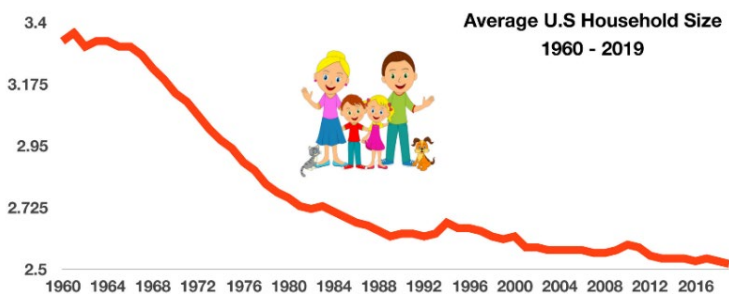


cupc highlights



National Bubble Gum Day! – first Friday in Feb.
feb 13, 2023

media coverage



CUPC's [Amanda Stevenson](#) is making national news: ABC interviewed Amanda for their news piece [The average US household has been shrinking for the last century.](#)

"There's been this decline in what they call the corporate family, which is a family that is designed around economic production within the household," she explains. Amanda further points out that back in the day, families would gather resources through offspring, which evolved into family businesses like farming or a mom-and-pop shop. She describes how the emergence of the wage

economy with the industrialization of the United States was likely a far bigger driver in the shift towards a smaller family size than any changes in people's desires. ~ *captivating research Amanda, well done!*

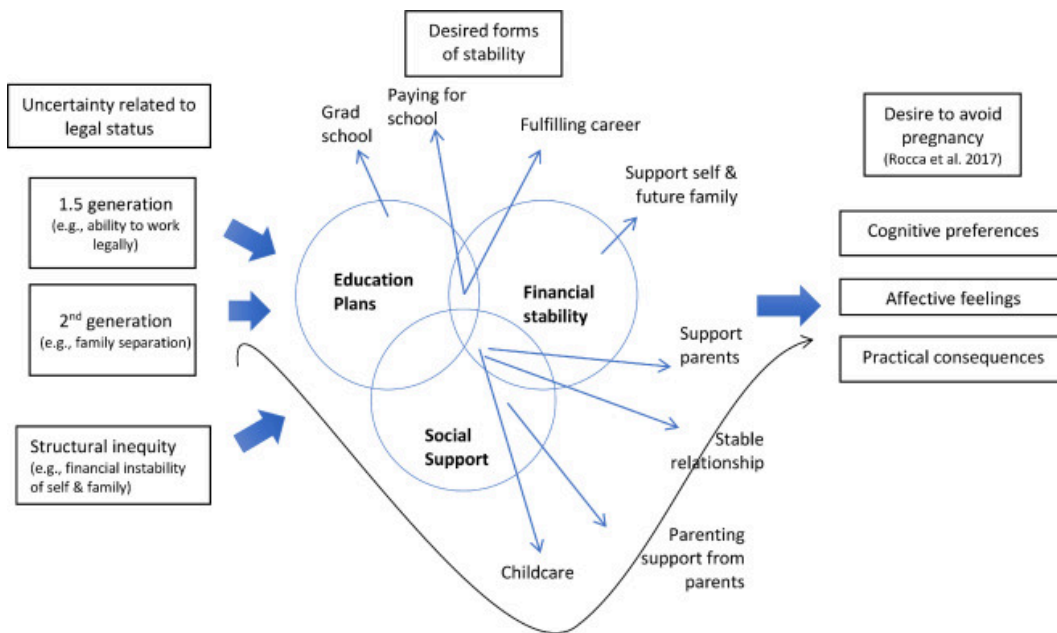


[Katie Massey Combs](#) recently spearheaded a blogpost by a group of researchers specializing in sexual and reproductive health for vulnerable teens, addressing the topic [how the Dobbs decision affects youth in care and recommendations for providers.](#) "As researchers who aim to improve the sexual and reproductive health of youth in foster care through their research, we are concerned about the impact that the Dobbs decision will have on their access to sexual and reproductive healthcare services," Katie states in the post. The post highlights how youth in foster care, who already face barriers to accessing abortion services, will be disproportionately affected by abortion restrictions. She provides recommendations for child welfare practitioners and healthcare providers to attempt in lessening the impact.

