



# **Select survey results from professors and academic librarians on teaching and using pirate websites.**

Daniel G. Kipnis, MSI

STEM Librarians South 2022

Rowan University

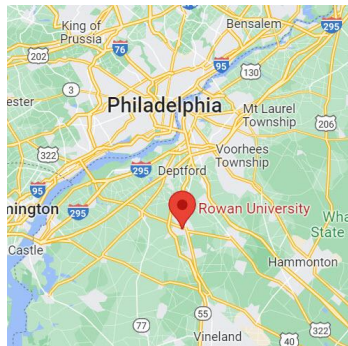




Who am I

## Daniel G. Kipnis, MSI

- Life Sciences Librarian at Campbell Library, Rowan University, Glassboro, New Jersey
- Liaison to Biology, Chemistry, Math, Health and Exercise Science and Pharmaceutical Sciences





Let's talk about it



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## Sci-Hub usage alone (30 days)

**In United States  
@ 4,225,124 papers  
downloaded per day  
over a 30 day period**

**From all 20 countries  
combined @25,400,871  
papers per day over a 30  
day period**



Sci-Hub  
@sci\_hub\_

...

From now on you can see the download statistics in real time, monthly statistics and others. The new version is running out at [sci-hub.se](https://sci-hub.se) and [sci-hub.ru](https://sci-hub.ru)

Here in the image we show the number of research papers downloaded from SCI-HUB in the last 30 days

country		number of articles			
1	 China	337,184,513	11	 Turkey	10,129,329
2	 United States	126,753,744	12	 Taiwan	9,148,370
3	 France	80,404,111	13	 Poland	9,085,822
4	 Brazil	40,278,282	14	 Japan	8,754,554
5	 India	25,296,581	15	 South Korea	7,815,803
6	 Hong Kong	19,295,749	16	 Canada	7,646,508
7	 Indonesia	17,171,446	17	 Singapore	7,367,274
8	 Germany	15,117,965	18	 Russia	6,786,310
9	 Mexico	11,334,419	19	 Netherlands	5,950,058
10	 Iran	10,875,894	20	 Colombia	5,629,422

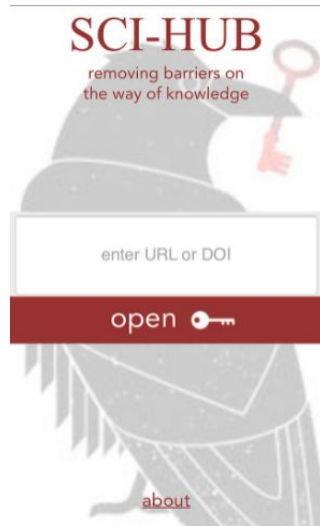


## Definition of Pirate or Shadow web sites/portals

Portals through which academic papers are available **without** the permission of the copyright owner.

Source:

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Sci-Hub\\_screenshot\\_from\\_iOS\\_iPhone\\_11.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Sci-Hub_screenshot_from_iOS_iPhone_11.jpg)



Source:

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Libgen\\_logo.svg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Libgen_logo.svg)



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## Survey method

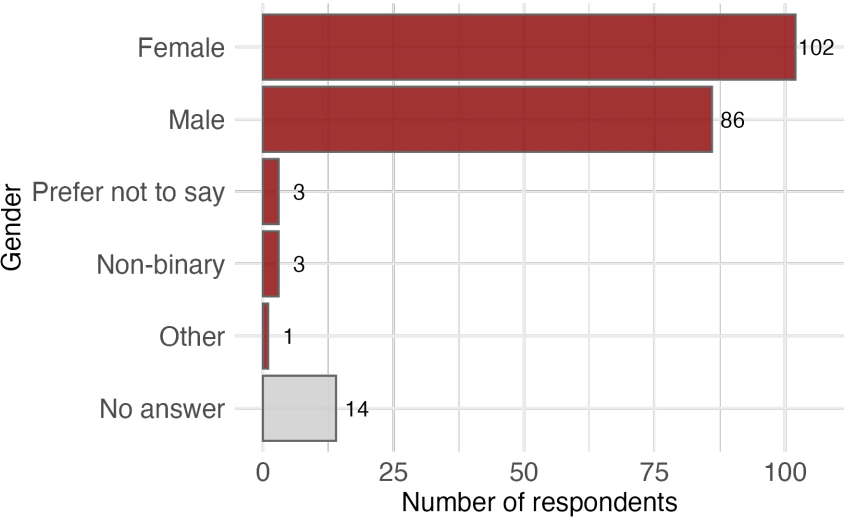
Posted survey to following listservs and targeted email:

- ACRL Forum
- ALA Instruction Section
- ALA College Libraries Section
- ACRL Science and Technology Section
- ACRL University Libraries Section
- Philadelphia Area Science, Technology, Engineering Librarians (PASTEL)
- Targeted email to published computational and evolutionary biologists indexed in PubMed.

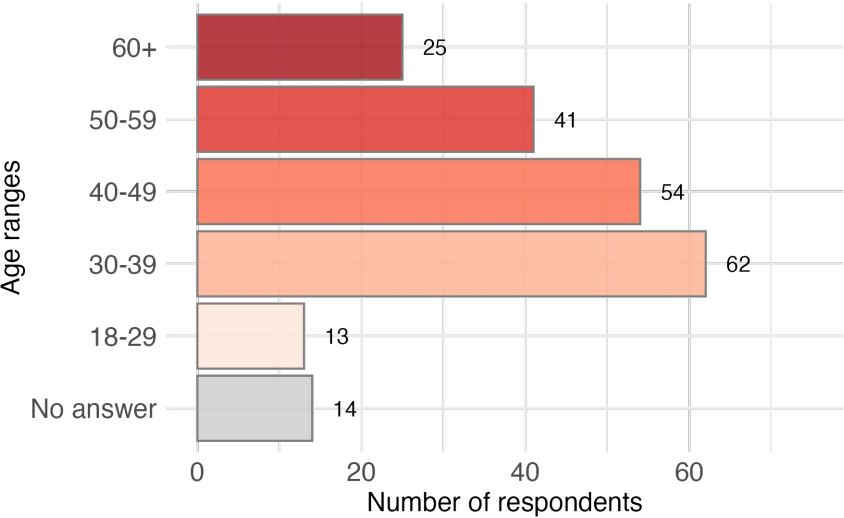


# Demographics: Survey Respondents (n=209)

Genders of survey respondents



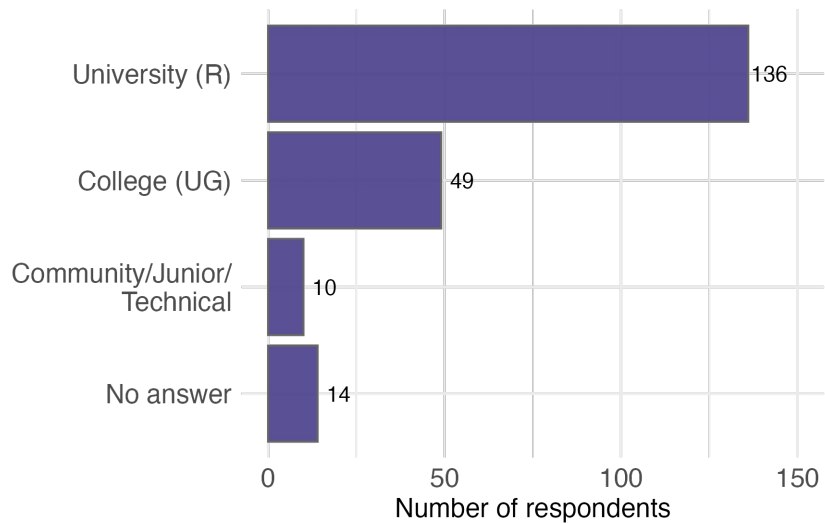
Age ranges of survey respondents



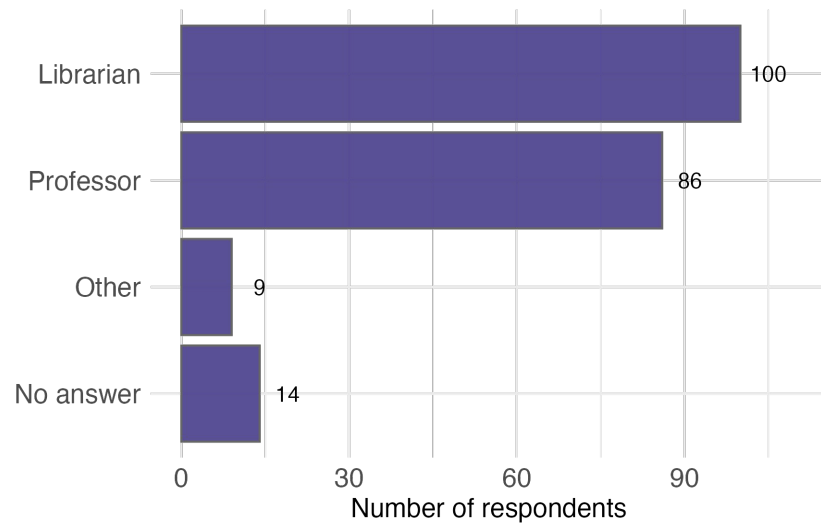


## Demographics: Survey Respondents (n=209)

Types of institutions



