

ACS Data User Perspectives

MARK MATHER, POPULATION REFERENCE BUREAU



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Welcome to the ACS Data Users Group Online Community!

Looking to meet new colleagues? Have a question or need help with something?
Want to share an idea or resource with other ACS data users? Come on in!

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What's the Latest?

A news feed of recent community activity.



What's on your mind?

Share

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Today



Annie Ryan joined the community 🙋 Say Hi!

Currently partner with a research group that uses and pulls ACS data for our organization. I am interested in starting to grab and understand ACS data on my own.

10 hours ago

Earlier

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2nd Annual ACS Data Users Conference


Access the Tutorial Navigating the ACS Data Users Group Online Community Website



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2015 ACS CONFERENCE
PRESENTATIONS



Please Tell Us About Yourself!

Are you affiliated with: (Mark all that apply)

- ☐ A federal agency
- ☐ A state government agency
- ☐ A local government agency
- ☒ A private, nonprofit organization
- ☐ A private, for-profit organization
- ☐ A college or university
- ☐ A metropolitan or regional planning agency
- ☐ Other

If other please specify:

Which comes closest to describing your level of KNOWLEDGE about the ACS?

- ☐ Have heard of the ACS but have no specific knowledge
- ☐ Have basic knowledge of the ACS
- ☐ Have intermediate knowledge of the ACS
- ☒ Have expert knowledge (e.g. know a great deal about ACS methods and

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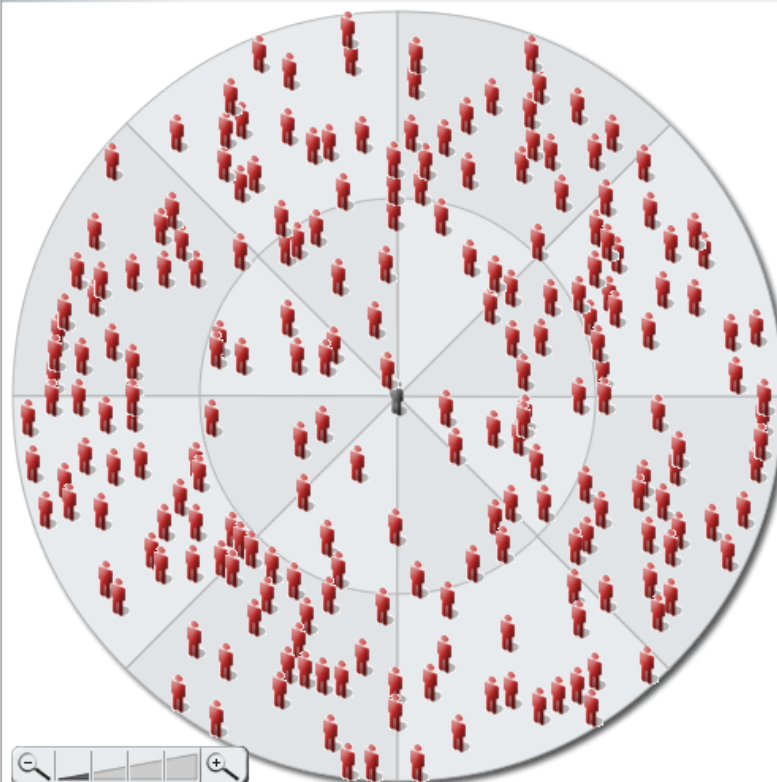
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NEED HELP?

VIEW THE TUTORIAL

People Map



Individuals who most closely match your interests are located near the center. Mouse over any individual to learn more about them, or click on an individual to view their full profile.

Filter

My Information

Interests

▼ Affiliations

Select All Unselect All

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A federal agency | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A state government agency |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A local government agency | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A private, nonprofit organization |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A private, for-profit organization | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A college or university |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A metropolitan or regional planning agency | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other |

▼ Other Affiliations

Search text

▼ Knowledge of ACS

Select All Unselect All

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Have heard of the ACS but have no specific knowledge | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Have basic knowledge of the ACS |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Have intermediate knowledge of the ACS | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Have expert knowledge (e.g. know a great deal about ACS methods and products) |

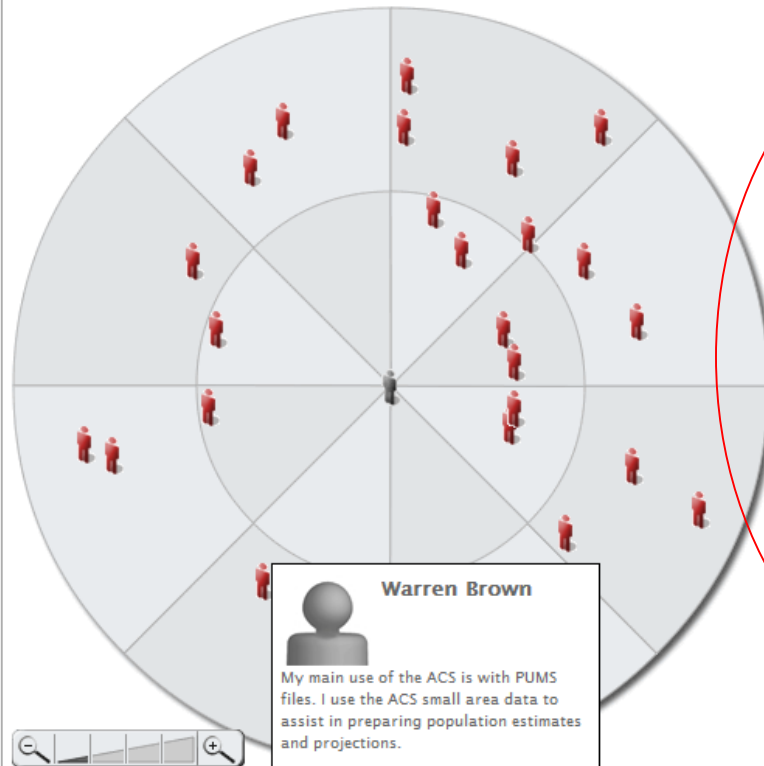
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Search text	
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2015 ACS CONFERENCE
PRESENTATIONS

2014 ACS CONFERENCE
PRESENTATIONS

ACS Data for Small Geographic Areas and Population Subgroups

Use this group to discuss ACS data for census tracts and other small geographic areas, or data for small population subgroups.

