

Report of the Editor

American Economic Journal: Microeconomics

The *American Economic Journal: Microeconomics* (*AEJ: Micro*) was launched by the American Economic Association in July 2007. The initial mission statement for the journal was:

AEJ: Micro will publish papers focusing on microeconomic theory, industrial organization and the microeconomic aspects of international trade, political economy and finance. The journal will publish theoretical work as well as both empirical and experimental work with a theoretical framework.

Editorial Process

Manuscripts submitted to *AEJ: Micro* are handled by an editor and a coeditor. After being processed by the Pittsburgh office staff, the manuscripts are allocated by the editor to himself or to the coeditor, Rob Porter. All subsequent responsibility for handling the manuscript, including the decision to summarily reject papers, choice of referees, and the ultimate disposition of the paper rests with the person to whom the manuscript has been assigned. The journal has a policy of avoiding conflicts of interest, and papers are not assigned to an editor if the author is a colleague, coauthor, or student. Occasionally, because of conflicts and/or subject matter, papers are assigned to a member of the editorial board.

AEJ: Micro no longer follows the double-blind process previously followed by the AEA journals. As other AEA journals now do, *AEJ: Micro* now discloses the author's name to referees. As before, referee names are not revealed to the author. Papers are often rejected without a formal review when the editor in charge of the paper believes the paper is unlikely to be finally accepted in the *AEJ: Micro*. The author's submission fee is refunded when papers are rejected without formal review.

For manuscripts previously submitted to the *AER*, authors can choose to have the *AER* file forwarded to the *AEJ: Micro*. That file includes the editor's decision letter, the referee reports, and, with the referee's permission, the cover letter to the *AER* editor. The majority of referees agree to have their cover letters made available, and this information is sometimes sufficient to reach a decision on the paper. The additional information usually expedites the review of a paper even when an immediate decision isn't possible.

Editorial Board

The journal's coeditor is Rob Porter (Northwestern University). The editorial board of *AEJ: Micro* consists of Kyle Bagwell (Stanford University), Dirk Bergemann (Yale University), Darrell Duffie (Stanford University), Liran Einav (Stanford University), Faruk Gul (Princeton University), Kenneth Hendricks (University of Texas), John Kagel (Ohio State), Leslie Marx (Duke University), Marc Melitz (Harvard University), Paul

Milgrom (Stanford University), Aviv Nevo (Northwestern University), Wojciech Olszewski (Northwestern University), Ariel Pakes (Harvard University), Tom Palfrey (Caltech), Debraj Ray (New York University), Phil Reny (University of Chicago), Ariel Rubinstein (Tel Aviv University and New York University), Bernard Salanie (Columbia University), Michael Whinston (Northwestern University), and Asher Wolinsky (Northwestern University).

Editorial Data

For the year ending October 31, 2011, the journal received 206 new submissions. The distribution of submissions by year is shown in Table 1. Of the 206 submissions, 67 were rejected, 62 without formal review, and 4 were withdrawn. Of the remaining papers, 7 were accepted and 19 were invited to submit a revision. The remaining 47 papers were still in the review process as of that date.

TABLE 1—MANUSCRIPTS SUBMITTED AND PUBLISHED,
2007–2011

Year	Submitted	Published	Previously submitted to the <i>AER</i>
2007	33	0	7
2008	115	0	33
2009	145	22	27
2010	170	33	35
2011	206	36	41

Notes: Submissions to the *AEJ: Micro* for each year include all new submissions from November 1 of the previous year through October 31 of the stated year. Publications for 2009 include the February and August issues. Publications for 2010 and 2011 include the February, May, August, and November issues.

Table 2 shows the distribution of first decision times for papers submitted in the year ending October 31, 2011, projected using Kaplan-Meier hazards. Table 3 shows the publication lags for papers published in 2011. The average lag from initial receipt to acceptance was 29 weeks, and the average lag from acceptance to publication was 31 weeks.

