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Title

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Peer reviewed

Systematic reviews at UCSF: an evaluation of methodology

Jill Barr-Walker, Evans Whitaker, Peggy Tahir, Min-Lin Fang, Julia Kochi

UCSF Library

Background

UCSF user population: health sciences grad programs

UCSF Library & systematic reviews

Research Questions

Do UCSF researchers use Embase for systematic reviews?

Are librarians involved in UCSF SRs?

How is adherence to reporting standards/best practices?

What's the effect of IOM Guidelines?

Can we use this data for targeted outreach?

Literature Review

SR methodological quality in several fields has room for improvement [1-6].

Librarian participation is associated with search reproducibility [7] and meeting search standards [7-9], including number of databases searched [8].

Methods

Searched Pubmed, Embase, Web of Science for UCSF SRs

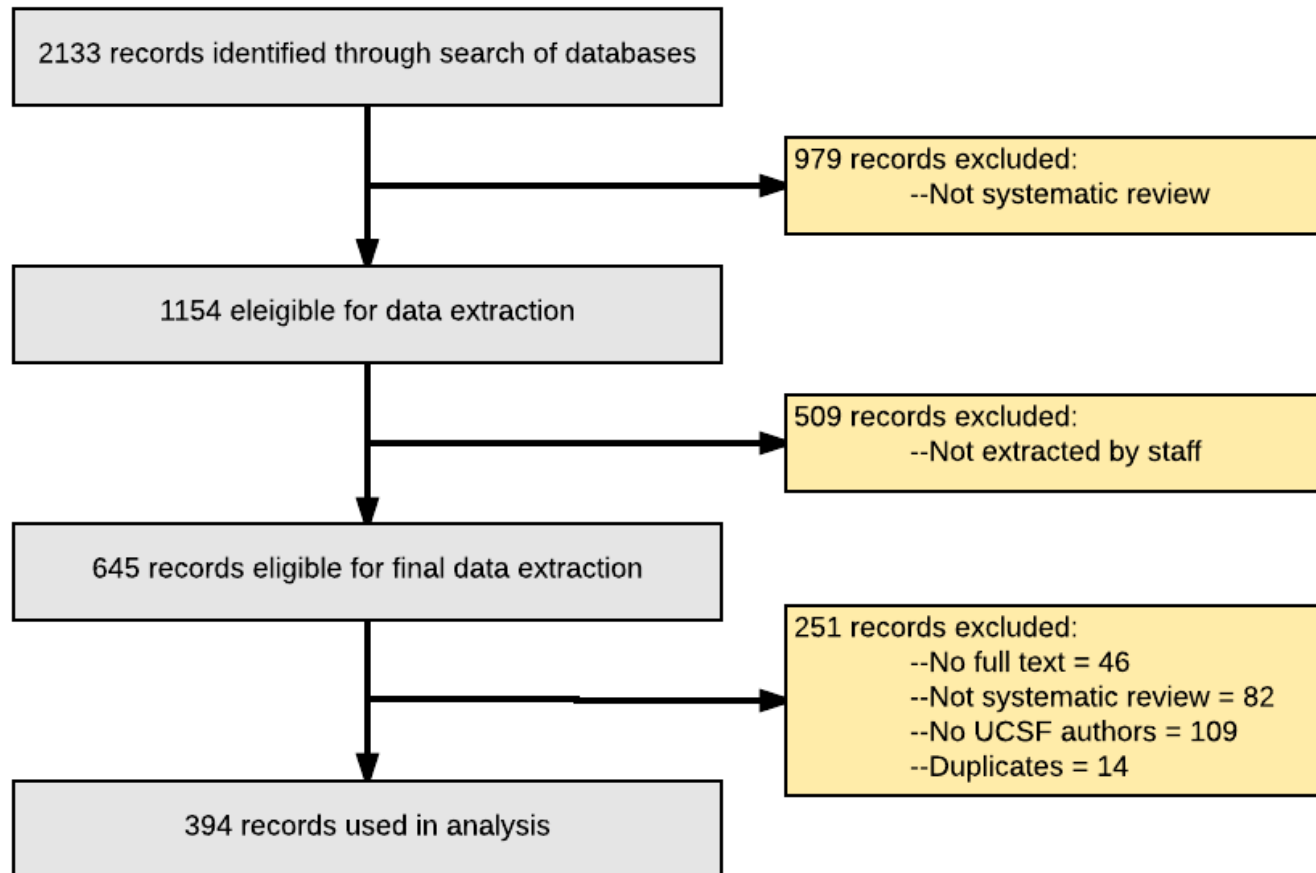
Title/abstract screening (Covidence)

Final screening & Data extraction (AirTable & Excel)

