

Digital literacy Skills enhancement with using tablets at higher education

Henny Mills
Geospatial Engineering

Alison Graham
SNES



Since 2011 in School of Civil Engineering & Geosciences, and since 2018 in SNES and SENG

Toshiba AT300:

Samsung Galaxy 10.1:

Samsung Galaxy Tab A

Supported by NUIT computing staff:

A few 'spare' tablets for swap-out if required

Four year warranty on tablets

2 Training sessions

Recommendations for security and anti-virus

Branded case



Digital literacy skills

“Digital literacy is the ability to use information and communication technologies to find, evaluate, create, and communicate information, requiring both cognitive and technical skills.”

(American Library Association's digital-literacy task force)

Learn the Basics

Build digital literacy skills by selecting from the categories below.



Using a Computer or Mobile Device

Learn how to use the mouse, keyboard, icons, and folders



Using Software and Applications

Use software applications: word processing, creating spreadsheets, tables and databases



Using the Internet

Search the Internet, use email, register on a website



Communicating on the Web

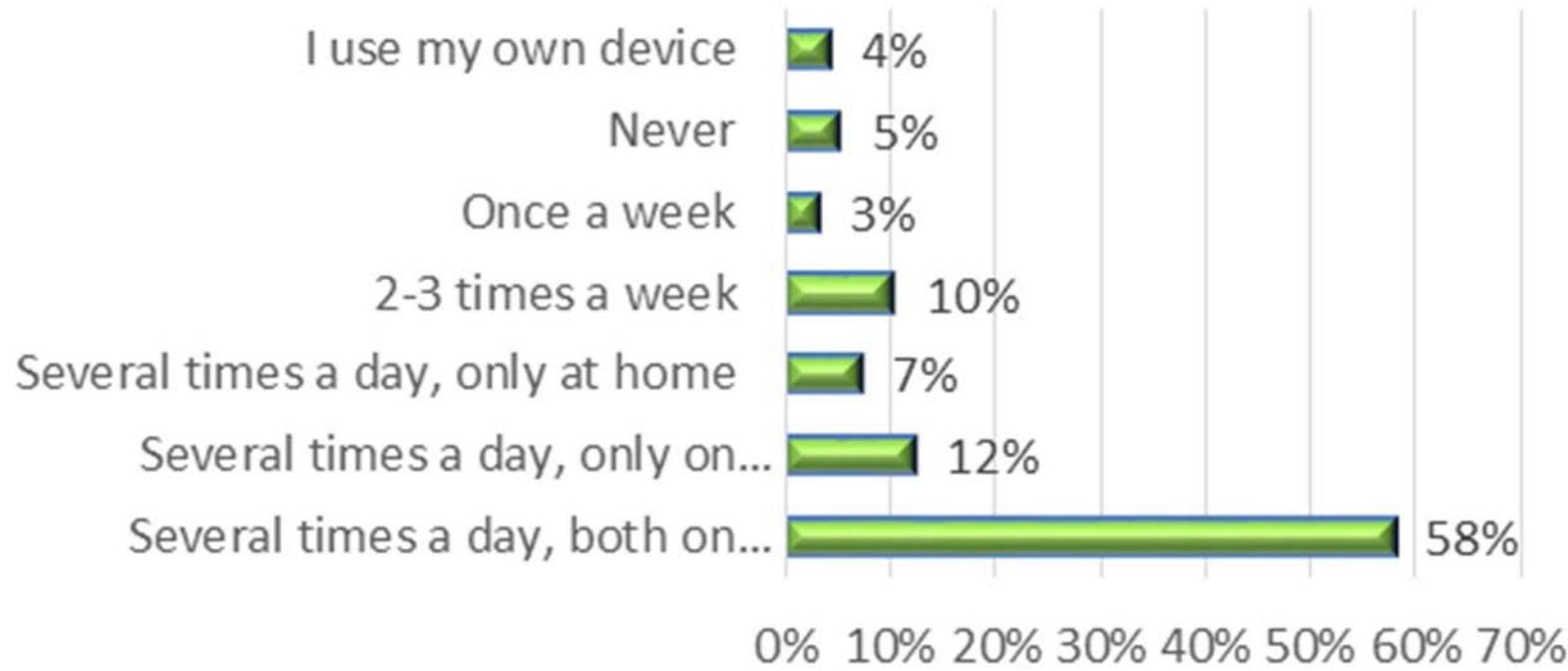
Share photos and videos, communicate using social networks, learn to be an informed digital citizen



