

J. Trent Alexander

Center for Economic Studies, U.S. Census Bureau
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EMPLOYMENT

- 4/2012— Supervisory Survey Statistician (GS-15), Assistant Center Chief, Center for Economic Studies, U.S. Census Bureau
- 8/2010-4/2012 Supervisory Survey Statistician (GS-14), Chief of Data Analysis and User Education Branch, American Community Survey Office, U.S. Census Bureau
- 6/2003-8/2010 Principal Research Scientist, Minnesota Population Center, Office of the Vice President for Research, University of Minnesota.
- 1/2000-6/2001 Coordinator, Humanities Computing Center, Carnegie Mellon University

EDUCATION

- 2001-2003 Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Minnesota, Minnesota Population Center
- 2001 Ph.D. Carnegie Mellon University, History
- 1995 M.A. Carnegie Mellon University, History
- 1992 B.A. Columbia University, History and Sociology

PUBLICATIONS

- Alexander, J. Trent and Annemarie Steidl.
Forthcoming. "Gender and the 'Laws of Migration': A reconsideration of nineteenth-century patterns," in Social Science History.
- Donato, Katharine, J. Trent Alexander, Donna Gabaccia, and Johanna Leinonen
2011. "Variations in the Gender Composition of Migrant Populations: How and Why They Matter." International Migration Review. 45: 495-526.
- Ruggles, Steven, J. Trent Alexander, Todd K. Gardner, and Matthew Schroeder.
2011. "Frozen Film and FOSDIC Forms: Restoring the 1960 Census of Population and Housing." Historical Methods. 44: 69-78.
- Alexander, J. Trent, Michael Davern, and Betsey Stevenson.
2010 "Inaccurate age and sex data in the Census PUMS files: Evidence and Implications." Public Opinion Quarterly. 74: 551-569. (Previously appeared as National Bureau of Economic Research Working Paper No. 15703, January 2010).
- Eichenlaub, Suzanne, Stewart E. Tolnay, and J. Trent Alexander
2010 "Moving out but not up: Economic outcomes in the Great Migration." American Sociological Review 75: 101-125.
- Davern, Michael, Steven Ruggles, Tami Swenson, J. Trent Alexander, and Michael Oakes
2009 "Drawing Statistical Inferences from Historical Census Data." Demography 46: 589-603.

- Alexander, J. Trent and Chad Berry
2010 "Who is Appalachian? Self-Reported Appalachian Ancestry in the 2000 Census." Appalachian Journal. 38: 46-55.
- Alexander, J. Trent
2009 "Appalachians, Southern Whites, and the Great Migration." Article in themed issue titled "Major Turning Points: Rethinking Appalachian Migration." Appalachian Journal. 36: 166-171.
- Alexander, J. Trent
2007 "Demographic Patterns in the Great Migration, 1917-1940" Encyclopedia of the Great Migration (Westport, CT: Greenwood).
- Alexander, J. Trent
2006 "Defining the Diaspora: Appalachians in the Great Migration." Journal of Interdisciplinary History 37: 219-247.
- Alexander, J. Trent
2005 "'They're never here more than a year': Return Migration in the Southern Exodus, 1940-1980." Journal of Social History 38: 653-671.
- Alexander, J. Trent, Jason Carl Digman, and J. David Hacker.
2003 "Introducing Two New Public Use Samples of the Census of Slave Inhabitants." Historical Methods 36: 21-27.
- Alexander, J. Trent
1998 "The Great Migration in Comparative Perspective: Interpreting the Urban Origins of Southern Black Migrants to Pittsburgh." Social Science History 22: 349-376.
- Modell, John and J. Trent Alexander
1997 "High School in Transition: Community, School, and Peer Group in Abilene, Kansas, 1939." History of Education Quarterly 37: 1-24.

GRANTS AND CONTRACTS

- Baseline Data for the Analysis of Demographic Change (Principal Investigator), funded by the National Institutes of Health (NICHD), 2009-2014. \$3,601,441. Transferred PI role to Evan Roberts of the University of Minnesota after moving to the Census Bureau.
- Integrated Public Use Microdata Series Redesign (Co-Investigator, Project Manager through 2010), funded by the NIH/NICHD, 2008-2013, \$3,093,410.
- New Data Resources from the 1960 United States Census (Co-Principal Investigator, Project Manager through 2010), funded by the NIH/NICHD, 2007-2012, \$2,415,220.
- Conference on Mobility, Gender Ratios and Public Policy, funded by the Russell Sage Foundation (with Katharine Donato and Donna Gabaccia), 2008, \$19,000.
- American Time Use Survey/Current Population Survey Data Access System (Principal Investigator), funded by the USDA Economic Research Service, 2007-2009, \$42,890.
- Improving Variance Estimation Procedures for the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series (Co-Investigator), funded by the NIH/NICHD, 2005-2007, \$162,500.
- Black Migration to the West, 1930-2000 (Principal Investigator), funded by the National Science Foundation Sociology Program, 2003-2007, \$105,000.
- Public Use Microdata Samples of the 1850 Slave Population (Co-Principal Investigator), funded by the National Science Foundation Sociology Program, 2002-2005, \$209,000.
- Race and Community in the Southern Exodus, Dissertation Improvement Grant funded by the National Science Foundation Sociology Program, 1998-1999, \$7,500.

