

Highlights

- *TE* published 54 papers in 2021/22 compared to 47 papers in 2020/21 and 42 papers in 2019/20. The number of papers waiting to be published has risen from 50 to 55 over the last year, but we expect that to decline given the recent drop in submissions.
- The number of submissions fell over the last year. Adjusting for withdrawals, the numbers there were 288 submissions in 2021/22, 377 in 2020/21, 369 in 2019/20 and 325 in 2018/19. The drop may be partly due to the reduction in pandemic-related restrictions and the return of conferences.
- The number of submissions whose authors have requested the transfer of editorial material from *Econometrica* fell to 39 compared with 54 in 2020/21 and 47 in 2019/20.
- In 2021/22, our average first-round turnaround was 51 days, significantly less than our target of 70 days. This compares with 50 days in 2020/21 and 53 days in 2019/20. Over this year, 89% of first-round decisions were made within three months of submission, and 97% within four months.
- The average length of an article is 34 pages in 2022. This compares with 34 pages in 2021 and 38 pages in 2019. Over 2021/22, we only published two supplementary appendices. This was driven by a consistent effort on behalf of the editors to trim papers during the review process.
- Ham, Wright and Ye (2021) ranked economics journals over 2015–2019 using the iterative eigenfactor method of Palacios-Huerta and Volij (2004). *Theoretical Economics* ranked #11, above *AEJ:Micro* (#14), *Journal of Economic Theory* (#24) and *Games and Economic Behavior* (#33).¹

1 Papers

1.1 Papers published

Data on the papers published 2017 through June 2022 are given in [Table 1](#). So far, we published 28 papers in two issues during 2022. The total for the four issues this year will be 56. There has been a recent trend toward shorter papers. In 2019, the average publication length went up partly due to the new policy of incorporating formerly supplemental material into the main text. Since then, the average number of pages per paper went down to 38 in 2020, 34 in 2021 and 34 in the first two issues of 2022.

¹https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3606030

This was achieved without the use of supplementary appendices. (For example, in 2017, 11 out of 41 papers had a supplementary appendix, whereas in 2021/22 only two out of 54 had a supplementary appendix.)

Year	Number	Pages	Pages per article
2017	41	1438	35
2018	44	1481	34
2019	40	1590	40
2020	45	1712	38
2021	50	1714	34
2022	28	942	34

Table 1: Number of articles and pages published, by year of publication.

1.2 Papers in process

Data on the papers in process are given in Table 2. Our backlog of accepted papers awaiting publication has grown larger. After the publication of the July issue of 2022, there are 41 papers in this list. We will seek to bring the backlog down by continuing to publish 14 papers per issue over the coming year. Given the drop-off in submissions this year, we expect the number of accepted papers to fall back from 55 in 2022 and 50 in 2021.

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Accepted, awaiting publication	31	23	26	35	50	55
Under review, round 1	53	42	59	60	55	44
Under revision after 1 round	29	34	32	44	35	23
Under review, round 2	11	14	11	12	18	10
Under revision after 2 rounds	12	11	12	9	11	14
Under review, round 3	6	4	5	5	4	3
Under revision after 3 rounds	2	2	2	1	1	1
Under review, round 4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Under revision after 4 rounds	1	1	0	0	0	1
Under review, round 5	0	1	0	0	0	0
Under revision after 5 rounds	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Totals</i>	145	132	147	166	174	151

Table 2: Papers in process on June 30 of each year.

Of the papers *currently* in process, I estimate, based on past experience, that about 54 will ultimately be published, down from 72 last year.²

²Calculated by computing, for each paper, the fraction of previous papers with the same round number and referee recommendations on the current round (if any) that were accepted, and adding up these fractions. These frequencies are available to Editorial Board members on the journal website.

1.3 Submissions

The numbers of submissions by year and their *current* status are given in Table 3. (By contrast, the numbers in Table 2 relate to statuses as of the dates given.) The number of submissions in 2021/22 is substantially smaller than over the few prior years. The number of submissions in 2021/22 was 291 compared to 414 in 2020/21, 401 in 2019/20, and 352 in 2018/19. Part of the drop was because the reduction is the number of withdrawn papers that led to double counting. Subtracting withdrawals, the numbers were 288 in 2021/22, 377 in 2020/21, 369 in 2019/20 and 325 in 2018/19. The remaining drop may be partly due to the reduction in pandemic-related restrictions and the return of conferences. Our estimated acceptance rate in recent years ranges between 12-15%.

