

Original survey information, *the United States of America 2004*

Generic information	
Name of survey	Current Population Survey (CPS) - Annual Social and Economic Supplement (ASEC) [previously called March Supplement]
Institution responsible	United States Census Bureau, http://www.census.gov
Main objective	The CPS is the primary source of information on the labour force characteristics of the U.S. population. In addition, this annual Social and Economic Supplement provides supplemental data on work experience, income, non-cash benefits and migration.
Structure of data source	Rotating panel data
Frequency	Monthly (basic CPS), annual (ASEC)
Survey year / Wave	2005
Coverage	Civilian non-institutional population in the United States. CPS coverage varies with age, sex, and race. Generally, coverage is larger for females than for males and larger for non-Blacks than for Blacks.
Sampling	
Sampling procedure	Multistage probability sample for CPS, plus an additional sample for ASEC to provide more reliable data on Hispanic households. Decennial census constitutes the sampling frame.
Sample size	76,447 households.
Collection	
Collection period	Interviews were carried out over a three-month period from February to April 2005.
Collection mode	Face-to-face interview and computer assisted telephone interview.
Description of instruments	The Annual Social and Economic (ASEC) Supplement contains the basic monthly demographic and labour force data collected through monthly interviews, plus additional data on work experience, income, noncash benefits, and migration, collected yearly through a special ASEC questionnaire.
Definitions	
Household	A household consists of all the people who occupy a housing unit. A house, an apartment or other group of rooms, or a single room, is regarded as a housing unit when it is occupied or intended for occupancy as separate living quarters; that is, when the occupants do not live and eat with any other persons in the structure and there is direct access from the outside or through a common hall.
Household head	Beginning with the 1980 CPS, the Bureau of the Census discontinued the use of the terms "head of household" and "head of family." Instead, the terms "householder" and "family householder" are used. The householder refers to the person (or one of the people) in whose name the housing unit is owned or rented (maintained) or, if there is no such person, any adult member, excluding roomers, boarders, or paid employees. If the house is owned or rented jointly by a married couple, the householder may be either the husband or the wife. The person designated as the householder is the "reference person" to whom the relationship of all other household members, if any, is recorded.
Data quality aspects	
Non-response error	For the cases eligible for the 2005 ASEC, the basic CPS household-level nonresponse rate was 9.4 percent. The household-level non-response rate for the ASEC was an additional 9.4 percent. These two non-response rates lead to a combined supplement non-response rate of 17.4 percent.
Item non-response / imputation	Missing data are assigned values based on hot-deck imputation.
Weighting	Weights adjust for non-interview and correct for sampling bias in age, race, sex, Hispanic origin, and state of residence. The ASEC file includes a further adjustment so husband and wife of a household receive the same weight. Weight inflates to the total population.
Labour market information	
Eligibility	Individuals aged 15 and older
Employment	(1) In the monthly CPS interview: the employed comprise persons who at present (survey week) have any paid work or at least 15 hours of unpaid family work, as well as being temporarily absent from work during the survey week. (2) In the annual ASEC interview: the employed comprise persons who have worked at least one hour during 2004 (ILO employed).
Income	
Reference period	Calendar year 2004
Unit of time	Either weekly, monthly, quarterly, yearly or other unit; recalculated to annual by data provider.
Unit of collection	Mostly individual; the value of non-cash incomes such as food stamps, school lunches, energy assistance, Medicare and Medicaid are calculated at the household level.
Taxes and contributions	Income data are given gross of taxes and contributions. Tax items are based on imputations.
Restrictions	All earnings and income items were subject to top coding.
Additional remarks	
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Source : Data provider, see various documents at <http://www.census.gov/cps/>.