

PAA and APC urge Congress to pass completed FY 2025 bills in a timely manner. Long-term continuing resolutions and government shutdowns disrupt the ability of population scientists to conduct research and training, receive grant and contract awards, recruit study participants, retain staff, conduct data collection in the field, and access data from Federal statistical agencies.

PAA/APC's Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Priorities

Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations Subcommittee

National Institutes of Health (NIH) » Support Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research recommendation, \$51.3 billion. This amount would represent a \$3.579 billion or 7.5% increase over the comparable FY 2024 funding level approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee, allowing NIH's base budget to keep pace with the biomedical research and development price index (BRDPI) and meaningful growth of roughly 5%. Strong growth above BRDPI for the NIH provides critical, sustained funding for additional research. NIH (especially the National Institute on Aging and National Institute of Child Health and Human Development) is the primary source of discretionary competitive funding for grants, surveys, training awards, centers, and networks essential to supporting the population sciences. Additionally, PAA and APC concur that funding for the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health should supplement, not supplant, NIH support.

National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) » Support Friends of NCHS recommendation, \$220 million. This request reflects a \$33 million increase to NCHS over its FY 2023 enacted level. Since 2010, NCHS has lost 19% of its purchasing power. A funding increase in FY 2025 will not only maintain the agency's mission as the nation's principal health statistics agency, but also enable NCHS to devise new technologies and methodologies to address declining survey response rates, improve data quality, granularity, timeliness, and access, expand the National Health Interview Survey and National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, and enhance vital statistics, particularly mortality data. Population scientists use NCHS data to analyze trends in fertility, mortality, and health outcomes and conduct research on social determinants of health.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) » Support Friends of AHRQ recommendation, \$500 million. This request, endorsed by PAA and APC as members of the Friends of AHRQ, is \$126.5 million above AHRQ's FY 2023 enacted level. AHRQ funds health services research that focuses on the delivery of effective and efficient medical care, including prevention of dangerous and deadly medical errors. AHRQ is attracting attention as an increasingly important scholarly setting and potential source of grant support for population scientists. In addition, population scientists use data from the agency's surveys and electronic health records to inform their own studies and research training activities.

Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) » Support Friends of BLS recommendation, \$812 million. This request is \$114 million above BLS' FY 2023 enacted level. PAA and APC urge Congress to sustain increased support for the agency so they can further efforts to modernize surveys and enhance secure public access to BLS datasets. BLS is implementing a new long overdue cohort of the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth. This new cohort is necessary given the survey can no longer provide information about people under the age of 25 and the original cohort is entering retirement age. Population scientists use BLS data to understand how work, unemployment, and retirement influence health and well-being across the lifespan.

Institute of Education Science (IES) » Support Friends of IES recommendation, \$900 million. This request is \$92.4 million above the agency's FY 2023 enacted level. A component of the U.S. Department of Education, IES supports seminal research on myriad aspects of education, teaching and learning. The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), part of IES, collects data and compiles statistics that inform research, instruction, evaluation, and planning decisions made by population scientists working in applied and academic research sectors. Limited funding and staff resources have precluded NCES from providing real-time data.

Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Subcommittee

Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) and National Institute of Justice (NIJ) » Support Friends of Justice BJS and NIJ funding recommendations, \$75 million and \$60 million, respectively. The coalition's recommendations would provide BJS with a \$33 million increase and NIJ with a \$25 million increase over the agencies' FY 2023 enacted levels. Both agencies are important sources of data and funding for population scientists conducting research on topics such as prisoner reentry, the social and environmental dynamics of health and crime, and the effects of incarceration across the lifespan.

Census Bureau » Support The Census Project recommendation, \$2 billion. The coalition's recommendation is approximately \$500 million over the Census Bureau's FY 2023 enacted level. In FY 2025, the nation is only five years from the next decennial census. Increased funding is necessary to strengthen and enhance research and preparations for the 2030 Census and modernize, consolidate, and integrate legacy survey frames, and improve the American Community Survey, which provides continuous demographic data. Increased funding will also support efforts to revise federal race and ethnicity data collection standards, research enhanced uses of administrative records, and address the undercount of young children. Population scientists use census data to monitor changes in the nation's population and to inform research and evaluation activities.

National Science Foundation (NSF) » Support Coalition for National Science Funding recommendation, \$11.9 billion. This amount, which is approximately \$2.4 billion above the agency's FY 2023 enacted level, aligns with the authorization level mandated in the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022 (P.L. 117-167). PAA and APC are particularly interested in ensuring that the NSF Social, Behavioral and Economic (SBE) Directorate receives sufficient funding to sustain its support of competitively awards individual research projects and large data infrastructure projects, including the Panel Study of Income Dynamics, General Social Survey, and Census Bureau Research Data Centers. Although the SBE Directorate represents only between 4-5% of NSF's total research budget, its awards are 60% of all federal research dollars for the social sciences.

State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee

United States Agency for International Development (USAID) » Increase funding for bilateral and multilateral family planning and reproductive health (FP/RH) account. PAA and APC urge support for funding to support the agency's research activities, especially the Demographic and Health Surveys program, which collects and disseminates accurate and representative data on population, maternal and child health, HIV, preventative care, and nutrition through more than 400 surveys conducted in over 90 countries.

The [Population Association of America \(PAA\)](#) and the [Association of Population Centers \(APC\)](#) are two organizations representing over 3,000 behavioral and social scientists and over 40 federally funded population research centers nationwide. Population scientists are demographers, economists, sociologists, and epidemiologists who study topics such as population aging, health, mortality, fertility, immigration, migration, and families.