Year ending	Total	Accepted	Rejected	Under revision	Overdue	Withdrawn	In review
2017-6-30	298	34 (11%)	257 (86%)		1 (0%)	6 (2%)	
2018-6-30	341	32 (9%)	290 (85%)		5 (1%)	14 (4%)	
2019-6-30	352	49 (14%)	272 (77%)		4 (1%)	27 (8%)	
2020-6-30	401	51 (13%)	312 (78%)	3 (1%)	1 (0%)	32 (8%)	2 (0%)
2021-6-30	414	45 (11%)	313 (76%)	12 (3%)	1 (0%)	37 (9%)	6 (1%)
2022-6-30	291	5 (2%)	217 (75%)	22 (8%)		3 (1%)	44 (15%)
<i>Totals</i>	2,097	216	1,661	37	12	119	52

Table 3: Submissions by year, with current status. Papers are “overdue” after 12 months.

2 Paper handling

2.1 Assignment

The numbers of papers handled by each coeditor are given in Table 4. (The date associated with a paper is the date of submission. The totals for some years are smaller than the totals in Table 3 because some papers were withdrawn before a coeditor was assigned.)

2.2 Turnaround

Table 5 gives the average turnaround in days for decisions made in each year, by round. Average turnaround this year remained below our target of 70 days. Compared to the numbers a few years ago, turnaround times are down for every round; the improvement at the second and third round is particularly striking.

Figure 1 shows the full distribution of days-to-first-decision for first decisions made.

Table 6 shows the distributions of turnaround on the first round and all subsequent rounds for decisions made in the current year. (For the purposes of this table, a month is an *Econometrica* month, which has $365.25/12 = 30.4375$ days.) Analogous data for decisions made in the previous year are given in Table 7.

	1718	1819	1920	2021	2122	Total
Simon Board	67	62	72	68	92	361
Federico Echenique		1	69	74	50	194
Marina Halac			1	69	49	119
Thomas Mariotti	57	52	65		1	175
Dilip Mookherjee	50	54				104
Giuseppe Moscarini	39					39
Todd D. Sarver					47	47
Florian Scheuer		58	58	64	45	225
Ran Spiegler	121	111	127	125	1	485
Bruno Strulovici					2	2
Pierre-Olivier Weill					2	2
<i>Total</i>	334	338	392	400	289	1,753

Table 4: Assignment of submissions to coeditors. The column headings are years. For example, ‘2122’ means 2021-7-1 to 2022-6-30.

Decision date	Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6
Year to 2017-6-30	60	87	41	88	56	34
Year to 2018-6-30	61	101	53	32	15	
Year to 2019-6-30	52	87	51	6	31	
Year to 2020-6-30	53	68	31	23	1	
Year to 2021-6-30	50	68	22	5		
Year to 2022-6-30	51	68	28	13		
Up to 2022-6-30	54	77	35	25	23	34

Table 5: Average turnaround in days, by year of decision and round.

	Round 1			Round 2+			All rounds		
	#	%	Cum. %	#	%	Cum. %	#	%	Cum. %
0–1 month	82	27%	27%	51	41%	41%	133	31%	31%
1–2 months	102	34%	62%	32	26%	66%	134	32%	63%
2–3 months	82	27%	89%	24	19%	86%	106	25%	88%
3–4 months	23	8%	97%	9	7%	93%	32	8%	96%
4–5 months	10	3%	100%	6	5%	98%	16	4%	99%
5–6 months	0	0%	100%	1	1%	98%	1	0%	100%
6–7 months	0	0%	100%	2	2%	100%	2	0%	100%
7–8 months	0	0%	100%	0	0%	100%	0	0%	100%
≥ 8 months	0	0%	100%	0	0%	100%	0	0%	100%
Totals	299			125			424		

Table 6: Time taken by all decisions made between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022.