Founded by Tom Paolucci | 5

Remove from My Groups

18 Discussions 0 Files 0 Meetings 119 Members

You are subscribed to **ACS Data for Small Geographic Areas and Population Subgroups**



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Rss

DISCUSSIONS

Start a Discussion

Sort by: Last Post Date

Estimating downtown populations

Posts 10 | Posted 3/27/2015 1:27 PM | 1

Yes, I have discussed with the project team the geography question and aligning their boundaries to census geographies (census tracts). I still yet to receive the final boundary specs but they seemed open to more...



Gustavo Rotondaro

Census Bureau plans to stop production of 3-year ACS data

Posts 22 | Posted 2/6/2015 7:00 AM | 1

It is worth noting that the concerns about margin-of-error on the 5-year products are more a problem of population and sample size for small jurisdictions, and less a problem of the 3-year versus 5-year more...



Beth Jarosz

Federal Register Notice requesting data user comments on ACS content

Posts 4 | Posted 11/22/2014 7:07 AM | 1



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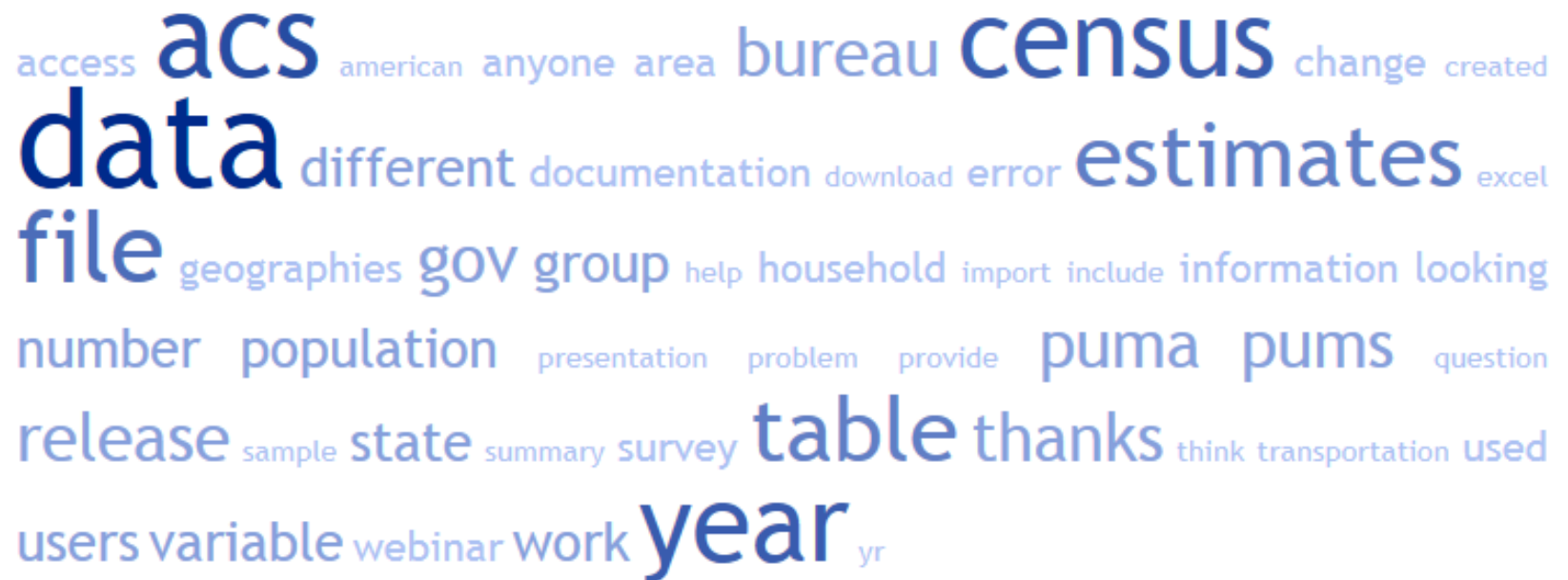
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Subscriptions	Immediately	Daily	Weekly	No Emails	
Migration Applications Using ACS Data	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	x
American FactFinder	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	x
Measuring Trends Over Time with ACS data	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	x
Geographic Areas Covered in the ACS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	x
ACS Budget Issues and Advocacy	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	x
ACS Basics	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	x
ACS News and Events	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	x
ACS Public Use Microdata Samples (PUMS)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	x
Margins of Error in the ACS	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	x
Using the ACS Summary Files	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	x
ACS Data for Small Geographic Areas and Population Subgroups	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	x

