



Digital skills @ your local library project

RESULTS & IMPACT

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WEHUBIT

This project is funded by Belgium through the Wehubit programme implemented by Enabel.






The need

Internet penetration and use remains a major challenge in Uganda

Lack of awareness and skills is a major barrier for getting online

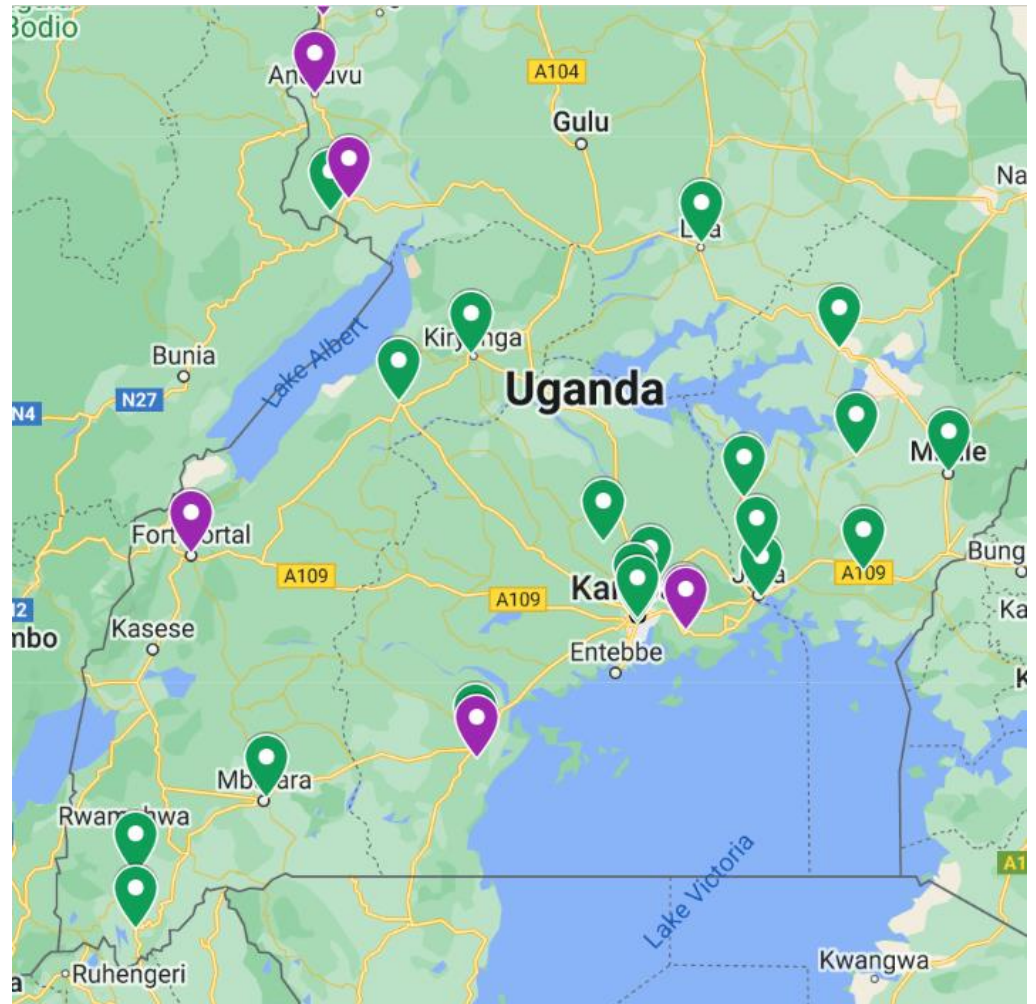


Digital skills @ your local library project

- Two-and-a-half-year project (2021-2023)
- Uses a nation-wide network of public and community libraries, that are equipped with computers and internet
- Offers free basic digital and mobile literacy training run by trained librarians
- Provides access to and facilitation of free online courses

