From Vienna to Marrakech

50 Years of Independent IUSSP Conferences

1959–2009

Vienna Institute of Demography

ÖAW Austrian Academy of Sciences

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TO MARRAKECH

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Editorial

When Jacques Vallin mentioned in his presidential address in Tours in 2005 that the Vienna General Conference in 1959 was actually the first truly independent IUSSP Conference – because previous population conferences had been co-sponsored by other international organizations – I remember doing a quick calculation in my mind: 2005 + 4 – 1959 = 50. And I thought that such an important anniversary should not pass unnoticed. As the director of an institute that has "Vienna" in its name, I felt a special responsibility to contribute to recognizing and analyzing this half century of independent IUSSP conferences.

Fortunately, two staff members from the Vienna Institute of Demography – Anne Goujon and Dalkhat Ediev – found this task interesting enough to spend a significant amount of time and effort in collecting all information available for the 15 IUSSP General Conferences held since 1959, in two-year intervals to 1965 and in four-year intervals thereafter. Thanks to the efficient support from the IUSSP administrative office, they managed to build a database covering all papers presented at those 15 conferences including the current one in Marrakech. The titles of those **3,518 papers** were classified following the Population Index structure. For around 40 percent of the **4,034 authors,** they were able to identify the year of birth (because age was considered such an essential demographic variable), partly through extensive internet searches.

The result is a fascinating record of a changing scientific agenda and a changing population of contributors in a changing world. We hope that you will find it interesting and that it will inspire the IUSSP in its considerations about where to go over the coming years and decades.

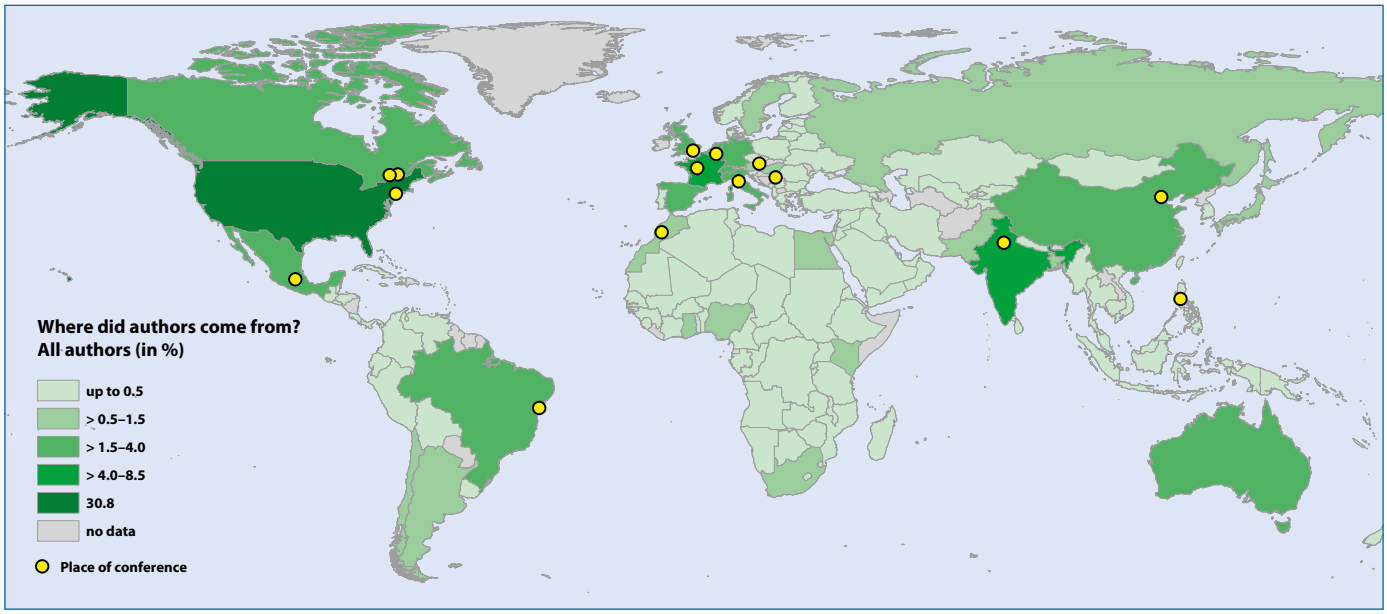
WOLFGANG LUTZ
Director, Vienna Institute of Demography (VID)
Leader, World Population Program,
International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA)

Prior to 1959, all IUSSP conferences were held jointly with the International Sociological Association (ISA). The first independent conference was held in Vienna in 1959. The rationale behind this decision can be found in a letter by *Dr. Horstmann* to the Members of the Bureau of the IUSSP: "… In the first line, I should like to stress that an independent meeting would be preferable. The experience with our meetings in connexion with the meetings of the ISI [ISA] were not the best. There exists always the danger of coming into the shadow of the greater brother…" (November 1957). Shortly thereafter, a new era of independent IUSSP conferences was born.

Menu at the 1927 International Population Conference in Geneva

15 cities, 15 conferences

Vienna (1959)	Liège (1973)	Montréal (1993)
New York (1961)	Mexico City (1977)	Beijing (1997)
Ottawa (1963)	Manila (1981)	Salvador (2001)
Belgrade (1965)	Florence (1985)	Tours (2005)
London (1969)	New Delhi (1989)	Marrakech (2009)



Proportion of authors by country of work, all conferences together

PAPERS, AUTHORS AND CO-AUTHORS

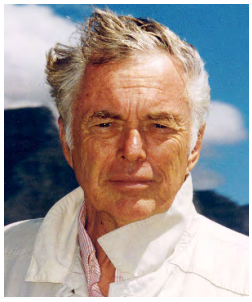
Explosive growth of number of papers and co-authors

With the exception of the period 1963-1969, the number of papers presented at a conference was about 100 or less until the onset of the computer era. Thereafter, the number of papers presented nearly doubled from conference to conference, i.e., every four years, until the Tours meeting, when the exponential growth started to level off.

Along with the spectacular growth in the number of papers, the number of authors has increased even more, as the average number of co-authors per paper has almost doubled since 1963. Altogether, 4,034 persons (co-) authored 3,518 papers presented at the conferences. Interestingly, only a fraction of those authors presenting at any of the conferences also participated as an author in a following conference. Even for the Ottawa conference, which attracted fewer participants and authors, only about half of the authors presented a paper in the following (much larger) conference in Belgrade.

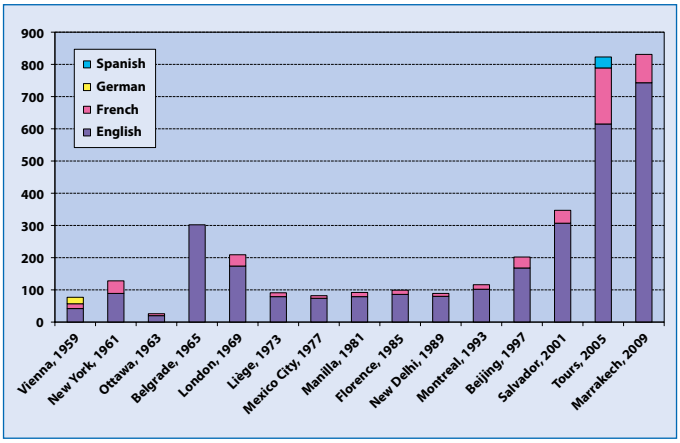
The overwhelming majority of authors has appeared only once in the proceedings of the IUSSP conferences. Only a few of the most active scholars have appeared 4-7 times in IUSSP programmes. None have authored papers for more than six conferences.

Memories

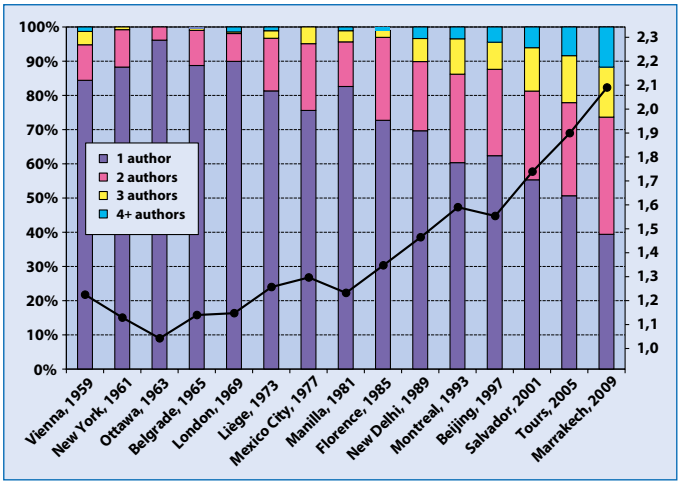


"The Vienna meeting in 1959 was the second international population conference that I had attended. From the scientific point of view, it was an enormous step forward from the 1954 UN conference in Rome where political agendas were frequently in the forefront. This major improvement in Vienna was due to the IUSSP sponsorship and organization of the meeting. I have two clear personal memories of the event beyond the meeting itself. The night before my early morning session at the University, I had been touring cafes with Karol Krotki and his sister from Poland (whom he had not seen since before the war) tasting the new wines in the annual celebration of an Austrian custom (der Heurigen). With little sleep and a headache the next morning, I presented my paper and steeled myself for the comments of Bill Brass, the designated discussant of my paper. That evening I attended my first opera - *Der Meistersinger* - at the Vienna Opera House."

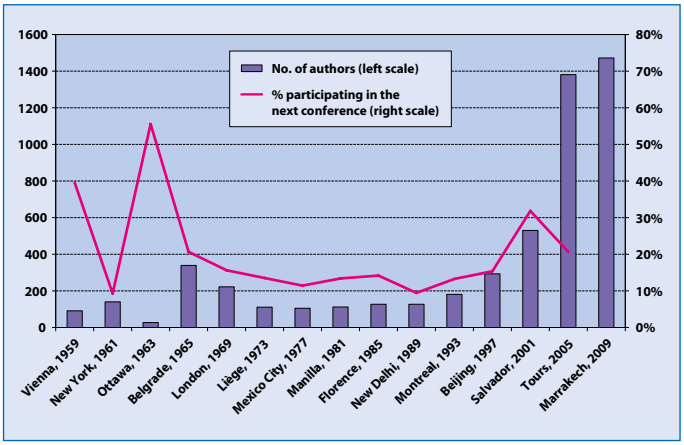
CHARLES WESTOFF, July 2009



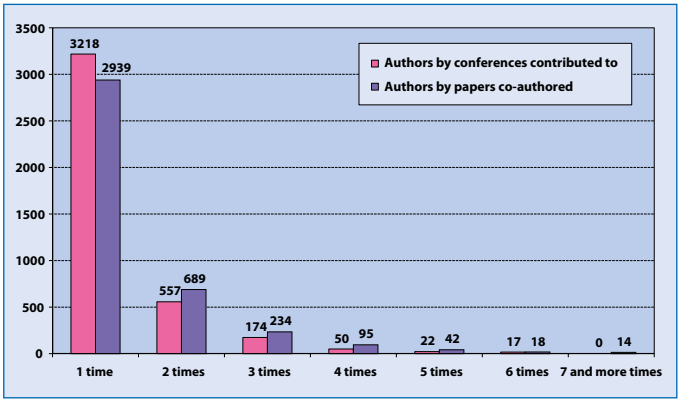
Language of papers presented at all IUSSP conferences by conference (in absolute numbers)



