

CPS NEWS

The Newsletter of the Canadian Population Society

July 2019

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The Latest News

CPS Meeting – Recap

The CPS 2019 annual meeting held many quality sessions over a three-day period and a pre-conference graduate development workshop. This year's program included 15 sessions, the highest number since 2000, 55 paper presentations, and 11 poster presentations. The participants included over 30 international authors from China, the United States, Japan, Botswana, and Sweden, and 26 presenters with non-university affiliations. The meeting also featured a CSA-CPS-CRDCN joint session entitled "New Data and Research Potentials."

New CPS Council

The results of the CPS election are now available. Lisa Strohschein (University of Alberta) was elected as CPS President and will also serve on the Journal Subcommittee. Yoko Yoshida (Dalhousie) has agreed to serve an additional term as Vice-President and Chair of the Program Committee. There are several new Councillors: Sarah Brauner-Otto (McGill), Stacey Hallman (Statistics Canada), Anthony Jehn (Western), and Anna Zajacova (Western) join Martin Cooke, Nicole Denier, and Melissa Moyser on Council. Drs. Brauner-Otto and Zajacova will also serve on

the International Committee. Stacey Hallman will serve on the National Committee and adjudicate the Student Paper Award with Martin Cooke. The CPS thanks past-President, Michael Haan, for his extended service as CPS President and the out-going Council members, James Falconer, Eugena Kwon, and Laura Wright.

From Frank Trovato – Past CSP Editor

Early in 2018, the Canadian Population Society and the Department of Sociology at the University of Alberta began negotiations to move the journal, *Canadian Studies in Population* (CSP), to Springer Nature publishers. The Editor notified the CPS and the Department of Sociology that he would not continue editing the Journal under the new publishing regime. Early in the process, the discussions focused on publishing the first issue of CSP with Springer Nature under a new editor in January 2019. The move to Springer Nature was formalized in the summer of 2018. To facilitate the transition between the outgoing and incoming editor, Professor Michael Haan, Western University, stepped in as Interim Editor.



In October 2018, a public call for a new editor was issued. The selection committee consisted of the CPS President, the Chair of the Department of Sociology at the University of Alberta, a Springer Nature representative, two CPS Councillors, and a Faculty member of the Department of Sociology, University of Alberta. Professor **Simona Bignami** (Department of Demography, University of Montreal) was appointed new Editor-in-Chief of *Canadian Studies in Population*. The move to [Springer Nature](https://www.springer.com) represents a significant turning point for the *Canadian Studies in Population*.

Credit for this important development goes to Professor Sara Dorow, Chair, Sociology, University of Alberta and CPS President, Michael Haan. Sara and Michael worked diligently to secure the best possible arrangements for the Journal and the new editor.

As outgoing editor, I am pleased to welcome Professor Simona Bignami to the editorial desk of Canadian Studies in Population. Under Dr. Bignami's leadership and the expert management of Springer Nature, the Journal will continue to prosper, building on the dedicated work of past editors.

Canadian Studies in Population could not have achieved success as an important Canadian scholarly venue for demographers without the sustained significant support from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. On behalf of the CPS and the demographic community of Canada, I gratefully acknowledge the support of SSHRC.

Many thanks to the Sociology Department at the University of Alberta and the Canadian Population Society for their collegial assistance over the years. My heartfelt appreciation also to the many authors that contributed their works to Canadian Studies in Population. I am especially grateful to the members of the Editorial Board for their wise counsel, and to all those scholars that devoted their time and expertise to review manuscripts and contribute book reviews. In closing, my gratitude extends to the readers of Canadian Studies in Population and all CPS colleagues for their support and encouragement they have shown me over the years.

Thank you Frank!

The CPS offers its gratitude to Professor Frank Trovato for his dedicated service as CSP editor for the past decade. Under his stewardship our journal's visibility increased and its impact is surely to increase even further with the migration to Springer.



The CSP is moving in promising new directions under Dr. Bignami's leadership. In an [Editorial](#) in the current issue, she discusses the transition to Springer and her goals for the journal. She writes that her "main objective is to minimize delays in giving feedback to authors and increase the number of articles submitted to *Canadian Studies in Population* by diversifying its portfolio."

