

# Most Reputable Demographic Journals

## According to Demographers

Ilya Kashnitsky

Statistics Denmark

2025-05-11

Nordic Demographic Symposium 2025, Middelfart, DK



**Mindel Sheps Award**  
**PAA New Orleans**  
**18 April 2008**  
**J.W. Vaupel**

Thank you. I am deeply honored by the Mindel Sheps Award and profoundly grateful to my P.A.A. friends and colleagues. The Award has previously been given to: Samuel Preston, Robert Schoen, Robert Willis, Robert Pollak, Leslie Kish, Shripad Tuljapurkar, Burton Singer, Joel Cohen, Kenneth Manton, Kenneth Wachter, John Bongaarts, Ronald Lee, Jane Menken, Robert Potter, William Brass, Nathan Keyfitz, and Ansley Coale. This is a distinguished list of outstanding demographers and most of you know most of them.

Demography is an inclusive, outward-looking discipline. Demographers can productively collaborate with sociologists, economists, historians and other social scientists. Demographers can also productively collaborate with epidemiologists, geneticists, ecologists, and evolutionary biologists. The public is interested in demographic facts and findings and demographers speak truth to power at the airy, windy heights of public policy.

Our capability to interact with social scientists, with medical researchers, with evolutionary biologists and with public policymakers stems in large part from the unparalleled data demographers are blessed with. Our ability to make use of these data rests on our mathematical concepts and methods. Mathematical demography is the source of our strength as a discipline. It enables us to develop insightful models and powerful methods. It enables us to prove theorems that are true not just today but forever.

At the heart of mathematical demography is formal demography, the study of how measures of demographic structure and dynamics influence other measures. How does saving lives influence death rates? How does postponement of childbearing alter the number of babies? What is the impact on population dynamics of changes in the composition of a population? Advances in formal demography in recent years have led to deep new understanding of such fundamental questions.

Formal demography is pure demography, the study of how demography affects demography. Formal demography is the quintessence of demography, the champagne of demography, the poetry of demography. It is the wellspring of the spirit of demography. Formal demography is what holds the centripetal field of demography together. Formal demography is why we are a discipline and not just a bunch of things.

The Mindel Sheps Award is a reminder, every other year, of how fundamentally important mathematical demography in general and formal demography in particular are to the discipline of demography, a reminder that we as a profession should be doing even more to foster the kind of research honored by the Sheps Award and exemplified by the work of Mindel Sheps. The Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research will host a reception after the Presidential Address in the Lagniappe room – for friends of mathematical demography.

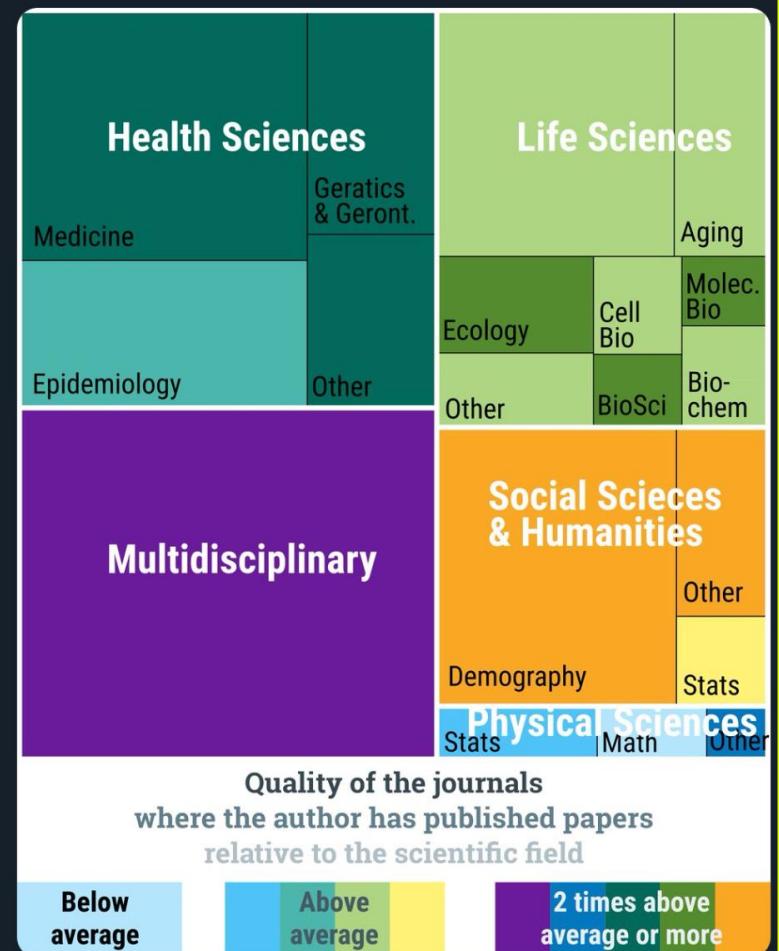
Thank you

Ilya Kashnitsky — bsky @ikashnitsky.phd  
@ikashnitsky

...

I started working with Jim Vaupel in September 2018, we were both excited about the idea to explore closer bibliometrics and see how demographic thinking may apply there.

Here's one figure from that period: the citations to Jim's papers by journals' fields and relative SJR. 1/



