

Editorial

Annual *Journal* Entries

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Annually, the following report provides the reader with an analysis of manuscripts submitted for review and publication. The *Journal* tracks those issue items that might indicate changes in the ways authors communicate bulk information to their readership. This is the seventh year of the *Journal*, and this review continues to include in the statistics addressed in the previous issues.

Journal Vital Statistics

Number of manuscripts accepted vs. rejection. There were twelve manuscripts published during the past year. Twenty-four manuscripts were submitted for review, twelve were rejected as not being acceptable for publication and one was an invited manuscript. This provides the *Journal* with a fifty-two percent rejection rate. This is a twenty-two percent increase to that reported in previous years (see Figure 1).

Figure 2 demonstrates the rejections rates for the years 1998 through 2002. The years 1996 and 1997 were not included in that there were only two submissions and it is felt that these two years would skew the data in the *Journal's* active years. The average rejection rate for the *Journal* is 37.81%. There is a significant increase in the rejection rate in 2002 as compared to the years 1999 through 2001.

Average number of pages per published manuscript. There was a change in the number of pages per manuscript. The average was 9.75, which was a positive change of 0.88 from the previous year.

Average number of images, tables, and appendices. Within this volume, images averaged 3.25 images per manuscript that is 0.18 more than that of the prior year. Tables increased 0.03 per manuscript to an average of 0.83. Attachments increased from 0.27 per manuscript to 0.33. Figure 3 is a graph of the statistics from 1996 to 2002.

Web Site Vital Statistics

Figure 4 illustrates the hits received on the index page of the *Journal* for each month for 2001 and 2002. The 2002 data illustrates that the *Journal's* usage has evened out between those months that were previously demonstrating little usage. This probably indicates a readership external to the membership of the ASC.

Figure 5 illustrates the where browsers are going within the *Journal* for the same time period. The manuscript archive received 26.25% of the browsing volume. An interesting statistic is the 15.66% value for the reviewer-listing page. This indicates that readers are interested in the identity of our reviews. This should provide an effective argument for Review Board membership. Two addition observations are the style guide and definitions pages. It seems that the authors are attempting to not only meet the requirements of manuscript submission but are more interested in understanding the purpose and mission of the *Journal*.

