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UNIVERSITY OF
Southampton

Society Counts

Newsletter of the Division of Social Statistics & Demography

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PopFest 2013 Update

An overwhelmingly positive response to the Call for Papers.

March 1st saw the deadline for abstract submissions for the PopFest 2013, the 21st annual multidisciplinary population studies conference for postgraduate students, and the organising committee were delighted with the response to the call for abstracts. More than 70 researchers from disciplines as diverse as Sociology, Statistics and Health Sciences sent in their research. The variety of topics covered by the abstracts allowed the definition of 12 broad presentation strand themes, ranging from "Life-course and the Family" to "Mapping Population", ensuring that the conference will cater for omnivorous, multi-disciplinary appetites. Institutions from 11 countries across the globe were represented amongst the submissions, meaning that PopFest 2013 will be a truly international affair.



PopFest 2013 is hosted by the University of Southampton and will take place from the 8th to the 10th July 2013. Professor David Martin, the co-Director of both the ESRC UK Data Service and the ESRC National Centre for Research Methods, will give the keynote speech and will discuss the past and future of the census. Doctor Diana López-Falcón will deliver the conference plenary which will focus on policy issues in contemporary population studies, and the challenges and opportunities for researchers in the future. Participants will also benefit from a training day to help them will help delegates identify and market their PhD experience effectively to enhance their employability prospects.

Appointments

We would like to extend our congratulations to students who have passed their upgrade from MPhil to PhD: Rachel Bennett, Rebecca Vassallo, George Disney, Yahia El-Hobarty and Federico De Luca. The following students have also passed their vivas: Ngianga II Kandala, Lana Chikhungu and Jamal Nasir. We wish them congratulations and good luck in their future endeavours!

We also have exciting news regarding new staff and promotions within the Division of Social Statistics and Demography:

Professor Li-Chun joined S3RI in October from Statistics Norway. His research interests include data integration, statistical uses of administrative sources, survey sampling, sample coordination, estimation and imputation, treatment of non-sampling errors, small area estimation, price index, statistical data editing and statistical modelling.

Professor Böhning who has been working at the University since 2011 has been appointed deputy director of S3RI (Medical Statistics and Biostatistics). His research interests include mixture models and their applications, capture-recapture modelling, surveillance models for drug user populations as well as review research and meta-analysis. He has previously held positions at the University of Reading, Pennsylvania State University, the Institute of Statistics at the LMU in Munich, the Institute of Psychology at the University of Vienna and the Mahidol University in Bangkok.

Brienna Perelli-Harris, who was appointed to a lectureship in demography at Southampton in 2011, has recently been promoted to Reader. Her research investigates changes in the family across countries, including: nonmarital childbearing, fertility, union formation; demographic techniques, mixed-methods; decline to very low fertility and family change in the former Soviet Union.

Dr Nuala McGrath has also recently been appointed as a Reader in Infectious Disease Epidemiology and is joining the University as a joint appointment with the Faculty of Medicine. She has worked as a biostatistician supporting clinical trials in the USA and later in clinical trials and epidemiological research in Africa. She has recently worked on projects in Malawi with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine's Karonga Prevention Study research programme and in South Africa with the Africa Centre for Health and Population Studies.

Dr Agnese Vitali will be joining the university in September this year. Her research interests include the transition to adulthood, living arrangements, low fertility, work-family issues, 2nd-generation immigrants, multilevel models and spatial econometrics.

The Energy 4 Development Project is a multi-institutional and multi-disciplinary research programme which is being led by a team of researchers from Southampton, working with partners from Imperial College and other researchers in Africa.

The aim is to establish and implement easy-to-replicate, sustainable decentralized off-grid electricity which promotes development and improves wellbeing in rural communities in Africa (<http://energyfordevelopment.net/>).

Many people in rural villages across Africa have no electricity and an energy supply would create life-changing benefits, such as pumped water and refrigeration for vaccines. This project seeks to assess the impact that off-grid electricity in rural villages in Africa has on the health and wellbeing of the rural poor. Two sub-locations without electricity have been selected in order to measure the impact of introducing the energy supply; the first phase of the project entails implementing the project in Kitonyoni sub-location, while using Mwanja sub-location (both in Makueni district in Eastern Kenya) as a control site, which will be electrified at a later date.

