

Stephen P Jenkins Editorial 2016

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Editorial 2016

Stephen P. Jenkins¹

This editorial is the second of my annual reports to our authors, readers, and referees, aiming to provide an easily accessible source of information about acceptance rates and manuscript processing times, editorial policy, nor public acknowledgement of the individuals who help make this journal what it is. Please see Jenkins (2015) for further discussion of editorial practice, Special Issues and Forums, Rediscovered Classics, replication policy for empirical papers, and advice for authors submitting original research articles.

Publication statistics

Publication statistics are derived from Springer's Editorial Manager software, and reflect the situation in mid-2016.

The *number of submissions* continues to rise: see Table 1. There were 240 Original Research Article submissions in 2015, compared with 198 in 2014, representing an increase of 24%. We expect around 270 submissions for calendar year 2016, having already received 185 new submissions between 1 January and 31 August.

Table 1. Numbers of articles submitted, by type

Article Type	2013	2014	2015
Original Research Article	176	193	240
Book Review	4	4	1
Other	3	1	1
Editorial Notes	2	0	1
Forum	1	0	0
Special Issue Article	0	0	9
Total	186	198	252

The *rejection rate* has been increasing slowly over the last five years, but has now levelled off. It was 91% in 2015 compared with 90% for 2014. See Table 2.

Manuscript processing times have continued to decline: see Table 2. The mean number of days from submission to first decision was 88 in 2013 and 53 in 2014 but only 29 days in 2015. The mean number of days to final deposition Accept fell from 407 in 2014 to 279 in 2015, and to final deposition Reject from 60 in 2014 to 46 in 2015.

The *number of submissions that is desk-rejected* has continued to rise: see Table 3. The desk-rejection rate of original research articles may be calculated as a fraction of submissions, or of articles decisioned. Using the first measure, the rate was 49% in 2013, 57% in 2014, and 69% in 2015. Using the second measure, the rate was 50% in 2013, 61% in 2014, and 75% in 2015. We continue to aim to make desk-rejections within seven days of receipt of the submission and also to provide some comments to authors. Our desk-rejection policy is discussed in more detail by Jenkins (2015).

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Table 2. Decisions and times to decision

	2013	2014	2015
Total Submitted	187	198	253
Total Decided	185	191	240
Accept	27	19	22
Reject	158	172	218
Acceptance rate (%)	15	10	9
Rejection rate (%)	85	90	91
Average days to first decision	88	62	29
Average days to final disposition Accept	282	407	279
Average days to final disposition Reject	85	60	46

Notes. ‘Reject’ includes Reject before review; Reject after review; Reject, but resubmit; Reject, out of scope; and so forth. Only papers for which the ‘Final Disposition Date’ has been set are taken into account. Final disposition means that a manuscript is fully completed.

Table 3. Decisions by type

Type of decision	2013	2014	2015
Reject without review	87	110	166
Reject after review	59	61	47
Accept	24	5	6
Still pending final decision	3	13	18
Total	176	193	240

The *total number of articles published* in 2015 was 39 including 11 in a special issue on Appraising Cross-National Income Inequality Databases. Submissions in 2015 came from 31 countries, including 50 from the USA, 16 from Italy, 14 each from Germany and the UK, and 10 from France.

The journal’s *Impact Factor* which had been increasing year on year since 2010 fell between 2014 (1.362) and 2015 (1.041). The 2015 5-year Impact Factor is 1.837.

The 10 *most downloaded papers* from the Springer website in 2015 are shown in Table 2. As for 2014, the majority of the papers appeared either in a themed Special Issue, or in the Rediscovered Classics section. The 15 *most cited papers* (according to Google Scholar, as at August 2016) are shown in Table 2, with papers ranked by number of citations per year. Original Article submissions feature more prominently in this table than Table 1 but, nonetheless, a notable fraction appeared either in a themed Special Issue or in the Rediscovered Classics section

Table 1. Top 10 most downloaded papers from Springer’s JEI website, calendar year 2015

Rank	Downloads	Paper	Corresponding author	Volume	Issue	Year
1	881	Inequality and growth: evidence from panel cointegration	Herzer	10	4	2012
2	831	The measurement of multidimensional poverty	Bourguignon	1	1	2003
3	596	Decomposition procedures for distributional analysis: a unified framework based on the Shapley value	Shorrocks	11	1	2013
4	521	Understandings and misunderstandings of multidimensional poverty measurement	Alkire	9	2	2011
5	521	The origins of the Gini index: extracts from <i>Variabilità e Mutabilità</i> (1912) by Corrado Gini	Ceriani	10	3	2012
6	442	Inequality and happiness: insights from Latin America	Graham	4	1	2006
7	422	A vulnerability approach to the definition of the middle class	López-Calva	12	1	2014
8	417	The Foster-Greer-Thorbecke (FGT) poverty measures: 25 years on	Foster	8	4	2010
9	407	On multidimensional indices of poverty	Ravallion	9	2	2011
10	404	The HDI 2010: new controversies, old critiques	Klugman	9	2	2011

Table 3. Top 15 JEI papers ranked by number of citations per year (as at August 2016)

Rank	Cites per year	Cites	Authors	Title	Year
1	238.00	714	AF Shorrocks	Decomposition procedures for distributional analysis: a unified framework based on the Shapley value	2013
2	84.23	1095	F Bourguignon, SR Chakravarty	The measurement of multidimensional poverty	2003
3	70.00	118	LF Lopez-Calva, E Ortiz-Juarez	A vulnerability approach to the definition of the middle class	2014
4	54.20	271	S Alkire, J Foster	Understandings and misunderstandings of multidimensional poverty measurement	2011
5	48.00	240	M Ravallion	On multidimensional indices of poverty	2011
6	42.80	214	J Klugman, F Rodríguez, HJ Choi	The HDI 2010: new controversies, old critiques	2011
7	41.15	535	AB Atkinson	Multidimensional deprivation: contrasting social welfare and counting approaches	2003
8	38.67	348	J Esteban, C Gradín, D Ray	An extension of a measure of polarization, with an application to the income distribution of five OECD countries	2007
9	37.10	371	F Bourguignon, A Spadaro	Microsimulation as a tool for evaluating redistribution policies	2006
10	37.00	222	D Checchi, V Peragine	Inequality of opportunity in Italy	2010
11	25.00	25	SP Jenkins	World Income Inequality Databases: an assessment of WIID and SWIID	2015
12	24.60	246	C Graham, A Felton	Inequality and happiness: insights from Latin America	2006
13	24.50	147	GS Fields	Does income mobility equalize longer-term incomes? New measures of an old concept	2010
14	24.25	97	L Ceriani, P Verme	The origins of the Gini index: extracts from <i>Variabilità e Mutabilità</i> (1912) by Corrado Gini	2012
15	24.17	145	JE Foster, MC Wolfson	Polarization and the decline of the middle-class	2010

Note: Extracted on 2016-08-14 using Harzing's Publish or PerishTM software (statistics derived from Google Scholar).

Reference

Jenkins, S. P. (2015). Editorial 2015. *Journal of Economic Inequality*, 13 (4):487–496.

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