

APS Survey 2015 Report

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Methodology

The APS member survey was administered among a random sample of 30% of APS members. A total of 12,086 emails were sent with 347 of them undeliverable on October 13. Reminders were transmitted on October 20 and 23, with some variation in timing by continent to maximize the likelihood that messages would be received during convenient business hours by APS members in their location.

A total of 2,596 responses were received by the final deadline of October 30, for a final response rate of 22.1%. By effort, the invitation had a 7.2% response rate, while the two reminders had response rates of 10.1% and 6.5%, calculated from the number of emails transmitted in each wave.

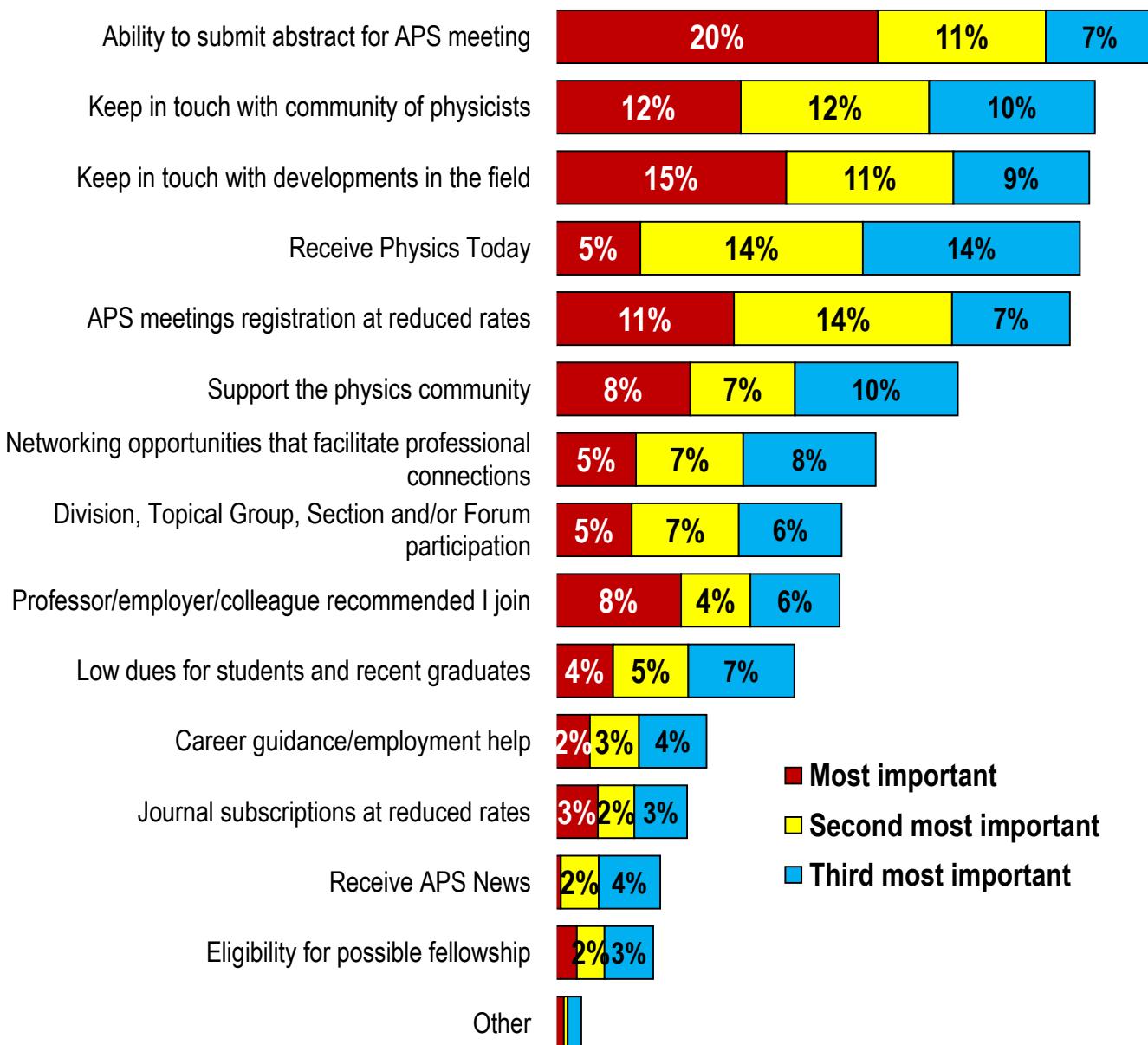
Response rates have shown a decline relative to historical results, so we examined the overall campaign results for more evidence for factors driving this change. A total of 3,914 individuals clicked through to visit the survey and 66% of them started their survey, so there was a click to response conversion rate lower than we see for some organizations. However, once a respondent began a survey, 86% of them completed it. This completion rate is higher than for many organizations since this survey was relatively brief (estimated 12-15 minutes completion time).

Estimated margin of error for this survey was +/- 1.87% for overall results at a 95% level of significance. This is calculated for questions with a 50% incidence (such as 50% yes and 50% no); the margin of error is smaller for questions with lower/higher incidence, for example +/- 1.12% for a question that results in a 10% yes answer). Our larger concern is always with response bias if respondents are less than fully representative of the overall APS membership but this is harder to determine; we often recommend that associations compare survey data to statistics regarding known activity such as readership, attendance, or web visitation levels to determine if results are biased toward more active membership or other factors.

What Factors Most Influenced Your Decision to Join the APS

By far the most important factors mentioned by members for joining the APS are the ability to submit an abstract for APS meetings, keeping in touch with the community of physicists and with developments in the field, receiving *Physics Today*, and registering for APS meetings at a reduced rate.

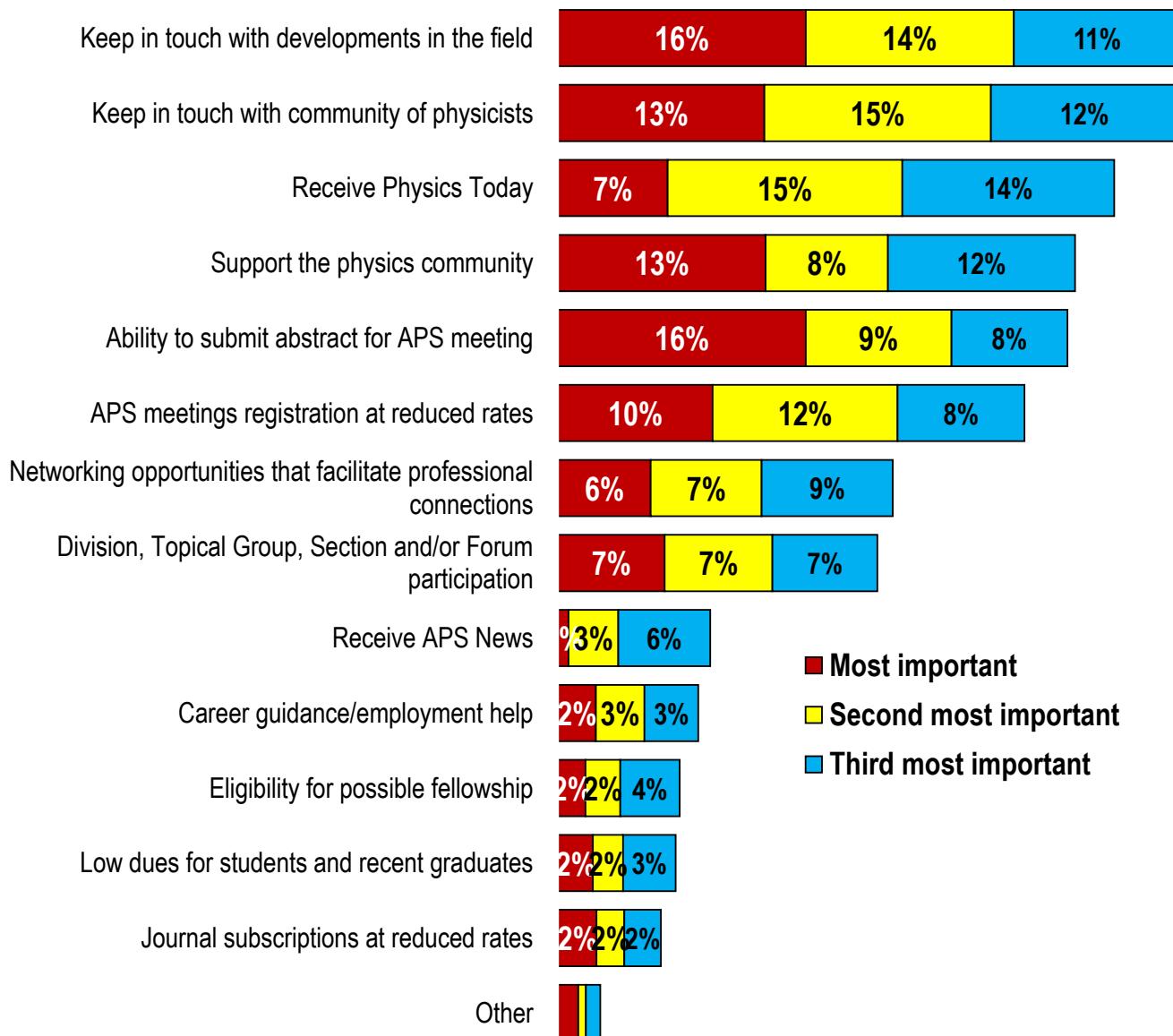
- Collectively these five factors account for the majority of the reasons why members joined—just over 60% of respondents indicated that one of these reasons was their primary and secondary reason. Each of them were indicated as one of the top three reasons for joining for between 33% and 38%.
- Four other reasons for joining the APS were indicated as being among their top three reasons by 18% to 25% each. These included supporting the physics community, networking opportunities, being recommended to join, and Divisions/Topical Group/Section/Forum participation.
- Although discounts for APS meeting registration was compelling for many members, discounted dues for students/recent graduates and journal subscriptions had far less impact. Career guidance/employment help, APS News, and fellowship eligibility were each important to only 6% to 10% of respondents.



Factors that Most Influence Your Decision to Continue APS Membership

The most important factors influencing members' decision to continue membership are keeping in touch with developments in the field and with the community of physicists; each is either the most or second-most important factor for about 30% of respondents.

- Four other factors including the ability to submit an abstract for APS meetings (25%), registering at a reduced rate (22%), receiving *Physics Today* (22%), and supporting the physics community (21%) are among the primary or secondary reasons for renewing for at least one-fifth of respondents.
- The only other factors that influence the positive renewal decision for many APS members are Division, Topical Group, Section, and/or Forum participation (14%) and networking opportunities (13%). *APS News*, career/employment guidance/help, possible fellowships, reduced-rate journal subscriptions, and lower student/recent graduate dues have relatively little influence.



Value of APS Benefits and Services

APS members were also asked to rate each of a series of APS benefits and services on a 5-point scale where 5=extremely valuable and 1=not at all valuable. The average (mean) scores vary from a high of 3.76 for the opportunity for you or your students to contribute a paper at APS meetings to a low of 1.96 for APS group life & auto insurance programs.

- The other highest-rated benefits/services include *Physics Today* (3.64), and registration fees at APS meetings (3.47).
- There is an interestingly sharp drop-off for other benefits/services including Division/Topical Group/Section/Forum membership (3.31), *APS News* (3.19), Fellowship and Prizes/Awards (3.18), and the Online Membership Directory (2.95).
- Online journals, career services, APS Local Links events, and the email alias/forwarding service (2.66 to 2.11) are rated even lower due to high proportions of members indicating that they are not very or not at all valuable.

■ Extremely ■ Very ■ Moderately ■ Not very valuable ■ Not at all ■ Not Aware/No opinion

Opportunity for you or your students to contribute a paper at APS meetings



Physics Today



Member registration fees at APS meetings



Division, Topical Group, Section and Forum membership



APS News



APS online journals at greatly reduced cost to member subscribers



Career services/Job Fairs at meetings



APS Local Links events (networking groups)



■ Extremely ■ Very ■ Moderately ■ Not very valuable ■ Not at all ■ Not Aware/No opinion

Fellowship and Prizes/Awards



APS Online Membership Directory



Email alias/forwarding service



APS group life & auto insurance programs



I am an APS Member Primarily Because

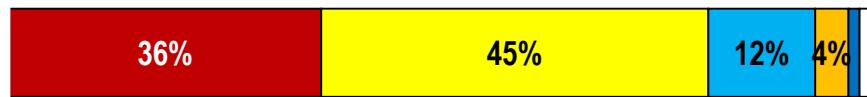
Respondents are most likely to agree that they are an APS member primarily because the Society keeps them informed about physics research and activities in the physics community; this statement received an average score of 4.12 on a 5-point scale where 5=strongly agree and 1=strongly disagree.

There was also a relatively high level of agreement (average score of 4.00) expressed that they are an APS member primarily because the Society serves the needs of the physics community (e.g., lobbying, improving education, and bringing the importance and excitement of physics to the general public).

