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Impact Factors of Journals in Sport and Exercise Science, 1999-2001

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Exercise and sport-science journals maintaining their impact in the most recent citation reports include *Medicine and Science in Sports and Exercise* (current impact factor 2.4), *American Journal of Sports Medicine* (2.1), *Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology* (1.6), *European Journal of Applied Physiology* (1.3), *International Journal of Sports Medicine* (1.3), *International Journal of Sport Nutrition and Exercise Metabolism* (1.2), and *Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport* (1.2). Journals on the rise include *Journal of Applied Physiology* (2.6), *Sports Medicine* (2.2), *Journal of Biomechanics* (1.9), *Canadian Journal of Applied Physiology* (1.4), and *British Journal of Sports Medicine* (1.0), while *Journal of Sports Sciences* (0.9) and *Journal of Applied Biomechanics* (0.3) have fallen substantially since last year.
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Update July 2003: the table and spreadsheet now include impact factors for 2002. See also the In-brief item on impact factors in the current issue.

At the end of 2002 the Institute for Scientific Information (ISI) published its annual update of Journal Citation Reports. The journal impact factor, based on citations to journal articles published in 2000 and 2001, is probably the most interesting statistic in these reports. In an earlier article at this site I explained the meaning and significance of the impact factor and provided the values of the impact factor for journals in which researchers in our disciplines could publish their research. I now provide the most recent values of the impact factor for these journals, along with the values for the previous two years (Table 1). You can access impact factors for other journals and other citation-related statistics at the ISI site, but only if your institution has a subscription.

Many of you will be interested in substantial differences in the impact factor between journals and substantial changes from year to year. As I indicated in my previous article, most journals that specialize in exercise and sport have impact factors in the range of 1 to 5, and for journals in this range the value of the impact factor is accurate to within typically ±0.1. For individual journals, you can therefore be reasonably confident about differences or changes greater than ±0.1. The smallest meaningful difference or change for these journals is probably somewhat larger, perhaps ~0.2. On this basis, journals holding their rating include *Medicine and Science in Sports and Exercise* (was 2.6, now 2.4), *American Journal of Sports Medicine* (unchanged on 2.1), *Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology* (was 1.5, now 1.6), *European Journal of Applied Physiology* (was 1.4, now 1.3), *International Journal of Sports Medicine* (was 1.4, now 1.3), *International Journal of Sport Nutrition and Exercise Metabolism* (unchanged on 1.2), and *Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport* (was 1.0, now 1.2).

In terms of increased impact, the winners this year are *Journal of Applied Physiology* (was 2.3, now 2.6), *Sports Medicine* (was 1.8, now 2.2), *Journal of Biomechanics* (was 1.5, now 1.9), *Canadian Journal of Applied Physiology* (was 1.1, now 1.4), and *British Journal of Sports Medicine* (was 0.7, now 1.0). Journals that have lost some ground include *Clinical Journal of Sports Medicine* (was 1.3, now 1.0), *Journal of Sports Sciences* (was 1.3, now 0.9), and *Journal of Applied Biomechanics* (was 0.8, now 0.3).

On average, journals with impact factors in the range of 1 to 5 showed a trivial increase in impact (0.1). Thus, there is little growth in our field overall. However, the typical variation in the change from journal to journal was ±0.3, reflecting substantial movement in impact of disciplines and/or journals within the field.

Table 1: Impact factors (citations per article per year) of journals in exercise and sport science, including key multidisciplinary journals, for the years 1999 through 2002. Journals without an impact factor are not in ISI's science or social sciences databases, either because the journal is too new or the factor is too low. A question mark indicates absence of an impact factor for a journal previously in the database. Download an enhanced version of this table as an Excel spreadsheet.

