Open Science – what does it take to get there?

Open access week EMBL 2020

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Open Access at EMBO

3 OA Journals

MSB	(since 2005)
EMM	(converted in 2012)
LSA	(launched 2019)

2 Elective OA (Hybrid) Journals

EMBO Journal	(optional OA since 2003)
EMBO Reports	(optional OA since 2003)

Green OA: articles are free after 6 month (self archiving) /1 year on Journal websites and PMC

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Why is EMBO not fully OA?

Survey of EMBO community

Framework: feedback on PlanS implementation

EMBO Members	132
EMBO Young Investigators	30
Total responses	**162**

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Survey of EMBO community

Views of the community on:

- Importance of OA
- Value of selective journals
- Engagement in editorial and publishing activities
- Appreciation/judgement of publishing costs
- Use of profit from publishing

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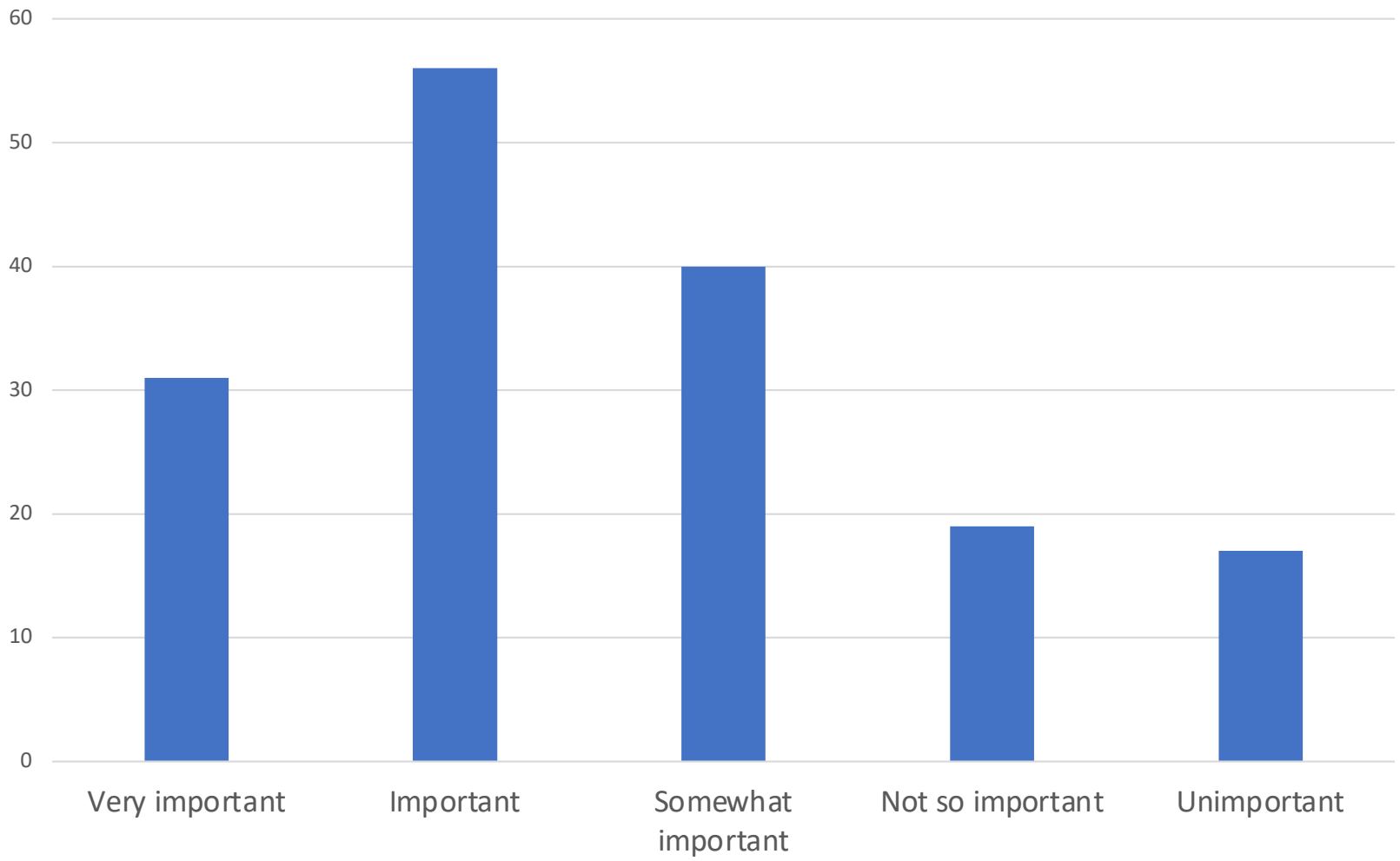
IMPORTANCE OF OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING



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IDENTIFYING PAPERS WORTH READING

Suppose a PubMed or Google search brings up an interesting sounding title of a research paper outside of your immediate area of expertise. Would you be likely to click to follow up if it was… (check any that apply)

1. published in a journal you recognize as **selecting for novelty and general interest**?

