Washington Center for Equitable Growth
Evidence for a stronger economy

THE CENTURY FOUNDATION

Women's Racial and Economic Justice Roundtable

Labor Market Implications of the Pandemic

April 14, 2022 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. EDT Online at: https://equitablegrowth-org.zoom.us/j/84355091041

Welcome and opening remarks
1:00 p.m. – 1:10 p.m.

Session I: What does the labor market look like for women in the pandemic era?
1:10 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Central goal: Define a research agenda that will identify key components of the pandemic-era labor market for women, delineated by race and ethnicity, parental status, age, level of education, and other relevant subgroups.
Conversation starters: Valerie Wilson and Sarah Jane Glynn

Topics to discuss:

What does the modern labor market look like for women of all ages, races, and family structures?

- What are the disparities by race, gender, and parental status in the labor market, related to labor force participation, employment, and hours worked? What is the variation by racial/ethnic subgroup?
- How is the "tight labor market" operating for women of color? Is it actually "tight" for all groups, both in absolute terms and relative to prior periods?
- How are people in the workforce similar to or different from those who are not currently participating?
- Has the composition of jobs shifted relative to the pre-pandemic labor market?

What accounts for disparities in the pandemic-era labor market?

- What disparities can be explained by child care obligations, illness or caregiving responsibilities stemming from COVID-19 or "long COVID," unsafe working conditions, or other job-quality issues that are preexisting or pandemic-specific?
- Are disparities being potentially masked by part-time work, job type, hidden populations absent from the labor market, or other employer-to-employer variations?

What don't we know?

- Are the research questions we've discussed the right ones? What are other research questions we should be asking?
- What are the next steps in charting a path forward for a research agenda that would answer these questions?

Break
2:00 p.m. – 2:10 p.m.

Session II: Actualizing a research agenda on the labor market for women in the pandemic era
2:10 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.

Central goal: Identify the most pressing and policy-relevant research questions from Session I and explore data sources, methods, potential partnerships, and project ideas that could help answer these research questions.

2:10 p.m. – 2:40 p.m.: Large group discussion

Topics to discuss:

What do we know, and what do we need to learn?

- What research questions identified in Session I should be prioritized in a research agenda on the labor market for women in the pandemic era? Are there questions we missed or questions already answered?

How can we conduct good research on the labor market for women in the pandemic era?

- What research methods are most appropriate for studying the labor market? Are there research designs well-suited to answer these identified questions? What is the role of qualitative and mixed-methods research?
- What data are needed to answer these questions? What data already exist, and what must be newly collected? Are there nontraditional data sources on which researchers should be capitalizing to answer these questions?

Why has research not been able to answer these questions so far?

- What are the research barriers to answering these questions on the labor market for women? What are the issues related to timing, resources, data access, ethics, or other related challenges? How can researchers overcome or circumvent these barriers?

2:40 p.m. – 3:05 p.m.: Breakout rooms

Each breakout room will be assigned one research question identified in Session I. Teams will review and tweak the question as necessary and discuss potential research methods and data sources that could be employed to answer that specific question.

3:05 p.m. – 3:20 p.m.: Breakout rooms report out

Wrap up
3:20 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Participant list

- **Stephanie Aaronson**, Vice President and Director of Economic Studies, Brookings Institution
- **Sam Abbott**, Family Economic Security Policy Analyst, Washington Center for Equitable Growth
- **Randy Albelda**, Professor Emerita of Economics, University of Massachusetts, Boston
- **Elizabeth Ananat**, Professor, Barnard College
- **Kate Bahn**, Director of Labor Market Policy and Chief Economist, Washington Center for Equitable Growth
- **Radhika Balakrishnan**, Professor, Rutgers University
- **Lauren Bauer**, Fellow, Brookings Institution
- **Karl Boulware**, Assistant Professor of Economics, Wesleyan University
- **Hayley Brown**, Research Associate, Center for Economic and Policy Research
- **Maggie Jo Buchanan**, Senior Director of the Women's Initiative, Center for American Progress
- **Julie Cai**, Economist, Center for Economic and Policy Research
- **Sammy Chavin**, Federal Policy Coordinator, Family Values @ Work
- **Chandra Childers**, Senior Policy and Economic Analyst, Economic Policy Institute
- **Anita Drever**, Vice President of Research, Institute for Women's Policy Research
- **Kathryn Anne Edwards**, Economist, RAND Corporation
- **Dania Francis**, Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Massachusetts, Boston
- **Shawn Fremstad**, Senior Fellow, Center for Economic and Policy Research
- **Jocelyn Frye**, President, National Partnership for Women & Families
- **Sarah Jane Glynn**, Senior Advisor, Women's Bureau, U.S. Department of Labor
- **Pilar Gonalons-Pons**, Assistant Professor, University of Pennsylvania
- **Alix Gould-Werth**, Director of Family Economic Security Policy, Washington Center for Equitable Growth
- **Ariane Hegewisch**, Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Women's Policy Research
- **Misty Heggeness**, Principal Economist/Senior Advisor, U.S. Census Bureau
- **Joyce Jacobsen**, President, Hobart and William Smith Colleges
- **Maryam Janani-Flores**, Acting Policy Director, Washington Center for Equitable Growth
- **Julie Kashen**, Director of Women's Economic Justice and Senior Fellow, The Century Foundation
- **Ana Kent**, Senior Researcher, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis
- **Marlene Kim**, Professor, University of Massachusetts, Boston
- **Christin Landivar**, Senior Researcher, Women's Bureau, U.S. Department of Labor
- **Brooke LePage**, Research Fellow, National Women's Law Center
- **Paulina Lopez Gonzalez**, Economist in Residence, NDWA Labs
- **Heather McCulloch**, Entrepreneur in Residence, Aspen Institute
- **Jessica Milli**, Founder and Principal, Research 2 Impact
- **Katherine Moos**, Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
- **Marta Murray-Close**, Senior Economist, U.S. Census Bureau
- **Amanda Novello**, Independent Researcher and Fellow, Data for Progress
- **Maria Prados**, Economist, University of Southern California
- **Anne Price**, President, Insight Center for Community Economic Development

- **William Rodgers III**, Vice President and Director of the Institute for Economic Equity, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis
- **Kate Ryan**, Vice President of Policy and Strategic Initiatives, Institute for Women's Policy Research
- **Vicki Shabo**, Senior Fellow, New America
- **Kristin Smith**, Research Associate Professor, Dartmouth College
- **Betsey Stevenson**, Professor of Economics and Public Policy, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
- **Diana Strassman**, Carolyn and Fred McManis Distinguished Professor of the Practice, Rice University
- **Shengwei Sun**, Manager of Research, National Women's Law Center
- **Jasmine Tucker**, Director of Research, National Women's Law Center
- **Shonda Williams**, Communications Assistant, Washington Center for Equitable Growth
- **Valerie Wilson**, Director of the Program on Race, Ethnicity, and the Economy, or PREE, Economic Policy Institute
- **Kathryn Zickuhr**, Labor Market Policy Analyst, Washington Center for Equitable Growth

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