



The Population Health Laboratory ([#PopHealthLab](#)) of the University of Fribourg, within the national network of the Swiss School of Public Health ([SSPH+](#)), develops research activities to inform population-based prevention strategies and public health surveillance to help citizens, health stakeholders, clinicians, and policy-makers make data-informed and evidence-based decisions. Research areas are the epidemiology of population health in a life course and consequential perspective in an evidence-based public health framework.

The #PopHealthLab is looking for a

PhD student in Life Course Epidemiology of Cancer

to join our team and work on a PhD thesis in cancer epidemiology under the supervision of [Dr Rose van der Linden PhD](#) and [Prof Arnaud Chiolerio MD PhD](#). For this project, we aim to better understand how working conditions are related to breast cancer outcomes in women. As a PhD student, your research will involve assessing the effect of working conditions and occupation on breast cancer incidence, mortality, and survival. You will also study how pre-diagnosis working conditions are related to return to work and life satisfaction among breast cancer survivors. The project is funded by the [Swiss Cancer League](#) and will be conducted with (inter)national research partners.

Duties and responsibilities:

As a PhD student you will:

- Analyze data from large datasets ([UK Biobank](#)),
- Write research protocols and manuscripts for peer-reviewed journals as first author,
- Contribute to additional research, surveillance, and monitoring projects,
- Support the #PopHealthLab in administrative, teaching, and research activities.

Qualification and skills:

- Master's degree in epidemiology, social sciences, medicine, or a closely related field,
- Strong interest in life course research, cancer epidemiology, and public health,
- Experience with data analysis (use of R statistical software is a plus),
- Excellent communication skills in oral and written English (proficiency in French or German is a plus).

Start and duration of employment:

The position is available from July 2025, with a flexible starting date, for a duration of 3.5 years.

Additional information:

The salary is according to the standards of the Swiss National Science Foundation. The PhD student will have access to the courses proposed by [SSPH+](#). For further information about this position, please contact Dr Rose van der Linden via bernadette.vanderlinden@unifr.ch.

How to apply?

Submit your motivation letter and CV in a single PDF file by email to Catherine Girard at catherine.girard@unifr.ch. Deadline for application: February 28, 2025