

Ithaka S+R

US Library Survey 2013



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March 29, 2014

Outline of Today's Presentation

- » Background and Methodology
- » Strategy and Leadership
 - » The importance of the information literacy role
 - » Tremendous institution type diversity
 - » The role of assessment
- » Budget and Staffing
 - » Commitments and constraints in staffing
 - » Support for special collections
- » Library Collections and Formats
 - » The perceived decline in print research collections
 - » The importance of interdependency
 - » The perceived importance of ebooks
- » Discussion
- » Lots more in the free-to-download report

Providing Evidence for Planning and Strategy



The Ithaka S+R Faculty Survey, run triennially for five cycles (2000-2012), helps us to understand large-scale change in research and teaching practices.

Our Research Support Services program provides qualitative measures about the research practices and support services needs of academics:

- *Supporting the Changing Research Practices of Historians*
- *Supporting the Changing Research Practices of Chemists*
- Art history project currently in progress

The Ithaka S+R Library Survey, covering directors and deans triennially for two cycles (2010, 2013), helps us to understand how libraries are adapting and the constraints they face.

Local Surveys of students, faculty members, and librarians, help colleges and universities understand their users to increase organizational alignment.

The Library Survey 2013: Advisory Committee



- Larry P. Alford, Chief Librarian, University of Toronto Libraries
- Joseph S. Meisel, Deputy Provost, Brown University
- Jenica P. Rogers, Director of Libraries, SUNY Potsdam
- Charles Thomas, Executive Director, University System of Maryland and Affiliated Institutions

The Library Survey 2013: Sponsors



The Library Survey 2013: Methodology



- Population included library deans and directors at US higher education institutions granting a bachelor's degree or higher.
- In October 2013, 1,508 library deans and directors were invited and then reminded to participate via email
- By November, 499 responses were received

	Number of Invitations	Number of Responses	Response Rate
Baccalaureate	612	186	30.4%
Master's	620	190	30.6%
Doctoral	276	123	44.6%
Total	1508	499	33.1%

Strategy and Leadership

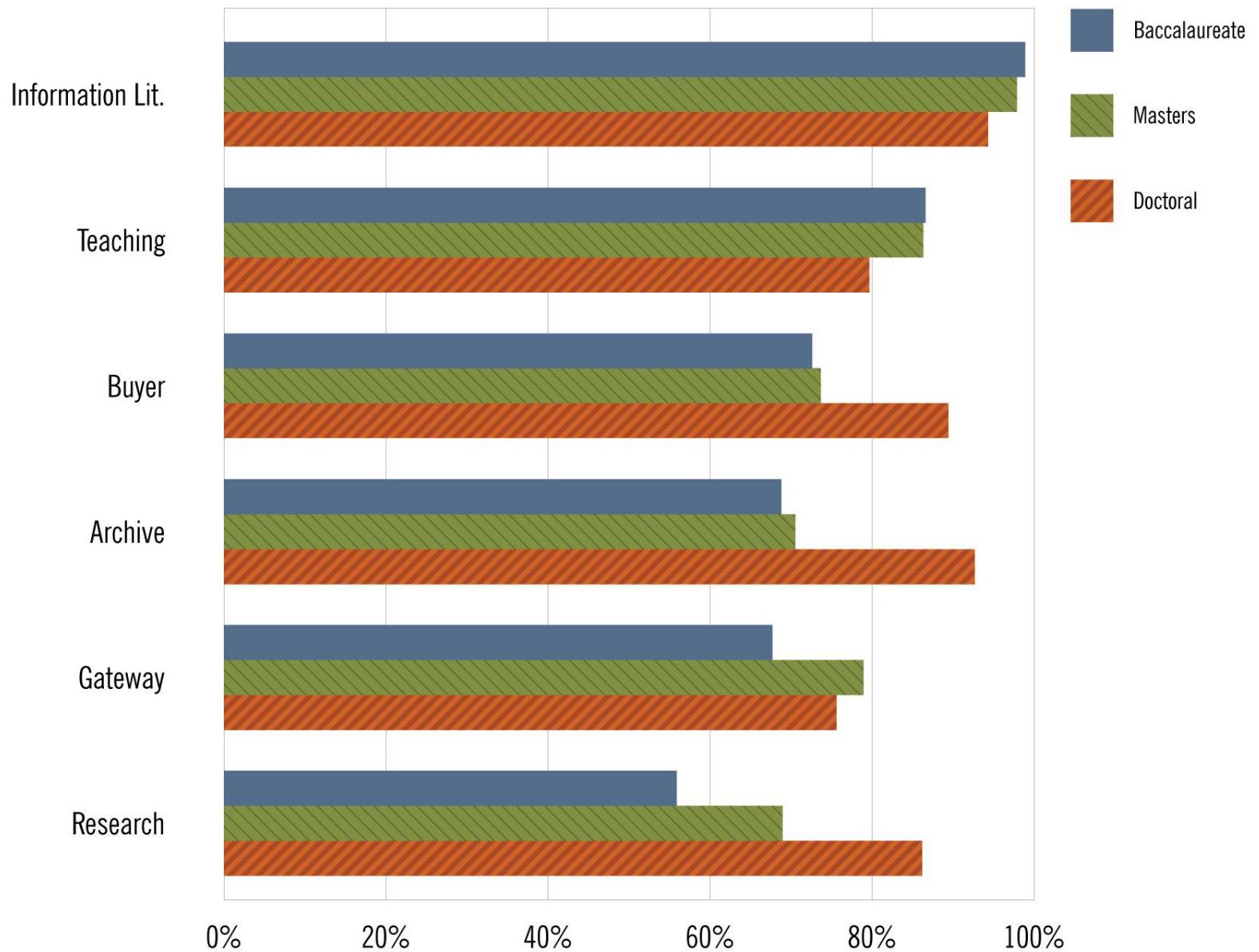
“Role of the Library” Question

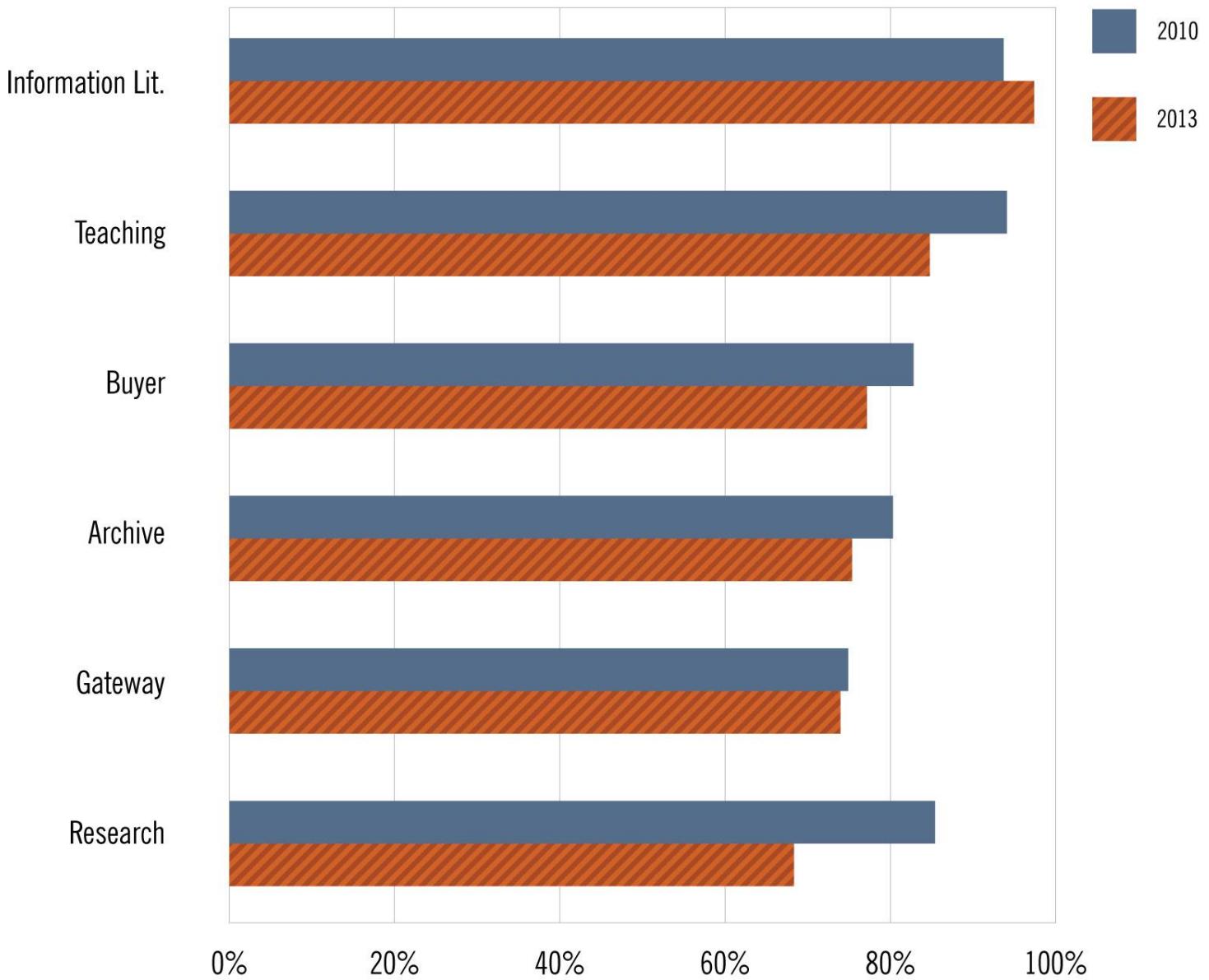
The survey included a question that Ithaka S+R asks in most surveys:

“How important is it to you that your college or university library provide each of the functions below?”

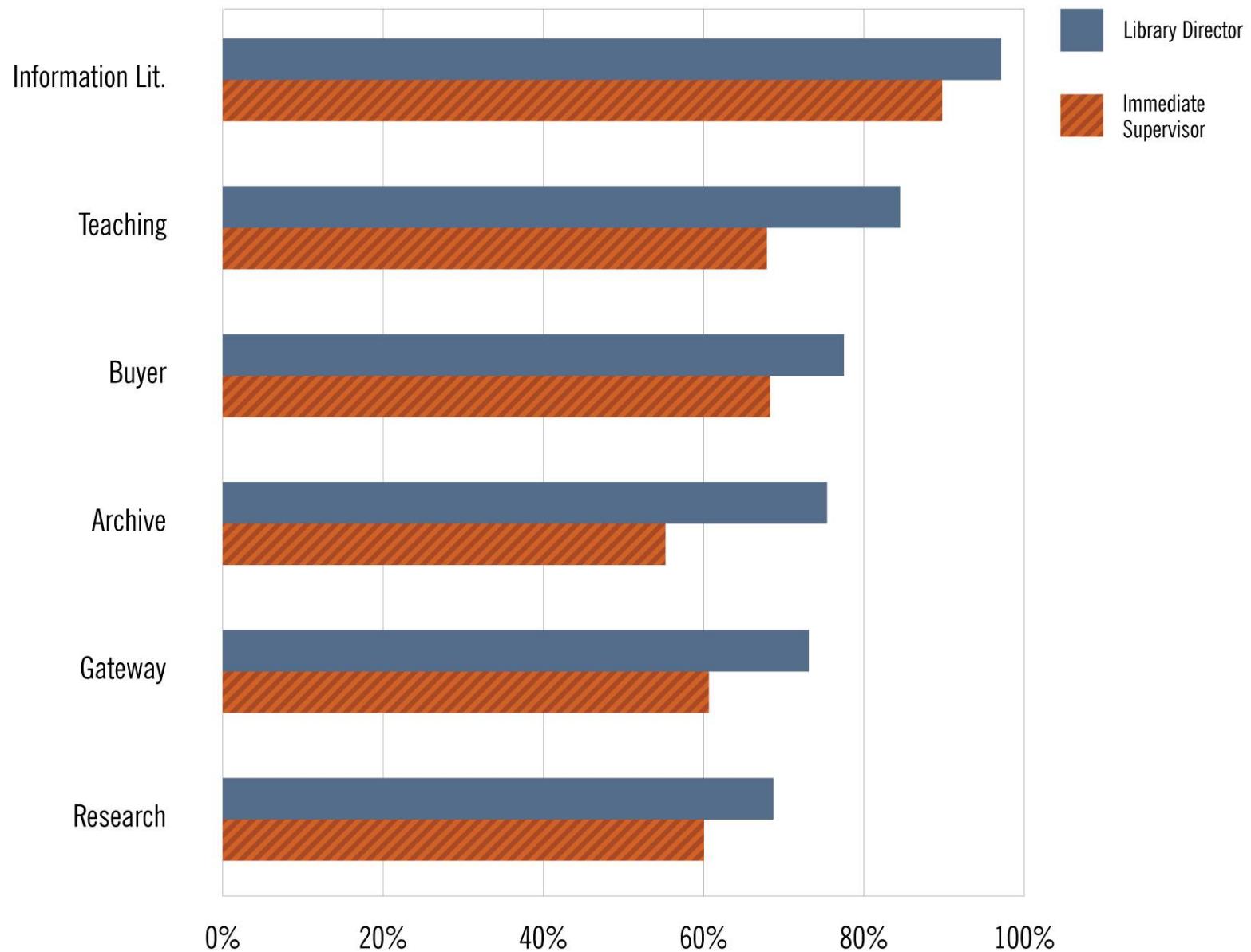
Respondents rate the importance of six functions:

1. Buyer- “The library pays for resources faculty members need, from academic journals to books to electronic resources.”
2. Archive- “The library serves as a repository of resources; in other words, it archives, preserves, and keeps track of resources.”
3. Gateway- “The library serves as a starting point or ‘gateway’ for locating information for faculty research.”
4. Research- “The library provides active support that helps increase the productivity of faculty research and scholarship.”
5. Teaching- “The library supports and facilitates faculty teaching activities.”
6. Information Lit.- “The library helps undergraduates develop research, critical analysis, and information literacy skills.”

