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**Online meeting of the Group of Experts on Gender Statistics, 28–29 September 2021**

**ABSTRACT**

<b>Title</b>	Update on the Household Pulse Survey
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<b>Author Organization</b>	United States Census Bureau
<b>Session</b>	Regional networking platform
<p>The Census Bureau’s Household Pulse Survey (HPS) has been updated to include questions on sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI), among other topics. The HPS is an online self-administered survey asked of respondents aged 18 years and over. It was launched in collaboration with multiple federal agencies in April 2020 to quickly and efficiently gauge the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on households from a social and economic perspective. The HPS is designed to provide real-time information to assist in the nation’s pandemic recovery, focusing specifically on the impact of people’s lives and livelihoods. The newest phase of the survey also features a variety of new questions that capture topical events from the Child Tax Credit payment to COVID-19 vaccinations. Also, a new set of questions about household energy expenditure and consumption, children’s summer educational activities and rental assistance from state and local governments. The HPS will continue measuring core demographic household characteristics as well as asking about employment, household spending, food sufficiency, housing security and physical and mental health. An Interagency Technical Working Group concluded that the inclusion of sexual orientation and gender identity questions helped provide another demographic variable for use in looking at various important indicators like vaccine hesitancy, food insecurity and mental wellbeing, helping to better understand the impact of federal programs and improve equitable deployment. The first release with SOGI information found “The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) adult population reported living in households with higher rates of food and economic insecurity than non-LGBT Americans.”</p>	