

# Using the “Health and Retirement Study” for Aging, Climate & Health Research

October 24-26, 2025

Institute of Behavioral Science, Room 155A/B  
University of Colorado Boulder



CACHE

Center for Aging, Health  
& Environment

## Friday, October 24th

### 4:00-4:30 Welcome, Objectives, & Introductions

Lori Hunter (CU Boulder) & Deborah Balk (CUNY)

### 4:30-5:00 **Disasters & Older Adults, Flash Presentations**

- Hugh Roland, Alabama Birmingham: [Climate Disaster Health Vulnerability Implications of Gulf Coast Demographic Dynamics](#)
- Jenna Tipaldo, City University New York: [Mortality among disaster-exposed older adults in the US Health and Retirement Study](#)
- Zhirui Chen, Boston College, [Connections among individual- and community-level housing characteristics and disaster preparedness in a national sample of low-income U.S. adults](#)

### 5:00-5:30 **Cognitive Health & Environment, Flash Presentations**

- XiPan, Texas State: [Environment and Cognitive Aging](#)
- Yanjun Dong, University at Albany: [Aging, Climate, and the Social Determinants of Health: Disaster Preparedness and Inequities Among Older Adults](#)
- Roger Wong, State University of New York Upstate Medical University: [Age Differences in Climate Event Exposures in a National U.S. Sample](#)

### 5:30-6:00 **Get dinner and return to seats Heat & Older**

### 6:00-6:30 **Adult Health, Flash Presentations**

- Eun Young Choi, University Southern California: [Aging under Climate Stress How Extreme Temperatures Shape Multi-System Biological Aging](#)
- Hannah Malak, UC Santa Barbara: [Heat Exposure among Older Adults by Race/Ethnicity: A Multi-Scale Investigation of Thermal Inequity](#)
- Na Yin, Deborah Balk, Mara Sheftel, and Jennifer Brite, City University New York: [Scorching Circumstances: The Role of Extreme Heat in Disability Among Older Workers in Heat-Sensitive Jobs](#)

**6:30-7:15**    **Research “speed dating” (in groups)**

**7:15-7:30**    **Additional Introductions: Research Ambitions, Collaboration Interest, Opportunities, Etc.**

A few minutes for others to put forward information and ideas that will be useful for making connections

**7:30**        **Close**

**Saturday, October 25th**

**9:00-9:15**    **Introductions & Goals**

**9:15-10:30**   **Panel: Using the HRS, with an emphasis on linking contextual data**

- Amanda Sonnega, University of Michigan: [HRS Overview](#)
- HRS Use Cases
  - Fernando Riosmena, University of Texas – San Antonio: [Cumulative Disadvantage & and the Aging of Mexican Immigrants in the United States](#)
  - Jessica Finlay, University of Colorado Boulder: [Contexts of Cognitive Health in the HRS](#)
  - Frank W. Heiland, City University New York: [Retirement and Family Demography in the Wake of Disasters](#)
- Moderator: Jennifer Ailshire, Univ Southern California

**10:30-10:45**   **Break**

**10:45-12:15**   **Panel: Environmental data available for integrating with HRS**

- Jennifer Alshire, University of Southern California: [Contextual & Environmental Data: Resources for HRS and Other Aging Surveys](#)
- Carina Gronlund, University of Michigan: [Weather Resources for HRS in the Gateway to Global and NaNDA](#)
- Sara Adar, University of Michigan: [EPOCH and the Gateway to Global Aging](#)
- Melanie Gall, Arizona State University: [Spatial Hazard Event & Loss Database for the US \(SHELDUS\)](#)
- Moderator: Luis Ortiz, George Mason University

**12:15-1:30**    **Lunch**

Expressions of interest in specialized sessions for the afternoon based on workshop so far

**1:30-2:15**    **Ask an Expert Session 1**

Select panelists available throughout building for follow-on conversations, possible topics: heat, temperature extremes, disasters (SHELDUS), cognitive health, retirement, disability, migration, HRS sister studies

**2:15-3:30**     **Ask an Expert, Session 2 + topical gatherings if desired**

Select panelists available throughout building for follow-on conversations  
Other spaces available for informal interaction

**3:30-3:45**     **Break**

**3:45-5:00**     **Next steps**

- Opportunities through CACHE, Landy Sanchez (El Colegio de Mexico), Jenna Tipaldo (CUNY)
  - Code & Data
  - What am I reading?
  - Seminars and focused trainings
- Highlights on themes from “ask an expert”
- Breakout groups: Discuss follow-on interests, activities, questions, and medium-term ways CACHE can support these efforts
  - Goal: some concrete follow-up activities by investigators and CACHE

**5:00-5:30**     **Close, discuss tomorrow**

**Dinner on own**

**Sunday, October 26th**

**Breakfast on own**

**10:00-12:00**     **Walk and talk**

- Short hike at Boulder’s beautiful [Chautauqua](#)
  - Meet at Moxy hotel, 10:00 a.m.
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