

Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine



Editor-in-Chief Report

2019

1. The Journal

1.1. Editor's Note

I am delighted to have been appointed Editor-in-Chief of this Journal from January 2019 following on from a year as an active Associate Editor. It is my intention during my tenure to refocus the Journal so as it can more effectively support the Faculty and wider sector. This will require making challenging decisions in the short-term which will provide tangible benefits in the medium to long-term. Within the first couple of months, along with support from colleagues at Elsevier, we have restructured the management of the journal to have an Editor-in-Chief supported by two Associate Editors (Margaret Stark and Wilma Duijst) and one Consultant Editor (Jason Payne-James). The Editorial Board has been reduced in size and the disciplinary expertise remapped to ensure a broader spread. All restructuring has been undertaken with gender and BAME representation in mind.

We have also condensed the Journal's aims with the expectation that in the future the papers being submitted will have a greater focus on academic quality and rigour. We have amended the automated process behind the scenes to speed up decision-making and production times. These are part of our work to improve the reputation of the Journal whilst also moving JFLM up the various journal ranking. Partly this will be achieved through increasing citations of our work. Conscious of our responsibility to the Faculty we have retained a focus on education and case study papers.

Going forward through 2019, it is our aim to bed in our new processes and focus. We will also seek to raise our profile more broadly, through greater engagement overseas and through the provision of training and publication workshops.

This is an exciting time for the Journal, but I am confident that we are taking the appropriate steps for ensuring the longevity and continued relevance of this Journal.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Thompson', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Prof Tim Thompson FCSFS FRAI SFHEA NTF

Editor-in-Chief, Journal of Forensic & Legal Medicine

1.2. Aims and Scope

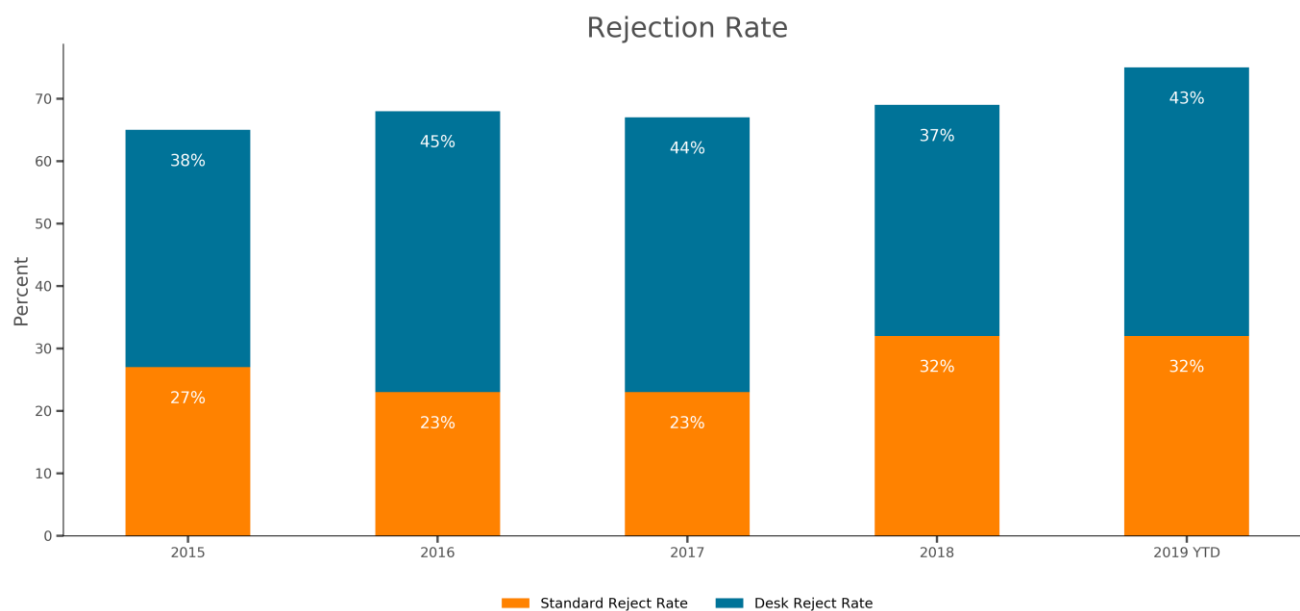
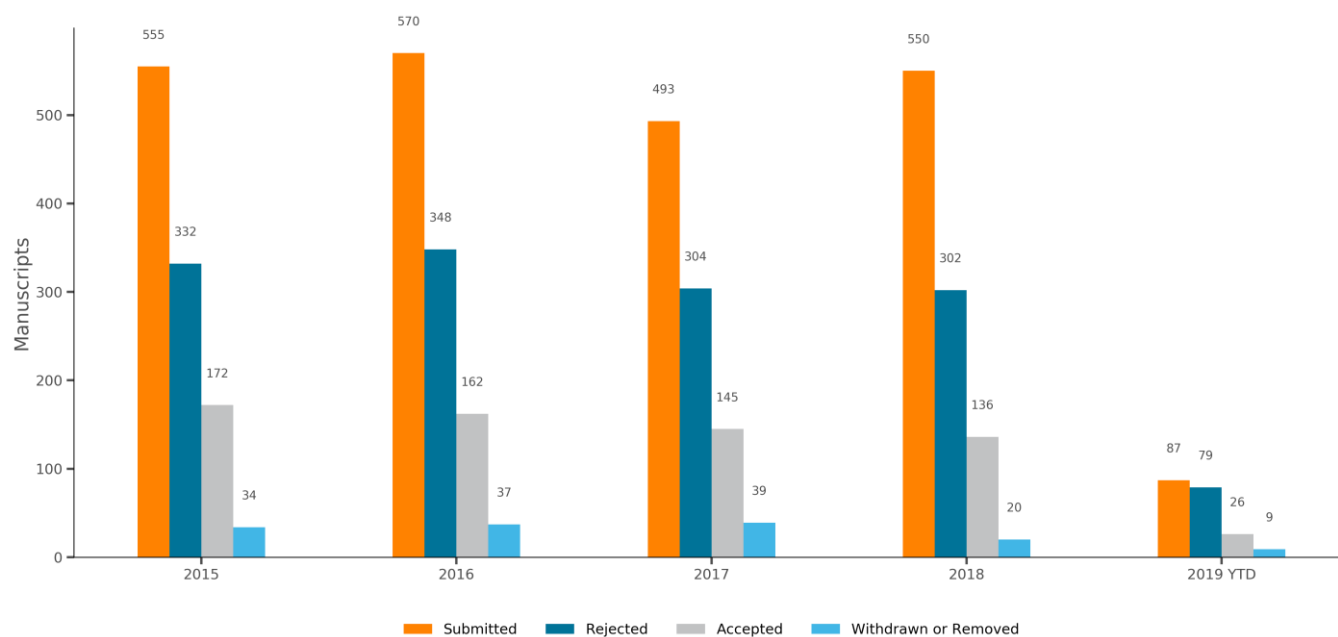
The *Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine* publishes topical articles on aspects of forensic and legal medicine. Specifically the Journal supports research that explores the medical principles of care and forensic assessment of individuals, whether adult or child, in contact with the judicial system. It is a fully peer-review hybrid journal with a broad international perspective.

The Journal accepts submissions of original research, review articles, and pertinent case studies, editorials, and commentaries in relevant areas of Forensic and Legal Medicine, Context of Practice, and Education and Training.

The Journal adheres to strict publication ethical guidelines, and actively supports a culture of inclusive and representative publication.

