

# COLLECTION IN THE TIME OF CORONA

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prepared for

FESAC Webinar:

Modernization in Data Collection and Methods in Response to COVID-19

December 11, 2020

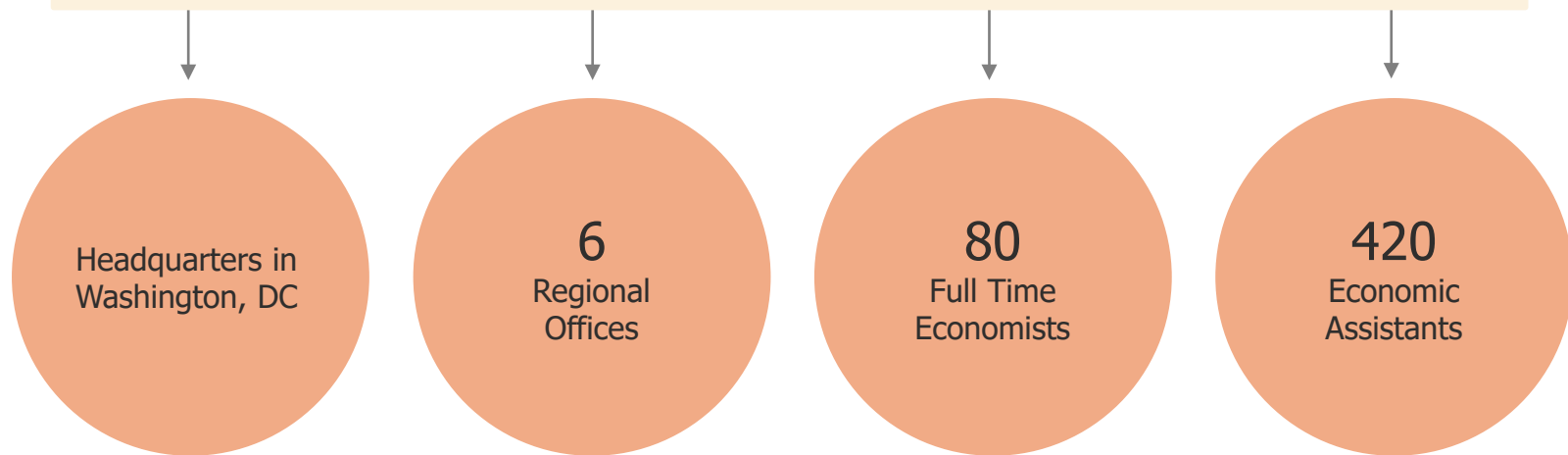


# BLS: Office of Field Operations

## Consumer Price Index

Two surveys

- Housing
- Commodities and Services (C&S)



