

Committee on National Statistics

Committee

Katharine G. Abraham

Chair

Katharine Abraham (NAS) is distinguished university professor of economics and survey methodology at the University of Maryland, College Park. She formerly served as commissioner of the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, as a member of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, and as chair of the U.S. Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking. Her published research includes papers on the contingent workforce, the work and retirement decisions of older Americans, unemployment and job vacancies, and the measurement of economic activity. She is a member of the National Academy of Sciences and American Academy of Arts and Sciences; a distinguished fellow of the American Economic Association; and a fellow of both the American Statistical Association and the Society of Labor Economists. She has served on numerous Academies panels in the past. She has a B.S. degree in economics from Iowa State University and a Ph.D. in economics from Harvard University. She was a member of the recent consensus panel on An Integrated System of U.S. Household Income, Wealth, and Consumption Data and Statistics to Inform Policy and Research and previously served as a member of numerous studies including the Committee on Contingent Work and Alternate Work Arrangements.

William (Sandy) A. Darity, Jr

Member

William (Sandy) A. Darity, Jr. is the Samuel DuBois Cook Professor of Public Policy, African and African American Studies, and Economics and the director of the Samuel DuBois Cook Center on Social Equity at Duke University. He has served as chair of the Department of African and African American Studies and was the founding director of the Research Network on Racial and Ethnic Inequality at Duke. Darity's research focuses on inequality by race, class and ethnicity, stratification economics, skin shade and labor market outcomes, the economics of reparations, the Atlantic slave trade and the Industrial Revolution, and the social psychological effects of exposure to unemployment. He was a visiting scholar at the Russell Sage Foundation and a fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University. He is also a past president of the National Economic Association, the Southern Economic Association, and the Association of Black Sociologists. He was named as a W.E.B. Du Bois Fellow of the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences in 2022 and as a Distinguished Fellow of the Southern Economic Association in 2023. He received his Ph.D. in economics from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Darity is a current member of the National Academies' panel on An Integrated System of U.S. Household Income, Wealth, and Consumption Data and Statistics to Inform Policy and Research and previously served on numerous panels including The Science of Unconscious Bias: Implications for Law and Policy: A Workshop.

Roe Gutman

Member

Roe Gutman is a professor of biostatistics at the Brown University School of Public Health with extensive experience in developing statistical methods to evaluate the effectiveness of health policies and medical interventions. His primary research interests include estimating causal effects from observational data, designing and analyzing randomized clinical trials, developing methods to link data sources in the absence of unique identifiers, and equating health measurements across multiple scales. He received the Brown University School of Public Health Dean's Award for Excellence in Research Collaboration, the International Society for Pharmacoeconomics and Outcomes Research (ISPOR) Health Economics Outcomes and Research Methodology Award, and he was an ASA/NSF/BLS Senior Research Fellow. He earned a B.S. in statistics, operations research, and computer science, as well as an M.S. in statistics from Tel-Aviv University, and a Ph.D. in statistics from Harvard University. He served on the National Academies' panel on Decadal Survey of Behavioral and Social Science Research on Alzheimer's Disease and Alzheimer's Disease-Related Dementias. Gutman has received research funding from the National Science Foundation, the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute, and the National Institute on Aging.

Colleen M. Heflin

Member

Colleen M. Heflin is a professor of public administration and international affairs at Syracuse University. She has served as the associate dean of the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs and chair of the Department of Public Administration and International Affairs. She is regarded as a national expert on food insecurity, poverty, and social policy. Heflin's research has helped document the causes and consequences of food insecurity, identify the barriers and consequences of participation in nutrition programs, and understand the changing role of the public safety net in the lives of low-income Americans. She founded the University of Missouri Federal Statistical Research Data Center and Missouri Population, Education and Health Center. She has over twenty years of experience working with state and local administrative data. She received the W. Richard Scott Award for Distinguished Scholarship from the American Sociological Association in 2014. She was named a Family Self-Sufficiency and Stability Scholar from the US Department of Health and Human Services from 2012-2017. Heflin is a member of the Government and Public Affairs Committee for the Population Association of America (PAA). She received her B.A. in social sciences, Master's in public policy, and Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Michigan.

