



2014

HL7 Interface Technology Survey Results

The 2014 HL7 Interface Technology Survey Results provide a current view of the HL7 interface market within healthcare. The topics in this survey include technology, organizational priorities, meaningful use preparedness, and perspectives on interface engine vendors. Survey results are presented from the key perspectives, CIO/CTOs/CMIOs, IT Managers, and Integration Professionals.

These survey results provide a summary of the data collected during a 4 week period in September and October 2014 which was open to all participants through our website, corehealthtechnologies.com. We encouraged participation with email invitations and through various social media outlets.

Over 860 individuals participated in this survey. All participants live and work in the United States and are employed by healthcare organizations, predominantly providers, using HL7 interfaces.



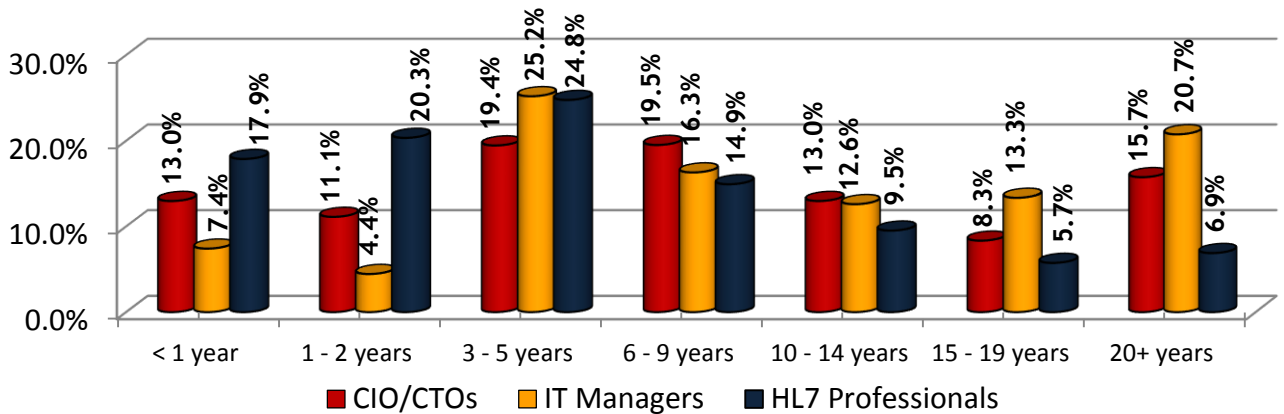
Observations by Core Health Technologies

- **Leadership has experienced an increase in turnover.** Over 24% of the CIO/CTO/CMIO category reported they have less than 2 years tenure with their current organization.
- **Interface engine usage continues to be diverse, with several engines leveling the market.** Infor's Cloverleaf engine, remained the leader with 39.1% of respondents reporting using. Several other engines continue to make strides with Mirth at 24.2%, Orion's Rhapsody at 18.6% and INTERFACWARE's Iguana at 18.1% usage. Epic Bridges showed usage by 26.4% of respondents and is included in this category at the request of providers even though it is not a full interface engine. Multiple providers reported using more than one interface engine.
- **Organizations plan to stay with their current interface engines.** 74% of organizations report they plan to stay with their current vendor and either stay on the current version or update as appropriate with the same vendor.
- **Interface engines have more capability beyond their current use.** 44.8% of organizations report that while they are using their engine to satisfy their initial intent, they know there is more capability in their interface engine that they have not harnessed.
- **High activity with HIEs while many challenges continue to exist.** Over 68% of organizations report to be working in some capacity with at least one HIE outside their organization. At the same time participants report top issues to be integration, technology and the HIE's business model sustainability.
- **Many IT priorities this year with Meaningful Use topping the list as #1.** While 17 different categories had enough response to list as priorities this year, the most listed priority for leaders was Meaningful Use (CIO/CMIO: 23.7%, Managers: 22.2%).
- **FHIR, or Fast Health Interoperable Resources (pronounced 'fire') continues in a nascent stage.** Only 4.3% of CIO/CTO/CMIOs, 4% of IT Managers and 6.1% of HL7 Professionals report a strong or extensive understanding of FHIR. In contrast, 63.9% of CIO/CTO/CMIOs, 76.3% of IT Managers and 71.8% of HL7 Professionals report their understanding of FHIR as weak or none.
- **Integration activity will increase over the next 12 months.** All three categories of participants in this years survey indicate that they expect integration activity to increase (CIO/CMIO: 67%, Managers: 64.3%, Professionals: 62.3%). This is even more impactful considering integration activity has steadily increased in recent years.



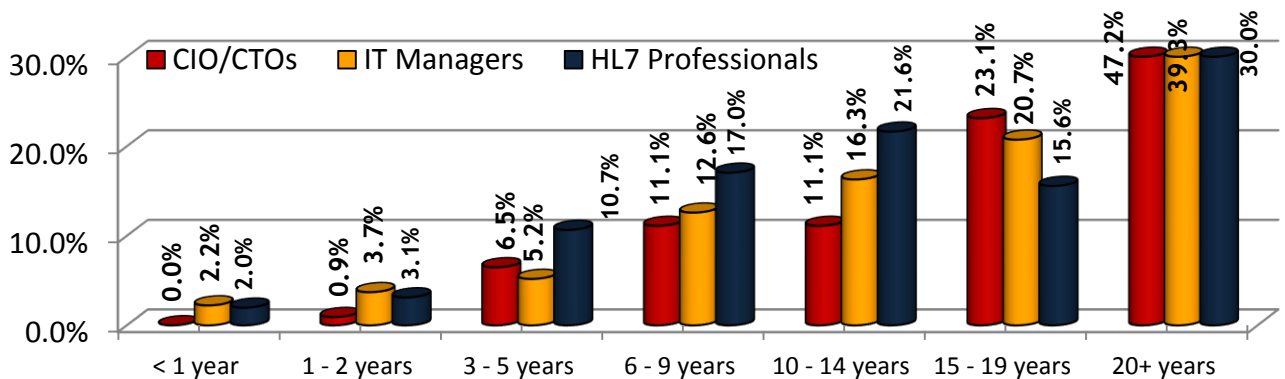
Tenure in Organization

What is your tenure within your current organization?



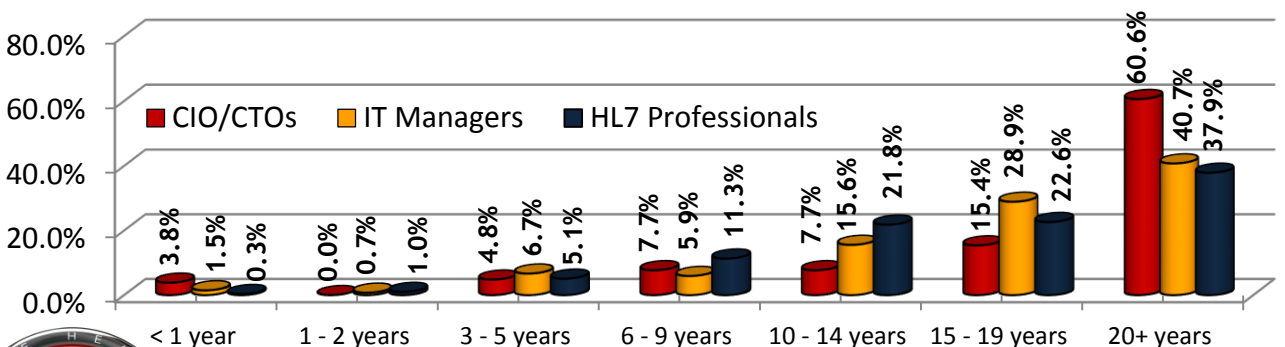
Tenure in Healthcare

How long have you been in the healthcare sector?



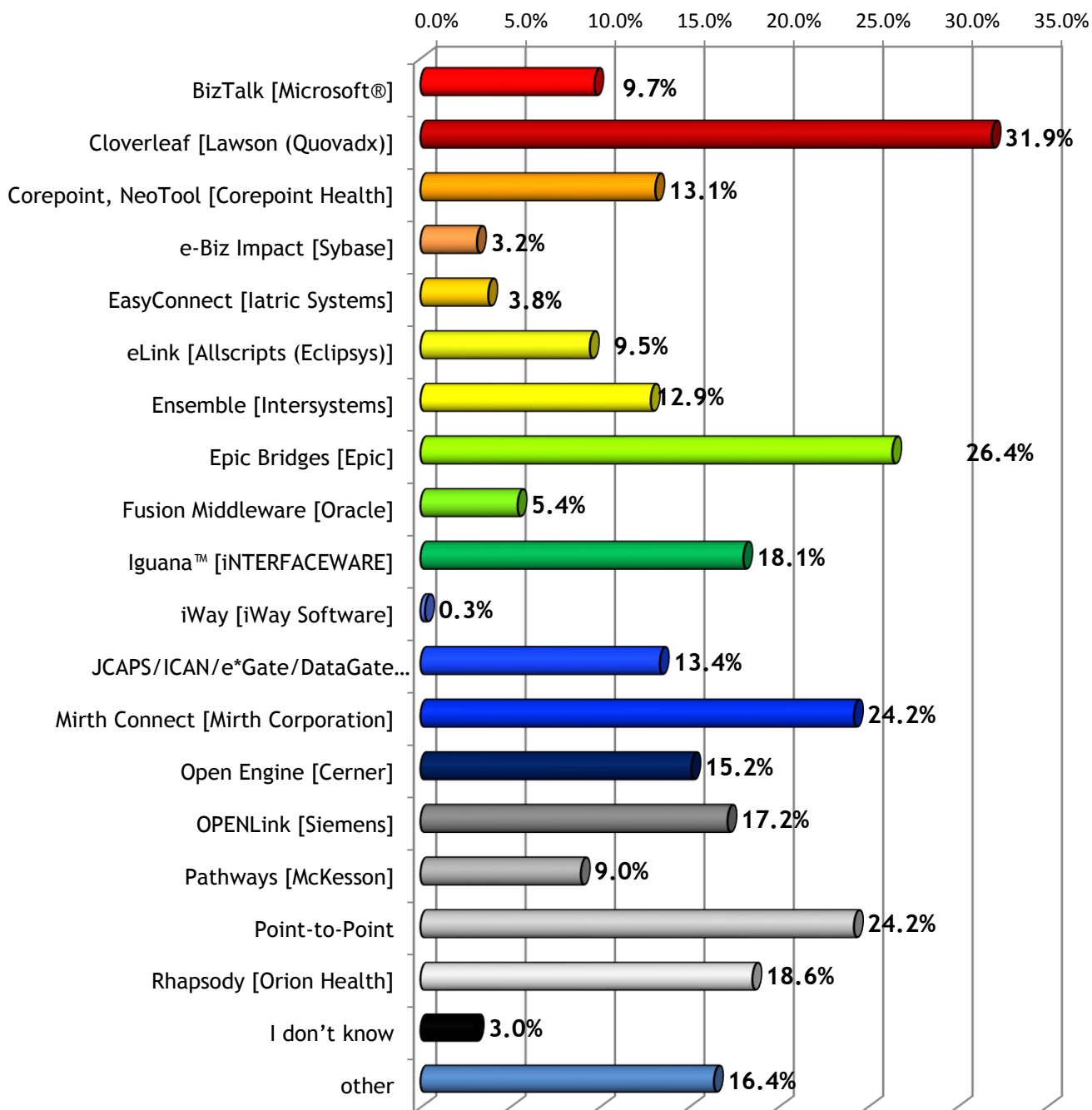
Tenure in IT

How long have you been in Information Technology (IT)?



