



U.S. Census Bureau

Washington, DC 20233-0001

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

A Message from the Director, U.S. Census Bureau:

Dear Resident,

Last year, your address was selected for the Current Population Survey (CPS). This monthly survey is the source of the Nation's unemployment rate that you may hear about in the news. The U.S. Census Bureau conducts this survey in partnership with the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

It is important that we contact your address again to find out what changes have occurred in employment, family size, and other important subjects since last year. **Your participation is important, even if nothing has changed.**

The success of this survey depends on your participation. Your responses are needed since they:

- determine funding to help veterans and the unemployed get better job training.
- are used by the Federal Reserve to set the interest rates in our country (which affects your savings and borrowing rates).
- determine which local areas qualify for federal grants to help build new businesses.

Answers to frequently asked questions are on the back of this letter. If you have other questions, please visit census.gov/cps, or call your Census Bureau Regional Office at 1-800-424-6974, #53939.

You do not need to take any action at this time. A Census Bureau representative will contact you soon to ask your household to complete the survey.

Thank you in advance for participating in this important survey.

What is the Current Population Survey?

The Current Population Survey is the primary source of monthly labor force statistics, and it is used to measure how the economy and labor force are doing across the country and in your community. It asks questions about employment, and in certain months, includes questions about education, health, family income, housing, and other important subjects. Personally identifiable information collected includes name, address, telephone/cell phone number, date of birth, or age.

I did this last year. Why are you asking me to do this again?

The U.S. Census Bureau chose your address, not you personally, to participate in this survey. Interviewing the same address over time is the most accurate way to measure any changes in the U.S. labor force. For this reason, it is important for us to contact this address again. Your participation is important even if nothing has changed.

How long will this take?

On average, this survey takes 10 to 15 minutes. We will contact you to do an interview once a month over the next 4 months. We will work with you to schedule interviews at the best times for you. Each interview can be over the phone or in person at the location of your choosing. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to: dsd.cps@census.gov; use "Demo Survey Comments 0607-0049" as the subject.

Will information I provide be confidential?

Disclosure of the information provided to us is permitted under the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 United States Code § 552a) and may be shared with other Census Bureau staff for work-related purposes. Disclosure of this information is also subject to all the published routine uses as identified in the Privacy Act System of Records Notice COMMERCE/Census-COMMERCE/Census-3, Demographic Survey Collection (Census Bureau Sampling Frame).

Federal law protects your privacy and keeps your answers confidential (Title 13, United States Code, Section 9). Authority for the collection of this information for the Current Population Survey is provided under Title 13 U.S.C, Sections 141, and 182, and Title 29 U.S.C. Sections 1-9.

Census Bureau staff have received training on privacy and confidentiality policies and practices. Access to personally identifiable information (PII) is restricted to authorized personnel only. Access to PII is being monitored, tracked, or recorded on Census Bureau IT systems.

Furnishing this information is voluntary. There are no consequences for not providing the requested information. However, your cooperation in obtaining this much needed information is extremely important to ensure complete and accurate results.

In some months, the survey may contain questions authorized under laws other than those cited; further information concerning the authority for any particular portion of the survey can be obtained from the representative who contacts your household. Your voluntary participation in this survey is important. This collection has been approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB Number: 0607-0049). Without this number, we could not conduct this survey.