

**Economic Journal
Annual Report
October 2016**

1 Overview

- Regular submissions for the first three quarters of 2016 have exceeded those of the equivalent period in the previous year (from an average of 343 per quarter in 2015, to 382 in 2016). See Table 1.
- For the first three quarters of 2016, we have received 1215 submissions, including conference papers and Feature papers. See Table 1.
- Geographic distribution of submitted papers is similar to that of last year. See Table 2.
- For the first three quarters of 2016, 614 of regular submissions were dealt with by Editors alone and summarily rejected (Table 1); of these, 92% were returned to the authors within 14 days, with the remaining 8% being returned within 15 to 30 days. This is an excellent improvement on turnaround times compared to last year and the best on record.
- For the first three quarters of 2016, nearly 90% of regular submissions that were sent to the referees were returned to authors within four months of submission; only 1% took longer than six months (Table 3). Again, this is an excellent improvement on last year.
- The vast majority of referees responded within three months, with 64% responding within two months (Table 4). The Editors are very grateful to the referees for their excellent performance.
- In June 2016, the 2015 Impact Factors were released and the journal saw an increase in its Impact Factor on 2014, to 2.370 from 2.336.
- The journal has moved up six places on 2014 to 31/344 from 37/333 in the Economics ISI subject category.
- All accepted papers continue to be passed through anti-plagiarism software before publication.
- The journal continues to use its Twitter account to promote news and content.
- Estelle Cantillon has joined the board as a Managing Editor.
- From April 2017, the number of editors will increase from 7 to 8.
- From 2017, the number of papers published per year will increase to 105.
- The office remains at UCL. Imogen Clarke has joined as the Publishing Editor maternity cover.

2 Journal Information and Statistics

2.1 Editorial Team

The current editorial team consists of:

Joint Managing Editors

Estelle Cantillon, Université libre de Bruxelles

Martin Cripps, University College London

Andrea Galeotti, University of Essex

Rachel Griffith, University of Manchester

Morten Ravn, University College London

Kjell G. Salvanes, Norwegian School of Economics

Frederic Vermeulen, University of Leuven

Hans-Joachim Voth, University of Zurich

Publishing Editor

Imogen Clarke, EJ Publishing Editor, UCL (email: ej@res.org.uk)

Production Editor

David G. Mayes, University of Auckland (email: d.mayes@auckland.ac.nz)

2.2 Editorial Board Replacements and Additions

Incoming and outgoing Managing Editors overlap for 6 months in order to make the process smooth and to allow a forward-looking approach owing to the difficulty in convincing high calibre people to join.

- Rachel Griffith will leave the Board by 30/03/2017 and is being replaced by Estelle Cantillon.
- Andrea Galeotti will leave the Board by 31/12/2017. A replacement should join the Board by the end of June 2017.

An eighth editor will join the Editorial Board in April 2017.

2.3 Submissions (Tables 1-2)

Total submissions for 2016 are likely to exceed the number for 2015 (based on averages per quarter). See Table 1.

The geographic distribution of submissions (Table 2) is similar to that of last year, with the largest share coming from Europe (40%) and followed by the USA and Canada (25%). UK submissions fell slightly to 15%.

2.4 Editorial Processing Time (Tables 3-6)

Editorial turnaround times (Table 3) is very quick. Only 1% of papers took longer than five months and none took longer than six months.

614 of regular submissions were dealt with by the Editors alone (summarily rejected). The Editors do this for papers that in their view have a low probability of getting published in order to help keep turnaround times down.

The ability of the Editors to keep turnaround times down is in no small part owing to the quick response we get from the referees. Table 4 shows that 64% of referees responded within two months; a strong improvement on last year.

Table 3 also shows response times separately for papers that were invited to revise and resubmit and those that were rejected. Of authors invited for revision, 87% received a decision within four months.

Table 5 shows the number of new submissions handled by each Editor and the number of resubmitted revisions (as shown by the +).

Table 6 shows the number of papers submitted to the conference volume and decisions made.

2.5 Rankings and Impact Factors (Table 7)

In June 2016, the 2015 Impact Factors were released and the journal saw an increase in its Impact Factor on 2014, to 2.370 from 2.336.

2.6 Plagiarism Checking

Three years ago we introduced a new system under which we scan all accepted papers through anti-plagiarism software before publication. We use iThenticate software, recommended by Wiley. The software has mainly flagged up issues related to authors omitting to reference their own prior work. These omissions have been rectified before publication. We will continue to operate this policy.

2.7 Social Media

The journal launched its Twitter feed in April 2013. The feed provides access to articles, media briefings and news.

