

Australian Institute of Occupational Hygienists Inc

2007 Membership Survey Results



Purpose of the survey

The 2007 AIOH Membership survey was distributed to all members by broadcast email and post on 13th March 2007.

The purpose of the survey is to:

- Obtain a profile of the Institute's membership – what do we look like?
- Track and benchmark the performance of the Institute
- Help Council make more informed decisions.

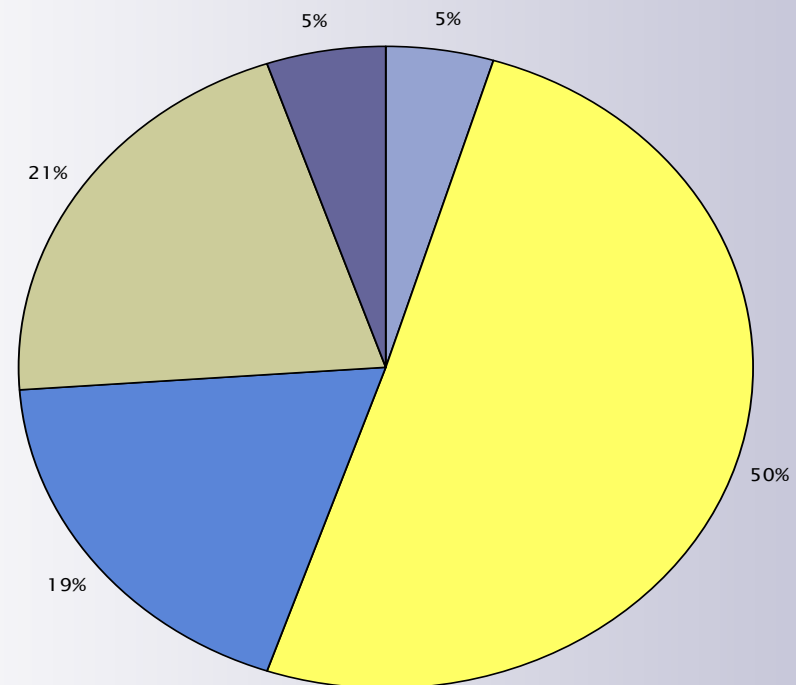
Out of a total of **479, 120** members completed the survey, representing a **25%** response rate. This compares with a 36% (150/410 members) response rate for the 2003 survey.

Questions 1 through 20 and questions 28 and 29, are repeat questions from the 2003 survey, although question 7 is new and questions 10 to 12 are on our certification program, which was not in place in 2003.

Questions 30 through 36 explore how well we are doing against our stated goals, detailed in our Goals and Actions document.



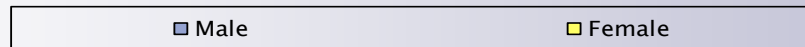
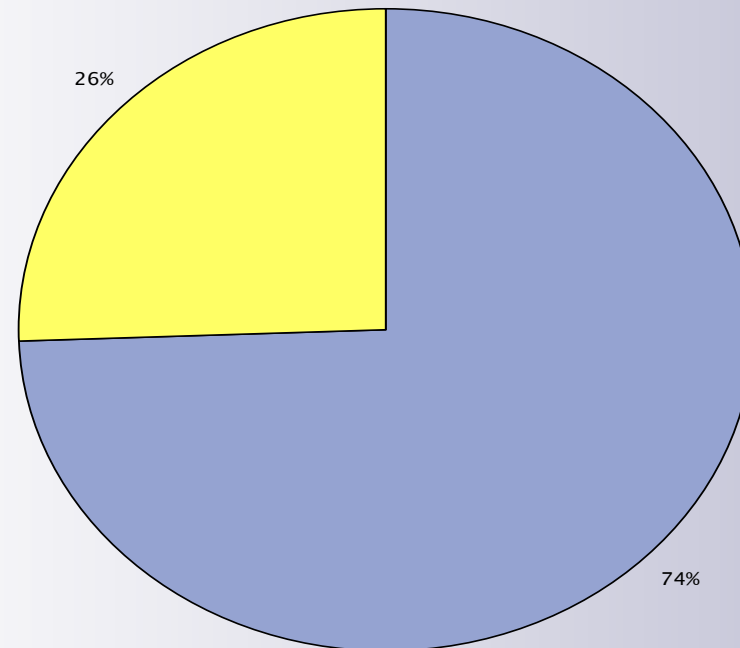
Q1. Age of AIOH Members



Question 1. What is your age (in years)?

Our age profile has changed little since 2003, although there are more members in the older group (>50; 37% *cf* 30%). Our younger members (<40) remain static in numbers.

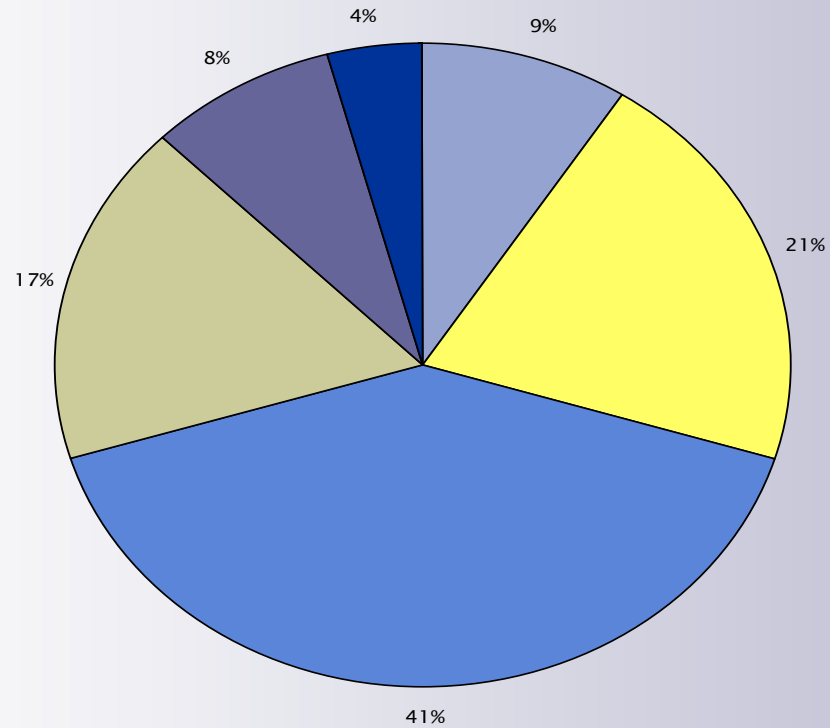
Q2. Gender of AIOH Members



Question 2. What is your gender?

Our gender profile remains unchanged – we are still male dominated.

Q3. Employers



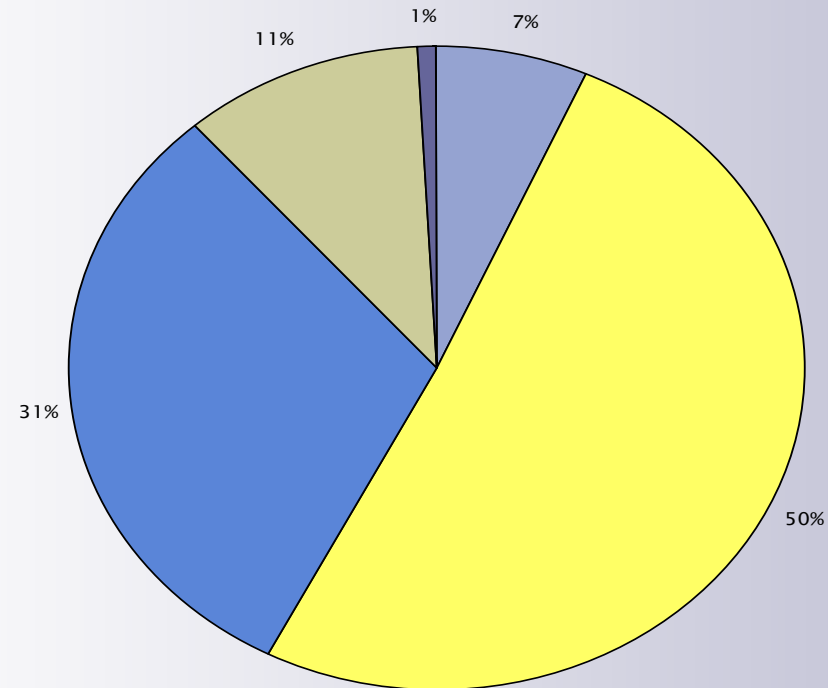
Academia Government Industry Consultancy Self Employed Other



Question 3. Who is your employer?

Our area of employment remains essentially the same as that in 2003, with the “self employed” group appearing to have changed most – decreased. Industry and government remain the largest employers.

Q4. Education



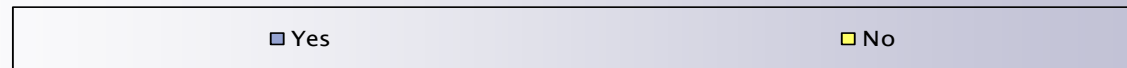
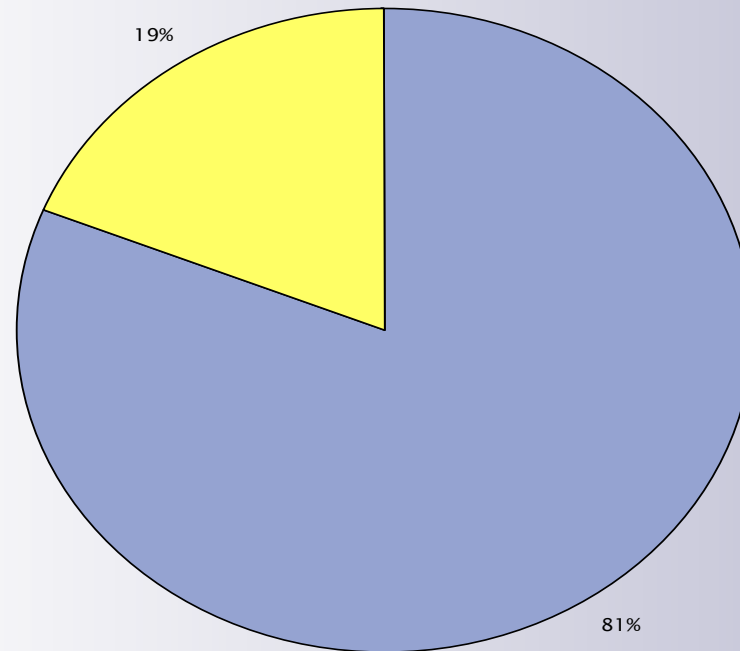
■ Certificate/Diploma ■ Bachelor's Degree ■ Master's Degree ■ Doctorate ■ Other



Question 4. What is your education (general including OH)?

Compared to 2003, we have more doctorates and bachelor's degrees, and fewer certificate/diplomas.

Q5. Specific OH Education

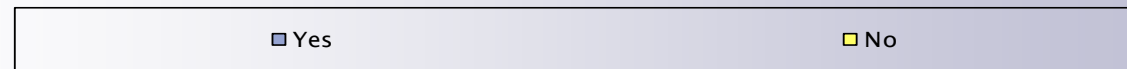
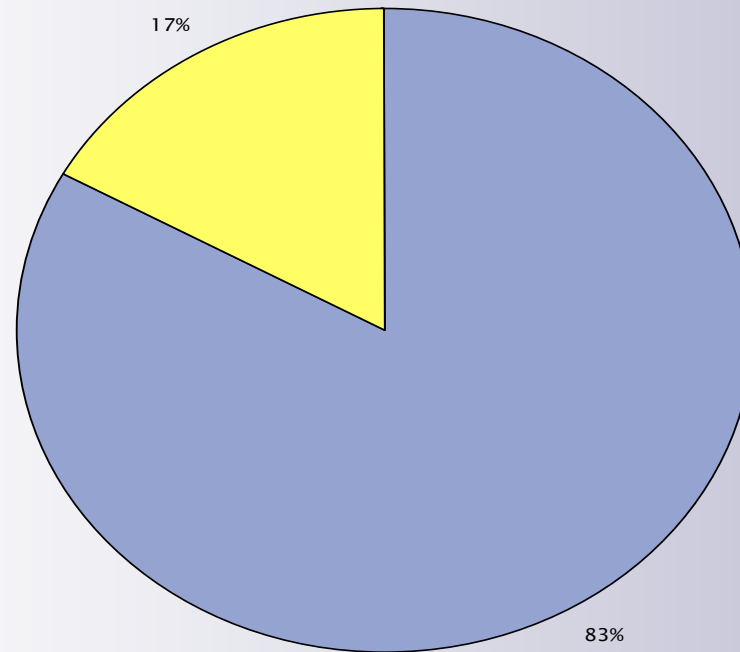


Question 5. Do you have specific OH Education?

