Table 1.
Measuring Coverage and Ownership in Means-Tested Programs in the 2014 SIPP

	Reference Period Variable	Monthly Variables	
	Coverage	Coverage	Ownership
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)			
Benefit owner			
Covered.....	RSSICOV=1	ESSI_BMONTH=1-12[1]	ESSI_OWNER=N[2]
Not covered.....	RSSICOV=2	ESSI_BMONTH=N	ESSI_OWNER=N
Not Benefit Owner			
Covered.....	RSSICOV=1	ESSI_BMONTH=1-12[1]	ESSI_OWNER=PNUM
Not covered.....	RSSICOV=2	ESSI_BMONTH=N	ESSI_OWNER=N
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)			
Benefit owner			
Covered.....	RFSCOV=1	RFSYN=1	EFSOWN=PNUM
Not covered.....	RFSCOV=2	RFSYN=2	EFSOWN=PNUM
Not Benefit Owner			
Covered.....	RFSCOV=1	RFSYN=1	EFSOWN=PNUM[3]
Not covered.....	RFSCOV=2	RFSYN=2	EFSOWN=N
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)			
Benefit owner			
Covered.....	RTANFCOV=1	RTANFYN=1	ETANFOWN=PNUM
Not covered.....	RTANFCOV=1	RTANFYN=2	ETANFOWN=PNUM
Not Benefit Owner			
Covered.....	RTANFCOV=1	RTANFYN=1	ETANFOWN=PNUM[3]
Not covered.....	RTANFCOV=2	RTANFYN=2	ETANFOWN=N
General Assistance (GA)			
Benefit owner			
Covered.....	RGACOV=1	TGAYN=1	EGAOWN=PNUM
Not covered.....	RGACOV=2	TGAYN=2	EGAOWN=PNUM
Not Benefit Owner			
Covered.....	RGACOV=1	TGAYN=1	EGAOWN=PNUM[3]
Not covered.....	RGACOV=2	TGAYN=2	EGAOWN=N
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)			
Benefit owner			
Covered.....	RWICCOV=1	RWICYN=1	EWICOWN=PNUM
Not covered.....	RWICCOV=2	RWICYN=2	EWICOWN=PNUM
Not Benefit Owner			
Covered.....	RWICCOV=1	RWICYN=1	EWICOWN=PNUM[3]
Not covered.....	RWICCOV=2	RWICYN=2	EWICOWN=N

[1] ESSI_BMONTH refers to the month during the reference year that an SSI spell began. For SSI, it is the indicator that the respondent was covered by SSI benefits in a given month.
[2] This information is collected for SSI recipients under the age 18. Once SSI receipients turn age 18 they may receive benefits in their own name.
[3] For people covered by benefits who are not the owner, the ownership variables (e.g. EFSOWN) hold the PNUM value of the benefit owner.

Table 2.
Identifying Spell Duration in Means-Tested Programs in the 2014 SIPP

	Spell begin month	Spell end month	Continuation flag[1]	Left-censored year[2]
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)				
Benefit owner				
Covered.....	ESSI_BMONTH=1-12	ESSI_EMONTH=1-12	RSSI_CONTFLG=1-3	ESSILCY≥0
Not covered.....	ESSI_BMONTH=N	ESSI_EMONTH=N	RSSI_CONTFLG=N	ESSILCY=N
Not Benefit Owner				
Covered.....	ESSI_BMONTH=1-12	ESSI_EMONTH=1-12	RSSI_CONTFLG=1-3	ESSILCY≥0
Not covered.....	ESSI_BMONTH=N	ESSI_EMONTH=N	RSSI_CONTFLG=N	ESSILCY=N
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)				
Benefit owner				
Covered.....	EFS_BMONTH=1-12	EFS_EMONTH=1-12	RFS_CONTFLG=1-3	EFSLCY≥0
Not covered.....	EFS_BMONTH=1-12	EFS_EMONTH=1-12	RFS_CONTFLG=1-3	EFSLCY≥0
Not Benefit Owner				
Covered.....	EFS_BMONTH=1-12	EFS_EMONTH=1-12	RFS_CONTFLG=1-3	EFSLCY=N
Not covered.....	EFS_BMONTH=N	EFS_EMONTH=N	RFS_CONTFLG=N	EFSLCY=N
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)				
Benefit owner				
Covered.....	ETANF_BMONTH=1-12	ETANF_EMONTH=1-12	RTANF_CONTFLG=1-3	ETANFLCY≥0
Not covered.....	ETANF_BMONTH=1-12	ETANF_EMONTH=1-12	RTANF_CONTFLG=1-3	ETANFLCY≥0
Not Benefit Owner				
Covered.....	ETANF_BMONTH=1-12	ETANF_EMONTH=1-12	RTANF_CONTFLG=1-3	ETANFLCY=N
Not covered.....	ETANF_BMONTH=N	ETANF_EMONTH=N	RTANF_CONTFLG=N	ETANFLCY=N
General Assistance (GA)				
Benefit owner				
Covered.....	EGA_BMONTH=1-12	EGA_EMONTH=1-12	RGA_CONTFLG=1-3	EGALCY≥0
Not covered.....	EGA_BMONTH=1-12	EGA_EMONTH=1-12	RGA_CONTFLG=1-3	EGALCY≥0
Not Benefit Owner				
Covered.....	EGA_BMONTH=1-12	EGA_EMONTH=1-12	RGA_CONTFLG=1-3	EGALCY=N
Not covered.....	EGA_BMONTH=N	EGA_EMONTH=N	RGA_CONTFLG=N	EGALCY=N
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)				
Benefit owner				
Covered.....	EWIC_BMONTH=1-12	EWIC_EMONTH=1-12	RWIC_CONTFLG=1-3	EWICLCY≥0
Not covered.....	EWIC_BMONTH=1-12	EWIC_EMONTH=1-12	RWIC_CONTFLG=1-3	EWICLCY≥0
Not Benefit Owner				
Covered.....	EWIC_BMONTH=1-12	EWIC_EMONTH=1-12	RWIC_CONTFLG=1-3	EWICLCY=N
Not covered.....	EWIC_BMONTH=N	EWIC_EMONTH=N	RWIC_CONTFLG=N	EWICLCY=N

