

CPS NEWS

The Newsletter of the Canadian Population Society

March 2026	
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CPS Reports

President’s Message



This is my final President’s Message as the sitting president of the CPS. I would like to thank CPS members’ continued support for the Society. I am concluding my term on a high note, as there is growing enthusiasm

for the upcoming CPS-ADQ joint conference at Statistics Canada (May 25-28). The CPS received over 70 abstracts, the highest number in the past four years of my tenure as Vice President/Program Chair and President.

In this message, I am sharing with you several updates since the January issue of *CPS News*. Additional details regarding the CPS-ADQ joint conference (e.g., registration) will be provided in a later section of this issue and circulated via the listserv in the next two months.

1) CPS election nominations

Nominations for President, Vice President, and three Councillor positions were called on January 28 and closed

on March 8. The number of nominations received did not require us to hold an election.

I am pleased to announce that **James Falconer** (Statistics Canada) has been elected as the next CPS President by acclamation. James’ bio can be found in a later section of this issue. Congratulations, James!

The new Vice President and the three Councillors will be announced shortly, so stay tuned!

2) PAA “Honor a Colleague” for Thomas K. Burch – Update

In the September 2025 issue of *CPS News*, **Dr. Frank Trovato** (Professor Emeritus, University of Alberta) encouraged CPS members to contribute to the [Population of Association of America \(PAA\)](#) Fund in honour of our late CPS member, Professor Thomas K. Burch.

Dr. Trovato informed me on March 2 that this campaign has been successfully completed. Professor Burch’s will be recognized at the [2026 PAA annual meeting](#).

3) Updates on CPS @ PAA 2026

If you are attending the [2026 PAA annual meeting](#) (May 6-9, 2026 @ America’s Center, St. Louis, Missouri), please consider attending two CPS-initiated events.

First, we continue the tradition of organizing a CPS-PAA joint session by inviting Canadian/American demographers. Details of the session “Fertility Patterns and Developments across Countries” can be found in a later section of this issue.

Second, the International Committee (Max Stick and James Ivenuiuk) has arranged a venue for the CPS Happy Hour. CPS members will receive one complimentary beverage, and appetizers will be served. CPS members are welcome to bring guests, however, only CPS members who have renewed their 2026 membership are guaranteed one free drink ticket. All other attendees may be asked purchase their own drinks. We hope to see you at [Bridge Tap House & Wine Bar](#) (1004 Locust Street, St. Louis,) at 6-8pm on Friday, May 8!



America's Center, St. Louis, Missouri

CPS-PAA Joint Session

The Canadian Population Society is pleased to announce that it will sponsor a session titled “Fertility Patterns and Developments across Countries” during the PAA annual meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, on Friday, May 8 (3 pm-4:15 pm) (Room: 104 @ America's Center Convention Complex). Presentations will examine a range of topics including fertility among undocumented immigrants in the U.S., the impact of childbirth on women's education and earnings, meanings of and decisions about childlessness, and fertility changes in the United States. The five invited presenters are **Ana Canedo** (Université de Montréal), **Shelley Clark** (McGill University), **Mahjoub Amanichakani** (McGill University), **Holly Hummer** (University of British Columbia), and **Monica Alexander** (University of Toronto).

CPS-ADQ 2026 joint annual meeting at Statistics Canada

The Canadian Population Society and *l'Association des démographes du Québec* (ADQ) will hold the [2026 joint annual conference](#) at Statistics Canada headquarters in Ottawa on May 25-28. This is the first joint CPS-ADQ conference in over a decade, and the first ever hosted at Statistics Canada.

The 4-day bilingual conference will bring together researchers, students, and public servants to investigate the most pressing issues in demography and population science in Canada. The conference program will include 15 regular sessions, a poster session, a special panel featuring the Chief Statistician and leading thinkers on population data in Canada, special sessions on the causes and consequences of low fertility and the future of the family, a special session featuring innovative work from StatCan's demography division, a banquet dinner, prizes for best poster and best student paper, and more. Please see the [tentative conference program](#) for a list of sessions and presenters.

