

# **Information without boundaries through use of Electronic Resources at Walter Sisulu University (WSU), Nelson Mandela Drive site campus, Mthatha: a case study**

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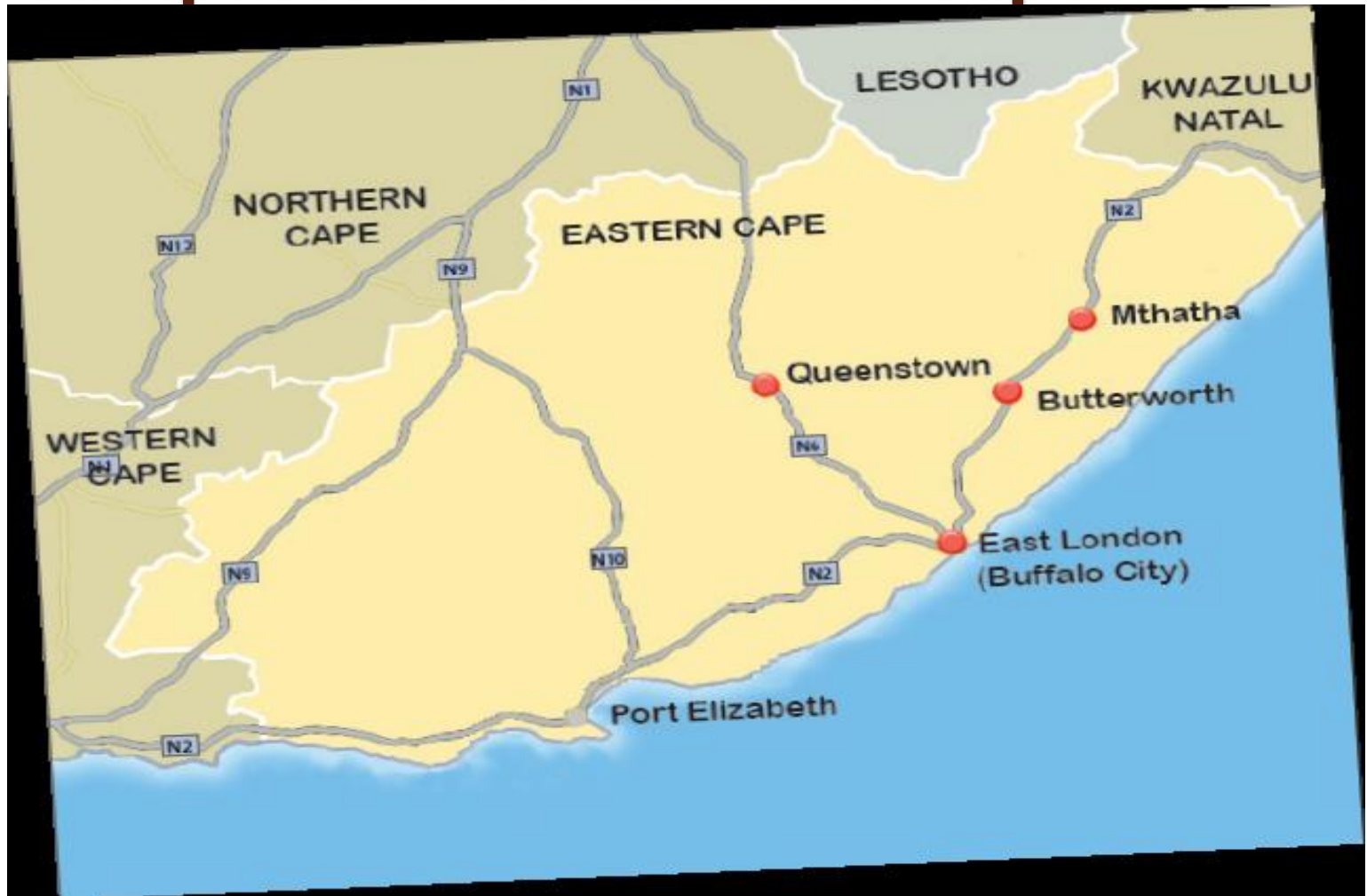
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# Introduction

- Academic libraries have drastically changed from traditional print materials to electronic resources.
- E-Resources are currently very important as they give information that is up to date, information that can be accessed anywhere, at anytime, crossing geographical boundaries (Sudharma, and Khan, 2009).
- Users do not wait for library to open.

