



# ACADEMIC REPUTATION SURVEY

## Thomson Reuters

### Report of Findings



# Introduction

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- The Academic Reputation Survey is a fundamental component of the Thomson Reuters Global Institutional Profiles Project and the data collected in the survey forms part of a profile of each of the world's leading higher education institutions.
- The survey was designed with the help of many experts in the field and aims to be the most comprehensive snapshot of academics' opinion of the world's universities.
- The Profiles Project combines the results of the survey with other data to create key indicators for the diverse activities of academic institutions. The Profiles Project is also the data source for the Times Higher Education's World University Ranking.
- For more information see:  
<http://science.thomsonreuters.com/globalprofilesproject/>



# Academic Reputation Survey Methodology

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- The primary purpose of the survey was to quantify academics' opinions regarding both research and teaching reputation of global academic institutions within the disciplinary programs with which they were familiar.
- Data were collected from March 11<sup>th</sup> to May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2010 and included respondents from 131 countries. The survey itself was 20+ minutes in length and respondents could choose to take the survey in English, French, German, Spanish, Portuguese, Chinese or Japanese. A total of 13,388 usable survey responses were processed.
- Respondents were asked to identify the broad subject category in which they primarily worked, as well as the specific discipline. Respondents then identified top institutions within their specific subject, and results were analyzed at the category level and overall. Broad subject categories were as follows:
  - Arts & Humanities
  - Clinical, Pre-Clinical & Health
  - Engineering & Technology
  - Life Sciences
  - Physical Sciences
  - Social Sciences
- A fuller description of survey methodology and a sample of the survey see: <http://science.thomsonreuters.com/globalprofilesproject/gpp-reputational/>



# Survey Findings

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## Distribution among the various regions and subject categories:

- Academics state that they are most familiar with North America, Europe and Asia Pacific (primarily Eastern Asia and Oceania).
  - Those who are most familiar with Western Europe and North America currently reside in countries all over the world, suggesting that many academics are originally from Western Europe and North America or have spent considerable time there.
- Out of the six broad subject categories, Arts & Humanities clearly has less representation than the other five.
- Overall, these results suggest the data are well distributed and the skews in the data (less Arts & Humanities, less data from developing countries) are to be expected based on fewer journal publications in this areas.

## Respondent job roles and how they spend their time:

- Over two-thirds are academic staff, with some representation from research staff, senior institutional leadership and grad/post-grad students.
- Just over half of academics' time is spent on research, and a considerable contribution to teaching, only a small portion is spent on administration.
  - Those within the fields of Physical Sciences, Life Sciences and Engineering & Technology devote a higher percentage of their time to research.



# Survey Findings (continued)

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## How long have respondents been working and are they tenured:

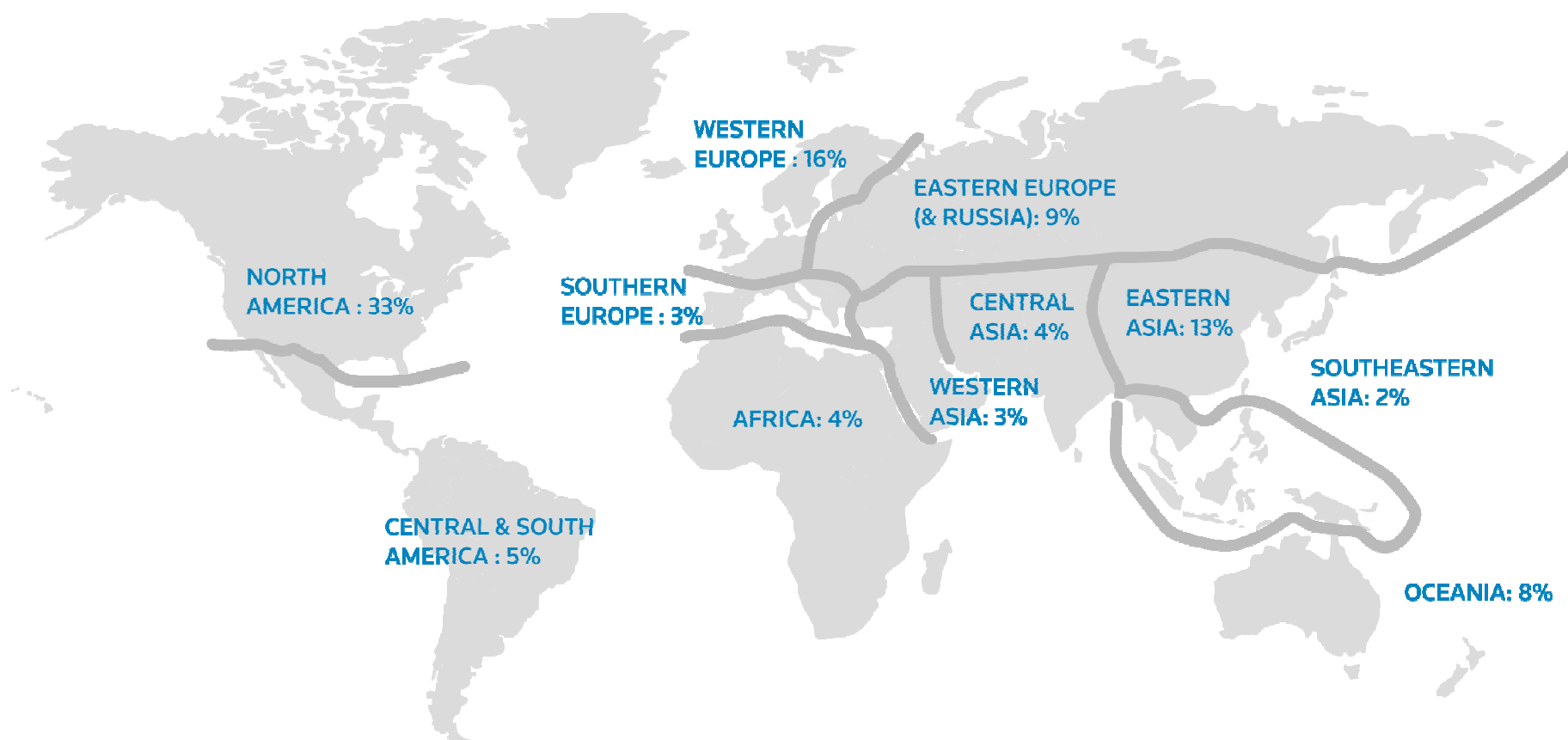
- The average academic has been working at an institution for over 16 years.
  - Senior institutional leaders and those who have been tenured (often the same people) have been in their chosen profession the longest, while grad/post-grad students and research staff are often just beginning their careers.
  - About two-thirds have tenured positions.

## How many research papers have they published?

- The average academic has been involved in the publication of over 50 research papers (median=30). Those with a higher percentage of administrative duties (especially senior institutional leaders) having published the greatest number of papers, they have also been working the longest period of time.
  - Note that the number of papers is self submitted and there is no indication of the quality or type of papers.
- Those who work in Arts & Humanities and Social Sciences publish less frequently in journals than the hard sciences.
  - The lower journal publishing among Arts & Humanities is a large part of the reason why the category is less represented in the data, as the sample was pulled based on journal publishing records.



# Regions of Greatest Familiarity



K1. Please identify the region with which you have the greatest familiarity in terms of higher education and academic research.

Base: All Respondents (n=13,388)



## Category by Region

- Asia is strongly driven by Engineering & Technology, while Africa and Oceania gravitate toward the other hard sciences.
- The Americas have greater distribution overall.






















	<b>Americas</b> (n=5,088) (A)	<b>Africa</b> (n=468) (B)	<b>Asia</b> (n=2,932) (C)	<b>Oceania</b> (n=1,110) (D)	<b>Europe</b> (n=3,790) (E)
Engineering & Technology	21% BD	15%	33% ABDE	12%	22% BD
Physical Sciences	19% D	22% D	19% D	10%	29% ABCD
Social Sciences	20% BCE	15%	12%	33% ABCE	14%
Life Sciences	16%	22% AD	19% D	15%	19% D
Clinical, Pre-Clinical & Health	16% E	21% ACE	15%	22% ACE	12%
Arts & Humanities	8% BCE	5% C	2%	8% BCE	4% C

K2. Please indicate the one broad subject category which best categorizes your current or primary academic focus, in terms of research and/or teaching.  
Letters indicate the value is significantly higher than the value in the corresponding column at the 95% confidence level.