2.8 Circulation Statistics and Membership of the RES (Tables 8-10)

These are shown in Tables 8-10.

2.9 Page Budget

From 2017, the page budget will be increased to allow for an additional 25 papers per year. The journal will now publish 105 papers per year.

3 Prize Winners

We are delighted to announce this year's prize winners.

Austin Robinson Memorial Prize

Awarded to the best paper published in The Economic Journal in a given year by an author (or multiple authors) who is within 5 years of receiving his or her (or their) PhD as selected by the Editors of The Economic Journal.

Joint Prize:

Pedro Gomes 'Optimal Public Sector Wages'

The Economic Journal, September 2015

Erick Gong 'HIV Testing and Risky Sexual Behaviour'

The Economic Journal, February 2015

Royal Economic Society Prize

Awarded to the best paper published in The Economic Journal in a given year as selected by the RES President, a representative of the Economic Journal Editorial Board and one invited judge from the RES Council.

Miaojie Yu 'Processing Trade, Tariff Reductions and Firm Productivity: Evidence from Chinese Firms'
The Economic Journal, June 2015

Referee Prize

Up to 14 prizes awarded each year for referees judged by the Editors to have made an outstanding contribution in this capacity.

Britta Augsburg, Institute for Fiscal Studies
Tobias Broer, Stockholm University
Edouard Challe, École Polytechnique
Cormac O'Dea, University College London
Francois Gourio, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago
Christopher Huckfeldt, Cornell University
Oksana Leukhina, University of Washington
David Miller, University of Michigan
Helen Miller, Institute for Fiscal Studies
Francesco Nava, London School of Economics
Hessel Oosterbeek, Amsterdam School of Economics
Pedro Rey-Biel, Autonomous University of Barcelona
Juan Pablo Rud, Royal Holloway, University of London
Erik Schokkaert, University of Leuven

4. Altmetric Report

#Articles	Bloggers	Tweeters	Google+Users	News	Facebook	Policy	Wikipedia	Mendeley
161	58	66 (520 Tweets)	3	139	15	121	56	7,090

From October 2015 to October 2016, 161 EJ articles received online mentions recorded by Altmetric. A large part of the activity came from (66) Tweeters, who contributed 520 tweets collectively.

EJ articles were mentioned in 121 policy papers, published by Chatham House, National Bureau of Economic Research, the International Labour Organization and the World Bank, to name four.

News Outlets contributed the 139 mentions in total. Both national news outlets such as *The Independent* and local press, such as the *Western Telegraph*, have mentioned EJ articles.

Blogs, such as the *LSE Business Review*, *The Economist* and the *Library of Economics and Liberty*, have mentioned EJ articles in the past year.

There were 56 Wikipedia pages that mentioned articles; sometimes with articles being referred to in separate pages (7 articles had more than one mention).

In the past year there were over 7,000 readers of articles on Mendeley and Altmetric has recorded 15 Facebook wall posts that mention (9) EJ articles.

The highest scoring Altmetric Article in the last 12 months is: 'Mathematics and Gender: Heterogeneity in Causes and Consequences' by Juanna Schrøter Joensen and Helena Skyt Nielsen, *Economic Journal* June 2016, with a score of 548.

It was mentioned in:

News Outlets	Blogs	Citations (Scopus)	Mendeley	In the top 5% of all research outputs scored by Altmetric
68	1	1	8	

EJ articles that have an Altmetric score of 40 or above:









 548	Mathematics and Gender: Heterogeneity in Causes and Consequences <i>Economic Journal</i>	 214	Books Are Forever: Early Life Conditions, Education and Lifetime Earnings in Europe <i>Economic Journal</i>	 131	Longitudinal Evidence for a Midlife Nadir in Human Well-being: Results from Four Data Sets <i>Economic Journal</i>	 96	The Labour Market Effects of Immigration and Emigration in OECD Countries <i>Economic Journal</i>
 88	The Visible Hand: Race and Online Market Outcomes <i>Economic Journal</i>	 59	Counting Chickens when they Hatch: Timing and the Effects of Aid on Growth* <i>Economic Journal</i>	 42	Institutions and the Resource Curse* <i>Economic Journal</i>	 41	The Financial Power of the Powerless Socio-Economic Status and Interest Rates under Partial Rule of Law <i>Economic Journal</i>

Table 1: Submissions

Submissions (All Submissions; First, Second, etc.)					Of Regular Submissions (All Submissions; First, Second, etc.)							
Year	Total	Submitted Regular	Submitted Feature	Submitted Conference	Accepted	Conditionally Accepted	Returned for Revision	Rejected	Summarily Rejected	Pending	Withdrawn / To be Removed	Total
2016*	1215	1145	5	65	73	33	54	212	614	156	3	1145
2015	1529	1372	76	81	92	49	135	370	725	0	1	1372
2014	1428	1251	86	91	93	44	136	353	624	0	1	1251
2013	1301	1136	74	91	58	34	132	407	501	0	4	1136
2012	1196	1067	61	68	49	22	117	371	505	0	3	1067
2011	990											
2010	840											
2009	852											
2008	797											
2007	816											
2006	779											
2005	693											
*Results taken from January 1, 2016 to September 30, 2016.												

