

## IUSSP Webinar - May 20, 2020

### Positioning population studies to understand the short and long-term impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic

## Q&As

*Note that this report contains the (nearly) raw, unedited text from the Q&A file downloaded from Zoom. We regret that the report does not include any information on the authors of answers or additional comments (beginning with an asterisk) that follow the primary questions. In spite of this, we believe these questions and the comments on the questions add value to the thought-provoking presentations made by the speakers.*

1. Hi. very interesting. A question for Palloni. Will short and long term effects also be part of migration studies? delay or offsetting might be volatile in the next coming years? Dorien Manting (Manting@ospm.nl)

*\*Excellent points about international migration. The need for nationally relevant migration data is paramount as well as the need for inter-nationally comparable migration to support comparative analysis and theory building. Our Panel on international migration is advancing the prospect of a world migration survey, building on the work of previous Panels. Thank you. (Ellen Kraly)*

2. Good evening! Could you Sir elaborate a bit on the issue of impact of this pandemic on women especially in terms of migration and employment? Best Regards, Anindita Sinha, ICFAI University, Tripura, India Anindita Sinha (sinhaanindita3@gmail.com)

3. How would one define "being affected by COVID?" At present everyone is affected. Eduard Jongstra (jongstra@unfpa.org)

*\*Another way of saying this is how do we define treatment and control groups when exposure is more of a gradient?*

*\*I agree, but that is actually very interesting right? We can analyze different responses. And arguably people are very differently affected. In Spain for example it made a huge difference whether you were "confined with children in a flat" or actually had access to a private garden. So the "affected" is very heterogeneous. Just an example, there are many others of course.*

*\*Perhaps by generation — born in April 2019 vs. born in April 2020? But there is also variation in the level of exposure across different parts of the country.*

*\*I think so, we need to be clear about what we mean by "covid effect" (virus itself, economic crisis, social consequences, etc.) and the outcomes we are examining. The challenge will be to differentiate those "effects".*

4. Is there not a prior issue, that will have a large impact on any study: the actual effects of the virus on those who are infected, those who get very sick, and the related issues of who is and who is not seriously infected. Unlike the 1918 Flu, the virus seems to effect older adults with co-morbidities, especially those in nursing homes, etc. Don't we first have to be able to truly track this epidemic, before we begin to "assess its impact" on all of the areas that Alberto has laid out.

Andrew Beveridge (andy@sociaexplorer.com)

*\*Also the quality of data now coming from various countries. Suppressing the numbers of affected people which was perhaps not there in 1918?*

5. Palloni: I agree with the emphasis on migrants as being a vulnerable group. Could we also learn more about the effects of Corona by comparing migrants and non-migrants (cohorts and longitudinally)? Dorien Manting (Manting@ospm.nl)

*\*If we could also look at changes in migration policies*

7. One thing clear already is poor data on people in communal establishments (and poor quality of death recording for them) so do we need more efforts at including these groups in data collections? Emily Grundy (emily.grundy@essex.ac.uk)

9. How will this pandemic impact on health seeking behaviour among pregnant women which will also affect maternal mortality rates Desmond Klu (kludesmond12@gmail.com)

10. Interesting talk with enough insight for future studies. Thank you! Nandita Saikia (nanditasts@gmail.com)

11. What advice do you give to countries that do not have a robust vital registration system Yovani A. Moses Lubaale (ylubaale@gmail.com)

*\*Using alternative virtual data sources*

*\*See this preprint which was just published: <https://t.co/jJ3bXIDwGC?amp=1>*

*\*This is something I can't stress enough. We must have a a vital registration system to allow us to understand the impact of epidemics on mortality. COVID deaths could be misclassified or people who are at risk of dying from heart disease could die from COVID. Cause specific mortality is very difficult to establishing developing countries. Only way to understand it is to have death registrations over time so we can compare May 2020 with May 2019.*

