



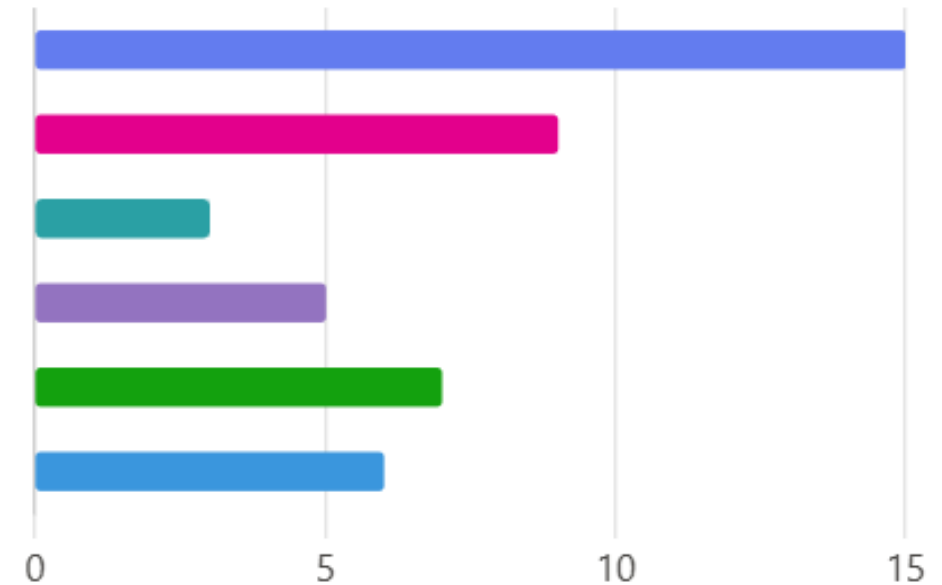
Survey on RDA implementation

- Organised by EURIG
- Januari – March 2026
- 45 responses



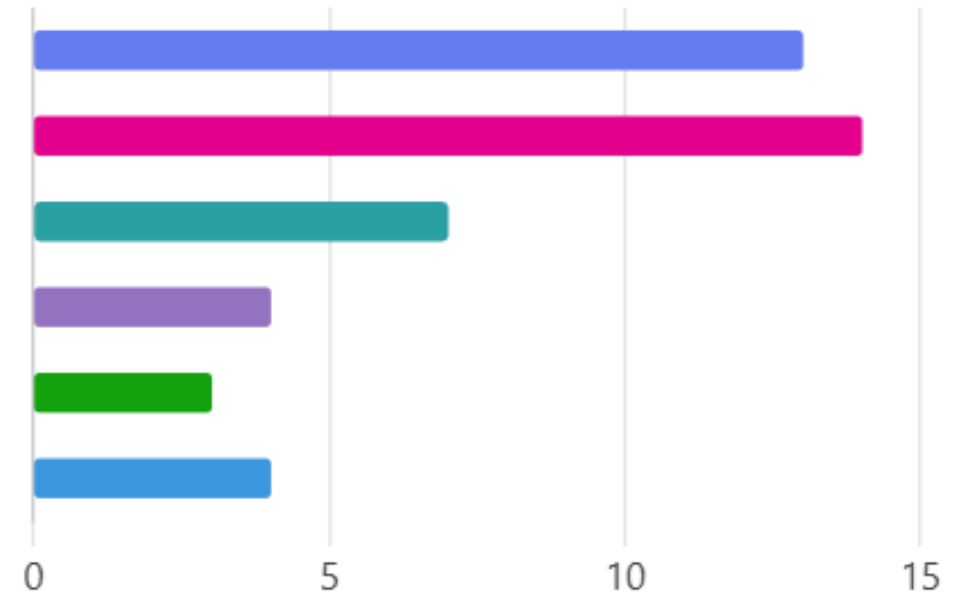
Type of institution

● National library	15
● Academic / university library	9
● Public library	3
● Special / research library	5
● Consortium / library network	7
● Other	6



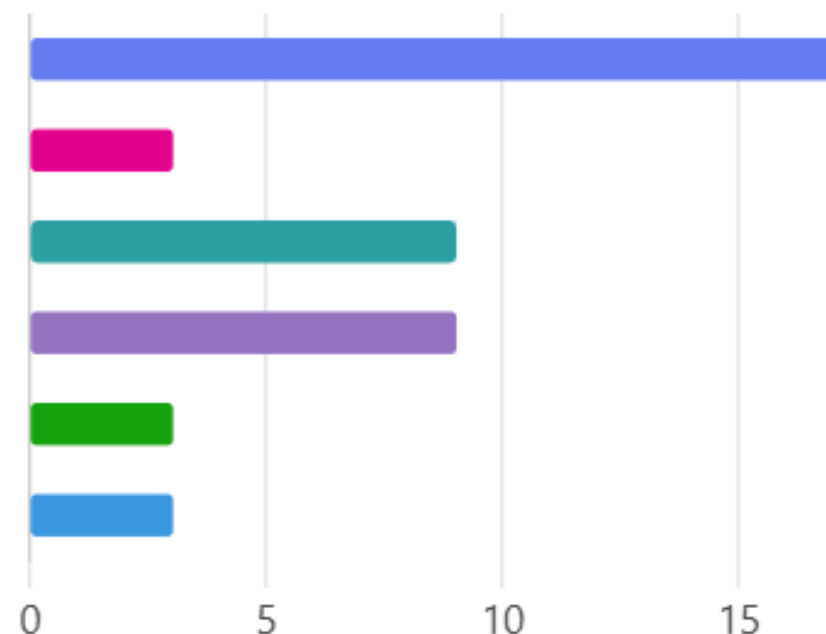
Role of respondent

● Head of Cataloguing department	13
● Cataloguing / metadata specialist	14
● Policy or standards coordinator	7
● Technical / systems specialist	4
● Management	3
● Other	4

