

Editors' Report for 2021

Eric Hilt is now entering his second year editing the non-Eurasian submissions. Dan Bogart is in his fourth year editing the Eurasian submissions to the JOURNAL. John Parman is the book review editor for the Americas. Aldo Musacchio is the book review editor for the rest of the world. The JOURNAL is fortunate in having Lily Welch continue as the JOURNAL's Editorial Assistant and Sally Sztrecska as its Production Editor.

The JOURNAL has benefited greatly from the expert guidance and advice of our Editorial Board and more than 360 referees who contributed their time and expertise to maintaining and enhancing the JOURNAL's quality. Editorial Board members typically serve four-year terms. Those departing from the Board this year are Robert Margo, Johan Fourie, John Tang, Latika Chaudhary, and Jessica Vechbanyongratana. We have three new board members, Matthew Jaremski, Allison Shertzer, and Jacob Weisdorf. We also recognize and appreciate numerous scholars' contributions to the JOURNAL's book reviews. The editorial office is grateful to all who have worked on behalf of the JOURNAL over this past year.

The number of new submissions to the JOURNAL in recent years is shown in Table 1. Over the years, from 2013–2018, the average number of submissions per year was approximately 160, but in the past three years, there was a noticeable jump in the number of submissions to 195, 209, and 206. It appears the higher number of submissions in the last three years is not an aberration but rather a new level for the inflow of submissions. The publication ratio displayed in Table 1 is the number of refereed papers and notes published in the current year divided by the number of new manuscripts submitted in the previous year. In 2020–2021, the publication ratio was 0.14 (30/209), which is lower than in the recent past. This reflects a higher number of submissions. The JOURNAL published 31 articles in total in 2020–2021, including Hugh Rockoff's presidential address.

Table 2 reports the response-time statistics for the corresponding sample. To place the numbers into context, our goal is to have a decision back to the author within 90 days. This past year's performance has been somewhat slower than previous years for new submissions, with a median response time of just under 68 days. Note that this pertains to submissions received from July 2020 to June 2021, some of which may not have received decisions at the time of this report's writing. The median response time for all submissions (included revised manuscripts) is slightly higher. Unfortunately, a small number of papers have taken longer to review. We apologize to authors of manuscripts that experienced substantial delays. We continuously work to reduce the time for this small number of manuscripts, taking into consideration that we are, of course, concerned about the quality of the response, not only its speed.

The distributions of submissions are documented in subsequent tables. We show the data for eras in Table 3 and for topics in Table 4. The automated part of the paper submission system stopped collecting information on regions for a period of time during 2015 and 2016. This means that we do not have consistent comparisons over all years in the table. What is currently available is shown in Table 5.

The JOURNAL's coverage remains broad. Table 3 shows that the distribution of submissions over eras has been fairly steady in recent years, with the nineteenth and twentieth centuries accounting for the bulk of submissions. Table 4 shows that submissions in political economy and growth continue to be particularly strong. Labor emerged as the

third most-common topic. Nonetheless, the top-three topic areas together account for less than 45 percent of all submissions, reflecting broadly dispersed interests within the field. Table 5 shows that submissions on Western Europe and the United States are most common. In the past year, there was a dip in the share of submissions on the Western Europe, Africa, and Latin America and a rise in the share of submissions on the United States.

Book reviews are an important component of the JOURNAL, and we sincerely thank the many reviewers. We also remind our membership to have their press send a copy of any new books to the relevant book review editor. In recent years, the JOURNAL has also sought occasional “reviews and reflections” synthetic articles, extended book reviews, and roundtable book reviews when appropriate. There were no “reviews and reflections” articles published in 2019–2021, but we are in discussions with various authors for writing more.

Readers will recall that at the 2013 meetings, the EHA board of trustees approved a policy to make publication conditional on archiving the data sufficient to replicate the results in the accepted articles. The authors of all new submissions from January 1, 2016 onward that were accepted for publication have been required to post data and replication files to maintain and advance the JOURNAL’s efforts to ensure transparency and scholarly integrity. A branded page can be found with openICPSR, and depositors can submit files into openICPSR per the instructions available at <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/files/openICPSR/JEH-deposit-instructions.pdf>. The editorial office and ICPSR continue to work to enhance the interface.

TABLE 1
SUBMISSION AND PUBLICATION RATES

	Published September to June issues	New Submissions, “New” Method	Publication Ratio Pt/St-1
2012–2013	31	143	0.20
2013–2014	32	158	0.22
2014–2015	32	177	0.20
2015–2016	31	170	0.18
2016–2017	29	162	0.17
2017–2018	29	155	0.18
2018–2019	29	195	0.19
2019–2020	30	209	0.15
2020–2021	30	206	0.14

The “published” count includes refereed articles and notes. It does not include the presidential address, which is published in June, nor “reviews and reflections” articles. In 2017–2018, the JOURNAL published one “reviews and reflections” article.

