

# First results of the SOAP Project

## Open Access facts: What publishers offer, What researchers want

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BMC, CERN, MPDL, SAGE, Springer and STFC

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Munin Seminar, Tromsø – November 25<sup>h</sup>, 2010

- About the project
- Highlights from a study of OA journals today
- Results from a large-scale survey of researchers

- About the project
- Highlights from a study of OA journals today
- Results from a large-scale survey

- Funded by the European Commission
- Framework Program 7 – Science and Society
- Scheduled to run from March 2009 to February 2011
- Compare and contrast supply/demand for OA publishing
- Publishers, Libraries, Funding Agencies



MAX-PLANCK-GESELLSCHAFT



Science & Technology  
Facilities Council



**BioMed** Central  
The Open Access Publisher



**Springer**

science+business media

- About the project
- **Highlights from a study of OA journals today**
- Results from a large-scale survey

# A study of OA journals today

- Assess the supply of OA publishing outlets today
- Methodology
  - Existing directories/databases DOAJ/SCOPUS, ISI, EZB, SCImago
  - Trawl through thousands of web pages
- Answer key questions
  - How many articles, journals, publishers?
  - In which discipline, with which license?
  - Where does the money come from?
  - ...
- Some highlights in the following pages
- Full results at <http://arxiv.org/abs/1010.0506>

# How many OA articles/journals?

Journals/Publisher	Publishers		Total journals		Total articles/year	
1	1,621	90 %	1,621	57 %	63,887	55 %
2 to 9	171	9 %	491	17 %	25,442	22 %
10 to 49	12	1 %	190	7 %	12,623	11 %
≥ 50	5	<1 %	536	19 %	14,931	13 %
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,809</b>		<b>2,838</b>		<b>116,883</b>	

- English language journals only
- 90% of publishers <100 articles/year and 1/3 of total
- 10% of publishers publish 2/3 of the total
- 14 “large publishers”:
  - 40K articles/year in 616 journals, 30% of the total
  - 6 commercial, 6 no-profit, 2 N/A

# How many? About 8-10% !

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10 to 49	12	1 %	190	7 %	12,623	11 %
≥ 50	5	<1%	266	10 %	14,982	13 %
Total	1,809		2,838		116,934	

**About 8-10% of articles/year is published in Open Access and hybrid Open Access journals**

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- 14 “large publishers”:
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# The 14 “large” publishers >1000 articles or >50 journals

Publisher name	Journals	Articles/year	Publisher type
BioMed Central	176	8,993	publishing house commercial
International Union of Crystallography	1	5,165	other non-profit
Public Library of Science	7	4,368	publishing house non-profit
Asian Network for Scientific Information	13	2,514	publishing house commercial
Hindawi Publishing Corporation	85	2,044	publishing house commercial
Copernicus Publications	18	2,012	publishing house non-profit
Optical Society of America	1	1,961	learned society non-profit
World Academy of Science, Engineering and Technology	18	1,960	other N/A
Bentham Open	154	1,663	publishing house commercial
Medknow Publications	59	1,574	publishing house commercial
Indian Academy of Sciences	10	1,152	learned society non-profit
Oxford University Press	2	1,032	other non-profit
Academic Journals	10	1,001	publishing house N/A
Internet Scientific Publications	62	657	publishing house commercial

# About what?

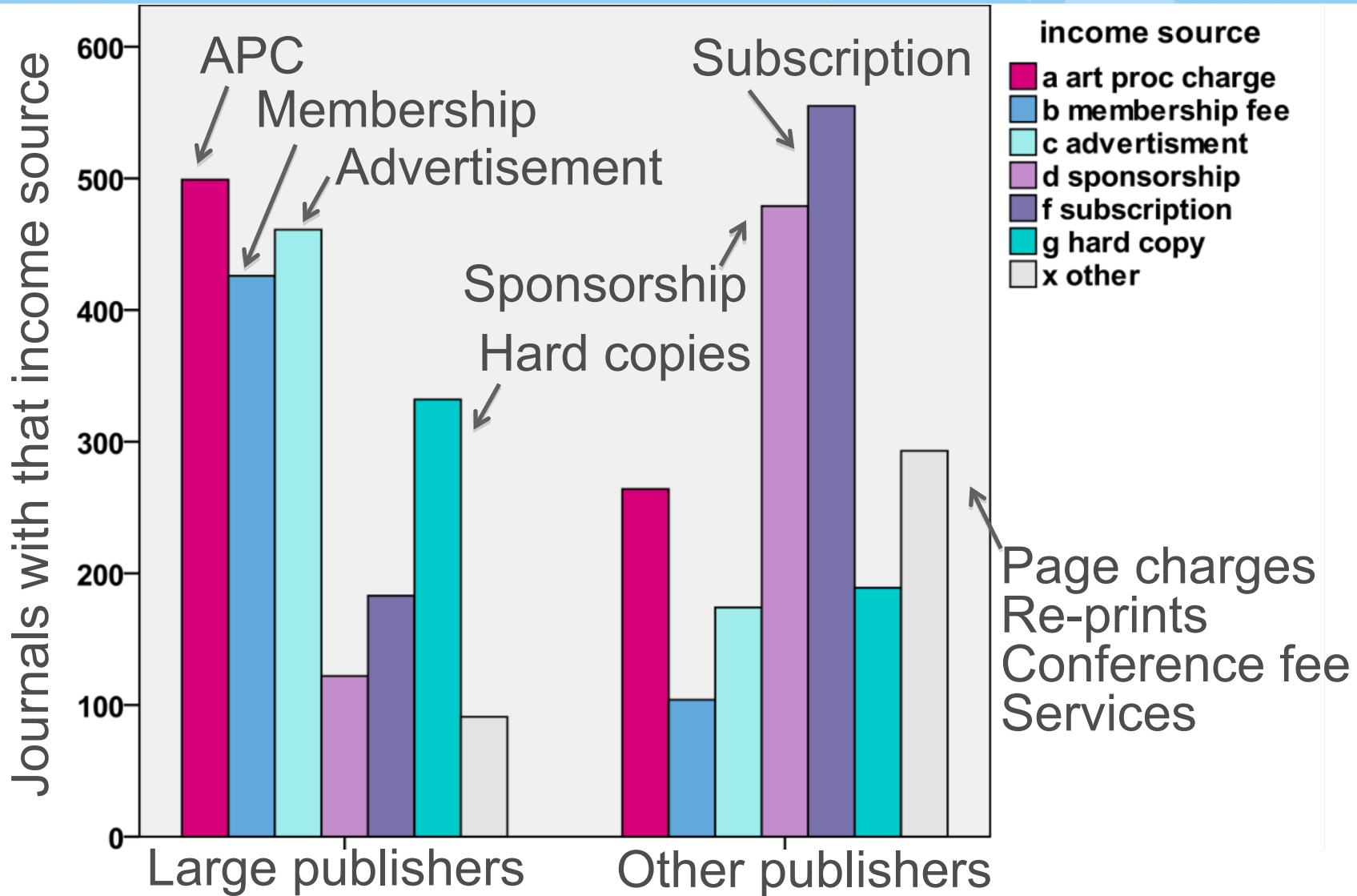
Subject category	Publishers		Journals		Articles/year	
cpt – Chemistry, Physics and Technology (includes Mathematics and Astronomy)	360	20%	549	19%	33,158	28%
bio – Biology and Life Sciences	355	20%	533	19%	24,767	21%
med – Medicine and Health Sciences	406	22%	806	28%	32,879	28%
soc – Social Sciences	533	29%	611	22%	13,506	12%
hum – Humanities	258	14%	276	10%	5,030	4 %
gen – General works	63	3%	63	2%	7,543	6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,809</b>		<b>2,838</b>		<b>116,883</b>	

- 2/3 of journals in STM; 1/3 in SSH
- 3/4 of articles in STM; 1/4 in SSH
- “Large publisher” almost exclusively STM

- 1/2 of “Large” publishers use Creative Commons
  - 82% CC-by, 18% CC-by-nc
  - 72% of journals, 71% of articles
- “Other” publishers
  - 73% have license information on their web pages
  - 21% use some CC version
  - 10% state “authors retains copyright”

# Presence of income sources

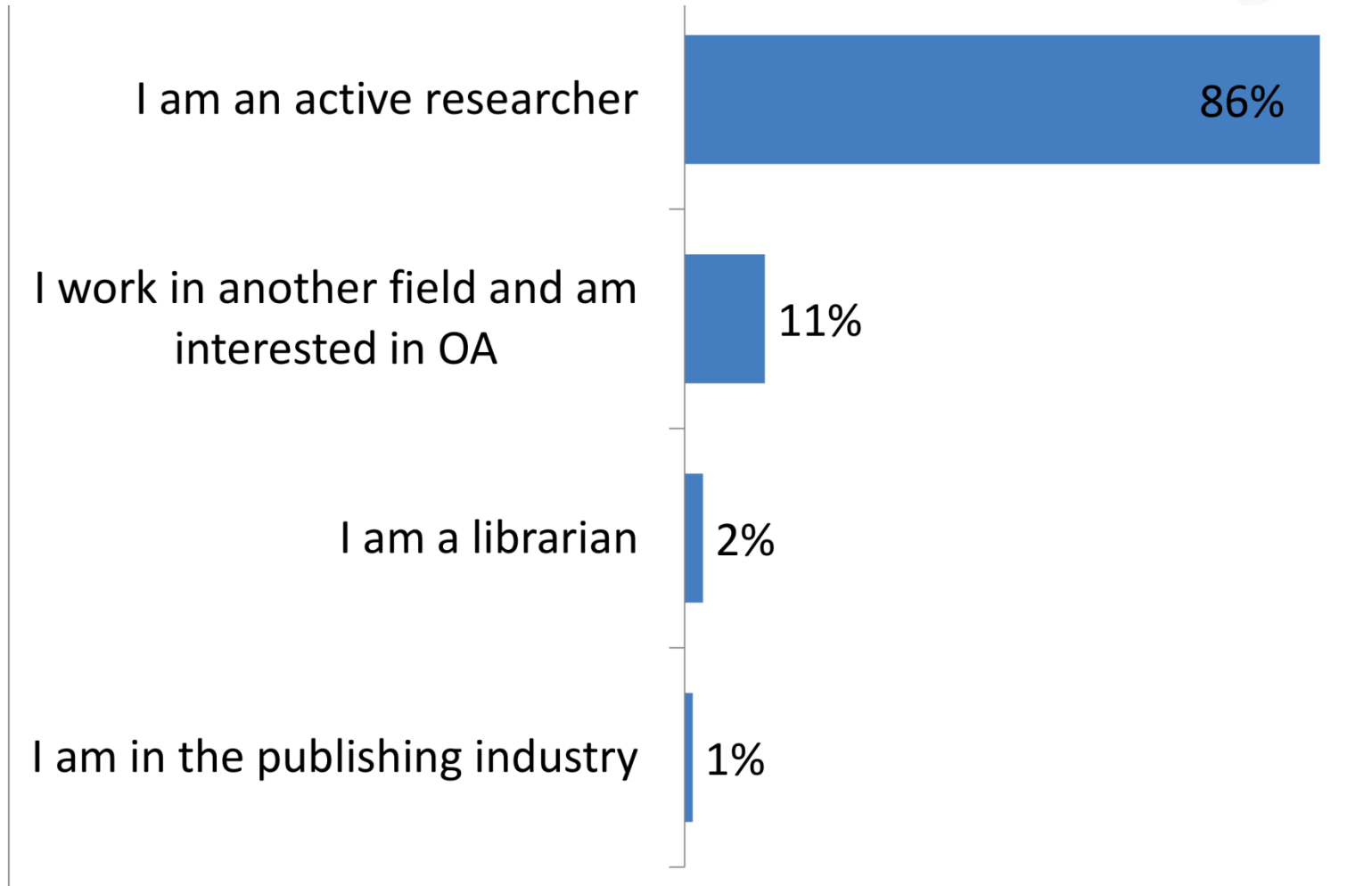
NB – No information on income amount



- About the project
- Highlights from a study of OA journals today
- **Results from a large-scale survey**

- 23 Questions
- Analysis of the first 3 months of data
- Dissemination through:
  - SOAP partners
  - Publishers mailing lists
  - Library and Open Access mailing lists
- Estimate dissemination to >1.5 million people
- **54'000** answers


# Are you involved in research?



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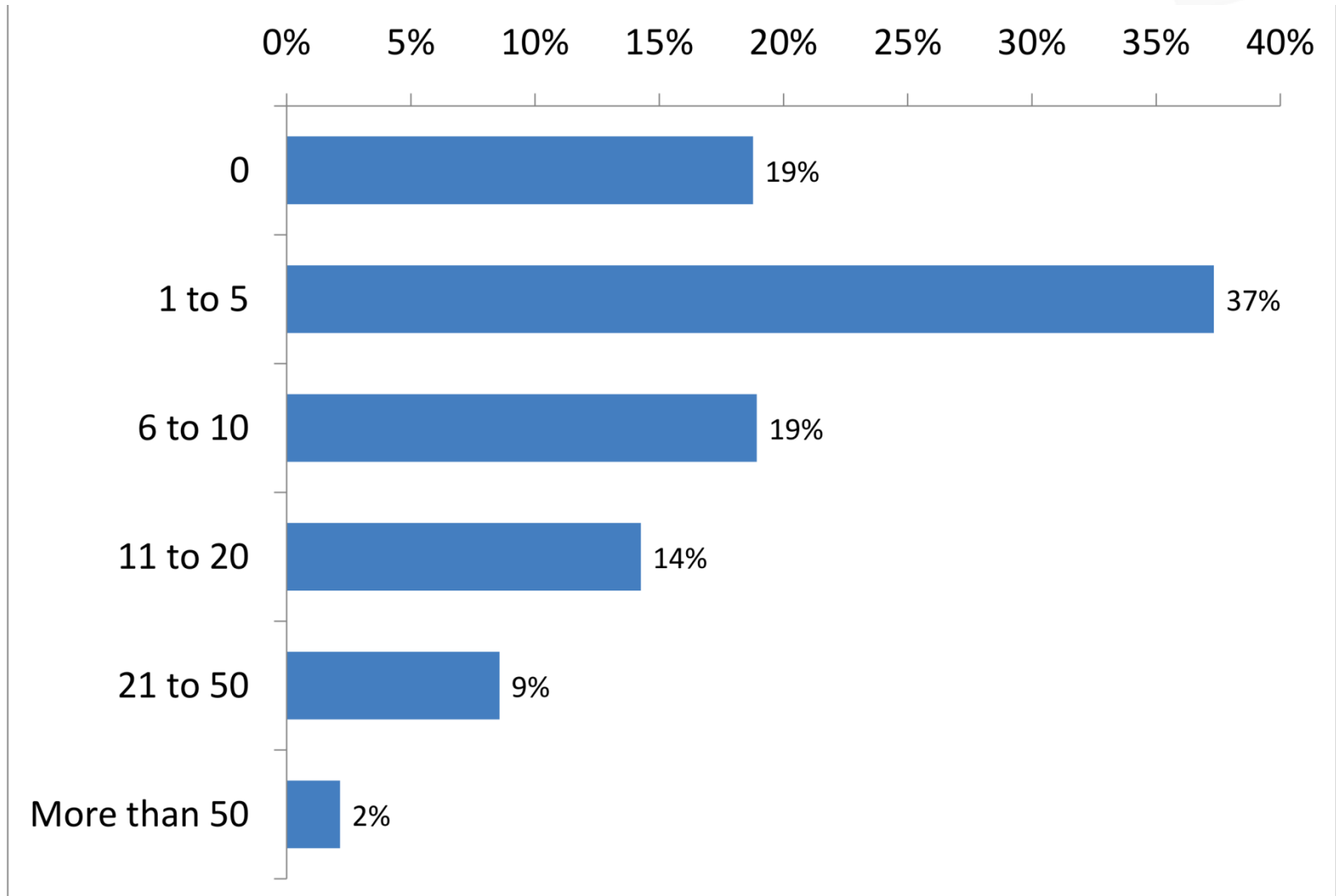
I am an active researcher