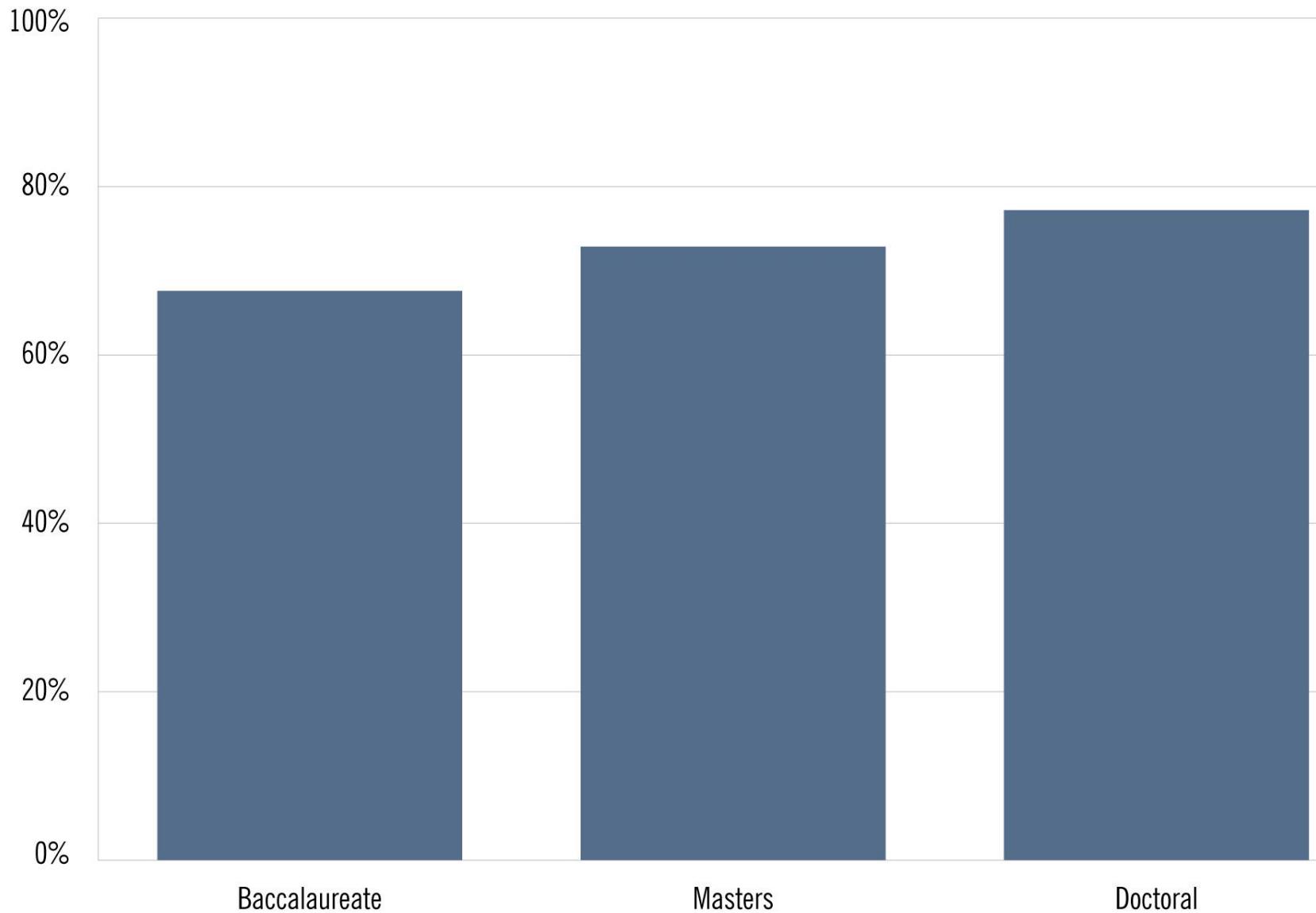




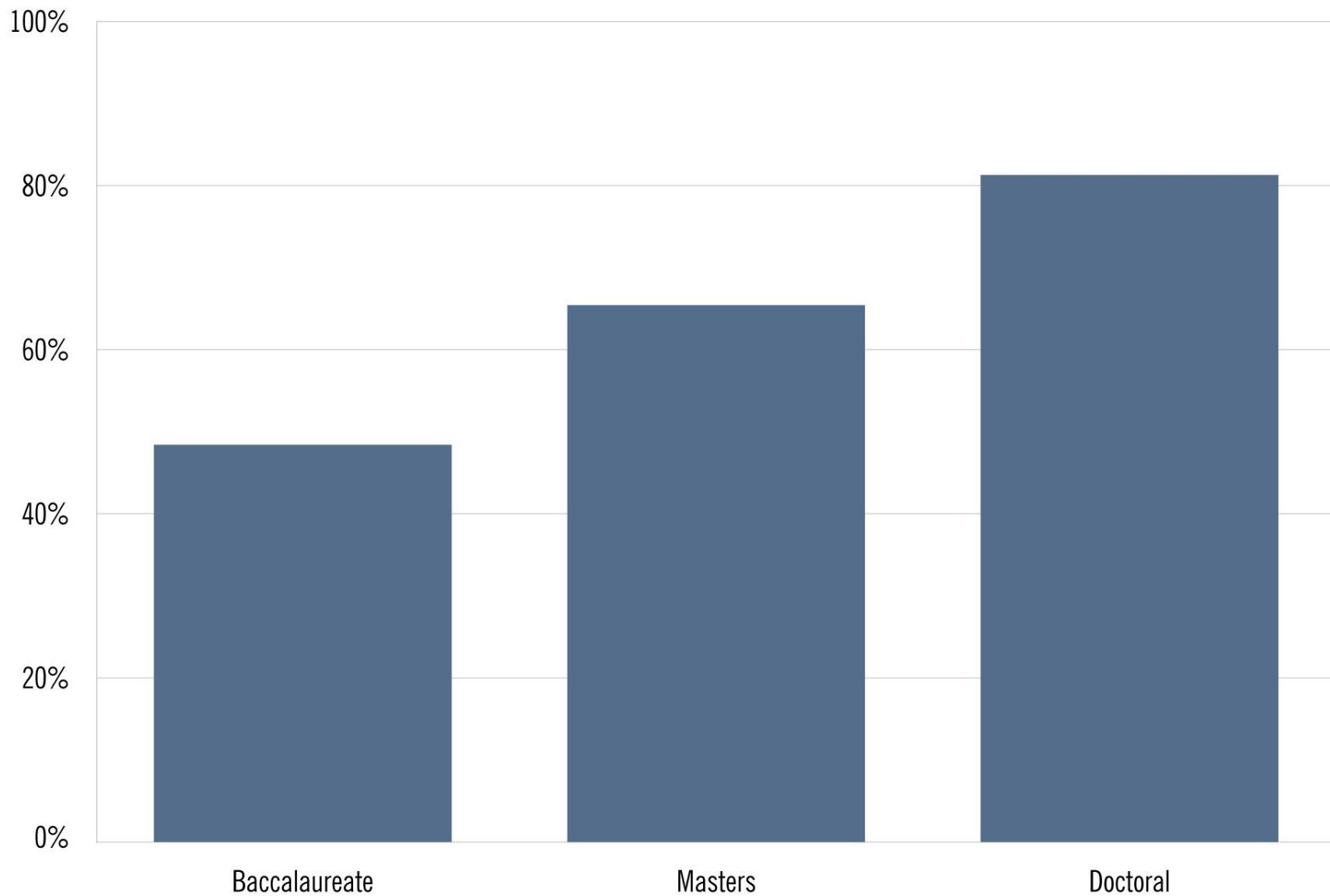
"How important do you believe it is to your immediate supervisor that your college or university library provide each of the functions below or serve in the capacity listed below?" Percentage of respondents rating each as very important compared with the number who reported that their immediate supervisor would rate it as very important, by institution type.



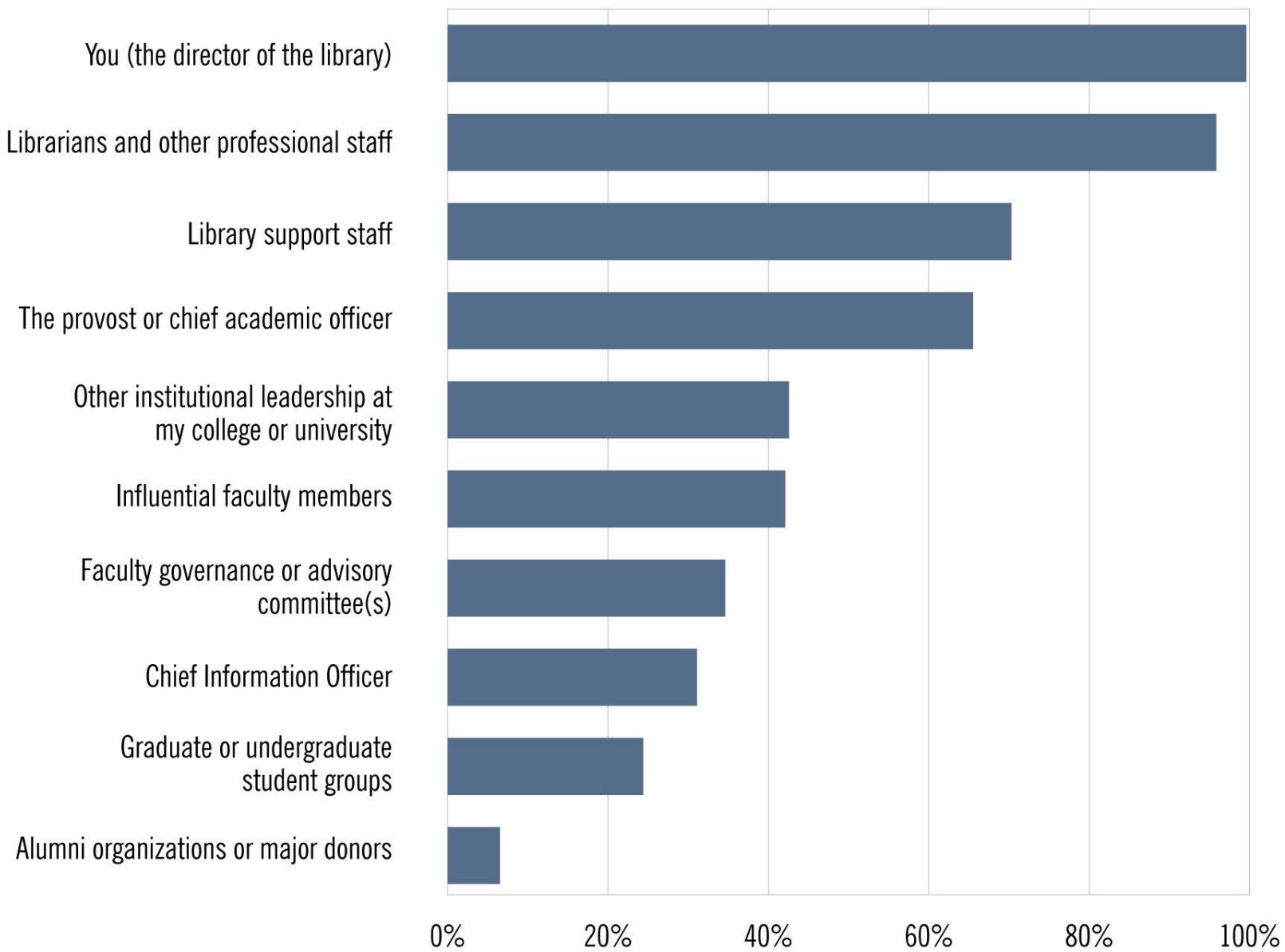
"My direct supervisor and I share the same vision for the library." Percentage of respondents who strongly agreed.



