

# Unreported Publications Survey

## Report of Responses

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Digital Deposit Working Group (DDWG)  
Depository Library Council (DLC)

February 2022



# About the Unreported Publications Survey

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The Digital Deposit Working Group launched this survey to gain a better understanding of who is finding unreported publications, how they find them, and to learn what happens after discovery of them. The DDWG also hoped to learn if respondents engage in this work deliberately and schedule time in their schedule, or if it is more passive and serendipitous.

For the purpose of the DLC-approved Digital Deposit Pilot, including this survey, a fugitive or lost document was defined as a document in scope of the Superintendent of Documents' Federal Depository Library Program or Cataloging and Indexing Program and is not currently discoverable via the *Catalog of U.S. Government Publications* (CGP).

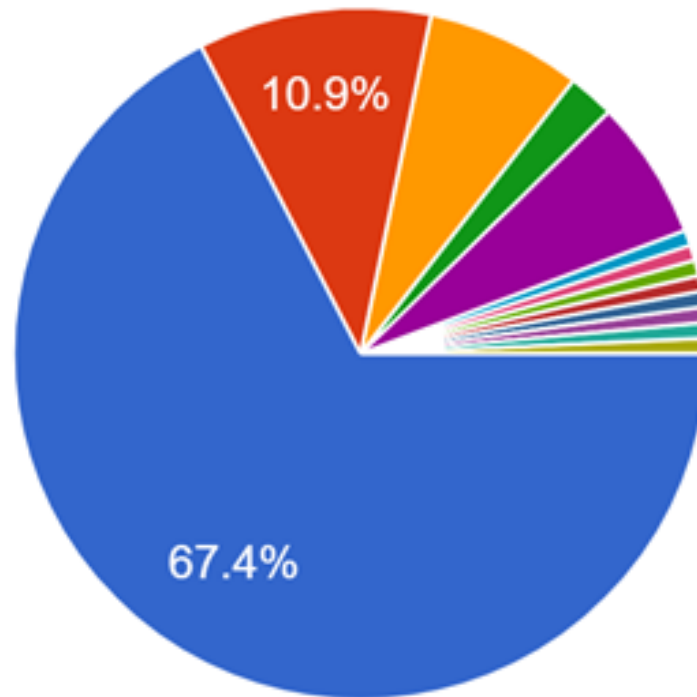
The survey was in the field from July 13– August 7, 2020, and 138 submissions were received.

Please note that in March 2021, the Superintendent of Documents announced the replacement of the phrase “fugitive documents” with “unreported publications.” This was after the survey was conducted, thus the varying language in use with the survey and in the writing of this report.

# Where do you work?

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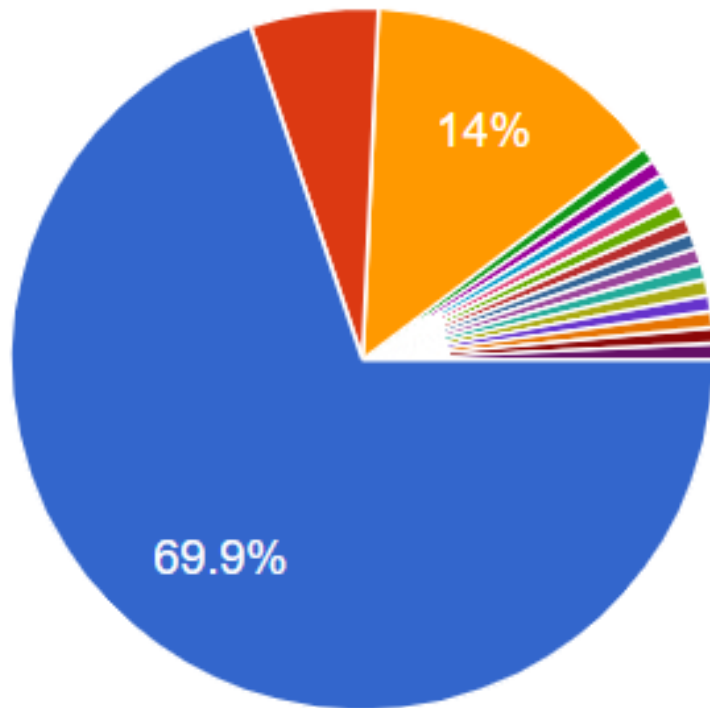
138 Responses



- Academic Library
- Public Library
- Law Library
- Special Library
- State Library
- State
- Now retired; formerly at Academic Libr...
- State Library open to the public, which...
- Government
- Federal Library
- Independant
- Military academic library
- Federal Government Library

