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Taylor & Francis Open Access Survey  
Geodemographic Analysis

Supplement 2 **Analysis by Age**

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The results presented in this report are based on research carried out on behalf of Taylor & Francis by Will Frass, Research Executive; Jo Cross, Head of Research & Business Intelligence and Victoria Gardner, Open Access Publisher.

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## Definitions

The 2014 Taylor & Francis Open Access Survey refers to Green Open Access and Gold Open Access. In the context of this survey, Taylor & Francis' interpretation of these terms – with specific reference to journal publishing – is as follows:

### Green Open Access

Archiving of an article on a website or in a repository. This is often the accepted version of an article, not the final published article.

### Gold Open Access

Publication of the final article (Version of Record). Article is made freely available online, often after payment of an article publishing charge (APC).

## Introduction

This is a Supplement to the 2014 Taylor & Francis Open Access Survey Report, available at Taylor & Francis Online:

<http://www.tandfonline.com/page/openaccess/opensurvey/2014>

This Supplement provides a breakdown of the results by the age of the respondents, in the following key areas of the survey:

- Possible advantages and disadvantages of open access
- Peer review
- Future intentions to publish open access
- Future types of research output

## Overview of younger authors

Younger authors are more likely to agree that open access publication leads to greater readership and more citations, and less likely to agree there no benefits to open access whatsoever.

Although authors in their 20s are the least inclined to say '*a rigorous assessment of the merit and novelty of their article*' is '*always*' a suitable form of peer review for their research, the proportion answering '*always*' [29%] is only 5% below average.

The only age group to show above average support for '*accelerated peer review with fewer rounds of revision*' is the 20 to 29 group.

Young authors consistently have the highest proportion of any age group saying that they will *choose* to publish their work open access – either gold [37%] or green [51%]; but not the highest saying they will be *mandated* to publish their work open access.

## Overview of older authors

Older authors in their 60s and 70s exhibit the opposite attitudes to those in their 20s and 30s: they are least likely to agree open access publication will increase their

readership and citations, and the most likely to agree there are '*no fundamental benefits to open access*'.

Authors in their 60s are the most inclined towards '*a rigorous assessment of the merit and novelty of their article*', although the number selecting '*always*' [39%] is only 5% above average.

Across each of the routes to open access publication, authors over 70 always have the *highest* proportion who say they will *not* publish their work open access in the future.

## Trends

In general, the proportion of authors who agree open access publication leads to **wider readership** and **more citations**, decreases steadily with age, whilst the number agreeing '*there are no fundamental benefits to open access*' increases fractionally with each age group.

In terms of **peer review models**, besides the lower support for '*a rigorous assessment*' and slightly higher support for the alternatives amongst 20 to 29 year olds, there is not a great deal of variation between groups after the age of 30.

The proportion of authors who will **choose** to upload their accepted manuscript to a repository (green open access) decreases steadily with age. However, after an initial drop of 5% moving from authors in their 20s to their 30s, authors choosing to publish their work gold open access remains around 30%.

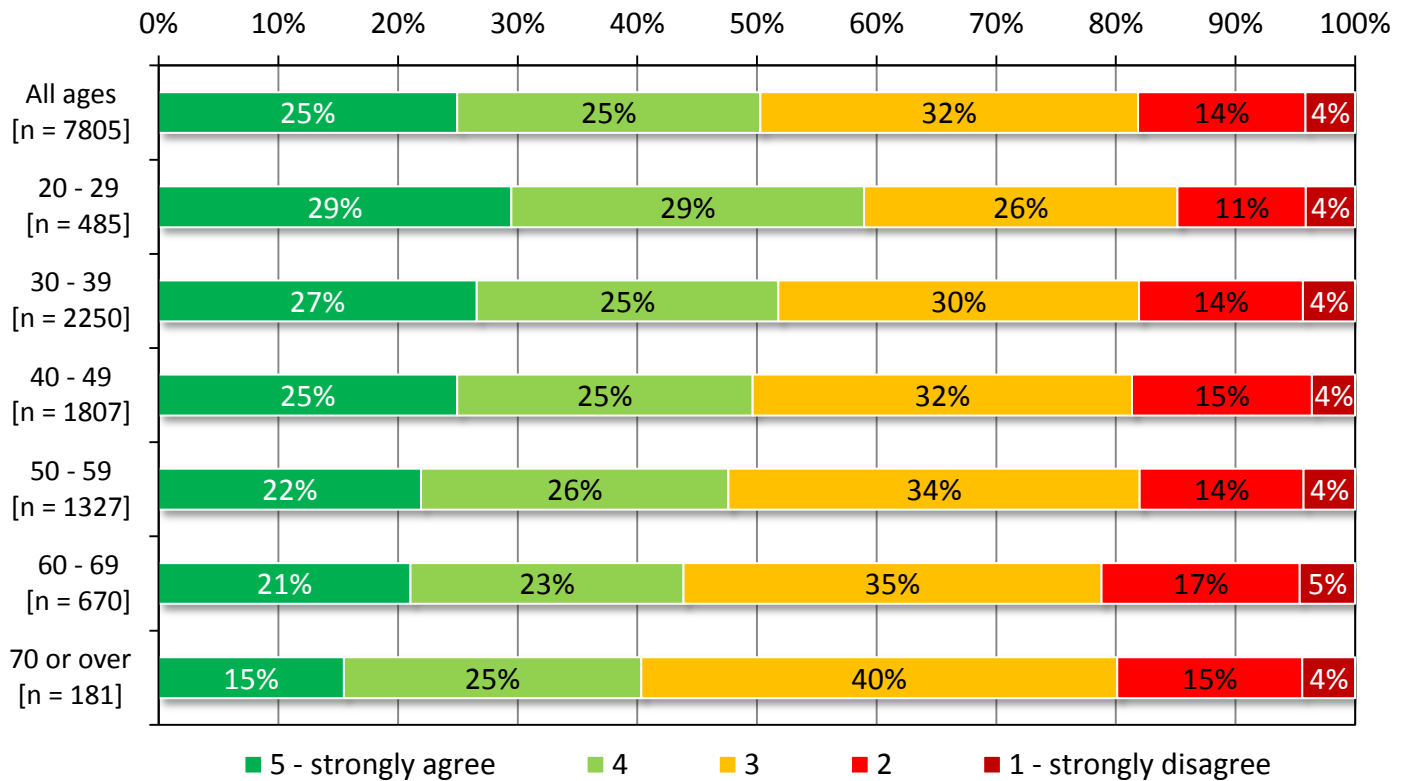
When asked if they will be **mandated** to publish their work open access – either gold or green – the percentage answering '*yes*' peaks around authors in their 40s whilst the percentage answering '*no*' rises steadily with each age bracket.

