

# ***Informed Judgements, Ethics Training and the Universal Ethical Code for Scientists***

Surveys of STEM ambassadors, Govt Science & Engineers  
& wider consultation

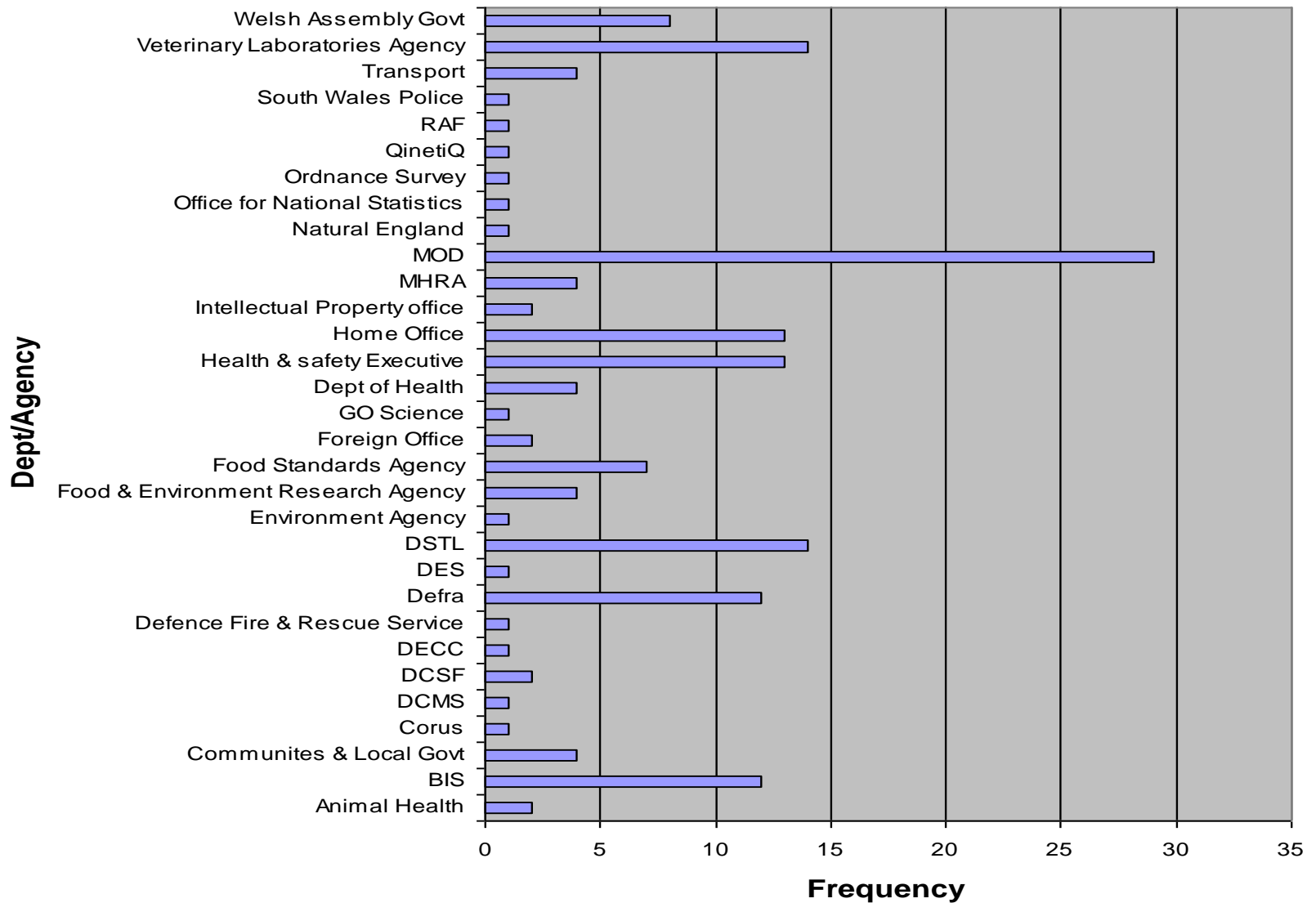
Science & Trust Group Secretariat  
December 2009

# The approach

- Survey + call for comments
- Survey monkey
- 3,000 GSE members
- 9,000 STEM ambassadors
- Circulated via Daphnet, psci-comm, twitter, science & society facebook group & on interactive site
- 190 Government responses
- 169 from other industry groupings