# Map shows Walter Sisulu University Campuses in the Eastern Cape

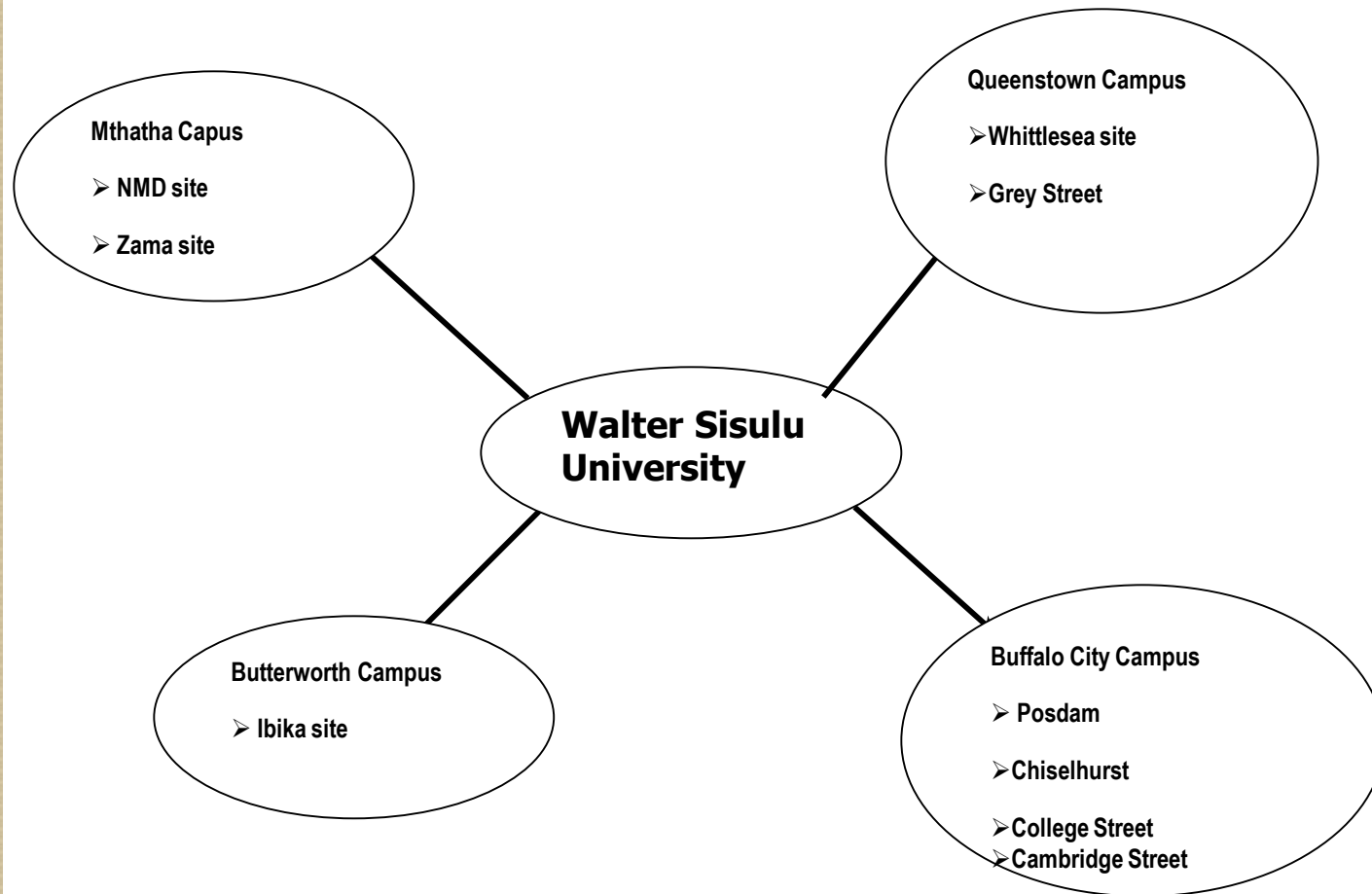


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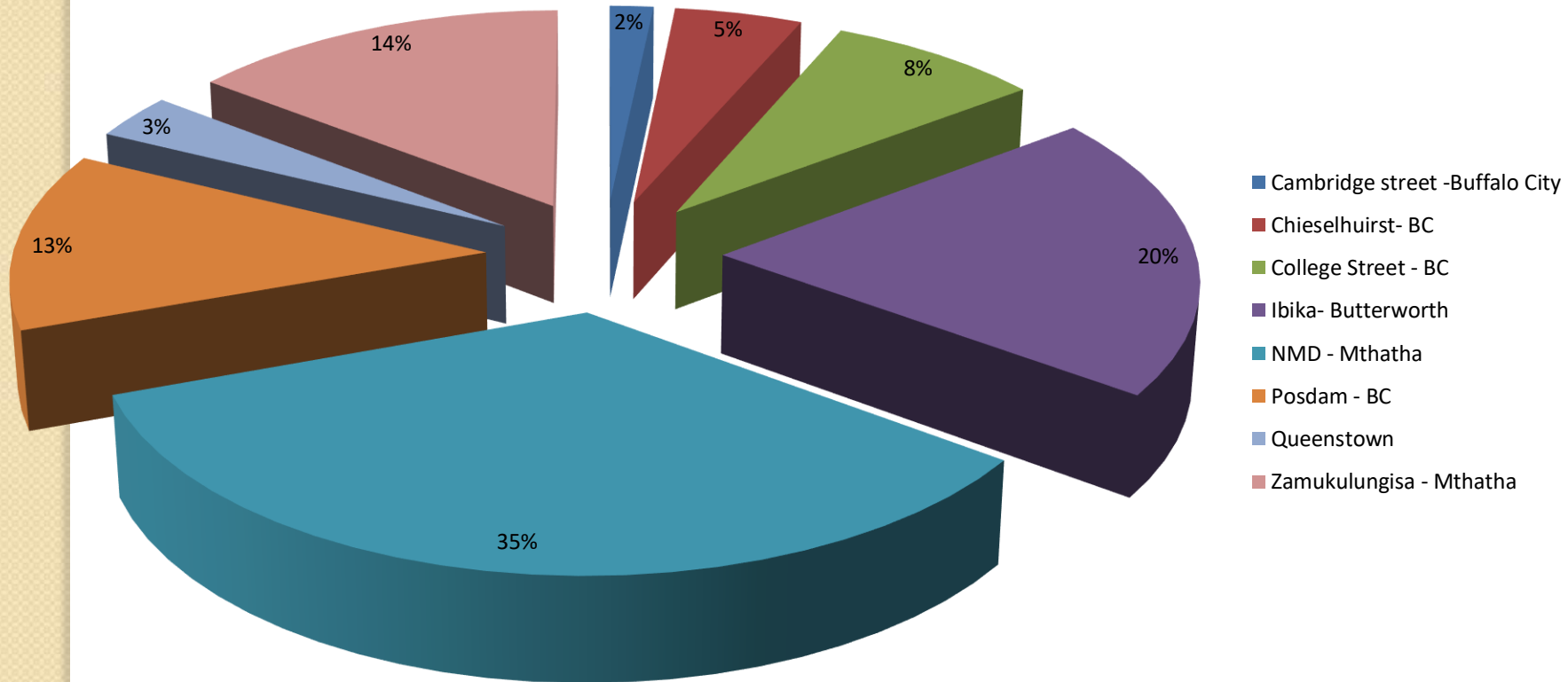
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## WSU Students 2014 Enrolments across all sites



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# Electronic resources in context

- **Electronic resources:** resources in which information is stored electronically and which are accessible through electronic systems and networked.
- E-Resource is a broad term that includes a variety of different publishing models, including OPACs, CD-ROMs, Online Databases, E-journals, E-Books, Internet Resources, Print-On Demand (POD), etc.



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# WSU and E-Resources

- WSU as multi campus institution subscribes to e-resources or online databases in order to provide information without boundaries.
- Installation of Wi-Fi connection hot spot to all campuses contribute to the use of e-resources.



