

What Samba needs to do to accomplish user and enterprise requirements

Marc Muehlfeld

<mmuehlfeld@samba.org>

Samba Team

2015-05-20

About This Talk

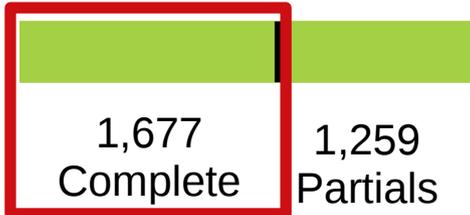
- Samba User Survey 2015
- Who has participated?
- Samba environments
- Importance of Samba features
- Business readiness / problem categories
- AD administration and knowledge
- Where do people look for help?
- About documentation

Samba User Survey (March 2015)

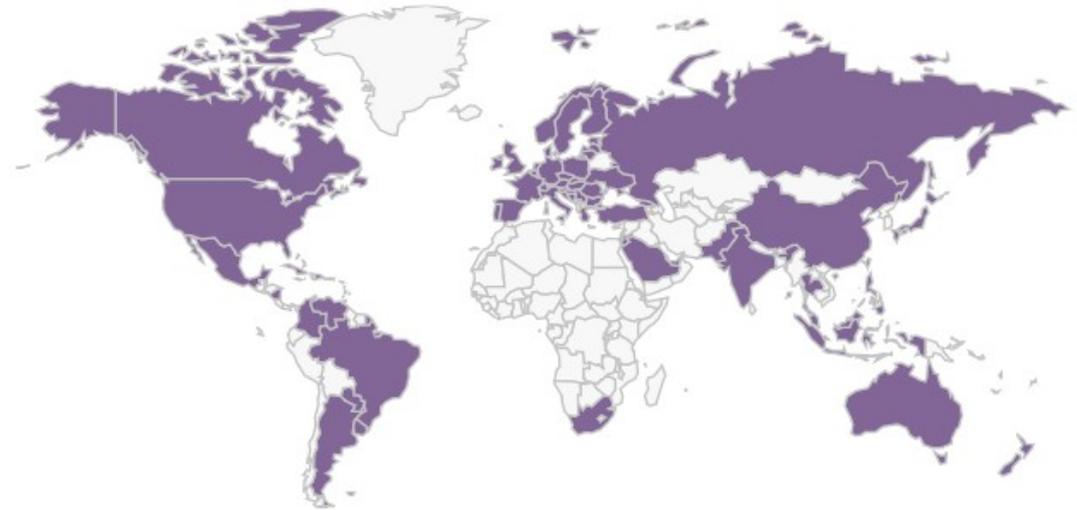
Survey Completion Rate

57%

2,936
Total



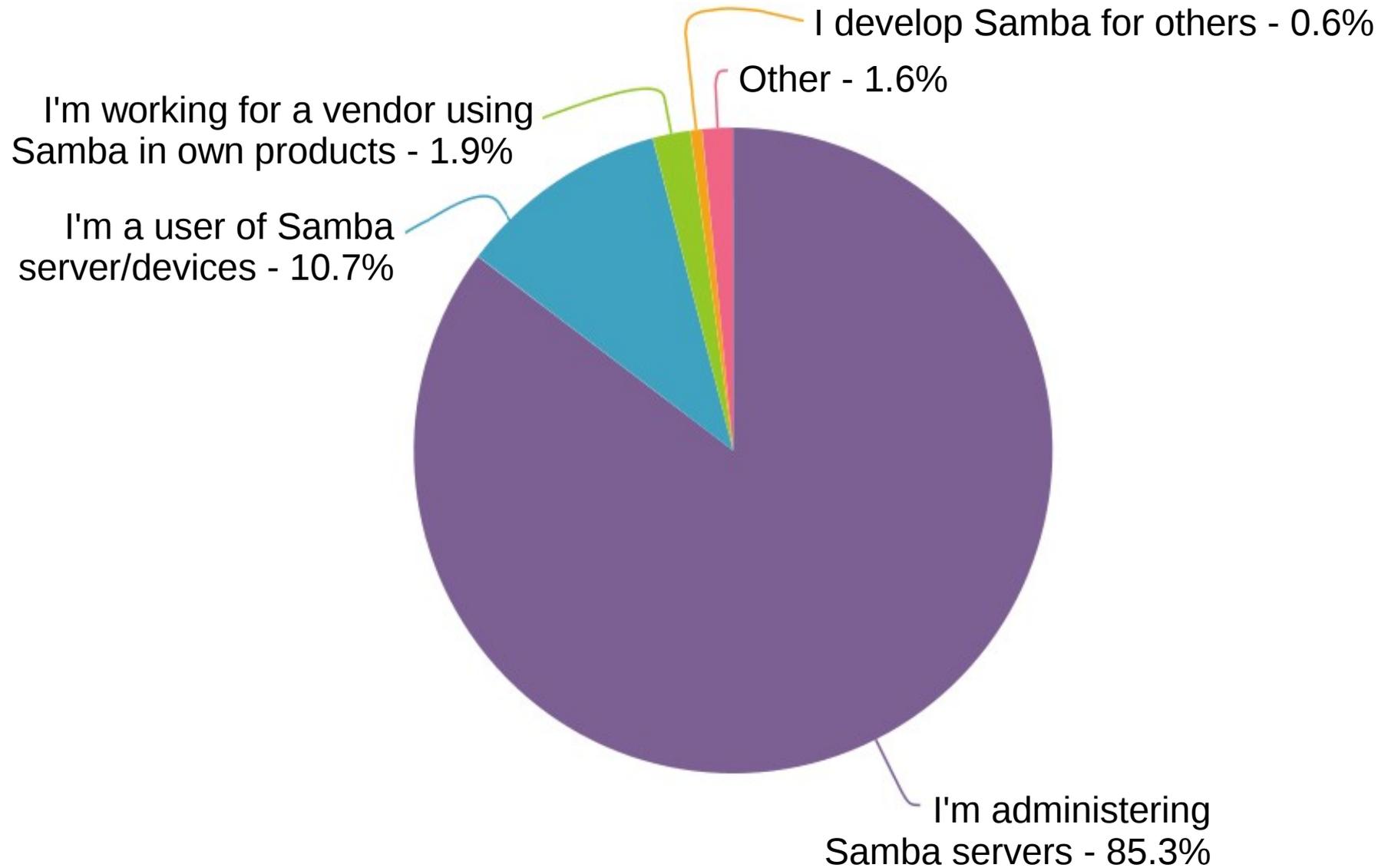
1,259
Partials



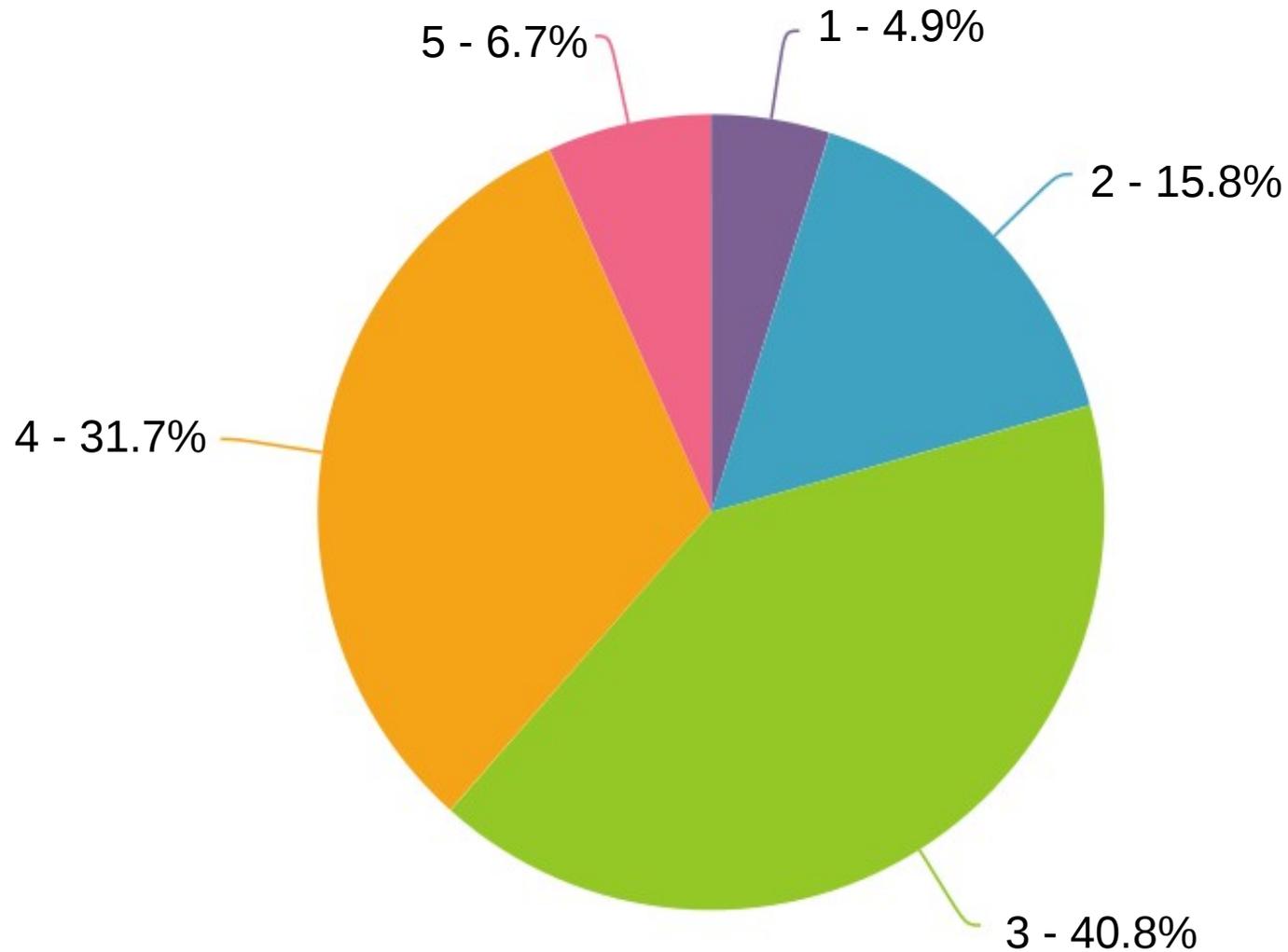
Thanks to all who have participated!

Let's see, who participated...

