

# The American Community Survey: An Emerging Data Set

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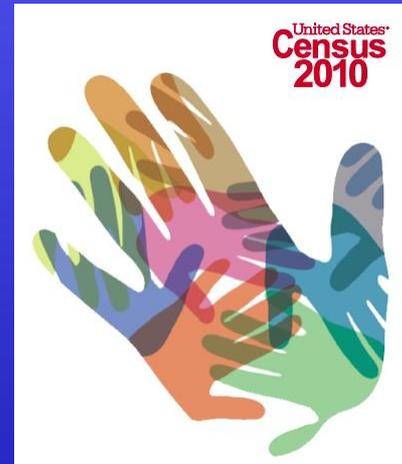
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# What is the American Community Survey?



- Short form
- Long form sample



Short  
form  
only

AMERICAN  
COMMUNITY  
SURVEY  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

# Why use the ACS to study artists?

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Compared with employer-based surveys and administrative records

- Asks people, not employers
- Captures self employed and unpaid family workers
- Captures people who are not working

Compared with CPS and other household surveys

- Massive sample size – 3 million households annually
- Extensive geographic detail down to block group
- Extensive variable detail (e.g., 505 occupations)
- Extensive ability to provide cross tabulations of multiple characteristics
- Capability to measure changes over time

# How does ACS identify artists?

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**L** Answer questions 41 – 46 if this person worked in the past 5 years. Otherwise, SKIP to question 47.

**41 – 46 CURRENT OR MOST RECENT JOB ACTIVITY.** Describe clearly this person's chief job activity or business last week. If this person had more than one job, describe the one at which this person worked the most hours. If this person had no job or business last week, give information for his/her last job or business.

**45** What kind of work was this person doing? (For example: registered nurse, personnel manager, supervisor of order department, secretary, accountant)

**46** What were this person's most important activities or duties? (For example: patient care, directing hiring policies, supervising order clerks, typing and filing, reconciling financial records)

# Geography

**Table 3. Major Geographic Areas and Type of ACS Estimates Received**

Type of geographic area	Total number of areas	Percent of total areas receiving . . .		
		1-year, 3-year, & 5-year estimates	3-year & 5-year estimates only	5-year estimates only
States and District of Columbia	51	100.0	0.0	0.0
Congressional districts	435	100.0	0.0	0.0
Public Use Microdata Areas <sup>†</sup>	2,071	99.9	0.1	0.0
Metropolitan statistical areas	363	99.4	0.6	0.0
Micropolitan statistical areas	576	24.3	71.2	4.5
Counties and county equivalents	3,141	25.0	32.8	42.2
Urban areas	3,607	10.4	12.9	76.7
School districts (elementary, secondary, and unified)	14,120	6.6	17.0	76.4
American Indian areas, Alaska Native areas, and Hawaiian homelands	607	2.5	3.5	94.1
Places (cities, towns, and census designated places)	25,081	2.0	6.2	91.8
Townships and villages (minor civil divisions)	21,171	0.9	3.8	95.3
ZIP Code tabulation areas	32,154	0.0	0.0	100.0
Census tracts	65,442	0.0	0.0	100.0
Census block groups	208,801	0.0	0.0	100.0

# Content

Table 1. **Subjects Included in the American Community Survey**

## **Demographic Characteristics**

Age  
Sex  
Hispanic Origin  
Race  
Relationship to Householder  
(e.g., spouse)

## **Economic Characteristics**

Income  
Food Stamps Benefit  
Labor Force Status  
Industry, Occupation, and Class  
of Worker  
Place of Work and Journey to  
Work  
Work Status Last Year  
Vehicles Available  
Health Insurance Coverage\*

## **Social Characteristics**

Marital Status and Marital History\*  
Fertility  
Grandparents as Caregivers  
Ancestry  
Place of Birth, Citizenship, and  
Year of Entry  
Language Spoken at Home  
Educational Attainment and  
School Enrollment  
Residence One Year Ago  
Veteran Status, Period of Military  
Service, and VA Service-  
Connected Disability Rating\*  
Disability

## **Housing Characteristics**

Year Structure Built  
Units in Structure  
Year Moved Into Unit  
Rooms  
Bedrooms  
Kitchen Facilities  
Plumbing Facilities  
House Heating Fuel  
Telephone Service Available  
Farm Residence

## **Financial Characteristics**

Tenure (Owner/Renter)  
Housing Value  
Rent  
Selected Monthly Owner Costs

\*Marital History, VA Service-Connected Disability Rating, and Health Insurance Coverage are new for 2008.  
Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

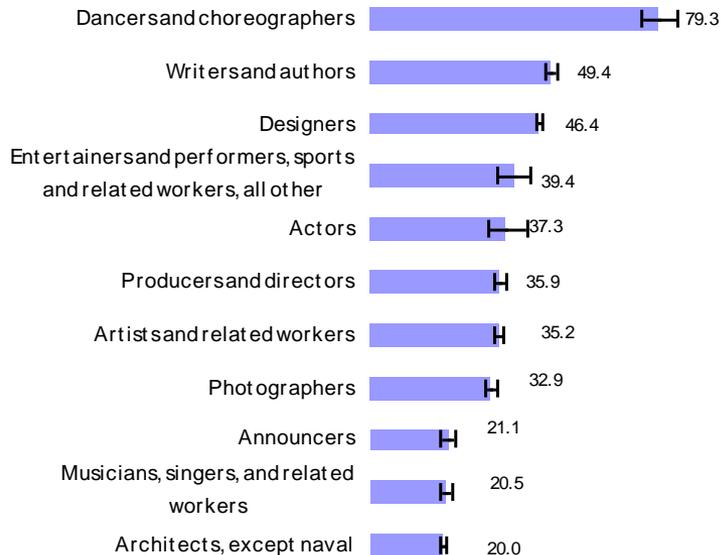
# American Community Survey Data Products Release Schedule

