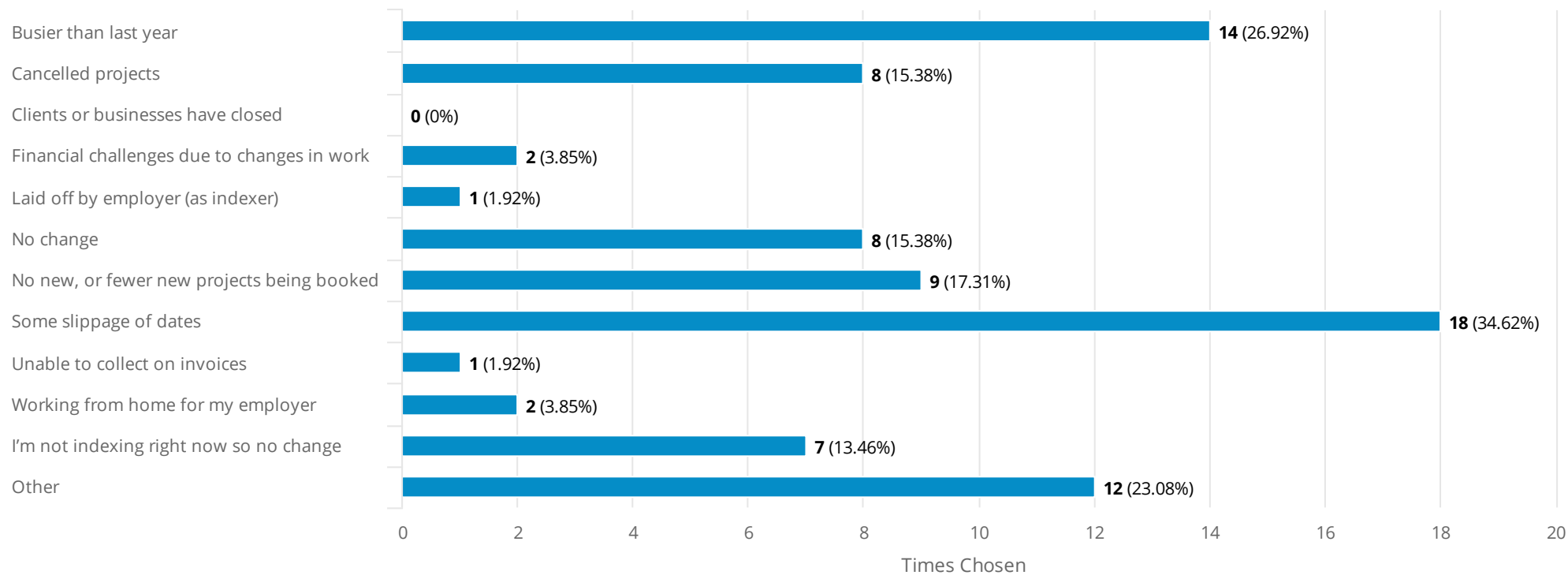# SURVEY AUGUST 2020

Outside of the usual ebb and flow of work, how has the COVID-19 pandemic affected your indexing business or job?
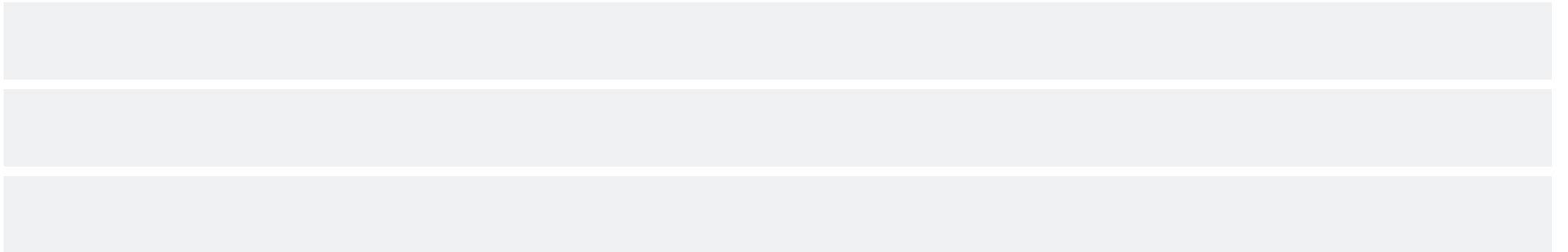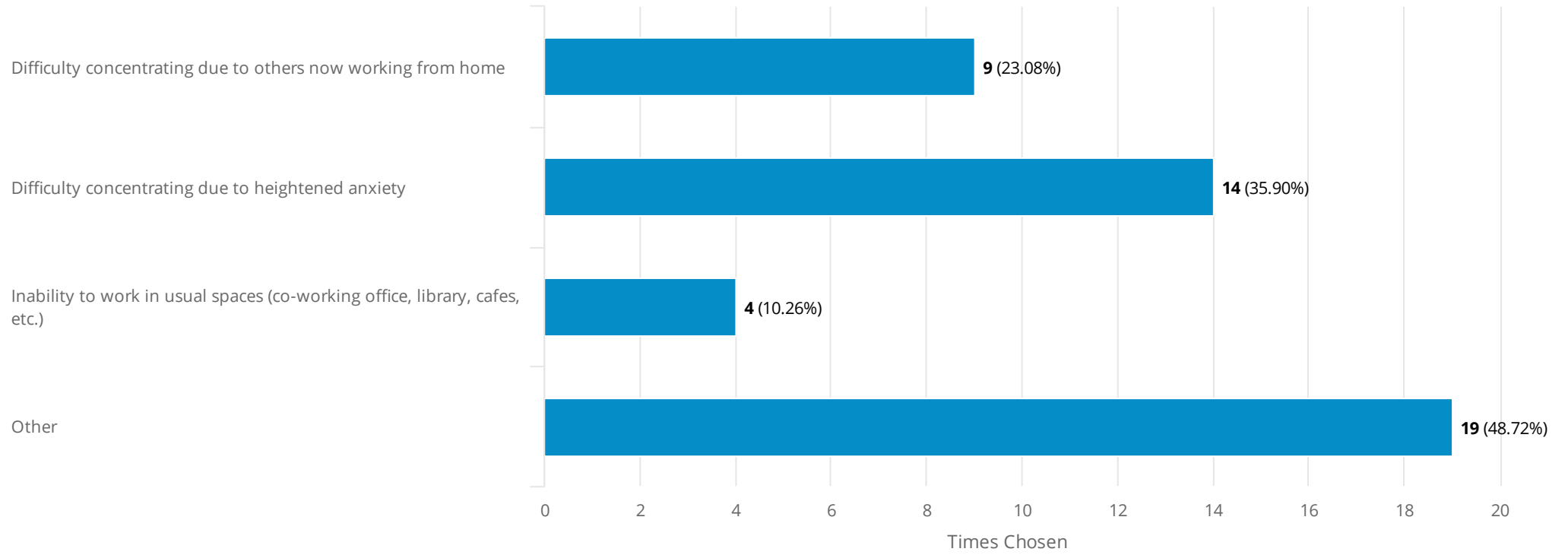
Number of responses: 52

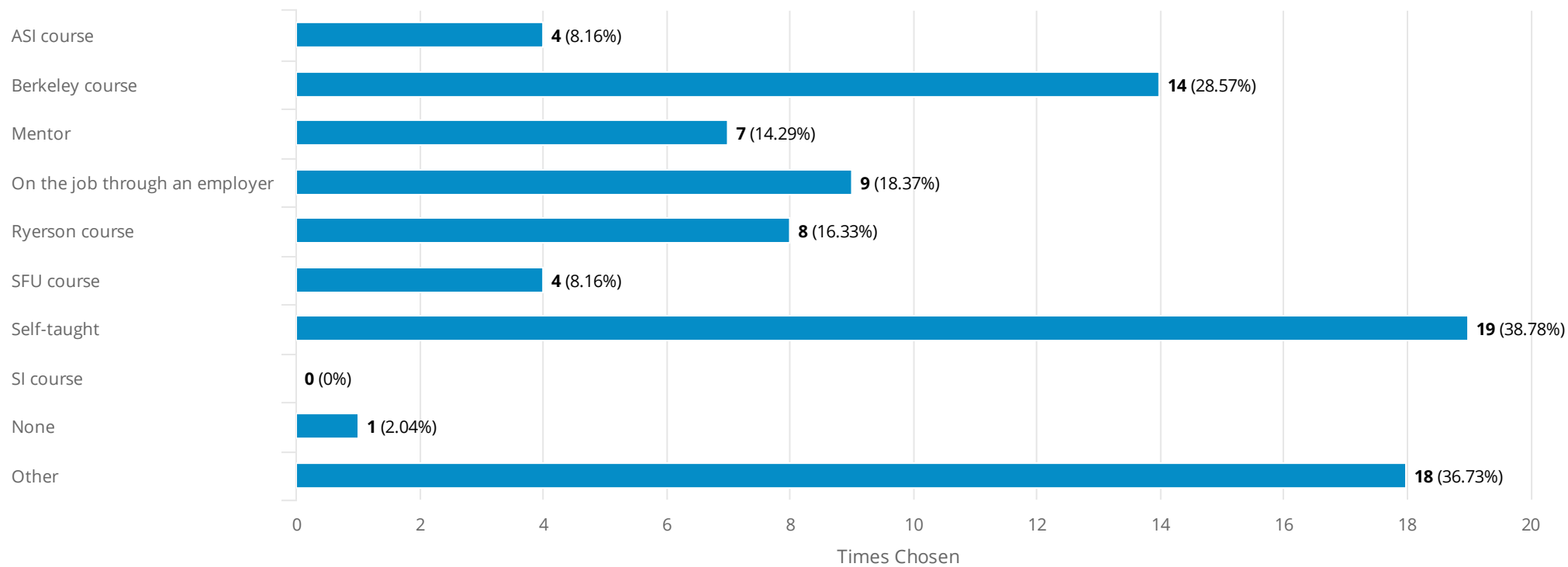| Category	Times Chosen	Percentage
Busier than last year	14	(26.92%)
Cancelled projects	8	(15.38%)
Clients or businesses have closed	0	(0%)
Financial challenges due to changes in work	2	(3.85%)
Laid off by employer (as indexer)	1	(1.92%)
No change	8	(15.38%)
No new, or fewer new projects being booked	9	(17.31%)
Some slippage of dates	18	(34.62%)
Unable to collect on invoices	1	(1.92%)
Working from home for my employer	2	(3.85%)
I'm not indexing right now so no change	7	(13.46%)
Other	12	(23.08%)

Times Chosen

"Other" text answers:

How has the COVID-19 situation affected your ability to index?

