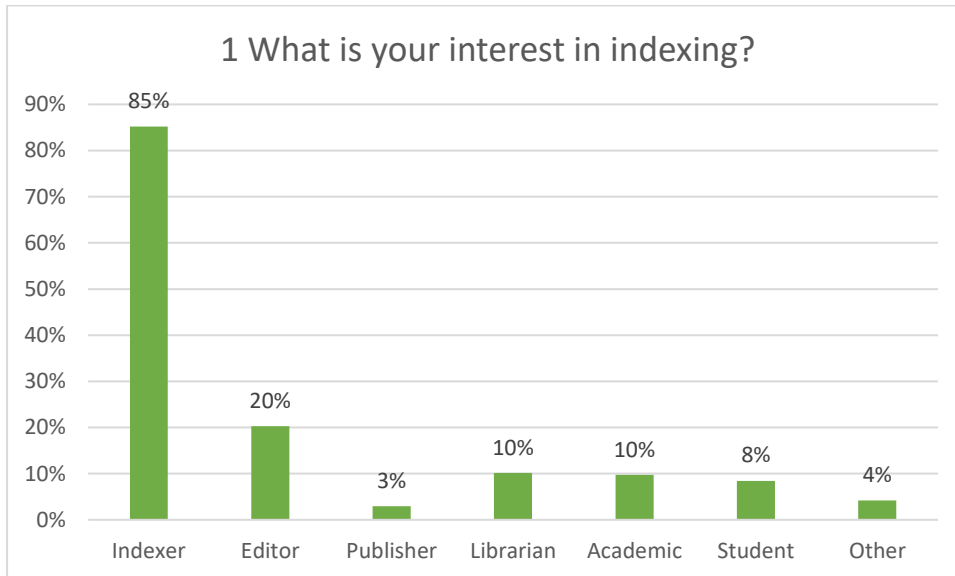


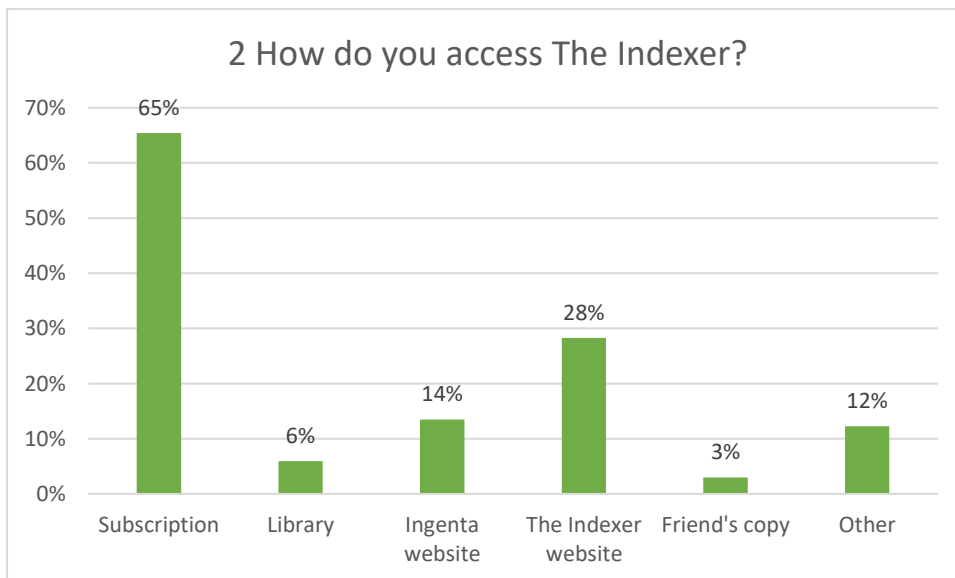
# The Indexer Survey 2017: Overall Summary

