

Editorial report 2012

Jan van Ours

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The 4 issues of De Economist published in 2012 contain 20 papers of which 14 papers were published in regular issues and 6 papers were published in a special issue on the flexibility of the labor market. The special issue contained papers on employment protection legislation, flexicurity, wage-tenure profiles, flexible contracts and contingent employment. The regular issues cover a wide range of topics with for example papers on pay-as-you-go pension schemes and Dutch pension funds, Dutch hospital merges and school responsiveness to quality rankings. The impact factor of De Economist is increasing. In 2008 for example the impact factor was 0.26, in 2010 it was 0.62, while in 2011 the impact factor was 0.77.

The table below provides additional information. In 2012 there were 44 regular submissions, slightly more than in 2011. As shown in the table below, of these 44 submissions so far 4 were accepted, 30 were rejected, and 10 are still in the editorial process. Of the rejected papers 15 were desk-rejections, i.e. rejected within a week after submission. The acceptance rate of papers submitted in 2012—ignoring the papers in stock—was 12%. If we also exclude the desk-rejections, the acceptance rate was 21%. These papers were on average 46 days in the editorial process before a decision was taken. If we exclude the desk-rejections this is 81 days. The duration until first decision in 2012 was 46 days, excluding desk rejections this was 81 days.

For reason of comparison the table below also shows similar numbers for the 2010 and 2011 submissions. The acceptance rate for the regular papers that were submitted in 2011 was 19% (2010 35%). Ignoring the desk-rejections, the acceptance rate in 2011 is 32% (2010 44%).

Since 2011 the editors allow authors to include in the submission editorial letters and referee reports from failed submissions at other journals. This does not mean that

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Numbers	2012	2011	2010
Accepted	4	8	18
Regular rejection	15	17	23
Desk rejection	15	17	10
Stock December 31, 2012	10	1	0
Sub-total	44	43	51
Special issues + editors contributions	4	9	15
Total	48	52	66
<i>Regular papers—rates (%)</i>			
Acceptance	12	19	35
Regular rejection	44	40	45
Desk rejection	44	40	20
Total	100	100	100
Acceptance excl. desk rejections (%)	21	32	44
<i>Days to first decision</i>			
Regular papers	46	65	46
Regular papers excluding desk rejections	81	108	57

no other referees will be used, but the use of previous information will speed of our editorial process. So far, not many authors have used this possibility.

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