12. Palloni: what about mortality? impacts on life expectancy? what about future impact because of deterioration of health programs and the fact that all is being focused now in COVID? Jose Miguel Guzman (josemi.guzman@gmail.com)

*\*answered live*

13. Hi, very interesting. A question for Palloni how we can secure for funding? I have great interest for longitudinal studies on child health outcome (long term effects), short term effects we for example, unwanted pregnancy, mental health, also about elderly population. Unnati Saha (unnati.saha01@gmail.com)

14. Will the mortality rates up to now change the population structure significantly? Montserrat Vilà (montse.vila@ebd.csic.es)

15. To all: how current digital monitoring tools of collecting population data can be used like the movement of people, containment areas and COVID dispersal? Can we focus on process? Shashikant Kumar (gercbrd@gmail.com)

16. What should the role be for NSO who do not usually specialise in longitudinal data collection? What about partnerships and collaborations with academia and surveillance sites? Data from private sector and big data? Diego Iturralde (diegoi@statssa.gov.za)

*\*This is an important question*

17. Would it be easier to implement policies to tackle the ongoing issue of COVID-19 in a country like India with such a large population. The socio-economic inequalities are very stark in India and how will it be possible to target poorest of the poor population. Shekhar Chauhan (chauhanshekhar2486@gmail.com)

18. How can we use the COPID experience to strengthen vital registration systems/routine data in most of Africa and developing countries. Zena Lyaga (from Kenya) (zlyaga@yahoo.com)

19. How can we effectively capture the effect of the pandemic on the labour market particularly from the demographic mix perspective. Ifeanyi Onyeonoru (ifyonyez@gmail.com)

20. About data collection. Will we continue using survey and census? Aris Ananta (arisananta@ui.ac.id)

21. Thanks very insightful talk. Suryakant Yadav (suryakant11@gmail.com)

22. Given the fact that Covid-19 hits mainly elderly segments of the population, how you elaborate its impact on life expectancy at birth and at age 65? Ismet Koc (ismetkoc1@gmail.com)

23. Dr. Desai, do you think the economic package launched by the Government of India will help in improving the emerging economic crisis in the country?" Parul Puri (parulpuri93@gmail.com)

24. My Question to Prof. Sonal Desai: As India is known for untouchability/discrimination against some community especially Dalits or Minority (Muslims). Do you think Covid-19 social distancing will increase this phenomenon. If so, what should be done? Chander Shekhar (shekhariips@rediffmail.com)

*\*answered live*

25. How can we define cohort of target population and control population, because in these cohort there are many people who are not experiencing same conditions, and after lockdown period it is tedious too. Abhinav Singh (abhinavsinghstat@gmail.com)

26. To Prof. Sonalde: Is it right to say the vulnerability due to COVID is differential in South Asia compared to the traditional definition of vulnerable population? For example, the rural poor being affected lower than their urban counterparts Arun Balachandran (bchandran.arun@gmail.com)

27. For country like India, the first challenge we see is the continuous reporting of pandemic data at district level. Suryakant Yadav (suryakant11@gmail.com)

*\*Dear Sir, Could you please explain it further. How continuous reporting is creating a challenge? Meanwhile WHO is releasing country-wide data on a daily basis. Looking forward to your reply. (Shekhar Chauhan)*

28. Nepal is preparing next fiscal year budget it is lost as to how to prepare it in view of the current pandemic. It is difficult for the government to change the usual course and alter budget allocation but the current pandemic calls for new priorities. I wonder whether the academia has any suggestions? It calls for a short term strategy. Yagya Karki (karkidryagya@gmail.com)

29. My question is to Sonalde Desai: Madam, it is essential to identify the migrant group in countries like India. But current demographic data system of India hardly gives us dynamic data on migration. Census collects data on migration but it is already 10 years old; is usually published after 5-7 years; does not provide individual level data. For migration related scientific policies, we hardly have any data maintained by either central or state government. What is your suggestion to address migration data gap in India? Nandita Saikia (nanditasts@gmail.com)