H.V. Jagadish

Member

H.V. Jagadish is the Edgar F. Codd Distinguished University Professor and Bernard A. Galler Collegiate Professor of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, and director of the Michigan Institute for Data Science. Jagadish is well known for his broad-ranging research on information management. He holds 37 patents, with an H-index of 94. He is a fellow of the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) and of American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has served on the board of the Computing Research Association. He has been an associate editor for the ACM Transactions on Database Systems, program chair of the ACM SIGMOD (Special Interest Group on Management of Data) annual conference, program chair of the ISMB conference, a trustee of the VLDB (Very Large DataBase) foundation, founding editor-in-chief of the Proceedings of the VLDB Endowment, and program chair of the VLDB Conference. Since 2016, he is editor of the Morgan & Claypool "Synthesis" Lecture Series on Data Management. He has won the David E. Liddle Research Excellence Award, the ACM SIGMOD Contributions Award, and the Distinguished Faculty Achievement Award at the University of Michigan. He received his Ph.D. in electrical engineering from Stanford University. He previously served on numerous National Academies' panels including Improving Federal Statistics for Policy and Social Science Research Using Multiple Data Sources and State-of-the-Art Estimation Methods.

Kristen M. Olson

Member

Kristen M. Olson is the Leland J. and Dorothy H. Olson Professor in sociology and Director of the Bureau of Sociological Research in the Department of Sociology at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Olson's research focuses on survey methods, with a particular focus on why measurement, nonresponse, and coverage errors occur in surveys, as well as survey costs. Olson recently finished a four-year term as editor-in-chief of the Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology, and is a member of American Statistical Association and the American Association for Public Opinion Research. She is an elected fellow of the American Statistical Association, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Midwest Association for Public Opinion Research. She is also currently part of an advisory committee for Social Science Research Solutions (SSRS). Olson has a M.S. degree in survey methodology from the Joint Program in Survey Methodology at the University of Maryland, College Park, and a Ph.D. in survey methodology from the University of Michigan. She previously served on National Academies' panels on Future Directions for Social and Behavioral Science Methodologies in the Next Decade: A Workshop, Contingent Work and Alternate Work Arrangements, Reengineering the Census Bureau's Annual Economic Surveys, and a Research Agenda for the Future of Social Science Data Collection.

Lloyd B. Potter

Member

Lloyd B. Potter has been Texas State Demographer of Texas since May 2010. In that capacity, he is director of the Texas Demographic Center at University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), where he is also professor of demography. Prior to joining the UTSA faculty and becoming state demographer, Potter directed the Center for Study and Prevention of Injury, Violence, and Suicide at Education Development Center, Inc., and the youth violence and suicide prevention program at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. His work focuses on application of demographic and social science methods in policy and public health settings. Potter has a B.S. degree in sociology from Texas A&M University, an M.S. degree in education from the University of Houston at Clear Lake, an M.P.H. from Emory University, and a Ph.D. in demography and sociology from the University of Texas at Austin. Potter recently served on the National Academies' Panel to Evaluate the Quality of the 2020 Census.

