The impact of Discovery Systems on Libraries' Organizational Structures and Staffing

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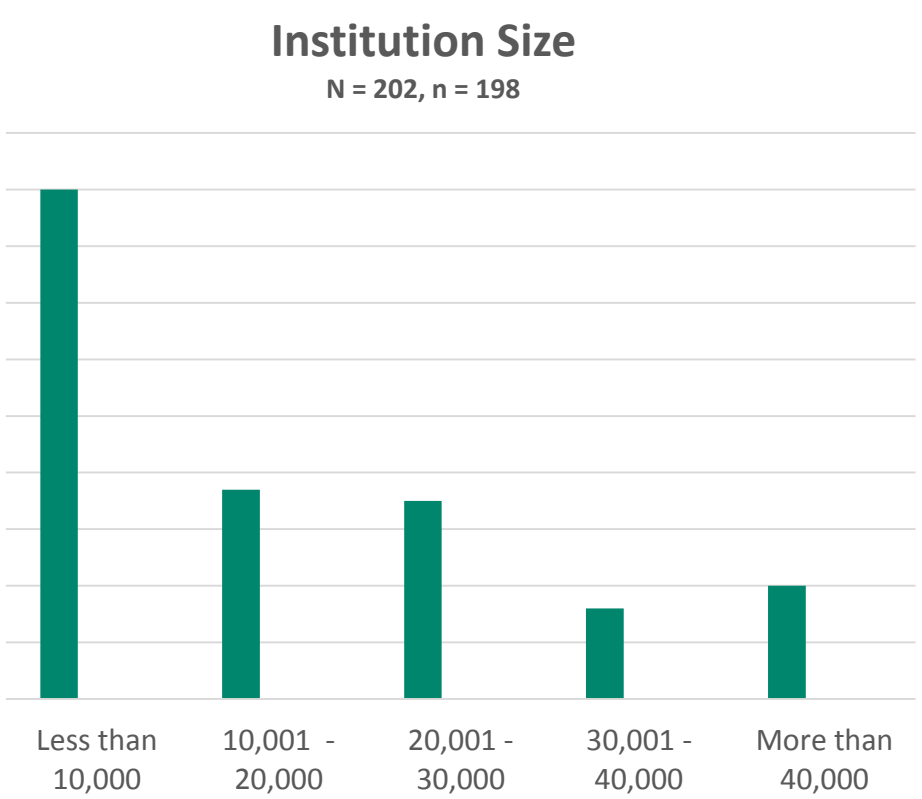
Rationale for Study

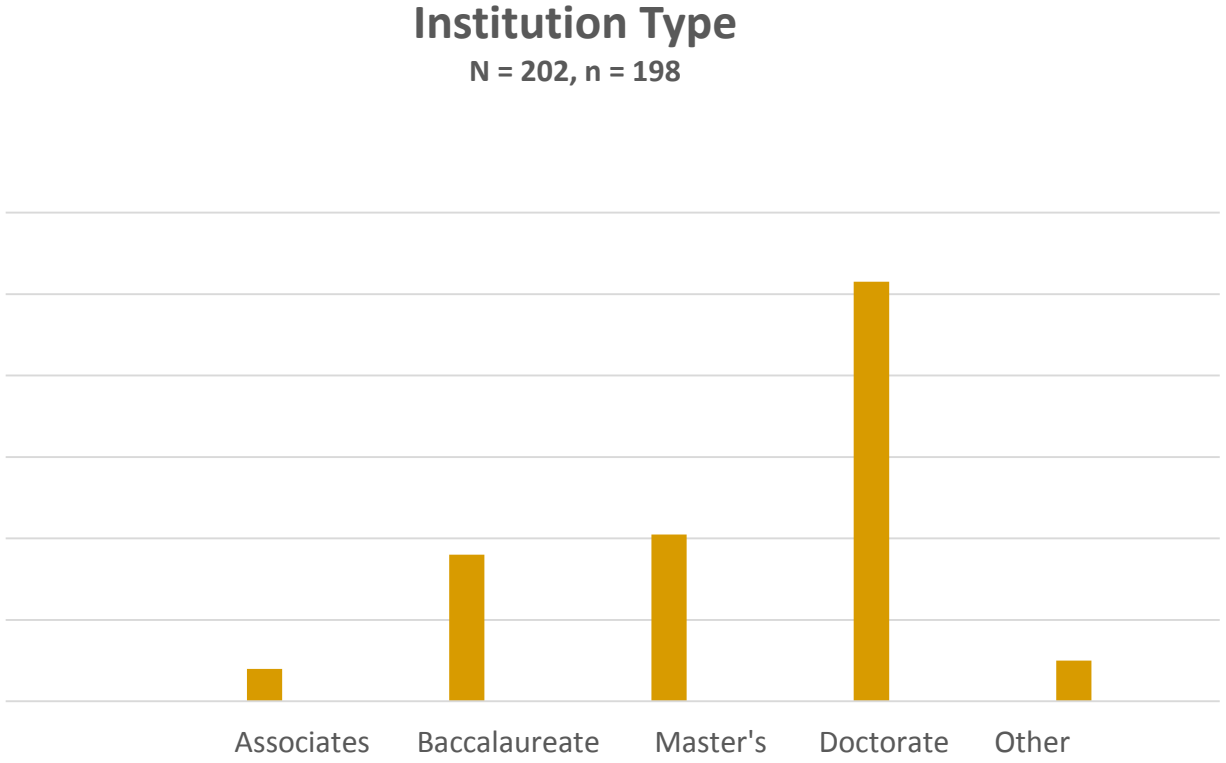
"This distribution of job duties across a spectrum of library functions and services is not surprising as discovery services involve complex processes from technical services to public services, as observed by Kornblau and colleagues (2012). **No discernible pattern from the data can explain the placement of the discovery position in one functional area as opposed to another, but this question is ripe for further investigation**."