Number of responses: 39

Difficulty concentrating due to others now working from home — **9** (23.08%)

Difficulty concentrating due to heightened anxiety — **14** (35.90%)

Inability to work in usual spaces (co-working office, library, cafes, etc.) — **4** (10.26%)

Other — **19** (48.72%)

Times Chosen

What indexing training do you have?

Number of responses: 49

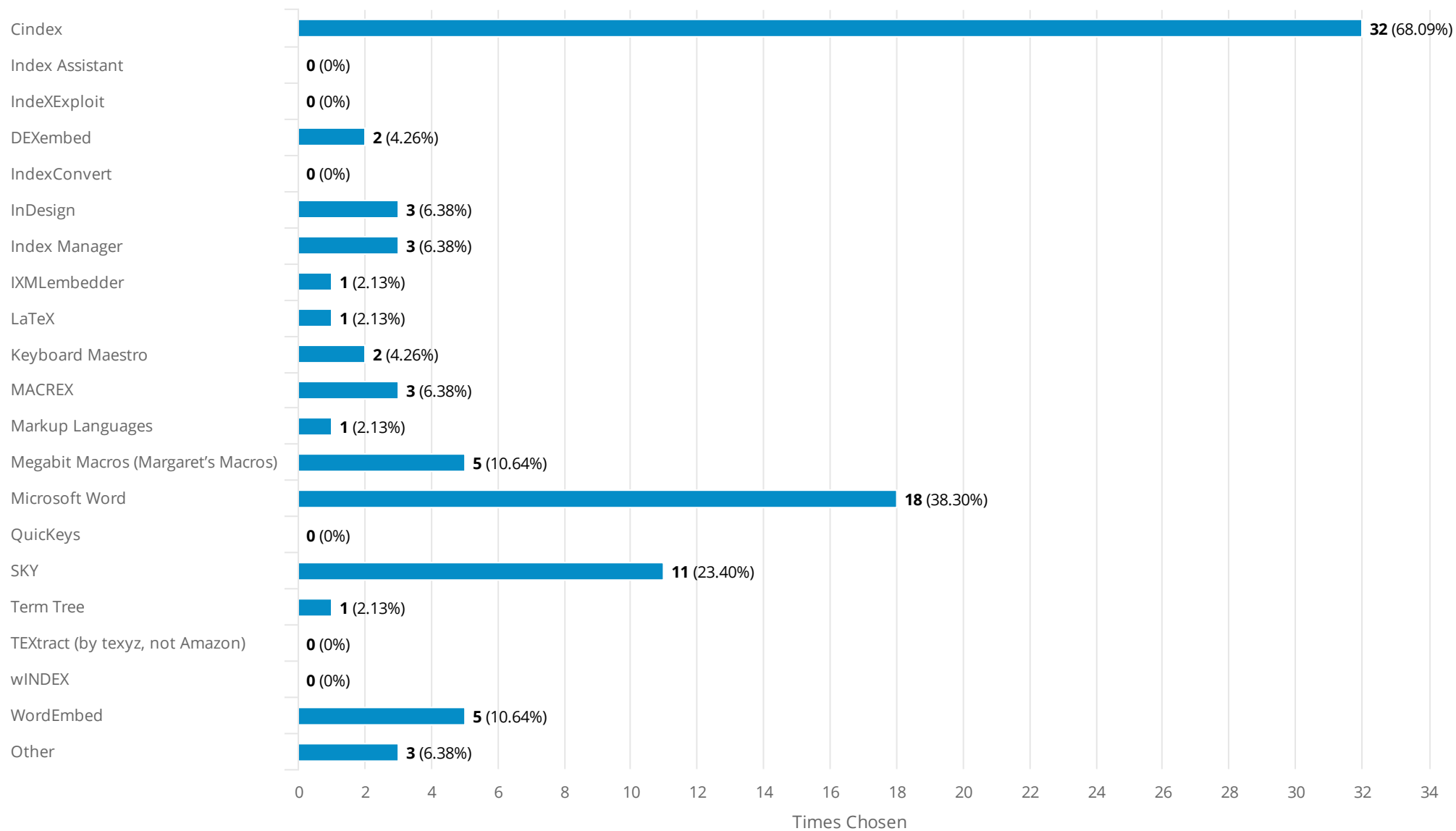| Category	Times Chosen
ASI course	4 (8.16%)
Berkeley course	14 (28.57%)
Mentor	7 (14.29%)
On the job through an employer	9 (18.37%)
Ryerson course	8 (16.33%)
SFU course	4 (8.16%)
Self-taught	19 (38.78%)
SI course	0 (0%)
None	1 (2.04%)
Other	18 (36.73%)

Times Chosen

What it an annual average for your work hours pre-COVID? It is given that your hours of indexing may vary each week due to the flow of your incoming work.
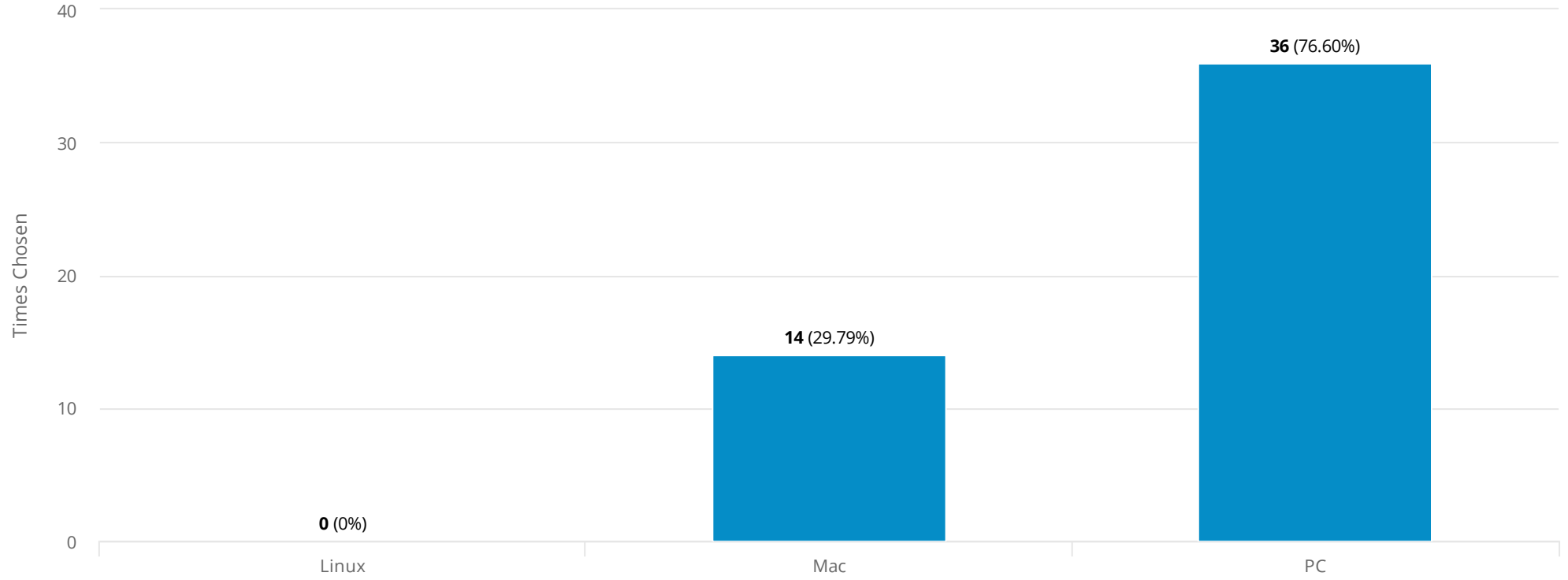
Number of responses: 48
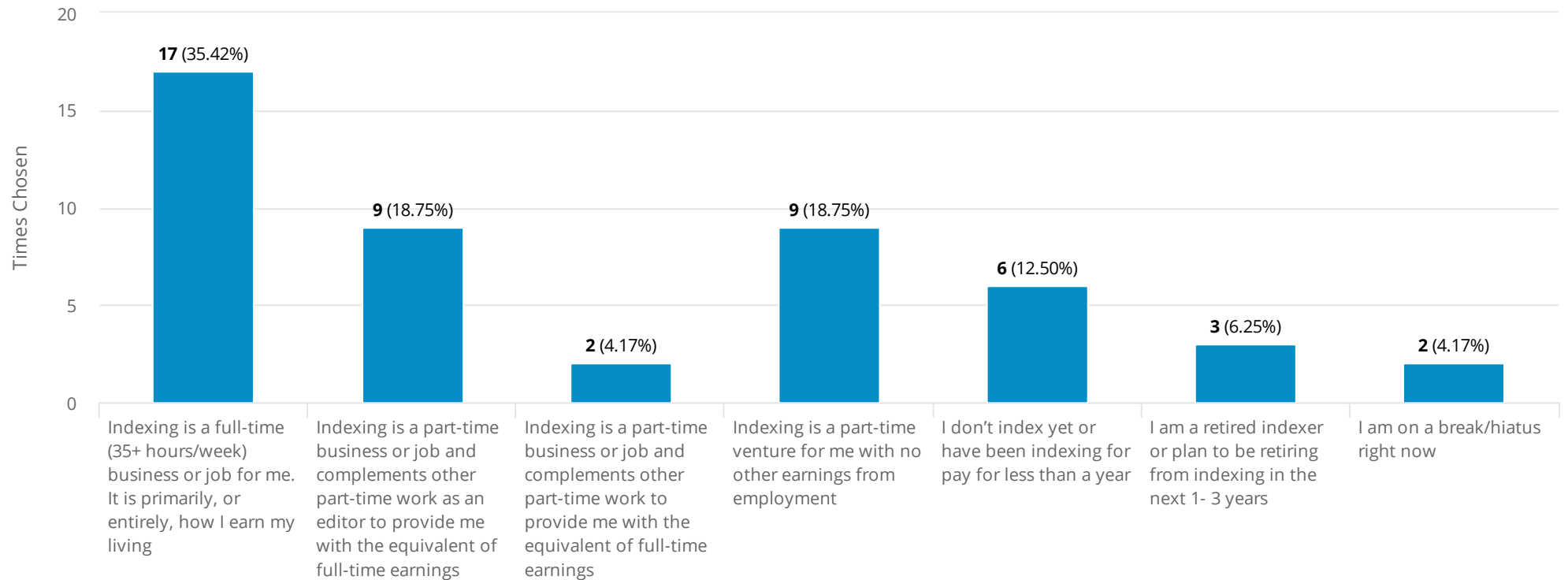
What indexing software and addons do you use? Check all that apply.

