

Abstracts

Dutch Demography Day 2025



Plenary Session	10:00 – 11:00 Location: Aula
Welcome by Prof. dr. Ruben van Gaalen, President of the NVD	
Keynote address	
“Three demographic theories with predictive power: Demographic metabolism, demographic transition and demographic dividend”	
By Prof. dr. Wolfgang Lutz , the Founding Director of the Wittgenstein Centre for Demography and Global Human Capital (IIASA, OeAW, University of Vienna)	
Discussion	

Poster session and coffee/tea break	11.00 – 11.45 Location: room 1636 and Johanna Westerdijkkamer
1. Education, unions, and the reproductive process: Analysing life course events and fertility outcomes across up to 10 European countries using microsimulation	Rolf Granholm <i>University of Groningen</i>
2. The role of schools and school peers in off-time transitions to motherhood	Zuzana Zilincikova <i>University of Groningen</i>
3. Women's early labour market trajectories by migration background: The relative contributions of differential risks of entering and exiting employment	Julie Maes <i>University of Antwerp</i>
4. How do non-European migrants experience their retirement in the Netherlands?	Jelle Lössbroek <i>Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute (NIDI)</i>
5. How do temporary employment agencies shape early labor market trajectories for immigrants?	Kilian van Looy & Jonas Wood <i>University of Antwerp</i>
6. Fertility rise and its drivers in Niger, Mali, and Burkina Faso, 1930-1980	Dinos Sevdalakis <i>University of Groningen</i>
7. Subjective wellbeing and the timing of parenthood: Does deviating from descriptive and prescriptive age norms matter?	İlayda Özoruç <i>Tilburg University</i>
8. Migrant parents' language use and children's success in school: An analysis of merged data from surveys, schools, and registers	Stefano Cellini <i>NIDI</i>

Parallel sessions I		11:45 – 13:00
Session 1: Family relationships		Chair: Anne-Rigt Poortman
		Location: Kanunnikenzaal
1. The impact of wealth on adult sibling relationships		Inbar Eliav-Paran <i>Tilburg University</i>
2. Refugees from Ukraine in Germany: a study on family relationships and subjective well-being		Vytenis Deimantas <i>NIDI, LSSC, Vytautas Magnus University VKI</i>
3. Economic outcomes of divorced parents: the role of residence arrangements		Weverthon Machado <i>Utrecht University</i>
4. Family as a social resource: Examining the impact of local family networks on young adult labour market outcomes		Jonne Thomassen <i>University of Groningen</i>
Session 2: Measuring health inequalities		Chairs: Niels van den Berg & Cecilia Potente
		Location: Belle van Zuylenzaal
1. Analyzing the impact of family structure changes on children's stress levels using a stress biomarker		Mine Kühn <i>Tilburg University / MPIDR</i>
2. Early-life stress and the gut microbiome: A comprehensive population-based investigation		Isabel Schuurmans <i>Erasmus Medical Centre</i>
3. Serum proteome signatures of health and mortality in Dutch long-lived families		Pasquale Putter <i>Leiden University Medical Centre</i>
4. Negative life events and epigenetic ageing: A study in the Netherlands twin register		Bodine Gonggrijp <i>NCSR</i>
Session 3: Fertility		Chair: Katia Begall
		Location: Aula
1. New population subgroups, established determinants of fertility? Educational expansions, economic cycles and migrant fertility in Belgium, 1960-2010		Jonas Wood <i>University of Antwerp</i>
2. How predictable is having a child in the next three years? Evidence from the PreFer data challenge using Dutch survey and register data		Elizaveta Sivak <i>University of Groningen</i>
3. Unmet family planning needs in the Generations and Gender Survey Round 2		Ilaria Francesca Lunardelli <i>NIDI</i>
4. Is a family-friendly home still a prerequisite for childbearing? How the housing crisis changed the relationship between family-friendly housing and fertility		Daniël van Wijk <i>NIDI</i>
Session 4: Ageing and retirement		Chair: Kène Henkens
		Location: Sterrekamer
1. Workforce participation in times of rising state pension age: the role of health and motivation		Dorly Deeg <i>Amsterdam UMC / Vrije Universiteit</i>
2. Involuntary pathways to retirement: a multi-level perspective		Camilla Marabini <i>NIDI</i>
3. Currents in the life course: everyday life with dementia		Louise Meijering <i>University of Groningen</i>
4. Differences in Late-Life Depression between Intra-European Migrants and Non-Migrants: A Prospective Cohort Study		Maximilian Frentz-Goellnitz <i>University of Rostock / UoG</i>

13:00 – 14:00 Lunch break (1636 & Johanna Westerdijkkamer)

13:00 – 14:00 Workshops on Inclusive Demographic Communication (Aula)

Parallel sessions II		14:00 – 15:15
Session 5: Marriage and partnerships		Chairs: Katya Ivanova
		Location: Kanunnikenzaal
1. Kinning and un-kinning? Two centuries of kin marriage in The Netherlands, 1812-2021		Hilde Bras & Vera de Bel <i>University of Groningen & NIDI</i>
2. Power dynamics in couples' communication about their fertility decision-making processes in the Netherlands		Billie de Haas <i>University of Groningen</i>
3. Gray divorce among migrants and non-migrants in Norway: Trends and mental health implications		Thijs van den Broek <i>Erasmus University Rotterdam</i>
4. Work and family life for fathers in male same-sex couples		Maaïke van der Vleuten <i>NIDI</i>
Session 6: Demografie en wonen		Chair: Daniël van Wijk
		Location: Belle van Zuylenzaal
1. Cohort-effecten op de woningmarkt		Aafke Heringa <i>CBS</i>
2. Lange termijn trends in huiseigenaarschap en tevredenheid over de levensloop		Jornt Mandemakers & Aat Liefbroer <i>NIDI</i>
3. Woonpreferenties van mensen met een LAT-relaties		Hanna van Solinge & Jornt Mandemakers <i>NIDI</i>
4. Vrijkomende woningen in Nederland		Jasper Menger <i>CBS</i>
Session 7: International migration		Chair: Frank van Tubergen
		Location: Aula
1. Return and onward migration: the role of life events		Özge Özer <i>NIDI / University of Groningen</i>
2. The Grass Really is Greener on the Other Side: Immigration and Changes in expressed sentiments on Twitter		Jisu Kim <i>MPIDR / University of Utrecht</i>
3. Drivers and trends in staying behaviour of recent international graduates		Viktor Venhorst <i>University of Groningen</i>
4. Which migrants are more likely to remit? Comparing refugees and non-refugees in the Netherlands.		Koen Veldman <i>NIDI</i>
Session 8: Data & methods		Chair: Bram Hogendoorn
		Location: Sterrekamer
1. Computational methods in kinship demography		Frans Willekens <i>NIDI</i>
2. Predicting fertility outcomes with networks		Gert Stulp <i>University of Groningen</i>
3. Household statistics and shared housing: registrations and perceptions		Hester Booi <i>Gemeente Amsterdam</i>
4. The shift to mixed mode survey data collection: The case of the Generations and Gender Survey (GGS)		Julia Rokos <i>NIDI</i>

15:15 – 15:45 Coffee/tea break (1636 & Johanna Westerdijkkamer)

15:15 – 15:45 Workshops on Inclusive Demographic Communication (Aula)

Parallel sessions III		15:45 – 17:00
Session 9: Childhood inequalities		Chair: Joeke Kuyvenhoven
		Location: Kanunnikenzaal
1. The influence of the population network on the language proficiency of children of migrants		Fijnanda van Klingeren <i>CBS</i>
2. The timing of parental death and school performance: A sibling fixed effects analysis		Yuxuan Jin <i>NIDI</i>
3. Resilience or Social Reproduction? "Prosocial Behaviour" and Care Interdependencies After Parental Job Loss		Gabriele Mari <i>Erasmus University Rotterdam</i>
4. Trends in inequality of opportunity: studying heritability of education over time		Marjolijn Das <i>CBS / Erasmus University Rotterdam</i>
Session 10: Life course transitions		Chair: Matthijs Kalmijn
		Location: Belle van Zuylenzaal
1. The impact of family background and household composition on internal migration: evidence from the Netherlands		Andrea Colasurdo <i>MPIDR / University of Groningen</i>
2. The roles of siblings and school peers in young adults' life-course events		Clara Mulder <i>University of Groningen</i>
3. The Rise in Singlehood among 30-45 Year Olds: Do Trends Differ by Gender and Educational Attainment?		Aat Liefbroer <i>NIDI</i>
4. Retirement Adjustment Among Dutch Older Adults: The Role of Gendered Life Histories		Mustafa Firat <i>Radboud University</i>
Session 11: Labour market and family		Chair: Viktor Venhorst
		Location: Aula
1. Gender dynamics in 2nd generation migrant couples' labour market participation after union formation		Leen Marynissen <i>University of Antwerp</i>
2. The role of childrearing in the effectiveness of active labour market policies. How is timing of the transition to employment affected according to migration background?		Ewan Pools <i>University of Antwerp</i>
3. Unintended Births and Labour Market Outcomes: Evidence from European Panel Data		Judith Koops <i>NIDI</i>
4. The consequences of migration at the time of union formation for an individual's earnings and employment		Roselinde van der Wiel <i>University of Groningen</i>
Session 12: Mortality & health		Chair: Daniel Zazueta-Borboa
		Location: Sterrekamer
1. Investigating differences in Healthy Life Expectancy (HLE) between migrants and natives in Germany using Multistate Lifetables		Adrian Kunz <i>Tilburg University</i>
2. Avoidable Mortality in the European Union - a spatial analysis of cross-border district mortality.		Sophie Stroisch <i>University of Oldenburg / University of Groningen</i>
3. Parental educational similarity and inequality implications for health in Sweden		Govert Bijwaard <i>NIDI</i>
4. Near-miss events as a measure of repeated survival		Adrien Remund <i>University of Groningen</i>

17:00 – 18:00 Drinks and award ceremony (room 1636)

ABSTRACTS

Poster session

11:00-11:45 – room 1636 and Johanna Westerdijkkamer

Name: Rolf Granholm

Organisation: University of Groningen

Co-author(s): Anne Gauthier, Gert Stulp

Education, unions, and the reproductive process: Analysing life course events and fertility outcomes across up to 10 European countries using microsimulation

A gap has been observed between intended family size and completed cohort fertility across Europe. This gap is at least partially explained by the fact that the mean age at first birth has been increasing to the point at which physiological constraints on fertility make it more difficult for many couples to have children. Several explanations have been proposed for why the mean age at birth has increased, including: later partnership formation, less stable coresidential unions, both perceived and real labour market and economic uncertainty, difficulties balancing work and family etc. We focus on education, partnership formation and -dissolution, how they interact, and how they are associated with fertility outcomes through reproductive physiology and contraceptive behaviour. We have previously developed and applied a microsimulation model of the fertility process to a Dutch birth cohort, and we will now apply our model to comparable birth cohorts across several European countries. The behavioural parameters that vary across countries in our model are from the second round of the Generations and Gender Survey, whereas the core physiological parameters that do not vary between countries are mainly based on demographic modelling using historical data and clinical studies. To our knowledge, no previous study has attempted to simulate the reproductive life courses of women in as much detail as we do across a large selection of countries. If our model can accurately predict fertility outcomes across several different contexts, it may also prove useful for finding reasons why some couples are unable to have the number of children they want to at the cohort level. It could also be applied to test fertility-related policy measures.

Poster session

11:00-11:45 – room 1636 and Johanna Westerdijkkamer

Name: Zuzana Zilincikova

Organisation: University of Groningen

Co-author(s): Clara H. Mulder, Marjolijn Das, Marijtje A. J. van Duijn

The role of schools and school peers in off-time transitions to motherhood

Early transitions to motherhood are associated with adverse outcomes and contribute to persisting inequality as early motherhood is more common among girls of low-income families. Beyond family background, secondary schools and school peer groups may play a critical role in shaping off-time transitions to motherhood. However, systematic research on the influence of school contexts on early motherhood remains limited. This study examines the impact of school peers' early births on early transitions to motherhood among teenage girls in the Netherlands, taking into account school context and peer group composition. Using Dutch register data, we tracked 94,004 girls in the third grade of secondary school (aged $\approx 15-16$) from 2011 through 2015, employing cross-classified multilevel event-history models. Our findings reveal a nuanced relationship between peer behaviour and early motherhood. Descriptive analysis indicates a positive correlation between school peers' early births and individual early motherhood. However, after accounting for educational track—a key predictor of early motherhood—the association reverses, suggesting a deterring effect rather than contagion. Girls in lower educational tracks are significantly more likely to experience early motherhood, underscoring sharp inequalities across tracks.