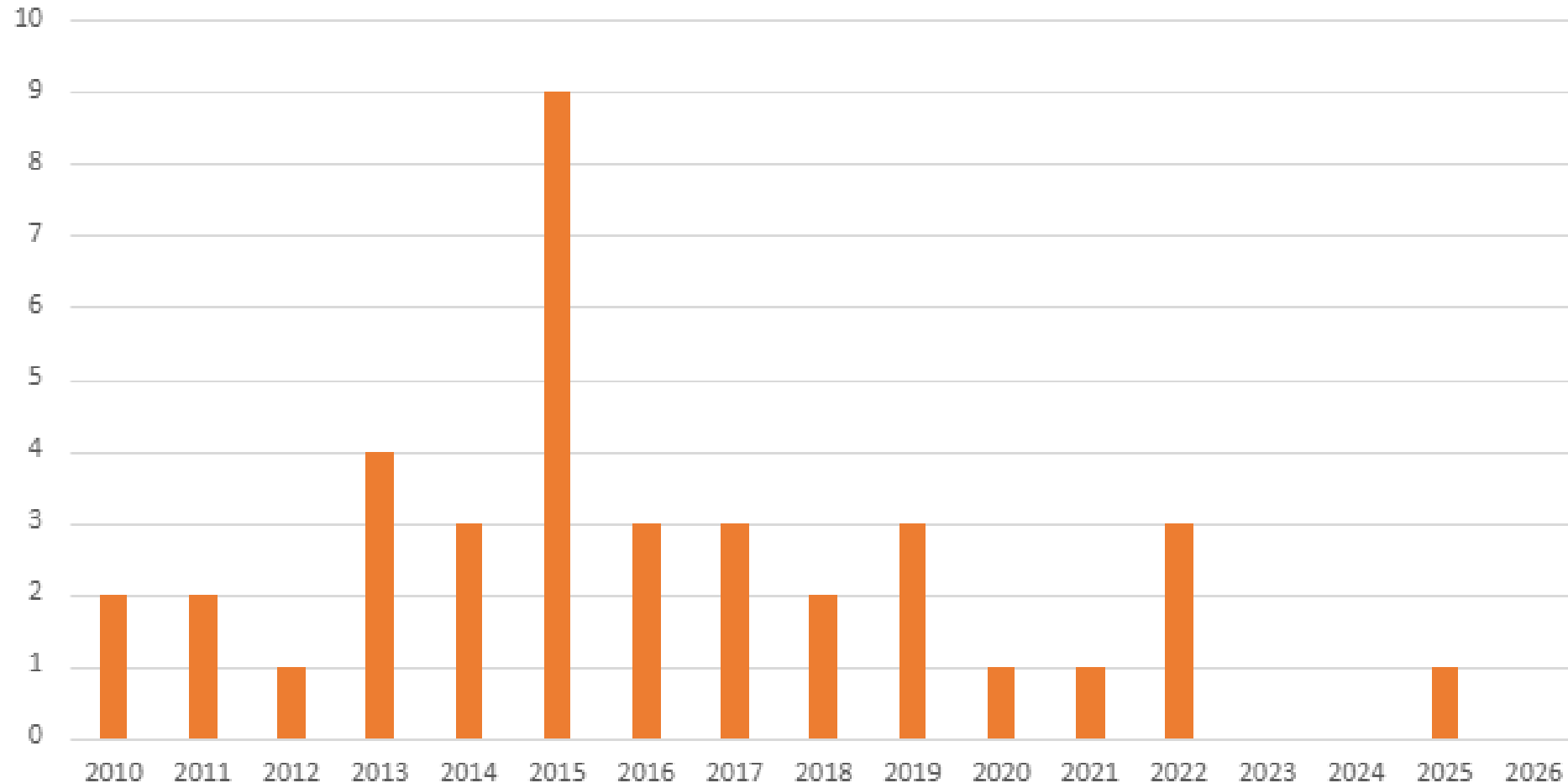


. Does your institution currently use RDA?

● Yes, Original RDA (pre-3R Project)	17
● Yes, Official RDA	3
● Yes, both (legacy data + new toolkit)	9
● Partially / pilot phase	9
● No, but planned	3
● No, and no plans at present	3



In what year RDA was implemented

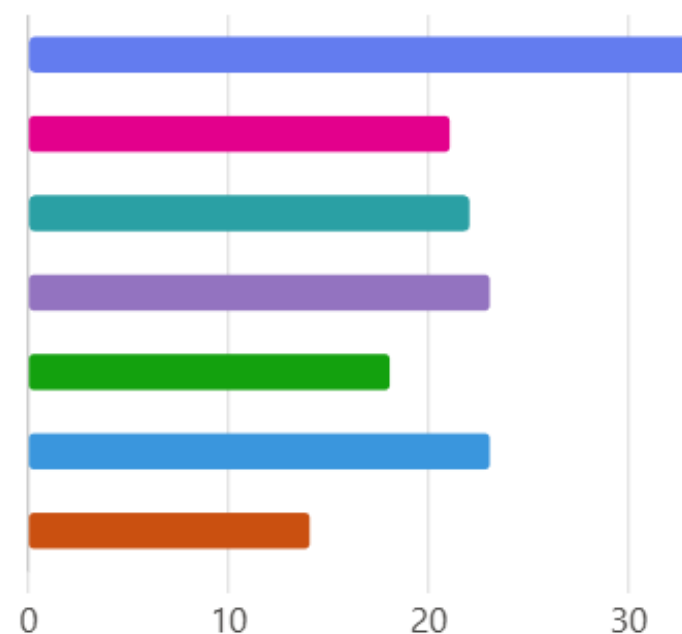


2010 :

- Fundación Ignacio Larramendi
- BNE 2010 according to the Biblioteca de Aragón, but the BNE itself stated 2019

For which resource types is RDA applied?

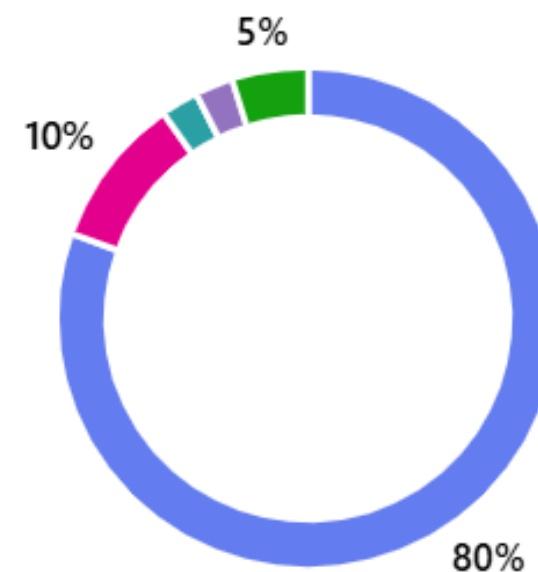
● Monographs	33
● Old and Rare Books	21
● Audiovisual materials	22
● Digital / electronic resources	23
● Special materials (e.g. maps, prints, archives)	18
● Printed music and scores	23
● Other	14



RDA is applied to:

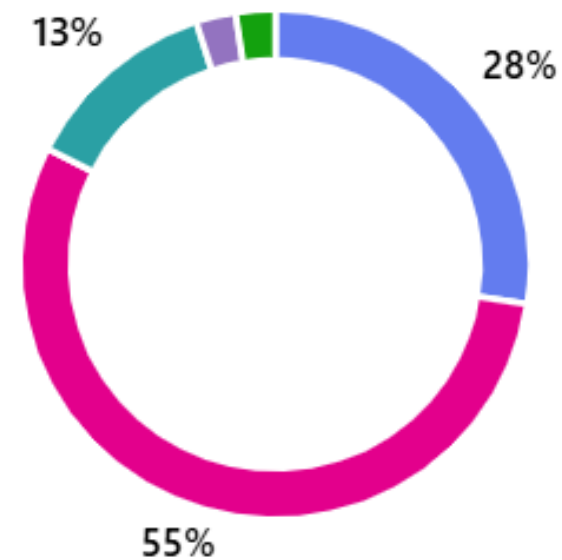
● All new cataloguing	33
● Selected collections only	4
● Selected formats only	1
● Experimental or test datasets only	1
● Other	2

Other = authorities



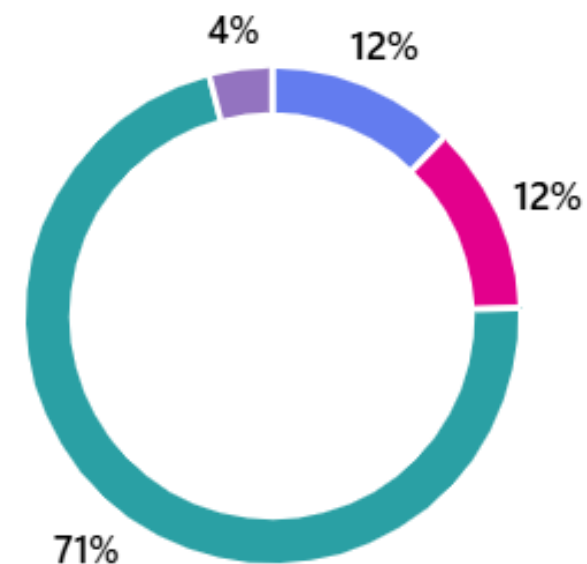
Is RDA applied to legacy (retrospective) data?

