Researchers, Instructors, & Staff Scholarship

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What Makes a Librarian Digital?

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Digital Learning and Scholarship Librarians
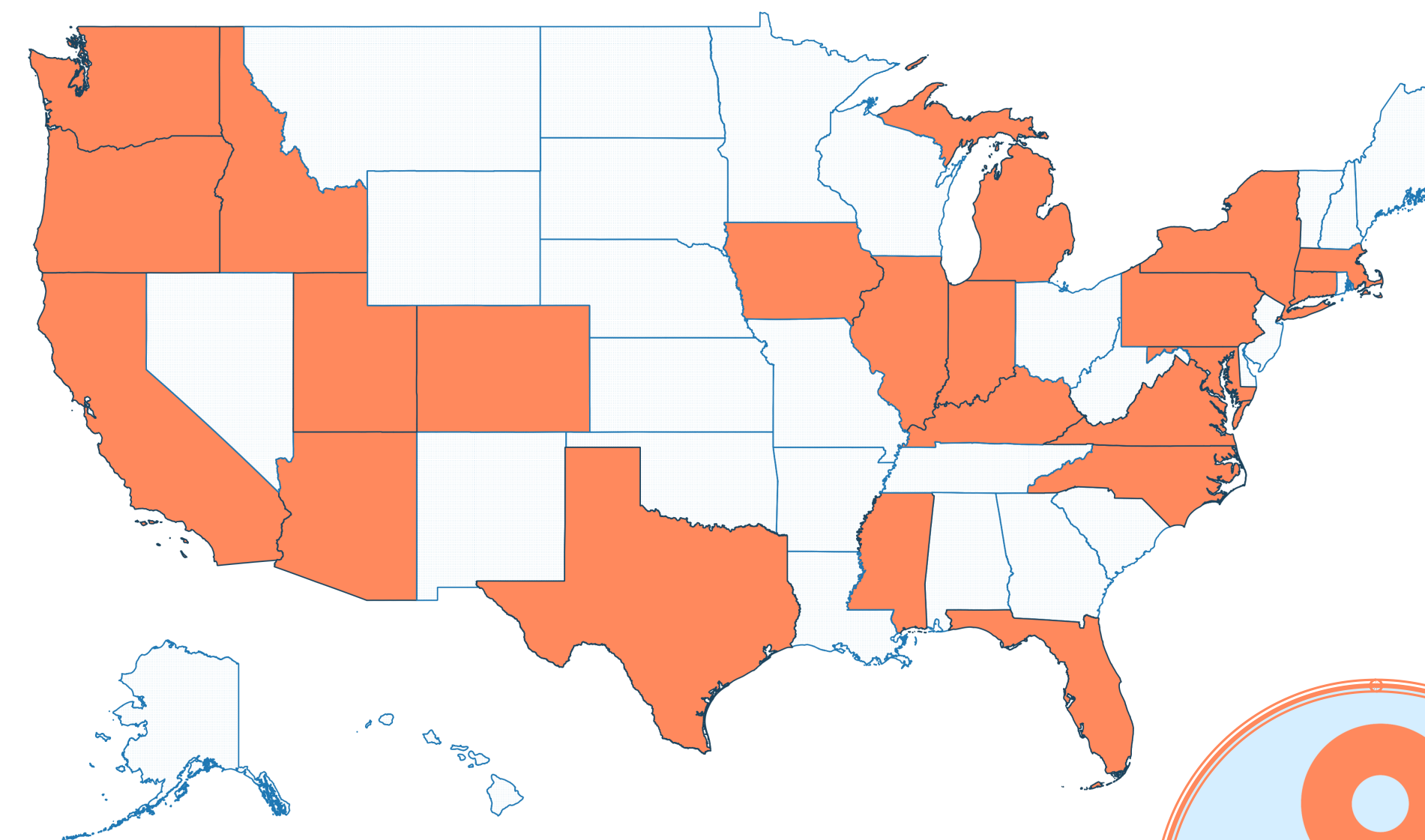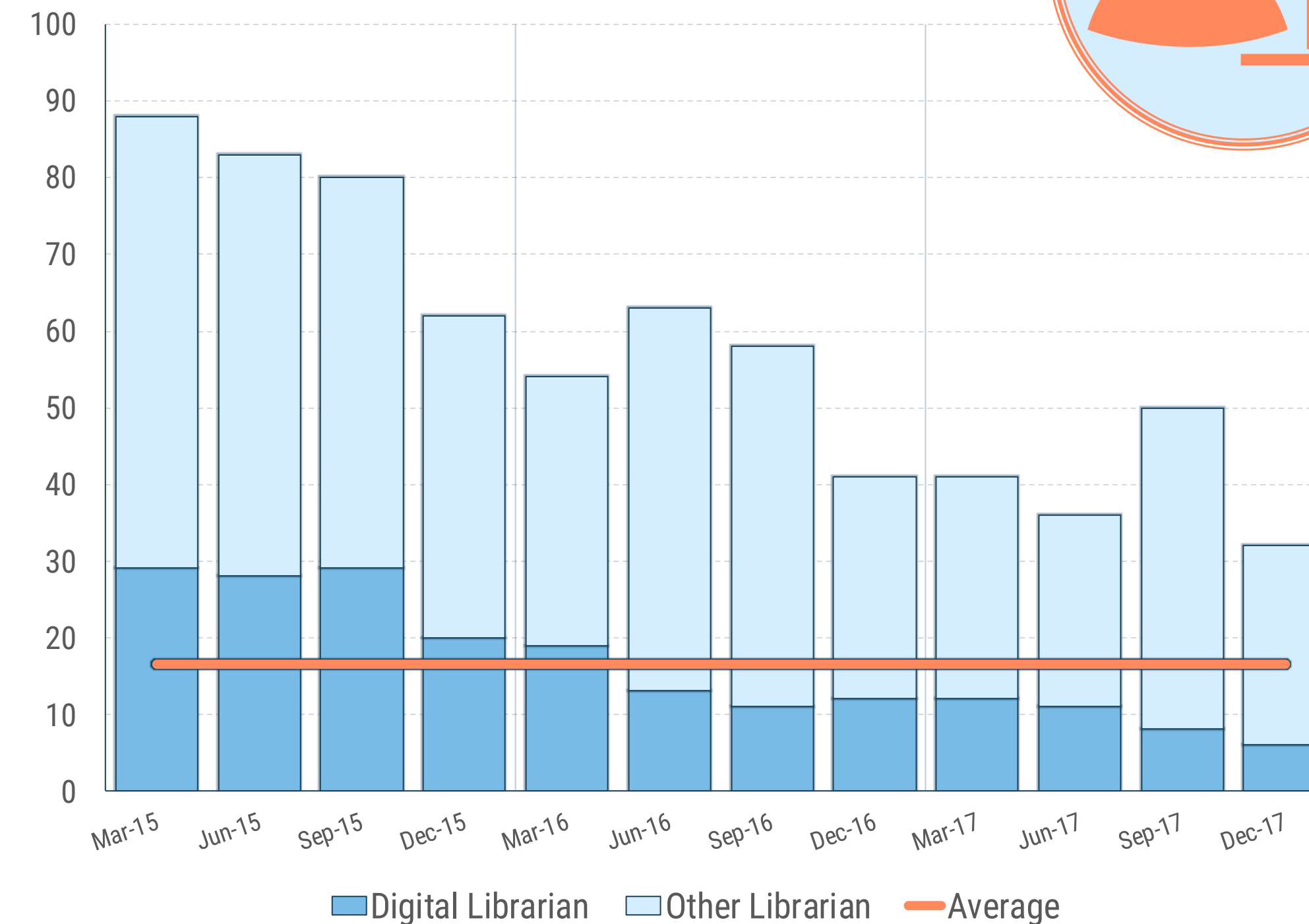### Case Western Reserve University