Three important components are being considered in this project in order to develop appropriate, replicable models for energy systems that recognise the socio-economic and financial, as well as technical aspects of supplying energy.

People: The local community was consulted to determine their needs, aspirations and goals and the social, economic and cultural context was thoroughly assessed in order to identify the most appropriate system. The Centre for Global Health, Population, Poverty and Policy (GHP3) based in the Social Sciences is assessing this in three parts; Needs Assessment to determine energy needs for the community members; Baseline Assessment prior to electrification and Endline Assessment at the end of the project to assess the impact of the project.

Product: A sustainable energy equipment needed for electricity supply was designed, sourced and implemented in Kitonyoni sub-location in September 2012. This product was informed by the results of the needs assessment and baseline survey.

Process: The introduction of energy systems in Kitonyoni sub-location has been accompanied by the development of business processes to allow sustainable replication, deliver social benefits and generation of wealth for the community. Using results of the

needs assessment and the baseline survey, business models were developed with the aim of making the new energy supply affordable and profitable for the villages. Businesses in Kitonyoni have been connected to the electricity system and have been fitted with electricity metres for payment of the energy consumed, and households will be able to buy rechargeable lanterns which will be charged at the electrified business premises. Other premises which will be expected to pay for their consumption, including The Kitonyoni dispensary, Kyaka primary school and churches in the community. There are also plans by Kyaka school's management board to raise money to electrify more classrooms where pupils can use electricity for early morning and evening studies and to supply other equipment which can be operated with the recently-acquired electricity.



Southampton's E4D electricity is expected to improve energy use at Kitonyoni dispensary



E4D project's solar panels fitted on a canopy

Meet a PGR student: Jason Hilton

Jason Hilton is a PhD student attached to both the Institute for Complex Systems Simulation (ICSS) Doctoral Training Centre and the Division of Social Statistics and Demography.

The multi-disciplinary ICSS, funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, brings together researchers from many different domains who are interested in applying the methods and concepts of Complexity Science to their research. Complex systems are those where the repeated interaction of large numbers of individual units leads to the emergence of unpredictable and unexpected population-level patterns, whether these systems involve molecules in a gas, animals in an ecosystem, or people in society. Often, the controlled setting of a simulation is the best way to understand such a system.

Jason's research focuses on the use of agent-based simulation to test hypotheses about the link between behaviour and interaction at the individual level on one hand, and emergence of demographic trends on the other. The flexibility of the agent based paradigm means that behavioural hypotheses can be formalised within a simulation and their implications for population change examined. His current work includes research into the way in which social networks mediate partnership and household formation.

As well as his PhD project, Jason is also involved in work for the Care Life Cycle (CLC) Project. The CLC is a multi-disciplinary research programme aimed at investigating the interplay between supply and demand for health and social care in the UK in the context of an ageing population. Jason is a member of a team conducting modelling work that investigates, amongst other things, the relationship between family structure and the availability of carers.



Jason Hilton: *"Being involved in Multidisciplinary research has expanded my skill-set, but also changed the way in which I think about Social Science problems".*

Meet a member of staff: Professor Nyovani Madise



Nyovani Madise: *"Transdisciplinary research transcends boundaries imposed by individual disciplines to bring together scientists to focus on finding solutions for global challenges with the possibility of gaining new perspectives".*

Professor of Demography and Social Statistics

Nyovani Madise obtained her PhD in Social Statistics from Southampton in 1993. Her PhD thesis investigated the interface between birth interval length and infant mortality using data from Ghana and Malawi and she was among the first group of PhD students in the department to use multilevel modelling. Nyovani has worked as a lecturer in statistics at the University of Malawi and as Senior Research Scientist at the African Population and Health Research Center in Kenya.

Nyovani is currently Associate Dean (Research and Enterprise) in the Faculty and she also co-directs the Centre for Global Health, Population, Poverty, and Policy (GHP3), a transdisciplinary research centre which investigates the interrelationships between health, population and poverty, at both the societal and individual level. GHP3 carries forward the work of the major DFID-funded Opportunities and Choices research programme in reproductive health that ended in 2005 and the Centre for AIDS Research, which it has subsumed. She is also co-chair of the University Strategic Research Group in Population Health, which aims to promote research within the university and externally in the area of population health by bringing together social science, medicine, geography, psychology, health science, education, engineering, computer science, statistics, management and law, to tackle global and societal challenges in health.

