



# National Program for Free and Open Source Technologies

**Saudi Arabia**

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البرنامج الوطني لتقنيات البرمجيات الحرة ومفتوحة المصدر

# Introduction

- ❏ Motah program is one of the programs of King Abdulaziz City for Science and Technologies
- ❏ Encourage and promote the use of open source software (OSS), within the Saudi community.

# Main Objectives

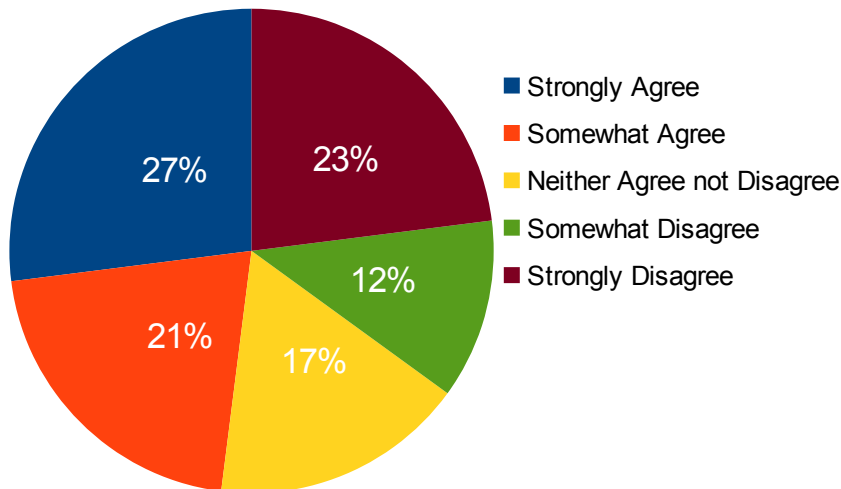
- ❏ Understand the status of OSS in the Kingdom , obstacles and opportunities
- ❏ Raise OSS awareness in public and private sectors
- ❏ Enhance OSS solutions that are of interest to Saudi community
- ❏ Support government agencies to migrate to OSS
- ❏ Develop national strategic plan and policy to support OSS in the Kingdom

# Understand the status of OSS in the Kingdom

More than two thirds of the Saudi Community are not aware of FOSS technologies!

