

# 2017 Consumer Expenditure Surveys (CE) Microdata Users' Workshop

July 19-21, 2017

*Individual meetings with CE staff members can be scheduled throughout the workshop. To do so, please sign up at the registration desk or speak to a CE staff member directly.*

## Wednesday, July 19, 2017

8:30-9:00 a.m.	<b>Registration/Refreshments</b>
9:00-9:15 a.m.	<b>Welcome</b> – <i>Steve Henderson</i>
9:15-9:30 a.m.	<b><u>Overview of the CE Survey</u></b> – <i>Adam Safir</i>
9:30-9:45 a.m.	<b><u>Introduction to Microdata</u></b> – <i>Jimmy Choi</i>
9:45-10:15 a.m.	<b><u>Microdata File Structure</u></b> – <i>Taylor J. Wilson</i>
10:15-10:30 a.m.	<b>Morning Break</b>
10:30-12:00p.m.	<b>Practical Training Session 1a*</b> – <i>CE Microdata Staff</i>
12:00-1:00 p.m.	<b>Lunch (on your own)</b>
1:00-2:00 p.m.	<b>Practical Training Session 1b*</b> – <i>CE Microdata Staff</i>
2:00-2:25 p.m.	<b><u>Family Travel Expenditures, 2005-2015: Patterns in Consumer Family Travel</u></b> – <i>Catherine Curtis, Ph.D., Oklahoma State University</i>
2:25-2:50 p.m.	<b>Estimating Elasticities of Demand from the Consumer Expenditure Diary Survey</b> – <i>Ryan Pfirrmann-Powell, U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency</i>
2:50-3:05 p.m.	<b>Afternoon Break</b>
3:05-3:30 p.m.	<b><u>Ability-to-Pay: Using CE Microdata to Proxy Borrower Expenses</u></b> – <i>Heather Lamoureux, Clarity Services</i>
3:30-3:55 p.m.	<b><u>Social Security and Saving: An Update</u></b> – <i>Sita Slavov, Ph.D., George Mason University</i>
3:55-4:00 p.m.	<b>Announcements</b>
4:00 p.m. - End	<b>Reception</b>

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\* For a list of topics to be covered, see page 4.

# 2017 Consumer Expenditure Surveys (CE) Microdata Users' Workshop

**Thursday, July 20, 2017**

- 8:30-9:00 a.m.      **Registration/Refreshments**
- 9:00-9:15 a.m.      **Balancing Respondent Confidentiality and Data User Needs**  
                                 – Aaron Cobet
- 9:15-9:35 a.m.      **Sampling Methods and Derivation of Sampling Weights**  
                                 – Brian Nix
- 9:35-9:55 a.m.      **Estimating State Expenditures for New Jersey, Florida, and California** – Susan L. King
- 9:55-10:10 a.m.      **Morning Break**
- 10:10-10:35 a.m.      **Consumer Expenditure Microdata User Support Web Site**  
                                 – Michael Conte,<sup>A</sup> Ph.D., Keith Myers, RegionalOneSource (ROS)
- 10:35-11:00 a.m.      **Comparing Food-at-Home Expenditures: Commercial Scanner Data and Government Survey Data** – Megan Sweitzer, US  
                                 Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service
- 11:00-12:00 p.m.      **Practical Training Session 2a\*** – CE Microdata Staff
- 12:00-1:00 p.m.      **Lunch (on your own)**
- 1:00-1:15 p.m.      **Special Presentation** – “Submitting a Monthly Labor Review Article”  
                                 – Terry Schau, Managing Editor, Monthly Labor Review
- 1:15-1:30 p.m.      **CE Interactive Visualization Tool: Bridging the Gap between Data and Users** – Arcenis Rojas
- 1:30-1:50 p.m.      **Variance Estimation - The BRR Method** – Geoffrey Paulin, Ph.D.
- 1:50-3:40 p.m.      **Practical Training Session 2b\* (afternoon break included)**  
                                 – CE Microdata Staff
- 3:40-4:05 p.m.      **Consumption Inequality and the Frequency of Purchases**  
                                 – Dmitri Koustas, Ph.D. Candidate, UC-Berkeley
- 4:05-4:30 p.m.      **Analysis of the impact of lower oil prices on American household consumption** – Louis Poirier,<sup>A</sup> Bank of Canada

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<sup>A</sup> Presenter has attended at least one previous workshop.

\* For a list of topics to be covered, see page 4.

