Q1 What is your primary profile?

Answered: 94   Skipped: 0
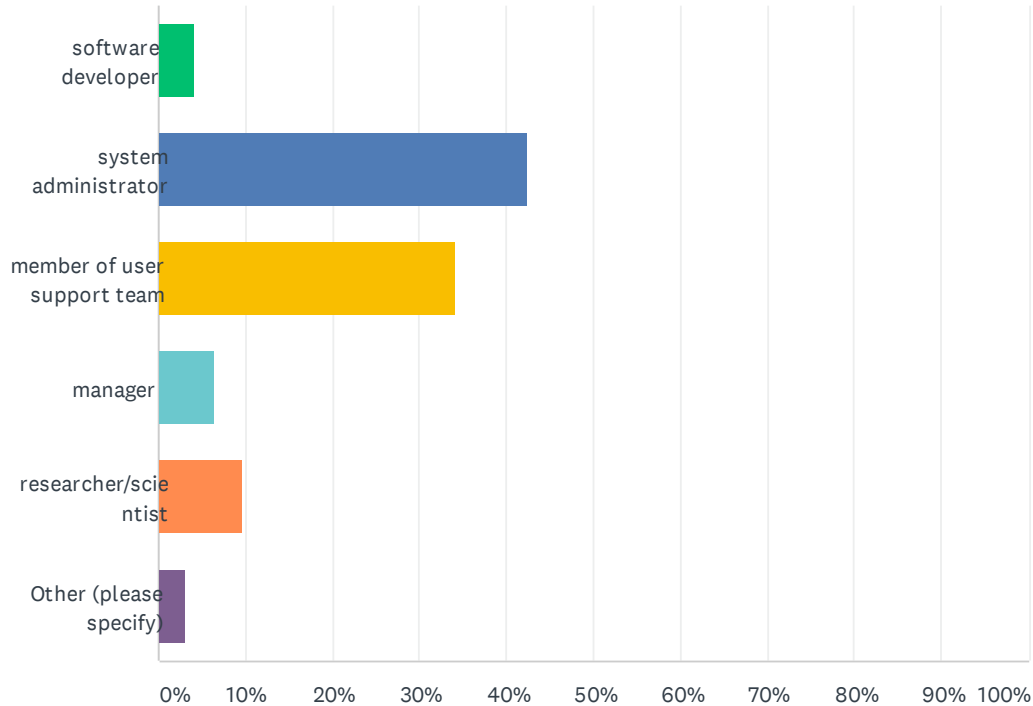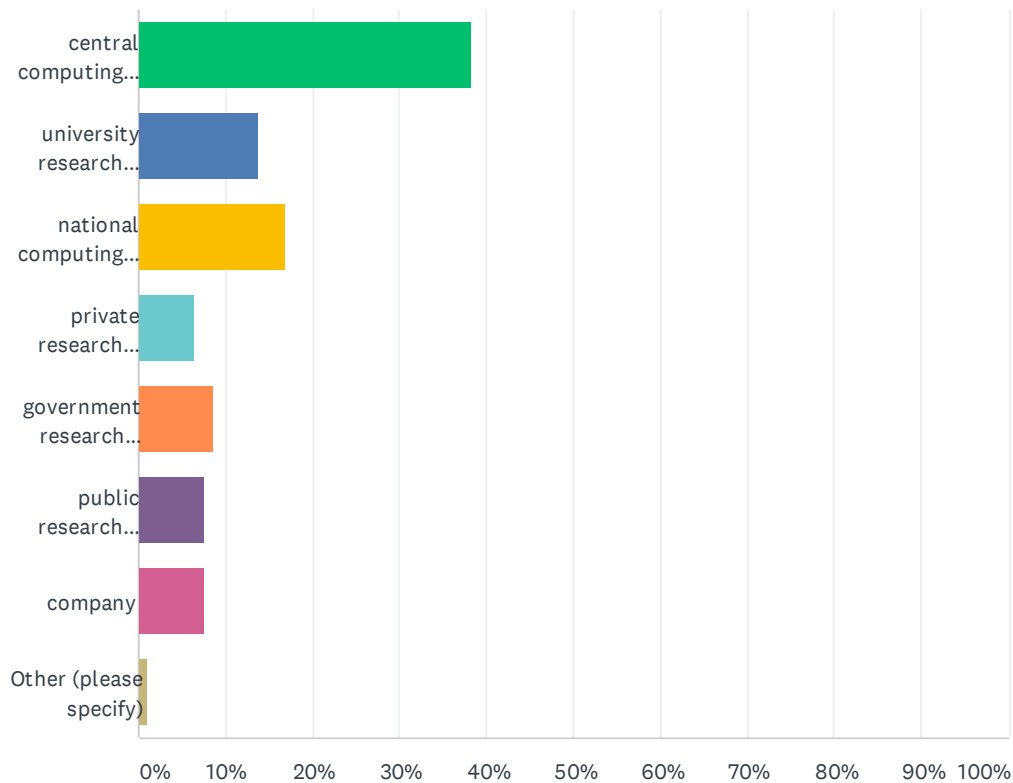

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
software developer	4.26%	4
system administrator	42.55%	40
member of user support team	34.04%	32
manager	6.38%	6
researcher/scientist	9.57%	9
Other (please specify)	3.19%	3
TOTAL		94

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Software developer and manager	1/21/2021 6:16 PM
2	full-stack deveoper, administractor, scientist, user support (not necessarily in this order)	1/18/2021 1:48 PM
3	software developer, system administrator and member of user support team	1/5/2021 12:19 PM

## Q2 What type of organisation do you work for?

Answered: 94   Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
central computing center at a university	38.30%	36
university research department/group	13.83%	13
national computing center	17.02%	16
private research institute	6.38%	6
government research institute	8.51%	8
public research institute	7.45%	7
company	7.45%	7
Other (please specify)	1.06%	1
TOTAL		94

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	intergovermental research institute	1/5/2021 12:09 PM

# Q3 In which part of the world are you located?

Answered: 94   Skipped: 0
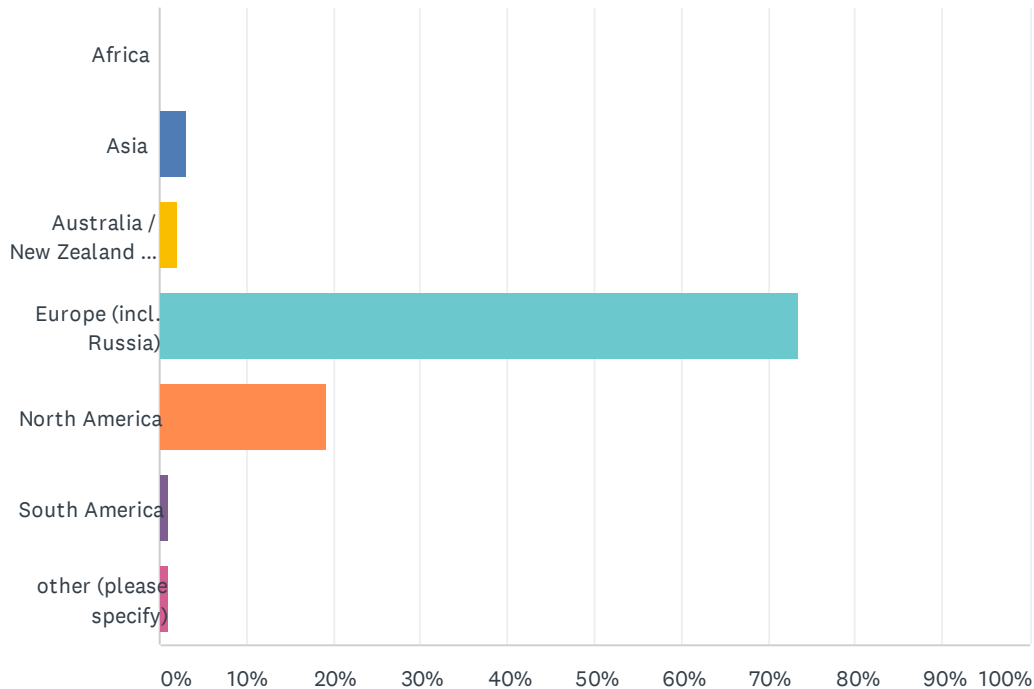
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Africa	0.00%	0
Asia	3.19%	3
Australia / New Zealand / Pacific	2.13%	2
Europe (incl. Russia)	73.40%	69
North America	19.15%	18
South America	1.06%	1
other (please specify)	1.06%	1
TOTAL		94

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	global	1/13/2021 10:48 AM

Q4 How long have you been using EasyBuild?

Answered: 94   Skipped: 0
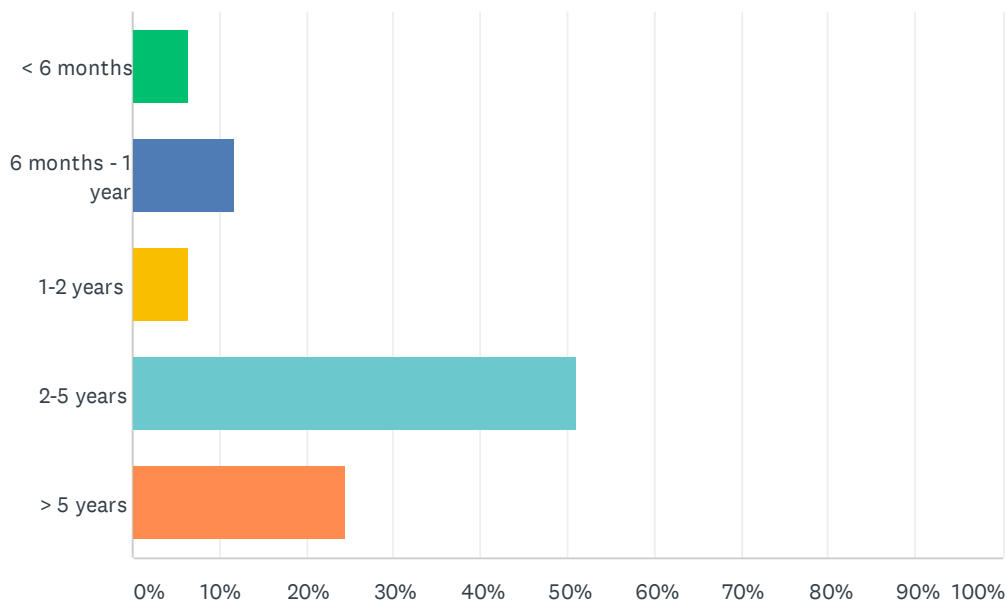
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
< 6 months	6.38%	6
6 months - 1 year	11.70%	11
1-2 years	6.38%	6
2-5 years	51.06%	48
> 5 years	24.47%	23
TOTAL		94

Q5 How did you first learn about EasyBuild?

Answered: 94   Skipped: 0
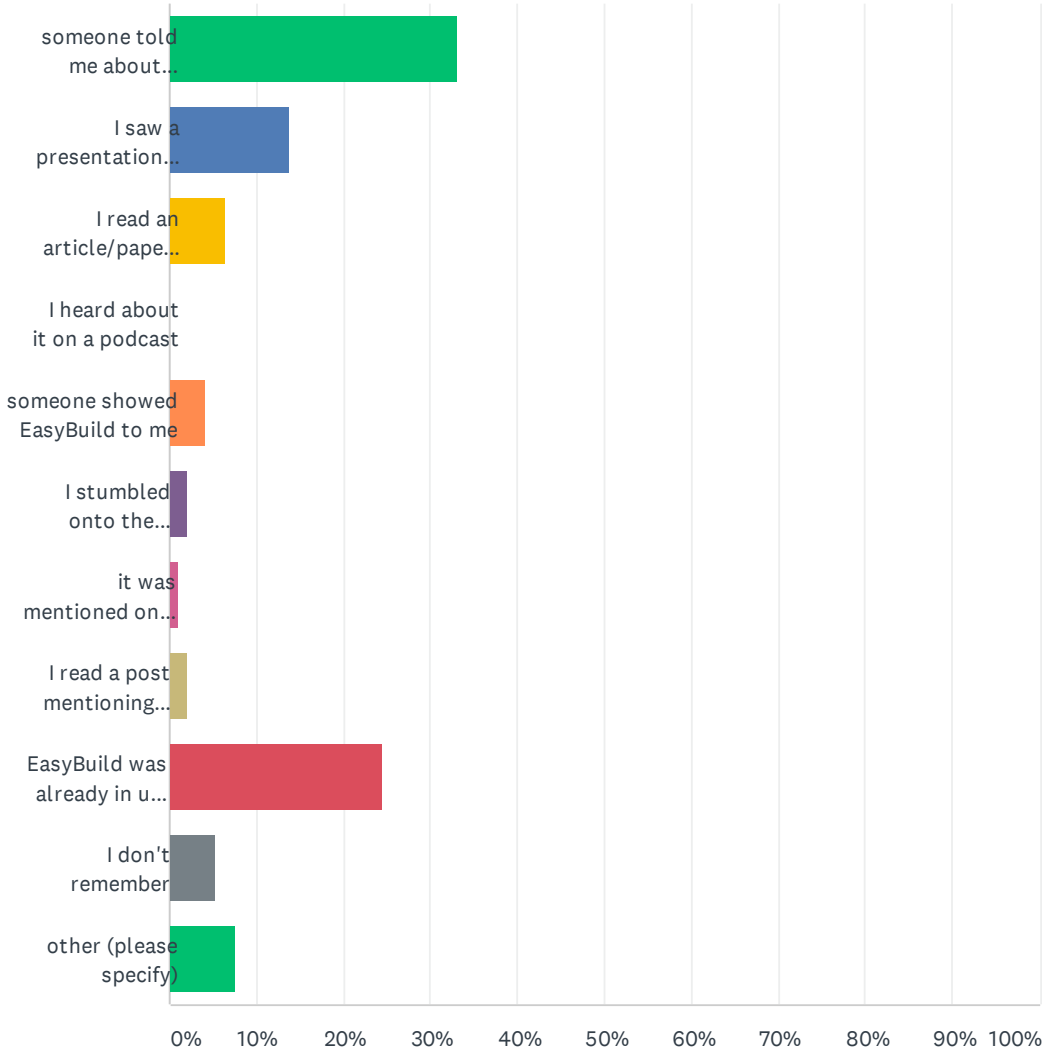
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
someone told me about EasyBuild	32.98%	31
I saw a presentation on EasyBuild	13.83%	13
I read an article/paper on EasyBuild	6.38%	6
I heard about it on a podcast	0.00%	0
someone showed EasyBuild to me	4.26%	4
I stumbled onto the EasyBuild website	2.13%	2
it was mentioned on social media (Twitter, ...)	1.06%	1
I read a post mentioning EasyBuild on a mailing list	2.13%	2
EasyBuild was already in use when I started	24.47%	23
I don't remember	5.32%	5
other (please specify)	7.45%	7
TOTAL		94

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	I was looking for such a tool	1/21/2021 3:42 PM
2	came with openhpc	1/6/2021 5:53 AM
3	I was involved right from the start as it was developed in the centre I work for (VSC)	1/5/2021 5:39 PM
4	I met Kenneth in person	1/5/2021 12:52 PM
5	In the previous company we were considered to use it but instead used Spack	1/5/2021 12:38 PM
6	a very close colleague started developing easybuild	1/5/2021 12:26 PM
7	I found it when looking a software build framework	1/5/2021 12:19 PM

