

# *State Government Digital Repositories: Facing Challenges & Finding Solutions*



Amy Rudersdorf  
Digital of Information Management Program  
State Library of North Carolina  
Department of Cultural Resources

# Strong partnerships = Success



# Digital Repositories = *Trust*

A system of sustained processes that **actively manages** digital objects throughout their **entire life cycle** – from creation to storage to **long-term access** (or scheduled destruction) and that inspires a sense of **enduring trust** in its stakeholders.

# Digital repositories are *not*

Photograph and Image Search

TSLA Homepage | Photograph and Image Search Homepage | Order Form

KEYWORD SEARCH:   \* [Read more about MySQL Boolean full-text searches](#)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60

Image	Citation
	<a href="#">View Full Citation</a>
	<a href="#">View Full Citation</a>
	<a href="#">View Full Citation</a>
	<a href="#">View Full Citation</a>
	<a href="#">View Full Citation</a>
	<a href="#">View Full Citation</a>

50 Tennessee Home Food Supply committee meeting. View #8. Economic aspects of war; Committees; Meetings ca. 1941 Drawer 1, Folder 32 [View Full Citation](#)

# Trust defined by:

- **active** and **sustained** bit checks
- virus checks
- audit trails to maintain the **authenticity** of the original object
- **persistent** identifiers
- **proper** and *implemented* file descriptions, file naming and directory constructs
- **open** standards and **normalized** formats and media
- **active** migration
- **automated** processes to **manage** access, security, archival retention and destruction schedules at the file level
- **constant** refresh and **scaling** of storage media
- **high-speed** throughput for acquisition and online access systems.

# Why are digital repositories important?



GONE

# Authenticity and the law\*

Springfield, Dec. 25. 1858  
H. C. Whitney, Esq  
My dear Sir:  
I have just received yours of  
the 23<sup>d</sup>, inquiring whether I received the newspaper  
you sent me by Express - I did receive  
them, and am very much obliged. There is some  
probability that my Scrap-book will be republished,  
and if it shall, I will send you a copy.  
Yours friend as ever  
A. Lincoln.

Executive  
Treasury Department, C.

Richmond, Va.

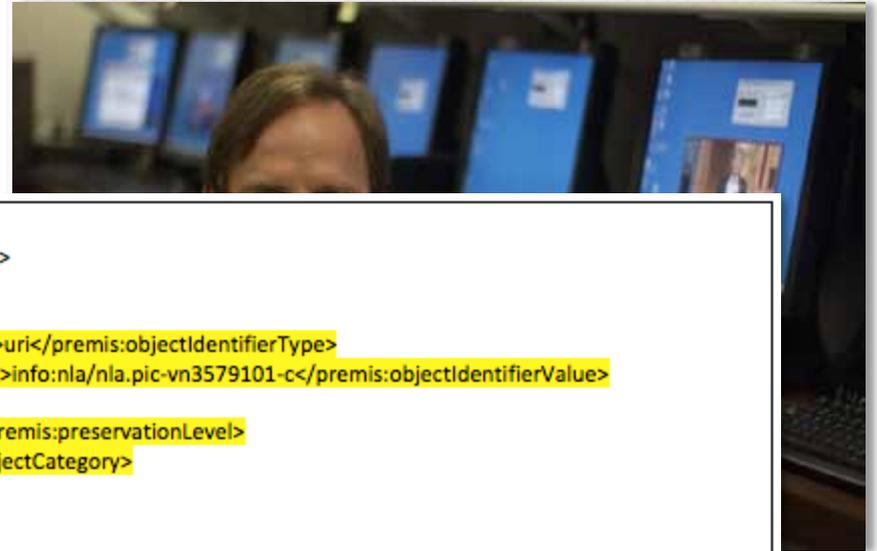
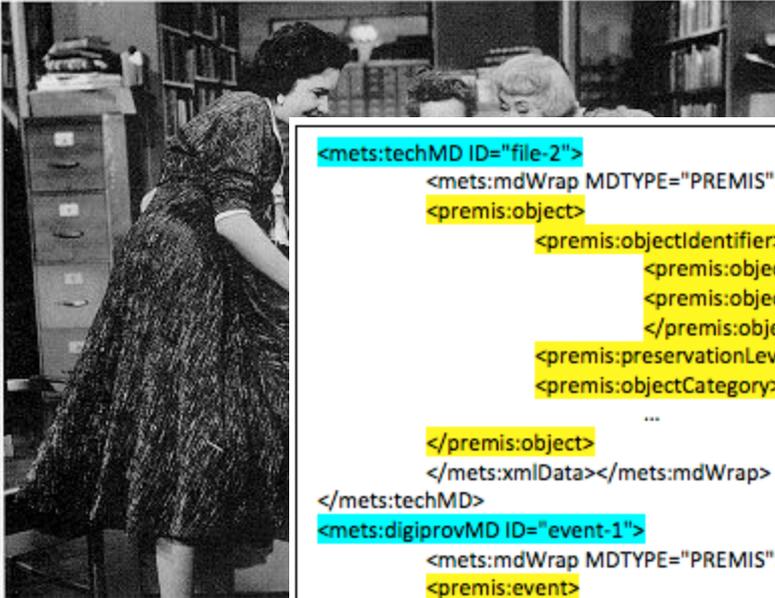
Leave of absence having been granted to W. A. S.  
Taylor Esq. Second Auditor of the Treasury Department,  
Ro. Grame Esq. Chief Clerk in his office is hereby appointed  
Acting Second Auditor during such absence