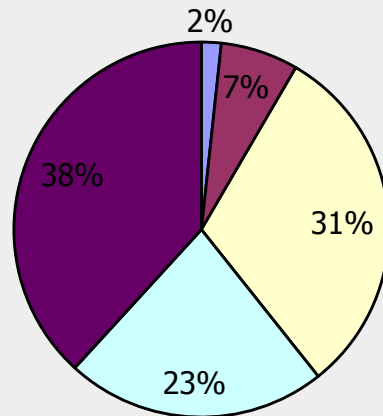
# The Government Survey

# Respondents by Department



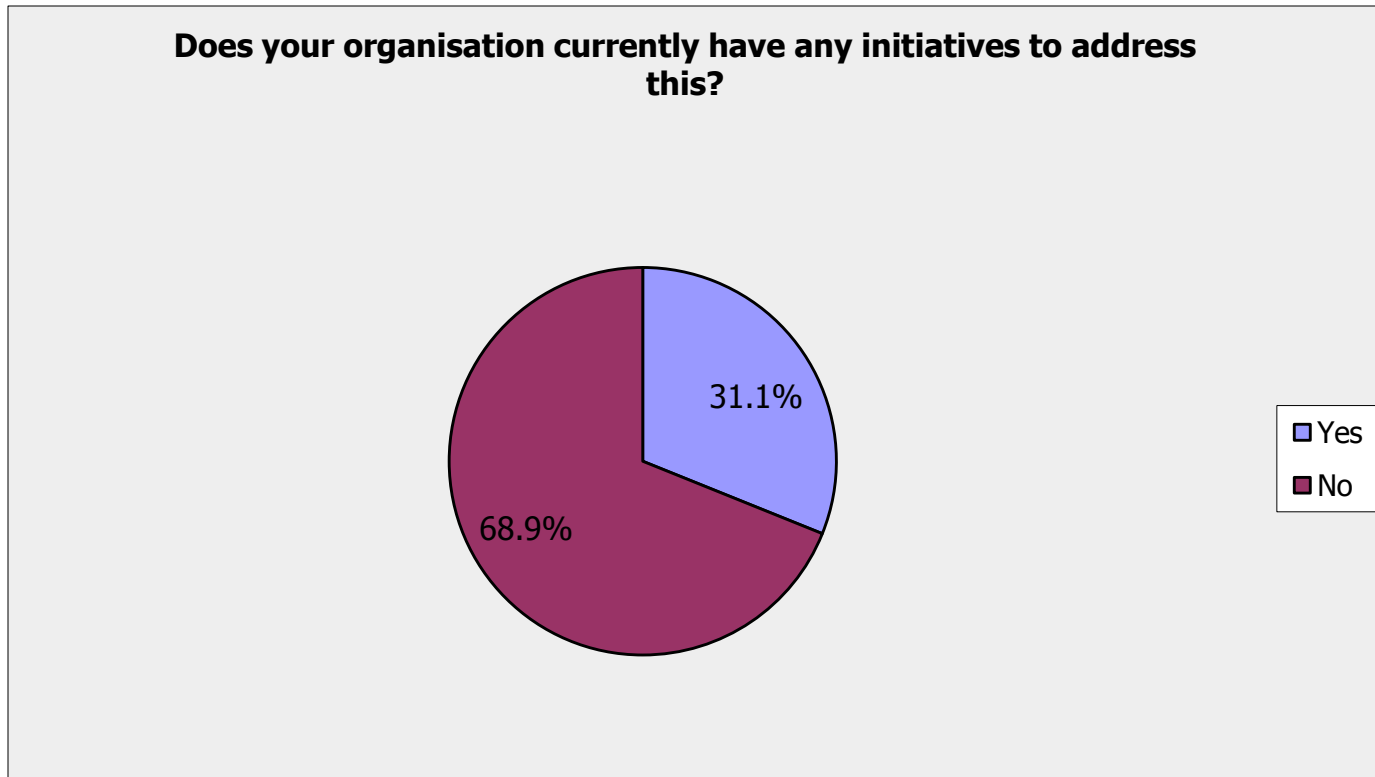
# STEM Qualifications

**What is your highest level qualification in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)?**



- I have no STEM qualifications
- A level or below
- Bachelor's Degree
- Master's Degree
- PhD/DPhil