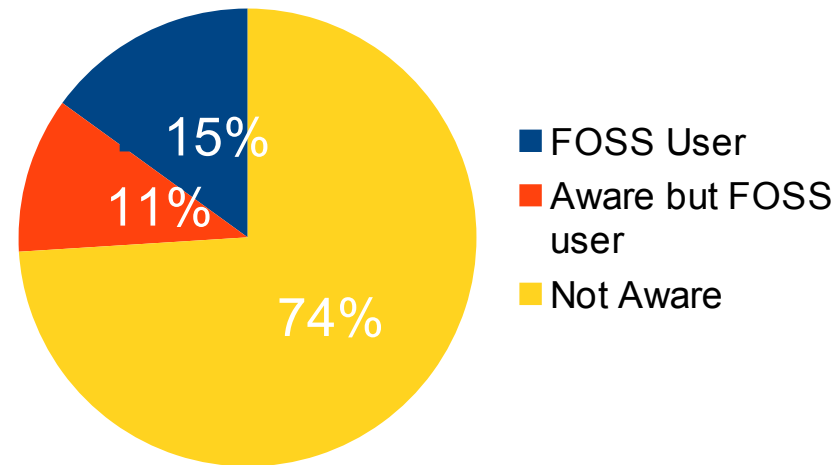


Awareness of Saudi government FOSS promotion initiatives

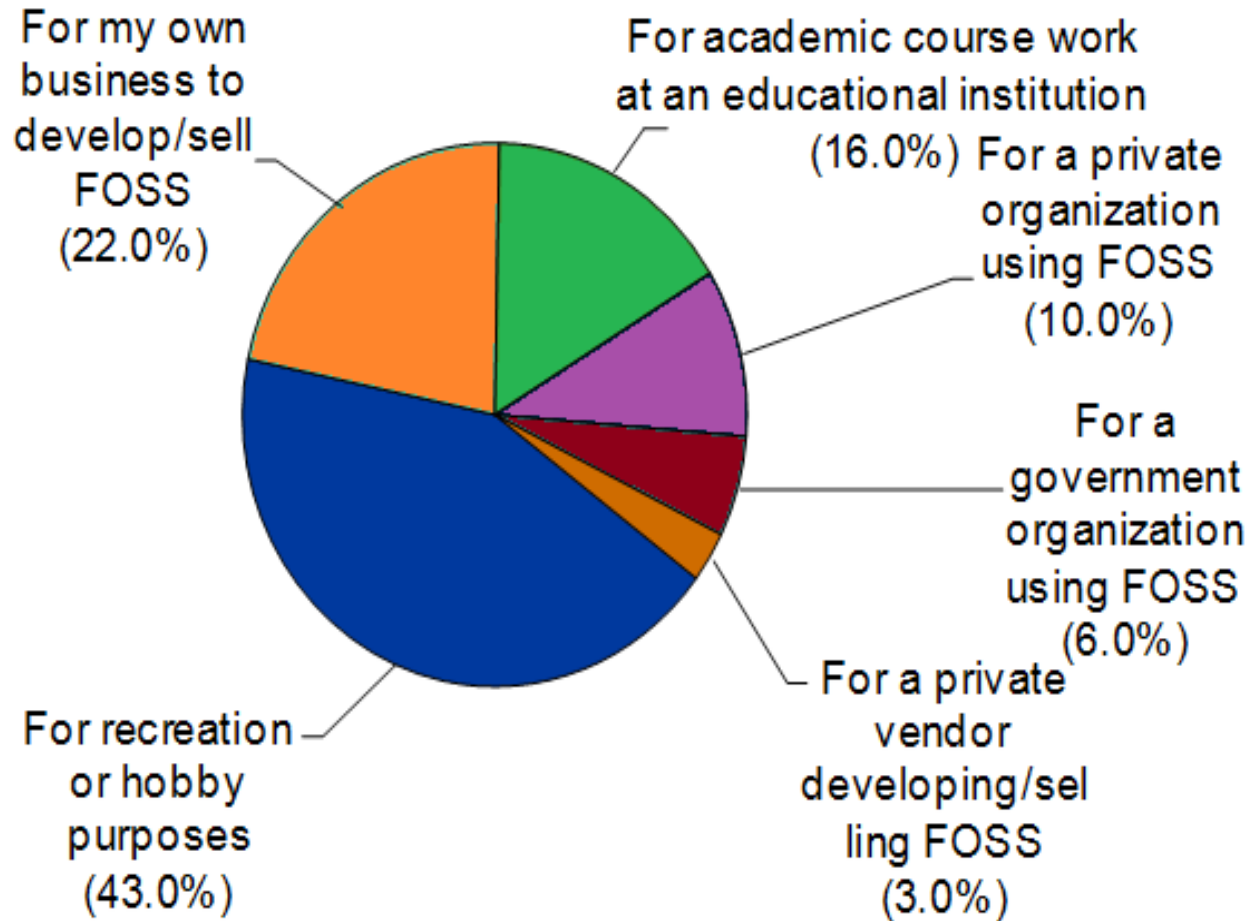


"don't know" responses excluded

