

Global Survey

Mapping Academic Research on on Local Government and Politics

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Survey's Goal: identify scholars' disciplinary backgrounds and interests; map current research trends; and explore how research agendas in local governance have evolved in recent years.

Initiative: IPSA RC05 Comparative Studies on Local Government and Politics. Prof. Carmen Navarro Universidad Autónoma Madrid, Prof. Daniel Cravacuore Universidad Quilmes, Argentina).

Database: 1665 cases, based on systematic search using academic search engines and databases such as Google Scholar, Scopus, Web of Science. Keyword searches: local government, local politics, urban governance, municipal policy, and decentralization + snowball question in the questionnaire.

Fieldwork: march 2025 - ongoing

RC05 - COMPARATIVE STUDIES ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS



Section 1 of 3

Global Survey: Academic Research on Local Government and Politics. Trends and Evolving Agendas

Dear colleague,

We invite you to participate in the survey "**Academic Research on Local Government and Politics. Trends and Evolving Agendas**", an initiative born in the framework of the IPSA Research Committee on Local Government and Politics (RC05). The objective of this survey is to map the current state of research in the field, identify the disciplinary backgrounds and specific interests of scholars working on local governance, and explore how research priorities have shifted in recent years. Your responses will help us gain a comprehensive understanding of the key themes and emerging research agendas in local governance studies worldwide.

We truly appreciate your time and contribution in helping us strengthen the global research network on local government and politics.

Thank you!

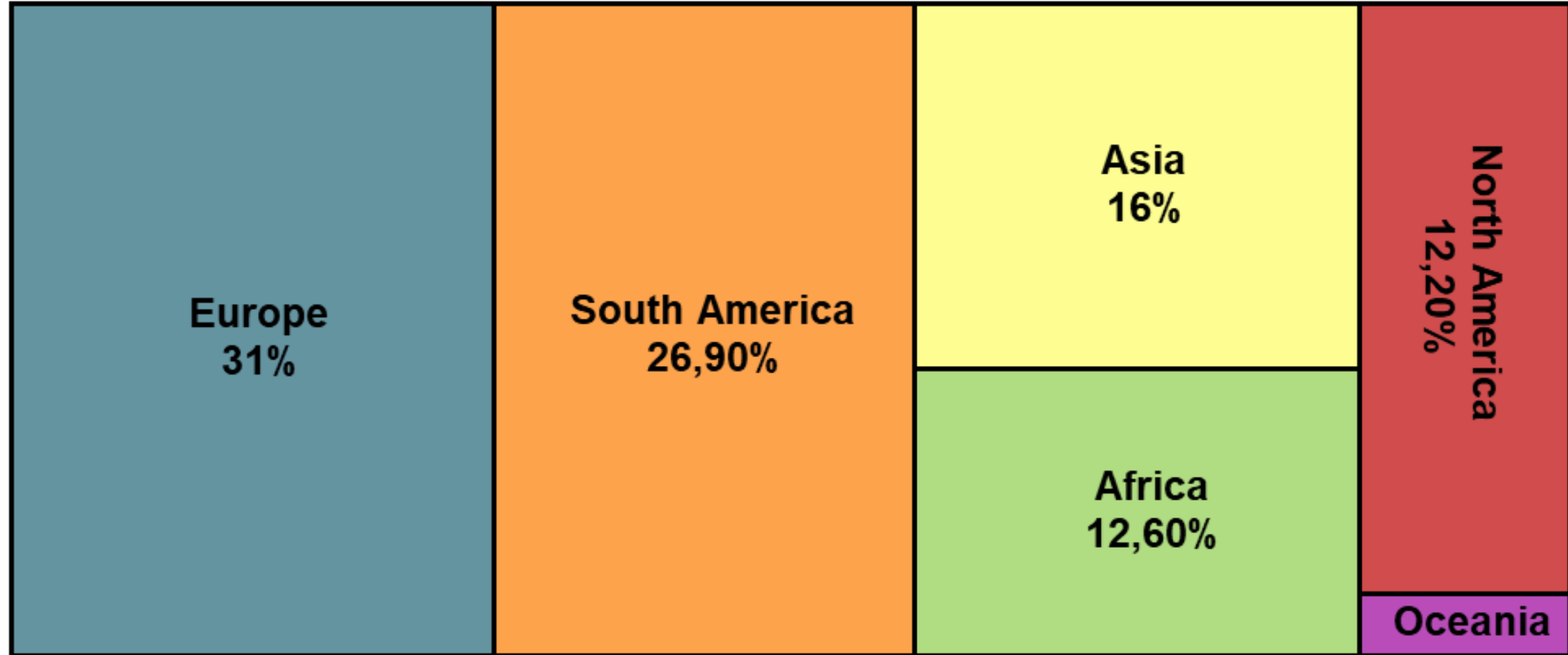
Carmen Navarro (University Autónoma Madrid) and Daniel Cravacuore (University Nacional Quilmes).

Representativeness and weighting of the survey

Population of Researchers on Local Government			Survey responses		Response rate based in the population	Weighting
Geographical Area	N	% of the population (A)	Frequencies	% of the survey (B)	% of the population	Weighting coefficient (A/B)
Africa	208	12,5%	26	5,5%	12,5%	2,27
Asia	267	16,0%	39	8,3%	14,6%	1,93
Europe	516	31,0%	147	31,3%	28,5%	0,99
North America	203	12,2%	34	7,2%	16,7%	1,69
Oceania	22	1,3%	5	1,1%	22,7%	1,20
South America	449	27,0%	218	46,5%	48,6%	0,58
Total	1665	100%	469	100%	28,2%	-