Proportion of papers by number of authors by conference (left scale) and average number of authors per paper (right scale)



Number of authors by conference (left scale) and proportion having a paper in the immediate next conference by conference (right scale)



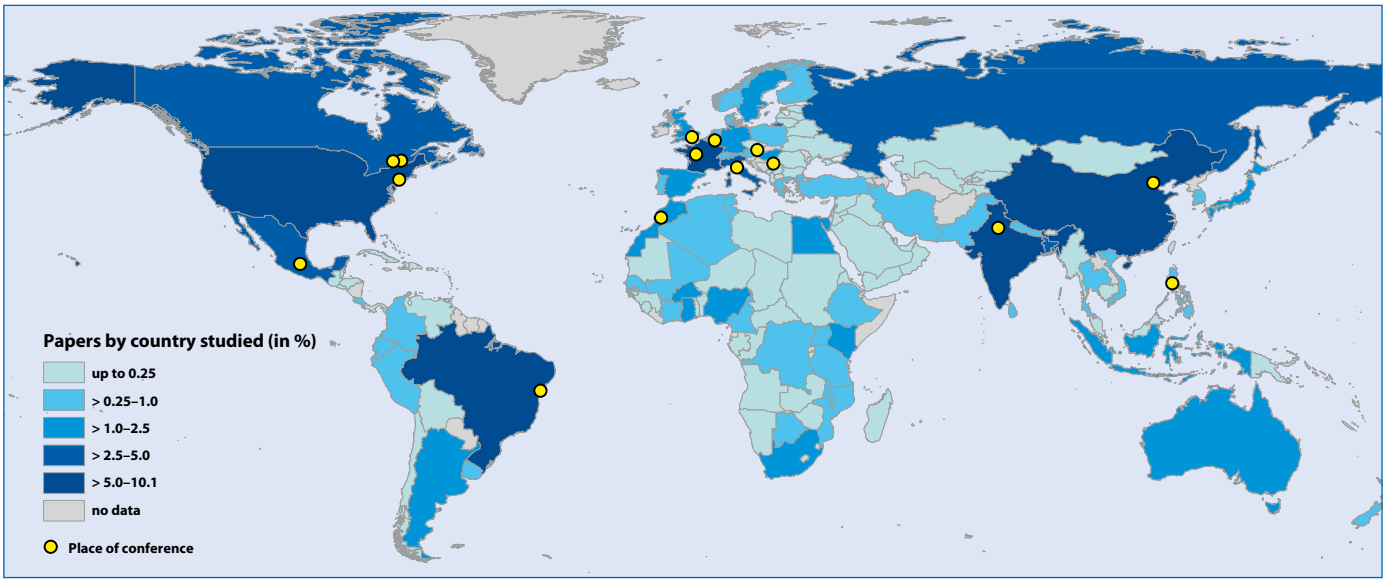
Authors by conferences contributed to and by the overall number of appearances in the programme of IUSSP conferences

COUNTRIES

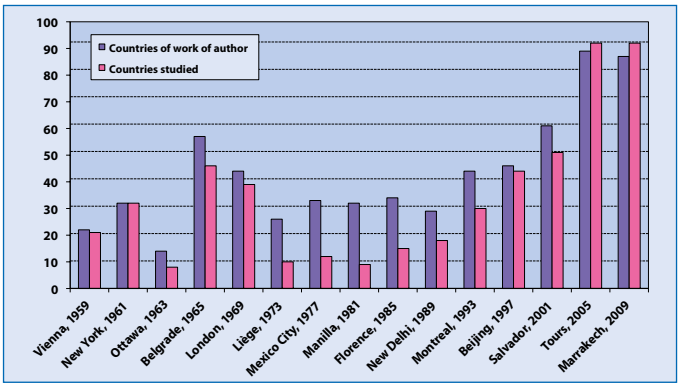
Still limited international collaboration

The rise in co-authorship did not correspond to the development of cross-border collaboration. The number of countries represented has risen, though at a more limited pace and less steadily. In the 2009 conference, the number of countries decreased despite increases in the numbers of papers and authors. Altogether authors from at least 125 countries and territories have presented papers on at least 128 countries at regular sessions of IUSSP conferences since 1959. At earlier conferences, geographic coverage of an author's workplace was somewhat wider than that of a paper's region studied (partly because of the higher proportion of general studies). Only recently has this trend reversed: At the conference in Tours and at the current conference in Marrakech, the number of countries studied is slightly higher than the number of countries of an author's workplace.

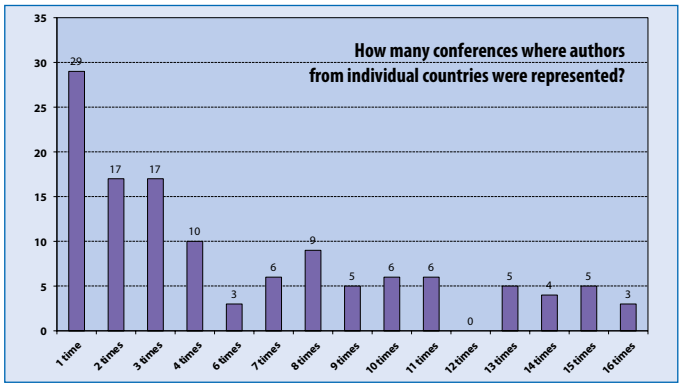
About half of those countries represented by papers at IUSSP conferences have done so only three times or less, and only three countries (USA, France, and India) were represented at all 15 IUSSP conferences since 1959. Authors from the USA presented about one-third of all papers at each conference.



Proportions of papers by country studied, all conferences

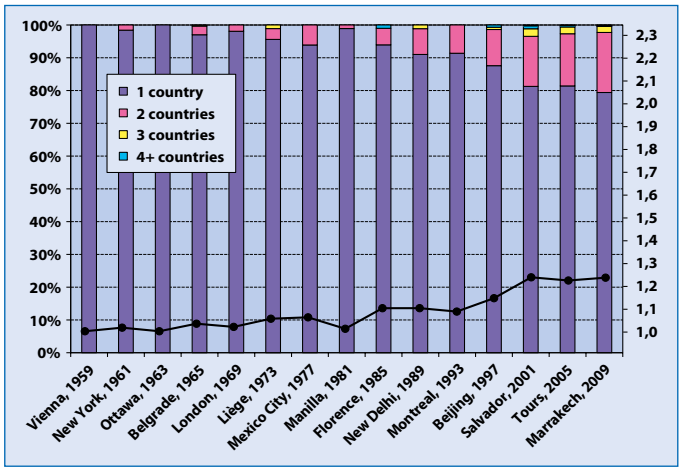


Number of countries represented by authors of papers by conference



Distribution of the country of work by the no. of appearances, all conferences

The 1950s: Frank Lorimer, IUSSP President during the 1959 Conference



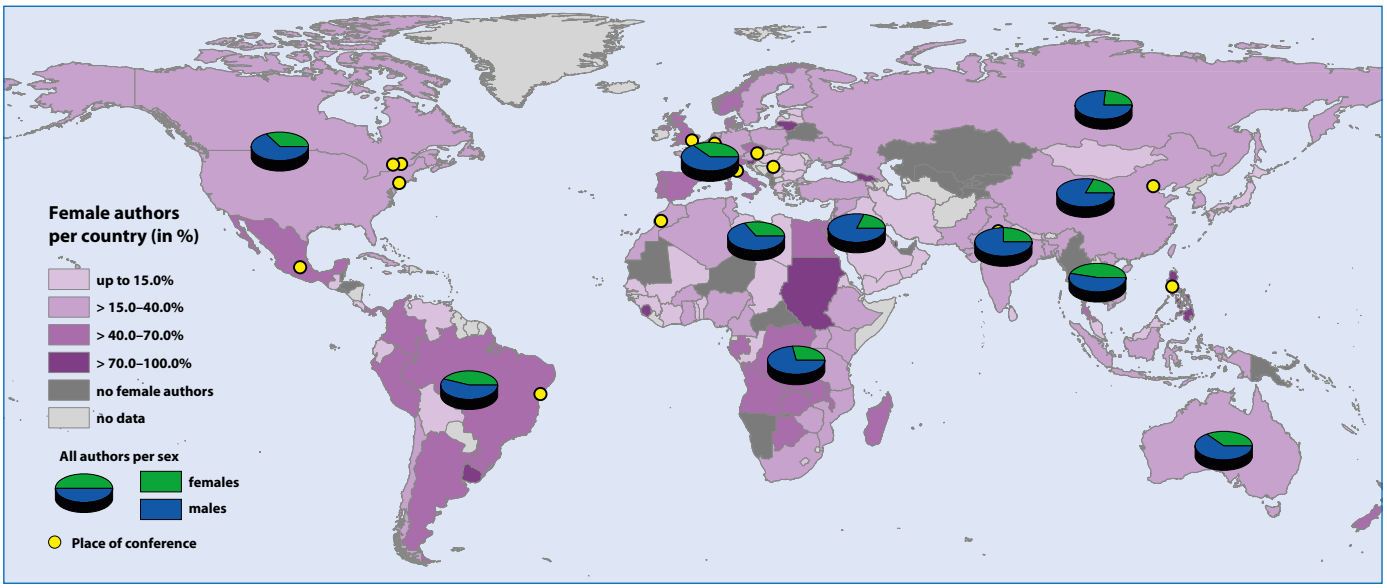
Percent of papers by number of authors from *different* countries of work (left scale) and the average number of authors' countries (right scale) by conference

Improving gender balance

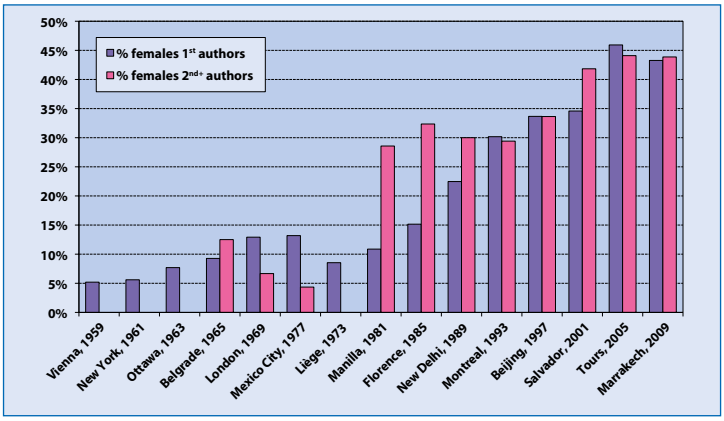
While earlier conferences were male-dominated, the gender balance of authors has improved steadily since the 1970s. The improvement was first noticed for names listed as the second or higher order in the list of authors. There are significant regional variations with respect to gender proportions, especially for single and first authors. The proportion of females was especially low among authors from Sub-Saharan Africa, Middle East, South Asia, East Asia, and East Europe.

