HTOPS Household Pulse User Notes

September 2026 Data Collection of HTOPS

Date: November 12, 2026

The Household Trends and Outlook Pulse Survey (HTOPS) questionnaire for September 2026 was administered between September 9, 2026, to October 12, 2026. Following the 'YYMM' naming convention for the HTOPS Household Pulse Survey (HPS) topical modules, the September 2026 collection is called ***HTOPS HPS 2609***.

The HTOPS September 2026 survey asked respondents a series of questions about "Artificial Intelligence" or "AI". HTOPS 2609 data products for these items are labeled as "Super Intelligence or SI (formerly collected as Artificial Intelligence or AI)" or "Super Intelligence (SI)" pursuant to Executive Order 14434: Inaugurating the Era of Super Intelligence.

Some survey variables have been recoded for disclosure avoidance purposes. Data users should be mindful of the potential differences between HTOPS topicals for survey items and consult the data dictionaries for each survey period for more detailed information.

Beginning in March 2026, HTOPS shifted to a cross-sectional design. The data, collected from about 136,000 households in September 2026, cover the nation, 4 Census Bureau regions, and the top 10 metropolitan statistical areas. Users can access the Source and Accuracy Statement for more information on the survey design.

Data products for this release include the Public Use File (PUF). HPS data users are advised to refer to the HPS Data webpage for these data products.

Users can access the September 2026 questionnaire, and all past questionnaires from HPS, on the Technical Documentation webpage.