



# An international perspective

AVETRA National Conference April 2011



**DusseldorpSkillsForum**

53 member organisations representing nations and regions on all continents

Regional and national skills competitions

International skills competition every two years

- Sponsored over 70,000 apprentices and trainees in regional national and international competitions since 1982
- Annual income \$3.6m (2008-9)
- Supported by industry organisations and government
- Underpinned by over 5000 volunteers
- Regional and national competitions include apprentices trainees and VET in Schools students in 45 skill categories



















- 2007-2009 – MoVE Finland – interviews with members of the 2005 and 2007 Finnish WorldSkills Teams to identify the characteristics of vocational excellence
- October 2009 – presentation of MoVE Finland findings at Calgary WorldSkills Competition
- May 2010 – MoVE Australia – expands the MoVE scope to include questions about the WorldSkills experience

## Components of MoVE research

### (a) Basic research

- what constitutes vocational excellence;
- what key factors influence the formation of excellence

### (b) Applied research

- how do young people experience the journey towards vocational excellence;
- how does WorldSkills contribute to this process

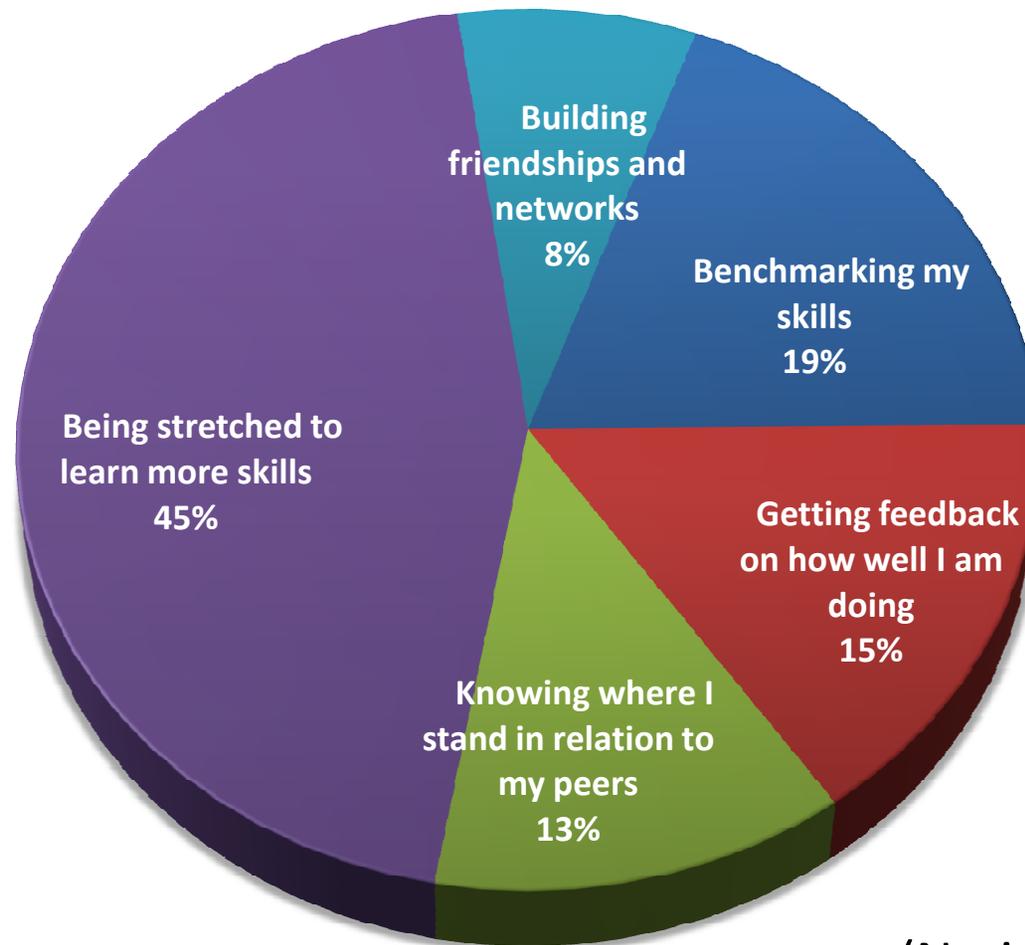
**(a) Basic research**

- 2011 Skillaroos complete Finnish survey

**(b) Applied research**

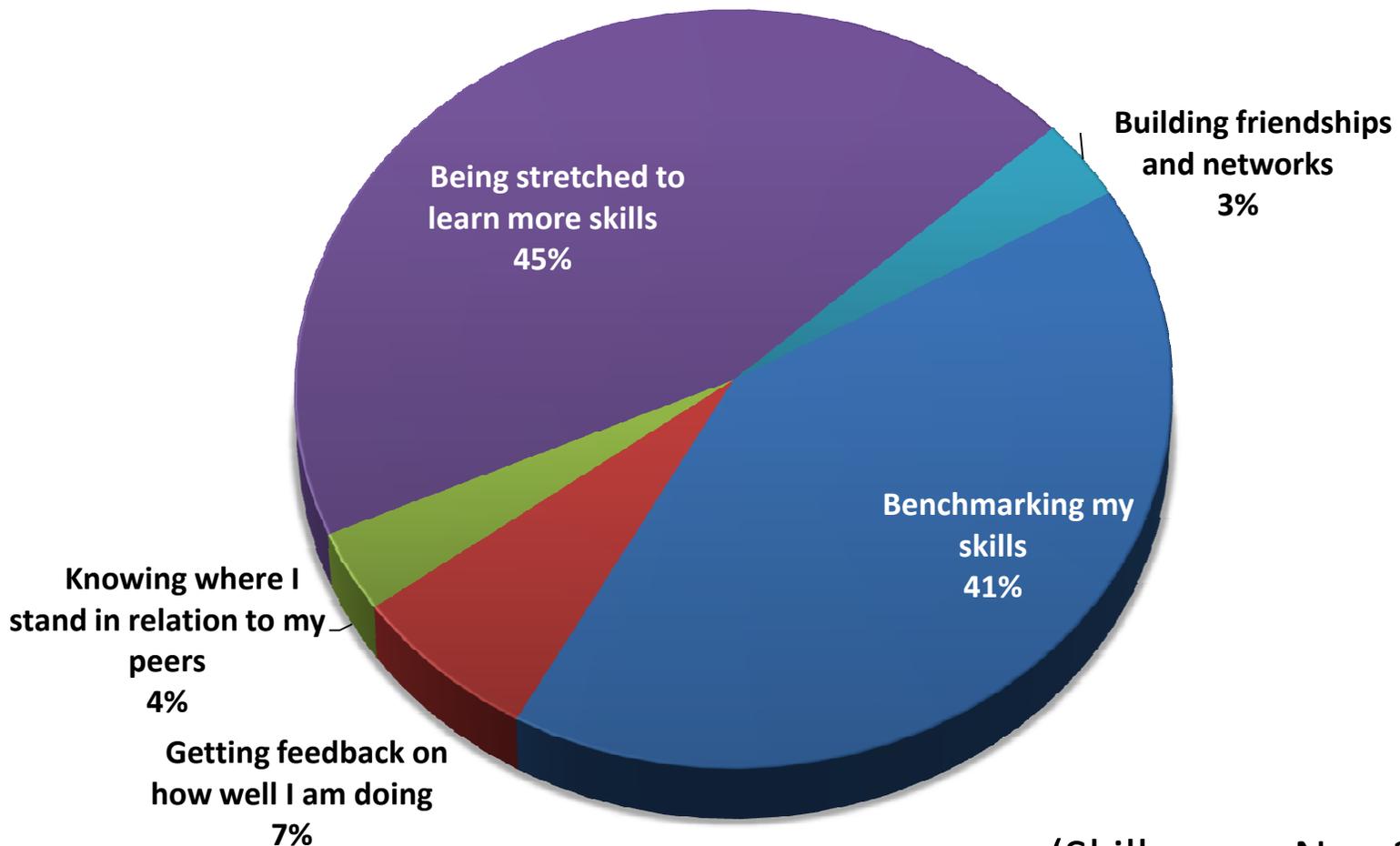
- 2010 national competitors, experts, parents, employers complete a survey on the WorldSkills experience (May 2010)
- 2011 Skillaroos team complete survey of WorldSkills experience

