

Faculty Experiences With Grey Literature: A Mixed Methods Approach

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INTRODUCTION

- Grey literature is that which is produced on all levels of government, academics, business, and industry in print and electronic formats, but which is not controlled by commercial publishers¹
 - Conference papers
 - Technical reports
 - White papers
 - These and dissertations

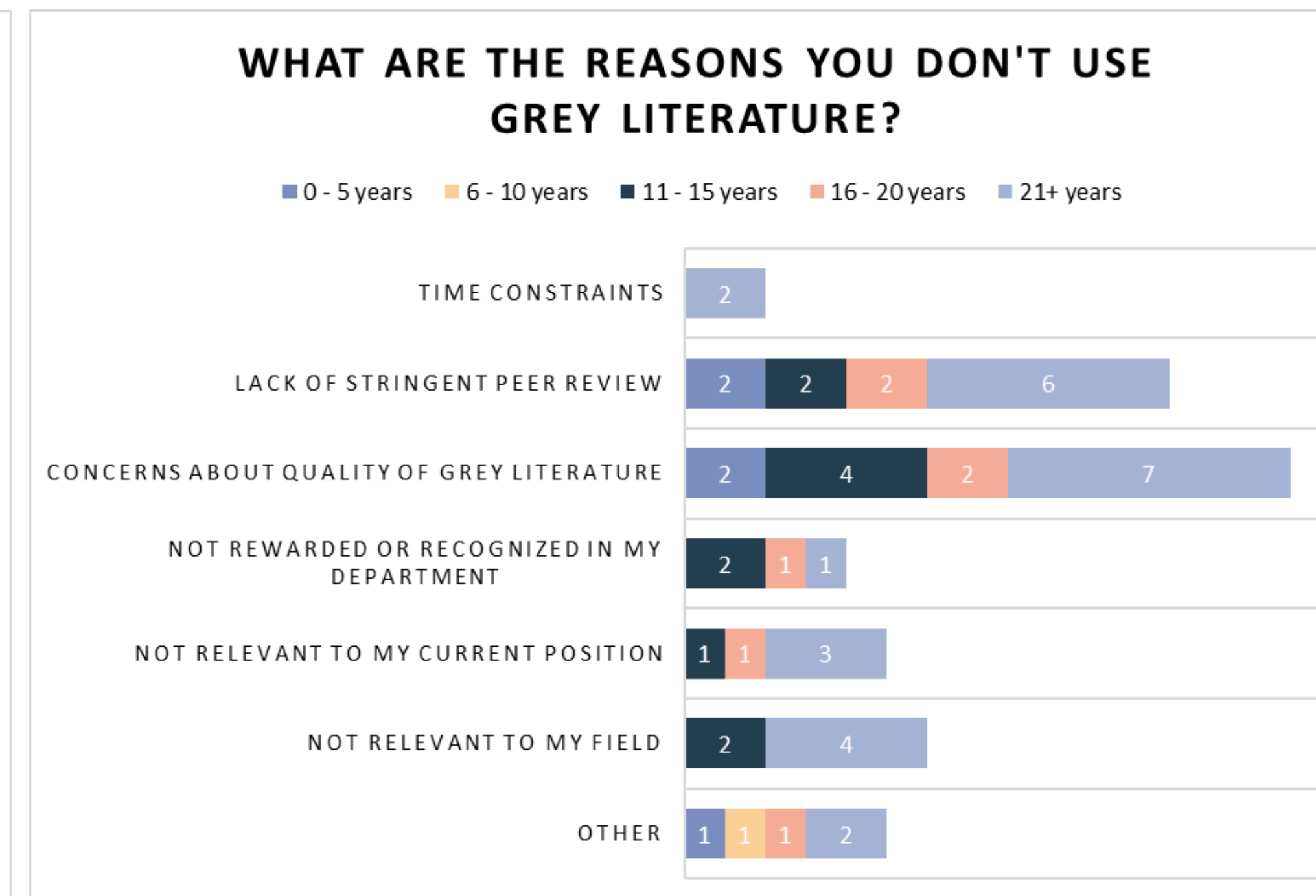
