

# How does your library handle electronic serials?

A general survey

David Kisly

Electronic Library Network

Mark Jordan

Simon Fraser University

BC Libraries Conference

May 2002, Whistler, BC

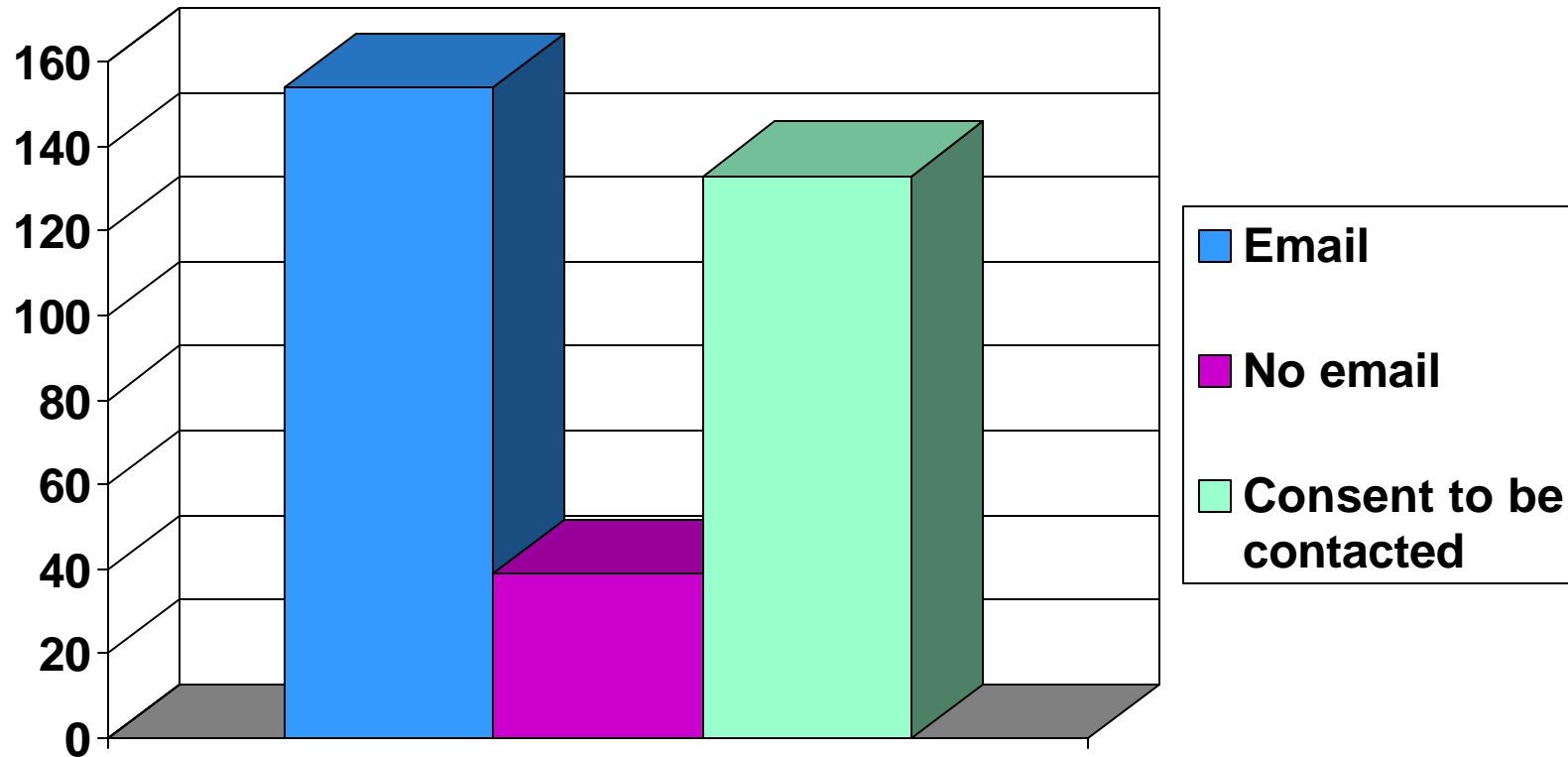
# About the survey

- “Environmental scan”
- August 7 – September 30, 2001
- Population: members of six serials / Internet oriented email lists
- 194 libraries responded
- Article published in March 2002 *Serials* (15.1, 41-46)

# More about the survey

- We asked only about practices
- People offered attitudes
- Identified many areas for further research