Poster session

11:00-11:45 – room 1636 and Johanna Westerdijkkamer

Name: Julie Maes

Organisation: University of Antwerp

Co-author(s): Jonas Wood, Karel Neels

Women's early labour market trajectories by migration background: The relative contributions of differential risks of entering and exiting employment

In most European countries, women's labour force participation differs strongly by migration background. As employment trajectories unfold as a result of the interplay of employment entries and exits, employment gaps might be rooted in differential risks of entering and/or exiting employment. However, available research mainly addresses differences by migration background in employment rates, which hampers our understanding of these underlying processes and their relative importance. Therefore, this study uses longitudinal microdata on women's employment trajectories in tandem with innovative multistate hazard and microsimulation models to examine the relative importance of differential risks of entering and exiting employment as dynamics shaping differences in early employment by women's migration background in Belgium. Our results indicate that both employment entry and exit processes significantly contribute to differences by migration background in time spent in employment in the first four years since graduation, but their relative importance varies between the second and the 1.5 generation. For second generation women, differential entry and exit risks contribute equally to the observed differences in the time spent in employment. However, for the 1.5 generation, differences in the probabilities for entering employment – especially for entering a first employment spell - contribute to a stronger extent to differences in early employment trajectories compared to women without a migration background. Hence, our results indicate that particularly policies aimed at reducing barriers to employment entry could substantially enhance the early employment of Turkish and Maghreb origin women of the

Poster session

11:00-11:45 – room 1636 and Johanna Westerdijkkamer

Name: Jelle Lössbroek

Organisation: NIDI

Co-author(s): Koen Veldman, Sophie Delfgaauw

How do non-European migrants experience their retirement in the Netherlands?

The number of older migrants in the Netherlands is rapidly increasing rapidly, especially particularly among the first-generation non-Western migrants. In 1990, there were 20,000 of them migrants aged 65+, this is currently about 180,000 and expected to be 550,000 in 2050. Previous work indicates that retirement poverty levels are high (40%) in this group. How do they deal with their economic position situation? We studied this question using 26 semi-structured qualitative interviews with retirees born in Morocco, Suriname, Sri Lanka, Tunisia, and Turkey. Four aspects of dealing with retirement were covered and we discuss implications for scholars and policymakers. 1) Retirement knowledge. Many participants learned about their financial situation shortly or during retirement, or not at all. They generally experienced communication from pension institutions as very late and complex. However, some, especially those working for large organizations, received valuable and timely information via their work, and used this to change their retirement plans. 2) Retirement preparation. Most respondents stopped working long before their retirement age, often relate due to health concerns. Working beyond the age of 67 is rarely used as solution. Retirement savings were low, sometimes because of low financial knowledge, sometimes saving was not feasible. The small number with decent savings often did not save specifically for their retirement. 3) Social security benefits (AIO). There are many non-users to this retirement income supplement. Some consciously refused to apply as they felt the conditions were humiliating, or because they did not trust the authorities or considered this 'un-islamic' behavior. For others the decision was not conscious, as many did not understand the regulations. Help from children made a difference for some, but they were not always willing to give it. 4) Relationships. While often sometimes still in touch with their homeland, few respondents send or receive money from abroad. Informal help is often eschewed, except for help by their children – but that is complicated too.

Poster session

11:00-11:45 – room 1636 and Johanna Westerdijkkamer

Name: Kilian van Looy

Organisation: University of Antwerp

How do temporary employment agencies shape early labor market trajectories for immigrants?

The current study examines how temporary employment agencies (TEAs) shape the early careers of immigrants in Flanders, Belgium. Across the European Union immigrants are shown to perform relatively poorly in the labor market when compared to natives. While there is ample research that tries to explain why that is the case, the focus is rarely on early career trajectories and indicators for job quality are often disregarded. Theory suggests that human capital accumulation is vital for career mobility, which is especially true for immigrants (e.g., in the form of domestic work experience, training, and language skills). TEAs are, in this regard, often posited as a means to jump-start a career, as one of TEA's main functions is to match employees with employers, theoretically catalyzing this human capital accumulation. In practice, however, TEA success rates are more ambiguous, ultimately depending on TEA job quality. The Belgian case is of particular interest, due to rigid labor market conditions with high employment protection legislature (EPL) both for standard employment as TEAs. Moreover, immigrant unemployment is above the EU-average, while the use of TEAs is below EU-average. This study aims to contribute to the literature by (i) differentiating results by migration background, taking into account both the region of origin and differences between the first and second generation, as these groups have been understudied in this context, (ii) taking into account different TEA positions in relation to their precariousness, such as in-work poverty, rather than only focusing on TEA as a whole, and (iii) using longitudinal, administrative data, following a sample of individuals that graduated between 2005 and 2016 across different education levels, instead of focusing on one point in time. We will estimate hazard models, considering ethnic differentials in entering employment via a TEA in regards to different characteristics of this employment (low wage TEA and first employment TEA). We take special interest in the extent these differentials could be explained by other individual, previous employment, household and parental characteristics. Early results show that immigrants are more likely to enter low wage TEA at the start of their careers, which is partially explained by education level and knowledge of the domestic language. In a second phase, we also aim to look at TEA exits.

Poster session

11:00-11:45 – room 1636 and Johanna Westerdijkkamer

Name: Dinos Sevdalakis

Organisation: University of Groningen

Fertility rise and its drivers in Niger, Mali, and Burkina Faso, 1930-1980

Demographers of sub-Saharan Africa have long shared an interest in explaining the exceptional" African fertility transition, characterized by a slow decline in fertility. This phenomenon has been particularly evident in the Western Sahel, which houses several countries with some of the highest total fertility rates globally. Although fertility in the region was probably high throughout the twentieth century, it is unclear whether it increased around the midcentury. Some historians and demographers note that fertility rates were on a rising trend in the period around decolonization. While some UN estimates confirm this view for the 1960s, we lack reliable estimates for the pre-1955 period, making it difficult to assess when this increase started and what may have caused it. This paper uses published and unpublished data from the demographic survey rounds that took place in the countries of Niger, Burkina Faso, and Mali around the 1960s on the eve of independence to generate total fertility estimates going back to at least the 1940s and sometimes the 1930s. Data collected in these surveys allows for the application of two demographic techniques, the Relational Gompertz Model and the Reverse Survival Model, to project total fertility rates to the 1930s. After that, the paper assesses whether a decline in the share of women with parities below two or a rise in high-parity women drove this increase in fertility. A decline in the share of women who report zero or one life births would imply a decline in primary or secondary infertility. An increase in the share of women with parities above six would imply that birth intervals may have declined around the mid-twentieth century."

Poster session

11:00-11:45 – room 1636 and Johanna Westerdijkkamer

Name: İlayda Özoruç

Organisation: Tilburg University

Co-author(s): Katya Ivanova, Jeroen Vermunt, Manon van Scheppingen

Subjective wellbeing and the timing of parenthood: Does deviating from descriptive and prescriptive age norms matter?

Transitioning into parenthood is a crucial and transformative life event that can impact subjective well-being. Individuals may experience this transition differently depending on its timing. Although deviations from the expected normative timing of parenthood are more accepted in contemporary society, norms surrounding childbearing age persist. Violating these norms—whether through early or late parenthood—can significantly influence well-being, though findings in this area remain mixed. In the literature, descriptive norms (i.e., what most people do) are often used as a proxy for prescriptive norms (i.e., what most people think should be done) in relation to parenthood timing. However, this can be misleading because these norms are conceptually distinct. For example, the same practice may be considered prescriptively normative but descriptively non-normative. Despite this distinction, no study has demonstrated whether violating these two types of norms affects parents' well-being in the same way. Our aim is to investigate how deviations from descriptive and prescriptive norms relate to parents' well-being. Because well-being is a broad concept, different components of it may be influenced by the timing of parenthood in distinct ways. Therefore, we investigate distinct components of wellbeing, namely life satisfaction and self-esteem. Life satisfaction captures one's life as a whole and is based on solely own perceptions whereas self-esteem captures one's value judgement about themselves and relies on both self and perceptions of others' evaluations. By examining both aspects, we aim to provide a comprehensive view of well-being. Our study uses data from the Dutch LISS panel (2023), targeting respondents with at least one child at the time of the survey. For descriptive norms, our sample includes approximately 1,200 participants aged 18–55; for prescriptive norms, our sample includes approximately 780 participants aged 25–50. Norm-related questions are tailored to the respondent's gender.

Poster session

11:00-11:45 – room 1636 and Johanna Westerdijkkamer

Name: Stefano Cellini

Organisation: NIDI

Co-author(s): Matthijs Kalmijn, Frank van Tubergen

Migrant parents' language use and children's success in school: An analysis of merged data from surveys, schools, and registers

Despite improvements over time, there are still educational achievement gaps between people with and without a migration background (CBS, 2024). In the Netherlands, with its early tracking system, achievement differences are already observed at the end of primary school when the key decision is made about pursuing an academic or a vocational track (CBS, 2020). These differences are related to lower scores on the CITO test, a test that is decisive for tracking students in secondary school (Zumbhuhl & Dillingh, 2020). To better understand achievement gaps in primary school, we focus on the role of migrant parents' language usage. Learning the destination language is a significant challenge for migrants, and the question of which language to use at home is a difficult dilemma for parents. Many studies have pointed to the advantages of maintaining the origin language and bilingualism for social, cultural, and economic reasons (Han, 2011), but fewer studies have examined how variations in the use of the destination language affect children's early academic achievement. To examine how the use of the destination language in migrant families affects children's success in school, a novel empirical approach is used. First, we merge and harmonize survey data from four large national migrant surveys in order to obtain elaborate information on parents (SIM 2006, 2011, 2015, and SING 2009). Second, we matched the surveys to the population register in order to trace the children of the SIM respondents. Third, we merge information from school registers to obtain information on children's CITO scores and schooling careers. Together, the three data sets provide a wealth of information for obtaining valid estimates of home language effects.

Session 1: Family Relationships

11:45-13:00 – Kanunnikenzaal

Chair: Anne-Rigt Poortman

Name: Inbar Eliav-Paran

Organisation: Tilburg University

The impact of wealth on adult sibling relationships

This study examines how levels of household wealth shape adult sibling relationships, focusing on the interplay between wealth and family cohesion. While family dynamics research often examines wealth in the context of intergenerational transfers between parents and children or marital partnerships, the role of wealth in shaping adult sibling ties remains underexplored. In the broader context of family dynamics, adult siblings are seen as both sources of support and conflict, particularly in competition over parental resources. Studies have examined how childhood family processes, including sibling configuration (i.e., family size, spacing, birth order, and gender composition), shape wealth accumulation and adult outcomes. Yet, little attention has been given to how household wealth shapes family cohesion within adult sibling relationships. This study addresses the gap by situating siblings within the intersection of wealth and family cohesion, exploring affective solidarity through emotional closeness. We examine whether personal wealth influences sibling ties, testing two competing hypotheses: whether limited resources foster solidarity through mutual support or undermine closeness due to financial strain and competition. The analysis is contextualized within theoretical frameworks of sibling relationships, including solidarity, friendship, rivalry, and sibling configuration. Using data from Wave 4 (2011) of the Survey of Health, Ageing, and Retirement in Europe (SHARE), covering 14 European countries and Israel, this study analyzes 55,000 respondents aged 50 and above with at least one sibling. Country fixed-effects models explore the relationship between personal wealth levels and self-reported emotional closeness with siblings, using net wealth indicators (e.g., home ownership, assets, debt). Sibling relationship quality is assessed through respondents' inclusion of siblings as close confidants and their emotional closeness. This study explores how personal wealth shapes sibling dynamics, addressing the intersection of sibling ties and rising wealth disparities while contributing to the literature on wealth stratification and family relationships.

