

# Long Embargo Periods and External Publication for Electronic Theses and Dissertations

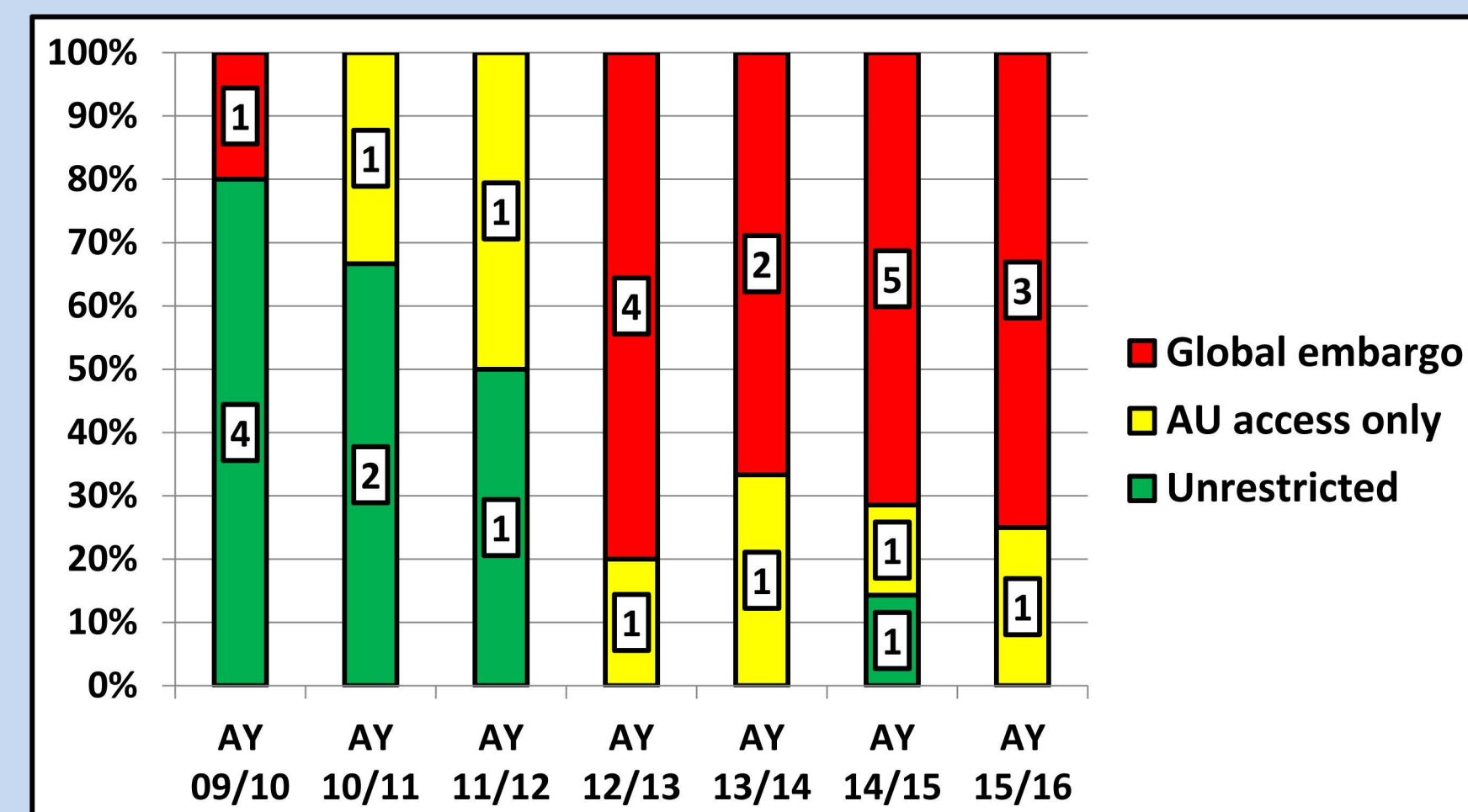
Midge Coates  
Auburn University  
Libraries

