

Population Center and Training Directors Meeting with NICHD PDB Staff

PRB Coordinating Center Update

Linda Jacobsen and Mark Mather

June 21, 2021

www.prb.org

Coordinating Center Objectives

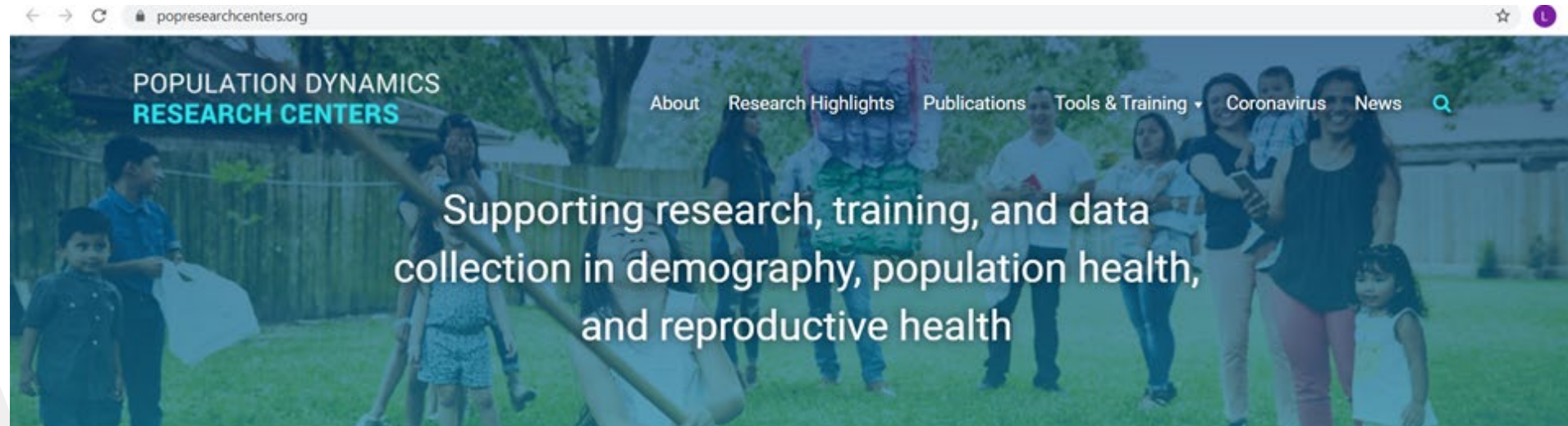
- Increasing and improving the translation and dissemination of major peer-reviewed findings from population dynamics research
- Facilitating coordination and cooperation across the NICHD-funded Population Dynamics Research Centers to enhance the productivity and scientific impact of the Centers and population dynamics research overall

Primary Activities

- Translating and disseminating major findings, methods, and perspectives from population dynamics research to nontechnical audiences and other scientists
- Developing and maintaining a Population Dynamics Research Centers website to serve the needs of both PDB/NICHD and the Centers
- Promoting Population Centers' research through Twitter, Facebook, and other social media platforms
- Organizing workshops and PAA sessions and providing training materials to help Center researchers effectively communicate their research results to policy, media, and nontechnical audiences
- Collaborating with the Centers on activities to raise the visibility of population dynamics research and link findings to policies and programs

Population Research Centers Website

www.popresearchcenters.org



News

New Research at NICHD-Funded Population Centers Examines the Magnitude of the Coronavirus Pandemic and Informs the Response

Request for Information on NIH Effort to End Structural Racism in Biomedical Research

[See More News](#)

From Twitter

Weight bias among health care providers is a barrier to care for LGBTQ people, particularly women.