Nyovani is passionate about social statistics and the combination of 'social' and 'statistics' appeals to both her statistical background and her desire to do "something good for humankind". Her research interests are in child and maternal health, nutrition, family planning and young people's sexual behaviour in the developing world. Nyovani has had the privilege of addressing the 40th Session of the United Nations Commission

on Population and Development in New York, where she argued for investments in the health and education of adolescents in sub-Saharan Africa. She chaired the International Union for the Scientific Study of Populations (IUSSP) between 2006 and 2009 and in 2012 she was contacted by Melinda Gates to advise her on how to address the problem of low use of contraception among poor African women.

To find out more about the activities and interests of all our staff and PGRs, please visit:
<http://www.southampton.ac.uk/demography/> and follow the link to 'Who we are'.

Global South Forum

An interactive space for dialogue on development issues and policies

Origin of Global South Forum

The University of Southampton's Global South Forum (GSF) is an interdisciplinary network of undergraduate and postgraduate students as well as members of staff. It is an initiative of students from the Faculty of Social and Human Sciences. From its inception in summer 2012, the GSF has sought to promote interdisciplinary research. This principle is shown in the diverse background of the founding members of the Forum. The GSF was formed by postgraduate researchers from politics, demography, statistics, health sciences and geography. The work of the Forum is organized under the following six themes:

- Millennium Development Goals
- Technological innovation for development
- Migration and urbanisation
- Families and intergenerational support
- Conflict and identity
- Economics and fair trade policies



Members of GSF Steering Committee (from left to right): Amie Kamanda, Angie Dharmaraj, Sylvia Szabo, Angelos Katsaris and Fiona Ngarachu

Aims and objectives

The GSF aims to address the needs of individuals researching issues relating to Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. The purpose of this forum emerged from a need to offer students and staff from the University of Southampton, as well as those farther afield, an opportunity to interact and share their ideas and the challenges faced within their particular projects. A number of activities were proposed as providing an interactive space for GSF members to engage in issues of development including monthly presentations, bi-monthly documentary screenings, workshops and conferences as well as engagement with social media and other online forums.

To date practitioners as well as academics have been given the opportunity to present at the monthly seminars. These presentations have been thought provoking and useful in reflecting the practicalities of conducting research in an interdisciplinary context. Professor Madise delivered the inaugural seminar which focused on definitions of development. This was followed by a seminar on information and communication technology by practitioner and entrepreneur, Marlon Parker. Recently other speakers have discussed citizenship empowerment as well as research ethics among children and education in the Mano River region. Future seminars will draw on issues of health, fair trade and human rights violations. The range in focus of these presentations exemplifies the multidisciplinary focus of the GSF.

The GSF quarterly Bulletin also promotes discussion on issues of development. The Bulletin thus far has published articles addressing current and future research on development related issues. Recent articles in Volume 1, Issue 2 discussed the conceptualisation of multidisciplinary approach to research as well as the demography of conflict and researching trust in post conflict states.

The final aspect of GSF activities which illustrates its efforts to present the interests of its diverse members is the bi-monthly documentary film night. Documentaries were selected that reinforced the underlying themes of the Forum such as films on global water scarcity, urbanisation in Lagos, trade between China and African countries as well as the impact of structural adjustment policies in Jamaica. Prospective documentaries will focus on post conflict development in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The GSF is a valuable contribution by postgraduate researchers to the academic life at the University of Southampton. It has to date given its members the opportunity to experience different research topics and cultural documentaries. The network has created a platform for critical dialogue between academics in different disciplines as well as between academics and practitioners. It is testament to the vibrant academic environment at the University of Southampton in nurturing debate.

To find out more about the University of Southampton's Global South Forum, please visit <http://gsf.soton.ac.uk/> or email gsforum@soton.ac.uk

Alternatively find us on Twitter: https://twitter.com/gsf_forum or Facebook: <https://en-gb.facebook.com/GlobalSouthForum>

Mortality Past and Present: John Graunt's Bills of Mortality Symposium

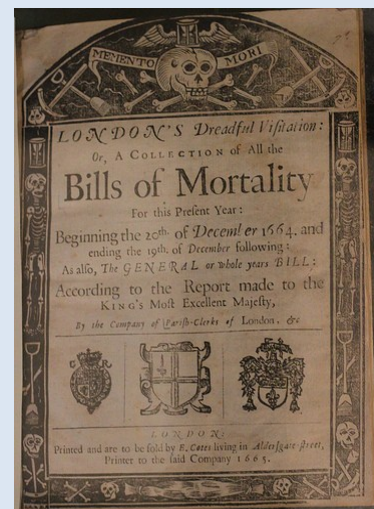
Celebrating the 350th anniversary of John Graunt's Bills of Mortality

The ESRC Centre for Population Change (CPC), with The British Society for Population Studies (BSPS) and Gresham College, held a symposium to mark the 350th anniversary of John Graunt's work on the Bills of Mortality; commonly viewed as the birth of UK, and perhaps even European, demography.