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# List of WWSU online databases

- EBSCO Host
- Science Direct
- ProQuest
- SA E-publications
- Juta Law
- Emerald
- IEEE
- Nexus
- Web of Science
- Access Medicine
- Access Engineering
- Sci-Finder
- Web of Science
- Jstor



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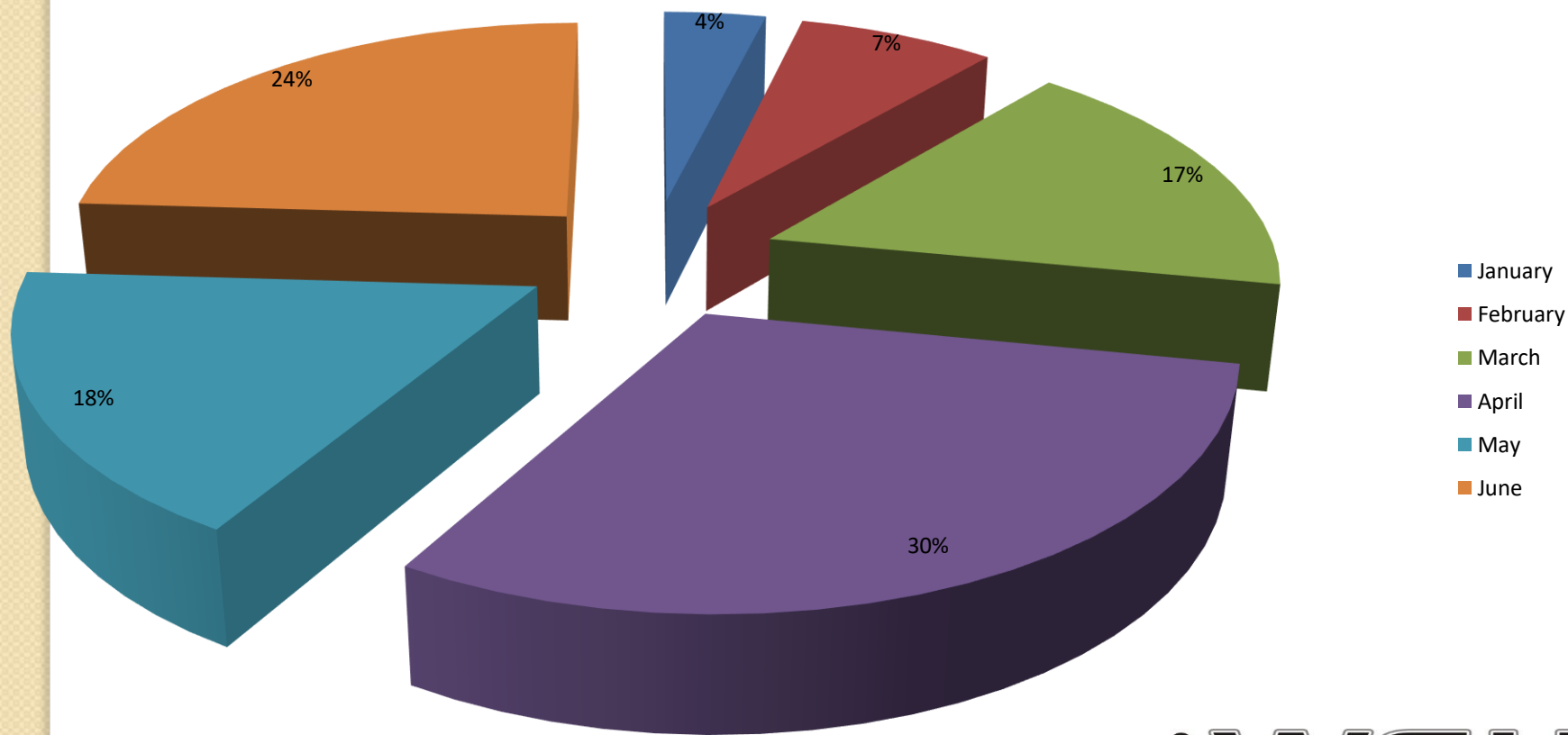
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# WSU E-Resources usage statistics from January to June 2014

EBSCO usage stats



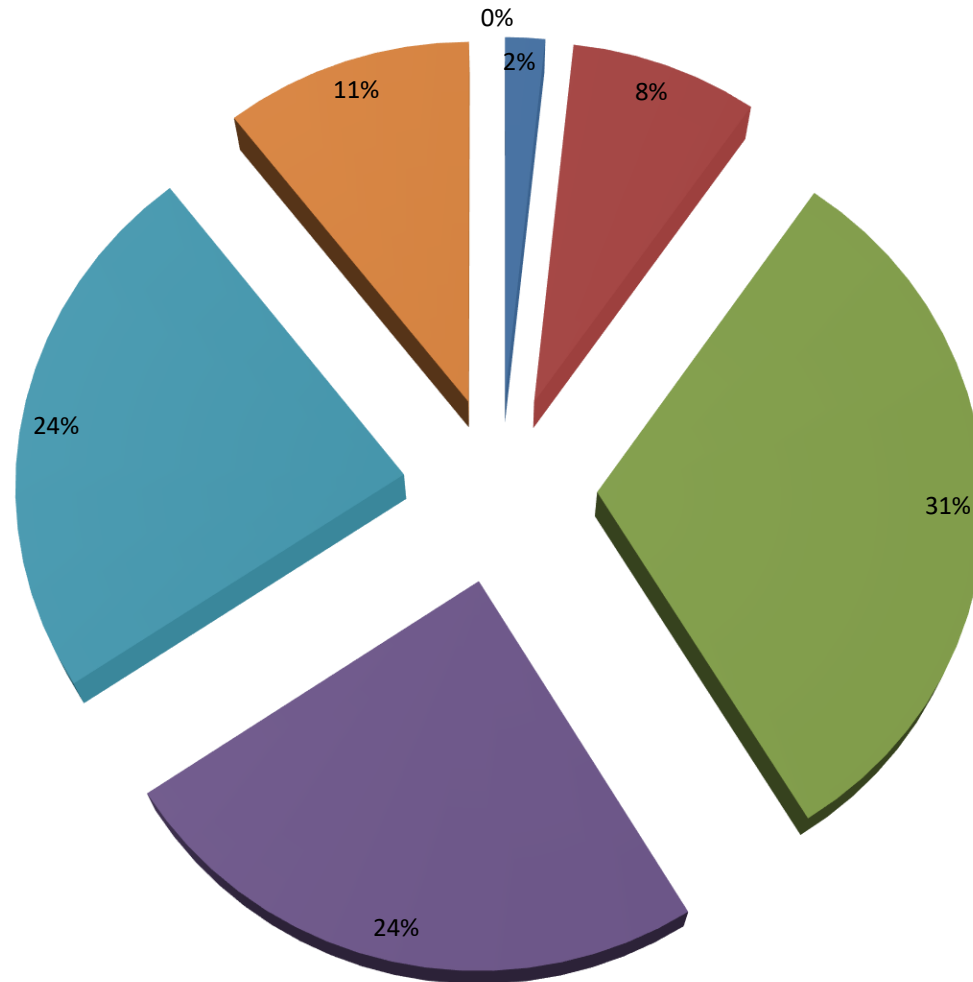
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## WSU ProQuest usage stats



