



**BSPS Annual Conference 2024
9-11 September
University of Bath**

CALL FOR PAPERS: DEADLINE TUESDAY 30 APRIL (11.59pm UK time)
[SUBMIT HERE](#)

You are invited to submit proposals for presentations and posters for the British Society for Population Studies' 51st Conference, to take place at the University of Bath, 9-11 September 2024. The conference promises rich opportunities to share knowledge and meet fellow demographers working in university, government and other practical settings, as well as space for early-career researchers to develop networks in the field.

A provisional programme and booking forms will be available in May/June. There will be a full programme of simultaneous sessions of submitted papers, plus hands-on workshops and invited plenary sessions.

Abstracts for papers and posters across the entire demographic and population studies spectrum are welcomed. Any empirical or conceptual approach is welcome, with a demographic or population studies focus. Abstracts for papers reporting on research should clearly outline aims, method(s), and results (even if preliminary at the time of submission). Conceptual papers should offer clear expositions of how the paper contributes to the field. Viability of strands and sessions will depend on sufficient submissions being received.

Information on the Conference will be posted to the BSPS website:

<https://www.lse.ac.uk/international-development/research/british-society-for-population-studies/annual-conference>

Please choose your strand/session below and submit via the online submission form before midnight at the end of Tuesday 30 April 2024. A short abstract of up to 250 words is requested. **Please read the Notes at the end of this call for papers.**

Submit online at: <https://forms.office.com/e/T2DTjRRerV>

Strands and sessions with organisers (who may be contacted with queries):

Ageing

In this strand, we call for papers on key questions related to population ageing and inequalities. These might include, for example, papers that address issues arising for older people and their families in mental and physical health; cognition; emotional wellbeing; income, wealth and financial security; social engagement and employment; care provision and receipt; and intergenerational relations. Papers addressing such issues over the life course and investigating how inequality and setbacks in early life are linked to consequences in adulthood and/or later life are also encouraged, as are submissions on the role of policy responses to population ageing (such as active ageing, flexible retirement, social security and long-term services, digital inclusion, and age-friendly society) at the international, national and regional level. Submissions on single regions or countries, cross border and trans-national issues, cross country comparisons, or global perspectives are all welcome, as are those on trends and changes over time. Papers can use qualitative and/or quantitative research methodologies.

Strand organiser: Giorgio Di Gessa (UCL) – g.di-gessa@ucl.ac.uk

Ageing disgracefully

This session focuses on marginalised groups within the ageing population. Why can the older generation still be portrayed as slipper wearing, armchair sitting, paper reading individuals? We welcome submissions concerning those groups that still practice what they preach and kick against social norms! Submissions could include but not limited to: sexuality, sport, fetish, fashion, subculture, activism etc.

Session organiser: Charlotte Goldthorpe (University of Huddersfield) – c.m.goldthorpe@hud.ac.uk

Climate change and population studies

Climate change and environmental degradation are reshaping the global landscape, influencing migration patterns, health outcomes, and demographic trends. This session welcomes submissions that investigate the multifaceted interactions between climate change and population dynamics. We seek contributions that shed light on the demographic consequences of environmental shifts, as well as the reciprocal impacts of population dynamics on climate change. Topics of interest include but are not limited to population displacement and resettlement, demographics of vulnerability and resilience, impacts of climate change on demographic processes, and policy responses.

Strand organisers: Tobias Ruttenauer (UCL), Jasmin Abdel Ghany (Nuffield College) and Dermot Grenham – t.ruttenauer@ucl.ac.uk; jasmin.abdelghany@nuffield.ox.ac.uk; dermot.grenham@gmail.com

Climate change and health

The intersection of climate change and health presents significant challenges for populations worldwide. They crucially interact with other demographic patterns such as urbanization, population aging and fertility. This sub-session seeks contributions that examine the demographic dimensions of climate-related health outcomes. We invite papers that investigate patterns of mortality and morbidity, disparities in access to healthcare services, and the role of demographic processes in shaping vulnerability and resilience to environmental health risks.