# What is your role / position?

136 Responses

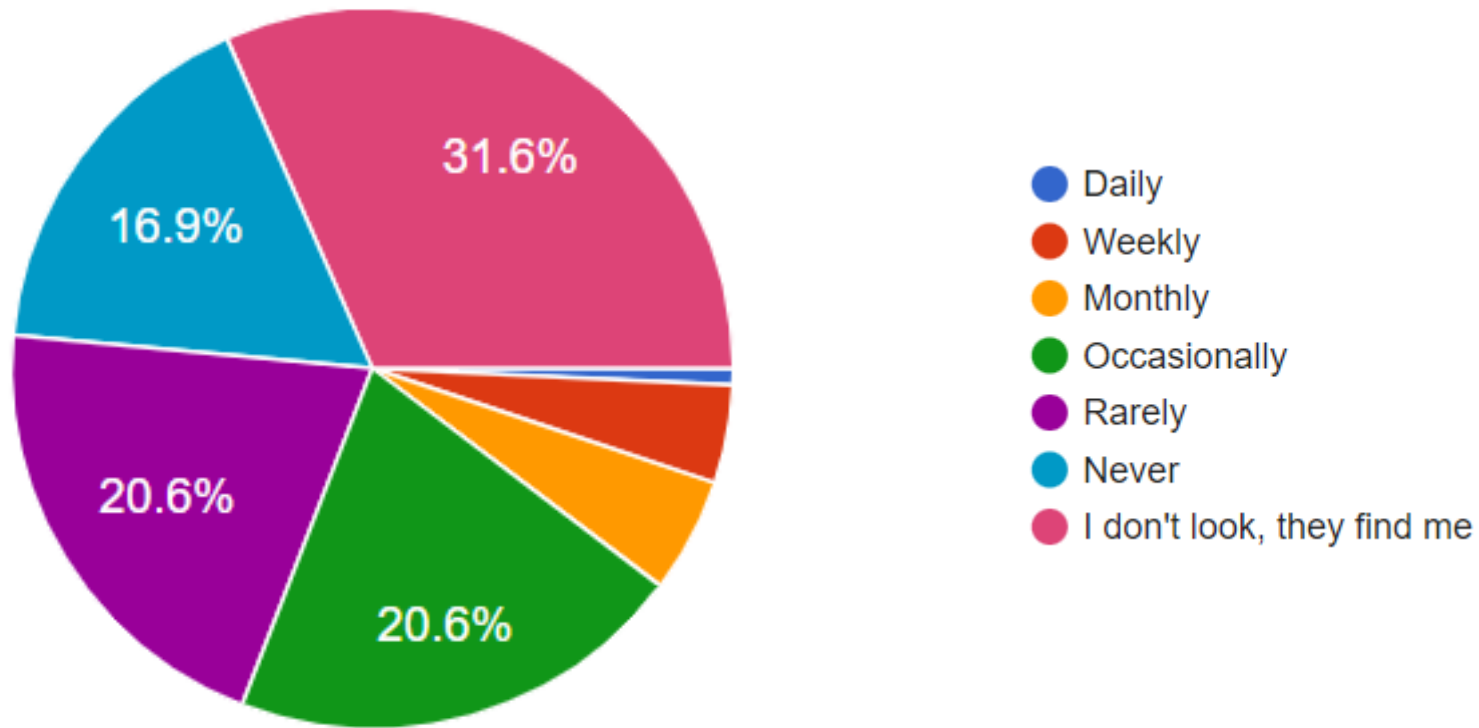


- Government Documents/Infor...
- Non-Government Documents...
- Non-Librarian/Full or Part Tim...
- Student Assistant
- Now retired; formerly gov doc...
- Reference Librarian and Gov...
- Metadata Librarian, FDLP co...
- Senior Library Specialist/Dep...
- manager
- Government Documents Coor...
- Info Systems Specialist
- Full time staff but also deposit...
- Collecting Legislative Reports...
- Services Manager
- Library Director
- MLIS non librarian position
- Cataloging and Archives Librarian

# How often do you look for fugitive documents?

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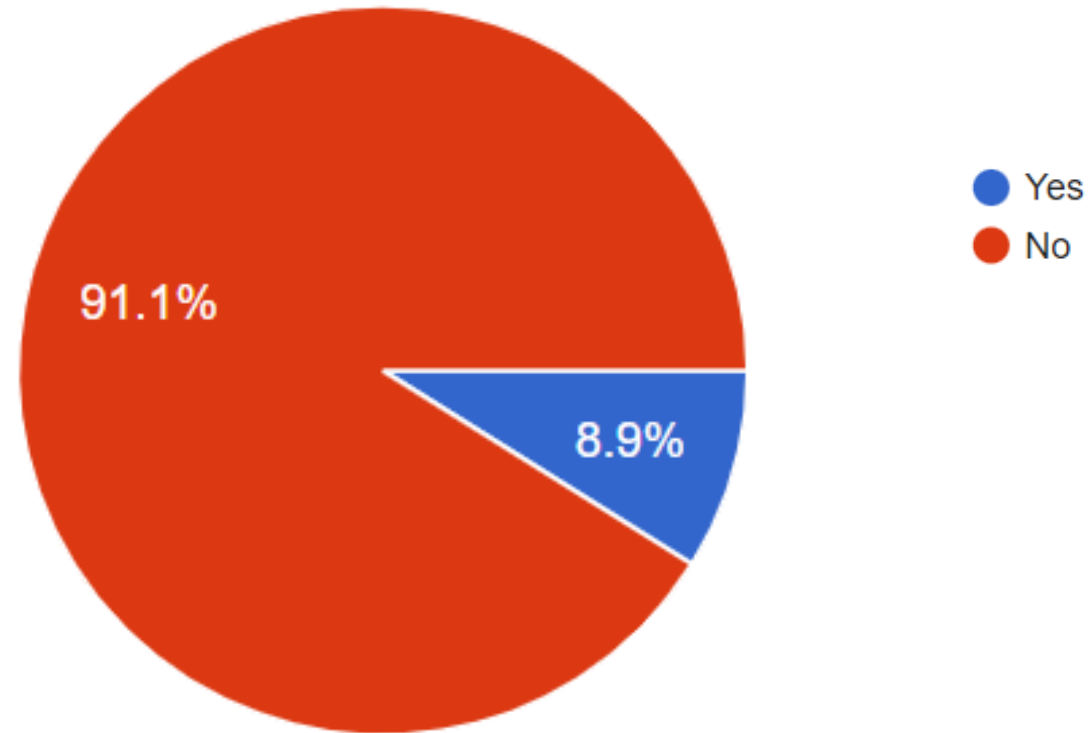
136 Responses