# DATA COLLECTION

Conducted Coronavirus Pandemic Tabletop Exercise to assess BLS's readiness



Suspended all personal-visit data collection on March 16<sup>th</sup>



Maximized use of telephone and internet



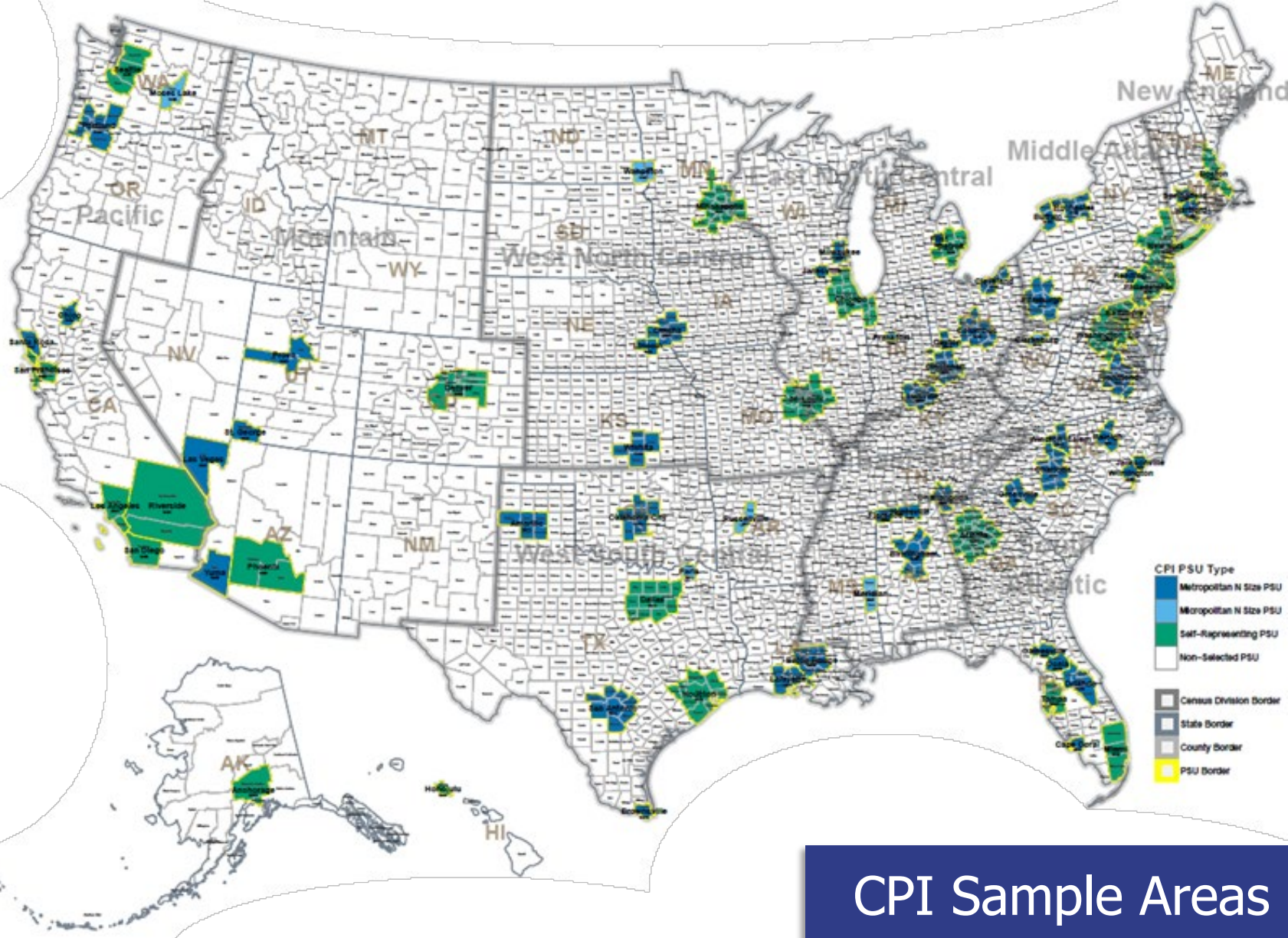
Developed modified data collection procedures

