From: whittypi@gmail.com on behalf of K. Whitney Mauer
To: Harris-Kojetin, Brian
Subject: ACS Marriage Question Should Not Be Dropped
Date: Monday, May 06, 2013 12:36:46 PM

Dear Dr. Harris-Kojetin,
I am writing to express my concern about dropping the times married question from the American Community Survey. As a sociologist who uses ACS and census data to interpret social change, in particular how changes in our political and economic structures are accompanied by changes in demographic structure, I believe it is important to retain questions on the ACS that are vital for understanding marriage and family. The times married question is important for documenting and understanding trends and changes in nuptiality, marital instability, and blended families. The omission of the times married question will compromise divorce data, of which the ACS is the only currently reliable source for national coverage. I hope that you will consider the importance of this question and that it will remain part of the ACS.

Sincerely,

K. Whitney Mauer
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