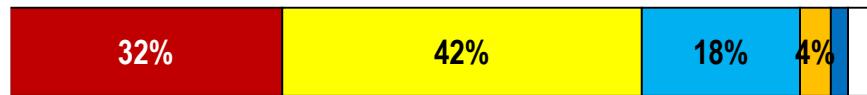
Somewhat fewer indicate they are primarily a member because the APS allows them to make valuable professional connections through APS networking events and meetings and they want to support these efforts (average score of 3.72), or because the Society provides direct member benefits such as reduced journal prices and meeting fees, the directory, and group insurance programs (3.42).

■ Strongly agree ■ Agree ■ Neither ■ Disagree ■ Strongly disagree ■ No opinion

The Society keeps me informed about physics research and activities in the physics community



The Society serves the needs of the physics community



The Society allows me to make valuable professional connections through APS networking events and meetings

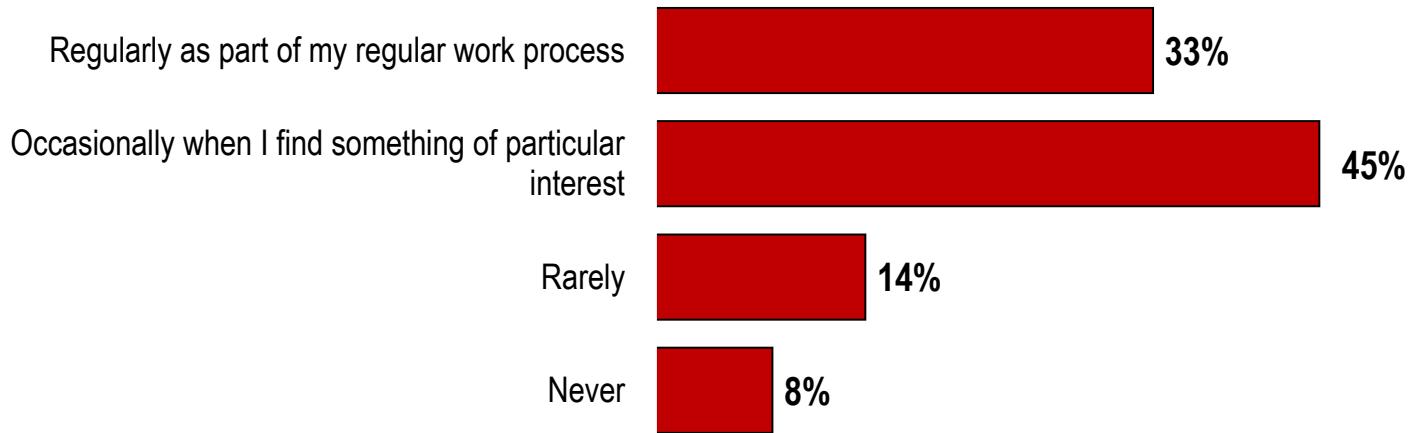


The Society provides direct member benefits



Frequency of Reading *APS News* in Print

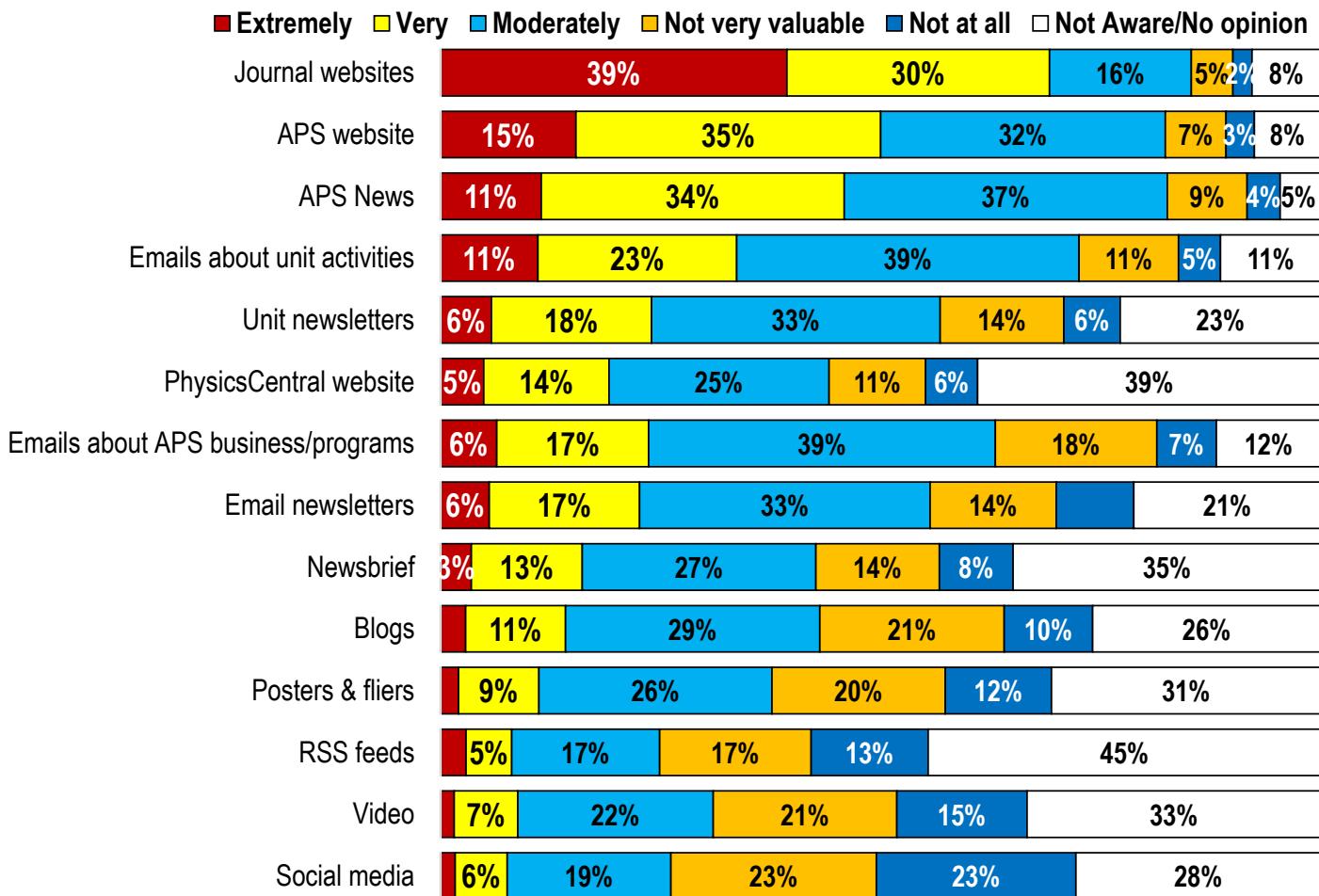
Respondents are most likely to read *APS News* in print occasionally, when they find something of particular interest. Another 33% read it regularly as part of their work process, while 22% rarely or never read it.



Usefulness of APS Communication Efforts

Using a 5-point scale where 5=extremely useful and 1=not useful at all, APS member respondents rate journal websites highest, with a 4.08 average score.

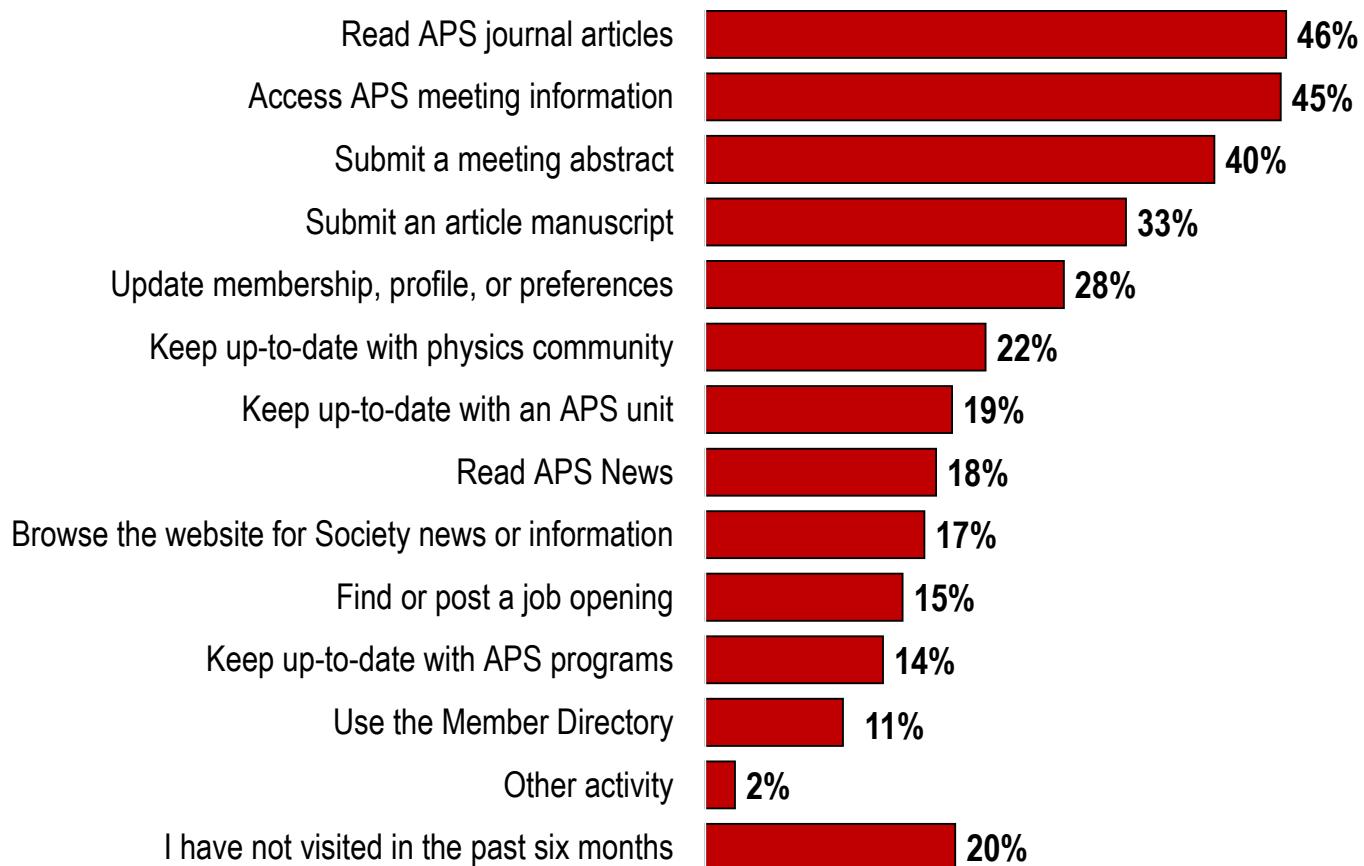
- The APS website (3.56) is rated second but considerably lower, followed in descending order of usefulness by *APS News* (3.43), and emails about unit activities, (3.27).
- Many communications efforts were rated approximately 3.0, corresponding to moderately useful: these included unit newsletters (3.04), PhysicsCentral website (3.02), emails about APS business and programs (2.98), and email newsletters (2.95).
- Other efforts rated lower include Newsbrief (2.83), blogs (2.68), posters & fliers (2.56), RSS feeds (2.41), video (2.40), and particularly social media such as Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter (2.18).



Main Reasons for Visiting APS Websites

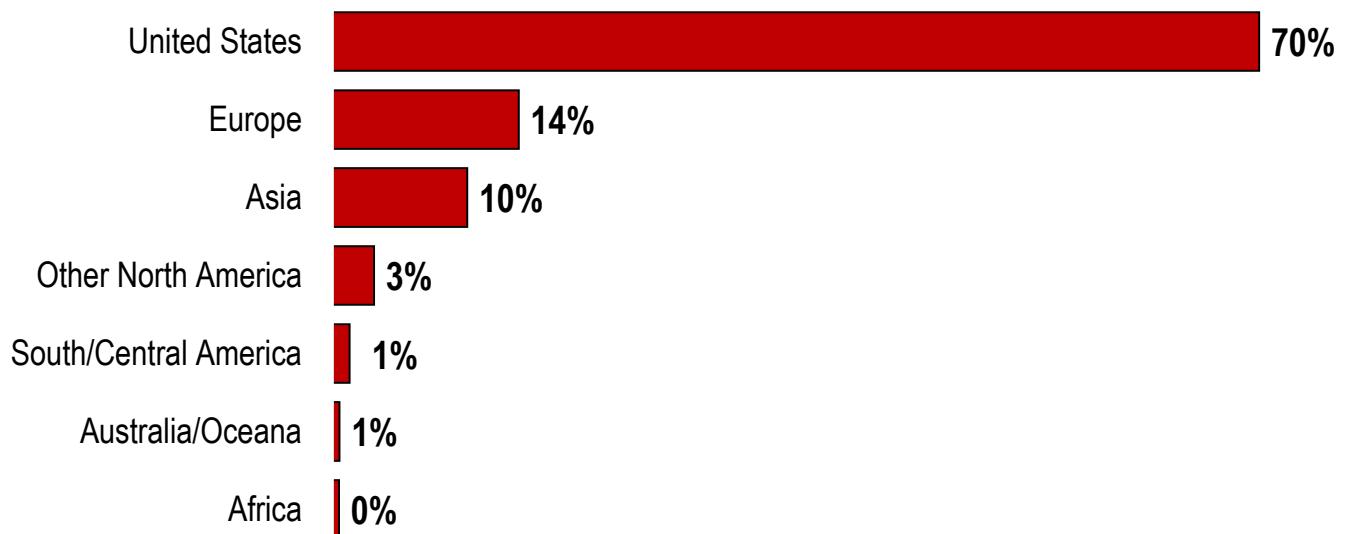
APS member respondents who recently visited the APS websites indicated an average of almost four reasons for visiting the APS Websites, but no single reason was indicated by a majority of respondents.

