

TOJDE: Electronic Publishing and a Review of Ten Years' Experience in Turkey

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ABSTRACT

This review examines The Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education (TOJDE) over a ten years period from 2000-2010. The study provides an opportunity to examine publishing activities such as number of published articles, authors, research topics and methods, and analyses of TOJDE's website such as time users stay on site and user profiles. After a content analysis, the articles are reviewed according to the selected criteria. These data were categorized according to emerging themes. Most parts of the data were analysed using descriptive statistics, and presented with tables and figures. The results can be used to review current distance education research trends and to explore potential research directions.

Keywords: Distance education, electronic publishing, E-Journals, TOJDE, Anadolu University, Turkey.

INTRODUCTION

Electronic publishing has been broadly defined as non-print material that is produced digitally. Electronic publishing is an encompassing term for a variety of digitally produced materials (Jones & Cook, 2000) such as bulletin boards, newsgroups, mailing lists, CD-ROM based media, and websites (Ludwick & Glazer, 2000). Material produced electronically can be classified into two major categories that are not mutually exclusive: communication and information management. CD-ROMs and websites are often categorized as information management, while others like newsgroups/forums and mailing lists can be grouped as a means of communication. Electronic publishing can be defined as distributing and archiving of full text professional articles via computer based storage technology such as magnetic or optical discs (Schauder, 1994).

It should be emphasized that electronic publishing mainly can be grouped in two categories from point of view for management of communication and information. This classification mainly based on necessity of to archiving or not of the sending messages with the development of Internet the characteristics of communication have changed. Electronic publishing which is a non-print digitally distributed material across the network became more popular.

As the use of the Internet becomes more and more embedded in scholarly communication in many forms, scholars will face more complex choices in managing communications through electronic media. In an electronic format the resources can be served too many copies, hyperlinked and reachable every part of the World. Users can easily search by author, keyword, title, journal, year, and see the results on the screen.

CLASSIFICATION OF ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING

Forums and chat rooms are also a means of communication. They are web based and often developed and sustained organizations for their constituents. Forums are like newsgroups in that the messages are often "threaded" or organized by a theme. Forums are also like e-mail, mailing lists and newsgroups as they are asynchronous, exchanging information at different times. Chat rooms, which have exploded in the commercial sector, allow "real time" or synchronous text posting and have primarily been used for socializing or for commercial purposes such as book promotions (Ludwick & Glazer, 2000). Another classification of electronic publishing can be as follows:

- E-bulletin
- E-magazines
- Web pages
- News archives
- Discussing lists
- E-journals

And also, E-journals can be grouped as (Tonta, 1997) originally are printed, in addition electronically published journals, originally are electronically published journals but printed in times of Electronic Publishing Vs Print Publishing ited number and only published electronically journals. Advantages and Disadvantage

Electronic publishing mostly has these advantages which are placed below:

- Accessible to all users regardless of geographic location.
- More acceptance of E-publishing within the scientific community.
- Possibility to get print out, to store in file or download from Internet of the long texts like an article.
- Possibility incitant communication between editor/author.
- Possibility of to read whenever or how much you want.
- Possibility of cheaper publishing or cost effective publishing.
- Possibility of easier production and distribution of large volume study materials (Ludwick & Glazer, 2000; Tonta, 1997)
- Possibility of easier and quicker to reach huge masses.

Sometime electronic publishing has these disadvantages too which are placed below:

- User Friendliness (Bishop, 1995).
- Cost dimension of Internet and to get computer.
- Time problem during using and waiting for pages.
- Some time, technical difficulties to reach electronic materials.

- Misconduct and security issues, piracy, and plagiarism.
- Copy the entire document, or change the actual article, image or data (Tenopir, 1995).
- Destroying copyright (Rosenberg, 1994).
- Lack of widespread acceptance within the scientific community.
- Decreasing of access speed for the reason of huge volume.
- Sounds and pictures (Ludwick & Glazer, 2000; Tonta, 1997).

ETHICAL VALUES OF ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING

You are asked to submit a manuscript to an electronic journal, or perhaps as a reader of an electronic journal, you are moved to write a letter to the editor about a topic. As you contemplate writing either the article or the letter, you may experience some anxiety and uncertainty. How letters and manuscripts are reviewed and is the journal peer reviewed? Do I submit my work electronically and how will the editorial staff communicate with me? Who will read my work? Underlying these questions are ethical issues about quality, security, and access. Let's now examine how these ethical issues could manifest themselves.

Quality is closely related to the ethical principle of "do no harm" and to the virtues of honesty and integrity. The ethical issue about the quality of electronic publishing that is raised most often is whether articles submitted to electronic journals are peer reviewed or not.

Security is closely related to the ethical tenets of privacy and confidentiality. Electronic journal editors carry the responsibility to and to their authors to guarantee confidentiality and to be their readers sensitive to privacy issues in many of the same ways that print journal editors must.

Access is related to the ethical principle of justice. For an electronic journal to be successful, it must not only have a loyal readership but also a readership that has the means by which to access the information.

How is the publication disseminated? Is the journal a dual publication (i.e. print and journal)? Is the publication free? Is registration required if the journal is free? Is the journal subscription based? Is the journal benefits open only to members? (Cipriano & Ruth, 2000; Alptekin-Oguztem, 2000).

SCHOLARLY ELECTRONIC PUBLISHING

What is an electronic scholarly journal? We might simply define it as a digital periodical dedicated to publishing, on the Internet, articles, essays, and analyses that have been read and commented upon initially by a select group of editors and reviewers, to meet a certain arbitrary standard of excellence (as determined by the editors) for a given discipline addressed by the journal itself. The diversity of electronic journals in the past five years has led some to predict the extinction of traditional academic journals, that a new "paradigm" is sweeping scholarship.

A closer examination of the ways in which digital and printed scholarly journals are developed clearly indicates that most electronic journals are not all that different in their fundamental editorial processes than print (Valauskas, 1997).

An electronic publication has been defined as a document distributed primarily through electronic media or non-print material that is produced digitally. An article posted on a Web page (under a variety of restrictions or conditions), an article distributed via e-mail, or via an e-mail-based distribution list are all electronic publications (Kling & McKim, 1999). Material produced electronically can be classified into two major categories that are not mutually exclusive: Communication and information management. CD-ROMs and websites are often categorized as information management, while others like newsgroups/forums and mailing lists can be grouped as a means of communication (Demiray, 2003). With the development of Internet the characteristics of communication have changed. Electronic publishing which is a non-print digitally distributed material across the network became more popular. As the use of the Internet becomes more and more embedded in scholarly communication in many forms, scholars will face more complex choices in managing communications through electronic media. In an electronic format the resources can be served too many copies, hyperlinked and reachable every part of the World. Users can easily search by author, keyword, title, journal, year, and see the results on the screen.

Journals on Distance Education

AJDE (American Journal of Distance Education)

AJDE is the internationally recognized journal of research and scholarship in the field of American distance education established with the mission of disseminating information about research and scholarship in the Americas. It was founded in 1987 by Michael Grahame Moore. From 1987 until 2001 AJDE was published at The Pennsylvania State University College of Education, following that was published by Lawrence Erlbaum Associates until 2006. AJDE is now published by Taylor & Francis.

The American Journal of Distance Education offers a solid foundation of valuable research-based knowledge about all aspects of the pedagogy of the field. Peer reviewed articles provide reports on the latest findings in such areas as: building and sustaining effective delivery systems, course design and application of instructional design theories, facilitating interaction between students and with instructors, factors influencing student achievement and satisfaction, the changing roles of faculty and changes in institutional culture and administrative and policy issues including cost-effectiveness and copyright.