# Do you schedule time as part of your regular workflow to search for fugitive documents?

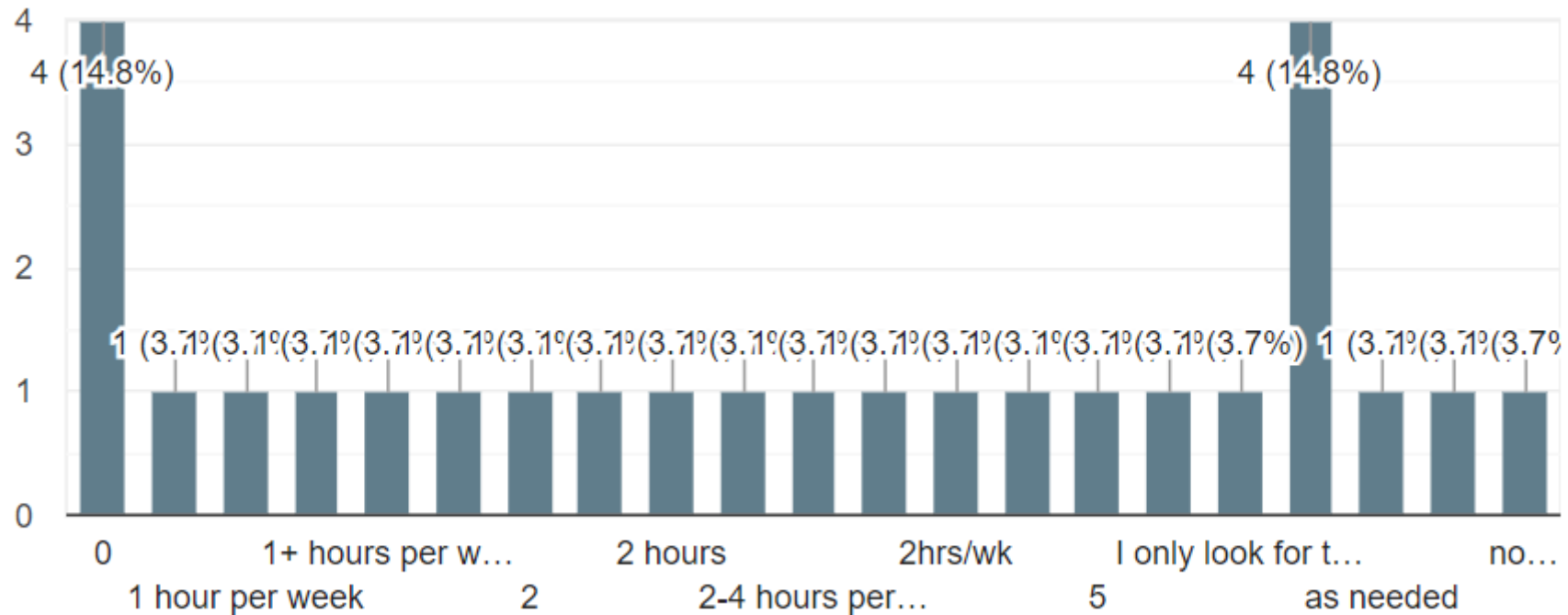
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135 Responses



# If yes, how much time do you allocate? (example: hours per week)

27 Responses



If you answered "yes" to the previous question, please tell us more about the tools and techniques you use for searching. (e.g., RSS, browser plugin, search alerts, etc.)

## 23 Responses

SEARCH TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES
N/A
RSS
Created list of targeted agency websites and checked regularly for new additions of documents, especially those referenced in newspapers like Washington Post and NY Times. Added to weblog with commercial software. Item was removed from library website after my retirement.
OCLC/Connexion, other library websites/catalogs, CGP, email colleagues at State Library or other academic libraries in my state
search alerts, twitter
Wayback machine, library of congress archived websites, search alerts, contacting CRS
Internet Archive's Wayback Machine to search older versions of websites
I usually look for fugitive docs in context of searching local land use history. I sometimes have success finding them in library special collections or unofficial collections compiled by academic researchers
RSS
References from newspaper articles or tv news.
mostly newspapers but also tv news
site searching site:xxx.gov; Wayback Machine



If you answered "yes" to the previous question, please tell us more about the tools and techniques you use for searching. (e.g., RSS, browser plugin, search alerts, etc.)

## 23 Responses (continued)

### SEARCH TOOLS AND TECHNIQUES

Check for references to the type of information in sources from the time period. Sometimes the actual name (s) of the fugitive info are also lost in the mist. So it can be helpful to determine whether or not I have an accurate description of the desired document.