# BLS: Office of Field Operations

## Consumer Price Index

### Equipment Used for Data Collection

- Surface Pro
- iPhone



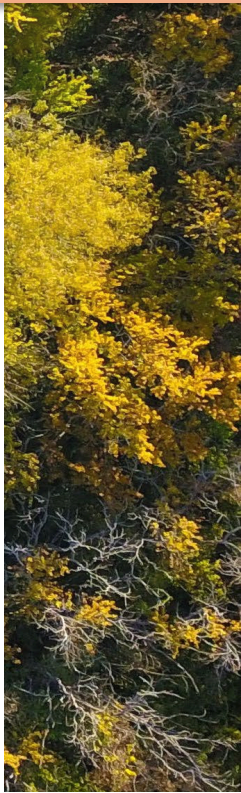
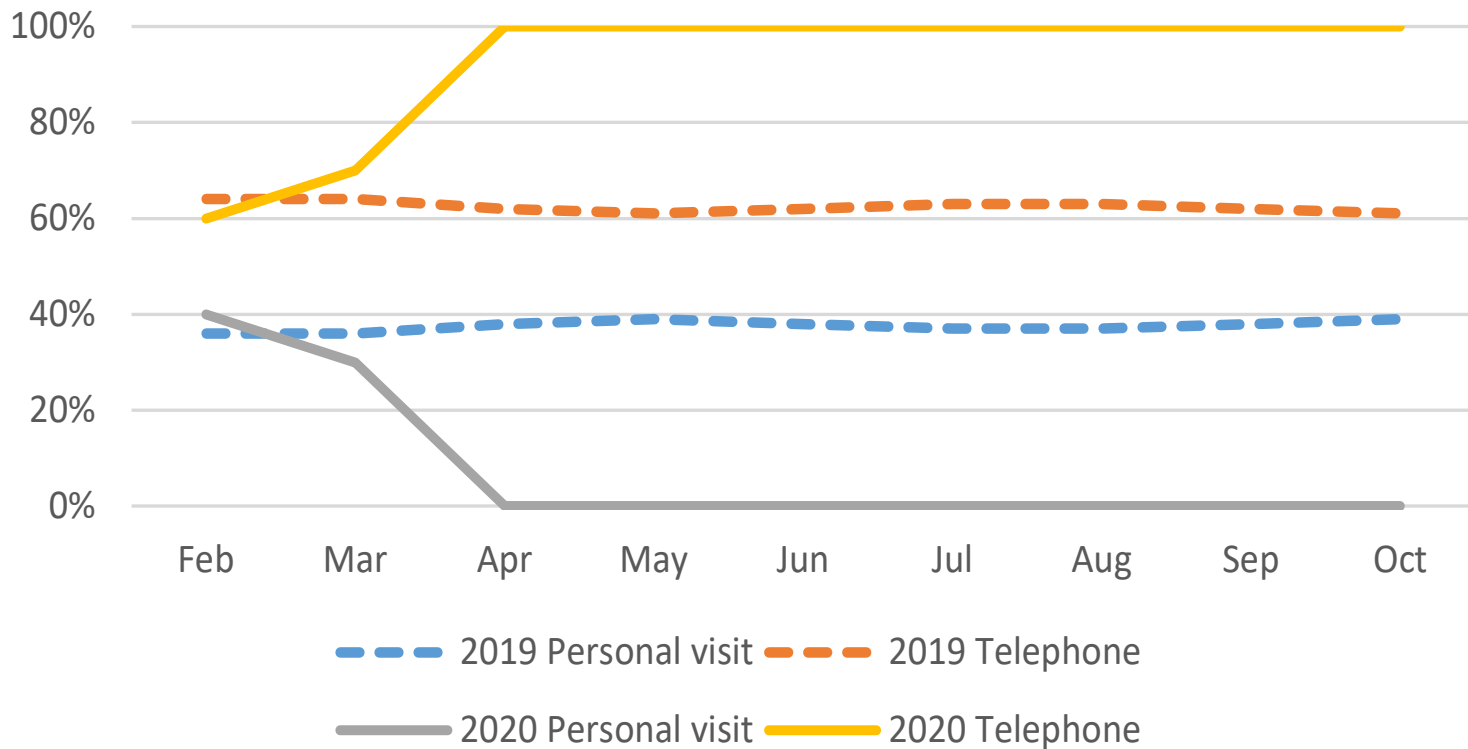
# CPI Sample Areas