Session 1: Family Relationships

11:45-13:00 – Kanunnikenzaal

Chair: Anne-Rigt Poortman

Name: Vytenis Deimantas

Organisation: NIDI, LSSC, Vytautas Magnus University VKI

Co-author(s): Ebru Şanlıtürk

Refugees from Ukraine in Germany: a study on family relationships and subjective well-being

Russia's war in Ukraine is a defining event of the 2020s, causing unprecedented forced migration. By November 2022, 7.89 million people had fled Ukraine, many leaving family members behind. Forced separations profoundly impact family relationships, quality of life, economic stability, mental health, and social engagement. Refugee populations, including those displaced by the war in Ukraine, may experience heightened vulnerabilities compared to non-refugee populations. Despite extensive research on family relationships, there is limited focus on the implications of the Ukraine war, particularly in Germany, which hosts the largest number of Ukrainian refugees in Europe. This study addresses these gaps by examining how social contacts and family relationships among Ukrainians in Germany have changed post-war and how these shifts influence subjective well-being, including loneliness, life satisfaction, and intentions to have children. It also explores the role of alternative means of communication (e.g., video calls, messaging) in maintaining social connectedness. Data sources include digital trace data (Google Trends) to analyze social connectedness and longitudinal survey data (Ukraine SOEP, 2022 & 2023) covering refugees' demographics, family structures, social connections, and life satisfaction. Preliminary findings, based on Google Trends data, reveal shifts in online search behavior related to family relationships among Ukrainians in Germany before (2020–2021) and after (2022–2023) the invasion. While early analyses show no major shifts in German-language keywords, Ukrainian-language searches reflect the unique context of displacement and separation. This study contributes to understanding the socio-economic and emotional effects of forced migration, offering insights into how family dynamics evolve during crises. Its findings will inform policies to support refugees' well-being and integration, particularly in host countries like Germany.

Session 1: Family Relationships

11:45-13:00 – Kanunnikenzaal

Chair: Anne-Rigt Poortman

Name: Weverthon Machado

Organisation: Utrecht University

Economic outcomes of divorced parents: The role of residence arrangements

A substantial body of research has showed that separated people experience penalties in several measures of economic well-being. Both the levels and trajectories of these penalties are clearly gendered: women, and particularly mothers, suffer larger and more permanent financial losses than men. Joint physical custody — the residence arrangement in which the child spends roughly equal amounts of time in each parent’s home — has been argued to alter the gendered nature postdivorce parenting. Because it entails a more equal division of childcare between divorced parents, joint physical custody might benefit the careers of mothers and narrow the gender gap in economic outcomes. Nonetheless, empirical evidence of these effects remains scarce and restricted to cross-sectional snapshots or a short period after separation. This paper investigates whether residence arrangements moderate postdivorce economic outcomes (hours worked, wages, household income) of mothers and fathers in the Netherlands. Combining survey and administrative data, I follow economic outcomes of parents from three years before to up to ten years after divorce. Besides covering an extended period of time around union dissolution, the paper expands on previous research by focusing on residence trajectories and employing models that account for the temporal dynamics of work and family transitions.

Session 1: Family Relationships

11:45-13:00 – Kanunnikenzaal

Chair: Anne-Rigt Poortman

Name: Jonne Thomassen

Organisation: University of Groningen

Co-author(s): Viktor Venhorst, Emma Lundholm, Gunnar Malmberg

Family as a social resource: Examining the impact of local family networks on young adult labour market outcomes

Family relationships tend to act as a social resource in people's lives. This is one of the reasons why geographic proximity to non-resident family members is known to influence people's (im-)mobility decisions. In fact, local ties to one's family and friends are among the primary categories of self-reported constraints to migration and motives for staying. However, deciding to stay close to one's family network potentially deters a migration that could have otherwise positively impacted one's labour market outcomes. In this paper, we aim to identify to what extent a local family network serves as a social resource for young adults in terms of their individual labour market outcomes. Using Swedish register data, we investigate the association between young adults' incomes and the presence of a local family network, simultaneously evaluating the role of currently living close to parent(s) and of having longstanding family roots in the area. Our sample consists of all Swedish-born individuals from birth cohorts 1981, 1982, and 1983 (N=249,394). We model their disposable incomes at age 30 using linear regressions and show separate models according to their internal migration histories between ages 18 and 30 (i.e. migrated, stayed, or returned). Our findings suggest that individual disposable incomes are negatively associated with currently living close to parent(s) and positively associated with having longstanding family roots in the area. Notably, these findings hold true for movers, stayers, and returners alike.

Session 2: Measuring health inequalities

11:45-13:00 – Belle van Zuylenzaal

Chair: Niels van den Berg & Cecilia Potente

Name: Mine Kühn

Organisation: Tilburg University

Coauthor(s): Pauline Kleinschlömer, Lara Bister, Tobias Vogt and Sandra Krapf

Analyzing the Impact of Family Structure Changes on Children's Stress Levels Using a Stress Biomarker

Changes in family structure (e.g., parental separation or stepfamily formation) are associated with a deterioration in children's well-being. Most researchers have focused on the impact of such changes on children's educational and psychosocial outcomes, whereas the effects on children's biological processes have been studied less often. We analyze the effects of changes in family structure on children's stress levels using data from the German Health Interview and Examination Survey for Children and Adolescents study (2003–2006 and 2014–2017). Our outcome variable is the biomarker c-reactive protein (CRP), which correlates with psychological distress and is collected from blood samples. Calculating first-difference estimators, we analyze whether children have higher CRP levels after changing to (1) single-parent families ($n = 117$) or (2) stepfamilies ($n = 80$). Our findings suggest that changing to a single-parent family significantly increases children's stress, whereas changing to a stepfamily does not. These observations are important because increased stress in childhood can negatively affect well-being later in life.

Session 2: Measuring health inequalities

11:45-13:00 – Belle van Zuylenzaal

Chair: Niels van den Berg & Cecilia Potente

Name: Isabel Schuurmans

Organisation: Erasmus MC, University Medical Center Rotterdam, Rotterdam, NL

Coauthor(s): Rosa H Mulder, Robert Kraaij, Carlos Frances-Cuesta, Yolanda Sanz, Carolina Medina-Gomez, Liesbeth Duijts, Fernando Rivadeneira, Henning Tiemeier, Vincent W V Jaddoe, Janine F Felix, Charlotte A M Cecil

Early-life stress and the gut microbiome: A comprehensive population-based investigation

Early-life stress has been robustly associated with poor mental and physical health outcomes. Recently, the gut microbiome has been gaining increasing scientific and public interest for its potential to serve as a pathway between stress and health outcomes, yet, human research remains scarce and often relies on small, selected samples and retrospective early-life stress reports. To address this gap, we examined associations between early-life stress and the human gut microbiome leveraging the large, population-based birth-cohort the Generation R Study, from Rotterdam, The Netherlands (inclusion between 2002-2006). Early-life stress was measured prospectively from birth to 10 years of age in 2,004 children, focusing on overall early-life stress and unique effects of five domains: life events, contextual risk, parental risk, interpersonal risk, and direct victimization. Stool microbiome was assessed using 16S rRNA sequencing at age 10 at multiple levels (α - and β -diversity indices, individual genera, and predicted functional pathways). Potential mediators, including diet at age 8 and BMI at 10 years, were also explored. No associations were observed between overall early-life stress (composite score) and the microbiome after multiple testing correction. However, contextual risk—a domain related to socio-economic stress, including financial difficulties and low maternal education—was significantly associated with microbiome variability. This domain was linked to lower α -diversity, β -diversity, and predicted functional pathways, including tryptophan biosynthesis. These associations were partly mediated by diet quality, pro-inflammatory diet, fiber intake, and BMI. Our findings suggest stress from socio-economic adversity—but not overall early-life stress—is associated with a less diverse microbiome in the general population, partially explained by poorer diet and higher BMI. Future research should test causality and assess whether modifiable factors like diet could mitigate the adverse effects of socio-economic adversity on the microbiome and related health outcomes.

Session 2: Measuring health inequalities

11:45-13:00 – Belle van Zuylenzaal

Chair: Niels van den Berg & Cecilia Potente

Name: Pasquela Putter

Organisation: Leiden University Medical Centre

Co-author(s): N.M.A. van den Berg, M. Beekman, J. Deelen, P.E. Slagboom

Serum proteome signatures of Health and Mortality in Dutch long-lived families

Currently around 60% of the older adults (75+) in the Netherlands is diagnosed with multimorbidity. Even though age is an important indicator of health, there are large individual differences in health at older age. Research showed that socioeconomic health differences are larger than ever before. Persons with a lower socioeconomic status (SES) pass away 8.5 years earlier than those with a high SES and live 24 year longer in poor health. The impact of these socioeconomic health differences is exacerbated by the growing number of older people which put an increasing strain on healthcare systems as well as on policy makers. Hence, there is a strong need for novel health markers that allow the identification of health issues, before the the onset of disease, so that early intervention is possible. In this study we quantified 326 proteins using mass-spectrometry in the two-generations of the Leiden Longevity Study (LLS; N=3359). The parental 'F2 – Nonagenarians' (N=852), which were recruited at 90 years of age, and their children and in-laws 'F3 - offspring/partner' (N=2282). We investigate whether the proteins associate with time to first cardiometabolic disease in the partner/offspring generation and whether they associate with time to death in the nonagenarians. Our results indicated that 15 proteins were significantly associated with the time to first cardiometabolic disease. Collectively, they accounted for a seven-month difference in the average age at first cardiometabolic disease (73.3 years compared to 73.9 years). Next we observed that 91 proteins were significantly associated with future mortality risk in the nonagenarians. We compared these 91 proteins to an existing metabolomics-based predictor of mortality risk; the MetaboHealth score and observed that 21 proteins were significantly associated with mortality, independent of the MethaboHealth score. We used a factor analysis approach to narrow these findings down to five independent key proteins, which collectively demonstrated a hazard ratio (HR) of 2.42 (95% CI: 2.10–2.79) in relation to mortality. These findings emphasize the potential of serum proteome profiling to identify biomarkers for disease and mortality through accessible, cost-effective methods. Specifically, the 15 proteins associated with cardiometabolic disease may serve as predictors for the time of onset, while the 21 mortality-associated proteins may aid in bettering all-cause mortality prediction. Notably, five of these proteins independently model mortality from each other, and may offer significant value in enhancing mortality risk prediction and to better the existing metabolomic MetaboHealth score.

Session 2: Measuring health inequalities

11:45-13:00 – Belle van Zuylenzaal

Chair: Niels van den Berg & Cecilia Potente

Name: Bodine Gonggrijp

Organisation: Netherlands Institute for the Study of Crime and Law Enforcement (NSCR)

Co-author(s): Steve van de Weijer, Catrien Bijleveld, Dorret Boomsma and Jenny van Dongen

Negative Life Events and Epigenetic Ageing: A Study in the Netherlands Twin Register

We aimed to understand the long-term impact of negative life events (NLE) on epigenetic aging in 1,783 adults from the Netherlands Twin Register, analyzing five epigenetic biomarkers (Hannum, Horvath, PhenoAge, GrimAge, DunedinPACE) and a series of NLE, including victimization and economic hardship. In population-level analyses, associations between a higher number of NLE (particularly financial adversities, sexual crimes, and job loss) were seen for the GrimAge biomarker. The association between the number of NLE and financial problems and epigenetic age acceleration measured by the GrimAge biomarker persisted after adjusting for BMI, smoking, and white blood cell counts. In monozygotic twin pairs discordant for NLE (263 pairs) the associations were diminished, indicating that the population associations may be confounded by shared familial (genetic and environmental) factors. These findings underscore the intricate link between environmental stressors and biological aging, stressing the need for comprehensive studies considering both genetic and environmental influences.