# 2017 Consumer Expenditure Surveys (CE) Microdata Users' Workshop

**Friday, July 21, 2017**

- 8:30-9:00 a.m.      **Registration/Refreshments**
- 9:00-9:15 a.m.      **Data Adjustment - Sales Taxes** – *Barbara Johnson-Cox*
- 9:15-9:30 a.m.      **Imputation & Allocation of CE Microdata**  
– *Clayton Knappenberger*
- 9:30-10:30 a.m.      **Panel Discussion** - *Geoffrey Paulin, Ph.D. (Moderator)*  
**Using Food Stamp Identifiers in the CE Diary Survey:  
Opportunities and Challenges** – *Lisa Boily,<sup>A</sup> BLS New York –New  
Jersey Information Office*  
  
**Changes to Low Income Households' Spending Patterns in  
Response to the 2013 SNAP Benefit Cut** – *Jiyoon (June) Kim,<sup>P</sup>  
Ph.D., Indiana-Purdue University, Fort Wayne*  
  
**Replicating Results from Published Work: An Example based  
on Expenditure Response to In-Kind Transfers: Evidence from  
the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program** – *Madelaine  
L'Esperance, Ph.D. candidate, University of Wisconsin-Madison*
- 10:30-10:45 a.m.      **Morning Break**
- 10:45-11:10 a.m.      **Income Issues in Road User and Transportation Fees - Just who  
is paying for what?** – *Jonathan Peters,<sup>P</sup> Ph.D., The College of Staten  
Island/The CUNY Graduate School*
- 11:10-11:35 a.m.      **Sneak Peek/Q&A** – *Steve Henderson*
- 11:35-12:00 p.m.      **Investigating the Imputation of Assets and Liabilities in the CE  
Interview Survey** – *Geoffrey Paulin, Ph.D.*
- 12:00-1:00 p.m.      **Lunch (on your own)**
- 1:00-3:00 p.m.      **Practical Training Session 3\*** – *CE Microdata Staff*
- 3:00-3:15 p.m.      **Afternoon Break**
- 3:15-3:30 p.m.      **Attendee Feedback**
- 3:30 p.m. - End      **Practical Training (Special Topics)** – *CE Microdata Staff*

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<sup>A</sup> Presenter has attended at least one previous workshop.

<sup>P</sup> Returning presenter.

\* For a list of topics to be covered, see page 5.

# 2017 Consumer Expenditure Surveys (CE) Microdata Users' Workshop

## Practical Training Sessions (Tentative Schedule):

The practical training projects at this workshop will be covered sequentially. Depending on the progress of each session, topics may start in one session and be carried over to later sessions. Tentatively, the topics to be covered each day are as follows:

### Wednesday, July 19, 2017

- Project 1:** Generating annualized sample means by family type using the Interview **FMLI** files.
- Introduction to summary income variables
  - Develop a baseline understanding of the sample data
  - Using data only from participants in all four interviews compared to treating quarters independently
- Project 2:** Generating annualized sample means by number of children in the CU using the Interview **FMLI** and **MEMI** files.
- Explore how we can use data from multiple sources to determine interesting cross tabs
- Project 3:** Generating annualized sample means for tuition, test, book, and other education expenditures by number of children in the CU using the Interview **FMLI**, **MEMI**, and **MTBI** files.
- Introduction to stub files
  - Introduction to expenditure summary variables (PQ/CQ)
- Project 4:** Generating annualized sample means for a specific Diary survey item to be integrated with Interview survey data, creating a total education expenditure.
- Review of source selection

### Thursday, July 20, 2017

- Project 5:** Generating statistics for non-expenditure characteristics (school type) of education using the Interview survey **EDA** and **FMLI** files.
- Using the EDA file to find more specific information about whether the expense was for someone inside or outside the CU
- Project 6:** Generating a weighted average annual collection year education expenditure by the number of children in a CU, using the Interview survey files.
- Using the weights
  - Comparisons of population versus sample means

# 2017 Consumer Expenditure Surveys (CE) Microdata Users' Workshop

## Thursday, July 20, 2017 (continued)

- Project 7:** Generating standard errors for a weighted collection year education expenditures by the number of children in a CU, using the Interview survey files.
- Using the Balanced Repeated Replication (BRR) method with replicate weights to calculate correct standard errors for mean estimates and regression parameters

## Friday, July 21, 2017

**Project 8:** User's Guide to Income Imputation in the CE

Using the multiple imputes to:

- Calculate means
- Calculate correct standard errors for income
- Compute regression results

**Project 9:** Generating a weighted calendar year education expenditures by the number of children in a CU using the Interview survey files.

- MO\_SCOPE → How to adjust the weights to represent the “months in scope” of the interview

## CE Microdata Users' Workshop Staff

The following CE staff members will lead or facilitate exercises during at least one practical training session. Several will be available at each session to assist you with your projects.

*Jimmy Choi*  
*Brett Creech*  
*Aaron Cobet*  
*Scott Curtin*  
*Evan Hubener*  
*Bill Passero*  
*Geoffrey Paulin*  
*Arcenis Rojas*  
*Taylor Wilson*

Questions?  
Contact • 202-691-6900  
[CE\\_Symposium\\_Workshop@bls.gov](mailto:CE_Symposium_Workshop@bls.gov)

Workshop Location:  
Postal Square Building  
Janet Norwood Conference Center • Rooms 1 and 2  
2 Massachusetts Avenue NE • Washington DC, 20212