● No retrospective changes	11
● Partial retrospective enrichment	22
● Systematic retrospective conversion	5
● Not decided	1
● Other	1



Which implementation approach best describes your institution?

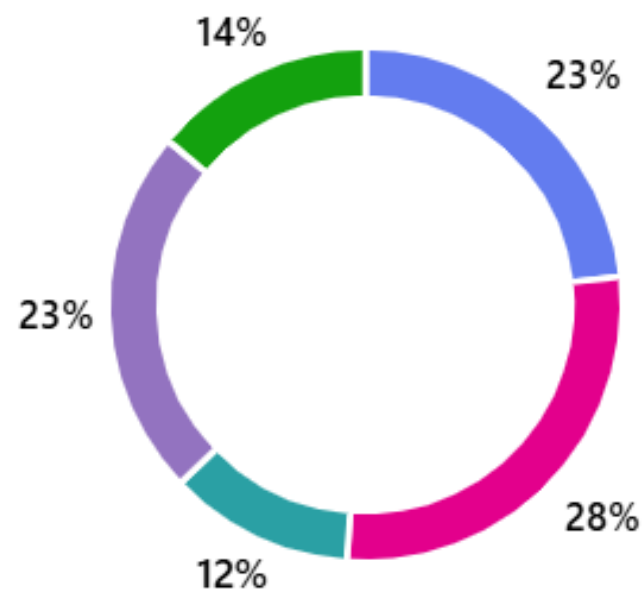
Scenario A: Linked open data	6
Scenario B: Relational or object-oriented data	6
Scenario C: Bibliographic/authority data	35
Scenario D: Flat file data	2
Other	0



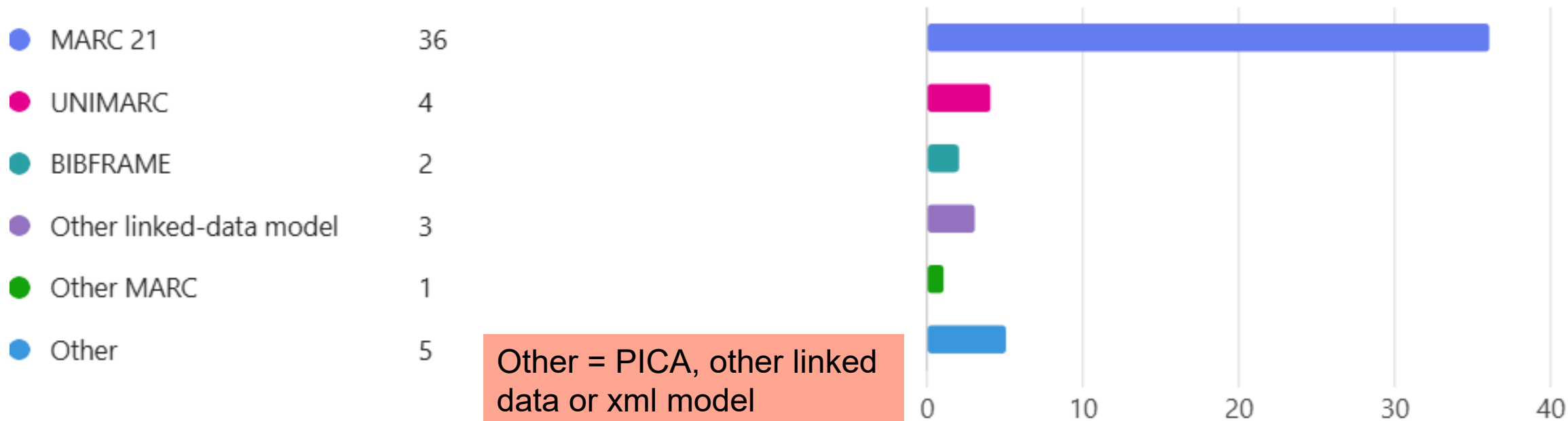
Are RDA application profiles used?

Yes, national profile	10
Yes, institutional profile	12
Both national and institutional	5
No application profiles used	10
Other	6

Other = RDA DACH



Which bibliographic formats or data models are used with RDA?

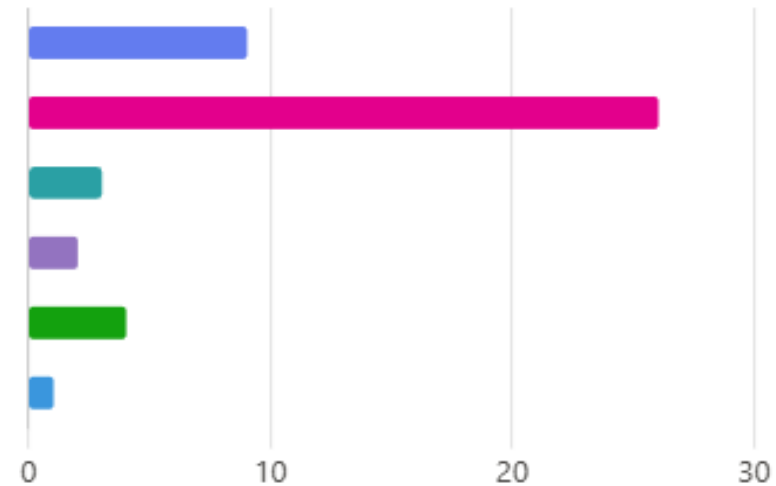


Ex LibrisClarivate
library
Folio use Ex Libris
platform is Alma
RDA bibliographic
Record Manager
Libero
Alma
Axiell Collections
Koha Aleph OCLC WMS
Alma/Primo
Manager and Alma
aDIS/BMS
management systems

15. Are your library systems compatible with your RDA implementation?

[More details](#)

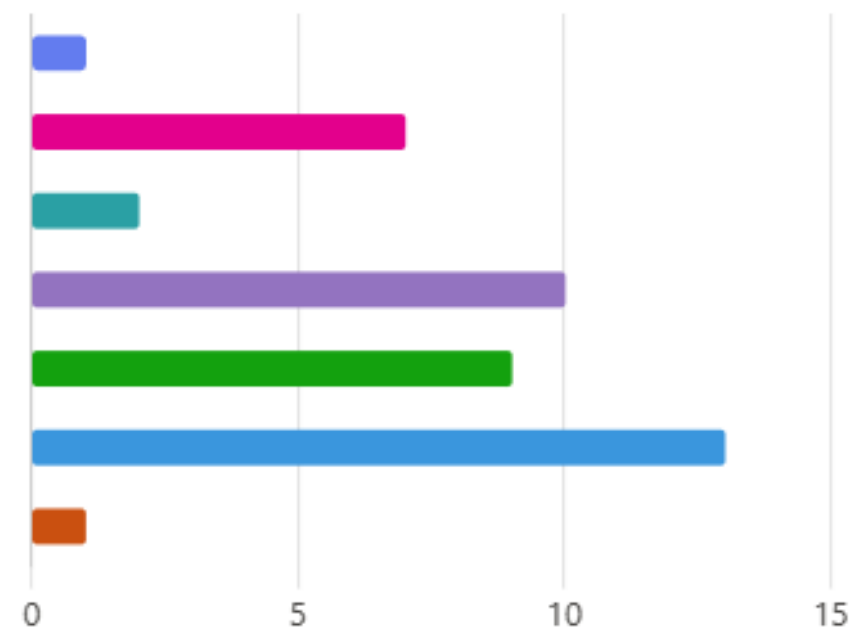
Fully compatible	9
Partially compatible	26
Significant limitations	3
Not assessed	2
Not yet compatible but evolutions foreseen	4
Other	1