*\*This question applies to all other parts of the world. Data on international migration is still a huge challenge.*

*\*Yes, it is!*

30. Hi, thanks for this webinar. Through the media, we only hear the problems, but can we also talk about positive side? For example, in Japan so far, the number of death by COVID19 is only 700, compared to 1.3 million deaths occurring annually, and actually, the monthly death has decreased in Feb. and March compared to last year. Can be due to the alertness to normal infection. Even the number of suicide decreased significantly. As for the fertility, we do not know yet, but I read even in Italy, they expect an increase (in 9 months time), like the NY blackout effect. Reiko Hayashi (hayashi-reiko@ipss.go.jp)

31. can we adopt this system to study effects disease on war torn countries like Somalia, Abyei in South Sudan Yovani A. Moses Lubaale (ylubaale@gmail.com)

32. Hello, can you elaborate on the subject of ICD codes and ways of working with deficient cause of death data? Thank you. Faruk Keskin (farukkeskin@hacettepe.edu.tr)

33. Palloni: You mentioned new surveys. However, one problem we have for the future is the challenge to go back to households and interview people. The response rate will be probably lower. We don't really know how much the traditional way to do surveys will be affected. Jose Miguel Guzman (josemi.guzman@gmail.com)

*\*I agree - there are some US groups already working on how to make sure that the "virtual" interviews are similar in quality to the traditional approach. See some of the work from the MELODEM group (EU/US) on neuropsychological assessment.*

34. Question to all: What new information and how do you think could be collected on internal and international migration in the forthcoming Census of India 2021? The data collected are stereotypical, limited and get outdated by the time they are made available in the public domain. Your comments please. Prof. Binod Khadria, Former Professor of Economics, Education and Migration at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, Email: bkhadria@gmail.com, Mobile/WhatsApp: +91-9810784513 (bkhadria@gmail.com)

35. How are indigenous populations in different countries affected differently? In New Mexico (USA), for example, the incidence is far higher in the Navajo nation highlighting disparities in population health and institutional capacity. Deborah McFarlane (dmcf@unm.edu)

36. How might Covid19 affect people's living arrangements, for example would the young, newly jobless move back to live in their parental families? Gouranga Dasvarma (gour.dasvarma@flinders.edu.au)

37. Question to Sonalde... that in India already we know the reporting of domestic violence is increased dramatically...and again... people are allowed to alcohol recently... that will obviously increase the risk of domestic violence...so what should be medication strategy Pragati Ubale (madhavidattatrayadf@gmail.com)

38. Hi, I am Minakshi from India. I would like to raise concern on non-COVID deaths because of lockdown like maternal, and child death, since people are scared to go hospital and also unable to go hospital; especially in developing country with poor health infrastructure Minakshi Vishwakarma (minakshiiips@gmail.com)

40. I am very interested in the relation between the epidemiological transition and the spread of COVID-19. Many Demography textbooks say that we live in the world which had experienced the epidemiological transition, so that in theory, main causes of deaths should be derived from degenerative and chronic diseases. Yet, the recent spread of COVID-19 and an increase in the number of deaths from COVID-19 do not seems to be fitted to a orthodox epidemiological transition

theory. So, I am wondering whether the theory need to be modified in the way to fit the current demographic situation. Nobutaka Fukuda (n-fukuda@pobox.com)

41. hi, Prof. Palloni, your talk was very important to understand about our past in managing past diseases. Ines Raimundo (inesmacamo@gmail.com)

42. This is Yagya from Nepal. Data availability is a perennial problem. Even then are there ways to assemble whatever data and conduct analysis in response to current crisis? Current information show that gender relations, child nutrition, migration are all not so good and at this juncture we are worried that these dimensions will be negatively affected. Yagya Karki (karkidryagya@gmail.com)

