

GREGORY PAUL ACS
Director, Income and Benefits Policy Center
The Urban Institute

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Education:

- 1990 Ph.D., Economics and Social Work, University of Michigan—Ann Arbor
- 1988 MSW, Social Work, University of Michigan—Ann Arbor
- 1987 MA, Economics, University of Michigan—Ann Arbor
- 1985 AB, Economics, Georgetown University—Washington, DC

Career Brief:

Dr. Acs is the Director of The Urban Institute's Income and Benefits Policy Center. Previously, he served as Unit Chief for Labor and Income Security in the Congressional Budget Office's (CBO) Health and Human Resources Division and as Vice-President of the Association for Policy Analysis and Management. His research focuses on issues of social insurance, social welfare, and the compensation of workers. Most recently, he has completed a study of the factors contributing to persistently high unemployment in the U.S. and policy responses to that problem. Those responses include programs to improve workers' skills, modifications to Unemployment Insurance, and approaches to facilitate transitions back to work. In recent work, he has examined changes in economic mobility and economic security with a focus on low-income working families. Dr. Acs has also completed several reports on the well-being of children across living arrangements, how welfare policies influence family composition, and the status of families leaving welfare. In other work, he has examined how state and federal policies affect the incentives families face as they move from welfare to work.

In the past, Dr. Acs has studied impact of disabilities on the duration of welfare receipt and the ability of welfare recipients to work and/or participate in education and training programs using data from the Survey of Income and Program Participation. He has also studied the employment patterns of young women to determine the paths women take to achieve good jobs--jobs paying enough to leave women better off working than on welfare. Further, Dr. Acs has examined the causes and consequences of non-marital childbearing using data from the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth. In addition, Dr. Acs has examined trends in health insurance coverage over time. Dr. Acs has also assessed the impact of non-wage benefits on the earnings distribution using data from the Current Population Survey.

Professional Background:

2012 - Present	Director, Income and Benefits Policy Center—The Urban Institute
2010 - 2012	Unit Chief, Labor and Income Security, Congressional Budget Office
2009 - 2010	Senior Fellow—The Urban Institute (reclassification)
2006 - 2008	Principal Research Associate—The Urban Institute
1995 - 2005	Senior Research Associate — The Urban Institute
2004 - Present	Research Affiliate – National Poverty Center
1990 - 1994	Research Associate — The Urban Institute

Presentations, Project Reports, Publications, and Working Papers:***Books and Papers***

Acs, Gregory and Paul Johnson. 2015. Housing Tax and Transfer Programs Decrease Inequality. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

<http://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/alfresco/publication-pdfs/2000342-Housing-Tax-and-Transfer-Programs-Decrease-Inequality.pdf>

Acs, Gregory, Lauren Eyster, and Jonathan Schwabish. 2015. Promoting Social and Economic Mobility in Washington, DC. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

<http://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/alfresco/publication-pdfs/2000188-Promoting-Social-and-Economic-Mobility-in-Washington-DC.pdf>

Acs, Gregory and Steven Martin. 2015. The Promise of Early Interventions for Improving Socioeconomic Outcomes of Black Men. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

<http://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/alfresco/publication-pdfs/2000099-The-Promise-of-Early-Interventions-for-Improving-Socioeconomic-Outcomes-of-Black-Men.pdf>

Acs, Gregory, Laura Wheaton, Maria Enchautegui, and Austin Nichols. 2014. Understanding the Implications of Raising the Minimum Wage in the District of Columbia. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. <http://www.urban.org/sites/default/files/alfresco/publication-pdfs/413200-Understanding-the-Implications-of-Raising-the-Minimum-Wage-in-the-District-of-Columbia.PDF>

Acs, Gregory. 2013. Assessing the Factors Underlying Long-Term Unemployment during and after the Great Recession. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

<http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412886-assessing-the-factors.pdf>

Acs, Gregory. 2013. Responding to Long-Term Unemployment. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. <http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412888-responding-to-long-term-unemployment.pdf>

Acs, Gregory with Kenneth Braswell, Elaine Sorensen, and Margery Austin Turner. 2013. The Moynihan Report Revisited. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. <http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412839-The-Moynihan-Report-Revisited.pdf>

Acs, Gregory and Michael Martinez-Schiferl. 2012. Identify those at Greater Risk of Long-Term Unemployment. Unemployment and Recovery Project Brief #6 (June). Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. <http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412621-Identifying-Those-at-Greater-Risk-of-Long-Term-Unemployment.pdf>

Small Firms, Employment, and Federal Policy. Congressional Budget Office Brief (with William Carrington). Washington, DC. (March 2012).

