

Summary of ARL Member Institutions Open Access Policies

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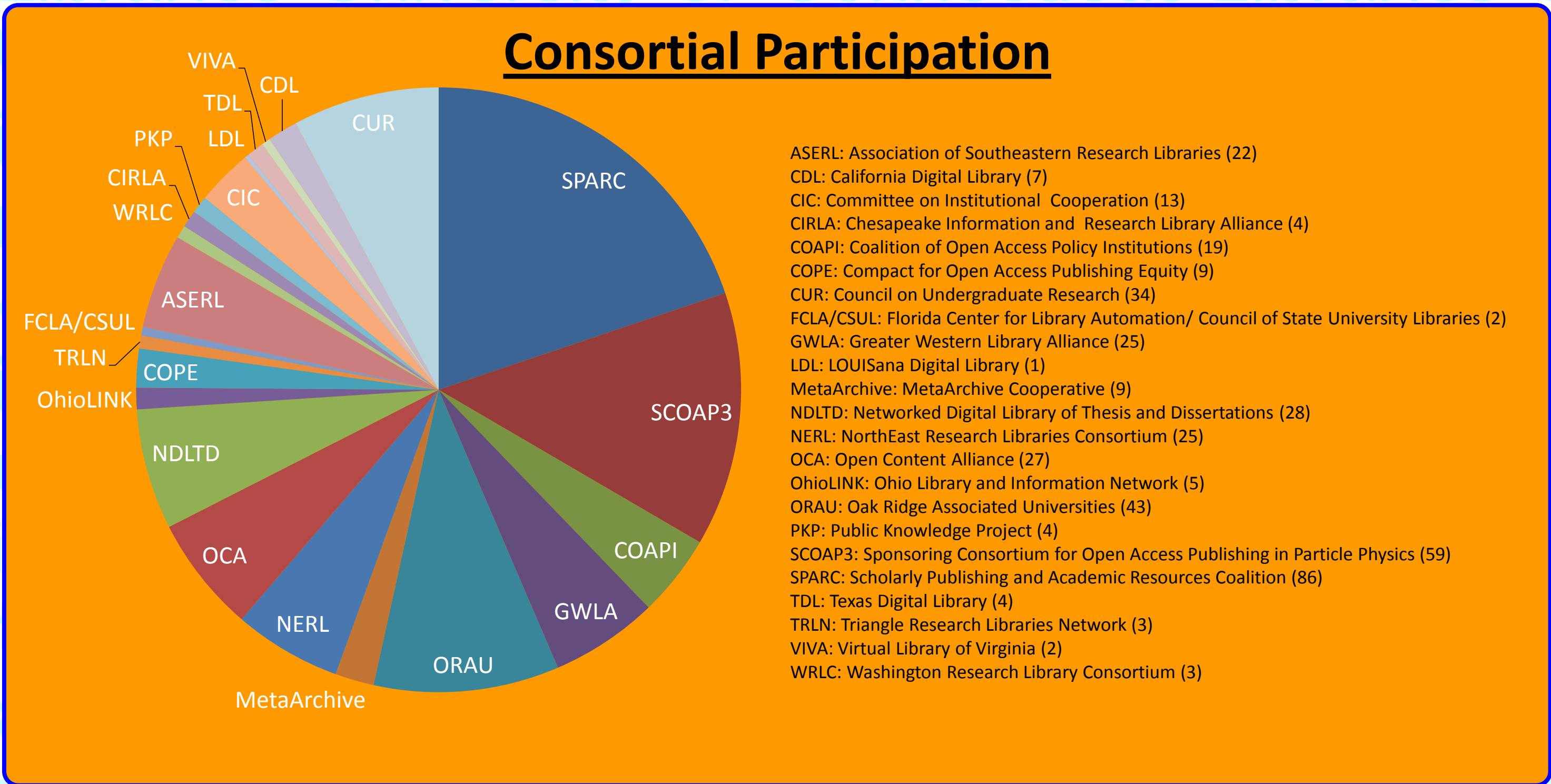
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We believe that the continuing advances in research requires a commitment from the academic research universities to provide open access to their research results, including the data. Funding agencies like the NSF, NIH, NEH, and IMLS are now starting to require more extensive sharing of the results and data from funded research. Our question: how are the member institutions of the Association of Research Libraries responding to these new requirements?