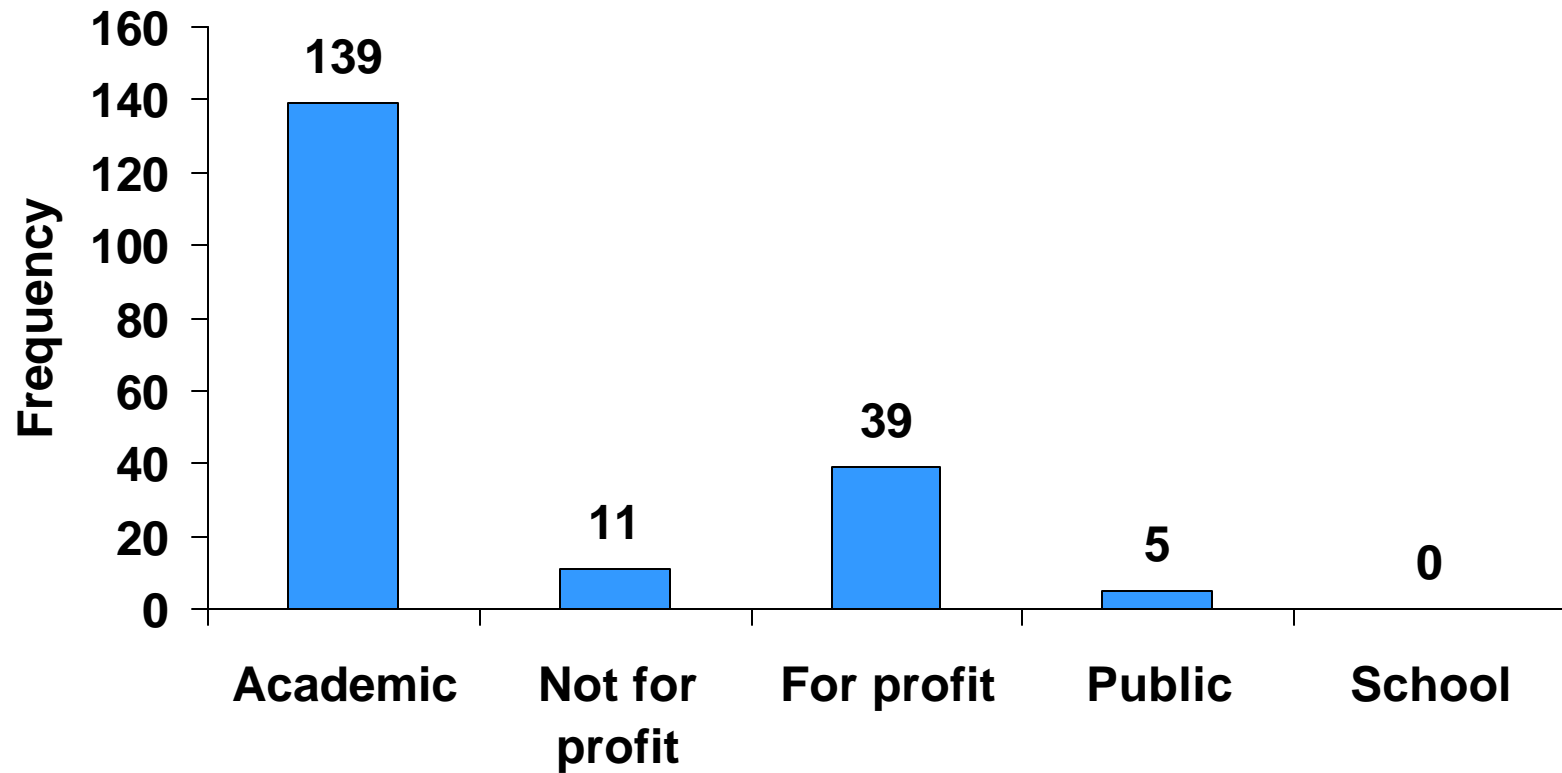
# People are interested



# Respondents want to know how others do it

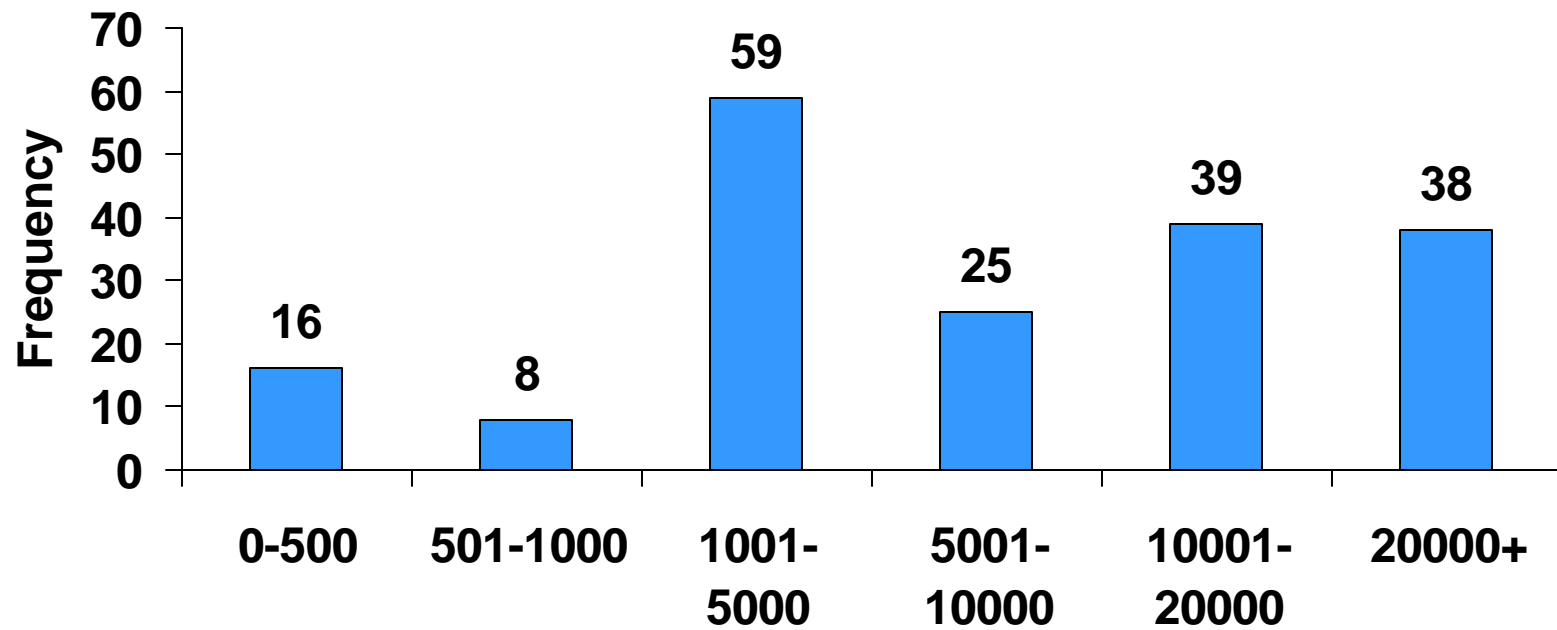
- "...I am very interested in finding out results of survey - we feel as if we are in a backwater here, struggling along with very little help from anyone!"
- "...Apart from making available the results of my library in relation to others would it possible to have it by country or specifically by region as well."

