

DFHERIS

Skills
Benchmarking
Research

September
2023





Methodology

Online survey.

Questionnaire designed in collaboration with DFHERIS.



Sample

A nationally representative sample of 1,100 adults 18+ in the Republic of Ireland



Field work dates

4th to 5th September 2023



Margin of Error

±3.1% at 95% confidence interval

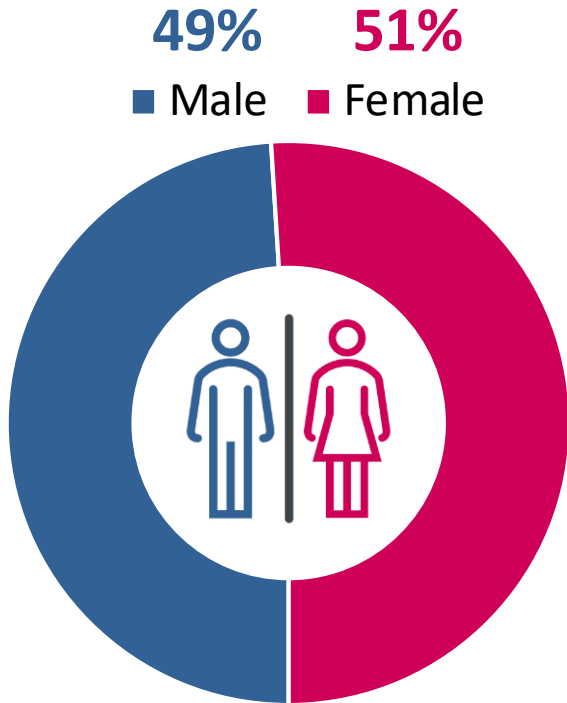
The margin of error indicates the percentage points the results may differ from the overall population.

Margin of error changes according to the size of sample, the size of the population and to the observed percentage in question.