Who Has Participated



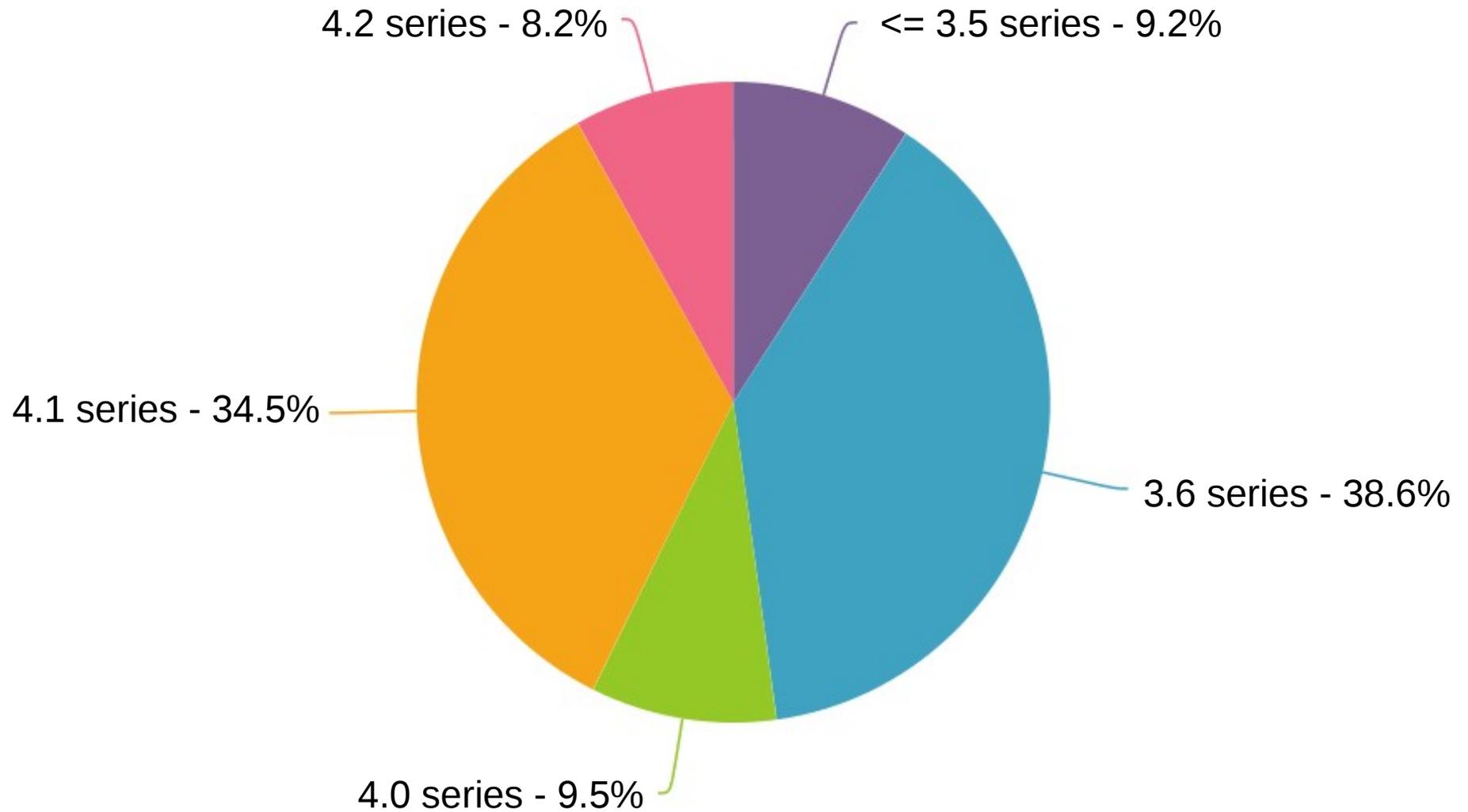
Samba Administration Experience



1 = Beginner ... 5 = Expert

Let's have a look at the environments...

Samba Versions Used

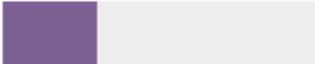
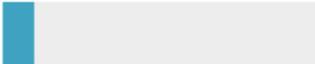
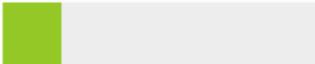


Note: 4.2 was released during the survey

Samba Installation Sizes

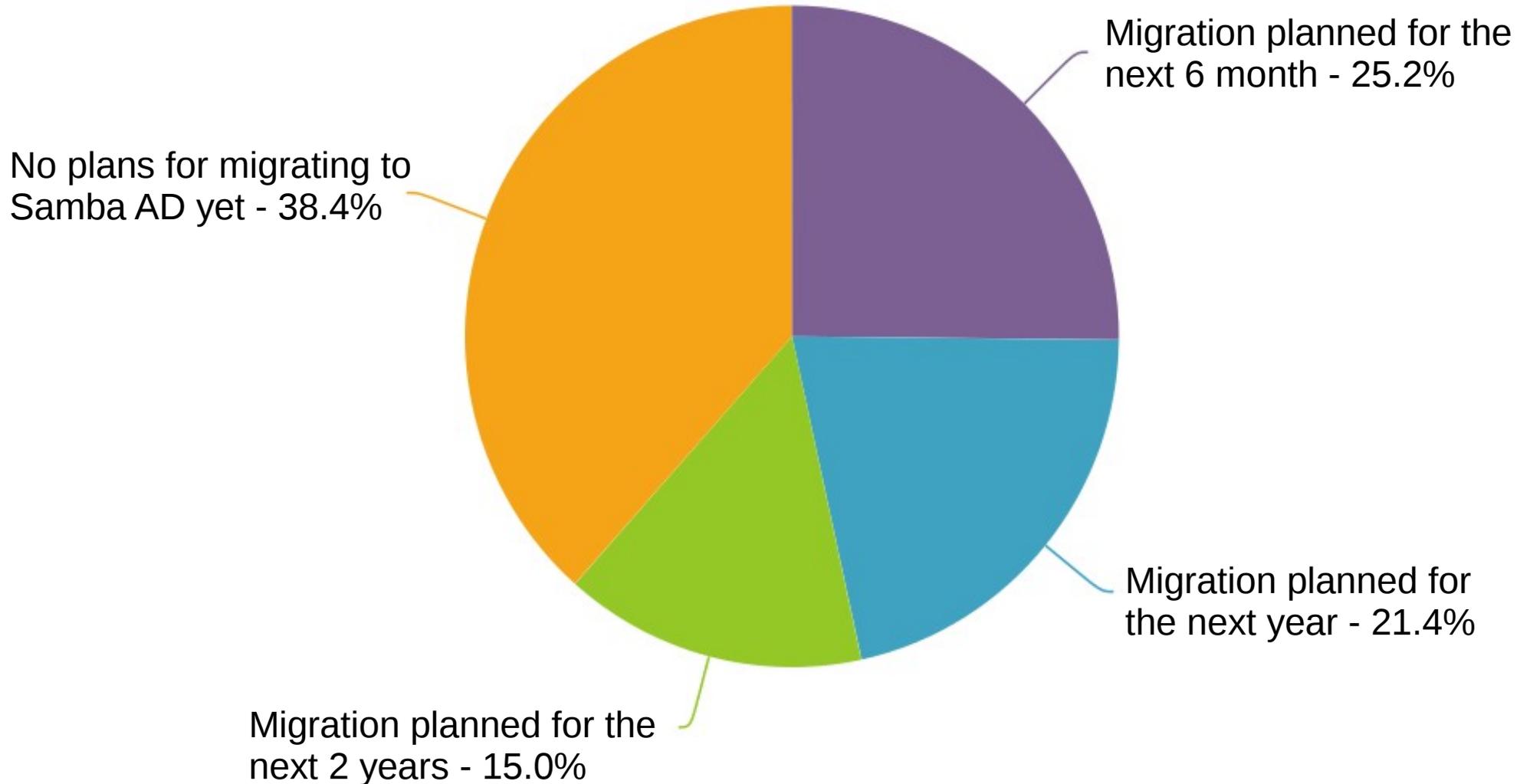
	< 10	11 - 25	26 - 100	101 - 500	501 - 1000	> 1000
Users accessing Samba servers in total	676 40,3%	269 16,0%	346 20,6%	225 13,4%	65 3,9%	96 5,7%
Workstations accessing Samba servers in total	664 39,6%	310 18,5%	361 21,5%	239 14,3%	44 2,6%	59 3,5%
	< 10	11 - 25	26 - 100	101 - 500	501 - 1000	> 1000
Samba servers	1,449 86,4%	138 8,2%	57 3,4%	18 1,1%	5 0,3%	10 0,6%

Survey Participants Run Samba As...