One in ten [11%] authors in the 2014 survey thought '*academic papers as we know them will no longer be the main outputs of research*'. This fraction is remarkably stable across all age groups, across both surveys [10% in 2013].

## Selected Possible Advantages of Open Access – Age analysis

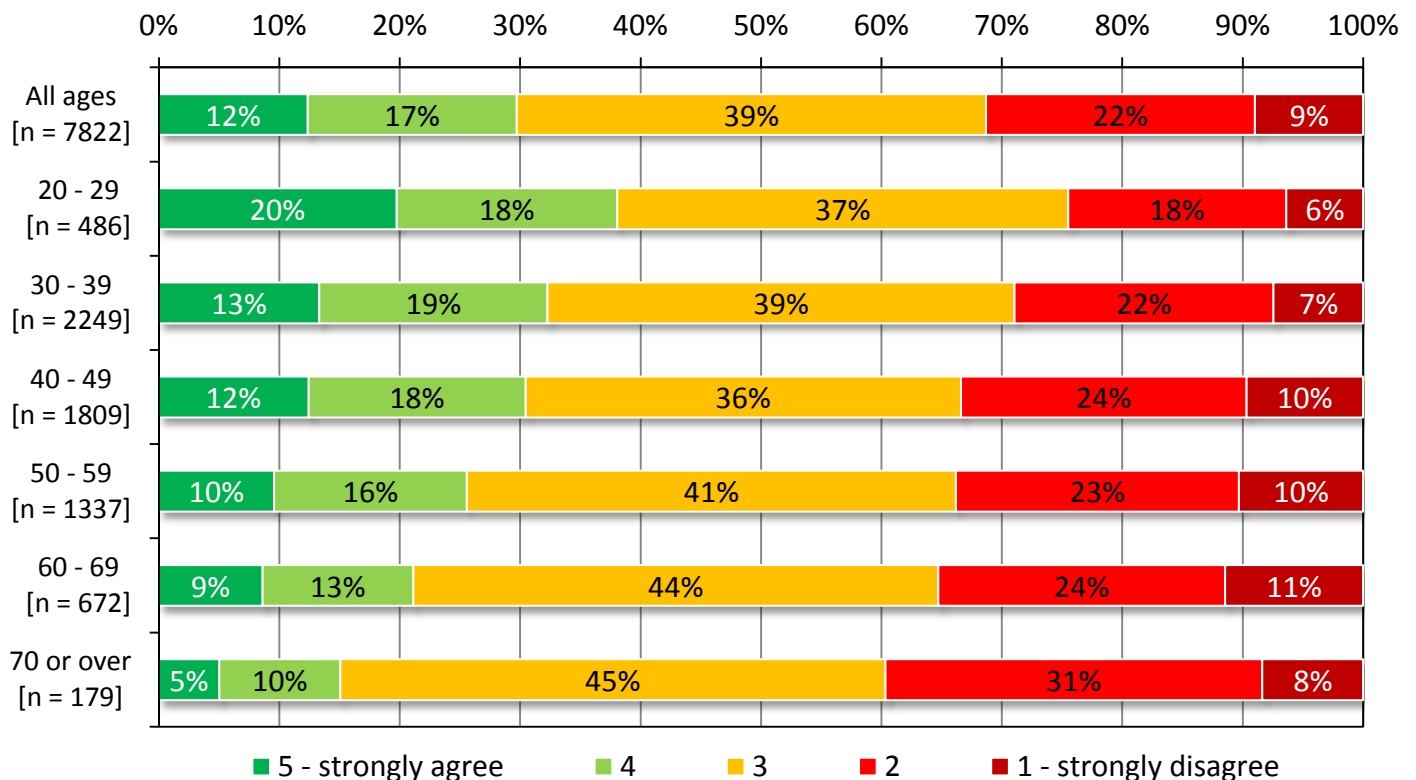
Q1.4

Open access journals have a larger readership of researchers than subscription journals