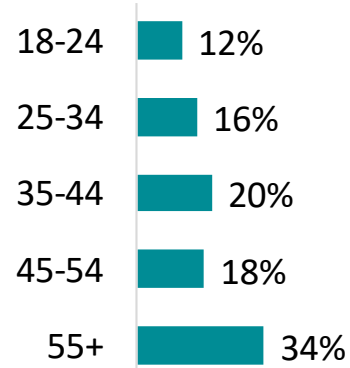


Survey Participant Profile – Republic of Ireland

Gender



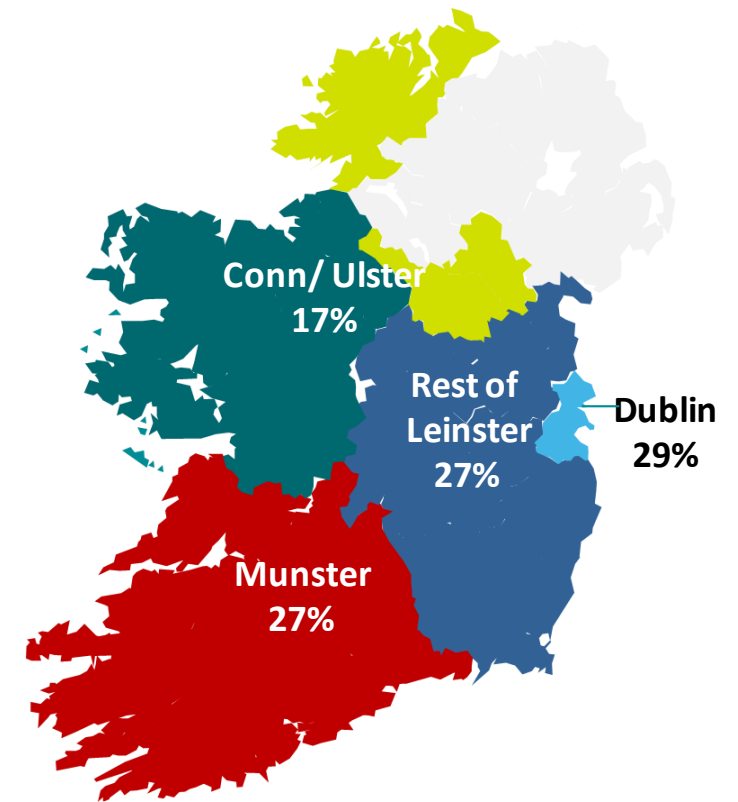
Age



Social class



Region



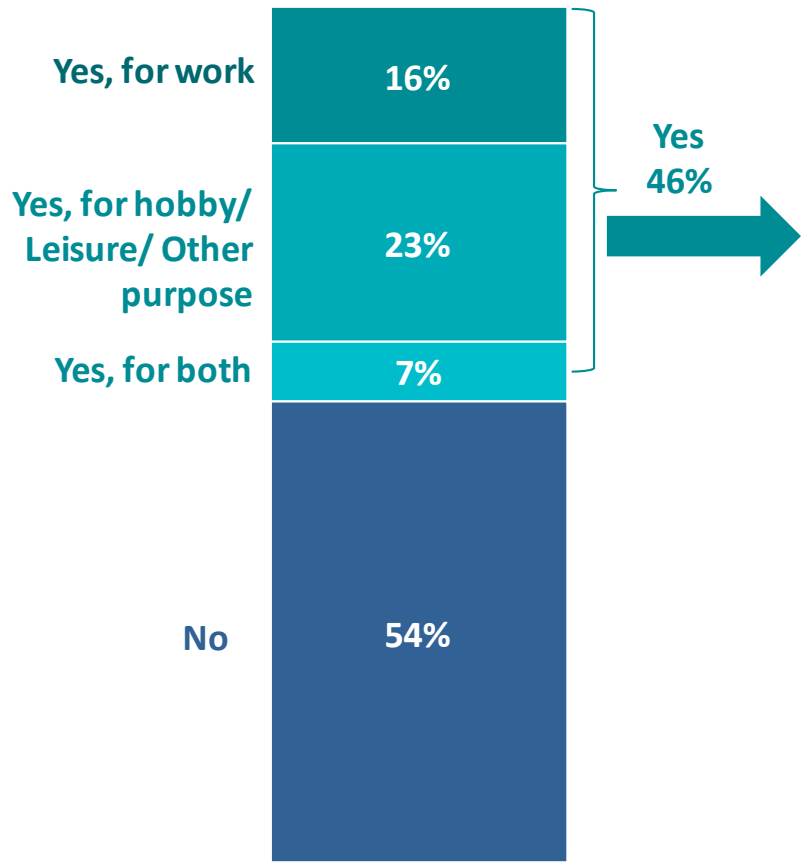


MAIN FINDINGS

Over two-fifths (46%) have learned a new skill or skills since the start of this year. Younger ages, ABC1s, those in employment, with children under 18, and those who know others who have learned new skills over index



BASE : All respondents – 1,100)



DEMOGRAPHICS FOR YES

Gender



Age



Social Class



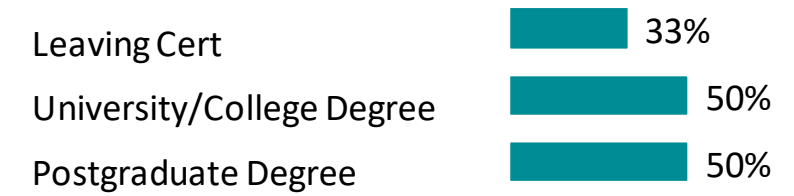
Region



Work



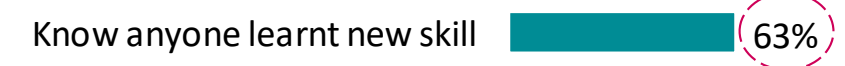
Education



Children



New Skills

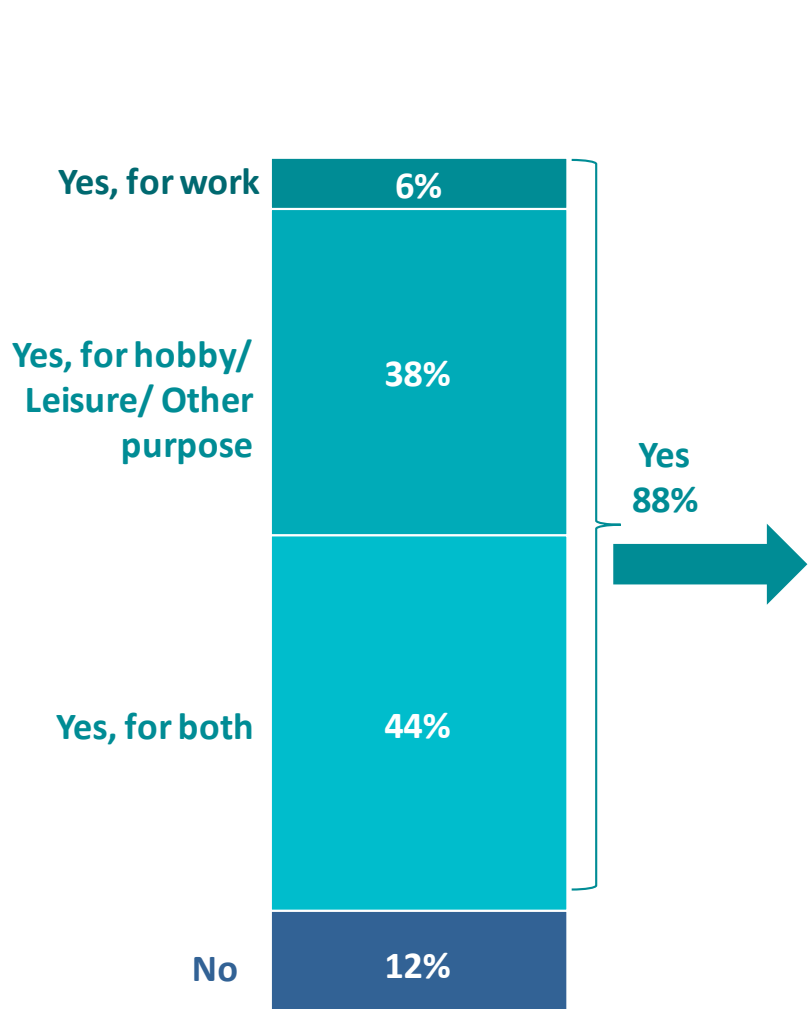


1. Have you learned a new skill or skills since the start of this year? Whether for work, leisure, a hobby or other purpose.