Session organisers: Jo Mhairi Hale (University of St Andrews), Emmanuel Olamijuwon (University of St Andrews) – jo.hale@st-andrews.ac.uk; ooo1@st-andrews.ac.uk;

Climate change and migration

Climate change is one of the main societal challenges of the 21st century. Rises in temperature are predicted to increase the likelihood of extreme weather events including cyclones, floods, heatwaves and droughts and to lead to sea-level rise. These changes are expected to impact migration patterns both directly and indirectly through changes in agriculture, food prices, infrastructure and health. This session invites papers that address these challenges by providing novel empirical evidence, drawing on innovative data sources, improving methods or by proposing new conceptual frameworks on the nexus between climate and migration

Session organisers: Francisco Rowe (University of Liverpool), Aude Bernard (The University of Queensland) – fcorowe@liverpool.ac.uk; a.bernard@uq.edu.au

Critical demography and novel methodological approaches

We invite work that critically engages with demography and population studies, novel methodological approaches to demographic research, or demographic data collection. In particular, we encourage submissions of qualitative, quantitative and mixed-methods research that furthers our understanding of core demographic concepts or trouble demographic assumptions, alongside studies that use novel, forward-thinking methodologies and analyses. Additionally, we are interested in submissions that theoretically or critically challenge current research, research methodologies, and classical theories in demography and broader population studies.

Strand organisers: Joe Strong (LSE) and Michaela Šedovič (UCL) – j.strong3@lse.ac.uk; m.sedovicova@ucl.ac.uk

Data science

The combination of new sources of data and the increased availability of cheap computing power have opened up exciting new avenues for research in population science. Methodological advances and new statistical modelling approaches allow these new resources to be exploited to create new scientific knowledge and forecast our demographic futures. This strand welcomes papers that demonstrate the application of innovative data, methods and models to problems in the population sciences.

Demographic applications falling under the following headings are particularly encouraged:

- big data
- innovative statistical modelling and forecasting
- Bayesian methods and uncertainty quantification
- Modelling of kinship
- simulation
- machine learning

Strand organiser: Jason Hilton (University of Southampton) – j.d.hilton@soton.ac.uk

Uncertainty in demographic forecasting and now-casting

This session welcomes methodological and applied papers that focus on, firstly, quantifying the uncertainty in demographic forecasting and now-casting, that is, the prediction of the present, of population components and population itself. Secondly, we welcome submissions on how uncertainty can be used in decision- and policy-making.

Session organisers: Arkadiusz Wiśniowski and Wendy Olsen (The University of Manchester) – a.wisniowski@manchester.ac.uk; wendy.olsen@manchester.ac.uk

Demographic perspectives on economic inequality

Demographic phenomena—such as population aging, union formation and dissolution, assortative mating, fertility and family size, mortality, migration, retirement, and inheritance—are closely related to macro-level trends in income and wealth inequality. This session welcomes papers that advance our understanding of how demography can explain patterns of economic inequality.

Strand organiser: Jiaxin Shi (University of Wisconsin-Madison) – jiaxin.shi@wisc.edu

Demography of disaster and crisis contexts

This session brings together researchers studying population processes and data in disaster- and crisis-affected contexts. We welcome multidisciplinary perspectives spanning demography, health, economics, and sociology, as well as different methodological approaches. Disaster or crisis contexts could include conflict, displacement, climatic events, and de facto states.

Session organisers: Rosanna Le Voir (LSE), Tiziana Leone (LSE) and Orsola Torrisi (NYU) – r.h.le-voir@lse.ac.uk; t.leone@lse.ac.uk; o.torrisi@nyu.edu

Developments in official population statistics

Contributions to this strand are sought on developments in official series of population statistics, developments in and findings from the 2021/22 censuses and how official population statistics may transform in the future. Papers on the analysis and dissemination of these are also welcome.

Strand organiser: Phil Humby (ONS) – philip.humby@ons.gov.uk

Disability in LMICs: Measurement, challenges and opportunities

Disability, both mental and physical, is an under-researched area in many low- and middle-income countries. This session brings together research related to disability, broadly defined. Submissions are welcomed to explore various topics including the conceptualisation and measurement of disability, its prevalence and distribution, alongside the intersection of disability with healthcare, education, and other socio-economic factors. Papers may use qualitative, quantitative, or mixed methods to explore individual regions or countries, cross-country analyses, global perspectives, or trends over time.

Session organisers: Andrew Amos Channon and Oki MacPherson (University of Southampton) – a.r.channon@soton.ac.uk; o.krisnadevi@soton.ac.uk

Families and households

This strand invites theory-driven conceptual or empirical papers (qualitative, quantitative or mixed methods) that investigate the diversity of family or household compositions and outcomes. Comparative papers and case studies are welcome, as are submissions that challenge conventional assumptions and/or contribute to new conceptual and methodological frameworks for household and/or family. For instance, papers that assess the role of selection in known relationships in more detail are invited.