AD DC(s) in a Samba-DCs-only environment	30.2%		507
AD DC(s) together with Windows DCs	10.0%		167
NT4-style PDC/BDC	18.7%		313
File server(s) in a domain	69.6%		1,167
Print server(s)	29.0%		486
Standalone server(s)	49.0%		821

Multiple answers allowed

Migration Plans To Samba AD



Only answers from people who had chosen, that they run an NT4-style PDC (294 answers)

Let's have a look, how participants rate the importance of Samba features...

Importance: AD Specific Features

	Very important	Important	Slightly important	Unimportant
AD server support/compatibility	745 44.4%	383 22.8%	193 11.5%	356 21.2%
AD administration support via samba-tool	360 21.5%	482 28.7%	396 23.6%	439 26.2%
AD administration support via the official Windows tools	425 25.3%	414 24.7%	348 20.8%	490 29.2%
AD RODC support	121 7.2%	253 15.1%	556 33.2%	747 44.5%
Missing AD features (e. g. SysVol repl., AD recycle-bin, etc.)	349 20.8%	389 23.2%	438 26.1%	501 29.9%

Importance: File Server Features

	Very important	Important	Slightly important	Unimportant
File serving performance	1,209 72.2%	388 23.2%	63 3.8%	15 0.9%
Unix extensions for SMB2	478 28.8%	571 34.5%	411 24.8%	197 11.9%
Improved support for individual file systems (VFS modules)	246 14.9%	501 30.4%	649 39.4%	251 15.2%
Full SMB3 support (e. g. for running Hyper-V on Samba)	363 21.8%	417 25.1%	496 29.8%	386 23.2%
Improved cluster support (CTDB, Integration into Linux HA, etc.)	242 14.7%	371 22.5%	543 32.9%	495 30.0%

Importance: File Server Features - Vendors View

	Very important	Important	Slightly important	Unimportant
File serving performance	24 75.0%	6 18.8%	1 3.1%	1 3.1%
Unix extensions for SMB2	4 12.5%	14 43.8%	6 18.8%	8 25.0%
Improved support for individual file systems (VFS modules)	6 18.8%	8 25.0%	12 37.5%	6 18.8%
Full SMB3 support (e. g. for running Hyper-V on Samba)	7 21.9%	6 18.8%	11 34.4%	8 25.0%
Improved cluster support (CTDB, Integration into Linux HA, etc.)	6 18.8%	10 31.3%	7 21.9%	9 28.1%

Answers filtered: Vendors only (32 responses)

Importance: Other Features

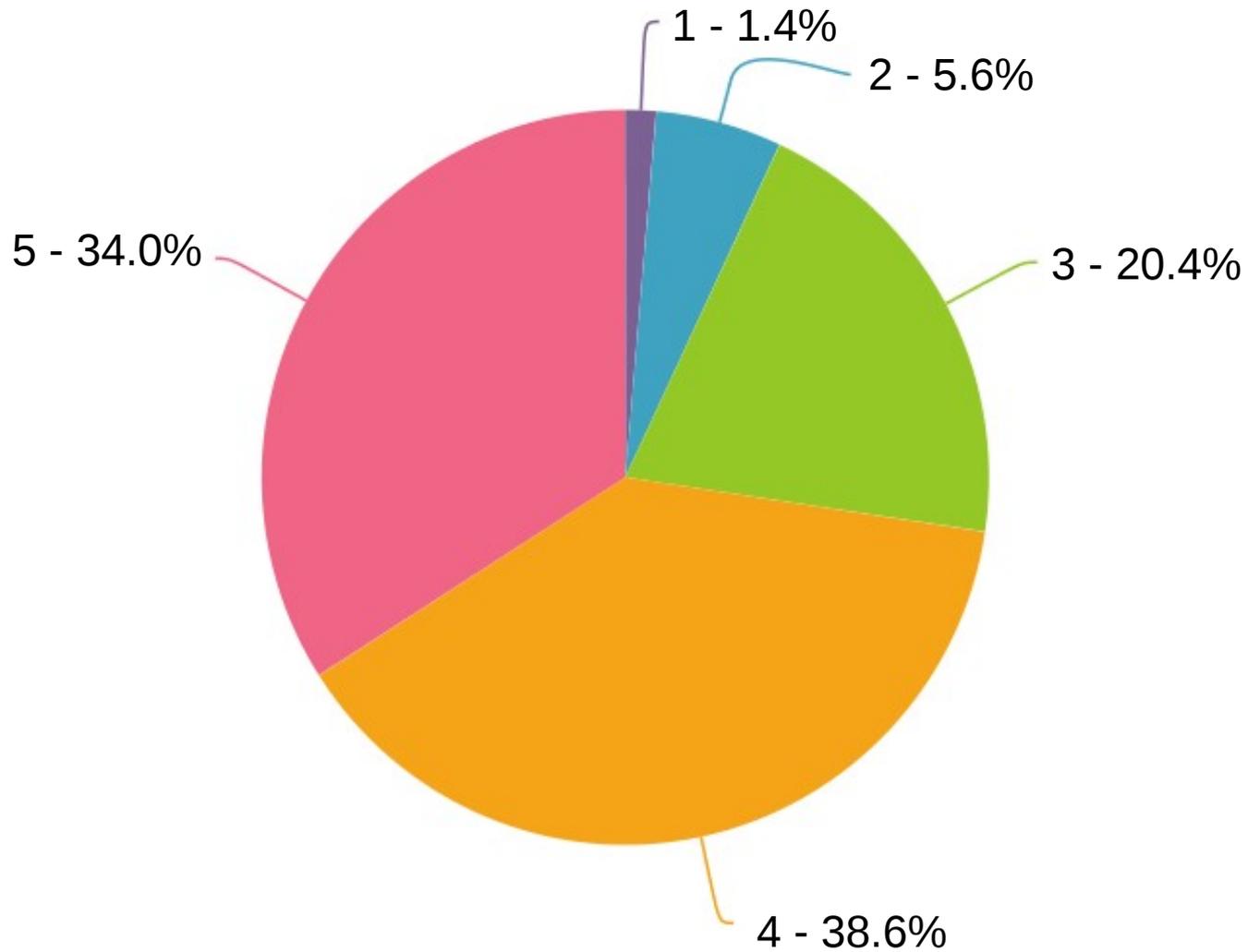
	Very important	Important	Slightly important	Unimportant
Print server support	391 23.3%	478 28.5%	442 26.4%	366 21.8%
NT4 domain support	136 8.1%	275 16.4%	466 27.8%	800 47.7%
Improved documentation (Wiki, man pages, etc.)	478 44.6%	632 37.7%	235 14.0%	62 3.7%

