

2024 Current Fiscal Year Report: Board of Scientific Counselors National Center for Health Statistics

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1. Department or Agency

Department of Health and Human Services

2. Fiscal Year

2024

3. Committee or Subcommittee

Board of Scientific Counselors National
Center for Health Statistics

3b. GSA

Committee

No.

10712

4. Is this New During Fiscal Year?

No

5. Current Charter

01/19/2023 01/19/2025

6. Expected Renewal Date

7. Expected Term Date

8a. Was Terminated During Fiscal Year?

No

8b. Specific Termination Authority

8c. Actual Term Date

9. Agency Recommendation for Next Fiscal Year

Continue

10a. Legislation Req to Terminate?

Not Applicable

10b. Legislation Pending?

Not Applicable

11. Establishment Authority Authorized by Law

12. Specific Establishment Authority

42 U.S.C. section 217a

13. Effective Date

11/17/1962

14. Committee Type

Continuing

14c. Presidential?

No

15. Description of Committee

Scientific Technical Program
Advisory Board

16a. Total Number of Reports

No Reports for
this Fiscal Year

17a. Open

0

17b. Closed

0

17c. Partially Closed

0

Other Activities

0

17d. Total

0

Meetings and Dates

No Meetings

	Current FY	Next FY
18a(1). Personnel Pmts to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(2). Personnel Pmts to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(3). Personnel Pmts to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18a(4). Personnel Pmts to Non-Member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(1). Travel and Per Diem to Non-Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(2). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Members	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(3). Travel and Per Diem to Federal Staff	\$0.00	\$0.00
18b(4). Travel and Per Diem to Non-member Consultants	\$0.00	\$0.00
18c. Other(rents,user charges, graphics, printing, mail, etc.)	\$0.00	\$0.00
18d. Total	\$0.00	\$0.00
19. Federal Staff Support Years (FTE)	0.00	0.00

20a. How does the Committee accomplish its purpose?

The Board accomplishes its purpose through three meetings per calendar year with NCHS leadership. The full Board meetings include updates on progress with NCHS data activities where Board member feedback would be useful. Additionally, the Board provides guidance to NCHS leadership on current and potential future issues that NCHS programs are facing such as changes to the Center's major surveys, managing declining response rates for the Center's surveys and securing data within the Research Data Center while making it appropriately accessible.

On occasion, the Center Director will request that the Board take up a specific question or topic to research and report back to the full Board membership through the Workgroup process.

20b. How does the Committee balance its membership?

The membership (fifteen persons) for the Board is balanced in several ways through diversity of expertise, disciplines, geography, age, gender, and racial/ethnic background.

20c. How frequent and relevant are the Committee Meetings?

The Board typically meets two to three times within a calendar year. In FY23, virtual meetings were held in October 2022 and September 2023. The meetings addressed current issues facing NCHS and the Board raised questions and offered guidance and recommendations on how to address these issues. In this fiscal year, the Board accepted the findings from the results of the BSC Workgroup to Consider and Assess Measures of Discrimination for Use in NCHS Surveys. The Workgroup conducted this work at the Center's request and its findings were presented at the October 24, 2022 meeting and approved by the full Board. Subsequently the full Board made recommendations to the Center based on those findings. In addition, members received briefings from the NCHS leadership about the current programs, data releases, and initiatives of NCHS to inform their advice and recommendations.

20d. Why can't the advice or information this committee provides be obtained elsewhere?

Scientific advice from this Board contributes significantly to program planning and conduct of NCHS research programs and activities; further,

the Board's advice will assure that NCHS responds to legislative mandates and meets the needs of the Department, the Center's numerous constituents, and other Federal collaborators. Continuing external advice on the overall direction of NCHS and on the scope and content of its data gathering and dissemination activities will assist in implementing a more integrated and effective approach to health data reporting. Acquiring this advice on a case-by-case basis is time-consuming and arduous and limits opportunities for advisors to comment systematically on the full array of NCHS activities and means to create or maintain linkages when necessary. NCHS staff, because they are so intimately involved in the day-to-day activities associated with survey methodology, data gathering and dissemination cannot routinely provide unbiased advice, nor can they fairly represent the needs of stakeholders and collaborators.

20e. Why is it necessary to close and/or partially closed committee meetings?

All BSC NCHS meetings are open to the public.

21. Remarks

The primary charge to the Committee is to advise and make recommendations to the National Center for Health Statistics regarding the scientific and technical program goals and objectives, strategies, and priorities of the Center. No formal reports are required in the charter. Instead the Board provides advice and recommendations directly to NCHS leadership by voting on specific recommendations discussed during public meetings and providing feedback on current issues based on briefings during public meetings. Additionally, the Board makes recommendations regarding opportunities for NCHS programs to

examine and employ new approaches to monitoring and evaluating public health, health policy, and public policy changes, as well as improved methods for obtaining data and conducting research as part of ongoing data modernization.

