

HRS 2017 Mail Study

It is very important that the questions in this questionnaire be answered by the person to whom the questionnaire is addressed.

If the addressee is unable to complete the questionnaire alone:

It can be filled out by someone who knows this person well enough to answer the questions.

If neither the addressee nor another person is able to complete the questionnaire:

Please return the questionnaire, with a short note of explanation, in the enclosed, prepaid envelope.



ABOUT THIS QUESTIONNAIRE

This questionnaire is a part of the Health and Retirement Study. We greatly value your past participation in the HRS, and we hope that you will find this questionnaire interesting to complete. As always, your answers are extremely important to us. Please remember that your participation is *voluntary* and that you may skip over any questions that you would prefer not to answer.

A Department of Health and Human Services Certificate of Confidentiality covers this research in order to help ensure your privacy. This certificate can help protect the investigators from being forced to release any research information that identifies you. Please note that we must report credible evidence of serious harm or abuse to any person to the authorities, but this questionnaire <u>does not ask any</u> questions about such topics.

FILLING OUT THIS QUESTIONNAIRE

It is very important that the questions be answered by the person to whom the questionnaire is addressed (or by someone who knows this person well enough to answer the questions instead, if the addressee is unable to complete the questionnaire alone). At the end of this questionnaire, please record in the space provided the name of the person who completed the questions.

If you have any questions about the questionnaire, please feel free to call us at

1-855-647-6769

THANK YOU!



Conducted by: The Survey Research Center at the University of Michigan. Sponsored by: The Social Security Administration and the National Institute on Aging.

PLEASE ANSWER THE QUESTIONS BY:

| Marking a box like this: | \checkmark | | | |
|--|----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Or writing an answer on a line like this: | <u>Answer</u> | | | |
| Sometimes you will find an instruction telling you which questions to answer next like this: | | | | |
| Yes | | | | |
| No ✓ → Go | to A13 on page 5 . | | | |
| Please use a #2 pencil or black ball point pen. | | | | |

Section A:

In the first part of this questionnaire section, we ask you to estimate how much time you spent doing various activities during the last week. For each activity, please tell us the number of hours you spent doing that activity. If you haven't done that activity at all in the last week, then mark the "0 hours" box to the right. If you spent less than an hour doing an activity, tell us how much of an hour you did spend (such as ¾ or ½).

PLEASE NOTE:

- Sometimes people do more than one activity at a time -- for example, listening to music while preparing a meal. That is, one hour of listening to music while preparing a meal would count as one hour of *listening to music* and also one hour of *preparing meals*.
- Similarly, one behavior might represent more than one activity included in the list. For example, e-mailing friends is both *using the computer* and *communicating with friends*. Record that time for both of the activities.
- Please include the time you spent traveling to and from an activity when estimating the amount of time spent on that activity.
- We realize that last week or last month might have been unusual, and that your answers may not reflect your typical activity patterns. It is important, however, to report the actual amount of time spent on each activity, rather than the usual amount.
- If you did not do an activity in the last week, please check the "0 hours" box.

How many hours did you actually spend **LAST WEEK**...

| | | Hours spent last week | | No time spent last week |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|----|-------------------------------|
| A1 | Watching programs or movies/videos on TV | hours last week | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A2 | Reading newspapers or magazines | hours last week | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A3 | Reading books | hours last week | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A4 | Listening to music | hours last week | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A5 | Sleeping and napping (including at night) | hours last week | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A6 | Walking | hours last week | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A7 | Participating in sports or other exercise activities | hours last week | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A8 | Visiting in-person with friends, neighbors, or relatives | hours last week | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A9 | Communicating by telephone, letters, e-mail, Facebook, Skype, or other media with friends, neighbors, or relatives | hours last week | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A10 | Working for pay | hours last week | OR | □ 0 hours |

| | | Hours spent last week | | No time spent last week |
|-----|--|--------------------------|----|-------------------------------|
| A11 | Using the computer | hours last week | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A12 | Praying or meditating | hours last week | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A13 | House cleaning | hours last week | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A14 | Washing, ironing, or mending clothes | hours last week | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A15 | Yard work or gardening | hours last week | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A16 | Shopping or running errands | hours last week | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A17 | Preparing meals and cleaning-up afterwards | hours last week | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A18 | Personal grooming and hygiene, such as bathing and dressing | hours last week | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A19 | Caring for pets | hours last week | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A20 | Physically showing affection for others through hugging, kissing, etc. | hours last week | OR | □ 0 hours |

Now think about the **LAST MONTH.** How many hours did you spend last month...

