

# Handling Missing Data on the Consumer Expenditure Surveys and Implications for the Consumer Price Index: A Meeting of Experts

May 8, 2026, 9:30-4 p.m. ET  
Public Agenda  
All-remote Format

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine will convene a meeting of experts for the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics to discuss different approaches for handling missing October and November 2025 Consumer Expenditure (CE) data. Approaches are needed to account for these months in both the 2025 annual CE estimates as well as for their use as inputs to the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The discussions will address the advantages and disadvantages of applying different data imputation methods (e.g., carry-forward, interpolation) and the impacts on the estimation of the CE and the CPI. The discussion will include the tradeoffs of different imputation procedures on various aspects of the CPI, such as CPI series (e.g., rent and owners' equivalent rent), spending weights, median price changes and median standard errors, the seasonal adjustment process, and implications for planned publications (e.g., 2025 chained CPI-U indexes).

## **ALL TIMES EASTERN**

### **OPEN SESSION**

- 9:30 Welcome
- 9:45 Bureau of Labor Statistics presentations
- 10:30 QnA and discussion between invited experts and BLS. *Will take questions from the public if time allows.*
- 11:30 **END OPEN SESSION**
- 12:30 **BEGIN CLOSED SESSION**
- 2:00 **END CLOSED SESSION**

### **OPEN SESSION**

- 2:15 Invited experts' presentation and discussion
- 3:45 Closing remarks and next steps
- 4:00 **ADJOURN**