Q6 What is the main aspect of EasyBuild that convinced you to start using it?
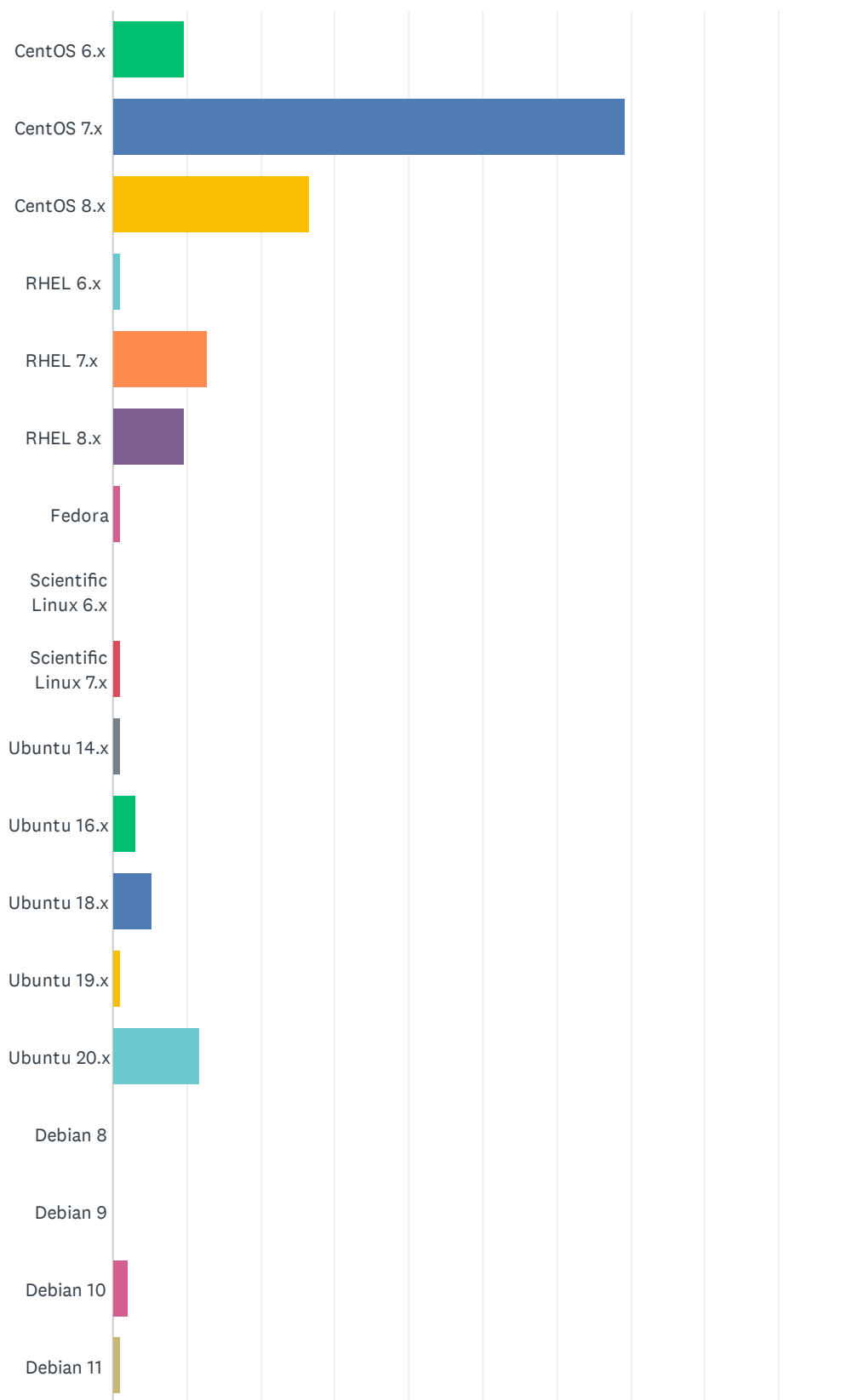
Answered: 93   Skipped: 1
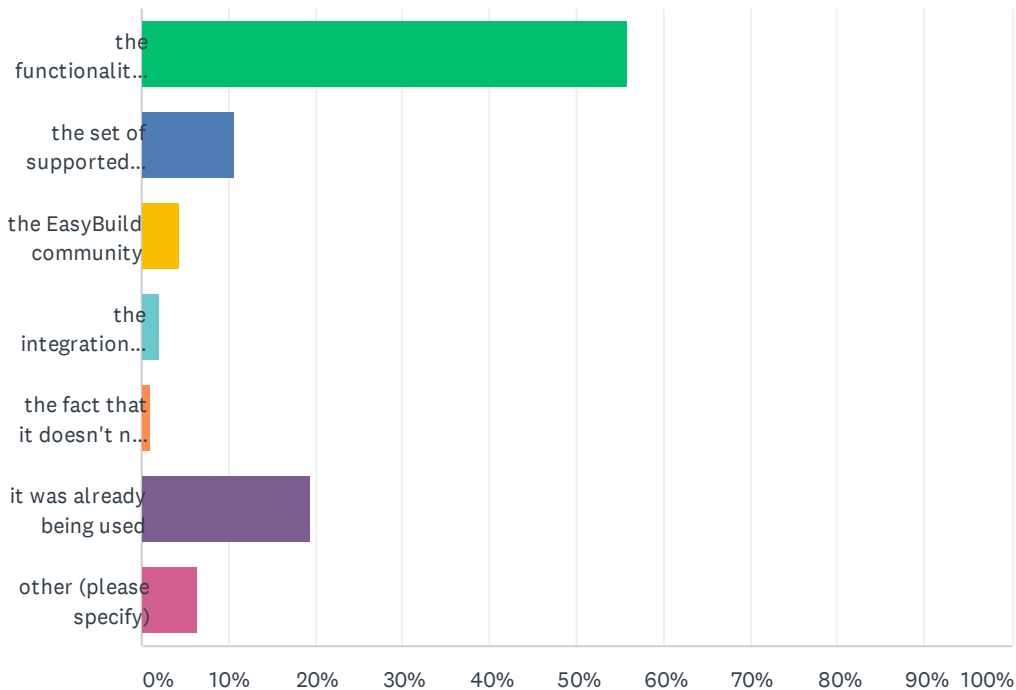
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
the functionality provided by the EasyBuild framework (fully automated installations, module generation, ...)	55.91%	52
the set of supported software (easyblocks/easyconfigs)	10.75%	10
the EasyBuild community	4.30%	4
the integration with other tools (Lmod, GC3Pie, Docker/Singularity, FPM, ...)	2.15%	2
the fact that it doesn't need root privileges	1.08%	1
it was already being used	19.35%	18
other (please specify)	6.45%	6
TOTAL		93

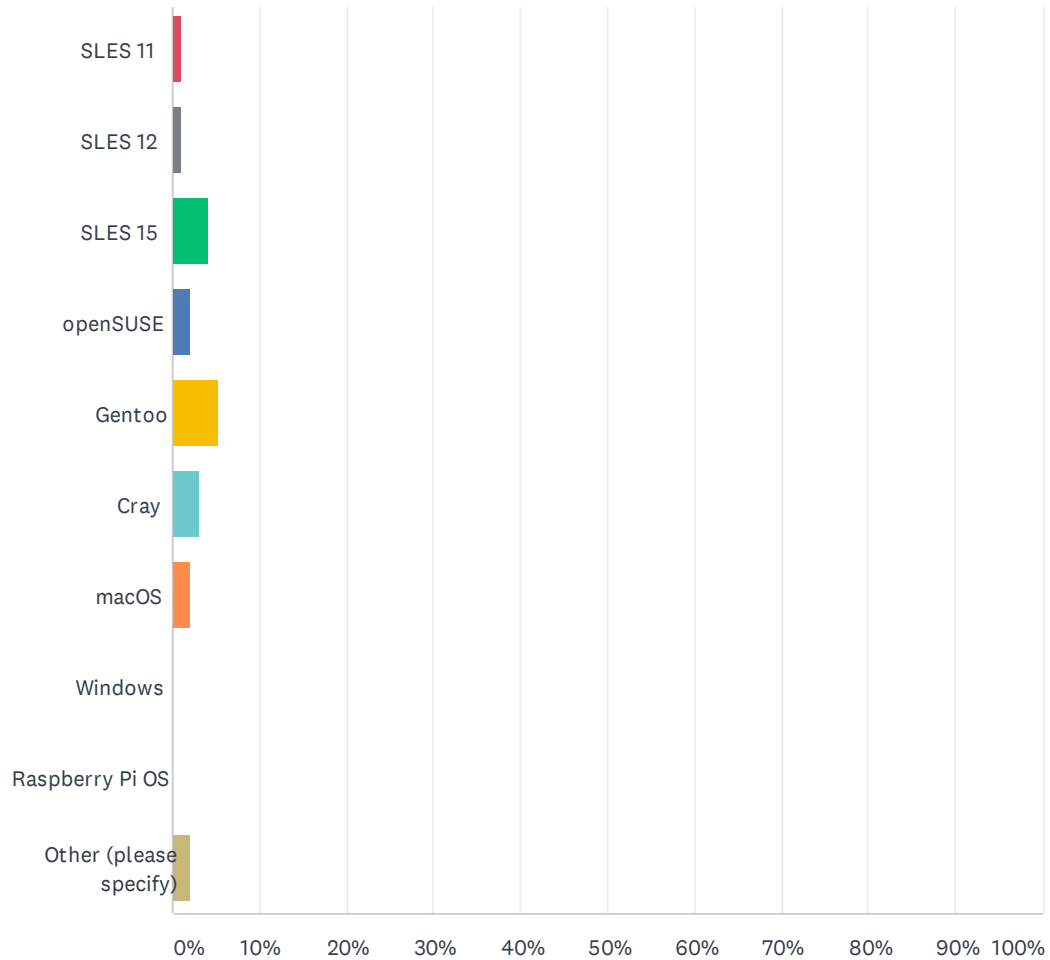| #	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	All of the above except that it was already being used	1/21/2021 3:31 PM
2	all of the above (with relatively equal weights)	1/18/2021 1:48 PM
3	Have not used it much - to steep a learning curve	1/6/2021 5:53 AM
4	We agreed to use it as a common tool across sites.	1/5/2021 5:39 PM
5	all of the above	1/5/2021 12:52 PM
6	Our CTO was in favor of it instead of Spack	1/5/2021 12:38 PM

Q7 On which operating system(s) do you use EasyBuild (most commonly)?

Answered: 94   Skipped: 0

4th EasyBuild User Survey (2020)

A horizontal bar chart showing operating system usage with the following categories and approximate percentages:

- SLES 11: ~1%
- SLES 12: ~1%
- SLES 15: ~3%
- openSUSE: ~1%
- Gentoo: ~4%
- Cray: ~2%
- macOS: ~1%
- Windows: 0%
- Raspberry Pi OS: 0%
- Other (please specify): ~1%

X-axis: 0% to 100% (in 10% increments)

4th EasyBuild User Survey (2020)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
CentOS 6.x	9.57%	9
CentOS 7.x	69.15%	65
CentOS 8.x	26.60%	25
RHEL 6.x	1.06%	1
RHEL 7.x	12.77%	12
RHEL 8.x	9.57%	9
Fedora	1.06%	1
Scientific Linux 6.x	0.00%	0
Scientific Linux 7.x	1.06%	1
Ubuntu 14.x	1.06%	1
Ubuntu 16.x	3.19%	3
Ubuntu 18.x	5.32%	5
Ubuntu 19.x	1.06%	1
Ubuntu 20.x	11.70%	11
Debian 8	0.00%	0
Debian 9	0.00%	0
Debian 10	2.13%	2
Debian 11	1.06%	1
SLES 11	1.06%	1
SLES 12	1.06%	1
SLES 15	4.26%	4
openSUSE	2.13%	2
Gentoo	5.32%	5
Cray	3.19%	3
macOS	2.13%	2
Windows	0.00%	0
Raspberry Pi OS	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	2.13%	2
Total Respondents: 94		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	CentOS 7.x	1/21/2021 4:01 PM
2	nix	1/5/2021 6:10 PM

Q8 Which Python version do you usually use to run EasyBuild? (check with "eb --show-system-info")(note: this is *not* about which Python versions you install *with* EasyBuild)

Answered: 94   Skipped: 0
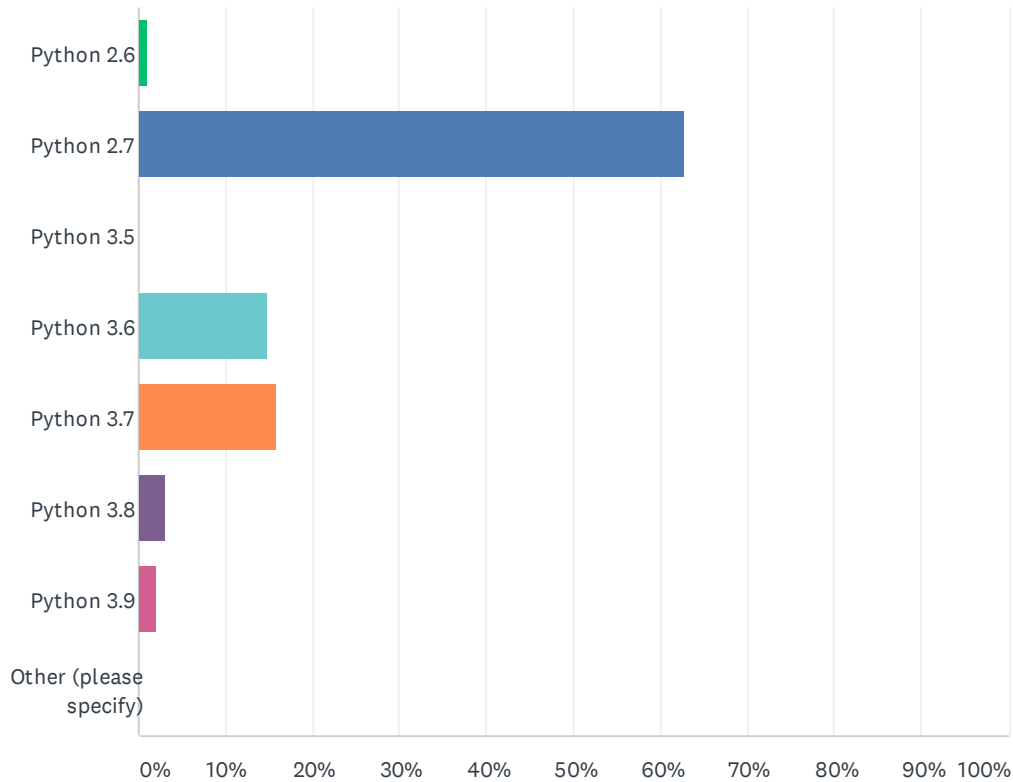
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Python 2.6	1.06%	1
Python 2.7	62.77%	59
Python 3.5	0.00%	0
Python 3.6	14.89%	14
Python 3.7	15.96%	15
Python 3.8	3.19%	3
Python 3.9	2.13%	2
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		94

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Q9 Support for running EasyBuild on top of Python 2.6 was deprecated in EasyBuild v4.1.0.How troublesome would it be for you if EasyBuild becomes incompatible with Python 2.6?
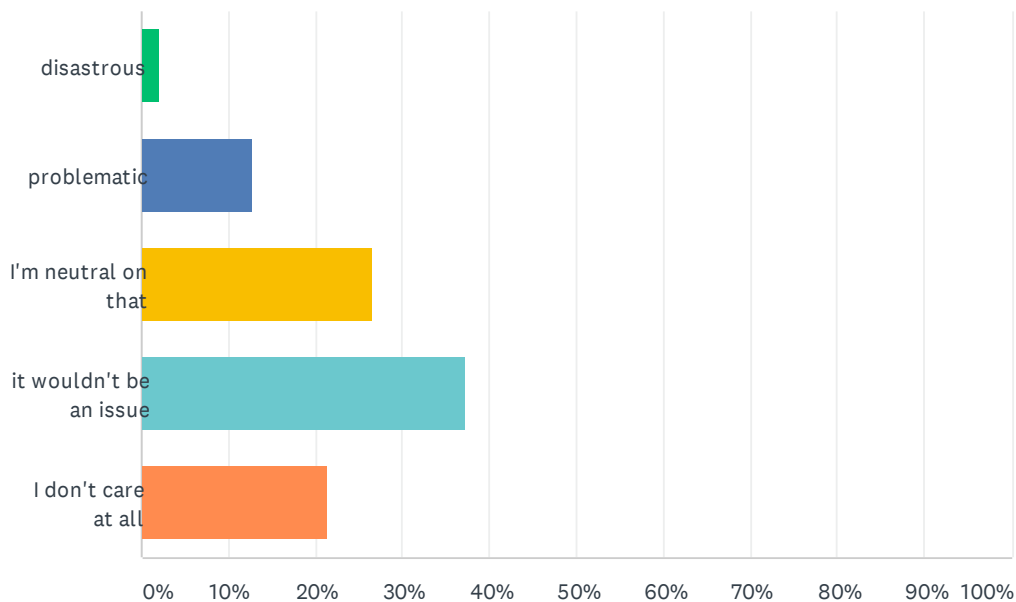
Answered: 94   Skipped: 0
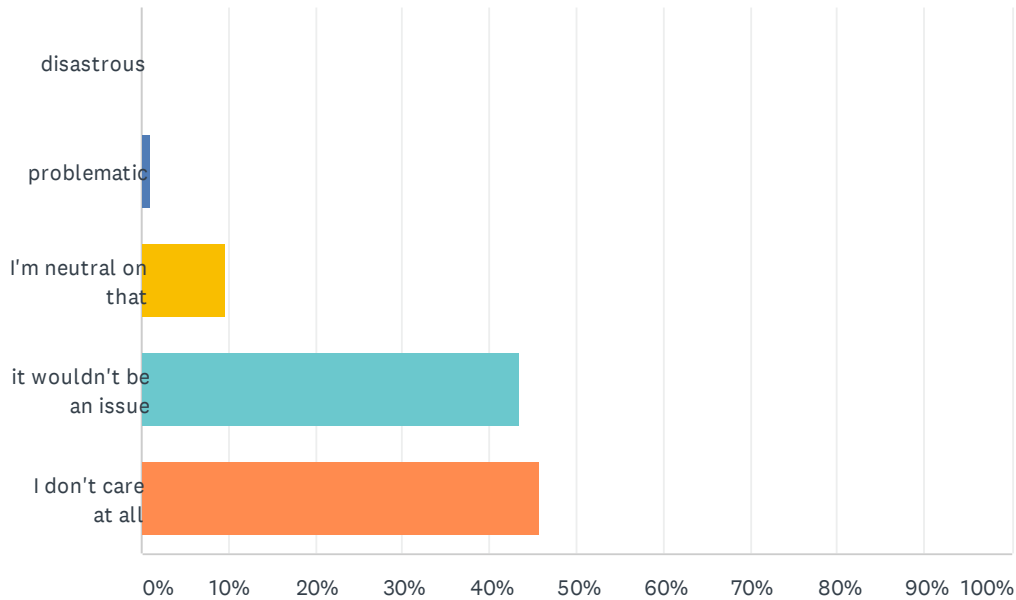
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
disastrous	0.00%	0
problematic	1.06%	1
I'm neutral on that	9.57%	9
it wouldn't be an issue	43.62%	41
I don't care at all	45.74%	43
TOTAL		94