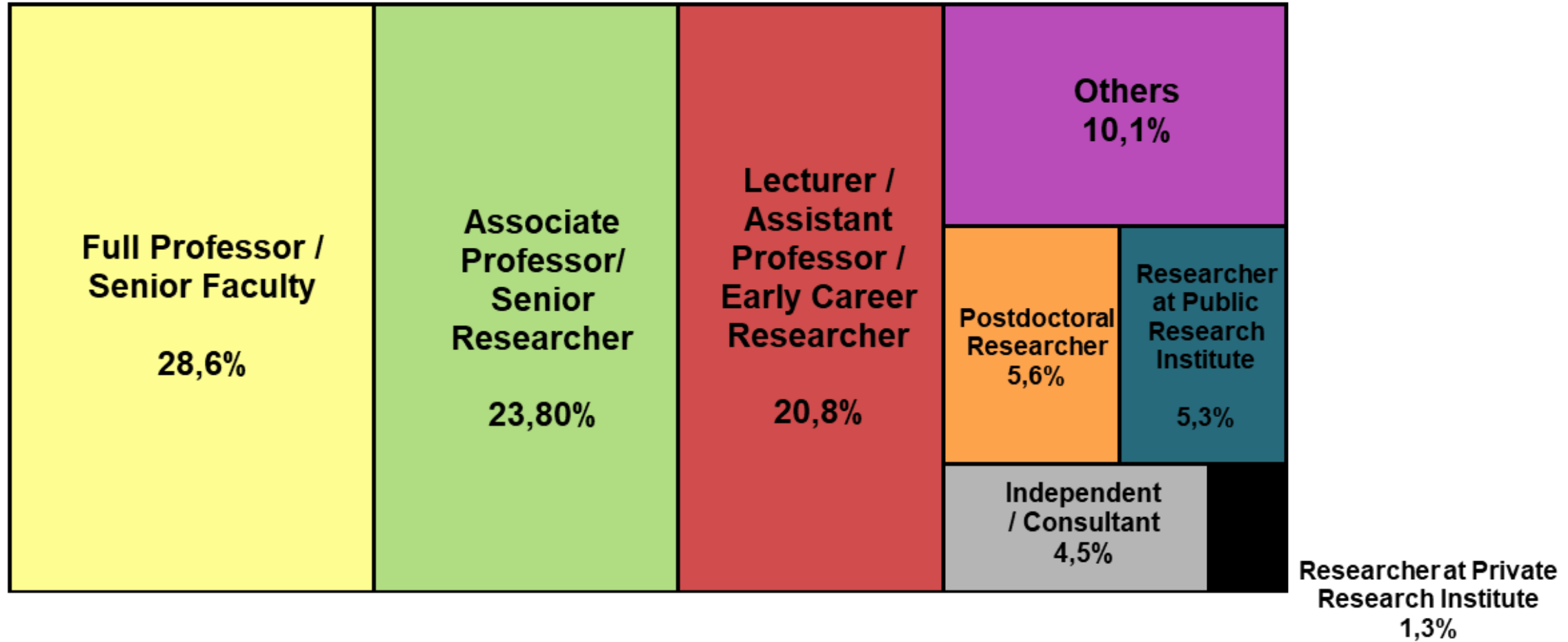
Own elaboration based on data from the Global Survey on Local Government and Politics (2025)

Share of the total responses by Continent (after the weighting)

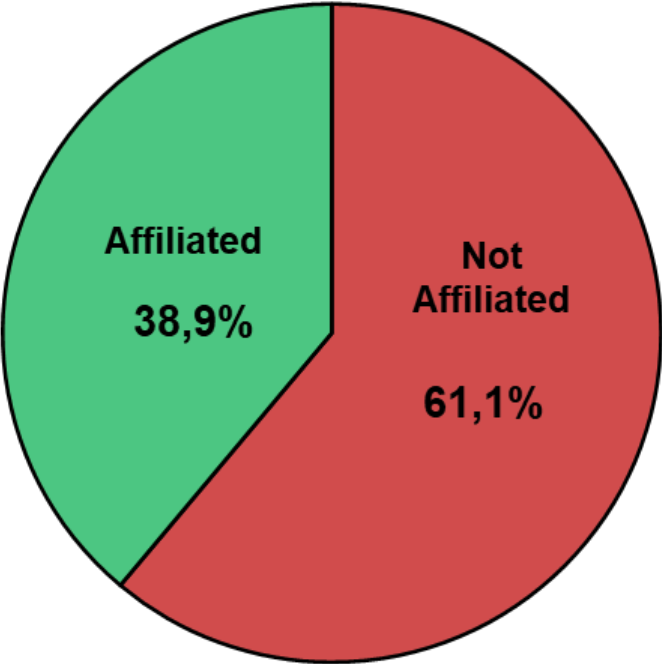


Main results (weighted database)

