

# Research Practices

## Higher Education Data Sharing (HEDS) Consortium Survey

Fall 2010 GSTR 110 Students

Comparisons of Berea and  
All HEDS First-Year Student Participants

Response Rate: 214/467 or 46%

**HEDS Research Practices Survey Instrument**  
**(actual survey was administered online)**

1. **How often in the past academic year did you use resources from a library (whether in person or on the Internet) for course assignments, research projects, or other academic purposes)?**  
*(Scale: Never, Once a week, Once or twice a month, A few times a year)*
  - Community or public library
  - College or university library
  - High school library
  
2. **People use the library for many reasons. In the past academic year, which of the following was your MOST FREQUENT reason for using a library?**
  - Recreation or other non-academic purposes (leisure reading, checking out music or videos, checking e-mail, etc.)
  - Conducting research for course assignments or projects
  - Doing other academic work (studying, doing homework, doing a group project, etc.)
  - Other
  - I did not use a library in the past academic year
  
3. **In the past academic year, did an instructor or a librarian talk with one or more of your classes about how to use library resources, including Internet resources?**
  
4. **How many assignments, papers, or research projects have you completed in the past academic year that required you to include at least three sources in a Bibliography, References, or Works Cited list?**  
*(Scale: None, One or two, Three or four, Five or more)*
  
5. **Which of the following print sources did you use in the past academic year for research?**  
*(Choose as many as apply.)*
  - Library books
  - Encyclopedias, almanacs, dictionaries
  - Academic or research journals
  - Newspapers or magazines for the general public
  - Other
  - I did not use any print sources for research in the past academic year
  
6. **Which of the following online sources did you use in the past academic year for research?**  
*(Choose as many as apply.)*
  - Google, Yahoo, or other search engine
  - Online journals, magazines, newspapers, or encyclopedias
  - Online library catalog
  - Online booksellers (such as Amazon.com, BarnesandNoble.com, etc.)
  - Online indexes or databases (such as EBSCO, JSTOR, Expanded Academic, ASAP, etc.)
  - Google Scholar
  - Other
  - I did not use any online sources for research in the past academic year

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**7. Which of the following information management tools did you use in the past academic year for organizing and managing research information?**

*(Choose as many as apply.)*

- Paper folders, files, or note cards
- Computer folders or files (My Documents, Microsoft Word files, etc.)
- Online tools (bookmarks, blogs, MySpace, etc.)
- E-mail
- Bibliographic management software (Endnote, Refworks, ProCite, etc.)
- Other
- I did not use any tools for organizing or managing research information

**8. In the past academic year, when you were given research project assignments, how often were you required to use a specific format (such as APA, MLA, Chicago, or some other style) for the sources in your bibliography?**

*(Scale: Almost always, Often, Sometimes, Rarely, Never/not applicable)*

**9. How often have you sought research advice from each of the following?**

*(Scale: Almost always, Often, Sometimes, Rarely, Never/not applicable)*

- Teachers or professors
- Librarians
- Parents (or other adult family members)
- Friends, classmates, or siblings
- Writing labs, writing centers, or help groups
- Help screens, online tutorials, or others

**10. Over the course of the past academic year, how often did you talk with a librarian about a research project you were doing?**

*(Scale: Never, Once or twice, Three or four times, Five or more times)*

**11. Which of the following best describes the way you pace your work on a research assignment?**

- I do most of the work soon after an assignment is given
- I divide the work pretty equally across the available time
- I do a little work soon after the assignment is given, but do most of it toward the end
- I do all the work just before or on the due date

**12. How challenging are each of the following research components?**

*(Scale: Very easy, Somewhat easy, Somewhat difficult, Very difficult)*

- Narrowing your topic
- Developing a list of sources to investigate
- Revising your search strategy as necessary
- Developing your main argument or thesis statement
- Organizing resources into logical unified structure
- Writing the paper
- Documenting your sources

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**13. How challenging are each of the following in identifying/retrieving sources?**

*(Scale: Very easy, Somewhat easy, Somewhat difficult, Very difficult)*

- Using a library catalog
- Using an electronic index (Academic Search Premier, ProQuest Research Library, etc.)
- Using a print index
- Using an Internet search engine
- Physically locating sources in a library
- Obtaining materials through inter-library loan

**14. How challenging are each of the following in using sources?**

*(Scale: Very easy, Somewhat easy, Somewhat difficult, Very difficult)*

- Determining whether a source is appropriate for an academic project
- Deciding what information from your sources to integrate into your project
- Knowing when to document a source
- Knowing how to document a source

**15. How much do you enjoy research?**

*(Scale: Very much, Quite a bit, Some, Very little)*

**16. Rate your agreement with each of the following statements.**

*(Scale: Strongly agree, Agree, Disagree, Strongly disagree)*

- Skillful researchers know the best way to approach any research question
- A course in research skills would be useful
- When two researchers disagree, one of them must be wrong
- Successful researchers understand things quickly
- Careful researchers can ultimately get to the truth
- If a researcher cannot understand something within a short amount of time, she should keep on trying.
- Good research yields clear results; poor research yields ambiguous results
- When it comes to research, some people are just naturally better at it than others

**17. Which of the following searches would retrieve the MOST results in an online search?**

- Movies OR Films
- Movies AND Films
- Movies NOT Films
- Movies INSTEAD OF Films
- Don't know

**18. Which of the following is the correct way to truncate a search word?**

- Typing in only the first syllable of the word as a keyword
- Combining search words with "and," "or," or "not"
- Using the \* or ! Symbol in place of the last few letters of the word
- None of the above
- Don't know

**HEDS Research Practices Survey Instrument  
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**19. Which of the following would be the most efficient way to find a comprehensive listing of other books in the catalog on this topic?**

- Identifying other books written by the same authors
- Examining the bibliography in the book
- Scanning the shelves where the book is located to see what books are nearby
- Searching again using the subject headings that most closely match your research topic
- Don't know

**20. Researchers must distinguish between academic journals and popular magazines. Which of the following statements is LEAST ACCURATE?**

- Academic journal articles provide objective facts; popular magazine articles do not
- Academic journals usually include a list of references to other scholarly works; articles in popular magazines usually do not
- The intended audience for academic journals is mainly other scholars, for magazines is the general public
- Authors and editors for academic journals are usually employed in higher education, for magazines (non-profit media)
- Don't know

**21. You find the following entry in the Reference section of a recent article: Erisman, H.M. (2002). The Cuban Revolution's evolving identity. *Latin American Politics and Society* 44 (1), 145-153. In what issue of *Latin American Politics and Society* will you find this article?**

- Volume 2002, Number 44
- Volume 44, Number 1
- Volume 1, Number 145-1553
- The issue cannot be determined

**22. For each of the following, please identify the actual source**

*(Scale: Entire book, Journal article, Portion of a book, Don't know)*

- Jorgensen, Lara W. "Reinterpreting Navajo Rites." *Navajo Culture* 6 (1946): 469-78.
- Allen, Glover Morrill. *Bats*. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. 1939.
- Tanaka, Kazuko. "The New Feminist Movement in Japan, 1970-1990." In *Japanese Women*, edited by Kumiko Fujimura-Fanselow, New York Feminist Press. 1995.

**23. Researchers must distinguish between primary and secondary sources. Which of the following statements is MOST ACCURATE?**

- Primary sources are more scholarly than secondary sources
- Primary sources are old; secondary sources are new
- Primary sources examine subjects first-hand; secondary sources examine the findings of the other scholars
- Primary sources are more appropriate for academic projects than are secondary sources
- All of the above are equally accurate
- Don't know

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**24. Which of the following is likely to yield the most comprehensive list of relevant scholarly articles for a research project?**

- Searching an electronic index or database in a specific academic field (History, Biology, Music, etc.)
- Using a general Internet search like Google or Yahoo
- Paging through print volumes of an academic journal in a specific academic field
- Searching the library catalog
- All of the above are equally effective
- Don't know

**25. A peer-reviewed or refereed journal is BEST described as:**

- A journal that publishes reviews of other articles
- A journal that publishes articles that have been approved by other scholars
- A journal that includes only articles written collaboratively by peers
- A journal that includes references for each article it publishes
- Don't know

**26. In a scholarly article of a research paper, a citation is:**

- A direct quotation from someone else's written work
- Source information for any ideas or text from someone else's written work
- The physical location of a source (book, journal, etc.)
- All of the above
- Don't know

**27. A citation is NOT required when:**

- You are paraphrasing, rather than quoting a source
- More than one source says the same thing
- You are describing your own feelings or analyses
- All of the above
- Don't know

**28. Please choose the most accurate option for each of the following:**

*(Scale: Scholarly, Non-Scholarly, Cannot be determined, Don't know)*

- Available online
- Translated from another language
- Published in a peer-reviewed journal
- Posted on a political blog
- Recently published
- Has a lengthy list of references
- Published by a university press
- Published in Time, Newsweek, USNews

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**29. You are required to write a research paper for your American History class examining the roles of women in Civil War. An initial search turns up the following sources. Which one is LEAST likely to be appropriate for your paper?**

- Edwards, L.F. (1980). *Scarlett doesn't live here anymore: Southern women in the Civil War era*. Urbana, IL: University of Illinois Press.
- Heidler, D.S., & Heidler, J.T. (Eds.). (2000). *Encyclopedia of the American Civil War: A political, social, and military History*.
- *Hearts at Home: Southern Women in the Civil War*. (1997). Diaries, letters, photographs, and papers in the Special Collections of the University of Virginia Library
- Schultz, J. E. (2002). *Seldom thanked, never praised, and scarcely recognized: Gender and racism in Civil War Hospitals*. *Civil War History*.
- Wilson, B.A. (2006). *Women in the Civil War*. Retrieved July 1, 2006, from <http://userpages.aug.com/captbarb/femvets2.html>

**30. What was your basis for the source selection to the previous question (#29)?**

- Whether the source is likely to be scholarly
- How recently the source was published
- Whether the source was a print or Internet source
- The number of pages with information about this topic
- All of the above equally influenced my response to the preceding question.

**31. Suppose you have more relevant sources than you can use in a short research assignment. Which of the following is the best way to determine whether to use a particular source?**

- Whether the source is a print or Internet source
- How recently the source was published
- How easily you can get the source
- Whether the source is scholarly
- Whether the author is highly respected
- All of the above are equally valid criteria for choosing among sources

**Demographics**

**32. What is your college classification for the 2010-201 Academic Year?**

- Freshmen/First-Year
- Sophomore
- Junior
- Senior
- Unclassified

**33. Gender**

**34. Ethnicity**

SUBJECT LINE: Help the Library Help You

Dear Student,

We need your help. The library staff, together with the college faculty, wants to learn more about your academic research skills. To that end, we need you to complete the Research Practices Survey linked below to show us what you can already do.

[http://www.getsurveyed.com/survey.aspx?surveyid=336&uid=\[--invitationid-\]](http://www.getsurveyed.com/survey.aspx?surveyid=336&uid=[--invitationid-])

Or enter the following personal code if requested: [--invitationid-]

This 15-minute survey explores the experiences and opinions of college students about academic research. Using this, we will:

- (1) learn about students' research habits,
- (2) improve the ways we help students develop their research skills, and
- (3) determine what changes occur in students' research abilities over time.

We think better teaching is important, and you should, too. All responses will be kept strictly confidential, so your responses will never be linked with your name or ID number. By completing this survey, you give permission for your responses to be used for research.

Thanks for your time!

Kate Egerton  
GSTR 110 Coordinator  
Assistant Professor, Department of English, Theatre, and Communication  
Draper 222A, CPO 2014  
Ext. 3586



REMINDER:

Subject Line: Research Practices Survey Reminder

Dear Student,

This is a friendly reminder that you haven't completed the Research Practices Survey. This is your chance to be heard and really show faculty what you already know about library research.

[http://www.getsurveyed.com/survey.aspx?surveyid=336&uid=\[--invitationid-\]](http://www.getsurveyed.com/survey.aspx?surveyid=336&uid=[--invitationid-])

Or enter the following personal code if requested: [--invitationid-]

You can choose not to participate, but we hope you'll make the effort. We think better teaching is important, and you should, too. All responses will be kept confidential, so your responses will never be publically linked with your name or ID number. You give us permission for us to use this data for research by completing the survey.

If this just slipped off your to-do list earlier, please give it another try.

Thanks!

Kate Egerton  
GSTR 110 Coordinator  
Assistant Professor, Department of English, Theatre, and Communication  
Draper 222A, CPO 2014  
Ext. 3586

FINAL REMINDER:

Subject Line: **DO NOT DELETE, GSTR 110 Library Survey**

Dear GSTR 110 Student,

Please complete the survey/test linked below. Your score will not be associated with your name. Your instructors and the librarians need to know how all GSTR110 students score on this survey/test so they can provide the help you need (as a group) to write papers and do research.

[http://www.getsurveyed.com/survey.aspx?surveyid=336&uid=\[--invitationid-\]](http://www.getsurveyed.com/survey.aspx?surveyid=336&uid=[--invitationid-])

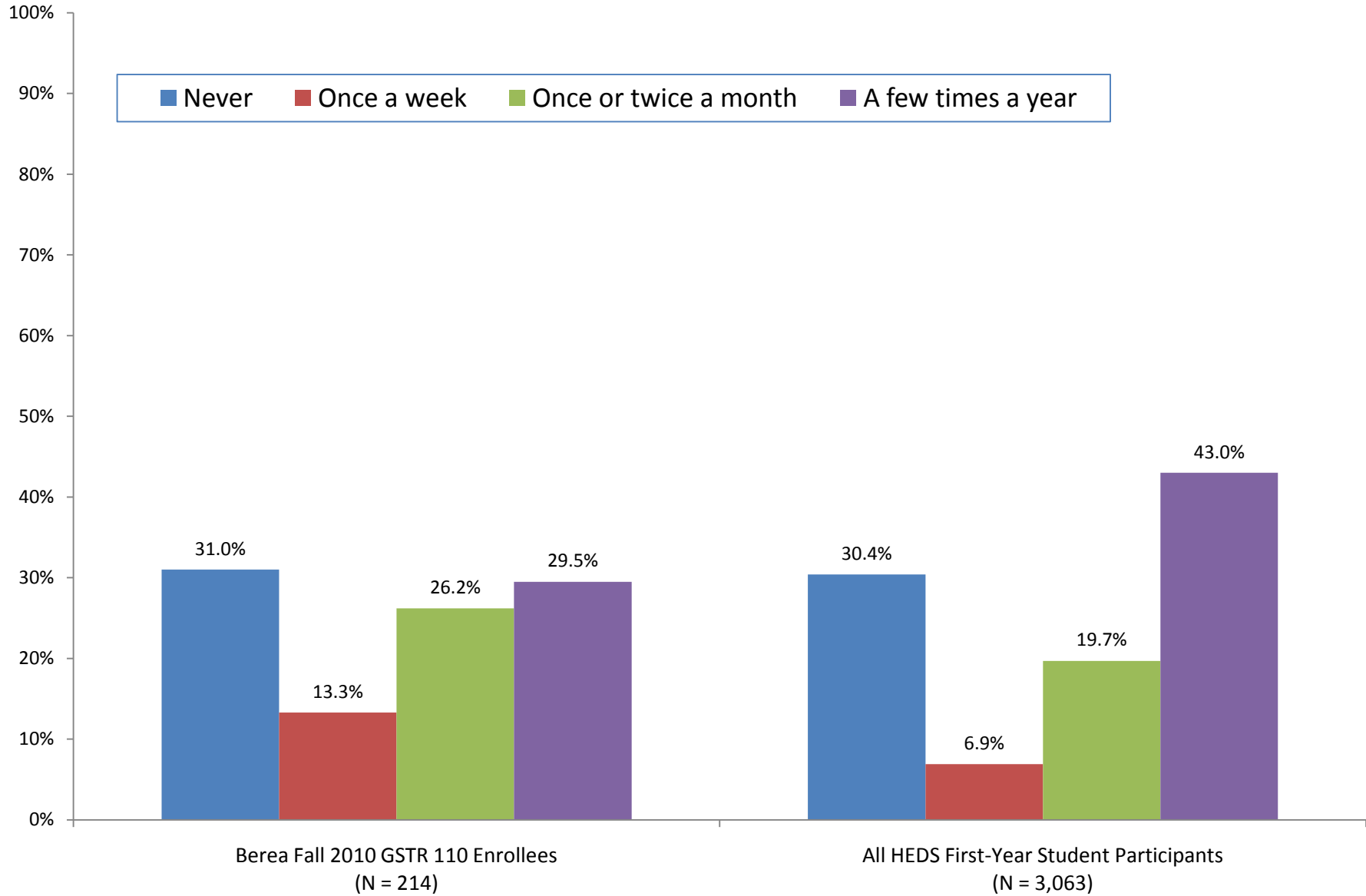
Or enter the following personal code if requested: [--invitationid-]

Thank you,

Dr. Kate Egerton

How often in the past academic year did you use resources (whether in person or on the Internet) for course assignments, research projects, or other academic purposes?

### Community or Public Library

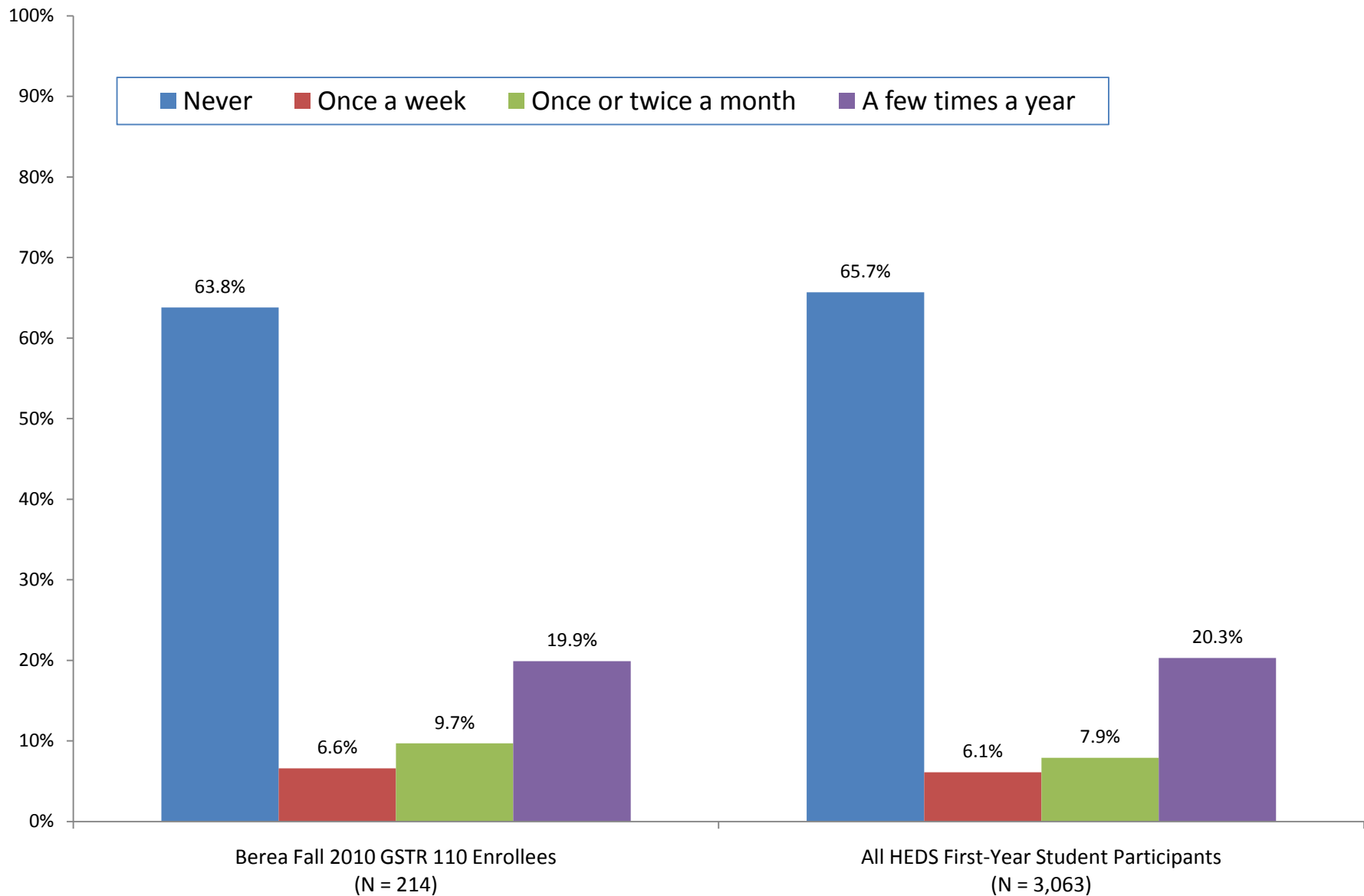


Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Information from the HEDS Research Practices Survey administered at the beginning of Fall 2010 compiled by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, January 2011

How often in the past academic year did you use resources (whether in person or on the Internet) for course assignments, research projects, or other academic purposes?