This remains essentially unchanged since 2003, with most members having specific OH education.

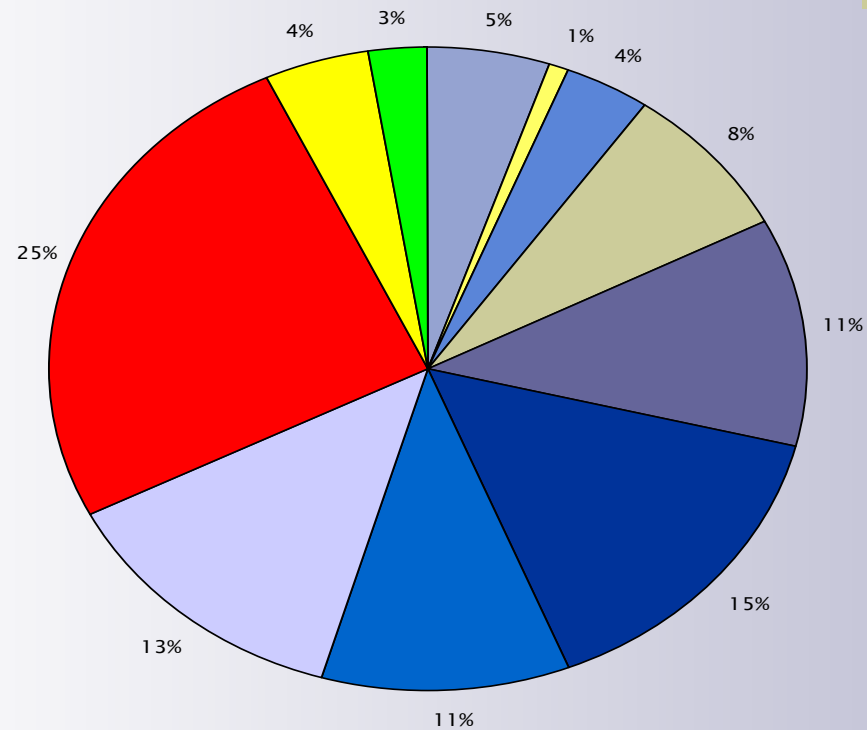
NB: Majority of surveyed members had completed the Deakin Graduate Diploma in Occupational Hygiene, a Masters in Occupational Hygiene or a 13 week course in Occupational Hygiene with WorkSafe.

Q6. Full-time Employed



Question 6. Do you work full-time?

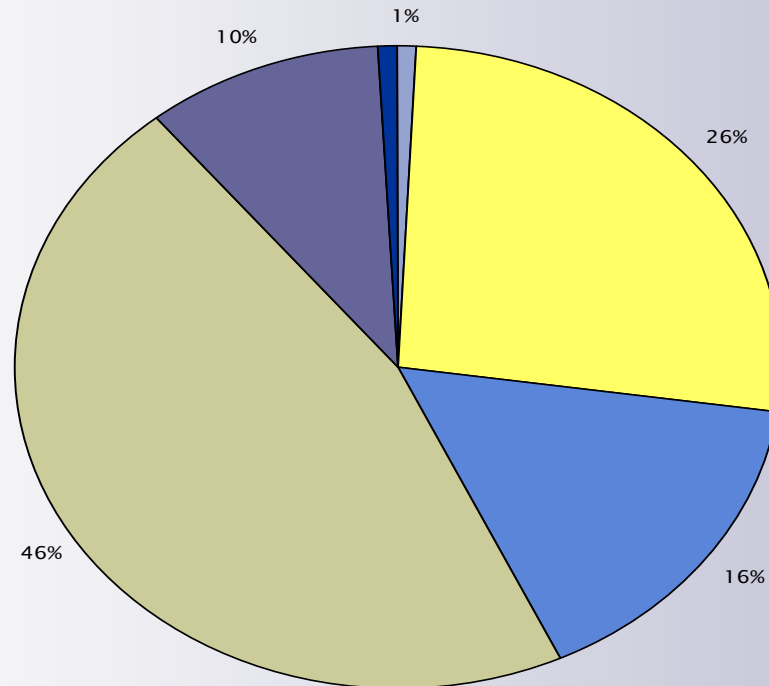
Q7. Salary Range



Question 7. What is your salary range (in AUD\$ thousand/year)?

Since 2003 we have become better paid: <math>< \\$50,000</math> was 14% in 2003 but is now at 9%; > \$100,000 was 15% but is now 32%.

Q8. Membership Status of surveyed members



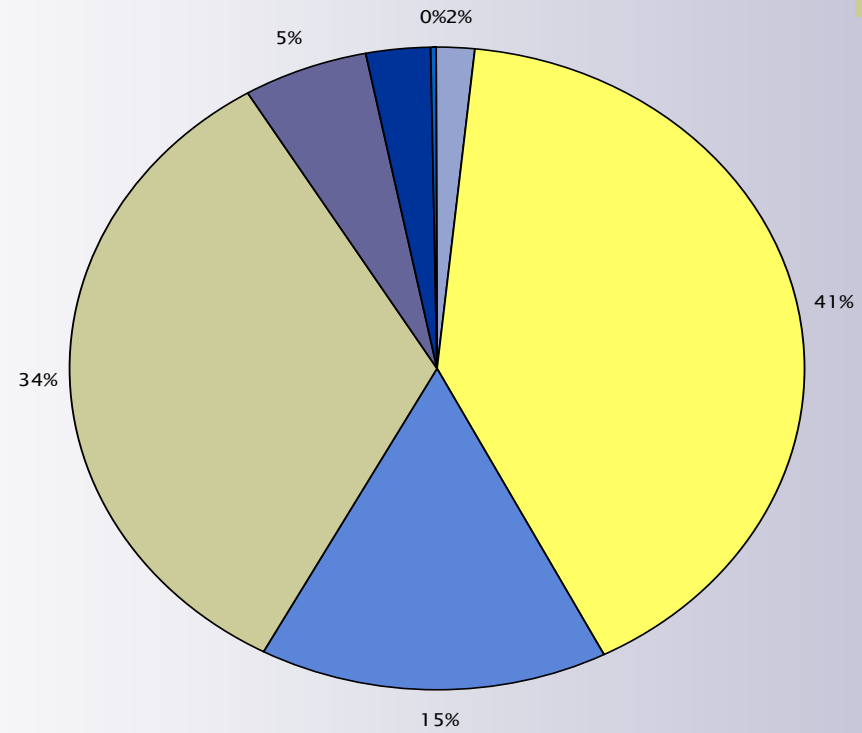
■ Student ■ Associate ■ Provisional ■ Full ■ Fellow ■ Retired



Question 8. What is your membership status?

This question provides a yardstick as to how representative the survey was (see next slide). While all categories of member were represented in the responses, the survey had more full and fellow members respond than associate and provisional members. This may have influenced the survey apparent bias to more 'older' members, more doctorates and bachelor's degrees, and a higher proportion of high salaries. The number of fellows has increased since 2003.

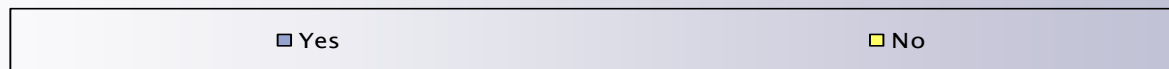
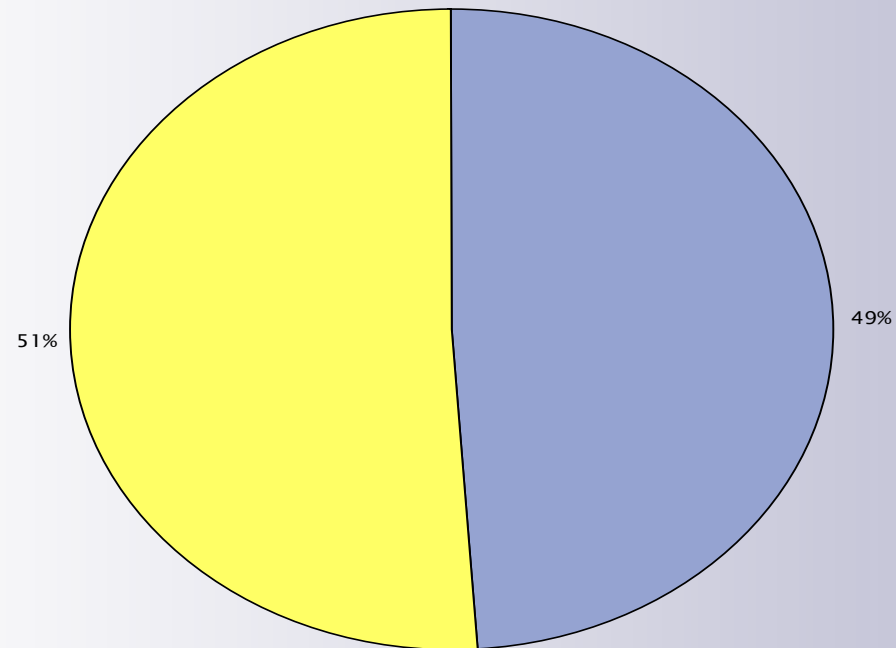
Membership Status of AIOH Membership



Student Associate Provisional Full Fellow Retired Honorary Fellow



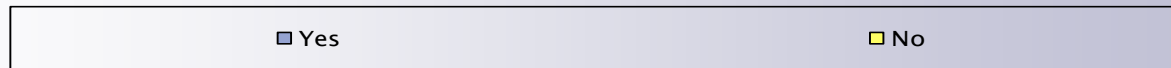
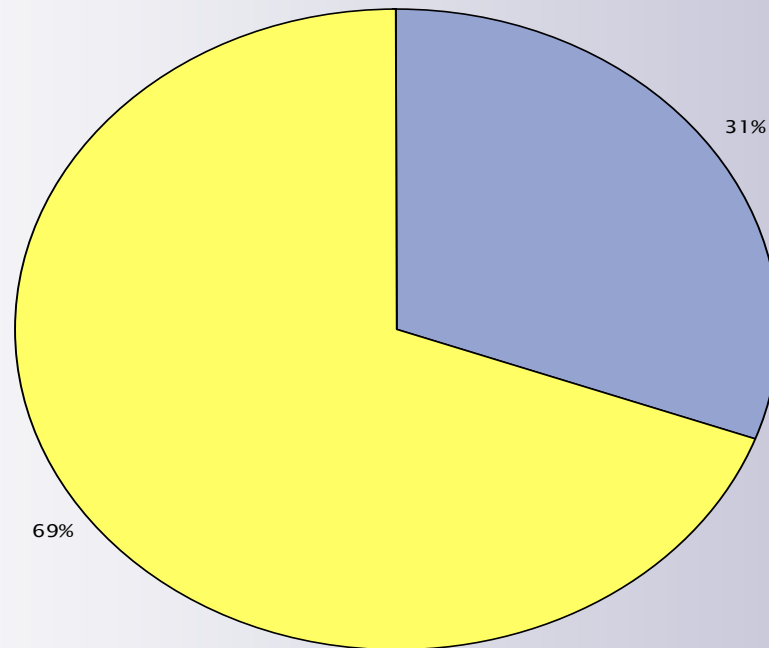
Q9. Certified Occupational Hygienists – surveyed members



Question 9. Are you a COH?

