

## Appendix I. Survey

## Labor Force Availability Survey in Southern Middle Tennessee

Good afternoon/morning. I am \_\_\_\_\_. I am calling on behalf of Middle Tennessee State University to conduct this survey on workforce conditions in Bedford, Coffee, Franklin, Grundy, Lincoln, Moore, and Warren counties. This survey and the study are sponsored by the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development as well as local industrial development boards. Your participation is extremely important but completely voluntary. Middle Tennessee State University will use the information for statistical purposes only, and no personally identifiable information will be released to the state, local workforce development agencies, and the public. This interview usually takes about 25 minutes.

## I. General/Demographic Questions (Ask All Respondents)

1. What is your age?
  - a. 18-34
  - b. 35-44
  - c. 45-54
  - d. 55-64
  - f. 65 and Over
2. Which county do you live in?
  - a. Bedford
  - b. Coffee
  - c. Franklin
  - d. Grundy
  - e. Lincoln
  - f. Moore
  - g. Warren
3. What is your gender? (ask if necessary)
  - a. Male
  - b. Female
4. Are you currently married?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
5. How many other people over 18 are living in this house?
  - a. 0
  - b. 1
  - c. 2
  - d. 3
  - e. 4 and more
6. Regardless of your employment situation, which of the following skills do you have? (Mark all that apply.)
  - a. Occupational license
  - b. Professional certificate (i.e., computer, secretarial, financial analyst)

- c. Skilled trade (i.e., electrician, carpenter) (Go to Q7.)
  - d. Local job readiness training (i.e., community college, technology center, state agency)
  - e. None
7. Which of the following skilled trades best describe your skill set?
- a. Carpenter
  - b. Plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters
  - c. Automotive service technicians and mechanics
  - d. Industrial machinery mechanics
  - e. Inspectors and testers
  - f. Machinists
  - g. Welders
  - h. Electricians/Engineering technicians
  - i. Other
8. What is the highest level of school you completed?
- a. Less than high school
  - b. High school (and GED)
  - c. Some college but no degree
  - d. Associate degree
  - e. Four-year college, Bachelor's degree
  - f. Postgraduate/ Masters
9. How would you describe your current employment situation? (Mark only one.)
- a. Employed working for someone/a company (Go to Q10.)
  - b. Self-employed (End of Survey for this group)
  - c. Recently laid off or furloughed and looking for a new job (Go to Q24.)
  - d. Recently furloughed and expecting recall (Go to Q24.)
  - e. Unemployed and looking for a job (Go to Q24.)
  - f. Not working and not in labor force (Go to Q29.)

## II. Characteristics of Employed

10. How many jobs do you currently have?
- a. 1
  - b. 2 or more
11. On average, (all jobs combined) how many hours a week do you currently work?
- a. Less than 35 hours (Part time) (Go to Q12.)
  - b. More than 35 hours (Full time) (Go to Q13.)
12. What is the main reason you work less than 35 hours?
- a. Slack work/business conditions
  - b. Seasonal work
  - c. Health reasons
  - d. Child care
  - e. School/training
  - f. Other family obligations
  - g. Social security limit on earnings
  - h. Don't want/don't have to
  - i. Other reasons

**II.1 Job Characteristics (ask all employed)**

13. How long have you been working in your current (primary) job? (Primary job is the one you spend most of your weekly work hours)
- Less than 1 year
  - 1 to 3 years
  - 3 to 5 years
  - 5 to 10 years
  - 10 to 20 years
  - More than 20 years
14. What does your company do? (Please record the industry: shoe manufacturing, fast food, landscaping, etc.)
15. What is your occupation (at your primary job)? (Please record appropriately: welder, plumber, etc.)
16. On average, what is your hourly wage (including all benefits and tips but before tax deductions)?
- \$6.99 or Less
  - \$7.00-\$7.99
  - \$8.00-\$8.99
  - \$9.00-\$9.99
  - \$10.00-\$10.99
  - \$11.00-\$11.99
  - \$12.00-\$12.99
  - \$13.00-\$13.99
  - \$14.00-\$14.99
  - \$15.00-\$15.99
  - \$16.00-\$16.99
  - \$17.00-\$17.99
  - \$18.00-\$18.99
  - \$19.00-\$19.99
  - \$20 or Over
17. How many miles do you travel each day for your current (primary) work?
- 0-5 miles
  - 6-10 miles
  - 11-20 miles
  - 21-30 miles
  - 31-50 miles
  - More than 50 miles
  - Work at home
18. In which of the following counties is your primary workplace located?
- Bedford
  - Coffee
  - Franklin
  - Grundy
  - Lincoln
  - Moore
  - Warren

