

Editors' Report for 2020

Bill Collins finished a four-year term editing the non-Eurasian submissions to the JOURNAL. Eric Hilt is now entering his first year editing the non-Eurasian submissions. Dan Bogart is in his third year editing the Eurasian submissions to the JOURNAL. Eric Hilt has stepped down as book review editor for the Americas. John Parman is now the book review editor for the Americas. Aldo Musacchio continues his work as the book review editor for the other parts 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 290 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 Sumner La Croix, Caroline Fohlin, and Ewout Frankema. We have one new board member, Matt Jaremski. 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 last several years, from 2013–2018, the average number of submissions per year was approximately 160, but in the past two years, there was a noticeable jump in the number of submissions to 195 and 209. Time will tell whether these two years are an aberration or 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 2019–2020, the publication ratio was 0.15 (30/195), which is lower than in the recent past. This reflects a higher number of submissions. The JOURNAL published 31 articles in total in 2019–2020, including Price Fishback'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 62 days. Note that this pertains to submissions received from July 2019 to June 2020, 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 lower. 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

TABLE 1
SUBMISSION AND PUBLICATION RATES

	Published September to June Issues	All Submissions	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

The “published” count includes refereed articles and notes. It does not include the presidential address, which is published in June, nor does it include “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
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

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

Eras	2014– 2015	2015– 2016	2016– 2017	2017– 2018	2018– 2019	2019– 2020
Pre-seventeenth century	28	24	15	17	17	25
Seventeenth and eighteenth centuries	43	24	27	29	37	43
Nineteenth century	92	56	74	72	83	69
Twentieth century	104	78	83	77	100	113
Twenty-first century	12	15	16	10	14	17
Not applicable	2	3	4	8	5	6
Total	281	200	219	213	256	273
	Percent					
Pre-seventeenth century	10.0	12.0	6.8	8.0	6.6	9.2
Seventeenth and eighteenth centuries	15.3	12.0	12.3	13.6	14.5	15.8
Nineteenth century	32.7	28.0	33.8	33.8	32.4	25.2
Twentieth century	37.0	39.0	37.9	36.2	39.1	41.4
Twenty-first century	4.3	7.5	7.3	4.7	5.5	6.2
Not applicable	0.7	1.5	1.8	3.8	2.0	2.2

Notes: This table corrects errors in previous year's report for 2014–2015 pre-seventeenth century percent entry and for 2015–2016 twentieth century percent entry.

political economy and growth continue to be particularly strong. Demography emerged as the third most common topic. Nonetheless, the top-three topic areas together account for around half of all submissions, reflecting broadly dispersed interests within the field. Table 5 shows that submissions of Western Europe and the United States are most common. In the past year, there was a dip in the share of submissions on the United States and Great Britain and a rise in the share of submissions on Asia.

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. For instance, in June 2018, the JOURNAL published “Economic History and Contemporary Challenges to Globalization,” a “reviews and reflections” article by Kevin O'Rourke. There were no “reviews and reflections” articles published in 2019–2020, 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

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

Topics	2014– 2015	2015– 2016	2016– 2017	2017– 2018	2018– 2019	2019– 2020
Agriculture	19	8	10	11	18	23
Demography	24	25	22	17	17	35
Growth	39	36	28	24	30	34
History of thought	4	7	3	5	10	6
Industry	19	8	7	13	18	9
International trade, finance	20	15	20	14	16	21
Labor	23	24	31	31	28	26
Money and macro	23	16	11	17	13	18
Other	18	10	12	10	17	17
Political economy	35	31	41	36	46	57
Private finance, capital markets	19	12	12	9	17	14
Public finance	17	12	9	18	16	14
Technology	13	11	11	0	7	13
Urban and regional	10	13	13	16	16	15
Total	283	228	230	221	269	302
	Percent					
Agriculture	6.7	3.5	4.3	5.0	6.7	7.6
Demography	8.5	11.0	9.6	7.7	6.3	11.6
Growth	13.8	15.8	12.2	10.9	11.2	11.3
History of thought	1.4	3.1	1.3	2.3	3.7	2.0
Industry	6.7	3.5	3.0	5.9	6.7	3.0
International trade, finance	7.1	6.6	8.7	6.3	5.9	7.0
Labor	8.1	10.5	13.5	14.0	10.4	8.6
Money and macro	8.1	7.0	4.8	7.7	4.8	6.0
Other	6.4	4.4	5.2	4.5	6.3	5.6
Political economy	12.4	13.6	17.8	16.3	17.1	18.9
Private finance, capital markets	6.7	5.3	5.2	4.1	6.3	4.6
Public finance	6.0	5.3	3.9	8.1	5.9	4.6
Technology	4.6	4.8	4.8	0.0	2.6	4.3
Urban and regional	3.5	5.7	5.7	7.2	5.9	5.0