Presenters must be members of CPS or ADQ and must [register](#) by April 24 (the registration system allows presenters to pay for membership and conference registration at the same time). Audience members must register for either in-person or online attendance.

Here is a short summary of events by day. See the [full schedule](#) for further information.

- Location: Conference room, main floor, Jean Talon Building, 170 Tunney's Pasture Driveway, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0T6 [\[link\]](#).
- Date and Time: 09:00 to 16:00 (plus afternoon and evening events), May 25-28.
- Monday, May 25: ADQ sessions in French; ADQ annual general meeting.
- Tuesday, May 26: Welcoming remarks from the Chief Statistician; CPS and ADQ sessions with live translation; Special StatCan Demography session;

Special panel on what population data does Canada need?; Poster session; Banquet dinner.

- Wednesday, May 27: CPS and ADQ sessions with live translation; Special session on low fertility and the future of the family.
- Thursday, May 28: CPS sessions in English; CPS annual general meeting.

Conference attendees are responsible for arranging their own transportation and accommodation. Please see our [Accommodations](#) webpage, where CPS-ADQ organizers have arranged a discount code for a limited number of rooms in a University of Ottawa summer residence, and provided a list of suitable hotels.



Jean Talon building, Ottawa

On behalf of the conference organizers, we look forward to welcoming you to Ottawa in May!

Warm regards,

James Falconer
VP Canadian Population Society,
Program Chair CPS 2026 annual meeting

Meet the New CPS President



Dr. James Falconer is the Chief of a research and development section in the Census Futures project at Statistics Canada. James completed a BA in Sociology from the University of Lethbridge, a PhD in Sociology

from McGill with a specialisation in social epidemiology and population dynamics, and a postdoc at University of Alberta in aging and life course demography. His research has been published in *Social Science and Medicine*, *Canadian Studies in Population*, *Recherches Sociographiques*, and *BMC Medical Ethics*, among others. James started at StatCan in the Demography division in 2017, then completed a 1-year work assignment in strategic research at Indigenous Services Canada in 2018 before returning to StatCan. Since 2022, he leads an analytical team in the Census Branch at StatCan responsible for the research and development of the future vision of Census-taking in Canada. James has been the Vice President of the Canadian Population Society since 2024, and was the program chair for the 2025 CPS annual meeting in Toronto and co-chair of the upcoming 2026 joint CPS-ADQ annual meeting in Ottawa in May. James lives near Ottawa with his family and enjoys the beautiful geography of Eastern Ontario.

CPS Member News

On March 16, **David A. Swanson** served as an external examiner in regard to the Ph.D. dissertation proposal by Anton Ivlev, Automation of the population forecasting process: Development of methods and algorithms (Automatizace procesu populačního prognózování: Vývoj metod a algoritmů), Demography Programme, Charles University, Prague.

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CSiP Abstracts

New articles published in *Canadian Studies in Population* since January 2026.

James C. Wiley, [Why do suicide rates increase in the Spring and decrease in the Fall? Insights from Canadian suicide rate and death rate data spanning 2010 to 2020](#)

We examine the hypothesised population dynamic that non-suicide-related deaths systematically remove potential suicides from the population. If true, suicide rates and death rates should exhibit a consistent negative correlation. In Canada, weekly suicide and death rates display stable seasonal patterns that typically fluctuate in opposite directions. However, the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted this pattern, with elevated mortality occurring during atypical times of the year. This disruption provides a unique natural experiment to test whether corresponding changes occurred in suicide rates. Using Canadian time-series data from 2010 to 2019, we model weekly suicide rates as a function of death rates, and then apply this model to predict suicide rates for 2020 using observed 2020 death data. Results show that, on average, suicide rates decrease by 0.28 standard deviations per 1 standard deviation increase in the death rate. The model accounts for 23.6% of the variance in observed 2020 suicide rates. Notably, a sharp increase in death rates during the spring of 2020 coincided with a suppression of suicide rates, and this suppression was captured by the model. These findings support the existence of a demographic mechanism in which elevated non-suicide mortality reduces the number of individuals at risk of suicide, thus dampening suicide incidence during periods of high mortality. Further analysis suggests that higher death rates during colder seasons, likely driven by communicable disease transmission and increases in circulatory system diseases, coincide with suppressed suicide rates. This attributes certain fluctuations in suicide rates to competing risks population dynamics.

