Original survey information, *Australia 2010*

Generic information	
Name of survey	Household Expenditure Survey (HES) and Survey of Income and Housing (SIH). The HES is integrated with the SIH.
Responsible institution	Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), http://www.abs.gov.au/
Main objective	The principal objective of the survey is to facilitate the analysis and monitoring of the social and economic welfare of Australian residents in private dwellings.
Structure of data source	Cross-sectional household survey data.
Frequency	SIH: annually from 1994-95 to 1997-98, and then in 1999-00, 2000-01, 2002-03, and every two years since 2005-06. HES: 1984, 1988-89, 1993-94, 1998-99, every 6 yerars since 2003-04 (since when it is also integrated with SIH).
Survey year / Wave	2009-2010 survey.
Coverage	Information was collected from usual residents of private dwellings in urban and rural areas of Australia (excluding very remote areas). Usual residents excludes: households which contain members of non-Australian defence forces stationed in Australia, and households which contain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments.
Sampling	
Sampling procedure	The SIH sample was designed in conjunction with the HES. In the combined sample, some dwellings were selected to complete both the SIH and the HES questionnaire, while others were selected to complete the SIH questionnaire only. The sample was designed to produce reliable estimates for broad aggregates for household residents in private dwellings for Australia, for each state and for the capital cities in each state and territory. Dwellings were selected through a stratified, multistage cluter design from the private dwelling framework of the ABS Population Survey Master Sample. An additional sample of metropolitan households whose main source of income was a governement pension, benefit and/or allowance was selected using a separate sampling design and included in the final SIH and HES samples.
Sample size	18,071 households, of which 9,774 were also included in the HES.
Collection	
Collection period	July 2009 to June 2010.
Collection mode	Computer assisted interview.
Description of instruments	Information was collected using: - a *household level computer assistend personal interview questionnaire* , which collected information on: household characteristics, housing cost and certain assets and liabilities for all households; expenditure common to al lhosuehold members and irregular or infrequennt expenditure for households selected for teh HES; - an *individual level computer assistend personal interview questionnaire* , with information on: income, certain assets and liabilities and personal characteristics from each usual resident member aged 15 years and over in all households; children's income and financial stress data from certain adults in household selected for teh HES; - a *personal diary* , in which usual residents aged 15 or over in households selected for teh HES recorded their expenditure over a 2-week period.
Definitions	
Household	A household consists of one or more persons, at least one of whom is at least 15 years of age, usually residing in the same private dwelling. The persons in a household may or may not be related. They must live wholly within one dwelling. In the CURF, the maximum number of household members is topcoded at 6.
Household head	The SIH uses the notion of household reference person. The reference person is determined by applying the following set of criteria in the order listed: 1) the person with the highest tenure when ranked as follows: owner without a mortgage, owner with a mortgage, renter, other tenure; 2) one of the partners in a registered or de facto marriage with dependent children; 3) one of the partners in a registered or de facto marriage without dependent children; 4) a lone parent with dependent children; 5) the person with the highest income; 6) the oldest person.
Data quality aspects	
Non-response error	87% of the households initially seleccted for inclusion in the SIH-only sample responded with sufficient information to be included in the final SIH sample; 75% of the households initially seleccted for inclusion in the HES sample responded with sufficient information to be included in the final SIH and HES sample (representing an overall response rate of 81% for the SIH and HES samples). Additionally, 67% of the households initially selected for inclusion in the pensioner sample responded with sufficient information to be considered for inclusion in the final pensioner sample.
Item non-response / imputation	Imputation took place for missing records and values. Income tax, Medicare levy, family tax benefit, maternity payment, utilities allowance and seniors concession allowance, as well as one-off payments to cares and older Australians were modelled by the ABS.
Weighting	Final weights are calculated through an iterative procedure in which initial weights (inverse of the probability of selection) are adjusted by a calibration process to ensure that survey estimates conform to independently estimated benchmarks (numbers of persons aged 15 and over, numbers of children under age 15, numbers of households, and the value of government benefit cash transfers). The weighting factors exist both at household level and person level and the vast majority of household members have been assigned the same value as the household weight. Besides, the original survey provides 60 replicate weights per record.
Labour market information	
Eligibility	All persons aged 15 years and over
Employment	Persons are considered employed if, during the week before the interview: – they worked one hour or more for pay, profit, comission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (includes employees, employers and own account workers) – they worked one hour or more, without pay, in a family business or on a family farm – had a job, business or farm but was not at work because of holidays, sickness or other reason.
Income	
Reference period	Income in SIH is collected for two reference periods, the financial year preceding the date of interview and a much shorter one centered around interview time (current income). *LIS note:* only current income data was provided to LIS.
Unit of time	Several reporting periods, ranging from the whole fiscal year to the usual payment for a period close to the time of inteview. All amounts disseminated in the survey were recalculated into weekly amounts.
Unit of collection	Individual level income information is collected for all persons of 15 years of age and older. Children's income were also collected in a separate question.
Taxes and contributions	Income was collected gross of taxes and medicare levy. Taxes and tax benefits were modelled by the data provider.
Restrictions	The full set of income variables were pertubed by the data provider.
Additional remarks	
Additional remarks	Some variables have had values ranged, collapsed or topcoded. *LIS note:* LIS was provided a restricted version of basic CURF (Confidentialized Unit Record Files).

Source: [1] Australian Bureau of Statistics (2012), *Household Expenditure Survey and Survey of Income and Housing User Guide, Australia, 2009/10* (6503.0).