

# 2025 ASIS&T Membership Survey Analysis: Final report to the board

Complete results: [https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-4hodgNGpxrull7558f6SEQ\\_3D\\_3D/](https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-4hodgNGpxrull7558f6SEQ_3D_3D/)

Tables of analysis: [Profile - grace.kim6232 | Tableau Public](#)

Last survey report: [membershipSurvey\\_report2022.docx - Google Docs](#)

Preliminary findings/analysis:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OmSkn6ERFuLxntouwd0w6WMZ1cu0YbS0-tBRCAZAJ7Q/edit?usp=sharing>

Preliminary Executive Summary: [summary\\_March14.docx - Google Docs](#)

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The ASIS&T conducted the 2025 Membership Survey to assess the current state of member engagement, satisfaction, and professional needs. The results are overwhelmingly positive in terms of general satisfaction with the organization, perceived value of membership, and appreciation for ASIS&T's professional opportunities, scholarly contributions, and leadership efforts.

In this report, we summarize key trends and break down some specific findings across multiple dimensions such as geography, career stage, and membership length. In open-ended responses, members shared many thoughtful and constructive comments, highlighting both strengths and areas for improvement. These insights offer valuable direction for enhancing programs, services, and strategic planning.

Please note: some of the numbers presented in the tables may not exactly match the overall survey results due to the limitations of cross-tabulated data. Filters applied for subgroup analysis (e.g., by region or membership type) occasionally result in slight discrepancies, but the broader patterns and takeaways remain consistent and meaningful.

## 1. Survey participation:

With 383 responses, over 18% of ASIS&T's total membership (2,111 members) participated in the survey. Of those, 283 completed it in full—representing 13.4% of the total membership and a strong response rate for a voluntary survey.

## 1.1 Geographic representation:

ASIS&T's 2,111 members represent 74 countries and regions, and the survey received responses from members in 48 of them. Respondents from the United States accounted for the largest share—41% (158 of 383), although U.S.-based members make up 51% of the overall membership.

Among countries with sizable membership bases (over 15 members), **several had strong response rates**, showing notable engagement from international members. See the table below:

| Name              | Number of Members | Response # | Response rate | Completion # | Completion rate | Completion response rated |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------|---------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| U.S               | 1079              | 158        | 14.6%         | 129          | 81.6%           | 12.0%                     |
| Canada            | 122               | 20         | 16.4%         | 14           | 70.0%           | 11.5%                     |
| China             | 109               | 4          | 3.7%          | 3            | 75.0%           | 2.8%                      |
| Pakistan          | 109               | 24         | 22.0%         | 15           | 62.5%           | 13.8%                     |
| <b>India</b>      | 104               | 26         | 25.0%         | 18           | 69.2%           | <b>17.3%</b>              |
| <b>Iran</b>       | 67                | 14         | 20.9%         | 11           | 78.6%           | <b>16.4%</b>              |
| <b>U.K</b>        | 43                | 10         | 23.3%         | 7            | 70.0%           | <b>16.3%</b>              |
| <b>Bangladesh</b> | 33                | 12         | 36.4%         | 8            | 66.7%           | <b>24.2%</b>              |
| South Africa      | 33                | 3          | 9.1%          | 3            | 100.0%          | 9.1%                      |
| <b>Nigeria</b>    | 31                | 11         | 35.5%         | 6            | 54.5%           | <b>19.4%</b>              |
| <b>Australia</b>  | 29                | 15         | 51.7%         | 12           | 80.0%           | <b>41.4%</b>              |
| Turkey            | 28                | 4          | 14.3%         | 1            | 25.0%           | 3.6%                      |
| Japan             | 26                | 5          | 19.2%         | 4            | 80.0%           | 15.4%                     |
| Ireland           | 24                | 3          | 12.5%         | 2            | 66.7%           | 8.3%                      |
| <b>Germany</b>    | 22                | 7          | 31.8%         | 6            | 85.7%           | <b>27.3%</b>              |
| Sweden            | 20                | 2          | 10.0%         | 1            | 50.0%           | 5.0%                      |
| <b>Ethiopia</b>   | 19                | 4          | 21.1%         | 4            | 100.0%          | <b>21.1%</b>              |
| Sri Lanka         | 18                | 4          | 22.2%         | 2            | 50.0%           | 11.1%                     |