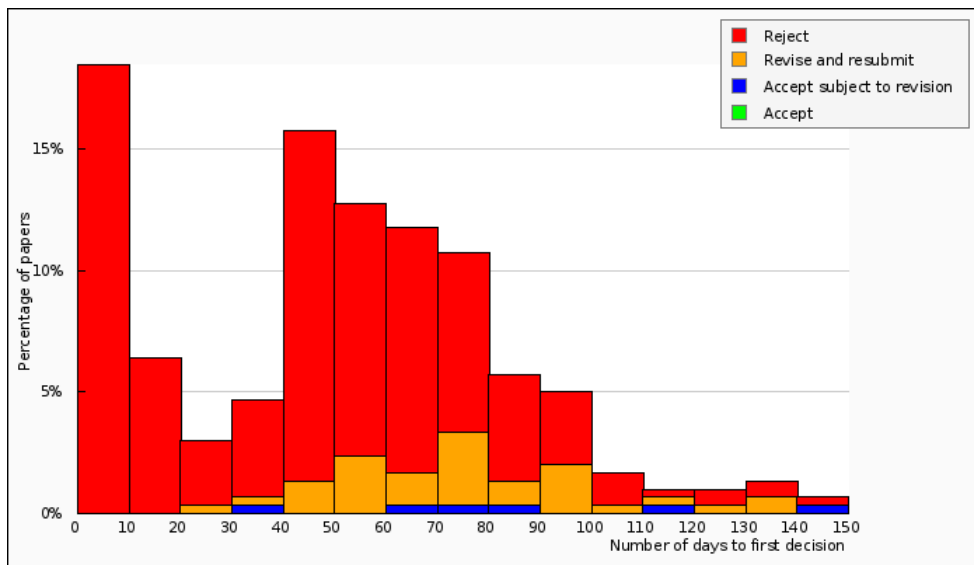


Figure 1: Distribution of days to first decision for papers on which a first decision was made between July 1, 2021 and June 30, 2022.

	Round 1			Round 2+			All rounds		
	#	%	Cum. %	#	%	Cum. %	#	%	Cum. %
0–1 month	107	28%	28%	59	44%	44%	166	32%	32%
1–2 months	119	31%	59%	35	26%	71%	154	30%	62%
2–3 months	106	28%	87%	19	14%	85%	125	24%	86%
3–4 months	41	11%	97%	15	11%	96%	56	11%	97%
4–5 months	6	2%	99%	3	2%	98%	9	2%	99%
5–6 months	3	1%	100%	1	1%	99%	4	1%	100%
6–7 months	0	0%	100%	1	1%	100%	1	0%	100%
7–8 months	1	0%	100%	0	0%	100%	1	0%	100%
≥ 8 months	0	0%	100%	0	0%	100%	0	0%	100%
Totals	383			133			516		

Table 7: Time taken by all decisions made between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021.

2.3 Referees

Data on referees’ performance are given in Table 8.³

The “quality” of a report is assigned by the coeditor handling the paper; it is an integer from 1 to 5, where 3 is “average”.

The distributions of the number of days referees have taken to produce reports are shown in Figure 2. We ask referees to submit reports within 35 days. It is worth noting that the mode of the distribution occurs between 30 and 40 days.

³The categories “canceled” and “declined” are not entirely well-defined. If a potential referee responds to a request on our website, her only options are “accept” or “decline”. But if she responds by email to the coeditor, the coeditor has the additional option to “cancel” the request. If, for example, a potential referee says that she isn’t familiar enough with the field, a coeditor may “cancel” a request rather than record it as having been “declined”. A request may also be “canceled” by an editor when there is enough evidence to make a decision in the absence of a report from the referee or when he gives up waiting for the referee to send a report.

Number of papers: 288	Total	AEs	non-AEs	Per paper
Reports requested (% of total)	726	162 (22%)	564 (78%)	2.5
Reports received (% of # requested)	542 (75%)	134 (83%)	408 (72%)	1.9
Report requests declined (% of # requested)	102 (14%)	7 (4%)	95 (17%)	0.4
Report requests cancelled (% of # requested)	82 (11%)	21 (13%)	61 (11%)	0.3
Average number of days taken by referees	37.4	34.7	38.3	
Average number of days reports late	0.9	-1.5	1.7	
Average quality of reports	3.8	4.0	3.8	

Table 8: Referee performance on papers for first-round decisions made between 2021-7-1 and 2022-6-30.