2. Manuscript Flow

2.1. Submitted Manuscripts & Editorial Outcomes



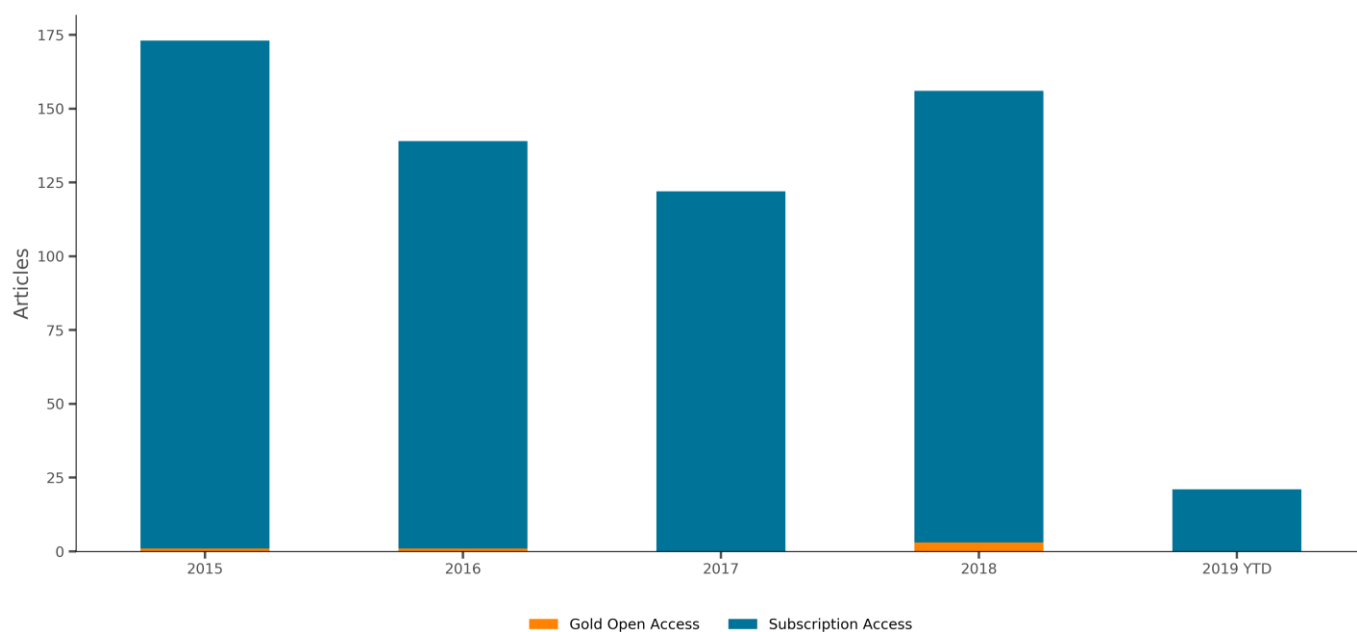
2.2. Submissions, Accepted and Rejected for All Content by Publication Item Type (2019 YTD)

Publication Item Type	Submitted	Accepted or Rejected									
	Articles	Articles	Desk Decisions	Standard Decisions	Avg. Reviews Completed	Submission - First Decision (Desk) (weeks)	Submission - First Decision (Standard) (weeks)	Submission - Editorial Outcome (Standard) (weeks)	Accepted	Rejected	Rejection Rate
Correspondence	3	3	2	1	0.7	6.0	8.4	8.4	0	3	100%
Full-length article	61	77	29	48	1.7	4.4	15.9	23.3	21	56	73%
Review article	8	12	6	6	1.0	4.0	13.9	18.7	2	10	83%
Short communication	15	13	8	5	1.1	3.1	13.6	27.0	3	10	77%
Totals	87	105	45	60	1.1	4.2	15.4	22.9	26	79	75%

2.3. Submissions, Accepted and Rejected for All Content by Publication Item Type (2018)

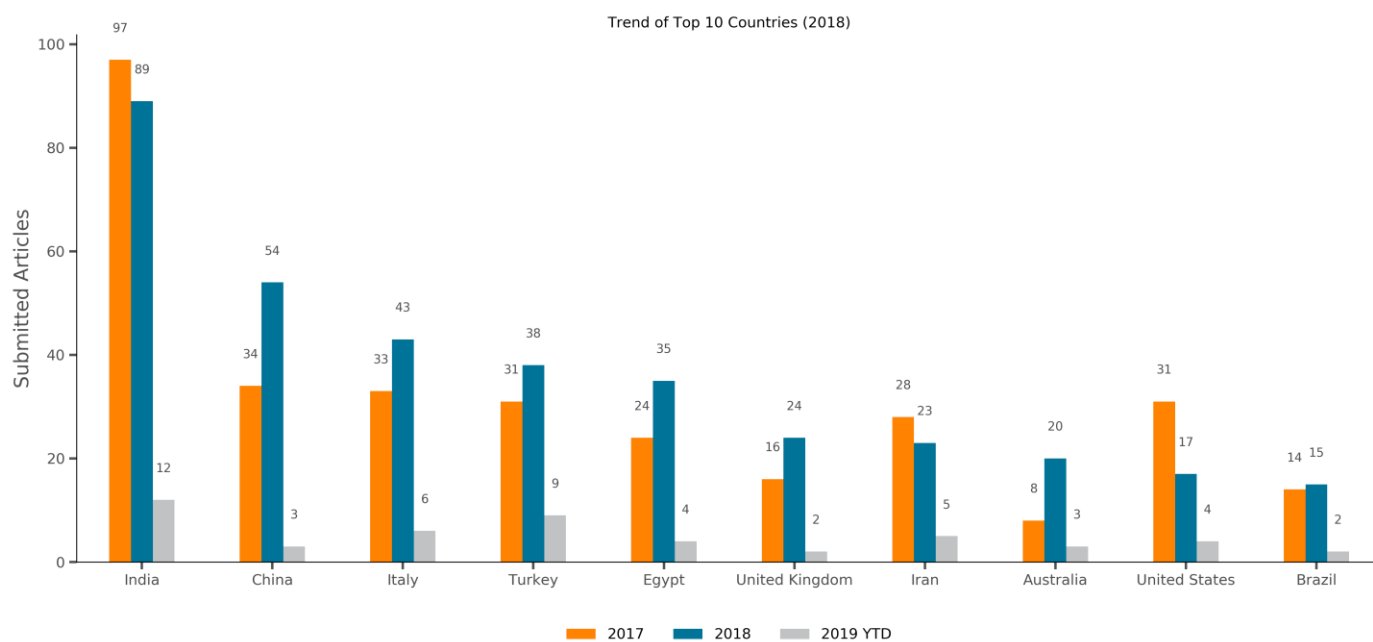
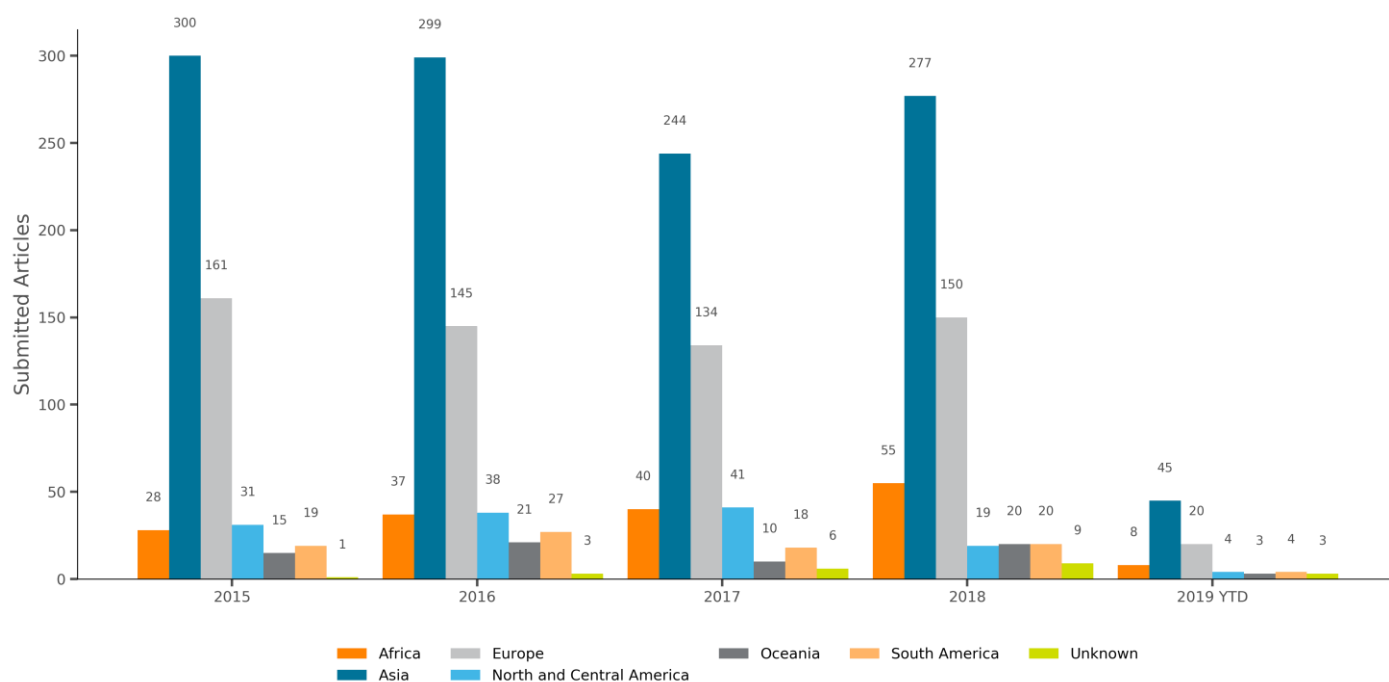
Publication Item Type	Submitted	Accepted or Rejected									
	Articles	Articles	Desk Decisions	Standard Decisions	Avg. Reviews Completed	Submission - First Decision (Desk) (weeks)	Submission - First Decision (Standard) (weeks)	Submission - Editorial Outcome (Standard) (weeks)	Accepted	Rejected	Rejection Rate
Correspondence	17	13	9	4	0.5	4.0	11.0	13.7	5	8	62%
Discussion	2	2	2	0	0.0	1.4	0.0	0.0	2	0	0%
Full-length article	412	335	129	206	1.8	1.9	12.8	19.5	103	232	69%
Review article	54	34	7	27	2.3	3.2	11.6	20.3	10	24	71%
Short communication	65	54	23	31	1.3	2.4	12.2	17.9	16	38	70%
Totals	550	438	170	268	1.2	2.2	12.6	19.3	136	302	69%