Some other statistics indicate reduced gender imbalances over time: At the current conference in Marrakech there are 335 male and 250 female authors of papers. They represent 27 percent and 30 percent of all current IUSSP members, respectively. The proportion of female IUSSP members among authors at the Marrakech conference is 43 percent, which is nearly identical to the overall proportion among all authors.

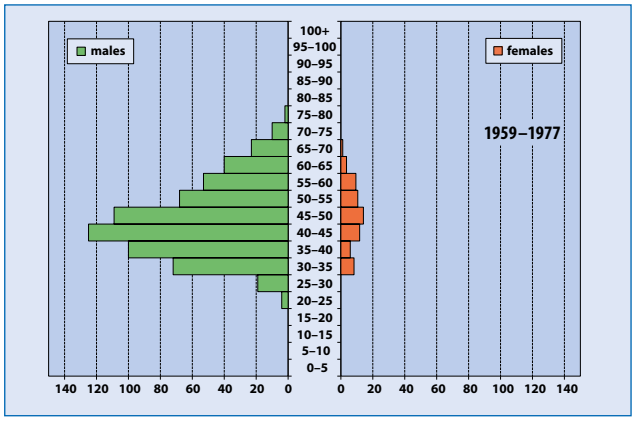
Improved gender balance was associated with gender differences in age composition: After the 1980s, female authors tend to be younger than male authors. This might be explained by an increased involvement by the younger generations of females in demography and population research.



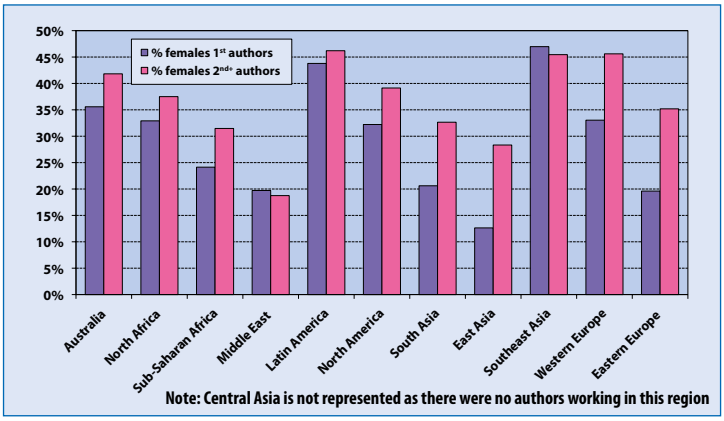
Proportion of female authors by country and region of work, all conferences



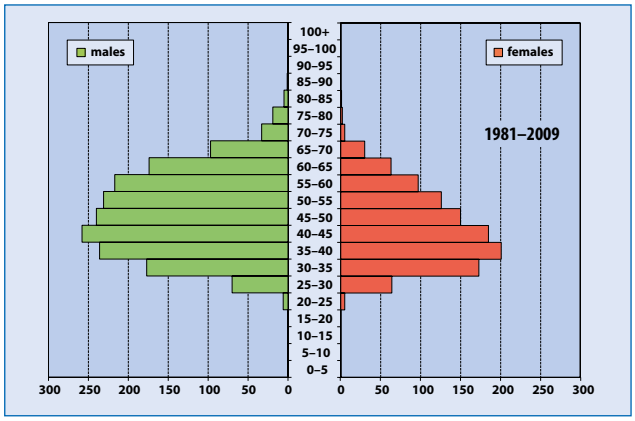
Proportion of women as first and subsequent (2nd+) authors of papers by conference



Age- and sex-composition of authors of papers 1959–1977



Prop. of women as first and subsequent authors of papers by region of work, all conferences

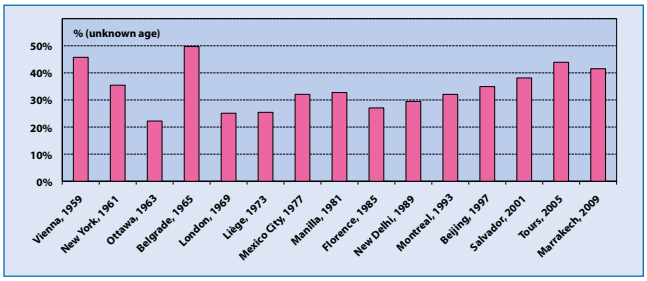


Age- and sex-composition of authors of papers 1981–2009

Overlapping generations

Data

Year of birth data were available from the database of IUSSP members and IUSSP directories, internet resources, and the database of participants at the Marrakech conference. Together these sources provide the necessary data for about 40 percent of all authors. This may produce a selection effect on the results presented below.



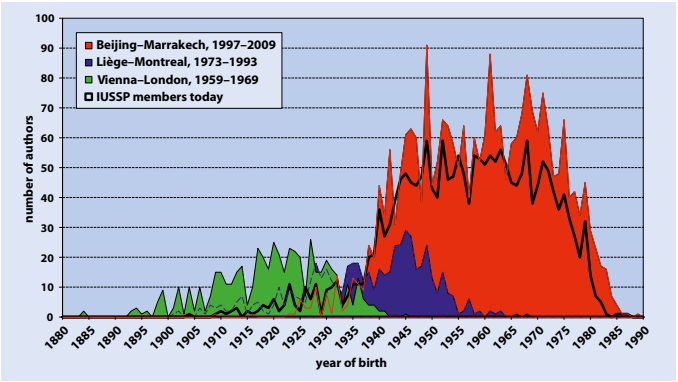
Proportion of authors where their age is unknown

The distribution of authors by year of birth illustrates how different generations of demographers followed each other in the period between the Vienna and Marrakech conferences. There is only a marginal overlap between distributions by year of birth of authors presenting papers in 1959–1969 and in 1997–2009. On average, authors presenting papers at the current conference in Marrakech were born at the time of the first independent conference. The continuing replacement of generations is associated with stable age patterns dominated by authors in their 30s and 40s, although the most recent conferences indicate increasing involvement of authors in their 50s and, to a lesser extent, in their 60s.

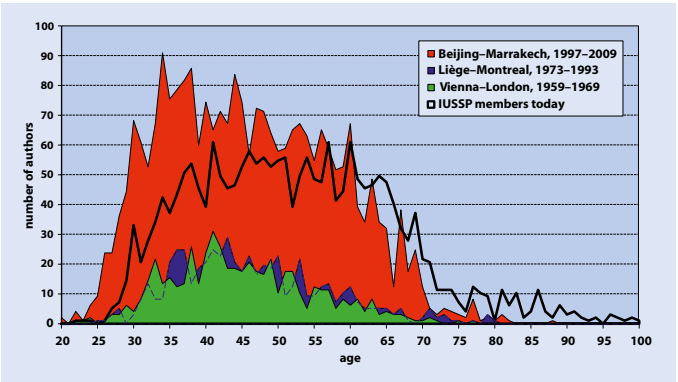
In earlier conferences, single and first authors seem to be younger than those listed second or higher in the paper. Recently, this bias has ceased to exist in parallel to the increasing number of papers and authors. And since the 1980s, female authors have been continuously younger than male authors, while there was no distinct bias at earlier conferences. Such a gender pattern is observed for both the first/single and second or higher order co-authors.

Grouping the data by author's workplace reveals interesting regional and gender differentials in age. Authors from Sub-Saharan Africa, East Asia, and Western Europe are the youngest (43 years for both sexes combined on average), while authors from North America, Oceania, and North Africa are the oldest (51 years on average). Distribution by age of authors from Eastern Europe shows a strong gender bias: Females are significantly younger, while among authors from North Africa and Middle East, females are considerably older than males.

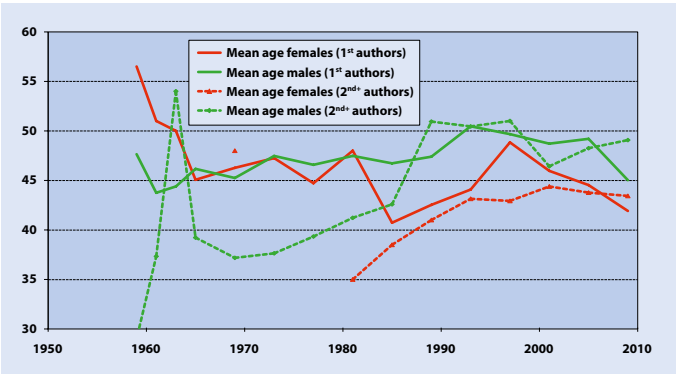
The 1970s: Participants in the 1973 IUSSP Meeting in Liège



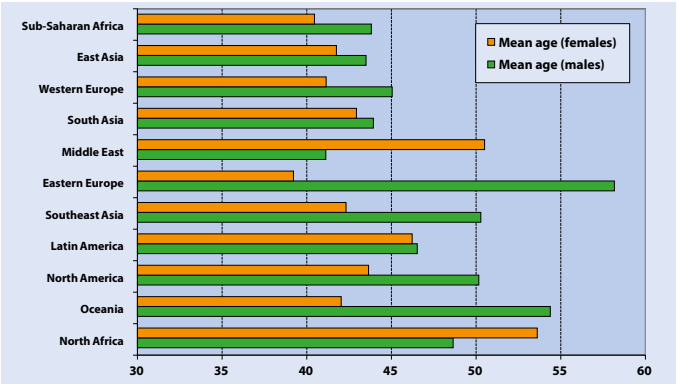
Distribution of authors by year of birth, according to three conference periods and for IUSSP members in July 2009



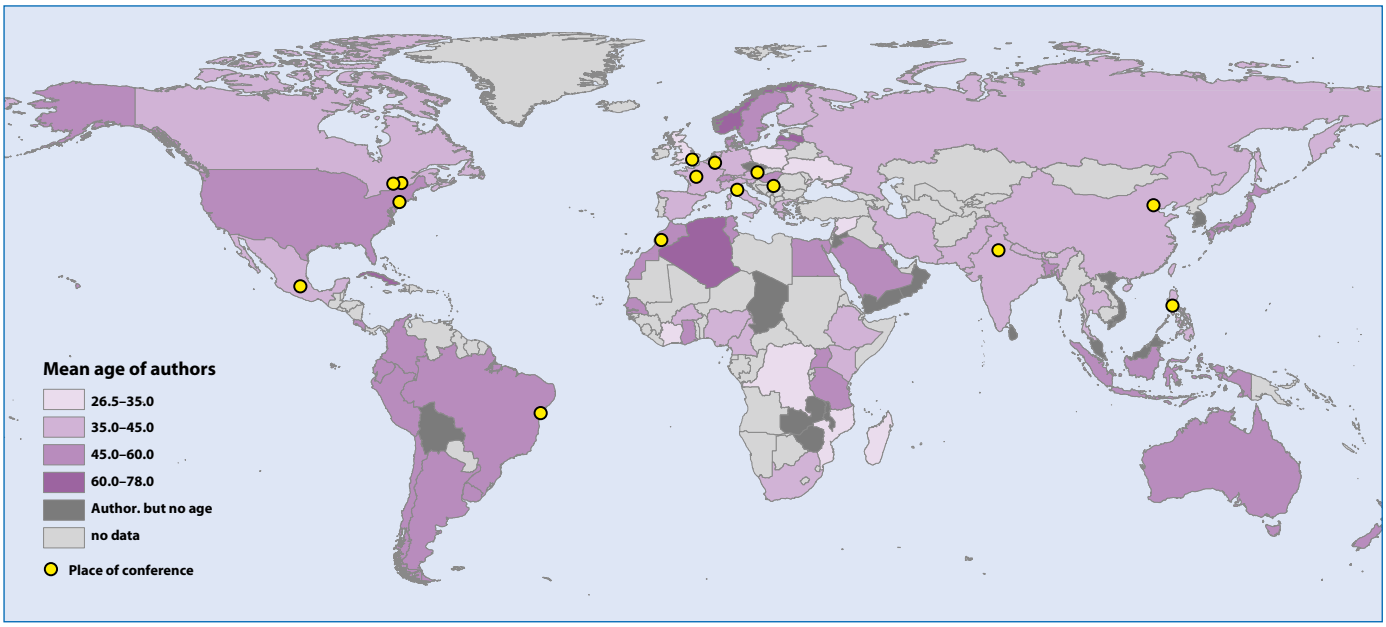
Distribution of authors by age at time of the conference, according to three conference periods and the age distribution of IUSSP members in July 2009