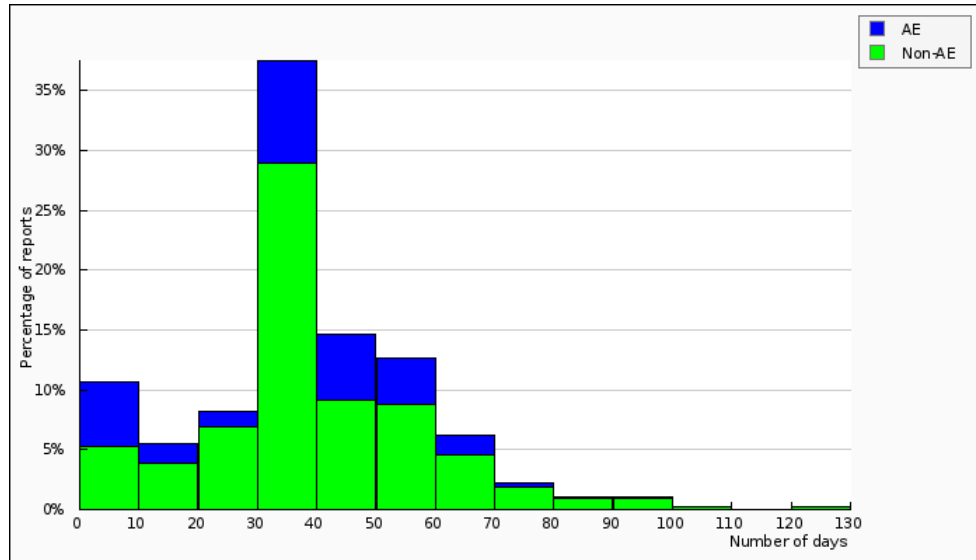


Figure 2: Distribution of days taken by referees to produce first-round reports for papers for which first-round decisions were made between July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020.

Decision date	Number of referees' reports received					
	0	1	2	3	4	≥ 5
Year to 2017-6-30	107 (36%)	14 (5%)	86 (29%)	88 (29%)	4 (1%)	0 (0%)
Year to 2018-6-30	96 (27%)	25 (7%)	122 (34%)	107 (30%)	8 (2%)	0 (0%)
Year to 2019-6-30	87 (28%)	17 (5%)	94 (30%)	108 (35%)	6 (2%)	0 (0%)
Year to 2020-6-30	93 (25%)	39 (11%)	134 (36%)	100 (27%)	5 (1%)	0 (0%)
Year to 2021-6-30	83 (22%)	28 (7%)	137 (36%)	134 (35%)	1 (0%)	1 (0%)
Year to 2022-6-30	43 (14%)	41 (14%)	143 (48%)	72 (24%)	1 (0%)	0 (0%)
Up to 2022-6-30	509 (25%)	164 (8%)	716 (35%)	609 (30%)	25 (1%)	1 (0%)

Table 9: Distribution of number of referees' reports received on first round, by year of decision. The cell in row r , column c is the number of papers for which a first decision was made in period r and c reports were received.

The distribution of the number of first-round reports received across the papers by the year of the first decision is shown in Table 9. In 2021/22 there were slightly more papers with one report and slightly fewer papers with no reports when compared to 2020/21. This stems from from me often soliciting a quick opinion from an AE before desk rejecting a paper.

3 Papers with reports transferred from *Econometrica*

The data for submissions whose authors requested the transfer of the editorial materials (reports, covering letters, and editor's decision letter) from *Econometrica* are given in Table 10 (the analog of Table 3).

Year ending	Total	Accepted	Rejected	Under revision	Overdue	Withdrawn	In review
2018-6-30	36	9 (25%)	22 (61%)		2 (6%)	3 (8%)	
2019-6-30	46	17 (37%)	23 (50%)		1 (2%)	5 (11%)	
2020-6-30	47	18 (38%)	25 (53%)			4 (9%)	
2021-6-30	54	12 (22%)	24 (44%)	6 (11%)		10 (19%)	2 (4%)
2022-6-30	39	2 (5%)	20 (51%)	8 (21%)		1 (3%)	8 (21%)
<i>Totals</i>	222	58	114	14	3	23	10

Table 10: Submissions by year for which authors requested transfer of editorial material from *Econometrica*, with current status. Papers are "overdue" after 12 months.

The average time to a first decision for these papers is longer than the corresponding time for other papers by about three weeks, mainly, it seems, because these papers are rarely desk rejected.

4 Coeditors

Simon Board's term as editor will end June 30, 2025. Florian Scheuer's and Marina Halac's terms ended June 30, 2022. Federico Echenique's term will end June 30, 2023. Todd Sarver's term will end June 30, 2025. Pierre-Olivier Weill and Bruno Strulovici's terms will end June 30, 2026. Rakesh Vohra will start on July 1, 2023.