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

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 5
DISTRIBUTION OF GEOGRAPHICAL AREA

Regions	*2014– 2015	*2015– 2016	2016– 2017	2017– 2018	2018– 2019	2019– 2020
Africa	3	2	13	5	16	11
Asia	4	6	28	34	28	39
Australia and New Zealand	3	0	5	1	2	4
Eastern Europe/Russia	2	3	13	7	15	18
Great Britain	10	2	29	18	26	19
Latin America	4	1	6	7	12	17
Middle East	2	3	9	7	5	8
Non-Spanish speaking Caribbean	0	1	1	3	1	3
United States and Canada	16	10	48	43	58	46
Western Europe	14	6	49	53	70	75
Not applicable	0	3	2	6	3	7
Total	58	37	203	184	236	247
	Percent					
Africa	5.2	5.4	6.4	2.7	6.8	4.5
Asia	6.9	16	13.8	18.5	11.9	15.8
Australia and New Zealand	5.2	0	2.5	0.5	0.8	1.6
Eastern Europe/Russia	3.4	8.1	6.4	3.8	6.4	7.3
Great Britain	17.2	5.4	14.3	9.8	11.0	7.7
Latin America	6.9	2.7	3.0	3.8	5.1	6.9
Middle East	3.4	8.1	4.4	3.8	2.1	3.2
Non-Spanish speaking Caribbean	0	2.7	0.5	1.6	0.4	1.2
United States and Canada	27.6	27	23.6	23.4	24.6	18.6
Western Europe	24.1	16.2	24.1	28.8	29.7	30.4
Not applicable	0	8.1	1.0	3.3	1.3	2.8

*2014–2015 Region data are from July 1, 2014–October 14, 2015.

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

Referees for 2018 were:

Brian A'Hearn	Marcella Alsan	Jeremy Atack
Martin Abel	Lee J. Alston	Martha Bailey
Olivier Accominotti	Eduard Josep Alvarez Palau	Richard Baker
Philipp Ager	Haelim Anderson	Charlotte Bartels
Lars Ahnland	Abhay Aneja	Joerg Baten
Michael Aldous	Leticia Arroyo Abad	Brian Beach
Guido Alfani	Vellore Arthi	Thor Berger

Sean Bottomley	Oliver Falck	Kris Inwood
Andrea Brandolini	James Feigenbaum	Alejandra Irigoien
Stephen Broadberry	Alan Fernihough	Douglas Irwin
Liam Brunt	Daniel Fetter	Murat Iyigun
Carsten Burhop	Alexander Field	David Jacks
Joyce Burnette	Price Fishback	Tarun Jain
Erik Buyst	Martin Fiszbein	Andrew Jalil
Gareth Campbell	Robert Fleck	Matthew Jaremski
Edmund Cannon	Caroline Fohlin	Taylor Jaworski
Davide Cantoni	James Foreman-Peck	Maggie Jones
Ann Carlos	Vicky Fouka	Tobias Jopp
Mark A. Carlson	Johan Fourie	Reka Juhasz
Mark Casson	Ewout Frankema	Karam Kang
Mario Chacon	Nicolas Fremeaux	Shawn Kantor
Areendam Chanda	Carola Frydman	Ian Keay
Eric Chaney	Leigh Gardner	Sebastian Keibek
Latika Chaudhary	Thomas Gehrig	Morgan Kelly
Carlo Ciccarelli	Oscar Gelderblom	Lionel Kesztenbaum
Damon Clark	Robert Gillezeau	Ekaterina Khaustova
Gregory Clark	Michela Giorcelli	Carl Kitchens
Karen Clay	Sun Go	Alexander Klein
Lee Craig	Marc Goni	Daniel Klerman
Neil Cummins	Felipe Gonzalez	Hannah Kling
Tomas Cvrcek	Andrew Goodman-Bacon	Atsushi Kobayashi
Guillaume Daudin	Rowena Gray	Christoph Koenig
Alan de Bromhead	Daniel Gross	Paul Kosmetatos
Herman de Jong	Richard Grossman	Peter Koudijs
Jan de Vries	Amanda Guimbeau	Mark Koyama
Melissa Dell	Timothy Guinnane	Michael Kuehlwein
Tracy K. Dennison	Bishnupriya Gupta	Sumner La Croix
John Devereux	Federico Gutierrez	Markus Lampe
Kara Dimitruk	Christopher Hanes	Ryan Lampe
Mark Dincecco	Walker Hanlon	Giampaolo Lecce
Paul Dower	C. Knick Harley	Chulhee Lee
Mauricio Drelichman	James Harrison	Sibylle Lehmann-Hasemeyer
Yannick Dupraz	Timothy Hatton	Gabriel Leon
Nicolas Duquette	Joshua Hausman	Joshua Lewis
Xavier Duran	Pierre-Cyrille Hautcoeur	Ling-Fan Li
Andrew Dustan	Carlos Eduardo Hernandez	Peter Lindert
Alan Dye	Alfonso Herranz-Loncán	Cong Liu
Jeremy Edwards	Brad Hershbein	Trevon Logan
Barry Eichengreen	Eric Hilt	Jason Long
Shari Eli	Philip Hoffman	Ernesto López Losa
Kerstin Enflo	Erik Hornung	Ronan Lyons
Johan Ericsson	Sara Horrell	Debin Ma
Katherine Eriksson	Jane Humphries	Mikołaj Malinowski
Rui Esteves	Mark Hup	Robert Margo