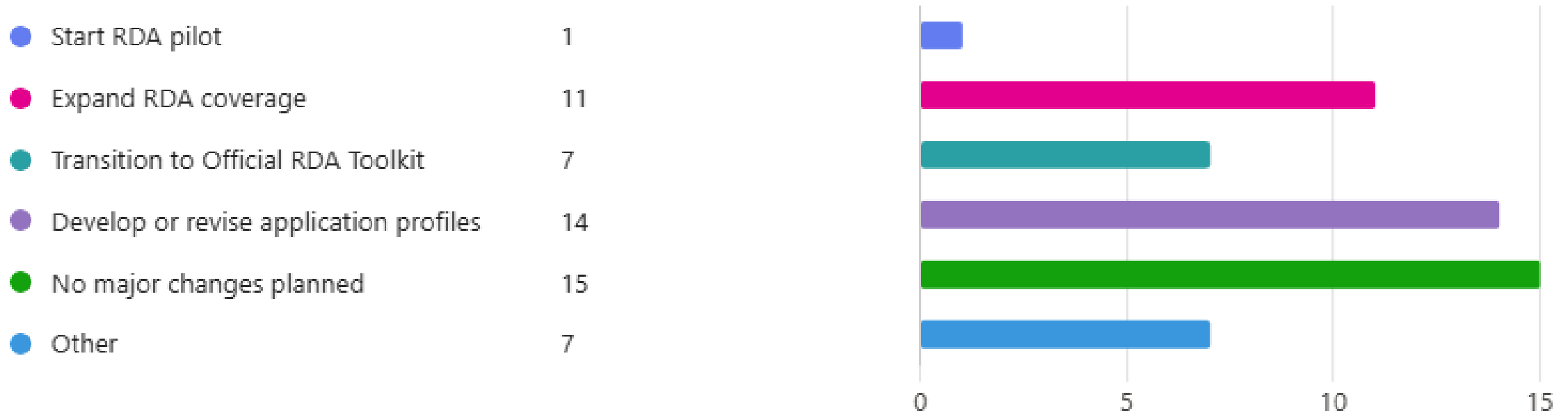
. If currently using Original RDA, is a transition to the Official RDA Toolkit planned?

[More details](#)

● Transition completed	1
● Transition in progress	7
● Planned within 1 year	2
● Planned within 2–3 years	10
● No plans at present	9
● Not applicable	13
● Other	1



Planned developments in the next 12 months



- Gather all the necessary information to initiate the transition to RDA
- Implementation of a WEMI structure in Axiell Collections
- The Italian translation of RDA has been suspended in order to initiate a feasibility study on the possible future adoption of RDA within the Italian national library service
- Setting up courses for the Official Toolkit; Following international developments.

Planned developments in the next 2–5 years

- **1. Transition to Official RDA and Linked Data/BIBFRAME environments**
 - A dominant theme is the move toward the Official RDA Toolkit alongside linked data infrastructures such as BIBFRAME. Many respondents describe transitions already underway or being planned:
 - “Adoption of Official RDA and move to LD environment” (4)
 - “Implementing the RDA based BIBFRAME version (BFFI) within a linked data system” (8)
 - “Transition to Official RDA, implementing Linked Data” (24)
 - “Investigating switch from MARC21 to BIBFRAME” (23)
 - “Prepare for mental shift needed to work within both Official RDA and Bibframe” (14)

Planned developments in the next 2–5 years

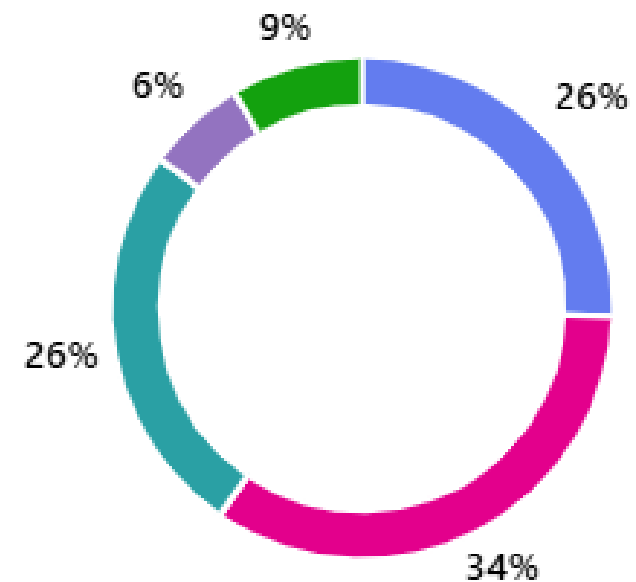
- **2. Development and revision of application profiles, policies, and guidance**
 - Several responses emphasize the need for application profiles, coordinated policies, workflows, and cataloguing guidance to support implementation
 - “working with application profiles” (6)
 - “Develop or revise application profiles where necessary” (9)
 - “RDA Application profiles and trainings” (11)
 - “Development of training, policies, and guidelines to support coordinated implementation across the Catalan library network” (18)
 - “Creation of fuller cataloguing guidelines and revised workflows” (27)

Planned developments in the next 2–5 years

- **3. Training, expansion of coverage, and gradual implementation strategies**
 - Respondents frequently mention expanding RDA coverage to additional materials/entities and supporting staff through training, often while acknowledging resource constraints or phased adoption:
 - “Expand RDA coverage” (1)
 - “Expand coverage to all materials, and description of agents” (16)
 - “Expand RDA coverage to different resource types” (27)

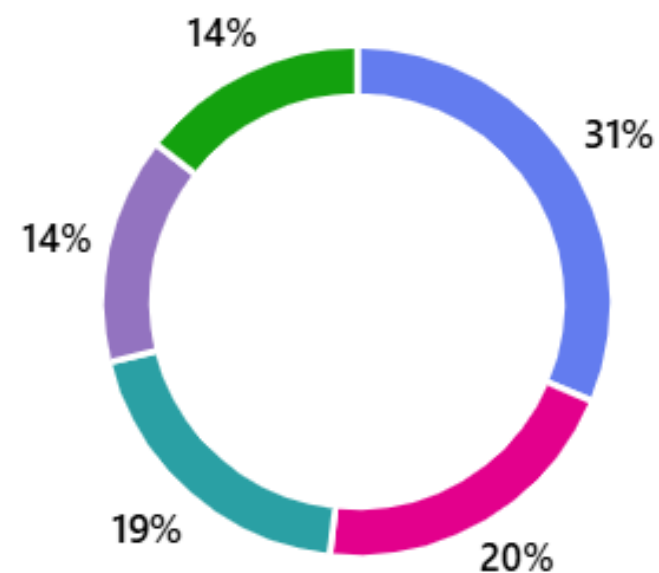
Have staff received formal RDA training?

● Yes, extensive training	12
● Yes, limited training	16
● No formal training	12
● Training planned	3
● Other	4



What types of support would be most useful from EURIG?