# “Helping Society Make More Informed Judgements”

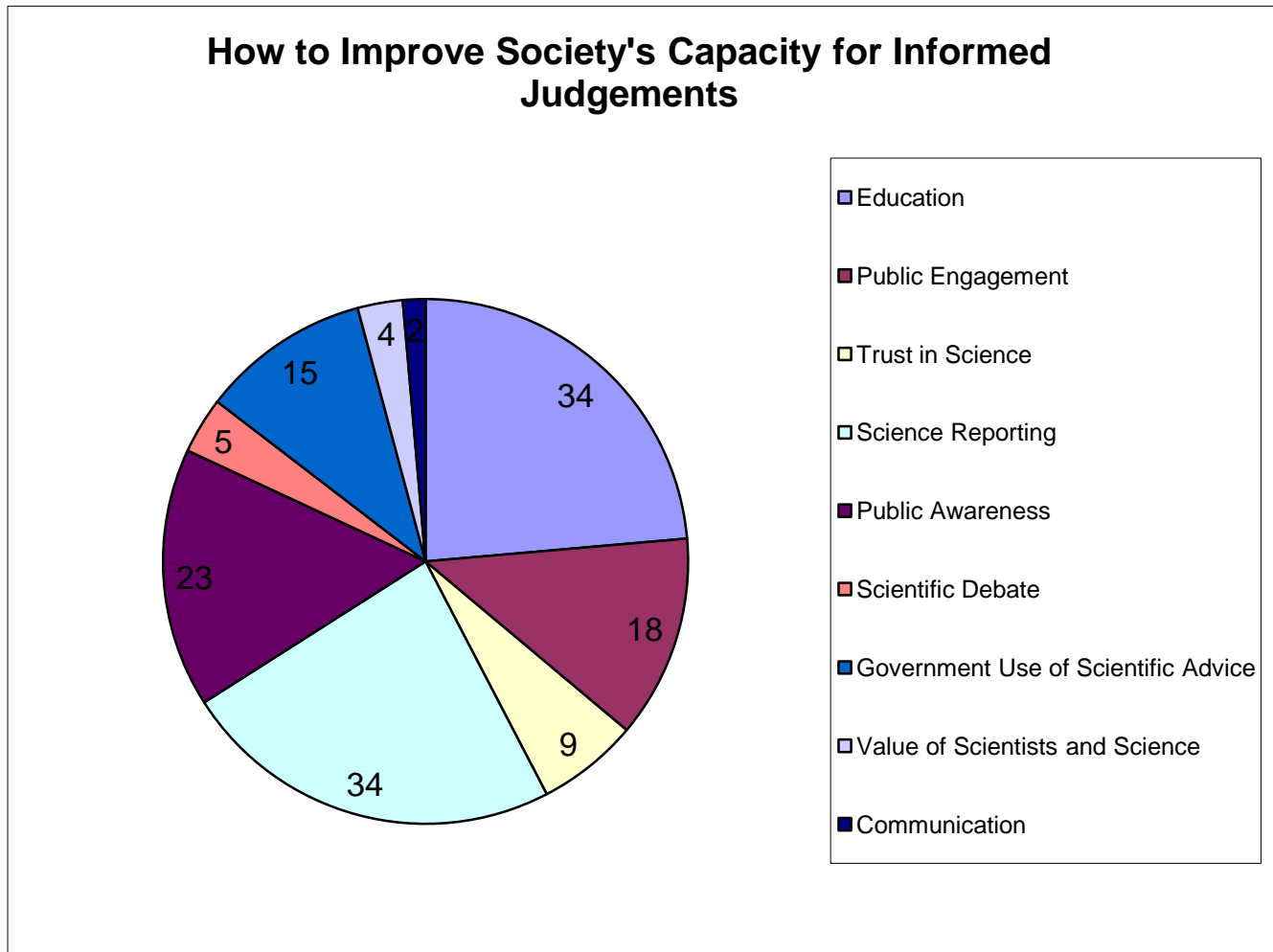


# Sample initiatives

- Existing BIS science & society initiatives:
  - STEM Ambassadors / other schools outreach (7)
  - Sciencewise programme
- Challenge to misinformation and comprehensive website making available key scientific work that underpins and informs our actions / plain English dissemination of research
- Campaign on risk
- Work with Comms Directorate and CSA to raise awareness of departmental science in media
- Support for science museums
- Communities of practice, internal symposiums, shared access groups online

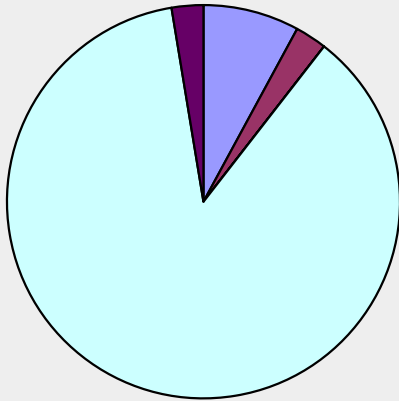
# Helping Society Make More Informed Judgements: Personal Views

Broken down into several themes:



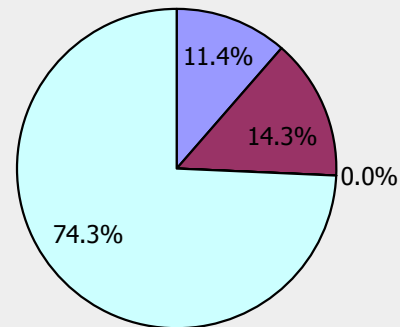
# Ethical Training

At university, were ethics modules offered as part of your degree course?



- Yes, they were compulsory
- Yes, they were optional and I took the option
- Yes, they were optional but I didn't take the option
- No
- I didn't go to university

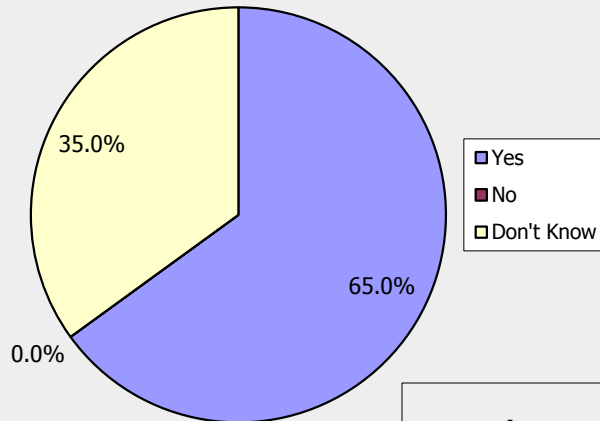
Have you been offered training in ethics since you started work?



