

## *Editors' Notes*

EDITORS' REPORT SEPTEMBER 2013

The JOURNAL's year has been gratifyingly uneventful. The editorial team Martha Bailey, Tim Guinnane, Paul Rhode, and myself have been hard at work. The book reviews continue to flow to the JOURNAL with a pleasing regularity. The JOURNAL editors have dealt with a raft of submissions nearly identical to the previous year. Our colleagues may well wonder whether we are the first economy to converge to a steady state. The transition to in-text author-date citation went off without a hitch. We owe particular thanks to the authors whose articles were included in the January 2013 volume. They had to change their references at the last minute (often having put them in the old style at the conditional accept stage). The change seems to be simplifying the production process leaving our production editor, Sabrina Boschetti (at Caltech) with more time to deal with the increasing flow of online appendices. She and Fan Fei (at the University of Michigan) have been tireless in streamlining the editors' work. We also benefit from the advice and tireless refereeing of our editorial board (and the nearly 200 referees that contributed their expertise). This year Karen Clay, Oscar Gelderblom, Sumner LaCroix, Jochen Streb, and Werner Troesken have come to the end of their term, our appreciation for their help is profound. The board has been augmented with Ran Abramitzky, Hoyt Bleakly, Carlos Marichal, Chiaki Moriguchi, and Kirsten Wandschneider. They will each serve a four-year term. Gillian Greenough continues as our liaison with Cambridge University Press and her help in the editing and distribution process is keenly felt.

The number of submissions to the JOURNAL (Figure 1) rose insignificantly to 127 from 126 last year. Both numbers fall comfortably between 98 the nadir of 2008/2009 and 158 our 2007/2008 apex. The reorganization of the two offices into a Eurasia office and a Rest of the World office (Africa, Americas, Australasia) has done surprisingly little to shift the balance of work. The Eurasia office continues to handle about 60 percent of the new submissions. Should the status quo persist, the editors may consider going to a different system that equalizes the work load and ex-ante acceptance probabilities.

The distribution of topic areas in Table 1 remains broad and quite similar to that of the recent years. In terms of geographical area, the decline of submissions listing North America seem to have been arrested and there has been a surge in submissions dealing with Asia (see Table 2). Given the noisy nature of the data, conclusions about the direction of the discipline seem foolhardy.

The only major innovation is that the JOURNAL's authors seem to believe that the twenty-first century is already part of economic history. Eleven percent of the articles include our century in their period categories. The nineteenth and twentieth centuries now account three-fourth of the papers in Table 3. As coverage shifts further back in time, the share of papers falls off as has long been the case.

To put the response time statistics in Table 4 in context, our goal is to have a decision back to the author(s) within 90 days. Table 4 shows that our average and medians for the past several years have ranged between 70 and 90 days. This year our performance has been as good as any in recent years—overall median response time of 62 days (80 days for first submissions). Six authors had to wait six months or more (and we hope they accept our apologies). Both our improvement at the median and the rare cases of heavy delay are to lay the feet of our large crew of referees.

The publication rate in Figure 2 is the number of refereed papers and notes published in the current year divided by the number of new papers submitted in the previous year. The publication rate peaked at 45 percent in 2000 and fell to a low around 20 percent in 2009. This year's 26 percent (30 articles and 4 notes versus 126 papers) is right on the long-term trend.

Additionally, the editors have suggested and the EHA board of trustees has approved that data sufficient to replicate the results in the accepted articles in this JOURNAL must be archived. We are working with ICPSR to finalize the process. The new rules would read:

"It is the policy of *The Journal of Economic History* to publish papers only if the data used in the analysis are clearly and precisely documented and are readily available to any researcher for purposes of replication. Authors of accepted papers must archive, prior to publication, the data, programs, and other details of the computations sufficient to permit replication. These will be archived at ICPSR and a stable URL link to these data will be published with each article. The editors should be notified at the time of submission if the data used in a paper are proprietary or if, for some other reason, the requirements above cannot be met."

As soon as possible after acceptance, authors are expected to deposit their data, programs, and sufficient details to permit replication with ICPSR. Questions regarding any aspect of this policy should be forwarded to the Journal Editor.

There are three rationales for this change. First, it is part of a general effort at great research transparency in the social sciences and the EHA should join that effort. Second, finding the data needed to replicate controversial papers should not be difficult. Finally, many data sets end up getting lost and it behooves the EHA as the leading association of economic historians to use its resources to avoid such unfortunate outcomes.