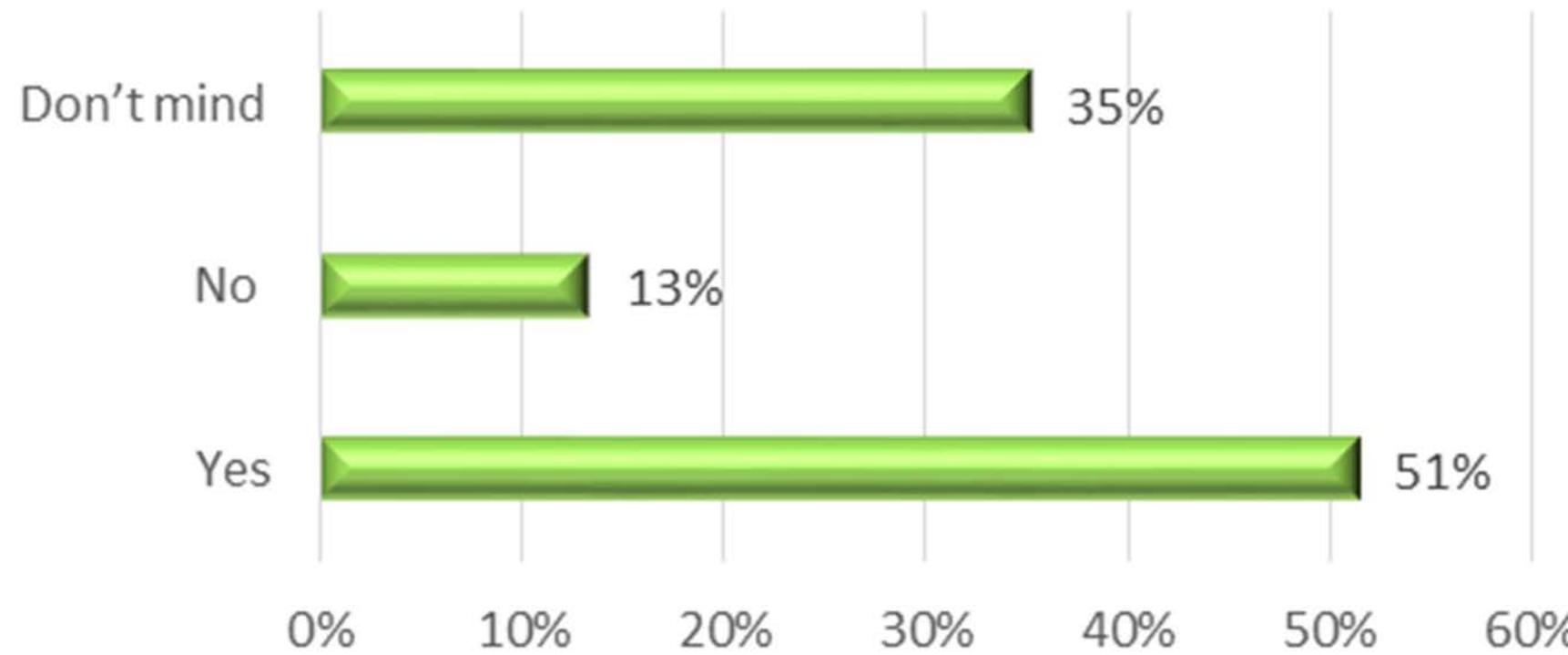
Child Online Protection

Help children learn to be responsible and make informed decisions online

How often do you use your tablet for academic purposes?



Do you like the use of tablets for teaching in digital format?



Digital literacy skills

- Finding and consuming digital content;**
- Creating digital content**
- Communicating or sharing it**

(Hiller Spires, a professor of literacy and technology at North Carolina State University, <https://digitalliteracy.gov/content/learner>)



Finding and consuming digital content

- Reading print

- **Online reading:**

- reading a digital text through the internet, requires additional skills: hyperlinks, videos, audio clips, images, interactive graphics, share buttons, or a comments section:
- reader has to stop and make decisions rather than simply reading from top to bottom.
- “.... no two readers experience it in the exact same way,” (Troy Hicks, a professor of literacy and technology at Central Michigan University).

