





# Dispatches from the Void

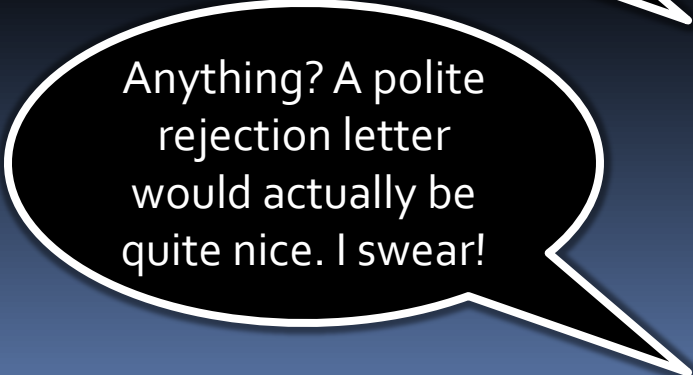
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UALR Center for Arkansas History and Culture  
August 9, 2012



Hello? Anyone out there?



It's been a few months or so...



Anything? A polite rejection letter would actually be quite nice. I swear!

# The void at work

- See job ad
- Apply!
- Wait...
- Think about what life might be like in [location]
- And wait...
- Wonder if they started interviewing other candidates yet
- And wait...



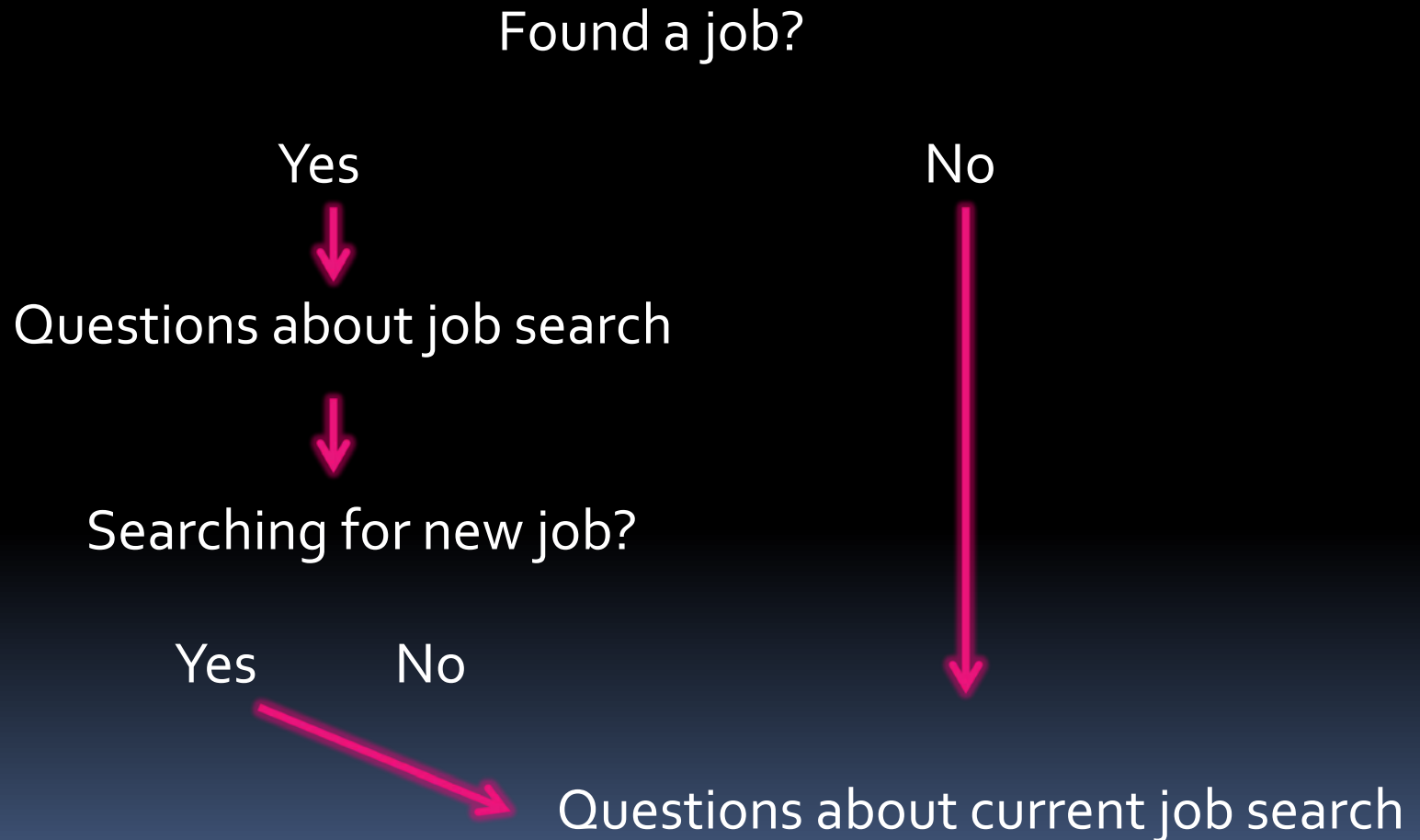
# Uncertainty about what jobs to apply to

- Whether to apply for jobs across the country
- Whether to take a part-time or paraprofessional position
- Whether to try for a job where you don't meet the requirements

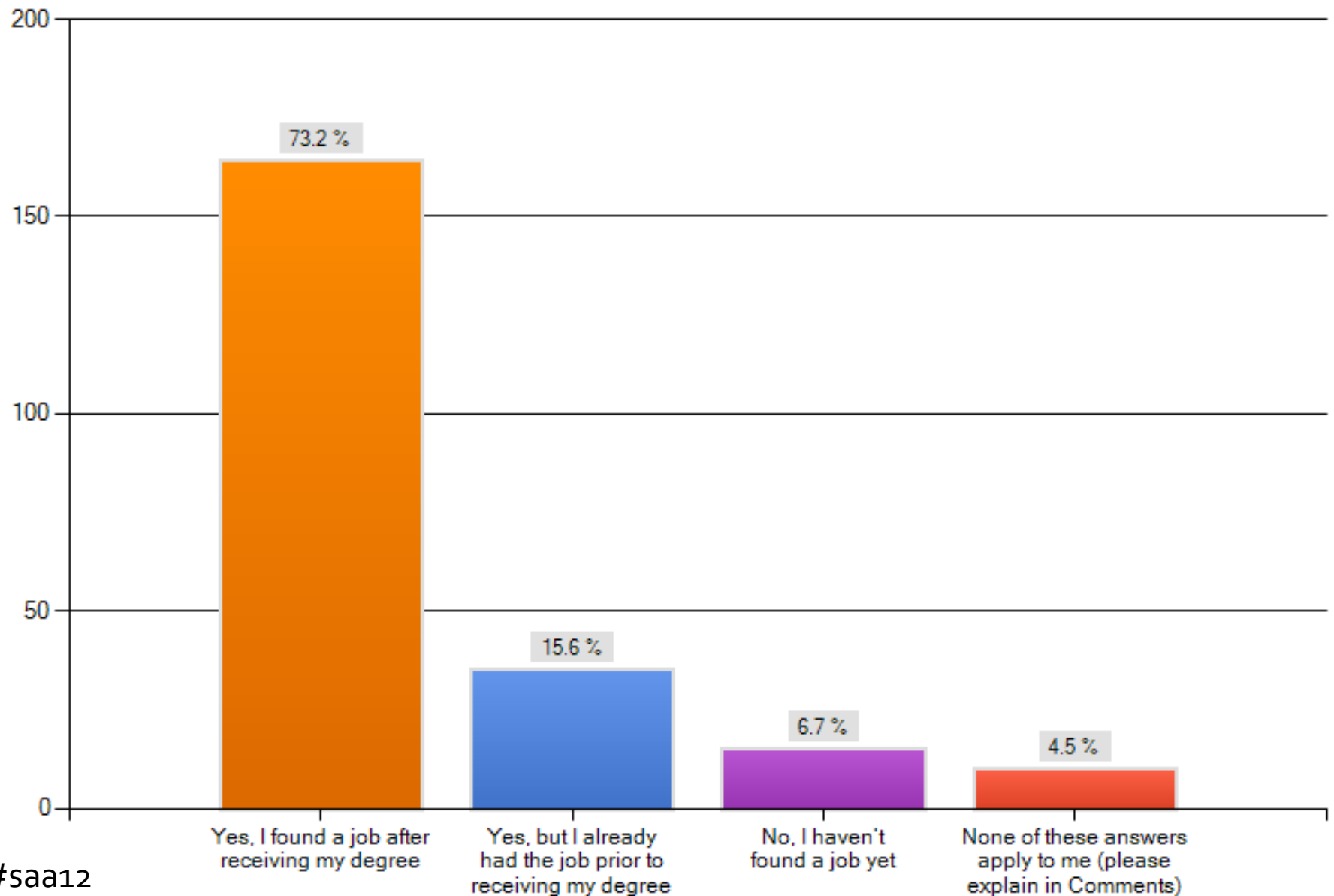
# Uncertainty about reasons for rejection

- a) something wrong with your cover letter or resume
- b) other applicants were better qualified
- c) your experience or skills were lacking
- d) you're overqualified
- e) none of the above

