

THE NATIONAL FOOD STUDY



Protecting your identity

We will ask you for your name and telephone number only so that we can **contact you during the survey.**

After you complete the survey:

- We will remove your name, address, and telephone number from all survey materials
- Your answers cannot be linked to you or other household members
- Your answers will be grouped with others to describe the characteristics of groups

Federal law protects your identity and the information you give us

We depend on your cooperation and trust, and promise to protect the confidentiality of your information. The information you and your household provide will be **used for statistical purposes only.** In accordance with the Confidential Information Protection provisions of Title V, Subtitle A, Public Law 107-347 and other applicable Federal laws, your responses will be kept confidential and will not be disclosed in identifiable form to anyone other than employees of Mathematica Policy Research.

It is against the law to disclose or publish any of the following information:

- Names
- Addresses, including GPS coordinates
- Telephone numbers

Sworn for life to protect your confidentiality

All employees of **Mathematica Policy Research** take an oath to safeguard your information and keep it private. Employees are sworn for life to protect the confidentiality of the data.

Federal employees are not allowed to reveal information either. USDA will receive data collected by the National Food Study but will not receive any information that identifies the people who participate in the study.

Violating the oath is a serious crime. By law, every USDA employee, as well as every employee of Mathematica Policy Research—field representatives, telephone interviewers, and authorized researchers—has taken an oath and is subject to a jail term of up to 5 years, a fine of up to \$250,000, or both if he or she willfully discloses ANY identifiable information about you or your household.

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P. O. Box 2393, Princeton, NJ 08543-2393
Phone: (609) 799-3535 Fax: (609) 799-0005
Email comments or questions about this page to webmaster@mathematica-mpr.com.