Table 2: Geographical Distribution of First Regular Submissions

Regions	2016*	2015	2014	2013	2012
UNITED KINGDOM (GB)	151 (15%)	219 (19%)	172 (16%)	163 (16%)	168 (18%)
USA & CANADA	255 (25%)	296 (25%)	252 (23%)	232 (23%)	200 (21%)
UNITED STATES (US)	224	260	228	198	168
CANADA (CA)	31	36	24	34	32
EUROPE	403 (40%)	450 (38%)	386 (36%)	410 (41%)	421 (44%)
BELGIUM (BE)	9	12	9	3	12
FRANCE (FR)	36	43	34	55	44
GERMANY (DE)	132	113	108	119	114
ITALY (IT)	43	64	40	53	46
NETHERLANDS (NL)	27	36	30	34	33
SCANDANAVIA	63	70	59	48	60
SPAIN (ES)	17	27	25	21	26
OTHER EUROPE	76	85	81	77	86
REST OF THE WORLD	194 (19%)	211 (18%)	269 (25%)	195 (20%)	162 (17%)
AUSTRALIA (AU)	37	42	36	40	30
NEW ZEALAND (NZ)	2	6	5	5	4
CHINA (CN)	29	27	34	33	18
HONG KONG (HK)	11	15	10	10	7
INDIA (IN)	4	14	10	4	5
ISRAEL (IL)	17	22	14	18	24
JAPAN (JP)	24	19	17	25	18
OTHER	70	66	143	60	56

*Results taken from January 1, 2016 to September 30, 2016.

Table 3: Time Taken from Submission for Editor to Respond to Author with Decision (for First Regular Submissions)

	2016*	2015	2014	2013	2012
ALL PAPERS					
0-14 days	62%	53%	52%	43%	44%
15 days - 1 month	9%	7%	7%	8%	10%
1-2 months	8%	5%	4%	6%	5%
2-3 months	9%	12%	12%	15%	12%
3-4 months	9%	13%	14%	15%	13%
4-5 months	3%	7%	7%	7%	6%
5-6 months	1%	2%	3%	4%	6%
more than 6 months	0%	1%	2%	2%	3%
SUMMARILY REJECTED					
0-14 days	92%	84%	87%	83%	82%
15 days - 1 month	8%	10%	9%	13%	15%
1-2 months	0%	1%	1%	3%	3%
2-3 months	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%
3-4 months	0%	2%	1%	0%	0%
4-5 months	0%	2%	1%	0%	0%
5-6 months	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
more than 6 months	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
PAPERS SENT TO REFEREES					
0-14 days	14%	2%	4%	3%	1%
15 days - 1 month	10%	3%	4%	3%	4%
1-2 months	20%	11%	9%	9%	9%
2-3 months	22%	30%	27%	29%	26%
3-4 months	22%	30%	31%	30%	28%
4-5 months	9%	15%	14%	14%	13%
5-6 months	2%	5%	6%	8%	12%
more than 6 months	1%	3%	5%	4%	7%

Table 3 (Continued)**SENT TO REFEREES, REJECTED**

0-14 days	5%	3%	3%	3%	1%
15 days - 1 month	5%	4%	5%	3%	4%
1-2 months	19%	13%	9%	10%	10%
2-3 months	26%	33%	30%	32%	29%
3-4 months	30%	28%	30%	30%	30%
4-5 months	10%	13%	14%	13%	12%
5-6 months	3%	4%	4%	6%	10%
more than 6 months	1%	3%	5%	3%	4%
SENT TO REFEREES, RETURNED FOR REVISION					
0-14 days	0%	1%	2%	0%	0%
15 days - 1 month	3%	0%	1%	1%	4%
1-2 months	12%	7%	8%	1%	1%
2-3 months	30%	18%	19%	20%	15%
3-4 months	42%	39%	40%	33%	19%
4-5 months	9%	21%	15%	23%	16%
5-6 months	3%	9%	10%	16%	23%
more than 6 months	0%	4%	5%	6%	22%
	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

*Results taken from January 1, 2016 to September 30, 2016.