Base: All Respondents

# Current Job Role

- Over two-thirds consider themselves academic staff, with an even higher percentage among those who are tenured.
  - Non-tenured individuals are often research staff or grad/post-grad students.

		Tenure	
	Total (n=13,388)	Yes (n=9,040) (C)	No (n=4,326) (D)
Academic staff	 69%	 81% D	 44%
Research staff	 15%	 7%	 31% C
Senior institutional leadership	 7%	 9% D	 2%
Graduate/ post-graduate student	 6%	 1%	 15% C
Teaching staff	 2%	 1%	 2%
Management and administrative staff	 0%	 0%	 1%
Not currently working at an institution	 2%	 0%	 6% C

P1. What is your current job role?

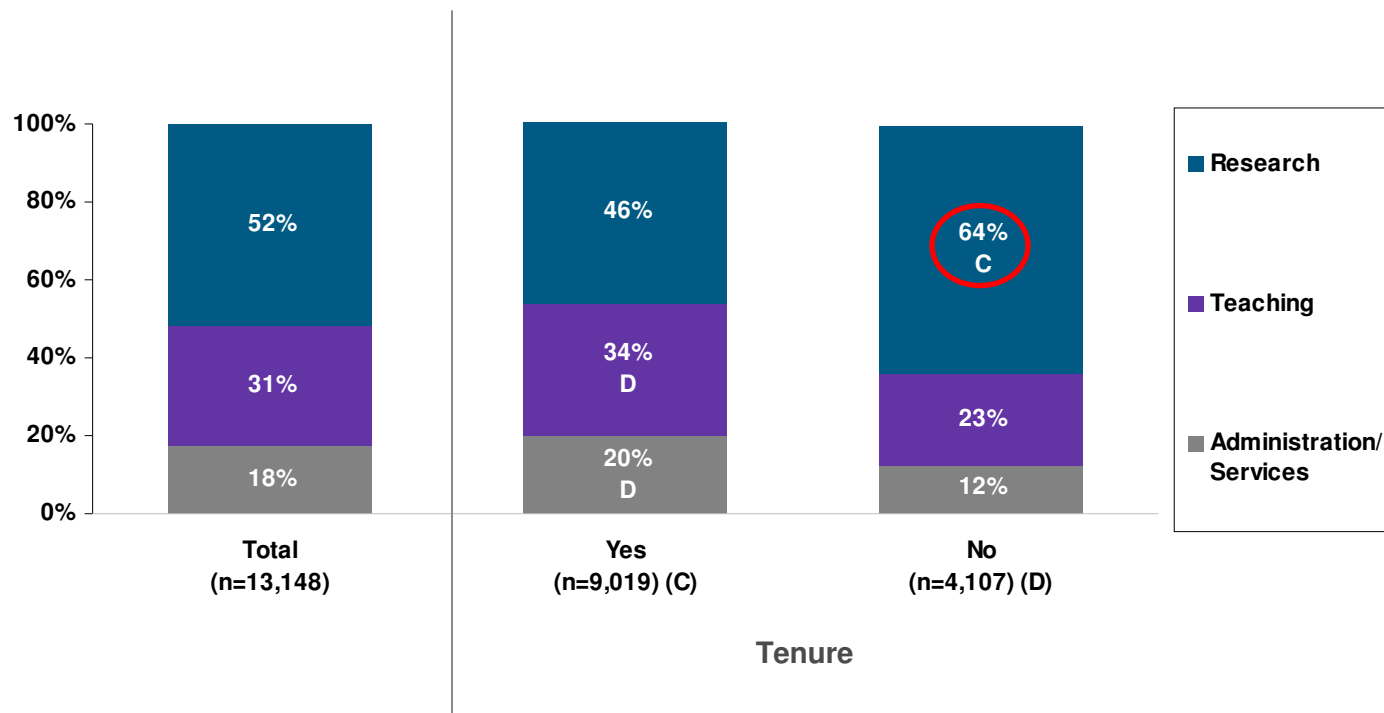
Letters indicate the value is significantly higher than the value in the corresponding column at the 95% confidence level.

