Arguably the single most important survey on the effects of government programs on Americans' lives.

"The Continuing Saga of SIPP," The New York Times, May 31, 2007. With...its relatively long historical scope (with data going back to 1985), SIPP is the best data source for studying child care costs.

"The Cost Of Child Care Might Not Be Skyrocketing," FiveThirtyEight, July 23, 2015.

### The 2012 Survey of Income and Program Participation from the U.S. Census Bureau shows that 61 percent of all workers have access to a companysponsored pension or retirement plan, up from 59 percent in 2009. Yet, less than half participate.

"How to Fund Your 401(k) and Still Have Spending Money," U.S. News and World Report, January 23, 2014

# **SIPP** is the best data we have.

"Millions of Americans live in extreme poverty. Here's how they get by," The Washington Post, May 13, 2013.

the News.

## SIPP is not just a snapshot. It is a rolling picture of how people were doing.

"More Gloom for the Long-Term Unemployed, from Alan Krueger," The Wall Street Journal, May 22, 2014

> The Census Bureau found that such licenses and certificates offer an edge in earnings to Americans who haven't earned a bachelor's degree: People who didn't graduate from high school earned 26% more if they had some kind of alternative credential.

"Latinos lag in getting alternative educational credentials," The Los Angeles Times, January 16, 2014

Attachmenttl

#### Dear Respondent,

The Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) is a household-based survey designed to measure the economic well-being of families over time. This allows policy makers, elected representatives, and researchers to examine the success or shortcomings of government programs and legislation.

Thus, SIPP is crucial to helping your government institute better policies and be good stewards of your tax dollars. SIPP is the sole source of national information for a wide variety of topics and allows for the investigation of the interaction between earnings, program transfers, and other government and private sector actions. Your household has been selected to represent thousands of similar households in the area.

Therefore, your response to the SIPP is vitally important so the economic situation of your household and others is accurately portrayed.

*We thank you for your participation in the Survey of Income and Program Participation.* 

Sincerely, The SIPP Team



Thank you for participating in this survey and for helping represent our nation's most important asset...

# People Just Like You.



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