

How to Train Your Data Scientist

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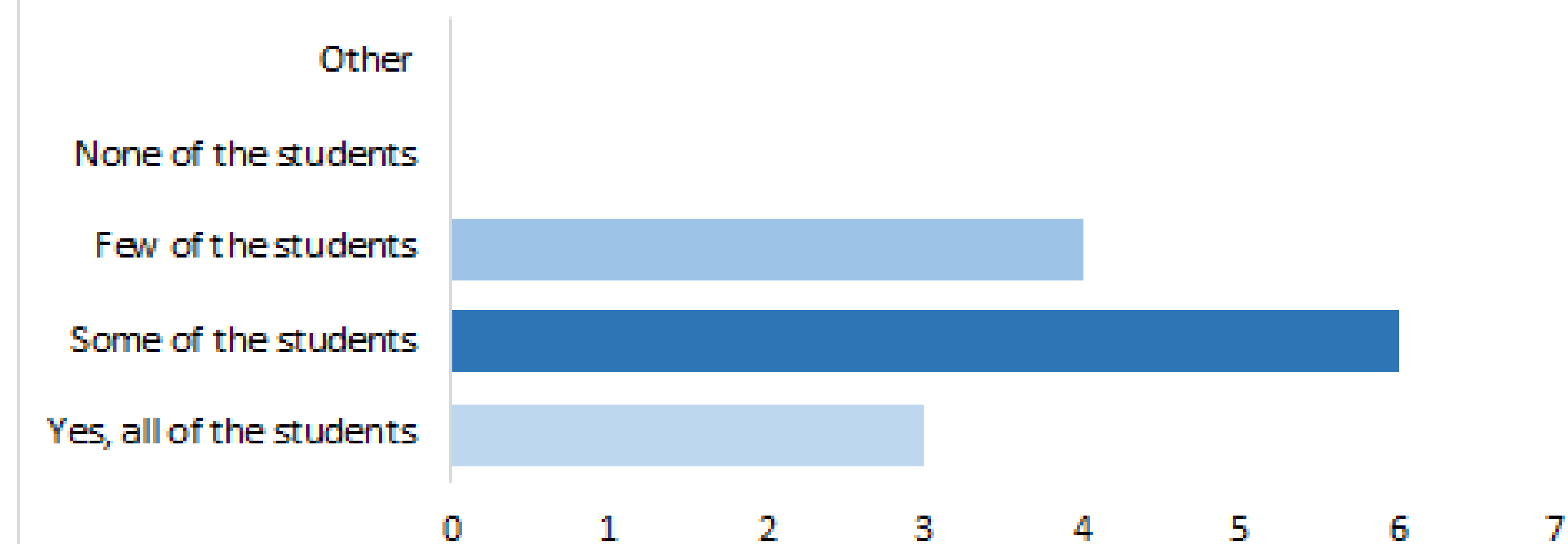
Introduction

Data visualizations are the art of making a visualizations from the massive amounts of data that is found in 'big data'. Data visualizations are increasingly a part of our everyday life. They're seen everywhere and the ability to interpret, understand and analyze them is a critical skill. As such it is important for high school students to be knowledgeable about them, especially if they are considering a data science career.