5 Associate Editors

Number currently serving: 44 (excludes those whose term ended during year ending June 30)

Term end 2022-06-30

- Frederic Koessler: 2016-07-01 to 2022-06-30
- David K. Levine: 2002-09-15 to 2022-06-30
- Marek Pycia: 2013-07-01 to 2022-06-30
- Roland Strausz: 2013-07-01 to 2022-06-30

Term end 2023-06-30

- Mariagiovanna Baccara: 2020-07-01 to 2023-06-30
- Jaroslav Borovicka: 2020-07-01 to 2023-06-30
- Geoffroy de Clippel: 2020-07-01 to 2023-06-30
- Eddie Dekel: 2008-07-01 to 2023-06-30
- Ignacio Esponda: 2017-07-01 to 2023-06-30
- Alex Frankel: 2020-07-01 to 2023-06-30
- Felix Kubler: 2017-07-01 to 2023-06-30
- Shengwu Li: 2020-07-01 to 2023-06-30
- George J. Mailath: 2017-07-01 to 2023-06-30
- Thomas Mariotti: 2016-09-01 to 2023-06-30
- Georg Nöldeke: 2005-04-13 to 2023-06-30
- Philipp Sadowski: 2020-07-01 to 2023-06-30
- Uzi Segal: 2005-04-26 to 2023-06-30
- Juuso Välimäki: 2020-07-01 to 2023-06-30

Term end 2024-06-30

- Francis Bloch: 2021-07-01 to 2024-06-30
- Kfir Eliaz: 2012-07-01 to 2024-06-30
- Mira Frick: 2021-07-01 to 2024-06-30
- Yingni Guo: 2021-07-01 to 2024-06-30
- Yuichiro Kamada: 2018-07-01 to 2024-06-30
- Fuhito Kojima: 2021-07-01 to 2024-06-30
- Pablo Kurlat: 2018-07-01 to 2024-06-30
- Stephan Lauermann: 2018-07-01 to 2024-06-30
- Benjamin Lester: 2018-07-01 to 2024-06-30
- Jay Lu: 2021-07-01 to 2024-06-30
- Ezra Oberfield: 2021-07-01 to 2024-06-30
- Marcin Peski: 2015-07-01 to 2024-06-30
- Ran Spiegler: 2021-07-01 to 2024-06-30
- Juuso Toikka: 2018-07-01 to 2024-06-30
- Utku Unver: 2012-07-01 to 2024-06-30
- Alexander Westkamp: 2021-07-01 to 2024-06-30
- Thomas Wiseman: 2012-07-01 to 2024-06-30

Term end 2025-06-30

- Marco Bassetto: 2010-07-01 to 2025-06-30
- J. Aislinn Bohren: 2019-07-01 to 2025-06-30
- Gabriel Carroll: 2019-07-01 to 2025-06-30
- Rahul Deb: 2019-07-01 to 2025-06-30
- Laura Doval: 2022-07-01 to 2025-06-30
- Piotr Dworzak: 2022-07-01 to 2025-06-30
- Andrew Ellis: 2019-07-01 to 2025-06-30
- Vijay Krishna: 2022-07-01 to 2025-06-30
- Elliot Lipnowski: 2022-07-01 to 2025-06-30



Figure 3: Number of visits to public website, by month. The number of visits for each month is the sum of the visits from distinct IP addresses on each day.

- Antonio Penta: 2019-07-01 to 2025-06-30
- Ariel Rubinstein: 2004-06-10 to 2025-06-30
- Florian Scheuer: 2022-07-01 to 2025-06-30
- Yves Sprumont: 2016-07-01 to 2025-06-30

6 Users, members, website

6.1 Users

Currently we have 6,177 registered “users” (people who have signed up on our site (or have been signed up by a coeditor) so that they receive notification of new issues and can submit and referee papers).

6.2 RSS

An RSS feed automatically included accepted and published papers. Accepted papers are added when the author uploads the final version after acceptance (at which point it is available on our website as a “Paper to appear”).

6.3 Twitter

We tweet out a summary of the paper (written by the author) along with a link to the paper and a picture of the abstract when an accepted paper is posted as forthcoming. We have 5,565 followers up from 2,518 followers in 2021 and 2,017 in 2020.