Designated Federal Officer

Rebecca Hines Health Scientist

Committee Members	Start	End	Occupation	Member Designation
Brodie, Mollyann	09/30/2021	05/31/2025	Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer and Executive Director of Public Opinion and Survey Research Program, Kaiser Family Foundation	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
			State Registrar and Director Vital Statistics, Texas Department of State Health Services Arts and Sciences Distinguished Professor of Economics, Department of Economics, Duke University	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Das, Tara	09/30/2021	05/31/2025	Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina Foundation and Vice President Drivers of Health Strategy	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Hotz, V. Joseph	09/29/2021	05/31/2025	Vice Chair for Research and Professor Department of Biomedical Informatics Associate Dean Informatics and Technology/Professor of Medicine and Chair, UCSD Health, Department of Biomedical Informatics, University of California San Diego	Special Government Employee (SGE) Member
Lumpkin, John	05/23/2023	05/31/2024		
Malin, Bradley	12/01/2020	05/31/2024		
Ohno-Machado, Lucila	12/01/2020	05/31/2024		

Schechter, Susan	05/24/2023	05/31/2026	Senior Fellow, NORC at the University of Chicago	Special Government Employee (SGE)
				Member
Snipp, C. Matthew	12/01/2020	05/31/2024	Burnet C. and Mildred Finley Wohlford Professor of Humanities and Sciences in the Department of Sociology, Vice Provost for Faculty Development, Diversity, and Engagement Director, Stanford Secure Data Center Resident Fellow, Murray House, Stanford Univ.	Special Government Employee (SGE)
				Member
Thompson, Kelly	10/01/2021	05/31/2025	Government Health Lead LexisNexis Special Services	Special Government Employee (SGE)
				Member
Thorpe, Roland	06/22/2023	05/31/2026	Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health	Special Government Employee (SGE)
				Member
Williams, David	10/04/2021	05/31/2025	Norman Professor of Public Health and Chair, Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health, Harvard University	Special Government Employee (SGE)
				Member

Number of Committee Members Listed: 11

Narrative Description

The BSC provides advice and recommendations regarding scientific and technical program goals, objectives, strategies, and priorities. It advises and provides guidance on statistical and epidemiological research and activities on a full range of issues such as determinants of health, mortality and natality and health status. The BSC keeps abreast of emerging approaches to monitoring key public health, health policy, and other policy changes and encourages NCHS to take advantage of opportunities

to improve or augment its practices and procedures. During public meetings, NCHS leadership briefs the Board on progress and developments specific to the Board's advice and recommendations.

What are the most significant program outcomes associated with this committee?

Checked if
Applies

Improvements to health or safety	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Trust in government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Major policy changes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advance in scientific research	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Effective grant making	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved service delivery	<input type="checkbox"/>
Increased customer satisfaction	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Implementation of laws or regulatory requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome Comments

NA

What are the cost savings associated with this committee?

Checked if Applies

None	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unable to Determine	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Under \$100,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$100,000 - \$500,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$500,001 - \$1,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$1,000,001 - \$5,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
\$5,000,001 - \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Over \$10,000,000	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cost Savings Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Cost Savings Comments

NA

What is the approximate Number of recommendations produced by this committee for the life of the committee?

109

Number of Recommendations Comments

In FY23, the Board made 4 new recommendations for NCHS's consideration. The Board had previously made 105 recommendations, thus $105+4=109$ over the lifespan of the Board. Of this year's 4 recommendations, 1 was fully implemented while 2 were partially implemented. 1 recommendation is currently under review. We anticipate implementation will occur upon formal receipt. Of the 4 recommendations, 3 were related to using NCHS surveys to measure respondents' perceptions of discrimination and 1 recommended that CDC share information learned and gathered about generative AI more broadly with public health partners. In addition, 2 partially implemented recommendations from FY21 specific to the National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey were fully recommended this fiscal year. It is anticipated that prior recommendations partially implemented through FY23 will be fully or mostly implemented in FY24 and FY25.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Fully implemented by the agency?

75%

% of Recommendations Fully Implemented Comments

Over the lifespan of the Board, a majority of recommendations have been implemented by NCHS. Because the Center's activities are long-term, some recommendations are incrementally implemented over the span of several years. Of this year's recommendations, one was fully implemented, two recommendations were partially implemented, and one has not begun implementation. Fuller implementation is anticipated next year.

What is the approximate Percentage of these recommendations that have been or will be Partially implemented by the agency?

25%

% of Recommendations Partially Implemented Comments

Of the recommendations partially implemented this year, the Center anticipates eventual full implementation in the coming years. A majority of recommendations are specific to the Center's survey systems. Changes to these systems involves a few years to implement.

Does the agency provide the committee with feedback regarding actions taken to

implement recommendations or advice offered?

Yes ☒ No ☐ Not Applicable ☐

Agency Feedback Comments

NCHS leadership provides verbal feedback at BSC, NCHS public meetings through formal presentations. NCHS leadership also provides updates on the progress and developments regarding the Board's recommendations. Additional information including meeting minutes can be located at the NCHS website at <https://www.cdc.gov/nchs/about/bsc.htm>.

What other actions has the agency taken as a result of the committee's advice or recommendation?

Checked if Applies

Reorganized Priorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Reallocated resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Issued new regulation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Proposed legislation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Approved grants or other payments	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action Comments

NA

Is the Committee engaged in the review of applications for grants?

No

Grant Review Comments

BSC, NCHS currently is not a grant review committee

How is access provided to the information for the Committee's documentation?

Checked if Applies

Contact DFO	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Agency Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online Committee Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Online GSA FACA Web Site	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Publications	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Access Comments

N/A