

Report of the Editor-in-Chief 2016

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.

Figure 1 demonstrates that after a period of stabilization in 2011-2013 at about 400 manuscripts per year, the growth in submissions continues reaching 432 in 2015. As of May 25th, 2016, the *Journal* has received 216 submissions. We expect over 450 submissions in 2016.

In 2015, the submissions continued to be predominantly from Europe (Figure 2). Over half (53%) of the manuscripts originated from Europe, about a quarter (22%) come from North America, 18% from Asia, and about 7% from the rest of the world. Figure 3 demonstrates the Internet visits of the *Journal* coming from each world region. With about a third of visits coming from Europe and another third from North America, followed by Asia-pacific (24%), the *Journal* is certainly globally accessed and read.

Figure 4 shows that the average number of days to reach the first decision has been consistently declining. The turnaround time for first decision declined by 24 days between 2013 and 2014 and further decreased to 42 days in 2015. The average time between submission and first decision is expected to remain well under 60 days in 2016 and the *Journal* is further committed to keeping the time between acceptance and publication fairly low.

Since 2013, the *Journal* has implemented a strict desk rejection policy which aims to provide authors with an early signal for better targeting of their work. In addition, the Editors have established a strict policy of publishing only 40 papers per year, resulting in an acceptance rate well below 10%.

The *Journal* utilizes four acceptance rates measures: 1) the number of accept decisions made in a given year as a share of all final decisions made in the given year; 2) the number of *published* articles in a given year as a share of the number of submissions in the given year; 3) the number of articles published in a given year divided by the number of *previous* year's submissions; and

Figure 1: Number of Submissions

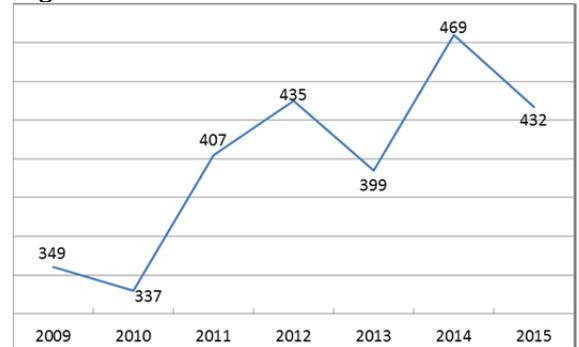


Figure 2: Origin of Submissions

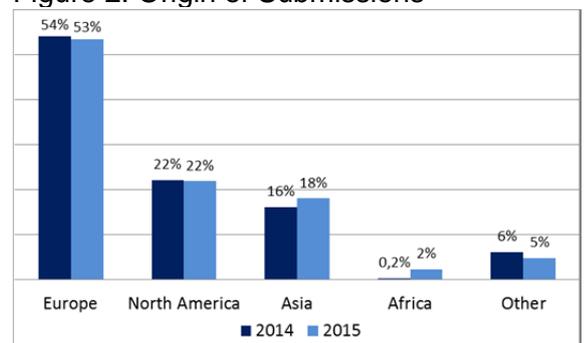


Figure 3: Visits by World Region 2015

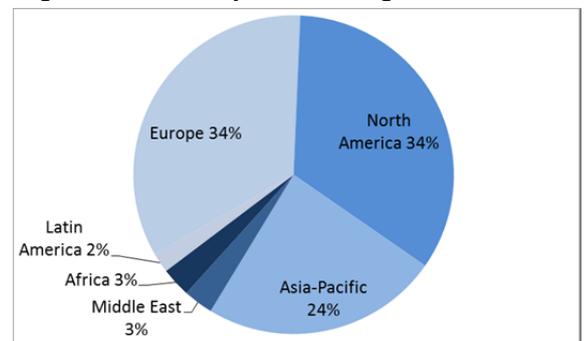
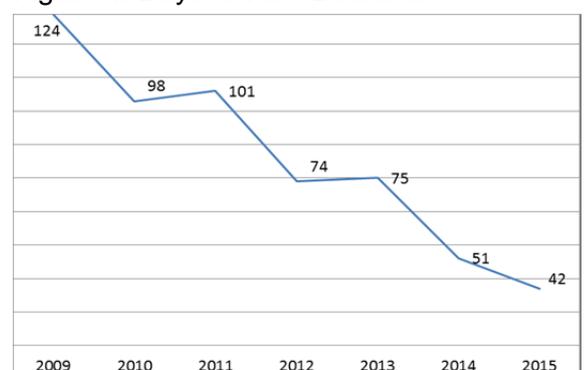


