

Full Disclosure

How Authors and Readers Really Feel about ETDs

Gail McMillan
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

8th International Symposium on
Electronic Theses and Dissertations
Sept. 28, 2005

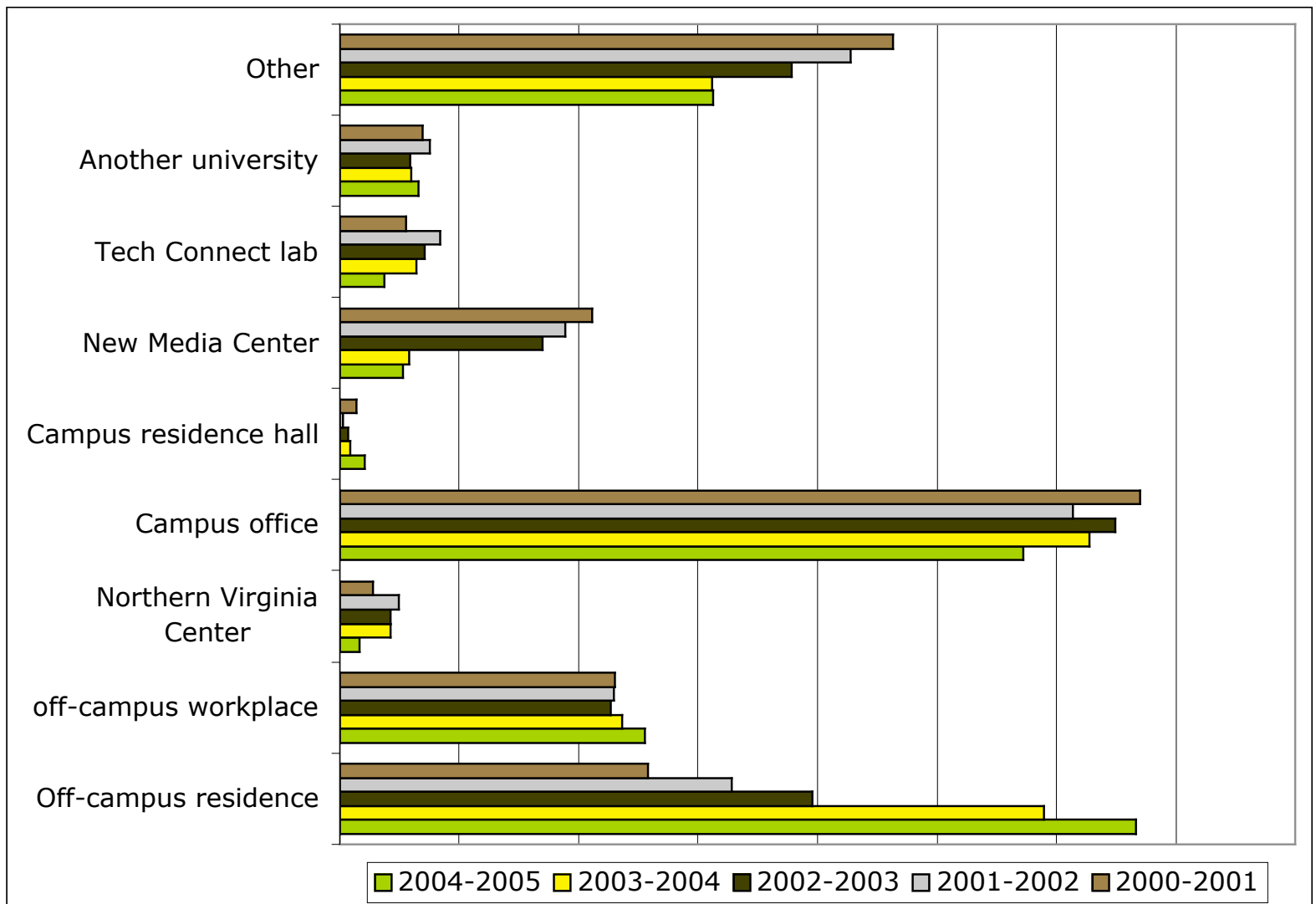




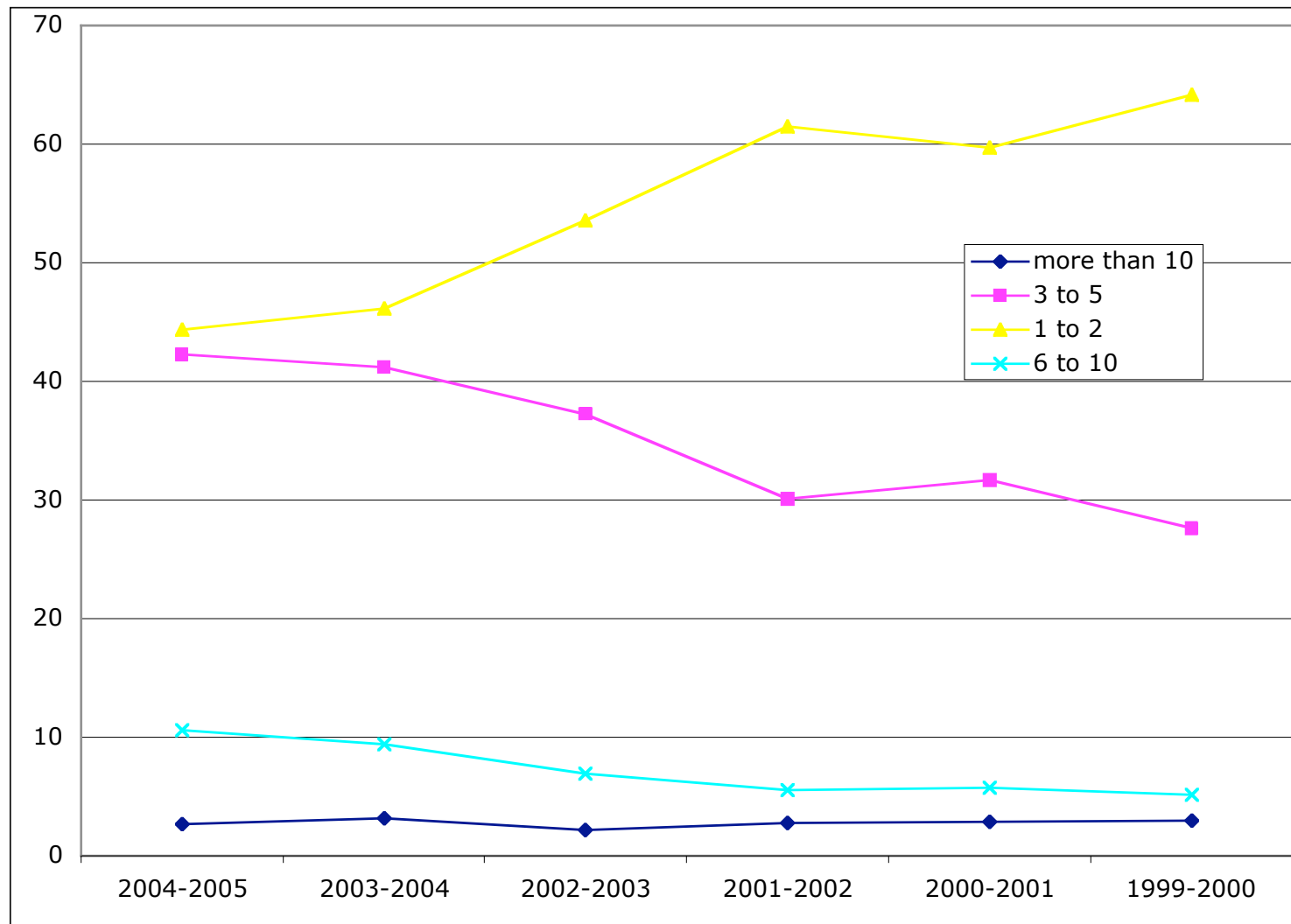
Full Disclosure: How Authors Really Feel about ETDs

