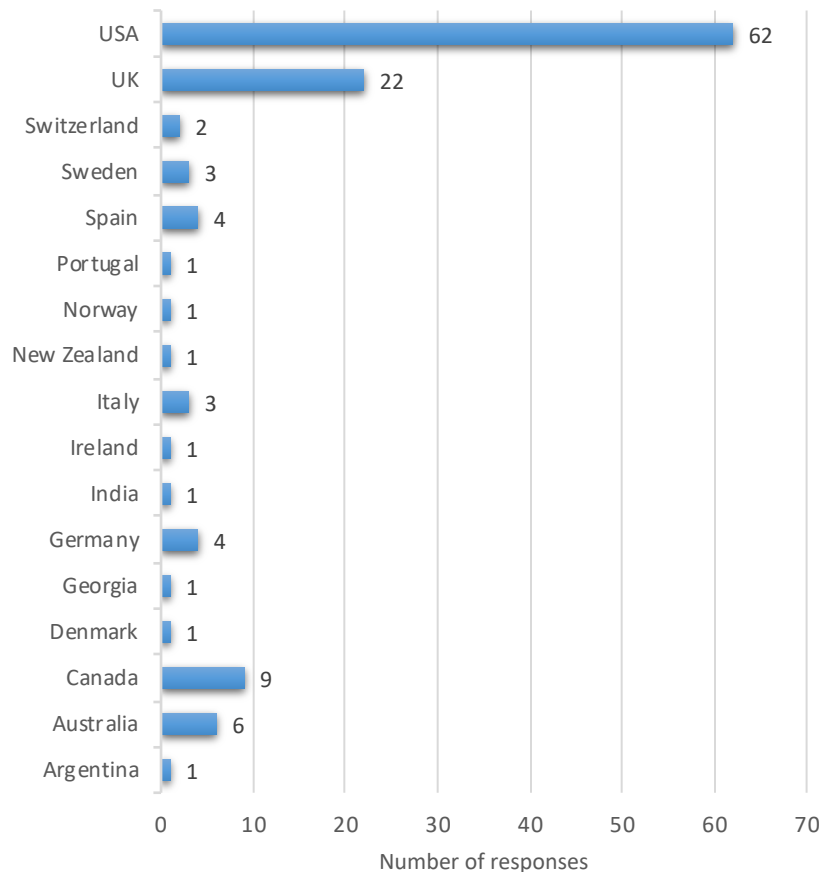
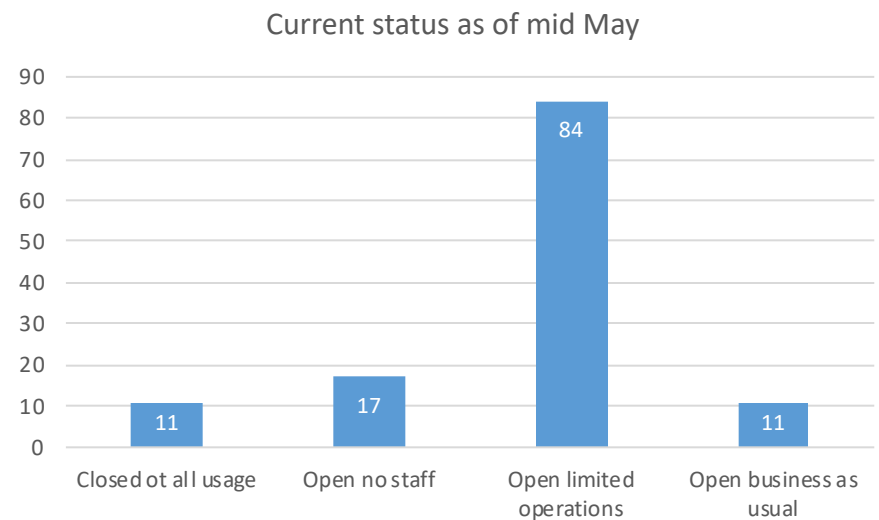


The SRL Services Committee sent out a COVID-19 survey to get an idea of how SRLs were responding to the pandemic in terms of operations and policies. The results have been compiled from the 123 respondents between May 5th - 20th. This is a snapshot of what labs were doing at that time, as the status of labs may have changed with more labs opening and policies being developed to work safely in a shared environment.