# Housing Survey Data Collection

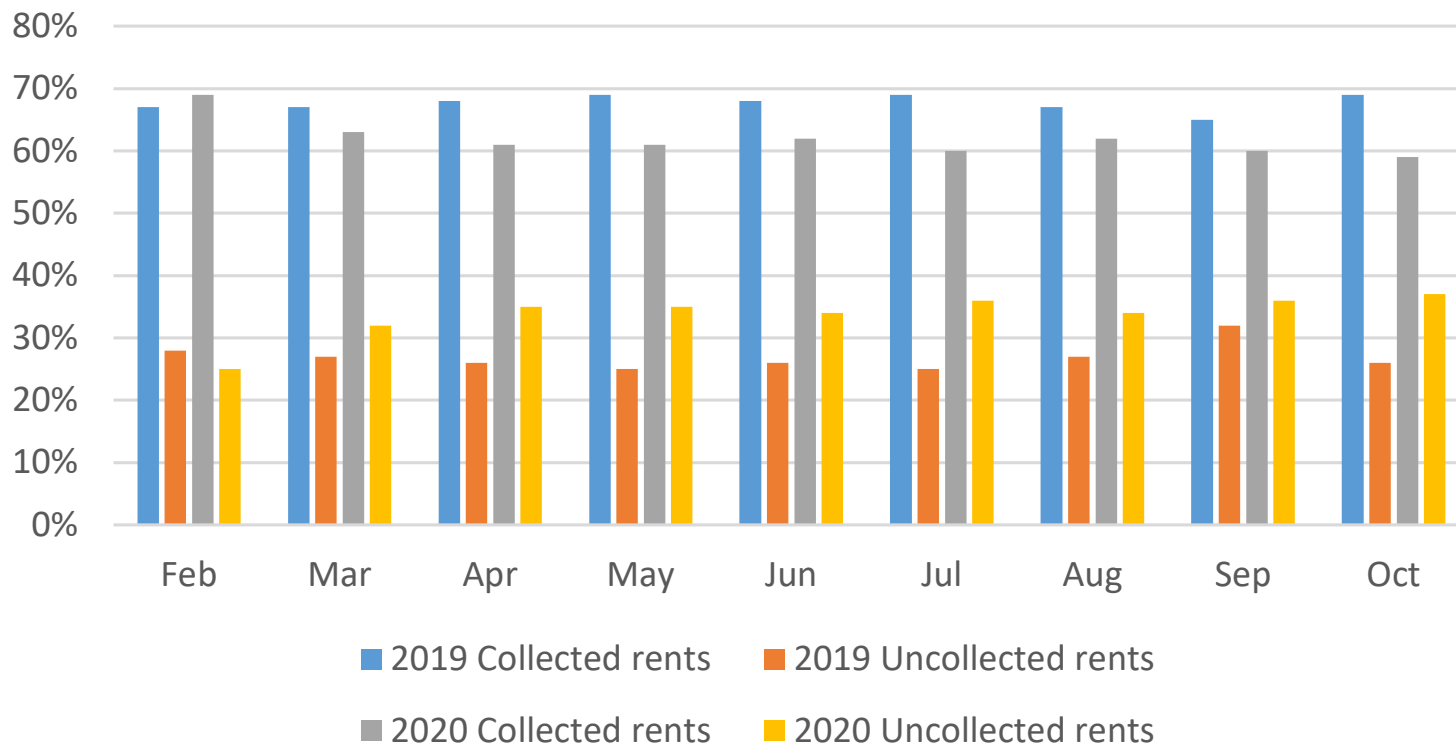


## Collection Mode: Housing Survey



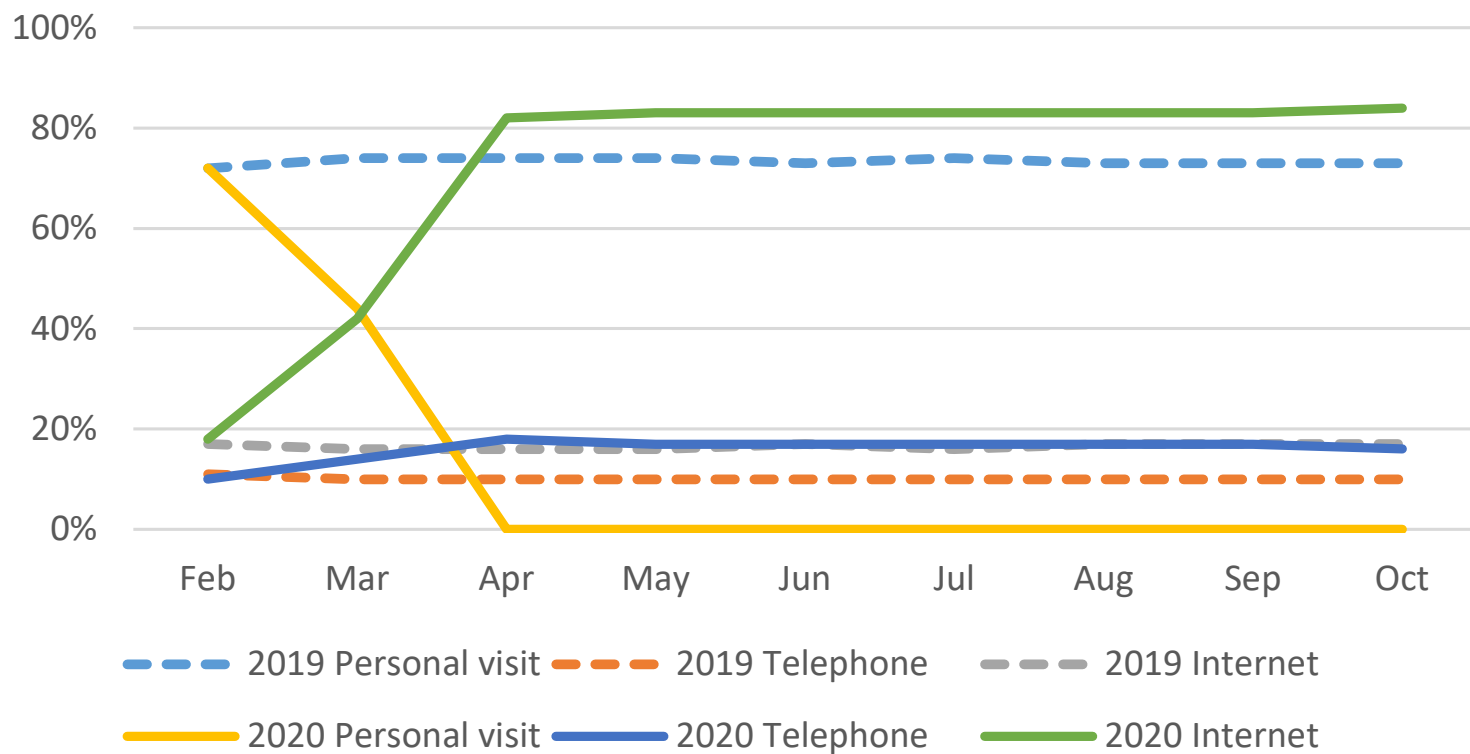
# Housing Survey Data Collection

## Response Rates: