

Current Population Survey (CPS)

General Description and Unique Aspects

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Current Population Survey

- Purpose and Uses
 - Monthly Labor Force Data
 - Supplements
 - Tobacco Use Supplement
 - Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC)
 - Other Supplements

Current Population Survey

- Basic CPS Labor Force Information
 - Unemployment Rate
 - Hours Worked/Absent
 - Reasons for Absence
 - Full-Time/Part-Time
 - Industry and Occupation
 - Job Search Methods
 - Usual Weekly Earnings
 - Union Membership

Current Population Survey

- Features of the Tobacco Use Supplement
 - Smoking Status
 - Level of Addiction
 - Monetary Costs of Smoking
 - Changes in Smoking Norms and Attitudes
 - Medical and Dental Advice to Quit Smoking
 - Quitting Attempts
 - Work Place Smoking Policies

Current Population Survey

- **Annual Social and Economic Survey (ASEC)**
Produces annual statistics and data on:
 - Income, including poverty figures
 - Health Insurance
 - Noncash Benefits (such as food stamps)
 - Work Experience
 - Migration

Current Population Survey

Annual **S**ocial and **E**conomic Survey (ASEC)

Data are used by government and private analysts to:

- Chart effectiveness of government assistance programs
- Gauge the economic well-being of the nation
- Develop marketing strategies for business and entrepreneurs
- Provide a basis for monitoring changes in demographic patterns
- Determine trends in migration patterns for planning schools, transportation systems, and other civil services

Current Population Survey

- Upcoming Supplements in 2010
 - January Displaced Workers
 - February, March and April ASEC
 - April Child Support
 - May and August Tobacco Use
 - June Fertility
 - July Veterans
 - September Volunteers
 - October School Enrollment
 - November Voting and Registration
 - December Food Security

Current Population Survey

- Sample Design
 - Rotation Pattern
 - Sample Sources
 - State Based Sample
 - PSU Creation and Selection
 - 72,000 selected housing units/month

Current Population Survey

- Rotation Pattern
 - 4-8-4 Pattern
 - In sample for 4 consecutive months this year
 - Off 8 months
 - In for the same 4 months next year
 - 75 percent month-to-month overlap
 - 50 percent year-to-year overlap

Current Population Survey

- Sample Sources
 - Address Lists
 - Area Listing Operation
 - New Construction (Building Permits)
 - Group Quarters

Current Population Survey

- State Based Sample Design
 - 53 Separate Samples
 - 48 States
 - District of Columbia
 - New York
 - New York City
 - Balance of State
 - California
 - Los Angeles County
 - Balance of State

Current Population Survey

- PSU (Primary Sampling Units) Creation and Selection
 - Adjacent Counties Grouped Together to form PSUs
 - Metropolitan Areas formed into Single PSUs
 - Rural Areas Grouped as appropriate
 - Selection Criteria-Stratification
 - With Certainty—Self Representing—only one PSU within the stratum
 - Selection proportional to population—multiple PSUs per stratum—Non-Self Representing
 - Only one PSU selected per stratum

Current Population Survey

- Field Structure

Headquarters

- 12 Regional Offices
 - Supervisory Field Representatives
 - Field Representatives (FRs)
- 3 CATI Centers
 - CATI Interviewers

Current Population Survey

- FR/Interviewer Initial Training
 - 2 days of home study
 - 4 day classroom training
 - CATI
 - Monitoring
 - CAPI
 - First month observation
 - Second month observation
 - Fourth - Sixth month observation

Current Population Survey

- Ongoing Quality Control and Training
 - Monthly home studies
 - Monthly feedback on household nonresponse
 - Annual classroom refresher training
 - CATI
 - Regular Monitoring
 - CAPI
 - Annual observation
 - Special needs observation
 - Reinterview

Current Population Survey

- Monthly Data Collection
 - First Month - Personal Visit
 - Months 2-4 - Telephone or Personal
 - Fifth Month - Attempt One Personal Visit First, Telephone Calls permissible after that
 - Months 6-8 - Telephone or Personal
 - Overall - 67 percent collected by telephone
 - Months 2-4 and 6-8 - 85 percent telephone

Current Population Survey

- Monthly Data Collection
 - Demographics - only in Month 1 or replacement households, updates in other months
 - Most labor force data collected each month, though some is dependently captured
 - Industry and Occupation
 - Retired/Disabled Status

Current Population Survey

- Demographic Data
 - Personal Characteristics
 - Age, Race, Sex, Origin, Educational Attainment, etc.
 - Family and Household Formation Data
 - Addition of mom and dad line number pointers
 - Addition of cohabitation question and pointers

Current Population Survey

- Demographic Data Captured for:
 - Adults (15+)
 - Children (0-14)
 - Armed Forces Members who are usual household members
 - Data for college students usually collected at their parents' home

Current Population Survey

- Industry and Occupation Data
 - Initial Collection - Months 1 and 5
 - Dependent Collection - Months 2-4, 6-8 if possible
 - Coding Procedures

Current Population Survey

- Disability Questions
 - Added June 2008
 - Collected for household members 15+
 - Data on Public Use File starting in January 2009

Current Population Survey

- Data Processing
 - Edits
 - Weighting
 - Public Use File

Current Population Survey

- Edit Types
 - Consistency Edits
 - Longitudinal Edits
 - “Hot Deck” Edits

Current Population Survey

- Edit Modules
 - Household
 - Demographics
 - Labor Force
 - Disability
 - Industry and Occupation
 - School Enrollment
 - Earnings

Current Population Survey

- Weighting Steps
 - Base Weights
 - Noninterview Adjustment
 - First Stage
 - Second Stage
 - Compositing

Current Population Survey

- Second Stage Weighting
 - Source and Use of Controls
 - Raking Procedures

Current Population Survey

- Geography Available on Public Use Files
 - State for all Records
 - Metro/nonmetro status - 99 percent of records
 - Specific metro identifiers - 85 percent of metro areas
 - Central city/balance – 80 percent of metro areas
 - About 225 counties can be identified

Current Population Survey

- Tobacco Use Supplement Processing
 - Editing Procedures
 - Consistency Edits
 - Weighting
 - Self Response
 - Nonresponse
 - Replicate
 - Sponsor Review

Current Population Survey

- American Time Use Survey
 - Select sample from retired CPS
 - Two month lag
 - One 15+ person selected from each sample unit
 - Approx. 1,000-1,200 respondents interviewed each month
 - Data collected at Census Telephone Centers
 - Can be matched to CPS

Current Population Survey

- American Time Use Survey
 - Updates labor force, I&O and earnings
 - Respondents complete a diary of activities for a 24 hour period
 - Collects detailed data on specific activities
 - Recent module on Eating and Drinking
 - Upcoming module on Well Being

Current Population Survey

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Current Population Survey

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