

United States - Consumer Expenditure Interview Survey 2012, EXPN files

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Overview

Identification

ID NUMBER

USA_2012_CES_IS_EF_V01_BLS

Overview

ABSTRACT

The Consumer Expenditure Survey (CE) program provides a continuous and comprehensive flow of data on the buying habits of American consumers. These data are used widely in economic research and analysis, and in support of revisions of the Consumer Price Index. To meet the needs of users, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) produces population estimates for consumer units¹ (CUs) of average expenditures in news releases, reports, issues, and articles in the Monthly Labor Review. Tabulated CE data are also available on the internet (see Section XV, Appendix 4). The microdata are available on the public BLS website for free download. These microdata files present detailed expenditure and income data from the Interview component of the CE for 2012 and the first quarter of 2013. The Interview survey collects data on up to 95 percent of total household expenditures. In addition to the FMLI, MEMI, MTBI, FPAR, MCHI, ITBI, and ITII files, the

microdata include files created directly from the expenditure sections of the Interview survey (EXPN files). The EXPN files contain expenditure data and ancillary descriptive information, often not available on the FMLI or MTBI files, in a format similar to the Interview questionnaire. In addition to the extra information available on the EXPN files, users can identify distinct spending categories easily and reduce processing time due to the organization of the files by type of expenditure. Starting in 2009, the FPAR and MCHI files are included. These files include paradata, which is data about the interview survey process. Estimates of average expenditures in 2012 from the Interview Survey, integrated with data from the Diary

Survey, will be published online in CE annual reports. A number of recent publications containing data from the CE are available on the public website as well.

The microdata files are in the public domain and, with appropriate credit, may be reproduced without permission. A suggested citation is: "U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, Interview Survey, 2012."

KIND OF DATA

Sample survey data [ssd]

UNITS OF ANALYSIS

Consumer Units

Producers and Sponsors

PRIMARY INVESTIGATOR(S)

Name	Affiliation
United States Census Bureau	

Metadata Production

METADATA PRODUCED BY

Name	Abbreviation	Affiliation	Role
International Labour organization	ILO		

DATE OF METADATA PRODUCTION

2014-05

DDI DOCUMENT ID

DDI_USA_2012_CES_IS_EF_V01_BLS

Sampling

Sampling Procedure

Samples for the CE are national probability samples of households designed to be representative of the total U.S. civilian population. Eligible population includes all civilian non-institutional persons.

The first step in sampling is the selection of primary sampling units (PSUs), which consist of counties (or parts thereof) or groups of counties. The set of sample PSUs used for the 2012 and 2013 samples is composed of 91 areas. The design classifies the PSUs into four categories:

? 21 "A" certainty PSUs are Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA's) with a population greater than 1.5 million.

? 38 "X" PSUs, are medium-sized MSA's.

? 16 "Y" PSUs are nonmetropolitan areas that are included in the CPI.

? 16 "Z" PSUs are nonmetropolitan areas where only the urban population data will be included in the CPI.

The sampling frame (that is, the list from which housing units were chosen) for the 2012 survey is generated from the 2000 Census of Population 100-percent-detail file. The sampling frame is augmented by new construction permits and by techniques used to eliminate recognized deficiencies in census coverage. All Enumeration Districts (EDs) from the Census that fail to meet the criterion for good addresses for new construction, and all EDs in nonpermit-issuing areas are grouped into the area segment frame. Interviewers are then assigned to list these areas before a sample is drawn.

To the extent possible, an unclustered sample of units is selected within each PSU. This lack of clustering is desirable because the sample size of the Diary Survey is small relative to other surveys,

while the intraclass correlations for expenditure characteristics are relatively large. This suggests that any clustering of the sample units could result in an unacceptable increase in the within-PSU variance and, as a result, the total variance.

The Interview Survey is a panel rotation survey. Each panel is interviewed for five consecutive quarters and then dropped from the survey. As one panel leaves the survey, a new panel is introduced. Approximately 20 percent of the addresses are new to the survey each month.

Weighting

Each CU included in the CE represents a given number of CUs in the U.S. population, which is considered to be the universe. The translation of sample families into the universe of families is known as weighting. However, since the unit of analysis for the CE is a CU, the weighting is performed at the CU level. Several factors are involved in determining the weight for each CU for which a diary is obtained. There are four basic steps in the weighting procedure:

1) The basic weight is assigned to an address and is the inverse of the probability of selection of the housing unit.

2) A weight control factor is applied to each diary if subsampling is performed in the field.

3) A noninterview adjustment is made for units where data could not be collected from occupied housing units. The adjustment is performed as a function of region, housing tenure, family size and race.

4) A final adjustment is performed to adjust the sample estimates to national population controls derived from the Current Population Survey. The adjustments are made based on both the CU's member composition and on the CU as a whole. The weight for the CU is adjusted for individuals within the CU to meet the controls for the 14 age/race categories, 4 regions, and 4 region/urban categories. The CU weight is also adjusted to meet the control for total number of CUs and total number of CU who own their living quarters. The weighting procedure uses an iterative process to ensure that the sample estimates will meet all the population controls.

NOTE: The weight for a consumer unit (CU) can be different for each week in which the CU participates in the survey as the CU may represent a different number of CUs with similar characteristics.

Questionnaires

No content available

Data Collection

Data Collection Dates

Start	End	Cycle
2012	2013	N/A

Data Collection Mode

Computer Assisted Personal Interview [capi]

Data Processing

No content available

Data Appraisal

No content available

Related Materials

Questionnaires

Consumer Expenditure Surveys Quarterly Interview CAPI Survey questionnaire

Title Consumer Expenditure Surveys Quarterly Interview CAPI Survey questionnaire
 Country United States
 Language English
 Filename <http://www.bls.gov/cex/capi/2012/cecapihome.htm>

Reports

Consumer Expenditures in 2012 (Annual Report)

Title Consumer Expenditures in 2012 (Annual Report)
 Date 2012-01-01
 Country United States
 Language English
 Filename csxann12.pdf

Technical documents

CONSUMER EXPENDITURE INTERVIEW SURVEY /PUBLIC USE MICRODATA DOCUMENTATION

Title CONSUMER EXPENDITURE INTERVIEW SURVEY /PUBLIC USE MICRODATA DOCUMENTATION
 Country United States
 Language English
 Filename Interview User's documentation.pdf

Multiple Imputation Manual:Supplement to 2012 Consumer Expenditure Interview Survey Public Use Microdata Documentation

Title Multiple Imputation Manual:Supplement to 2012 Consumer Expenditure Interview Survey Public Use Microdata Documentation
 Country United States
 Language English
 Filename User's Guide to Income Imputation in the CE.pdf

Vehicles codes

Title Vehicles codes
 Country United States
 Language English
 Filename CAPIVeh12.txt

Consumer expenditure and income (overview and methodology)

Title Consumer expenditure and income (overview and methodology)
Country United States
Language English
Filename presentation.pdf

Interview Data Dictionary

Title Interview Data Dictionary
Date 2012-01-01
Country United States
Language English
Filename Interview Data Dictionary.pdf