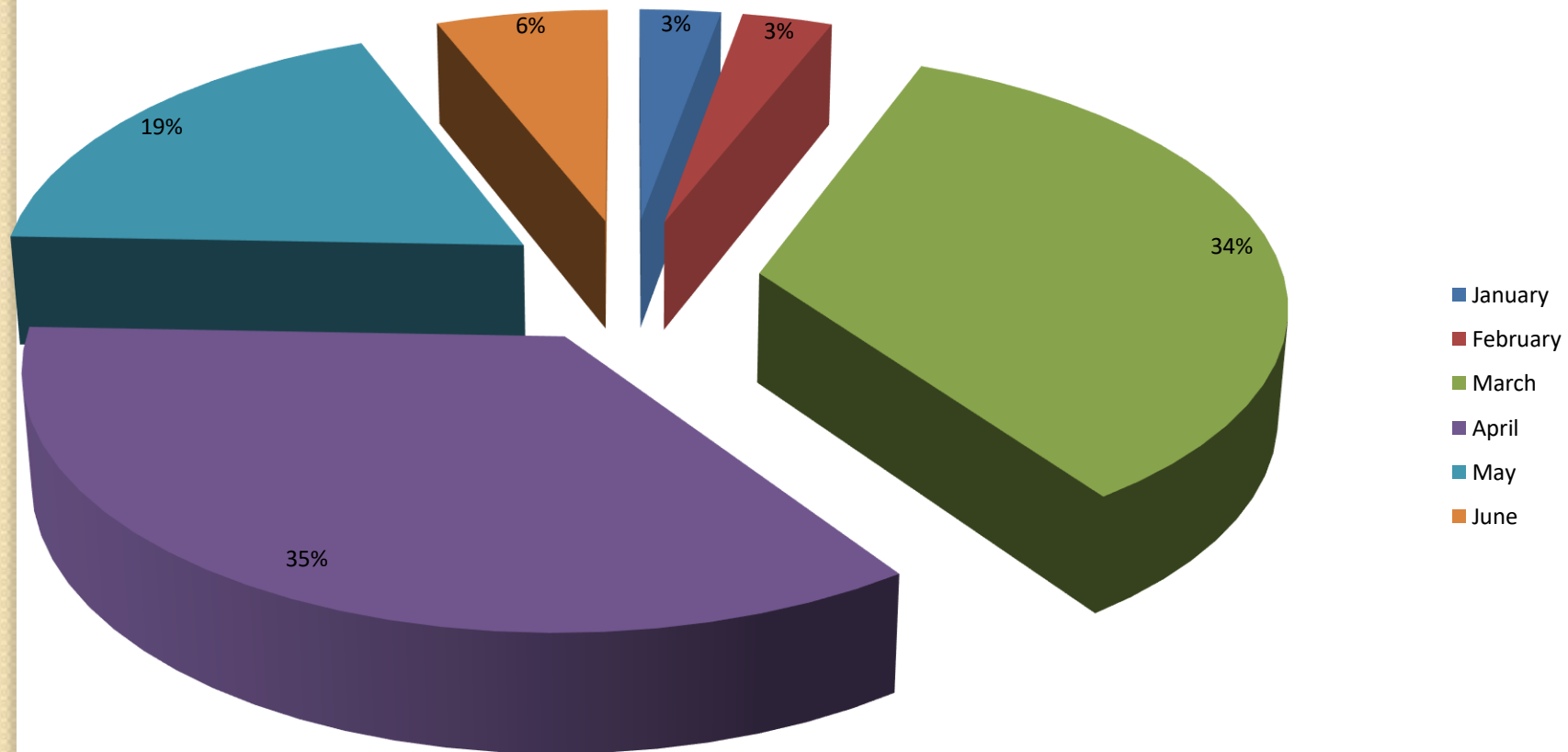
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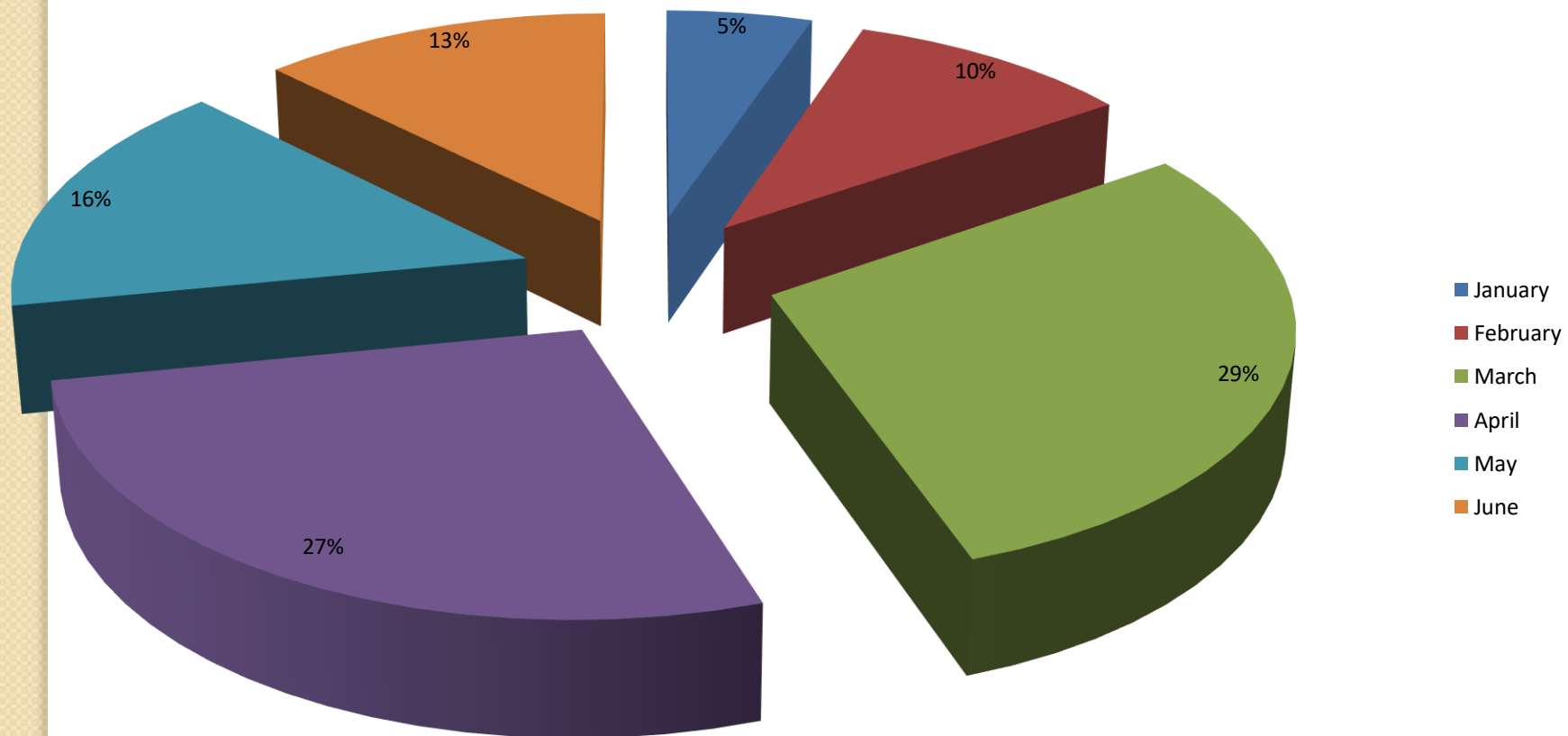
## Science Direct e-books usage stats