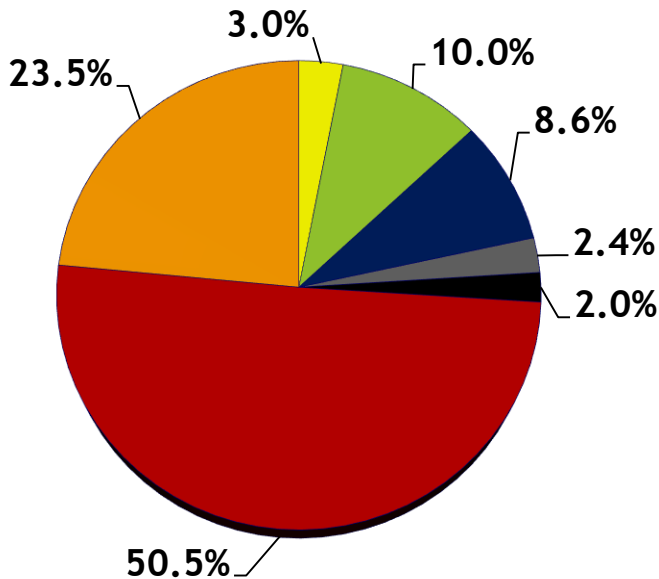
HL7 Technologies








Select all specific HL7 interface technologies which your organization currently utilizes



Current Interface Engine Status

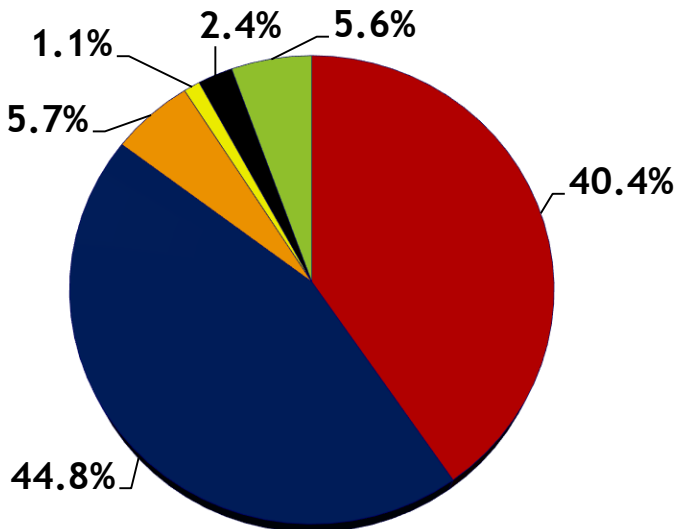
How would you best describe your current status of interface engines?








-  We have recently completed a change to a new interface engine
-  We are actively considering our options
-  We are currently in the process of changing to a different interface engine
-  We have decided to change to a new interface engine but have not selected the engine
-  We have selected a different interface engine but have not started the process to change
-  We plan to stay with our current vendor and will upgrade as appropriate.
-  We plan to stay with our current vendor and stay on the current version

Interface Engine Utilization

To what degree is your organization utilizing your interface engine(s)?

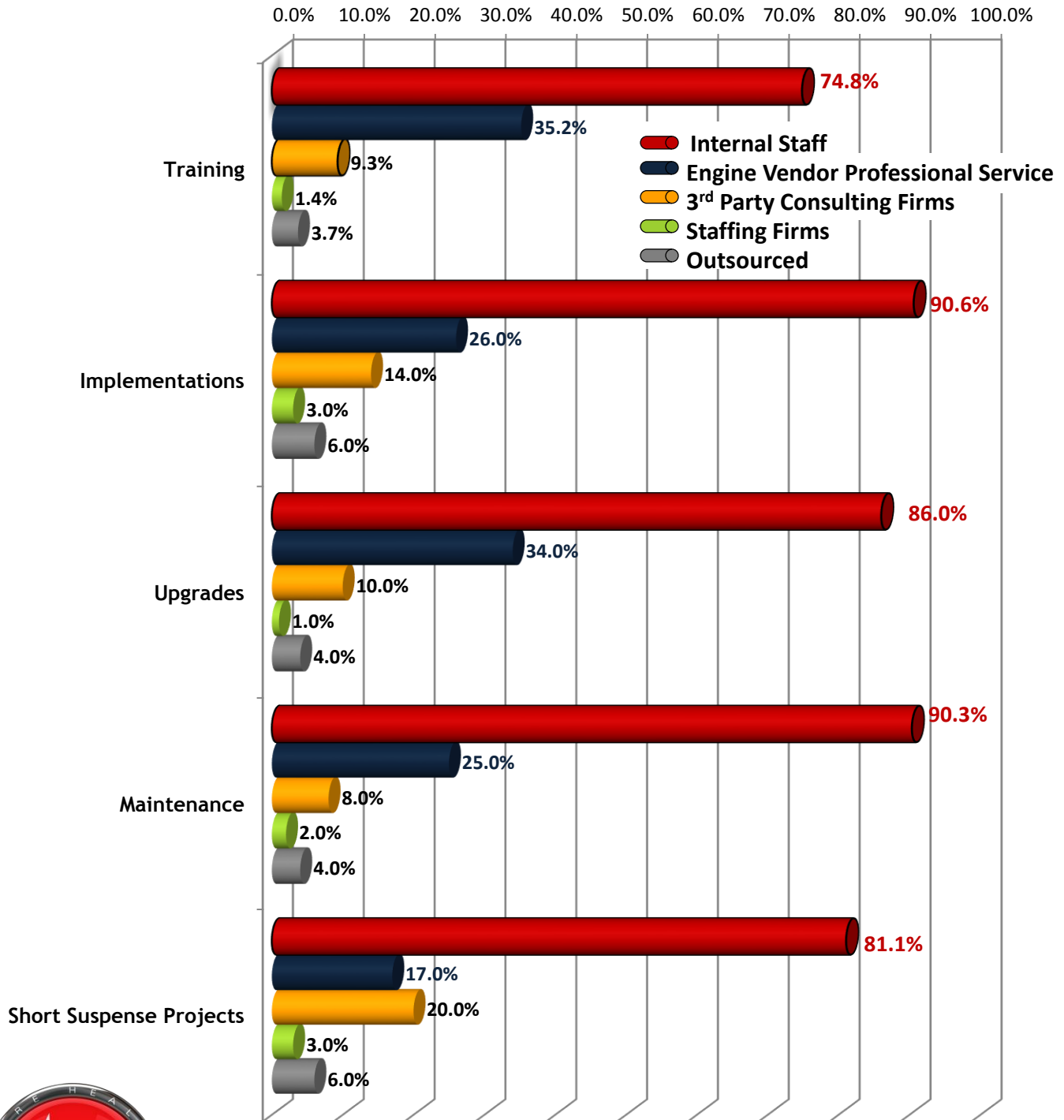


-  We are utilizing our interface engine effectively and to its fullest capability
-  We are utilizing our interface engine effectively for what we initially intended, but know there is more capability that we are not using
-  We are still in our initial implementation of this interface engine
-  We have not achieved our initial utilization objectives and have exceeded our timeline
-  We are using our interface engine, but I am not aware of the full product capability
-  I am not aware of the degree to which we utilize our interface engine



Integration Approach

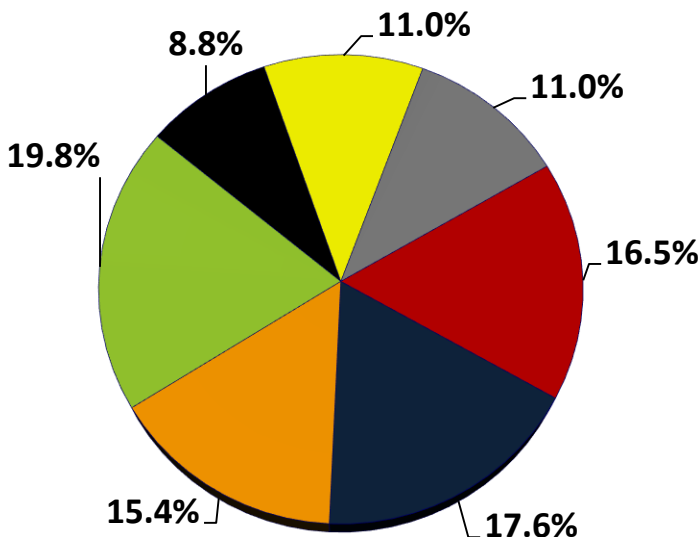
How would you best describe your organization's approach to integration?
(Select all that apply)



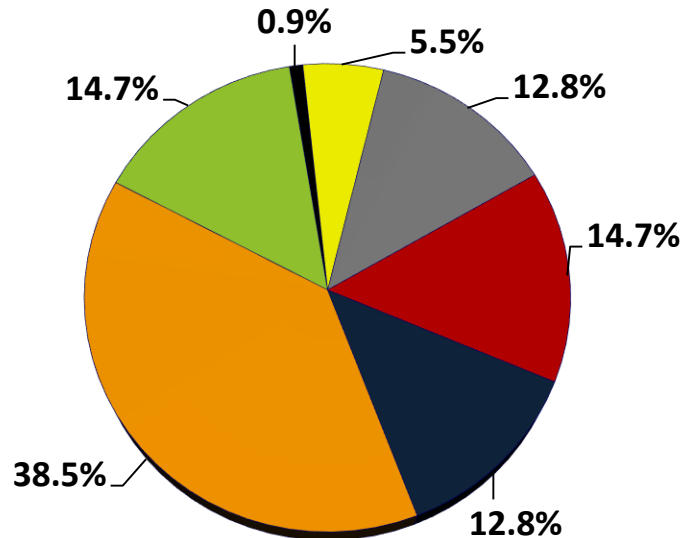
Meaningful Use Preparedness

How well is your organization prepared to achieve Meaningful Use Stage 2 criteria?