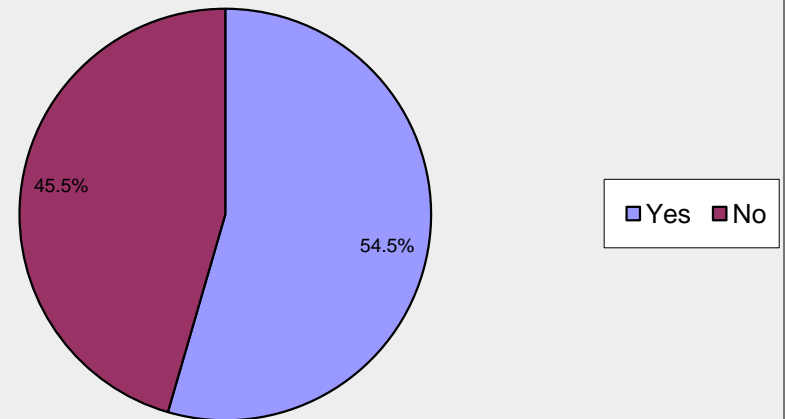
- Yes, it was compulsory
- Yes, it was optional and I took up the option
- Yes, it was optional, but I didn't do it
- No

# Ethical Code Awareness

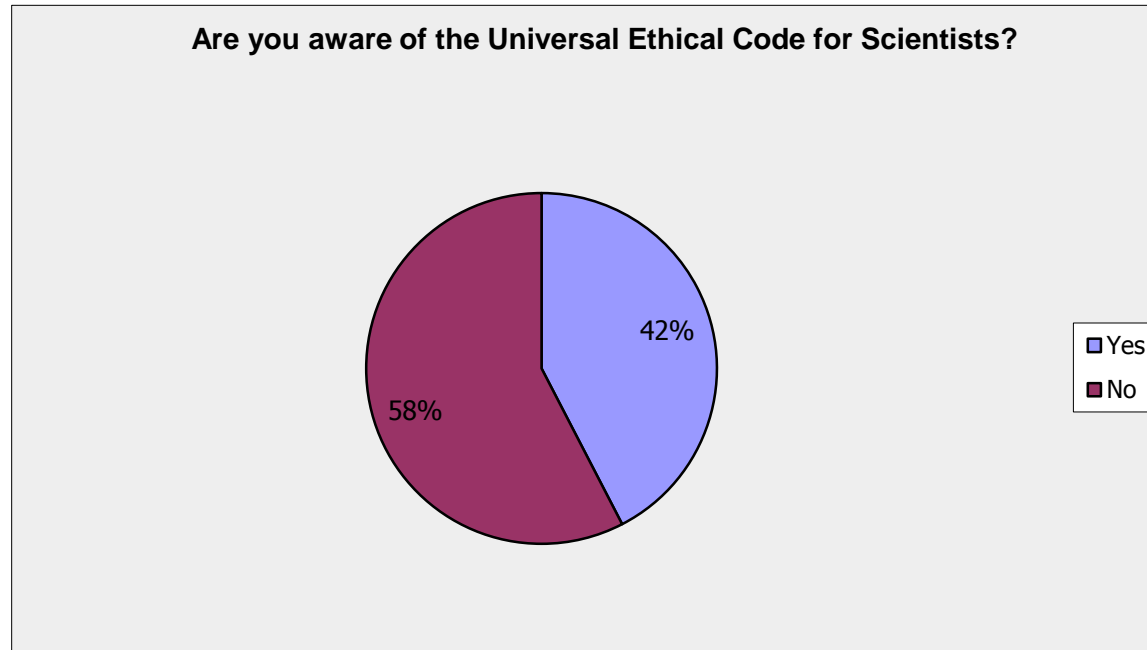
**Does your organisation follow a Code of Practice on ethical behaviour?**