Total number of responses: 237

## 1. What is your interest in indexing? (multiple options can be ticked)

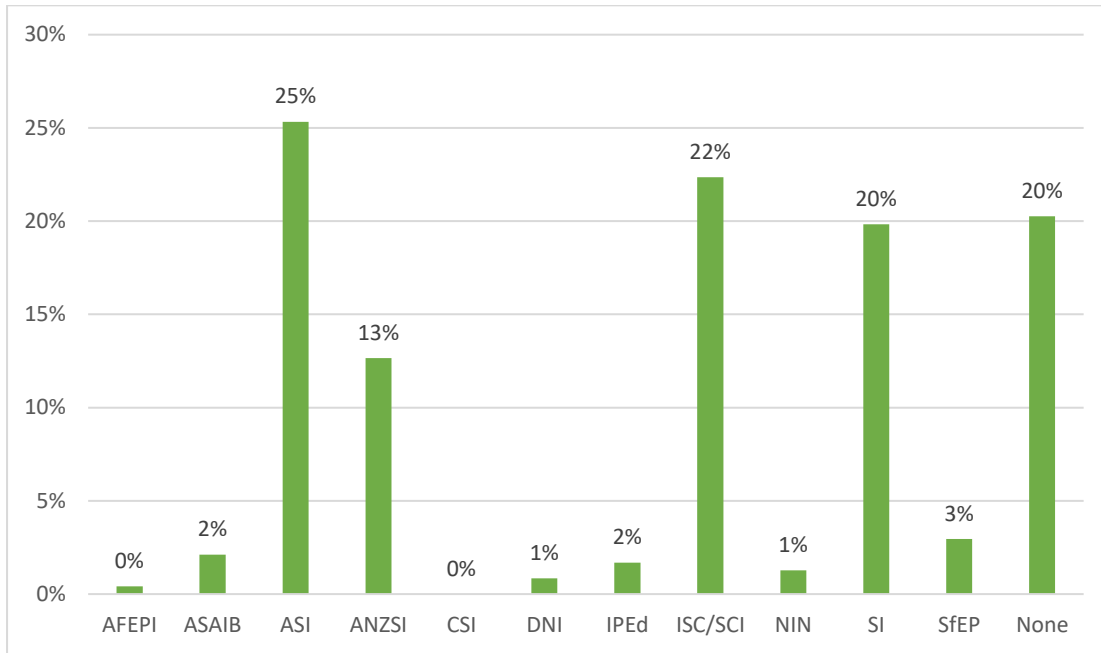


## 2. How do you access The Indexer? (multiple options can be ticked)

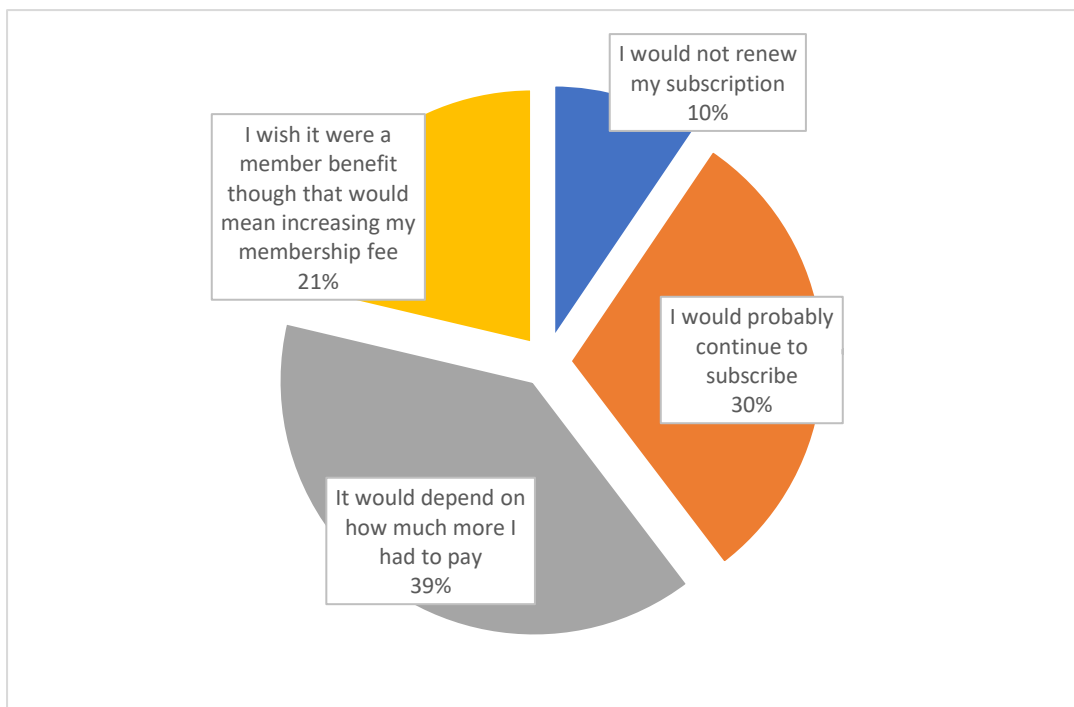


Although 65% of respondents have a subscription only 19% use the Ingenta or Indexer websites as well, presumably