Almost 9 in 10 (88%) are interested in learning a new skill or skills in the future. Females, younger ages, those in employment, postgrads, those with children under 18, and those who know others who have learned new skills are among the most likely to state so.

BASE : All respondents – 1,100)



DEMOGRAPHICS FOR YES

Gender



Age



Social Class



Region



Work



Education



Children



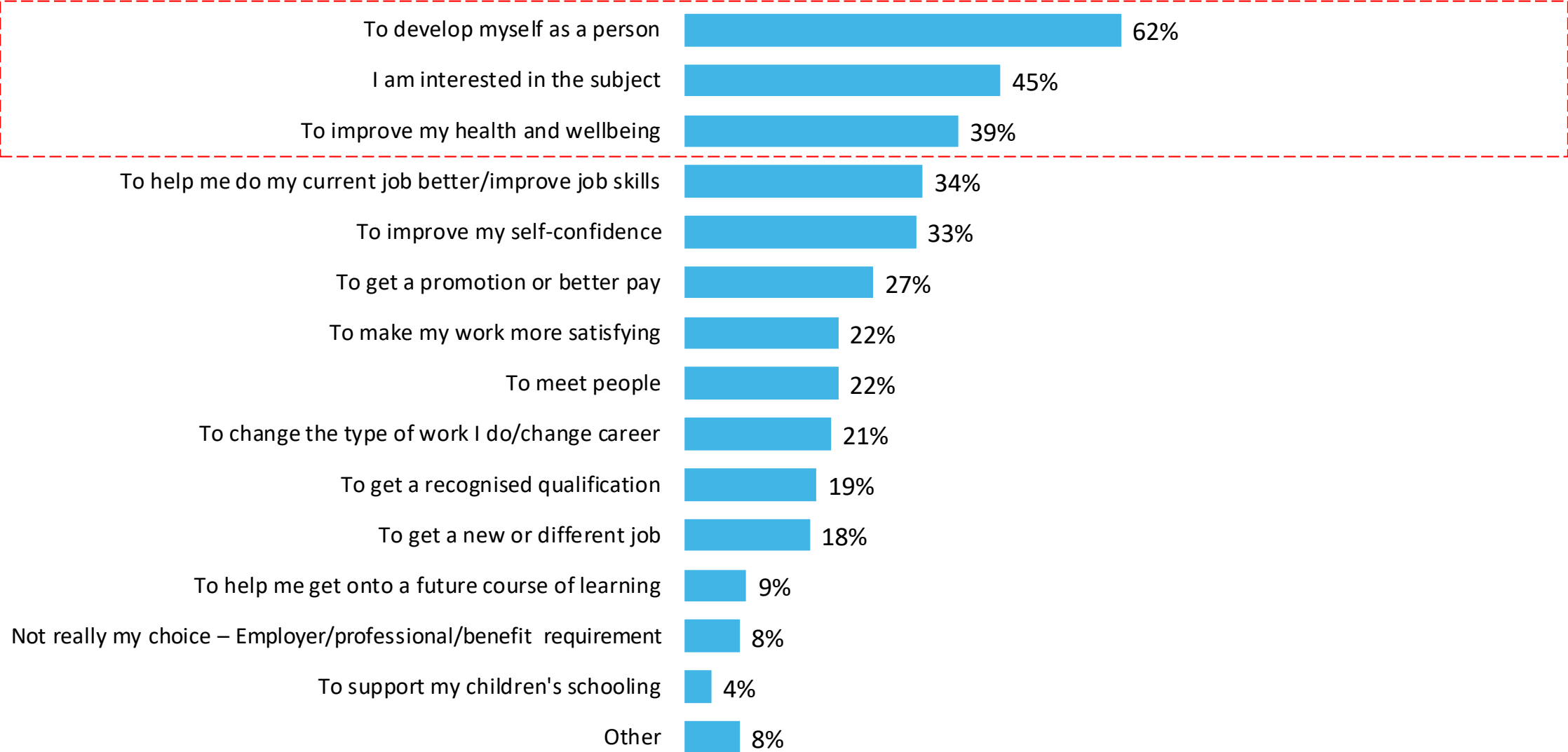
New Skills



Self-development is the main motivation for learning a new skill, followed by interest in the subject and to improve health and wellbeing



(Base: Learned a new skill—506)