## MOST important about your World Skills journey



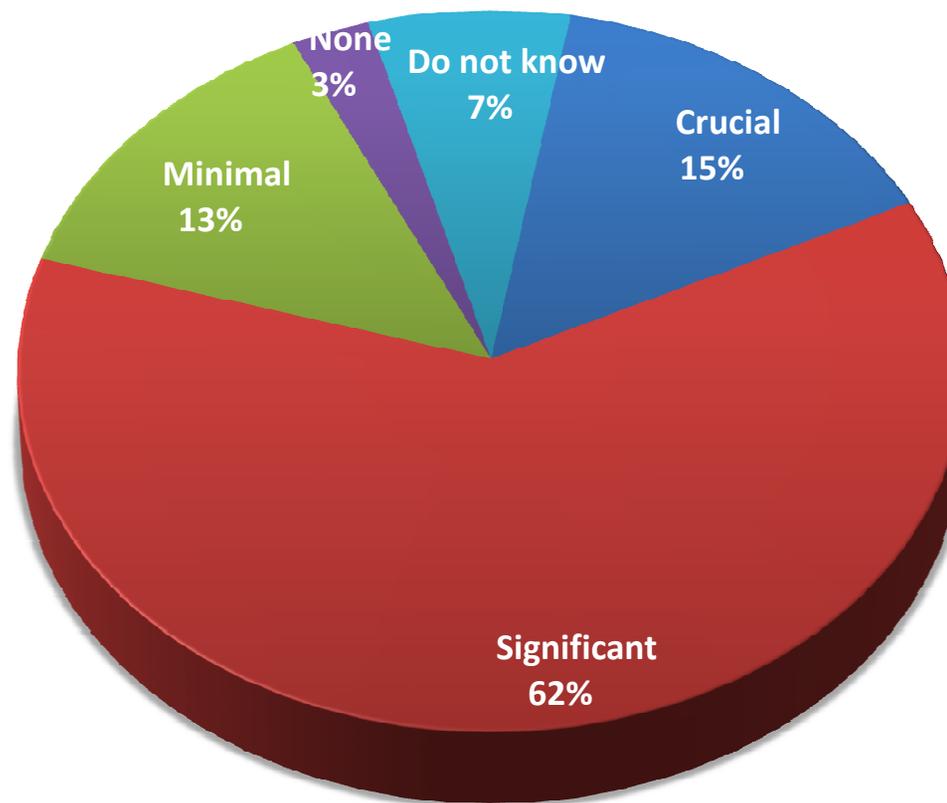
(Nationals May 2010)