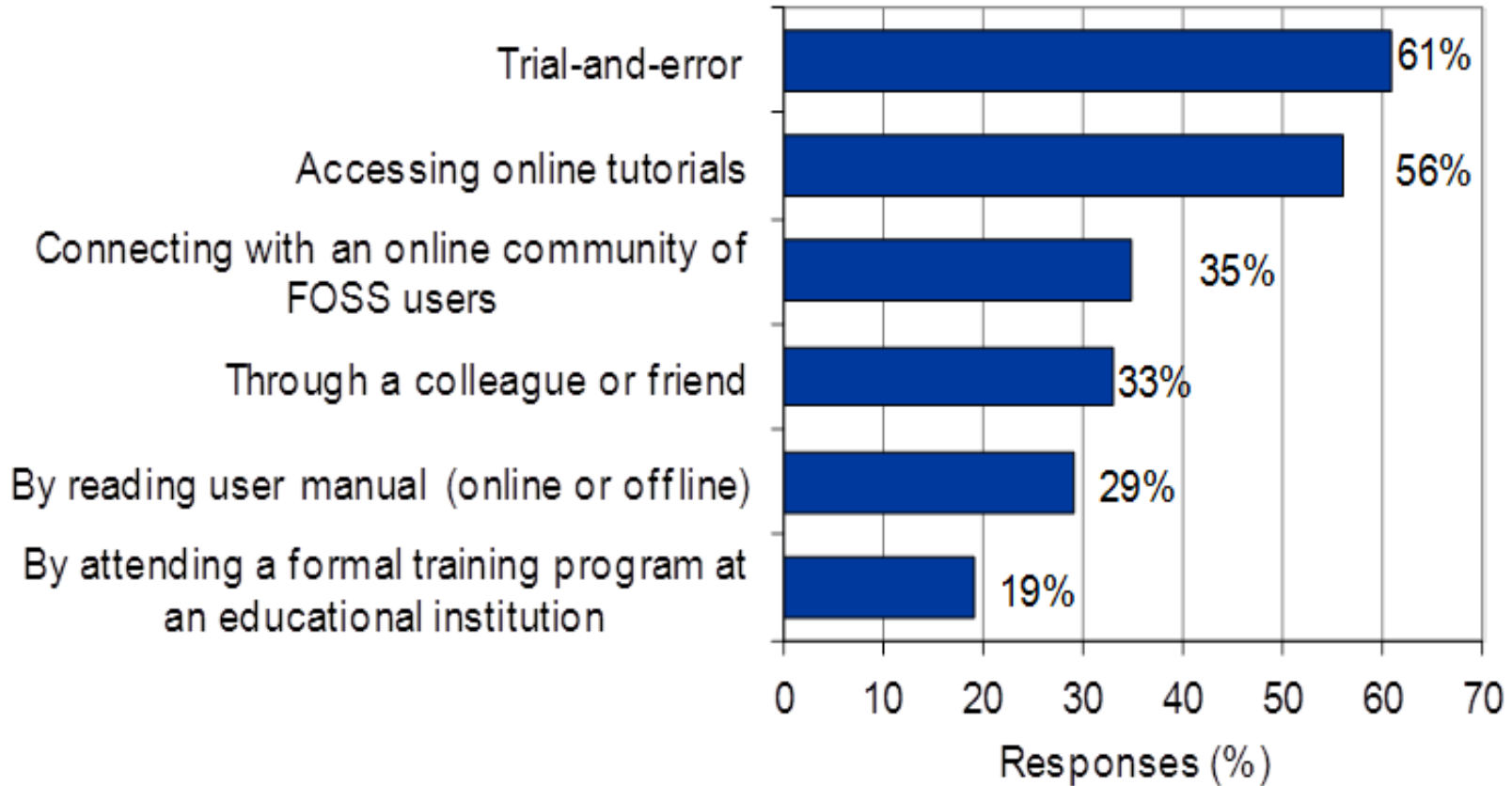
FOSS Penetration in the Kingdom



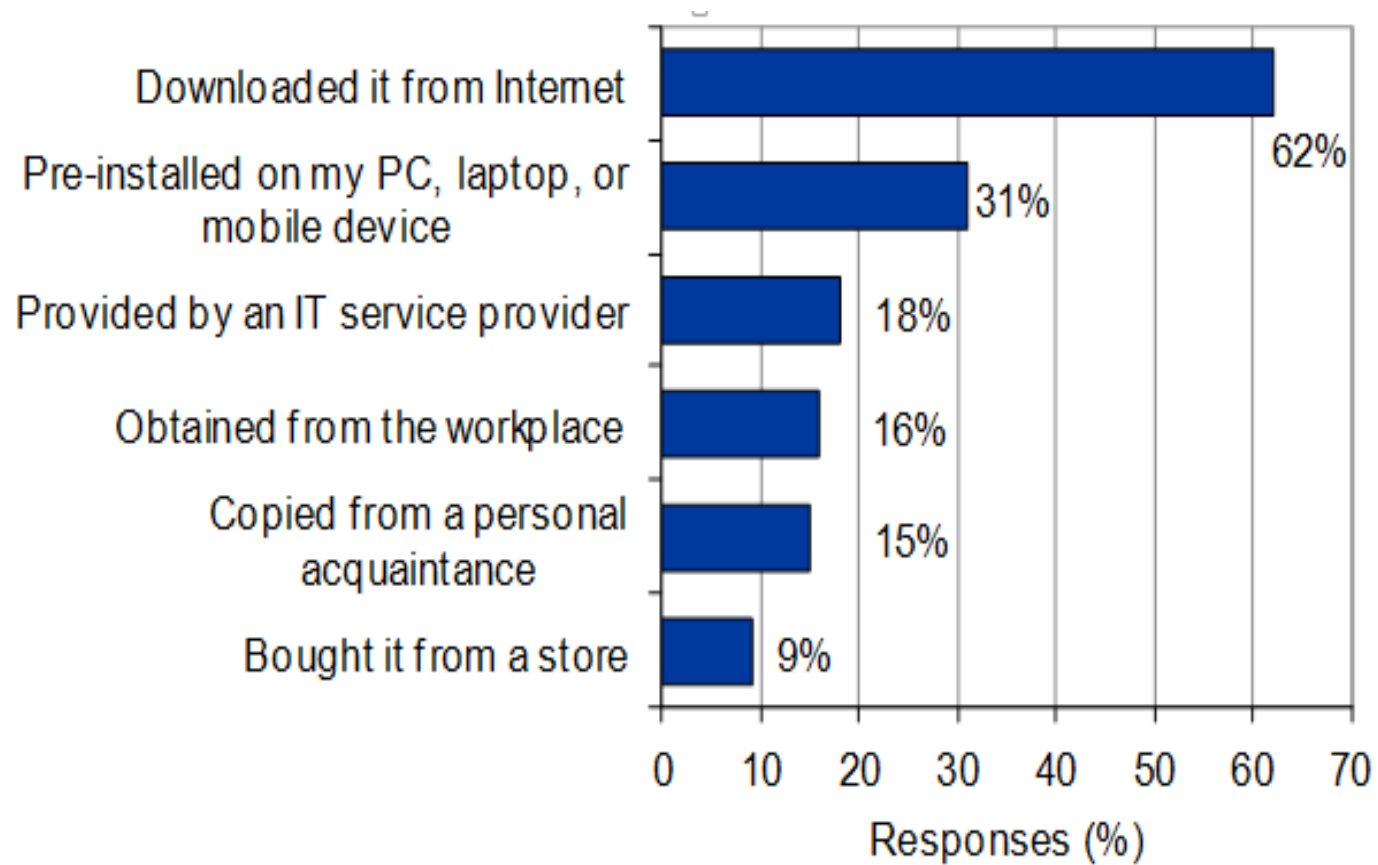
# Primary reason for current use of FOSS



