FACTSHEET

CONSUMER EXPENDITURE (CE) SURVEY

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Internet Sites
Census Bureau
http://www.census.gov
Bureau of Labor Statistics, CE Survey
http://www.bls.gov/csxhome.htm

Some Users

- Business establishments
- Private researchers
- Market researchers
- Colleges and universities
- Local, state, and U.S. Government agencies

Some Uses of CE Data

Helps to create jobs and shows areas of the economy that are improving or declining.

- Shows shopkeepers wanting to expand their business or persons wanting to start a business where to put their business by looking at CE summary data.

- Helps manufacturers who have products to sell by showing where the demand is and where to place resources.

- Helps small, single entrepreneurs and young persons who need to know the level of demand before investing their money and time.

CONTINUE ON REVERSE SIDE

U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

Some Uses of CE Data - Continued

- Helps people who want to start their own business or expand an existing business to convince banks to loan money.

4 Contributes to the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The CPI —

- Affects interest rates, wages, pensions, social security benefits, dollar amount of tax exemptions, income tax brackets, etc.
- Measures changes in prices of consumer goods and services.
- Measures inflation.
- Is the only measure compiled by the U.S. Government designed to assess change in the purchasing power of consumer dollars.
- Every percentage point rise in the CPI adds $6.5 billion to Federal expenses.
- Prices 80,000 items, ranging from breakfast cereal to funeral expenses.

4 Changes to the CPI items are based on information collected in the CE Survey.

- Adds new items as spending patterns change, e.g., cellular phones and home computers.
- Deletes items that become unimportant, e.g., record players, typewriters, and phonographs.
- Adjusts for changes in spending.

4 Used by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to estimate the cost of raising a child. The USDA uses CE data to estimate parental expenditures on children for various categories like health care, education, and transportation. Foster care and child support payments are based on CE data.

4 Used by the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services to help estimate what Americans are spending on health care and who's paying for the care. CE data help measure out-of-pocket expenses for hospital care. The CE survey is one of the few sources in government or private industry to provide information on out-of-pocket health care expenses.