## 1.2 Representation by Member Types:

Professional members currently make up 45.6% (968) of ASIS&T's total membership, while students represent 36% (768). In the survey, however, professional members accounted for 63% of respondents, and students only 22%. This suggests that nearly 25% of professional members participated in the survey, compared to just 11% of student members—indicating **a potential gap in engagement among student members**. Retired members also appear to be well-represented in the responses, though an exact participation rate is difficult to determine due to inconsistencies in the membership data.

## 1.3 Representation by Primary Job Functions:

Survey respondents represented a diverse range of roles, including **49% academics**, 22% students (the majority of whom are PhD students), 7% academic administrators, 14% information professionals, and 9% retired individuals. **PhD students** are mostly likely NOT to complete the entire survey.

## 1.4 Representation by Length of Membership in ASIS&T:

**Members with 0–5 years of membership** made up nearly **58%** of respondents, followed by those with 6–10 years (13.6%) and over 21 years (12.8%). **Long-term members** were more likely to **complete the full survey**. The **newest members** (< 1 year) are most likely **NOT to complete** the full survey.

## 2. Member Satisfaction

Q41 about overall membership satisfaction is towards the end of the survey. Over 280 respondents answered this question. The overall satisfaction is **very high at about 88%**: 51.4% of respondents reported being "very satisfied," 36.7% "somewhat satisfied," 8.7% were neutral, and only 4.2% reported being "somewhat" or "very dissatisfied." A high specific breakdown by country and years of membership can be found [Satisfied with ASIS&T | Tableau Public](#). A detailed breakdown of membership benefits can be found [Benefits 2 | Tableau Public](#), based on Q36 (the primary benefits you receive).

Here are some of the values members perceive, identified from open-ended responses to Q40 (why you belong):

- professional and scholarly home for information science
- sense of belonging and identity within the discipline
- access to cutting-edge research and emerging trends
- global, interdisciplinary community of peers
- networking with scholars, professionals, and students
- collaboration opportunities across roles and regions
- leadership and volunteer opportunities
- exposure to diverse perspectives and specializations
- strong presence in AI, data curation, and digital scholarship
- support for early-career researchers and students
- engagement through SIGs, chapters, and committees
- mentoring and knowledge-sharing across generations
- academic rigor combined with practical relevance
- staying current with innovations in LIS and beyond
- opportunities to publish and present work
- webinars, training, and professional development resources
- support for interdisciplinary and critical research
- inclusive space despite institutional or national constraints
- inspiration from role models and experienced members

- historical leadership in shaping the field
- personal growth through intellectual exchange
- career advancement and visibility in the field
- commitment to values like access, equity, and innovation

## 2.1 Satisfaction by Geography

Satisfaction by geography can be found at [Country - Satisfaction | Tableau Public](#). While most **dissatisfaction** appears to come from members in the **United States and Canada**, this trend reflects their larger representation, deeper engagement, and higher expectations in the organization.

## 2.2 Satisfaction by Length of Membership

A breakdown of satisfaction by length of membership can be found at [Years Member - Satisfaction | Tableau Public](#). The table below shows the percentage. Satisfaction appears strongest among members in the early-to-mid stage of their membership (1–5 years), while newer members (< 1 year) show a higher rate of non-completion, suggesting a **potential need for better onboarding or orientation**. There is a **slight decline in satisfaction among those with 6–15 years of membership**, indicating this group may benefit from more targeted support to sustain long-term engagement. In contrast, long-term members (16+ years) tend to be more polarized in their responses—either highly satisfied or notably critical—possibly reflecting their deeper engagement in the organization and higher expectations.

