

Report of the Editor-in-Chief 2018

The *Journal of Population Economics* is an international quarterly that publishes original theoretical and applied research in all areas of population economics. This report furnishes information about the *Journal* and its editorial process in the past year and some earlier years.

The number of submissions has substantially increased over recent years (Figure 1). Between 2011 and 2013, the *Journal* received about 400 submissions per year; by 2016 the number of submissions neared 500, which was exceeded in 2017 with 524 submissions. The inflow appears to be holding steady, with 232 manuscripts submitted between 1 January and 31 May, 2018. This predicts a rise to 600 submissions in the near future.

In line with past years, the majority of 2017 submissions were from corresponding authors based in Europe (Figure 2). Nearly half of all submissions originated from Europe, and nearly one-quarter (22%) came from authors based in North America. The share of submissions from authors based in Asia and the Middle East declined slightly from 25% of all submissions in 2016 to 21% of submissions in 2017. The remaining submissions came from contributors from Africa (3%), Oceania (Australia and New Zealand; 5%), and South and Central America (3%). Figure 3 demonstrates the Internet visits of the *Journal* coming from each world region. With over a third of visits coming from North America and 29% from Europe, followed by the Asia-Pacific region (22%), the *Journal* is certainly globally accessed and read.

Figure 4 shows that the average number of days between submission and first decision has generally declined over time. Despite a slight uptick in the turnaround time for first decisions between 2015 and 2016, which may be partially attributed to the increased volume of submissions, there was a slight reduction in turnaround time in 2017. The *Journal* is further committed to minimizing the time between submission and decisions, including eventual publication. In 2013 the *Journal* implemented a strict desk rejection policy to provide authors with an early signal for better targeting of their work. Combined with a strict policy of only 40 manuscripts published per year, the *Journal* has maintained very low acceptance rates.

Figure 1: Number of Submissions

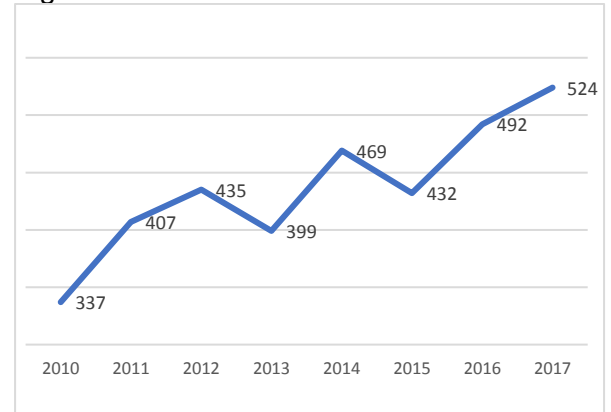


Figure 2: Origin of Submissions

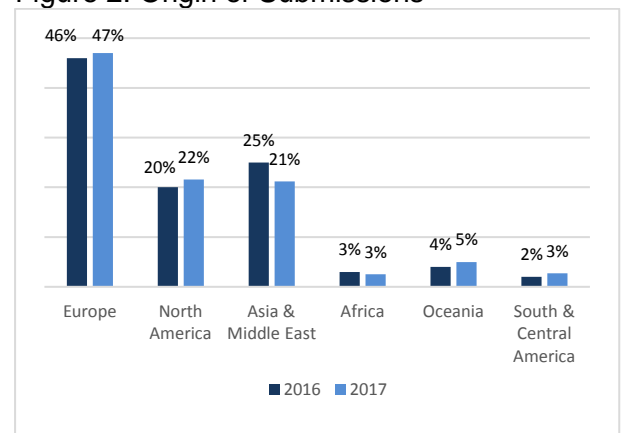
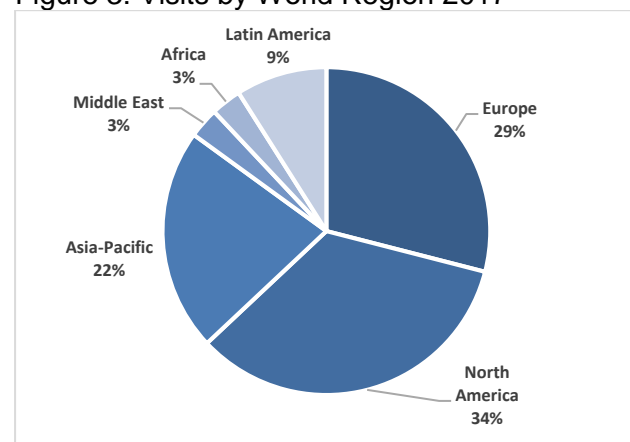


Figure 3: Visits by World Region 2017



The *Journal* utilizes three acceptance rates measures: 1) the number of manuscripts accepted in a given year as a share of all final decisions made in that year; 2) the number of *published* articles in a given year as a share of all submissions in that year; and; 3) the number of articles published in a given year divided by the number of the *previous* year's submissions (Table 1).

The number of accepted papers (submitted at any point in time) in a given year as a share of all decisions made in that year has slightly increased over time. Compared to 7.3% in 2015, the acceptance rate rose to 9% in 2016 and to 9.5% in 2017. If acceptance rate is measured as the number of published manuscripts as a share of total submissions received in that year, the acceptance rate was significantly lower, at 7.6% in 2017 (or 40 manuscripts from among 524 submissions), falling from 9.3% in 2015 and 8.1% in 2016. Measuring the acceptance rate as the number of publications as a share of the number of submissions received in the previous year (2016) would yield a 2017 acceptance rate of 8.1%, which is lower than the previous years (9.3% in 2016 and 8.5% in 2015).

Table 2 demonstrates the current status of papers submitted between 2014 and 2017.

The *Journal's* Impact Factor, which has increased continuously since 2008 and peaked at 1.47 in 2013, has remained relatively stable since 2015 (Figure 5). The *Journal's* impact factor was 1.136 in 2016, and its 5-year Impact Factor was 1.85. The *Journal* ranked 138/347 in economics and 16/26 in demography. (The 2017 impact factors will be added when available.)

The Google Scholar h5 Index is 31. As of June 2018, the *Journal's* IDEAS/RePec ranking is 69/2,096 (based on the Simple Impact Factor 13.51, for Journals and all years). The *Journal* is ranked in: Social Science Citation Index, Journal Citation Reports/Social Sciences Edition, SCOPUS, EconLit, Google Scholar, EBSCO Discovery Service, ProQuest, CAB International, ABS Academic Journal Quality Guide, Academic OneFile, Academic Search, Bibliography of Asian Studies, CAB Abstracts, CSA Environmental Sciences, Current Contents/Social & Behavioral Sciences, ECONIS, ERIH PLUS, Gale, Global Health, International Bibliography of the Social Sciences (IBSS), JSTOR, OCLC, Research Papers in Economics (RePEc), Review of Population Reviews, SCImago, Summon by ProQuest.

Klaus F. Zimmermann, Editor-in-Chief

Figure 4: Days to First Decision

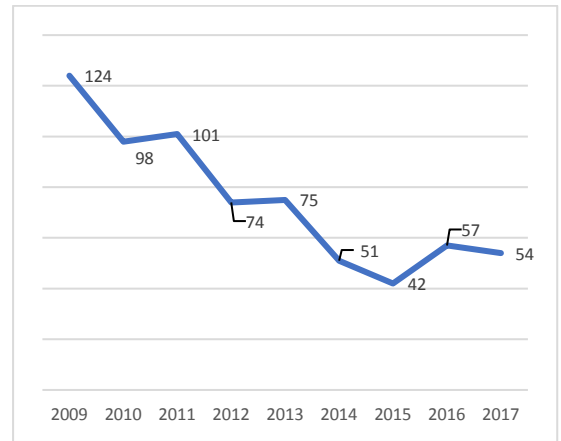


Table 1: Acceptance Rates

Index \ Year	2015	2016	2017
No. accepted / Total No. decisions	7.3%	9%	9.5%
No. articles publ. / No. submissions	9.3%	8.1%	7.6%
No. articles publ. / No. subm. prev. year	8.5%	9.3%	8.1%

Table 2: Current Status of Papers

Outcome \ Year	2014	2015	2016	2017
Accept	28	30	41	53
Revise	1	4	12	47
Reject	437	381	406	457

Figure 5: Impact Factor