Housing Survey



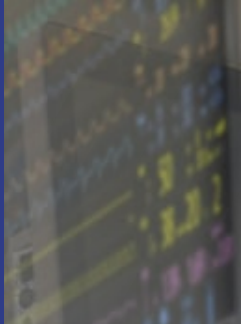
# C&S Survey Data Collection

## Collection Mode: C&S Survey

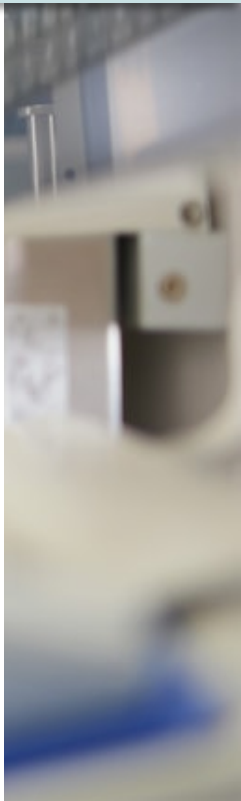
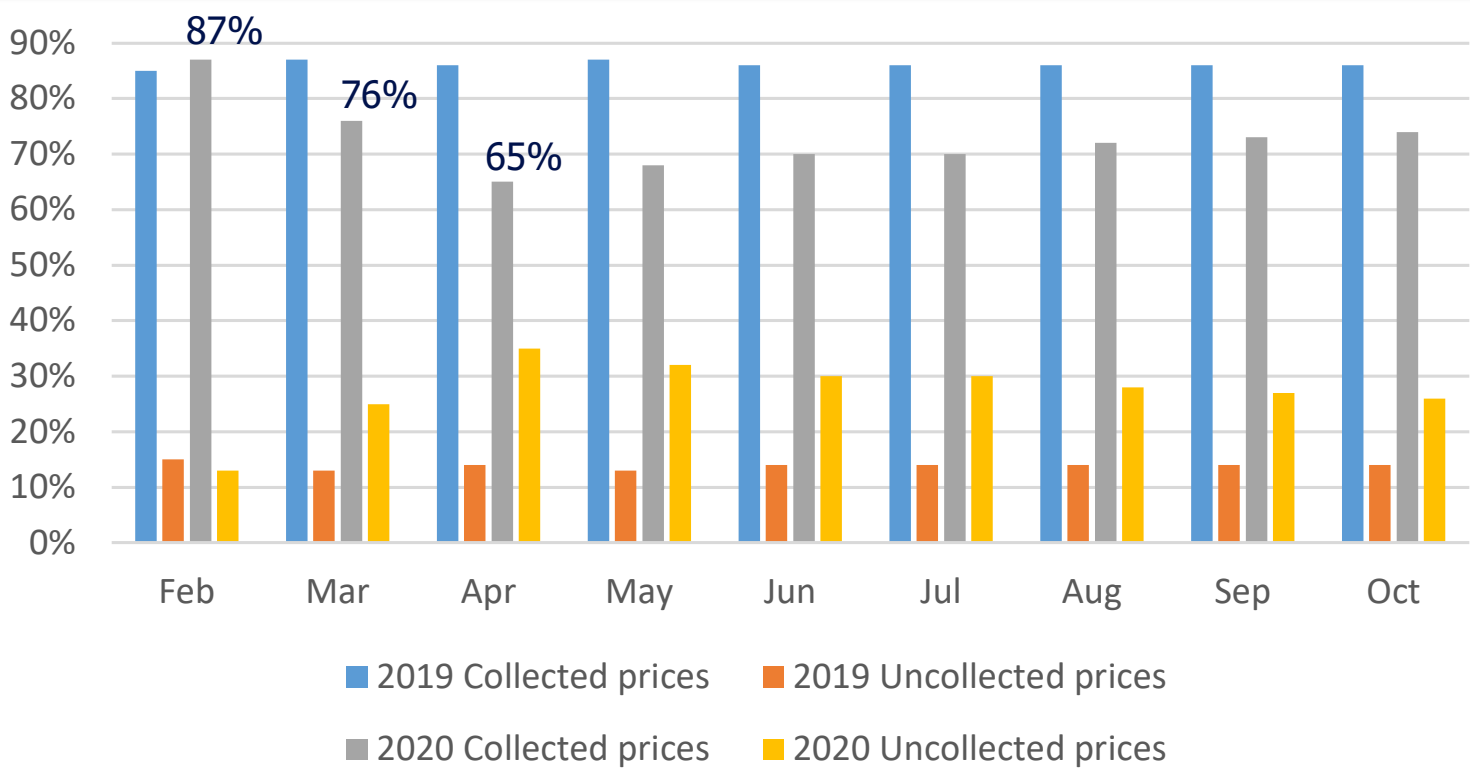




