Foreword

This volume, "*Fertility of Immigrants: A Two-Generational Approach in Germany*" by Dr. Nadja Milewski, is the sixth book of a series of Demographic Research Monographs published by Springer Verlag. Dr. Milewski is now working for the University of Rostock, but at the time she wrote the book, she was a research scientist at the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research. The book is a slightly-revised version of her doctoral dissertation ("*Fertility of Immigrants and Their Descendants in West Germany: An Event History Approach*"), which she completed at the Max Planck Institute and submitted to the University of Rostock. She was awarded highest honors, summa cum laude, for her dissertation.

As Professor Jan Hoem wrote in his review of Dr. Milewski's dissertation, the research focuses on the patterns and levels of childbearing among immigrant women. Given Germany's varied immigration experience with refugees, asylum seekers, guest workers, and foreign-born persons of German ancestry, Dr. Milewski's topic is of particular interest, especially with regard to differences in the patterns and levels of childbearing among various kinds of immigrants to Germany vs. native-born Germans. Numerous empirical and theoretical studies of childbearing among immigrants to various countries have been published and Dr. Milewski carefully reviews them. While earlier studies have tended to be rather fragmentary, particularly for European populations, Dr. Milewski's research provides a comprehensive picture of the recent female fertility of post-war migrants and their descendants in West Germany, with an emphasis on migrants who came to Germany to work.

The introduction to the book gives a brief overview of post-war migration to Germany. The second part reviews previous literature, specifies and describes the population to be studied, and formulates hypotheses to be tested. As described by Dr. Milewski, existing theory concentrates on five types of hypotheses concerning immigrant fertility. In a nutshell, these are:

1. The disruption hypothesis, which states that the preparations for and the aftermath of a move and the act of migrating itself are stressful and lead to reduced fertility after the move

2. The socialization hypothesis, which claims that there are lasting impacts of childbearing behavior in the society which the (female) migrant leaves, imprints of which will influence her fertility after arrival in the country of destination
3. The adaptation hypothesis, which posits that the childbearing behavior of migrant groups will converge on that of the population at destination,
4. The selection hypothesis, which states that women who move have particular characteristics that make them different from both the population of origin and the population at destination, and that makes the fertility of migrants different from both populations; such characteristics may be observed or may lead to unobserved heterogeneity,
5. The hypothesis of an interrelation of events, which notes that migration often occurs in close proximity to other demographic events, particularly union formation/marriage, and posits that the confluence tends to be reflected in increased fertility after migration; this latter hypothesis is a direct competitor to the disruption hypothesis.

To confront these hypotheses with the reality of her data, Dr. Milewski makes a distinction between non-immigrant women in Germany and first- and second-generation immigrant women. The first-generation immigrants are women who themselves have immigrated as adults; second-generation immigrants are their daughters, who either moved with their parents to West Germany as children or were born in West Germany to parents at least one of whom is a first-generation immigrant. Note that the second-generation "immigrants" born in Germany never actually immigrated to the country, so many of the hypotheses about the fertility of in-migrants are largely irrelevant for this group. Studying this population opens the possibility of analyzing fertility socialization in various minority groups: the group of immigrant descendants is perfect for the study of inter-generational adaptation behavior.

The third part of the book is dedicated to the analyses. Dr. Milewski concentrates on women with a background from Turkey, Greece, Italy, Spain, and the states that formerly constituted Yugoslavia. She compares the childbearing patterns of these groups with each other and with those of non-immigrant women in West Germany, and she also compares the features of first- and second-generation immigrants in each group. Following a productive tradition in demography, she analyzes first, second, and third births separately, and she includes marriage formation and marital status as appropriate. She focuses on individual childbearing behavior after immigration using event-history analysis. This analytical approach enables her to study the impact of time since immigration and the importance of the duration of marriage.

The data for this study were drawn from the German Socio-Economic Panel Study. The sample includes women of the birth cohorts 1946–1983, living in West Germany. Use of the life-course approach enables Dr. Milewski to link demographic events in a life domain for an individual (childbearing behavior, say) to past events in the same domain, to changes in other domains (parallel careers), and to features of the lives of husbands and other family members (linked lives).

The book concludes with a discussion of the results. Like several previous investigators, Dr. Milewski firmly rejects the disruption hypothesis for first-generation immigrants and replaces it by a fertility-increasing "arrival effect" in line with the hypothesis of an interrelation of events. In addition, she finds evidence for adaptation, socialization, and compositional effects. The independence of Dr. Milewski's thinking shows up in her doubts about the US-based theories that have previously dominated the literature. She does not find them particularly appropriate to West German reality, mainly because of the different role of the state in the United States vs. Germany.

Dr. Milewski's analysis demonstrates the advantages of a longitudinal research design over the conventional cross-sectional one, and sets a new standard for research on the fertility of international migrants and their descendants. Her study shows how thorough modeling of life-history data can advance our knowledge about family dynamics.

The series of Demographic Research Monographs is under the editorial supervision of the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research. I am the Editor-in-Chief. I am advised by an Editorial Board that currently consists of Prof. Elisabetta Barbi (Messina University, Italy), Prof. Gabriele Doblhammer (Rostock University, Germany), Dr. Jutta Gampe (Max Planck Institute), Prof. Joshua Goldstein (Max Planck Institute), and Prof. Bernard Jeune (University of Southern Denmark). Additional members are temporarily appointed to the Editorial Board as needed to review the manuscripts submitted for possible publication. The current manuscript was reviewed and accepted by Prof. Jan M. Hoem (Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research), Dr. Hill Kulu (University of Liverpool), and Prof. Michaela Kreyenfeld (University of Rostock).

The Demographic Research Monographs series can be considered the successor to the series called Odense Monographs on Population Aging, edited by Bernard Jeune and James Vaupel. The volumes in this now-terminated series were first published as hardcover books by an academic publisher, Odense University Press, and subsequently made available online at www.demogr.mpg.de/books/odense. The nine Odense Monographs on Population Aging include two collections of research articles that focus on specific subjects on the frontier of demographic research, three volumes by senior researchers that present path-breaking findings, a review of research on a topic of emerging interest, a presentation of a new method for analysis of demographic data, an outstanding doctoral dissertation, and a unique collection of important demographic data on non-human species.

The series of Demographic Research Monographs continues this mix, with books that are often under 200 pages in length, that have a clear focus, and that significantly advance demographic knowledge. Research related to population aging continues to be a focus on the series, but it is not the only one. We hope that eventually the series will embrace all of demography, broadly defined. As indicated by the first volume in the series, an important subject is historical demography. We will also publish research on fertility and family dynamics, as in the case of this volume. Mathematical demography is the core of the population sciences and we will strive to foster monographs, such as the one on How Long Do

We Live?, that use mathematics and statistics to further develop the theories and methods of demography. Biodemography is a small but rapidly growing and particularly innovative branch of demography: we will seize opportunities to publish monographs, such as the one by Dr. Annette Baudisch, at the intersection of biology and demography; such monographs can pertain both to humans and other species, and can include demographic research with ties to such fields as epidemiology, genetics, evolutionary biology, life-history biology, experimental demography, and paleodemography.

Each volume in the Demographic Research Monograph series will have a substantial link to the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research. As well as being published as hardcover books by Springer-Verlag, the volumes of the Max Planck series of Demographic Research Monographs will subsequently be available at www.demogr.mpg.de/books/drm. The online version may include color graphs, supplemental analyses, databases, and other ancillary or enhanced material. Parallel publication online and in print is a significant innovation that will make the monograph series particularly useful to scholars and students around the world.

James W. Vaupel
Editor-in-Chief