Comments On The „Importance“ Question

- Documentation („scary“, „missing“, „confusing“,...)
- MIT Kerberos support
- 2012(R2) schema support
- openLDAP support / replication with openLDAP

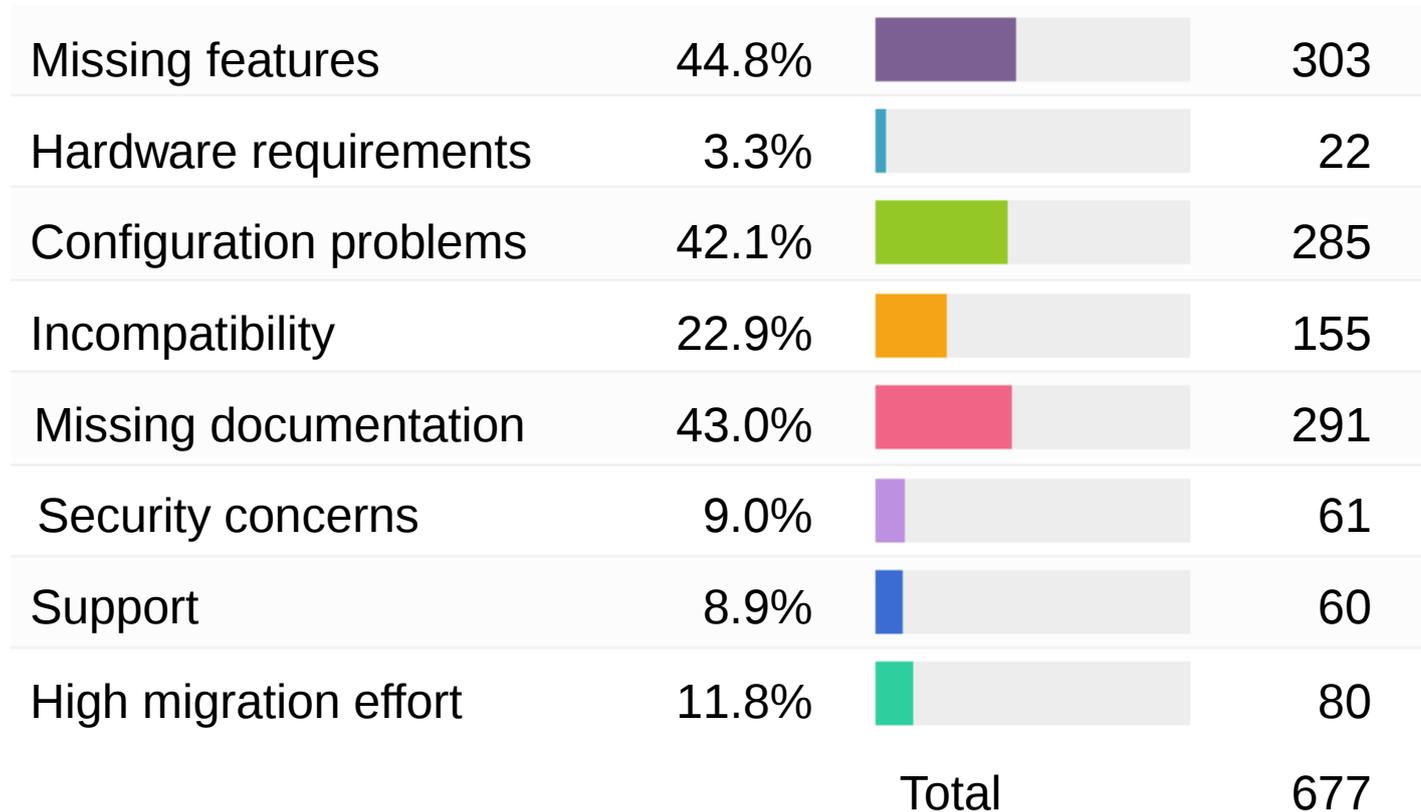
Business readiness and problems...

User Rated Business Readiness Factor Of Samba



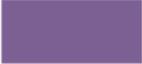
1 = Not at all ... 5 = Totally

Reasons Given For Business Readiness Factor



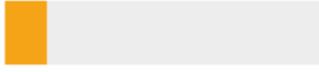
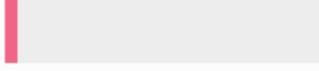
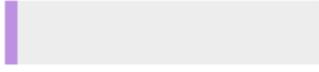
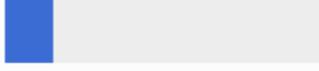
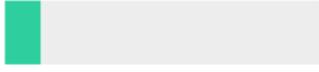
Answers of participants, who rated the business factor lower than „totally“ (677 answers)

Reasons: Top 4 Categories

Missing features	44.8%		303
Missing documentation	43.0%		291
Configuration problems	42.1%		285
Incompatibility	22.9%		155

- SysVol replication
- AD trust support
- Missing and/or incomplete documentation
- Complex configuration

Categories With Most Problems

Active Directory backend	28.4%		476
Authentication	44.5%		747
File serving	30.0%		503
Print serving	13.4%		225
Clustering	3.9%		65
VFS modules	4.1%		69
Didn't have problems yet	15.2%		254
Other	11.4%		191