Best-practice examples	37
Training materials	24
Implementation case studies	23
Technical guidance	17
EURIG-led workshops or discussions	17

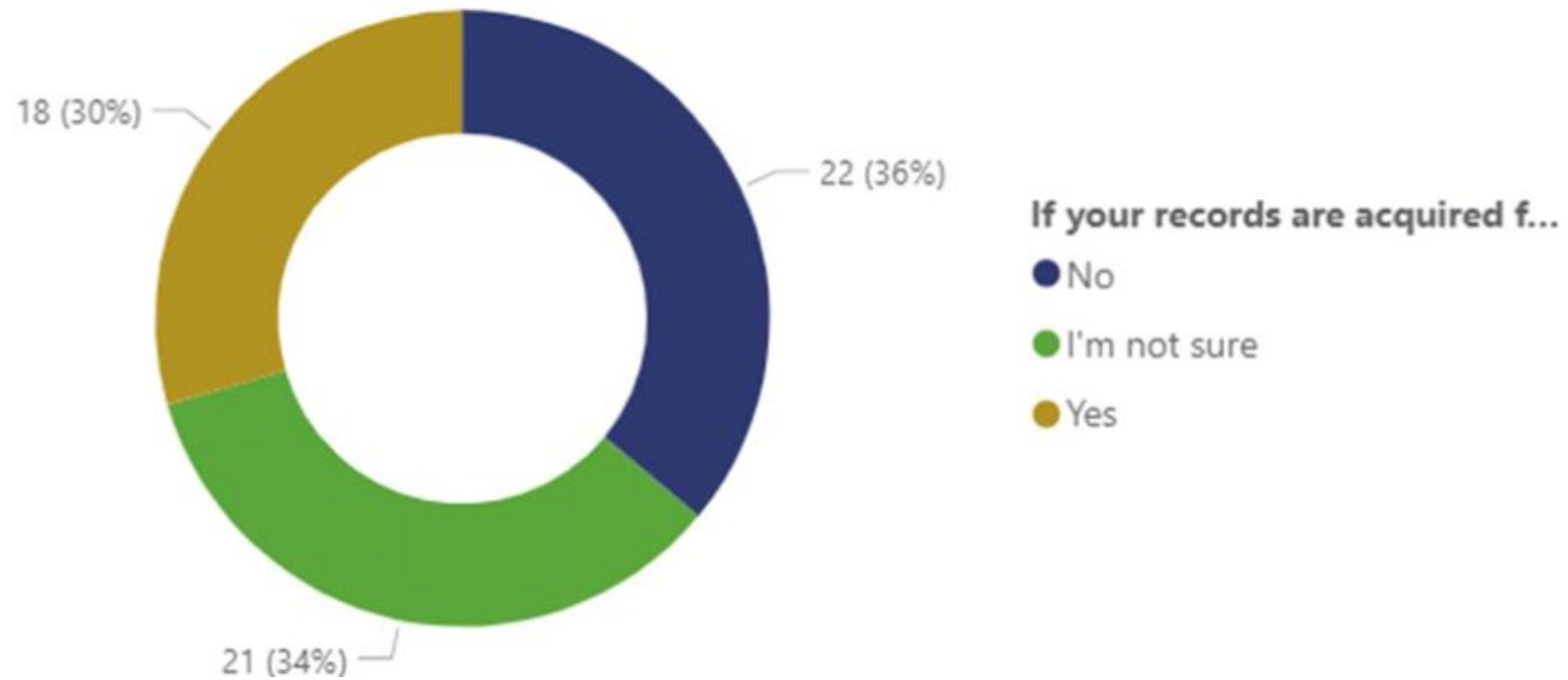


Survey in UK

- <https://journals.cilip.org.uk/catalogue-and-index/issue/view/56/7>
 - Article about Official RDA in UK (Thurstan Young)
 - Article about the results of the survey

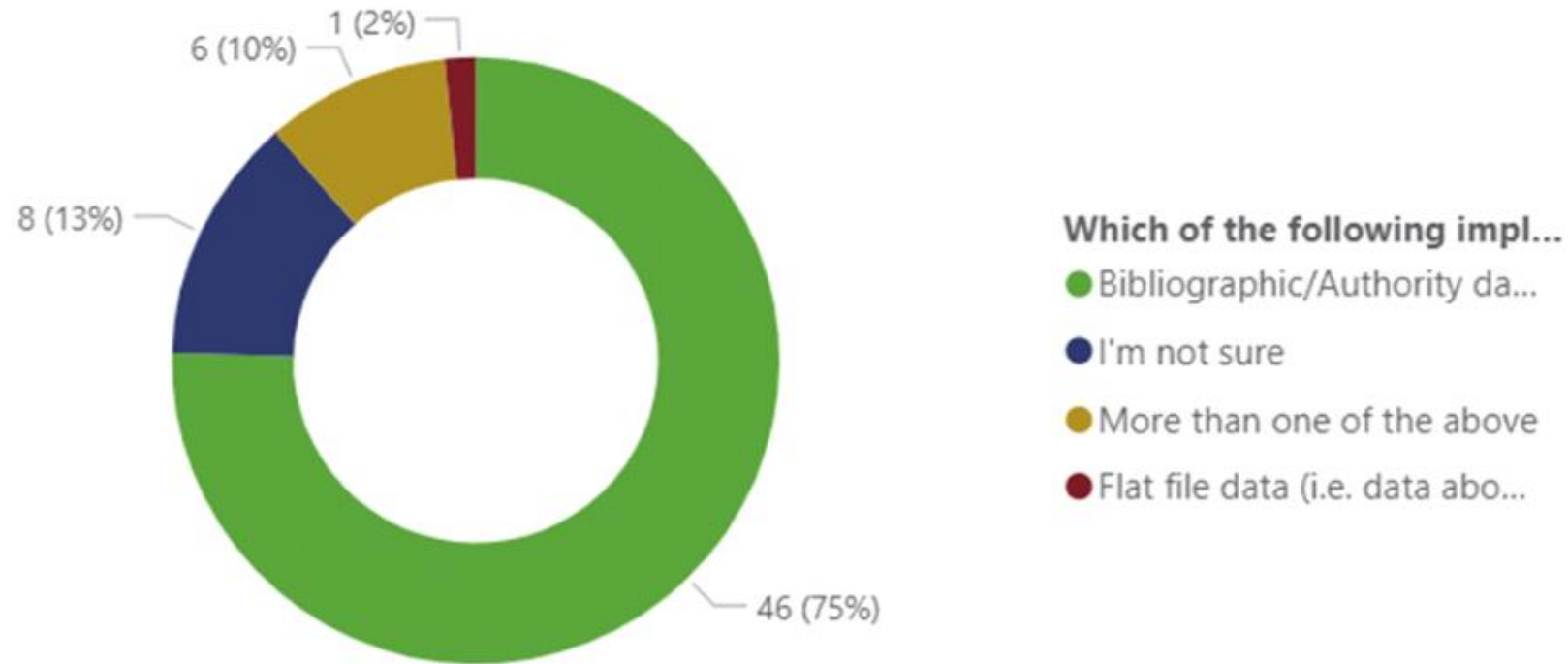
Survey in UK

If your records are acquired from external providers, do they provide records to Official RDA standard?



Survey in UK

Which of the following implementation scenarios best suits your database structure?