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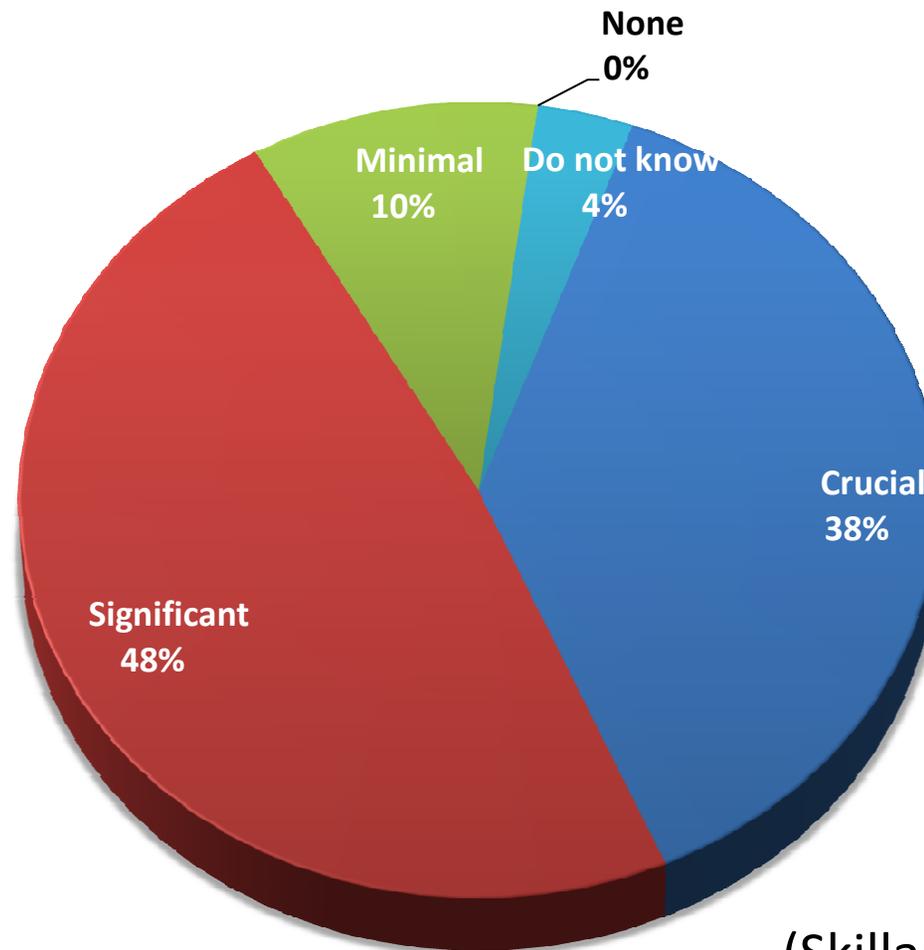
(Skillaroos, Nov 2010)