relying on their own print copy to access the journal.

**3. Member of an indexing society (multiple options can be ticked)**

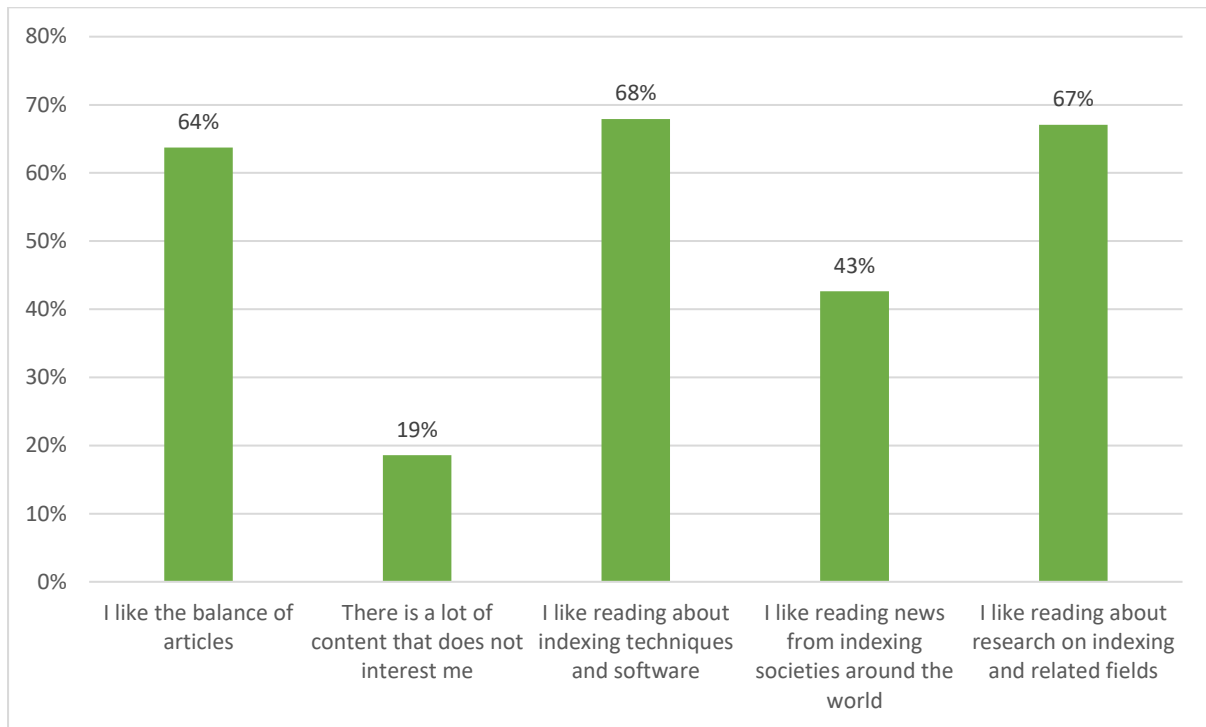


**4. As a member of an organization listed at Q3 you are entitled to a subscription at a discounted rate. Would it make a difference to you if this discount were no longer available? (one option only)**



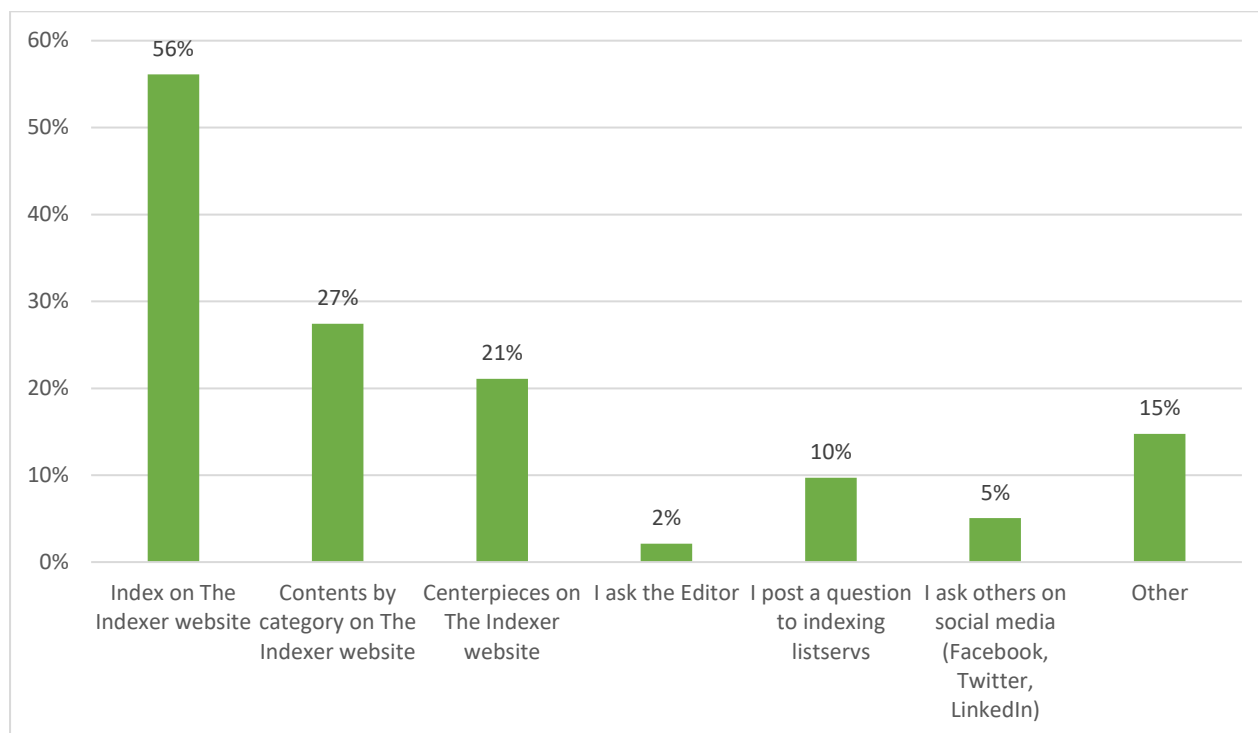
10% would definitely discontinue if the discount were stopped, 30% say they would ‘probably’ continue (without indicating what, including cost, might influence their decision) and 39% say it would depend on how much. 21% would prefer it to be a member benefit even with an increased membership fee.