### College or University Library

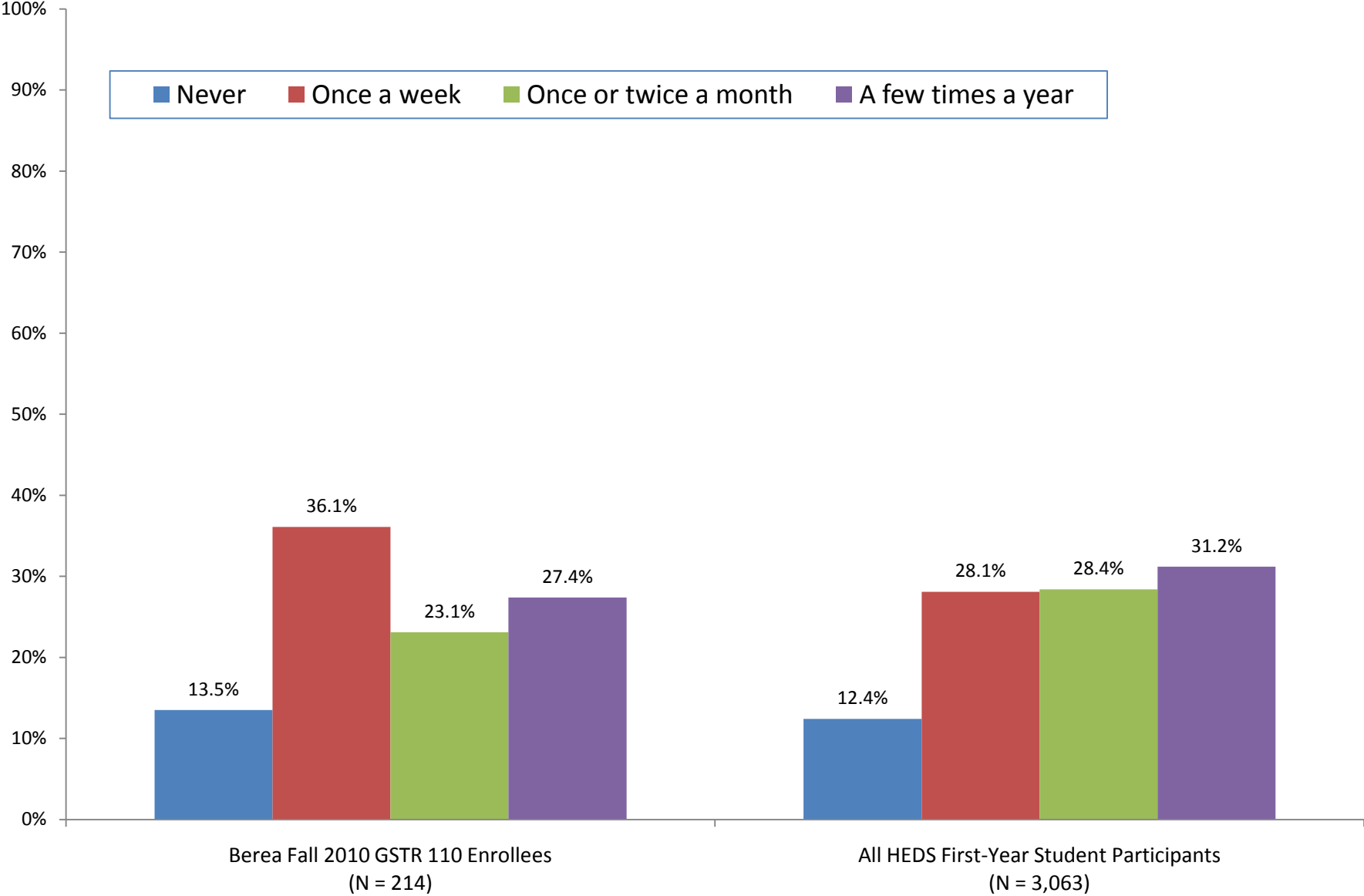


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How often in the past academic year did you use resources (whether in person or on the Internet) for course assignments, research projects, or other academic purposes?

### High School Library

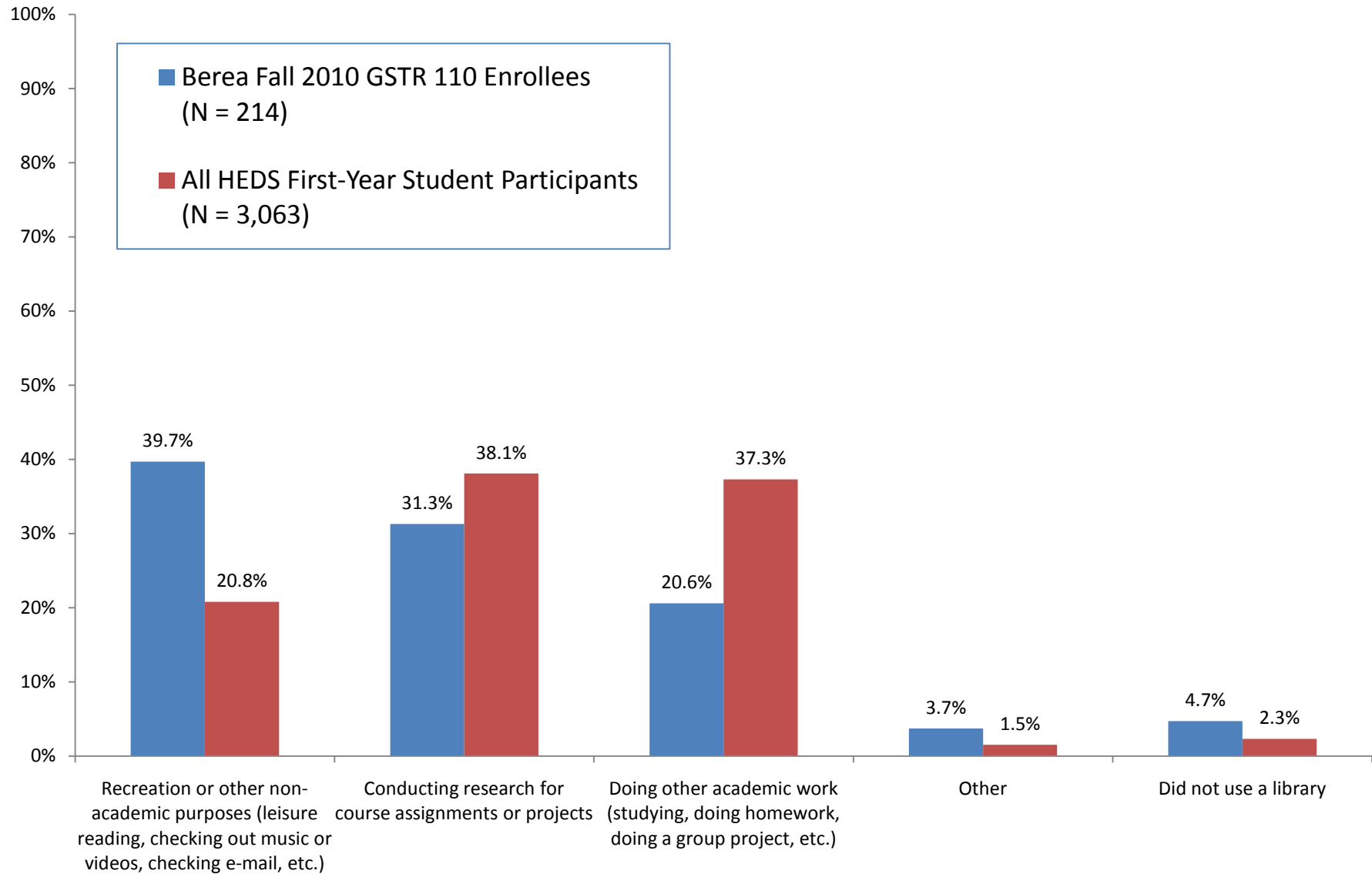


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People use the library for many reasons. In the past academic year, which of the following was your..

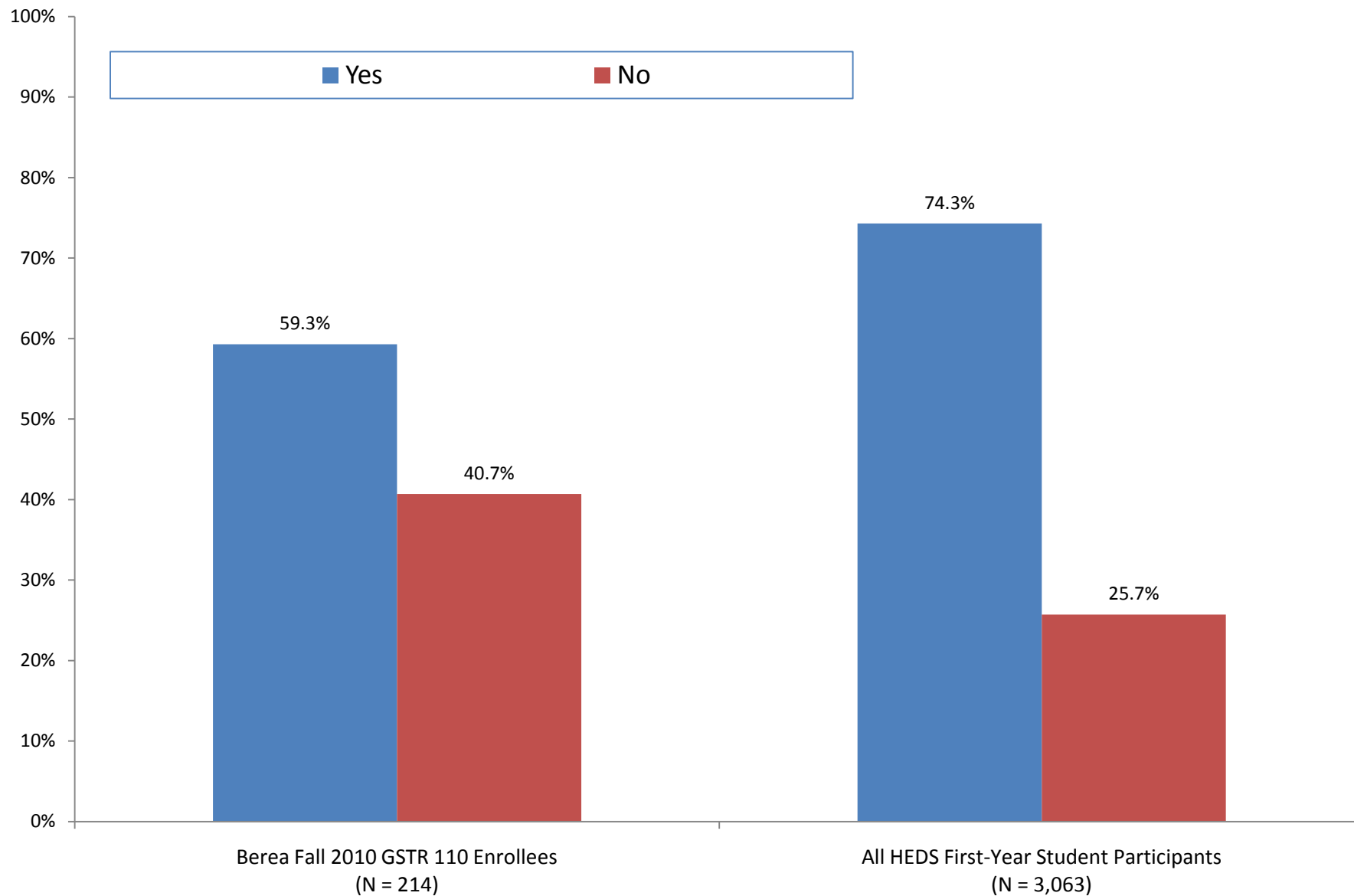
### MOST FREQUENT reason for using a library



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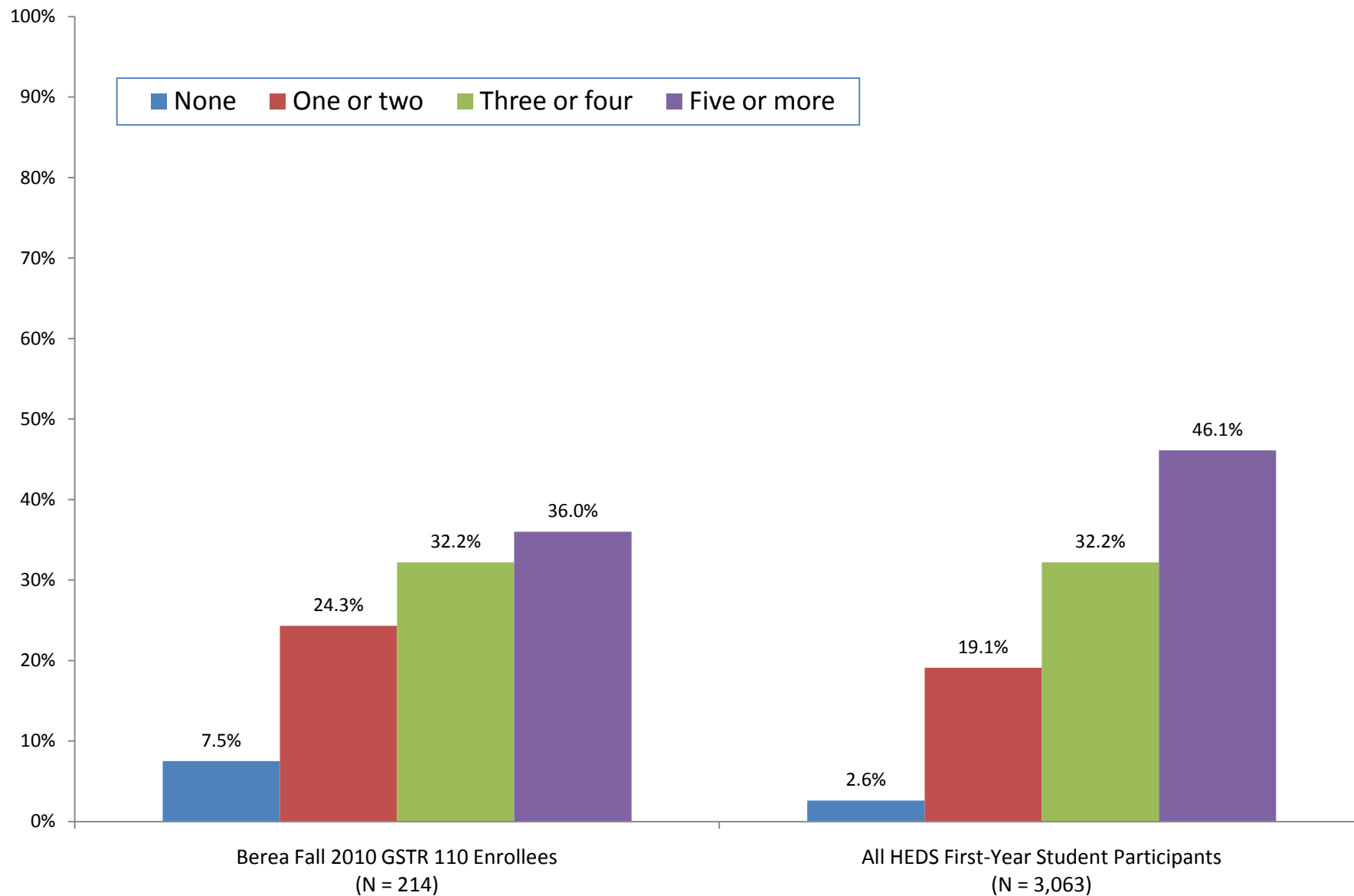
**In the past academic year, did an instructor or a librarian talk with one or more of your classes about how to use library resources, including Internet resources?**



Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Information from the HEDS Research Practices Survey administered at the beginning of Fall 2010 compiled by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, January 2011

**How many assignments, papers, or research projects have you completed in the past academic year that required you to include at least three sources in a Bibliography, References, or Works Cited list?**



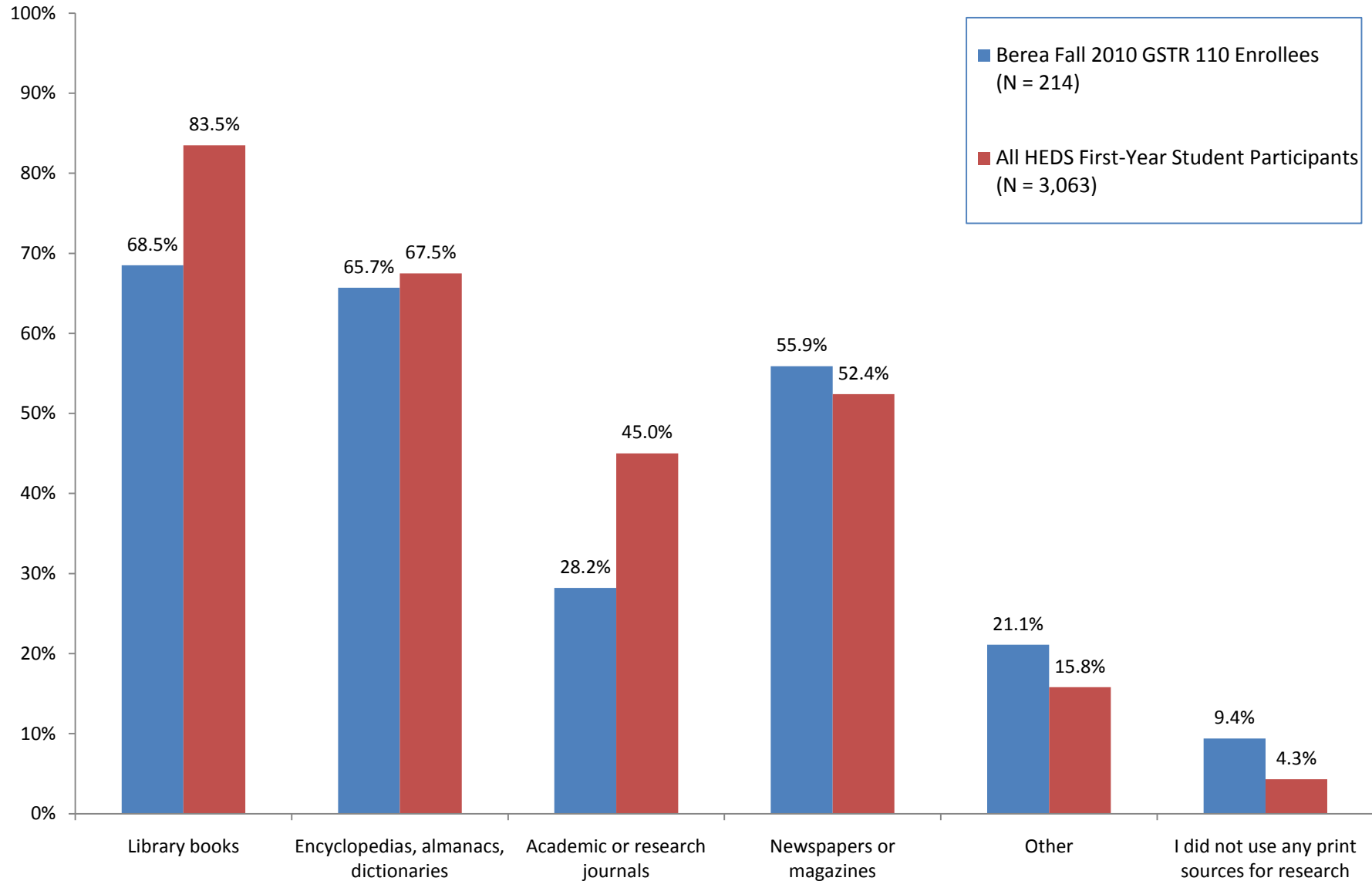
Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

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Which of the following did you use in the past academic year for research? (Choose as many as apply)

## Print Sources

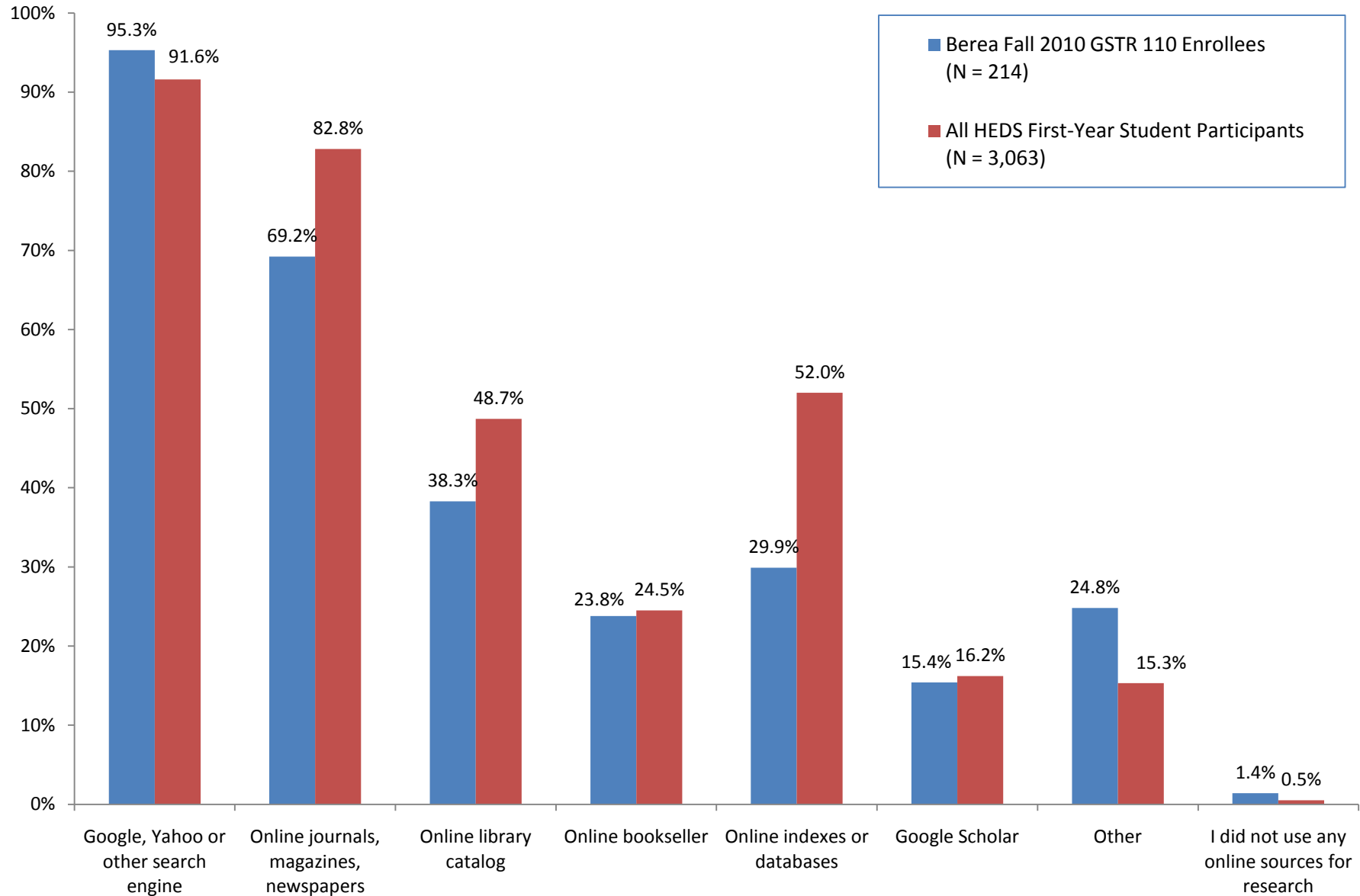


Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Information from the HEDS Research Practices Survey administered at the beginning of Fall 2010 compiled by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, January 2011