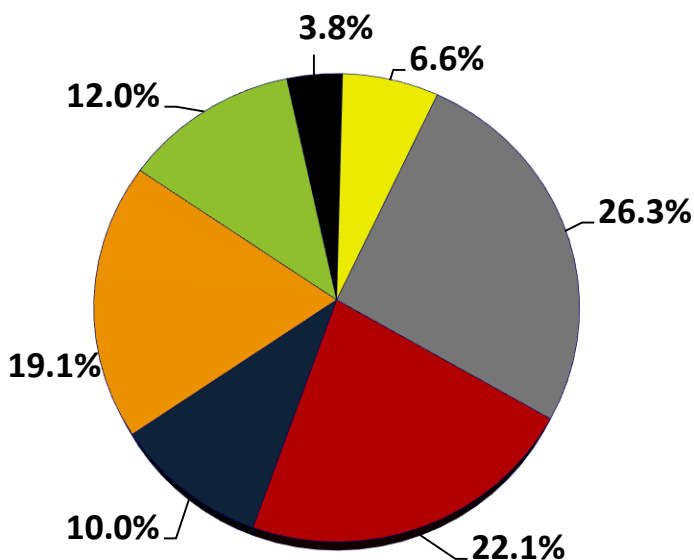
CIOs/CTOs









IT Managers



HL7 Professionals



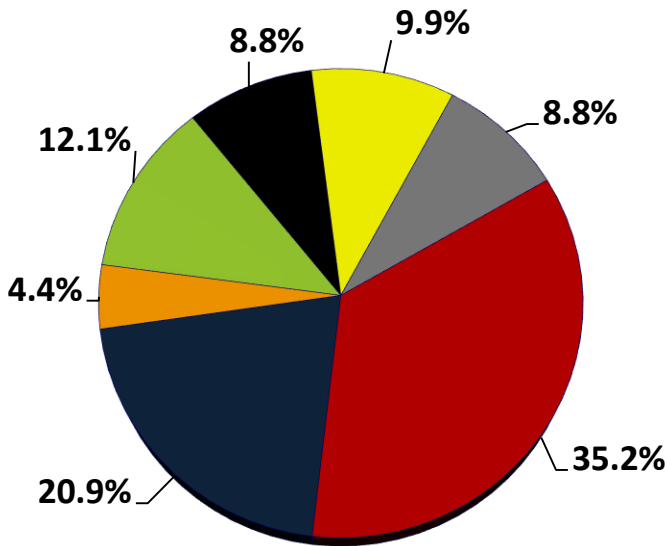
-  We have achieved Stage 2
-  We are currently in the ONC certification process for Stage 2
-  We are currently on track for Stage 2 certification in 2014
-  We are currently on track for Stage 2 certification in 2015
-  We do not have a current milestone set but it is a priority
-  We do not have a current milestone set and it is not a current priority
-  I do not know



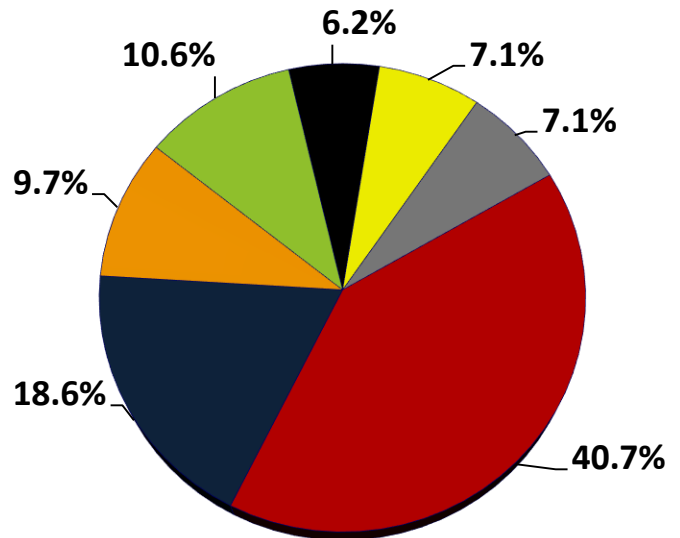
HIE Involvement & Status

Please select the statement that best describes your organization's current HIE status.

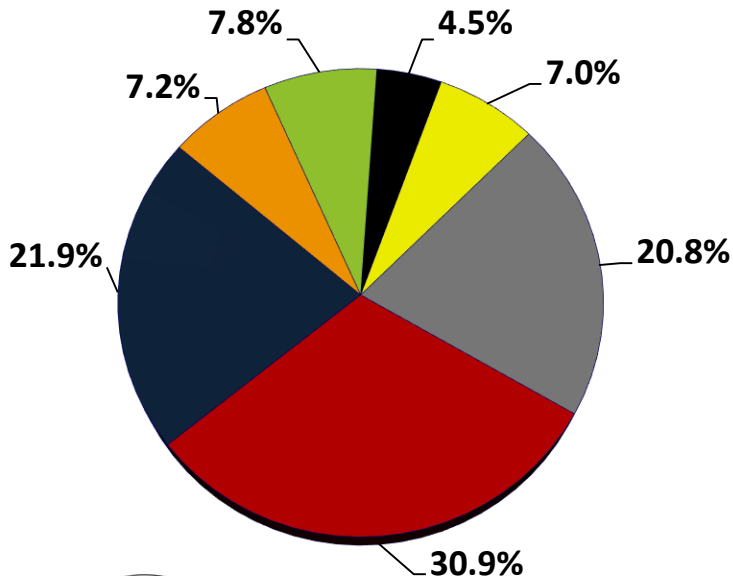
CIOs/CTOs



IT Managers



HL7 Professionals

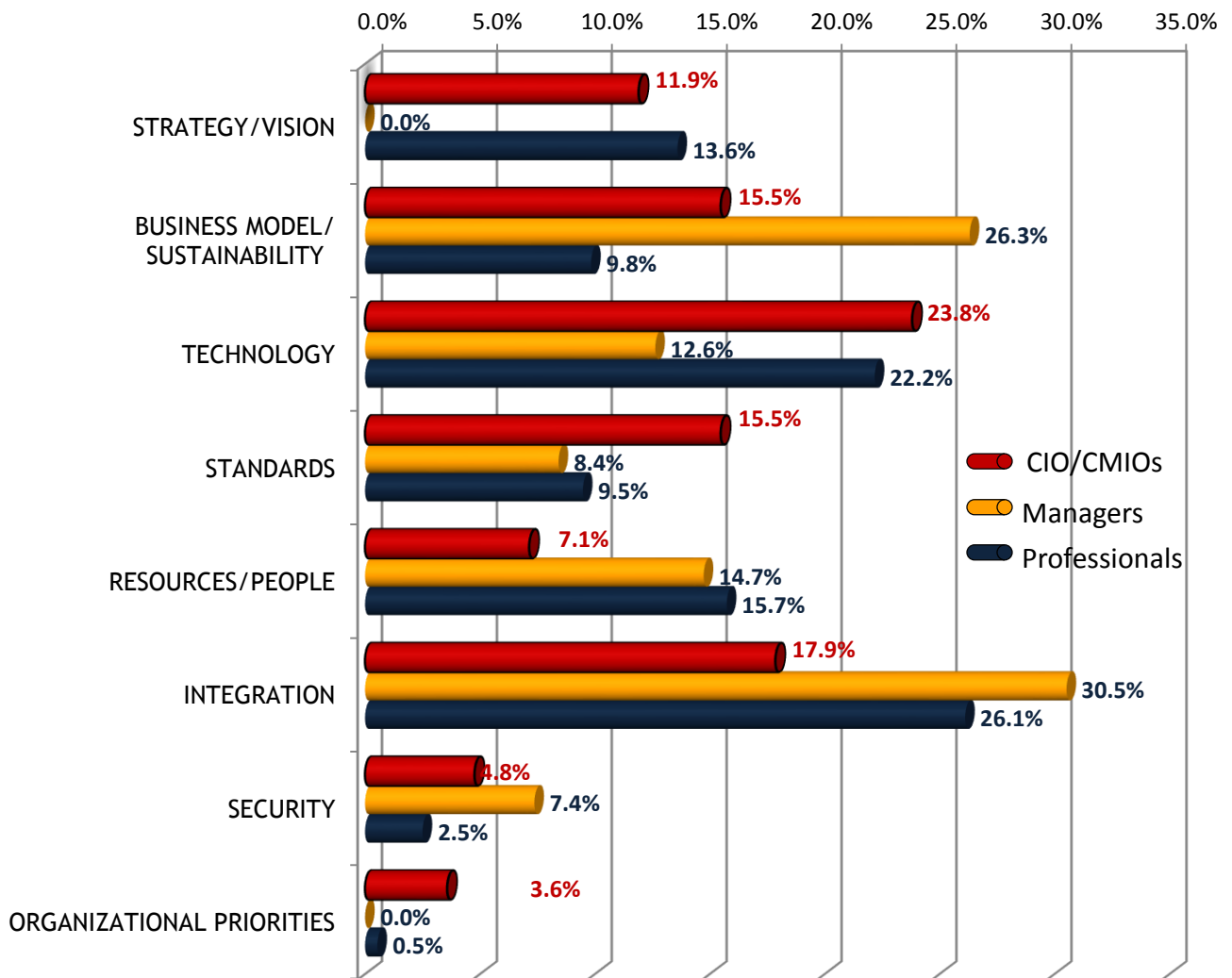


-  We are actively integrating with an HIE outside our organization.
-  We are actively integrating with more than one HIE outside our organization
-  We are actively integrating with our own organization's HIE, but no HIE outside
-  We are currently working towards integrating with an HIE outside our org
-  We are currently researching and making plans to start working towards integrating with an HIE outside our organization.
-  We are currently not engaged in any activity or planning regarding integrating with an HIE.
-  I do not know