- Nadine P. Ellero

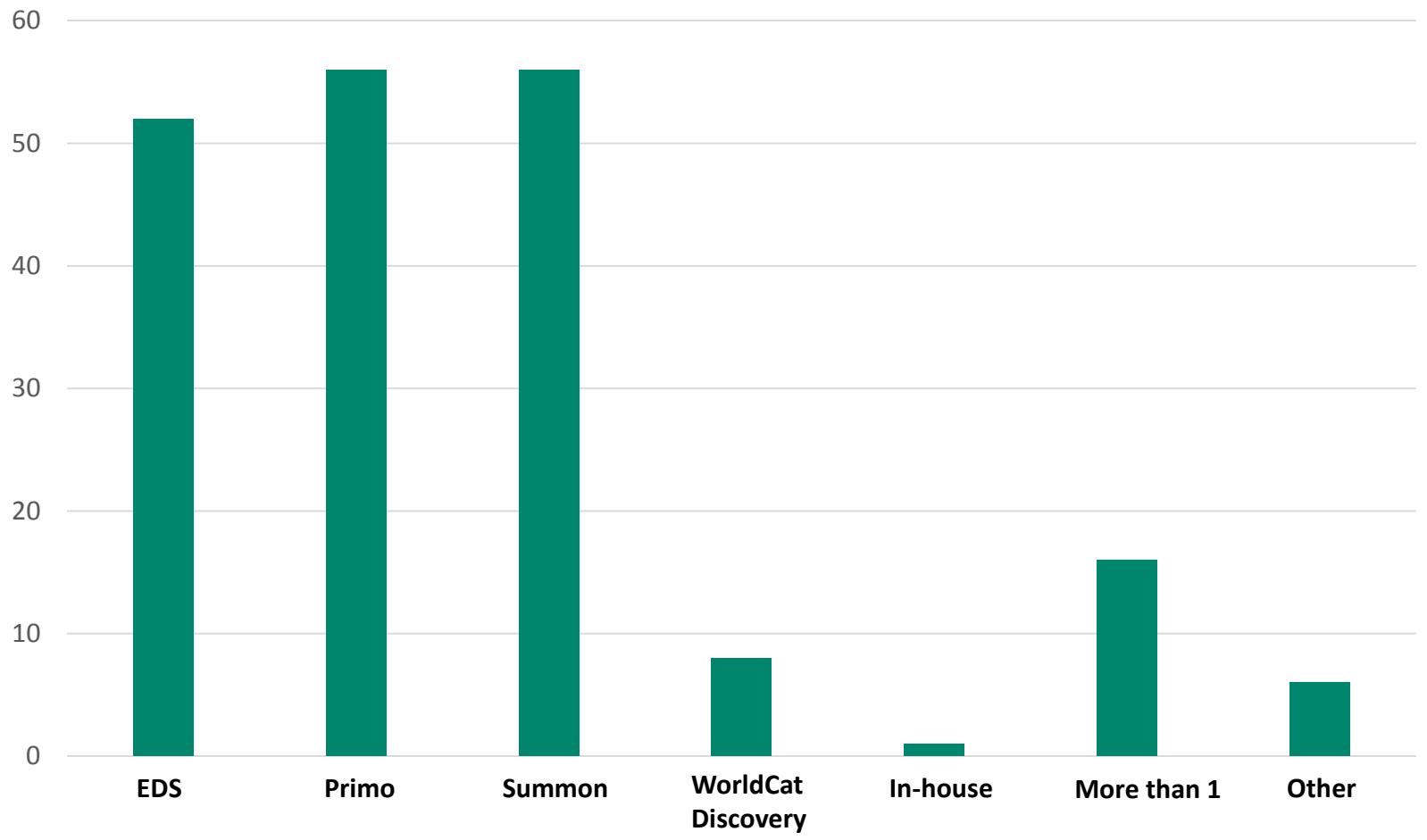
Nadine P. Ellero, (2014) Exploring Library Discovery Positions: Are They Emerging or Converging?. Journal of Web Librarianship 8:4, pages 331-348.