Q10 EasyBuild is compatible with Python 3 since EasyBuild v4.0.0 (Sept 2019), while support for running EasyBuild on top of Python 2.7 is retained.How troublesome would it be for you if EasyBuild becomes incompatible with Python 2?(note: there are *no* plans yet currently to drop support for Python 2)
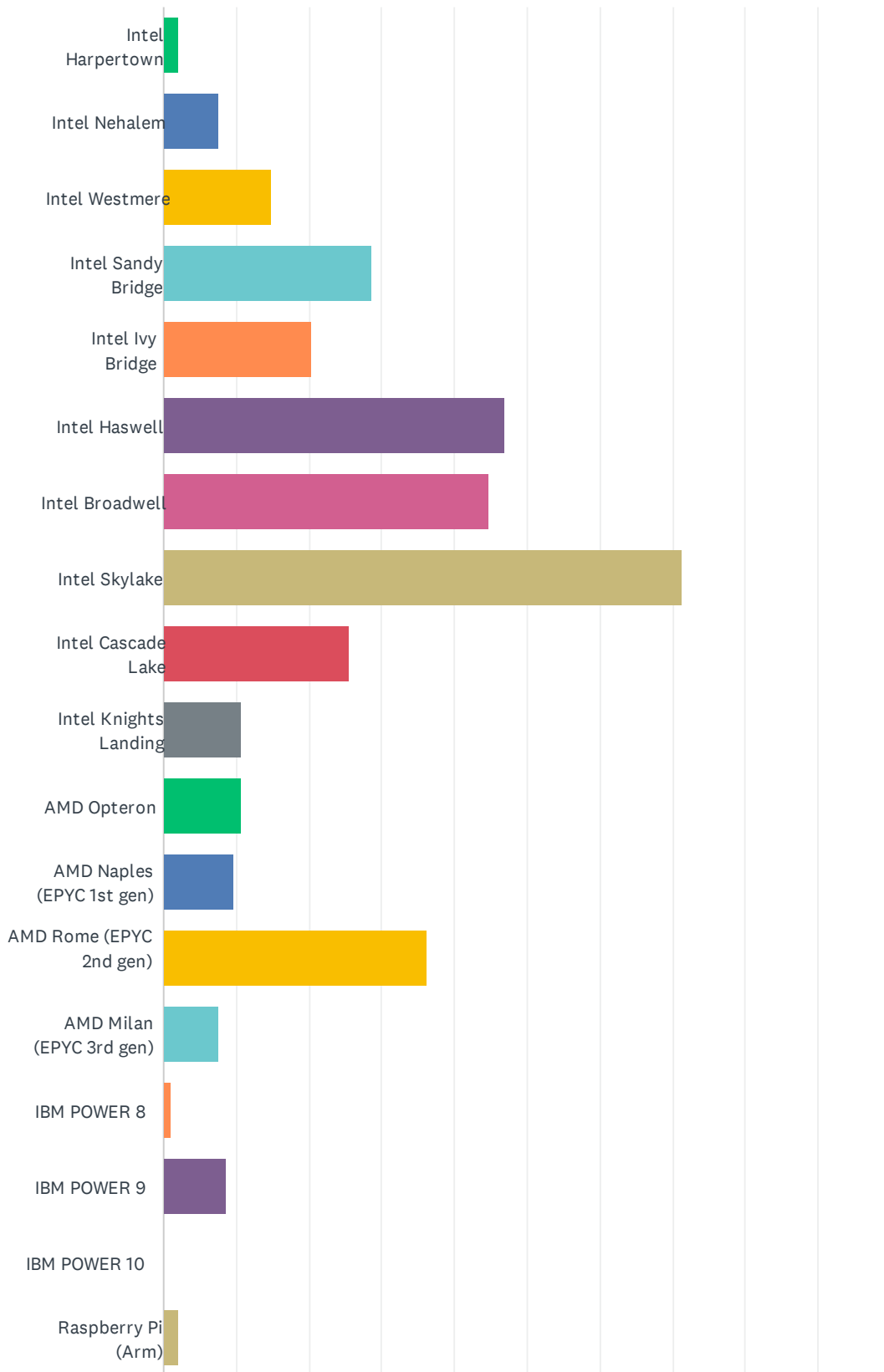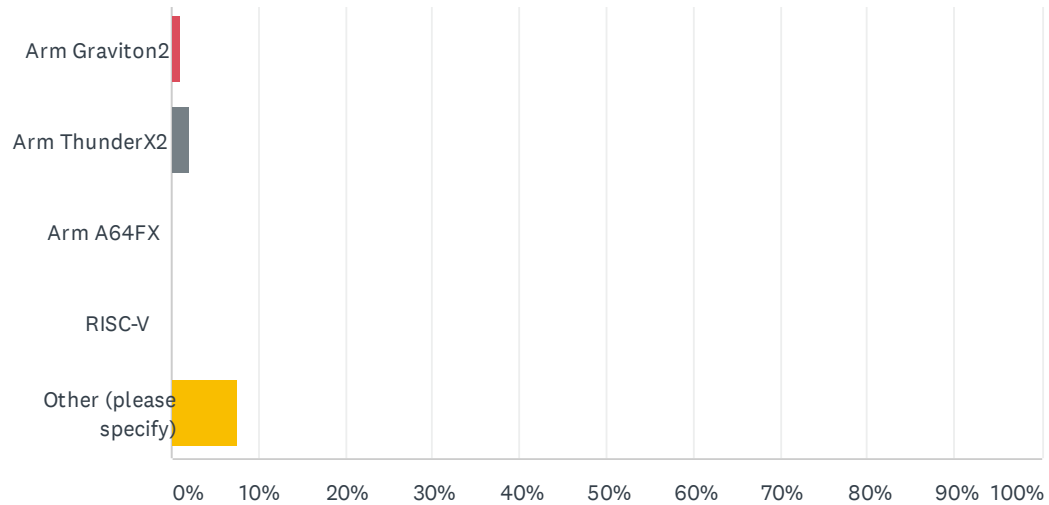
Answered: 94   Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
disastrous	2.13%	2
problematic	12.77%	12
I'm neutral on that	26.60%	25
it wouldn't be an issue	37.23%	35
I don't care at all	21.28%	20
TOTAL		94

Q11 For which processor families are you installing software using EasyBuild?

Answered: 94   Skipped: 0

4th EasyBuild User Survey (2020)

4th EasyBuild User Survey (2020)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Intel Harpertown	2.13%	2
Intel Nehalem	7.45%	7
Intel Westmere	14.89%	14
Intel Sandy Bridge	28.72%	27
Intel Ivy Bridge	20.21%	19
Intel Haswell	46.81%	44
Intel Broadwell	44.68%	42
Intel Skylake	71.28%	67
Intel Cascade Lake	25.53%	24
Intel Knights Landing	10.64%	10
AMD Opteron	10.64%	10
AMD Naples (EPYC 1st gen)	9.57%	9
AMD Rome (EPYC 2nd gen)	36.17%	34
AMD Milan (EPYC 3rd gen)	7.45%	7
IBM POWER 8	1.06%	1
IBM POWER 9	8.51%	8
IBM POWER 10	0.00%	0
Raspberry Pi (Arm)	2.13%	2
Arm Graviton2	1.06%	1
Arm ThunderX2	2.13%	2
Arm A64FX	0.00%	0
RISC-V	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	7.45%	7
Total Respondents: 94		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	AMD EPYC (all gens) and Intel Broadwell and Skylake	1/21/2021 4:01 PM
2	many	1/18/2021 1:48 PM
3	Intel XEON	1/13/2021 1:09 PM
4	Intel Coffee Lake, AMD Zen 2	1/13/2021 10:50 AM
5	Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU E5-2667 v3 @ 3.20GHz	1/6/2021 5:53 AM
6	Intel Xeon E5-2680	1/5/2021 5:14 PM
7	Other ARM platforms. :)	1/5/2021 12:10 PM

Q12 For which accelerators are you installing software using EasyBuild?

Answered: 89   Skipped: 5
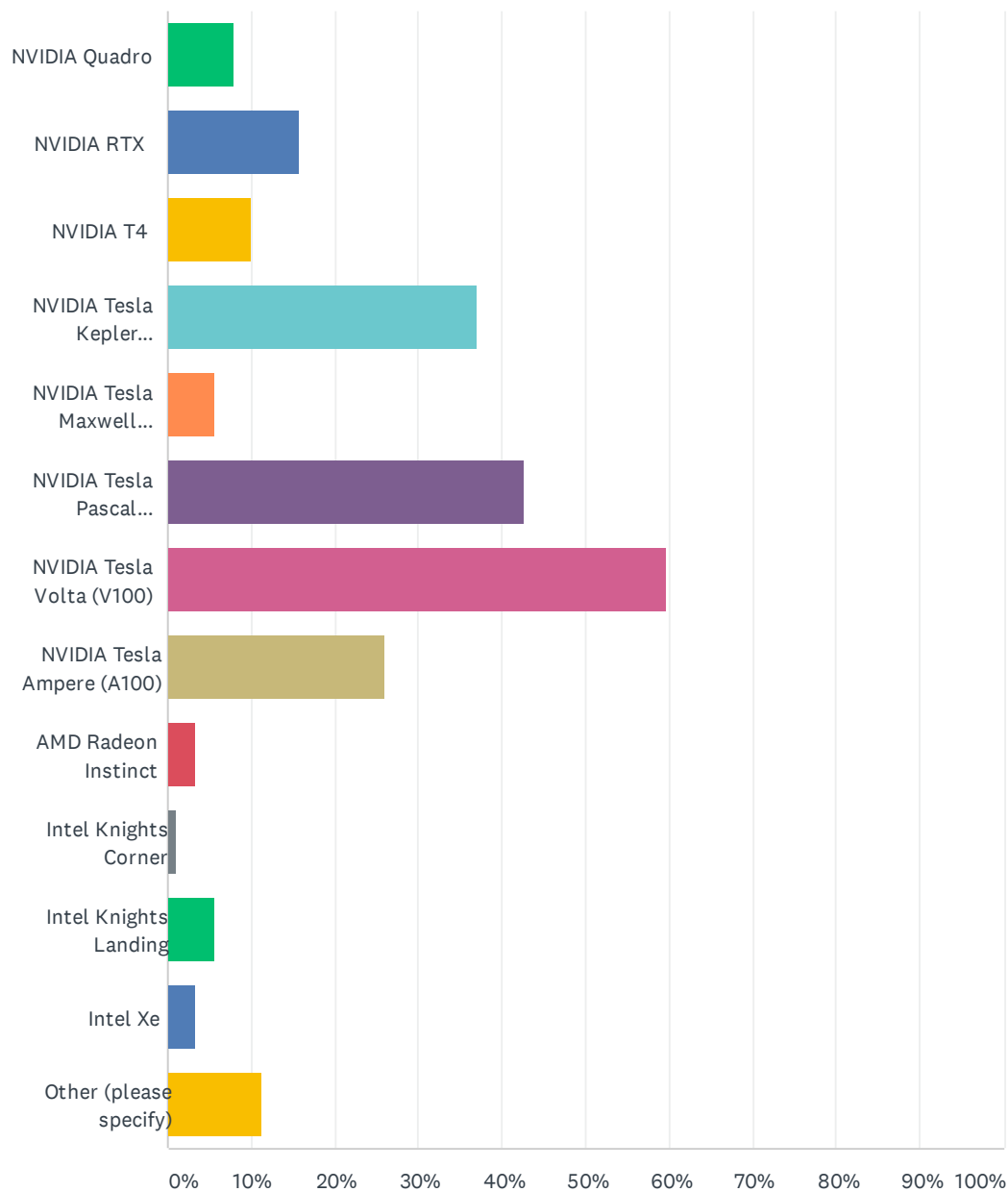
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
NVIDIA Quadro	7.87%	7
NVIDIA RTX	15.73%	14
NVIDIA T4	10.11%	9
NVIDIA Tesla Kepler (K10/K20/K20X/K40/K80)	37.08%	33
NVIDIA Tesla Maxwell (M4/M6/M10/M40/M60)	5.62%	5
NVIDIA Tesla Pascal (P4/P6/P40/P100)	42.70%	38
NVIDIA Tesla Volta (V100)	59.55%	53
NVIDIA Tesla Ampere (A100)	25.84%	23
AMD Radeon Instinct	3.37%	3
Intel Knights Corner	1.12%	1
Intel Knights Landing	5.62%	5
Intel Xe	3.37%	3
Other (please specify)	11.24%	10
Total Respondents: 89		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	NVIDIA Tesla Kepler, Pascal, Volta and Ampere	1/21/2021 4:01 PM
2	consumer card, non tesla pascal/ampere	1/21/2021 3:30 PM
3	dgx	1/21/2021 3:24 PM
4	none	1/18/2021 1:48 PM
5	none	1/13/2021 10:51 AM
6	none?	1/6/2021 3:54 AM
7	none	1/5/2021 4:12 PM
8	AMD Radeon RX Vega	1/5/2021 12:25 PM
9	NVIDIA GTX (1080Ti and 2080Ti)	1/5/2021 12:19 PM
10	NVIDIA GTX	1/5/2021 12:08 PM

Q13 Which EasyBuild version do you use? (check with "eb --version")

Answered: 94   Skipped: 0
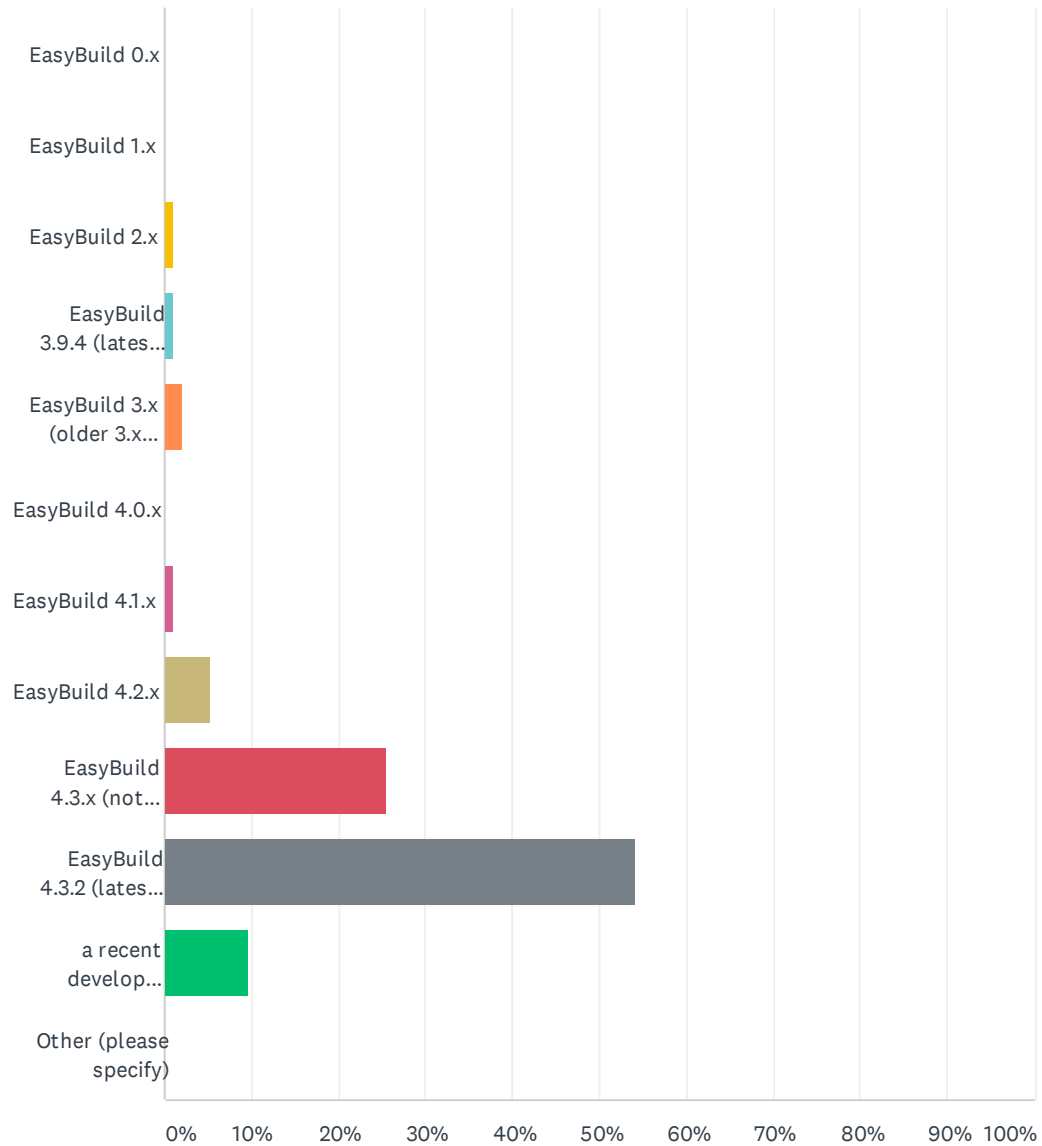
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
EasyBuild 0.x	0.00%	0
EasyBuild 1.x	0.00%	0
EasyBuild 2.x	1.06%	1
EasyBuild 3.9.4 (latest 3.x release)	1.06%	1
EasyBuild 3.x (older 3.x release)	2.13%	2
EasyBuild 4.0.x	0.00%	0
EasyBuild 4.1.x	1.06%	1
EasyBuild 4.2.x	5.32%	5
EasyBuild 4.3.x (not latest)	25.53%	24
EasyBuild 4.3.2 (latest version)	54.26%	51
a recent develop checkout	9.57%	9
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		94

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Q14 If you're not using the latest release, why not?