Q1.6

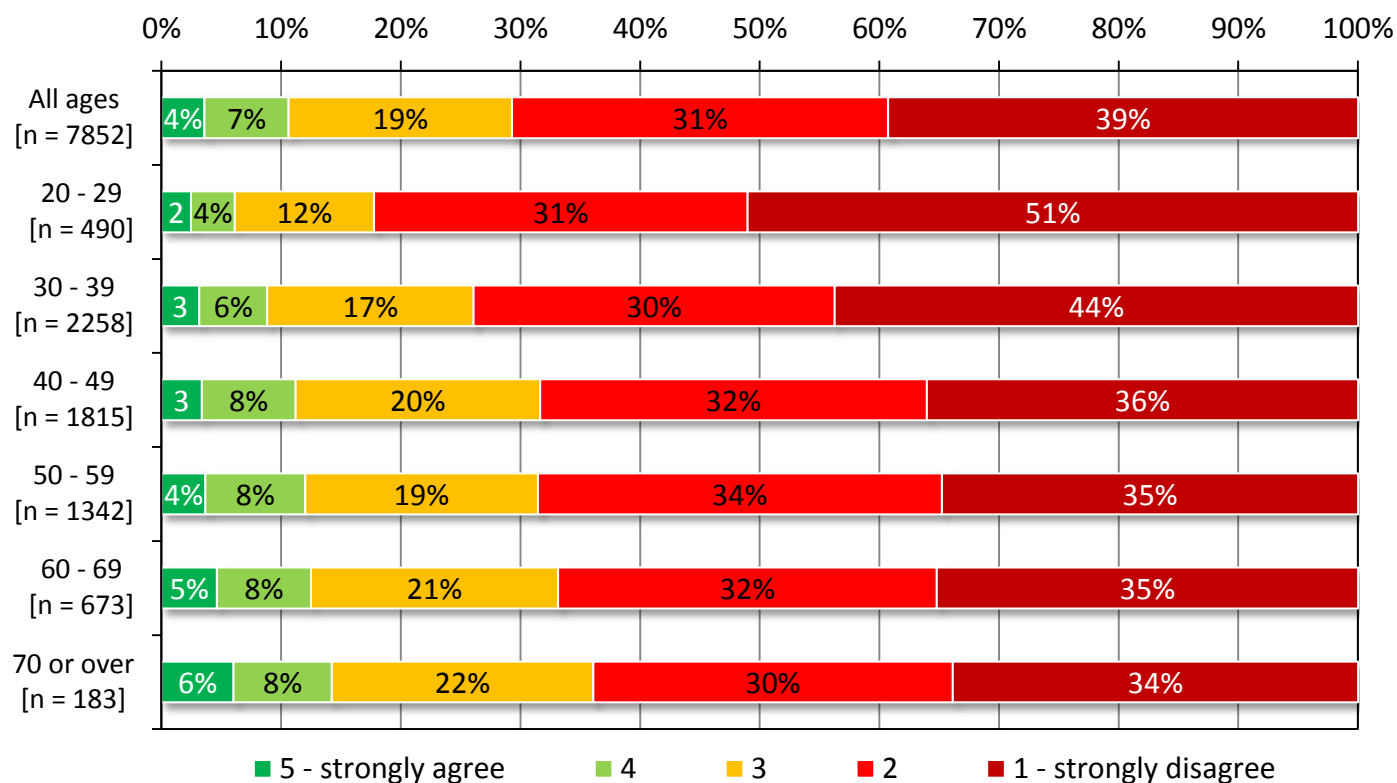
Open access journals are cited more heavily than subscription journals



## Selected Possible Disadvantages of Open Access – Age analysis

**Q2.3**

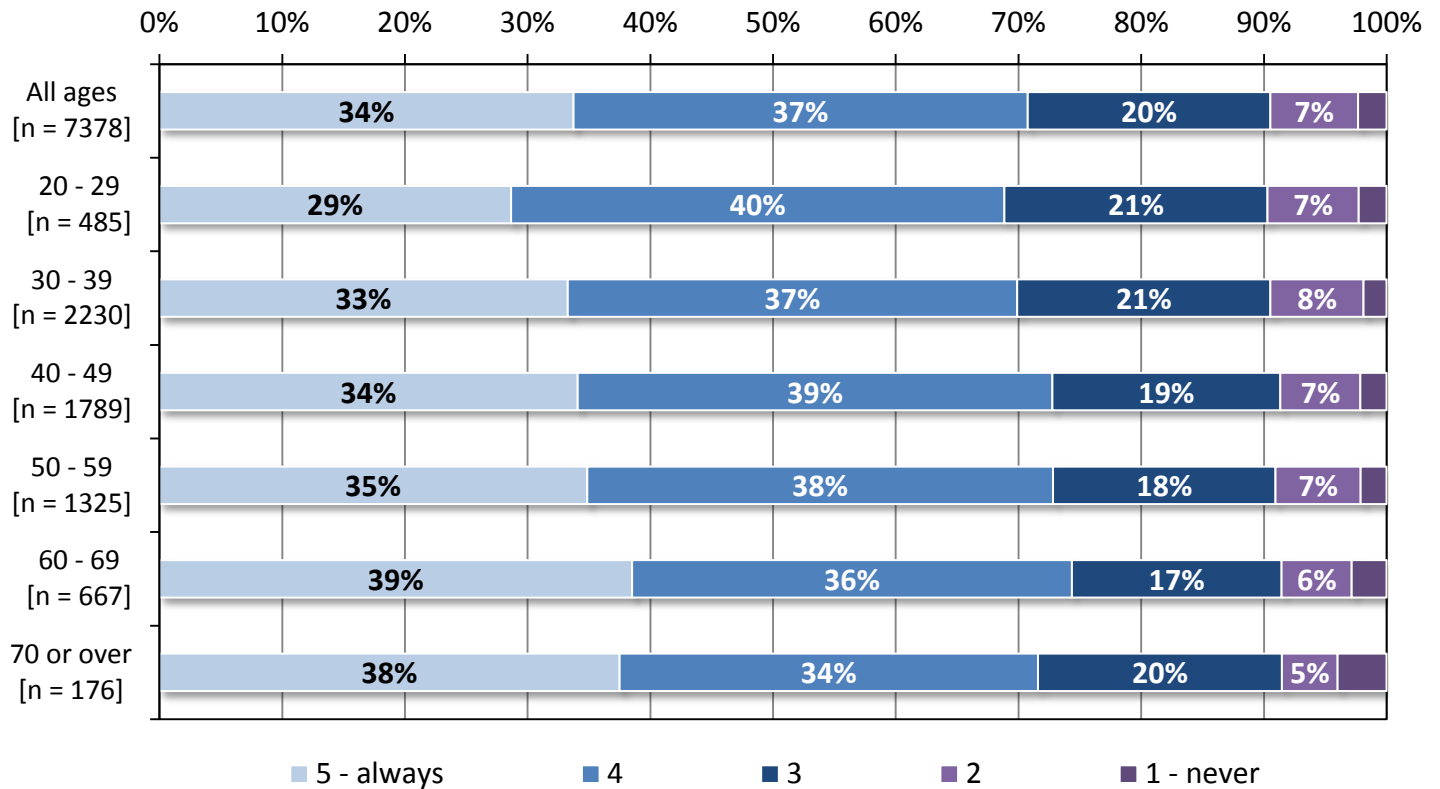
There are **no fundamental benefits** to open access publication