ACS Data Community Word Cloud



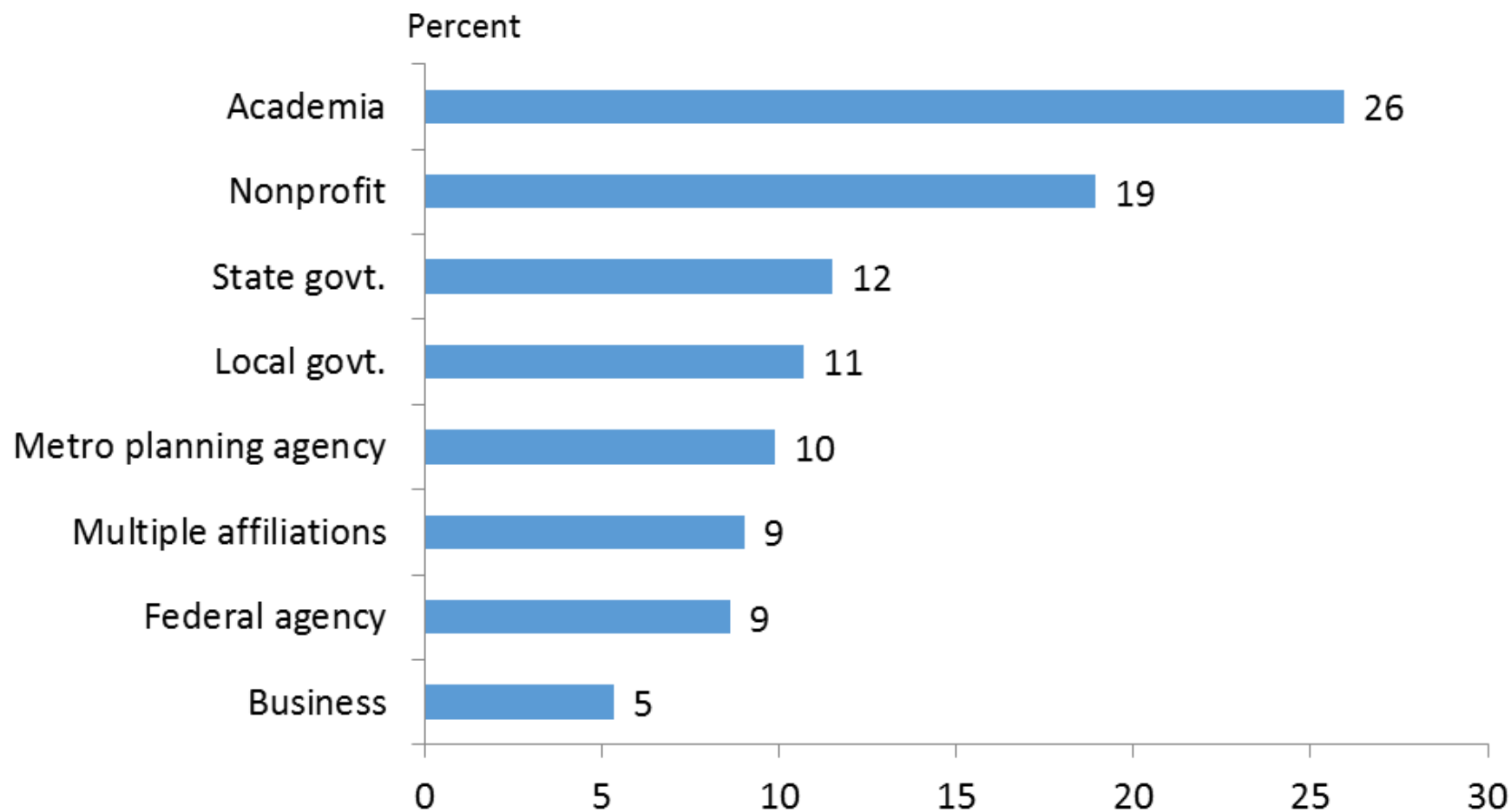
A word cloud visualization of terms associated with the ACS Data Community. The words are arranged in a horizontal, somewhat circular pattern. The most prominent words, shown in larger font sizes, are 'acs', 'census', 'data', 'estimates', 'table', 'year', 'file', 'puma', 'pums', 'release', 'number', 'population', 'gov', 'group', 'bureau', 'different', 'documentation', 'download', 'error', 'excel', 'information', 'looking', 'question', 'used', 'transportation', 'think', 'thanks', 'survey', 'summary', 'state', 'sample', 'variable', 'users', 'work', 'webinar', 'presentation', 'problem', 'provide', 'import', 'include', 'help', 'household', 'geographies', 'american', 'anyone', 'area', 'change', 'created', 'access', and 'yr'. The words are in various shades of blue and purple.

access acs american anyone area bureau census change created
data different documentation download error estimates excel
file geographies gov group help household import include information looking
number population presentation problem provide puma pums question
release sample state summary survey table thanks think transportation used
users variable webinar work year yr

ACS Data User Survey

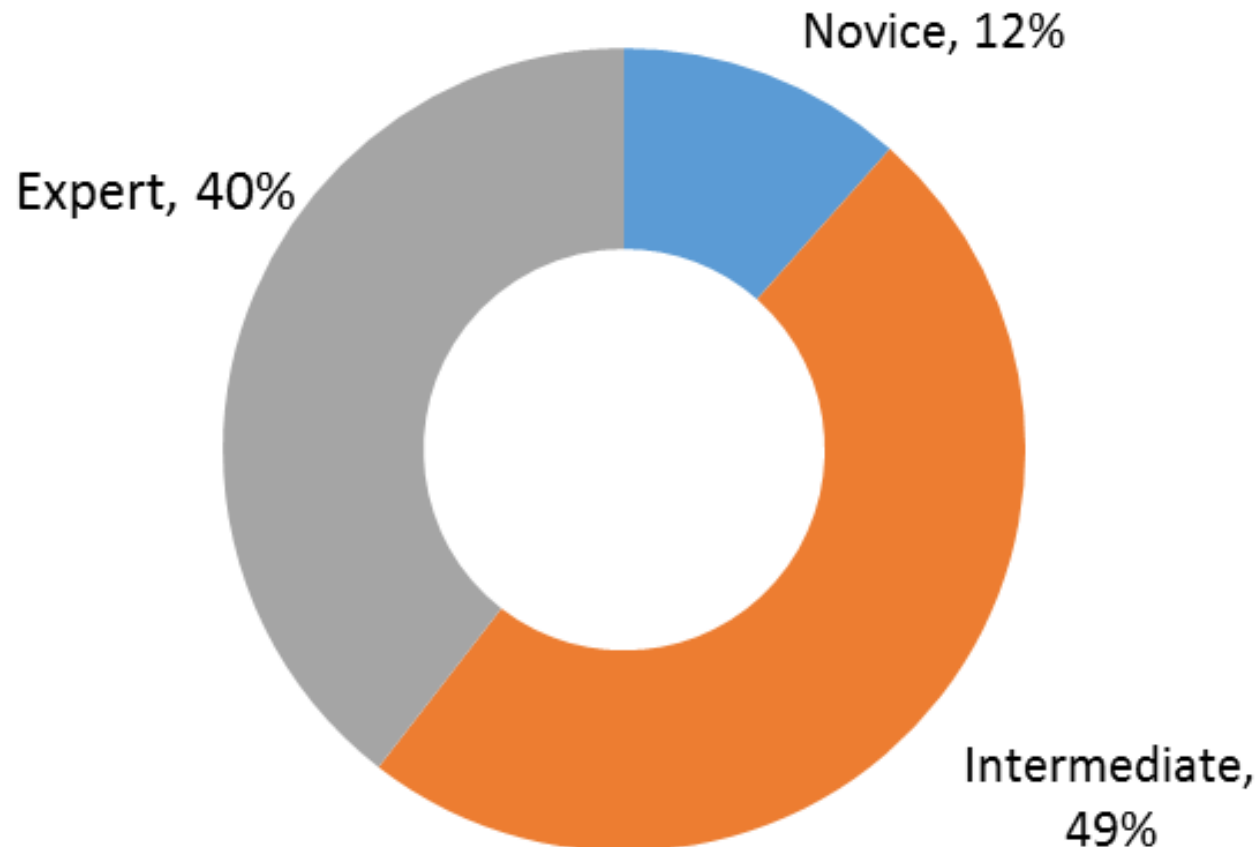
- Conducted in April 2015
- 243 responses
- Topics
 - Affiliation
 - ACS knowledge and use
 - Key ACS data issues
 - Tools and capabilities