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## Science Direct e-journals usage stats



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# WSU Marketing Strategies for E-Resources

- e-mails
- Information literacy programmes
- Posters
- Information Road Shows
- Faculty boards
- One on one to academics
- Library orientation
- Collaboration with Research units
- Social media like facebook



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# Objectives of the study

- To understand students' use of e-resources at NMD site campus.
- To know if students are trained on how to access e-resources.
- To determine students' challenges towards using e-resources.



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# Methodology

- Case study approach
- Based on a structured questionnaire

## Response rates

- Questionnaires distributed = 300
  - Response received = 196
  - Percentage of response = 58%



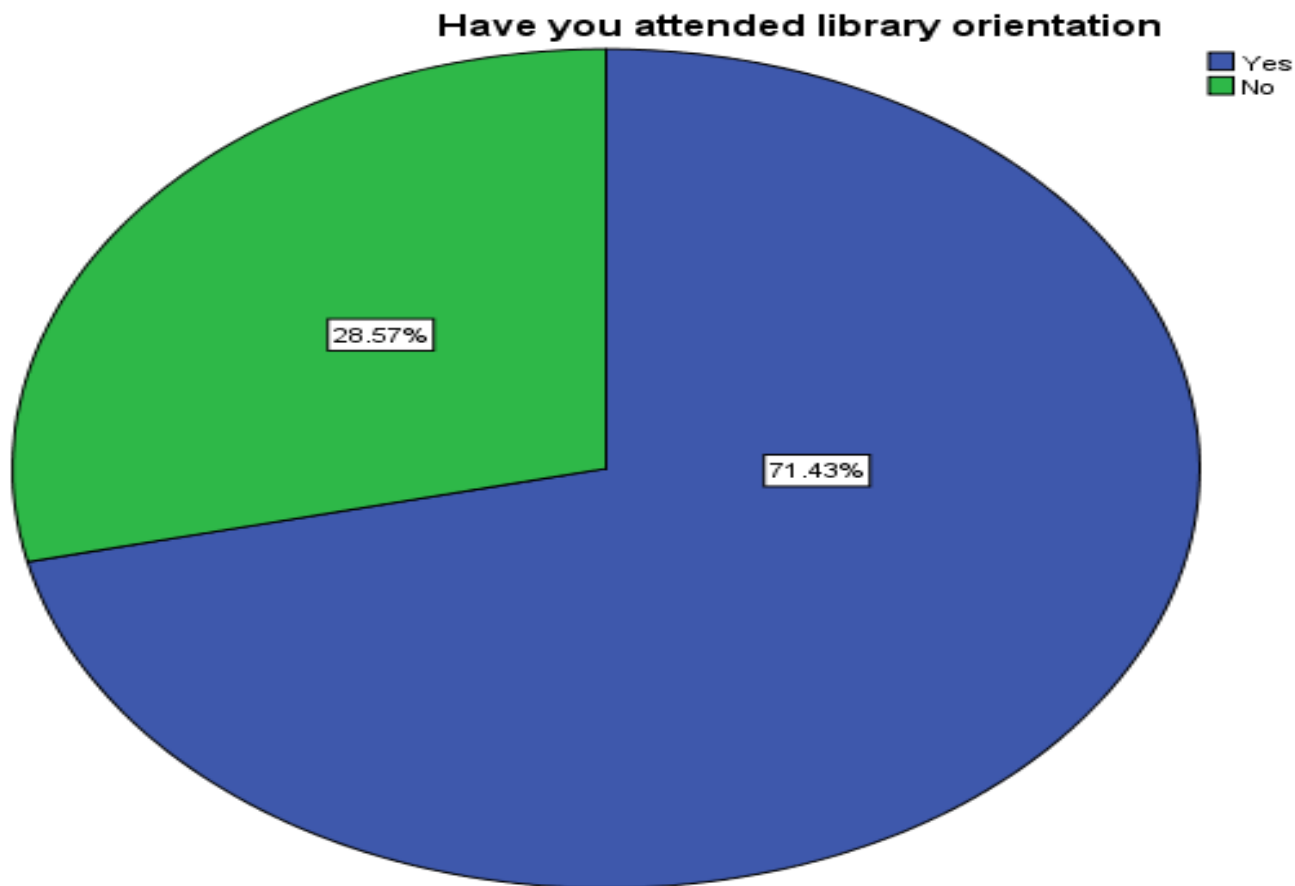
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# Students attended Library Orientation at NMD site



