

Sociology of Population Comprehensive Examination Reading List

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This list includes core articles but is not exhaustive. We encourage students to read additional articles that especially interest them, and to stay current with population articles published in top journals.

Subject to Revision, January 3, 2022

1. General Demography

Overview & History of the Field

Billari, F. C. (2015). Integrating macro-and micro-level approaches in the explanation of population change. *Population Studies*, 69(sup1), S11-S20.

Kreager, P. (2015). Population and the making of the human sciences. *Population in the Human Sciences: Concepts, Models, Evidence*, 55.

Merchant, E. K. (2021). *Building the Population Bomb*. Oxford University Press.

Poston, Dudley L., Jr., and Michael Micklin. (2019). Prologue. In the *Handbook of Population*, 2nd edition edited by Dudley L. Poston, Jr. Cham, Switzerland: Springer Nature.

Ruggles, Steven. (2015). Patriarchy, power, and pay: The transformation of American families, 1800–2015. *Demography*, 52(6), 1797-23 (PAA presidential address).

Sáenz, Rogelio and Maria Cristina Morales. (2019). Demography of race and ethnicity. Chapter 6 in the *Handbook of Population*, 2nd edition, edited by Dudley L. Poston, Jr. Cham, Switzerland: Springer Nature.

Szreter, S. (2015). Demography, early history of. *International Encyclopedia of the Social & Behavioral Sciences*, 2nd edition, Volume 6 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-08-097086-8.03031-2>

Classical Debates on Population, Development and Sustainability

Lam, D. (2011). How the world survived the population bomb: Lessons from 50 years of extraordinary demographic history. *Demography*, 48(4), 1231-1262 (presidential address).

Becker, Stan. (2013). Has the world really survived the population bomb? (Commentary on Lam). *Demography*, 50, 2173-81.

Lam, David. (2013). Reply to Stan Becker. *Demography*, 50, 2183-86.

Robertson, T. (2012). *The Malthusian Moment*. Rutgers University Press.

Szreter, S. (2018). Marx on population: A bicentenary celebration. *Population and Development Review*, 44(4), 745-769.

2. General Theory

Demographic Transition Theory

Carlson, E. (2019). Reformulating second demographic transition theory. In *Analytical Family Demography* (pp. 7-26). Springer, Cham.

Dyson, T. (2010). *Population and Development: The Demographic Transition*. (Pay special attention to Chapter 4.) Bloomsbury Publishing.

Lee, Ronald. (2003). The demographic transition: Three centuries of fundamental change. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 17, 167-90.

Lesthaeghe, Ron. (2010). The unfolding story of the second demographic transition. *Population and Development Review*, 36(2), 211-251.

Lesthaeghe, Ron. (2014). The second demographic transition: A concise overview of its development. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)*, 111(51), 18112-15.

McLanahan, Sara. (2004). Diverging destinies: How children are faring under the second demographic transition. *Demography*, 42(4), 607-27 (PAA presidential address).

Thornton, Arland. (2001). The developmental paradigm, reading history sideways, and family change. *Demography*, 38(4), 449–465. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1353/dem.2001.0039>

3. Fertility and Reproductive Health

Fertility Measurement and Theory

Becker, G. S. (1993). The demand for children. In *A Treatise on the Family: Enlarged Edition* (Enlarged edition). Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press.

Blake, J. (1968). Are babies consumer durables? A critique of the economic theory of reproductive motivation. *Population Studies*, 22(1), 5–25. <http://doi.org/10.2307/2173350>

Bongaarts, J. (1978). A framework for analyzing the proximate determinants of fertility. *Population and Development Review*, 4(1), 105–132. <http://doi.org/10.2307/1972149>

Bongaarts, J., & Feeney, G. (1998). On the quantum and tempo of fertility. *Population and Development Review*, 24(2), 271–291. <http://doi.org/10.2307/2807974>

Davis, K., & Blake, J. (1956). Social structure and fertility: An analytic framework. *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 4(3), 211–235.