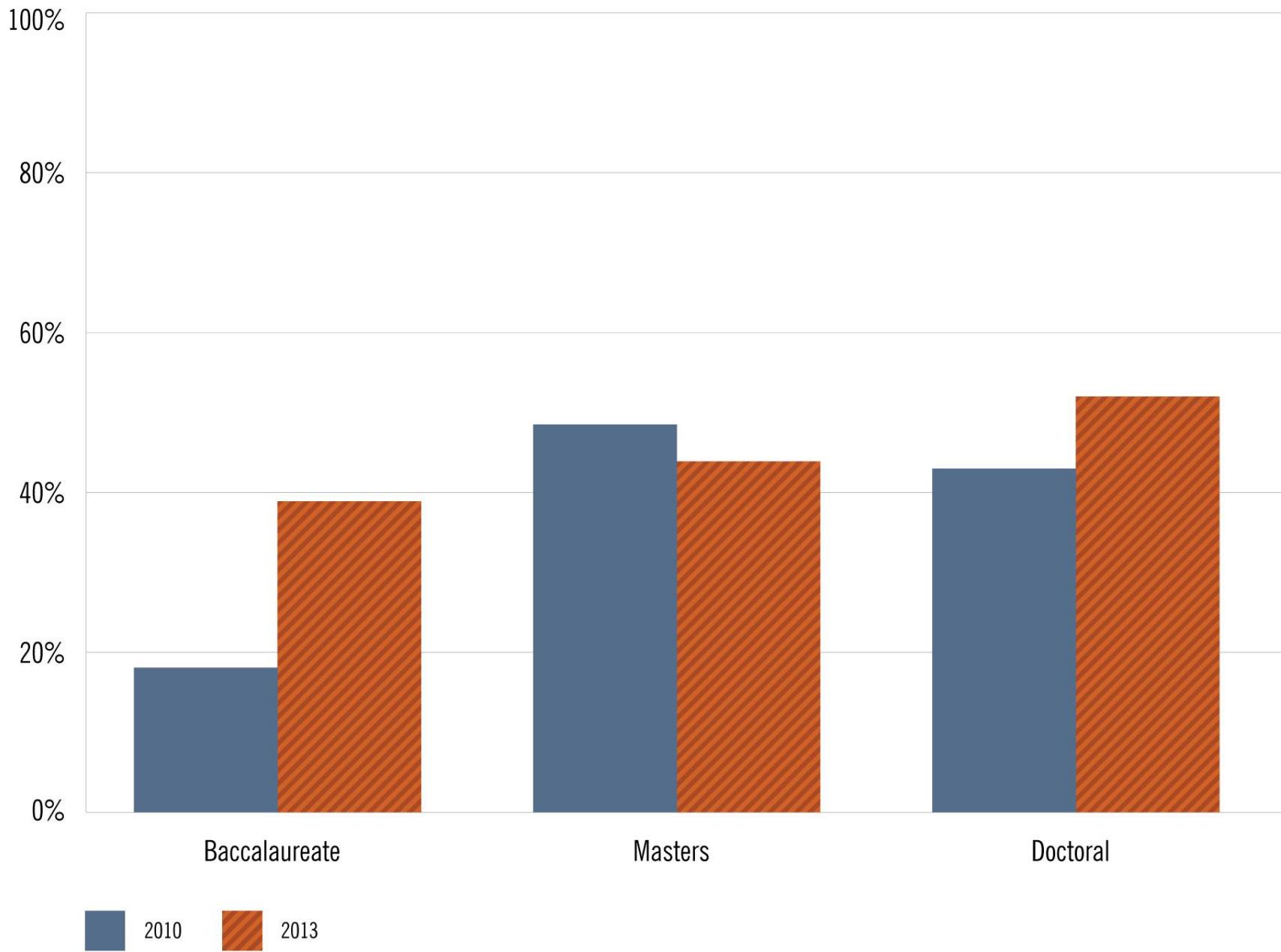
"I am considered by academic deans and other senior administrators to be a member of my institution's senior academic leadership." Percentage of respondents who strongly agreed.



"How involved is each of the following campus stakeholders in the development of your library's strategic priorities?" Percentage of respondents rating each group as very involved.



"My library has a well-developed strategy to meet changing user needs and research habits." Percentage of respondents who strongly agreed, over time.



"How effective have your library's current data collection, analysis, and assessment been in helping you to do each of the following?" Percentage of respondents rating each item as very effective, by institution type.

Understanding the needs of faculty members and students

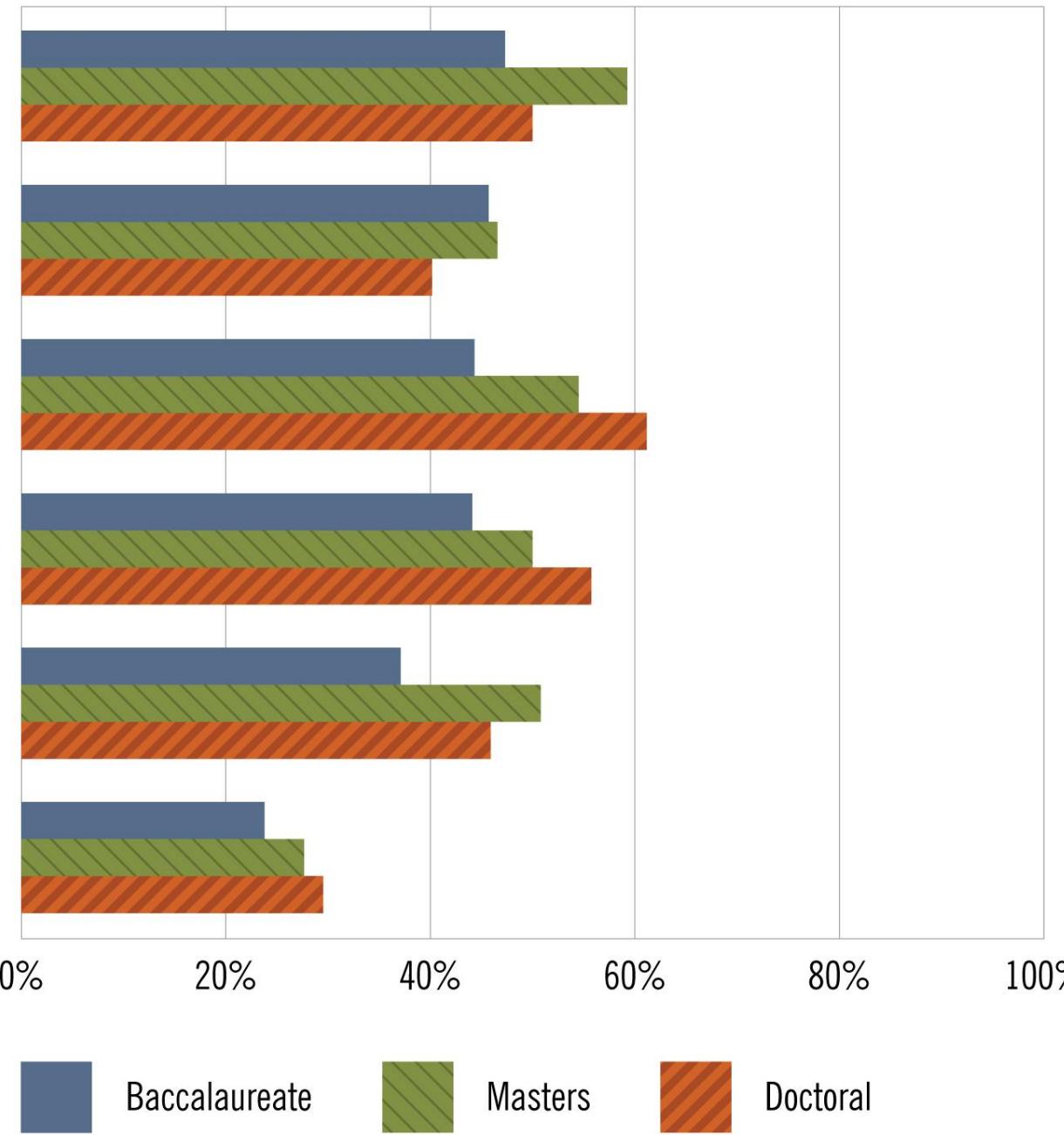
Deciding how to prioritize collections spending

Deciding how to best configure the library's physical space

Designing new library services

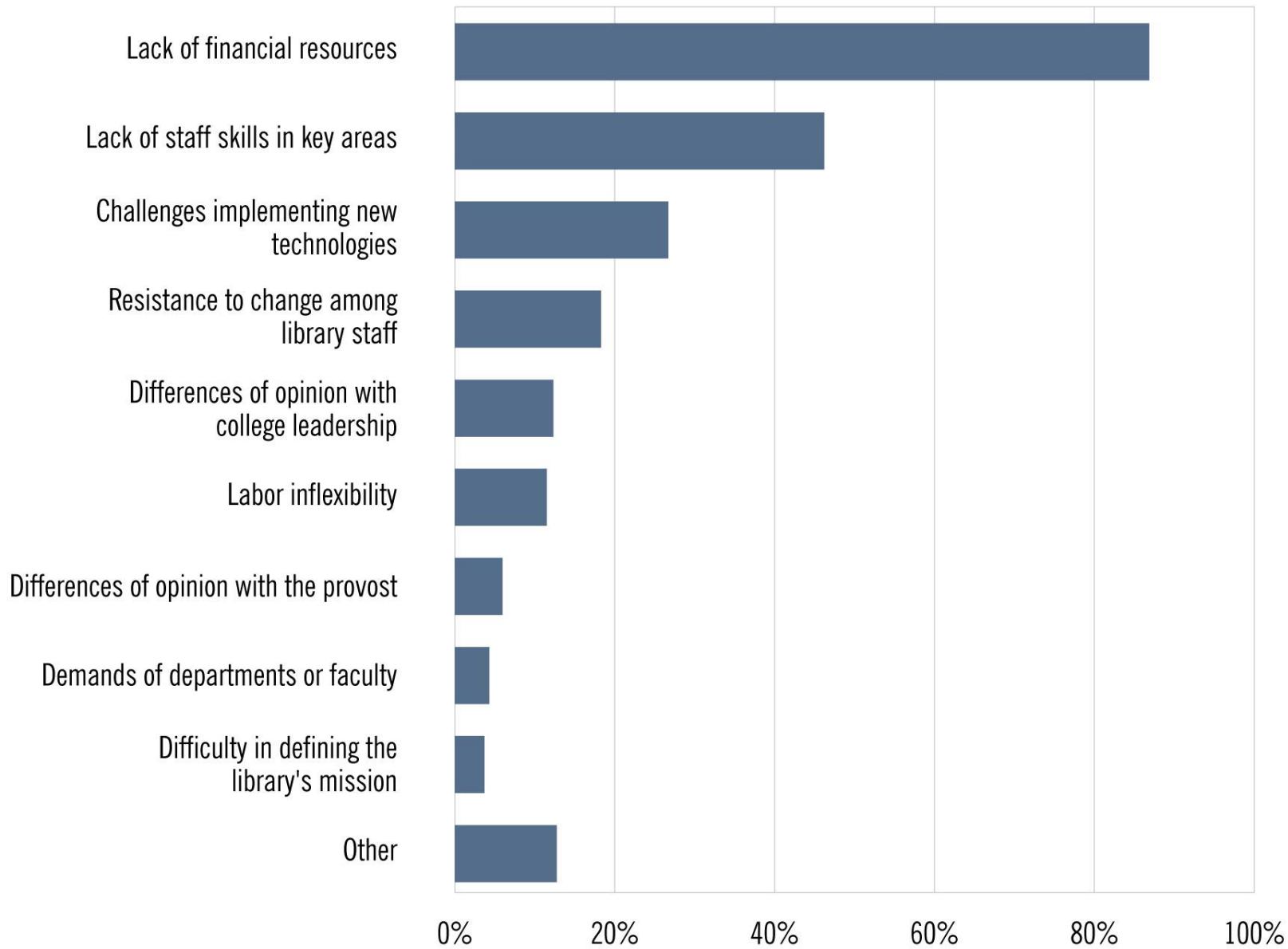
Demonstrating the value of the library to campus administrators

Advocating for increased funding or grants



"What are the primary constraints on your ability to make desired changes in your library? Please select up to three items that have the greatest impact at your institution, or leave the question blank if none of the items apply."