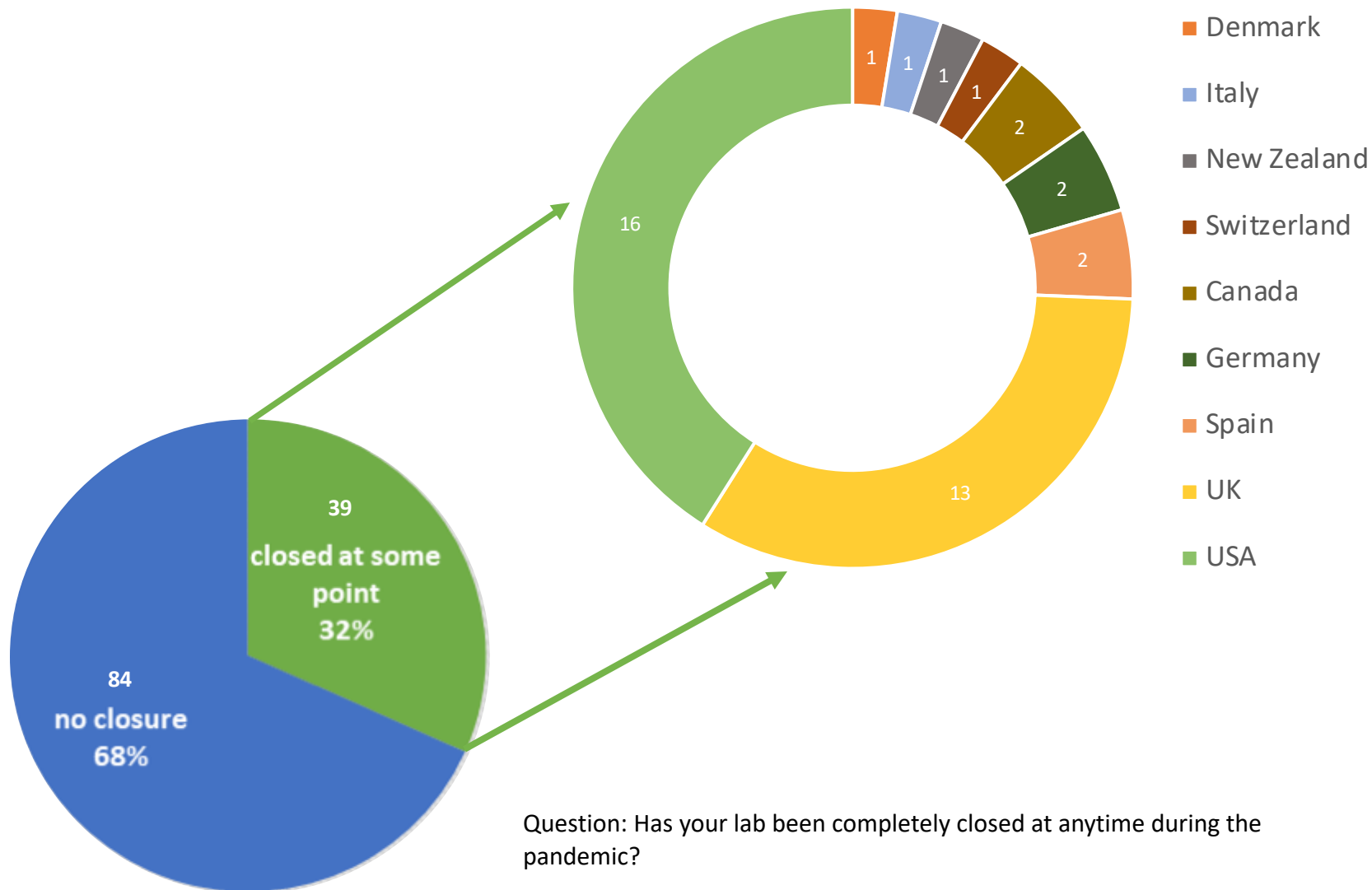


Question: Where are you geographically located?

