



**U.S. Census Bureau**

Washington, DC 20233

Office of the Director

A message from the U.S. Census Bureau:

About three months ago, we requested your help with an important survey on behalf of the Bureau of Labor Statistics—the **Consumer Expenditure Survey**. We are writing to you again asking for your help. Soon, you will be contacted to schedule another interview.

**With your help on this survey, we can measure things like inflation, which impacts wages, pensions, grocery costs, housing, and healthcare.**

We recommend that you gather records of expenses, like receipts and bills, to help jog your memory. On the back of this letter are some examples of records that may help you during the interview.

**To help shorten the interview it may be helpful to have some documents on hand.**

We specifically want your help. Your participation is a service to your community and the country. Answering this survey is a great way to tell the government, businesses, and economists how you are doing in this economy. Your response will give a voice to thousands of other U.S. households.

**Your information is confidential and protected by law.**

The information you give us is secure. We never share anything with law enforcement or other government agencies that can be traced back to you. Our state-of-the-art systems protect your data from cybersecurity risks. Our employees are trained on how to protect your data.

Thank you for your cooperation. We appreciate your help!

# Gather these documents to help you report your expenses accurately



Most questions will ask about household expenses within the last 3 calendar months before your interview.

## Billing statements for:

- Mortgages
- Medical care or equipment
- Education
- Home repairs/improvements

## Receipts, bills of sale, or contracts for:

- Vehicle purchases/leases
- Appliance purchases
- Service contracts, like pest control or appliance repair

## Pay stubs showing:

- Insurance premiums
- Retirement deductions, including 401(k) plans
- Other deductions, such as union dues or charity

## Credit card statements, bank statements, checkbook registers, or apps for:

- Other large expenses
- Autopay charges
- Credit card membership fees

The U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved this survey and assigned it Control Number 1220-0050. This survey could not be conducted without a valid OMB Control Number.