



# SOA What?

## Who and What is Driving SOA Adoption in the Federal Government?

September 25, 2006



AMBERPOINT



Reactivity  systinet™

# Table of Contents

Executive Summary	3
Background	4
Finding 1: On the Map	5
Finding 2: Crossing the Chasm	7
Finding 3: Momentum	9
Finding 4: Integration Engine	11
Finding 5: Popular Destination	14
Finding 6: Bumps in the Road	16
Methodology	19

# Executive Summary

- Service-Oriented Architecture (SOA) Goes Mainstream: Ability to address intra- and inter-agency integration driving move to the mainstream – 52% of respondents recognize the ability to integrate disparate systems as driving SOA adoption government-wide
- Management and Best Practice Imperative: Agencies need a management framework to ensure implementations deliver against objectives. Only 22% of respondents with SOA implementation experience describe their implementation as an unequivocal success, but 73% would recommend that other agencies adopt a SOA approach
- Technology and Beyond: Agencies need to invest in deeper training – beyond awareness. Executive understanding and sponsorship is key to achieving mission success – 50% of respondents who have completed a SOA implementation cite lack of SOA knowledge within the agency as the most significant challenge

# Background

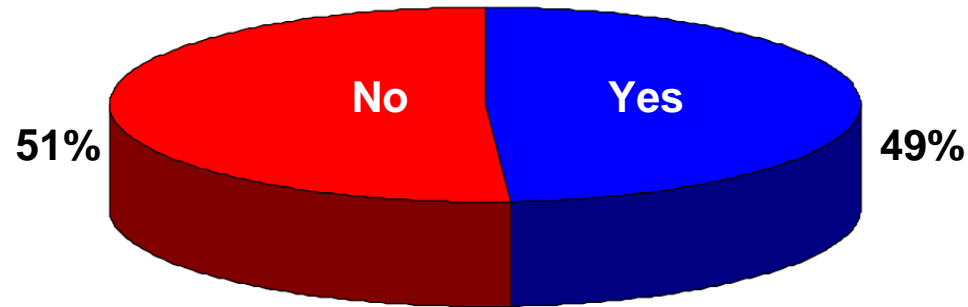
- SOA: An architecture built around a collection of services on a network that communicate with each other. The services are loosely coupled, have well-defined, platform-independent interfaces, and are reusable
- The deployment of SOA within government agencies is expected to help transform the way government services are delivered, breaking down silos and lowering costs
- The Defense Information Systems Agency will soon release a request for proposal to develop its own SOA, and many agencies are following suit



## Finding 1: On the Map – Driving Toward Mainstream Awareness

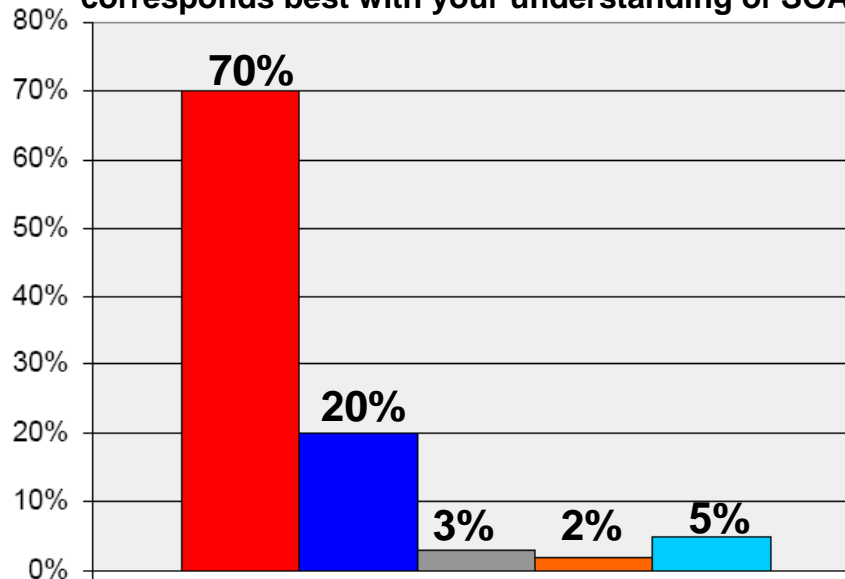


## Have you ever heard of SOA?



**Nearly half of survey respondents have heard of SOA**

Please identify which of the following definitions corresponds best with your understanding of SOA.