AsianJDE (Asian Journal of Distance Education)

The Asian Journal of Distance Education aims to disseminate scholarly works and information useful to researchers and practitioners in the growing field of distance education in Asia. It was established in 2002. AsianJDE publishes peer-reviewed articles and other information for researchers and others interested in open learning and distance education in Asia. This journal also aims to provide a forum for discussions within and directly relating to Asia, and so elicits Asian local theoretical and practical solutions to address local concerns. The AsianJDE has a specific focus on the Asian context and publishes double-peer reviewed scholarly Articles, plus other papers such as Focus Reports on a bounded region or an institution, and Work-in-Progress. Other items include a detailed Calendar of Conferences and Events in Asia, Comments (a moderated discussion forum on previously published articles), Asian Abstracts and others.

ODLAA (Open and Distance Learning Association of Australia)

Distance Education is the official journal of the Open and Distance Learning Association of Australia Inc. (ODLAA). It is published by Routledge Electronic. Copies of papers from Volume 23 are available through Informaworld for those who have purchased an individual or organizational subscription to the journal, outside of their ODLAA membership. Distance Education is a peer-reviewed international journal. It publishes research and scholarly material in the fields of distance, open and flexible education. Distance Education was one of the first journals published to focus exclusively on this area of educational practice. ODLAA connects professionals in order to share experiences and disseminate information with respect to open and distance learning. Our members come from all educational sectors plus commercial training providers and training units in the corporate sector. They are involved in management, administration, design, development, research and teaching in multiple modes that may best be described as 'outside the traditional classroom'. ODLAA is a non-profit organization managed by an elected Executive Committee of members who donate their time to conduct the business of the association.

EURODL (European Journal of Open and Distance Learning)

EURODL, supported by EDEN-the European Distance and E-learning Network, presents scholarly work and solid information about open, distance and e-learning as well as new dimensions of technology-enhanced learning and contributes to the Open Content movement since 1995.

It publishes the accounts of research, development and teaching for Europe in its most inclusive definition, exploring the potential of electronic publishing. Furthermore, EURODL presents scholarly work and solid information about open, distance and e-learning, education through telematics, multimedia, on-line learning and co-operation. The language of publication is English, with an abstract in the author's chosen language. Additionally, there is an option to publish the originally submitted paper's identical copy in another language; however, this latter contribution is not refereed. The journal allows all the languages of Europe to appear, as the abstract and/or the optional contribution will be in the chosen language of the authors and will therefore extend e.g. from Lithuanian to German. The journal has a section of refereed articles that can be found on the "Current Issue" page and in the EURODL archive. Full-papers in English meeting basic requirements that are comparable to publishing in printed journals are published in this section.

There is also a "Brief items" section, which is not refereed and which acts as a more accessible and informative section of project reports, work in progress, non-English contributions and the like. This supports communication within the EDEN membership as well as the European area.

GEJOFEDE (Global E-Journal of Open, Flexible & Distance Education)

The Global E-Journal of Open, Flexible & Distance Education aims at providing a forum for exchange, between the developed and the developing worlds, of ideas, innovations, research outcomes, best practices, development in print and non-print resource materials, and information on national/regional/international seminars/workshops/conferences in areas of open, distance, flexible, lifelong and e-learning at all levels of education. GEJOFEDE has four sections: conceptual and research papers, cases and innovations, print and software review,³²⁰ conferences and events. It is guided by an international advisory board, and is edited by a group of professionals from the field. It is published in February, June and October every year by the Society for Advancement of Flexible & Distance Education & Development (SAFED) (a not-for-profit society), Bhopal-India. The focus is largely on, but not restricted to, planning and management, innovations

and change, and research and development in these fields. This internationally referred, contributed and abstracted journal is available mainly in electronic form. However, it is also available in paperback print form.

IRRODL (International Review of Research in Open and Distance Learning)

The International Review of Research in Open and Distance Learning (IRRODL) is a refereed, open access e-journal that disseminates original research, theory, and best practice in open and distance learning worldwide. It is published by Canadian Institute of Distance Education Research at Athabasca University. IRRODL is available free-of-charge to anyone with access to the Internet. The purpose of this (International Review of Research in Open and Distance Learning) referred, interactive, online journal is to contribute and disseminate to practitioners and scholars worldwide scholarly knowledge in each of three areas: theory, research, and best practice in open and distance learning. Because the aim of IRRODL to become the premier international journal of open and distance learning, it seeks high quality submissions in each of these three areas. In harmony with the open learning philosophy that distance education should serve to remote barriers to those who, given their geographical location, previous level of schooling, or other life circumstances would otherwise not be able to access distance education opportunities, subscriptions are free to individuals.

JDE (Journal of Distance Education/Revue de l'Éducation à Distance)

The Journal of Distance Education is an international publication of the Canadian Network for Innovation in Education (CNIE). Its aims are to promote and encourage Canadian scholarly work in distance education and provide a forum for the dissemination of international scholarship. The aim of the Journal of Distance Education is to promote and encourage Canadian scholarly work in distance education and provide a forum for the dissemination of international scholarship. It is published at least three times a year by The Canadian Network for Innovation in Education (CNIE). Original material in either English or French is invited in three broad categories: Scholarly articles and research papers that focus on issues related to distance education; Reports that highlight unique solutions to critical problems, short descriptions of work underlying new or innovative programs or contemporary events, and brief notes on research in progress; and Dialogues devoted to the discussion or debate of issues in distance education that may arouse controversy. Also included here will be papers written in reply to articles published in earlier issues of the Journal.

MJDE (The Malaysian Journal of Distance Education)

The Malaysian Journal of Distance Education (MJDE) is devoted to the dissemination of information on the research and practices of distance education. MJDE was launched in December 1999 with the inaugural issue of Volume 1, Number 1 with an initial contribution from the academic staff members of the School of Distance Education, Universiti Sains Malaysia. The Journal is published bi-annually (June and December) by the Penerbit Universiti Sains Malaysia, the publishing house of the Universiti Sains Malaysia.

TOJDE (The Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education)

The Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education (TOJDE) is an electronic scholar journal which publishes by Anadolu University, Eskisehir, Turkey, since January 2000. First two year it was published biannually.

Then in 2002 carry on as quarterly. It is peer-reviewed international electronic journal (Demiray, 2003). Its publishing language is English. TOJDE carry on its publication life via sponsorship of Anadolu University. Its ISSN is 1302-6488. TOJDE focuses on the issues and challenges of providing theory, research, and information services to students.

METHODOLOGY

For this research study The Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education (TOJDE) was selected. TOJDE is a quarterly, peer-reviewed international electronic journal which can be accessed online from the address <http://tojde.anadolu.edu.tr>.

In this study, content analysis and website analytics were used in order to achieve the research purposes. The first, content analysis was used in this study to investigate documents. There are two basic types of content analysis: Conceptual (looking to quantify and categorize objects) and semantic (looking to find and predict meaning) in the set of objects (Murphy & Ciszewska-Carr, 2005).

The main goal of this conceptual content analysis was to find answers to following question: What are the publishing activities (research topics, methods, instruments, statistical methods, author numbers and their institutional affiliation) of TOJDE? Data for this study were obtained from the articles published in Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education of volumes (1-11) 2000 to 2010.

The articles are reviewed according to the selected criteria, and then these data were categorized according to existing or emerging themes. Most parts of the data were analysed using descriptive statistics, and presented with tables and figures.

This study was also examined on analysis the performance of TOJDE website by using website analytics. Website analytics is an operational website management necessitates a way to track and measure visitors' traffic, visitors' behaviour and even more importantly how this behaviour compares to the expected behaviour (Ferrini & Mohr, 2009).

The second goal of this study was to determine The Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education (TOJDE) website. The measuring includes tracking the traffic (number of visitors), and visitors' activity while visiting the site in this study.