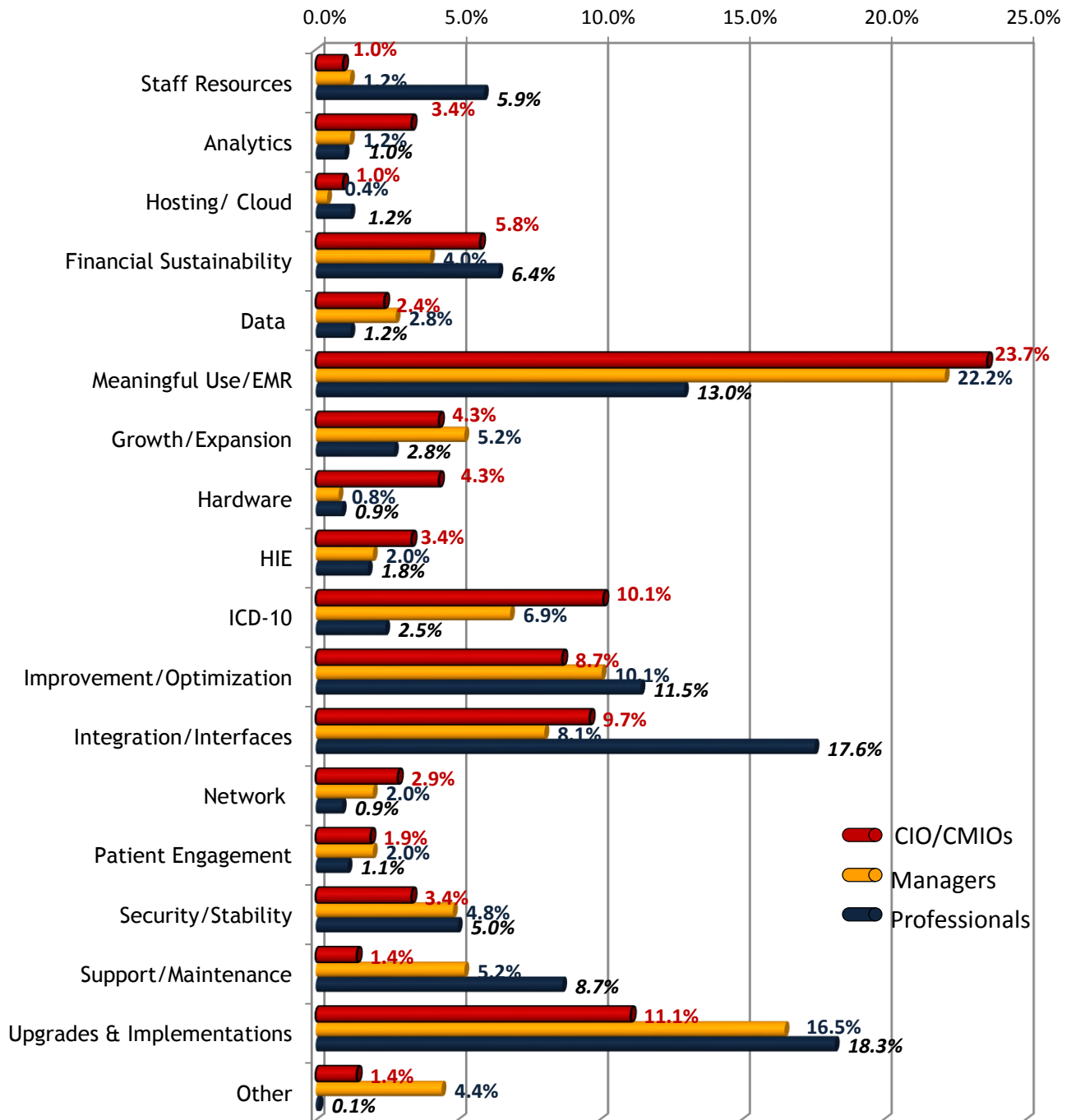
HIE Challenges

What are your organization's biggest current challenges regarding HIE?



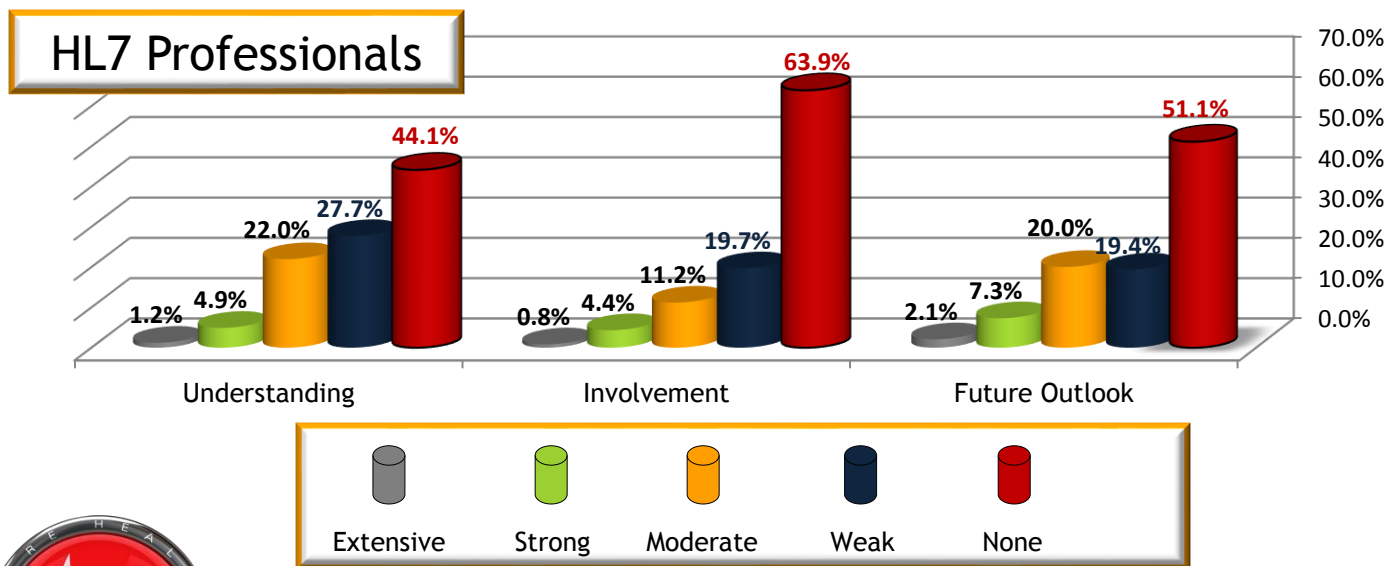
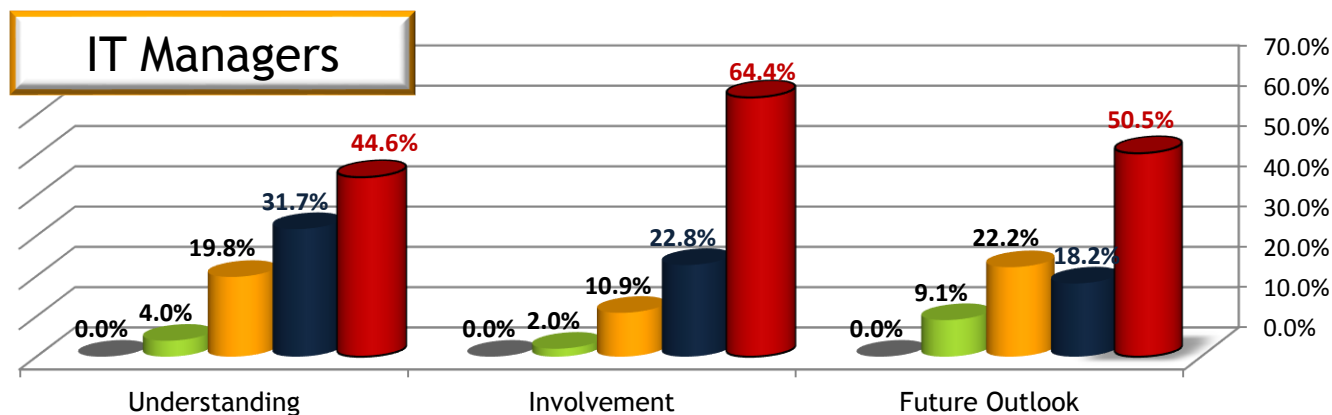
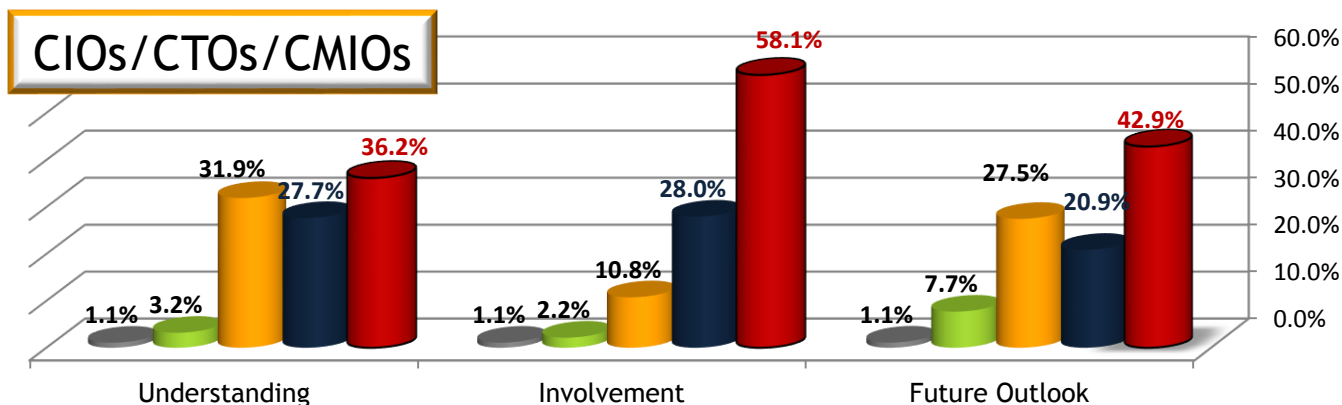
IT Priorities

What are the top three priorities/objectives for your internal IT organization this year?