2. published in a journal you recognize as **selecting only for scientific soundnes**s, without consideration for novelty or general interest (such as PLOS One or Scientific Reports)?

3. published in a non-peer reviewed **preprint** repository (such as bioRxiv)?

4. published as a conference **abstract**?

5. published by **authors you know** or whose names you recognize?

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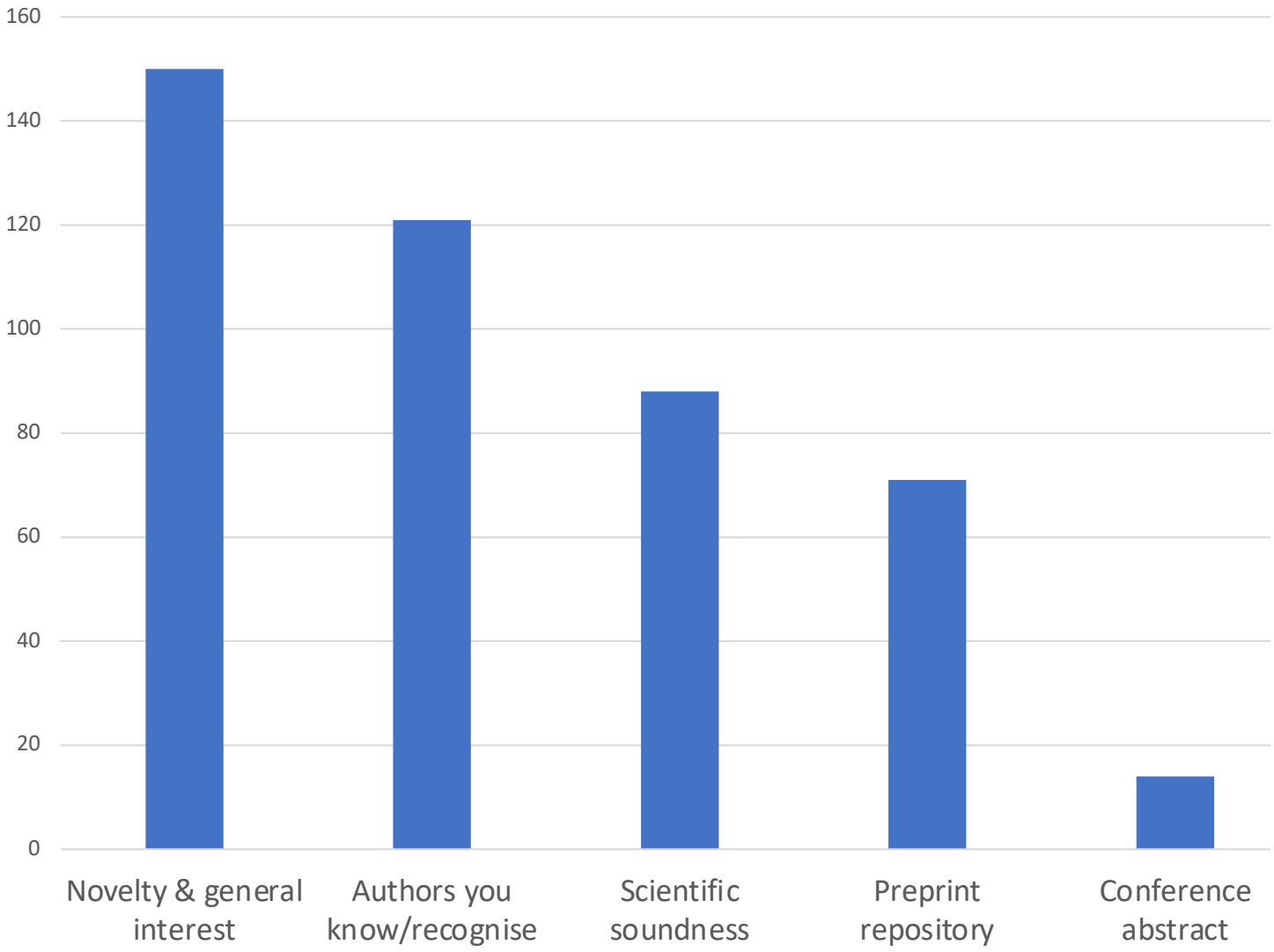
IDENTIFYING PAPERS WORTH READING



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EDITORIAL ACTIVITIES

If you have any editorial roles, or review manuscripts:
How many hours on average do you spend on the following activities per week?