| | | Hours spent last month | | No time spent last month |
|------|---|------------------------|----|--------------------------------|
| A21 | Helping friends, neighbors, or relatives who did not live with you and did not pay you for the help | hours last month | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A21. | Taking care of grandchildren | hours last month | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A22 | Doing volunteer work for religious, educational, health-related, or other charitable organizations | hours last month | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A23 | Attending religious services | hours last month | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A24 | Attending meetings of clubs or religious groups | hours last month | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A25 | Taking care of finances or investments, such as banking, paying bills, balancing the checkbook, doing taxes, etc. | hours last month | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A26 | Treating or managing an existing medical condition of your own | hours last month | OR | □ 0 hours |
| A27 | Playing cards or games, or solving puzzles | hours last month | OR | □ 0 hours |

| | | | | | ours spent st month | | No time spent last month | Ċ |
|--|---|------------------|----------------|------------|------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|---|
| A28 | Attending concerts, visiting museums | movies, | or lectures, o | | hours ast month | OR | □ 0 hours | S |
| A29 | Singing or playing a | hours last month | | | OR | □ 0 hours | S | |
| A30 | Doing arts and craft knitting, embroidery | | _ | 1a | hours ast month | OR | □ 0 hours | S |
| A31 | Doing home improve painting, redecorating repairs | | | 1a | hours ast month | OR | □ 0 hours | S |
| A32 | Working on, mainta car(s) or vehicle(s) | ining, o | cleaning you | | hours | OR | □ 0 hours | S |
| A33 | Dining or eating out related to business of | | home (not | la | hours ast month | OR | □ 0 hours | S |
| A34. Thinking of your meals last week, how much time did you spend eating meals at home last week? Hours last week | | | | | | | | |
| A35. Please think of how much time you spend seeing doctors, nurses, therapists or other health care providers about your own health, or going to the pharmacy for your own medications: During the past year, about how much time did you spend on average on these activities, including travel time? | | | | | | | | |
| | hours per week | OR | ho | ours ch | OR — | last yo | _hours ear | |

| A36. | another pers | • | me last v | week treating or ma | anaging | the medical condition of |
|------|---|-------------------|------------------|--|----------|--|
| | No | | _ > WI | ho was that person | (Check | all that apply.) |
| | spouse your child, step child or grandchild your parent, parent-in-law or grand pa other, specify | | | | | |
| | | | | ow many hours did Hours last w | • | nd in total last week? |
| A37. | managing n | nedical bi | lls, inclu | | insuranc | nd on average paying or e claims? If you helped include that time. |
| | per we | hours eek | OR | hours per month | OR | hours last year |
| A38. | How many trips related | • | | | you awa | y from home on overnight |
| | D | ays | | | | |
| A39. | - | - | | velve months were to business or work | - | y from home on overnight |
| | D | ays | | | | |
| Now | think abou | t everyth | ing you | do during waking | g hours: | |
| A40. | How often of | do you us | e your n | nind in what you do | ? (Chec | ek one.) |
| | | arely ometimes | | | | |
| | 0 | | 1 | | | |
| | | lmost all | the time | | | |
| | U | ncertain, | can't say | У | | |

| A41. How often do you use your body in what you do? (Check one.) |
|---|
| Rarely Sometimes Often Almost all the time Uncertain, can't say |
| A42. How often are your activities done with other people? (Check one.) |
| Rarely Sometimes Often Almost all the time Uncertain, can't say |
| A43. How often do your activities benefit other people? (Check one.) |
| Rarely Sometimes Often Almost all the time Uncertain, can't say A44. Were the questions in Section A answered by the person to whom this questionnaire was addressed, or did someone else answer for that person? (Check |
| Yes, the questions were answered by the person to whom the questionnaire was addressed The questions were answered by that person's spouse or partner The questions were answered by that person's son or daughter The questions were answered by someone else: Please say if you are a relative, a friend, a care provider, or what: |
| A45. Approximately, how long did it take you to complete Section A? |
| Minutes |
| End of Section A. |

Now think about everything you do during waking hours:

Section B:

We would like to know how families spend their income. If you think that somebody else in your household might be more knowledgeable about your household's spending, please, ask that person to help you in answering these questions.

In this section, please record amounts in whole dollars (i.e., \$2157.00).

Please indicate whether your household made any of these purchases in the past 12 months:

- To the best of your ability, provide the purchase price.
- If you can't remember the exact amount, please give us your best estimate.