JEAN-LAURENT ROSENTHAL, *California Institute of Technology*

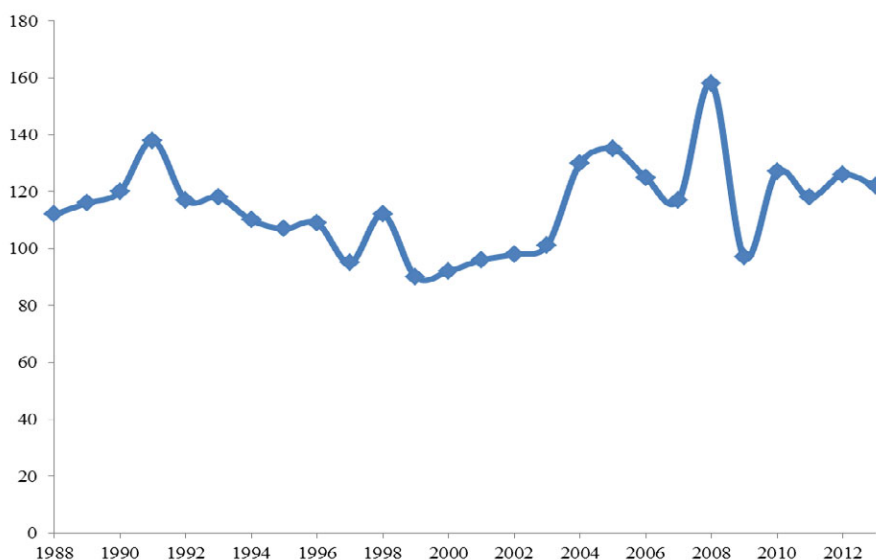


FIGURE 1  
NEW SUBMISSIONS IN YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1988–2013

TABLE 1  
NEW SUBMISSIONS BY WORLD AREA, BROKEN DOWN BY TOPIC,  
JULY 2010–JUNE 2013

Topic	July 2010–June 2011		July 2011–June 2012		July 2012–June 2013	
	North & South America	Rest of the World	North & South America	Rest of the World	Rest of the World	Eurasia
Agriculture	3	5	1	10	2	10
Demography	3	7	4	2	2	4
Growth	7	11	7	13	12	11
History of thought	1	0	0	1	1	4
Industry	2	1	4	4	6	7
International trade/finance	5	4	3	6	4	9
Labor	7	2	4	7	6	1
Money and macro	1	3	7	4	3	5
Political economy	7	8	9	9	6	10
Private finance and capital markets	4	12	2	10	3	4
Public finance	4	1	2	2	0	1
Technology	4	2	1	2	0	0
Urban and regional	1	2	1	4	1	2
Other	4	7	4	4	4	8
Total	53	65	49	77	50	77

*Note:* The numbers include new submissions only. The totals equal the number of new submissions received because a paper is classified in only one topic category. In the latest year, the Americas office had 60 total submissions, 50 new and 10 resubmitted. The office for the rest of the world had 101 total submissions, 77 new and 24 resubmitted.

TABLE 2  
REGULAR ARTICLE NEW SUBMISSIONS BY REGION, 1 JULY 2009–30 JUNE 2013

Region	Submissions			
	2009–2010	2010–2011	2011–2012	2012–2013
Africa	8	5	6	8
Asia	7	11	15	27
Australia and New Zealand	2	0	2	6
Eastern Europe/Russia	7	7	7	9
Great Britain	22	27	20	16
Latin America	7	6	9	10
Middle East	6	6	4	6
Non-Spanish speaking Caribbean	3	0	0	0
United States and Canada	51	43	39	43
Western Europe	46	41	46	43
Not applicable	3	4	6	6
Total	162	150	154	174

*Note:* The numbers include new submissions only. Totals exceed new submissions because a paper can be classified as pertaining to more than one region.

TABLE 3  
REGULAR ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS BY PERIOD, 1 JULY–30 JUNE  
2010–2011, 2011–2012, AND 2012–2013

Period	Submissions		
	2010–2011	2011–2012	2012–2013
Twenty-first century	2	4	14
Twentieth century	53	47	78
Nineteenth century	53	84	58
Seventeenth and eighteenth centuries	33	25	19
Pre-seventeenth century	15	16	13
Not applicable or unknown	3	2	2
Total	159	178	184

*Note:* The numbers include new submissions only. Totals exceed submissions because a paper can be classified as pertaining to more than one period.

