

# Population Association of America/ Association of Population Centers

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The **Population Association of America** and **Association of Population Centers** are two affiliated organizations that represent over 3,000 population scientists—including demographers, economists, sociologists and statisticians—and more than 40 federally-funded population research centers nationwide. Population scientists conduct scientific research on population trends and the individual, societal and environmental implications of population change. Their research expertise covers a wide range of issues, including but not limited to: adolescent health and development, aging, health disparities, immigration and migration, marriage and divorce, education, social networks, housing, retirement, and labor.

## PAA/APC's Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Priorities

### Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations Subcommittee

**National Institutes of Health (NIH) » Support the [Ad Hoc Group for Medical Research recommendation, \\$41.6 billion](#).** This request, which is \$3.5 billion over the agency's FY 2019 program level spending, represents real growth above the rate of biomedical inflation and would fund targeted initiatives authorized by the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act. This funding level would continue a trajectory of \$2 billion increases the NIH has received in recent years helping to restore its footing after years of flat funding. NIH is the primary source of discretionary competitive funding for population scientists, supporting grants, surveys, databases, and research centers that are relied on to conduct research and research training activities.

**National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) » Support the [Friends of NCHS recommendation, \\$175 million](#).** This request is \$15 million above the agency's FY 2019 funding level. Since FY 2011, NCHS has been essentially flat funded. As a result, the agency's base funding remains below FY 2010 levels, adjusted for inflation. NCHS needs increased funding not only to keep pace with necessary survey innovations, but also to sustain base operations, including maintaining its core surveys, such as the National Health Interview Survey, and releasing vital statistics. Population scientists use NCHS data to analyze trends in fertility, mortality, and health outcomes.

**Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) » Support the [Friends of Labor Statistics recommendation, \\$655 million](#).** This recommendation represents an increase of \$40 million over the agency's FY 2019 funding level. BLS has not received a robust funding increase since 2009. Years of stagnant funding have compelled the agency to reduce staff, eliminate programs, and now threaten data quality. BLS needs increased funding to sustain and modernize surveys, such as the National Longitudinal Surveys program and American Time Use Survey, and to ensure secure public access to BLS datasets. Population scientists use BLS data to understand how work, unemployment, and retirement influence health and well-being outcomes across the lifespan.

### Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations Subcommittee

**Census Bureau » Support the [Census Project recommendation, not less than \\$8 billion](#).** This recommendation is \$4.2 billion above the FY 2019 level. The increase is consistent with previous increases in the final year of the decennial census cycle. Funding is crucial to ensure smooth Census 2020 operations: fully staff field offices; hire, train and deploy enumerators; deploy all IT systems; continue the Partnership Program and Communications Campaign to help ensure hard-to-count populations participate in the 2020 Census; conduct follow up of non-responding households; and, by December 31, submit State population totals and congressional apportionment to the President as required by law. Decennial census data are the primary source of information regarding changes in the nation's demographic, housing, and socioeconomic characteristics and inform all research and research training activities conducted by population scientists.

**National Science Foundation (NSF) » Support the [Coalition for National Science Funding recommendation, \\$8.9 billion](#)**, a roughly \$800 million increase above the FY 2019 funding level. Funding at this amount would reflect a 10% increase for FY 2020. NSF’s funding over the last decade has been relatively stagnant and not kept pace with major economic competitors, such as China, which have sharply increased their investment in basic research. The request includes an investment to support fundamental science funded by the NSF Social, Behavioral and Economic (SBE) Directorate, which has stagnated at level funding for several years. Although the SBE Directorate represents only between 4-5 percent of NSF’s total research budget, the grants awarded through this program account for over 50% of all federal research dollars for the social sciences.

**State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee**

**United States Agency for International Development (USAID) » [Restore funding for bilateral and multilateral family planning and reproductive health \(FP/RH\) account](#)**. The Administration has proposed slashing funding for these activities in each of its past two budget requests. PAA and APC urge support for funding that is sufficient to support the agency’s research activities, especially the Demographic and Health Surveys program, which collects and disseminates accurate and representative data on population, health, HIV, and nutrition through more than 400 surveys in over 90 countries. The FP/RH account has been level funded for three years.

Agency	FY 2019 Final	PAA/APC FY 2020 Request	Difference
<b>Labor-HHS-Education</b>			
NIH	\$38.1 billion	\$41.6 billion	+6.4%
NCHS	\$160 million	\$175 million	+9.3%
Bureau of Labor Statistics	\$615 million	\$655 million	+6.5%
<b>Commerce-Justice-Science</b>			
Census Bureau	\$3.821 billion	\$8 billion	+109%
National Science Foundation	\$8.075 billion	\$8.9 billion	+10%
<b>State-Foreign Operations</b>			
US AID: Global Health Accounts	\$607.5 million	Not less than \$607.5 million	n/a