Nela Richardson

Member

Nela Richardson is ADP's Chief Economist and ESG Officer. As head of the ADP Research Institute (ADPRI), she leads economic research and provides reliable and timely analysis for the public, global and local businesses, and policymakers. Richardson led the launch of a high-frequency revamp of the renowned ADP® National Employment Report in collaboration with Stanford Digital Economy Lab. Together with her team of researchers, data scientists and financial markets experts, Richardson drives the Institute's mission to generate data-driven discoveries about the world of work through research initiatives. She has spoken at the the World Economic Forum Annual Conference in Davos and the Jackson Hole Economic Symposium. Richardson is also a regular contributor to top tier media outlets, including Marketplace from American Public Media, CNBC, Bloomberg, Fox Business, and The Wall Street Journal, among others. Richardson's MainStreet Macro blog offers insights on how economic conditions affect small businesses, workers, and households. Prior to her work at ADP, Richardson was principal and investment strategist at Edward Jones; served as chief economist at Redfin Corp.; and worked as a senior economist for Bloomberg, L.P. Nela serves on the Stanford Digital Economy Lab Advisory Group, CSIS Council of Geoeconomic Advisors and the World Economic Forum Council on the Future of Job Creation. She is a member of the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) Advisory Committee, the Conference of Business Economists, and the foundation board for the National Association of Business Economists. She earned a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Maryland, College Park with concentrations in financial economics, international finance and economic development. Richardson attained a master's degree in economics from the University of Pennsylvania and a bachelor's degree in mathematics, economics and philosophy from Indiana University in Bloomington. She previously served on the National Academies' Toward a Vision for a New Data Infrastructure for Federal Statistics and Social and Economic Research in the 21st Century and the Committee on Automation and the U.S. Work-force.

James X. Sullivan

Member

James X. Sullivan is a professor of economics at the University of Notre Dame and co-founder and director of the Wilson Sheehan Lab for Economic Opportunities, which is a research center that works with service providers and policymakers to identify effective and scalable solutions to reduce poverty in America. He serves on the National Poverty Research Center Advisory Board and the Institute for Research on Poverty. Previously, he served on the U.S. Commission on Social Impact Partnerships. His research examines the effectiveness of anti-poverty programs at the national, state, and local level. He also studies the consumption, saving, and borrowing behavior of poor households, as well as poverty and inequality measurement. Sullivan was recently appointed to American Economic Association's (AEA) Committee on Government Relations. He received a B.A. in economics from the University of Notre Dame and an M.A. and Ph.D. in economics from Northwestern University. He is currently serving on the National Academies' consensus study panel Federal Policy Impacts on Child Poverty.

Florencia Torche

Member

Florencia Torche (NAS) is the Edwards S. Sanford Professor of International Affairs and Sociology at Princeton University. Her research and writing focus on social inequality and social mobility, educational disparities, and marriage and family dynamics. Her recent scholarship has studied the influence of early-life exposures and circumstances—starting before birth—on individual health, development, and well-being using natural experiments and causal inference approaches. Torche is an elected member of the National Academy of Sciences, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the American Academy of Political and Social Sciences. Torche has led large data collection projects, including the first national social mobility surveys in Chile and in Mexico and her research has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the Russell Sage Foundation, and the Ford Foundation, among others. She has a Ph.D. in sociology from Columbia University. Torche recently served on the National Academies' panel on Research Agenda for Improving Economic and Social Mobility in the United States.

Salil Vadhan

Member

Salil Vadhan is the Vicky Joseph Professor of Computer Science and Applied Mathematics in the Harvard School of Engineering and Applied Sciences. His research in theoretical computer science spans computational complexity, cryptography, and data privacy. His work on data privacy includes numerous results delineating the border between what is possible and impossible with differential privacy, with recent work more focused on bringing differential privacy to practice. For the past decade, Vadhan has led the Harvard Privacy Tools Project, a broad effort to advance a multidisciplinary understanding of data privacy issues and build computational, statistical, legal, and policy tools to help address these issues in a variety of contexts. He co-founded and co-directs OpenDP, a community effort to build trustworthy, open-source software tools for statistical analysis of sensitive private data with the strong protections of differential privacy. Vadhan is a Simons Investigator and an ACM Fellow, and has received a Godel Prize, a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Bowden Award for Outstanding Research in Privacy-Enhancing Technologies, and the ACM Doctoral Dissertation Award. He serves without compensation on two advisory boards: the Validation Server Advisory Board at the Urban Institute and for the Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) Innovations in Data and Experiments for Action (IDEA) Initiative. He received his Ph.D. in applied mathematics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Vadhan recently served on the National Academies panel for A Roadmap for Disclosure Avoidance in the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP).