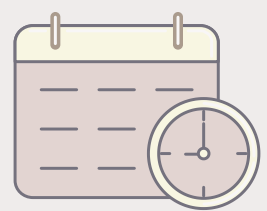


# Political Demography: The Political Consequences of Population Change

by Prof. Yao LU  
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HKT

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## Abstract

The past half century has witnessed profound demographic and democratic transitions around the globe. How do structural demographic factors shape political outcomes of societies? Our study offers a conceptual framework of the effects of a range of key demographic factors on democratization, and provides systematic empirical evidence using country-level panel data we built between 1975 and 2018. The results demonstrate that demography has powerful and heterogeneous political consequences. Importantly, the effects of demographic factors often play out in nonlinear and conditional fashion.

Prof. Yao LU is a Professor of Sociology and Faculty Affiliate at the Columbia Population Research Center (CPRC), the Weatherhead East Asian Institute (WEAI), the Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy (ISERP), the Data Science Institute (DSI), the Center for Pandemic Research, the China Center for Social Policy, and the Institute of Latin American Studies (ILAS) at Columbia University. Her research focuses on the intersection of inequality, demography, and politics. She examines the influence of demographic forces on political processes, sources of inequality in high-skilled labor markets, and the impact of migration on economic and social inequality. Her work is multidisciplinary, covering areas such as labor markets, race and ethnicity, gender, collective action, health, and child development. She conducts research in various socioeconomic settings, including the United States and China, using quantitative, computational, and experimental methods. Her research has been funded by organizations like the National Science Foundation and the National Institutes of Health, and she has conducted national surveys on migration in China and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on racial attitudes in the United States.



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