Figure 4: Days to First Decision



Editorial Office

Journal of Population Economics
 c/o POP, UNU-MERIT,
 Boschstraat 24, 6211 AX
 Maastricht, The Netherlands
 jpop@merit.unu.edu

Editor-in-Chief

Klaus F. Zimmermann
 Harvard University and
 UNU-MERIT
 klaus.f.zimmermann@gmail.com

Managing Editor

Alessio J.G. Brown
 UNU-MERIT
 brown@merit.unu.edu

Editors

Alessandro Cigno
 University of Florence
 cigno@unifi.it

Erdal Tekin
 American University
 tekin@american.edu

Junsen Zhang
 Chinese University of
 Hong Kong,
 jszhang@cuhk.edu.hk

4) the number of accept decisions made in a given year as a share of the number of submissions in the given year (Table 1).

Acceptance rates, measured as the number of accepted papers (submitted at any point in time) in a given year as a share of all decision made in the given year, seem to stabilize after continuous declines, reaching 7.3% in 2015. Relating the number of published to submitted manuscripts yields an acceptance rate of 9.3% in 2015, given 432 submissions and 40 publications. Finally, the number of publications in 2015 as a share of the number of submissions in 2014 (469) gives an acceptance rate of 8.5%.

Table 2 demonstrates the current status of papers submitted for 2012-2015.

The *Journal's* Impact Factor, which has increased continuously since 2008 and peaked at 1.47 in 2013, reached 1.14 in 2015 (Figure 5). The *Journal's* 5-year Impact Factor was 1.509 in 2015.

The *Journal* now ranks 126/343 in economics and 16/26 in demography and is currently among the journals listed on SSCI (IF 2015).

As of June 27, 2016, the *Journal's* IDEAS/RePec ranking is 70/1,661 (based on the Simple Impact Factor, for Journals).

The *Journal* is ranked in: Current Contents / Social & Behavioral Sciences, ECONIS, EconLit, International Bibliography of the Social Sciences (IBSS), ISI Alerting Services, JEL on CD, Journal of Economic Literature, Population Index, Research Papers in Economics (RePEc), Review of Population Reviews, SCOPUS, Social Science Citation Index (SSCI) and Social Science Research Network (SSRN).

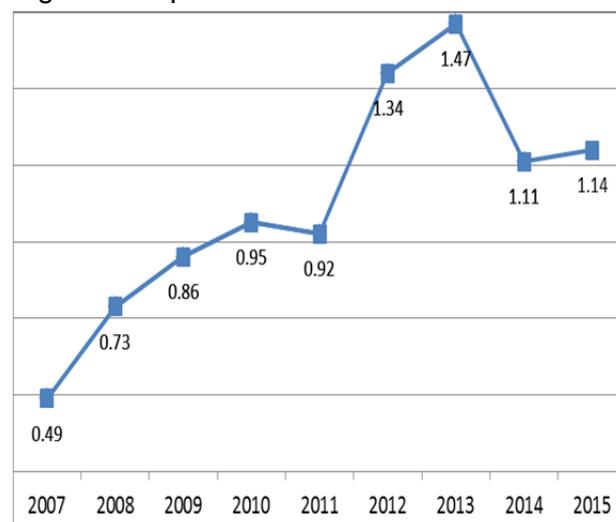
Table 1: Acceptance Rates

Index \ Year	2013	2014	2015
No. accepted / Total No. decisions	9.6%	5.8%	7.3%
No. articles publ. / No. submissions	15%	8.5%	9.3%
No. articles publ. / No. subm. prev. year	14%	10%	8.5%
No. accepted / No. submissions	6%	6%	8%

Table 2: Current Status of Papers

Outcome \ Year	2012	2013	2014	2015
Accept	39	29	26	14
Revise	0	2	4	17
Reject	365	365	437	400

Figure 5: Impact Factor



Klaus F. Zimmermann
Editor-in-Chief