FHIR Understanding and Involvement

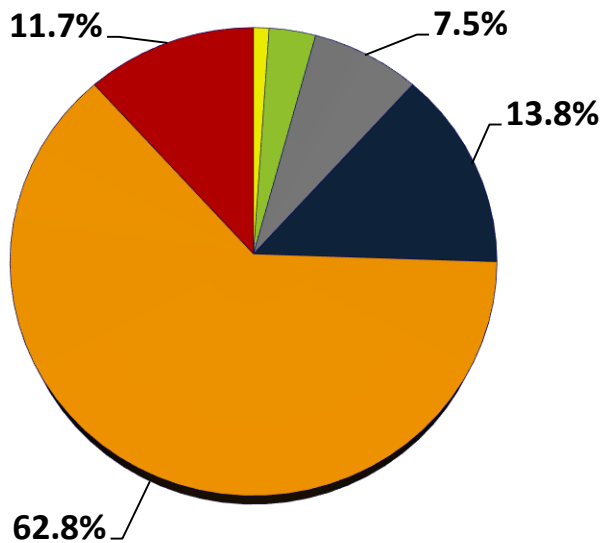
What is your current understanding, involvement and future outlook of FHIR®
(Fast Health Interoperable Resources - hl7.org/fhir)



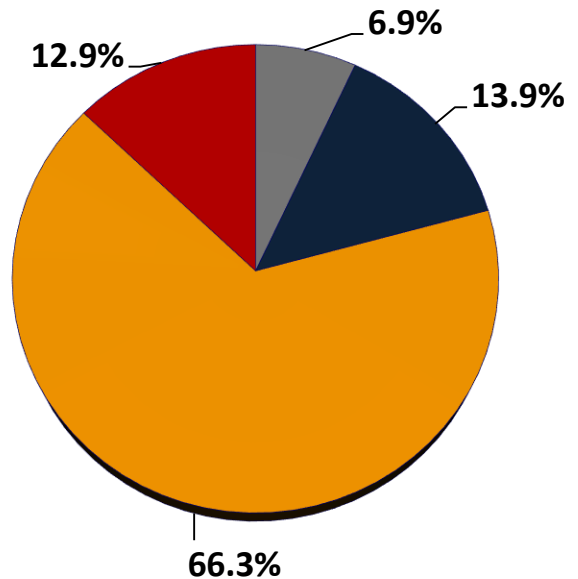
Healthcare Integration Impact to Priorities

How does “healthcare integration” affect your priorities/objectives?

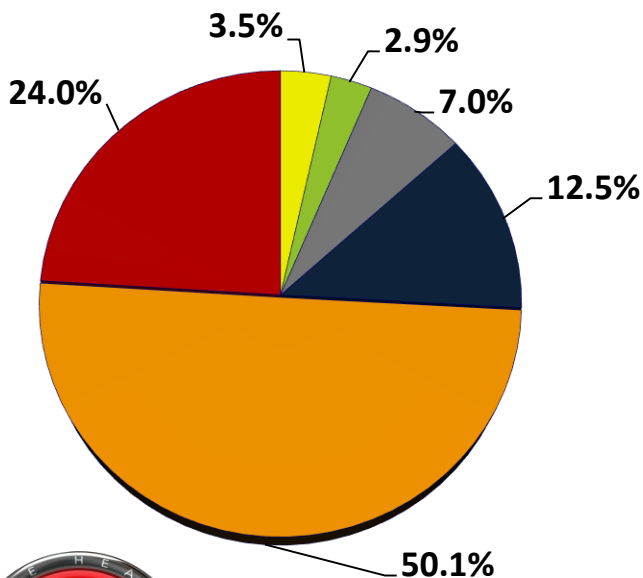
CIOs/CTOs



IT Managers



HL7 Professionals



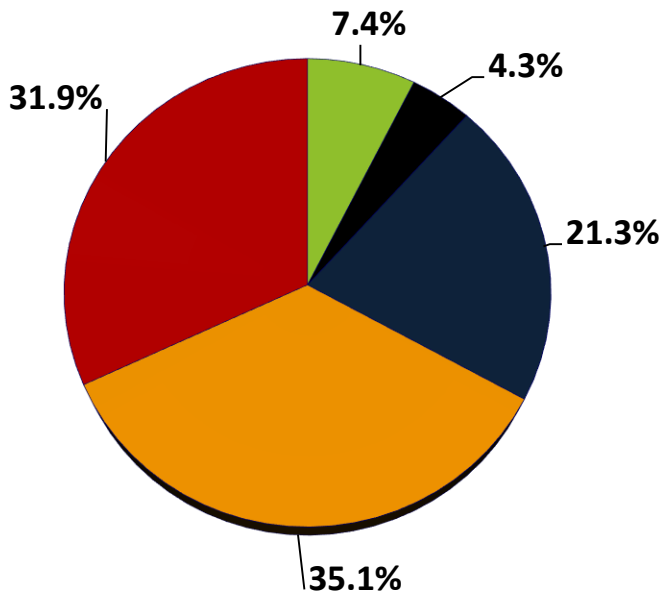
-  Integration is our top priority
-  Integration is integral to at least one of our priorities
-  Integration is integral to all of our priorities and cannot be separated
-  Integration has some effect on us achieving our top priorities
-  Integration has little effect on us achieving our top priorities
-  Integration has no effect on us achieving our top priorities



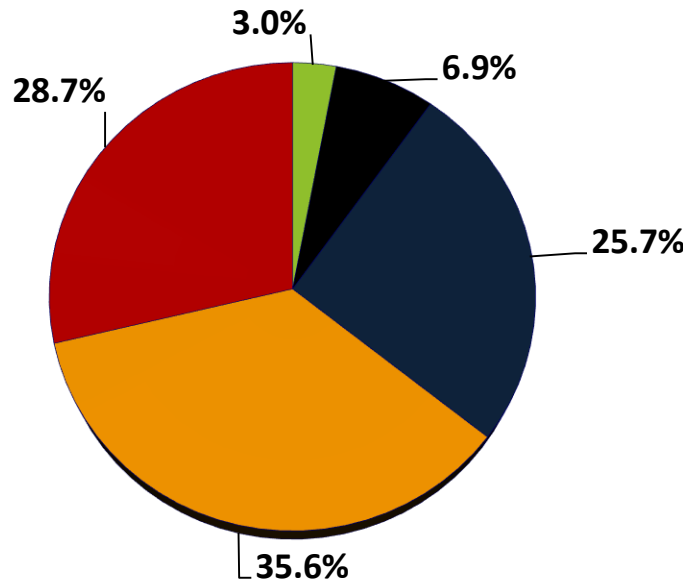
Integration Activity Outlook - Next 12 Months

Looking forward to the next 12 months, how will your HL7 integration activities compare with the past 12 months?

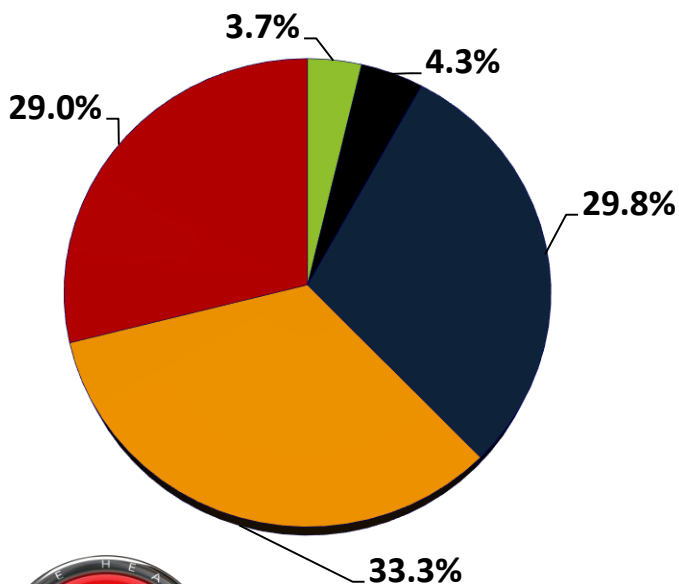
CIOs/CTOs



IT Managers



HL7 Professionals



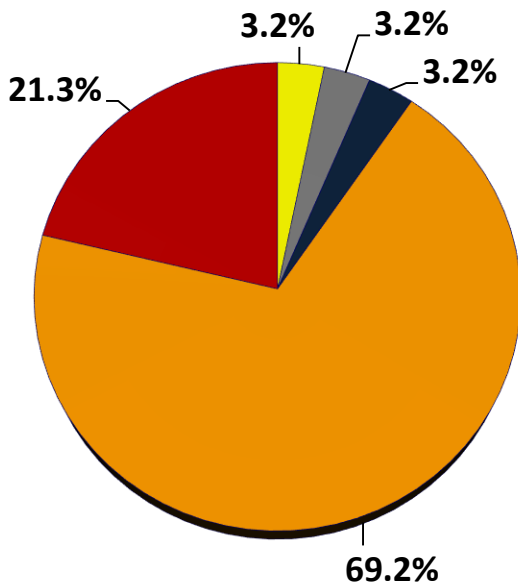
-  Our integration activities/efforts will decrease significantly
-  Our integration activities/efforts will decrease slightly/moderately
-  Our integration activities/efforts will stay the about the same
-  Our integration activities/efforts will increase slightly/moderately
-  Our integration activities/efforts will increase significantly



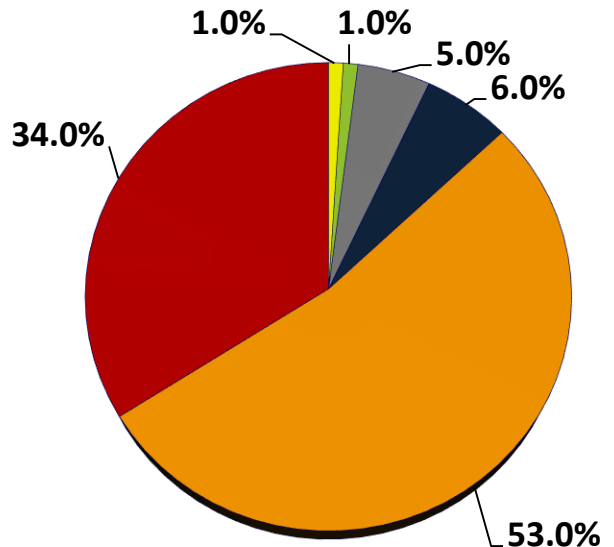
Information Security Impact to Priorities

How does “information security” affect your priorities/objectives?