Data Product	Population Size of Area	Data released in:							
		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
1-Year Estimates	65,000+	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
for Data Collected in:									
* Five-year estimates will be available for areas as small as census tracts and block groups. Source: US Census Bureau									
for Data Collected in:									
5-Year Estimates	All Areas*	2005-2009		2006-2010		2007-2011		2008-2012	
for Data Collected in:									

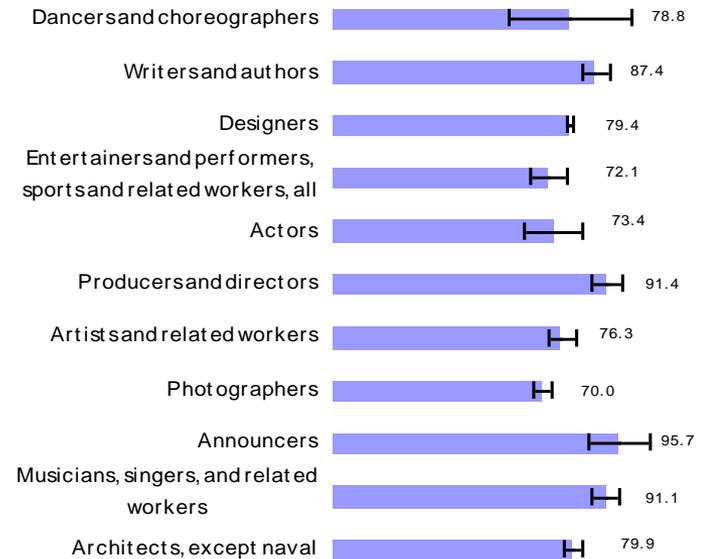
# Artist Occupations, 2006-2008

For the civilian employed year-round, full-time workers 16 years and older

## Percent Women



## Women's Earnings as a Percentage of Men's



Source: US Census Bureau, ACS 2006-2008, [http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/ioindex/acs08\\_detailedoccupations2.xls](http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/ioindex/acs08_detailedoccupations2.xls)

# What's new?

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- EEO Special Tabulation File
- SOC and Occupation Changes
- New and changing content:
  - Field of degree
  - Labor force participation

# EEO Special Tab 2006-2010

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- Sponsored by EEOC, DOJ, BLS, OPM for affirmative action plans, monitoring/enforcing civil right laws
- Detailed occupation by detailed geography (occupation, sex, race/ethnicity, educational attainment, age, median earnings, industry)
- New this time:
  - Uses ACS 2006-2010 5-year file
  - New variable: Citizenship
  - 2010 Geographies
  - 2010 Population base
  - 2010 SOC Occupation categories
- Available Fall 2012

# Standard Occupation Classification (SOC)

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- Updated for 2010, replacing the 2000 SOC
- SOC Policy Committee: BLS, Census, DOD, HHS, NCES, NSF, OPM, OMB
- Tiered system with 4 levels:
  - Major groups (23)
  - Minor groups (97)
  - Broad groups (461)
  - Detailed occupations (840)
- No substantive changes for 90 percent of detailed occupations

# Field of Degree Question, 2009

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**12** This question focuses on this person's **BACHELOR'S DEGREE**. Please print below the specific major(s) of any **BACHELOR'S DEGREES** this person has received. *(For example: chemical engineering, elementary teacher education, organizational psychology)*


# Field of Degree Classification for Art Majors

## **VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS**

Fine Arts  
Drama and Theater Arts  
Music  
Visual and Performing Arts  
Commercial Art and Graphic Design  
Film, Video and Photographic Arts  
Art History and Criticism  
Studio Arts  
Miscellaneous Fine Arts

## **ARCHITECTURE AND RELATED SERVICES**

Architecture

## **ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE/LETTERS**

English Language and Literature  
Composition and Speech

# New Labor Force Questions

**29** a. **LAST WEEK**, did this person work for pay at a job (or business)?

- Yes → *SKIP to question 30*
- No – Did not work (or retired)

b. **LAST WEEK**, did this person do **ANY** work for pay, even for as little as one hour?

- Yes
- No → *SKIP to question 35a*

**39** a. During the **PAST 12 MONTHS (52 weeks)**, did this person work 50 or more weeks? Count paid time off as work.

- Yes → *SKIP to question 40*
- No

b. How many weeks **DID** this person work, even for a few hours, including paid vacation, paid sick leave, and military service?

- 50 to 52 weeks
- 48 to 49 weeks
- 40 to 47 weeks
- 27 to 39 weeks
- 14 to 26 weeks
- 13 weeks or less

# For More Information

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COMMUNITY  
SURVEY  
U.S. CENSUS BUREAU

<http://www.census.gov/acs/www>

<http://2010.census.gov/2010census/>