Examples of possible contributions include, but are not limited to:

- Trends, determinants and consequences of demographic events
- Relationships: Union formation, dissolution, relationship quality and satisfaction
- Family and work: Employment, care and unpaid work
- Policy related to families and households
- Heterogeneous effects by e.g. gender, class, income, race/ethnicity, age/cohort, region

Strand organisers: Kathrin Morosow (University of Manchester) and Nitzan Peri-Rotem (University of Exeter) – kathrin.morosow@manchester.ac.uk; n.peri-rotem@exeter.ac.uk

Families and households in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs)

This session brings together research on family structures in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) and their gender differentiated impact on social and economic outcomes. This includes - but is not limited to - the role of social norms and institutions in LMICs in shaping parental incentives and child outcomes.

Session organiser: Jennifer Golan (University of Bath) – j.m.d.golan@bath.ac.uk

Transition to adulthood

The transition to adulthood is a critical stage of life that involves demographic markers such as completing education, leaving the parental home, entering full-time employment, and forming a union. This session brings together contributions that investigate transitions to adulthood as well as their variation across space and time.

Session organiser: Ginevra Floridi (University of Edinburgh) – ginevra.floridi@ed.ac.uk

Fertility and sexual and reproductive health

This strand welcomes abstract proposals that focus on fertility and/or sexual and reproductive health in any context. We invite people using any methods, including mixed and qualitative methods, to submit their work, and are especially keen for submissions on populations and issues that are lesser known/investigated in demography and population studies. Work at any stage of development is encouraged.

Strand organisers: Joe Strong (London School of Economics) and Selin Köksal (University of Essex) – j.strong3@lse.ac.uk; selin.koksal@essex.ac.uk

Dynamics of contraception: Trends, drivers, and consequences of contraceptive behaviour

Contraception plays a key role in fulfilling fertility intentions, including the number, timing, and spacing of children as well as the prevention of unplanned pregnancies. We welcome papers from all country contexts that study trends, drivers, and consequences of contraceptive behaviour or explore the intersection of contraception with childbearing, partnership dissolution, or other life domains.

Session organisers: Theresa Nutz and Nora Müller (GESIS - Leibniz Institute for the Social Sciences, Germany) – theresa.nutz@gesis.org; nora.mueller@gesis.org

Early marriage and early fertility: Are they harmful and, if so, how harmful are they?

Early marriage and early fertility are argued to adversely affect young women. Ending early marriage is a specific Gender Equality Goal (item 5.3) in the SDGs (UN, 2015). However these goals must also be considered in a wider framing of reproductive justice and the contexts in which young women who experience early marriage and fertility live. This session aims to bring out the complexities and controversies around these issues.

Session organisers: Shireen Kanji (Brunel University London), Chris Darko (University of Birmingham) and Fiona Carmichael (University of Birmingham) – shireen.kanji@brunel.ac.uk; c.k.darko@bham.ac.uk; f.carmichael@bham.ac.uk

Health and mortality

Papers are invited on any aspect of health and mortality studies. Both papers addressing substantive topics about population health and mortality, as well as methodological development on issues related to health and mortality are welcome. Work from early career scholars, non-academic researchers, and postgraduates is encouraged. The strand's intention is to showcase scholarship addressing current debates of mortality and health from an international perspective, including work from low-to-middle income countries. Papers may address (though are not restricted to):

- Concepts and measurement of mortality and health
- Trends in adult health and health behaviours
- Mortality and health in low-to-middle income countries
- The environment and population health
- Social determinants of health and health/mortality disparities
- Early life health and mortality

- Data challenges for mortality/health studies
- Biosocial approaches to mortality differences and healths

Strand organiser: José Manuel Aburto (University of Oxford and LSHTM) – jose.aburto@lshtm.ac.uk

Historical demography

This strand welcomes submissions addressing any aspect of historical demography, or the history of demography as an academic discipline. Papers may focus on any of a broad range of themes, such as fertility, mortality, migration, household formation, social mobility, urbanization, public health, social inequality or other related fields in the context of historical populations. Contributions may focus on any part of the world, and at any scale, from local studies to international comparisons.

Strand organiser: Eric Schneider (LSE) – e.b.schneider@lse.ac.uk

Longitudinal census data: New developments and recent research findings

Each of the three census-based longitudinal studies in the UK (ONS LS, SLS and NILS) is being or has been updated with the latest census data. This strand will include recent and planned developments to the studies and will showcase some recent examples of research using the studies.

Strand organisers: Jim Newman (ONS); Oliver Duke-Williams (UCL), Peter Wilgar (NISRA) Greg Blackadder (NRS), Lee Williamson (University of Edinburgh), Ian Shuttleworth (QUB) and Becky Jathoonia (ONS) – jim.newman@ons.gov.uk

Migration

We welcome papers addressing any aspect of internal and international mobility and migration including those that focus on trends in and/or the drivers of internal and/or international migration as well as those that are interested in exploring whether and how internal and/or international migration intersects with other life course trajectories such as e.g., partnership formation and dissolution, childbearing, or employment. Papers which focus on the experiences of immigrants and/or their descendants are also very welcome.

