

Abstracts

Dutch Demography Week 2020

16 - 20 November 2020



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Monday, 16.11.2020

Session 1: Modern families

Chair: Katya Ivanova

Name: Willem Vermeulen

Organisation: NIDI – Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute

Religion and union dissolution: Effects of religious individual and group practices on divorce and separation in the Netherlands

Willem Vermeulen, Mioara Zoutewelle-Terovan and Aart Liefbroer

This study aims to examine whether individual and contextual religious characteristics can help explain the large differences in Dutch municipal union dissolution rates. Our study is innovative in three major aspects. First, it is the first to consider both individual and municipal levels of religious involvement as well as their interaction. This is important as earlier research has shown that such an interaction seems to influence opinions towards divorce within Europe. Second, it is the first study to examine the impact of religion on the dissolution of both cohabitation (separation) and marriage (divorce). This is crucial in Dutch research, as cohabitation has replaced marriage as the preferred type of union for the majority of young Dutch couples. Lastly, we provide insights into the effects of the level of religious involvement and denomination on union dissolution within secularized contexts. Whereas most past research investigated circumstances in which being religious was the norm, over half of the Dutch population is no longer religious. This study is based on a unique dataset, combining information from the Dutch Labor Force Surveys 2011-2014 (about 165,000 partnered respondents; including information on religious variables) with register data from Statistics Netherlands (e.g. including information on income, education level, home ownership, migration background) on these respondents. Making use of couple-year files, we estimate several multilevel models in which we disentangle individual, contextual and interaction effects of religious involvement; investigate the effects of different denominations; and analyse the differences between cohabitation and marriage.

Monday, 16.11.2020

Session 1: Modern families

Chair: Katya Ivanova

Name: Christian Fang

Organisation: Utrecht University

What constitutes a family? An investigation of who attends family events in postdivorce families

Christian Fang, Anne-Rigt Poortman and Tanja van der Lippe

Traditionally, families were defined by residence in a common household and sharing biological ties. The growing diversity among postdivorce families challenges this assertion. Postdivorce families are typically spread across several households, and often involve multiple parental figures (i.e., biological and stepparents). Additionally, divorced parents increasingly opt for shared residence arrangements instead of mother-residence and choose for cohabitation or living-apart-together (LAT) with their new partners instead of remarriage. In view of this diversity, what, then, do individuals consider to be their family? In this study, we aim to get detailed insights into such postdivorce family boundaries.

We focus on postdivorce families with children and are in particular interested in whether divorced parents' current partners and ex-partners belong to the family, and specifically whether they both "jointly" do so. This "joint" inclusion of current and former partners in the family networks of divorce parents has so far received limited attention.

To evaluate the ex-partner's and current partner's belonging-to-the-family, we consider whether they celebrated their (step)child's birthday together with the focal parent. Presence at family events has oftentimes been proposed as an indicator for family boundaries, but only rarely empirically studied.

We analyze data from the second wave of the large-scale survey "New Families in the Netherlands" (NFN) (N = 3,464). These data include unique information on the celebration of family events in diverse postdivorce families. We conduct our study in two steps: First, we examine whether ex-partners and current partners were present at the child's last birthday together with the focal parent. Second, we examine whether they were jointly present. We then assess whether these patterns depend on the relationship quality between different parent-parent- dyads, the child's residence arrangement, parental repartnering, and the presence of (step)children.

Monday, 16.11.2020

Session 1: Modern families

Chair: Katya Ivanova

Name: Ece Arat

Organisation: Utrecht University

Parental involvement in diverse types of stepfamilies: The role of biological relatedness, type of relationship, residence and gender

Ece Arat, Anne-Rigt Poortman and Tanja van der Lippe

An increasing number of children grow up in stepfamilies. Research shows that these children fare worse in many outcomes compared to children raised in intact families. Lower parental involvement in stepfamilies is an important reason for this discrepancy. Previous literature on parental involvement in stepfamilies has mostly studied (re)married stepfather households, overlooking the increasing diversity in stepfamilies. Growing numbers of cohabiting and living-apart-together (LAT) stepfamilies, the rise in shared physical custody and the thus growing importance of stepmothers, makes it necessary to focus on these more recent and emerging stepfamily types (Raley & Sweeney, 2020). In this study, we examine parental involvement across diverse types of stepfamilies including these more recent and emerging types. We investigate how biological relatedness, children's residence, and parents' gender explain parental involvement in stepfamilies. Our focus on diverse types of stepfamilies allows us to disentangle the effects of these aspects more conclusively than previous studies. We analyze the data on the second wave of the New Families in the Netherlands survey (2015/16) on parents with minor children who dissolved their union in 2010 (N = 3,500). Our results show that biological relatedness and children's residence are important determinants of parental involvement, while (step)parents' gender matter less. We found the effect of biological relatedness (i.e., step gap) to be stronger for stepfamilies with resident children compared to those with nonresident children. Contrary to prior research (e.g., Ivanova, 2017), we did not find a larger step gap for mothers than for fathers once children's residence is taken into account.

Monday, 16.11.2020
Session 2: COVID-19 I
Chair: Carel Harmsen

Name: Ilya Kashnitsky
Organisation: CPop SDU

COVID-19 in unequally ageing European regions

Ilya Kashnitsky and Jose Manuel Aburto

The map (<http://bit.ly/ddd20map>) presented in this brief note summarizes regional differences in population age structures between the NUTS-3 regions of Europe in the context of unequal age- and sex-specific death risks associated with the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. Since older people are exposed to much higher death risks, older populations are expected to face much more difficult challenges coping with the pandemic. The urban/rural dimension turns out to be very important as the remote rural areas are also the oldest. In the map NUTS-3 regions of Europe are colored according to the deviation from European pooled estimate of the proportion of population at risk of death due to COVID-19. We assume that 5/6 of the populations get infected and experience age-specific infection-fatality ratios (IFRs) modelled by the Imperial College COVID-19 Response Team. We adjust IFRs by sex ratios of age-specific case-fatality ratios observed in the European countries that are included in the COVerAGE-DB. Thus, we effectively introduce a summary measure of population age structures focused on the most vulnerable to the pandemic. Such an estimate for the total European population is 1%. The map reflects the unequal population age structures rather than the precise figures on COVID-19 fatality. It is a case-if scenario that highlights the possible effect of the population age structures, a demographic perspective. This analysis clearly shows the contribution of regional differences in population age structures to the magnitude of the pandemic – other things equal, we expect to see a four-fold variation in average regional infection-fatality ratios across Europe due only to differences in the population structures.

Monday, 16.11.2020
Session 2: COVID-19 I
Chair: Carel Harmsen

Name: Louise Meijering
Organisation: University of Groningen

**Older adults' everyday experiences of urban space in the COVID-19
lockdown(s): Dutch and British perspectives**

Louise Meijering, Tess Osborne and Arlinde Dul

Around the world the COVID-19 pandemic has led to the implementation of social distancing protocols to prevent the spread of the virus. Older adults, who are seen as vulnerable to the virus, have been encouraged to self-isolate. Such social distancing protocols impact how older adults use and experience the urban environments in which they are situated. This is related to the disruption of usual social activities and the possible increased loneliness on one side, and the improved access to services (such as 'vulnerable-only' shopping hours) to boost mobility experiences in urban (retail) areas on the other. In this chapter, we aim to explore how the lockdown measures have impacted upon older adults' engagement with public space in the UK and the Netherlands. In doing so, we draw on telephone interviews with 38 older adults in Lancashire, UK, and the Northern Netherlands. These countries have implemented contrasting public health interventions with various restrictions on mobility. In the UK, for example, the whole population was only allowed to leave their homes for an hour a day for exercise, whereas in the Netherlands the restrictions were less strict. Furthermore, we demonstrate that the location of the individual plays a major role with the access to, and quality of, green space and public infrastructure/services (including shops). We conclude that the geographical context is a significant factor in older adults' city-experiences and quality of life during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Monday, 16.11.2020
Session 2: COVID-19 I
Chair: Carel Harmsen

Name: Rafael Navarro

Organisation: NIDI – Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute

Comparison and evolution of Latin American countries COVID-19 case-fatality rates. Different trajectories of tragedy

Rafael Navarro, Daniel Zazueta and Octavio Bramajo

The population-level case-fatality rate (CFR) associated with COVID-19 varies substantially, both across countries and within countries over time. Right now, studies have researched how countries in Europe have had variations in the observed CFR, especially in two determinants: the age-structure of diagnosed infection cases and age-specific case-fatality rates. For Latin American countries, it is not clear how at a regional and sub-regional level the contribution of the two key determinants of the variation has behaved. Building upon the work of Dudel et al, 2020, we use data from national statistical offices on diagnosed COVID-19 cases and death counts attributable to COVID-19 by age for Argentina, Colombia, and Mexico. For these three countries in late October, CFR varied from 2.1% in Argentina to 10.8% in Mexico.