To accomplish the latter goal, Dr. Bignami plans to introduce several new features:

- Research notes of up to 3000 words
- Research synthesis of up to 5000 words
- Policy perspectives of up to 2000 words
- Letters to the editor

These types of articles will be published alongside standard research articles.

CPS Membership Report

The CPS membership (paid accounts) increased to 142 members in 2019 from 124 members in 2018. This is the highest membership level that CPS has had in the past decade. The 2019 membership also included a record number of student members (39).



Please help support our membership. CPS memberships can be opened or renewed on [our website](#).

Job Bank

The CPS Council is in the process of considering options for improving its job bank, and is looking to the membership for suggestions. In a recent CPS poll of students, an issue that arose was the need for a centralized hub to search for jobs (in the academic, public, and private sectors) that are applicable to students trained in demography or a related field.



Our current webmaster, Sean Waite, has done excellent work in maintaining the [job board](#) with a list of relevant job postings. The biggest challenge is disseminating information about jobs without overwhelming the CPS membership with emails. To accomplish this, the CPS has established a Twitter account and will be sharing information about job postings, and other news, over the Twittersphere. Follow our Twitter account (@canpopsoc) and retweet our job postings and encourage your students to do so as well.

Student Paper Competition

The CPS received 19 abstracts for the 2019 Student Paper Competition. A total of five final papers were submitted to the competition. This year's winner is **Timothy Kang**, for his paper entitled "The Transition to Adulthood of Contemporary Delinquent Adolescents." Kang's study used data from the National Longitudinal Study of Youth (NLSY) to compare delinquent and non-delinquent youth on the timing of sequence of "social bonds," especially employment and partnering, during the transition to

adulthood. Mr. Kang is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Sociology at the University of Toronto.



James Falconer (left) presenting Timothy Kang with the Student Paper Award.

Training Opportunities

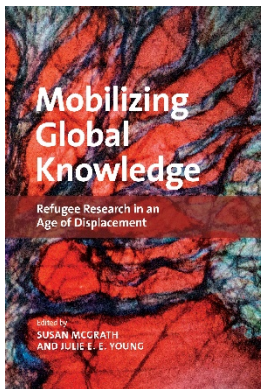
[CRDCN Emerging Scholars Grant](#). The CRDCN offers a \$1,000 grant to Ph.D. students undertaking thesis-related research in one of the 30 RDCs or branches. Candidates can apply online any time during the year, when they meet the application conditions. Grantees will be recognized as CRDCN Emerging Scholars and will be encouraged to present their research results at the annual conference or other CRDCN sponsored events, when feasible and appropriate.

Population Data BC (PopData) is offering two online certificate courses, starting this September: [Working with Administrative Data](#) and [Population Health and Geographic Information Systems](#). PopData also offers a webinar series on [Introduction to Data Science](#), which includes modules on Machine Learning, Regression and Regularization Algorithms, Advanced Supervised Learning, and Advanced Unsupervised Learning. All webinars have been recorded and posted on PopData's YouTube Channel.

The Prentice Institute

The Prentice Institute has a new Research Affiliate, **Dr. Daniel J. Dutton**, Dalhousie University. He was a Prentice Institute post-doc in 2015-2016 and is now Assistant Professor at Dalhousie University's Department of Community Health and Epidemiology, based at Dalhousie Medicine New Brunswick.

Population Health Researcher, Statistician, and Prentice Institute Affiliate **Olu Awosoga** has been appointed Board of Governors Teaching Chair at the University of Lethbridge. His appointment was celebrated at the University's Spring Convocation Ceremony in May.



In *Mobilizing Global Knowledge: Refugee Research in an Age of Displacement*, Editors Susan McGrath and Prentice Research Affiliate **Julie E. E. Young** bring together topics and perspectives from across a network of researchers looking at refugee-related issues. The book addresses ethical methods in research practice, the possibilities of social media for data collection and information dissemination, environmental displacement, transitional justice, and related topics.

Julie Young, Tier 2 Canada Research Chair in Border Studies and Prentice Research Affiliate, and other members of the Border Studies Group at the University of Lethbridge are hosted a conference, *The Line Crossed Us: New Directions in Critical Border Studies*, on June 14 and 15. Watch for a peer reviewed anthology to be made available on themes from this conference.