Mean age of authors by sex and authors' order among co-authors, by conference year



Mean age of authors of papers presented in Marrakech 2009 by gender and by region of work (regions are ranked according to the mean age of authors of both sexes combined)



Mean age of authors by country of work, all conferences

AUTHORS

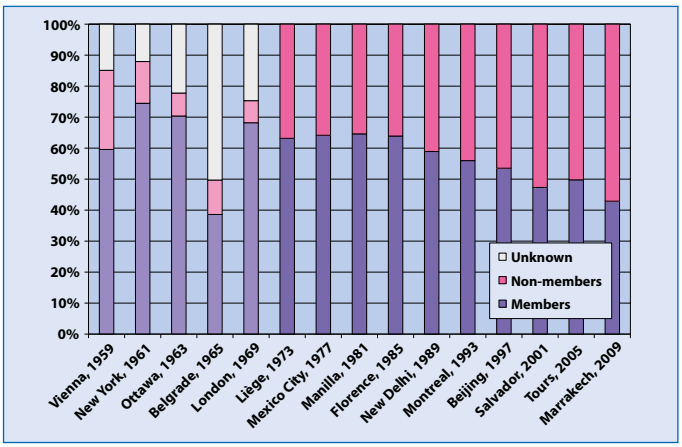
IUSSP members and non-members

The proportion of IUSSP members who are authors of papers has gradually declined in recent decades from around 60 percent to about 40 percent. This is partly explained by the increase in the number of co-authors and the low membership rate of co-authors of papers presented at IUSSP conferences.

Explanation

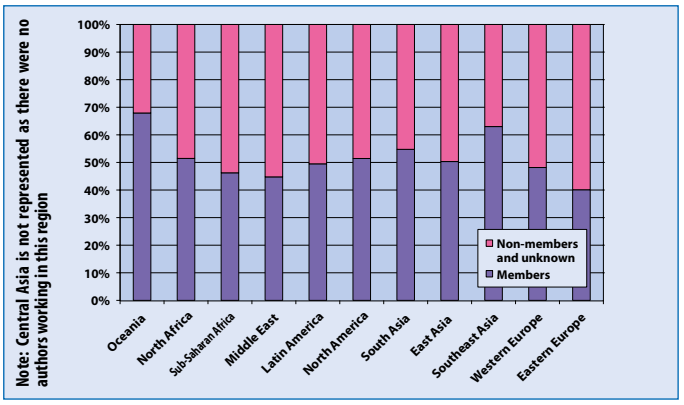
For the years for which we had IUSSP membership directories, we assumed that all authors not listed in those directories were non-members. For earlier conferences, such authors are shown as 'unknown' membership, although the best guess would be that as a rule, they were not members of IUSSP.

The membership rate among authors is higher for Oceania (70 percent) and Southeast Asia (60 percent). Eastern Europe has the lowest proportion of IUSSP members among authors from that region (40 percent).

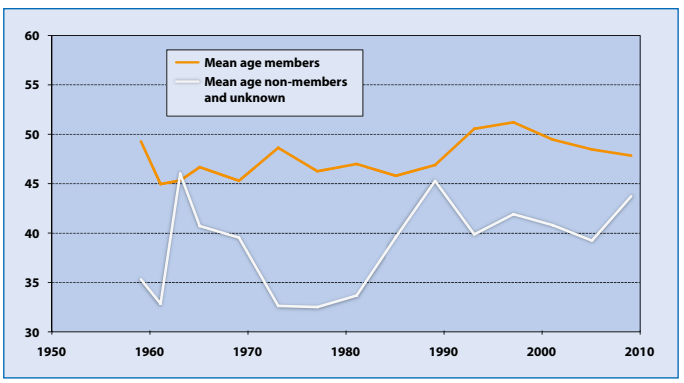


Proportion of IUSSP members, non-members and unknown among authors by conference

In nearly all conferences, IUSSP members authoring papers were older than non-members. In 1973 in Liège, non-IUSSP members were almost 15 years younger than IUSSP members. In the last six conferences, the difference was around 10 years, although it has decreased in the Marrakech conference. The picture is similar when looking across sexes.



Proportion of IUSSP members, non-members and unknown among authors by region of work, all conferences



Mean age of authors by membership status by conference year

AUTHORS' REGION OF WORK vs. REGIONS STUDIED

A large majority of authors of papers presented at the IUSSP conferences are based in Europe and North America. The proportion of papers from authors residing in Europe dropped slowly from 60 percent in 1959 to 20 percent in 1993 (Montreal conference) where more than 30 percent of all papers were from the Americas. Although this has increased over the last four conferences, it is still below the rate of authors from North America. The proportion of participants from other continents is fairly stable across all conferences. While there may have been more Asian authors at the 1989 New Delhi conference than at other conferences, or more North Americans at the 1993 Montreal conference, there does not seem to be an increase in the participation of African authors at the Marrakech conference compared to other conferences.

The proportion of authors tackling general and mixed studies increased dramatically from 20 percent at the 1959 Vienna conference to 75 percent at the 1977 Mexico City conference. It has since declined again to 20 percent in 2009. The last conferences offered a more balanced picture, with Africa, North America, Asia and Europe having an equal share in the countries studied.

Explanation

General studies do not refer to a specific country or when the application is just a proof or a demonstration for a general model and not the main purpose of the paper. **Mixed studies** look at data across countries located on different continents. A study on Brazil, Nigeria and India would be a mixed study, whereas a study on Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica would belong to Latin America, because these countries belong to one geographic region.

Not surprisingly, most researchers whose work has been presented at IUSSP conferences since 1959 come from Europe (27 percent) and North America (34 percent), with overriding majorities from France and the United States of America. Latin America, South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa follow with 7-9 percent. Asia which has 60 percent of the world population is only represented by 20 percent of all authors in all conferences. In Asia, India is the main provider of papers to IUSSP conferences and Australia in Oceania. In Africa, the situation is more balanced, with South Africa leading, closely followed by Egypt, Kenya, and Nigeria.

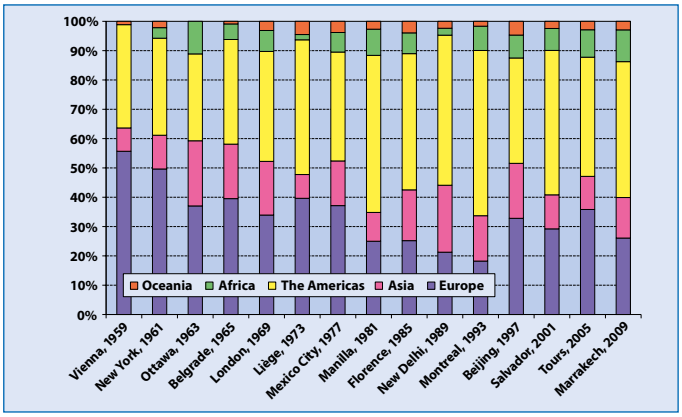
Although the largest countries have the largest representation in terms of countries of work of authors (USA, Brazil, India, etc.), the situation is quite different when one looks at the number of authors per 10 million inhabitants of the country. Instead of the United States, the top country is Switzerland (9.3/10 million), followed by Belgium in Europe and Trinidad and Tobago in the Americas. This measurement allows relatively small countries to make it to the top 10 countries represented by authors at IUSSP conferences, such as Trinidad and Tobago and Western Samoa.

Of all the conferences in the last 50 years, almost 40 percent were on general studies or mixed countries. The remaining 60 percent were shared between Asia with 18 percent (South Asia 8 percent), the Americas 17 percent (Latin America 11 percent), Europe 14 percent (Western Europe 14 percent), and Africa 11 percent (Sub-Saharan Africa 9 percent). Only 1 percent of the papers specifically targeted Oceania.

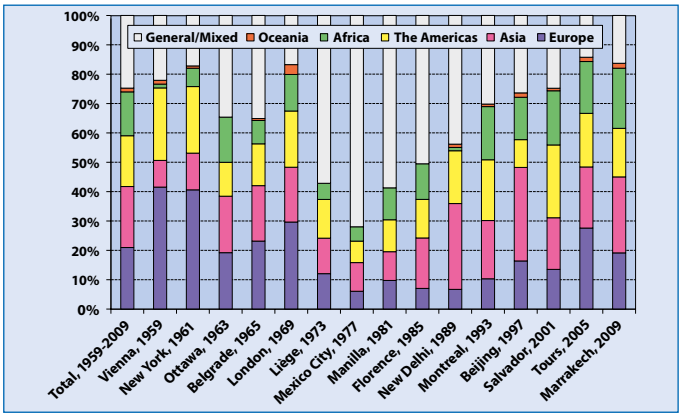
Western Europe and North America still dominate

The list of the top 10 countries covered by papers presented at IUSSP conferences is very similar to the list of the top 10 countries of the author's workplace. However, the top ten list of countries per 10 million inhabitants is quite different and includes very small countries such as Belize (in first place), Gambia, and Mauritius.

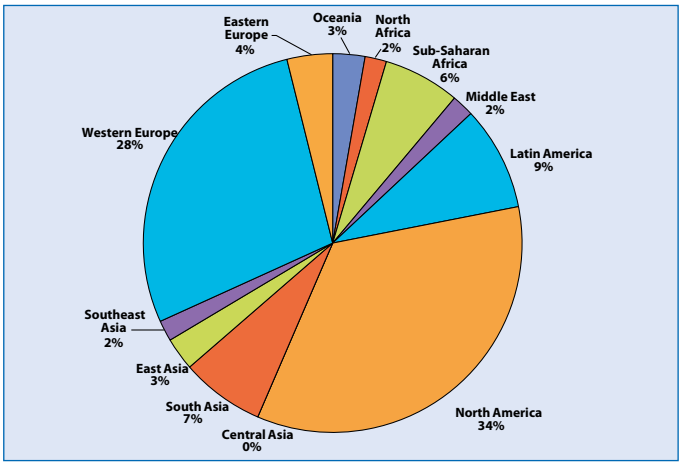
If we look closer at recent times from Beijing to Marrakech, we can see that the USA has gained the most authors by country of work, along with seven European countries (from Austria to Germany by population size) and two African countries (South Africa and Morocco).



