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Acquiring From Secondary/Used Sources: Money Saver or Time Sink

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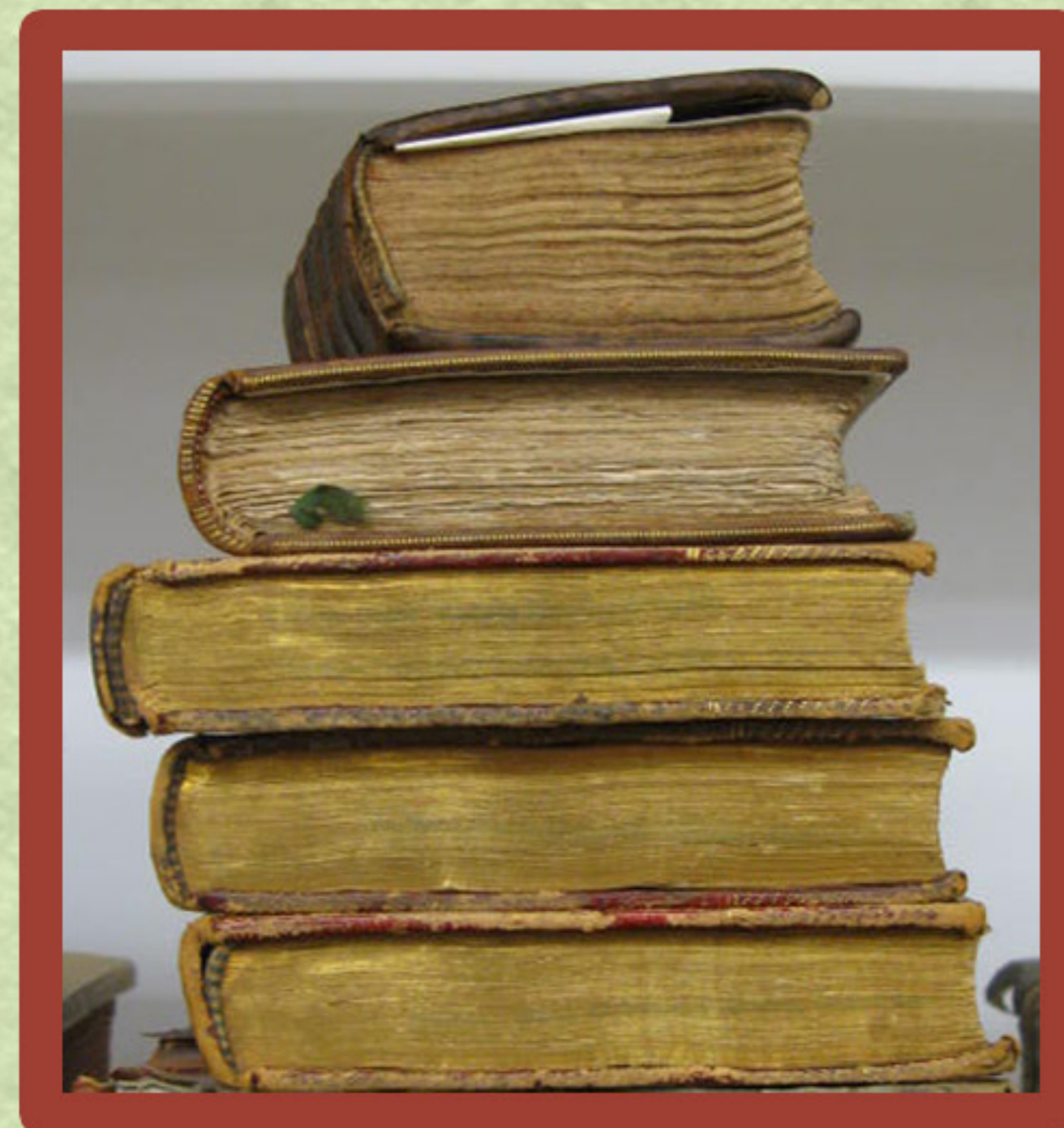http://opensiuc.lib.siu.edu/morris_confs/13