## Peer Review – Age analysis

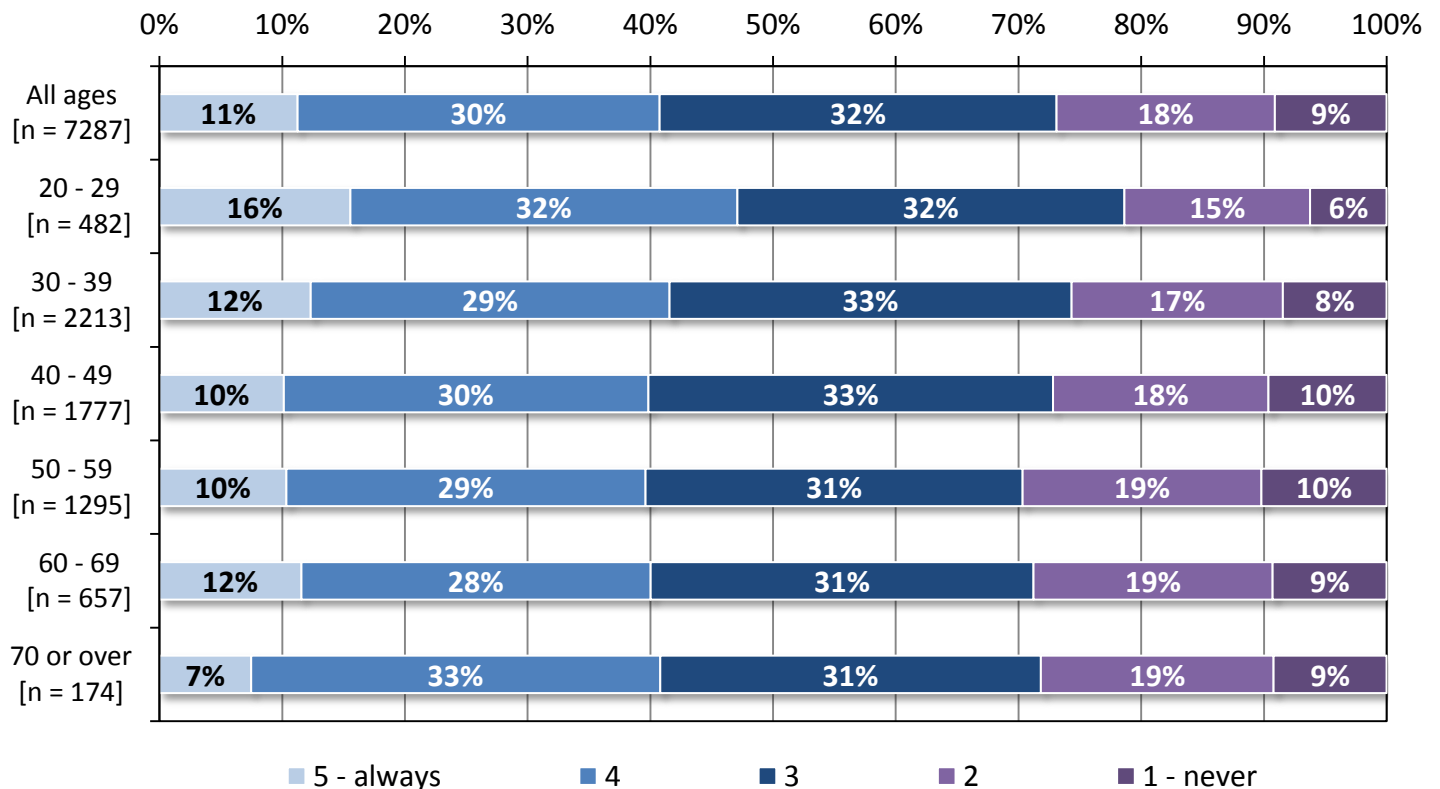
**Q8.1**

A rigorous assessment of the merit and novelty of my article with constructive comments for its improvement, even if this takes a long time



**Q8.2**

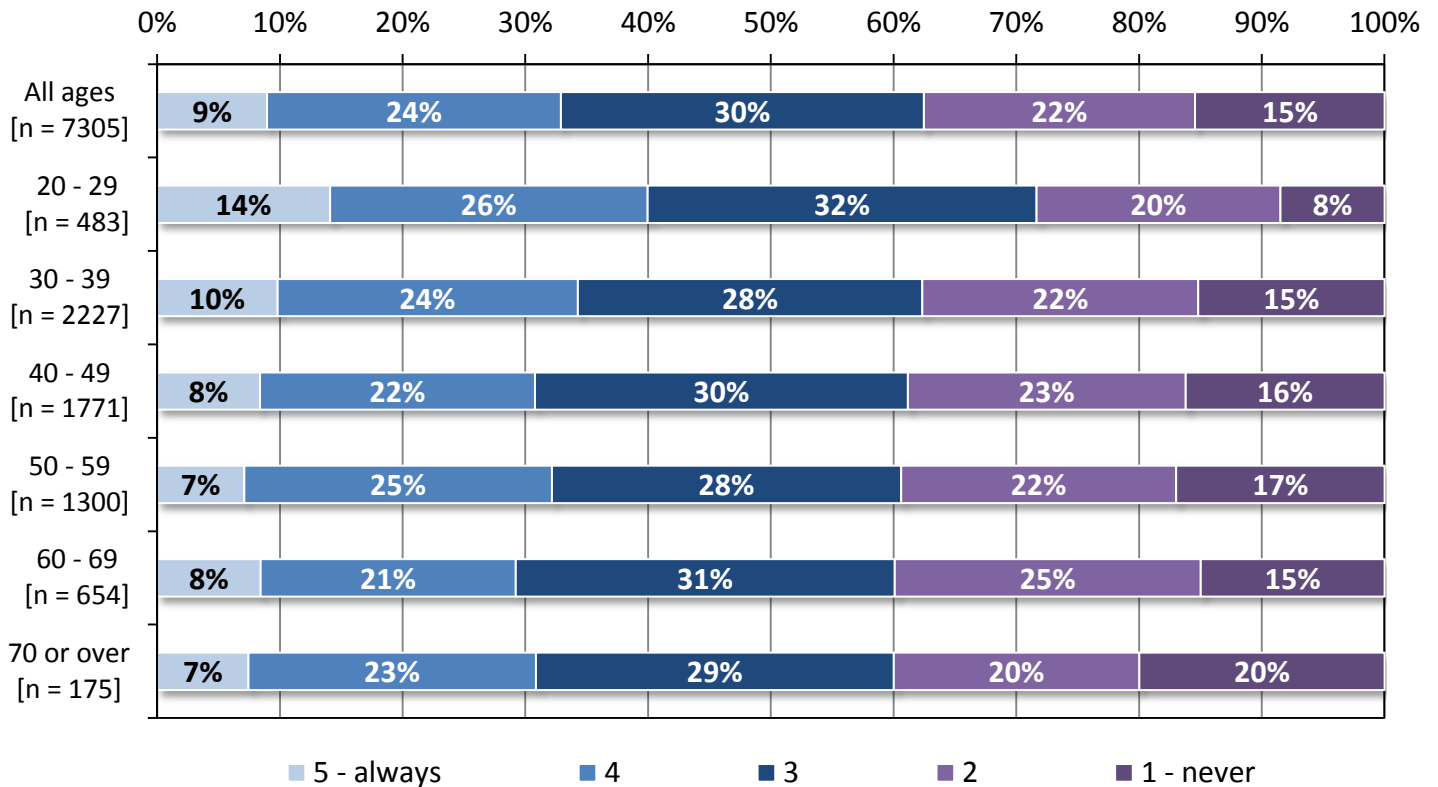
Accelerated peer review with fewer rounds of revision  
(in the style of eLife)