John Graunt (1620-1674) analysed the vital statistics of the citizens of London collected over a 70-year period and wrote a book, *Natural and Political Observations Made upon the Bills of Mortality*, published in 1662, which resulted in the first statistically based estimation of the population of London. His work greatly influenced the demographers of his day and those in the centuries that followed. Graunt was honoured for his work by being made a charter member of England's Royal Society.

This symposium, which took place on 29 November at Gresham College, London, opened with an historical examination of mortality patterns in London during Graunt's era, and assessed the contribution of the Bills of Mortality to the development of demography as a discipline. It was followed by a presentation of the current 'state-of-the-art' of mortality studies in the UK, Europe and beyond, all the time considering the influence of Graunt. The symposium concluded with a panel discussion in which representatives from the Government Actuary's Department and the Office for National Statistics spoke on how changing mortality patterns interact with contemporary policy and planning issues.

A full list of speakers and lectures from the event are available via the CPC website: <http://tiny.cc/jgraunt>



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Gresham College

ESRC-DTC First Year Student Conference

The London School of Economics and Political Science hosted the second annual First Year Student Conference 8 February 2013 for student recipients of the Doctoral Training Centre Fellowships.

The conference was held at Central Hall Westminster with over 200 students in attendance. Southampton ESRC-DTC postgraduate researchers from the division of social statistics and demography were amongst those who attended the conference, for which the ESRC covered attendance and travel costs. The conference was designed for all first-year DTC fellowship recipients, and focused on themes and networking designed to help DTC-funded students enhance their postgraduate training and research. These themes included: 'Making the most of your ESRC-funded PhD'; 'Creating work with Impact'; 'Doing Research that Matters'; 'Making the most of Training and Resources'; 'Internships and Collaboration'; 'International Strategy' and the activities included discipline-specific workgroups with host experts from the LSE.

A useful networking opportunity for first year postgraduate researchers, the conference was also a good opportunity to hear from speakers who included Professor Paul Boyle who gave a key note speech in his capacity as Chief Executive of ESRC, Professor Kenneth Benoit from LSE whose research concerns the methodology of quantitative text analysis applied to political science, and who led the discussion how to make the most of the training and resources available to DTC-funded students. Professor Tim Newburn at the Department of Social Policy at the LSE gave a presentation on innovative research using his partnership with the Guardian newspaper to produce qualitative studies on the Riots 2011 which was published in the newspaper. The conference also heard from second and third year PhD students who gave presentations on their experiences on studying abroad and on internship opportunities with for example non-governmental organisations. Finally, Professor Patrick Dunleavy a Professor of Political Science and Public Policy in the Department of Government at LSE, and author of *Authoring a PhD: How to plan, draft, write and finish a Doctoral Thesis or Dissertation* spoke on how students could make the most of their PhD. A final session with discipline specific group discussion facilitated by key academic staff was organised at the LSE. The group discussion on statistics was facilitated by Professor Chris Skinner, a previous staff member at the University of Southampton.

British Society for Population Studies Conference

The next annual meeting of the British Society for Population Studies (BSPS) will be held at the University of Swansea from 9-11 September 2013.

Proposals for oral presentations and posters have been invited across the spectrum of population studies and methodological approaches to demography. Next to a variety of regular and training sessions, there will be two plenary sessions: Monica Das Gupta (The World Bank) will speak about demography, gender and kinship and Mary Daly (University of Oxford) will give a talk on whether family policy in the UK and Europe responds to fertility and ageing.

