

According to this source from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the breakdown of consumer behavior and expenditures pertinent to age is one with great association. The correlation between age and expenditure for items such as clothing, transportation, housing, food, and overall comparison between income and expenditures is consistently a bell curve, with a few minor differences per graph in distribution. After studying this information gathered, it can be understood that the majority of age studied through this compiled information is those who are between 20 to 80 years of age.

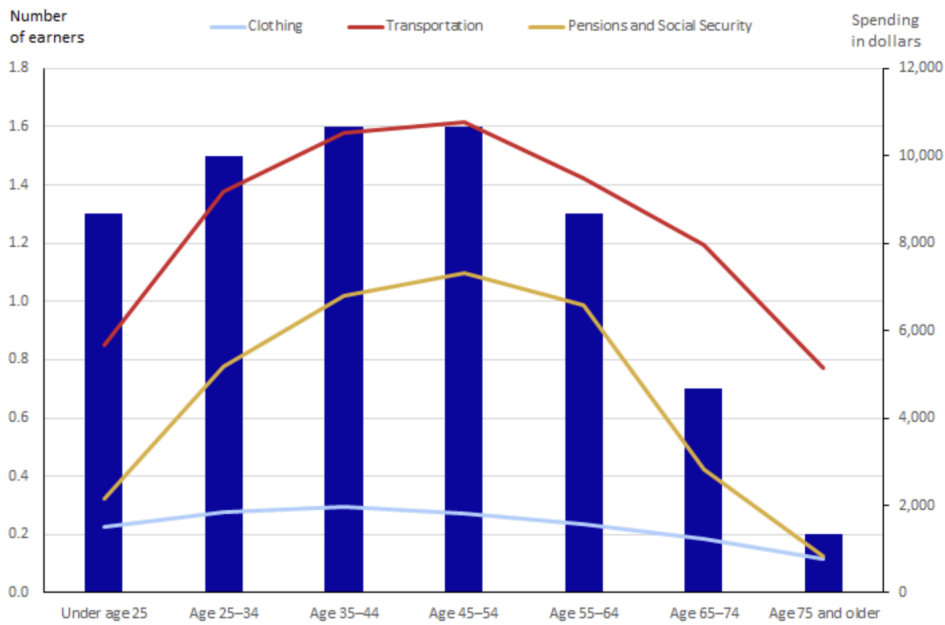
The drawback to this study is that it doesn't separate clearly between those under 20 and those over 75. This may be due to the amount of income received, or due to limitations in receiving data regarding these ages. Based on this information, it can be understood that the highest consuming age group is the 45-54 age group. This also directly correlates with their high level of income. However, we also see that the age group of 25 and below expresses higher expenditures in comparison to the income earned. This trend is visible again only in the above 75 age group. This may be due to the decreased amount of money earned, but also reflects lifestyle habits and interest in spending.

This information is useful in understanding which age groups spend the most. This further shows that not only do certain age groups spend/consumer more than other age groups, but also spend more based on income earned.

**Table 1. Consumer unit characteristics, by age of reference person, Consumer Expenditure Survey, 2013**

Item	All	Age						
		Under 25	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 and older
Number of consumer units (in thousands)	125,670	8,275	20,707	21,257	24,501	22,887	16,024	12,018
Percent of consumer units	100.0	6.6	16.5	16.9	19.5	18.2	12.8	9.6
Consumer unit characteristics:								
Pretax income	\$63,784	\$27,914	\$59,002	\$78,385	\$78,879	\$74,182	\$53,451	\$34,097
Age of reference person	50.1	21.6	29.8	39.7	49.7	59.2	68.8	81.6
Average number in consumer unit:								
Persons	2.5	2.0	2.8	3.4	2.7	2.1	1.9	1.6
Children under 18	.6	.4	1.1	1.4	.6	.2	.1	(a)
Persons 65 and older	.3	(a)	(a)	(a)	.1	.1	1.4	1.3
Earners	1.3	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.3	.7	.2

**Chart 4. Clothing, transportation, and pensions and Social Security spending, by age of reference person and number of earners, 2013**



