



IMPROVING LONG-TERM IMMIGRATION PROJECTIONS

A discussion with the Working Group of the Social Security Trustees

Tuesday, June 27, 2006

8:45 AM to 12:00 PM

Center for Strategic and International Studies
1800 K Street, NW, Washington, DC
B1 Conference Level (Room C)

We are entering a new demographic era in the developed countries in which immigration is likely to be the dominant component of the population projection puzzle for the foreseeable future. Yet most official immigration projections in the United States and abroad still rely on ad-hoc assumptions based on little theory and virtually no definable methodology.

The Global Aging Initiative at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) recently completed a major study of long-term immigration projections that was funded by the Social Security Administration under a Retirement Research Consortium grant to the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College. The study assesses where major projection-making agencies worldwide now stand in their practice of immigration projection, scans the wide and varied array of theoretical frameworks and empirical studies that attempt to explain international migration flows, and outlines a new “driver-based” projection methodology developed by CSIS.

The purpose of the forum is to familiarize the Social Security Trustees and Social Security Administration with the findings of the CSIS study—and, more broadly, to explore the key challenges that projection-making agencies face in improving long-term immigration projections.

AGENDA

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| 8:45-9:00 | <i>REGISTRATION AND CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST</i> |
| 9:00-9:05 | <i>OPENING REMARKS</i> by Edward J. DeMarco , Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Policy, Social Security Administration |
| 9:05-10:00 | <i>PRESENTATION</i> by Richard Jackson , Senior Fellow, and Neil Howe , Senior Associate, Center for Strategic and International Studies
<i>Long-Term Immigration Projection Methods: Current Practice and How to Improve It</i> |
| 10:00-10:40 | <i>RESPONDENTS</i>
Thomas Buettner , Chief, Estimates and Projection Section, UN Population Division
Frederick Hollmann , Statistician, Population Projections Branch, Census Bureau
Michael S. Teitelbaum , Vice President, Alfred P. Sloan Foundation |
| 10:40-10:55 | <i>CONTACT BREAK</i> |
| 10:55-11:55 | <i>DISCUSSION</i> |
| 11:55-12:00 | <i>CLOSING REMARKS</i> by Nada Eissa , Deputy Assistant Secretary for Economic Policy, Department of the Treasury |

SPEAKERS' BIOS

Thomas Buettner is the Chief of the Estimates and Projection Section of the United Nations Population Division. He holds degrees in economics and demography and has worked as a demographer on population aging, population policies and, for the last 14 years, on estimating and projection demographic trends for all countries of the world, including urbanization. Dr. Buettner has published on various topics, including the demographic situation in Germany and its impact on social security, emerging trends in mortality, and population aging. His recent work includes “Prospects for Increased Longevity as Assessed by the United Nations” (2005, with Hania Zlotnik), “Approaches and Experiences in Projecting Mortality Patterns for the Oldest Old” (2002), and “Aging of the World Population in the 21st Century” (2000, in German).

Edward DeMarco is the Assistant Deputy Commissioner for Policy at the Social Security Administration where he oversees the agency’s policy, research, and statistical programs. He joined SSA in 2003 as Associate Commissioner for Research, Evaluation, and Statistics. Prior to then, Dr. DeMarco was the Director of the Office of Financial Institutions Policy at the U.S. Department of the Treasury and a senior financial economist at the U.S. General Accounting Office. He has a B.A. in economics from the University of Notre Dame and a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Maryland.

Nada Eissa is the Deputy Assistant Secretary (Microeconomic Analysis) in the Office of Economic Policy at the Department of the Treasury. Her appointment began in August 2005. Dr. Eissa is currently on leave from Georgetown University, where she is an Associate Professor of Public Policy and Economics. Previously, she was an Assistant Professor of Economics at the University of California, Berkeley. Previous to Treasury, Dr. Eissa was a National Fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research, where she is a Faculty Research Fellow in the Public Economics, Children, and Education Programs. She has also served as a senior research associate of the School Choice Demonstration Project. In recent years, she has been a Visiting Scholar at the American Enterprise Institute, the International Monetary Fund, and a Consultant to the Congressional Budget Office, the Urban Institute, and the World Bank. Dr. Eissa received her B.A. in Economics, Highest Honors and Phi Beta Kappa, from the University of California at Berkeley; and her Ph.D. from Harvard University.

Frederick W. Hollmann received his Ph.D. in demography at the University of California, Berkeley in 1977. He served on the faculty of the University of Pennsylvania (sociology and demography) for eight years, and has been in the government sector ever since, including the New Jersey Department of Labor and the Population Projections Branch of the U.S. Census Bureau, his current position. His recent career at the U.S. Census Bureau has focused on estimating and forecasting change in the United States population. His work since 2000 has been defined by the need to project trends in race and ethnicity under shifting definitions, and in the development of base series and forecasts of the demographic components of population change, especially international migration.

Neil Howe is a historian, economist, and demographer who writes and speaks frequently on the aging of the population, long-term fiscal policy, and generations in history. He is a Senior Associate at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, where he works with the Global Aging Initiative, a Senior Policy Advisor to the Blackstone Group, and a Senior Advisor to the Concord Coalition. He is also cofounder of LifeCourse Associates, a marketing, HR, and strategic planning consultancy serving corporate, government, and nonprofit clients. His coauthored books include *On Borrowed Time* (1988), *Generations* (1991), *13th-Gen* (1993), *The Fourth Turning* (1997), and *Millennials Rising* (2000). He holds graduate degrees in history and economics from Yale University.

Richard Jackson writes on public policy issues arising from the aging of America's and the world's population. He is currently a Senior Fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, where he directs the Global Aging Initiative, an Adjunct Fellow at the Hudson Institute, and a Senior Advisor to the Concord Coalition. Dr. Jackson is the author of numerous policy studies, including *Building Human Capital in an Aging Mexico* (2005), *The Graying of the Middle Kingdom* (2004), *The 2003 Aging Vulnerability Index* (2003), and *The Global Retirement Crisis* (2002). He regularly speaks on long-term demographic and economic issues and is often quoted in the press. He holds a B.A. in classics from SUNY at Albany and a Ph.D. in economic history from Yale University.

Michael S. Teitelbaum is Vice President of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation in New York. He was educated at Reed College and at Oxford University. At Oxford, where he was a Rhodes Scholar, he earned a doctorate in demography. To date his career has spanned academe, government, and the non-profit sectors, including as a member of the faculties of Princeton University and Oxford University; as Director of the Select Committee on Population of the U.S. House of Representatives; as Vice Chair and Acting Chair of the influential bipartisan U.S. Commission on Immigration Reform; as President and/or Board member of a number of scientific societies; and as a foundation executive. He has been elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, First Vice President of the Population Association of America, and a member of the Council on Foreign Relations. Dr. Teitelbaum's publications include ten books and a large number of articles in scientific and popular journals.