FINDINGS

An Analysis of TOJDE

TOJDE's interested fields are Economic, Social and Cultural Dimension of DE, Pedagogical, Political, Philosophical, Legal, Ethical Reflections in DE Organization in DE, Needs Assessment, Staff Training in DE, Program and Material Development in DE, Professional Experiences on DE, Financial Planning of DE, Learning Resources in DE, Digital Libraries and Virtual Universities, Guidance and Counseling, Communication, Multi Media Software, Web Technology, Internet, Network Software, Feedback Mechanisms, Measurement, Quality Control and Evaluation in DE, Production of Quality in DE, Performance Evaluation, Interaction, DE in the Future, DE and Globalization, Dynamism and Dimensions of DE in 21' Century, Virtual Reality and electronic publishing in DE.

Table: 1
Number of Editorial Board Members per Country (TOJDE, 2010)

Countries	# of Editors	Countries	# of Editors
Turkey	17		
United Kingdom	6	Hong Kong	1
Australia	5	Israel	1
Canada	4	Moldova	1
USA	4	Netherlands	1
India	3	New Zealand	1
Greece	2	Pakistan	1
Ireland	2	Philippines	1
Malaysia	2	Romania	1
South Africa	2	Russia	1
China	1	South America	1
Czech Republic	1	The Netherlands	1
France	1	Ukraine	1

TOJDE's Editorial Board consists of 69 members, representing a team of worldwide experts in Open and Distance Education. It's established by Turkish and foreign academicians who are expert in their field. Table 1 shows the number of editorial board members per country in TOJDE 2010. The site of TOJDE (<http://tojde.anadolu.edu.tr>) contains several of research articles, a detailed description of the editorial board, and links to past issues. There is also a call for papers, information about conferences, a list serve subscription opportunity as well as an opportunity to provide feedback to the writers of the journal.

TOJDE consists of articles, reviews, and news sections. It particularly strives to meet the continuing education needs of practitioners and educators by providing a forum for the discussion of extended learning strategies, policies and practices, and trends in information technology as they impact the delivery of any kind of the student support services for distance learners and faculties.

Articles may be theoretical, philosophical and/or quantitative analyses of distance education/open learning and teaching issues, and may take the form of case studies, research studies, or general interest reports. Book reviews, conference reports, literature reviews, news items, editor's note, announcements of conferences and publications, and letters to the editor etc. are also be allowed.

Mission statement of TOJDE and its publishing values

Mission statement

Mission statement of TOJDE is "Never Too Late, Read TOJDE Now and Please Inform Your Colleagues". Along with the mission statement, it is important to list the values which the TOJDE holds as an important philosophy of Online Journal Publishing. Publishing values of TOJDE are below:

Readers' Needs

Readers' needs are at the top of the importance list of the TOJDE and this should be known by the readers. We will not forget who we serve.

Quality Articles

The TOJDE will, always, try to provide not only quality articles to its readers, but also tries to meet the readers' expectations.

Quality Journal Staff

The TOJDE will always value and prize those editors, reviewers and staff who have shown a willingness to provide the Quality publishing through their various levels of expertise.

Community Share Service

The TOJDE must try to show the community its commitment by sharing to its overall betterment. By committing to the previous three values, meeting this fourth value becomes a matter of record. In bringing quality post-secondary to the community this value is strategically met.

Abstracting and indexing of TOJDE

TOJDE is abstracted, indexed and cited by the following databases from around the world:

- The AERA SIG Communication of Research
- Australian Education Index-AEI
- The Directory of Open Access Journals-DOAJ
- The Education Resources Information Center-ERIC
- Education Network Australia-EdNA
- Elsevier ScienceDirect
- The Government Education Portal
- Higher Education Research Data Collection-HERDC
- Index Copernicus
- Ulrich's Periodicals Directory
- Vocational Education and Training Research Database-VOCED

Webometrics Ranking of TOJDE

They intend to motivate both institutions and scholars to have a web presence that reflect accurately their activities.

If the web performance of an institution is below the expected position according to their academic excellence, university authorities should reconsider their web policy, promoting substantial increases of the volume and quality of their electronic publication.

Table: 2
Rank of Universities of Turkey (Top 10)

World Rank	University	Position			
		Size	Visibility	Rich Files	Scholar
321	Middle East Technical University	452	428	324	153
613	Bilkent University	537	767	390	852
653	Boğaziçi University	901	727	434	977
853	Istanbul Technical University	1,065	890	709	970
881	Hacettepe University	1,213	864	649	1,386
942	Ankara University	916	970	978	567
945	Anadolu University	1,317	869	1,023	1,450
946	Sabancı University	1,213	981	891	309
1069	Gazi University	962	2,031	908	1,088
1137	Dokuz Eylül University	1,219	3,120	747	1,264

Since 2004, the Ranking Web is published twice a year (January and July), covering more than 20,000 Higher Education Institutions worldwide (Webometrics Ranking of World Universities, 2011). Rank of universities of Turkey is presented in Table: 2.

Webometrics bases it's ranking of institutional websites on four indicators as defined below:



Visibility (V)

The total number of unique external links received (inlinks) by a site can be only confidently obtained from Yahoo Search, Live Search and Exalead.

Size (S)

Number of pages recovered from four engines: Google, Yahoo, Live Search and Exalead.

Rich Files (R)

After evaluation of their relevance to academic and publication activities and considering the volume of the different file formats, the following were selected: Adobe Acrobat (.pdf), Adobe PostScript (.ps), Microsoft Word (.doc) and Microsoft Powerpoint (.ppt). These data were extracted using Google, Yahoo Search, Live Search and Exalead.

Scholar (Sc)

Google Scholar provides the number of papers and citations for each academic domain. These results from the Scholar database represent papers, reports and other academic items. Since, an online journal has many in links and has many references in Google Scholar, it helps promoting the ranking. For instance, number of inlinks to major websites of Anadolu University reveals such a situation as can be seen on the Table: 3. Almost, 11% of the inlinks come from TOJDE as of July 2010.

Table: 3
Impact of the Web Page TOJDE for Webometrics Ranking
Measures of Anadolu University

Web Pages (Host under anadolu.edu.tr)	Inlinks (The total number of unique external links received)
www.anadolu.edu.tr	18,781
anapod.anadolu.edu.tr	453
eogrenme.anadolu.edu.tr	1,214
yunusemre.anadolu.edu.tr	457
tojde.anadolu.edu.tr	2,516
bildiri.anadolu.edu.tr	53

Impact of publications reached from websites for webometrics ranking measures of Anadolu University are listed in Table: 4. TOJDE's own website is the biggest impact for reaching to the publications.

Table: 4
Impact of Publications Reached from Websites for Webometrics Ranking Measures of Anadolu University

Web Pages (Host under anadolu.edu.tr)	Number of Publications
www.anadolu.edu.tr	54
tojde.anadolu.edu.tr	433
bildiri.anadolu.edu.tr	101
mm.anadolu.edu.tr	52
home.anadolu.edu.tr	190
ietc2008.anadolu.edu.tr	150
Other	231
Total	979

Table: 5 shows visibility rank of web pages host under Anadolu University. All web pages offer online services to users. TOJDE website that provides 0.4% visibility rank to reach for Anadolu University.