**Are you aware of other ethical codes of practice that are relevant to you in your profession?**

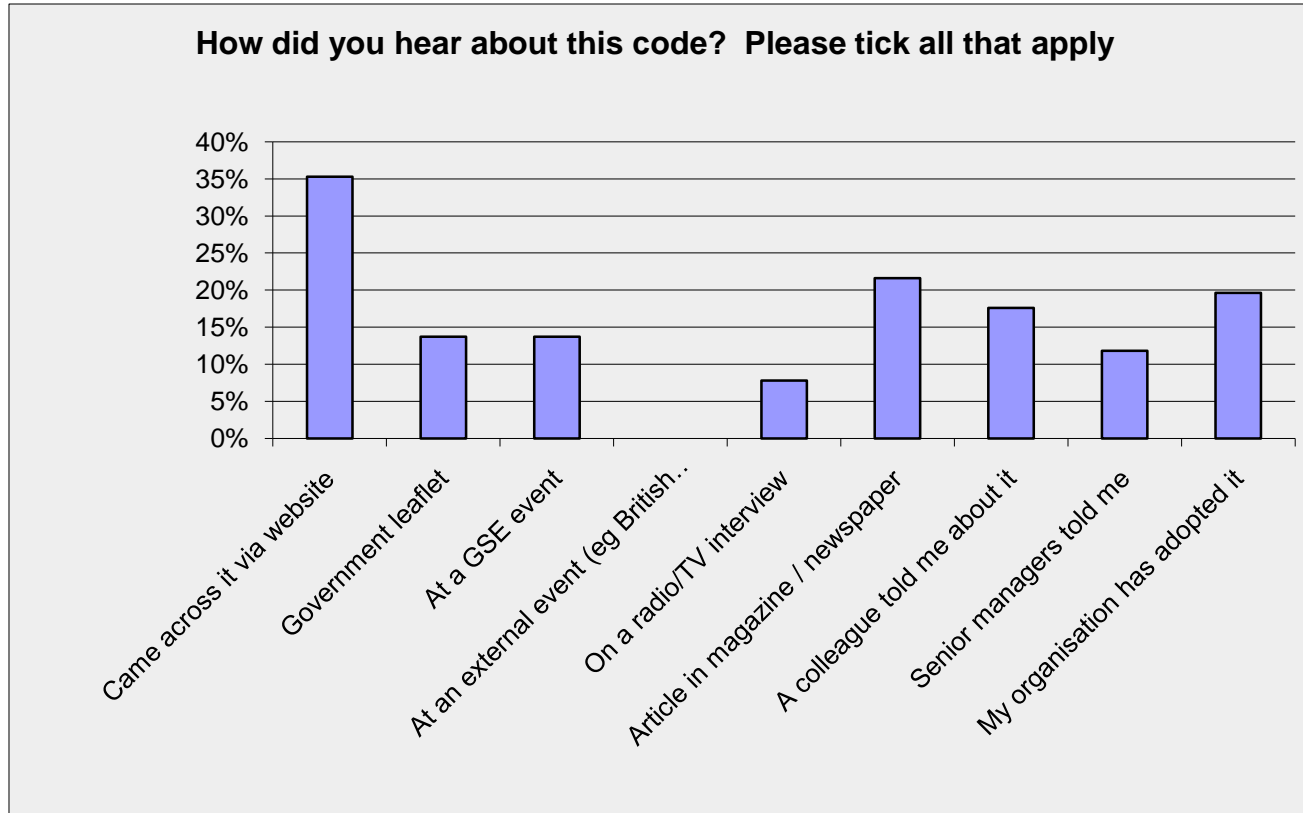


# Awareness of Universal Ethical Code for Scientists



51 of 190 respondents skipped question

# Implementation of Ethical Code



# The Implementers...

- We know that 5 agencies piloted code;
- No data from Forestry Commission or Environment Agency
- Data from pilots shows lack of recognition (VLA renamed)

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Recognised</b>	<b>Total Org Responses</b>
Vet Labs Agency	1	10
DSTL	4	11
<b>Surprising answers from:</b>		
Home Office	3	14
BIS	1	11
HSE	1	12