## 5. Opinions on The Indexer content (multiple options can be ticked)



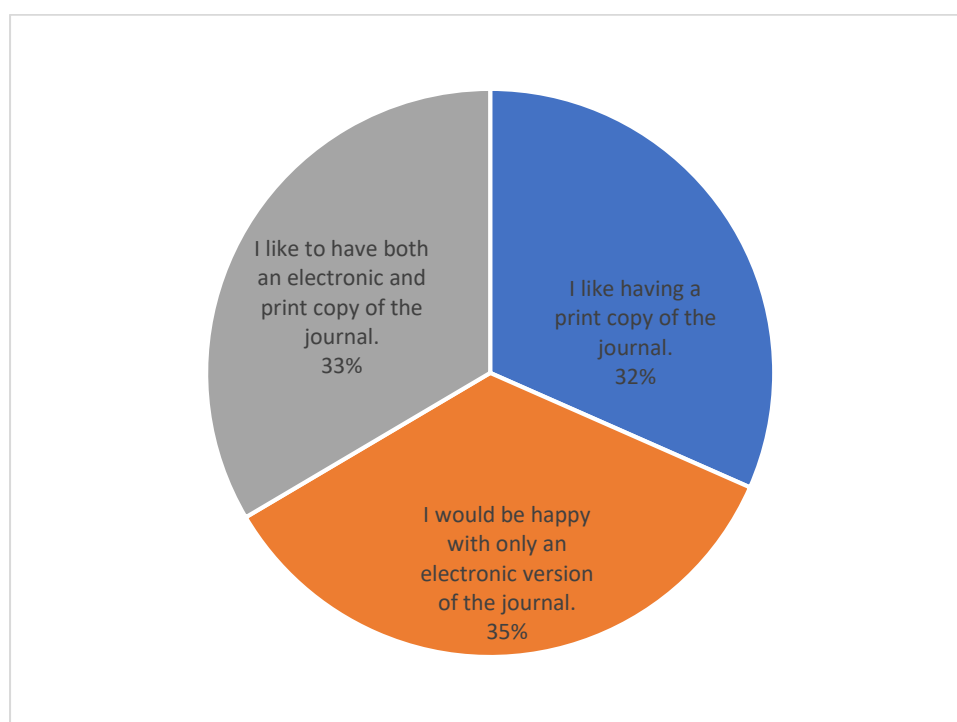
Almost one in five respondents (89% of whom are indexers) said 'There is a lot of content that does not interest me'. Indexing techniques/ software and research on indexing/ related fields are more popular than news from indexing societies across the world but even so, this is appreciated by 43%.

## 6. How do you find content in The Indexer? (multiple options can be ticked)



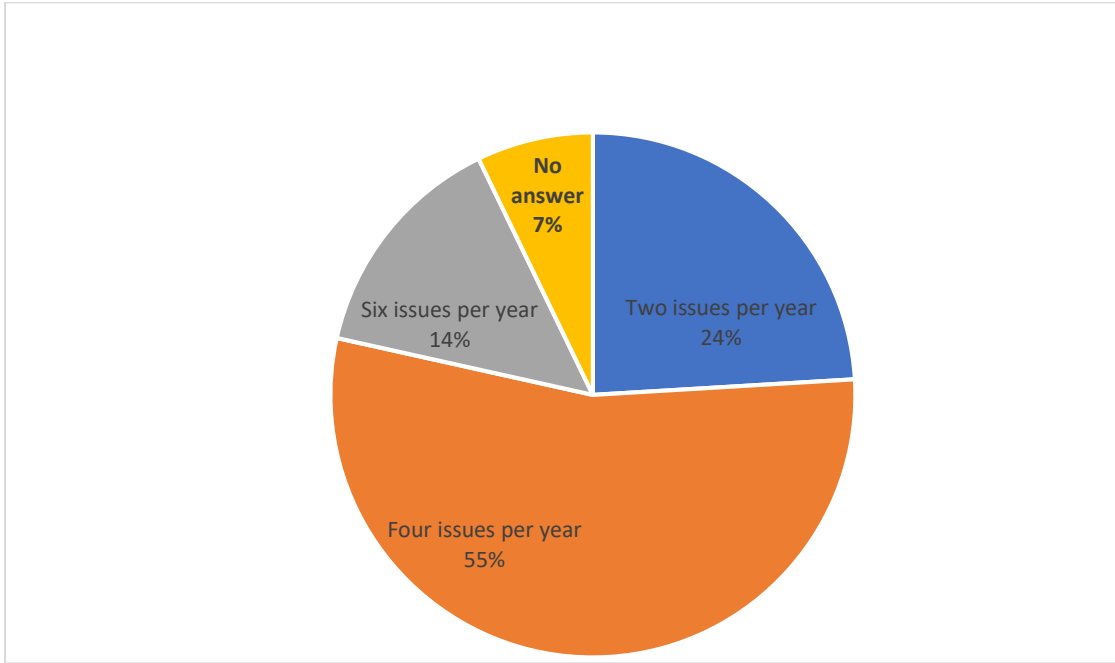
Responses to Question 6 show that the most common method of finding content by quite a long way is to use the index on The Indexer website, despite this being badly out of date, but some people also use other methods. Under 'Other' are a few people who never access it and some who use their library interface but most of them are people who simply read/use their paper copies.

