

cupc highlights

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CUPC is so lucky this academic year! We have an exceptional GRA administrative assistant - introducing **Valentina Serrano Salomon**, a SOCY PhD student who assisted with many of the entries for this edition. Her talents cease to amaze us every day!

recently published papers

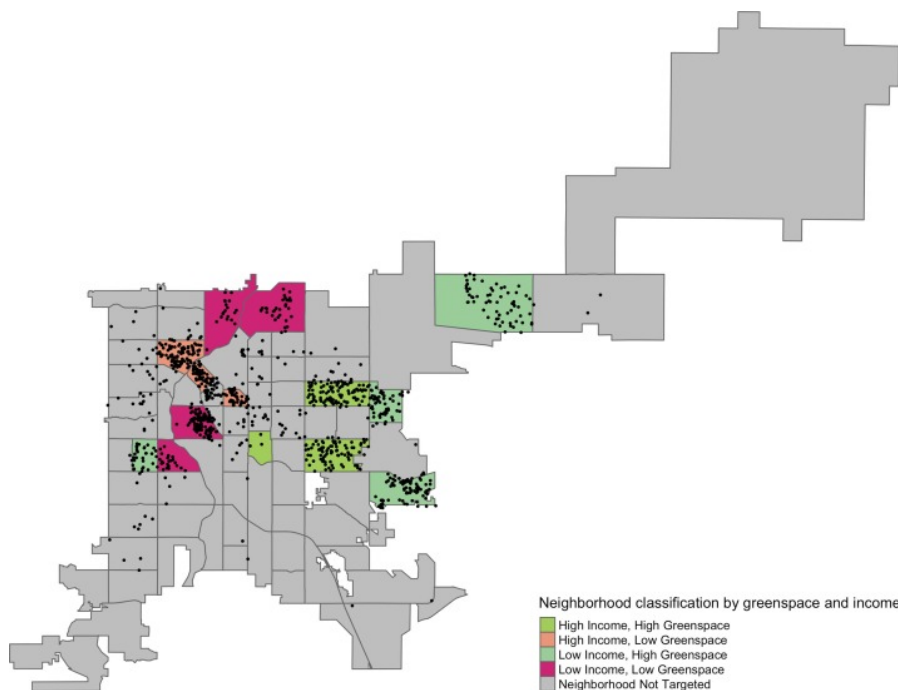
Congratulations to **Sara Yeatman** and former CUPC student **Christie Sennott** (Purdue U.) whose paper "**Fertility desires and contraceptive transition**" is featured in a special issue of *Population & Development Review*. Their study tackles the frequent misalignment between fertility desires and contraceptive use.

Motivation for Fertility Regulation

Costs of Fertility Regulation



A big shoutout to GEOG PhD student **Emma Rieves** and her advisor **Colleen Reid** for two newly published articles, in which Emma is the lead author: 1) "**Is greenspace in the eye of the beholder?**" in the *Journal of Environmental Psychology* explains how perceived and objective greenspace exposure affects mental health, including how the roles of race and socioeconomic status play into it. And... 2) "**Do environmental attitudes and personal characteristics influence how people perceive their exposure to green space?**" in *Landscape and Urban Planning*.





While walking by a construction site, do you ever wonder what would happen to the U.S. labor market if a large percentage of that crew you see working up on those beams was suddenly deported? Well, [Chloe East's](#) commentary "[The Labor Market Impact of Deportations,](#)" published in the *Brookings*, not only highlights the hidden costs of deportations on our labor market, but also how they impact immigrant communities and lead to [worse](#) labor market outcomes for U.S.-born workers!

High-five to [Stefan Leyk](#), [Jennifer Balch](#) (Director, Earth Lab), and their CIRES colleagues, whose paper "[The Fastest-Growing and Most Destructive Fire in the US \(2001 to 2020\)](#)," published recently in *Science*, gives insight into how "fast-fires" (those that move and spread quickly) are responsible for most destruction and costs, using satellite data. The team emphasized the critical need for better firefighting strategies and community preparedness.