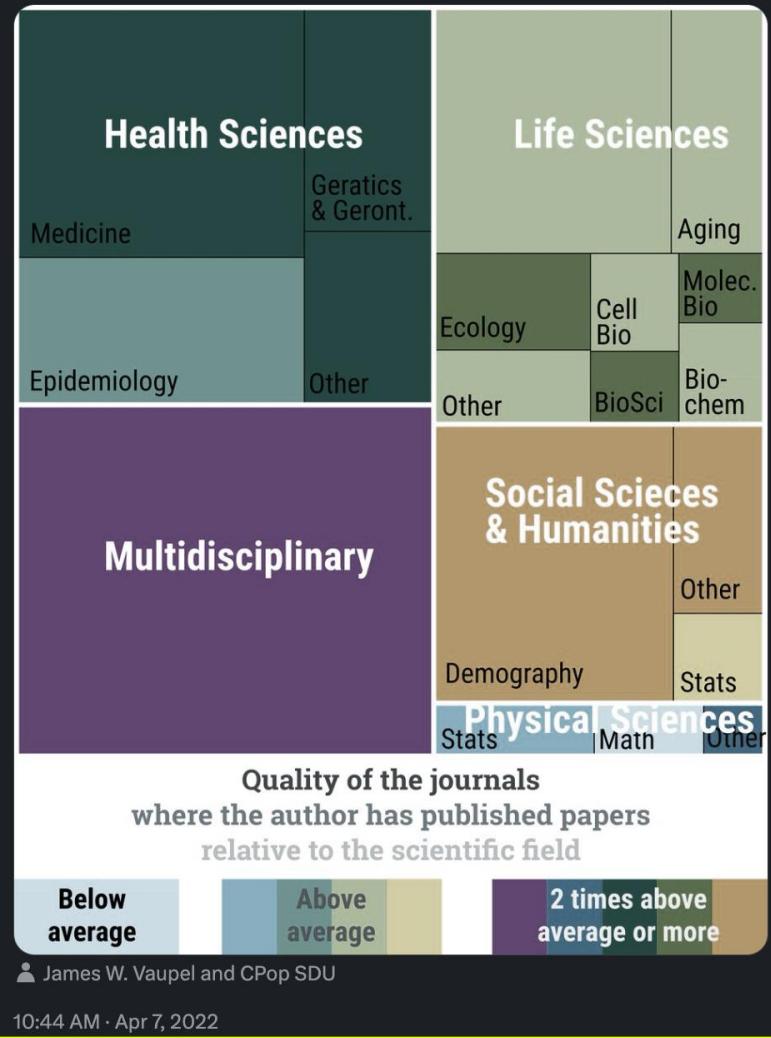
James W. Vaupel and CPop SDU



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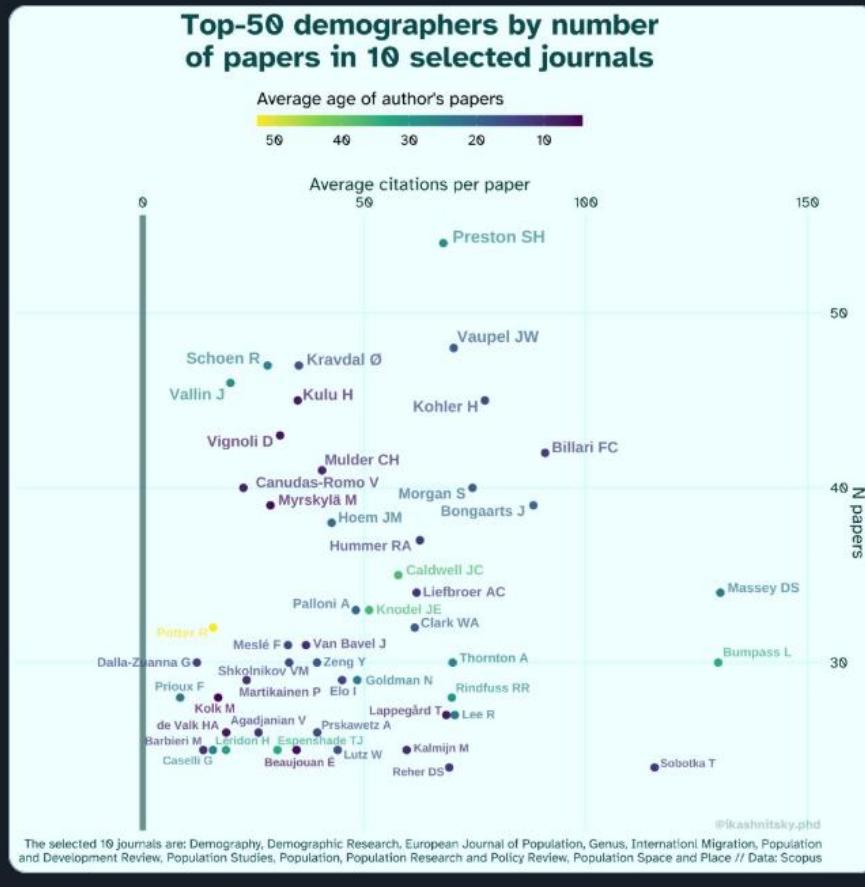


## ✨ Demographic Hall of Fame ✨ (⚠ CORRECTED UPDATE)

Edits: 1) use Scopus author IDs; 2) document types Article, Review, and Conference paper; 3) non-overlapping labels

- Scopus data
- 10 leading demographic journals
- most published authors
- avg citations per paper

#demography #bibliometrics #dataviz

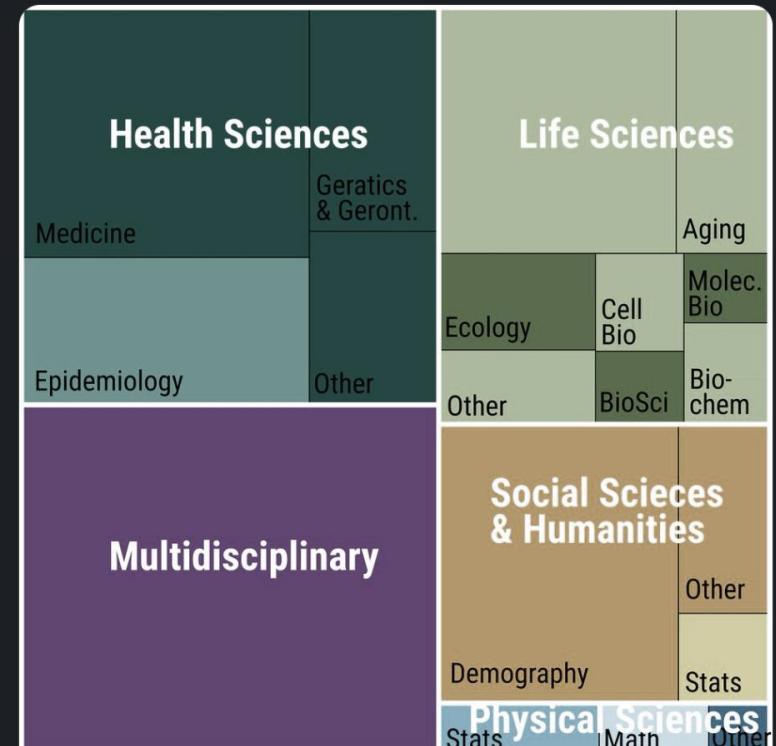




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Quality of the journals  
where the author has published papers  
relative to the scientific field

**Below  
average**

**Above  
average**

**2 times above  
average or more**

James W. Vaupel and CPop SDU

10:44 AM · Apr 7, 2022



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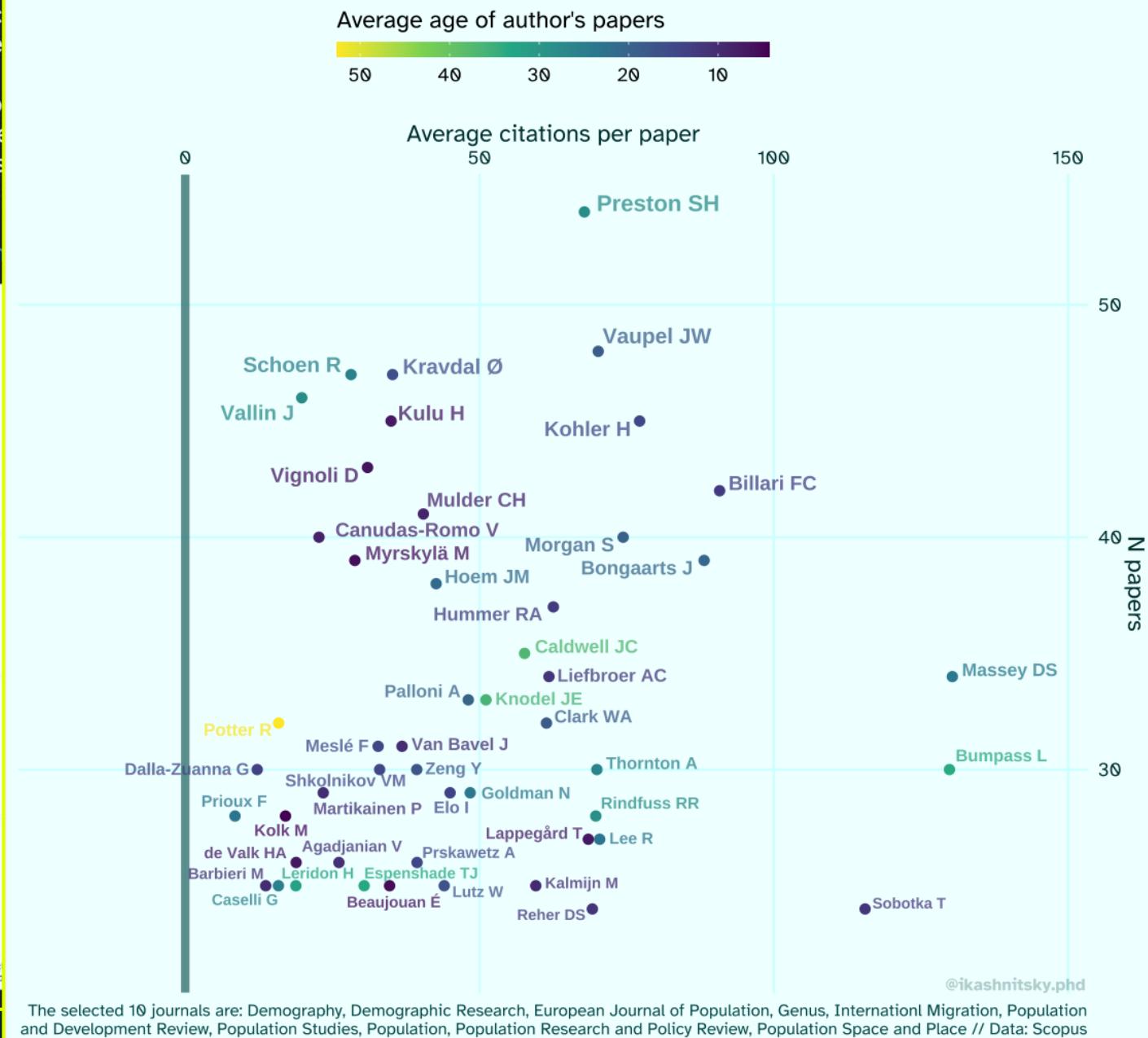
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Review

- Scop
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## Top-50 demographers by number of papers in 10 selected journals



The selected 10 journals are: Demography, Demographic Research, European Journal of Population, Genus, International Migration, Population and Development Review, Population Studies, Population, Population Research and Policy Review, Population Space and Place // Data: Scopus



