

### Mission

The mission of the National Center for Family & Marriage Research (NCFMR) is threefold: research, training, and dissemination. Our team of faculty, staff, and graduate and undergraduate students collaborate to:

- Support research on key questions about the effects of family structure and processes on the health and well-being of children, adults, families, and communities as well as the influences of programs and policies on marriage;
- Build research capacity with improved data and methods and bring together multi-disciplinary networks of scholars;
- Mentor and train students and junior professionals, ensuring advancement in research on family structure;
- Translate research to broad communities, e.g., researchers, practitioners, and policymakers.

### Research Focus

The NCFMR supports research efforts designed to investigate the links between family and well-being at all stages of the life course (e.g., childhood, adolescence, young adulthood, middle adulthood, and older adulthood). We emphasize both substantive and methodological complexities that need the attention of family scholars to formulate comprehensive, effective policy prescriptions, including: complex families; methodological and data advances; subpopulation variation (e.g., socioeconomic status, race and ethnicity, nativity status, and residence); and links between academic research and policy.

### Scientific Contributions

The NCFMR provides scientific leadership, intellectual energy, and administrative assistance to support inter-disciplinary, policy-relevant research on U.S. families by...

- Building extensive data resources by providing pilot data collection, offering detailed information on family data and measures, and analyzing leading indicators of contemporary U.S. families.
- Facilitating research by sharing information about secondary data releases, upcoming conferences, and recent publications on families.
- Creating opportunities for sharing knowledge through seminars, training workshops, and conferences that are available to students and colleagues around the nation.
- Supporting innovative research on families that yields important new substantive findings and furthers the development of new measures for subsequent data collections.
- Encouraging collaborations and interactions across and within disciplines among researchers, policymakers, and practitioners.
- Disseminating research findings through a dedicated website, working papers, research briefs, conference proceedings, and electronic mailings, such as *News and Notes*, to policy and research communities and program practitioners.

All NCFMR-supported projects are rigorously reviewed and widely distributed to the broader community of scholars. Together, these investments lead to cutting-edge scholarship on family structure and well-being.

## Data Resources

The NCFMR produces an extensive collection of data resources to facilitate research on families and well-being.

- Original Data: Original data collections sponsored and coordinated by the NCFMR and available for public use.
- Family Profiles: Original analyses summarizing the latest statistics on U.S. families.
- The Data Source: Descriptions of newly released data sets of interest to family researchers.
- Question Crosswalks: Side-by-side comparisons of key family measures (e.g., marriage and remarriage, cohabitation, divorce and separation) available in a dozen large national data sets.
- Working Paper Series & Research Briefs: Written by NCFMR faculty affiliates, researchers, and advanced graduate students.
- Workshop Materials: Data and methods workshop materials, including PowerPoint presentations, webcasts, and website links captured from NCFMR workshops.

## Data Resources Topics

The NCFMR produces the many data resources listed below. We have more than doubled our variety of topics in eight years to help us facilitate new research based on current issues American families encounter each day.

- Adoption
- Adult Well-being
- Attitudes
- Childbearing
- Children & Child Well-being
- Cohabitation
- Divorce and Separation
- Emerging Adulthood
- Family Economic Well-being
- Family Structure
- Fathers
- Generational Differences
- Geographic Variation
- Grandparenthood
- Gray Divorce
- Incarceration
- Marriage
- Marriage & Divorce Rates
- Measurement
- Mothers
- Older Adults
- Relationship Quality
- Religion and Spirituality
- Remarriage
- Same-Gender Relationships
- Stepfamilies
- Unintended Births
- Young Adulthood

## NCFMR Events

- April 15, 2021: *COVID-19 & Families*, Zoom. Co-organized with CFDR.
- September 21, 2020: *Declining Fertility in the U.S.: Interpretations, Predictions, & Implications*, BGSU. Co-organized with CFDR.
- April 25, 2019: *Intergenerational Transmission of Health*, BGSU. Co-organized with CFDR.
- November 8, 2018: *Caregiving and Family Well-being in Later Life*, BGSU. Co-organized with CFDR.
- March 16, 2017: *Boomers to Millennials: Generational Divides Across the Life Course*, BGSU. Co-organized with CFDR.
- April 21, 2016: *Economic Inequality and Family Change*, BGSU. Co-organized with CFDR.
- June 10, 2015: Adolescent Academic Context Study (AACCS) Conference, BGSU.
- March 25, 2015: *Research Advances in Intimate Partner Violence*, BGSU. Co-organized with CFDR.
- March 26, 2014: *Same-Sex Couples: Frontiers in Measurement and Analysis*, BGSU. Co-organized with CFDR.
- July 11-12, 2013: *Family Complexity, Poverty, and Public Policy*, Madison, WI.
- March 12, 2013: *Relational Spirituality: Advancing 21st Century Science on Faith and Diverse Families*, BGSU. Co-organized with the Templeton Foundation, SPiRiT, BGSU Dept. of Psychology, & the CFDR.

## Staff

- Susan L. Brown, NCFMR Codirector
- Wendy D. Manning, NCFMR Codirector
- Krista K. Payne, Social Science Data Analyst

## Students (Graduate Research Assistants)

- Christopher Julian
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