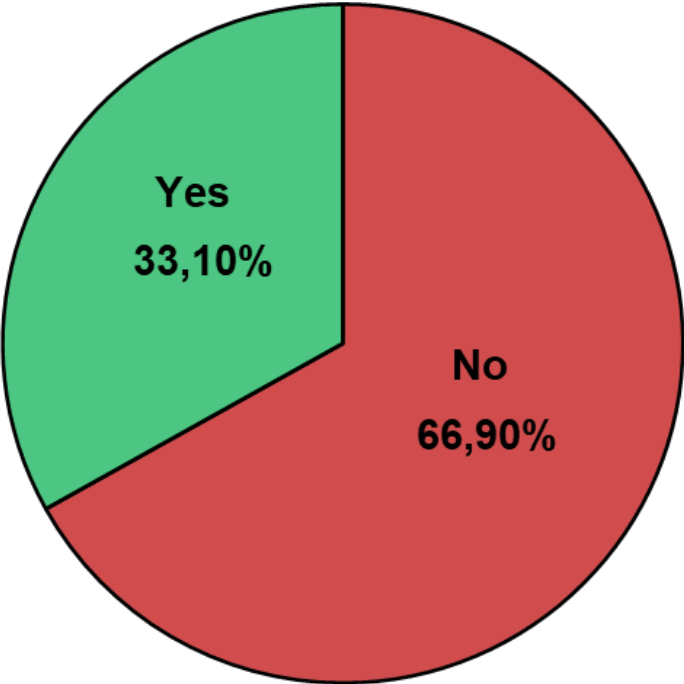
Academic Position



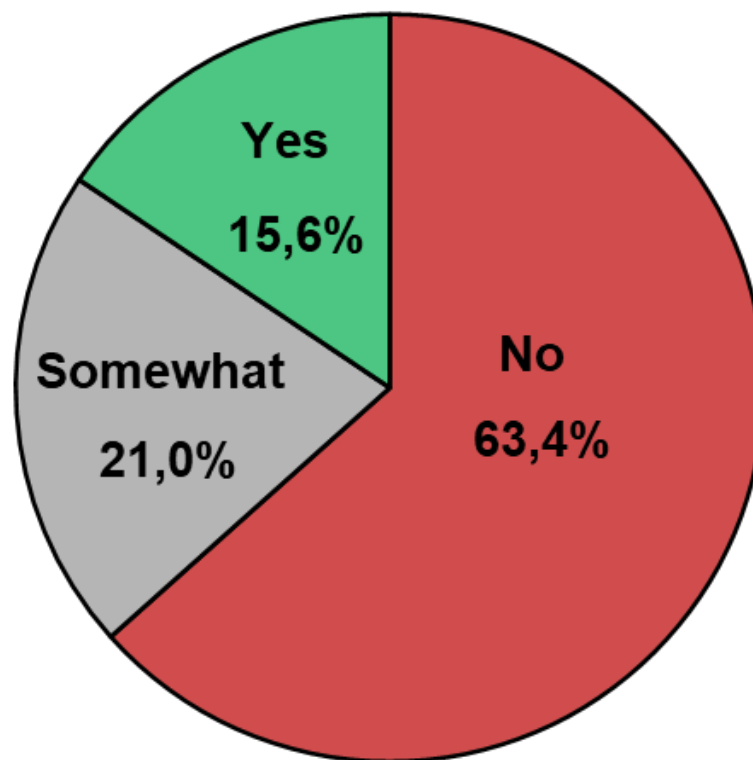
Affiliation to an International Association of Local Government or Politics/Policies



Currently working in an International Research Project

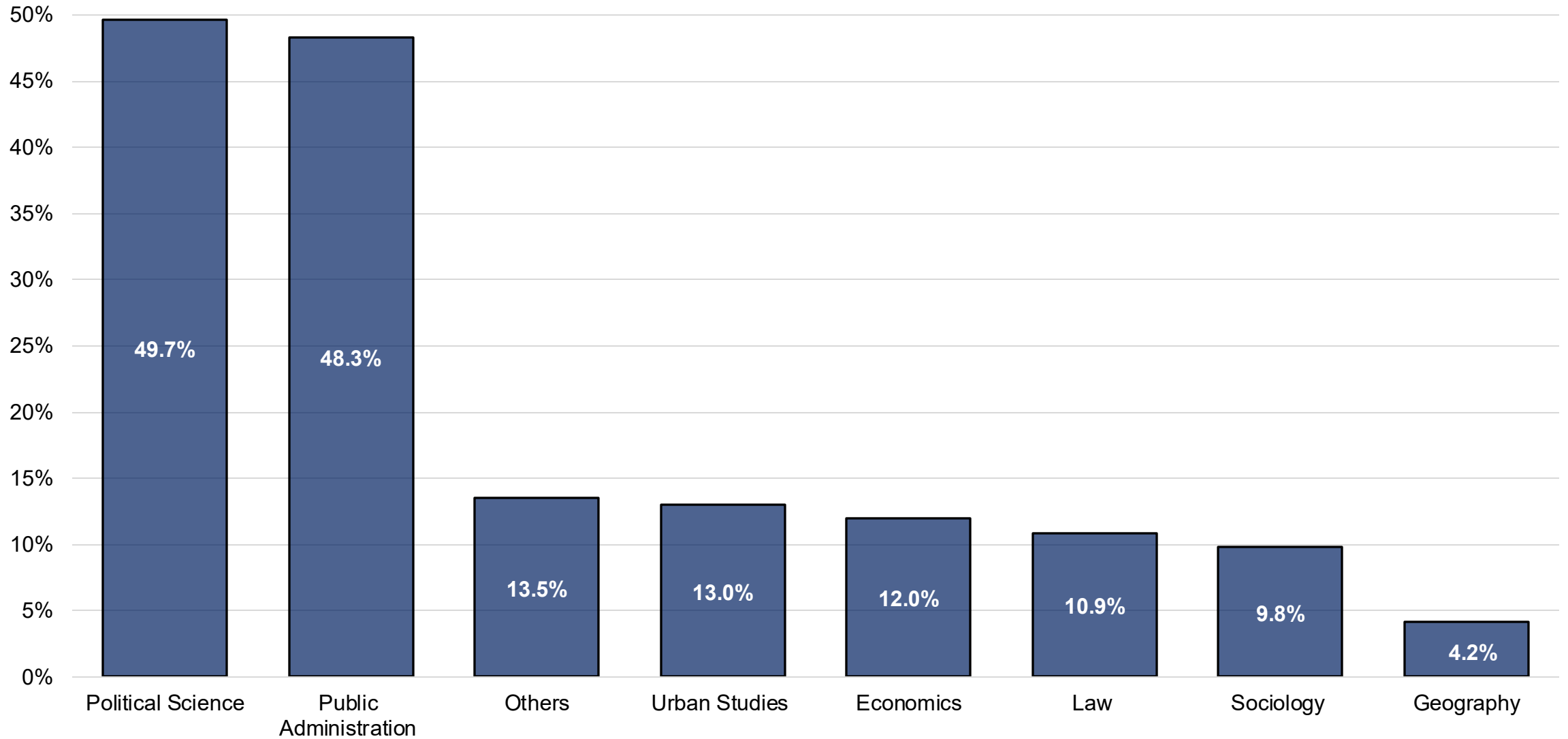


Did the COVID-19 pandemic change your research focus or priorities?