1999	2000	2001	2002	
		0.3	0.3	ACSM's Health and Fitness Journal
1.4	1.7	1.7	2.0	Acta Physiologica Scandinavica
0.6	1.3	1.3	1.5	Acta Psychologica
1.3	1.3	1.0	1.2	Adapted Physical Activity Quarterly
2.0	2.4	2.9	2.8	American Heart Journal
2.4	2.8	2.6	2.3	American Journal of Cardiology
4.0	5.0	5.0	5.6	American Journal of Clinical Nutrition
4.0	3.9	3.9	4.2	American Journal of Epidemiology
1.6	1.0	0.9	1.1	American Journal of Health Promotion
0.8	0.7	1.0	0.8	American Journal of Human Biology
2.1	2.7	2.8	2.6	American Journal of Hypertension
0.9	0.9	1.0	0.9	American Journal of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
3.0	3.2	3.3	3.6	American Journal of Physiology: Endocrin Metab
2.7	3.2	3.2	3.4	American Journal of Physiology: Heart Circul Physiol
2.5	2.8	2.4	3.2	American Journal of Physiology: Reg Integ Comp Physiol
3.0	3.3	3.0	3.3	American Journal of Public Health
5.5	5.4	6.0	6.6	American Journal of Respiratory and Critical Care Medicine
2.3	2.1	2.1	2.3	American Journal of Sports Medicine
6.0	6.9	6.3	6.1	American Psychologist
1.1	0.7	1.0	1.1	Annals of Nutrition and Metabolism
1.0	1.4	1.6	1.7	Annals of the New York Academy of Sciences
5.5	7.1	7.8	7.9	Annual Review of Nutrition
20	19	13	16	Annual Review of Physiology
0.4	0.6	0.7	0.8	Applied Ergonomics
0.8	0.6	0.7	0.6	Applied Psychological Measurement
1.0	0.5	0.8	?	Applied Psychology-International Review
1.1	1.4	1.4	1.3	Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
0.5	0.8	?	?	Archives of Physiology and Biochemistry
1.6	1.4	1.1	1.8	Arthritis Care and Research
			3.4	Arthritis Research
1.3	1.2	1.3	1.8	Arthroscopy
2.9	3.4	3.5	3.3	Atherosclerosis
			8.3	Atherosclerosis Supplements
		0.09	0.1	Athletic Therapy Today

		0.2	0.4	Australian Journal of Physiotherapy
0.5	0.7	0.7	0.7	Aviation Space and Environmental Medicine
0.9	0.8	?	?	Behavior Research Methods, Instruments, and Computers
11	14	17	8.7	Behavioral and Brain Sciences
2.7	2.8	2.9	2.8	Behavioral Neuroscience
3.2	2.7	2.9	2.9	Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications
	6.3	5.4	4.7	Biochimica Biophysica Acta-Bioenergetics
2.6	1.8	2.4	1.8	Biochimica Biophysica Acta-General Subjects
1.2	1.1	1.5	1.5	Biological Cybernetics
		0.3	0.2	Biology of Sport
2.3	2.5	2.5	2.4	Brain Research
6.7	9.2	7.7	6.2	Brain Research Reviews
0.9	0.7	1.0	1.2	British Journal of Sports Medicine
3.4	5.3	6.6	7.6	British Medical Journal (BMJ)
1.3	1.1	1.4	1.2	Canadian Journal of Applied Physiology
1.5	1.2	1.3	1.3	Canadian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology
3.1	3.7	4.6	4.7	Cardiovascular Research
2.4	2.4	2.5	3.0	Chest
9.9	11	11	10	Circulation
8.3	9.1	9.2	9.7	Circulation Research
1.4	1.3	1.5	1.7	Clinical Biochemistry
0.8	1.1	1.3	1.0	Clinical Biomechanics
				Clinical Exercise Physiology (defunct)
1.1	1.3	1.0	1.7	Clinical Journal of Sport Medicine
1.1	1.4	2.5	1.6	Clinical Nutrition
1.3	1.2	1.2	1.2	Clinical Orthopaedics and Related Research
0.7	1.0	1.1	0.8	Clinical Physiology
2.3	2.0	2.3	1.9	Clinical Science
2.0	1.6	1.9	2.0	Clinics in Chest Medicine
0.9	1.1	1.4	1.5	Clinics in Sports Medicine
0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology A-Mol Integr Physiol
9.0	7.7	7.7	8.3	Diabetes
1.1	1.5	1.5	1.2	Diabetes and Metabolism
5.1	5.0	5.4	5.5	Diabetes Care
0.7	1.0	0.7	0.8	Diabetes Nutrition and Metabolism
2.4	2.2	1.9	2.5	Diabetes--Metabolism Research and Reviews
2.2	2.7	2.7	2.2	Diabetic Medicine
5.2	5.7	6.3	5.1	Diabetologia
0.6	0.6	0.8	1.7	Educational and Psychological Measurement
1.4	1.5	?	?	Electromyography and Motor Control
0.7	0.7	0.6	0.8	Ergonomics
1.0	1.4	1.3	1.4	European Journal of Applied Physiology
1.7	2.2	1.8	1.9	European Journal of Clinical Nutrition
	2.0	?	?	European Journal of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation
				European Journal of Sport Science
				European Physical Education Review