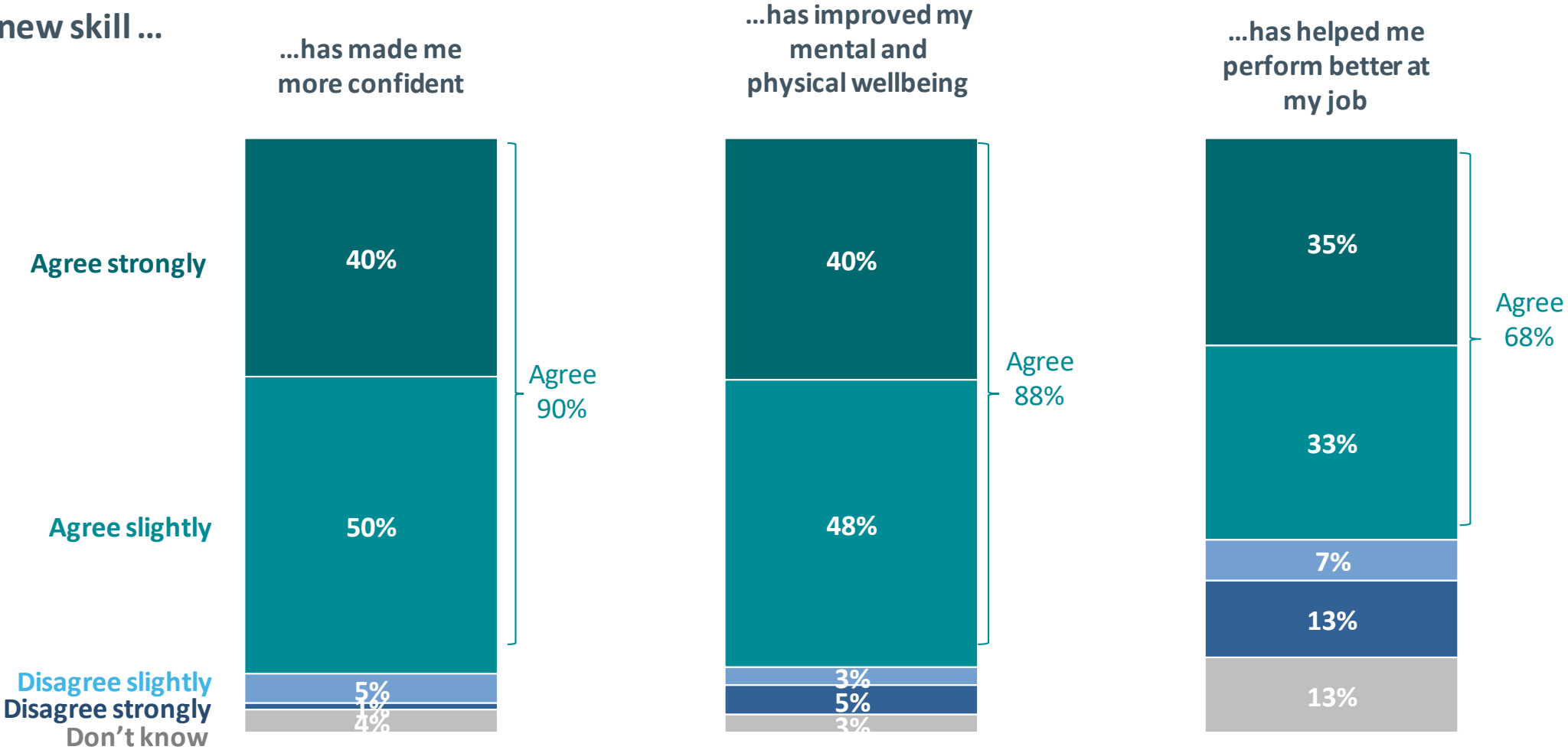


Among those who have learned a new skill, a significant majority state doing so has boosted their confidence, improved their mental and physical wellbeing, and helped them in their careers...



(Base: Learned a new skill—506)

Learning a new skill ...