Session 3: Fertility

11:45-13:00 – Aula

Chair: Katia Begall

Name: Jonas Wood

Organisation: University of Antwerp

Co-author(s): Karel Neels, Leen Marynissen

New population subgroups, established determinants of fertility? Educational expansions, economic cycles and migrant fertility in Belgium, 1960-2010

In the context of low fertility, population ageing, related welfare state challenges (e.g. sustainability of pension systems), and fluctuations in the numbers of immigrants entering high income countries, the fertility of immigrants and their descendants has received considerable attention over the last few decades. However, in contrast to large and increasing bodies of empirical research on the effect of migration on fertility, focusing strongly on fertility patterns upon or shortly after arrival, or strands of work comparing migrant fertility to childbearing patterns in ancestral natives and descendants of migrants, our understanding of migrant fertility trends in high-income countries remains relatively limited. In addition, whilst the available literature has accumulated a wide range of (potential) determinants of migrant fertility – such as socio-economic positions, contextual features of their place of residence, or health – accounts of the degree to which such individual correlates of fertility transitions can also explain migrant fertility trends at the aggregate-level remains unknown. Research for majority groups or the general population in several European countries indicates that educational expansions largely explain long-term trends towards first birth postponement, whereas cyclical variation in economic context statistically explains a large part of the accelerations and decelerations in first birth postponement. However, the degree to which these established determinants of fertility can also account for individual-level first birth hazards and aggregate-level trends in first childbearing remains unknown. Consequently, this study applies discrete-time hazard models to Belgian population data for 1960–2010 to address the extent to which educational expansions and economic cycles associate with first birth hazards, and whether such associations can also explain long-term trends in migrants' first birth trends, controlling for compositional trends related to the changing nature of migration flows to Belgium.

Session 3: Fertility

11:45-13:00 – Aula

Chair: Katia Begall

Name: Elizaveta Sivak

Organisation: University of Groningen

Co-author(s): Gert Stulp

How predictable is having a child in the next three years? Evidence from the PreFer data challenge using Dutch survey and register data

Measuring the predictability of fertility outcomes is important since accurate predictions could improve societal planning and help individuals achieve desired family sizes. Measuring predictability could also deepen our understanding of fertility by examining gaps between theory- and data-driven models. Previous research has focused on getting unbiased estimates of coefficients rather than predictive accuracy, leaving the predictability of fertility unexamined. We measured the predictability of having a child in the next three years (2021-2023) for individuals aged 18–45 based on the data about them from previous years in the PreFer data challenge. Participants of the challenge first used survey data (LISS panel, $N \sim 1400$), and then selected teams used Dutch register data ($N \sim 6\,000\,000$) to predict the outcome. We received 68 submissions from 34 teams (~ 130 participants) for LISS data and 11 submissions for register data, employing diverse methods from logistic regression to fine-tuned language models. This setup provided a unique opportunity to study the limits of the predictability of fertility. The best LISS model (F1 score = 0.75), with fertility intentions being a key variable, substantially outperformed a demographic baseline (F1 score = 0.19). For register data, despite lacking direct measurements of fertility intentions, the best model achieved an F1 score of 0.59, showcasing gains from a larger sample size. However, performance was well below the theoretical maximum (F1 score = 0.9), which we could uniquely determine based on physiological data from reproductive medicine. We reflect on why predictive accuracy was lower for individuals with 2+ or no children, younger/older ages, and first-generation migrants. We discuss ways to improve predictive accuracy, limits to prediction, and the implications of the data challenge for research on fertility.

Session 3: Fertility

11:45-13:00 – Aula

Chair: Katia Begall

Name: Ilaria Francesca Lunardelli

Organisation: NIDI

Co-author(s): Aisling Connolly, Olga Grünwald, Julia Rokos

Unmet Family Planning Needs in the Generations and Gender Survey Round 2

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) emphasize the importance of universal access to sexual and reproductive health care, with Target 3.7 aiming to achieve this by 2030. A key indicator within this framework is the measurement of Unmet Family Planning Needs, which identifies gaps in access to reproductive health services and highlights inequities across countries. By capturing information on fertility preferences, contraceptive use, and demographic background, the Generations and Gender Survey Round 2 (GGG-II) features the measurement of Unmet Family Planning Needs across diverse populations and highlights variations between countries. These insights contribute to understanding the contextual factors that shape access to family planning resources, providing a foundation for addressing inequities. In addition, the Push-to-Web design in the GGS-II offers a complementary approach to traditional data collection methods. Web surveys can provide deeper insights by allowing respondents to share sensitive information more freely, fostering an environment of anonymity and comfort. This approach enhances the richness of data, enabling a more thorough understanding of Unmet Family Planning Needs and their determinants. This paper analyses data from GGS-II collected in the Netherlands, Moldova, Austria and France to assess quality and robustness of the Unmet Family Planning Needs index. By comparing GGS-II results with official statistics from reputable external sources, such as national health surveys or United Nations databases, we aim to evaluate the index's accuracy and reliability in capturing family planning needs across different contexts. Preliminary results indicate that GGS-II data aligns closely with official statistics in some countries, but differences emerge in others, prompting further investigation into methodological factors. The findings highlight the value of Push-to-web design to improve data quality, particularly for sensitive survey questions.

Session 3: Fertility

11:45-13:00 – Aula

Chair: Katia Begall

Name: Daniël van Wijk

Organisation: NIDI

Co-author(s): Peteke Feijten

Is a family-friendly home still a prerequisite for childbearing? How the housing crisis changed the relationship between family-friendly housing and fertility

The past decade has witnessed a growing lack of affordable housing in many rich societies. This has impaired the ability of recent cohorts of young adults to enter family-friendly housing, such as spacious, owner-occupied, single-family homes. However, little is known about how the growing lack of affordable housing has altered the types of housing in which people have children. To examine this, we develop and empirically test two competing hypotheses. On the one hand, strengthening normative standards that prescribe what constitutes a suitable home for raising children may have increased, resulting in a divergence of fertility outcomes between those who live in family-friendly housing and those who do not. On the other hand, the diminished opportunities and high costs of attaining family-friendly housing may have resulted in a growing acceptance of childbearing outside of family-friendly homes, leading to a convergence of fertility between persons living in family-friendly housing and persons who do not. We test these hypotheses using Dutch register data on the full population of childbearing age for the 2012-2022 period, during which drastic changes occurred on the Dutch housing market. Where previous studies largely focused on homeownership, we also take into account the type and size of housing. Preliminary results show that fertility is higher in owner-occupied, large, and single-family homes. Although we find some evidence for the divergence hypothesis, overall there is a remarkable stability in the link between family-friendly housing characteristics and fertility. However, fertility increased among social renters relative to private renters and homeowners. Whether this means that the attractiveness of social housing as a place to have children has increased, or whether the unobserved heterogeneity among social renters and homeowners has changed, needs further study. Overall, these preliminary findings suggest that the lack of affordable housing plays an important role in recent fertility declines.

Session 4: Ageing and retirement

11:45-13:00 – Sterrekamer

Chair: Kène Henkens

Name: Dorly Deeg

Organisation: Amsterdam UMC, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam

Co-author(s): Astrid de Wind, Cecile Boot

Workforce participation in times of rising state pension age: The role of health and motivation

This study addresses the extent to which workforce participation of older workers is affected by health in a period of rising state pension age (SPA) in the Netherlands. Transitions into and out of the workforce as well as changes in working hours are studied, each being an important aspect of workforce participation in view of the general aim to extend working lives. During 2013-2022, four 3-yearly measurement waves of the Longitudinal Aging Study Amsterdam were conducted. We distinguish three successive periods (2013-2016 (n=105), 2016-2019 (n=174), and 2019-2022 (n=135)), in each period including the age group 61-63 years at baseline that had not reached SPA at 3-year follow-up. Data included health indicators (self-rated health, functional limitations, depressive symptoms, memory complaints, tested cognitive ability) and motivations for workforce transitions. Logistic (for transitions) and linear (for working hours) regression models were controlled for age, sex, education, and partner status. Workforce participation was 59% (2013-2016), 55% (2016-2019) and 72% (2019-2022) at baseline. After 3 years, 58%, 81%, and 72% of workers had continued working; 2%, 11%, and 0% re-entered the workforce, respectively. In continuing workers, average working hours remained stable in 2013-2016 and 2016-2019 at 31 hours, but decreased to 26 hours in 2019-2022. Workers who re-entered the workforce worked 8 hours on average. Better self-rated health predicted continued working only in 2019-2022, prior to the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak, and cognitive ability predicted re-employment. Other health indicators neither predicted transitions in work status nor in hours worked. Among exiters from the workforce, a low motivation to work was more frequent in 2022 than in 2019. At ages 61 to SPA, health plays a minor role in workforce participation. Motivation to work may be more important. Whether the lower workforce participation during the COVID-19 pandemic was temporary remains for future research.

Session 4: Ageing and retirement

11:45-13:00 – Sterrekamer

Chair: Kène Henkens

Name: Camilla Marabini

Organisation: NIDI

Involuntary pathways to retirement: A multi-level perspective

As the population is rapidly ageing, increasing the workforce participation of older employees has become a key priority in policy agendas worldwide. Still, studies consistently show that around one in every four employees retires without intending to do so. Involuntary retirement has consequences for societies, as it hinders the labor force participation of older workers, but also bears long-lasting effects on individual well-being after the retirement transition. However, our understanding of different reasons for involuntary retirement transitions is still limited. In this article, we define involuntary retirement as a multi-level phenomenon that may be driven by situational (ill health), organizational (redundancy), and institutional (mandatory retirement policy) forces. While existing research has mostly looked at individual determinants of involuntary retirement transitions, we extend our investigation to organization-level antecedents. The work context plays a central role in retirement transitions, but it has seldom been investigated in retirement research. We pay special attention to organizational climates, defined as shared perceptions of the meaning attached to policies and practices in the organization. By adopting a life-course perspective, we drive hypotheses on how different organizational climates may enable or constrain the agency of employees in the retirement transition. Using Multi-Level Modeling on high-quality data from the NIDI Pension Panel Survey (NPPS), our analyses include 3,734 respondents nested in 474 organizations. In line with previous literature, around 25% of employees experience involuntary retirement. Surprisingly, the most prevalent reason for involuntary retirement is due to reaching the mandatory retirement age (AOW), reported by one third of involuntary retirees, followed by employer pressures and own ill health. Moreover, supportive organizational climates may have protective effects against involuntary retirement. Different types of organizational climate (employer support for health, accommodation, training, and post-retirement work) seem to matter for specific pathways to involuntary retirement.

Session 4: Ageing and retirement

11:45-13:00 – Sterrekamer

Chair: Kène Henkens

Name: Louise Meijering

Organisation: University of Groningen

Currents in the life course: Everyday life with dementia

In our ageing society, the prevalence of dementia and memory issues is increasing and typically associated with the end of the human life-course. People experiencing dementia or memory issues typically continue to live in the community for a prolonged period of time. However, their orientation and experience of time and place is likely to change. This article explores how people with dementia transcend the traditional course of their condition in time and place. It draws on a one-year ethnographic study carried out at a so-called Odensehuis in the Netherlands. An Odensehuis is a place where those who experience dementia or memory issues and their informal carers can spend (part of) their day, and engage in activities that they enjoy. During the fieldwork, I engaged in participant observations and informal conversations and wrote detailed fieldnotes. Preliminary findings show that the participants at the Odensehuis live with their dementia as a current, rather than as a linear process. Upward currents are experienced when recounting past experiences and places during activities and conversations, as well as during activities that require being 'in the moment', such as singing and dancing. Also, some participants are able to contextualise their visits to the Odensehuis as volunteering activities, which helps them maintain a positive sense of self. Downward currents are experienced when the participants realise what they are forgetting, and when they think or talk about the future. I found that upward and downward currents alternate at the Odensehuis, where participants find support with each other and (volunteering) staff. Overall, the Odensehuis functions a safe place where the different currents of living with dementia can come together. Theoretically, the study contributes to opening up discourses that contest traditional times and places of ageing with dementia. It can inform policies that contribute to a more inclusive living environment for people experiencing dementia and memory issues.