This summary is an environmental scan of the current state of ARL member libraries and their institutions. We looked at several areas: research data policy; Open Access education, guidance and support, especially for faculty; scholarly communication guidance, education and support; data access and data management guidance, tools, and education; and consortium memberships. Our methodology: all data collected are from the institution, library and organization websites. For the purposes of this informal study, we made no attempt to verify information with further inquiry. We conducted no surveys or interviews, nor did we contact any of the libraries or institutions. Our goal was to acquire a snapshot of the current environment from a public perspective, and we may undertake a more thorough analysis of several of these areas in the future.

US ARL Member Academic Institutions and Open Access

Signed Berlin Declaration 13%
Faculty Discussion of OA 13%
Faculty Support of OA 35%

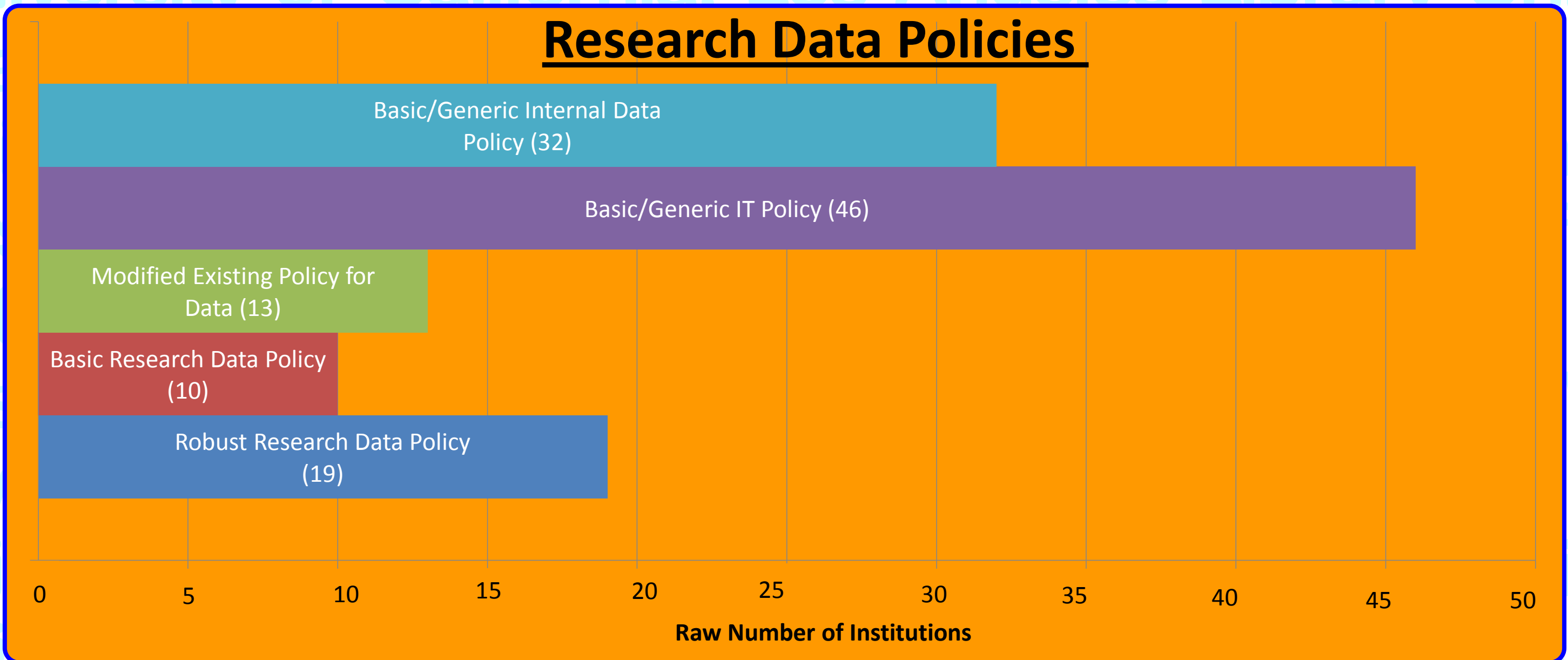


American academic libraries belong to many groups. ARL and ACRL are two of the major national organizations. There are regional groups including ASERL and NERL, OA groups like OCA, SPARC and COAPI, discipline-specific organizations such as SCOAP3 and national groups like NDLTD, all of which enhance and extend the capabilities of their members. The above chart shows a sampling of some of these organizations and consortiums, and the relative participation between consortia. Every US ARL member belongs to at least one, and many members belong to multiple groups.

Consortiums appear to have an important function because they foster collaboration, increase the diffusion of knowledge, encourage involvement, and strengthen the voice of the library profession. Many of these groups support OA initiatives.