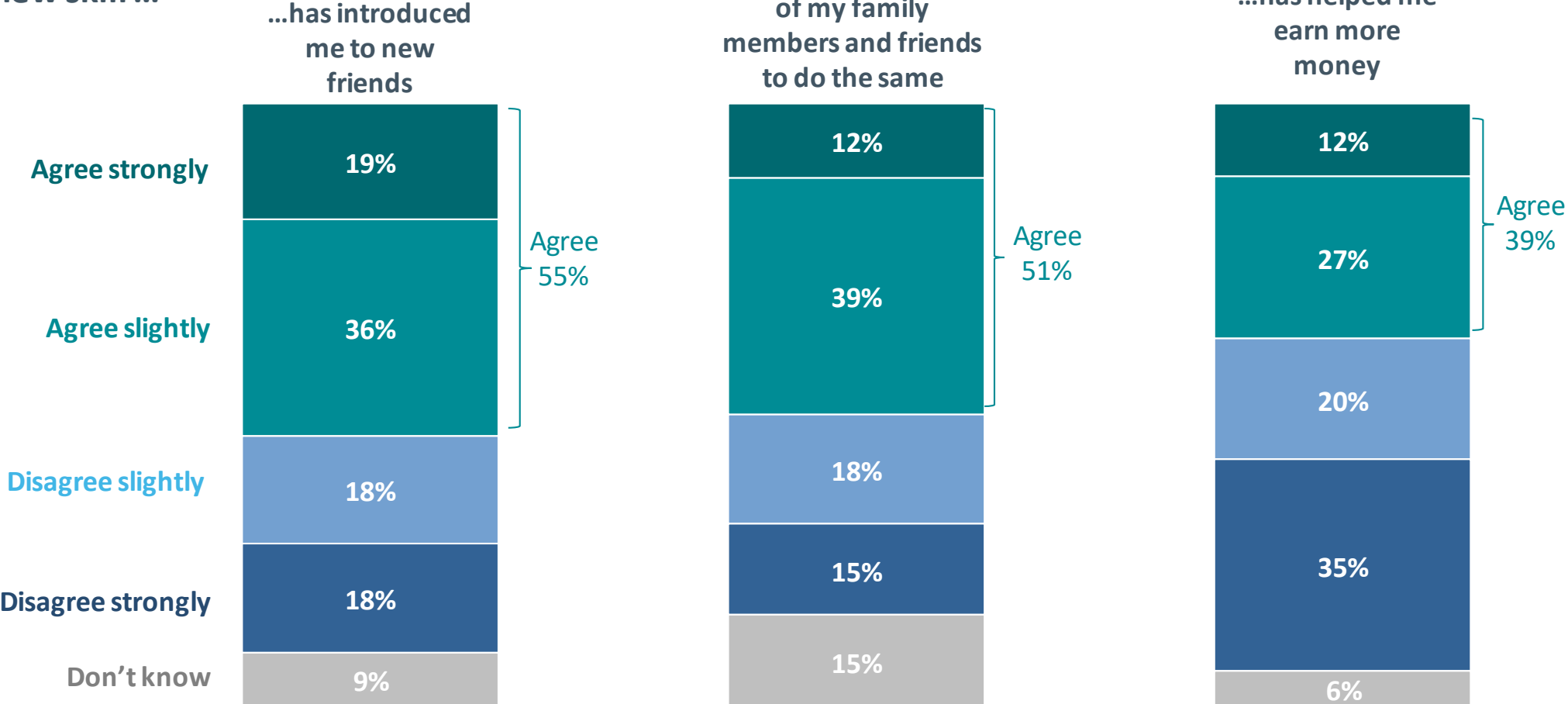


...while just over half have made new friends and inspired their friends and family to learn new skills. For two-fifths, leaning a new skill has enabled them to earn more money.



(Base: Learned a new skill—506)

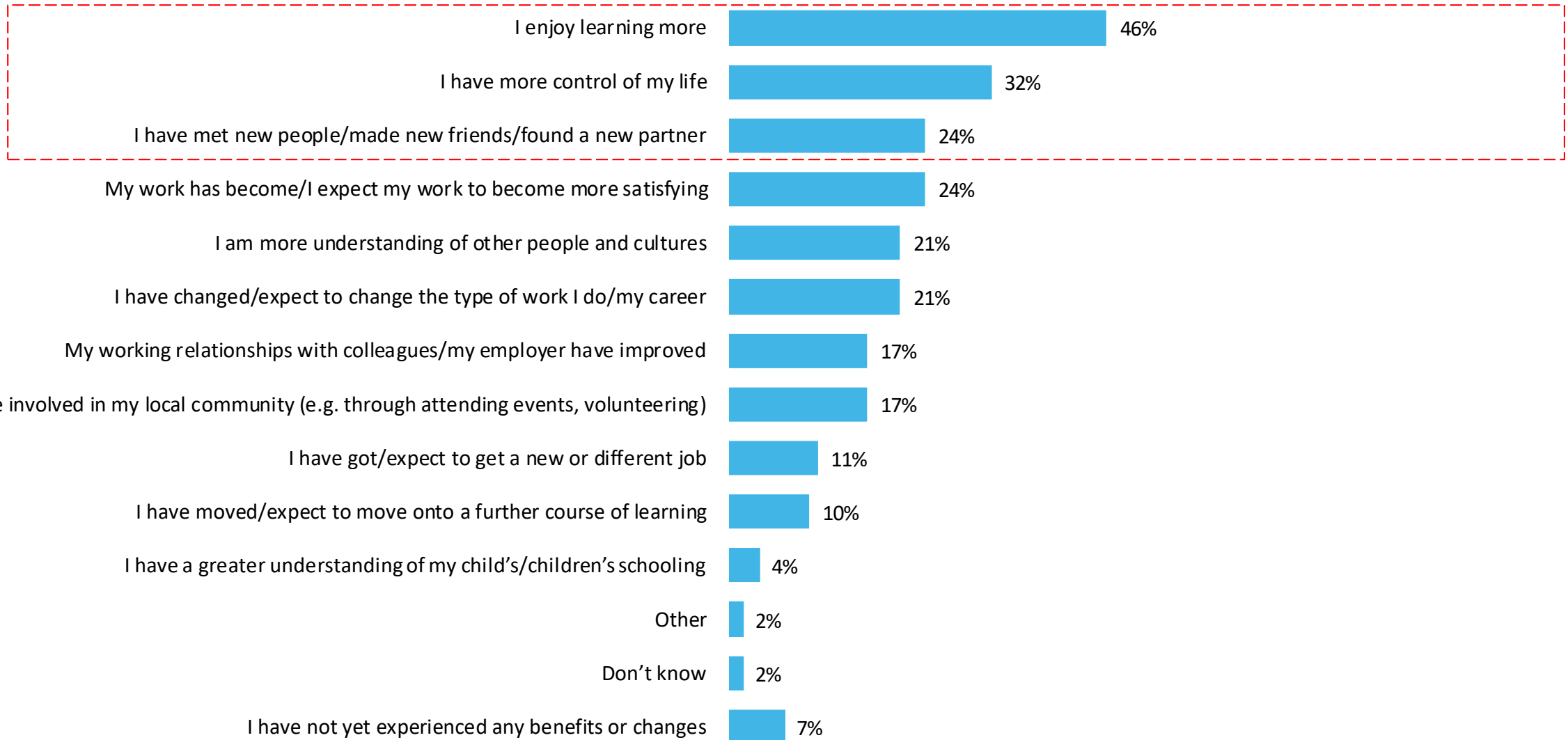
Learning a new skill ...