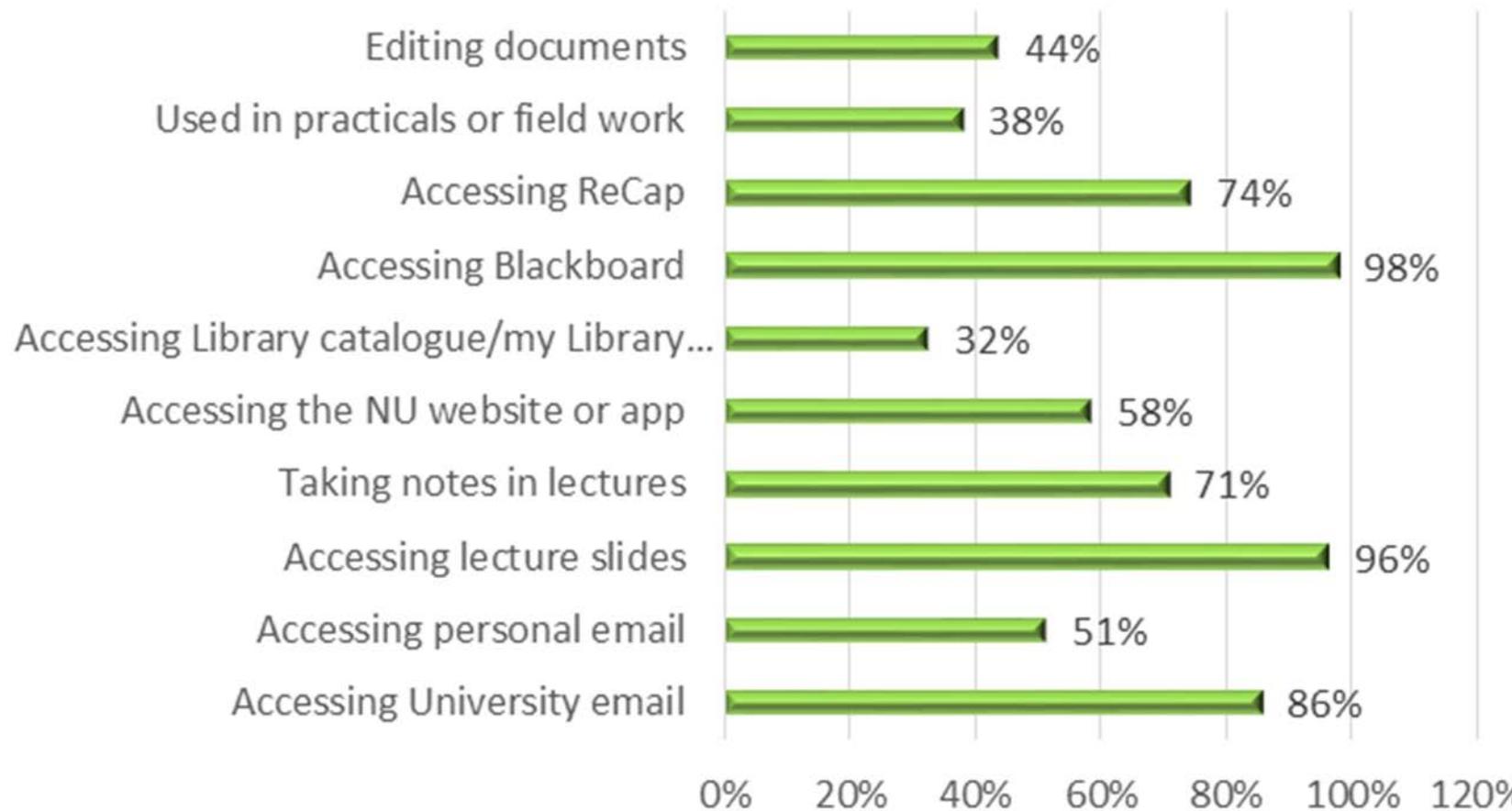
Access lecture handouts

Access practicals

Access e-books

**Use the web to search
and access digital
content
NU app**

What have you used your tablet for?