Which encoding standard do you catalogue to? (Please select all that apply)	Number
MARC 21	57
Dublin Core	5
EAD (Encoded Archival Description)	5
TEI (Text Encoding Initiative)	2
BIBFRAME	1
In house LRM based, with a view to being mappable to all formats	1
LMS is web-based platform that doesn't facilitate particular encoding	1
METS (Metadata Encoding and Transmission Standard)	1
Own	1
Spectrum for museum collections	1
Unencoded/local standard (in Soutron ILS)	1
XML	1

Table 8: Encoding standards used

Survey in UK

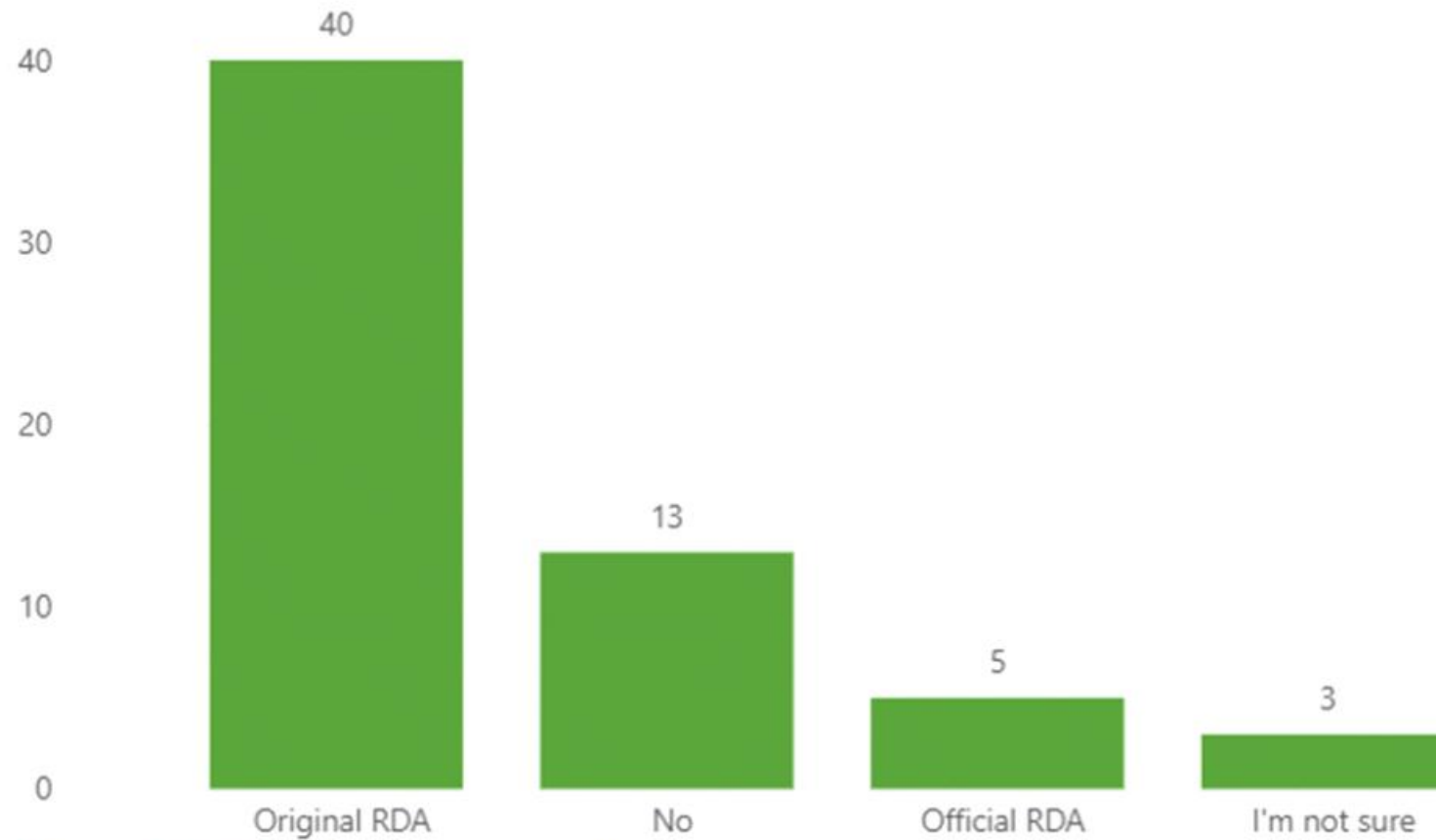


Figure 14: RDA implementation visualisation

Survey in UK

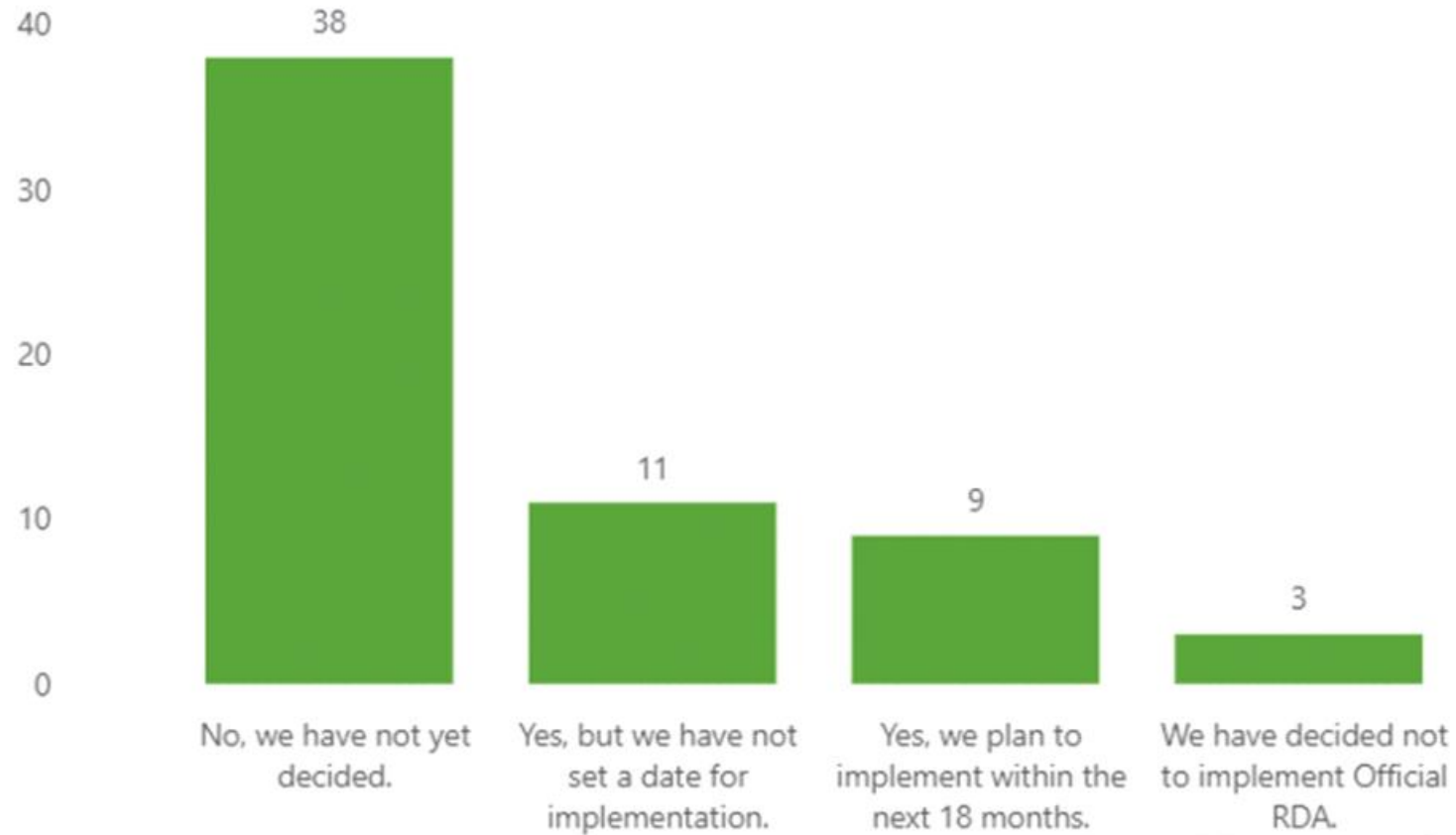


Figure 16: Official RDA implementation plans visualisation

Survey in UK

Subscription to RDA Toolkit

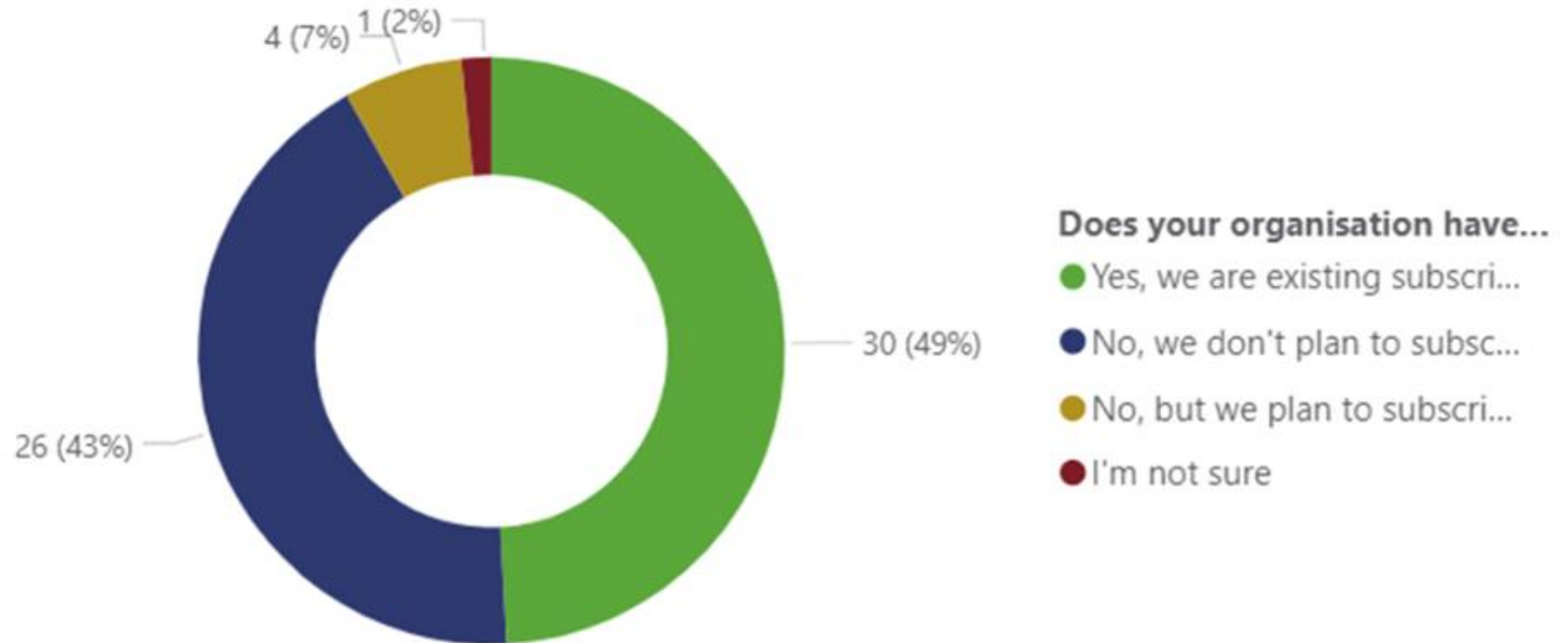
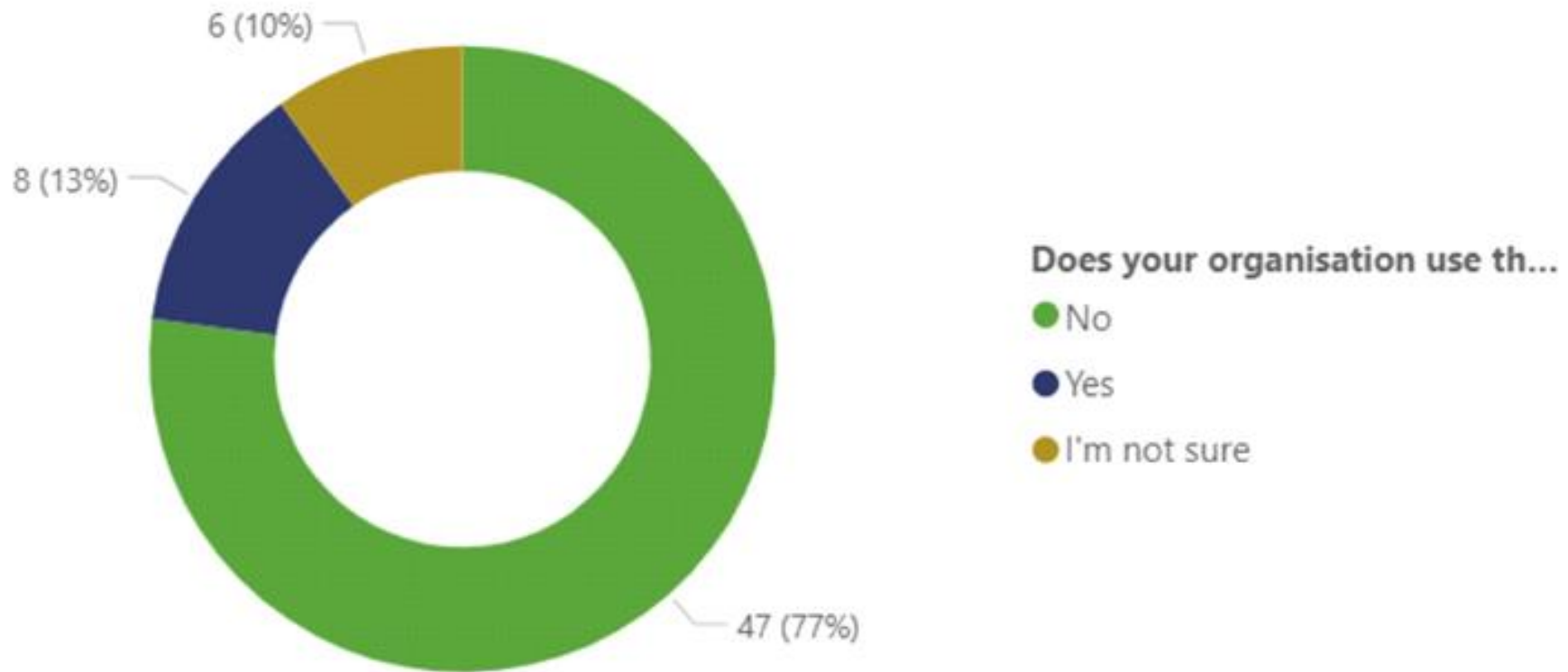


Figure 19: RDA Toolkit subscription visualisation

Survey in UK

Does your organisation use the RDA Registry? (<https://www.rdaregistry.info/>)