86%

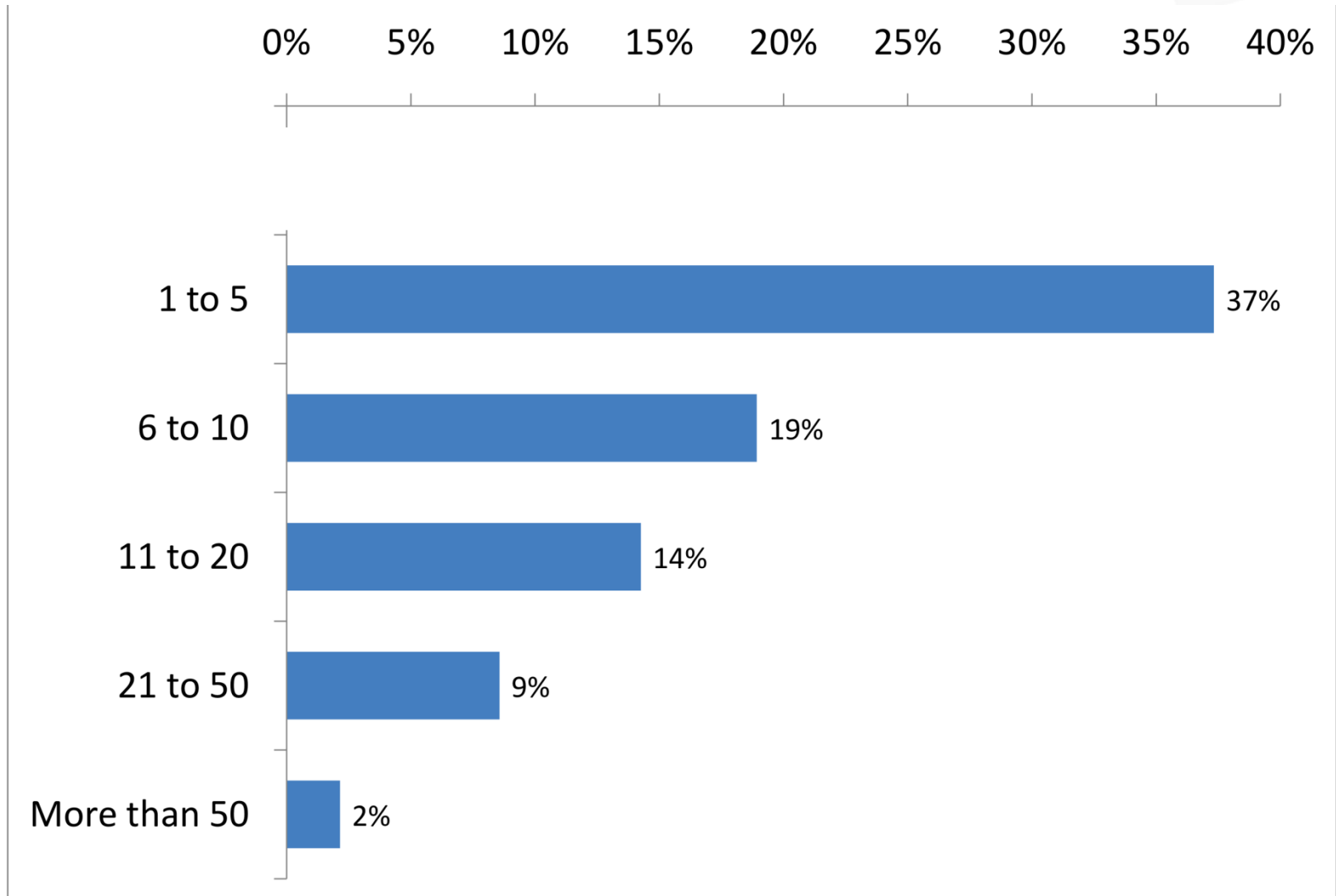
A horizontal bar chart with a blue bar representing 86%. The bar is positioned to the right of the text 'I am an active researcher' and to the left of the percentage '86%'. The bar is contained within a thin vertical line frame.



# How many articles have you published ?



# How many articles have you published ?



# Focus on: published researchers



Who ?  
Beliefs  
Actions

Who ?

- Demographics

Beliefs

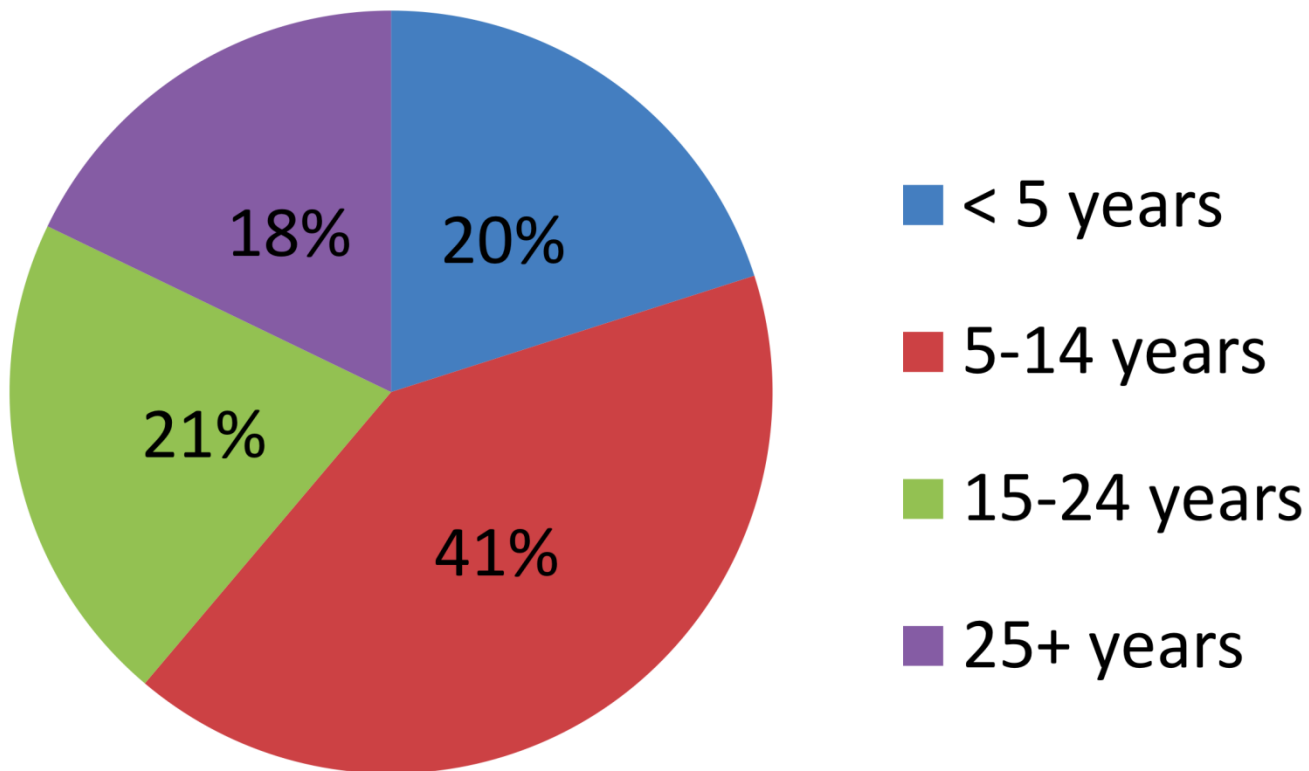
- Likes OA? Why? Why not?

Actions

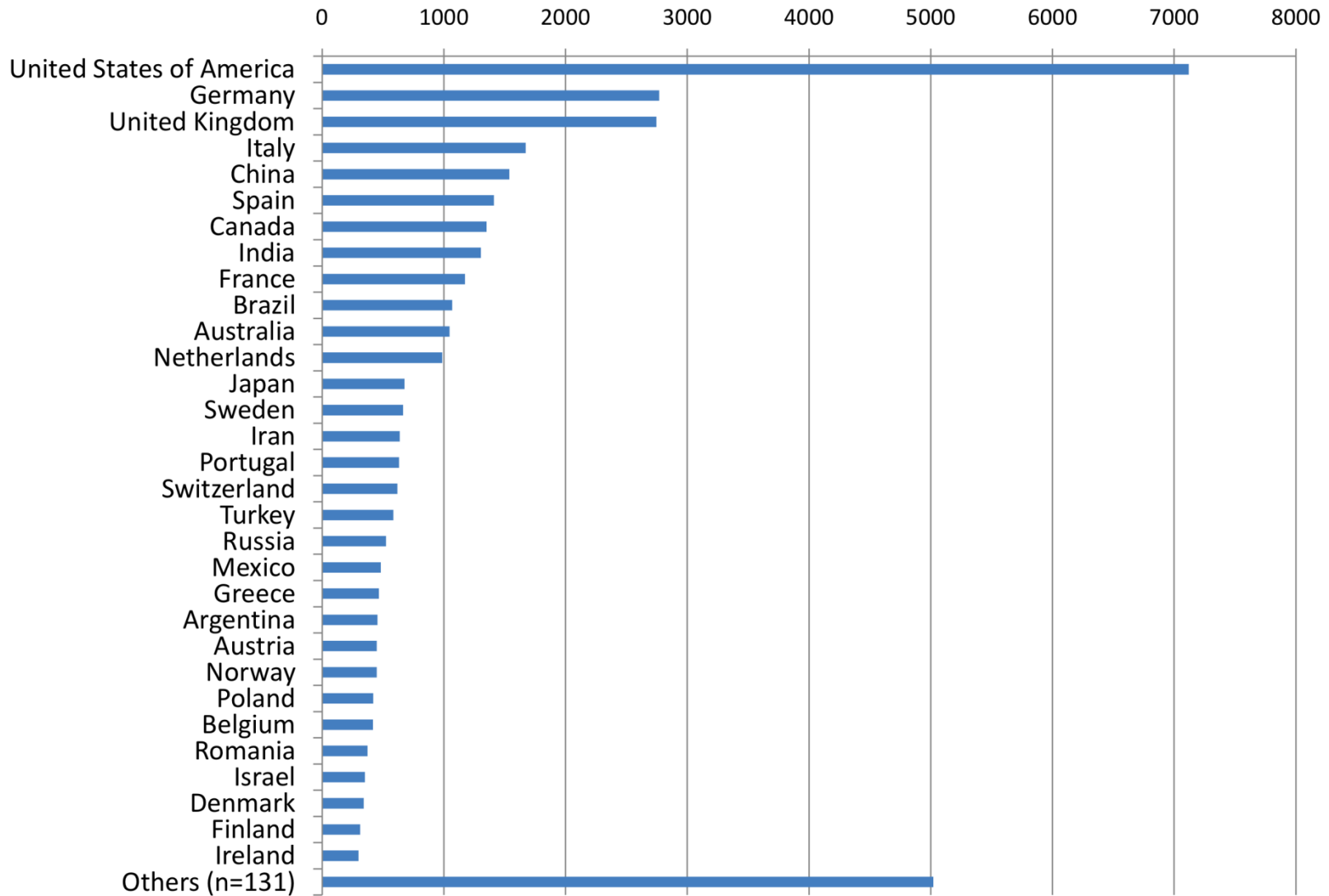
- Publishes OA? Why not?
- Who pays? How? How easy?