- “It’s totally sweet.” 2005
 - “They are great. I have gotten a lot of useful information from the ones on campus that have not yet had journal articles published from them, and have a more complete lit review than a journal article.” 2004
 - “The \$20.00 archiving fee is a bummer.” 2003
 - “The ETD procedure described on the web site is simple and professional.” 2003
 - “I think the ETD initiative is just great. There isn’t a more effective way to disseminate knowledge.” 2002
 - “ETDs are one of the great resources for other knowledge seekers.” 2002
-

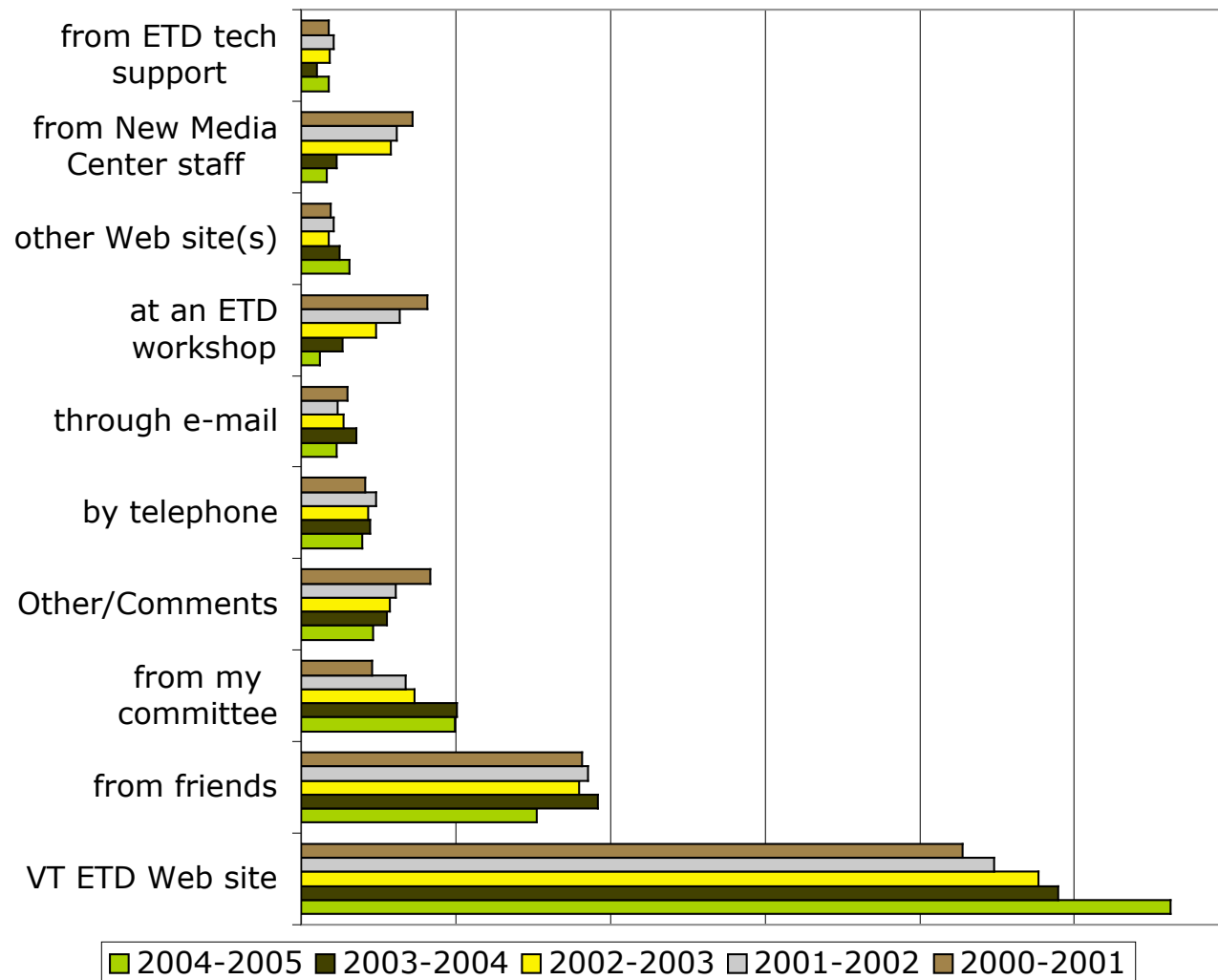
Authors submitted ETDs from



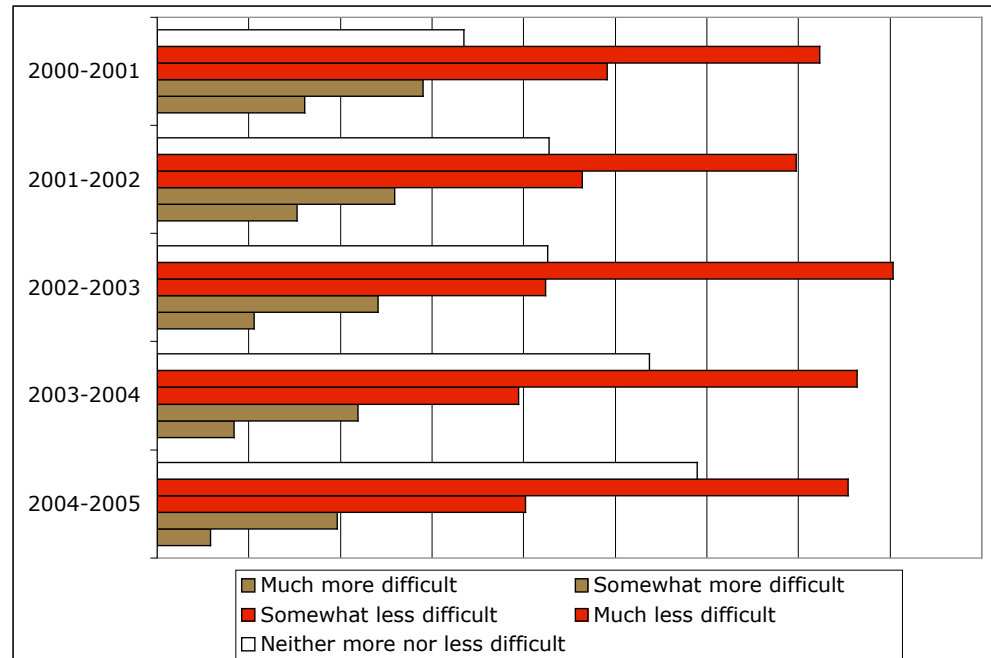
How many ETDs did you consult while preparing your ETD?



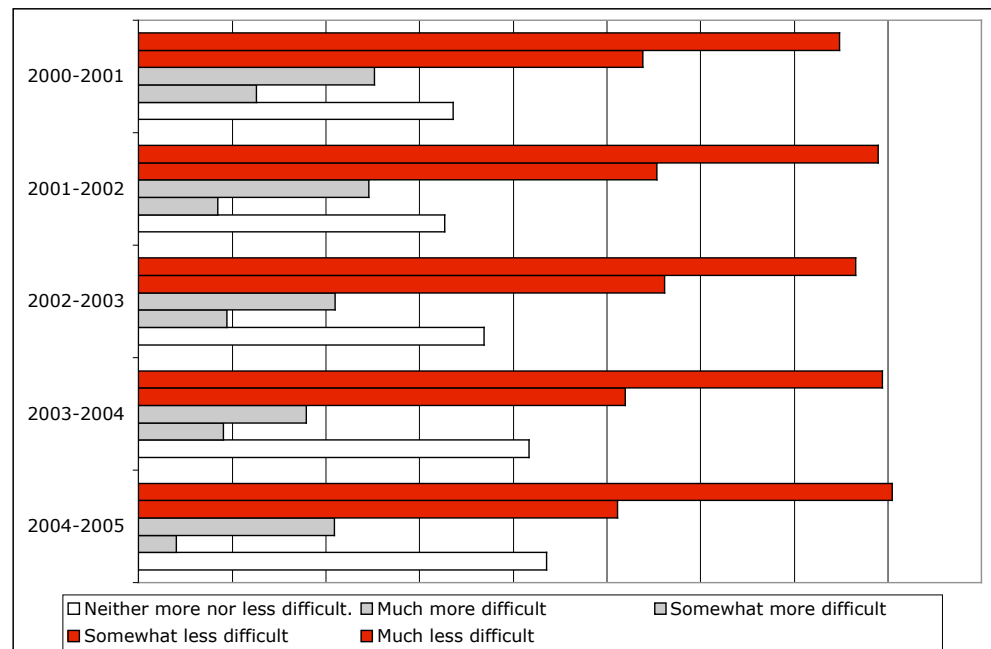
While preparing your ETD, where did you find answers to your questions?