We use demographic decomposition to break the difference between CFRs into unique contributions arising from the age-structure of confirmed cases and the age-specific case-fatality. The differences in cross country comparison can be explained by the differences in age structures or to increasing age-specific case-fatality rates. The differences in age structure reflect several factors, including different test regimes and different transmission trajectories, while the differences in age-specific case fatality rates could point to other factors, such as the worsening health outcomes of those affected by COVID-19.

We need to assess the regional differences in each of the countries because population structures vary widely into each Latin American Nation. Thus, we use the decomposition at the regional level compared to the capital cities with the most cases (Buenos Aires, Ciudad de Mexico, Bogota). As Latin America is still struggling to cope with the virus, decomposing differences in CFR reveals important insights for monitoring the spread of the disease and can hint effective public health interventions that help contain and mitigate this raging pandemic.

Monday, 16.11.2020

Session 3: Demographics of urban inequality

Chair: Wouter van Gent

Name: Gemma Catney

Organisation: Queen's University Belfast

The evolution and stability of multi-ethnic residential neighbourhoods in England

Gemma Catney, Richard Wright and Mark Ellis

This presentation explores the most ethnically diverse spaces in England. We define multi-ethnic neighbourhoods as spaces where no one group is in a majority and at least five ethnic groups have representation. Around four percent of all English neighbourhoods met these criteria in 2011. Often mislabelled as 'segregated' spaces, the growth of ethnically diverse neighbourhoods helps benchmark increased inter-ethnic contact, yet we know very little about their spatial extent and the dynamics of their expansion.

We use Census data for 1991, 2001 and 2011 to consider how neighbourhood-level diversity has changed during a period of substantial increase in ethnic diversity at the national scale. To what extent did these highly diverse areas grow, and what is the geography of that growth? Which types of areas did these neighbourhoods transition from? For example, were multi-ethnic neighbourhoods formerly low- or moderately diverse, and which groups dominated these locales? We also consider if multi-ethnic neighbourhoods are here to stay, or if they are compositionally unstable.

We reveal a surprising aspect in England's neighbourhood transitions: multi-ethnic neighbourhoods are highly stable, and increasingly so. Some 88 percent of neighbourhoods that were multi-ethnic in 1991 retained their high-diversity status in 2001, while over 95 percent of 2001 multi-ethnic neighbourhoods remained highly diverse by 2011. This is a different story to that of the US, where high-diversity neighbourhoods have received more scholarly attention, and where these neighbourhoods have high attrition rates, functioning as stepping stones to another type of space. We explore the demographic and housing dynamics associated with this stability.

Monday, 16.11.2020

Session 3: Demographics of urban inequality

Chair: Wouter van Gent

Name: Maarten van Ham

Organisation: Delft University of Technology

Urban socio-economic segregation and income inequality

Maarten van Ham, Tiit Tammaru, Rūta Ubarevičienė and Heleen Janssen

We investigate the link between income inequality and socio-economic residential segregation in 24 large urban regions in Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, North America, and South America. Our study offers a unique global overview of segregation trends based on case studies by local author teams. We show important global trends in segregation, and propose a Global Segregation Thesis. Rising inequalities lead to rising levels of socio-economic segregation almost everywhere in the world. Levels of inequality and segregation are higher in cities in lower income countries, but the growth in inequality and segregation is faster in cities in high-income countries. This is causing convergence of segregation trends. Professionalisation of the workforce is leading to changing residential patterns. High-income workers are moving to city centres or to attractive coastal areas and gated communities, while poverty is increasingly suburbanising. As a result, the urban geography of inequality changes faster and is more pronounced than changes in segregation levels. Rising levels of inequality and segregation pose huge challenges for the future social sustainability of cities, as cities are no longer places of opportunities for all.

Monday, 16.11.2020

Session 3: Demographics of urban inequality

Chair: Wouter van Gent

Name: Cody Hochstenbach

Organisation: University of Amsterdam

Residential segregation across class, age and tenure in the Netherlands

Cody Hochstenbach

Studies across countries of the Global North highlight increasing generational fractures in homeownership attainment. While homeownership rates among young adults have typically decreased, they have increased for older generations. Recent research on the Netherlands confirms this trend, while also showing strong spatial disparities in homeownership attainment. Young adult homeownership rates showed the strongest decreases in larger cities where housing affordability is under pressure. Another strand of literature highlights increasing residential income segregation across (European) cities. Rich and poor live increasingly separated from one another.

In this study, I combine these literatures to study how divergent access to housing tenure (owner occupation and rent) across age and income groups plays out across space, and shapes levels of socio-spatial segregation. Particular attention is paid to decreasing homeownership access and increasing dependency on private-rental housing among younger adults, as this is a prominent trend occurring in many large and medium-sized European cities.

In other words: I am interested in the intersecting geographies of class, age and tenure. To study these, I draw on individual-level register data for the entire Dutch population and housing stock for the 2011-2018 period. These years have been chosen for reasons of data consistency, but they also represent a period of increasing house prices and decreasing young-adult homeownership access. Data are analyzed using spatial indices and GIS mapping and analyses. Results shed light on the spatial implications of divergent housing access across age and class groups in the Netherlands.

Tuesday, 17.11.2020

Session 4: Migration and integration

Chair: Müge Simsek

Name: Swantje Falcke

Organisation: Maastricht University

Becoming Dutch at what cost? The impact of application fees for naturalisation by immigrants in the Netherlands

Swantje Falcke, Floris Peters and Maarten Vink

Citizenship policies in Europe have been characterised by contrasting trends over the past decade with reforms such as dual citizenship acceptance or shorter residence requirements making citizenship more accessible to immigrants. In contrast, the introduction of civic integration and economic requirements have provided new obstacles to immigrants' naturalisation. The overall impact of citizenship liberalisation and restriction are relatively well studied; yet the impact of economic requirements on citizenship acquisition rates remains understudied in Europe. These requirements may either be direct, such as proof of economic self-sufficiency, or indirect, such as the payment of a substantial application fee. Especially the United Kingdom and the Netherlands have witnessed significant increases of application fees in the past decade, which may well prejudice the chances of immigrants, especially those with lower incomes, of becoming a citizen of the destination country. While studies have recently analysed the relevance of fees and fee waivers in the US context, few studies exist that probe the impact of application fees in the European context. In this paper we analyse the role of application fees in the naturalisation decision of immigrants in the Netherlands, where fees have increased from 336 euro in 2003 to currently 901 euro for a single application, with especially large hikes in 2010 and 2011 (Figure 1). Using administrative register data on the complete immigrant population between 2008 and 2012, we look at how increased application fees have affected the naturalisation propensity of low-income migrants in the Netherlands.

Tuesday, 17.11.2020

Session 4: Migration and integration

Chair: Müge Simsek

Name: Marie Labussière

Organisation: Maastricht University

Analysing the impact of host country citizenship acquisition on the educational outcomes of the children of immigrants using sibling fixed-effects

Marie Labussière, Mark Levels and Maarten Vink

During recent decades, the educational outcomes of the children of immigrants have been extensively studied, with a growing emphasis on the heterogeneity of the so-called second generation. Yet, the impact of host country citizenship on children's educational outcomes has only received limited attention so far, although children of immigrants do not get automatic birthright citizenship in most European countries. While existing studies suggest a positive effect of host country citizenship on educational outcomes, at least two aspects deserve further research. First, it is not clear whether the timing of naturalisation matters, whereas host country citizenship may influence children's aspirations and resources differently depending on the age at which they become citizens. Second, previous work rarely puts emphasis on causality despite a great potential for endogeneity, with parents acquiring host-country citizenship being positively selected for income and level of education. Focusing on the Netherlands, this paper takes a causality-oriented approach to analyse the potential effect of parents' naturalisation on their children's grades at the primary school year-end exam. We use data from central population registers to identify full cohorts of second-generation siblings finishing primary education between 2008 and 2015, and we exploit variation in their exposure to naturalisation to net out the effect of time-constant parental characteristics. This family fixed-effects approach enables us to measure a potential independent effect of age at naturalisation. Preliminary results suggest that children who naturalised before taking the final exam received grades that were between 1-2 points higher than those who are still foreign citizens at that date (on a 49-point scale). Yet, there is only limited evidence that naturalisation has differentiated effects depending on when it is acquired during childhood. We then compare these fixed-effects estimates with that of random and mixed effects models to assess and discuss the strength of parents' self-selection into naturalisation.