Base: All respondents



# How Time is Spent

- In general, slightly over half of respondents' time is spent on research, a third on teaching and a fifth on administrative duties.
  - Paralleling job roles, non-tenured academics spend much more time on research.



P2. [SUMMARY - MEAN] In your current role, what percent of your time do you spend on research, teaching and administration or services duties?

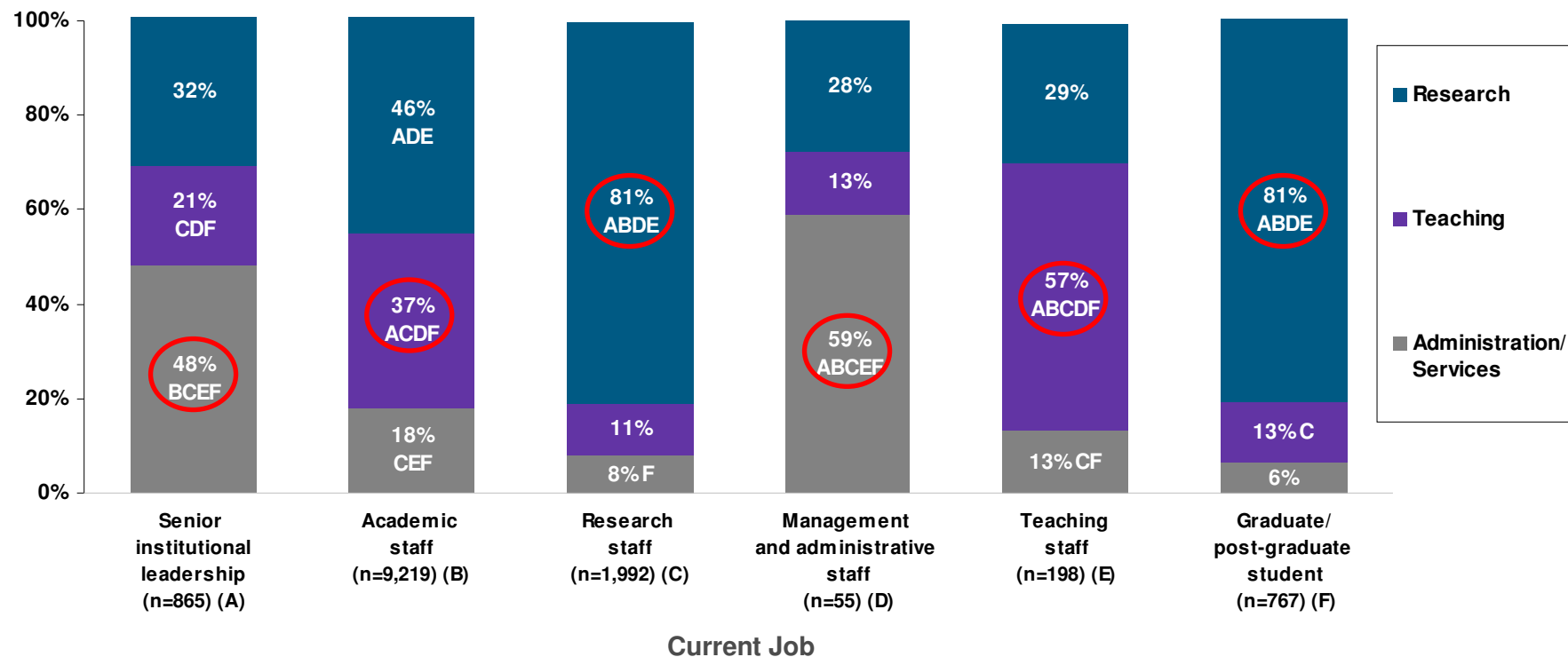
'Teaching' includes graduate-level, undergraduate-level, or both.