ORIGINAL DATA RESOURCES

Ruggles, Steven, J. Trent Alexander, Katie Genadek, Ronald Goeken, Matthew B. Schroeder, and Matthew Sobek

2010 Integrated Public Use Microdata Series: United States Census (IPUMS-USA).

Available at <http://www.ipums.org/usa>

Database of 100 million person records from the U.S. decennial censuses of 1850-2000, Current Population Surveys from 1962 to the present, and the American Community Surveys from 2000 to the present. Was also named author on releases in 2006 and 2008.

King, Miriam, Steven Ruggles, J. Trent Alexander, and Matthew Sobek

2010 Integrated Public Use Microdata Series: Current Population Survey (IPUMS-CPS).

Available at <http://cps.ipums.org/cps>

Was also named author on releases in 2006 and 2008.

Menard, Russell, J. Trent Alexander, Jason Digman, and J. David Hacker

2004 Public Use Microdata Samples of the Slave Population of 1850-1860.

Available at <http://usa.ipums.org/usa/slavepums>

SELECTED WORKSHOPS AND TRAININGS

2012 "ACS Public Use Microdata Samples: What Users Need to Know." Presentation to the American Association of Geographers. New York, NY. February 26.

2011 "Using the American Community Survey and the IPUMS." Workshop at the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management. Washington, DC. November 4.

2011 "Update on American Community Survey Program and Data Products." Presentation for the Census Bureau State Data Centers and Census Information Centers. October 14.

2011 "The American Community Survey and the Decennial Census." Presentation for the Russian Census Delegation, Washington, DC. August 8. Gave same presentation to Korean Census delegation on December 11.

2011 "Using the ACS: Issues with studying small areas and change over time." Webinar presented to the Association of Public Data Users. January 20. Also in-person presentation to the Council of Governments Forecasting and Data Subcommittee. January 11.

2010 "Integrating the American Community Survey with the World's Census Data: IPUMS and the ACS." Workshop held at the Asociación Latinoamericana de Población annual meeting, Habana, Cuba. November 16.

2010 "Using the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series." Workshop held at the Population Association of America annual meeting, Dallas, TX. April 15.

2009 "Getting and Using the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series." Presentation and workshop held at the Social Science Data Center, UC-Davis, January. Held at Xavier University, Cincinnati, OH, February.

2007 "An integrated database of individual-level census data, 1850-present." Workshop held at the U.S. Census Bureau, Census Information Centers Annual Meeting, Suitland, MD.

2007, 2006 "IPUMS Workshop: Using the Integrated Public Use Microdata Series databases." Three-day workshops held in Minneapolis in July 2006, January 2007, and June 2007. Students included a total of 90 paying attendees from around the world.

2006, 2005, 2004, 2003 "Using U.S. Census Data for Public Policy Research." Short-course held at the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute for Public Affairs, University of Minnesota.

2006, 2005, 2004, 2003 "Research Workshop on Historical Census Data." Instructional session held at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association.

- 2006 "New Census Data for Historical Research." Half-day workshop held at the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians.
- 2006 "Post-conference Workshop on Census Microdata." Half-day workshop held at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association.
- 2005 "Using Census Data in the Classroom." Teaching workshop at the annual meeting of the American Sociological Association.
- 2003 "Historical Census Data, 1850-2000: Accessing and Using Resources." Workshop held in the Summer Program in Quantitative Methods at the Inter-University Consortium for Social and Political Research (ICPSR).
- 2003 "Public Use Census Microdata in Social Science and Social Policy Research." Instructional session at the Midwest Conference on Demographics for Policy Analysts.
- 2002 "Training Session on Government Documents: Census Microdata in Social Science Research." Instructional session at the annual meeting of the American Library Association.

SELECTED RESEARCH PRESENTATIONS

Alexander, J. Trent, Misty Heggness, and Sharon Stern.

2012 "Alternative Strategies for Grouping People into Resource Units: Measuring Poverty in the American Community Survey." Presented at the annual meeting of the Population Association of America.

Alexander, J. Trent and Annemarie Steidl.

2010 "Gender and the 'Laws of Migration': A reconsideration of nineteenth-century patterns." Presented at the Russell Sage Foundation's Conference on Gender Ratios of Internal and International Migrants.

Alexander, J. Trent, Michael Davern, and Betsey Stevenson.

2009 "Inaccurate age and sex data in the Census PUMS files: Evidence and Implications." Presented at the annual Joint Statistical Meetings.