If you bought more than one item in a category:

- Please indicate the total amount you spent on all items in that category.
- Please include purchases by all members of your household, that is, by you or anyone living with you.
- **B1.** In the past twelve months, has your household leased or purchased an automobile or truck? (If it was a lease, we are asking about new long-term leases).

If so, what was the make, model, year and price of the vehicle(s) you purchased or leased?

| B2. In the past twelve months, has your household purchased a refrigerator? | |
|--|------------|
| Yes → About how much was the purchase price? \$0 No | 00 |
| B3. In the past twelve months, has your household purchased a washing machidryer? | ine and/or |
| Yes → About how much was the purchase price? \$0 No | 00 |
| B4. In the past twelve months, has your household purchased a dishwasher? | |
| Yes → About how much was the purchase price? \$0 No |)0 |
| B5. In the past twelve months, has your household purchased a television? | |
| Yes → About how much was the purchase price? \$0 No |)0 |
| B6. In the past twelve months, has your household purchased a computer? | |
| Yes → About how much was the purchase price? \$0 No |)0 |

We'd also like you to provide your best estimate of your household spending for the following categories. For the items on this page, please enter your annual cost in the provided spaces in the column "Amount spent in last 12 months." If you did not spend money on a specific item or service in the last 12 months, then check the "No money spent on this in last 12 months" box.

| | | Amount spent in last 12 months | | No money spent on this in last 12 months |
|-----|---|--------------------------------|----|--|
| В7 | Homeowner's or renter's insurance | \$00 | OR | □ \$0 |
| B8 | Property taxes | \$00 | OR | □ \$0 |
| В9 | Vehicle insurance | \$00 | OR | □ \$0 |
| B10 | Vehicle maintenance: parts, repairs, and servicing | \$00 | OR | □ \$0 |
| B11 | Health insurance: out- of-pocket, including Medicare supplemental insurance | \$00 | OR | □ \$0 |
| B12 | Trips and vacations: including transportation, accommodations, and recreational expenses on trips | \$00 | OR | □ \$0 |

| | | Amount spent in last 12 months | | No money spent on this in last 12 months |
|-----|--|--------------------------------|----|--|
| B13 | Home repairs and maintenance: materials your household bought directly | \$00 | OR | □ \$0 |
| B14 | Home repairs and maintenance services: hiring costs including materials they provided | \$00 | OR | □ \$0 |
| B15 | Household furnishings and equipment: such as furniture, floor coverings, small appliances, miscellaneous household equipment | \$00 | OR | □ \$0 |
| B16 | Contributions to religious, educational, charitable, or political organizations | \$00 | OR | □ \$0 |
| B17 | Cash or gifts to family and friends outside your household: including alimony and child support payments | \$00 | OR | □ \$0 |

For the next set of items we have included two time periods so that you can estimate your spending in the way that is easiest for you for each category: the amount you spend on a monthly basis, OR the amount you spent in the last 12 months. For example, if it is easiest for you to think about what you spend on electricity in monthly terms, then please report how much you spent each month. If you did not spend money on a specific item or service in the last 12 months, then check the "No money spent on this in last 12 months" box.

| | | Amount spent monthly | | Amount spent in last 12 months | | No money spent on this in last 12 months |
|-----|------------------------------------|----------------------|----|--------------------------------------|----|---|
| B18 | Mortgage | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |
| B19 | Rent | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |
| B20 | Electricity | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |
| B21 | Water | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |
| B22 | Heating fuel for the home | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |
| B23 | Telephone, cable, internet | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |
| B24 | Car payments: interest & principal | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |

The next block has items that some people do not purchase on a regular basis. Please use the time period that best reflects your spending over the last 12 months to estimate what you actually spent.

For example:

- If your household's spending on clothing in the last year was irregular or concentrated in just a few months then please report your best estimate of the total amount your household spent on clothing in the last 12 months.
- If your household's spending on clothing was fairly evenly distributed over the year, then you can choose whether to report the average monthly amount or the total amount spent in the last 12 months, whichever you find easier.

Again, if you did not spend money on a specific item or service in the last 12 months, then check the "No money spent on this in last 12 months" box.

