



Journal of the International Association for Official Statistics

2019

www.iospress.nl/statistical-journal-of-the-iaos

Status Report

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Background

SJIAOS is the flagship publication of the International Association for Official Statistics.

The association was established in 1985.

The first many years, the activities of the association were communicated through a newsletter, but increasingly there was a desire to have a journal.

In 2007, the IAOS took over the Statistical Journal of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and renamed it the SJIAOS.

Mission

The Journal supports the mission of IAOS by publishing articles to promote the understanding and advancement of official statistics and to foster the development of effective and efficient official statistical services on a global basis.

This clearly defines what is in scope for the Journal and it guides the process for selecting manuscripts for publication.

Content

The first SJIAOS issue was devoted to a series of papers on the evolution of official statistics across the globe over the previous 60 years.

Since then, we have continued to publish papers on global and national statistical services, statistical independence and legislation, new directions for official statistics, training of statistical staff, and ways to improve statistical literacy in the community, and similar topics.

We are a vehicle for sharing lessons learned about good practices in official statistics all over the world.

Achievements

How are we doing in this regard?

IOS Press, our publisher, tells us that compared to other journal such as ours, we are doing well.

I will share some statistics about or progress for the July 2018 – July 2019 period.

Statistics

We published:

52 manuscripts in 4 issues

137 authors, many co-authors

641 pages

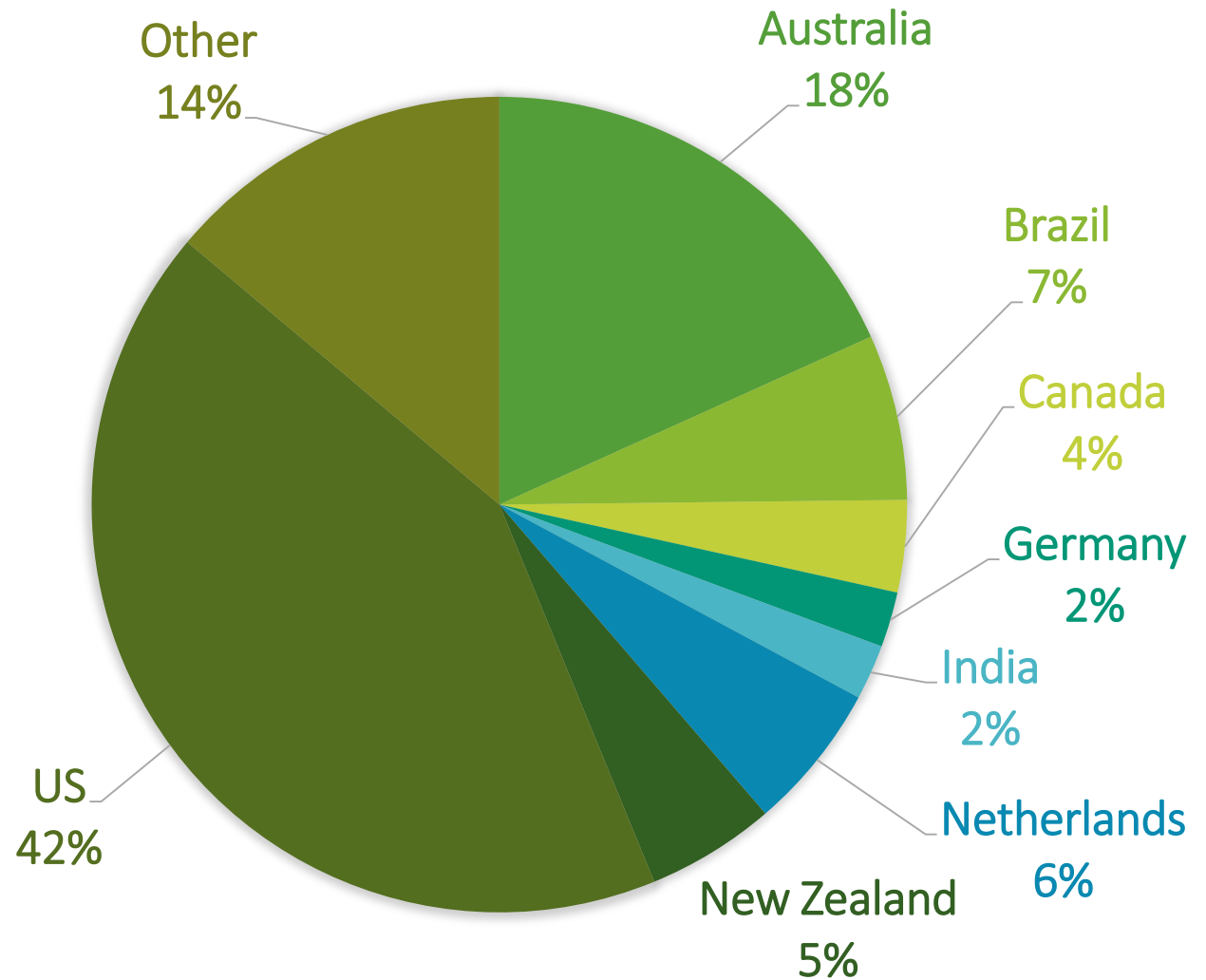
We strive to have international participation and appeal:

Manuscripts came from 21 countries

Manuscript Countries

Australia	Italy	New Zealand	Uganda
Brazil	Japan	Nigeria	UK
Canada	Latvia	Norway	USA
Estonia	Luxembourg	Palestine	
Germany	Mexico	Serbia	
India	Netherlands	Thailand	

Author country



Themes

Each issue has a theme.