# About the survey

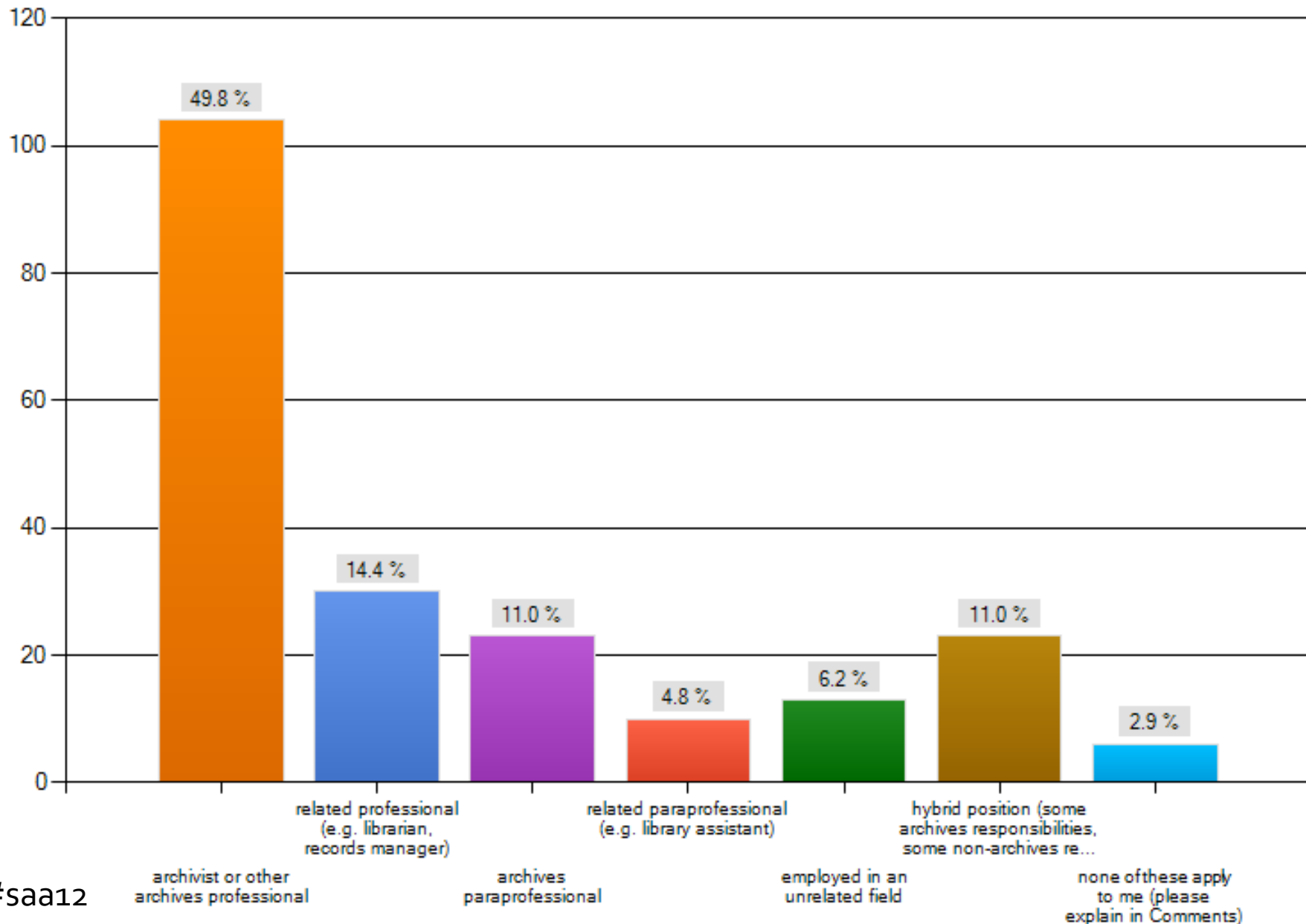


Have you found a job post-graduation? (Please consider any paid employment, in any field, when answering this question.)



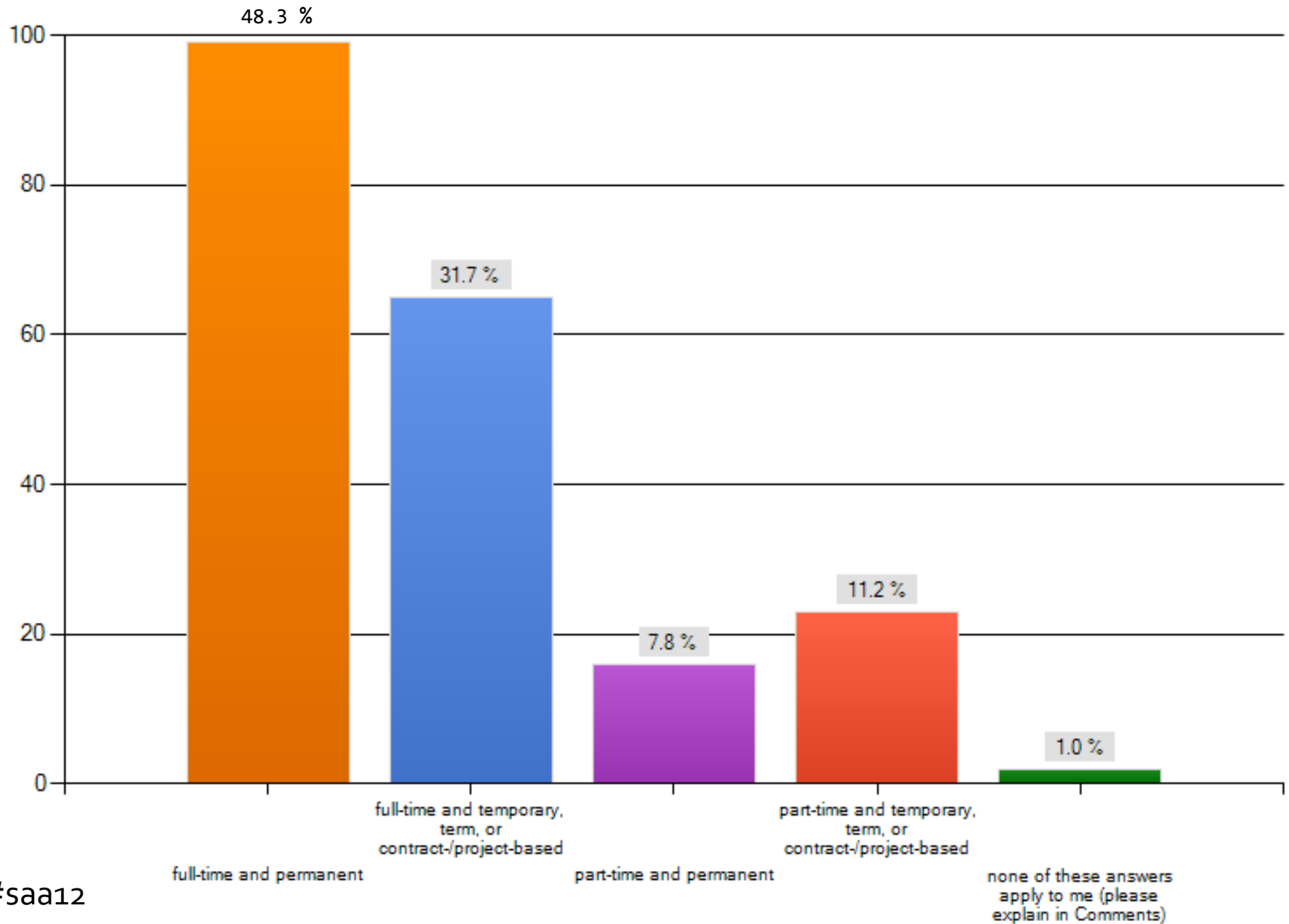
#saa12

## How would you best describe the position type of your first job?



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## How would you best describe the employment status of your first job?



