

BSPS NEWS

www.bsps.org.uk

Issue No. 83

November 2004

BSPS MEETINGS

BSPS Day Meeting – Preliminary Announcement
National Statistics Disclosure Control: Now and the future
Tuesday 11 January 2005

10.00am –

2. Population ageing: challenges to public policy

In this session invited speakers who are currently taking part in the national public policy debates on ageing will present papers. The session will include speakers from the Pensions Commission, GAD, Age Concern,

Thanks to Rebecca Sear for overseeing the redesign of the site.

BSPS 2004 Conference Poster Prize

The inaugural 2004 BSPS poster prize was awarded to Chiedza Zingoni, Paula Griffiths, and Noel Cameron of the Department of Human Sciences, Loughborough University for their poster “What is the evidence for the nutrition transition globally?” Mike Murphy presented Chiedza with £100 in book tokens at the Conference. Thanks are due to Heather Joshi and Jon Anson who judged the competition.

demographers and statisticians in Cuba and Britain.

Three sectors of social research in Cuba

Most Cuban social research takes place in government departments, in independent research institutes funded by government departments, and in university research centres.

Ministries. The government's ministries undertake large scale analyses of their own administrative data as well as one-off or continuous population surveys. Statistical studies are led by the Office of National Statistics (*Oficina Nacional de Estadísticas*, ONE). Within ONE, the Centre for Population and Development Studies has a methodology section and undertakes not only the census and its own national surveys, among them income and expenditure and the labour force, but also work commissioned by other ministries. For example it has recently

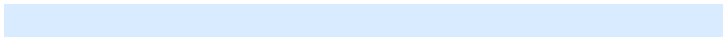
often accepts commissions to design and undertake fieldwork for studies that have gained international funding. Cuban statistics count on a highly developed state infrastructure of health and social services, as well as the registers of addresses based on a personal identity card. Since 1997, ONE has a master sampling list for multi-stage social surveys which identifies local housing blocks for enumeration. The enumeration for the 2002 census was mainly

d

undertake

fieldwork

foens



of the Peace Process, which centred on the demographic tensions within Israel. At the heart of the crisis is the question of 'What does it mean to have a state religion?' The contrast was made with Anglican England where the legal rights of individuals are the same whatever their religious background. This is not the case in Israel where many basic rights and legal

It was recognised that asylum seekers and refugees were only part of a wider population which were hidden from official statistics. Definitions of migrants and asylum seekers are central to discussing these groups in the context of this wider population. The United Nations definition of an asylum seeker is

the right of return; voting rights; access to land; taxation rights etc). Whether Israel should have a constitution is a major area of debate currently within Israel. Mushtaq suggested that there is a fundamental contradiction between Jewish State and democracy.

The total population of Israel is 5 million, with 1 million (20%) being non-Jewish. However there are 7 million refugees with the right of return to Israel. If even a small proportion were to return it would have a huge impact. This was not brought into the Two State Solution. After the Oslo Accord, the number of Jewish settlers doubled (between 1994 and 2004) – the opposite of what was expected.

Mushtaq suggested that the long term aim of the Israeli Government is to achieve self-governing territories, through land settlements on the best land, with checkpoints, barriers and zones of control that leave Palestine encircled - with land that is environmentally unsustainable and economically dependent on Israel. Mushtaq fears further disintegration in the situation as Palestine's position is weakened by acts of violence and Arafat has begun to lose control. With no second tier leadership the way may be open for other groups (such as Islamic groups) to step in, who will not give in.

The ethnic definitions of statehood need to be considered – blurred ethnicities occur over a long period. Mushtaq felt that while the failure was not due to greed, it was not resolvable either since the marriage of faith and State was not conducive to democracy.

In response to a question as to whether his analysis applied to other conflicts, such as the Balkans, Russian Caucasus, and Northern Ireland, Mushtaq answered that he thought so. The need

amicity, as this evolves over many years. In response to question on population growth rates, Mushtaq reported that the Arab population, currently around 20 per cent, is increasing at a much faster rate than for other groups (except the Orthodox group but this is a small minority of the population). They are expected to account for 30% of the population in 20 years. When asked what ideas or visions he had to take the place of the Two State Solution, he said he thought there were two issues: the first is to explore what it means to be Jewish, to aim for democracy with a state religion; the second is for significant land and population transfers but this is likely to lead to further conflict.