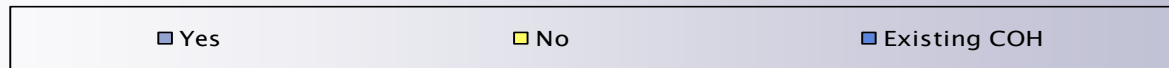
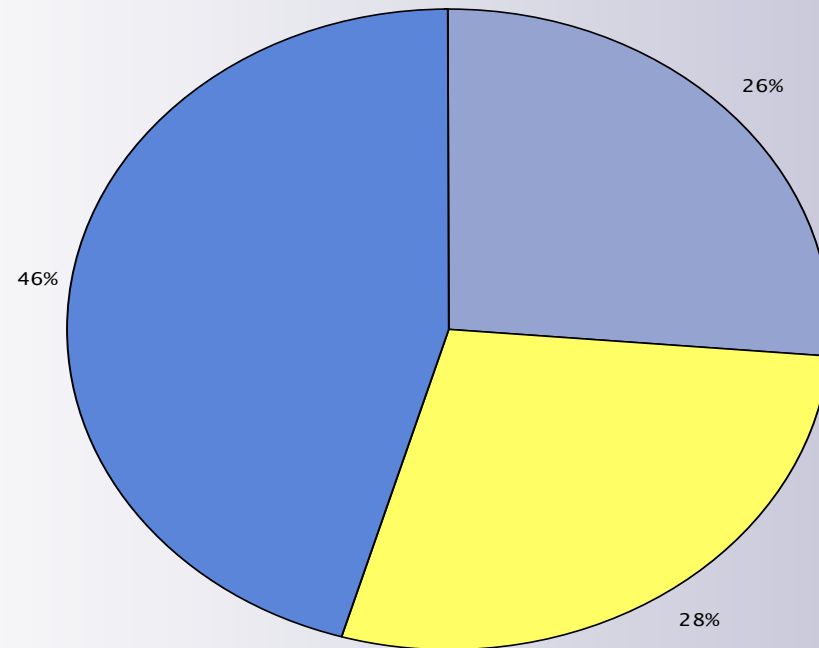
This question also provides a yardstick as to how representative the survey was (see next slide). COH's were over represented in the survey respondents (49% *cf* 31%).

Certified Occupational Hygienists as percentage of actual Membership



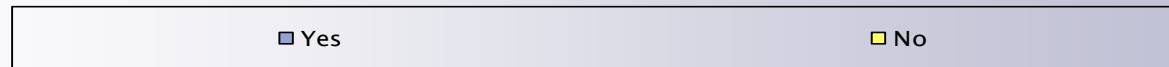
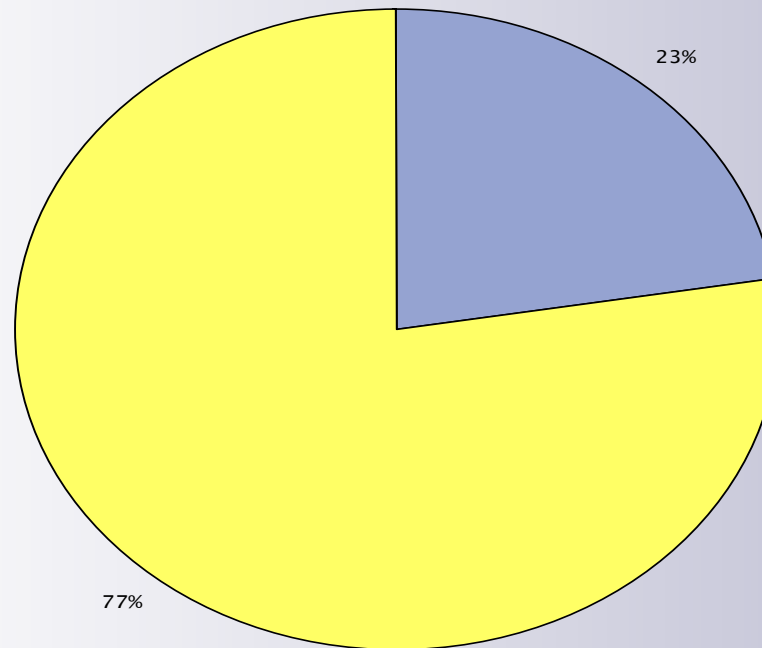
Actual proportion of COH's. We have had a good take up of COH status.

Q10. Intention to become COH



Question 10. Do you intend to apply for COH in the future?

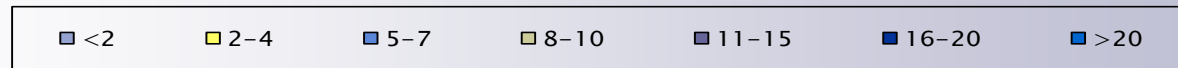
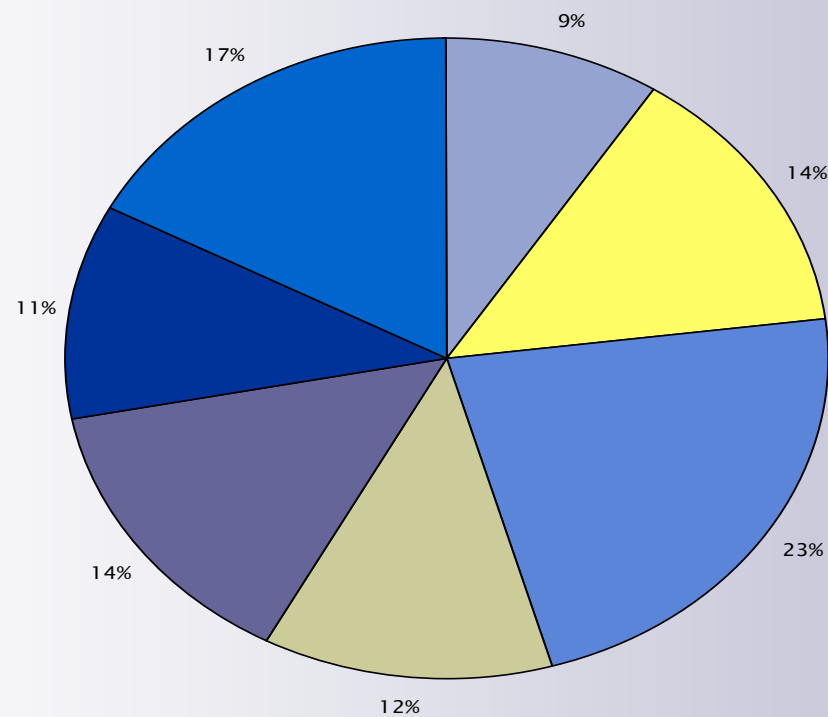
Q11. Certified hygienists with another Certification body



Question 11. Are you a certified occupational/industrial hygienist with another certification body (eg. CIH)?

NB. All surveyed members who are certified with another body were with the ABIH – CIH.

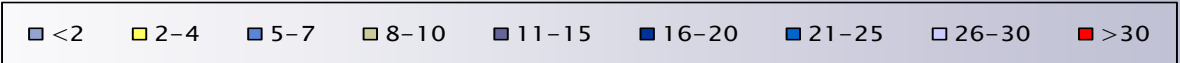
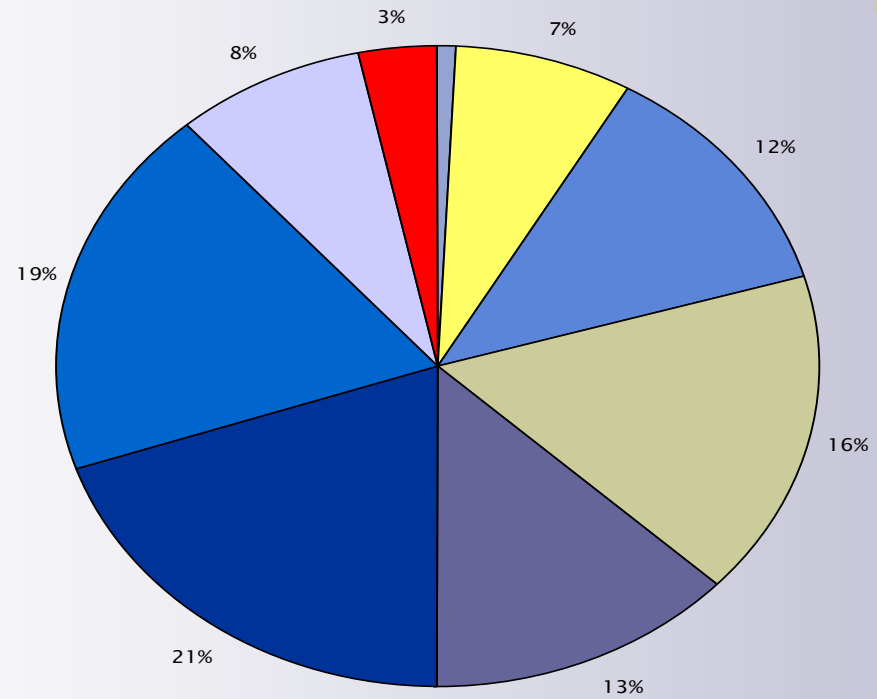
Q12. Length of membership in years



Question 12. How long have you been a member of the AIOH (in years)?

This graph indicates the decrease in new members responding. Compared to 2003, more of our longer term members (>20 years) participated in the survey, but in general the profile of years of membership responding was little different.

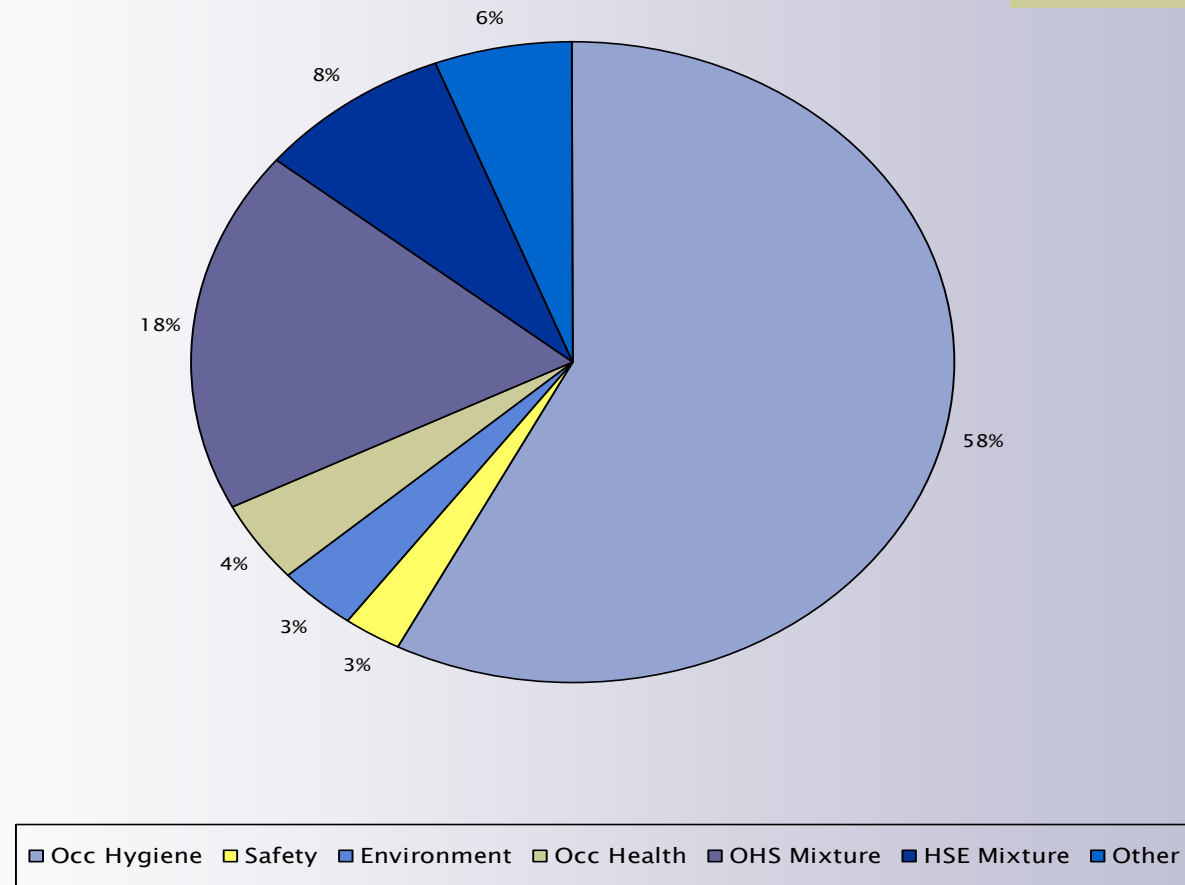
Q13. Length in OH profession in years



Question 13. How long have you been in the OH profession (in years)?