Number of responses: 47

| Software	Times Chosen
Cindex	32 (68.09%)
Index Assistant	0 (0%)
IndeXExploit	0 (0%)
DEXembed	2 (4.26%)
IndexConvert	0 (0%)
InDesign	3 (6.38%)
Index Manager	3 (6.38%)
IXMLembedder	1 (2.13%)
LaTeX	1 (2.13%)
Keyboard Maestro	2 (4.26%)
MACREX	3 (6.38%)
Markup Languages	1 (2.13%)
Megabit Macros (Margaret's Macros)	5 (10.64%)
Microsoft Word	18 (38.30%)
QuicKeys	0 (0%)
SKY	11 (23.40%)
Term Tree	1 (2.13%)
TEXtract (by texyz, not Amazon)	0 (0%)
wINDEX	0 (0%)
WordEmbed	5 (10.64%)
Other	3 (6.38%)

What operating system do you use for indexing?
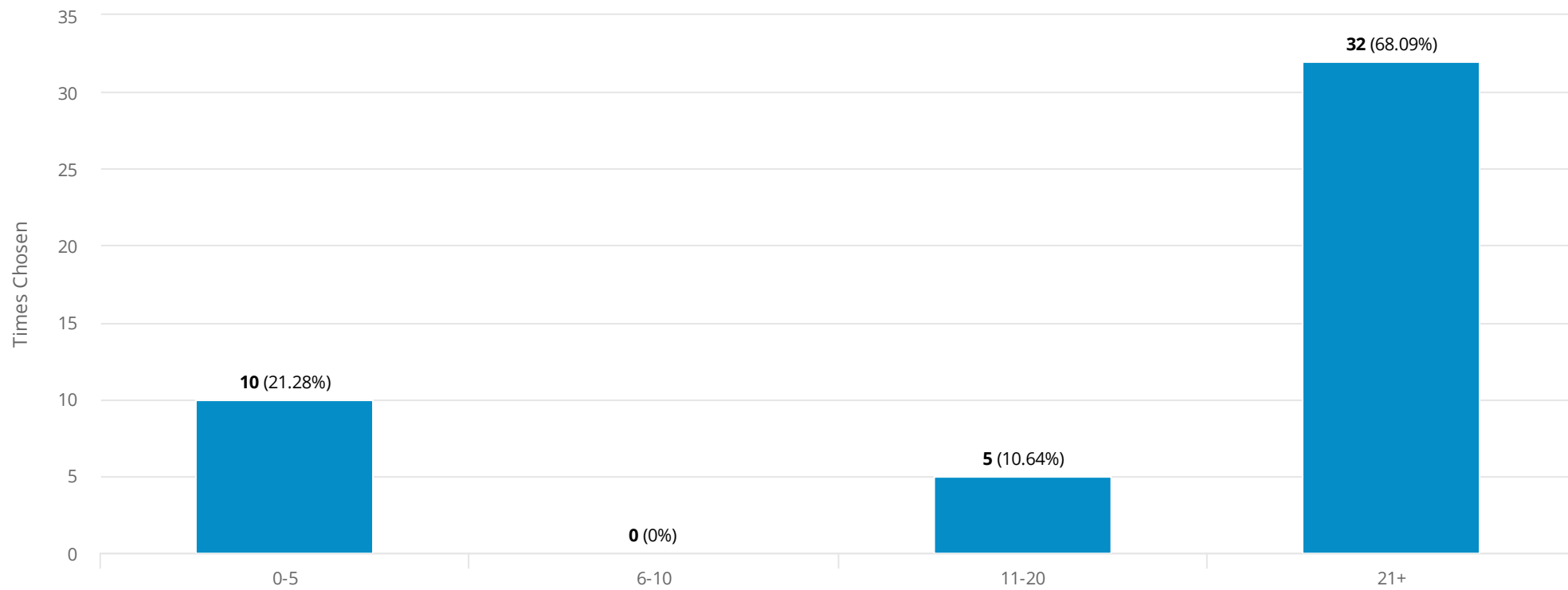
Number of responses: 47