Prentice Institute Research Affiliate **Reginald Bibby** has, with Joel Thiessen and Monetta Bailey, released a new book, *The Millennial Mosaic: How Pluralism and Choice Are Shaping Canadian Youth and the Future of Canada*. Referencing both past and recent data they provide an up-to-date reading on how Millennials see the world — their values, joys, and concerns, their views of family, sexuality, spirituality, and other Canadians, and their hopes and expectations looking to the future.

THE MILLENNIAL MOSAIC

How Pluralism and Choice Are Shaping
Canadian Youth and the Future of Canada

Reginald W. Bibby

Joel Thiessen

Monetta Bailey

The work of Prentice Institute Research Affiliates has been mentioned in the following recent news articles: **Peter Kellett** responds to the question “Why is there so little talk of attracting men to female-dominated jobs?” with particular information on the low percentage of men in the nursing profession in a *Globe and Mail* article of April 18. **Heidi MacDonald**, who is writing a book on *Women's Suffrage in Canada* is quoted in CBC article on the 100th anniversary of women obtaining the right to vote. **Constantine Passaris** discusses changing technology and the “Internetization” of the global economy in a human interest article in the spring Fredericton, New Brunswick publication, “Fred Scene”. **Cheryl Currie's** graduate researcher **Kat Chief Moon-Riley** on epigenetic impact of Indian Residential School was covered in the *Lethbridge Herald* in a March 19 article: “A mother's experience

of residential school may have physical impacts on her children. The next generation may be faced with high blood pressure, cardiovascular problems and a compromised immune system,” which points out the need for further research to confirm the finding.

Upcoming Events

[Families in Canada Conference 2019](#) – Satellite Event, University of Calgary. On October 8, 2019, the Werklund School of Education at the University of Calgary will be hosting a FAM2019 satellite event, featuring panels and presentations with local programming that will explore themes and topics of interest through a family lens.

[Second International Seminar on New and Emerging Family Forms around the World](#). Manila, Philippines, January 20-21, 2010. The IUSSP invites researchers to submit a short 200-word abstract and an extended abstract (2-4 pages, including tables) or a full, unpublished paper. The deadline for submission is August 1, 2019.

[CRDCN 2019 National Conference](#) – Advancing the Health and Well-Being of Canadians. October 24-25, 2019, Halifax, Nova Scotia. Pre-conference workshops (Introduction to SAS, Intermediate SAS, What’s New in the RDCs) will be held on October 23.

[8th African Population Conference](#) – Harnessing Africa’s Population Dynamics for Sustainable Development 25 years after Cairo and Beyond. Entebbe, Uganda, November 18-22, 2019.

[Looking Backward, Looking Forward: African Demography in Historical Perspective](#). Nairobi, Kenya, April 2-3, 2020. Deadline for submissions of papers: September 20, 2019.

CPS Members

Eugena Kwon has been selected as a CRDCN Emerging Scholar by the Canadian Research Data Centre Network. She will be starting a tenure-track position as Assistant Professor at St. Mary’s University in July 2019.

At the International Conference on Ageing in a Foreign Land occurring in June, Prentice Institute Director, **Susan McDaniel** presented the opening keynote address,

“Ageing in a New Land: Sculpted by Time and Waves” at Flinders University in Adelaide, Australia.



David A. Swanson (Professor Emeritus, University of California Riverside) was listed as a feature author in *Population Review* (Volume 58, Number 2) for his article entitled “Estimating the Underlying Infant Mortality Rates for Small Populations, Including those Reporting Zero Infant Deaths: A Case Study of Counties in California.” As part of the “Summer at the Census” program, Dr. Swanson was recently invited to the US Census Bureau to give seminars on population projections and estimation methods.

Statistics Canada

Releases to the RDCs

The Research Data Centres (RDCs) provide access to microdata from Statistics Canada population and household surveys, administrative data, and linked data files. The complete list of data holdings in the RDCs can be searched on the Statistics Canada [webpage](#).