Percentage of respondents selecting each item.

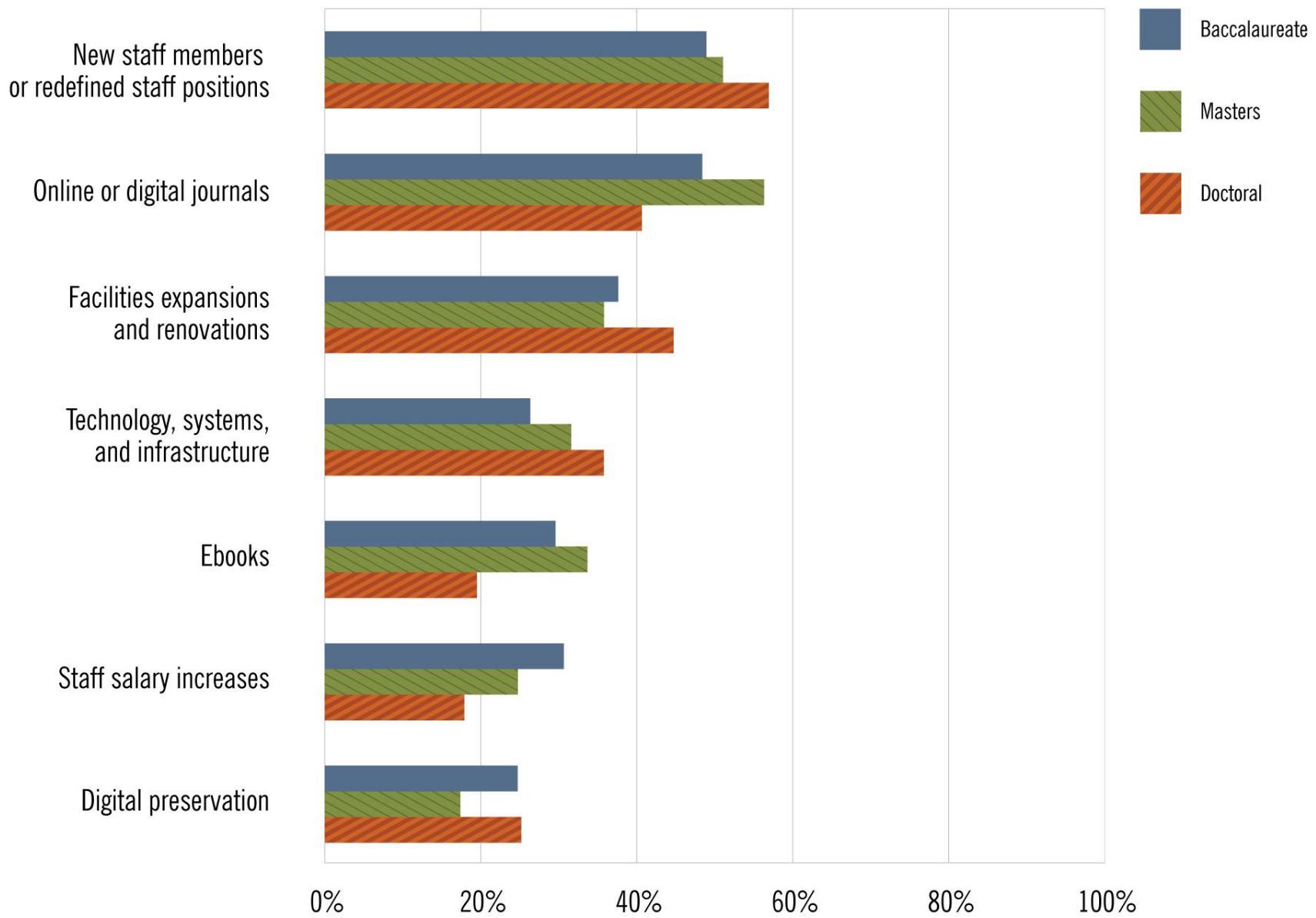


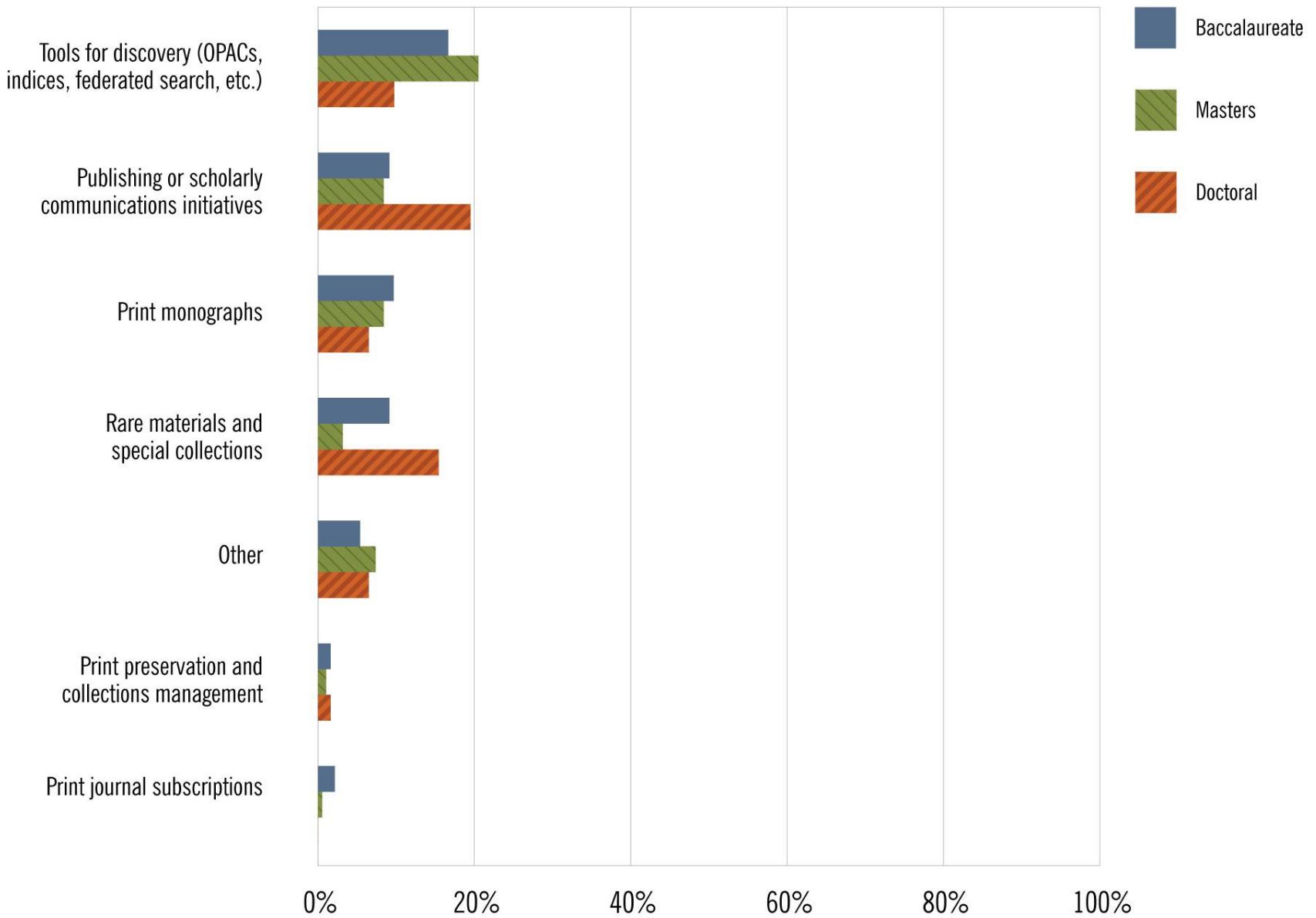
Staffing and Budget

Budget Increase Question

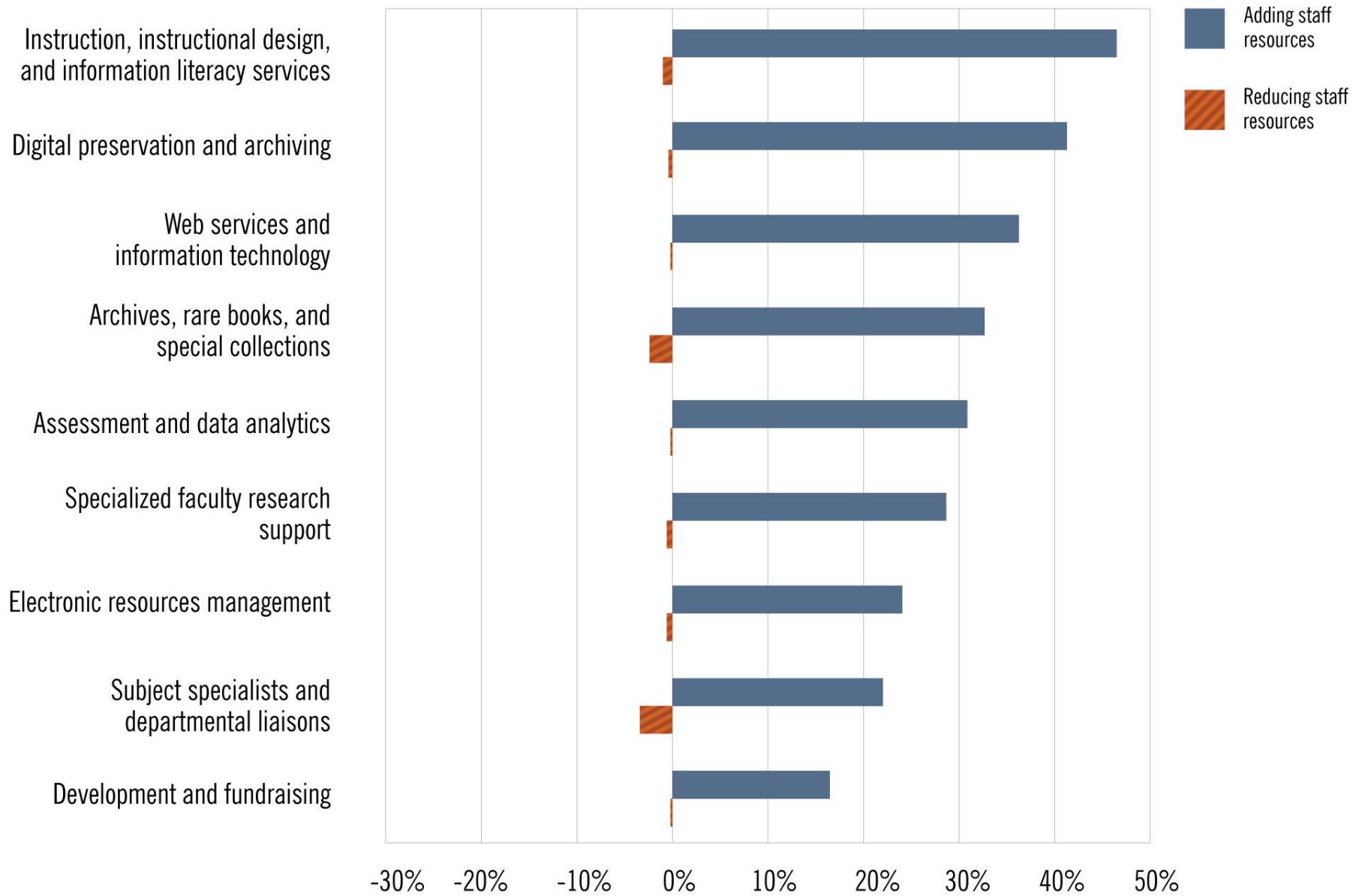
“If you received a 10% increase in your library’s budget next year in addition to the funds you already expect to receive, in which of the following areas would you allocate the money?”