Understanding and Responding to Persistently High Unemployment. Congressional Budget Office Study (with William Carrington). Washington, DC. (February 2012).

Unemployment Insurance Benefits and Family Income of the Unemployed. Congressional Budget Office Letter to the Honorable Jim McDermott. Washington, DC. (November 17, 2010).

Acs, Gregory. 2011. Downward Mobility from the Middle Class: Waking Up From the American Dream. Washington, DC: Economic Mobility Project, The Pew Charitable Trusts.

Acs, Gregory. 2010. Book Review: Making the Work-Based Safety Net Work Better: Forward-Looking Policies to Help Low-Income Families. *Contemporary Sociology: A Journal of Reviews*. 39(September): 573-575.

Acs, Gregory and Austin Nichols. 2010. America Insecure: Changes in the Economic Security of American Families. Low-Income Working Families Discussion Paper #16. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

Acs, Gregory, Pamela Loprest, and Caroline Ratcliffe. 2010. "Progress Toward Self-Sufficiency for Low-Wage Workers." (with Caroline Ratcliffe and Pamela Loprest). Report to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation of the US Department of Health and Human Services.

Work and Income Security from 1970 to 2005 (with Seth Zimmerman). Low-Income Working Families Paper #15. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. (December 2009).

"Risk and Recovery: Understanding the Changing Risks to Family Incomes." (with Pamela Loprest and Austin Nichols). Low-Income Working Families Paper #14. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. (October 2009).

"Poverty in the United States, 2008." Commentary. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. September 2009. http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/901284_poverty_united_states.pdf

“Progress Toward Self-Sufficiency for Low-Wage Workers.” (with Caroline Ratcliffe and Pamela Loprest). Report to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation of the US Department of Health and Human Services. July 2009.

“Risk and Recovery: Documenting the Changing Risks to Family Incomes.” (with Pamela Loprest and Austin Nichols). Low-Income Working Families Brief #8. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. May 2009.

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“Who are Low-Wage Workers?” (with Pamela Loprest, Caroline Ratcliffe, and Katie Vinopal). ASPE Research Brief. Washington, DC: US Department of Health and Human Services. February 2009. <http://aspe.hhs.gov/hsp/09/LowWageWorkers/rb.pdf>

“Job Differences by Race and Ethnicity in the Low-Skill Job Market.” (with Pamela Loprest). Employers in the Low-Skill Labor Market Brief #4. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. February 2009.

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“Unemployment and Income in a Recession.” Recession and Recovery Breif #1. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. December 2008.

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“Entry-Level and Next-Step Jobs in the Low-Skill Job Market” (with Pamela Loprest). Employers in the Low-Skill Labor Market Brief #1. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. November 2008.

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“Low-Skill Jobs, Workers, Work Hours, and Paid Time Off” (with Pamela Loprest). Employers in the Low-Skill Labor Market Brief #2. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. November 2008.

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“Job Placement Agencies and the Low-Skill Job Market” (with Pamela Loprest). Employers in the Low-Skill Labor Market Brief #3. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. November 2008.

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“U.S. Intragenerational Economic Mobility from 1984 to 2004: Trends and Implications.” (with Seth Zimmerman). Washington, D.C.: Economic Mobility Project, an initiative of The Pew Charitable Trusts. Research Brief prepared for the Pew Charitable Trust’s Economic Mobility Project. (October 2008).

“Like Watching Grass Grow? Assessing Changes in U.S. Economic Mobility over the Past Two

Decades.” (with Seth Zimmerman). Washington, D.C.: Economic Mobility Project, an initiative of The Pew Charitable Trusts. Research Brief prepared for the Pew Charitable Trust’s Economic Mobility Project. (October 2008).

“Low-Workers in the United States: Status and Prospects.” Testimony before the Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support, United States House of Representatives. Washington, DC. (September 2008).

“Making Work Pay Enough—A Decent Standard of Living for Working Families.” (with Margery Austin Turner). The Urban Institute (May 2008).

“Understanding the Demand Side of the Low-Wage Labor Market.” (with Pamela Loprest). Report to the Administration for Children and Families of the US Department of Health and Human Services. April 2008.