Tuesday, 17.11.2020

Session 4: Migration and integration

Chair: Müge Simsek

Name: Marieke van der Star

Organisation: University of Amsterdam

Varying housing patterns of recent immigrants in the Netherlands

Marieke van der Star and Dorien Manting

During the last decades, we have not only seen a growing number of immigrants moving to the Netherlands, but since the turn of the millennium we also see a more diversified group of migrants entering the Dutch housing market. Due to the EU enlargement, in particular more and more EU migrants decide to work and live in the Netherlands. Nevertheless, knowledge on the housing patterns of immigrants in the Netherlands and how their housing situation looks like is rather limited.

While more research has been done considering the classical migrant groups, this research focuses in particular on the new migrant groups, who moved to the Netherlands after the turn of the millennium and distinguish between study, labour, family and asylum migrants. Besides that, the realization and the formation of preferences to move into homeownership are shaped by life course characteristics and housing market circumstances, and a gap exists between native-born residents and immigrants regarding homeownership.

To address this knowledge gap we make use of CBS datasets. This paper will give insight into the housing patterns and housing situation (regarding housing tenure) of immigrants during the year 2018. Our analyses reveal large differences in housing tenure across Dutch regions and migrant groups.

Besides presenting the first results, we would like to take this opportunity to unfold our ideas with regard to future research. Due to the beginning stage of the project, we are very open to receive comments and suggestions of the audience

This project is part of an UVA/PBL collaboration.

Tuesday, 17.11.2020

Session 4: Migration and integration

Chair: Müge Simsek

Name: Petra de Jong

Organisation: NIDI – Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute

Emigration of the second generation: What drives those of Western European origin to leave the Netherlands?

Petra de Jong

A growing body of literature has addressed the impact of having immigrant parents on the social and economic position of the second generation in their country of residence. However, does having immigrant parents also affect a person's own migration behavior? Compared to individuals without a migration background, the second generation seems more likely to possess the type of knowledge, values and transnational ties that facilitate international moves. In other words, 'mobility capital' transmitted from parents of migrant origin to their children may increase the likelihood of emigration among the second generation. Yet so far, this expectation has not been tested empirically. To address this knowledge gap, we investigate the emigration patterns and determinants of the Western European second generation born in the Netherlands between 1992 and 1997, using unique longitudinal data from the Dutch population registers. We test whether the second generation is more likely to emigrate during early adulthood as compared to peers without a migration background, and whether this difference is related to having immigrant parents or in fact stems from other socio-economic background characteristics. Our analyses show that the second generation indeed has a higher chance to emigrate from the Netherlands than individuals without a migration background, and this difference remains when we take socio-economic indicators, current individual demographics and household characteristics at age 15 into account. As such, our study is among the first to identify that having a second generation migration background is an important predictor of international migration.

Tuesday, 17.11.2020

Session 5: Labour market

Chair: Konrad Turek

Name: Marleen Damman

Organisation: Radboud University & NIDI

Financial hardship while working: Comparing fixed-term employees and the solo self-employed with permanent employees and employers across Europe

Marleen Damman, Mark Visser and Gerbert Kraaykamp

Even though the composition of the group of self-employed individuals on the labor market is changing, and may increasingly include vulnerable workers, the self-employed are often excluded from studies on precarious work. This study aims to contribute to the literature by examining differences between various groups of non-standard workers (i.e., fixed-term employees, solo self-employed) and standard workers (i.e., permanent employees, employers) on a central indicator of precariousness: financial hardship. Furthermore, attention is paid to the question whether differences between these labor market groups in terms of financial hardship are aggravated by the individual's life course context (e.g., prior unemployment, partner's work status) and country context (e.g., macroeconomic circumstances). In which contexts do non-standard workers especially find it difficult to live on their current household income? For testing the hypotheses, this study employs data from all rounds of the European Social Survey (ESS) across 32 countries and focuses on respondents aged 18 to 59 years who are engaged in paid work for at least 12 hours a week. The results from pooled linear multilevel regression analyses show that fixed-term employees and solo self-employed individuals experience more financial hardship than permanent employees. Self-employed persons with employees display relatively lower levels of financial hardship as compared to employees on a permanent contract. The results show, among other things, that prior unemployment exacerbates financial hardship for both fixed-term employees and solo self-employed individuals. Being single particularly appears to aggravate financial hardship for solo self-employed men. In general, the study findings highlight that for understanding precariousness among non-standard workers it is important to take their social context into account.

Tuesday, 17.11.2020

Session 5: Labour market

Chair: Konrad Turek

Name: Lin Rouvroye

Organisation: NIDI – Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute

Employers' perceptions of downsides to non-standard work arrangements: Exploring the role of strategic motivation

Lin Rouvroye, Harry van Dalen, Kène Henkens and Joop J. Schippers

Since the Great Recession, non-standard work arrangements have become a permanent feature of the organization of labor in many European countries. Organisations are generally thought to benefit from non-standard employment. Previous research has shown that including workers in non-standard work arrangements into the workforce can also have disadvantageous organisational consequences. However, empirical research looking at downsides to non-standard work arrangements from an employers' perspective is actually rather scarce.

The present study aims to address gaps in the understanding of the employer perspective on non-standard work arrangements by answering the following research questions: 1) To what degree do employers perceive downsides to the use of non-standard work arrangements? And 2) What role does strategic motivation for choosing to offer non-standard employment play in the degree to which employers perceive downsides to this employment practice?

We use data (n=761) from the most recent NIDI employer survey sent out to a stratified sample of employers between July and November 2019 in the Netherlands. In this survey we included items on the strategic considerations based upon which employers might choose to use non-standard work arrangement as well as newly constructed items on potential disadvantageous organisational consequences of non-standard employment. Structural equation modelling is used to measure perception of downsides to non-standard employment as a latent construct.

Preliminary results show considerable variation in the degree to which employers perceive a downside to the use of non-standard work arrangements. While controlling for both organisational and respondent characteristics, the reported motivation for using these arrangements proves to be informative in explaining these differences. For instance, when employers agree to use flexible contracts in order to follow their competition within their sector, this is associated with a higher degree of perceived downsides, whereas using them to adapt to fluctuations in demand is associated with a lower degree.

Tuesday, 17.11.2020

Session 5: Labour market

Chair: Konrad Turek

Name: Lluís Mangot-Sala

Organisation: NIDI – Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute

The effect of unemployment trajectories on alcohol consumption. Evidence from the Lifelines Cohort

Lluís Mangot-Sala, Aart Liefbroer and Nynke Smidt

There is evidence that unemployment has a negative impact on health behaviors. However, studies on the association between unemployment and alcohol consumption show mixed results, partly because most studies concentrate on current employment status rather than consider employment trajectories over the life course. However, unemployment could be particularly consequential if it is part of a trajectory of employment precariousness. Moreover, recent studies suggest that the association between unemployment and alcohol use is neither linear nor homogeneous across the population, but may differ by subgroups (e.g. SES) or by alcohol consumption patterns (e.g. moderate and heavy drinkers may respond differently). This study aims to analyze the impact of different employment trajectories on alcohol consumption, and examines if the association is moderated by age, SES, partner status, and gender.

Data from four waves of the Lifelines Cohort study is used. Sample consists of individuals from 18 to 50 years old active in the labor market ($n=33,029$). Employment trajectories are defined by employment status in each wave, total duration, and number of exposures to unemployment. Drinking patterns are divided into “abstainers”, “moderate drinking” (<1.5 drinks/day), “heavy drinking” (>1.5 drinks/day) and “binge drinking” (>5 drinks/occasion; 4 for women). The effect of unemployment is estimated with multinomial logistic regression models.