@UTPopCenter #NICHDImpact #HealthDisparities

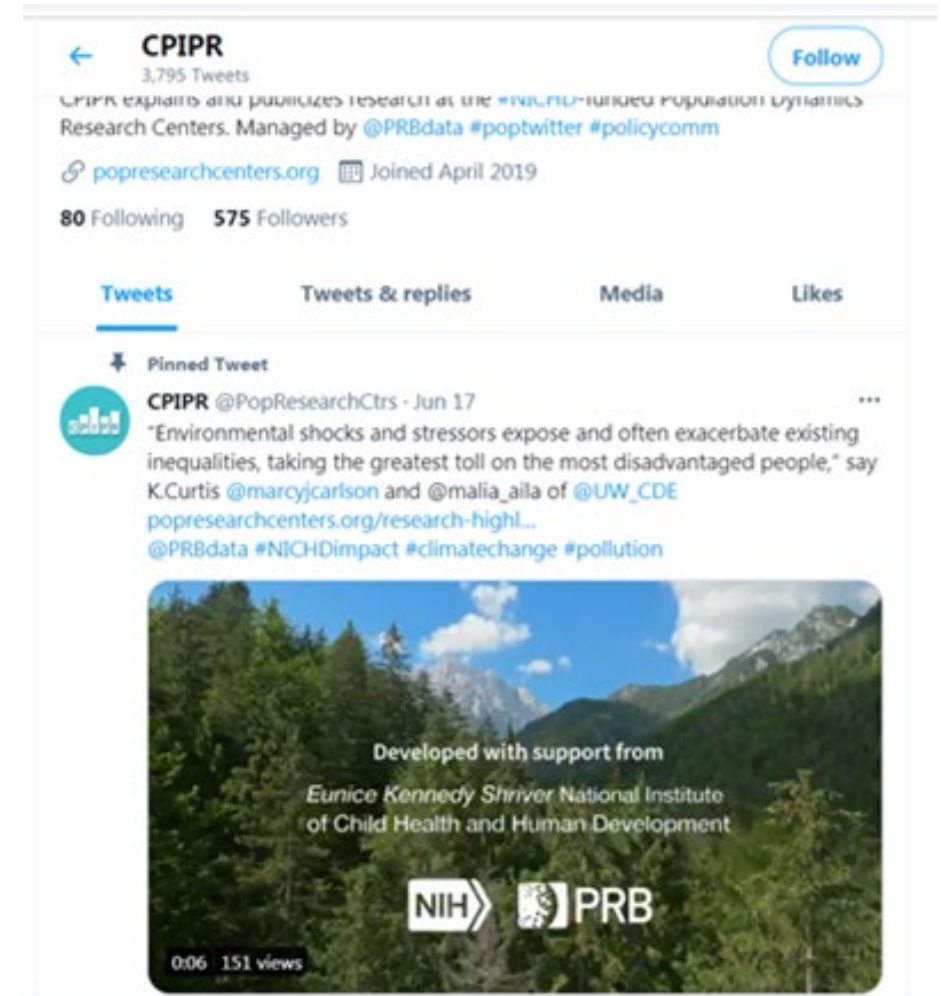
<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/33401217>

[Follow @PopResearchCtrs](#)

@PopResearchCtrs

CPIPR Twitter feed

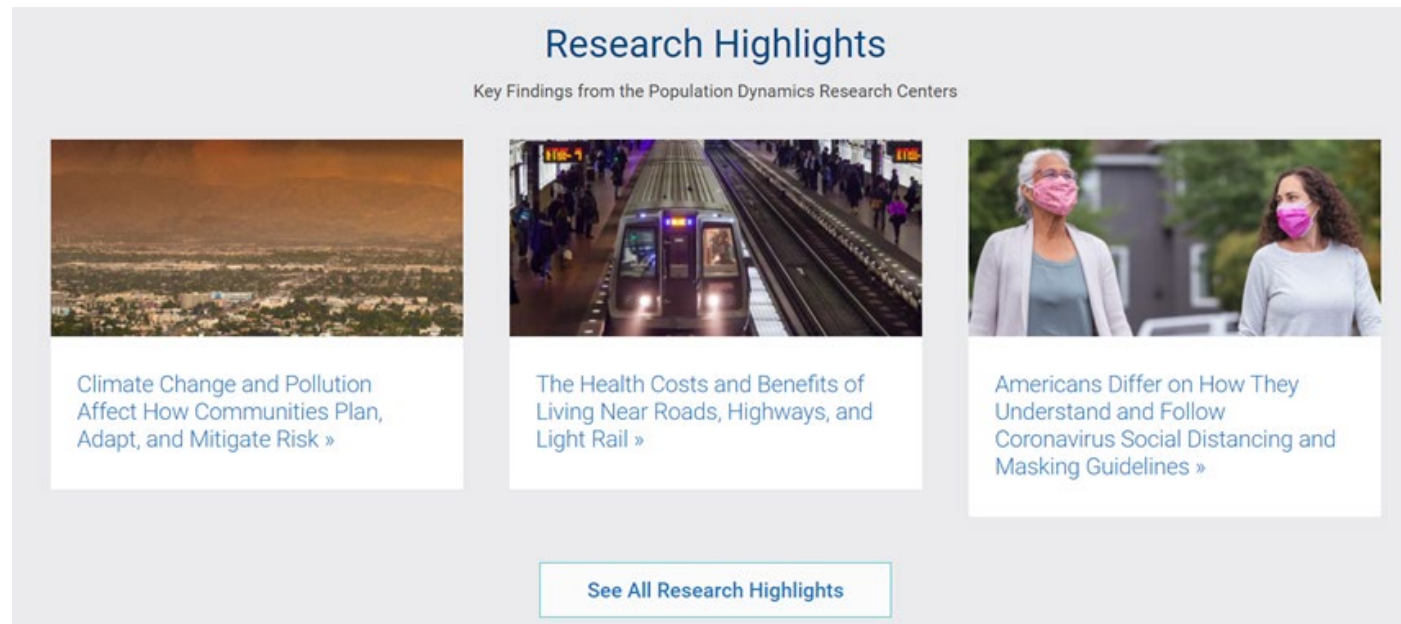
- Launched in May 2019
- 575 followers
- Posted almost 3,800 tweets to date
- Retweet content posted by P2C's Twitter accounts to extend reach
- Generated more than 380,000 tweet impressions in past year