“An Economic Framework and Selected Proposals for Demonstrations Aimed At Strengthening Marriage, Employment, and Family Functioning Outcomes.” (with Robert Lerman and Anupa Bir). Report to the Administration for Children and Families of the US Department of Health and Human Services. April 2008.

http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411655_economic_framework.pdf

“Can We Promote Child Well-Being by Promoting Marriage?” *Journal of Marriage and Family*. 69(December 2007): 1327-1345.

“A Good Employee or A Good Parent? Challenges Facing Low-Income Working Families.” *University of St. Thomas School of Law Journal*. (December 2007). 4(3): 489-507.

“Risk and Recovery: Understanding the Changing Risks to Family Incomes and their Consequences.” (with Pamela Loprest and Austin Nichols). Paper prepared for the 2007 Annual Meeting of the Association for Policy Analysis and Management. (November 2007).

“Helping Women Stay Off Welfare: The Role of Post-Exit Receipt of Work Supports.” (with Pamela Loprest). Assessing the New Federalism Discussion Paper 07-04. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. August 2007.

“Framework for a New Safety Net for Low-Income Working Families.” (with Olivia Golden, Pamela Winston, and Ajay Chaudry). June 2007. Low-Income Working Families Paper #7. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

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“Low-Income Workers and Their Employers: Characteristics and Challenges.” (with Austin Nichols). Paper prepared for the Urban Institute’s Low-Income Working Families Assessing the New Federalism Roundtable on Public and Private Roles in the Workplace. May 2007.

“TANF Caseload Composition and Leavers Synthesis Report.” (with Pamela Loprest). Report to the Administration for Children and Families of the US Department of Health and Human Services. March 2007.

“Should We Subsidize Work? The Earned Income Tax Credit and Optimal Transfers.” (with Eric Toder). *International Tax and Public Finance*. 14:327-343. 2007.

“An Assessment of the Income and Expenses of America’s Low-Income Families Using Survey Data from the National Survey of America’s Families.” (with Austin Nichols). Paper prepared for the National Poverty Centers conference on Consumption, Income, and the Well-Being of Families and Children. April 2006.

“Children in Low-Income Families: Change and Continuity in Family Context and Measures of Well-being.” (with Martha Zaslow, Cameron McPhee, and Sharon Vandivere). Paper prepared for the Assessing the New Federalism Roundtable on Trends and Policies that Affect Low-Income Children. January 2006.

“Is the Ring the Thing? Child Well-Being and the Transition from Cohabitation to Marriage.” Paper prepared for the 2005 Annual Meeting of the Association for Policy Analysis and Management.” October 2005.

“Working to Make Ends Meet: Understanding the Income and Expenses of America’s Low-Income Working Families.” (with Austin Nichols). (May 2005). Low-Income Working Families Paper #2. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

“Who are Low-Income Working Families?” (with Pamela Loprest). (May 2005). Low-Income Working Families Paper #2. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute.

“How Have Households with Children Fared in the Job Market Downturn?” (with Harry Holzer and Austin Nichols). Assessing the New Federalism Policy Brief A-67. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. April 2005.

“Irreconcilable Differences? The Conflict Between Marriage Promotion Initiatives for Cohabiting Couples with Children and Marriage Penalties in Tax and Transfer Programs.” (with Elaine Maag). Assessing the New Federalism Policy Brief B-66. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. April 2005.

“The Road Not Taken? Changes in Welfare Entry During the 1990s” (with Katherin Ross Phillips and Sandi Nelson). *Social Science Quarterly*. (December 2005) 86(SE): 1060-1079. Also available as Assessing the New Federalism Discussion Paper #03-03. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. December 2003.

“Leaving Welfare: Challenges in a New Economy.” (with Pamela Loprest). *Employment Research*. 11(4): Fall 2004.

Leaving Welfare: Employment and Well-Being of Families that Left Welfare in the Post-Entitlement Era. (with Pamela Loprest). Kalamazoo, MI: The W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research. September 2004.

“What Do I Dos Do? Potential Benefits of Marriage for Cohabiting Couples with Children.” (with Sandi Nelson). Assessing the New Federalism Policy Brief B-59. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. May 2004.

“Should We Get Married in the Morning? A Profile of Cohabiting Couples with Children.” (with Sandi Nelson). Assessing the New Federalism Discussion Paper #04-01. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. March 2004.

