

1994
ANNUAL STATISTICS
THE PHYSICAL REVIEW
and
PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

In 1994, the number of manuscripts submitted to *Physical Review* and *Physical Review Letters* increased significantly, as it has every year for more than a decade; total submissions for the year were more than 20,100, representing an increase of more than 9% over 1993, and of nearly 118% since 1984. For every month, 1994 receipts were greater than in past years (see Figure 1; this figure also displays the usual seasonal fluctuations in submissions). Published pages increased by more than 6% over 1993. The pattern of growth over the past 30 years is shown in Figure 2.

Reflecting the international nature of physics and of the *Physical Review* journals, manuscript submissions from outside the US, which have been more than those from within the US since 1989, continued to grow, not just absolutely but as a fraction of total submissions. They constituted 66% of the submissions in 1994 (see Figure 3).

To deal with the submitted manuscripts, 48,280 referrals to referees were made in 1994. Continuing efforts to expand the referee pool to deal with the increasing number of manuscripts resulted in the number of available referees in our database growing by 7%, to a total of more than 20,900.

Manuscript submissions by electronic mail increased by 31%, to a total of 7058 (40% of receipts). The number of articles published as compuscripts (using authors' \LaTeX /REV \TeX files in the composition process) more than doubled, and constituted 40% of the text pages in the journals (see Figure 4).

Detailed statistics relating to the journals are given in Tables I-VIII.

TABLE I. Numbers of articles and of “short papers” received and published by *Physical Review* 1969–1994. “Short papers” include Brief Reports, Comments, and Rapid Communications in 1981–1994; they include Comments and Addenda in 1969–1980.

	Articles		Short Papers		Total	
	Received	Published	Received	Published	Received	Published
1994	10443	7575	3549	2423	13992	9998
1993	9371	7040	3334	2394	12705	9434
1992	8472	6043	3150	2208	11622	8251
1991	7652	5439	2912	2076	10564	7515
1990	7118	5162	2761	1894	9879	7056
1989	6590	5210	2744	2129	9334	7339
1988	6217	4776	2582	1994	8799	6770
1987	5840	4211	2623	1890	8463	6101
1986	5264	3932	2096	1693	7360	5625
1985	4697	3566	1993	1554	6690	5120
1984	4309	3154	1810	1364	6119	4518
1983	4023	3142	1556	1216	5579	4358
1982	3770	3052	1455	1160	5225	4212
1981	3936	3129	1463	807	5399	3936
1980	4043	3009	528	403	4571	3412
1979	3855	2945	588	396	4443	3341
1978	3784	3107	488	431	4272	3538
1977	4003	3009	555	440	4558	3449
1976	3913	2905	600	455	4513	3360
1975	3948	2951	595	441	4543	3392
1974	3754	2951	570	520	4324	3471
1973	3838	3249	625	505	4463	3754
1972	3899	2915	615	394	4514	3309
1971	3730	2862	482	394	4212	3256
1970	3640	2926	443	330	4083	3256
1969	3755	3084	298	110	4053	3194

TABLE II. Numbers of articles and of short papers received and published by individual *Physical Review* journals in 1994.

	Articles		Short Papers		No. Pages	% Pages
	Received	Published	Received	Published	Published	Published
A	1551	1054	411	280	10478	13.6
B1	2283	1746	927	654	17125	22.2
B15	2339	1841	988	679	18194	23.6
C	725	602	284	227	6457	8.4
D1	812	598	209	142	6773	8.8
D15	1110	657	228	106	7054	9.2
E	1623	1077	502	335	10997	14.3
Total	10443	7575	3549	2423	77078	

TABLE III. Papers received by the short-papers section of *Physical Review* in 1994.

	Direct Submissions			Transfers from PRL		
	Brief Reports	Comments	Rapid Communications	Brief Reports	Comments	Rapid Communications
A	124	32	168	19	0	68
B1	193	53	437	43	0	201
B15	223	41	497	40	0	187
C	109	23	105	10	0	37
D1	104	10	67	11	0	17
D15	90	18	84	12	0	24
E	133	30	216	34	0	89
Total	976	207	1574	169	0	623

TABLE IV. Fraction of papers not published (which includes those rejected, withdrawn, recommended for publication elsewhere, etc.) by the *Physical Review* journals for 1985-1993. Many papers submitted in 1994 are still active; hence the numbers for that year are still incomplete and are not listed.