“The American Historical Association strongly encourages graduate programs and university libraries to adopt a policy that allows the embargoing of completed history PhD dissertations in digital form for as many as six years. ... [Open access dissertations are] a form of distribution that publishers consider too widespread to make revised publication in book form viable.” (July 2013)

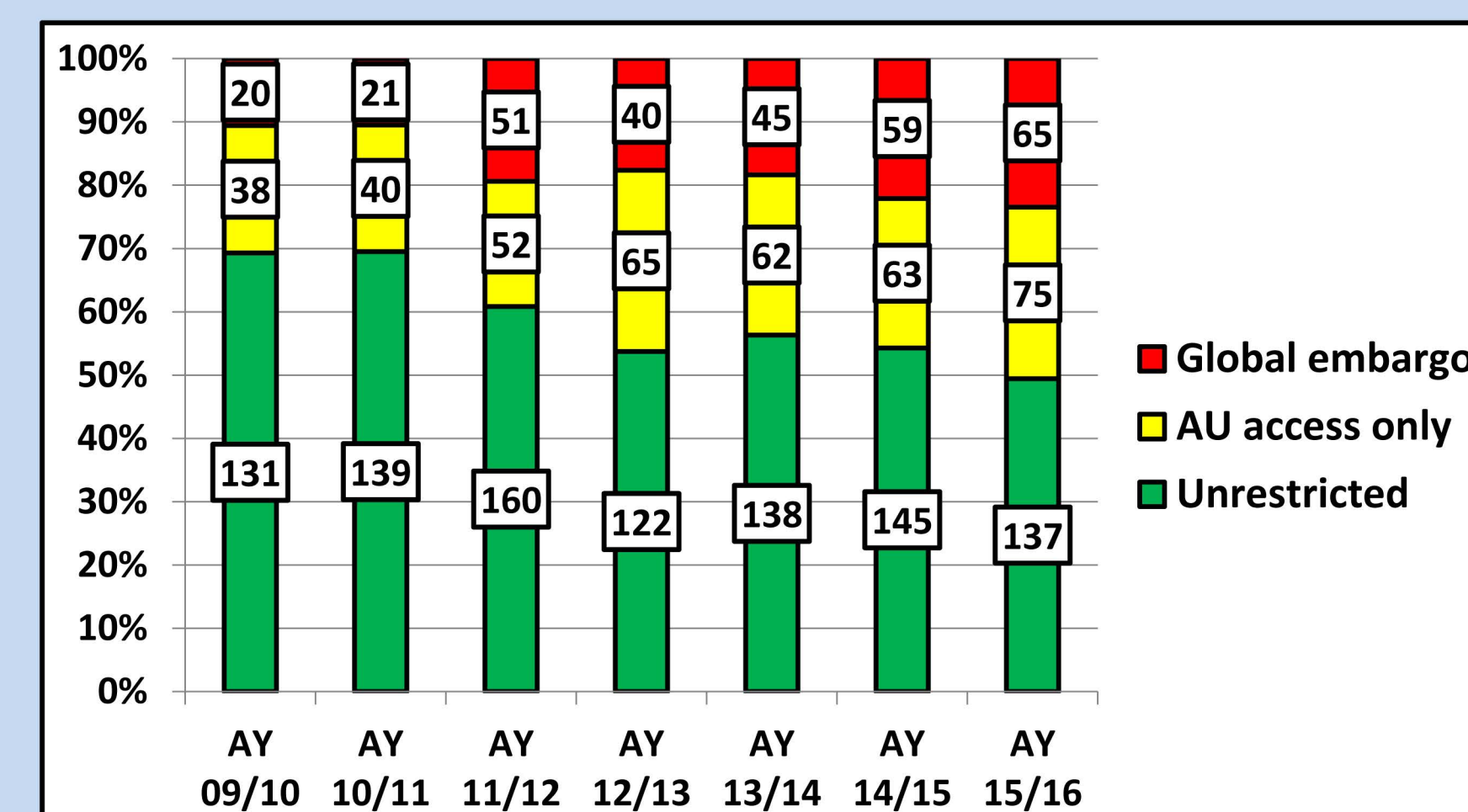
- This study compares embargo selections of History PhD candidates at Auburn University in the years before and after the above policy statement was issued by the AHA.
- It also compares publication rates and time to publication (as of 8/15/16) for monographs based on unrestricted and embargoed History dissertations, AY 05/06 through AY 10/11.