Discipline

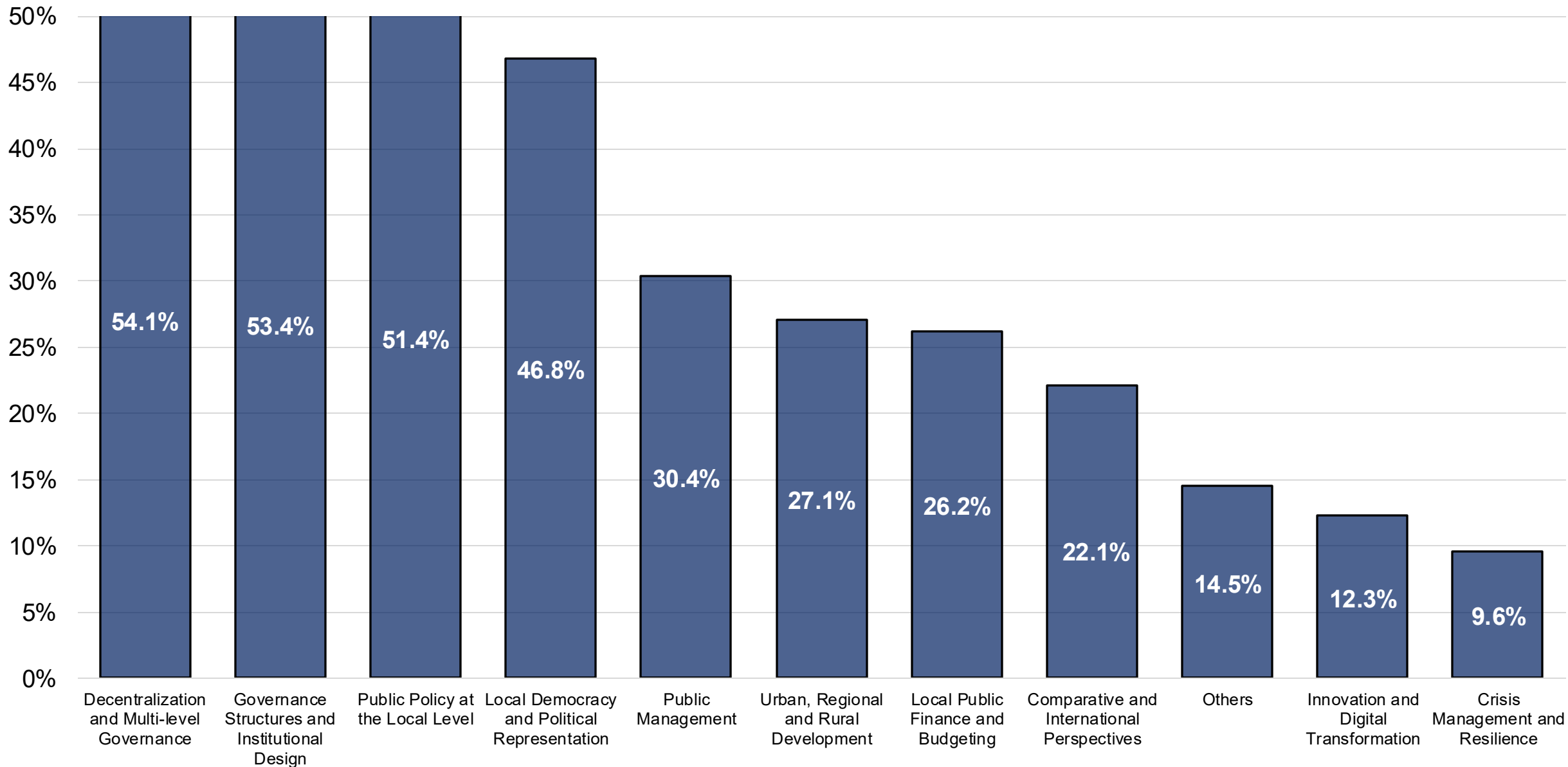
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Own elaboration based on data from the Global Survey on Local Government and Politics (2025)