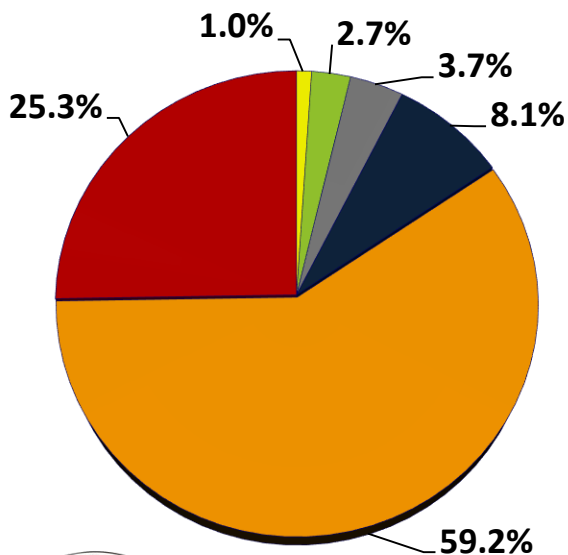
CIOs/CTOs








IT Managers



HL7 Professionals



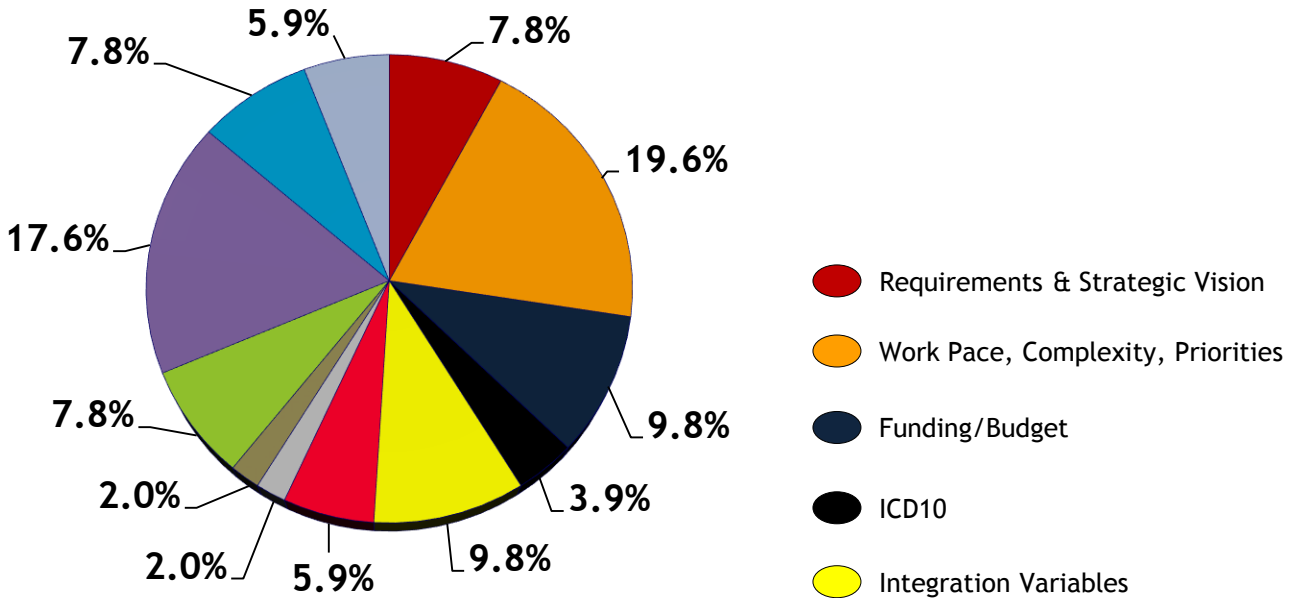
-  Information Security is our top priority
-  Information Security is integral to at least one of our priorities
-  Information Security is integral to all of our priorities and cannot be separated
-  Information Security has some effect on us achieving our top priorities
-  Information Security has little effect on us achieving our top priorities
-  Information Security has no effect on us achieving our top priorities



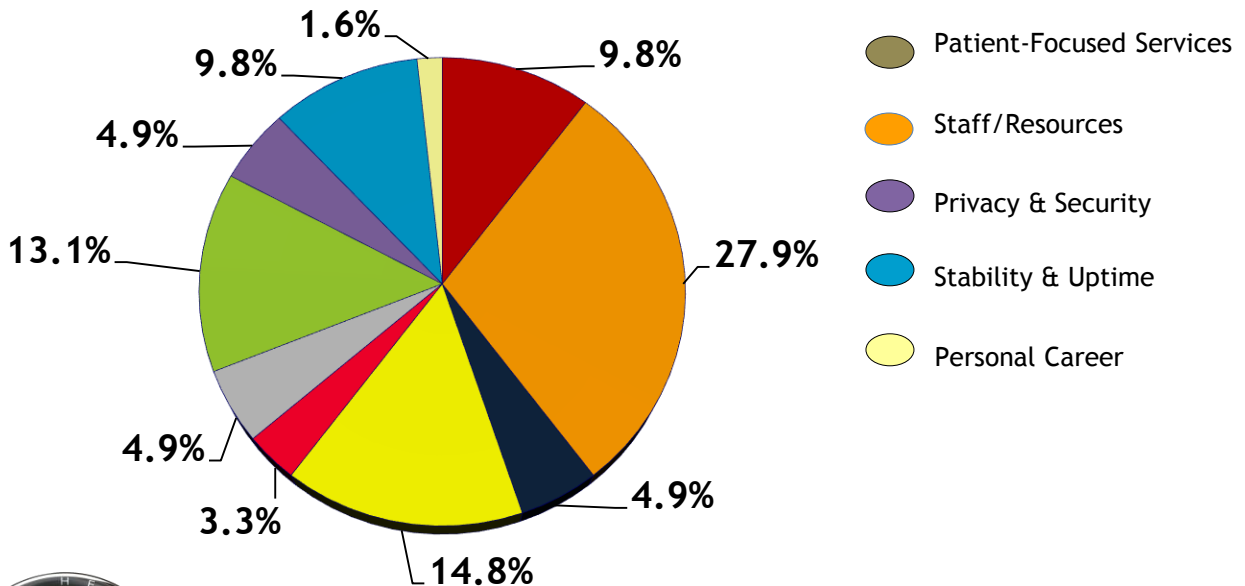
What Keeps You Awake at Night?

In regard to your work responsibilities, goals, and priorities: What keeps you up at night?