[Lori Hunter](#) and [Deborah Balk](#) (Baruch College, CUNY) have published a new paper in *Nature Climate Change*, entitled "[A framework for ageing and health vulnerabilities in a changing climate.](#)" The study explores the growing health challenges, not to mention the tremendous stress placed upon older adults due to climate change.

invited talks and presentations

As you may recall, [Karen Bailey](#) has been serving as commissioner of the Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Commission. Recently, her work took her to Spain and Italy where she participated in a couple of international conferences:

[Pathways Europe 2024 Human Dimensions of Wildlife - "Revisiting What Is Wild for Coexisting"](#): Karen presented research on equity and diversity in state fish and wildlife agencies.

[FLARE \(Forests & Livelihoods Assessment, Research, and Engagement\)](#): Karen served on a panel and facilitated a workshop on climate adaptation and resilience for forest dependent communities.

[Rick Rogers](#) participated in this year's [Southern Demographic Association \(SDA\) annual meeting](#), held in Savannah, GA where CU SOCY alumni [Liz Lawrence](#) (U. Nevada) presented the team's research, "Adolescent Health Behaviors and Subsequent Mortality Risk across 25 Years of Follow-Up." ~ *keep up the great work Rick!*

[Jessica Finlay](#) presented her work "[Qualitative and mixed methods approaches to neighborhoods and cognitive aging](#)" at The National Academies workshop [Identifying Midlife Social Exposures that Might Modify Risk for Cognitive Impairment Associated with Early Life Disadvantage.](#)

webinar

Last month, our population scholars [Leslie Root](#) and [Amanda Stevenson](#), along with their colleague [Leigh Senderowicz \(UW-Madison\)](#) held a webinar titled "[Demographers Respond to Rising Pronatalism](#)" that placed pronatalism into scientific perspective. They discussed how demographic science doesn't support the catastrophizing of low birth rates and population "collapse." The webinar was moderated by [Jessica Pieklo](#), journalist and editor of [Rewire News Group](#).

honors - roundtable participation



Fabulous news! **Laura Vargas**, who usually spends her time on the front lines of the U.S./Mexico border collecting data on the impacts of violence and trauma on the mental health of migrant populations, is lately finding herself in places where policy decisions are made, including the White House! Last month, she, along with prominent Latino leaders and stakeholders, addressed migration, gun violence, and mental health of the Lantinx population to the Deputy Directors of the WH Office of Gun Violence Prevention, a first roundtable of this kind. The directors were very receptive with their efforts!

"I was deeply honored to be a part of this group and to represent the University of Colorado and the many groups that have supported my work throughout my career," expresses Laura.

~ way to go Laura - your mission is getting attention where it truly counts!

media coverage

Broadcasted on a public radio show ***It's a New Day*** (aired Oct 16) was a fascinating conversation between **Sharon DeWitt** and host Julie Beardsley about the bubonic plague. Sharon shared insights from her bioarcheological research on the 14th-century Black Death, discussing how skeletal remains reveal the health status and living conditions of people in medieval times. She also pointed out the factors contributing to the plague's deadliness and which groups were most vulnerable. Catch Sharon's seminar next month at IBS! (See "mark your calendar" section for details.)



When it comes to understanding the true economic and social impacts of mass deportation upon unauthorized immigrants, CU Denver's **Chloe East** is the go-to expert! Her recent media blitz sheds light on the ripple effects across multiple industries:

1) *The New Republic* tapped into Chloe's expertise for their article "**What Mass Deportation Would Mean for the Economy**," where she breaks down how deportation disrupts key sectors like construction, agriculture, and childcare. "*When unauthorized workers are removed, those jobs often sit empty*," East explains, leading to ripple effects that impact U.S.-born workers and thus, drive up costs, especially in areas like childcare.