2.4. Published Articles by Access Type

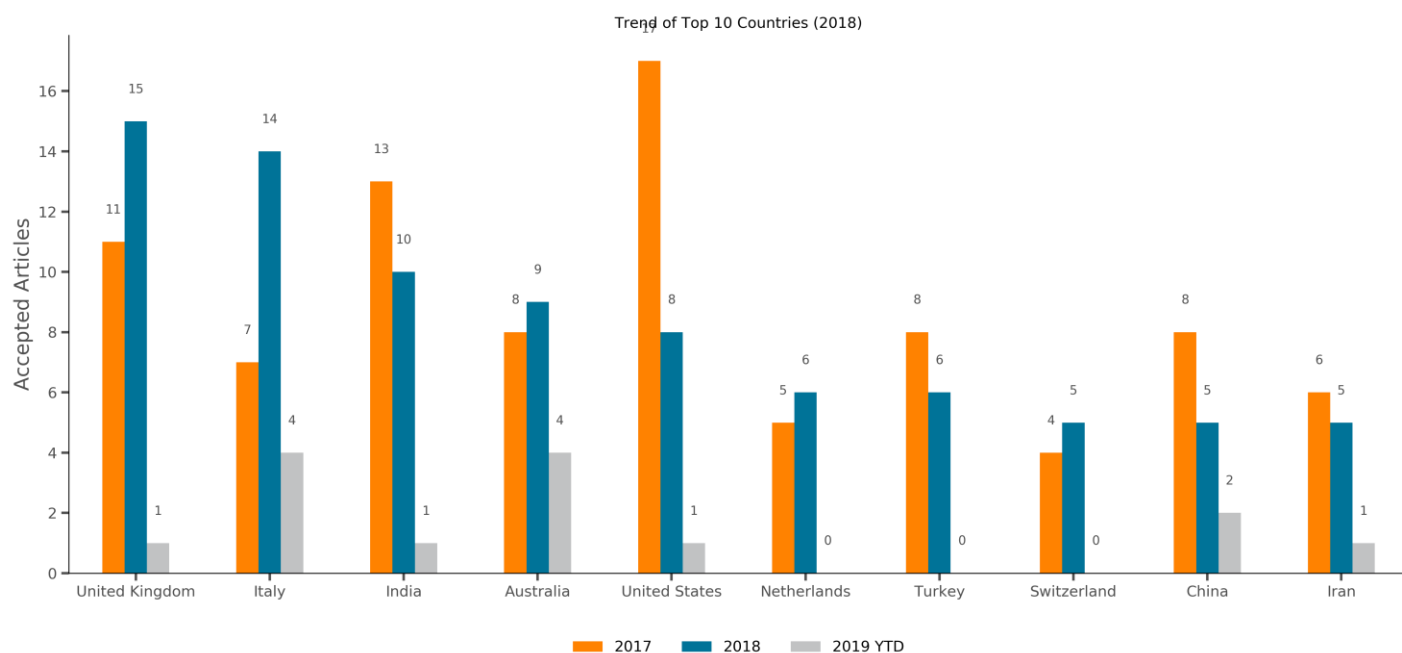
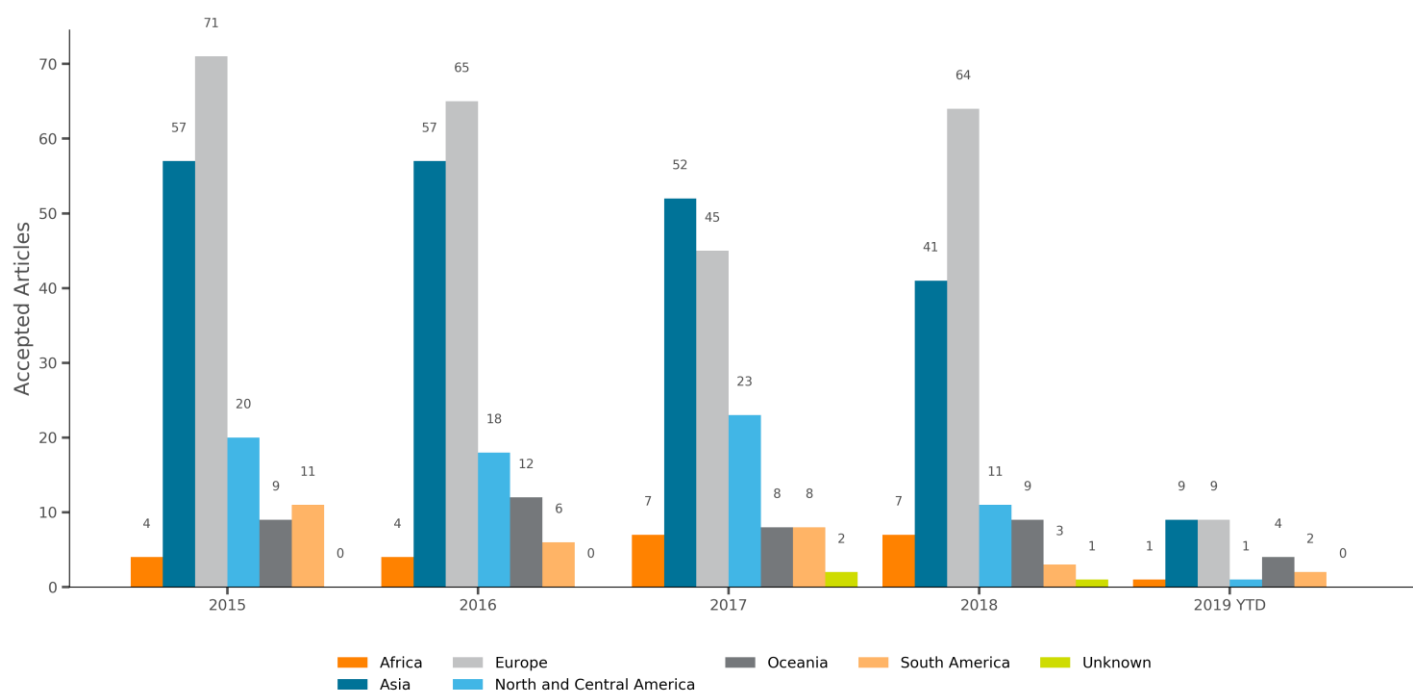


