Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology (JSSAM) 2024 Annual Report

Editors-in-Chief: Kristen Olson and Katherine Jenny Thompson
Editorial Team: Associate Editors, Methodology: Carina Cornesse, Jan Hoehne, Olga Maslovskaya, Bella Struminskaya, Hanyu Sun, Brady West; Associate Editors, Statistics: Rebecca Andridge, Emily Berg, Sixia Chen, David Haziza, Monika Hu, Sunghee Lee, Dan Liao, Alina Matei, Maria Giovanna Ranalli, Natalie Shlomo, Eric Slud, Rebecca Steorts

Executive Summary:

- JSSAM's impact factor held relatively steady in 2023 at 2.1 [citations in 2022 to items published in 2020 and 2021/# of citable items in 2020 and 2021] (compared to 2.4 in 2022), with rankings of 20/53 in Social Sciences, Mathematical Methods and 31/125 in Statistics and Probability (similar to the corresponding 2021 rankings of 23/53 and 31/125).
- JSSAM received 195 new submissions in 2023, an all-time high! An additional 108 revisions were in progress, so the Editors managed 303 manuscript submissions during 2023.
- In 2023, more new submissions came in on the survey methodology side of the journal – about 63% vs. 37% on the survey statistics side. Desk rejection rates were about 42% on both sides of the journal, and about half of the manuscripts sent out for review were rejected after first review. Rejection rates have been higher since the introduction of double-blind review in 2021.
- The acceptance rate for manuscripts submitted in 2022 was 26%, similar across the two sections. For manuscripts submitted in 2023, 17% have been accepted as of April 2024, with 19 manuscripts submitted in 2023 still active in the peer review process.
- The overall time-to-decision dropped slightly to 43 days (about 6 weeks), including an average time for a desk rejection under one week. 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 was similar in 2023 as to 2022.
- Submissions are slightly down in 2024, likely because the call for papers for a 2025 special issue has not yet been issued. The special issue topic is being determined by the incoming editorial team.
- JSSAM published its second Editor's Choice article in April 2024: "Richard Valliant, Hansen Lecture 2022: The Evolution of the Use of Models in Survey Sampling, Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology, Volume 12, Issue 2, April 2024, Pages 275–304, https://doi.org/10.1093/jssam/smad021
- After two years of statistically-focused special issues (Privacy and Confidentiality; Data integration), the 2024 Special Issue is on Innovations in Mixed Mode Surveys. The guest editors (Stephanie Coffey, Olga Maslovskaya, and Cameron McPhee) have completed their work and the special issue will be out in Issue 3.
- The backlog is largely cleared! The incoming team will only have papers accepted within the last six months for the first issue for 2025.
- We continue to attempt to group accepted manuscripts into issues that are thematic, even when not in a special issue.
- The new editorial team (Brad Edwards and Emily Berg) for JSSAM was selected in Winter 2023. We have been working with the incoming editors to make for a smooth transition.

Table 1. JSSAM Submission and Decision Numbers and Rates, 2019-2023

	2019		2020		2021		2022		2023	
	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%	#	%
Total new manuscripts submitted in calendar year	135		137		164		159		195	
Applications	27	20%	14	10%	0*	0%	0	0*	0	0*
Survey Methodology	71	53%	75	55%	86	52%	94	59%	123	63%
Survey Statistics	37	27%	48	35%	78	48%	65	41%	72	37%
* Changes in the submission system created changes in how Applications papers are recorded.										
Desk Reject	30	22%	38	28%	51	31%	51	32%	81	42%
Applications	10	37%	8	57%	0		0			
Survey Methodology	13	18%	16	21%	27	31%	29	31%	54	44%
Survey Statistics	7	19%	14	29%	24	31%	22	34%	27	38%
Advanced to peer review	105		98		113		108		114	
Applications	17		6		0		0			
Survey Methodology	58		59		59		65		69	
Survey Statistics	30		34		54		43		45	
Rejected on first round	45	43%	45	45%	63	56%	61	59%	57	50%
Applications	11	65%	4	67%	0		0			
Survey Methodology	23	40%	29	49%	31	59%	40	62%	36	52%
Survey Statistics	11	37%	12	35%	27	52%	21	49%	21	47%
Ultimately accepted* **	49	36%	39	28%	45	27%	41	26%	34	17%
Applications	4	15%	1	7%	0					
Survey Methodology	29	41%	24	32%	21	24%	24	26%	18	15%
Survey Statistics	16	43%	14	29%	24	31%	17	26%	16	22%
*** Note, 19 MS initially submitted in 2023 still in progress										
Revised Submissions	127		108		133		90		108	
Applications	15	12%	7	6%	0	0%	0			
Survey Methodology	73	57%	67	62%	80	60%	49	54%	68	63%
Survey Statistics	39	31%	34	31%	53	40%	41	46%	40	37%
Total Submissions	262		245		297		249		303	
Applications	42	16%	21	9%	0	0%				
Survey Methodology	144	55%	142	58%	165	56%	142	57%	191	63%
Survey Statistics	76	29%	82	33%	132	44%	107	43%	112	37%
Total days in review	Mean		Mean		Mean		Mean		Mean	
All manuscripts	70.71		61.91		48.55		48.00		43.31	
Original manuscripts	94.74		68.58		54.70		52.02		45.17	
Revised manuscripts	45.54		53.50		40.96		40.91		39.95	
# reviewers invited										
All manuscripts	2.23		2.43		2.52		3.01		2.59	
Original manuscripts	3.83		3.59		4.02		4.42		3.86	
Revised manuscripts	0.93		1.37		1.23		1.29		1.26	
# reviewers declined										
All manuscripts	0.62		0.71		0.95		1.29		1.13	
Original manuscripts	1.23		1.30		1.82		2.19		2.05	
Revised manuscripts	0.12		0.18		0.21		0.20		0.15	