## Peer Review – Age analysis

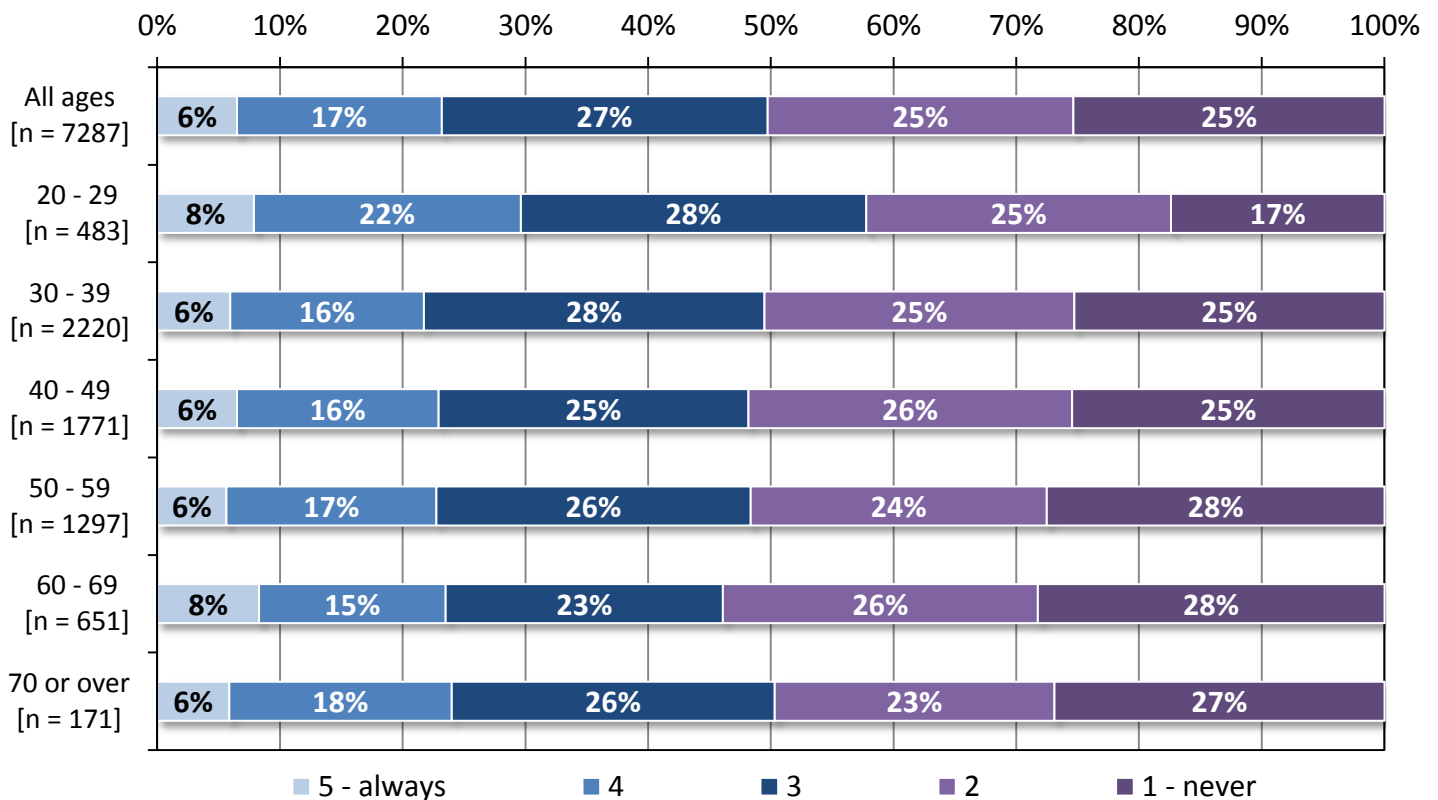
### Q8.3

Accelerated peer review that reviews the technical soundness of my research without any judgement on its novelty or interest (in the style of PLoS One)



### Q8.4

Post-publication peer review after a basic formal check by invited reviewers that my work is scientifically sound (in the style of F1000 Research)