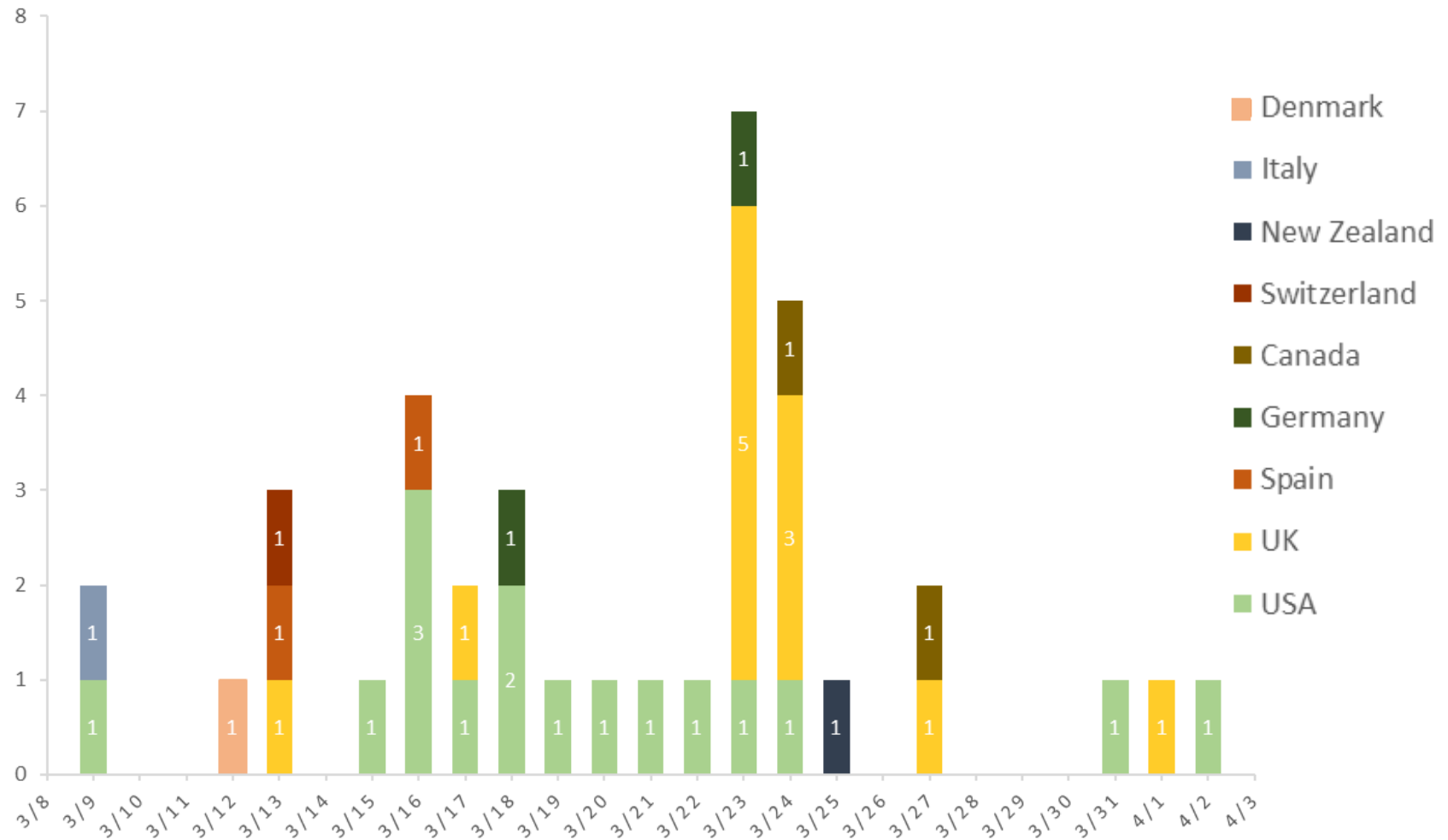


Question: What is the current status of your lab?