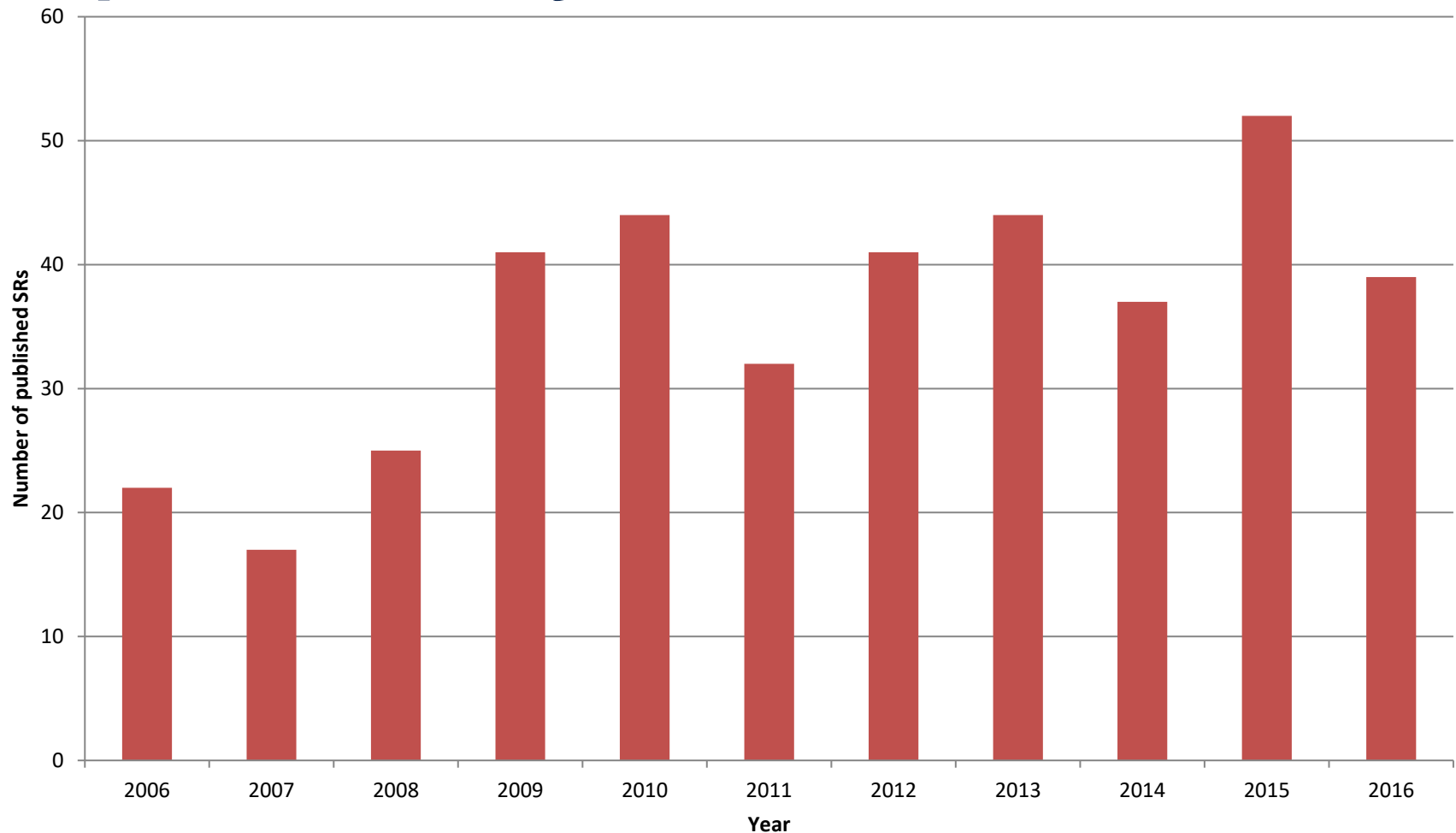
Inclusion criteria: systematic review, UCSF author

Data analysis (Stata)