	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
A/A1	20.1	21.0	21.3	21.1	20.7	24.6	23.7	25.0	26.2
A15/E							25.6	24.5	22.9
B1	14.1	17.1	14.5	18.7	20.4	20.0	24.0	22.9	24.4
B15	15.0	16.7	15.9	16.2	17.6	22.4	20.9	20.5	22.2
C	15.7	14.6	15.1	17.8	17.0	20.1	18.0	21.3	17.9
D1	26.7	23.6	29.6	25.7	25.1	26.4	24.8	23.4	22.6
D15	34.7	36.8	41.8	42.4	40.4	39.2	43.4	38.4	39.9
Average	19.6	20.6	20.6	21.4	21.8	24.0	24.4	24.2	24.8

TABLE V. Distribution of receipts among the *Physical Review* journals 1970–1994. Note that in 1993 *Physical Review A1* became *Physical Review A*, and *A15* became *E*.

Total Number of Articles and BCR or CA Received											
	A1	A	A15	B1	B15	C	D1	D	D15	E	Total
1994		1962		3210	3327	1009	1021		1338	2125	13992
1993		1797		3030	2928	995	970		1244	1741	12705
1992	1651		1518	2818	2760	911	835		1129		11622
1991	1533		1294	2693	2619	843	645		937		10564
1990	1520		1131	2460	2427	812	622		907		9879
1989		2352		2144	2348	897	662		931		9334
1988		2052		2109	2335	826	575		902		8799
1987		2006		1825	2200	880	602		950		8463
1986		1772		1271	2069	752	592		904		7360
1985		1488		1227	1814	754	572		835		6690
1984		1356		1147	1555	714	587		760		6119
1983		1242		964	1446	752	495		680		5579
1982		1154		883	1287	761	534		606		5225
1981		1125		875	1287	799	599		714		5399
1980		933		758	1013	718	507		642		4571
1979		828		705	995	730	540		645		4443
1978		799		682	906	678	535		672		4272
1977		827		702	940	741	686		662		4558
1976		873		728	963	671	618		660		4513
1975		796		794	953	738	607		655		4543
1974		854		674	884	738	545		629		4324
1973		934		654	954	674	622		625		4463
1972		793		717	988	713		1303			4514
1971		819		648	897	601		1247			4212
1970		790		604	866	603		1220			4083

TABLE VI. *Physical Review Letters* statistics. “Annual page total” does not include the index. Relevant historical notes:

Rapid Communications instituted 1 January 1981.

Changed acceptance criteria in force 1 January 1982.

Top-of-page makeup began 28 March 1983. Relaxation of 3.5 page limit to four pages follows (14% increase).

New page size introduced 7 January 1985 (12% increase). (Net size increase is 28%; new length plus new page size.)

1989–1990 Review Panel for PRL Report, August 1991; implementation 1992.

	Annual	Total	Manuscripts		Published Errata
	Page Total	Manuscripts Received	Published/Received Letters	Comments	
1977	3218	2258	950/2258	--	76
1978	3550	2244	1034/2244	--	86
1979	3771*	2438	1075/2438	--	98
1980	3862	2498	1090/2498	--	101
1981	3617	2395	984/2252	48/143	64
1982	3779	2421	1017/2250	96/171	65
1983	4542	2902	1149/2702	101/200	79
1984	4950*	3116	1240/2864	115/252	91
1985	5697*	3405	1440/3143	164/262†	90
1986	6186	3774	1525/3455	198/319†	106
1987	5841	4110	1442/3787	191/323†	98
1988	5784	4131	1391/3831	232/300†	96
1989	5957	4200	1449/3844	230/356†	103
1990	6662*	4483	1599/4136	199/347†	76
1991	7195	5035	1760/4706	171/329†	70
1992	7780	5466	1909/5102	189/364†	61
1993	8565	5807	2088/5515	176/292‡	81
1994		6188	1871/5900	218/288‡	68

* 53 issues in these years (52 in other years).

† Only published Reply Comments counted as “Manuscripts Received”, starting 1 July 1985.

‡ Reply Comments are not counted as “Manuscripts Received”, starting 1 January 1993.

TABLE VII. *Physical Review Letters* statistics by subject areas 1987–1994. Comments are not included. The data refers to manuscripts received in the specified year and how many of them were subsequently published, in that year or later. The subject areas are the ones defined by PACS, not by the organization of the journal’s Table of Contents (since that organization has varied in this time period).

