

Food Counts: Measuring Food Consumption and Expenditures in Household Consumption and Expenditure Surveys

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HOW MUCH DID YOU EAT YESTERDAY? And how much did you spend? On what food products exactly? And what about last week?

These types of questions can be very hard for anyone to answer, yet most analyses of poverty, food security, and nutrition are based on data collected using different variants of these questions. Therefore, ensuring that the way data on food consumption and expenditures is collected yields accurate information is essential for monitoring and understanding the welfare of a society and progress toward key development goals.

This special issue presents new evidence on the impact of survey design choices on the quality and availability of data collected in household consumption and expenditure surveys (HCES). The 13 studies in this issue (see reverse side of flyer) analyze how different survey design options affect the quality of the data being collected and the implications for statistical inference and policy analysis. The studies offer practical insights into survey design for national statistical offices and survey practitioners worldwide, and also provide policymakers with improved tools and a better understanding of poverty, food security, and nutrition for effective policymaking.



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