

Population Investigation Committee

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<https://www.lse.ac.uk/international-development/research/population-investigation-committee>

Population Studies online at www.popstudies.net

Call for Editor(s)-in-Chief – *Population Studies*

The Population Investigation Committee (PIC) invites applications for the position of Editor(s)-in-Chief of *Population Studies*, a leading international journal in demography.

Founded in 1947, *Population Studies* publishes high-quality research on population processes and demographic change, including fertility, mortality, migration, family, and population health. The journal is committed to advancing theoretically informed and empirically rigorous research that contributes to understanding population dynamics and their social, economic, and health implications.

The PIC seeks an Editor-in-Chief or a team of two or three Editors-in-Chief to lead the journal and build on its long-standing reputation for publishing influential demographic scholarship.

Role of the Editor(s)-in-Chief

The person or team appointed will be responsible for the intellectual leadership and editorial management of the journal. Working with the [editorial board](#), editorial staff, copyeditor, and publisher, the Editor(s)-in-Chief will oversee the peer-review process, ensure timely and fair editorial decisions, and maintain the high scholarly standards of the journal.

The Editor(s)-in-Chief will also help shape the future direction of *Population Studies*, encouraging submissions that reflect emerging themes and methodological developments in demographic research.

Term and timing

The appointment will begin by agreement in autumn 2026, following a transition period with the current editorial team. The term of appointment will be three years, with the possibility of renewal by agreement with the Population Investigation Committee and editorial board.

Responsibilities

The Editor(s)-in-Chief will:

- Identify and proactively solicit high-quality submissions that demonstrate scholarly rigour, contribute to the discipline, and address issues of societal relevance.

- Advocate for the journal, developing its profile, visibility, and reach.
- Oversee the peer-review process, ensuring it is efficient and fair.
- Work with the editorial board to conduct initial manuscript assessments, identify and secure reviewers, evaluate reviews, and make editorial decisions.
- Provide timely communications for the editorial office to share with authors.
- Chair editorial board meetings and attend PIC meetings where relevant (2–3 per year at present).
- In consultation with the editors, make decisions about the size and composition of the editorial board and its governance.
- Work with the PIC General Secretary on reporting, operations, and new initiatives.
- Support PIC’s work with the publisher on production schedules, journal development, and commercial matters.

Support

The post is subject to an honorarium, which will be discussed with the finalist(s). There will be a handover period with the current editorial team. Ongoing support will be provided by the PIC General Secretary, who runs the journal’s editorial office and coordinates with the journal’s scientific copyeditor, production team, reviewers, authors, consulting editors and publisher.

Selection criteria

The primary qualification is a clear understanding of the journal’s mission and the ability to articulate and take forward a compelling intellectual vision for the journal.

This is likely to be supported by:

- A strong record of scholarship within the field of demography and population studies.
- Service and experience as a reviewer/editor/author and a relevant scientific network.
- Excellent leadership, organisational, and editorial skills to support journal operations.
- A commitment to ongoing diversity and inclusion efforts within our scholarly community.
- Understanding of innovations and ongoing shifts in scholarly publishing, including the challenges and opportunities related to AI and Open Access.
- Current or emeritus status at an academic or relevant research institution.

Application materials

Applicants should submit:

A curriculum vitae.

A brief statement of editorial vision for *Population Studies* (approximately 1–2 pages).

Deadline and submission

Applications should be submitted by **5pm UK time, Tuesday 23 June 2026**.

Candidates may be approached before the deadline.

Applications and informal inquiries should be sent to: pic@lse.ac.uk

The Population Investigation Committee encourages applications from all candidates who feel they meet the primary qualification for selection. PIC particularly welcomes applications from scholars who are members of under-represented groups and is committed to promoting diversity within the journal's leadership.

Further information about the journal can be found at popstudies.net