There is little difference to the profile suggested by the 2003 survey.

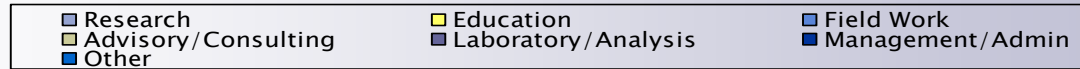
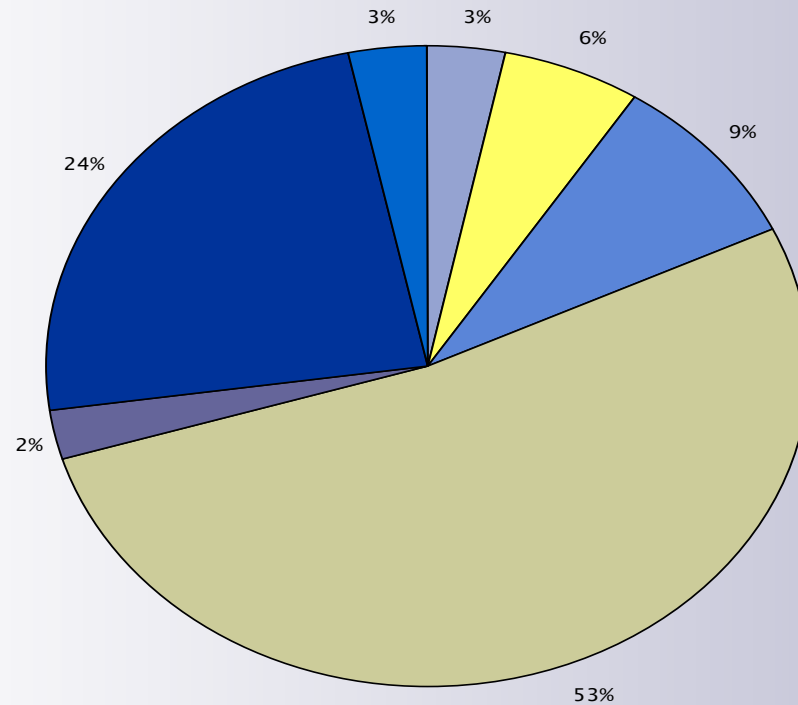
Q14. Primary field of work



Question 14. What is your primary (>50% of time) field of work?

Compared to 2003, more of us are primarily working in occupational hygiene (58% *cf* 42%) and fewer are covering a HSE role (8% *cf* 19%). Otherwise, there is little change in the other fields of work.

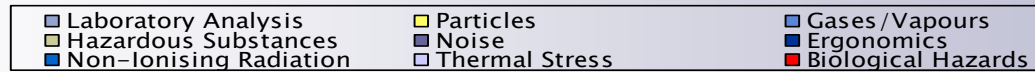
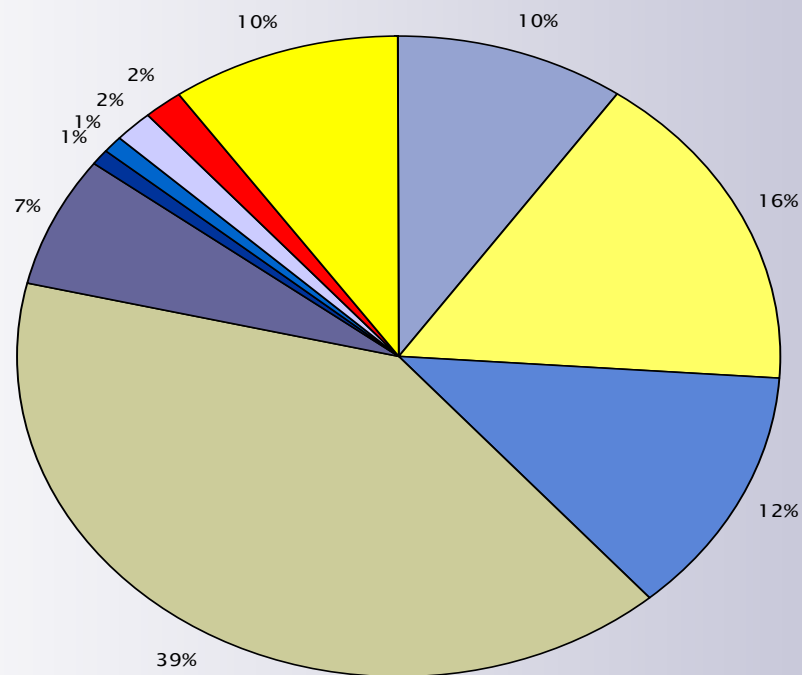
Q15. Primary type of work



Question 15. What is your primary (>50% of time) type of work?

Respondents were primarily involved in advisory/consulting roles and management/administration roles. These two types of work increased significantly over responses for the 2003 survey. Compared to 2003, fewer members are involved in field work, although this may reflect the bias to more of the full / fellow and COH members responding.

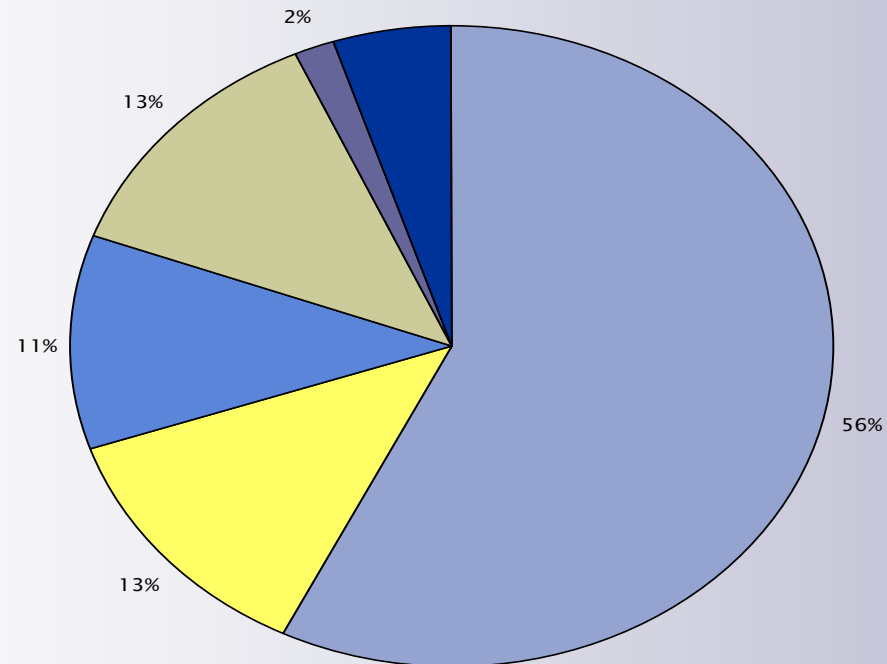
Q16. Primary expertise



Question 16. What is your primary expertise?

Primary expertise is in hazardous substances, particles and gases / vapours, similar to 2003, although now there appears to be more of us in hazardous substances. NB. No surveyed members selected vibration, ionising radiation and non-ionising radiation.

Q17. Reason for joining the AIOH



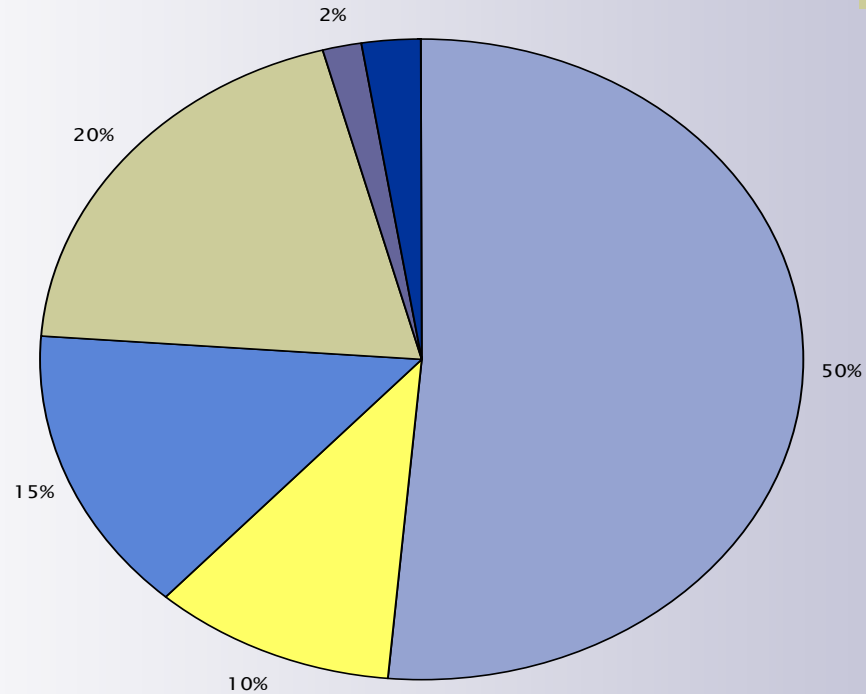
■ Professional Credibility ■ Professional Advancement ■ Information Source
■ Networking ■ Employment Opportunities ■ Other



Question 17. What was your primary reason for joining the AIOH?

As in 2003, most of us are members for professional credibility or advancement. The profile has changed little compared to 2003.

Q18. Reason for remaining with the AIOH



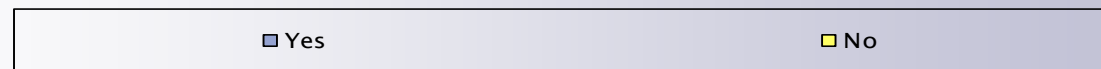
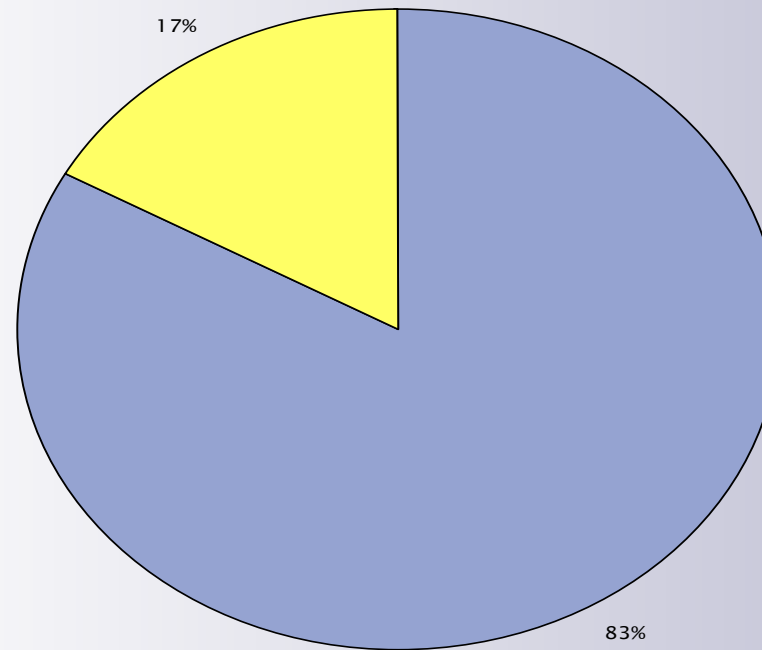
| | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Professional Credibility | Professional Advancement | Information Source |
| Networking | Employment Opportunities | Other |



Question 18. What is your reason for remaining with the AIOH?

Compared to the reasons for joining, more of us remain for networking opportunities. This is similar to the 2003 survey, although now more of us remain for professional credibility (50% *cf* 44%).