Population Research Centers Website Content

Research Highlights

- Nontechnical summaries of important research findings
- Topics highlight research from multiple centers
- Posted 10 in past year



Population Research Centers Website Content

Coronavirus Resources Page (2020)

- Recently published journal articles related to the pandemic
- Research Highlights summarizing several publications
- List of recent Center seed grants focused on COVID-19

Coronavirus

New research supported by the *Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)* aims to deepen public understanding of the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on population health and inform the response.

New Research at NICHD-Funded Population Centers Examines the Magnitude of the Coronavirus Pandemic and Informs the Response

New research supported by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) at the National Institutes of Health aims to deepen public understanding of the impact of the coronavirus pandemic and inform the response. This list of recently published journal articles shows the ways current and former NICHD-funded Population Centers are contributing... [Read More »](#)

U.S. Racial Inequality May Be as Deadly as the Coronavirus



In estimating the magnitude of the pandemic, demographers have found that COVID-19 is likely to shorten the average U.S. lifespan in 2020 by about a year. [Read More »](#)

New Research at NICHD-Funded Population Centers Examines the Magnitude of the Coronavirus Pandemic and Informs the Response

June 15, 2021

New research supported by the *Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)* at the National Institutes of Health aims to deepen public understanding of the impact of the coronavirus pandemic and inform the response.

This list of recently published journal articles shows the ways current and former NICHD-funded Population Centers are contributing to this important public health challenge.

Bowling Green State University (Grant 5P2CHD050959-16)

During the COVID-19 pandemic, family plays a bigger role in health as people spend more time at home and rely on family members as a major part of their social safety net, which widened existing inequalities and exacerbated health disparities. Thomeer MB, Yahirun J, Colón-López A. How Families Matter for Health Inequality during the COVID-19 Pandemic. *J Fam Theory Rev.* 2020 Dec; 12(4):448-463. Epub 2020 Dec 24.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/33841554>

Columbia University (Grant P2CHD058486)

Parents and children in households that experienced multiple COVID-19 hardships—job and income loss, caregiving burden, and illness—had the poorest mental health. Gassman-Pines A, Ananat EO, Fitz-Henley J 2nd. COVID-19 and Parent-Child Psychological Well-being. *Pediatrics.* 2020 Oct; 146(4). Epub 2020 Aug 6. (Also Duke University.)

Population Research Centers Website Content

Tools & Training

- Centralized resource with best practices for effectively communicating research results to both policy and media audiences

Tools & Training

Many population scientists conduct research that is relevant for a wide range of policy issues. Some are interested in disseminating their results to both policy and media audiences, but would benefit from expert advice on how to do this effectively. CPIPR's Advisory Committee identified a need for centralized information about best practices for effectively communicating research results to both policy and media audiences.