Sometimes the theme represents all the manuscripts, sometimes a set of manuscripts fit together under a theme and sometimes a single manuscript carries the theme.

The theme also reflects different ways of soliciting manuscripts (special issues or topics, conference papers, competitions, etc.).

September 2018

The theme for the September 2018 issue was “Statistical Business Registers.”

Michael Colledge (Australia) organized an *invited session* on the development and application of international guidelines for statistical business registers for the 2017 World Statistics Conference (WSC).

We published most of the manuscripts from this session along with introductions and a discussion.

Thank you to Nancy McBeth for identifying the session and making the contacts.

December 2018

The December 2018 issue came about as a result of a *“Call for Papers”* with the topic of administrative data.

Associate editor Nancy Torrieri, prepared the announcement. She also served as the guest editor.

We received more than ten papers in response to the call for papers.

We had room to publish an additional four papers on record linkages and Big Data — topics closely related to administrative data.

March 2019

The entire issue was dedicated to statistics for Indigenous peoples. The connecting theme for the manuscripts was “Measuring Indigenous Identification.”

The idea of a *special issue* was first discussed and endorsed in October 2017 in Atlanta, Georgia at a meeting of the International Group for Indigenous Health Measurement (IGIHM).

The IGIHM, established in 2005, includes national statistical agencies and Indigenous experts from the US, Canada, New Zealand and Australia.

Associate editor, Michele Connolly was the guest-editor.

Announcement

SJIAOS is sponsoring an invited session on this topic at this conference.

IPS 360 is scheduled for August 22 (Thursday) starting at 8:50 a.m.

The title is “International Work on Indigenous Statistics: Promise or Reality!”

I hope you can attend.

June 2019

Now more than ever the users of official statistics look to the National Statistical Offices for the production of official statistics of high quality.

The June issue was assembled with that in mind, hence the theme: “New Quality Challenges.”

Some of the manuscripts were based on presentations given at the Q2018 – Quality in Official *Statistics Conference* in Krakow, Poland, but other manuscripts in this issue also fit under the quality label.

June 2019

We managed to include *a timely and highly relevant topic*: “How Low Response Among Latino Immigrants Will Lead to Differential Undercount If the United States’ 2020 Census Includes A Question on Citizenship.”

The author relied on data from a survey in a region of California with a dense settlement of immigrants from Mexico to provide insight about potential threats to census data quality.

June 2019

The June issue also brought you the manuscripts that took the 2018 *Young Statisticians Prize* (YSP).

Helle Visk from Statistics Estonia authored “An Index-Based Approach to Determine Partnership in Register-Based Census.”

Hochang Choi from Statistics New Zealand is the author of “Adjusting for Linkage Error to Analyse Coverage of Integrated Data Infrastructure (IDI) and the Administrative Population (IDI-ERP).”

June 2019

We published the winning manuscript from the 2018 *Young Scholars for Better Statistics Award* (YSBS).

Under the tutelage of her academic advisors at the University of Belgrade (Veljko Jeremic and Milica Bulajic), Milica Maricic authored “Assessing the Quality of Life in the European Union: The European Index of Life Satisfaction (EILS).”

Interviews

We published an interview in each issue with the intent to connect official statisticians globally, but especially within the IAOS, by getting to know the person in the position a little bit better.

Thank you to three IAOS presidents and one SJIAOS associate editor for sharing their stories: Irena Križman, Olav Ljones, John Pullinger and Michele Connolly.

Assessment

We meet our production schedule and goals.

We are improving in the number of citations to manuscripts in the Journal.

We are getting more and more unsolicited manuscripts.

We are getting manuscripts of higher quality.

We are gaining visibility and name recognition.

Challenges Ahead

A journal such as SJIAOS must constantly assess its relevancy to the members of the professional associations that sustains it.

We must provide unique information relevant to the field, and archive best current practices in the profession.

We must be the place where wisdom can be accumulated and preserved in print for future statisticians.

Invitation

We need your help.

You are invited to share your research and best practices in the field of official statistics.

Submit a manuscript to be considered for publication.

Go to <https://www.iospress.nl/journal/statistical-journal-of-the-iaos/> or contact us directly.

Many manuscripts have co-authors. All manuscripts go through peer-review.

Journal Role

In an era where data come from innumerable sources and statistics are expected to be produced and delivered instantaneously, to be easily accessible and digestible, and to meet the consumers expectations for visualization and effortless consumption, we must ask:

What is the role of official statisticians and statistical journals?

How do we stay relevant, how do we serve producers as well as users?

Looking to the Future

We achieve relevance by staying tuned-in to the constantly changing needs of the profession.

Events such as the World Statistical Congress helps us with this task by bringing statisticians together to discuss current and emerging issues and challenges related to the management, production and dissemination of statistics and related public policy matters.

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