Q19. Use of AIOH website

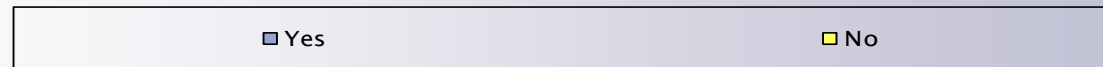
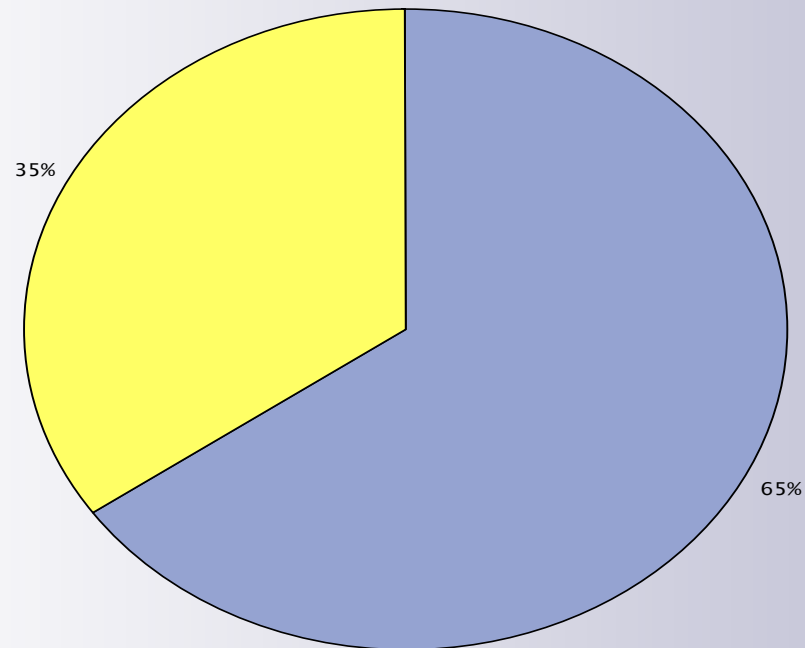


Question 19. Do you use the AIOH website?

Responses are similar to those for the 2003 survey.

NB: Most surveyed members who do not use the website commented that they have lost their login or are not actively working in Occupational Hygiene. A couple of respondents didn't like using computers and one respondent felt that the site was not user friendly.

Q20. Attendance at AIOH Conferences

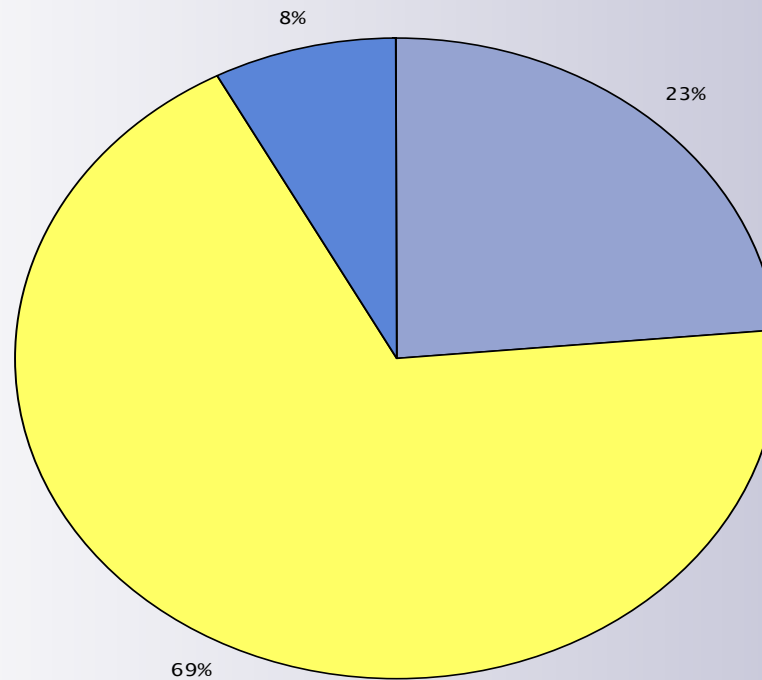


Question 20. Do you attend the AIOH Conferences?

This response profile is consistent with the proportion of the membership that attended the 2006 conference.

NB: Surveyed members who do not attend conferences commented that cost and time constraints were the main contributing factors along with lack of support from employers. A few were not residents of Australia or no longer active in occupational hygiene.

Q21. Registration costs & quality of accommodation at conferences



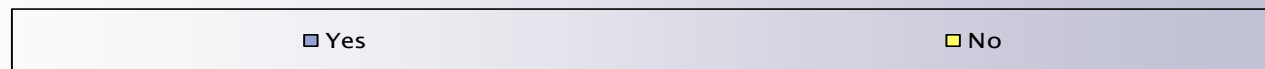
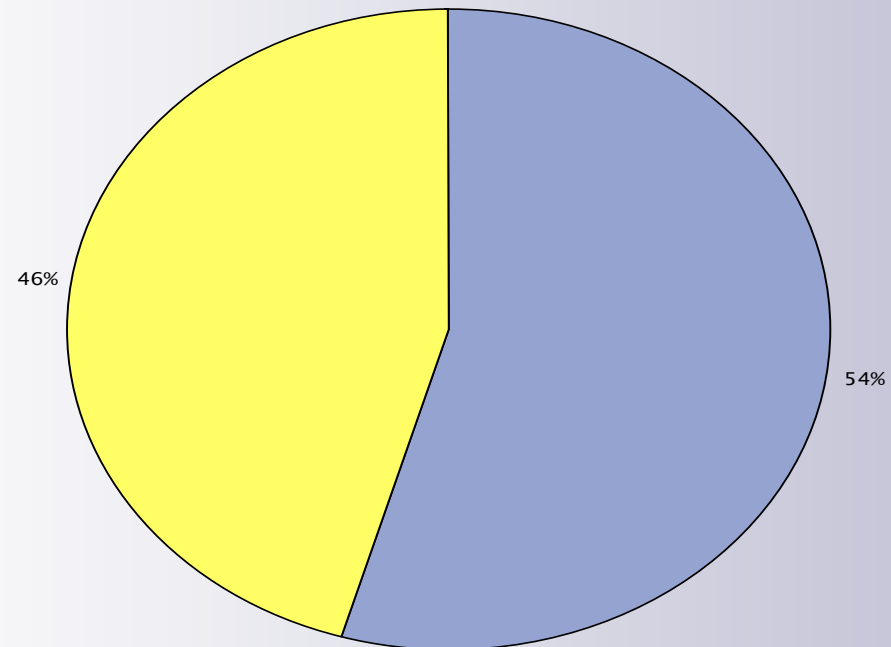
■ - Higher Cost ■ Mid range accommodation & cost ■ Budget accommodation - lower cost



Question 21. Each year the conference committee attempt to strike a balance between minimising registration costs whilst providing quality accommodation. What do members want?

There is not a lot of support for the lower cost / 'budget' type of conference accommodation.

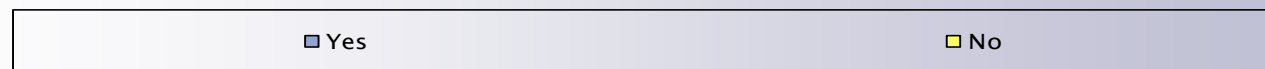
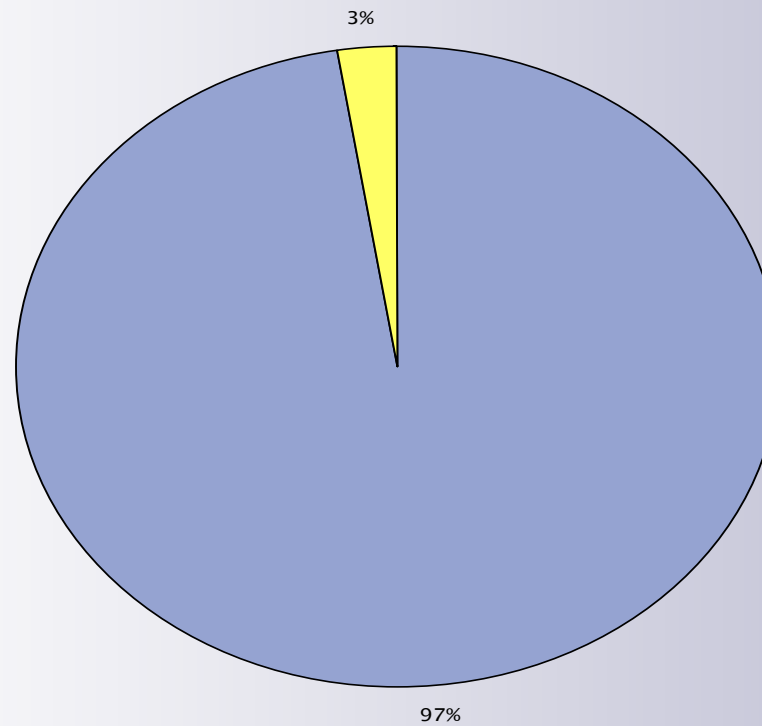
Q22. Attendance at AIOH seminars



Question 22. Have you attended any AIOH seminars in the past year apart from those at the AIOH Conference?

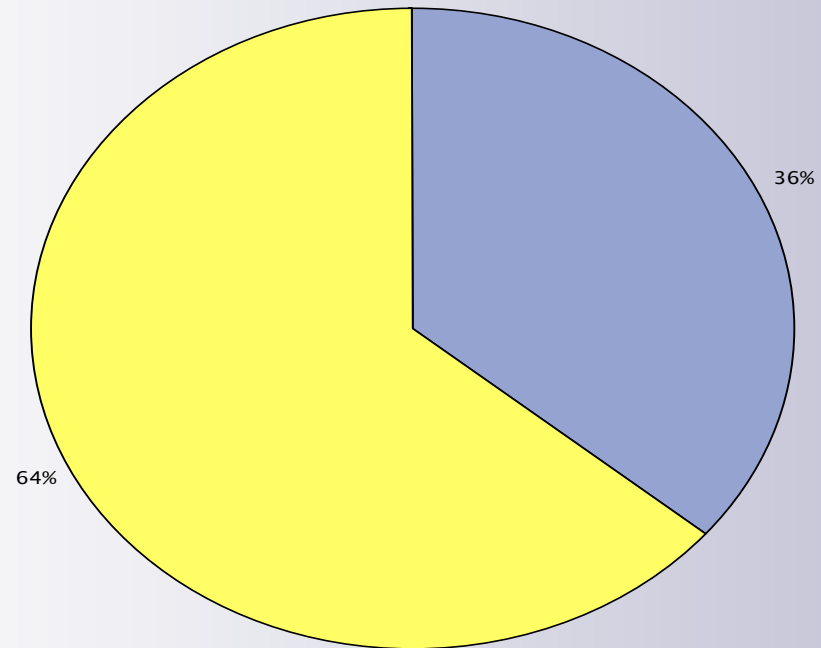
NB: Surveyed members who do not attend seminars commented that work / time constraints were the main contributing factors along with lack of support from employers. Some cited lack of relevance to current work, that they were not residents of Australia, or that they had to travel too large a distance to attend.

Q23. Members who read the AIOH newsletter



Question 23. Do you read the AIOH newsletter?

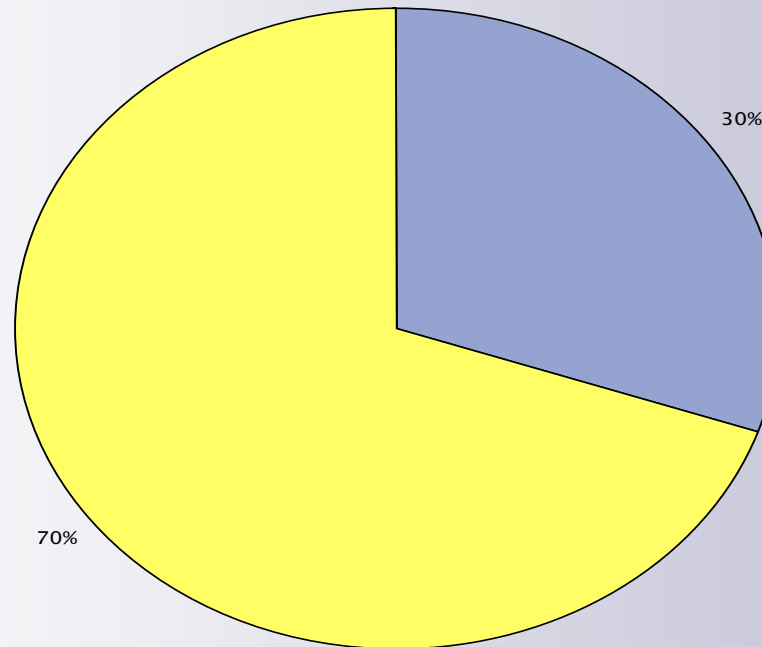
Q24. AIOH Committee Service



Question 24. Have you served on an AIOH Committee?