Letters indicate the value is significantly higher than the value in the corresponding column at the 95% confidence level.

Base: Currently working at an institution

## How Time is Spent (continued)

- As expected, current job role has a major impact on how respondents spend their time, with senior institutional leaders and administrative staff spending a much higher amount of time on administrative duties.



P2. [SUMMARY - MEAN] In your current role, what percent of your time do you spend on research, teaching and administration or services duties?

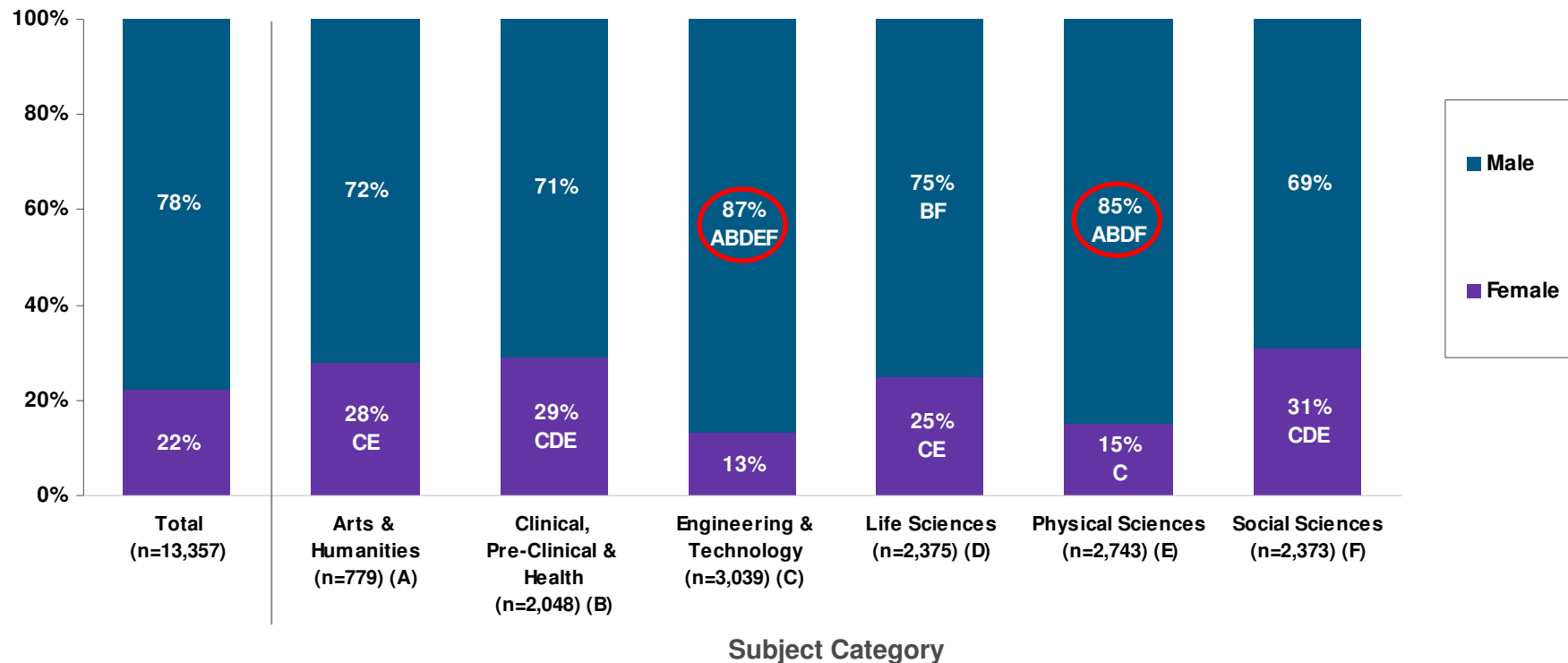
'Teaching' includes graduate-level, undergraduate-level, or both.

Letters indicate the value is significantly higher than the value in the corresponding column at the 95% confidence level.

