Publishing BLS Response Rates

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Presenting for the Public Access Response Rate Team

DUAC
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Introduction

- BLS has published individual survey response rates in various locations.
- A new report showing response rates for BLS surveys in a single place has been proposed.
- Looking at response rate patterns across BLS surveys can give insights into issues or trends facing all surveys.
- The team is looking for your feedback on how to make this new report as useful as possible.
Proposed Organization

- Overall Introduction
- With Each Chart:
  - Title
  - Table showing key features of each survey presented
    - Frequency, Collection Mode, Collection Period, Other
    - Link to each survey on BLS.gov
  - Chart notes
Proposed Charts

1. Household Surveys
2. Establishment Surveys – Overall Response Rates
3. Establishment Surveys – Price Initiation
4. Establishment Repricing/Collection at 1st Release
5. Establishment Repricing/Collection at Final Closing
Example Chart

Chart 1 shows the overall response rates for BLS household surveys.

Household Surveys Response Rate

- CPS
- CPI-Housing
- CE Diary
- CE Interview
- TPOPS
- ATUS

Reference Date

## Example Survey Features Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Collection Methods</th>
<th>Collection period</th>
<th>Approx Survey Length</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Population Survey (CPS)</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Personal/Phone</td>
<td>10 days</td>
<td>8 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumer Price Index – Housing (CPI-Housing)</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Personal/Phone</td>
<td>1 month</td>
<td>5 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumer Expenditure Surveys Diary</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Personal/Phone</td>
<td>2 months</td>
<td>250 min*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumer Expenditure Surveys Interview</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Personal/Phone</td>
<td>1 month</td>
<td>70 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone Point of Purchase Survey (TPOPS)</td>
<td>Quarterly</td>
<td>RDD Phone</td>
<td>7 weeks</td>
<td>13 min</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Time Use Survey (ATUS)</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Phone</td>
<td>8 weeks</td>
<td>18 min</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The CE Diary is kept by respondents for a two week period*
Chart Notes

Content still being decided. Current options:

- Describe the trends shown in the graph
  - E.g., “CPI Housing response rates have remained steady over the past 3 years....”

- Identify known situations, changes, etc., that could have impacted response rates
  - E.g., “In May of 2015, TPOPS added a cell phone sample...”
Questions for DUAC

- Who would be our expected users?
  - What might they use the information for?

- What information should be included with each chart?
  - Survey Features Table
  - Chart Notes
Contact Information

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