Acquiring from Secondary/Used Sources: Money Saver or Time Sink

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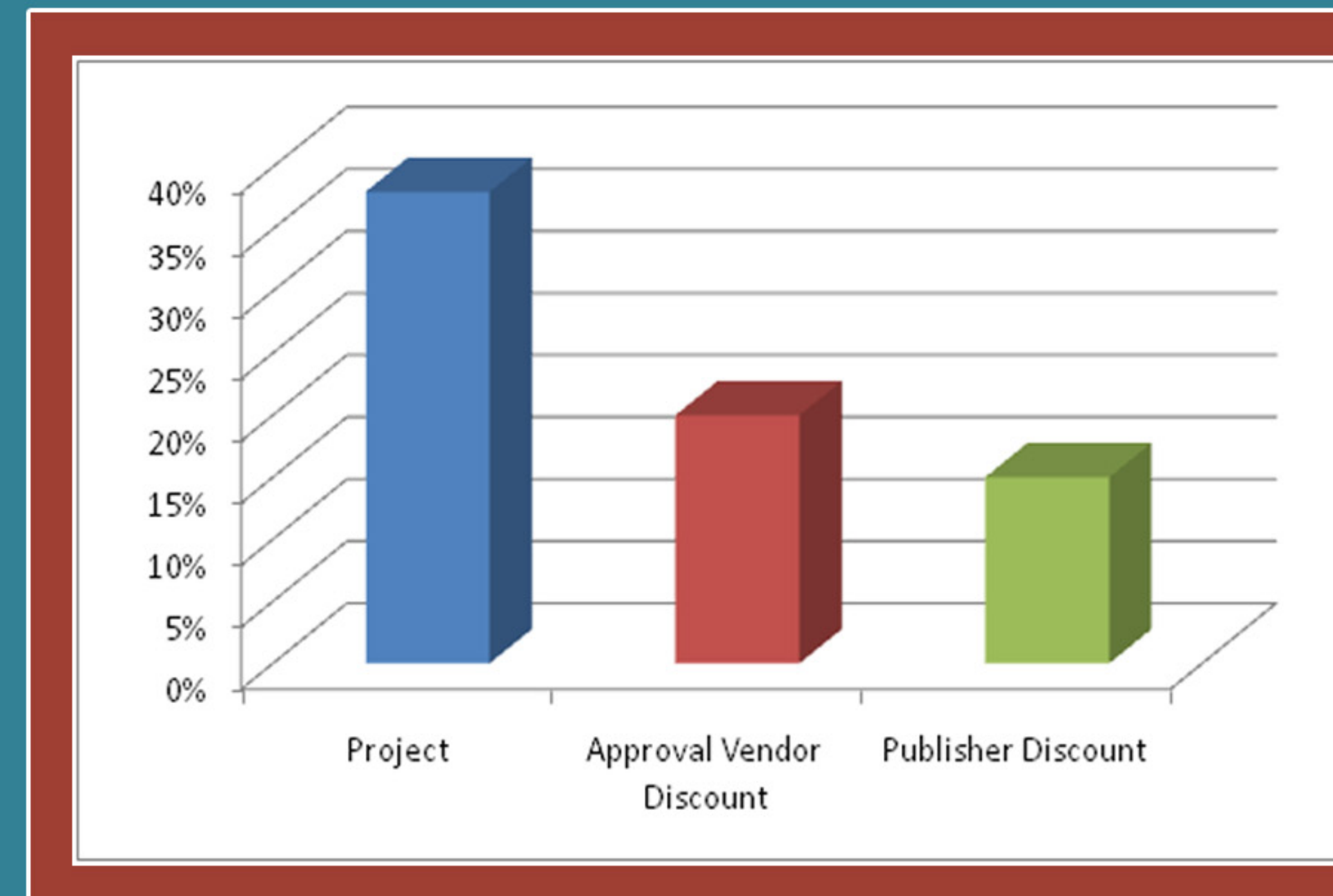
GOALS

To determine whether buying from used or secondary sources would in fact:

(1) save the library money

(2) incur any extra burden on the Preservation Unit due to the used conditions
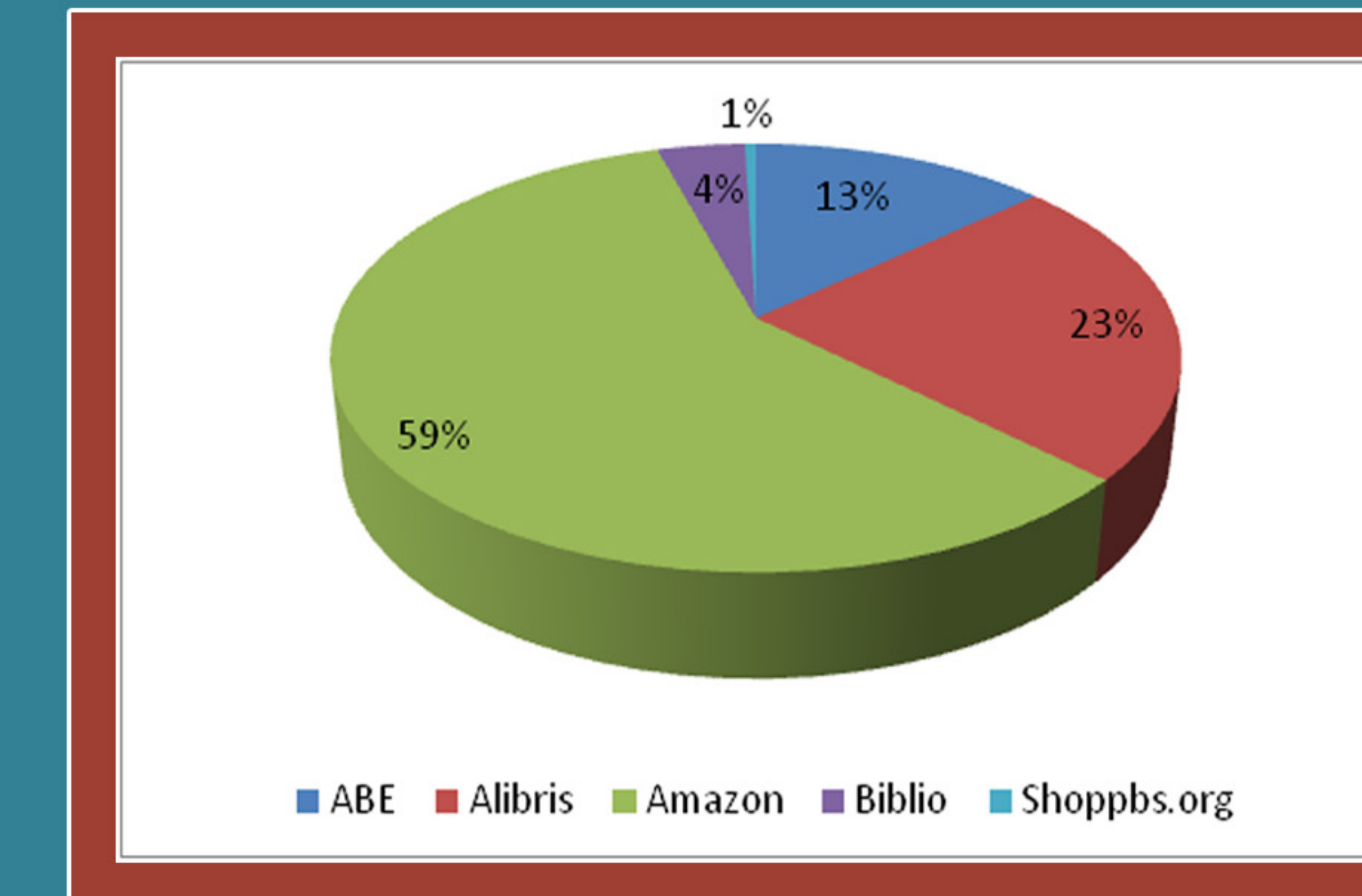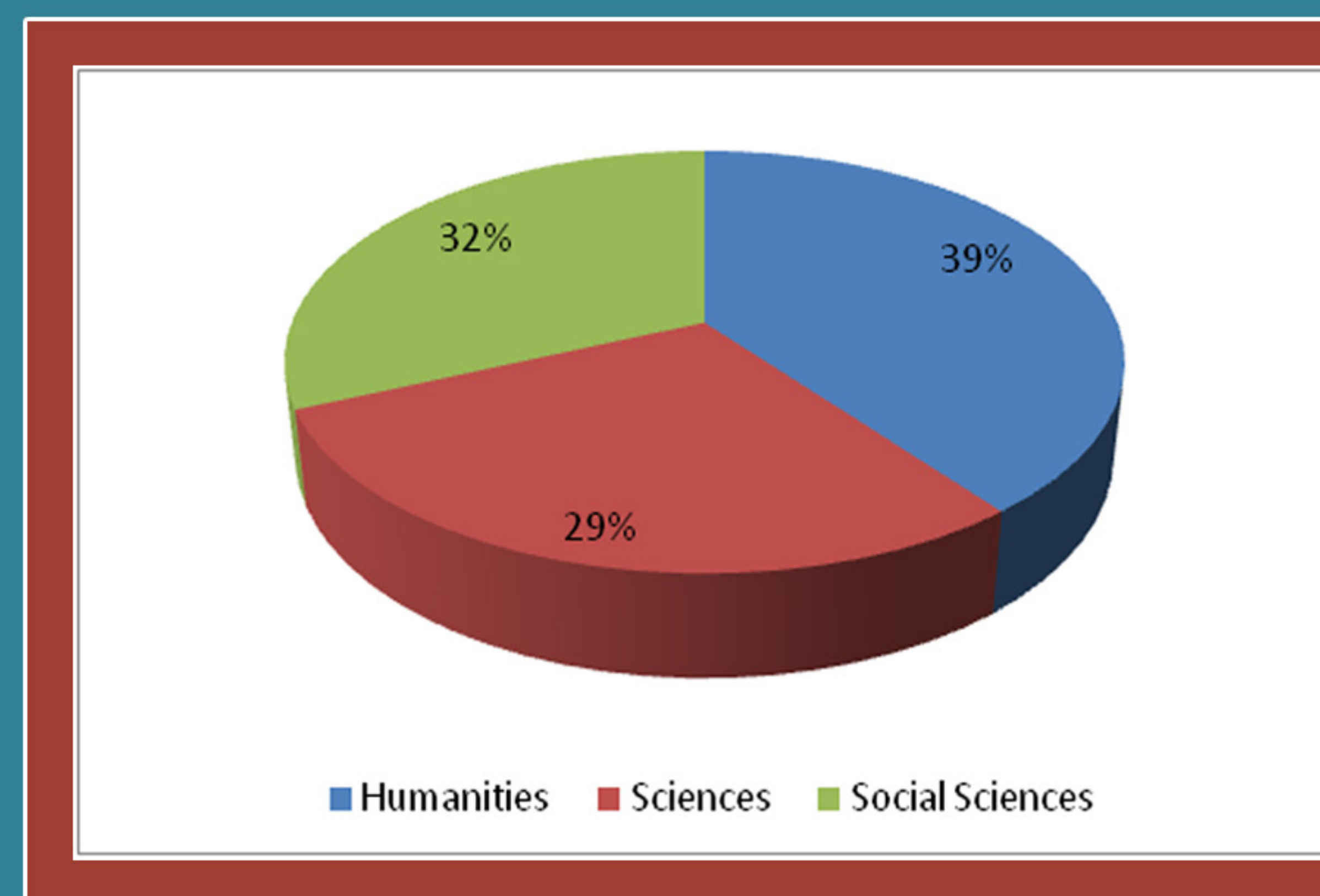

