

Annual ICTS Survey: Team Science

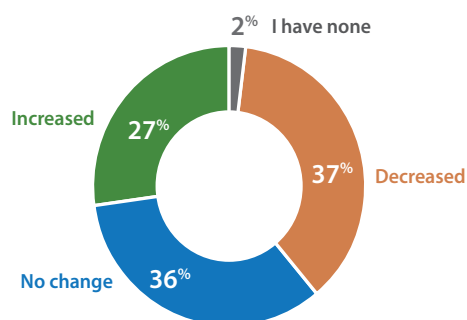
Scientific collaborations have continued to be strong, even during and after the pandemic

The annual ICTS survey focuses on engagement and satisfaction with ICTS resources and services. Administered in late 2021, last year saw the largest response in the six year history of the survey at 981 (44%) ICTS member respondents. This supplemental report describes the team science and collaboration module included in the 2021 survey. **While over one-third of members reported decreases in the quantity and quality of their scientific collaborations since the start of COVID-19**, many reported no changes. **About one-quarter and one-fifth of members reported that the quantity and quality of collaborations increased**, respectively.

Scientific collaborations

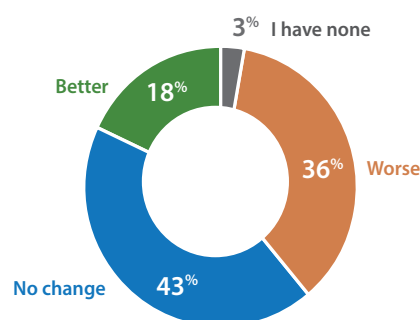
How has the *quantity* of your scientific collaborations changed since the beginning of the pandemic?

More than one-third (38%) of members reported that **the quantity of their collaborations had decreased**. One-third reported no changes, and **about one-quarter (27%) reported increases** to the quantity of their scientific collaborations. No large differences were reported across disciplines or ranks.



How has the *quality* of your scientific collaborations changed since the beginning of the pandemic?

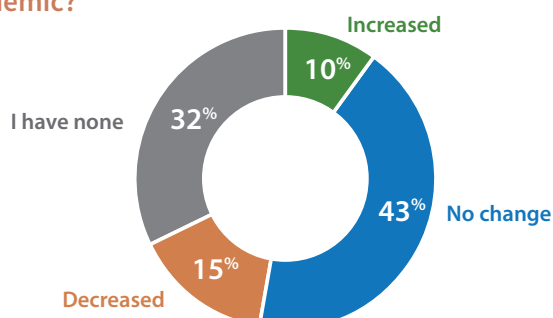
Almost half (45%) of members reported **no changes to the quality of their collaborations**. While over one-third reported decreases in quality, **about one-fifth (18%) reported increases in the quality** of their scientific partnerships. No large differences were reported across disciplines or ranks.



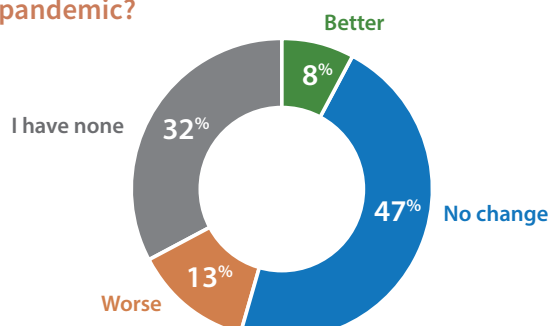
Inter-institutional collaborations

We also asked about how the quantity and quality of inter-institutional collaborations had changed since the start of the pandemic. This includes with other ICTS university partners (MU, SLU, UHSP, or WashU for non-WashU investigators). While a **plurality of members reported no changes to either quantity (43%) or quality (47%)**, small percentages reported increases and **one-third of members reported having no inter-institutional collaborations**. No real differences were reported across disciplines or ranks.

How has the *quantity* of your inter-institutional collaborations changed since the beginning of the pandemic?



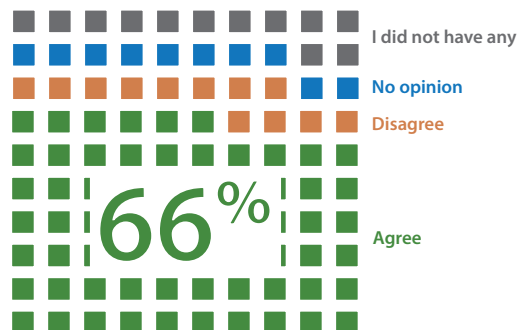
How has the *quality* of your inter-institutional collaborations changed since the beginning of the pandemic?



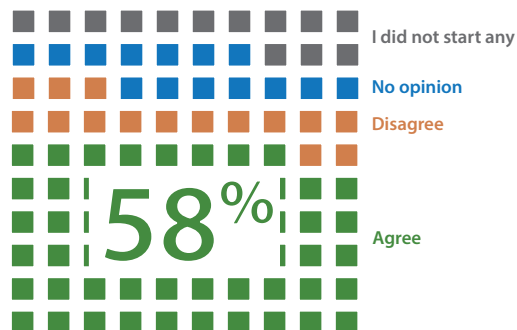
Comparing collaborations established before and after the pandemic

A clear majority of members responded that **both previously established collaborations (66%) and those that started after the pandemic (58%) have been scientifically productive.**

How much do you agree that previously-established research project collaborations—those that began before the start of the pandemic—have been scientifically productive?



How much do you agree that *newer collaborations*—those that began around the start of the pandemic and since—have been scientifically productive?



Training needs

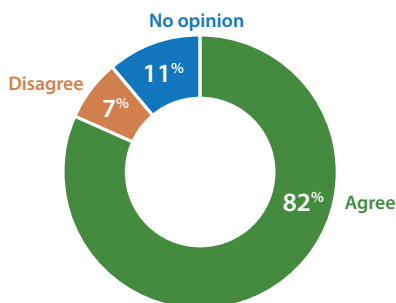
When asked what training in interdisciplinary collaboration would be most beneficial, respondents from **4 out of 6 disciplines listed D&I as their top choice.** Respondents in the other two disciplines chose **Clinical Science.** Interestingly, many respondents chose their own discipline.

Discipline	Top training needed
Allied Health	D&I
Basic Science	Clinical Science
Clinical Science	D&I
D&I	D&I
Social Science	D&I
Statistics	Clinical Science

Looking to the next five years

The **vast majority (81%) of members reported that they would increase their work in multidisciplinary teams** in the future. Only a small minority (33%) agreed that work done within multidisciplinary scientific teams is less likely to be rewarded.

Over the next five years, I plan to increase the proportion of my research work that occurs within multidisciplinary scientific teams.



Work done within multidisciplinary scientific teams is less likely to be rewarded compared to work done in focused disciplines.