**II.2 Job-Skill Fitness (ask all employed)**

19. Does your current (primary job) fit well with your education and training, skills, and experiences?
- Yes
  - No (If “no,” ask Q20.)
20. (If Q19 is “no”) is it because of your... (Mark all that apply.)
- Education
  - Training
  - Skill
  - Experience
21. What is the lowest wage rate you are willing to accept to change your current job?
- Not interested in changing my job
  - \$6.00-\$6.99
  - \$7.00-\$7.99
  - \$8.00-\$8.99
  - \$9.00-\$9.99
  - \$10.00-\$10.99
  - \$11.00-\$11.99
  - \$12.00-\$12.99
  - \$13.00-\$13.99
  - \$14.00-\$14.99
  - \$15.00-\$15.99
  - \$16.00-\$16.99
  - \$17.00-\$17.99
  - \$18.00-\$18.99
  - \$19.00-\$19.99
  - \$20 or Over
22. How much farther you are willing to commute for a better paying new job?
- 0-5 miles
  - 6-10 miles
  - 11-20 miles
  - 21-30 miles
  - 31-50 miles
  - More than 50 miles
23. Have you looked for a better job in the past 3 months? [end of survey for employed]
- Yes
  - No

**III. Unemployed, Recently Laid off or Furloughed**

24. When did you last work at a job or business?
- Within the last 6 months
  - 6 to 12 months
  - More than 12 months ago
25. Was your last job a full-time job?
- Yes
  - No



26. Have you exhausted your unemployment benefits?
- a. Yes
  - b. No
27. What is the lowest wage rate at you are currently willing to work?
- a. \$6.00-\$6.99
  - b. \$7.00-\$7.99
  - c. \$8.00-\$8.99
  - d. \$9.00-\$9.99
  - e. \$10.00-\$10.99
  - f. \$11.00-\$11.99
  - g. \$12.00-\$12.99
  - h. \$13.00-\$13.99
  - i. \$14.00-\$14.99
  - j. \$15.00-\$15.99
  - k. \$16.00-\$16.99
  - l. \$17.00-\$17.99
  - m. \$18.00-\$18.99
  - n. \$19.00-\$19.99
  - o. \$20 or Over
28. How much farther you are willing to travel for this job?
- a. 0-5 miles
  - b. 6-10 miles
  - c. 11-20 miles
  - d. 21-30 miles
  - e. 31-50 miles
  - f. More than 50 miles

#### **IV. Not Working or Not in Labor Force**

29. What is the main reason you are not currently working/in labor force?
- a. Retired
  - b. Health conditions
  - c. In school
  - d. Family responsibilities
  - e. Slack work or business conditions (Go to Q30.)
  - f. Transportation problems
  - g. Other
30. What business and economic reasons affected your decision for not looking for work?
- a. No work available in my line of work
  - b. Couldn't find any work
  - c. Don't have necessary schooling, training, skills or experience
  - d. Wages are too low
  - e. Better jobs are far from where I live
  - f. Unsatisfactory work arrangements
  - g. Age-related and other discriminations
  - h. Other
31. Are you willing to work if you find a job? (for all respondents in this group)
- a. Yes (If "yes," go to Q32.)
  - b. No

32. What would be the lowest wage rate for you to consider working again?

- a. \$6.99 or Less
- b. \$7.00-\$7.99
- c. \$8.00-\$8.99
- d. \$9.00-\$9.99
- e. \$10.00-\$10.99
- f. \$11.00-\$11.99
- g. \$12.00-\$12.99
- h. \$13.00-\$13.99
- i. \$14.00-\$14.99
- j. \$15.00-\$15.99
- k. \$16.00-\$16.99
- l. \$17.00-\$17.99
- m. \$18.00-\$18.99
- n. \$19.00-\$19.99
- o. \$20 or Over

33. How much farther you are willing to travel for this job?

- a. 0-5 miles
- b. 6-10 miles
- c. 11-20 miles
- d. 21-30 miles
- e. 31-50 miles
- f. More than 50 miles

[end of the survey]