Results show that the group of abstainers (76.3% women) have significantly lower SES, and poorer health compared to moderate drinkers. Recent, long-term unemployment (>6 months) increases the risk for both heavy drinking (RRR=1.36 [95% CI 1.04-1.79]), as well as for abstinence (RRR=1.34 [95% CI 1.04-1.71]), whereas short-term exposures do not show any effect. Reporting “2 or more long unemployment spells” (RRR=1.73 [95% CI 1.30-2.31]) throughout the observation period is the best predictor for binge drinking. Evidence suggests that length of unemployment is key in order to grasp its effects in terms of changing drinking patterns.

Tuesday, 17.11.2020

Session 5: Labour market

Chair: Konrad Turek

Name: Lara Bister

Organisation: University of Groningen

**Economic crisis at time of birth and health functioning at young adulthood:
The case of post-reunification East Germany**

Lara Bister, Tobias Vogt, Jeroen Spijker and Fanny Janssen

In the first decade after the German reunification, East Germany experienced a severe economic crisis leading to mass unemployment and persisting economic insecurity. Extensive research has been done on the relationship between health this as well as other economic crises, for example the global financial crisis, for adults and children. However, not much is known about the long-term health implications of the exposure to economic crisis during vulnerable phases of the life course. This is highly relevant as it can shed light on policy measures protecting children from the consequences of economic crises. Using the German reunification as a natural experiment, we investigate the association between economic crises at birth in East Germany on health functioning at young adulthood. We use all waves of the German Socioeconomic Panel (SOEP) between 1984 and 2018 to reconstruct relevant individual and family information of individuals being born in East Germany and thereby being exposed to the economic crisis (N = 1,141). We compare them with individuals from West Germany and for a subsample (n = 546) also with their not-exposed sibling serving as control groups. Our health variable is the SF-12 Mental Component summary Score (MCS). We apply ordered logistic regression to predict the probabilities of being exposed to the economic crisis on the MCS. Preliminary results show that individuals being born in East Germany have higher probabilities to score lower in the MCS. The effect also seems to be stronger in females than in males. In further analyses, we will focus on the assessment of family characteristics and family exposure to the economic crisis to evaluate family stress. Macroeconomic information on the regional economic situation will be added to the analysis.

Tuesday, 17.11.2020

Session 6: Demography, coronavirus and the structure of households

Chair: Albert Estève

Name: Diederik Boertien

Organisation: Centre d'Estudis Demogràfics

National age and co-residence patterns shape COVID-19 vulnerability

Albert Estève, Iñaki Permanyer, Diederik Boertien and James Vaupel

Based on harmonized census data from 81 countries, we estimate how age and coresidence patterns shape the vulnerability of countries' populations to outbreaks of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). We estimate variation in deaths arising due to a simulated random infection of 10% of the population living in private households and subsequent within-household transmission of the virus. The age structures of European and North American countries increase their vulnerability to COVID-related deaths in general. The coresidence patterns of elderly persons in Africa and parts of Asia increase these countries' vulnerability to deaths induced by within-household transmission of COVID-19. Southern European countries, which have aged populations and relatively high levels of intergenerational coresidence, are, all else equal, the most vulnerable to outbreaks of COVID-19. In a second step, we estimate to what extent avoiding primary infections for specific age groups would prevent subsequent deaths due to within-household transmission of the virus. Preventing primary infections among the elderly is the most effective in countries with small households and little intergenerational coresidence, such as France, whereas confining younger age groups can have a greater impact in countries with large and intergenerational households, such as Bangladesh.

Tuesday, 17.11.2020

Session 6: Demography, coronavirus and the structure of households

Chair: Albert Estève

Name: Bruno Arpino

Organisation: University of Florence

Intergenerational relationships and the COVID-19 pandemic: Between risks of contagion and source of support

Bruno Arpino, Valeria Bordone and Marta Pasqualini

Demographers and other social scientists have hinted at the importance of demographic factors, such as age structure and intergenerational relationships, to understand the unequal impact of the Coronavirus, and deaths from the associated disease (COVID-19), across geographical areas. The aim of our work is twofold.

First, we show that at the macro-level there is an inconsistent association between intergenerational relationships (IR) and COVID-19 outcomes. Positive, null and negative associations are found for different indicators of IR and inconsistent associations are often obtained when conducting the analyses at the country or at the regional level. These inconsistent findings clearly do not mean that IR are not a source of contagion at the individual level but indicate that differences across areas are not clearly linked to IR.

Second, based on insights from the multidimensional model of intergenerational solidarity and from the social control theory, we argue that IR may have important positive effects during and after the lockdown implemented to fight the spread of the Coronavirus. More specifically, we show that intergenerational contacts at a distance have increased during the pandemic and helped individuals to cope with the stress induced directly or indirectly by the pandemic.

We conclude reiterating that face-to-face intergenerational contacts increase the risk of virus transmission, but intergenerational relationships may also bring advantages and should be considered by researchers and policy makers in all their dimensions.

Tuesday, 17.11.2020

Session 6: Demography, coronavirus and the structure of households

Chair: Albert Estève

Name: Eleonora Mussino

Organisation: Stockholm University

**Residential context and COVID-19 mortality among the elderly in Stockholm:
A population-based, observational study**

*Maria Brandén, Siddhartha Aradhya, Martin Kolk, Juho Härkönen, Sven Drefahl, Bo Malmberg,
Mikael Rostila, Agneta Cederström, Gunnar Andersson and Eleonora Mussino*

Background: Housing characteristics and neighbourhood context are considered risk factors for COVID-19 mortality among older adults. To our knowledge, this study is the first to examine how individual-level housing and neighbourhood characteristics are associated with old-age COVID-19 mortality.

Methods: We perform Cox proportional hazards regression for the risk of dying from COVID-19 (N=1,301) and from all other causes (N=2,085) at ages 70 and above using full population data from the Stockholm region (N=274,712).

Findings: In fully adjusted models, household and neighbourhood characteristics are independently associated with COVID-19 mortality among older adults. Compared to living in only-old households, living with someone of working age was associated with elevated COVID-19 mortality (HR = 1.6; 95% CI = 1.3-2.0). Living in a care home was associated with a 4-fold (HR = 4.1; 95% CI = 3.5-4.9) risk of COVID-19 mortality compared to living in independent housing. Living in neighbourhoods with the highest population density was associated with higher COVID-19 mortality (HR = 1.7; 95% CI = 1.1-2.4) compared to living in the least densely populated neighbourhoods.

Interpretation: The close exposure to working-age individuals -- be it in the form of care workers, household members, or neighbours -- can have detrimental effects on older people's ability to survive the COVID-19 pandemic. These factors should be taken into account when developing strategies to protect this group.

Tuesday, 17.11.2020

Session 6: Demography, coronavirus and the structure of households

Chair: Albert Estève

Name: Jeroen Spijker

Organisation: Centre d'Estudis Demogràfics

Determinants of neighborhood variations in COVID-19 incidence. The case of Barcelona.

Antonio Lopez-Gay, Jeroen Spijker and et al.

This study aims to identify factors behind the spatial patterns of the COVID-19 outbreak during March and April, 2020 in the municipality of Barcelona, Spain, using an ecological approach. We analyse the contribution of a wide range of demographic, socioeconomic, dwelling, mobility and health factors known to play a role in the spread of SARS-Cov2 across 76 spatial units (neighbourhood level). Given the multicollinearity between the covariates, we first run a Lasso analysis to select the most informative covariates, before running linear regression analysis. Preliminary results show that the proportion of the population aged 70+, university educated and from high HDI countries, mobile during the lockdown period, living in nursery homes as well as population density were significantly associated with the neighbourhood variation in COVID-19 infections in Barcelona. Overall, the study thus reveals that not only old age, but also socioeconomic, mobility and urbanization patterns make certain groups more vulnerable to COVID infections.