# Library types

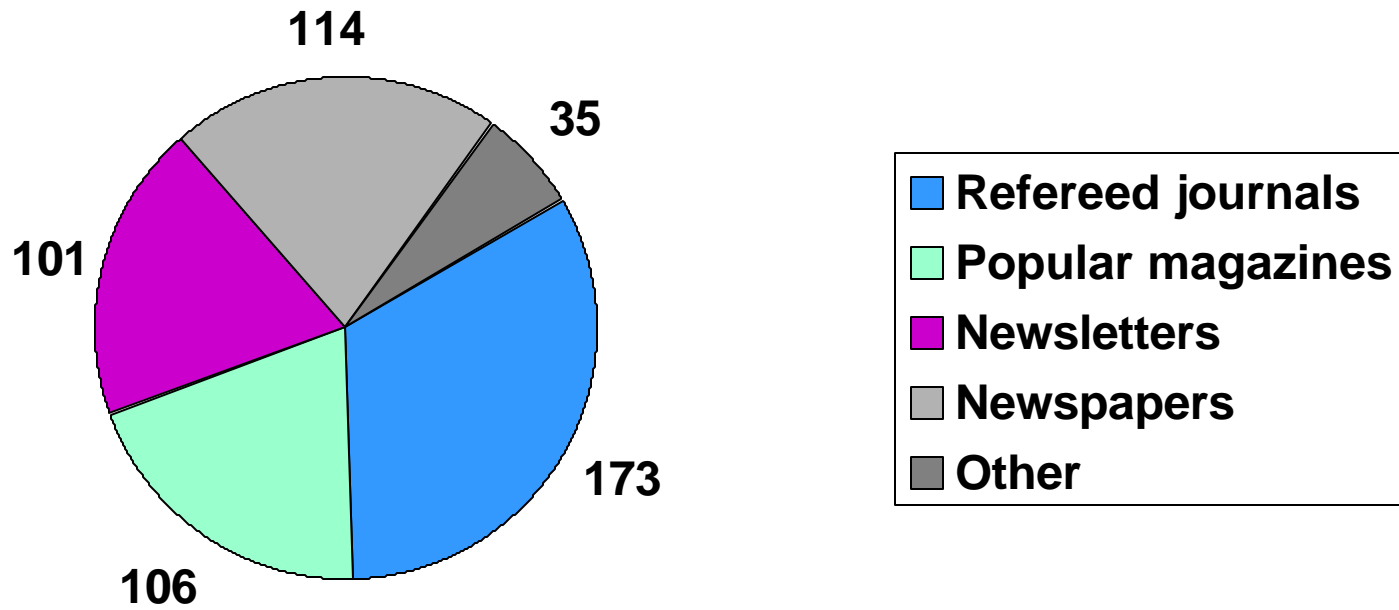


# User population

**N = 185**

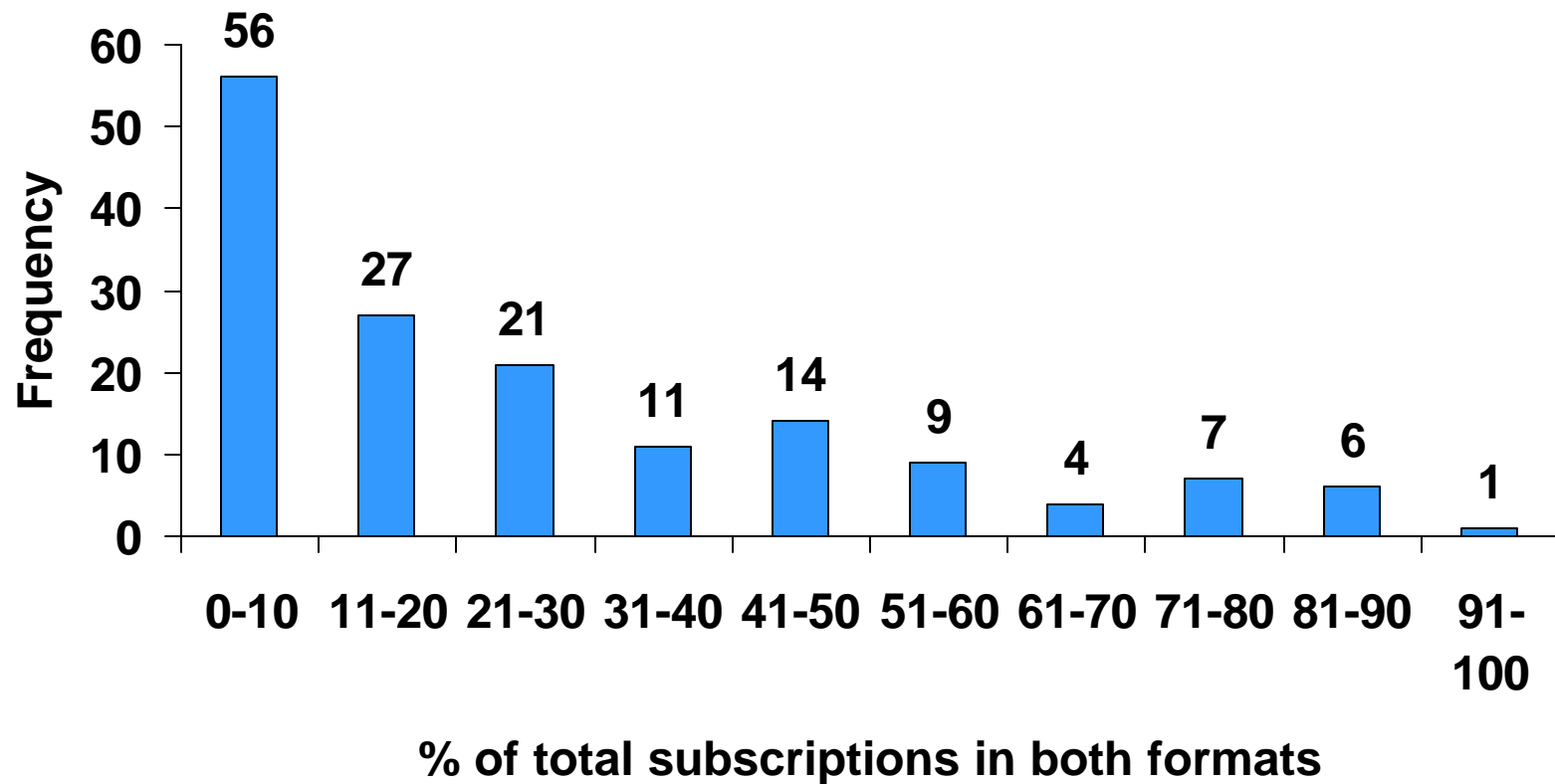


# What they provide access to

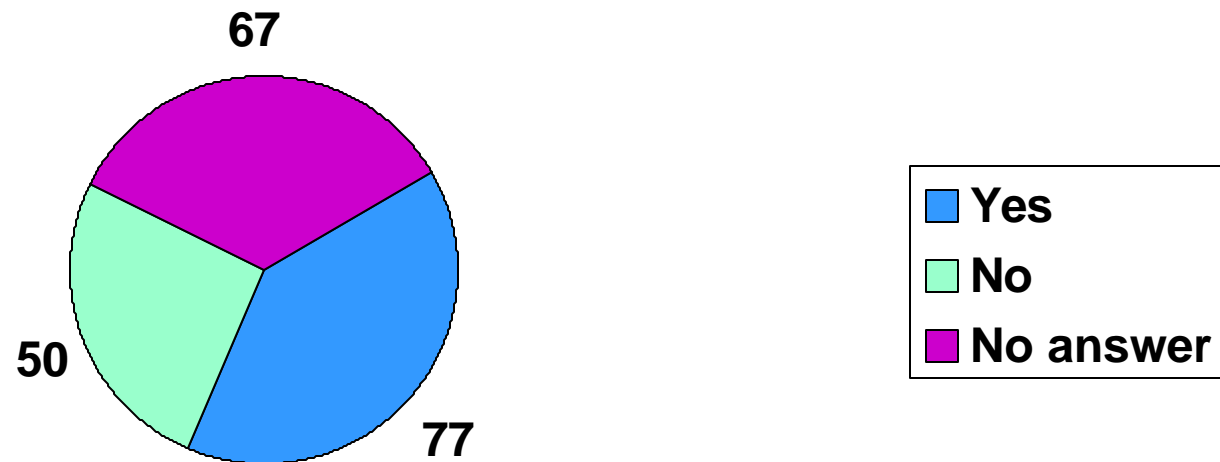




# Subscriptions in both formats

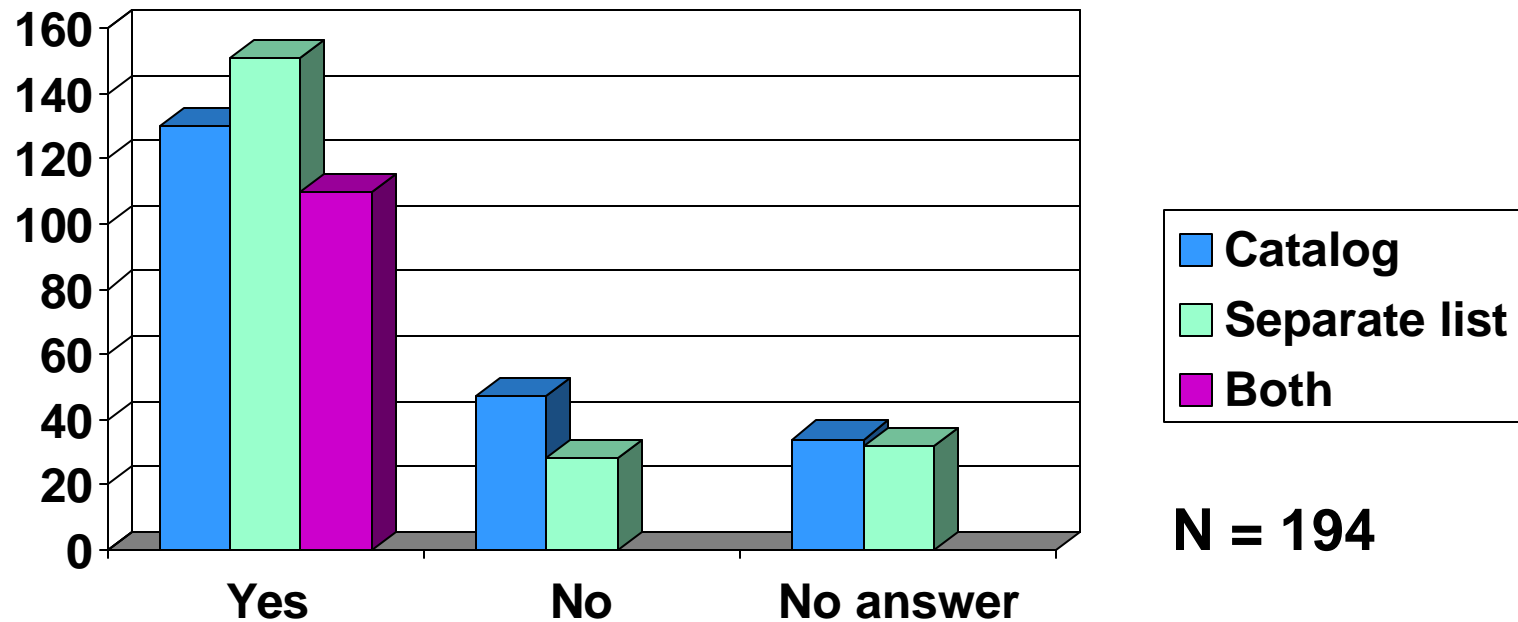