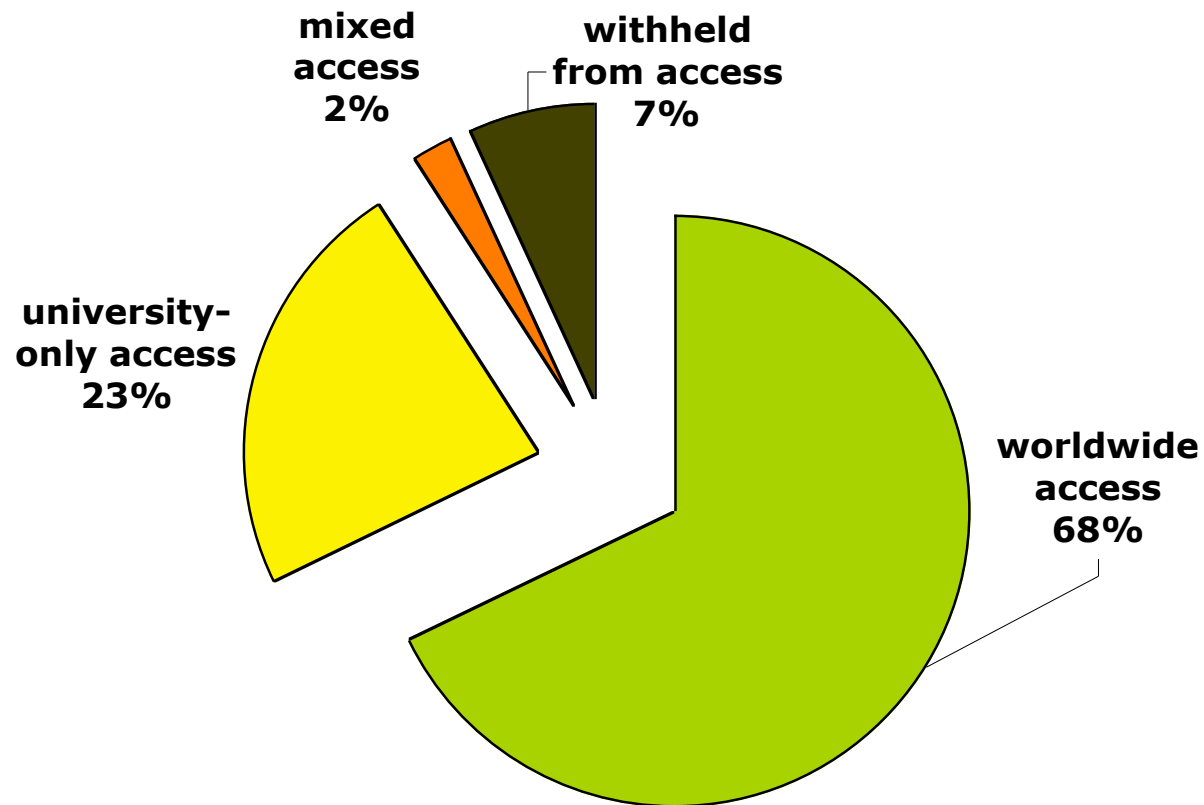
Expectations about Creating PDFs



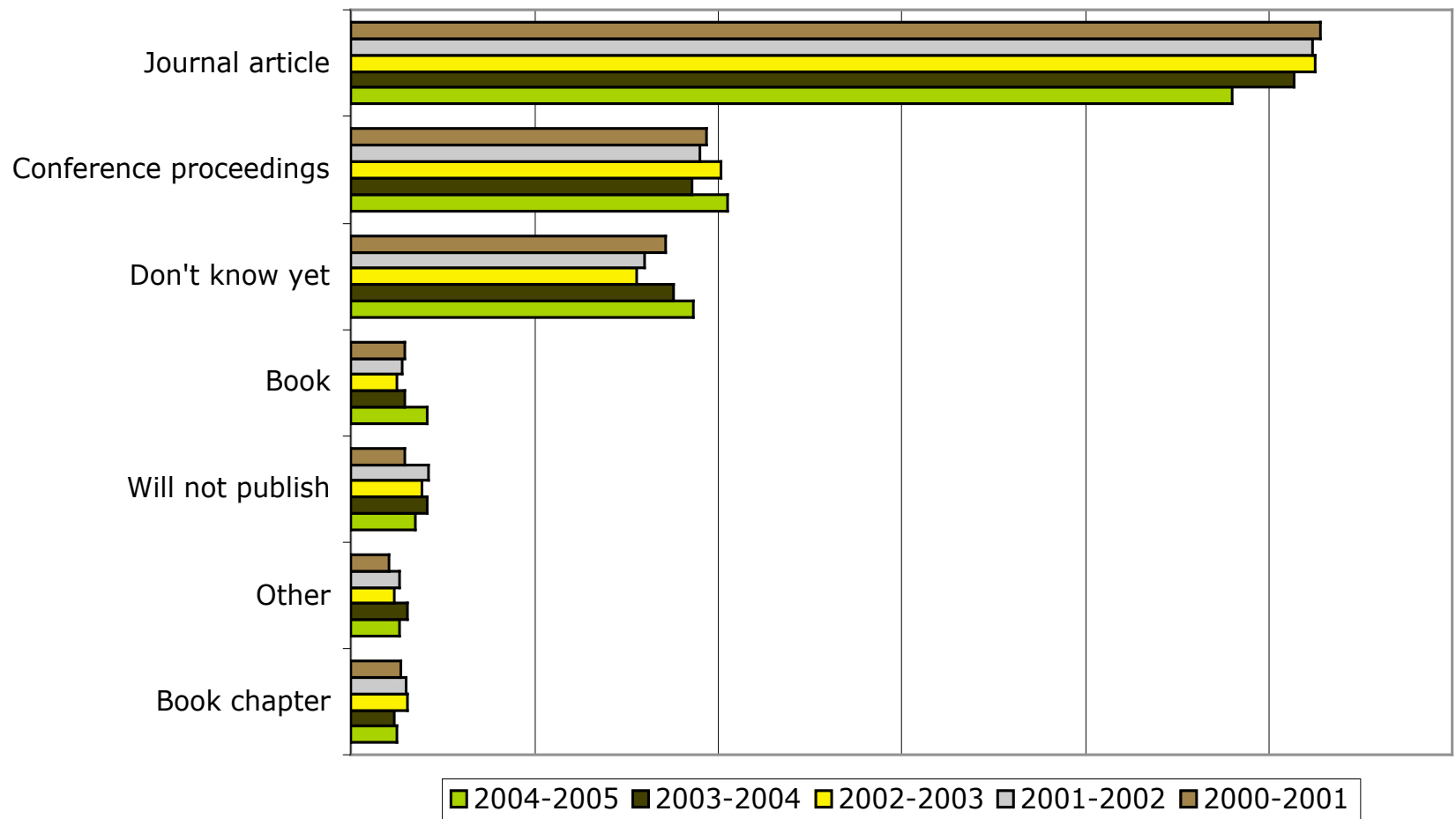
Expectations about Submitting ETDs



Access Issues: Availability of ETDs



Authors' Publishing Plans





If you restricted access to your VT ETD, what did you base your decision on?