- At least 40% visited to read APS journal articles, access meeting information, or submit a meeting abstract.
- One-third or fewer report that their main reasons for visiting include submitting an article abstract, update their membership/profile/preferences, keep up-to-date with the physics community, an APS unit, or APS programs; to browse for Society news or information, to read *APS News*, find/post job openings, or use the Member Directory.
- One-fifth of members indicated they had not visited in the past six months.



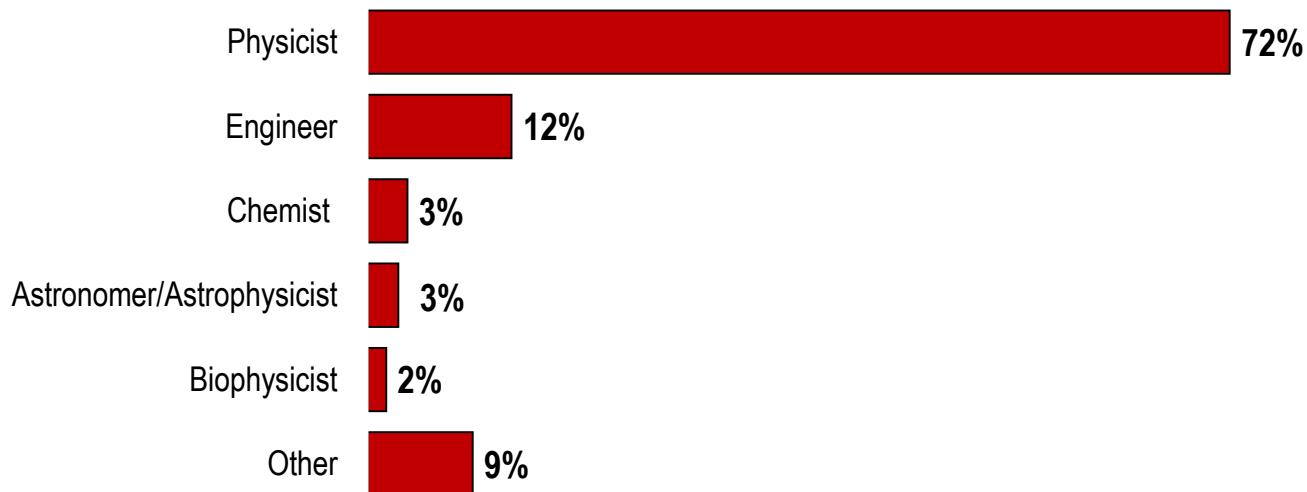
In what region of the world do you work

Although most APS member respondents are in the United States, the actual response rate among international members was much higher, at 31% compared to 17% among U.S.-based members. By continent, 14% of total respondents are in Europe, 10% in Asia, and 6% are in other regions including North America outside the U.S., South/Central America, Australia/Oceana, Africa or the Middle East.



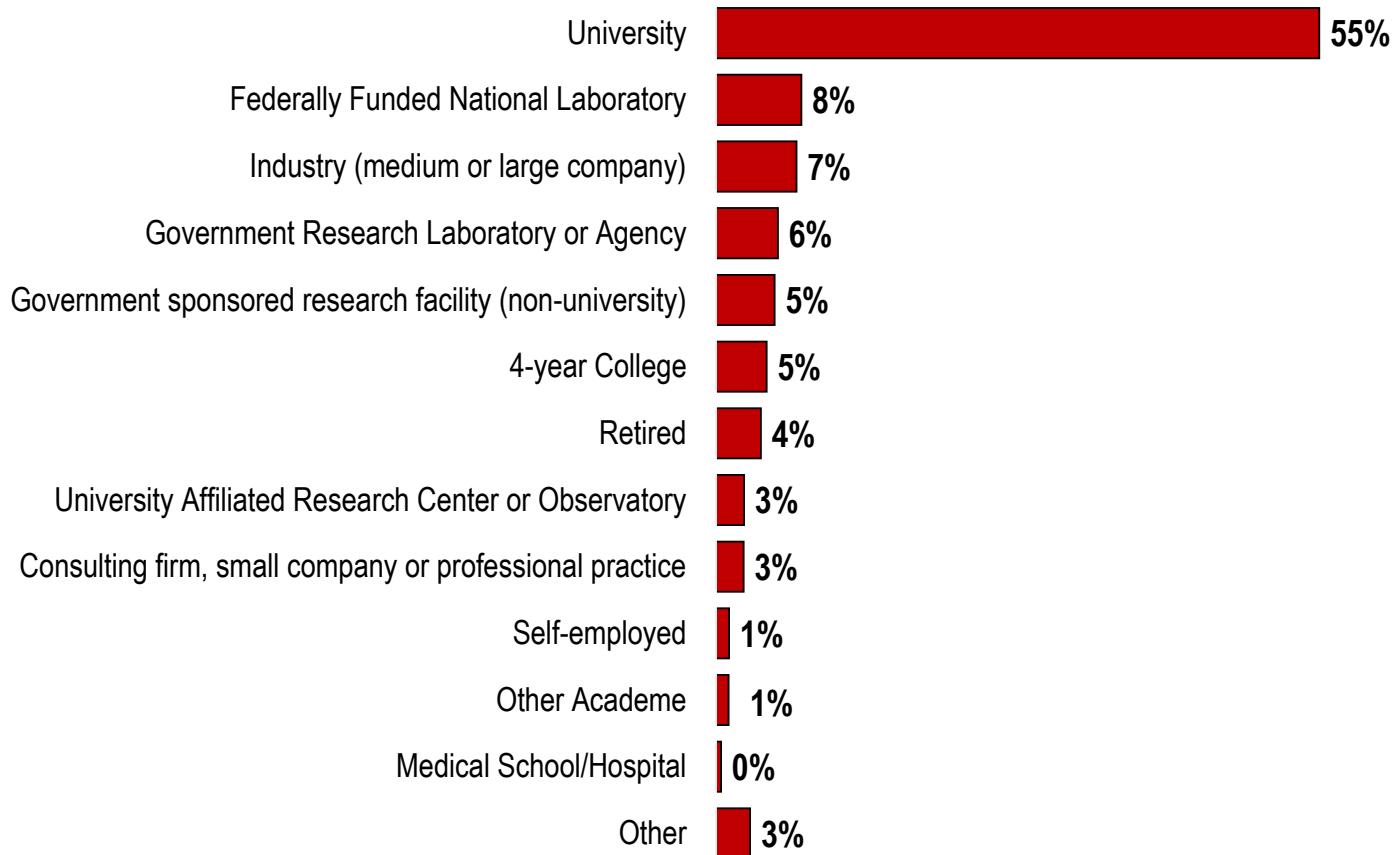
Profession

Most APS member respondents identify their profession as physicist, while 12% work as engineers, 8% as chemists, astronomer/astrophysicist, or biophysicist, and 9% report other professions including Applied Mathematics, Material Scientist, Professor/Teacher, Mathematician, Student, Retiree, or Computational/Computer Scientist.



Primary Employer

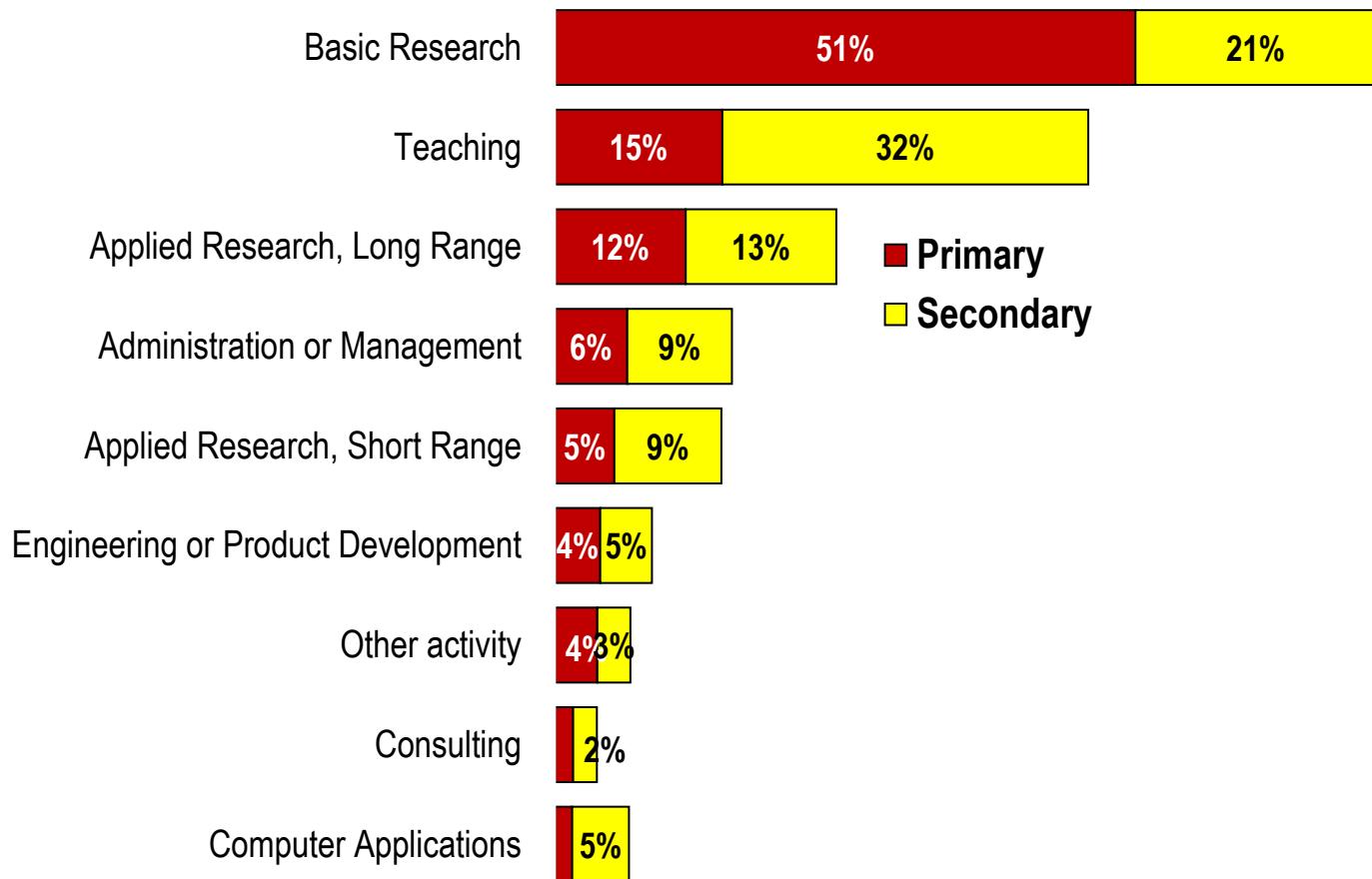
A majority indicate working primarily for a university, while 5%-8% each work in federally funded national laboratories, Industry, a government research laboratory/agency or non-university research facility, or a 4-year college. Relatively few were retired, work in a university-affiliated research center or observatory, a consulting firm or are self-employed.