# Mention of electronic version in collection policy

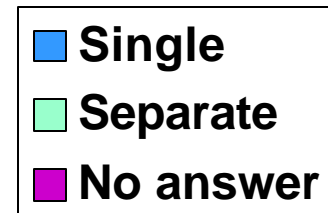
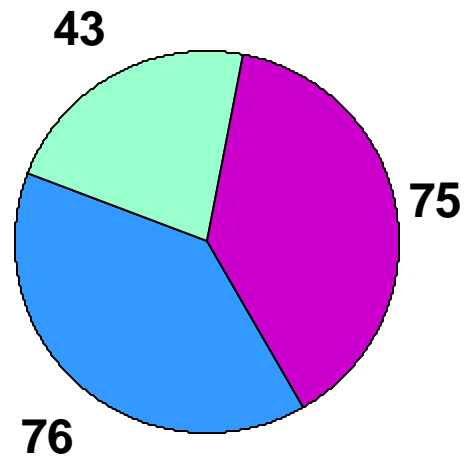


**N = 194**

# Where they provide access

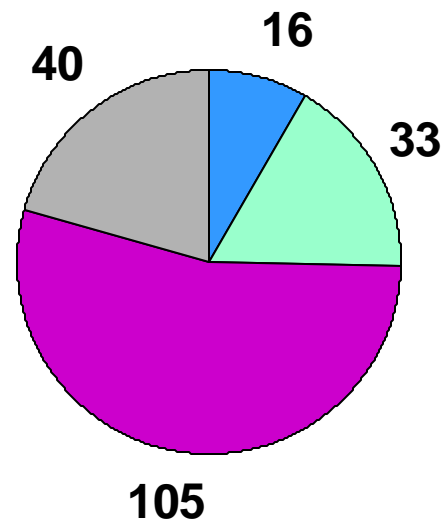


# Catalogue: single vs. separate record



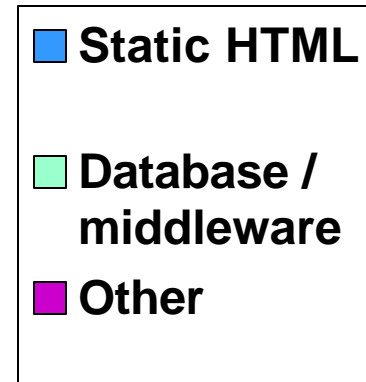
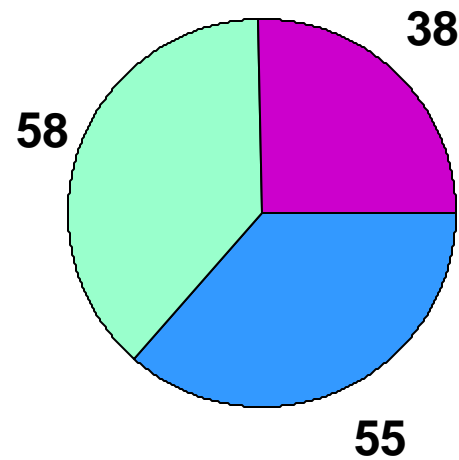
**N = 194**