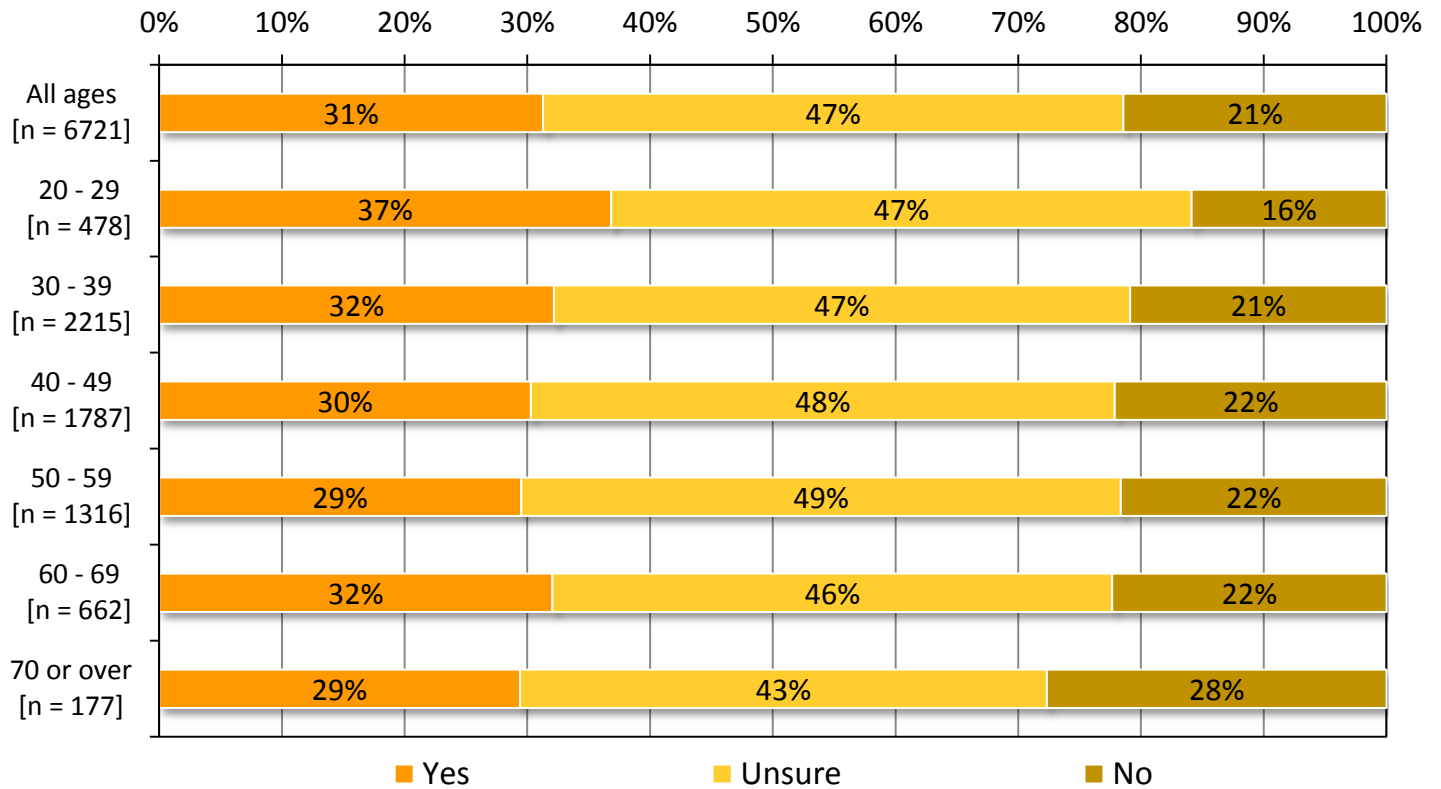




# Future Intentions regarding Gold Open Access – Age analysis

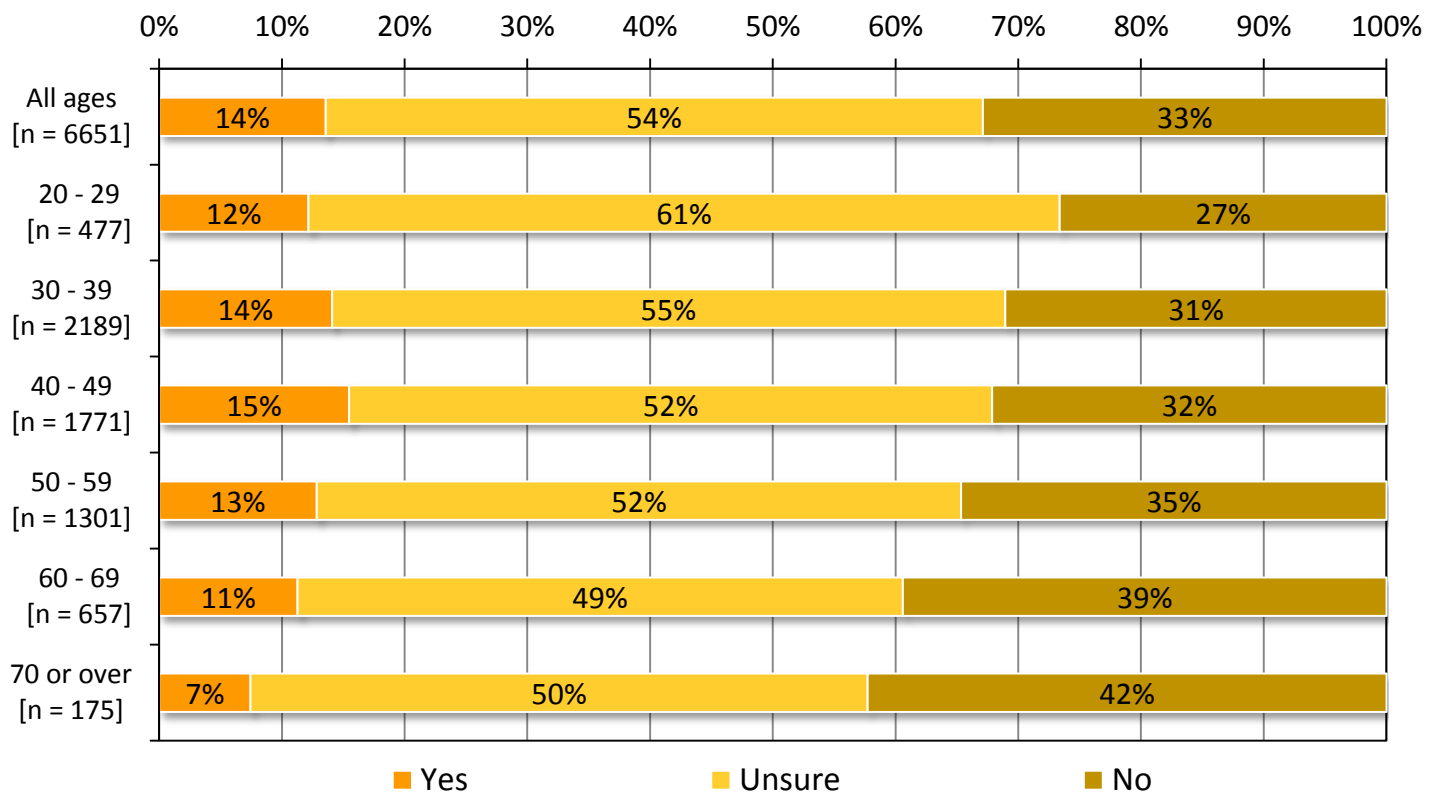
## Q14.1

I will **choose** to