Session 4: Ageing and retirement

11:45-13:00 – Sterrekamer

Chair: Kène Henkens

Name: Maximillian Frentz-Goellnitz

Organisation: University of Rostock / University of Groningen

Co-author(s): Benjamin Aretz, Fanny Janssen, Gabriele Doblhammer

Differences in late-life depression between intra-European migrants and non-migrants: A prospective cohort study

Whereas migrants generally suffer more from mental health problems than non-migrants in destination countries, it is less clear whether this also applies when comparing migrants to non-migrants in origin countries. This study investigates inequalities in late-life depression between intra-European migrants and non-migrants from both a destination and origin perspective. We used SHARE panel data (2004-2022, ages 65+) from 16 countries and estimated multilevel mixed logistic regression models to assess the probability of late-life depression. In separate models, we compared migrants from Southern Europe (SE) and former socialist countries (FSC) living in Western Europe (WE) with (1) non-migrants from WE (destination perspective: 39,075 cases) and (2) non-migrants from SE and FSC (origin perspective: 50,556 cases). The results showed that, compared to non-migrants from WE (Predicted Probability [PP]=25.42%, CI=22.46-28.39), the probability of late-life depression is significantly increased for migrants from SE (PP=34.04%, CI=28.78-39.30), but not for migrants from FSC (PP=29.30%, CI=23.51-35.10). And, this increased probability of depression was primarily driven by females. There were no differences in late-life depression probabilities between non-migrants from SE (PP=36.94, CI=32.26-41.63) and migrants from SE (PP=36.67%, CI=30.57-42.77), as well as between non-migrants from FSC (PP=36.89%, CI=33.04-40.74) and migrants from FSC (PP=31.78%, CI=25.72-37.85). Our study provides evidence that the mental health disadvantage experienced by migrants compared to non-migrants in later life across Europe is driven by negative causal effects (destination perspective). In contrast, the origin perspective suggests the absence of significant or lasting selection effects. Policies to support migrants from SE – especially women – may help to reduce mental health inequalities among older people in Europe.

Session 5: Marriage and partnerships

14:00-15:15 – Kannunikenzaal

Chair: Katya Ivanova

Name: Billie de Haas

Organisation: University of Groningen

Power dynamics in couples' communication about their fertility decision-making processes in the Netherlands

Fertility research often focuses on women only but, in the case of couples, fertility can also be considered an outcome of a joint fertility decision-making process. Over time, couples interact, communicate and negotiate their individual beliefs and desires in order to create shared fertility reasoning, motivations and intentions. This paper aims to better understand the power dynamics that influence this process as observed in couples' verbal and nonverbal communication about their fertility decision-making processes in the Netherlands. Dyadic in-depth interviews were conducted with 21 couples. Participants were aged 26-54 years old and purposively recruited to represent a wide variety of background characteristics. The interviews took 2 hours and 29 minutes on average, and they were audio and video recorded and transcribed verbatim. The preliminary findings show that couples can find it difficult to discuss divergent fertility desires. (Gendered) power dynamics and interdependency could diminish verbal communication and make it difficult for partners to upkeep their individual reproductive autonomy. However, commitment, trust and 'gunnen' (in Dutch) in the relationship; aiming at maximising the couple or family level wellbeing; and together exploring various scenarios rather than taking opposite, firm stances seem to positively contribute to the joint fertility decision-making process.

Session 5: Marriage and partnerships

14:00-15:15 – Kannunikenzaal

Chair: Katya Ivanova

Name: Hilde Bras

Organisation: University of Groningen

Co-author(s): Vera de Bel

Kinning and un-kinning? Two centuries of kin marriage in The Netherlands, 1812-2021

Prior research on consanguinity and kin marriage, i.e. marital unions or partnerships among blood or affinity relations, has remained surprisingly silent on the postwar period when kin endogamy is often believed to have completely disappeared. In this study, we combine historical and sociological data to chart and understand long *durée* changes in the incidence of different types of kin marriage in the Netherlands from the 1840s until today. Our study shows that cousin marriage was common among farmers and higher- and middle-class groups during the mid-19th century, but declined steadily thereafter. Sibling set exchange marriage reached a peak of almost 5% during the last decade of the 19th century, after which it declined. A surprising recovery of sibling set exchange partnerships occurred, however, in the 1970s and 1980s among the members of the baby boom generation, while a small resurgence of cousin marriages, mainly in migrant groups, occurred during the first decade of the 21st century. Demographic opportunities, religious-ideological group formation, and class and educational assortative mating reinforced each other causing specific temporal and spatial patterns of kin marriage in The Netherlands. When we understand kinning as the active process of incorporating persons into families of kin and un-kinning as the growing indifference towards kin relations, we can conclude that in the case of kin marriage such processes should be seen as non-linear. Patterns of kin endogamy are highly path-dependent and may wax and wane conditional on historical circumstances.

Session 5: Marriage and partnerships

14:00-15:15 – Kannunikenzaal

Chair: Katya Ivanova

Name: Thijs van den Broek

Organisation: Erasmus University Rotterdam

Co-author(s): Øystein Kravdal

Gray divorce among migrants and non-migrants in Norway: Trends and mental health implications

The emerging literature on gray divorce, i.e., marital dissolutions at age 50 or later, has tended to focus narrowly on the general populations in high-income countries, with little consideration for potential differences between migrants and non-migrants. This is unfortunate, because differences in family attitudes may be expected to lead to differences between non-migrants and (specific groups of) migrants in the trends in gray divorce risks and in the mental health implications of gray divorce. The current study assesses such differences by comparing native Norwegians and five groups of older migrants (from Nordic countries; rest of Western Europe; Eastern Europe; North Africa, Middle East and Turkey; Asia) in Norway. Drawing on administrative data for the full population of Norway, age-standardized divorce rates for the period 1990-2018 are calculated for each group considered. Using data for the period 2008-2018, group-specific trajectories of mental healthcare use around gray divorce are estimated using linear probability fixed-effects models. Age-standardized gray divorce rates have risen for native Norwegians. Rates for migrants tend to be somewhat higher, but for migrants from Eastern Europe, from North Africa, Middle East and Turkey, and from Asia, no increase in gray divorce risks can be noted. Mental healthcare use rises in the years prior to divorce, peaks in the year of divorce and then declines again. This pattern is largely similar for native Norwegians and the five migrant groups considered. Despite typically more negative stances to divorce in several migrant communities, gray divorce rates tend to be higher in some migrant groups than among native Norwegians. The mental health trajectories around gray divorce in native Norwegians and in the five migrant groups considered are highly similar.

Session 5: Marriage and partnerships

14:00-15:15 – Kannunikenzaal

Chair: Katya Ivanova

Name: Maaïke van der Vleuten

Organisation: NIDI

Co-author(s): Ylva Moberg, Marie Evertsson

Work and family life for fathers in male same-sex couples

The transition to parenthood is critical in producing and amplifying gender inequalities in work and family life for different-sex couples. To try to reveal why these inequalities exist, this paper focuses on male same-sex couples. Male couples can uniquely reveal how factors such as biological fatherhood or income differences shape (un)equal patterns of work and care after parenthood for couples who are unaffected by the physiological aspect of childbirth or differences in gender. Moreover, we know very little about how gay fathers divide their labor after having children. Large-scale quantitative research on gay fathers is absent, mainly due to a lack of data. By pooling longitudinal population register data for Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Sweden, 1990-2021, we generate the largest data set on gay fathers to date. We compare income trajectories and divisions of parental leave of gay fathers before and after they have children to evaluate how parenthood shapes (un)equal divisions of labor. We identified about 300 male couples with children, compared to 3,000 female couples, highlighting large inequalities in entering parenthood between the two couple types. Gay fathers tend to be very affluent, likely due to the higher costs of their road to parenthood. Large disparities in parental leave and earnings penalties exist between biological and non-biological fathers in Denmark and Norway but not in Sweden. This is likely because Danish and Norwegian non-biological fathers must live with their children 2,5 and 5 years, respectively, to become legal parents and thus gain access to parental leave. Overall, the division of labor among gay fathers is primarily driven by legal and institutional challenges.

Session 6: Demografie en wonen

14:00-15:15 – Belle van Zuylenzaal

Chair: Daniël van Wijk

Name: Aafke Heringa

Organisation: CBS

Cohort-effecten op de woningmarkt

De relatie tussen demografie, de woningmarkt, de economie en andere domeinen is complex. Hoewel het algemeen bekend is dat demografische groei de bouwplannen aanstuurt en de levensloop van individuen de drijvende kracht is achter verhuizingen, bestaat er nog steeds een lacune in onze kennis over de manier waarop demografische transitie en verschillende cohortgroottes de economie van de huizenmarkt beïnvloeden. Wat gebeurt er als er een mismatch ontstaat tussen cohorten die op de woningmarkt beginnen en degenen die willen doorstromen of vertrekken? Welke rol spelen specifieke leeftijdsgroepen bij het stimuleren van de bouw?

Session 6: Demografie en wonen

14:00-15:15 – Belle van Zuylenzaal

Chair: Daniël van Wijk

Name: Jornt Mandemakers & Aat Liefbroer

Organisation: NIDI

Lange termijn trends in huiseigenaarschap en tevredenheid over de levensloop

In deze studie onderzoeken we hoe de leefsituatie van de Nederlandse bevolking de afgelopen ~40 jaar is veranderd met behulp van een synthetisch cohortdesign door de opeenvolgende WBO- en WoON-onderzoeken (variërend van 1981 tot 2021) met elkaar te verbinden. We onderzoeken de woonsituatie over de levensloop van verschillende cohorten en richten ons op de vraag of mensen eigenaar-bewoner zijn, of huurders in de private versus sociale sector. Vervolgens onderzoeken we de tevredenheid over de woonsituatie van deze verschillende groepen. We concentreren ons op twee vragen: 1) Zijn jongeren nu inderdaad slechter af qua huisvestingssituatie dan voorheen, zoals soms in de media wordt gesuggereerd? Welke generatie heeft het op het gebied van huisvesting het beste gedaan? 2) Hoe heeft de woningtevredenheid zich op de lange termijn ontwikkeld en zijn er opvallende patronen te ontdekken? Bijvoorbeeld verschillen tussen huurders en eigenaar-bewoners?

Session 6: Demografie en wonen

14:00-15:15 – Belle van Zuylenzaal

Chair: Daniël van Wijk

Name: Hanna van Solinge & Jornt Mandemakers

Organisation: NIDI

Woonpreferenties van mensen met een LAT-relaties

Niet iedereen die een partner heeft, woont ook daadwerkelijk samen met deze partner. Dergelijke relaties worden Living Apart Together (LAT)-relaties genoemd. In de CBS-registers en het veelgebruikte WoON-onderzoek zijn LAT-relaties niet te onderscheiden. Er zijn aanvullende middelen nodig om inzicht te krijgen in LAT-relaties. Voor Nederland is dit traditioneel het 'Onderzoek Gezinsvorming (OG)'. Sinds 2013 maakt dit onderzoek deel uit van het Generaties & Gender Programma (GGP). Dit onderzoek maakt gebruik van de GGP Nederland 2022/23. Wij richten ons op de woonvoorkeuren van mensen met een LAT-relatie en de variatie daarin over de levensloop. In hoeverre is er de intentie om binnen drie jaar met de LAT-partner te gaan samenwonen? En wat zijn de redenen en beperkingen om niet samen te (gaan) wonen? Met behulp van de GGP-NL 2022/23 onderzoeken we de waarschijnlijkheid van een LAT-relatie en daarnaast de samenlevingsintenties van mensen in een LAT-relatie. De parameters van de statistische modellen worden vervolgens toegepast op de huishoudensstatistieken van het CBS, met als doel schattingen op bevolkingsniveau te verkrijgen van het aantal mensen in een LAT-relatie en een schatting te maken van het potentiële aantal woningen dat op de woningmarkt beschikbaar zou komen als mensen in een LAT-relatie hun samenwoningsintenties zouden realiseren.

Session 6: Demografie en wonen

14:00-15:15 – Belle van Zuylenzaal

Chair: Daniël van Wijk

Name: Jasper Menger

Organisation: CBS

Vrijkomende woningen in Nederland

Onder welke omstandigheden komen bestaande woningen beschikbaar voor nieuwe bewoners? Hoe verschilt de mate waarin woningen vrijkomen tussen senioren en andere leeftijdsgroepen? Welke kenmerken van woningen en bewoners vormen de belangrijkste invloedfactoren die het vrijkomen van woningen stimuleren, of juist afremmen?

Als onderdeel van een breed innovatieprogramma voor verbeterde registratie van wonen (Woonbase) onderzoekt het CBS hoe verschillende aspecten van verhuisgedrag binnen Nederland beter kunnen worden waargenomen. Denk aan verhuisbewegingen en verhuisketens. In deze presentatie wordt de kans op het vrijkomen van woningen belicht.