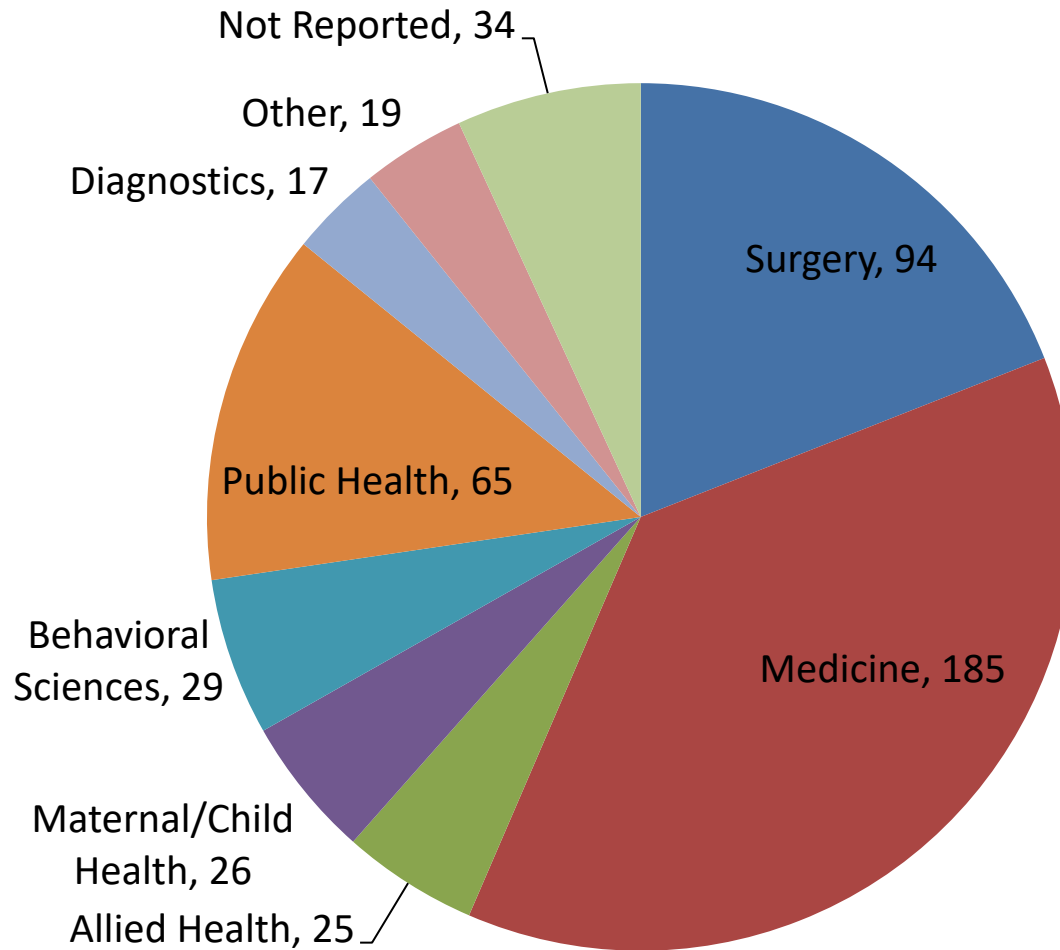
Our data



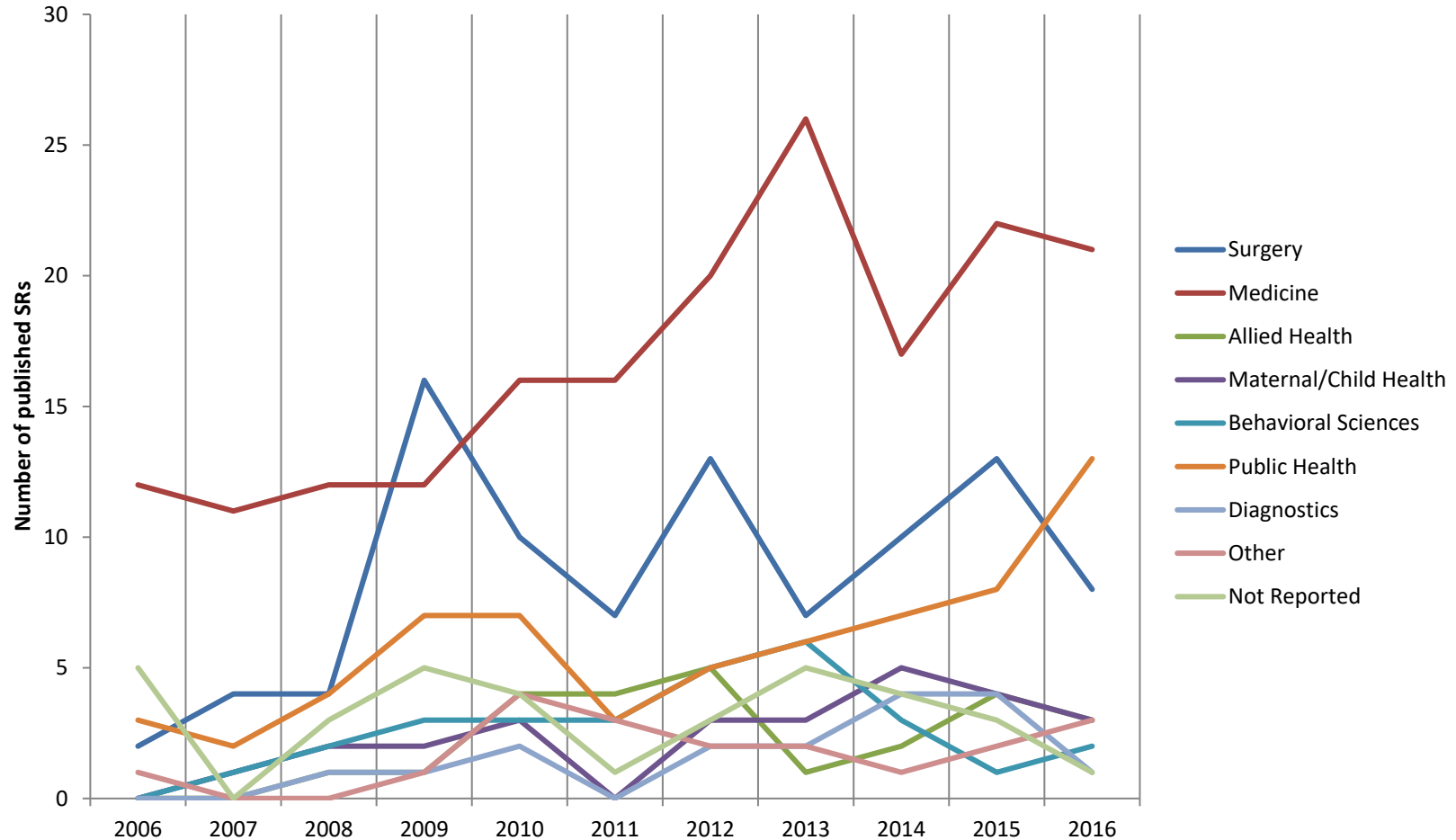
How many systematic reviews are published by UCSF authors?