recently published papers

Uh oh! Are you aware that the mortality consequences of overweight and obesity have likely been underestimated, especially at older ages? More in-depth investigation into this BMI-mortality linkage is explained in **Ryan Masters'** online published paper, entitled "[Sources and Severity of Bias in Estimates of the BMI-Mortality Association](#)," featured in *Population Studies*. Sizzling-hot off the press, his manuscript warns that estimates of mortality differences in body mass index are likely biased, as his research explores heterogeneity in body shape, positive survival bias in high-BMI samples due to recent weight gain, and negative survival bias in low-BMI samples due to recent weight loss.

~ way to go Ryan!



BRAVO to our Denver-Anschutz affiliate [Kate Coleman-Minahan](#) and CU Sociology PhD student [Melissa Villarreal](#) for their newly published paper entitled “[The role of legal status and uncertainty in the reproductive aspirations of 1.5 and second generation Mexican-origin immigrant young women: An exploratory study](#)” featured in the *Journal of Migration and Health*! Their research, funded with a CUPC SEED grant, investigates how legal status and its uncertainty shape the reproductive aspirations of cisgender young immigrant women, focusing on the “1.5 generation”, who are individuals brought to the U.S. prior to age 16, and the second generation Americans, who are U.S.-born to immigrant parents. They find that achieving desired stability before childbearing is more challenging for the 1.5 generation since their fears stem from the uncertainty of their own legal status, while the legal status of their parents makes parenting feel scary for the second generation. The authors also remind us that [DACA's](#) temporary legal protection doesn't help this reproductive hesitancy since it restricts access to education, financial stability, and social support.

For the CUPC modeling geeks, you may consider [jimi adams'](#) newly published manuscript in *PLOS ONE*, entitled “[On limitations of uniplex networks for modeling multiplex contagion](#)” helpful in your own work. Coauthored with Nicholas Landry, a former CU Boulder math student, their study helps to understand contagion dynamics and how data modeling choices can affect the predictions of contagion processes, especially with the limited reach of using **uniplex** network modeling for inherently **multiplex** processes, in order to find the ultimate extent of spread over a population.

[Why does BIODIVERSITY matter and what is the world doing about it?](#) Well, *CU Boulder Today* reached out to our expert



affiliate in human-environmental conservation [Mara Goldman](#) on her thoughts, after more than 190 countries met last December in Montreal for the United Nations Convention of Biological Diversity's 15th Annual Conference of the Parties ([COP15](#)). “**30%-by-30**” is the global commitment resulting from the COP15 to protect **30%** of the planet's land and oceans by **2030** in order to reduce global biodiversity loss during this decade. Mara explains why this landmark is so critical and what the challenges are to making it a reality. “*The highest levels of biodiversity on the planet exist in lands that are occupied and managed by indigenous communities*”. Thus, she warns about the dangers of human rights violations that can arise with the questionable narrative that in order to

protect nature, we need to remove indigenous people. (view in-depth video-taped interview w/ Mara [HERE](#).)

~ a compelling and enlightening perspective Mara!

honors

Let's toast TWO outstanding colleagues for their recent marks of distinction:

Our CU Denver affiliate and member of the CUPC Executive Committee [Karen Spencer](#) is now the Senior co-editor of the medical sociology office section of the popular international journal [Social Science & Medicine](#)! Karen will be working alongside her co-editor Dr. Stefan Timmermans of UCLA. If you haven't explored this journal, it covers a wide-range of social science health disciplines (anthropology, economics, epidemiology, geography, policy, psychology, and sociology). ~ *kudos Karen!*