106

**49 comments · 6 reposts**

The selected 10 journals are: Demography, Demographic Research, European Journal of Population, Genus, International Migration, Population and Development Review, Population Studies, Population, Population Research and Policy Review, Population Space and Place // Data: Scopus



52

**14 comments · 3 reposts**

The selected 10 journals ar  
and Development Review, P

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nl Migration, Population  
and Place // Data: Scopus

The selected 10 journals  
and Dev



10



quickmeme.com

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nl Migration, Population  
and Place // Data: Scopus

ents · 3 reposts

journal	never_cited	total_papers	prop_never_cited
<chr>	<int>	<int>	<dbl>
1 demography	146	3153	0.0463
2 demres	31	1479	0.0210
3 ejp	41	711	0.0577
4 genus	188	630	0.298
5 int-migr	307	2151	0.143
6 pdr	102	965	0.106
7 popst	166	1962	0.0846
8 population	245	1018	0.241
9 prpr	59	1158	0.0509
10 psp	12	972	0.0123

**TABLE 2** Impact of articles in demography journals published in 1990–92

Journal	Percent of articles uncited after <sup>a</sup>		Average citations per article after 5 years <sup>b</sup>	Total number of articles
	2 years	5 years		
1. Population and Development Review	22.7	4.0	7.21 (0.76)	75
2. Population Studies	31.6	5.1	4.81 (0.46)	79
3. Family Planning Perspectives	15.6	5.6	13.98 (1.67)	90
4. Population Bulletin	25.0	8.3	8.50 (2.06)	12
5. Demography	25.8	11.7	7.84 (0.77)	120
6. Studies in Family Planning	40.4	15.2	5.55 (0.69)	99
7. Journal of Population Economics <sup>c</sup>	50.0	28.8	1.85 (0.26)	52
8. International Migration Review	64.7	36.1	2.06 (0.21)	119
9. Social Biology	78.7	42.7	1.29 (0.20)	75
10. Journal of Biosocial Science	73.6	45.0	1.41 (0.18)	140
11. Population Research and Policy Review	68.2	45.5	1.32 (0.29)	44
12. European Journal of Population	73.8	51.2	1.22 (0.28)	41
13. Population and Environment	86.7	51.7	1.20 (0.31)	60
14. International Migration	79.3	51.7	1.06 (0.19)	87
15. Population	80.2	62.2	0.68 (0.10)	172
16. Journal of Family Welfare	91.8	79.4	0.30 (0.07)	97
All demography journals	59.0	36.4	3.54 (0.18)	1,362

<sup>a</sup>Excluding self-citations of all authors involved in the writing of an article.

<sup>b</sup>Standard errors of mean in parentheses.

<sup>c</sup>First indexed by SSCI in 1992. To fill in the missing year 1991, we counted the citations in the 1991 issue of the *Journal of Population Economics* to the relevant demography journals.

total_papers	prop_never_cited
<int>	<dbl>
46	3153 0.0463
31	1479 0.0210
41	711 0.0577
88	630 0.298
07	2151 0.143
02	965 0.106

Dalen, H. P., & Henkens, K. (1999). How Influential Are Demography Journals? *Population and Development Review*, 25(2), 229–251.

# Selected demographic journals

SCImago Journal Rank, 1999-2022, via #rstats {sjrdata}

Demography

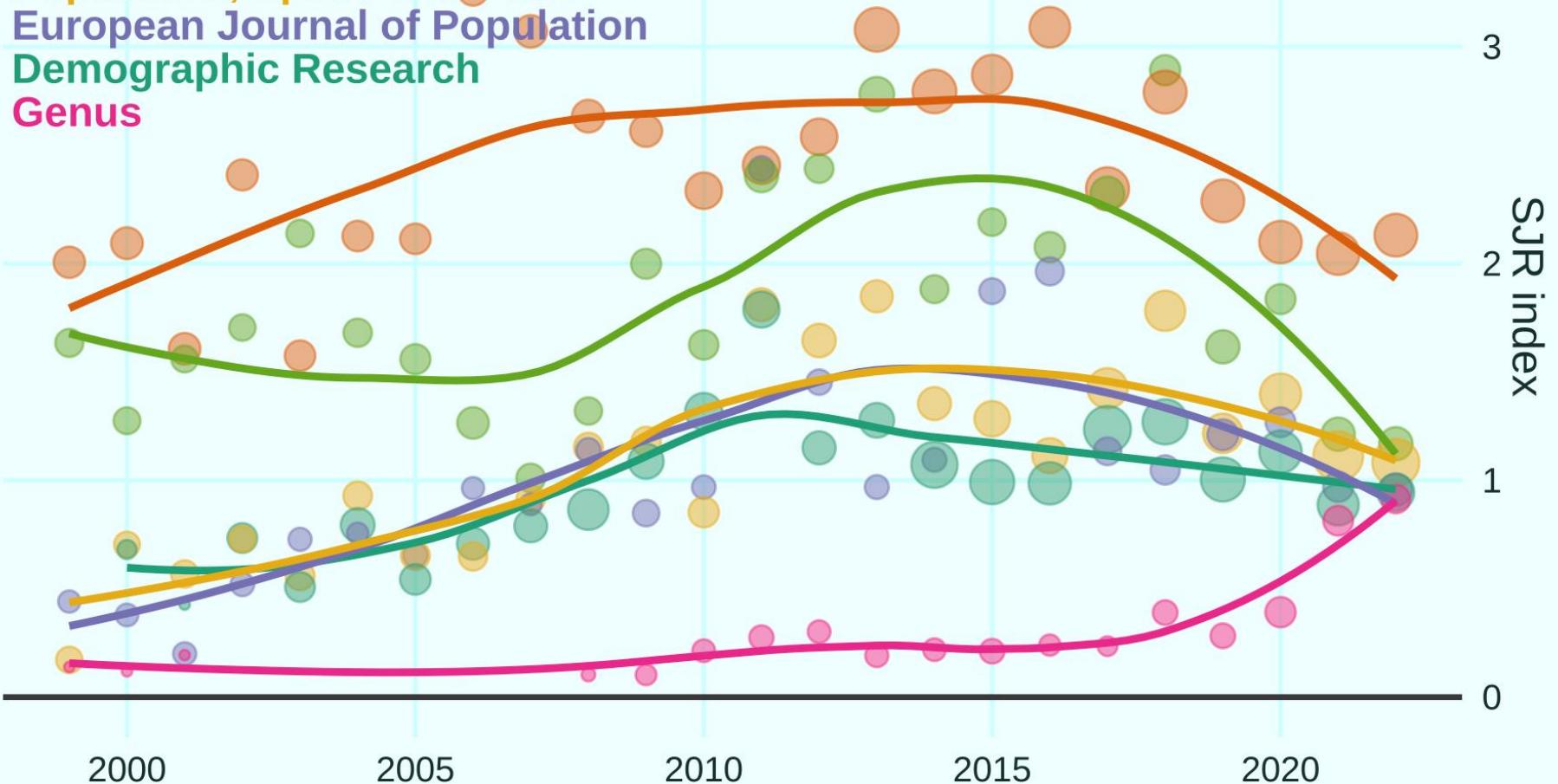
Population and Development Review

Population, Space and Place

European Journal of Population

Demographic Research

Genus



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Display journals with at least 0

Citable Docs. (3years)

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1 - 20 of 143



	Title	Type	SJR	H index	Total Docs. (2020)	Total Docs. (3years)	Total Refs. (2020)	Total Cites (3years)	Citable Docs. (3years)	Cites / Doc. (2years)	Ref. / Doc. (2020)	%Female (2020)
1	<a href="#">Developmental Psychology</a>	journal	2.318 Q1	256	186	588	10371	2436	587	3.33	55.76	66.67
2	<a href="#">European Union Politics</a>	journal	2.241 Q1	79	34	97	1735	301	95	2.45	51.03	24.24
3	<a href="#">Demography</a>	journal	2.099 Q1	158	96	297	5897	1161	295	3.58	61.43	45.87

Only Open Access Journals  Only SciELO Journals  Only WoS Journals



Display journals with at least 0

Citable Docs. (3years)

Apply

Download data

1 - 20 of 137



	Title	Type	SJR	H index	Total Docs. (2024)	Total Docs. (3years)	Total Refs. (2024)	Total Cites (3years)	Citable Docs. (3years)	Cites / Doc. (2years)	Ref. / Doc. (2024)	%Female (2024)
1	<a href="#">Demography</a>	journal	2.363 Q1	158	92	275	1605	1201	275	3.69	17.45	52.32
2	<a href="#">Journal of Population Economics</a>	journal	1.805 Q1	91	77	185	4526	908	185	3.20	58.78	41.52
3	<a href="#">Comparative Migration Studies</a>	journal	1.693 Q1	39	59	135	3921	815	124	3.88	66.46	55.56
4	<a href="#">European Union Politics</a>	journal	1.683 Q1	79	48	111	2922	454	109	3.71	60.88	41.18
5	<a href="#">Race Ethnicity and Education</a>	journal	1.681 Q1	72	96	173	5810	771	171	4.16	60.52	71.20

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# European Union Politics

X:\ikx\2025\2506-

**COUNTRY**[United Kingdom](#) Universities and research institutions in United Kingdom Media Ranking in United Kingdom**SUBJECT AREA AND CATEGORY**[Social Sciences](#)

- Demography
- Health (social science)
- Political Science and International Relations

**PUBLISHER**[SAGE Publications Ltd](#)**SJR 2024****1.683** Q1**PUBLICATION TYPE**

Journals

**ISSN**

14651165, 17412757

# most reputable **DEMOGRAPHIC** journals

Please list **7 (seven)** best **DEMOGRAPHIC** journals, according to your *subjective professionally informed* feeling/opinion/judgement.

