Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology (JSSAM) 2023 Annual Report

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Executive Summary:
- JSSAM's impact factor increased in 2022, coming from 1.957 to 2.446, with rankings of 23/53 in Social Sciences, Mathematical Methods and 29/125 in Statistics and Probability (improving from the corresponding 2020 rankings of 29/52 and 46/125).
- JSSAM received 164 new submissions in 2022, similar to 2021 (Table 1). An additional 90 revisions were in progress, so the Editors managed about 250 manuscript submissions during 2022.
- In 2022, more new submissions came in on the survey methodology side of the journal – about 59% vs. 41% on the survey statistics side. Desk rejection rates were about 30% on both sides of the journal, and about slightly more than half of the manuscripts sent out for review were rejected after first review. Rejection rates have been increasing over time, possibly due to the introduction of double-blind review in 2021. Acceptance rates have been decreasing over time as the number of submissions have also increased.
- The acceptance rate for manuscripts submitted in 2021 was 27%, similar across the two sections. For manuscripts submitted in 2022, 14% have been accepted as of May 2023, with 18 manuscripts still active in the peer review process.
- The overall time-to-decision held steady at about 48 days (about 7 weeks), including an average time for a desk rejection of about one week (Table 2). On average, authors of new submissions are receiving decision letters within two months.
- The number of reviewers invited and who declined the invitation to review increased again in 2022 (Table 3). This increase was larger on the Survey Methodology side of the journal, but both sides saw increases, requiring invitations to over 4 reviewers (4.8 reviewers invited on the survey methodology side; 3.8 on the statistics side) to receive an average of 2 completed reviews per manuscript.
- In 2022, JSSAM published 60 papers from 182 unique authors, representing 21 countries.
- Submissions are up in 2023. We have had 87 new submissions as of the writing of this report, an increase of 30 submissions over the same time in 2022.
- JSSAM published its first Editor's Choice article in April 2023: "Preferred Reporting Items for Complex Sample Survey Analysis (PRICSSA)" by Andrew B. Seidenberg, Richard P. Moser, Brady T. West. https://doi.org/10.1093/jssam/smac040 This important checklist of items for reporting in analyses of complex sample survey data includes, but expands beyond, the AAPOR disclosure items. We will be requiring authors reporting on analyses of complex survey data to use the PRICSSA checklist and are in the process of incorporating this into the instructions to authors.
- After two years of statistically-focused special issues (Privacy and Confidentiality; Data integration), the 2024 Special Issue will be on Innovations in Mixed Mode Surveys. The guest editors (Stephanie Coffey, Olga Maslovskaya, and Cameron McPhee) are in the process of reviewing manuscripts.

- We anticipate being able to largely clear the lingering JSSAM backlog of articles by the end of the year.
- We continue to attempt to group accepted manuscripts into issues that are thematic, even when not in a special issue.
- Two new Statistics side and one new Survey Methodology Associate Editors have been onboarded: Alina Matei, Maria Giovanna Ranalli, and Bella Struminskaya. Jon Hohne also recently (May 1, 2023) agreed to join the Survey Methodology Associate Editor team.

Table 1. JSSAM Submission and Decision Numbers and Rates, 2019-2022

	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total new manuscripts submitted in calendar year	143		135		137		164		164	
Applications	21	15%	27	20%	14	10%	0*	0%	0	0*
Survey Methodology	86	60%	71	53%	75	55%	86	52%	96	59%
Survey Statistics	36	25%	37	27%	48	35%	78	48%	68	41%

* Changes in the submission system created changes in how Applications papers are recorded. JSSAM still reviews Applications.

	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
Desk Reject	32	22%	30	22%	38	28%	51	31%	53	32%
Applications	9	43%	10	37%	8	57%	0		0	
Survey Methodology	12	14%	13	18%	16	21%	27	31%	30	31%
Survey Statistics	11	31%	7	19%	14	29%	24	31%	23	34%
Advanced to peer review	111		105		98		113		111	
Applications	12		17		6		0		0	
Survey Methodology	74		58		59		59		66	
Survey Statistics	25		30		34		54		45	
Rejected on first round	49	44%	45	43%	45	45%	63	56%	65	59%
Applications	3	25%	11	65%	4	67%	0		0	
Survey Methodology	37	50%	23	40%	29	49%	31	59%	40	62%
Survey Statistics	9	36%	11	37%	12	35%	27	52%	21	53%
Ultimately accepted*	56	39%	49	36%	39	28%	45	27%	22	13%
Applications	7	33%	4	15%	1	7%	0			
Survey Methodology	37	43%	29	41%	24	32%	21	24%	12	13%
Survey Statistics	12	33%	16	43%	14	29%	24	31%	10	15%

*** Note, 18 MS initially submitted in 2022 still in progress

	2018		2019		2020		2021		2022	
Revised Submissions	84		127		108		133		90	
Applications	5	6%	15	12%	7	6%	0	0%	0	
Survey Methodology	60	71%	73	57%	67	62%	80	60%	49	54%
Survey Statistics	19	23%	39	31%	34	31%	53	40%	41	46%
Total Submissions	227		262		245		297		249	
Applications	26	11%	42	16%	21	9%	0	0%		
Survey Methodology	146	64%	144	55%	142	58%	165	56%	143	57%
Survey Statistics	55	24%	76	29%	82	33%	132	44%	106	43%

Table 2. JSSAM Average Number of Days in Review, Overall, New (original) Submissions and Revised Submissions, 2018-2022

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
All MS					
Total days in review	73.38	70.71	61.91	48.55	48.00
Desk Reject	8.47	15.57	10.39	4.90	7.60
Not desk reject	84.08	77.90	71.41	57.38	58.67
Days to invite First Reviewer	14.32	16.20	16.29	9.90	9.58
Original Submissions					
Total days in review	84.45	94.74	68.58	54.70	52.02
Desk Reject	8.47	15.57	10.39	4.90	7.75
Not desk reject	106.55	117.81	91.14	76.54	72.93
Days to invite First Reviewer	15.29	17.20	17.75	10.58	9.97
Revised Submissions					
Total days in review	54.65	45.54	53.50	40.96	31.59
Days to invite First Reviewer	12.41	14.34	14.16	8.98	8.83

Table 3. JSSAM Average Number of Reviewers Invited, Assigned, Declined, and Completed, Overall, New (original) Submissions and Revised Submissions, 2018-2022

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
All MS					
Reviewers Invited	2.65	2.23	2.43	2.52	3.01
Reviewers Assigned	1.58	1.35	1.48	1.30	1.62
Reviewers Declined	0.84	0.62	0.71	0.95	1.29
Reviews Completed	1.44	1.23	1.33	1.23	1.52
Original Submissions					
Reviewers Invited	3.73	3.83	3.59	4.02	4.42
Reviewers Assigned	1.98	2.07	1.93	1.74	2.06
Reviewers Declined	1.35	1.23	1.30	1.82	2.19
Reviews Completed	1.76	1.90	1.77	1.61	1.94
Revised Submissions					
Reviewers Invited	1.25	0.93	1.37	1.23	1.29
Reviewers Assigned	1.06	0.76	1.06	0.93	1.09
Reviewers Declined	0.15	0.12	0.18	0.21	0.20
Reviews Completed	1.02	0.68	0.94	0.92	1.01