Meer over de Woonbase: <https://www.cbs.nl/nl-nl/over-ons/onderzoek-en-innovatie/project/over-de-woonbase>

Session 7: International migration

14:00-15:15 – Aula

Chair: Frank van Tubergen

Name: Özge Özer

Organisation: NIDI / University of Groningen

Co-author(s): Adrien Remund, Clara H. Mulder, Matthijs Kalmijn

Return and onward migration: The role of life events

The interplay between life course events and international migration behaviour is an important aspect to understand the dynamics of emigration of immigrants. This study examines the impact of life events particularly experienced in the family sphere and labour market such as marriage, divorce, childbirth, unemployment, illness and retirement on return and onward migration. Specifically, we examine whether experiencing these events increases or decreases the likelihood of return or onward migration, and which events are more strongly associated with each type of migration. Using Dutch register data on migrants residing in the Netherlands we used discrete time event history analysis to model return and onward migration behaviour, complemented by entropy balancing to avoid bias from compositional differences between groups experiencing life events. Our preliminary findings on a subsample suggest that divorce and unemployment are associated with a higher odd of emigrating while childbirth had the opposite effect.

Session 7: International migration

14:00-15:15 – Aula

Chair: Frank van Tubergen

Name: Jisu Kim

Organisation: Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research / University of Utrecht

Co-author(s): Ingmar Weber, Emilio Zagheni

The grass really is greener on the other side: Immigration and changes in expressed sentiments on Twitter

Immigration leads to diverse outcomes, with some immigrants finding happiness in an improved quality of life, while others face emotional distress from unexpected challenges. Studying these emotional experiences is often difficult due to the high costs of surveys and limited longitudinal data. To address this, we curated high-quality data and analyzed social media activity on X (formerly Twitter) to examine how immigrants in the US express their sentiments post-migration, comparing them to non-immigrants and US locals. Using a robust panel dataset tracking individual users before and after (placebo) migration event, we assessed whether immigrants express higher levels of positive or negative sentiment. Our findings reveal that migration generally boosts positive sentiments among immigrants, even when their topics of discussion remain consistent. However, migration does not seem to significantly affect negative sentiments. Additionally, immigrants display lower positive sentiment levels than US locals, although there is no major difference in negative sentiment between the two groups. These differences highlight the varying degrees of integration for immigrants. Furthermore, gender plays a critical role, with males less likely to express positive sentiments post-migration, while linguistic ties help foster positive sentiment. This research makes a meaningful contribution by highlighting the role of social media in reflecting and shaping immigrants' emotions. It also illuminates the complex relationships between various topics, demographic characteristics, and shifts in sentiment. These insights have important implications for designing targeted support systems, such as addressing gender disparities in sentiment expression or developing tailored interventions to support immigrants' unique emotional needs. Ultimately, this study enhances our understanding of immigrants' experiences and offers practical guidance for improving their integration and well-being.

Session 7: International migration

14:00-15:15 – Aula

Chair: Frank van Tubergen

Name: Viktor Venhorst

Organisation: University of Groningen

Drivers and trends in staying behaviour of recent international graduates

Following recent nationwide policy initiatives, the internationalisation of Higher Education in The Netherlands has come under scrutiny. In particular, the debate has centered on what are generally referred to as the "stayrates" of international students, i.e. what share of these students remains in The Netherlands following graduation, and if so, are they economically active in positions that match their skills. This question is particularly pressing for institutes of Higher Education located in the more peripheral areas in The Netherlands, as they are faced with additional demographic pressures.

Session 7: International migration

14:00-15:15 – Aula

Chair: Frank van Tubergen

Name: Koen Veldman

Organisation: NIDI

Co-author(s): Jelle Lössbroek, Frank van Tubergen

Which migrants are more likely to remit? Comparing refugees and non-refugees in the Netherlands

Much research has documented the remittances-sending of migrants. However, this literature predominantly focuses on labor migrants or other non-refugee groups, or studies them separately. Hence, it is unclear whether refugees are more or less likely to remit compared to non-refugee migrants. On the one hand, refugees may be less likely to remit because they have lower incomes, because conflict in the origin country can disrupt contact to it, and because lower return intentions reduce the motivation to 'invest' the origin country. On the other hand, refugees may be more likely to remit, because their families may need it more badly, especially for refugees escaping war. In this article, we compare the remittance-sending of 3000 refugees from four countries (Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq and Somalia) to 6000 non-refugee migrants from six countries (Turkey, Morocco, Suriname, Dutch Antilles, Poland and China). Using mediation-analyses on Dutch survey-data, we found that refugees are less likely to remit than non-refugee migrants. This difference is partially explained by their lower incomes but mainly by the refugees' disrupted contact with the origin country. Lower return intentions among refugees do not explain the difference in remittance-sending. In addition, we found no evidence that refugees that escaped for wars were more likely to remit than those that escaped for political reasons, contrary to our expectations. Implications for future research and limitations are discussed.

Session 8: Data & methods

14:00-15:15 – Sterrekamer

Chair: Bram Hogendoorn

Name: Frans Willekens

Organisation: NIDI

Computational methods in kinship demography

Computational demography uses computer-intensive methods to improve the documentation and understanding of population processes. Kinship demography is the demographic study of networks of kin (size, composition). Network dynamics is an outcome of births, deaths and adoption, and the formation and dissolution of partnerships. Sources of network data are (a) multigeneration surveys, (b) multigeneration population registers, and (c) the relationships embedded in demographic rates. Two classes of methods exist to extract family relationships from rates of birth, death and partnership formation and dissolution. The first relies on mathematics, the second on computer simulation. All family relationships can be derived from dyadic data (parent-child; couples). The proposed computational method consists of database queries. The queries are logical operations deduced from the rules governing family relationships. Kinship enumeration easily lends itself to logic programming, a style of programming that applies domain-specific logical reasoning to represent and acquire knowledge and answer questions. Three types of queries are distinguished. The first identifies family members and obtains their identification numbers (ID). The second retrieves selected attributes of family members, provided they are included in the database. For instance, the number of siblings by age and sex at an instant is derived from the sex and dates of birth and death of members of a population. Half-siblings are identified from parent-child dyads. The third type consists of utilities.

Session 8: Data & methods

14:00-15:15 – Sterrekamer

Chair: Bram Hogendoorn

Name: Gert Stulp

Organisation: University of Groningen

Co-author(s): Pau Vila Soler, Javier Garcia-Bernardo

Predicting fertility outcomes with networks

People's networks are considered an important factor in explaining whether people want and have children. Existing research has rarely quantified how well we can predict fertility outcomes, and the importance of networks relative to other factors is entirely unknown. Here we use unique data from a representative sample of Dutch women reporting on over 18000 relationships. We use several machine learning techniques, ranging in complexity from LASSO regression to Graph Neural Networks, to examine how well we can predict five different fertility preference variables. Top models accounted for 5 to 45% of the out-of- sample variation in the different outcomes. Tree-based methods (e.g., XGBoost) performed best but only by a small margin. Graph Neural Networks required least preprocessing of the data and led to high predictive ability scores and thus presents a useful tool for personal network analyses. We discuss how the differences in predictive ability across different techniques are useful in understanding what traditional models may miss. We further discuss to what extent our results provide support for different mechanisms of social influence, and conclude that particularly those people in the network desiring children or those choosing to be childfree are important and understudied.

Session 8: Data & methods

14:00-15:15 – Sterrekamer

Chair: Bram Hogendoorn

Name: Hester Booi

Organisation: Gemeente Amsterdam

Co-author(s): Annika Smits

Household statistics and shared housing: registrations and perceptions

Shared housing has become more prominent as a housing arrangement in urban areas. There is, however, limited knowledge about the number of households involved in shared housing. In the case of Amsterdam, statistics on cohousing arrangements are scarce. The city's register provides information on the number of people registered at an address, whether residents are related, and whether they own the dwelling. However, when two people share an address it is hard to know whether they, for example, have an unregistered partnership or live together as flatmates. When computing household statistics it may therefore be necessary to combine registered information and survey data on how the household situation is perceived. In this presentation we will investigate how the registered household situation relates to the perceived household situation. These results will be used to improve statistics on households and shared housing. In addition, we describe how shared housing, particularly in the private rental sector, has become more important for moving to and living in Amsterdam.

Session 8: Data & methods

14:00-15:15 – Sterrekamer

Chair: Bram Hogendoorn

Name: Julia Rokos

Organisation: NIDI

Co-author(s): Olga Grünwald

The shift to mixed mode survey data collection: The case of the Generations and Gender Survey (GGS)

Although face-to-face interviewing remains the main form of data collection in large scale surveys, rising costs and declining response rates have prompted a shift to self-completion web surveys. Face-to-face surveys are more expensive, less flexible, and far more time consuming, exactly those attributes which make web surveys more appealing. However, to what extent do large scale surveys allow for the use of computer assisted web interviewing (CAWI) as the main form of data collection? Furthermore, what are the consequences and implications for large scale surveys in transitioning to self-completion data collection modes? This paper uses the case of the Generations and Gender Survey (GGS) and its shift to a primarily CAWI-focused approach to data collection. The GGS has adopted a mixed-mode data collection, with web-based methods serving as a primary component in its second round (GGS-II). The GGS offers high-quality, longitudinal, and cross-national open-access data on population and family dynamics. To date, 26 countries or territories have participated in, or secured funding for, GGS-II Wave 1. Most countries opted for an entirely web-based data collection mode, with several countries offering alternatives such as face-to-face interviewing or paper-and-pencil surveys as a fallback method. The transition to mixed-mode data collection in GGS-II demonstrates the feasibility of conducting large-scale surveys primarily through web-based methods. This shift, which was significantly accelerated during the Covid-19 pandemic, addresses precisely those issues which make face-to-face interviewing less appealing in conducting large-scale survey research. GGS data shows that countries who fielded in web mode only showed minor deviations in the representativity of their data, especially across age groups. There is however a slight over-representation of women and, in some countries, an over-representation of higher educated respondents.

Session 9: Childhood inequalities

15:45-17:00 – Kanunnikenzaal

Chair: Joeke Kuyvenhoven

Name: Fijnanda van Klingeren

Organisation: CBS

Co-author(s): Marjolijn Das, Jan van der Laan

The influence of the population network on the language proficiency of children of migrants

Proficiency of the Dutch language plays a pivotal role at the start of the school career of children. Children who are not exposed to the Dutch language at home, start their primary education with a disadvantage, which may negatively affect their school performance. Although the school performance of children of migrants in the Netherlands continues to improve, it lags behind compared to children of Dutch origin. To reduce this performance gap, it is of great societal importance to gain insight into the factors influencing language proficiency of children of whom both parents were not born in the Netherlands. Using language test results of final-grade primary school students as indicator of Dutch language proficiency and an extensive (registered) population network database from Statistics Netherlands, this paper investigates to what extent the share of people from children's own origin group in the network – isolation – influences their Dutch language proficiency. Results show that for children whose parents are both born abroad a higher share of people from the own origin group in the network is related to a lower score on the language section of the test. This suggests influence of the network: exposure - or a lack of exposure – to the Dutch language through the personal network affects language proficiency of primary school students.

Session 9: Childhood inequalities

15:45-17:00 – Kanunnikenzaal

Chair: Joeke Kuyvenhoven

Name: Yuxuan Jin

Organisation: NIDI

Co-author(s): Matthijs Kalmijn, Helga de Valk

The timing of parental death and school performance: A sibling fixed effects analysis

Many studies have documented that parental death is negatively associated with children's education, but few studies focused on how this effect varies depending on the timing of parental death. Using administrative data in the Netherlands on 1,705,483 children, including 59,152 children who experienced parental death, we examine how the timing of parental death affects children's standardized test scores in the final year of primary education (around age 12). We estimate sibling fixed effects models to account for unobserved confounders shared between siblings. The timing of parental death ranges from 4 years after the test to 12 years before the test. Our results show that parental death lowers children's test scores, with the effects varying over time in an inverted U-shape pattern. We observe a decline in test scores even before parental death, suggesting anticipatory grief effects. Losing a parent is more harmful if it occurs shortly before or during the year of the test, or 7 to 12 years before the test when the child is very young. In contrast, the negative effect is weaker when the loss occurs 3 to 6 years before the test. We also find that the timing trajectories of parental death's effects differ between maternal and paternal loss, and vary by cause of death, including cancer, cardiovascular diseases, suicide, and other external causes.