Project partners

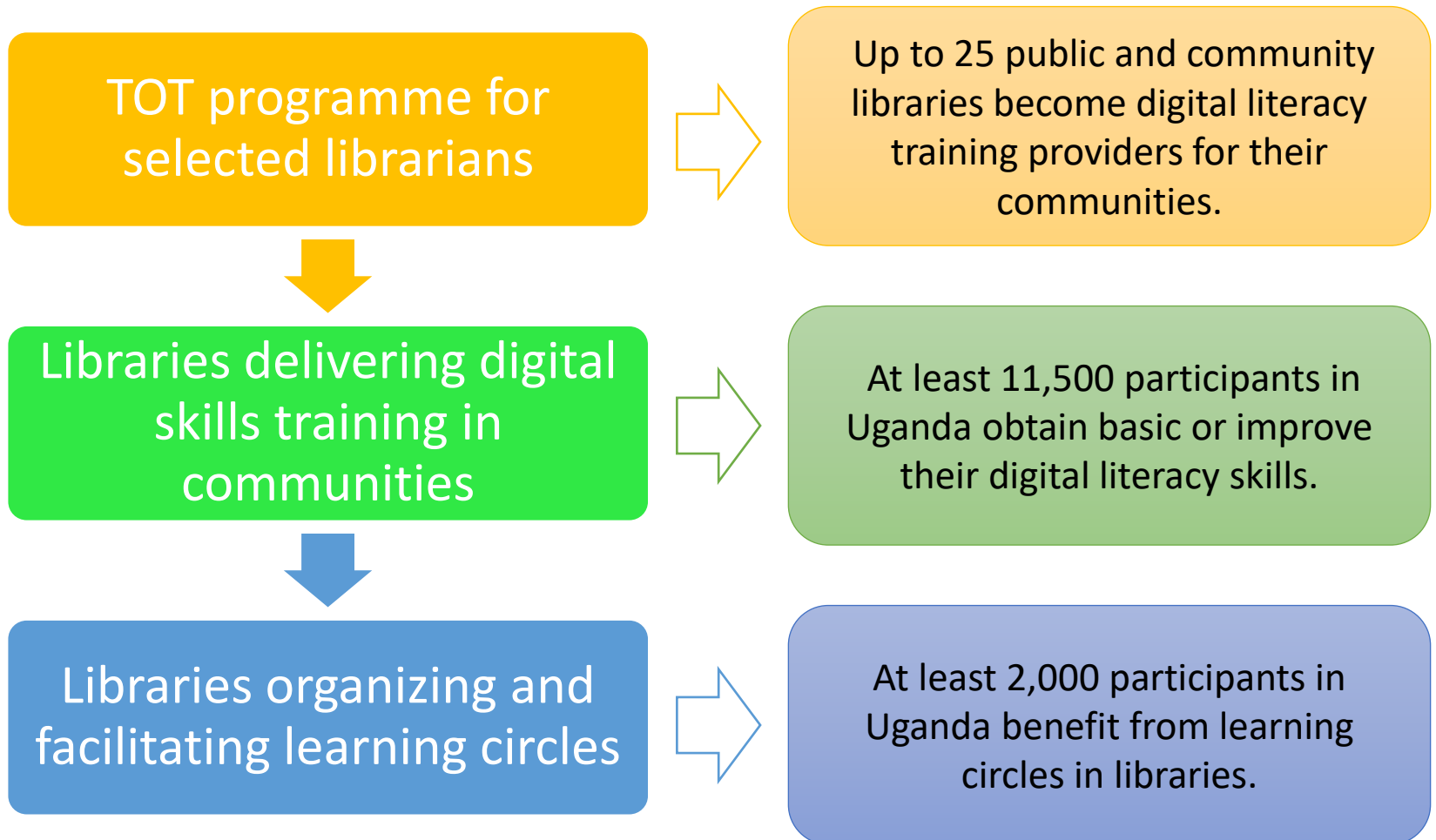
- National Library of Uganda
- Maendeleo Foundation
- Peer 2 Peer University
- EIFL (Electronic Information for Libraries)
- 27 Local authorities and associated libraries



Map of participating libraries:

<https://bit.ly/3pNagxb>

Project implementation scheme



Key Achievements

50 librarians and volunteers were trained to provide digital and mobile literacy training in their communities.

Over **6,500** youth and women were equipped with basic digital and mobile literacy skills in libraries.

Over **12,000** people have been reached through digital and mobile literacy outreaches.

Almost **1,500** women and youth participated in learning circles, obtaining a wide range of entrepreneurial, technical, craft-making and other skills.



Results of the impact survey

Survey bakcground



The impact survey was conducted in June 2023.



The data was collected using an online questionnaire (Google forms).

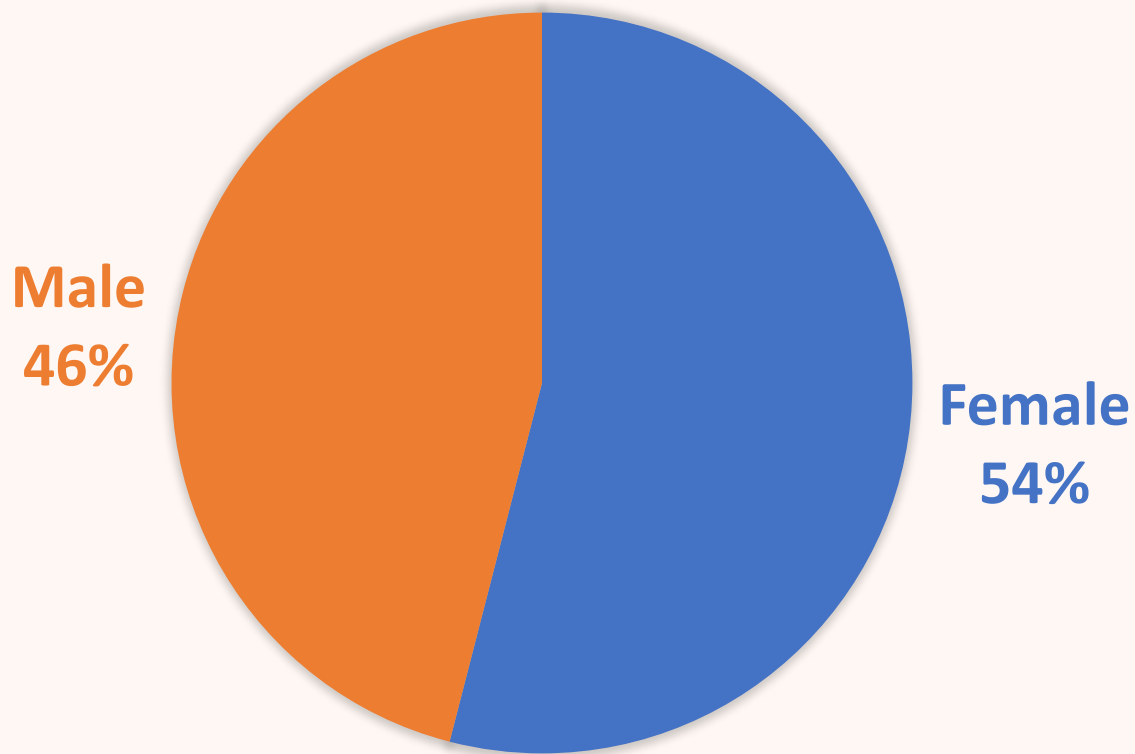


The questionnaire was sent to 632 people, who previously attended digital skills training in the library.