0, 2, 4, 6, 8, up to 12, > 12

1. acting as an **editor-in-chief,** responsible for the editorial content of an entire journal

2. acting as an **editor of a journal (section)** with responsibility for final decisions on manuscripts

3. acting as **regular advisor or member of an editorial board**

4. serving as an ad-hoc **peer reviewer** (referee)

5. fulfilling other journal-related functions (please specify)

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EDITORIAL ACTIVITIES

	n	Σ h/week
editor in chief	10	76
editorial function	83	322
advisor/board	106	274
peer review	157	618
other	11	26
	357	1316

8h per person per week

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CRITERIA FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF MANUSCRIPTS

Highly selective journals may reject papers not only because of incomplete or flawed data, but also because the paper is not the right 'fit' for the journal.

acceptance by selective journals

In selecting papers, how much weight do you believe those journals put on the following qualities?

by yourself

If you were the editor of a high-quality journal, what would you select for?

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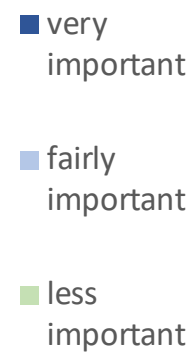
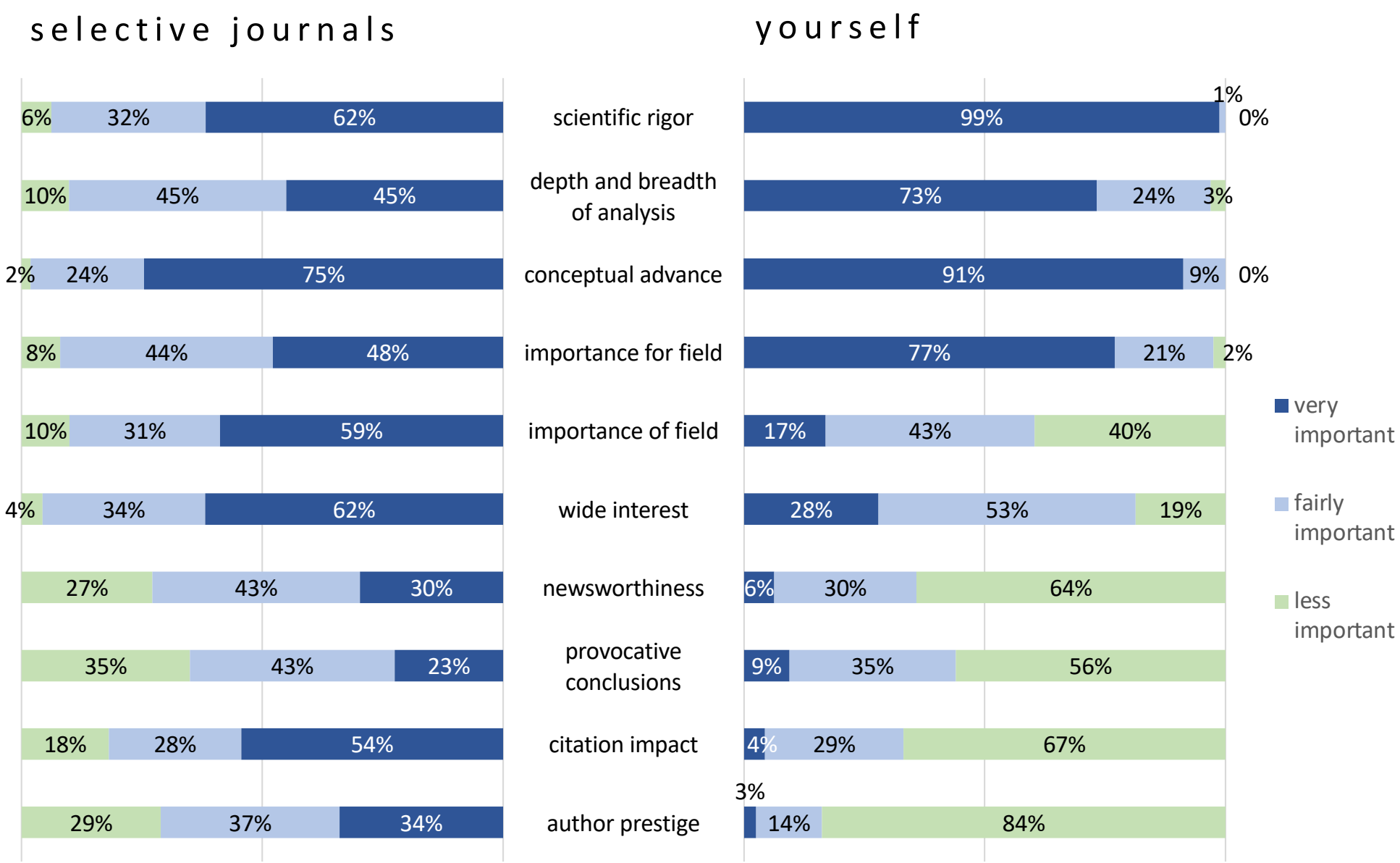
CRITERIA FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF MANUSCRIPTS

1. scientific rigor
2. depth and breadth of analysis
3. conceptual advance
4. importance *for* the research field
5. importance *of* the research field
6. interest to a wide scientific community
7. newsworthiness for the general public
8. provocative conclusions
9. anticipated impact through citations
10. prestige of authors



CRITERIA FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF MANUSCRIPTS



JOURNAL SERVICES AND ATTRIBUTES

Different journals offer different services to authors, many of which can be expensive.

This affects the cost of publishing and therefore the article processing charges. Consider an Open Access journal exclusively supported by article processing charges.

What services and attributes would you expect at article processing charges of the following levels?

€ 1000 € 2000 € 4000 € 8000

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JOURNAL SERVICES AND ATTRIBUTES

- Transparent and fair peer review, and detailed decisions
- Approachable and responsive editors
- Rapid review and decisions
- Rigorous editorial process
- Professional checking of data presentation, image integrity, text duplication, statistics, etc.
- Data deposition and curation services
- Language editing
- Professional graphics support and high-quality presentation
- Magazine-style front section
- Reviews and “news and views” articles
- Highlighting of articles (summary, synopsis, press releases, special issues…)

JOURNAL SERVICES AND ATTRIBUTES

	€ 1k	€ 2k	€ 4k	€ 8k	?
Transparent & fair peer review, detailed decisions	52%	18%	18%	3%	8%
Approachable and responsive editors	38%	28%	22%	4%	8%
Rapid review & decisions	34%	31%	24%	3%	8%
Rigorous editorial process	39%	28%	22%	4%	8%
Professional checking of data presentation, image integrity, text duplication, statistics, etc.	10%	27%	28%	11%	14%
Data deposition & curation	11%	22%	27%	15%	15%
Highlighting of articles	7%	17%	39%	21%	16%
Reviews and “news & views” articles	9%	14%	39%	23%	16%
Language editing	3%	16%	36%	28%	17%
Professional graphics support & high-quality presentation	3%	12%	37%	33%	16%
Magazine-style front section	5%	12%	34%	27%	23%

USE OF JOURNAL INCOME

Some learned societies use the income from publishing journals to support their activities and services to the community, such as funding for meetings, travel grants, fellowships, etc.
Do you approve of this in principle?

Yes	130
No	31

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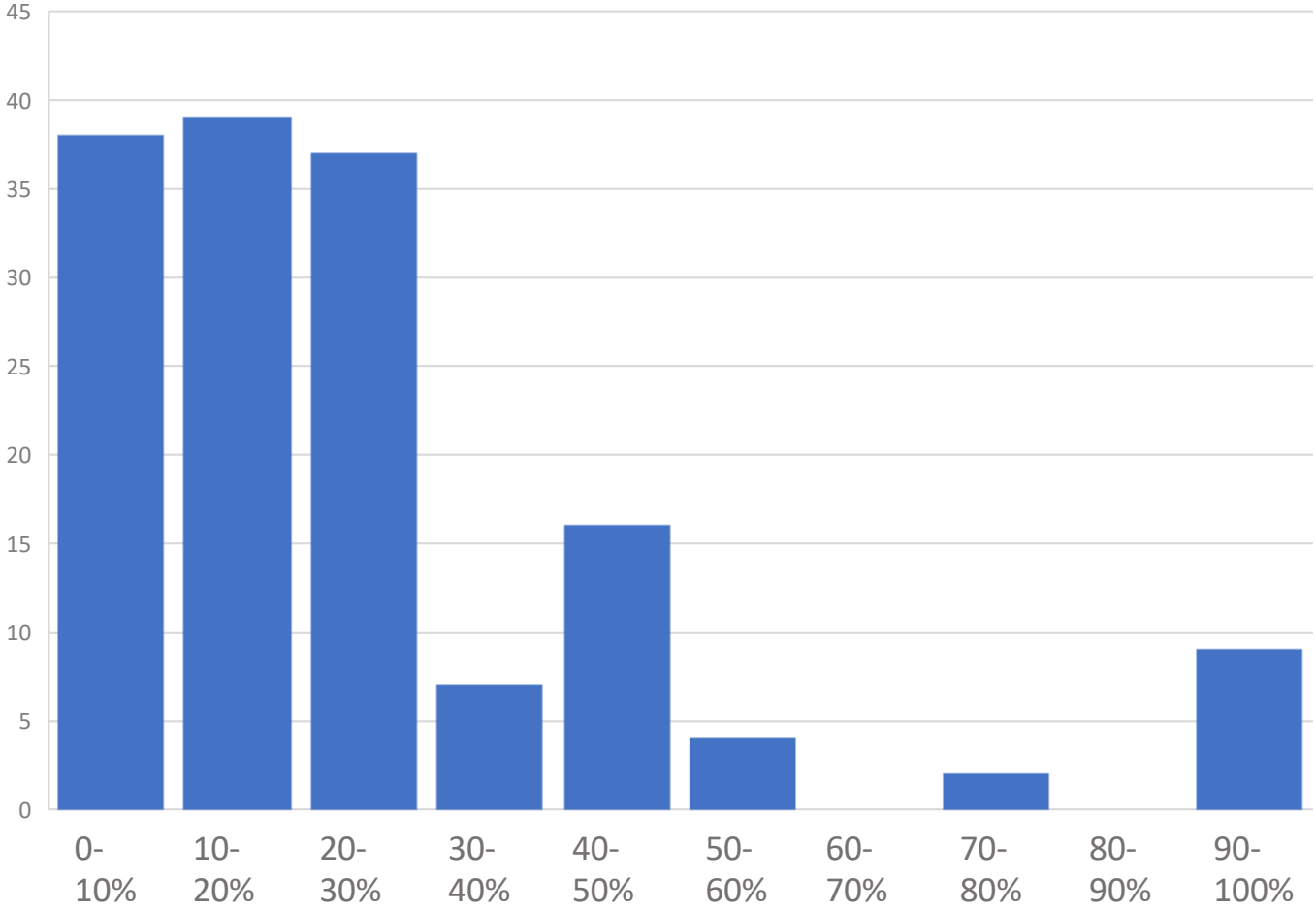
USE OF JOURNAL INCOME

By what percentage do you feel a society should be allowed to increase the APC above the actual cost of publishing, to allow them to fund their other activities?

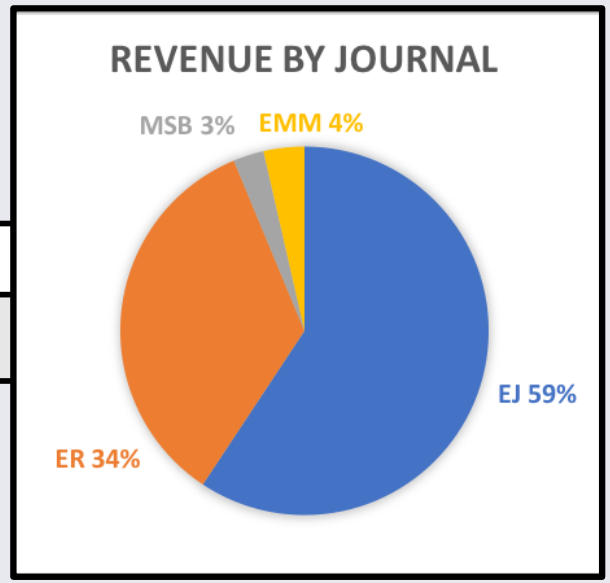


EP finances (2019)