It is possible to join BSPS as a full member or as a student member. Next to profiting from being part of a scientific community, benefits of the membership include the possibility to apply for an international travel grant for up to £250 and receiving the BSPS Newsletter with useful information and interesting articles. Additionally, student members also benefit from the opportunity to apply for a student bursary for the BSPS conference (in case accepted for a paper or poster presentation). The annual membership is only £25 for full members and £7.50 for student members. For more information, please visit the BSPS webpage:

<http://www2.lse.ac.uk/socialPolicy/BSPS/Home.aspx>.



BSPS would welcome greater student involvement in the Society. Do you have a suggestion for a one day meeting? Or do you have an idea how British demographers could engage more with early career researchers? If you wish to become a student member or have any questions, please feel free to contact Julia Mikolai, the postgraduate student representative of BSPS at jm1e11@soton.ac.uk.

Future Dates for the Diary

25th-28th March 2013	Research Student's Conference in Probability, Statistics and Applied Social Statistics, Lancaster University, UK	Call for abstracts now closed
11th-13th April 2013	Population Association of America (PAA), New Orleans, Louisiana, U.S.	Call for papers now closed. Early pre-registration by 18th March 2013
6th-7th June 2013	Changing families and fertility choices, Oslo, Norway	Call for papers now closed
25th-28th June 2013	7th International Conference on Population Geographies, Groningen, the Netherlands	Call for papers now closed
8th-10th July 2013	PopFest 2013, University of Southampton.	Deadline for registration 1st May 2013
20th-25th July 2013	European Meeting of Statistician's, Budapest, Hungary.	Call for papers now closed. Early registration by 1st May 2013
25th-30th August 2013	59th World Statistics Conference of the International Statistical Institute (ISI), Hong Kong, China.	Call for papers now closed. Early bird registration by 31st May 2013
28th-30th August 2013	Royal Geographical Society with the Institute of British Geographers Annual Conference, Kensington Gore, London, UK.	Deadline for call for papers 12th April 2013.
26th-31st August 2013	International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) International Population Conference, Busan, Korea.	Call for papers now closed. Early registration by 15th July 2013
9th-11th September 2013	British Society for Population Studies (BSPS) Annual Conference 2013, University of Swansea, Wales	Deadline for call for papers 25th March 2013
20th-21st November 2013	International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), Cape Town, South Africa.	Deadline for abstract submissions 30th April 2013
25th-28th June 2014	European Population Conference (EPC2014), Budapest, Hungary	Details to follow

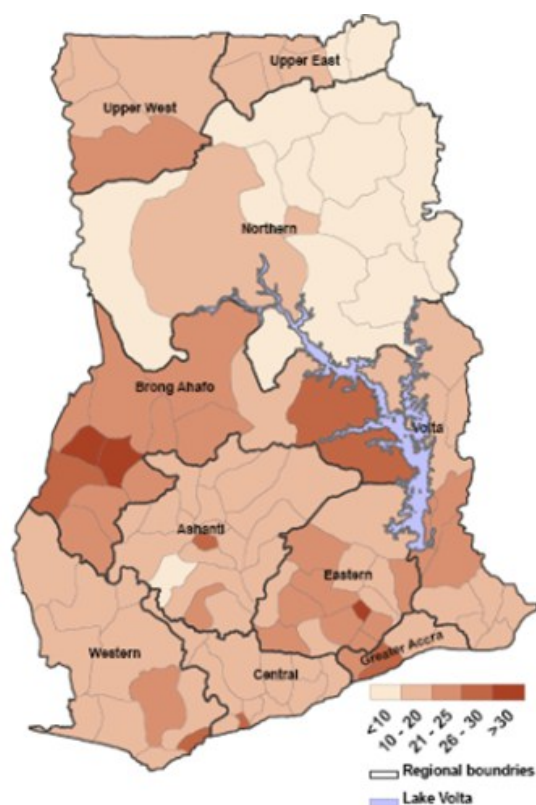
Centre for Global Health, Population, Poverty and Policy (GHP3)

Dr. Fiifi Amoako Johnson, Lecturer in Social Statistics & Demography at the Division of Social Statistics and Demography & Researcher at GHP3 examines local area variations in unmet need for family planning in Ghana through model-based small area estimation.