Affiliations of Survey Respondents



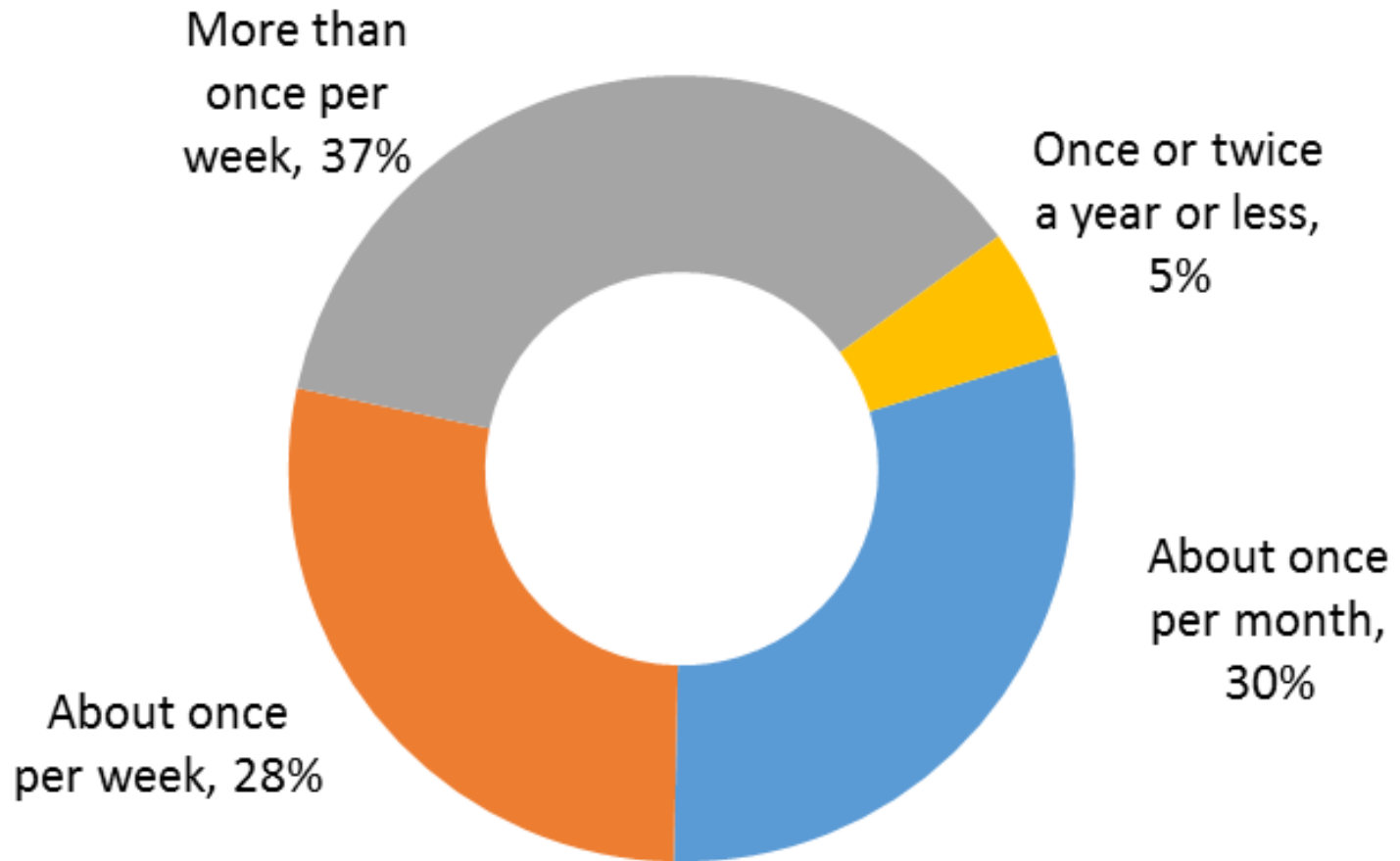
Source: ACS Online Community Survey (N= 243)

ACS Expertise of Survey Respondents



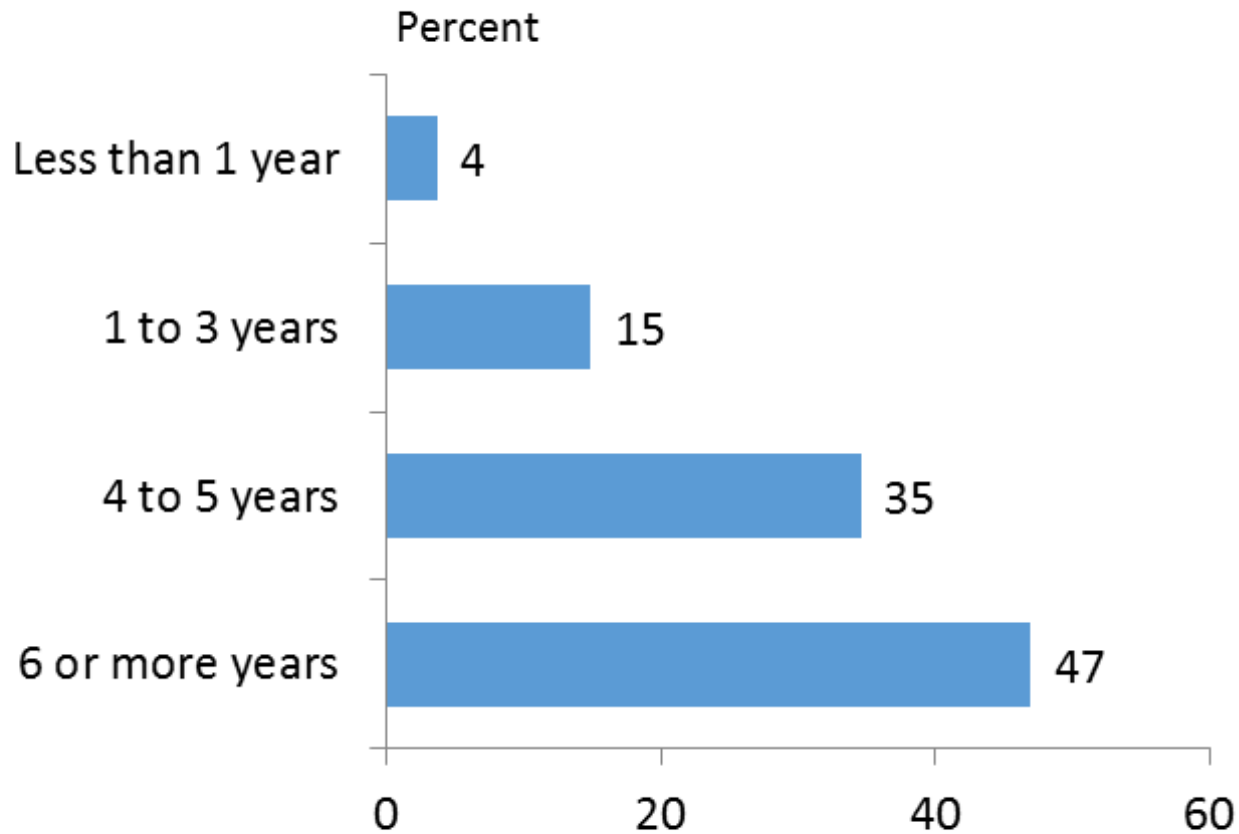
Source: ACS Online Community Survey (N= 243)

Frequency of ACS Use Among Survey Respondents



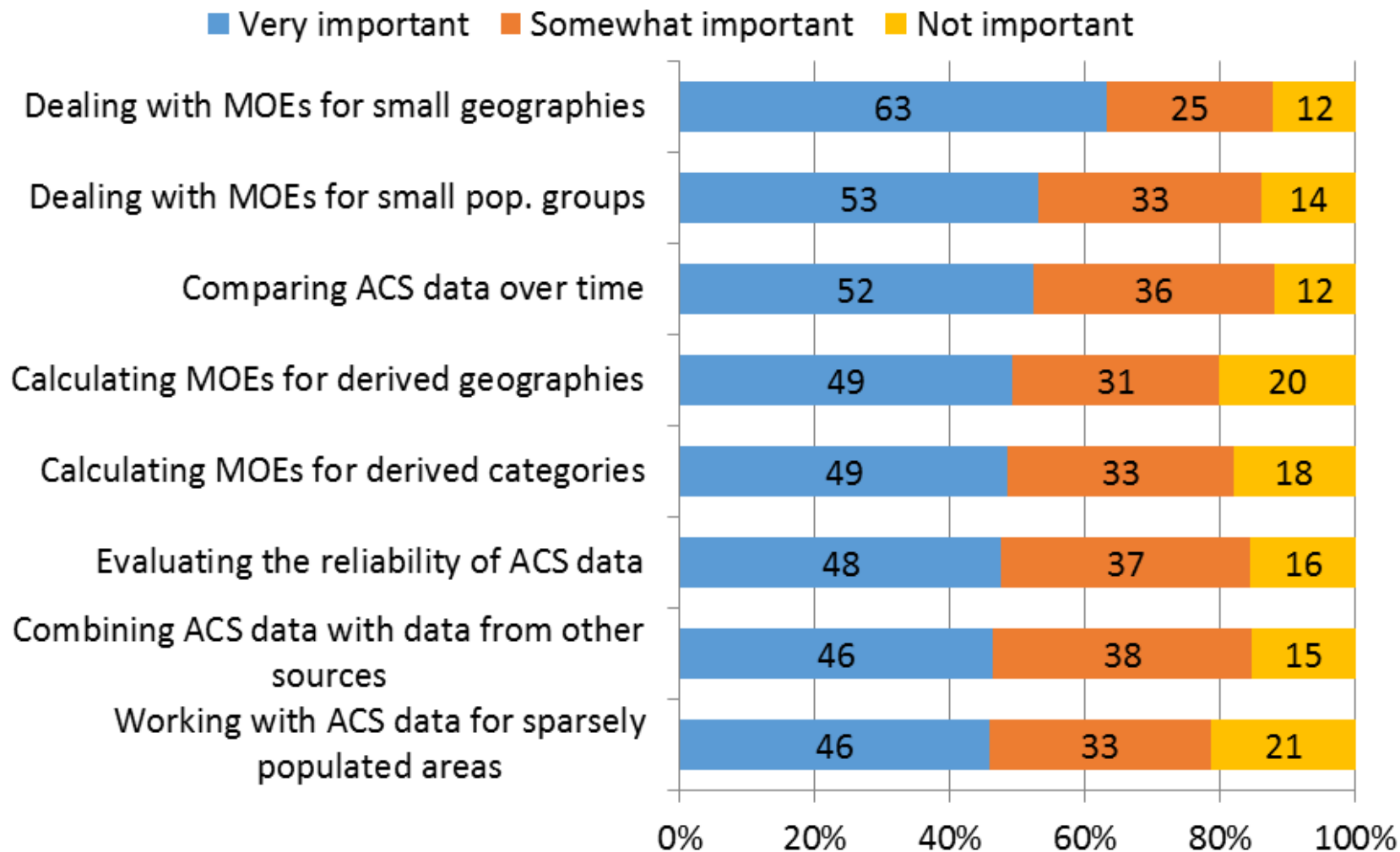
Source: ACS Online Community Survey (N= 243)

Length of ACS Use Among Survey Respondents



Source: ACS Online Community Survey (N= 243)