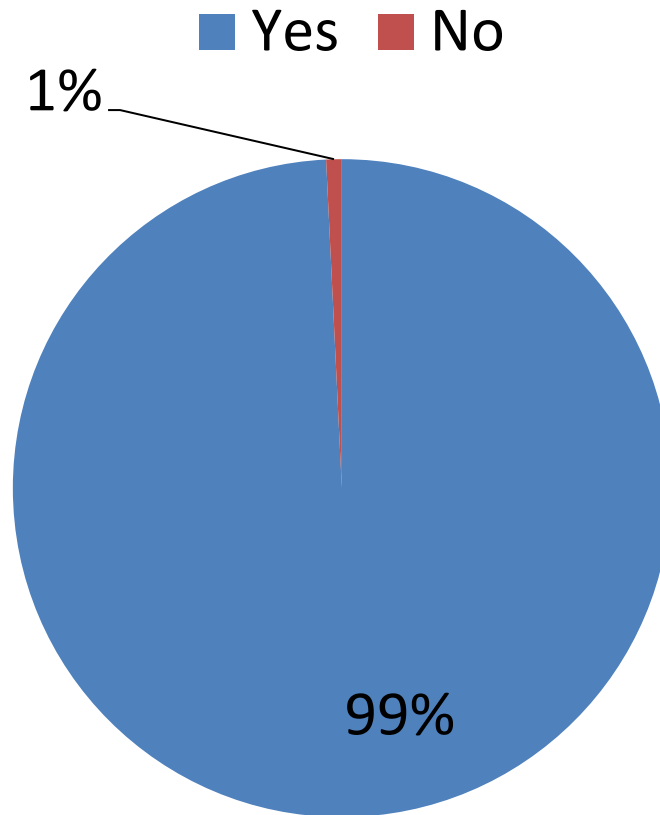
How many by subject area?



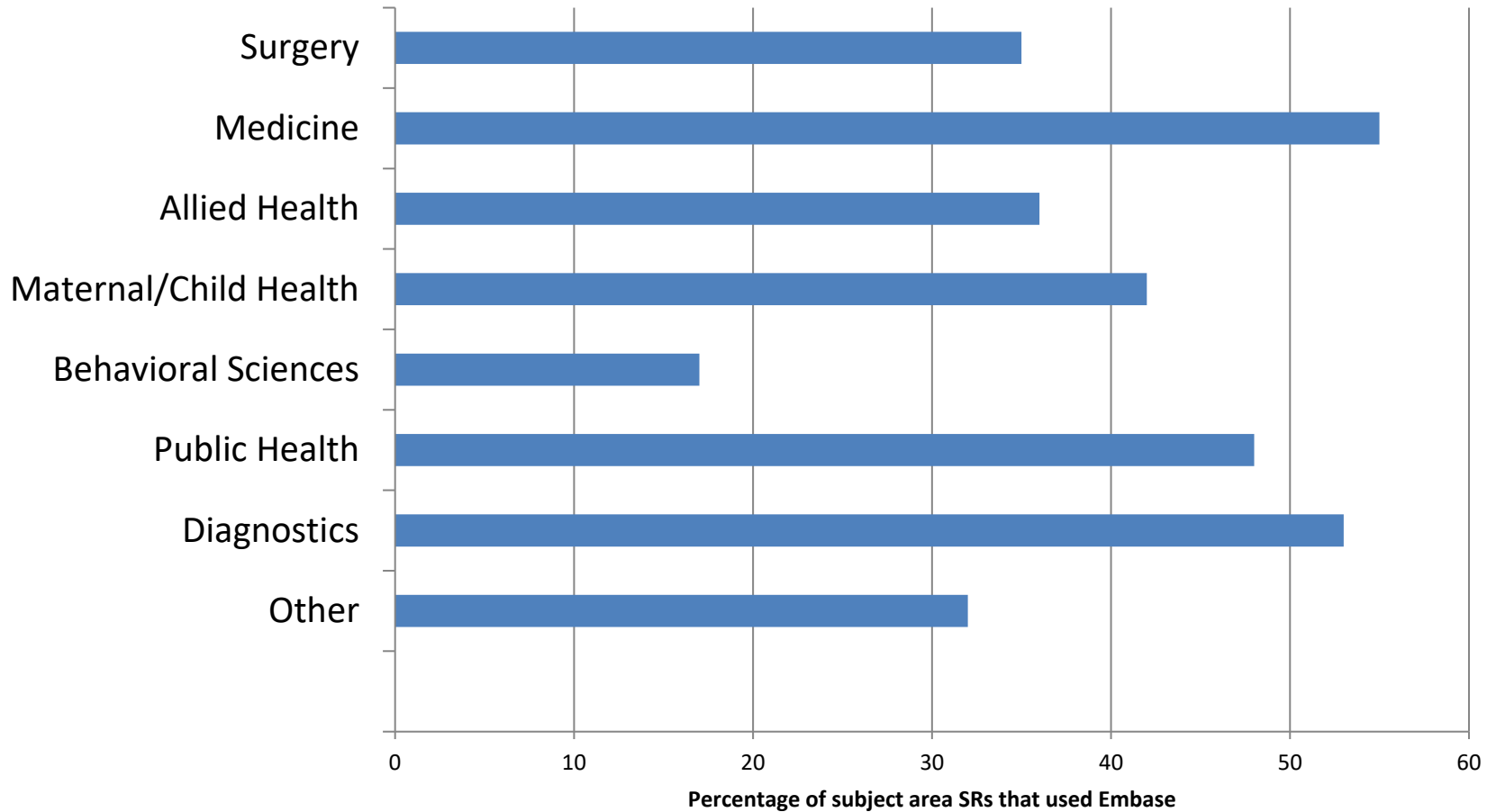
How many are published by each subject area by year?