Research topic

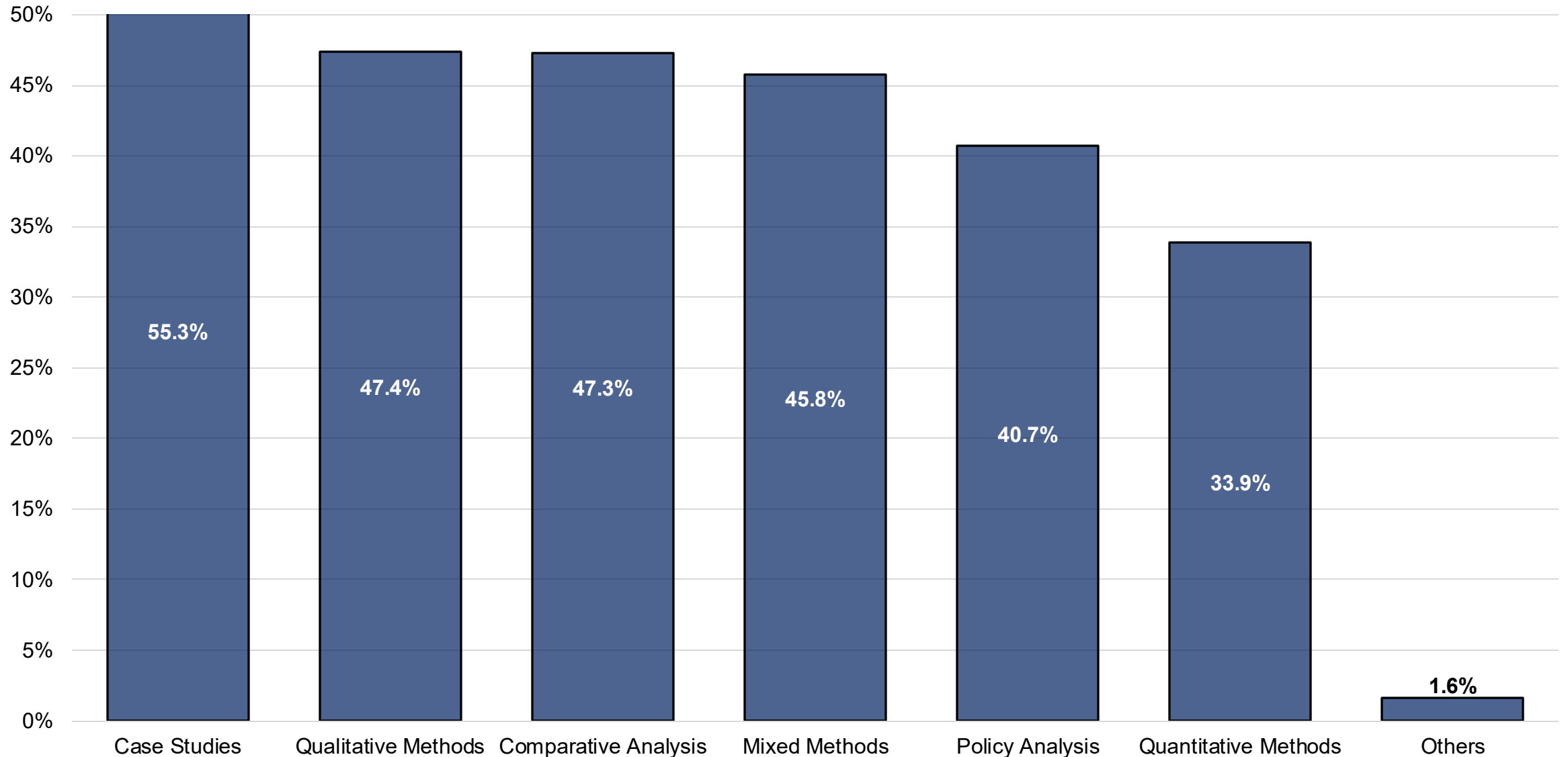
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Own elaboration based on data from the Global Survey on Local Government and Politics (2025)