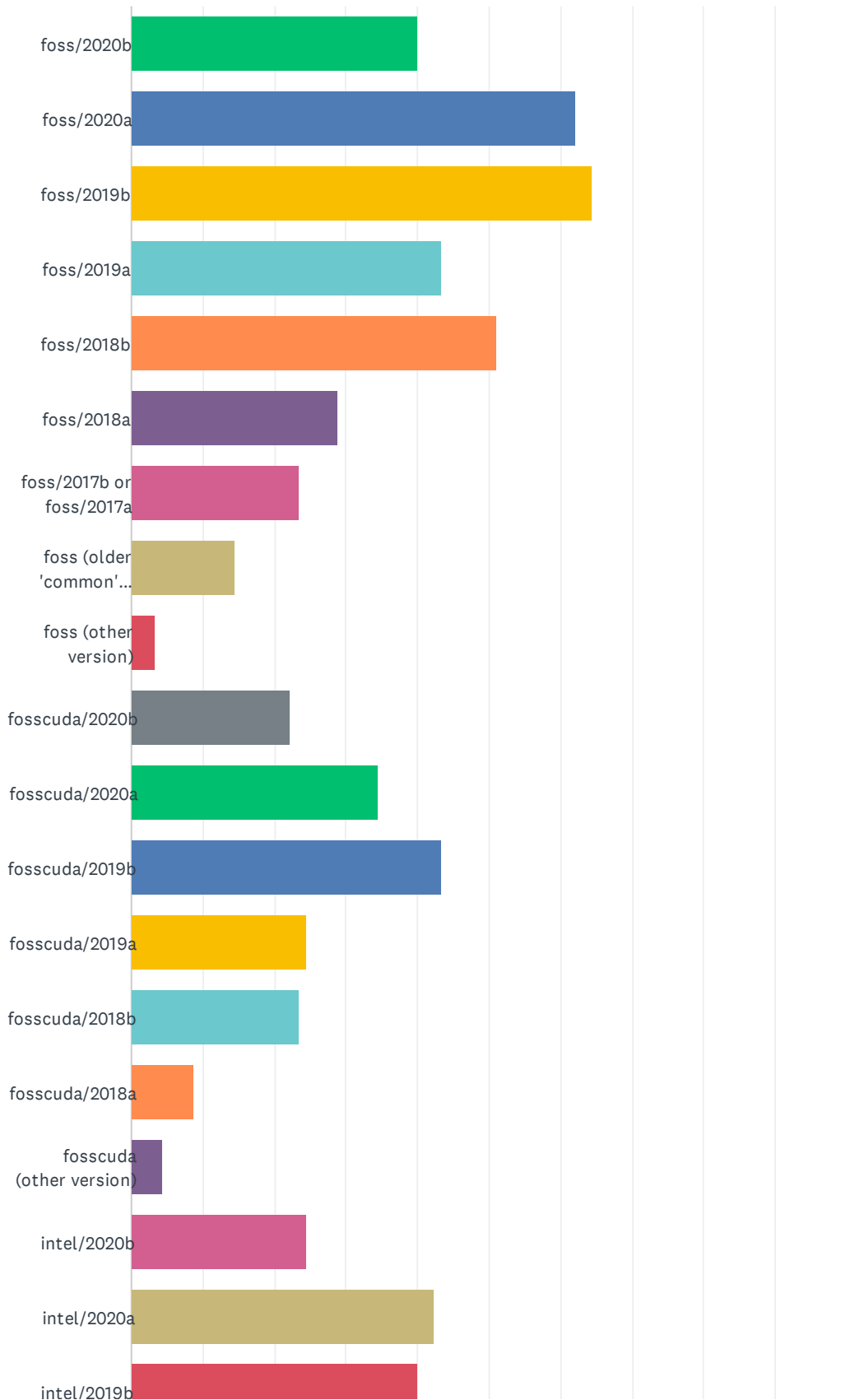Answered: 87   Skipped: 7
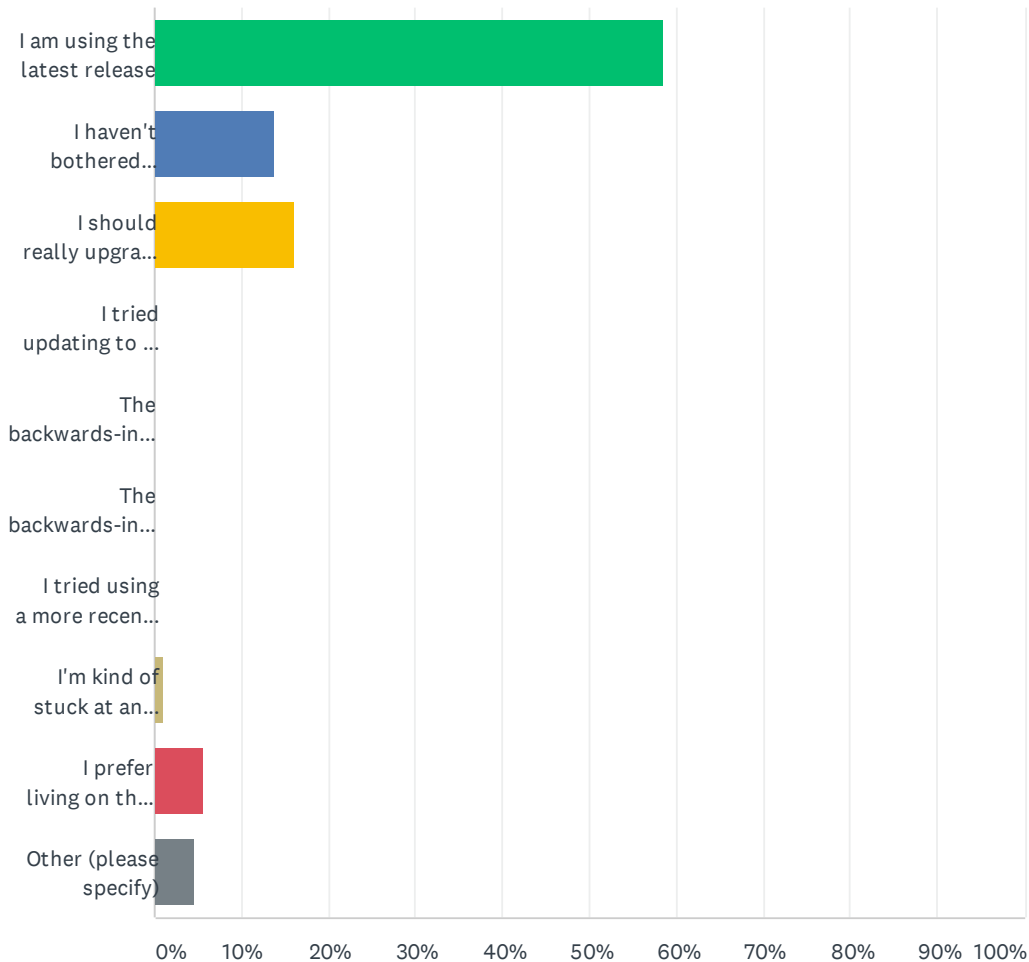
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
I am using the latest release	58.62%	51
I haven't bothered upgrading, the version I'm using now works fine	13.79%	12
I should really upgrade, but haven't found the time for it	16.09%	14
I tried updating to a more recent version, but the update failed	0.00%	0
The backwards-incompatible changes in EasyBuild v3.0 prevent me from upgrading from EasyBuild 2.x	0.00%	0
The backwards-incompatible changes in EasyBuild v4.0 prevent me from upgrading from EasyBuild 3.x	0.00%	0
I tried using a more recent version, but it didn't work for me	0.00%	0
I'm kind of stuck at an older version because of customizations I made	1.15%	1
I prefer living on the edge and use develop instead	5.75%	5
Other (please specify)	4.60%	4
TOTAL		87

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	but i am	1/18/2021 1:48 PM
2	In the past we used to a fixed easybuild version for each stage.	1/6/2021 4:28 PM
3	came with openhpc	1/6/2021 5:53 AM
4	I update my version of EasyBuild when installing new toolchains (usually twice a year).	1/5/2021 5:34 PM

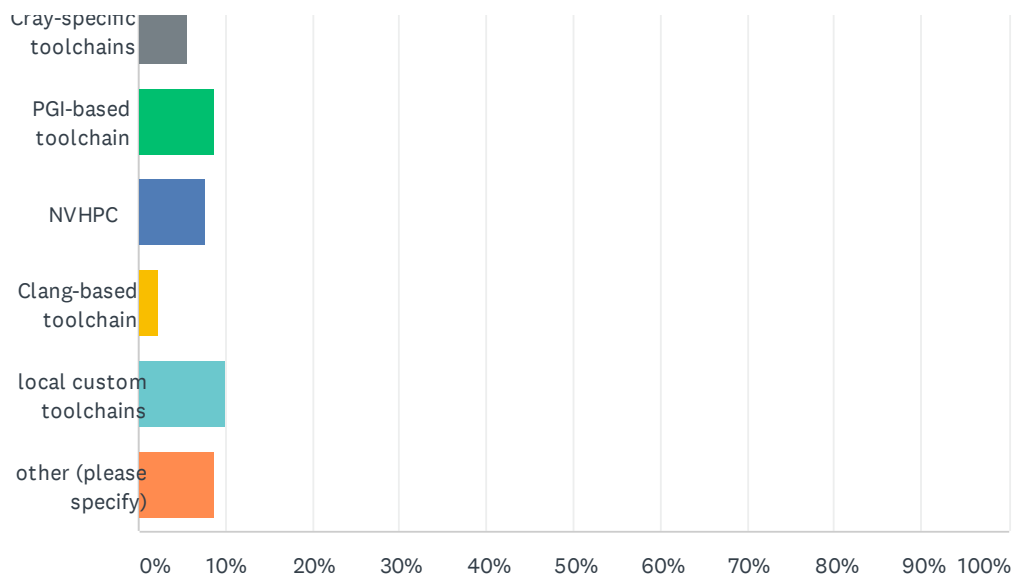## Q15 Which (full) toolchain(s) do you use? (check all that apply)

Answered: 90   Skipped: 4

4th EasyBuild User Survey (2020)
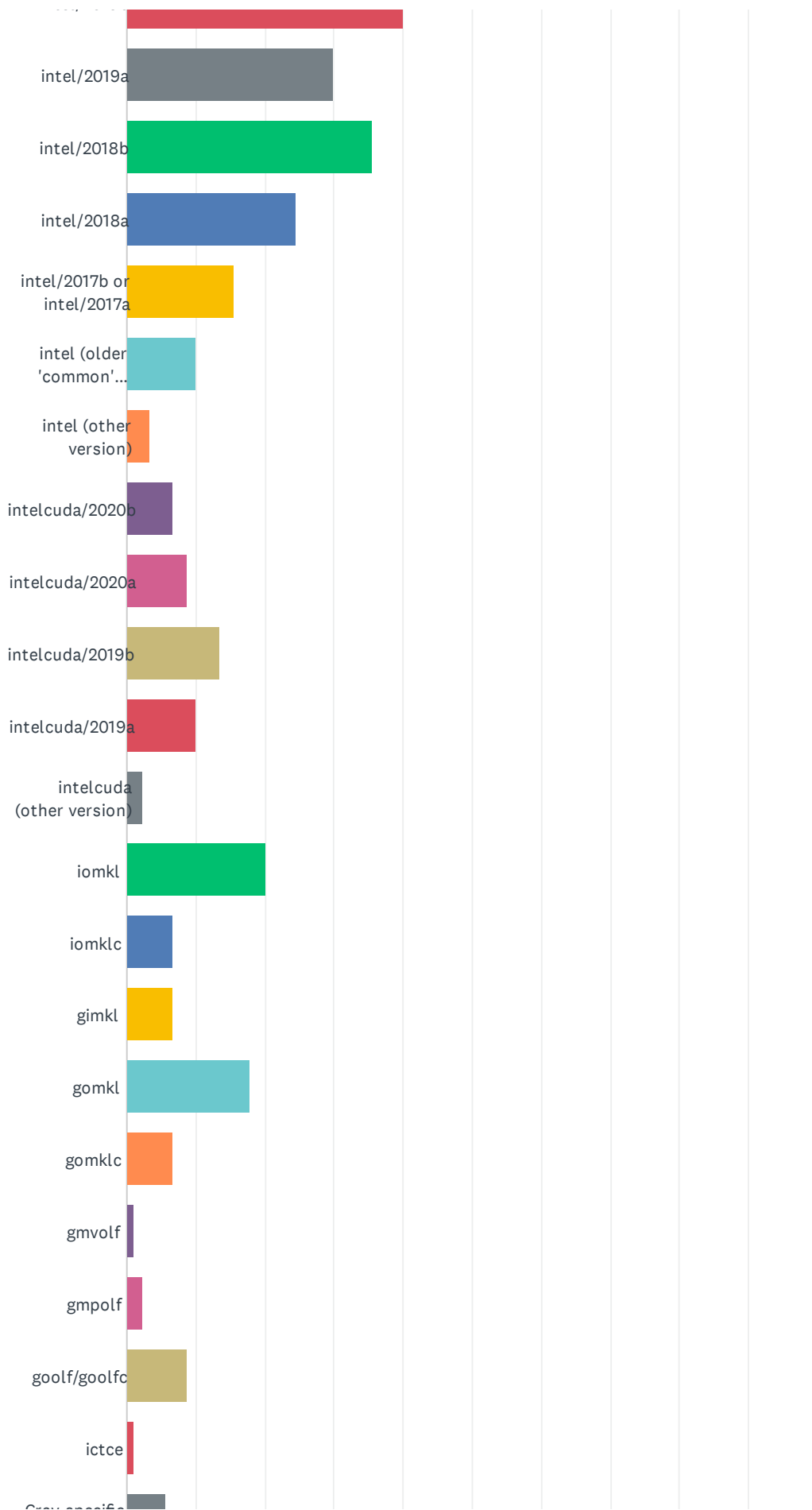
Horizontal bar chart with the following categories (top to bottom):

- (label cut off at top)
- intel/2019a
- intel/2018b
- intel/2018a
- intel/2017b or intel/2017a
- intel (older 'common'...
- intel (other version)
- intelcuda/2020b
- intelcuda/2020a
- intelcuda/2019b
- intelcuda/2019a
- intelcuda (other version)
- iomkl
- iomklc
- gimkl
- gomkl
- gomklc
- gmvolf
- gmpolf
- goolf/goolfc
- ictce
- Cray-specific... (label cut off at bottom)

4th EasyBuild User Survey (2020)

4th EasyBuild User Survey (2020)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
foss/2020b	40.00%	36
foss/2020a	62.22%	56
foss/2019b	64.44%	58
foss/2019a	43.33%	39
foss/2018b	51.11%	46
foss/2018a	28.89%	26
foss/2017b or foss/2017a	23.33%	21
foss (older 'common' version)	14.44%	13
foss (other version)	3.33%	3
fosscuda/2020b	22.22%	20
fosscuda/2020a	34.44%	31
fosscuda/2019b	43.33%	39
fosscuda/2019a	24.44%	22
fosscuda/2018b	23.33%	21
fosscuda/2018a	8.89%	8
fosscuda (other version)	4.44%	4
intel/2020b	24.44%	22
intel/2020a	42.22%	38
intel/2019b	40.00%	36
intel/2019a	30.00%	27
intel/2018b	35.56%	32
intel/2018a	24.44%	22
intel/2017b or intel/2017a	15.56%	14
intel (older 'common' version)	10.00%	9
intel (other version)	3.33%	3
intelcuda/2020b	6.67%	6
intelcuda/2020a	8.89%	8
intelcuda/2019b	13.33%	12
intelcuda/2019a	10.00%	9
intelcuda (other version)	2.22%	2
iomkl	20.00%	18
iomklc	6.67%	6

gimkl	6.67%	6
gomkl	17.78%	16
gomklc	6.67%	6
gmvolf	1.11%	1
gmpolf	2.22%	2
goolf/goolfc	8.89%	8
ictce	1.11%	1
Cray-specific toolchains	5.56%	5
PGI-based toolchain	8.89%	8
NVHPC	7.78%	7
Clang-based toolchain	2.22%	2
local custom toolchains	10.00%	9
other (please specify)	8.89%	8
Total Respondents: 90		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	foss/2019b, fosscuda/2019b, intel/2019b, fosscuda/2018b, iomkl, gmvolf, PGI	1/21/2021 4:01 PM
2	gompi	1/21/2021 3:42 PM
3	golf, golfc, iimkl, iimklc	1/21/2021 3:31 PM
4	own derivatives of current intel toolchains (for licencins issues)	1/21/2021 3:24 PM
5	gobff	1/13/2021 11:19 AM
6	gobff	1/6/2021 4:28 PM
7	Only applies to my group; site uses nearly all above.	1/5/2021 5:14 PM
8	aocc	1/5/2021 12:38 PM

# Q16 How frequently should the 'foss' and 'intel' common toolchains be updated?

Answered: 93   Skipped: 1
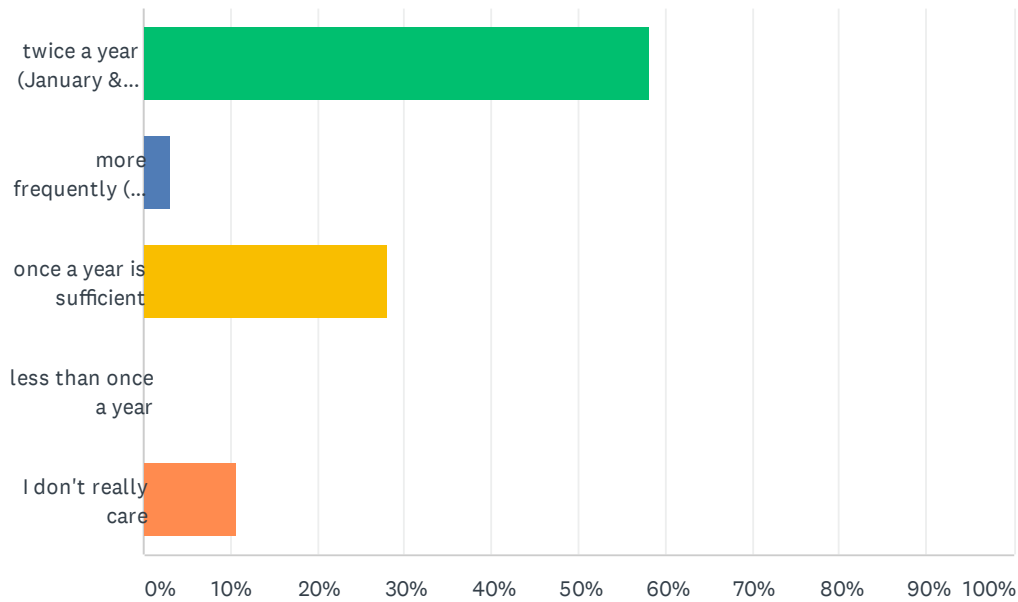
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
twice a year (January & July), as it is now	58.06%	54
more frequently (3 times a year or more)	3.23%	3
once a year is sufficient	27.96%	26
less than once a year	0.00%	0
I don't really care	10.75%	10
TOTAL		93