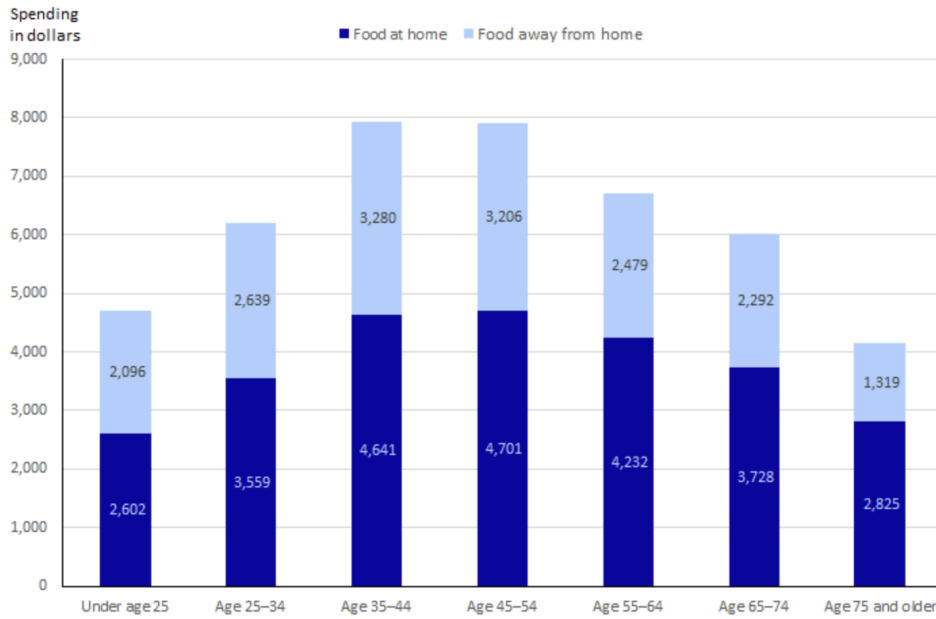
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

**Chart 3. Housing and nonhousing spending, by age of reference person, 2013**



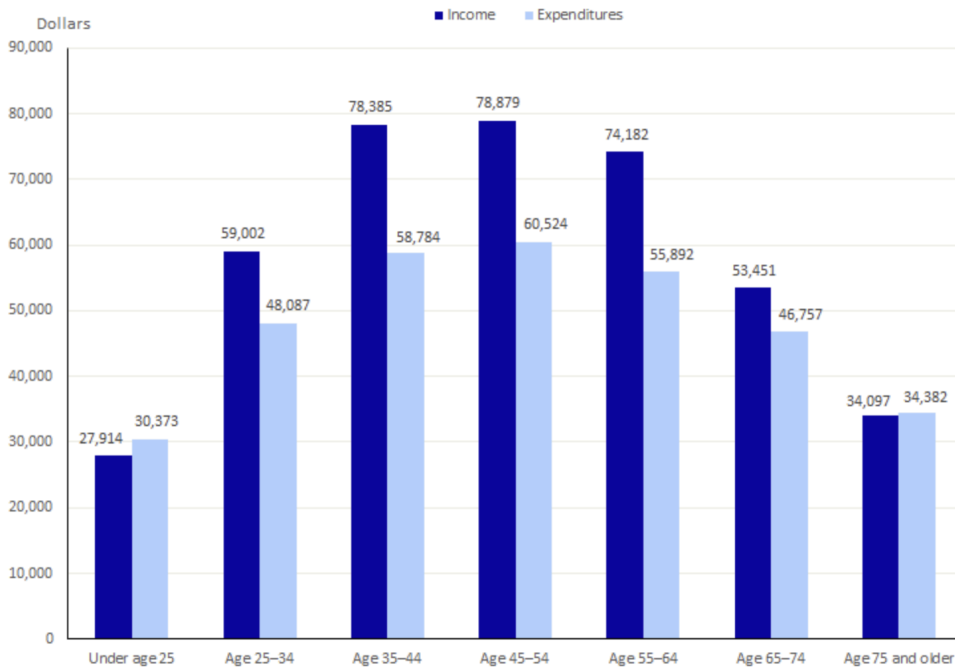
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

**Chart 2. Mean food expenditures, by age of reference person, 2013**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

**Chart 1. Income and expenditures, by age of reference person, 2013**



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Works Cited:

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