If you bought an item only occasionally or on an as-needed basis, then please give your best estimate of what you spent in the last 12 months.

| | | Amount spent monthly | | Amount spent in last 12 months | | No money spent on this in last 12 months |
|-----|--|----------------------|----|--------------------------------------|----|---|
| B25 | Housekeeping supplies: cleaning and laundry products | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |
| B26 | Housekeeping, dry cleaning and laundry services: hiring costs for housekeeping or home cleaning, and amount spent at dry cleaners and laundries | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |
| B27 | Gardening and yard supplies: yard, lawn and garden products | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |

| | | Amount spent monthly | | Amount spent in last 12 months | | No money spent on this in last 12 months |
|-----|--|----------------------|----|--------------------------------------|----|---|
| B28 | Gardening and yard services: hiring costs including materials they provided | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |
| B29 | Clothing and apparel: including footwear, outerwear, and products such as watches or jewelry | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |
| B30 | Personal care products and services: including hair care, shaving and skin products, amount spent at hair dresser, manicure, etc. | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |
| B31 | Prescription and nonprescription medications: out-of- pocket cost, not including what's covered by insurance | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |
| B32 | Health care services: out-of-pocket cost of hospital care, doctor services, lab tests, eye, dental, and nursing home care | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |

| | | Amount spent monthly | | Amount spent in last 12 months | | No money spent on this in last 12 months |
|-----|--|----------------------|----|--------------------------------------|----|---|
| B33 | Medical supplies: out-of-pocket cost, not including what's covered by insurance | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |
| B34 | Tickets to movies, sporting events, and performing arts | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |
| B35 | Sports: including gym, exercise equipment such as bicycles, skis, boats, etc. | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |
| B36 | Hobbies and leisure equipment: such as photography, stamps, reading materials, camping, etc. | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |

For the items below we have included three time periods so that you can estimate your spending in the way that is easiest for you for each category. For example, if it is easiest for you to think about what your household spends in a usual week on food and beverages, then please enter the amount in the first column.

Again, if you did not spend money on a specific item or service in the last 12 months, then check the "No money spent on this in last 12 months" box. If you bought an item only occasionally or on an as-needed basis, then please give your best estimate of what you spent in the last 12 months.

| | | Amount spent weekly | | Amount spent monthly | | Amount spent in last 12 months | | No money spent on this in last 12 months |
|-----|---|---------------------------|----|----------------------------|----|--------------------------------|----|---|
| B37 | Food and beverages: food and drinks, including alcoholic, that you buy in grocery or other stores | \$00 per week | OR | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |
| B38 | Dining and/or drinking out: items in restaurants, cafes, and diners, including take-out food | \$00 per week | OR | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |
| B39 | Gasoline | \$00 per week | OR | \$00 per month | OR | \$00 in last 12 months | OR | □ \$0 |

| B39.5 We have just asked you about purchases by all members of your household, that is, by you or anyone living with you. |
|--|
| INCLUDING YOURSELF, how many people are living in your household? |
| Now think of your household's TOTAL spending last year. Please do NOT include any money that you saved or that you invested, including real estate investments, like home purchases. |
| Compare this amount spent with your total household after-tax income (i.e. income that remains after income taxes were paid or withheld). In your household income, include any earnings from work, any interest or dividends, any pension, annuity or Social Security income, and any other money that your household may have received. |
| B40. Last year, my household spent: (Check one.) |
| More than its income → About how much more? \$00 Less than its income → About how much less? \$00 About the same as its income Uncertain, can't say |
| B41. Sometimes people have positive surprises earlier in life that help their finances turn out better than expected. Did any of the following happen to you? (Check all that apply.) |
| My salary or earnings were higher than expected My spouse made more money than expected I worked longer than expected My spouse worked longer than expected Household spending was lower than expected My/our investments or business performed well Received financial help from family Received an inheritance (self or spouse) Other (please specify) OR |
| No, none of these happened. |

| | netimes people have negative surprises earlier in life that cause their finances to out worse than expected. Did any of the following happen to you? (Check | | | | | | | |
|------------------|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| all t | all that apply.) | | | | | | | |
| - - - - | Bad health that affected the ability to work (self or spouse) Large unexpected health expenses (self or spouse) Unemployment (self or spouse) Retired too early (self or spouse) Salary or earnings were less than expected (self or spouse) My/our investments or business performed badly Needed to provide financial help to family members College costs (for kids or grandchildren) higher than expected Divorce or separation Death in the family Large expenses other than health or education expenses Other (please specify | | | | | | | |
| 0 | R No, none of these happened. | | | | | | | |
| _ | 140, none of these happened. | | | | | | | |

If you have reached age 60 or older, please continue to B43 on the next page. Otherwise, go to B46 on page 20.