- Andrei Markevich
Gabriel Mathy
Noel Maurer
Stephan Maurer
Christopher Meissner
Paul Miranti
Anna Missiaia
Carolyn Moehling
Jon Moen
Eduardo Montero
Lyndon Moore
Salvatore Morelli
Stephen Morgan
Petra Moser
Tomas Murphy
Aldo Musacchio
Alain Naef
Steven Nafziger
Suresh Naidu
Natalya Naumenko
Larry Neal
Tom Nicholas
Greg Niemesh
Pilar Nogues-Marco
Alessandro Nuvolari
Cormac Ó Gráda
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Sheilagh Ogilvie
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Christopher Paik
Nuno Palma
Craig Palsson
John Parman
Santiago Perez
Alexander Persaud
Luciano Pezzolo
Florian Ploeckl
Gilles Postel-Vinay
Michael Pottenger
Michael Poyker
Leandro Prados de la Escosura
Jonathan Pritchett
Sarah Quincy
Stephen Quinn
Ahmed Rahman
Angela Redish
Paul Rhode
- Gary Richardson
Leonardo Ridolfi
Kilian Rieder
Albrecht Ritschl
Angelo Riva
William Roberds
Richard Roberts
Karen Rolf
Jonathan Rose
Joshua Rosenbloom
Jean-Laurent Rosenthal
Joan Roses
Jared Rubin
Mohamed Saleh
Laura Salisbury
Ethan Schmick
Ariadne Schmidt
Eric Schneider
Daniel Schwekendiek
Peter Scott
Felix Selgert
Edson Severini
Paul Sharp
Allison Shertzer
Katharine Shester
Carol Shiue
Masato Shizume
Richard Sicotte
Carolyn Sissoko
Tuan-Hwee Sng
Kenneth A. Snowden
Peter Solar
Arthur Spirling
Yannay Spitzer
Steven Sprick Schuster
David Stasavage
Richard Steckel
Judy Stephenson
William A. Sundstrom
Anand Swamy
Kenneth Sylvester
John Tang
Brian Taylor
Sebastian Tello-Trillo
Patrick Testa
Melissa Thomasson
Alex Trew
- Chinmay Tumble
John Turner
Stefano Ugolini
Karine van der Beek
Paul A. van Dyke
Marlous van Waijenburg
Jan Luiten van Zanden
Michelangelo Vasta
Jessica Vechbanyongratana
Francois Velde
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Daniel Waldenström
Marianne Wanamaker
Kirsten Wandschneider
Felix Ward
Zachary Ward
Marc Weidenmier
Jacob Weisdorf
Thomas Weiss
Leonardo Weller
David C. Wheelock
Thomas Wiseman
Nikolaus Wolf
Gavin Wright
Melanie Xue
Noam Yuchtman
Nicolas Ziebarth
Ariell Zimran