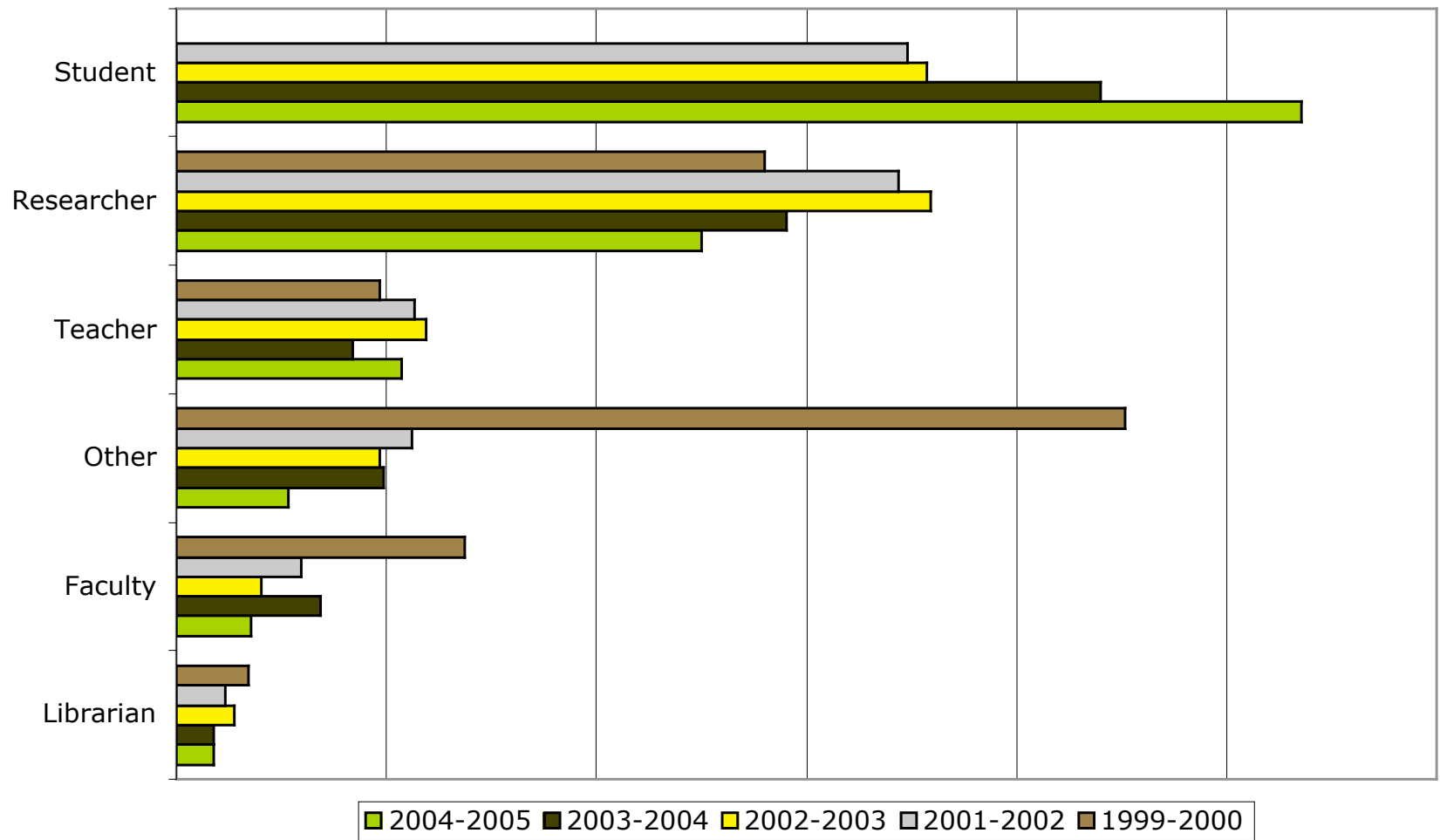
	2004/05	2003/04	2002/03	2001/02	2000/01
Patent pending	2%	4%	4%	4%	5%
Advice of publisher	3%	4%	4%	4%	6%
Advice of others	4%	7%	8%	10%	10%
Personal choice	17%	26%	24%	25%	23%
Other	20%	12%	14%	9%	10%
Advice of faculty	55%	47%	46%	49%	46%



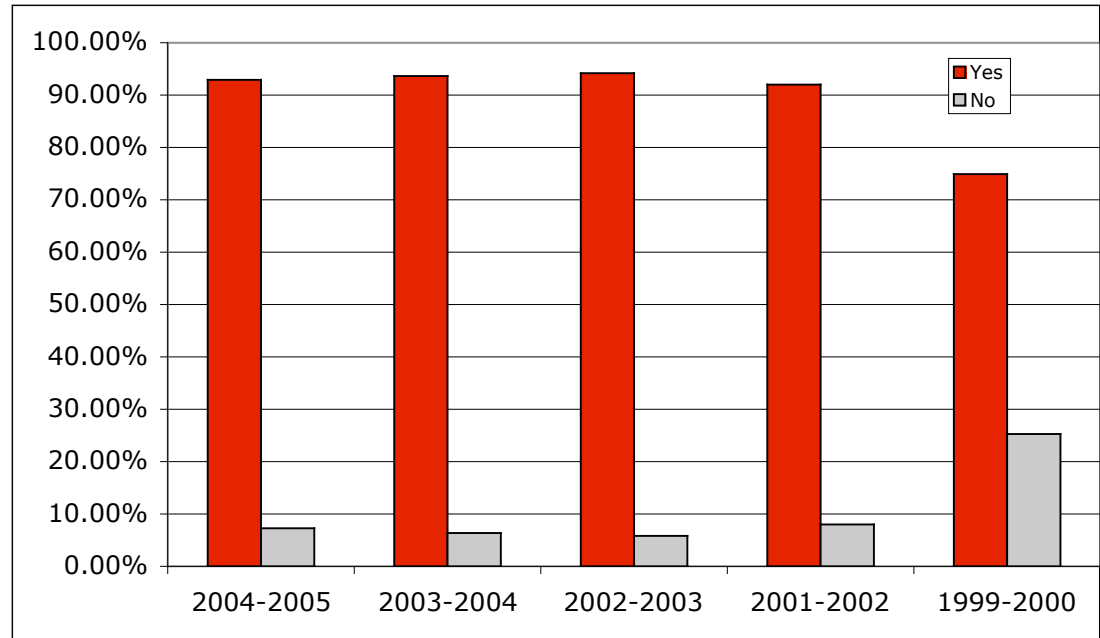
Full Disclosure: How Readers Really Feel about ETDs

- “I believe this kind of knowledge base is extremely generous and helpful for any student or interested individual that wants to study and research advanced subjects from different parts of the world and from various disciplines and sciences. I really appreciate the work and philosophy of this kind of initiative.” 2004
 - “This site is great! Being a VT grad, I expected nothing less.” 2003
 - “Thanks for nice information that you provide for usage of all person who need to this information. You are really so kind and I appreciate your policy.” 2002
 - “Great idea to make in depth information available over the net.” 2002
 - “Please,do help third’s world students, so as we can achieve our goals.” 2000
-