“Changes in Living Arrangements During the Late 1990s: Do Welfare Policies Matter?” (with Sandi Nelson). Journal of Policy Analysis and Management. 23(2) (Spring 2004): 273-290.

“Welfare Reform and Living Arrangements: Implications for the Well-Being of Children.” In *Vision 2003: Contemporary Family Issues* (edited by W. Allen and L. Eiklenborg). Pgs. 44-53. Minneapolis, MN: National Council on Family Relations.

“A Study of the District of Columbia’s TANF Caseload,” (with Pamela Loprest). Final report to USDHHS/ASPE and DC Department of Human Services Income Maintenance Administration (September 2003).

“The More Things Change? Children’s Living Arrangements Since Welfare Reform,” (with Sandi Nelson). *Assessing the New Federalism Snapshot3*. No. 10. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. (September 2003).

“TANF and the Status of Teen Mothers Under Age 18.” (with Heather Koball). Assessing the New Federalism Policy Brief A-68. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. June 2003.

“Studies of Welfare Leavers: Methods, Findings, and Contributions to the Policy Process,” (with Pamela Loprest). In Studies of Welfare Populations: Data Collection and Research Issues. Edited by Michele Ver Ploeg, Robert Moffitt, and Constance Citro. Washington, DC: National Academy Press. 2002.

“The Kids Are Alright? Children’s Well-Being and the Rise in Cohabitation.” (with Sandi Nelson). Assessing the New Federalism Policy Brief B-48. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. July 2002.

“Assessing the Relationship between Welfare Policies and Changes in Living Arrangements of Low-Income Families and Children in the late 1990s,” (with Sandi Nelson). Assessing the New Federalism Discussion Paper 02-05. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. March 2002.

“Final Synthesis Report of the Findings from ASPE’s “Leavers” Grants,” (with Pamela Loprest and Tracy Roberts). Report to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation of the US Department of Health and Human Services. December 2001.

"Comings and Goings: The Changing Dynamics of Welfare in the 1990s" (with Katherin Ross Phillips, Caroline Ratcliffe, and Douglas Wissoker). Report to the Administration for Children and Families, US Department of Health and Human Services. October 2001.

“Moving Up, Moving Out, or Going Nowhere? A Study of the Employment Patterns of Young Women.” (with LaDonna Pavetti). The Journal of Policy Analysis and Management. 20(4): 721-736. And, extended version: Report to the Annie E. Casey Foundation. July 1997

"Honey, I'm Home.' Changes in Living Arrangements in the Late 1990s," (with Sandi Nelson). Assessing the New Federalism Policy Brief B-38. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. June 2001.

"Beyond the Two-Parent Family: How Teenagers Fare in Cohabiting Couple and Blended Families," (with Rebecca Clark and Sandi Nelson). Assessing the New Federalism Policy Brief B-31. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. May 2001.

“The Status of Former TANF Recipients in the District of Columbia,” (with Pamela Loprest). Report to the Income Maintenance Administration of the District of Columbia and the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation of the US Department of Health and Human Services. January 2001.

“Living Arrangements, Work, and Welfare Decisions Among Single Mothers,” (with Caroline Ratcliffe). Report to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation of the US Department of Health and Human Services. January 2001.

“How a Changing Workforce Affects Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance,” (with Linda Blumberg). Health Affairs. 20(1) (January 2001): 178-183.

“Playing by the Rules but Losing the Game: Americans in Low-Income Working Families,” (with Katherin Ross Phillips and Daniel McKenzie). In Low Wage Workers in the New Economy. Edited by Richard Kazis and Marc Miller. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. 2001.

“On the Bottom Rung: A Profile of Americans in Low-Income Working Families,” (with Katherin Ross Phillips and Daniel McKenzie). Assessing the New Federalism Policy Brief A-42. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. October 2000.

“Sources of Support and Income Inequality among America’s Children,” (with Megan Gallagher). Assessing the New Federalism Discussion Paper #99-15. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. October 1999.

“Earnings, Incomes, and Benefits: Are Lower-Paid Workers Getting Left Behind?” (with Eugene Steuerle). Report to the Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration of the US Department of Labor. August 1999.

“Who are Low-Wage Workers?” Paper prepared for US Department of Labor Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy Conference on “Helping Low-Wage Workers: Policies for the Future.” May 1999.