2.3	2.6	3.0	2.9	European Respiratory Journal
				European Sports History Review
	2.7	?	?	Exercise and Sport Sciences Reviews
2.9	3.2	2.8	1.3	Exercise Immunology Review
2.2	2.1	2.3	2.3	Experimental Brain Research
1.2	1.1	1.4	1.7	Experimental Physiology
	0.9	1.8	1.8	Gait and Posture
2.1	2.5	3.2	3.2	Haematologica
				High Altitude Medicine and Biology
1.5	1.7	1.9	1.6	Hormone and Metabolic Research
1.7	1.3	1.1	1.2	Hormone Research
0.7	0.8	1.0	1.0	Human Movement Science
4.9	5.3	5.4	5.0	Hypertension
1.6	1.5	1.5	1.7	IEEE Transactions on Biomedical Engineering
2.0	1.9	1.9	2.4	International Journal of Epidemiology
				International Journal of History of Sport
3.2	2.9	2.2	2.4	International Journal of Obesity
1.5	1.2	1.2	0.9	International Journal of Sport Nutrition and Exercise Metabolism
0.5	0.8	0.4	0.8	International Journal of Sport Psychology
1.0	1.4	1.3	1.3	International Journal of Sports Medicine
				International Review for the Sociology of Sport
				International Sports Journal
		0.2	0.4	Isokinetics and Exercise Science
11	15	18	17	JAMA--Journal of the American Medical Association
		0.2	0.1	Japanese Journal of Physical Fitness and Sport
1.2	1.4	1.1	1.1	Japanese Journal of Physiology
0.9	1.1	?	0.7	Journal of Aging and Physical Activity
				Journal of Applied Behavioral Science
0.9	0.8	0.3	0.5	Journal of Applied Biomechanics
2.1	2.3	2.6	2.7	Journal of Applied Physiology
0.9	1.1	1.0	1.0	Journal of Applied Sport Psychology
0.4	0.6	0.4	1.0	Journal of Athletic Training
		0.08	0.1	Journal of Back and Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation
7.7	7.3	7.3	6.7	Journal of Biological Chemistry
0.8	0.9	1.5	1.4	Journal of Biomechanical Engineering
1.5	1.5	1.9	1.9	Journal of Biomechanics
				Journal of Bodywork and Movement Therapies
				Journal of Cardiopulmonary Rehabilitation
0.8	5.4	5.2	5.2	Journal of Clinical Endocrinology and Metabolism
2.1	2.1	2.0	2.2	Journal of Clinical Epidemiology
11	12	12	14	Journal of Clinical Investigation
0.5	0.7	0.9	0.8	Journal of Clinical Psychology
				Journal of Comparative Physical Education and Sport
0.7	1.1	1.1	1.4	Journal of Electromyography and Kinesiology
1.7	1.8	2.1	2.1	Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health
				Journal of Exercise Physiology

			2.4	Journal of Experimental Biology
6.4	6.1	5.5	5.2	Journal of General Physiology
0.2	0.2	0.1	0.3	Journal of Human Movement Studies
				Journal of Human Performance in Extreme Environments
3.0	3.6	4.2	3.5	Journal of Hypertension
0.5	1.3	0.3	0.5	Journal of Leisure Research
1.1	1.1	1.3	1.5	Journal of Motor Behaviour
3.9	3.9	3.5	3.7	Journal of Neurophysiology
9.0	8.5	8.2	8.0	Journal of Neuroscience
2.2	2.9	3.2	3.6	Journal of Nutrition
1.5	1.3	1.5	1.8	Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
2.0	1.4	1.0	0.7	Journal of Orthopaedic and Sports Physical Therapy
1.0	2.2	2.2	1.8	Journal of Orthopaedic Research
		1.0	0.9	Journal of Orthopaedic Trauma
1.0	1.2	0.7	?	Journal of Philosophy of Sport
				Journal of Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance
0.4	1.0	0.6	0.7	Journal of Physiology and Biochemistry
4.6	4.5	4.5	4.7	Journal of Physiology-London
			1.1	Journal of Physiology-Paris
			1.0	Journal of Rehabilitation Medicine
			0.9	Journal of Rehabilitation Research and Development
				Journal of Science and Medicine in Sport
		1.0	1.0	Journal of Shoulder and Elbow Surgery
0.4	0.9	1.0	1.3	Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology
1.5	1.5	1.6	1.7	Journal of Sport and Exercise Psychology
				Journal of Sport and Social Issues
				Journal of Sport Behavior
0.2	0.1	0.2	0.06	Journal of Sport History
0.1	0.3	0.4	0.4	Journal of Sport Management
0.8	0.4	0.5	0.5	Journal of Sport Rehabilitation
0.1	0.1	0.04		Journal of Sports Chiropractic and Rehabilitation
0.5	0.4	0.5	0.6	Journal of Sports Medicine and Physical Fitness
1.1	1.3	0.9	1.1	Journal of Sports Sciences
0.02	0.2	0.07	0.1	Journal of Sports Traumatology
0.6	0.5	0.6	0.8	Journal of Strength and Conditioning Research
				Journal of Swimming Research
0.7	0.4	0.4	0.5	Journal of Teaching in Physical Education
7.4	7.0	6.4	6.3	Journal of the American College of Cardiology
1.6	1.5	1.5	2.2	Journal of the American College of Nutrition
1.9	1.1	1.8	1.5	Journal of the American Dietetic Association
1.2	1.5	1.9	3.5	Journals of Gerontology A-Biol Sci Med Sci
1.5	1.1	1.6	1.8	Journals of Gerontology B-Psychol Sci Soc Sci
		0.2	0.3	Knee
		1.3	1.1	Knee Surgery, Sports Traumatology and Arthroscopy
10	10	13	15	Lancet
1.0	1.0	0.5	0.5	Leisure Sciences