Creating digital content

- writing in digital formats (videos and podcasts).
- Digital authorship - "a form of social power." (Renee Hobbs, a professor of communication studies at the University of Rhode Island)
- Creative and collaborative process that involves experimentation, i.e. investigating new tools , apps

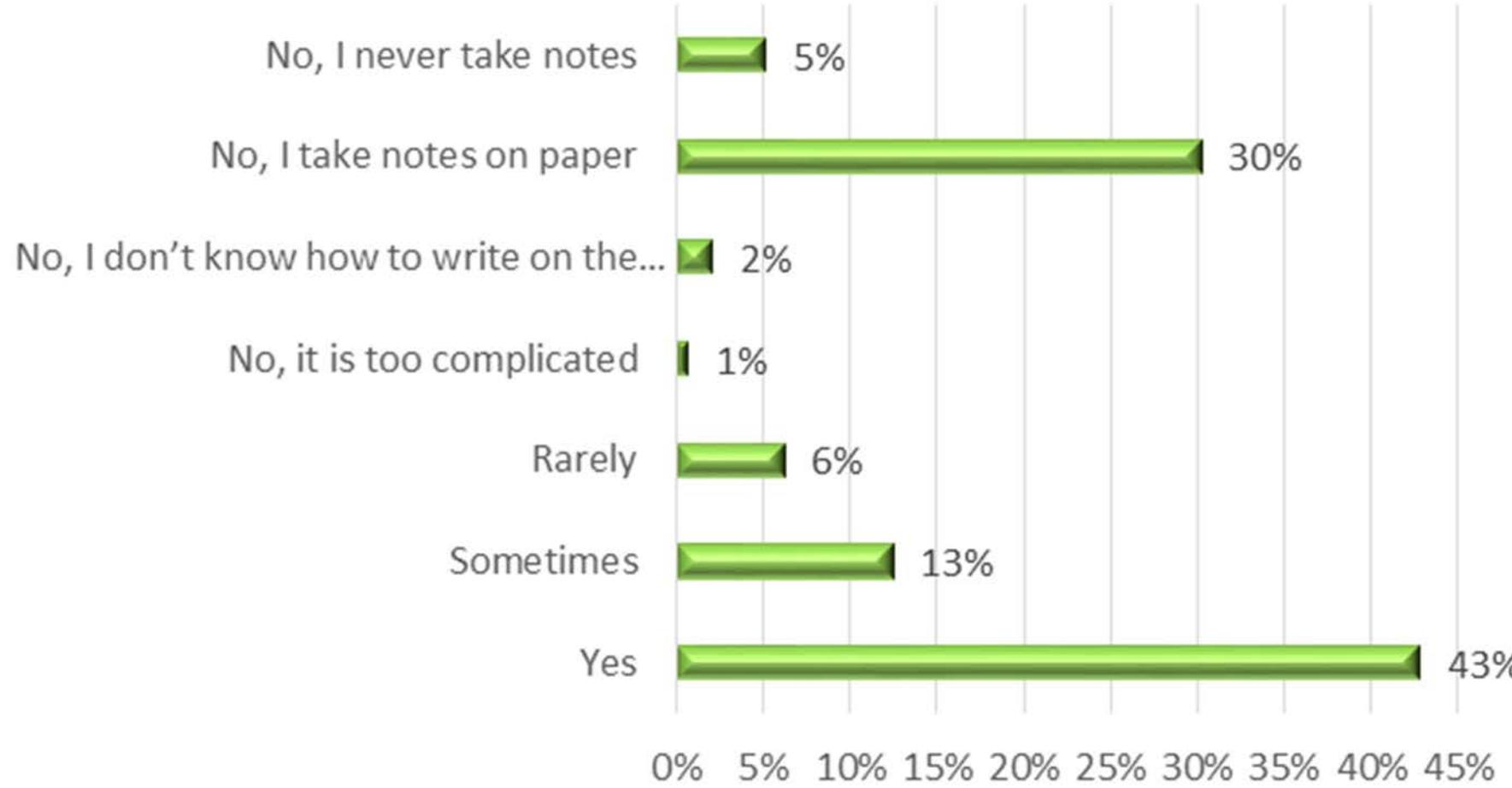
Taking notes

Edit lecture handouts

Powerpoint, Word

Write emails, blogs

I used the tablets for taking notes in lectures



Communicating or sharing it

- Digital writing is generally intended to be communicated with others.