Jefferson Davis

President U. S. A.

\*I am not a lawyer.

# Libraries: 2500+ years of standards



```
<mets:techMD ID="file-2">
  <mets:mdWrap MDTYPE="PREMIS"><mets:xmlData>
    <premis:object>
      <premis:objectIdentifier>
        <premis:objectIdentifierType>uri</premis:objectIdentifierType>
        <premis:objectIdentifierValue>info:nla/nla.pic-vn3579101-</premis:objectIdentifierValue>
      </premis:objectIdentifier>
      <premis:preservationLevel>unknown</premis:preservationLevel>
      <premis:objectCategory>file</premis:objectCategory>
      ...
    </premis:object>
  </mets:xmlData></mets:mdWrap>
</mets:techMD>
<mets:digiprovMD ID="event-1">
  <mets:mdWrap MDTYPE="PREMIS"><mets:xmlData>
    <premis:event>
      <premis:eventIdentifier>
        <premis:eventIdentifierType>internal</premis:eventIdentifierType>
        <premis:eventIdentifierValue>28903-1</premis:eventIdentifierValue>
      </premis:eventIdentifier>
      <premis:eventType>creation</premis:eventType>
      <premis:eventDateTime>2005-11-03T12:15:59</premis:eventDateTime>
      ...
    </premis:event>
  </mets:xmlData></mets:mdWrap>
</mets:digiprovMD>
```

Libraries/Archives = Trust

NC Cultural Resources  
Archives and Library websites  
generated  
8,080,000  
page views in 2010.

*We are information experts.*

# Two Surveys

- ✓ State Electronic Records Initiative (SERI),  
*Council of State Archivists (COSA)*
  - 48 states, 3 territories
- ✓ Challenges and solutions to repository  
building and maintenance in state  
government, *me (a librarian)*
  - 42 responses (36 states, 1 territory)
  - 59% State Libraries, 32% State Archives, 2% Joint, 7% Other

# SERI results

- ✓ IT/Archives relationships.
  - Working relations non-existent, strained, or intermittent, *or*
  - Good, but archives staff not integrated into decision making process related to systems, system functionality, or overall management of information and records systems
- ✓ IT/Administrative relationships.
  - Many are involved in metadata, email preservation, & best practices decision-making