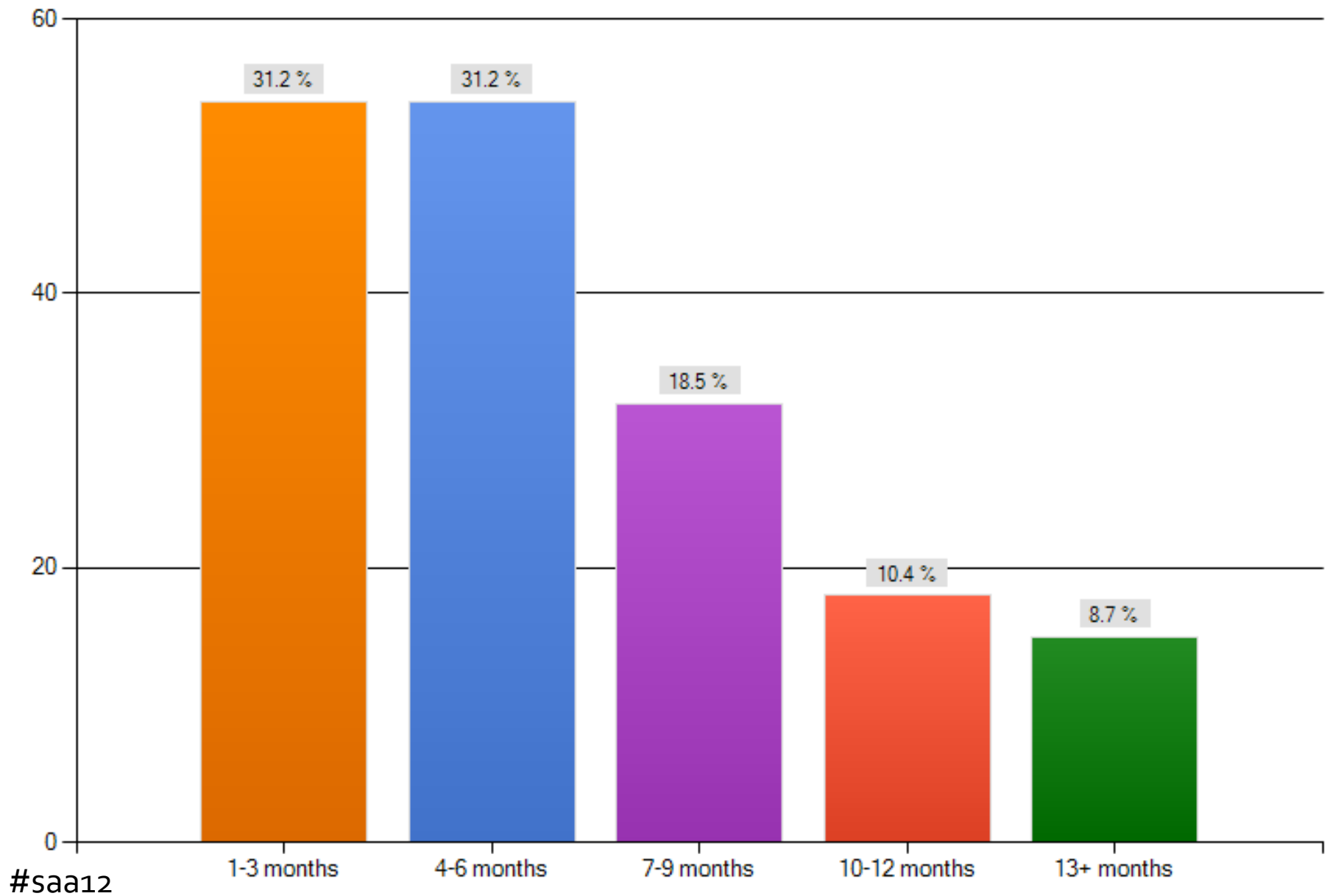
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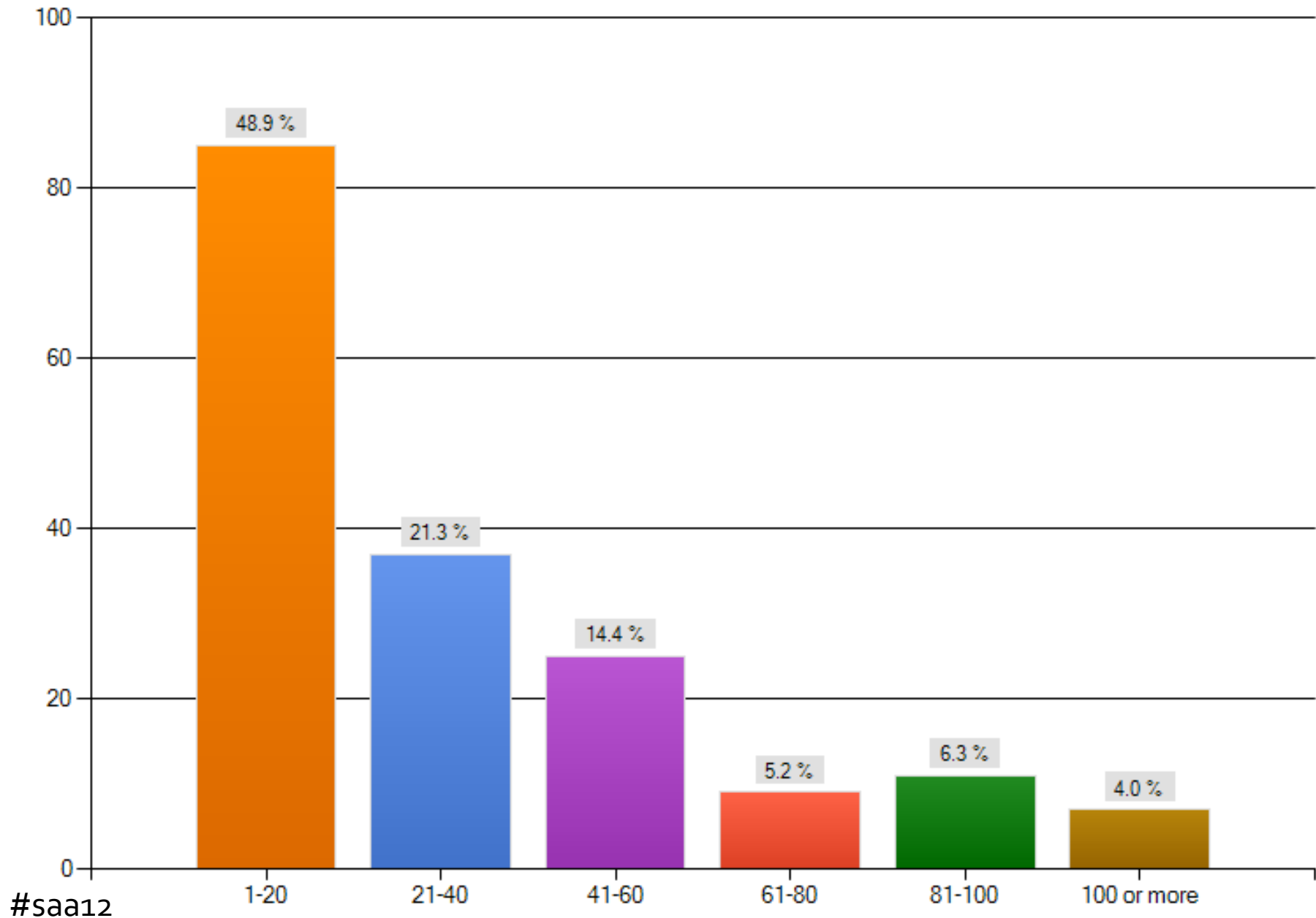
# *Library Journal*: Placements and Salaries stats, 2008-2010

- Part-time placements increased from 18.3 percent to 25 percent
- Temporary placements increased from 7.8 percent to 22.8 percent.
- Permanent professional positions decreased from 68.2 percent to 59.2 percent.
- From: Maata, S. L. (2011). "Tight competition." *Library Journal*. Retrieved from <http://features.libraryjournal.com/placements-and-salaries/2011-survey/tight-competition/>

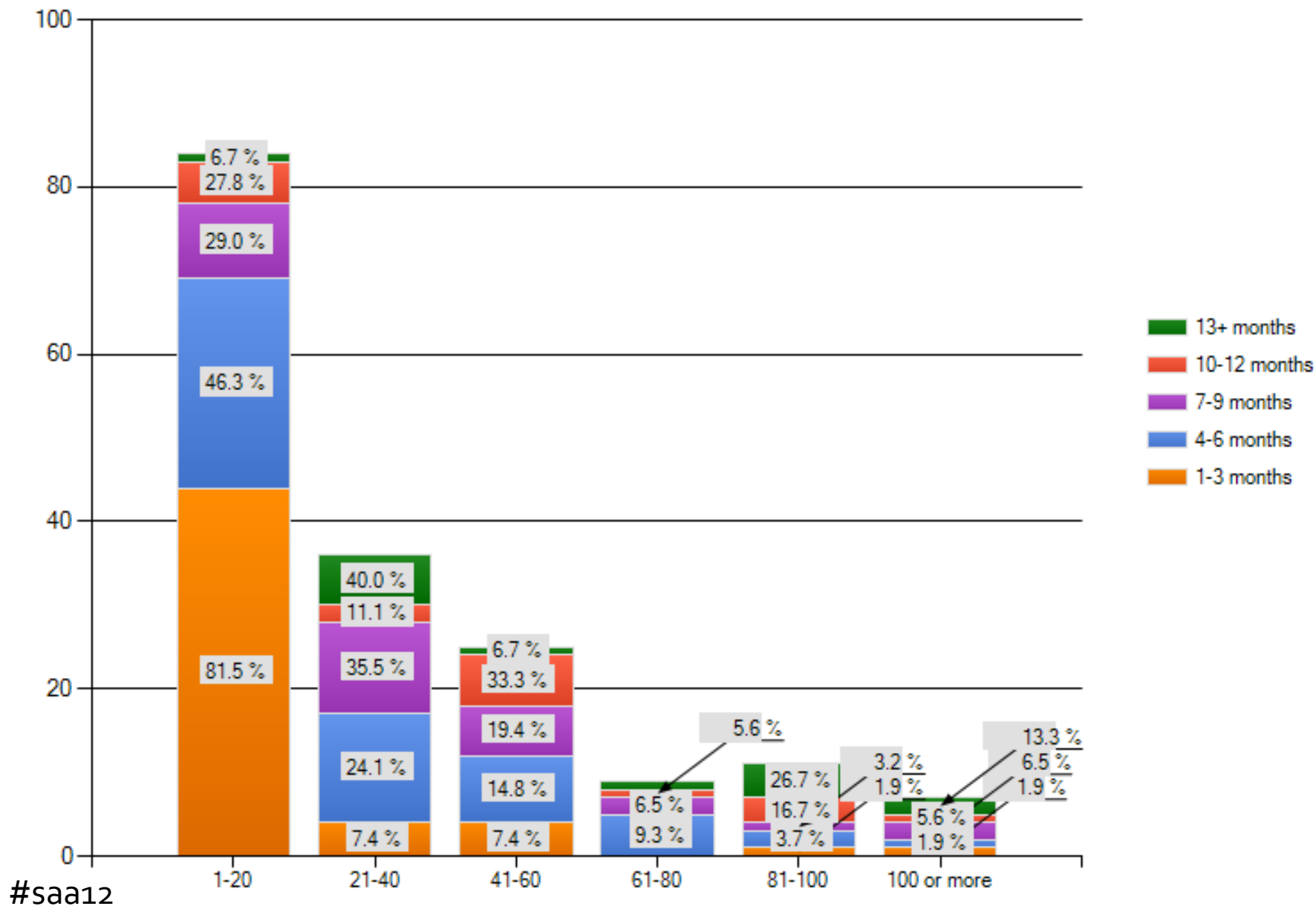
# How long did it take from beginning your job search to being offered the first position you accepted?