"The Effect of Disabilities on Exits from AFDC," (with Pamela Loprest), Journal of Policy Analysis and Management 18(1)(Winter 1999): 28-49.

“Poverty Among Nonelderly Americans,” (with Megan Gallagher). In Snapshots of America’s Families. Snapshot A-1. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. January 1999.

“The Impact of Community Crime and Incarceration Rates on Individual-Level Drug Use, Employment and Living Arrangements.” Report to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. October 1998.

“New Incentives Reward the Jump Into Jobs.” Commentary. The Minneapolis Star Tribune. August 1, 1998.

“Does Work Pay? An Analysis of the Work Incentives Under TANF.” (with Norma Coe, Robert I. Lerman, and Keith Watson). Assessing the New Federalism Occasional Paper #9. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute. July 1998.

“Productivity, Pay, and Profits: A Primer for Policy Analysts.” (with Eugene Steuerle). Final report to the Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration of the US Department of Labor. September 1997.

“Trends in the Distribution of Non-Wage Benefits and Total Compensation, 1979-1994.” (with Eugene Steuerle). Final report to the Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration of the US Department of Labor. September 1997.

“The Impact of Welfare on Young Mothers’ Subsequent Childbearing Decisions.” Journal of Human Resources. Fall 1996 31(4):898-915.

“Small Employers, Their Diversity, and Health Insurance.” (with Len Nichols, Linda Blumberg, Cori Uccello, and Jill Marsteller). Report to the US Department of Labor Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration. September 1996.

“Self-Insured Employer Health Plans: Prevalence, Profile, Provisions, and Premiums.” (with Stephen Long, M. Susan Marquis, and Pamela Farley Short). Health Affairs. Summer 1996. 15(2):266-278.

"The Corporation as Dispenser of Welfare and Security." (with Eugene Steuerle). In The American Corporation Today. Edited by Carl Kayser. New York: Oxford University Press. 1996.

"An Evaluation of the Aid to Families with Dependent Children Unemployed Parent (AFDC-UP) Program." (with Linda Giannarelli). Report to US Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families. July 1997.

"Trends in Out-of-Pocket Health Spending: 1980-1992." (with John Sabelhaus). Monthly Labor Review. December 1995. 118(12).

"Profile of Disability Among Families on AFDC." (with Pamela Loprest). Report to the Henry J. Kaiser Foundation. November 1995.

"Do Welfare Benefits Promote Out-of-Wedlock Childbearing?" in Welfare Reform: An Analysis of the Issues, I. Sawhill, editor. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute, 1995.

"Teenage Childbearing: The Trends and Their Implications." (with Freya Sonenstein) in Welfare Reform: An Analysis of the Issues, I. Sawhill, editor. Washington, DC: The Urban Institute, 1995.

"The Correlates of Poverty and Welfare Receipt Among Young Families with Children: A Multiyear Analysis." (with Amy-Ellen Duke). Report to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistance Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, July 1995.

"Health Insurance and Family Income Inequality," (with Eugene Steuerle), Urban Institute Discussion Paper, May 1995.

"Explaining Trends in Health Insurance Coverage Between 1988 and 1991," Inquiry, 32(Spring 1995):102-110.

"Medicaid and Health System Reform: The Potential for Integration into an Employer-Based System," (with Pamela Loprest and Keith Watson), Urban Institute Discussion Paper, March 1994.

"The Impact of AFDC on Young Women's Childbearing Decisions," University of Wisconsin Institute for Research on Poverty Discussion Paper, #1011-93, May 1993.

"Educational Attainment, Industrial Structure, and Male Earnings Through the 1980s," (with Sheldon Danziger), Journal of Human Resources, Vol. 26, Number 3 (Summer, 1993), pgs 618-648.

"Analysis of the Impact of Changes in the FUTA Base and Tax Rate," (with Pamela Loprest, Keith Watson, and Wayne Vroman), Report to the U.S. Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration, October 1993.

"Play or Pay Employer Mandates: Potential Effects," (Sheila Zedlewski, Gregory Acs, Laura Wheaton, and Colin Winterbottom), Health Affairs, Vol. 11, Number 1 (Spring 1992), pgs. 62-83.

"Employers' Payroll and Insurance Costs: Implications for Play or Pay Employer Mandates," (with Colin Winterbottom and Sheila Zedlewski), In Health Benefits and the Workforce, U.S. Department of Labor, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration. 1992.