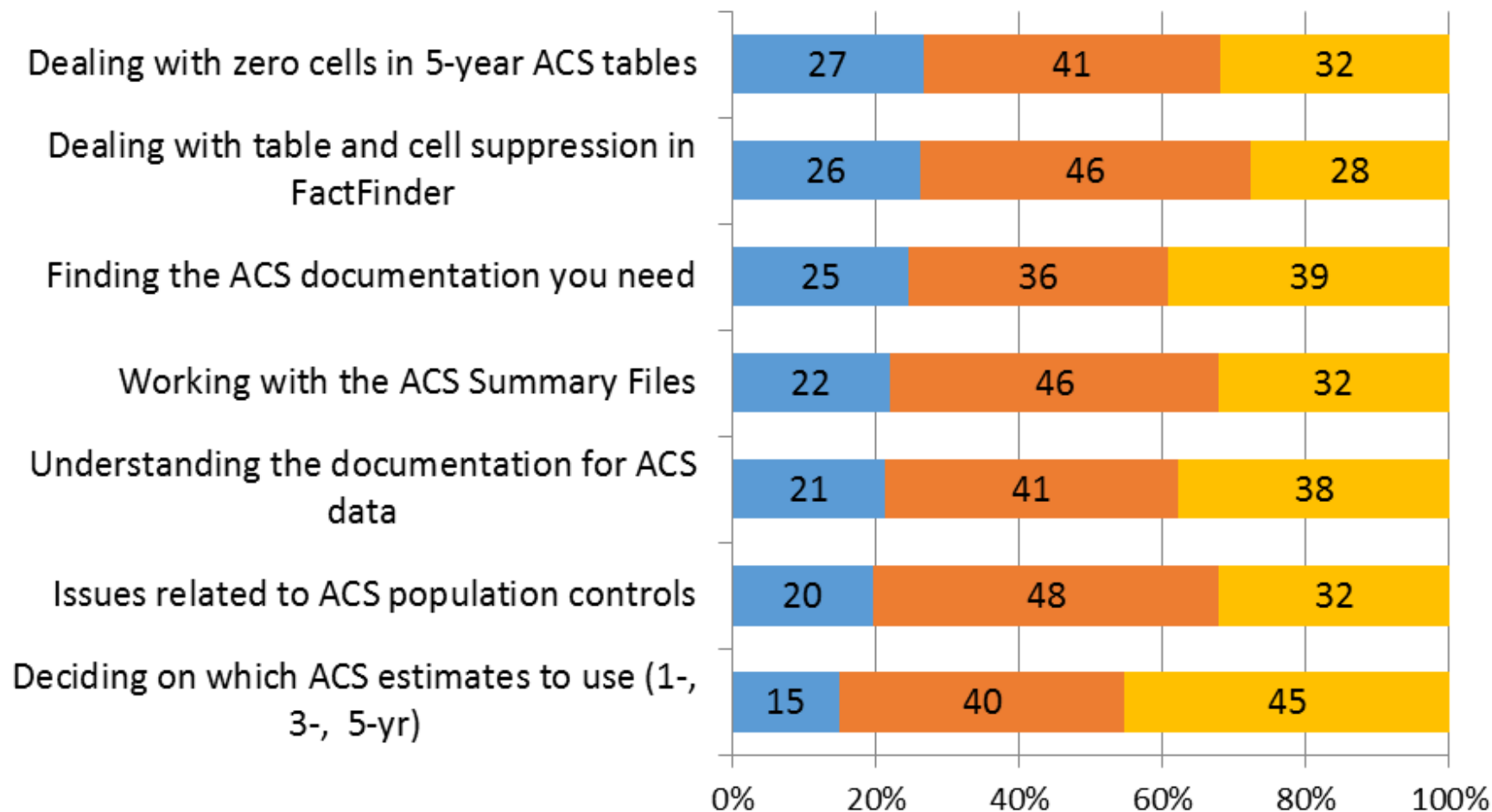
Key Challenges for ACS Data Users



Source: ACS Online Community Survey (N= 243).