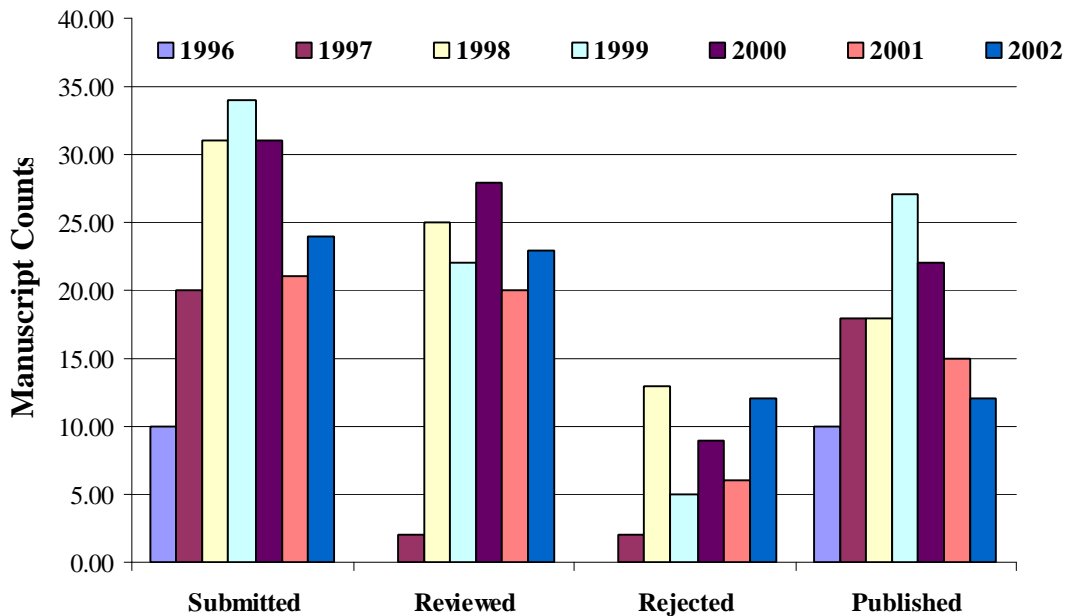


Figure 1. Publication and Submission Data

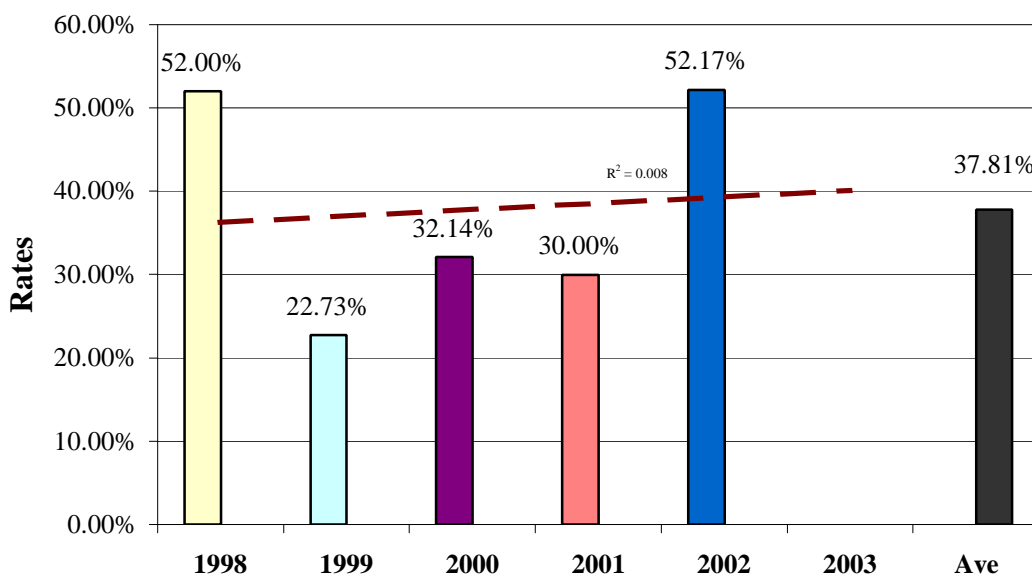


Figure 2. Rejection Rates Data

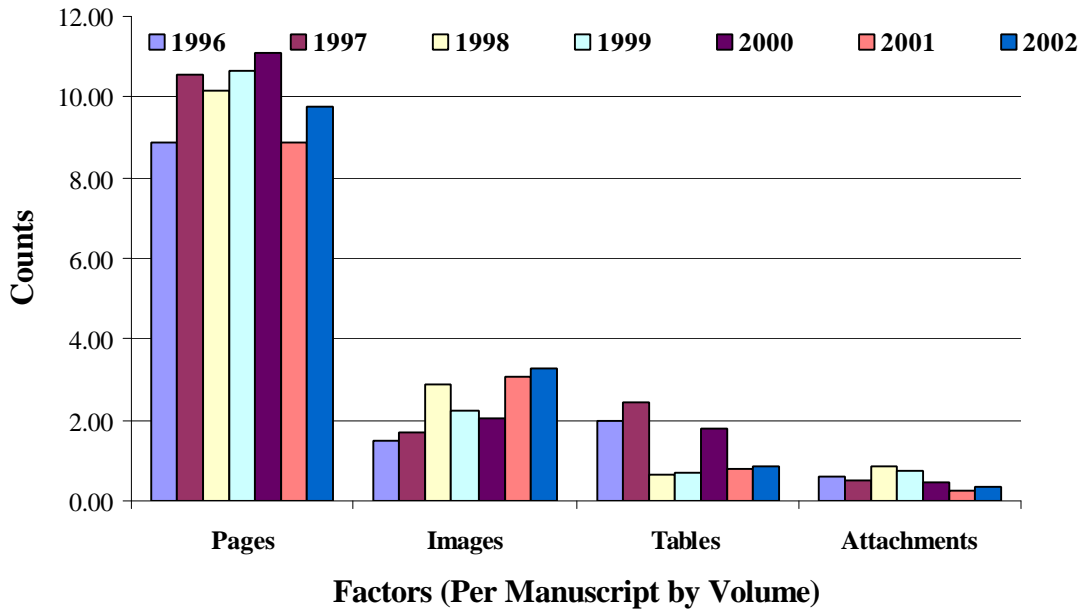