Base: Currently working at an institution

# Gender

- While the academic world tends to be male dominated in general, this is especially true in the fields of Engineering & Technology and Physical Sciences.



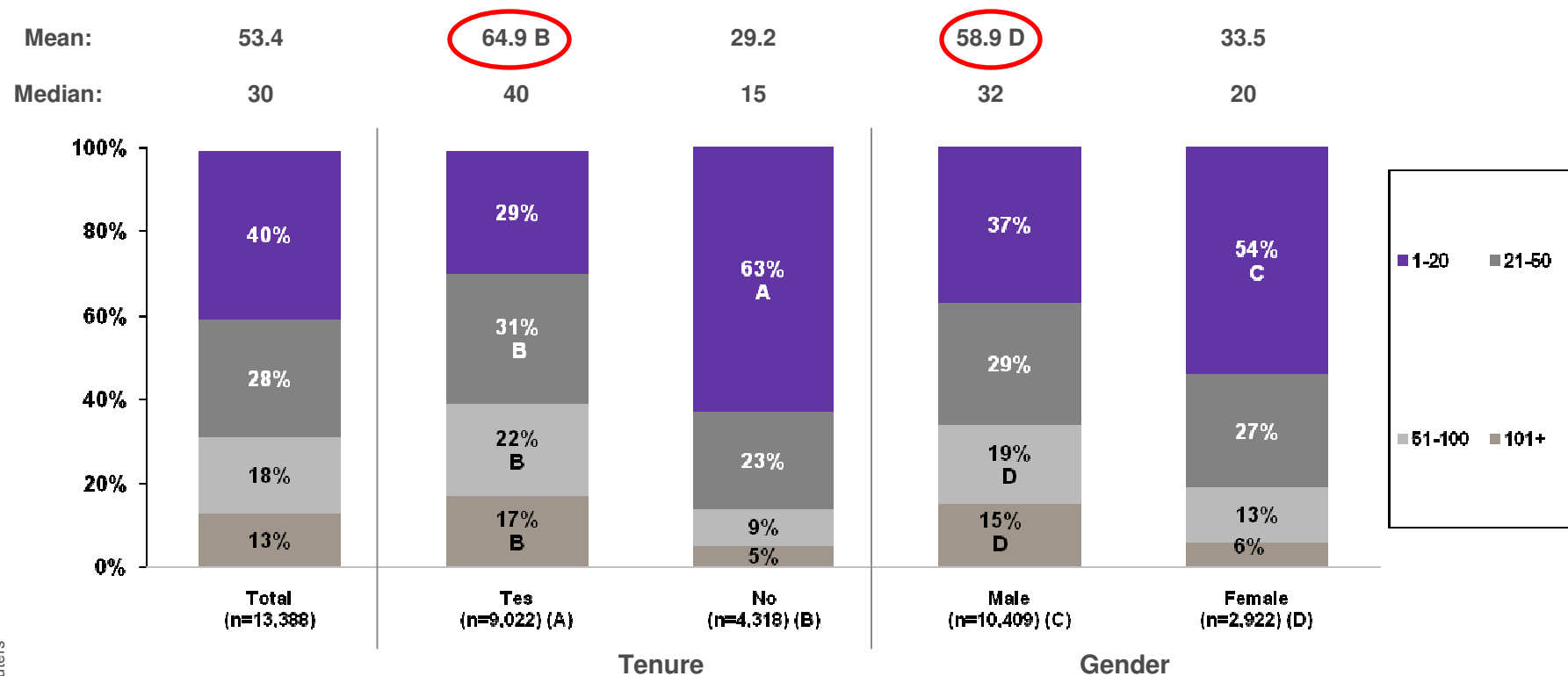
O1a. What is your gender?

Letters indicate the value is significantly higher than the value in the corresponding column at the 95% confidence level.

Base: Total Answering

# Research Papers Published

- Those in an administrative role have published the most papers, presumably because they have been working for longer and have now attained a higher position.
  - Men have also published more than women.