PACS	published (% accept. rate) receipts for yr (% total receipts)			Letters only (Comments not included)				
	1987*	1988	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994†
General	105(30)	142(31)	124(26)	124(25)	137(25)	170(27)	185(28)	175(21)
Physics	351(9)	457(12)	482(13)	491(12)	549(12)	637(13)	671(12)	845(14)
Elementary	178(46)	156(46)	168(41)	155(42)	152(39)	155(41)	157(37)	125(33)
Particles	389(10)	341(9)	407(11)	365(9)	389(8)	375(7)	427(8)	375(6)
Nuclear	96(41)	106(44)	81(38)	96(44)	110(46)	108(44)	104(41)	124(41)
Physics	236(6)	242(6)	213(6)	218(5)	237(5)	248(5)	251(5)	305(5)
Atomic & Molecular	118(50)	119(46)	115(47)	103(47)	138(49)	132(43)	167(48)	143(41)
	238(6)	261(7)	246(6)	219(5)	281(6)	306(6)	351(6)	349(6)
Optics & Fluids	105(44)	121(39)	119(43)	157(44)	163(42)	166(40)	204(42)	141(32)
	241(6)	307(8)	279(7)	353(8)	386(8)	419(8)	489(9)	444(8)
Plasma	83(45)	87(48)	63(42)	82(46)	79(46)	94(48)	98(45)	92(40)
Physics	186(5)	181(5)	149(4)	178(4)	171(4)	195(4)	217(4)	232(4)
Condensed Matter	309(44)	300(45)	290(43)	343(45)	406(46)	420(43)	455(45)	397(37)
Structure	699(18)	663(17)	680(18)	760(18)	879(19)	985(19)	1011(18)	1064(18)
Condensed Matter	372(30)	360(30)	438(38)	513(39)	580(38)	623(38)	657(37)	552(30)
Electronic	1250(33)	1189(31)	1167(30)	1302(31)	1535(33)	1650(32)	1755(32)	1866(32)
Cross	30(33)	37(39)	38(29)	59(50)	71(43)	48(32)	93(44)	84(33)
Disciplinary	92(2)	96(3)	124(3)	119(3)	166(4)	150(3)	210(4)	251(4)
Astrophysics & Geophysics	41(39)	46(50)	42(45)	44(34)	43(38)	47(36)	38(30)	49(31)
	105(3)	92(2)	93(2)	129(3)	112(2)	130(3)	126(2)	157(3)
TOTAL	1437(38)	1474(38)	1478(38)	1676(40)	1879(40)	1963(39)	2158(39)	1882(32)
	3787	3829	3840	4134	4705	5095	5508	5888

* In 1987 high- T_c superconductivity was discovered. As a result the submissions to the Condensed Matter Electronic Structure section increased. The PRL acceptance rate dropped since most sent their high- T_c papers to PRL and a higher number than usual were transferred to PR to be published. If all papers in this section are ignored, then the PRL acceptance rate is 42% for 1987 and 1988, and 39% for 1989.

† The data for papers published (and acceptance rate) are not complete; some papers submitted in 1994 may yet be published.

TABLE VIII. Subscription data for the end of the subscription years in 1994. The numbers in parentheses show the changes from the previous year.

	Member	Student	Nonmember	Total
A	612(- 97)	11(- 3)	1804(- 41)	2427(- 141)
B1	608(-103)	12(- 2)	1908(- 95)	2528(- 200)
B15	667(- 75)	14(- 1)	1908(- 95)	2589(- 171)
C	537(- 96)	7(0)	1356(- 57)	1900(- 153)
D1	613(- 97)	14(- 5)	1457(- 44)	2084(- 146)
D15	640(-110)	16(- 7)	1457(- 44)	2113(- 161)
E	429(- 63)	5(- 9)	1503(+ 17)*	1937(- 55)
L	3731(-286)	89(- 23)	2489(- 58)	6309(- 367)

* The number for PRE last year was incorrect. It should have been 1486, not 1946.

FIG. 1. Numbers of manuscripts submitted to *Physical Review* and *Physical Review Letters* each month for the years 1992–1994. *Physical Review Letters* Comments were not counted before July 1993.

FIG. 2. Number of papers and corresponding pages published in *Physical Review* (PR) and *Physical Review Letters* (PRL) from 1963 through 1994. The PR figures include Comments, Communications, and Addenda in 1969–1980, and include Brief Reports, Comments, and Rapid Communications in 1981–1994; the PRL figures include Comments in 1974–1977 and 1981–1994. APS membership is given for comparison.

FIG. 3. Number of manuscripts submitted to *Physical Review* and *Physical Review Letters* from 1981 to 1994 by US and non-US authors. The classification is based on the address of the corresponding author; since international collaborations are likely to choose a US-based author as the corresponding author, this probably overstates the number of US submissions and understates the non-US submissions. (Comments submitted to *Physical Review Letters* are not included for 1981–1992; PRL Comments, but not Replies, are included for 1993 and 1994.)

FIG. 4. Percentage of the published pages in the various journals published as L^AT_EX/REVT_EX compuscripts (using the authors' files in the composition process). 1990–1992 statistics given for *Physical Review E* are those for its predecessor, *Physical Review A15*. Compuscripts were introduced in *Physical Review Letters* in June 1992; the 1992 figures for PRL refer only to volume 69.

Figures are available as PostScript files:

- ann_stats_94_fig1.ps
- ann_stats_94_fig2.ps
- ann_stats_94_fig3.ps
- ann_stats_94_fig4.ps