



U.S. Census Bureau

Washington, DC 20233-0001

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

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

Dear Resident,

Your address has been selected to participate in the **Current Population Survey**. 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.

The Current Population Survey collects information on employment and earnings of people living in the United States. The results help determine federal funding for veteran's programs, youth activities, food assistance and more. The survey results are also used by the Federal Reserve to set interest rates.

The success of this survey depends on your participation. We cannot substitute another address for yours. Your address is part of a scientifically selected sample of addresses chosen throughout the country. Your answers represent hundreds of other U.S. households.

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. 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.

How was I selected?

The U.S. Census Bureau chose your address, not you personally, to participate in this survey. We select about 60,000 addresses across the United States to interview each month. This ensures that the survey represents all kinds of households across the country. This is why your participation is so important. Your address and your household represent thousands of other addresses and people.

How long will this take?

On average, this survey takes 10 to 15 minutes. You will be contacted for four consecutive months this year. You will be contacted again during the same four months next year. This type of interview schedule ensures high-quality statistics while reducing the burden on participants. We will work with you to schedule interviews at the best times for you. Interviews 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.