Revenue sources

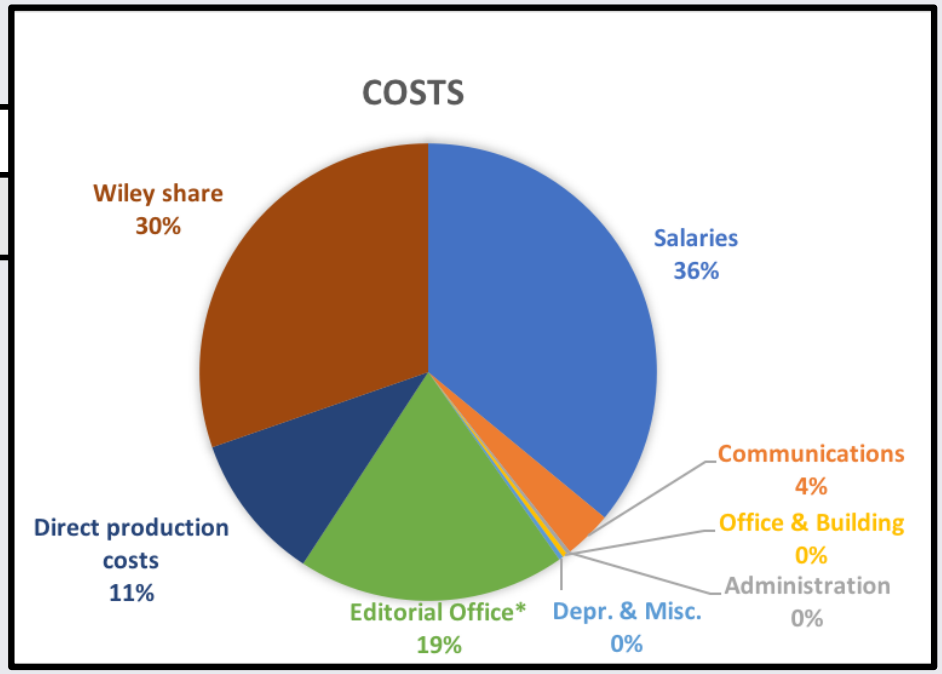
Subscription	Non-Subscription*	Total	to EMBO**
3,665,947 €	1,902,347 €	5,568,294 €	3,844,655 €

* includes page charges, OA charges, licensing, advertising
**after deduction of all Wiley costs/income



Costs

Total (EMBO + Wiley)
4,225,920 €



EMBO Income*

Gross Margin EMBO
1,342.374 €
24 %

* 100% reinvested in science

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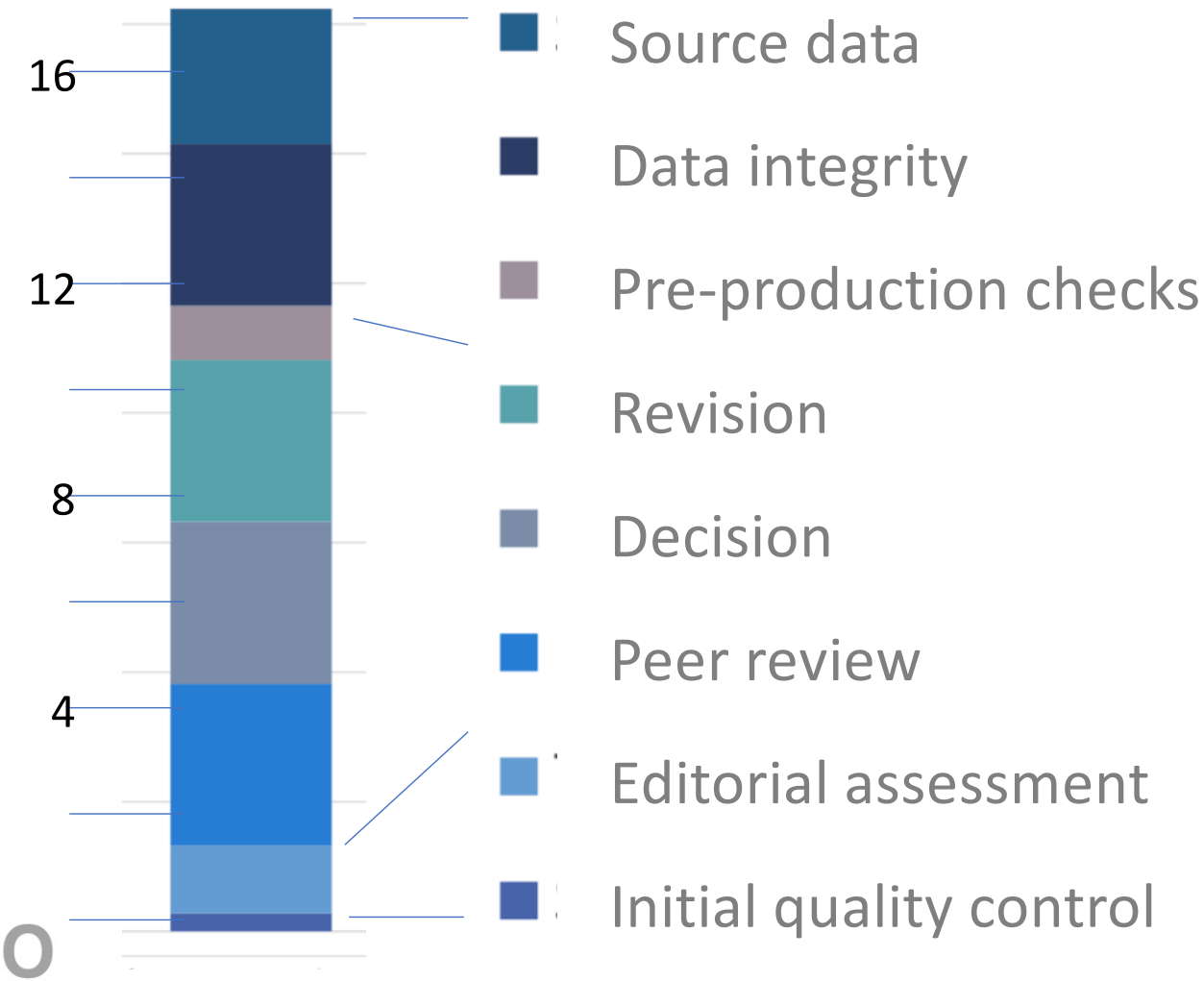
EDITORIAL WORK LOAD