**Correct answer:**

- SOA is an architecture built around a collection of services on a network that communicate with each other. The services are loosely coupled, have well-defined, platform-independent interfaces, and are reusable.

**Of those who have heard of SOA, a clear majority are familiar with the concept behind it**



## Finding 2: Crossing the Chasm – SOA Embraced by Early Majority

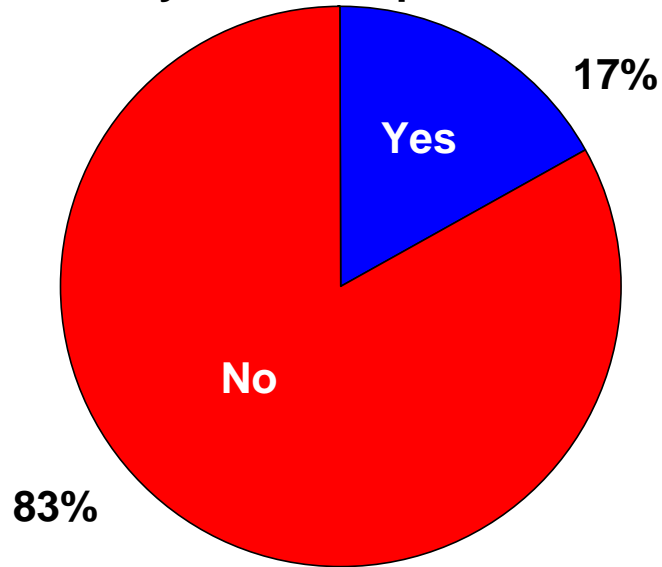


AMBERPOINT



Reactivity  systinet™

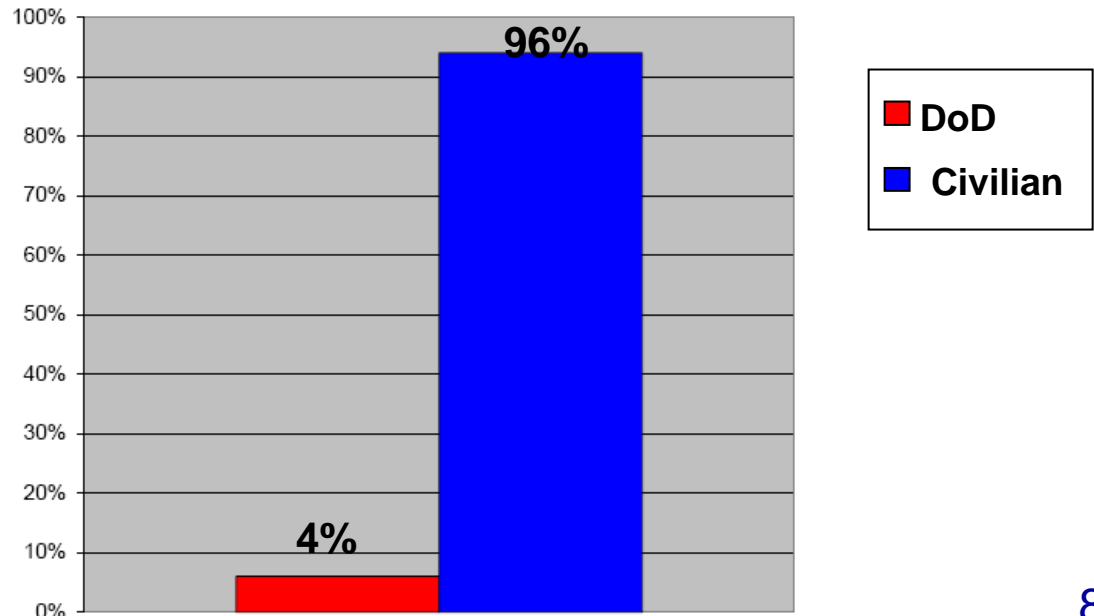
## Have you ever implemented a SOA?