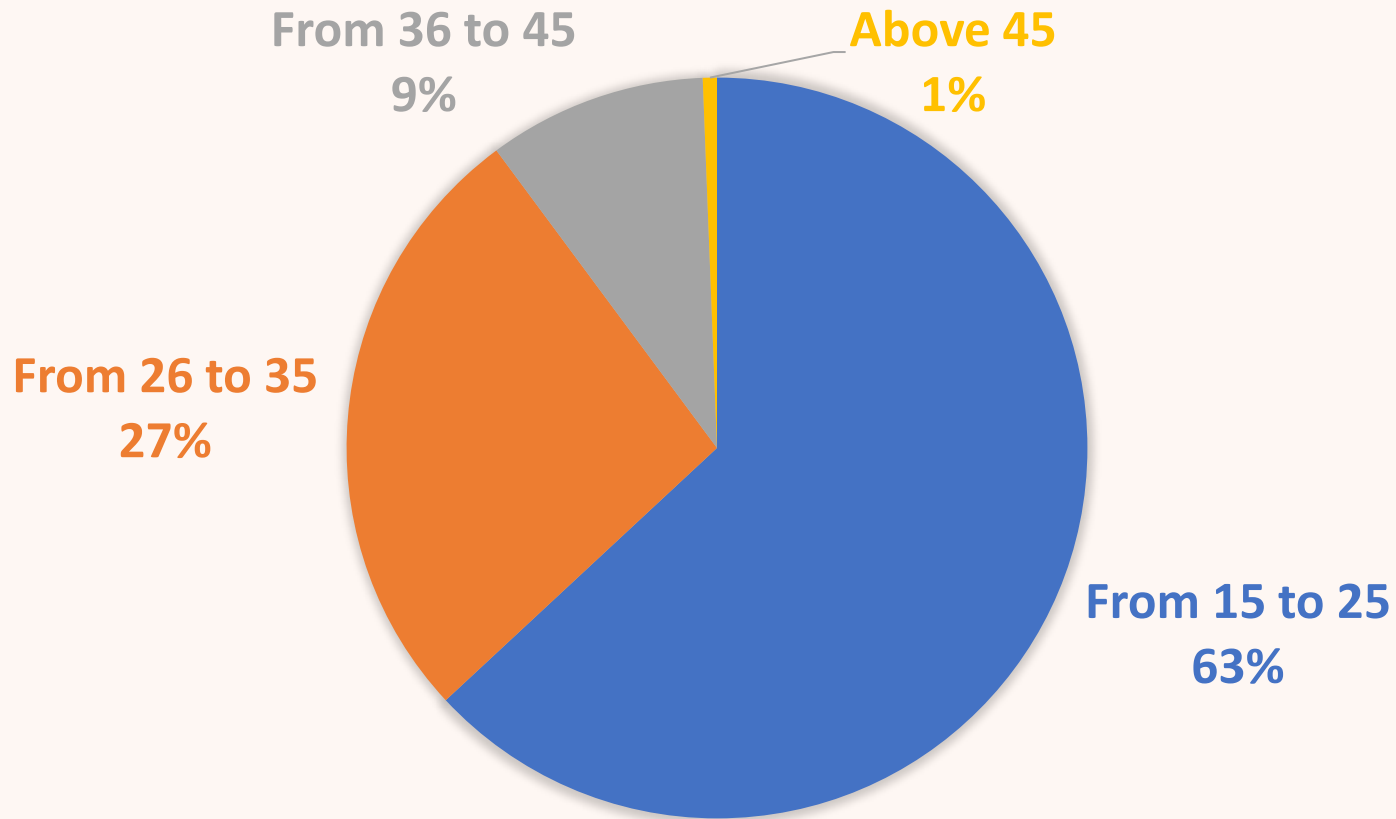


We received 330 responses, which were used for analysis.

What is your gender?



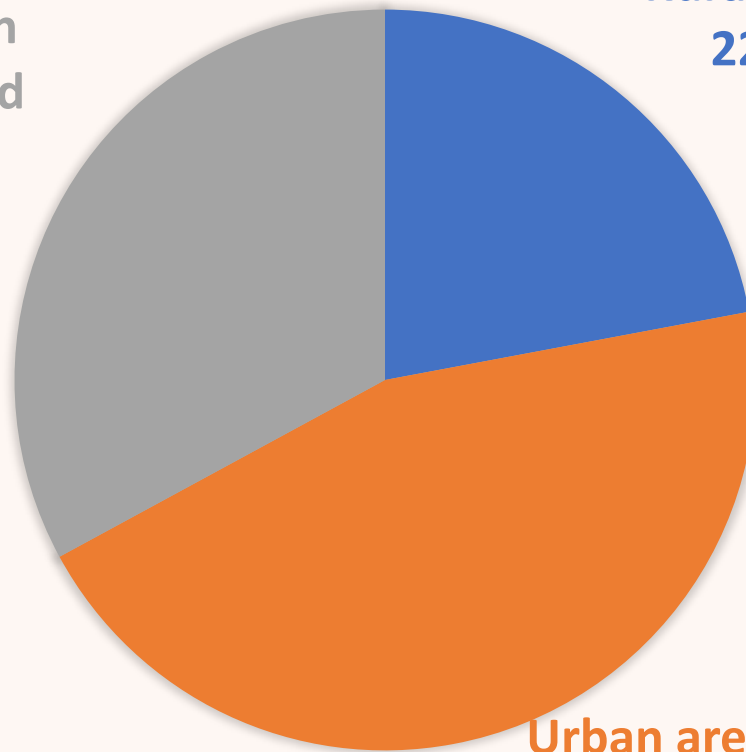
What is your age?



Do you live in?

