

Report of the Editor-in-Chief 2019 (27 July, 2019)

The *Journal of Population Economics* is an international quarterly that publishes original theoretical and applied research in all areas of population economics, household economics, and human resources. This report contains 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, and in 2018, 567 manuscripts were received. The inflow appears to be holding steady, with 329 manuscripts submitted between 1 January and 27 July, 2019. This predicts a rise to 600 submissions in the near future.

In line with past years, the majority of 2018 submissions were from corresponding authors based in Europe (Figure 2). Nearly half (46%) of all submissions originated from Europe, and one-fifth (20%) came from authors based in North America. The share of submissions from authors based in Asia and the Middle East increased slightly from 21% of all submissions in 2017 to 24% of submissions in 2018. The remaining submissions came from contributors from Africa (2%), Oceania (Australia and New Zealand; 5%), and South and Central America (2%).

Figure 3 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 substantial reduction in turnaround time in 2018, with an average of 33 days elapsing between submission and first decision. The *Journal* is committed to keep the time between submission and decisions low, including eventual publication. Since 2013 the *Journal* executed a desk rejection policy to provide authors with an early signal for better targeting of their work. The large number of submissions combined with an annual quota of 40 manuscripts keeps acceptance rates of the *Journal* low.

Table 1 shows three acceptance rate 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.

Figure 1: Number of Submissions

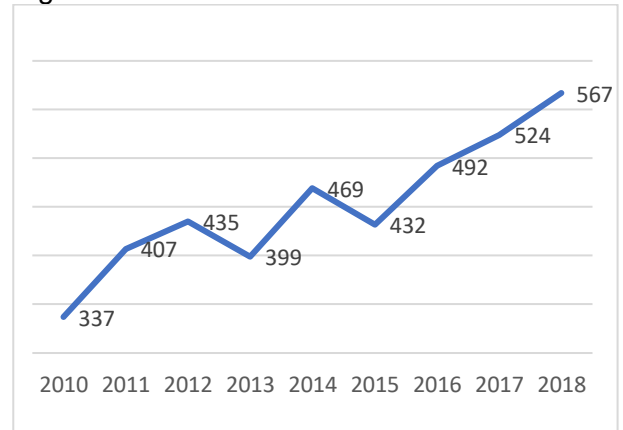


Figure 2: Origin of Submissions

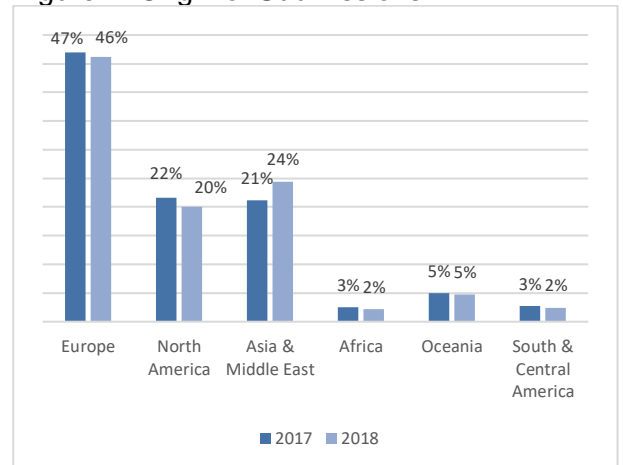
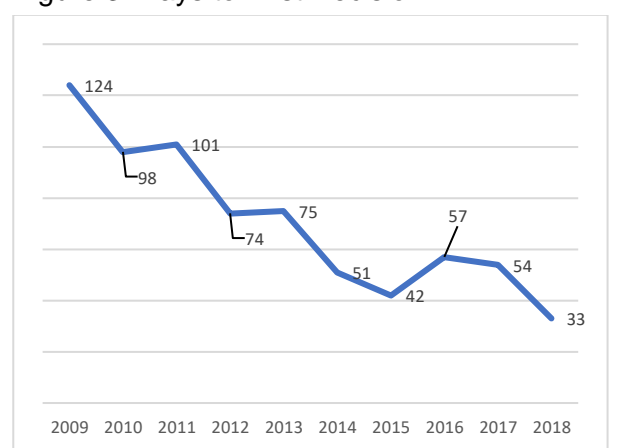


Figure 3: Days to First Decision



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 shifted over time. Compared to 9% in 2016, the acceptance rate rose to 9.5% in 2017 before declining to 7% in 2018. 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 slightly higher, at 7.1% in 2018 (or 40 manuscripts from among 567 submissions), falling from 8.1% in 2016 and 7.6% in 2017. Measuring the acceptance rate as the number of publications as a share of the number of submissions received in the previous year (2017) would yield a 2018 rate of 7.6%, which is lower than the previous years (8.1% in 2017 and 9.3% in 2016).

Table 1: Acceptance Rates

Index \ Year	2016	2017	2018
No. accepted / Total No. decisions	9%	9.5%	7.0%
No. articles publ. / No. submissions	8.1%	7.6%	7.1%
No. articles publ. / No. subm. prev. year	9.3%	8.1%	7.6%

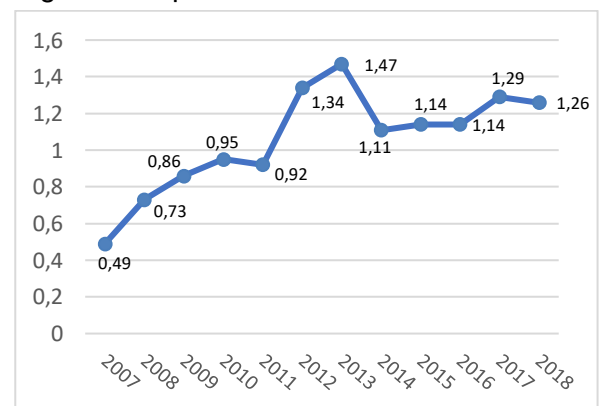
Table 2 reports the status of papers submitted in the given year for years 2016 - 2018. The *Journal's* Impact Factor, which has increased continuously since 2008 and peaked at 1.47 in 2013, has remained relatively stable since 2015 (Figure 4). The *Journal's* impact factor was 1.259 in 2018, and its 5-year Impact Factor was 2.072. The *Journal* ranked 103/621 in economics and econometrics and 9/99 in demography in 2018. As of July 2019, the *Journal's* IDEAS/RePEc ranking is 67/2,189 (based on the Simple Impact Factor 13.96, for Journals and all years).

Table 2: Status of Papers Submitted in Particular Year

Outcome \ Year	2016	2017	2018
Accept	41	53	39
Revise	71	84	68
Reject	408	458	522

The *Journal* is ranked in: Social Science Citation Index, Journal Citation Reports/Social Sciences, 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, and Summon by ProQuest.

Figure 4: Impact Factor



Klaus F. Zimmermann, Editor-in-Chief
Journal of Population Economics