Which of the following did you use in the past academic year for research? (Choose as many as apply)

## Online Sources

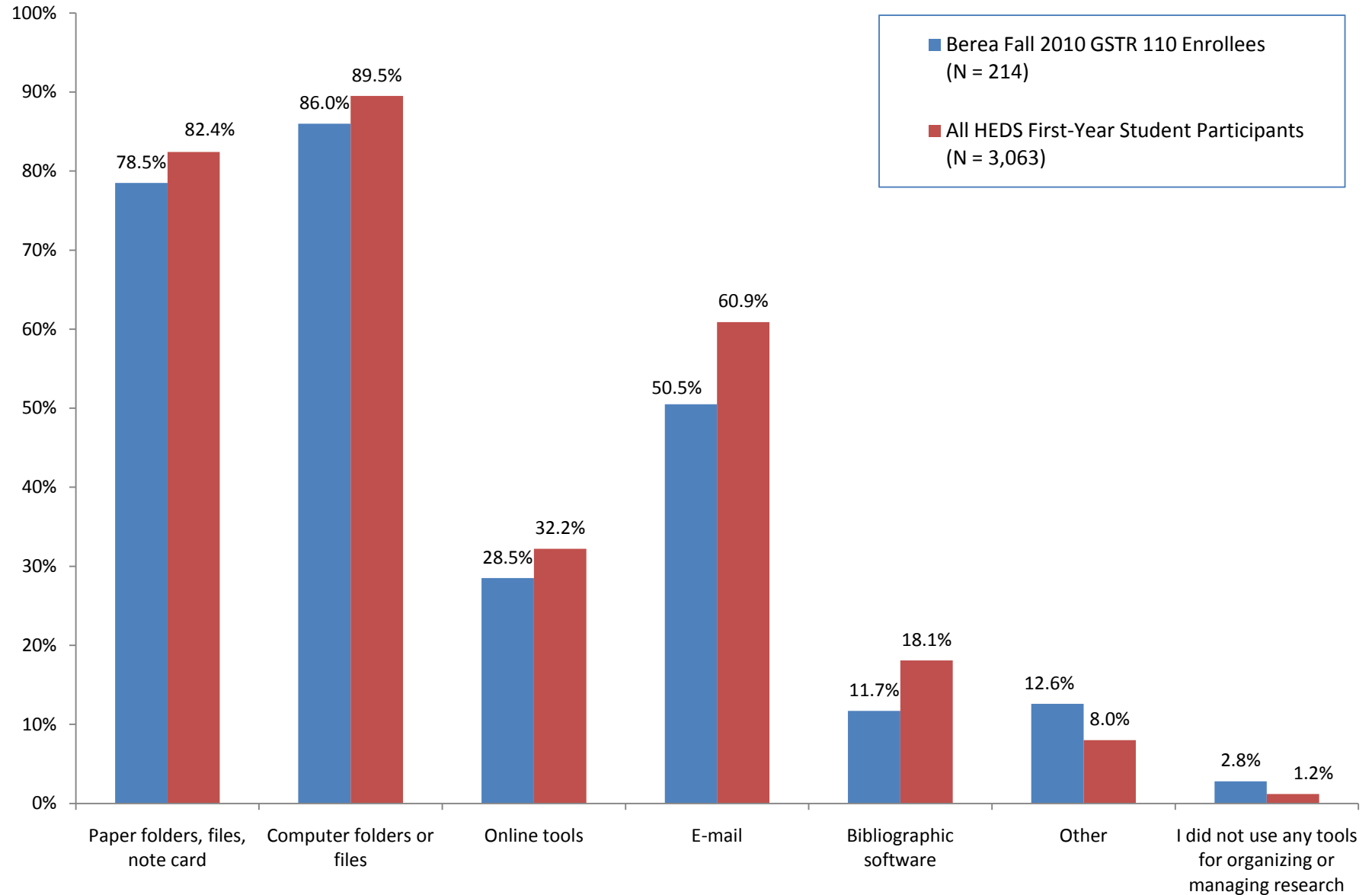


Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Information from the HEDS Research Practices Survey administered at the beginning of Fall 2010 compiled by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, January 2011

Which of the following did you use in the past academic year for organizing and managing research information? (Choose as many as apply)

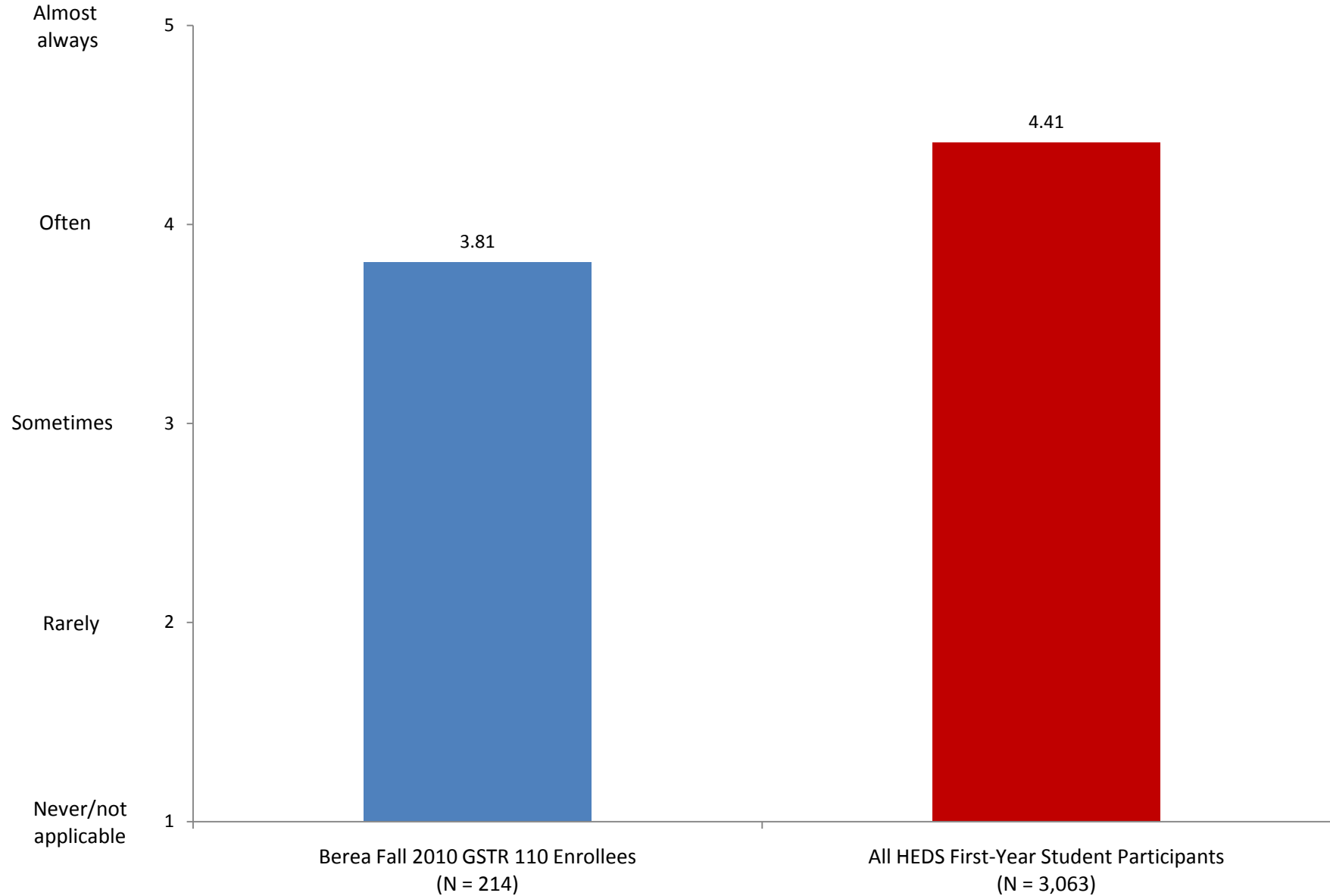
## Information Management Tools



Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

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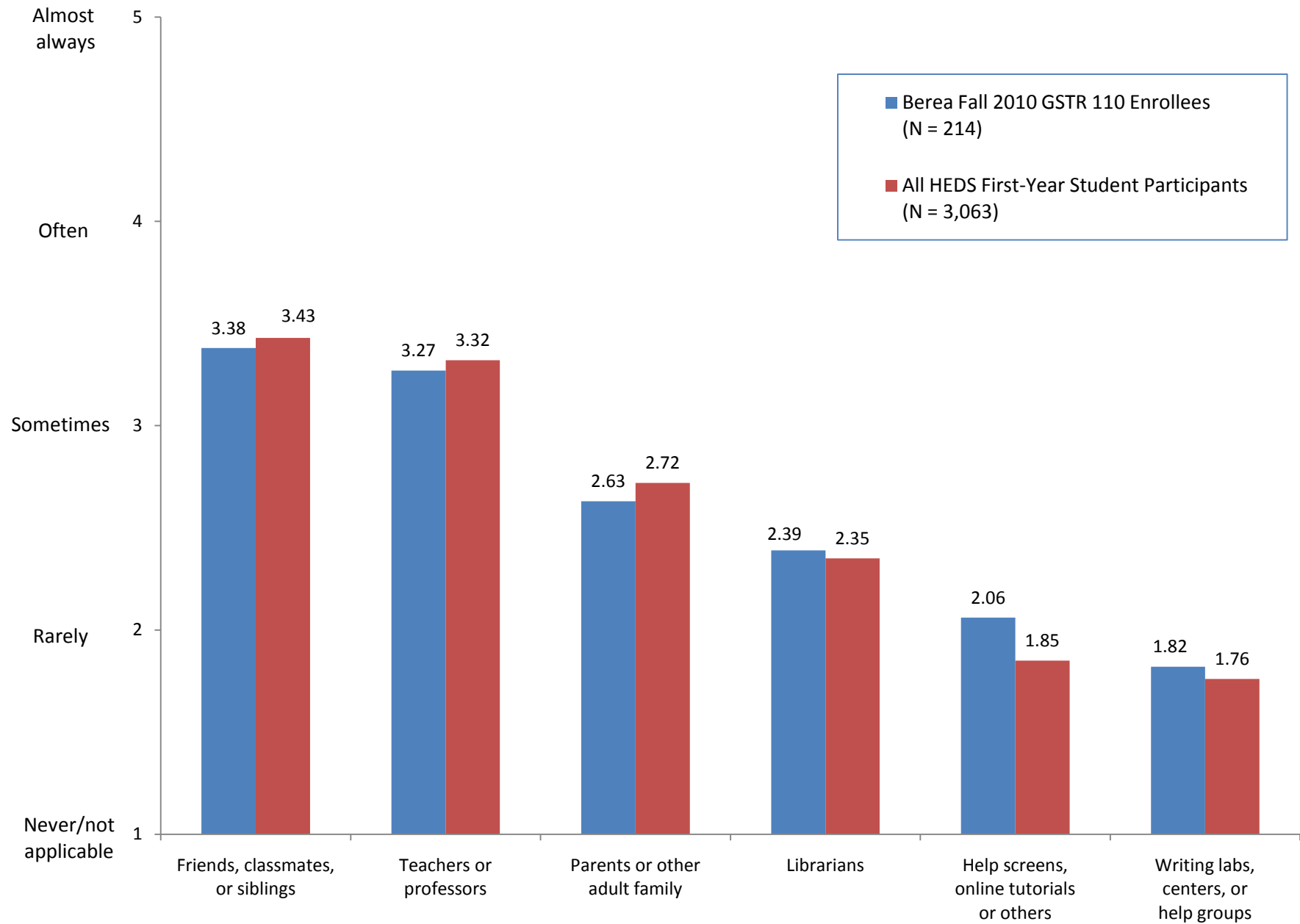
**In the past academic year, when you were given research project assignments, how often were you required to use a specific format (such as APA, MLA, Chicago, or some other style) for the sources in your bibliography?**



Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Information from the HEDS Research Practices Survey administered at the beginning of Fall 2010 compiled by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, January 2011

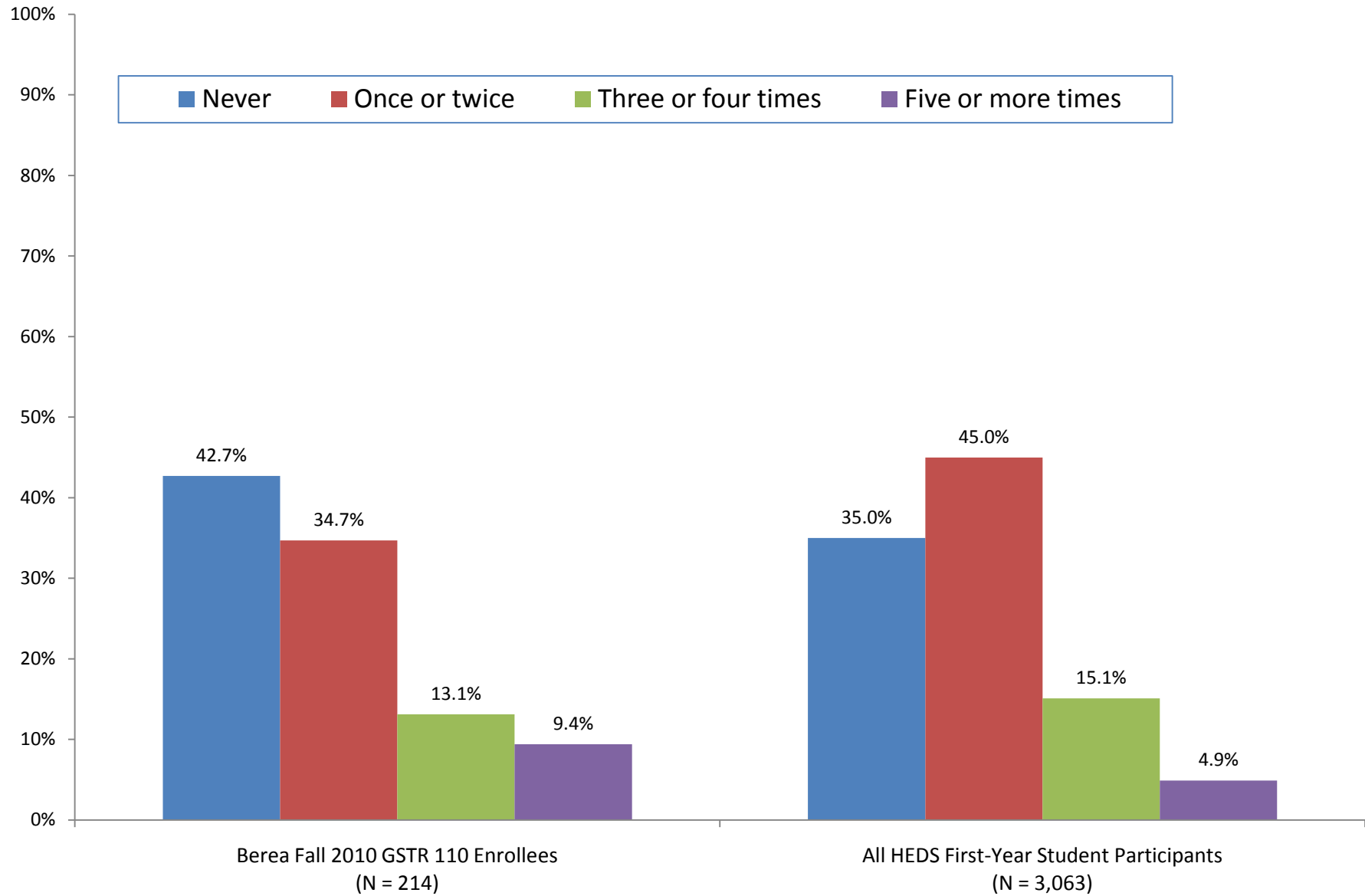
How often have you sought research advice from each of the following?



Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

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Over the course of the past academic year, how often did you talk with a librarian about a research project you were doing?

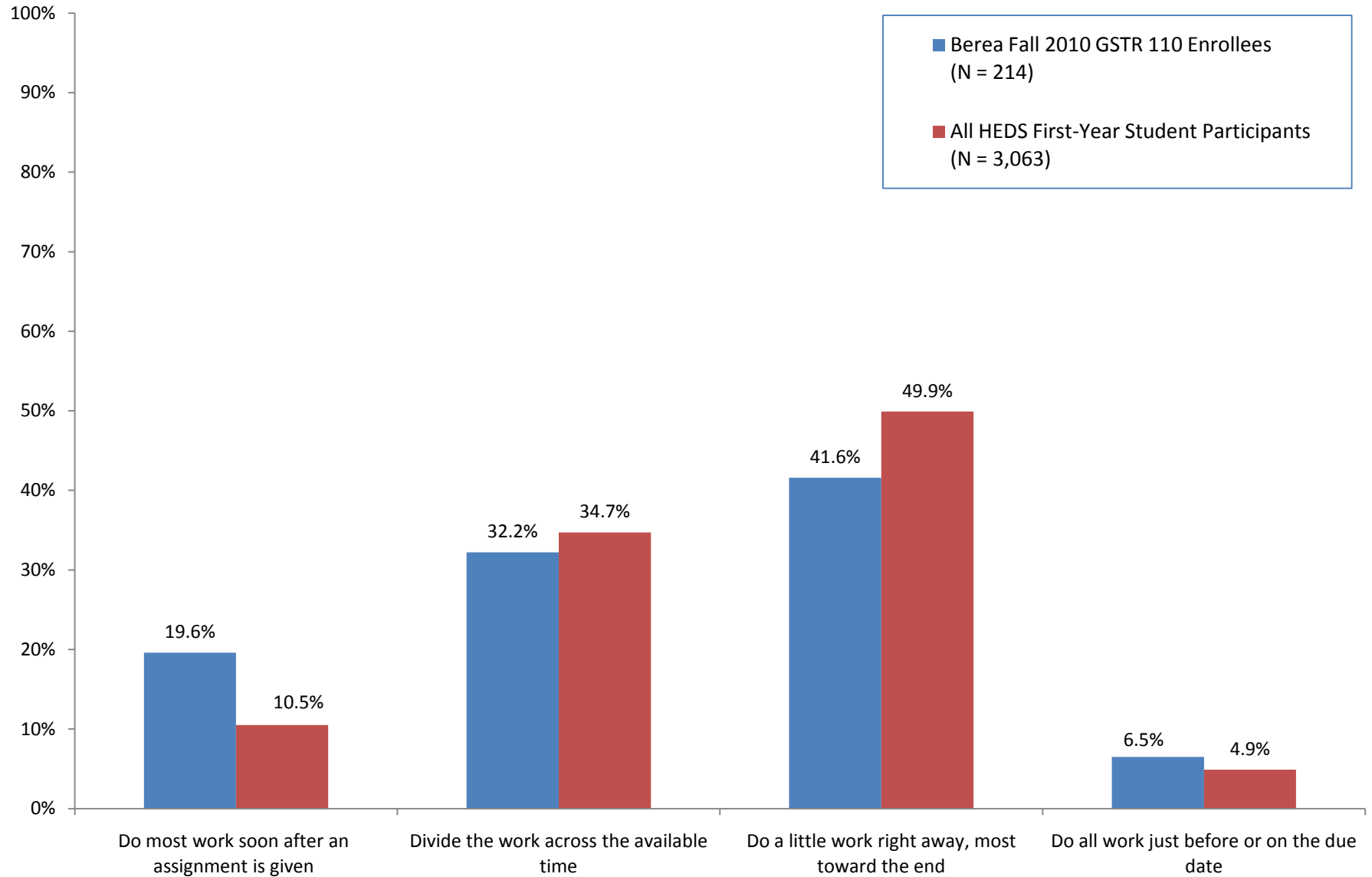


Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Information from the HEDS Research Practices Survey administered at the beginning of Fall 2010 compiled by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, January 2011

Which of the following best describes the way you pace your work on a research assignment?