The increased enjoyment of learning is viewed as the main benefit of learning a new skill, followed by gaining more control over your life, and meeting new people

(Base: Learned a new skill—506)

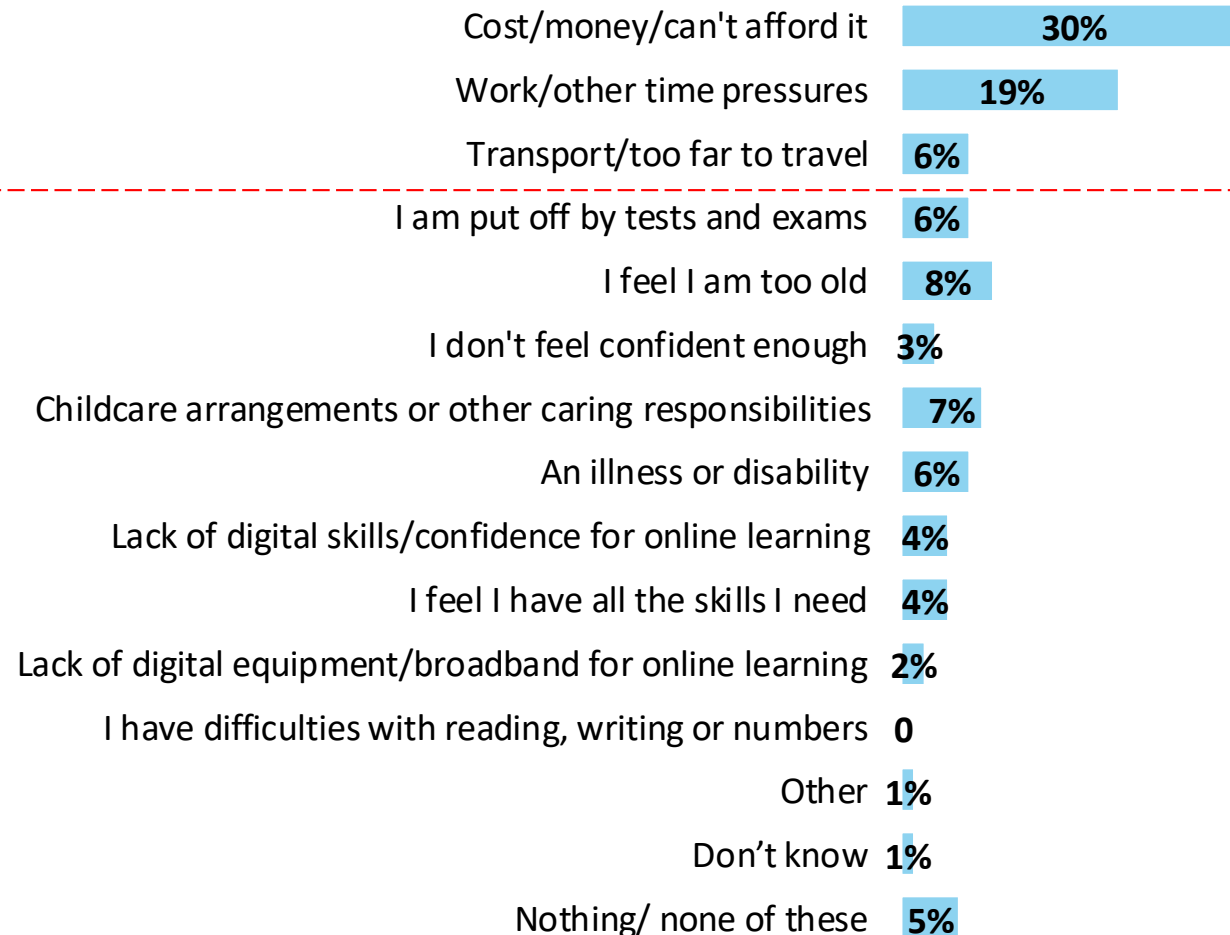


Q5. Which of the following are the main benefits of learning a new skill in your experience?



Cost is stated as being the main barrier to acquiring a new skill in the near future, followed by time constraints, and travel difficulties

(Base: All respondents – 1.100)