**17% of Federal IT professionals have implemented SOA**

## Have you ever implemented a SOA?

**Of the 17% of respondents that note they have implemented SOA, civilian agency respondents are responsible for the lion's share of implementations**





## Finding 3: Momentum – Directional Challenges

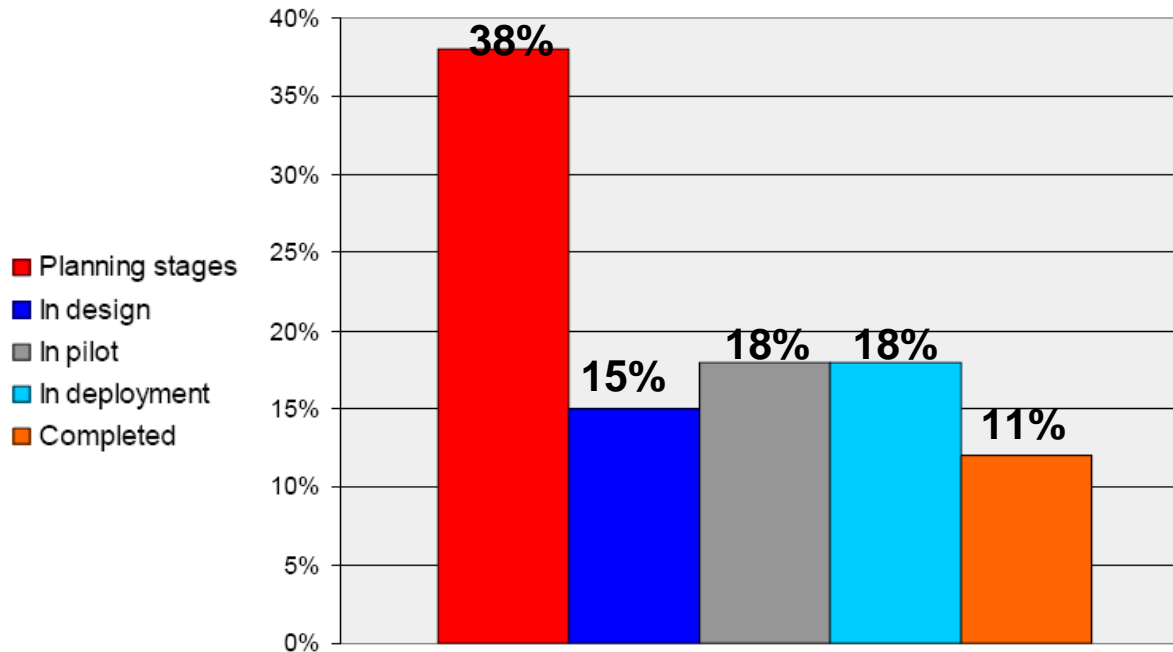


AMBERPOINT



Reactivity  systinet™

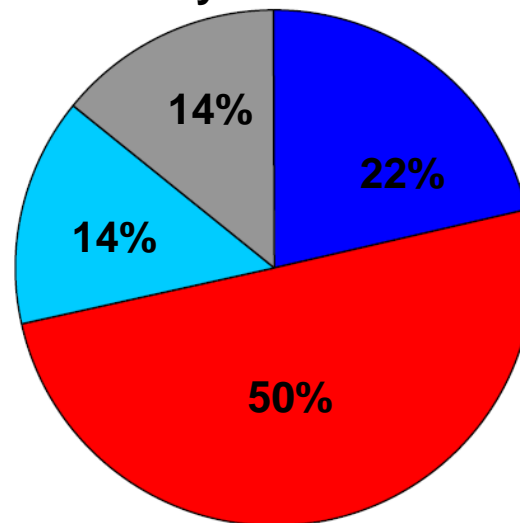
## Please describe your project stage.