Most frequent research approach

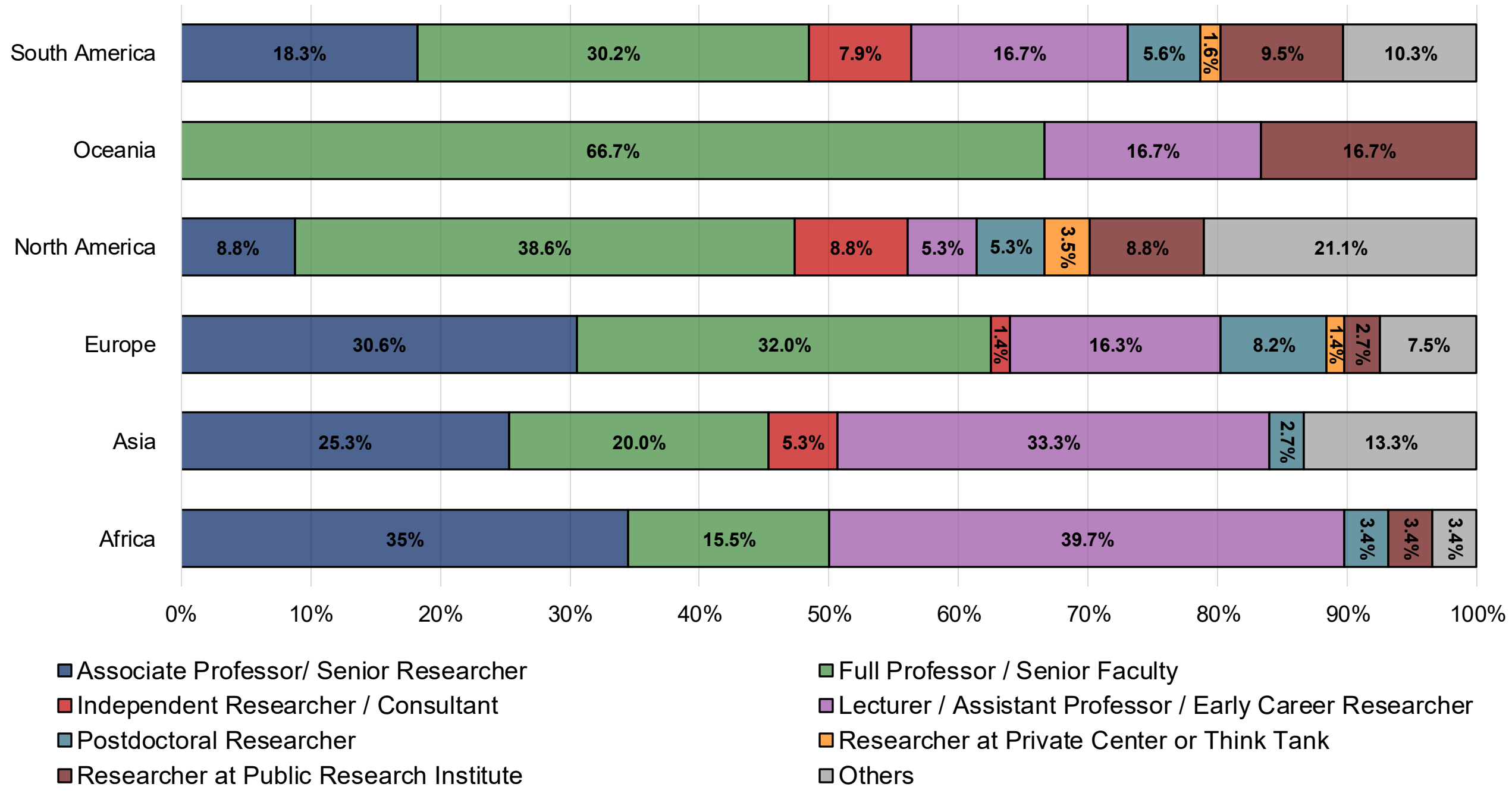
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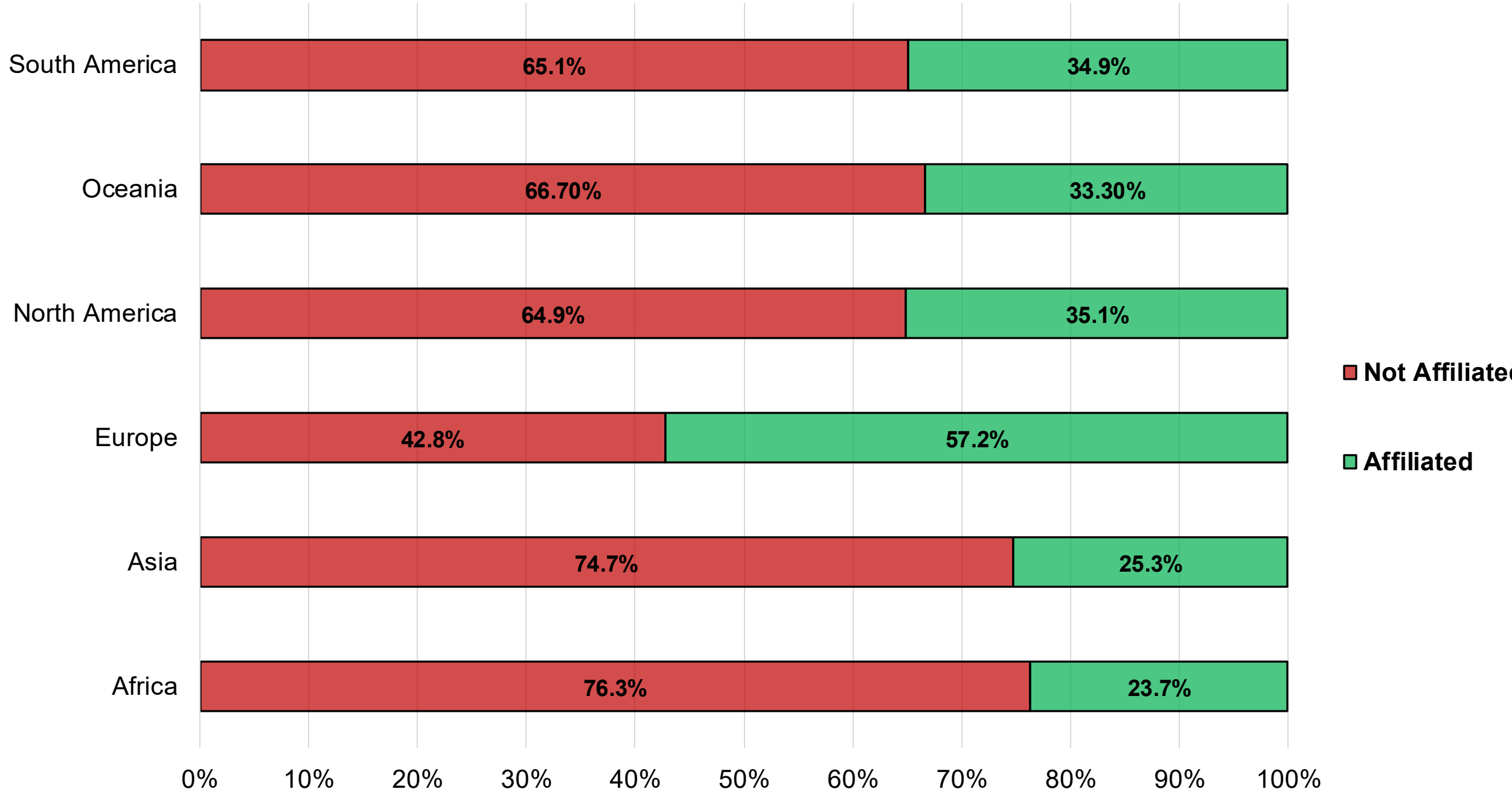
Own elaboration based on data from the Global Survey on Local Government and Politics (2025)