Table: 5
Visibility Rank of Web Pages Host under Anadolu University

Web Pages (Host under anadolu.edu.tr)	Visibility
iolp.anadolu.edu.tr	43.3%
aofburo.anadolu.edu.tr	17.2%
mail.anadolu.edu.tr	14.7%
orgun.anadolu.edu.tr	8.6%
eogrenme.anadolu.edu.tr	5.7%
aofkayit.anadolu.edu.tr	2.4%
aof.anadolu.edu.tr	2.0%
e-gazete.anadolu.edu.tr	1.2%
orgunx.anadolu.edu.tr	0.8%
spk.anadolu.edu.tr	0.8%
aof20.anadolu.edu.tr	0.4%
aofmail.anadolu.edu.tr	0.4%
esertifika.anadolu.edu.tr	0.4%
oolp.anadolu.edu.tr	0.4%
vakifbank.anadolu.edu.tr	0.4%
tojde.anadolu.edu.tr	0.4%

Index Copernicus Value of TOJDE

Index Copernicus (IC) is a journal indexing, ranking and abstracting site. This service accepts peer-review and tracks manuscripts online and builds up relations with authors, reviewers and readers as well as increasing the international awareness of a journal.

For journals indexed in Current Contents Index Copernicus Value (ICV) calculations are based on the following formula. Base Points (BP) are converted into 10 points Total Basic Score (TBS), then: $9 + [(TBS) \times (IF)]$ (where IF=impact factor value). This formula ensures that the journals indexed at Current Contents a have minimum ICV of=9 points. For the rest of journals which are not indexed in Current Contents TBS=ICV (Index Copernicus, 2011). Table: 6 shows Index Copernicus Value of TOJDE.

Table 6
Index Copernicus Value of TOJDE

Year		Index Copernicus Value
2010	TUR ISSN: 1302-6488 Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education (TOJDE)	ICV: 5.57
2009	2428 TUR ISSN: 1302-6488 Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education (TOJDE)	ICV: 5.08
2008	2119 TUR ISSN: 1302-6488 Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education (TOJDE)	ICV: 5.76
2007	1286 TUR ISSN: 1302-6488 Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education (TOJDE)	ICV: 5.84
2006	832 TUR ISSN: 1302-6488 Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education (TOJDE)	ICV: 5.68
2005	778 TUR ISSN: 1302-6488 Turkish Online Journal of Distance Education (TOJDE)	ICV: 3.37

Publishing Activities of TOJDE (2000-2010)

Number of published articles types by year in Table 7, number of published articles by year, volume and number in Table 8, number of authors per article in Table 9, number of authors per articles types, year, volume and number in Table 10 and number of countries per year in Table 11 are presented below.

Table: 7
Number of Published Articles Types by Year (2000-2010)

Articles Types		Articles	Notes for Editor	Review	Grand Total
Years					
Volume 1	2000	13		4	17
Volume 2	2001	15		6	21
Volume 3	2002	27	4	11	42
Volume 4	2003	23	1	5	29
Volume 5	2004	34	3	14	51
Volume 6	2005	37	4	10	51
Volume 7	2006	58	3	11	72
Volume 8	2007	49	4	8	61
Volume 9	2008	57	9	9	75
Volume 10	2009	54	14	11	79
Volume 11	2010	55	14	15	84
Grand Total		422	56	104	582

Total 422 articles, 56 notes for editors and 104 reviews published during the years 2000-2010. As can be seen in Table 7 total article numbers appear to be increasing in recent years.

In Tuncay, Keser and Uzunboylu's (2010) study also stated that publishing documents numbers increased over the years in TOJDE. Total number of published articles types over a ten years period from 2000-2010 are summarized in Figure: 1.

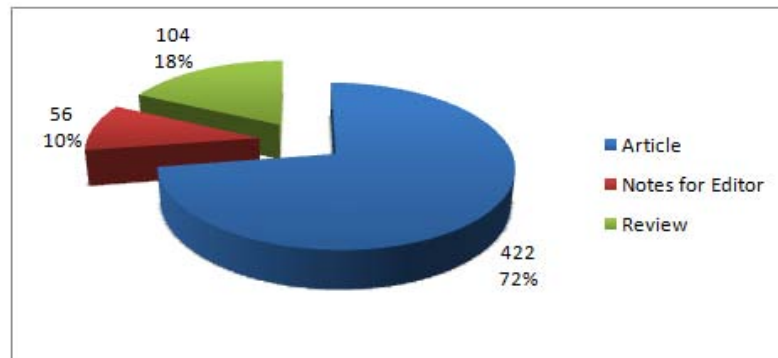


Figure: 1
Total number of published articles types by year (2000-2010)

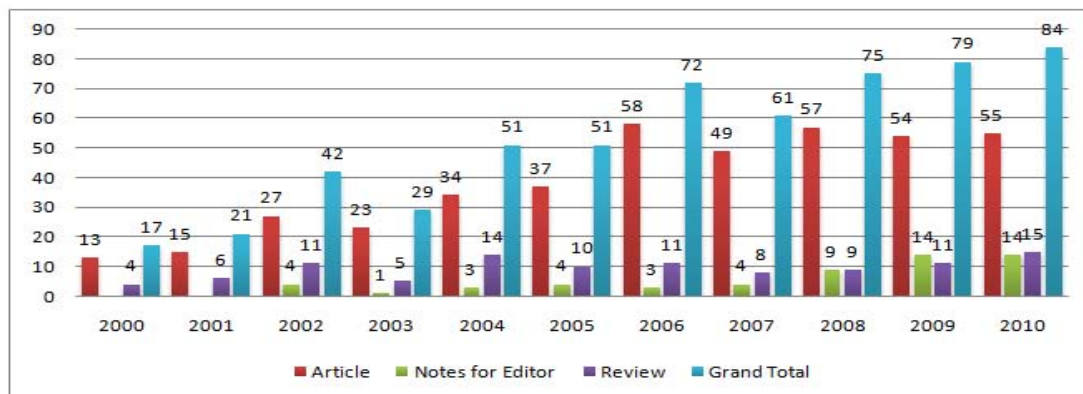


Figure: 2
Number of published articles types per year (2000-2010)

Over a ten years period from 2000-2010, single authored articles have the biggest part 232 (55%) of published articles, as can be seen in Figure 3. Table 8 revealed author numbers per articles in TOJDE.

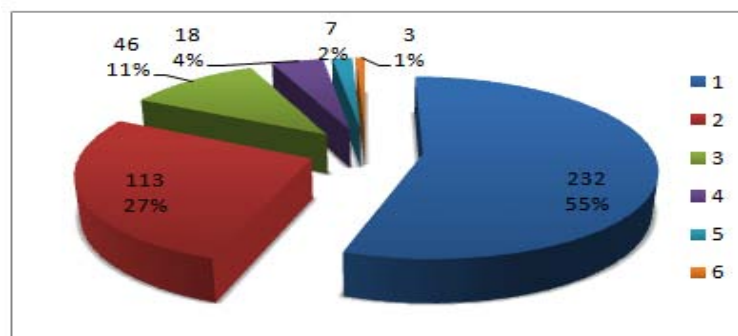


Figure: 3
Author numbers per article (2000-2010)

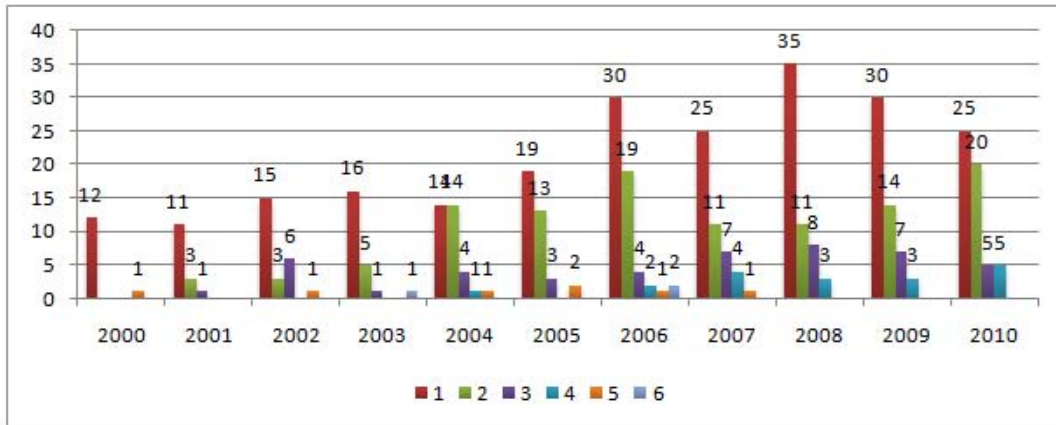


Figure: 4
Author numbers per years (2000-2010)