Did UCSF authors use PubMed?



How many used Embase by subject area?



Which databases were used?

Embase (47%)

Web of Science (21%)

PsycINFO (17%)

Other databases (21%)

No significant differences before & after IOM Guidelines

How many databases were used?

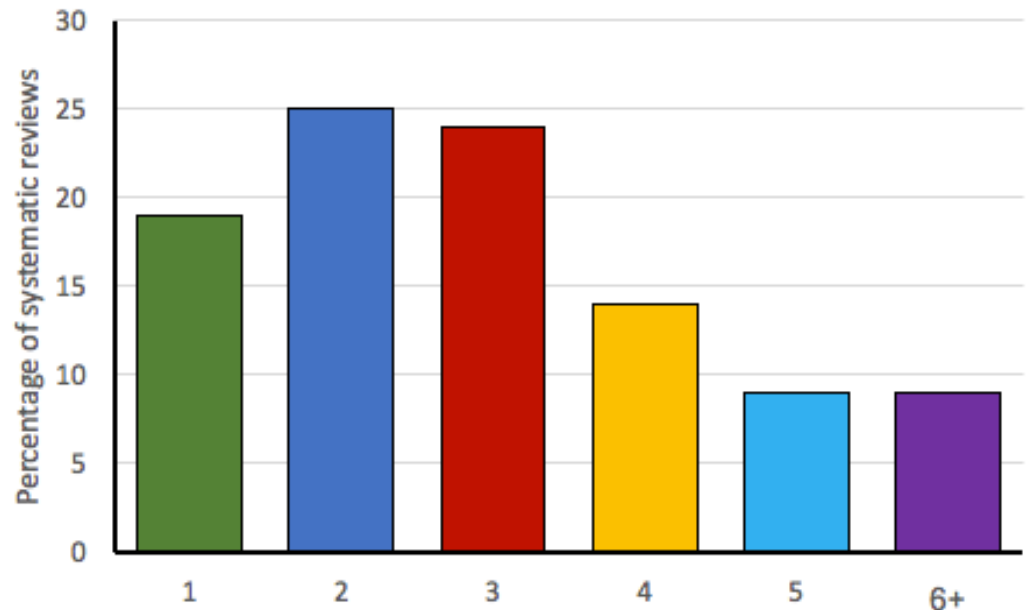
Range 1-19

Average 3

5 reviews used 10 or more databases:

- Medicine
- Surgery
- Public Health

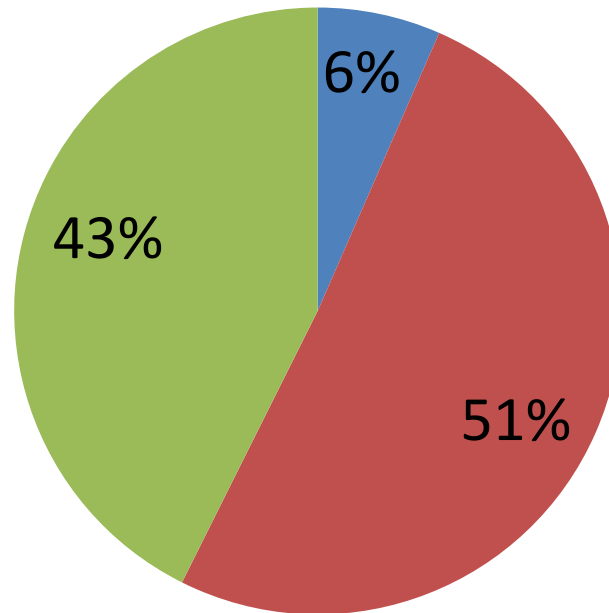
How many databases per systematic review