**While only 11% of SOA projects are complete, 62% are out of the planning stages**

## If completed, how would you describe the project?

**Significant room for improvement – 78% report partial or no success**



- Successful: We completed the project as planned and achieved the desired goals
- Partially Successful: We completed the project and achieved some of the goals
- Not Successful: We did not complete the project and did not achieve desired goals
- A Fiasco: The project caused significant disruption, with no benefit



## Finding 4: Integration Engine – Business Priorities

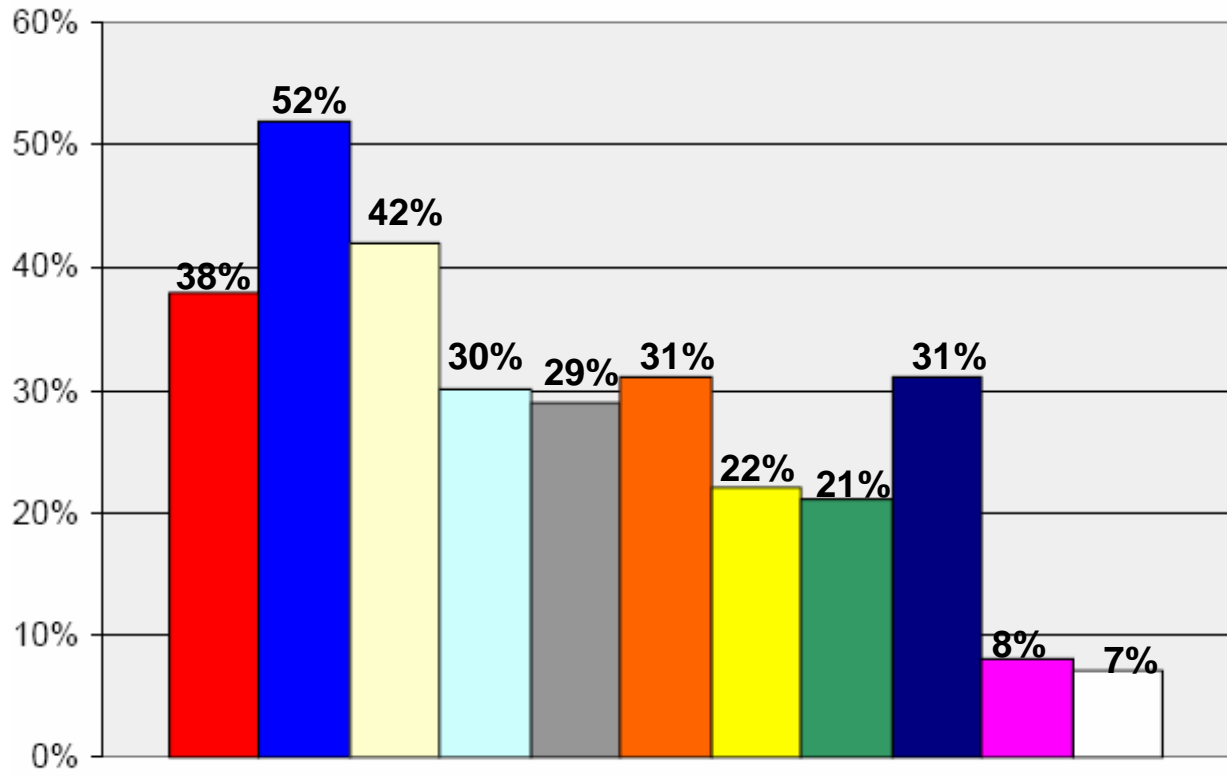


AMBERPOINT



Reactivity  systinet™

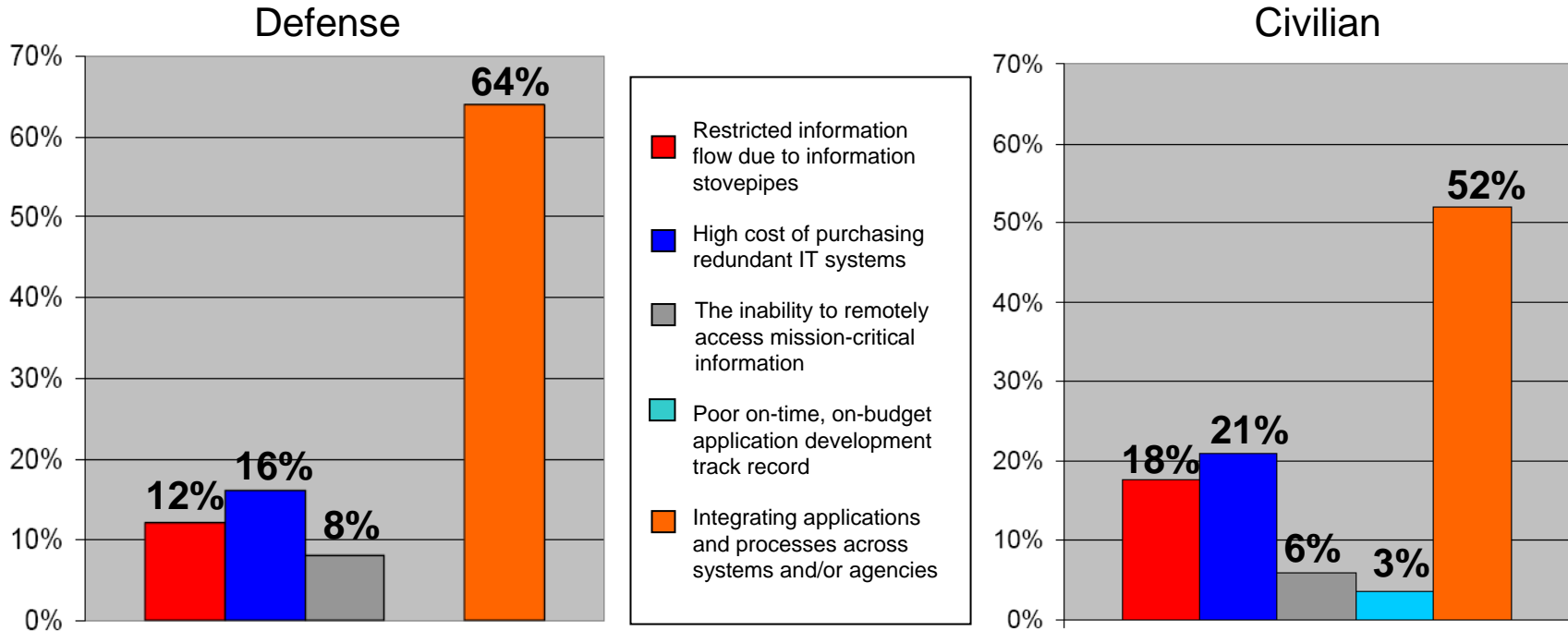
## In your opinion, what's driving SOA adoption government-wide?



- Agencies' desire to be more agile
- The ability to integrate disparate systems
- Greater inter-agency cooperation requires integrated systems
- Business processes automation
- Deliver improved services to citizens
- Constricted budgets
- Enhanced lifecycle management requirements
- Legislative mandates
- Alignment of technology leadership with mission processes
- None of the above
- Other

**52% of respondents recognize the ability to integrate disparate systems as driving SOA adoption government-wide**

## What problems does SOA best solve?



**Defense and civilian IT professionals all look to SOA to integrate applications and processes across their systems and/or agencies**