Who ?  
Beliefs  
Actions

## Years employed in research

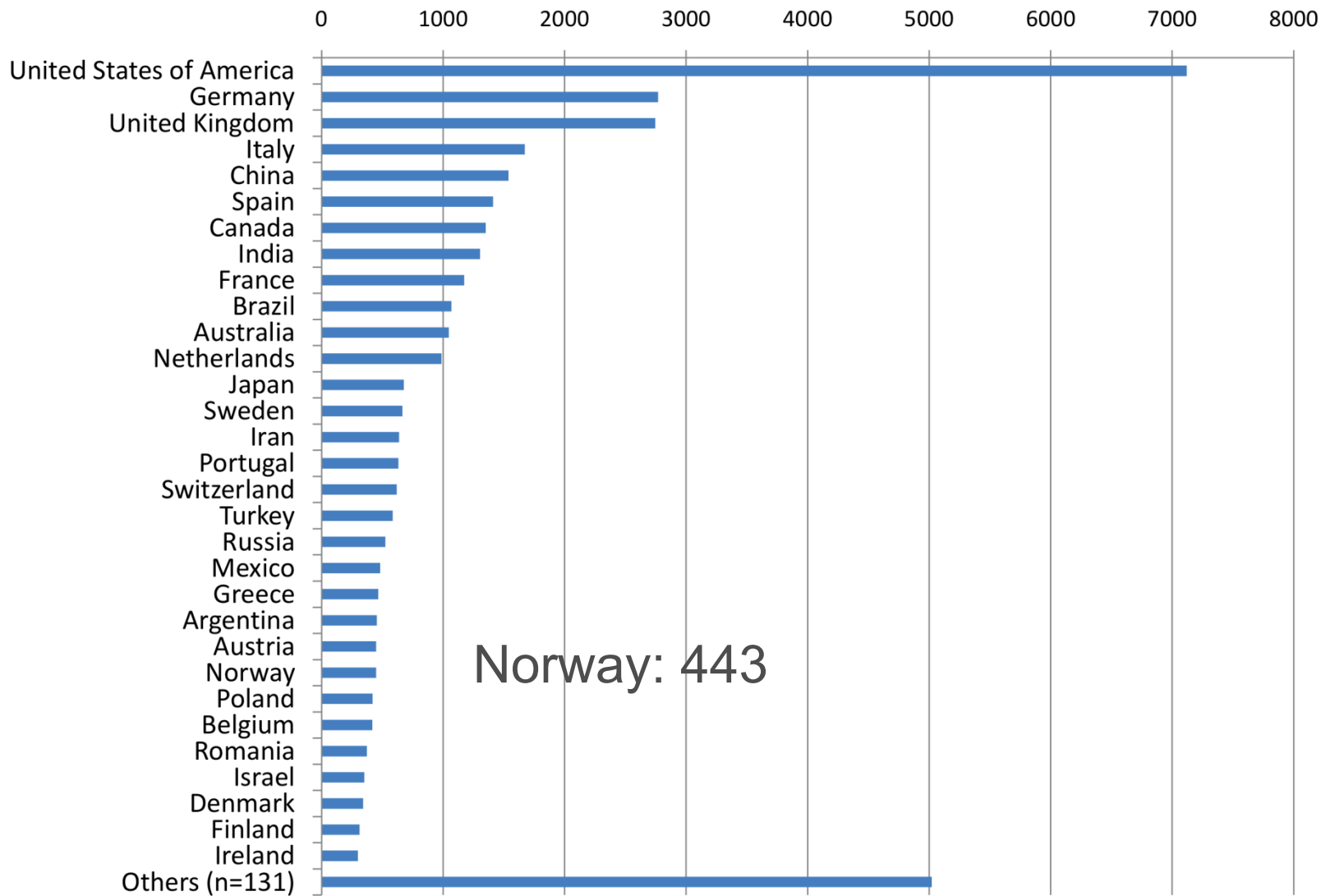


# Distribution by country

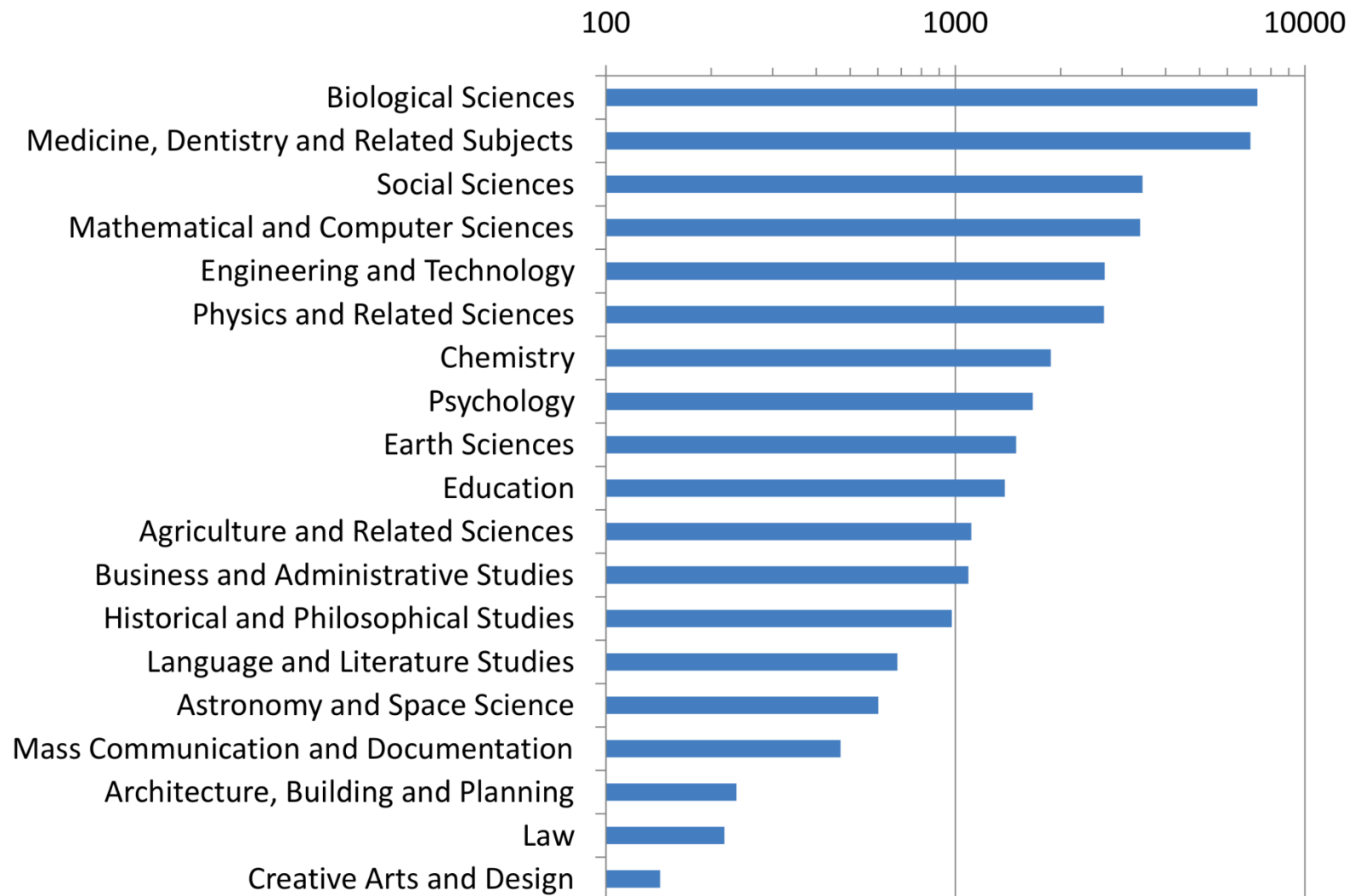




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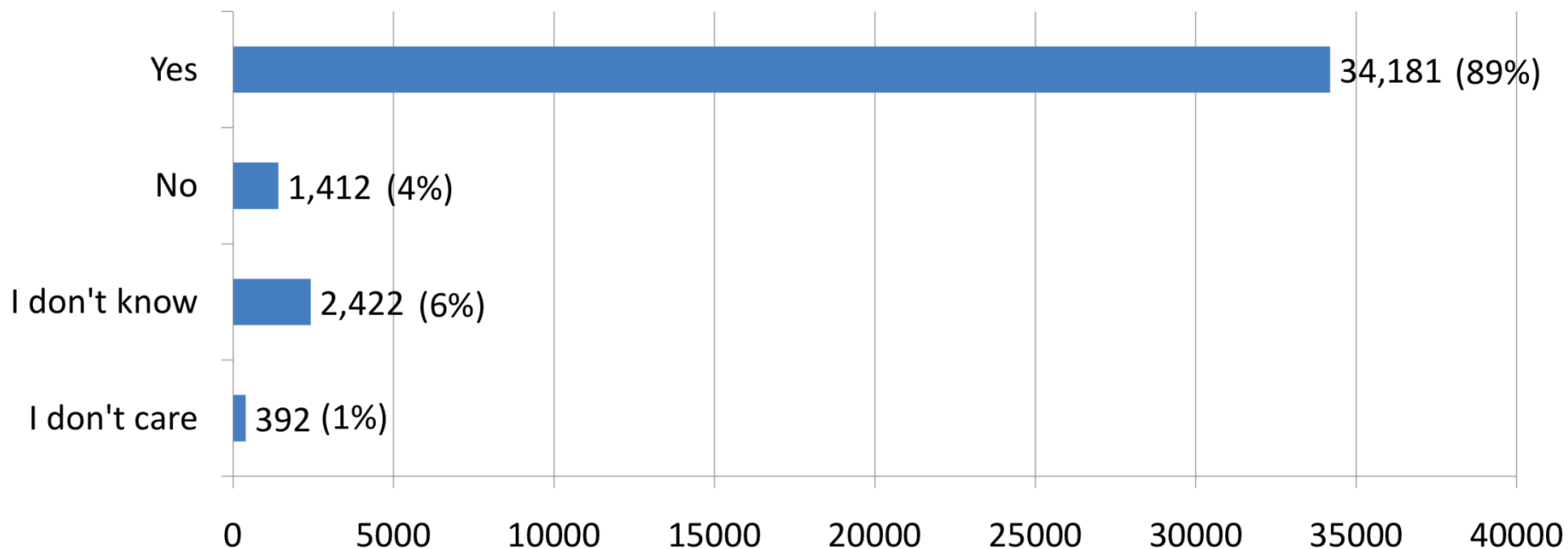


# Distribution by disciplines



Who ?  
**Beliefs**  
Actions

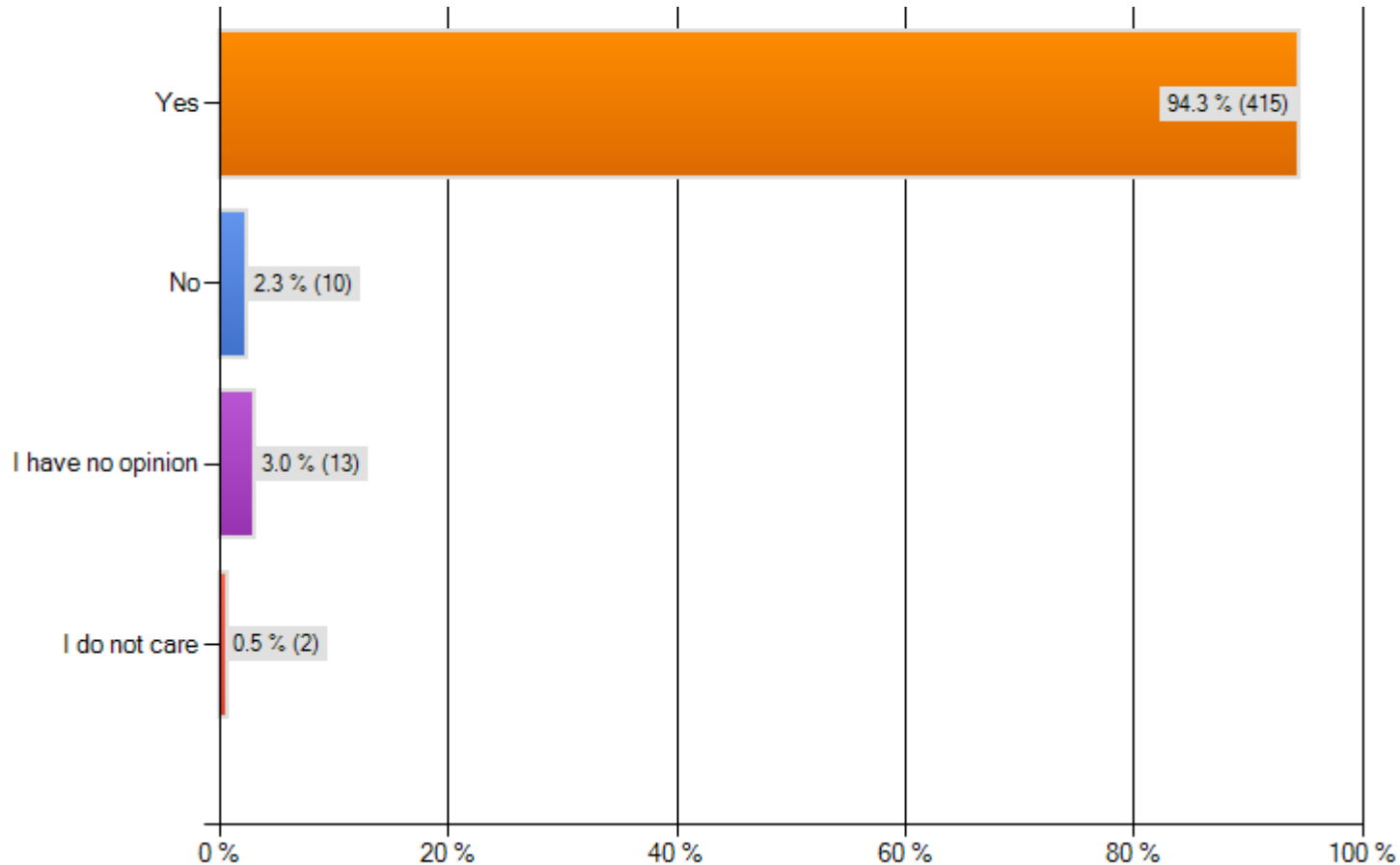
# Would OA journals be beneficial for your field?



No large differences according to seniority and number of articles

# Would OA journals be beneficial for your field?

## Norway answers

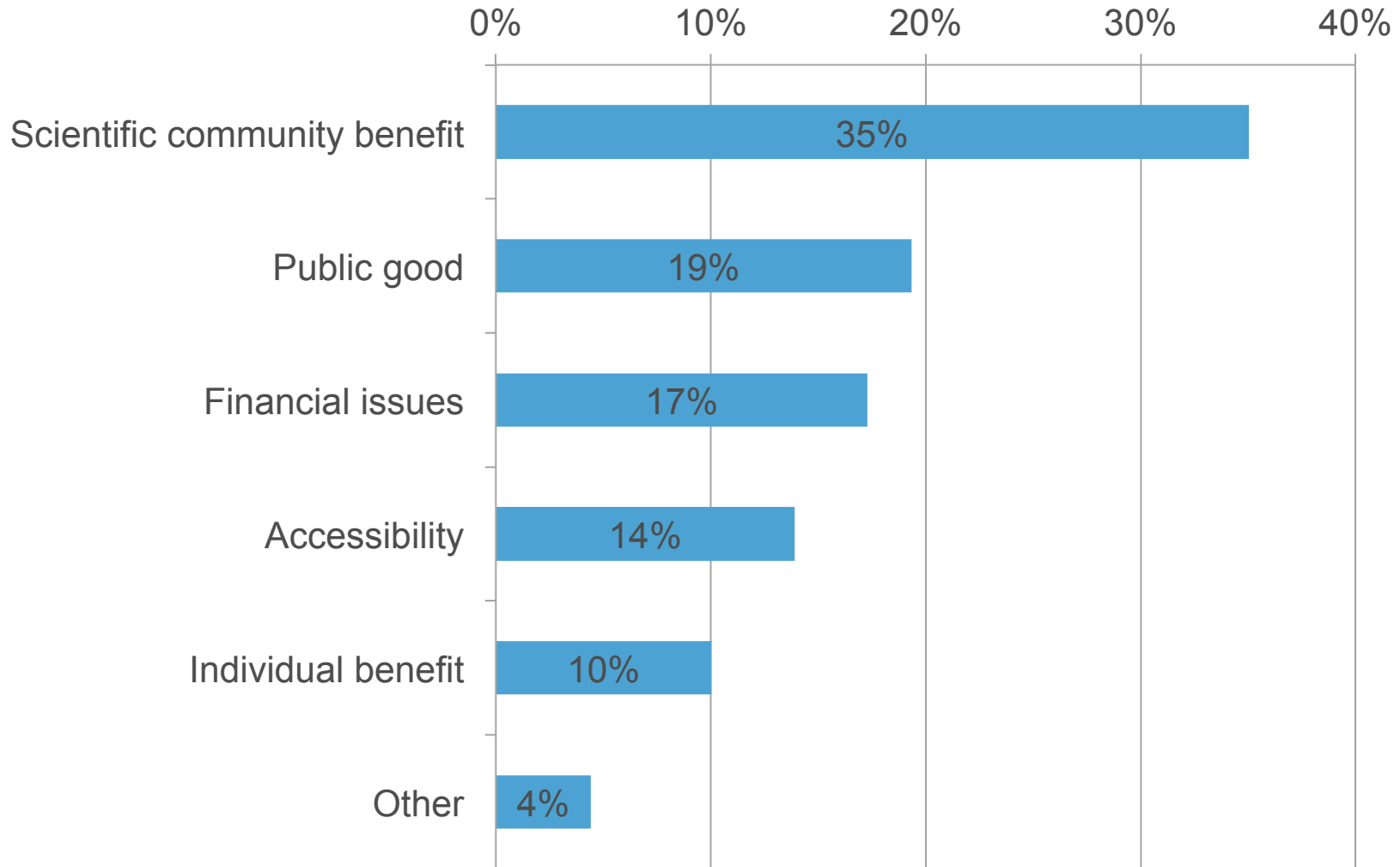


94% !

