

Environmental & Resource Economics

Report to the EAERE Annual General Assembly of Members

Ian J. Bateman, Joint Chief Editor

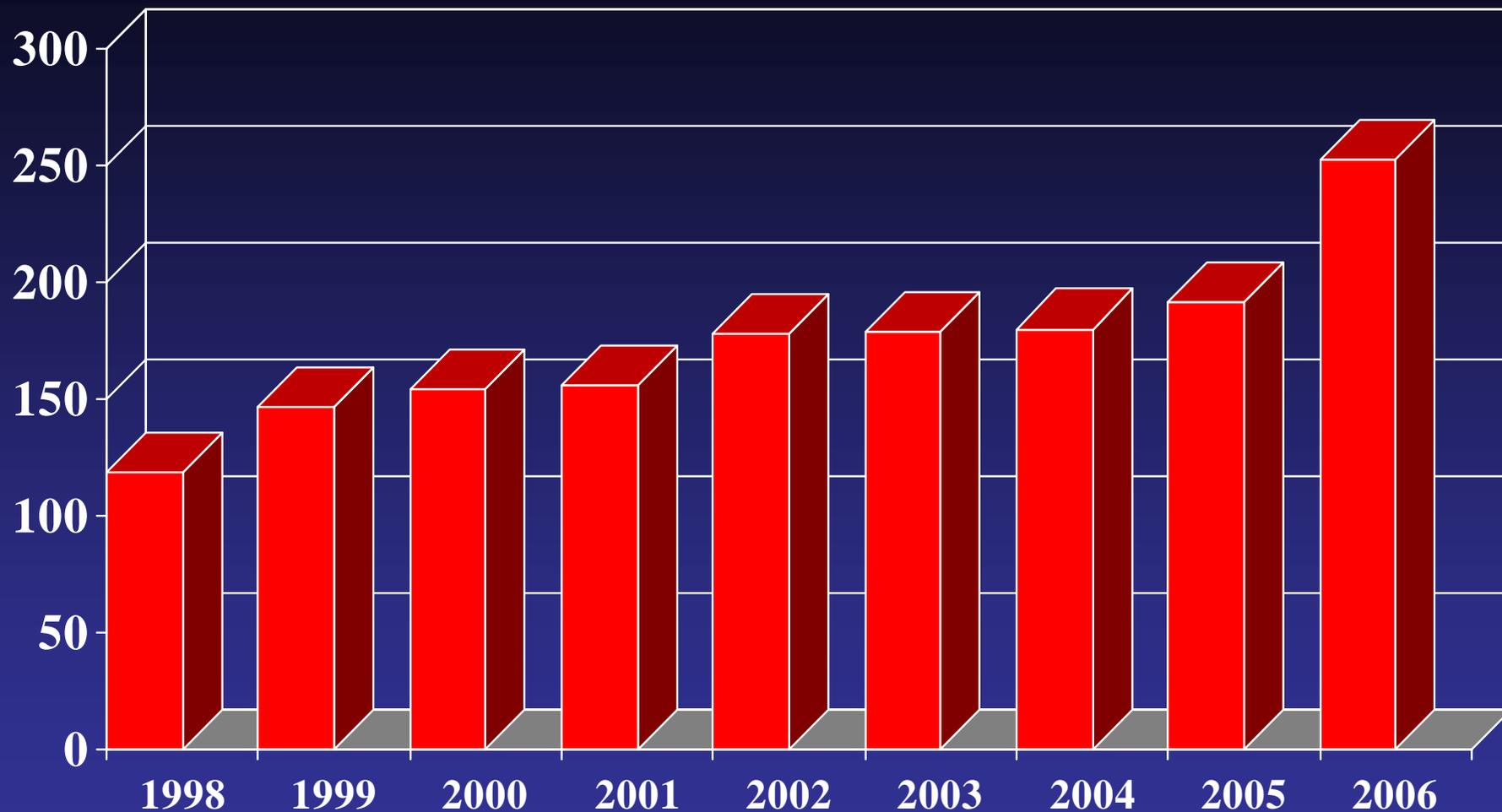
The Third World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economists
Kyoto International Conference Hall, Japan, 3rd – 7th July 2006.