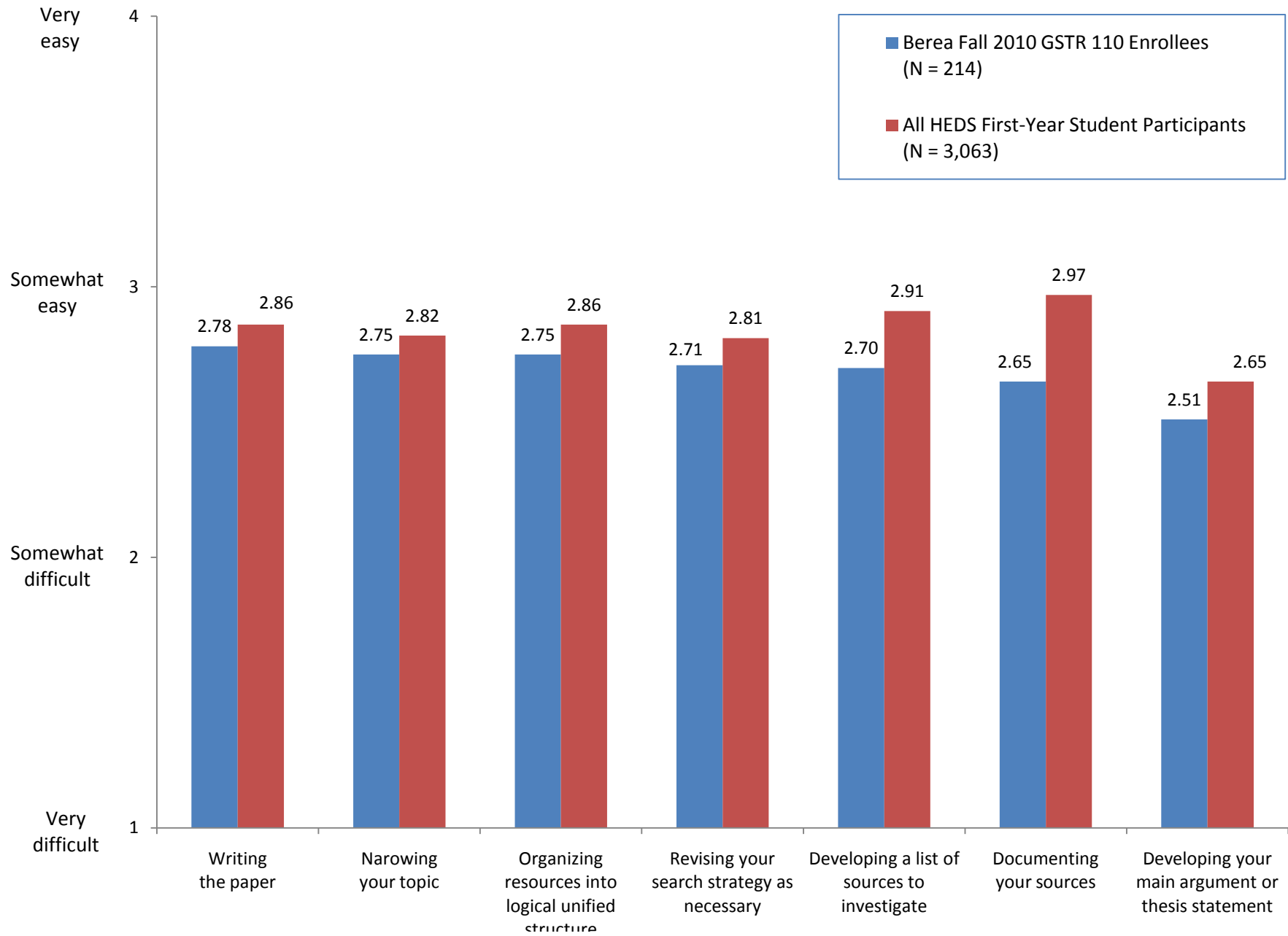
## Information Management Tools



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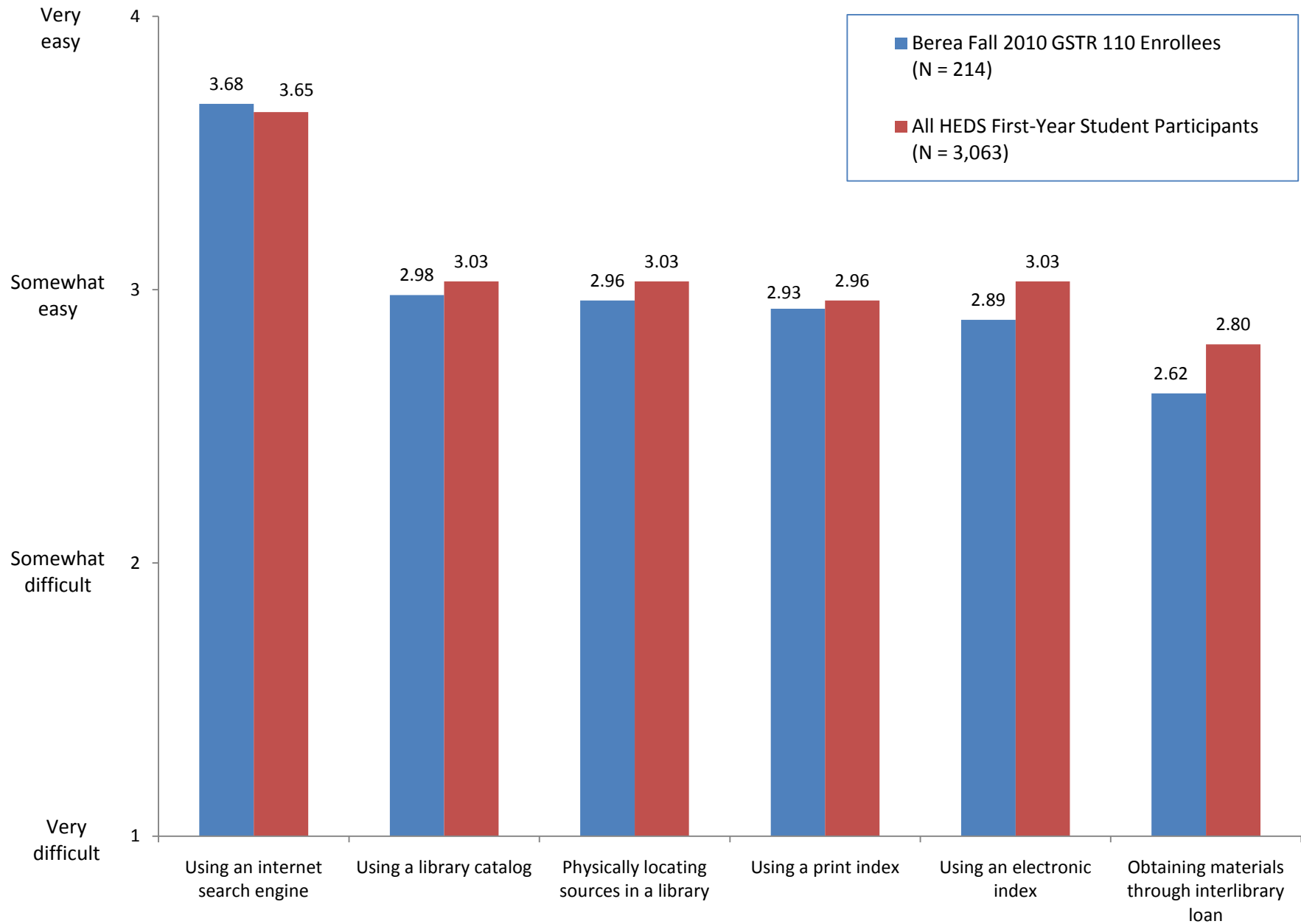
### How challenging are each of the following research components?



Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.



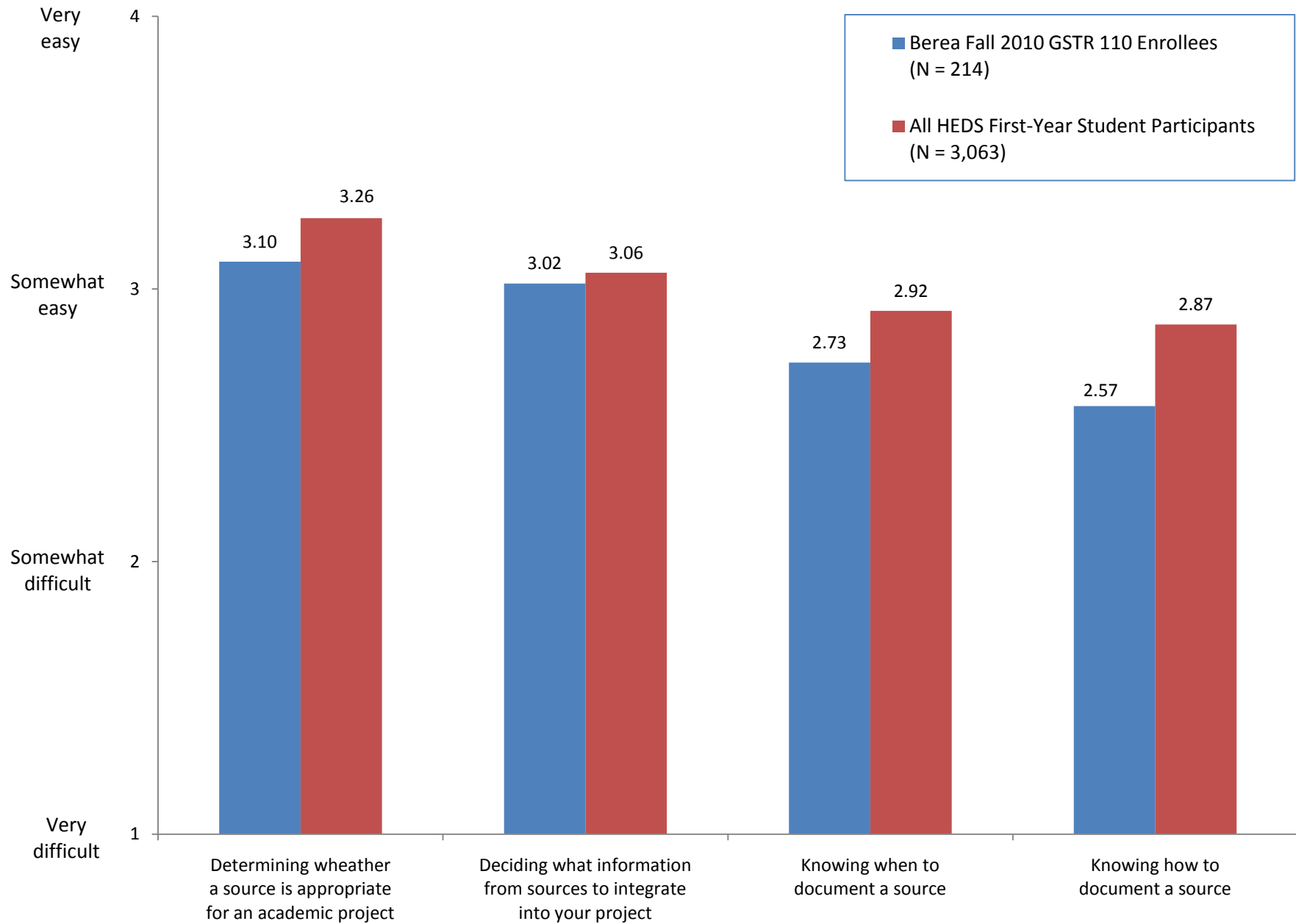
### How challenging are each of the following in identifying/retrieving sources?



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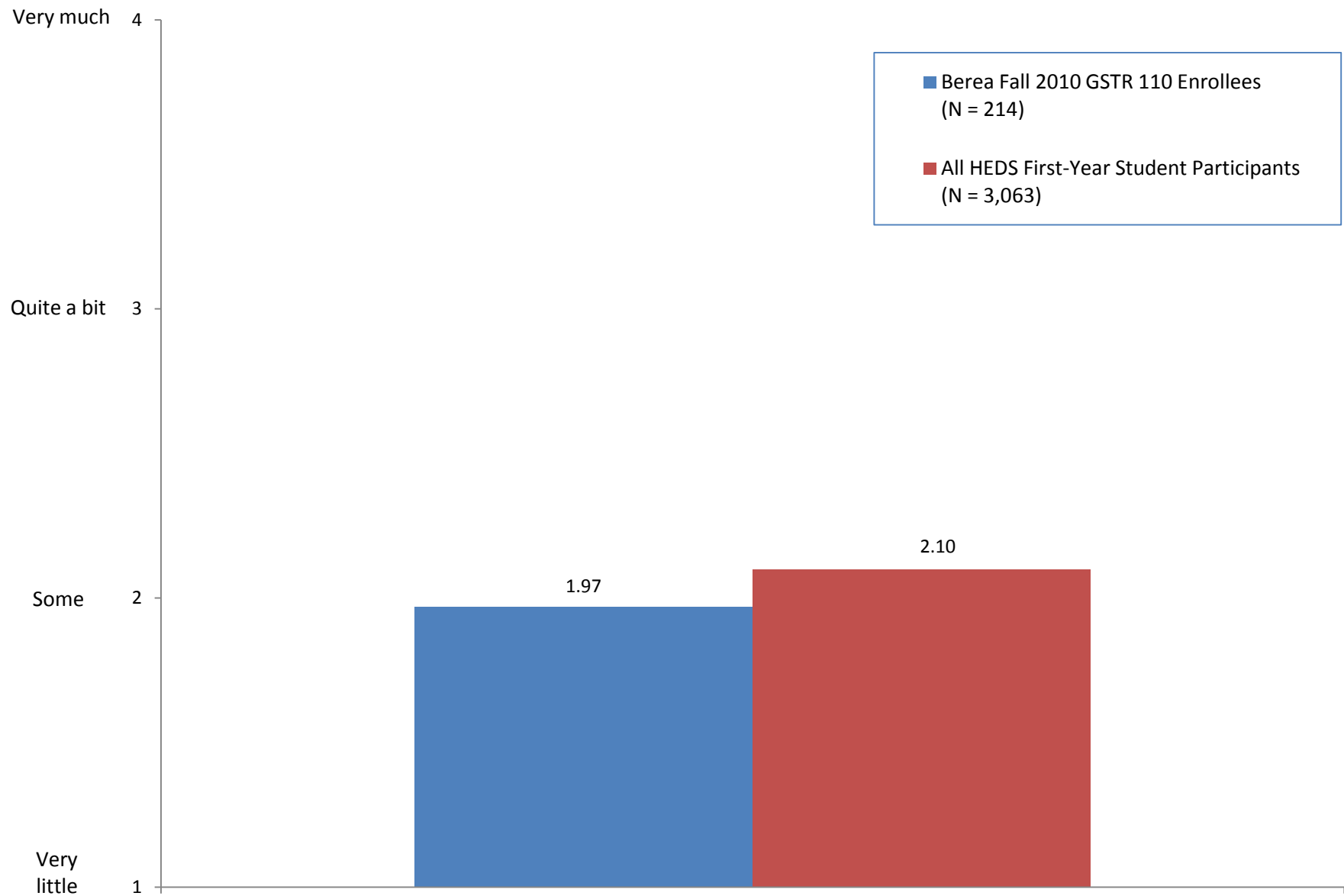
### How challenging are each of the following in using sources?



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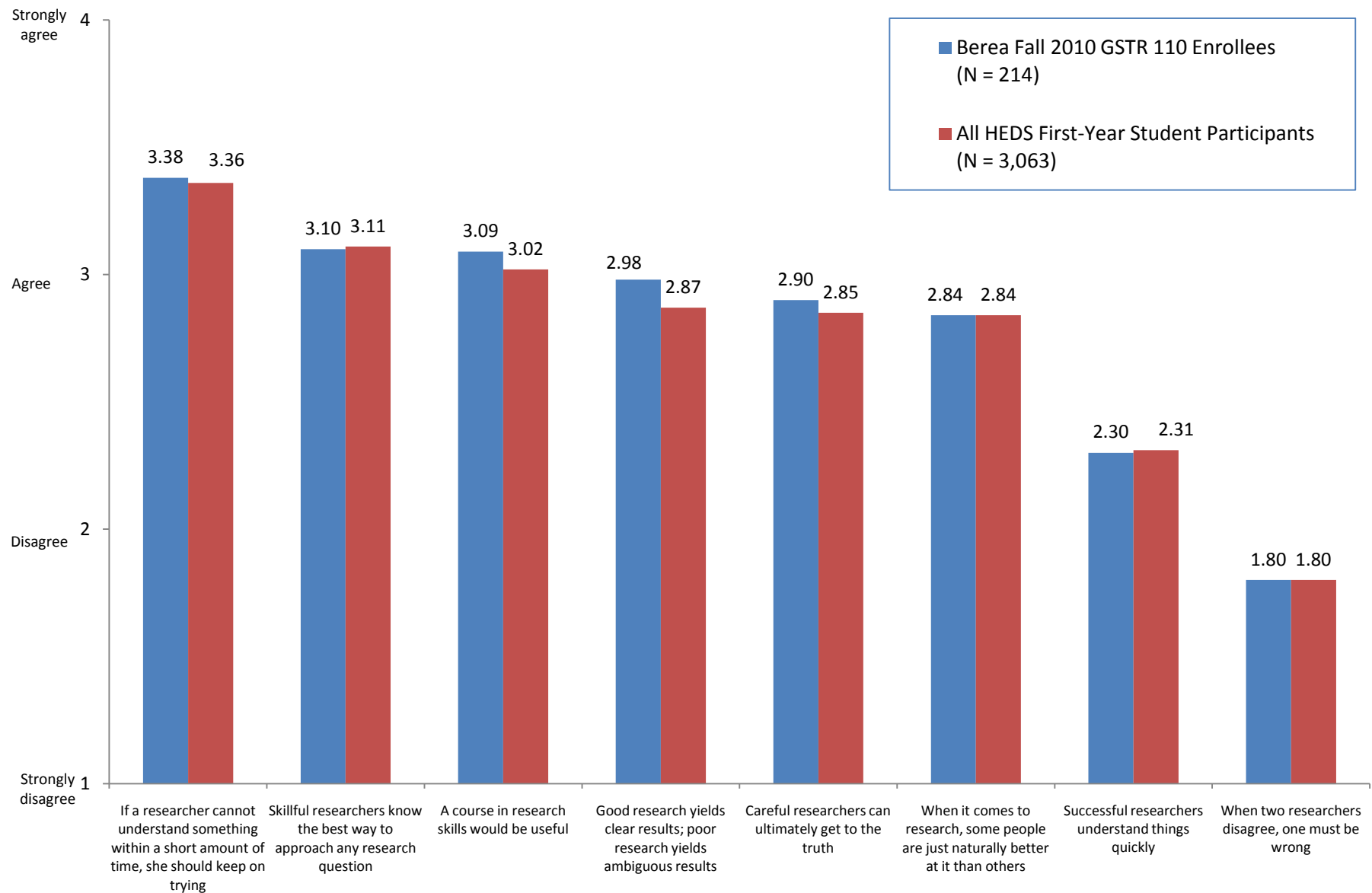
### How much do you enjoy research?



Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

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Rate your agreement with each of the following statements.



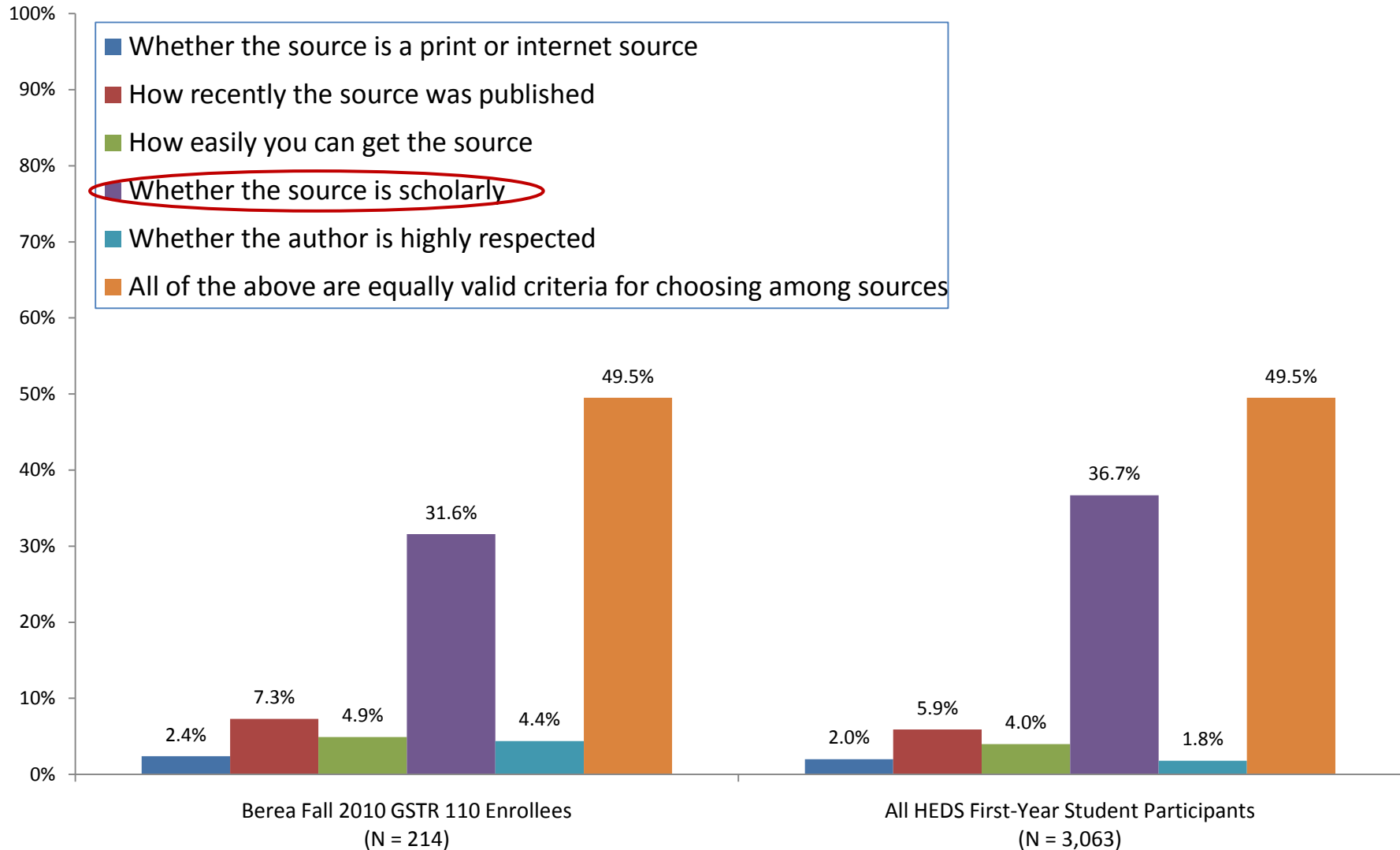
Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Information from the HEDS Research Practices Survey administered at the beginning of Fall 2010 compiled by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, January 2011

Suppose you have more relevant sources than you can use in a short research assignment.