How many years you have been indexing for pay (time since first paid index)
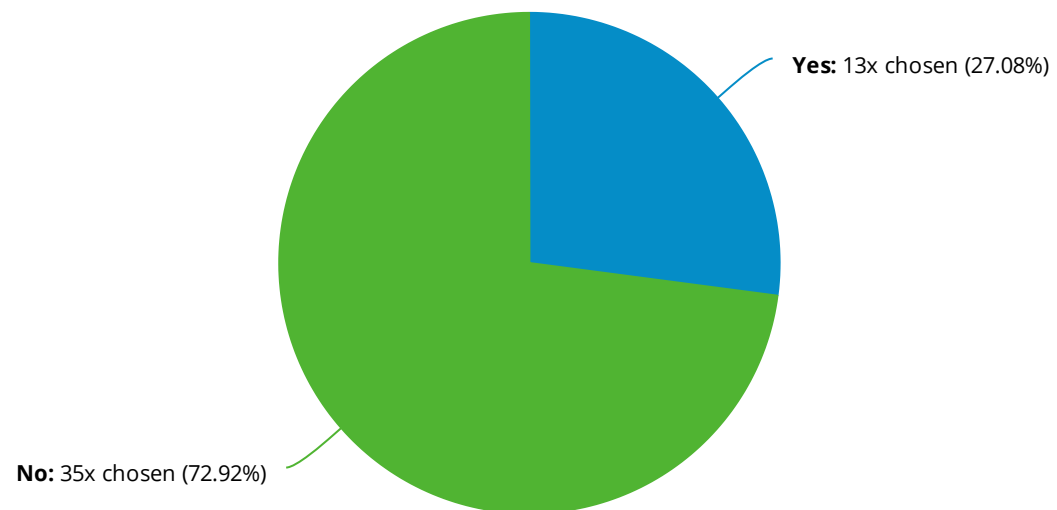
Number of responses: 43
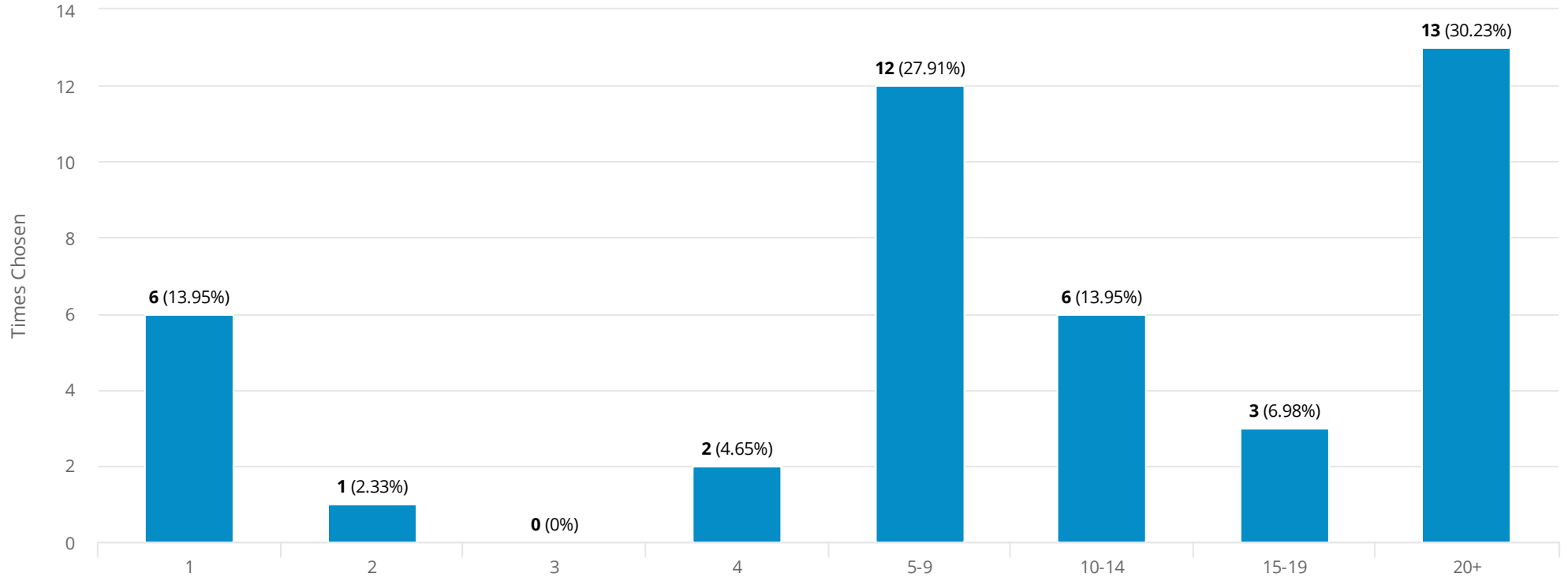
How many indexes have you completed for pay?
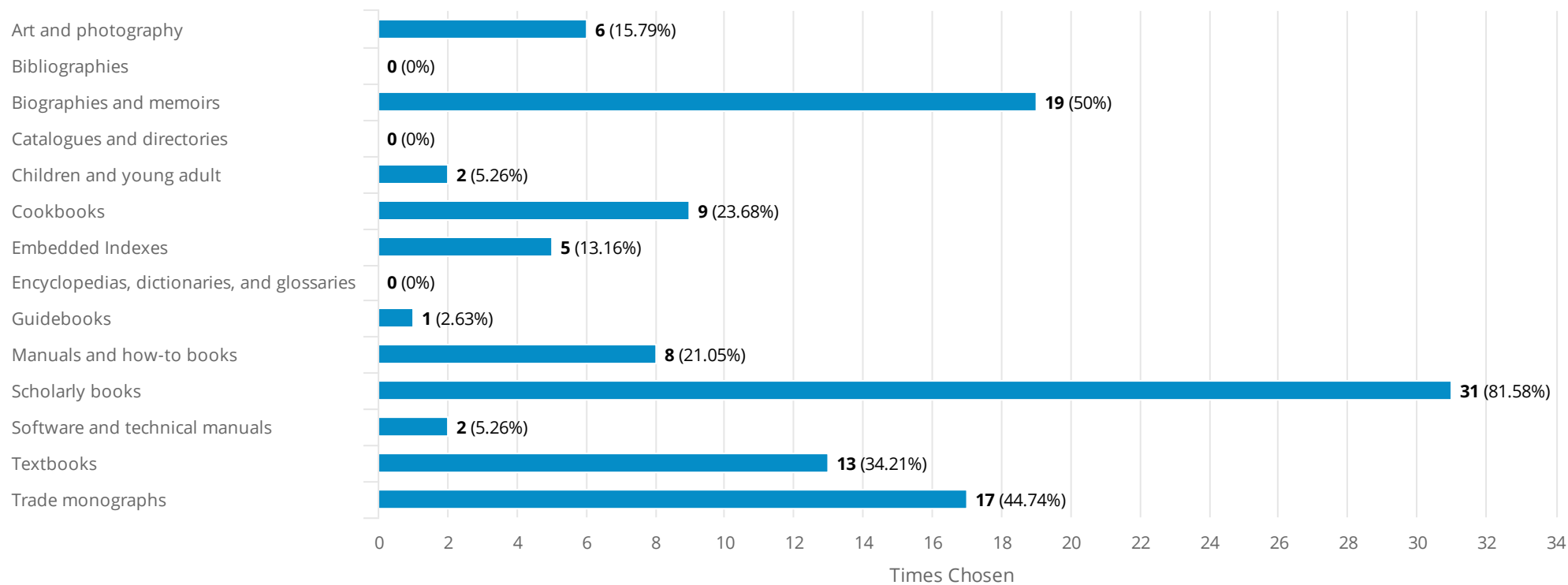
Number of responses: 47

Do you consider yourself a new indexer?

Number of responses: 48

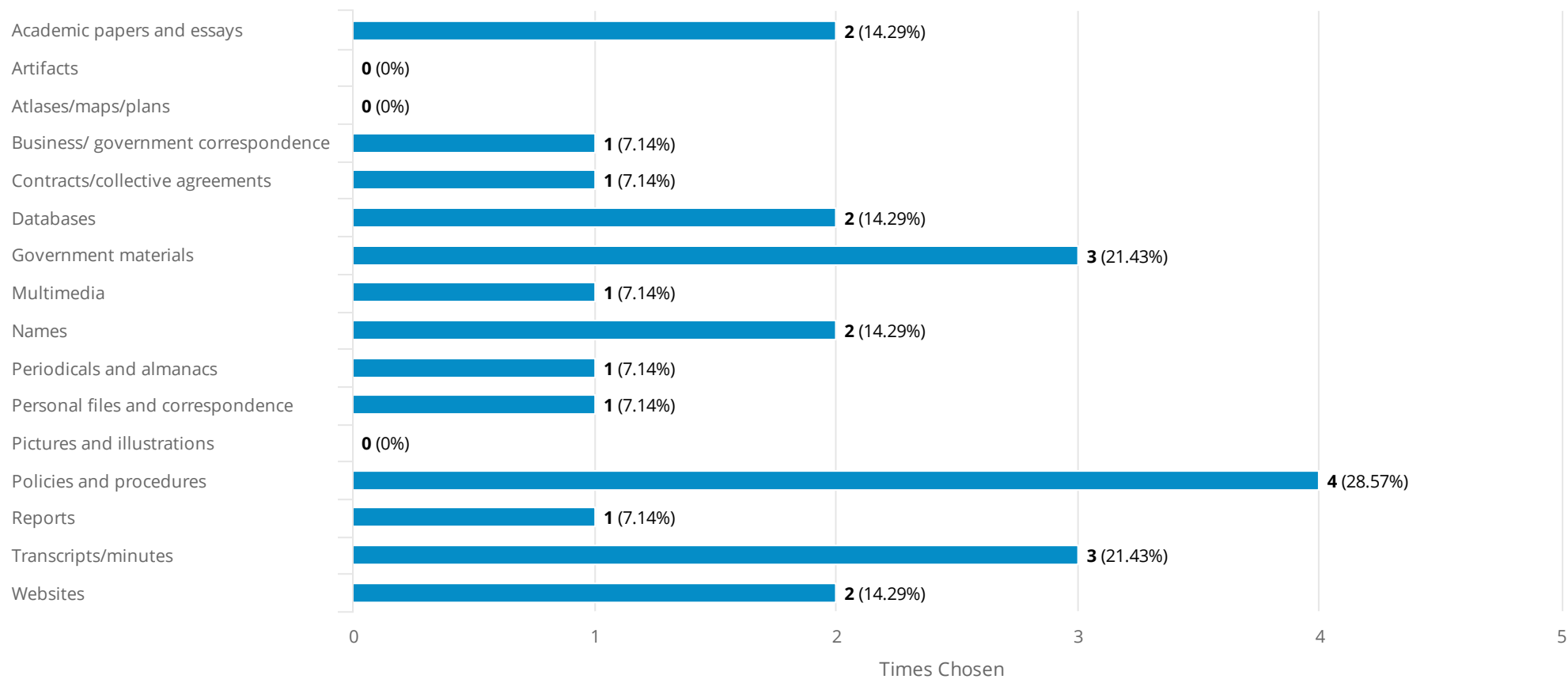**Yes:** 13x chosen (27.08%)

No: 35x chosen (72.92%)

What types of books do you index? Select those that make up at least 20% of your business. You can select multiple options.
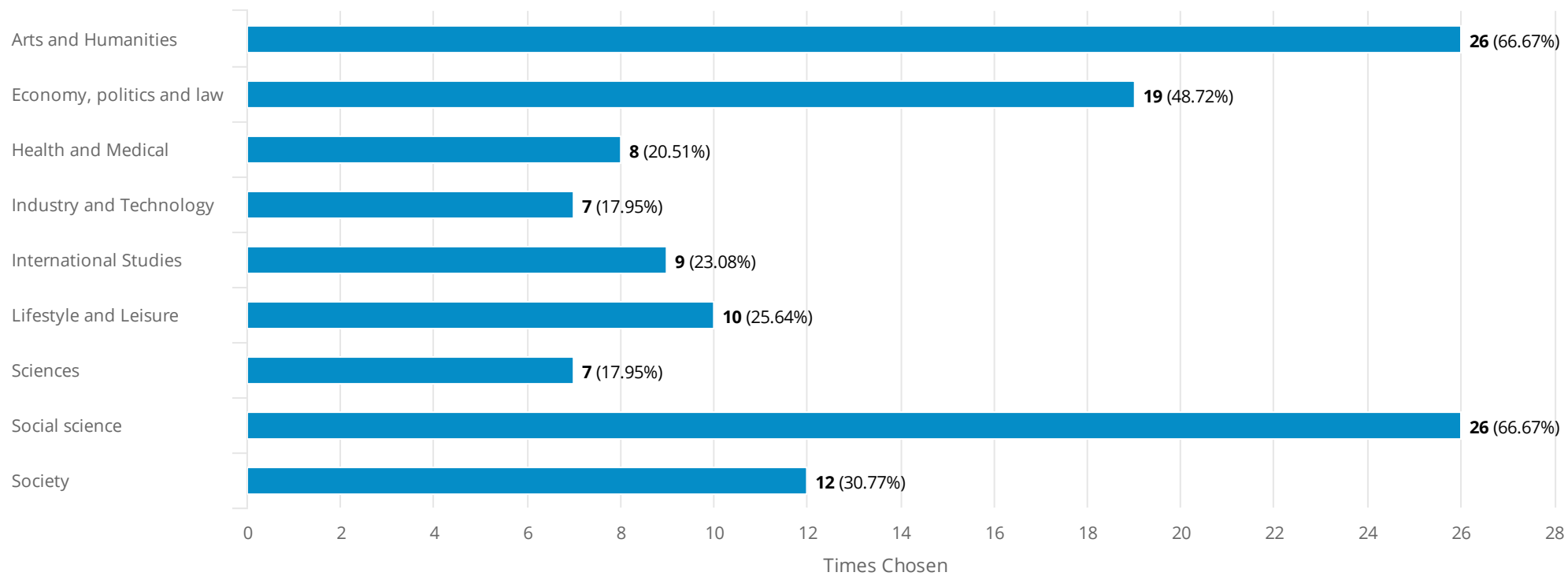
Number of responses: 38