Methodology





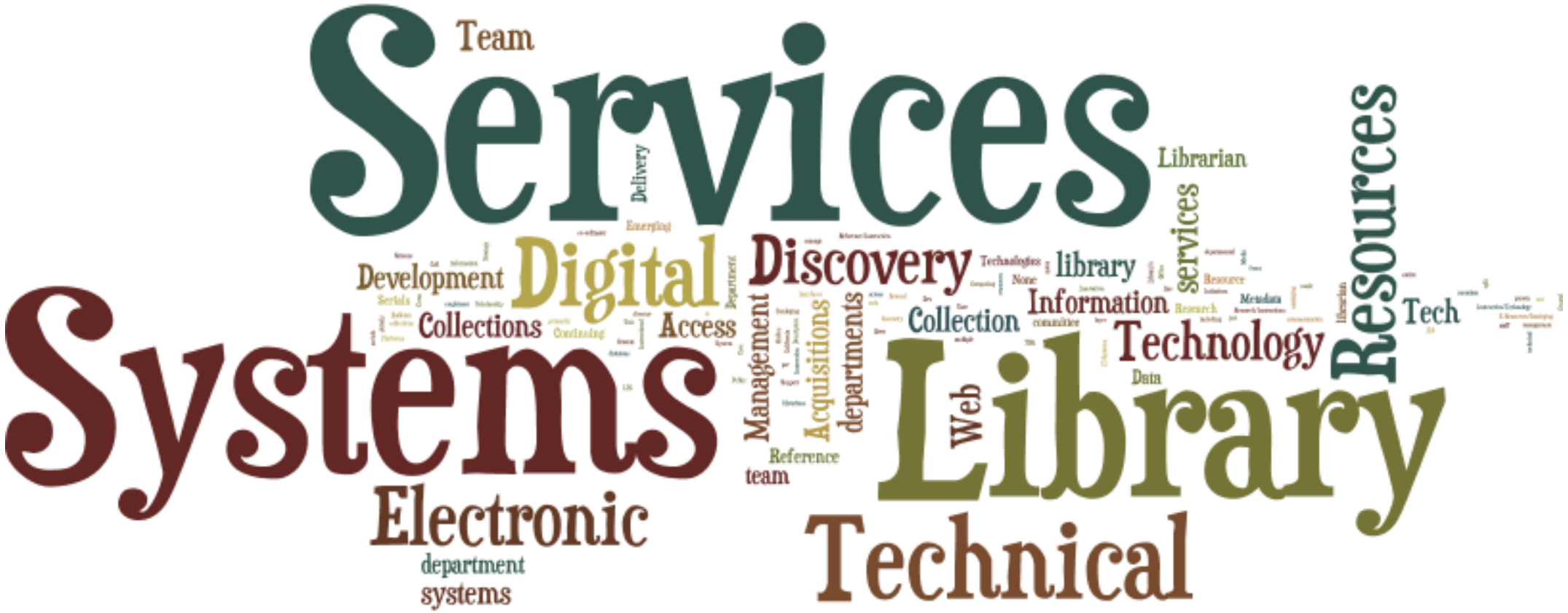
What Discovery System Are you Currently Using?