(Circled response is the most accurate response)

## Which of the following is the best way to determine whether to use a particular source?

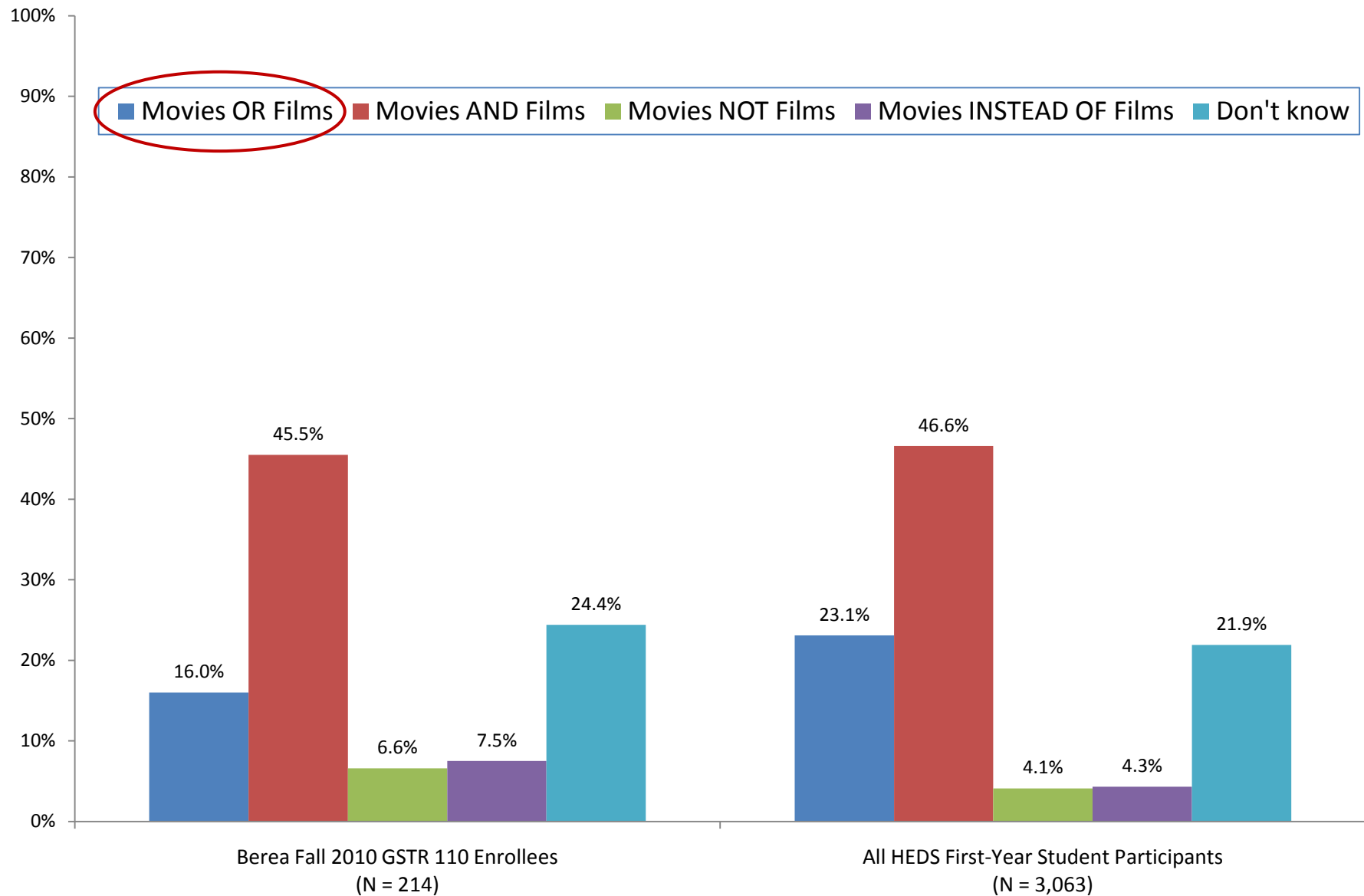


Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

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Which of the following searches would retrieve the MOST results in an online search?

(Circled response is the most accurate response)

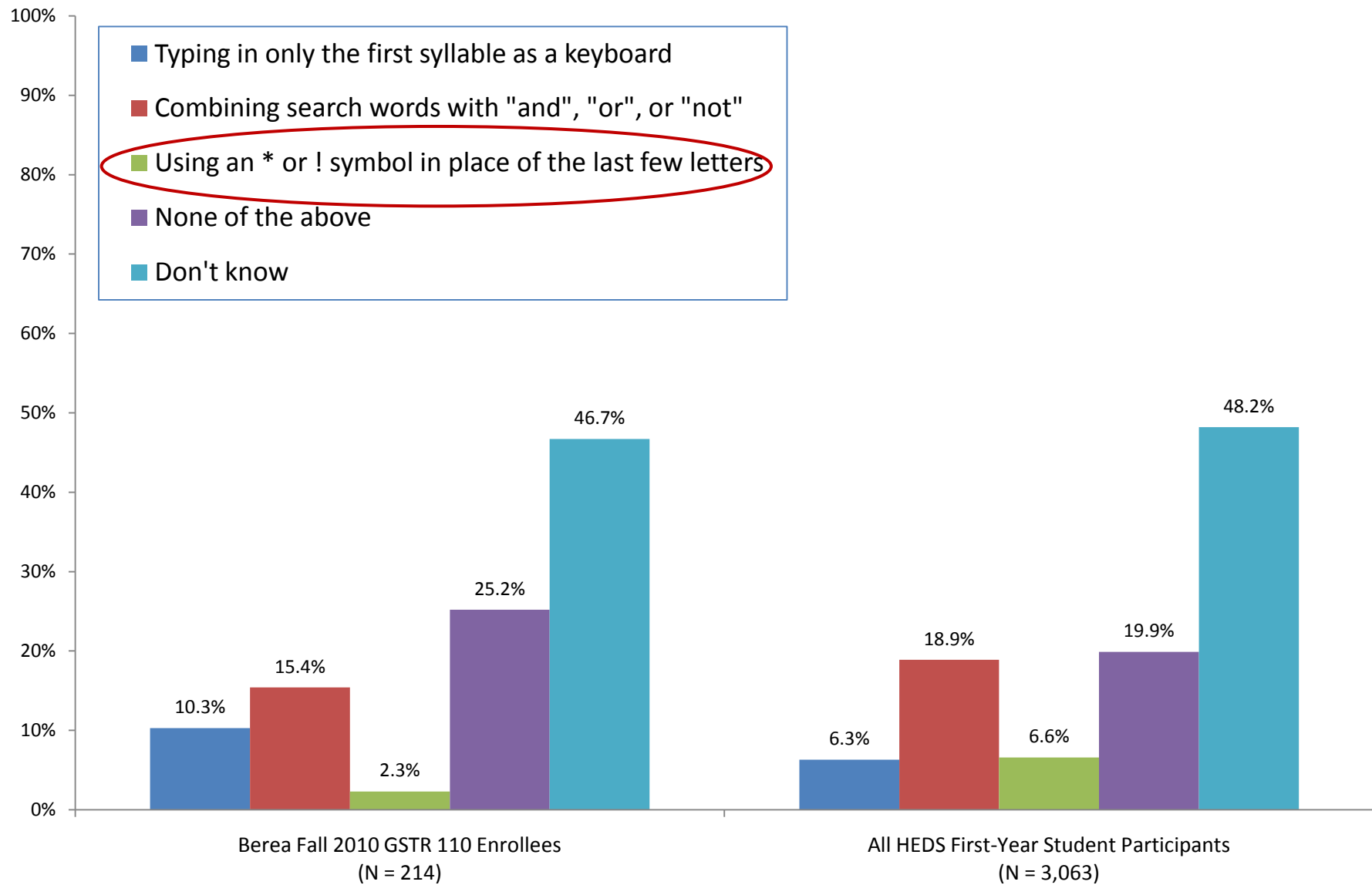


Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

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### Which of the following is the correct way to truncate a search word?

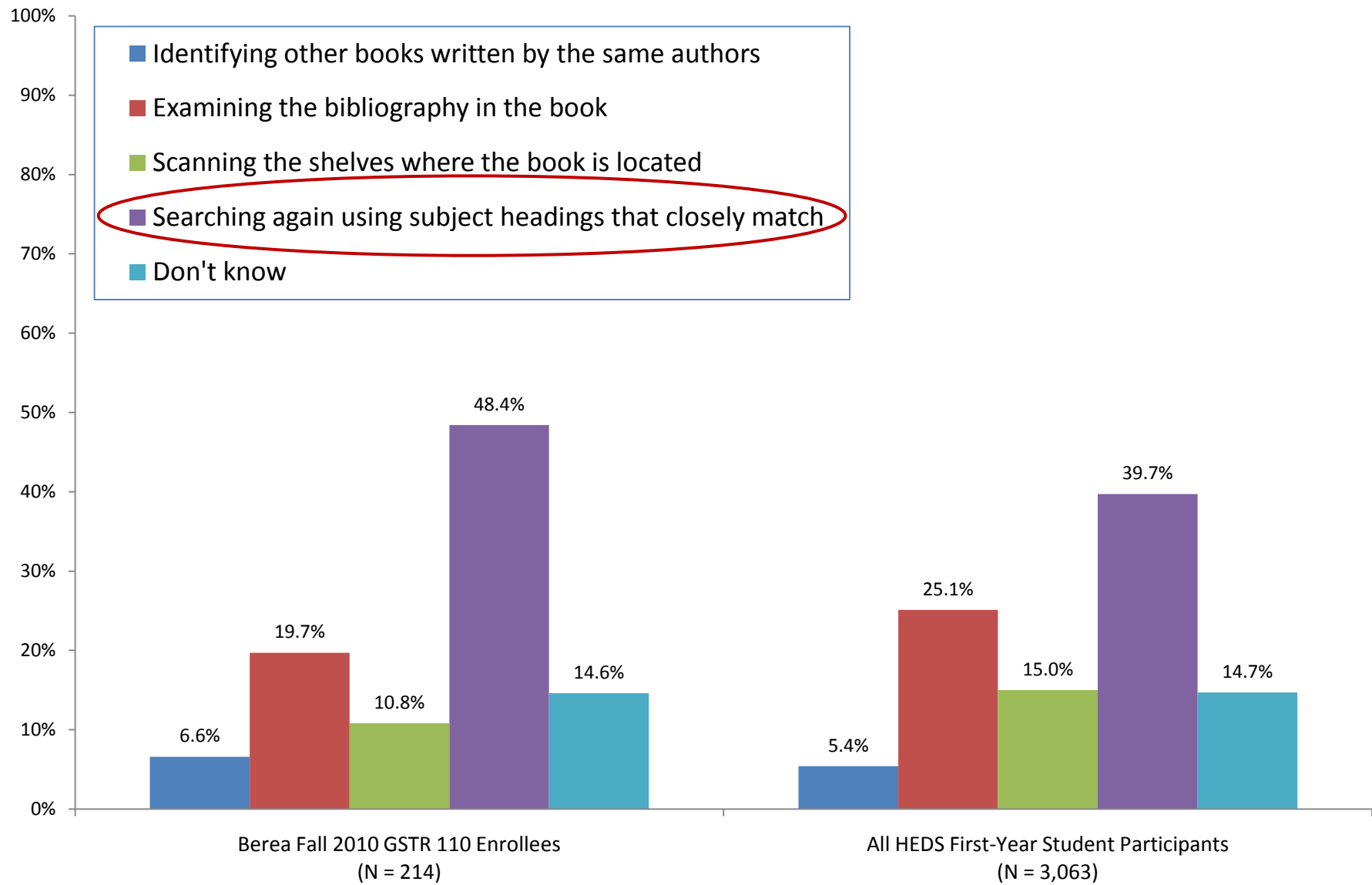
(Circled response is the most accurate response)



Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Which of the following would be the most efficient way to find a comprehensive listing of other books in the catalog on this topic?

(Circled response is the most accurate response)



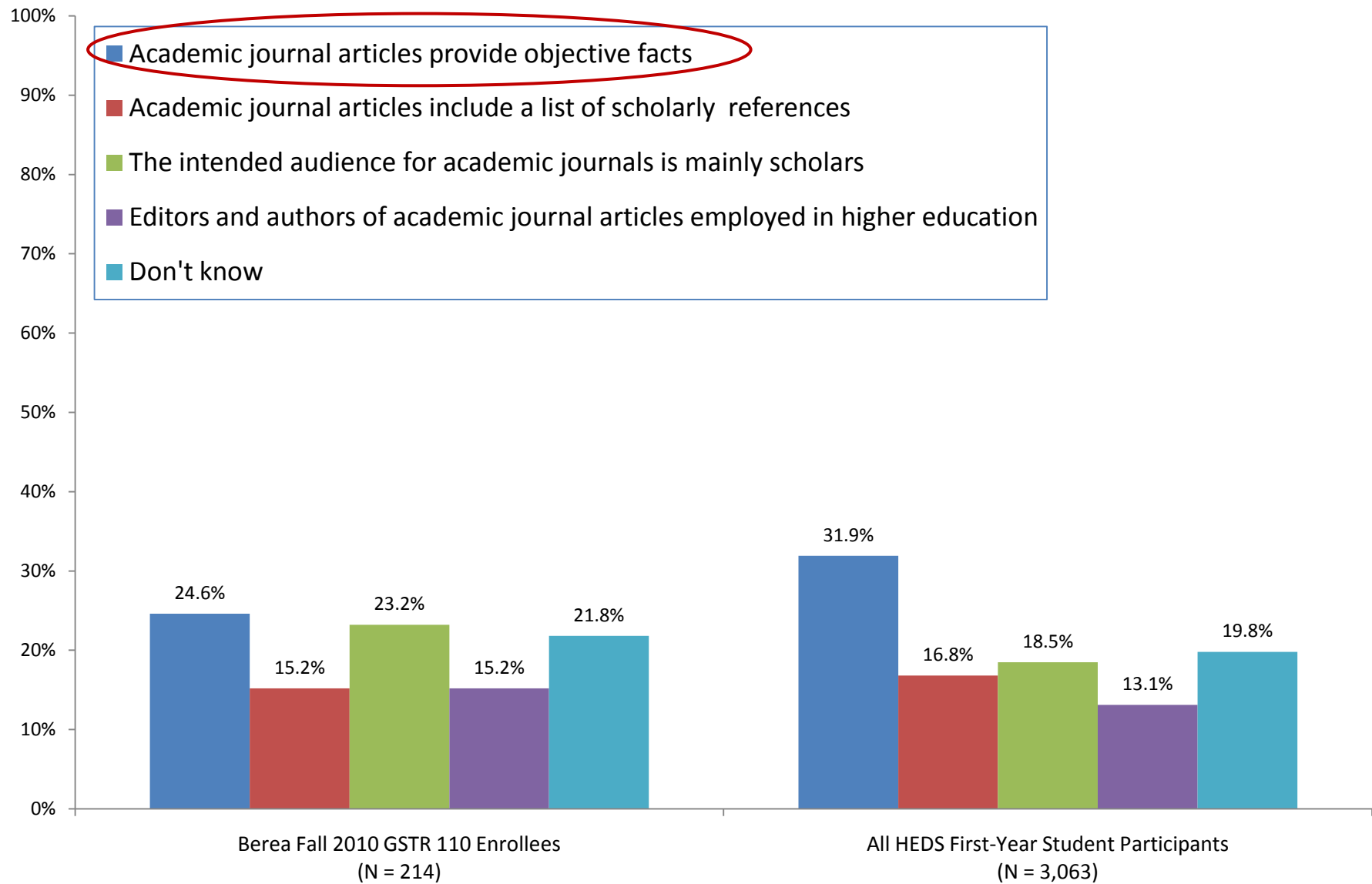
Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

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Researchers must distinguish between academic journals and popular magazines. Which of the following statements is LEAST ACCURATE?

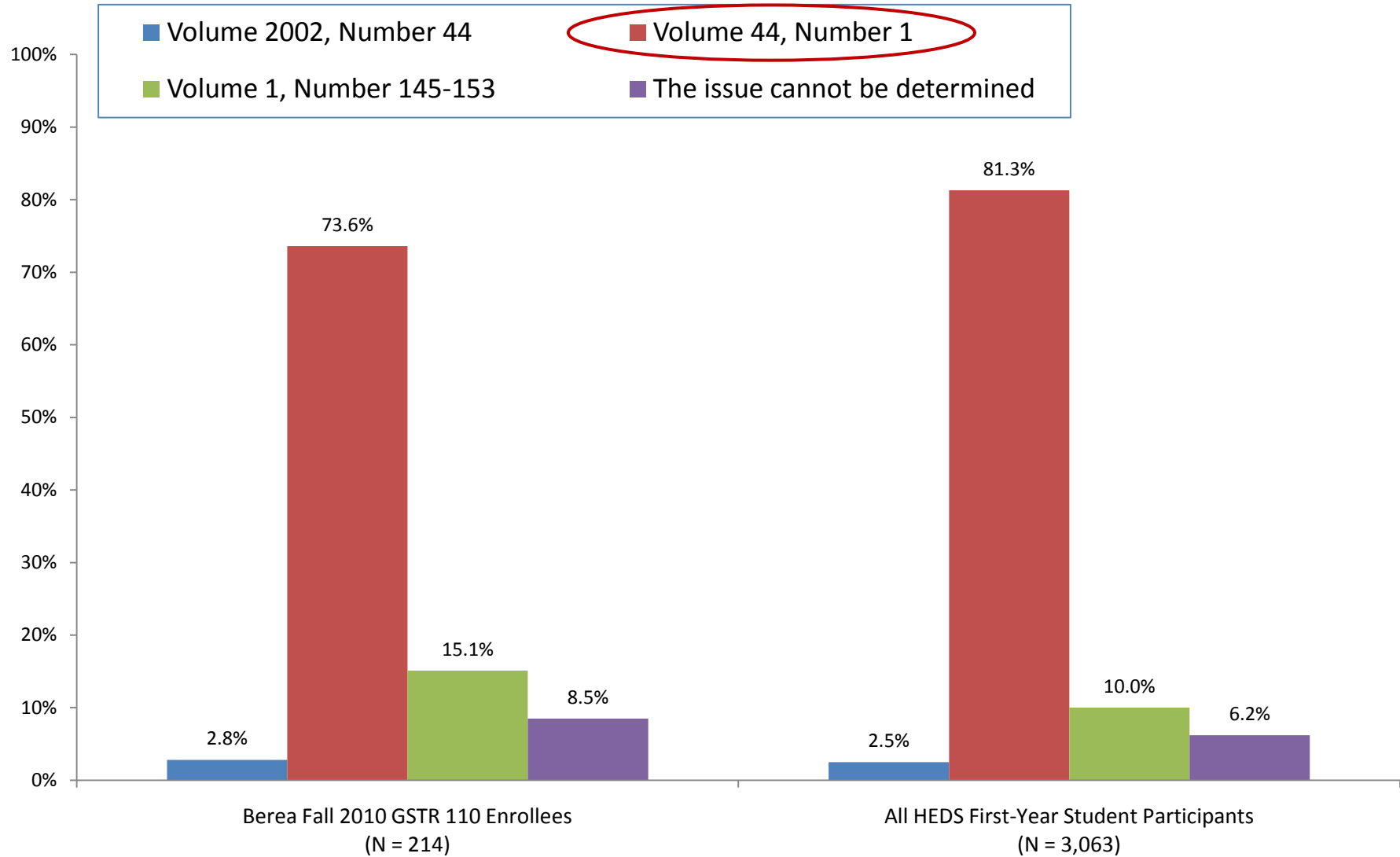
(Circled response is the most accurate response)



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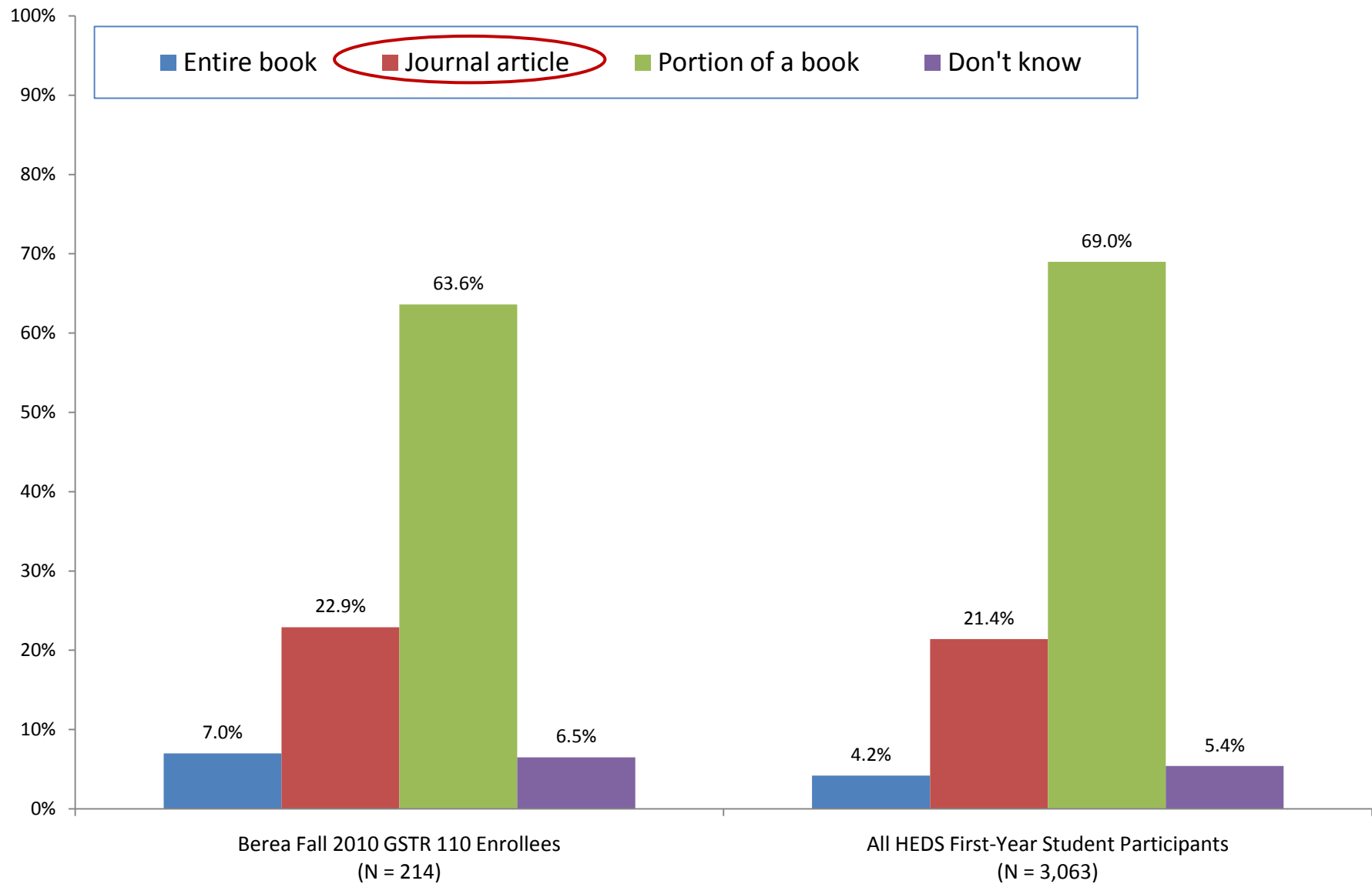
### In what issue of *Latin American Politics and Society* will you find this article?



Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

What is the source of: Jorgensen, Lara W. "Reinterpreting Navajo Rites." Navajo Culture 6 (1946): 469-78.

(Circled response is the most accurate response)

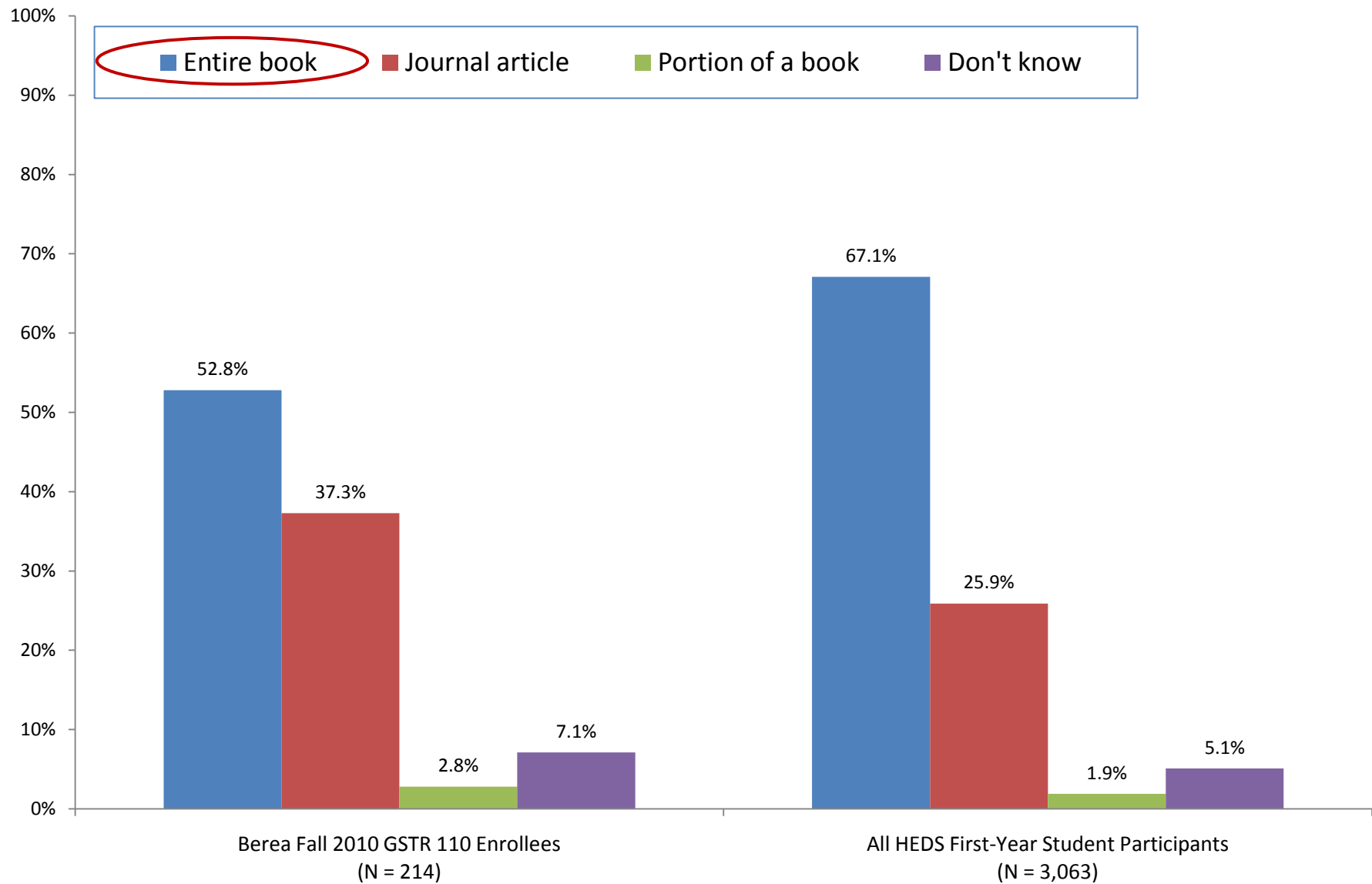


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What is the source of: Allen, Glover Morrill. Bats. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. 1939.

(Circled response is the most accurate response)

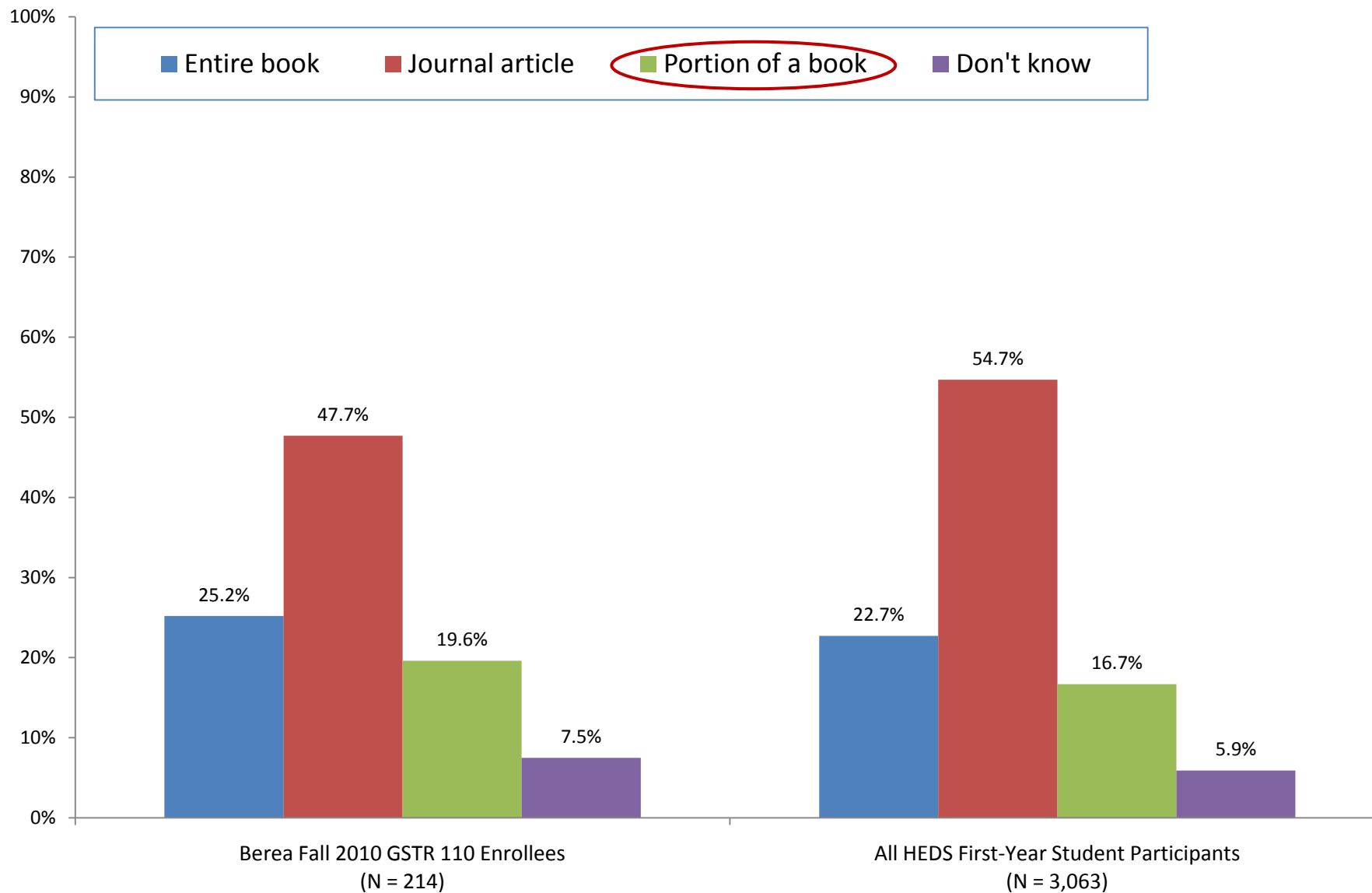


Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Information from the HEDS Research Practices Survey administered at the beginning of Fall 2010 compiled by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, January 2011

What is source of: Tanaka, Kazuko. "The New Feminist Movement in Japan, 1970-990." In Japanese Women, edited by Kumiko Fujimura-Fanselow, New York Feminist Press. 1995.

(Circled response is the most accurate response)



Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Information from the HEDS Research Practices Survey administered at the beginning of Fall 2010 compiled by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, January 2011

**Researchers must distinguish between primary and secondary sources. Which of the following statements is MOST ACCURATE?**

(Circled response is the most accurate response)

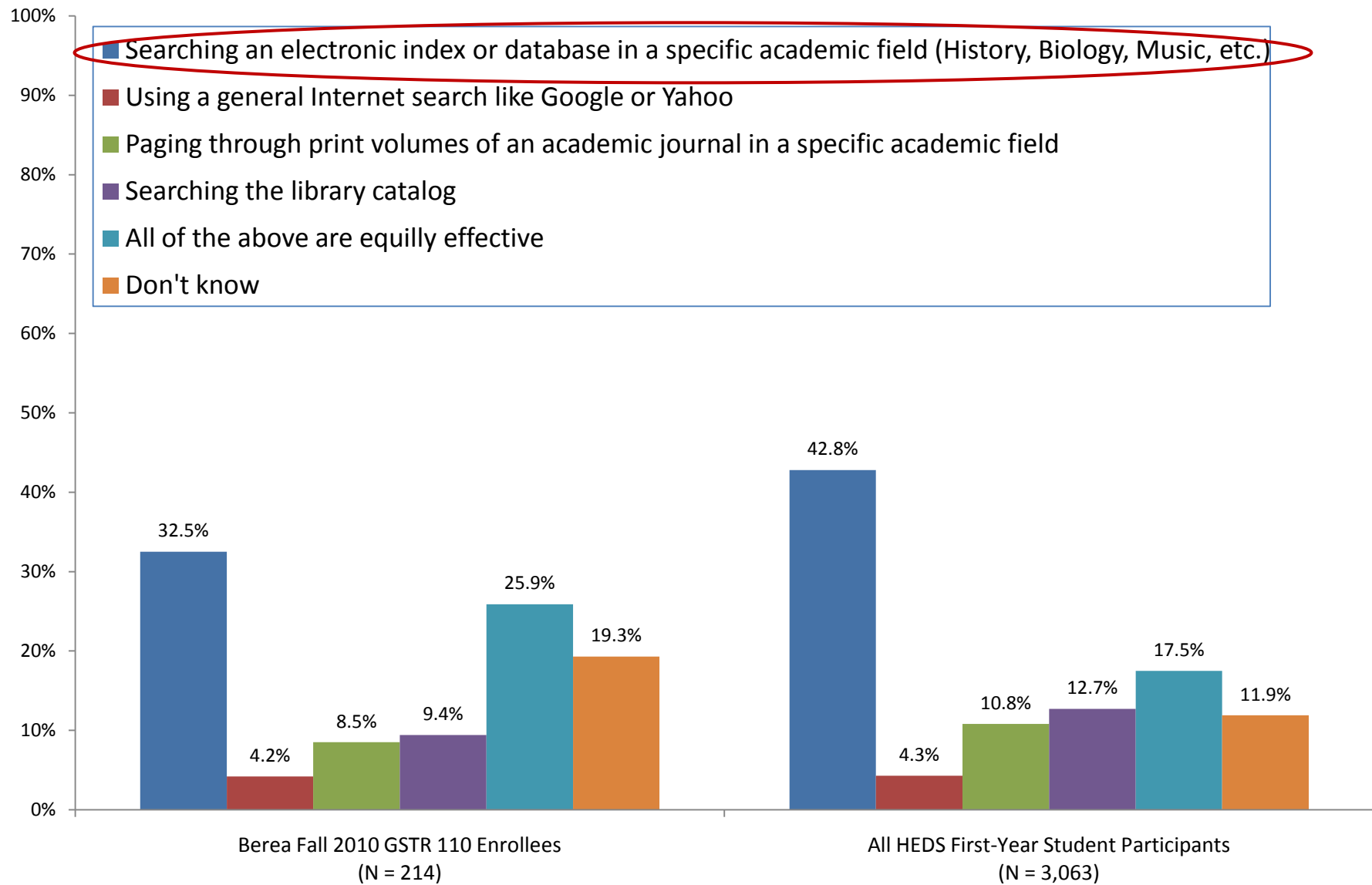


Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Information from the HEDS Research Practices Survey administered at the beginning of Fall 2010 compiled by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, January 2011

Which of the following is likely to yield the most comprehensive list of relevant scholarly articles for a research project?

(Circled response is the most accurate response)

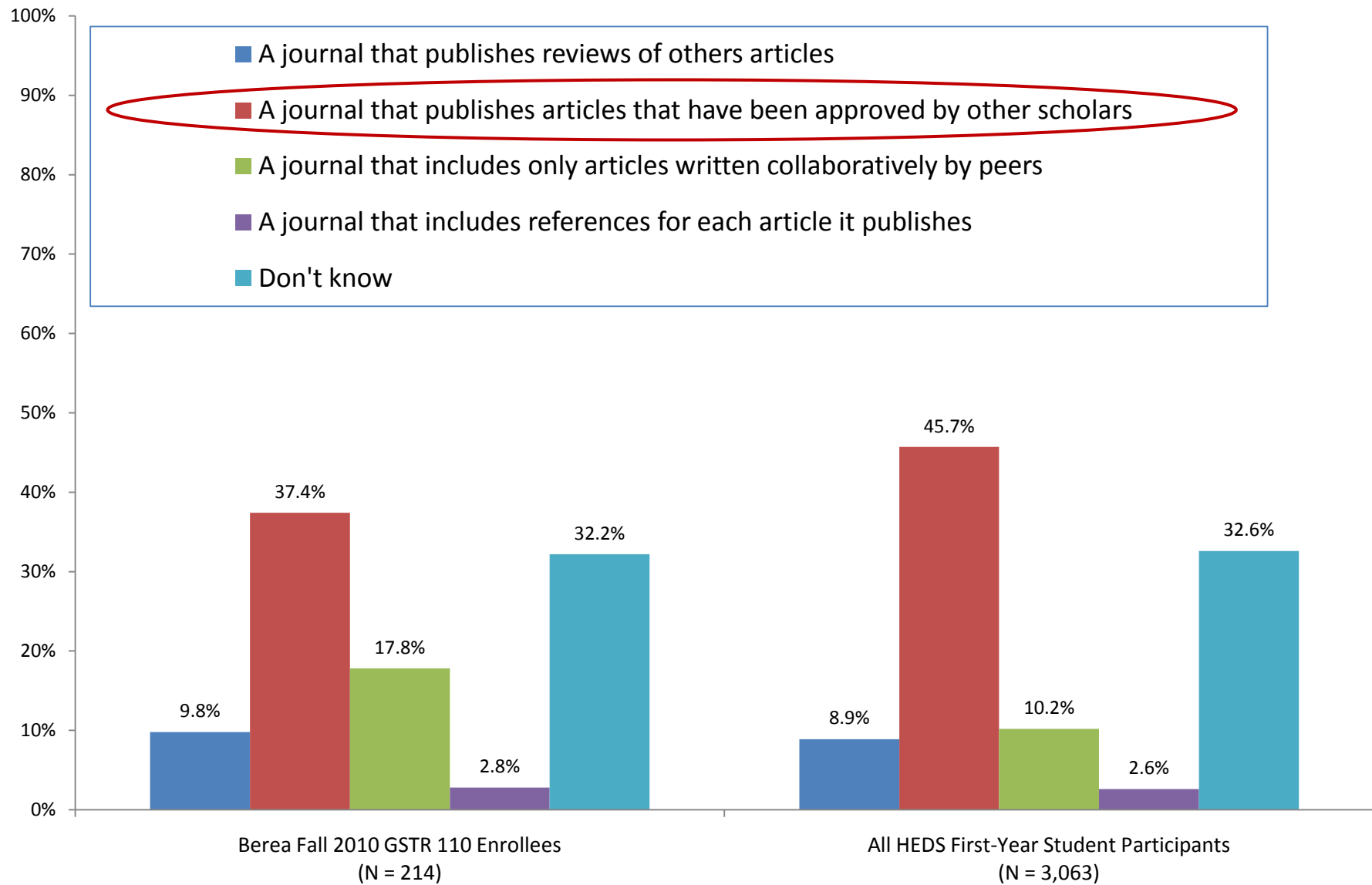


Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Information from the HEDS Research Practices Survey administered at the beginning of Fall 2010 compiled by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, January 2011

**A peer-reviewed or refereed journal is BEST described as:**

(Circled response is the most accurate response)

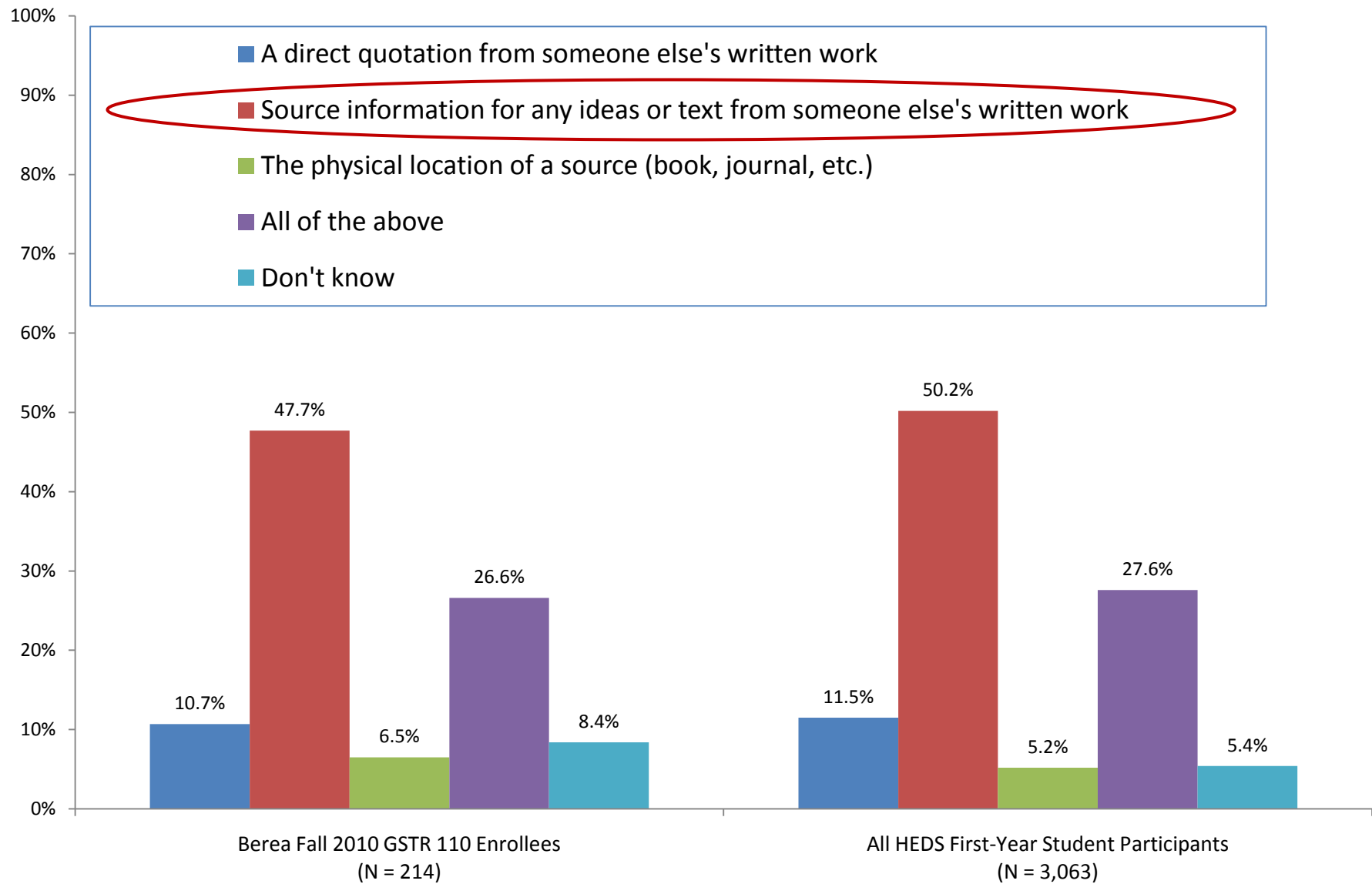


Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.