Q17 How many software installations did you perform in the last year using EasyBuild?
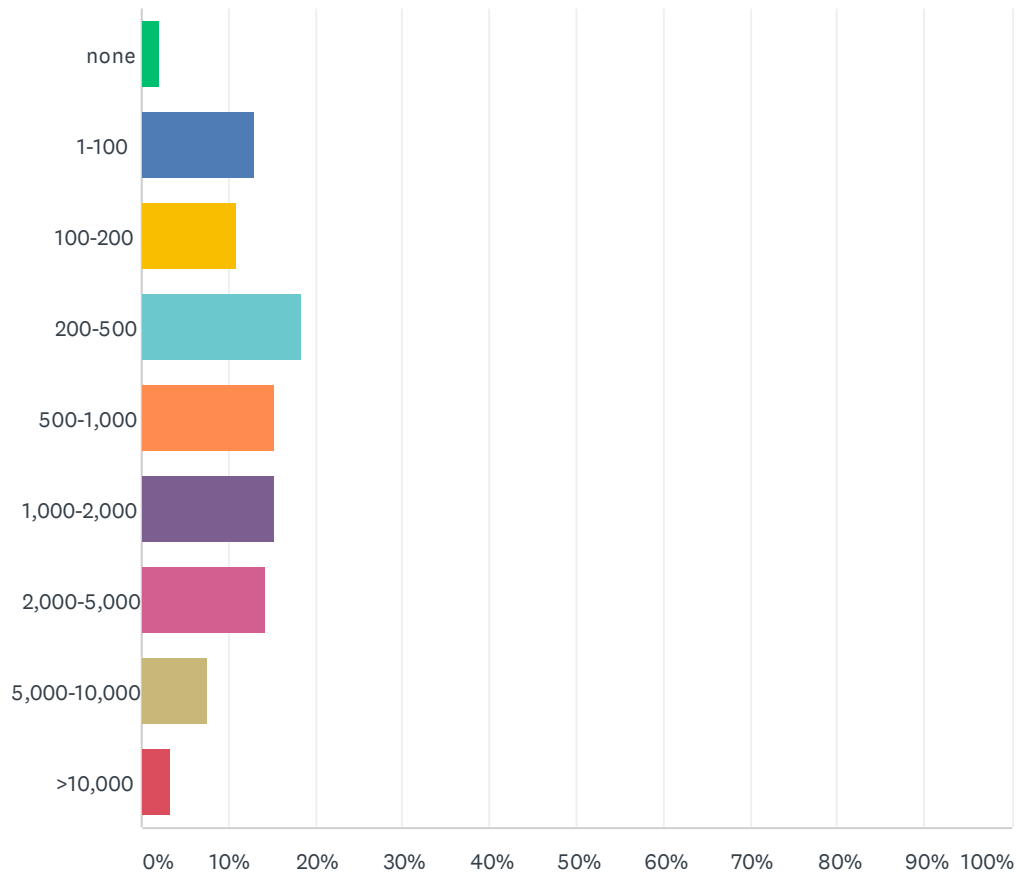
Answered: 94   Skipped: 0
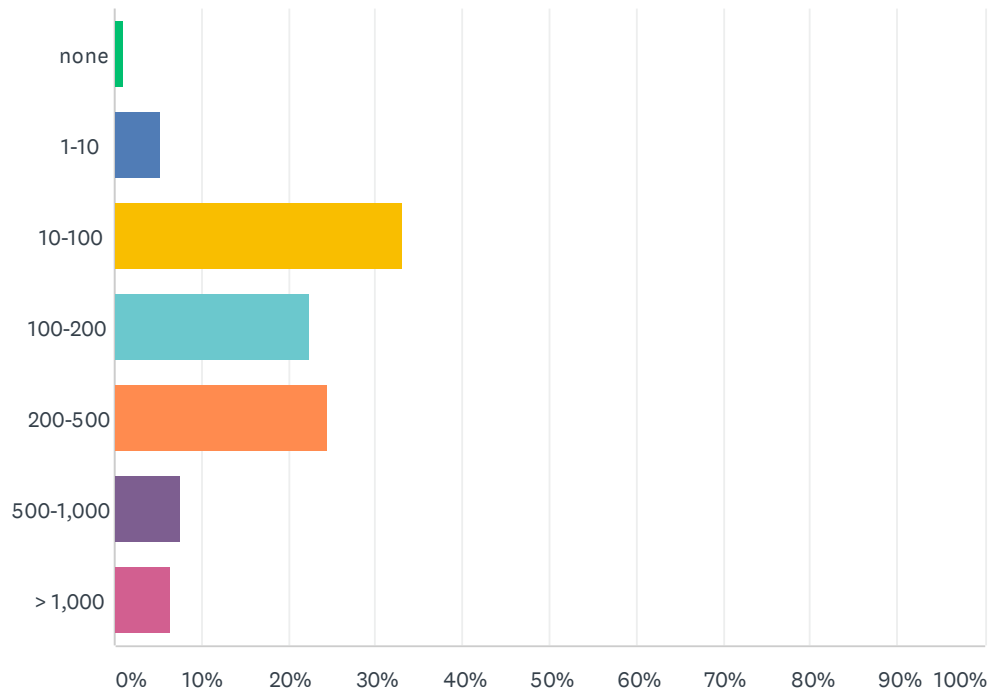
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
none	1.06%	1
1-10	5.32%	5
10-100	32.98%	31
100-200	22.34%	21
200-500	24.47%	23
500-1,000	7.45%	7
> 1,000	6.38%	6
TOTAL		94

Q18 How many software installations/modules installed with EasyBuild do you currently have in production (in total, across different systems)?
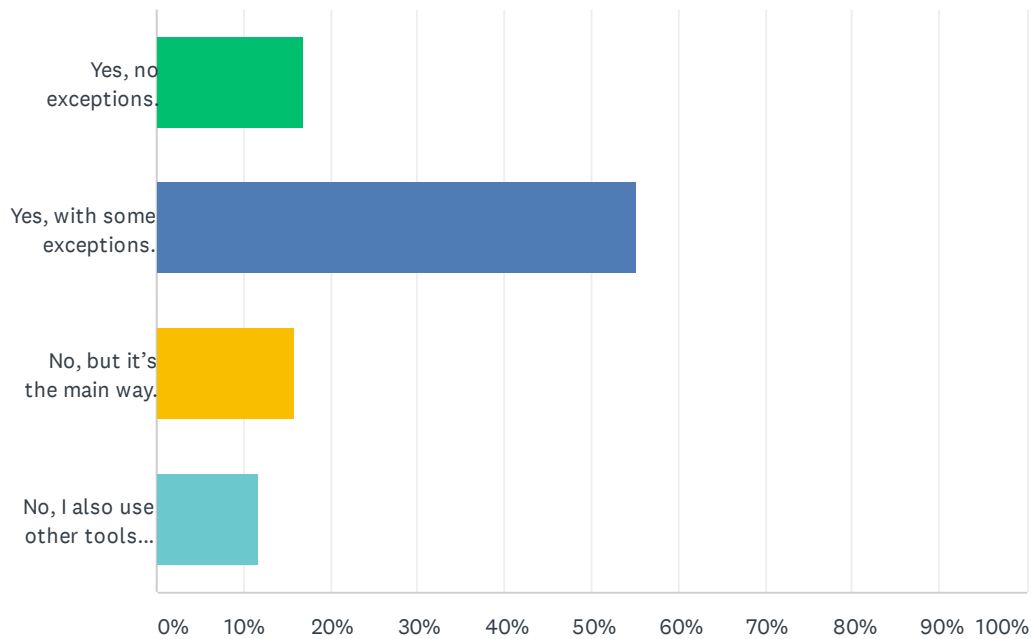
Answered: 92   Skipped: 2

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
none	2.17%	2
1-100	13.04%	12
100-200	10.87%	10
200-500	18.48%	17
500-1,000	15.22%	14
1,000-2,000	15.22%	14
2,000-5,000	14.13%	13
5,000-10,000	7.61%	7
>10,000	3.26%	3
TOTAL		92

Q19 Is EasyBuild your only way of installing (scientific) software?

Answered: 94   Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, no exceptions.	17.02%	16
Yes, with some exceptions.	55.32%	52
No, but it's the main way.	15.96%	15
No, I also use other tools frequently.	11.70%	11
TOTAL		94

Q20 Do you still install (scientific) software manually?

Answered: 94   Skipped: 0
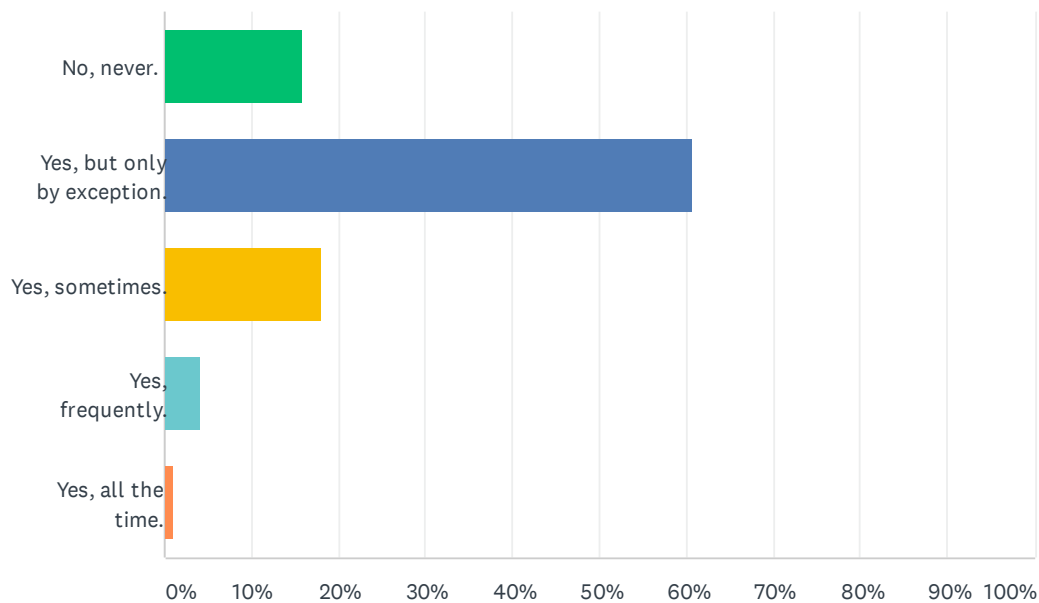
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No, never.	15.96%	15
Yes, but only by exception.	60.64%	57
Yes, sometimes.	18.09%	17
Yes, frequently.	4.26%	4
Yes, all the time.	1.06%	1
TOTAL		94

Q21 Which easyconfig files do you use? (check all that apply)

Answered: 93   Skipped: 1
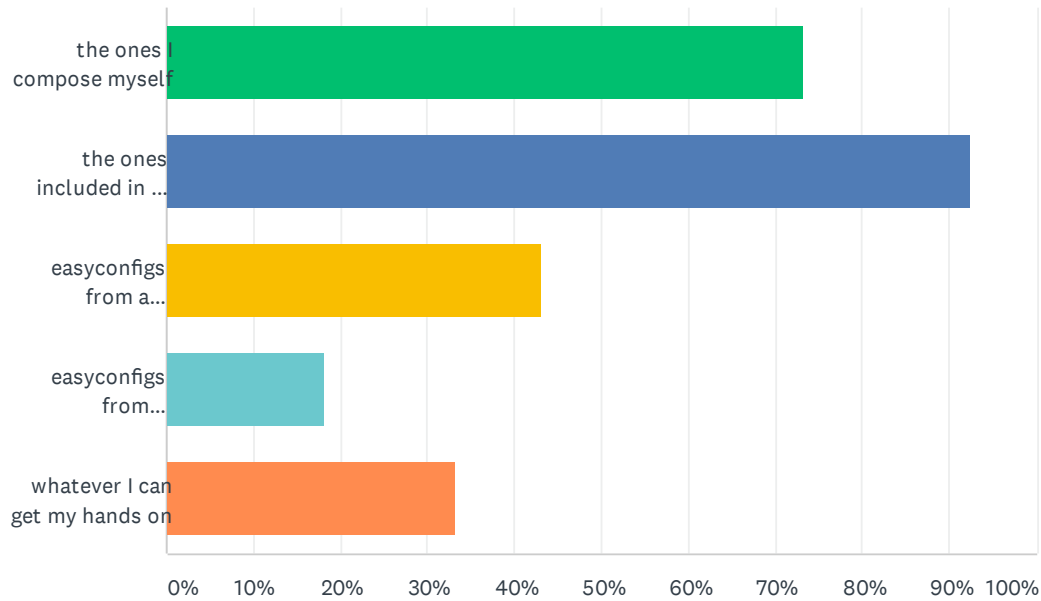
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
the ones I compose myself	73.12%	68
the ones included in the EasyBuild version I'm using	92.47%	86
easyconfigs from a self-maintained repository	43.01%	40
easyconfigs from repositories other than the central EasyBuild ones	18.28%	17
whatever I can get my hands on	33.33%	31
Total Respondents: 93		

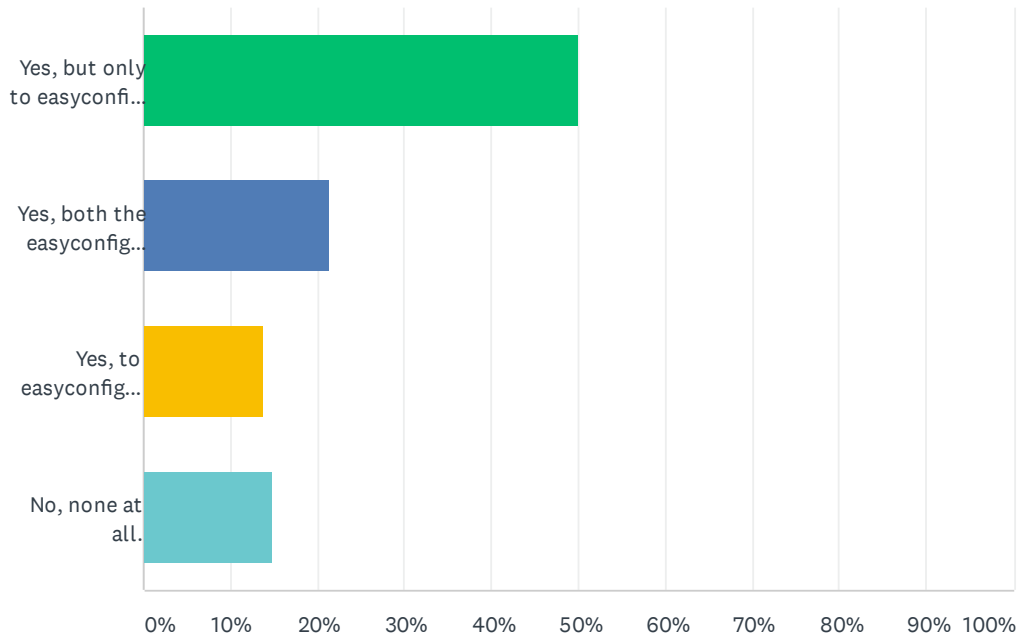# Q22 Do you use any custom easyblocks not included in the central EasyBuild repository?

Answered: 94   Skipped: 0
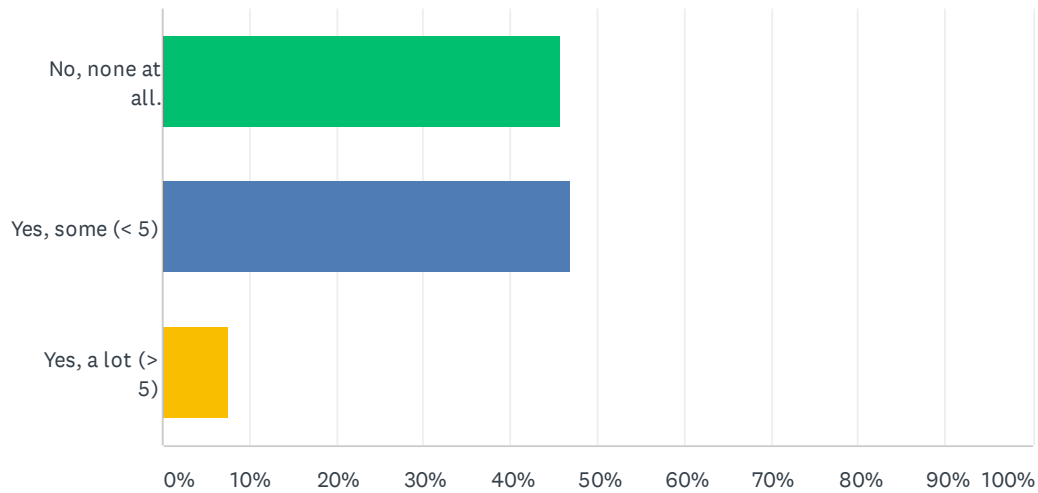
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No, none at all.	45.74%	43
Yes, some (< 5)	46.81%	44
Yes, a lot (> 5)	7.45%	7
TOTAL		94

Q23 Have you made any site-specific customisations to EasyBuild?

Answered: 94   Skipped: 0

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, but only to easyconfig files.	50.00%	47
Yes, both the easyconfig files and easyblocks.	21.28%	20
Yes, to easyconfig files, easyblocks and the EasyBuild framework.	13.83%	13
No, none at all.	14.89%	14
TOTAL		94

Q24 Do you actively contribute back to EasyBuild? (check all that apply)

Answered: 92   Skipped: 2
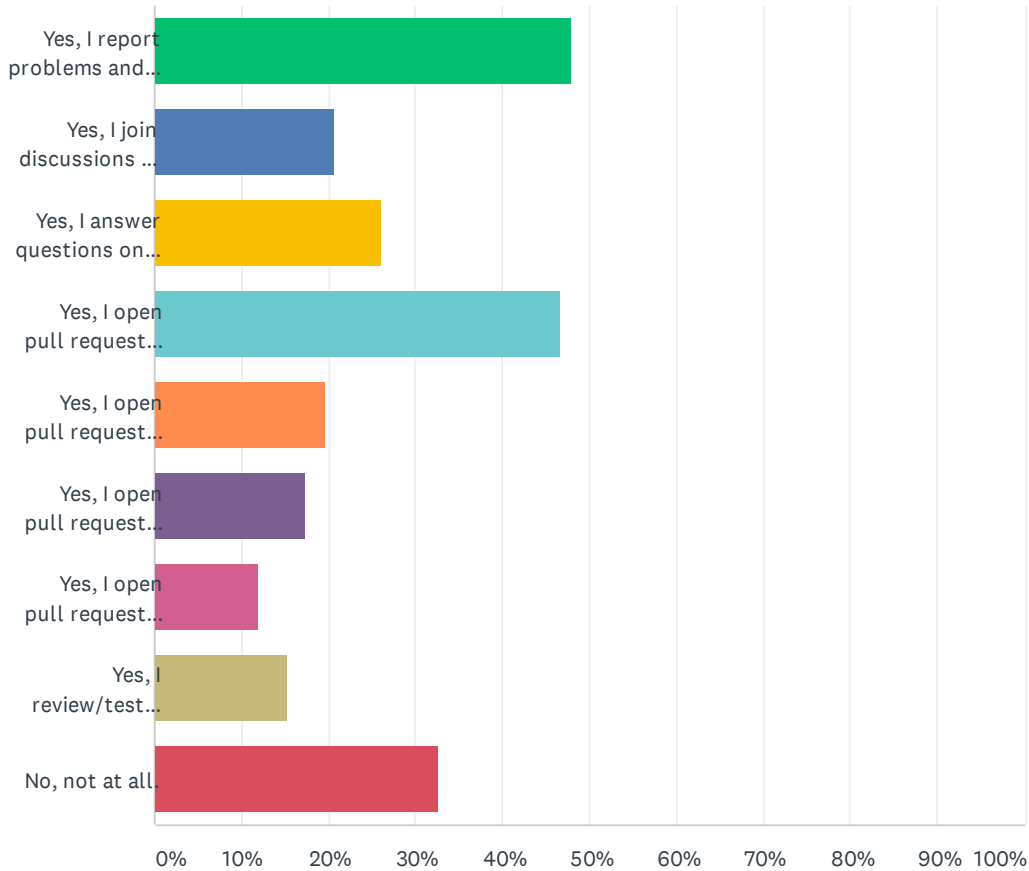
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, I report problems and bugs by opening issues.	47.83%	44
Yes, I join discussions on the EasyBuild mailing list.	20.65%	19
Yes, I answer questions on the IRC/Slack channel.	26.09%	24
Yes, I open pull requests (easyconfigs).	46.74%	43
Yes, I open pull requests (easyblocks).	19.57%	18
Yes, I open pull requests (framework).	17.39%	16
Yes, I open pull requests (documentation).	11.96%	11
Yes, I review/test pull requests made by others.	15.22%	14
No, not at all.	32.61%	30
Total Respondents: 92		

