

Submission Guidelines for Authors

Indian Social Science Review (ISSR)



INDIAN COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH

Indian Social Science Review (ISSR)

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CALL FOR PAPERS

Special Issue on

Understanding India's Demographic Shift: Trends, Transitions and Policy Perspectives

Indian Social Science Review (ISSR), a Multidisciplinary Journal of Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), invites original manuscripts for a Special Issue on **"Understanding India's Demographic Shift: Trends, Transitions and Policy Perspectives"**.

India is home to over one-sixth of the world's population and represents one of the most dynamic, complex, and diverse demographic landscapes globally. As one of the world's most diverse societies, India has uniquely sustained its fundamental demographic rubric through centuries of historical transformations, including major waves of colonization, political transitions, economic restructuring, and rapid globalization, while simultaneously undergoing profound structural changes.

India is currently at a critical demographic juncture. While the country continues to benefit from its demographic dividend phase, it is also experiencing multiple demographic transitions, including regional variations in fertility, population ageing, migration and labour mobility, urbanization, changing family structures, and rapid digital transformation. While India's demographic dividend offers significant opportunities for economic growth, these changes also present important policy challenges requiring robust evidence-based research, policy planning, and governance. Addressing issues such as ageing, migration, human capital, climate-induced mobility, and regional demographic differences is essential for achieving inclusive development and realizing the vision of *Viksit Bharat@2047*.

To advance scholarly discourse in this important area, ICSSR invites high-quality, original manuscripts that offer innovative theoretical, empirical, methodological, comparative, or policy-oriented insights into India's demographic transformation. Contributions from scholars across the social sciences and allied disciplines including demography, sociology, anthropology, economics, geography, political science, public policy, public health, development studies, statistics, and related fields are especially encouraged.

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Themes

Papers may address, but are not limited to, the following themes:

- I. Population Dynamics and Demographic Transition
- II. Demographic Data, Methods, Population Projections and Spatial Demography
- III. Population Policy, Census, Civil Registration and Vital Statistics (CRVS)
- IV. Religion, Population Change and Social Transformation
- V. Religious Conversion and Demographic Dynamics
- VI. Population Governance, Public Policy and Demographic Planning
- VII. Comparative and International Demography
- VIII. Cross-Border Migration, Border Governance, National Security and Demographic Change
- IX. Janjatiya Populations and Social Diversity in Demography
- X. Population, Environment and Climate Change
- XI. Population Ageing and the Longevity Transition
- XII. Fertility, Family Formation, Marriage and Reproductive Behaviour
- XIII. Structure and Dynamics of Kinship Demography
- XIV. Migration, Mobility, Urbanization and Spatial Dynamics
- XV. Population, Employment and Labour Market Transformation
- XVI. Demography, Human Capital and Inclusive Development
- XVII. Gender, Population and Social Inequality
- XVIII. Health, Nutrition and Population
- XIX. Digital Society, Artificial Intelligence and Demographic Data Systems

Important Dates

Submission Opens: **26th August 2026**

Last Date of Submission: **21st November 2026**

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Submission Guidelines

1. Eligibility

- Faculty Members
- Researchers
- Policy Professionals
- Government Officials
- Think Tanks
- International Scholars
- Doctoral Researchers

Given the journal format, interdisciplinary submissions from economics, sociology, political science, public administration, geography, demography, development studies, gender studies, anthropology, public health, and related disciplines will be encouraged.

2. Originality

The manuscript must be original, unpublished, and free from plagiarism.

3. Length of paper

The manuscript should be between 5,000 to 8,000 words, excluding references, tables, figures, and pictures. The manuscript should be double-spaced and formatted on A4 pages.

4. Language

Manuscripts must be submitted in English only.

5. Peer Review

- Manuscripts will undergo double-blind peer review.
- The decision of the Editorial Board shall be final.
- Submission under this call does not guarantee publication; publication will depend on the outcome of peer review and compliance with editorial standards.
- Authors may be required to revise their manuscripts in light of expert comments before final acceptance.
- ICSSR/ISSR reserves the right to edit, schedule, defer, or decline publication of any submission, depending on editorial requirements.

6. Title Page

Please ensure that the title page contains the following information:

Title

The title should be concise and informative.

Author information

- The name(s) of the author(s)
- The affiliation(s) of the author(s), including institution, department (if applicable), city, state, and country
- A clear indication of the corresponding author and a valid, active email address
- If available, the 16-digit [ORCID](#) iD of the author(s)

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Abstract

Please provide an abstract of 150 to 250 words. The abstract should not contain any undefined abbreviations or unspecified references.

Keywords

Please provide 4–6 keywords that may be used for indexing purposes.

7. Text Formatting

- Manuscripts should be submitted in Microsoft Word format only.
- Use a normal, plain font (e.g., 12-point Times New Roman) for text.
- Use italics for emphasis and for native words.
- Use the automatic page-numbering function to number the pages.
- Do not use field functions.
- Use tab stops or other appropriate commands for indents than the space bar.
- Use the table function in Word, rather than spreadsheets, to create tables.
- Use the equation editor or MathType for equations.
- Save your file in .docx format (Word 2007 or later) or .doc format (older versions of Word)

8. Headings

Please use no more than three levels of displayed headings.

9. Abbreviations

Abbreviations should be defined at first mention and used consistently thereafter.

10. Hyphenation

Ensure that there is consistency in the hyphenation of words in the text; do not alternate, for example, between 'macro-economic' and 'macroeconomic'. A distinction might, however, be made between a noun and attributive adjective for example, 'the middle class' and 'middle-class ethics'.

11. Quotations

Use double quotation marks (" and ") for actual quotes and single quotation marks (' and ') for words or phrases within the quotation. Should the quotation be longer than three lines, do not use any quotation marks; instead indent the quoted lines.