# Why?

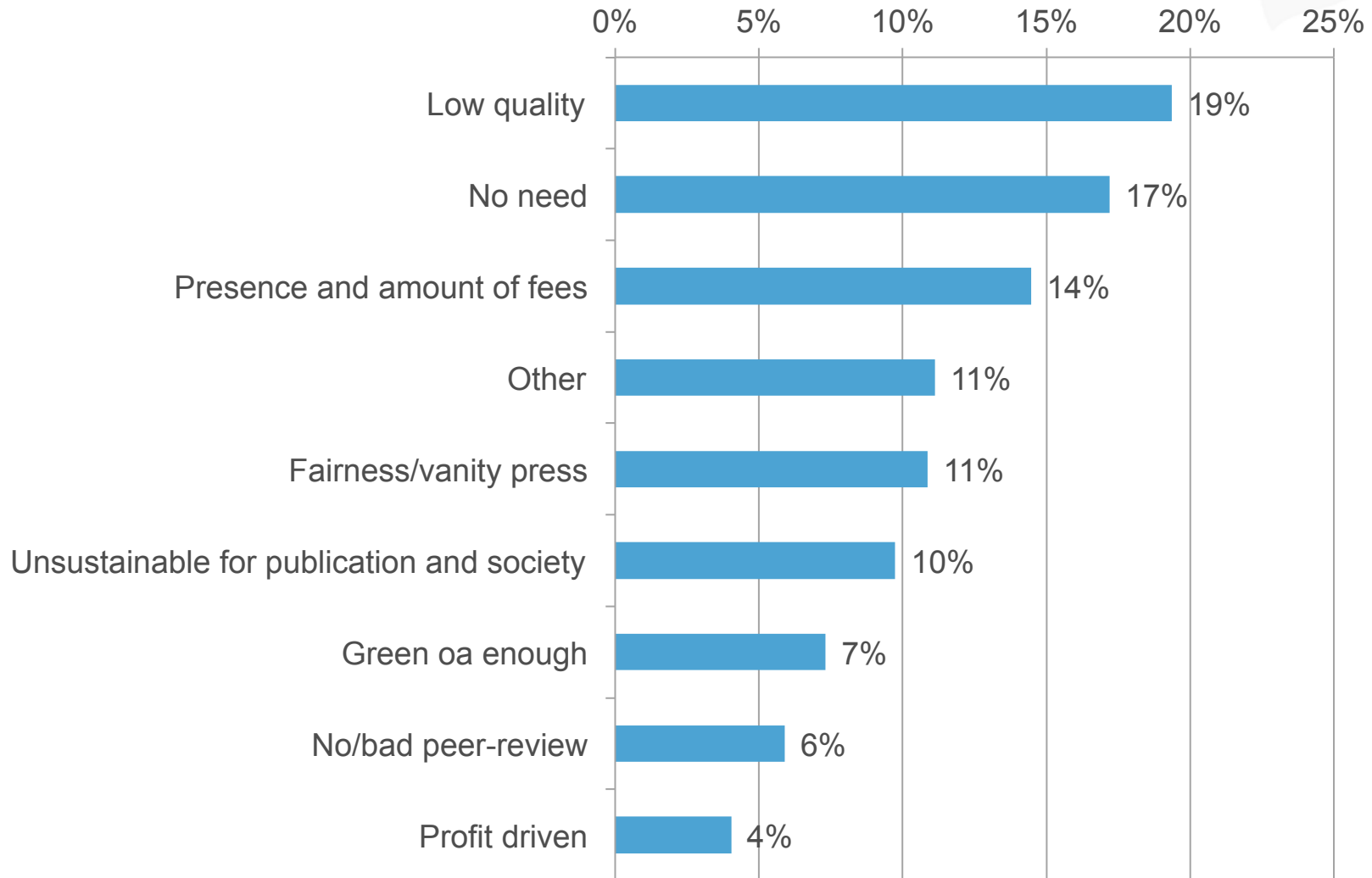
>22'000 answers, 1/2 million words

# Why yes? (n=6984)



Preliminary

# Why not? (n=1611)



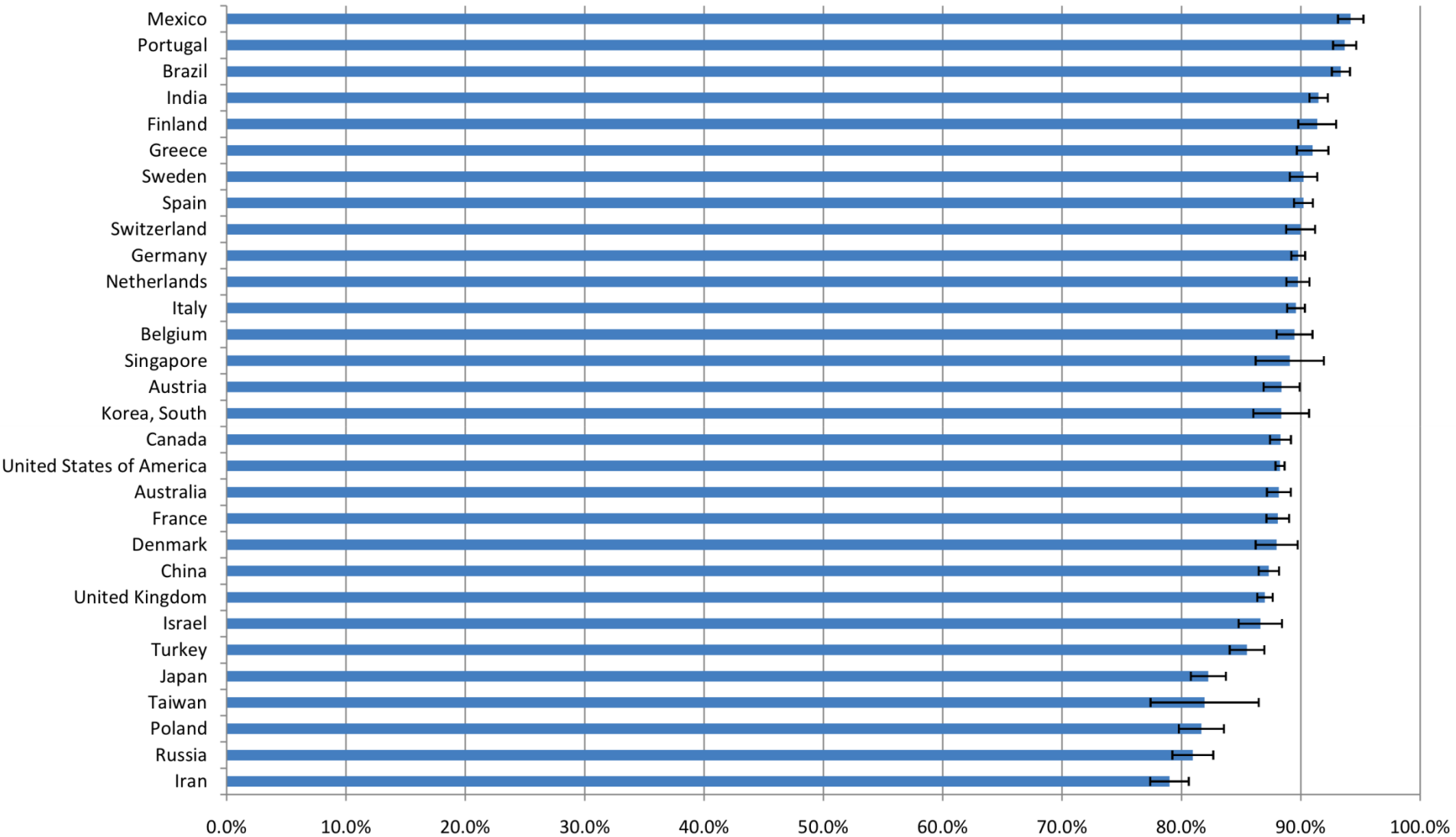


# Would OA journals be beneficial for your field?

By country

# Would OA journals be beneficial for your field?

Yes

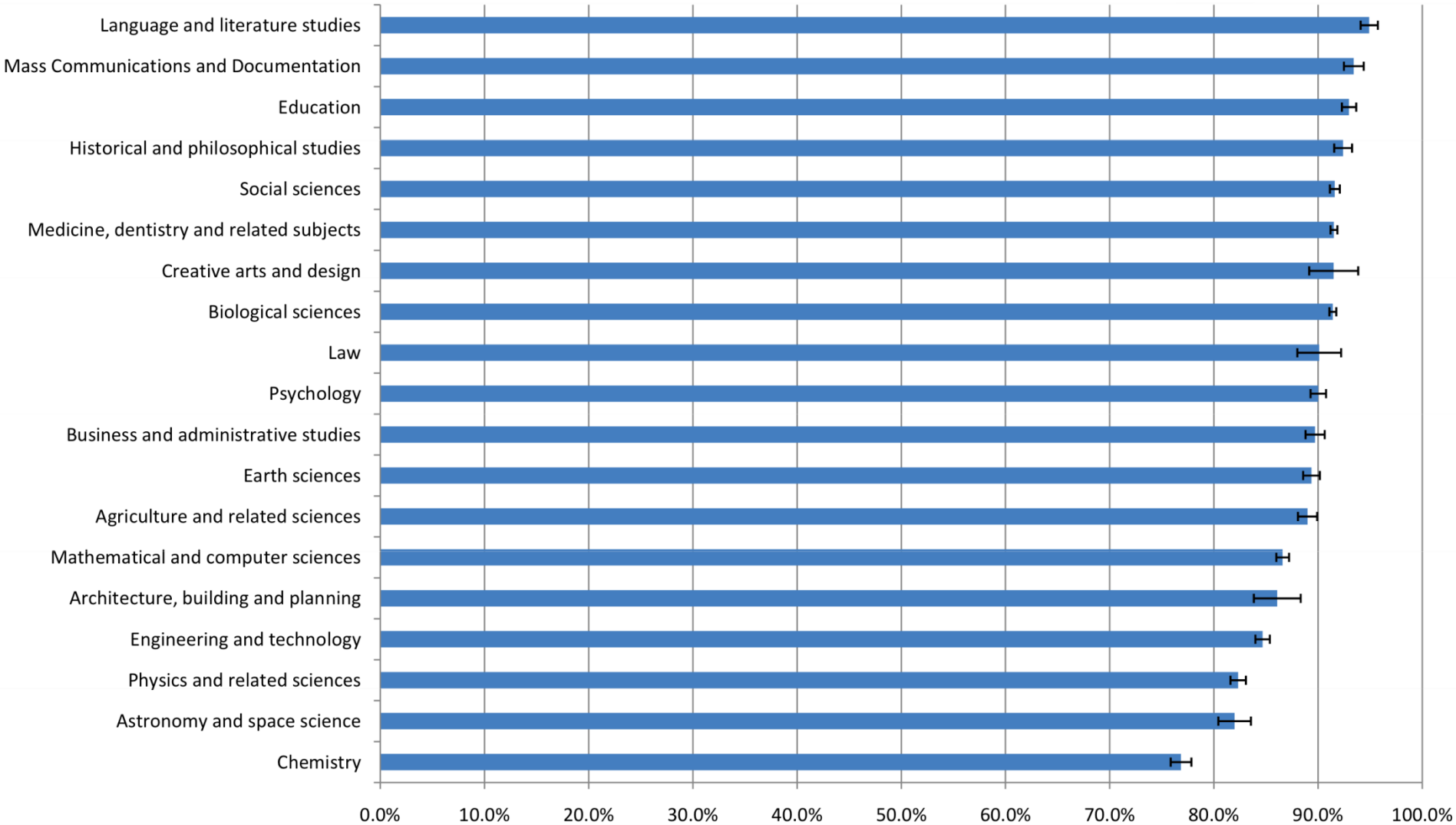


# Would OA journals be beneficial for your field?

By field

# Would OA journals be beneficial for your field?

Yes



# Beliefs about OA – positive

1 Strongly agree; 2 Neutral; 3 Disagree; 4 Strongly disagree

## Publicly-funded research should be made available to be read and used without access barrier



1.6 Norway

## Researchers should retain the rights to their published work and allow it to be used by others



2.1

## Articles that are available by OA are likely to be read and cited more often than those not OA



2.2

# Beliefs about OA – neutral

1 Strongly agree; 2 Neutral; 3 Disagree; 4 Strongly disagree

Norway

## Open Access publishing is more cost-effective than subscriptions and will benefit public investment in research



## If authors pay OA publication fees there will be less money available for research



## OA unfairly penalises research-intensive institutions with large publication output by making them pay high costs for publication



# Beliefs about OA – negative

1 Strongly agree; 2 Neutral; 3 Disagree; 4 Strongly disagree

Norway

## Open Access publishing leads to an increase in the publication of poor quality research



## Open Access publishing undermines the system of peer review



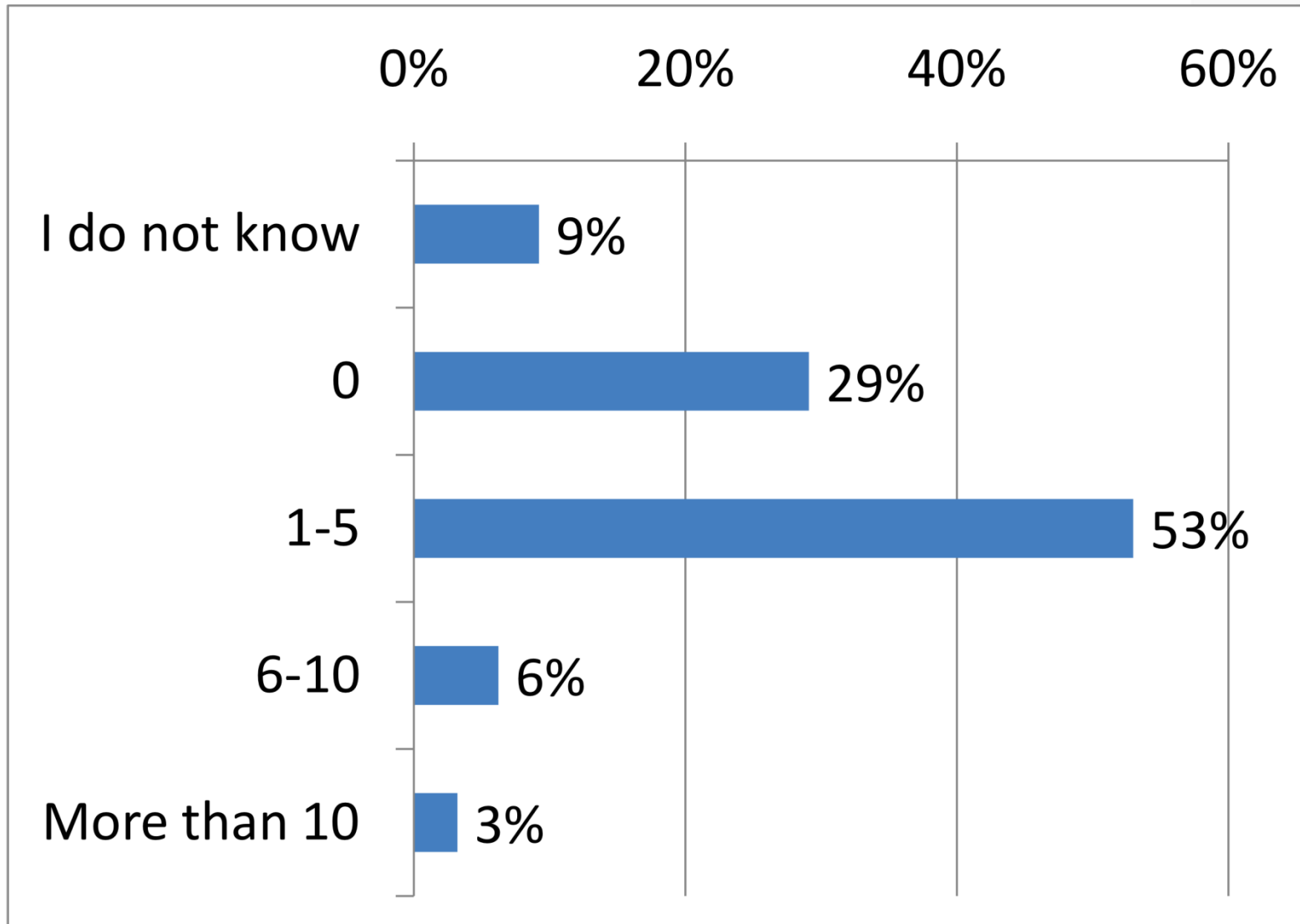
## It is not beneficial for the general public to have access to published scientific and medical articles