Managing unexpected asylum flows and the concerns of the local population - Mary Blanche and Chris Endersby, Kent County Council

Chris set out the background to recent asylum seekers flows into Kent and more broadly into England & Wales. Local Authorities around the country were required to understand both complex migration flows (including increasing levels of those seeking asylum) and develop policy responses to this pressure.

,e

at which they left school. Data from the “Adolescent and Youth in Pakistan 2001/02 Survey” were used. The proximity of schools made a significant difference both with ever having attended school – fewer with more distant schools – and with age at leaving school – younger ages for more distant schools. Other factors – such as the socio-economic status of the household, the parent’s literacy and the presence of brothers and sisters in the household who were going to school – were also found to vary significantly with school attendance and age at leaving school.

The third paper, given by **Juan-Manuel Contreras**, was on ‘Conflict with intimacy: men involved in violent relationships – a socio-demographic analysis of intimate partner violence in Mexico’. Juan indicated that violence in relationships has a high prevalence in Mexico. Several data sources were used, and the main finding was that violence towards one’s partner tends to occur early in the relationship; half had occurred during the first year. Factors such as disputes over the control of money and men’s need to control their partner’s sexuality were particularly associated with men’s violence towards their partner.

The fourth paper was presented by **Elizabeth Cooksey** and was on the subject of Amish households and family patterns. The Amish population has grown dramatically during the last century, quadrupling to 200 thousand. Over one quarter of Amish settlements are in Ohio and Elizabeth presented results from a survey of over 8 thousand Amish households. There is a distinct Amish culture – typified by a slower-paced community-based lifestyle. Young men work with older relatives, and traditionally many have worked in farming and agriculture. Family building begins soon after marriage and families have been large. Elizabeth discussed the impact of social and economic changes on Amish demographic patterns.

The fifth paper, on “Stepfamilies: parents and stepparents with [redacted] old” was given by **John Haskey**. Using results from a special module of [redacted] Great Britain, John gave comparative demographic ch

fertility have been highlighted in the literature, while it seems probable that economic and social modernisation at both the

childbearing can have on socio-economic variables such as income. Twin data was used as each twin could effectively act as a control for the other twin having come from the same socio-economic background and followed the same life-course in youth. The study found that controlling for key socio-economic factors, for each year childbearing was delayed there was an increase in household income. Those who enter motherhood early are likely to have had a poorer start in life largely because of a disadvantaged family background rather than due to the incidence of being a young mother. Th

than England & Wales for both cohorts. Michael concluded that England & Wales is more differentiated by education in its fertility patterns than both France and Norway but that this is not caused by a more differentiated distribution of education.

Jessica Chamberlain and **Steve Smallwood** (Office for National Statistics) next gave a presentation entitled *Replacement fertility in England and Wales: What has it been and what does it mean?* Their presentation explored the empirical levels of period replacement fertility in England and Wales over the last six decades, and also looked at replacement fertility from a cohort perspective for cohorts born since 1924. This was then explored further to give a better understanding of what replacement fertility really means, and how this affects population changes.

gives a better understanding of what replacement fertility really means, and how this affects population changes.

outcome of, poverty.

The final paper in the session was presented by **Jon Anson** and considered immigrant mortality in Israel. The presentation began by highlighting the fact that first generation migrants tend to have lower mortality than native populations at their destination, which is normally attributed to the fact that migrants are a select robust and healthy population. The study investigated mortality among immigrants to Israel using a six year follow-up of the population from the census between 1995-2001. Five years prior to the census 10% was added to the population through migration and the majority came from Europe, mostly Easter Europe. Compared to the native born Jewish and Arab population in Israel, it was observed that immigrants to Israel did not display lower mortality rates, even when age standardised.

The paper used information on education, work and standards of living to formulate hypotheses for why this unusual mortality pattern is observed in Israel.

Session 2 - This session included four papers that explored influences on child health and nutrition, two set in South Asia and two in South Africa. The session was attended by an informed and interested audience which made for lively discussion.