"Exploring the Effects of Play or Pay Employer Mandates: Effects on Insurance Coverage and Costs" (Sheila Zedlewski, Gregory Acs, Laura Wheaton, and Colin Winterbottom), In Health Benefits and the Workforce, U.S. Department of Labor, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration. 1992.

"Regional Labor Market Performance and U.S. Department of Labor Programs," (Wayne Vroman, Kelleen Worden, and Gregory Acs), draft final report to the U.S. Department of Labor, Urban Institute, December, 1991.

"Educational Attainment, Industrial Structure, and Male Earnings, 1973-1987," (with Sheldon Danziger), University of Wisconsin Institute for Research on Poverty Discussion Paper, #945-91.

"The Impact of Local Labor Markets on the Employment Patterns of Young Inner- City Males," (with Douglas Wissoker), Urban Institute discussion paper, April 1991.

"The Impact of AFDC Receipt in the Past on Women's Labor Market Activity, Urban Institute working paper, March 1991.

Presentations

"Promoting Economic Mobility." Presented at the Welfare Research and Evaluation Conference, opening plenary session, sponsored by the US Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families. Washington, DC. May 2014.

"The Moynihan Report Revisited." Presented at the Moynihan Revisited Conference sponsored by the Open Society Foundation. Washington, DC. February 2013.

"The Disappointing Post-Recession Employment Situation." Roundtable discussion at the 2011 Annual Meeting of the Association for Policy Analysis and Management. Washington, DC. November 2011.

"The Changing Profile of the Unemployed," (with Nabeel Alsalam) Presented at the 2010

Annual Meeting of the Association for Policy Analysis and Management. Boston, MA. November 2010.

“The Recession, the Safety Net, and the Well-being of Children and Families,” to the Family Strengthening Peer Network (funded by the Casey Foundation) in Washington, DC, on August 6, 2009.

“Understanding the Consequences of Unplanned Pregnancies for Children,” to the Urban Institute’s RA Discussion Group, Washington, DC, July 27, 2009.

“Understanding the Demand Side of the Low-Wage Labor Market,” at the Ford Foundation’s Workforce Development Meeting in New York City, NY, on July 20, 2009.

“The Impact of the Recession on Children,” at the New America Foundation in Washington, DC on June 3, 2009.

“Progress Towards Self-Sufficiency for Low-Wage Workers,” at the HHS/ACF National Welfare Reform Evaluation Conference. Washington, DC. May 2009.

“Are Anti-Poverty Policies Moving People into the Middle Class?” at the Urban and Regional Policy and Its Effects Conference (sponsored by the Brookings Institution, George Washington University, and the Urban Institute). Washington, DC. May 2009.

“Making Work Pay Enough,” at the Urban Institute’s Low-Income Working Families panel session, “A New Safety Net for Working Families: Assets for Economic Security.” Washington, DC. January 2009.

“The Social Safety Net in a Recession,” at the Urban Institute’s First Tuesday panel session, “Help Unwanted: Mitigating the Recessions Toll on the Workers Most at Risk.” Washington, DC. January 2009.

“Working for Cents on the Dollar: Race and Ethnic Wage Gaps in the Noncollege Labor Market,” at the Urban Institute’s Racial Disparities Roundtable. Washington, DC. December 2008.

“Understanding the Demand Side of the Low-Wage Labor Market.” (with Pamela Loprest). Presented at the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Association for Policy Analysis and Management. Los Angeles, CA. November 2008. (Also at the HHS/ACF National Welfare Reform Evaluation Conference in Washington, DC. May 29, 2008, and as a briefing to the Administration for Children and Families of the US Department of Health and Human Services. Washington, DC. April 2008).

“Low-Workers in the United States: Status and Prospects.” Testimony before the Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support, United States House

of Representatives. Washington, DC. September 11, 2008.

“Risk and Recovery: Understanding the Changing Risks to Family Incomes and their Consequences.” (with Pamela Loprest and Austin Nichols). Presented at the 2007 Annual Meeting of the Association for Policy Analysis and Management. Washington, DC. November 2007.

“Like Watching Grass Grow? Assessing Changes in U.S. Economic Mobility over the Past Two Decades.” (with Seth Zimmerman). Presented at the Pew Charitable Trust’s Economic Mobility Project Advisory Board Meeting. Washington, DC. October 2007.