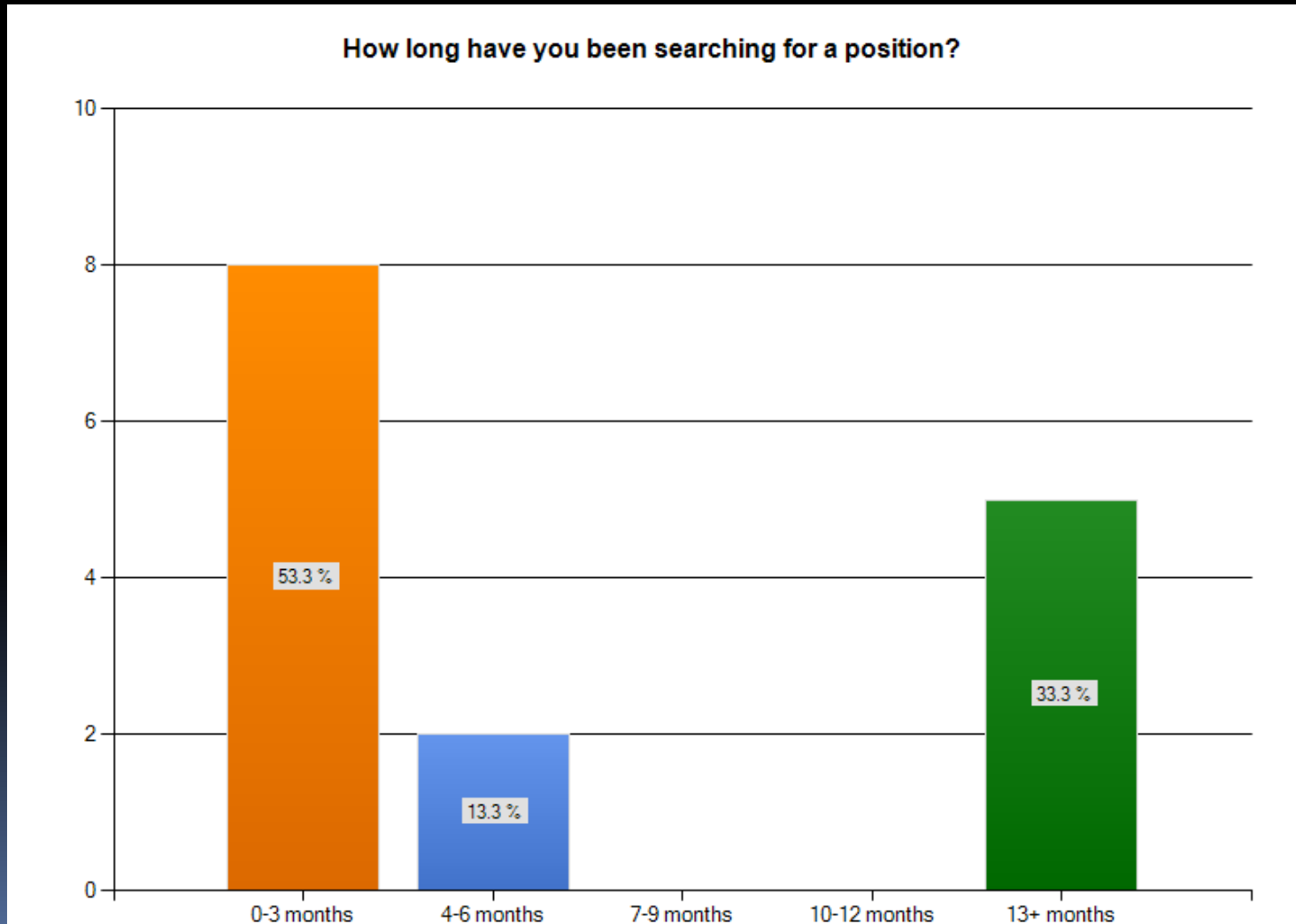
## Estimate how many positions you applied for before landing your first job.



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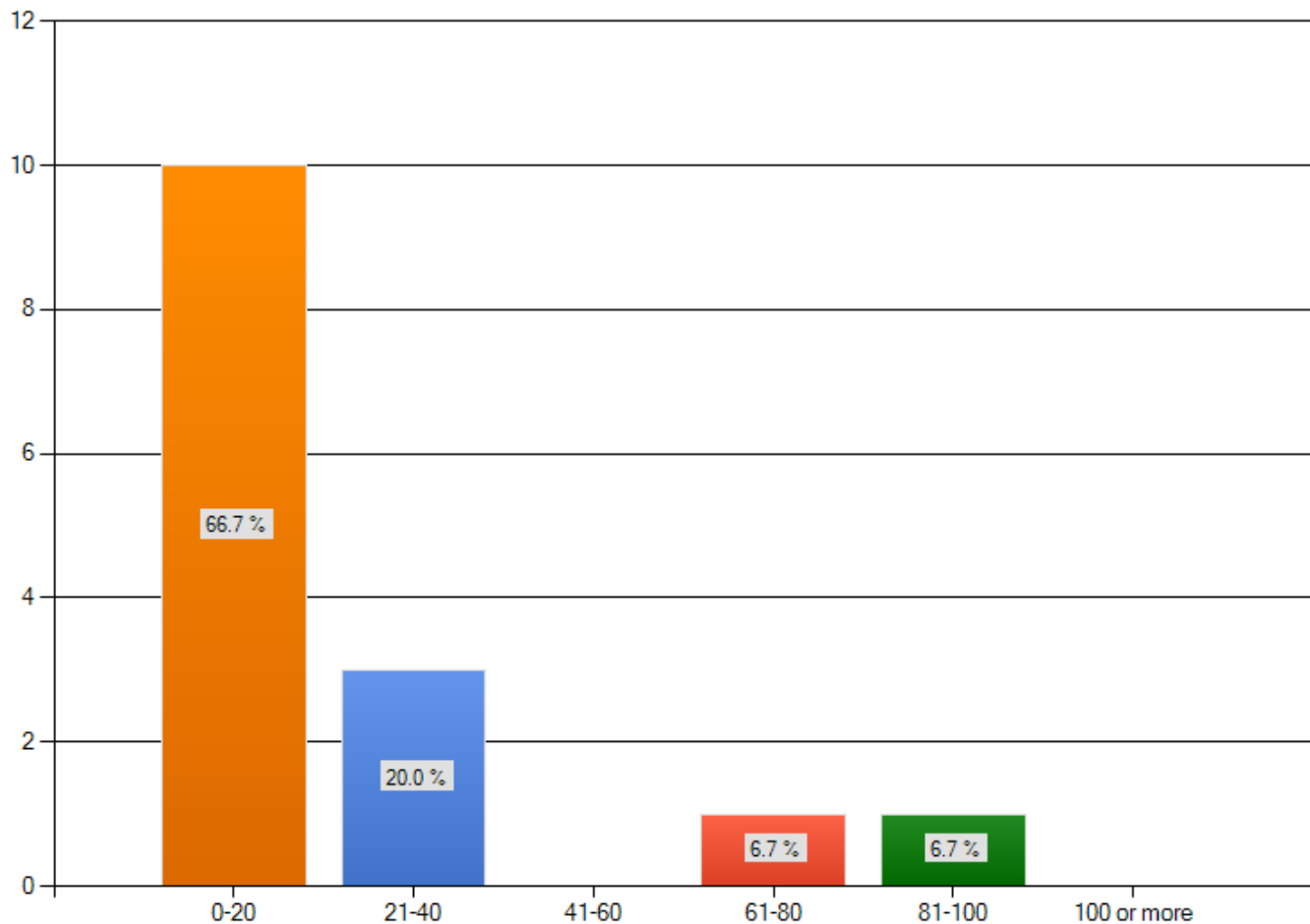
# Those still looking for first position



