



FROM THE DIRECTOR
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

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On the other side of this letter are answers to questions which participants ask most frequently about this survey.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Steven H. Murdock

Further information
may be obtained from:

REGIONAL DIRECTOR
US CENSUS BUREAU
15350 SHERMAN WAY STE 400
VAN NUYS CA 91406

Telephone: 1-800-992-3530 #2



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Further information
may be obtained from:

**REGIONAL DIRECTOR
US CENSUS BUREAU
6900 W JEFFERSON AVE STE 100
DENVER CO 80235-2032**

Telephone: 800-593-5096



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Further information
may be obtained from:

REGIONAL DIRECTOR
US CENSUS BUREAU
101 MARIETTA ST NW STE 3200
ATLANTA GA 30303-2711

Telephone: 404-730-3832



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Further information
may be obtained from:

REGIONAL DIRECTOR
US CENSUS BUREAU
1111 W 22ND ST STE 400
OAK BROOK IL 60523-1918

Telephone: 1-800-865-6384



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REGIONAL DIRECTOR
US CENSUS BUREAU
1211 N 8TH STREET
KANSAS CITY KS 66101-2129

Telephone: 1-913-551-6728



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REGIONAL DIRECTOR
US CENSUS BUREAU
P O BOX 9108
BOSTON MA 02117-9108

Telephone: 617-424-4501



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**REGIONAL DIRECTOR
US CENSUS BUREAU
1395 BREWERY PARK BLVD STE 100
DETROIT MI 48207-2635**

Telephone: 1-800-432-1495



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**REGIONAL DIRECTOR
US CENSUS BUREAU
901 CENTER PARK DR STE 106
CHARLOTTE NC 28217-2935**

Telephone: 1-800-331-7358, prompt 2



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**REGIONAL DIRECTOR
US CENSUS BUREAU
395 HUDSON ST STE 800
NEW YORK NY 10014-7451**

Telephone: 1-800-991-2520, ext. 43475



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REGIONAL DIRECTOR
US CENSUS BUREAU
833 CHESTNUT ST STE 504
PHILADELPHIA PA 19107-4405

Telephone: 800-262-2367



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REGIONAL DIRECTOR
US CENSUS BUREAU
8585 N STEMMONS FRWY STE 800 S
DALLAS TX 75247-3836

Telephone: 214-253-4400 or 800-835-9752, ext. 34410



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REGIONAL DIRECTOR
US CENSUS BUREAU
601 UNION ST STE 3800
SEATTLE WA 98101-1074

Telephone: 1-800-233-3308, ext. 22

Current Population Survey (CPS) – Frequently Asked Questions

Who uses this information? What is this survey all about? In a country as big as ours and one that changes so rapidly between decennial censuses, people in government, business, and other groups need up-to-date facts in order to plan efficient and adequate programs. It is important to know how many people are working or out of work (to help direct programs which would contribute to an expanding economy and provide new jobs), how many children will be attending school (to plan for schools and the training of an adequate number of teachers), how many new families are forming (to plan for adequate housing to meet their needs), and so on. Occasionally, we may combine data from the CPS with data from other government agencies to provide a comprehensive set of summary information about employment, income, and participation in various government programs. The CPS is one of the most important and timely sources of information used to make such plans.

How was I selected for this survey? Actually, we selected your address rather than you personally for this survey. Each month, we scientifically select about 18,000 groups of addresses to represent the United States. Each of the address groups contains about four housing units and altogether result in about 55,000 interviewed households each month. If you should move away while your address is still in the survey, we would interview the family that moves in.

How many times will I be contacted and how long will it take? Our representatives contact occupants of a selected dwelling eight times—4 months in one year and the same 4 months in the following year. In addition, we contact a small number of households twice during one of the 8 months to ensure the validity of our statistics and verify that our representatives are doing the best job possible. On occasion, selected households may be asked to participate in other surveys after they have completed their CPS interviews. On average, a CPS interview should take about 10 to 15 minutes. Your interview may be somewhat shorter or longer than this depending on such things as the number of adults in your household or the type of questions asked in a given month. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: Paperwork Project 0607-0049, U.S. Census Bureau, 4600 Silver Hill Road, AMSD-3K138, Washington, D.C. 20233. You may e-mail comments to Paperwork@census.gov; use "Paperwork Project 0607-0049" as the subject.

What protection do I have? Is this survey authorized by law? All information individuals give to the Census Bureau is held in the strictest confidence by law (Title 13, United States Code, Section 9). Title 13, United States Code, Section 182, and Title 29, United States Code, Sections 1 through 9, authorize the collection of most of the information we request in this survey. In some months, the survey may contain questions authorized under laws other than those cited; further information concerning the authority for any particular portion of the survey can be obtained from the representative who contacts your household. The Office of Management and Budget Control number for CPS is 0607-0049. Without this number we would not be able to conduct this survey. To ensure your protection, the laptops used for the data collection are password protected and all survey responses are encrypted.

Why do you include me? I'm retired. Some retirees may feel that their activities are not important to this type of survey and wonder why we include them. In order to have an accurate picture of the entire population, it is necessary to include people in all age groups. Our experience with interviewing retirees shows that many are participating in the labor force because they work part time or are looking for work. This information, along with data on other subjects such as income, health, and housing, assists in measuring the economic condition of the elderly population as a whole.