Most two frequent chosen

Categories With Most Problems - „Other“ Field

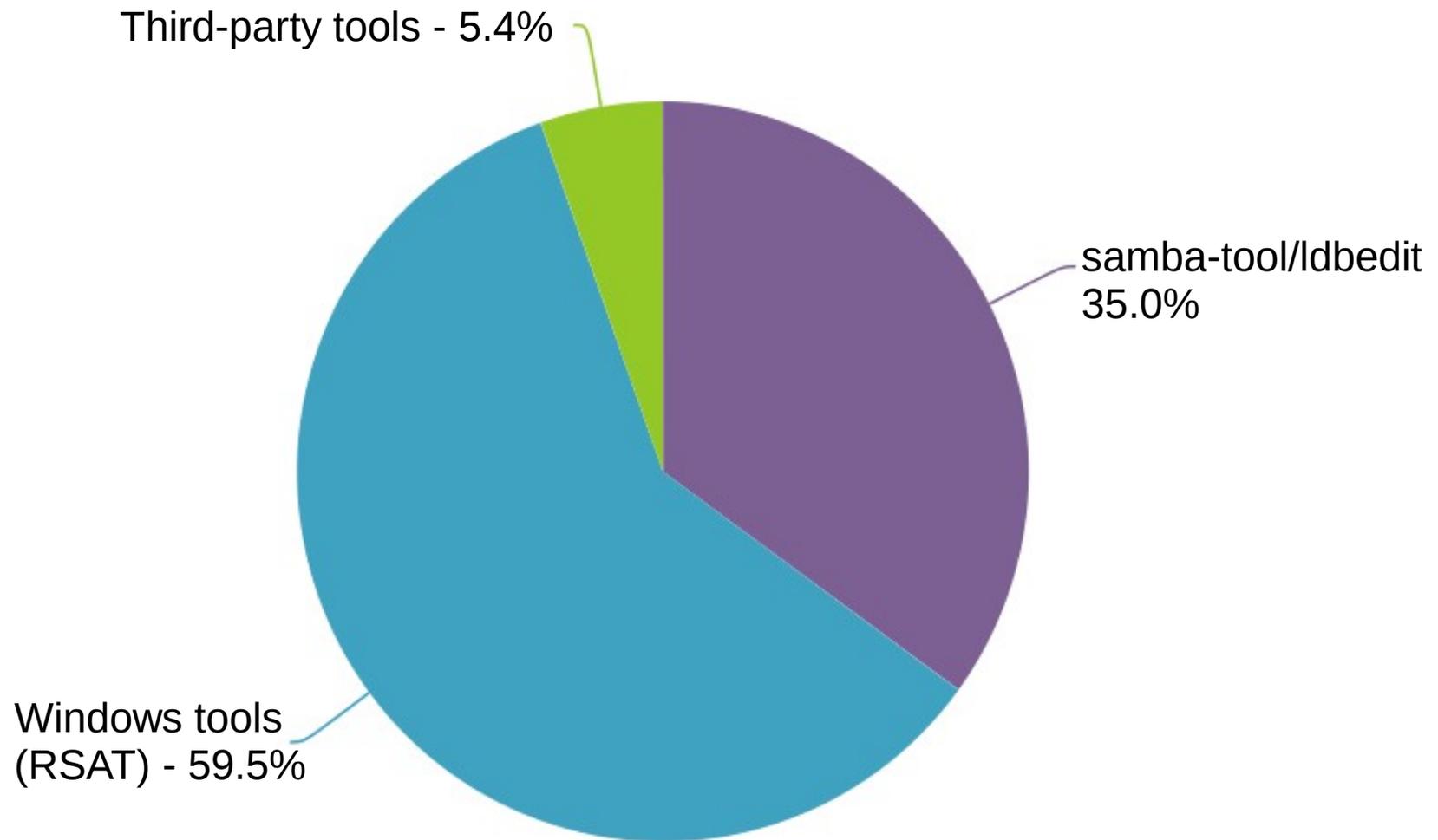
- ACL support
- DNS configuration
- DHCP updating DNS
- Performance
- Winbind

Satisfaction In Different Categories

	Very satisfied	Satisfied	Neutral	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Not used
AD server support/compatibility in general	135 8.1%	536 32.0%	352 21.0%	59 3.5%	15 0.9%	580 34.6%
File server support	656 39.1%	859 51.2%	108 6.4%	26 1.6%	10 0.6%	18 1.1%
Print server support	93 5.5%	420 25.0%	439 26.2%	84 5.0%	20 1.2%	621 37.0%
Cluster support (CTDB)	13 0.8%	82 4.9%	325 19.4%	47 2.8%	11 0.7%	1,199 71.5%

AD administration and knowledge...

Preferred Way Of AD Administration



Answers of participants using Samba as Active Directory Domain Controller (739 answers)

