

Aubervilliers, April 15, 2021

**International Human Mortality Database project:
a strong partnership between INED, the Max Planck Institute for
Demographic Research,
and the University of California at Berkeley**

Magda Tomasini, Director of the National Institute for Demographic Studies or INED (France), Mikko Myrskylä, Managing Director of the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (Germany), and the Department of Demography at the University of California at Berkeley (United States) have just signed their scientific cooperation agreement in connection with the Human Mortality Database project (HMD). Recognized worldwide as an essential source of mortality statistics for over 40 countries, HMD is composed of historical mortality series based on top quality methods and data.

The Human Mortality Database (HMD), a joint project of the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research and the University of California, Berkeley, was established in 2002 to provide detailed mortality and population data to researchers, students, journalists, public decision makers, and anyone interested in the history of human longevity. It is made up of historical series of mortality rates by sex, age, and all other lifetable indicators, as well as all of the original data used to construct those series (deaths, births, and population counts). The HMD project covers several databases, including the main HMD (www.mortality.org) and the Human Life-Table Database (www.lifetable.de).

The newly signed partnership between INED, the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research, and the University of California, Berkeley introduces a new component that will strengthen scientific cooperation between researchers at these three institutions in their work on this international database. This is information on causes of death—an important change for the database's users. Research based on these new data improves our understanding of the factors driving the extraordinary advance in human life spans over the past two centuries. INED will join the HMD project as a third partner contributing its internationally recognized experience in constructing long time series of mortality indicators by cause of death.

The partnership has been signed for 5 years and will lead to the development of shared research projects, seminars and conferences, and facilitate the hosting of researchers for scientific exchanges.

HMD data are available free of charge upon registration. To this day over 6,000 articles, book chapters, doctoral dissertations, and other documents have been published drawing on these data and a total of over 65,000 users have registered to the database.

More information on the Human Mortality Database (HMD) :

<https://www.mortality.org/>

About INED:

The French Institute for Demographic Studies or INED (Institut National d'Etudes Démographiques) is a public research organization specialized in population study; it is a partner of academic institutions across the world and in research work at the national and international levels. The Institute's official mission is to study the populations of France and other countries, to ensure broad diffusion of the knowledge thus produced, and to contribute to training in research and through research. With the Institute's highly inclusive approach to demography, INED research encompasses a wide range of disciplines, including economics, history, geography, sociology, anthropology, statistics, biology, and epidemiology. And with its ten research units and two multi-institutional units, INED fosters scientific exchanges and conducts numerous European and international research projects.

www.ined.fr

About the Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research:

The Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research (MPIDR) investigates the structure and dynamics of populations. The Institute's researchers explore fundamental demographic issues, such as demographic change, aging, fertility, and the redistribution of work over the life course, as well as digitization and the use of new data sources for the estimation of migration flows. The MPIDR is one of the largest demographic research bodies in Europe, and is a worldwide leader in the study of populations. The Institute is part of the Max Planck Society, the internationally renowned German research organization.

<https://www.demogr.mpg.de>

About the University of California at Berkeley:

Founded in 1868, U.C. Berkeley was the first campus of what is currently a ten-campus university system. With its 130 departments, including the Department of Demography, one of the few in the United States to deliver Ph.D. in Demography, and 80 interdisciplinary research units, U.C. Berkeley is recognized as one of the best public universities in the United States. It has nearly 42,000 students, 7,000 of them international, and a teaching staff of 2,500. The university's former students, professors and researchers include 104 Nobel Prize laureates, and it is regularly ranked one of the world's top five institutions of higher learning.

<http://www.berkeley.edu>

Press contacts:

Email : service-presse@ined.fr

Gilles GARROUSTE - Institutional Communication - Tel: +33 (0)1 56 06 57 04

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