

# Welcome to the CE Survey Methods Symposium

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# Welcome to the Survey Methods Symposium

We are here to:

1. Share CE research findings with stakeholders, survey researchers, and data users.
2. Promote a discussion about common challenges and solutions facing CE and other surveys as we try to produce high quality data in a time of declining response rates, changing respondent behavior, and rising costs of data collection.



# Outline

## ■ Gemini Project

- ▶ Overview
- ▶ Recent research and field tests
- ▶ Upcoming field tests

## ■ CE Symposium

- ▶ Topics
- ▶ Agenda



# Gemini Project



# What is the Gemini Project?

“...aims to redesign the Consumer Expenditure (CE) survey to improve data quality through a verifiable reduction in measurement error—particularly error caused by underreporting.”



# Objectives

- Verifiable reduction in measurement error, with a particular focus on underreporting
- No harmful effect on response rates
- Neutral impact on budget
- Secondary objective: Reduction in burden



# Current CE Design

## Interview

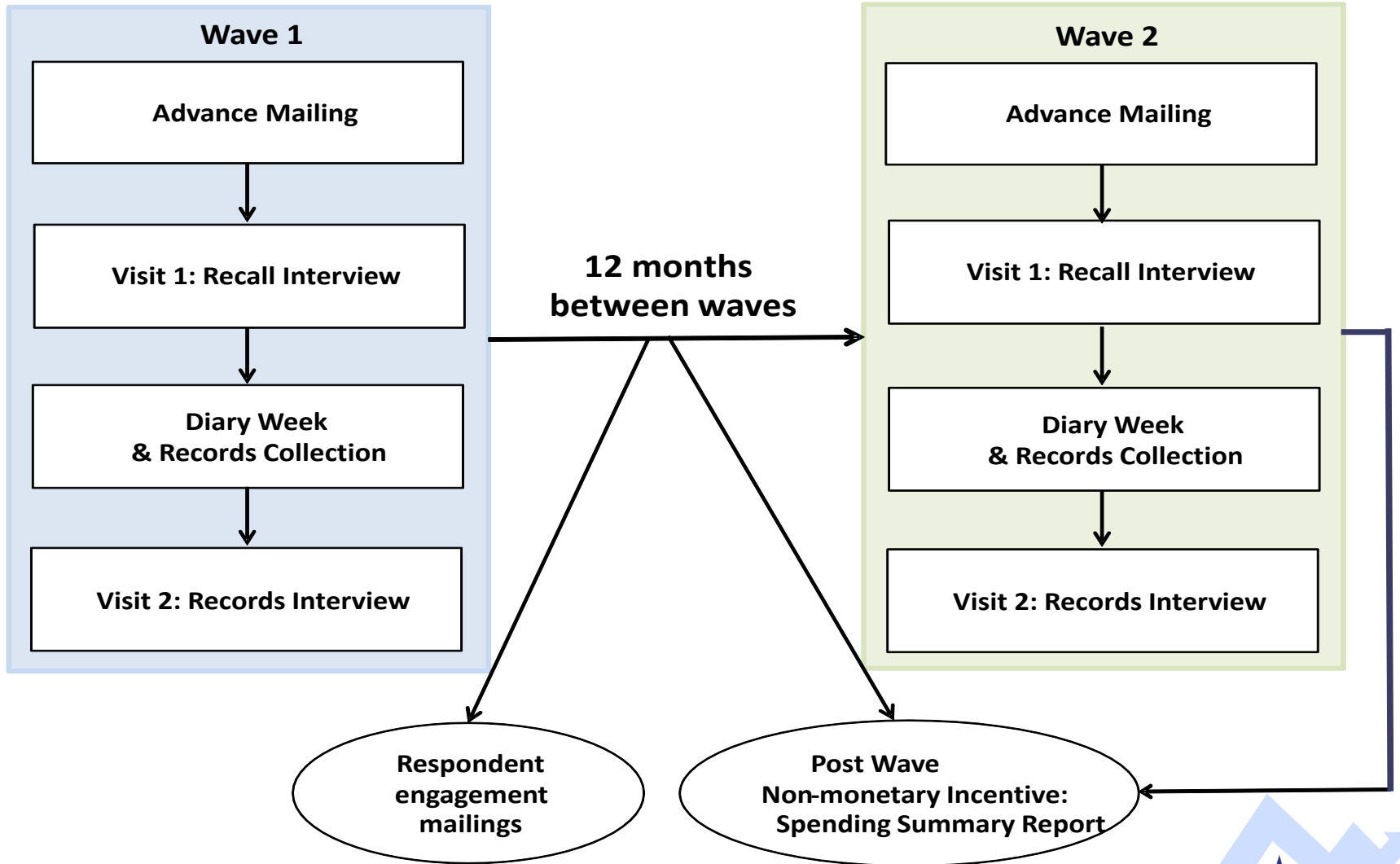
- 4 waves of personal interviews
- 3 month recall
- Large or recurring expenditures

## Diary

- 2 one-week household paper diaries
- Contemporaneous recall
- Small, frequently purchased items

**Consumer Expenditure  
Survey Estimates**

# CE Redesign Protocol





# Recent Research and Field Tests

- Proof of Concept Test
- Incentives Test
- Questionnaire cognitive testing
- Online diary development and usability testing
- Data quality profile



# Upcoming Field Tests

- Large Scale Feasibility Test
- Online Diaries Implementation Test
- Spending Summary Report Field Test



# CE Symposium



# Symposium Topics

- Incentives
- Record Use
- Online and Personal Diaries
- Data Quality Efforts



# Symposium Agenda

- Four sessions on the symposium topics with presentations by CE staff and outside researchers
- After each session there will be time for questions for the panelists
- Short breaks between sessions and a lunch break from 11:45 am to 1 pm



# Contact Information

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