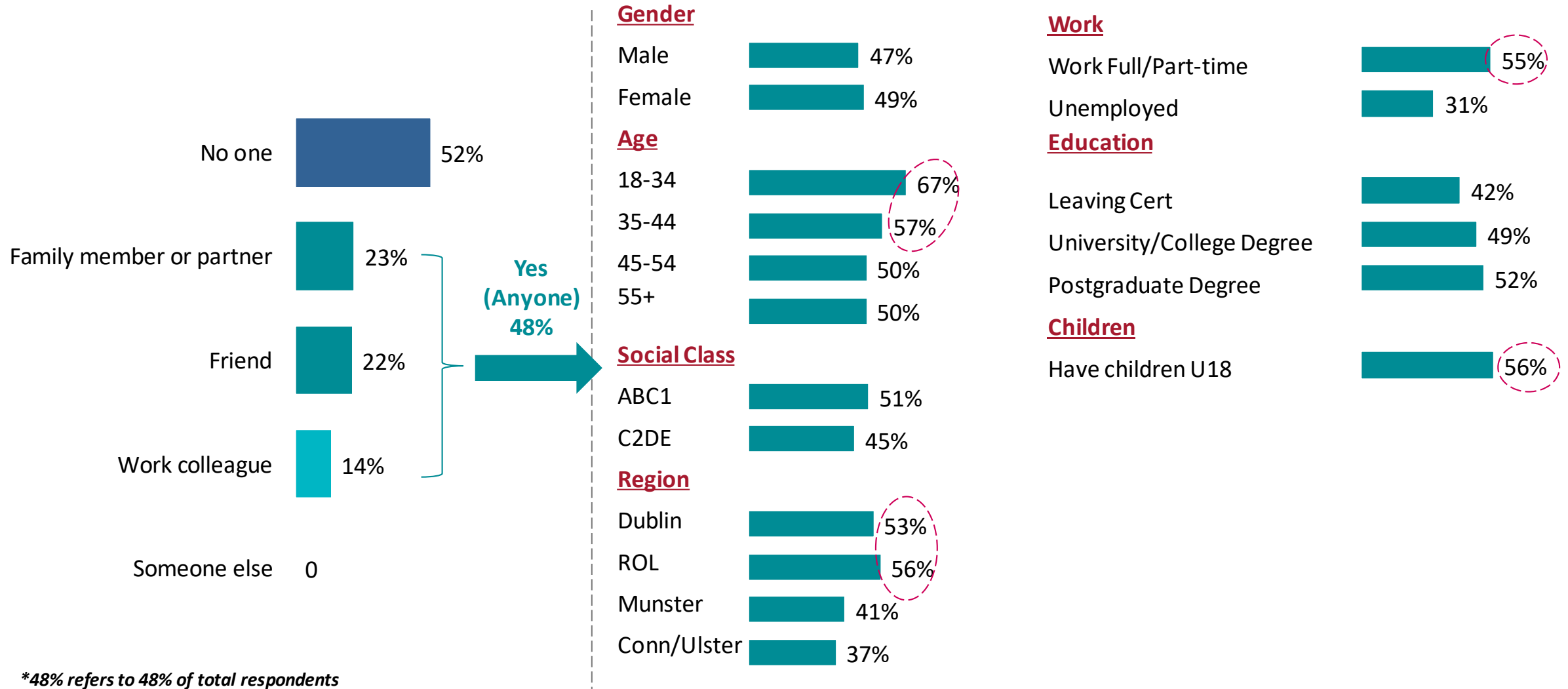
Q6. Which of the following would stop you acquiring a new skill in the near future? Please rank your top 3, where 1 is the biggest barrier.

Just under half know someone who who has learned a new skill or skills since the start of this year, with younger ages, residents of Dublin and Leinster, those in employment, and those with children under 18 over indexing



BASE : All respondents – 1,100)

DEMOGRAPHICS FOR YES (ANYONE)



Just under two-fifths (38%) are confident that they currently have the level of skills needed to advance in their current job. Males, ages 35-44, Munster residents, and those with a university/postgraduate degree are among the most likely to state so.



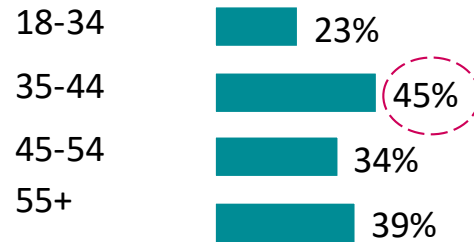
BASE : All those employed N/a excluded - 771)