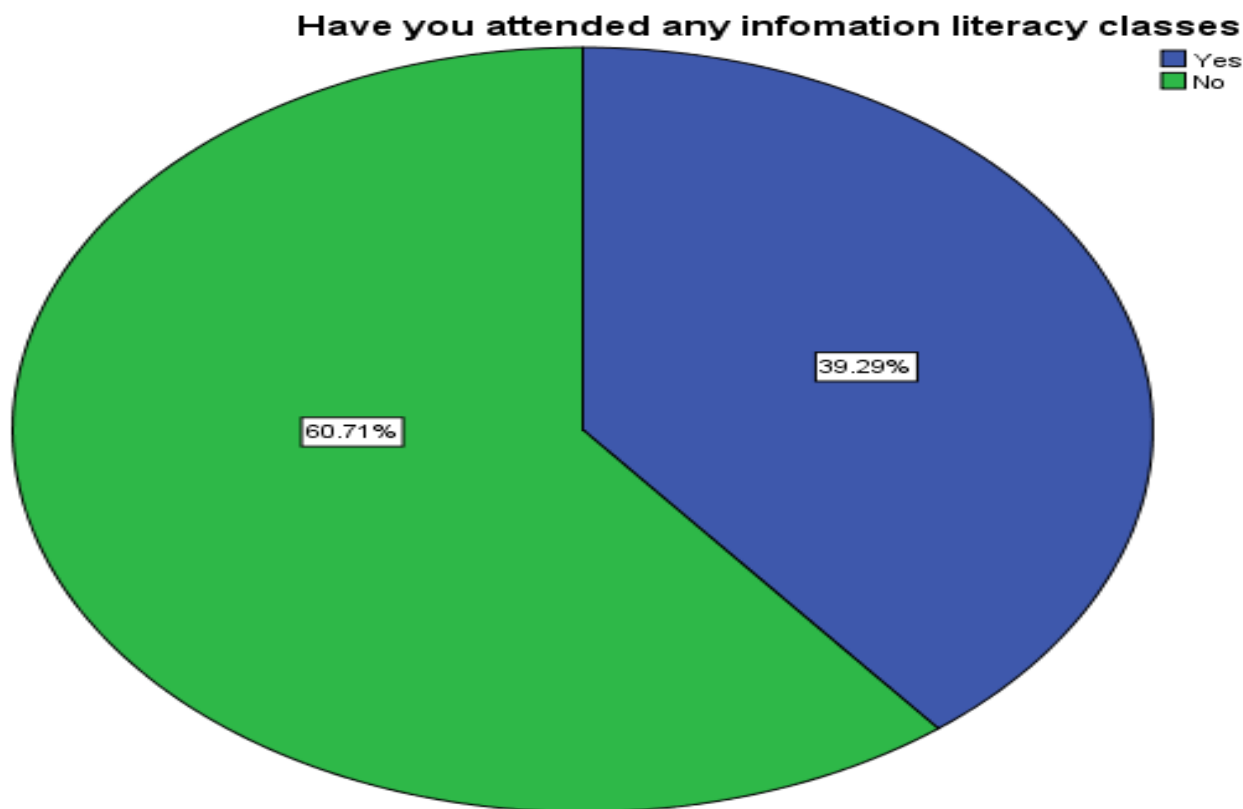
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# Information Literacy training on how to access information in the library and electronically



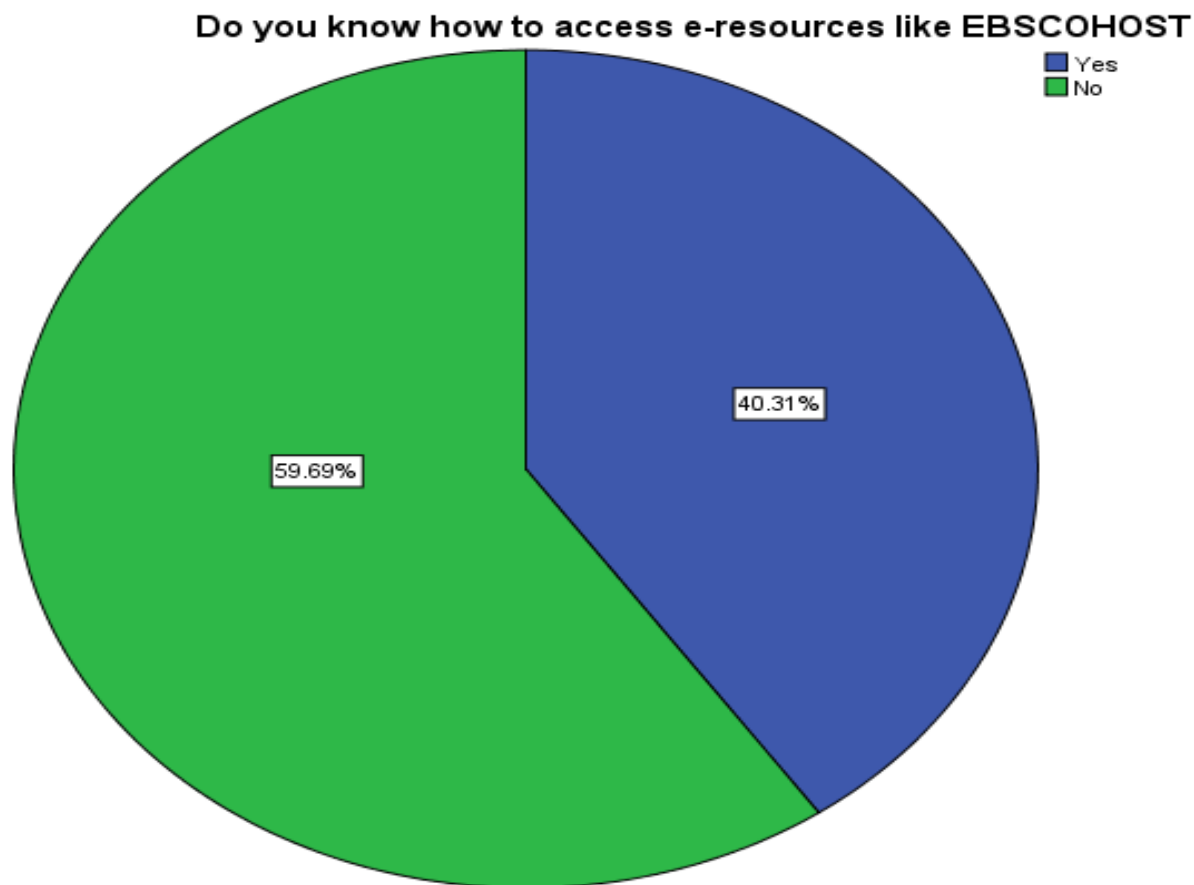
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# Knowledge on how to access e-resources