About a third of labs surveyed were closed at some point in the last few months. Of the labs that had a closures due to COVID-19, their region is indicated in the donut graph. At the time of the survey 11 of the SRLs were still closed the other had reopened.



The 39 labs that experienced a closure at some point had the earliest closure on March 9th with the majority closing in mid March, the UK closed down the most labs on March 23rd and 24th while the US had closures spread throughout the month.

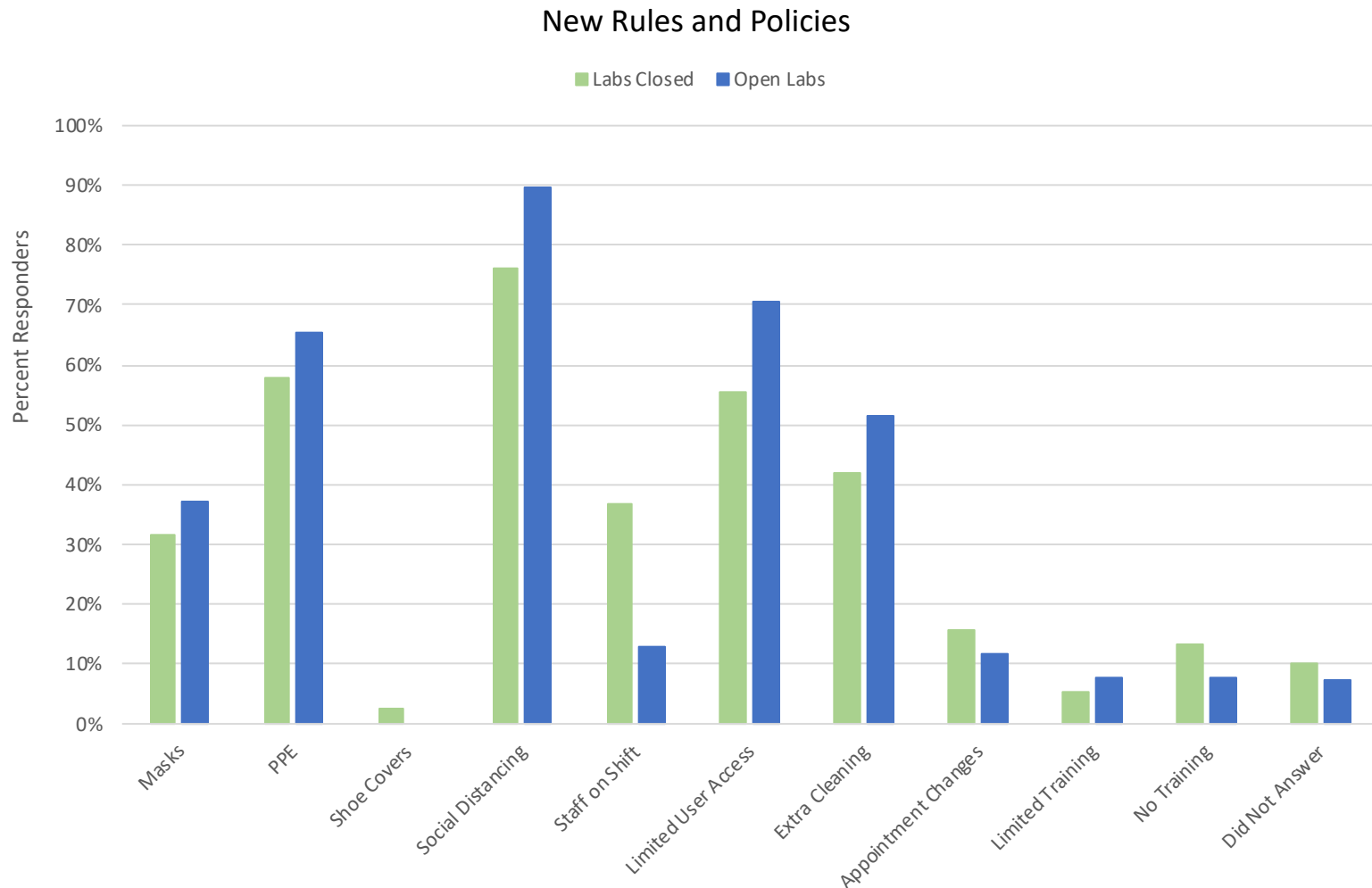


Questions:

Where are you geographically located?

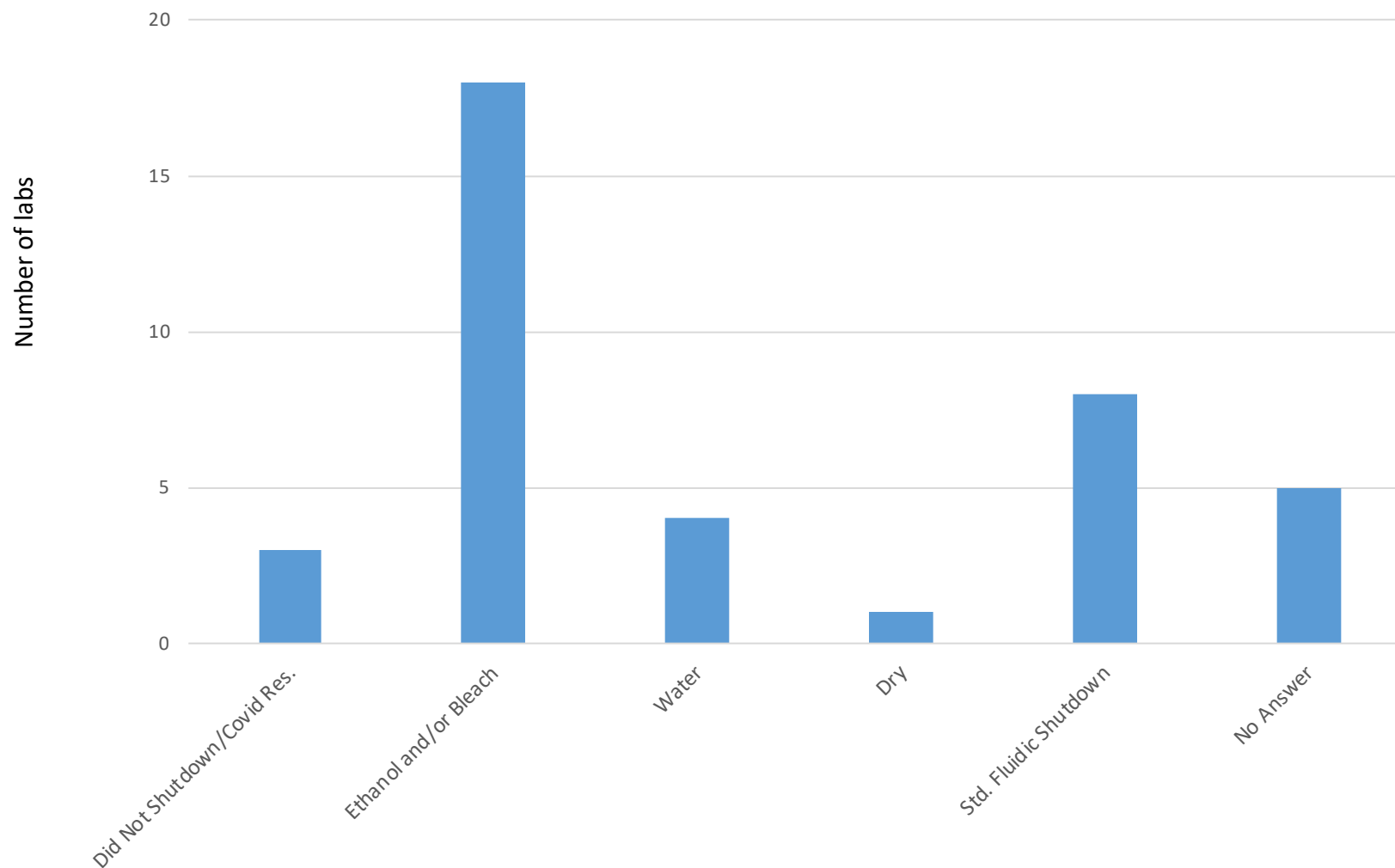
When was your lab closed?