Meeting demand for contraception has become more urgent in sub-Saharan African countries where fertility declines have stalled and maternal deaths remain unacceptably high. Contraception plays an important role in the effort to reduce maternal morbidity and mortality in the developing world, not only through the reduction in births, but also in the reduction of pregnancies to at-risk groups, such as teenagers and older women who already have four or more children. In most sub-Saharan African countries, fertility levels vary substantially and demographic information which are essential for building effective family planning programmes are not available at the subnational level. Population and Housing Censuses are the main source of subnational statistics but they provide limited demographic and socioeconomic information. Population surveys offer representative and reliable national level or regional estimates but they cannot be used directly to derive subnational estimates. This is mainly because of sampling variation and small sample sizes at the sub-regional or district level which cannot yield direct estimates with adequate precision.



Dr. Fiifi Amoako Johnson



Model-based estimates showing variations in use of modern contraceptives (%)

Small area statistics are crucial for formulating policies and informing policy changes, the allocation of funds and local level planning, as well as monitoring and evaluation. Whilst small area estimation methods have developed a lot over the past 40 years, its use in demography and in the sub-Saharan African context has been limited. Bridging the inequality gap in contraceptive use requires programmes which are area specific, and can be designed and implemented at the local level. In our project in Ghana, we used small-area estimation techniques, linking data from the 2003 Ghana Demographic and Health Survey (GDHS) to the 2000 Ghana Population and Housing Census, to derive district-level estimates of contraceptive use and unmet need for contraception. The northern and central regions were found to be the two most underserved regions in the country. The findings showed substantial between-district variation in contraceptive use and unmet need. Contraceptive use varied from 4.1% to 41.7%, while use of modern methods varied from 4.0% to 34.8%. The results indicate that in some districts contraceptive needs are satisfied mainly by traditional methods. The study was therefore able to identify districts where family planning programmes need to be strengthened.

In May 2012, Dr Amoako Johnson presented the findings from this project to the Health Select Committee of the Ghana Parliament where the Director and Deputy Directors of Ghana Health Service, Executive members of the Ghana Registered Midwives' Association, International Confederation of Midwives, Representatives of International Organisations including UNFPA and Non-Governmental Organisation were present. The findings were published in *Population Studies* (2012) 66 (2): 105-122.



Third Sector Research Centre (TSRC)

The Third Sector Research Centre (TSRC)'s quantitative research programme is directed by Prof John Mohan. Steve Barnard, Matt Bennett, Sarah Bulloch and David Clifford are also members of the team. It is an exciting research programme, given both the high policy prominence of the voluntary sector and the relative lack of

previous quantitative research on volunteers and voluntary organisations.

TSRC's work includes research at the individual level, focusing on individuals' volunteering and civic engagement. We described some of this research in the previous issue of the newsletter. Here we highlight another major strand of our research, at the organisation level, which makes use of administrative and survey data on charities and other voluntary organisations. Major substantive work has included:

- Describing spatial patterns in the prevalence of voluntary organisations ([see paper](#))
- Examining the relationship between the initial size of charities and their subsequent growth ([see paper](#))
- Investigating government funding of voluntary organisations – which kinds of organisations receive public funding, and which kinds of places have a high proportion of publicly funded organisations? ([see paper](#))
- Tracking charities over time, and examining the factors associated with their survival

The work has included both cross-sectional and longitudinal perspectives. Many of the results have particular resonance at a time when there is a prominent policy focus on the role of voluntary organisations, but also when many organisations are faced with cuts in their public funding. The results also have relevance to theoretical work on the relationship between government and the voluntary sector. TSRC is also developing largescale datasets as a resource for future research. This includes: the construction of a panel dataset on charities' income and expenditure since the 1990s; in partnership with the National Council of Voluntary Organisations (NCVO), the design of a survey to collect detailed financial information from a representative sample of 10,000 charities; and the collation of information from different sources, on different kinds of voluntary organisations, into a single database.

If you're interested to find out more about our work, please do drop us a line!

Southampton Statistical Sciences Research Institute (S3RI)

Southampton
Statistical Sciences
Research Institute

This year, Southampton Statistical Sciences Research Institute (S3RI) is celebrating its 10th Anniversary. Established in 2003, S3RI brings together researchers working in the statistical sciences (statistics, demography, actuarial science, etc.) on

10th
Anniversary
S3RI

core methodology for generic problems and on substantive applications, particularly in the social sciences, engineering, health and medicine.

Various celebratory events will be held throughout 2013, including:

An S3RI Special Seminar on Wildfires in South Africa; Cherry Trees in Japan by Professor Alan Gelfand (Duke University) on Tuesday 16 April at 4.00 pm in Nuffield Lecture Theatre A, to be followed by a drinks reception.

