The "Digital Landscape in Greece" Web Survey

This poster aims to highlight some of the results of a (still in progress) research on current trends in digital work practices in the Humanities and Social Sciences in Greece, conducted by the project "Digital Landscape" in collaboration with APOLLONIS Infrastructure[1] and its two components, CLARIN:EL[2] and DARIAH-GR/DYAS[3]. Here we present some preliminary findings, focusing mostly on the impact of the pandemic on said practices and the participants' expectations from RIs.

AUTHORS

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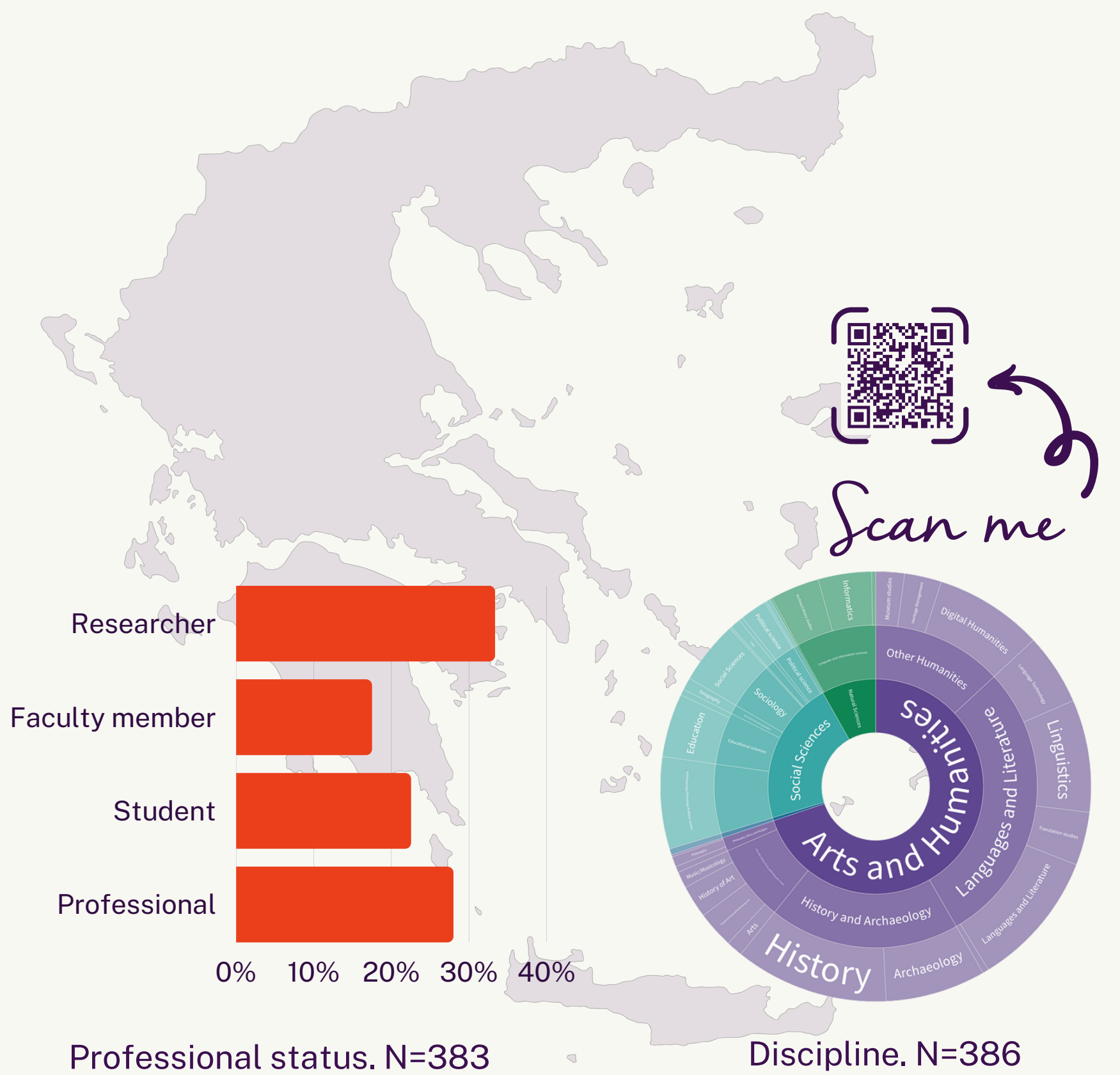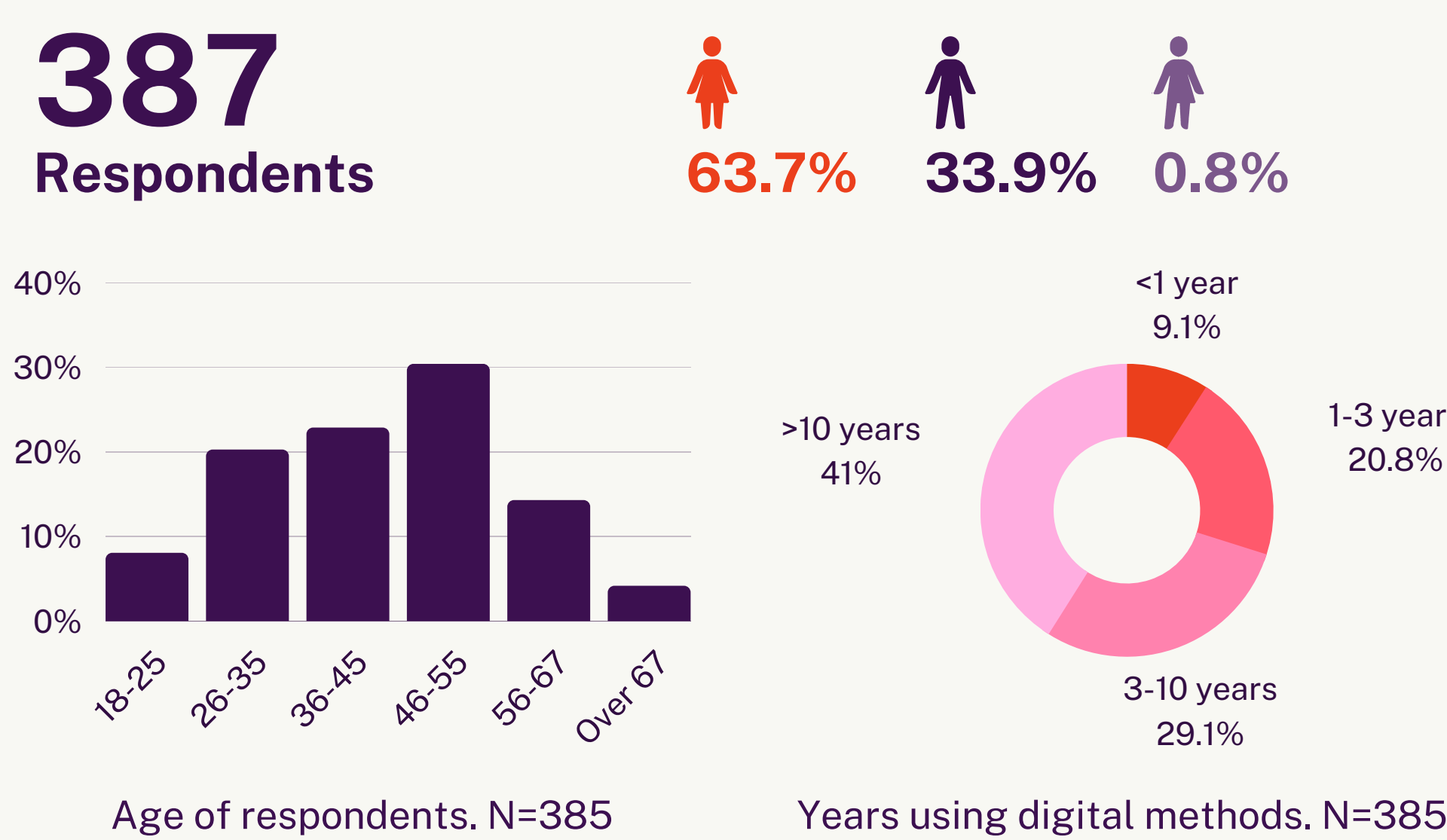
AFFILIATIONS

