

COMPONENTS OF THE CONSUMER EXPENDITURE SURVEY

The Consumer Expenditure Survey consists of two components--the Diary survey and the Interview survey. For the Diary survey, respondents complete a diary of expenses for two consecutive 1-week periods. The Diary survey is designed to obtain data on frequently purchased items, such as food or housekeeping supplies, that respondents are less likely to recall over time. For the Interview survey, respondents report data to an interviewer. Each sample household is interviewed once per quarter, for five consecutive quarters. This survey is designed to collect data on major items of expense, such as property purchases or vehicle purchases, and those that occur on a regular basis, such as rent or utility payments, that respondents recall for 3 months or longer.

TABLE SECTIONS

The tables contain some or all of the following sections. A section of demographic information such as average number in consumer unit, percent male and female, education level, etc. A section of average annual expenditures consisting of fourteen main categories: Food, alcoholic beverages, housing, apparel and services, transportation, health care, entertainment, personal care products and services, reading, education, tobacco products and smoking supplies, miscellaneous, cash contributions, and personal insurance and pensions.

USES OF THE SURVEY

The Consumer Expenditure Survey data are of value to government and private agencies interested in studying the welfare of particular segments of the population. The data are used by economic policy makers interested in the effects of policy changes on various groups. Econometricians use the data in economic models. Market researchers use the data to determine the demand for goods and services. The results of the Consumer Expenditure Surveys are used to revise the market baskets of the Consumer Price Index, and to derive new cost weights for the baskets.

ADDITIONAL DATA AVAILABLE

A more detailed listing of CE results can be obtained from the BLS Internet site <http://www.bls.gov/cex/> in both text and PDF formats. For personal assistance or further information on the Consumer Expenditure Survey, as well as other Bureau programs, contact the Philadelphia Information Office at 215-597-3282.

Table 3002. Selected northeastern metropolitan statistical areas: Average annual expenditures and characteristics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, 2005-2006

Item	All consumer units in the Northeast	New York	Philadel- phia	Boston
Number of consumer units (in thousands)	22,557	8,155	2,856	3,127
Consumer unit characteristics:				
Income before taxes	\$63,655	\$73,243	\$60,304	\$76,273
Age of reference person	49.9	50.6	48.4	47.3
Average number in consumer unit:				
Persons	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.3
Children under 18 .....	.6	.6	.6	.6
Persons 65 and over .....	.3	.3	.3	.2
Earners	1.3	1.4	1.3	1.4
Vehicles	1.6	1.4	1.5	1.8
Percent homeowner	65	58	71	63
Average annual expenditures				
Food	\$48,564	\$55,137	\$45,922	\$53,691
Food at home	6,357	7,101	6,031	6,865
Food away from home	3,554	3,877	3,372	3,760
Cereals and bakery products	493	533	454	561
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	851	989	834	866
Dairy products	402	425	382	405
Fruits and vegetables	643	759	620	634
Other food at home	1,165	1,172	1,082	1,295
Food away from home	2,803	3,224	2,659	3,105
Alcoholic beverages	480	488	437	573
Housing	17,072	20,865	16,417	18,922
Shelter	10,572	13,848	9,722	12,256
Owned dwellings	7,004	8,613	6,748	8,351
Rented dwellings	2,905	4,424	2,510	3,020
Other lodging	663	812	464	885
Utilities, fuels, and public services	3,498	3,709	3,771	3,590
Household operations	849	1,019	877	918
Housekeeping supplies	619	599	634	584
Household furnishings and equipment	1,535	1,689	1,413	1,574
Apparel and services	2,046	2,746	2,063	1,690
Transportation	7,776	7,792	7,092	9,170
Vehicle purchases (net outlay)	2,902	2,416	2,661	4,011
Gasoline and motor oil	1,836	1,798	1,783	1,958
Other vehicle expenses	2,405	2,555	2,227	2,625
Public transportation	633	1,022	421	576
Healthcare	2,586	2,607	2,188	2,794
Entertainment	2,305	2,451	1,871	2,555
Personal care products and services	549	659	575	554
Reading	140	133	108	189
Education	1,232	1,597	1,064	1,779
Tobacco products and smoking supplies	331	245	371	302
Miscellaneous	853	1,132	561	699
Cash contributions	1,421	1,353	1,301	1,330
Personal insurance and pensions	5,416	5,968	5,842	6,269
Life and other personal insurance	354	380	323	360
Pensions and Social Security	5,062	5,588	5,519	5,909

Table 3013. Selected midwestern metropolitan statistical areas: Average annual expenditures and characteristics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, 2005-2006