Strand organisers: Aude Bernard (The University of Queensland) and Francisco Rowe (University of Liverpool) – a.bernard@uq.edu.au; fcorowe@liverpool.ac.uk

The interconnection across several domains in the life course of immigrants and their descendants

Many countries have witnessed increasing immigration streams and ethnic diversity over the past decades. The question remains whether the observed heterogeneity between immigrants and the native populations will persist among the descendants of immigrants. This session welcomes papers on the interconnection of life domains such as housing, employment, education, partnership, and parity among immigrants and their descendants.

Research should focus on investigating life course trajectories by immigrant generations and/or countries of origin. We welcome papers that investigate all migrant types, including refugees and asylum seekers. Potential papers may include the usage of administrative or survey-based datasets and could apply different methodologies including but not limited to event history analysis, microsimulation techniques, or machine learning methods.

Session organisers: Mary Abed Al Ahad and Andrew Ibbetson (University of St Andrews) – maaa1@st-andrews.ac.uk; adgi1@st-andrews.ac.uk

Telling the story in statistics

This strand invites examples of how you have brought your data to life, made your data discoverable, communicated your results to non-specialists and/or the steps taken to make your research more impactful. These could include examples of open data platforms, how you have found ways of making your messages accessible, reaching a wider audience or influencing policy.

Strand organiser: Phil Humby (ONS) – philip.humby@ons.gov.uk

Violence and abuse

This strand welcomes papers on violence and abuse that address the multifaceted challenges, root causes, and potential interventions in a global context. Topics of interest include: domestic/interpersonal violence, sexual abuse, homicide, modern slavery/trafficking, and racial, religious, state, or structural violence. Investigations may focus on population risk factors, age and gender, links to mortality/fertility/migration, methodological improvements, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, feminist critiques, and global and comparative perspectives. The strand will enhance academic and practitioner discourse on contributing towards SDG 5: Gender Equality by covering topics that encompass domestic, family, community, and conflict settings.

Strand organisers: Murylo Batista (London Borough of Camden), Lana Chikhungu (University of Portsmouth), Rebecca Harris (University of Southampton) and Amos Channon (University of Southampton) – murylo.batista@camden.gov.uk; ana.chikhungu@port.ac.uk; rebecca.harris@soton.ac.uk; a.r.channon@soton.ac.uk

General and administrative queries: BSPS Secretariat – pic@lse.ac.uk

NOTES:

Submissions should be made online at: <https://forms.office.com/e/T2DTjRRerV>

- A maximum of TWO submissions please as first author or presenter. If submitting two, each must be for a different strand.

- Organisers may request further details of a submission before final decisions are made. Oral and poster submissions are given equal weight.
- Final decisions on papers accepted for presentation will be emailed to submitting authors in late May/early June, with poster notifications coming before the summer break.
- Submissions from members & non-members are welcomed, as are those from early-career researchers.
- Presentations may be allocated to a different strand or session from that to which submission was made.
- Short abstracts will be posted to the BPS website (with contact email unless otherwise requested) and may be changed up to the end of July.
- Oral presentations will be organised into 60 or 90-minute sessions of 3-5 papers, with time for questions & discussion. Strand organisers or convenors will advise on the length of individual presentations or advise if a different format is planned.
- If accepted, poster printing should be arranged by the presenter, in A0 format, portrait.
- On submission, you will be requested to confirm you plan to present in person.

FEES AND FUNDING

- Registration charges will apply for all attending, at member, non-member & student rates. Registration by the presenting author is required before the paper or poster is included in the final programme.
- Bursaries will be available for student members, or local government members whose employer will not cover their costs & are only available if presenting a paper or poster:
 - Application is via selecting the appropriate option when responding to the call for papers. Later applications cannot be accepted.
 - Bursary applicants must be current BPS members, and BPS annual membership dues must be up to date at the time of responding to the call for papers.
 - The number of bursaries on offer may be limited or partial depending on budgetary constraints, and an application for a bursary does not guarantee it will be successful.
 - Bursaries provide a waiver of registration and on-site accommodation costs plus meals. Travel costs and any other expenses are not included.
 - Bursary recipients may be asked to assist on-site.

- The BPS operates a Low- and Middle-Income Countries Initiative, which sponsors a visit by a demographer from a low or middle income country who gives a presentation at the BPS Conference for that year. Please see <https://www.lse.ac.uk/international-development/research/british-society-for-population-studies/awards-and-grants> for more details.
- You can join BPS at <https://www.lse.ac.uk/international-development/research/british-society-for-population-studies/how-to-join>

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