

CE-RFQ (01-2025)

<DATE>>

<<RESPNAME>>

<<ADDRESS>>

Dear <<RESPNAME>>:

Recently one of our Field Representatives attempted to contact your address in an effort to interview your household as part of the Consumer Expenditure Survey. Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful in gaining your participation.

My purpose in sending this letter is to explain why your participation in this national survey is so important. Although it is not mandatory to participate in the Consumer Expenditure Survey, your involvement is vital to the economy of the United States.

As you already know, this survey, sponsored by the *U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics* (BLS), collects household expenditure data in order to update the **Consumer Price Index**, or CPI. The CPI is the primary tool for measuring inflation and the national economy as a whole. This directly affects *salaries, pensions, and the pricing of goods and services* in our country. It also directly affects many government expenditures tied to inflation, such as social security cost-of-living increases. Since the economy affects us all, it is imperative that our statistics be as accurate as possible. Every household that participates make a difference.

The interviews for the Consumer Expenditure Survey are completed at *your* convenience by one of our specially trained field representatives. All information provided to us by individual households remains confidential under Title 13 of the U.S. Code. The field representative assigned to your household is <<FRNAME>>, who can be reached at <<FRPHONE>>. Because your time is valuable, our Field Representative would like to be available whenever it is convenient for you, including evenings and weekends. We will make every effort to accommodate your schedule. The interview can be completed in person or by telephone.

I hope that our explanation of the importance of this survey will foster your cooperation. If you have any questions about this survey, please do not hesitate to contact the program supervisor at the <<NAMEOFRO>> Regional Office of the U.S. Census Bureau, at (800) XXX-XXXX. The option for the Consumer Expenditure Survey is X, and may be entered at any time.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

<<RD or RSM Name>>

U.S. Census Bureau

<http://www.bls.gov/cex/home.htm>

<http://www.census.gov/privacy/>