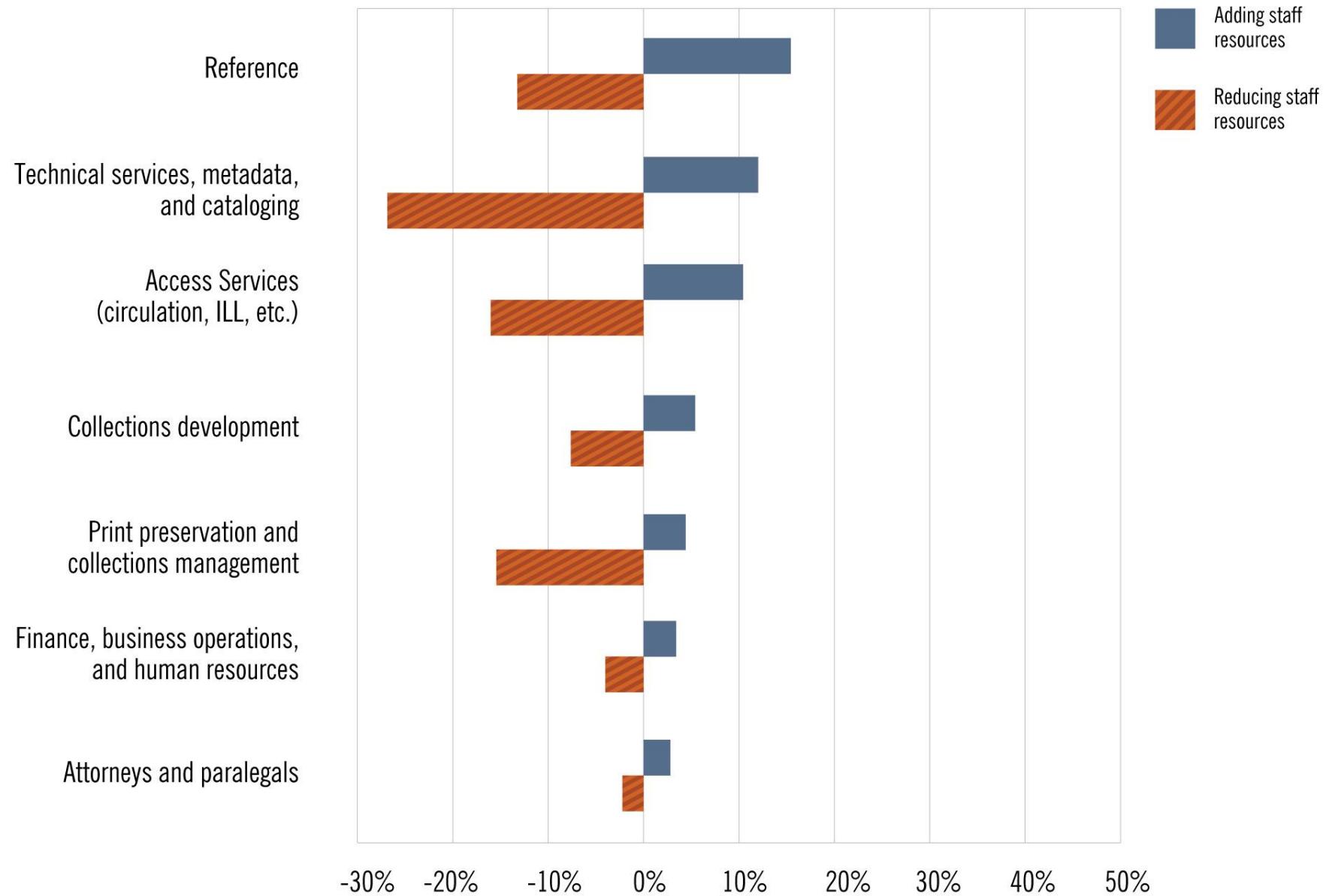
Respondents could choose up to three areas where they would invest new money.





"To the best of your knowledge, will your library add or reduce staff resources in any of the following areas over the next 5 years?" Percentages of respondents predicting reduction or addition of staff resources in each area.





Library Collections and Formats

“Library Functions” Question



The 2013 question included a question about the prioritization of library functions:

“How much of a priority is each of the following functions in your library?”

Respondents rated their prioritization of 24 different types of library services and functions.

Facilitating access to materials through inter-library loan or other borrowing agreements

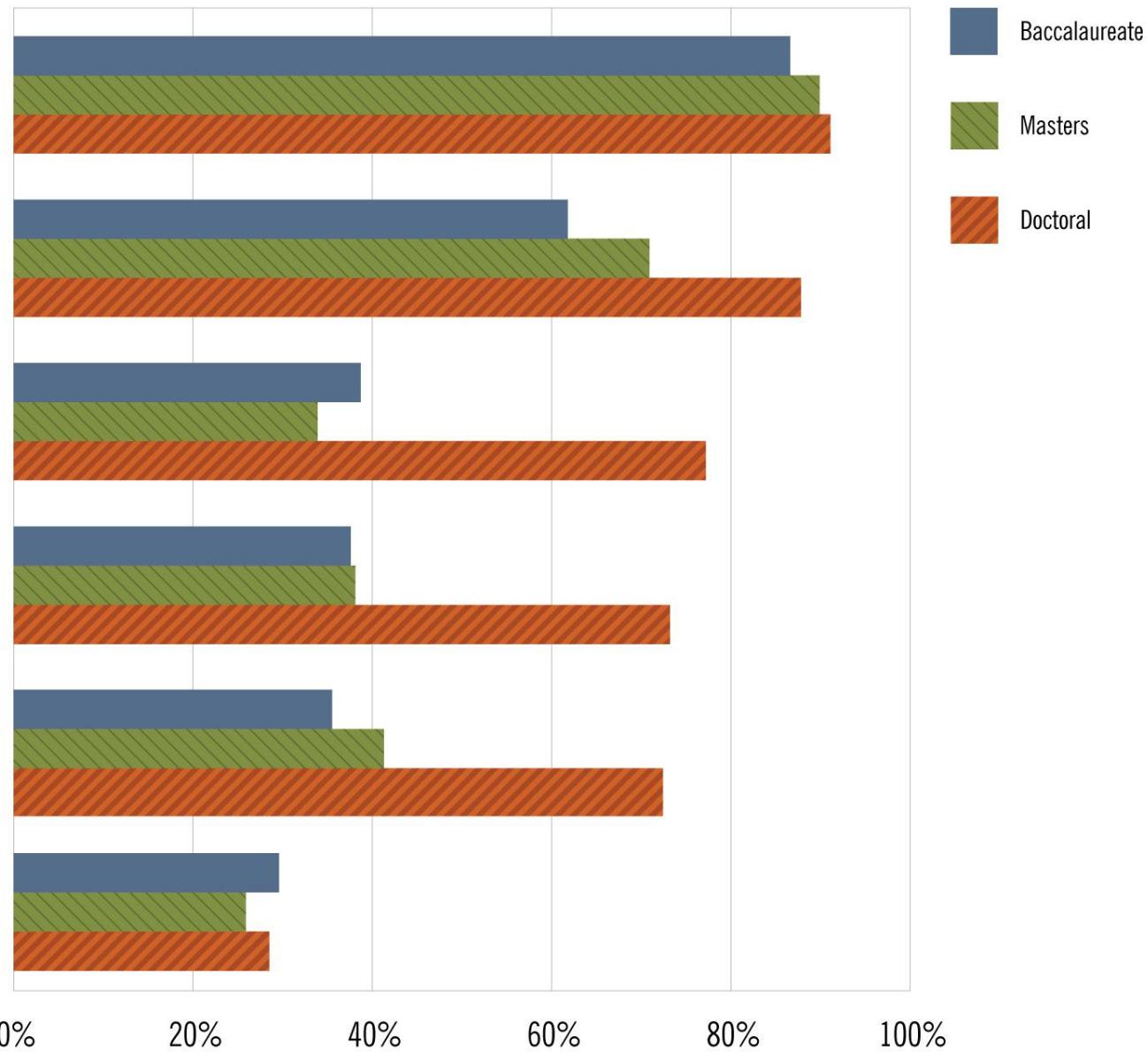
Licensing electronic journals

Building & maintaining unique special collections of research materials

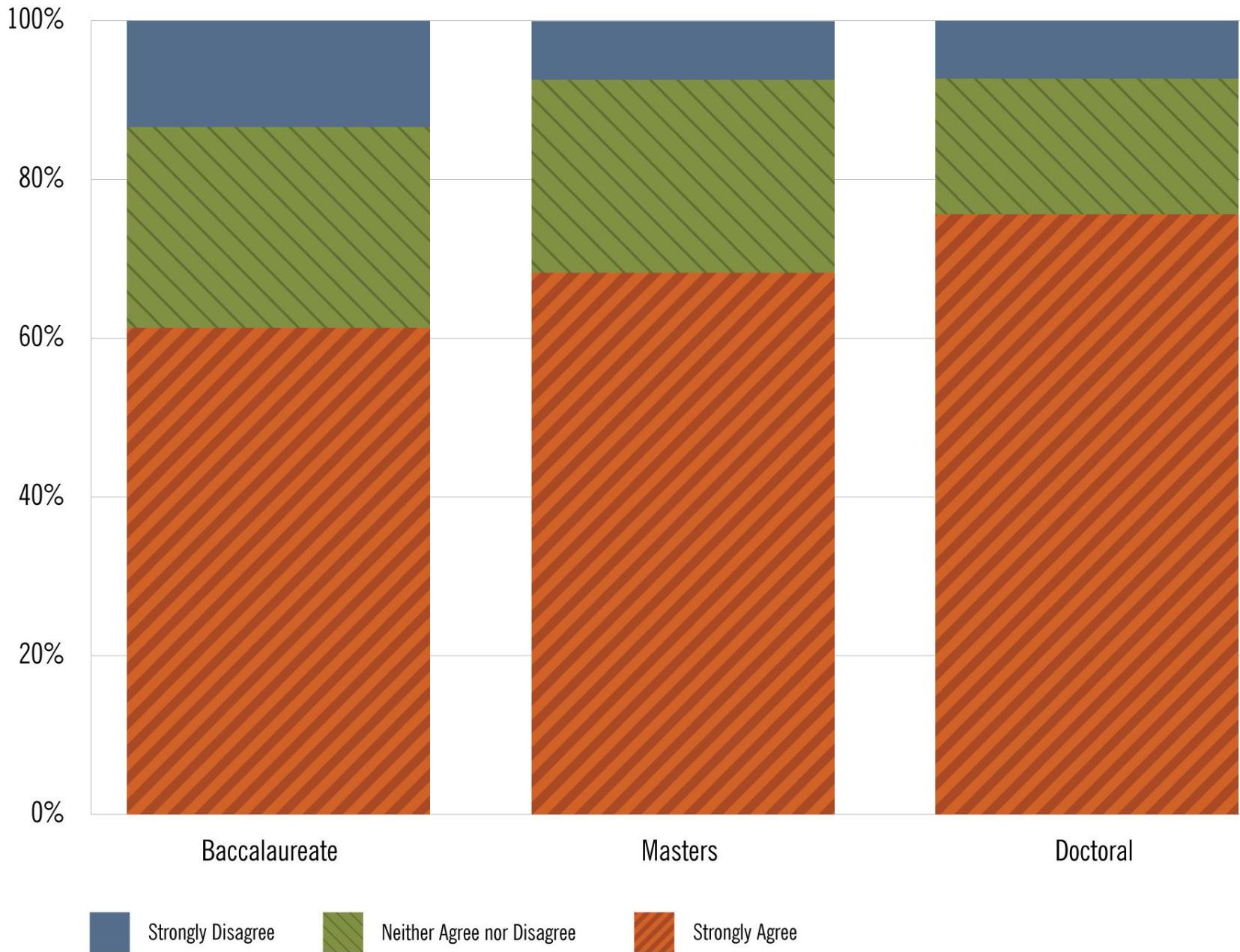
Digitizing materials and making them broadly available to the public