43. Professor Palloni - Keen to unpack the migration related issues in future research, as currently we have at risk populations being migrants, but then the disease spreads through contact. Mary Muyonga (mary.kalerwa@gmail.com)

*\*Mary raises an excellent point that often remains buried: issues pertaining to persons in protracted refugee and displacement situations. (Ellen Kraly)*

*\*Thanks Ellen. This is Mary Muyonga from Kenya..*

44. Thank you for this agenda-setting presentation. Would any of the panelists have any suggestions on how to recruit COVID-19 positive cases in surveys if there is discrimination against them? Might be difficult to identify/find participants, e.g. they might not reveal this during screening? (Of course hopefully the discrimination goes away after the pandemic) Klaren Tanalgo (kptanalgo.drdf@gmail.com)

45. My question is to Pr Eloundou. Cognizant of COVID-19 context, present recommended approach on how to closely integrate and activate selected and relevant stakeholder groups in codesigning and co-implementing the gender analysis" Marcel Nkoma (nkoma\_fr@yahoo.fr)

46. Thank you. It is very insightful discussion. What should be the demographers role to maintain the social distance among Jayanta Bora (jkbnwg@gmail.com)

47. what is expected for fertility. With both spouses home in many cases 24/7 there might be more sexual activity and resultant pregnancies (intended and unintended). On the other hand, the fear of the pandemic may inhibit desires for childbearing. Any insights on this? Stan Becker (sbecker2@jhu.edu)

*\*This is similar to my thoughts below:*

*\*Re imagining fertility dynamics from the a developing countries: The carrot and stick situation. Too much time locked down together might lead to GBV and forgiveness and healing process will lead to unwanted pregnancies. Children are likely to be psychologically affected in all this. This however can be confirmed at least 13 months from today."*

48. Dr. Desai, what is your view about the impact of lock down on women migrants. Bhaswati Das (bhaswatidas37@gmail.com)

49. Right. Is the treatment having the virus, being in a community with an early and elevated outbreak, the different containment policies, or compliance with the containment policies? Elizabeth Fussell (elizabeth\_fussell@brown.edu)

50. I like the long-term vision Palloni presented and what I see is the need to 1) build a theoretical framework that put together all these processes and possible outcomes. 2) build a model that can map all the complex interactions. We demographers have an important role to play, but we need to work closely with biologists, statisticians, epidemiologists, economists, sociologists and other

scientists. I am thinking in a very broad endeavor focusing on how we can integrate what's happening now to map the alternative futures we may have. Jose Miguel Guzman (josemi.guzman@gmail.com)

51. Excellent presentation by Prof Palloni. It looks like in low and middle-income countries their health system and food production are being overwhelmed by the impact of covid19 and this has had an impact on the typical services they provide (such as ambulatory services, birth deliveries, regular vaccinations, etc.). This may have indirect impacts on health outcomes such as increase in chronic malnutrition, maternal and child mortality, faster progression of chronic diseases due to lack of treatment, etc. A question for Prof Palloni, how can one study direct from indirect impacts of covid19? I assume if one is able to conduct a study like the ones indicated by Prof Palloni we may be able to disentangle these effects Hiram Beltran-Sanchez (beltrans@ucla.edu)

52. Hi, I am Bella Uttekar from CORT, India. I think there would be a need to understand the impact of COVID on infants, children, adolescents, girls, women and elderly population. Bella Uttekar (bputtekar@cortindia.in)

53. There are still major gaps concerning the spread of Covid19. It is hard to believe that the mortality rate in China was so low in comparison to the number of exposed population. Are the reported figures feasible?" Joan Grimalt (joan.grimalt@idaea.csic.es)

54. One important aspect of COVID 19 pandemic is that it has brought us face to face to two important realities that has impacted human survival and wellbeing world wide. It has demonstrated that just how critical and essential the care work to our economy, health and survival. This is the only work that has increased under the lock down mostly performed by women as care givers, cooks, cleaners in the family and as teachers, health workers and so on. How would you think Sonalde, this will change in gender relation, and thinking of the policy makers. Bina Pradhan (binapradhan44@gmail.com)

