DIR Web Accessibility Scanning Program for WCAG 2.0 AA
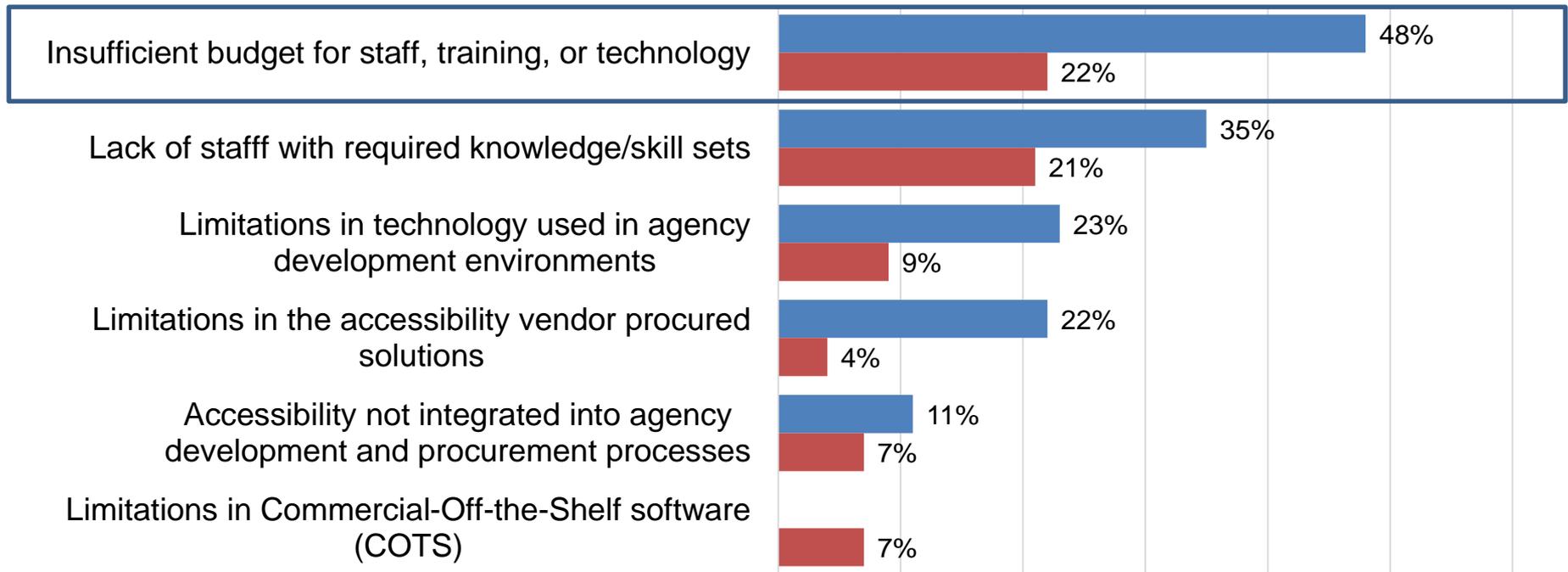
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IRDR 2013

What types of challenges, if any, has the agency confronted in increasing its level of compliance with state accessibility requirements? (multiple selections permitted)

Challenge	2011 Agencies	2013 Agencies
Insufficient budget for staff, training, or technology	48%	22%
Lack of stafff with required knowledge/skill sets	35%	21%
Limitations in technology used in agency development environments	23%	9%
Limitations in the accessibility vendor procured solutions	22%	4%
Accessibility not integrated into agency development and procurement processes	11%	7%
Limitations in Commercial-Off-the-Shelf software (COTS)		7%

■ 2011 Agencies   ■ 2013 Agencies

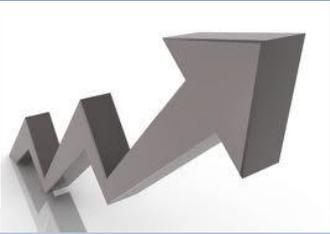# Statewide Agency Internet Scanning: DIR Project Objectives

- Drive enterprise wide progress in web accessibility by providing automated site checking services

  - The statutory basis for DIR providing such a service is defined Texas Governmental Code:

    - Sec. 2054.452…provide training for and <u>technical assistance</u> to state agencies

    - Sec. 2054.458….development and <u>monitoring</u> of state agency Internet websites…

- Use the scanning program as a springboard for agencies to adopt (invest in) additional scan capabilities for their internet / intranet environments

What is Accessibility Web Scanning?

- **An automated tool or service for identifying accessibility errors on websites**
  - "spiders" websites searching for specific or missing accessibility criteria
  - Uses defined (Section 508, WCAG 2.0, etc.) or customized standards
  - Reports on error type, location, frequency and other valuable information
  - Generates reports and maintains key historical data
  - Highly scalable
  - Can be installed by customer or hosted as a service
    - DIR uses hosted services

- **Can not check against all accessibility standards**
  - Manual testing of representative web pages is still needed

Assisted agencies in making their public websites accessible The service provided agencies the ability to:

- Increase accessibility compliance levels of agency public websites

- Obtain precise, critical accessibility information about a subset of an agency's live public website that might not otherwise be available / affordable

- Utilize the reported information and supporting resources to remediate identified accessibility issues

- Mitigate risk to the state through demonstration that progress is being made and initiative taken to create an inclusive IT environment

- Lay the groundwork for agencies to establish accessibility baselines, goals, and metrics to track progress

2014 EIR Web Accessibility Scanning Program
WCAG 2.0 AA

Why is DIR launching a new program?

- Benefits per the 2012 program plus additional features

- To prepares Texas agencies for transition of websites to pending new accessibility technical standard WCAG 2.0 AA

  - Current industry standard for web accessibility worldwide

  - Planned for adoption by US Section 508 in early 2015

  - Texas TAC rules will be revised to use WCAG 2.0 AA shortly after revised 508 is adopted to remain in sync

DIR Web Accessibility Scanning Program: 2012 to 2015 Comparison

Features	2012	2015
Available to agencies at no cost	✓	✓
Vendor based scanning service	✓	✓
150 pages scanned monthly for accessibility issues, beginning at the home page of the agency's public website	✓	✓
Scans utilized 1TAC 206 accessibility technical standards (US508)	✓	
Scans using the W3C WCAG 2.0 AA rule set		✓
Scanned monthly, but additional local scans could be initiated anytime	✓	✓
Includes scanning of PDF files	✓	✓
Access limited to agency EIR AC or single ID per agency	✓	
Additional users can access agency reports and the supporting resources		✓
Agency reports will provide summary and detailed information on the accessibility of the agency's scanned pages and PDFs	✓	✓
A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with DIR is needed for participation in the program. Agencies will be scheduled into the scan environment in order of receipt of their signed MOU to DIR.	✓	✓
Service scans and reports on broken links, misspellings, and consistency issues		✓
Service scans and reports on website availability and perform		✓
Service scans and reports on Search Engine Optimization (SEO		✓

Scan Results, Data Ownership and Sharing

- Scan results are owned by the receiving agency.
- Receiving agency will have access to only the data applicable to itself.
- DIR will have access to agency results to
  - Support agencies with their reports and technical questions
  - Use for analysis and metrics at the enterprise level
- DIR will not share individual agency results with 3rd parties, without written agency approval
  - Public information or legislative requests will be referred to participating agencies or responded to jointly with DIR

Questions and SiteImprove Demo