12.30-14.00 Wednesday 5th July 2006; Room K, Congress Center, Kyoto

ERE 2005-06

- *ERE*: The official journal of EAERE
- *Field*: Economic theory and methods as applied to environmental issues and problems
- *Overall Objective*: To further develop its standing as an international quality journal
- *Bremen 2005*: Priority - to improve throughput speed
- *Approach*: Switching from a paper based system to a web-based electronic submission/editing/review system.

Results: Submission Numbers



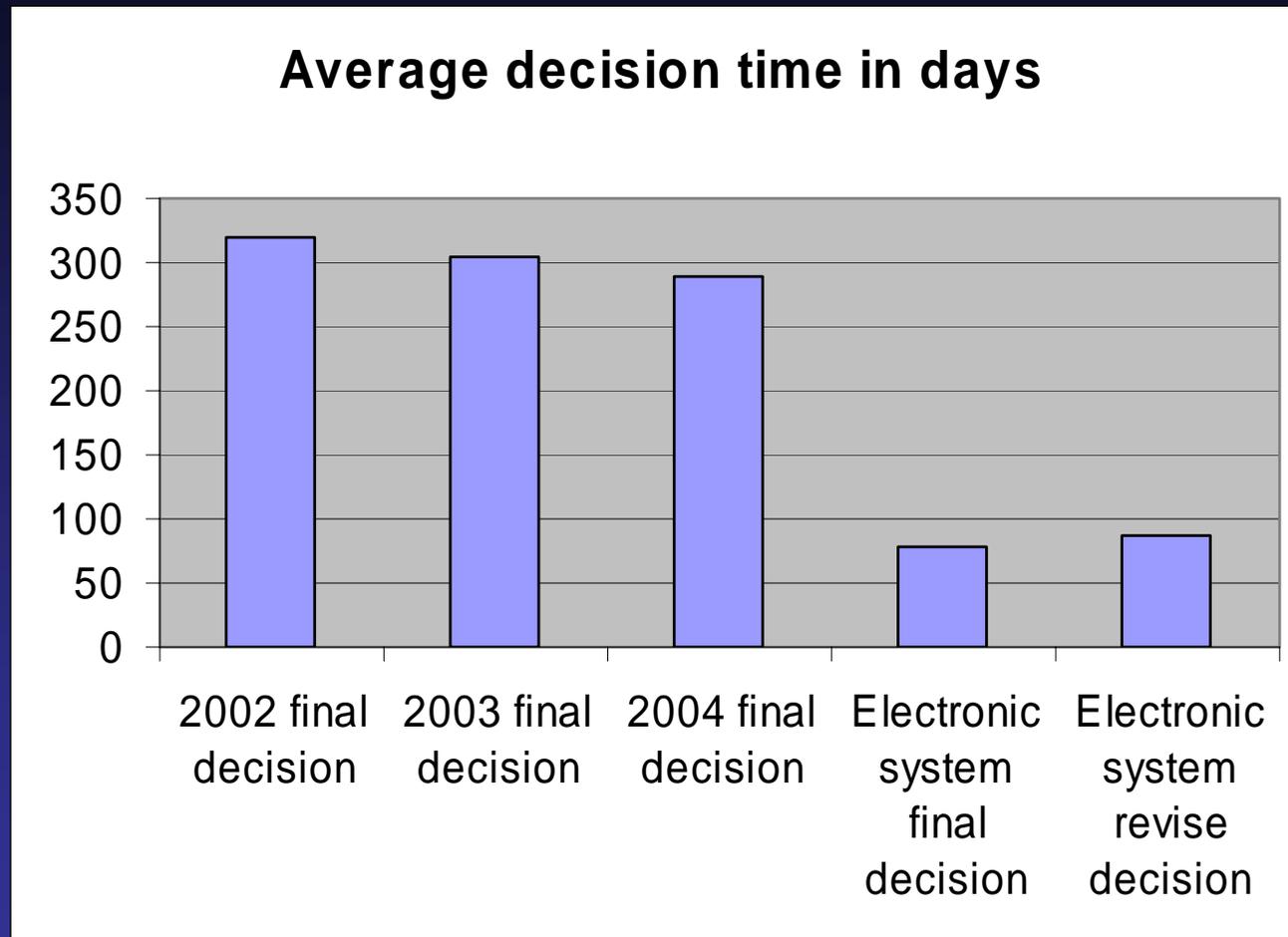
- Very strong & sustained growth in submissions
(up more than 110% from 1998-2006)
- Switch to electronic system has given a further boost to growth
(32% in last year)

2006 implied annual rate
based on submissions
from 1.1.06 to 29.6.06

Impacts of moving to an electronic Submission/Editorial/Refereeing system

- ◆ Switch to electronic system has given a further boost to submissions growth (32% in last year)
- ◆ This should in turn allow a further increase in publication quality
- ◆ Rejection rate grew from 75% to 81%
- ◆ But the greatest immediate improvement has been in terms of throughput speed.