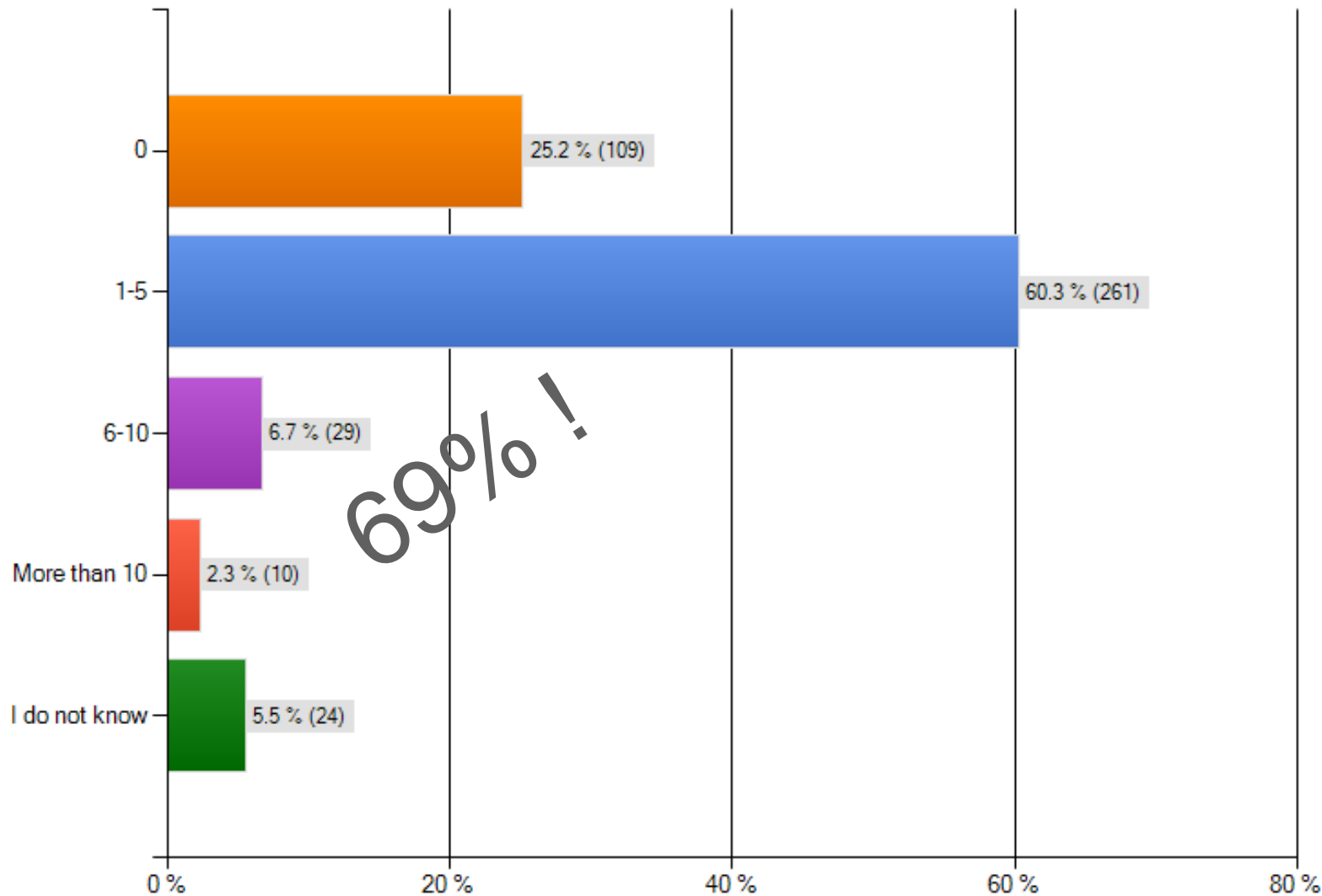
Who ?  
Beliefs  
**Actions**



# How many OA articles have you published in the last 5 years?



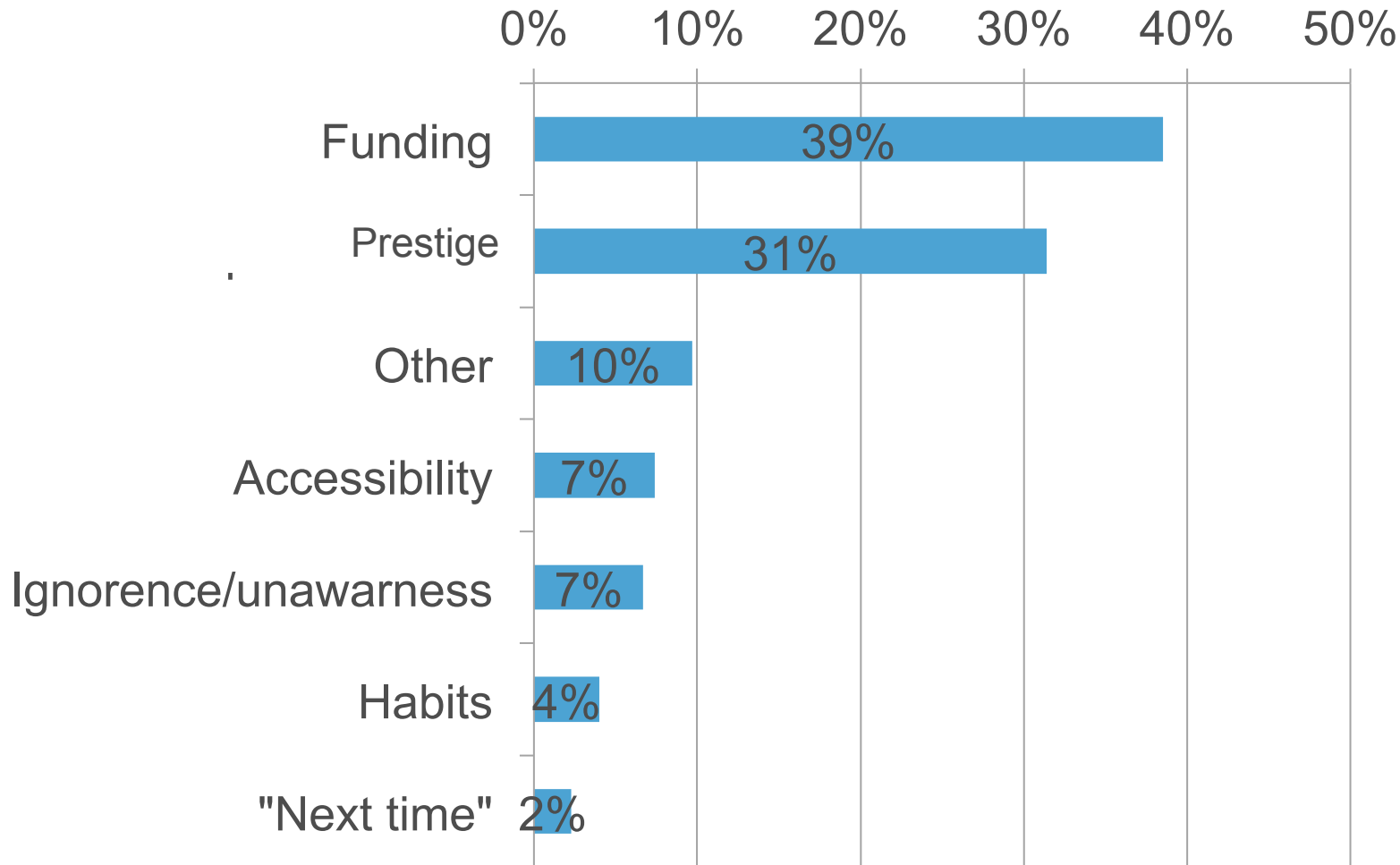
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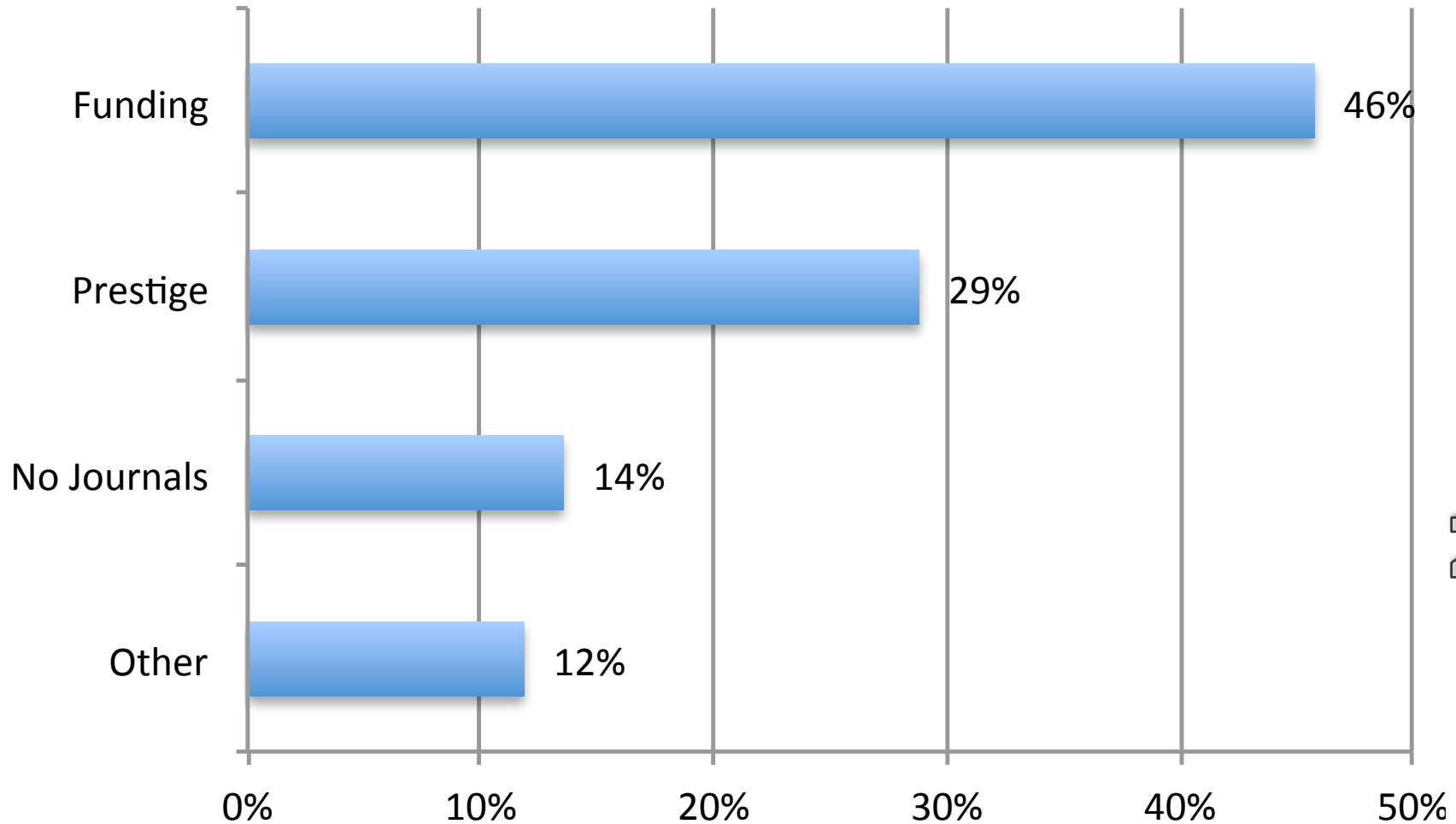
Norway

# Was there a reason not to publish OA?

42% gave a reason; >4000 answers; 60'000 words

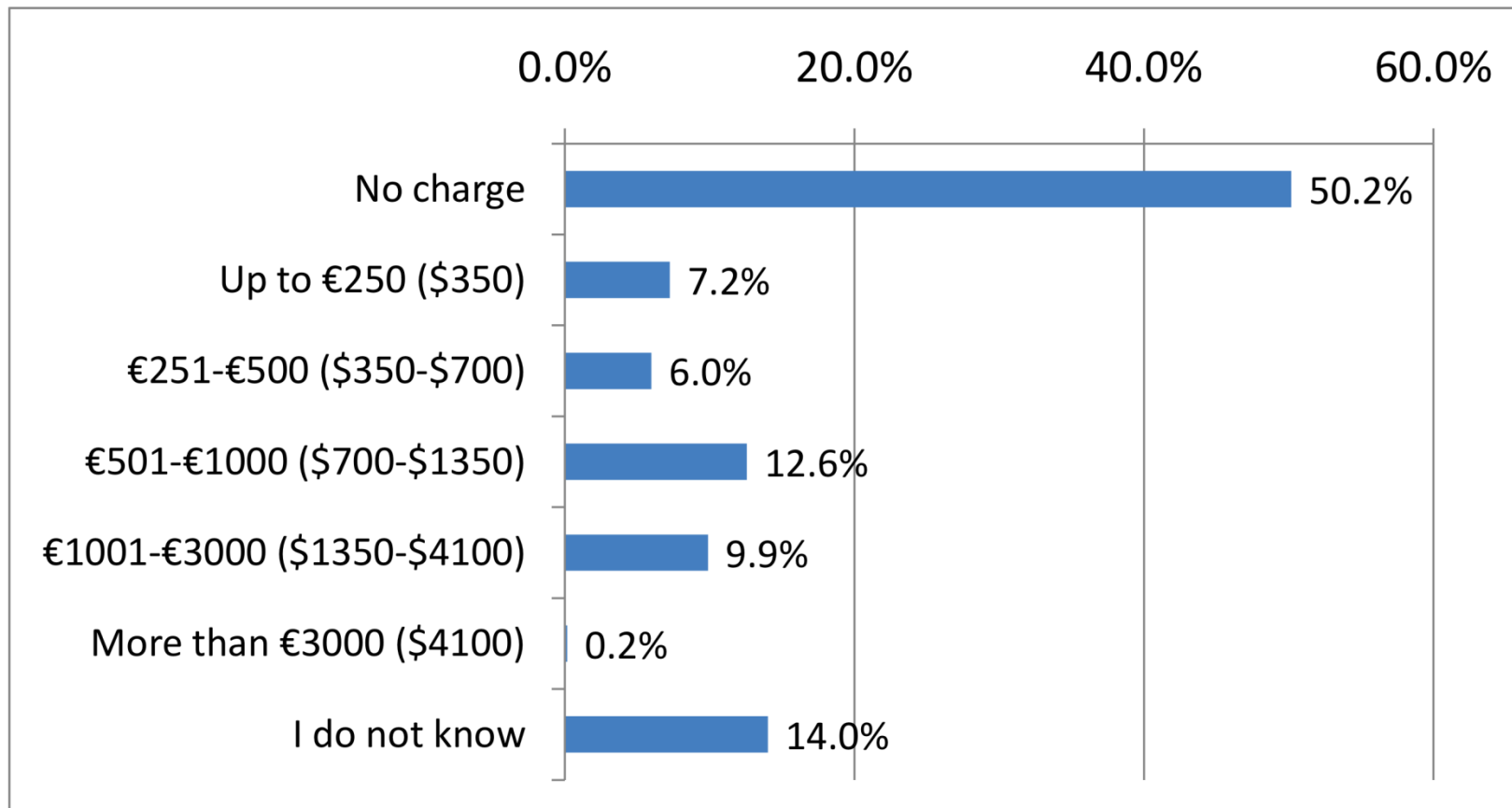


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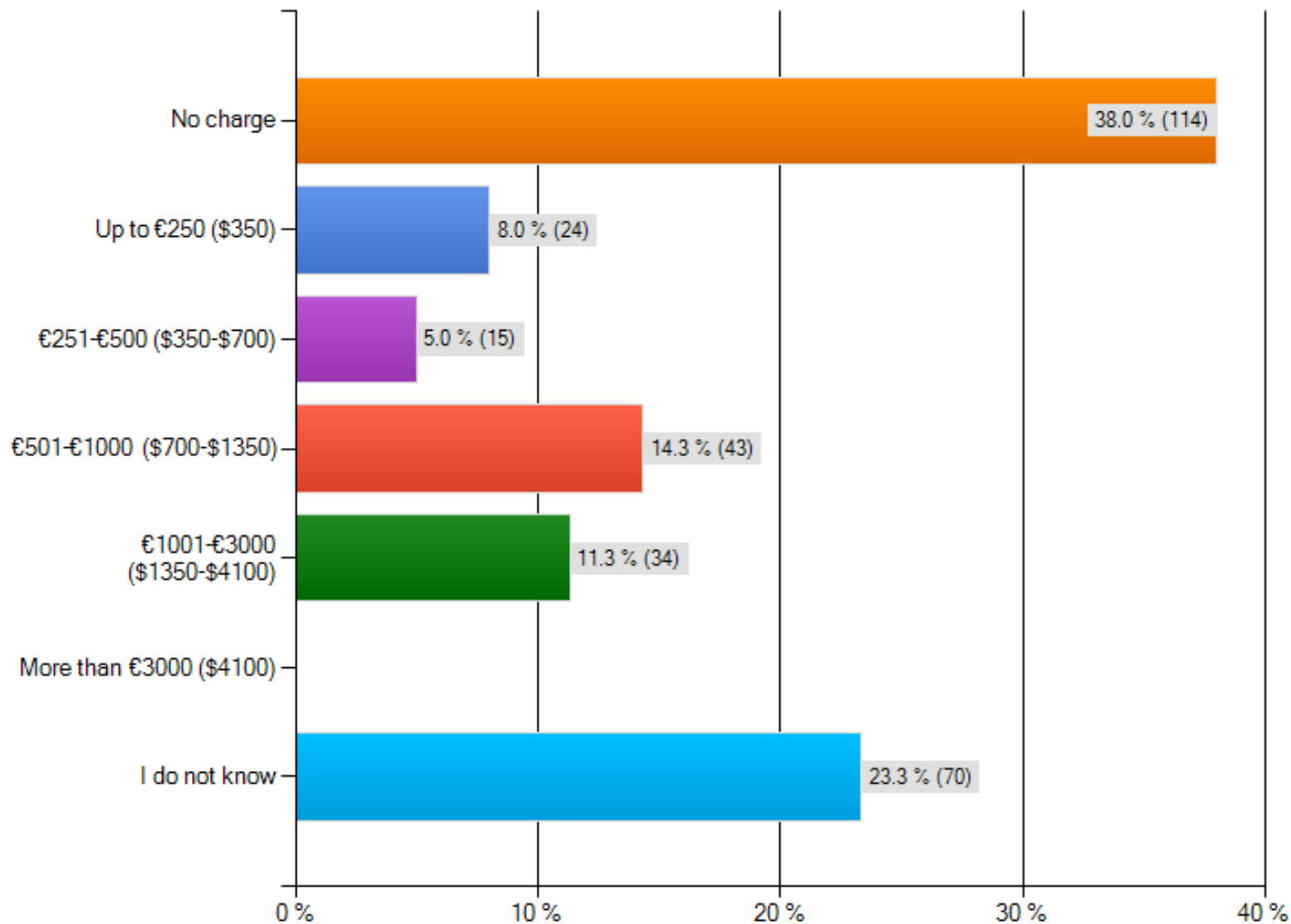