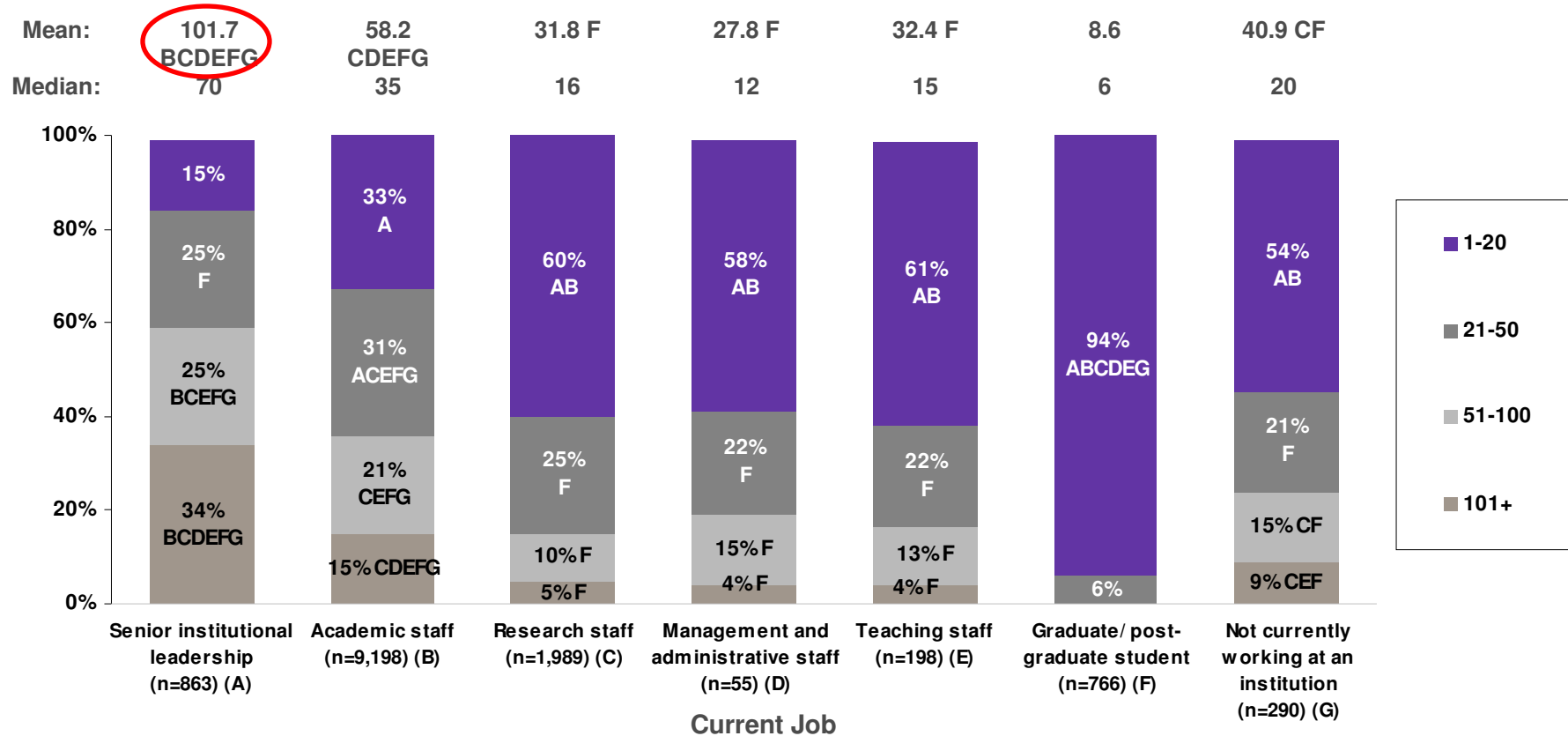
O4. How many research papers have you published over the course of your career?

Letters indicate the value is significantly higher than the value in the corresponding column at the 95% confidence level.

Base: Total Answering

# Research Papers Published (continued)

- On average, senior institutional leaders have published approximately 100 research papers in their careers, while grad/post-grad students have just begun publishing.



O4. How many research papers have you published over the course of your career?

Letters indicate the value is significantly higher than the value in the corresponding column at the 95% confidence level.

Base: Total Answering



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