CIOs/CTOs

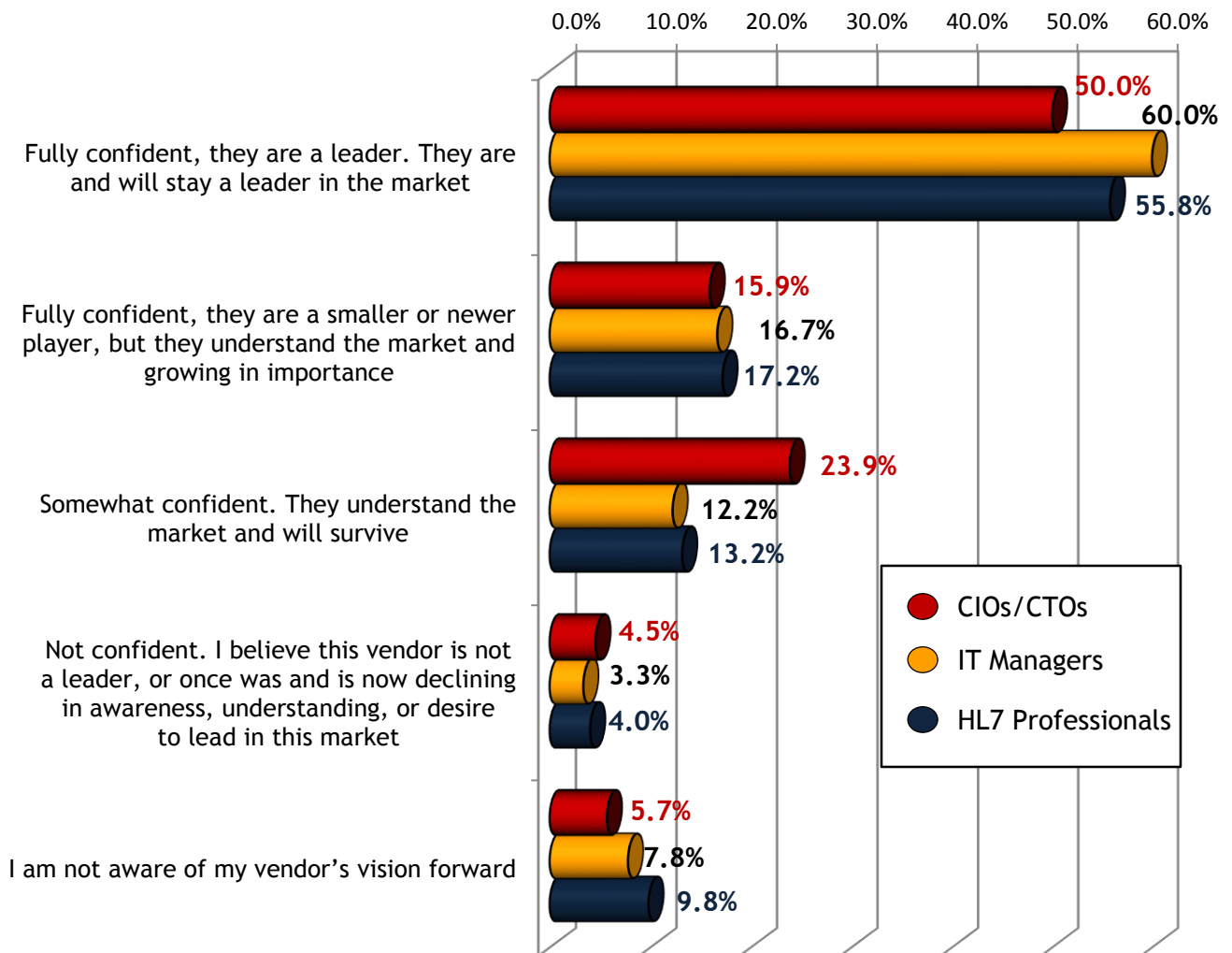


IT Managers



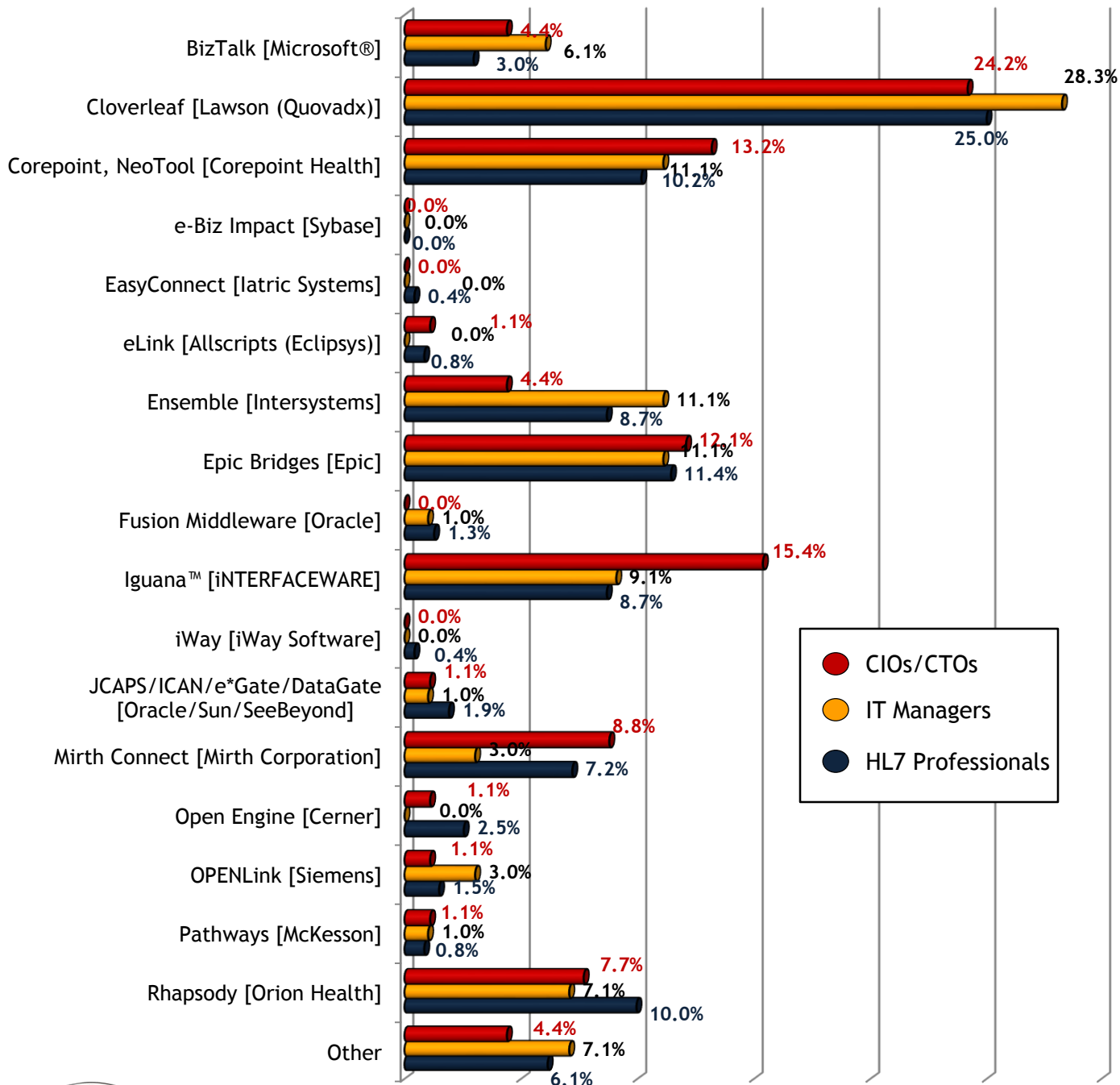
Vendor Confidence

How confident are you in the HL7 interface vendor that your organization uses?



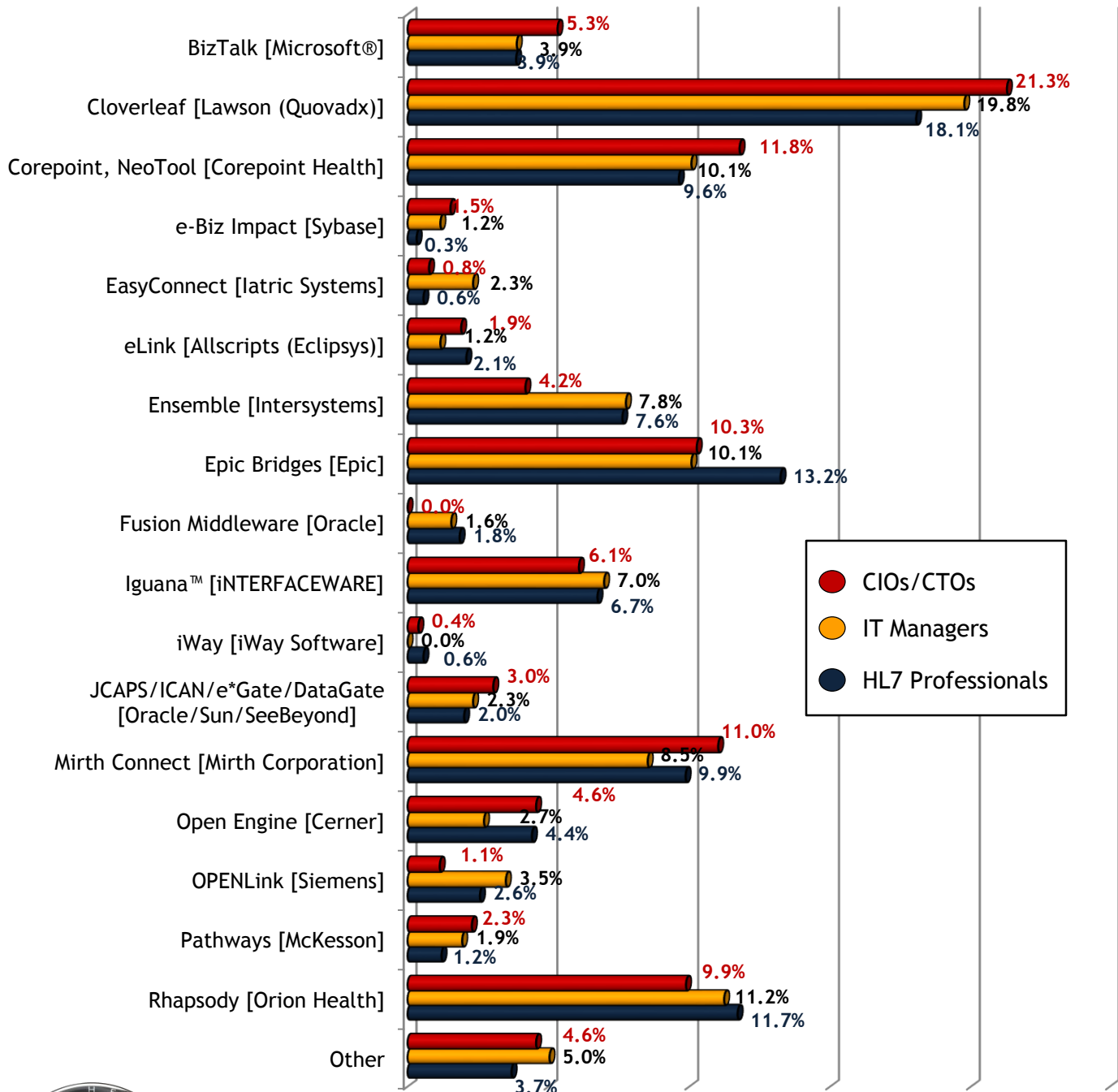
Future Market Leaders - #1 Answer

What Interface Engine/Tool do you believe will be the market leader over the next 2-5 years?
[Total of just top (1st choice) answers]



