

THOMAS COOKE, PHD

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DEMOGRAPHIC CONSULTANT

US Migration Trends | Population Projections | Workforce Demographics | Quality of Life Rankings

SUMMARY

25+ years at the forefront of demographic research, analysis, and modeling coupled with expertise in communicating research findings effectively to a wide variety of audiences—from policy creators, to students, to media, and to social science researchers. Former Professor of Geography with recognitions for excellence in research and teaching. Consultant to government agencies, corporations, think tanks, and municipalities.

CONSULTING STRENGTHS

Knowledge Domain Expertise: Urban Studies, Demography, Population Geography, Migration Studies

Demographic Analysis: Migration; Immobility and Regional Economic Development; Regional Quality of Life Indicators and Benchmarks; US Migration Trends; Regional, Local, and School Projections.

Global Research Project Collaborations: Led and participated in many large, multi-year, complex, international research projects managed remotely with periodic on-site visits with teams in Europe, Australia, and Asia.

Public Speaking and Training: A depth of experience teaching in face-to-face and online/remote learning environments, having taught 50+ online courses. Skillfully disseminate information to a wide variety of audiences.

Communications Excellence: Delivered 100s of conference presentations to diverse audiences. Editor of a leading geography journal and member of numerous editorial boards for geography, demography, and population journals.

APPLIED DEMOGRAPHICS CONSULTING

Sample projects spanning state agencies, municipalities, corporations, and research institutes

Brookings Institute: Evaluated alternative methods for classifying suburban areas and the effects of those alternatives on trends in suburban poverty for the Metropolitan Policy Program.

Indianapolis Public Transportation: Assessed the impacts of the existing transportation network on reverse commuting, especially from at-risk city communities to suburban job opportunities.

The Engine Group: Consulted on how demographic shifts due to migration may impact future retail site selection.

Cartus: Consulted on how corporate and employee relocation policies are impacted by the long-term downward trend in US migration and mobility.

Connecticut Department of Education: Completed enrollment study for re-opening Wright Technical High School.

Connecticut Community Health Data Scan: Assessed and reported on historical geography of Connecticut towns.

CAREER PROGRESSION

UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT, Storrs, CT

1994-2020

Professor, Department of Geography, 2007-2020

Promoted from Assistant Professor, 1994-2000 and Associate Professor, 2000-2007

Developed programs and curricula, secured research grants, taught and advised undergraduate and graduate students, and published research in peer-reviewed journals and books. Served the profession by reviewing approx. 50 papers/proposals annually, delivering keynote addresses internationally and domestically, and publishing widely. Received the **Research Excellence Award (2013) from the American Association of Geographers** based on the international impact of my research on population geography.

—Please continue reading for additional Demographic and Migration Research—

Professor, Department of Geography (continued)

- Nearly 100 peer reviewed journal articles in leading international social science journals.
- Research in applied demographics and geography recognized through selection for highly competitive appointments, including as U.S. Fulbright Scholar and Visiting Professor positions in the U.K. and Europe.
- Editor of *Urban Geography*, a top ten geography journal, 2015-2019.
- Frequently quoted in the *New York Times*, CNN, *Boston Globe*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Hartford Courant*, etc. Recent contribution (Dec. 2019) to The Conversation regarding [declining mobility within the United States](#) has been viewed 100,000+ times.

Director, US Census State Data Center (Connecticut), 2009-2011

The State Data Center (SDC) program is one of the Census Bureau's longest and most successful partnerships. The partnership was created to make data available locally.

Supervised 3 staff and coordinated strategic direction of the center with a dozen affiliated faculty and the university administration.

- Initiated, negotiated, and administered the transition of the center from an academic to a library center.
- Secured transitional funding from the Connecticut Office of Policy and Management (OPM).
- Responded to citizen, government, and media inquiries regarding Census programs and data.

Founding Director, Urban Studies Program (USP), 1994-2001

An interdisciplinary undergraduate major focused on urbanization, urban affairs, and urban planning

Developed programs and curricula, completed strategic planning with program committee, coordinated course offerings with affiliated departments, and advised students.

- As Founding Director of the first stand-alone degree program at the University's regional campus in Hartford, developed the proposal, negotiated with affiliated departments, and shepherded the proposal through the University, the Board of Trustees, and the Connecticut Board of Higher Education. Program has grown to over 100 majors and is a feature of the UConn-Hartford Campus.
- Appointed as **Coordinator** (2004-2007) of USP on the Storrs Campus to address low number of majors (~3 in 2004). Revitalized USP into a sustainable program with nearly 40 majors. Experienced continued growth since 2007.

INDIANA UNIVERSITY-PURDUE UNIVERSITY INDIANAPOLIS, Indianapolis, IN

1992-1994

Research Associate, The Polis Center

The Polis Center works with partners to define, measure, and actively improve community health, well-being, and resiliency.

Supported demographic research projects; developed new consulting opportunities for state and local government.

EDUCATION

PhD, Geography (minor: Economics), Indiana University, 1993

MA, Geography, Indiana University, 1988

BA, Geography, The Ohio State University, 1986

TECHNICAL SKILLSET

Statistical Software: STATA, R, ArcGIS, Tableau SAS, SPSS, Excel

Statistical and Data Analysis: Inferential Statistics, Panel Data Models, Causal Models, Regression, Spatial Analysis, GIS, Geographic Data Analysis, Visualization of Geographic Data

—Bibliography of research and publications available upon request—