Full info: https://www.eia.gov/consumption/commercial/data/2012/conducted.php

Building exclusions

structures such as water, radio, and television towers are excluded from the survey. Also excluded are: partially open structures, such as lumber yards; enclosed structures that people usually do not enter, such as pumping stations, cooling towers, oil tanks, statues, or monuments; dilapidated or incomplete buildings missing a roof or a wall; and, beginning with the 1995 CBECS, stand-alone parking garages

In order to be included in the CBECS, a building has to be used primarily for some commercial purpose; that is, more than 50% of the building's floorspace must be devoted to activities that are not residential, manufacturing, industrial, or agricultural.

Building breakdown:

https://www.eia.gov/consumption/commercial/data/2012/bc/cfm/b1.php

methodology:

Questionnaire: The CBECS building questionnaire is a complex instrument designed to collect data during a personal interview with a respondent at the building site.

Also during this initial contact with either the building or an establishment (after it was subsampled from a strip shopping center), interviewers identified a knowledgeable respondent for the interview phase, left an advance package of materials with or for that person, and made an appointment to return in person or to call by telephone for an interview after allowing enough time for the respondent to look over and fill out the survey materials

Packet included:

• Letters on DOE and contractor letterhead explaining the study and the steps necessary to prepare for the interview

• A brochure that answered frequently asked questions and illustrated the types of data collected in past CBECS cycles

• A one-page listing of 51 organizations endorsing the 2012 CBECS

• Two worksheets for the respondent to complete before the interview

• An authorization form for release of energy supplier data

• A small booklet of *showcards*, the questionnaire aids (lists and illustrations) that are normally used during an in-person interview (showcards were provided to all respondents in 2012 in case the interview was done by telephone)