Ní Bhrolcháin, Máire. (2011). Tempo and the TFR. *Demography*, 48, 841–861
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s13524-011-0033-4>.

Fertility Transitions

Axinn, William G. and Jennifer S. Barber. (2001). Mass education and fertility transition. *American Sociological Review*, 66(4), 481-505.

Mason, Karen Oppenheim. (1997). Explaining fertility transitions. *Demography*, 34(4), 443-454. (Presidential address.)

Van de Kaa, Dirk J. (1987). Europe's second demographic transition. *Population Bulletin*, 42(1), 1-57.

Zaidi, Batoool, and S. Philip Morgan. (2017). The second demographic transition theory: A review and appraisal. *Annual Review of Sociology*, 43, 473-492.

Low Fertility

Goldstein, J. R., Sobotka, T., & Jasilioniene, A. (2009). The end of “lowest-low” fertility? *Population and Development Review*, 35(4), 663–699. <http://doi.org/10.1111/j.1728-4457.2009.00304.x>

Kohler, H.-P., Billari, F. C., & Ortega, J. A. (2002). The emergence of lowest-low fertility in Europe during the 1990s. *Population and Development Review*, 28(4), 641–680.
<http://doi.org/10.1111/j.1728-4457.2002.00641.x>

Other Contemporary Issues in Demography of Fertility

Johnson-Hanks, Jennifer. (2002.) On the modernity of traditional contraception: Time and the social context of fertility. *Population and Development Review*, 28 (2), 229ff.

Johnson-Hanks, Jennifer. (2007). Natural intentions: fertility decline in the African Demographic and Health Surveys. *American Journal of Sociology*, 112(4), 1008-1043.

Martin, Steven P. (2000). Diverging fertility among U.S. women who delay childbearing past age 30. *Demography*, 37(4), 523-533.

Sweeney, Megan M., and R. Kelly Raley. (2014). Race, ethnicity, and the changing context of childbearing in the United States. *Annual Review of Sociology*, 40, 539-558.

Trinitapoli, J., & Yeatman, S. (2011). Uncertainty and fertility in a generalized AIDS epidemic. *American Sociological Review*, 76(6), 935-954.

Wu, L. (2008). Cohort estimates of nonmarital fertility for U.S. women. *Demography*, 45(1), 193-207.

4. Migration and Population Distribution

Brown, Susan K., Frank D. Bean, and Sabrina Nasir. (2019). International migration. Chapter 16 in the *Handbook of population*, 2nd edition, edited by Dudley L. Poston, Jr. Cham, Switzerland: Springer Nature.

Castles, S. (2007). Twenty-first-century migration as a challenge to sociology. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, 33(3), 351-371.

De Haas, H. (2021). A theory of migration: The aspirations-capabilities framework. *Comparative Migration Studies*, 9(1), 1-35.

Favell, Adrian. (2014). Migration theory rebooted? Asymmetric challenges in a global agenda (pp. 330-340) in *Migration Theory: Talking across Disciplines*, edited by C. B. Brettell and J. F. Hollifield. Routledge.

FitzGerald, David S. (2019). *Refuge Beyond Reach: How Rich Democracies Repel Asylum Seekers*. Oxford University Press.

FitzGerald, David S., & Arar, R. (2018). The sociology of refugee migration. *Annual Review of Sociology*, 44, 387-406.

Fitzgerald David, S., & David, C. M. (2014). *Culling the Masses. The Democratic Origins of Racist Immigration Policy in the Americas*, Harvard.

Hamilton, Tod G. (2020). Black immigrants and the changing portrait of black identity. *Annual Review of Sociology* 46, 295-313.

Hunter, L. M., Luna, J. K., & Norton, R. M. (2015). Environmental dimensions of migration. *Annual Review of Sociology*, 41, 377-397.

Kivisto, P. (2015). *Incorporating Diversity: Rethinking Assimilation in a Multicultural Age*. (Focus on chapters on transnationalism and especially assimilation theory.) Routledge.