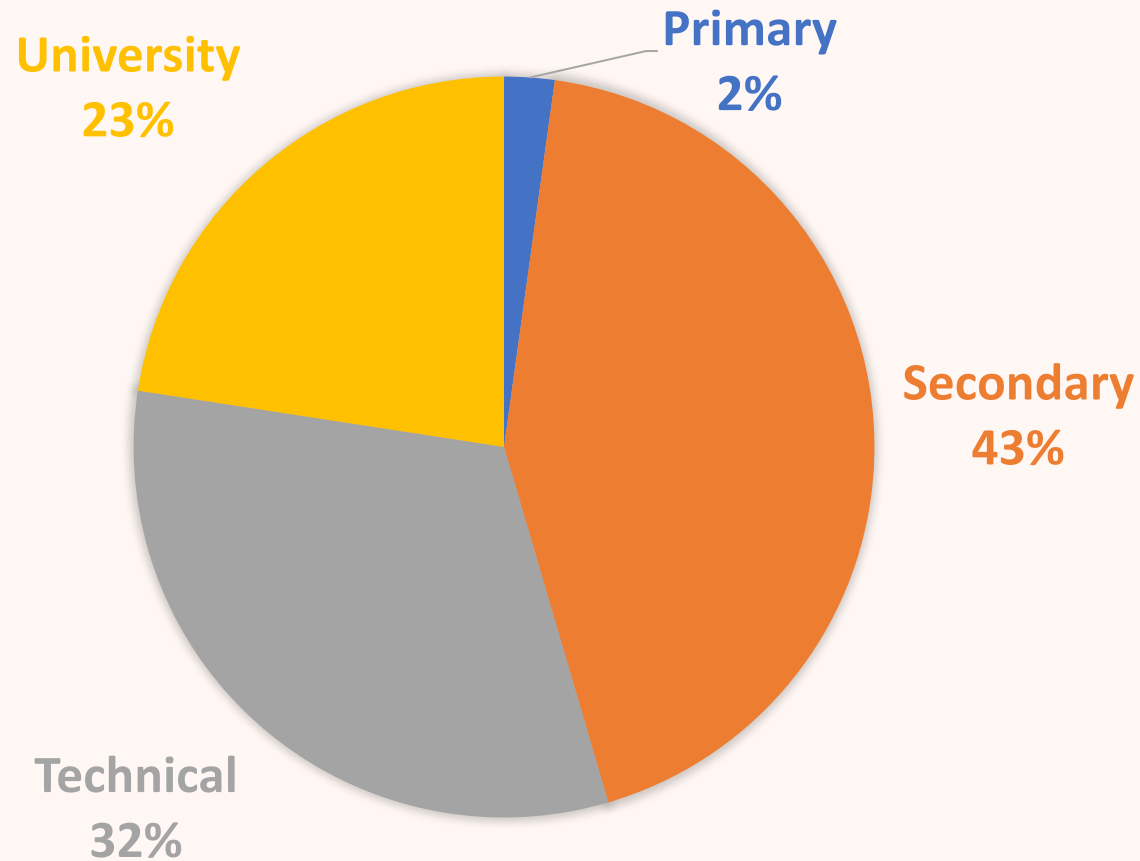
Semi-urban
(between
urban and
rural)
33%