Category	Times Chosen
Art and photography	6 (15.79%)
Bibliographies	0 (0%)
Biographies and memoirs	19 (50%)
Catalogues and directories	0 (0%)
Children and young adult	2 (5.26%)
Cookbooks	9 (23.68%)
Embedded Indexes	5 (13.16%)
Encyclopedias, dictionaries, and glossaries	0 (0%)
Guidebooks	1 (2.63%)
Manuals and how-to books	8 (21.05%)
Scholarly books	31 (81.58%)
Software and technical manuals	2 (5.26%)
Textbooks	13 (34.21%)
Trade monographs	17 (44.74%)

What types of materials other than books do you index?

Number of responses: 14

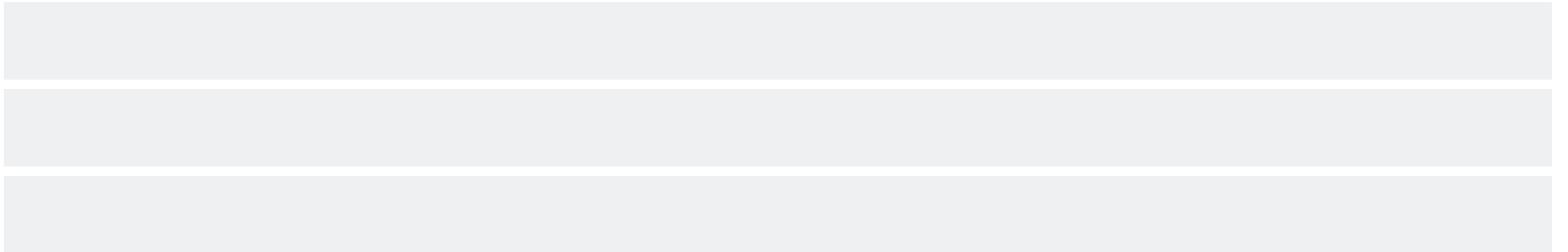| Material	Times Chosen
Academic papers and essays	2 (14.29%)
Artifacts	0 (0%)
Atlases/maps/plans	0 (0%)
Business/ government correspondence	1 (7.14%)
Contracts/collective agreements	1 (7.14%)
Databases	2 (14.29%)
Government materials	3 (21.43%)
Multimedia	1 (7.14%)
Names	2 (14.29%)
Periodicals and almanacs	1 (7.14%)
Personal files and correspondence	1 (7.14%)
Pictures and illustrations	0 (0%)
Policies and procedures	4 (28.57%)
Reports	1 (7.14%)
Transcripts/minutes	3 (21.43%)
Websites	2 (14.29%)

Times Chosen

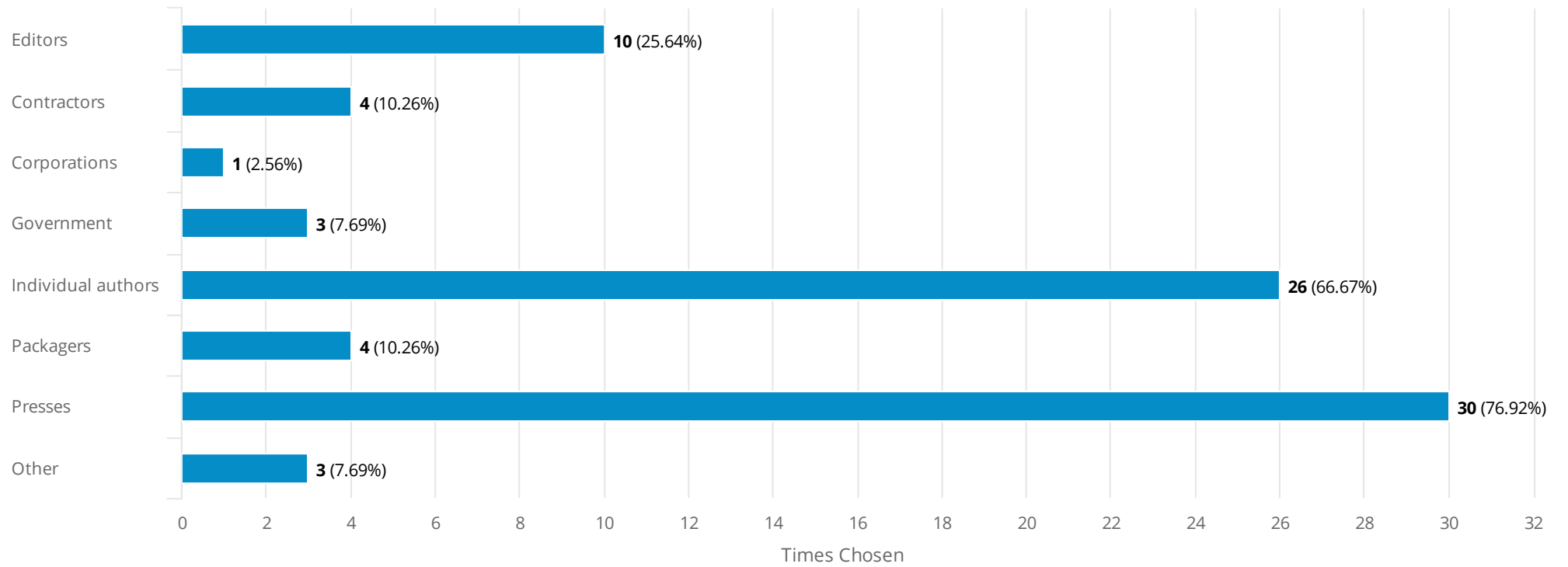## Tell us about the broad subjects and areas you work in. Select those that make up at least 20% of your business.

Number of responses: 39

Subject	Times Chosen
Arts and Humanities	26 (66.67%)
Economy, politics and law	19 (48.72%)
Health and Medical	8 (20.51%)
Industry and Technology	7 (17.95%)
International Studies	9 (23.08%)
Lifestyle and Leisure	10 (25.64%)
Sciences	7 (17.95%)
Social science	26 (66.67%)
Society	12 (30.77%)

Times Chosen

Who are your main clients or employer?

Number of responses: 39

Category	Times Chosen	Percentage
Editors	10	(25.64%)
Contractors	4	(10.26%)
Corporations	1	(2.56%)
Government	3	(7.69%)
Individual authors	26	(66.67%)
Packagers	4	(10.26%)
Presses	30	(76.92%)
Other	3	(7.69%)

Times Chosen

Tell us why you are an ISC/SCI member. Please rank in order of importance to you when deciding to renewing, or join, if you this is your first year.

Number of responses: 47

| Rank	Choice	Distribution	Score	Times Ranked
1.	Networking with other indexers		165	43
2.	Membership in an industry association signifies professionalism to potential and current clients		164	43
3.	To learn about/improve my indexing skills		161	40
4.	To be part of a community		160	47
5.	To keep up to date on current trends		132	44
6.	To learn about/improve my business skills		80	39

Lowest   Highest

Please rank the following ISC /SCI membership benefits for their importance/value to you