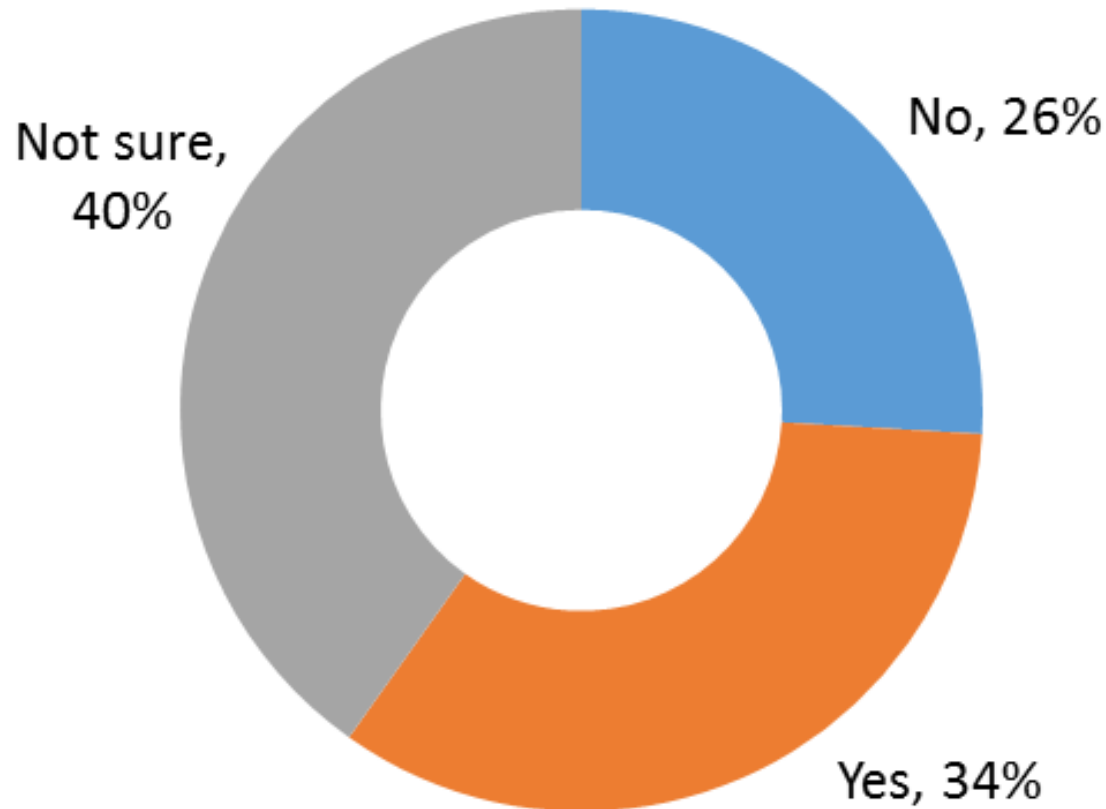
Less Critical ACS Issues

■ Very important ■ Somewhat important ■ Not important



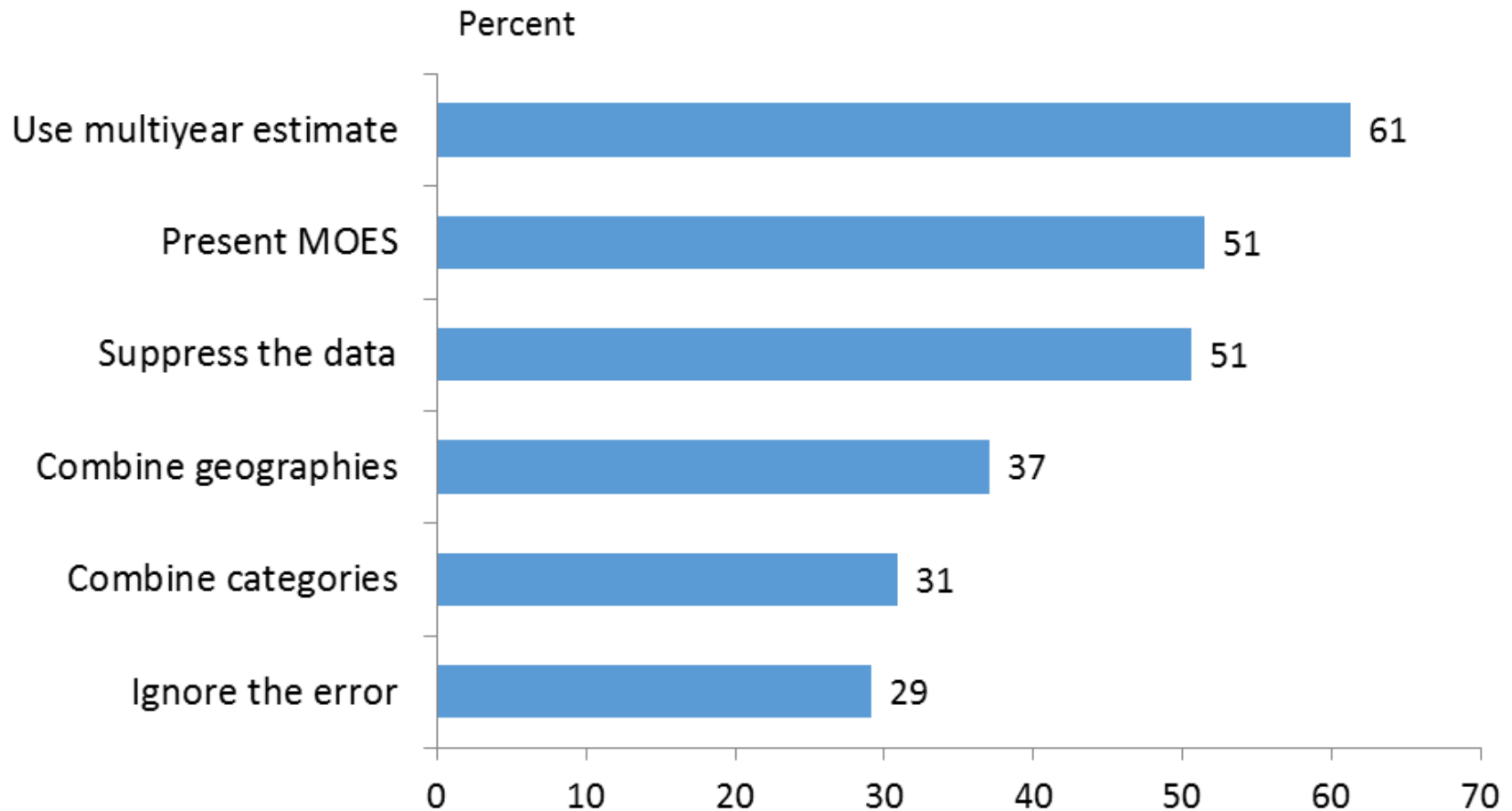
Source: ACS Online Community Survey (N= 243).

Will Loss of 3-Year ACS Data Affect Your Work?



Source: ACS Online Community Survey (N= 239).

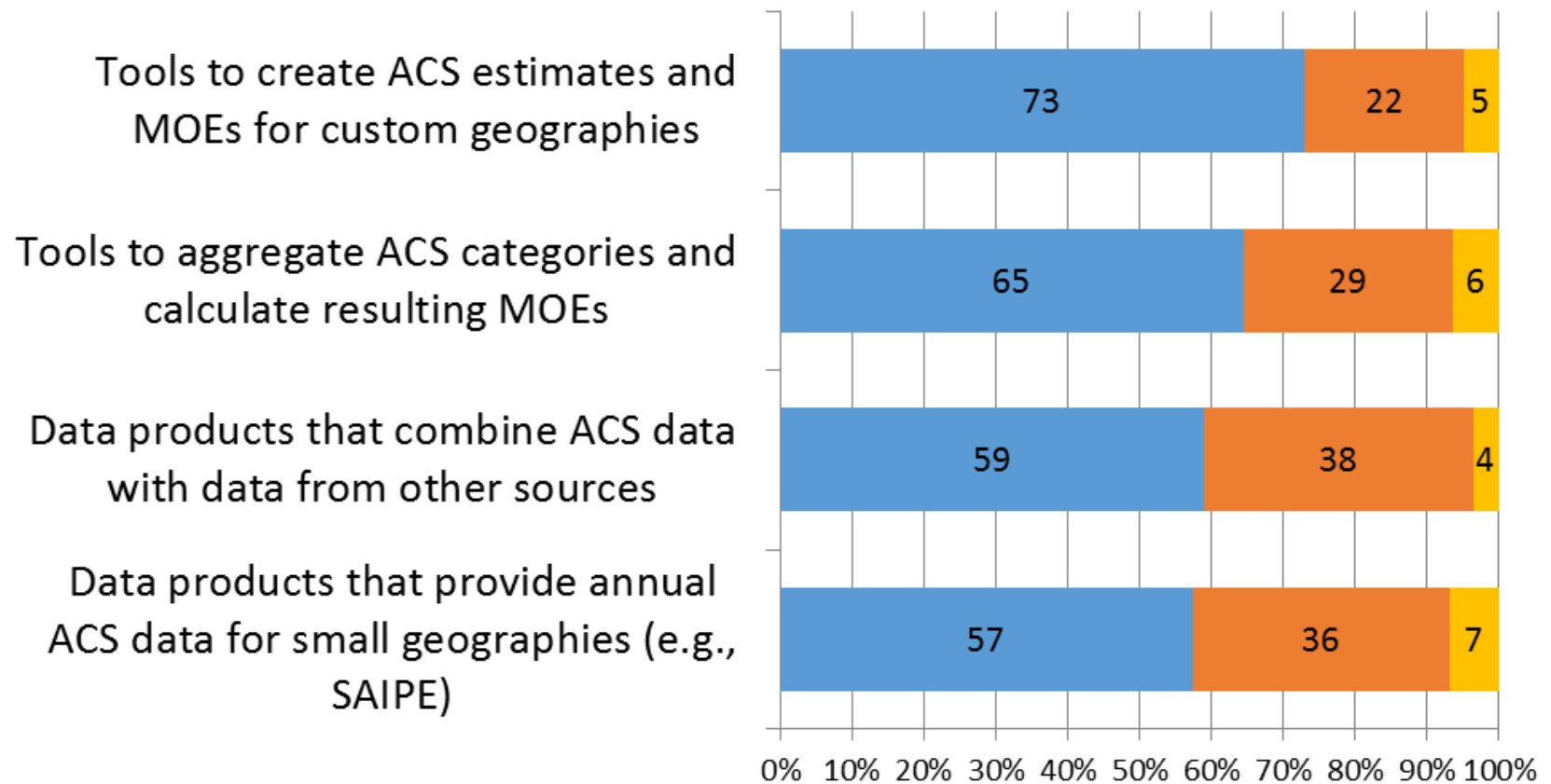
How ACS Data Users Deal with Large Margins of Error