55. Us as demographers, should we support our government's decision to provide free masks and then get a loan from IMF to be paid in 30 years Yovani A. Moses Lubaale (ylubaale@gmail.com)

56. What about the impact of this pandemic in Middle East? Anusha Sreejith (aanusha.81@gmail.com)

57. I would like know views of the panelists what do they think that ignoring migration and migrants into pandemic preparedness plan is the main for global spread of Covid 19. Second, country like India has huge internal migration especially to few selected urban centers so failure to understand the gravity of such large number of migrants by policy makers is also the main reason for the misery of workers. (Nagendra MAURYA) nagendrainsearch@gmail.com

58. How health financing would be affected by COVID-19? Ratna Patel (ratnapatelbhu@gmail.com)

59. One key issue is the impact of COVID-19 and response to it on the subject of equity and the ultimate vision of the SDG to leave no one behind. There are paradigm shifts in different areas of endeavour be it education, economy, healthcare. Most of the new innovations have leveraged on technology. However, there are vulnerable groups who have never being part of the "digital movement". How do we ensure that the gaps do not keep widening? Joshua Akinyemi (odunjoshua@yahoo.com)

60. How do you evaluate new data collection methods such as RDD samples and web based modes after the pandemic? Melike Saraç (melikesarac90@gmail.com)

61. Alberto, do you think that the COVID deaths in the North are likely to lead to relaxation of migration policies, programs and actions to welcome migrants from the South. Do you also see reverse migration- migrants going back home as a result of jobs lost during COVID? John Mushomi (jmushomi@gmail.com)

62. My question is to Sonalde Desai. There is unprecedented return migration of labourers in India in India in the wake of COVID-19. Of course, this is linked to clear failure of government and unscientific approach to lockdown. This may have short and long term impact on migrants, their families and society in general. Does this require new way of conceptualizing and theorizing return migration in India? Brajesh Kumar (BKSOCIO@GMAIL.COM)

63. The politicization of COVID-19 may make the statistics on those testing positive unreliable. For some reasons, figures could be under reported or bloated. For contexts where this may happen, there is a challenge for data collection. What would you suggest for researchers in these contexts and those from other contexts who may want to use such data? Olufunlayo Bammeké (funmibammeké@yahoo.co.uk)

64. Great discussion! How to think about spatial and temporal subnotification affecting all estimates of demographic consequences of Covid-19? Thank you for the excellent discussion panel. Gilvan Guedes (Cedeplar/UFMG - Brazil) (grguedes@cedeplar.ufmg.br)

65. Data collection is a big challenge in the context of the pandemic, particularly in developing countries. How do we get the baseline in a context where there is restriction in terms of physical distancing? Some experiences of the use of mobile phone surveys exist in demographic surveillance systems (DSS). Maybe this can be an opportunity to follow the long term effects of the Covid-19 in developing settings? Jean-François Kobiané (Jfkobiane@issp.bf)

66. What demographic solutions could be projected to solve the gender related impact of the pandemic especially for excluded communities or groups? chukwunwike nwangwu (chukscnn@gmail.com)

67. Will the coronavirus lockdown lead to a baby boom? Abu Hossain (ahmkhossain@gmail.com)

68. Would there be spikes in unwanted births since access to safe abortion and contraceptives are limited during COVID crisis? Anand Tamang (anand@crehpa.org.np)

*\*Anne Biddlecom and colleagues at Gutmacher have estimated this*

69. what will be the behavior of migrants about joining the same labour market after the normal situation both in case of internal and international migration? Jeetendra D. Soni (jeetendra.soni@gmail.com)

70. Self isolation and quarantine have produced unimagined environmental effects such as clean air, greater visibility, more visible biodiversity. It would be very good for demographers to engage in research on environmental health, for which attention should be paid to collecting the right data. Gouranga Dasvarma (gour.dasvarma@flinders.edu.au)