Table 4: Time Taken for Referee to Return Report to Editor

	2016*	2015	2014	2013	2012
0-14 days	14%	12%	15%	15%	12%
15 days - 1 month	10%	11%	8%	8%	10%
1-2 months	40%	35%	34%	34%	35%
2-3 months	26%	30%	28%	27%	29%
3-4 months	7%	9%	10%	11%	10%
4-5 months	2%	2%	3%	3%	3%
5-6 months	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
more than 6 months	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%
(total)					

*Results taken from January 1, 2016 to September 30, 2016.

Table 5: New Submissions (+ Revisions), by Editor

Editor	Sep-16	Aug-16	Jul-16	Jun-16	May-16	Apr-16	Mar-16	Feb-16	Jan-16	Dec-15	Nov-15	Oct-15	Total
Cripps, M	21+0	11+0	11+0	17+0	16+1	23+0	16+0	9+0	6+0	8+0	14+0	13+0	165+1
Galeotti, A	16+0	16+0	14+0	15+0	17+0	22+0	9+0	10+0	14+0	8+0	13+0	11+0	165+0
Griffith, R	20+0	10+0	17+0	13+0	19+0	27+0	10+0	17+0	21+0	16+0	15+0	13+0	198+0
Ravn, M	22+0	19+0	18+0	15+0	18+0	26+0	19+0	9+0	14+0	7+0	7+0	16+0	190+0
Salvanes, K	20+0	19+0	17+0	17+0	19+1	26+0	15+0	16+0	14+0	7+0	24+0	17+0	211+1
Vermeulen , F	19+0	12+0	12+0	20+0	15+0	27+0	13+0	18+0	19+0	7+0	11+1	18+0	191+1
Voth, H	20+0	23+0	26+0	15+0	17+0	23+1	8+0	16+0	13+0	8+0	5+0	18+0	192+1

Table 6: Conference Volume (All Submissions; First, Second, etc.)

Year	Accepted	Conditionally Accepted	Returned for Revision	Rejected	Summarily Rejected	Pending	Withdrawn / To be Removed	Total
2016*	7	2	9	21	24	2	0	65
2015	7	5	12	27	30	0	0	81
2014	11	5	10	27	38	0	0	91
2013	13	2	15	32	29	0	0	91
2012	4	0	4	33	27	0	0	68

*Results taken from January 1, 2016 to September 30, 2016.

Table 7: Journal Impact Factor

Year	The Economic Journal	Review of Economics and Statistics	Journal of the EEA	Review of Economic Studies
2015	2.37	2.979	3.461	4.077

Table 8: Geographical Breakdown of Institutional Subscriptions to *the Economic Journal*

(A)

Region	2014	2015
Australia & NZ	91	117
Canada	81	81
China	181	183
Europe	1,491	1,914
Japan	203	202
Rest of World	1,554	1,600
UK	112	119
USA	722	744
Grand Total	4,435	4,960

This shows the number of institutions, by region, that purchased access to the latest content in The Economic Journal via either a Wiley Licence or a traditional (title-by-title) subscription. Key countries in the Rest of World category include Brazil, India and South Korea.

(B)

Region	2014	2015
Australia & NZ	52	52
Canada	52	51
China	107	95
Europe	430	398
Japan	206	196
Rest of World	245	215
UK	144	125
USA	431	407
Grand Total	1,667	1,539

This shows the number of institutions, by region, that either have a traditional subscription to the Economic Journal, or have converted their subscription to a licence. This does not include institutions that have access to the Journal via a Licence only as part of Wiley's Collection.

Table 9: RES Membership by Type

Membership Category	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Sept. 2016
Members Print & Online	1,771	1,051	866	752	591	527
Members Online	-	814	1,140	1,128	1,018	1,228
Members (3-yr) Online	-	-	-	227	433	619
Retired Members Print & Online	181	139	124	124	98	88
Retired Members Online	-	-	-	-	21	34
Student members (3-yr) Print & Online	491	471	281	159	-	-
Student members (3-yr) Online	215	432	680	705	772	785
Student member (1 Yr) Online	-	-	176	318	375	463
Life members Print & Online	281	272	259	253	236	220
Life members Online						3
Editorial Members Online					85	101
Total membership	2,939	3,179	3,526	3,666	3,629	4,068

Table 10: RES Membership by Region/Country

Region	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	Sept. 2016
UK	1,105	1,293	1,437	1,607	1,625	1,767
Europe	829	899	1,023	1,064	975	1,124
USA and Canada	528	504	543	574	577	652
Japan	75	66	74	76	60	66
Rest of World (incl. Aus/NZ and China)	402	417	449	426	394	459