# Q25 Are you subscribed to the EasyBuild mailing list?(if not, you can subscribe via https://lists.ugent.be/wws/subscribe/easybuild)

Answered: 94   Skipped: 0
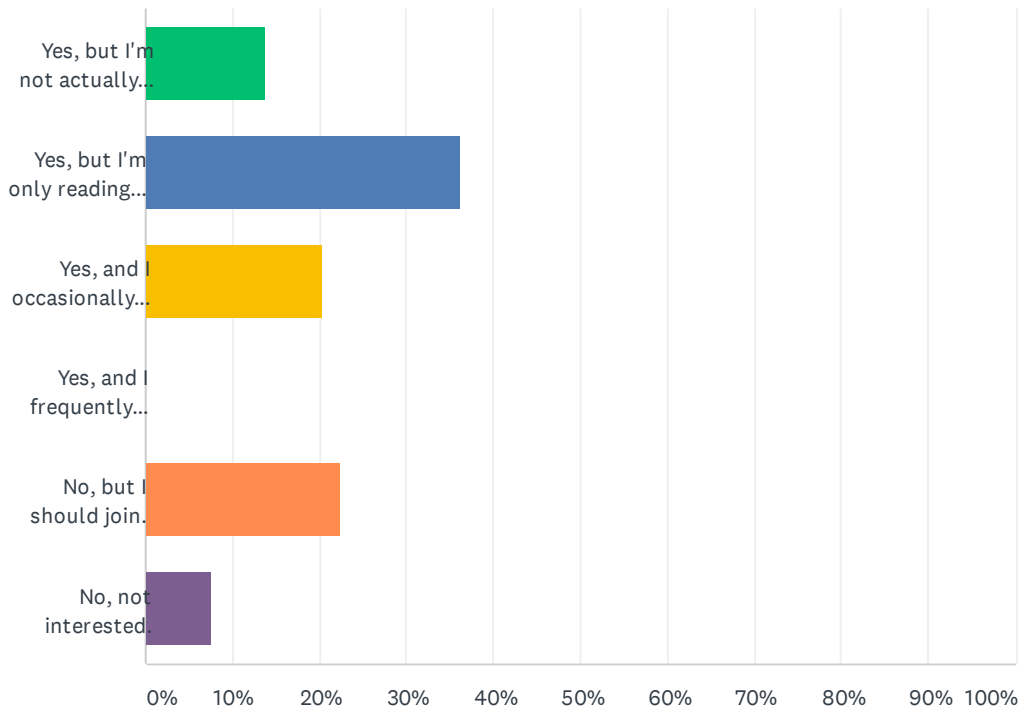
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, but I'm not actually reading the posts.	13.83%	13
Yes, but I'm only reading posts.	36.17%	34
Yes, and I occasionally participate in discussions.	20.21%	19
Yes, and I frequently participate discussions.	0.00%	0
No, but I should join.	22.34%	21
No, not interested.	7.45%	7
TOTAL		94

Q26 Are you planning to attend the next EasyBuild User Meeting (online, Jan 25-29 2021, see https://easybuild.io/eum)?

Answered: 93   Skipped: 1
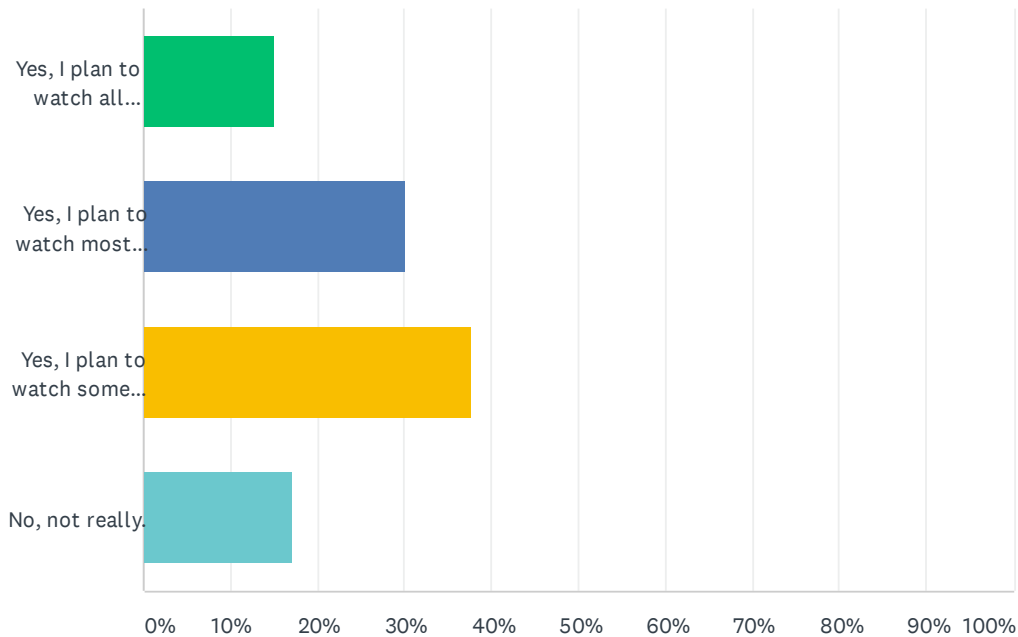
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, I plan to watch all presentations	15.05%	14
Yes, I plan to watch most presentations	30.11%	28
Yes, I plan to watch some presentations	37.63%	35
No, not really.	17.20%	16
TOTAL		93

Q27 Do you use the EasyBuild IRC/Slack channel?(if not, you can self-request a Slack invite via https://easybuild-slack.herokuapp.com/)

Answered: 93   Skipped: 1
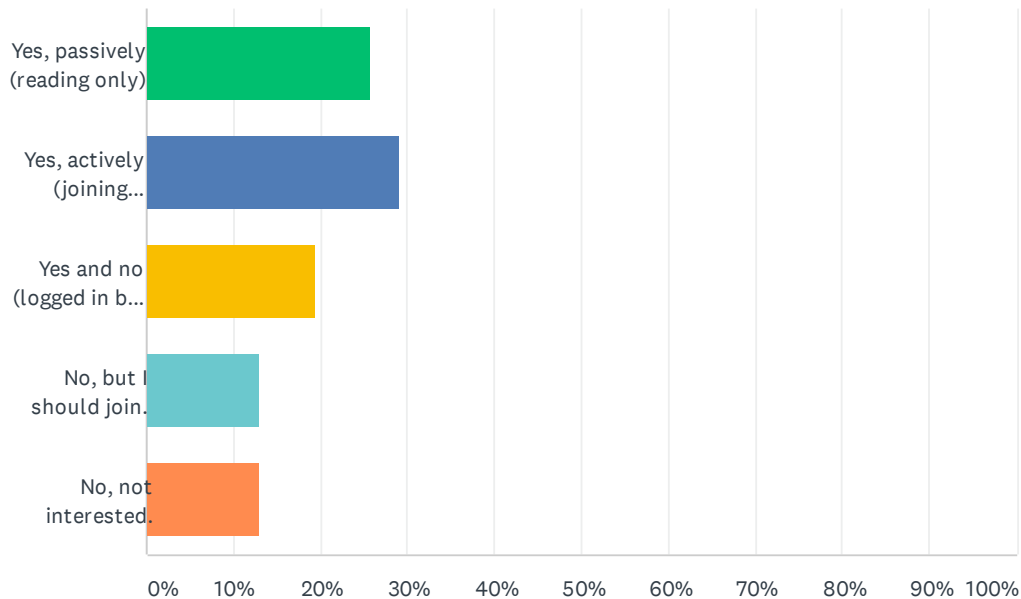
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes, passively (reading only)	25.81%	24
Yes, actively (joining discussions)	29.03%	27
Yes and no (logged in but rarely paying attention to it)	19.35%	18
No, but I should join.	12.90%	12
No, not interested.	12.90%	12
TOTAL		93

Q28 How complete is the EasyBuild documentation at https://docs.easybuild.io according to you?

Answered: 93   Skipped: 1
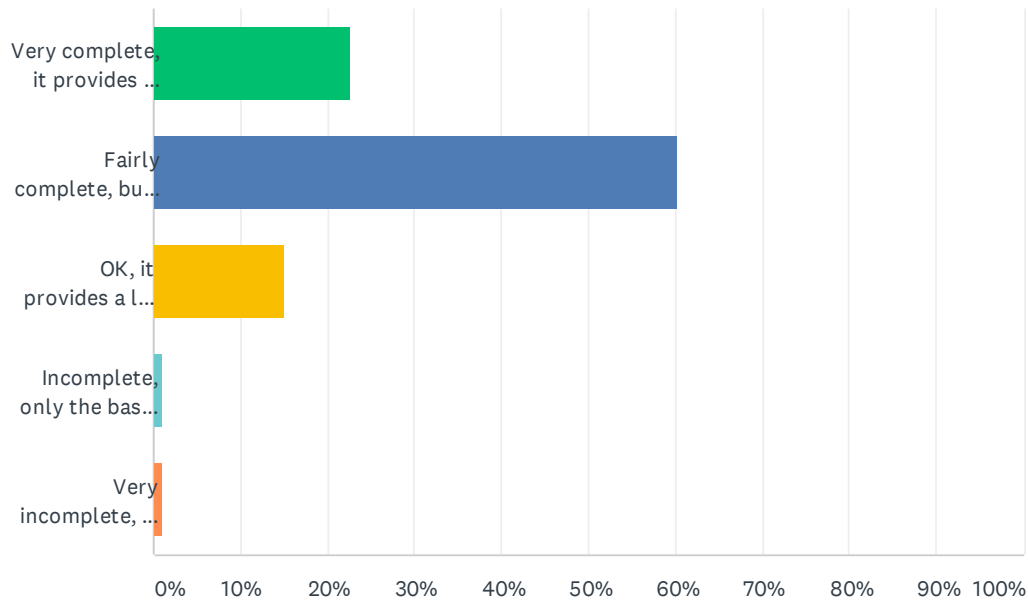
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Very complete, it provides all information I need	22.58%	21
Fairly complete, but some specific things are not documented (yet)	60.22%	56
OK, it provides a lot of information, but there is quite a bit of stuff missing	15.05%	14
Incomplete, only the basic stuff is really documented	1.08%	1
Very incomplete, a lot of important stuff is not documented	1.08%	1
TOTAL		93

Q29 How often do you consult the EasyBuild documentation?

Answered: 93   Skipped: 1
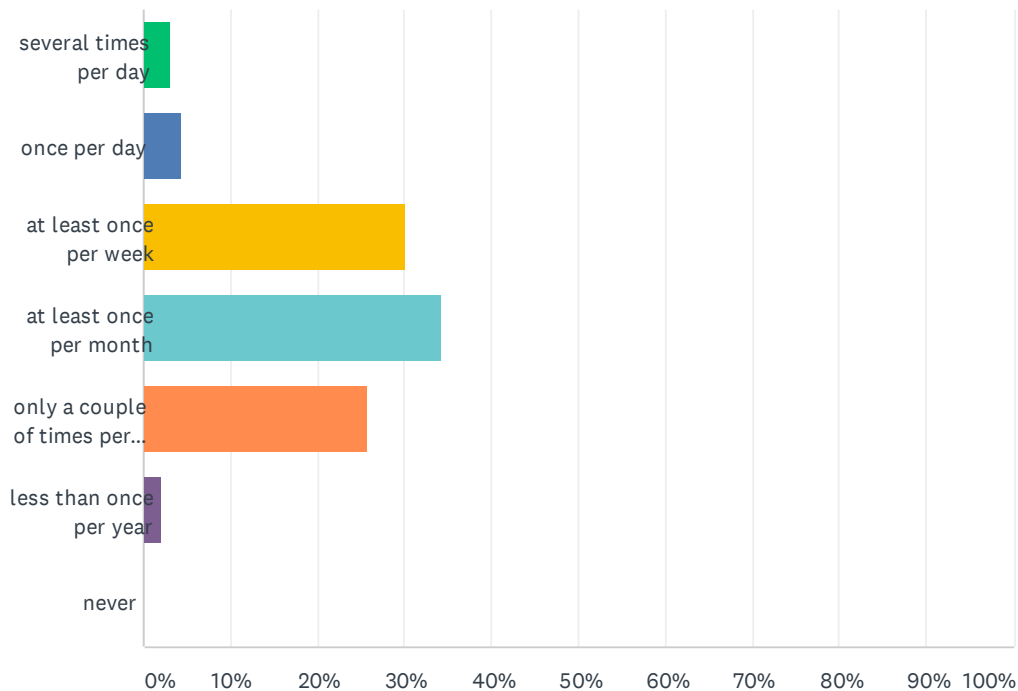
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
several times per day	3.23%	3
once per day	4.30%	4
at least once per week	30.11%	28
at least once per month	34.41%	32
only a couple of times per year	25.81%	24
less than once per year	2.15%	2
never	0.00%	0
TOTAL		93

Q30 How useful is the EasyBuild documentation to you?

Answered: 94   Skipped: 0
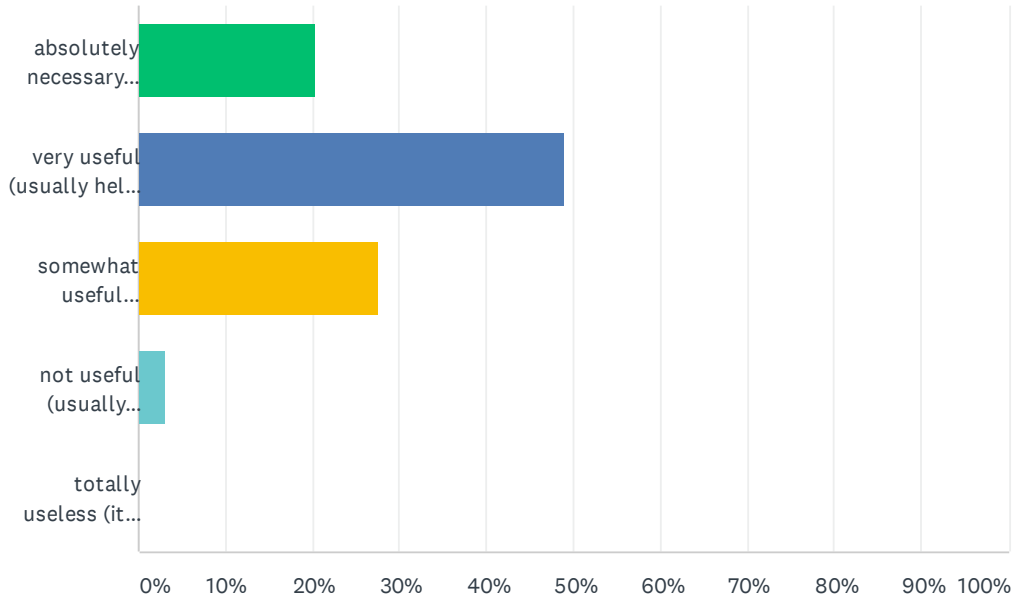
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
absolutely necessary (can't use EasyBuild without it)	20.21%	19
very useful (usually helps me a lot)	48.94%	46
somewhat useful (sometimes helps me)	27.66%	26
not useful (usually doesn't help me)	3.19%	3
totally useless (it never answers the questions I have)	0.00%	0
TOTAL		94

Q31 Do you use any other tools/projects in combination with EasyBuild? (check all that apply)