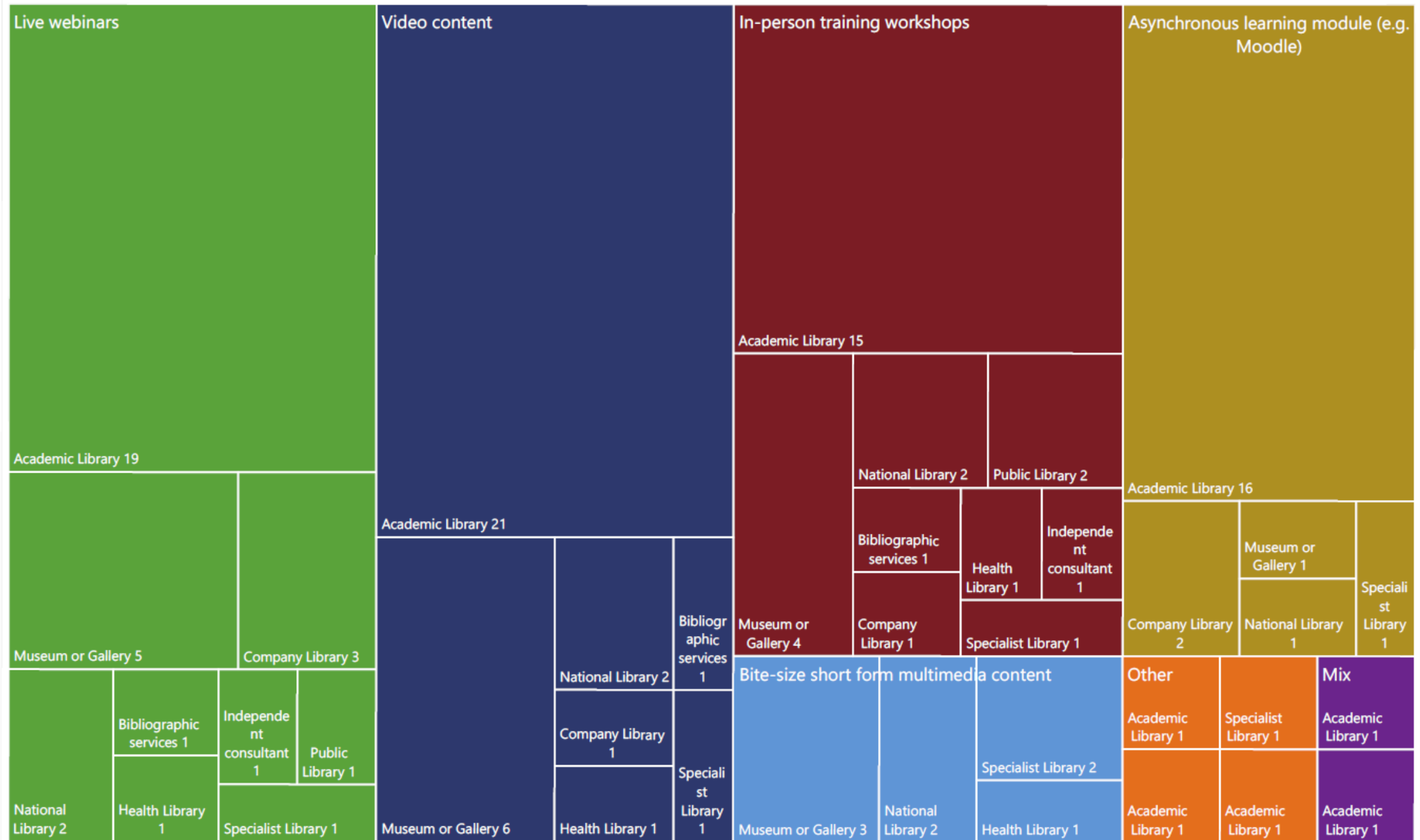
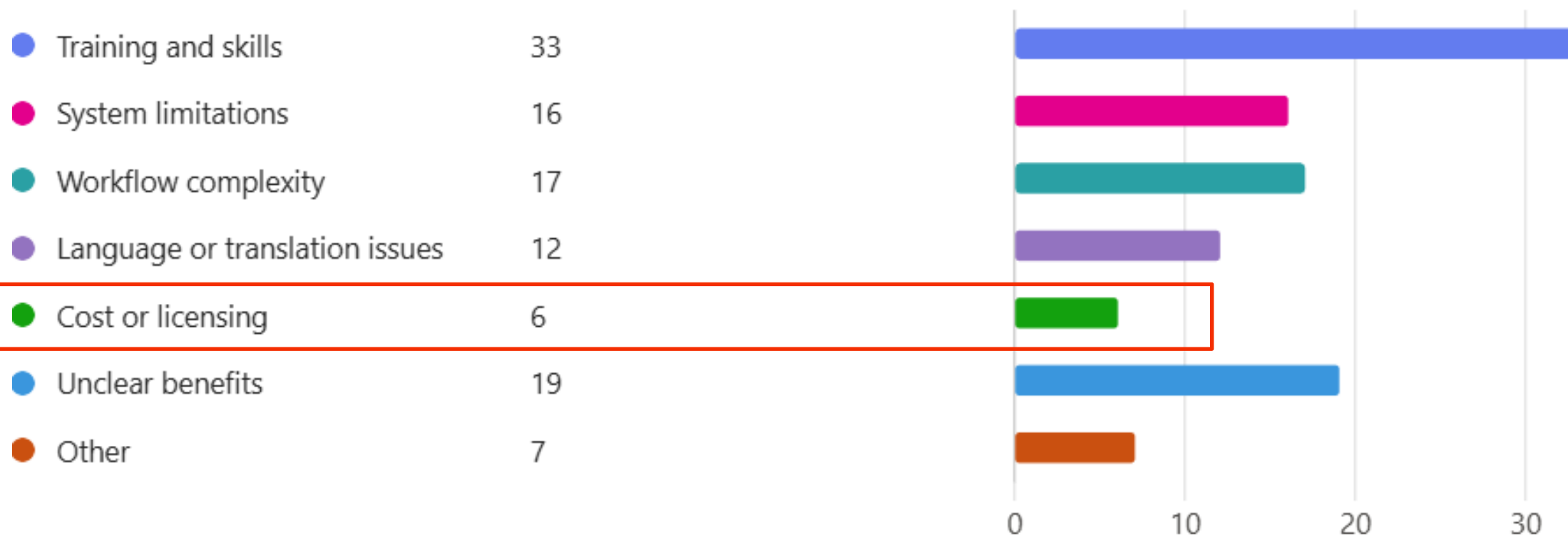


Figure 29: Preferred learning methods visualisation

UK and EURIG → Training needed

- **Provision in training**
 - On what level ? RSC – EURIG – national – institutional
 - On each level needed, but how can one level help the other?

What are the main challenges in adopting the Official RDA Toolkit? (max 3)



In your opinion, what is the biggest difficulty of RDA implementation at your institution?

- **1. Training, Knowledge Gaps & Staff Understanding**
- **2. System Limitations / MARC Compatibility**
- **3. Complexity / Abstract Nature of RDA & Toolkit**
 - Library management systems are currently more of a hindrance than an asset to RDA implementation
- **4. Time, Staffing & Resource Constraints**
 - No interest from management
- **5. Legacy Data & Transition from Old Rules**

What advice would you give to institutions planning RDA implementation?

“Successful RDA implementation is less about learning a new standard and more about changing how an institution thinks about bibliographic data. The earlier that mindset shift happens, the less painful everything else becomes”

anonymous - Estonia

Proposal

- **General Survey**

- High-level overview across all countries, but also ‘in depth’ per country
- Country-level filtering available
- Conducted every X years for trend tracking and benchmarking