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INTRODUCTION

Funded by the Hellenic Foundation for Research and Innovation (HFRI), the project "Digital Landscape"[1], is surveying the ways of working in the Humanities and Social Sciences in Greece, including the impact of the pandemic, to better understand current trends and needs, and plan effectively for the future. To this end we carried out a web survey and six focus groups targeted to the Humanities and Social Sciences research communities of Greece. Here we present some of the findings of the survey conducted between Oct. 2022 and Feb. 2023, in which we gathered data on digital research practices, tools and scholarly activities, paying special attention to the impact of COVID-19 on DH research and practice.
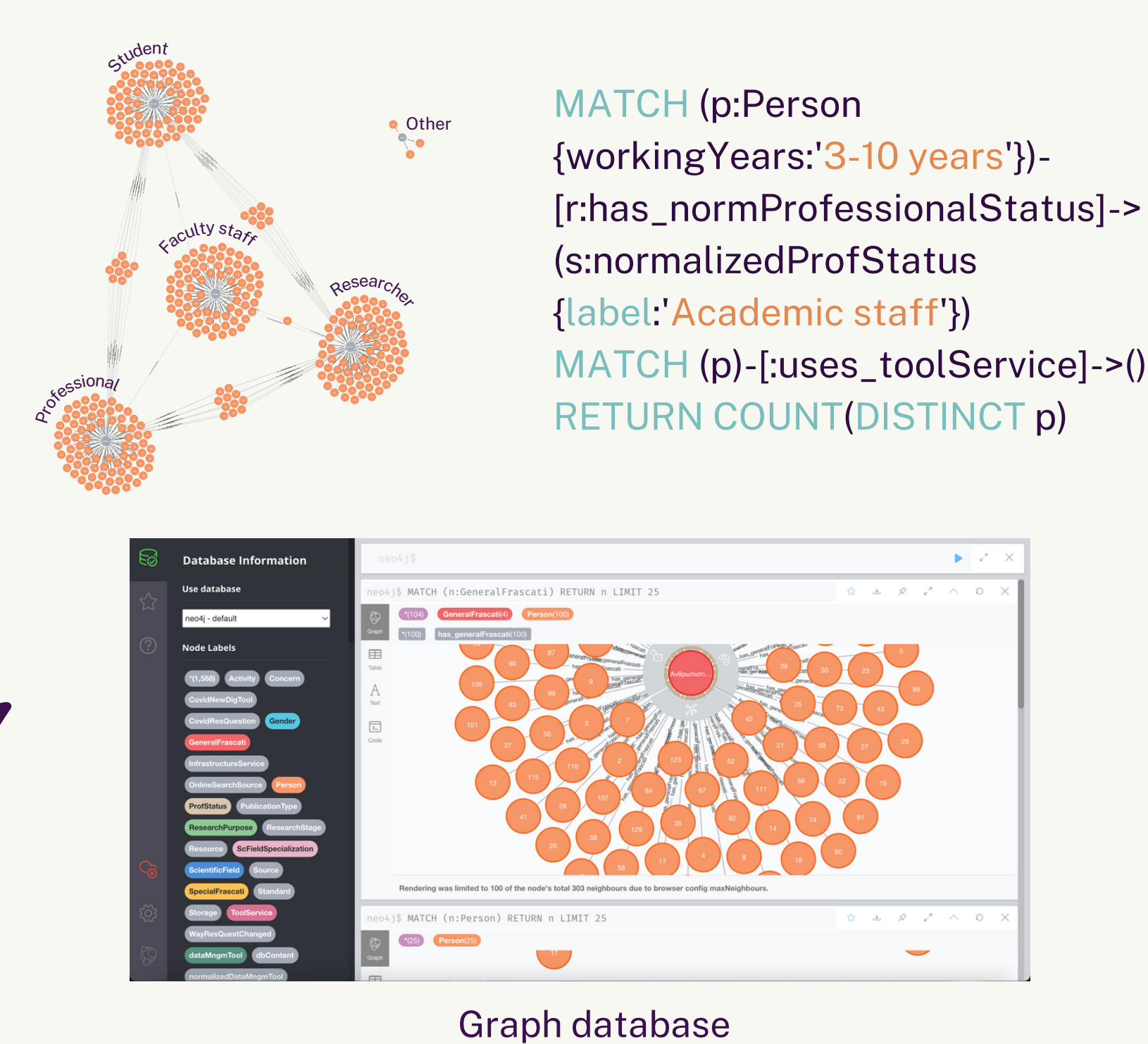
SAMPLE DEMOGRAPHICS