2.0	1.7	2.1	2.0	Lipids
				Measurement in Physical Education and Exercise Science
0.1	0.2	0.09	0.06	Medicina dello Sport
2.1	2.6	2.4	2.6	Medicine and Science in Sports and Exercise
				Medicine and Sport Science
1.9	2.0	1.9	2.0	Metabolism-Clinical and Experimental
		1.3	1.1	Motor Control
1.9	1.9	2.3	2.5	Muscle and Nerve
29	26	28	30	Nature
27	28	28	29	Nature Medicine
29	30	29	32	New England Journal of Medicine
1.7	1.5	1.4	2.3	Nutrition
0.6	1.0	1.1	1.7	Nutrition Metabolism and Cardiovascular Diseases
3.4	4.7	3.4	3.0	Obesity Research
		0.5	0.4	Operative Techniques in Sports Medicine
0.7	0.9	0.8	1.0	Pediatric Exercise Science
				Pediatric Physical Therapy
0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	Perceptual and Motor Skills
2.4	2.2	1.6	1.7	Pflugers Archive-European Journal of Physiology
				Physical Educator
1.2	1.2	1.1	1.7	Physical Therapy
				Physical Therapy in Sport
				Physical Therapy Reviews
0.3	0.3	0.4	0.5	Physician and Sportsmedicine
		0.5	0.4	Physikalische Medizin Rehabilitationsmedizin Kurortmedizin
0.9	0.9	1.0	1.2	Physiological Measurement
24	28	30	27	Physiological Reviews
1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	Preventive Medicine
10	11	11	11	Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences
7.4	5.3	4.5	8.0	Progress in Lipid Research
				Psychology of Sport and Exercise
1.2	1.5	0.9	0.8	Public Health Reports
		0.6	0.8	Quest
				Research in Sports Medicine (was Sports Med Training Rehab)
1.1	1.0	1.2	1.6	Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport
1.0	1.6	2.2	2.4	Respiratory Physiology and Neurobiology
1.3	1.1	1.4	0.9	Scandinavian Journal of Clinical and Laboratory Investigation
0.7	0.7	0.9	1.1	Scandinavian Journal of Medicine and Science in Sports
		1.1	1.3	Scandinavian Journal of Rehabilitation Medicine
25	24	23	27	Science
0.2	0.1	0.02	0.2	Science and Sports
0.5	0.3	0.7	0.5	Sociology of Sport Journal
				Sport History Review
1.0	0.6	0.7	0.7	Sport Psychologist
		1.0	0.6	Sport, Education, and Society
				Sports Biomechanics

0.2	0.2	?	?	Sports Exercise and Injury
1.5	1.8	2.2	2.3	Sports Medicine
0.4	0.3	0.2	0.4	Sports Medicine and Arthroscopy Review
		0.05	0.03	Sports Medicine Standards and Malpractice Reporter
				Sports Medicine Training and Rehabilitation (now Res.Sports Med)
		0.3	0.3	Sportverletzung-Sportschaden
				Strength and Conditioning
0.01	0.2	0.3	0.3	Strength and Conditioning Journal
3.4	3.9	4.1	4.1	Thorax
16	13	5.8	14	Trends in Biochemical Science
3.1	3.9	5.8	8.0	Trends in Endocrinology and Metabolism
20	17	17	14	Trends in Neuroscience
		0.3	0.4	Wilderness & Environmental Medicine
				Women in Sport & Physical Activity Journal

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