

Katherine K. Wallman
(1943 – 2024)





Early career

- Graduated with a B.A. in Sociology from Wellesley College
- Began her federal career at the National Center for Education Statistics
- Served in the Chief Statistician's office at OMB



COPAFS (1981 – 1992)

- Served as COPAFS first Executive Director
- Concern was growing about severe budget cuts and the damage this would do to the federal statistical agencies
- Established the Director's Meeting to get reports from all statistical agencies



Chief Statistician (1992 - 2017)



- Oversaw the revision of Statistical Policy Directive No. 15 on race and ethnicity classification in 1997
- Enactment of the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002
- Directive No. 4, “Release and Dissemination of Statistical Products Produced by Federal Statistical Agencies,” which was issued in March 2008 requires agencies to follow procedures that protect the integrity and independence of other statistical products.
- Issuance of Statistical Policy Directive No. 1 on Fundamental Responsibilities of Federal Statistical Agencies and Recognized Statistical units in 2014, an adaptation of the National Academy of Sciences “Principles and Practices for a Statistical Agency



Accolades (selected)

- American Statistical Association
 - Fellow (1983)
 - Elected President (1992)
 - Received Founders Award (2007)
- Presidential Meritorious Executive
- Elected Member of the International Statistical Institute
- Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science
- Founding Member of the International Association for Official Statistics



“Retirement”

- Council of the Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research at the University of Michigan
- Board of the Association of Public Data Users
- Population Association of America Committee on Population Statistics
- American Statistical Association Task Force on 2020 Census Quality Indicators
- CNSTAT panel that produced A Vision and Roadmap for Education Statistics (2022)
- Countless other activities supporting the federal statistical system and those that work within it





2017 Julius Shiskin Memorial Award for Economic Statistics

Ms. Wallman is recognized for strengthening the independence of U.S. statistical agencies; expanding confidentiality protection; improving the quality and usability of official statistics; increasing collaboration among the statistical agencies; and improving the reliability and comparability of official statistics throughout the world.