



Congressional Briefing on U.S. Fertility Trends

Speakers Bios

Karen Benjamin Guzzo, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill

Karen Benjamin Guzzo is a family demographer and sociologist, and she serves as Director of the Carolina Population Center and is a Professor of Sociology at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her area of specialization is family sociology and demography. Dr. Guzzo's research has been funded by multiple grants from the NICHD Population Dynamics Branch (PDB), the Office of Planning, Research, and Evaluation (OPRE) within the Administration for Children and Families in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and the National Science Foundation. She serves as a member of the Population Association of America's Board of Directors and was a Board Member-at-Large for the National Council on Family Relations from 2016-2019. She has served as a Deputy Editor for *Demography* since 2017 and serves on the Editorial Boards of the *Journal of Marriage and Family*, *Family Transitions*, and *Journal of Family Theory and Review*. She is the chair of the American Sociological Association's (ASA) Sociology of Population section.

Melissa S. Kearney, University of Notre Dame

Melissa S. Kearney is the Gilbert F. Schaefer Professor of Economics at the University of Notre Dame and the Director of the Aspen Economic Strategy Group. She is a Research Associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research; a scholar affiliate and member of the board of the Notre Dame Wilson-Sheehan Lab for Economic Opportunities; and a non-resident Senior Fellow at Brookings. She was on the economics faculty at the University of Maryland from 2006-2025. Kearney is a labor and public finance economist who specializes in US poverty, inequality, policy, and the economics of the family. She is the author of *The Two-Parent Privilege: How Americans Stopped Getting Married and Started Falling Behind* (University of Chicago Press, 2023). She serves on the Board of MDRC, and was previously on the Board of Governors of the Smith Richardson Foundation, Director of the Hamilton Project at Brookings, and co-chair of the JPAL State and Local Innovation Initiative. She holds a BA in Economics from Princeton University and a PhD in Economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where she studied on a National Science Foundation graduate student fellowship and a Harry S Truman fellowship.

Jennifer D. Sciubba, Population Reference Bureau

Jennifer D. Sciubba is President & CEO of the Population Reference Bureau in Washington, DC, and an affiliate of the Hess Center for New Frontiers at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. A former tenured professor at Rhodes College, Dr. Sciubba has studied at the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research in Rostock, Germany, and served as a consultant on demographics to the U.S. Office of the Secretary of Defense (Policy). She is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and the Council on Foreign Relations. Dr. Sciubba earned her Ph.D. and M.A. from the University of Maryland and her B.A. from Agnes Scott College. Dr. Sciubba brings demographic insights to wide audiences, translating research for outlets such as *The Atlantic*, *Harvard Business Review*, *The Washington Post*, and TED, while also publishing policy-relevant scholarship in journals and edited volumes.