

THE ACS & CONGRESS:

Will the survey live to see another day?



AN OVERVIEW OF ACS FUNDING & OVERSIGHT

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ACS FUNDING



- Part of the decennial census; included in Periodic Censuses and Programs account
- Fiscal Year 2012 –
 - *Census Bureau: \$888.3m*
 - *Periodic Censuses: \$635.0m*
 - ✦ *2020 Decennial Census: \$66.6m*
 - *Salaries & Expenses: \$253.3m*

ACS FUNDING (*con't.*)



- Fiscal Year 2013 –
 - Started on October 1, 2012, under a Continuing Funding Resolution that expires on March 27, 2013
 - Federal agencies funded at FY2012 levels
 - “Sequestration” tied to deficit reduction deal could reduce FY2013 funding by additional 5 percent; scheduled to take effect March 1, 2013, barring congressional action

ACS FUNDING: FY2013



	PRESIDENT'S REQUEST	HOUSE- PASSED BILL	SENATE- COMMITTEE PASSED BILL
CENSUS BUREAU (TOTAL)	\$970.4M	\$854.7M	\$970.4M
PERIODIC CENSUSES & PROGRAMS	\$711.3M	\$601.4M (No funds spent on ACS)	\$694.3M (+16.9M from WCF)
<i>2020 Census</i>	\$131.4M	Not specified	Not specified
SALARIES & EXPENSES	\$259.2M	\$253.3M	\$259.2M

ACS RESPONSE:

Mandatory vs. Optional



- House passed amendment to FY2013 appropriations bill making response to ACS voluntary instead of mandatory
- 2003 field test of voluntary ACS: Response rates drop “dramatically” (20%) and cost increases significantly (30%, or \$60M at time of test)
- Diminished reliability of ACS data puts 3-year and 5-year estimates at risk

ROLE OF CONGRESS



- **Funding:**

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and Science (House and Senate)

- **Oversight/Authorization**

House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, U.S. Postal Service, and the Census (new subcommittee chairman and ranking Member: Rep. Blake Farenthold, TX, and Rep. Stephen Lynch, MA)

Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management (new full committee chairman and ranking Member: Sen. Tom Carper, DE, and Sen. Tom Coburn, OK)

CONTACT INFORMATION



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THANK YOU!