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# Training on how to access e-resources at NMD site



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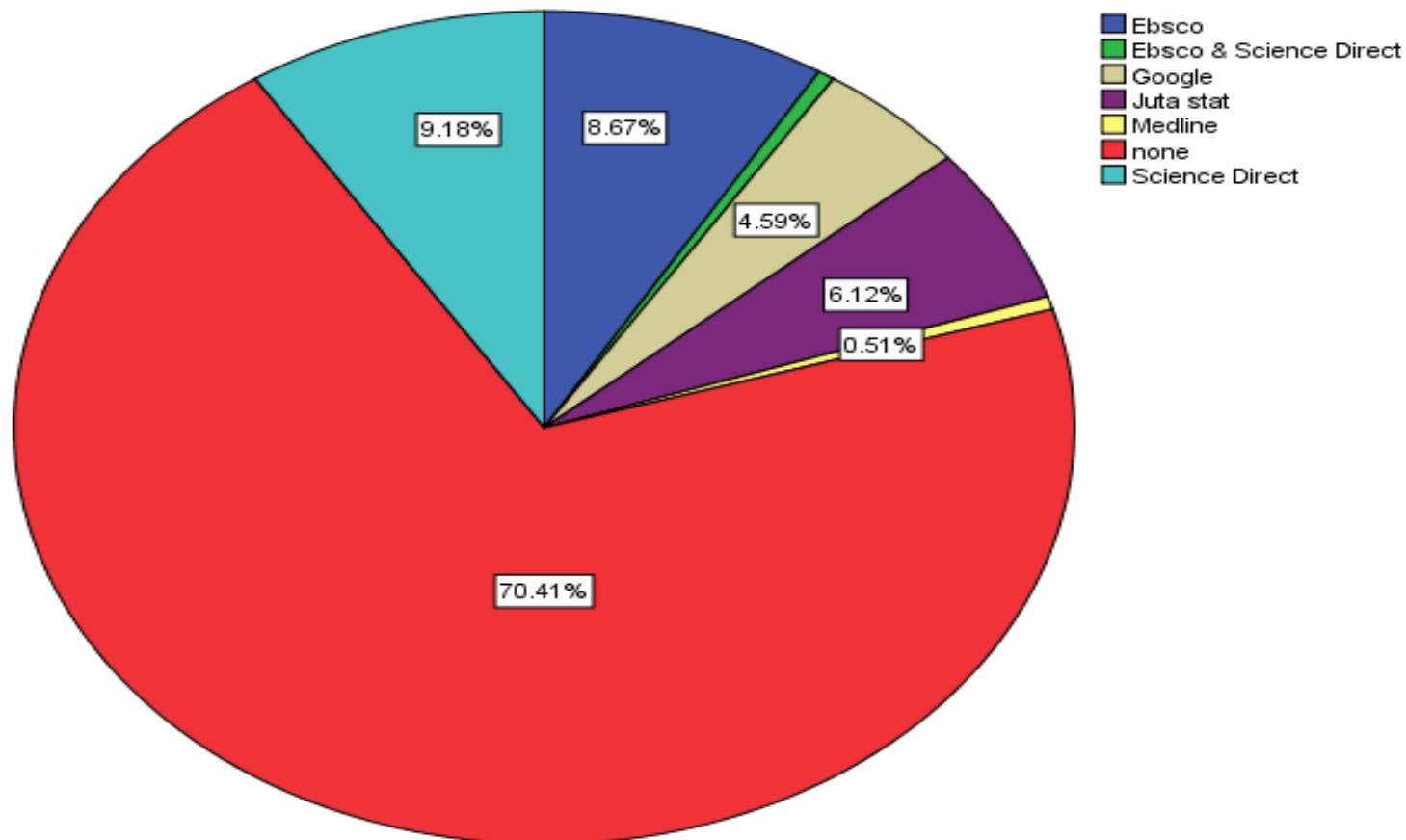
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Walter Sisulu University

# Which databases that are frequently used.

Which online databases do you frequently use for your information searches like EBSCO HOST