Primary roles of respondents

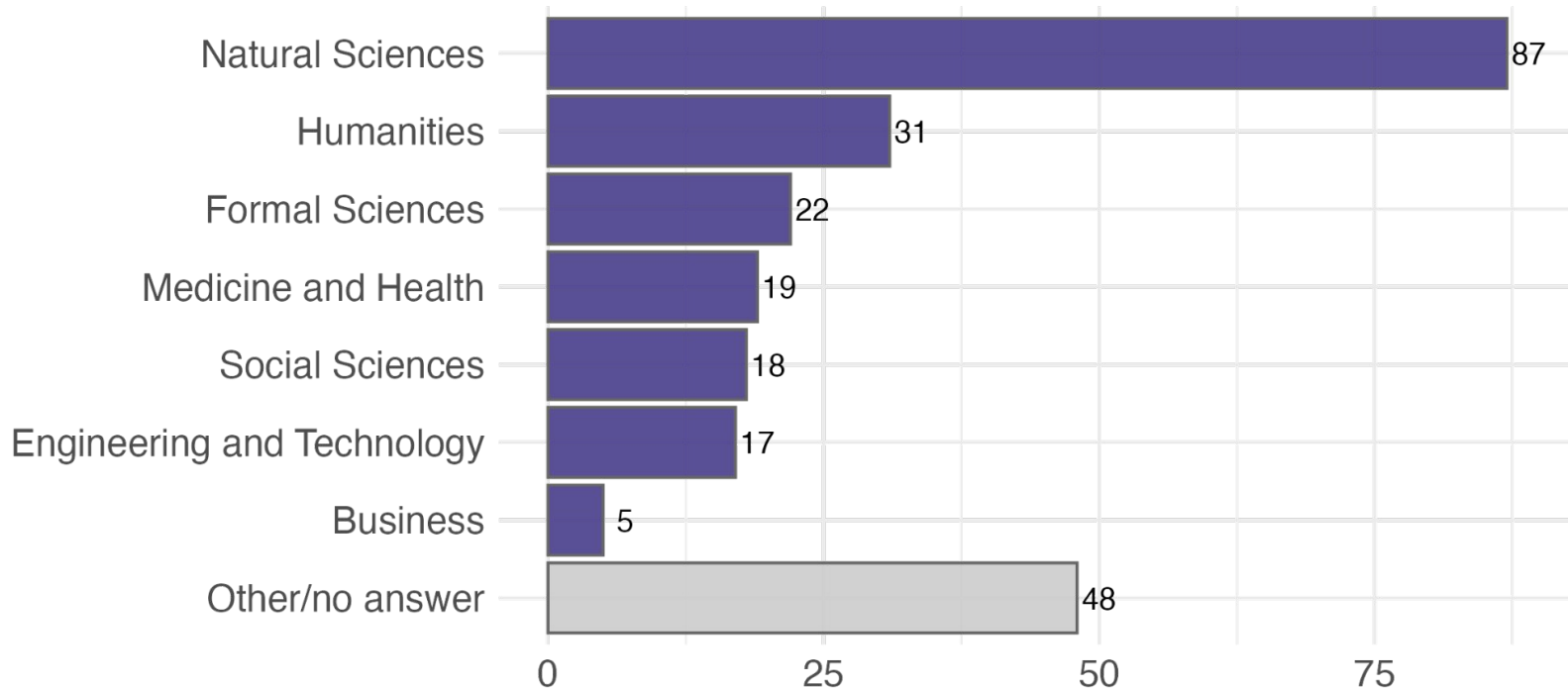






## Demographics: Survey Respondents (n=209)

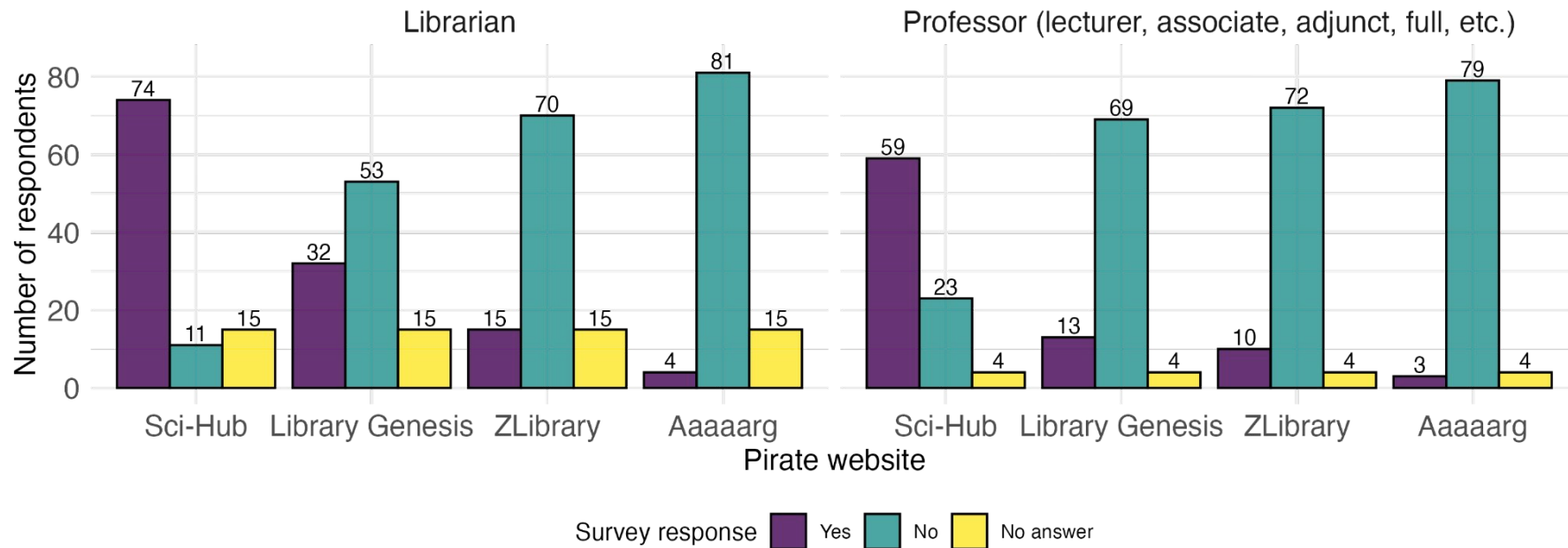
### Primary affiliations of respondents





## Knowledge of 4 different pirate sites (n=100)

Have you heard of this resource?