Access Type	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019 YTD
Gold Open Access	1	1	0	3	0
Subscription Access	184	163	132	167	24
Total	185	164	132	170	24

2.5. Submitted Articles by Region & Country

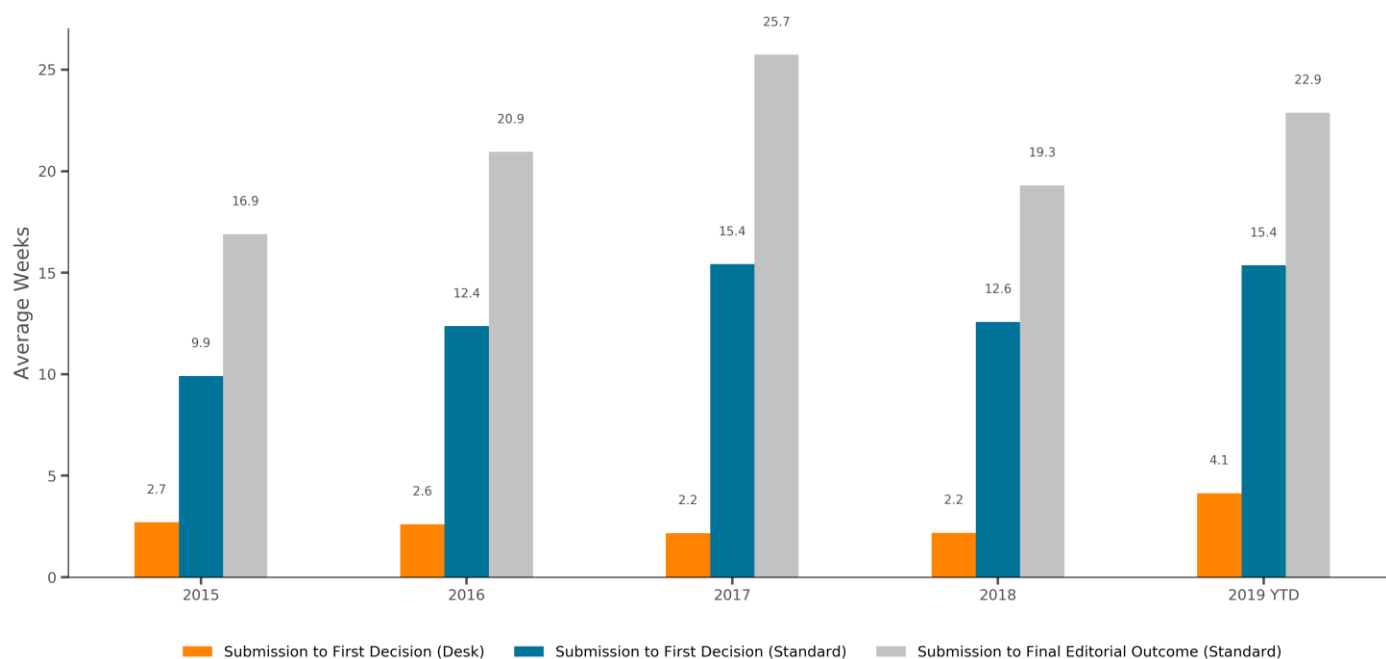


2.6. Accepted Articles by Region & Country



3. Speed

3.1. Average Editorial Speed for Accepted and Rejected Articles



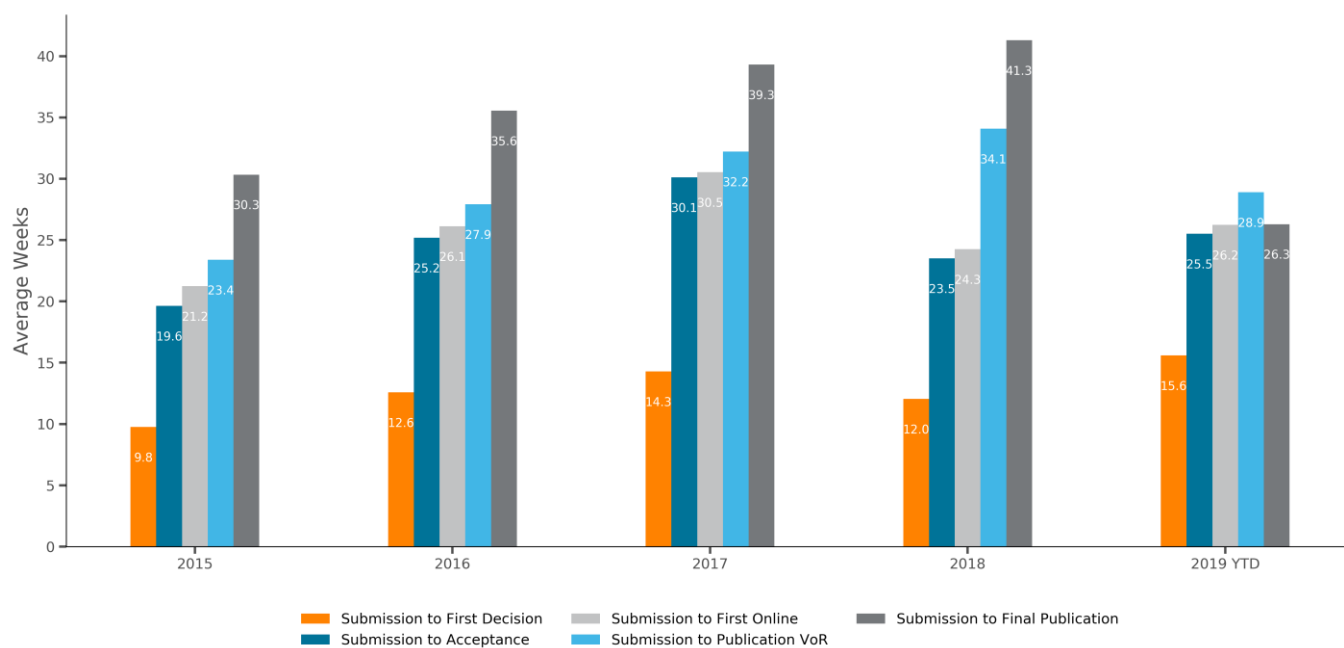
3.2. Primary Editor Metrics, for Regular Content (2019 YTD)