Table: 8
Author Numbers per Article (2000-2010)

Number of Authors \ Years	1	2	3	4	5	6	Grand Total
2000	12				1		13
2001	11	3	1				15
2002	15	3	6		1		25
2003	16	5	1			1	23
2004	14	14	4	1	1		34
2005	19	13	3		2		37
2006	30	19	4	2	1	2	58
2007	25	12	7	4	1		48
2008	35	11	8	3			57
2009	30	14	7	3			54
2010	25	20	5	5			55
Grand Total	232	114	46	18	7	3	420

Author numbers per year in 2000-2010 period of time shown in Figure: 4. Author number per articles types also can be seen in Figure 5.

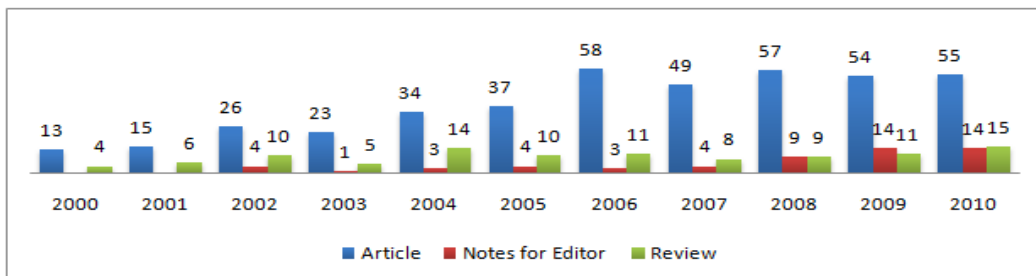


Figure: 5
Author numbers per articles types (2000-2010)

Table: 9
Number of Countries per Year (2000-2010)

Countries	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Grand Total
Australia		1		1	7			4	1	2	1	17
Austria									1			1
Bahrain								1				1
Bangladesh							4	1	4	1	2	12
Belgium						1						1
Botswana										1		1
Brazil	1						1					2
Canada	1		2		2	5	2	1	1	2		16
China			1									1
Czech Republic		1										1
Egypt				1					2			3
Eritrea								1				1
Ethiopia									1			1
Finland	2											2
France		1										1
Germany							1		1			2
Ghana								1		1		2
Greece	1			2	2		1		1	1	2	10
India	1	2	4	4	1	1	4	2	3	4	3	29
Indonesia								2		1	2	5
Iran						1			2	2	4	9
Israel		2	1									3
Italy								1		1		2
Jordan									1	1		2
Lesotho										1	1	2
Lithuania			1									1
Malaysia				3	3	5	2	2	1	5	2	23
Mexico	1											1
Nigeria						2	6	3	5	2	6	24
Northern Cyprus Turkish Republic			1		3	2				1	1	8
Norway							1	1		1	1	4
Pakistan								7	3	5	5	20
Philippines					1				1			2
Republic of Korea							1					1
RM Moldova							1					1
Romania									1	1	1	3
Saudi Arabia			1		1				1		1	4
South Africa						1	1					2
Sri Lanka									1	1		2
Swaziland					1							1
Switzerland			1									1
Thailand				1								1
Turkey	3	5	6	5	10	9	22	16	23	18	21	138
Uganda							1					1
UK	1		3			4	4	2		1		15
USA	1	3	5	6	3	6	6	4	3	1	2	40
Grand Total	12	15	26	23	34	37	58	49	57	54	55	420

Number of countries contributed to publications per year in 2000-2010 period of time as shown in Table 9. Most of the article submission comes from Turkey, and USA, India, Nigeria, Malaysia, Pakistan, Australia, Canada, UK, Bangladesh, Greece, and Iran, respectively. USA is in second place in the table. The reason is Turkish graduate students continue to study in American universities and sent to TOJDE their articles on behalf of their own universities.

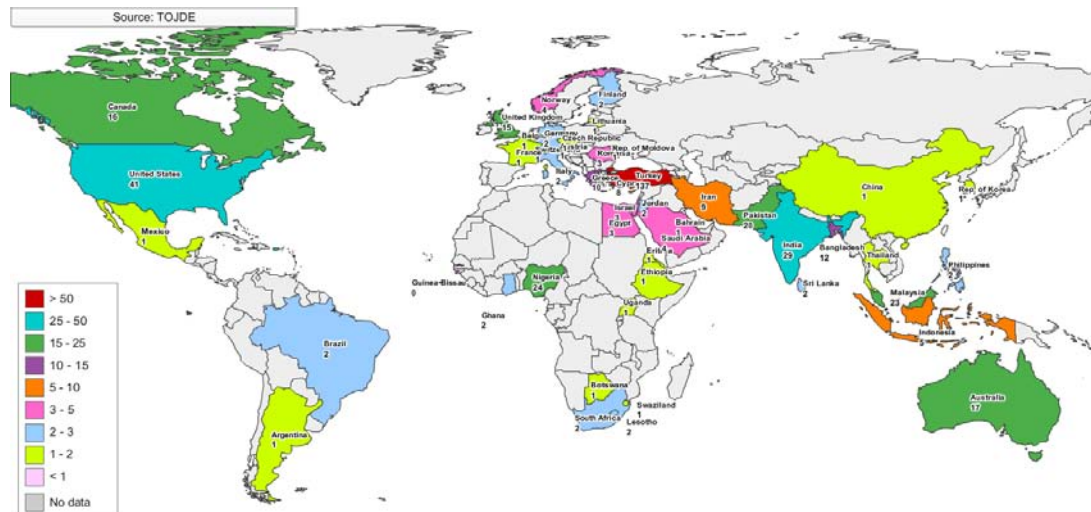


Figure: 6
Number of Articles from Countries (2000-2010)

Figure 6 shows the number of published articles from countries in 2000-2010 period of time in TOJDE. Authors contributed to publications from wide geographic area. There is intense interest to TOJDE from throughout Asia except USA, Canada and Australia shown in Figure 7.

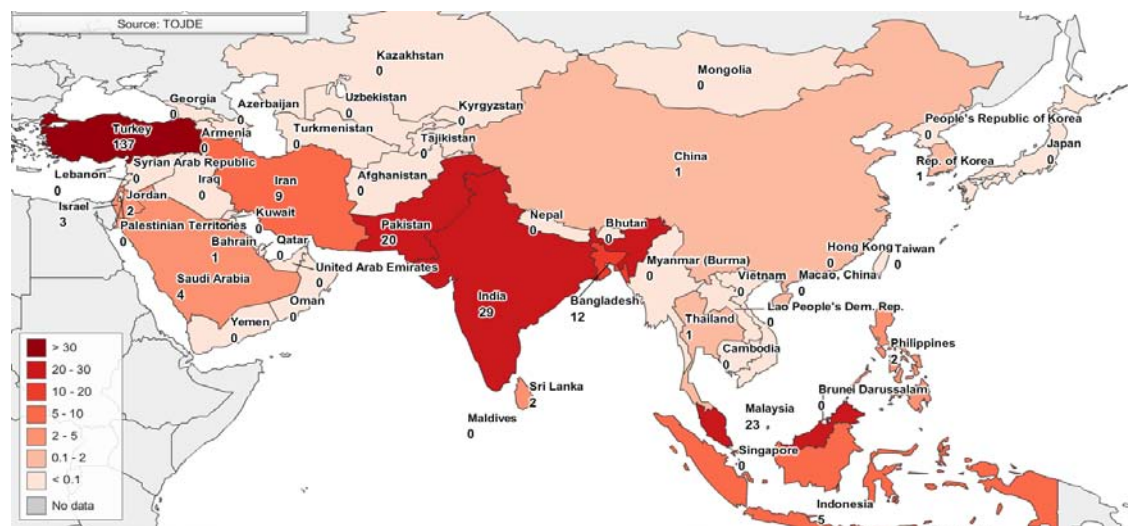


Figure: 7
Number of articles from Asia (2000-2010).