## 7. Preferred format (print versus electronic)



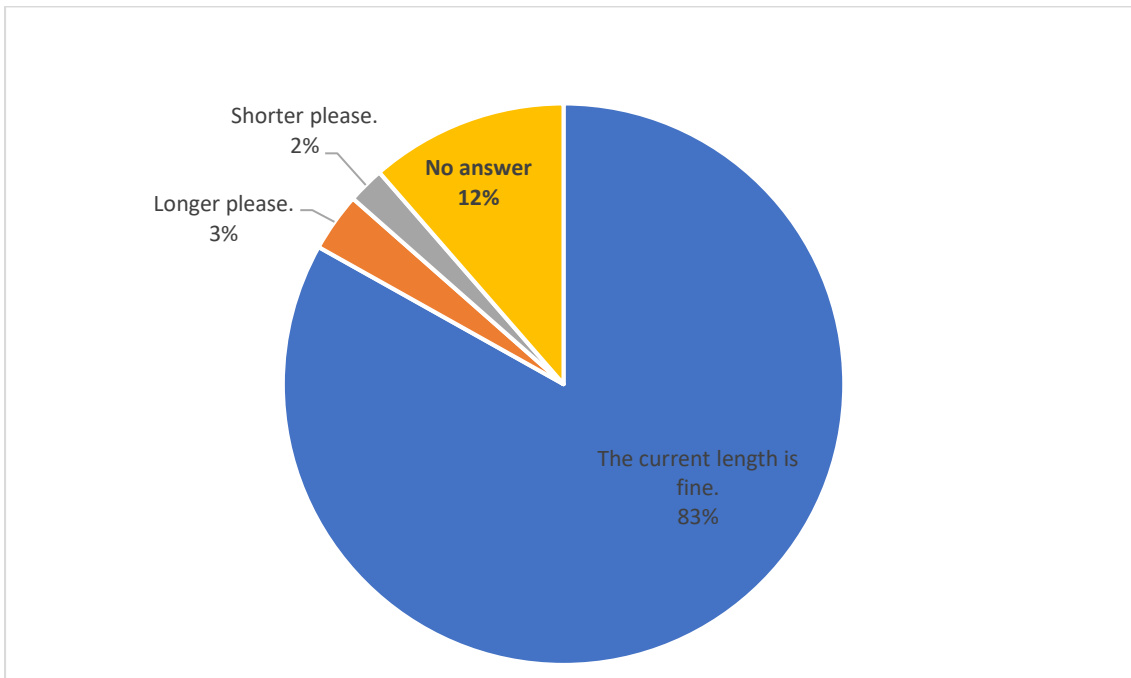
65% in total would like a print copy and 68% want electronic. Only 35% are happy with electronic-only.