# SERI results

## ✓ Greatest needs

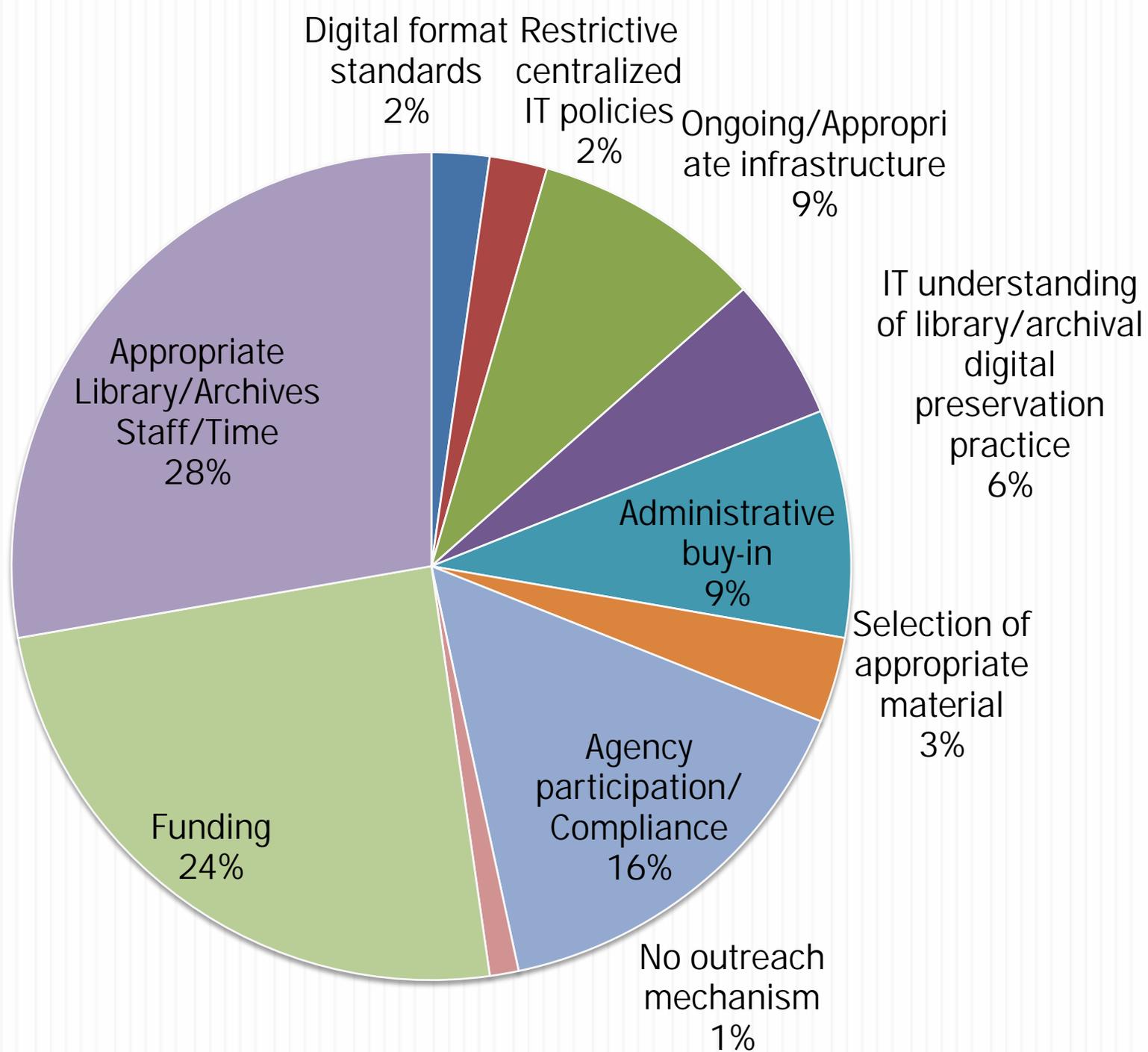
### – Trained staff

- *Need for position dedicated to management of electronic records*