publish more articles as **Gold** Open Access



## Q14.2

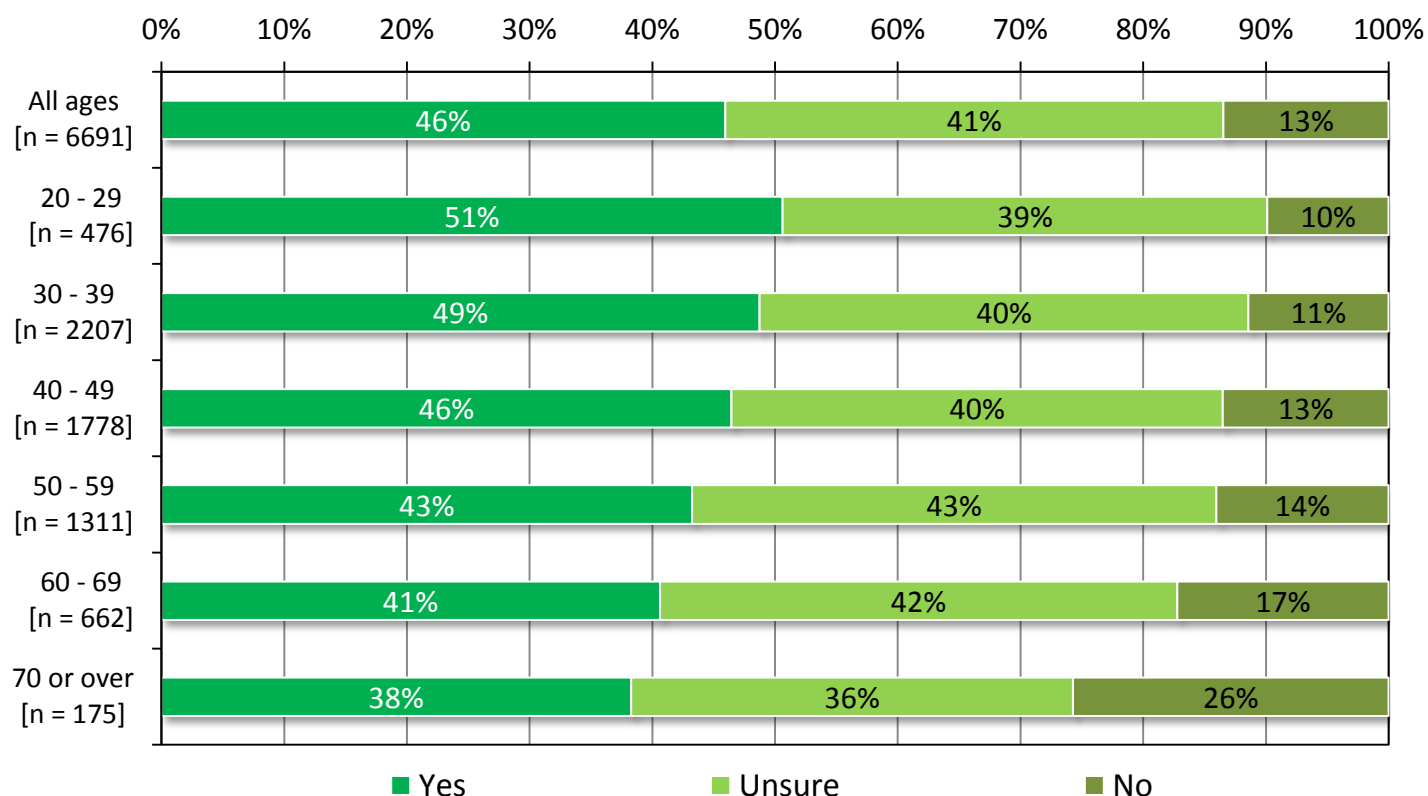
I will be **mandated** to publish more articles as **Gold** Open Access