| Year of being a member | No answer | Very dissatisfied | Somewhat dissatisfied | Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied | Somewhat satisfied | Very satisfied | Total # of responses |
|------------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| < 1 year               | 36        | 0.0%              | 2.4%                  | 3.7%                               | 19.5%              | 30.5%          | 82                   |
| 1-5 years              | 33        | 1.4%              | 1.4%                  | 5.0%                               | 28.6%              | 40.0%          | 140                  |
| 6-10 years             | 18        | 0.0%              | 1.9%                  | 11.5%                              | 19.2%              | 32.7%          | 52                   |
| 11-15 years            | 4         | 2.4%              | 2.4%                  | 14.3%                              | 38.1%              | 33.3%          | 42                   |
| 16-20 years            | 3         | 0.0%              | 5.6%                  | 5.6%                               | 22.2%              | 50.0%          | 18                   |
| 21+ years              | 3         | 0.0%              | 4.1%                  | 4.1%                               | 32.7%              | 53.1%          | 49                   |

## 2.3 Satisfaction by Job Function

When we break down the data by members' primary job functions, see [Job Function - Satisfaction | Tableau Public](#) and the table below (with some data & categories adjustment), we find that **academic and retired members report lower satisfaction rates** compared to other categories, while students are more likely to select "somewhat satisfied." It is also noteworthy that a higher proportion of **PhD students** (21 out of 53) already discontinued the survey at this point than respondents in any other category.

|          | Very dissatisfied | Somewhat dissatisfied | Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied | Somewhat satisfied | Very satisfied | Total # of Responses |
|----------|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| Academic | 0.0%              | 2.3%                  | 12.1%                              | 35.6%              | 49.2%          | 132                  |
| Students | 2.0%              | 5.9%                  | 3.9%                               | 39.2%              | 49.0%          | 51                   |

|                           |      |      |      |       |       |     |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|-------|-------|-----|
| Information Professionals | 0.0% | 0.0% | 5.0% | 37.5% | 57.5% | 40  |
| Retired                   | 0.0% | 6.5% | 9.7% | 29.0% | 54.8% | 31  |
| Admin                     | 0.0% | 0.0% | 4.3% | 30.4% | 65.2% | 23  |
|                           | 0.7% | 2.9% | 8.7% | 35.4% | 52.3% | 277 |

Observing answers Q42: “You indicated that you are less than **very** satisfied with your ASIS&T membership experience. Please share with us how we could improve your membership experience.” we found some patterns in the answers from different groups of members:

- Professional members express a mix of personal and structural barriers to engagement, including lack of time, unclear pathways for involvement, and an overwhelming array of offerings. Several also feel that the organization is overly academic in focus, and wish to see more practitioner-oriented resources, programming, and recognition. Other suggestions include **more visible entry points for new and early-career members, mentorship opportunities, simplified communication, localized chapter revitalization, professionally relevant content, and onboarding support** such as welcome packages or orientation sessions.
- Retired members call for more meaningful engagement opportunities, greater recognition of ASIS&T’s **historical legacy**, improved accessibility (geographic and financial), stronger intellectual leadership, a clearer **organizational identity**, and more effective communication.
- Master’s students cited underutilization, perceived misalignment with career paths, and limited relevance of content as reasons for dissatisfaction. They expressed a need for **more tailored support—such as student-targeted programming, help with chapter development, and accessible virtual networking**—to make their membership feel more meaningful and worthwhile.
- PhD students mentioned unmet expectations around community engagement, inconsistent leadership within SIGs and chapters, and the need for structured mentorship. Some noted limited use of available opportunities. Overall, their feedback reflects **a desire for clearer structures, more active engagement, and stronger peer connections**.
- Academic members—whether focused on teaching, research, or administration—share similar expectations: stronger alignment between ASIS&T’s activities and the **evolving priorities of the field**, clearer **goals and communication**, more inclusive and **globally accessible programming**, and more opportunities for mentorship and networking. Research-focused members also emphasized the need for **higher scholarly rigor** in conferences and publications. Together, these groups made up over half of those who responded, expressing a shared desire for a more inclusive and strategically focused organization.