Table 10 shows authors' country/institutional affiliation which indicates that most studies published by TOJDE carried out universities whose research field is open and distance education.

Table: 10
Number of Authors Country/Affiliation (2000-2010)

Country /Affiliation	# Of Authors
Argentina	1
Ar-Tesol Esp	1
Australia	17
Central Queensland University	5
Charles Sturt University	2
Deakin University	1
Macquarie University	2
Monash University	1
Open Learning Consultant	2
Rmit University	1
University of South Australia	1
University of Southern Queensland	2
Austria	1
Graz University	1
Bahrain	1
Bahrain University	1
Bangladesh	12
Agricultural University	1
Bangladesh Open University	8
Bangladesh Agricultural University	1
Dhaka National Medical College	1
Presidency University	1
Belgium	1
Vrije Universiteit	1
Botswana	1
University of Botswana	1
Brazil	2
University of São Paulo And President Of Brazilian Association For Distance Education	1
Valley of The Green River University	1
Canada	15
Athabasca University	6
British Columbia Institute of Technology	1
Canadore College	1
Centre For Distance Education Athabasca University	1
Consultant Cgi	1
Memorial University of Newfoundland	1
Nipissing University	1
Umbc	1
University of Ottawa	1
West Valley College	1
China	1
Open University of Hong Kong	1
Czech Republic	1
Charles University Prague	1
Egypt	3

Mansoura University	1
South Valley University	1
University of Mansoura	1
Eritrea	1
Eritrea Institute of Technology	1
Ethiopia	1
Haramaya University	1
Finland	2
South Carelia Polytechnic	1
University of Oulu Utsjoki	1
France	1
The Centre For Advanced Learning Technologies Insead Fontainebleau	1
Noir Sur Blanc	2
Germany	2
Fern Universität	2
Ghana	1
University of Ghana	1
University of Ghana	10
Greece	2
Democritus University of Thrace	2
Hellenic Open University	2
T.E.I. of Kavala	3
University of Macedonia	1
University of The Aegean Department Of Education Rhodes	29
India	1
Amity University	1
Anna University	1
Ciefl	13
Indira Gandhi National Open University	1
Jawaharlal Nehru University	2
Kota Open University	1
M.J.P. Rohilkhand University	1
Maharashtra Open University	1
Maharshi Dayanand University	2
Panjab University	1
Regional Centre	1
St. Xavier`s College	1
Stride Ignou	1
University of Jammu	1
Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University	5
Indonesia	5
Universitas Terbuka	9
Iran	1
Azam Rastgoo Islamic Azad University	2
Great Persian Encyclopedia Foundation	1
Islamic Azad University	1
Jahrom University of Medical Sciences Jahrom	1
Tehran University	3
University of Tehran	2
Italy	1
University of Florence	1
University of Salento	2

Jordan	2
Philadelphia University	2
Lesotho	2
National University of Lesotho	1
Lithuania	1
Vytautas Magnus University	23
Malaysia	1
International Islamic University	1
Ipoh Teacher Training Institute	1
Multimedia University	1
National University of Malaysia	2
Open University Malaysia	5
Universiti Kebangsaan	4
Universiti Sains	1
Universiti Teknologi Mara	4
Universiti Utara	1
University Technology Mara (Uitm)	1
University Tun Abdul Razak	1
Wawasan Open University	1
Mexico	1
University of Guadalajara	24
Nigeria	9
Covenant University	7
National Open University of Nigeria	1
Obafemi Awolowo University	1
School Of Education	1
University of Ado-Ekiti	2
University of Ibadan	1
University of Ibadan	2
University of Ilorin	8
Northern Cyprus Turkish Republic	6
Eastern Mediterranean University	2
European University of Lefke	4
Norway	4
Lillehammer University College	20
Pakistan	8
Allama Iqbal Open University	1
National University of Modern Languages (Numl)	3
Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University	1
Preston University	6
The Islamia University of Bahawalpur	1
University of Arid Agriculture	2
Philippines	1
Mindanao Polytechnic State College	1
University of The Philippines Open University	1
Republic of Korea	1
Language Center	1
Rm Moldova	1
State University of Moldova	3
Romania	3
Al. I. Cuza University	4
Saudi Arabia	3
King Fahd University	1

King Saud University	2
South Africa	2
National University of Lesotho	2
Sri Lanka	1
Open University of Sri Lanka	1
The Open University of Sri Lanka	1
Swaziland	1
University of Swaziland	1
Switzerland	1
University of Italian	1
Thailand	1
Kasetsart University	137
Turkey	8
Abant İzzet Baysal University	5
Akdeniz University	58
Anadolu University	1
Ankara University	2
Atılım University	1
Balıkesir University	1
Boğaziçi University	1
Camp Rumi Technology Literacy Group	7
Çanakkale Onsekiz Mart University	2
Dicle University	3
Eskişehir Osmangazi University	2
Gazi University	13
Hacettepe University	2
İstanbul University	2
Karadeniz Technical University	4
Kırıkkale University	7
Marmara University	1
Mersin University	4
Middle East Technical University	1
Pamukkale University	2
Sakarya University	4
Selçuk University	1
Uludağ University	1
University of Marmara	1
Yıldız Technical University	3
Zonguldak Karaelmas University	1
Uganda	1
Makerere University of Uganda	15
UK	2
City University	1
Havering College of Further And Higher Education	3
Open University	1
The Open University of Sri Lanka	1
Umbc	1
University of Central England	2
University of Leicester	1
University of Manchester	1
University of Oxford	1
University of Plymouth	1
University of Sunderland	37

USA	1
Arizona State University	1
Brigham Young University	2
Cameron University	2
Clayton College & State University	1
Director Enterprise Applications Globberanger.Com Dallas-Texas	2
East Carolina University	1
Education Development Center	2
Fairleigh Dickinson University	2
Florida State University	1
Founder And Vice President For Technology & Coordination	1
Indiana University	1
Managing Consultant, Editor in-Chief of E-learn Magazine	1
New Jersey Institute of Technology	1
Rowan University	1
Samford University	1
Slis Indiana University	2
Southern Illinois University	1
State University of New York	3
Texas State University	1
Texas Tech University	1
Umbc	1
University At Albany	2
University of Alaska Fairbanks	1
University of Illinois	1
University of Maryland University College	1
University of Phoenix	1
University of The Pacific	1
Walden University	1
Grand Total	413

CLASSIFICATION OF RESEARCH AREAS IN DISTANCE EDUCATION

The published studies' topics are listed in Table 11. This study used some parts of Zawacki-Richter's (2009) classification of research areas in DE. Inductive coding facilitated for trying to identify patterns in the data and establish categories.

After close readings of studies and consideration of the multiple meanings that are inherent in the studies, topics of studies are added to the category where they are relevant.

