Journal of Health, Population and Nutrition: Critical Review

🔷 Journal Profile

- **Title:** Journal of Health, Population and Nutrition (JHPN)
- **Publisher:** BMC / Springer Nature
- **Open Access:** Yes (APC-based model)
- **Indexing:** PubMed, Scopus, Web of Science, DOAJ
- **h-index:** ~79
- **Impact Factor (2023):** 2.4
- **Estimated IF (2024):** ~2.87
- **SJR (2024):** 0.737
- **SNIP (2024):** 1.045
- **5-Year IF:** 2.7
- **Categories:** Q1 in Food Science, Q2 in Public Health / Epidemiology (Scopus)

🔷 Strengths

- **Global multidisciplinary scope:** covers public health, nutrition, maternal/child health, emerging diseases.
- **Full open access:** all articles are freely available.
- **Fast editorial processing:** 21 days to first decision, ~106 days to acceptance.
- **High visibility:** over 800,000 downloads/year; strong altmetric impact.
- **Alignment with SDGs:** >50% of 2024 articles linked to UN Sustainable Development Goals.

🔷 Weaknesses

- **Moderate impact factor:** lower than top-tier journals in nutrition/public health.
- **Single-blind peer review:** potential for reviewer bias.
- **High publication cost:** ~$2,790 APC may be a barrier in resource-limited settings.
- **Thematic restrictions:** no longer accepts Mendelian randomization studies.
- **Editorial ambiguity:** historically based in Bangladesh, now UK-based via BMC.

🔷 Comparison with Peer Journals

Journal	Est. IF	Access Type	Peer Review Type	General Remarks
JHPN	~2.87	Open Access	Single-blind	Global health scope, LMIC-friendly
Am. J. Clin. Nutrition	~7.0	Subscription	Single-blind	Prestigious, clinical nutrition
Crit. Rev. Food Science & Nutr.	~11	Subscription	Likely single-blind	High-level reviews in food/nutrition
Annual Review of Nutrition	~12.6	Subscription	Expert commission	Influential annual thematic reviews

✅ Best Suited For

- Research with global health relevance.
- Public health and nutrition topics, especially in LMIC contexts.
- Authors needing open access with relatively fast publication.

❌ Less Suitable For

- Researchers seeking top-tier citation metrics.
- Studies in genetic epidemiology (e.g. Mendelian randomization).
- Unfunded authors unable to cover APC fees.

📝 Final Verdict

Journal of Health, Population and Nutrition is a credible, open-access journal with solid indexing, broad scope, and efficient workflows. While not among the highest-impact venues, it is a strong platform for global health research, especially from underrepresented settings.

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