

3. SURVEY PROTOCOL

The GSPS used the following survey protocol:

- All interviews were conducted using a single computer assisted telephone interview (CATI) questionnaire which interviewers asked without modification.
- Systematic, unobtrusive electronic monitoring was conducted as a routine and integral part of monthly survey quality control procedures for all interviewers.
- An eligible household in the GSPS was a housing unit that had a separate entrance, where occupants ate separately from other persons on the property, and that was occupied by its members as their principal or secondary place of residence. Non-eligible households were (1) vacation homes not occupied by household members for more than 30 days per year, (2) group homes, and (3) institutions.
- Eligible household members included all related adults (aged 18 years or older), unrelated adults, roomers, and domestic workers who considered the household their home, even though they may not be home at the time of the call. Household members did not include adult family members who were currently living elsewhere.
- Proxy interviews were not conducted by the GSPS. Individual respondents were randomly selected from all adults aged 18 years or older living in a household.
- An interview was considered complete if respondents completed all survey questions.
- Verification callbacks were conducted for 10% of all interviews.
- With the exception of verbally abusive respondents, eligible persons who initially refused to be interviewed were contacted at least one additional time and given the opportunity to be interviewed.
- Call attempts on most sample pieces were completed during the calendar month of the sample selection. A few exceptions were made when delayed sample production moved some interviews to the first few days of the next sample month. Sample months began on the 15th of each month and ended on the 14th day of the following month.