## **BES Data Reliability Flowchart**

- If Standard Error = 0.0 and Confidence Interval (CI) band = 0.0 then estimate is suppressed if not 0% or 100%.
- For estimates other than 0% or 100%: Check Relative Standard Error (RSE) RSE < 30%  $RSE \ge 50\%$ Check denominator size Check Confidence  $30\% \le RSE < 50\%$ Interval (CI) band width Denominator  $\geq 50$ Denominator < 50 CI band  $\geq 6$ CI band < 6 Check Confidence Estimate gets Interval half-width reliability STAR\* Estimate gets **Estimate** Estimate gets SUPPRESSED ^ reliability STAR\* CI half-width > 10 CI half-width  $\leq 10$ . reliability STAR\* Estimate is ok Estimate gets

- For estimates equal to 0% or 100%:
  - O If denominator is greater than or equal to 50 (n>=50), estimate gets note:
    - $\P$  Estimate should be interpreted with caution. 95% CI and Relative Standard Error are not calculated.
  - O If denominator is less than 50 (n<50), estimate is SUPPRESSED ^.

reliability STAR\*

- For binary variables, both levels should be checked, regardless of which level will ultimately be presented. Any reliability or suppression issues for one level should be applied to the other. For variables with 3 or more levels, only those levels being presented need to be assessed for reliability concerns.
- When CIs are displayed, this note should accompany them: Confidence Intervals (CIs) are a measure of estimate precision: the wider the CI, the more imprecise the estimate.

<sup>\*</sup> Estimate should be interpreted with caution. Estimate's Relative Standard Error (a measure of estimate precision) is greater than 30%, or the 95% Confidence Interval half-width is greater than 10 or the sample size is too small, making the estimate potentially unreliable.

<sup>^</sup> Data are suppressed due to imprecise and unreliable estimates.