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February 22, 2022

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Vice Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chair
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Leahy, Chair DeLauro, Vice Chair Shelby, and Ranking Member Granger,

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to completing the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 appropriations process. Throughout the FY 2022 deliberations, the organizations we lead, [Population Association of America](#) (PAA) and [Association of Population Centers](#) (APC), have communicated our spending priorities both as individual organizations and as members of coalitions, such as the Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research, Coalition for National Science Funding, Coalition for Health Funding, and The Census Project. As you enter the final stage of your deliberations, we urge you to support the following spending levels for our priority federal agencies:

Agency	Supported Funding Level
National Institutes of Health	\$49 billion
National Science Foundation	\$9.6 billion
National Center for Health Statistics	\$190.4 million
Institute of Education Sciences	\$814.5 million
Census Bureau	\$1.442 billion
Bureau of Labor Statistics	\$700.7 million
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	\$380 million

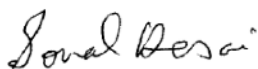
As you may know, PAA and APC are two affiliated organizations that together represent over 3,000 behavioral and social scientists and over 40 federally funded population research centers nationwide. Population scientists include demographers, economists, and sociologists who conduct research on population trends and the individual, societal, and environmental causes and consequences of population change.

Our members rely on the federal agencies highlighted in this letter for direct and indirect support of our scientific and applied research and training activities in the public and private sectors. The National Institutes of Health (National Institute on Aging and the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in particular) is the largest source of competitive, discretionary federal funding for the population sciences, while the National Science Foundation and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality are two other important sources of federal support. Data produced by the federal statistical agencies, especially the Census Bureau, the National Center for Health Statistics, National Center for Education Statistics, and the Bureau of Labor Statistics, are essential sources of indirect support for the field. Illustrations of how our members have used support from these agencies to address, most notably, the COVID-19 pandemic are posted on the PAA home page at: <https://www.populationassociation.org/viewdocument/population-science-insights-into-t>

Our organizations support your efforts to resolve the final FY 2022 appropriations process. While Continuing Resolutions (CR) keep the federal government open, they impede progress in the field. For example, over the course of the most recent CRs, we have heard from population scientists whose approved grants have not been awarded, while existing grant awards have been reduced. In some cases, these funding delays have compelled scientists to suspend survey research and precluded their ability to recruit survey participants, gather data, and hire graduate students and administrative staff. These anecdotes illustrate why completion of the FY 2022 appropriations process is so important to the population sciences.

Thank you for considering our views as you negotiate the final FY 2022 appropriations bills. We are grateful for the support that both the House and Senate Appropriations Committees have expressed for our agencies of interest in FY 2022 and look forward to working with you during the FY 2023 appropriations cycle.

Sincerely,



Dr. Sonalde Desai
President
Population Association of America



Dr. Sara R. Curran
President
Association of Population Centers