Combing agency websites for specific bio-regional documents

Search alerts from various journals and agency sites

Occasionally search agency publication pages

I bookmarked several databases (NTIS, NASA, Energy Research abstracts) and made my own technical report search guide.

search alerts, go through agency emails about new reports to determine if they are in scope and if they have been included

Extensive PDF lists

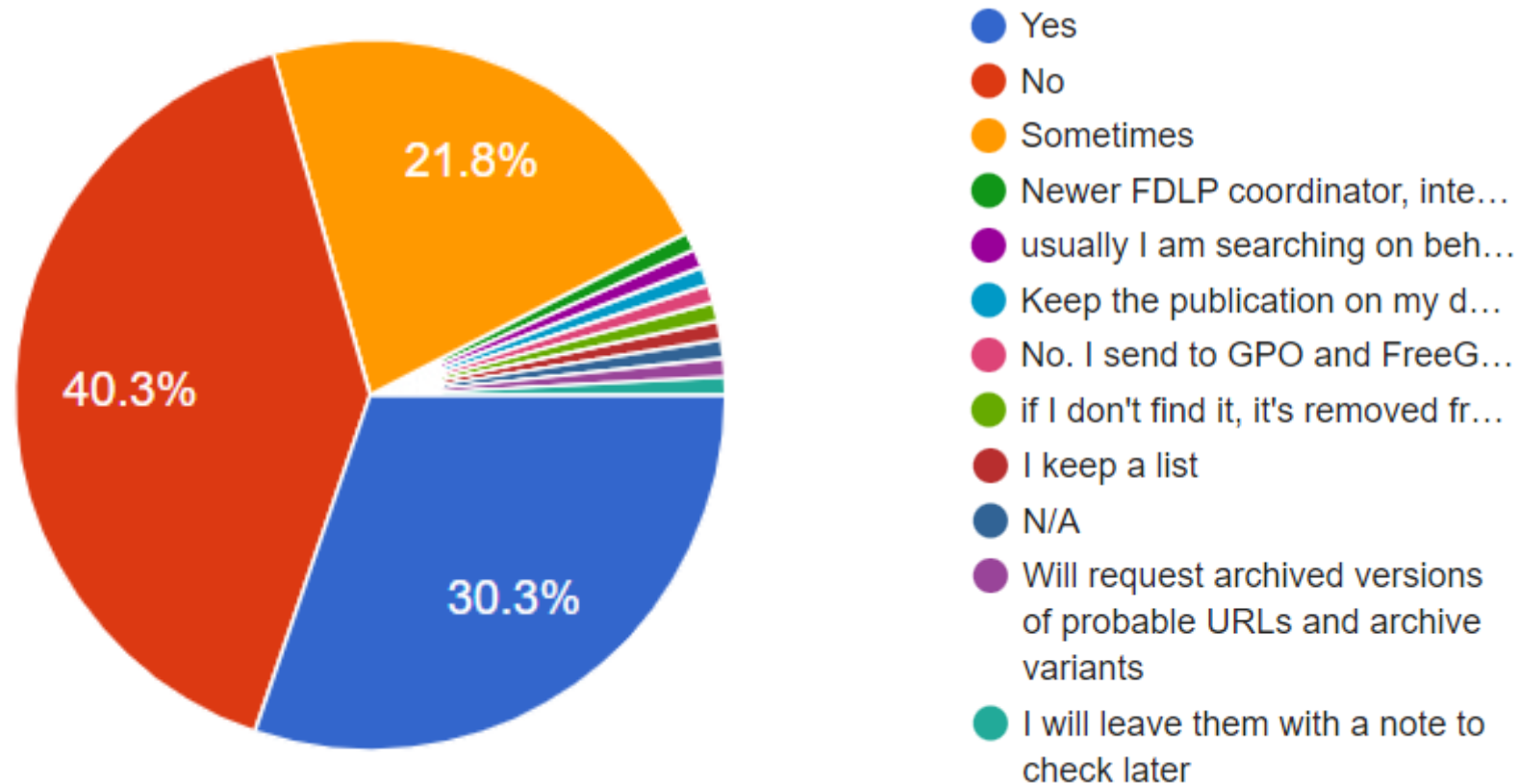
My favorite tool for finding these items is the Executive Communications section of the Congressional Record. Other tools include WorldCat and HathiTrust

Google search, HathiTrust, Internet Archive, archived websites, federal agency websites, etc.

RSS--used to be a decent source but that entire tool seems to have faded away. I religiously visit about 7 websites monthly and purposefully look. Sometimes I see something on Reddit Politics.

# If you learn of a fugitive document and search for it, but don't initially locate it, do you set reminders to continue looking?