Supported Possibilities In Administration Tools

samba-tool/ldbedit - 259 replies

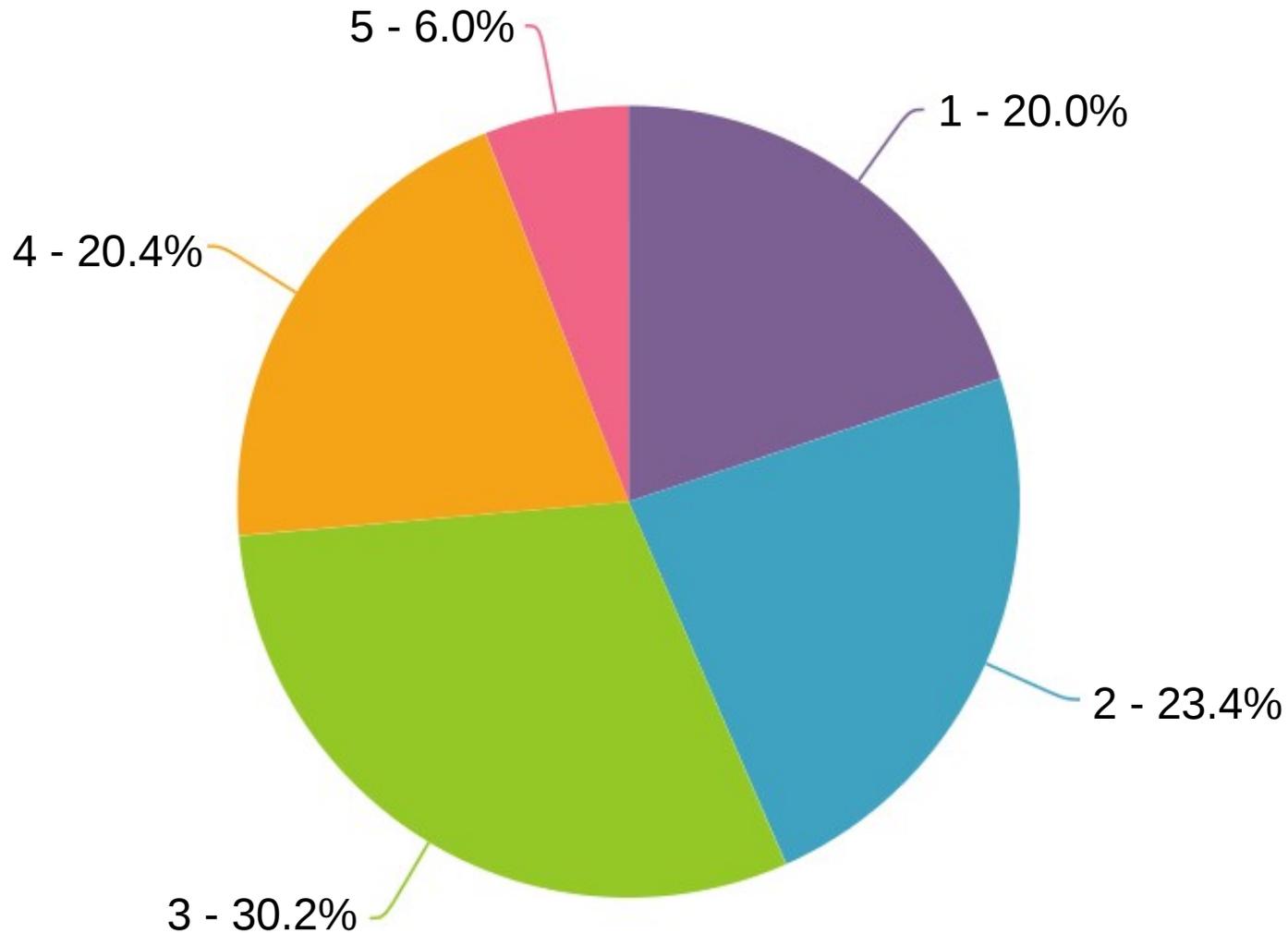
	Very good	Good	Neutral	Poor	Very poor
User/group management	24 9.3%	119 45.9%	90 34.7%	23 8.9%	3 1.2%
DNS management	9 3.5%	68 26.3%	138 53.3%	40 15.4%	4 1.5%
AD site management	9 3.5%	59 22.4%	146 56.4%	39 15.1%	7 2.7%

Windows tools (RSAT) - 439 replies:

	Very good	Good	Neutral	Poor	Very poor
User/group management	137 31.2%	215 49.0%	68 15.5%	15 3.4%	4 0.9%
DNS management	52 11.8%	158 36.0%	163 37.1%	53 12.1%	13 3.0%
AD site management	50 11.5%	174 39.6%	180 41.0%	30 6.8%	5 1.1%

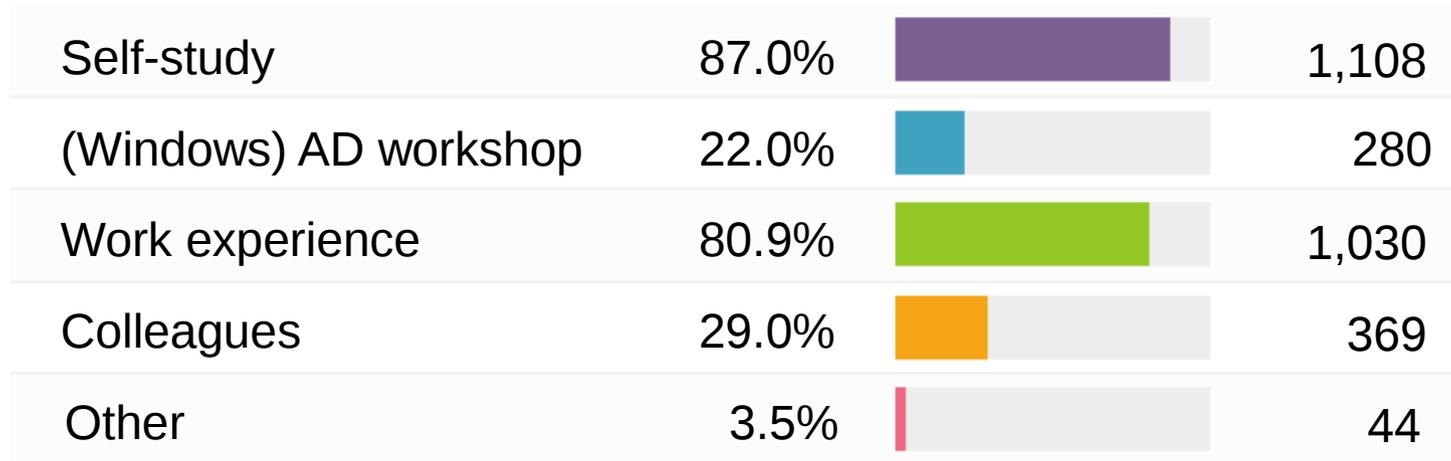
Answers of participants using Samba as Active Directory Domain Controller

