

# FACTSHEET

## *SURVEY OF INCOME AND PROGRAM PARTICIPATION*

Internet site:  
**Census Bureau**  
[www.census.gov/sipp](http://www.census.gov/sipp)

### **Examples of Users**

- Government agencies
- Colleges and universities
- Private research organizations

### **Uses of SIPP Data**

SIPP is the only survey that provides a nationally representative sample for evaluating changes in income, movement into and out of government assistance programs, and family and social situations. Here are some examples of its uses:

#### ***GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS***

- The Department of Agriculture uses SIPP to measure food stamp/SNAP usage and to evaluate eligibility requirements.
- The Social Security Administration uses SIPP to project future long term benefits and national retirement incomes.
- The Congressional Budget Office uses SIPP to measure actual counts of government program participants, eligible non-participants, and the associated dollar amounts allocated to each program.
- The Congressional Research Service uses SIPP to conduct policy research, run simulations for spells of unemployment and spells without health insurance, and to measure participation rates for programs such as TANF and Medicaid.

**CONTINUE ON REVERSE SIDE**

## **WEALTH AND RETIREMENT**

- The Department of Labor uses SIPP to identify characteristics of workers with and without pensions and health plan coverage.
- The Pew Research Center uses SIPP to measure changes in the wealth gap between different races and ethnic groups.

## **UNEMPLOYMENT**

- The National Bureau of Economic Research uses SIPP to examine the effect of age on unemployment and re-employment rates.
- The Urban Institute uses SIPP to measure the differences in unemployment benefits among varying racial and ethnic groups.

Participating in SIPP allows you to inform policy officials and legislators about your situation. These government and research organizations depend on you for the data they need to evaluate and improve legislation and policy. All information is kept strictly confidential by law.

Your participation is essential to ensure the completeness and accuracy of the data these elected officials and agencies rely on. You have a great opportunity through SIPP to represent thousands of other people just like you.