Norway

# Which fee did you pay for your last OA article?

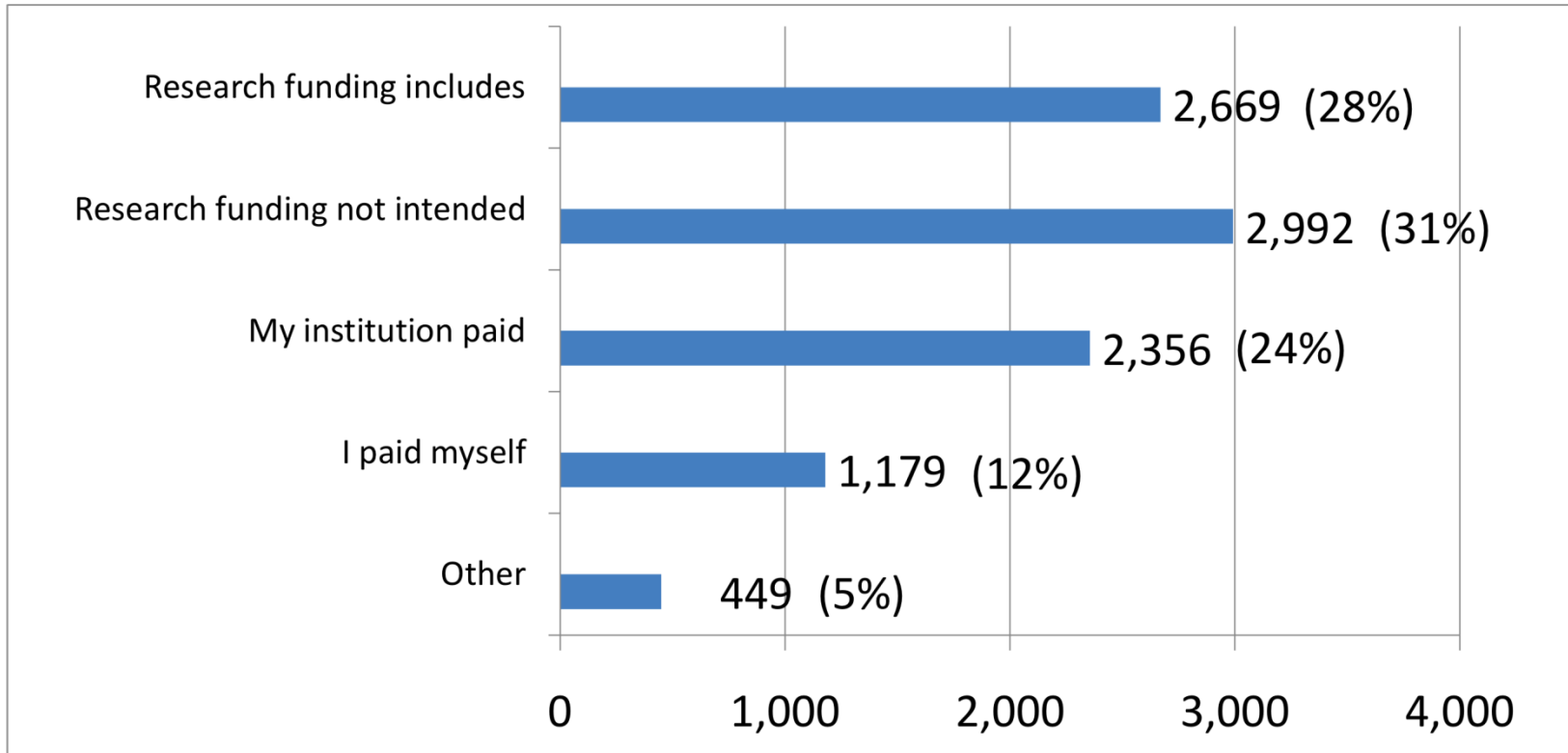


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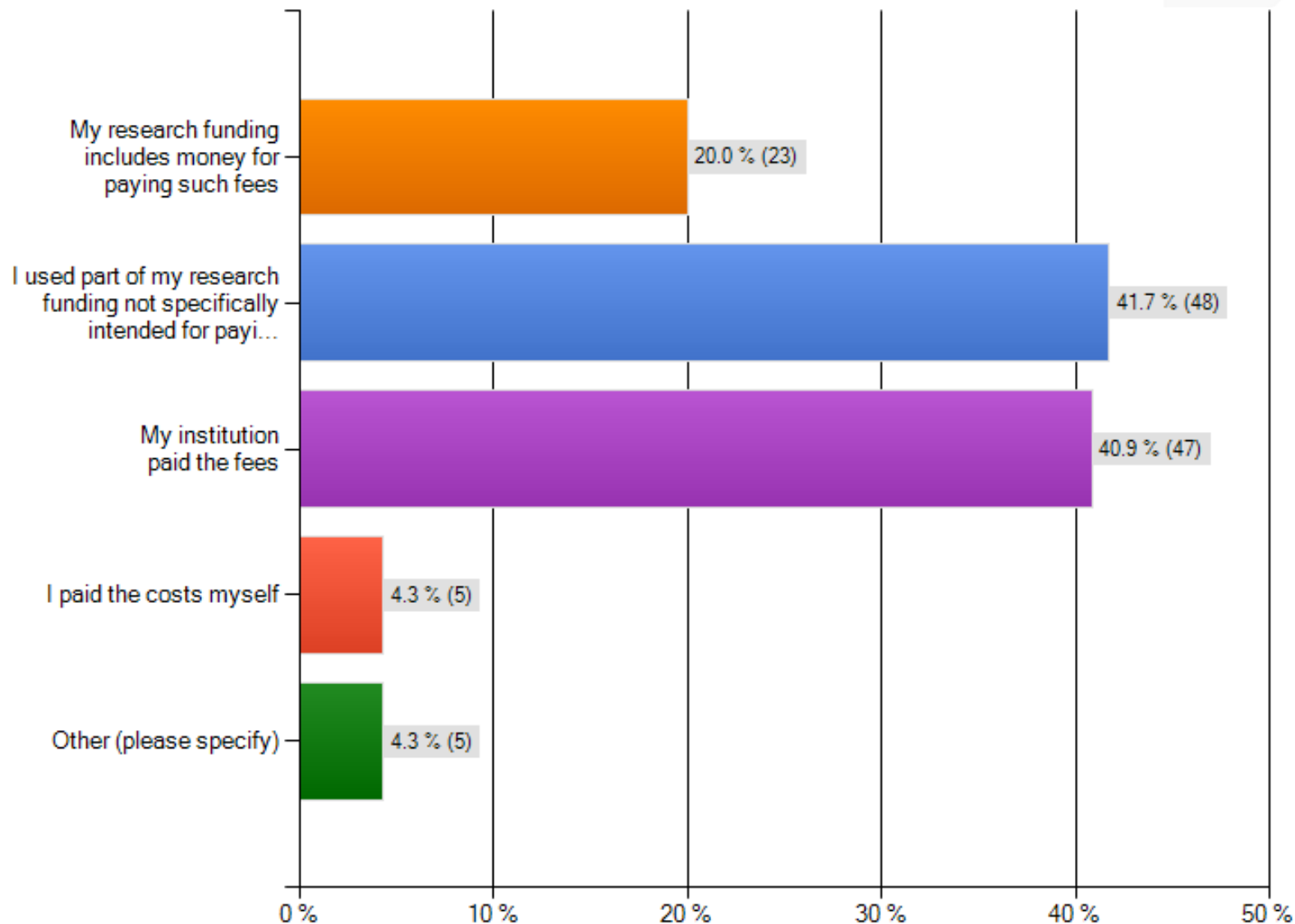


Norway

# How was this fee covered?



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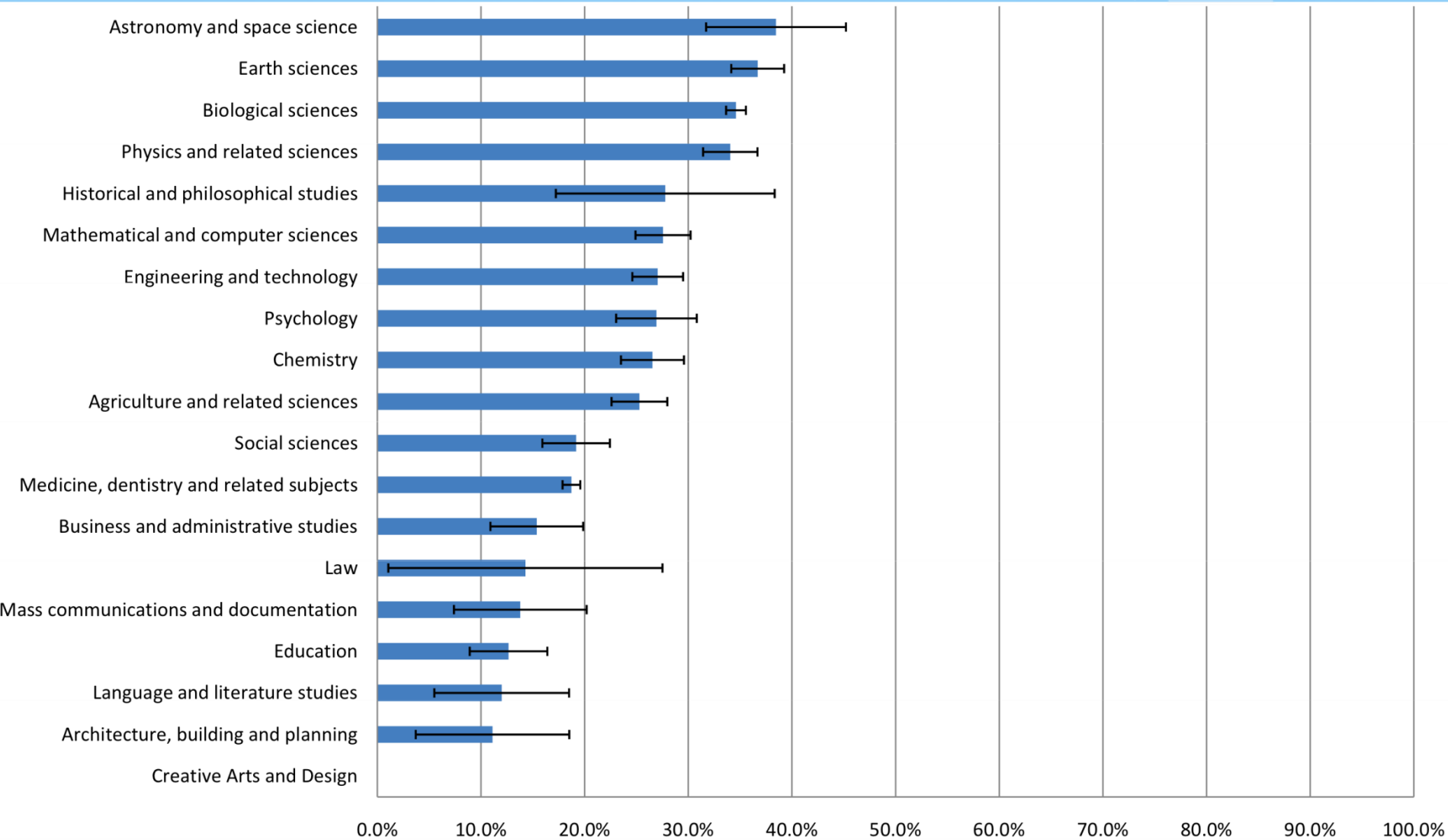
Norway



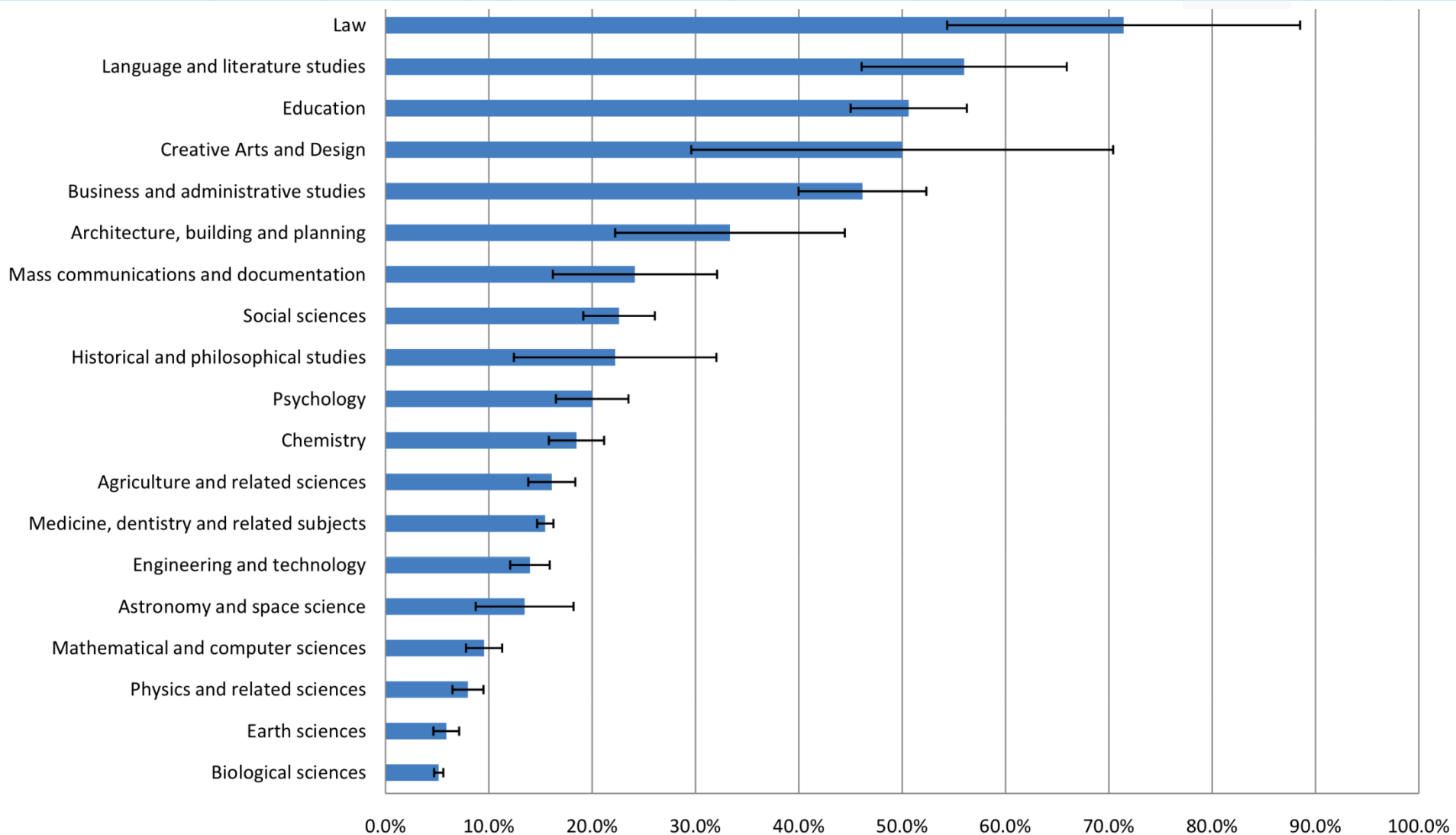
# How was this fee covered?