Activities That Best Describe Your Current Work

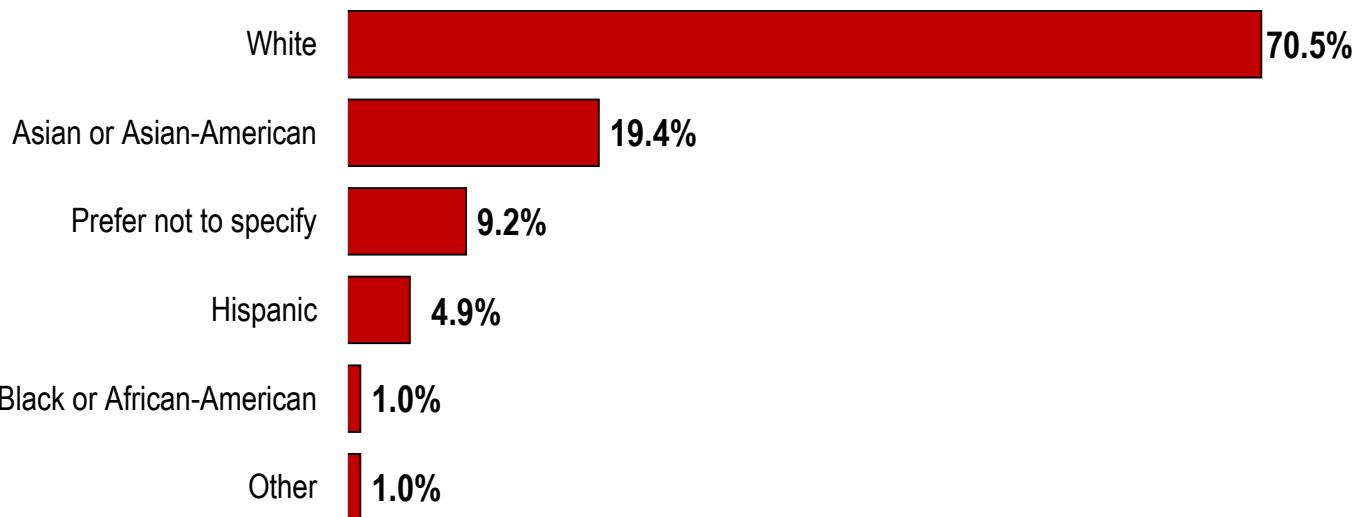
Basic Research is the most common activity that members use to describe their current work; 51% indicate it as the single most important, and 21% indicate it as second-most important.

- Teaching is the second-most prevalent activity, reported by 15% as primary and 32% as secondary.
- Other somewhat common activities include Applied Research either Long Range (12% primary and 13% secondary) or Short Range (5% primary and 9% secondary), and Administration or Management (6% primary and 9% secondary).
- Other specific activities including Engineering or Product Development were the



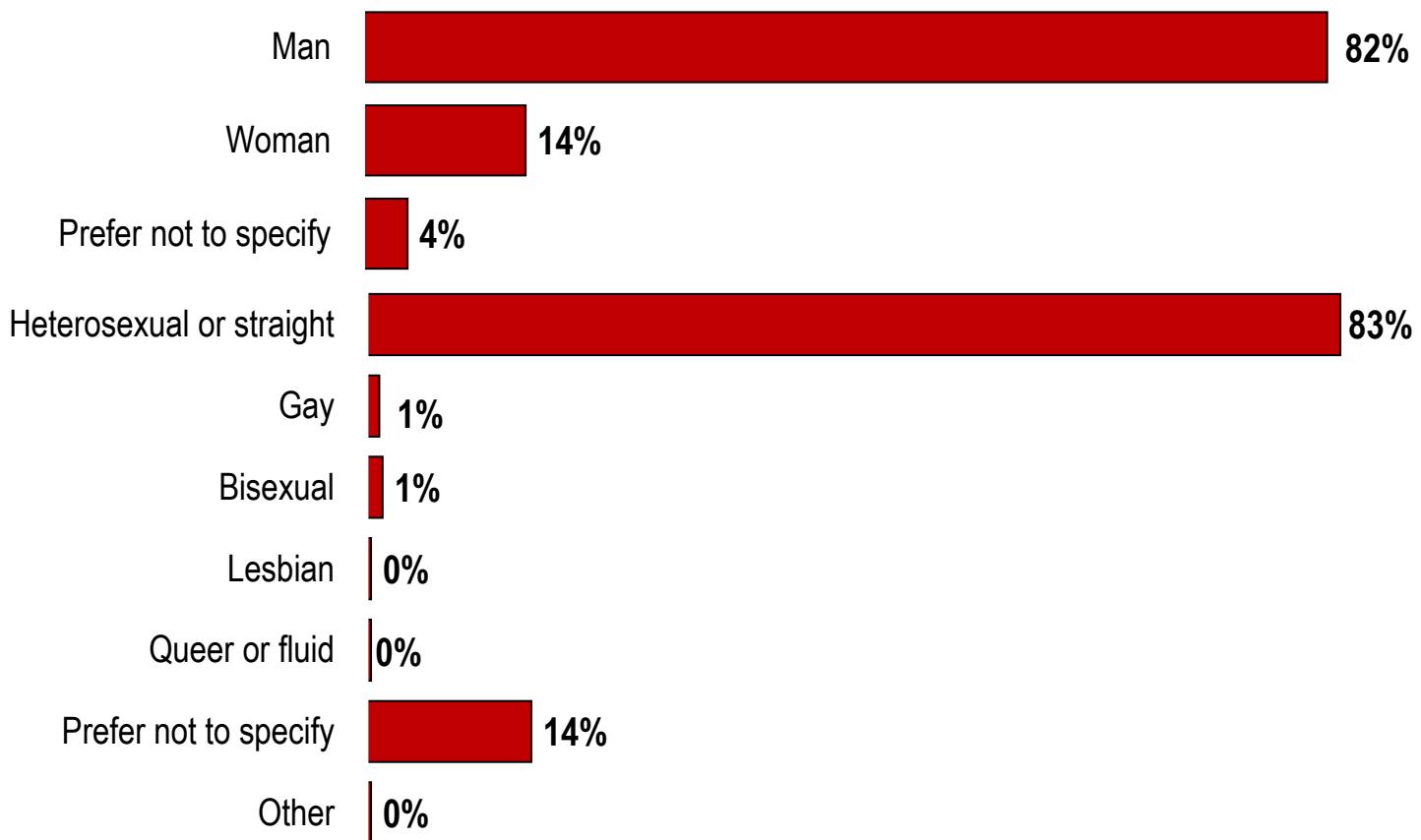
Race/Ethnicity

A majority of members are white (70.5%) while 19.4% are Asian or Asian-American, 9.2% prefer not to specify, 4.9% are Hispanic, and 1.0% each are Black or African-American or another race/ethnicity.



Do You Identify As (Gender and Sexuality)

The majority of respondents (82%) identify as men, while 14% identify as women, and 4% prefer not to specify. A similar majority (83%) identify as heterosexual or straight, while 14% prefer not to specify, and 1% each are gay or bisexual, and fewer than 1% identify as lesbian, queer or fluid, or other.



Comments

What factors most influenced your decision to join the APS

- Access to PROLA
- access to the APS member directory
- access to volunteer research opportunities
- All interesting questions - for you. It seems to miss an important element. Why does anyone become a physicist? It may not be the best way to earn a living, but it is the best way to have a non-boring life. Many of my friends and colleagues continue working even after retiring because they want to continue doing something that they love doing. Many of my friends in the fields of physics continue working without compensation or recognized job. What you need is a publication that continues to have the feature that it is the first thing they read when a new issue is published. It is true for me and many friends. I also still subscribe to AJP and go lectures at a nearby university. I still get publications from institutions where I have worked and some where I have not. I am not aware of any other profession that is as strong in this feature. It all most exclusively curiosity or inquisitively driven! Whatever of the itemized elements in your list that make that easier is likely to be instrumental in retaining souls among that like the field. Published that which is new, true, non-trivial, and interesting, and you will do well. The fine structure you list will then take care of itself.
- Also professional contacts - 4th most important to me
- am a learner so I need forum where I can be given guidance in developing journals
- APS FYI
- APS needs support in promoting physics in government and acting as a watchdog for scientific honesty in Washington.
- As a graduate student I wanted to become an official part of the physics community.
- As an undergraduate student, joining APS seemed like a natural step in becoming part of the professional physics community
- Be part of the physics community. Do you really expect me to recall my motivations from 40 years ago?
- Become member of a division
- Being in touch with physics topics without always referring to textbooks
- being part of APS is equivalent to being part of a physics career
- continue group life insurance
- division participation (tied for third)
- Easy submission of papers to APS journals
- Everyone else does it.
- Felt some obligation to join professional organization
- getting the APS fellow
- getting to know colleagues
- group life insurance
- Have it on my CV and receive Physics Today and APS News
- Historical comments
- I actually don't know how I ended up in APS. Maybe at a conference?
- I am APS Fellow and Life Member
- I am now age 85, and out of research, and not living in USA, so that none of these are important now.
- I am retired and my interests have shifted from physics and mathematics to liberal and fine arts, such as English, History, Economics, and music. My main interests in physics today are conceptual and not detail specific.
- I am the only physics instructor at a community college. I only get to cover Intro Physics. This helps me stay in tune with the bigger picture.
- I appreciate the physics career guidance for students at APS.org.
- I became a member of APS as a result of attending a CUWiP conference
- I do now work in research physics today but rather have joined the business strategy consulting field. At this point, it is just fun to read Physics Today. The meetings and groups are irrelevant, but they could become relevant if APS had a Business group (not industrial physicist, but business)
- I got my PhD in 1965. This was the post-Sputnik era of plentiful jobs. There never was a question for me - or my high energy physics colleagues - that I would join both APS & AAPT.
- I joined APS as a graduate student, became a lifetime member in about 1980 and have been an Associate Editor for Physical Review journals since 1987. I am currently a member of five divisions and one topical group and make annual contributions to APS of \$100.
- I joined as a grad student, but remained so throughout my industrial career
- I joined as a graduate student at Cornell University in the US. It was recommended for the incoming class.

- I joined because of low costs and professors recommendations. I stay a member and use it because of all of the great cost effective opportunities
- I read, study and think about a great deal of physics , as an amateur. I'd like to get a better picture of this great community. I want to be a little part of it.
- I really want to stay up to date on plasma physics and any related reactor physics as that is what I'll be pursuing for a career. I want my life work to revolve around this area and directly make an impact in fusion.
- I received a membership as part of my induction into Sigma Pi Sigma
- I was beginning a career as a physicist.
- I was required to join when I registered for the CUWiP conference
- I would be somewhat embarrassed to consider myself a working physicist and not be a member. Prestige?
- I would inform APS what important developments in some area of physics have been neglected. For instance, recent important developments in gravitation have been neglected.
- I'm a physicist, so presumably APS helps me...
- important to be a member of appropriate professional organizations for my job
- Influence political actors.
- Invited as a speaker at the APS April Meeting
- It was 45+ years ago; I was a dumb new PhD I guess.
- It's really been too long to remember accurately.
- I've been a member of AVS for many years. I already get PT. joining was a result of a direct request by a former professor
- Joining the "community of physics and physicists"
- Journal accessibility
- Keep in touch with community of physicists (2)
- Life insurance
- Lifetime membership campaign
- Looks good on CV
- march meeting
- member of SPS
- Membership to APS came free with my induction to Sigma Pi Sigma National Physics Honor Society
- My responses above are tentative -- hard to remember my reasons over 50 years ago. Perhaps the fact that my physics professor was W. W. Havens (long time APS leader) was a factor.
- Note that I joined APS more than 50 years ago. It is hard to reconstruct my motivations at that time.
- One should support the Professional Associations for fields I which one works !
- opportunity to serve on committees
- opportunity to work on probation, to have access to databases of scientific libraries
- Physics is a foundation to the career I had at the time of joining.
- *Physics Today* is a great magazine. Keep it up.
- Post resumes
- Professional memberships are inquired about on job applications.
- Professional responsibility (2)
- Publish my research in the scientific meetings.
- Publish my results of research in PRC, which is the most important journal in this field.
- quality of journals
- Receiving Physics Today of course does covers all of the first 4 and more choices above.
- Scholarships
- Show it on my resume
- since I was getting a PhD in physics I thought I should join the professional society of physicists
- Since my job primarily entails teaching physics, access to teaching resources (in addition to journals/PT) is important to me.
- Sometimes, APS tries to get the attention of the public and politicians when it comes to poor research funding.
- Support for Physics community
- Support for students in the section meetings
- support the physics community in general
- Support the roll that the APS plays in aiding government, private sector, and public at large in understanding the important issues affected by physics and all STEM fields.
- Ability to go to APS meetings at reduced rate allows me to network/form professional connections with more people in my field.

- The broad discipline in which I do research.
- The simple social contract- We are part of a community- that means paying dues
- These were when I was just a student. When I started doing research, factors concerning the APS meetings also became important.
- To belong to the Physics Community.
- To get the idea of the research work in my area
- To Receive Physics Today
- Was important to be part of the community when I was a student -- decades ago.
- When I was still in college, I would subscribe to Physics magazines through APS

What factors most influence your decision to continue your APS membership?