## Future Intentions regarding Green Open Access – Age analysis

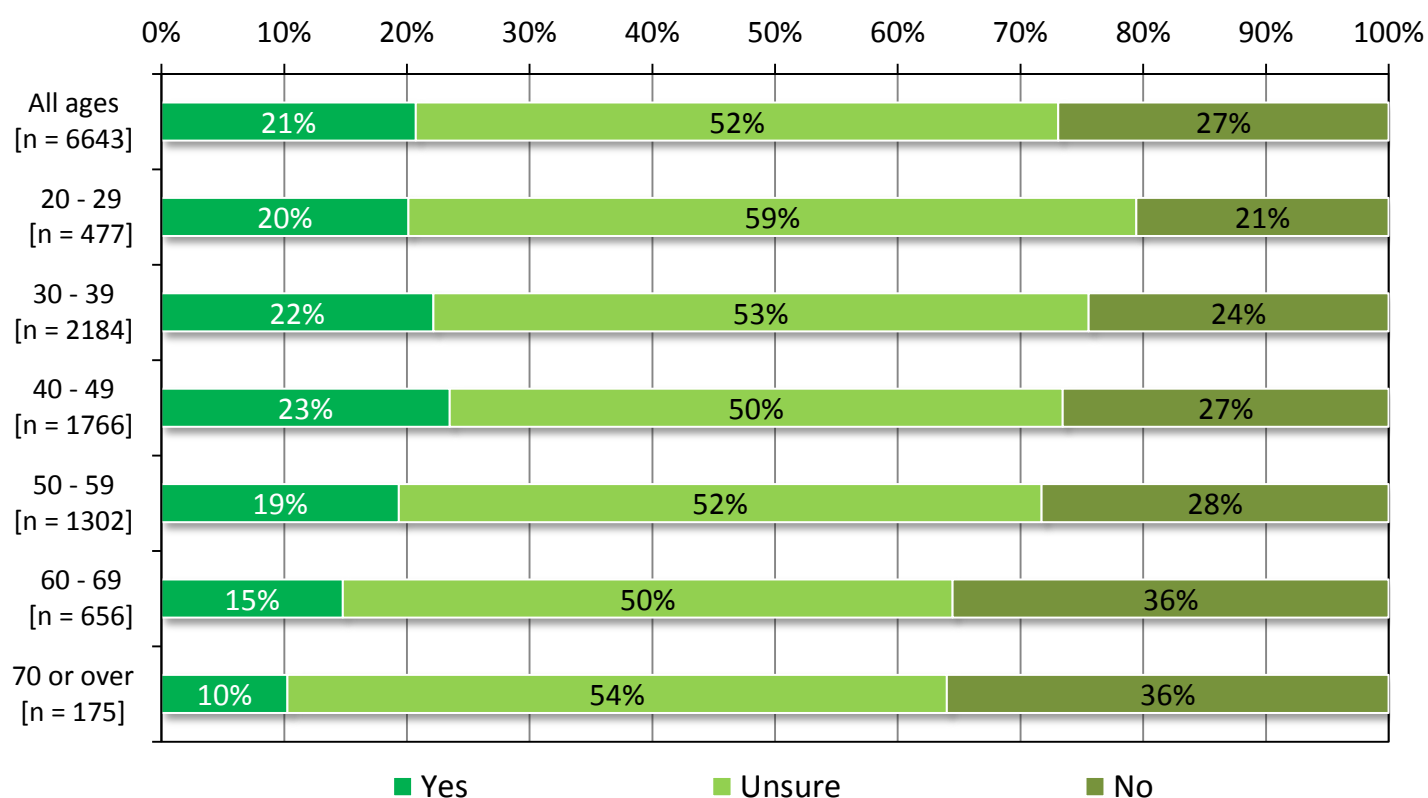
### Q14.3

I will choose to publish more articles as Green Open Access



### Q14.4

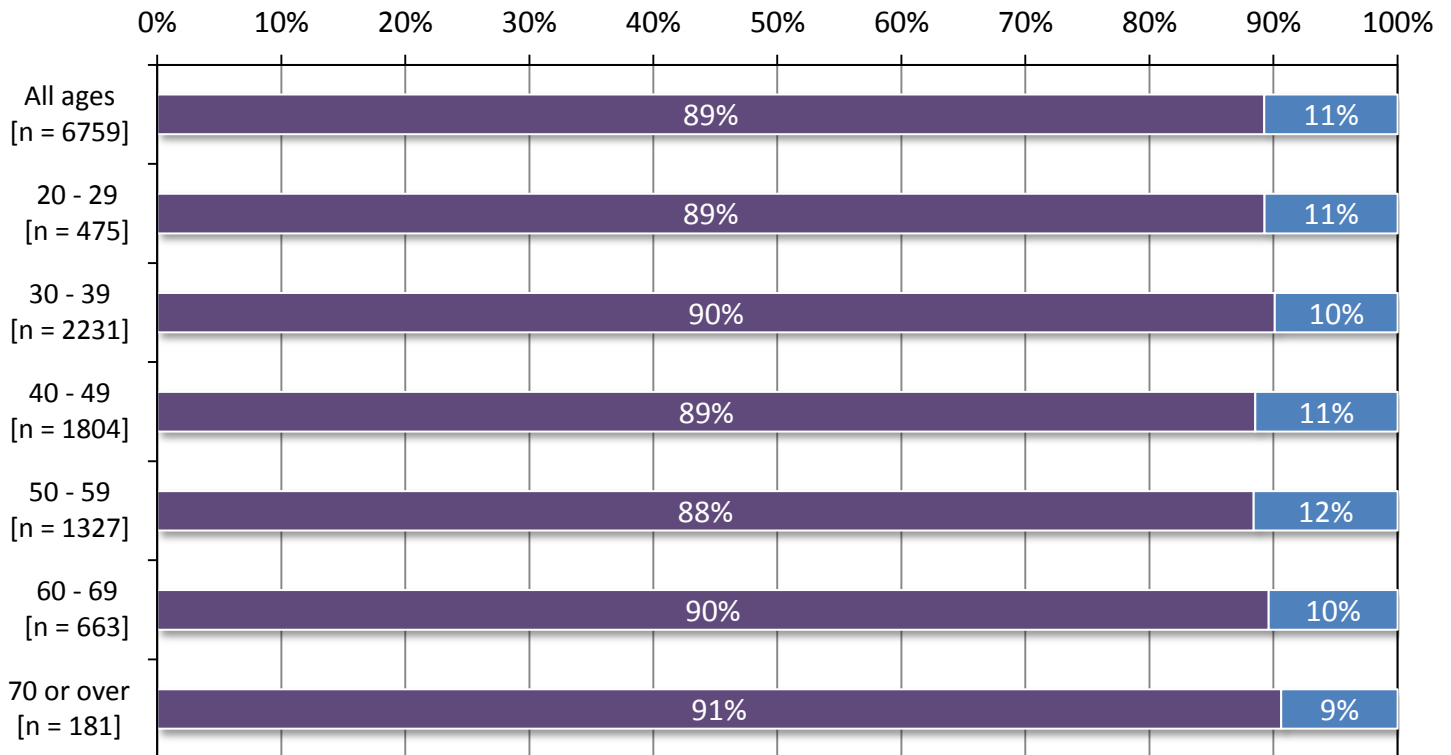
I will be mandated to publish more articles as Green Open Access



# The Future of Open Access Publishing – Age analysis

Q15

Types of research output



- Academic papers will continue to be the main outputs of research
- Academic papers as we know them will no longer be the main outputs of research