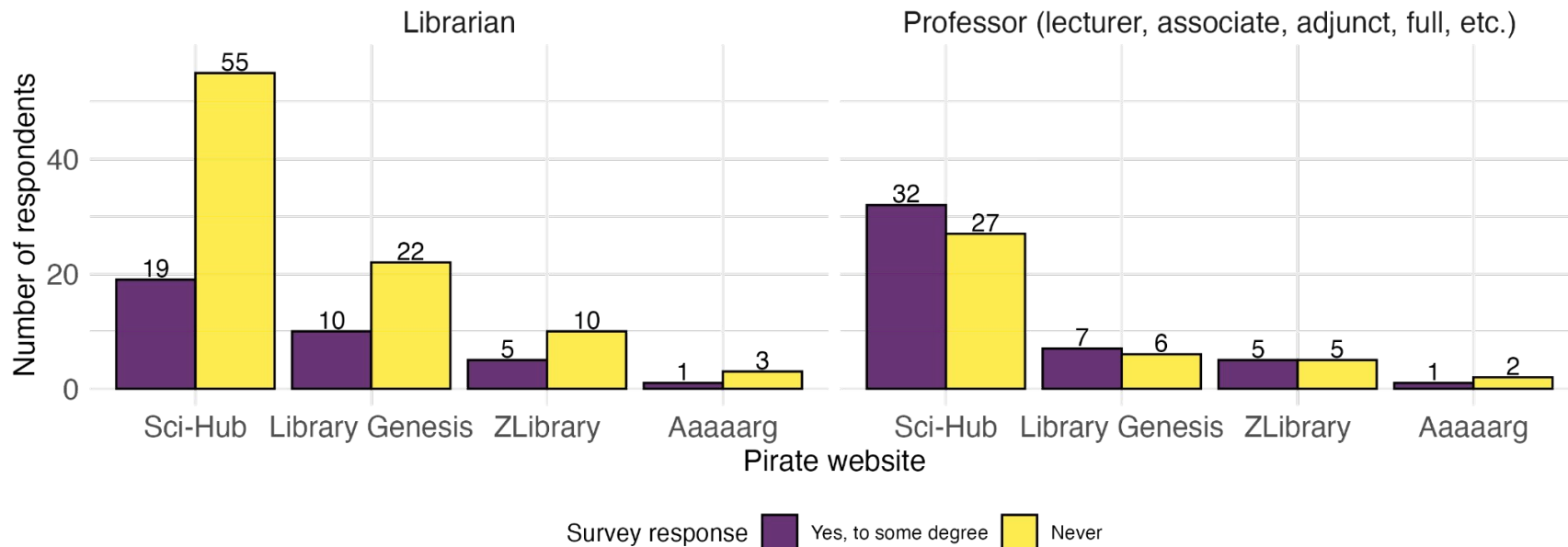


## Have librarians/professors used a pirate site? (n=86)

Yes, to some degree pools all responses:

- "Always"
- "Most of the time"
- "About half the time"
- "Sometimes"

For those who have heard of the resource, do you use it at all?





## Are librarians/professors teaching pirate sites to students?

By age: Do you ever teach or mention pirate sites to students and if so in what context?



	<b>18-29 (n=13)</b>	<b>30-39 (n=62)</b>	<b>40-49 (n=54)</b>	<b>50-59 (n=41)</b>	<b>60+ (n=25)</b>
<b>Research Guide, web site or other</b>	0%	8.1%	5.6%	0%	0%
<b>One-shot instruction or workshop</b>	0%	17.7%	7.4%	14.6%	12%
<b>Formal program (conference or symposium)</b>	0%	1.6%	0%	4.9%	8%
<b>In reference consultation or office hours</b>	7.7%	24.2%	24.1%	19.5%	24%
<b>In classroom</b>	7.7%	14.5%	14.8%	2.4%	12%
<b>Never, I have never mentioned</b>	38.5%	51.6%	48.1%	63.4%	60%
<b>Other</b>	38.5%	8.1%	3.7%	12.2%	0%



## Why do librarians/professors use pirate sites? (n=40 free text responses)

- Themes that emerged:
  - Ease/convenience in using pirate sites (n=15)
  - No other option (No OA, ill, response from author) (n=11)
  - No time (n=5)
  - Cost (n=4)
  - Bad interfaces or connections off-campus (n=3)
  - As form of protest against publishers (n=2)





## Why do librarians/professors NOT use pirate sites? (n=129 free text responses)

- Themes that emerged:
  - I have what I need with library access (n=43)
  - ILL/emailed author for copy (n=34)
  - Trust/unethical (n=19)
  - Copyright violation (n=12)
  - Fear of malware or virus (n=11)
  - Modeling good behavior (working towards OA) (n=6)
  - Implicates institution (n=2)
  - Time to find (n=2)





## Elephant isn't leaving



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## Recommendations for librarians and professors

- An opportunity to discuss the scholarly publishing ecosystem with students
  - Geographic differences in access to information
  - Information privilege
  - Copyright laws
  - Retaining copyright/Open Access
  - Work to improve access and interfaces
  - Role of publishers in curating scholarship
  - The role of the university press and scholarly societies







**Thank you**

# Questions?

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