

production standards to meet. Supervisors observe Field Representatives periodically to make sure quality standards are met. Also, we reinterview some households to make sure you recorded the responses accurately.

It is important for you to be aware of these situations so that if you accept the job, you will be happy and stay with it. It is a rewarding job if you enjoy meeting people and appreciate the diversity and independence of interviewing.

Information obtained in surveys is kept in confidence. Field Representatives take an oath not to reveal information collected to anyone other than an authorized Census Bureau employee.

### **Training**

The Census Bureau invests a lot of time and money in training Field Representatives. Initial training may take from 2 to 3 days (up to 5 days for some surveys), usually at a Regional Office. A Supervisor accompanies a Field Representative on the first assignment. Later training includes home study, observations, and group training sessions. Trainees are paid for time spent in training and receive an allowance for travel.

The major surveys we conduct are:

### **Current Population Survey**

This monthly household sample survey provides estimates of population, employment, unemployment and other characteristics of the population as a whole, and of various population groups.

The data provided by respondents in the Current

Population Survey are used to compute the national unemployment rate released each month by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

### **Survey of Income and Program Participation**

This monthly sample survey collects data on income, wealth, and participation in Government programs by the U.S. population. The data are released by several major Government agencies to help make decisions about policies affecting Social Security, taxes, and welfare programs. Private researchers also use summaries of the data to analyze the economic status of the country.

### **Consumer Expenditure Survey**

This survey collects data for the Bureau of Labor Statistics to provide current information on the buying habits of American consumers. Data are used to update the Consumer Price Index (CPI) which is one of the nation's most important economic indicators and has a direct effect on the welfare of millions of Americans.

### **Health Interview Survey**

Sponsored by the National Center for Health Statistics, this survey obtains information about the amount and distribution of illness, its effects in terms of disability and chronic impairments, and the kind of health services people receive. Data from this survey provide information for many purposes including statistics to help Government, university, and private health planners recognize health problems and attempt to solve them; measure of time lost from work due to illness or injury; and statistics to show how medical services can be provided as efficiently as possible.

### **American Housing Survey**

This survey provides current and ongoing information on the size, composition, and quality of the housing inventory for the Department of Housing and Urban Development. The survey helps measure changes in the housing inventory from losses, new construction, and mobile home replacements. Reports are published every two years.

### **Survey of Construction**

This survey provides data for estimating the number of housing units started in places that issue building permits and in areas that do not issue building permits. It is sponsored jointly by the Census Bureau and the Department of Housing and Urban Development and collects information regarding housing starts, completions, and other characteristics of residential construction to furnish builders, suppliers, Government agencies, manufacturers and financial institutions and others with information on current trends in building activity.

### **National Crime Survey**

This monthly survey collects data for the Bureau of Justice Statistics on types and incidences of crime; monetary losses and physical injuries due to crime; characteristics of the victims and, where appropriate, characteristics of the perpetrator. Data from this survey provide information on crime victimization from a general population sample.

## **Information for Field Representative Applicants**

*Part-time Work Available*

**Help Wanted**

