

# Statistica Sinica Co-Editors' Report

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## Executive Summary:

In the past 12 months, from July 1, 2021, to June 30, 2022, *Statistica Sinica* receives 416 submissions. The total number of submissions remains relatively stable in the recent years. Of the 416 submission papers, we have accepted 32 and rejected 246, with other 138 under various revision stage. Overall, the eventual acceptance rate in the past 12 months is lower than that in the past. It is very possible that we have raised our acceptance standard slightly higher, as we have a strict limit on the number of pages for publication each year.

Up to 2022.6.30, there are 191 accepted papers (Vol.32 No.3~Vol.34 No.3) in the backlog, including 9 papers for special issue (In honor of Prof. K.C. Li) and one short note paper. Vol.32 No.3 is going to be published in July this year, and Vol.34 No.3 will be published in July, 2024. So, currently we have enough backlog of accepted papers to be published formally, though we post all accepted papers online immediately after acceptance. In order to shorten the backlog without reducing the number of accepted papers, we plan to publish more additional online-only special issues that are not restricted to the publication page limit.

Thanks to the efforts of the former editors, associate editors and contributing authors, the journal's two-year impact factor in 2021 reaches up to 1.330, which is higher than that in 2020 (1.26). But its five-year IF in 2021 is 1.481, which is lower than that in 2020 (1.64). In the future, we'll keep organizing more special issues on trendy topics; hopefully, our impact factor can grow steadily.

## 1. Submissions and Acceptance Statistics

Table 1 shows a comparison of the number of submissions and the number of accepted papers for the past 6 years. Note that the accepted papers may have been submitted in the years before. Table 2 shows the current status of the papers for the past 3 years. Table 3 shows the number of submissions by country in the past three years.

**Table 1.** Submissions and acceptance rate for the past 6 years.

	Aug 1, 2016 – Jul 31, 2017	Aug 1, 2017 – Jul 31, 2018	Aug 1, 2018 – Jul 31, 2019	Aug 1, 2019 – Jul 31, 2020	Aug 1, 2020 – Jul 31, 2021	Jul 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022
Submission	531	486	448	458	447	416
Accepted papers	150	146	76	85	139	32
Acceptance rate	28%	30%	16.9%	18.5%	31%	7.6%

**Table 2.** Paper status for the past 3 years.

	Aug 1, 2019– Jul 31, 2020		Aug 1, 2020– Jul 31, 2021		Jul 1, 2021– June 30, 2022	
Rejected w/o external review	172	37.5%	187	41.8%	154	37%
Rejected with external review	144	31.4%	98	21.9%	82	19.7%
Rejected with revision allowed	53	11.5%	7	1.6%	5	1.2%
Major/Minor revision	2	0.4%	6	1.3%	48	11.5%
First submission under review	0	0.0%	1	0.2%	61	14.6%
Revision under review	0	0.0%	5	1.1%	15	3.6%
Withdrawn	2	0.4%	0	0.0%	1	0.2%
Accepted	85	18.5%	139	31%	32	7.6%
Total	458		443		398	

**Table 3.** Top ten countries with the highest submissions for the past 3 years.

Rank	Aug 1, 2019 – Jul 31, 2020		Aug 1, 2020 – Jul 31, 2021		Jul 1, 2021– June 30, 2022	
1	USA	173 (30.1%)	USA	218 (35.2%)	USA	212 (35.3%)
2	China	170 (29.6%)	China	162 (26.2%)	China	180 (30%)
3	Canada	22 (3.8%)	Hong Kong	31 (5%)	Canada	29 (4.8%)
4	Hong Kong	20 (3.5%)	Canada	25 (4%)	Taiwan	26 (4.3%)
5	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	18 (3.1%)	Taiwan	18 (2.9%)	Hong Kong	20 (3.3%)
6	Iran	15 (2.6%)	Italy	16 (2.6%)	Italy	15 (2.5%)

7	Singapore	14 (2.4%)	Japan	12 (1.9%)	Japan	12 (2%)
8	Taiwan	13 (2.3%)	Brazil	11 (1.8%)	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland/ Germany	9 (1.5%)
9	Japan	12 (2.1%)	Australia	10 (1.6%)	Singapore/ Kenya	8 (1.3%)
10	Germany/ Australia	10 (1.7%)	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland/ Singapore/ Pakistan/ India/ Chile	9 (1.5%)	India/ Australia	6 (1%)