Session 9: Childhood inequalities

15:45-17:00 – Kanunnikenzaal

Chair: Joeke Kuyvenhoven

Name: Gabriele Mari

Organisation: Erasmus University Rotterdam

Resilience or social reproduction? ‘Prosocial behaviour’ and care interdependencies after parental job loss

There is growing interest in family resilience across disciplines and in policy circles. In this paper, I ask “what” and “whom” is resilience “for” by examining the ripple effects of job loss across generations. While recent research has highlighted a host of adverse consequences associated with parental job loss, earlier studies suggest that children might also bounce back, adapt or transform – be ‘resilient’, in short – when economic crises trigger widespread unemployment. Based on longitudinal data for Ireland (2008-2021), I show that children whose parents lost their jobs during the Great Recession score higher than their peers on a common measure of resilience, ‘prosociality’, i.e., supportive attitudes and behaviours expressing empathy towards others. However, this ‘resilient’ response is not evenly distributed. Effects are driven by girls approaching adolescence in households where the primary caregiver, most often the mother of the child, experienced job loss. By relying on the survey’s multi-informant approach, I find that teachers do not observe the same changes in children’s prosociality that mothers reported. Prosociality might thus reflect processes within the household to which teachers are not privy. Focusing on family relations, I find that prosocial responses to job loss are larger among girls who have younger siblings. In line with a ‘social reproduction’ account of these patterns, adolescent girls whose mothers have lost a job during the recession are more likely to care for a younger sibling, especially when their mothers reprise paid work. Hence, following parental job loss, higher prosociality in children either promotes or simply reflects the development of gendered care interdependencies within families. Findings could stimulate debates on how economic crises can fuel within-family processes and disparities that a descriptive notion of resilience might obfuscate.

Session 9: Childhood inequalities

15:45-17:00 – Kanunnikenzaal

Chair: Joeke Kuyvenhoven

Name: Marjolijn Das

Organisation: CBS / Erasmus University Rotterdam

Co-author(s): Mayke Nollet

Trends in inequality of opportunity: Studying heritability of education over time

Inequality of educational opportunity and its trend over time is one of the most prominent policy concerns in Western countries. Inequality of educational opportunity can be defined as a situation where children with similar innate capabilities have different educational outcomes as a result of their different circumstances, most notably their family background. In the social sciences, intergenerational transmission of education is often used as an indicator of inequality of opportunity. However, studies on intergenerational transmission are unable to distinguish between genetic and (family) environmental effects, and shared genes are known to be a major source of resemblance between parents and children. Twin studies are able to parse out the effects of genes versus the shared environment by making use of the difference in genetic relatedness of monozygotic versus dizygotic twins. The current study uses population-wide data on twins and siblings of Dutch origin, birth cohorts 1964-1997, from integral registers of Statistics Netherlands to assess trends in genetic influence ('heritability') and the influence of the shared environment on educational attainment. We adapt the classical twin design to estimate heritability in the absence of information on zygosity. Over these thirty-four years heritability of educational attainment increased and the influence of the shared environment decreased. In the earliest birth cohorts, 1964-1967, heritability was low (0.07) and the influence of the shared environment was sizeable (0.33). In the most recent birth cohorts, 1995-1997, heritability was 0.71 and no influence of the shared environment remained. Hence, over these birth cohorts educational attainment has become increasingly determined by innate capabilities. The results strongly suggest a decrease in inequality of opportunity in the Netherlands in these birth cohorts of Dutch origin. Future research should focus on other groups, especially younger cohorts and non-Dutch origin groups.

Session 10: Life course transitions

15:45-17:00 – Belle van Zuylenzaal

Chair: Matthijs Kalmijn

Name: Andrea Colasurdo

Organisation: Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research / University of Groningen

Co-author(s): Clara H. Mulder, Diego Alburez-Gutierrez

The impact of family background and household composition on internal migration: Evidence from the Netherlands

This study investigates the roles of family migration background and household composition in shaping internal migration patterns in the Netherlands between 1850 and 1950. Drawing on the Historical Sample of the Netherlands, which provides detailed migration histories and household data for individuals during a period of industrialization and population growth, this research explores intergenerational influences on migration decisions. Specifically, it examines the extent to which parental migration history and multi-generational household structures affect the likelihood of internal migration over the life course. Our analysis integrates event history analysis and multinomial logistic regression, focusing on individuals' first internal migration event. We classify households into three categories: single-generation, two-generation, and three-generation or extended households. Parental migration background is categorized based on whether one or both parents migrated. Preliminary findings suggest that individuals with parents who migrated are significantly more likely to migrate themselves, emphasizing the role of intergenerational transmission of migration capital," which includes knowledge and social networks facilitating mobility. Conversely, multi-generational households reduce migration likelihood, likely due to the strong local attachment and support networks they provide.

Session 10: Life course transitions

15:45-17:00 – Belle van Zuylenzaal

Chair: Matthijs Kalmijn

Name: Clara Mulder

Organisation: University of Groningen

The roles of siblings and school peers in young adults' life-course events

Young adulthood is a key period in people's life courses: many young adults leave the parental home, change residence, enter into tertiary education, and enter the labour market. The outcomes of these life-course events in terms of, for example, education level, socio-economic status, and residential locations are crucial to young adults' well-being, both immediately and later in life. Parental influences are key to young adults' life courses. Yet, young adults spend much of their time with siblings and school peers (particularly classmates), whose influences complement parental influences. At the Dutch Demography Day, I will present the new research project 'The roles of siblings and school peers in young adults' life-course events', supported by an NWO Open Competition Large grant. The project's aim is to identify and disentangle the roles of siblings and school peers in the occurrence, timing, and outcomes of important life-course events in young adulthood: Leaving the parental home; returning home; spatial mobility (residential mobility, internal migration); events in educational trajectories (entry into and graduation from tertiary education; dropout from education); and labour-market entry. The project will use Dutch longitudinal register micro-data from the System of Social-Statistical Datasets, on young adults aged 16-30. We will analyse the data using advanced statistical models, including specific applications of multilevel models, event-history analysis, nested logit models and discrete-choice models. The paper for which this presentation forms the start will lay the theoretical and agenda-setting foundation for the project.

Session 10: Life course transitions

15:45-17:00 – Belle van Zuylenzaal

Chair: Matthijs Kalmijn

Name: Aat Liefbroer

Organisation: Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute

The rise in singlehood among 30-45 year olds: Do trends differ by gender and educational attainment?

In the Netherlands, the experience of not living with a partner (single or singlehood for short) is increasing during the main family formation ages. This is evident using ‘snapshot’ data, e.g. Household Statistics, but is also evident if men and women are followed during the whole period between ages 30 and 45. Pooling survey data from 2003 (OG 2003), 2014 (NKPS wave 4) and 2023 (GGS II – Wave 1), I calculated that the percentage of persons that experience any episode of singlehood between ages 30 and 45 increased from 19% among those born in 1935 to about 52% among those born in 1975. This increase is visible among every type of singlehood trajectory. It is true for those being permanently single between ages 30 and 45, but also for people experiencing singlehood because they only start living with a partner after age 30 (pre-partner singles), those who separate after age 30 and did not repartner (post-partner singles) or those who separated and repartnered (friction singles). In this presentation, I analyze differences in these trends by gender and level of education. Singlehood between ages 30 and 45 increased more among men than among women. It also increased more among those with low levels of education than among those with high levels of education. However, educational patterns were very different for men and women. High-educated women show patterns that differ a lot from men, but also from mid- and low-educated women. Over time, their risk of experiencing permanent singlehood (and some other types of singlehood) decrease, whereas it increases for all other gender-educational level groups, in particular for low-educated men. In the presentation, I will present results, interpret them in the light of theories about the increase in singlehood, and discuss their policy implications.

Session 10: Life course transitions

15:45-17:00 – Belle van Zuylenzaal

Chair: Matthijs Kalmijn

Name: Mustafa Firat

Organisation: Radboud University

Co-author(s): Mark Visser, Hanna van Solinge, Kène Henkens

Retirement adjustment among dutch older adults: The role of gendered life histories

Population aging and the changing landscape of retirement have increased the significance of understanding the process whereby people integrate retirement into their lives and feel comfortable with the accompanying changes. Known as retirement adjustment, this process is determined by various factors, such as finances, health, marital situation, social participation, and labor market exit conditions. However, although retirement adjustment is often considered to be influenced by experiences in earlier life, the relationship between life histories and retirement adjustment is underexplored, and existing studies have several limitations. These studies usually focus on single events in one domain of life at a specific moment in a person's life, offering narrow insights into the cumulative impact of life course experiences. To address these limitations, we examine 13 experiences across four decades (ages 20-59) in multiple domains of the life course before retirement, including work, family, health, caregiving, and volunteering. Adopting a holistic approach, we integrate a gender perspective to uncover differences in how men's and women's life histories shape their retirement adjustment. Using latent class analysis with data from the Netherlands Interdisciplinary Demographic Institute's Pension Panel Study, we identify three life course clusters for both genders. The first and most common cluster (~60%) involves retirees with stable trajectories and minimal adverse events, reflecting a secure life course. The second cluster (~18%) consists of retirees who developed turbulent and precarious trajectories marked by unemployment, divorce, and health problems. The third cluster (~22%) covers retirees with dynamic trajectories characterized by upward career mobility alongside caregiving and volunteering activities. To show how these trajectories predict retirement adjustment, we are performing regression analyses, the results of which will be available before Dutch Demography Day. Our results will present a comprehensive picture of retirement adjustment among Dutch older adults by incorporating diverse life courses and highlighting gender-specific patterns.

Session 11: Labour market and family

15:45-17:00 – Aula

Chair: Viktor Venhorst

Name: Leen Marynissen

Organisation: University of Antwerp

Co-author(s): Julie Maes

Gender dynamics in 2nd generation migrant couples' labour market participation after union formation

Whereas the labour market integration of the large and increasing share of individuals with a migration background stands high on both academic and policy agenda's in Western European countries, the dominant individual perspective in current research overlooks gender dynamics within couples and social contexts shaping their labour market trajectories. Such gender and couple dynamics may differ considering the heterogeneous partner choice of second generation migrants and different normative influences of their first generation parents. Hence, using population-wide longitudinal register data for Belgium for the period 2016-2021, this paper studies gender dynamics in second generation migrant couples' labour market integration after union formation. Its aim is threefold. First, it documents to what extent gender dynamics in partners' employment after union formation vary between different couple types (depending on partners' origin and generation). Second, it examines to what extent partners' employment after union formation aligns with their employment potential. Third, it explores the potential explanatory role of parental characteristics. As such, our findings contribute to understanding the interplay between gender, migration background, social contexts, and labour market trajectories, which will offer valuable implications for policies aimed at the labour market integration of individuals with a migration background and gender equality in Western European countries.

Session 11: Labour market and family

15:45-17:00 – Aula

Chair: Viktor Venhorst

Name: Ewan Pools

Organisation: University of Antwerp

Co-author(s): Jonas Wood

The role of childrearing in the effectiveness of active labour market policies: How is timing of the transition to employment affected according to migration background?

Large differentials in labour market participation of migrants in comparison to the native population have led to an increasing focus on the activation of these groups on the labour market. One of the components of these activation policies are untargeted active labour market programmes [ALMPs], mainly provided by public employment services. It has already been shown that effectiveness of these programmes varies according to migration background. Meanwhile, research has shown that migrants often have different family formation patterns, as well as a different uptake of formal childcare and division of care responsibilities. Particularly after the transition to parenthood, this seems to have an effect on the careers of migrant women. Previous work has also shown that the presence of children significantly reduces women's participation in training programmes. Therefore, the question is raised how, when women actually do enrol, the effectiveness of various untargeted active labour market programmes varies according to childrearing responsibilities for migrant women. Using data from the Flemish 2005-2016 MIA Panel, and by combining propensity score matching and hazard models, this paper will explore variation timing of the transition to employment after four different untargeted active labour market policies, by migration background and childbirth. More specifically, we will focus on the differential effects of classroom and workplace training for migrant women having a child under 3. Controlling for various socio-demographic factors and adopting a life course perspective, this paper is among the first to consider the intersection of family dynamics in ALMP effectiveness with migration background. Findings could inspire policymakers to tailor their activation policies to specific groups, enhancing policy effectiveness, but also contribute to the wider literature on ALMP efficacy in diverse social contexts.