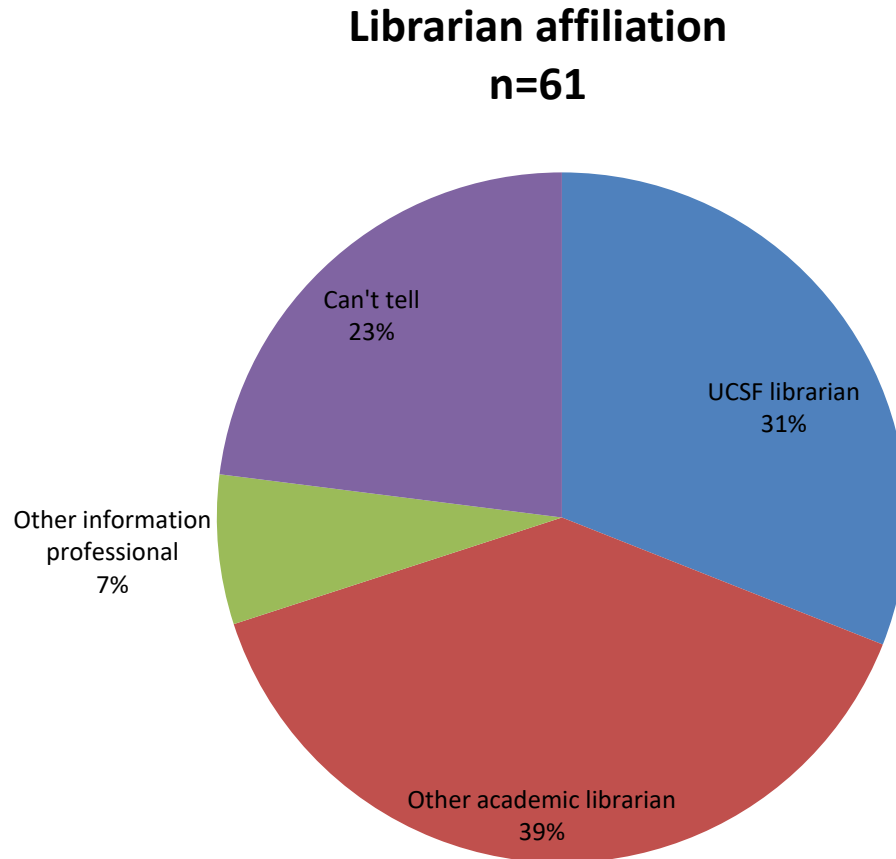
How many had librarian involvement?