Thursday, 19.11.2020

Session 7: Families in later life

Chair: Matthijs Kalmijn

Name: Sofia Gil-Clavel

Organisation: University of Groningen

Close social networks among older adults: The online and offline perspectives

Sofia Gil-Clavel, Emilio Zagheni and Valeria Bordone

Qualitative studies have found that the use of Information and Communication Technologies by older people is related to an enhanced quality of life. This results from the access to social capital that these technologies offer, where Information and Communication Technologies might act as a medium to keep in touch with family and friends despite of distance. To test this hypothesis at population level, we draw on data from the Facebook Marketing Application Programming Interface and from the Survey for Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE) to study the association between older people's characteristics and having a close network of friends offline and online. Here we show that: Facebook can be a complementary source to study older people; and that there is a differential use of Facebook and internet when comparing older peoples' close networks against non-internet users ones. Our results suggest that the type of migrants that Facebook captures might be broader than SHARE. Therefore, Facebook usage has a positive association with being a migrant and having close friends, while there might be a selection effect for those migrants who are non-internet users and internet users. This results in a greater likelihood of being on the internet for those migrants who do not have close friends. Methodologically, we provide a novel approach to analyze and interpret publicly available Facebook data with standard statistical tools.

Thursday, 19.11.2020

Session 7: Families in later life

Chair: Matthijs Kalmijn

Name: Alyona Artamonova

Organisation: University of Groningen

Migration towards siblings in later life

Alyona Artamonova

As declines in fertility broadly reflect people's decisions to have fewer children or forego having families at all, siblings might emerge as a vital source of family support in later life. However, research on the role of siblings in the residential relocations of older adults lags behind a growing number of studies on the role of adult children as the motive for migration. We attend to this gap by examining (i) to what extent the availability of traditional companions and caregivers (i.e., adult children and partners) influence older adults' (age 70+) migration toward siblings who live at least 50 km away and (ii) how these relocations are patterned by the presence and location of other siblings and nephews/nieces. To answer these questions, we use multilevel logistic regression and analyze population register data from Sweden between 2012 and 2017. We control for severe health issues among older adults and their siblings, location-specific capital, sociodemographic characteristics, the degree of urbanization of the origin and destination, and number of siblings. Older people without children are most likely to make proximity-enhancing moves toward siblings, followed by those who have children living outside a 10-km radius and then by those who have at least one child within 10 km. Married and partnered older people are less likely to move closer to distant siblings than those who do not have a partner (as a result of widowhood, divorce, or never being married). Living near other siblings has a strong deterring effect on moving towards distant siblings, while the clustering of siblings at a distance reinforces the location's attractiveness for migration. The presence of nephews/nieces nearby the distant siblings is also marginally associated with an increased likelihood of migration toward them.

Thursday, 19.11.2020

Session 7: Families in later life

Chair: Matthijs Kalmijn

Name: Olga Grunwald

Organisation: NIDI – Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute

Do grandparents feel burdened and obliged to look after their grandchildren?

Olga Grunwald, Marleen Damman and Kène Henkens

A prominent view is that grandparents embrace the task of looking after their grandchildren. Qualitative studies, however, show that although grandparents emphasize the rewards of grandparenting, they also hint at challenges, hardships and difficulties in grandchildcare. Quantitative insights about potential strains of grandparenting are limited. This study examines to what extent grandparents experience supplementary grandchildcare as burdensome and obligatory, and tests – building on role strain theory – how differences in grandparents' characteristics can explain these experiences. Analyses are based on panel data collected in 2015 and 2018 among 2,063 Dutch grandparents who look after grandchildren at least weekly. Descriptive findings show that twenty percent of the studied grandparents experience grandparenting as fairly/ very burdensome and ten percent as fairly/ very obligatory. Ordinal logistic regression models with random effects show that more intensive grandparenting situations increase the likelihood of feeling burdened, stressed, and obliged. Moreover, grandparents with a higher socioeconomic status are more likely to experience grandparenting as burdensome and obligatory, and so do grandparents with chronic health conditions and other commitments (e.g., informal caregiving). These findings suggest that there is substantial heterogeneity in how grandparents experience looking after their grandchildren.

Thursday, 19.11.2020

Session 7: Families in later life

Chair: Matthijs Kalmijn

Name: Damiano Uccheddu

Organisation: NIDI – Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute

Children's strains, parents' pains? How adult children's union dissolution influences older parents' physical and mental health

Damiano Uccheddu and Ruben van Gaalen

Little research has so far dealt with the influence that adult children's union dissolution can have on the health of their older parents. How children's individual and household characteristics – before and after the separation – affect parents' health is still an open question. The study will address this knowledge gap by matching panel data from the Dutch component of the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE) with micro-level data from administrative sources (from Statistics Netherlands – CBS). Using a combination of panel data (on parents) and administrative data (on children), we adopt a fixed-effects approach to account for time-invariant selection processes into children's separation. Our preliminary results indicate that parents' health conditions worsen as one of their children gets divorced. Furthermore, we found a stronger detrimental effect on mothers' health when young grandchildren are involved.

Thursday, 19.11.2020

Session 8: Child outcomes

Chair: Mioara Zoutewelle-Terovan

Name: Job Jona Schellekens

Organisation: Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Maternal education and infant mortality decline, 1965-2015: The evidence from Indonesia

Job Jona Schellekens

Infant mortality has declined dramatically in less-developed countries. There are three major explanations for the decline: improved living standards; advances in medical and public health; and better maternal education. Jack Caldwell is credited with being the first to stress the importance of better maternal education, as a means to lower infant and early-childhood mortality. His hypothesis has received support from many studies, the results of which have been widely publicized. Part of the evidence for crediting maternal education with making a major contribution to infant mortality decline is based on cross-sectional studies. However, in cross-sectional models it is difficult to prevent omitted variable bias in the estimate of the effect of maternal education on infant mortality decline. Longitudinal models of change are a more appropriate method than cross-sectional models to evaluate the contribution of better maternal education to infant mortality decline. Longitudinal models of change often use macro-level data. Correlations that are based on aggregate data, however, may be higher than correlations based on individual-level data.

Using data from the World Fertility Survey (WFS) and all available phases of the Demographic and Health Survey (DHS), this paper presents an individual-level analysis of trends in infant mortality in Indonesia covering more than fifty years between 1965 and 2015. Thus, the present study models trends in infant mortality for a more extended period of time than previous individual-level studies of infant mortality decline in less-developed countries. The results show that better maternal education explains a quarter of the infant mortality decline in Indonesia from 1965 to 2015.

Thursday, 19.11.2020

Session 8: Child outcomes

Chair: Mioara Zoutewelle-Terovan

Name: Anne Brons

Organisation: Utrecht University

Instability in post-divorce shared residence arrangements and child well-being

Anne Brons, Anne-Rigt Poortman and Ruben van Gaalen

Shared residence after separation has increased in recent decades. Previous research indicates that shared residence generally has positive effects on child outcomes, but originally agreed upon agreements may change as circumstances likely change after a separation (i.e., new partner or house). Prior studies reveal that shared residence appears to be the least stable residence arrangement, but it remains unknown whether such instability is harmful for children's well-being. According to the 'instability' perspective, changes cause stress and thus negatively affect children. Others have argued the opposite stating that change may be a sign of flexibility: families are able to adjust their arrangements when new circumstances make this necessary. A non-causal explanation is that parents who change their arrangements are a selective group, often negatively selected on characteristics associated with a lower child well-being.

Using longitudinal Dutch data (New Families in the Netherlands), we first examine how instability in residence arrangements affects child well-being to see whether it is a sign of instability or flexibility. We furthermore contend that the association between instability and child well-being depends upon the reason for a change in shared residence arrangements. We control for a wide range of child and parent characteristics to account for selectivity. We focus on parents who, at the time of separation, agreed upon shared residence and whether or not they changed this arrangement to a sole residence arrangement in the first few years after the break-up.

First preliminary results show that children who experienced a change from shared to sole residence within two years after separation, face more emotional difficulties compared to children who stayed in shared residence. Moreover, a change to sole residence results in a more negative effect on child's well-being once the reason for this change is related to parents' ability and willingness to deal with shared residence, measured by predivorce conflict and education of parents.

Thursday, 19.11.2020

Session 8: Child outcomes

Chair: Mioara Zoutewelle-Terovan

Name: Janique Kroese

Organisation: Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam/NSCR

Using fixed effects models to estimate the effects of parental divorce and parental decease on adolescent delinquency

Janique Kroese, Wim Bernasco, Aart Liefbroer and Jan Rouwendal

Many studies have examined the effects of parental divorce on delinquent behavior of their children, often showing that adolescents with divorced parents are more likely to perform delinquent acts compared to adolescents living with both parents. We extend the literature 1) by estimating, next to parental divorce, the effects of parental decease on adolescents, to be able to fully understand the causal effects of both changes in family structure, 2) by researching the level of adolescent delinquency before and after the change in family structure to assess anticipatory and delayed effects, and 3) by using fixed effects panel models, which provide stronger evidence to resolve whether a change in family structure has causal effects on adolescents.

