

THE ASSOCIATION OF POPULATION CENTERS

The Association of Population Centers is an organization of almost 40 interdisciplinary centers located at universities and research organizations whose mission is to foster collaborative demographic research and data sharing, translate basic population research for policymakers, and provide educational and training opportunities in population studies.

THE POPULATION ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

The Population Association of America is a non-profit, scientific, professional organization that promotes research on population issues. The more than 3,000 individual PAA members—including demographers, economists, health scientists, sociologists and statisticians—are committed to studying and communicating the implications of population change. Their diverse interests include adolescent health, aging, childcare, marriage and divorce, fertility, immigration and migration, minority health, morbidity and mortality, population forecasting, and retirement.



PAA Member and advocate Dr. Mark VanLandingham, Tulane University, meets with House Speaker Mike Johnson to discuss the importance of federally funded agencies that support population research.



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Office of Government and Public Affairs

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2026 Committee

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www.populationassociation.org

www.popcenters.org

WHERE DEMOGRAPHY MEETS DEMOCRACY

PAA and APC work together to educate policy-makers about population research outcomes and support the federal agencies that focus on population—or demographic—research. These objectives are achieved through the work of the PAA/APC Government and Public Affairs Committee (GPAC), whose mission is to:

- » Educate federal policymakers about the importance of population research and the federal agencies that indirectly and directly support it.
- » Articulate views of PAA/APC members on relevant issues before the legislative and executive branches of government.
- » Inform PAA and APC leadership and members about relevant issues and engage their participation in advocacy.

With support from the director and deputy director of Government and Public Affairs, GPAC accomplishes its mission by:

- » Participating in coalitions promoting the interests of the behavioral and social science research community.
- » Sponsoring briefings, conducting meetings, producing fact sheets, submitting testimony, and responding to federal proposals.
- » Reporting to PAA/APC members and leadership on the status of relevant policy issues and recommending action.

GET INVOLVED

- » Respond to PAA Action Alerts and share views with elected officials
- » Participate in congressional briefings & seminars
- » Learn how to be an effective advocate for population research by visiting www.populationassociation.org
- » Communicate with federal policymakers and staff in Washington, DC and in home districts

ANNUAL VISITS TO WASHINGTON

Each year, a delegation of select members from GPAC and invited members of PAA and APC visit key congressional members and staff as well as federal agencies including the National Institute on Aging, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Science Research, Office of Management and Budget and the National Science Foundation.

The purpose of these visits is to educate congressional staff and federal officials about the importance of funding demographic research and to discuss current issues facing the field.



PAA Advocacy Day delegation from Minnesota pauses for a photo during a full day of meetings on Capitol Hill to discuss the importance of federal support—direct and indirect—for population research.



Dr. Jennifer Scuibba (Population Reference Bureau) addresses the audience during a 2025 congressional briefing on the national and international birth rate trends and evidence on the effects of policy incentives. Also featured, Dr. Karen Benjamin Guzzo (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) and Dr. Melissa Kearney (University of Notre Dame).

PAA/APC COALITIONS

PAA and APC collaborate with scientific and policy organizations to advocate for behavioral and social science research and the federal agencies that support it.

- » Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research
- » Census Project
- » Coalition for Health Funding
- » Coalition for National Science Funding
- » Consortium of Social Science Associations
- » Friends of Labor Statistics
- » Friends of National Center for Health Statistics
- » Friends of the Institute of Education Science
- » Friends of the National Institute on Aging
- » Friends of the National Institute on Child Health and Human Development
- » Friends of NIH BSSR
- » Gun Violence Prevention Research Roundtable
- » International Family Planning Coalition