**8. How often would you like to receive The Indexer?**



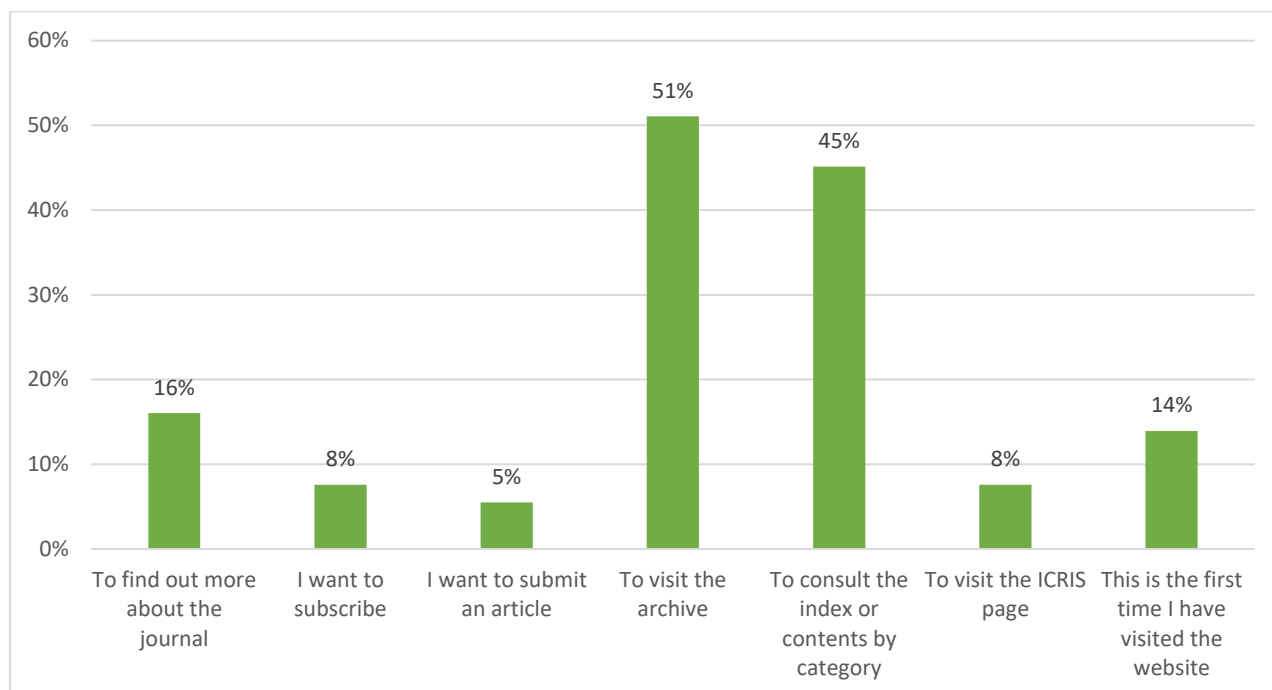
This shows that the status quo of four issues a year is the preferred option of just over half the respondents, with 24% preferring fewer issues and only 14% wanting more issues.

**9. Are you satisfied with the length of each issue?**



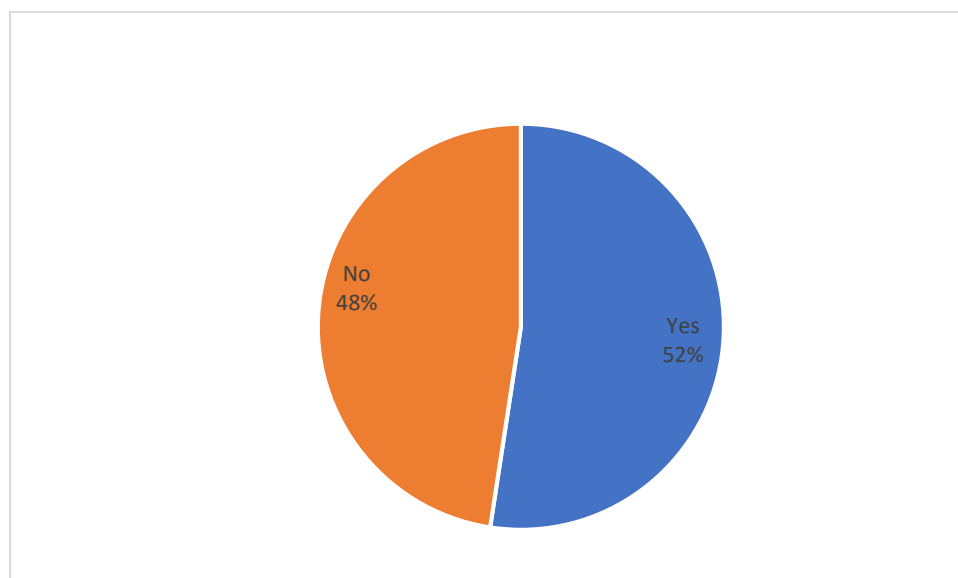
An overwhelming majority of respondents are content with the present length of the journal (48 pages per issue).