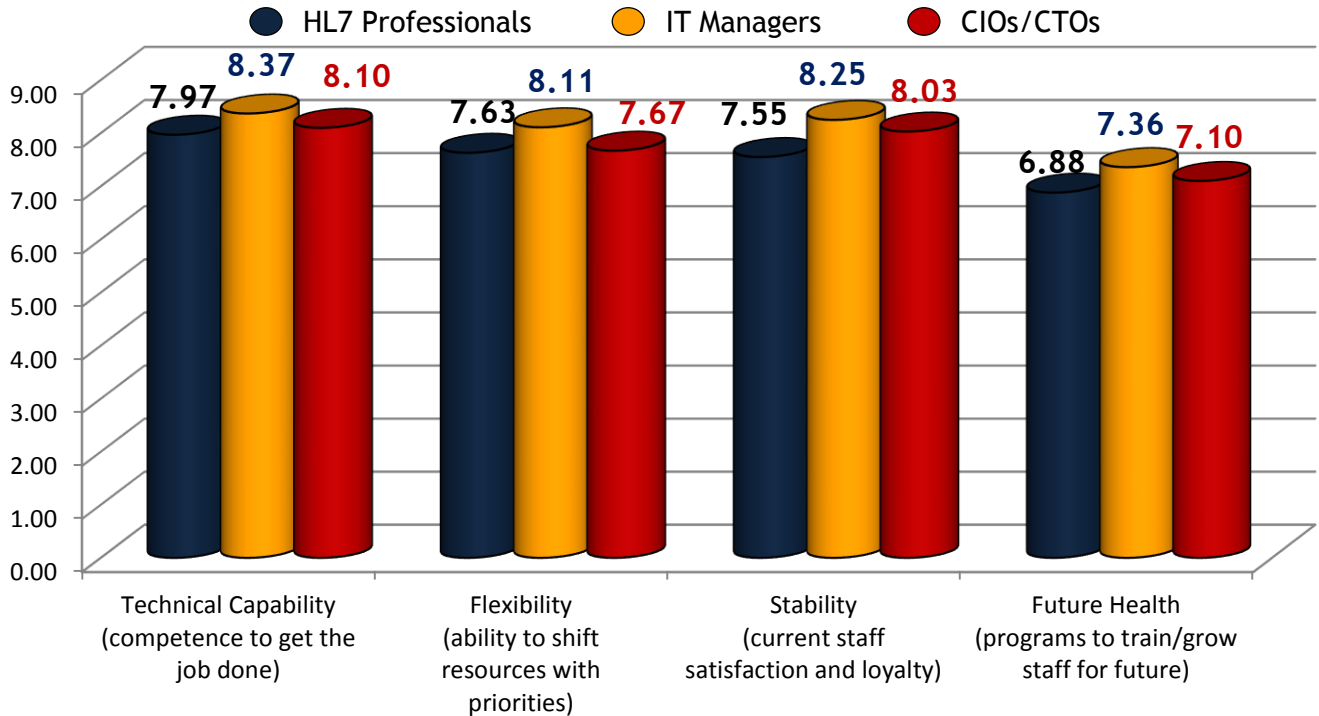
Future Market Leaders - All Answers

What Interface Engine/Tool do you believe will be the market leader over the next 2-5 years?
[Combined Total of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd choice answers]



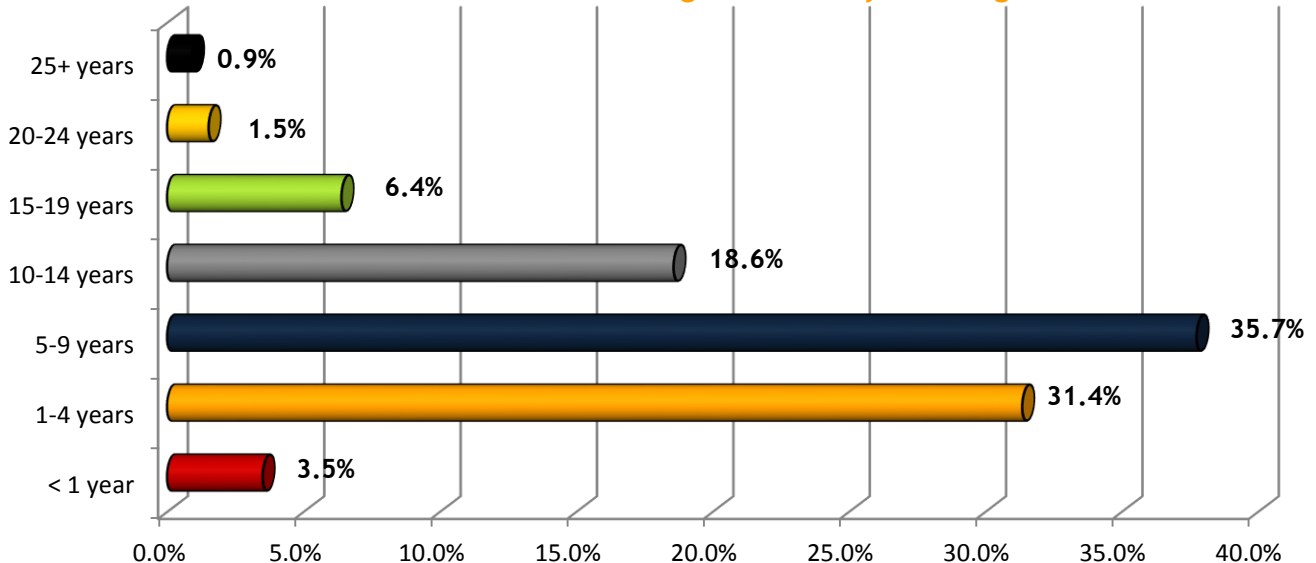
Integration Team Health

Please rate the health of your current integration resources for the following:
(1 = poor; 10 = superior)



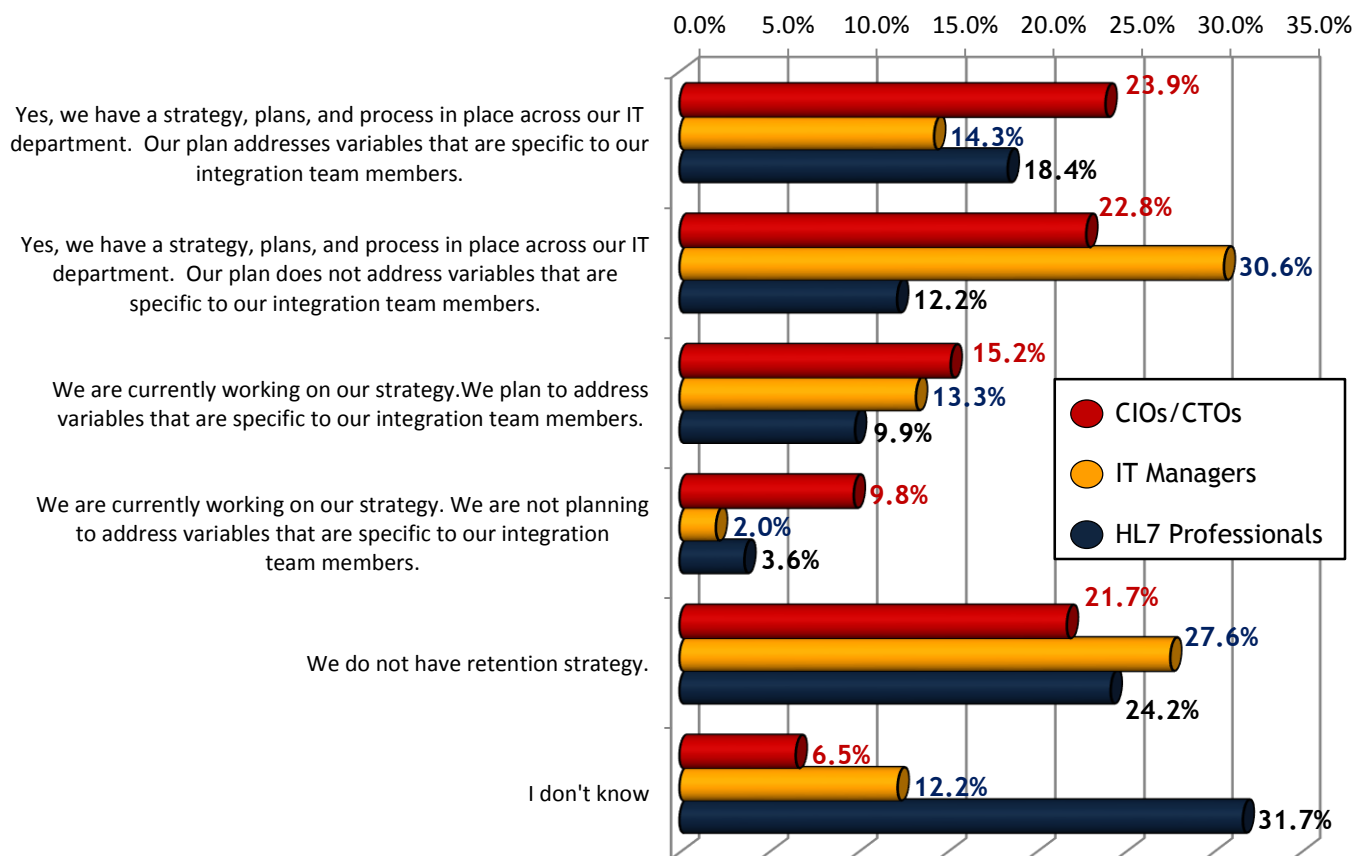
Integration Team Tenure

Combined View - What is the average tenure of your integration staff?



Staff Retention

Do you currently have a staff retention strategy?



HEALTHCARE INTEGRATION

That's what we do!
Connecting and Protecting Health Information...

Healthcare integration has never been as important as it is today. With our national healthcare objectives focusing on improving healthcare quality and reducing healthcare cost, integration has become central to realizing benefit in healthcare IT. Implementation of Electronic Health Records (EHRs), movement toward meeting [Meaningful Use \(MU\)](#) standards to receive [ARRA/HITECH](#) incentives, and the growing integration efforts of various [Health Information Exchanges \(HIEs\)](#) have all dramatically increased the demand for healthcare integration. That's where Core Health Technologies comes in...



***We Solve Healthcare Organizations' Integration Challenges
by Connecting Health Information.***



As a vendor-neutral solution provider, Core Health Technologies can answer the call and deliver the results you need. Whether it is building a team to conduct all the integrations for a specific project, providing specific expertise to lead an effort for a specific project or length of time, or providing ongoing integration services long-term to minimize cost and increase control, you can count on our results, leadership, and expertise.

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