

Should the Tax System Be Used to Reduce Wealth Inequality in the United States?

Speaker Biographies

Kimberly Adams is a host/correspondent at *Marketplace*, America's largest broadcast business program. She covers politics and general news from Washington, DC, where she also serves on the board of governors of the National Press Club. Before moving to DC, Adams reported on the political, social, and economic upheaval in Egypt following the Arab Spring as a freelance journalist based in Cairo. Her work aired on multiple networks in the US, Canada, UK, Ireland, Germany, Hong Kong, and elsewhere. While reporting in Cairo, she received awards from the National Association of Black Journalists, the Religion Communicators Council, and the Association for Women in Communications. She previously participated in the International Women's Media Foundation's African Great Lakes Reporting Initiative in Uganda. Before freelancing, Adams worked as a producer at NPR's DC headquarters, covering politics, arts, culture, and breaking news for *Weekend Edition* and the Washington political unit.

Jason Furman is professor of the practice of economic policy at Harvard Kennedy School and a nonresident senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics. Previously, he served eight years as a top economic adviser to President Obama, including serving as the 28th chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers from August 2013 to January 2017, acting as both the president's chief economist and a member of the cabinet. During this time, he played a major role in most of the administration's major economic policies. Previously, Furman held various posts in public policy and research. In public policy, Furman worked at the World Bank and, during the Clinton administration, at both the Council of Economic Advisers and National Economic Council. In research, Furman was a director of the Hamilton Project and senior fellow at the Brookings Institution and has served in visiting positions at various universities, including New York University's Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Policy. Furman has conducted research in many areas, including fiscal policy, tax policy, health economics, Social Security, technology policy, and domestic and international macroeconomics. He is the editor of two books on economic policy and has written articles in scholarly journals and periodicals. Furman holds a doctoral degree in economics from Harvard University.

Douglas Holtz-Eakin has a distinguished record as an academic, policy adviser, and strategist. He is president of the American Action Forum and was most recently a commissioner on the congressionally chartered Financial Crisis Inquiry Commission. He was the sixth director of the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office from 2003 to 2005. Following his tenure there, Holtz-Eakin was director of the Greenberg Center for Goeconomic Studies and the Paul A. Volcker chair in international economics at the Council on Foreign Relations. During 2007 and 2008, he was director of domestic and economic policy for the John McCain presidential campaign. Holtz-Eakin serves on the boards of the Tax Foundation and National Academy of Social Insurance, and he is a member of the Aspen Institute's Economic Strategy Group.

Chye-Ching Huang is director of federal fiscal policy at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, where she focuses on the fiscal and economic effects of federal tax and budget policy. She rejoined the center in July 2011 after working as a senior lecturer at the University of Auckland in New Zealand, where she taught graduate and undergraduate tax law and conducted research in tax law and policy. She has also practiced as a tax solicitor. Huang holds a master's degree from Columbia Law School and bachelor's degrees in economics and law from the University of Auckland.

Kilolo Kijakazi is an Institute fellow at the Urban Institute. She works with staff across Urban to develop collaborative partnerships with those most affected by economic and social issues, expand and strengthen Urban's agenda of rigorous research, effectively communicate findings to diverse audiences, and recruit and retain a diverse research staff at all levels. Kijakazi also conducts research on economic security, structural racism, and the racial wealth gap. Her previous positions include program officer at the Ford Foundation, senior policy analyst for the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, program analyst for the US Department of Agriculture Food and Nutrition Service, and policy analyst for the National Urban League. She is a board member of the Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation, the Center for Global Policy Solutions, the Policy Academies, Liberation in a Generation, and the National Academy of Social Insurance, where she is also a member of its

Interdisciplinary Study Panel on Economic Security. Kijakazi was a member of the bipartisan Commission on Retirement Security and Personal Savings and is cochair of the National Advisory Council on Eliminating the Black-White Wealth Gap. She holds a bachelor's degree from the State University of New York at Binghamton, a master's degree in social work from Howard University, and a doctoral degree in public policy from the George Washington University.

Mark J. Mazur is the Robert C. Pozen director of the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center and a vice president at the Urban Institute. His research interests cover all aspects of tax policy. From 2012 until early 2017, he was the assistant secretary for tax policy at the US Department of the Treasury. Mazur served in the federal government for 27 years in various positions, including policy economist at the congressional Joint Committee on Taxation; senior economist at the President's Council of Economic Advisers; senior director at the National Economic Council; chief economist, senior policy adviser, and director of policy at the US Department of Energy; acting administrator of the Energy Information Administration; director of research, analysis, and statistics at the Internal Revenue Service; and deputy assistant secretary for tax analysis in the Office of Tax Policy. Before entering public service, Mazur was an assistant professor in Heinz College at Carnegie Mellon University. He has a bachelor's degree in financial administration from Michigan State University and a master's degree in economics and a doctoral degree in business from Stanford University.

Amara Omeokwe is a Washington, DC–based economics reporter for the *Wall Street Journal*. Previously, she worked as an editor and producer at NPR and a local television reporter in North Carolina. She got her start in business news at CNBC, where she covered capital markets and US investment and retail banking as a TV producer.

Benjamin I. Page has taught at Dartmouth, the University of Wisconsin–Madison, the University of Chicago, and the University of Texas at Austin and has been a fellow at the Institute for Research on Poverty, the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences, and the Hoover Institution. Page is now Gordon Scott Fulcher professor of decisionmaking at Northwestern University. He works on American politics, specializing in public opinion, democratic policymaking, economic inequality, and the politics of wealthy Americans. He is best known for his prize-winning work, with various coauthors, on the consistency, coherence, and stability of Americans' collective policy preferences; the relative influence of average Americans, affluent Americans, and organized interest groups on public policy; the policy preferences of multimillionaires; and, in *Billionaires and Stealth Politics*, the political behavior of the wealthiest 100 US billionaires. His research indicates that wealthy Americans often disagree with average citizens but tend to get their way in policymaking. Page holds doctoral degrees in law and political science and has conducted postdoctoral work in economics.

Jonathan Rothwell is Gallup's principal economist. He has published articles on a range of topics and advises Gallup's clients on research questions, methods, and economic analysis. His recent scholarly work includes publications on subjective job quality, the devaluation of assets in black neighborhoods, the effects of international trade on the labor market, the drivers of slowing productivity growth, and the predictors of populist political preferences. He is a nonresident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, a visiting scholar at the George Washington University, and a contributor to the *New York Times*' Upshot. He is also the host of the Gallup-Knight Foundation podcast *Out of the Echo Chamber* about the relationship between the news media and democracy. In November 2019, Rothwell published a book on the causes of income inequality called *A Republic of Equals: A Manifesto for a Just Society*. Before joining Gallup, Rothwell was a fellow at the Brookings Institution's Metropolitan Policy Program. He received a doctoral degree from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University.

C. Eugene Steuerle is an Institute fellow and the Richard B. Fisher chair at the Urban Institute, as well as cofounder of the Urban-Brookings Tax Policy Center, the Urban Institute's Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy and Program on Retirement Policy, and ACT for Alexandria, a community foundation for which he also served as chair. Among his past positions are deputy assistant secretary of the US Department of the Treasury's Office of Tax Analysis, president of the National Tax Association, and economic coordinator and original organizer of the Treasury study that led to the Tax Reform Act of 1986. The author, coauthor, or coeditor of 18 books and over 1,500 articles and columns, Steuerle received the first Davie-Davis Public Service Award from the National Tax Association in 2005 and the TIAA-CREF Paul Samuelson Award for his book *Dead Men Ruling*. He writes a periodic column on public policy called The Government We Deserve.