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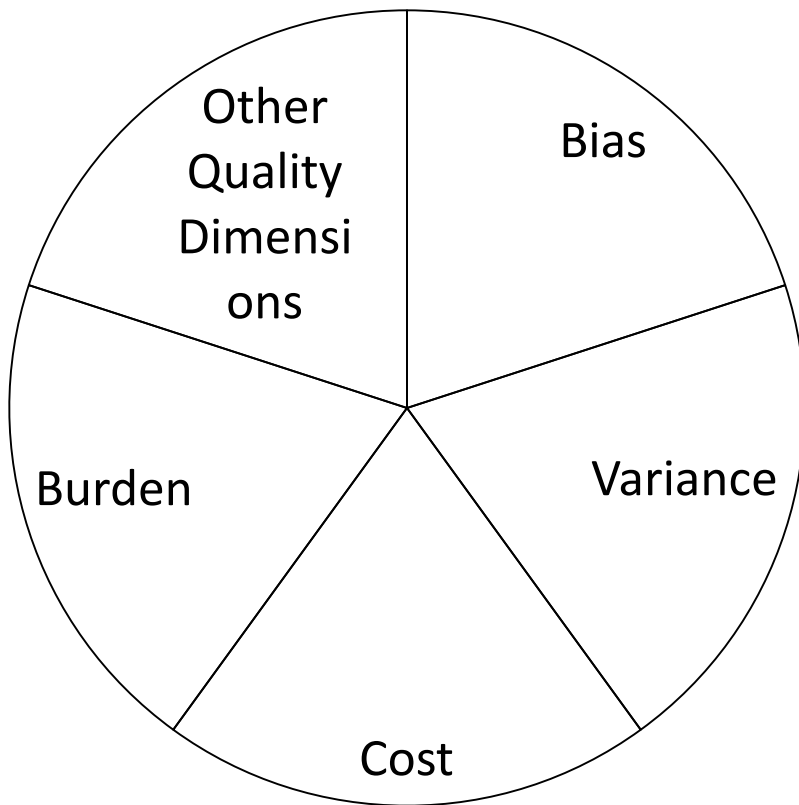
# ACS Group Quarters: Removing Questions from the Paper Questionnaire

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Workshop on Respondent Burden in the American  
Community Survey

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# High-Level Conceptualization of Tradeoffs with Respondent Burden



- Use two PAPI forms
- Embed additional skip logic
- Drop PAPI
- Use in an even more limited and targeted manner

# The Paper Instrument—Elaborating on the Issue

- Approximately 80 questions (including “a,” “b,” etc.)
- About 9 questions (if not answered affirmatively) that are omitted in the CAPI interview for the institutional population, but asked in the paper questionnaire

# Burden in the Context of the ACS GQ Data Collection

- Shorter than the household instrument
- Seemingly fewer financial items
- Does not repeat for up to 5 household members

(Therefore, likely less burdensome on most of the burden dimensions identified by Bradburn (1978).)

# Burden in the Context of the ACS GQ Data Collection—continued

However...

- Allows proxy respondents
- Within-facility samples selected in groups of 10 (if at least 10 residents)
- Potential for a *proxy* respondent at a facility to have to answer *up to* 800, 1600, ..., questions

# Item Nonresponse in Paper Qnnre by GQ type, Response Type, and Question

Item	Proxy Status	Total	Institutional	Noninstitutional
Citizenship	Unknown	8.6	10.0	6.2
Citizenship	Proxy	33.8	31.4	37.8
Citizenship	Self	1.4	3.8	0.7
Migration	Unknown	20.5	27.5	8.9
Migration	Proxy	41.3	39.5	44.3
Migration	Self	6.2	18.0	2.8
Hearing Disability	Unknown	8.3	9.8	5.7
Hearing Disability	Proxy	42.1	40.2	45.2
Hearing Disability	Self	1.1	2.8	0.5
Employer Health Insurance	Unknown	20.7	22.1	18.3
Employer Health Insurance	Proxy	48.8	47.0	51.7
Employer Health Insurance	Self	12.4	13.5	12.1
Grandchildren	Unknown	18.1	18.4	16.1
Grandchildren	Proxy	38.3	44.9	19.8
Grandchildren	Self	9.8	10.1	8.4
Work Last Week	Unknown	11.1	13.4	7.3
Work Last Week	Proxy	45.8	40.7	54.1
Work Last Week	Self	2.4	7.7	0.8

Source: 2014 American Community Survey

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# A Few Considerations

- Consider limiting the use of the paper instrument
  - To self-administration
  - To specific types of facilities
  - A combination
- Consider reevaluating the GQ sampling for some GQ types, e.g., increase the facility sampling rates and decrease the within-facility sampling rates to reduce burden
  - Currently, the sampling rates within selected facilities with 10 or fewer residents have a sampling rate of 100%
- Would need evaluations of the impact on survey estimates and their error properties