NB: Lack of time and level of membership (associate / provisional) were the main factors why surveyed members have not served on a committee. Some cited distance to travel and others said they hadn't been asked or considered it. A number said they were interested in participating.

Q25. Applications for AIOH Awards

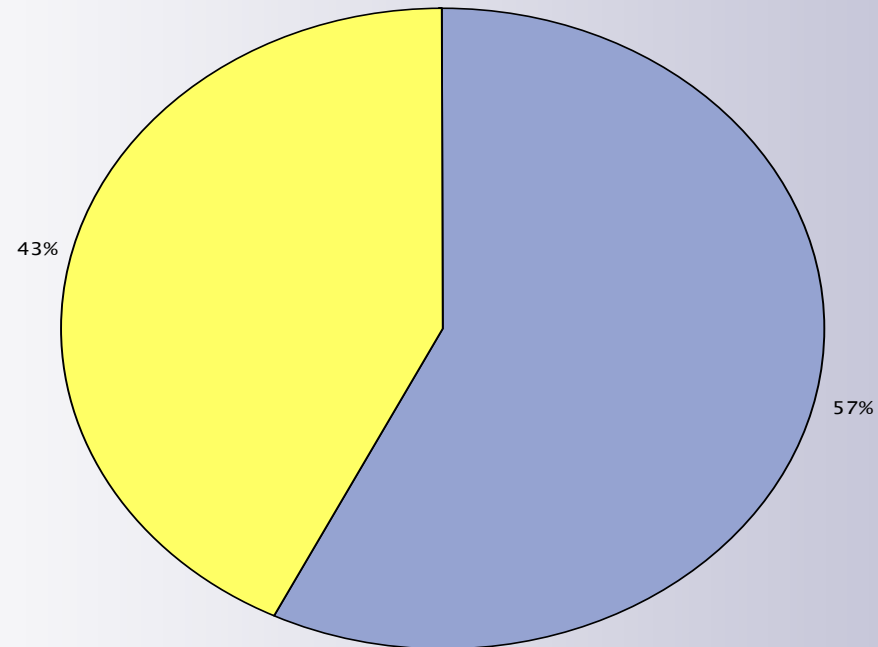


Question 25. Have you applied for an AIOH Award?

NB: Ineligibility, time constraints and lack of knowledge of process were the main reasons why surveyed members have not applied for awards. Ineligibility included “too old” and residing outside Australia. A couple of respondents were not aware of the awards.

The 3M, App-Tek and MSA awards are open to all members.

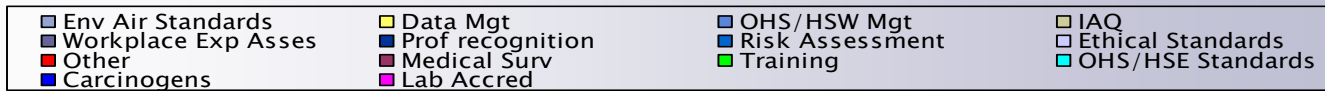
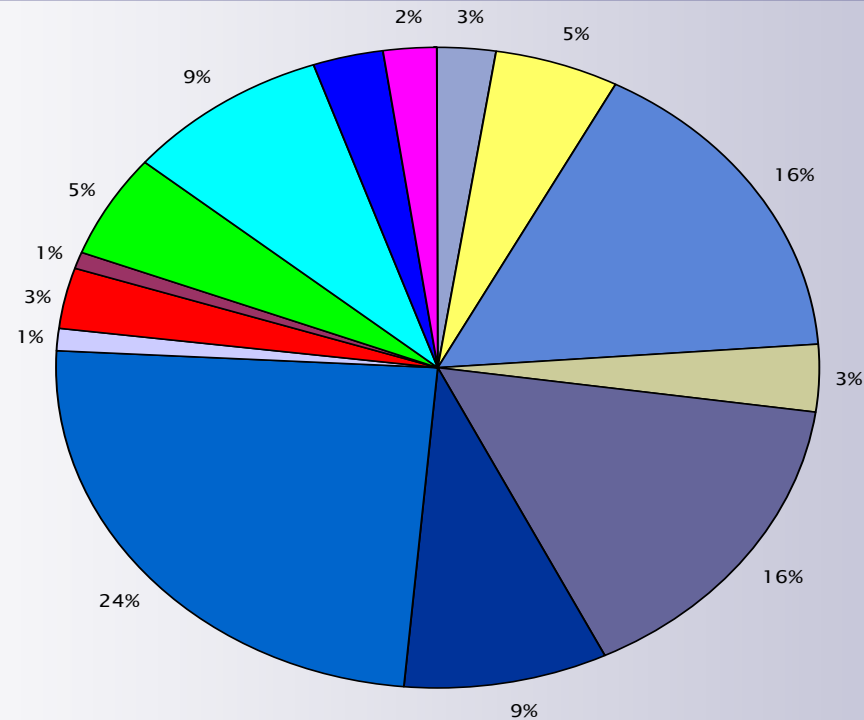
Q26. Attendance at AIOH Annual General Meetings



Question 26. Have you attended an AIOH AGM?

NB: Surveyed members who have not attended AGM's commented that they were not a voting member or unable to attend due to not being at the conference. Some were "not interested" or felt the AGM to be "boring".

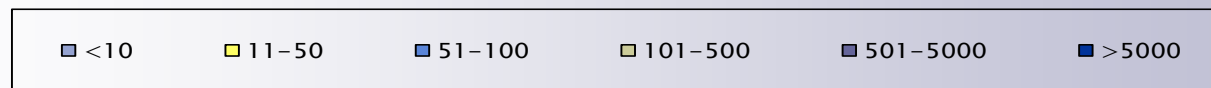
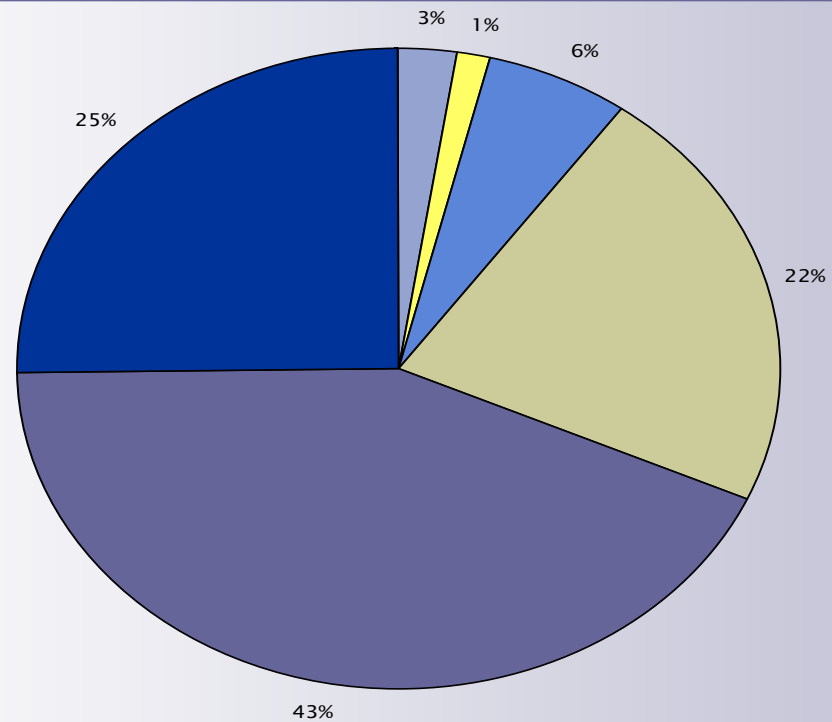
Q27. Top professional issues



Question 27. What would your current top 2 professional issues be (what do you worry about)?

The profile for top professional issues remains essentially unchanged since 2003, the top 5 being risk assessment, workplace exposure assessment, OHS/HSE management, professional recognition and training.

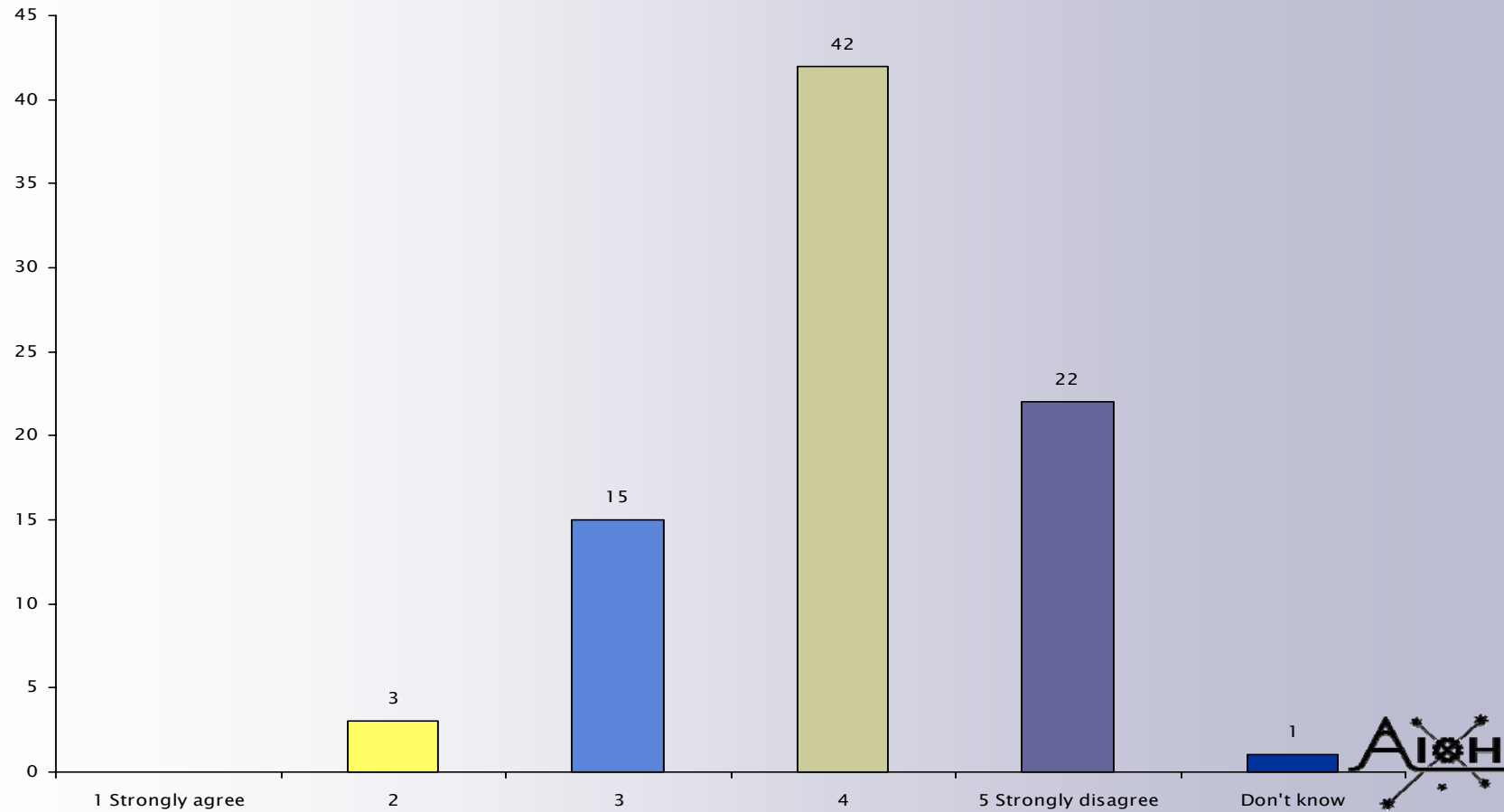
Q28. Target audience



Question 28. What is your target audience: for example, how many people employed in your company (if employed directly), or how many employees in the companies you advised over the past year (if consultant)?