Librarian involvement
n= 61

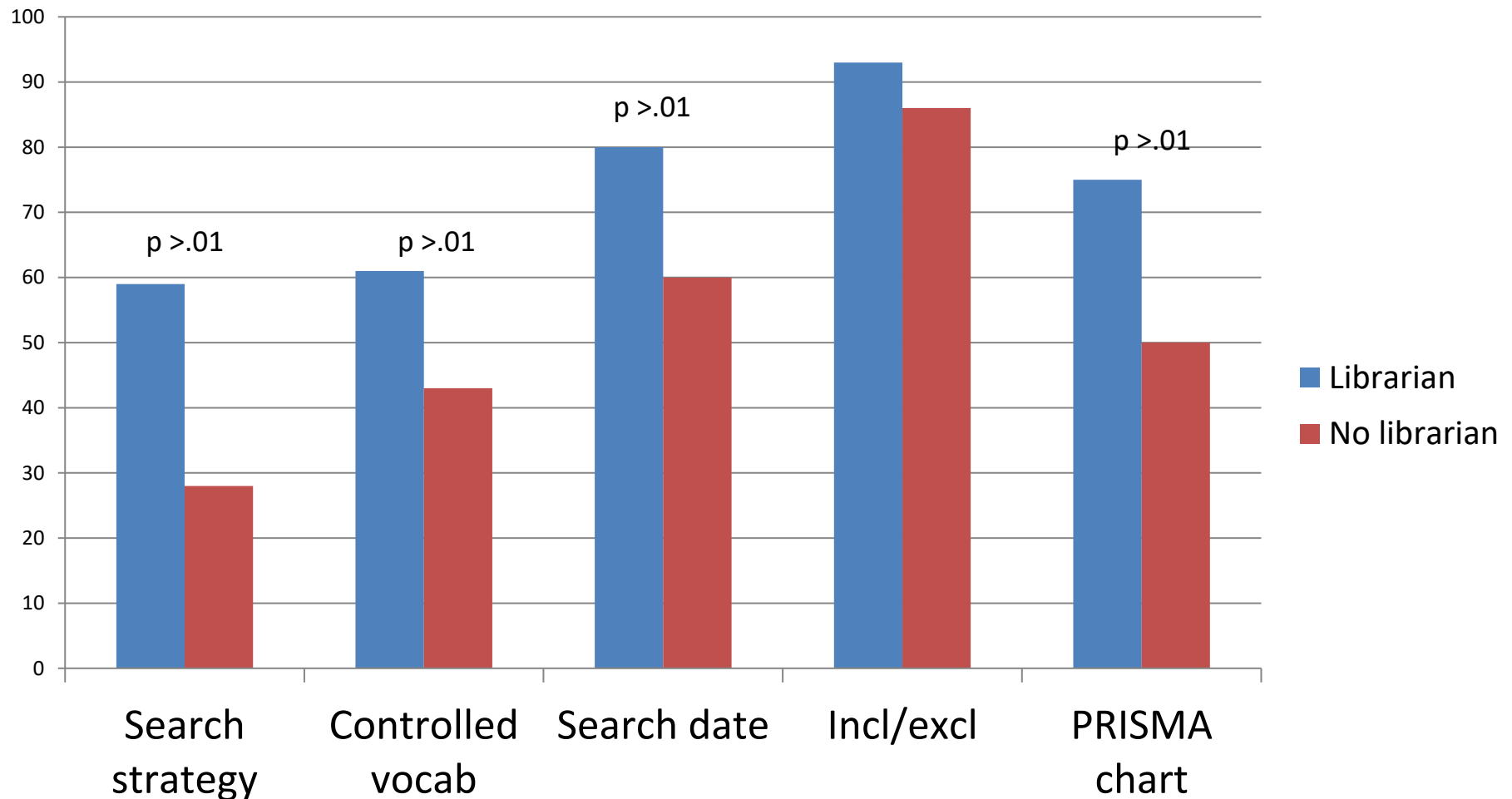
■ Coauthor ■ Acknowledgement ■ Methods



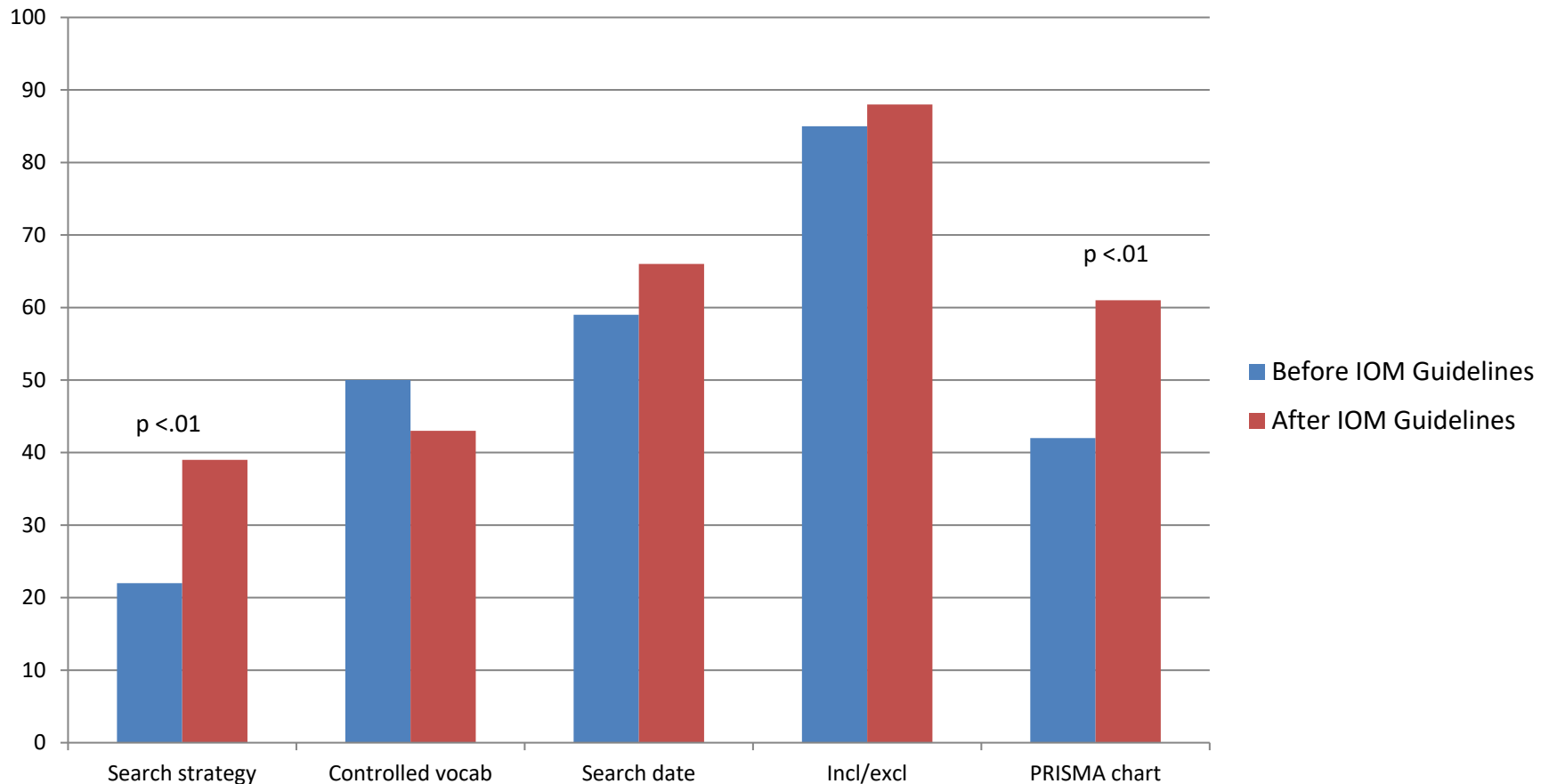
Where were librarians affiliated?