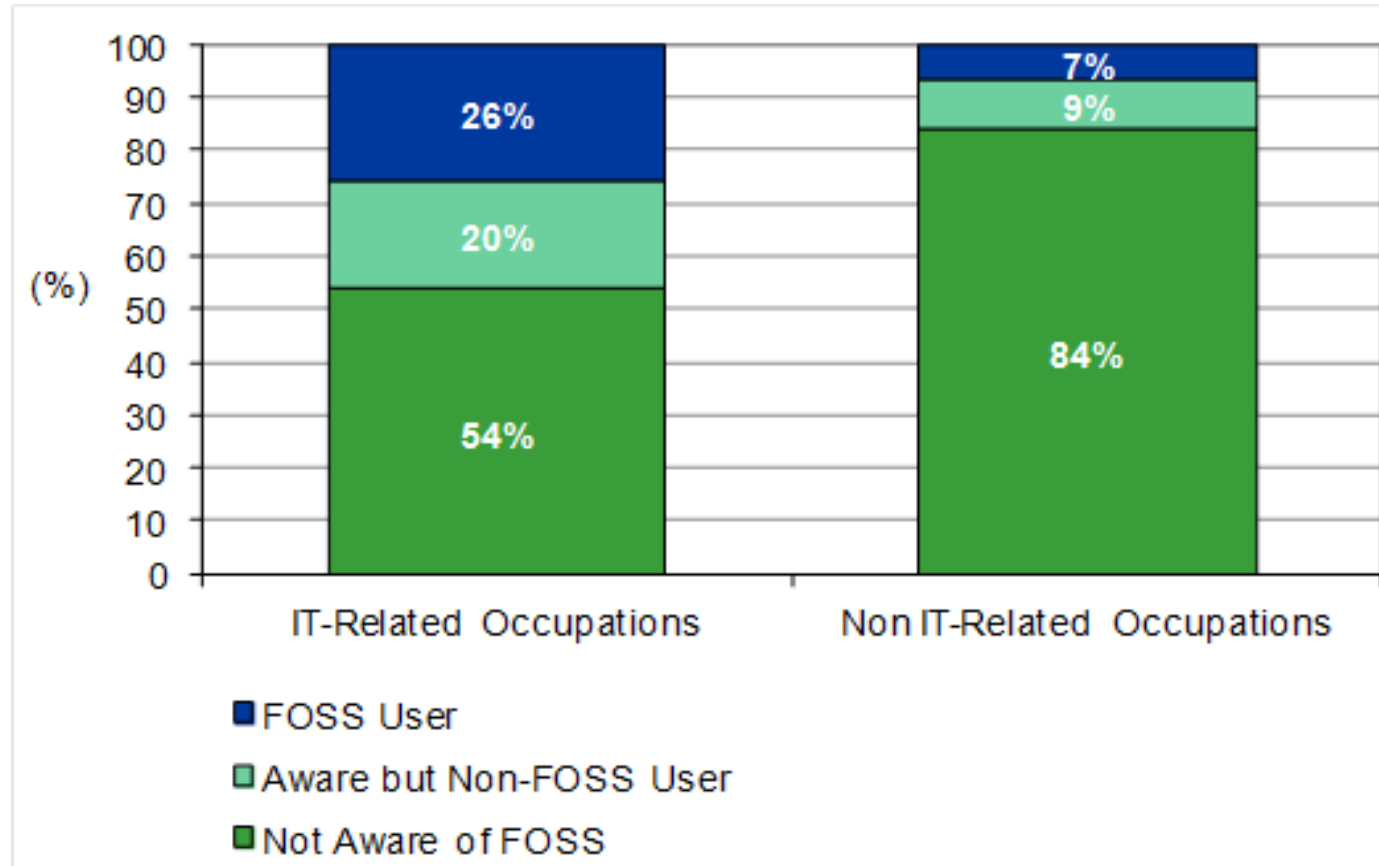
# Means of learning to use FOSS



# Means of obtaining FOSS