This small study is designed to figure out which **demographic journals** are most valued by **demographers**. For this reason it is **not anonymous**. Your email, name, and surname are required fields – the aim is to identify respondents as demographers, defined here as researchers who authored or authored at least 2 papers in best demographic journals, and with at least one of the papers being first-authored.

If you got an invitation link via email, that means that your email was sourced from a published paper's corresponding author (please, mention the same email in the form here). If you followed a link from newsletter or a social media post to land here, please pay attention to provide an **email** that you used in one of the publications in demographic journals, even if that email is not active now. Initially I wanted to just email published demographers, but emails tend to change and die. So I decided to widen the pool of respondents as much as possible. Yet, I am going to check if the respondents published in demographic journals, and am going to use only verified answers.

Thank you for your help in my bibliometric study of demographic literature,  
Ilya Kashnitsky

PhD in Demography  
Assistant Professor at CPop SDU  
[@ikashnitsky](mailto:ikashnitsky.phd)

## most reputable **DEMOGRAPHIC** journals

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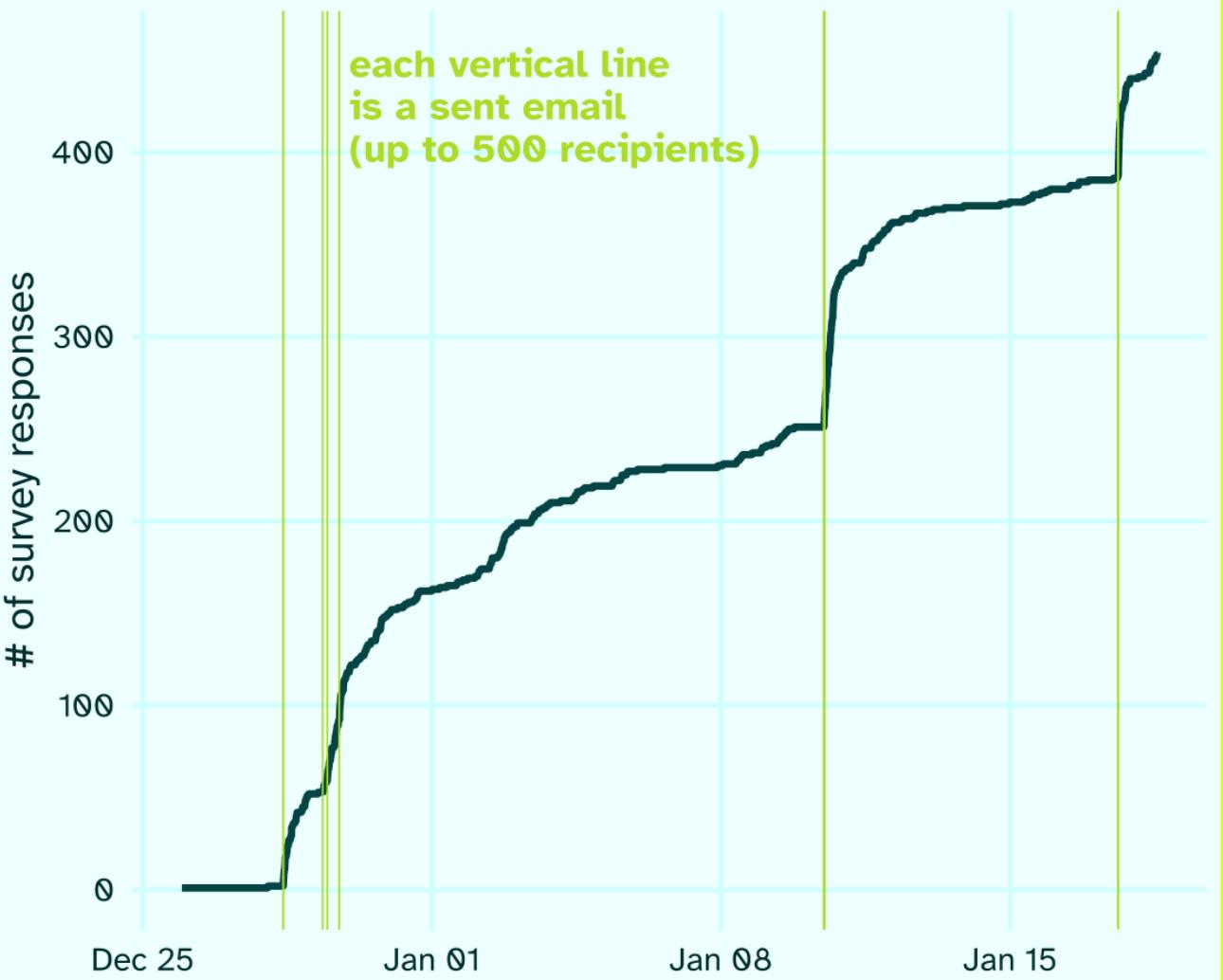
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PHD in Demography

Assistant Professor at CPop SDU

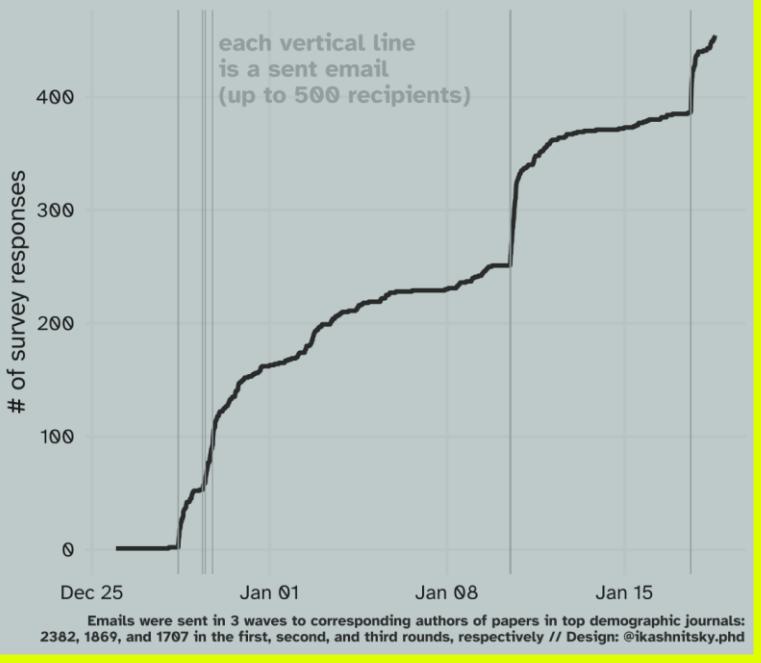
[ikashnitsky.phd @ikashnitsky](mailto:ikashnitsky.phd@ikashnitsky)

