

Demographic transformations and inequalities in Latin America

Historical trends and recent patterns

Latin American Population Association – ALAP

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organizer

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Presentation

Presentation

This book is part of ALAP's research series (*Serie Investigaciones*) that was created in 2008 as a means to disseminate the knowledge gained in the conferences and seminars organized by the Association. With the support of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), we have already published seven (7) volumes of this series covering a variety of topics such as migration, aging, reproductive health, poverty and vulnerability, family and the environment. This volume, which brings together papers on most of these topics, is the first to be published in English. All the subjects analyzed here serve as a basis to accomplish more equitable human development and are part of the concerns expressed in the Programme of Action from the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD) of 1994. In 2009, as part of the celebrations to mark the 15th anniversary of this conference, once again with the support of the UNFPA, which ALAP greatly acknowledges, we are publishing this volume whose commitment is to further advance in the topics of the conference. We are also indebted to all authors that agreed to put in the required effort to make this publication available in so short a period of time.

The events that gave rise to the idea for this publication were the sessions ALAP was invited to organize in 2009 for the meeting of the Population Association of America (PAA) in May 2009 and for the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) in September 2009. ALAP acknowledges and is enormously appreciative of the invitation received from the PAA International Outreach Committee and from IUSSP council to organize these sessions, for two main reasons. Firstly, because our Association is in its infancy and only started its activities a short while ago and the organization of these sessions and the subsequent discussion rendered the work being developed in Latin America in the field of demographics more conspicuous. Secondly, because this was an invaluable opportunity for demographers from Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) to exchange experiences with demographers around the world expanding research

boundaries. In this sense, a sequel to these contacts provided the opportunity for an interface with other regional associations, such as the African and Asian associations. As a result, ALAP has invited these associations to organize a regional session during the next ALAP Conference and we are working together to expand the interfaces between the association's members. We expect that both the reading of this book and further developments from these joint activities might bring insights and encourage more contact and research development among demographers around the world as well as within our region, which are also in need of more comparative studies.

Suzana Cavenaghi

President 2009-2010

ALAP