RESULTS

• The average percentage saved per item is significantly higher than through direct sources.

• Two out of two-hundred orders (1%) needed direct Preservation work when they were received by Acquisitions.

• Twelve out of two hundred items (6%) needed Preservation's recommendation on quality before the items were purchased.

• Sixteen out of two hundred (8%) orders were cancelled by the vendor and had to be re-ordered from other sources.
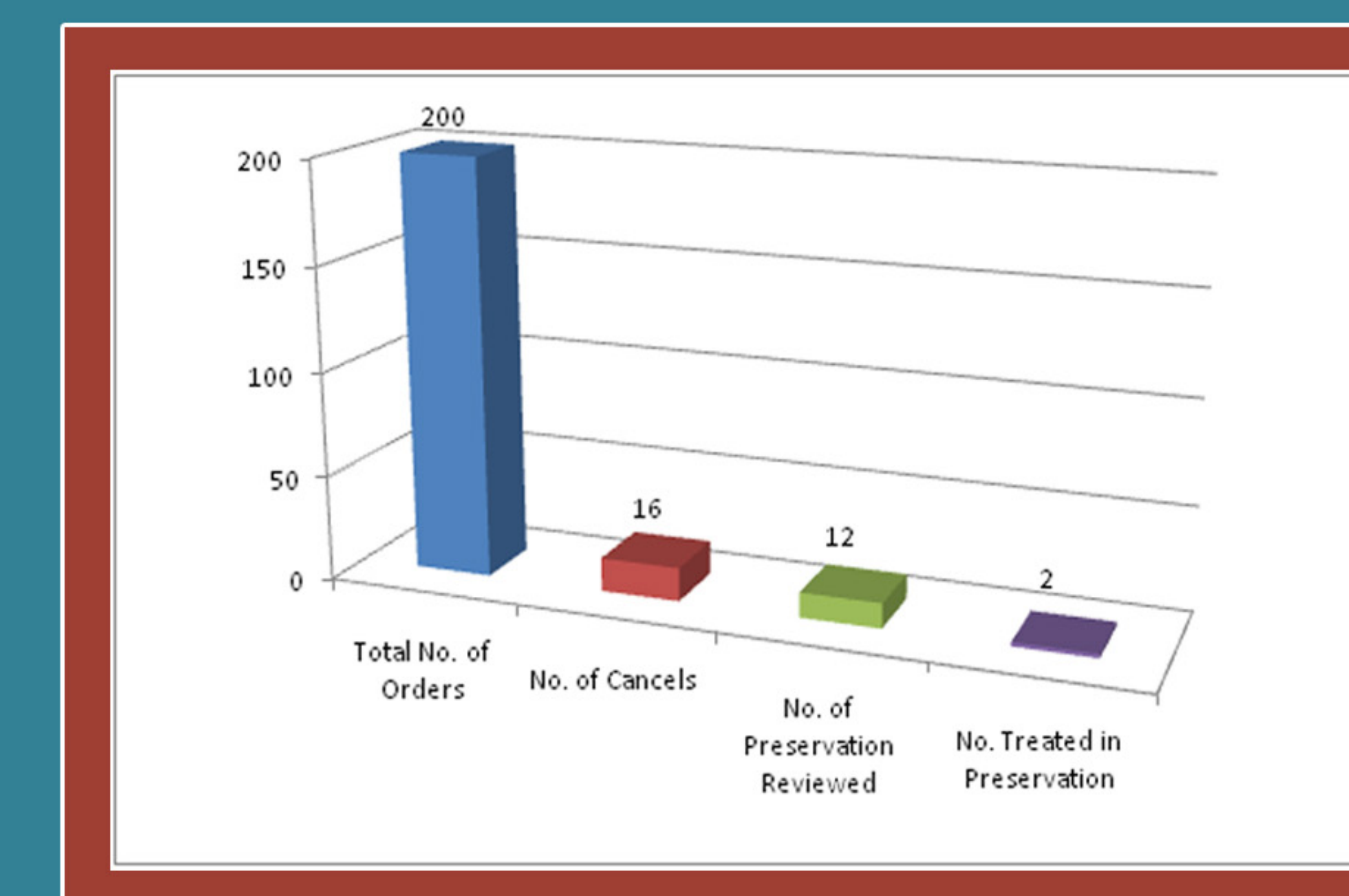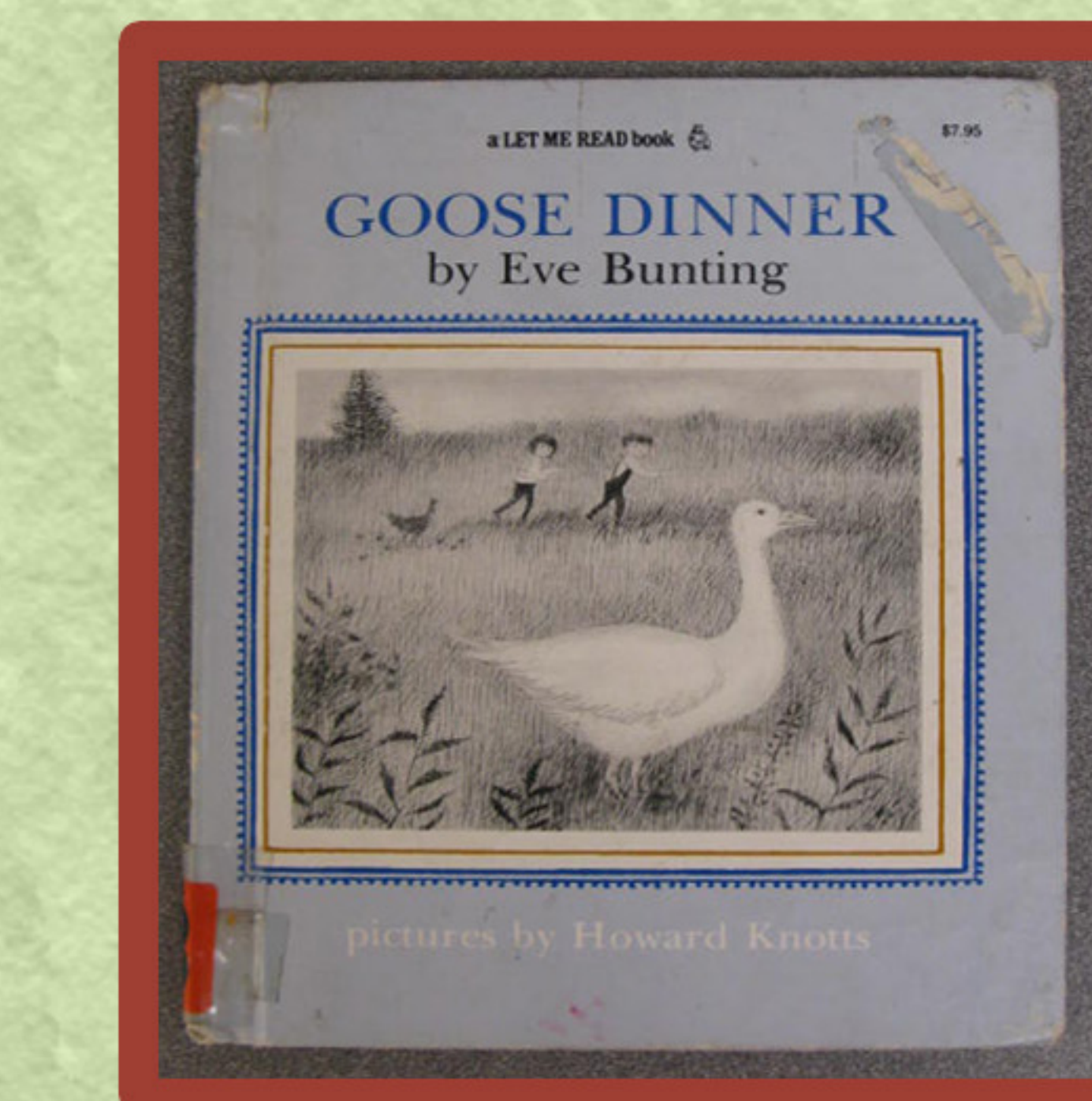

SAVINGS

ORDERS BY COMPANY

PERCENTAGE BY ORDERS

ORDERS & ASSESSMENT

Citations
Voyager. Acquisitions Icon. *Voyager* 2009. 24 June 2009.

METHODOLOGY

• Took a sampling of firm orders placed by the Collection Development Librarians and under certain parameters with condition and seller rating, purchased items from used/secondary sources.

• Reviewed literature to compare documentation of any similar projects.

• Reviewed and analyzed data to make determination whether secondary markets are a viable source of savings and efficiency.

CONCLUSIONS

• Purchasing items through secondary sources can save a library more money than ordering through direct vendors, particularly when ordering older materials that are still in print.

• Purchasing new and used items through secondary sources does not put an added extra burden on Preservation.

• Time and efficiency can be factors in determining whether purchasing from secondary sources is a viable option for your library.