Answered: 92   Skipped: 2
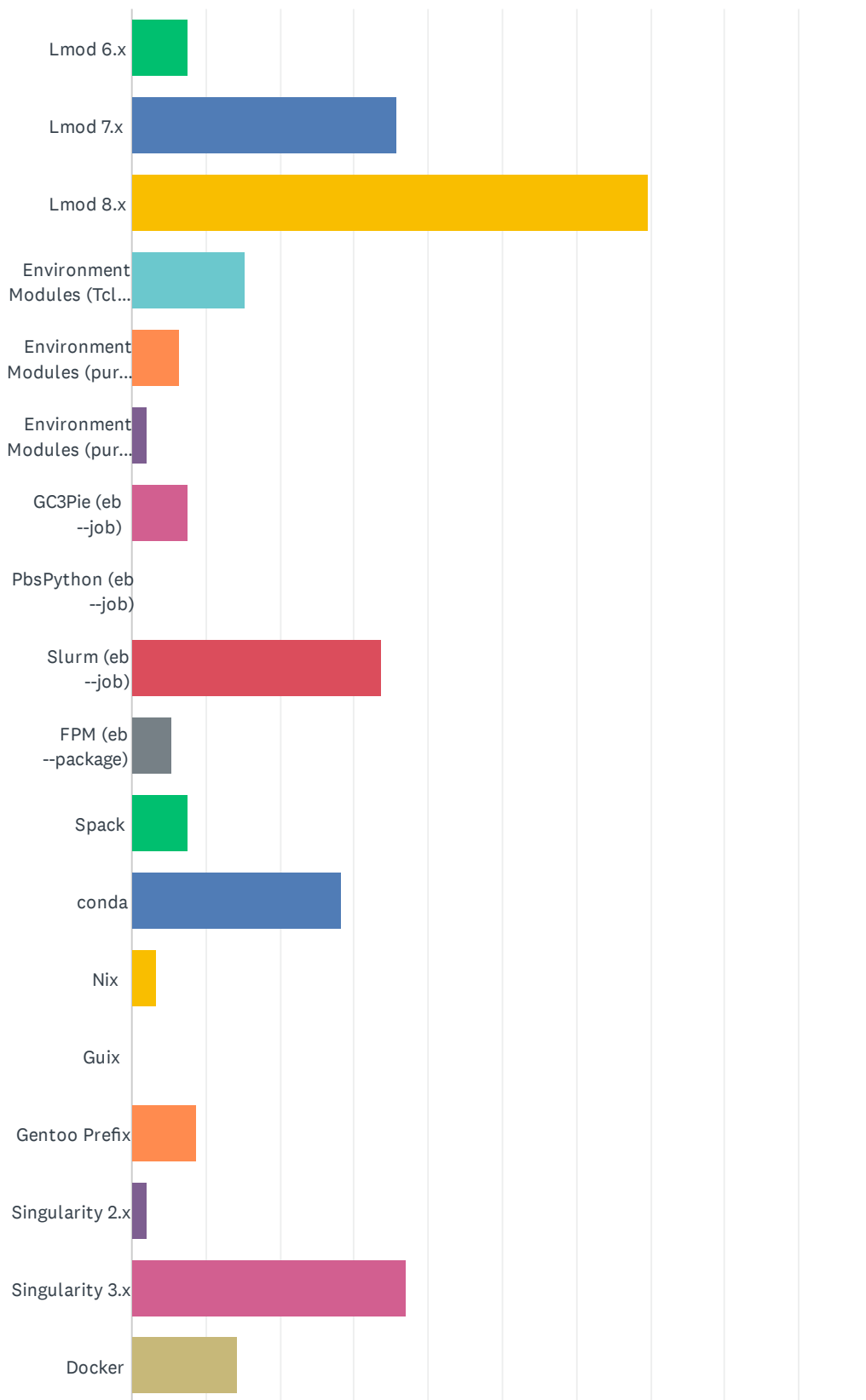
4th EasyBuild User Survey (2020)
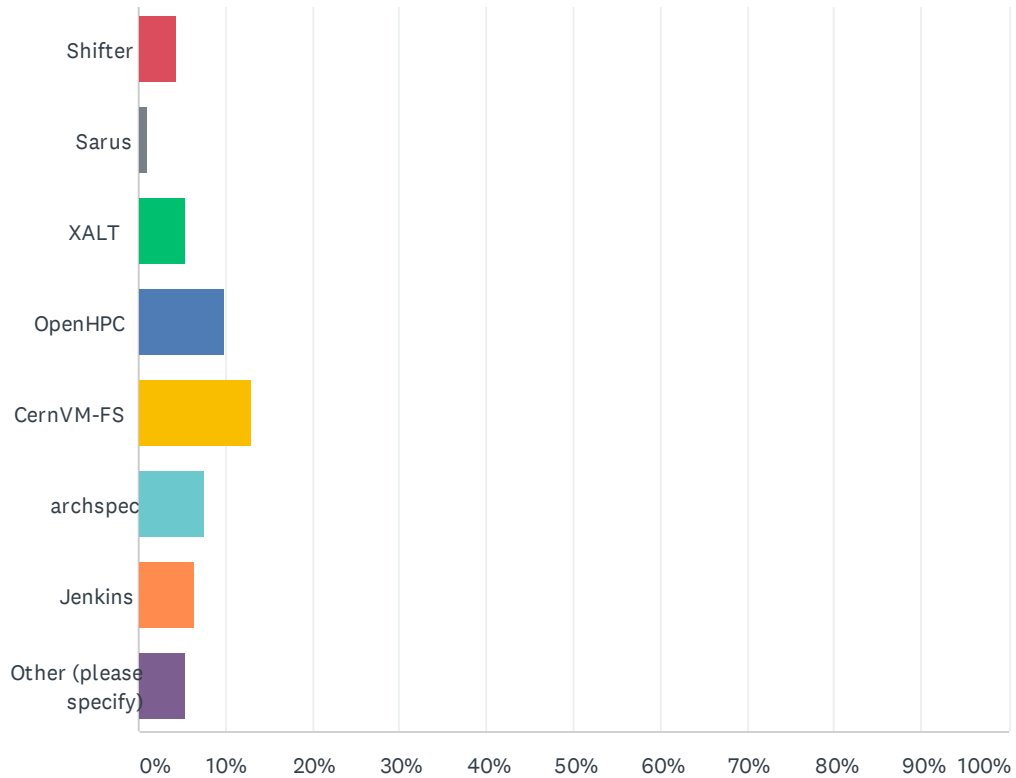
4th EasyBuild User Survey (2020)

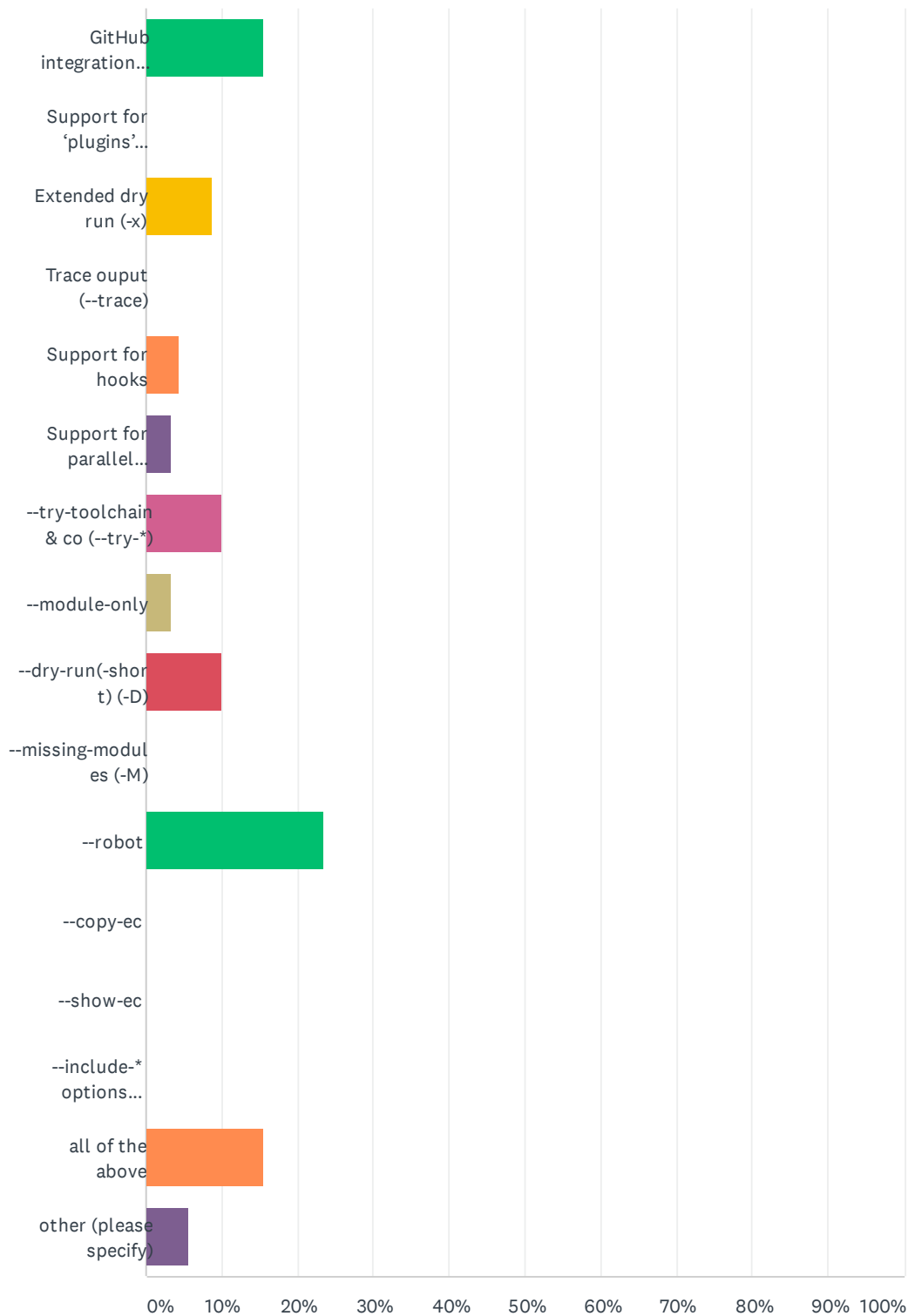| ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Lmod 6.x	7.61%	7
Lmod 7.x	35.87%	33
Lmod 8.x	69.57%	64
Environment Modules (Tcl/C, version 3.2.10 or older)	15.22%	14
Environment Modules (pure Tcl, version 4.x)	6.52%	6
Environment Modules (pure Tcl, older version)	2.17%	2
GC3Pie (eb --job)	7.61%	7
PbsPython (eb --job)	0.00%	0
Slurm (eb --job)	33.70%	31
FPM (eb --package)	5.43%	5
Spack	7.61%	7
conda	28.26%	26
Nix	3.26%	3
Guix	0.00%	0
Gentoo Prefix	8.70%	8
Singularity 2.x	2.17%	2
Singularity 3.x	36.96%	34
Docker	14.13%	13
Shifter	4.35%	4
Sarus	1.09%	1
XALT	5.43%	5
OpenHPC	9.78%	9
CernVM-FS	13.04%	12
archspec	7.61%	7
Jenkins	6.52%	6
Other (please specify)	5.43%	5
Total Respondents: 92		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Lmod 8.x, conda	1/21/2021 4:01 PM
2	Gitlab-CI	1/21/2021 3:11 PM
3	gitlab CI/CD	1/18/2021 1:48 PM
4	easy_update procmon	1/11/2021 10:39 PM
5	Univa grid engine	1/7/2021 10:52 PM

# Q32 What is your favourite EasyBuild feature?

Answered: 90   Skipped: 4

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
GitHub integration (--new-pr, --from-pr, --update-pr, --upload-test-report, --review-pr, …)	15.56%	14
Support for 'plugins' (--include-*)	0.00%	0
Extended dry run (-x)	8.89%	8
Trace ouput (--trace)	0.00%	0
Support for hooks	4.44%	4
Support for parallel software installation (--job)	3.33%	3
--try-toolchain & co (--try-*)	10.00%	9
--module-only	3.33%	3
--dry-run(-short) (-D)	10.00%	9
--missing-modules (-M)	0.00%	0
--robot	23.33%	21
--copy-ec	0.00%	0
--show-ec	0.00%	0
--include-* options (easyblocks, toolchains, module-naming-schemes)	0.00%	0
all of the above	15.56%	14
other (please specify)	5.56%	5
TOTAL		90

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	lmod integration	1/21/2021 7:04 PM
2	Being able to configure a site with basic toolchains and rebuild entirely.	1/21/2021 3:31 PM
3	some of the above	1/18/2021 1:48 PM
4	assumes I use it much	1/6/2021 5:53 AM
5	--containerize	1/6/2021 1:22 AM

Q33 How long are modules installed with EasyBuild available to users?

Answered: 93   Skipped: 1
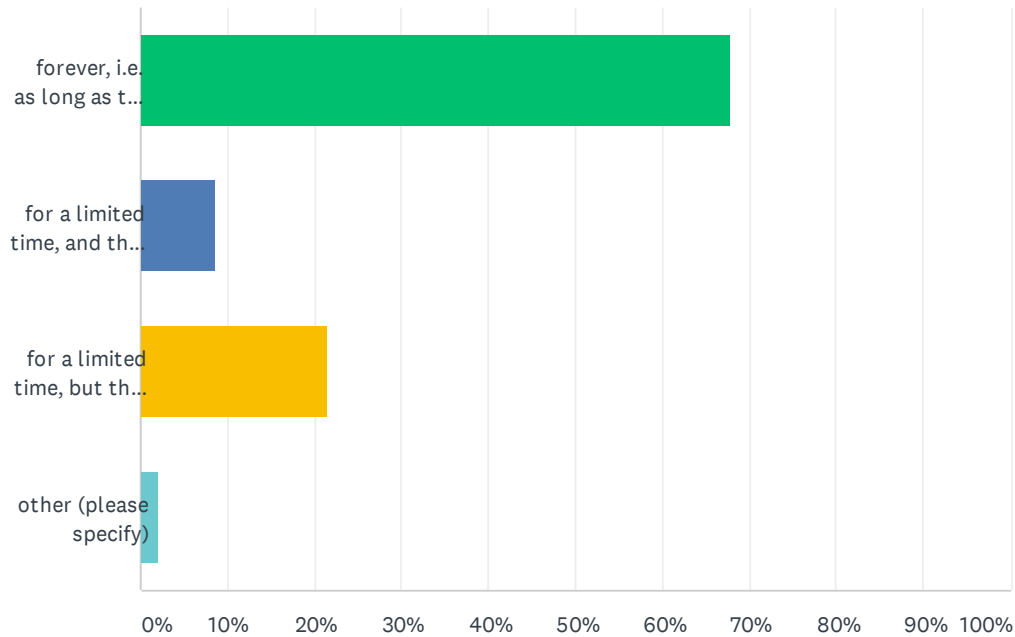
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
forever, i.e. as long as the system(s) for which they are installed are alive	67.74%	63
for a limited time, and then they are removed entirely	8.60%	8
for a limited time, but then they are still available indirectly	21.51%	20
other (please specify)	2.15%	2
TOTAL		93

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	removed after a period of time of not being loaded	1/22/2021 6:38 PM
2	forever but after some time and considerations the old-enough are hidden	1/5/2021 1:40 PM

Q34 Which module naming scheme do you use?

Answered: 93   Skipped: 1
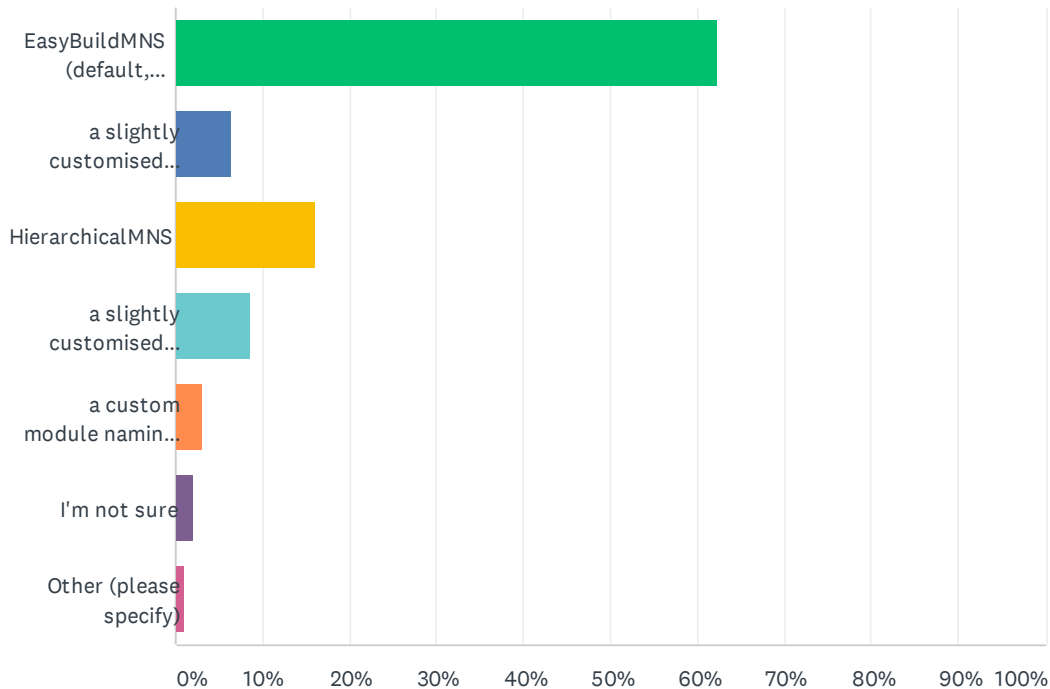
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
EasyBuildMNS (default, unchanged)	62.37%	58
a slightly customised version of EasyBuildMNS (e.g. lowercase, …)	6.45%	6
HierarchicalMNS	16.13%	15
a slightly customised version of HierarchicalMNS	8.60%	8
a custom module naming scheme that is quite different from the above	3.23%	3
I'm not sure	2.15%	2
Other (please specify)	1.08%	1
TOTAL		93

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	CategorizedModuleNamingScheme	1/21/2021 3:24 PM

Q35 How do you like the frequency of EasyBuild releases?(in both 2018 & 2019: 3 feature releases + 6 bugfix/update releases; in 2020: 2 feature release + 6 bugfix/update release)

Answered: 94   Skipped: 0
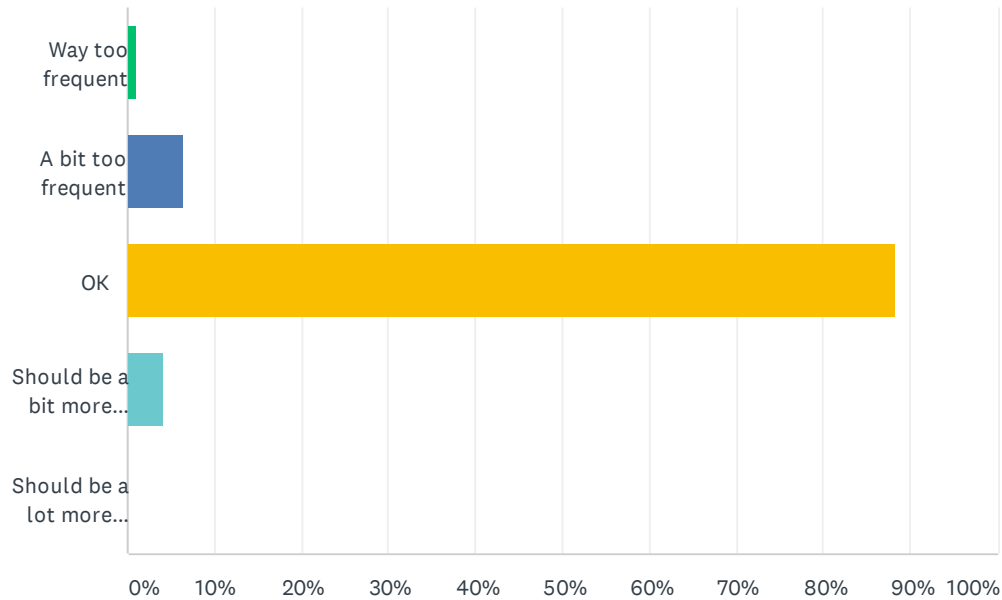
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Way too frequent	1.06%	1
A bit too frequent	6.38%	6
OK	88.30%	83
Should be a bit more frequent	4.26%	4
Should be a lot more frequent	0.00%	0
TOTAL		94

Q36 Which parts of EasyBuild do you not like? (check all that apply)