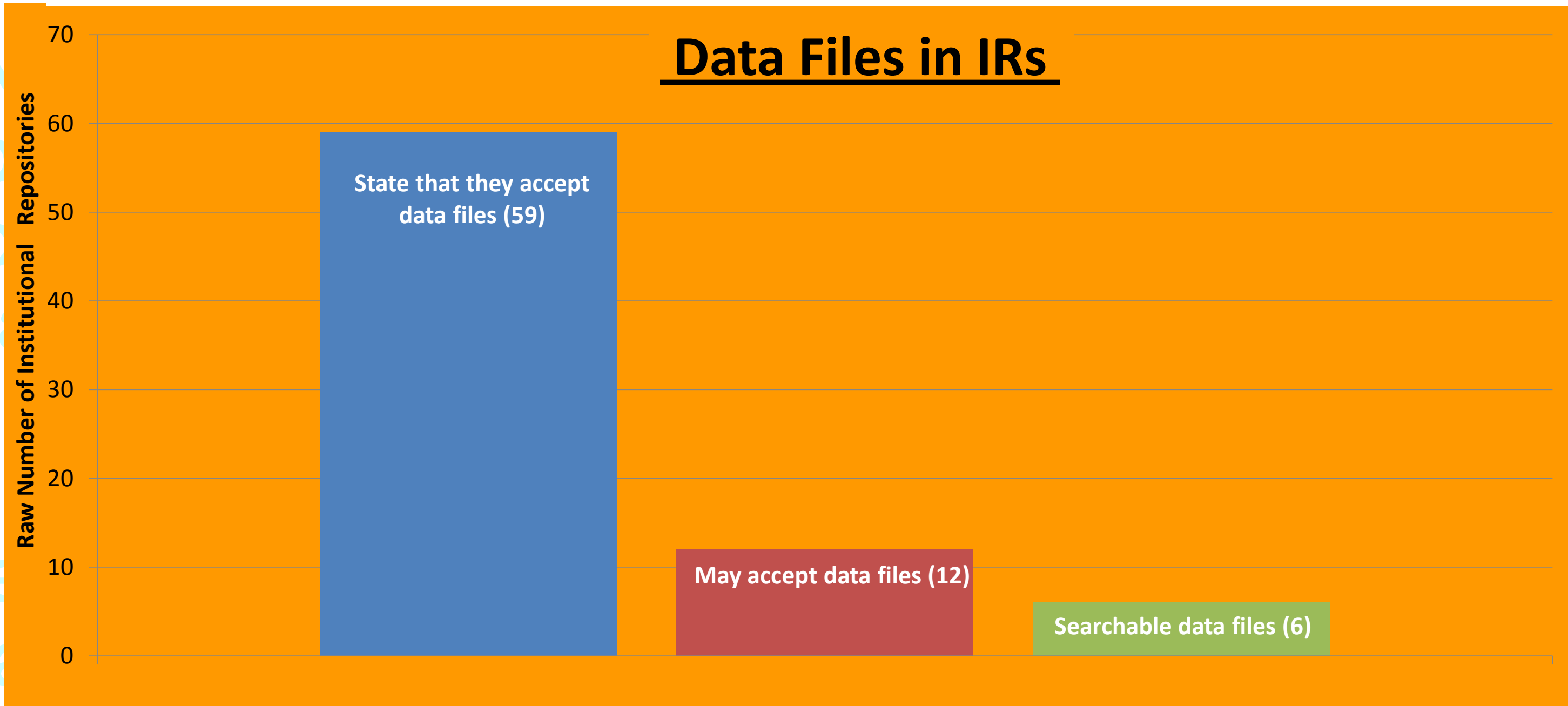
What did we learn from our research?

- ARL members are active in the OA movement by providing information, guidance, assistance and encouragement to faculty and their institutions, and to each other thru their membership in consortia.
- Institutions appear to be gradually developing new and more comprehensive research data policies to meet addressing needs.
- Research data support within institutional repositories is highly varied, with few presently offering searchable data.



Academic research institutions have many network, IT, internal data, research, data classification, copyright & intellectual property and research conduct policies. Many current policies appear to treat research data in an ad hoc fashion.

Robust research data policies are emerging and are important because they address the special requirements of research data: definitions, sharing, access, security, documentation, ownership, transferring, and retention.



OpenDOAR

The Directory of Open Access Repositories

Together the ARL libraries and their institutions host over 160 institutional repositories. More than 130 are listed in the OpenDOAR registry. This chart shows the number of IRs that indicate that they accept data files, the number that don't make it clear if they accept data files, and the number that have searchable data files.

