

Applied Demography

Population Association of America – Committee on Applied Demography Newsletter

BACK TO D.C.: CALL FOR PAPERS ISSUED FOR PAA 2011

In 1790, the United States conducted its first census of the population, as mandated by its newly ratified Constitution. Every 10 years since then—in years ending in “0”—the country has conducted its decennial headcount.

The Population Association of America (PAA) has a similar tradition. Every decade—in years ending in “1”—PAA has held its annual meetings in the U.S. capital of Washington, D.C. Such will be the case in 2011—next year.

With the 2011 event only months away (March 31-April 2), PAA has issued its call for papers. As in previous years, there is a topic devoted to an applied demography track, as well as several other sessions of potential interest to applied demographers.



All submissions need to be made online at the 2011 Annual Meeting Program website, (<http://paa2011.princeton.edu>). After logging into the site, authors will be requested to (1) enter the title, author(s), and a short (150-word) abstract; and (2) upload an extended (2-4 page) abstract or completed paper (either in Adobe PDF or Microsoft Word format). Authors may have their paper/abstract considered by two organizers, but they must indicate their first and second choices on the submission form. **No participant may appear on the PAA program more than twice.**

The deadline for submitting papers/abstracts is **September 17, 2010.**

The following sessions are of special interest to applied demographers:

Applied Demography Sessions (Topic 11)

Session 1101 – “Subnational Estimates and Projections”
(Organizer: Warren A. Brown, University of Georgia, brown@cviog.uga.edu).

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Session 1102 – “Using the American Community Survey” (*Organizer:* J. Gregory Robinson, U.S. Census Bureau, J.Gregory.Robinson@census.gov).

Session 1103 – “Case Studies in Applied Demography” (*Organizer:* Qian Cai, University of Virginia, qian.cai@virginia.edu).

Session 1104 – “Housing Demography” (*Organizer:* Dowell Myers, University of Southern California, dowell@usc.edu).

Other Submissions (Topic 13)

Session 1301 – Other Topics – please submit **only if** no other session is appropriate (*Organizer:* David Lam, University of Michigan, davidl@umich.edu).

Session 1302 – Poster Sessions (*Organizer:* Wendy D. Manning, Bowling Green State University, wmannin@bgsu.edu). Poster sessions provide an important avenue for applied demographers to display their work. Some demographers, in fact, might find posters more conducive than papers.

EDITOR'S NOTE: *There might be other sessions of interest to many applied demographers. A complete list, along with more details about the submission process, is available at the 2011 Annual Program website (<http://paa2011.princeton.edu>).*

COMMITTEE ON APPLIED DEMOGRAPHY

2010 OFFICERS

John Besl, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center
(CHAIR)

Victoria Velkoff, U.S. Census Bureau
(VICE CHAIR)

Qian Cai, University of Virginia

William P. O'Hare, Annie E. Casey Foundation

HEADING FOR ROCKY TOP: 2010 SOUTHERN DEMOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION MEETINGS SET

Besides being a bluegrass classic, the song “Rocky Top” also has served as the unofficial fight song for athletic teams at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. Visitors to this year's Southern Demographic Association (SDA) meetings may be humming that tune in the coming weeks, as Knoxville will host the 2010 annual SDA meeting October 7-9. The SDA is a national scientific and educational organization of professionals and students with interests in demography and population studies. Topics of interest cover the world, as well as any region, country, or subnational area.

The preliminary program (as of August 18) is now available online at http://sda-demography.org/sda_2010_program_version1.pdf.

Pre-registration for the meetings is US\$205; full-time students may register for US\$105. Included in the registration are: (1) attendance and participation at all sessions; (2) one luncheon event; (3) a no-host reception and group dinner; and (4) SDA membership for 2011, including Volume 30 of the SDA's professional journal *Population Research and Policy Review*.