In a scholarly article of a research paper, a citation is:

(Circled response is the most accurate response)

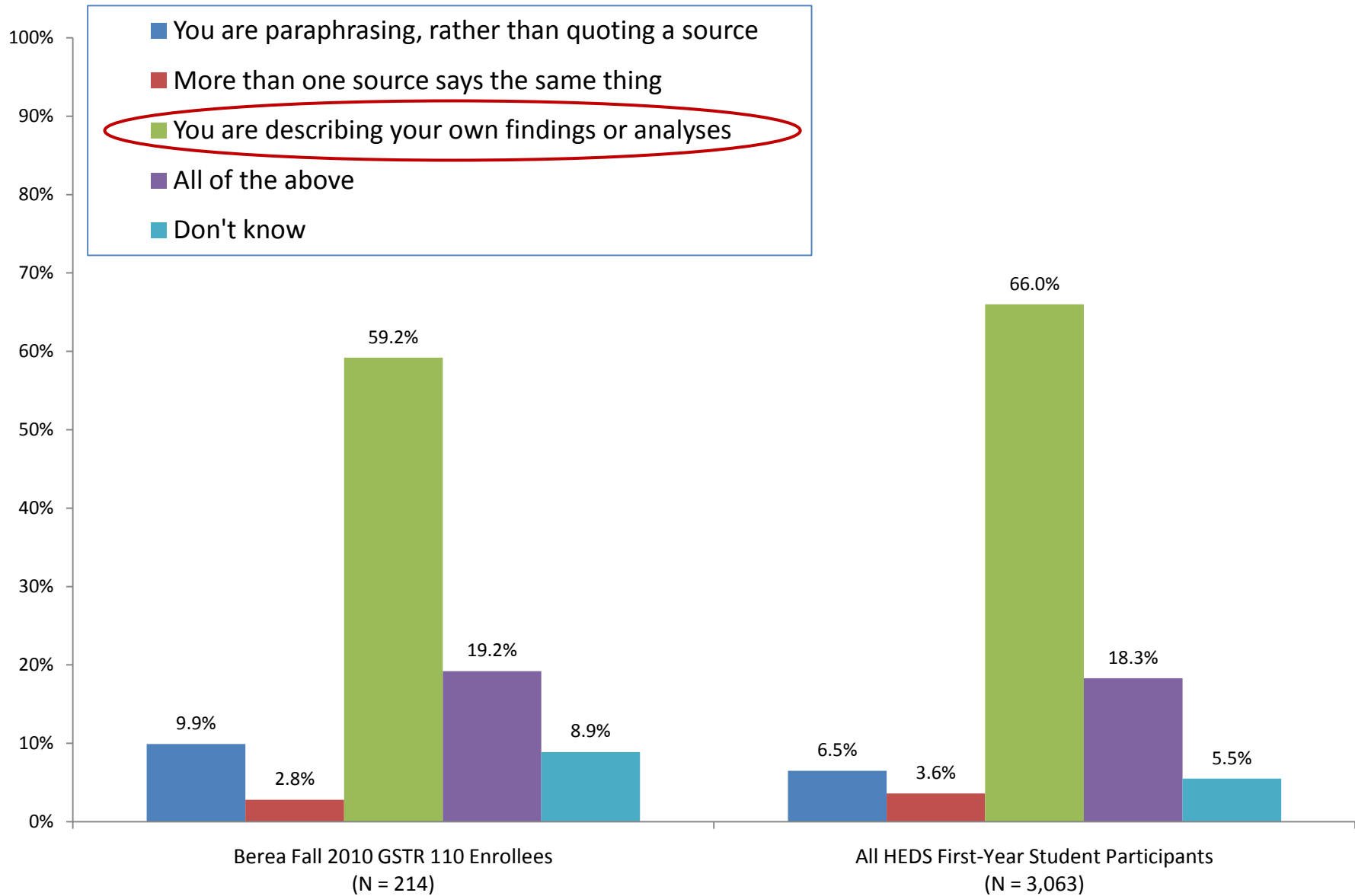


Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Information from the HEDS Research Practices Survey administered at the beginning of Fall 2010 compiled by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, January 2011

**A citation is NOT required when:**

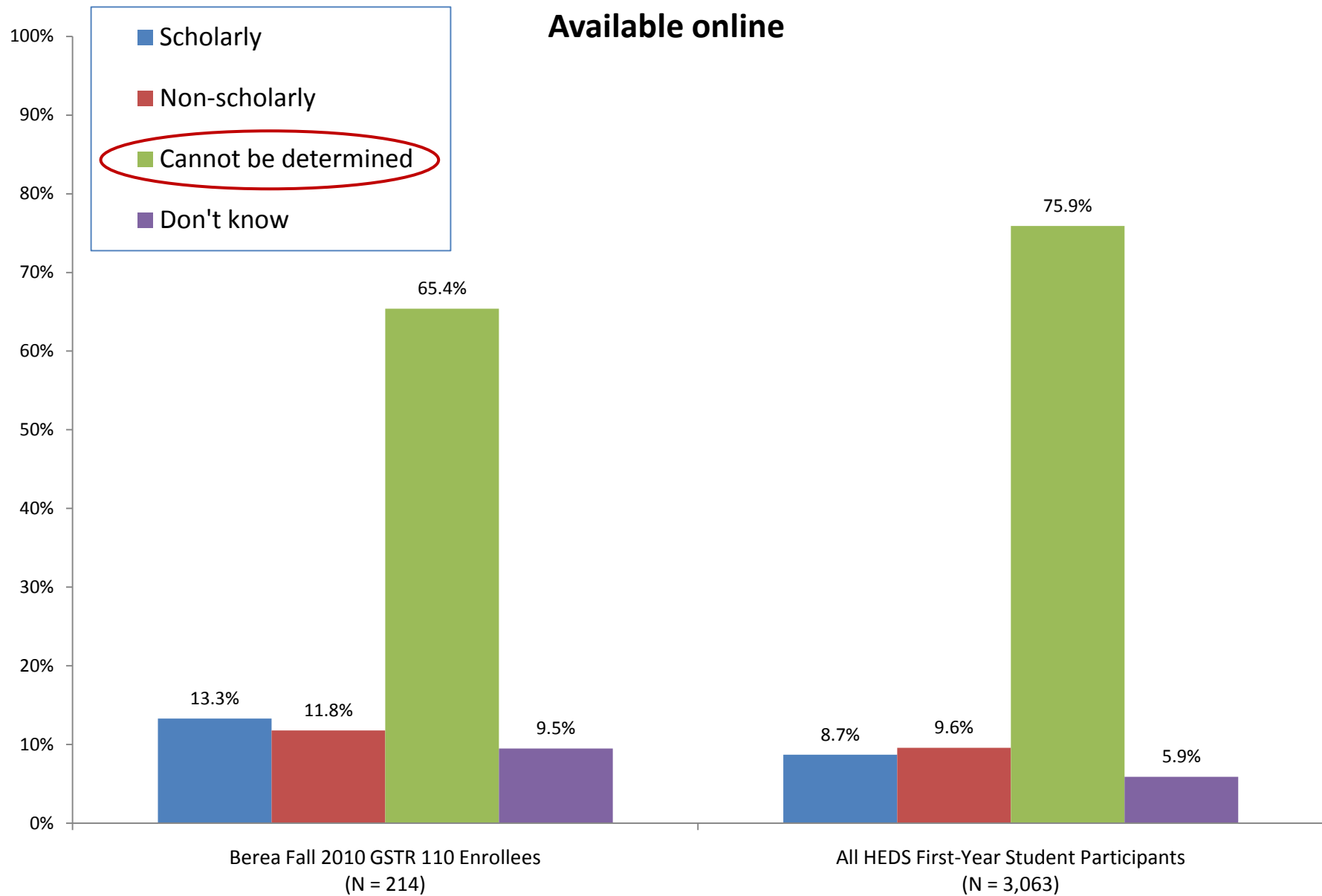
(Circled response is the most accurate response)



Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Please choose the most accurate option for each of the following:

(Circled response is the most accurate response)

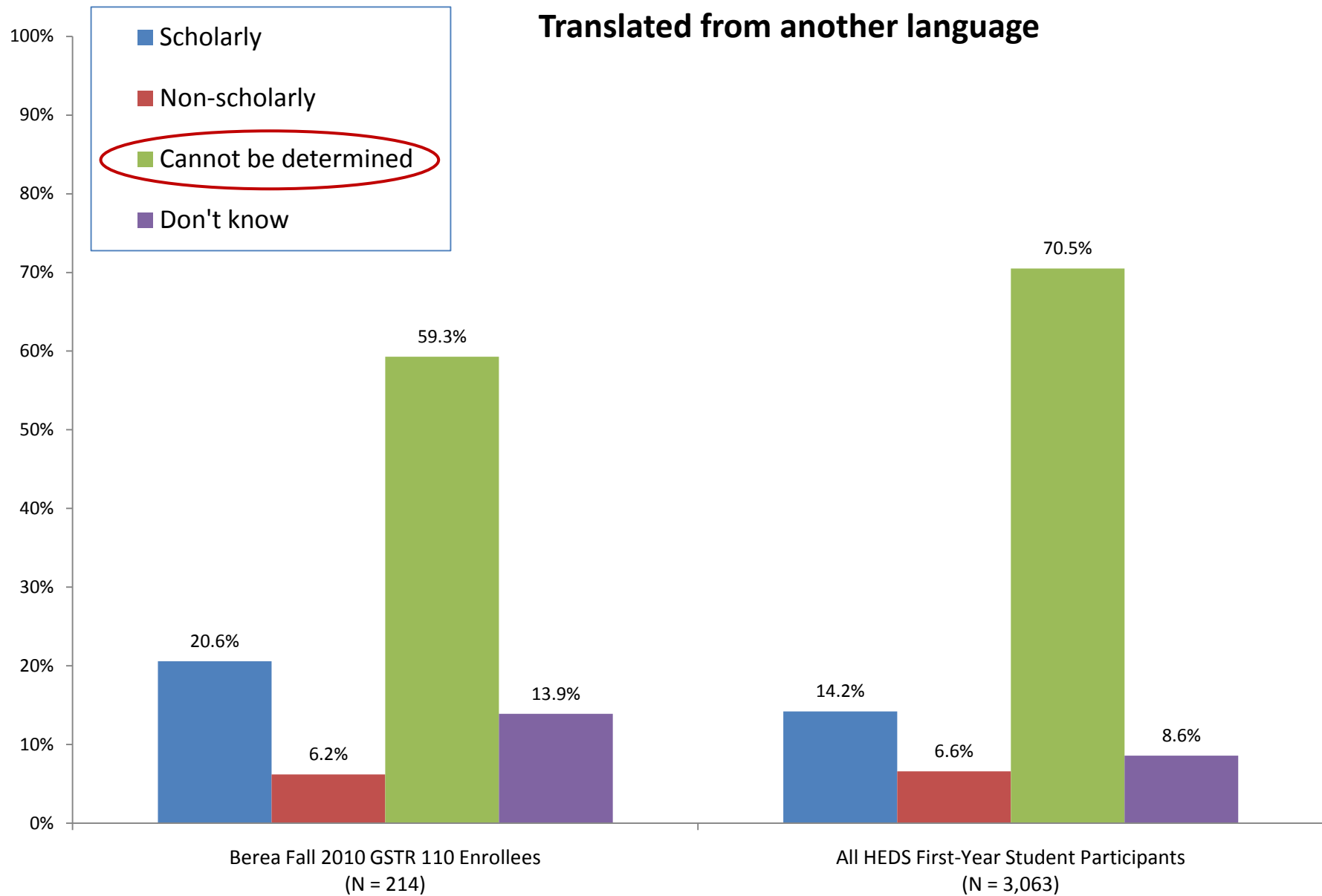


Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Information from the HEDS Research Practices Survey administered at the beginning of Fall 2010 compiled by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, January 2011

Please choose the most accurate option for each of the following:

(Circled response is the most accurate response)

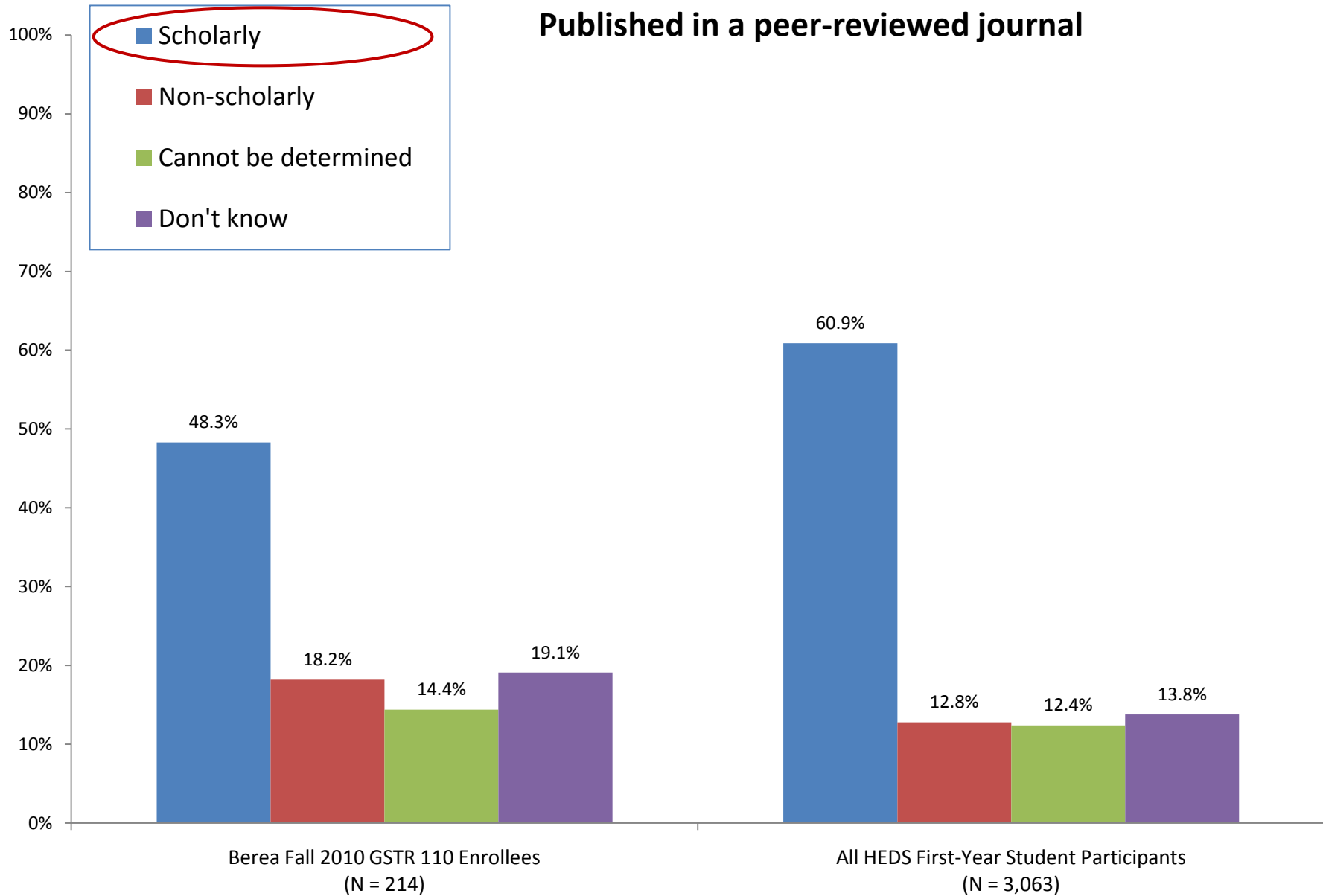


Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Information from the HEDS Research Practices Survey administered at the beginning of Fall 2010 compiled by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, January 2011

Please choose the most accurate option for each of the following:

(Circled response is the most accurate response)

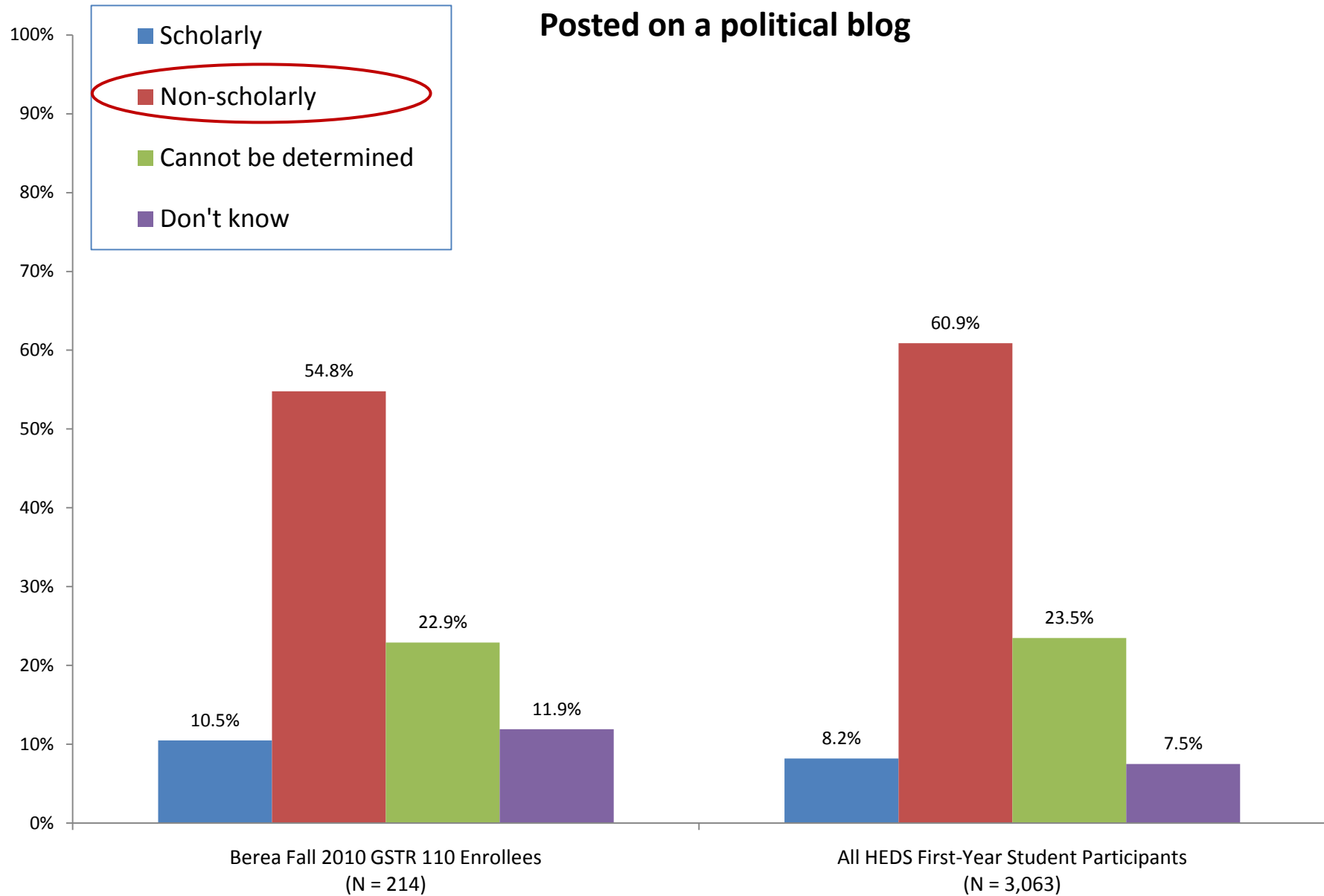


Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Information from the HEDS Research Practices Survey administered at the beginning of Fall 2010 compiled by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, January 2011

Please choose the most accurate option for each of the following:

(Circled response is the most accurate response)

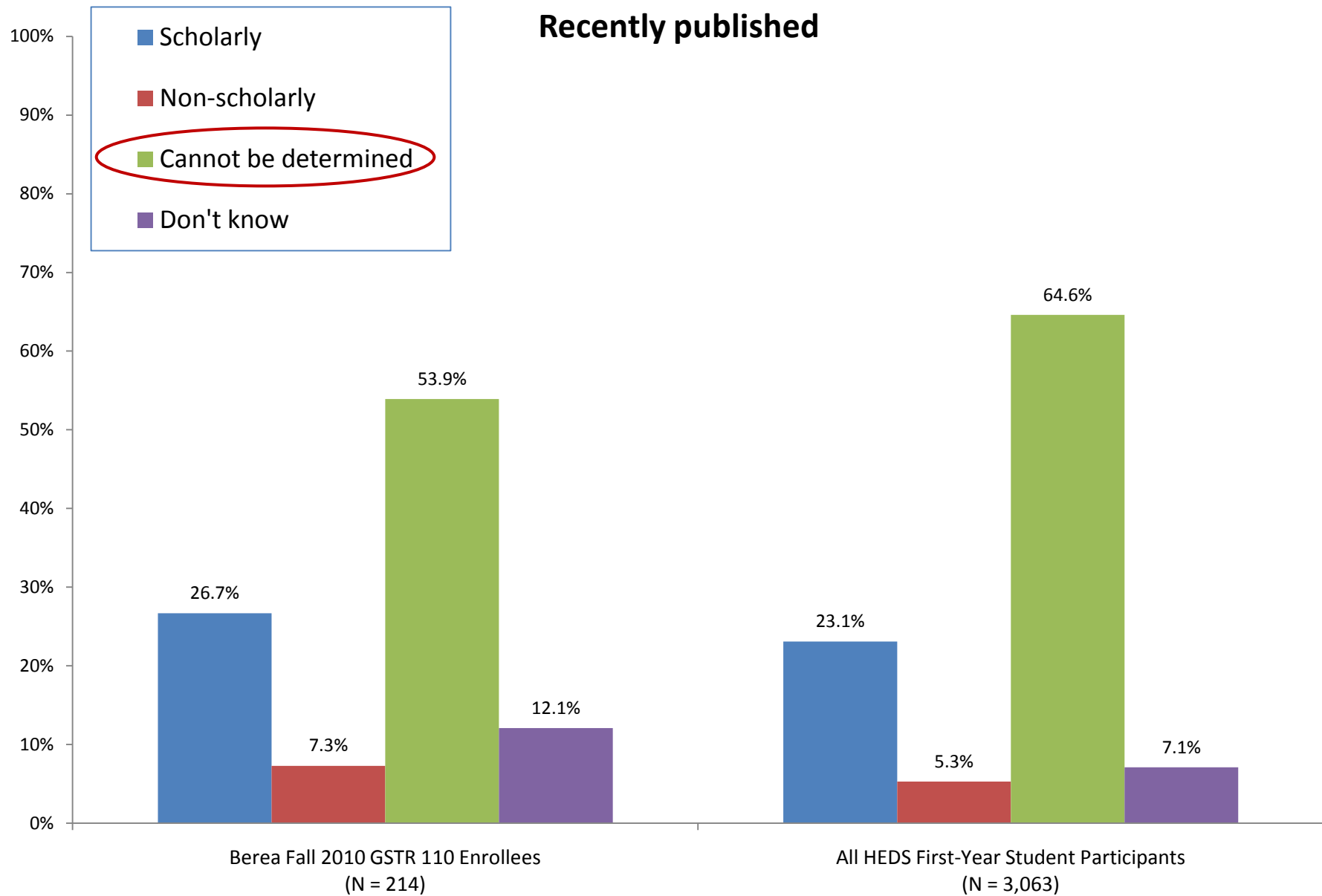


Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Information from the HEDS Research Practices Survey administered at the beginning of Fall 2010 compiled by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, January 2011

