



Australian
National
University



Participant Information Sheet

Researcher:

We are a team of researchers at the University of Hawai'i, the University of Michigan and the Australian National University. The two primary investigators are Dr Ashley Craig and Dr Dylan Moore. Dr Craig is a Senior Lecturer at the Research School of Economics at the ANU, while Dr Moore is an Assistant Professor of Economics at U Hawai'i. Our research focuses on labor markets and government policy.

Project Title: Expenditure Responses to Higher Incomes

General Outline of the Project:

- **Description and Methodology:** This survey focuses on your expenditure patterns, and how they would change if you had more to spend. You will be asked about how you split your expenditure across different types of goods and services.
- **Participants:** The survey sample is intended to be broadly representative of the U.S. population. We intend to recruit around 3000-5000 individuals.
- **Use of Data and Feedback:** Your data will be used to study how expenditures change with income. This will culminate in academic publications, talks, and potentially policy briefs or public-facing news articles or blog posts. You are welcome to reach out to us in the future to request a summary of the research when it is complete.

Participant Involvement:

- **Voluntary Participation & Withdrawal:** Your participation is completely voluntary. You can agree to take part and later change your mind before submitting a response. Your decision will not be held against you. However, once your responses are submitted, we will no longer have the ability to facilitate withdrawal of your data because they are non-identifiable.
- **Non-Deception Statement:** This study does not deceive you by providing misleading or incorrect information. All our communications are truthful.
- **What does participation in the research entail?** As a participant, you will be asked to provide background information about yourself, including income and expenditure information. You will then be asked how the breakdown of your expenditure would change if you were to receive more income.
- **Location and Duration:** Participation is online and should take around 15 minutes.
- **Remuneration:** If you choose to participate and to complete the survey, you will be financially compensated with **\$10 USD**.
- **Risks:** Participation in this study involves minimal risk, as we will not receive or store identifying information. At all points in the research, we will handle data carefully and store it securely.
- **Benefits:** Except for remuneration, there is no direct benefit to participants in this study. However, your participation is invaluable for our research, the aim of which is to better understand how expenditure choices depend on income. The eventual aim of our study is to learn from this information to help design less burdensome tax systems. While the anonymous nature of the survey means that we will not be able to contact you to inform you about the results, we will post the study on our websites. You will

be able to find the research paper at <http://www.ashleycraig.com>. Alternatively or in addition, you may contact us separately and ask to be updated in the future.

Confidentiality:

- **Confidentiality:** The data you provide in this study is strictly anonymous. This anonymized information you provide will be maintained indefinitely and will be released and used in other research.

Privacy Notice:

In collecting your personal information within this research, the ANU must comply with the Privacy Act 1988. The ANU Privacy Policy is available at https://policies.anu.edu.au/ppl/document/ANUP_010007 and it contains information about how a person can:

- Access or seek correction to their personal information;
- Complain about a breach of an Australian Privacy Principle by ANU, and how ANU will handle the complaint.

Data Storage:

- **Where:** The data will be stored at the University of Hawai'i, University of Michigan, and the Australian National University for the duration of the study. Upon completion of the study, anonymous information may be made publicly available to future researchers to use.
- **How long:** Your data may be stored indefinitely in its anonymized form.

Queries and Concerns:

- **Contact Details for More Information:** The principal investigator of this study is Ashley C. Craig from the Australian National University. If you have any questions, concerns, or complaints, or think this research hurt you, talk to the research team at ashley.craig@anu.edu.au.

Ethics Committee Clearance:

The ethical aspects of this research have been approved by the ANU Human Research Ethics Committee (Protocol H/2024/1175). If you have any concerns or complaints about how this research has been conducted, please contact:

Ethics Manager
The ANU Human Research Ethics Committee
The Australian National University
Telephone: +61 2 6125 3427
Email: Human.Ethics.Officer@anu.edu.au

If you are in distress for any reason, there are free resources available to you. We include the contact details of one such option below.

Lifeline (24H Service)
Telephone: 998 (from inside the United States)
Website: <https://988lifeline.org>