Session 11: Labour market and family

15:45-17:00 – Aula

Chair: Viktor Venhorst

Name: Judith Koops

Organisation: NIDI

Unintended births and labour market outcomes: Evidence from European panel data

Gender differences in labour market outcomes in Europe have narrowed over recent decades, but substantial disparities persist after childbirth. This phenomenon, known as the child penalty, results in significant reductions in women's labour market participation, working hours, and wages. While access to family planning methods is believed to have played a crucial role in improving women's educational attainment and pre-childbirth labour market attachment, little is known about the impact of family planning on labour market outcomes after childbirth. This study addresses this gap by examining how unintended births influence women's labour outcomes in Europe. Unintended births remain a reality in Europe, with up to 30% of births classified as unintended even among women in stable relationships. Despite their prevalence, unintended births are rarely incorporated into analyses of the child penalty, which typically assume that women plan their family and career decisions. By introducing unintended births into this discourse, this study provides novel insights into how family planning affects the labour market outcomes of mothers and the societal mechanisms that sustain the child penalty. Two potential mechanisms are proposed. On one hand, unintended births may disrupt women's career aspirations, negatively impacting their labour market outcomes. On the other hand, women with intended births might plan their family and career in ways that conform to personal preferences and societal gender norms around good motherhood, which could negatively affect their labour market outcomes. This study evaluates this relationship by examining how unintended births influence women's labour market attachment and hours worked in Europe, using data from longitudinal surveys from 14 countries.

Session 11: Labour market and family

15:45-17:00 – Aula

Chair: Viktor Venhorst

Name: Roselinde van der Wiel

Organisation: University of Groningen

Co-author(s): Viktor Venhorst, Rolf Lyneborg Lund & Patricia McMullin

The consequences of migration at the time of union formation for an individual's earnings and employment

Internal migration is often linked to the pursuit of higher income, better employment, or access to education. However, many individuals migrate for social or family reasons rather than economic ones. This paper investigates the consequences of migration for union formation, specifically the start of co-residence, on an individual's earnings and employment status. This type of family migration is underexplored, and its economic consequences have not been previously studied. We analyse which partner migrated within the couple, acknowledging that the costs and consequences vary depending on this factor. Our cross-national study includes Denmark, the Netherlands and Finland, using multinomial logistic regression models with aggregated microdata from population registers. We compare labour earnings and employment status between the year before ($t-1$) and the year after ($t+1$) union formation (t). Preliminary findings from Denmark ($n=319,181$) reveal that migrating at the start of co-residence, compared to not moving or short-distance moving, is predominantly associated with negative changes in earnings and employment for those who were employed prior to co-residence. Individuals who migrate have a considerably higher likelihood of experiencing a decrease in earnings, becoming unemployed, or exiting the labour market. Meanwhile, those who migrate also have a somewhat higher likelihood of experiencing an increase in earnings compared to those who do not move or move only a short distance. Previously employed women who migrated for co-residence experience more adverse earnings and employment consequences than previously employed men who migrated. Additional factors found to increase the risk of experiencing an earnings decline include having prior children or a baby with the new partner (particularly for women), having an immigrant background, low income, and lacking tertiary education. For those unemployed in the year prior to union formation, migration in the year of union formation does not significantly affect the likelihood of exiting unemployment.

Session 12: Mortality & health

15:45-17:00 – Sterrekamer

Chair: Daniel Zazueta-Borboa

Name: Adrian Kunz

Organisation: Tilburg University

Co-author(s): Adrien Remund

Investigating differences in Healthy Life Expectancy (HLE) between migrants and natives in Germany using Multistate Lifetables

A well-established demographic finding is that migrants tend to enjoy longer life expectancies (LE) than natives which is often referred to as the Migrant Mortality Advantage (MMA). However, it is also known that migrants tend to have a disadvantage in most health measures resulting in a shorter healthy life expectancy (HLE) than natives. This paradox has been confirmed in Belgium, the Netherlands, England and Wales. All studies relied on the not very data-demanding, but potentially biased Sullivan method if its assumptions are violated. To prevent these biases and investigate the causes of this paradox, we used multistate models. Our research questions were to investigate to what extent LE and HLE at age 50 differ between migrants and natives, and how the different transitions between health statuses and death contribute to these differences. We used German data from the Survey of Health, Ageing and Retirement in Europe (SHARE) to model and predict transition probabilities between good and bad self-reported health (SRH) and death by age, sex and migration status. These probabilities were used to apply multistate models and obtain HLE and LE by sex and migration status. Finally, we applied a decomposition method to estimate the contribution of each transition to the differences in (healthy) life expectancies between migrants and natives. Our results confirm that migrants in Germany enjoy a higher LE than natives (men: +0.74 years, women: +0.79 years) but suffer from a shorter HLE (men: -2.28 years, women: -2.78 years). The decompositions show that migrants' lower death probabilities, particularly for unhealthy people, explain migrants' higher LE while migrants' higher incidence and lower recovery probabilities mainly contribute to migrants' shorter HLE. This study supports previous research confirming migrants' health disadvantages, but future studies should investigate the causes of migrants' lower recovery and higher incidence probabilities such as specific diseases.

Session 12: Mortality & health

15:45-17:00 – Sterrekamer

Chair: Daniel Zazueta-Borboa

Name: Sophie Stroisch

Organisation: Carl von Ossietzky University Oldenburg / University of Groningen

Co-author(s): Michael Mühlichen, Pavel Grigoriev, Tobias Vogt

Avoidable mortality in the European Union - a spatial analysis of cross-border district mortality.

With healthcare access across countries via the EU Health Directive, cross-border regions offer a unique opportunity to study mortality patterns. These regions benefit from geographical proximity to services across borders but face varying healthcare systems. Despite this, they remain understudied in European mortality research. This study aims to investigate spatial differences in avoidable mortality in EU cross-border regions to explore the potential impact of different healthcare systems. District-level population and death counts from statistical authorities of nine European countries from 2002-2004 and 2017-2019 are used. Age-standardised death rates (ASDR) are calculated for amenable and preventable mortality. In addition, potential gains in life expectancy (PGLE) are estimated using cause-deleting life tables. Initial findings from six countries reveal higher ASDRs and greater inequalities in the Czech, Polish, and Slovak border regions compared to those in Italy, Switzerland, and Austria, highlighting a persistent East-West gradient. Differences in PGLE between border regions and respective non-border regions were minimal, suggesting that domestic healthcare systems matter more than European policies. This study contributes to understanding regional healthcare disparities and mortality. It delves into cross-country disparities transcending national borders and the dynamics of causes of death.

Session 12: Mortality & health

15:45-17:00 – Sterrekamer

Chair: Daniel Zazueta-Borboa

Name: Govert Bijwaard

Organisation: NIDI

Co-author(s): Damiano Uccheddu

Parental educational similarity and inequality implications for health in Sweden

Multiple studies show that higher parental education is associated with improved health outcomes for offspring. While most research has focused on the effects of mothers' education and, to a lesser extent, fathers', only a few studies have examined the combined effect of both parents' education levels on children's health. Our analysis contributes to the existing literature in three ways. First, we consider how both maternal and paternal education affects children's health and the hypothesized socioeconomic pathways. Second, we also aim to explain the underlying mechanisms using causal mediation analysis. In doing so, we focus on adult children's cognitive and non-cognitive abilities as mediating factors in our analyses. Third, we examine how parental education impacts different dimensions of children's health in mid-adulthood. This approach allowed us to assess disparities within health outcomes, shedding light on specific pathways through which parental education may confer advantages or mitigate risks in particular health domains, thus providing a more nuanced understanding of intergenerational health transmission. The data used included socio-demographic information, and health assessments from the Swedish Military Conscription Data. Additionally, information on the conscripts' parents' educational level and the conscripts' own education. The study only includes males who were born between 1950 and 1960, conscripted for military examination between 1969 and 1981, and have at least one parent with known information. The study population consists of about 500,000 men. Preliminary results indicate that higher parental education generally leads to improved health outcomes, with hypertension being the most impacted. Children's intelligence and psychological assessment mediate a significant part of the relationship between parental education and offspring's health outcomes. This study contributes new insights into the combined effect of both parents' education on children's health outcomes and highlights the mediating role of cognitive and non-cognitive skills in this relationship.

Session 12: Mortality & health

15:45-17:00 – Sterrekamer

Chair: Daniel Zazueta-Borboa

Name: Adrien Remund

Organisation: University of Groningen

Co-author(s): Oris M., Fagot D.

Near-miss events as a measure of repeated survival

The Strehler-Mildvan model of ageing and mortality postulates that survival is made possible by (decreasing) intrinsic vitality remaining high enough to sustain basic physical functions and surpassing occasional external challenges. Despite successfully predicting empirical observations such as the Gompertz mortality law, this model and its components (vitality and challenges) are deemed impossible to observe at the individual level. In this study, we attempt to capture some of it by leveraging a unique dataset (VLV) consisting of retrospective life calendars for 3000+ old people living in Switzerland. This dataset contains information about life-threatening health events over the whole life, which can be interpreted as 'near-miss' events. These can be in turn conceptualized as occurrences of external challenges that were narrowly avoided to survive until the next one. This allows us to estimate first how many times people of a given age 'cheated death' in order to survive to this age. Secondly, we estimate the effect of individual social, economic and psychological resources on the number of near-miss events using multivariate models.

Workshops on Inclusive Demographic Communication

Inspired by contemporary discussions about inclusivity in higher education and demography, students of the Master Population Studies in Groningen have worked on various ways to encourage an inclusive communication of demographic concepts. This project was supported by IUSSP, with the aim of diffusing it to the global demography community. In this workshop, students will engage the conference participants in the following three topics: (1) playing a card game addressing the question ‘Where is home?’ as alternative to the standard question ‘Please tell us where you are from?’, (2) learning sign language phrases for key demographic concepts to support oral presentations; and (3) designing an alternative to the binary gender population pyramid capable of including more diverse definitions of gender.

Workshop 1: Is Home a Place or a Feeling?

13:00-14:00 – Aula

Presenters: Juliette Maatman, Jem Nario, Ben Roberts (Aya Youssef, David Buckingham, Karolína Karbanová)

Home and placehood are crucial identity markers that carry both implicit and explicit meanings. Personal dimensions—such as experiences, family, place, and language—shape the concept of “home” and impact the question “where are you from?”. During this workshop, we will first present how people with migratory background define “home” as a complex concept that often diverges from one’s birthplace or heritage. We will then propose alternative questions that respect personal narratives, which we will explore by playing a self-designed card game entitled “where is home?”.

Workshop 2: Communicating key demographic concepts with sign language

13:00-14:00 – Aula

Presenters: Billie de Haas and Adrien Remund, on behalf of Sofía Aguilar Enriquez, Lyanne Ampuero Merino, Milica Arsenovic, Mazen Marouani and Jia-Yi Tong

In academia, communicating complex ideas is essential. Yet, barriers persist that prevent some audiences from fully participating in the exchange of knowledge. One such barrier is the reliance on spoken or written words that may exclude those who do not share a common language or rely on non-verbal means of communication. During this workshop, we will first present how we identified the eight most important demographic concepts and then how we developed sign language phrases for them. Next, we will present these signs and train them together.

Workshop 3: A gender-inclusive population pyramid

15:15-15:45 – Aula

Presenters: Bilgehan Kurt and Anne Mombarg (Julia Kok, Ilse Sieben, Leon van der Sluis)

Despite growing numbers of non-binary and transgender individuals, they remain often underrepresented and unacknowledged in traditional demographic analysis and communication such as population pyramids. A more gender-inclusive population diagram would enhance the representation and recognition of marginalised identities, ultimately promoting social justice. During this workshop, we will first present possible alternatives to traditional population pyramids developed with non-binary individuals and demographers. We will then invite everyone to use their imagination and propose their own vision of a gender-inclusive population diagram.