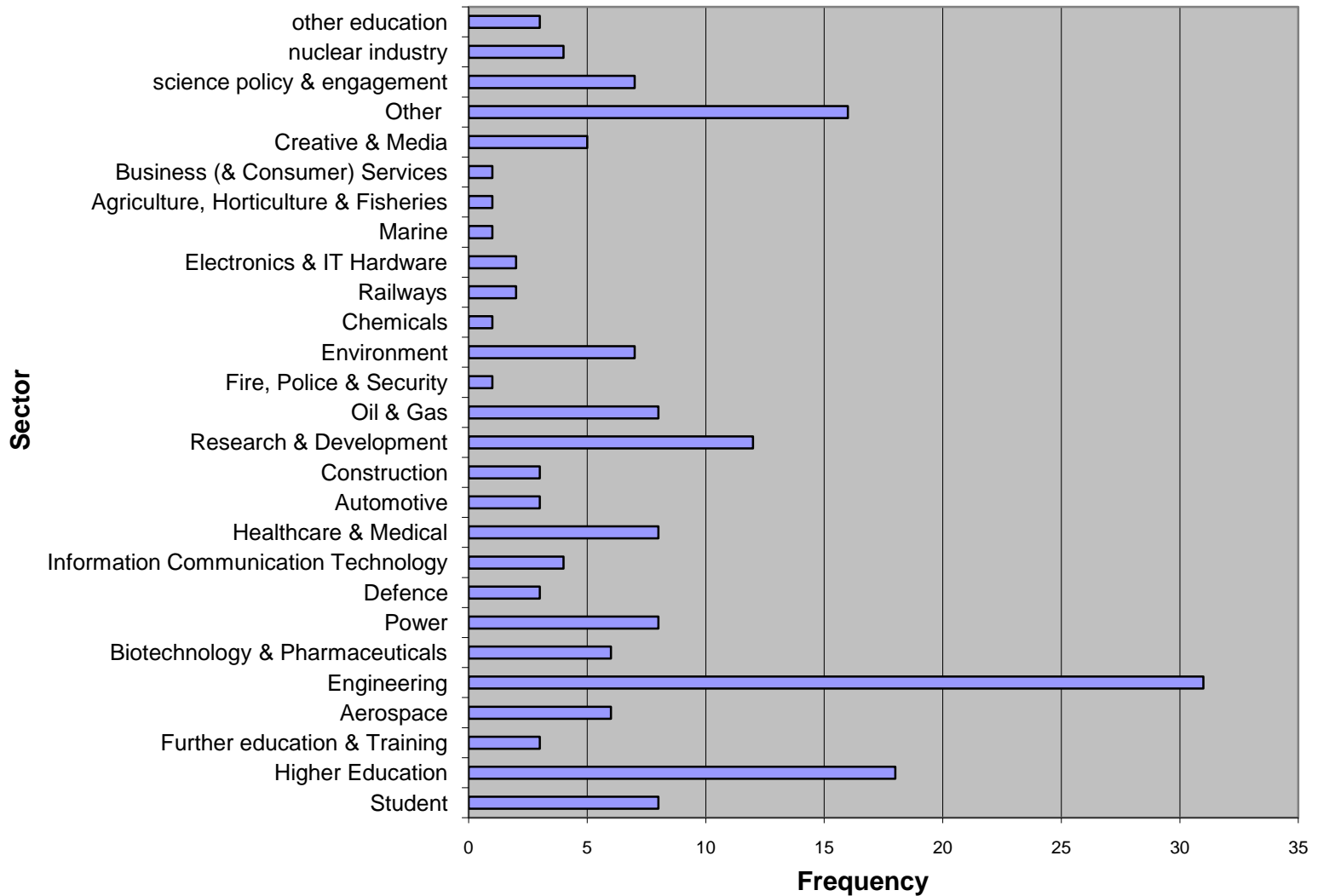
# Awareness by Department

<b>Department/agency</b>	<b>% aware</b>
FSA	28.6
MOD	25.9
CLG	50.0
VLA	41.7
DSTL	54.5
BIS	25.0
Defra	13.0
HSE	25.0
Home Office	35.7
Transport	66.7
MHRA	66.7
Health	50.0

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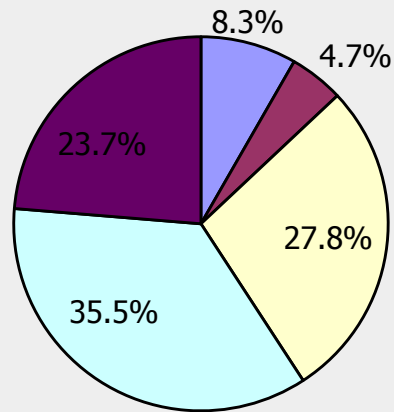
# The STEM ambassador survey

# Respondents by Sector



# STEM Qualifications

**What is your highest level qualification in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)?**



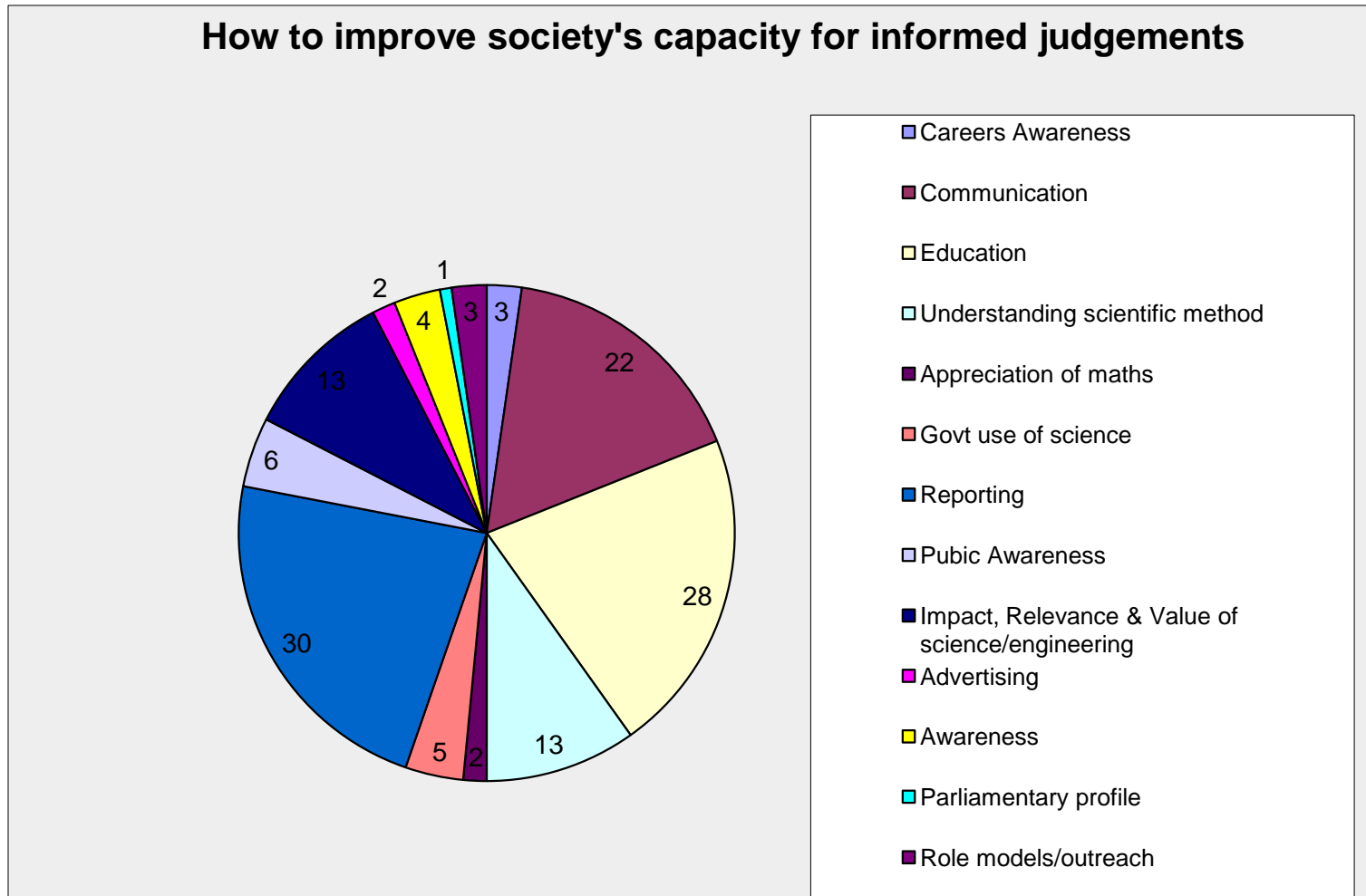
- My qualifications are in a different area
- A level or equivalent
- Bachelor's Degree
- Master's Degree
- PhD/DPhil