Participants can register for the meetings (or join SDA for 2011 if they are unable to attend) by visiting the SDA meeting registration page at <http://sda-demography.org/join/JoinSDA.php>. Members register for the meeting via a web form, and they will have the option of paying by credit card via the online service PayPal (which involves an additional US\$2.50 handling fee), or mailing the SDA a check. (Members choosing the “web/credit card” option will be taken to PayPal's website to



complete the payment.) The SDA requests that participants use the web payment option **only** if they intend to use their credit card to make an **immediate** payment. **SDA urges that persons interested in attending the meetings please pre-register.**

HOTEL INFORMATION: The Crowne Plaza Hotel in Knoxville is the official hotel for this year's conference. Participants can make their reservations by either (1) booking their rooms online by going to the 2010 SDA meeting web page (http://sda-demography.org/sda_2010_meeting.php) and clicking on the "Hotel Registration" link, or (2) calling 865-522-2600. The room rates are US\$96 (plus local taxes) for a single room with a double bed, and US\$106 (plus local taxes) for a room with a king bed. **SDA urges all participants to make their reservations as early as possible. The cut-off date is September 15.**

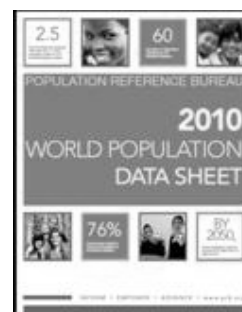
For further information about the meetings or the hotel, interest persons can visit the 2010 SDA meeting web page (http://sda-demography.org/sda_2010_meeting.php)

2010 WORLD DATA SHEET: FEWER WORKERS WORLDWIDE AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT OLDER POPULATIONS

Taken from Population Reference Bureau press release

Many countries are facing a shrinking pool of their working-age populations, often considered to be ages 15 to 64, to support the population ages 65 and over, jeopardizing pension guarantees and long-term health care programs for the elderly.

All this is according to the new *2010 World Population Data Sheet* and its summary report, produced annually by the Washington, D.C.-based Population Bureau (PRB). The two publications note that worldwide in 1950, there were 12 persons of working age for every person age 65 or older. That number had shrunk to nine persons by 2010, and projections have the elderly support ratio dropping to four.



“There are two major trends in world population today,” says Bill Butz, PRB’s president. “On the one hand, chronically low birth rates in developed countries are threatening the health and financial security of their elderly. On the other, the developing countries are adding over 80 million to the population every year and the poorest of those countries are adding 20 million, exacerbating poverty and threatening the environment.”

Global population rose to 6.9 billion in 2010, with nearly all of that growth in the world’s developing countries. In contrast, the world’s developed countries, totaling 1.2 billion, saw their populations continue to age as the numbers of those of working age dwindle. For example, Japan has a total fertility rate of 1.4 children per woman, and an elderly support ratio of 3—the lowest in the world, along with Germany and Italy. By 2050, Japan will have only 1 working-age adult for every elderly person; Germany and Italy will each have 2.

“In 2011, world population will reach 7 billion, just 12 years after reaching 6 billion,” says Carl Haub, PRB’s senior demographer and author of this year’s data sheet. “It also took 12 years to climb from 5 billion to 6 billion. The big question now is when will we reach 8 billion? Most likely in 2024, 13 years after the seventh billion, but it could be sooner.”

The *2010 World Population Data Sheet* shows the contrasts between developing and developed countries. Comparing Ethiopia and Germany illustrates just how stark the contrasts can be. Even though the two countries have almost the same population size today, Ethiopia is projected to more than double its population from 85 million today to 174 million in 2050. Germany’s population will likely decline from 82 million to 72 million over that same time. The cause of these enormous differences is lifetime births per woman. Ethiopia’s total fertility rate of 5.4 is four times greater than Germany’s rate of 1.3.