# Catalogue: CONSER compliance



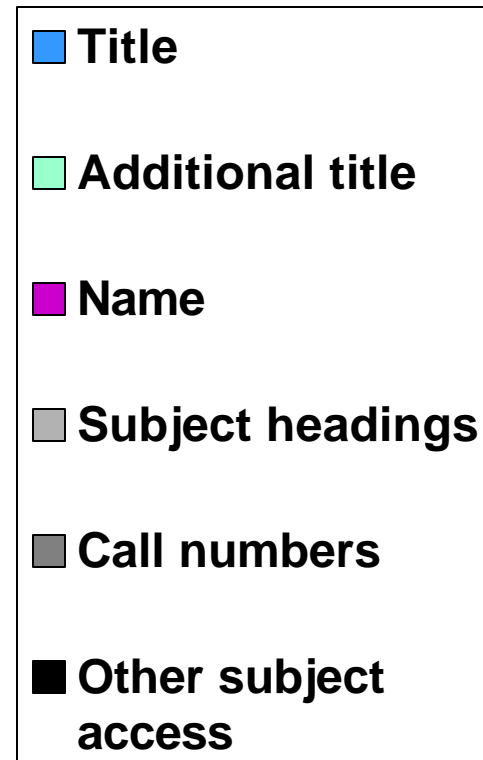
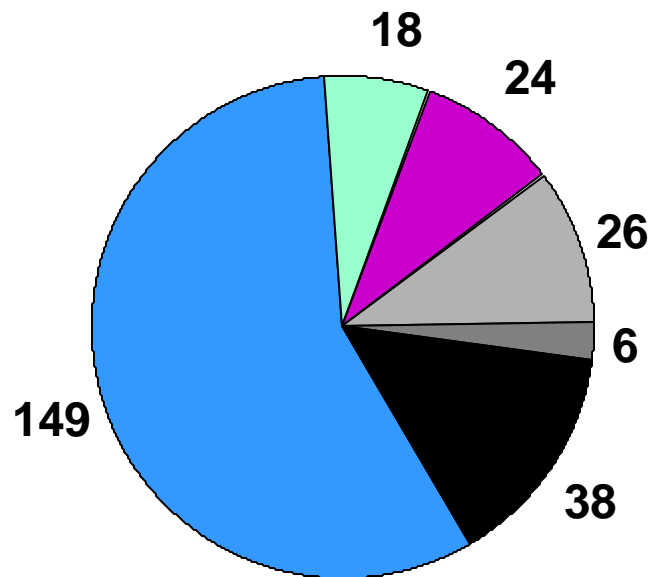
**N = 194**