March 2019

- Apprenticeship Grants and Canada Apprenticeship Loans
- LSIC-IMDB – Extended Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada. The Longitudinal Survey of Immigrants to Canada (LSIC) and tax data from the Longitudinal Immigration Database (IMDB) have been linked to provide an extended analytical file. The file was updated to 2016 in March 2019.
- Labour Force Survey (LFS), February 2019

April 2019

- Canadian Income Survey (CIS) 2017 and revised CIS 2012 to 2016
- The Survey on Early Learning and Child Care Arrangements (SELCCA) – 2019

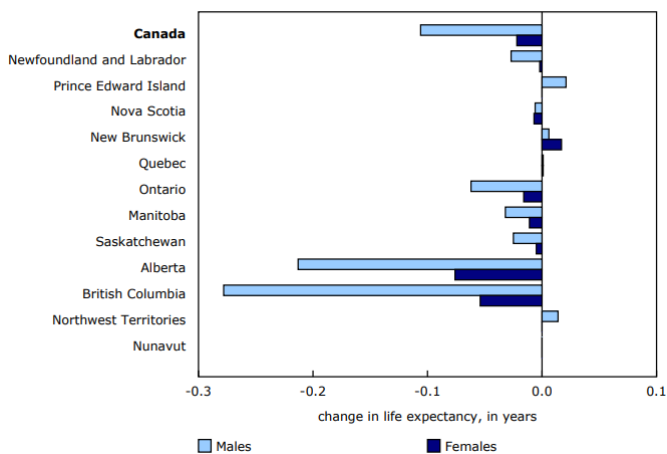
May 2019

- Canadian Cancer Registry (CCR) – updated to 2016
- Canadian Armed Forces Members and Veterans Mental Health Follow-up Survey (CAFVMHS) – 2018
- National Cannabis Survey (NCS) – 2019, Wave 1
- Education and Labour Market Longitudinal Platform (ELMLP)
- General Social Survey (GSS) – Victimization, Cycle 28 – Supplemental Geographic File (North).
- Survey of Household Spending (SHS) – 2017

New and Noteworthy

Life tables released by Statistics Canada in May 2019 show that life expectancy in Canada did not increase for the first time in four decades. This lack of improvement was “largely attributable to the opioid crisis,” according to the release, entitled [“Changes in life expectancy by selected causes of death, 2017.”](#)

Contribution of opioid-related overdoses to changes in life expectancy:

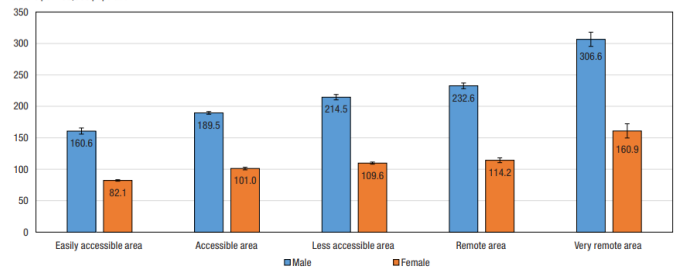


The [May issue \(45.1\)](#) of *Survey Methodology* is a special joint issue in collaboration with *The International Statistical Review* in honour of Professor J. N. K. Rao’s contributions, and features articles on small area demography.

[Does geography matter in mortality? An analysis of potentially avoidable mortality by remoteness index in Canada](#) – Rajendra Subedi, T. Lawson Greenberg, and

Shirin Roshanafshar. A new study by Subedi et al. demonstrates the effect of “remoteness” on the mortality rate in Canada.