Number of responses: 45

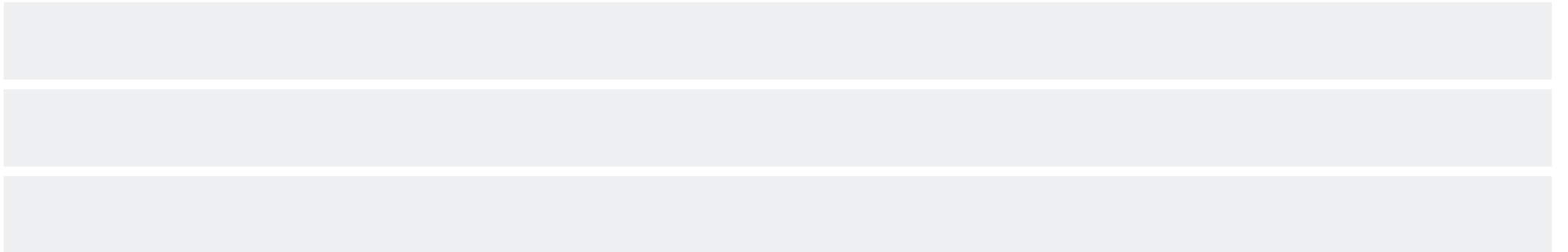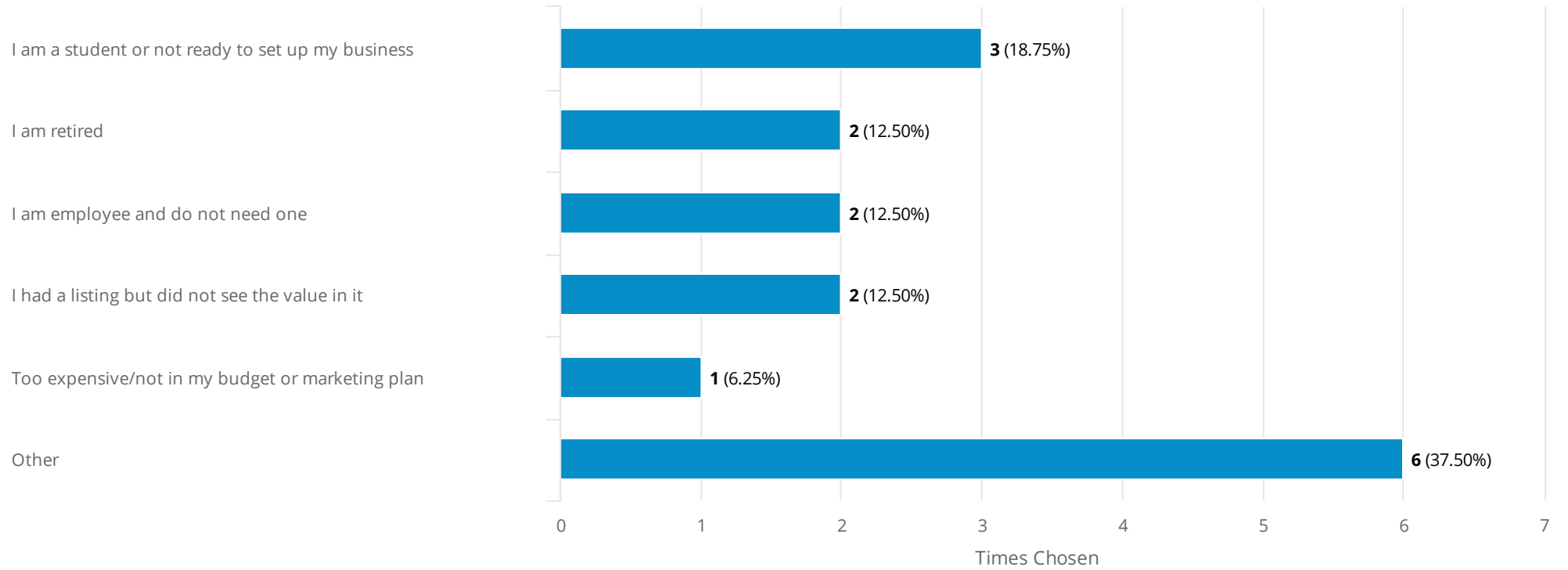| Rank	Choice	Distribution	Score	Times Ranked
1.	paid listing on ISC/SCI website		255	40
2.	The Indexer subscription		243	42
3.	isc-l list-serv		212	40
4.	newsletters – The Bulletin, newsletters of other societies		204	42
5.	ISC/SCI conference discount		189	39
6.	monthly member video chats		167	38
7.	regional meetings		146	35
8.	member directory		143	42
9.	discounts with other societies		128	37

Lowest   Highest

# Do you have a paid listing?

Number of responses: 48
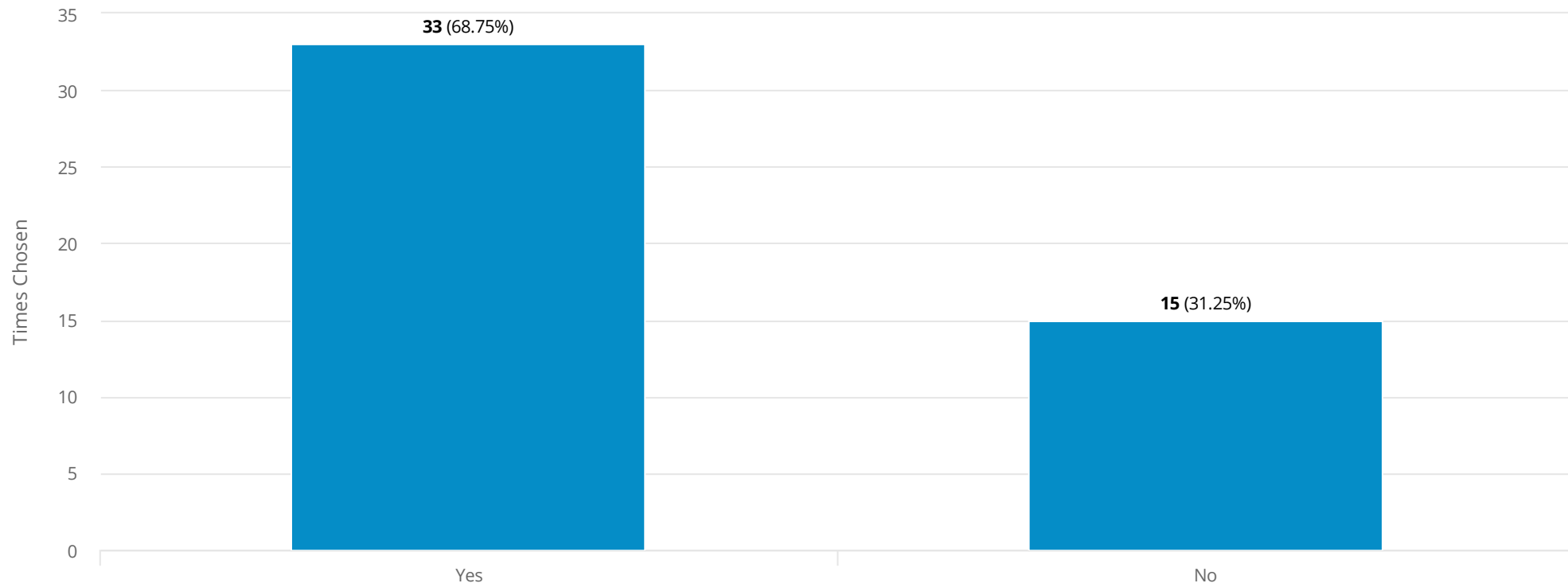
Please tell us why you do not have a paid listing (for those who don't have one)

Number of responses: 16

|	Times Chosen
I am a student or not ready to set up my business	3 (18.75%)
I am retired	2 (12.50%)
I am employee and do not need one	2 (12.50%)
I had a listing but did not see the value in it	2 (12.50%)
Too expensive/not in my budget or marketing plan	1 (6.25%)
Other	6 (37.50%)