Catchin' up with [jimi adams](#): 'member back in 2020 during the very scary early months of the "mysterious" coronavirus pandemic, whirling with it hyper-sensitive public health concerns? During that time, jimi adams and his COVID-19 modeling team were insanely busy tracking the mobility, behavior, and activity patterns of the Colorado population, as their findings were utilized in press releases by Governor Polis and media reports, which ultimately influenced state and local orders. Turning to early 2023, jimi has now been elected to the [Board of Directors](#) for the "International Network for Social Network Analysis" ([INSNA](#)), which is his primary professional association - a perfect fit! INSNA focuses on uncovering the patterning of people's interaction and how this analysis is tied into the larger web of social connections. Its data analysis finds applications in organizational behavior, the spread of contagious diseases, mental health, and social support, just to name a few. ~ *nice jimi!*

invited talks and presentations

Wow, how LUCKY for the [CU Trustees](#) to have [Colleen Reid](#) as their guest speaker last week, sharing her expertise on "Learning from the Marshall Fire: Health Impacts of a Wildland Urban Interface Fire" – of course, a terrific honor for Colleen as well, since the Trustees select only three faculty per year for their seminar series, whose work, they feel, is innovative and impactful - thus the series name "Lead, Innovate, Impact". FYI: the Trustees are the highest donors to the CU Foundation, historically! ~ *wonderful recognition of your hard work on the Marshall Fire tragedy, Colleen!*

[Katie Massey Combs](#) was recently invited to serve on a town hall panel for Colorado's Division of Child Welfare, focusing on the topic "[Sexual Health and Youth in Foster Care.](#)" (Katie appears ~47 min. into the video.) The town hall was in response to her published article "[Sexual and reproductive health protective factors among adolescents with child welfare involvement](#)", which you may recall, received a frenzy of local media coverage last autumn.



fun fact: Katie is expecting her 2nd baby **ANY DAY now!** A "mini-Katie"! **Congratulations to you and your family Katie!**

newly funded grants



TOUCHDOWN!! PI [Myron Gutmann](#), along with his CUPC colleagues, received a multi-million dollar NIH grant - and it's no wonder since the project team is made up of all CUPC rock stars: Myron, Stefan Leyk, Lori Hunter, Ryan Masters, and Dylan Connor! The project's title is "Addressing the Midlife Mortality Crisis: Place-Based Modeling, Trend Analysis and Policy Interventions." They'll be exploring several cause-specific mortality trends that warrant attention: rising rates of suicides, cardiometabolic diseases, and deaths due to drug or alcohol abuse, along with their interactions with select infectious diseases. What makes this project so innovative is (1) mortality data at the block, zip code or tract level; (2) methods in spatial analysis, time series trajectory determination, and multiscalar statistical analysis; and (3) an

innovative and integrated approach to policy research, conducted by an experienced “dream team” in demographic analysis, multiscalar spatial and temporal statistics, and rural health policy formulation.

~ a BIG round of applause to all of you!

introducing our newest CUPC GRA student for Spring semester!

WELCOME aboard [Paige Schoonover](#), an ECON PhD student whose research focuses on labor and development economics. She is working with her advisor [Brian Cadena](#) to evaluate the impacts of the Colorado Works Subsidized Training and Employment Program (CW STEP). The project aims to understand how this program affects the wages and employment of individuals who participate in the program both during program participation and throughout the rest of their lifetime. Additionally, Paige is working to understand the impacts of a large contraceptive recall in Chile on women’s fertility, education, and labor force participation choices.



*~ we’re thankful to have Paige join us this semester – she has a wonderful writing talent and is a major contributor of this **very edition of CUPC Highlights!** We couldn’t have completed it without her help!*

Menken Lecture success!

WOO HOO! The Menken Lecture held last month was a success! A mega-thank-you to all those who attended; an impressive turn-out, especially on a very cold winter evening! Check out the [photos of the event](#) and the full video of the talk on our CUPC website. *(compiled and posted by Paige Schoonover)*