# Separate list: technology

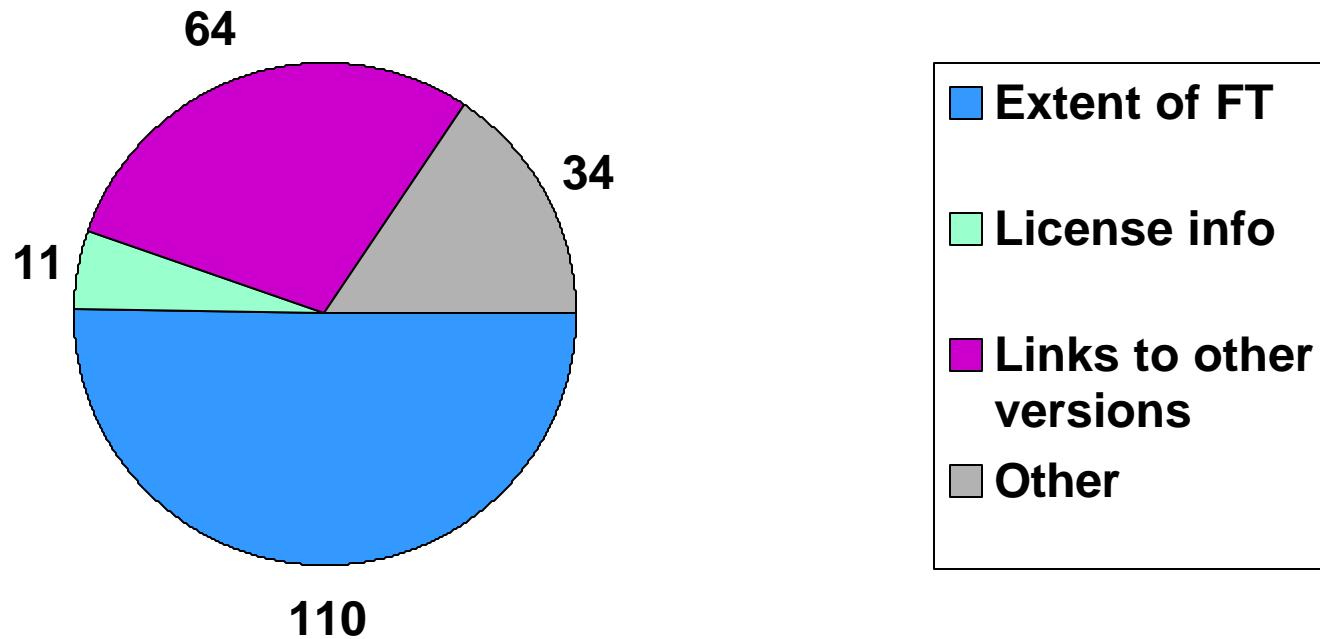


**N = 151**

# Separate list: access points

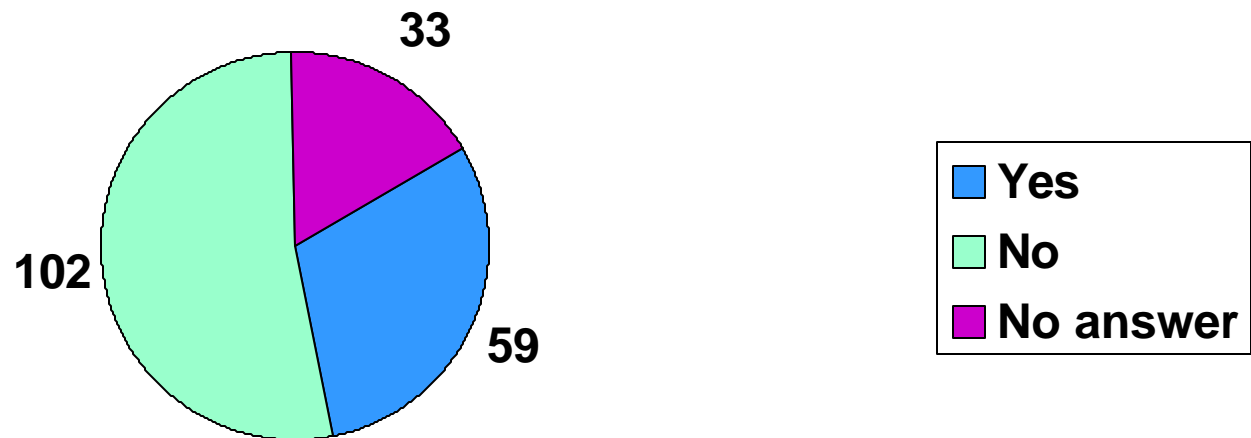


# Information in records



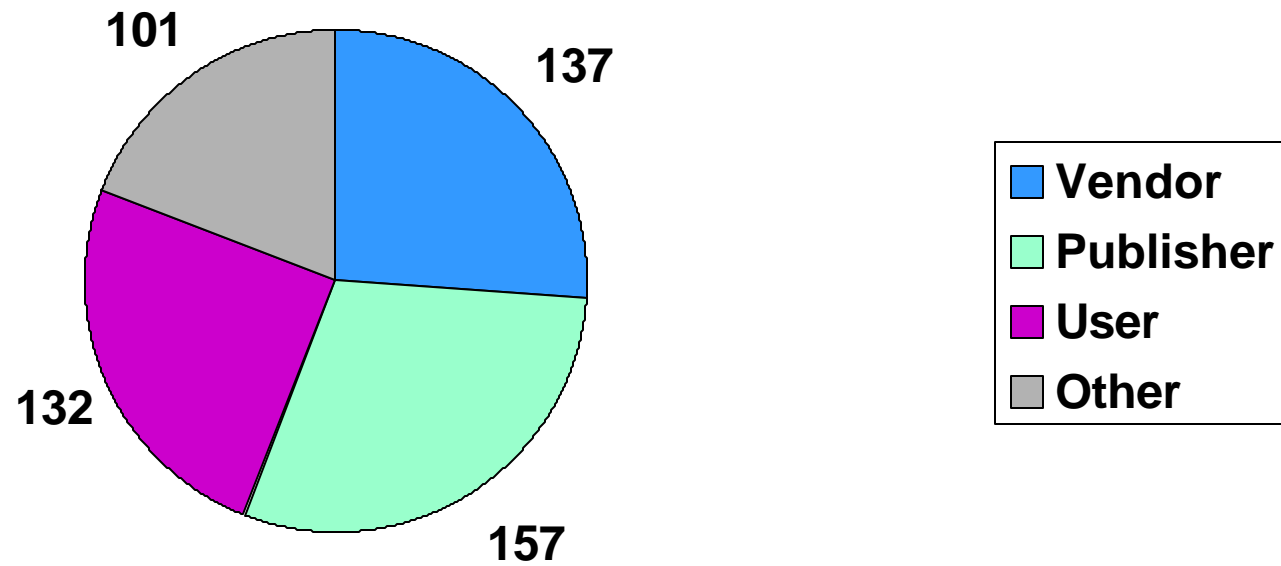


# Mechanisms for tracking expiry

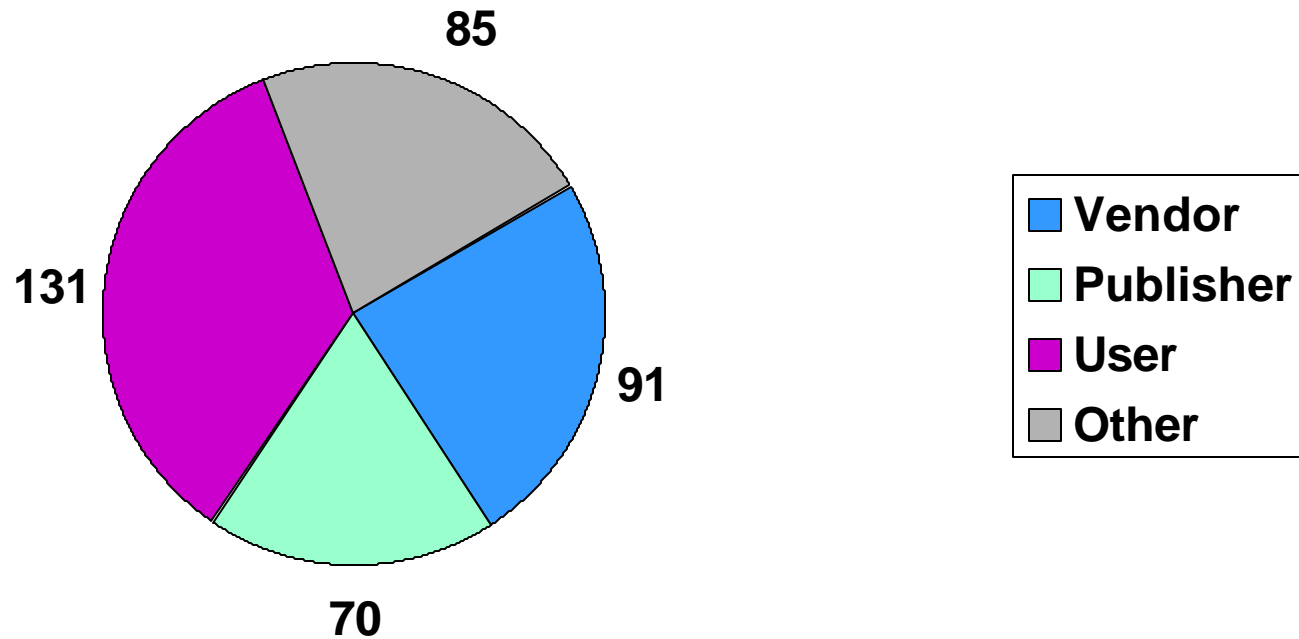


**N = 194**

# Finding out about new titles



# Finding out about loss of access



# Themes in staffing and workflow

- New workflow
- Heavy workload
- Managing eserials requires professional
- Licensing issues

# New workflow

- “There’s a great deal more effort needed to provide shared information...”
- “Both the e-serial environment and our approach to it are continually evolving.”
- “Unstable workflow has to be more precise.”