Considering the past 3 years, what is the annual average of the number of queries that have come to you via your listing?
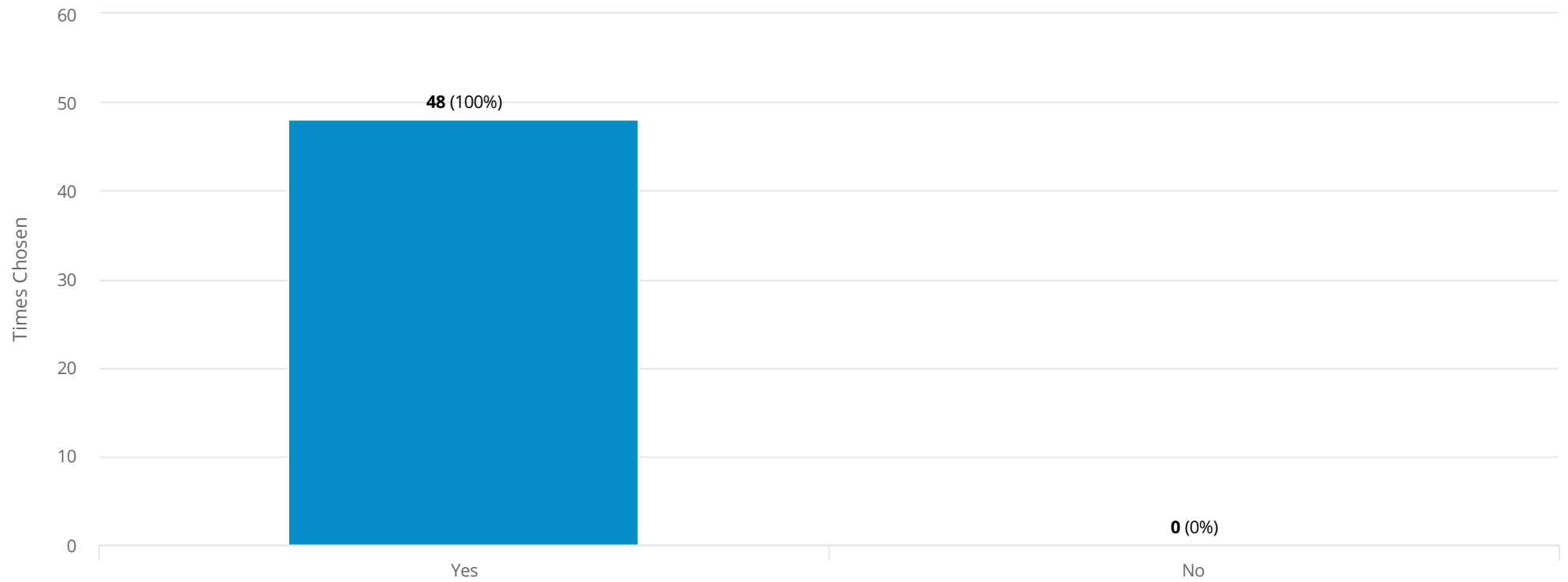
Number of responses: 33
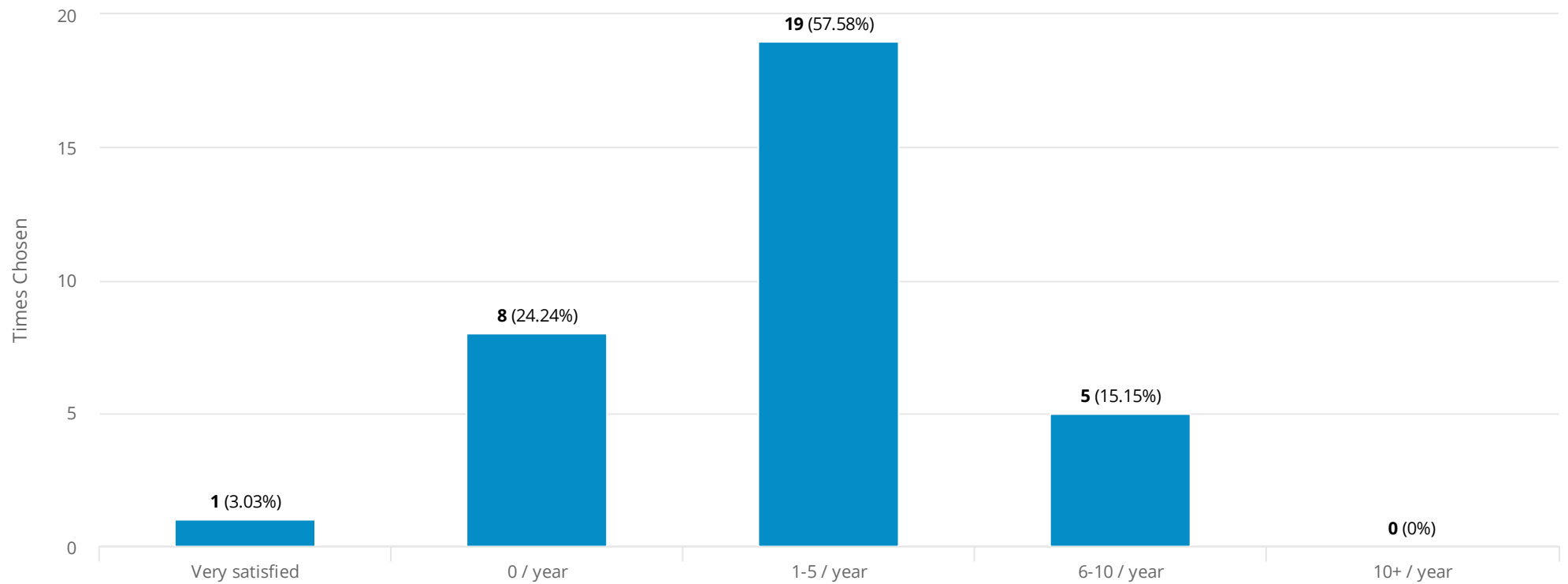
Considering the past 3 years, what is the annual average of the number of clients that have come to you via your listing?
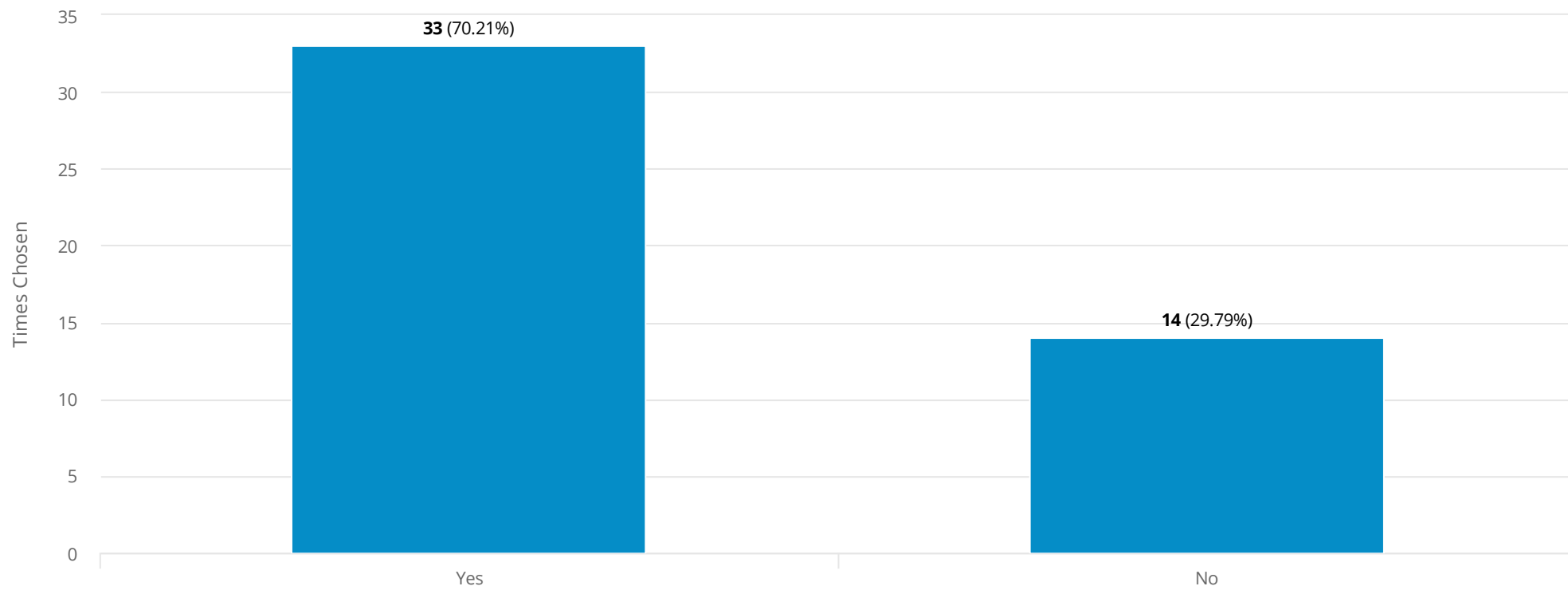
Number of responses: 33
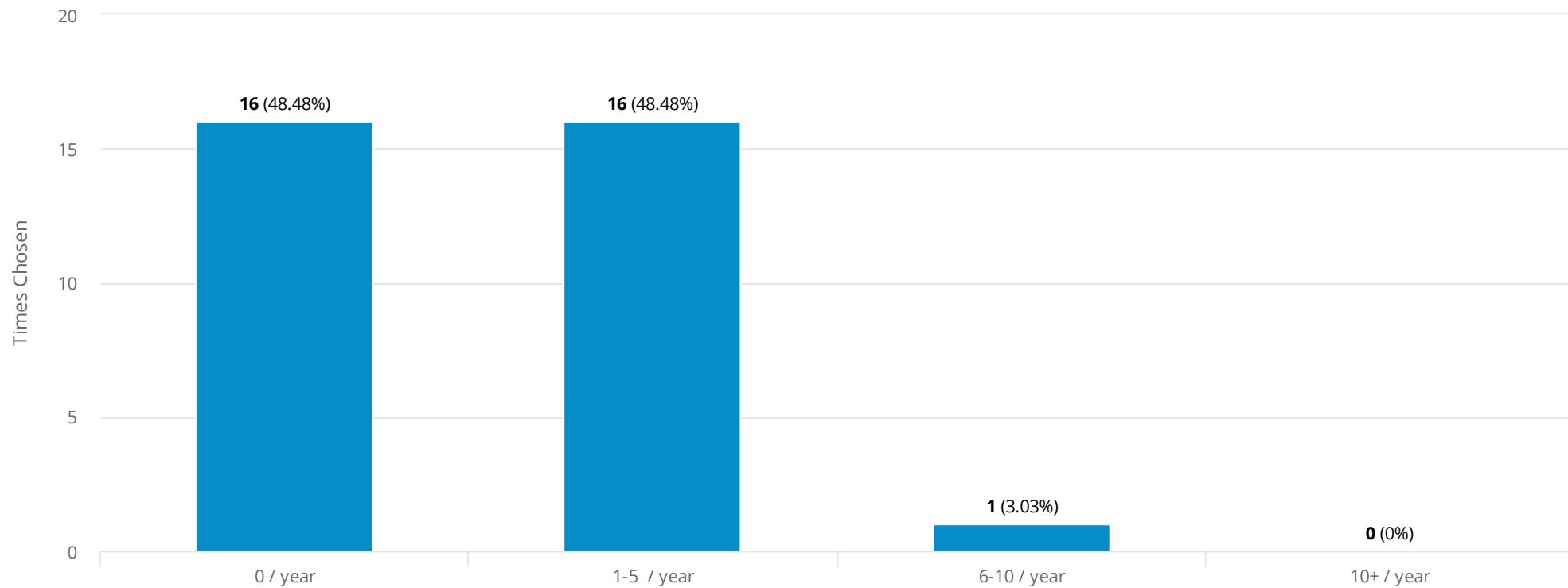
Are you aware that the society is run by volunteers?
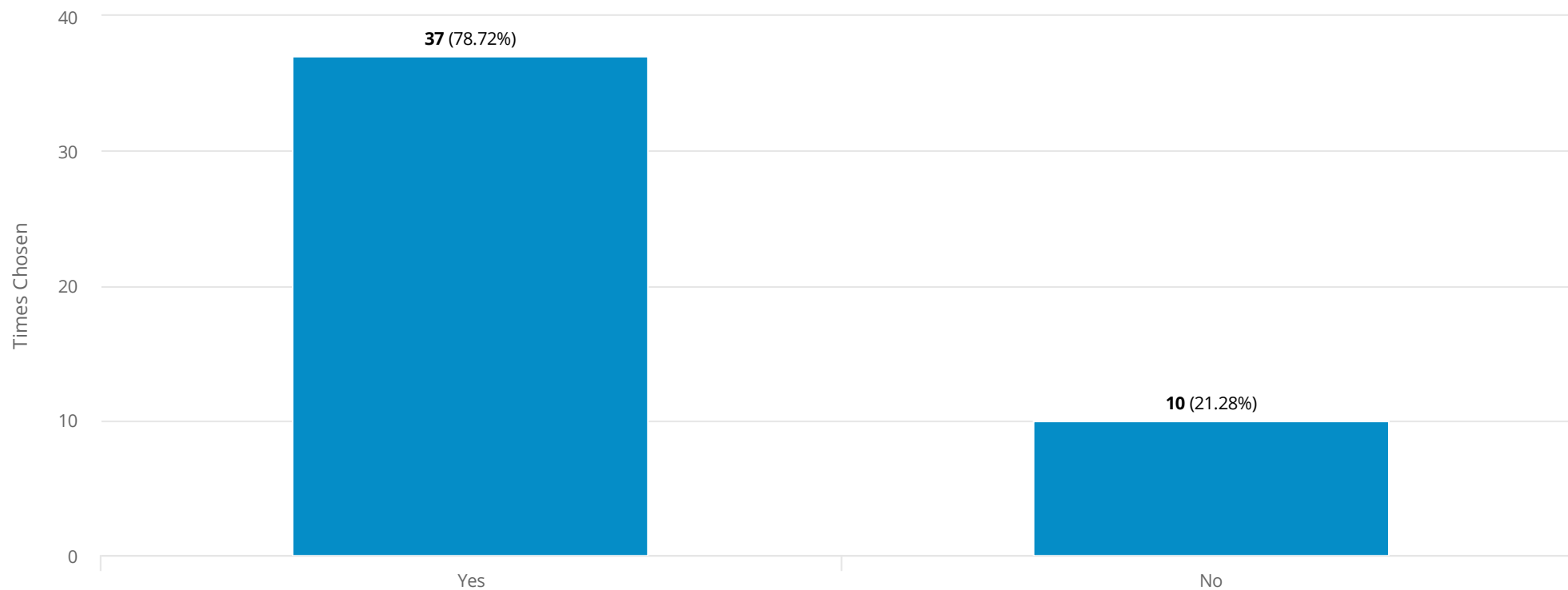
Number of responses: 48