The data used in this study are accessed via Statistics Netherlands, and contain individual longitudinal data on household composition and delinquency of the entire registered population of the Netherlands and therefore large enough to allow authoritative answers to our research questions. The adolescents were analyzed from age 12 to age 18, to assess whether experiencing a parental divorce or parental decease during adolescence increases the likelihood to engage in adolescent delinquency. We controlled for the age of the adolescent, parental crime, household income, and presence of stepparents.

Our preliminary results indicate that both parental divorce and parental decease significantly increased the likelihood of adolescent delinquency. This implies that an adolescent who experienced a parental divorce or parental decease is more likely to engage in juvenile delinquency compared to when that same adolescent did not experience a change in family structure. Moreover, we find that the level of juvenile delinquency already started to rise before the parental divorce or parental decease occurred, and continued to rise (in a less steep way) after the parental divorce or parental decease occurred.

Thursday, 19.11.2020

Session 8: Child outcomes

Chair: Mioara Zoutewelle-Terovan

Name: Gusta Wachter

Organisation: NIDI – Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute

Growing up in diversity: Childhood socialization and union formation in young adulthood

Gusta Wachter and Rafael Costa

Compared to immigrants, the union formation of the children of immigrants is more similar to that of the majority population. This is generally attributed to the, at least partial, socialization of the so-called second generation in the majority culture. Although studies generally compare the second generation to the majority population on an average, national level, the degree to which second-generation individuals are socialized in the majority culture depends on the local context in which they grow up. In case they grow up among large shares of co-ethnics, norms from the parents' origin country may exert a stronger influence. By contrast, growing up among larger shares of majority group members may make the union formation of the second generation more similar to that of their majority-group peers growing up in the same locality. However, studies so far mainly use cross-sectional designs to examine the influence of the community's ethnic composition on union formation thereby ignoring the childhood context. This is unfortunate as childhood socialization has a profound influence on preferences and behavior in (young) adulthood.

We therefore investigate whether differences in union formation between the majority population and second generation in young adulthood vary according to the local contexts in which they grew up; and how this is related to the ethnic composition of these localities. Using full population register data from Statistics Netherlands we estimate multilevel event-history models to examine age at, and type of, first union. We focus on second-generation individuals from the four largest migrant groups (N=14.650) and the majority population born in 1986 (N = 154.201). We follow their union formation from age 18-32 and include information about the ethnic composition at different levels of scale at age 13-17. Several socio-economic background characteristics are included as controls.

Thursday, 19.11.2020

Session 9: Internal migration

Chair: Niels Kooiman

Name: Joeke Kuyvenhoven

Organisation: NIDI – Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute

Towards a typology of childhood internal mobility: Do migrants and non-migrants differ?

Joeke Kuyvenhoven, Marjolijn Das and Helga de Valk

Internal mobility during childhood has, according to the few existing studies in Europe, an adverse impact on child development and well-being. To understand mobility effects, it is first of all important to acquire more knowledge on differential childhood mobility patterns and its multidimensional nature. This study makes a first step in enhancing our understanding of childhood mobility by mapping patterns of residential moves of children aged 0-16 residing in the Netherlands. Since previous descriptive studies find higher internal mobility rates among migrant groups compared to the majority population, the main aim of this study is to get a more complete assessment of whether differential patterns of mobility in terms of distance, timing, number of moves and change in place-type apply for different migrant origin groups and those without a migrant background. Using longitudinal full population register data of Statistics Netherlands, internal mobility patterns are analysed for nine cohorts of children born in the Netherlands between 1995 and 2003 and living in the country at least until age 16 (N=1.076.976). K-means cluster analysis was conducted for those children who moved at least once during childhood (N=669.702), revealing five types of movers among the mobile children: nearby pre-school movers (31%), nearby adolescent movers (19%), long-distance movers to denser populated areas (25%), long-distance movers to more sparsely populated areas (10%) and frequent movers (15%). First results of a multinomial logistic regression show that having a second-generation migrant background significantly increases the likelihood of being mobile than non-migrants. Children with a Moroccan or Turkish migrant background are more likely to be in the cluster of nearby pre-school movers, while children with a Surinamese and Antillean migrant background are more likely to move long-distance to a sparser populated area and move frequently.

Thursday, 19.11.2020

Session 9: Internal migration

Chair: Niels Kooiman

Name: Brian Gillespie

Organisation: University of Groningen

Intergenerational solidarity, proximity to parents when moving to independence, and returns to the parental home

Brian Gillespie and Lei Lei

Research on leaving home among young adults has mainly focused on the timing of departures rather than the distance that young adults move when they leave the parental home and establish independent households. We draw on data from the Panel Study of Income Dynamics (PSID) Transition to Adulthood Supplement (TAS) (2005-2015) and the Geospatial Match Files to examine the relationship between intergenerational solidarity and the distance of young adults' first independent household. We also examine whether intergenerational proximity is associated with the likelihood of returning home. The results indicate that young adults from high SES families tend to move farther, while those who have children and a close relationship with their mothers tend to stay nearby. Living far from the parental home deters home returning only for young adults who do not have a close relationship with their mothers.

Thursday, 19.11.2020

Session 9: Internal migration

Chair: Niels Kooiman

Name: Clara Mulder

Organisation: University of Groningen

Internal migration, living close to family and friends, and labor-market outcomes in Spain

Clara Mulder, Isabel Palomares-Linares and Sergi Vidal

Migration is often viewed as a way to enhance occupational careers. However, particularly in Mediterranean countries labor-market outcomes may also depend on local family resources. We investigated how labor-market outcomes differ between (1) those who never moved from their 'home surroundings' in Spain, those who returned there, those who moved within the larger region and those who migrated to another region; and (2) those whose family and friends live nearby and those whose family and friends live further away. We used the Survey 'Attitudes and expectations about mobility', conducted in Spain in 2019, and multinomial logistic regressions as a tool for sophisticated description. We found some evidence that the likelihood of working as a professional is greater for those who migrated, and smaller for those whose family and friends live close by, but this was not the case for being a manager or director. The likelihood of being unemployed or having a temporary job was not smaller for those who migrated than those who did not. In contrast, the findings suggested it may be greater. However, this likelihood was considerably smaller for those whose family and friends live nearby. The preliminary findings highlight the importance of a local social network to stable employment in Spain. They also emphasize the different role of migration in labor-market outcomes in Spain than in many other countries. Finally, they demonstrate the distinct role of migration and having a local social network in professional occupations. In further analyses, we plan to explore gender differences in the associations between migration histories and closeness of family and friends on the one hand, and labor-market outcomes on the other.

Thursday, 19.11.2020

Session 9: Internal migration

Chair: Niels Kooiman

Name: Jonne Thomassen

Organisation: University of Groningen

For whom do family ties present a constraint to migration? A study of (im-) mobility decisions in the Spanish labour force

Jonne Thomassen and Isabel Palomares-Linares

The literature on family ties in migration suggests that living close to family and friends decreases the propensity to migrate. However, due to a lack of data on self-reported constraints to migration it is unknown whether family and friends are indeed experienced as constraining factors in migration decisions. Using data from a unique Spanish survey conducted in 2019 on The Attitudes and Expectations of Spatial Mobility in the Labour Force, we explore who is most likely to experience ties to family and friends as constraints in the migration decision-making process. We do this by applying a path-model approach: first, we explore who mentions family and friends as a constraint to moving. This is possible because the survey holds a rarely asked, open-ended question concerning 'the main reason why it would be difficult to change the place of residence'. To this end, we are particularly interested to see whether people who live geographically close to their social network or who are - according to the literature - expected to value living close to family and friends indeed mention these social relationships as constraints to moving. Second, we explore which factors matter in the migration decision-making process. Here, we investigate whether or not considering and planning to migrate is related to living close to the social network, other factors associated with the need for geographic proximity to the social network, and the self-reported constraints to moving. In doing so, our findings highlight the roles of family and friends in the migration decisions of a highly familial society such as Spain, where geographic proximity to informal networks has been found crucial for providing care and support. The findings further contribute to a broad literature investigating the effects of social networks and local ties on (im-)mobility behaviour.