**How much will participating in WorldSkills contribute to the next stage of your career?**



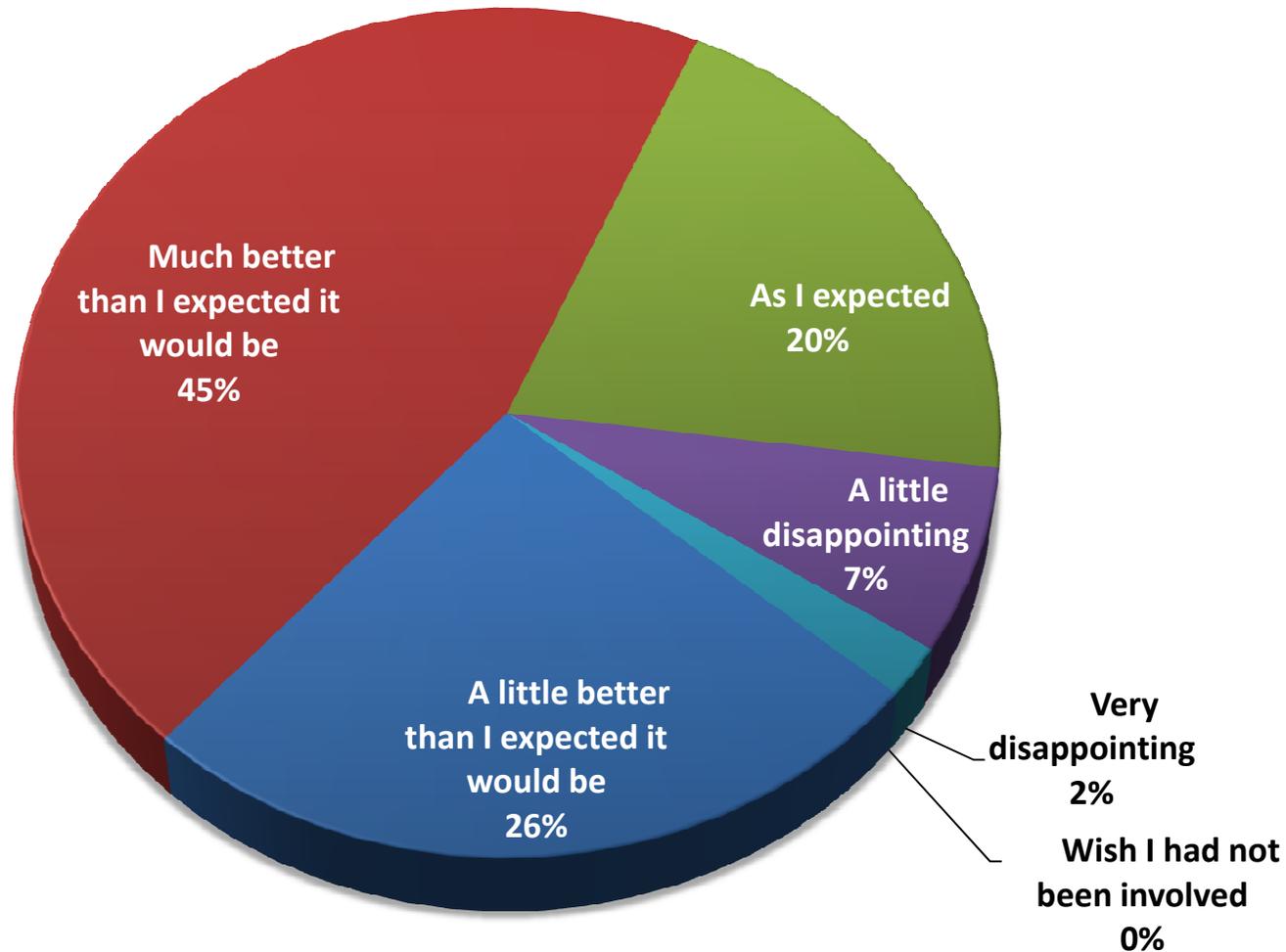
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