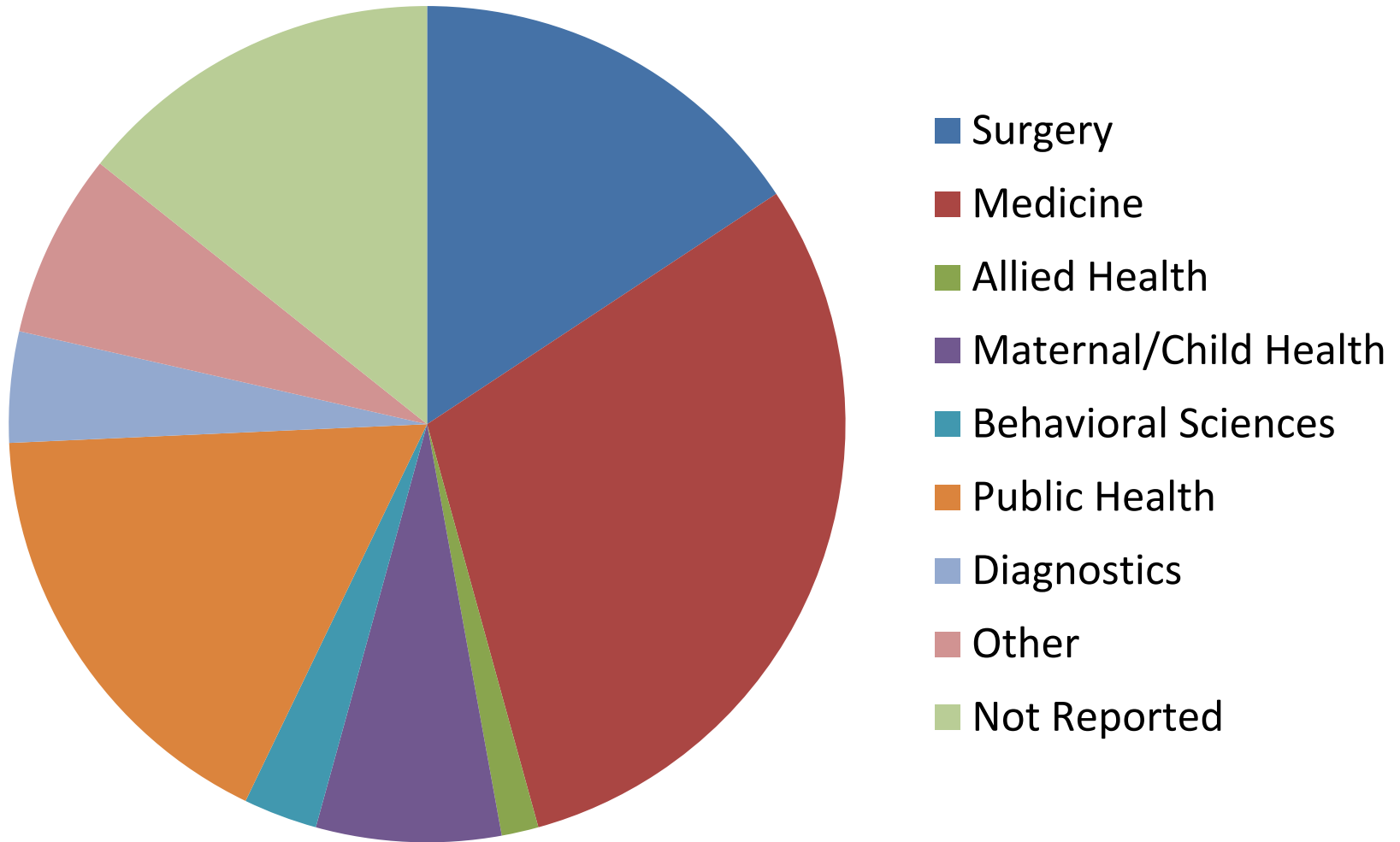
How does librarian involvement affect reporting standards?



Reporting standards before & after IOM Guidelines



Which subject areas used librarians?



Limitations & Lessons Learned

Potential lack of inter-rater reliability

Consider: quality check for all reviewers

Potential selection bias

Consider: assess level of commitment to project

Data collection: think about which & how

Designated project leader needed

Conclusions

Do UCSF researchers use Embase for systematic reviews? **about half**

Are librarians involved in UCSF SRs? **no**

How is adherence to reporting standards/best practices? **better with librarian**

What's the effect of IOM Guidelines? **slim to none**

Can we use this data for targeted outreach? ...

Next steps

Continue data collection

Embase & librarian trends (2016-)

Targeted outreach

Compare data with other institutions?

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Questions?