## Embargo Selections

### History dissertations

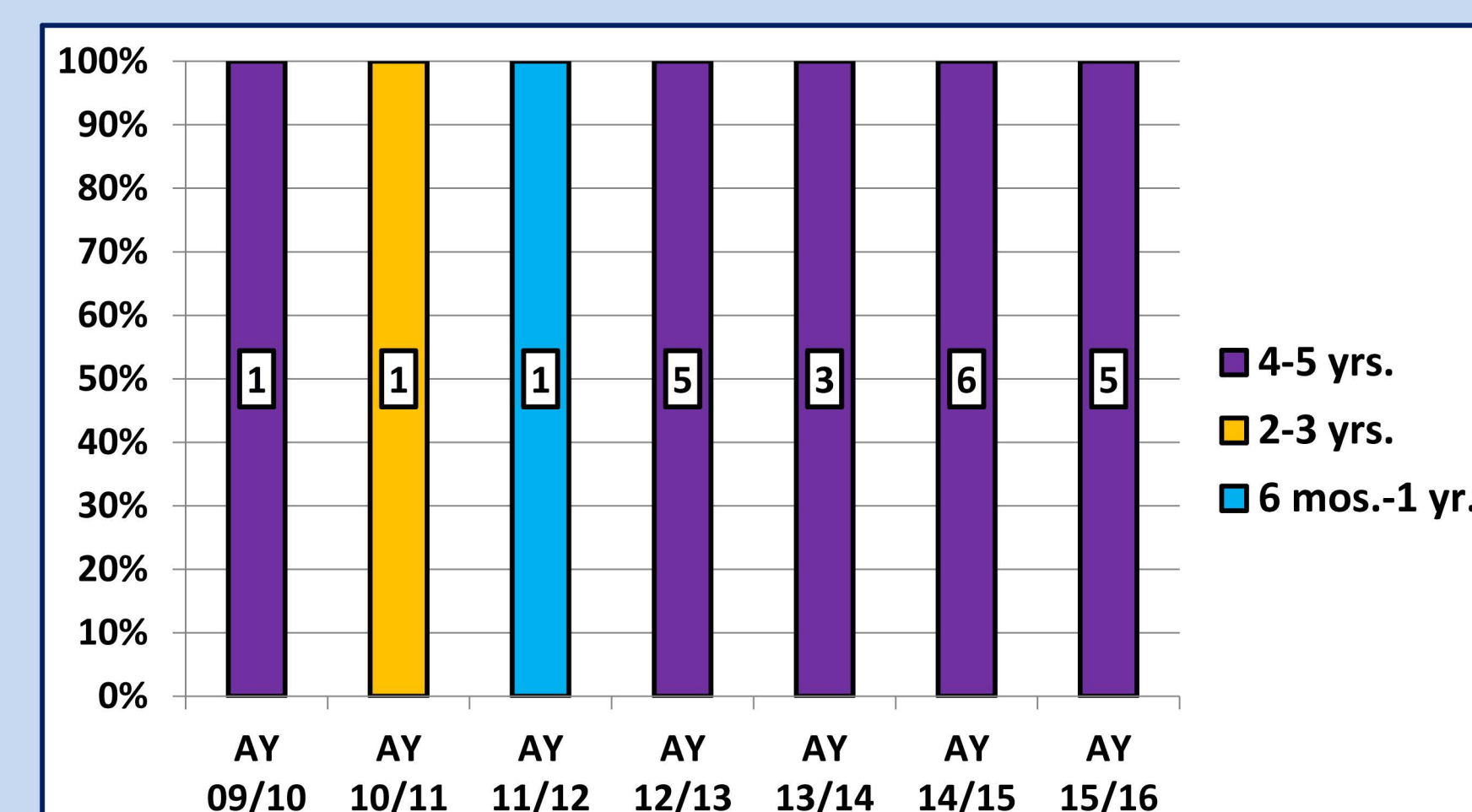


### All dissertations

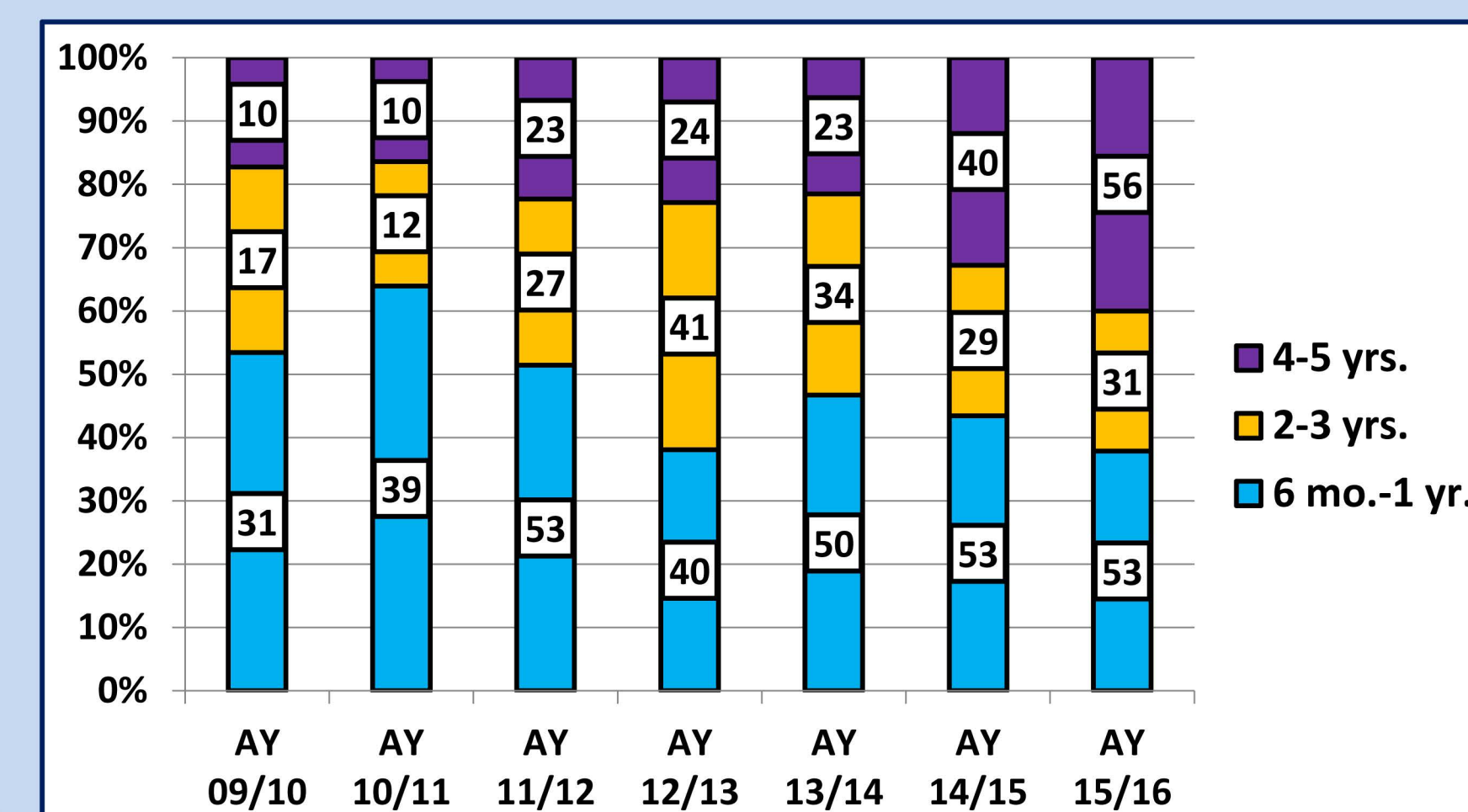


## Embargo Lengths

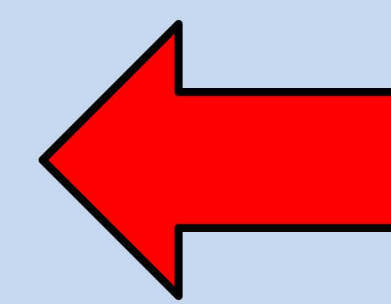
### History dissertations



### All dissertations

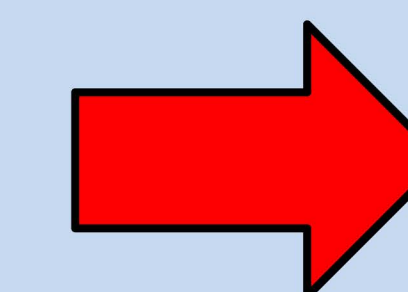


**Embargo Selection:** Significant change occurred for embargo selections for History dissertations in AY 12/13, presumably a result of public discussion. This was far less pronounced for total dissertations. Since then, all History dissertations but one have been embargoed.



**Embargo Length:** Significant change occurred for embargo lengths selected for History dissertations in AY 12/13. This was observed to a much lesser extent for all dissertations. Since AY 12/13, all embargo lengths selected for History dissertations have been the longest allowed (5 yrs).

**Publication of Unrestricted Dissertations:** As of 8-15-2016, 42% of unrestricted History dissertations from AY 05/06 through AY 10/11 had been published as monographs. Time to publication varied from 1 year to 10 years.