The first paper delivered by **Natalie Spark-du Preez**, currently working on her PhD at Loughborough University, focused on health-seeking behaviour for childhood illnesses in urban South Africa. In a fascinating talk illustrated with a colourful array of lotions and potions, Natalie presented preliminary findings from qualitative interviews and discussions with traditional healers and parents/guardians. In the urban centres of Johannesburg and Soweto concepts of health and healing are found to be diverse and dynamic. Focusing on the behaviours of Black families with children under 6, an eclectic mix of beliefs and health-seeking strategies was identified, some with serious implications for children's health. Natalie's future work will integrate an analysis of quantitative data in order to more fully address her research questions: What are the main factors influencing choice of health-care provider? Are caregivers using

ap) T9?rit0-0.1875 Tw () Tj ET 0-0.1875 Tw () re fueS, 315 269.25 12 r29.75

ever exist?' in which she argued that the geographic and cultural mapping famously used by Hajnal and Laslett was an artificial construct, and that the economy is a much more powerful influence on household structure. These papers provoked a lively discussion about measurement, the importance of migration, and the links between economy, culture, and society.

The remaining two historical demography sessions were on Tuesday. The first, unfortunately scheduled against one of only two sessions in the mortality strand, contained four papers on mortality. In a change from the advertised paper on 'The concentration of mortality at macro and micro scales', **Jim Oeppen** presented his work on the early life effects on mortality of influenza. Influenza is governed by period and cohort effects, and through the use of an age-period-cohort framework, he showed that the peculiar age structure of the 1918-19 pandemic was the product of the period and cohort interaction, and that understanding the 1891 epidemic is crucial to understanding the course of influenza in the following decades. **Diego Ramiro** presented a paper co-authored by Kazunori Murakoshi on 'Stillbirths in Spain and Japan', two countries where remarkably detailed information is available on foetal loss by month of pregnancy, legitimacy and sex for both rural and urban areas in the first half of the twentieth century. The information for Japan was particularly useful in revealing that the relationship between foetal mortality at different ages and stillbirth mortality has not been constant over time. In 'Topology, economy, and the shape of early age mortality in Derbyshire', **Alice Reid** continued the emphasis on early age mortality by investigating the roles of elevation and geological structure in the development of the local economy, settlement patterns and health environments. She argued that in Derbyshire, the dominant influence was the presence of coal deposits: the development of the mining industry was characterised by the establishment of densely populated and unsanitary pit-villages and the health implications of these were partially shared by non-miners living in mining areas. Finally in this session, Tricia James presented 'The anti-vaccinationists: shoemakers in Rushden', which described the local development of smallpox vaccination and its opponents, of which shoemakers were

by **Eileen Howes** (Greater London Authority) who had compared journey to work tables form a number of sources (Theme Tables, SWS and GLA Commissioned Tables). The results were not

level. In the IPS, thought is being given to asking relevant migrants about both intended and actual length of stay in the UK or of absence from UK, about extending the questioning to those intended to stay at least 6 months as opposed to 12 months as now, and about immigrants' degree of certainty about their final destination within the UK. Perhaps a case could be made for additional questions in the Population Census, for instance on nationality and year of arrival.

Michael Rendall presented a research note, authored jointly with Christian Dustmann, on the effect of length of stay on the employment rates and wages of immigrants to the UK. According to theory, immigrants' labour-market performance should improve with length of time spent in the receiving country, but this may be confounded by selective return migration, problems of survey non-response and misreporting, and repeat migration and the fuzziness of the concept of arrival. Their analysis used mainly the Labour Force Survey, covering two periods 1979-2000 and 1992-2000, with some cross-checking with Census data. It was found that the best-performing immigrants generally tend to stay the shortest time. Allowing for this, it would indeed appear to be the case that the true effect of length of stay is more positive and more consistent across countries of origin than previously estimated.

James Raymer set out a general method for estimating place-to-place migration flows in situations where the data are missing or inadequate. He put forward a parameter coding scheme that fed into a structure to be used in a log-linear model. The available data is assembled, giving greater weight to the inflow data where there are discrepancies with the outflow data collected by the origin country. Marginal totals are then estimated, expected flows calculated, and ratios of the available observed to expected flows derived. The methodology had first been tested on internal migration flows in the USA, but in this paper it was applied to international migration flows in Northern Europe in 1999-2000 where the data are incomplete.