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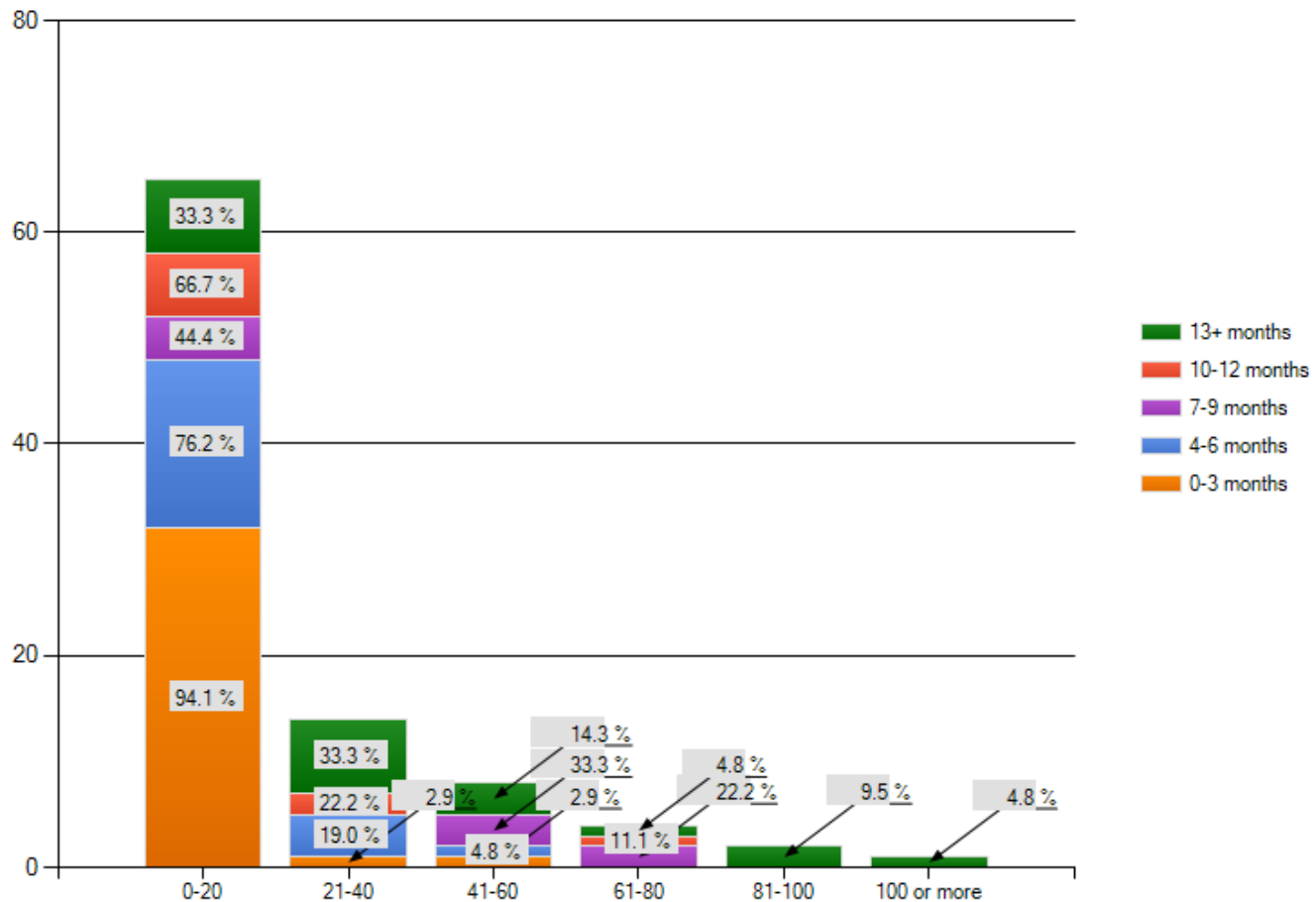
# Those still looking for first position

Estimate how many positions you have applied for thus far during your job search:

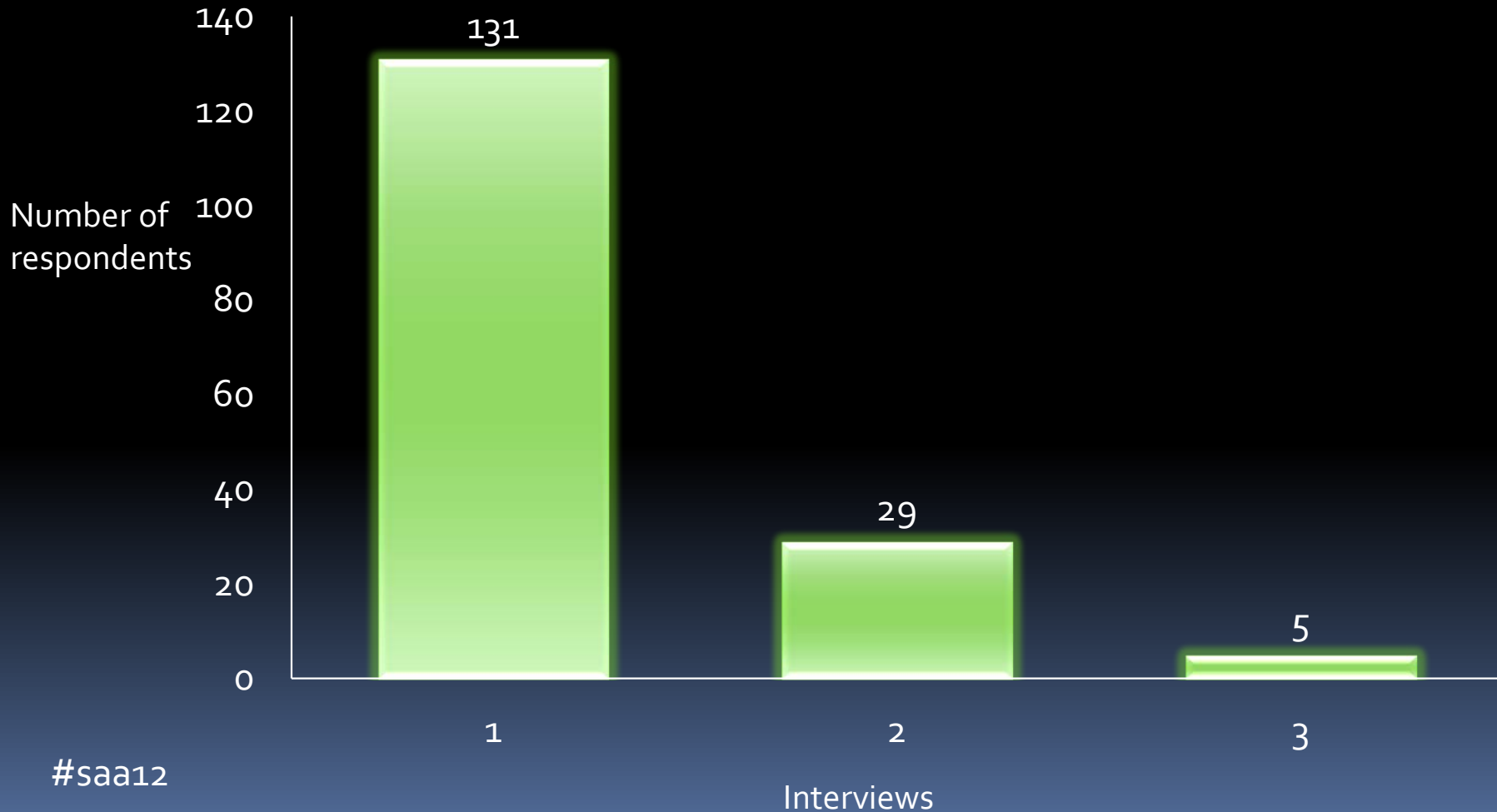


# Anyone currently searching for a position

Estimate how many positions you have applied for thus far during your job search:



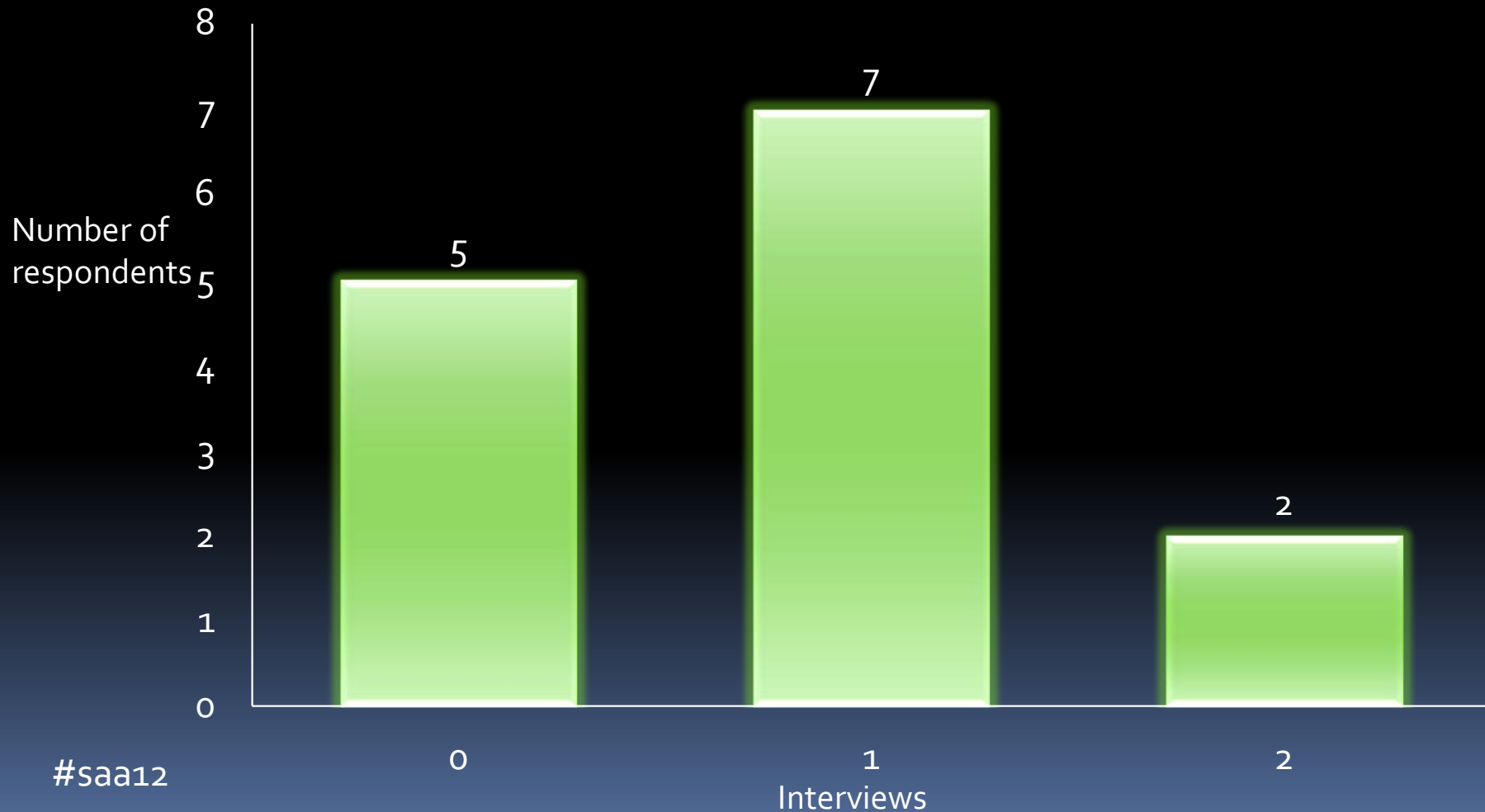
# Frequency of interviews for those employed