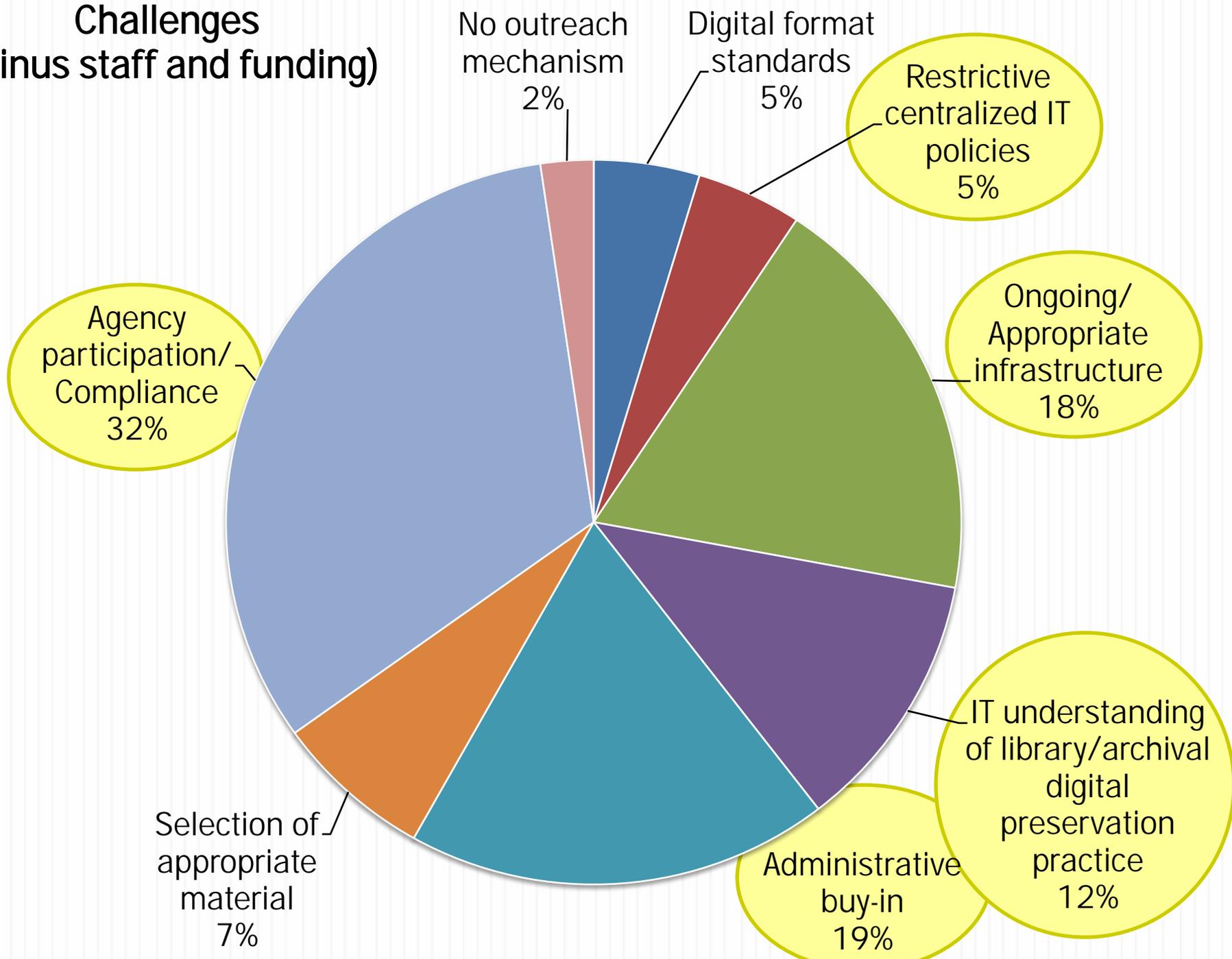
### – Additional storage space

- *“it’s been difficult making IT understand why the Archives is different and why they need so much space.”*