# Timing of responses to Demographic journals' reputation survey



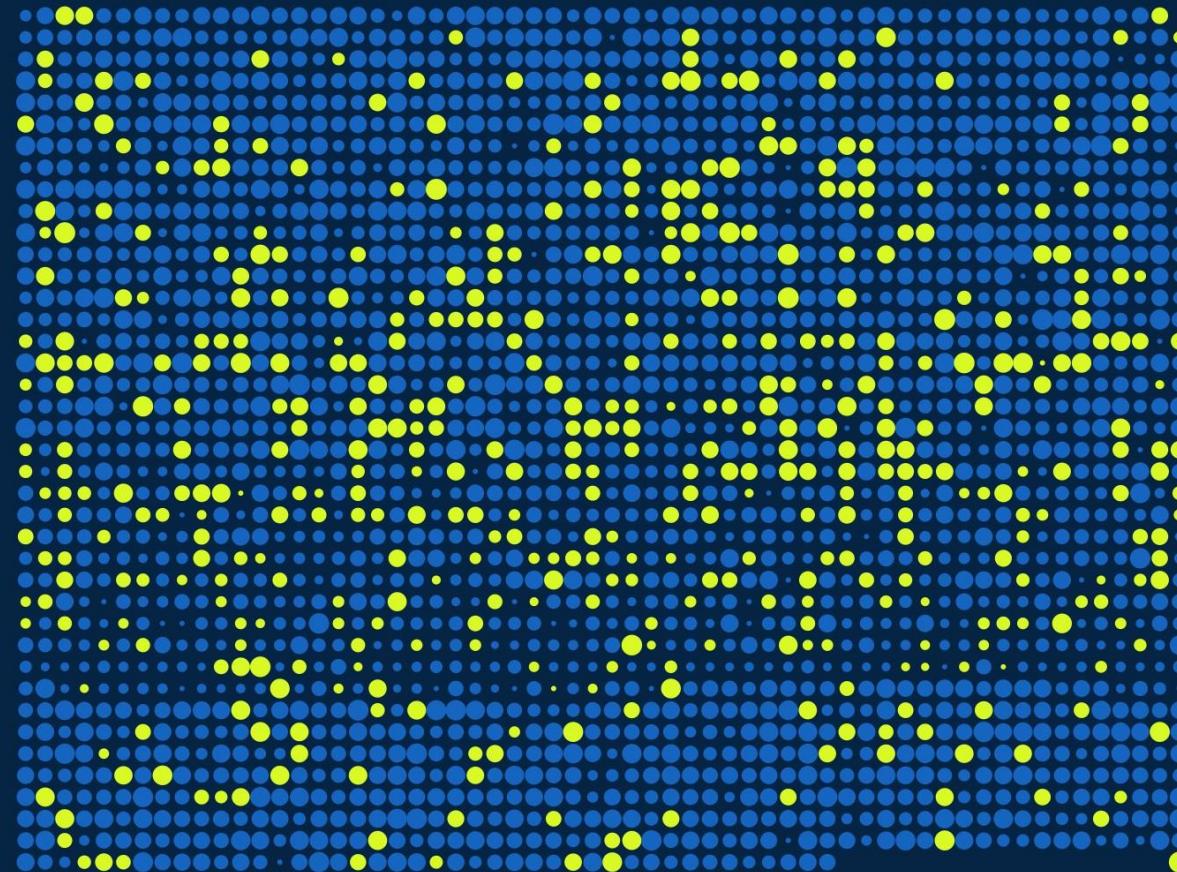
Emails were sent in 3 waves to corresponding authors of papers in top demographic journals:  
2382, 1869, and 1707 in the first, second, and third rounds, respectively // Design: @ikashnitsky.phd

## Timing of responses to Demographic journals' reputation survey



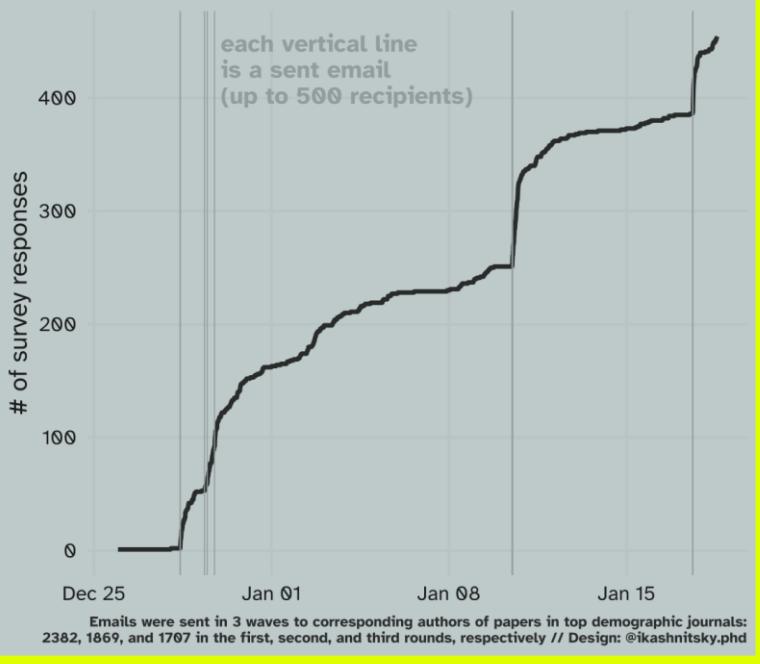
# FAILED DELIVERY

Your email sent to the corresponding author of an academic paper has a solid chance of not reaching them



Data: Corresponding author's emails of the 2382 researchers who published at least 2 papers, of which at least one first-authored, in 20 selected demographic journals in the last 10 years; in each case the email was sent to the corresponding address of the most recent paper, in which the researcher was the first author; failed delivery amounted to 19.5%; dots are sized by the average age of the author's papers // Design: @ikashnitsky.phd

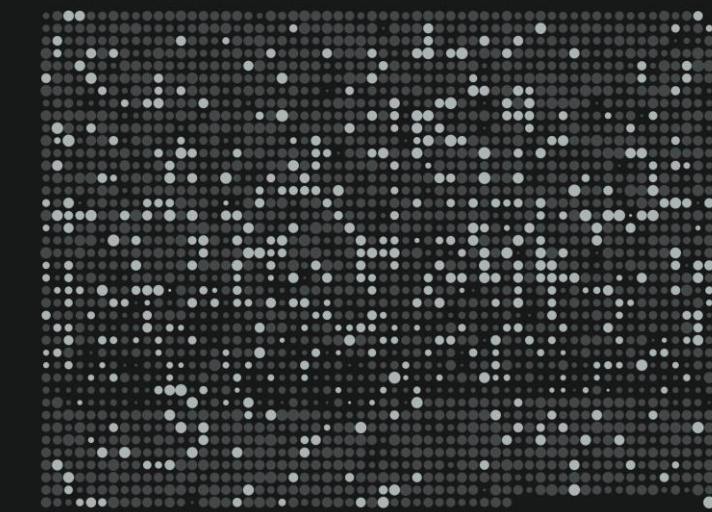
## Timing of responses to Demographic journals' reputation survey



journal
2 Population Space and Place
12 Population Place and Space
17 Population Space and place
23 population space and place
29 Population space and place
34 Population, Space and Place
49 Population, space and place
55 Population, space & Place
60 Population, Space, and Place
93 Population, place and Space
99 Population, Place and Space
143 Espace populations sociétés
152 Population, Space, Pace
176 Population, Space & Place
189 Population Space & Place
202 Population, space, and place
203 Pop space place
247 Population, Space and Places
267 Population, place and space
278 population, space and place
290 Population space and Place
300 population, space, and place

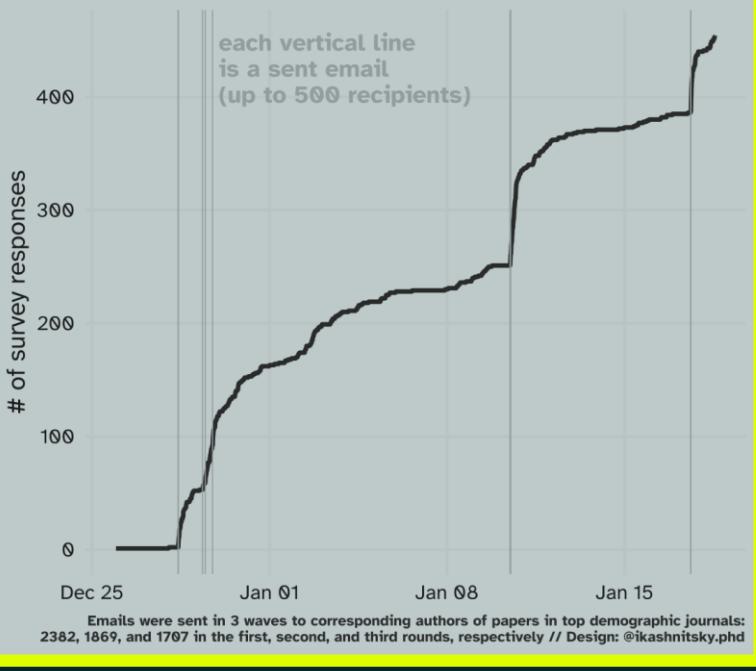
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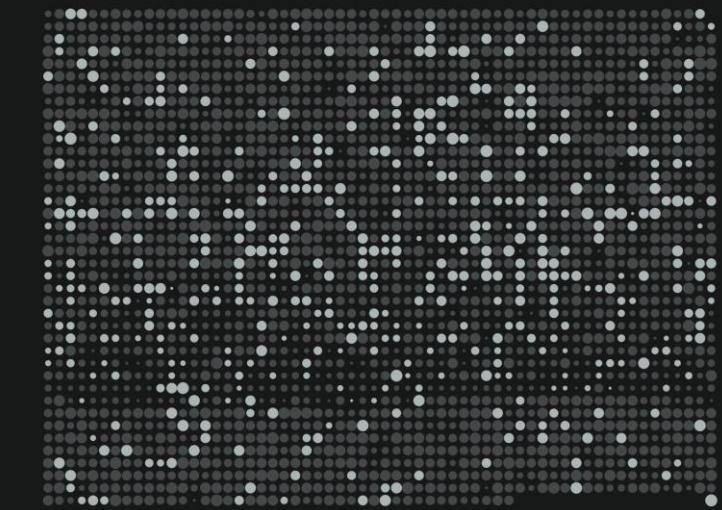
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267 Population, place and space
278 population, space and place
290 Population space and Place
300 population, space, and place

