USABILITY STUDY OF DATABASE ACCESSIBILITY

Nicole Campbell
WSU Vancouver
Are databases usable with screen readers?
Details

- 20 participants
  - 10 using screen readers
  - 10 not using screen readers
- 3 databases
- 1 task
Usability*

- Errors
- Efficiency

*J. Nielsen, *Usability 101*,
https://www.nngroup.com/articles/usability-101-introduction-to-usability/
Errors

- Moderate to significant
- “PDFs are not a blind person’s friend.”
Efficiency

- “Do I really need to read every single thing on this page to find out whether full text is there?”
- “It takes a very long time to do a research paper.”
Usable?

- Requires patience and effort
- PDFs are problematic
Next steps

- Do more research
- Advocate for more accessible products
- Connect with this population
Questions?

Feel free to contact me or Sue:

- Nicole Campbell, nmcampbell@wsu.edu
- Sue Phelps, asphelps@wsu.edu