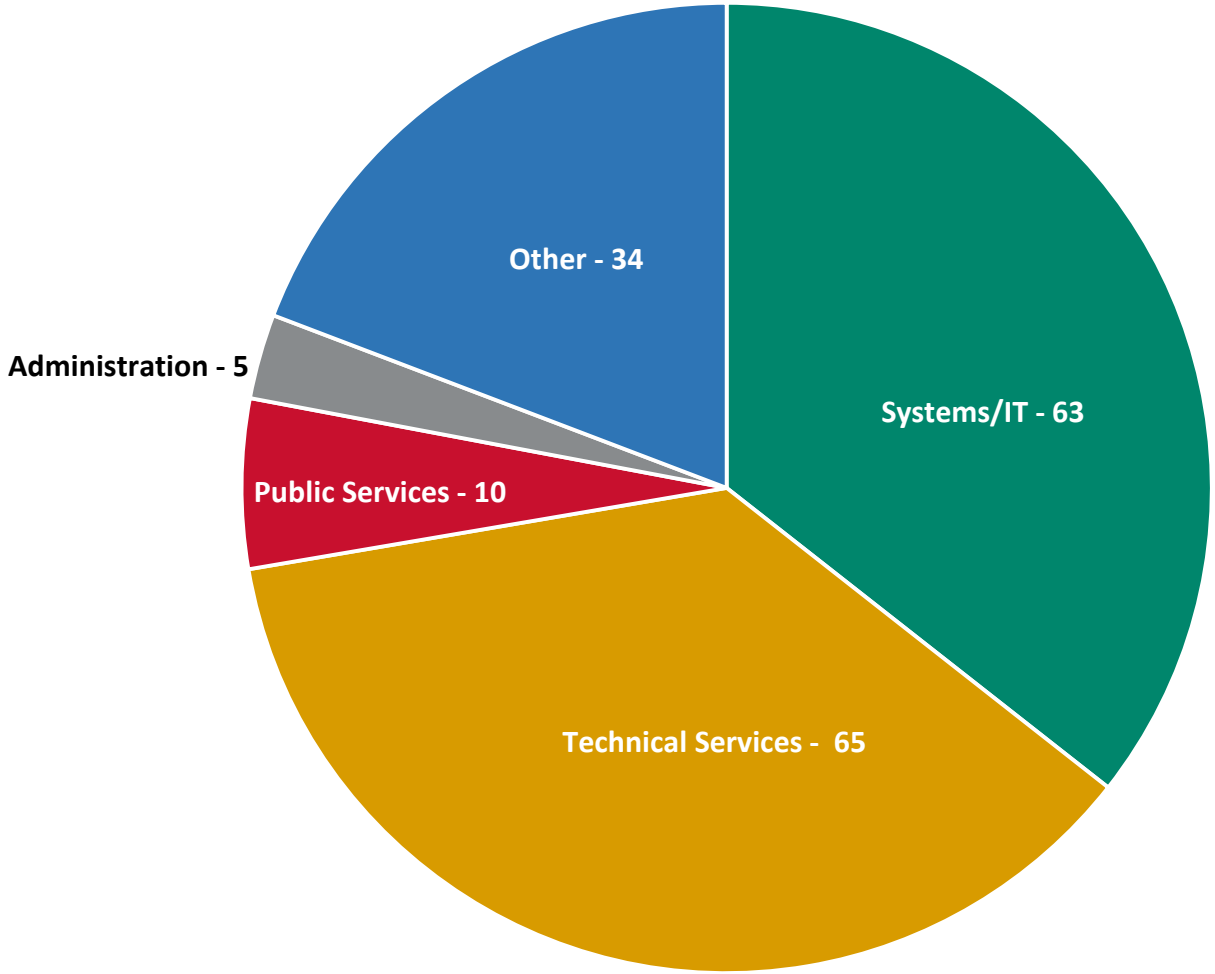
N = 202, n = 195

Geographic Distribution of Survey Respondents

What Department is Responsible for Managing the Discovery System?

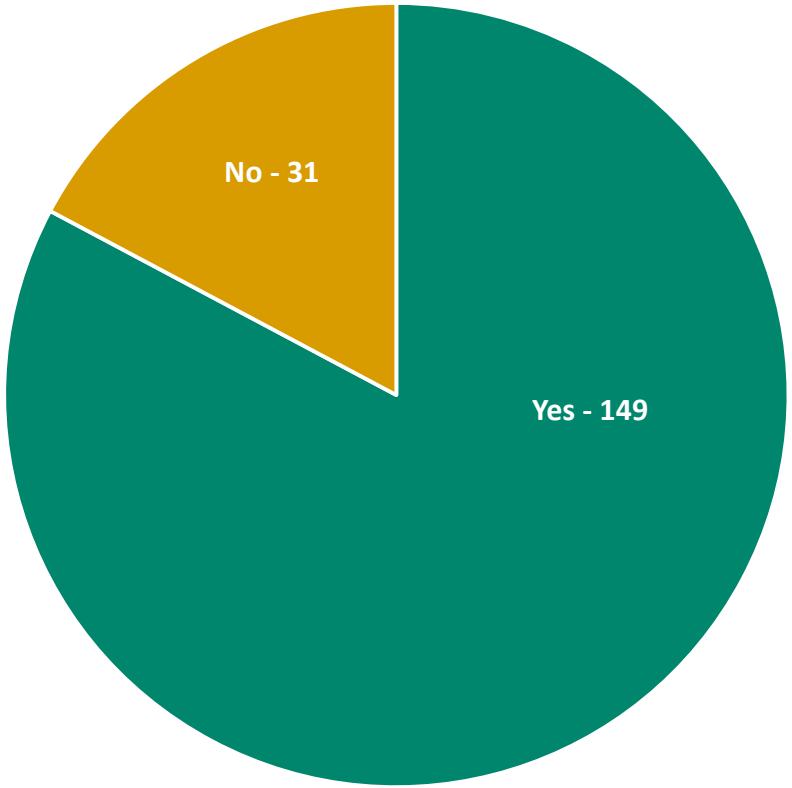


What Functional Area is this Department In?



N = 202, n = 177

Has responsibility for Discovery Always resided in that department/functional area?