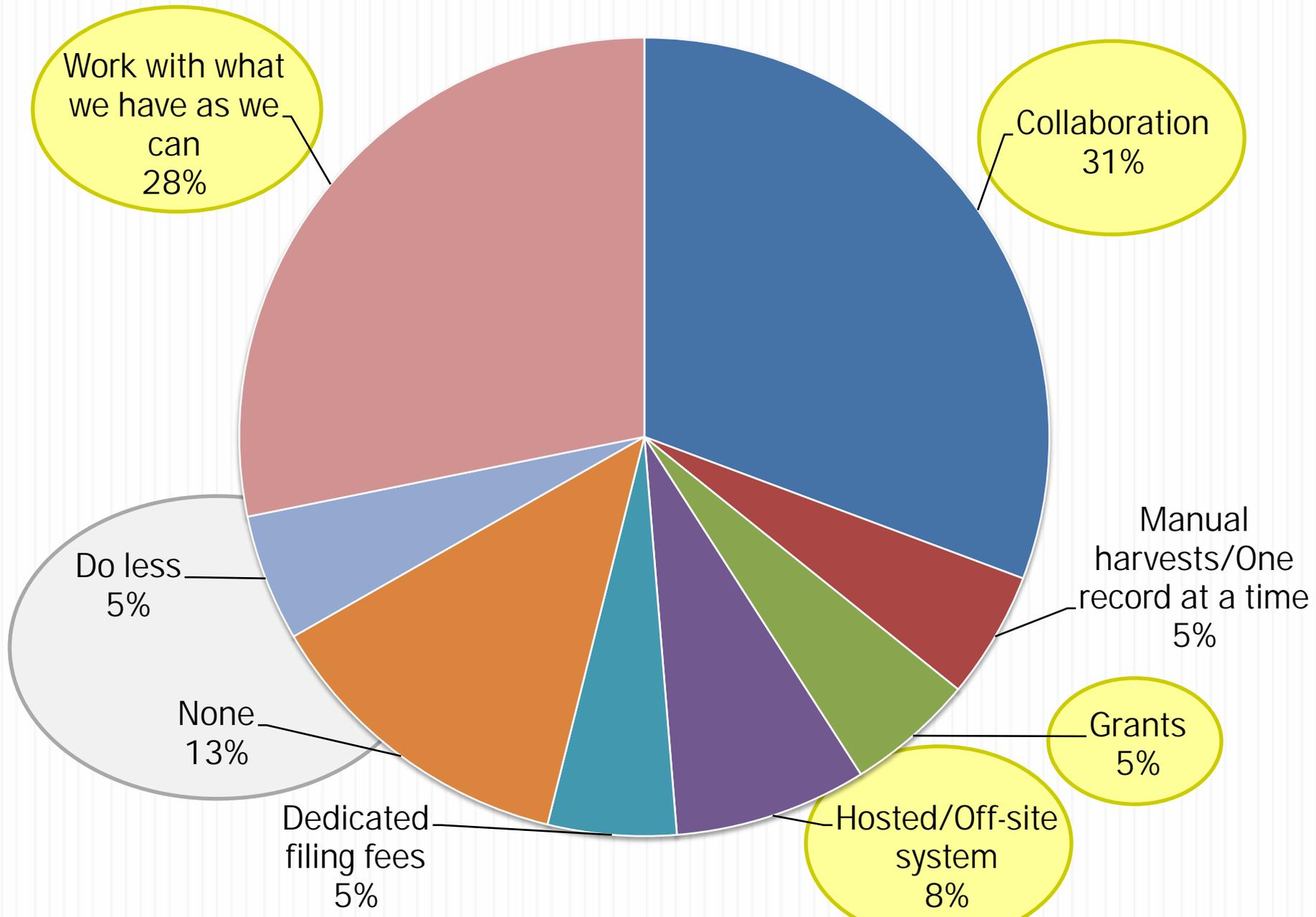
# Challenges