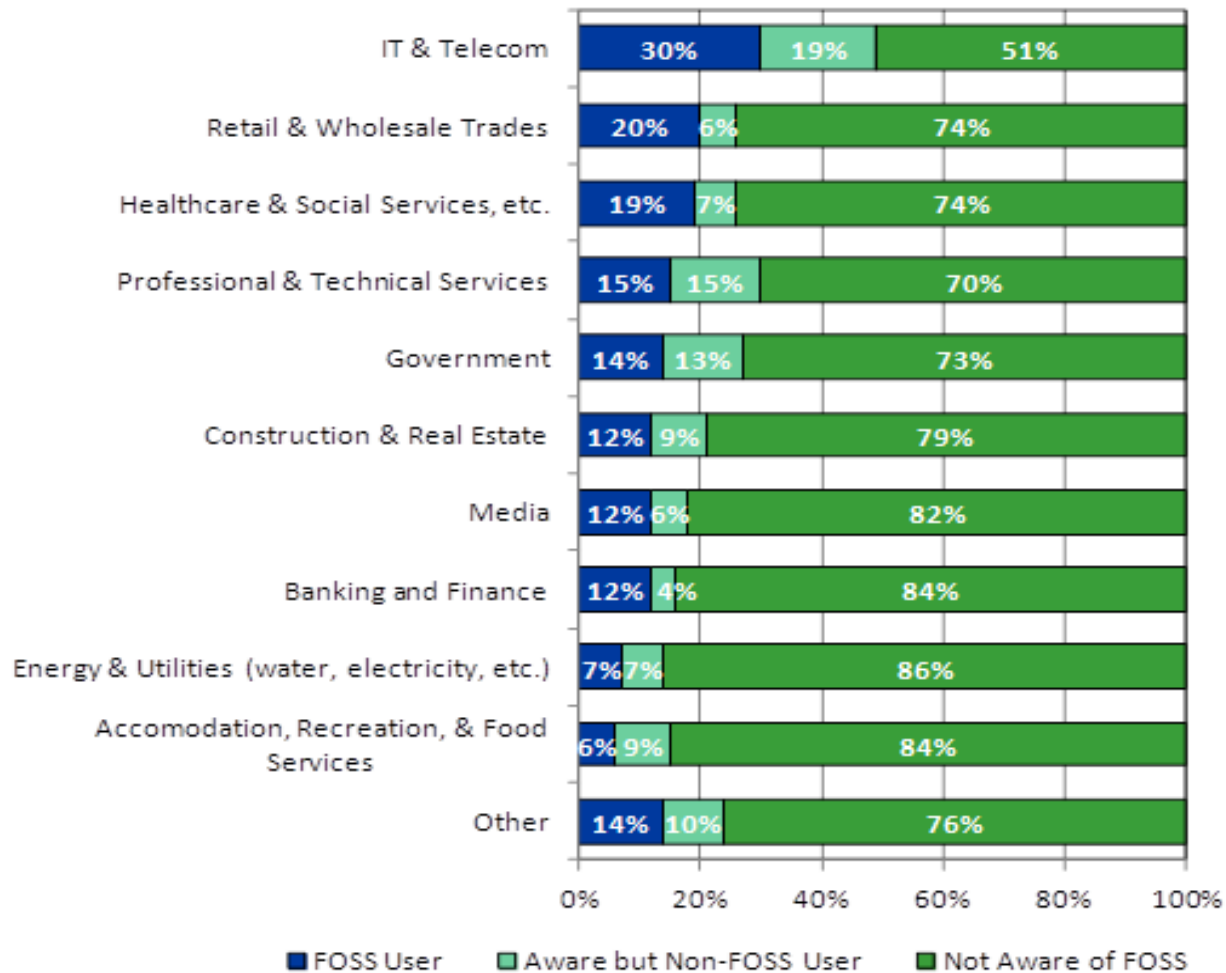


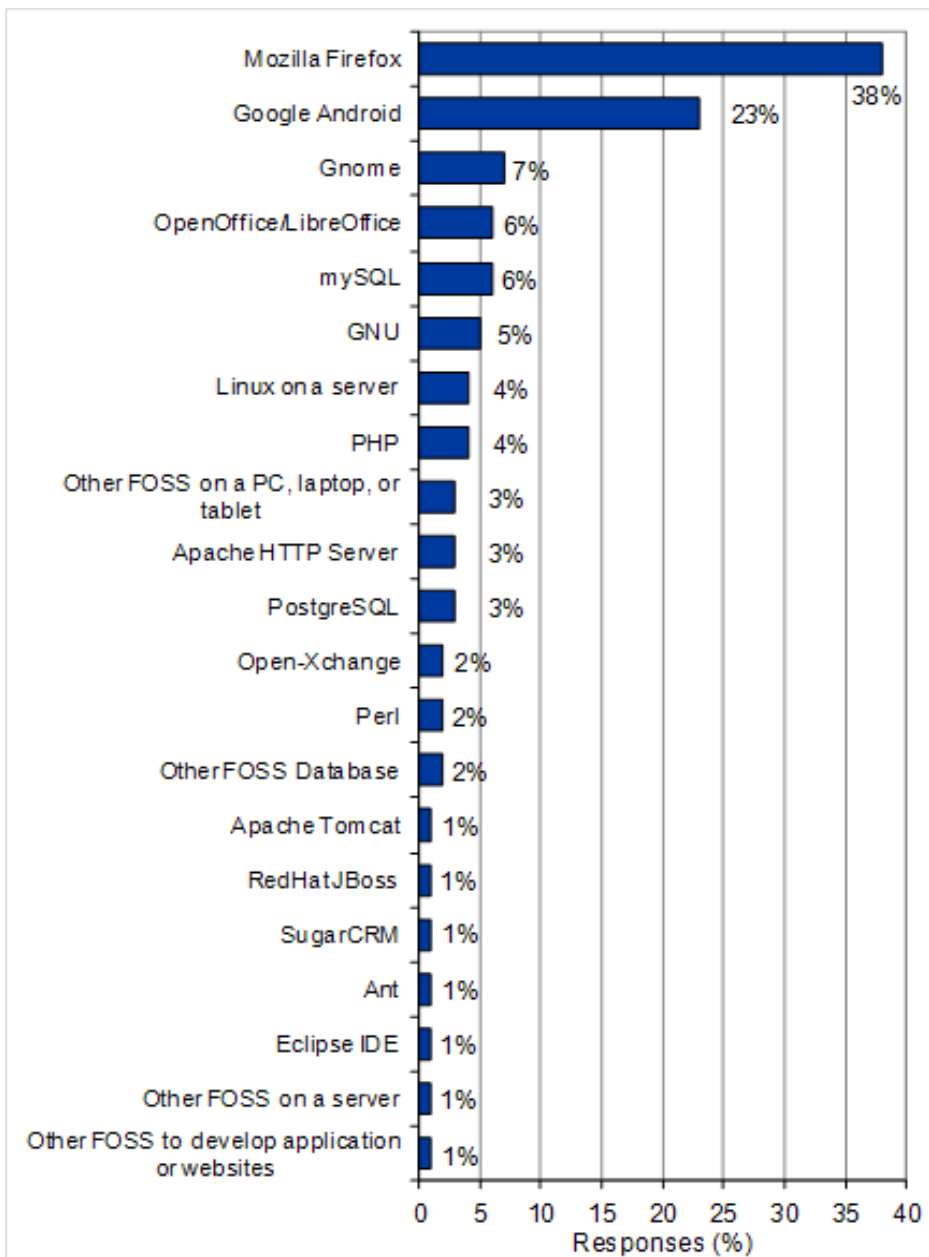
# IT/non-IT professionals by user category