## Finding 5: Popular Destination – Enthusiasm Unchecked

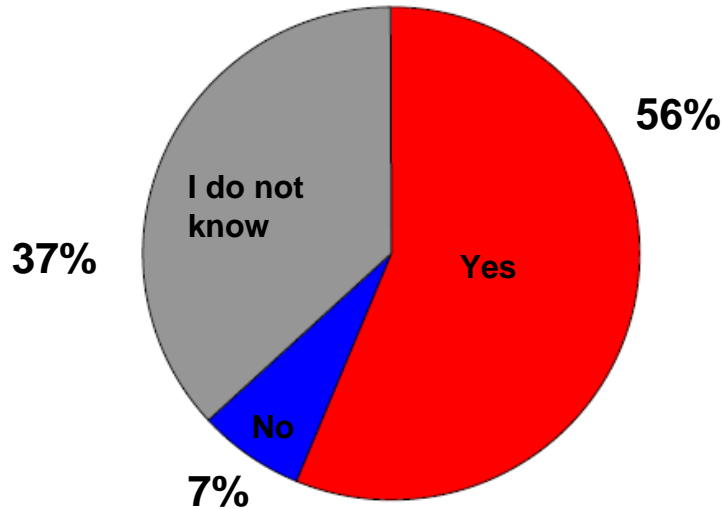


AMBERPOINT



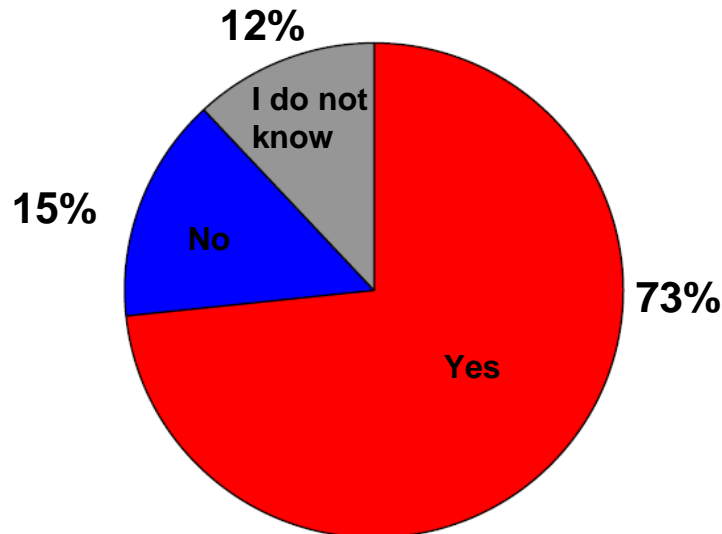
Reactivity  systinet™

## Would your agency benefit from implementing a SOA?



**56% of Federal IT professionals believe their agency would benefit from implementing a SOA**

## Would you recommend other agencies move to a SOA environment?