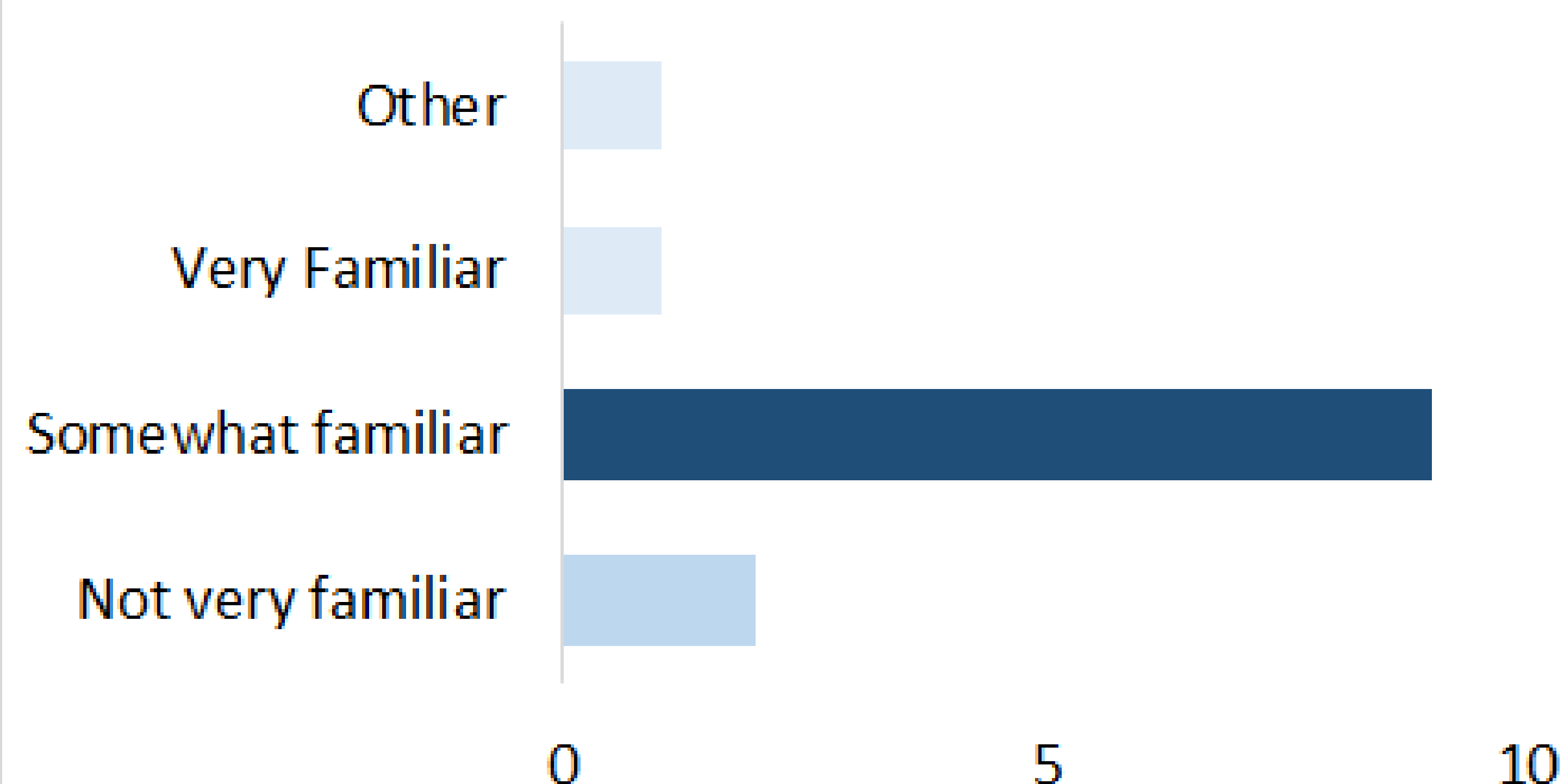
The Survey

A survey about data science and data visualization was given to thirteen high school teachers that were participants of a data visualization workshop in the summer of 2020. The goal was to determine the amount of knowledge and opinions that high school teachers have about data science and visualization.