Authors by continent of work, by conference



Papers by continent studied, by conference



Authors by region of work, all conferences

rank	Africa	The Americas	Asia	Europe	Oceania	World
1	South Africa (62)	USA (1592)	India (264)	France (436)	Australia (124)	USA (1592)
2	Egypt (45)	Canada (195)	China (87)	UK (197)	New Zealand (15)	France (436)
3	Kenya (39)	Brazil (172)	Bangladesh (54)	Italy (162)	Fiji (1)	India (264)
4	Nigeria (35)	Mexico (108)	Japan (43)	Germany (131)	Western Samoa (1)	UK (197)
5	Morocco (29)	Argentina (59)	Pakistan (33)	Netherlands (90)	New Caledonia (1)	Canada (195)
6	Ghana (28)	Chile (52)	Thailand (25)	Switzerland (90)		Brazil (172)
7	Burkina-Faso (25)	Costa Rica (16)	Iran (24)	Belgium (87)		Italy (162)
8	Uganda (21)	Uruguay (12)	Philippines (24)	Spain (85)		Germany (131)
9	Tanzania (19)	Peru (9)	Israel (20)	Russia (69)		Australia (124)
10	Ethiopia (16)	Trinidad & Tobago (9)	Turkey (20)	Austria (54)		Mexico (108)

Top 10 countries in five geographic regions and the world by total number of authors (by place of work), all conferences

rank	Africa	The Americas	Asia	Europe	Oceania	World
1	South Africa (36)	USA (150)	India (196)	France (101)	Australia (30)	India (196)
2	Morocco (25)	Brazil (116)	China (120)	Italy (51)	New Zealand (7)	USA (150)
3	Nigeria (25)	Canada (62)	Bangladesh (52)	Russia (51)	Papua New Guinea (1)	China (120)
4	Ghana (22)	Mexico (54)	Japan (37)	UK (38)		Brazil (116)
5	Kenya (22)	Argentina (27)	Indonesia (26)	Spain (36)		France (101)
6	Egypt (21)	Peru (8)	Pakistan (19)	Germany (34)		Canada (62)
7	Burkina-Faso (20)	Colombia (6)	Thailand (18)	Sweden (24)		Mexico (54)
8	Senegal (18)	Ecuador (6)	Iran (17)	Hungary (22)		Bangladesh (52)
9	Mali (12)	Uruguay (6)	Philippines (15)	Belgium (18)		Italy (51)
10	Uganda (12)	Costa Rica (5)	Sri Lanka (14)	Netherlands (18)		Russia (51)

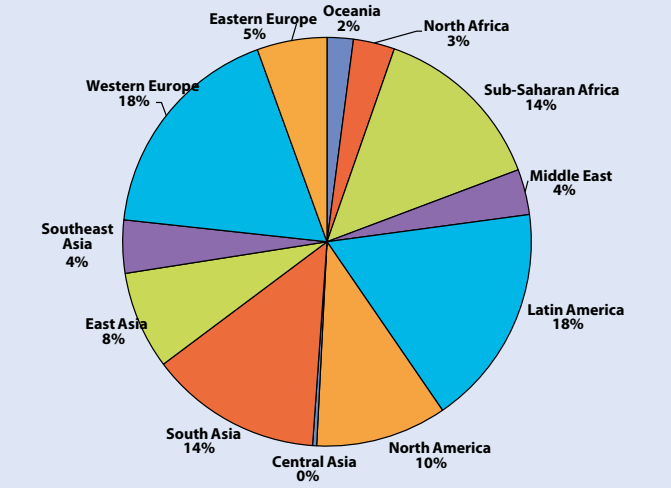
Top 10 countries in five geographic regions and the world by total number of papers studying a particular country, all conferences

rank	Africa	The Americas	Asia	Europe	Oceania	World
1	Gambia (2.36)	Trinidad & Tobago (5.47)	Singapore (3.85)	Switzerland (9.26)	Australia (5.46)	Switzerland (9.26)
2	Burkina-Faso (2.05)	Canada (5.2)	Israel (3.24)	Belgium (5.92)	New Caledonia (4.45)	Belgium (5.92)
3	Gabon (1.66)	USA (4.44)	Lebanon (3.23)	France (5.39)	Western Samoa (4.41)	Trinidad & Tobago (5.47)
4	Senegal (1.46)	Costa Rica (4.04)	Kuwait (2.36)	Austria (4.7)	New Zealand (3.12)	Australia (5.46)
5	Mauritius (1.39)	Chile (2.95)	Qatar (1.96)	Netherlands (4.27)	Fiji (1.06)	France (5.39)
6	Ghana (1.38)	Uruguay (2.71)	Sri Lanka (0.54)	Estonia (3.38)	Papua New Guinea (0)	Canada (5.2)
7	Kenya (1.33)	Argentina (1.35)	Jordan (0.47)	Sweden (3.37)		Austria (4.7)
8	South Africa (1.32)	Mexico (1.02)	Oman (0.47)	Norway (3.25)		New Caledonia (4.45)
9	Botswana (1.19)	Brazil (0.9)	Mongolia (0.38)	Hungary (2.4)		USA (4.44)
10	Tunisia (0.96)	Panama (0.64)	Bangladesh (0.37)	UK (2.33)		Western Samoa (4.41)

Top 10 countries in five geographic regions and the world by number of authors per 10 million population (by place of work), all conferences

rank	Africa	The Americas	Asia	Europe	Oceania	World
1	Botswana (2.98)	Belize (3.96)	Lebanon (2.08)	Norway (1.95)	New Zealand (1.46)	Belize (3.96)
2	Gambia (2.36)	Canada (1.65)	Singapore (1.44)	Sweden (1.93)	Australia (1.32)	Botswana (2.98)
3	Mauritius (2.08)	Uruguay (1.35)	Palestine (1)	Estonia (1.45)	Papua New Guinea (0.18)	Gambia (2.36)
4	Senegal (1.76)	Costa Rica (1.26)	Jordan (0.94)	Hungary (1.43)		Mauritius (2.08)
5	Burkina-Faso (1.64)	Trinidad & Tobago (1.22)	Timor Leste (0.93)	France (1.25)		Lebanon (2.08)
6	Reunion (1.22)	Puerto Rico (0.84)	Oman (0.93)	Belgium (1.22)		Norway (1.95)
7	Mali (1.14)	Argentina (0.62)	Mongolia (0.76)	Montenegro (1.19)		Sweden (1.93)
8	Ghana (1.08)	Brazil (0.61)	Israel (0.65)	Finland (1.1)		Senegal (1.76)
9	Tunisia (1.06)	Mexico (0.51)	Sri Lanka (0.63)	Austria (1.05)		Canada (1.65)
10	Morocco (0.8)	Ecuador (0.47)	Nepal (0.47)	Switzerland (0.93)		Burkina-Faso (1.64)

Top 10 countries in five geographic regions and the world by total number of papers studying a particular country per 10 million population, all conferences



Papers by region studied (excluding general studies and papers with mixed coverage)

rank	Winners	Losers	rank
1	USA (3%)	Russia (-3.3%)	125
2	France (2.1%)	UK (-2.6%)	124
3	Spain (1.4%)	China (-1.4%)	123
4	Germany (1.1%)	Pakistan (-0.9%)	122
5	Austria (0.9%)	Canada (-0.9%)	121
6	Netherlands (0.8%)	Switzerland (-0.6%)	120
7	South Africa (0.8%)	Australia (-0.6%)	119
8	Morocco (0.7%)	Turkey (-0.5%)	118
9	Belgium (0.6%)	Bangladesh (-0.5%)	117
10	India (0.4%)	Italy (-0.5%)	116

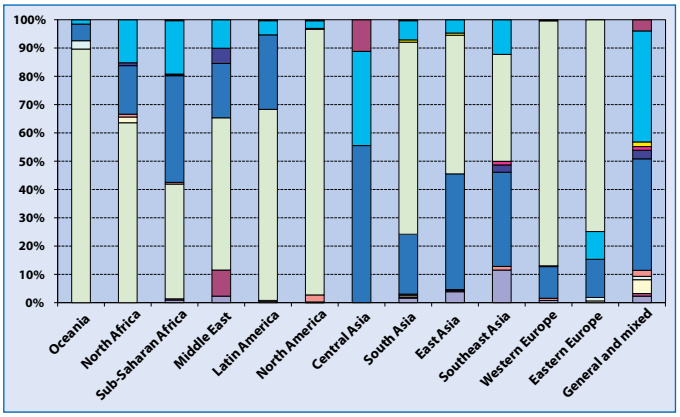
Note: Calculated as the average percentage in the 2005 and 2009 conferences minus the average percentage in the 1997 and 2001 conferences

Top 10 countries that have the largest gain or loss of authors (in percent) who presented papers at IUSSP conferences, 1997–2009 (Beijing–Marrakech)

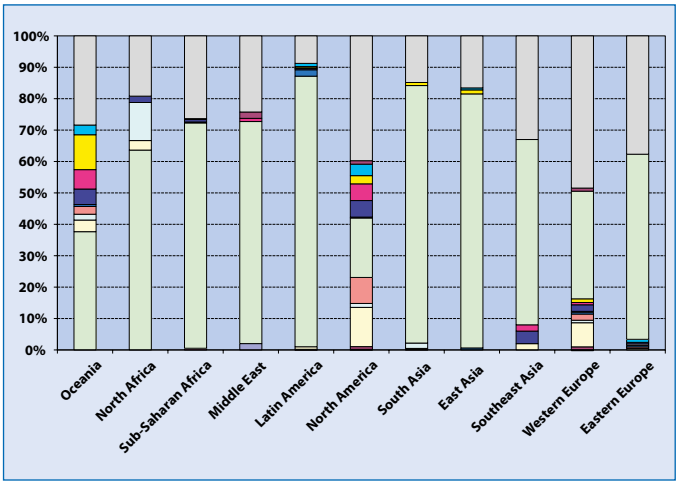
AUTHORS' REGION OF WORK vs. REGIONS STUDIED

A tendency to regionalism

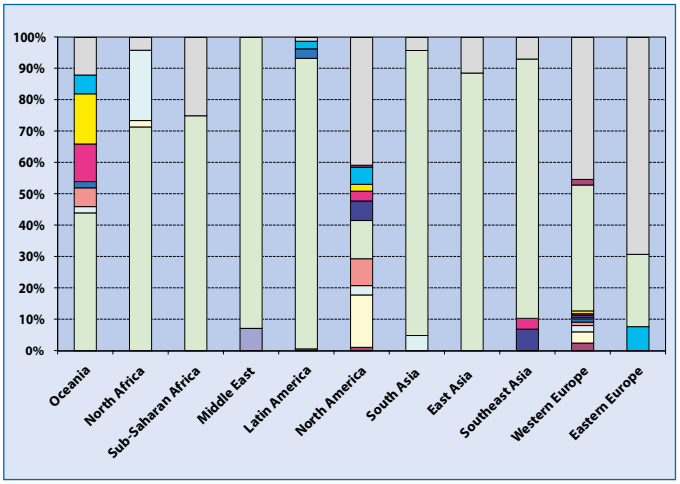
Over all the conferences and in a large majority of the world regions, researchers tend to study the region where they work and reside, especially in Latin America, South and East Asia. This tendency to regionalism is even more pronounced in papers presented at the Marrakech conference. However, in North America, Oceania, Western and Eastern Europe, the tendency is to work more on general and mixed studies or on other regions. This is especially true when we look at the region of work of first authors. For example, almost 90 percent of the papers on Oceania have a first author from that region. A similar situation prevails for North America and Western Europe. Other regions are studied by first authors from different regions, such as Southeast Asia. Sub-Saharan Africa is mostly studied by first authors working in North America.