Source: ACS Online Community Survey (N= 243)

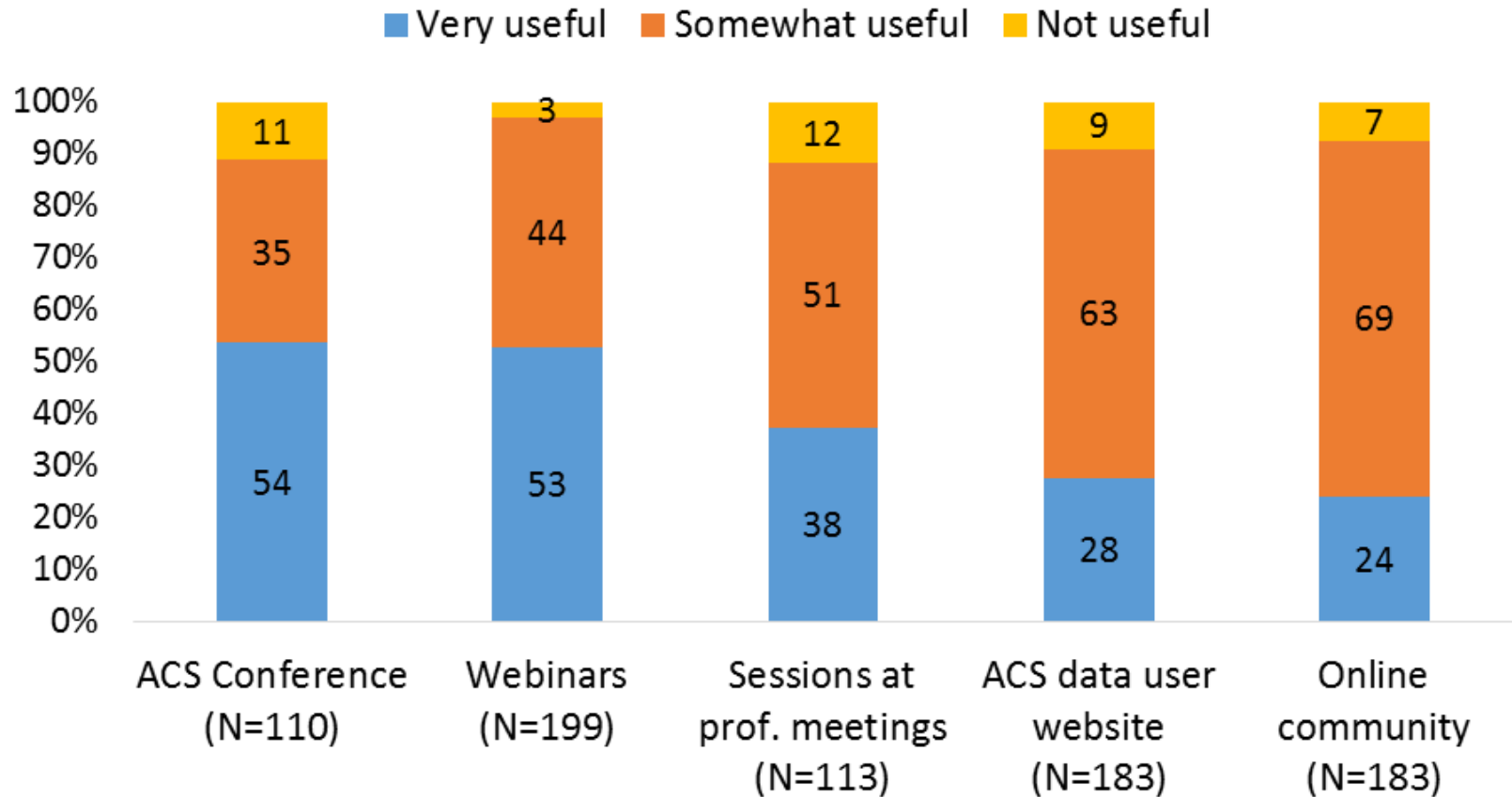
Tools and Capabilities that Would be Useful to ACS Data Users

■ Very Useful ■ Somewhat Useful ■ Not Useful



Source: ACS Online Community Survey (N= 243).

Perspectives on ACS Data User Group Activities



Source: ACS Online Community Survey.



■ For More Information

- Visit ACS Data Users Group website
(<http://www.acsdatausers.org>)

■ Contact

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