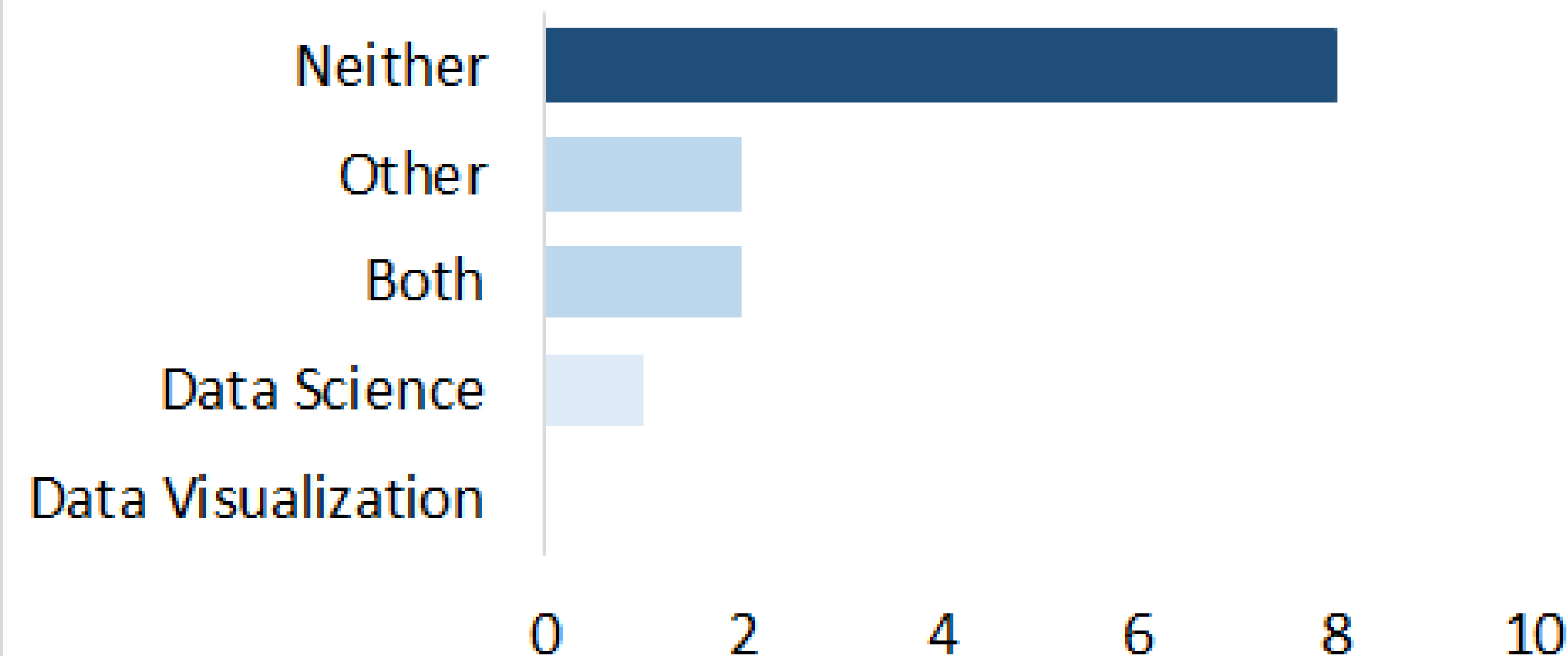
Do you think your students will have the necessary skills at graduation for a data science major in college?



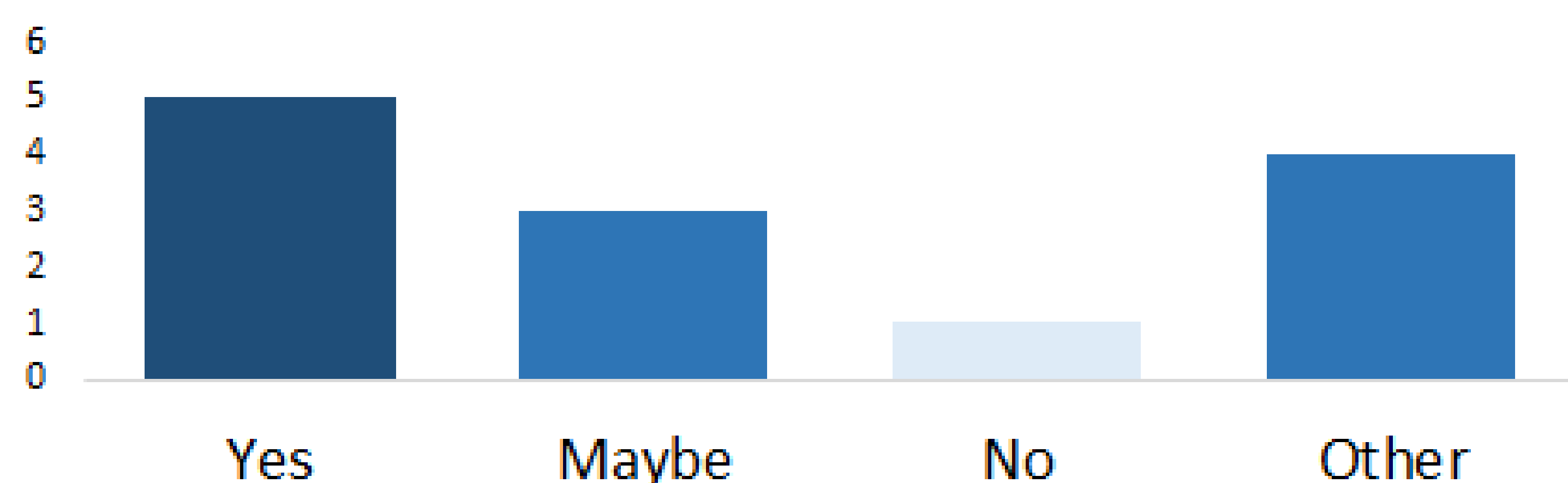
How familiar are you with data visualization