Other highlights from the *2010 World Population Data Sheet*:

- The worldwide recession appears to have caused declines in birth rates in some developed countries, such as Spain and the United States; and slowed down increases where birth rates had begun to rise, such as in Norway and Russia.
- Africa’s population is projected to double to 2 billion by 2050, although this growth could be greater if birth rates do not decrease faster than currently. Africa’s total fertility rate is 4.7 children per woman.
- Worldwide, 40 percent of the population, or more than 2.7 billion people, lack access to an adequate sanitation facility. The bulk of the underserved live in rural areas of developing countries. Only 40 percent of people in rural areas have access to sanitation.
- As the U.S. population ages, spending on entitlement programs such as Social Security and Medicare will rise sharply. Total spending on these two programs is projected to increase from today’s level of 8.4 percent of GDP to 12.5 percent in 2030.

EDITOR’S NOTE: The 2010 World Population Data Sheet and related materials are available at www.prb.org/Publications/Datasheets/2010/2010wpds.aspx.

CHILD POVERTY RATES ON THE RISE BEFORE RECESSION STARTED, NEW KIDS COUNT REPORT FINDS

Taken from Annie E. Casey Foundation press release

Overall improvements in child well-being that began in the late 1990s stalled in the years just before the current economic downturn, states the Baltimore-based Annie E. Casey Foundation in its *2010 KIDS COUNT Data Book*. The 21st annual state-level assessment of children's status found that:



- Five areas have improved: the infant mortality rate, child death rate, teen death rate, teen birth rate, and the percent of teens not in school and not high school graduates.
- Three areas have worsened: the percent of babies born low-birthweight, the child poverty rate, and the percent of children living in single-parent families.
- Two areas are not comparable: changes made to the American Community Survey's (ACS) 2008 questionnaire regarding employment affected the ability to track trends for the percent of teens not in school and not working, and the percent of children in families where no parent has full-time, year-round employment.

"We won't be able to assess the full impact of the economic downturn on children and families for a number of years," said Laura Beavers, national KIDS COUNT coordinator at the Annie E. Casey Foundation. "The economic data that the Census Bureau will release later this year will give a better picture of family economic well-being in the recession. However, even data from 2008 that was collected before the recession took hold shows economic conditions were worsening for kids."

Based on trend data released by the Casey Foundation, the rate of children living in poverty in 2008 was 18 percent, indicating that 1 million more children were living in poverty in that year than in 2000. Experts project that more up-to-date Census data will show the child poverty climbing to above 20 percent.

This year's *Data Book* offers good news as well. More teens in 2008 across all five of the largest racial and ethnic groups were either in school or had obtained a high school diploma or General Education Diploma compared with teens in 2000.

According to the report, the teen birth rate fell from 48 births per 1,000 females ages 15 to 19 in 2000 to 43 births per 1,000 females in this age range in 2007. However, there is bad news related to teen births. Although still below the rate of 2000, the teen birth rate did increase from 40 to 43 births per 1,000 females ages 15-19 between 2005 and 2007.

Looking across all child well-being indicators, New Hampshire, Minnesota, and Vermont rank highest, and Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi rank the lowest. Six states with the biggest improvements in their rankings between 2000-2007 (health data) and 2000-2008 (economic data) are New York, Maryland, North Carolina, Illinois, Oregon, and Wyoming. The five states with the biggest drops in their rankings between 2000-2007 and 2000-2008 are Montana, South Dakota, Maine, Alaska, and Hawaii.

In addition to the 10 key measures tracked in the Data Book, the KIDS COUNT Data Center (<http://datacenter.kidscount.org>) provides easy, online access to the latest child well-being data on hundreds of indicators by state, county, city, and school district. It serves as a comprehensive source of information for policymakers, advocates, members of the media, and others concerned with addressing the needs of children, families, and communities.

"Our KIDS COUNT project has made significant strides in tracking results and compiling data on children and families during the past two decades," said Patrick T. McCarthy, president and CEO of the Casey Foundation. "But the reality is that we can only go so far without needed improvements to our data collection systems. None of us has a good grasp on the conditions facing America's children because state and federal agencies collect data too infrequently, and often do not measure what really matters for kids."