The profile varies little from that of the 2003 survey. Most of us look after workforce numbers greater than 500.

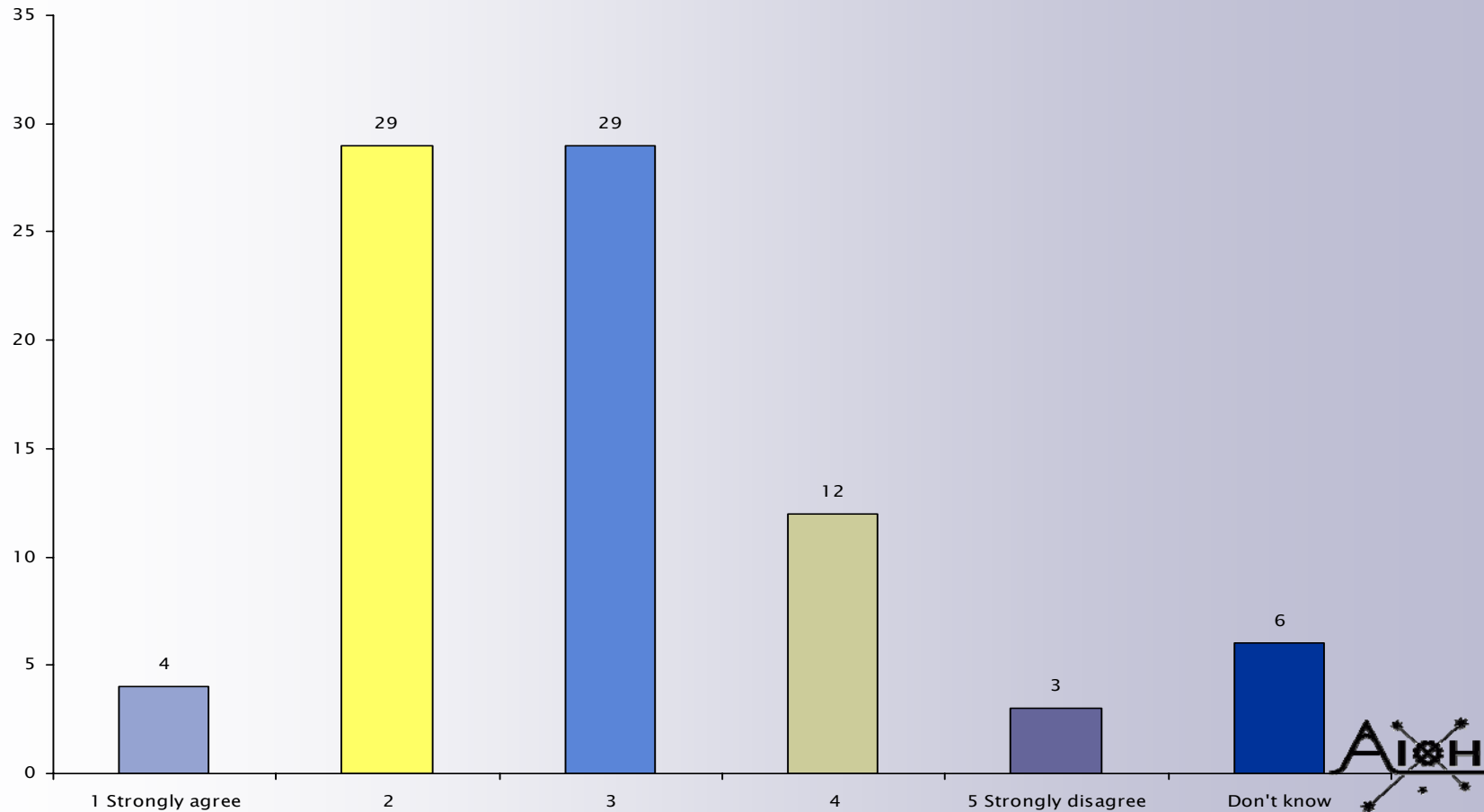
Q29. Scope of professional occupational hygiene activity in industry & the community



Question 29. The scope of professional occupational hygiene activity is well known to industry and the community.

Clearly, we need to do more to ensure that our profession is well recognised by industry and the community. There are actions in our strategy to address this.

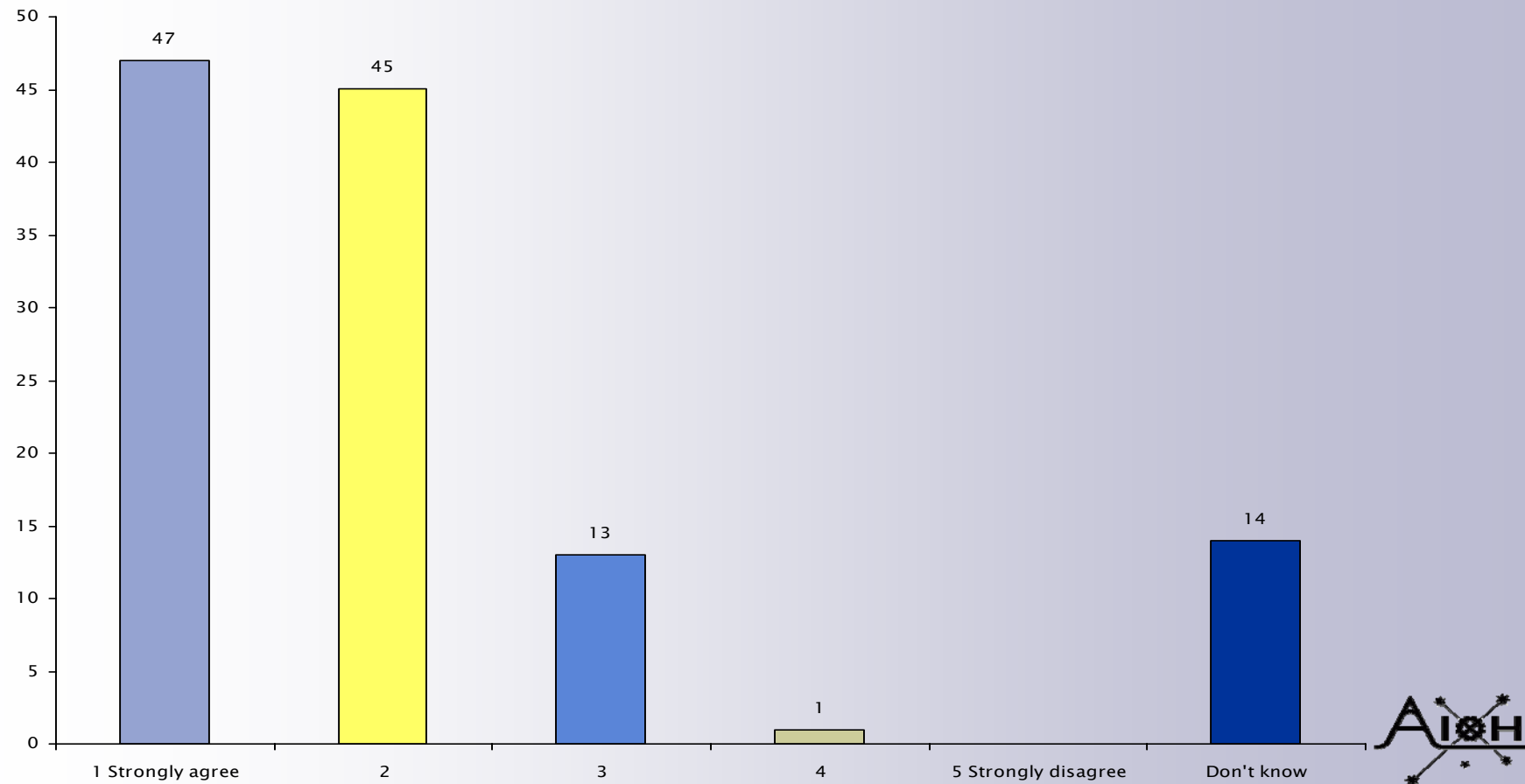
Q30. AIOH position on key OH issues & contribution to debate on these issues & Government policy



Question 30. The AIOH has defined its position on key OH issues and actively contributes to debate on these issues and Government policy.

Our performance is average on this aspect and we need to improve. We probably need to better communicate what we are doing.

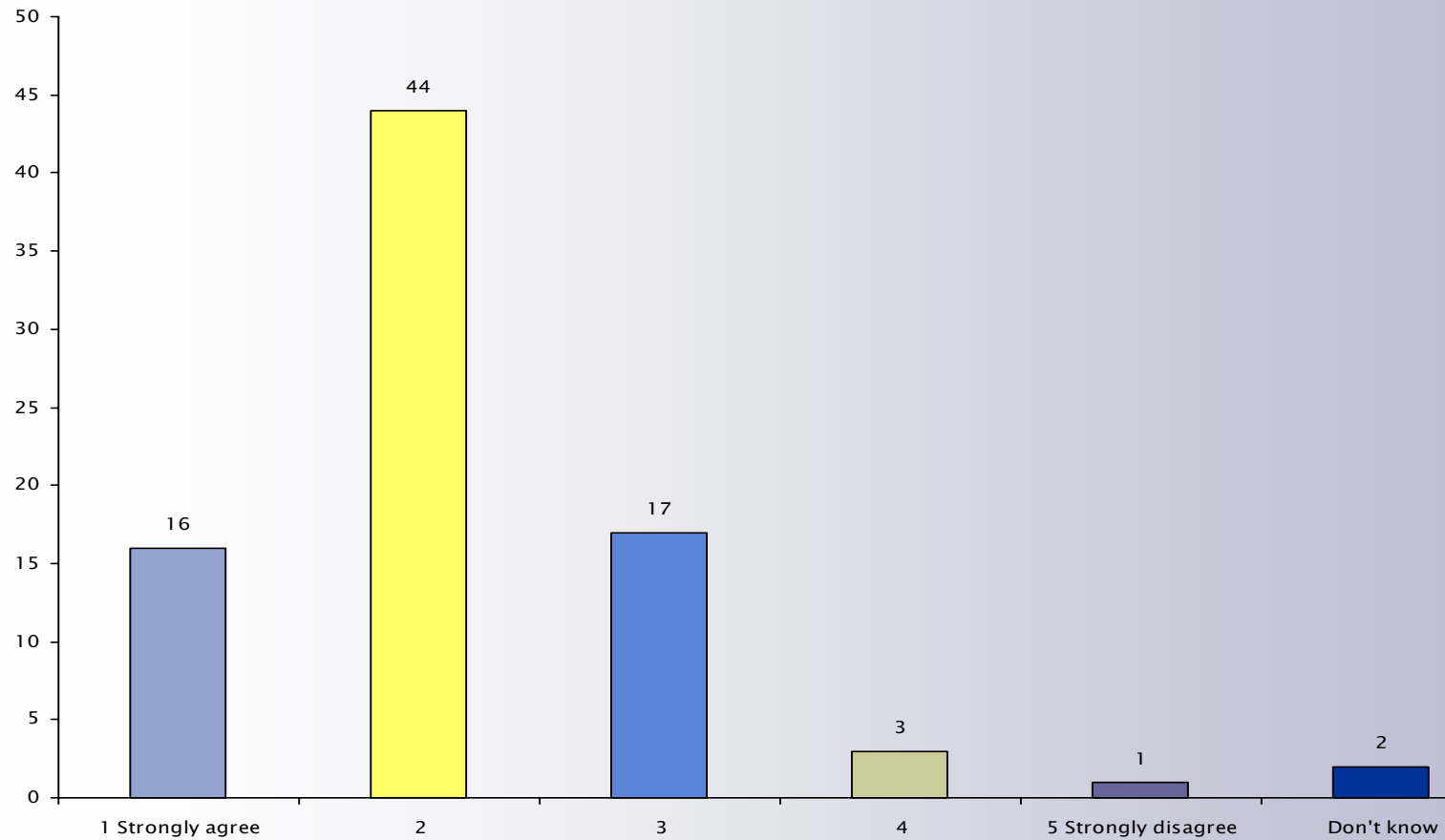
Q31. AIOH administration & financial position



Question 31. The AIOH has an efficient administration and is in a secure financial position.