Item	All consumer units in the Midwest	Chicago	Detroit	Minneapolis-St. Paul	Cleveland
Number of consumer units (in thousands)	27,105	3,119	2,192	1,403	1,120
Consumer unit characteristics:					
Income before taxes	\$57,295	\$73,086	\$62,834	\$85,455	\$55,798
Age of reference person	48.7	49.5	48.7	47.7	52.6
Average number in consumer unit:					
Persons	2.4	2.6	2.6	2.2	2.5
Children under 18 .....	.6	.7	.7	.5	.6
Persons 65 and over .....	.3	.3	.2	.2	.4
Earners	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.3
Vehicles	2.1	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.0
Percent homeowner	70	71	75	75	72
Average annual expenditures	\$45,068	\$54,757	\$50,345	\$61,428	\$43,611
Food	5,759	6,902	6,614	6,393	5,043
Food at home	3,246	3,730	3,827	3,297	2,996
Cereals and bakery products	443	491	527	470	375
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	725	879	931	564	840
Dairy products	378	381	416	431	304
Fruits and vegetables	524	664	638	584	476
Other food at home	1,176	1,315	1,316	1,248	1,001
Food away from home	2,513	3,171	2,787	3,095	2,047
Alcoholic beverages	493	839	463	688	488
Housing	14,419	19,059	16,831	20,380	14,654
Shelter	8,067	11,755	9,899	11,650	8,546
Owned dwellings	5,792	8,448	7,710	8,879	5,659
Rented dwellings	1,738	2,573	1,543	2,004	2,250
Other lodging	537	733	645	767	636
Utilities, fuels, and public services	3,221	3,620	3,794	3,245	3,624
Household operations	843	1,096	823	2,466	546
Housekeeping supplies	612	695	588	651	550
Household furnishings and equipment	1,676	1,893	1,727	2,368	1,388
Apparel and services	1,725	2,468	2,057	2,346	1,618
Transportation	7,626	8,453	8,652	8,915	7,596
Vehicle purchases (net outlay)	2,907	3,352	2,252	3,593	2,965
Gasoline and motor oil	2,059	2,092	2,405	2,031	1,825
Other vehicle expenses	2,268	2,302	3,585	2,618	2,487
Public transportation	393	706	411	673	318
Healthcare	2,828	2,878	2,349	3,322	3,035
Entertainment	2,322	2,621	2,287	4,070	2,338
Personal care products and services	526	632	584	623	489
Reading	130	141	142	161	153
Education	974	1,513	1,297	1,269	1,070
Tobacco products and smoking supplies	365	312	517	364	380
Miscellaneous	821	817	1,043	1,184	1,056
Cash contributions	1,885	1,986	1,690	3,687	1,227
Personal insurance and pensions	5,196	6,135	5,818	8,026	4,464
Life and other personal insurance	362	358	346	376	361
Pensions and Social Security	4,833	5,777	5,472	7,651	4,103

Table 3023. Selected southern metropolitan statistical areas: Average annual expenditures and characteristics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, 2005-2006

Item	All consumer units in the South	Washington, D.C.	Baltimore	Atlanta	Miami	Dallas-Fort Worth	Houston
Number of consumer units (in thousands)	42,288	2,194	1,016	2,123	1,628	2,072	1,753
Consumer unit characteristics:							
Income before taxes	\$54,756	\$88,551	\$74,508	\$64,217	\$51,232	\$66,261	\$68,659
Age of reference person	48.8	45.9	50.6	46.1	50.4	44.9	45.7
Average number in consumer unit:							
Persons	2.5	2.5	2.4	2.5	2.5	2.8	2.8
Children under 18 .....	.7	.6	.6	.7	.6	.8	.8
Persons 65 and over .....	.3	.2	.3	.2	.4	.2	.2
Earners	1.3	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.6	1.4
Vehicles	1.9	1.7	1.7	1.6	1.5	2.0	1.9
Percent homeowner	69	68	71	69	63	65	70
Average annual expenditures	\$43,513	\$58,236	\$47,494	\$43,727	\$42,379	\$53,294	\$56,260
Food	5,570	6,357	4,921	5,289	5,637	6,537	6,063
Food at home	3,073	3,092	2,883	2,506	3,593	3,573	3,231
Cereals and bakery products	404	393	388	323	464	468	382
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	748	687	743	661	910	805	784
Dairy products	330	370	286	234	427	392	329
Fruits and vegetables	493	642	467	443	727	596	587
Other food at home	1,097	1,000	999	846	1,066	1,312	1,149
Food away from home	2,498	3,264	2,038	2,783	2,044	2,964	2,832
Alcoholic beverages	358	572	390	265	255	461	604
Housing	13,938	24,059	17,063	16,158	15,928	17,854	17,198
Shelter	7,529	15,976	10,813	9,539	10,053	9,883	9,427
Owned dwellings	5,130	11,628	7,744	6,467	6,385	6,793	6,501
Rented dwellings	2,028	3,765	2,464	2,523	3,445	2,478	2,293
Other lodging	371	582	605	549	222	611	634
Utilities, fuels, and public services	3,398	3,827	3,424	3,773	3,421	4,424	4,179
Household operations	820	1,447	883	990	856	1,140	1,181
Housekeeping supplies	617	603	503	548	532	714	732
Household furnishings and equipment	1,575	2,206	1,440	1,307	1,065	1,693	1,679
Apparel and services	1,786	2,195	1,805	1,847	1,242	2,048	2,608
Transportation	8,244	7,341	7,554	7,599	8,186	9,662	11,636
Vehicle purchases (net outlay)	3,593	2,133	2,929	3,146	3,199	3,919	5,305
Gasoline and motor oil	2,213	1,958	2,073	2,124	2,069	2,410	2,743
Other vehicle expenses	2,134	2,503	2,076	1,965	2,480	2,816	3,068
Public transportation	305	747	476	364	437	517	519
Healthcare	2,691	2,505	2,551	2,017	2,190	3,075	3,259
Entertainment	2,104	2,480	2,186	1,861	1,523	2,285	2,528
Personal care products and services	540	625	525	460	633	713	737
Reading	89	135	83	72	43	110	114
Education	691	1,446	1,840	652	724	799	998
Tobacco products and smoking supplies	327	187	242	190	168	260	274
Miscellaneous	691	1,039	713	522	524	839	1,025
Cash contributions	1,736	1,635	1,578	1,207	1,328	2,077	2,736
Personal insurance and pensions	4,748	7,661	6,043	5,587	4,000	6,573	6,478
Life and other personal insurance	366	412	463	266	221	382	441
Pensions and Social Security	4,382	7,249	5,580	5,321	3,779	6,191	6,038