Analyses by Geographical Area

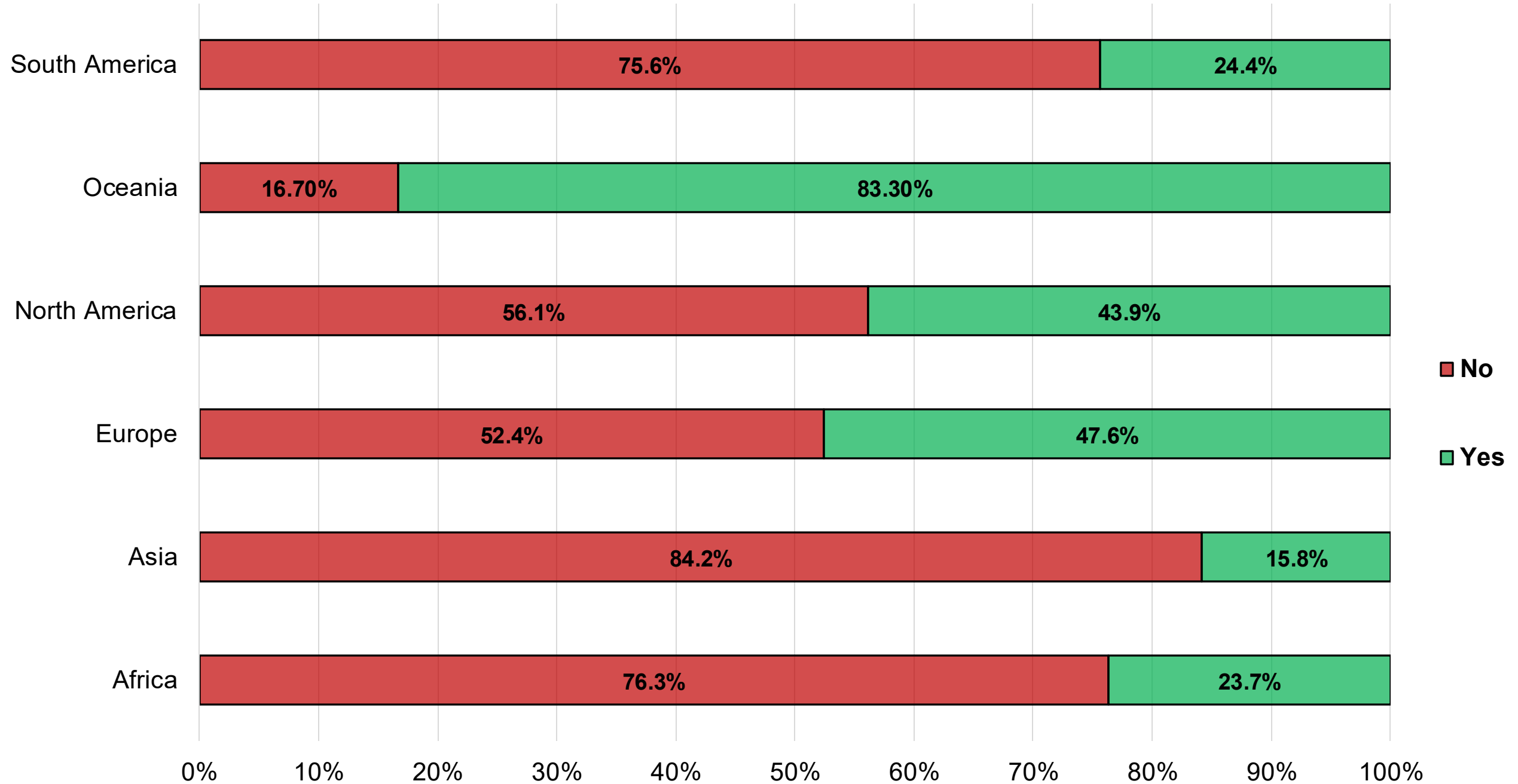
Academic Position by Geographical Area



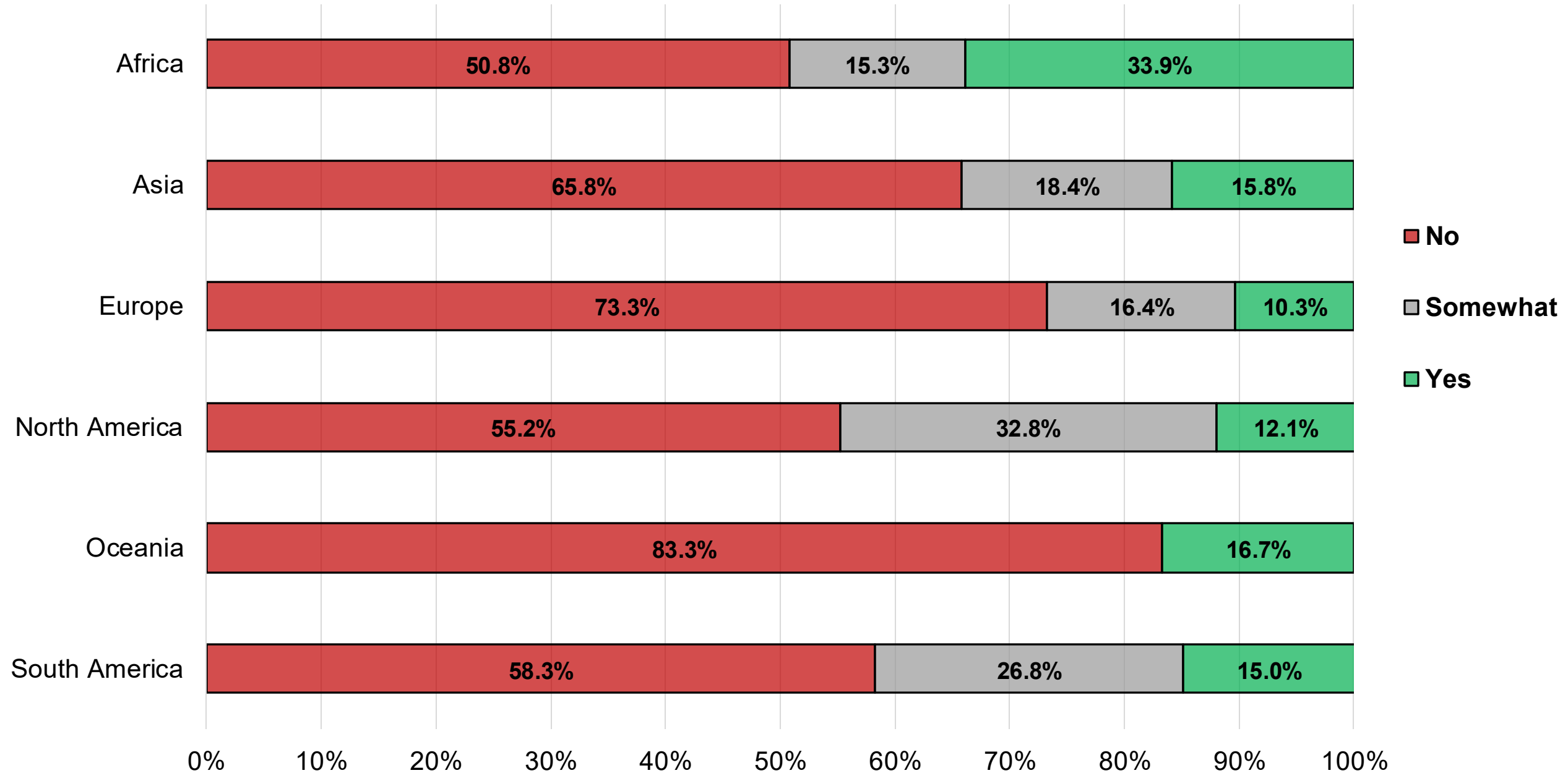
Affiliation to International Associations by Geographical Area