By field

# How was this fee covered? Included in research funds



# How was this fee covered? I paid myself

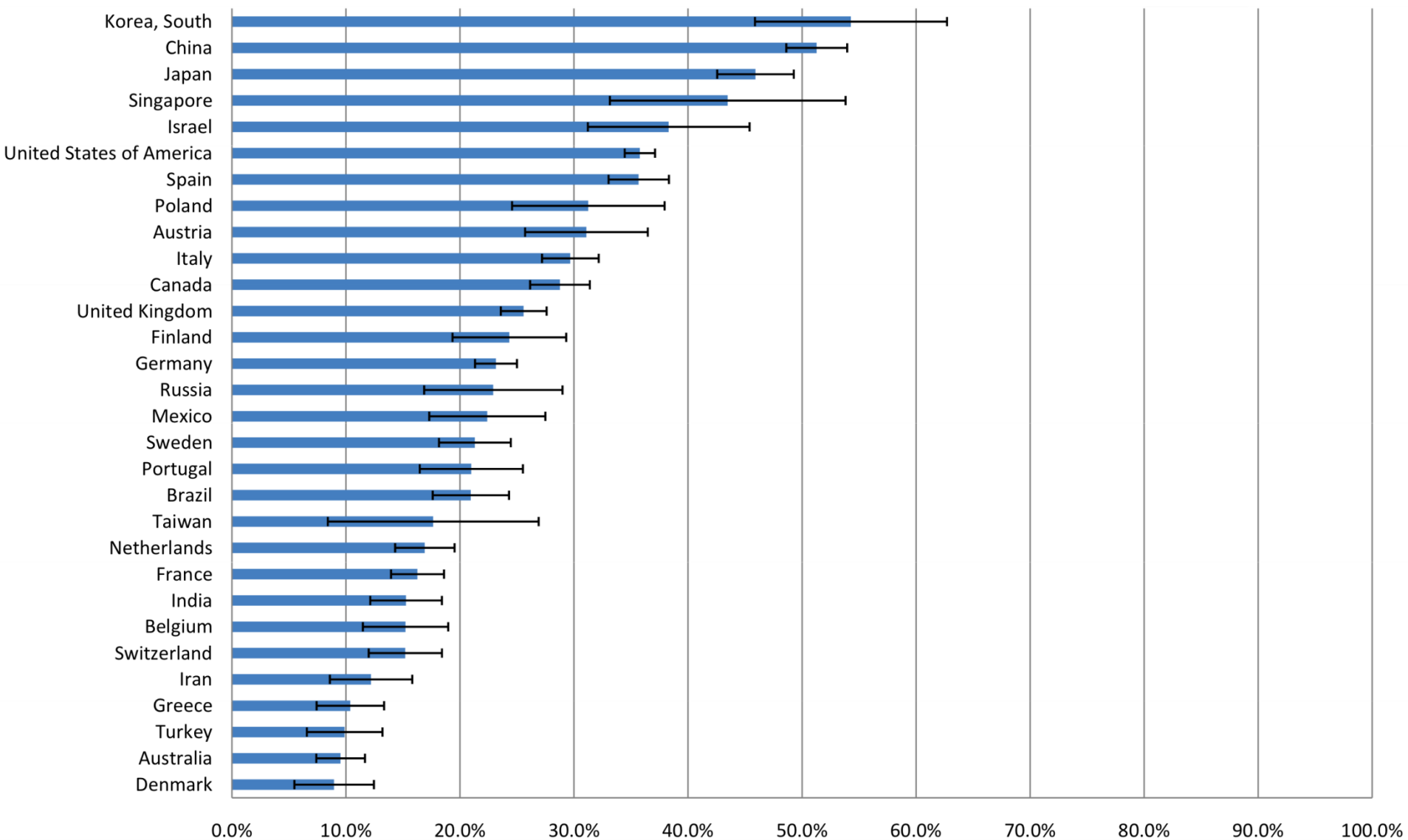


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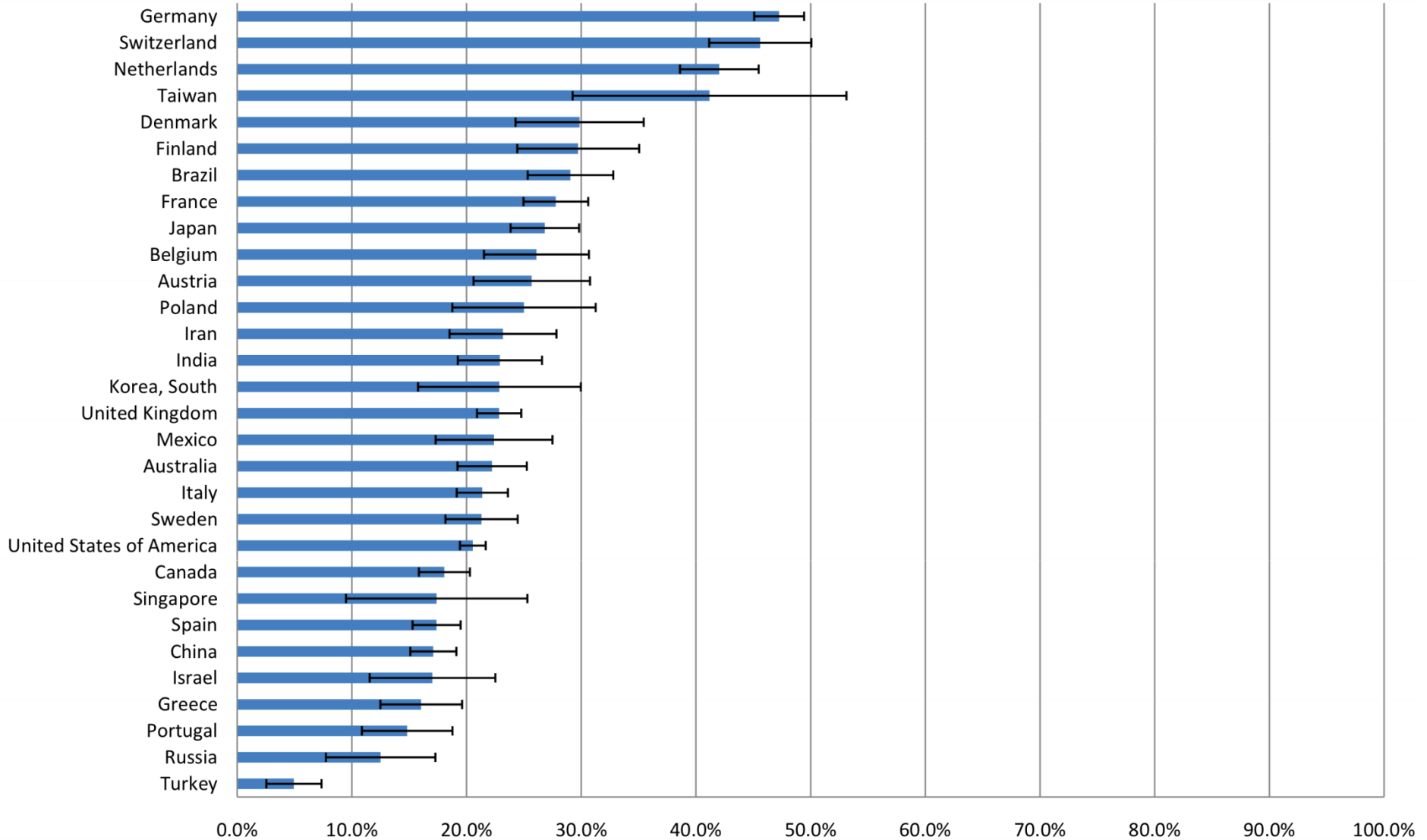
By country

# How was this fee covered?

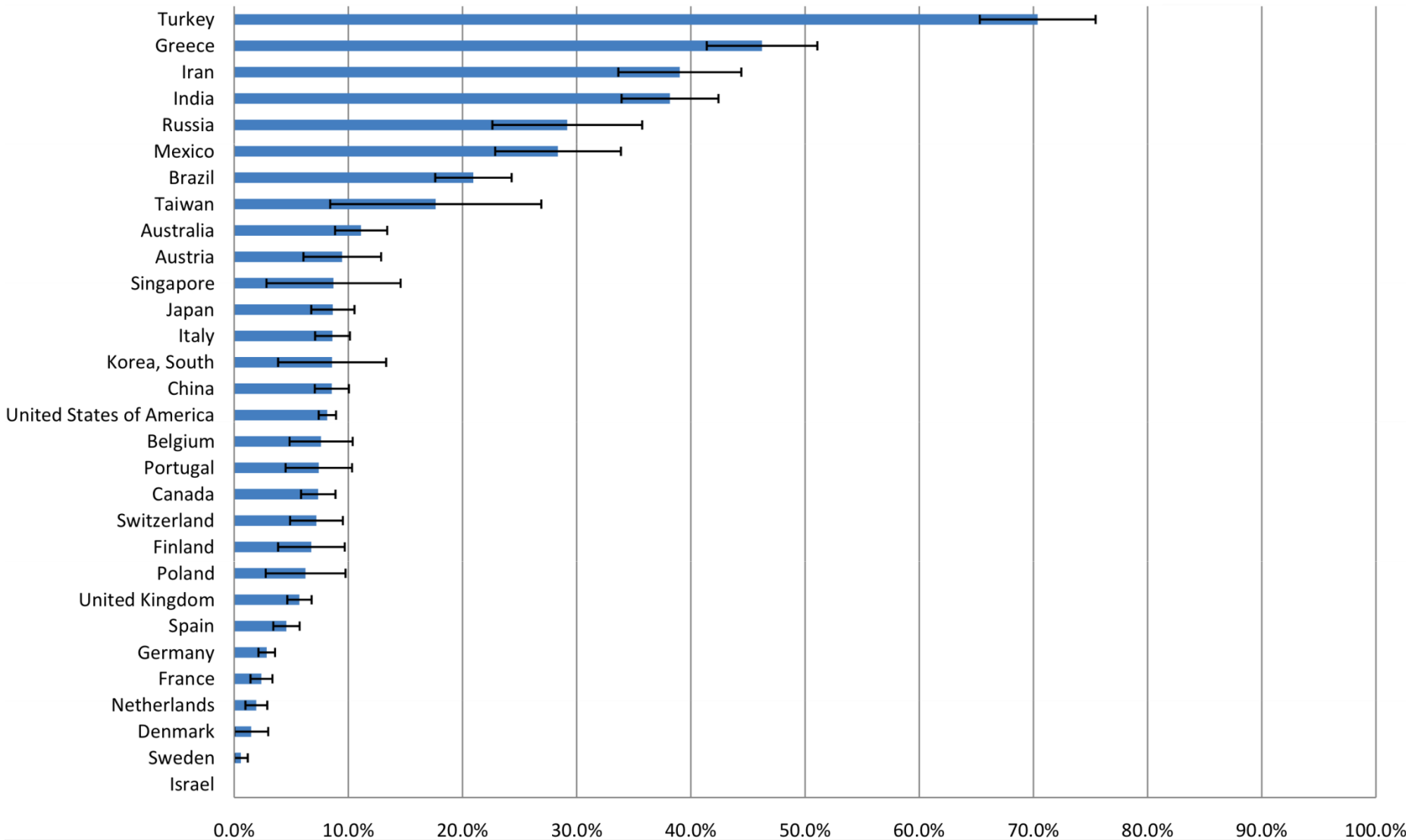
## Included in research funds



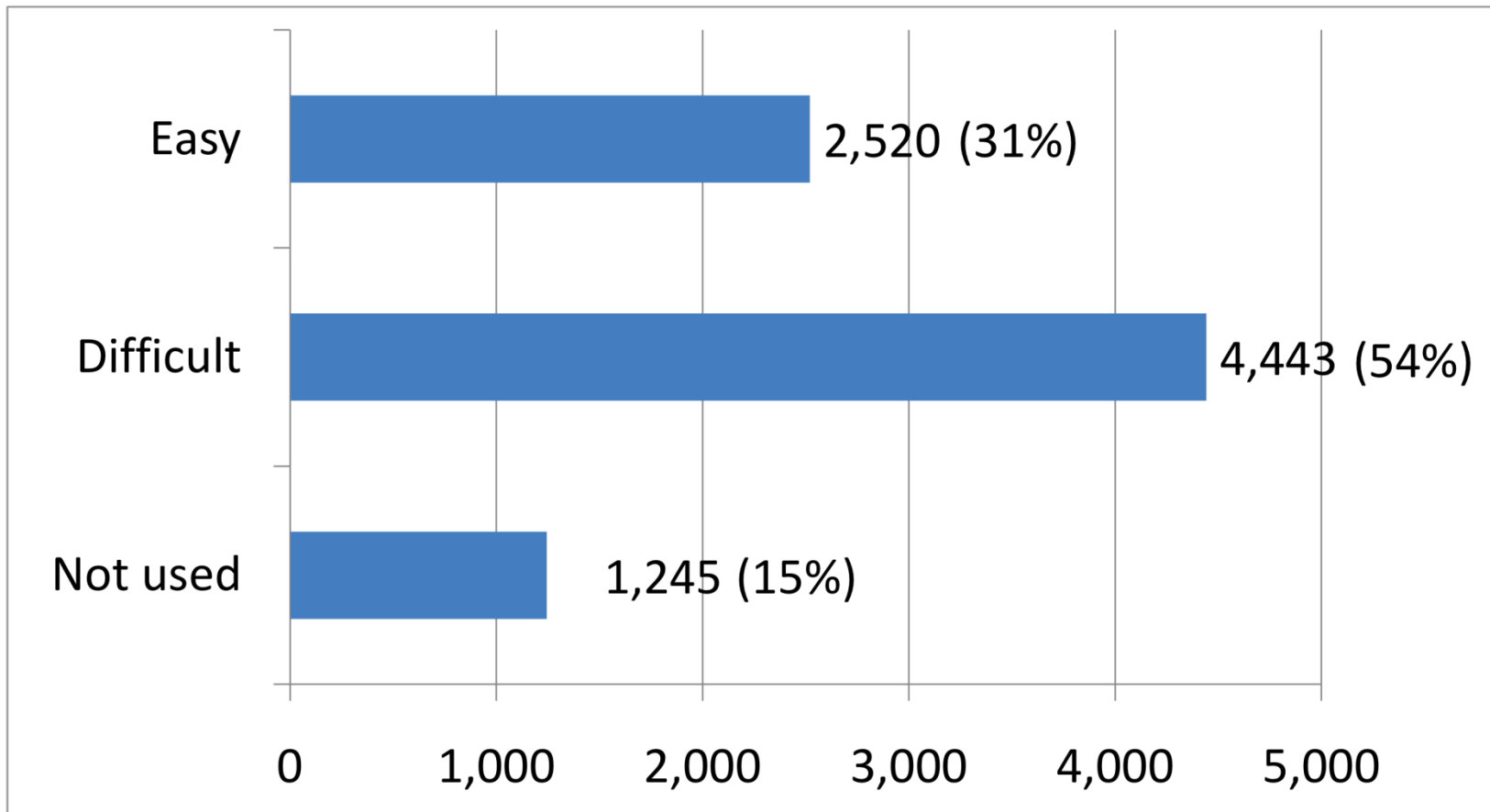
# How was this fee covered? My institution paid