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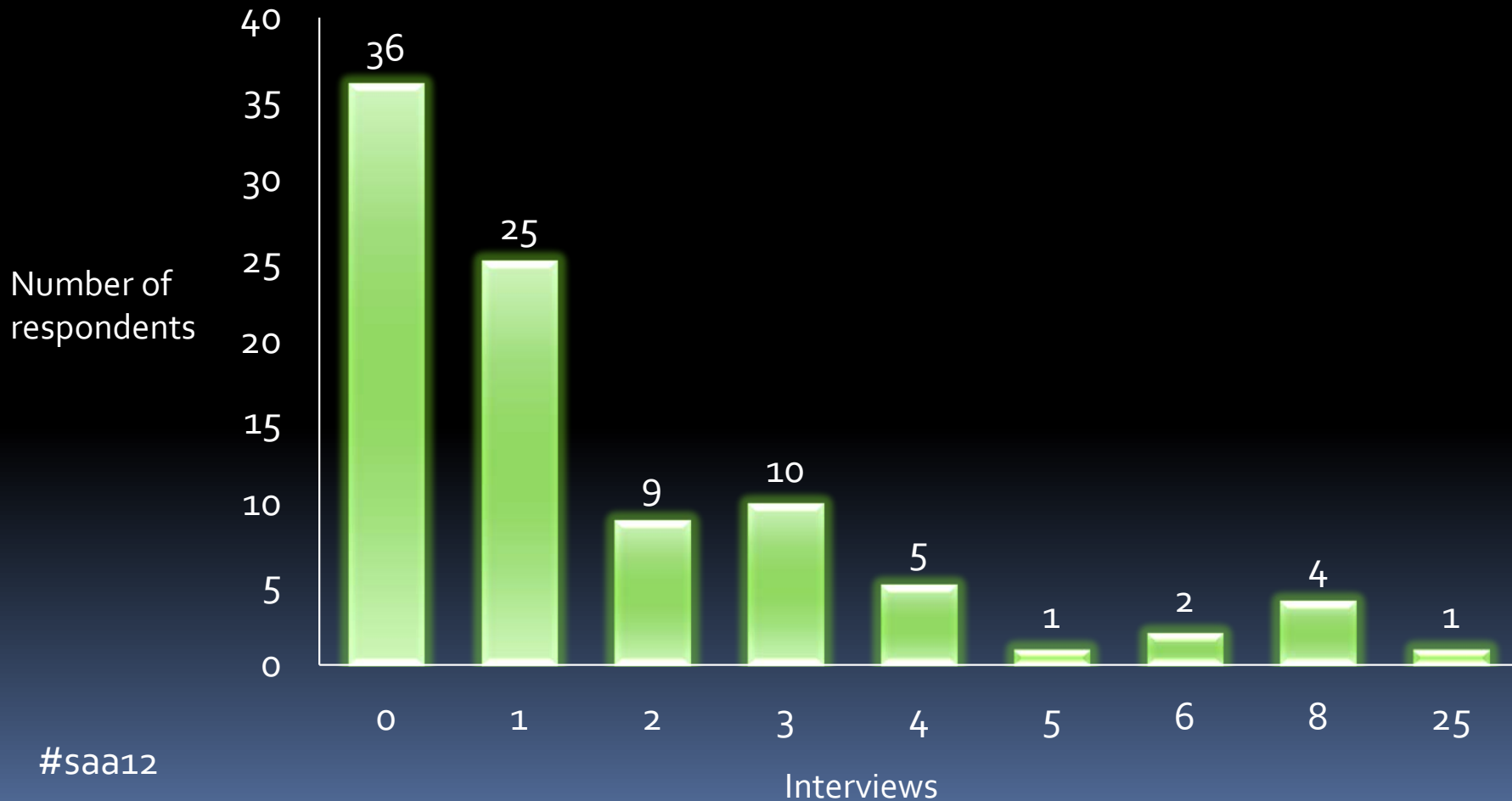