71. Will urban lifestyle continue with its flamboyance after this Covid -19 pandemic experience? It is clear now that urbanization and social urbanism makes economies to progress and thrive and without urbanization economies will definitely crash. Onyinyechi Ossai (Onyinyechi.ossai@unn.edu.ng)

72. Hi this is a question and comment at the same time. Should not we look at people with disability as a group of people requiring special attention? Almaz Amine (aminealmaz@gmail.com)

73. Hi Zeba, this is Bina Pradhan from Nepal. Nice to see you. Bina Pradhan (binapradhan44@gmail.com)

74. Professor Palloni mentioned in his presentation about studying people's wellbeing as they are affected by Covid19. What kinds of questions should one ask in various domains of daily living to measure people's wellbeing? Gouranga Dasvarma (gour.dasvarma@flinders.edu.au)

75. I think there is another big issue i.e. hidden infected cases. And it can spread in a constant manner. And disease like Covid-19 can change various Demographic factors due to it. It has long term effect. All types of countries, including 1st world countries are facing trouble now. So, should we think about new/modified politics on health, migration, education and economy? Tapas Dey (tapashb06@gmail.com)

76. How one estimates covid deaths which are suppressed by governments? Mushtaque Chowdhury (Mushtaque.chowdhury@brac.net)

77. (continuation...) I feel that we really need to look into the care work of women and the impact of the pandemic on women and their work. Bina Pradhan (binapradhan44@gmail.com)

78. Excellent points about international migration. The need for nationally relevant migration data is paramount as well as the need for inter-nationally comparable migration to support comparative analysis and theory building. Our Panel on international migration is advancing the prospect of a world migration survey, building on the work of previous Panels. Thank you. Ellen Kraly (ekraly@colgate.edu)

79. Hi, Alb Palloni: very interesting all your proposals. Yet, how would you disentangle the long-term effects (on health, labour-economic, cultural, familiar ..... ) of Covid-19 over the nowadays "in utero" or young cohorts, from the likely disruptive events those cohorts very likely will encounter (climate change above all, other viruses epidemics and son on....) in the next times to come? Vicente PÉREZ-MOREDA (vperezmo@ucm.es)

80. To Parfait: The social consequences of the pandemic are not global. In several developing countries and especially in Africa, there has been no lockdown. Do you think that the consequences (new way of working, distance ...) in the West will impose themselves on its countries? Or on the contrary, because these populations will represent a large part of the world population, will they be able to resist this new order and impose their own? Vissého Adjiwanou (adjiwanou.visseho@uqam.ca)

81. Kindly share Palloni's presentation Zena Lyaga (zlyaga@yahoo.com)

82. Good to 'meet' again you here Zeba. Mushtaque Chowdhury (Mushtaque.chowdhury@brac.net)

83. While data reveals higher fatality rate among the elderly and those with pre-existing illnesses, reports suggests that there was hurdle in accessing contraceptives in low income countries in Asia and Africa, leading to higher number of births in future. How would you see the demographic landscape, to be affected by COVID 19? Debasis Barik (dbarik@ncaer.org)

85. Very interesting. Thank you so much. Dorien Manting (Manting@ospm.nl)

86. Thank you all for organising this discussion. Shashi Saroj (shashisarojnu@gmail.com)



87. Can you please share Alberto's presentation slides? Nulu Nanono (nanono.nuru35@gmail.com)

88. Sorry, Palloni. My question appears as from "Usted". And I am prof. V. Pérez-Moreda, so close - and now so distant- from the CSIC and D. Ramiro... Vicente PÉREZ-MOREDA (vperezmo@ucm.es)

89. Thanks IUSSP. IUSSP can organise survey to globally use COVID data. Jayanta Bora (jkbnwg@gmail.com)

90. Congratulations to the council. Great experience. Thanks. kraleti venkata rama subrahmanyam (suby26@gmail.com)