Benefits of the electronic system: Decision speed



The majority of papers submitted under the electronic system fall under the ‘final decision’ category. Given this it seems that the electronic system is already delivering a very substantial improvement in decision speed.

Analysing decision speed

Task	Average time taken
From submission to Ian Bateman either assigning a Handling Editor or appointing reviewers	4.4 days
From Handling Editor receiving the paper to appointing reviewers	19.7 days
Time taken by reviewers to respond to invitation	2.8 days
Time taken by reviewers to complete review	46.5 days

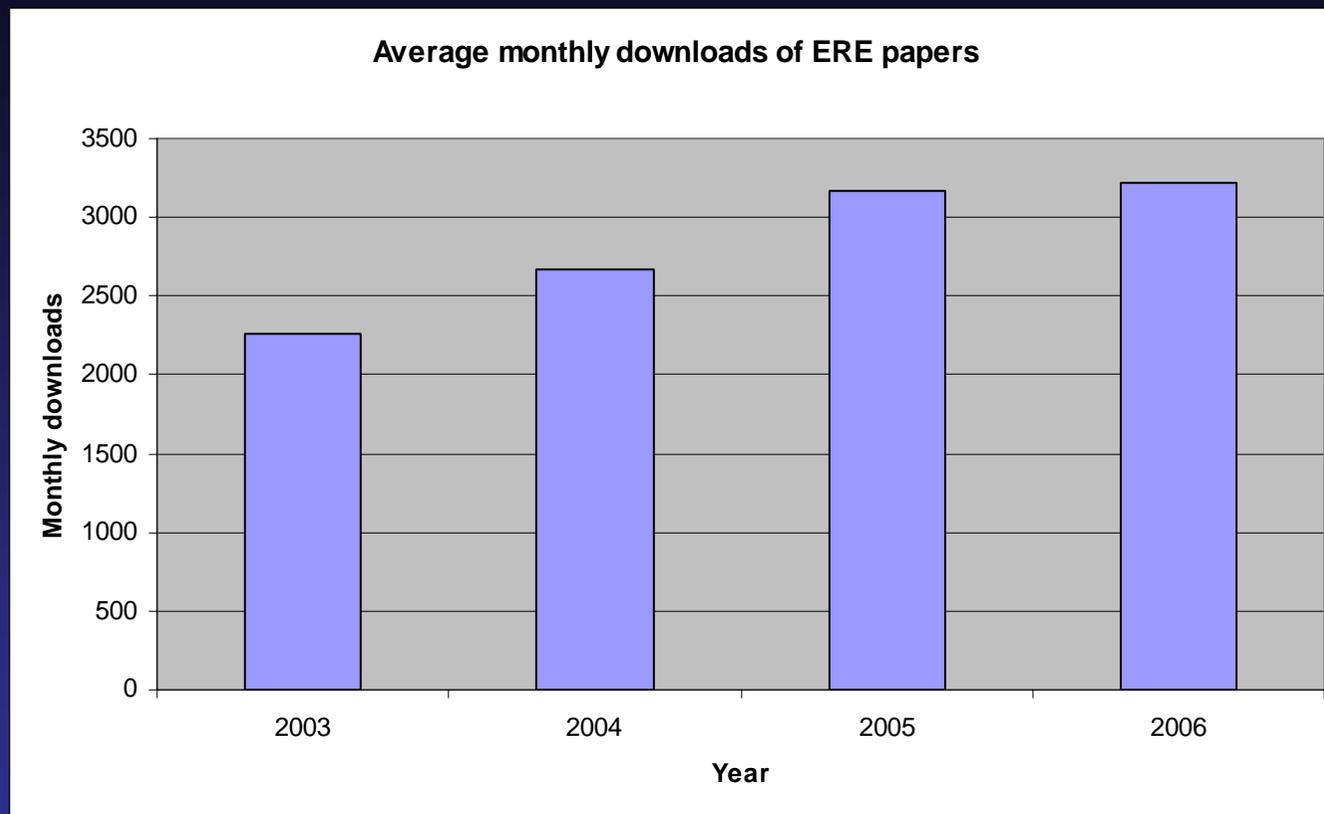
Based on data from 1 Oct 2005 to 29 Jun 2006