# Frequency of interviews for those still looking for first position

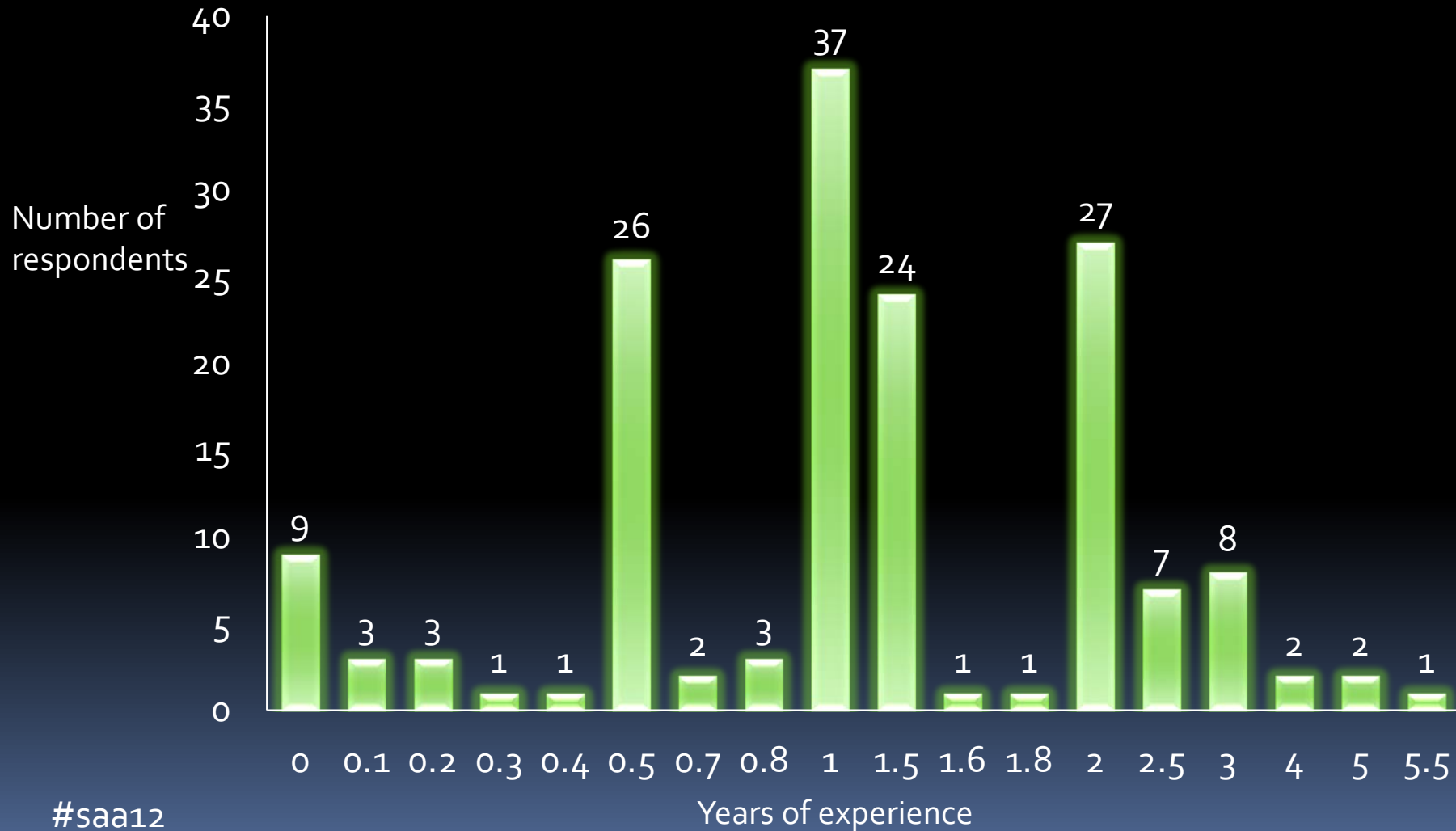


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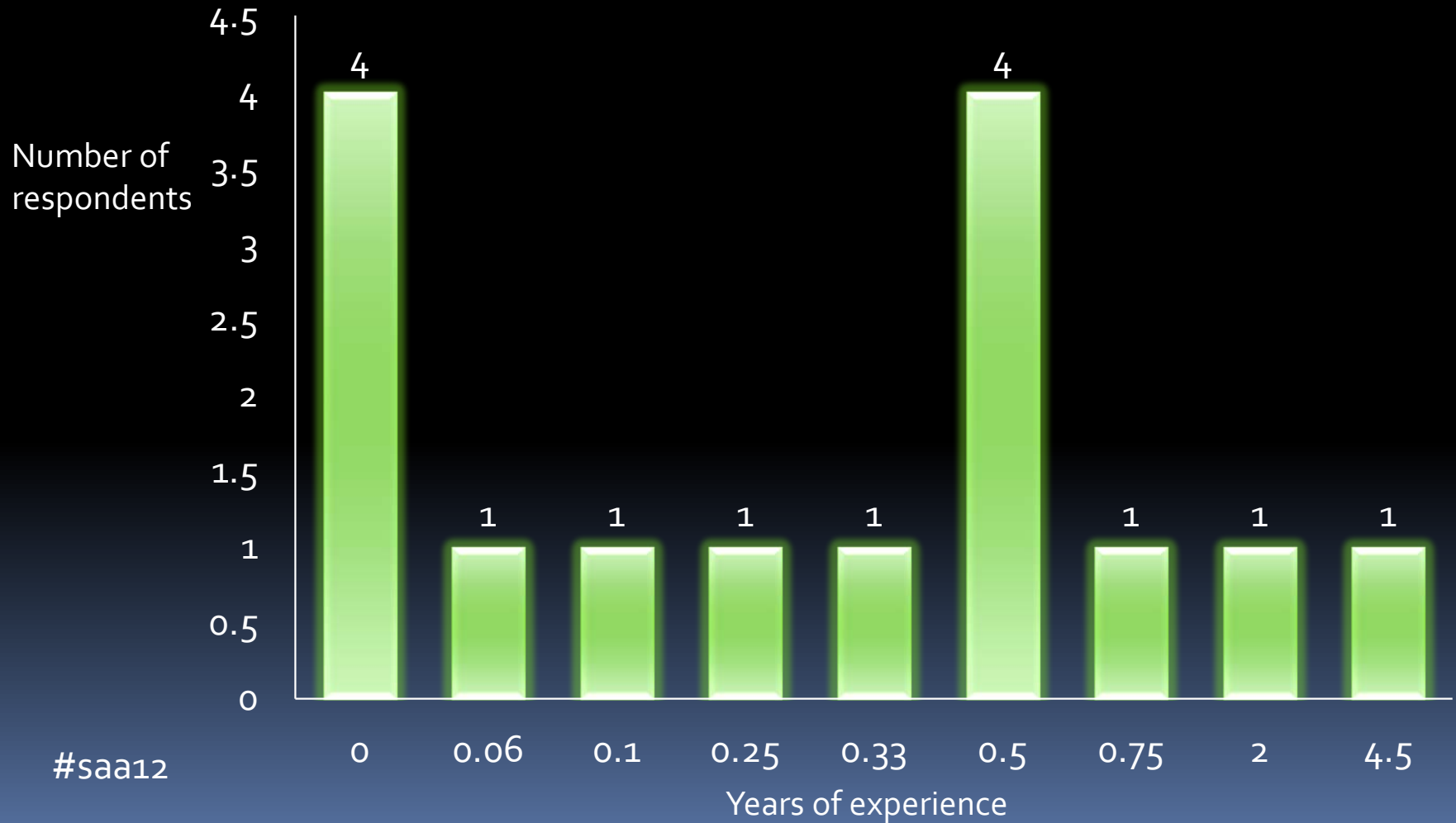
# Frequency of interviews for those currently looking for a position



# Archives-related experience of those employed

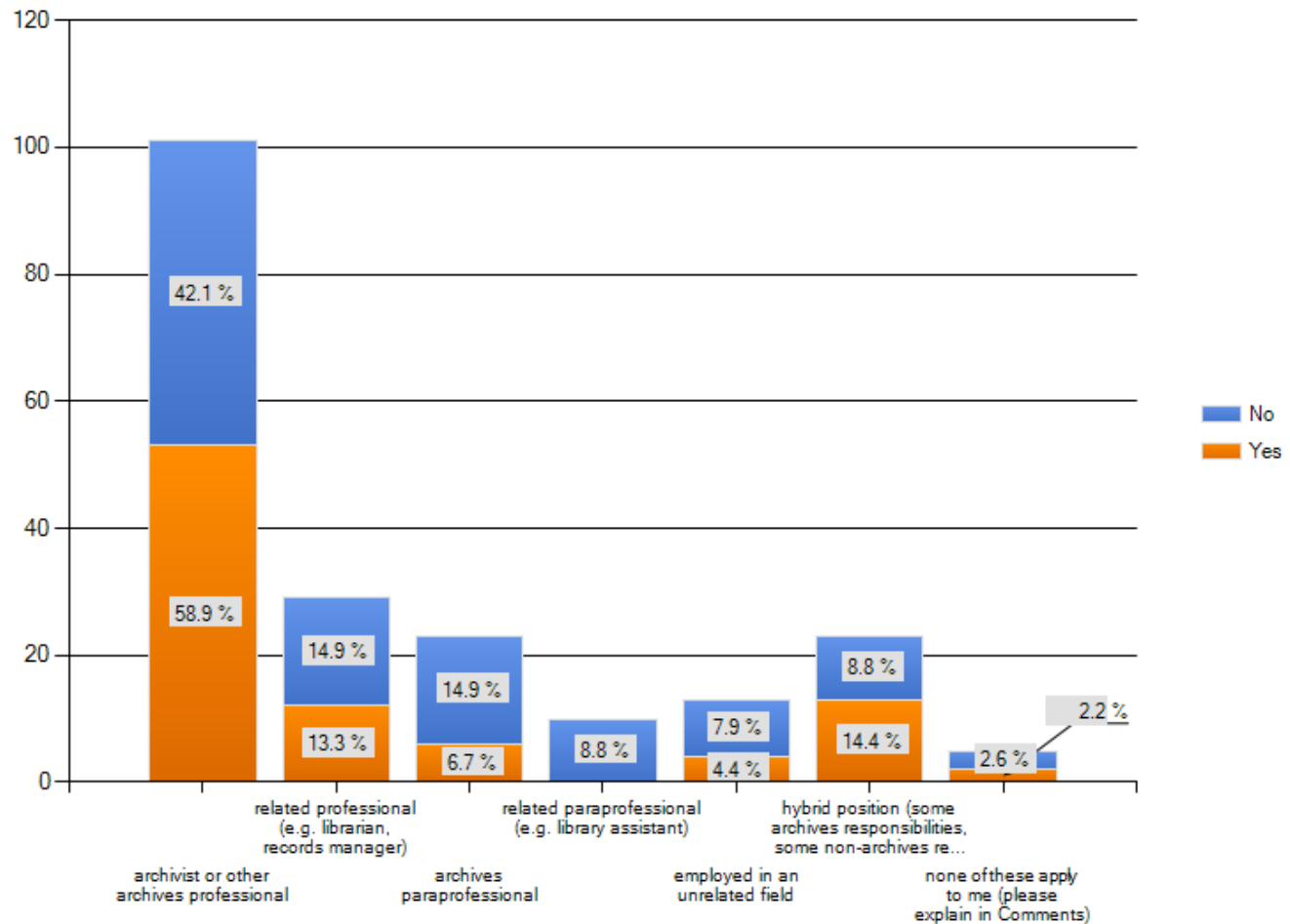


# Archives-related experience of those still looking for first position



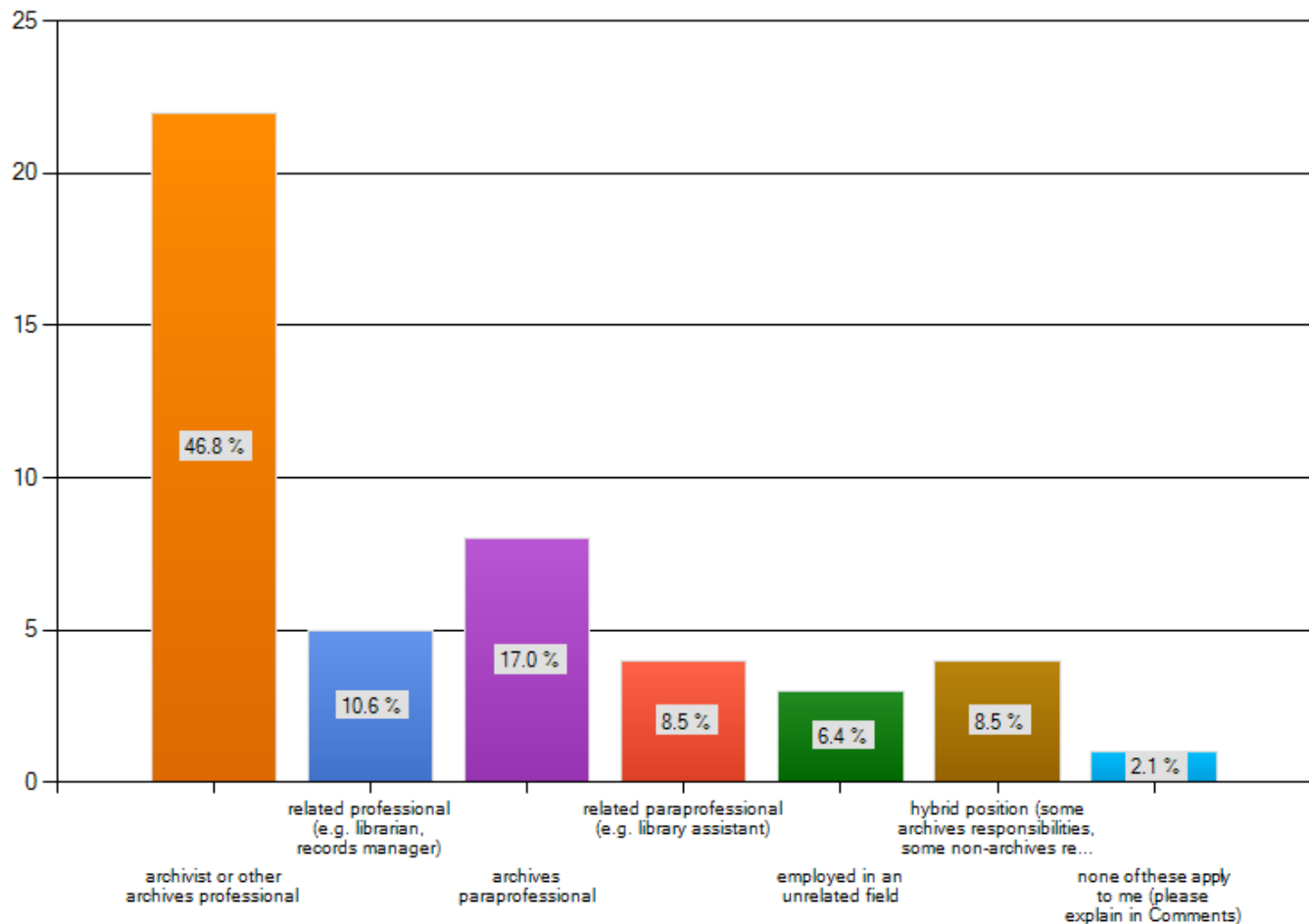
# Need to relocate?