Rural area
22%

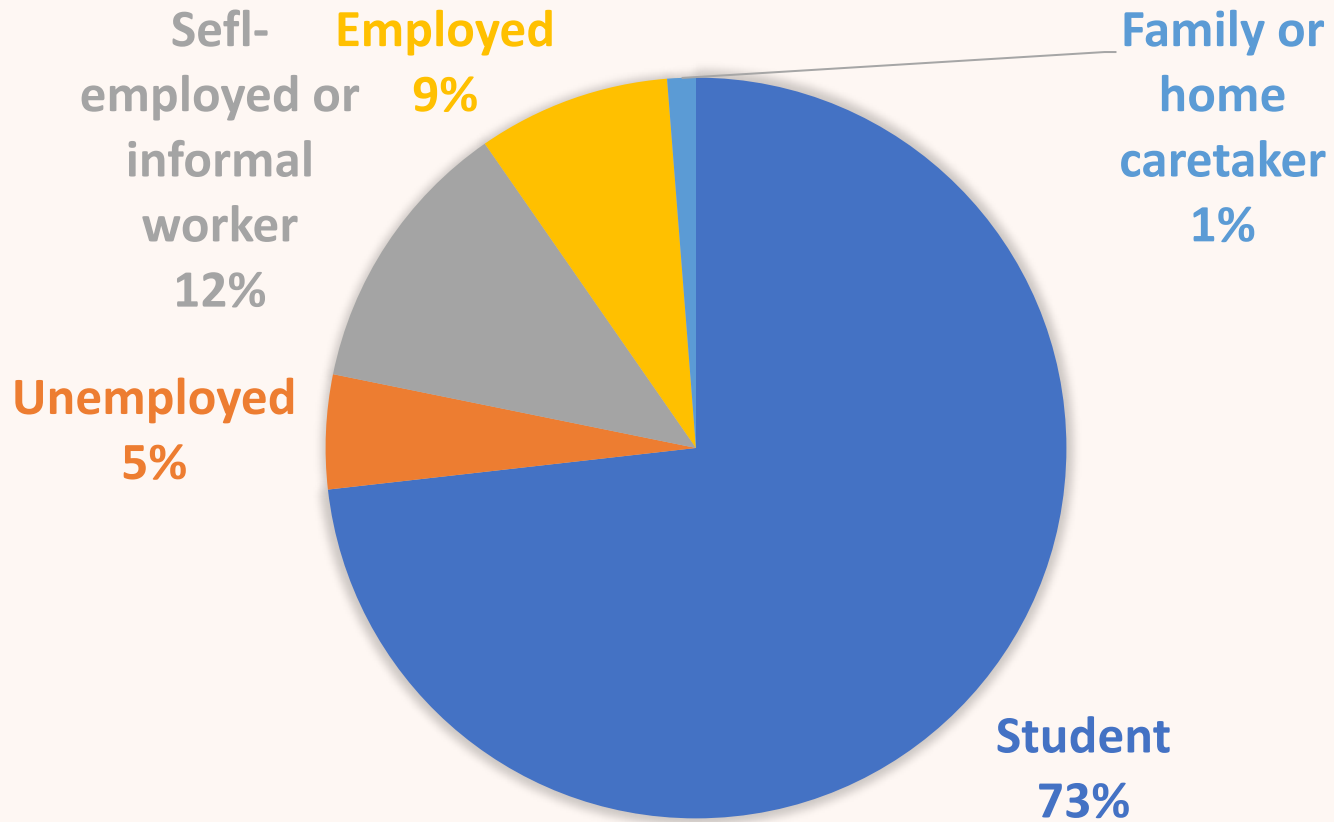


Urban area
45%

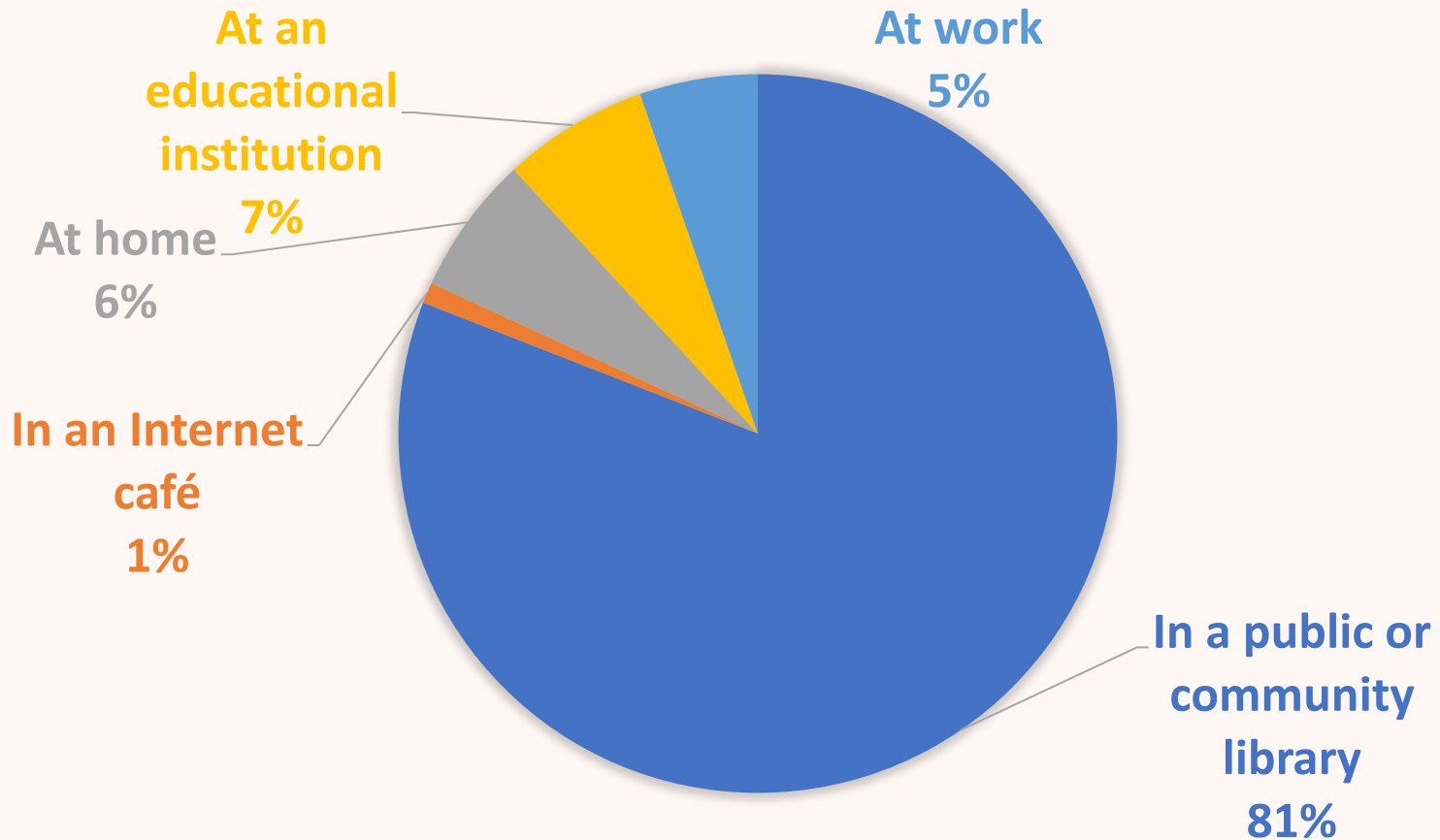
What is the highest level of education you have completed?