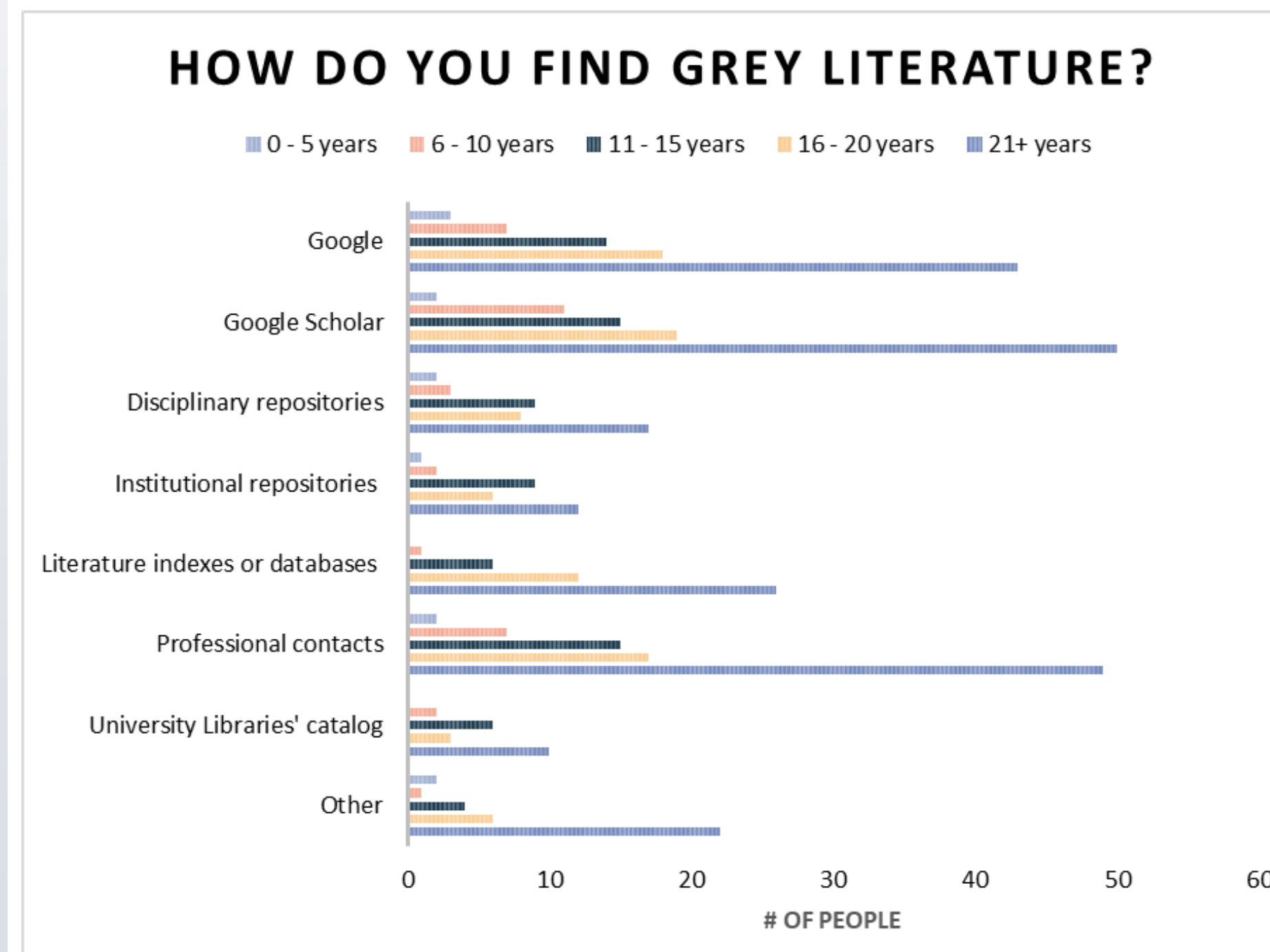
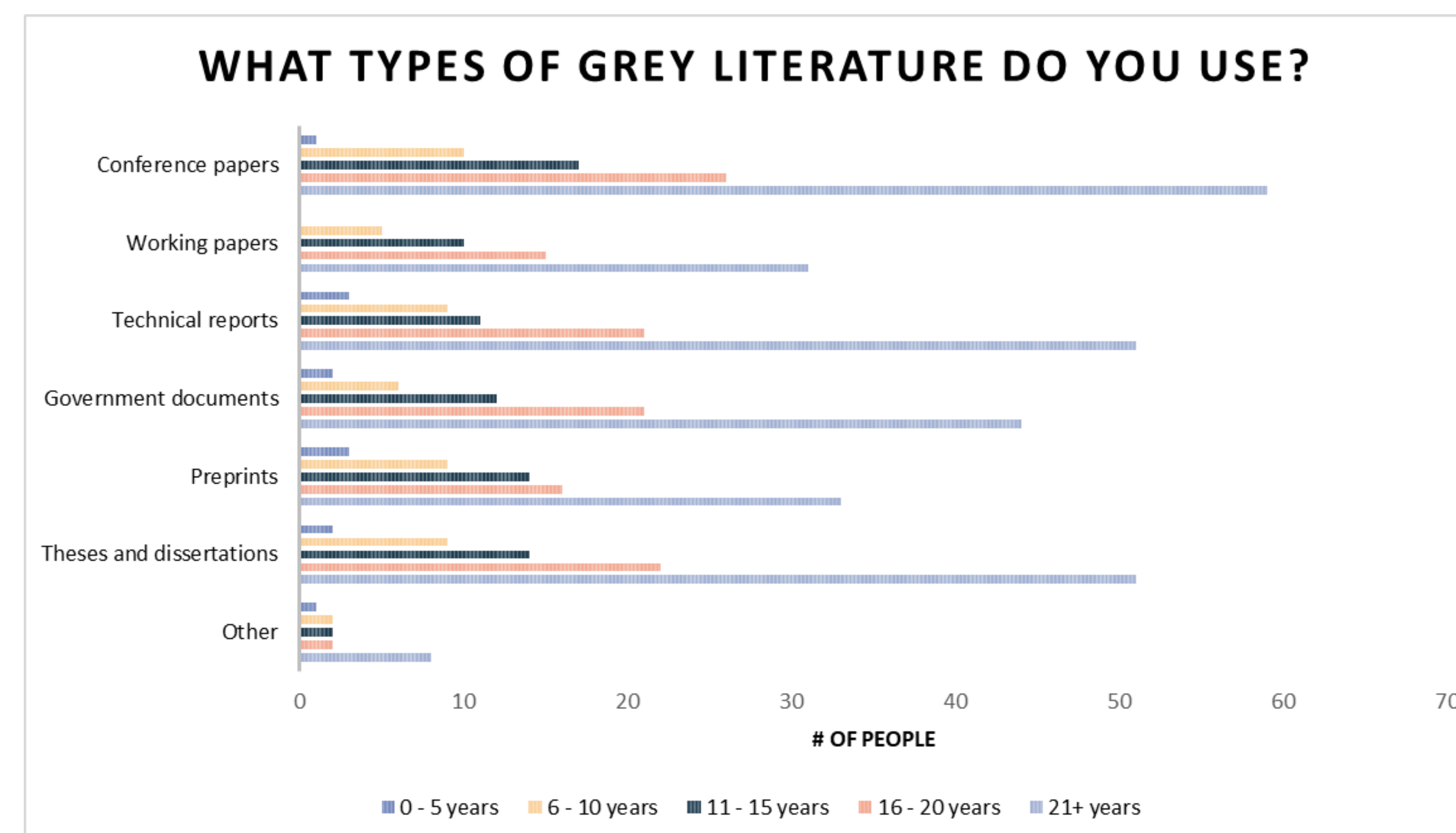
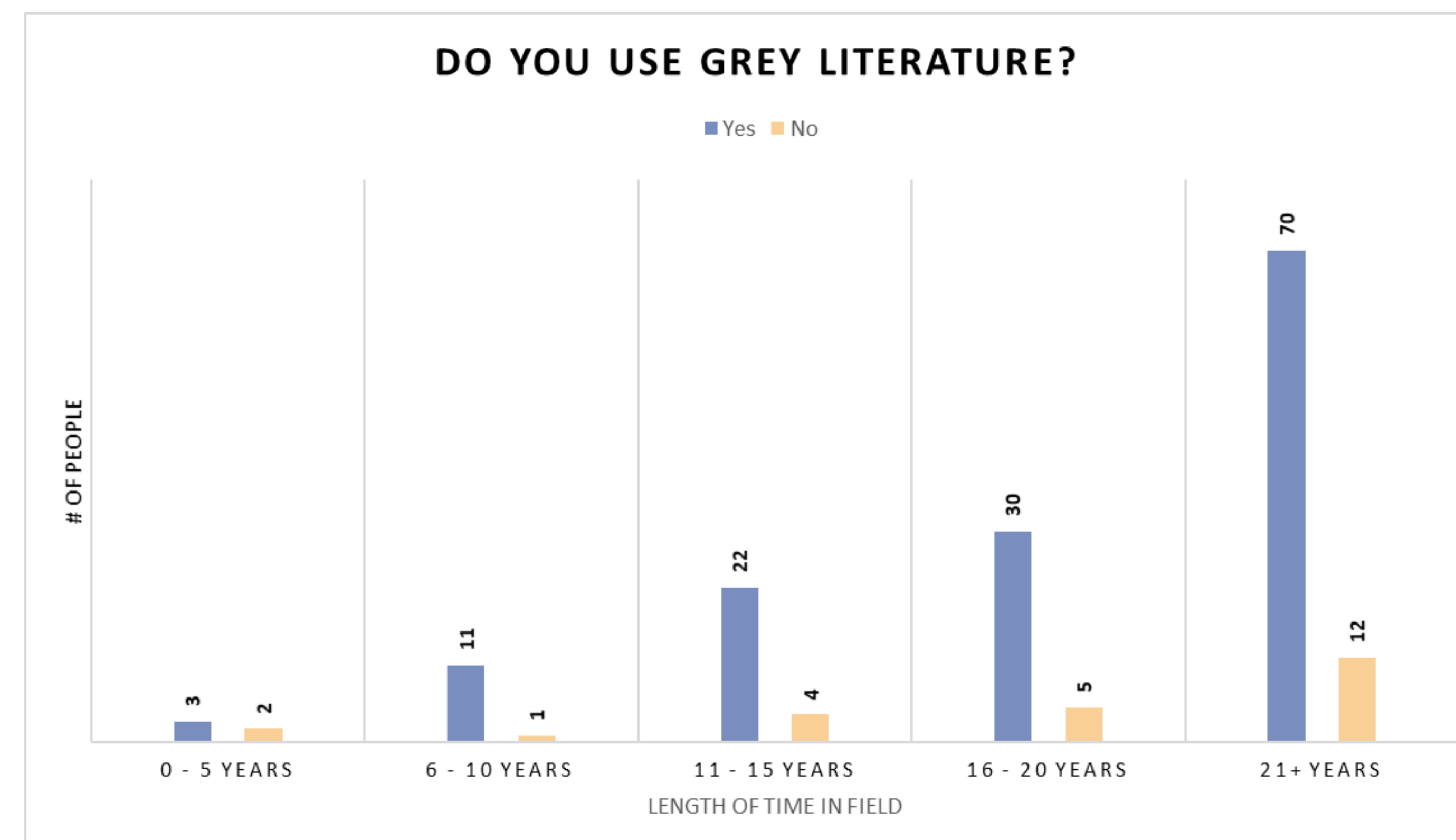
IMPORTANCE