Alexander, J. Trent, Katharine Donato, Donna Gabaccia, and Johanna Leinonen.

2008 "Using Harmonized International Microdata to Study Global Migrations." Presented at the University of Manchester's Centre for Census and Survey Research, Conference on Census Microdata: Findings and Futures.

Alexander, J. Trent

2008 "Reconsidering the Roles of Distance and Selectivity in Mass Migrations: The Case of the Twentieth-Century U.S. South." Presented at the annual meeting of the Population Association of America.

Alexander, J. Trent and Chad Berry

2008 "After the Move: Self-reported Appalachian Ancestry in the 2000 Census." Presented at the annual meeting of the Appalachian Studies Association.

Alexander, J. Trent, Katharine Donato, Donna Gabaccia, and Johanna Leinonen

2008 "Gender Ratios in Global Migrations, 1850-2005." Presented at the annual meeting of the Population Association of America.

Eichenlaub, Suzanne, Stewart E. Tolnay, and J. Trent Alexander

2007 "The Correspondence Between Migration Selection and Migration Outcomes: The Case of the Great Migration." Presented at the annual meeting of the Population Association of America.

Alexander, J. Trent

2006 "Reconsidering the Roles of Distance and Selectivity in Mass Migrations: The Case of the Twentieth-Century U.S. South." Presented to the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP), Workshop on Space and Time in Historical Demographic Research.

Alexander, J. Trent.

2006 "Global, Local, and Nowhere in Between: Data and Disciplines in the Study of U.S. Internal Migration." Presentation at the Moving Americans Conference, sponsored by the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development.

Alexander, J. Trent.

2006 "'Just a short hop home': Migration within the South during the Southern Exodus." Presentation at the annual meeting of the Population Association of America.

Alexander, J. Trent.

2005 "'New Jersey with mountains and deserts': A Comparative Perspective on Southern Black Migration to the West." Presentation at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association.

Alexander, J. Trent

2004 "'Continued interest in the Appalachian migrant is not warranted': Appalachians and other Southern Whites in the Great Migration." Presented at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association.

Alexander, J. Trent and Jason Carl Digman

2003 "Southern Migrants and International Immigrants: A Long-Term Comparison, 1870-1990." Presented at the annual meeting of the Population Association of America.

Alexander, J. Trent.

2002 "'They're never here more than a year': Return Migration and Ethnic Identity in the Great Migration, 1940-1980." Presented at the annual meeting of the Social Science History Association.

Alexander, J. Trent and Jason Carl Digman

2002 "Just Another Immigrant Group?: The Occupational Experiences of Southern Migrants and International Immigrants in the North, 1870-1970." Presented at the annual meeting of the Organization of American Historians.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Professional Service

2009— Executive Committee, Social Science History Association (elected position)

2009— Historical Data Files Project, collaboration between U.S. Census Bureau, University of Michigan, UC-Berkeley, and the University of Minnesota

2000— Served as presenter, discussant, or organizer nearly every year at the annual meetings of the American Sociological Association, Population Association of America, and the Social Science History Association. Also occasionally present at the Joint Statistical Meetings, International Union for the Scientific Study of Populations, American Historical Association, and the Organization of American Historians.

Manuscript reviewer for *Demography*, *American Sociological Review*, *Social Forces*, *Social Science Quarterly*, *Social Science History*, the National Institutes of Health, and the National Science Foundation.

Committees and Workgroups

2010— Public Use Microdata Samples Work Group (Co-Chair)
Data Products Planning Work Group
Research and Evaluation Committee

2003-2010 Director, Outreach and Training Core, Minnesota Population Center (MPC)

2003-2010 MPC Postdoctoral Associate Search Committee (Chair, 2006-2009)

2003-2010 MPC Research Assistant Search Committee (Chair, 2006-2009)

2007 Senior Software Engineer Search Committee

2005-2008 Information Technology Priorities Committee, U of MN

2005-2006 MPC Merit Evaluation Committee

2005 MPC/NIH Center Grant Renewal Committee

2003-2006 Population Studies Curriculum Committee, U of MN

2004, 2008 Research Fellow/Research Scientist Search Committee (Chair)

UNIVERSITY/INSTITUTIONAL AWARDS

2011 Special Achievement Awards (2), U.S. Census Bureau

2007-2008 Recognition of Special Merit, College of Liberal Arts, University of Minnesota

2007-2008 Collaborative Research Grant, Colloquium on Gender Ratios and Global Migration,
Office of International Programs, University of Minnesota

2005, 2007 Proposal Development Grant, Minnesota Population Center

2005 Outstanding Service Award, College of Liberal Arts, University of Minnesota.

2004-2005 Recognition of Special Merit, College of Liberal Arts, University of Minnesota

1999-2000 Dissertation Fellowship, Center for African-American Studies, Carnegie Mellon

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Statistical Association
Association of Public Data Users
Population Association of America
Social Science History Association