# C&S Survey Data Collection

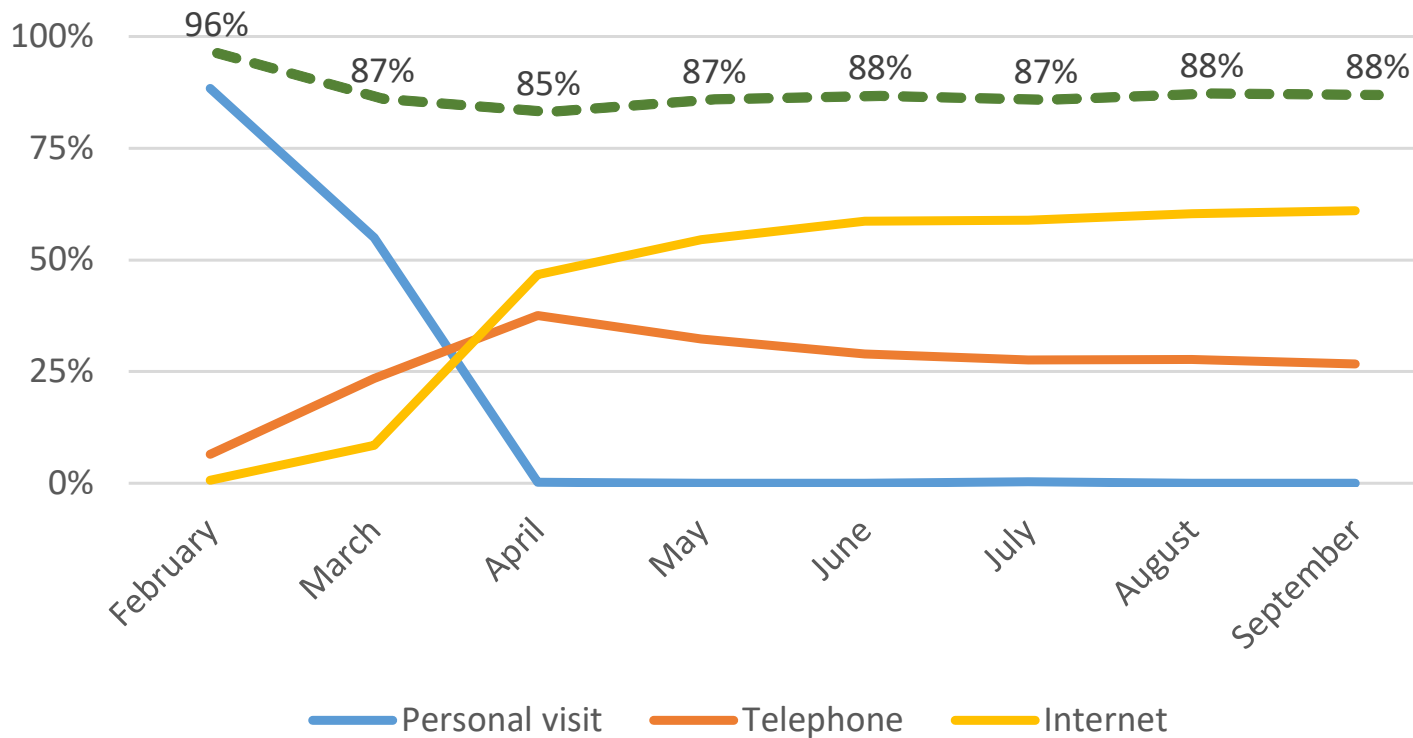


## Response Rates: C&S Survey



# C&S Survey Data Collection

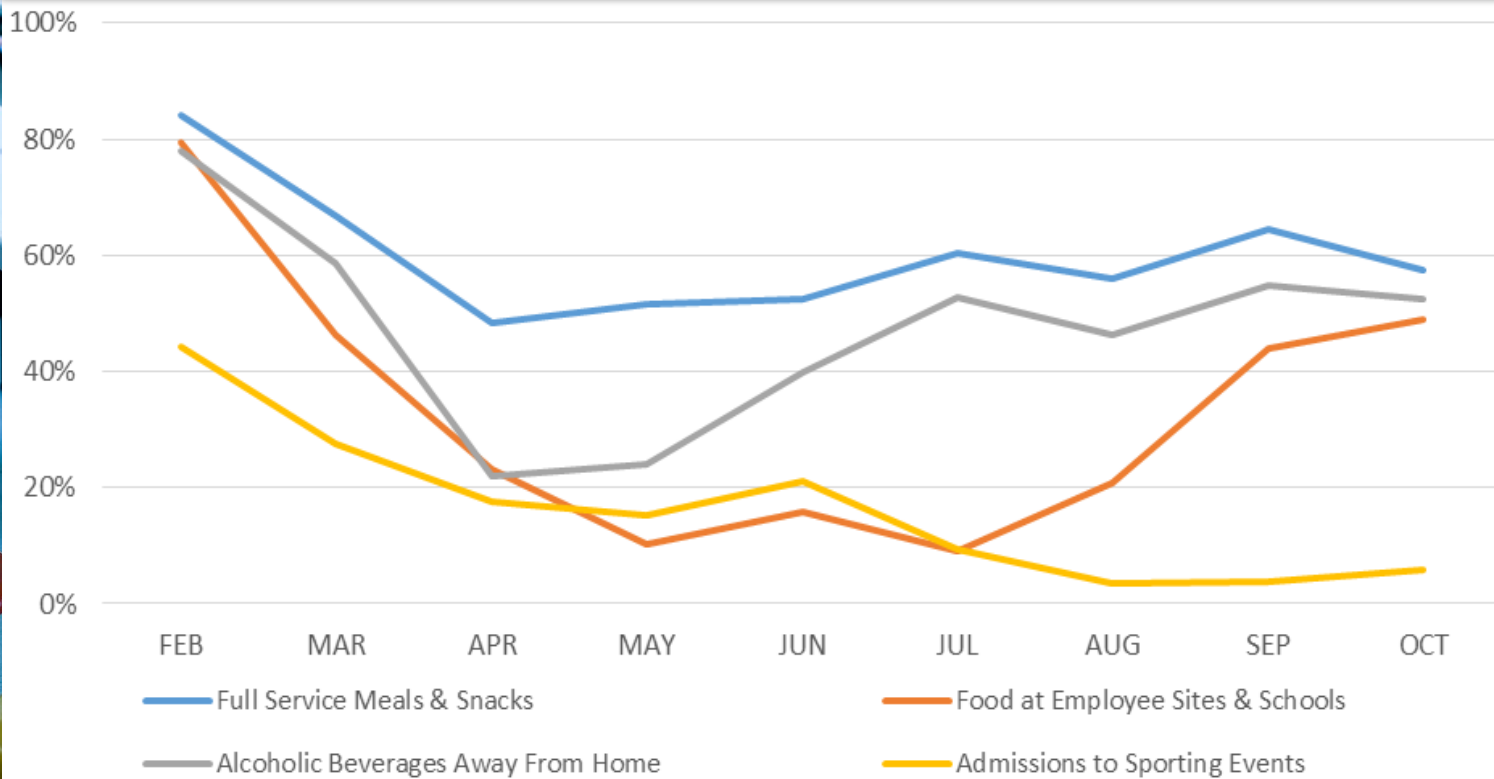
## Motor Fuels



# C&S Survey Data Collection

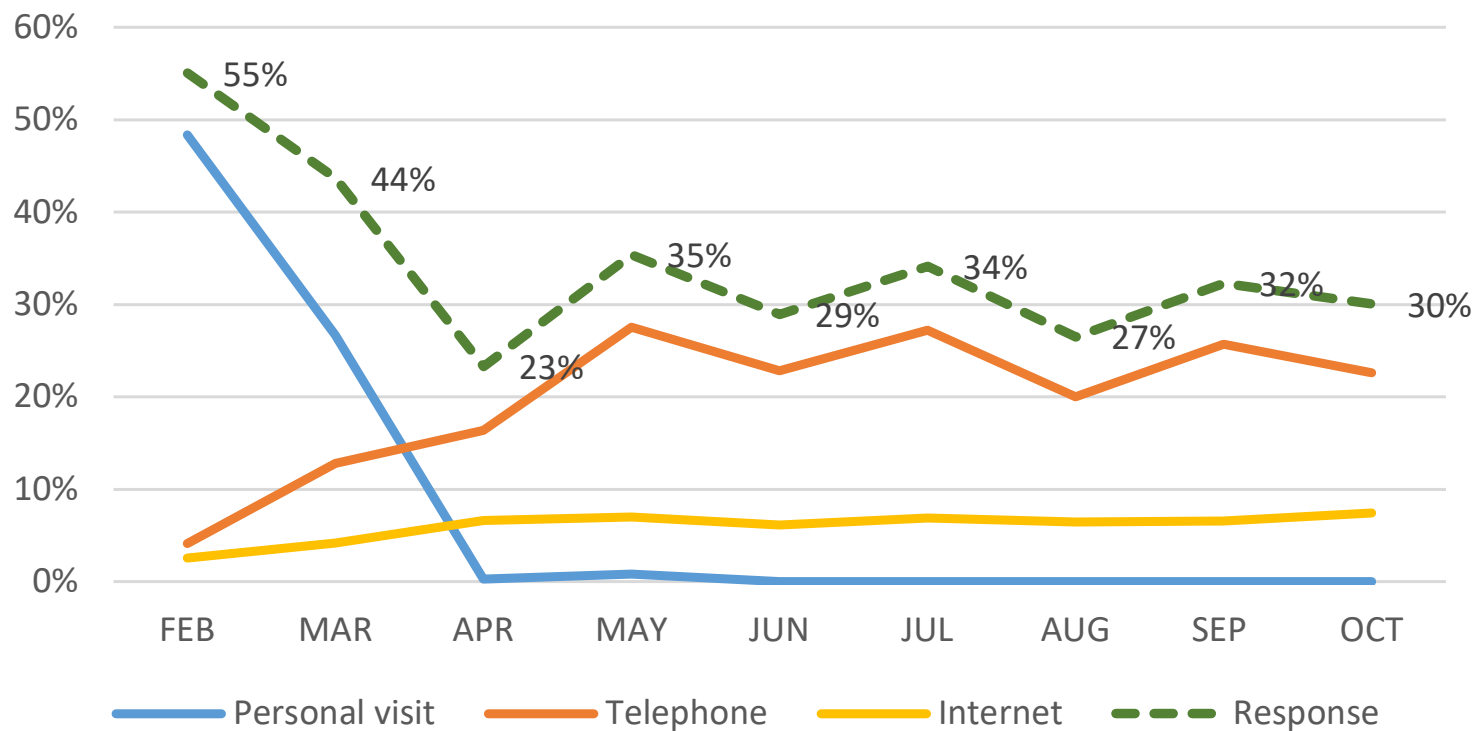


## Response Rates: Specific Item Categories



# C&S Survey Data Collection

## New Car and Truck Purchases



# SURVEY DESIGN: Continuous Sample Rotation

## Housing Survey

- ~5,900 rents /mo
- Each unit priced once ever 6 months
- Sample in each city rotated every 6 years

## Commodities & Services Pricing Survey

- ~90,000 quotes /mo
- ~Quotes priced monthly or bimonthly
- Continuous sample rotation every 4 years for each item-city



## Consumer Expenditure Survey



- CAPI, ~25,000 /year
- Diary, ~12,000 /year
- Continuous, monthly collection
- Households interviewed quarterly for one year

- Source of outlet frame
- Source of item sampling weights



# BLS: Office of Field Operations

## Directly Collected Programs



# Video Collaboration Tools

## Microsoft Teams and FaceTime



Tool is encrypted



Adds validity and creates connection with respondent



Screen share feature

# Innovation That Will Last

## Post-Pandemic



Assessment of the most efficient, effective and safest way to collect data



Respondents' willingness to engage and participate



Opportunity to establish more alternative data source arrangements



# Contact Information

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