Preserving digital materials

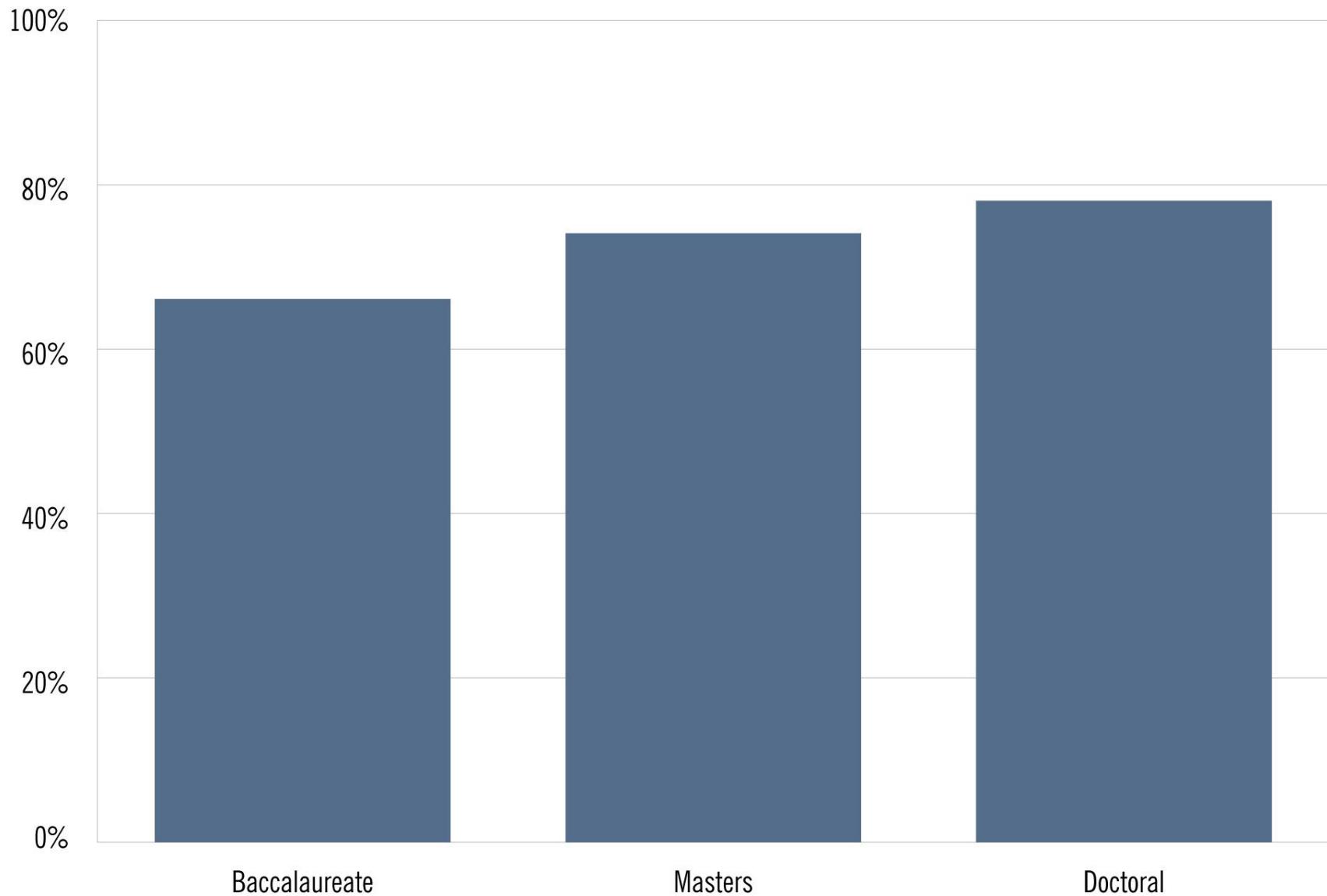
Purchasing print books to build research collections



"Building our local print collections is much less important than it was 5 years ago." Percentage of respondents who strongly agreed.



"My library increasingly relies on collaborative relationships with other libraries to fulfill our users' needs for materials." Percentage of respondents who strongly agreed.



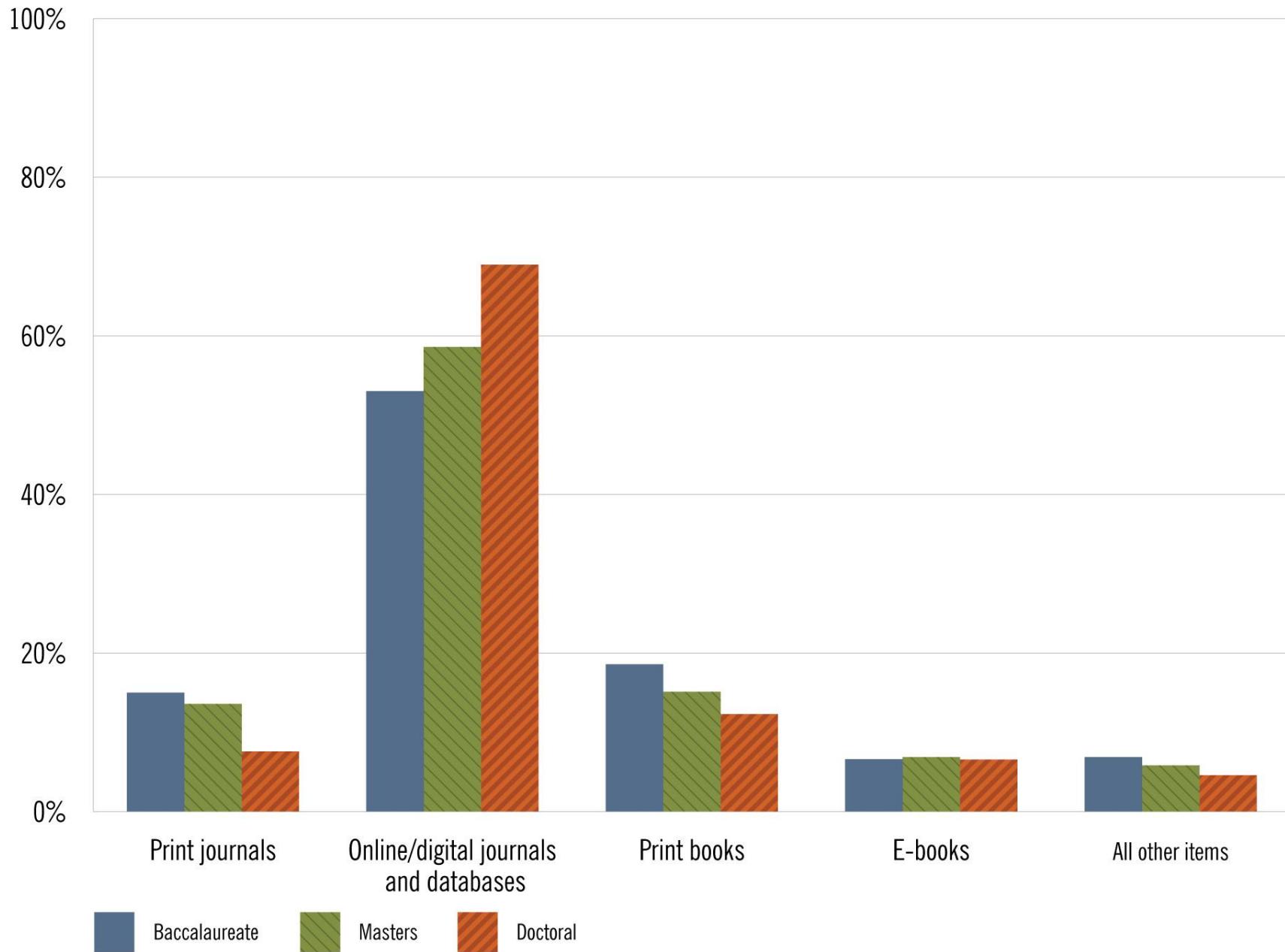
Budget Question



“What percentage of your library's materials budget is spent on the following items?”

1. Print books
2. Print journals
3. Online/digital journals and databases
4. E-books
5. All other items

Follow up: “In five years, what percentage of your library's materials budget do you estimate will be spent on the following items?”



Averages of budget estimates and predictions. (2010 estimate and 2015 prediction data are from the 2010 survey, while 2013 estimate and 2018 prediction data are from the 2013 survey.)