Figure 1
Preventable mortality rate by sex and relative remoteness

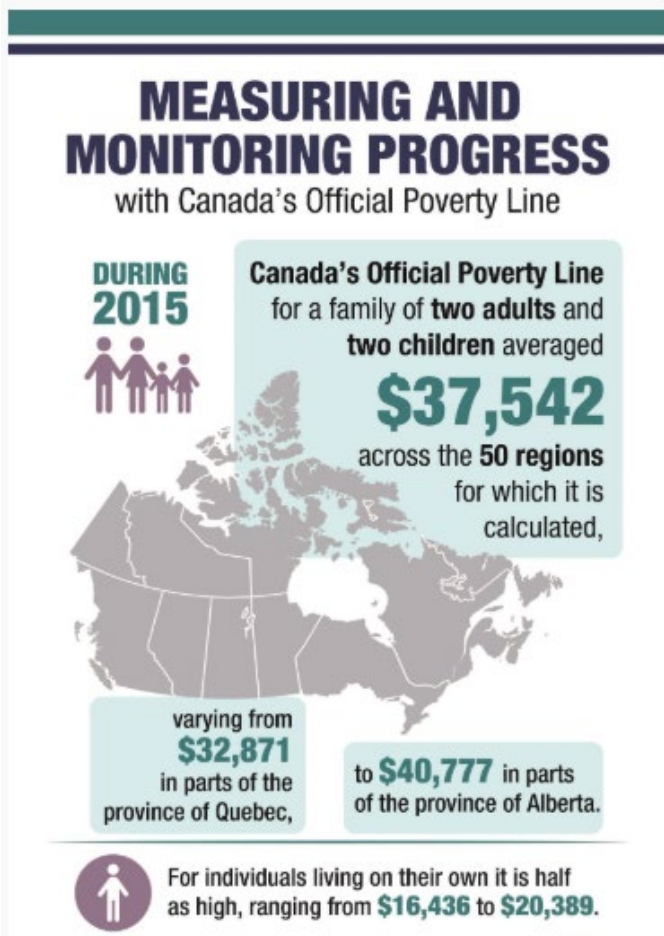


New Series – Statistics Canada is releasing articles and infographics in a *Family Matters* series based on data from the 2017 General Social Survey on Families. This series provides a deeper dive into the evolution of Canadian families across the life course and the influence of social, cultural, and economic factors on living arrangements and family structure. Latest releases:

- [Living alone in Canada](#)
- [Long-lasting relationships](#)
- [Being common law, married, separated or divorced in Canada](#)
- [New Relationships after separation or divorce](#)
- [Being separated or divorced and aged 55 or older](#)

The Social Policy Simulation Database and Model (SPSD/M – version 27.1) was released in June. The SPSD/M is a tool that allows researchers to answer “what-if” questions about the “potential effects of changes in taxes, earnings, demographic trends, and a wide range of other factors.” The new version incorporates changes from the 2018 income tax forms and 2019 Budget announcements.

Statistics Canada launched the [Dimensions of Poverty Hub](#) this July. The Hub allows Canadians to track progress on poverty reduction and features data on factors such as low income, income inequality, food insecurity, low-paid work, and other topics.



In 2018, the Canadian Government adopted the Market Basket Measure (MBM) as Canada's official poverty line. The MBM is a basket of goods and services (e.g., healthy food, shelter, clothing) that Canadians require for a modest standard of living, and it reflects the prices of these items in communities across Canada.

A new study by [Evra and Kazemipur](#) examines impact of social capital and ethno-cultural characteristics on the employment income of immigrants to Canada. Using longitudinal data, the study examines the employment income of a cohort of immigrants who arrived in Canada in 2001 over a 15-year period (from 2002 to 2016). According to the report, among working-age immigrants, 44% had relatives and 63% had friends living in Canada prior to admission. While the presence of relatives does not appear to matter much, Evra and Kazemipur found that having friends prior to immigration and expanding one's network after arrival is an important factor. For example,

despite have similar entry earnings, immigrant men with pre-admission friends earned about \$10,000 more than those without pre-admission friends after about 10 years in Canada. The authors suggests that this earnings differential could reflect the "strength of weak ties" or the greater source of information that immigrants with friends have about labour markets and employment opportunities. A similar network effect was also observed for immigrant women.

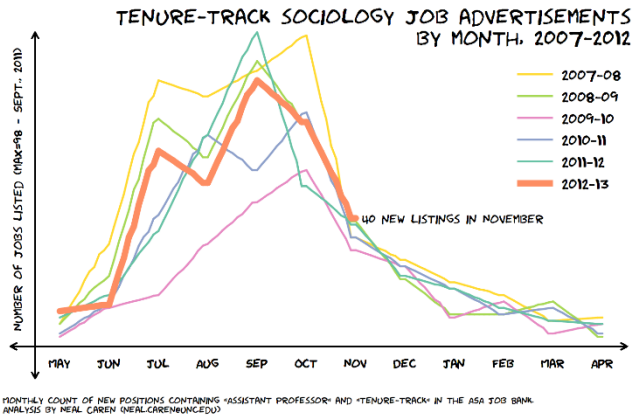
Career Paths

The Canadian Population Society (CPS) is introducing a new *Career Paths* feature. In future newsletters, the CPS will conduct a series of interviews with demographers working in different sectors (academic, government, private sector, and NGOs) and at different career stages about their career paths. The aim of this initiative is to provide students with insights on how to succeed on the job market.