TABLE 2
RESPONSE TIME STATISTICS

Year	Decision Time (in days)		Mean	Median
	Minimum	Maximum		
All submissions				
2013/2014	4	243	76	75
2014/2015	1	235	78	78
2015/2016	1	277	60	50
2016/2017	1	306	61	60
2017/2018	1	227	51	47
2018/2019	1	175	48	56
2019/2020	1	199	55	56
2020/2021	1	222	59	63
New submissions				
2013/2014	4	243	80	79
2014/2015	1	235	80	78
2015/2016	1	277	74	74
2016/2017	1	306	73	75
2017/2018	1	227	64	64
2018/2019	1	175	56	59
2019/2020	3	199	63	62
2020/2021	3	222	66	68

TABLE 3
DISTRIBUTION OF SUBMISSIONS BY ERA, MULTIPLE SELECTIONS
PER SUBMISSION POSSIBLE

Eras	2015– 2016	2016– 2017	2017– 2018	2018– 2019	2019– 2020	2020– 2021
Pre-seventeenth century	24	15	17	17	25	27
Seventeenth and eighteenth centuries	24	27	29	37	43	33
Nineteenth century	56	74	72	83	69	76
Twentieth century	78	83	77	100	113	113
Twenty-first century	15	16	10	14	17	17
Not applicable	3	4	8	5	6	8
Total	200	219	213	256	273	274
	Percent					
Pre-seventeenth century	12.0	6.8	8.0	6.6	9.2	9.8
Seventeenth and eighteenth centuries	12.0	12.3	13.6	14.5	15.8	12.0
Nineteenth century	28.0	33.8	33.8	32.4	25.2	27.7
Twentieth century	39.0	37.9	36.2	39.1	41.4	41.2
Twenty-first century	7.5	7.3	4.7	5.5	6.2	6.2
Not applicable	1.5	1.8	3.8	2.0	2.2	2.9

TABLE 4
DISTRIBUTION OF SUBMISSIONS BY TOPIC, MULTIPLE SELECTIONS
PER SUBMISSION POSSIBLE

Topics	2015– 2016	2016– 2017	2017– 2018	2018– 2019	2019– 2020	2020– 2021
Agriculture	8	10	11	18	23	18
Demography	25	22	17	17	35	27
Growth	36	28	24	30	34	37
History of thought	7	3	5	10	6	6
Industry	8	7	13	18	9	13
International trade, finance	15	20	14	16	21	13
Labor	24	31	31	28	26	33
Money and macro	16	11	17	13	18	17
Other	10	12	10	17	17	19
Political economy	31	41	36	46	57	47
Private finance, capital markets	12	12	9	17	14	0
Public finance	12	9	18	16	14	13
Technology	11	11	0	7	13	12
Urban and regional	13	13	16	16	15	18
Total	228	230	221	269	302	273
	Percent					
Agriculture	3.5	4.3	5.0	6.7	7.6	6.6
Demography	11.0	9.6	7.7	6.3	11.6	9.9
Growth	15.8	12.2	10.9	11.2	11.3	13.6
History of thought	3.1	1.3	2.3	3.7	2.0	2.2
Industry	3.5	3.0	5.9	6.7	3.0	4.8
International trade, finance	6.6	8.7	6.3	5.9	7.0	4.8
Labor	10.5	13.5	14.0	10.4	8.6	12.1
Money and macro	7.0	4.8	7.7	4.8	6.0	6.2
Other	4.4	5.2	4.5	6.3	5.6	7.0
Political economy	13.6	17.8	16.3	17.1	18.9	17.2
Private finance, capital markets	5.3	5.2	4.1	6.3	4.6	0.0
Public finance	5.3	3.9	8.1	5.9	4.6	4.8
Technology	4.8	4.8	0.0	2.6	4.3	4.4
Urban and regional	5.7	5.7	7.2	5.9	5.0	6.6

Note: This table corrects errors in previous years' reports for 2014–2015 and 2015–2016 percent entries.