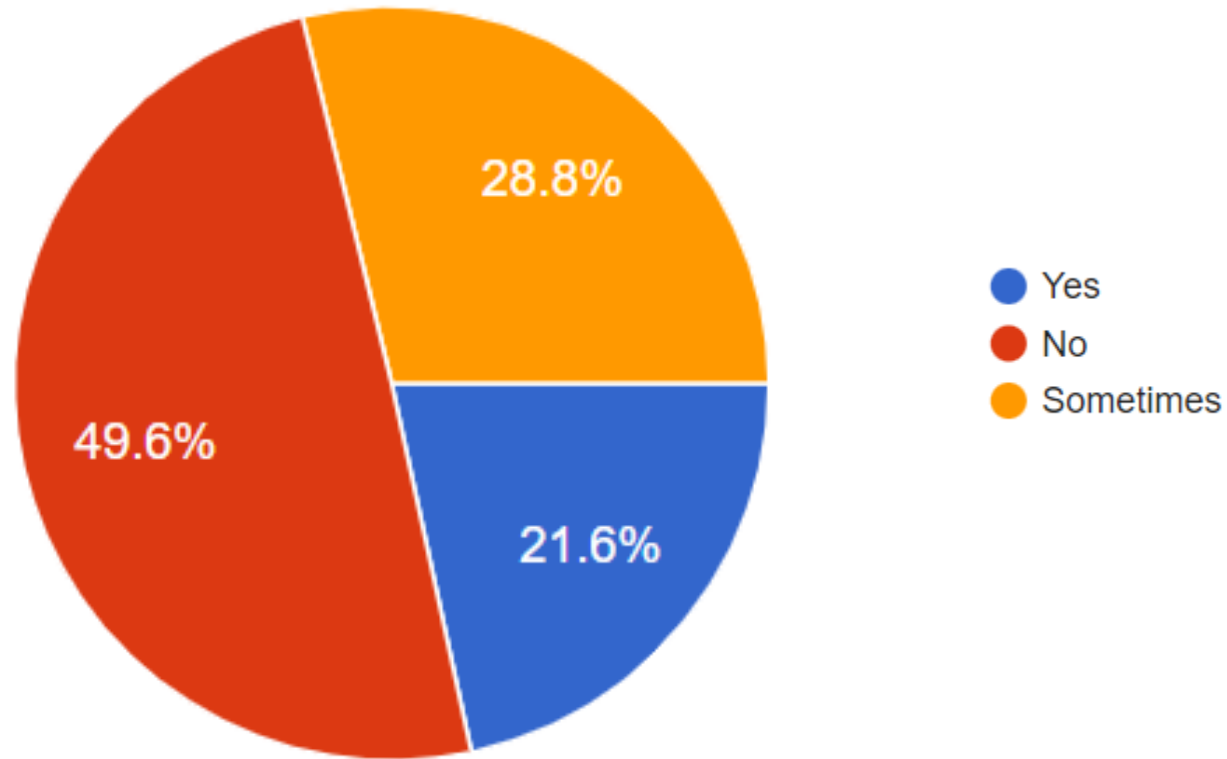
119 Responses



# Do you download a copy of a found fugitive?

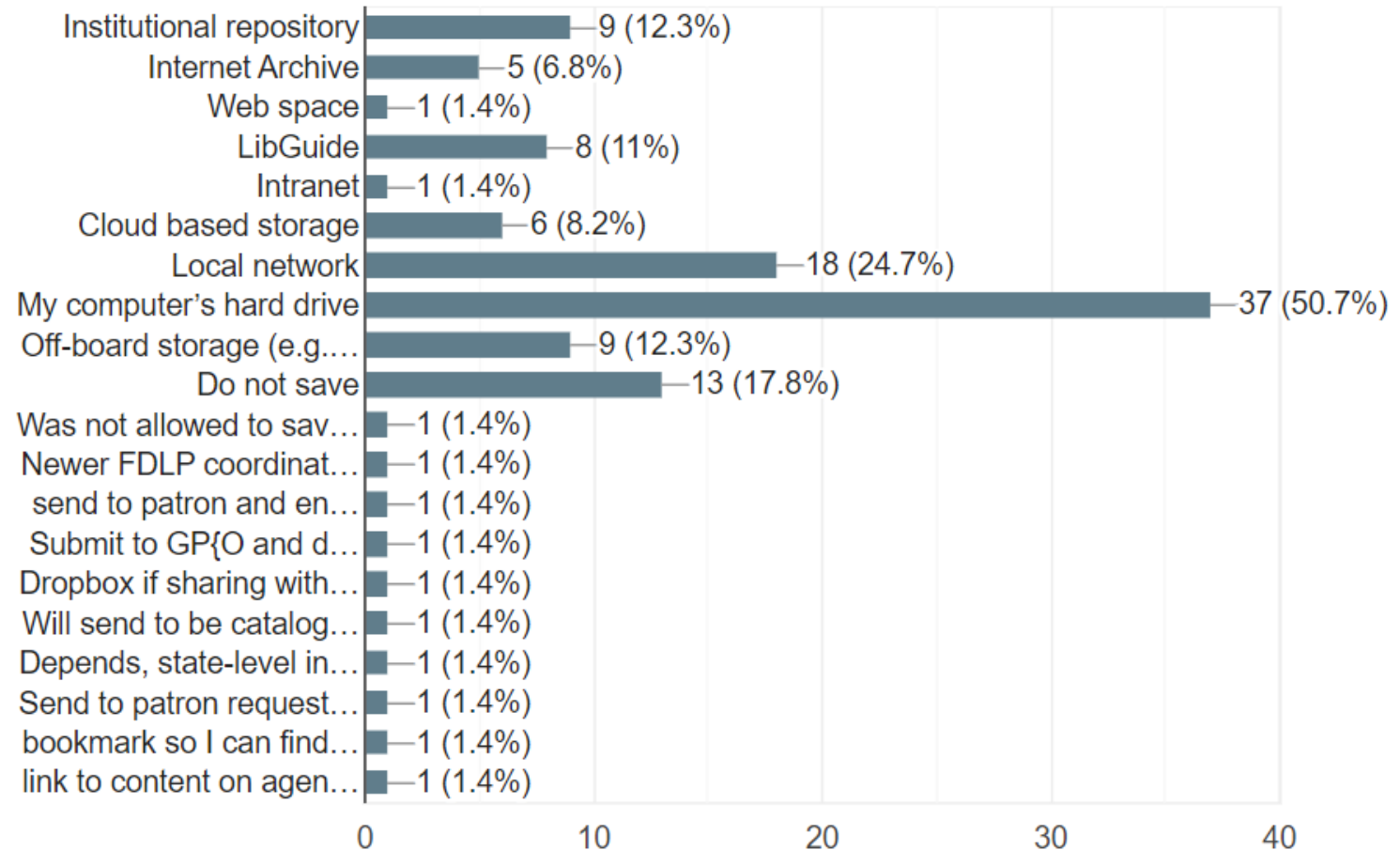
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125 Responses