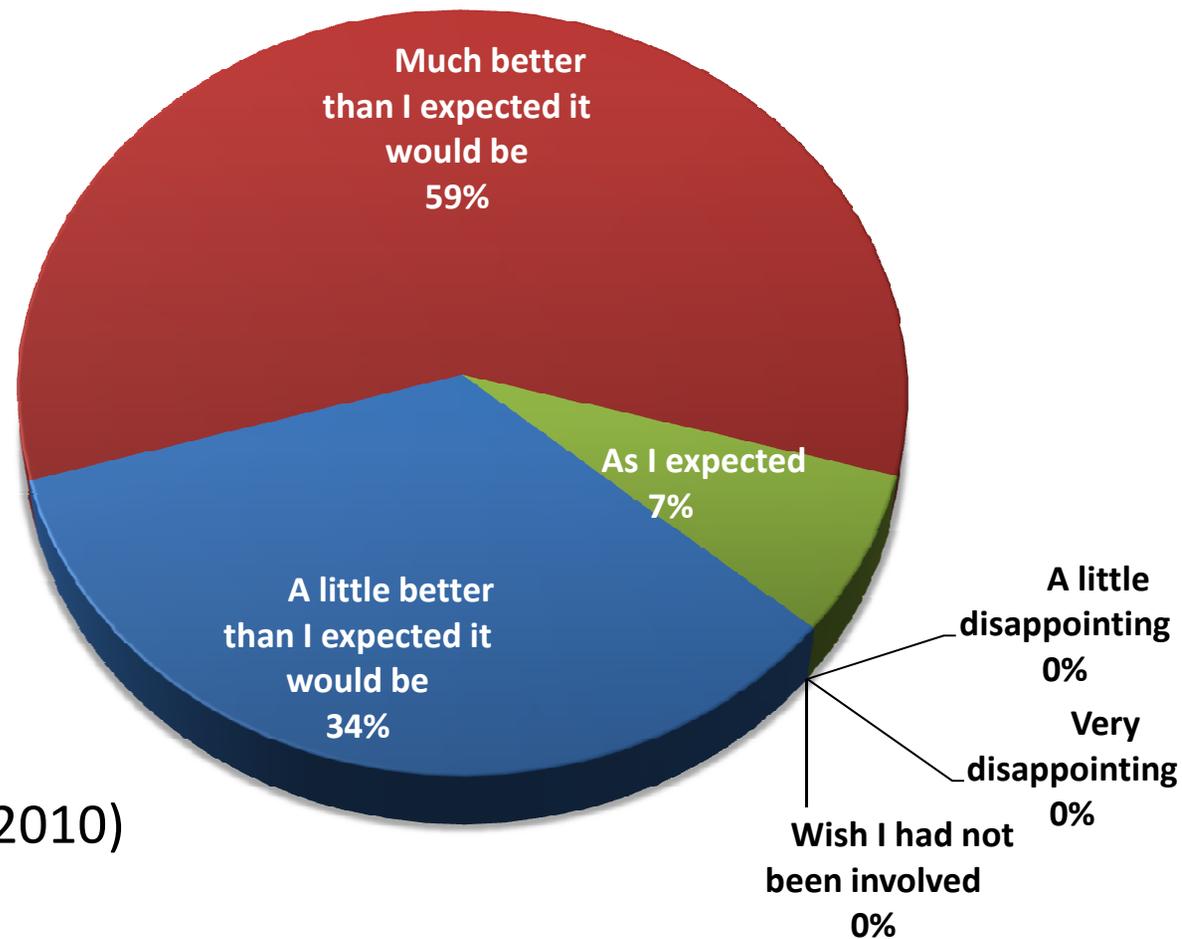
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**How would you rate your involvement with World Skills?**