Functional Area – Before and After

Systems/IT ⟷ **Technical Services**

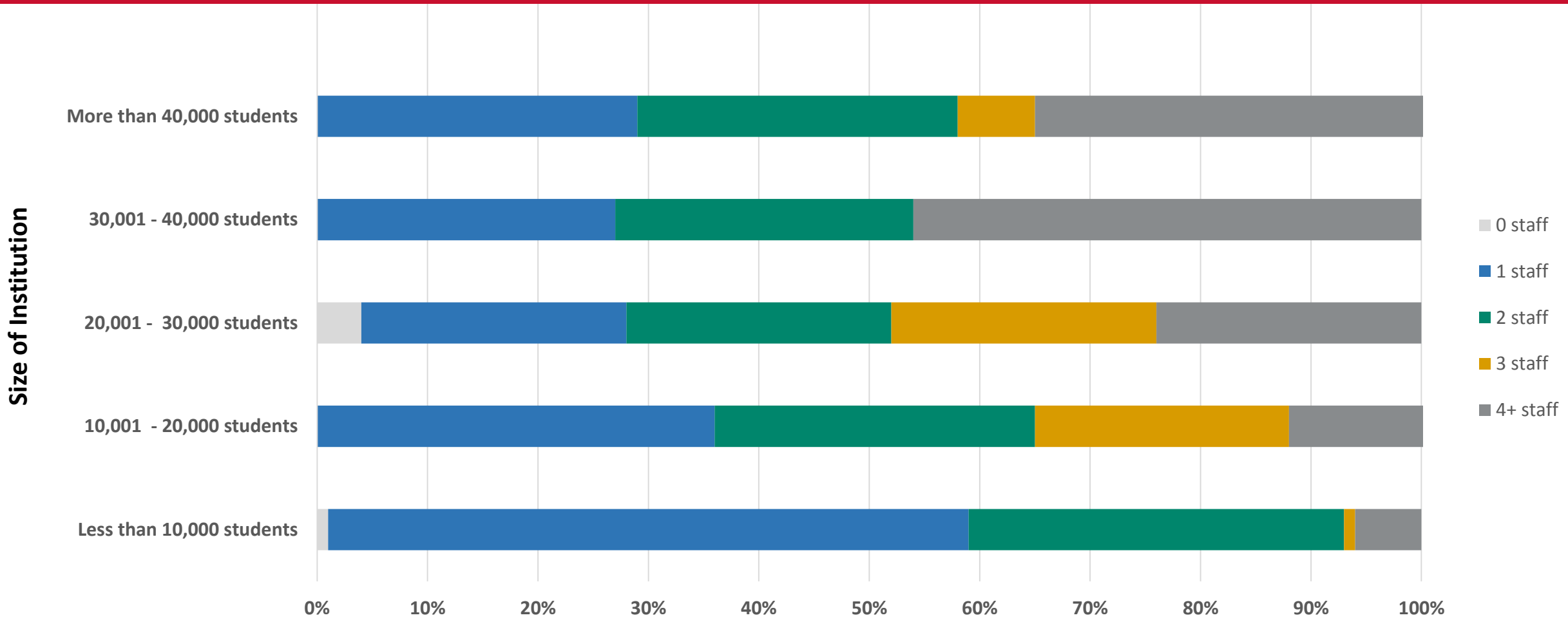
Technical Services → **Public Services**

