the kinds of food you want to eat.

	Yes	No	
a. Not enough money for food	1	2	} GO TO Q H3
b. Too hard to get to the store	1	2	
c. On a diet	1	2	
d. Kinds of food we want not available	1	2	
e. Good quality food not available	1	2	

b. Here are some reasons why people don't always have enough to eat. For each one, please tell me if that is a reason why **you** don't always have enough to eat.

	Yes	No
a. Not enough money for food	1	2
b. Too hard to get to the store	1	2
c. On a diet	1	2
d. No working stove available	1	2
e. Not able to cook or eat because of health problems	1	2

Now I'm going to read you several statements that people have made about their food situation. For these statements, please tell me whether the statement was **often** true, **sometimes** true, or **never** true for (you/your household) in the last 12 months.

H3. The first statement is: (I/We) worried whether (my/our) food would run out before (I/we) got money to buy more.

Was that often, sometimes, or never true for (you/your household) in the last 12 months?

1 = Often true

2 = Sometimes true

3 = Never true

H4. The food that (I/we) bought just didn't last, and (I/we) didn't have money to get more. Was that often, sometimes, or never true for (you/your household) in the last 12 months?

1 = Often true

2 = Sometimes true

3 = Never true

H5. (I/We) couldn't afford to eat balanced meals.

Was that often, sometimes, or never true for (you/your household) in the last 12 months?

1 = Often true

2 = Sometimes true

3 = Never true

**IF NO CHILDREN <18 IN HH, & Q H1 = ENOUGH TO EAT (1 or 2) &
QH3-5 = NEVER TRUE, THEN GO TO Q H21.
IF CHILDREN UNDER 18 IN HOUSEHOLD GO TO Q H6.
OTHERS GO TO Q H9**

H6. (I/We) relied on only a few kinds of low-cost food to feed (NAME OF CHILD/the children) because (I was/we were) running out of money to buy food. Was that often, sometimes, or never true for your household in the last 12 months?

1 = Often true

2 = Sometimes true

3 = Never true

H7. (I/We) couldn't feed (NAME/the children) a balanced meal, because (I/we) couldn't afford that. Was that often, sometimes, or never true for your household in the last 12 months?

1 = Often true

2 = Sometimes true

3 = Never true

IF Q H1 = ENOUGH TO EAT (1 or 2), AND Q H3-7 = NEVER TRUE, THEN GO TO Q H21

H8. (NAME was/The children were) not eating enough because (I/we) just couldn't afford enough food. Was that often, sometimes, or never true for your household in the last 12 months?

1 = Often true

2 = Sometimes true

3 = Never true

H9. In the last 12 months, since (MONTH), 1998, did (you/you or the other adults in your household) ever cut the size of your meals or skip meals because there wasn't enough money for food?

1 = Yes

2 = No → GO TO Q H11

H10 How often did this happen? Was it . . .

1 = almost every month,

2 = some months but not every month, or

3 = only 1 or 2 months?

H11. In the last 12 months, did you ever eat less than you felt you should because there wasn't enough money to buy food?

1 = Yes

2 = No

H12. In the last 12 months, were you ever hungry but didn't eat because you couldn't afford enough food?

1 = Yes

2 = No

H13. In the last 12 months, did you lose weight because you didn't have enough money for food?

1 = Yes

2 = No

IF Q H8-13 = NO, GO TO Q H21

H14. In the last 12 months, did (you/you or the other adults in the household) ever not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food?

1 = Yes

2 = No → GO TO Q H16

H15. How often did this happen? Was it . . .

1 = almost every month,

2 = some months but not every month, or

3 = only 1 or 2 months?

IF CHILDREN UNDER 18 IN HH, ASK Q H16, OTHERWISE GO TO Q H21

The next questions are about children living in the household who are under 18 years old.

H16. In the last 12 months, since (MONTH), 1998, did you ever cut the size of (NAME's/any of the children's) meals because there wasn't enough money for food?

1 = Yes

2 = No

H17. In the last 12 months, (was NAME/were the children) ever hungry but you just couldn't afford more food?

1 = Yes

2 = No

H18. In the last 12 months, did (NAME/any of the children) ever skip a meal because there wasn't enough money for food?

1 = Yes

2 = No → GO TO Q H20

H19. How often did this happen? Was it . . .

- 1 = almost every month,
- 2 = some months, but not every month, or
- 3 = only 1 or 2 months?