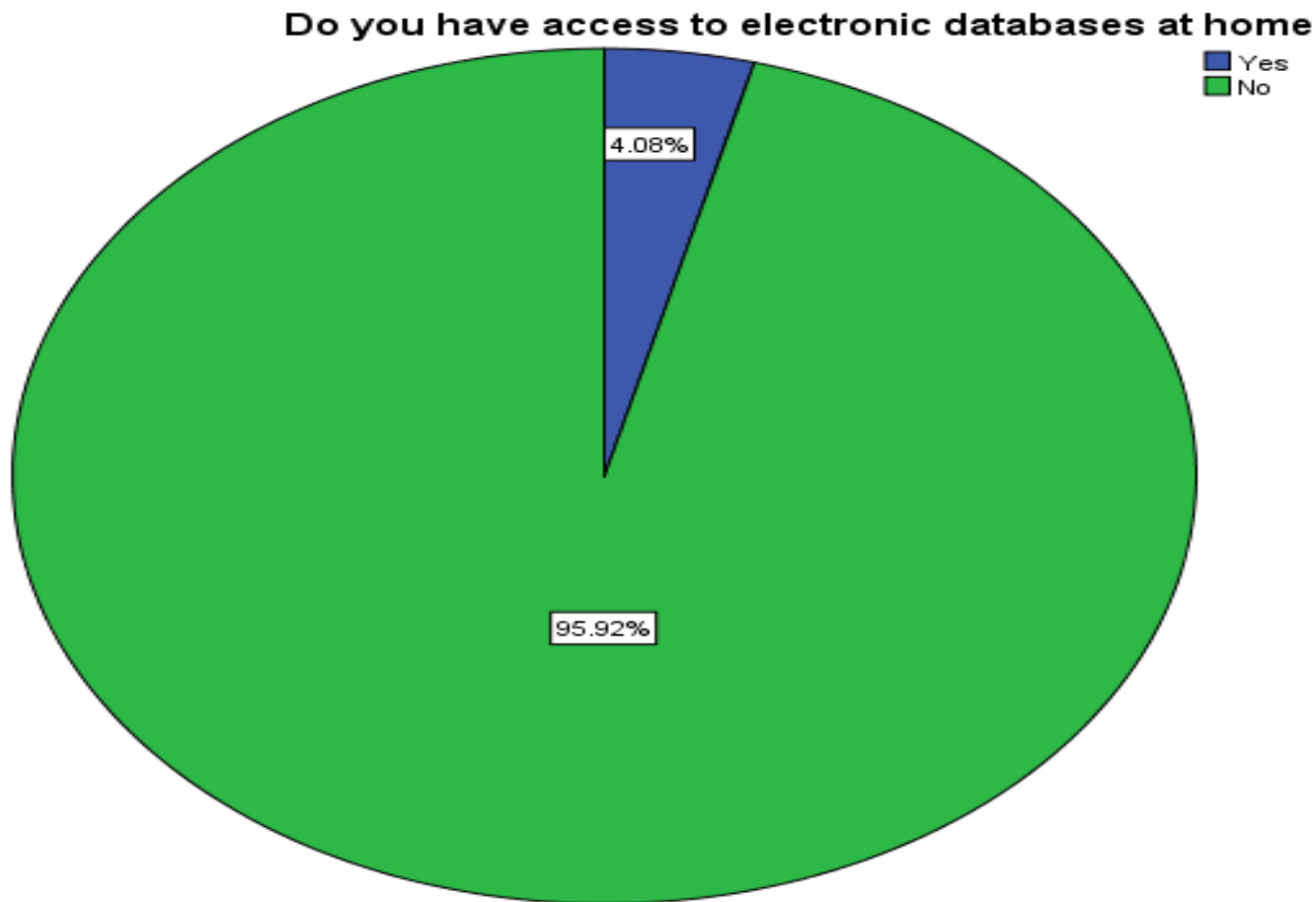
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# Students that have accessed My Account for e-resources off campus



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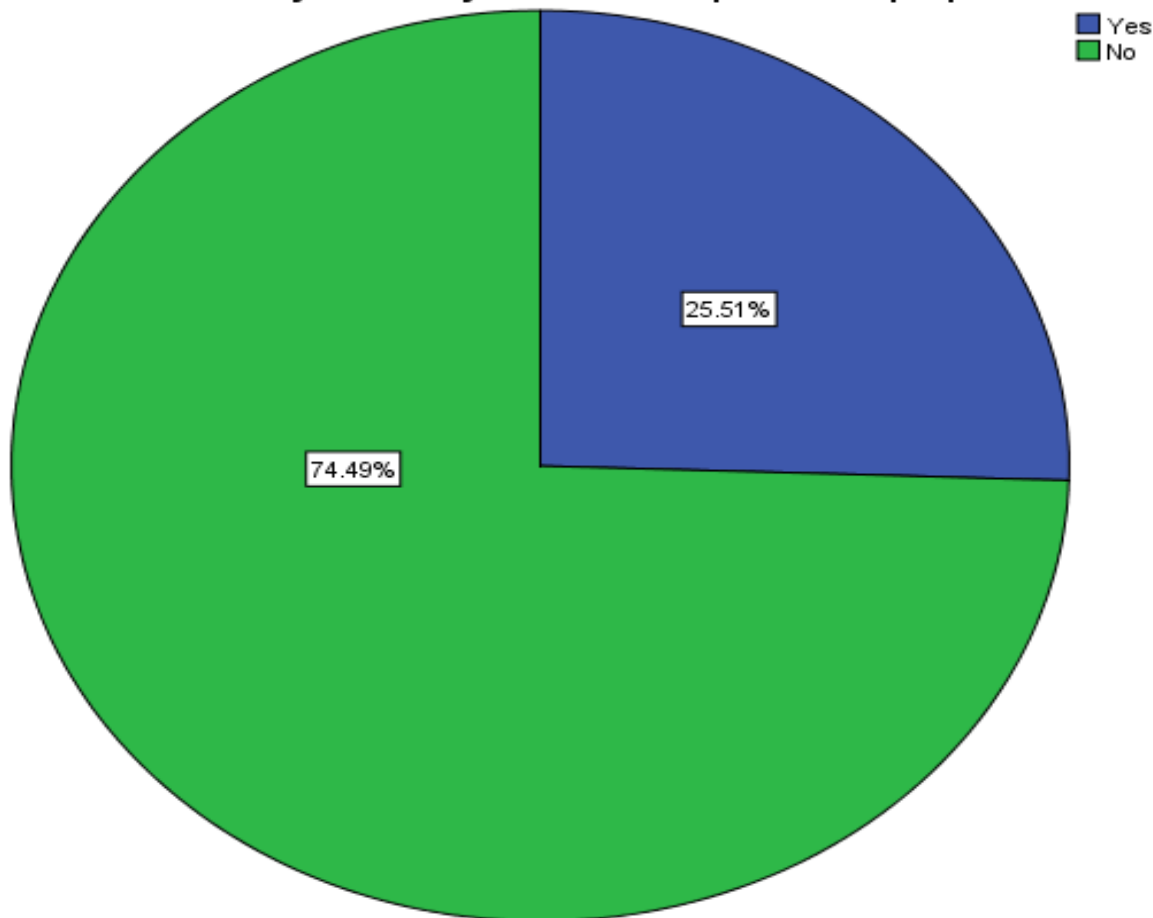
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# Students with PCs to access Wi-Fi at WSU libraries

Do you have your own computer or laptop with internet



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# Recently WSU Science Extended programme had issued Tablets to students



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# Challenges of WWSU towards use of e-resources

- Lack of big Computer labs with enough PCs
- Computer literacy skills to academics and students
- Lack of co-operation from Lecturers to release students for e-resource trainings



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# Conclusion

- There is a lot of trainings needed in order to ensure that users access information without boundaries.
- Maximum usage of electronic resources depends on the effective marketing or promotion
- ICT infrastructure should in improved, Wi-Fi should installed in their residences.

# Thank you

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