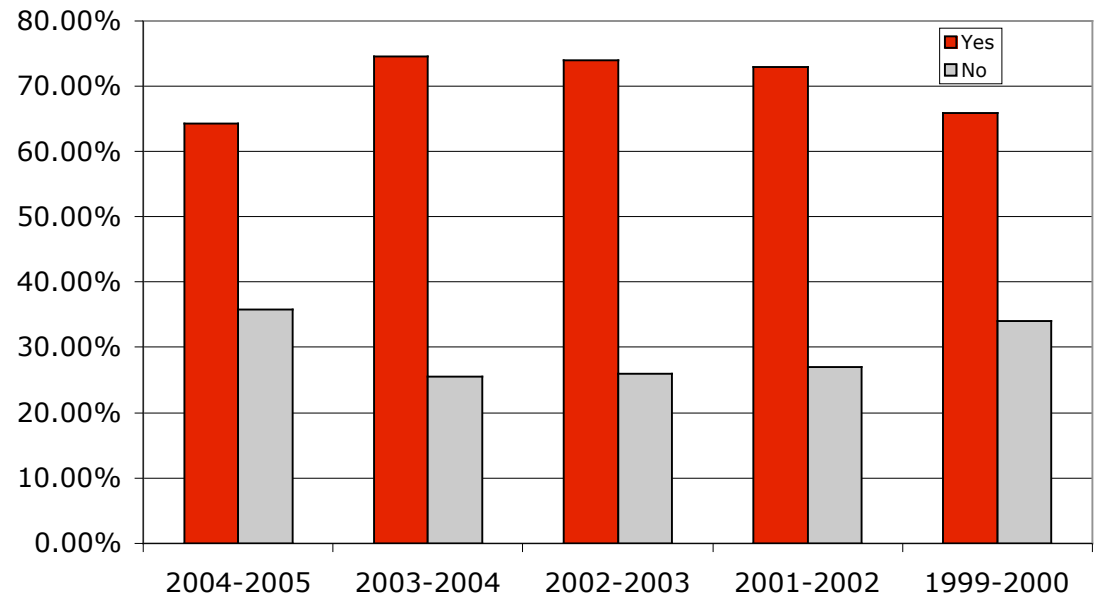
Characteristics of ETD Users



Familiar with PDFs?



Familiar with Online Databases?

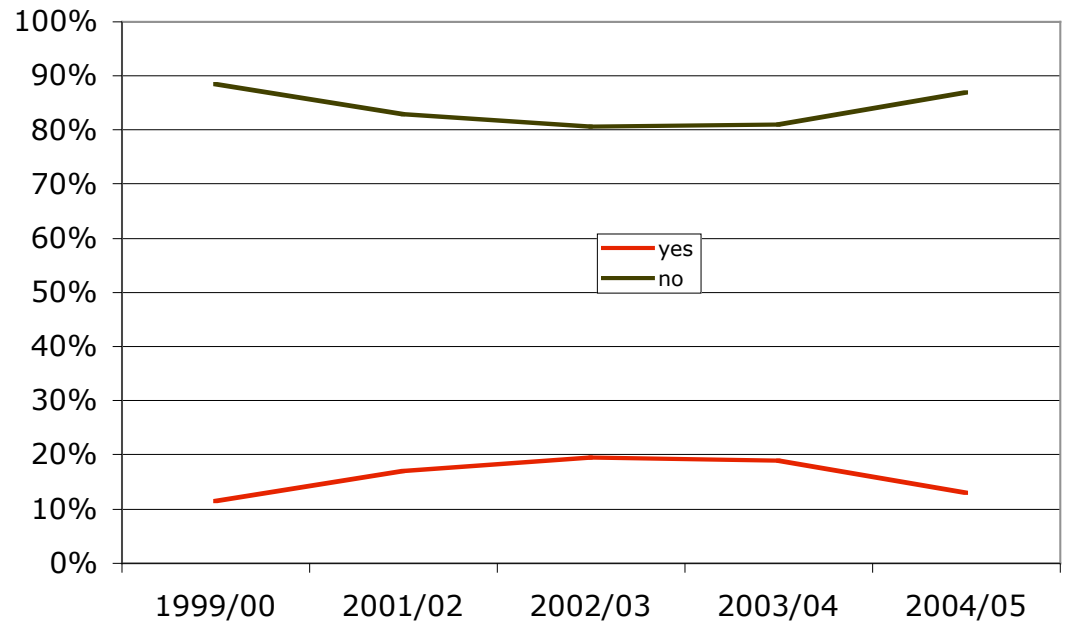




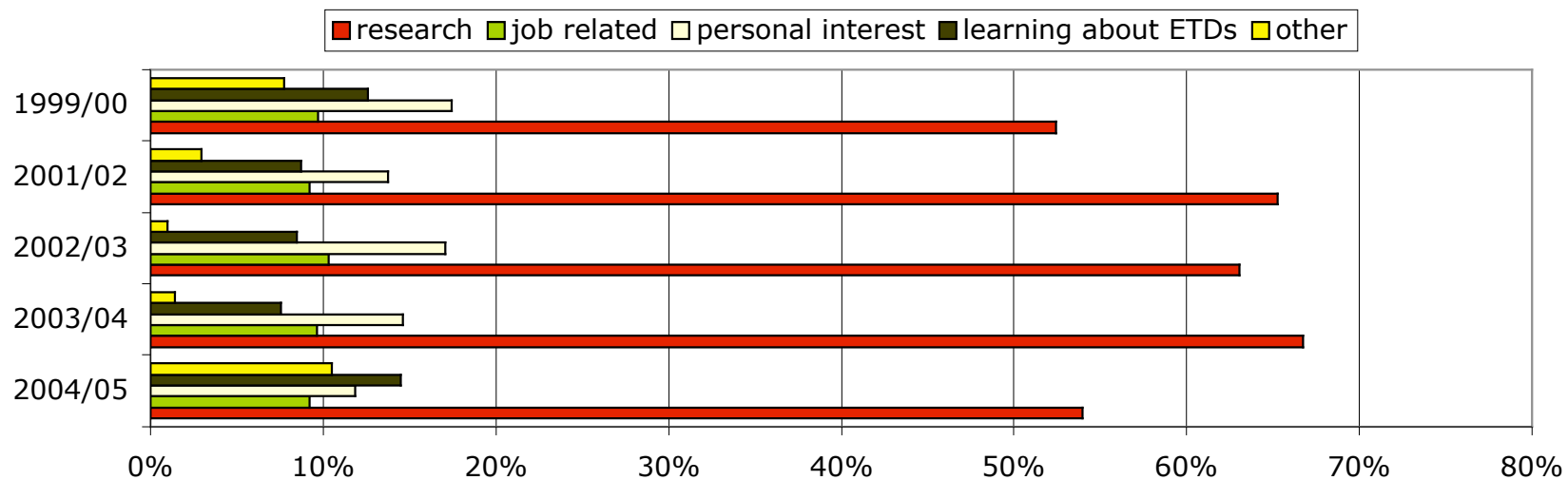
Does your institution accept ETDs?