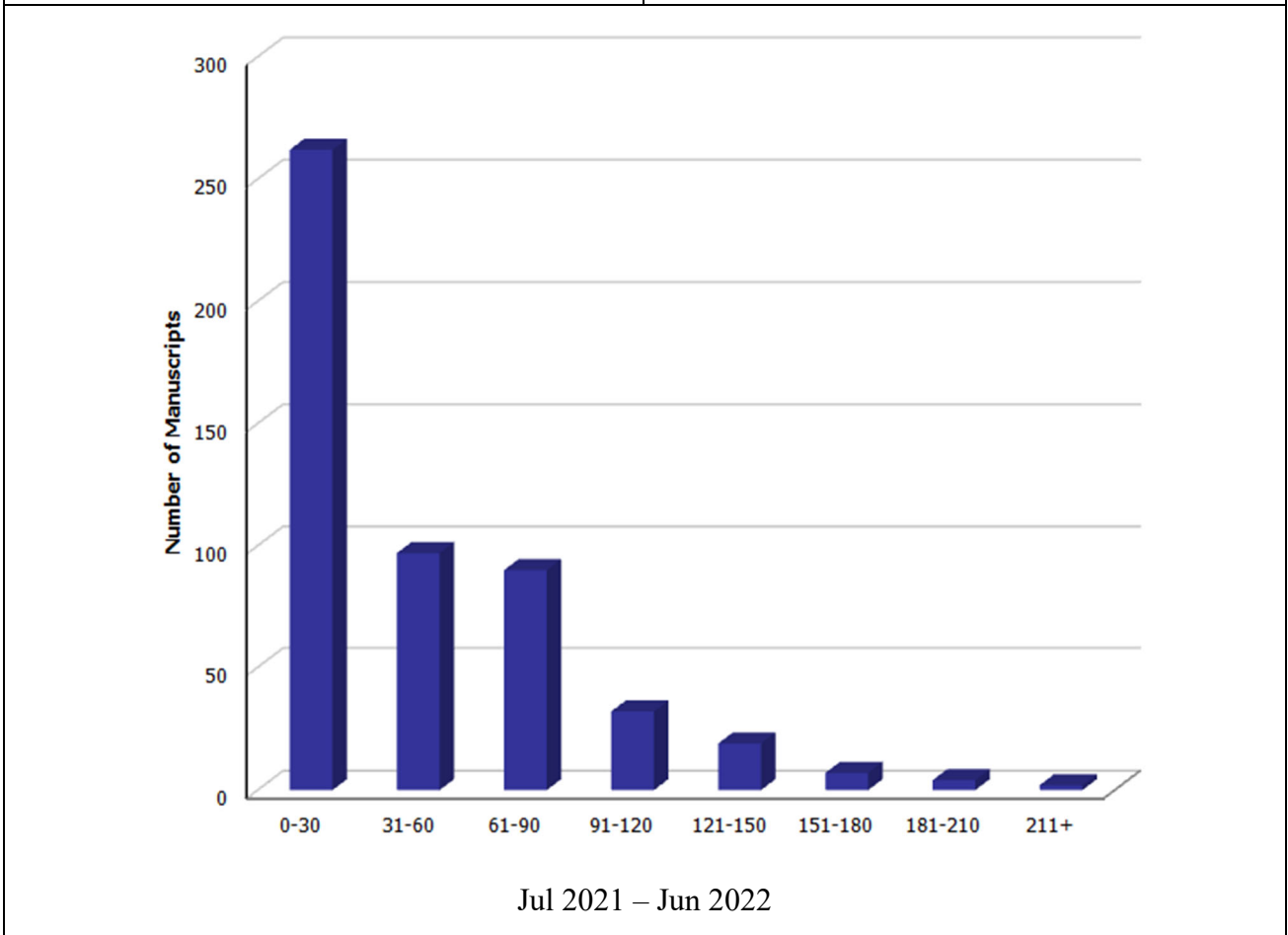
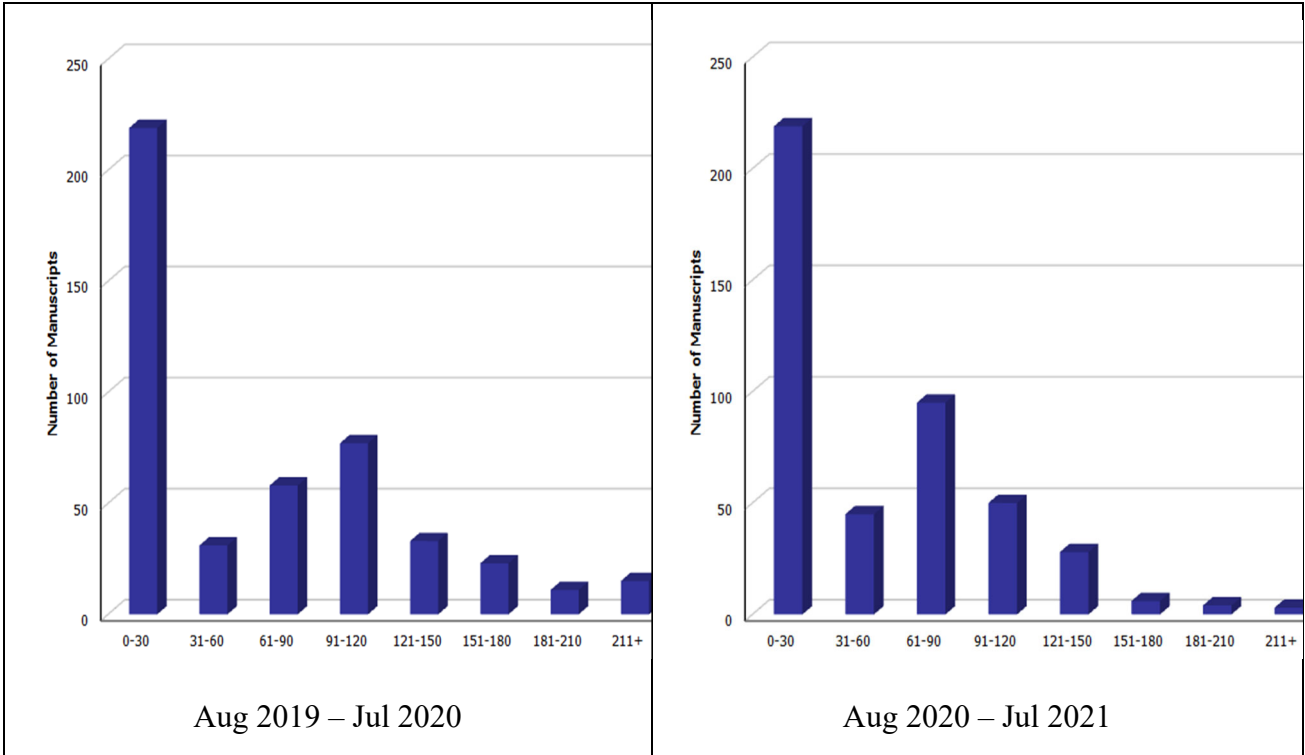
## 2. Manuscript Processing Time