To help address this need, we have developed the following materials:

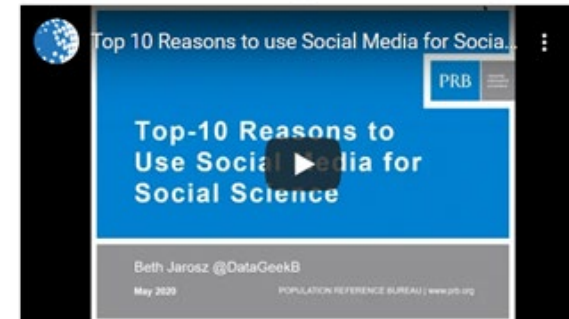
- [Guidelines for a One-Page Research Summary for Policymakers](#)
- [Tips for Using Twitter in the Social Sciences; Communicating Effectively with Journalists](#)
- [Expanding the Reach of Your Research: Best Practices for Communicating with Policymakers and the Media](#)
- [Introduction to Using Twitter for Social Science](#)
- [PowerPoint Presentations from 2017 PAA Session, "New Tools and Best Practices in Communicating Research Results to Media and Policy Audiences"](#)
- [Communicating with Policy Audiences](#)
- [Communicating with Media Audiences](#)

Population Research Centers Website Content

Tools & Training

- Virtual training for Columbia Population Research Center
 - Best practices in using social media and tips for working with journalists
 - Recording and slides posted

Tips for Using Twitter in the Social Sciences; Communicating Effectively with Journalists



Linda A. Jacobsen, Vice President of U.S. Programs at PRB, introduced the panelists and moderated the webinar.

Beth Jarosz, Senior Research Associate in U.S. Programs at PRB, presented [Top-10 Reasons to Use Social Media for Social Science](#) and described how researchers can use Twitter to:

- Share your research findings with a broader audience.
- Get more media exposure for your work.
- Stay up to date on trends and developments in your field.
- Network with other researchers.
- Learn about new potential funding opportunities.

Mark Mather, Associate Vice President of U.S. Programs at PRB, presented [A Field Guide to Journalists](#) in which he provided tips for communicating effectively with journalists.

Population Research Centers Website Content

Tools & Training

- Guidelines for a One-Page Research Summary for Policymakers
 - Document to help researchers summarize their key findings
 - Provides sample summary from recent *Demography* article

Guidelines for a One-Page Research Summary for Policymakers

PRB staff created this document to help researchers summarize their key findings for policymakers.

Key Guidelines

- **Aim for about 350 words single-spaced.**
- **Use the inverted pyramid style typical of newswriting:** Present the conclusions first, followed by the supporting details (which narrow down the triangle). This approach stands in contrast to scientific writing, which is typically organized in the opposite way, reflecting a traditional pyramid. Academic articles start with the details and background, then build up to the conclusion or main results at the end.
- **The headline should include a verb.**
The first sentence should be a summary of the most important findings, that is, the bottom line. Try to make it succinct enough to be a 140-character Tweet. Aim to convey the main point so that readers get the gist of the research if they read no further.
- **The second sentence**, if possible, should focus on the implications of the main findings –actions policymakers, program planners, or ordinary people might take based on these findings.
- **Second paragraph:** describe the research team and the methods used to arrive at these conclusions in a sentence or two.
- **Further paragraphs:** add additional description of the findings, point out what sets this study apart from other previous studies.
- **Final paragraphs:** Describe policy implications of this research in further detail.

Sample Research Summary (adapted from Stefanie Mollborn, Elizabeth Lawrence, and Elisabeth Dowling Root, "Residential Mobility Across Early Childhood and Children's Kindergarten Readiness," *Demography* 55, no. 2 (2020):485-510.)

Current Center Collaborations

University of Wisconsin

- Supporting dissemination of special issue of *Population and Environment*
- Worked with authors to create one-page research summaries
- Created social media toolkit
- Created three videos for use with social media

Climate Change and Pollution Affect How Communities Plan, Adapt, and Mitigate Risk

June 2021

Wildfire. Drought. Lead Exposure. Oil spill.

Environmental events and changes can have profound effects on our health and jobs and help shape our decisions on where we live.

A new, special issue of the journal, *Population and Environment*, explores the ways that environmental forces shape people's lives and behaviors, and identifies policy approaches community leaders can use to plan, adapt, and mitigate risks in specific settings worldwide.