TABLE 5
DISTRIBUTION OF GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

Regions	*2015– 2016	2016– 2017	2017– 2018	2018– 2019	2019– 2020	2020– 2021
Africa	2	13	5	16	11	4
Asia	6	28	34	28	39	41
Australia and New Zealand	0	5	1	2	4	6
Eastern Europe/Russia	3	13	7	15	18	24
Great Britain	2	29	18	26	19	24
Latin America	1	6	7	12	17	7
Middle East	3	9	7	5	8	14
Non-Spanish speaking Caribbean	1	1	3	1	3	0
United States and Canada	10	48	43	58	46	67
Western Europe	6	49	53	70	75	65
Not applicable	3	2	6	3	7	6
Total	37	203	184	236	247	258
	Percent					
Africa	5.4	6.4	2.7	6.8	4.5	1.6
Asia	16	13.8	18.5	11.9	15.8	15.9
Australia and New Zealand	0	2.5	0.5	0.8	1.6	2.3
Eastern Europe/Russia	8.1	6.4	3.8	6.4	7.3	9.3
Great Britain	5.4	14.3	9.8	11.0	7.7	9.3
Latin America	2.7	3.0	3.8	5.1	6.9	2.7
Middle East	8.1	4.4	3.8	2.1	3.2	5.4
Non-Spanish speaking Caribbean	2.7	0.5	1.6	0.4	1.2	0.0
United States and Canada	27	23.6	23.4	24.6	18.6	26.0
Western Europe	16.2	24.1	28.8	29.7	30.4	25.2
Not applicable	8.1	1.0	3.3	1.3	2.8	2.3

*2015–2016 Region data are from March 18, 2016–June 30, 2016.

Referees for 2020 were:

Ran Abramitzky	Thilo Albers	Luz Marina Arias
Olivier Accominotti	Gani Aldashev	Leticia Arroyo Abad
Mike Adams	Guido Alfani	Vellore Arthi
Philipp Ager	Eduard Josep Alvarez Palau	Miguel Artola Blanco
Shameel Ahmad	D. Mark Anderson	Cihan Artunç
Hakon Albers	Haelim Anderson	Jeremy Atack

Liang Bai	David Chilosi	Philip Fliers
Ying Bai	Carlo Ciccarelli	Caroline Fohlin
Gerben Bakker	Francesco Cinnirella	James Foreman-Peck
Jean-Pascal Bassino	Karen Clay	Vicky Fouka
Joerg Baten	Christopher Colvin	Johan Fourie
Guillaume Bazot	Carola Conces Binder	Ewout Frankema
Brian Beach	Alessandro Corsi	Nicolas Fremeaux
Anne Beck Knudsen	Metin Cosgel	Jeffrey Frieden
Sascha O.Becker	Gary Cox	Dustin Frye
Stephane Becuwe	Neil Cummins	Gregori Galofré-Vilà
Cliff Bekar	Tomas Cvrcek	Leigh Gardner
Andriana Bellou	Aditya Dasgupta	Victor Gay
Erik Bengtsson	Guillaume Daudin	Oscar Gelderblom
Thor Berger	Romola Davenport	Sun Go
Asaf Bernstein	Joseph Day	Marc Goni
Sheetal Bharat	Alan de Bromhead	Rowena Gray
Hoyt Bleakley	Pim de Zwart	Amanda Gregg
Howard Bodenhorn	Tracy K. Dennison	Daniel Gross
Lars Boerner	Mark Dincecco	Richard Grossman
Anne Booth	Christian Dippel	Yanfeng Gu
Fabio Braggion	Paul Dower	Timothy Guinnane
John Broad	Mauricio Drelichman	Bishnupriya Gupta
Stephen Broadberry	Martin Dribe	Federico Gutierrez
John Brown	Brandon Dupont	Christopher Hanes
Gillian Brunet	Yannick Dupraz	Walker Hanlon
Liam Brunt	Xavier Duran	Casper Hansen
Konstantin Buechel	Andrew Dustan	C. Knick Harley
Carsten Burhop	Alan Dye	Ron Harris
Louis Cain	Merkus Eberhardt	Timothy Hatton
Cameron Campbell	Kerstin Enflo	Joshua Hausman
Edmund Cannon	Katherine Eriksson	Alfonso Herranz-Loncán
Davide Cantoni	José-Antonio Espín-Sánchez	Eric Hilt
Gabriele Cappelli	Rui Esteves	Tai-kuang Ho
Ann Carlos	Giovanni Federico	Nicholas Holtkamp
Mark A. Carlson	James Feigenbaum	Richard Hornbeck
Mark Casson	Alan Fernihough	Erik Hornung
Benjamin Chabot	Andy Ferrara	Sara Horrell
Eric Chaney	Daniel Fetter	Michael Huberman
Jonathan Chapman	Alexander Field	Jane Humphries
Latika Chaudhary	Price Fishback	Thilo Huning
Alex Chernoff	Martin Fiszbein	Alejandra Irigoin