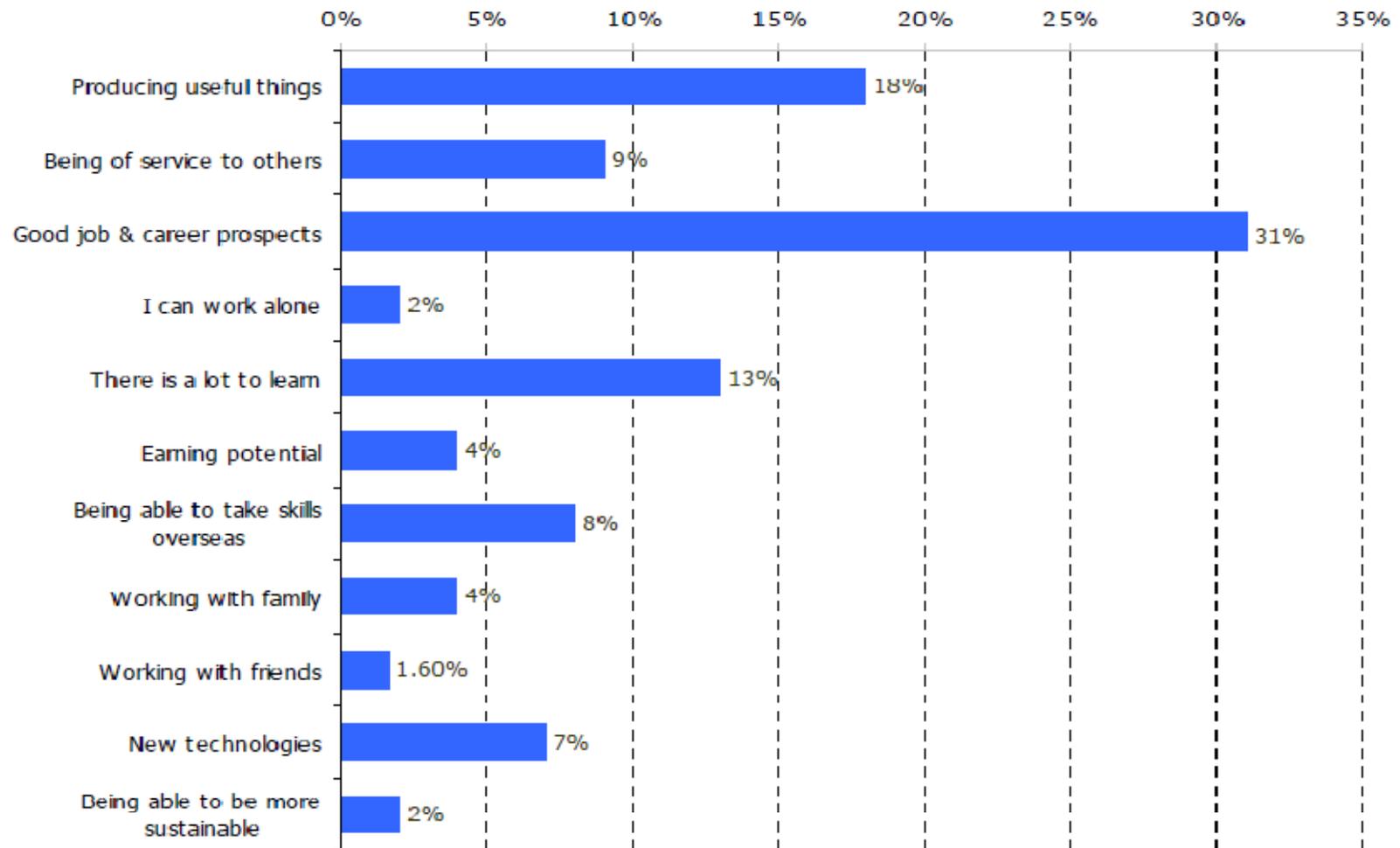
(Nationals May 2010)