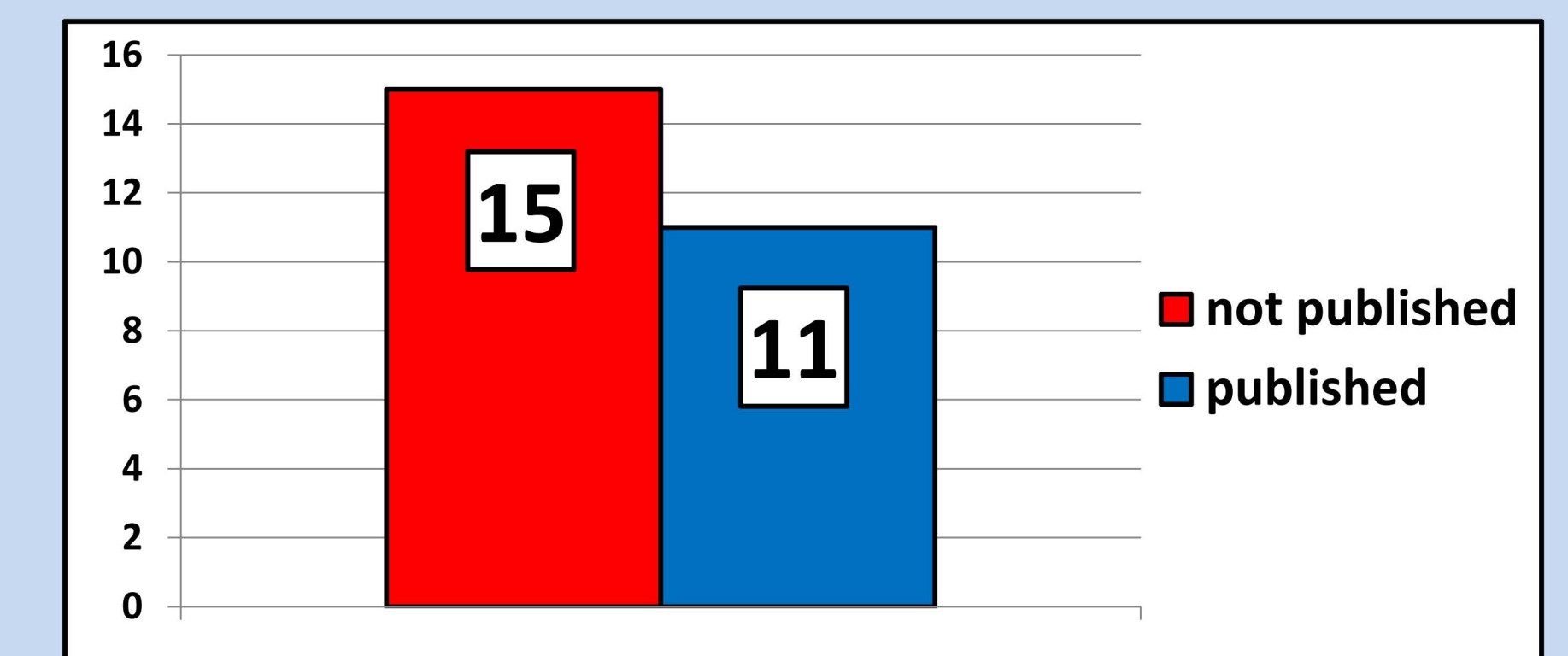


**Publication of Embargoed Dissertations:** As of 8-15-2016, 29% of embargoed History dissertations from AY 05/06 through AY 10/11 had been published