Have you ever volunteered with the society?
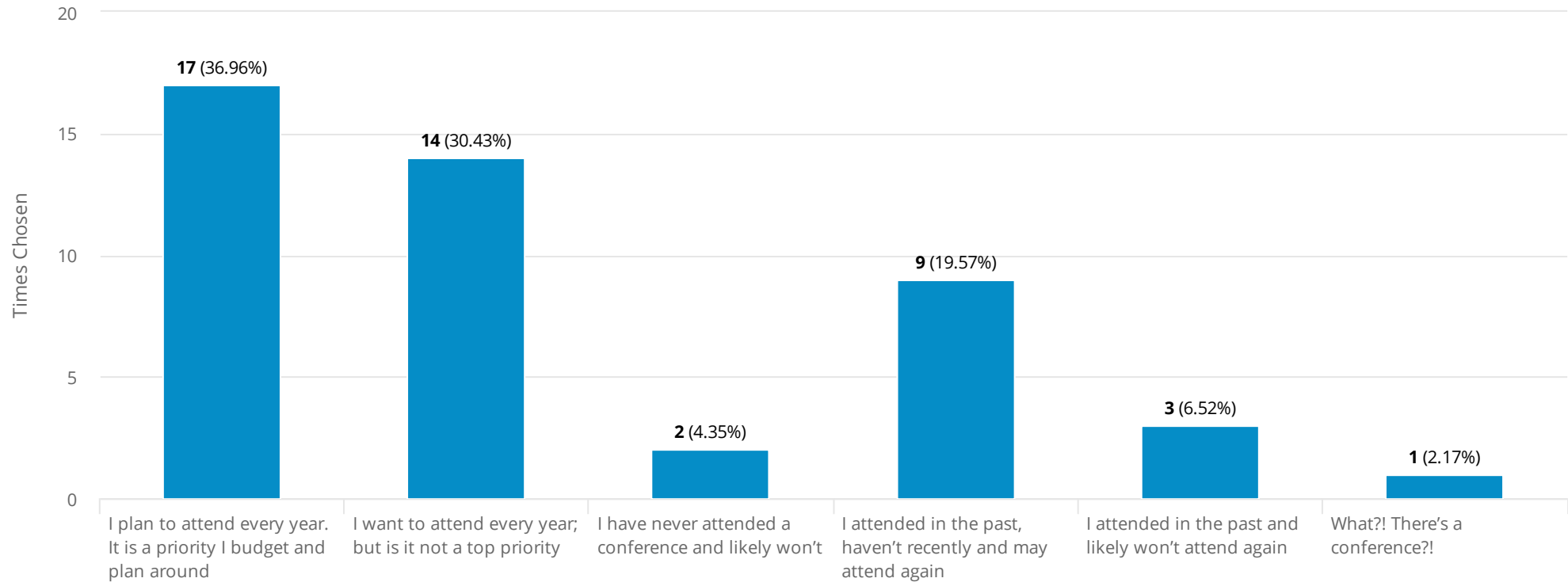
Number of responses: 47

Have you attended any professional development events (conferences, meetings, webinars etc.) related to operating a business or being a freelancer (indexing, marketing, technology etc.) in the past 2 years?

Number of responses: 47

Tell us about your overall view of attending the ISC/SCI conference. Again, please use the past few years as your guide.

Number of responses: 46

	Times Chosen
I plan to attend every year. It is a priority I budget and plan around	17 (36.96%)
I want to attend every year; but is it not a top priority	14 (30.43%)
I have never attended a conference and likely won't	2 (4.35%)
I attended in the past, haven't recently and may attend again	9 (19.57%)
I attended in the past and likely won't attend again	3 (6.52%)
What?! There's a conference?!	1 (2.17%)

Have you attended a recent ISC/SCI conference (2017, 2018 or 2019)?

Number of responses: 47
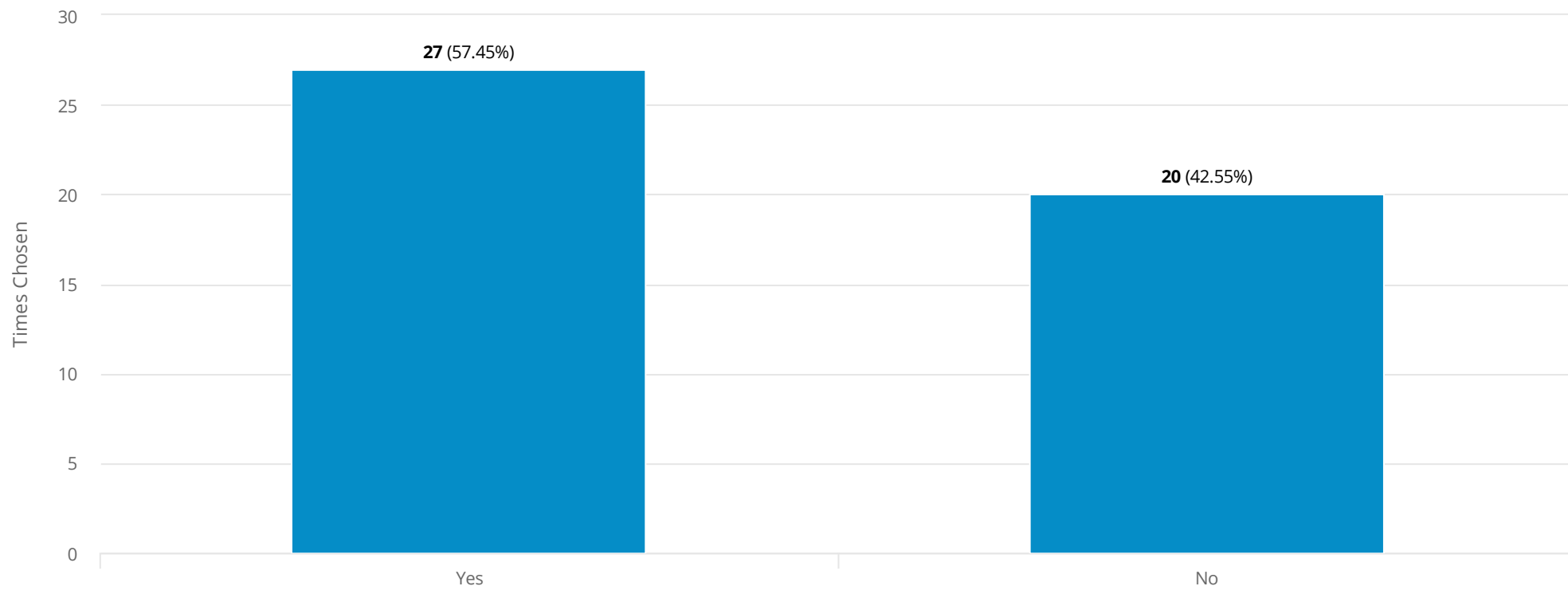
Please select all factors that contributed to your decision to attend ISC/SCI conferences in 2017, 2018, and/or 2019. Please leave blank if not applicable.

Number of responses: 30

Factor	Times Chosen
A specific topic/presenter	13 (43.33%)
Location allowed you to visit friends/family	11 (36.67%)
Location was new to you	8 (26.67%)
Location was within driving distance to my home	3 (10%)
Networking—to meet/reconnect with indexers	24 (80%)
Networking—to reconnect with specific indexers	12 (40%)
Professional development/general learning about indexing	27 (90%)
Other	5 (16.67%)