Respondents indicated that there were new rules and policies being implemented with some specifically including masks and others indicating only that additional PPE would be required. Social distancing and limiting user access are the most universal change for labs. The labs are broken down by the labs that were currently operational and the labs that were still closed but in the planning of rules for when they reopened.



Question: What new rules or policies have been implemented (PPE, social distancing, access etc)?

Instrument shutdown procedure for long-term storage

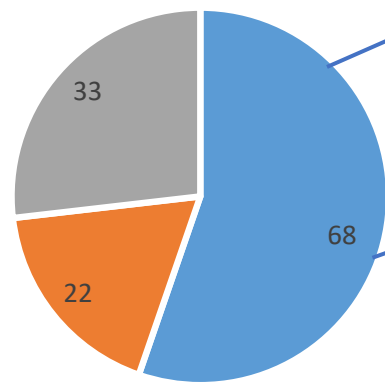


Question: Provide a general summary of your shutdown procedures for all instruments

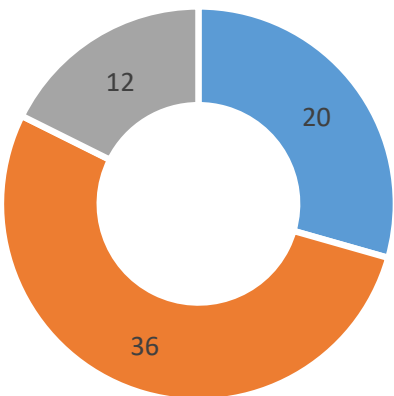
68 of respondents indicated that they will be involved with SARS-CoV-2 studies with 20 of those expecting to have some live cell sorting.