Answered: 89   Skipped: 5
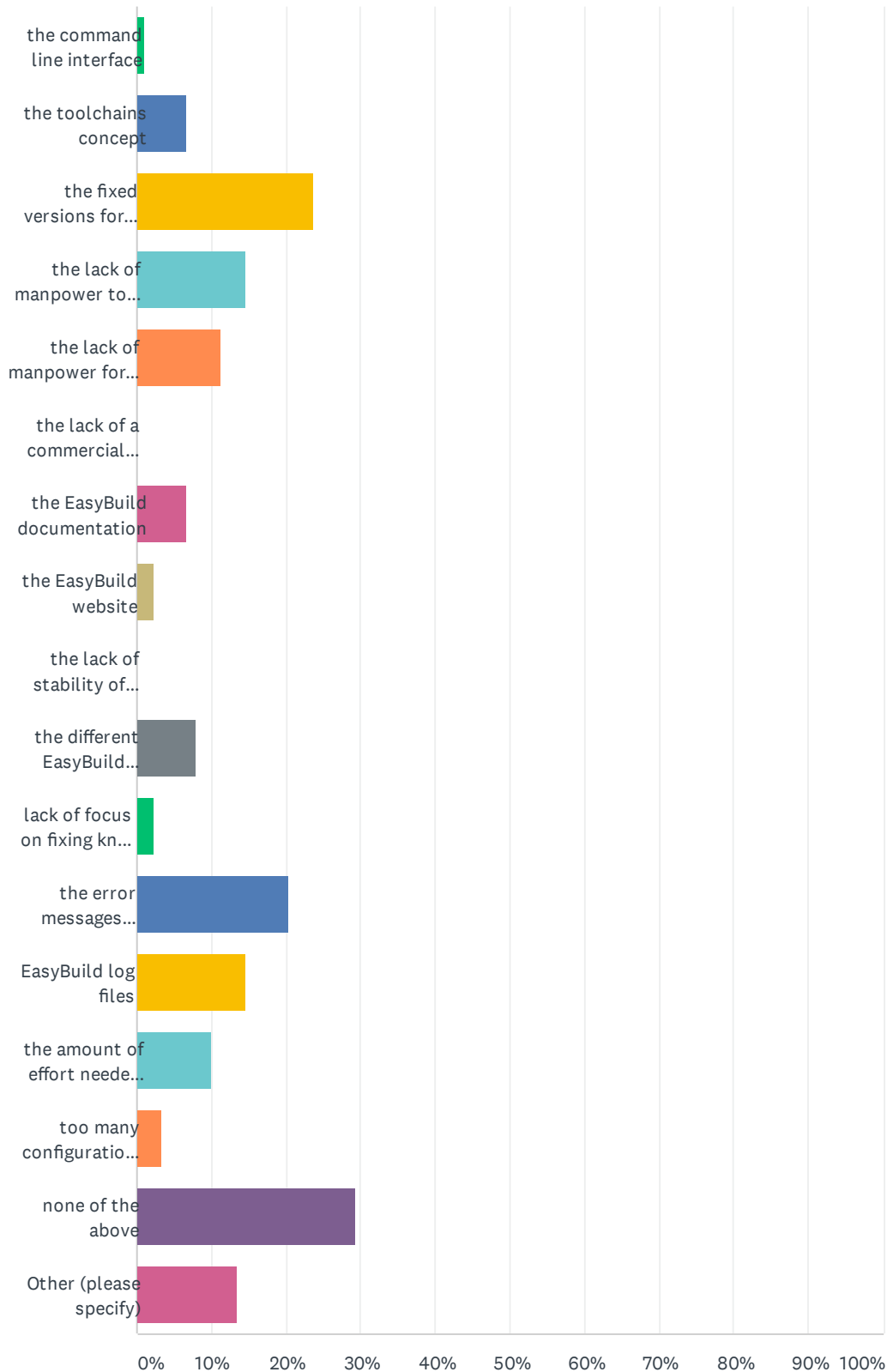
4th EasyBuild User Survey (2020)

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
the command line interface	1.12%	1
the toolchains concept	6.74%	6
the fixed versions for dependencies in easyconfig files	23.60%	21
the lack of manpower to process contributions	14.61%	13
the lack of manpower for developments (features, bug fixes)	11.24%	10
the lack of a commercial support option	0.00%	0
the EasyBuild documentation	6.74%	6
the EasyBuild website	2.25%	2
the lack of stability of EasyBuild releases	0.00%	0
the different EasyBuild GitHub repositories (rather than only having one)	7.87%	7
lack of focus on fixing known bugs	2.25%	2
the error messages produced by 'eb'	20.22%	18
EasyBuild log files	14.61%	13
the amount of effort needed to contribute	10.11%	9
too many configuration options	3.37%	3
none of the above	29.21%	26
Other (please specify)	13.48%	12
Total Respondents: 89		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	difficult to find examples and all available options for extensions	1/22/2021 6:38 PM
2	no life cycle management to remove old software	1/22/2021 10:56 AM
3	missing easyconfigs for sw version / toolchain needed	1/13/2021 11:35 AM
4	the difficulty to port existing software to new toolchains, i.e. with all the needed/missing dependencies	1/13/2021 10:51 AM
5	Monolithic builds of bundles needing full rebuilds on extension failures	1/13/2021 10:50 AM
6	Easybuild is large and complex. Not easy to use. But I have no suggests for alternatives or improving	1/11/2021 10:39 PM
7	not using known interfaces (pip, cpan) as standard installation method for modules	1/7/2021 10:52 PM
8	Many many outdated easyconfigs	1/6/2021 3:54 AM
9	Python	1/6/2021 1:22 AM
10	EasyBuild has the potential to be a very flexible tool, but sometimes stupid decisions by people who only look at the use of the common toolchains as they are breaks that flexibility and requires tricky workarounds. I've had recipes breaking because of that and had to postpone the installation of several versions in the 4.x.y series because I couldn't figure out which change broke our recipes and installation.	1/5/2021 5:39 PM
11	No module dependency map tool that could help decommission modules	1/5/2021 12:39 PM
12	I kinda like the package file approach of SPACK more. It seems to me that it takes less effort from developers.	1/5/2021 12:38 PM

Q37 If a commercial support option would be available, would you consider purchasing it?(note: purely informative, no plans in that direction by the core EasyBuild team)

Answered: 93   Skipped: 1
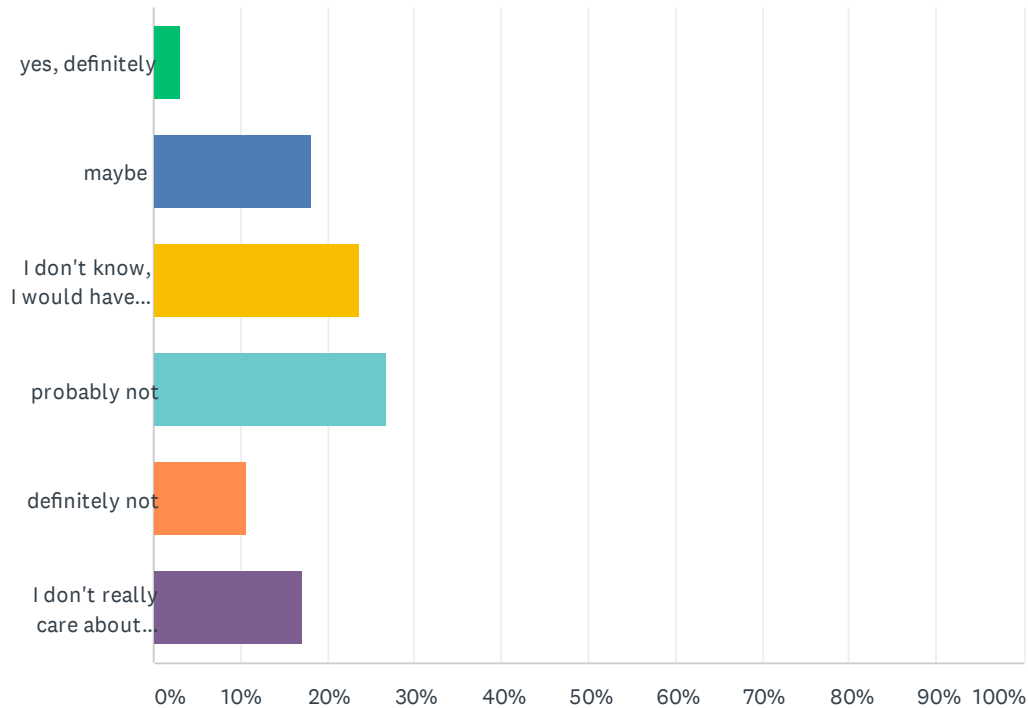
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
yes, definitely	3.23%	3
maybe	18.28%	17
I don't know, I would have to think about it	23.66%	22
probably not	26.88%	25
definitely not	10.75%	10
I don't really care about commercial support	17.20%	16
TOTAL		93

Q38 How would you rate the overall quality of EasyBuild?

Answered: 93   Skipped: 1
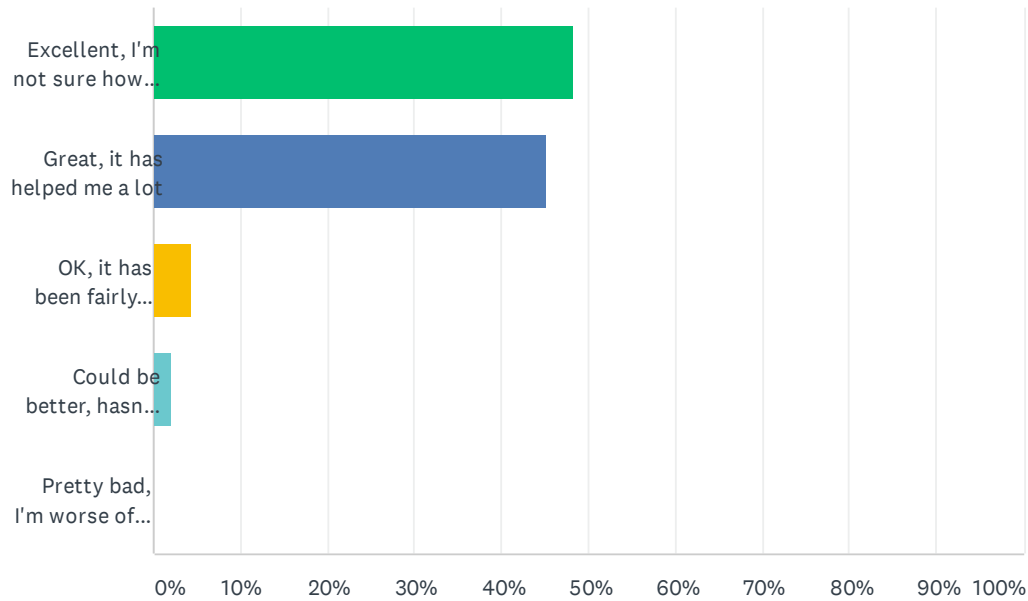
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Excellent, I'm not sure how I ever survived without it	48.39%	45
Great, it has helped me a lot	45.16%	42
OK, it has been fairly useful	4.30%	4
Could be better, hasn't been of much help to me	2.15%	2
Pretty bad, I'm worse off than I was before	0.00%	0
TOTAL		93

Q39 Do you have any suggestions for additional features?

Answered: 25   Skipped: 69

4th EasyBuild User Survey (2020)

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Support Python3 commands in the EasyConfig	1/22/2021 3:50 PM
2	add a way to "purge" old software with a life cylcle management.	1/22/2021 10:56 AM
3	Troubleshooting resources and examples are a bit sparse. I am a new user, but it appears that without some external tooling (openssl, etc.) , easybuilds mostly don't work - this point needs better documentation and explanation.	1/21/2021 7:04 PM
4	Better documentation on how to do clean builds (eg inside containers) and how to automate builds that create modules as well as singularity containers in a single process	1/21/2021 3:55 PM
5	Our needs are really basic. If anything, a simpler version would be desired. ;-) We really want to use EB to install compilers, common libraries, and provide those to our developers who will then use those to build their own software. That's one case. Our other case, related but somewhat separate, is to install full applications for users, e.g., OpenFOAM, Trilinos, and to install interpreted languages like Python and R and assorted libraries that go with them (e.g., replicate a substantial subset of Anaconda distribution).	1/21/2021 3:31 PM
6	Integration with gitlab CI/CD.	1/18/2021 1:48 PM
7	No	1/15/2021 5:37 PM
8	Ability to create overriding easyconfigs via commandline (example: eb --override zlib) -> produces a local copy for that easyconfig that takes precedence and opens it in an editor. Would speed up small changes	1/13/2021 11:54 AM
9	I would like to see the extensions to things like python and perl use their respective package managers to manage packages rather than having to install each python/perl module independently and having to make sure that you install all dependencies. That's what the package managers were designed to do.	1/7/2021 10:52 PM
10	Parsable (json for example) output of dependencies list (given with --dry-run option). I would like to be able to install dependencies from rpm repo before building using EasyBuild.	1/6/2021 10:01 AM
11	You need to take a newbee and install it with OHPC and let them try to install things. It is just too complicated and the doco only seems good if everything works. I have basically given up as it is easier to build manually.	1/6/2021 5:53 AM
12	Some kind of simpler way of updating easyconfigs to use newer versions of target software.	1/6/2021 3:54 AM
13	Support for the pre-exascale systems in Europe.	1/5/2021 5:39 PM
14	Not for now.	1/5/2021 5:34 PM
15	A basic searchable text archive of the Slack discussions? A list of alternative github repositories (like https://github.com/ComputeCanada/easybuild-easyconfigs) in the (rare) cases when we don't find what we need in the official repo or just to get new ideas or tricks?	1/5/2021 4:12 PM
16	AD point 36 - sometimes I feel it's hard to find the error cause in the the way of debuging failed builds using easybuild log files. But I must admit, I don't have exact ideas how to do it better.. What I find as confusing is to see multiple occurrences stdout/stderr snippet in the logfile. Once as snippet, once full output. But the problem can be also between my chair and keyboard.	1/5/2021 1:40 PM
17	No, it lets me give a really fast turnaround for requests to install scientific packages.	1/5/2021 12:39 PM
18	Taking lessons learned from package managers and restructuring EB based on these experiences. However, I guess doing a bigger restructuring of EB is impossible at this stage.	1/5/2021 12:38 PM
19	- Color output in command line. - Progress bar (?) - When an error occur, output more than 300 characters and highlight these characters.	1/5/2021 12:25 PM
20	-) providing software trees to containers might become a use case exporting them via cvmfs might be an interesting option. -) not sure if there is a feature for this already, but how do sites handle multi architecture builds, all manually, custom jenkins?	1/5/2021 12:23 PM
21	Although the documentation is very complete, I often find it hard to find what I am looking for. The navigation bar on the left seem to me to have a huge number of very specific topics on the top level. I would like to see a bit more structure here. Often I have to ask on the mailing	1/5/2021 12:19 PM

list for someone to point me to the right place. I think the problem is that searching turns up a lot of very low-level detail which sometimes swamps the more general information.

22	Wishful thinking: enforce easybuild as a law for any and all software developers out there to stop them reinventing the wheel	1/5/2021 12:09 PM
23	Regarding question 36: from a user perspective I don't really like the toolchain concept (and/or the module naming scheme). Users often don't have a clue what all this foss, GCC, GCCcore, etc means and which ones are compatible. It would be nice to have some kind of module naming scheme that makes this easier for users.	1/5/2021 11:59 AM
24	NA	1/5/2021 11:58 AM
25	There should be some metadata associated with which provide details on all system level dependencies and all architectures it has been testedt on	1/5/2021 11:43 AM

Q40 Any additional comments?

Answered: 25   Skipped: 69

4th EasyBuild User Survey (2020)

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	GREAT GREAT work with EB!	1/22/2021 3:50 PM
2	Many thanks!	1/22/2021 10:56 AM
3	I spent quite a bit of time attempting to get spack working but in the end, I found I spent more time messing with the system, than I would have if I just installed by hand. I am only just starting to look at easybuild, and to be honest, I am skeptical that a pythonic system will be productive given my experience with conda and spack, but I love the idea, and I hope that lmod integration will work. Having said that , I have installed easybuild four or five times in attempts to get a working system (e.g. one that allows a successful build of any tool) and so far I have not succeeded. openssl, for example, is a constant source of pain for efforts like this, and I am reluctant to install yet another version of openssl to appease easybuild. I have lots of questions which I will be bringing to the slack channel if I can't figure it out myself quickly.	1/21/2021 7:04 PM
4	Easybuild has been a tremendous resource for us, thank you so much for all the work you have put into it. I would like to contribute back, but I am not sure if my easyconfigs are up to standards. About this survey: somehow I couldn't select the options for some of the questions, so I put my answers in the "Other" field. Sorry about that, maybe it is an issue with the browser I am using. Thanks so much again!	1/21/2021 4:01 PM
5	The EB community has been great. We have organizational problems that have been our biggest barrier to making a commitment for full adoption. Sorry.	1/21/2021 3:31 PM
6	Thank you Kenneth, clleagues, contrbuitors & collaborators.	1/21/2021 3:12 PM
7	Continuing in this way to help the software installation for the research/academic groups.	1/15/2021 5:37 PM
8	Really appreciate the community and the support via the Slack channel. It's been a great experience so far!	1/13/2021 3:48 PM
9	Your project saves a lot of man hours! Thank you.	1/13/2021 11:54 AM
10	keep up the good work!	1/13/2021 11:43 AM
11	Do you have a public roadmap for the framework itself and for easyconfigs?	1/13/2021 11:35 AM
12	My coffee consumption was considerably reduced when I started using eb ^_^	1/6/2021 10:01 AM
13	EasyBuild is fantastic software and I don't know how I lived without it for so many years. There is still a bit of a steep learning curve for someone who is not a sysadmin, but the documentation and slack channel generally help. More tutorials would be helpful.	1/6/2021 3:54 AM
14	Plenty of comments, but I prefer to give those in private and with more explanation than I can provide here.	1/5/2021 5:39 PM
15	Continue the good work!	1/5/2021 5:34 PM
16	My responses are as an "end user" of EasyBuild, supporting a research group. We only build our own software, not a full HPC installation.	1/5/2021 5:14 PM
17	As rightly said in question 38., "I'm not sure how I ever survived without it". Many thanks!	1/5/2021 4:12 PM
18	thanks for great job.	1/5/2021 1:40 PM
19	I could only check one key feature but being able to install without privilege was critical for my use on a national compute cluster where I am not the admin.	1/5/2021 12:39 PM
20	You all are doing amazing work!	1/5/2021 12:25 PM
21	EasyBuild <3	1/5/2021 12:23 PM
22	The use of underscores in the name of variables in easyconfigs lacks consistency, e.g. "source_urls" and "sanity_check_paths", but "builddependencies" and "moduleclass". This always trips me up.	1/5/2021 12:19 PM
23	Your efforts are greatly underappreciated	1/5/2021 12:09 PM
24	Keep up the good work!	1/5/2021 12:08 PM

| 25 | NA | 1/5/2021 11:58 AM |