- I am a life member, so this question is irrelevant. (24)
- Ability to influence physics education
- ability to nominate others for APS awards
- Access to PROLA
- Access to volunteer research opportunities, part time support to interesting projects... I am still waiting to see a forum with opportunities
- Add to "professional memberships" on CV
- APS affiliated life insurance
- Aps FYI
- APS member discount for life insurance.
- APS needs support in promoting physics in government and acting as a watchdog for scientific honesty in Washington.
- APSIT
- Committee service
- Company pays for my membership
- do not know
- easier access to journal articles
- Easy to read articles that are not tied to a book.
- Eligibility for APS Congressional Fellowship and student travel funds. APS meetings registration at reduced rates. Networking opportunities that facilitate professional connections (e.g., CAM conference). Career guidance/employment help.
- Employer support for continuing membership
- Excellent life insurance rates
- From the beginning, I joined as LIFE member !!
- Giving back to the physics community
- Gratitude for appointment as a Fellow in 1993
- Group term life insurance at very attractive rates (3)
- Habit
- Having trained as a physicist but not working as one today, membership in the APS is important to my continuing to consider myself a physicist.
- I also believe that the resources the APS provides are worth membership. Networking at meetings is also important. So is keeping up to date on physics news.
- I also enjoy reading the CSWP Gazette.
- I am a career physicist, publish regularly in APS and AIP journals, and attend APS meetings each year.
- I am a former APS Congressional Science Fellow and am grateful for the opportunity the fellowship afforded to me
- I don't plan to continue if I'm not required to
- I feel pressure to have my membership up-to-date when applying for faculty positions.
- I get TWO copies of Physics Today, as do several colleagues. What's the problem?
- I have been a member for (nearly) 50 years and at some time or other many of the other factors have in their turn been important
- I have lifetime membership
- I honestly have no reason to keep paying for my membership. It does not help me professionally, and the articles of Physics Today I find generally uninteresting. It's inertia that keeps me paying, and perhaps a latent dream that someday I'll be counted as a physicist again.
- I joined as life member
- I like APS.

- I purchased a lifetime membership.
- I want to wake up the APS on her shortcomings.
- I'm a life member, otherwise I'd quit
- I'm predominantly an industrial physicist, and keeping the affiliation with a largely academic professional association is important to my CV. I keep up with the community through and independent of APS, but being able to cite the affiliation cleanly with one bullet point is important to me.
- important to be a member of appropriate professional organizations for my job
- In retirement I have fewer opportunities to interact with physicists than before. APS allows me to stay in touch with issues
- Inertia?
- Influence political actors.
- It has become part of me, by now.
- It's largely because I always have before. :) Many of the reasons above aren't enough to warrant registration by themselves, but if you put them all together, it's worthwhile.
- It's still the most decent physical society of all the countries I lived in.
- I've been a member of AVS,
- Keep in touch with community of physicists
- Keep me as a member of a professional group.
- Keep myself stay in the community
- Looks good on CV
- Low dues for students, keep current in the field. receive Physics Today, ...
- Membership of the most important Physics Society in the world
- need access to APS journals as part of membership
- Nice historical articles
- Nostalgia and continued yearning for a career that was cut short by government decision to reduce funding for controlled fusion research.
- Not sure if I will yet
- Nothing, actually
- One time offer of Lifetime Membership in early 2000's
- Paid for a Life Membership many years ago
- *Physics Today* is still an important reason as well.
- *Physics Today*, not listed in my above answers, but a key to being a part of the physics community, and has kept me up to speed on all sorts of things, including new stuff, history of physics, job opportunities world-wide.
- Please remove fees for graduate students. At my school, we are not paid enough to live on. If loans are maxed out, it is not possible to join APS.
- Post job listings
- professional responsibility
- Publish my researches in the scientific meetings
- Purchased lifetime membership, so it continues automatically without any decision by me.
- Quality of journals
- Receive *APS News*
- Receiving info on and being able to attend meetings of New England and New York State sections of APS
- Scholarships
- Since my job primarily entails teaching physics, access to teaching resources (in addition to journals/*Physics Today*) is important to me.
- So that I can mention APS membership on my CV. (I am employed as a mathematics professor, and I do research in pure mathematics. APS membership is one of the few ways that I can express continued interest in physics on my CV.)
- Sorry I can't choose "Other" more than once in the above list. Here are my three factors that influence my decision to continue my APS membership: #1: To identify myself professionally and publicly with the physics community. This is somewhat different from an interaction, such as career help or networking. #2: APS membership is free anyway, since I'm a life member, and the other payments, such as for a society membership, are small; i.e., the low cost influences me to continue. #3: APS membership grants me access to some excellent benefits, such as life insurance, that I might want to take advantage of at some point in the future. (I typically don't attend APS meetings, or use the APS for job search help.)
- Support for students in the section meetings
- Support the Physics community

- Support the role that the APS plays in aiding government, private sector, and public at large in understanding the important issues affected by physics and all STEM fields.
- The March Meeting
- No real reason to belong to APS outside of reduced conference rates
- Nice to have a Topical Group focused on physicist in investment banking, business consulting, and other management functions. We think differently than our peers because of our physics training.

What are your main reasons for visiting the APS websites?

- As referee (10)
- Review for APS journals/papers/manuscripts (5)
- Submit a referee report (3)
- Election web sites/vote (3)
- Checking the status of a submitted article
- Collect info for undergraduates/recruiting
- Committee activities
- Committee on the Status of Women in Physics
- Did not receive my *Physics Today*
- Find information on curriculum development and recruitment of majors.
- Find outreach material for non-physicists
- Follow interesting Links to phys. topics or people
- gallery of fluid motion
- Job application materials
- Learn about efforts to improve diversity in physics
- learning and becoming physicist
- Link to there from social media.
- Links to Physics Today articles
- look for grants
- Most of my visits to the APS website are inspired by e-mails received from APS, for which I want to learn more.
- obtain procedural info about meetings and prize nominations
- On an award committee
- paper review
- Provide a PRDI article review
- read Physics Today online (mostly week in physics articles)
- Read the mentoring guide online and researched the various Physics and Astronomy Women groups
- refereeing, nomination of APS Fellow
- Renew membership
- Review Careers info to assist students. Access statistics
- See if anyone I know has died recently.
- See latest fellows
- Seek statistics related to physics education
- serve as a reviewer for journal articles
- serve as referee to APS journals
- Student Info
- Submit fellow nomination
- to look up an item in Phys Today
- Use APS statistical and career information
- Watch/find webinars. Watch invited talks from meetings.

Comments (first section)

- Actually, I did look to see recent APS fellows, but I rarely go to the website.
- Although I continue to value my membership and fellowship in APS, my professional life working for the Navy has taken me in directions which have reduced my participation.
- APS News comes in real type ! Generally web-sites are a curse ! One needs a "User Name" & "Password", etc. ! I belong to too many such organizations.
- APS has been minimally helpful in my job search and I do not view the society as caring one way or the other is physicists find gainful employment.
- Hopefully I will start using the website some more in the future.
- I am also interested in astrophysics. Most of my recent activity has been with the American Astronomical Society.
- I am looking for new job to apply my new technique for generating the electric energy from the Solar Energy and Oceans water.
- I am not sure Applied Physics Letters is an APS journal. I thought it was an AIP journal. Perhaps the two orgs are related.
- I am retired (2)
- I do not know if there are specific programs for overseas not US members. With research budget cuts in Italy I cannot come to APS meetings anymore or participate in other programs.
- I do tend to look at physics.org pretty much every day. (But that's IOP - sorry, folks...)
- I found the APS website for members to be one of the most unfriendly, the abstract submission works quite well though.
- I haven't been to the site in a while, but I am aware it is there and views it as a resource.
- I only look at in-hand paper
- I only visit when I get an email saying to pay my dues. Honestly, I don't know why I even heed the call. Probably just trying to feel like getting my Ph.D. was justified.
- I probably visit most often because I am asked to referee a paper.
- I recently retired.
- I try to publish exclusively in APS journals, as my way of supporting the Society so that it can be even stronger in its lobbying/representation efforts.
- I visited only once in the last six months, or renew my membership.
- I'm in my second year as a lecturer and don't do a lot of nonessential (in terms of daily obligations) things. My bar for nonessential is pretty high these days.
- Many of these answers would have been different if I were not semi-retired, so I hope this will be a multidimensional analysis.
- Recently I have been attending more specialized, non-APS meetings due to severely limited travel resources.
- see comment to item 1
- The APS e-mail service is very valuable, so I do not have to visit the APS website to stay up to date.
- The medical research had huge limitation because reviewers claim only clinical studies. But the progress in medicine is to understand and applications for the physical laws. I'm working about physics and equations of medical devices for pain relief. But our finding fit better for APS than some clinical journals.
- Throughout APS, I see many up-to-date news and latest research results. This is the main reason, and also I can be part of it by submitting. I am very satisfied by the services provided by APS.
- What would I do there?
- When I visit the website it is usually to use the Member Directory, but that isn't very common.
- Would prefer an app or APS newsfeed to the website. Maybe this exists, I have not checked.

Comments (post 4)

- Actually I joined APS first when I planned to attend the March Meeting 2015 (held in San Antonio). I thought it will be easy for me to find a way to know other people with the same research interest, but found the matter difficult. I.e. the conference is very big, gathers many fields, ... I felt lost. I also want to join a good fellow in USA (as a sabbatical one-year-leave). So I need somebody to guide me to choose the University. I thought APS will help me to do so, but till now I am receiving so many emails and none of them help in the matter.
- All are worthy but none are "primarily".
- Answers are in binary
- APS brings me good opportunities to pursue my research interests. Furthermore, APS is the most important forum for my science and technology update
- APS doing fine
- APS is fine. Quality of editors and referees of its journals is neither professional nor neutral

- APS is my professional lobbying organization and we need APS to play this vital role. This is the ENTIRE reason I continue to be a member and the reason I published almost exclusively in APS journals. *Physics Today* is great, but I don't really need my own personal copy. The Sections are excellent for students too (and I am a former Section Chair). The April meeting is irrelevant in my field, and most APS meetings are not critical in my field. But I am strong supporter of APS because of its lobbying efforts and the representation it provides for us in Washington. QUESTION FOR YOU: Why does this survey not list as a possible benefit of APS that it administers a set of first-rank journals? I realize that this benefit is open to all (not just APS members), so it's not directly tied to APS membership, but one of the reasons I'm a proud APS member is that I want to support these journals, even if only indirectly.
- APS needs to seriously revisit how they run meetings (conferences). I was involved in the organization of a unit meeting this year and the way the meeting was organized from the APS side was not helpful, painfully slow, and full of errors. Revising this process needs to be a priority.
- Did you read answer to 1?
- Even though I have not published in Physics yet, I am hoping one day to make a contribution with everything APS has to offer.
- Frankly, right now I'm only a member because everybody has my aps email address; I would get *Physics Today* through my AVS membership. It's currently a question of overcoming the inertia to update my email accounts vs the yearly dues; as an industrial physicist, APS has very little current value for me otherwise.
- I am a European member of the APS, which means I am not well linked to the American system and do not benefit from most of the perks.
- I am a member because I am a physicist, and I like to keep in touch with the larger physics community. Unfortunately, I cannot present at APS meetings, because there is no appropriate session for my work (thermal studies of asteroids). Obviously, I have other meetings I can attend and present at, but I wish I could present at APS meetings, where I could easily collaborate with members of related, relevant fields (the granular physics community, for example) and network with the larger physics community.
- I am a member because it is expected for physics faculty. Other societies meet my needs much better, especially because DBIO is run very poorly.
- I am a member because, as a physicist, I identify with the society. I'm proud to be a member.
- I am a member for networking purposes and to support the community, however, being a physicist out in industry, rather than an academic setting, it is very difficult to attend any networking events unless a major gathering happens to be local. There is not good support for non-academic physicists.
- I am a member of APS to publish my research and maintain awareness of other's research.
- I am an APS member as I am a life member, became one when I worked as an academic physicist. I have not been working as a physicist for the last 20 years.
- I am an APS member because of inertia and my ever-diminishing hope that the society will embrace its diaspora that take the skills they learned in graduate school and use them to solve real world problems ---- whether that be in data mining, software development, business development, etc.
- I am an APS member primarily because I am a Physics Ph.D. candidate and APS membership is required so that I can present at conferences in order to graduate.
- I am APS Fellow. Still, when retired, I will not have a free access to, say, PRB and PRL, where I serve as a referee for many years. Why is that?
- I am individual members with APS because I am looking for all the new developments personally especially in the field of clean energy especially both Solar and Fusion Energies
- I am oriented more toward development rather than academic research, so my contact with APS is minimal.
- I am retired and a life member
- I am very supportive of APS efforts on education and diversity; this is one of their most important functions.
- I appreciate the open mind of most APS executives
- I can't be three things, all primarily. These questions are badly phrased.
- I don't feel very connected to APS anymore and I'm considering not renewing my membership.
- I feel a pain a little.....
- I got my first job in physics through an interview at a March meeting in 1979. Most physicists I know appreciate APS' lobbying effort to educate and promote science. It would be even better if the congress could be persuaded to value science and science education as a high priority for the nation.
- I have enjoyed a lot of benefits during five years stay in the USA. Now I am outside the USA and I am looking forward such benefits mentioned in above statements would still be applicable.
- I have not been active in APS or its events for the past several years since my current work is not directly related to physics research - I keep my membership mainly for not losing the sense of belonging to the physics community.

