



IMPRS
INTERNATIONAL MAX PLANCK
RESEARCH SCHOOL
population. health. data science.



**MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE
FOR DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH**

JOB OFFERS

PhD student positions at the

Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR)

International Max Planck Research School
for Population, Health and Data Science

Application Deadline: May 9th, 2021

We invite applications for PhD student positions in the Labs of the MPIDR Directors Mikko Myrskylä and Emilio Zagheni. The MPIDR is one of the leading demographic centers in the world. It is part of the Max Planck Society, a network of 86 institutes that form Germany's premier basic-research organization. Max Planck Institutes have an established record of world-class research and they offer a unique environment that combines the best aspects of an academic setting and a research laboratory.

We are looking for candidates with a background in Demography, Data Science, Computer Science/ Informatics, Applied Mathematics, Economics, Sociology, Public Health, or related disciplines.

1. **MIKKO MYRSKYLÄ'S DEPARTMENT** is recruiting for the following two research themes:

Family Dynamics, Health and Well-being

Family members can provide social support and resources that are beneficial for health. At the same time, certain family contexts can be characterized by stress and conflicts that may be harmful. Understanding how health and well-being are associated with family dynamics is crucial to understanding and reducing health inequalities. We are interested in longitudinal approaches that focus on the intersection of family and health, and their interrelationships and institutional contexts. This project will be supervised by **Mine Kühn** from the **Lab of Population Health**. For questions, please contact her at kuehn@demogr.mpg.de.

Fertility and Global Challenges

Joshua Wilde from the **Lab of Fertility and Well-being** is looking for candidates with interests in the intersection between fertility and global challenges, broadly construed. Possible topics include – but are not limited to – linkages between fertility and climate change; fertility and disease (such as COVID-19, malaria); fertility and gender discrimination (such as sex-selective abortion); fertility decline and macroeconomic outcomes, or other issues surrounding the Demographic Dividend; fertility in the context of economic and social crises; in utero shocks and birth/health outcomes. Research in both high-income and low- and middle-income setting is welcome. For questions, please contact Joshua at wilde@demogr.mpg.de.

2. **EMILIO ZAGHENI** is looking for candidates who will work in one of the research areas of the **Lab of Digital and Computational Demography: Migration and Mobility; Aging and Generational Processes; Social and Environmental Dynamics**. The successful candidates would complement or further develop projects in the Lab. While the search is not restricted to specific projects, currently we are particularly interested in strengthening the following themes:



- 1) Statistical modelling, estimation and forecasting of migration flows, including how they vary by demographic characteristics and for specific subpopulations (e.g., high-skilled migrants, scholars, at the subnational level).
- 2) Assessing and predicting inequalities in kin availability, in the lived experience of mortality and in other demographic outcomes, at the macro and micro levels, using a combination of formal methods, microsimulation and machine learning techniques.
- 3) Understanding and characterizing gender gaps and other demographic inequalities in access and use of information and communication technologies, as well as the differential demographic impact of technological change on social relations, well-being and the way we spend our time.

For questions, please contact Emilio at sekzagheni@demogr.mpg.de or the Research Area Chairs of the thematic area you are interested in. For a description of the Lab and research areas, as well as current projects and contact information, please see <https://www.demogr.mpg.de/go/lab-dcd>.

These PhD studentships offer an excellent opportunity for motivated students to work with a highly international team of researchers, to take advantage of the interdisciplinary intellectual environment at MPIDR, as well as substantial financial support for travel, research training and data acquisition.

Admitted students take part in the **International Max Planck Research School for Population, Health and Data Science (IMPRS-PHDS)** that merges demography, epidemiology and data science. IMPRS-PHDS equips doctoral students not only with advanced knowledge of the theory and methods of demography and epidemiology (broadly defined as 'population health'), but also with strong technical skills in statistics, mathematical modeling, and computational and data management methods (broadly referred to as 'data science'). PHDS supports strong interdisciplinary research training and exchange within a network of universities in Europe and the US. The research school offers a core training program in Rostock, extensive networking opportunities across partner sites, and high-quality supervision across at least two institutes. For more information on the IMPRS-PHDS curriculum please see <https://www.imprs-phds.mpg.de>.

HOW TO APPLY

Please apply via <https://survey.demogr.mpg.de/index.php/245955> by **9 May 2021**, include as ***a single pdf file***, in English:

- (1) Curriculum Vitae, including a list of your scholarly publications.
- (2) A two-page motivational statement explaining whether you are applying to work with Kühn, Wilde, or Zagheni; how your planned PHD project fits with their research area; how MPIDR could foster your career development; and describe your technical skills and areas of expertise.
- (3) Copies of transcripts of undergraduate and, if applicable, master's degrees. Applicants should hold a master's degree or equivalent at the time of starting the PhD.
- (4) Names and contact information for 2 academic references.
- (5) One writing sample.

Virtual interviews are between 7 and 18 June 2021. Starting date is flexible, but no later than 1 November 2021. The PhD students are offered a 3-year contract with remuneration based on the salary structure of the German public sector (Öffentlicher Dienst, TVöD Bund) and will be expected to be in residence at the institute. Email inquiries concerning the application process, the MPIDR, and IMPRS-PHDS should be sent to phds@demogr.mpg.de.

The MPIDR has an excellent work environment and offers family-friendly work arrangements (flexible working hours, teleworking, and guaranteed places at day-care centers for children), occupational health promotion, and opportunities for continuous further training. Our institute values diversity and is committed to employing individuals from minorities. Individuals with severe disability are especially welcome to apply. Our Institute and the Max Planck Society also seek to increase the proportion of women in areas where they are underrepresented and therefore explicitly encourage women to apply.