“Low-Income Workers and Their Employers: Characteristics and Challenges.” Presented at the Urban Institute’s Low-Income Working Families Assessing the New Federalism Roundtable on Public and Private Roles in the Workplace. Washington, DC. May 2007.

“Understanding Changes in the Status of Current and Former TANF Recipients.” Presented at the HHS/ACF National Welfare Reform Evaluation Conference in Arlington, VA. June 5, 2007. (Also, as a briefing to ACF/HHS staff in Washington, DC. March 28, 2007).

“A Good Employee or A Good Parent? Challenges Facing Low-Income Working Families.” Presented at the University of St. Thomas School of Law Symposium on Restructuring the Workplace to Accommodate Family Life. Minneapolis, MN. March 16, 2007.

“Helping Women Stay Off Welfare.” Presented at the annual meetings of the Association for Public Policy and Management. Madison, WI. November 2006.

“Dads and Husbands: Promoting Child Well-Being Through Father Involvement and Marriage Programs.” Presented at The Urban Institute and Chapin Hall’s Thursday’s Child seminar. Washington, DC. May 11, 2006.

“An Assessment of the Income and Expenses of America’s Low-Income Families Using Survey Data from the National Survey of America’s Families.” at the National Poverty Center’s conference on Consumption, Income, and the Well-Being of Families and Children. Washington, DC. May 4, 2006.

“Understanding Employers in the Low Wage Labor Market,” at the Child Care Bureau Policy Research Consortium Annual Research Meeting. Bethesda, MD. April 2006

“Marriage and Cohabitation, Family Structure and Public Policy” At Conversations in Human Potential and Public Policy 2005 Annual Public Lecture sponsored by the Irving B. Harris School of Public Policy at the University of Chicago and Chapin Hall. Chicago, IL. November 8, 2005.

“Can We Promote Child Well-Being by Promoting Marriage?” at the University of Chicago Irving B. Harris School of Public Policy Center on Human Potential and Public Policy. Chicago, IL. November 8, 2005. (Also at the Population Association of America’s annual meeting in Philadelphia, PA. April 2, 2005).

“Is the Ring the Thing? Child Well-Being and the Transition from Cohabitation to Marriage.” At the 2005 Annual Meeting of the Association for Policy Analysis and Management.” Washington, DC. November 5, 2005.

“Who are Low-Income Working Families?” at the Roundtable on “Next Steps Towards a Working Families’ Policy Agenda.” The Urban Institute, Washington, DC. May 2005.

“Changes in Living Arrangements During the Late 1990s: Do Welfare Policies Matter?” at the Family Composition Stakeholders Seminar at the Brookings Institutions in Washington, D.C., November 30, 2004.

“The Potential Benefits of Marriage Promotion for the Well-Being of Children.” Presented at The Urban Institute’s First Tuesday seminar. Washington, DC. May 2004.

“Should We Get Married in the Morning? A Profile of Cohabiting Couples with Children.” Presented at George Washington Institute of Public Policy. Washington DC. February 2004.

“A Study of the District of Columbia’s TANF Caseload.” Presented at the Washington Area Policy Forum. Washington, DC. February 2004.

“Changes in Family Structure and Child Well-Being: Evidence from the 2002 National Survey of America’s Families.” Presented at the National Poverty Center’s Conference on Marriage and Family Formation in Washington, DC. September 2003.

“Changes in Living Arrangements During the 1990s: Did Policy Matter?” Presented to the National Center for Child Poverty at Columbia University in New York. June 2003.

“Children’s Well-being and Cohabitation: A Changing Relationship?” at the HHS/ACF National Welfare Reform Evaluation Conference in Washington, DC. May 2003.

“Preliminary findings from the Survey of TANF Recipients in DC” (with Pam Loprest and Jennifer Holland). Present at DHHS/APSE Welfare Stayer Grantees Conference in Washington, DC. January 2003.

“Welfare Reform and Living Arrangements: Implications for the Well-Being of Children” Plenary speaker at the National Council on Family Relations’ annual meeting in Houston, TX. (November 2002).

“What if Welfare Reform Led to a Rise in Cohabitation?” Presented at the APPAM meetings in

Dallas (November 2002).

“Trends in Living Arrangements—Possible Causes, Possible Consequences.” Welfare Information Network Devolution Tracking Group, Washington DC, May 2002; US DHHS ACF National Welfare Reform Evaluation Conference, Arlington, VA, June 2002; Penn State University Family Policy class at UI, October, 2002.