The Casey Foundation recommends four simple and relatively inexpensive steps that the federal government can take to improve the collection of data on our nation's children. These include the following:

- Expand the National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH). This survey was last conducted in 2007 and is not scheduled again until 2011. As a result, it has not been possible to fully gauge the effects of the severe economic downturn on children. Casey supports the expansion and enhancement of the NSCH, allowing greater frequency of data collection and a broader range of child well-being indicators.

- *Adopt a Supplemental Poverty Measure.* The lack of a modern poverty measure has created a serious gap in the knowledge about how children are faring. The current poverty measure is based on spending patterns typical of the 1950s and doesn't capture non-cash benefits such as food stamps and child care. The Census Bureau has announced that a supplemental poverty measure will be released in the fall of 2011 that will include an assessment of both family income and expenses, providing more accurate data to guide policy decisions.
- *Increase the Sample Size of the American Community Survey (ACS).* The ACS could be an even more valuable tool to gauge child well-being measures if the sample size were increased to provide more precise data for urban neighborhoods and sparsely populated rural communities. The Casey Foundation supports an increase in the sample size of this survey that is the primary source of community-level data in the country.
- *Address Problems in the Vital Records System.* Over the past few years, significant gaps and delays in compiling key data on health have occurred. This has resulted from years of underinvestment at the National Center for Health Statistics and difficulty implementing recent changes to birth and death certificates. To rectify these lags, Congress should make a one-time appropriation of \$30 million to help states transition to the new forms, modernize the Vital Statistics system, and then provide additional funds to support this key data stream.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Through the KIDS COUNT Data Center, users can download the 2010 KIDS COUNT Data Book, access hundreds of other measures of child well-being, and view real-time information on portable devices. Users can visit the Data Center at <http://datacenter.kidscount.org>.

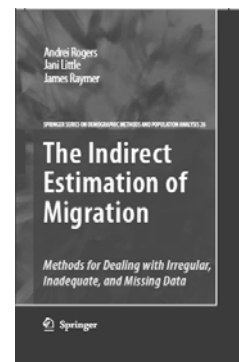
NEW MIGRATION BOOK RELEASED

Submitted by Andrei Rogers, University of Colorado at Boulder

***The Indirect Estimation of Migration: Methods for Dealing with Irregular, Inadequate, and Missing Data*, by Andrei Rogers, Jani Little, and James Raymer. Springer, 2010. Hardcover, xiii, 200 pp.**

Part of the Springer Series on Demographic Methods and Population Analysis, this unique book introduces an essential element in applied demographic analysis: a tool-kit for describing, smoothing, repairing, and—in instances of totally missing data—inferring directional migration flows.

Migration rates combine with fertility and mortality rates to shape the evolution of human populations. Demographers have found that all three generally exhibit persistent regularities in their age and spatial patterns, when one controls for changing levels. Drawing on statistical descriptions of such regularities, it often is possible to improve the quality of the available data by smoothing irregular data, imposing the structures of borrowed and related data on unreliable data, and estimating missing data by indirect methods. The authors present model migration schedules and log-linear models as powerful methods for helping population researchers, historical demographers, geographers, and migration analysts work with the data available to them.



EDITOR'S NOTE: *The Indirect Estimation of Migration: Methods for Dealing with Irregular, Inadequate, and Missing Data* (ISBN: 978-90-481-8914-4, US\$139.00 hardcover) is available from Springer. Copies may be ordered through the Springer website at www.springer.com.

Applied Demography – Call for Submissions

APPLIED DEMOGRAPHERS...

Do you have some earth-shattering research?
Have you got a groundbreaking publication that's just been released?
Are you looking to hire a cracker-jack research assistant?

HOW ABOUT SHARING THIS INFORMATION WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES?