Region of work of the 1st author (Y-axis) by region studied (X-axis), all conferences



Region studied (Y-axis) by region of work of the first author (X-axis), all conferences



Region studied (Y-axis) by region of work of the first author (X-axis), Marrakech conference

General/Mixed · Same Region · Eastern Europe · Western Europe · Southeast Asia · East Asia · South Asia · Central Asia · North America · Latin America · Middle East · Sub-Saharan Africa · North Africa · Oceania

Notes: [1] The light green color indicates that the region studied is the same as the region of work of the first author.
[2] Central Asia is not represented on the X-axis because there were no authors working in this region.

The 1980s: Rajiv Gandhi (second from left) shaking hands with William Brass (far right), with Nafis Sadik (second from right) at the 1989 IUSSP meeting in New Delhi

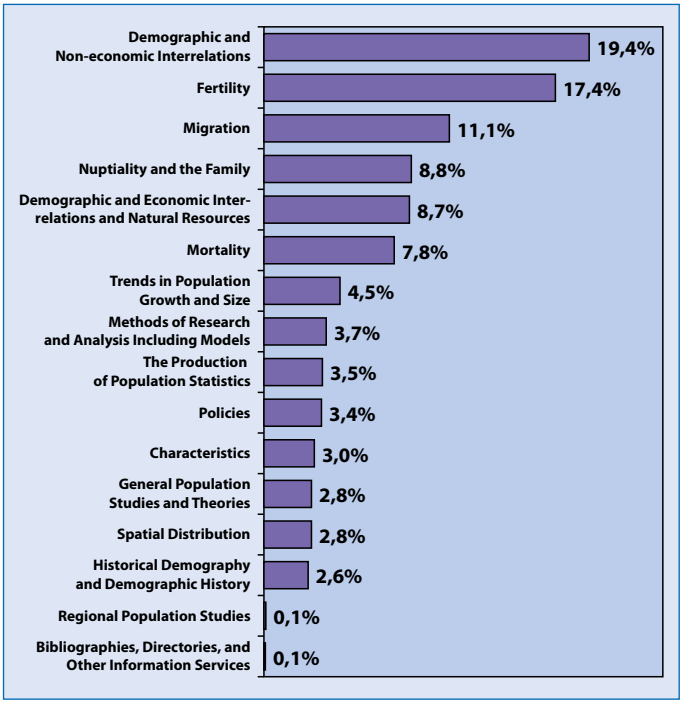
The 1990s: John Caldwell at the 1997 IUSSP Meeting in Beijing

More studies on interrelations

More than two-thirds of all papers presented at IUSSP conferences fall into six broad categories of the Population Index: (1) Demographic and non-economic interrelations (20 percent) including the study of social and health factors, e.g., ageing, gender, disability, education; (2) fertility (17 percent); (3) migration (11 percent); (4) nuptiality and the family (9 percent); (5) demographic and economic interrelation and natural resources (9 percent); and (6) mortality (8 percent). Other topics, such as policies, historical demography, or spatial distribution are rarely studied.

Papers on the topics of demographic and non-economic interrelations appear three times more often in the Marrakech programme in 2009 (33 percent) than in Vienna in 1959. Migration, mortality, methods of research and models, as well as spatial distribution accounted for 50 percent of all topics studied at the 1959 conference, whereas these topics account for only 20 percent of all papers in Marrakech in 2009.

The details of the sub-topics show that the focus changed dramatically between 1959 and 2009. Only two out of 10 topics are in the top list for both conferences: general fertility, and marriage and divorce. There is no overlap between the two lists of 10 least studied topics in this 50-year time frame. On the contrary, some topics that were at the bottom of the list in 1959 made it to the top of the list in 2009, and they are related to studies on education, natural resources, ageing, morbidity and disability, and gender studies.

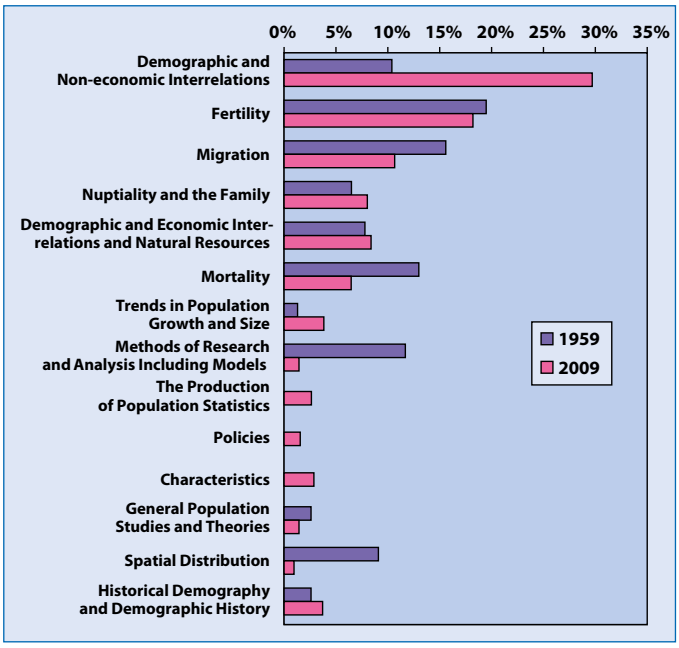


Note: Some topics presented in *Population Index* are not shown because no papers fit them, e.g., Professional Meetings and Conferences

Ranking of themes (Population Index headings and sub-headings) by percentage of papers by primary topic, all conferences

Explanation

The topic of general fertility is a sub-heading in the Population Index under the fertility heading. It includes general studies on fertility that do not specifically address other fertility issues such as differential fertility, sterility and other pathology; actions and activities directly affecting fertility such as fertility control, contraception, and abortion; factors other than contraception affecting fertility; and fertility outside marriage. In a majority of the cases, papers that discuss general fertility also focus on one or more of the other fertility topics mentioned above.



Themes by percentage of papers by primary topic (Population Index headings and sub-headings), Vienna and Marrakech conferences

rank	Vienna	Marrakech
1	Methods of Research and Analysis Including Models (11.7%)	General Fertility (9.3%)
2	Demographic Factors and Health (9.1%)	Gender and Population (7.1%)
3	General Fertility (7.8%)	International Migration (6%)
4	Internal Migration (6.5%)	Morbidity and Disability (6%)
5	General Spatial Distribution (6.5%)	Ageing and Population (5.1%)
6	General Economic Development and Population (6.5%)	Family and Household (4.4%)
7	Family and Household (5.2%)	Population Growth and Natural Resources (4.2%)
8	General Mortality (5.2%)	Education and Population (3.7%)
9	Factors Other Than Contraception Affecting Fertility (5.2%)	Marriage and Divorce (3.6%)
10	Infant and Childhood Mortality (5.2%)	General Historical Demography (3.6%)

Top 10 topics (Population Index sub-headings) at the Vienna and Marrakech conferences

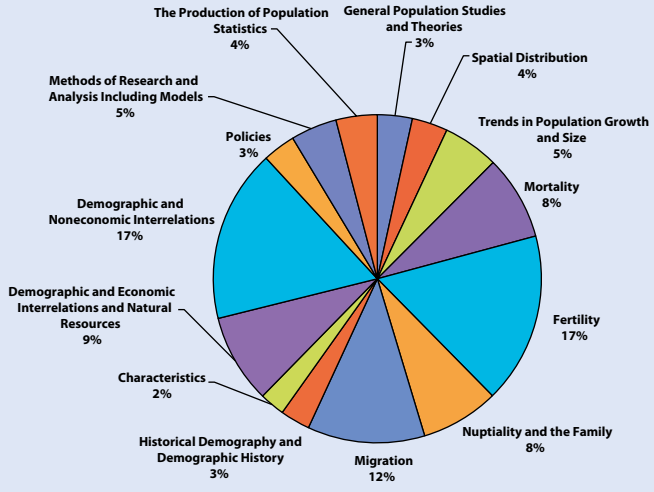
Preferences by gender and region

There is no clear gender division in topics of papers presented at the IUSSP conferences. Most topics are studied by both male and female authors. However, a few topics seem to be preferred by male first authors, such as migration, methods and models, the production of population statistics, spatial distribution, and trends in population size and growth. Female first authors have a higher share of papers on demographic and non-economic interrelations (including gender studies), fertility, nuptiality and the family.

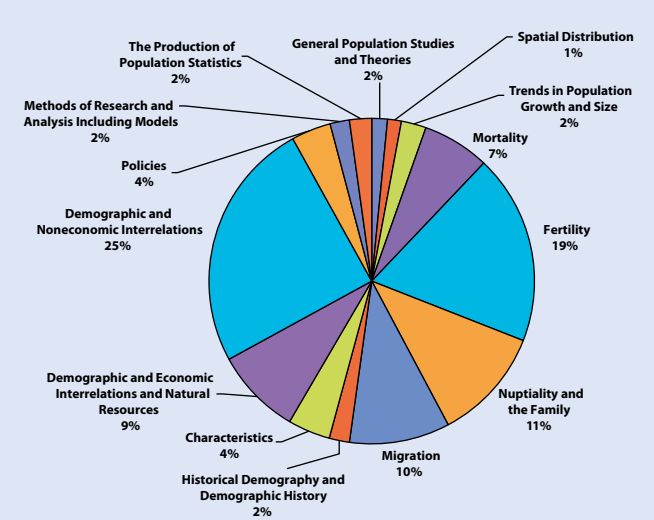
The cross-categorization of papers by primary topic on the one hand, and secondary and tertiary topics on the other, shows that the most popular subject of demographic and non-economic interrelations is studied in an interdisciplinary way across most other topics of the conference, whereas other subjects are paired with a small number of themes such as the primary topic of fertility, which is mostly linked to the study of family, nuptiality and policies. The pattern of cross-fertilization of topics is similar for males and females.

The same topics are not studied to the same extent and depend on the region of the authors' workplace. In North Africa, there is a larger share of researchers working on demographic and non-economic interrelations (more than 40 percent). In Eastern Europe, 10 percent of the papers are on methods and models whereas in other regions, the share is below 2 percent in all cases. In Latin America, the topic of economic interrelations and natural resources seem to receive more attention than in other world regions. The largest numbers of topics have been studied in Latin America and Western Europe.