The 8th International Conference on Multiple Comparison Procedures (MCP2013) at the University from 8 to 11 July.

The Second (E/S)² workshop when Economics and Statistics from ENSAI and Southampton meet. The first workshop was held at the Ecole Nationale de la Statistique et de l'Analyse de l'Information (ENSAI) in Rennes last October and the second is planned for September in Southampton, provisionally on Thursday 19 and Friday 20 September.

A one-day conference celebrating the past, present and future of S3RI, with papers from the five research programmes: sample surveys and official statistics; design and analysis of experiments; policy and evaluation; statistical modelling and computation; and biostatistics, as well as the statistical highlights from the last 10 years and a look forward to the next. This will be held in Southampton on Tuesday 17 December. The papers presented will appear in a special issue of Statistical Methods in Medical Research celebrating 10 years of S3RI.

For more information about all our associated research centres, please visit bit.ly/XRLTcz



New podcast series from the National Centre for Research Methods

Digital data, small area estimation, ethics and survey methods are just some of the topics from the NCRM podcast series.

The new NCRM podcast series started in October 2012 aiming to highlight developments in methodological research in social sciences. Researchers affiliated with NCRM talk about methodological questions they face in their research, and discuss possible outcomes and scenarios in future social research. The current episodes include:

- Digital technologies in the operating theatre by Jeff Bezemer (IoE)
- Digital methods by Digital Methods as Mainstream Methodologies group Understanding support for Complementary and Alternative Medicine in general populations by Patrick Sturgis (NCRM, Univ. Southampton)
- What are Qualitative Research Ethics by Rose Wiles (NCRM, Univ. Southampton)
- Blurring the boundaries by Gareth Morrell (NatCen Social Research)
- Evaluating and improving small area estimation methods by Adam Whitworth (Univ. Sheffield)

The podcasts are available in <http://www.ncrm.ac.uk/TandE/video/podcasts.php> and on iTunes.

Update from ESRC Centre for Population Change (CPC)

Late 2012 saw us host a number of key CPC events, with a policy event on recent changes in young adults' housing and independent living at the Local Government Association offices, London, as well as two symposiums: one to mark the 350th anniversary of John Graunt's Bills of Mortality at Gresham College (more later), and another examining whether migration has reached a threshold in 21st century China, held at the University of Southampton. In December we hosted an event in Inverness on Migration and Ageing in the Highlands. In addition, CPC members have presented work at events including COMPAS Breakfast Briefings, a Population Europe event on active ageing, a South East England Councils workshop on ageing, and an event examining women's reproductive health across the life course.

Over the last few months, CPC research has been used across many media outlets, including the BBC, The Economist and the Daily Mail, and has been published in journals including: *Advances in Life Course Research*; *Age and Ageing*; *Environment and Planning*; *Families, Relationships and Society*; and *Sociology*. We have also welcomed Mike Daly, from the Department for Work and Pensions as a new member of the CPC Advisory Board, alongside supporting Professor Jackline Wahba in her appointment to the Home Office's Migration Advisory Committee.

Recently, CPC members have secured funding for projects which will look at: the Scottish Independence referendum in 2014; the role of NGOs in asylum seeker and irregular migrant voluntary returns; pension protection for minority ethnic groups in Britain; young adulthood in the 21st Century; beta testing 2011 Census data on informal carers; and have also won policy commission funding from Public Policy@Southampton to examine food and fuel poverty among older people in the UK.

The new year has also seen the launch of the new-look CPC website - go and take a look at www.cpc.ac.uk where you will also find further details on all of the activities listed above. Alongside the new site, we have launched the CPC Facebook page, so please check out the materials available and 'Like' our page to get updates at www.facebook.com/CPCpopulation, and don't forget to follow us on Twitter @CPC_population. You can also download our newly published research brochure at www.cpc.ac.uk/research_programme.

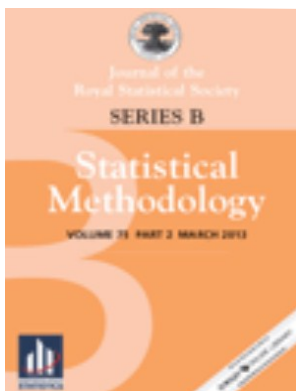


Who emits most? Associations between socio-economic factors and UK households' home energy, transport, indirect and total CO2 emissions

Buchs, Milena and Schnepf, Sylke V.