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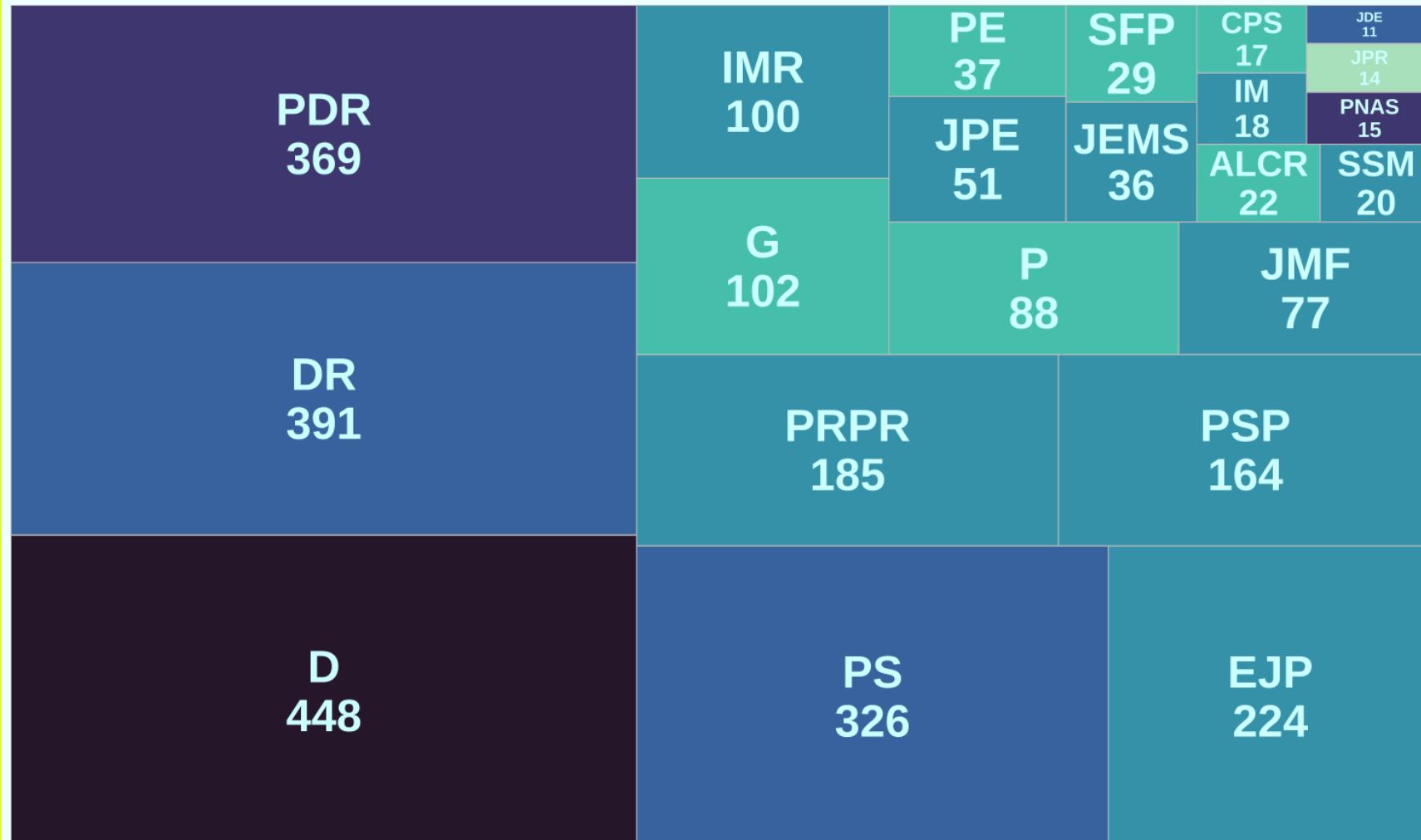
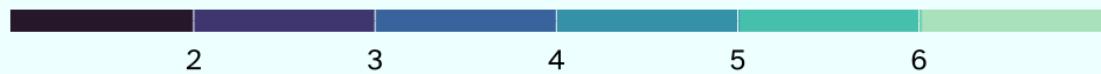


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**Thanks to: Ben Wilson, Hal Caswell, Philip Cohen, Edith Gray, Eleonra Mussino, Sven Drefahl, Martin Kahalec, Kenneth Hill, Lili Vargha, Ron Lesthaeghe, Jeroen Skijker, Harry Dalen, Ugofilippo Basellini, Tom Thile, Charles Rahal**