as monographs. Time to publication was 4-5 years.

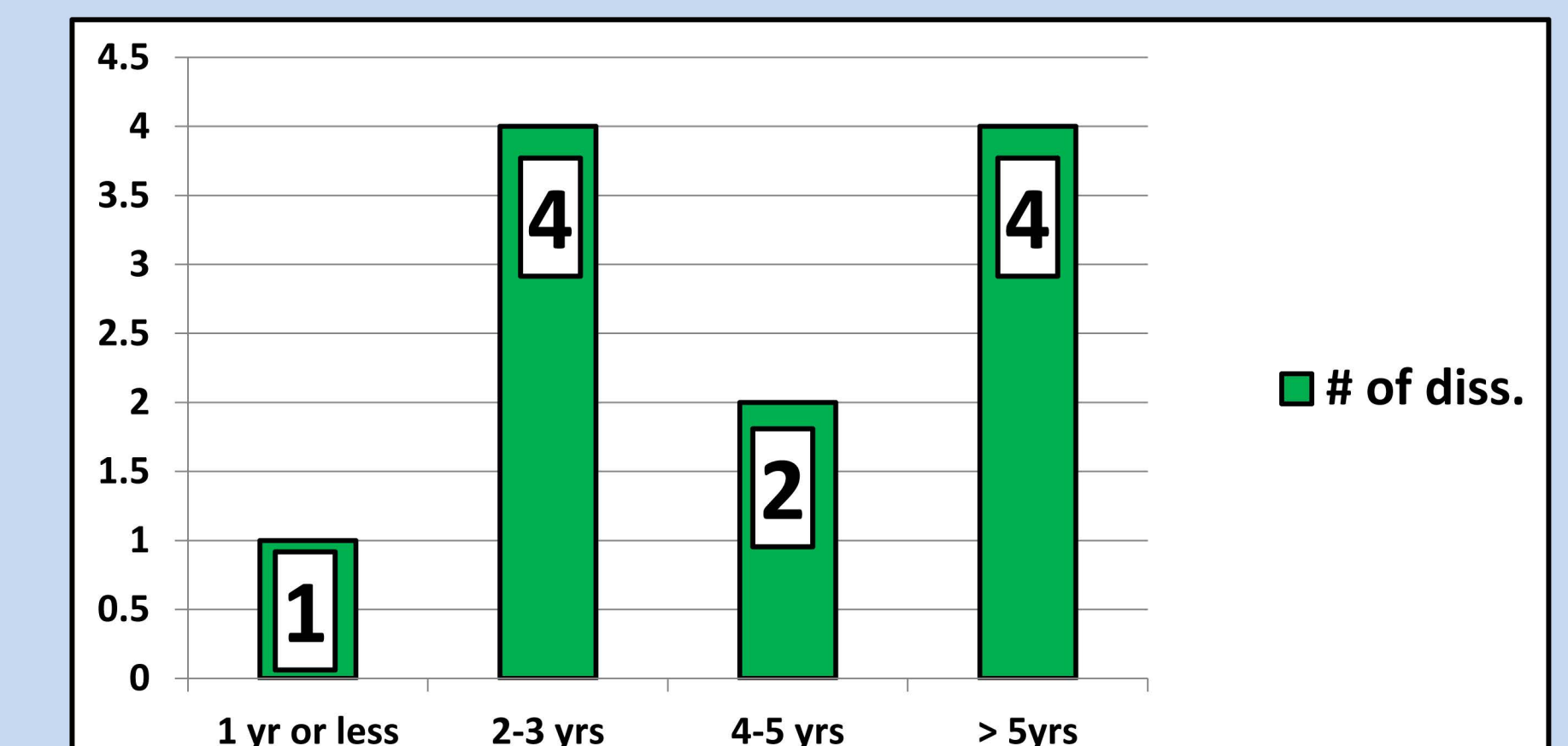
**CONCLUSION:** Embargo provided no noticeable publication advantage during the study period.