387 Respondents

♀ **63.7%** ♂ **33.9%** ⚧ **0.8%**

Age of respondents. N=385

Years using digital methods. N=385
- <1 year 9.1%
- 1-3 years 20.8%
- 3-10 years 29.1%
- >10 years 41%

Professional status. N=383
- Researcher
- Faculty member
- Student
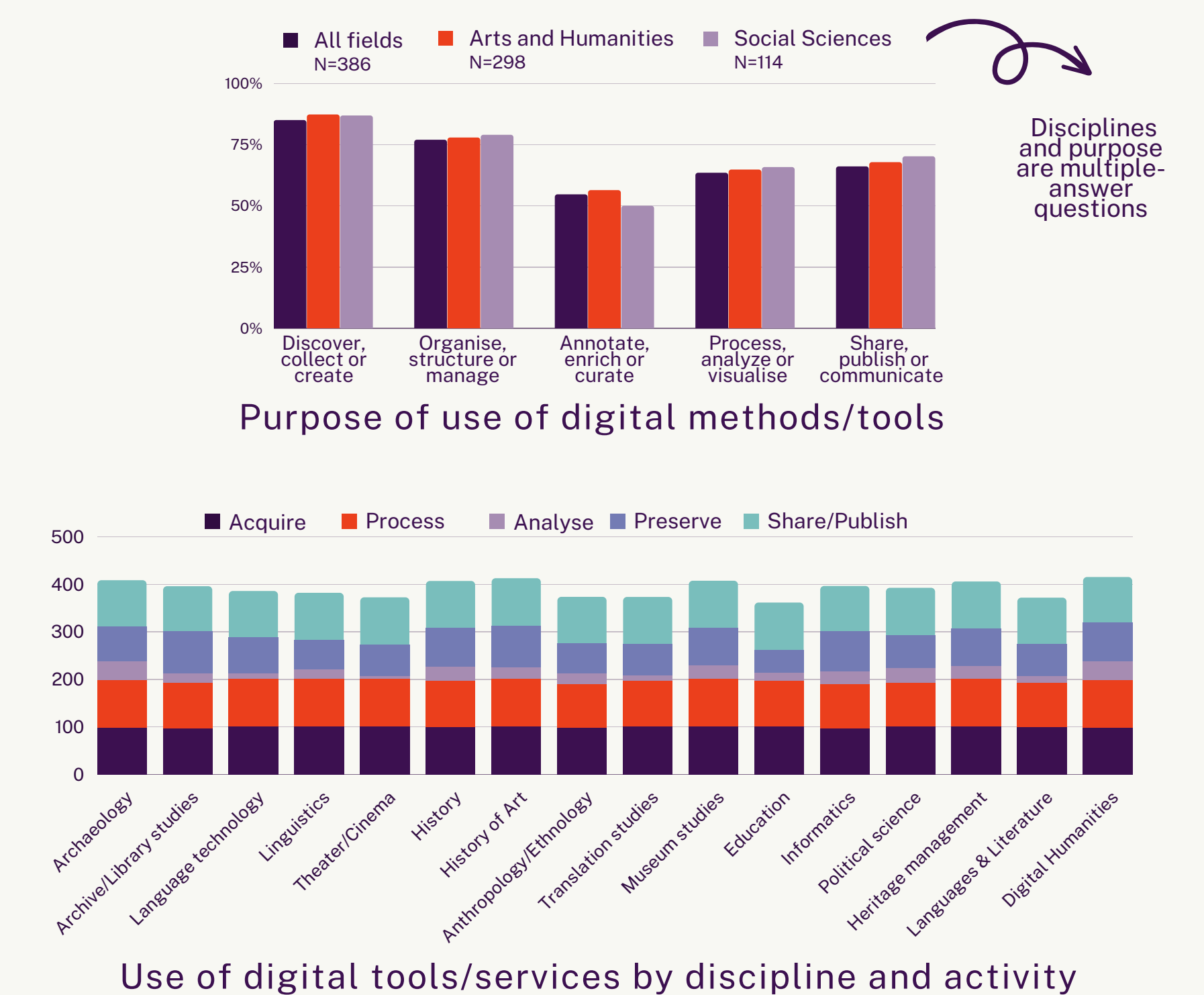- Professional