TABLE 2—DISTRIBUTION OF FIRST DECISION TIMES, BY SUBMISSION YEAR

Months to response	2010		2011	
	Monthly percent	Cumulative percent	Monthly percent	Cumulative percent
1	35	35	33	33
2	11	45	11	44
3	16	61	19	63
4	19	80	12	75
5	7	86	4	79
6	4	90	8	86
7	4	94	3	89
8	1	94	2	91
9	3	97	3	94
10	1	98	0	94
11	1	99	0	94
12	1	100	0	94

Notes: Submission year denotes period from November 1 of the preceding year to October 31 of the stated year. The 2009 and 2010 distributions are the actual distributions. The 2011 distribution is projected from Kaplan-Meier hazards computed from the right-censored distribution of decision times of manuscripts submitted between November 1, 2009 and October 31 2011. Percents are rounded to the nearest integer. Figures in this table supersede those contained in previous *AEJ: Micro* reports.

TABLE 3—AVERAGE PROCESSING LAGS BY YEAR OF PUBLICATION
(in weeks)

Year of publication	Number of weeks		
	Receipt to acceptance	Acceptance to publication	Receipt to publication
2009	21	40	61
2010	37	36	73
2011	29	31	61

Notes: Average receipt to acceptance is the mean number of weeks in the editorial decision process at the *AEJ: Microeconomics* for published manuscripts. Lags for acceptance to publication and receipt to publication are for all papers published in the indicated year.

Table 4 gives the average page length for manuscripts published in 2011, and Table 5 lists the classification of published papers by *JEL* code.

TABLE 4—AVERAGE PAGE LENGTH OF PUBLISHED ARTICLES

Year of publication	Number of articles	Average page length
2009	22	23
2010	33	29
2011	36	29

Note: The table refers to the 2009 February and August issues and the 2010 and 2011 February, May, August, and November issues of *AEJ: Microeconomics*.

TABLE 5—SUBJECT MATTER OF PUBLISHED MANUSCRIPTS (*Counts of areas*)

JEL Codes	2009	2010	2011
A—General economics and teaching	0	0	1
B—History of economic thought, methodology, and heterodox approaches	1	0	0
C—Mathematical and quantitative methods	4	7	10
D—Microeconomics	33	53	47
E—Macroeconomics and monetary economics	0	0	0
F—International economics	1	0	4
G—Financial economics	0	4	8
H—Public economics	0	5	2
I—Health, education, and welfare	2	0	0
J—Labor and demographic economics	2	3	9
K—Law and economics	0	0	0
L—Industrial organization	6	13	25
M—Business administration and business economics; marketing; accounting	2	0	6
N—Economic history	0	0	0
O—Economic development, technological change, and growth	0	0	9
P—Economic systems	0	0	1
Q—Agricultural and natural resource economics; environmental and ecological economics	0	0	0
R—Urban, rural, and regional economics	1	2	0
Y—Miscellaneous categories	0	0	0
Z—Other special topics	1	3	2
	Total	Total	Total
	53	90	124

Notes: Includes all *JEL* codes reported for each manuscript submitted to *AEJ: Microeconomics*. 2009 entries represent totals for February and August issues. 2010 and 2011 entries represent totals for February, May, August, and November issues.

AEJ: Micro has the same data posting policy as the *AER*, requiring authors of accepted papers that employ data in econometric analysis, simulation models or experiments post their data and programs on the journal website. Table 6 gives the statistics on data posting for 2011.

TABLE 6—2011 DATA-POSTING POLICY STATISTICS

Issue	Number of papers	Papers with data	Exemptions	First-round compliance	Second-round compliance	Noncompliance
February	10	3	0	3	0	0
May	9	2	0	2	0	0
August	9	5	0	5	0	0
November	8	3	0	3	0	0

The journal has also benefited tremendously from the behind the scenes work of Managing Editor Michelle DeBlasi and Editorial Assistants Kelly Markel and Kelly Andrews. Their contributions are gratefully acknowledged.

Andrew Postlewaite, Editor