# Original survey information, the United States of America 1994

## Generic information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of survey</th>
<th>Current Population Survey (CPS) - March Supplement</th>
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<tr>
<td>Institution responsible</td>
<td>United States Census Bureau, <a href="http://www.census.gov">http://www.census.gov</a></td>
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**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 (March Supplement)

**Survey year / Wave**

1995

**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**

56,873 households.

## Collection

**Collection period**

Interviews were carried out over a three-month period from February to April 1995.

**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 labor 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**

- 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 1994 (ILO employed).

## Income

**Reference period**

Calendar year 1994

**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 foodstamps, 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 topcoding.

## Additional remarks

- Source: Data provider, see various documents at [http://www.census.gov/cps/](http://www.census.gov/cps/).