H20. In the last 12 months, did (NAME/any of the children) ever not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food?

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No

H21. In the past 12 months, did (you/you or anyone else in your household) ever get food or borrow money for food from friends or relatives?

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No

H22. a. In the past 12 months, did (you/you or anyone else in your household) ever get emergency food from a church, food pantry, or food bank?

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No → TO GO Q H22c

b. How often did this happen? Was it . . .

- 1 = almost every month,
 - 2 = some months, but not every month, or
 - 3 = only 1 or 2 months?
- } GO TO Q H23

c. Does your community have emergency food assistance available?

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No

H23. In the past 12 months, did (you/you or anyone else in your household) ever eat meals in a soup kitchen?

- 1 = Yes
- 2 = No

Economic Hardship

The next questions are about other basic needs in your household in the past 12 months.

H24. In the last 12 months, has there been a time when you could not afford a place to stay or when you could not pay your (rent/mortgage)?

1 = Yes

2 = No → GO TO Q H26

H25. In the last 12 months, have you been evicted from your home for not being able to pay your (rent/mortgage)?

1 = Yes

2 = No

H26. In the last 12 months, has your electricity or heat been turned off because you could not afford to pay the bill?

1 = Yes

2 = No

H27. In the last 12 months, has your phone been disconnected, or have you gone without a phone?

1 = Yes

2 = No

H28. In the last 12 months, has there been a time when you or anyone else in your household needed to see a doctor or go to the hospital, but could not afford to go?

1 = Yes

2 = No

H29 I am going to name some problems with housing that sometimes cause people difficulty. Do any of these things apply to your current housing situation?

Does your home have . . .

	Yes	No
a. a leaky roof or ceiling?	1	2
b. a toilet, hot-water, or other plumbing that does not work right?	1	2
c. rats, mice, roaches, or other insects?	1	2
d. broken windows?	1	2
e. heating system that does not work properly?	1	2
f. exposed wires or other electrical problems?	1	2
g. a stove or refrigerator that does not work properly?	1	2
h. chipped or peeling paint?	1	2

H30. These next few questions are about various **community** resources. In the past year, have you or anyone in your household used (RESOURCE) in your community?

	Yes	No
a. Emergency shelter or housing (for example, a homeless shelter)	1	2
b. General assistance (sometimes called County Relief)	1	2
c. Free clothing resources (for example, a community clothes closet)	1	2
d. Public Health services (for example, Maternal and Child Health, Immunization Clinics, Well Child Clinics)	1	2
e. Alcohol or substance abuse treatment services (for example, Alcoholic Anonymous, Alanon, Alateen)	1	2
f. Mental health care or counseling services (for example, crisis counseling, Lutheran Social Services, Catholic Charities)	1	2
g. Domestic violence services (for example, crisis hot line or emergency shelters)	1	2

IF NO CHILDREN <15 YEARS IN HOUSEHOLD, GO TO SECTION J.

SECTION I: CHILDREN

[ASK IF HOUSEHOLD HAS ANY CHILDREN AGE 14 OR YOUNGER WHERE QA3c = 1]

The next questions are about the types of childcare arrangements you may have used last month.

	Yes	No	DK
11. a. Did you use childcare arrangements for any child at least once a week in [LAST MONTH]?	1	2	9
b. Did you care for your children yourself while attending school, working, attending work training, or while looking for work?	1	2	9

IF Q 11a = NO, GO TO SECTION J.

I2. During [LAST MONTH] did [ARRANGEMENT]?

Type of Arrangement	Yes	No	DK
a. another parent or family member care for the child?	1	2	9
b. your child attend day-care in a family day-care home, a day-care center, or pre-school?	1	2	9
c. you use any other type of child care arrangement regularly?	1	2	9
(Specify): _____			

I3. What is the total amount that you paid for childcare arrangements (for all children) during [LAST MONTH]?

\$ __ , ____ . ____

[PROBE FOR TOTAL AMOUNT PAID LAST MONTH]

I4. Since January 1, 1999, have you lost any time from work, work training or school because your usual childcare provider was unavailable? (This does not include time when your child(ren) (was/were) sick and could not be cared for by the usual child care provider.)

1 = Yes

2 = No

SECTION J: OPINIONS, CULTURE

These last questions ask for your general opinions.