12. Spellings

Where alternate spellings exist, use the British style not American; for example, 'programme', not 'program' and 'colour', not 'color'.

13. Footnotes

Footnotes may be used to provide additional information, which may include the citation of a reference included in the reference list. Footnotes should not consist solely of a reference citation and should never include the full bibliographic details of a reference. They should also not contain figures or tables.

Authors are requested to use the Footnote function available in Microsoft Word to ensure the proper sequencing of footnote numbers.

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Footnotes to the text should be numbered consecutively. Footnotes to tables should be indicated by superscript lowercase letters (or asterisks for significance values and other statistical data). Footnotes to the title or authors of the article should not be assigned reference symbols.

14. Tables

- All tables are to be numbered using Arabic numerals.
- Tables should always be cited in text in consecutive numerical order.
- Each table should have a caption (title) explaining its contents and components.
- Previously published material should be identified by providing the original source as a reference at the end of the table caption.
- Footnotes to tables should be indicated by superscript lower-case letters (or asterisks for significance values and other statistical data) and included beneath the table body.

15. Reference list

The reference list should include only works that are cited in the text and that have been published or accepted for publication. Personal communications and unpublished works should be mentioned only in the text.

Reference list entries should be arranged alphabetically by the surname of the first author of each work.

Journal names and book titles should be *italicized*.

Where available, authors should include DOIs as full DOI links in the reference list (e.g. “<https://doi.org/abc>”).

Journal article

Grady, J. S., Her, M., Moreno, G., Perez, C., & Yelinek, J. (2019). Emotions in storybooks: A comparison of storybooks that represent ethnic and racial groups in the United States. *Psychology of Popular Media Culture*, 8(3), 207–217. <https://doi.org/10.1037/ppm0000185>

Article by DOI

Hong, I., Knox, S., Pryor, L., Mroz, T. M., Graham, J., Shields, M. F., & Reistetter, T. A. (2020). Is referral to home health rehabilitation following inpatient rehabilitation facility associated with 90-day hospital readmission for adult patients with stroke? *American Journal of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation*. Advance online publication. <https://doi.org/10.1097/PHM.0000000000001435>

Book

Sapolsky, R. M. (2017). *Behave: The biology of humans at our best and worst*. Penguin Books.

Book chapter

Dillard, J. P. (2020). Currents in the study of persuasion. In M. B. Oliver, A. A. Raney, & J. Bryant (Eds.), *Media effects: Advances in theory and research* (4th ed., pp. 115–129). Routledge.

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Online document

Fagan, J. (2019, March 25). *Nursing clinical brain*. OER Commons. Retrieved January 7, 2020, from <https://www.oercommons.org/authoring/53029-nursing-clinical-brain/view>

16. Ethical Responsibilities and Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

This journal is committed to upholding the integrity of the scientific record.

Authors should refrain from misrepresenting research results, as this may undermine trust in the journal, the professionalism of scientific authorship, and the integrity of the broader scientific endeavour. Maintaining the integrity of research and its presentation requires adherence to good scientific practices, including the following:

- The manuscript should not be submitted to more than one journal for simultaneous consideration.
- The submitted work should be original and should not have been published elsewhere in any form or language (partially or in full), unless the new work concerns an expansion of previous work. (Please provide transparency on the re-use of material to avoid the concerns about text-recycling ('self-plagiarism').
- A single study should not be split up into several parts to increase the quantity of submissions and submitted to various journals or to one journal over time (i.e., "salami slicing" or "salami publishing").
- Concurrent or secondary publication is sometimes justifiable, provided certain conditions are met. Examples include: translations or a manuscript that is intended for a different group of readers.
- Results should be presented clearly, honestly, and without fabrication, falsification or inappropriate data manipulation (including image based manipulation). Authors should adhere to discipline-specific rules for acquiring, selecting and processing data.
- No data, text, or theories by others are presented as if they were the author's own ('plagiarism'). Proper acknowledgements to other works must be given (this includes material that is closely copied (near verbatim), summarized and/or paraphrased), quotation marks (to indicate words taken from another source) are used for verbatim copying of material, and permissions secured for material that is copyrighted.
- Use of generative AI must be disclosed.
- AI tools cannot be listed as authors.
- Authors remain fully responsible for the accuracy, originality, and integrity of their work.

17. Copyright

Upon acceptance, authors shall complete the journal's copyright or licence agreement. Permission must be obtained for the use of any third-party copyrighted material.

18. Publication Fee

- No Submission Fee
- No Article Processing Charges (APC)

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19. Editorial Rights

The Editorial Board reserves the right to:

- Reject manuscripts outside the scope of the journal.
- Request revisions.
- Edit accepted papers for style, language, and consistency.
- Withdraw accepted papers in cases of ethical violations.

20. Declaration:

Declaration of Funding:

All financial assistance or sources of funding must be declared at the time of manuscript submission

Declaration of Conflict of Interest:

Authors must explicitly declare any potential conflicts of interest that may have arisen during the conduct of the research or preparation of the manuscript. If no conflict of interest exists, this should also be clearly stated.

Declaration of Availability of Data:

Authors of studies funded by an agency with a financial interest in the outcome must provide a statement confirming that they had full **access** to all data used in the study and are responsible for the integrity and accuracy of the data analysis. This statement should be submitted along with the manuscript.

21. Mode of Submission

All manuscripts must be submitted online through the prescribed submission portal. Only manuscripts submitted through the online mode will be considered for review.

Authors are advised not to send their manuscripts directly to ICSSR by email or post. Manuscripts received directly by ICSSR will not be considered for review.

22. For any queries, please contact:

Indian Social Science Review

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