# If yes, where do you download or save these items? (Check all that apply)

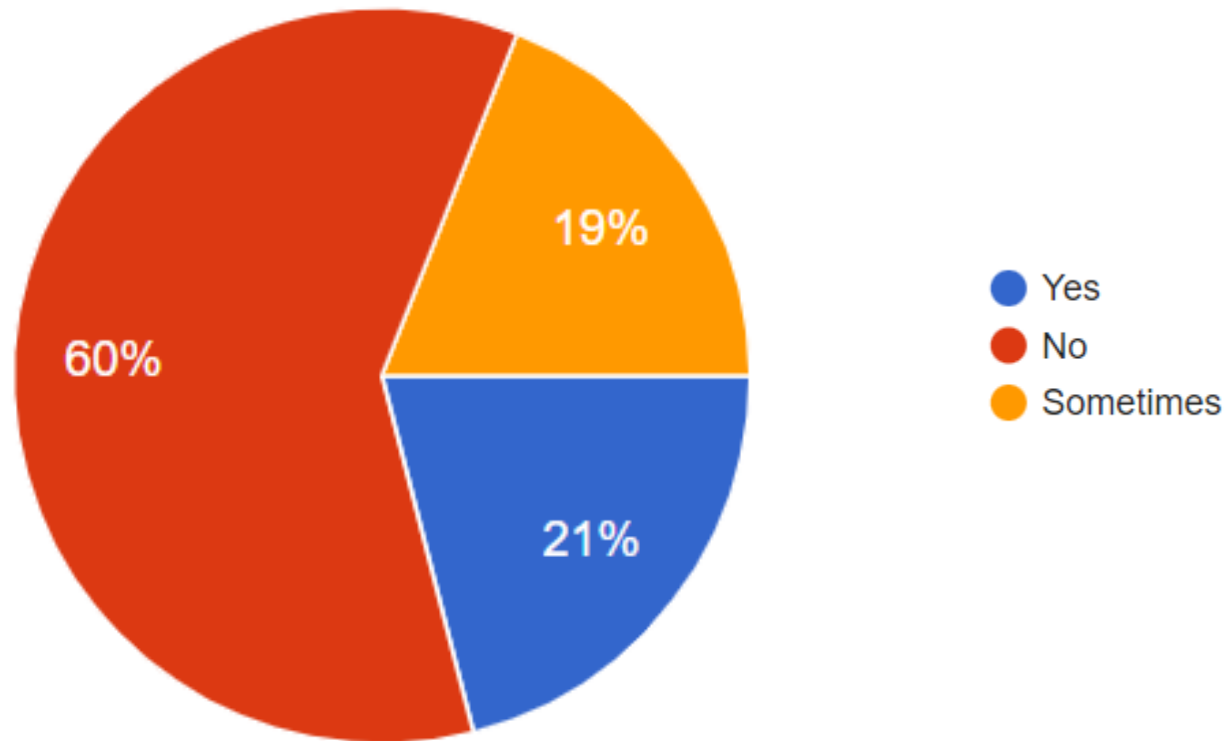
73 Responses



# Are the fugitive documents you download or save accessible to the public in digital form?

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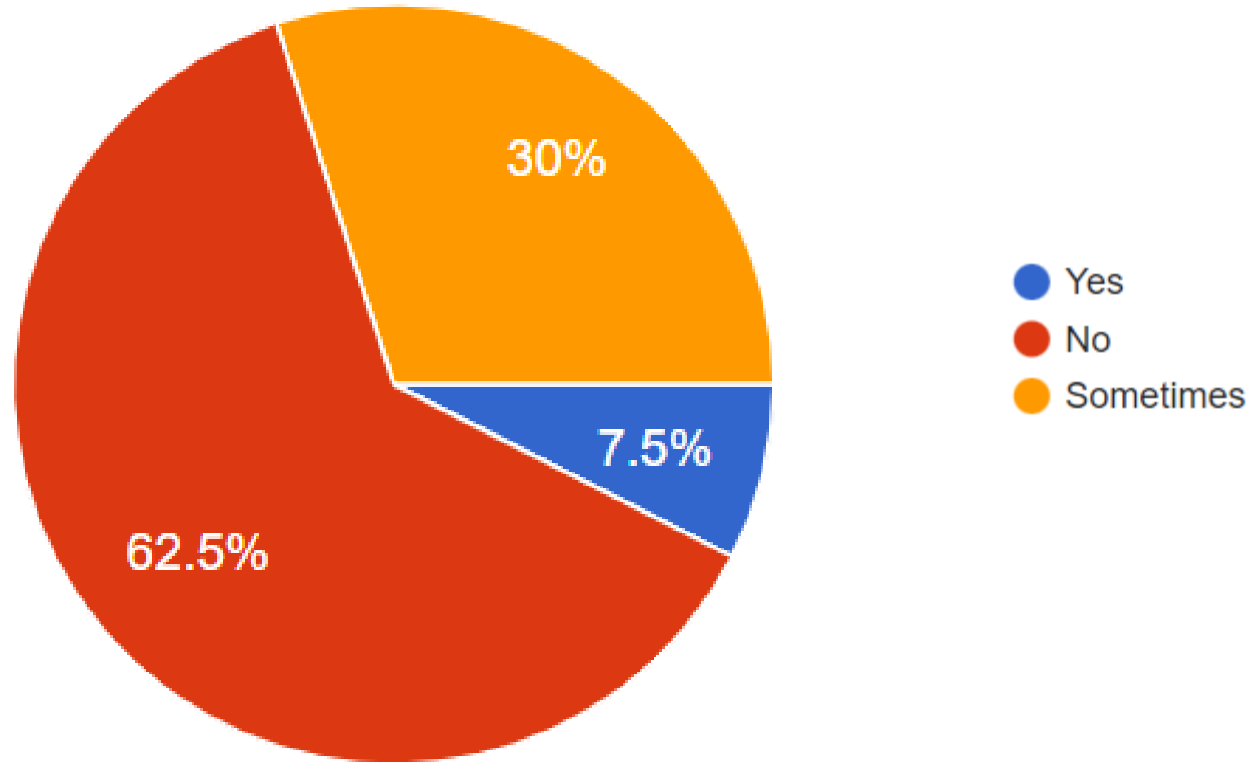
100 Responses