[1] This variable is only available for spells that end in the last month of the reference period (e.g., ESSI_EMONTH=12). Like other detailed spell variables, it is present for each month of the spell.
[2] This variable is only available for spells that include January of the reference period (e.g., ETANF_BMONTH=1) the first time a respondent is interviewed. Like other detailed spell variables, it is present for each month of the spell.

Table 3.
Identifying Detailed Spell Information for Means-Tested Programs in the 2014 SIPP

	Why began[1]	Why ended[2]	Coverage type	Amount[3]
Supplemental Security Income (SSI)				
Benefit owner				
Covered.....	ESSI_BRSN1=1-4 ESSI BRSN2=1-4 or N	ESSI_ERSN1=1-7 or N ESSI ERSN2=1-7 or N	n.a.	TSSI_AMT≥0
Not covered.....	ESSI_BRSN(1,2)=N	ESSI_ERSN(1,2)=N	n.a.	TSSI_AMT=N
Not Benefit Owner				
Covered.....	ESSI_BRSN1=1-4 ESSI BRSN2=1-4 or N	ESSI_ERSN1=1-7 or N ESSI ERSN2=1-7 or N	n.a.	TSSI_AMT≥0
Not covered.....	ESSI_BRSN(1,2)=N	ESSI_ERSN(1,2)=N	n.a.	TSSI_AMT=N
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)				
Benefit owner				
Covered.....	EFSBRSN1=1-9 EFSBRSN2=1-9 or N	EFSERSN1=1-7 or N EFSERSN2=1-7 or N	n.a.	TFS_AMT≥0
Not covered.....	EFSBRSN1=1-9 EFSBRSN2=1-9 or N	EFSERSN1=1-7 or N EFSERSN2=1-7 or N	n.a.	TFS_AMT≥0
Not Benefit Owner				
Covered.....	EFSBRSN(1,2)=N	EFSERSN(1,2)=N	n.a.	TFS_AMT=N
Not covered.....	EFSBRSN(1,2)=N	EFSERSN(1,2)=N	n.a.	TFS_AMT=N
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)				
Benefit owner				
Covered.....	ETANFBRSN1=1-9 ETANFBRSN2=1-9 or N	ETANFERSN1=1-9 or N ETANFERSN2=1-9 or N	ETANFADLTKID=1-3	TTANF_AMT≥0
Not covered.....	ETANFBRSN1=1-9 ETANFBRSN2=1-9 or N	ETANFERSN1=1-9 or N ETANFERSN2=1-9 or N	ETANFADLTKID=1-3	TTANF_AMT≥0
Not Benefit Owner				
Covered.....	ETANFBRSN(1,2)=N	ETANFERSN(1,2)=N	ETANFADLTKID=N	TTANF_AMT=N
Not covered.....	ETANFBRSN(1,2)=N	ETANFERSN(1,2)=N	ETANFADLTKID=N	TTANF_AMT=N
General Assistance (GA)				
Benefit owner				
Covered.....	EGABRSN1=1-9 EGABRSN2=1-9 or N	EGAERSN1=1-9 or N EGAERSN2=1-9 or N	n.a.	TGA_AMT≥0
Not covered.....	EGABRSN1=1-9 EGABRSN2=1-9 or N	EGAERSN1=1-9 or N EGAERSN2=1-9 or N	n.a.	TGA_AMT≥0
Not Benefit Owner				
Covered.....	EGABRSN(1,2)=N	EGAERSN(1,2)=N	n.a.	TGA_AMT=N
Not covered.....	EGABRSN(1,2)=N	EGAERSN(1,2)=N	n.a.	TGA_AMT=N
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)				
Benefit owner				
Covered.....	EGABRSN1=1-9 EGABRSN2=1-9 or N	EWICERSN1=1-7 or N EWICERSN2=1-7 or N	EWICCOVTYP=1-3	TWICAMT≥0
Not covered.....	EGABRSN1=1-9 EGABRSN2=1-9 or N	EWICERSN1=1-7 or N EWICERSN2=1-7 or N	EWICCOVTYP=1-3	TWICAMT≥0
Not Benefit Owner				
Covered.....	EWICBRSN(1,2)=N	EWICERSN(1,2)=N	EWICCOVTYP=N	TWICAMT=N
Not covered.....	EWICBRSN(1,2)=N	EWICERSN(1,2)=N	EWICCOVTYP=N	TWICAMT=N

n.a. Variable not applicable

[1] For each reported spell, respondents are asked why beneft receipt began. Respondents select reasons from a mark all that apply list. Since most respondents select a single reason, the public use file only has two variables that correspond to the first two reasons reported (when only one reason is reported the respondent has a value of .N for the second reason).

[2] For each reported spell that ends during the reference period, respondents are asked why benefit receipt stopped. Respondents select reasons from a mark all that apply list. Since most respondents select a single reason, the public use file only has two variables that correspond to the first two reasons reported (when only one reason is reported the respondent has a value of .N for the second reason).

[3] When program benefits cover multiple household members, the benefit amount is only recorded on the owner's record to avoid double counting amounts when calculating family and household-level income. The program amount can vary within a spell.