**How would you rate your involvement with World Skills?**



(Skillaroos, Nov 2010)

Table 1: factors attracting competitors to their chosen skill



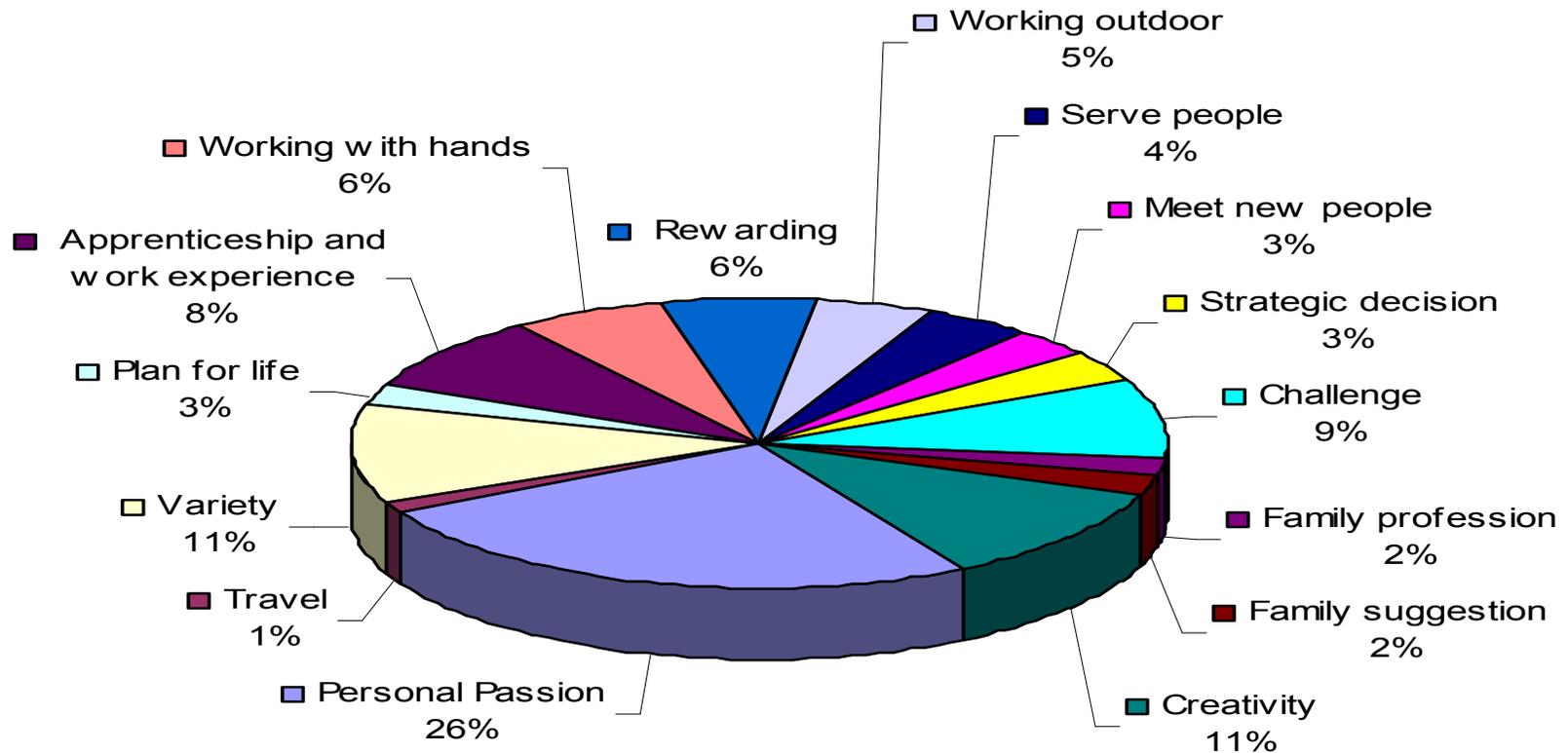
I chose to become a baker because I find it rewarding to give something back to the community. It has also opened my eyes to what bakers can really do. Not only make bread but also design show pieces, Put on a display and make things fancy.

... I chose floristry, because unlike other careers that I have attempted, floristry left me feeling fulfilled and challenged at the same time. It involves using creativity and imagination to create beautiful designs. Floristry is a constant in my life, even if everything else changes, floristry always leaves me feeling fulfilled.

I have always been interested in the human body and the science behind it so I thought it [beauty therapy] would be a great career for me. I also love helping people with their skin care issues and being involved with clients.

I chose my career path because as I was growing up I became very passionate about the car industry, and I was always finding new ways to express my creativity, and that I actually started airbrushing before vehicle painting, but vehicle painting seemed to be the right choice for a long career. Once I started vehicle painting I pretty much became addicted, when I'm not at work I'm working on my own cars. After every job you finish you get a really great sense of achievement.

**Main factor in choosing skills areas extracted from competitors' stories**



WorldSkills is more than just a competition. It's a chance to showcase your skills against the best in the world. For all of the youth out there who have no idea what WorldSkills is, I will tell you that if you compete, it will be the best experience of your life. You may think it sounds cheesy but the truth is WorldSkills is a journey that you will receive more than just the reward of the gold, silver or bronze medal. Whether you medal or not, we all gain the awesome experience of meeting new people, making life friends and growing within yourself.

There is nothing to lose. All competitors are winners. Just to be selected as one of the top young people in their trade category they win the opportunity to meet and work beside the best in our nation. As well as seeing all the different ideas, approaches and outcomes. In my category I am sure everyone will be taking someone else's ideas home to further their wealth of knowledge and experience."

And... so?