# Staff involved (examples)

<b>Collections</b>	Assist in maintaining web lists, evaluating licenses
<b>Technical Services</b>	Contact with vendors, arranges access, links within OPAC
<b>Electronic Resources</b>	Set up access, set cataloguing policy, maintaining access
<b>Systems</b>	Maintain proxy
<b>Reference</b>	Training and user instruction

# Heavy workload

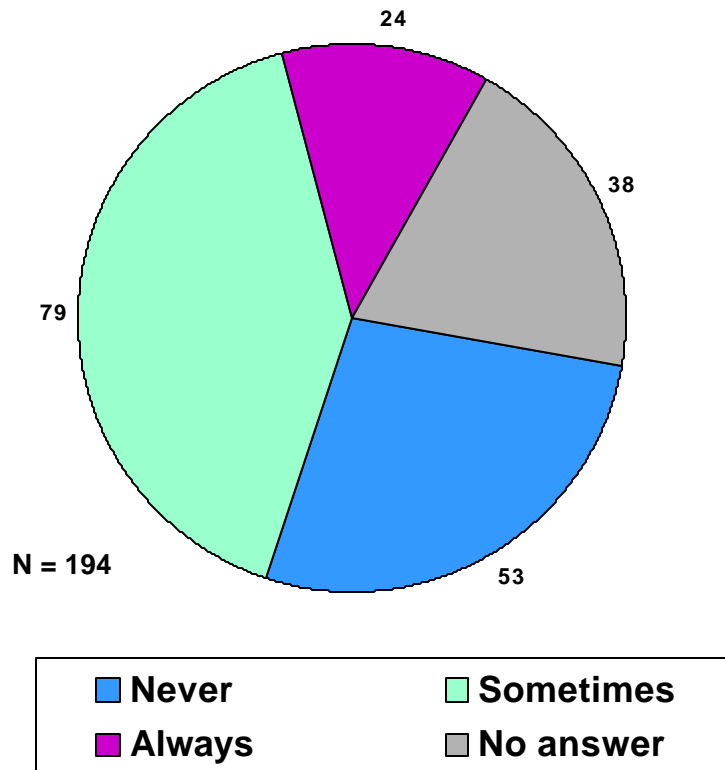
- “...cannot be done entirely by a single person. As well, providing access to aggregator titles through the catalogue takes too much time for most libraries.”
- “To be blunt they are a royal pain in the ass when we have limited staff to manage a large collection.”

# Staffing levels

- “...from an essentially library technician / clerical job to a professional librarian’s job.”
- “The library has created a position for whom part of their responsibilities [is] licensing ... Other issues include copyright, embargoes, lack of industry standards and overall management of eserials.”



# Negotiated changes to licenses

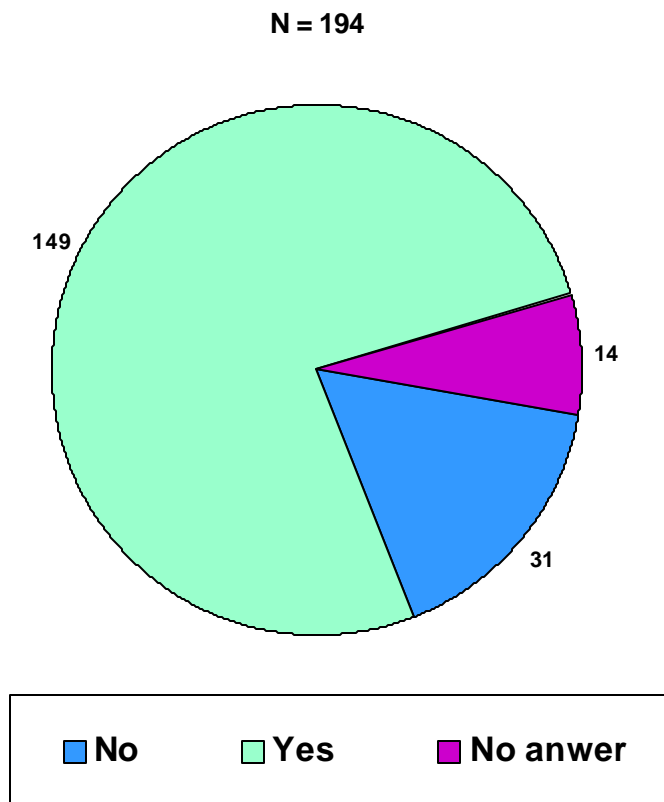


- Remote access
- Access at multiple sites
- Access for users other than "student, faculty, staff"
- Archival issues

# Themes in technical aspects

- Still in transitional period
  - “Extremely time consuming to enter records in the catalogue. Still a number of issues to work through before we get it right.”
- Lack of standardization
  - “I wish there was a ‘standard’ that all publishers use for access.”

# Consortial licensing



- Licensing
- Staffing issues
- Leverage on publishers and standardization

# Further research

- Workflow analysis
- Aggregated full text databases
- Eserials management services
- Consortial approaches
- Collection management
- ILS vendors