Table 4 shows the turnaround statistics of initial decisions for the past three years, with the decision times censored on July 3, 2022. About 75% of the editorial decisions during 2021-2022 take less than 67 days, but 5% take over 127 days. For the past 3 years, our average reviewing time is shorter and shorter. From table 5, it can be seen that a large percentage of papers get the reviewing decisions within 30 days.

**Table 4.** Percentiles of review time in days for the past 3 years.

Period	5th	25th	50th	75th	95th	Sample Size	Average Review Days
Aug 2019 – Jul 2020	5	13	37	105	185	467	67
Aug 2020 – Jul 2021	3	9	33	82	135	450	51
Jul 2021 – Jun 2022	3	9	29	67	127	513	43

**Table 5.** Comparison of review time in days for the past 3 years (with 30 days group).



### 3. Backlog for Publication

There remain 191 accepted manuscripts waiting to be published. Among them, 24 will appear in the general issue in July 2022 (32-3) and 23 will show in the general issue in Oct 2022 (32-4). Besides, 9 will be published as online-only issue around September (“Sliced Inverse Regression after 30 Years” in honor of Prof. Ker-Chau Li). For the past year, the number of days from acceptance to publication averages 389 days.

### 4. Rankings and Impact Factors

Table 6 shows the ranks of *Statistica Sinica* based on the 2-Year Impact Factor and the 5-Year Impact Factor provided by the Journal Citation Reports (JCR) in the area of Statistics and Probability from 2012 to 2021. Table 7 shows the ranks of *Statistica Sinica* in Scimago Journal Rankings among all journals of Statistics and Probability in the Scopus database from 2012-2021. The ranking is performed using the algorithm Google PageRank™.

**Table 6.** JCR rankings for the recent 10 years.

Year	Number of Journals	Ranking (2-Year Impact Factor)		Ranking (5-Year Impact Factor)	
2021	125	78	(1.330)	70	(1.481)
2020	125	76	(1.261)	64	(1.647)
2019	124	72	(0.968)	67	(1.230)
2018	123	71	(0.947)	66	(1.256)
2017	123	71	(0.886)	51	(1.399)
2016	124	70	(0.899)	46	(1.632)
2015	123	66	(0.838)	42	(1.611)
2014	122	44	(1.158)	36	(1.591)
2013	119	37	(1.226)	44	(1.365)
2012	117	25	(1.440)	41	(1.418)

**Table 7.** SCImago journal rankings for the recent 10 years.

Year	Total Number of Journal	Journal Rank	Quartile
2021	250	45	Q1
2020	257	50	Q1
2019	246	41	Q1
2018	219	41	Q1
2017	196	23	Q1
2016	183	26	Q1

2015	179	20	Q1
2014	179	14	Q1
2013	179	12	Q1
2012	176	19	Q1

## 5. Special Issue

In the past year, we have published four regular issues and two online special issues (In Honor of Professor Tze Leung Lai & Causal Inference and Short Notes) containing 113 articles. Currently, we are organizing three special issues: “Sliced Inverse Regression after 30 Years” in honor of Prof. Ker-Chau Li, “Data Privacy,” and “Sequential Monte Carlo”. Up to now, 9 papers has been included in “Sliced Inverse Regression after 30 Years” in honor of Prof. Ker-Chau Li and all will be published online around September, 2022. All these three special issues will be published as online-only issues.