- E- safety: appropriate internet behaviour is also a part of digital literacy.

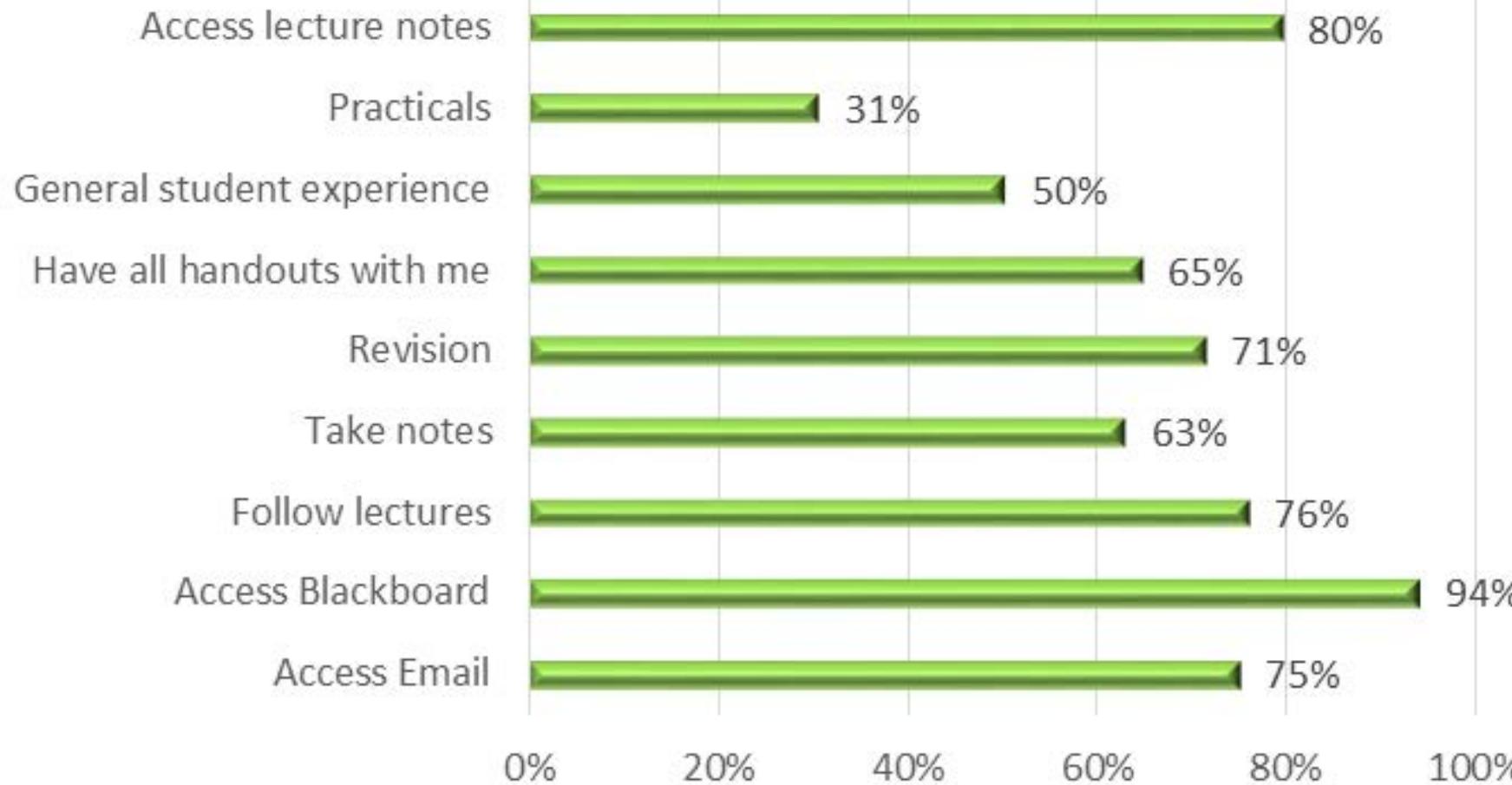
Emails

Blackboard

Turnitin

Apps: Teams, NU app

The tablet is useful for



Using a tablet improves my student learning experience