Short articles, book reviews, blurbs of upcoming (or recently released) publications, job announcements...they're all welcome. We also request contact information (in case we need to reach you to clarify something).

Please send all submissions to:

Kelvin Pollard, Editor, Applied Demography, Population Reference Bureau (PRB), 1875 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 520, Washington, DC 20009-5728 (phone: 202-939-5424; fax: 202-328-3937; e-mail: kelvinp@prb.org)



Remember, Applied Demography is YOUR newsletter! Help make it great!

REMEMBERING DALLAS... HIGHLIGHTS OF PAA 2010

WELCOME TO "BIG D"

...Little A, Double L, A, S (Surely you've heard of the song... it's from Frank Loesser's 1956 hit Broadway musical, "The Most Happy Fella.")



THE EXHIBIT AREA

As always, the exhibit area buzzed with activity during the meetings.



Activity at the Population Reference Bureau display.

AT THE PAA MIXER

Held the night before the formal PAA sessions, PAA's Annual Mixer provides a time for getting together with old friends...and possibly meeting some new ones!



Oh, the humanity of it all!

APPLIED DEMOGRAPHY RECEPTION

PAA's Committee on Applied Demography held a reception on Thursday evening, April 15. As has been the case in recent years, everyone had a good time. The committee extends thanks once again to the Annie E. Casey Foundation and the Population Reference Bureau for co-sponsoring the event.



Reception participants took some time to mingle and discuss opportunities in applied demography.



Bill O'Hare (Annie E. Casey Foundation), Bill Butz (Population Reference Bureau), and CAD chair John Besl (Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center) all welcome the participants.



And for the evening's entertainment... Dowell Myers (University of Southern California) on the harmonica!

APPLIED DEMOGRAPHY BREAKFAST

On Friday morning, April 16, Census Bureau director Robert Groves gave the keynote address, in which he discussed progress with the 2010 Census with the applied demography community. Dr. Groves' tireless work to drum up support for the decennial headcount was evident at PAA... after the breakfast he had to fly out immediately to Houston for an event promoting Census participation.



CAD Chair John Besl (left) welcomes the attendees before Dr. Groves (right) gives his keynote.



PAA President Robert Mare (left) addresses the participants. At right, Jeanne Gobalet (Lapko & Gobalet Demographic Research), head of CAD's School Demography group, publicizes the Applied Demography Yahoo group.

A GLIMPSE OF DALLAS

The PAA hotel this year was within walking distance of several Dallas landmarks, including the site of one of the most tragic moments in U.S. history.



American Airlines Center, home of two of Dallas' major professional sports teams—the NBA's Mavericks and the NHL's Stars. (The Stars won the Stanley Cup in 1999.)



Reunion Tower, just outside the PAA hotel.



The area around Dealey Plaza, where President John F. Kennedy was assassinated while riding in a motorcade on Nov. 22, 1963. The arrows point to where the bullets hit the President (marked by "X's" on the road surface).



Now housing a museum and county administrative offices, this formerly was the Texas School Book Depository, from where the fatal shots were fired.



Nicknamed "Old Red," the former Dallas County Courthouse—now a museum in the city's historic West End district.



John F. Kennedy Memorial Plaza, erected in tribute to the 35th U.S. president.

THAT'S ALL, FOLKS!

Until next year in Washington.





8630 Fenton Street
Suite 722
Silver Spring, MD 20910
phone 301.565.6710



EDITORIAL INFORMATION

Readers are encouraged to suggest topics and to respond to articles in *Applied Demography* with letters to the editor. Please address all correspondence to:

Kelvin M. Pollard
Population Reference Bureau
1875 Connecticut Avenue NW
Suite 520
Washington, DC 20009-5728
202.939.5424
kelvinp@prb.org

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Population Association of America
8630 Fenton St, Suite 722
Silver Spring, MD 20910-3812
phone 301.565.6710 fax 301.565.7850 info@popassoc.org

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