CURRENT FIP RECIPIENTS ONLY:

J1. Do you expect that you and your family will be receiving FIP cash assistance . . .

a. one year from now?

1 = Yes → (GO TO Q J2)

2 = No

b. three months from now?

1 = Yes

2 = No

CURRENT FOOD STAMP RECIPIENTS ONLY:

J2. Do you expect that you and your household will be receiving Food Stamps . . .

a. one year from now?

1 = Yes → (GO TO Q J3)

2 = No

b. three months from now?

1 = Yes

2 = No

[IF RESPONDENT CURRENTLY RECEIVES EITHER FIP OR FOOD STAMPS, ASK:]

J3. I would like you to think about your current situation and what it would take for you to be able to support yourself (and your family) **without** any (Food Stamps/FIP). Would you need . .

	Yes	No
a. more education or job training?	1	2
b. affordable childcare?	1	2
c. dependable transportation?	1	2
d. anything else? (Specify): _____	1	2

Please tell me if you agree or disagree with the following statements.

J4a. Overall, the Iowa Food Stamp program does a good job of helping people make ends meet.
Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree?

- 1 = Strongly Agree
- 2 = Agree
- 3 = Neutral
- 4 = Disagree
- 5 = Strongly disagree

J4b. Overall, the Iowa Food Stamp program does a good job of helping people meet their nutritional needs. Do you strongly agree, agree, disagree, or strongly disagree?

- 1 = Strongly Agree
- 2 = Agree
- 3 = Neutral
- 4 = Disagree
- 5 = Strongly disagree

That is all the information that we need for this project. To thank you for your time, we want to send you a \$25 gift certificate for any HyVee grocery store. I just want to make sure that we send it to the correct address. Our records show:

[ADDRESS]
[CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE]

Is that correct?

IF NO, MAKE ANY NECESSARY CORRECTIONS

We will mail that gift certificate to you within the next week or two. Now, I have just one more request. In case we need to get in touch with you in the future, will you give us the name and address of someone who should always know where you are? This information will be kept confidential and only used if necessary.

CONTACT NAME:

RELATIONSHIP TO RESPONDENT:

ADDRESS:

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE:

PHONE NUMBER: (____) _____ - _____

Iowa State University thanks you very much for your time and your help with this important study.

Appendix 2

Introductory Letter to Sample Case Heads

Letter 1: Address and phone number available

December 20, 2000

«Respondent_F_Name» «Respondent_L_Name»
«Dhsaddress»
«Address_2»
«City», «State» «DHSZip»

Dear «Gender». «Respondent_L_Name»:

Iowa State University is conducting a research study to learn how Iowa families who have participated in the Food Stamp program are doing. The purpose of the study is to see how recent changes in Iowa programs have affected people and to see if more changes are needed.

If you are willing to complete a 30-minute telephone interview, we will send you a \$25 gift certificate for a local grocery store to thank you for your time and effort. This gift certificate will not affect any other benefits that you may be getting. The questions in the interview are not difficult, and your name will never be connected to the answers that you give.

Thank you for your help on this important project. If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Project Manager, Dianne Anderson, collect at (515) 294-9753. She will be happy to talk with you.

Sincerely,

Sarah M Nusser
Professor-in-charge, Survey Section

Letter 2: Address available, no phone number available

December 20, 2000

«Respondent_Fname» «Respondent_Lname»
«Address_1»
«Address_2»
«City», IA «Zip»

Dear «Gender» «Respondent_Lname»:

Iowa State University is conducting a research study to learn how Iowa families who have participated in the Food Stamp program are doing. The purpose of the study is to see how recent changes in Iowa programs have affected people and to see if more changes are needed.

If you are willing to complete a 30-minute telephone interview, we will send you a \$25 gift certificate for a local grocery store to thank you for your time and effort. This gift certificate will not affect any other benefits that you may be getting. The questions in the interview are not difficult, and your name will never be connected to the answers that you give.

We would like to call you on the telephone to do the interview with you, but we have not been able to find your current phone number. Please fill out the enclosed postcard, telling us your name and a phone number where we can call you, and mail it back to us. Or, if you like, you can call the Project Manager, Dianne Anderson, collect at (515) 294-9753. She will be happy to answer any questions you might have and arrange for us to interview you at that time.

Thank you for your help on this important project.

Sincerely,

Sarah M Nusser
Professor-in-charge, Survey Section