



Professor Robert Hummer

Howard W. Odum Distinguished Professor of Sociology
The University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill

Biography

Robert Hummer is the Howard W. Odum Distinguished Professor of Sociology and Fellow of the Carolina Population Center at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-CH). He served as the 2021 President of the Population Association of America; is currently a member of the Committee on Population of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine; and was elected to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences in 2023. Robert's research focuses on the accurate documentation and more complete understanding of health and mortality disparities in the United States. He is currently Director and Principal Investigator of the long-running National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health (Add Health), funded by the National Institute on Aging and five co-funding institutes/offices. Now in its sixth wave, Add Health is one of the most innovative and well-utilized nationally representative cohort studies of Americans ever undertaken and provides data for thousands of researchers to more fully understand the multi-level (biological, survey, contextual) life course factors that contribute to health, aging, and disparities therein among US adolescents and adults.