

# Ari Decter-Frain

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**Citizenship:** Canada

**Research interests** Computational demography, applied Bayesian statistics, elections and voting, political polarization, economic insecurity

**Education** **Cornell University** Ithaca, NY, US  
PhD in Policy Analysis and Management Aug 2019 – Present  
Committee: D. Miller, M. Macy, M. Hall.

**London School of Economics** London, UK  
MSc in Inequalities and Social Science Aug 2016 – Dec 2017  
Advisor: A. Reeves. *Rank: Distinction*

**University of Winnipeg** Winnipeg, MB, CA  
BA in Psychology Sep 2012 – May 2016  
*GPA: 4.42 / 4.50*

**Honors and scholarships**

|  |      |
|--|------|
| Graduate Fellowship (Cornell University)                   | 2020 |
| DSSG Fellowship (U. of Washington eScience Institute)      | 2019 |
| First Year Graduate Fellowship (Cornell University)        | 2019 |
| Hobhouse Memorial Prize for best overall performance (LSE) | 2017 |
| Undergraduate Research Award (U. of Winnipeg)              | 2014 |

**Academic papers** **Small area population estimates from consumer data**  
A. Acolin, M. Hall, A. Decter-Frain.  
*In preparation.*

**Millions of co-purchases and reviews reveal the spread of polarization and lifestyle politics across online markets**  
A. Ruch, A. Decter-Frain, R. Batra.  
*In preparation.*

**Comparing ecological inference approaches to measuring racially polarized voting**  
J. Burke, A. Decter-Frain, H. Murayama, P. Sachdeva, M. Barreto, L. Collingwood.  
*In preparation.*

**Why and how do moralistic groups create heroes?**  
A. Decter-Frain, R. Vanstone, J. Frimer.  
*In Handbook of Heroism and Heroic Leadership, 2017*

**Impressive words: Linguistic predictors of public approval of U.S. Congress**

A. Decter-Frain, J. Frimer.

*Frontiers in Psychology: Personality and Social Psychology, 2016*

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|------------------------------|--|
| Research<br>Experience       | <b>Data Science for Social Good Fellow</b> May 2020 – Aug 2020<br>University of Washington eScience Institute<br>Developed <a href="#">eiCompare 3.0</a> , an R package for quantifying minority vote dilution in US elections, incorporating feedback from stakeholders at the ACLU, National Democratic Redistricting Committee, and the UCLA Voting Rights Project. |
|                              | <b>Research Assistant</b> Oct 2014 – May 2016<br>University of Winnipeg Moral Psychology Lab   |
| Teaching<br>experience       | <b>Teaching assistant, PAM Department (Cornell University)</b> Spring 2021<br>PAM 2070: Big Data for Big Policy Problems<br>Lead and prepare materials for weekly tutorials teaching introduction to R for statistics and data science. Hold weekly office hours.  |
|                              | <b>Teaching assistant, PAM Department (Cornell University)</b> Fall 2020<br>PAM 2060: Statistics for PAM Majors<br>Led and prepared materials weekly hands-on tutorials teaching introduction to Stata for statistics. Held weekly office hours.<br><i>Average student rating: 4.5/5.</i>  |
| Industry<br>experience       | <b>Center for Migration Studies</b> New York, NY, US<br>Shiny Developer September 2020 - Present<br>Developed a Shiny dashboard application for internal users to quickly access and download Census data on migrant subgroup populations.   |
|                              | <b>Multi-Health Systems</b> Technology R&D Toronto, ON, CA<br>Product Manager Oct 2018 - May 2019<br>Assumed ownership of a workplace mental health screening product. Supervised a team of two software developers and a data scientist to support distributors' API integration. Achieved a five-fold increase in unit sales.  |
|                              | <b>Multi-Health Systems</b> Innovation Hub Toronto, ON, CA<br>Research Analyst Summer 2020<br>Developed R-based products including: Minimum viable product of a custom assessment-building application, an algorithm to isolate the most predictive items in assessments, and a dynamic, automated PDF reporting system.   |
| Presentations<br>and posters | <b>Small Area Population Estimates from Consumer Data</b> May 2021<br><i>with A. Acolin and M. Hall</i>  |

Poster accepted at 2021 Population Association of America Annual Meeting

**eiCompare: Comparing BISG to CVAP Estimates in  
Racially Polarized Voting Analyses**

Nov 2020

*with J. Burke, H. Murayama, and P. Sachdeva*

Politics of Race, Immigration, and Ethnicity Consortium Nov 2020 Meeting

**Agentic and communal rhetoric in the quest for political  
popularity**

June 2017

*with J. Frimer*

European Association of Social Psychology Annual Conference

Skills

**Programming**

Proficient in: R, Python, PostgreSQL.

Familiar with: Stata, HTML, CSS.

**Languages**

English (fluent), French (Conversational)