Editor	Submitted	Accepted or Rejected									
	Articles	Articles	Desk Decisions	Standard Decisions	Avg. Reviews Completed	Submission - First Decision (Desk) (weeks)	Submission - First Decision (Standard) (weeks)	Submission - Editorial Outcome (Standard) (weeks)	Accepted	Rejected	Rejection Rate
Chariot, Patrick	0	4	0	4	2.8	0.0	13.2	21.4	2	2	50%
Mccartney, Carole	2	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0%
No Primary Editor Assigned	9	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0%
Paynejames, Jason	5	25	1	24	3.6	3.6	16.2	28.9	13	12	48%
Stark, Margaret	29	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0%
Thompson, Tim	42	71	44	27	0.4	4.1	13.8	16.2	9	62	87%
Totals	87	100	45	55	1.1	4.1	14.8	22.1	24	76	76%

3.3. Primary Editor Metrics, for Regular Content (2018)

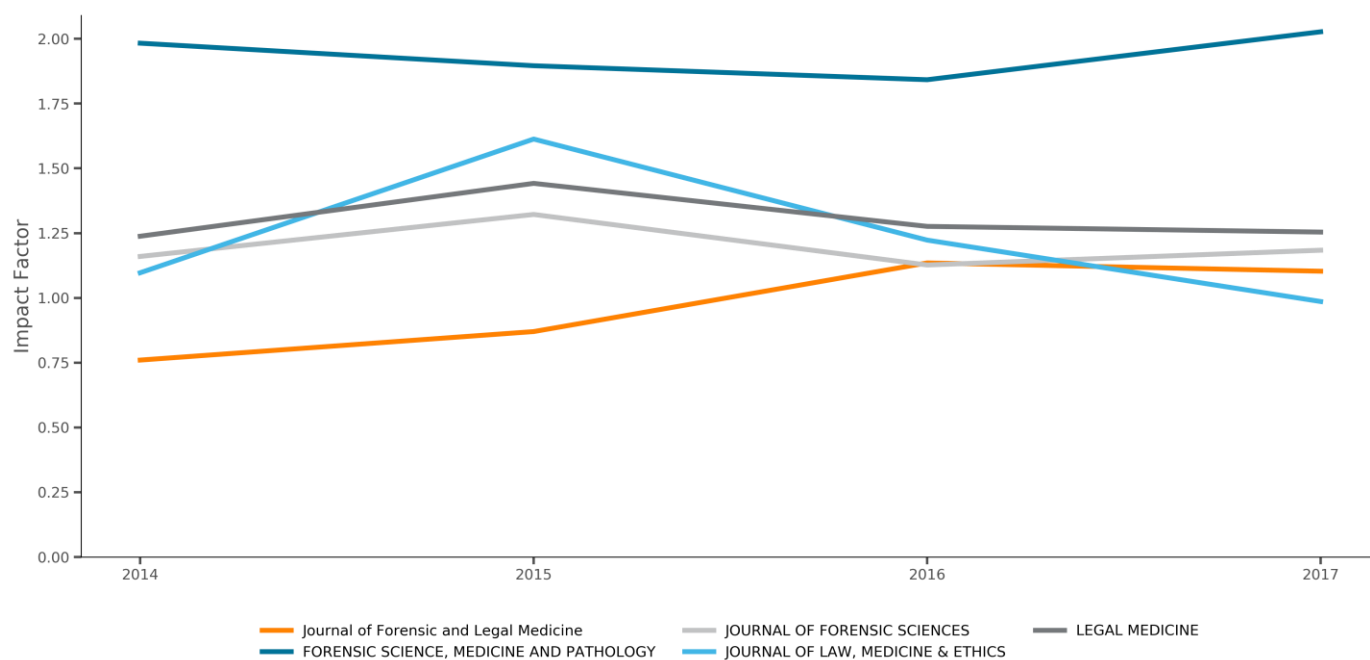
Editor	Submitted	Accepted or Rejected									
	Articles	Articles	Desk Decisions	Standard Decisions	Avg. Reviews Completed	Submission - First Decision (Desk) (weeks)	Submission - First Decision (Standard) (weeks)	Submission - Editorial Outcome (Standard) (weeks)	Accepted	Rejected	Rejection Rate
Chariot, Patrick	117	137	73	64	1.6	1.4	10.3	17.2	40	97	71%
Milroy, Christopher M.	0	15	0	15	3.9	0.0	16.0	34.6	12	3	20%
No Primary Editor Assigned	20	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0%
Payne James, Jason	213	141	25	116	2.5	3.0	13.8	21.3	46	95	67%
Stark, Margaret	4	0	0	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0%
Thompson, Tim	179	136	65	71	0.8	2.6	12.0	14.2	36	100	74%
Totals	533	429	163	266	1.5	2.1	12.6	19.2	134	295	69%

