

## **American Community Survey (ACS) Data User Training Guide**

### **Introduction**

The American Community Survey Office (ACSO) is issuing the *ACS Data User Training Guide* in both paper and electronic versions. The paper version is a loose-leaf notebook separated into sections by numbered tab dividers

The first several sections consist of PowerPoint presentations. Each presentation is followed by one to four exercises. The final section is a case study based on an actual use of ACS data.

Initially, the electronic version is a CD-ROM that is inserted into the pocket inside the front cover of the notebook. It contains the presentations in MS PowerPoint format and the exercises and case study in MS Word format.

As you begin using these materials, you will have suggestions about how they can be improved. Please share your ideas with the ACSO. Our e-mail is [cmo.acs@census.gov](mailto:cmo.acs@census.gov).

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### **Purpose**

This document is intended to be a resource for State Data Center (SDC), Federal State Cooperative Program for Population Estimates (FSCPE), and Regional Office Partnership and Data Services staff to use in training ACS data users. It may be used as a companion to the *ACS Design and Methodology* paper (forthcoming). The ACSO Communication, Information, and Education Staff prepared this draft document. From time to time we will supply updated material as new data products are released.

The *ACS Data User Training Guide* consists of a series of PowerPoint presentations on a variety of topics. They may be used in whole, or in part, depending on the audience or topics to be covered.

Feel free to make your own changes to adapt the materials to the interests and needs of the data users you are training. You may want to substitute data examples for your own geographic area in the presentations and exercises. It may be especially helpful to insert a slide show pointing data users to features on the website of the SDC in your state.

You may think of actual or hypothetical uses of ACS data for grant applications, planning, allocation of government funds, or other purposes. These could be used to design new case studies.

Please share any materials that you develop with us. We may request your permission to incorporate them in a updated version of the *ACS Data User Training Guide*.