Massey, Douglas S. (2012). Towards an integrated model of international migration. *Eastern Journal of European Studies* 3(2), 9-35.

Massey, D. S., Arango, J., Hugo, G., Kouaouci, A., & Pellegrino, A. (1999). *Worlds in Motion: Understanding International Migration at the End of the Millennium: Understanding International Migration at the End of the Millennium*. Clarendon Press.

Massey, Douglas S., and Nancy A. Denton. (1989). Hypersegregation in U.S. metropolitan areas: Black and Hispanic segregation along five dimensions. *Demography*, 26(3), 373-392.

Morawska, E. (2009). *A Sociology of Immigration: (Re) Making Multifaceted America*. (Focus especially on Chapter 2.) Springer.

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, & Committee on Population. (2016). *The Integration of Immigrants into American Society*. National Academies Press.

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. (2017). *The Economic and Fiscal Consequences of Immigration*. National Academies Press.

Schewel, K. (2020). Understanding immobility: Moving beyond the mobility bias in migration studies. *International Migration Review*, 54(2), 328-355.

White, Michael J., and David P. Lindstrom. (2019). Internal migration. Chapter 15 in the *Handbook of Population*, 2nd edition, edited by Dudley L. Poston, Jr. Cham, Switzerland: Springer Nature.

Willekens, Frans, Douglas Massey, James Raymer, and Cris Beauchemin. (2016). International migration under the microscope. *Science*, 352(6288), 897-99.

5. Mortality and Population Health

Avendano, Mauricio, and Ichiro Kawachi. (2014). Why do Americans have shorter life expectancy and worse health than people in other high-income countries? *Annual Review of Public Health*, 35, 307-25.

Baker, David P., Juan Leon, Emily G. Smith Greenaway, John Collins, and Marcela Movit. (2011). The education effect on population health: A reassessment. *Population and Development Review*, 37(2), 307-332.

Bongaarts, J. (2006). How long will we live? *Population Development Review*, 32, 605-628.

Carnes, Bruce A., S. Jay Olshansky, and Douglas Grahn. (1996). Continuing the search for a law of mortality. *Population and Development Review*, 22(2), 231.

Case, Anne, and Christina Paxson. (2010). Causes and consequences of early-life health. *Demography*, 47(1), S65-S85.

Chetty, Raj, Michael Stepner, Sarah Abraham, Shelby Lin, Benjamin Scuderi, Nicholas Turner, Augustin Bergeron, and David Cutler. (2016). The association between income and life expectancy in the United States, 2001-2014. *JAMA*, 315(16), 1750-1766.

Colgrove, J. (2002). The McKeown thesis: A historical controversy and its enduring influence. *American Journal of Public Health*, 92(5), 725-729.

- Crimmins, Eileen M., and Hiram Beltrán-Sánchez. (2011). Mortality and morbidity trends: Is there compression of morbidity? *The Journals of Gerontology: Series B*, 66(1), 75-86.
- Crimmins, Eileen M., and Yuan S. Zhang. (2019). Aging populations, mortality, and life expectancy. *Annual Review of Sociology*, 45, 69–89.
- Cutler, David, Angus Deaton, and Adriana Lleras-Muney. (2006). The determinants of mortality. *The Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 20(3), 97-120.
- Elo, Irma T. (2009). Social class differentials in health and mortality: Patterns and explanations in comparative perspective. *Annual Review of Sociology*, 35, 553-572.
- Ferraro, Kenneth F., Markus H. Schafer, and Lindsay R. Wilkinson. (2016). Childhood disadvantage and health problems in middle and later life: Early imprints on physical health? *American Sociological Review*, 81(1), 107–33.
- Fries, James F. (2005). The compression of morbidity. *The Milbank Quarterly*, 83(4), 801-823.
- Gluckman, Peter D., et al. (2008). Effect of in utero and early-life conditions on adult health and disease. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 359(1), 61-73.
- Gutin, Iliya and Robert Hummer. (2021). Social inequality and the future of U.S. life expectancy. *Annual Review of Sociology*, 47(3), 1-20.
- Harper, S., C.A. Riddell, and N.B. King. (2021). Declining life expectancy in the United States: Missing the trees for the forest. *Annual Review of Public Health*, 42(15), 1-23.
- Hayward, Mark, and Bridget K. Gorman. (2004). The long arm of childhood: The influence of early-life social conditions on men’s mortality. *Demography*, 41(1), 87-107.
- Heuveline, Patrick, Michel Guillot, and Davidson R. Gwatkin. (2002). The uneven tides of the health transition. *Social Science & Medicine*, 55(2), 313-322.
- Hummer, Robert A., and Erin R. Hamilton. (2019). *Population Health in America*. University of California Press.
- Kindig, D.A. (2007). Understanding population health terminology. *The Milbank Quarterly*, 85(1), 139-161.
- Kuhn, Randall. (2010). Routes to low mortality in poor countries revisited. *Population and Development Review*, 36(4), 655–92.
- Lariscy, Joseph T., Robert A. Hummer, and Richard G. Rogers. (2018). Cigarette smoking and cause-specific adult mortality in the United States. *Demography*, 55(5), 1855–1885.