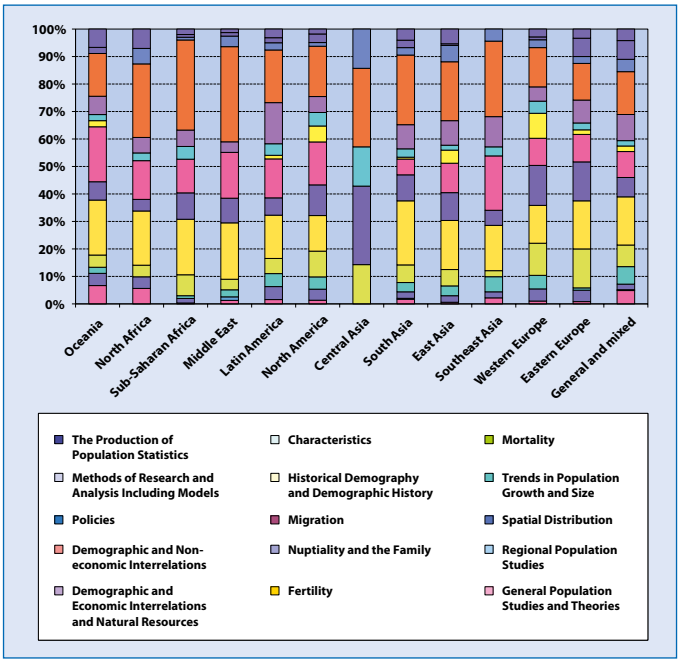
Ageing is mostly studied in the more developed countries, whereas authors in least developed countries are most concerned with issues related to health, morbidity, disability and mortality. However, general fertility is the main topic studied at all levels of the development scale, together with international migration, methods and models, health and gender. There is no overlap in the least studied topics by level of development



Male first authored papers by primary topic studied (broad definitions), all conferences



Female first authored papers by primary topic studied (broad definitions), all conferences



Papers by primary topic studied (broad definitions) and by region studied, all conferences

The 2000s: Jacques Vallin at the 2005 IUSSP Conference in Tours

rank	More Developed Regions	Less Developed Regions	Least Developed Regions
1	General Fertility (7.4%)	General Fertility (8.3%)	General Fertility (10.1%)
2	Family and Household (5.5%)	Demographic Factors and Health (5.9%)	Methods of Research and Analysis Including Models (8.1%)
3	International Migration (4.7%)	International Migration (5%)	Demographic Factors and Health (7.1%)
4	Marriage and Divorce (4.2%)	Gender and Population (4.7%)	Gender and Population (6.1%)
5	Methods of Research and Analysis Including Models (4.1%)	Internal Migration (3.4%)	Infant and Childhood Mortality (6.1%)
6	Demographic Factors and Health (3.9%)	Morbidity and Disability (3.2%)	Family and Household (5.1%)
7	Ageing and Population (3.7%)	Employment and Labor Force Participation (3%)	International Migration (4%)
8	General Mortality (3.2%)	Marriage and Divorce (3%)	General Mortality (4%)
9	Gender and Population (3.2%)	Methods of Research and Analysis Including Models (3%)	Employment and Labor Force Participation (4%)
10	General Historical Demography (3%)	General Mortality (2.7%)	Education and Population (3%)

Top 10 topics by region of work of first authors, all conferences

rank	More Developed Regions	Less Developed Regions	Least Developed Regions
60	Past Trends	Differential Mortality	Population Theory
61	Forced Migration and Refugees	Rural Spatial Distribution	Ethnic Characteristics
62	General Demographic Characteristics	Demographic Factors and Human Genetics	Differential Mortality
63	Temporary Migration	General Population – Long Studies	General Population Policy and Legislation
64	Bibliographies, Directories, and Other Information Services	Bibliographies, Directories, and Other Information Services	General Spatial Distribution
65	Prenatal and Perinatal Mortality	Sterility and Other Pathology	General Fertility Control and Contraception
66	General Population–Long Studies	Interrelations with Other Disciplines	Population Statistics, General Aspects
67	Rural Spatial Distribution	Methods of Historical Demography	General Migration
68	Regional Demography – Long Studies	Life Tables	General Historical Demography
69	Clinical Aspects and Use-Effectiveness Studies	Economic Development and Population in Developed Countries	Population Growth and Natural Resources

10 least frequent topics by region of work of first authors, all conferences

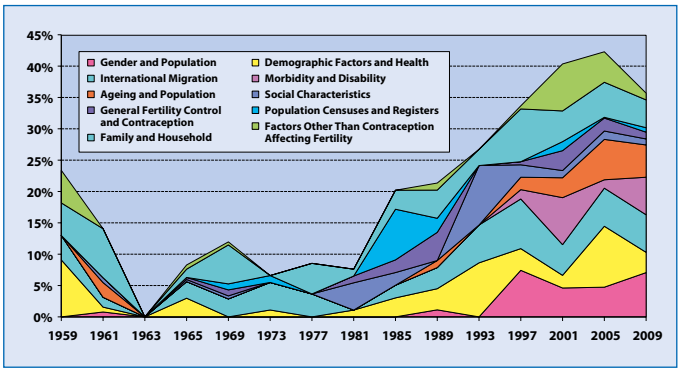
Note: Countries were arranged according to development regions following the classification of the United Nations Population Division available at: http://esa.un.org/unpp/definition.html

TOPICS FROM VIENNA TO MARRAKECH

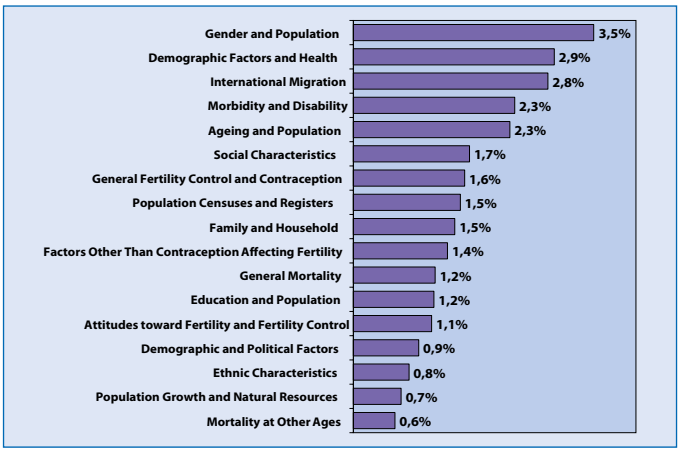
Winners and losers

The largest increase in topics related to gender, migration, ageing, health (including morbidity and disability) and mortality occurred in the two periods between 1959 (Vienna) and 1981 (Manila), and 1985 (Florence) to 2009 (Marrakech).

Other topics have been losing in importance during these two periods, especially those of differential mortality, general fertility (although it is still the number one topic across all conferences), general aspects of population statistics, current rates and estimated and population size and growth. Paradoxically, differential fertility and mortality are among the 'losers', whereas ethnic characteristics is an emerging topic.

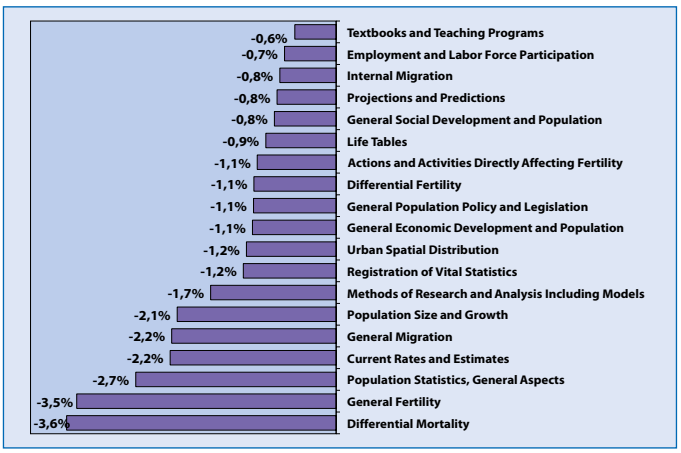


Dynamics of a proportion of papers for top 10 primary topics gained before 1981 and after 1985



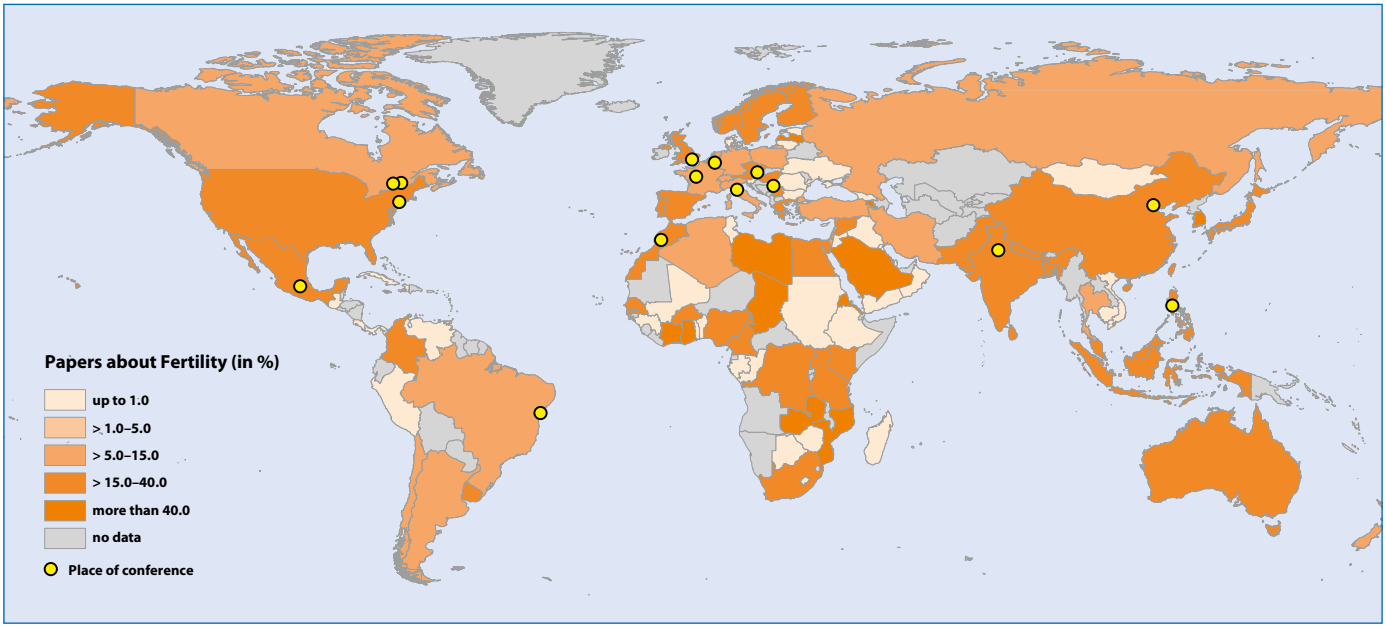
Note: Change of average percentage of papers between 1959–1981 and 1985–2009

Top primary topics of papers which gained at least 0.5 percent prior to 1981 and after 1985 in the proportion of papers with the same primary topic, both sexes