TABLE 4  
TIME BETWEEN SUBMISSION AND EDITOR'S DECISION  
(in days)

Year	Decision Lags (in days)			
	Minimum	Maximum	Mean	Median
All submissions				
2007/2008	1	216	72	81
2008/2009	30	193	88	92
2009/2010	13	162	91	90
2010/2011	14	179	90	90
2011/2012	15	206	90	85
2012/2013	1	232	63	62
New submissions only				
2007/2008	1	216	72	80
2008/2009	31	176	87	91
2009/2010	20	162	94	91
2010/2011	14	179	93	92
2011/2012	15	206	94	90
2012/2013	2	232	80	80

*Notes:* Does not include submissions that were pending as of August 1, 2013.

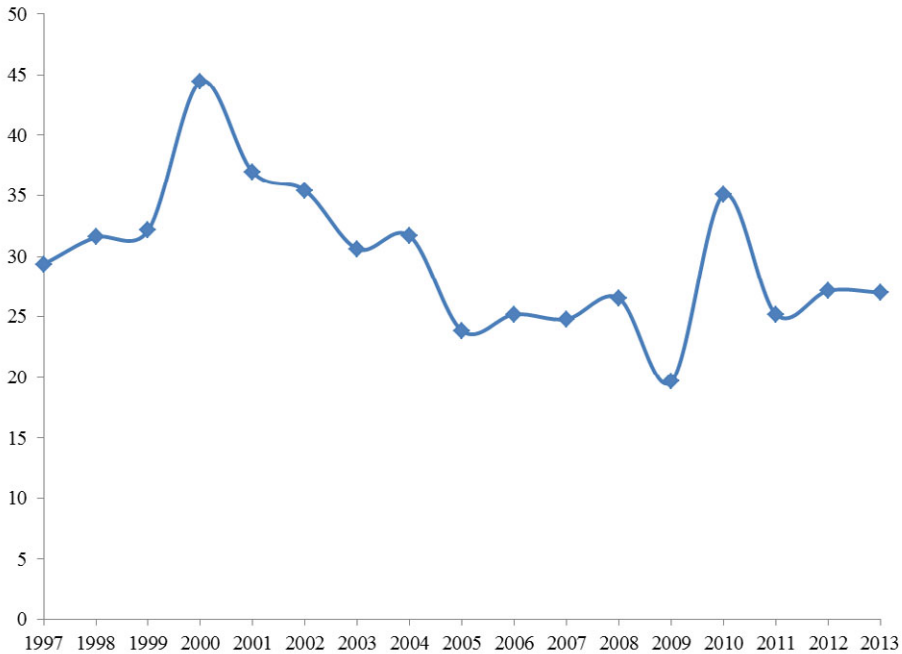


FIGURE 2  
PUBLICATION RATE, 1997–2013

*Notes:* Publication Rate for 2013 is the refereed number of articles and notes published between July 1 and June 30 of 2013 as a percentage of the number of new submissions between July 1 and June 30 of 2012, and similarly for prior years. Presidential addresses and book reviews are not included. In years prior to 1997, the June issue of the *JOURNAL* was devoted to publishing papers presented at the annual Economic History Association meetings, so the meaning of publication rates differed.

Referees for the year were:

James Adams  
 Brian A'Hearn  
 Robert Allen  
 Lee J. Alston  
 Carlos Alvarez Nogal  
 Leticia Arroyo Abad  
 Jeremy Atack  
 Gerben Bakker  
 Molly Ball  
 Joerg Baten  
 Luis Bertola  
 Hoyt Bleakley  
 Dan Bogart

Maristella Botticini  
 Leah Boustan  
 Sue Bowden  
 Fabio Braggion  
 Leah Brooks  
 Erik Buyst  
 Colleen Callahan  
 Charles Calomiris  
 Bruce Campbell  
 Forrest Capie  
 Mark A. Carlson  
 Marco Casari  
 Eric Chaney