Does the association between household characteristics and household CO2 emissions differ for different areas such as home energy, transport and indirect emissions? This question is policy relevant because distributional implications of mitigation policies may vary depending on the area of emissions that is targeted if specific types of households are likely to have higher emissions in some areas than in others. Using a representative UK expenditure survey, this paper compares how household characteristics like income, household size, education, gender, worklessness and rural and urban location differ in their association with all three areas as well as total emissions.

In press.



Outlier robust small area estimation

R. Chambers, H. Chandra, N. Salvati and N. Tzavidis

Few works have addressed the issue of outlier robustness in small area estimation. Firstly Chambers and Tzavidis (2006) and more recently Sinha and Rao (2009), have proposed the use of plug-in robust prediction, replacing the parameter estimates in optimal, but outlier sensitive, predictors by outlier robust versions. Unfortunately, this approach may involve an unacceptable prediction bias when the outliers are drawn from a distribution with a different mean of the rest of the data, which then leads to the suggestion of include an additional term to correct this bias. In this paper that idea is explored and two different MSE estimators for the predictors of the means are proposed.

Accepted. In press.



Pathways into living alone in mid-life: diversity and policy implications

Demey, Dieter, Berrington, Ann, Evandrou, Maria and Falkingham, Jane

The rise in the proportion of people living alone over the past three decades has been well documented, however much of the focus of the existing literature on people living solo has been dedicated to the young adulthood or the later life. Distinguishing between different groups of individuals living alone in mid-life is important for policy as these groups of men and women will have different social and financial resources as they enter later life. In this paper, a life course approach is adopted to investigate the pathways into living alone in mid-life in Britain and how these vary by gender and socio-economic status.

doi:10.1016 / j.alcr.2013.02.001



Austerity policing: is visibility more important than numbers in determining public confidence in the police?

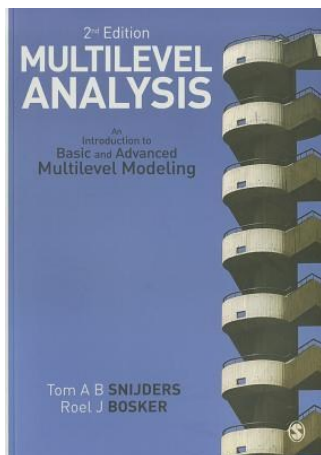
Sindall, K. and Sturgis, P

The recent deep cuts to police force budgets in the United Kingdom have reawakened longstanding debates about the effect of police numbers and organisation on the crime rate and public confidence in the police. While some claim that a reduction in numbers is likely to have a deleterious effect, others argue that raw numbers are less important than how the police are organised and deployed. In this paper administrative data linked to the British Crime Survey is used in order to assess the relative importance of police numbers and police visibility in determining public confidence in the police.

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Multilevel Analysis (2nd edition): An introduction to Basic and Advanced Multilevel Modeling

Snijders, T.A.B and R.J. Bosker (2011)



The second edition of Multilevel Analysis is an updated version of the widely used book, to incorporate some important developments (particularly in computing) since the earlier edition. The book covers a wide range of topics describing multilevel models and how they can be applied in social science. There is a large focus on education in the worked examples, however these are easily applicable to other social sciences, making the text useful for a number of different disciplines.

The book introduces multilevel modelling through the rationale of multistage sampling, and describes potential fallacies in ignoring such a data structure. The type of research questions addressed through multilevel modelling and the motivation for investigating individual and contextual interactions. Initial chapters concentrate on simple multilevel modelling, with a sequential building of model complexity to ensure the reader can understand and apply models in a variety of research data. Although the focus is on the application of secondary data, chapter 11 explicitly deals with the design of multilevel models for researchers collecting their own data.

New chapters of note are the chapters on missing data (9), Bayesian and other methods (12), survey (14) weights and longitudinal data (15). These chapters broaden the horizon of the book to researchers wanting to use secondary source complex survey data, and those interested in life course or event history analysis. Certain chapters, in particular the chapters on Bayesian methods and imperfect hierarchies are useful introductions and may give a potential researcher direction for their future reading, but their brevity in this edition rather detracts from completeness.

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For more information please visit our website at: <http://www.southampton.ac.uk/demography/index.page?>

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