3.4. Average Editorial & Publication Speed for Published Articles



4. Quality / Content Development

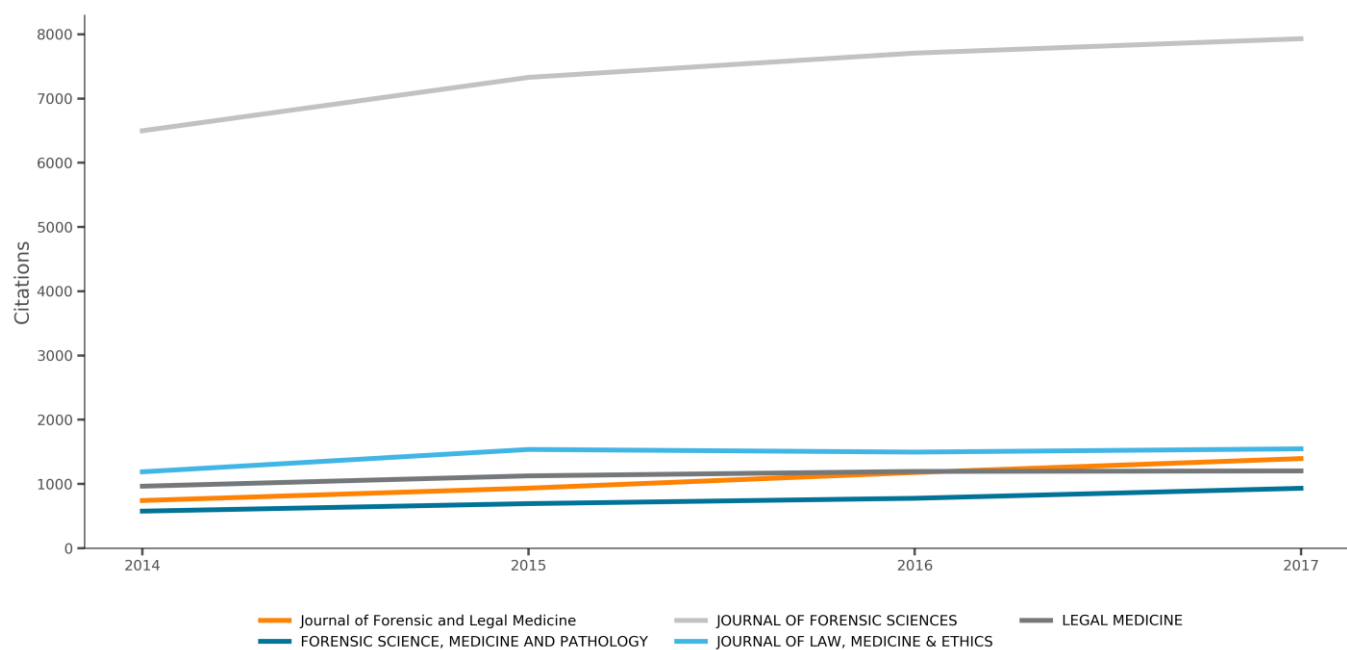
4.1. Impact Factor



Title	2014	2015	2016	2017
<i>Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine</i>	0.760	0.870	1.135	1.103
<i>Forensic Science, Medicine and Pathology</i>	1.983	1.896	1.842	2.027
<i>Journal of Forensic Sciences</i>	1.160	1.322	1.127	1.184
<i>Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics</i>	1.097	1.613	1.223	0.986
<i>Legal Medicine</i>	1.238	1.442	1.276	1.254

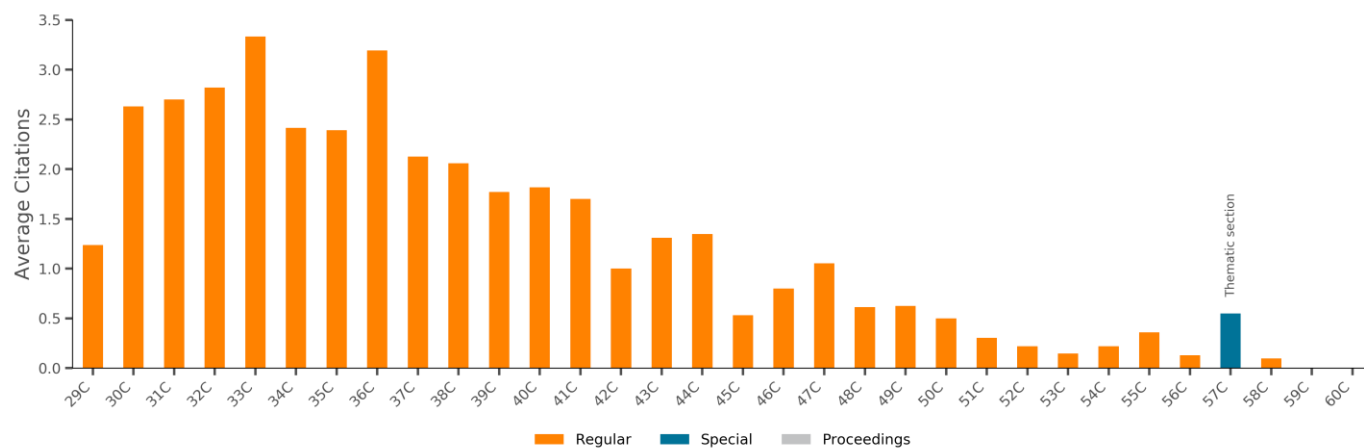
Category	Rank	Total Journals
Medicine, Legal	9	16

4.2. Citations for All Articles



Title	2014	2015	2016	2017
<i>Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine</i>	742	935	1,178	1,395
<i>Forensic Science, Medicine and Pathology</i>	577	694	777	933
<i>Journal of Forensic Sciences</i>	6,498	7,329	7,707	7,931
<i>Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics</i>	1,189	1,537	1,496	1,547
<i>Legal Medicine</i>	965	1,126	1,195	1,203

4.3. Average Citations per Vol/Iss



4.4. Most Cited Articles, 2018 (Published IF Window 2016-2017)

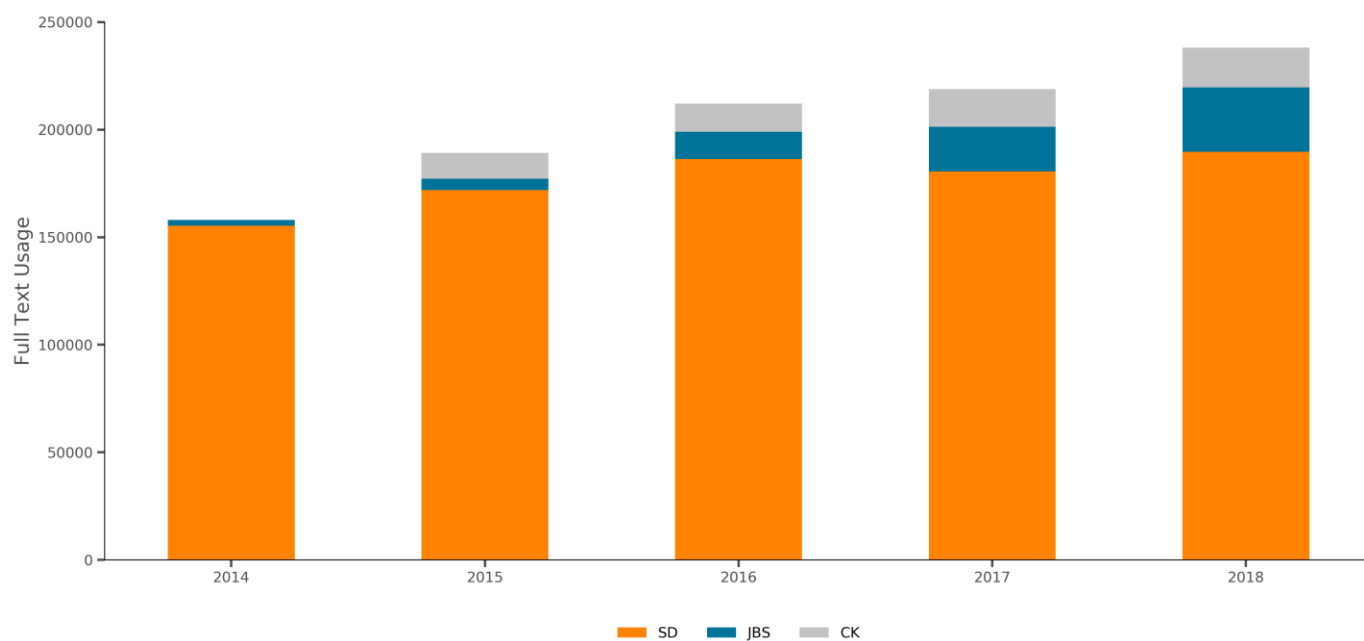
Citations	Citations (lifetime)	Article Title	Authors	Publication Year	Document Type
12	15	A global epidemiological perspective on the toxicology of drug-facilitated sexual assault: A systematic review	Anderson L.J., Flynn A., Pilgrim J.L.	2017	Review
10	19	Postmortem biochemistry: Current applications	Belsey S.L., Flanagan R.J.	2016	Review
8	15	Dental age assessment in a northern Chinese population	Zhai Y., Park H., Han J., Wang H., Ji F., Tao J.	2016	Article
8	10	The applicability of Willems' method for age estimation in southern Turkish children: A preliminary study	Onat Altan H., Altan A., Bilgic F., Akinci Sozer O., Damlar I.	2016	Article
7	7	Chlorpyrifos poisoning and its implications in human fatal cases: A forensic perspective with reference to Indian scenario	Rathod A.L., Garg R.K.	2017	Review
6	6	Distinguishing features of Excited Delirium Syndrome in non-fatal use of force encounters	Baldwin S., Hall C., Bennell C., Blaskovits B., Lawrence C.	2016	Article
6	6	Validation of third molar maturity index (I3M) for discrimination of juvenile/adult status in South Indian population	Balla S.B., Galic I., Karunakar P., Vanin S., De Luca S., Cameriere R.	2017	Article
6	6	Endosulfan poisoning: An overview	Menezes R.G., Qadir T.F., Moin A., Fatima H., Hussain S.A., Madadin M., Pasha S.B., Al Rubaish F.A., Senthilkumaran S.	2017	Review
5	8	Development of a Reference Data Set (RDS) for dental age estimation (DAE) and testing of this with a separate Validation Set (VS) in a southern Chinese population	Jayaraman J., Wong H.M., King N.M., Roberts G.J.	2016	Article
5	5	Carbon monoxide-related fatalities: A 60-year single institution experience	Janik M., Ublova M., Kucerova S., Hejna P.	2017	Article