# Do you print fugitive documents to include a physical copy in your local collection?

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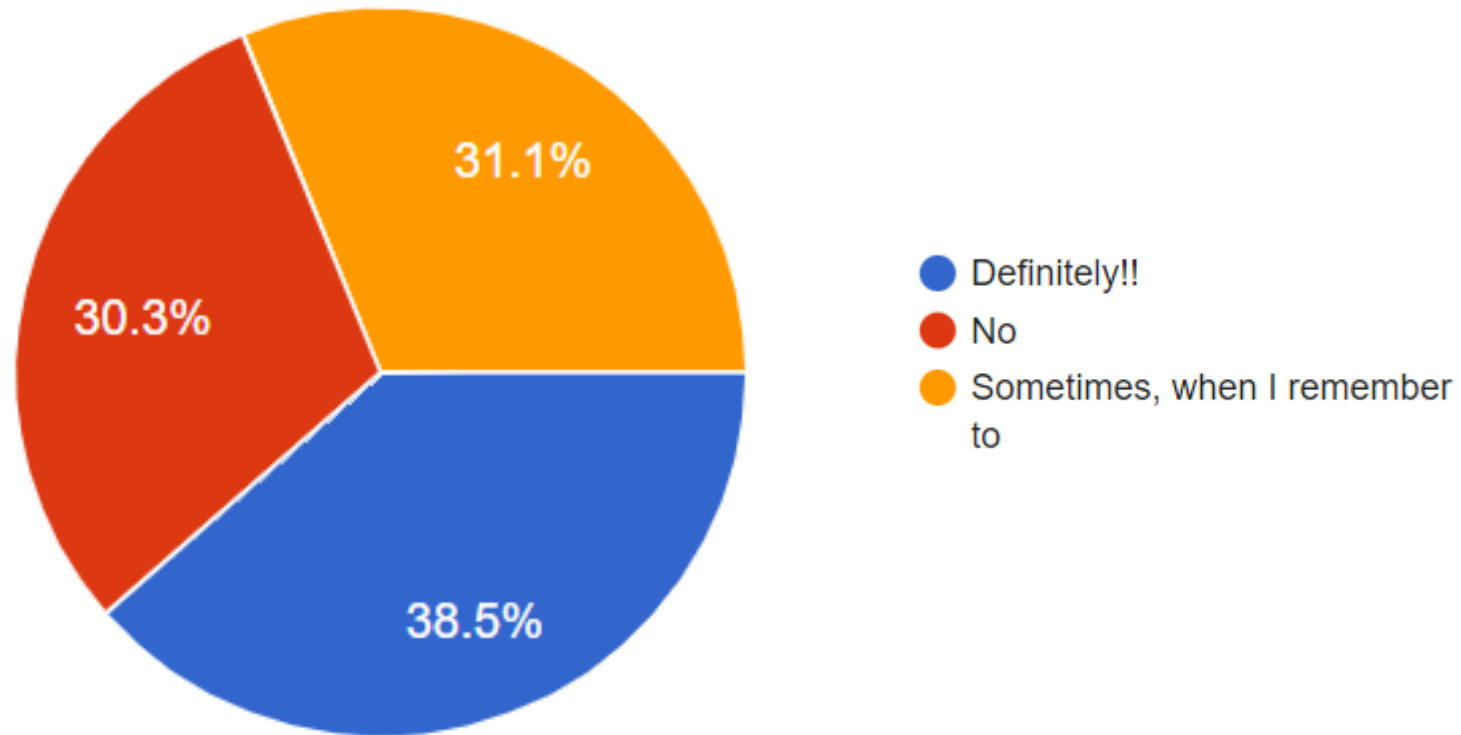
120 Responses