To launch this feature, Eugena Kwon, the CPS Student Representative, conducted a poll of current Canadian graduate students (working in demography or a related field) to better understand their concerns in preparing for the job market. In this issue, we discuss the highlights of this poll.

One of the challenges that graduate students face is how to turn their academic credentials into a career. Of the students in the CPS poll, 57% expected to follow an academic career path, which is consistent with national estimates. But tenure-track jobs have become increasingly scarce, and most other academic jobs, such as sessional instruction or research contracts, are temporary and part-time positions.

When the CPS asked students about the key barriers they encountered in preparing for a career, one respondent commented on the "instability for current academics" and another on the "uncertainty of job market prospects in Canada."



According to a 2012 Statistics Canada study, there is an imbalance between the number of tenure-track positions and the number of candidates available to fill them. Louise Desjardins, the report’s author, observed that the number of university professors in Canada almost doubled between 1981 and 2007, but without gains in permanent jobs. In 1980/81, 35% of professors aged 35 and under held a tenured or tenure-track position. This proportion decreased to 12% by 2006/2007, a 23 percentage point decline.

A recent survey from the University of Toronto provides a snapshot of the job market prospects for Canadian PhD students. The survey included over 10,000 graduates who received their doctoral degrees between 2000 and 2015. Among all graduates, about one-half found employment in post-secondary education, which includes tenure-track positions, but also teaching-stream positions and research jobs. About 30% of all graduates landed tenure-track jobs.

What Types of Jobs do Social Science Graduates Get?

Tenure-track	978	41%
College/Teaching	141	6%
Sessional	114	5%
Private sector	285	12%
Public sector	285	12%
Other	555	24%
	2358	100%

The majority of social science graduates (52%) ended up with academic jobs, and fewer took jobs in either the private or public sectors, which is consistent with the

career aspirations of most individuals who complete a doctoral program. However, six-in-ten graduates did not get a tenure-track position and 48% were employed outside academia.

Since the University of Toronto is Canada’s top institution for graduate studies, these figures can perhaps be interpreted as the best case scenario for Canadian students, with graduates from other Canadian schools presumably having comparatively lower chances of landing a tenure-track job.

Besides a shortage of jobs, a paucity of information about the jobs that are available is another issue that students raised. One of the respondents in the CPS poll lauded the CPS for its efforts in disseminating information about jobs, but also lamented that these were “mostly for PhD level” students.

The findings from the poll also suggested that there is a deficit of professional development outside the classroom. In particular, students commented on the lack the networking opportunities to integrate themselves in their field, to meet experts from outside their home department, and to “feel a part of the wider disciplinary community.”

As Desjardins points out, most students pursue a doctoral degree to become a professor, but an increasing number of PhD students are considering job opportunities outside academia. About half of current students from the CPS poll don’t plan on a career as a professor. According to our poll, students have limited information about non-academic jobs and the skills needed to be hired for these jobs. As one student summed up: “Grad students are almost given no choice but to look at a career in academia because there’s simply no information on the world outside, which I think is a large source of stress and confusion for graduate students.”

The students the CPS polled offered several concrete suggestions to improve their outcomes:

- Networking opportunities to connect with prospective employers
- Information sessions on non-academic career prospects

- Workshops on how to transfer skills and fit them to demand in the private sector
- A centralized job hub that focuses on positions for people with quantitative skills and training in demography

CPS People

The Canadian Population Society is a scientific association that seeks to improve knowledge and understanding about the quantitative and qualitative characteristics of human population. It seeks to promote the study and development of the science of demography in both its empirical and theoretical aspects.

Past-President: Michael Haan
President: Lisa Strohschein
Vice-President: Yoko Yoshida
Secretary-Treasurer: Sean Waite

Councillors:

Sarah Brauner-Otto
Martin Cooke
Nicole Denier
Stacey Hallman
Anthony Jehn (Student Representative)
Melissa Moyser
Anna Zajacova

Journal Editor: Simona Bignami
Newsletter Editor: [Christoph Schimmele](#)
Webmaster: Sean Waite