The four papers presented in the second session covered a wider range of subject matter, but all focused on population and migration in the UK. **Stuart Burley** outlined some of the early findings from his PhD on the relationship between in-migration and the economy of small areas in Cornwall. The study used census data to consider the motivations behind population movements into and within the county, particula.

851cyc7regared todiffvernc0.75 12 re f 292.5 303 0.75c -0.38S0re odiffvernc0.75 12 re Tw (where the

There is also the possibility that babies are under enumerated in Census 2001 and that the fertility rates extracted from HES were not that inaccurate.

Atreyi Majumdar then presented a more qualitative paper that looked at the nature, causes and consequences of migration, drawing on a sample of 93 professional workers (mainly doctors) who had moved from India to the UK, many of these over 20 years ago. Push factors were mentioned only rarely by the interviewees. The main pull to the UK was found to have been the higher wage potential, but in 33 cases non-economic factors were involved to some extent. The difficulties the interviewees experienced when first arriving in the UK, such as homesickness, decreased with time for this group of migrants. Some of the respondents felt that they were 'losing touch with home' but a permanent return to India was impossible for a number of reasons. The author highlighted that a 'culture of migration' has emerged which is both different to the culture in India and the UK and has resulted in immigrant enclaves. Increased income enabled them to send money back to relatives and all thought that this mitigated negative impacts of migration. However, 74% of the interviewees did not feel part of British society and 43% wanted to return to India.

paper discussed previous work, the suggested negative implications of twinning to a mother's health and longevity, and presented twinning rates in the respective study countries – England and Wales and Denmark. Preliminary results examining the health and mortality of mothers of twins were given for each of the study populations – in England and Wales, the ONS Longitudinal Study, and in Denmark, the Danish Civil Registration system.

Cohort life tables and a logistic regression were used to investigate whether mothers of twins have negative health outcomes and higher mortality as compared with mothers of singletons. It was found that there was no difference between the expected and observed mortality of mothers of twins in both countries and that there was no higher risk of having a limiting long-term illness for mothers of twins (only assessed in England and Wales). A discrete-time event history model explored cohort differences between twinning and health and mortality – there was a small effect of having twins on mortality for older cohorts (i.e. those born before 1930). Overall, it was concluded that higher twinning rates may not have long term implications for the health and mortality of mothers.

Clare Griffiths (ONS) spoke *about Mortality by country of birth in England and Wales, 2001-2003* and presented work in progress at ONS with colleagues Anita Brock (ONS), and Sarah Wild & Colin Fischbacher (University of Edinburgh). The paper builds on previous analyses of mortality by country of birth based on census data and death registrations. This new analysis studied patterns of mortality around the 2001 Census, included a larger group of countries of birth than previous studies, additional causes of death and age specific mortality rates as well as an overall rate. It was noted that country of birth couldn't be used as a proxy for ethnicity in this study.

Age-standardised rates of mortality were examined for men and women by country of birth and cause of death. Similarly to previous analyses, mortality varied by country of birth around the 2001 Census. However, thanks to additional information included in the study, some interesting new findings were presented which highlighted differences by cause of death – for example, rates of cerebrovascular disease (CVD or stroke) were very high in West African born men but ischaemic heart disease (IHD) rates were very low in the same group of men.

Barbara Toson (ONS) presented the third paper carried out with Cecilia Tomassini (ONS), Steve Smallwood (ONS) and Arjan Gjonca (LSE) on *Sex differences in mortality in the UK and Other Countries* over the last two decades. It was noted that despite 'common knowledge' that the gap between life expectancy of men and women is decreasing this is not true in all countries. It was observed that men's life expectancy has improved at a faster rate than women's in some countries but not in others – the UK, France, Germany and Sweden all saw a decrease in the differential of life expectancy at birth between 1980 and the most recent year, whereas in Spain and Japan the opposite was true. Lexus maps for England and Wales and France gave some interesting insights into the patterns of male and female mortality for different ages, periods and cohorts, whilst data on cause of death in the two countries highlighted how mortality for the two sexes are influenced in different ways by the health related behaviour of people in each country.

Mike Murphy (LSE) turned the focus to projecting mortality (cont)

156 T D 80 . 1 150 f 90 . 8 5

