HOW DO BIAL FOUNDATION GRANTS TRANSLATE INTO SCIENTIFIC OUTPUT?

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Aims & Methods

Aims:

- To assess the scientific performance and impact of projects supported by the Bial Foundation through bibliometric indicators.
- To compare the results with those from the previous assessment conducted for the corresponding period.

Methods:

1. **Research productivity** – evaluated by the number of publications indexed in Scopus or Web of Science (WoS), excluding abstracts.
2. **Publication impact** – assessed by:
   a) the sum of "times cited" retrieved from the WoS Core Collection in February 2026, the average number of citations per paper and the Bial Foundation's *h*-index.
   b) the Percentile in Subject Area and the Category Normalized Citation Impact (CNCI) provided by InCites.
   c) Highly Cited Papers – the top 1% by field and publication year.
3. **Journal performance** – measured by:
   a) the journals' impact factor
   b) their quartile raking (as provided by *Journal Citation Reports*). Selection of the highest quartile when a journal is assigned to more than one subject category.

Highly Cited Paper

1. Research productivity

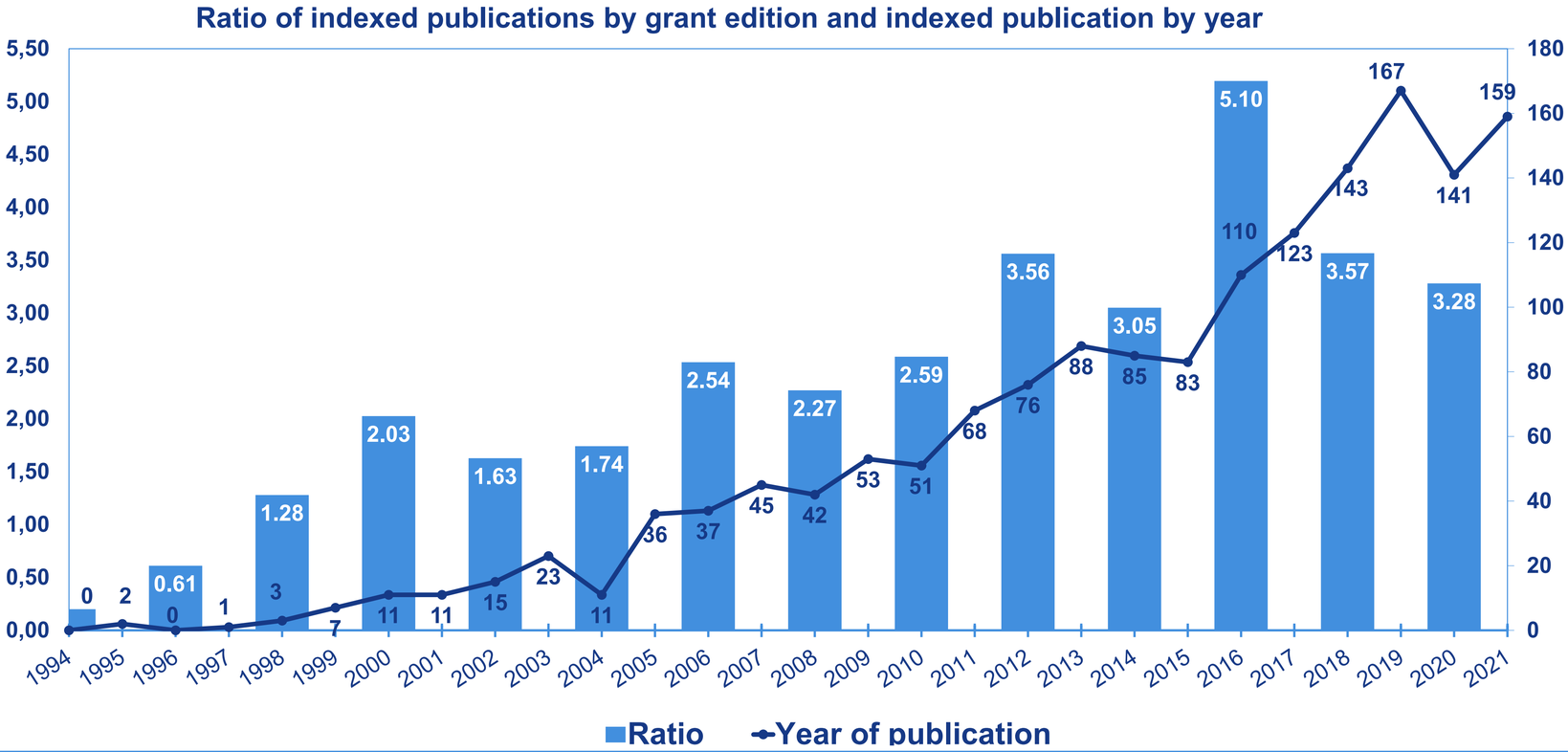
927 funded projects
164 ongoing projects

2320 INDEXED PUBLICATIONS

+ 363 indexed publications since 2024

From 2022 to 2025, 699 indexed papers were published, representing an average of 175 per year

Ratio of indexed publications by grant edition and indexed publication by year



Excluding the latest 2 grant editions (2022/23 and 2024/25), for which most projects are still ongoing, it was obtained a:

ratio of 2.85 indexed publications per project

(2199 papers from 772 projects).

In previous analysis the ratio was 2.63.

2. Publication impact

Number of citations

Assessment	Total publications	Sum of Times Cited	Average citations per item	*h*-index
2026	**2123**	**63,927**	**30.11**	**110**
2024	**1770**	**45,674**	**25.86**	**97**

- 3 papers were cited more than 600 times.

Percentile in Subject Area

365 publications (17.41%) fall within the **top 10% most cited** in their respective field, publication year, and document type (InCites Percentile ≥ 90).

Category Normalized Citation Impact (CNCI)

42% of publications exhibit **above-average citation impact** compared with similar publications (same field, year and document type).

Distribution of papers with CNCI >1

3. Journal performance

Number of publications by journal impact factor

Overall, 2063 papers were published in journals with an **average impact factor of 4.1**.

% of publications by quartile score

Half of the publications (n = 1.040) appeared in Q1 journals, representing a **3-percentage-point increase** compared with the prior assessment (50% vs. 47%).

Conclusions

- The **ratio of indexed papers per project increased**, indicating higher research productivity.
- The **average number of citations per item increased**, reflecting stronger visibility and uptake of the work.
- **Strong field- and year- normalized citation performance.**
- A growing proportion of **publications appears in top-quartile (Q1) journals**, reflecting higher publication standards.
- Overall, the evidence points to a sustained **upward trend in scientific productivity and influence**.