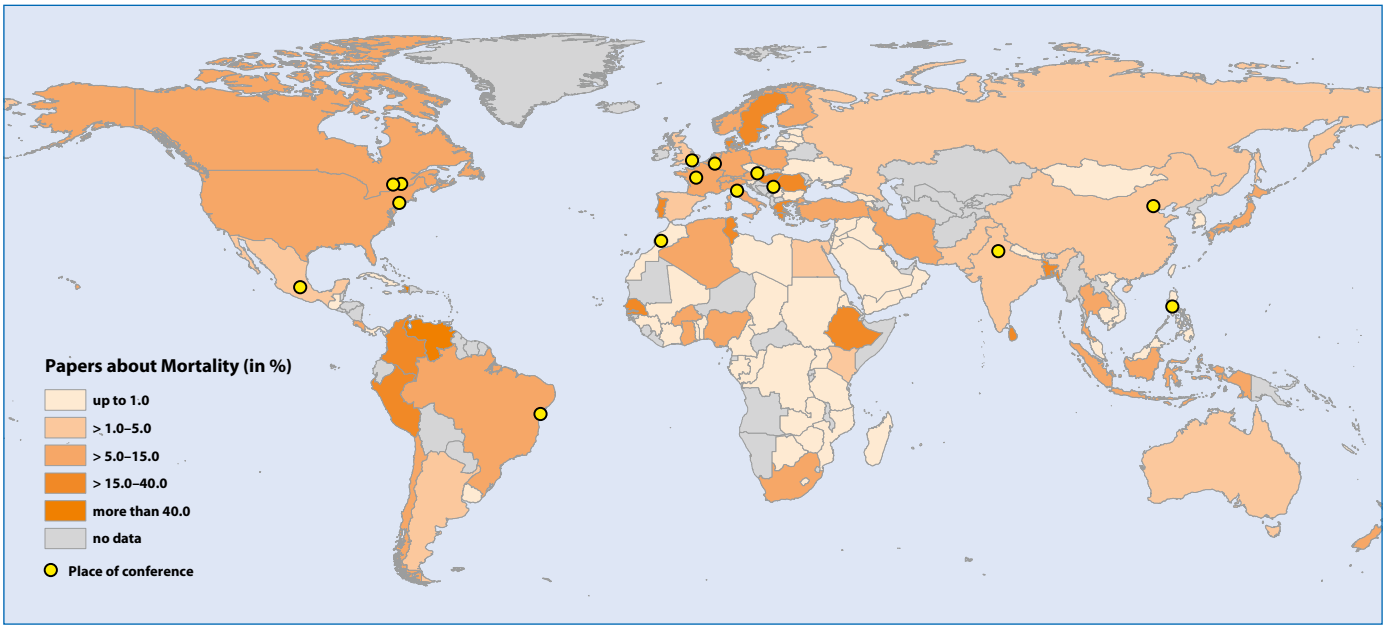


Note: Change of average percentage of papers between 1959–1981 and 1985–2009

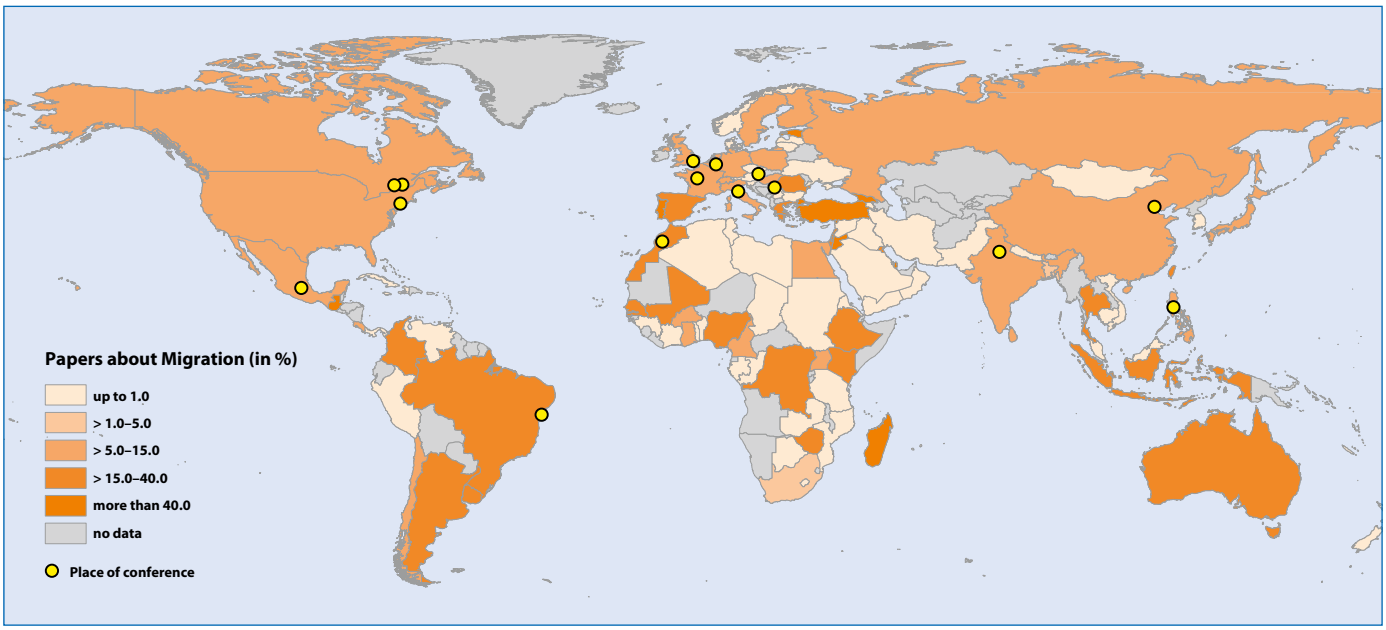
Last primary topics of papers which lost 0.5 percent and more prior to 1981 and after 1985 in the proportion of papers with the same primary topic, both sexes



Proportion of papers studying fertility, all conferences



Proportion of papers studying mortality, all conferences



Proportion of papers studying migration, all conferences

Authors

The following persons collaborated on the brochure (left to right): Dalkhat Ediev (VID), Anne Goujon (VID, IIASA), Wolfgang Lutz (VID, IIASA) and Markus A. Speringer (Vienna University).

Methodology

We relied on four main sources of information:

1. The proceedings (books and CDs) of the 14 IUSSP conferences held from 1959 in Vienna to 2005 in Tours.
2. The IUSSP database for present membership information as well as for information on the Marrakech conference.
3. Directories of IUSSP Members for the years 1996, 1985, and 1975 as well as the 1999 EAPS (European Association for Population Studies) Membership Directory.
4. The World Wide Web to retrieve any missing information from other sources on authors when available online.

We classified the papers according to three topics (primary, secondary and tertiary) following the subject headings (20) and sub-headings (65) of *Population Index* (see popindex.princeton.edu/search/help/headings.html). We added a few items to the existing list to accommodate the emergence of new topics, such as "refugees and forced migration" under the "migration" heading, "ageing", "gender", "religion", "education" under the subheading "general social development and population", and "morbidity and disability" under the "demographic factors and health" sub-heading. Some headings were not used at all because none of the papers presented in the IUSSP conferences seemed to fit their description. These were: Professional meetings and Conferences, New Periodicals, Official Statistical Publications, and Machine Readable Data Files.

Caveat

We have purposely concentrated the analysis on authors of papers presented at IUSSP conferences. We excluded from the analysis participants who did not present a paper, such as participants in poster sessions, session chairs and discussants, presenters in debates or opening sessions when no paper was included in the proceedings, and those simply attending the meeting. Furthermore, results cannot be interpreted in terms of participation in IUSSP conferences since for a large majority of conferences we cannot tell whether the authors of papers presented at the conference were actually attending the conference. All statistics should be interpreted in this context.

Errors could have occurred at several levels. Information regarding the sex of the authors of papers who were not in the IUSSP membership databases or directory had to be assigned based on expert opinion and/or information retrieved through the internet. The attribution of papers to topics is usually based on information from the title, from the overall session, from the abstract, and when needed and available, from a glimpse at the paper. Since it was impossible to read all 3,518 papers presented at the conferences during the 1959-2009 period, we may have misjudged the topics in certain cases, especially the distribution between primary, secondary and tertiary topics. Similarly, since the year of birth is mostly available from the IUSSP database and directories, statistics on the age of authors is mainly related to IUSSP members and not to all authors, which could bias the picture, especially since our analysis shows that non-members are consistently younger than members.

In this brochure, we present information about the country of the author's workplace, which is different from country of birth or author's nationality. The IUSSP database would provide the nationality and place of birth of its members, but we preferred to use the information on place of work found in the proceedings because this is available for IUSSP members as well as non-members.

For earlier conferences, i.e. Vienna 1959 to London 1969, the information in terms of membership of authors of papers is not always available from the proceedings or from membership directories.

Since we rely on proceedings, we do not take into account any adjustments made in the conference programmes (presentation cancelled or authors changed), especially when the proceedings were printed before the conference took place.

The proceedings of the Beijing conference include only keynote papers, not all papers presented in the formal sessions. For those other papers not included in the proceedings, only the title and name of authors are available from the IUSSP website. In many cases this was not enough to retrieve information on the authors' country of work, countries studied, and topics covered by the papers.

Acknowledgements

This work would not have been possible without the help of a few dedicated persons: Richard Gisser (VID) helped with insightful comments throughout the realization of the project and shared some IUSSP membership directories that proved very useful. Thanks also to Aviott John at the IIASA library, who helped us track down all IUSSP conference proceedings, and to Marilyn Brandl (IIASA) for language editing. Last but not least, we are largely indebted to Mary Ellen Zuppan and Philippe Migrenne at IUSSP, who willingly provided all they could for this brochure and answered all our requests promptly, while at the same time preparing for the largest IUSSP conference ever. Nevertheless, any mistakes occurring in this brochure are ours, not theirs.

Contact Information

Vienna Institute of Demography,
Austrian Academy of Sciences
Wohllebengasse 12–14, 1040 Vienna,
Austria
Phone: +43 1 515 81 7702
Web: www.oeaw.ac.at/vid
E-mail: vid@oeaw.ac.at

Layout: Christian Högl (www.creativbox.at)

From Marrakech to Vienna

European Population Conference 2010

http://epc2010.princeton.edu

1–4 September 2010 Vienna, Austria

About the IUSSP

The International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) is a professional association that brings together over 2,300 researchers, scholars, policy makers and others from diverse disciplinary and professional backgrounds in many countries to address key population issues.

Its central objectives are to:

- Stimulate and consolidate research on pressing population issues by convening scientific seminars and conferences;
- Disseminate the results of this work to the research community, policy makers and the interested public by means of publications, policy briefs and the website;
- Build research capacity by including young scholars and developing country researchers in IUSSP activities and by providing training;
- Encourage engagement between research and policy by collaborating with international, regional and government institutions and NGOs.

The IUSSP's main activity is the organization of scientific seminars and conferences. These meetings serve to push population research in new directions and disseminate research results on population issues. They also foster international networks of population and health researchers working on similar issues. Every four years the IUSSP sponsors an International Population Conference and holds a General Assembly of its members.