Latika Chaudhary  
Livia Chitu  
Gregory Clark  
Karen Clay  
Metin Cosgel  
Gary Cox  
Neil Cummins  
Tomas Cvrcek  
Guillaume Daudin  
Adeline Delavande  
Tracy K. Dennison  
Mark Dincecco  
Taryn Dinkelman  
Jeremiah Dittmar  
Mauricio Drelichman  
Martin Dribe  
Alan Dye  
Michael Edelstein  
Barry Eichengreen  
Shari Eli  
Victor Jorge Elias  
David Eltis  
John C. Emery  
Stanley Engerman  
Rui Esteves  
Giovanni Federico  
James Fenske  
Daniel Fetter  
Alexander Field  
Price Fishback  
Marc Flandreau  
Robert Fleck  
Juan Flores  
Dennis Flynn  
Caroline Fohlin  
Jonathan Fox  
Carola Frydman  
Marilyn Gerriets  
Ugo Gragnolati  
Rowena Gray  
David Greasley  
Avner Greif  
Timothy Guinnane  
Bishnupriya Gupta  
Theresa Gutberlet  
Stephen Haber  
Christopher Hanes  
Anne Hanley  
Walker Hanlon  
Leslie Hannah  
C. Knick Harley  
Bernard Harris  
Ron Harris  
Edwyna Harris  
Mark Harrison  
Josh Hausman  
Pierre-Cyrille Hautcoeur  
Alfonso Herranz-Loncán  
Benjamin Hicklin  
Eric Hilt  
Philip Hoffman  
Michael Huberman  
Joseph Inikori  
Douglas Irwin  
Gonzalo Islas  
Lakshmi Iyer  
David Jacks  
Andrew Jalil  
Taylor Jaworski  
Saumitra Jha  
Shawn Kantor  
Ian Keay  
Morgan Kelly  
Lionel Kesztenbaum  
Duol Kim  
Gerhard Kling  
Elisabeth Koll  
Michael Kopsidis

- James Kai-sing Kung  
Timur Kuran  
Sumner La Croix  
Naomi Lamoreaux  
Markus Lampe  
Ryan Lampe  
John Landon-Lane  
Chulhee Lee  
Margaret Levenstein  
Gary Libecap  
Trevon Logan  
Debin Ma  
Jakob Madsen  
Thomas Maloney  
Robert Margo  
Andrei Markevich  
Pablo Martin-Aceña  
Joseph R. Mason  
Noel Maurer  
Robert McGuire  
David Meyer  
Peter B. Meyer  
Guy Michaels  
Melinda Miller  
Kris Mitchener  
Carolyn Moehling  
Lyndon Moore  
Petra Moser  
Aldo Musacchio  
Steven Nafziger  
Suresh Naidu  
Kanda Naknoi  
Tom Nicholas  
Pilar Nogues-Marco  
Nathan Numm  
Alessandro Nuvolari  
Cormac Ó Grada,  
Kerry A. Odell  
Sheilagh Ogilvie  
Alan L. Olmstead  
Martha L. Olney  
Kim Oosterlinck  
Kevin O'Rourke  
Sevket Pamuk  
Laura Panza  
Heejin Park  
Luciano Pezzolo  
Florian Ploeckl  
Clayne Pope  
Natacha Postel-Vinay  
Jonathan Pritchett  
Stephen Quinn  
Ahmed Rahman  
Scott Redenius  
Angela Redish  
Paul Rhode  
Gary Richardson  
Mary Rodgers  
Jonathan Rose  
Joshua Rosenbloom  
Jean-Laurent Rosenthal  
Joan Ramon Rosés  
Peter Rousseau  
Tirthankar Roy  
Jared Rubin  
Mohamed Saleh  
Laura Salisbury  
Veronica Santarosa  
Ken Scheve  
Max-Stephan Schulze  
Andrew Seltzer  
Martin Shanahan  
Carol Shiue  
Tuan-Hwee Sng  
Kenneth A. Snowden  
Jochen Streb  
Koleman Strumpf  
William Summerhill

Nathan Sussman  
Richard Sutch  
Richard Sylla  
Alan M. Taylor  
Jason Taylor  
Shane Thompson  
Giovanni Toniolo  
Daniel Treisman  
Gail Triner  
Francesca Trivellato  
Werner Troesken  
Jan Luiten Van Zanden  
Francois Velde  
Nancy Virts  
Daniel Waldenstrom  
Patrick Wallis  
Marianne Wanamaker  
Marianne Ward  
Simone Wegge  
Marc Weidenmier  
Jacob Weisdorf  
David C. Wheelock  
Sven Wilson  
Susan Wolcott  
Noam Yuchtman  
Ben Zamzow  
Peter Zeitz  
Nicolas Ziebarth