Thursday, 19.11.2020
Session 10: COVID-19 II
Chair: Anton Kunst

Name: Pieter van Baal
Organisation: Erasmus University Rotterdam

Years life lost due to Covid-19

Pieter van Baal, Bram Wouterse and Frederique Ram

Although the impact of Covid-19 on mortality in the Netherlands is becoming increasingly clear, little is known about the number of years life lost as a result of Covid-19. This is because there is still a lot of uncertainty about the role of risk factors and co-morbidity in relation to Covid-19 mortality. In this presentation we show estimates of the number of years life lost as a result of Covid-19 in various scenarios and the implications for projections of life expectancy in the Netherlands.

Thursday, 19.11.2020
Session 10: COVID-19 II
Chair: Anton Kunst

Name: Mara de Visser
Organisation: Statistics Netherlands

Social and regional inequalities in COVID-19 mortality in the Netherlands

A.E. Kunst, M. de Visser, C.N. Harmsen, L. Stoeldraaijer

Reports from various countries showed large regional and sociodemographic differences in the rate of mortality increase during the COVID-19 epidemic. Yet, evidence is inconclusive especially on socially vulnerable groups such as those with low income or migrant origin. This research aims to assess social and regional inequalities in mortality excess and, specifically, COVID-19 mortality, during the first wave the COVID-19 epidemic in the Netherlands, and changes therein during this period.

All deaths among residents of the Netherlands in 2020 were classified in relationship to week of occurrence, age, sex, region of residence, long-term care status, country of origin and household equivalent income. For each population group, the number of deaths observed during the epidemic were compared to the number in the preceding weeks, with adjustment for outdoor temperature. Differences between groups were analysed with multivariable Poisson regression models. In a second analysis, information from cause of death reports is also included.

During the epidemic weeks, almost 9 thousand more deaths occurred compared to what would be expected (almost 500 extra deaths per million inhabitants). At its peak, mortality rates were about 55 percent above expected levels. Excess mortality during the first wave of the COVID-19 epidemic strongly varied between regions, sex, age groups, and those with or without long-term care. Inequalities in relationship to income and country of origin were modest but dynamic, and call for careful monitoring in forthcoming months.

Thursday, 19.11.2020
Session 10: COVID-19 II
Chair: Anton Kunst

Name: Henk Hilderink
Organisation: RIVM

Public health foresight, in times of COVID-19

Henk Hilderink

The corona pandemic has an unprecedented impact on our society. The direct consequences of COVID-19 determined the lives of almost every Dutch person. Reporting on the numbers of infections, death rates and overloaded intensive care units in hospitals dominated the news. The pandemic and the measures taken have direct and indirect consequences for health and care. For example, in the first phase of the pandemic, hospitals and general practitioners had to stop part of their care if no safe (digital) alternative could be organized. Other patients felt compelled to forgo treatment themselves. We are also seeing major changes in a broader sense, for example, regarding working from home, different lifestyles, fewer social contacts and closing sports facilities. However, the corona crisis also brought positive effects. We saw cleaner air, and less traffic jams and air traffic. Many cross-domain collaborations have also arisen in the care and welfare sector. The question is which future developments may change due to the corona pandemic and how can we be better prepared for similar outbreaks in the future? The corona-inclusive Public Health Foresight study (In Dutch “corona-inclusieve Volksgezondheid Toekomst Verkenning” -c-VTV) provides the best possible answer to these and other questions. To this end, various (corona) scenarios have been developed to explore future trends in health and health care. These scenarios address the uncertainties we are dealing with. In addition, it is important to support a broader, integrated assessment in which health effects are also widely considered when implementing measures.

Friday, 20.11.2020

Session 11: Health and mortality

Chair: Fanny Janssen

Name: Hal Caswell

Organisation: University of Amsterdam

Healthy longevity from incidence-based models: More kinds of health than stars in the sky

Hal Caswell and Silke F. van Daalen

Incidence-based health models describe transitions of individuals among health stages and age classes. They provide valuable information on healthy longevity, but current analyses focus almost exclusively on expected values (e.g., health expectancy). Calculation of the variances and higher moments poses mathematical challenges (roughly speaking, because the variance of a sum is not the sum of the variances).

We present a new method for calculating all the moments of healthy longevity from any incidence-based model, using multistate Markov chains with rewards. We can define healthy longevity in terms of occupancy of health stages (e.g., non-disabled) or transitions among health stages (e.g., from non-hospitalized to hospitalized). We can assign values (e.g., quality of life) to occupancy or transitions. The method accepts any definition of “healthy,” any number of health stages, and any pattern of transitions, and accounts for fractional occupancy of health stages. It is easily computable and requires no simulations. As an example we analyze a published model for colorectal cancer. The model includes seven disease stages and two causes of death. We analyze four definitions of healthy longevity: life without abnormal colon cells, cancer-free life, and life with clinical cancer before or after a critical age. The number of possible definitions of healthy longevity in even this simple model literally exceeds the number of stars in the visible universe. That’s OK; our model can analyze any of them you want.

Friday, 20.11.2020

Session 11: Health and mortality

Chair: Fanny Janssen

Name: Govert Bijwaard

Organisation: NIDI – Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute

Mental hospitalization and its impact on educational differences in mortality

Govert Bijwaard

Lower levels of education are associated with a higher mortality. Low education is also associated with poor mental health, which is also associated with higher mortality. Thus, the association between education and mortality may be partly explained by the increased incidence of mental problems of the low educated. In this paper we investigate the impact of education on mortality and how mental hospitalization shapes this impact.

We account for both selective educational attainment and selective incidence of mental hospitalization by using a correlated multistate model for the mental hospitalization process (both admittance and discharge) and mortality with inverse propensity weighting for the education choice.

We use Swedish Military Conscription Data (1951-1960), linked to the administrative Swedish death and National Hospital Discharge registers. We observe the timing of admittance and discharge from mental hospitals, the moment and cause of death and the education level. Our empirical results indicate a strong effect of both education and mental hospitalization on mortality.

Mental hospitalization affects mortality due to external causes of death in particular. We also found that ignoring confounding would overestimate the impact of mental hospitalization on mortality. Accounting for confounding in mental hospitalization seems to be more important than accounting for selective educational attainment.

Friday, 20.11.2020

Session 11: Health and mortality

Chair: Fanny Janssen

Name: Rok Hrzic

Organisation: Maastricht University

Regional mortality convergence in reunified Germany

Rok Hrzic, Tobias Vogt, Helmut Brand and Fanny Janssen

Background: The reunification of Germany in 1990 was a natural experiment that allows researchers to examine the effect of political and economic integration on population health. After reunification, a previously sizeable gap in life expectancy between East and West Germany rapidly closed for women and reduced for men. However, the extent of mortality convergence was unequal across East German districts. Understanding why can provide insight into how social and economic integration interact with different regional contexts to influence mortality convergence.

Objective: We aim to estimate the extent of mortality convergence between German districts after reunification, examine differences between mortality trajectories of individual districts, and identify the district characteristics associated with these differences.

Methods: We extracted death and population counts by age and sex for 401 German districts between 1996 and 2017. A Bayesian model was used to estimate complete sex-specific mortality age schedules for each district. Mortality convergence was defined as the decline in dispersion of overall mortality and measured by the Theil index. Differences in district mortality trajectories were examined using joinpoint regression. We will use logistic regression to investigate the association between district mortality trajectories and district sex and age composition, outmigration rate, distance to tertiary healthcare center, and unemployment.

Preliminary results and hypotheses: We found a U-shaped trend in dispersion in non-standardised district mortality over time for both sexes, which indicates that the past trend of mortality convergence between districts may have reversed in recent years. District mortality trajectories were distinct, ranged from rapid mortality decreases to stagnant trajectories, and were not organised in a clear east-west pattern. We hypothesise that districts with a combination of high outmigration rates and high unemployment rates after 1996 were significantly more likely to have experienced mortality stagnation.

Friday, 20.11.2020

Session 12: Consequences of union dissolution

Chair: Jornt Mandemakers

Name: Tara Koster

Organisation: Utrecht University

Does divorce result in more or less father involvement?