Technical Services → **Administration**

Public Services → **Systems/IT**

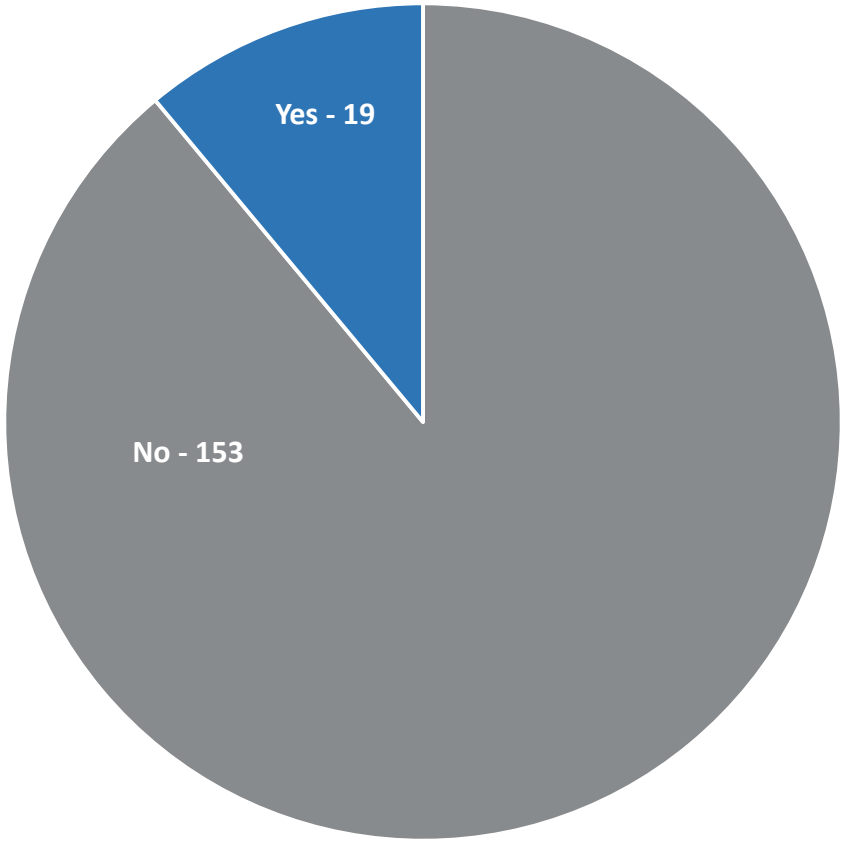
N = 202, n = 180

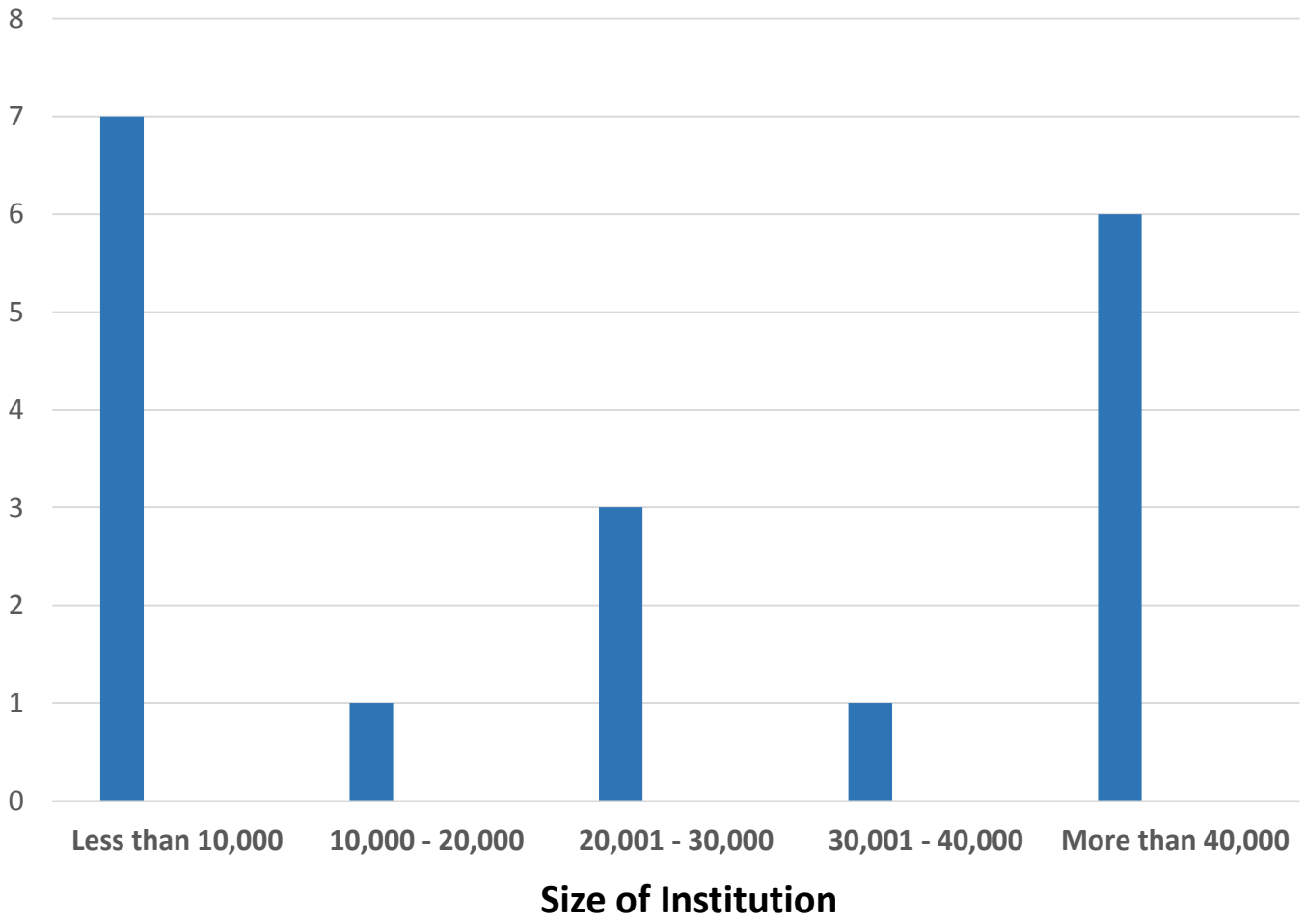
How many staff manage discovery as part of their job duties?