# Do you submit fugitive documents to askGPO?

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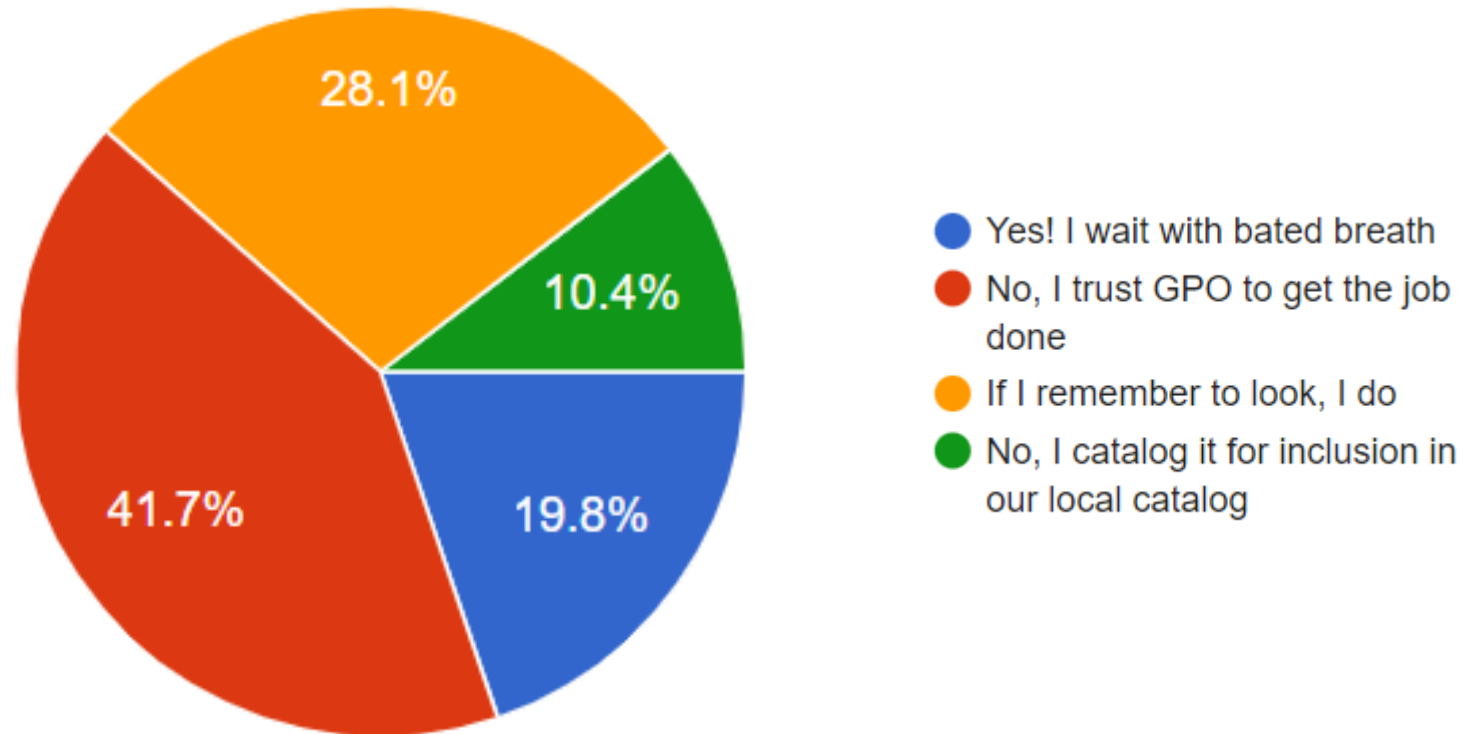
122 Responses



# If you submit a fugitive to askGPO, do you watch the CGP to see that it's added to the system?

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96 Responses

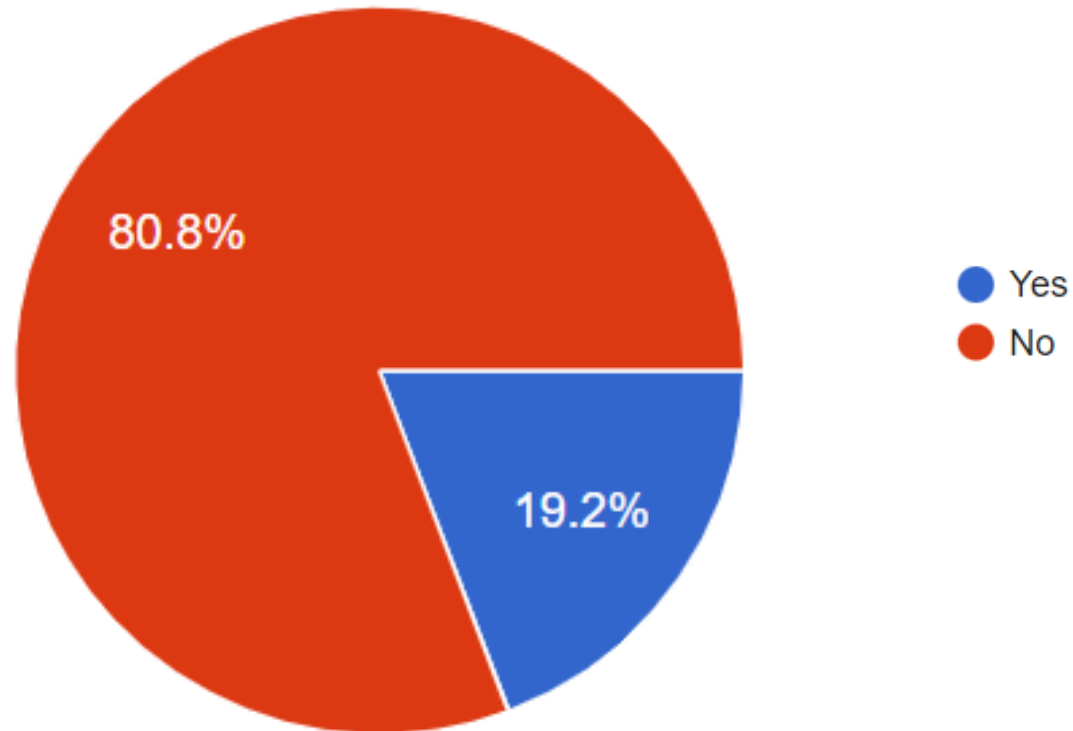




# Do you ever receive notification from GPO that your submission is out of scope?

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104 Responses



The Digital Deposit Working Group thanks all who completed the Unreported Publications Survey.

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