



**Time Statistics for
Editing and Indexing Projects
(March 2026 Update)**

How long does it take for an editing or indexing project to be completed? Although every project is different, the statistics shown below for selected projects provide a general idea. Projects are listed in order by length of completion time (least to most).

Article Editing	
Average article length: 23,000 words	
Average time to completion: 14 hours (1,650 words per hour)	
<i>Note: As shown below, Bluebooking citations adds a significant amount of time to an editing project.</i>	
Project Description	Statistics
Article Topic: International criminal law Service: Editing text in final draft form.	Length: 11,000 words Editing time: 6 hours (1,800 words per hour)
Article topic: Tax law Service: Editing text in final draft form.	Length: 27,700 words Editing time: 7 hours (4,000 words per hour)
Article topic: Bioethics Service: Editing text in final draft form.	Length: 27,700 words Editing time: 7 hours (4,000 words per hour)
Article topic: Torts Service: Intensive editing of text of second draft.	Length: 30,500 words Editing time: 8 hours (3,800 words per hour)
Article topic: Data privacy and taxation Service: Editing text in early draft form.	Length: 8,800 words Editing time: 8 hours (1,100 words per hour)
Article topic: Constitutional law Service: Intensive editing of both text and organization.	Length: 29,800 words Editing time: 11 hours (2,700 words per hour)
Article Topic: Corporate Governance law Services: Editing text in early draft form, research.	Length: 13,000 words Editing time: 11 hours (1,200 words per hour)
Article topic: Criminal Law Service: Intensive editing of text of second draft.	Length: 18,500 words Editing time: 12 hours (1,500 words per hour)
Article topic: Comparative labor law (10 jurisdictions) Services: Editing text; Bluebooking citations.	Length: 23,000 words Editing time: 24 hours (965 words per hour)
Article topic: Clinical law Services: Editing text; Bluebooking citations.	Length: 25,700 words Editing time: 28 hours (900 words per hour)



Book Indexing

Average book length: 146,000 words (345 pages)

Average words per hour: 3,200

Average completion time: 47 hours over 24 days

Project Description	Length	Time to Completion
Book on feminist legal studies that I also edited. Indexing method: Indexed final page proofs	70,000 words	22 hours over 15 days 3,300 words per hour
Book on feminist legal studies and critical race theory that I also edited. Indexing method: Indexed final page proofs	85,000 words	26 hours over 10 days 3,300 words per hour
Book on tax law that I also edited. Indexing method: Coded index entries in MS Word doc	100,000 words	39 hours over 25 days 2,600 words per hour
Book on the history of election law that I also edited. Indexing method: Coded index entries in MS Word doc	260,000 words	45 hours over 11 days 5,800 words per hour
Book on administrative law that I also edited. Indexing method: Coded index entries in MS Word doc	90,000 words	53 hours over 20 days 1,700 words per hour
Symposium volume with articles by multiple authors on the history of legal treatises. Indexing method: Coded index entries in MS Word doc	115,000 words	57 hours over 44 days 2,000 words per hour
Book on the international law of secession comparing three former Soviet republics. Indexing method: indexed final page proofs	302,000 words	90 hours over 42 days 3,400 words per hour

For more information about Manuscript Spa's editing and indexing services, visit <https://www.manuscript-spa.com>.