

ERS Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: An Estimate of Group Differences in Diet Quality to Advance Nutrition Security Measurement

Type of Report (ERR, EIB, EB) EIB

Agency: Economic Research Service [X] Influential Scientific Information
USDA [] Highly Influential Scientific Assessment

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Subject of Review: Nutrition-related health problems such as obesity, type 2 diabetes, hypertension, and cancer risks drive increased illness and premature death in the United States. Since 1980, the Federal government’s Dietary Guidelines for American provided dietary recommendations to reduce diet-related disease risk. Nevertheless, diets of most U.S. adults fall short of recommendations—both in adequacy of consumption of recommended foods such as fruits, vegetables and whole grains, and in moderation of other components such as saturated fat, sodium, and added sugars. The considerable costs to individuals’ health and quality of life, as well as the social cost of increased health care spending and decreased workforce productivity, associated with rising prevalence of nutrition-related health problems weaken societal well being. Federal government efforts to improve nutrition security are currently taking a whole-of government approach (White House, 2023). USDA has specifically stated a goal to ensure the nutrition security of Americans by promoting “consistent and equitable access to healthy, safe, and affordable foods that promote optimal health and well-being.” (USDA, 2023a). Nutrition security is an emerging concept that embraces both food security and nutritional wellbeing. The scope of nutrition security makes measurement challenging, and no direct measure currently exists. As a first step to measure development, basic analysis of elements of nutrition security, such as diet quality, that use existing data can identify the strengths and shortcomings of available data. The results of such analysis will help ongoing efforts to develop nutrition security measure with new or existing data sources and help identify economic, policy, food sources, household, and individual factors that may be related to nutrition security.

Purpose of Review: The purpose of the review is to ensure the high-quality of the economic analysis, transparent explanation of methods, objective interpretation of results, and effective communication to the intended audience.

Type of Review: [] Panel Review [X] Individual Reviewers
[] Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 4/03/2024 Completed: ---