### 10. Why do you visit The Indexer website?



Bearing in mind that nearly two thirds of the survey respondents have a subscription it is not surprising that wanting to find out more about the journal or subscribing aren't among the most common reasons. 51% use the archive of past issues and 45% use the index and/or contents by category. 34% do both these things.

### 11. Does the international character of The Indexer influence how you view the journal?

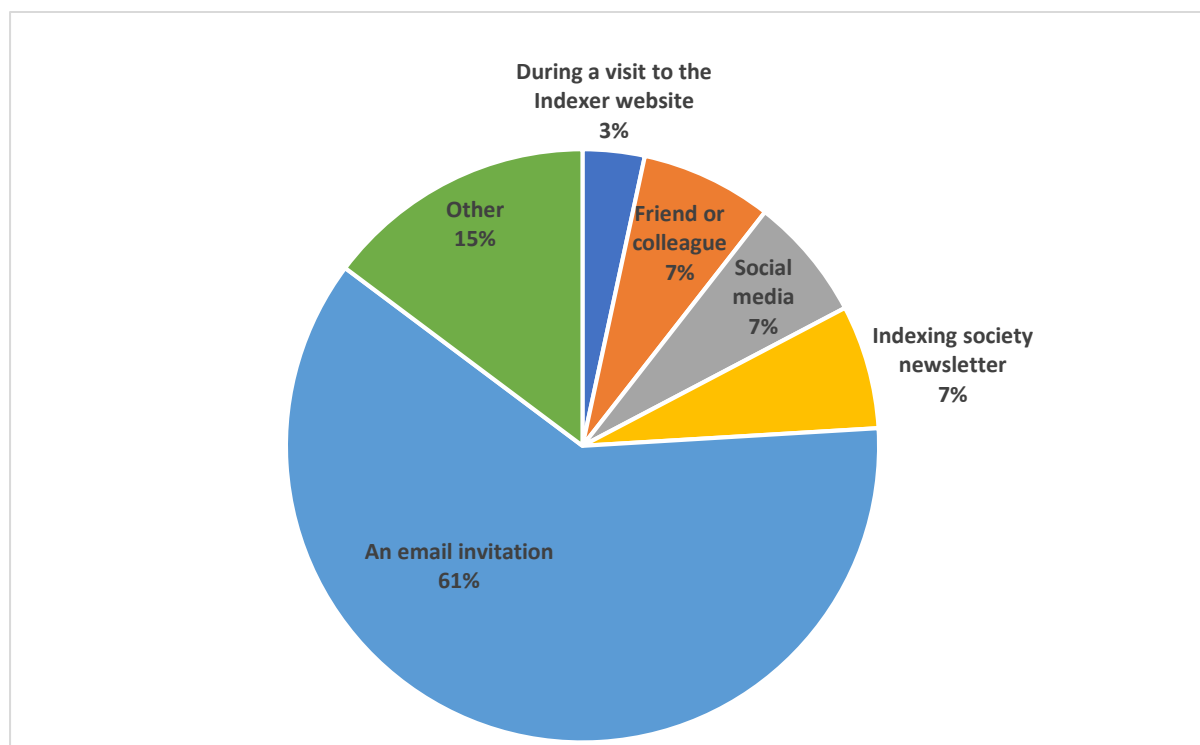


#### If yes, why?

Many people provided further information on why they appreciated the international flavour of the journal. Common themes included the benefits of seeing the wider context, finding out what is

happening beyond their own society, the increasingly globalised nature of the publishing business and the fact that being international adds academic gravitas to the journal.

## 12. How did you find out about this survey



## 13. Any other comments

The vast majority of people who made further comments were positive although many had suggestions, sometimes contradictory, for improvements. Some common themes were:

- Thanks to the outgoing editor for her excellent work in maintaining a high quality professional journal
- Essential for it to continue for the sake of the professional nature of indexing and for the international standing of the Society of Indexers
- Desirability of peer review
- More beginner-level/ less advanced material
- More coverage of non-book indexing
- A strong preference for a print version but digital-only would be better than nothing
- Views on cost ranging across the spectrum from people who think that somehow it ought to be free to those who think that the current cost is, if anything, too low.