100%

80%

60%

40%

20%

0%

Print journals

Online/digital journals and databases

Print books

E-books

All other items



2010 Survey - Current Estimate



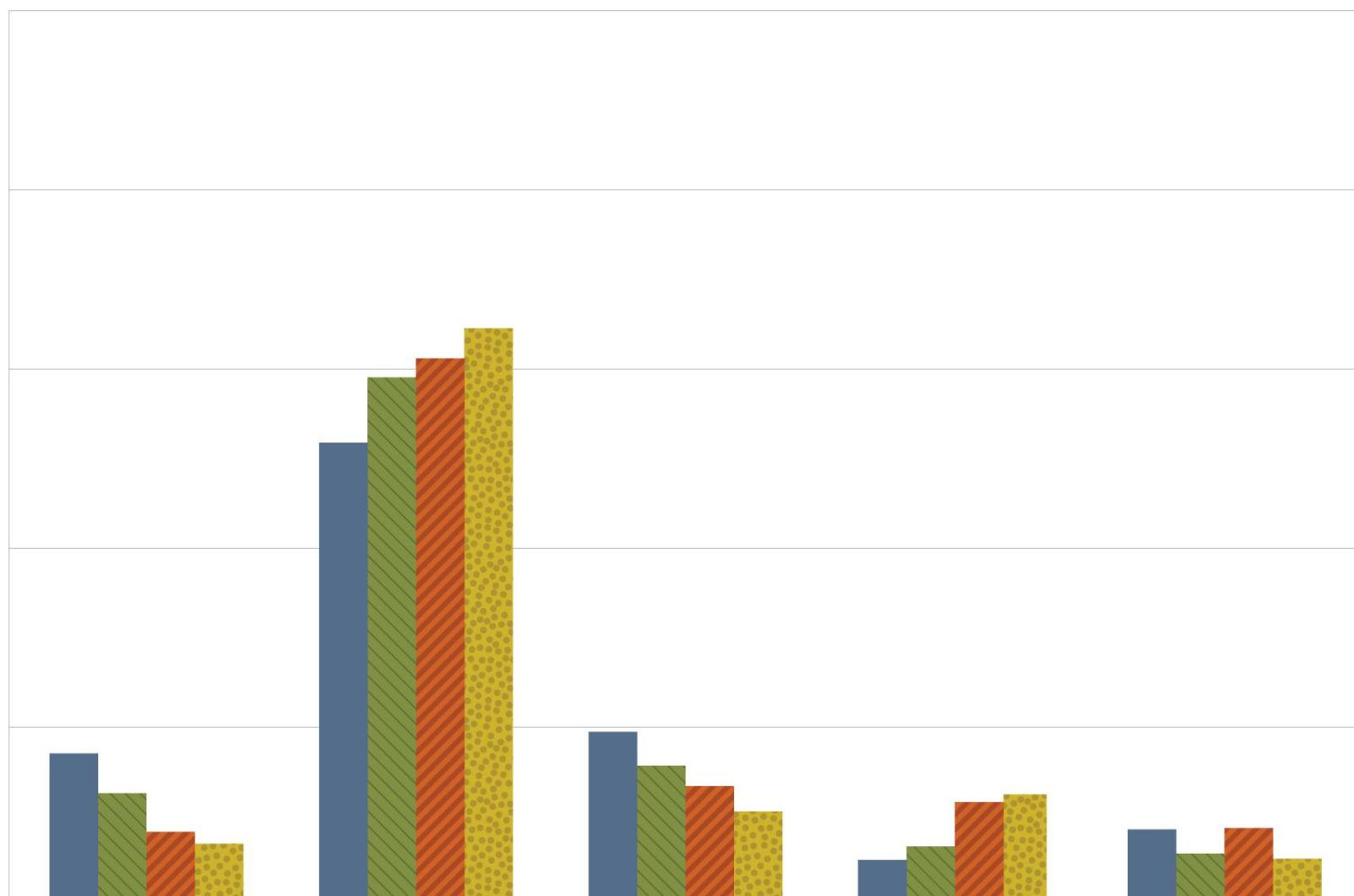
2010 Survey - Prediction for 2015



2013 Survey - Current Estimate

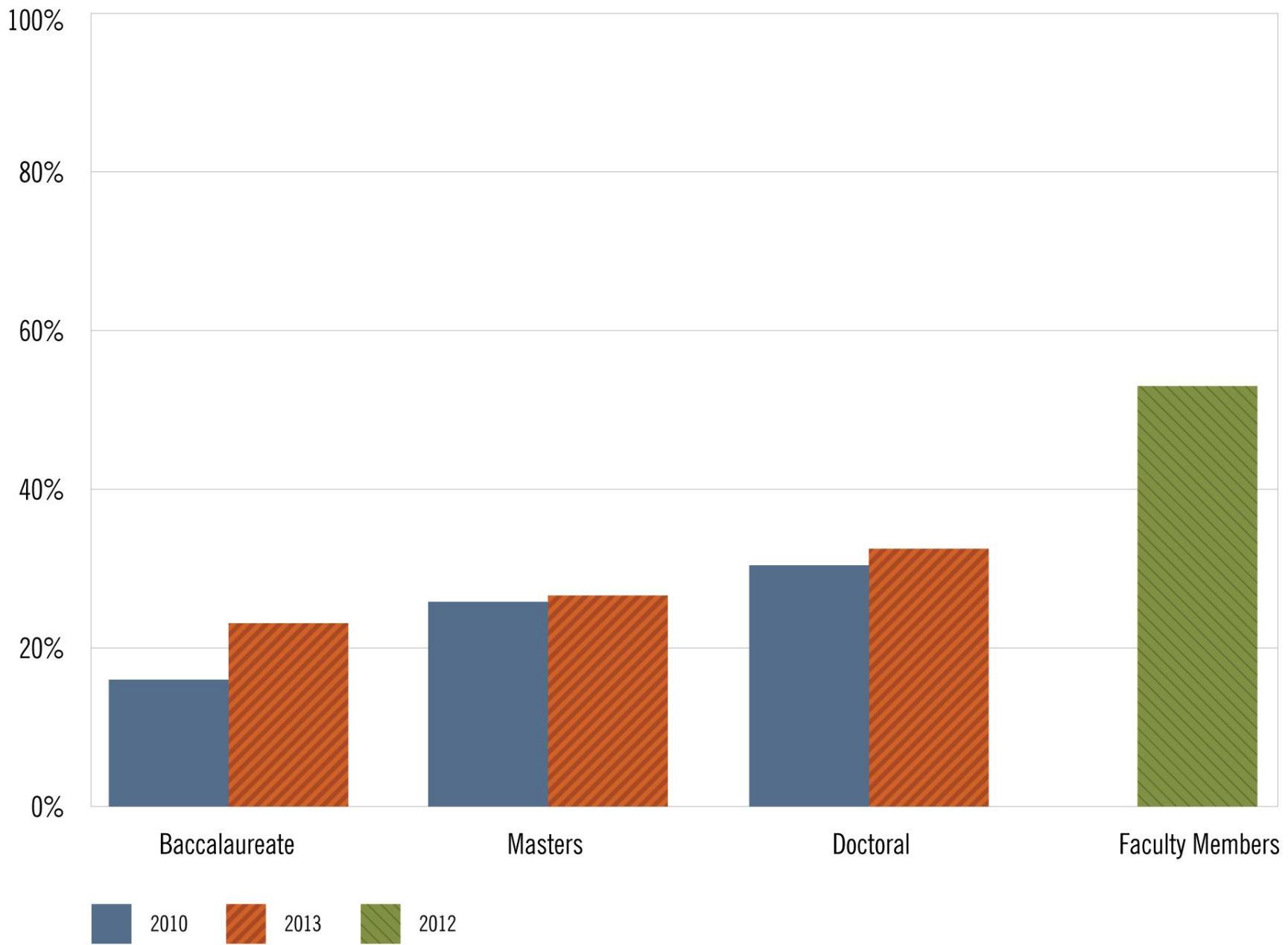


2013 Survey - Prediction for 2018



e-Books

"Electronic versions of scholarly monographs play an important role in the research and teaching of faculty members at my institution." Percentage of respondents who strongly agree, over time, compared with the percentage of Faculty Survey respondents who agreed with a similar statement.



"Within the next five years, the use of e-books will be so prevalent among faculty and students that it will not be necessary to maintain library collections of hard copy books." Percentage of respondents who strongly agreed, over time, compared with the percentage of Faculty Survey respondents who strongly agreed with the same statement.