# Sample initiatives

- As expected, outreach and inreach with schools
- Participation in existing BIS initiatives
  - National Science & Engineering Week
  - STEM ambassadors
- Company-specific schemes working with schools
- Science communication training for researchers
- Science Festival
- Initiatives with journalists & politicians
- Blogs and online events
- Open events
- Community meetings

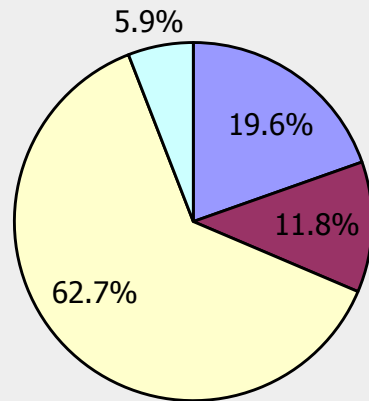
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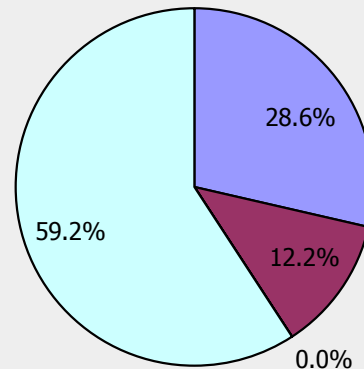
# Ethical Training

At university, were ethics modules offered as part of your degree course?



- Yes, they were compulsory
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Have you been offered ethical training since you started work?

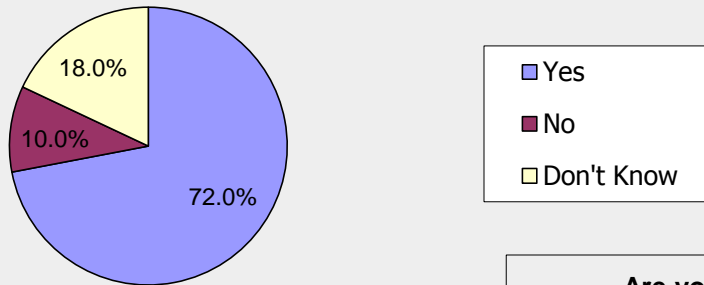


- Yes, it was compulsory
- Yes, it was optional and I took up the option
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- No

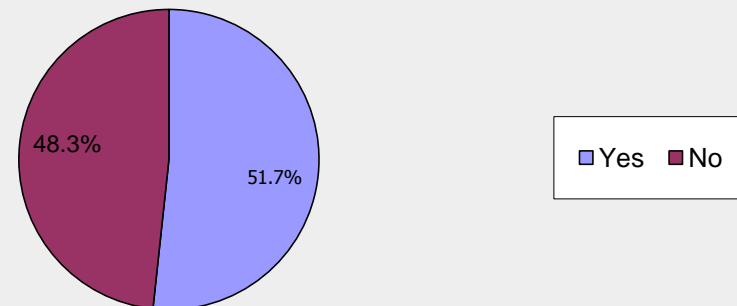
- Relatively higher level of training in private sector
- Still reluctance to tackle question