Douglas Irwin	Joshua Lewis	Aldo Musacchio
David Jacks	Dan Li	Steven Nafziger
Tarun Jain	Ling-Fan Li	Suresh Naidu
Andrew Jalil	Zhao Liuyan	Timur Natkhov
Matthew Jaremski	Trevon Logan	Natalya Naumenko
Taylor Jaworski	Jason Long	Arpita Nepal
Saumitra Jha	Paul Lovejoy	Greg Niemesh
Clemens Jobst	Adrienne Lucas	Stefan Nikolic
Noel Johnson	Stephan Luck	Dennis Novy
Maggie Jones	Ivan Luzardo-Luna	Cormac Ó Gráda
Tobias Jopp	Ronan Lyons	Nonso Obikili
Enrique Jorge Sotelo	Chicheng Ma	Kota Ogasawara
Reka Juhasz	Debin Ma	Sheilagh Ogilvie
Karam Kang	Ye Ma	Martha L. Olney
Steven Karceski	Jakob Madsen	Mats Olsson
Ian Keay	Mikołaj Malinowski	Massimiliano Onorato
Wolfgang Keller	Olga Malkova	Kim Oosterlinck
Morgan Kelly	Shanthi Manian	Les Oxley
Sari Kerr	Robert Margo	Christopher Paik
Lionel Kesztenbaum	Andrei Markevich	Nuno Palma
Duol Kim	Fabrizio Marodin	Craig Palsson
Carl Kitchens	Elena Martínez-Ruiz	Laura Panza
Alexander Klein	Gabriel Mathy	John Parman
Christoph Koenig	Noel Maurer	Sahar Parsa
Michael Kopsidis	Eoin McGuirk	Santiago Perez
Edward Kosack	Christopher Meissner	Elisabeth Perlman
Paul Kosmetatos	Tatiana Mikhailova	Alexander Persaud
Mark Koyama	Melinda Miller	Ulrich Pfister
Michael Kuehlwein	Chris Minns	Janneke Pieters
James Kai-sing Kung	Anna Missiaia	Santiago Piquero Zarauz
Sumner La Croix	Jørgen Modalsli	Florian Ploeckl
Alvaro La Parra-Perez	Carolyn Moehling	Gilles Postel-Vinay
Naomi Lamoreaux	Jakob Molinder	Leandro Prados de la Escosura
Markus Lampe	Eric Monnet	Sarah Quincy
Ryan Lampe	Lyndon Moore	Stephen Quinn
Marc Law	Stephen Morgan	William Quinn
Giampaolo Lecce	Chiaki Moriguchi	Rodney Ramcharan
Woong Lee	Matthias Morys	Indrajit Ray
Sibylle Lehmann-Hasemeyer	Petra Moser	Angela Redish
Bryan Leonard	Tomas Murphy	Claudia Rei

Alice Reid	Carolyn Sissoko	Patrick Wallis
Jaime Reis	Simon Smith	Kirsten Wandschneider
Paul Rhode	Tuan-Hwee Sng	Felix Ward
Gary Richardson	Kenneth A. Snowden	Ian Webster
Leonardo Ridolfi	Peter Solar	Simone Wegge
Angelo Riva	Albert Solé-Ollé	Marc Weidenmier
William Roberds	Yannay Spitzer	Jacob Weisdorf
Hugh Rockoff	Steven Sprick Schuster	Colin Weiss
Evan Rose	Mara Squicciarini	Leonardo Weller
Jonathan Rose	Judy Stephenson	Alex Whalley
Jean-Laurent Rosenthal	Christian Stohr	Ulrich Woitek
Joan Roses	Nathan Sussman	Nikolaus Wolf
K. Geert Rouwenhorst	Anand Swamy	Gavin Wright
Jared Rubin	John Tang	Yang Xie
Anne Ruderman	Sebastian Tello-Trillo	Chenzi Xu
Valeria Rueda	Melissa Thomasson	Melanie Xue
Wouter Ryckbosch	Sara Torregrosa	Se Yan
David Ryden	Alex Trew	David Yang
Martin Saavedra	Francesca Trivellato	Xuesheng You
Soham Sahoo	Chinmay Tumbe	Noam Yuchtman
Osamu Saito	John Turner	Jing Zhang
Mohamed Saleh	Nicky Tynan	Nicolas Ziebarth
Laura Salisbury	Stefano Ugolini	Ariell Zimran
Veronica Santarosa	Stefano Ungaro	Beatrice Zucca
Carlos Santiago-Caballero	Felipe Valencia Caicedo	
Yu Sasaki	Christiaan van Bochove	
Eric Schneider	Karine van der Beek	
Kevin Schurer	Marlous van Waijenburg	
Robert Schwartz	Jan Luiten van Zanden	
Daniel Schwekendiek	Michelangelo Vasta	
Peter Scott	Jessica Vechbanyongratana	
Andrew Seltzer	Gertjan Verdickt	
Edson Severnini	Chris Vickers	
Paul Sharp	Simon Ville	
Viacheslav Sheremirov	Stephanos Vlachos	
Allison Shertzer	Tamas Vonyo	
Carol Shiue	Angela Vossmeier	
Masato Shizume	Fabian Wahl	
Richard Sicotte	Daniel Waldenstrom	
Fan Simon	John Wallis	