Douglas William Hanes and Sean A. P. Clouston, [Cognitive aging in the context of the housing crisis: Trends and evidence from the Health and Retirement Study](#)

The 21st Century has witnessed a global housing crisis, which is also occurring in the context of population aging. We hypothesized that housing instability may expose older adults to greater risk factors for onset of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias (ADRD). Using the Health and Retirement Study (HRS), a population-based study of older US adults, we analyzed whether changes to older adults' housing patterns were associated with earlier onset of accelerated cognitive decline consistent with ADRD. We first replicated results showing that renting is becoming more common over time in older adults, while homeownership is becoming less common both in subsequent years and among later-born cohorts. Next, using non-linear multivariate analyses we found, in separate analyses, that renting, moving more frequently, living with non-partner others, and greater housing stress were all associated with earlier onset of accelerated cognitive decline indicative of ADRD. Given the growing population of older adults, this study suggests that the housing crisis may also cause worsened cognitive health in old age. More research is warranted to determine whether other markers of housing affordability or quality might be associated with accelerated cognitive decline in older adults.

Announcements

[Calls for Papers](#)

Wittgenstein Centre Conference 2026 – Demography and Human Capital, December 1-2, 2026, Vienna Austria. Deadline for submission of abstracts: April 30, 2026.

The Asian Population Association has organized an [International Webinar on Parenthood in the 21st Century: Fertility Services into Focus](#) to be held on August 17-18, 2026. Deadline for submission of abstracts: April 20, 2026.

Special issue of *Vienna Yearbook of Population Research on Demographic perspectives on migration*. Deadline for submissions: May 15, 2026.

Statistics Canada

Brief Reports

Who Is Most at Risk of Persistent Low Income in Canada

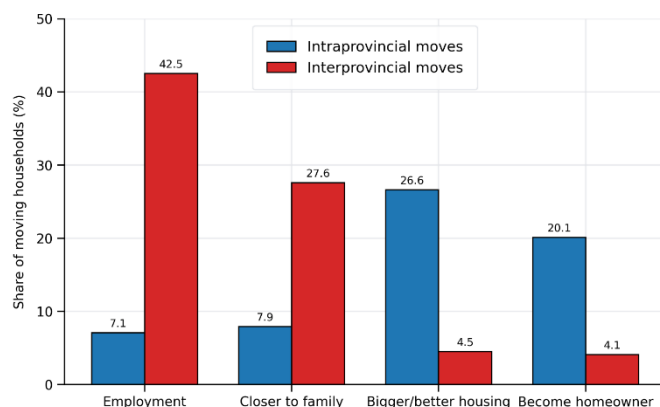
A new Statistics Canada study finds that nearly 1 in 10 Canadian tax filers experienced persistent low income between 2016 and 2022. Indigenous people, female lone-parent families, and individuals without a high school diploma were the most affected, with persistent low-income rates of 20%, 23%, and 21% respectively. The study, based on linked Census and tax data, shows that education plays a protective role. Low-income gaps between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people virtually disappeared for those holding a university degree. Although many Canadians exited low income after 2016, some groups—particularly seniors, Indigenous people, and those with limited education—were more likely to fall back under the threshold.

Many Canadians Move to Improve Housing, While Jobs Drive Moves Across Provinces

A new Statistics Canada study shows that one-third of Canadian households changed residences within the past five years, with most moves occurring within the same province. The 2022 Canadian Housing Survey found that upgrading to a larger or better-quality home was the most common reason for moving, cited by 25.3% of households. Motivations shifted sharply for those crossing provincial borders. Among interprovincial movers, 42.5% relocated for employment, while 27.6% moved to be closer to family, far outpacing housing-related reasons. The report also highlights generational differences. Younger adults often moved for school or work, while older Canadians tended to move to reduce housing costs or address health needs. Overall, the findings underscore how life stage, distance and

economic pressures shape Canada's internal migration patterns.