### 3. Member Participation and Resource Utilization

A large part of the survey (Q6-35) explores how members engage with ASIS&T programs, services, and communication tools. Responses indicate strong engagement and appreciation for current programs and resources, while also pointing to areas for improvement. Full results and visualizations are available here: [2025 Membership Survey - Responses | SurveyMonkey](#). Some highlights can be found in our preliminary analysis [Survey Themes - Google Docs](#). In addition, a detailed breakdown of events attendance can be found at [Events Attended | Tableau Public](#). A detailed breakdown of volunteering activities can be found at [SurveyResults\\_Volunteering | Tableau Public](#). The readership analyses can be found at [JASIST 3 | Tableau Public](#), [ARIST 3 | Tableau Public](#), and [Information Matters 3 | Tableau Public](#). This section below analyzes some high-level questions and general trends, and identifies potential directions for new or expanded services.

#### Overall Resources Utilization

Answers to Q7 (utilization of programs & services), Q8 (value of programs & services), and Q9 (reasons for not utilizing) show the general patterns and reasons of members' participation in the associations' activities.

The *most* utilized resources include JASIS&T, Weekly Roundup, SIGs, Annual Meeting Proceedings, and Chapters. The *least* utilized resources include New Leaders Program, **Mentoring Program**, and Distinguished Members program. Highest valued programs and services include JASIS&T, ARIST, the Awards Program, SIGs, and meeting/event discounts. In contrast, the least valued offerings are the **Mentoring Program**, **Job Listings**, the Member Directory, **iConnect**, and Student Chapter Membership.

Notable, the responses to "Plan to Use" and "Unaware" suggest a valuable opportunity for the organization to better promote these services and raise awareness of their availability and benefits.

*Plan to use:*

- ARIST (97)
- Volunteering Opportunities (91)
- Awards Program (83)
- Chapters (74)
- Job Listing (69)
- SIGs (68)
- JASIS&T (66)
- **Mentoring (64)**

*Unaware of:*

- Distinguished Members program (68)
- New Leaders Program (66)
- **Mentoring Program (40)**

- Inside ASIS&T (40)
- **iConnect (40)**

While “no need” and “no time” were commonly cited as reasons for not using many services, some members selected “difficult to access” for otherwise desirable offerings—suggesting potential usability, awareness, or communication issues that may need attention. Highlights are noted below (green color indicates there may still be a strong need, red bold color means members may need more resources):

|                         | No Need | No Time       | Difficult to Access | Poor experience |
|-------------------------|---------|---------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Awards Program          | 40.59%  | 23.76%        | <b>24.75%</b>       | 10.89%          |
| Chapters                | 22.81%  | <b>42.11%</b> | <b>24.56%</b>       | 10.53%          |
| Mentoring Program       | 50.43%  | 27.35%        | 14.53%              | 7.69%           |
| iConnect                | 23.19%  | <b>34.78%</b> | <b>23.19%</b>       | <b>18.84%</b>   |
| Inside ASIS&T           | 29.87%  | <b>35.06%</b> | <b>23.38%</b>       | 11.69%          |
| SIGs                    | 23.08%  | 33.33%        | <b>25.64%</b>       | 17.95%          |
| Volunteer Opportunities | 26.09%  | <b>44.93%</b> | 18.84%              | 10.14%          |

## Priorities for Promotion/Improvement

Based on the above observations, several priorities for promotion and/or improvement can be identified, especially those services that show low utilization or awareness, moderate-to-high planned use, and/or notable accessibility issues:

1. Mentoring Program: Improve onboarding, visibility, and usability
2. iConnect: Improve usability and visibility; targeted promotion
3. Chapters: Improve discoverability of local events and activities
4. Volunteer Opportunities: Simplify access and offer more roles
5. Awards Program: Clarify the application/nomination process
6. Job Listings

## Potential Additional Services

Here is a list of additional services ASIS&T members would like to see, based on their answers to Q10 (professional challenges), Q11 (environmental impact), and Q12 (additional resources):

- AI
- Funding: More travel grants, waived fees, and affordable membership options
- Access: Hybrid events, global time zones, face-to-face and virtual training
- Mentorship and Networking: Programs for students, early-career, non-librarians, and retirees
- Professional Development: Webinars/workshops on AI, data science, teaching, and public speaking
- Career Support: Job boards, career coaching, non-academic career guidance

- Publishing Support: Help with peer review, editorial roles, OA publishing, and research planning
- Diversity and Well-being: DEI programs, mental health support
- Global and Political Challenges: Guidance on censorship, collaboration restrictions, and advocacy
- Resource Access: Better communication, LIS awareness, database access, etc.
- SIGs & Local Engagement: More topic-specific groups, local/regional chapters, interdisciplinary support

## Potential Topics for SIG

The following list of suggested SIG areas, based on responses to Q13 (new SIG areas), reflects not only the range of emerging interests among ASIS&T members but also a **notable lack of awareness of existing SIGs**, as some of the topics frequently mentioned are already covered.