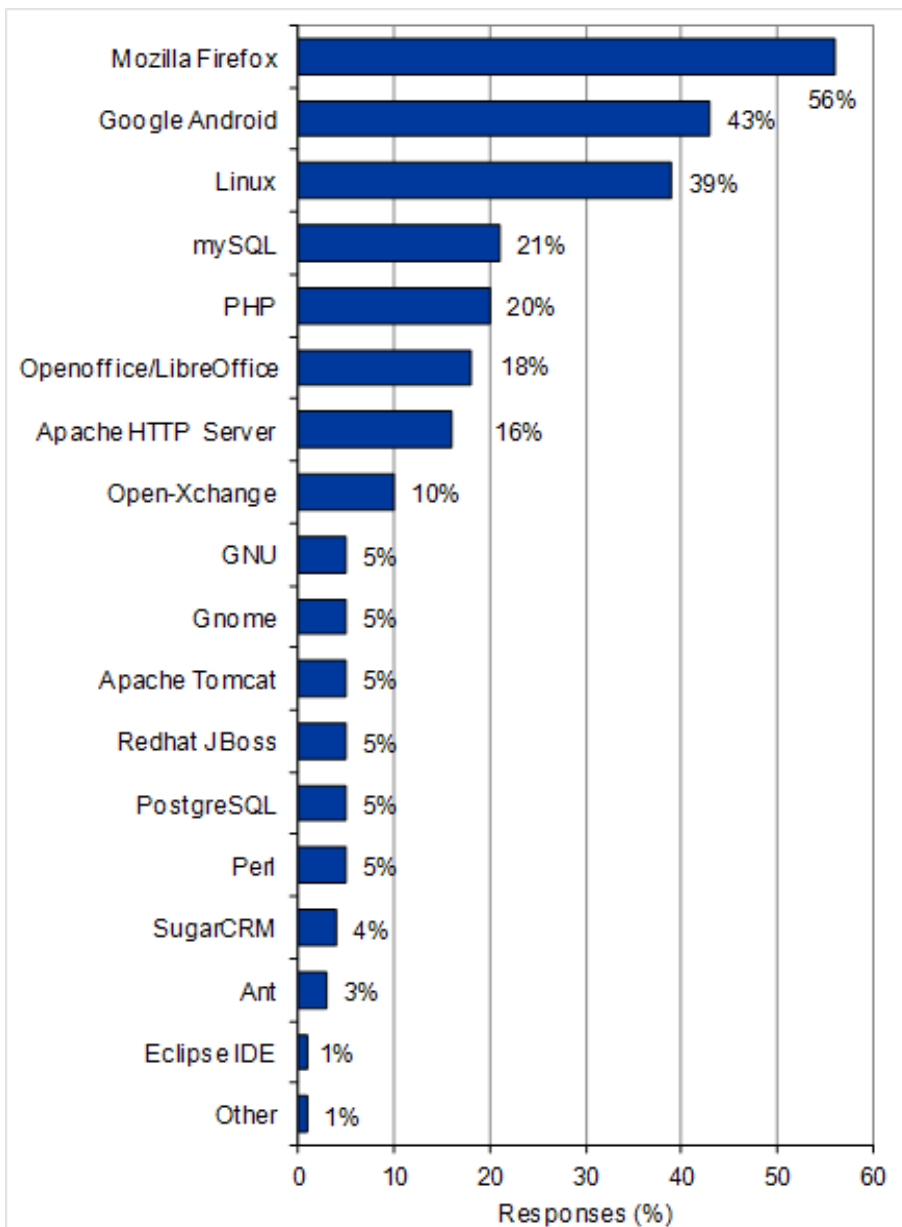


# Industry sector by user category





## Usage of FOSS within the past year



**Awareness of  
specific FOSS  
products  
among non-  
users**

# Related Challenges in Saudi Arabia

## Low Market Awareness

*we need more awareness events and activities, workshops, lectures, simenars summer camps, etc*

