



Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research



Center on the Economics and Demography of Aging

CEDA

at the University of California Berkeley

Frontiers and Challenges in the Study of Human Longevity The 2nd HMD Symposium

June 13-14, 2008

Objective To promote research and encourage collaboration amongst researchers who produce and/or analyze mortality data for national populations, including those from the Human Mortality Database (HMD; www.mortality.org) and other sources

Dates June 13-14, 2008

Location Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR) in Rostock, Germany

Sponsors MPIDR and the Center on the Economics and Demography of Aging (CEDA) at the University of California, Berkeley

Organizers John Wilmoth and Vladimir Shkolnikov

**Scientific
Coordinator** Magali Barbieri

Format Six sessions (2 hours each) over 2 days for a total of 21 papers and presentations

Topics The HMD has been used by numerous researchers to examine a wide variety of topics. To some degree, this Symposium is intended to reflect that diversity. The program also features certain topics that are viewed as presenting special challenges for mortality researchers at the present time: these include better means of utilizing cause-of-death data and methods for assessing the uncertainty of mortality estimates (in particular, for developing countries). A project to use experience from the HMD to create a Human Fertility Database will be presented and discussed in the closing session.

Program schedule

Friday, June 13, 2008

- 8:30 am – 9:00 am **Welcome and Introduction**
John Wilmoth – Director of HMD, University of California, Berkeley
Vladimir Shkolnikov – Co-Director of HMD, MPIDR
- 9:00 am – 10:15 am **I – National and Regional Mortality Patterns and Trends**
1. Mortality and population trends in Austria, 1924-1951, Dmitri Jdanov, Dalkhat Ediev, Domantas Jasilionis and Richard Gisser.
2. Mortality trends in the UK and Ireland, Domantas Jasilionis.
3. Regional mortality differences in Germany, Rembrandt Scholz, Dmitri Jdanov and Domantas Jasilionis.
- 10:15 am – 10:30 am Coffee break
- 10:30 am – 11:15 am **II – Investigating mortality crises**
4. Mortality trends in Belarus and the nature of the mortality crisis in the ex-USSR countries, Pavel Grigoriev.
5. Weather conditions, air quality and seasonal patterns of mortality, Zhongwei Zhao.
- 11:15 am – 12:30 am **III – Sex Differences in Health and Longevity**
6. Cause-of-death contributions to gains in e_0 and narrowing of the sex gap among eight high-income countries since 1975, Dana Gleit.
7. Narrowing sex differences in mortality in Canada: immigrant and native born populations, Frank Trovato and David Odynak.
- 12:30 am – 2:00 pm Lunch (provided at MPIDR)
- 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm **IV – Age Patterns of Mortality – Part 1**
8. Monitoring mortality trends at advanced ages: An update of the Kannisto study, Domantas Jasilionis, Roland Rau, Eugeny Soroko, and James Vaupel.
9. Explaining small-area mortality variation among pensioners in Germany: the effect of individual characteristics and context, Eva Kibele.
10. Age patterns of older adults' mortality change, Shiro Horiuchi.
- 3:00 pm – 3:15 pm Coffee break

- 3:15 pm – 4:30 pm **V – Age Patterns of Mortality – Part 2**
- 11. Variability of length of life in the United States, Vladimir Shkolnikov, Evgueni Andreev, Zhang, Zhen, James Vaupel.
 - 12. A preliminary comparative investigation of the age-time decomposition of mortality rates, Heather Booth.
- 7:00 pm Complimentary banquet

Saturday, June 14, 2008

- 9:30 am – 10:30 am **VI – Potentials and Limitations of Cause-of-Death Data – Part 1**
- 13. Comparing long-term trends in causes of death in Western Europe, Stein Emil Vollset.
 - 14. Methodological issues and results of the transition to ICD10 in West Germany, Markéta Pechholdova.
 - 15. Transition from the 9th to the 10th ICD in France in the absence of sufficient bridge-coding. What can we get from the United States and the United Kingdom experiences? Are there any other pathways? Jacques Vallin and France Meslé.
- 10:30 am – 11:00 am Coffee break
- 11:00 am – 12:00 am **VII – Potentials and Limitations of Cause-of-Death Data – Part 2**
- 16. Comparing long-term trends in cardiovascular mortality in three developed countries, Magali Barbieri and France Meslé.
 - 17. Automating the redistribution of deaths by cause over ICD changes: How far can we go? Carl Boe, Robert Chung and Magali Barbieri.
- 12:00 am – 1:30 pm Lunch (provided at MPIDR)
- 1:30 pm – 3:15 pm **VIII – Assessing the uncertainty of Mortality and Fertility Estimates – Part 1**
- 18. The uncertainty of mortality estimates derived from model life tables, John Wilmoth, Vladimir Canudas-Romo and Sarah Zureick.
 - 19. Estimation of Confidence Intervals for Life Table functions, Evgueni Andreev, Dmitri Jdanov and Domantas Jasilionis.
 - 20. Sources of uncertainty in trends of under 5 mortality: stochastic variation, models and bias, Jon Pedersen.

21. Uncertainty of fertility estimates in Western Africa, Leontine Alkema, Adrian E. Raftery, Patrick Gerland, Samuel J. Clark and Francois Pelletier.

3:15 pm – 3:30 pm Coffee break

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm **IX – The Human Fertility Database: Overview and Brainstorming**

22. The Human Fertility Project: data, methods and implementation, Aiva Jasilioniene, Joshua Goldstein, Vladimir Shkolnikov, Tomas Sobotka, Evguieni Andreev, Dmitri Jdanov.

23. Comments by Laurent Toulemon and John Wilmoth.

<http://www.demographic-research.org/>