# Demographic journals' reputation survey

Average position of the journal among 7 response slots

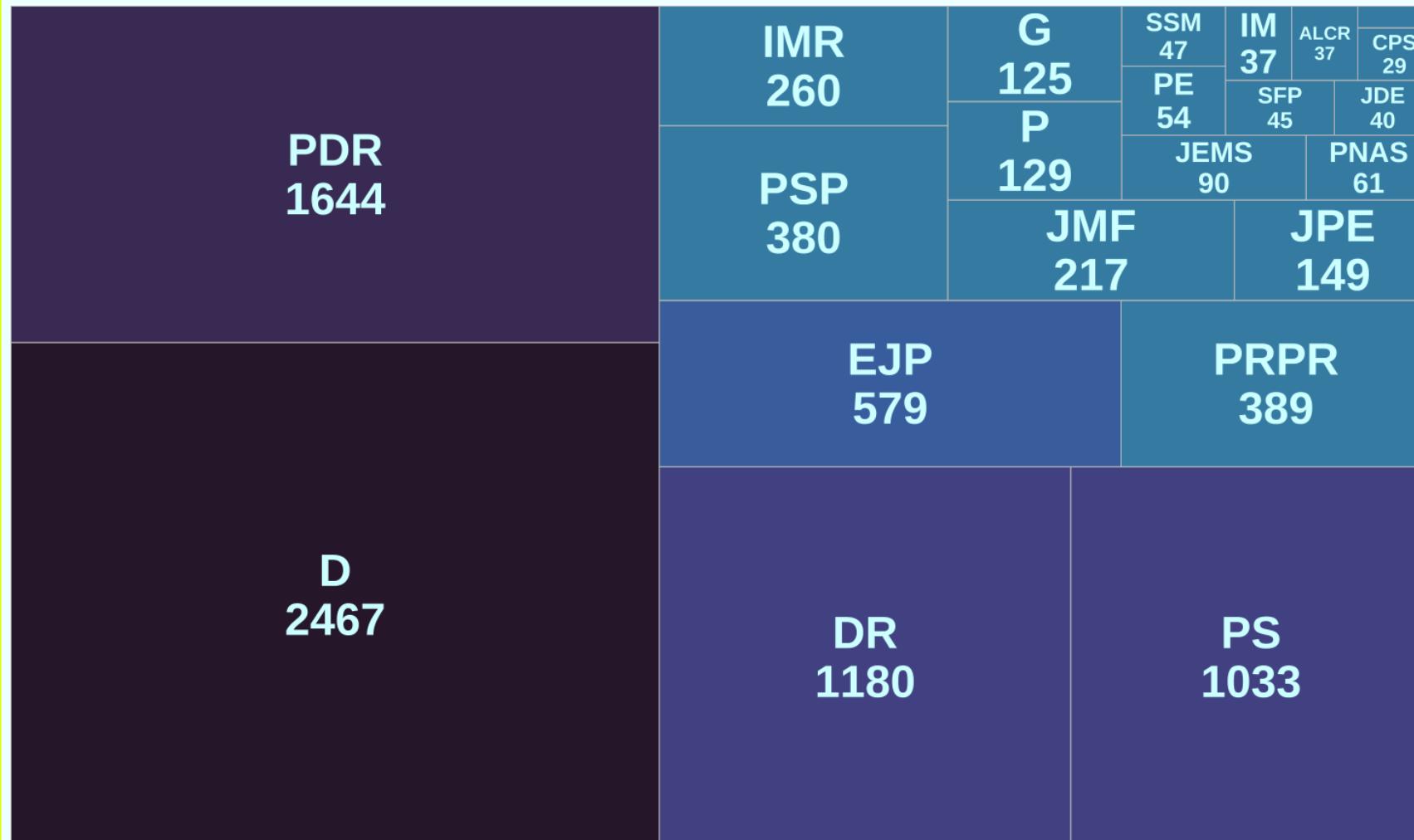


# Demographic journals' reputation -- WEIGHTED

Composite score: # mentions weighted by position

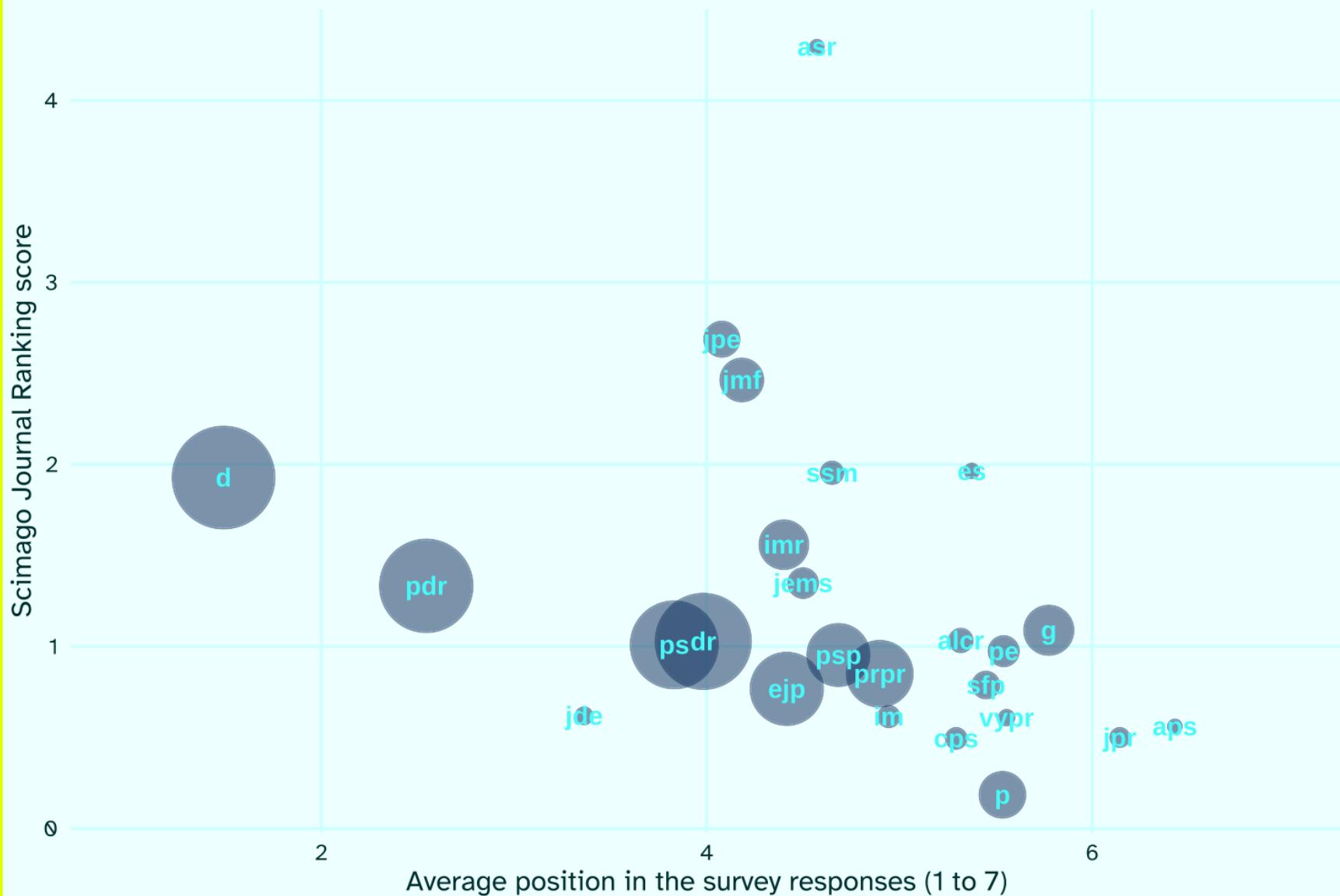


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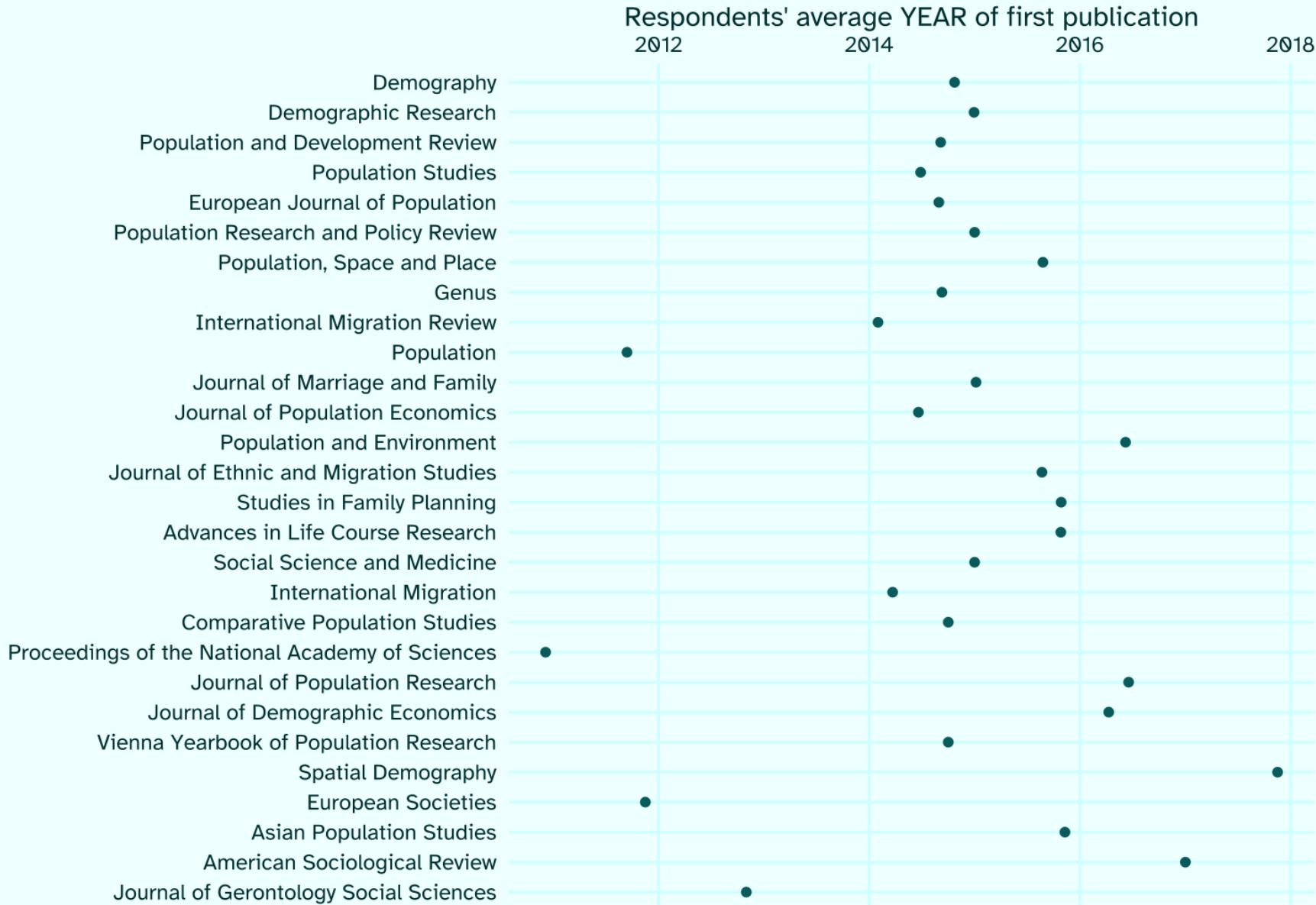