Please choose the most accurate option for each of the following:

(Circled response is the most accurate response)

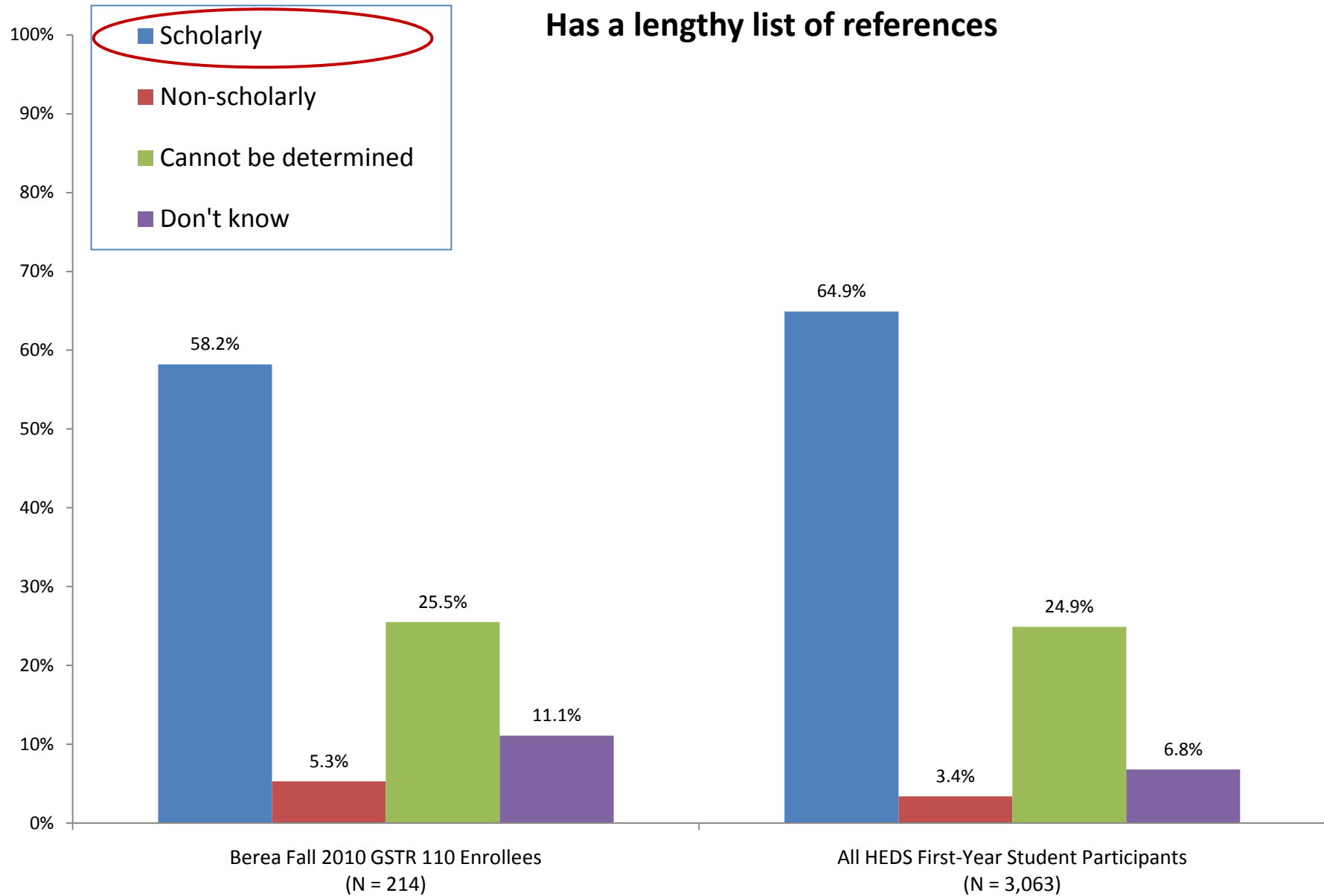


Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Information from the HEDS Research Practices Survey administered at the beginning of Fall 2010 compiled by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, January 2011

Please choose the most accurate option for each of the following:

(Circled response is the most accurate response)



Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

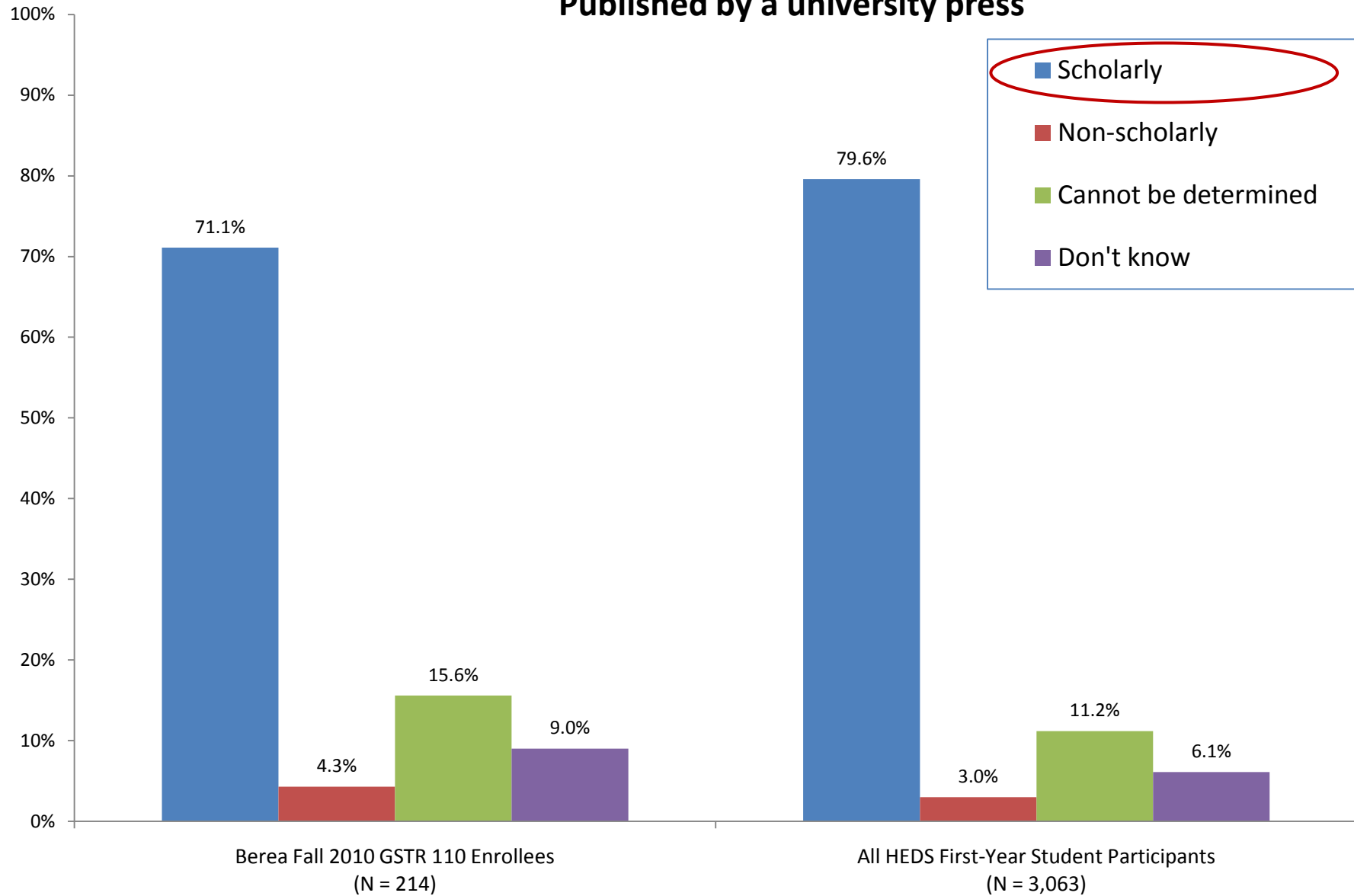
Information from the HEDS Research Practices Survey administered at the beginning of Fall 2010 compiled by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, January 2011



Please choose the most accurate option for each of the following:

(Circled response is the most accurate response)

### Published by a university press

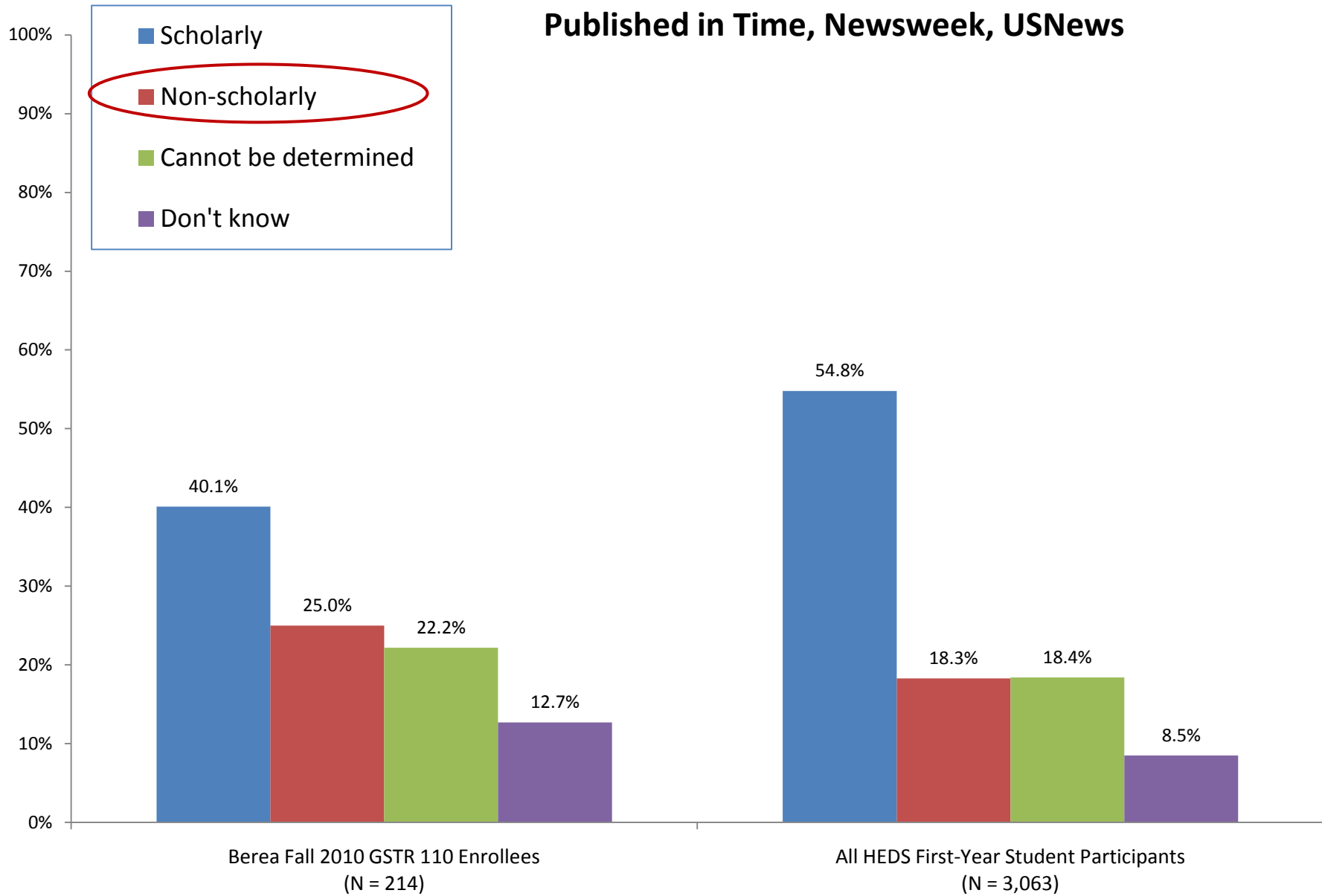


Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Information from the HEDS Research Practices Survey administered at the beginning of Fall 2010 compiled by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, January 2011

Please choose the most accurate option for each of the following:

(Circled response is the most accurate response)

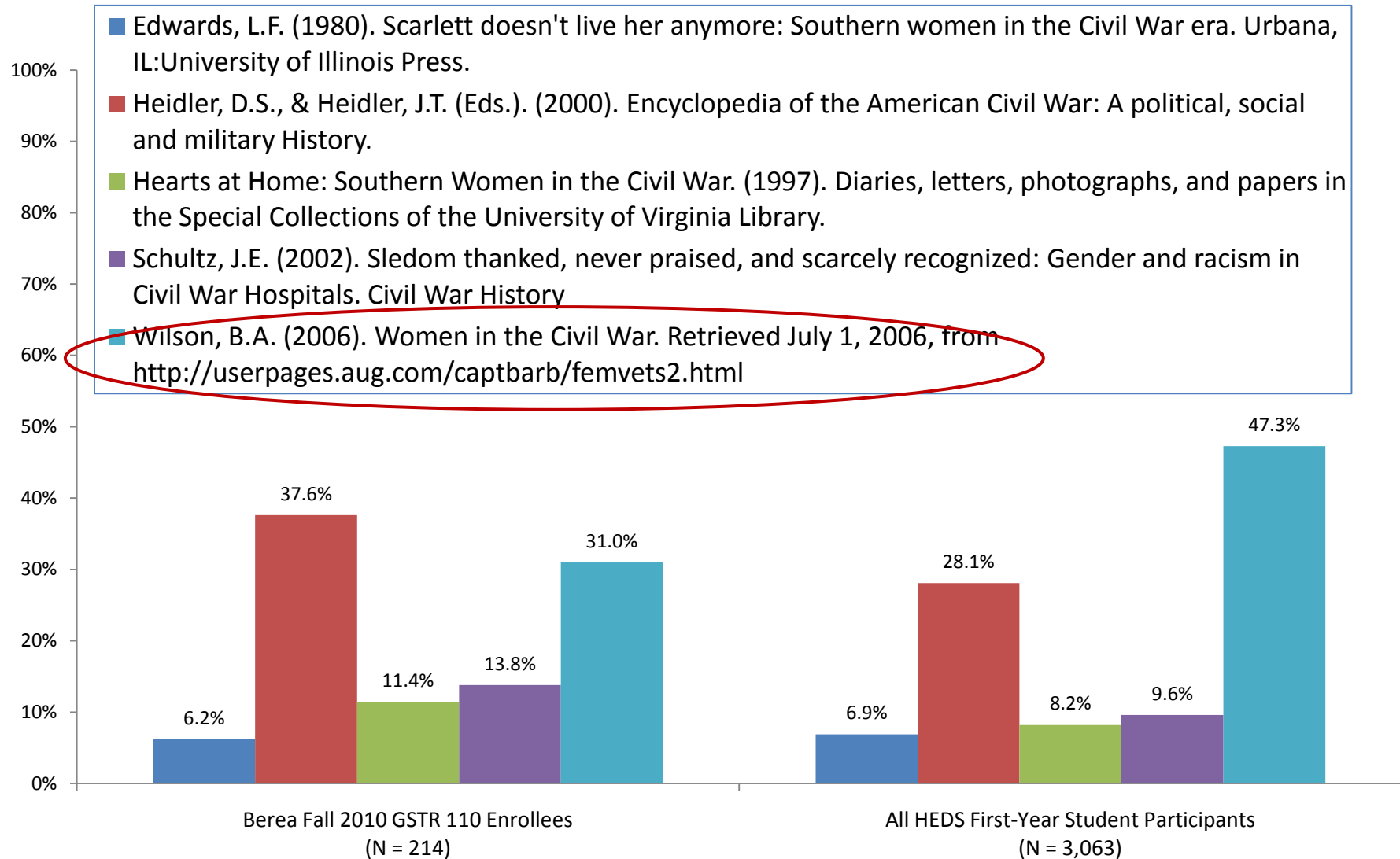


Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Information from the HEDS Research Practices Survey administered at the beginning of Fall 2010 compiled by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, January 2011

You are required to write a research paper for your American History class examining the roles of women in Civil War. An initial search turns up the following:

## Which one is LEAST likely to be appropriate for your paper?

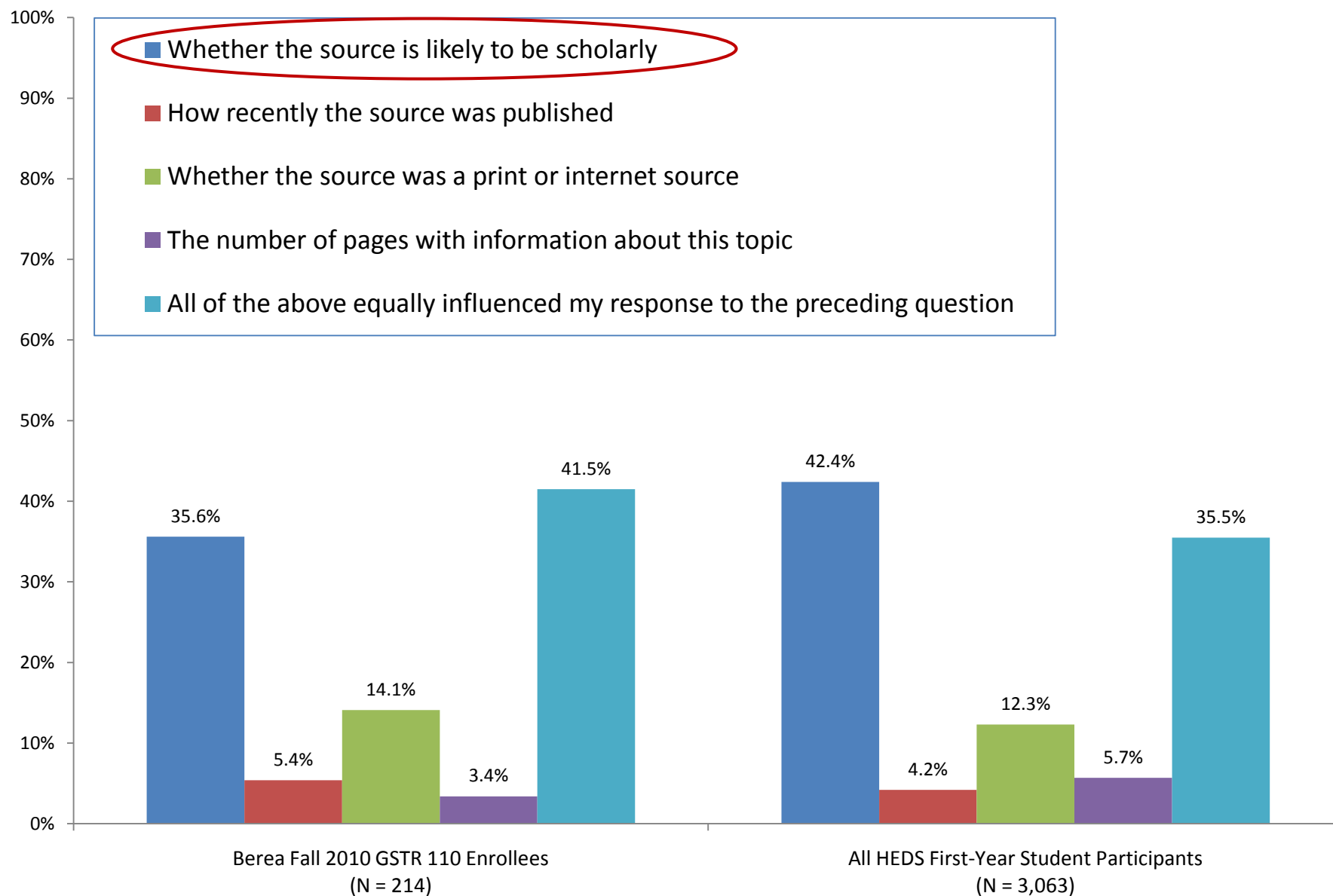


Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

Information from the HEDS Research Practices Survey administered at the beginning of Fall 2010 compiled by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment, January 2011

### What was the basis for the source selection?

(Circled response is the most accurate response)



Response Rate for Berea: 214/ 467 or 46%.

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