Live cell sorting in SARS-CoV-2 studies

SRL involvement in SARS-CoV-2 studies



■ Yes ■ No ■ Unsure

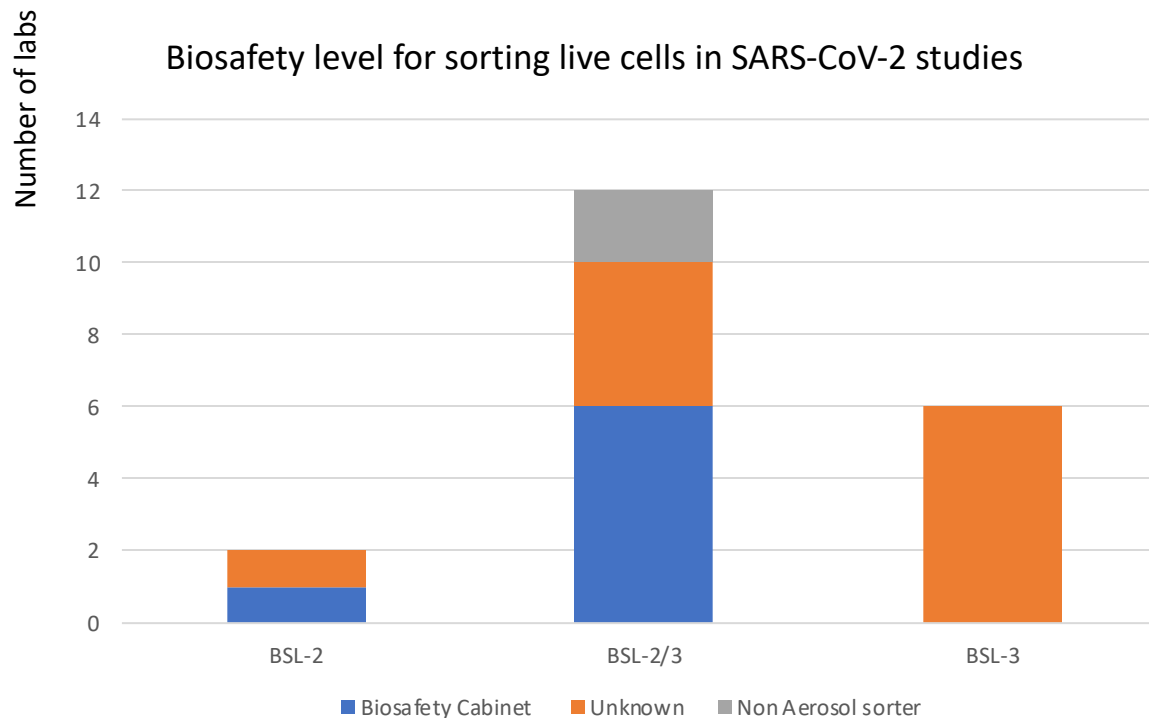


■ Yes ■ No ■ Unsure

Question: If yes, will there be any sorting of live cells that have been exposed to the virus?

Question: Will your SRL be involved with SARS-CoV2 studies?

Of the 20 labs expecting to have some live cell sorting, the majority will be performing sorts in a BSL2 lab with BSL3 practices. The labs that responded that sorting would be in a BSL3 suite did not explicitly say that their sorters were enclosed in hoods. For the labs sorting at BSL-2/3, 6 stated that the sorters are in biosafety cabinets, 2 of the sorters are non-aerosol generating and they did not indicate if they were in biosafety cabinets.



Question: What will the Bio-safety level containment be for COVID-19 sorting?

SRL Resources for COVID-19

Several organizations have developed content or held meeting regarding future practices in SRLs following the COVID-19 epidemic. Some of these resources can be found here:

- Association of Biomolecular Resource Facilities (ABRF): <https://abrf.org/abrf-covid-19-initiatives-and-resources>
- Core Technologies for Life Sciences (CTLs): <https://www.ctls-org.eu/covid-19/>
- Canadian Network of Scientific Platforms (CNSP) Virtual meeting - https://isac-net.org/resource/collection/0D3A9E84-2B4B-4057-A179-515D7F04F7B2/CNSP_VIRTUAL_MEETINGS.pdf
- Royal Microscopical Society (RMS) Virtual Meeting: <https://www.rms.org.uk/discover-engage/online-microscopy-talks/summary-virtual-flowcytometryuk-meeting-covid.html>
- German BioImaging: <https://www.gerbi-gmb.de/corona>

Additional biosafety information for general lab practices and cytometry on COVID-19 can be found here:

- ISAC: <https://isac-net.org/general/custom.asp?page=Biosafety>
- US Centers for Disease Control (CDC): <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/lab/lab-biosafety-guidelines.html>
- International Federation of Biosafety Associations (IFBA): <https://internationalbiosafety.org/biosafety-guidelines-for-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-coronavirus-disease-covid-19/>
- US National Institute of Health (NIH): <https://osp.od.nih.gov/biotechnology/interim-lab-biosafety-guidance-for-research-with-sars-cov-2/>
- World Health Organization (WHO): https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/laboratory-biosafety-novel-coronavirus-version-1-1.pdf?sfvrsn=912a9847_2