2) On **NPR**, East tackled the myth that immigrants drive up housing prices. While some demand does come from new arrivals, Chloe points to bigger factors like low inventory and high interest rates as the real culprits. In fact, "*you could actually think about [immigrants] as having lower demand for housing than an average U.S.-born household*," she says, since many undocumented immigrants are more likely to rent or live with extended family.



3) In a recent *Denver 7* piece "**Operation Aurora' would deport violent criminals, but supporters hope it goes beyond that**," East shares insights on crime, highlighting how mass deportation actually makes communities less safe by discouraging people from reporting crimes due to deportation fears, which in turn disrupts law enforcement efforts.

4) Lastly, the *BBC* spotlighted East in their in-depth feature on how "**Migrant farm worker deaths show cost of the 'American Dream**," where she emphasized the hazardous conditions that these workers

face in agriculture. Stricter immigration laws, she warns, only make it harder for these workers to speak up about unsafe conditions.

newly funded grants

Woo Hoo! Sara Yeatman (Co-I) and former CUPC graduate Christie Sennott (PI, Purdue U.) were funded an NICHD grant for their project “Reproductive Healthcare Deserts and Inequalities in Maternal and Infant Health.” They plan to create an interactive dashboard of county-level access to abortion, contraception, and maternity care between 2010-present and examine how living in a reproductive healthcare desert shapes maternal and child health outcomes.



The National Institute on Aging (NIA) sure knows a powerhouse team when they see one! Lori Hunter, Deborah Balk (MPI's), UW Sara Curran, UMN Kat Grace, and El Colegio de México Landy Sanchez were awarded an R61/R33 5-yr., two-phase grant for their virtual infrastructure project “Aging and Health in a Changing Climate!,” nicknamed CACHE. ~ hip-hip hooray!!

And NICHD sure knows a powerhouse team when it crosses their table! The Colorado Fertility Project group, made up of Amanda Stevenson, Jane Menken, Leslie Root, CU Denver Sara Yeatman, U.S. Census Bureau Katie Genadek, Stefanie Mollborn, and James Flynn were awarded a 5-yr. R01 for their project “Life Course Impacts of Reduced Access to Contraception!” ~ yippee!!

Chloe East has been awarded an NSF grant to study the “Causal Effects of Safety Net Program Access.” With ~\$700K in funding, East’s research will dive deep into U.S. safety net programs like SNAP, Medicaid, and HUD Housing Assistance. This project aims to improve program access for those eligible. Her team will also assess the real impact of these benefits on employment, wages, and health outcomes for families across the nation.

CUPC proposal submissions

~ fingers crossed!

CUPC PI: Ryan Masters, Co-Is: Rick Rogers and Jason Boardman

Collaborator(s): Ilya Gutin (Syracuse U.), Bob Hummer (UNC, Chapel Hill),

Project Title: Early-life Mortality Trends among U.S. Birth Cohorts and the Widening US-Peer Longevity Gap

Funding Agency: NIH/NICHD (R01 submission)

Amount Requested: \$1,737,417



Mon, December 2, 12-1pm: the IBS/CUPC speaker series is excited to announce Sharon DeWitte, of the Center for Collaborative Synthesis in Archaeology, who will speak about “[Childhood nutritional stress and later-life health outcomes in medieval England: evidence from incremental dentine analysis](#),” sponsored by the CU Population Center. Join in person at IBS 155 or via [Zoom](#) (email ibs-contact@colorado.edu for password.)

new “CUPC” babies!



← **Meet Rafa! (Rafael Tiampo Finlay)** He entered the world with a **BANG!** - born **July 4**. This lit'l firecracker is Jessica Finlay's 3rd boy – all age 5 and under! She describes their household as “happy chaos”. FYI: the Finlay family is slowly building a lit'l league baseball team.



← **Meet Meilè Ann!** (name means love in Lithuania). Meilè was also born this past July – she is Lori Peek's 2nd child. Meilè's furry friend lying there is Duke!

fun fact: Nov. 8 is “[National Parents As Teachers Day!](#)” Every child learns their first lessons from home, so let's toast to all CUPC parents today!