## Lack of FOSS Skills and Formalized Training Opportunities

*needs to conduct more training, this include inhouse training and internships*

# Related Challenges in Saudi Arabia – Cont

## Limited Technical Support

*IT companies should provide FOSS technical support*

## Resistance to Change

*enlighten more the decision makers and top management*

## Limited Localization of FOSS

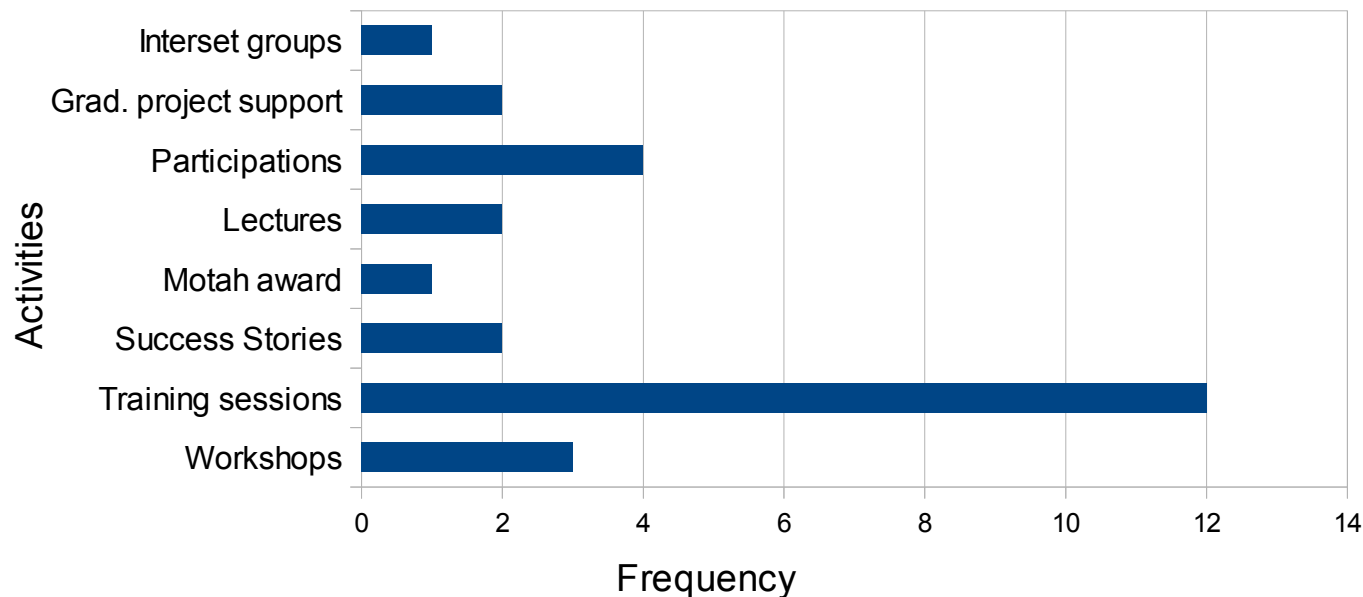
*initiate more localization projects*

# Activities to enhance the FOSS Adoption in Saudi Arabic

## Short Term






More awareness events: Lectures, Workshops, Seminars, ... etc

Motah Awareness Events





# Suggestions to enhance the FOSS Adoption in the Arabic Region – Cont.

## Long Term

-  National FOSS Strategy
-  Government to adopt FOSS solutions
-  Several pilot projects
-  Development of interested FOSS software
-  Joining the global community in enhance FOSS solutions

