

Call for papers

Journal of Official Statistics

Special Issue: Population statistics for the 21st century

Special Issue Guest Editors

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Reliable population statistics are indispensable for many crucial areas of public policy and planning worldwide. At the same time, the world is changing rapidly, with population processes gaining pace and acquiring new forms, such as the increasingly fluid mobility and migration. Novel technologies, data sources and analytical methods offer new, better than ever opportunities to deal with the demographic challenges of the future. The role of official population statistics in addressing these challenges – from aiding humanitarian relief for victims of wars and environmental catastrophes, to ensuring sustainability of social security systems for the decades to come – is fundamental.

The aim of the special issue is to present cutting-edge innovations in the methodology and applications relevant for official population statistics, in order to help the users of statistical products better address the challenges of the 21st century.

We invite submissions especially in the following areas, the list of topics being non-exhaustive:

1. Key concepts in population statistics

To make the official demographic statistics fit for the 21st century, the key concepts related to populations and their dynamics need to be revisited and updated. To that end, we welcome rigorous papers or letters, addressing the conceptual issues related to defining populations, residence, migrants and migration events, urban and rural areas, and so on. We envisage that successful papers in this category would include concrete recommendations that can form a base for further discussions on international statistical fora.

2. Methods for demographic estimation and forecasting

We invite methodological papers dealing with various aspects of official population statistics. Specific topics regarding estimation under this theme include: methods for small area statistics, the design and use of methods for register-based and census-based estimates, as well as census methodology as such – from full count to register-based or sample-based enumeration. We also invite contributions on forecasts or projections of populations, households, as well as individual components of demographic change. Papers exploring innovative methods, such as offering

statistical versions of indirect demographic estimation, the use of administrative sources, 'Big data', and data linkages in population statistics are also welcome.

3. Specific areas of application

On the applied side, we encourage submissions offering specific solutions to key challenges of official statistics in specific areas of demographic and population-related applications. They may include methods for the individual components of demographic change, specific populations or subpopulations, as well as studying populations across different dimensions (such as health, education, migration or ethnic background, and so on).

4. Production of official population statistics

We welcome submissions concerned with the statistical infrastructure, production and dissemination of population statistics. This broad category can include papers looking into the practical aspects of making efficient use of new data sources, increasing data availability to the users, integration of different data, geo-referencing, or visualisation of population statistics. Papers demonstrating practical solutions to specific computational, organisational and practical challenges are particularly encouraged.

5. Cross-cutting methodological themes

Finally, we encourage papers on cross-cutting methodological themes in official population statistics. These can include, but are not limited to, comparisons of statistical approaches for different demographic applications, such as Bayesian versus frequentist, or model-based versus design-based methods. More broadly, papers on various applications of methods of statistical demography in official statistics, with their challenges and opportunities, are welcome.

Submission guidelines and deadlines

Manuscripts should be submitted through the JOS Manuscript Central site:

<https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/joffstats>

All manuscripts must adhere to the JOS submission and peer review rules and will go through the usual JOS review process. Instructions for authors are available at

http://www.degruyter.com/view/supplement/s20017367_Instructions_for_Authors.pdf

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Deadline for submissions is September 30, 2019.