- Challenging to locate
- Typically more timely than traditionally published work
- Researchers use it but are resistant to citing it
- Systematic reviews guidelines mandate inclusion of grey literature and recommend librarian participation

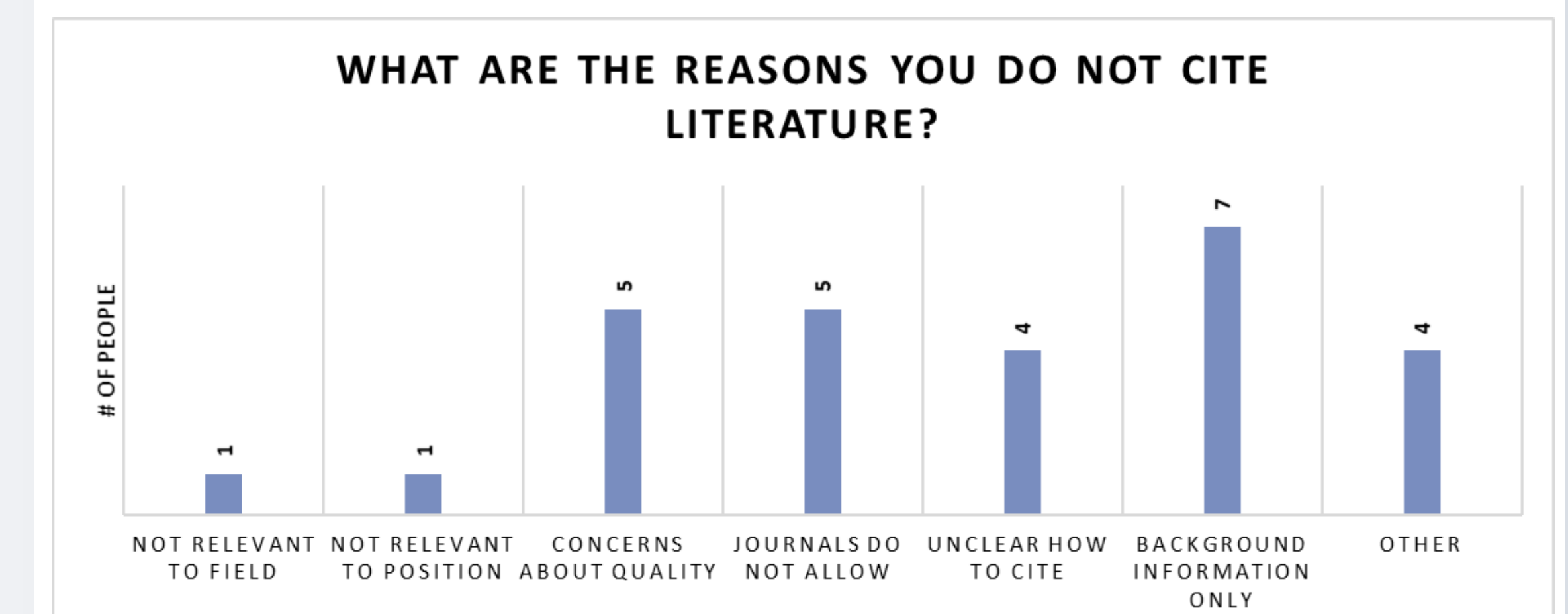
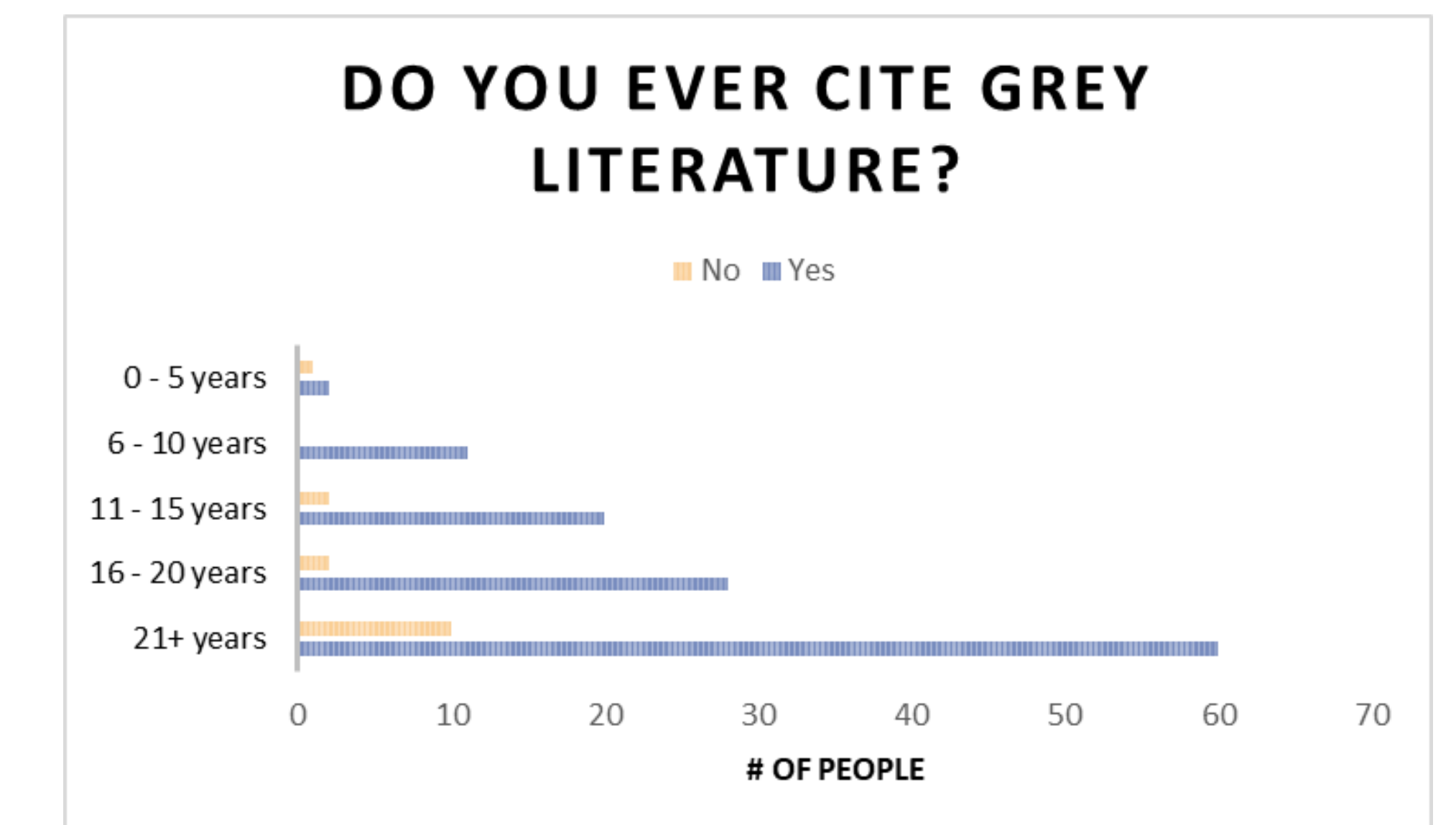
METHODS

- Study examined how University of Minnesota
 - faculty find, cite, and create grey literature
 - Disciplinary differences
- Random sample of 57% of tenure and tenure track faculty (n = 1300)
- Distributed via Qualtrics
 - Multiple choice and open ended survey questions
 - Disseminated via email with 1 reminder message
- A survey question asked respondents if they would agree to a follow-up interview.
- 60 minute in person interview conducted and recorded

SURVEY RESULTS



SURVEY RESULTS CONTINUED



NEXT STEPS

- Continue interviewing faculty. Sample questions include:
 - Are there guidelines about citing grey literature in your disciplines?
 - Are you aware of disciplinary trends regarding preprints in your area? If yes, what are they?
 - Describe challenges you have encountered when finding or accessing grey literature.
- Transcribe interview recordings and analyze

REFERENCES

1. Schöpfel, J., & Farace, D. J. (2010). Grey literature. In M. J. Bates & M. N. Maack (Eds.), Encyclopedia of library and information sciences (3rd ed.) (pp. 2029-2039). Boca Raton, LA: CRC Press. <https://doi.org/10.1081/E-ELIS3-120043732>