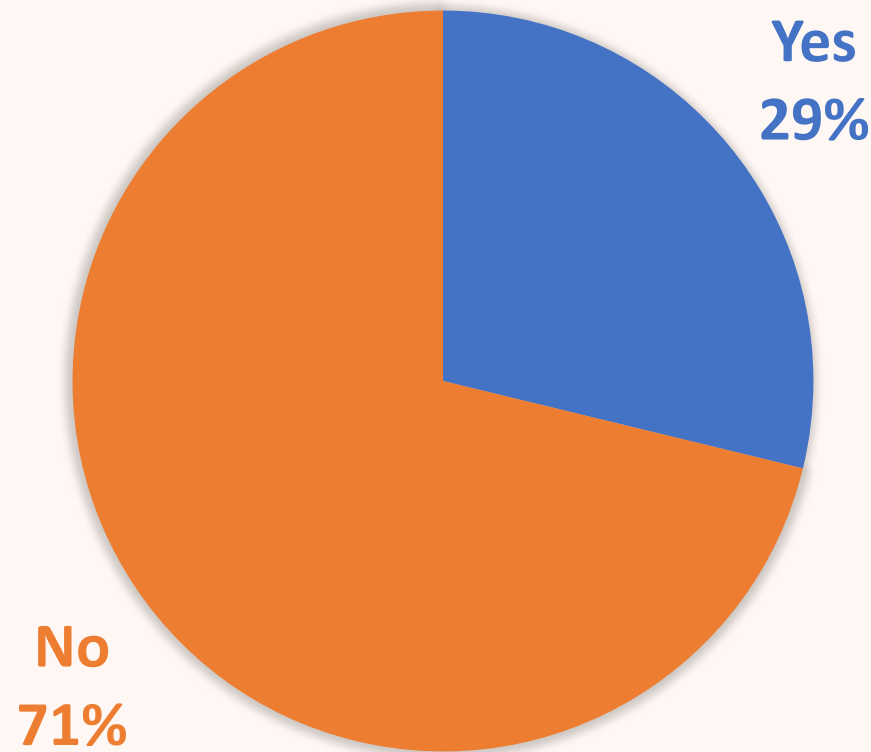
What is your employment status?



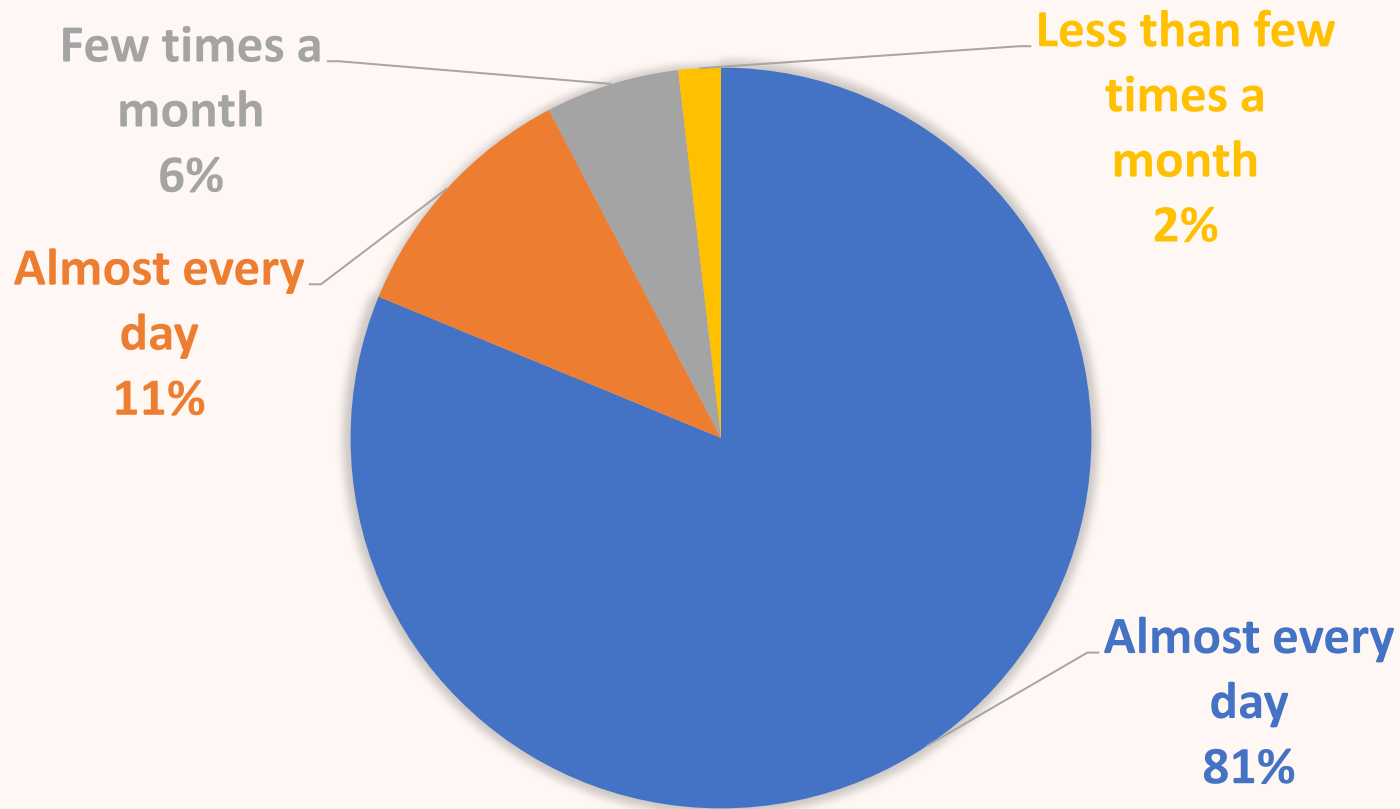
Where do you usually use the Internet?



Do you have access to the internet in any other place than the public or community library?