Why Canadians move: Reasons by movement type (CHS 2022)



Source: Statistics Canada, Canadian Housing Survey (CHS) 2022.

Articles published in *Economic and Social Reports* from February to March 2026:

Volume 6, Number 2

[Estimates of gross domestic product by gender: An update to the 2022 report](#)

[National and provincial retention of graduates from health degree programs in Canada](#)

[Firm size and labour productivity growth in Canadian residential construction](#)

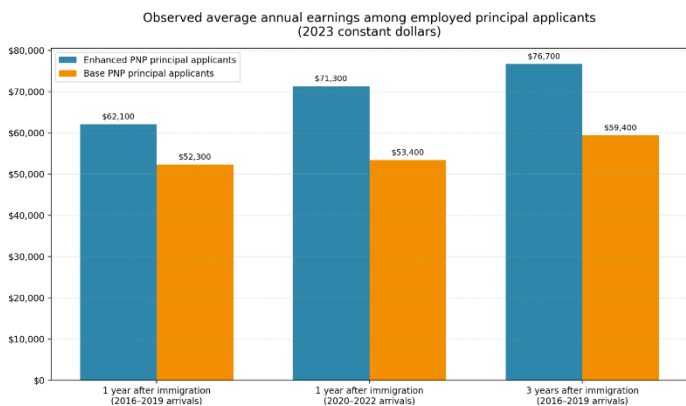
[The educational pathways of first-generation postsecondary students](#)

Editor's Pick: [Economic outcomes of provincial nominees: Differences between Entry and non-Express Entry](#).

A new Statistics Canada study shows that enhanced screening through the federal Express Entry system improved the employment outcomes of immigrants selected through the Provincial Nominee Program (PNP). The enhanced PNP admission stream attracts higher-skilled immigrants, which contributes to their labour market success.

Enhanced applicants were more likely to hold university degrees and work in managerial or professional occupations, contributing to earnings that were 19% to

34% higher one year after arrival than PNP applicants who were admitted without enhanced screening. The spouses and dependants of enhanced PNP immigrant also had higher earnings than the spouses and dependents of regular PNP applicants.



Volume 6, Number 3

[Measuring Canada's economic performance relative to the United States](#)

[Potential occupational exposure to artificial intelligence across selected cultural industries in Canada](#)

[The NEETEST youth: Not in employment, education, or training, excluding short transitions](#)

[Trends in the wealth gap between immigrant and Canadian-born families from 2016 to 2023](#)

Articles published in *Health Reports* from February to March 2026:

Volume 37, Number 2

[Comparison of physical activity and sedentary time measured with the ActiGraph GT3X-BT and Actical accelerometers](#)

[Risk factors for substance-related acute toxicity deaths in Canada from 2016 to 2021: Findings from the 2016 Canadian Census Health and Environment Cohort](#)

Volume 37, Number 3

[Assessing obesity beyond body mass index: Integrating physiological and functional indicators of impairment in national health surveillance](#)

[Validating the Warwick-Edinburgh Well-being Scale for the positive mental health surveillance of adults in Canada](#)

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: Amélie Quesnel-Vallée

President: Lisa Kaida

Vice-President: James Falconer

Secretary-Treasurer: Stacey Hallman

Councillors:

Ana Canedo

Kyran Cupido

Camila Iciazcyk (Student Representative)

James Iveniuk

Maude Pugliese

Max Stick

Alison Yacyshyn

Journal Editor: Lisa Strohschein

Newsletter Editor: [Christoph Schimmele](#)

Webmaster: Yoko Yoshida

Twitter Feed: Shayla Batty

[@canpopsoc](#)

CPS Membership

Support the CPS by becoming a member or renewing your membership today. Memberships can be renewed

on the [CPS members'](#) webpage. We also encourage our members to enrol their students.

Regular Membership:

- 1 year (\$115.00)
- 2 year (\$205.00)
- 3 year (\$300.00)

Student Membership:

- 1 year (\$45.00)
- 2 year (\$85.00)

Emeritus Membership (65+ years)

- 1 year (\$45.00)