Li, T., Yang, Y. C., & Anderson, J. J. (2013). Mortality increase in late-middle and early-old age: Heterogeneity in death processes as a new explanation. *Demography*, 50(5), 1563-1591.

Link, Bruce G., and Jo C. Phelan. (1995). Social conditions as fundamental causes of disease. *Journal of Health and Social Behavior*, extra issue, 80-94 (<http://www.jstor.org/stable/pdfplus/2626958.pdf>).

Markides, Kyriakos S., and Karl Eschbach. (2011). Hispanic paradox in adult mortality in the United States. Chapter 11 in *International Handbook of Adult Mortality*, edited by Richard G. Rogers and Eileen M. Crimmins. NY: Springer Publishers.

Masters, Ryan K., Andrea M. Tilstra, and Daniel H. Simon. (2018). Explaining recent mortality trends among younger and middle-aged white Americans. *International Journal of Epidemiology*, 47(1), 81–88.

Miech, Richard, Fred Pampel, Jinyoung Kim, and Richard G. Rogers. (2011). The enduring association between education and mortality: The role of widening and narrowing disparities. *American Sociological Review*, 76(6), 913-34.

Montez, Jennifer Karas, et al. (2020). US state policies, politics and life expectancy. *Milbank Quarterly*, 98(3), 668-699.

National Research Council and Institute of Medicine. (2013). *U.S. Health in International Perspective: Shorter Lives, Poorer Health*. Panel on Understanding Cross-National Health Differences among High-Income Countries, edited by S.H. Woolf and L. Aron. Washington, DC: National Academies Press.

Oeppen, Jim, and James W. Vaupel. (2002). Broken limits to life expectancy. *Science*, 296(5570), 1029-1031.

Olshansky, S. Jay, and A. Brian Ault. (1986). The fourth stage of the epidemiologic transition: The age of delayed degenerative diseases. *The Milbank Quarterly*, 355-391.

Olshansky, J. S., B. A. Carnes, and R. N. Butler. (2001). If humans were built to last. *Scientific American*, 284(3), 50.

Omran, Abdel R. (2005). The epidemiologic transition: A theory of the epidemiology of population change. *Milbank Quarterly*, 83(4):731-57. Reprinted from 1971, 49(4), 509-538.

Pampel, Fred C., Patrick M. Krueger, and Justin T. Denney. 2010. Socioeconomic disparities in health behaviors. *Annual Review of Sociology* 36, 349–70.

Rogers, Richard G., Robert A. Hummer, Patrick M. Krueger, and Justin M. Vinneau. (2019). Adult mortality. Chapter 14 in the *Handbook of Population*, 2nd edition, edited by Dudley L. Poston, Jr. Cham, Switzerland: Springer Nature.

