Understanding How Americans Spend Their Money







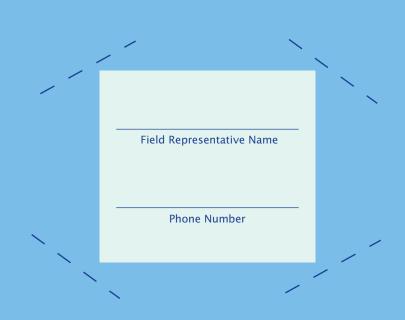


CEConsumer Expenditure Surveys

Internet Sites: Census Bureau www.census.gov

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

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



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 provide 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).

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