

# Welcome to the CE Survey Methods Symposium

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**Consumer Expenditure Survey**

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# Welcome

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- Symposium Overview
  - ▶ CE Redesign
    - Web diary and individual diary
    - Gemini project
  - ▶ Research projects associated with the redesign
    - Improving recall through life event questions
    - Reducing proxy reporting
    - Tracking measurement error
- CE Overview
- Housekeeping

# Attendees

- AARP
- AHRQ/CFACT
- Ajou University, Department of Financial Engineering
- Bloomberg - New York
- Boston College, Lynch School of Education
- Brown University
- Federal Housing Finance Agency
- Federal Reserve Board
- FIXR, Inc
- Florida International University
- George Washington University
- IMPAQ International
- Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy
- Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos
- Michael A. Conte Ph.D. Inc.
- National Center for Health Statistics
- NORC at the University of Chicago
- Par5Media, LLC
- Stat Tech Inc
- The Pew Charitable Trusts
- University of Buffalo
- University of California - Los Angeles
- University of Michigan
- University of Virginia
- University of Wisconsin - Madison
- US Bureau of Economic Analysis
- US Bureau of Labor Statistics - National Office
- US Census Bureau
- US Energy Information Administration
- US Federal Communications Commission
- US Government Accountability Office
- US Office of Management and Budget
- USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service
- Westat
- Wheaton College
- Yardi Systems, Inc

# CE Mission

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The mission of the Consumer Expenditure Survey program (CE) is to collect, produce, and disseminate information that presents a statistical picture of consumer spending for the Consumer Price Index, government agencies, and private data users. In keeping with the BLS mission, CE data must be of consistently high statistical quality, relevant, timely, and must protect respondent confidentiality.

**CE's mission encompasses analyzing CE data to produce socio-economic studies of consumer spending, and providing CE data users with assistance, education, and tools for working with the data.**

# CE Overview

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- Provides information on the buying habits of **America's consumers, including expenditure,** income, and household data
- Collected for the Bureau of Labor Statistics by the U.S. Census Bureau
- CE is the only Federal survey to provide information on the complete range of consumer expenditures, incomes, and household characteristics
- CE is used by economic policymakers, businesses, academic researchers, other Federal agencies; and by CPI to regularly revise the CPI market basket of goods and services, and their relative importance

# CE Overview, contd.

- CE Quarterly Interview
  - ▶ 5 quarterly interviews, 4 used in final data
  - ▶ CAPI, in-person (some telephone)
  - ▶ 3-month recall
  - ▶ Approximately 60 minutes in length
- CE Diary
  - ▶ **2 independent “weekly” diaries, 2 total weeks of diary-keeping**
  - ▶ Paper diary form, only 1 instrument, i.e., no individual diaries
  - ▶ 3 interviewer visits, and sometimes only 2 (double placement)
  - ▶ Total recall and receipt entry conducted as necessary

# Other Details

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- All presentations available online:
  - ▶ [http://www.bls.gov/cex/ce\\_2014\\_sympagenda.pdf](http://www.bls.gov/cex/ce_2014_sympagenda.pdf)
- Wifi access is available in the conference center
  - ▶ User: guest-8007152 | Pswd: epaz3221
- Coffee & cookie break 2:15pm to 2:30pm
- Hold questions for the Q&A period after each session; also have a dedicated concluding remarks and Q&A period at the end of the day

# Thank You to...