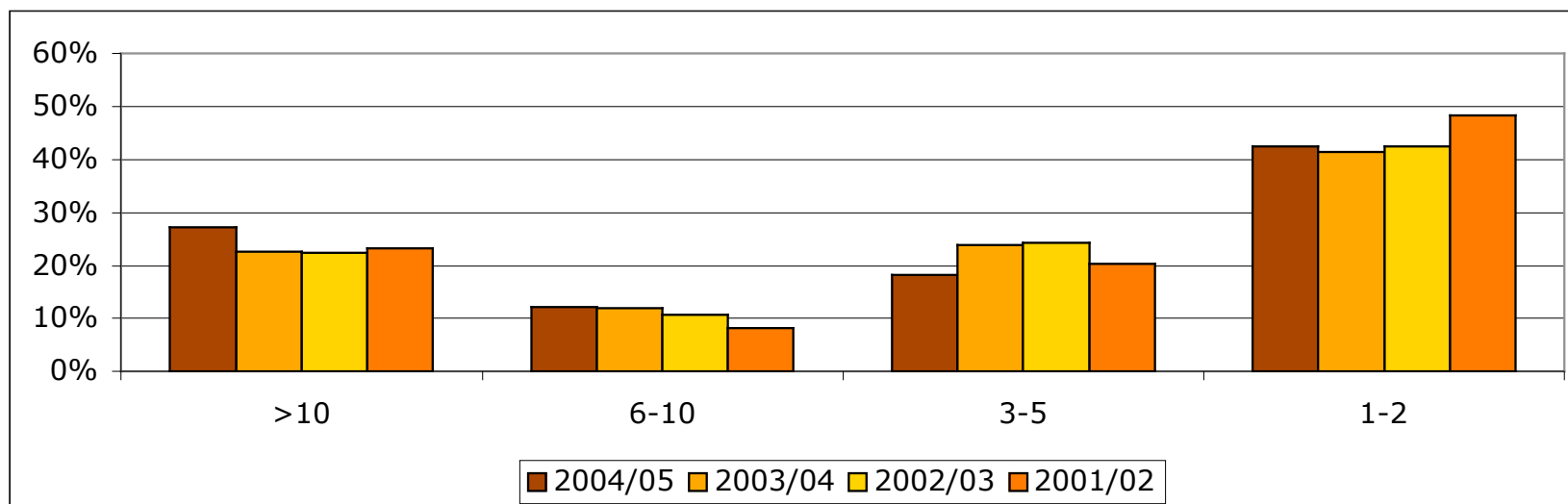
Have you submitted an ETD?



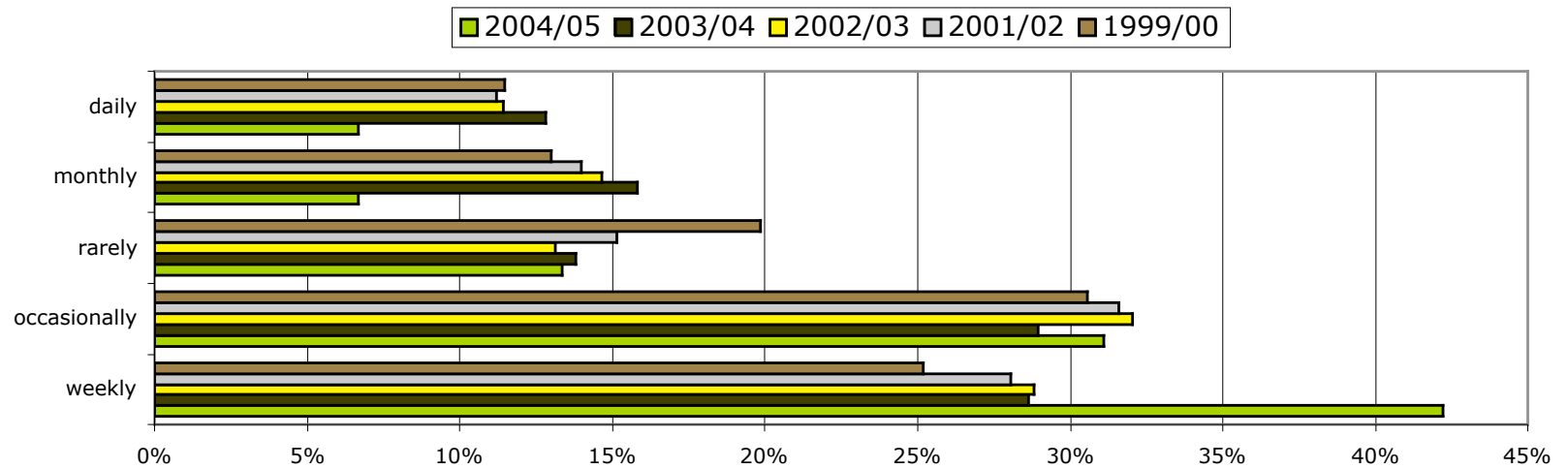
Why access ETDs?



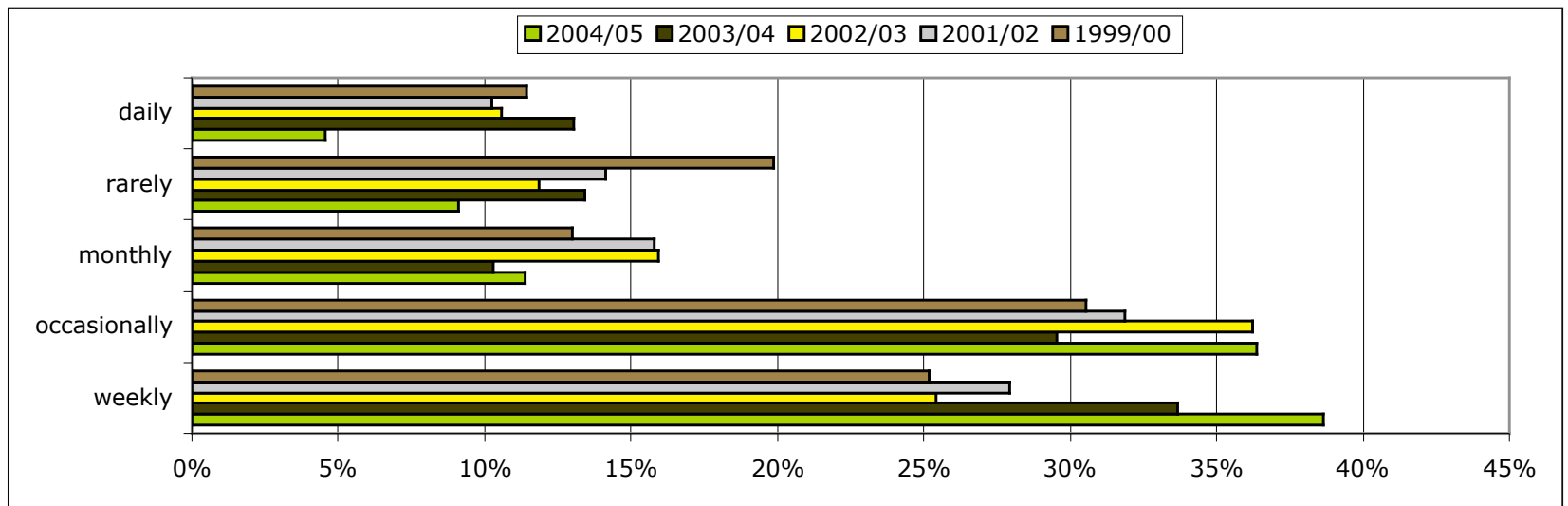
How many ETDs did you download?