# Awareness of Ethical Codes

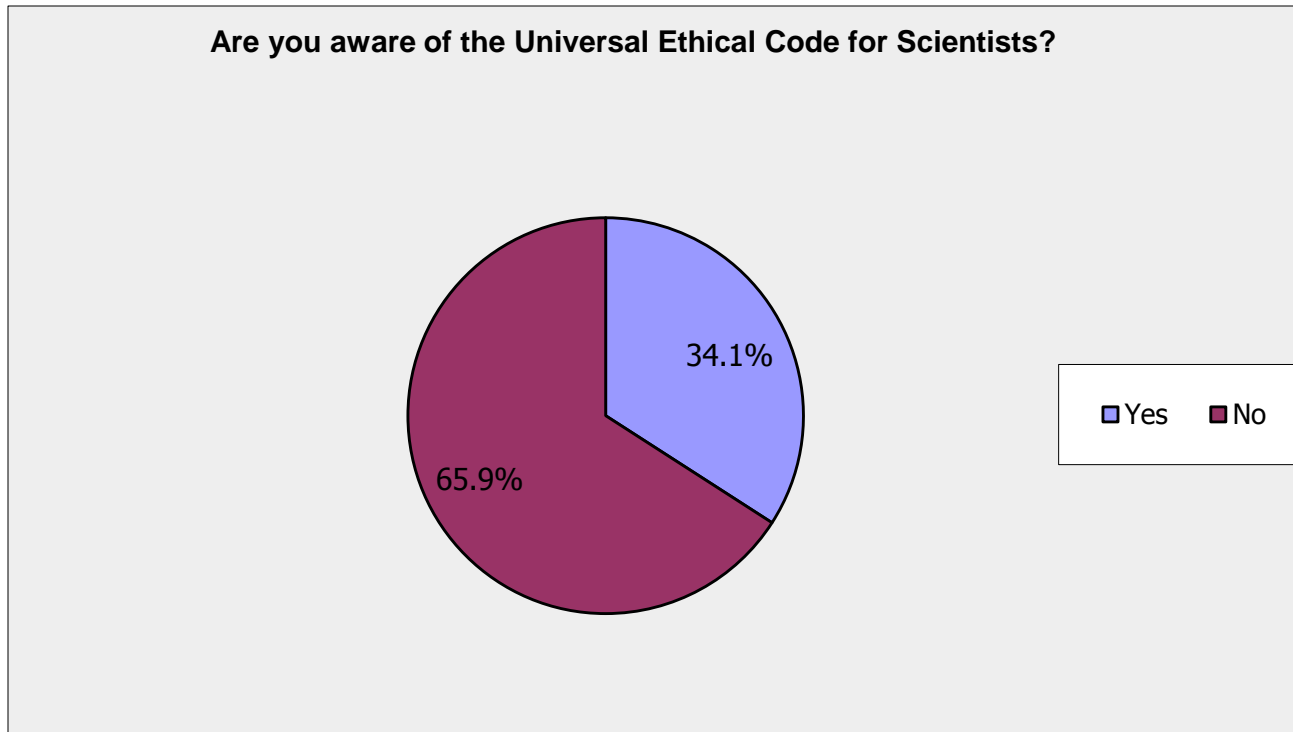
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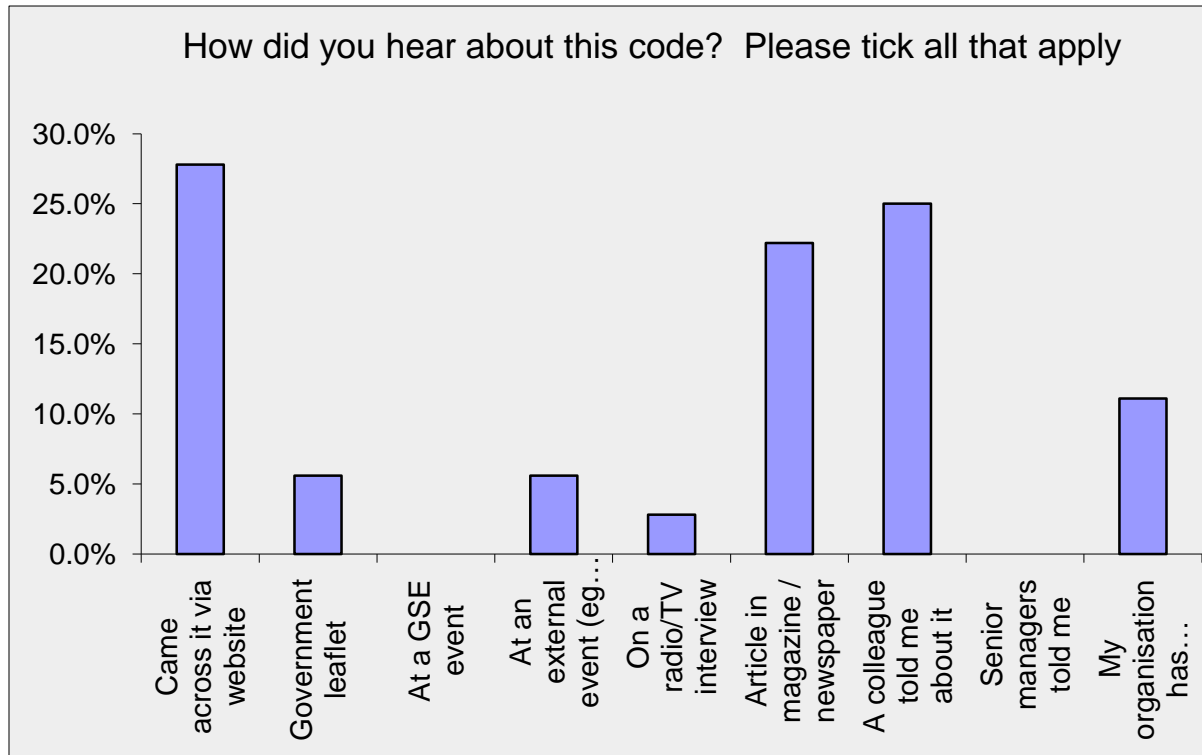


# Awareness of Universal Ethical Code for Scientists



37 of 169 respondents skipped question

# Implementation of Universal Ethical Code



- 4 organisations claim to have adopted
- Can't easily identify who
- Sectors are ICT, healthcare/medical; R&D and Fire/Police/Security
- None claimed to have had ethical training since starting work