As a former archaeologist and a former actress, we now find ourselves working as digital librarians. A growing number of individuals are, likewise, following non-traditional pathways to the library, and rightly so; the job market for new graduates across fields is perilous and many of the digital needs of libraries are going unmet.

This poster reflects the beginning of a project to study the nature of the digital librarian. In it, we examine the 2017 postings from Code4Lib's job board with job titles that include the words "digital" and "librarian" in any combination.

Development · Digital · Research · Collections · History · Metadata · Humanities · Education · Librarian · Services · Projects · Curation · Scholarship · Preservation · Technologies · Infrastructure

1 in 4 Job Posts

Were for a digital librarian between 2015 and 2017

Legend: Digital Librarian · Other Librarian · Average

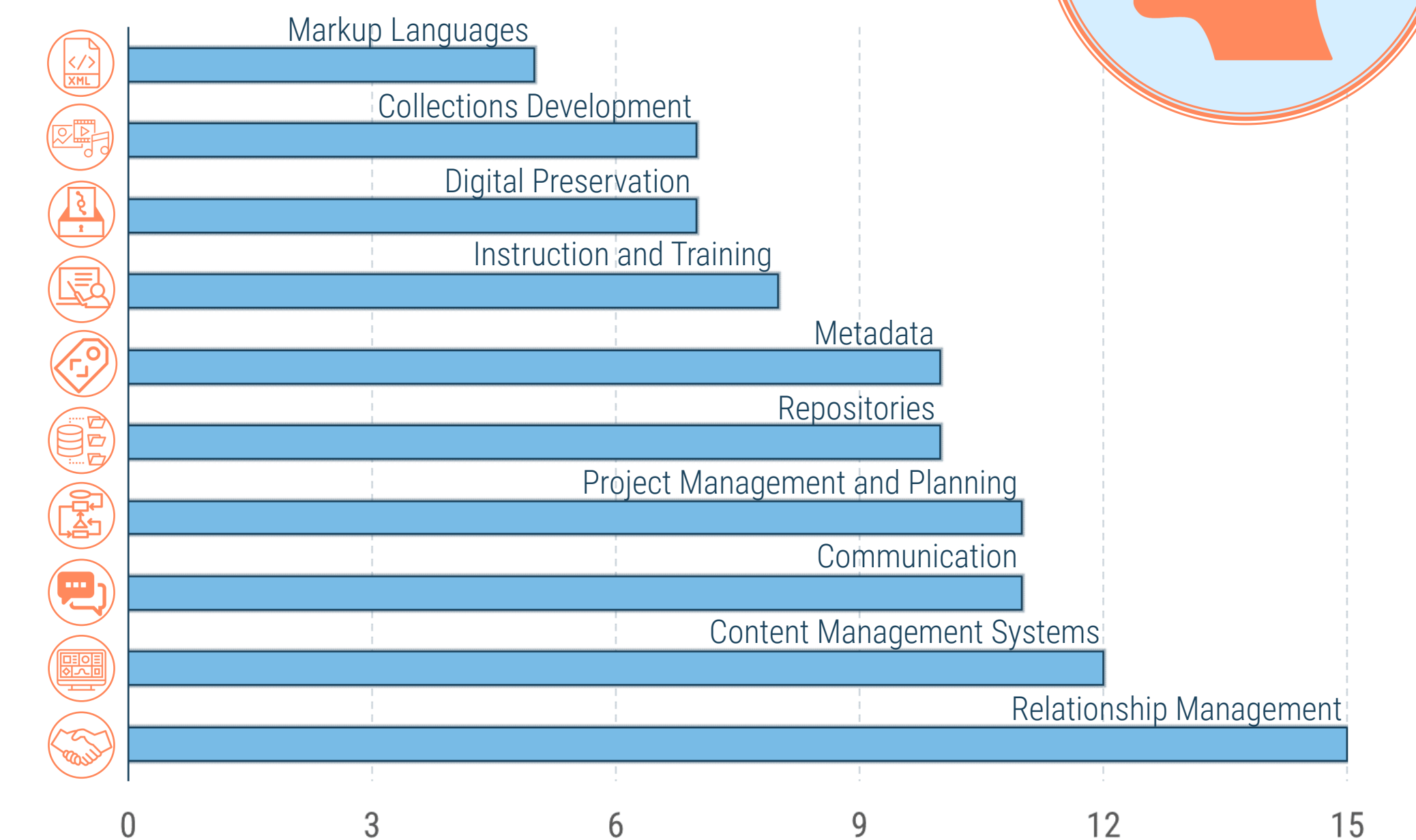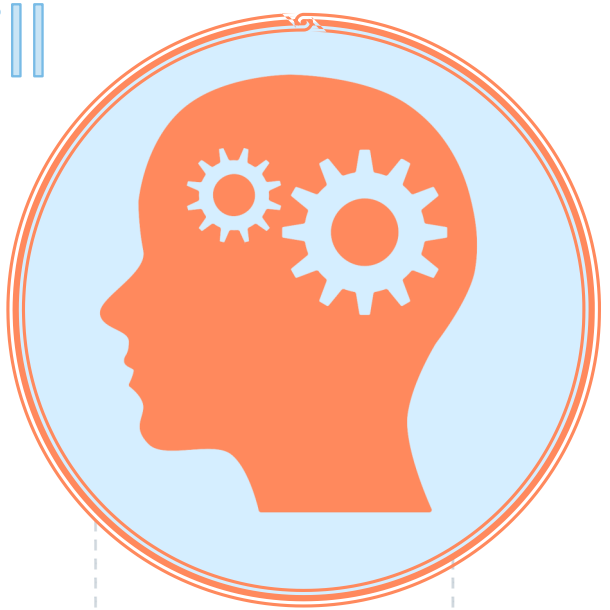# 22 States

Were hiring digital librarians in 2017

Managing Relationships

Was the most widely sought skill in 2017

Bar chart (approximate values, 0–15 scale):
- Markup Languages
- Collections Development
- Digital Preservation
- Instruction and Training
- Metadata
- Repositories
- Project Management and Planning
- Communication
- Content Management Systems
- Relationship Management

innovative, flexible, and highly collaborative [librarian] who will help promote, develop, and maintain the digital services and projects of the library

active in building digital collections through digitization, born-digital acquisitions, and deposit of faculty research work

provides technical leadership and hands-on programming expertise for a portfolio of library projects

manages the access, maintenance, and preservation of electronic information resources

plans, executes, and finalizes digital scholar-ship projects and other digital initiatives

Participate

Was the most commonly used job verb in 2017