N = 202, n = 155

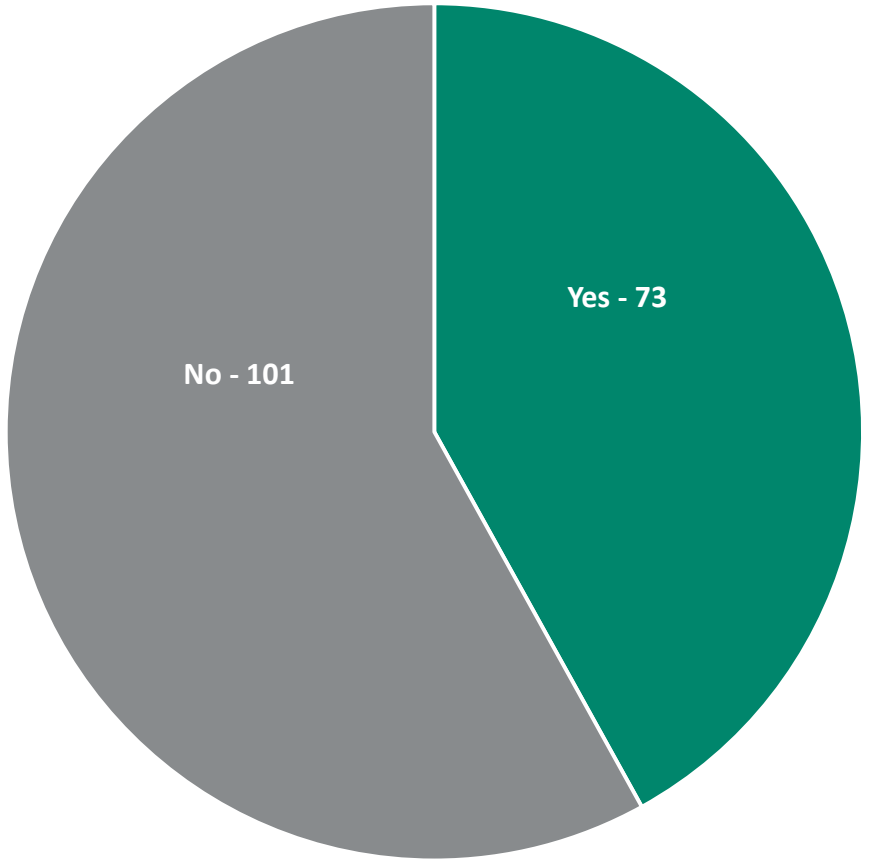
Were any new positions created to manage discovery?