Figure 3. Manuscript Description Data

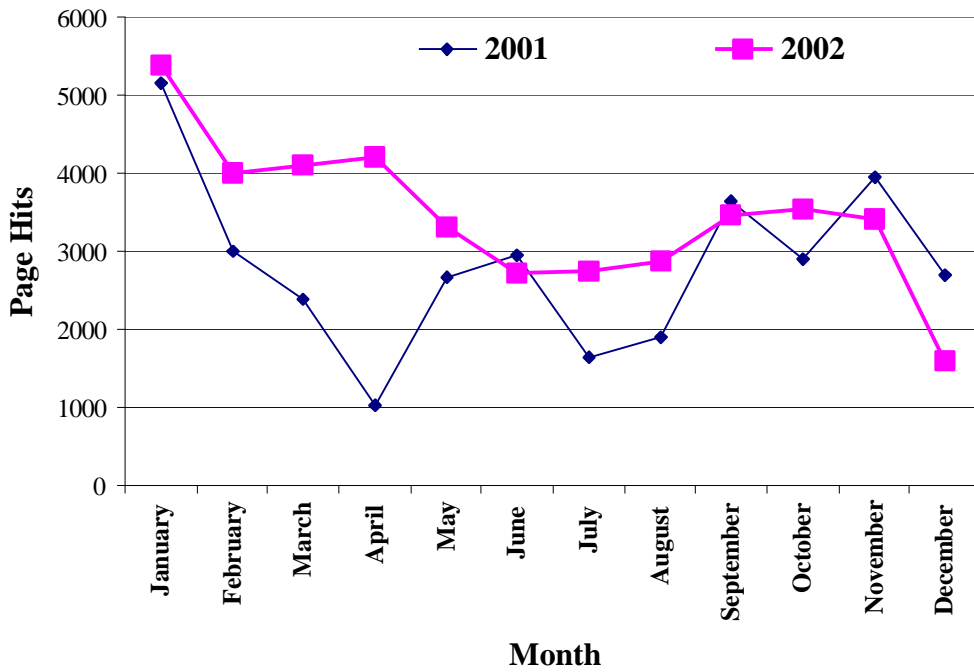


Figure 4. Journal Web Site Hits

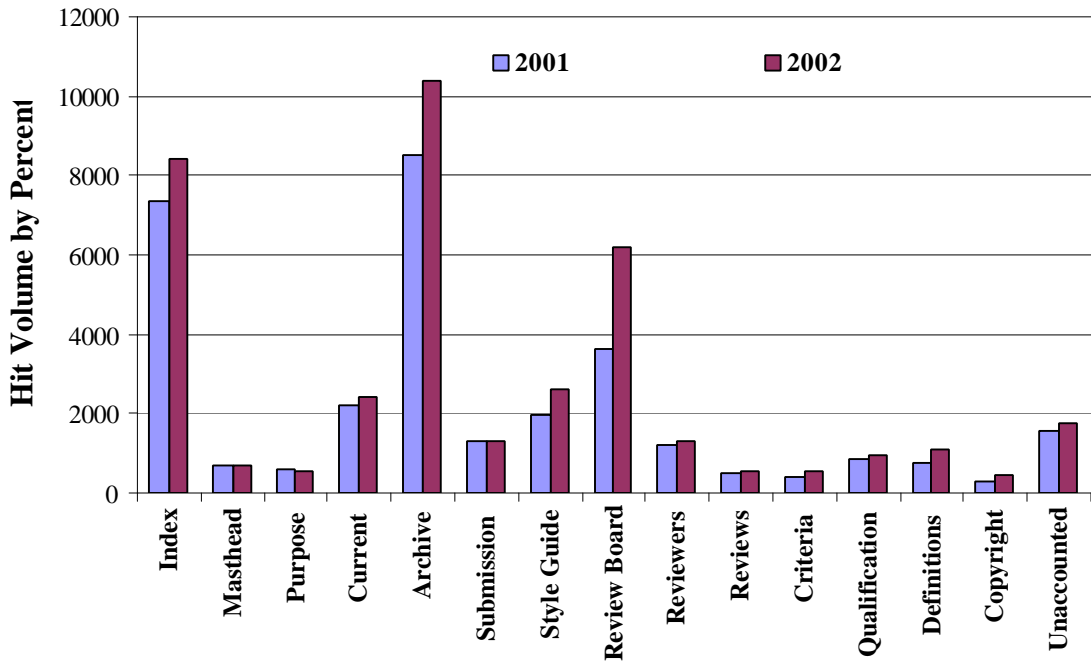


Figure 5. Hits by Page Category