## Publication of History dissertations

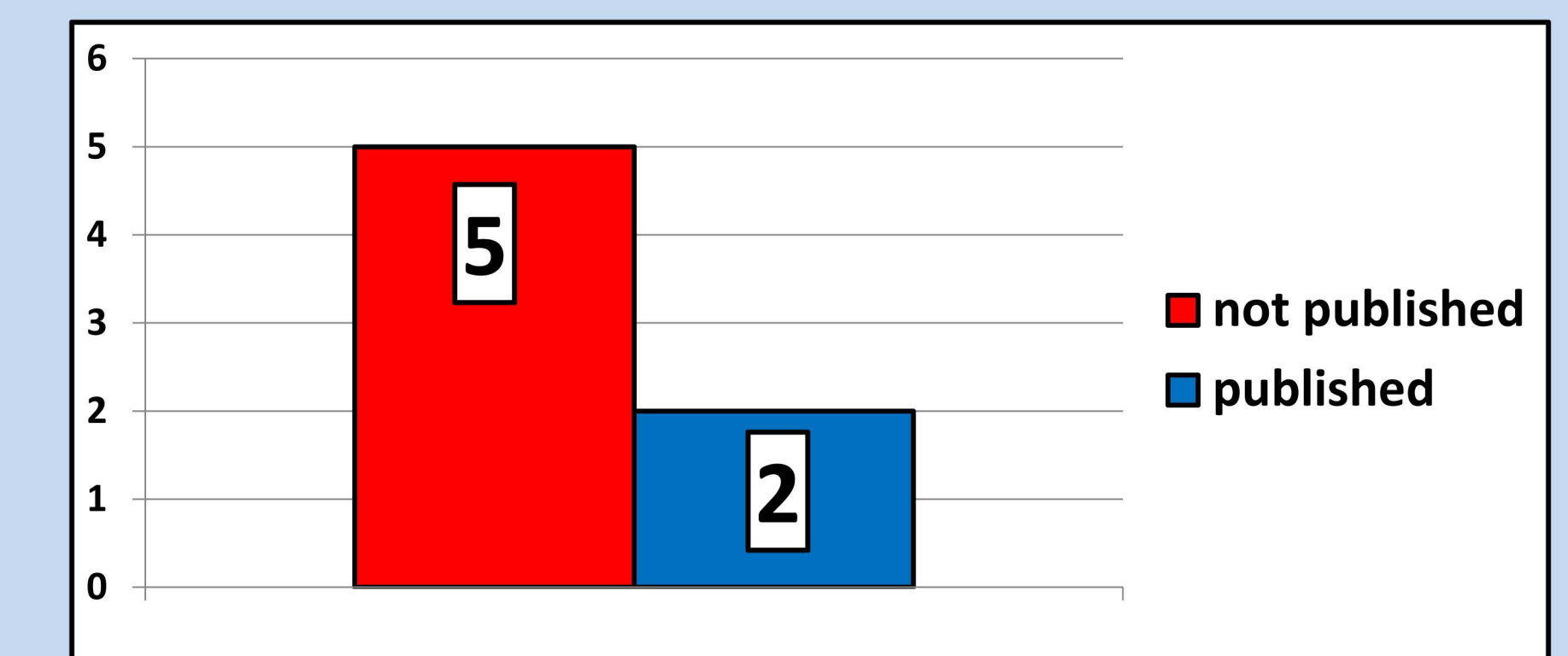
Unrestricted dissertations (AY 05/06-AY 10/11), published as monographs



Years between dissertation and monograph publication



Embargoed dissertations (AY 05/06-AY 10/11), published as monographs



Years between dissertation and monograph publication