**Of those who have experienced a SOA implementation, 73% recommend other agencies follow suit**



## Finding 6: Bumps in the Road – Different Perspectives

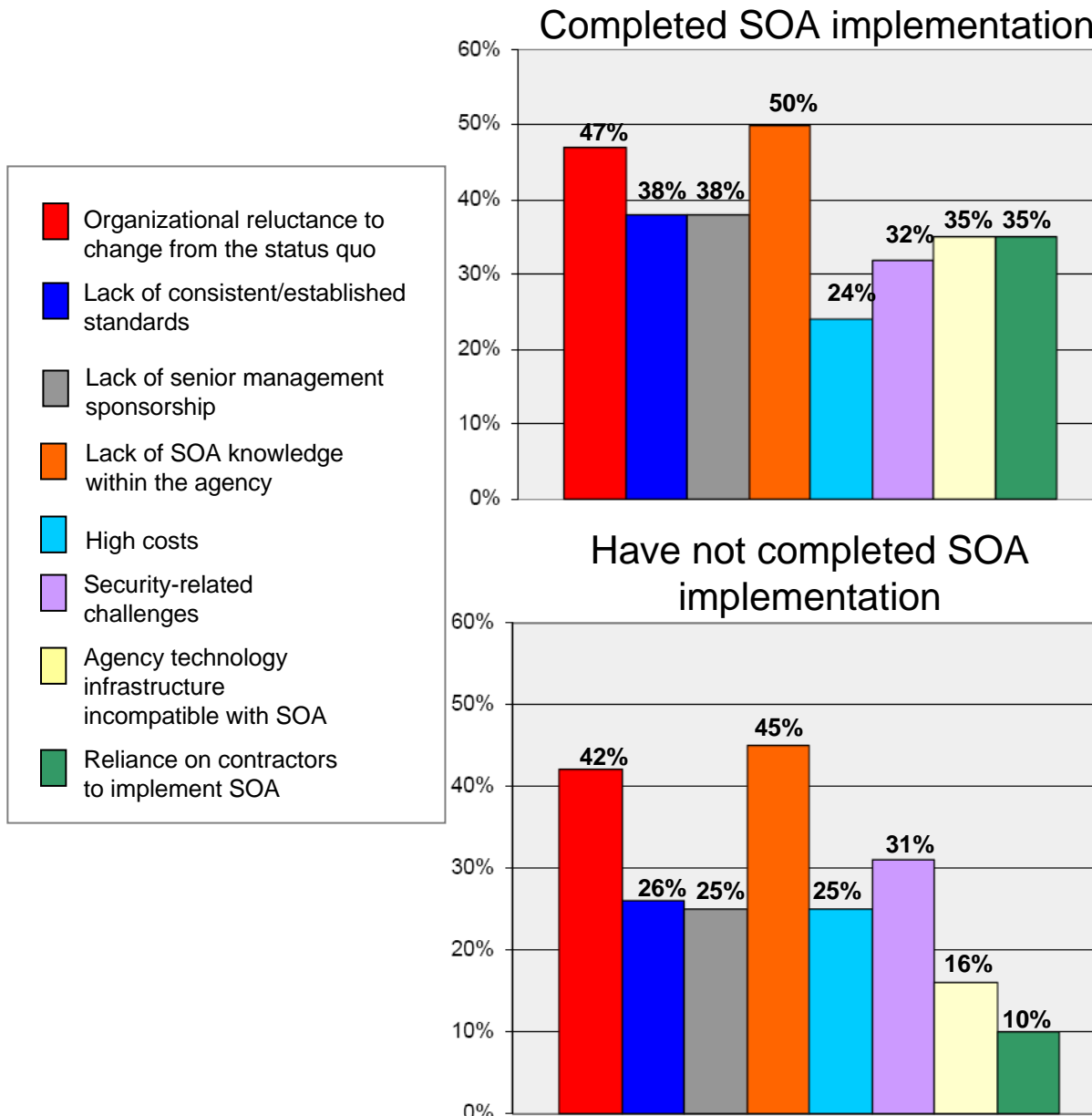


AMBERPOINT



Reactivity  systinet™

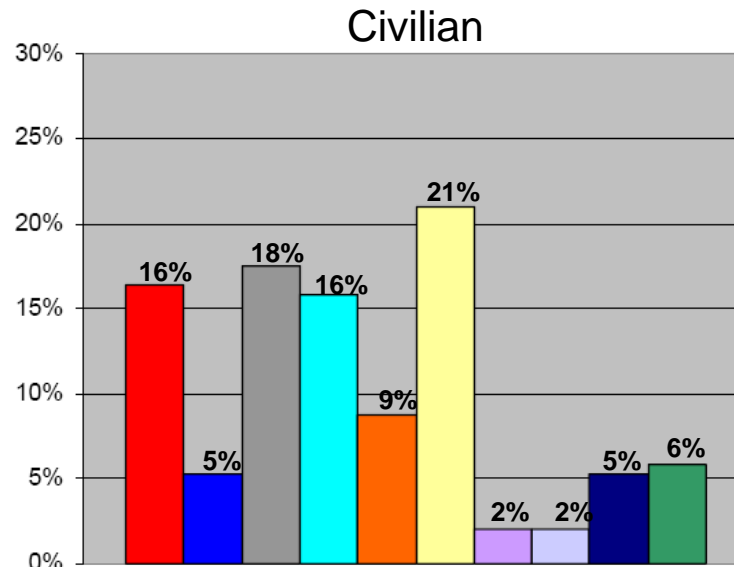
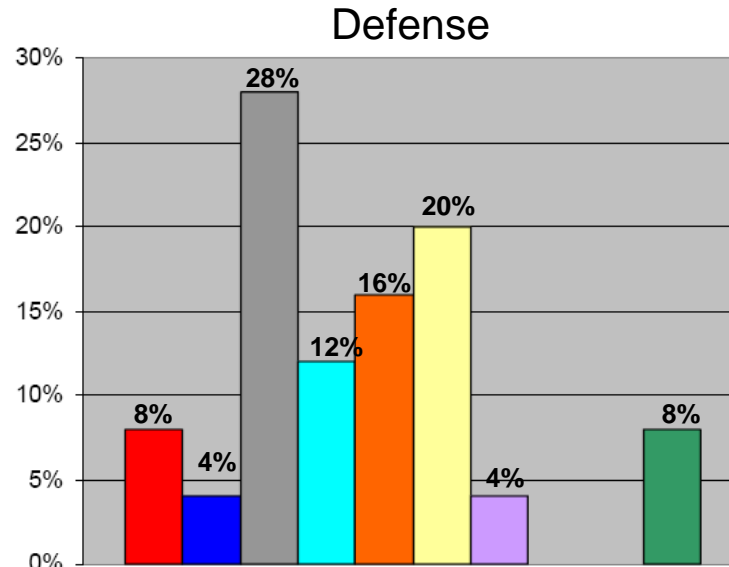
# What is/was the most significant challenge while implementing a SOA?