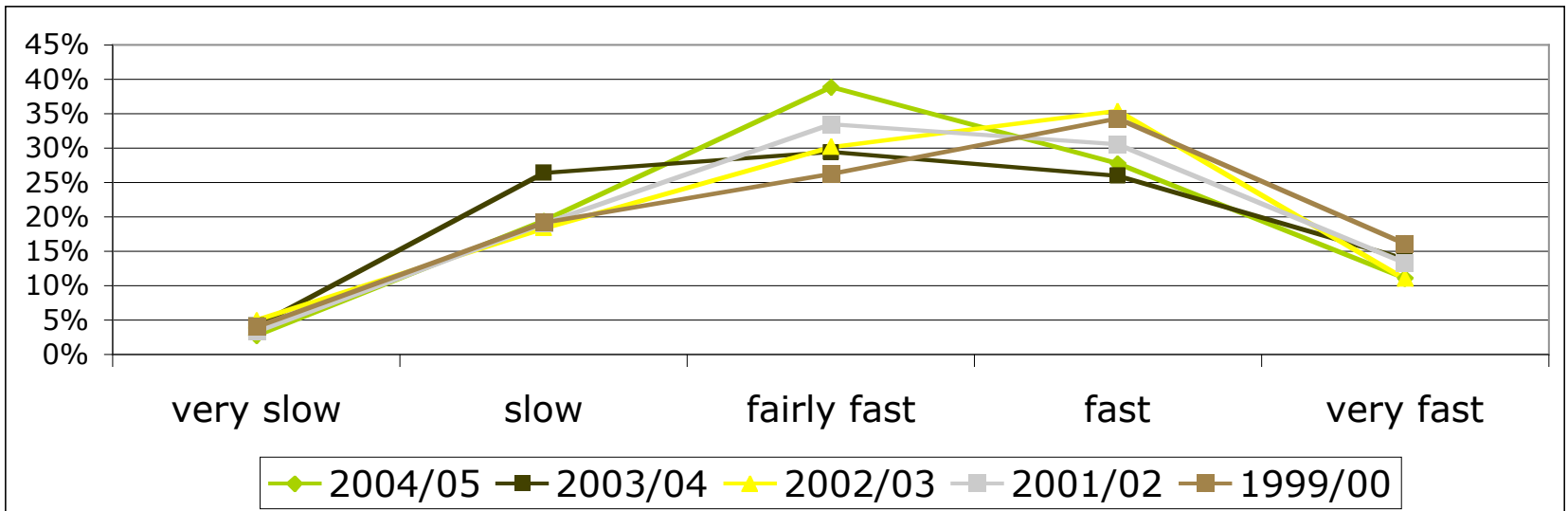
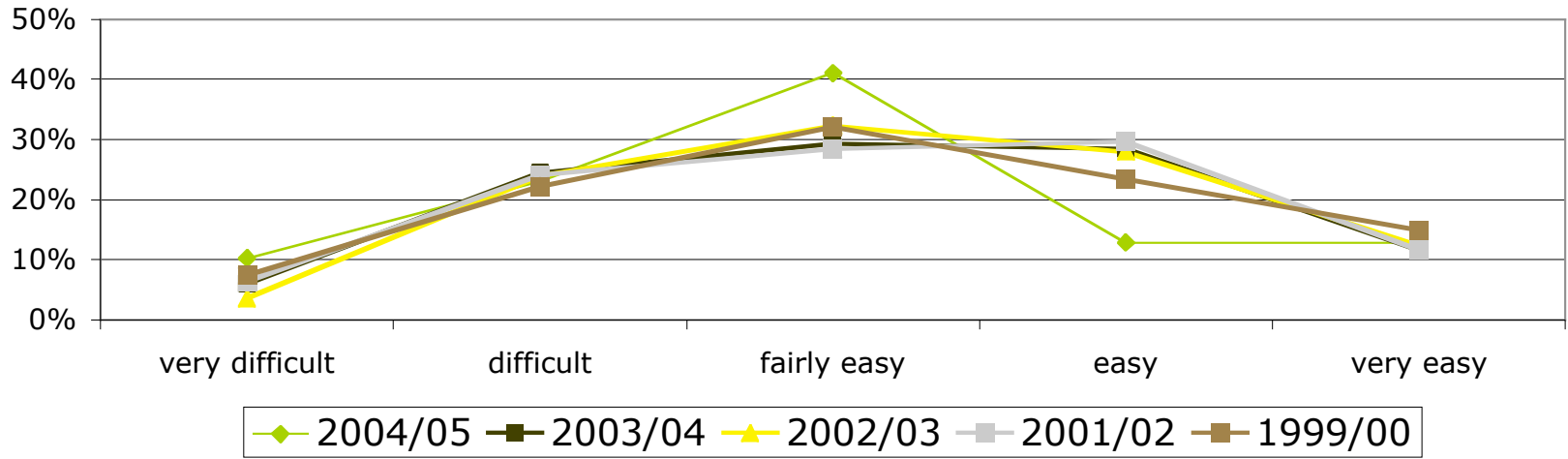
How often do you plan to use Virginia Tech's ETD library?



How often do you plan to use other ETD libraries?



ETDs Quick and Easy to Find





In conclusion...

- Established vs newer initiatives
 - Faculty/publisher issues need to be addressed
 - Improve searching
 - More browsing options
 - Update surveys
-