“Child Well-Being, Changing Living Arrangements and Welfare Reform.” Child Welfare League of America Annual Conference, Washington, DC, March 2002.

"Changes in Living Arrangements in the Late 1990s." Brookings Institution Welfare and Beyond Stakeholder Seminar. Washington, DC. October 2001.

"America's Low-Income Working Families." Casey Journalism Center's conference, "Covering America's Working Families," at the University of Maryland, College Park. (June 2001).

“Leaving Welfare for Work: How Are DC Leavers Doing?” DC Policy Forum, Washington, DC (December 2000).

“Studies of Welfare Leavers: Methods, Findings, and Contributions to the Policy Process.” Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Annual Meetings, Seattle, WA (November 2000); National Research Council’s Panel on Data and Methods for Measuring the Effects of Changes in Social Welfare Programs, Washington, DC (February 2000).

“Living Arrangements, Work, and Welfare Decisions Among Single Mothers,” Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Annual Meetings, Seattle, WA (November 2000).

“Synthesis of the Findings From ASPE’s Leavers Grants.” U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistance Secretary for Planning and Evaluation. Washington, DC (October 2000).

“Playing by the Rules but Losing the Game: America’s Working Poor.” Jobs for the Future’s National Conference on Low Wage Workers in the New Economy. Washington, DC (May 2000).

“The Future of Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance.” Presented at the Employee Benefits Research Institute’s Annual Research Conference, Washington, DC (May 2000).

“Welfare Reform: What Do We Know So Far?” Presented at the Child Welfare League of America’s Annual Conference, Washington, DC (March 2000).

“Income Inequality and Opportunity.” Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Annual Meetings, Washington, DC (November 1999).

“Assessing the New Federalism.” National Association of Social Workers, Washington, DC (February 1999); Virginia Commonwealth University School of Social Work 1998 Forum on Social Policy, Richmond, VA (November 1998); National Association of Counties Annual Conference, Portland, OR (July 1998).

“The Impact of Community Crime and Incarceration Rates on Individual-Level Drug Use, Employment and Living Arrangements.” Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Annual Meetings, New York City, NY (October 1998).

“Trends in the Distribution of Non-Wage Benefits and Total Compensation, 1979-1994.” University of Maryland, College Park, MD (February 1998).

“Moving Up, Moving Out, or Going Nowhere? A Study of the Employment Patterns of Young Women.” (with LaDonna Pavetti). The Urban Institute’s First Tuesday Policy Seminar (October 1997) and Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Annual Meetings, Pittsburgh, PA (November 1996).

“Demonstration of the New Federalism State Database.” National Press Club, Washington, DC (January 1997).

“The Relationship between Welfare and Out-of-Wedlock Childbearing,” College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA, April 1995; Family Service America Annual Conference, March 1994, The Baltimore Jewish Council, April 1994; a forum for Congressional staffers sponsored by the American Civil Liberties Union, September 1994; and American Economic Association Annual Meetings, Boston, MA, January 1994.

“Do Disabilities Inhibit Exits from AFDC?” Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Annual Meetings, Chicago, IL, October 1994.

“The Impact of AFDC on Young Women's Childbearing Decisions,” Department of Health and Human Services, May, 1993, Population Association of America Annual Meetings, Cincinnati, OH, April, 1993, and Institute for Research on Poverty Small Grants Workshop, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, October 1992.

“The Play or Pay Version of an Employer Mandate: Consequences for Workers, Employers, and Public Expenditures,” Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Annual Conference, Bethesda, MD, October, 1991.

“Educational Attainment, Industrial Structure, and the Earnings of Men, 1973- 1987,” Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management Annual Conference, Bethesda, MD, October, 1991.

“The Impact of Local Labor Markets on the Employment Patterns of Inner-City Males,” Population Association of America Annual Meetings, Washington, D.C., March 1991.

“The Impact of AFDC Receipt in the Past on Women's Labor Market Activity,” Washington Area Labor Economist's Workshop, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C., November 1990, and University of Michigan Department of Economics Labor Workshop, Ann Arbor, MI, September 1990.

Professional Activities:

Memberships: Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management (APPAM)
Population Association of America (PAA)

Referee: Demography, Inquiry, Journal of Marriage and Family, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management, Social Science Quarterly, Social Service Review