Analysing reviewer response

Total reviewers invited	498
Declined to review	123 (24.7%)
No response	112 (22.5%)
Agreed to review	263 (52.8%)
Average number of reviews per reviewer	1.2

Based on data from 1 Oct 2005 to 29 Jun 2006

Downloads from the ERE website



Monthly downloads have grown by 42.4% between (2003 to 2006)

There were over 38,000 downloads of ERE papers in 2005

The above graph adjusts downwards to allow for a free download marketing campaign Jan to March 2004 which boosted downloads 3.5 times above trend growth during that period.

A new 'online first' service started May 2006 to allow access to in-press papers

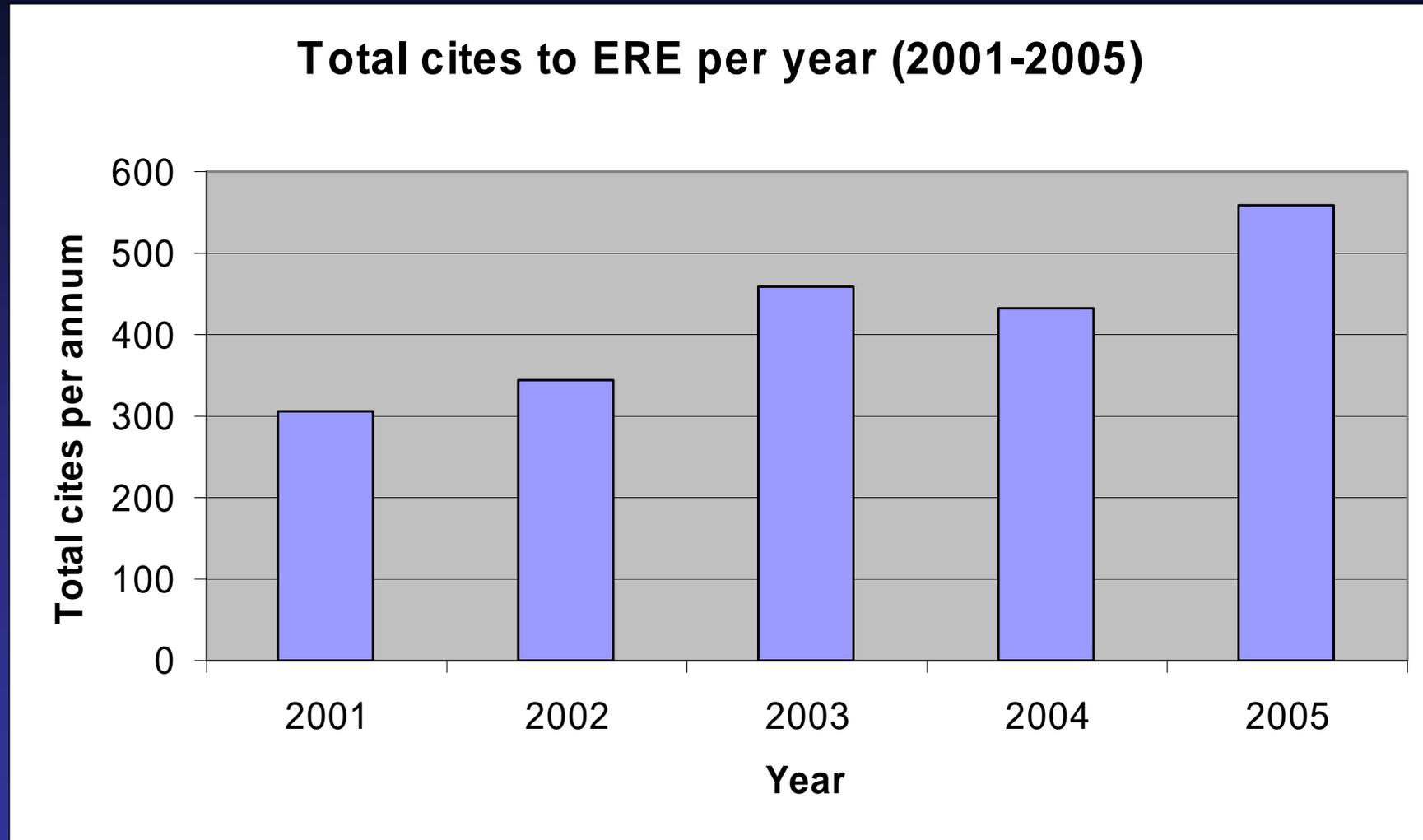
Top 10 downloaded papers 2005

Rank	Lead Author	Title
1	Nick Hanley	Is Cost–Benefit Analysis Anomaly-Proof?
2	Daniel Kahneman	Experienced Utility as a Standard of Policy Evaluation
3	Nick Hanley	Using Choice Experiments to Value the Environment
4	Klaus Conrad	Price Competition and Product Differentiation When Consumers Care for the Environment
5	Robert Sugden	Anomalies and Stated Preference Techniques: A Framework for a Discussion of Coping Strategies
6	Roland Menges	Altruism, Warm Glow and the Willingness-to-Donate for Green Electricity: An Artefactual Field Experiment
7	Ian Bateman	Applying Geographical Information Systems (GIS) to Environmental and Resource Economics
8	David Maddison	Valuing the Arsenic Contamination of Groundwater in Bangladesh
9	A. Denny Ellerman	A Note on Tradable Permits
10	Richard T. Carson	Contingent Valuation: Controversies and Evidence