Table 3032. Selected western metropolitan statistical areas: Average annual expenditures and characteristics, Consumer Expenditure Survey, 2005-2006

Item	All consumer units in the West	Los Angeles	San Francisco	San Diego	Seattle	Phoenix
Number of consumer units (in thousands)	26,149	5,279	2,923	954	1,915	1,565
Consumer unit characteristics:						
Income before taxes	\$66,452	\$70,847	\$90,781	\$73,846	\$65,672	\$65,520
Age of reference person	47.4	46.7	47.5	48.7	47.8	44.3
Average number in consumer unit:						
Persons	2.6	2.9	2.5	2.6	2.3	2.7
Children under 18 .....	.7	.8	.6	.6	.5	.8
Persons 65 and over .....	.3	.3	.3	.3	.2	.2
Earners	1.4	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.4
Vehicles	2.1	1.9	1.9	1.9	2.4	1.9
Percent homeowner	63	57	58	56	67	68
Average annual expenditures	\$55,214	\$58,404	\$66,344	\$62,321	\$55,544	\$53,570
Food	6,745	7,222	7,942	6,238	6,887	7,187
Food at home	3,769	3,873	4,173	3,261	3,778	3,822
Cereals and bakery products	477	470	527	423	479	482
Meats, poultry, fish, and eggs	832	914	965	711	743	894
Dairy products	415	395	443	376	417	433
Fruits and vegetables	690	795	839	529	662	672
Other food at home	1,356	1,297	1,399	1,222	1,477	1,342
Food away from home	2,975	3,349	3,769	2,977	3,109	3,365
Alcoholic beverages	585	475	757	755	752	693
Housing	19,064	21,190	26,382	23,034	19,142	16,469
Shelter	12,134	14,312	18,845	15,654	12,279	9,279
Owned dwellings	7,887	8,994	12,442	9,517	8,515	6,249
Rented dwellings	3,560	4,775	5,112	5,374	2,796	2,456
Other lodging	687	543	1,290	763	968	573
Utilities, fuels, and public services	3,013	2,996	2,925	3,001	3,046	3,348
Household operations	1,017	1,235	1,574	1,830	733	899
Housekeeping supplies	660	643	625	499	611	784
Household furnishings and equipment	2,240	2,004	2,414	2,049	2,473	2,158
Apparel and services	2,050	2,396	2,524	2,111	1,541	2,019
Transportation	10,112	10,716	10,080	11,115	10,127	10,964
Vehicle purchases (net outlay)	4,399	4,443	3,492	4,959	4,145	5,422
Gasoline and motor oil	2,282	2,566	2,309	2,542	2,221	2,217
Other vehicle expenses	2,724	2,980	3,261	2,753	2,950	2,832
Public transportation	707	727	1,017	862	810	493
Healthcare	2,751	2,316	2,820	3,421	2,889	3,134
Entertainment	2,960	2,743	3,080	2,774	3,196	2,615
Personal care products and services	652	815	734	866	626	657
Reading	150	141	205	154	179	115
Education	937	1,127	1,106	986	848	794
Tobacco products and smoking supplies	267	199	151	99	289	411
Miscellaneous	1,033	1,014	1,073	1,161	924	919
Cash contributions	1,993	1,710	1,741	2,470	1,995	1,910
Personal insurance and pensions	5,917	6,340	7,748	7,138	6,149	5,683
Life and other personal insurance	315	307	342	425	371	312
Pensions and Social Security	5,602	6,033	7,406	6,713	5,779	5,371