- AI
- Ethical AI and algorithmic bias
- Data curation and digital preservation
- Open science and scholarly communication
- Bibliometrics, scientometrics, & altmetrics
- Indigenous knowledge and decolonization
- User experience and instructional design
- Climate justice and disaster response
- DEI and community engagement
- Practitioner and non-academic topics
- Health and medical informatics
- Youth services and education
- XR/VR/AR in LIS
- Privacy, security, and search technologies
- Global South and regional development
- Career support and mentoring

## Suggestions on Webinars and/or Courses

Members provided constructive suggestions as follows:

- Better time zone coverage (especially for the Global South and Southern Hemisphere)
- More interactive, hands-on, or workshop-style webinars, or even discussion-style or debate formats
- Better quality control in speaker selection and content depth



- More frequent promotion and clearer topic descriptions
- Offer more free access
- Feature speakers with interdisciplinary or critical perspectives, non-US voices, industry leaders, and innovative theorists
- Certificates of attendance for professional documentation
- Multilingual support (live translation)

The following topics could be considered:

- AI and its applications in LIS: AI in peer review, ethical AI, LLMs, AI in academic libraries, AI literacy, etc.
- Data curation, knowledge organization, digital preservation, open science, scientometrics, and medical librarianship
- More conceptual and theoretical webinars, not just applied technologies
- Qualitative/quantitative research methods, grant writing, and publishing
- Emerging technology: XR/VR, makerspaces, linked data, HCI, semantic web
- Topics for non-academics: professional development, advocacy, practical LIS tools

## 4. Collaboration with other Organizations

Based on member feedback, here is a summary of constructive suggestions for how ASIS&T, ALISE, and the iSchools could collaborate more effectively:

- Merge or closely coordinate conferences
- Joint membership or discounted cross-membership
- Clarify and coordinate missions to reduce overlap
- Shared programming and events
- Unified access to resources and learning opportunities (such as jointly hosted repositories of teaching materials and curricular tools)
- Shared mentorship and career development initiatives
- Joint advocacy and visibility for LIS field
- Recognition and support for global and underrepresented communities

## 5. Overall Recommendations and Areas for Improvement

Our analysis identified multiple recurring themes and key areas that may inform the future directions of ASIS&T, summarized below:

## Global Accessibility & Inclusion

- Accommodate global time zones for live events
- Offer virtual and hybrid options for major events, including the annual conference
- More events outside North America
- Provide more support for members from low- and middle-income countries (e.g., free/discounted membership, conference/travel grants, scholarships, and funding for presenters and SIG/chapter)
- Offer multilingual events and resources

## Program Quality & Content

- Broader range of topics beyond AI: including Indigenous knowledge, archives, health informatics, knowledge organization, digital preservation, social justice, and practical library work
- Raise the quality and rigor of research presentations at annual meetings and webinars
- Offer more practical, hands-on, and applied content for practitioners and early-career professionals
- Include more critical and interdisciplinary voices, especially from underrepresented regions and cultures

## Professional Development

- Expanded and structured mentorship (especially for students, early-career researchers, and practitioners)
- More training in research methods (qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-methods), grant writing, scholarly publishing, and proposal development
- Clearer pathways for getting involved in SIGs, chapters, and leadership roles
- Support for non-academic and applied research careers

## Engagement & Communication

- Facilitate discussions on evolving IS identities and disciplinary boundaries
- More effective promotion and communication of events, webinars, and SIG opportunities
- Increase member awareness and improve the user experience of communication channels like iConnect
- Stronger sense of community and inclusion (some members feel disconnected or unsure how to get involved)—new member orientation and welcome packages may be helpful
- Reinvigoration of local/regional chapters and in-person networking