Special issues: Past current and future

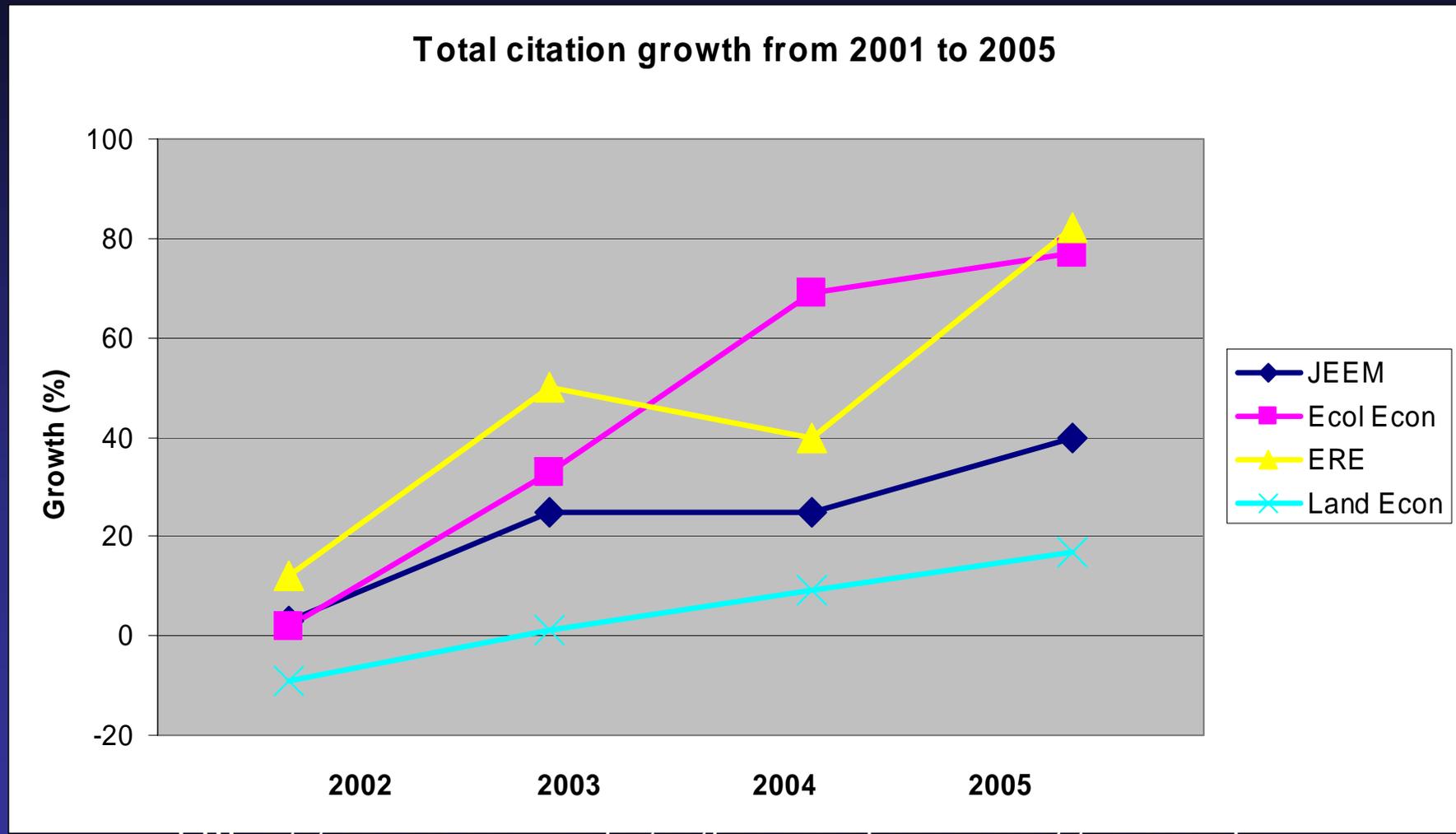
Year	Special Issues
2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sustainable resource use and economic dynamics. Eds: Lucas Bretschger and Sjak Smulders.• Economics and the Environment: Essays in Honour of David W. Pearce. Eds: Ian Bateman, Ed Barbier and Scott Barrett.• Economic Valuation of Health for Environmental Policy. Eds: Mark Dickie and John List.
2006	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Frontiers in Stated Preferences Methods. Eds: Wiktor Adamowicz and J. R. Deshazo (May 2006, 34:1)• Risk Perception, Valuation and Policy. Eds: Shelby Gerking and Glenn W. Harrison (March 2006, 33: 3)
2005	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anomalies and Stated Preference Techniques. Ed: Robert Sugden (September 2005, 32:1)• Instrument Design and Choice in Environmental Regulation. Eds: John List and Matti Liski (June 2005, 31: 2)
2004	No special issues
2003	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Economics of Non-Convex Ecosystems. Eds: Partha Dasgupta and Karl-Göran Mäler (December 2003, 26: 4)• Water Resource Management. Eds: Timothy Swanson and Anastasios Xepapadeas (September 2003, 26: 1)• Economics of Sustainable Energy and Agriculture. Eds: Ekko van Ierland and Alfons Oude Lansink (April 2003, 24: 4)
2002	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Economics of Managing Biotechnologies. Ed: Tim Swanson (August 2002, 22: 4)• The Practice of Environmental and Resource Economics. Ed: Richard T. Carson (June 2002, 22: 1-2)

Citations analysis



There were more cites to ERE in 2005 than in any year since the journal was started

Citations analysis



ERE citations are growing faster than any of our competitor journals

ISI score - analysis

Despite the strong growth in overall cites, ISI score slipped from 0.61 to 0.49. Why was this?

1. Following a decision to reduce the time from acceptance to publication, an unusually high number of papers were published in 2004 (155; up 28% on 2002 and up 12% on 2003). This inflates the denominator in the ISI score calculation.
2. Cites to the most recent year (here 2004) are typically considerably less than half than those in the second counting year (here 2003).
3. Therefore we have an unusually high denominator combined with a typically low numerator - resulting in a low ISI score.

However, we feel the decision to reduce publication time was the right one (reducing lag from 12 months to 3-4 months). This was a one off factor and the general increase in total cites suggests that ERE has a bright future.

Summary

- ◆ The switch to an electronic submission/review/editorial system has greatly improved throughput speed (decision time reduced by more than half).
- ◆ Submissions growth has been very strong (it has more than doubled under present Editorial Board) and this has been further enhanced by the move to an electronic system (up nearly a third over the past year).
- ◆ Quality measures such as rejection rate are at high levels and publication lag has been substantially reduced.
- ◆ Total citations have grown faster than for any competitor journal and are now at their highest level ever.