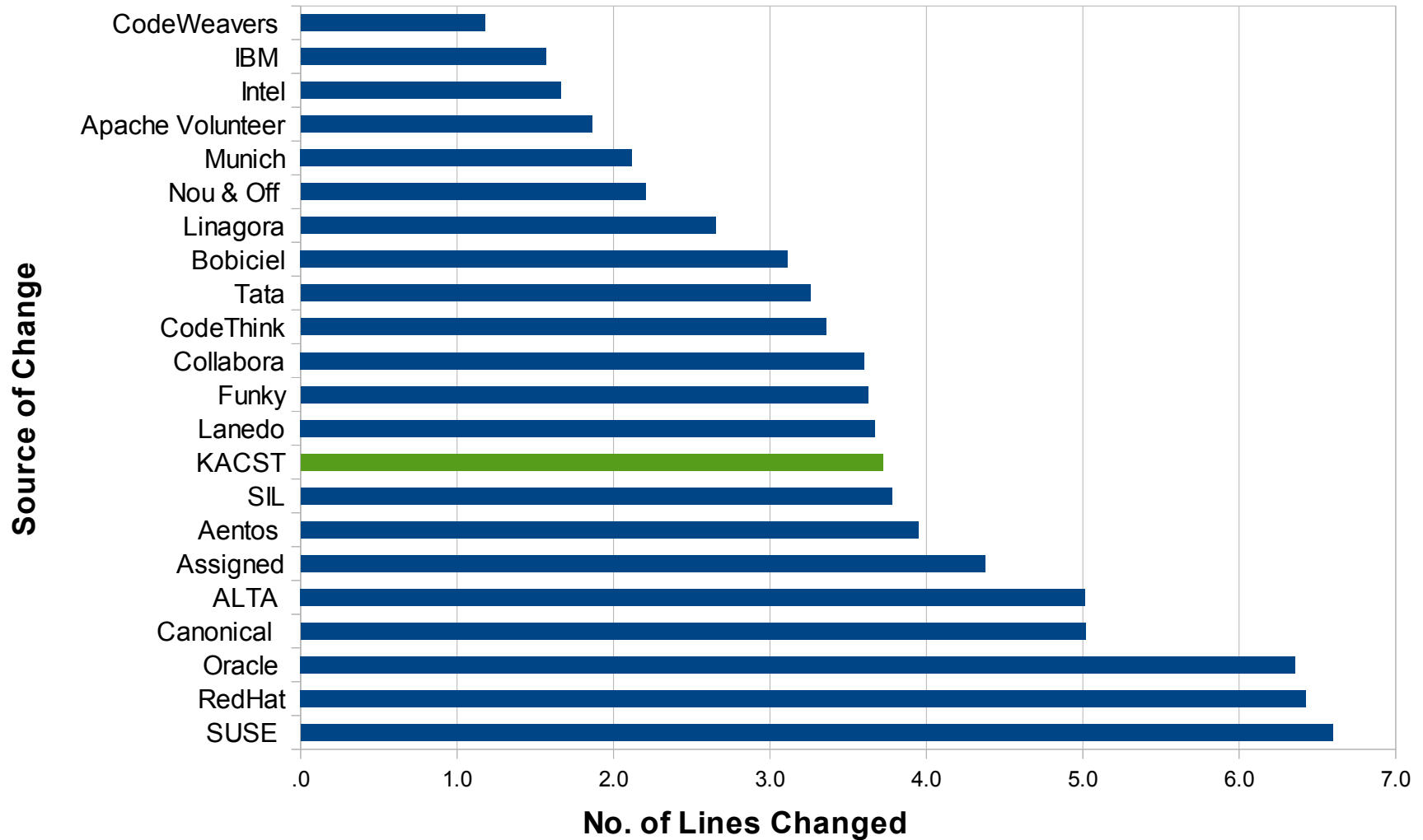
# Current Development Activities

Working to develop the core of the FOSS ecosystem in Saudi Arabia which includes:

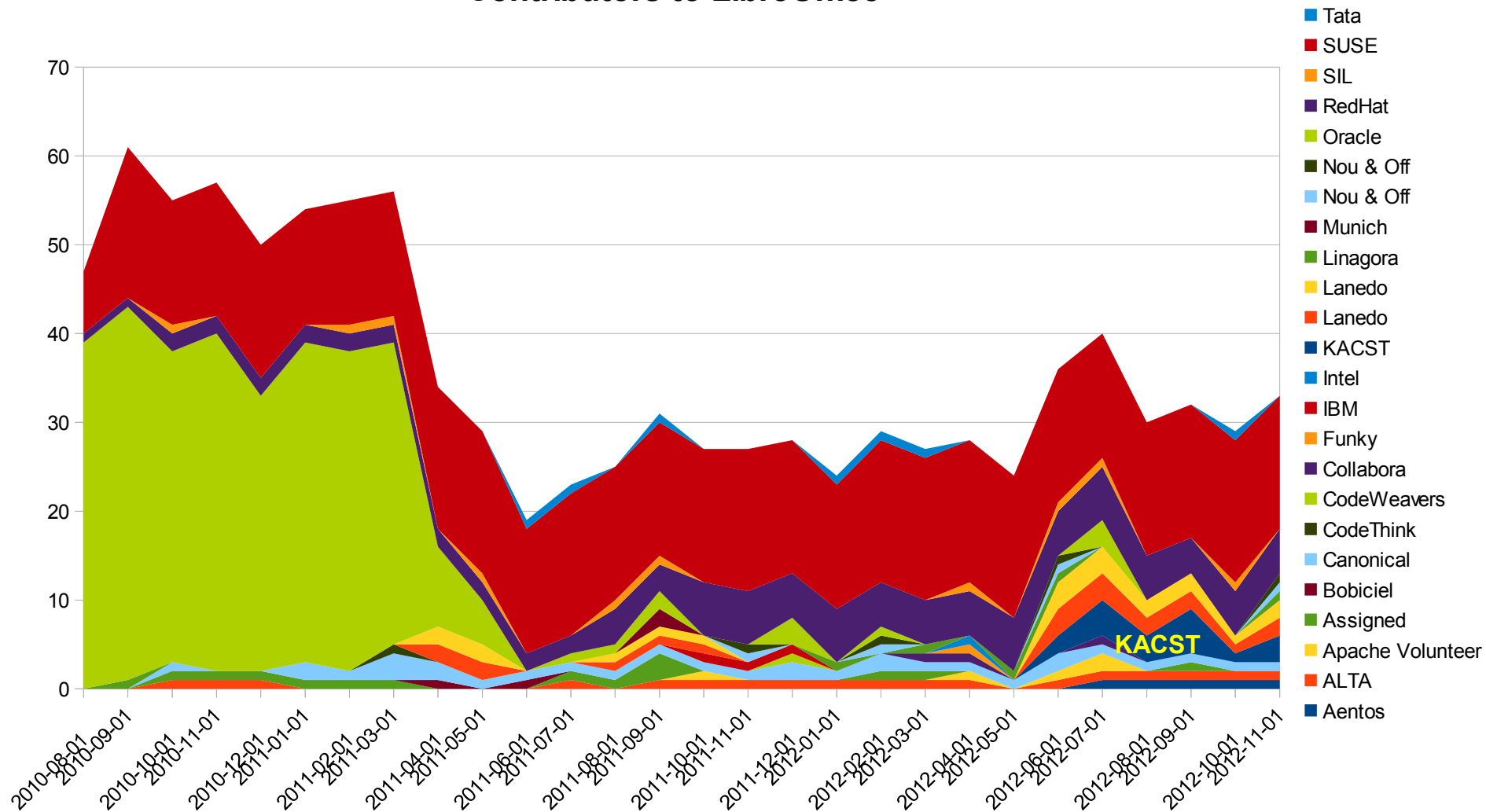
-  Operating System: based on Linux distribution
-  Localize Office suite: LibreOffice



## Top lines changed by employer



# Contributors to LibreOffice



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Thank You!

