Understanding How Americans Spend Their Money

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U S C E N S U S B U R E A U

Helping You Make Informed Decisions

CE
Consumer Expenditure Surveys

Internet Sites:
Census Bureau
www.census.gov

Bureau of Labor Statistics, CE Survey
www.bls.gov/cex

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

CE-100 7/2010

Field Representative Name

Phone Number

About the U.S. Census Bureau

Our nation is constantly changing, and Americans change with it. We grow in number, we move, and we develop new patterns of living and working. The Census Bureau measures these changes. Policy makers use this information to make decisions that affect our future.

Our data provides information on—

Population	Industry	Housing	Construction
Transportation	Income	Health	Agriculture

About this Survey

We are conducting this survey to get a picture of how Americans spend their money and how the percentages devoted to different spending categories change over time.

With Consumer Expenditure (CE) data, users can:

- Understand changes in housing costs as a percentage of the average American household's income.
- Compare transportation costs for young, middle-aged, and older households.
- Understand changes in health insurance costs for the average American household.

The CE data are also used to update the "market basket" of goods and services for the Consumer Price Index (CPI).