# How was this fee covered? I paid myself

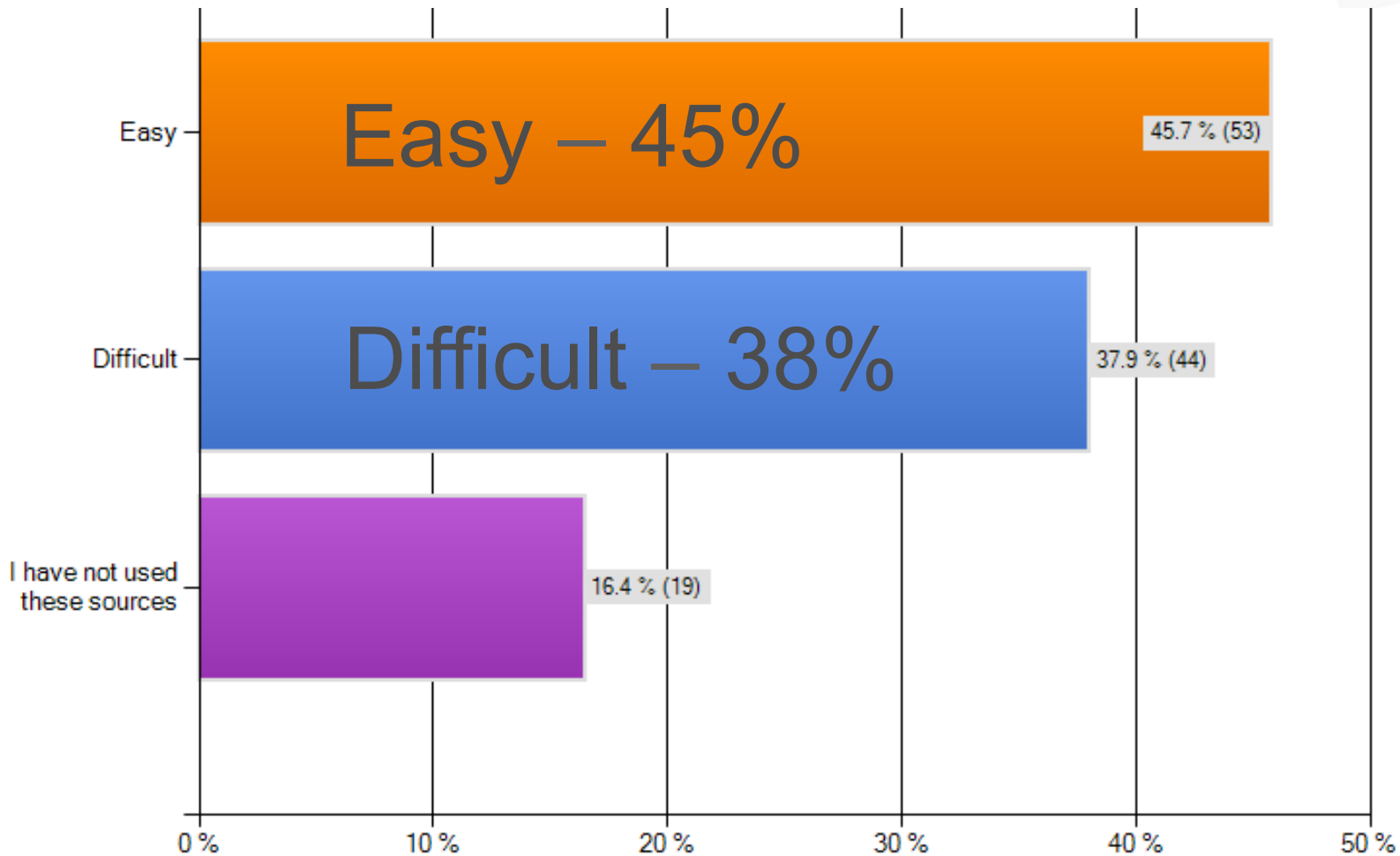


# How easy was it to obtain funds?



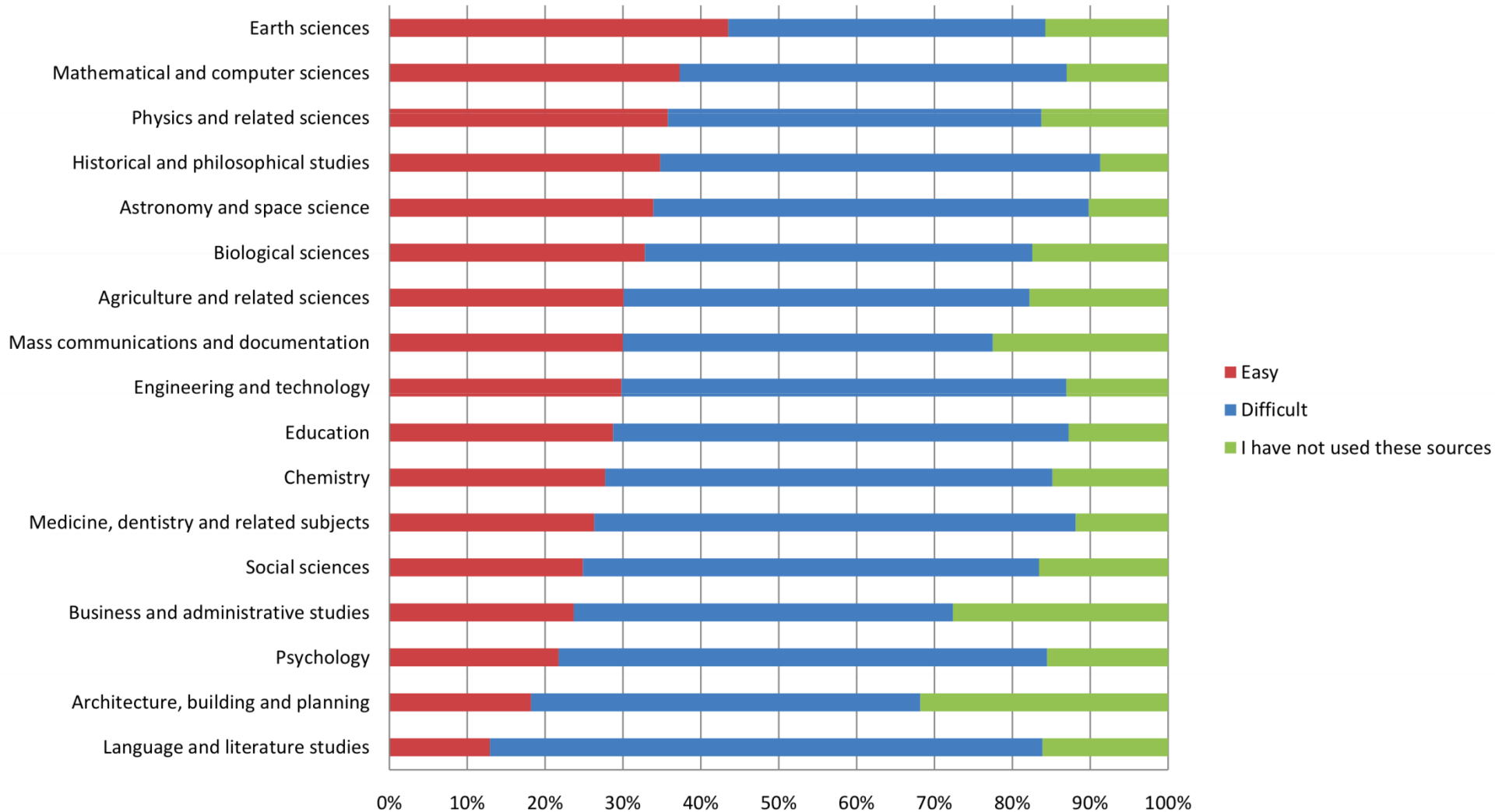


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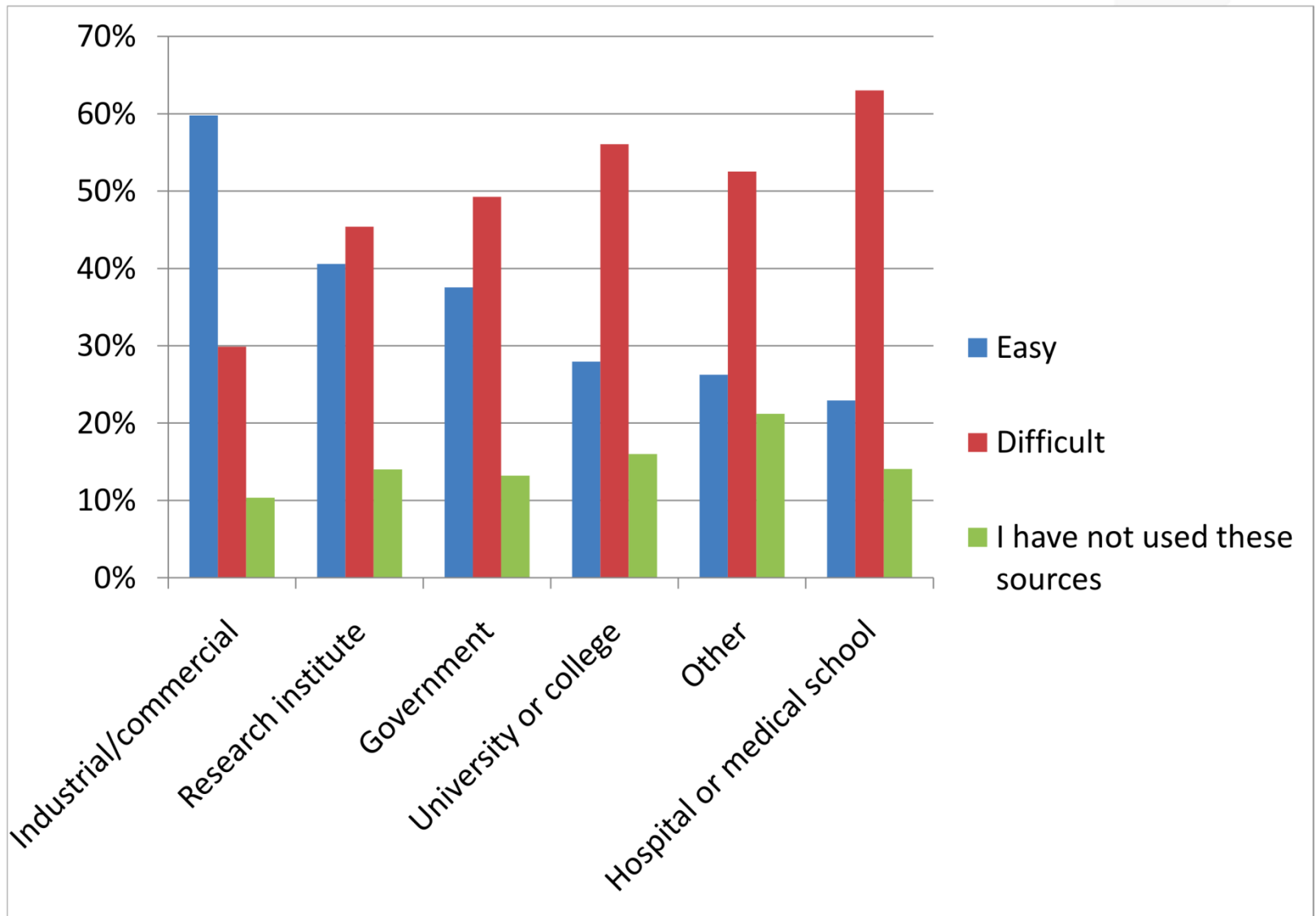


Norway

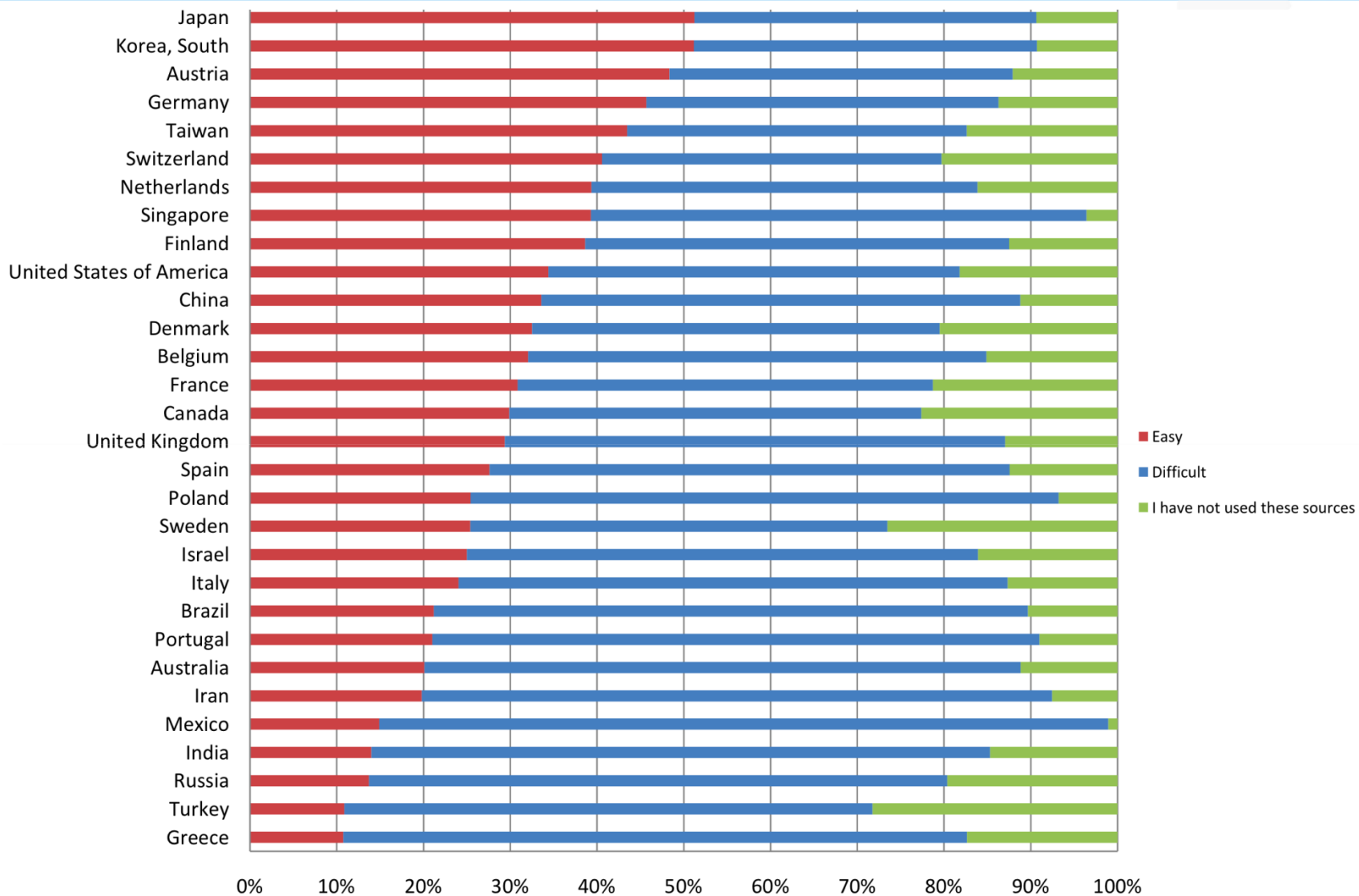
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# How easy was it to obtain funds?



- Strive to provide **facts** on which to base decisions (EC, publishers, libraries, funding agencies)
- Further analysis of the data ongoing
- Data to be OPEN in January/February 2011

**89%**  
scholars positive about Open Access journals

**8%**  
articles/year published Open Access (120k/1.5M)

**39%**  
scholars who quote “funding” as a barrier

**31%**  
quote “prestige” and “quality” as a barrier



Need to bridge the quality and funding gaps

# Thank you!

Project team: [info@project-soap.eu](mailto:info@project-soap.eu)

Co-ordinator: [Salvatore.Mele@cern.ch](mailto:Salvatore.Mele@cern.ch)

Website: <http://soap-fp7.eu>

Final results to be presented in

Berlin, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011

<http://soap-fp7.eu/soap-symposium>

Including hands-on session on using the data