Hours per *accepted and published* paper



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DN Journal Publishing Services Ltd
EMBO Journals Report

EP finances (2019)

Revenue sources

Total
5,568,294 €

2019: 618 papers published

507 research articles 111 reviews

Costs

Total (EMBO + Wiley)
4,225,920 €

If publishing cost sustained by	
research articles only	8 333 €
research articles and reviews	6 836 €
If cost <u>and EMBO income</u> sustained by	
research articles only	10 982 €
research articles and reviews	9 009 €
(and who pays for 'front end', curation, etc.?)	

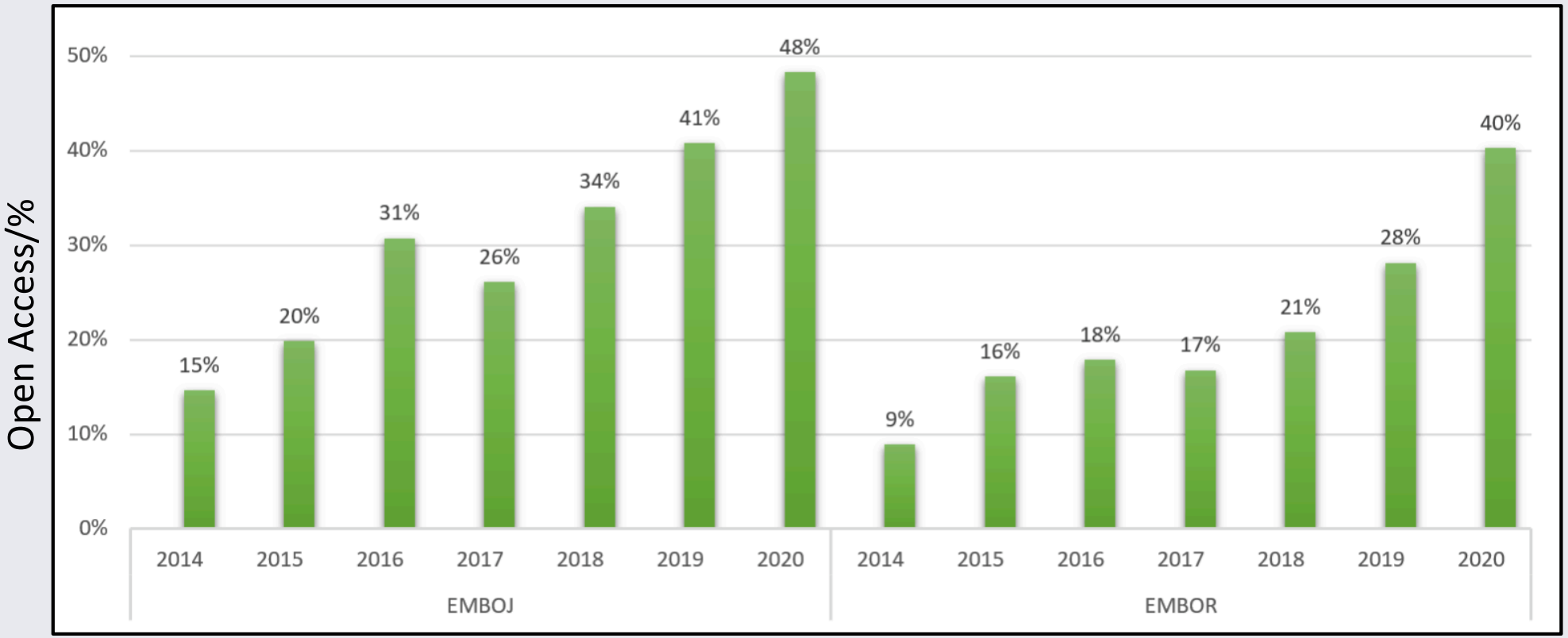
EMBO Income*

Gross Margin EMBO
1,342.374 €

OA @ EMBO Press

MSB, EMM:	OA	APC 4,700 € *
LSA:	OA	APC 3,000 $
EMBO Open:	optional OA	APC 4,700 €