Discipline. N=386

METHODOLOGY

- Questionnaire design taking into consideration previous related work[4]
- Web survey implementation (Google Forms)
- Data collection
- Data processing:
  - Filtering, cleaning and normalisation of free-form text responses (Google sheets, OpenRefine, Voyant Tools, ILSP Lemmatizer)
  - Questions grouped into the research data lifecycle[5]
  - Design and implementation of a graph database (Neo4j)
  - Data retrieval from the graph (Cypher, CSV)
- Data analysis (Google Sheets, MS Excel)
- Visualization (Canva, Flourish, Looker Studio, Voyant Tools)
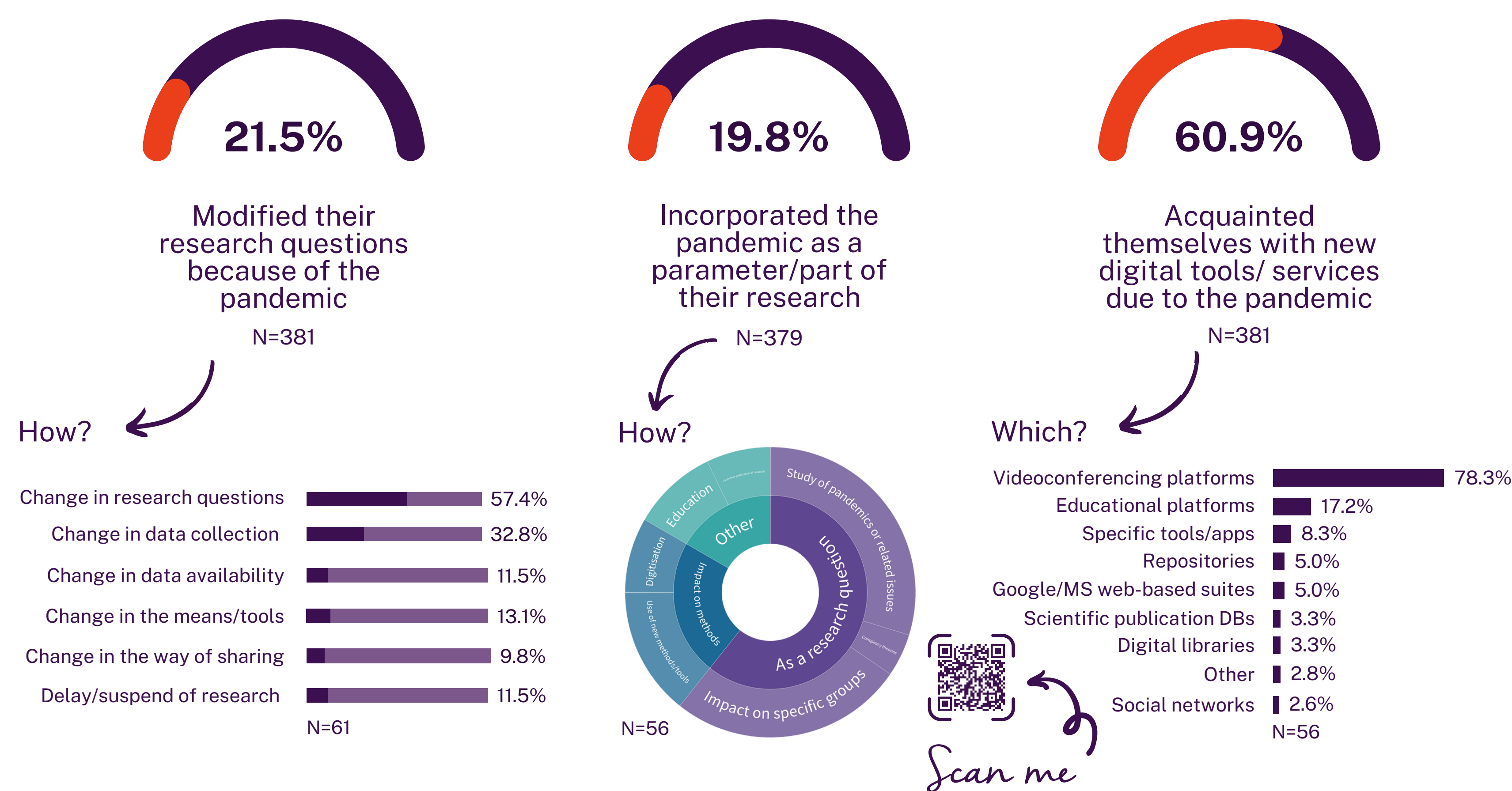- Publication of both the report and the data
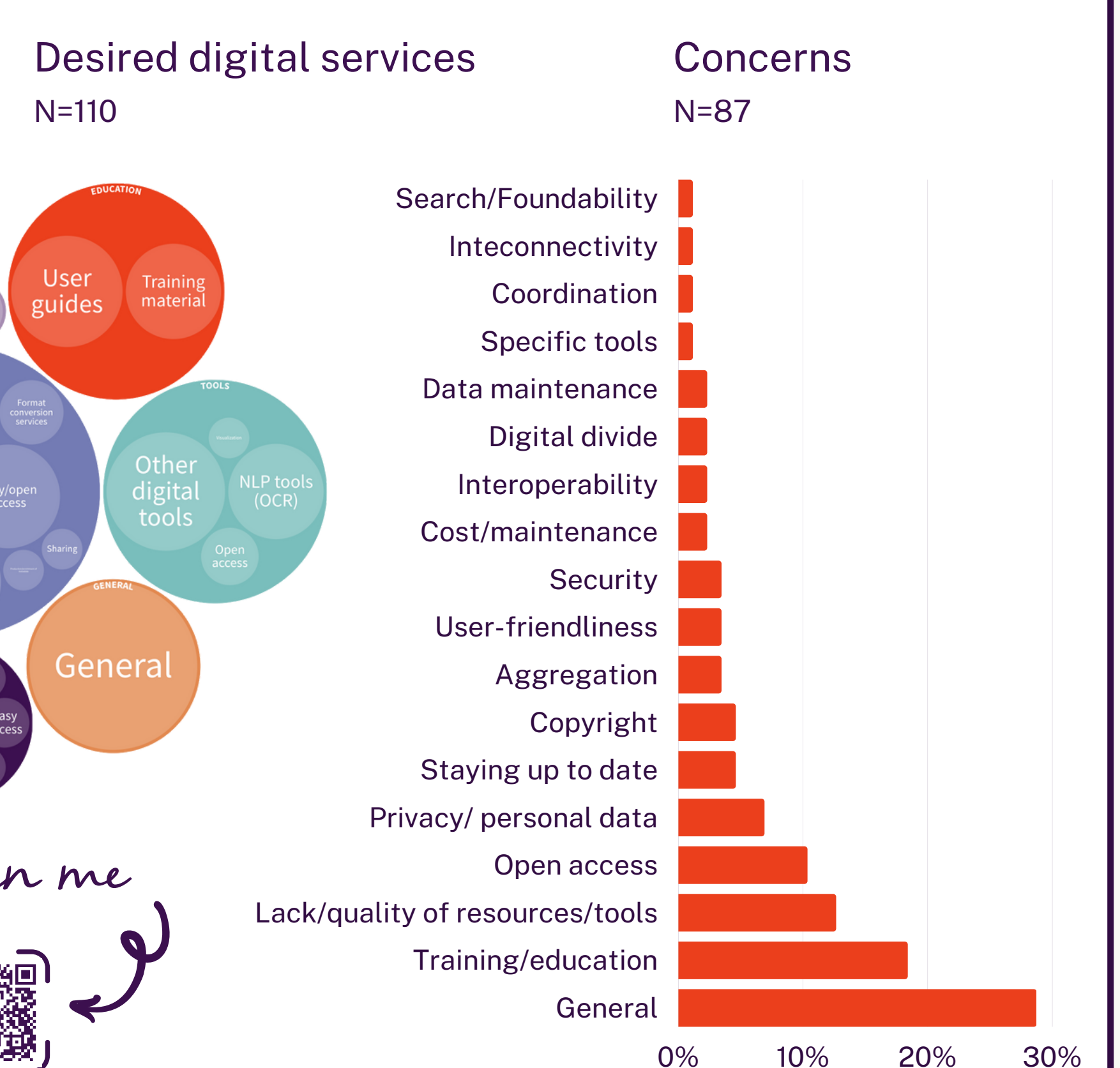
KNOWLEDGE GRAPH

```
MATCH (p:Person
{workingYears:'3-10 years'})-
[r:has_normProfessionalStatus]->
(s:normalizedProfStatus
{label:'Academic staff'})
MATCH (p)-[:uses_toolService]->()
RETURN COUNT(DISTINCT p)
```