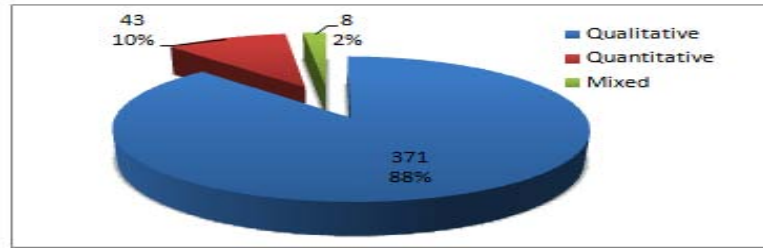
Learner and instructor experiences of online learning environment; information about the system and programme; economic, social and cultural dimension of DE, and pedagogical, political, philosophical, legal, ethical reflections in DE are top four research topics in TOJDE.

Table: 11
Number of Studies by Topic (2000-2010)

Research Topics	Year											Grand Total
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	
Information about the system/programme	6	11	8		6	5	4	4	5	2	1	52
Economic, social and cultural dimension of DE	6	3			2	4	9	4	5	3	11	47
Pedagogical, political, philosophical, legal, ethical reflections in DE			9	7	2	5	6	2	7	6	3	47
Organization in DE		1	1			2	2	2		3		11
Needs Assessment, staff training in DE	1			1	1	1	6	1		5	1	17
Program and material development in DE			2	2			3	1				8
Digital libraries and virtual universities				1			1		1			3
Guidance and counselling/support				1	2	3		2	3	4	2	17
Communication, multimedia software, web technology, Internet, network, software, feedback mechanisms			1	2	3	2	5	10	8	6	5	42
Performance evaluation, measurement, quality control, evaluation, production of quality in DE			1	2	8	5	6	2	1	5	7	37
Interaction, DE in the Future				3	4		1	3	3	5	2	21
DE and globalisation, dynamism and dimensions of DE in 21' Century			1			1	1	2	1	1		7
Virtual reality and electronic publishing in DE				1	1				2	1	1	6
Technological factors in DE			1	1		3	5	2	4	4	10	30
Learner and instructor experiences of online learning environment			3	2	4	6	6	11	14	6	9	61
Instructional design in DE					1			2	3	2	3	11
Problems and challenges in DE							3	1		1		5
Grand Total	13	15	27	23	34	37	58	49	57	54	55	422

The studies are reviewed for their research paradigm. Numbers of research paradigms used in studies are given in Table: 12.

The analysis indicated that most of the studies are quantitative research paradigm in distance education studies (also in Figure: 8.).



Figur: 8
Total number of research paradigms used in studies published

Table: 12
Number of Research Paradigms used in Studies Published (2000-2010)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Grand Total
Quantitative	12	12	26	22	32	28	55	42	51	45	46	371
Qualitative		3	1	1	2	8	1	5	6	8	8	43
Mixed	1					1	2	2		1	1	8
Grand Total	13	15	27	23	34	37	58	49	57	54	55	422

The studies are also reviewed for their research instruments. Numbers of instruments used in studies published are listed in Table 13.

Table: 13
Number of Instruments Used in Studies Published (2000-2010)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Grand Total	%
Observation			1	1	1	1				4	3	11	2,50
Test			1						1	1		3	0,68
Survey	1	2	9	5	5	8	15	14	4	8	18	89	20,23
Scale		2		4	6	4	10	3	21	10	9	69	15,68
Document	1 2	9	16	13	20	18	31	29	27	25	16	216	49,09
Interview		3	1	2	2	7		4	6	6	7	38	8,64
Case study					3	1						4	0,91
Reflection paper						1						1	0,23
Focus group							2	1	1	3		7	1,59
Evaluation form			1		1							2	0,45
Grand Total	1 3	1 6	29	25	38	40	58	51	60	57	53	440	

Some articles pointed out more than one data collection tools, so they were listed more than one times under different headings.

Most of the studies collect data by document analysis. In addition, survey, scale and interview are preferred instruments in distance education studies.

Numbers of statistical methods used in studies published are listed in Table 14. Descriptive statistics are the most used statistical analysis in distance education studies. Content analysis (13,7%), variance analysis (9,8%), and t-test (6,8%) are also used in published studies.

Table: 14
Number of Statistical Methods used in Studies Published (2000-2010)

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	Grand Total	%
Descriptive	2	8	11	5	7	9	16	19	15	14	21	127	54,27
Variance analysis		1	1	2	2	1	4	3	4	3	2	23	9,83
Covariance analysis									1			1	0,43
Correlation					3	1	1	1	3		1	10	4,27
Regression						1	1	2	2	2	1	9	3,85
Chi-Square						1	1			2	3	7	2,99
Mann-Whitney U Test						1						1	0,43
Narrative analysis						1						1	0,43
Content analysis				1		7	1	3	5	10	5	32	13,68
Factor analysis						1	1		3	1		6	2,56
t-test				2	1		2		3	2	6	16	6,84
Fisher LSD							1					1	0,43
Grand Total	2	9	12	10	13	23	28	28	36	34	39	234	

Analysis of TOJDE's Website

TOJDE website contains several of research articles; a detailed description of the editorial board, links to past issues, a call for papers; information about conferences and a list serve subscription opportunity as well as an opportunity to provide feedback to the writers of the journal. It is well laid-out and organized into logical sections with easy navigation. As seen in Figure 9, 10 and 11 show that hits and visitors by day. 31,498 visitors around the world have visited TOJDE website with 823,129 hits August 2010- February 2011.

Time Users Stay on Site

This report answers on the question: how long users stay on site? It's calculated for all people visited more than one web page.

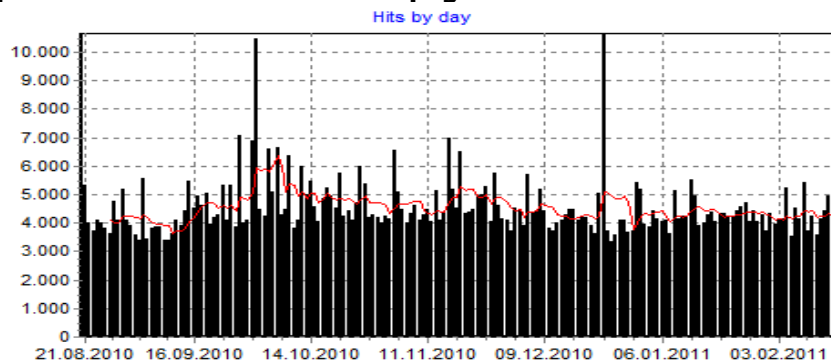


Figure: 9
Hits by day (August 2010- February 2011)

TOJDE website received an average 4000 hits daily, as can be seen in Figure 9. It received between 800-1000 users per day (visitors by day, Figure 10) and has taken request over 800 daily.