**Greatest Challenges – Before and After: Lack of SOA knowledge, cultural inertia**

# In your opinion, what is the most significant challenge facing the government-wide adoption of SOA?

- Constricted budgets
- The lack of transparency in the government
- Ownership/turf battles between agencies
- Security concerns
- Lack of consistent/established standards
- Lack of SOA knowledge within the government IT community
- Complex contracting process
- No market drivers for IT contractors
- None of the above
- Other



**Greatest Challenges – DoD: Ownership/turf battles**

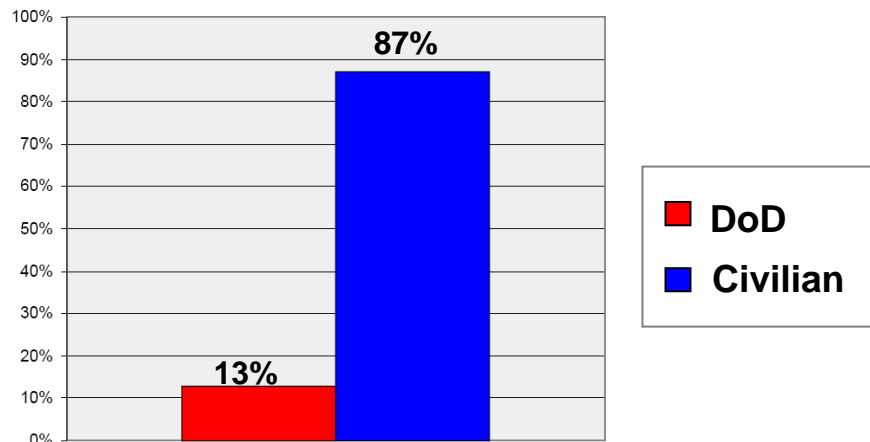
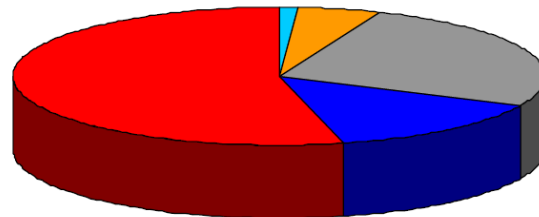
**Greatest Challenges – Civilian: Lack of SOA knowledge among IT staff**

# Methodology

The Merlin Federal SOA Coalition directed O’Keeffe & Company to conduct a survey in July 2006 of Federal IT professionals on SOA adoption in the Federal government

## Respondent demographics

- Political Appointee
- Senior Executive
- Manager
- Supervisor
- Employee



Total Sample:  
196 Survey Participants

Margin of Error:  
+/- 5.8%  
90% Confidence Level



Thank You



AMBERPOINT



Reactivity  systinet™