- I joined a year ago on the recommendation of others. I have not yet been able to attend a meeting. I don't need the physics news publication. I'm wondering whether it's worthwhile that I joined.
- I live in Bulgaria, Europe and have never visit any APS meeting, so I am not able to answer some of the questions mainly directed to local members, not to those from abroad.
- I live in Cuba and therefore the communication with the physics community is difficult. I receive the Physics Today journal with several months of delay, and for more than two years I do not receive the APS News. I would like to have more interaction with colleagues from US Universities.
- I made my postdoc at MIT and it was natural for me to joined APS at that time. Coming back to Argentina, I have always being an active member of Argentine Physical Society (AFA), where I have been in various directive positions (I am founder and first director of its Condensed Matter Division). A couple of decades ago, having access to low cost high level publications was most important to my decision to keep my membership to APS. Journals as PRL, PRB, RMP and PRA were my central source of reading and publishing. Now, even when my international prestige is well established I feel quite disconnected from APS publications. My feeling is that I received sort of bad treatment from the editors which nevertheless do not ensure quality. Example, I coined the name and concept of Loschmidt Echo on a PRL, nevertheless even when there were more than a 100 PRLs papers using this concept, I had to publish related breakthroughs elsewhere. Quite often, publications favor gangs more than novelty. Additionally, arXiv has become the source of reading from the authors I really trust and appreciate and I tried to publish in journal where the active scientists that act as editors attempt a better communications with the authors and referees. Last year, after more than a decade without attending the expensive APS meeting, I rejoined APS after being invited for a talk in the International forum, so I attended March meeting. At this stage I renewed my appreciating APS and its community for its vibrant energy in supporting physics education and involvement in different issues of international interest and importance. Still, while an eventual fellowship would be a strong reason for permanence, my disconnection with the APS journals might influence the decision about maintaining my membership.
- I think APS can better serve the physics community by being more strategic on the lobbying. The APS is too one-sided politically, which often makes me question my membership. I stopped participating in letter writing campaigns a long time ago because of this. It is true that we need to increase funding for scientific research on all levels. It is also true that the small percentage of government funding towards research does not really contribute to the national deficit/debt compared to other areas of the budget, especially mandatory spending. But if the APS cannot make the case for scientific funding to the conservative members of Congress (without stereotyping them), we are fighting a losing battle. I would like to see more strategic lobbying, less politicking on climate change, and more work with Congress on both sides of the aisle to reform the NSF in such a way that more money is available to more institutions.
- I usually keep up with developments in science through journals or other news websites, I rarely check or read aps news or physics today
- I was completely unaware of networking events. Seeing it on this survey, I marked it as very valuable. I would very much like to see a professional (outside academia) career networking event in or near Chicago. I'd like to meet some physicists in industry beyond my friends from grad school.
- I work for the US government. Reduced registration fees on conferences have no effect on me. If I choose to go to a conference, my organization will pay for it. In addition, my organization has a research library that allows me access to all APS publication without any cost to me. On the other hand, my organization will not pay for my membership. That comes completely out of my own pocket. Keeping due low is now the most important factor in my membership decision.
- I work in industry and APS or German DPG are those few bonds to what Physics is (about)
- I would agree more with point 4, although I don't know that it actually does a great job of lobbying, improving education, etc. I also think that the meetings do a good job of serving people actively doing physics, but I think that in its current form Physics Today and APS News do a good job of serving people that used to do physics when they were my age, and are now out to pasture.
- If there is one "primarily", it is the only one
- Ignored "primarily" since this could apply to only one
- I'm a member of AAS which more directly supports me
- I'm an industrial physicist, now. Sorry guys, there's only a minor chance I'll ever attend another APS meeting. (OSA more likely). No students any more, either.
- I'm not sure why I am a member, because I can't really afford it, and I haven't found much help with finding a way to stay employed.
- In the future, please avoid referring to your membership as "physicists" since many of your members are in the physical sciences but are not, strictly speaking, physicists.
- It appears that this survey did not consider the possibility of someone being a life member, which I am. So, my continued membership in the APS is automatic, making some of the questions not applicable.

- It would be further helpful for APS to make direct connections to those of us who have written physics books/textbooks and give us feedback and allow us to continue work in related fields with various types of support including community engagement and financial support.
- I've been retired for 7 years. I am retired, which means my interests weaken each year, and I can't keep up like I used to.
- Members of learned societies have a legitimate role to play when they shepherd and cultivate their reputation as disinterested experts. They dissipate that reputation as soon as they engage in lobbying. From that point on they are a special interest group at the public trough, or worse (e.g. supplicants willing to publish junk science useful to politicians whose patronage they seek).
- Mostly I think physics needs a voice in greater society.
- My main concern at the moment is applying to graduate schools.
- My membership has been singularly useless. I've tried to justify the membership based on Physics Today, but even with that: it's completely unpalatable to a mathematical physicist with a background in classical mechanics, nonlinear systems, and geometry. Most of the highlighted articles are laboratory- and materials-science-focused, and those that have a theoretical bent are too superficial to be interesting.
- My opinions are not very relevant to the APS. I retired over 20 years ago. When I first joined, I was a graduate student in physics, and, of course, I considered it important to join. I am disappointed by APS promotion of political causes rather than sticking to giving impartial scientific judgements.
- My primary interests today focus on education, particularly at the undergraduate level. I am interested in the activities of the Committee on Education and the Forum on Education.
- My profession currently mainly involves engineering, and membership benefits in APS are of limited value in my current environment. My professional interactions are currently mainly with engineering societies.
- Note that I live outside the US. Hence many of the benefits about physics community are less obvious to me.
- Primary reason I am an APS member is because it looks good on my CV.
- RMP print price should be controlled.
- Since I have retired, many of these benefits are not relevant
- I'm a relatively new member, joined for the reduced fee for the March meeting in San Antonio, and don't know anything about the benefits of being a member. Are there any benefits for members living and working abroad? (In Europe) Let us know! Thank you!
- Still miss the obligation aspect.
- The "society" does not reflect my views or opinions. It has become a political action committee more than a scientific community. I believe this greatly harms the validity & reputation of scientists in general, since views are aligned with politics more than facts.
- The most important regardless no physicist I'm (MD, PhD Neurosciences) is opportunities to have comprehensive reviewing for medical devices physics and to be published in APJ or Physics Today !
- The word "primarily" does not belong in these statements if there are several of them.
- This question seems to be not very useful in view of an earlier question. This focuses too narrowly on "primarily."
- Too expensive the membership and the conferences (despite the "reduced" rates)
- When I originally joined APS, my university did not have a subscription for journals, so the availability of journals was the most critical reason for membership. Now, I continue to be a member and value the alerts, editorial highlights, and important results from AIP that come to my mailbox.
- You have to go to the March meeting, which is awful, because it's the biggest thing, and you have to be in APS to attend/present. The end. I read the journals since they're the most important journals.

Comments: Communications (after Q6)

- A more concentrated effort to improve the APS' online presence (e.g., through more routinely updated news, job, and other postings) would go a long way!
- A social Network only for APS member could be more impressive for physicist's community than FB or twitter. Fellows could discuss and share with others through the world only for physicists and for physic.
- Concerning the RSS feeds, I am mostly interested in the newly published articles.
- For me, the single most useful activity of the APS is the publication of the Physical Review series of journals. Over the years I have had many experiences with the journals as reader, author, and referee, mostly positive, some negative. Lately I have been extremely disappointed by the quality of the editorial process especially at PRL. It seems that as an author at PRL one cannot expect a fair and scientifically meaningful review process, the editors are not able to capture reviews which give only opinions and no scientific arguments, and even the chief editors seem to think that everything is in perfect order at PRL (see the recent editorial "Refereeing revisited", PRL 115, 110001 (2015)). So I don't have any hope that some effort will be made to fix what I

perceive to be a problem. Thus my main reason to be an APS member seems to be obsolete and I am now seriously considering not to renew my APS membership (after almost 20 years!).

- Having stepped back from research, much of what was once important to me is no longer.
- I am a dinosaur!
- I am aghast at the number of activities listed in categories where APS is not uniquely able to advance physics and physicists, and where there are many other suppliers pointlessly buzzing, blogging, tweeting, RSS feeding and updating Facebook etc. Please "stick to the knitting"! Very few people with research to do, students to teach, and a family to raise, can prioritize these ephemera.
- I am not on Social media, and although I know that could be useful, I have not made it a part of my life yet with everything else going on.
- I didn't even know about some of the things listed here and think they are astoundingly stupid to waste resources on. In approximate order of importance: journals/conferences, lobbying, public-scientific-engagement are about all I value at APS. Who the heck wants physics-car-insurance or cares what is Tweeted
- I do not know about many of the initiatives and how I can use them
- I don't need any more e distractions!
- I feel much more connected to OSA and SPIE than to APS. They reach out more effectively to non US members.
- I guess I could find most of this stuff if I wanted to, but I'm busy and getting what I want. I think it's ok if other people get what they want too. APS is a professional society, not Facebook or Ashley Madison.
- I have not heard of many of the above so "not aware" is the right one. Separate not aware from no opinion as they tell you different things.
- I haven't made constructive use of RSS feeds or social media, but that's my fault!
- I like the annual calendar. It is the only large calendar that I post in my office, and I do so every year.
- I miss "What's New" by Bob Park. Did the APS sponsor that? Weekly, political/newsy, funny, brief. I liked it a lot.
- I mostly use the information provided by the APS to me in such a way that I pass it over to our PhD students (I mean students in in our Department of Physics) and I encourage them to apply for various stipends, fellowships etc. However, as far as I remember, they have not been very successful. In that regards, IEEE and affiliated bodies are much more active or perhaps provides more support.
- I personally think the media which can be very easily accessible on a daily basis, such as e-mail or social network tools such as Facebook, could be very useful.
- I pretty much ignore social media, but for some people that are the mode they prefer. APS needs to communicate over various modes and platforms to reach everyone in its broad membership, so you will probably have to keep as many channels going as is feasible.
- I regularly read "The week in physics" at Physics Today online emails and find them very useful. They are short enough that I can quickly skim them, and then explore some items in detail if I choose to.
- I simply do not use most of these things. I think they are useful for specific purposes.
- I still read things on paper and delete random emails
- It's really hard to judge communications platforms/efforts without considering their content. If all APS content (say journal article news) were delivered in every platform, then responses would be higher as that is the most important information to me to get from APS. So this really reflects how I use resources more than the communication efforts by APS. For instance, I have no need for RSS feeds because I don't use RSS as a platform, but I can see what's linked through RSS. So maybe this isn't really a valid response to the question.
- Many of the items mentioned here are new for me. I am not keen to look at (the different programs and businesses) because I cannot come physically to America to attend these programs more than once a year.
- Many of these communications would be much more useful if I had time to do any of the networking activities, read the newsletters or attend conferences. Neither academia nor industry has proved conducive to free time.
- My inbox is flooded with emails and I am always crunched for time so I don't open anything unnecessary. If you want more students to open emails about certain topics perhaps connect with professors/physics clubs to get the word out about things
- No use to me.
- *Physics Today* is very useful. The rest, not so much.
- physics.aps.org is my most common resource for keeping up to date with what's going on in physics
- Please do not use trackable URLs in electronic mailings. Period. My privacy concerns outweigh your need to collect this data. I choose not to follow such URLs as a matter of principle, defeating the purpose of your providing the link.
- Please, consider that I am still located in the European Union. The single most important reason to join APS is in view of my appointment to the Dep. of Physics at the University of Central Florida, as assistant professor, starting December 2015. When I will move to the US, I anticipate I will take greater advantage of the networking opportunities the fellowship has to offer.

- Pretty much the only communication I read is Physics Today.
- Since retired, I try to make physics come alive to a well-educated general audience through power point presentations. I pick and choose what's best on the web. APS hasn't come up in my searches . . .
- That I rate websites mostly as "somewhat useful" or "no opinion" is more a measure of a lull in my own activity than of value of the websites.
- The APS website is extremely difficult to navigate (especially when it comes to information about the journals for referees and authors), and it needs an overhaul.
- The only reason I'm filling out this survey is to comment on the meeting process and to urge APS to revise.
- The RSS feeds you have are difficult to find and not always satisfactory (I get the feeling that there's no one page where we can find all the feeds, but I may be wrong ?) Newsletters are mostly read-once kind of material and would lend themselves well to the RSS format (my email is already cluttered enough...) I like to read my email in plain text (so I get to the point and move on), but most of your emails (especially the newsletter/newsbriefs/jobs listings ones) show up *horribly* in plain text, with all the HTML appearing verbatim. This is a really easy fix to make: you just have to properly format the email so email readers know which parts to load for plain text and rich format.
- What videos???
- You could have listed emergency communications from APS (e.g., to write to local congresspeople and senators about impending important legislation). That has a REAL impact on our very existence...
- You have videos?