We are doing well on this aspect, but we probably need to better communicate what we are doing.

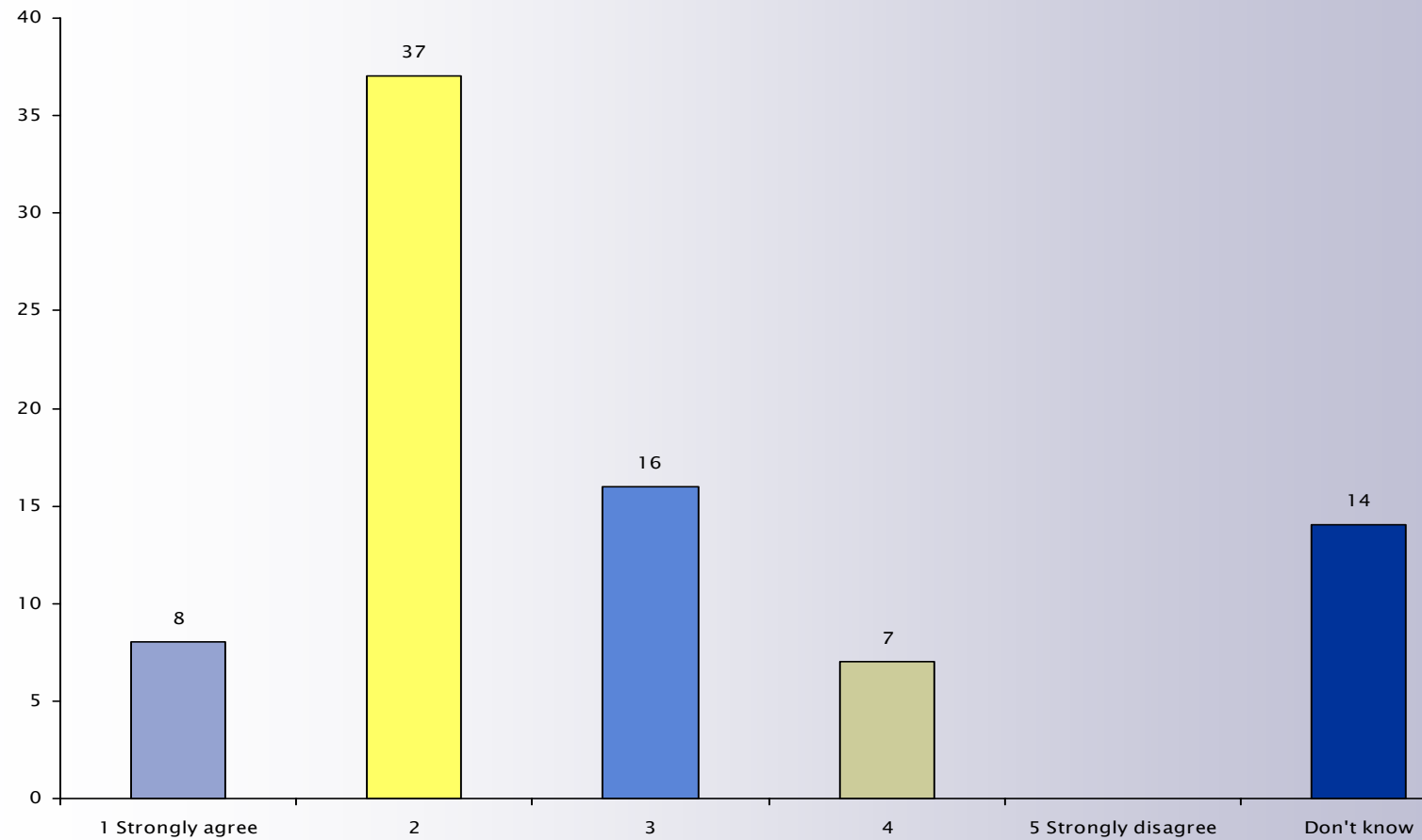
Q32. AIOH communication and awareness with members



Question 32. There is good communication and awareness within the AIOH membership.

We appear to be doing relatively well on this aspect, but we can improve.

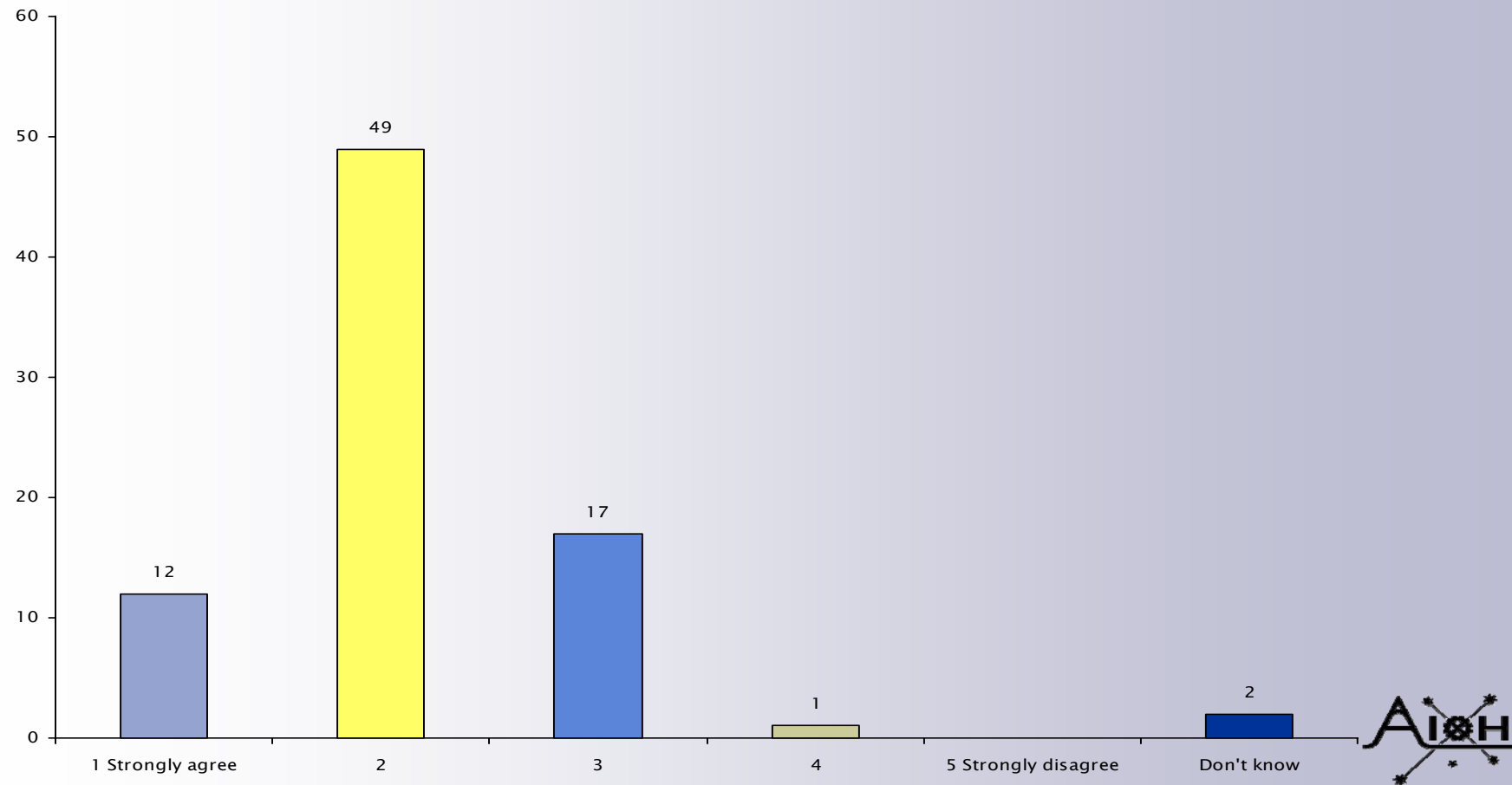
Q33. Transparency & accountability of AIOH council decisions



Question 33. AIOH Council process and decision making are transparent and accountable.

We appear to be doing relatively well on this aspect, but we need to better communicate what we are doing.

Q34. Effective use of technology to AIOH members

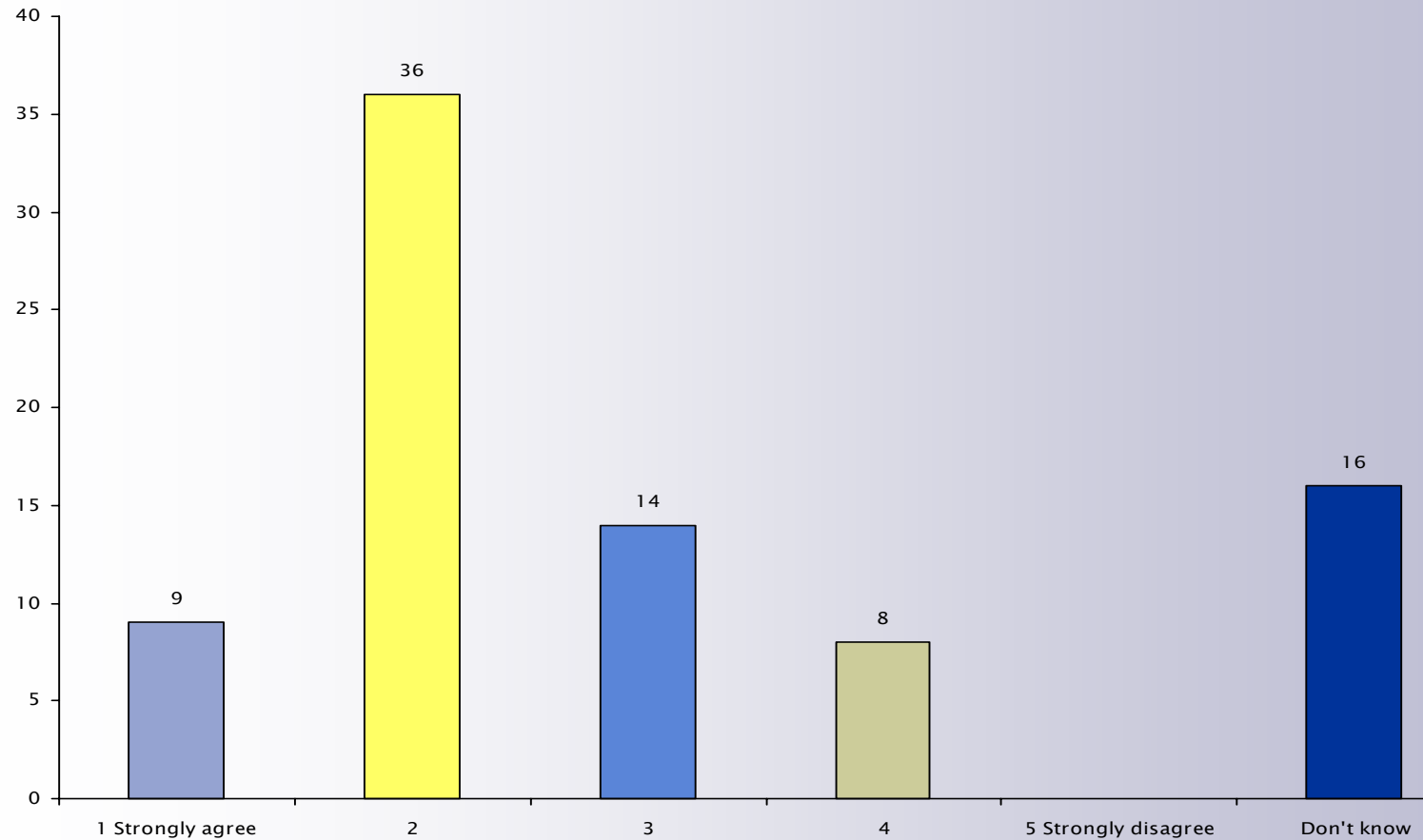


Question 34. The AIOH is making effective use of information technology in the provision of service to members.

We appear to be doing relatively well on this aspect, but we can improve.



Q35. AIOH establishment of alliances with external groups



Question 35. The AIOH has established strategic alliances with external groups, national and internationally, which have common objectives.

We appear to be doing relatively well on this aspect, but we can improve and we need to better communicate what we are doing.