The featured studies draw on the expanding availability of environmental data, which reflects growing interest in the human implications of climate change and the increasing frequency of extreme weather events, report Katherine Curtis, Marcy Carlson, and Malia Jones of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, editors of this special issue.

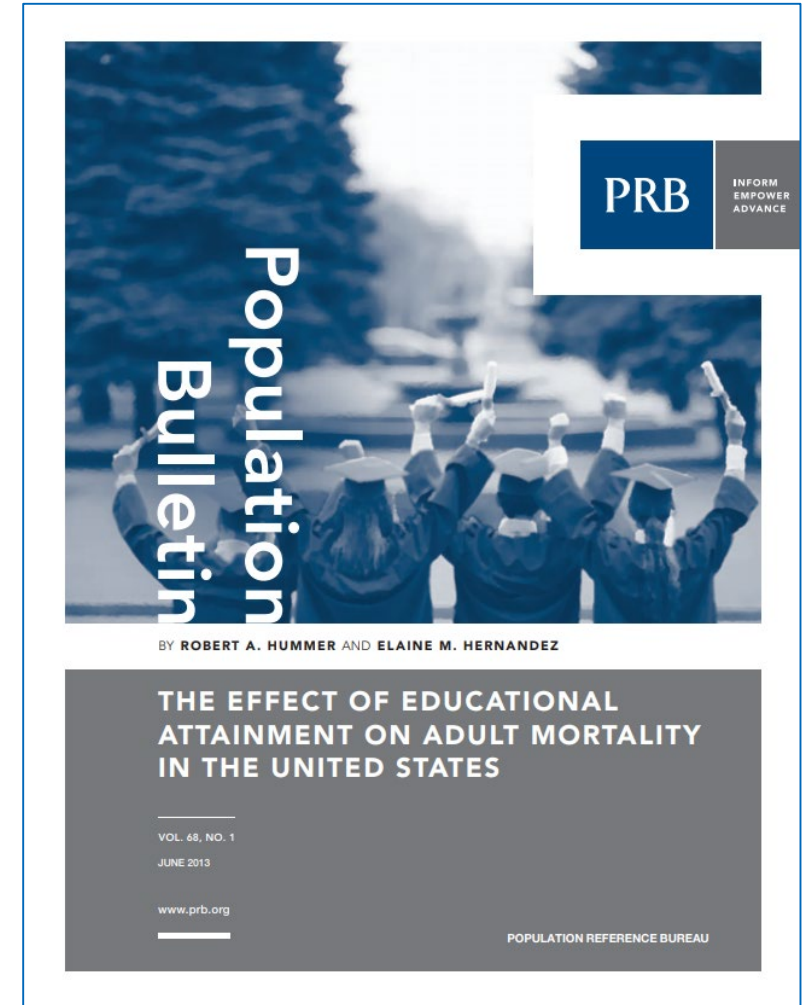
Much of the research in this journal issue grapples with the impact of dynamic forces in the natural environment on child health and migration:

- **U.S. children exposed to air pollution and household lead face a higher risk of incarceration and lower incomes in adulthood.**¹ The study also linked high levels of air pollution—disproportionately found in Black and Latino neighborhoods—to a greater likelihood of teen childbearing. White children were much less likely to be exposed to either air pollution or household lead, suggesting that efforts to clean up neighborhood toxins could increase social mobility and decrease inequality. [Policy Summary](#).
- **Children whose families lost income or jobs related to the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill were more likely to have persistent health problems.**² Children affected by the oil spill had poorer health compared with their peers, whether they had physical contact with toxins or their household lost jobs or income because of the disaster. While the effects of physical exposure to the oil spill dissipated over time, the effects of related job or

Current Center Collaborations

University of Colorado and UNC Chapel Hill

- Working with Rick Rogers, Bob Hummer, and co-authors
- PRB *Population Bulletin* with nontechnical summary of key findings from NICHD grant on Early Life Mortality
- Similar to previous *Bulletin* on educational attainment and adult mortality



Future Collaborations

- If you want to know more about any of these activities and resources:
 - Visit www.popresearchcenters.org
 - Follow us on Twitter ([@PopResearchCtrs](https://twitter.com/PopResearchCtrs))
 - Reach out to me (ljacobsen@prb.org) or Mark Mather (mmather@prb.org)
- We welcome your suggestions!