4.5. Most Cited Articles, 2017 (Published IF Window 2015-2016)

Citations	Citations (lifetime)	Article Title	Authors	Publication Year	Document Type
15	27	Review: Drug concentrations in hair and their relevance in drug facilitated crimes	Xiang P.,Shen M.,Drummer O.H.	2015	Review
9	27	A gas chromatography-mass spectrometry based study on serum metabolomics in rats chronically poisoned with hydrogen sulfide	Deng M.,Zhang M.,Huang X.,Ma J.,Hu L.,Lin G.,Wang X.	2015	Article
8	25	Injuries associated with resuscitation - An overview	Olds K.,Byard R.W.,Langlois N.E.I.	2015	Review
7	19	Postmortem biochemistry: Current applications	Belsey S.L.,Flanagan R.J.	2016	Review
7	10	RNA degradation as described by a mathematical model for postmortem interval determination	Lv Y.-H.,Ma J.-L.,Pan H.,Zhang H.,Li W.-C.,Xue A.-M.,Wang H.-J.,Ma K.-J.,Chen L.	2016	Article
6	9	Evaluation of volumetric changes of teeth in a Brazilian population by using cone beam computed tomography	Porto L.V.M.G.,Celestino Da Silva Neto J.,Anjos Pontual A.D.,Catunda R.Q.	2015	Article
6	21	A new age estimation procedure based on the 3D CBCT study of the pulp cavity and hard tissues of the teeth for forensic purposes: A pilot study	Pinchi V.,Pradella F.,Buti J.,Baldinotti C.,Focardi M.,Norelli G.-A.	2015	Article
6	15	Dental age assessment in a northern Chinese population	Zhai Y.,Park H.,Han J.,Wang H.,Ji F.,Tao J.	2016	Article
5	5	The prevalence of alcohol and psychotropic drugs in fatalities of road-traffic accidents in Jordan during 2008-2014	Al-Abdallat I.M.,Al Ali R.,Hudaib A.A.,Salameh G.A.M.,Salameh R.J.M.,Idhair A.K.F.	2016	Review
5	9	Sudden unexpected death from natural diseases: Fifteen years' experience with 484 cases in Seychelles	Zhao P.,Wang J.-G.,Gao P.,Li X.,Brewer R.	2016	Article

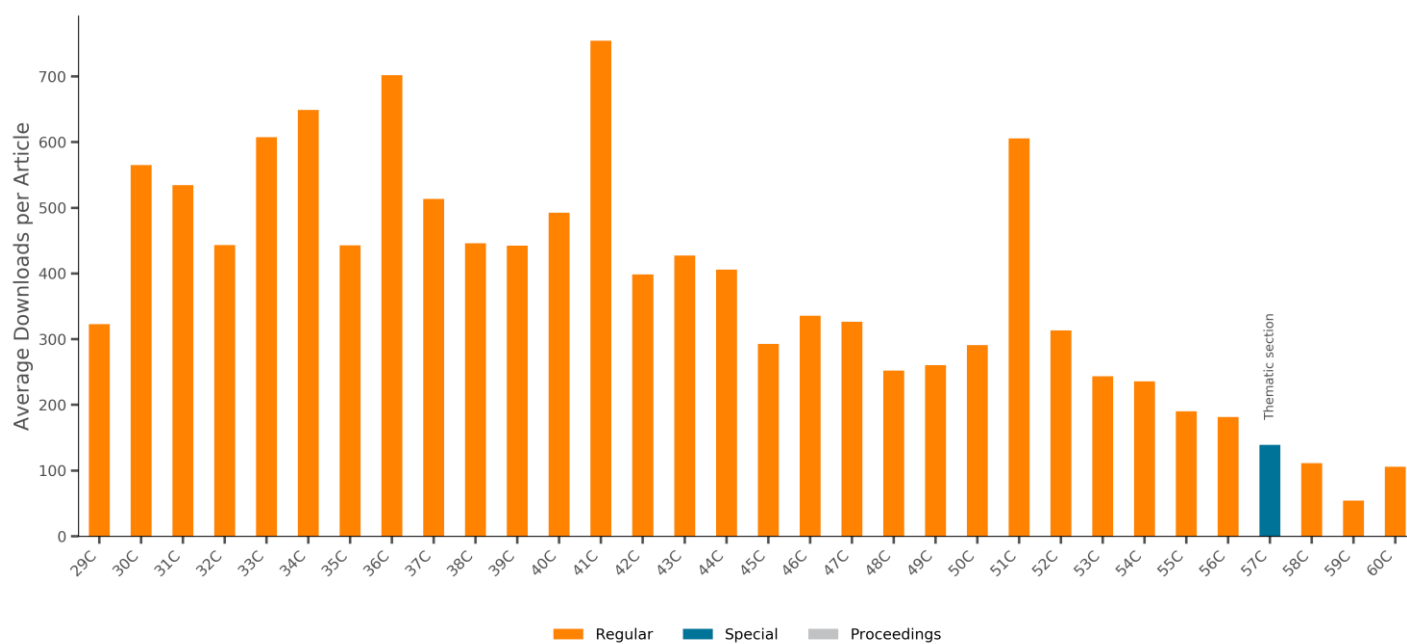
5. Usage

5.1. Full Text Usage per Platform per Year



Type	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
ScienceDirect	155,335	171,977	186,292	180,569	189,750
JFLM.com	2,751	5,236	12,775	20,740	29,952
Clinical Key	0	12,036	13,029	17,497	18,377
Total	158,086	189,249	212,096	218,806	238,079