What are your favorite features of APS News?

- Letters to the editor (10)
- This Month in Physics
- announcement of the APS fellow, Academician
- Could not care less
- Discussion about women in physics
- Diversity
- Facility
- Final question under Profile: if Other, ask WHAT next time.
- I am not aware of APS News
- I don't read enough to have 'favorites'
- I like the "APS Members in Print" column
- I thoroughly enjoy the section that quotes members in the news.
- Job
- Media quotes
- Members in media (?)
- Members in the Media
- Most of this is also covered by Physics Today
- New researches and developments in the field clean energy
- News about education programs/initiatives
- obituary
- Paragraphs about award winners
- Profiles on Versatility
- Quotations
- Quotes from Colleagues (3)
- Quotes from members in the news
- Quotes in the media
- Quotes on page 2
- Sample of job listings
- Stories like that poor guy getting discriminated against because he's Chinese and others like him. Staying informed on how our community is viewed and trusted by others is invaluable and easy to go decades being out of touch.
- The part with quotes
- waste of time
- Women in Physics information
- Women in Physics subject matter

Please share any other comments you have about your affiliation with APS, benefits you receive, APS Programs, etc.

- APS has ways to recognize efforts from referees dedicated to the Society's journals (Outstanding Referee's program) - APS has the world-leading journals in my field
- #1 thing APS could do to improve things for physicists is to promote more research within industry (although of course it will typically be applied research). One of the main problems the physics community in the US faces is an almost complete dependency on government funding.
- The creation of Internet-based groups for APS members should continue. A group for members in Canada would be useful. (b) Ask members to specify their personal preferences in advance for the methods of billing and payment of membership fees.
- A member since graduate school -- home of Physicists
- Ability to submit abstracts to meetings would be immensely attractive, but a reciprocal agreement with the UK's Institute of Physics (of which I am already a member) means that it's not a benefit of APS membership to me. Similarly, reduced rates on online journals would be attractive if my institution weren't already subscribed to most of them.
- All my answers are heavily influenced by my primary professional membership being the AAS. My professional meetings and journal contributions were to AAS meetings and journals. My graduate education was physics, and I kept that orientation strongly enough to remain an APS member. And for many years I used the APS life insurance program, although that was not the major factor to continue membership.
- Although I am a member of APS it has had little direct effect on my career trajectory, decision making when it comes to research, or networking at conferences or local events.
- Although I have a Physics Ph.D. I am no longer active in this subject, and am an academic instead in Mechanical Engineering. The APS, and in particular Physics Today, are however very important for me personally, rather than professionally, in that they enable me to keep in touch with current research in this discipline.
- Apart from organizing a yearly meeting, Physics Today and Physics News, I get very little benefit from many the many programs offered.
- APS (along with the other sciences) need to take a hard look in the mirror regarding issues of young people and opportunities for their advancement in professional scientific careers.
- APS Committee on the Status of Women in Physics should have a Facebook page.
- APS has not proven to be very useful to me.
- APS makes me part of the community
- APS membership, especially a subscription to Physical Review D is a very important part of my life. It has enriched my life and keeps me in touch with the latest research in gravitational physics, cosmology and quantum field theory.
- APS news needs to work on its article pagination. It's annoying how every single article is continued on another page.
- As a European most of the APS services are not applicable to me. My membership is primarily for attendance of APS conferences
- As a foreigner member, I am not particularly interested on some of the domestic issues. I really appreciate being a member of APS.
- As a retired physicist and administrator, this affiliation is very useful to keep me in contact with what the younger practitioners are concerned about and what they are doing.
- As an amateur, older follower of physics with no career or academic background, I am fascinated by theories of reality. Physics is a big piece of that. So I have signed on to 2 local university programs, joined APS, attended a local APS conference, donated money to a physics foundation, and bought about a hundred books on the subject. I am a lawyer, so this is odd behavior. Perhaps someone at APS should be counselling me on not overdoing it.
- Being an APS member has been essential to my career. Working for the APS as an Associate Editor (currently for PRL, PRE, and PR-AB) has been extremely rewarding.
- by far the most interesting is the history column
- Career support is very important for young scientists.
- Correction to my answer to #7 above: I actually read APS News in print regularly as part of my regular personal process, at home, not as part of my regular work process.
- CSWP Gazette!!!
- For me, it's an honor to be an APS member.
- graduate student member, was once an SPS summer intern
- Graduate student membership rates should be decreased at any meetings. A Lot of international students want to get involved with APS. they are not familiar with it. Meetings should be held to make them familiar with it.
- Having changed careers into software development, APS News is something I still read cover to cover. Love that publication.

- I always look forward to receiving my monthly Physics Today magazine!
- I am a life member
- I am affiliated with DCMP unit. I receive APS Newsletter and Physics Today. The only post about the DCMP I receive is the list of relevant conferences and meetings. I wish there was a kind of E-Newsletter just about the updates on the DCMP division. I was also hoping to serve in an APS committee voluntarily in particular, in those related to the DCMP.
- I am concerned that APS is not doing enough to correct gender discrimination - it is often an afterthought in APS program development, and sometimes not thought about at all. This is unacceptable for a field that displays such huge gender bias (though I am not saying APS has this bias, just that it doesn't help).
- I am grateful that you keep it very short. It has a very low barrier to my picking it up.
- I am happy to be part of this excellent organization. The APS is also very good value for money
- I am leaving the survey
- I am long retired and continue to be a member of APS primarily because I bought a life membership many years ago. Judy Franz and I were instrumental in forming FIAP so I particularly appreciate seeing how that unit has evolved over the years via their newsletter.
- I am mainly a reader, I have not published in Physics yet, and I am working as a mathematician. So I have not made use of the health or other insurance benefits APS has to offer.
- I am not a very active member but membership allows me to keep in touch with the field.
- I am only APS membership. I would like to have a possibility to submit article in APS journals and to take participation at APS meetings.
- I am presently seeking employment. I continue to use APS job seeker services, but I have to admit that I feel these services have not really benefited me. In particular, the few times I have registered for job fairs at conferences I have found employer participation to be very disappointing. There seems to be little participation from the private sector, and most of the positions advertised at the job fairs are for post-docs. It's not that I am unwilling to take a post-doc, but I am far too old and advanced in my (stalled) career to be seriously considered for one. (The fact that I am willing to accept a post-doc probably is a measure of my desperation in finding employment.)
- I am retired and would like to meet with physicists in my community. Maybe the APS can help.
- I am so much honored to be a part of APS. I am kept updated through many ways by APS. I am planning to participate in the events or journal publications actively with APS. Thank you.
- I am sorry for not realizing a cooperative research due to the government revenue.
- I apologize for not drawing inside the lines, but my experience with efforts such as you are engaged in do not usually provide a good path to improvements. I like what you do now. Challenges of cost of publication, changes in the fields of current fashion, dark matter, etc. are what should be of interest to all of us.
- I believe APS dues should be restructured so that members who lack tenure-track or tenured positions pay less, even if that means that tenured or tenure-track people pay more. I actually cancelled my membership during my postdoc years, when I no longer qualified for the reduced student rates and yet still did not have a permanent job. Many people are doing more and more postdocs, and the fee structure should recognize this. I then (happily) rejoined APS once I had a tenure-track job, and felt that my membership in the physics community as a whole was secure. It then became, I felt, my responsibility to support my professional lobbying organization.
- I did not answer 8. because I do not read APS News. I would like to start again to read it.
- I didn't feel comfortable with the person in charge of addressing letters my employer stating that I presented my paper in March meeting 2015. His response raises a doubt of "trust" between us. I am not complaining about him, but just expressing my feeling.
- I do not care about the emphasis on the color, race, sexual preference, etc. of physicists and if some should be encouraged more than others or not.
- I do not feel that I receive any benefits beyond being able to attend APS conferences. My membership has yet to significantly enrich my professional experience or development. I am only a member because I am a physicist.
- I do read the APS News, not all of it, but I do look cover to cover
- I enjoy reading Physics Today. However, given that there is a subscription fee (included albeit in the APS membership dues) it is extremely annoying that there are so many advertisements in Physics Today (a large fraction of the periodical is just advertisements). As a graduate student, 15 years ago, I was so annoyed that I cancelled my APS membership. Now, 15 years later, I am again a member of APS. However, I see that the amount of advertising is at least at the same level as before. Please reduce the amount of advertising! I would be willing to pay more for the subscription to Physics Today!
- I enjoyed the "back page" article in the Oct issue of APS News, "Towards An Industrial Physics Community". The article reflects my experience at the FFRDC where I work.
- I find it useful to obtain previously published articles from technical publications via APS membership

- I first felt like a physicist after attending my first March Meeting, in part because I attended the GSNP business meeting and found a warm and welcoming group of people doing work that I found fascinating.
- I greatly appreciate the support of APS to developing countries, and in particular their handling of 2001 economic crisis..
- I have been twice privileged to be an APS speaker (e.g. centennial speaker) This has taken me out of my comfort zone (big national lab/big research) to visit smaller colleges and interact with them This is truly what a society should do- foster contacts amongst its diverse membership
- I joined APS as a postdoc in the USA in the 1980s and became a life member after returning to Europe. I currently make little use of my membership beyond reading Physics Today and APS News.
- I like more than three aspects of APS News.
- I love my membership, I just struggle to find the time to do all the things I want. I get sent a lot of information that doesn't really pertain to me and I wish I could filter it down to the stuff that is important for me at this point in my career.
- I make use of the member insurance program, and I think this is very useful. I think APS is going to have to change a lot in the next several years as the membership demographics change. I also belong to ACS (though I'm not really a chemist) and I think that they are way ahead of us in making the transformation. I think Physics Today, and APS News need a real shake up. As does the journal division. I don't think it is serving the community very well. From my point of view there has been a big incursion recently by Nature, ACS, and the Royal Society of Chemistry into territory that used to be ours. APS journals have been too slow to react, and the ABCDELX categories don't seem to fit so well with what is going on in our field anymore. I feel like I submit to Physical Review out of nostalgia more than need.
- I occasionally read Physics today. I have attended one March meeting and plan to attend many more.
- I only read APS News because it is sent to me. Otherwise I would not seek it out. I have no favorite features. But I could not submit this survey without designating three in part 8. Hence my selection was somewhat random.
- I rarely find any articles pertaining to the field of Fluid Dynamics in the APS news letters
- I read several APS journals several times a week. If I could do that and attend conferences without being a member, I would, but it's necessary to be a member to do those things.
- I really rely on APS News and Physics Today to keep up-to-date on what's going on. Let me qualify that: I'm a Canadian citizen living in the States and working in a publicly held international company. So the political commentary is useful both for understanding US funding and research policy (which is influential) and policy changes worldwide. On a related note, when the helium shortage briefly impacted us severely, it was Physics Today (and APS News) which actually gave me background and context - very useful. The briefs are probably the most useful thing for me - they're very well-written and not only keep me up-to-date with recent happenings, they also keep my finger on the pulse of my old research field. The Physics Today articles are good in-depth reviews - it still is a challenge for authors to capture the big IDEAS. I know firsthand what a challenge it is to avoid falling into assumed knowledge and lingo of the sub-field; however, honestly, in at least 50% of the articles, the authors do fine for a paragraph or two - or a column or two, but then they lose it - and me. But that has been getting progressively better over the past 20 years. I do wish that Physics Today could also offer commentary more along the lines of what one reads in the front matter of Science or Nature, and that it gave SOME indication of what was going on in other fields outside of Physics. (Finally, as I allude to earlier in the survey, I really rely on (1) physics.org (2) Physics Today front matter and the occasional APS New article and (3) journal articles in that order to keep abreast of the Field. The main Physics Today articles then serve as "light reading" for me. They're never going to be useful as an introduction to a field, or as a survey - it's just not the right field, especially given my comments above about getting into the jargon too quickly.) Thank you all for the good work that you're doing!
- I simply want to be kept informed. One thing that is quite nice, is your annual (usually sent in the December or January issue of APS News) overview of major achievements in Physics in the past year.
- I think that membership mainly benefits people who actively look for ways to further their goals through APS services, and my experience is consistent with my passivity in pursuing new opportunities.
- I think that to encourage solidarity between physicists, personal columns & articles go a very long way. Strict reporting is not especially interesting
- I thought the handling of the book review by Physics Today was outstanding. I am very grateful to APS and Dr. Jermy Matthews for fairly and professionally handling the book review of my book, "Understanding LED Illumination". It was thorough and completely unbiased and done without my knowledge.
- I understand that advertisements are an important source of revenue for APS, so I am happy to pay for the journal, but I don't read the print version because of the overwhelming ad content.
- I usually read some of every article in every issue.
- I was disappointed to see the letter encouraging physicists to refuse to teach in Texas colleges because of the ruling allowing concealed carry.
- I wish there was more information and discussion on policy. I wish there were dedicated discussion boards or forums on the APS website where regular members such as me could be more actively involved with the APS community as part of my regular

internet routines. I see no ability to actively participate in daily discussions with the broader APS community outside of Facebook, which isn't as effective a platform for gauging the member community as are forums.