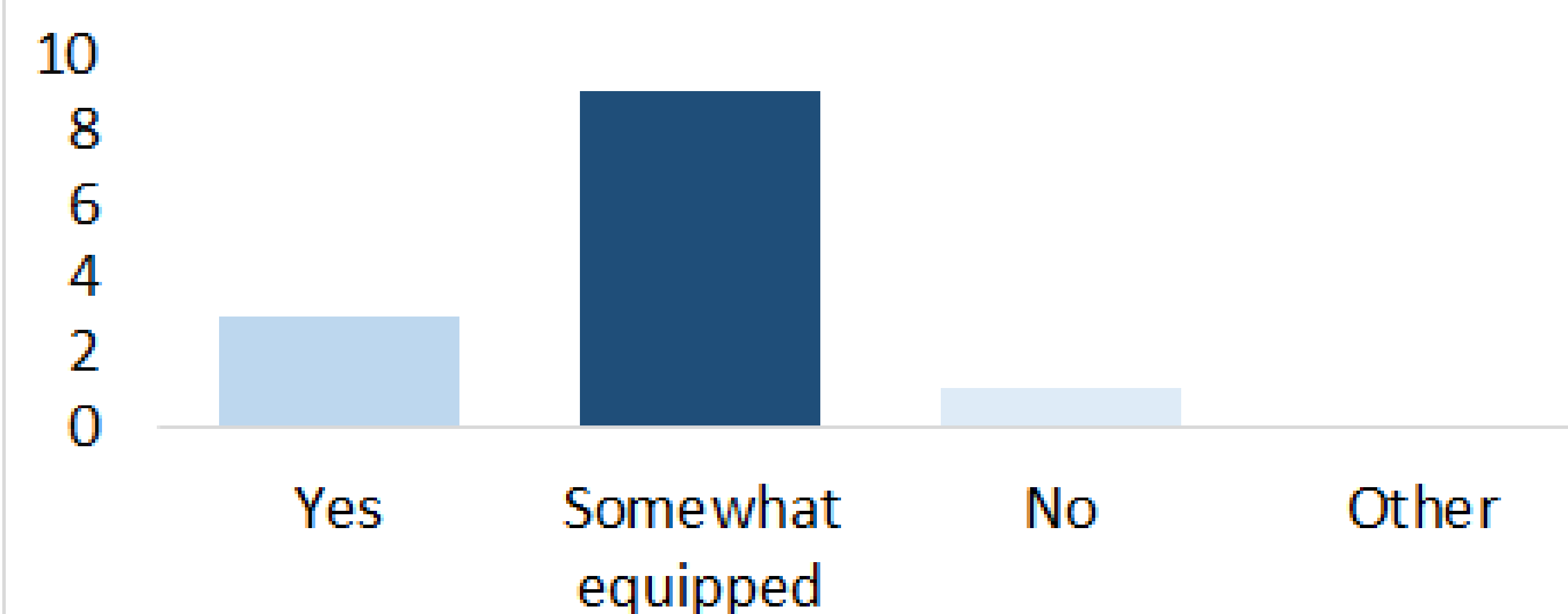
Does your school teach data science and/or data visualization



Would you be interested in teaching data science or data visualization as either a separate class or as part of your regular curriculum?



Do you think your school is equipped to teach students the skills they need to know for a data science major or career?



Conclusions and Results

Results were generally positive. Survey participants consider data visualization an important topic for all their students to know. They also believed their students would be interested in the topic as well. Not as positive results were the lack of materials, supplies and equipment the teachers cited they would need to effectively teach data visualization. Most in need was more teachers.

Problems and Future Work

Main problems in this study were the extremely small sample size (13) and that all respondents taught math, science or computer science.

Future work could include surveys sent out to college level professors about what they would like to see taught at the high school level, similar surveys for industry professionals, and surveys for students

Acknowledgements

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Conclusions: Most teachers are at least somewhat familiar with data visualization and are open to teaching it.

Conclusions: Very few school currently teach or are equipped to teach data science or data visualization.