Graph database

RESEARCH DATA LIFECYCLE

- All fields N=386
- Arts and Humanities N=298
- Social Sciences N=114

Disciplines and purpose are multiple-answer questions

Purpose of use of digital methods/tools
- Discover, collect or create
- Organise, structure or manage
- Annotate, enrich or curate
- Process, analyze or visualise
- Share, publish or communicate

Use of digital tools/services by discipline and activity
- Acquire
- Process
- Analyse
- Preserve
- Share/Publish

Archaeology, Archival/Library studies, Language technology, Linguistics, Theater/Cinema, History, History of Art, Anthropology/Ethnology, Translation studies, Museum studies, Education, Informatics, Political science, Heritage management, Languages & Literature, Digital Humanities

IMPACT OF THE PANDEMIC

21.5% Modified their research questions because of the pandemic
N=381

How?
- Change in research questions — 57.4%
- Change in data collection — 32.8%
- Change in data availability — 11.5%
- Change in the means/tools — 13.1%
- Change in the way of sharing — 9.8%
- Delay/suspend of research — 11.5%

N=61

19.8% Incorporated the pandemic as a parameter/part of their research
N=379

How?

- Study of pandemic in student theses
- As a research question
- Impact on specific groups
- Impact on research
- Education
- Digitisation
- Other

N=56

60.9% Acquainted themselves with new digital tools/ services due to the pandemic
N=381

Which?
- Videoconferencing platforms — 78.3%
- Educational platforms — 17.2%
- Specific tools/apps — 8.3%
- Repositories — 5.0%
- Google/MS web-based suites — 5.0%
- Scientific publication DBs — 3.3%
- Digital libraries — 3.3%
- Other — 2.8%
- Social networks — 2.6%

N=56

EXPECTATIONS & CONCERNS

Desired digital services
N=110

Concerns
N=87

- Search/Foundability
- Inteconnectivity
- Coordination
- Specific tools
- Data maintenance
- Digital divide
- Interoperability
- Cost/maintenance
- Security
- User-friendliness
- Aggregation
- Copyright
- Staying up to date
- Privacy/ personal data
- Open access
- Lack/quality of resources/tools
- Training/education
- General

COMPARISON & RECOMMENDATIONS

Comparisons to data from previous relevant surveys will be carried out and will be taken in consideration in identifying current trends, while the report resulting from the analysis will be used to support the strategic vision and inform the future planning of the APOLLONIS research infrastructure.

REFERENCES

[1] https://apollonis-infrastructure.gr/
[2] https://www.clarin.gr/en
[3] https://dyas-net.gr/
[4] DARIAH-GR/DYAS Feasibility study (2011); Report on CLARIN:EL users questionnaire (2018) (internal report); Dallas, C., Chatzidiakou, N., Immenhauser, B., Kelpšienė, I., Maryl, M., Matres, I., Schneider, G., Scholger, W., & Tasovac, T. (2022). *European survey on scholarly practices and digital needs in the human sciences*. Zenodo. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.6583037
[5] The Research Data Lifecycle, University of Reading, Research Services. https://www.reading.ac.uk/research-services/research-data-management/about-research-data-management/the-research-data-lifecycle

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