# Survey position vs SJR

Dots are scaled by the # of mentions



# Do preferences change?



# Thank you!

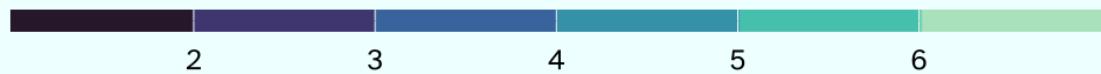
*Ilya Kashnitsky*

**ikx@dst.dk**

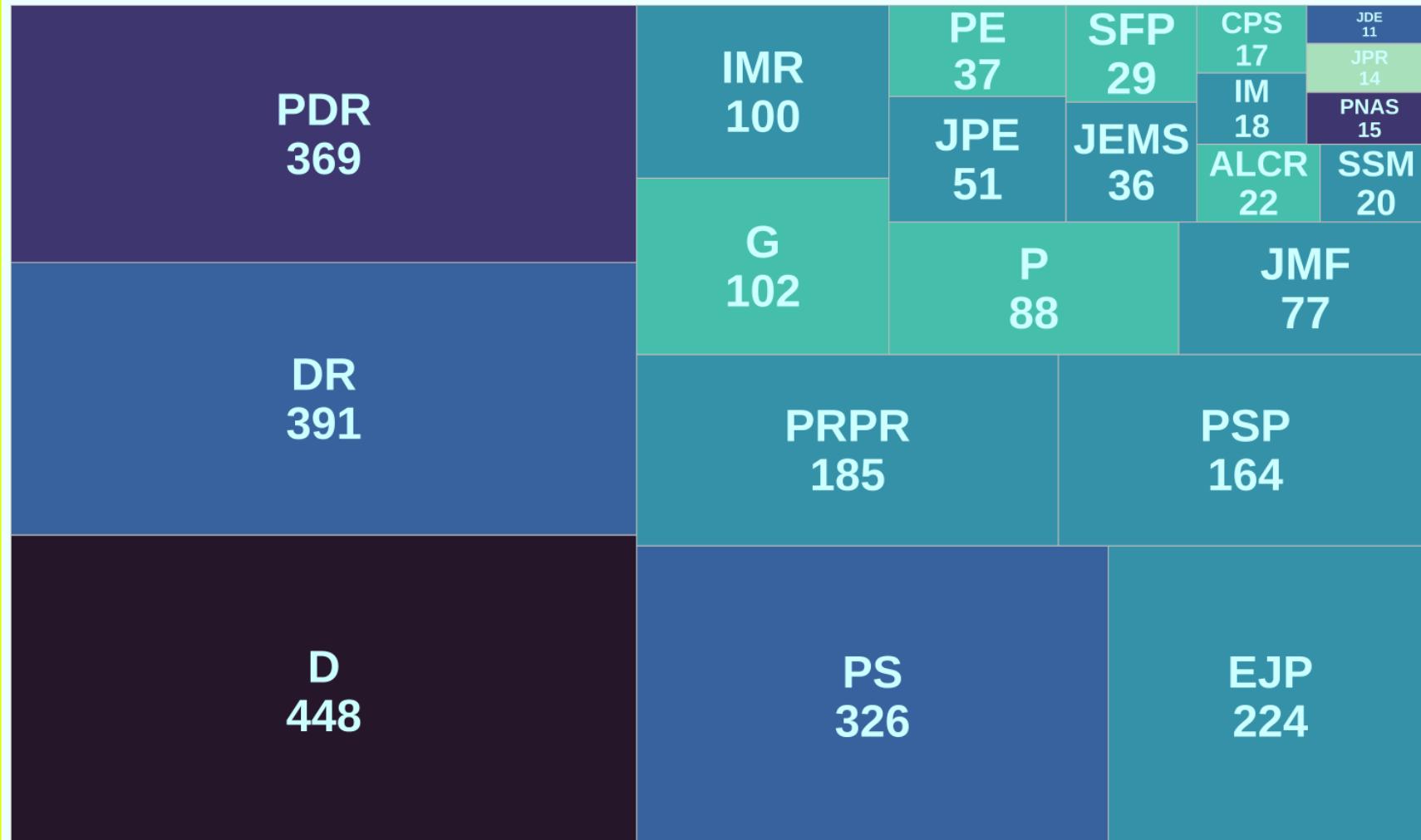
**@ikashnitsky.phd**

# Demographic journals' reputation survey

Average position of the journal among 7 response slots



2 3 4 5 6 7



Matt Hauer @theHauer · Mar 31, 2021



ONE DOES NOT SIMPLY  
REPORT THE MORTALITY RATE

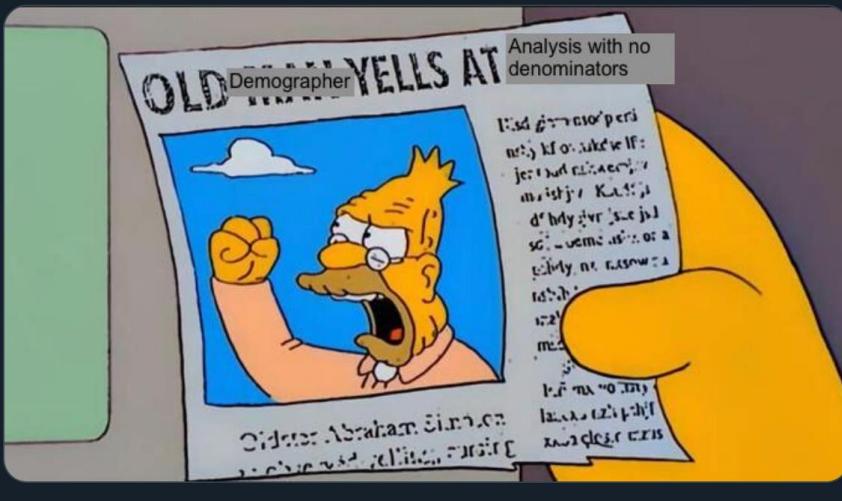
WITHOUT CONTROLLING FOR AGE STRUCTURE

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Monica Alexander  
@monjalexander

The mood this morning



2:59 PM · Feb 14, 2022



Matt Hauer  
@theHauer

Overall COVID mortality data  
Age-specific COVID mortality data



Demographers

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8:10 PM · Mar 15, 2020



Ilya Kashnitsky @ikashnitsky · Oct 16, 2021

YES!



WEIGHT BY POPULATION



memography

capturing and giggling Population Processes

Blackwell Publishing

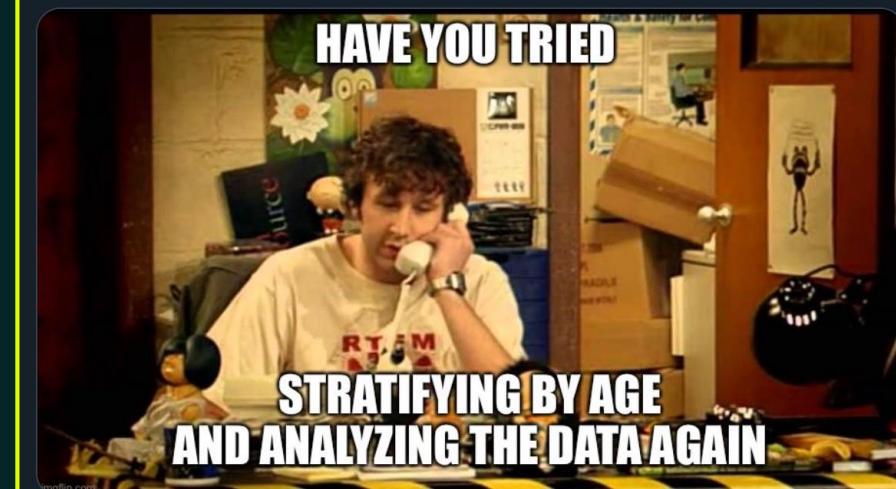


Ilya Kashnitsky @ikashnitsky · Oct 31, 2021



Monica Alexander  
@monjalexander

Demographers:



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