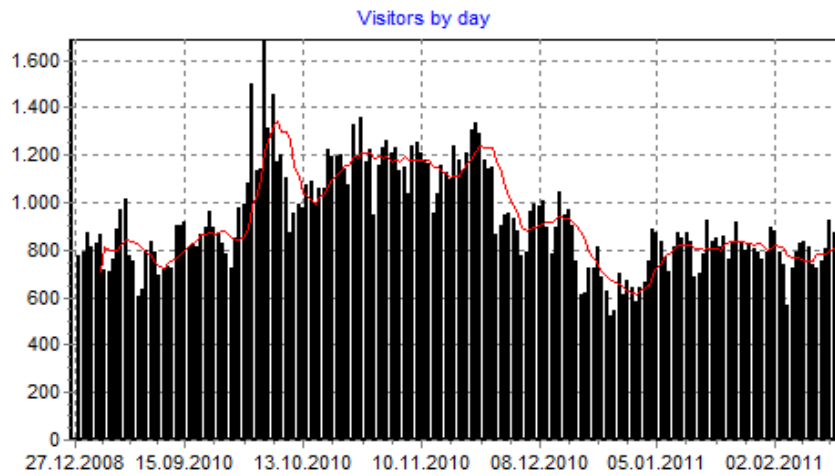
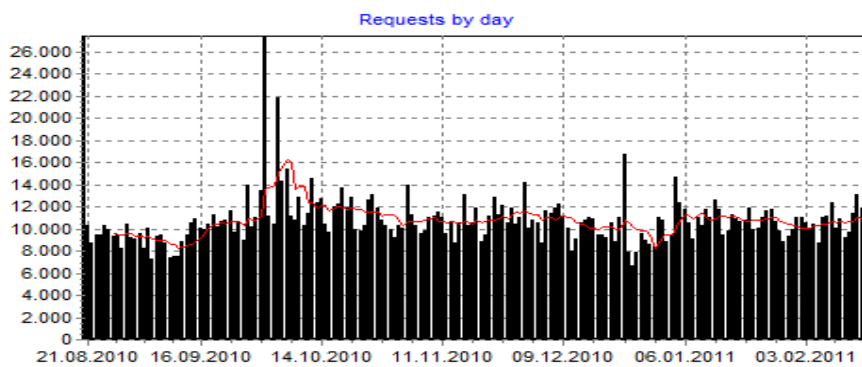
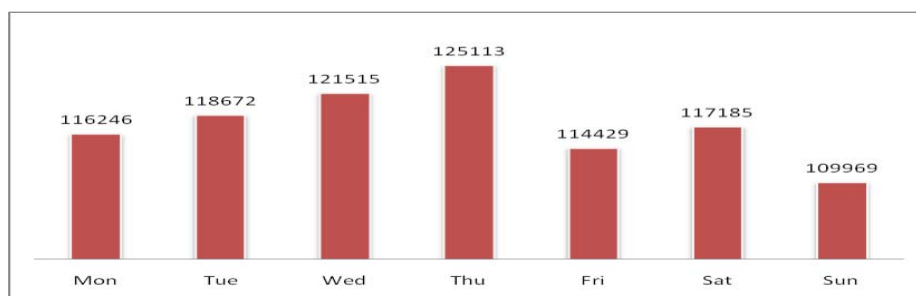


Figure 10: Visitors by day (August 2010- February 2011)



**Figure: 11
Requests by day (August 2010- February 2011)**

Users preferred to visit TOJDE website in weekdays, with activity tending to peak at Thursdays. Despite visitors tend to decrease at weekends Figure 12 shows that daily demand did not less than 10000.



**Figure: 12
Most busy days of week (August 2010- February 2011)**

User Profiles

User profile here is defined as set of unique pages visited in one time. Most Common User Paths display most popular paths of users on TOJDE presented Table 15.

Table: 15
Most Requested Directories (August 2010-February 2011)

Path	Content	Hits	Percent
/	Tojde Homepage	62054	27,36%
/editors/	Tojde's Editorial Board	41620	18,35%
/tojde40/	Tojde Volume: 11 Number: 4	37844	16,68%
/tojde2/	Tojde Volume: 1 Number: 2	18525	8,17%
/tojde4/	Tojde Volume: 2 Number: 2	16894	7,45%
/tojde1/	Tojde Volume: 1 Number: 1	13075	5,76%
/tojde41/	Tojde Volume: 12 Number: 1	10564	4,66%
/tojde39/	Tojde Volume: 11 Number: 3	9976	4,40%
/tojde8/	Tojde Volume: 3 Number: 4	8509	3,75%
/tojde3/	Tojde Volume: 2 Number: 1	7777	3,43%

Country Visitors Come From

Visitors to TOJDE website come from all over the world as stated in study of Reddy Y (2005).

Table: 16
Visitors Country (August 2010-February 2011)

Country	Hits	Visitors	Visitors (%)
Turkey	690555	9323	6,12%
United States	416727	49409	32,42%
India	84726	9181	6,02%
China	64039	34574	22,68%
United Kingdom	40014	4167	2,73%
Malaysia	33114	2593	1,70%
Canada	28396	1934	1,27%
Philippines	27401	2858	1,88%
Germany	23511	2654	1,74%
Russian Federation	22843	1892	1,24%
Netherlands	21088	812	0,53%
Pakistan	19994	1864	1,22%
Iran, Islamic Republic of	16255	900	0,59%
Nigeria	15547	1084	0,71%
Australia	14775	1433	0,94%
France	14352	5134	3,37%
Indonesia	13588	827	0,54%
Greece	12850	909	0,60%
Spain	11846	717	0,47%
Egypt	8728	368	0,24%
Senegal	8134	66	0,04%
Bangladesh	7157	339	0,22%
Poland	6755	1107	0,73%
Korea, Republic of	6681	614	0,40%
Japan	6547	1000	0,66%
Saudi Arabia	6427	427	0,28%
South Africa	6067	573	0,38%
Taiwan, Province of China	5778	465	0,31%
Thailand	5641	453	0,30%
Others	169675	14739	9,67%

Table 16 presents over 31,498 people visit this website in August 2010-February 2011 time period. TOJDE publishes by Anadolu University, Turkey. Despite most of hits comes from Turkey, a large part of users visited from USA, China, India, France and UK.

CONCLUSION

This paper focuses the analyses in distance education research in TOJDE over a ten-year period from 2000 to 2010, and visitor's activity while visiting the TOJDE website. The authors reviewed 422 peer-reviewed articles by using content analysis. Their user's activity on the site measured via using web analytics.

Analysis of the data indicated that themes such as learner and instructor experiences of online learning environment; information about the DE system; economic, social and cultural dimension of DE, and pedagogical, political, philosophical, legal, ethical reflections in DE are dominate in recent years in TOJDE.

Research in the areas of virtual reality, electronic publishing, digital libraries, programme and material development, problems and challenges in DE appear to be less common.

More than three-fourths of the articles preferred quantitative research paradigm as their methodology. Furthermore, half of the articles used document analysis, 20% of articles used survey as their data collection tools and half of the articles used descriptive statistics as their statistical methods.

In review of research in distance education, 1990 to 1999, research methodology used in DE research for four journals (The American Journal of Distance Education (United States), Distance Education (Australia), the Journal of Distance Education (Canada), and Open Learning (United Kingdom), three-fourths of the articles used descriptive research (Berge & Mrozowski, 2001).

Most of the article submission comes from Turkey, USA, India, Nigeria, Malaysia, Pakistan, Australia, Canada, UK, Bangladesh, Greece, and Iran. Although single authored articles are prevalent, collaborative studies tend to increase in recent years. Zawacki-Richter, Bäcker and Vogt (2009) revealed that there is a significant positive trend for multiple author articles.

After website analysis, most popular paths of users on TOJDE are TOJDE homepage, TOJDE's editorial board and TOJDE volume 11, number 4. Visitors to TOJDE website come from all over the world. Despite most of hits comes from Turkey, a large part of users visited from USA, China, India, France and UK.

This kind of reviews can be used to increase the quality of future research studies and the results may affect research areas in DE in the future. For instance; virtual reality, digital libraries and programme development, problems and challenges issues can be examined in the further studies.

In addition, this analysis can be useful for seeing the full picture of TOJDE and prospective researchers can use the results to identify priority areas and to explore potential research directions.

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He is also an editor, consultant editor, reviewer, or book reviewer for more than 15 international journals which are deal with distance education and educational technology. In addition, he has responsibilities on advisory boards and as referee for conferences, symposiums, and panels. He has co-authored and individually contributed chapters in some Turkish and international books. Up to now he has around 15 imprint or eBooks dealt with distance education and many articles, which has been published national and international journals.

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344

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