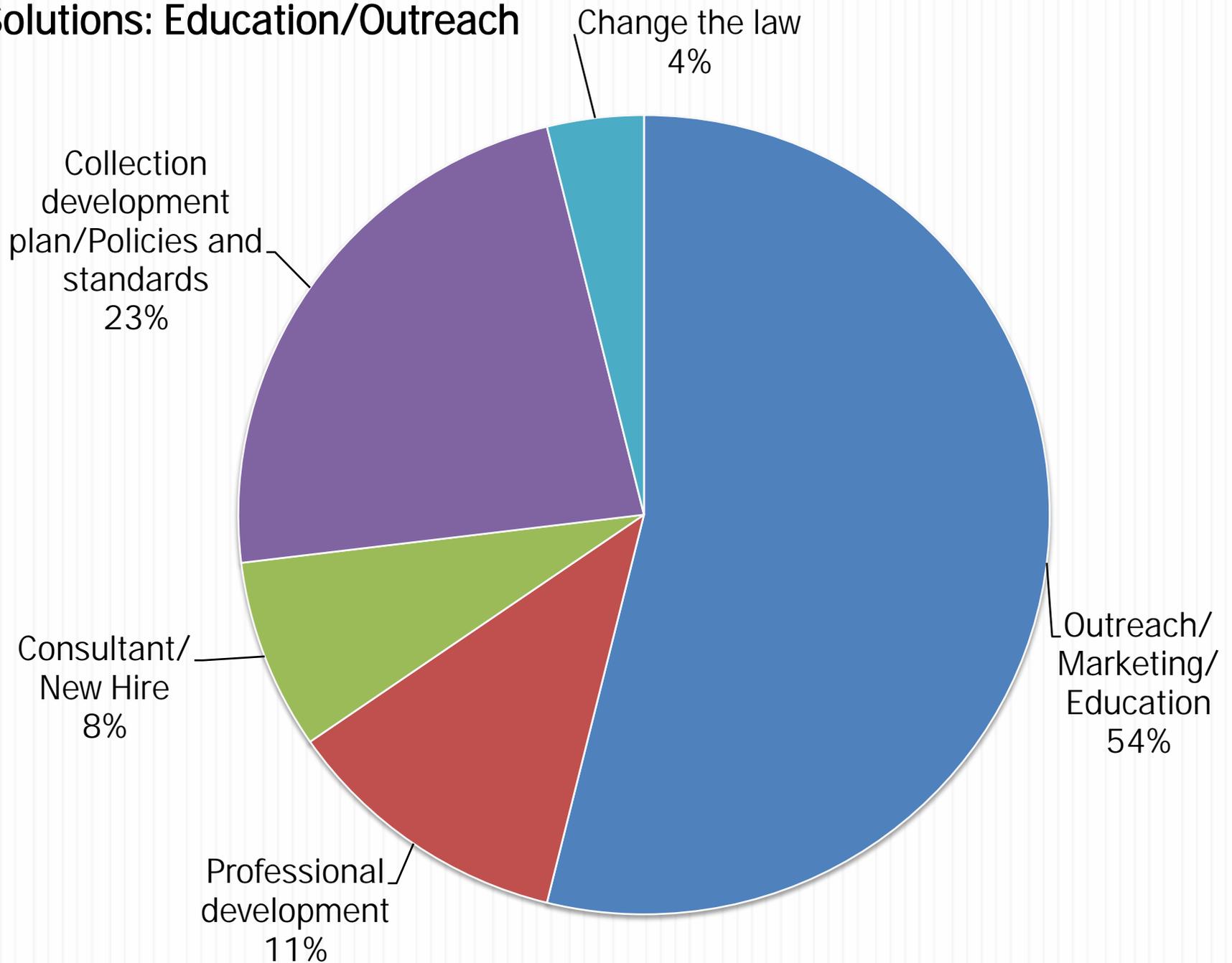
# Challenges (minus staff and funding)



