

## Political Science 2012-2022

### Report of Submissions and Decisions

This data has been harvested from Scholar One, which keeps a record of all submissions and outcomes to the Journal. It is available from 2012 onwards.

The Journal's objectives are to present 'original, peer reviewed, high quality scholarship from a variety of theories and methodologies. The journal publishes articles with a broadly comparative or international approach across all fields and sub-disciplines, with a particular focus on the Asia-Pacific region.' As the analysis to follow will show, our authors and their areas of research are international in scope: submissions have been received from authors in 57 countries.

Over the period under analysis, Political Science had a contract with Sage publications, publishing two issues a year. In 2016 we moved to Taylor and Frances, and began publishing three issues annually. As the our Journal is only political science journal published in New Zealand, the editors have a commitment to encourage New Zealand-based scholars and articles that cover all aspects of New Zealand politics, with particular attention to new and innovative areas of inquiry. We issue open invitations for New Zealand-based scholars to run workshops to generate articles for special issues, and can provide significant funding to assist. All this said, given the opportunities and incentives to publish New Zealand material in offshore journals, particularly those with a relevant specialist focus, not to mention books, we would caution against making inferences that assume what we publish is 'representative' of current research on New Zealand politics.

Table One: Submissions and Decisions 2012-2022

Year submitted	Rejected	Accepted	Other	Total	Acceptance Rate
2012	30	4	3	37	10.8
2013	24	9	0	33	27.3
2014	22	7	0	29	24.1
2015	13	10	2	25	40.0
2016	22	11	1	34	32.4
2017	7	14	1	22	63.6
2018	24	11	2	37	29.7
2019	24	11	2	37	29.7
2020	39	17	9	65	26.2
2021	52	12	3	67	17.9
2022	45	2	17	64	3.1
Total	302	108	40	450	23.9

Table One shows submissions, rejections, and acceptances by year of submission. ‘Other’ contains articles for which major revisions were recommended and were not returned, or, most recently, submissions still under review. On average, the Journal publishes about a quarter of the submissions it receives.

Table 2 Submissions by Field and Publication Rates

	Submissions			Publication Rates %		
	Other	NZ	Total	Other	NZ	N
Comparative	206	68	274	16.5	63.2	77
IR	96	9	105	15.6	44.4	19
Public Policy	40	18	58	10.0	33.3	10
Theory	12	1	13	16.7	0.0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>108</b>

Table 2 breaks down submissions by field (roughly classified) and whether or not the article had New Zealand content. Except for political theory, which had virtually no submissions, articles with New Zealand content had a much higher acceptance rate than others, largely explained by the criterion of relevance. Articles with New Zealand content were just under half of all those published during the period, the majority focussing on aspects of domestic politics under the category of ‘comparative’.

Table 3 Submissions and Acceptance Rates by Region Where Submitters Report Living

	Rejected	Accepted	Other	Total N	Accepted N
Africa	96.4	0.0	3.6	28	0
Asia & Middle East	84.7	8.8	6.5	170	15
Australia	52.0	40.0	8.0	25	10
Central & South America	80.0	20.0	0.0	5	1
Europe	74.3	18.6	7.1	70	13
North America	52.5	37.5	10.0	40	15
NZ	34.3	50.0	15.7	108	54
Missing	100.0	0.0	0.0	4	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>67.2</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>8.9</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>108</b>

Table 3 shows that New Zealand-based authors have the highest acceptance rate followed by those submitting from Australia and then the United States and Canada. The acceptance rate for submitters from Asia or the Middle East is relatively low given the focus of the Journal but the largest number of submissions come from these sources. Submitters from Africa usually report research from African countries and these are almost always rejected on grounds of relevance to our objectives.

As part of our commitment to new and innovative fields of inquiry, and our new New Zealand focus, we are particularly keen to publish articles on indigenous politics. This was a focus of a special issue in 2017, and we understand another is in preparation. We published 11 articles on Māori politics over the period in question, just over 10 per cent of all articles published. But of those published on New Zealand politics, 18.5 per cent were on Maori politics (10/54). The acceptance rate of articles on Māori politics was 91.7 per cent (11/12). Note that one Māori politics article was on Māori in Australia, not therefore classified as New Zealand politics.

Over the period 2012-2022 13 articles were submitted by persons who could be identified as Māori. 77 per cent were accepted (10). Māori authors submitting on a Maori topic had an acceptance rate of 100 per cent.

This data raises a series of relevant questions for the editors to consider. Our low acceptance rate for submissions from Asia and the Middle East deserves further scrutiny. However, many of the rejected submissions have tended to be on the very specialised aspects of the domestic politics of particular countries that would be better sent to more specialised Journals. It is most disappointing that we have received no submissions from Pacific Island scholars. However some submissions and accepted articles have been on aspects of Pacific politics. We have one published article from a Pasifika scholar in New Zealand, and are not aware of any rejected submissions from anyone else belonging to that group.

Over the period in question, the editors have been David Capie (2012- ), Kate McMillan (2012-2014), Jack Vowles (2015- ), Jana Von Stein (2017), and Fiona Barker (2018- )