- I would like to join a graduate college in US. So, Firstly, APS gives me opportunity to meet the experts in the field I am working on. Secondly, it helps me keep updated about the physics developments.
- I would very much prefer to receive APS news and physics today through an app for iPad (or similar device) instead of in print. I think this is a terrible waste of resources. As a scientific organization, I think APS should increase its commitments to sustainability.
- If the APS continues to make an issue of homosexuality or transvestitism, I will resign.
- If the APS would do something meaningful about gender discrimination in physics, I'd feel more positive about the organization. I've endured hostile "joking" and irrelevant, disrespectful gender-based remarks for over 3 decades. The atmosphere at APS meetings is really off-putting. I love the intellectual content but am hoping to be able to retire early, to get out of an oppressively hierarchical culture that values one-upsMANship over all else.
- I'm a life member. I'm proud of the quality of the APS journals. I have been a unit officer recently and I really enjoy the APS staff, especially the folks I interact with related to the March Meeting: Christine Lenihan, Don Mewha, Vinaya S. I've also had good interactions with Ted Hodapp, Mark Elsesser, Kate Kirby, James Riordan, Rebecca Thompson, and Monica Plisch. If my dues are going to pay the salaries of the APS staff, then yay, you all have competent people working for the APS. I really enjoy being an APS member.
- I'm interested in physics education research. I understand there is a PER group at APS and I would like to attend a meeting to see what is up with that group and maybe make some connections. But so far it hasn't worked out.
- In my opinion, online access to the APS journals (in my case PRD and PRL) should be free of cost for the APS members. This would be a good value for the membership fee we pay, particularly for the members residing and working outside of the US, as many of us hardly get to use the other benefits that the members in the US enjoy. That would make the APS membership very attractive and also substantially increase the foreign members.
- Information about the Congressional Fellowship is appreciated, as is all travel awards offered.
- It is always interesting to know how regional physics related activities (primarily in North America & Europe) may have greater impact to development of physics education and research in the Far East.
- It is disappointing to me how much time and expense was spent on corporate reform. It will be interesting to see if it makes any difference in the efficacy of APS.
- It was valuable when I was an active scientist and faculty member, especially during my post-doc year in USA (1956 - 57) and two sabbatical years in USA, plus several summer visits.
- Looks good on the resume but not useful for an industrial physicist
- Maybe the APS NewsLetter can be reduced to a bi-monthly production to save the cost, if this is what this survey is about.
- Mostly I am a silent member. I am a member of CIP, as this is my primary interest in APS.
- My affiliation, honestly, is a waste of money... but I pay the dues out of a desire to feel like the time I spent on my degree actually had some value. But in the last 5 years I've only read one article that piqued my interest in Physics Today, a historical one on T. D. Lee. And even that was pretty underwhelming.
- My primary affiliation is with the American Astronomical Society, and APS is secondary. That's why my answers are relatively lukewarm -- it's just not my main professional focus. I think that's fine, and there's nothing about the lukewarmness of my answers that indicates APS is doing anything wrong.
- Newsbrief summaries are looked forward to each week.
- Not sure what the phrase 'regular work process' means. I read APS News in print when it reaches my mailbox. Neither 'work' nor a 'process' of any significance is involved here.
- One major challenge for any professional society is how to add value for its members so that they continue to be members. APS does a lot of important things. One thing that I really appreciate is the APS role on Capitol Hill and POPA.
- Physics today is an excellent journal to keep the community informed. There are very good papers about important subjects to all audiences. Good section concerning recent findings in research. Good section about job opportunities. Concerning APS News, I appreciate very much the History of physics column.
- Please: I only need ONE copy of Physics Today.
- Received small funds to help organize graduate student events at the University of Campinas, Campinas, SP, Brazil (as an International Friend of APS)
- Recommend merging APS News and Physics Today.
- Right now my main APS interaction is through the Four Corners meeting. We took 15 undergrads to the meeting this year. The cadets really enjoyed the meeting, and we will be back. Four Corners does a great job!
- See comments above

- Since I retired, my main interests are in conceptual core physics and have gravitated away from multidisciplinary physics --- such as "green energy" and "sustainability".
- Society news, including APS news, has a tendency to dwell in the past, publishing countless obituaries of past members and recounting the history of physics etc. While I recognize that some might see a need for this kind of thing, it is a bit out of touch with what the large majority of the younger community is interested in.
- The APS is great. I teach intro physics for majors and always tell my students that until they join the APS they can't call themselves physicists
- The APS journal review processes are not serving the community as well as it had in the past, primarily due to the rapidly increasing number of submissions. Although the increasingly higher standards for acceptance are difficult to argue about, the primary service of the editorial staff should be to facilitate the publication of scientific research without unreasonable demands.
- The APS membership is highly ranked in the physics and educational communities. If you are an APS member that is active as an author for APS journals, and a referee for APS journals, than you are considered to be an active researcher with good CV. So, it is very valuable to be an APS member.
- The APS seems mostly oriented towards academic physicists. There are many physicists doing basic research in government labs, but the parts of APS dedicated to industrial physicists seem to assume that researchers outside academia only work on a few narrow applied topics, while research at some government labs is very diverse.
- The Life Insurance benefits are extremely important to me!
- The only reason I'm filling out this survey is to comment on the meeting process and to urge APS to revise.
- The quality of the Back Page articles varies a lot. It's sometimes the most insightful piece in an edition of APS News, but other times it lacks the intellectual rigor or pointedness I appreciate in the rest of the articles.
- There is a tendency, especially since the change of APS governance, of sending far too much information to members, hence asking for their attention far too often. It feels like once you join, the APS aims at becoming the center of your professional life; whereas, at least for me but I assume there are others feeling the same, the APS is just one of many sources of information involved in their scientific professional life.
- There was nothing on here about the tremendous efforts of the APS Diversity team. I'm in a small subfield of physics and APS is one of the closest professional organizations to offer networking activities and support for women and minorities. It's rather telling that this entire enterprise was left off the survey, especially as a possible reason for membership.
- To have a global affiliation with APS to buy articles remains too expensive for receiving and reading the APS news in print. And APJ in print remains too expensive for student or graduate out of US universities. Then it would be better to retain new researchers and physicists from other structures, like me, who can read, learn and especially publish grove APS . Because science is the search for truth. Medicine is an art not a science. And My equation fit great with clinical data. But those are not very understandable without the physical descriptions I made.
- well run organization

What is your profession?

- Administrator
- Analyst
- Applied Mathematics (17)
- applied physicist
- applied statistician/physicist
- Assistant Professor
- Attorney
- biomedical imaging
- Biostatistician
- both physicist and mathematician
- Both physics and chemistry
- Business executive
- Business Strategy Consultant, Author
- Chemical & AMO physics
- chemical physicist
- Chief Technology Officer, Scanalytics Inc.
- Climate Scientist (2)
- Clinical Researcher
- College physics instructor
- Communications
- Company employee, but I have Ph.D
- Computational Scientist (3)
- computer applications
- Computer scientist
- computer scientist, mathematician
- Consultant in national security
- course manager of physics courses
- Creative Design Specialist
- curator historian
- currently unemployed, work in industrial and laboratory instrumentation
- Data Analyst
- data scientist
- Earth and environmental science
- Educational Administrator
- Electrical Power and Research Engineer
- Engineering Academic
- Engineering Physicist
- engineering student
- Entrepreneur (2)

- Entrepreneur and Investor
- Executive
- Finance professional
- Financial Services
- Fluid Mechanics
- Fluid mechanics researcher
- Former physicist, now teacher
- Geophysicist
- Government Analyst
- Grad student (biophysics)
- Graduate Student (3)
- High performance computing applications researcher
- Historian of Physics
- Homeopathic Practitioner
- Human Resources (Student in Physics)
- I am a theoretical physics, jobwise close to Astrophysics
- Was trained in Physics with Math; but as theorist I can work in many fields -- and have done so.
- Applied Mathematician
- Laboratory management
- Lawyer
- Lecturer in mathematics/applied mathematics
- Line Manager
- Linguist
- Manage and contributor to Silicon Device Development
- Management Consultant
- Material Scientist (12)
- Math Professor
- mathematical
- mathematical physicist
- Mathematician (13)
- Mathematician (Applied)
- Medical Physicist
- meteorologist
- Nano biotechnology and biophysics
- Neuromodulation for intractable Pain Relief
- Neuroscientist
- Oceanographer
- Operations Manager of Equipment Engineers
- part time editor/part time tutor
- PhD candidate in physics
- PhD Scholar
- Physician
- physicist - retired
- Physicist and Biophysicist
- Physicist and Engineer
- physicist and financial researcher
- Physics Professor/Teacher (5)
- Physics student (3)
- pilot
- Planetary Scientist
- Policy analyst / Government official
- principal investigator
- Professor (4)
- programmer
- Project management
- Public Policy
- Quant
- Quantitative Analyst, Data Scientist
- Radiation Oncologist
- Recent Graduate searching for jobs
- Research professor in engineering/technology
- Research Scientist
- Research Scientist for Food Manufacturing Co.
- Retired (13)
- Retired from Aeronautical Industry
- Sales Engineer
- science educator
- science policy/government relations
- Science writer
- Scientific Programmer
- Scientist
- Software architect/developer (4)
- Student (19)
- Systems Engineer (2)
- Technical Manager in Materials Development Group
- Tutor
- Unemployed (2)
- University Administrator
- university teacher
- Veterinarian
- Web Developer

What is your ethnicity/race?

- Arabic
- Egyptian white reddish
- I am Americano from the south grandchild of emigrants who by boat arrived to the welcoming Argentina's state-union at the turn of the 20th century
- Middle-Eastern
- Mediterranean
- Mixed (3)
- Mixed-Latino
- South Asian (2)
- Sri Lankan
- This question is irrelevant and insulting.
- This should not matter.
- White-Asian mixed

Do you identify as:

- "Identify as" ? What kind of PC crap is that. You *are* male or female
- "Identify as" ???? Very stupid question
- 80% Asexual
- Agender
- Are you serious?
- Are you serious? What the hell kind of question is this? And what does it have to do with being a physicist?
- Asexual (2)
- does it matter?
- GAD!!! You really worry about that!
- Human (2)
- I do not see the importance of this information
- I don't see the relevance of this question.
- I even do not know what is queer and what is fluid.
- Normal Male (2)
- Note: Transgender is NOT a sexual orientation. Learn the difference.
- Old Busted Rodeo Clown
- Pansexual (3)
- Please do not add to gender confusion - people are born either male or female.
- Polyamorous
- Sapiosexual
- Single sex
- Still in confusion
- This is a really stupid question
- this is a silly question, what does this have to do with the APS? I am willing to tell but not without a clear indication why this is relevant.
- THIS on a physics survey I feel is out of line.
- This question is irrelevant and disgraceful.
- This should not matter.
- This would seem to be outside your realm of concern.
- trans transgender
- Transgender Man
- what does this have to do with science
- what relation has this question to physics?
- why are you asking this?
- Why does that matter for this survey?
- with my wife had 5 grownup children. I defend all groups and inclinations
- WTF with this question (2)

Which of the following best describes your primary employer?

- 2-year College
- Adjunct Prof.: No pay, no obligations; semi-retired
- Airline
- Between Jobs
- Christian Nonprofit
- currently unemployed, assisting wife in tech startup
- Defense / Aerospace
- DOE funded research in private industry setting
- Federal Government Agency (3)
- FFRDC (2)
- Funding agency
- Giant Magellan Telescope Organization is a 501c(3)
- Government contractor/Subcontractor (2)
- Government Postgraduate Education
- Government Research Funding Agency
- Government
- Graduate Fellowship (2)
- High School - Teaching
- I am a consultant working for a small company at a Government Research Agency
- I am retired and rehired half time as Research Professor
- I am supported by retirement funds and also by an NSF grant.
- I'm a full-time undergrad obtaining a Bachelor's of Science in Physics
- I'm a graduate student.
- Independent non-profit Research Institute
- Industry - small business (SBIR/grant based) (unfair to lump small businesses outside industry)
- Industry however doing Physics in spare time
- International Organization
- Lockheed Martin Aeronautics
- Looking for full time employment
- Museum
- Non-profit organization (5)
- not employed in a full-time permanent job (2)
- Part-time liberal and fine arts student
- presently unemployed
- Private Research Institute
- Publicly funded research institute
- Research Academician Institute
- Retired and self-employed
- retired from both DoD and academe; continue research
- retired industry; part time research professor
- Run my own law practice
- Searching for employment
- Student (10)
- sustained unemployment
- Think Tank
- Two year college
- U.S. Government Research Funding Agency
- unemployed (2)
- universities, national labs, fed, self-employed, retired
- University most of career and now Government research facility
- Was a University. Emeritus now but still active at Univ.
- your mom