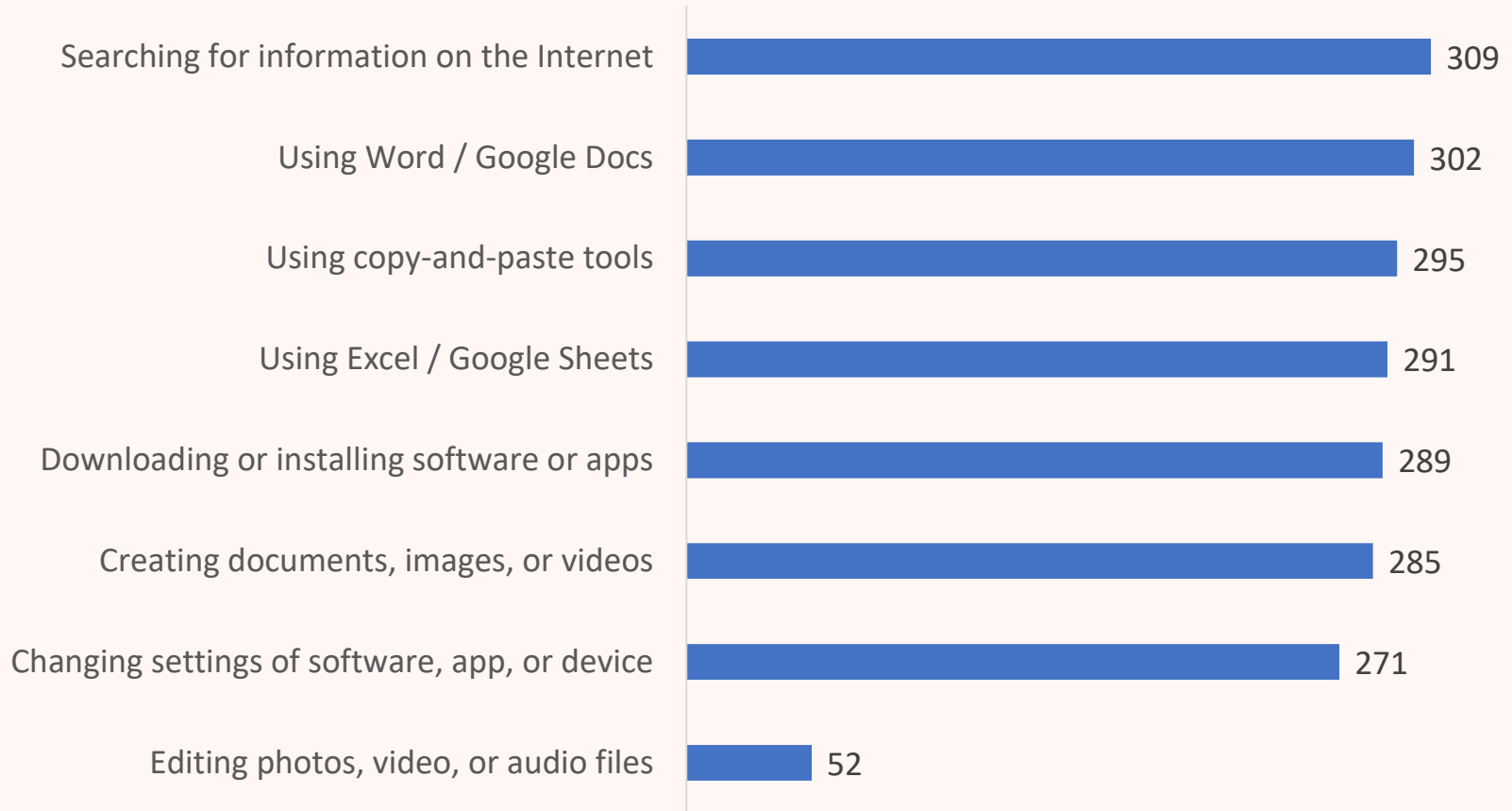
How often do you use computers and the Internet in a public or community library?



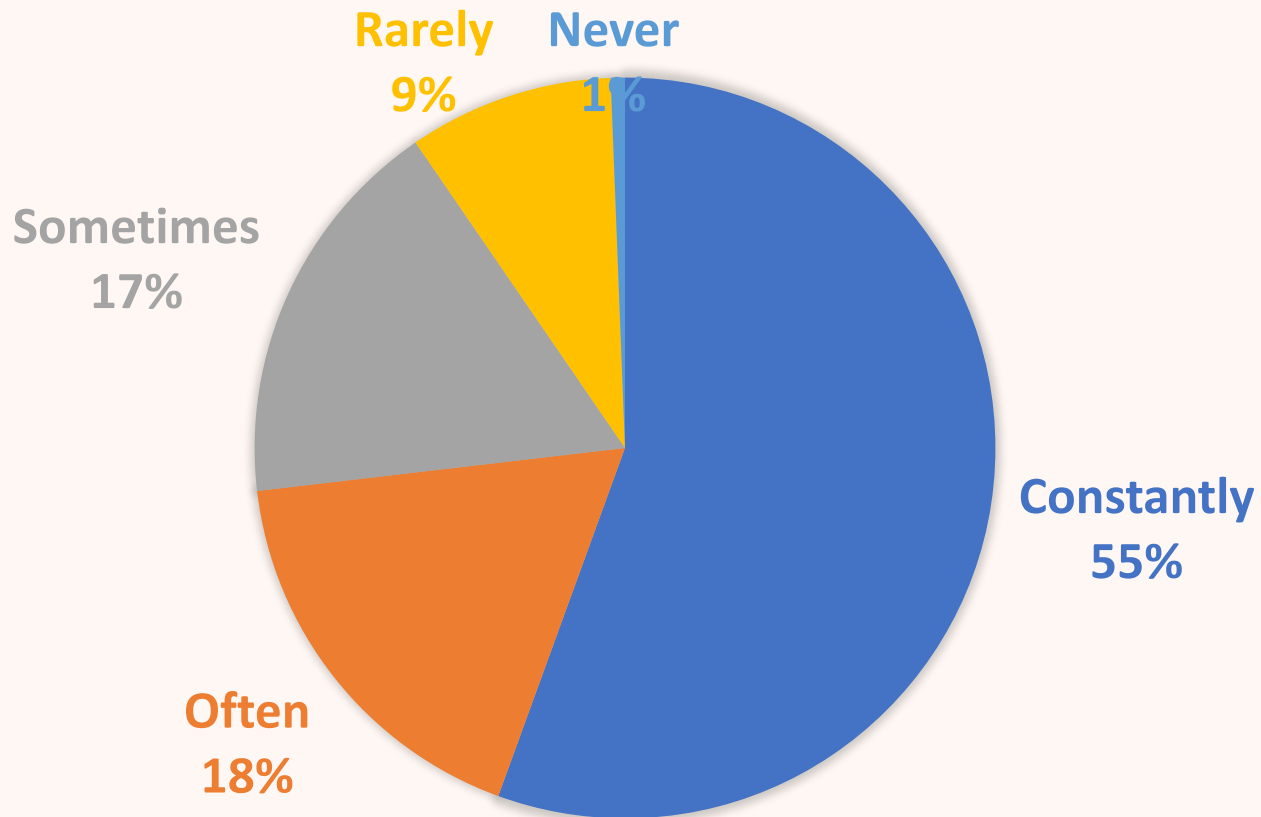
For what purposes do you usually use computers and the Internet at a public or community library?