Active Directory Knowledge In General



1 = No experience ... 5 = Deep knowledge

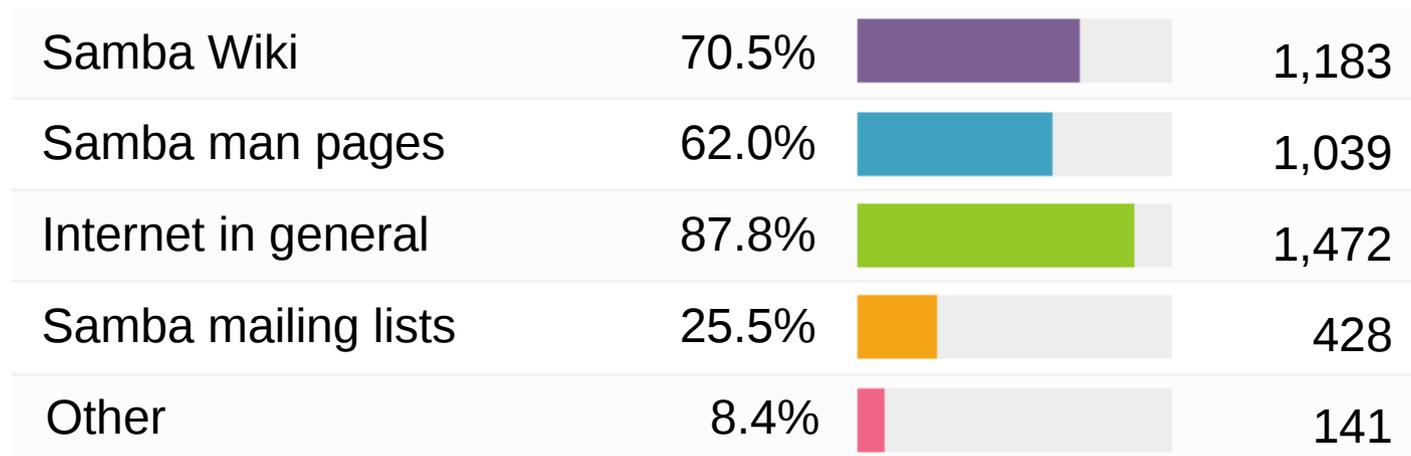
Where Users Got Their AD Knowledge From



Only answers counted from participants, who haven't chosen „No experience“ in the previous question (1,274 answers)

Where do people look for help...

Where Users Look For Help With Samba



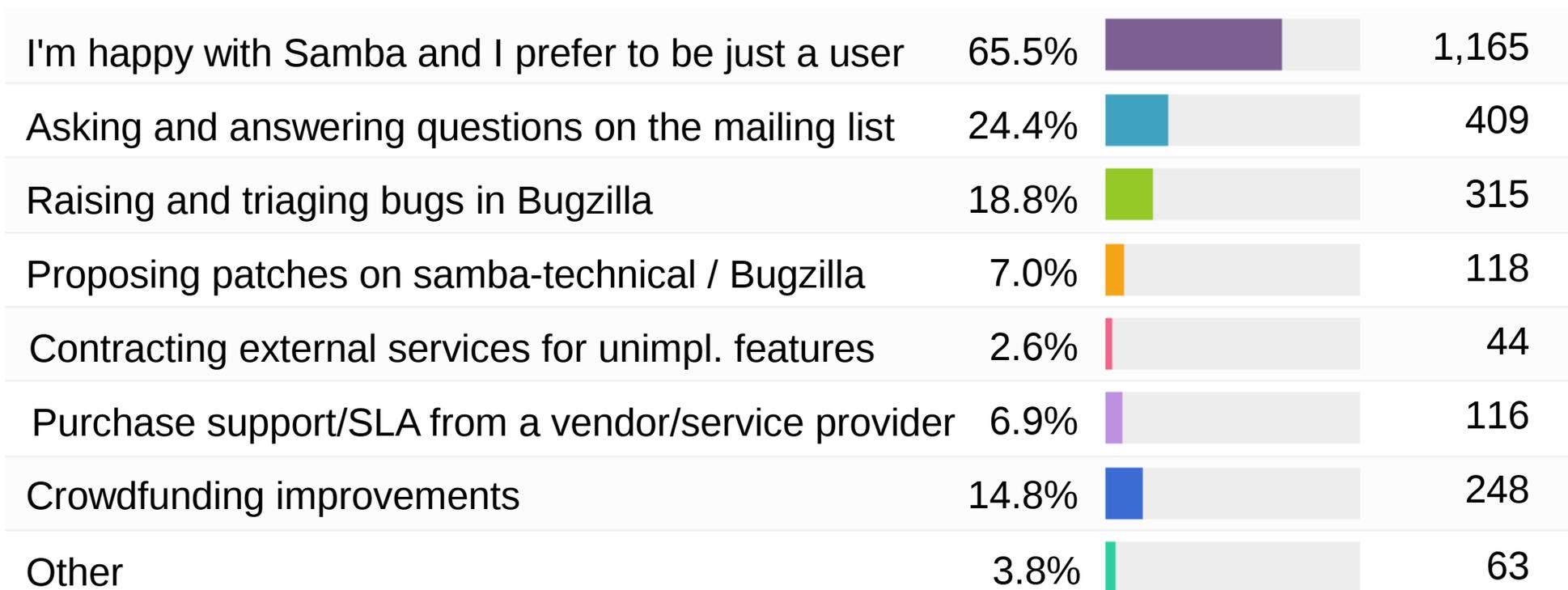
Something about our documentation...

User Experiences With The Samba Wiki

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Detailed documentation	84 6.7%	605 48.2%	451 35.9%	101 8.0%	15 1.2%
Documentation covers all important topics	53 4.2%	478 38.3%	473 37.9%	215 17.2%	30 2.4%
Information are easy to find	49 3.9%	363 29.0%	527 42.2%	268 21.4%	43 3.4%
Tutorials are well structured and clear	67 5.4%	413 33.3%	557 45.0%	172 13.9%	30 2.4%
Up to date	48 3.9%	333 27.0%	548 44.4%	249 20.2%	57 4.6%

Engage with or improve Samba...

How Users (Would) Engage With Or Improve Samba



How do all this charts help to improve Samba?

How This Survey Can Help Improving Samba

- Understanding user and vendor needs
- Improving Samba by target-oriented enhancements

Who should pay for all that enhancements?

- Take the survey as an initial base of information
- Find customers with common interests
- Start a crowdfunding event
- Ask your sales team, how to use the survey results ;-)

What The Participants Want To Tell The Samba Team

Congrats on the excellent work done by all

Keep up the good work!

Thank you for this great software.

File transfer is too slow

Keep 3.6 alive and bring it back to production quality

Continue the great work!

I have been using Samba since version 1.8. Great package!

Good job !!!

Sysvol replication, please ;-)

I'm running Samba on a Synology NAS (with version 3.6.24). Please encourage NAS manufacturer to update Samba to the most stable version to use the latest features.

Please fix Bug 10604

No critic. Just pure appreciation for a good piece of software, that more than once saved my ass :) Keep up the good work!

I love samba

Hey Samba Team, you made a good Job :)

Thank you for Samba.

very good job at all, it takes time to get the egdes rounded - so stay motivated

please move away from OpenSSL

Keep going!!

WRITE DOCS !

Great job guys!

... and more than 380 other comments! ;-)

mmuehlfeld@samba.org

Slides:

https://www.samba.org/~mmuehlfeld/SambaXP_2015.pdf

User survey 2015 report and raw data:

<https://www.samba.org/~mmuehlfeld/UserSurvey2015/>