



COLLEGE OF  
**SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES**

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**NIH AWARDS OHIO STATE GRANT FOR POPULATION RESEARCH CENTER**

The Ohio State University's Initiative in Population Research (IPR) recently received a center grant award from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) **establishing IPR as a premier population research center with signature strengths in the study of family demography, population health, and geographic analysis of health**. The \$2.2 million, 5-year award, under the auspices of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) Population Research Infrastructure Program, **will position Ohio State's IPR to become a national and international leader in the study of population and health**. "These awards are highly competitive and much sought after. This success is an affirmation of the innovative character of the research being conducted by the research scientists affiliated with IPR," said John Casterline, IPR director and Robert T. Lazarus Professor in Population Studies.

Ohio State's IPR was established in 2000 with the goal of building a multidisciplinary population and health research center of excellence. The IPR unites behavioral and health scientists from six colleges and fourteen departments across Ohio State to better understand the health of children, adults, families, and communities. Many of its research projects are interdisciplinary collaborations, an outcome that IPR actively nurtures through seed grants, the establishment of working groups, and seminars to facilitate cross-discipline partnerships in population research. IPR's growth in recent years was accelerated with an investment of funds from Ohio State's Targeted Investment in Excellence initiative (Population and Health Targeted Investment in Excellence (TIE)).

A sampling of the range of population research conducted and supported by Ohio State's IPR includes studies of: population growth in Africa and South Asia; unintended pregnancy in the U.S. and in developing countries; child health and development; adult health disparities; differential access to health care; the health of single mothers and their children; marital status transitions and their effects on families and children; health consequences of immigration and migration; obesity among adolescents; residential segregation and its consequences; neighborhood characteristics and health; neighborhood density and crime. IPR researchers examine the cultural, social and economic factors that impact health outcomes from a variety of perspectives, ranging from individual interventions to large-scale studies of groups and populations, and using a variety of methodologies.

“With the aging of the world’s population, concerns about the health and well-being of new generations of children, and the spiraling costs of health care, issues of population and health have moved to the center stage of public awareness and attention,” states Casterline. “This award confirms that Ohio State is a national and international leader in population research, and it gives us the opportunity to make even more substantial contributions during the next few years.”

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The Social and Behavioral Sciences at The Ohio State University include the departments of Anthropology, Economics, Geography, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology, and Speech and Hearing Science; the School of Communication; and the Centers for Human Resource Research (CHRR), Urban and Regional Analysis (CURA), Criminal Justice Research (CJRC); and the Population Research Initiative (IPR).