100%

80%

60%

40%

20%

0%

Baccalaureate

Masters

Doctoral

Faculty Members



2010



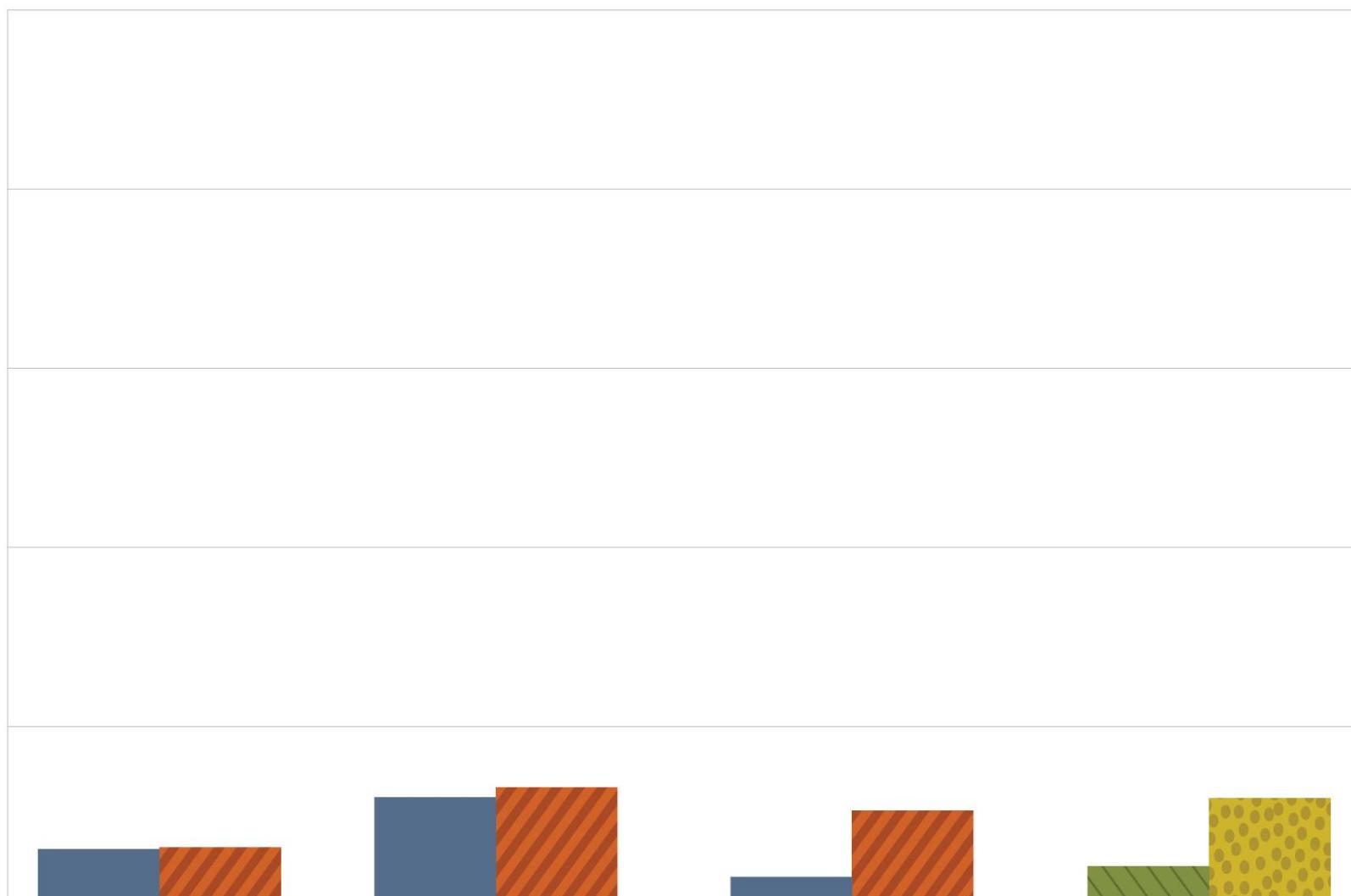
2013



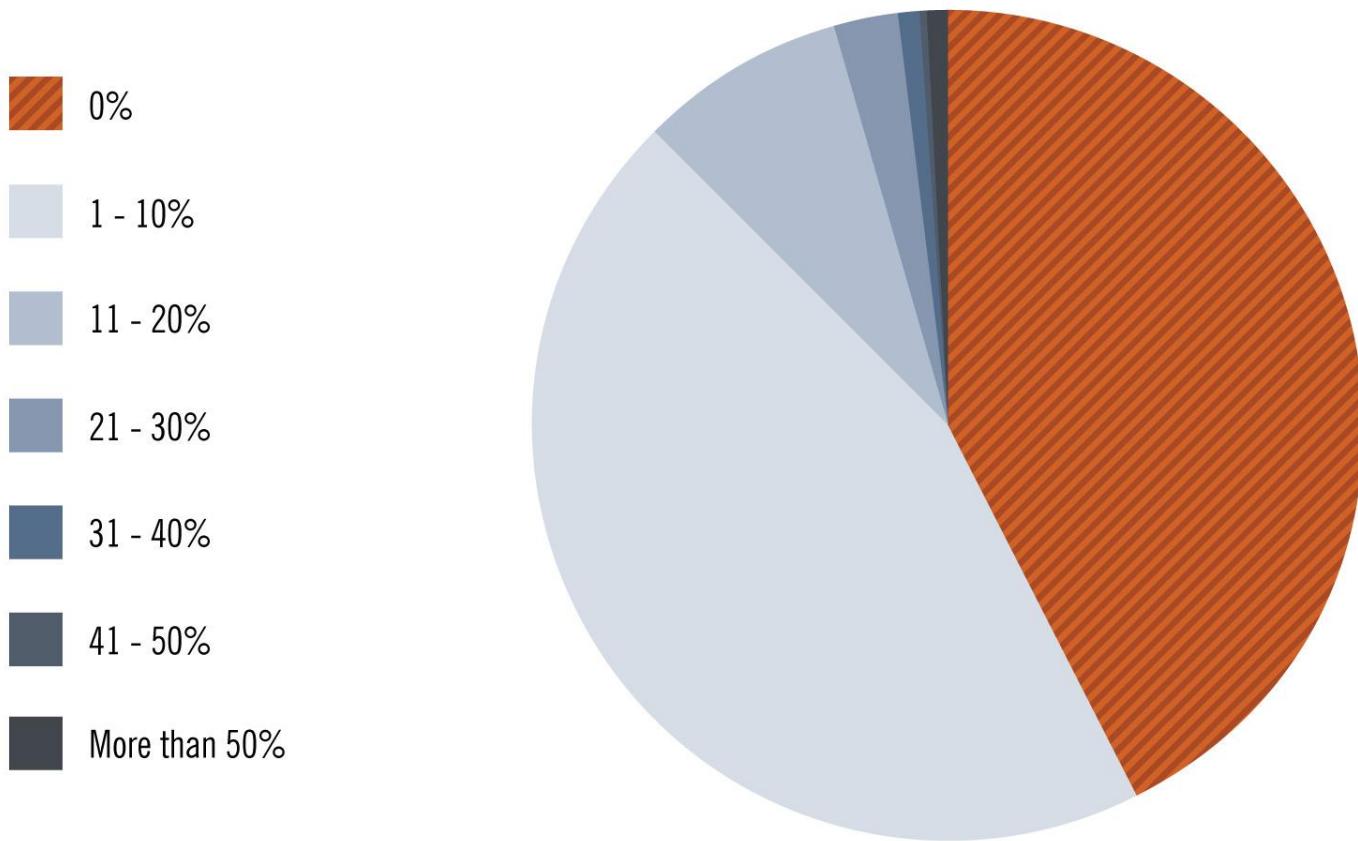
2009



2012



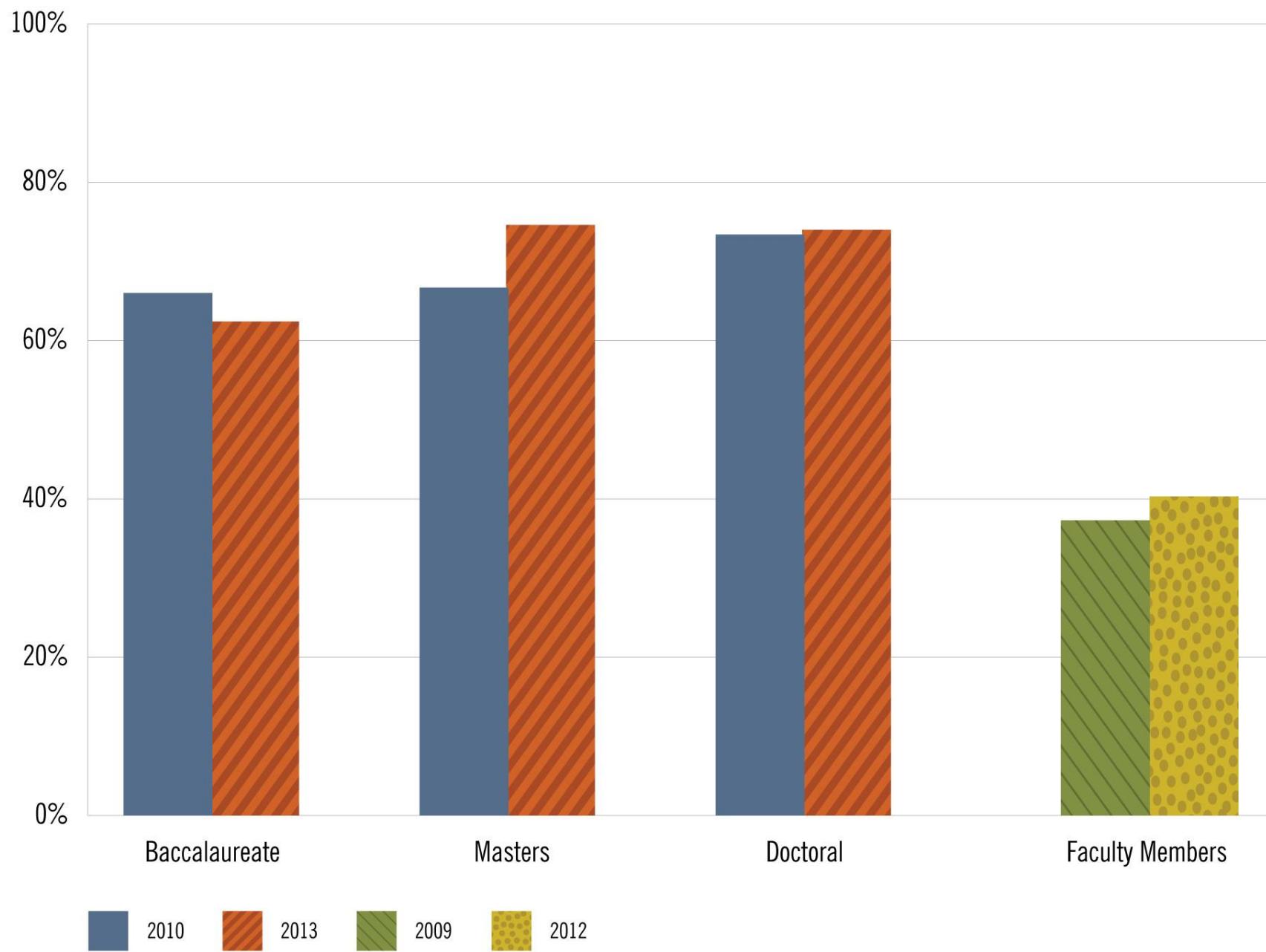
"What percentage of your print book collection has your library de-accessioned because you have access to those books in an electronic format?"



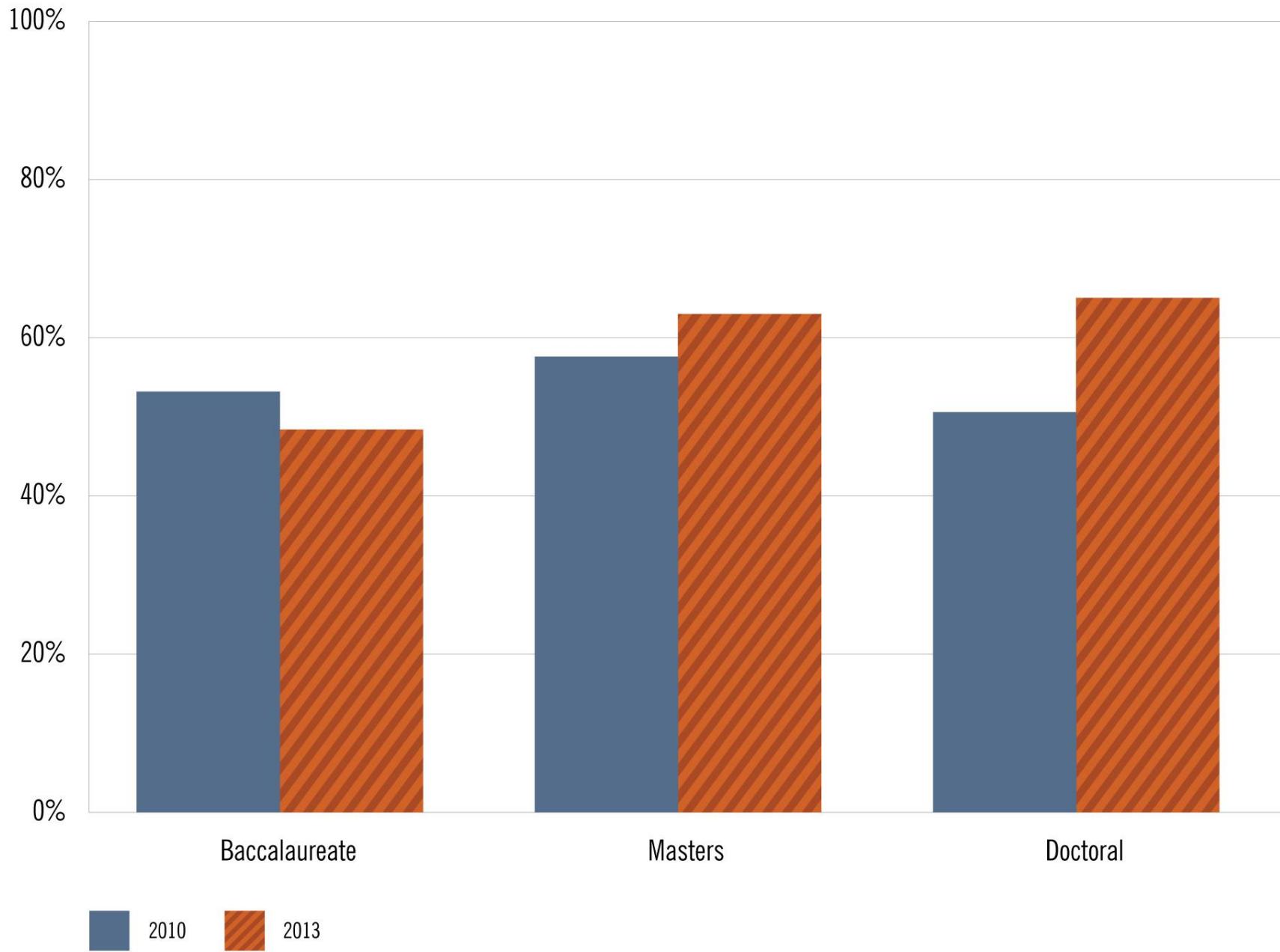
Journals

"Assuming that electronic collections of journals are proven to work well, are readily accessible and are digitally preserved, I would be happy to see hard copy collections discarded and replaced entirely by electronic collections."

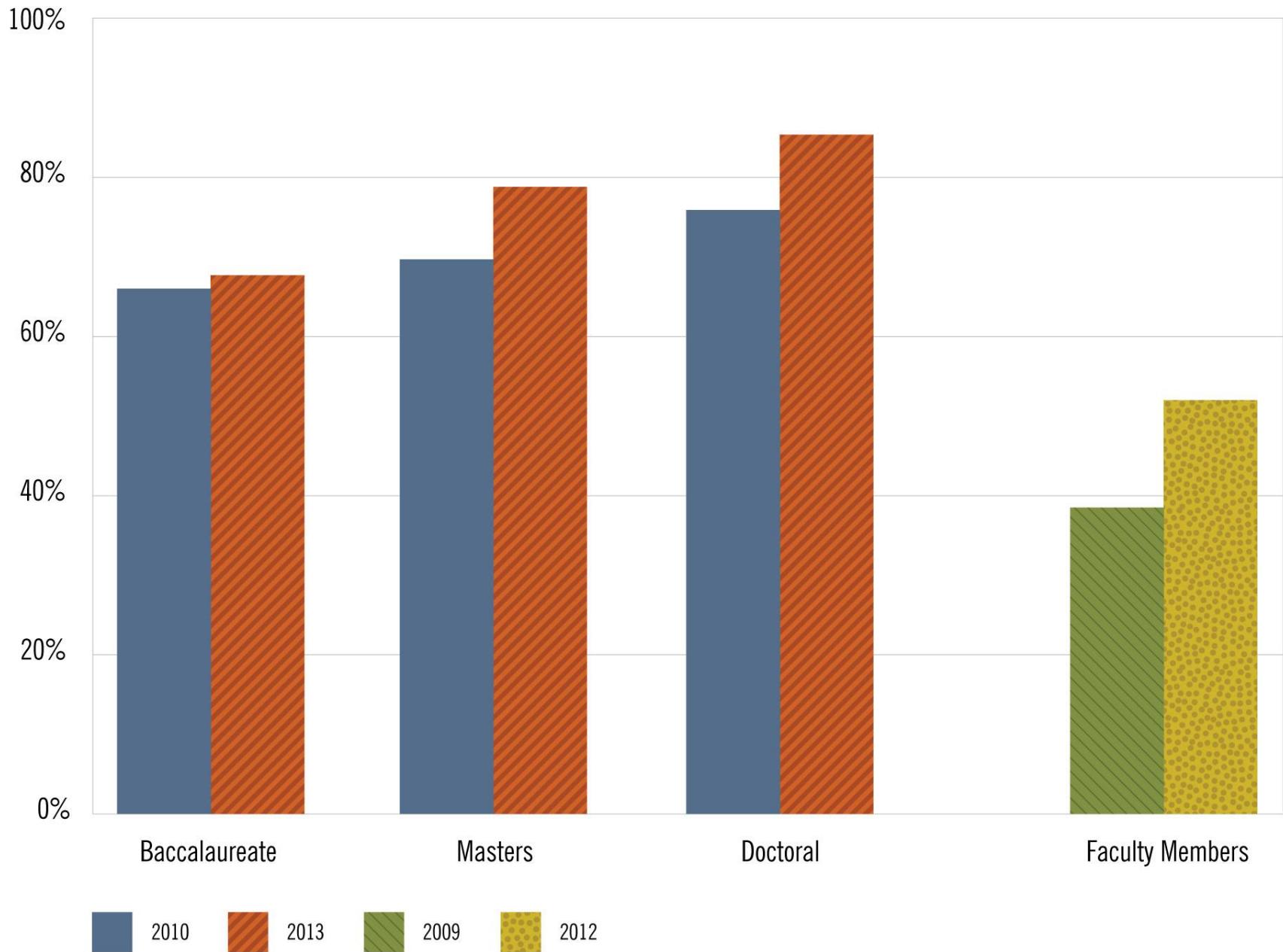
Percentage of respondents who agreed, over time, compared with the percentage of Faculty Survey respondents who strongly agreed with the same statement.



"Within the next five years, the use of online or digitized journals will be so prevalent among faculty and students that it will not be necessary to maintain library collections of hard-copy journals." Percentage of respondents who strongly agreed, over time.



"I am completely comfortable with journals my library subscribes to ceasing their print versions and publishing in electronic-only form." Percentage of respondents who strongly agreed, over time, compared with the percentage of Faculty Survey respondents who strongly agreed with the same statement.



Outline of Today's Presentation

- » What are the implications of the tremendous institution type diversity on how best to support the academic library mission?
- » Overall, directors of academic libraries see their institutions shifting away from research support and towards support for student skills. What additional work is needed in recognition of this possible shift?
- » Satisfaction with data gathering, analysis, and assessment, correlates with greater confidence in the library's strategy for the future. How can directors increase their satisfaction levels?
- » Are issues around staff skills and retraining adequately addressed at your institution? What other support if any do you need?
- » Are non-library channels important for books?

Thank you

Reports are available for free at:

<http://www.sr.ithaka.org/>

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