5.2. Average ScienceDirect Downloads per Vol/Iss



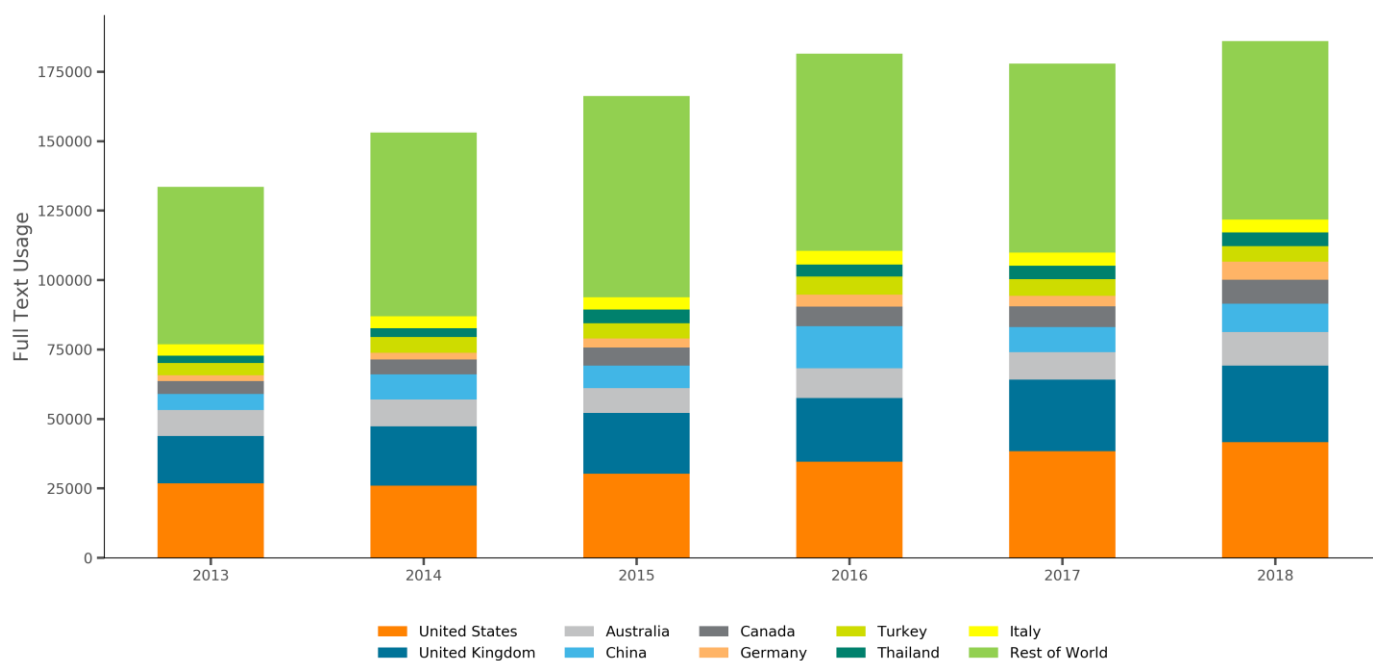
5.3. Most Downloaded Articles From ScienceDirect, 2018 (Published All Time)

Downloads	Downloads (lifetime)	Article Title	Authors	Publication Year	Document Type
2,107	7,706	Similar mechanisms of traumatic rectal injuries in patients who had anal sex with animals to those who were butt-fisted by human sexual partner	Sender D.J.	2017	Article
1,956	6,298	Physical abuse against elderly persons in institutional settings	Frazao S.L.,Correia A.M.,Norton P.,Magalhaes T.	2015	Article
1,612	5,108	The relevance of cytochrome P450 polymorphism in forensic medicine and akathisia-related violence and suicide	Eikelenboom-Schieveld S.J.M.,Lucire Y.,Fogleman J.C.	2016	Article
1,401	1,476	Age estimation approaches using cranial suture closure: A validation study on a Thai population	Ruengdit S.,Prasitwattanaseree S.,Mekjaidee K.,Sinthubua A.,Mahakkanukrauh P.	2018	Article
1,396	3,699	Non-suicidal self-strangulation among adolescents in Saudi Arabia: Case series of the choking game	Albuhairan F.,Almutairi A.,Al Eissa M.,Naeem M.,Almuneef M.	2015	Article
1,101	4,883	Risk factors in child sexual abuse	Davies E.A.,Jones A.C.	2013	Article
1,052	6,273	Men as victims of intimate partner violence	Carmo R.,Grams A.,Magalhaes T.	2011	Article
947	1,299	Accessibility of prison healthcare for elderly inmates, a qualitative assessment	Heidari R.,Wangmo T.,Galli S.,Shaw D.M.,Elger B.S.,Handtkea V.,Bretschneider W.	2017	Article
946	1,226	Non suicidal self-injury, emotional eating and insomnia after child sexual abuse: Are those symptoms related to emotion regulation?	Demirci E.	2018	Article
817	1,442	Prison mental health in-reach teams, serious mental illness and the Care Programme Approach in England	Brooker C.,Webster R.	2017	Article

5.4. Most Downloaded Articles From ScienceDirect, 2017 (Published All Time)

Downloads	Downloads (lifetime)	Article Title	Authors	Publication Year	Document Type
5,428	7,706	Similar mechanisms of traumatic rectal injuries in patients who had anal sex with animals to those who were buffeted by human sexual partner	Sendler D.J.	2017	Article
2,257	6,298	Physical abuse against elderly persons in institutional settings	Frazao S.L.,Correia A.M.,Norton P.,Magalhaes T.	2015	Article
1,466	5,108	The relevance of cytochrome P450 polymorphism in forensic medicine and akathisia-related violence and suicide	Eikelenboom-Schieveld S.J.M.,Lucire Y.,Fogleman J.C.	2016	Article
1,118	6,273	Men as victims of intimate partner violence	Carmo R.,Grams A.,Magalhaes T.	2011	Article
1,090	1,797	Sexual homicide: Brief review of the literature and case report involving rape, genital mutilation and human arson	Karakasi M.-V.,Vasilikos E.,Voultsos P.,Vlachaki A.,Pavlidis P.	2017	Review
960	1,837	A global epidemiological perspective on the toxicology of drug-facilitated sexual assault: A systematic review	Anderson L.J.,Flynn A.,Pilgrim J.L.	2017	Review
956	1,966	Pathways through the criminal justice system for prisoners with acute and serious mental illness	Slade K.,Samele C.,Valmaggia L.,Forrester A.	2016	Article
912	2,803	Postmortem biochemistry: Current applications	Belsey S.L.,Flanagan R.J.	2016	Review
808	4,883	Risk factors in child sexual abuse	Davies E.A.,Jones A.C.	2013	Article
792	1,492	Increased recovery of touch DNA evidence using FTA paper compared to conventional collection methods	Kirgiz I.A.,Calloway C.	2017	Article

5.5. ScienceDirect Usage: Top 10 Countries by Last Year



Countries	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
United States	26,765	26,022	30,320	34,606	38,393	41,664
United Kingdom	17,047	21,309	21,864	22,959	25,776	27,571
Australia	9,372	9,706	8,874	10,642	9,836	12,042
China	5,818	9,026	8,146	15,141	9,102	10,248
Canada	4,619	5,307	6,549	7,073	7,442	8,559
Germany	2,063	2,415	3,193	4,291	3,794	6,564
Turkey	4,449	5,732	5,508	6,577	5,930	5,521
Thailand	2,607	3,145	4,885	4,335	4,901	4,961
Italy	4,184	4,280	4,449	4,883	4,697	4,673
Unknown	4,788	2,175	5,691	6,306	6,093	15,404
Rest of World	56,631	66,212	72,485	71,054	68,093	64,184
Total	138,343	155,329	171,964	187,867	184,057	201,391

5.6. ScienceDirect Usage: Top 5 Countries Last Year (2018)