Tara Koster and Spanish National Research Council (Teresa Castro-Martin)

Divorced fathers are generally assumed to be less involved with their child than married fathers. This impression may be misleading, because extant research on divorced fathers has mainly focused on nonresident fathers. Because for resident fathers and shared resident fathers, their postdivorce living arrangements put great emphasis on their parenting role and responsibilities, they may be more involved with their child than married fathers. This study extends previous research by examining involvement of fathers in a variety of postdivorce living arrangements (i.e., resident fathers, shared resident fathers, nonresident fathers), and how this compares to that of married fathers. It further examines whether differences in father involvement across living arrangements vary by father's education. Data from Wave 2 of the New Families in the Netherlands survey are used, including extensive information about fathers' involvement in parent-child activities (i.e., regular care and leisure) of large samples of both married/cohabiting fathers and divorced/separated fathers with minor children. The analyses (N = 1,592) show that as compared to married fathers, shared resident fathers and especially resident fathers are more involved in regular care, whereas nonresident fathers are less involved in regular care. Results are largely similar for fathers' involvement in leisure, except that married fathers are equally involved as shared resident fathers in this activity. These findings suggest that including resident fathers and fathers in shared residence offers a more optimistic view of fathers' postdivorce parenting role, because these fathers experience gains in father involvement instead of losses. Across living arrangements, education mainly plays a beneficial role for nonresident fathers' level of involvement. As compared to married fathers, the negative effect of being a nonresident father on involvement in regular care and leisure is weaker when fathers are more highly educated.

Friday, 20.11.2020

Session 12: Consequences of union dissolution

Chair: Jornt Mandemakers

Name: Bram Hogendoorn

Organisation: University of Amsterdam

Cumulative disadvantage or equalization? The consequences of union dissolution for women's standard of living

Bram Hogendoorn

Union dissolution is a critical event for women's standard of living. Theoretical arguments suggest that women from low-income unions may be less well-equipped to compensate the loss of partner income, raising the concern that dissolution results in cumulative disadvantage. On the other hand, welfare schemes might shield women from low-income unions from the loss of partner income, raising the possibility that dissolution acts as an equalizer. This study examines these arguments by analyzing the differential consequences of union dissolution for women's standard of living. To do so, the author used longitudinal data from the Dutch administrative registers, following women who entered a coresidential union that dissolved within ten years from 2003 to 2015 (N = 37,864). Fixed-effects regressions estimated the proportional change in household disposable income and its components. The results show that women from low-income unions gained after dissolution. Their partners contributed relatively little to household income because of reliance on welfare transfers, so the loss of partner earnings was small and easily compensated by other income sources. Women from high-income unions lost after dissolution. Their partners provided such large shares of household income that losses could not be compensated for. These results demonstrate that union dissolution has the potential to equalize women's living standards. The welfare state plays a crucial role in this process.

Friday, 20.11.2020

Session 12: Consequences of union dissolution

Chair: Jornt Mandemakers

Name: Roselinde van der Wiel

Organisation: University of Groningen

Single mothers' labour market position and the interplay between repartnering and migration

Roselinde van der Wiel

Single-parent families, the majority of which are mothers with children, are disproportionately affected by income poverty. Prior research has shown that repartnering is financially beneficial for many single mothers. However, existing studies have looked at household income, which tells us very little about mothers' economic independence. The current study takes a different perspective by studying the consequences of repartnering for individual labour market outcomes. In addition, this study addresses the geographic mobility that is involved with union formation, which can have an independent effect on labour market outcomes. As such, those women who moved a long distance (i.e. migrated) at the time of repartnering are distinguished from those who did not. Annual data from the System of social statistical datasets (SSD) of Statistics Netherlands are used to study mothers' income from employment or self-employment, as well as their level of labour participation, measured in hours worked. The study population comprises all mothers aged 25-55 who separated from the other parent of their first-born child between 2005 and 2012 and who have at least one minor child living with them. Preliminary findings show a negative effect of repartnering on single mothers' income from labour and labour participation, especially when she migrated at the time of repartnering.

Friday, 20.11.2020
Session 13: Fertility
Chair: Roberta Rutigliano

Name: Billie de Haas
Organisation: University of Groningen

Towards a theoretical conceptualisation of couples' reproductive autonomy and decision-making

Billie de Haas

Studies on reproductive health and desired fertility in high-fertility settings tend to focus on women's reproductive autonomy and decision-making, as it is assumed that having reproductive autonomy will enable women to achieve their desired fertility. However, this individual conceptualization of reproductive autonomy and decision-making does not account for the role of their partner's desired fertility and for couple dynamics, including communication patterns and potential power inequalities, as shaped by socio-cultural and gender norms. This means that reproductive autonomy and decision-making should not only be understood in their context but also as an interactive process between partners. A literature review will be conducted to obtain a better understanding of the concepts of reproductive autonomy and decision-making in relation to couple dynamics and desired fertility. Based on the outcomes of the literature review, a theoretical model will be proposed for studying couples' reproductive autonomy and decision-making in high-fertility contexts. After the presentation, feedback is welcomed on the proposed research plan and literature review.

Friday, 20.11.2020

Session 13: Fertility

Chair: Roberta Rutigliano

Name: Nadia Sturm

Organisation: NIDI – Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute

The influence of partnership status on fertility intentions of childless women and men across European countries

Nadia Sturm

Absence of a suitable partner is the most frequently given reason for unmet fertility expectations across European countries. Studies provide evidence of a positive association between having a partner and the intention to have a child, but results in terms of a variation in this relation across the life course are mixed. Since norms towards having a child within a stable relationship as well as timing of birth exist, the presence of a partner could influence fertility intentions especially strongly when nearing the socially acceptable age limit for childbirth. The aim of the current study is therefore to analyse how overall fertility intentions of childless men and women are influenced by partnership status and how this relation varies by age and across countries.

In the study, I am using data from the first wave of the Generations and Gender Survey. The sample consists of childless respondents between the ages of 18 to 45 across 12 European countries. I am calculating logistic regressions, average marginal effects and predicted probabilities of fertility intentions at different ages.

Previous studies found that the positive influence of having a partner decreases during the life course or did not find significant variation by age. Instead, my results reveal that the positive association between partnership and fertility intentions increases from the age of 18, supporting the hypothesis that whether someone is in a partnership at that age is less influential than at later stages in life. After a certain age threshold, which varies across countries and gender, the positive association between partnership and fertility intentions then either turns insignificant, remains positive across the life course (among males in Bulgaria), or even reverses (for both genders in the Netherlands). In conclusion, the strength in association between partnership and fertility intentions varies considerably by age and across countries.

Friday, 20.11.2020

Session 13: Fertility

Chair: Roberta Rutigliano

Name: Daniël van Wijk

Organisation: NIDI – Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute

Economic precariousness and the transition to parenthood: Variation by migrant background explored and explained

Daniël van Wijk, Helga de Valk and Aart Liefbroer

The experience of economic precariousness is often thought to delay the transition to parenthood in developed societies, but little is known about how the impact of precariousness varies between young adults of non-migrant and second-generation migrant origin as well as across second-generation origin groups. As the children of immigrants make up increasing shares of the population in many developed countries, especially among young adults, the fertility behaviour of second-generation origin groups needs to be included in order to understand current and future fertility patterns. We first of all study the potential variation in the impact of economic precariousness on fertility decisions between those of second-generation migrant origin and those of non-migrant origin. We theorize that (a) the (perceived) costs and benefits of postponing childbearing and (b) the perceived requirement of economic stability for having children may explain differences between non-migrants and migrants as well as between migrant origin groups. Event history models are applied to Dutch full-population register data. Additional analyses examine what factors explain potential variation, focusing on characteristics of the individual (e.g. educational attainment) and the social environment (e.g. characteristics of the parental family; the prevalence of precariousness in one's social network). Preliminary analyses show that second-generation migrant women and non-migrant women both postpone the transition to parenthood when they are jobless or have a temporary employment contract, but the effects are stronger for non-migrant women than for second-generation women. Among men, joblessness and temporary employment also reduce the probability of a first birth for both migrants and non-migrants. Compared to non-migrants, second-generation men react less strongly to joblessness, whereas the effect of temporary employment does not differ between second-generation men and non-migrant men. Future analyses will further explore these patterns by examining variation across second-generation migrant groups and by investigating what factors explain these differences.