Rogers, Richard G., Robert A. Hummer, Elizabeth M. Lawrence, Trent Davidson, and Samuel H. Fishman. (2021). Dying young in the United States: What's driving high death rates among Americas under age 25 and what can be done? Forthcoming in *Population Bulletin*, 75(2).

Soares, Rodrigo R. (2007). On the determinants of mortality reductions in the developing world. *Population and Development Review*, 33(2), 247–287.

Warner, David F., and Mark D. Hayward. (2019). The demography of population health. Chapter 32 in the *Handbook of Population*, 2nd edition, edited by Dudley L. Poston, Jr. Cham, Switzerland: Springer Nature.

Yang, Yang. (2008). Trends in US adult chronic disease mortality, 1960–1999: Age, period, and cohort variations. *Demography*, 45(2), 387-416.

Yang Y, Linda C. Lee. (2010). Dynamics and heterogeneity in the process of human frailty and aging: Evidence from the U.S. older adult population. *J Gerontol B Psychol Sci Soc Sci*, 65B (2), 246-255.

Zheng, Hui. (2014). Aging in the context of cohort evolution and mortality selection. *Demography*, 51(4), 1295-1317.

6. Methods

Bhrolcháin, Máire Ní, and Tim Dyson. (2007). On causation in demography: Issues and illustrations. *Population and Development Review*, 33(1), 1-36.

Bijak, J., & Bryant, J. (2016). Bayesian demography 250 years after Bayes. *Population Studies*, 70(1), 1-19.

Blossfeld, H. P., Rohwer, G., & Schneider, T. (2019). *Event history analysis with Stata*. Routledge.

Bollen, K. A., & Pearl, J. (2013). Eight myths about causality and structural equation models. In *Handbook of Causal Analysis for Social Research* (pp. 301-328). Springer, Dordrecht.

Dowd, Jennifer B., and Amar Hamoudi. (2014). Is life expectancy really falling for groups of low socio-economic status? Lagged selection bias and artefactual trends in mortality. 983-988.

Elwert, F., & Winship, C. (2014). Endogenous selection bias: The problem of conditioning on a collider variable. *Annual Review of Sociology*, 40, 31-53.

Frost, Wade Hampton. (1939). The age selection of mortality from tuberculosis in successive decades. *American Journal of Hygiene*, 30, 91-96.

Gelman, Andrew, and Guido Imbens. (2013). Why ask why? Forward causal inference and reverse causal questions. No. w19614. National Bureau of Economic Research.

- Hernández-Díaz, Sonia, Enrique F. Schisterman, and Miguel A. Hernán. (2006). The birth weight “paradox” uncovered? *American Journal of Epidemiology*, 164(11), 1115-1120.
- Moffitt, R. (2005). Remarks on the analysis of causal relationships in population research. *Demography*, 42(1), 91-10
- Preston, S., Heuveline, P., & Guillot, M. (2000). *Demography: Measuring and Modeling Population Processes*. 2001. Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers.
- Riley, Matilda White. (1973). Aging and cohort succession: Interpretations and misinterpretations. *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 37(1), 35-49.
- Ryder, Norman B. (1965). The cohort as a concept in the study of social change. *American Sociological Review*, 30(6), 843-861.
- Sampson, Robert J. (2010). Gold standard myths: Observations on the experimental turn in quantitative criminology. *Journal of Quantitative Criminology*, 26(4), 489-500.
- Smith, Herbert L. (2014). Effects of causes and causes of effects: some remarks from the sociological side. *Sociological Methods & Research*, 43(3), 406-415.
- Vaupel, J. W., & Yashin, A. I. (1985). Heterogeneity's ruses: Some surprising effects of selection on population dynamics. *The American Statistician*, 39(3), 176-185.
- Wachter, K. W. (2014). *Essential Demographic Methods*. Harvard University Press.
- Wrigley-Field, Elizabeth. (2014). Mortality deceleration and mortality selection: Three unexpected implications of a simple model. *Demography*, 51(1), 51-71.
- Wunsch, G., & Gourbin, C. (2020). Causal assessment in demographic research. *Genus*, 76(1).