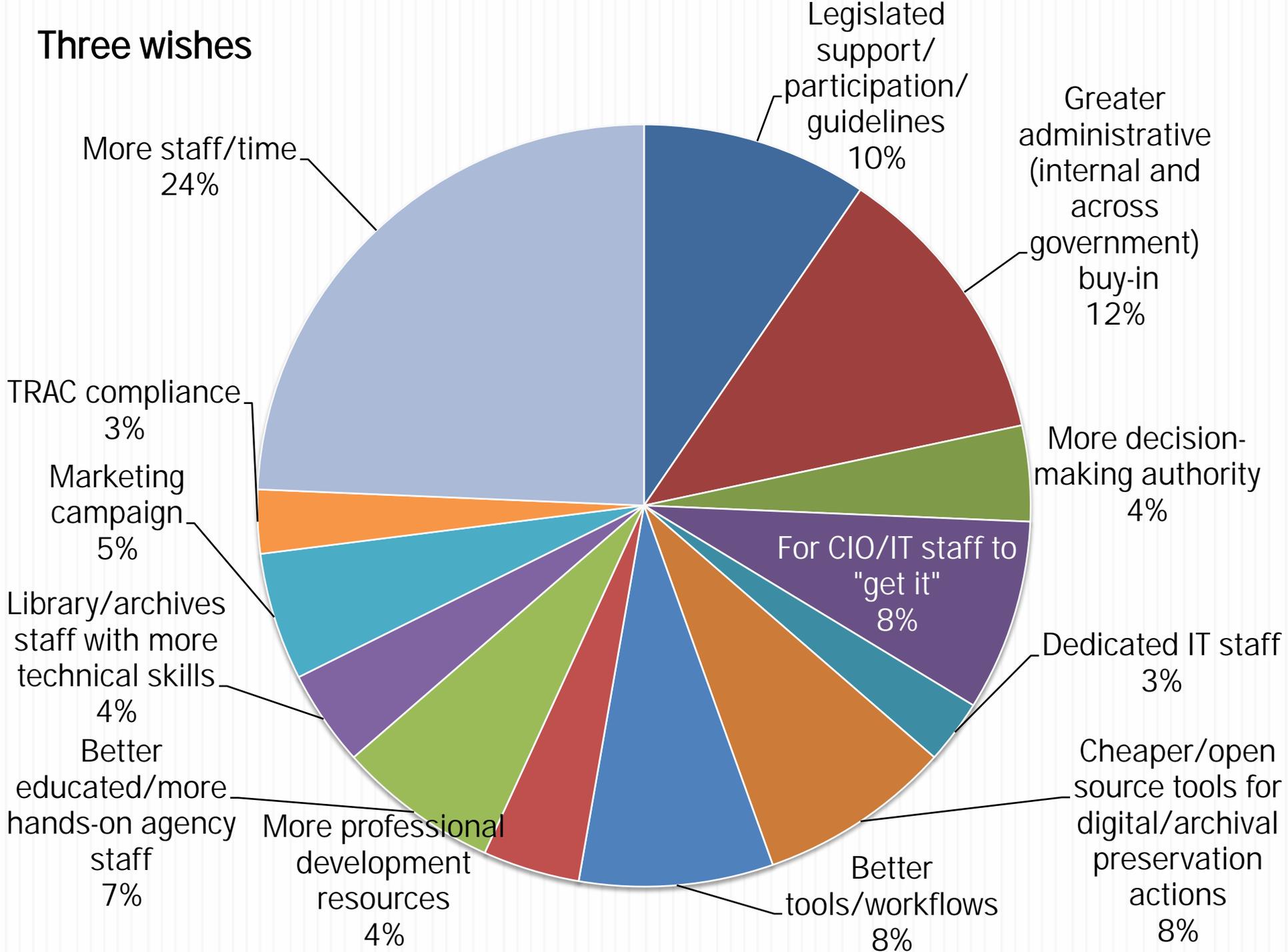
# Solutions: Resources



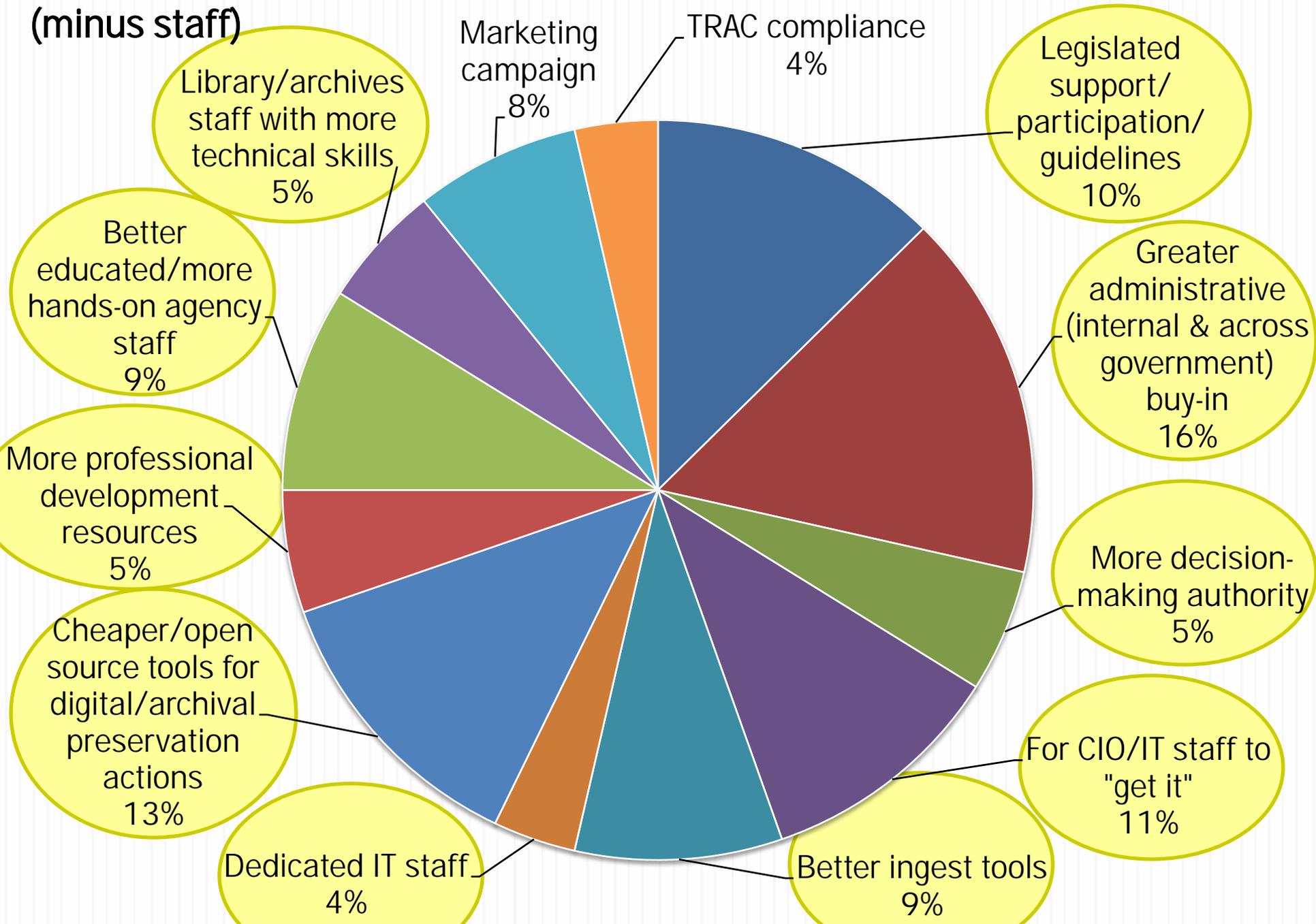
# Solutions: Education/Outreach



# Three wishes



# Three wishes (minus staff)



# Authority

**“There is a gap between the authority to act and the ability to act effectively.”**

*2007 State of the State Archives*

# Solution: Partnership



# References

- Jantz:  
<http://www.dlib.org/dlib/june05/jantz/06jantz.html>
- RSP: <http://www.rsp.ac.uk/start/before-you-start/what-is-a-repository/>
- State Electronic Records Initiative (SERI),  
Council of State Archivists (COSA)
- TDR:  
<http://www.oclc.org/research/activities/past/rlg/trustedrep/repositories.pdf>