* from 1/2021



EMBO Open is 64% European; 3% Americas; 13% Asia (2020)

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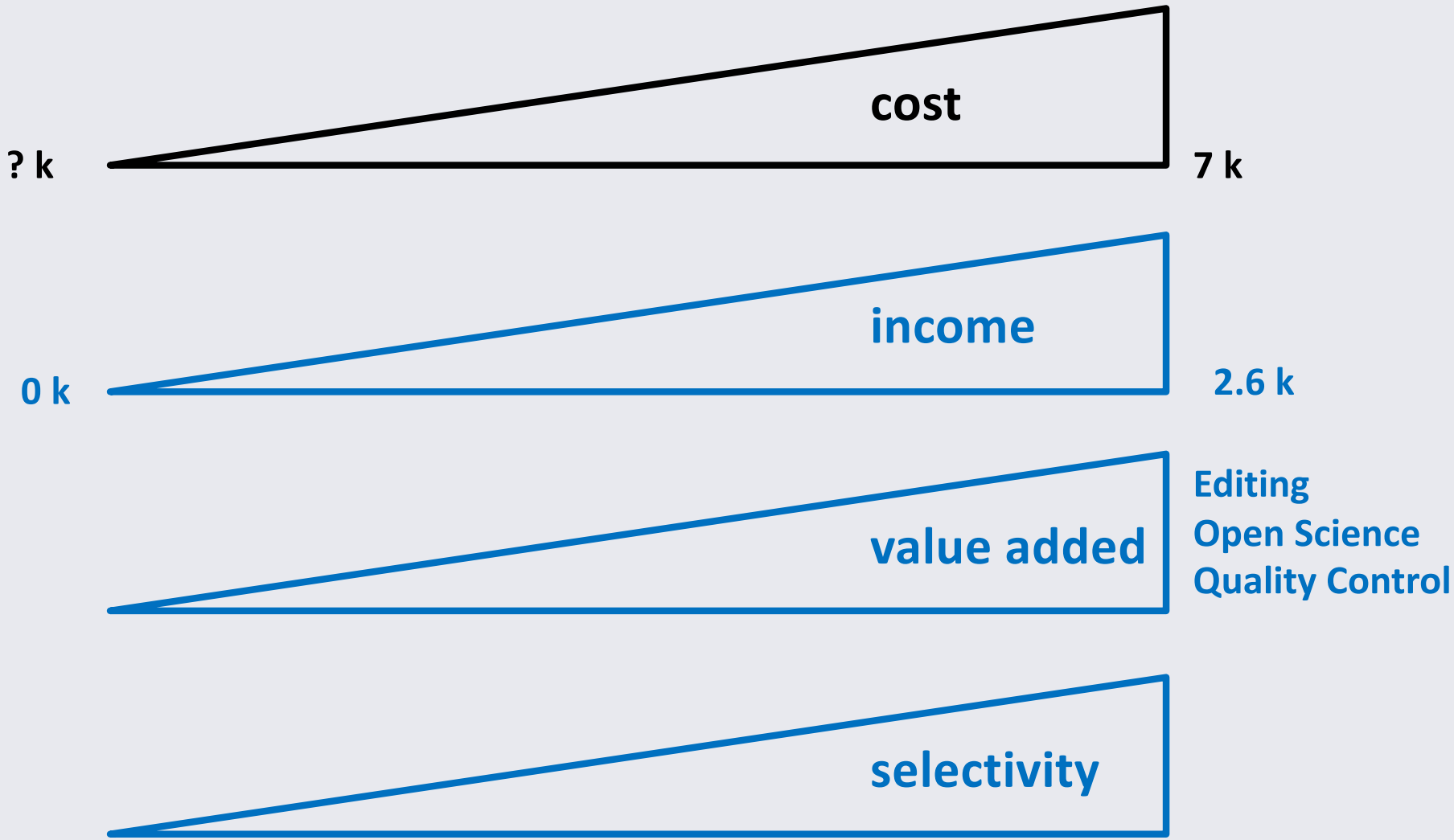
OA Choices



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What will it take to get there?

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