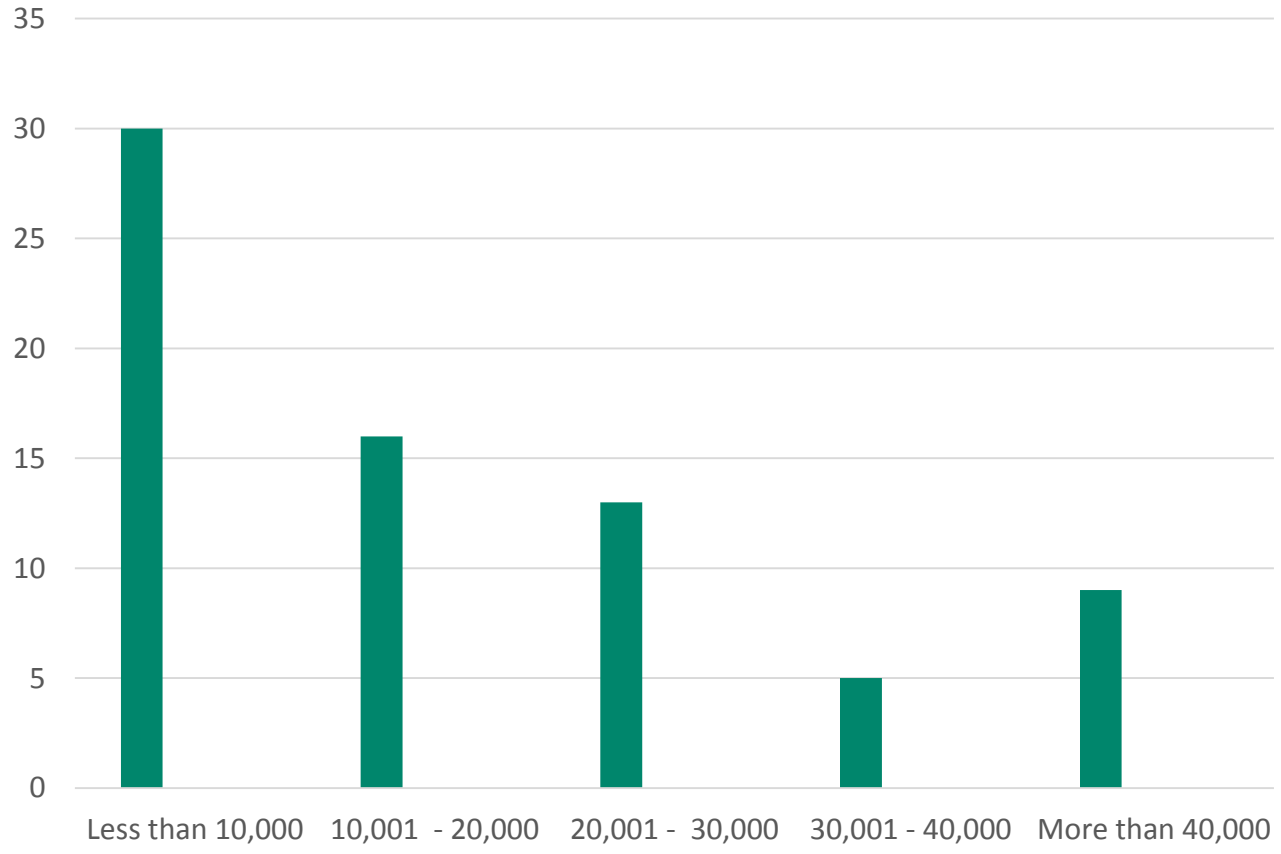




N = 202, n = 172

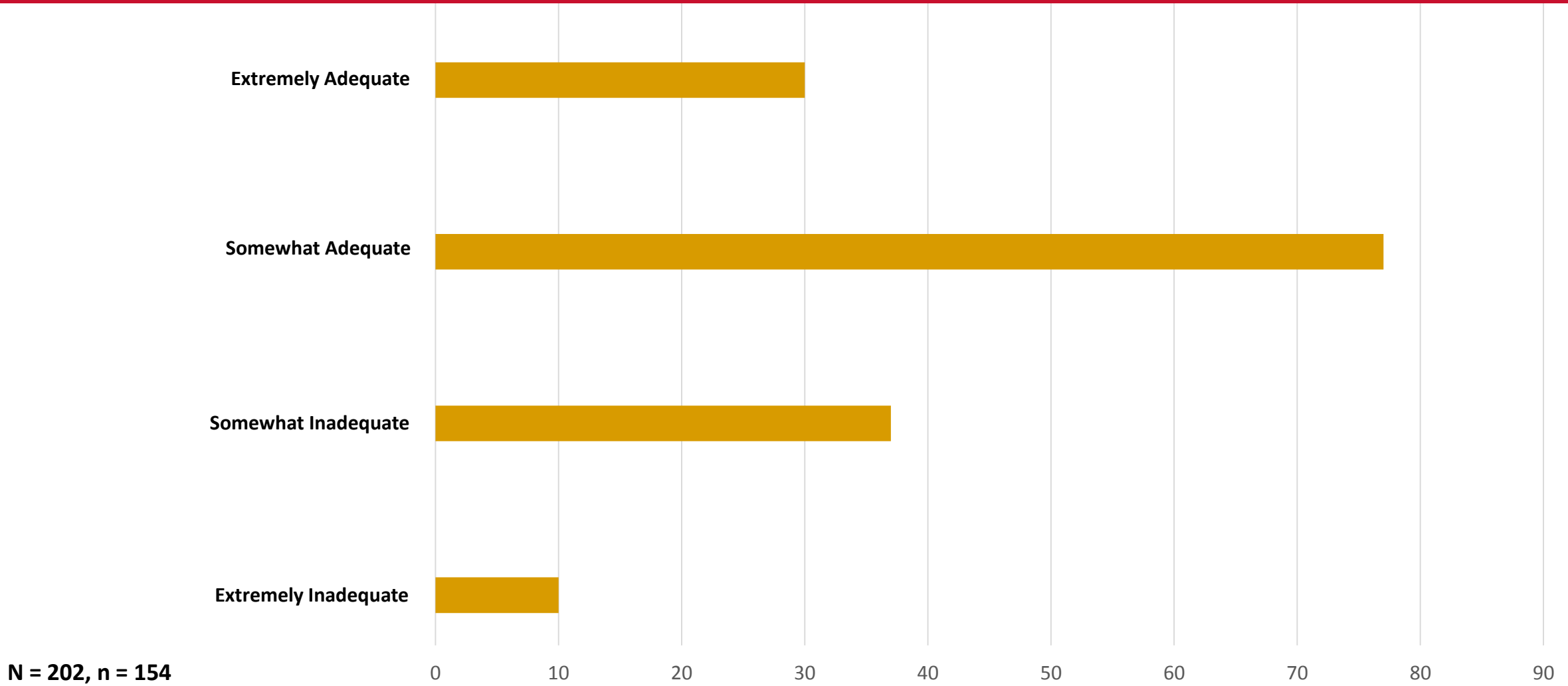
Were any positions repurposed to manage discovery?





N = 202, n = 174

Do you feel that staffing is adequate to manage discovery?



N = 202, n = 154

Thank you!

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