How would you best describe the position type of your first job?



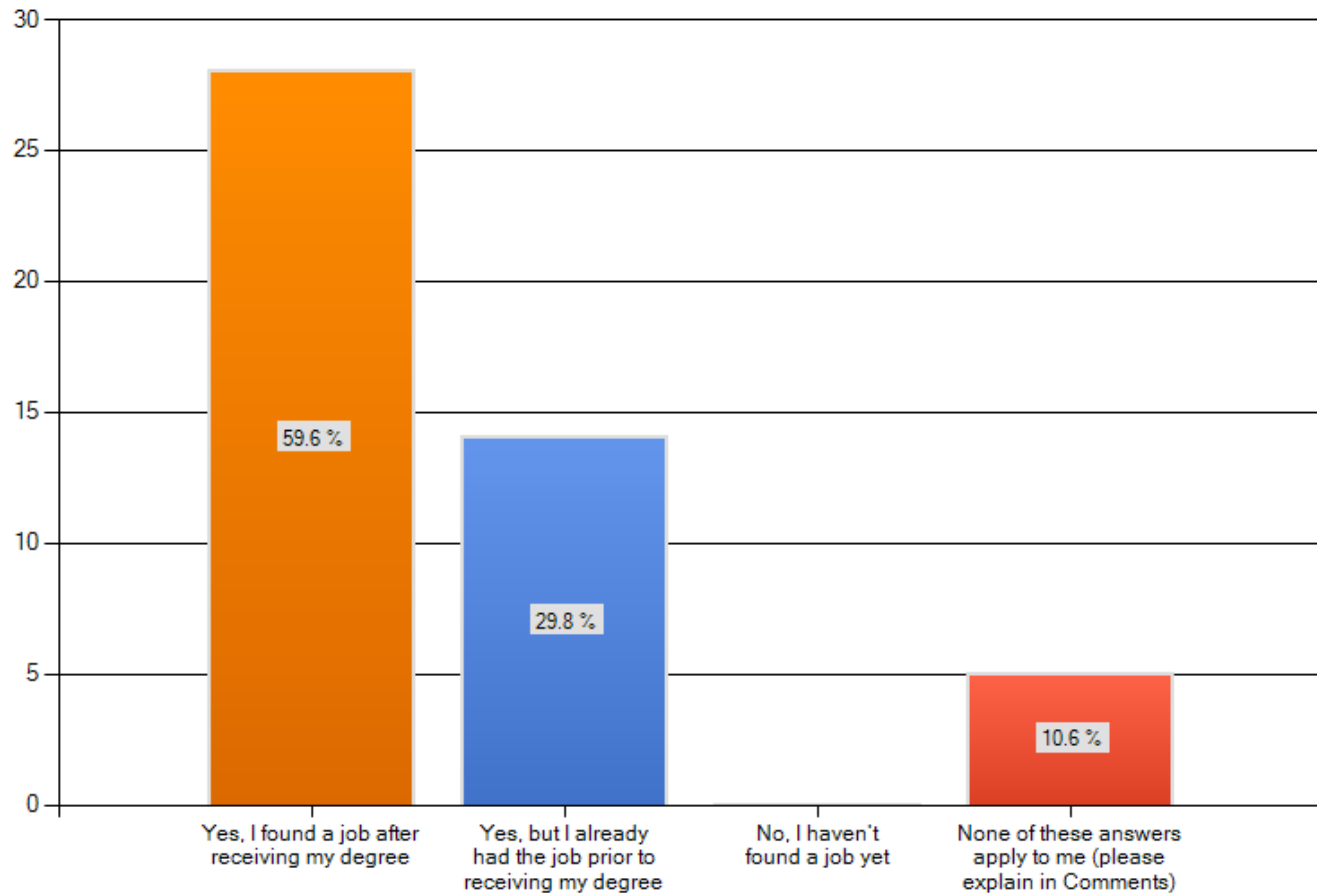
# Of those who did not want to relocate and found a position

How would you best describe the position type of your first job?



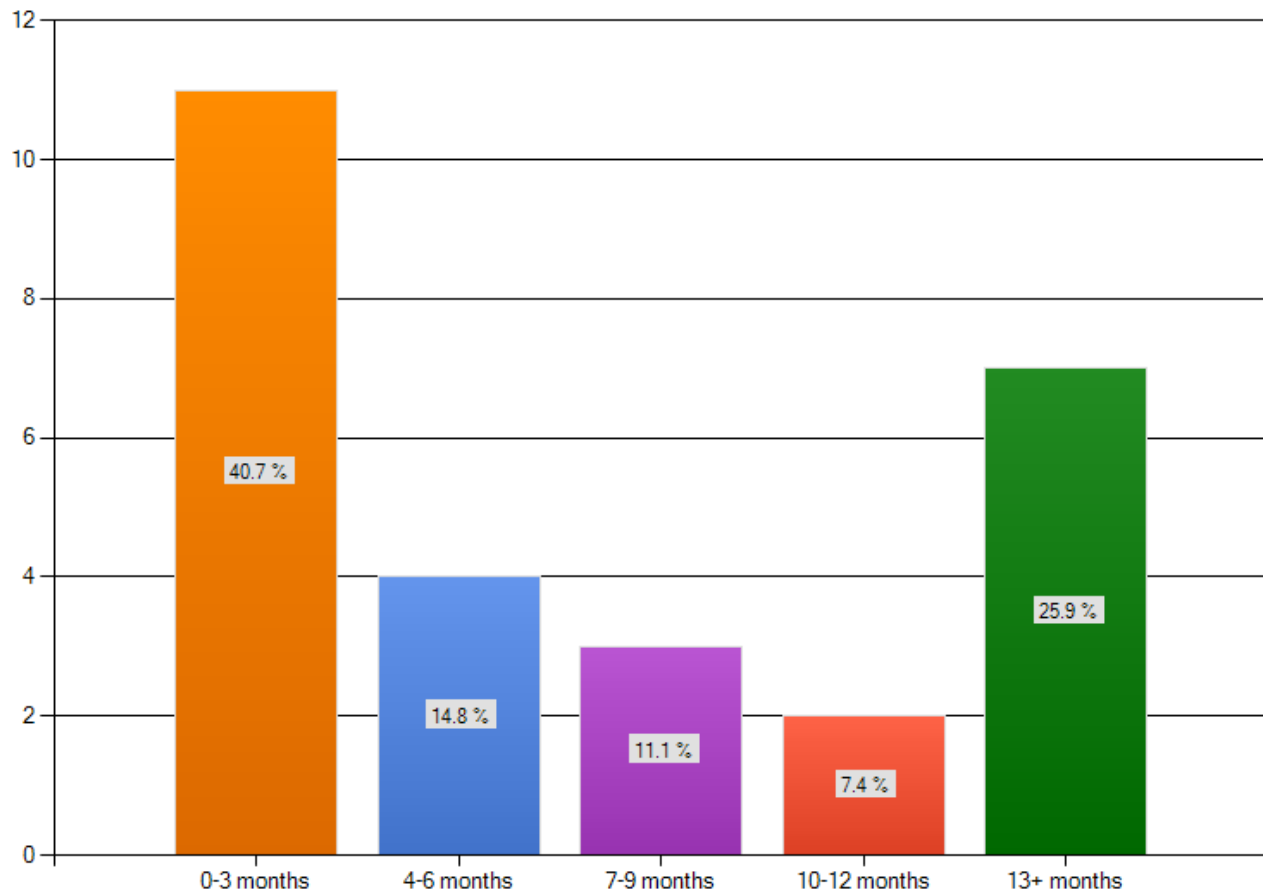
# Of those who did not want to relocate and found a position

Have you found a job post-graduation? (Please consider any paid employment, in any field, when answering this question.)



# Those not wanting to relocate and currently looking for a position

How long have you been searching for a position?







# Re-cap

- Not always lengthy: People may find employment after searching for 1-3 months, and applying between 1-20 positions
- However, there are a significant number of those with temp and paraprofessional positions, and according to *Library Journal*, this trend is on the rise
- Many graduates who are employed received just one interview