

## Ben Bernanke

Ben Shalom Bernanke, Chairman of the United States Federal Reserve was born in December of 1953. Bernanke is a Republican originally appointed to the Chairmanship of the Federal Reserve by President George W. Bush in October 2005. At that time, he served as chairman of President Bush's Council of Economic Advisers. Bernanke succeeded Alan Greenspan as Federal Reserve Chairman. Chairman Bernanke was nominated for a second term by President Barack Obama in 2009 but many Senators oppose Bernanke's re-nomination due to concerns over the health of the economy and Bernanke's role in dealing with the Great Recession. In 2009, Bernanke was declared the TIME magazine person of the year.

Before working at the Federal Reserve, Bernanke was a Professor of Economics and Public Affairs at Princeton University. Prior to that, he was an Associate Professor at Stanford.

Bernanke was born in December 1953 in Augusta, Georgia, and grew up in Dillon, South Carolina. His was one of the few Jewish families in the areas where he grew up. He received a B.A. in economics in 1975 from Harvard University and a Ph.D. in economics in 1979 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Bernanke and his wife, Anna, have two children and live in Washington, D.C.