| B43. Please think back to when you were around 45 years old. Suppose you could redo your spending and saving from then to now, which of the following would you do? (Check only one.) | | | | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------|------------|--|--------|--|
| Spend less and save more over the years? | | and save he same e years? | | Spend more and save less over the years? | | |
| Go to B44a | Go to B46 o | on n. 20 | | Go to B44b | | |
| | 30 10 2 10 | ж р. 2 0 | | | | |
| B44a . How strongly do you wish redo your spending and saving? | you could | | _ | ly do you wish yo ending and saving | | |
| □ Very strongly□ Strongly□ Somewhat strongly□ Not at all strongly | □ Very strongly □ Strongly □ Somewhat strongly □ Not at all strongly | | | | | |
| B45a. To save more you have to less. Which of the spending categorical could you have possibly spent less | B45b. To save less you could have spent more. Which of the spending categories would you have spent more on? | | | | | |
| ☐ Housing ☐ Food ☐ Clothing ☐ Appliances and home furnishi ☐ Car ☐ Leisure (going/dining out, hob ☐ Children's education or other related expenses ☐ Providing financial help ☐ Other (specify | ☐ Housing ☐ Food ☐ Clothing ☐ Appliances and home furnishings ☐ Car ☐ Leisure (going/dining out, hobbies, etc) ☐ Children's education or other childrelated expenses ☐ Providing financial help ☐ Other (specify | | | s, etc) d- | | |
| OR ☐ No way I/we could have cut sp I/We could not have saved m | | | ld not rea | lly have wanted to | spend | |
| OR/IN ADDITION ☐ I/we would have worked more | or longer. | | | ON re worked less or r | etired | |

B46. We would like to understand more about spending in retirement. Are you retired? No → Complete BOX B $_$ Yes \rightarrow Complete BOX A **BOX A – Retired: BOX B – Not Retired:** a. How did your TOTAL spending d. How do you expect your TOTAL change with retirement? spending to change with retirement? Stayed the same \rightarrow Go to c Stay the same \rightarrow Go to \mathbf{f} _____ Increased ____ Increase Decreased Decrease e. By how much? b. By how much? % % c. For the items below, check (✓) f. For the items below, check (\checkmark) whether the spending increased, whether you expect spending to decreased or stayed the same in increase, decrease or stay the same in retirement: retirement: Stay(ed) Increase(d) Decrease(d) B47. the same a. Trips, travel, or vacations b. Clothing c. Eating out / food and beverages d. New home, home repairs, or household items e. Entertainment, sports, and hobbies f. Automobile expenses **B48**. What do you think are the chances that you will run out of money sometime in the

% (Please enter a number between 0 and 100%)

future?

| B49. | Were the questions in Section B answered by the person to whom this questionnaire was addressed, or did someone else answer for that person? (Check one.) | | | | |
|------|---|---|--|--|--|
| | | Yes, the questions were answered by the person to whom the questionnaire was addressed The questions were answered by that person's spouse or partner The questions were answered by that person's son or daughter The questions were answered by someone else: Please say if you are a relative, a friend, a care provider, or what: | | | |
| B50. | Approxir | nately, how long did it take you to complete Section B? | | | |
| | | Minutes | | | |

End of Section B.

Section C:

| C1. | disabled and unable to work, retir | ly laid off, unemployed and looking for work, red, a homemaker, or what? (Check all that |
|-----|--|--|
| | apply.) | |
| | Working now Temporarily laid off Unemployed and looki Disabled Retired Homemaker Other, specify Uncertain, can't say | |
| C2. | Are you currently married, living have you never been married? (C | with a partner, separated, divorced, widowed, or heck one.) |
| | Married Living with a partner Separated Divorced Widowed Never married Other, specify: | → Go to C2b on page 23 |
| C2a | | er) Did your household spend any money on cotwear, outerwear, and products such as watches: |
| | | ction of that spending was for things that you use? % your spouse or partner uses? % other household members use? % |
| | No | |

| C2b. Do you (and/or your husband/wife/partner) own or rent the home or apartment you live in? (If you live part of the year in another home or apartment, please answer for the one in which you spend most of the year.) (Check one.) |
|---|
| Own (or buying) Rent Live rent-free with relative/employer/friend Other, specify: |
| C3. Please add any comments that you wish in the space below: |
| |
| |
| |
| C4. Were the questions in Section C answered by the person to whom this questionnaire was addressed, or did someone else answer for that person? (Check one.) |
| Yes, the questions were answered by the person to whom the questionnaire was addressed The questions were answered by that person's spouse or partner The questions were answered by that person's son or daughter The questions were answered by someone else: Please say if you are a relative, a friend, a care provider, or what: |
| C5. Approximately, how long did it take you to complete Section C? |
| Minutes |

Thank you for your participation in this important survey!