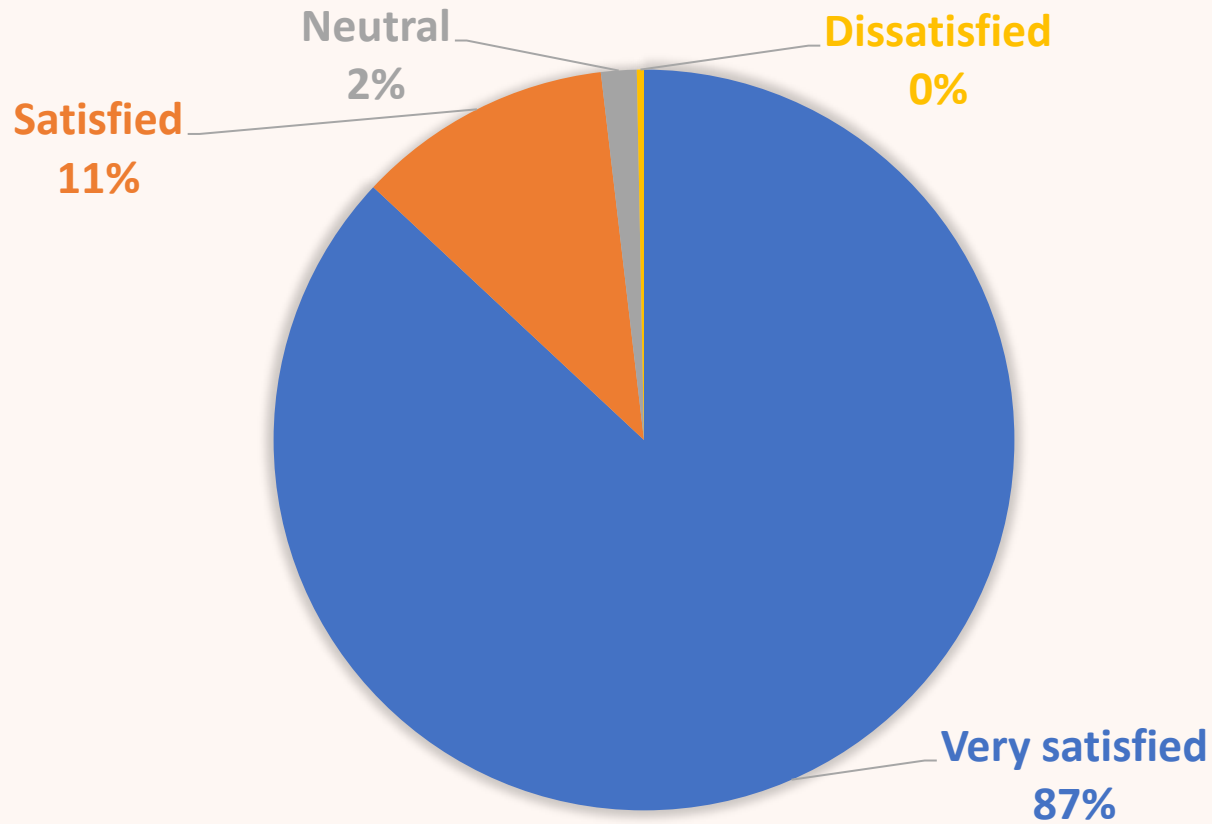
Which of the following ICT skills do you have:



How often do you ask a librarian for help or advice when using computers and the Internet in the library?



How satisfied are you with the help provided by librarians in using computers and the Internet?



In your view, to what extent has the training in the library contributed to your digital skills:



Has the library digital skills training helped you to:



Conclusions

Profile of beneficiaries:

- Women make up more than half of all project beneficiaries
- Most beneficiaries are students between 15 to 25 years old
- Most have secondary education

Internet access and use:

- Most respondents commonly and frequently use the internet in the library
- Over 70% of respondents have no alternative place to access the internet
- Internet in the library is mainly used for studies and learning, communication and searching for job or health information

Conclusions

Digital skills:

- After the training, most beneficiaries can do all basic ICT tasks
- However, over half still rely upon the help of librarians when using computer
- Overwhelming majority say that library training significantly improved their digital skills

Outcomes:

- Positive outcomes arising from library training are improved academic results or obtained new vocational skills, improved communication using online means, followed by positive health outcomes and closer connection with government authorities