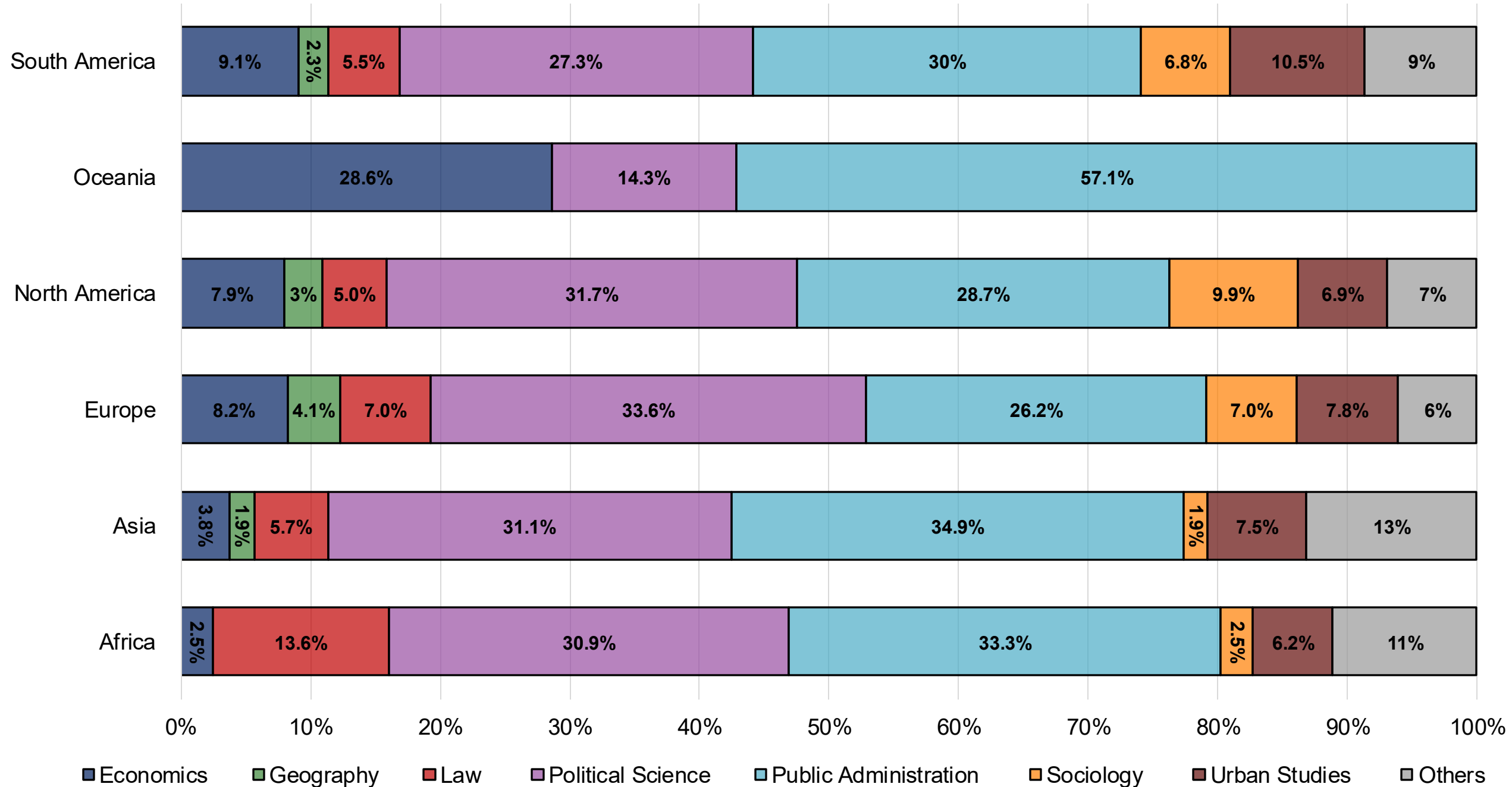
International Research Projects by Geographical Area



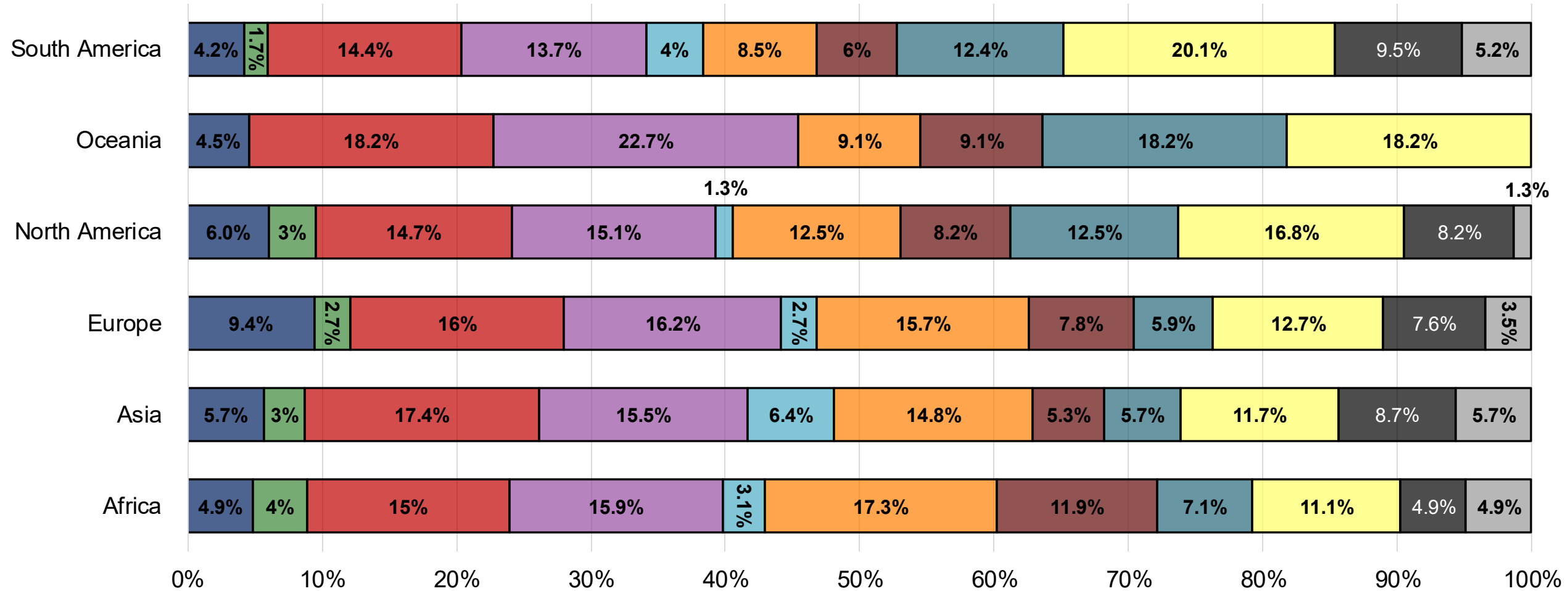
Did COVID-19 pandemic affect research focus or priorities? Responses by Geographical Area



Main Disciplines by Geographical Area



Main Topics by Geographical Area



■ Comparative and International Perspectives

■ Crisis Management and Resilience

■ Decentralization and Multi-level Governance

■ Governance Structures and Institutional Design

■ Innovation and Digital Transformation

■ Local Democracy and Political Representation

■ Local Public Finance and Budgeting

■ Public Management

■ Public Policy at the Local Level

■ Urban, Regional and Rural Development

■ Others

Methods by Geographical Area