DEMOGRAPHICS FOR CONFIDENT

Gender



Age



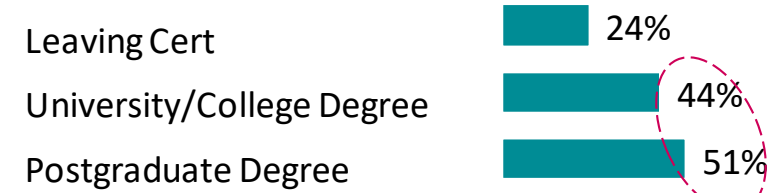
Social Class



Region



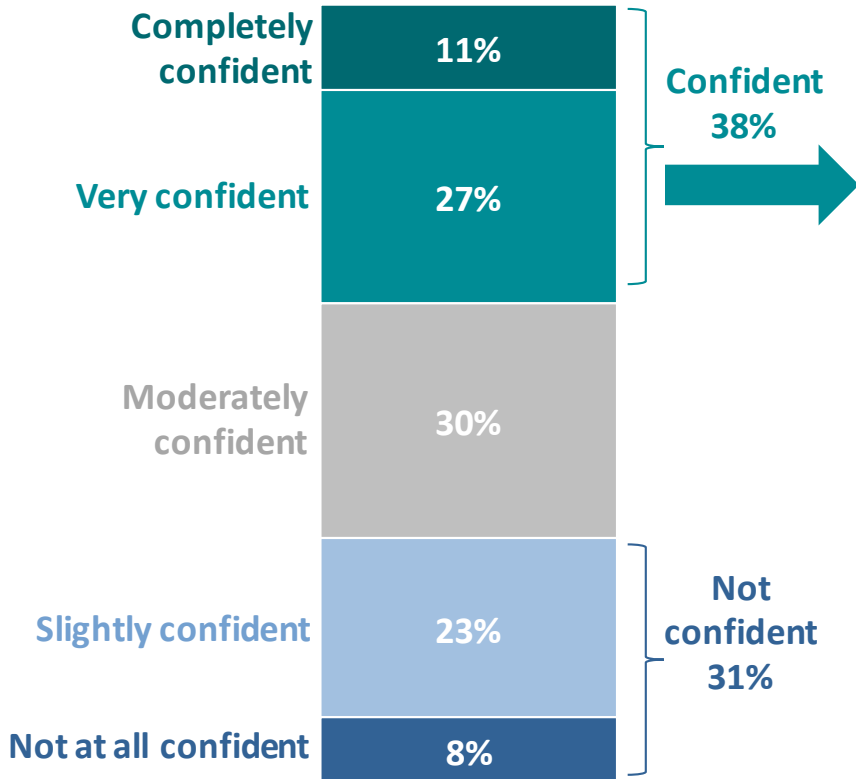
Education



Children



New Skills



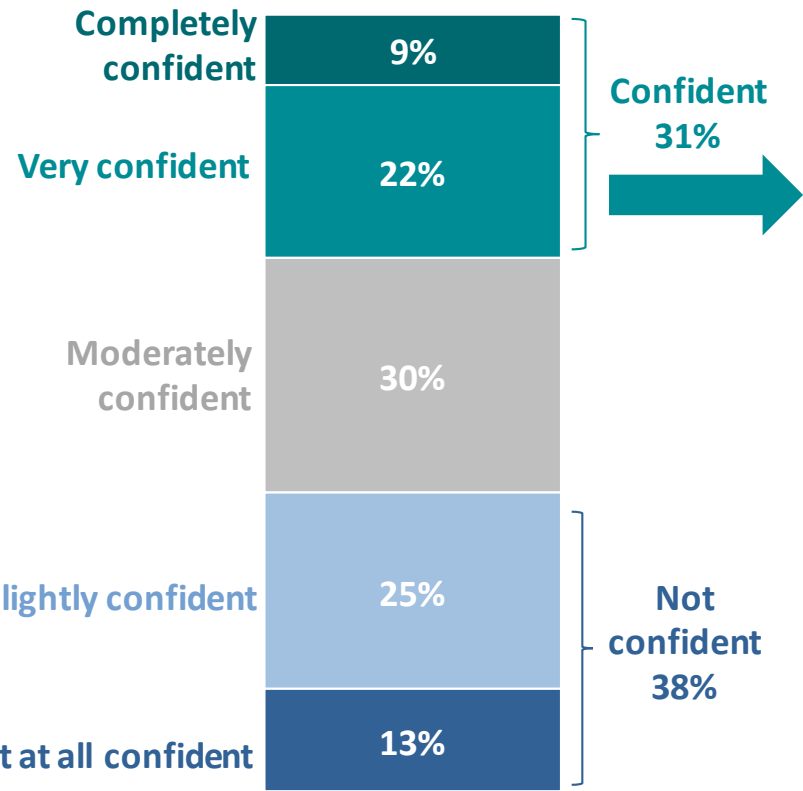
**Not applicable' results excluded*

Q8. How confident are you that you currently have the level of skills needed to advance in your current job?



Just 3 in 10 report a high level of confidence that they will have the skills needed for the type of job they would like in the next 5 years, those with postgraduate degrees over index

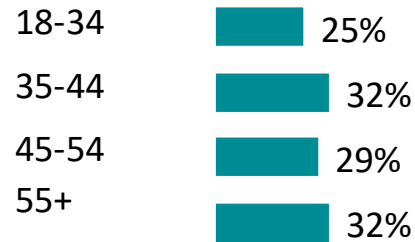
BASE : All respondents (N/a excluded) - 792



Gender



Age



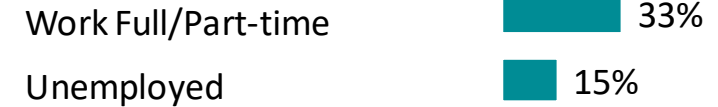
Social Class



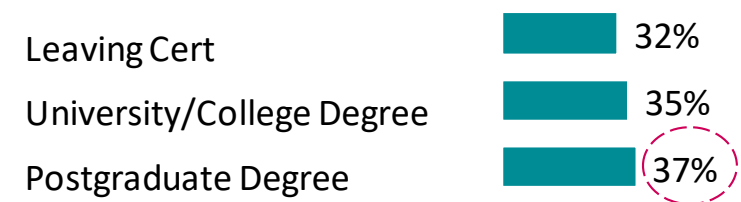
Region



Work



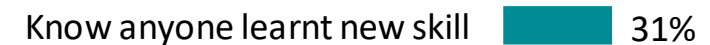
Education



Children



New Skills



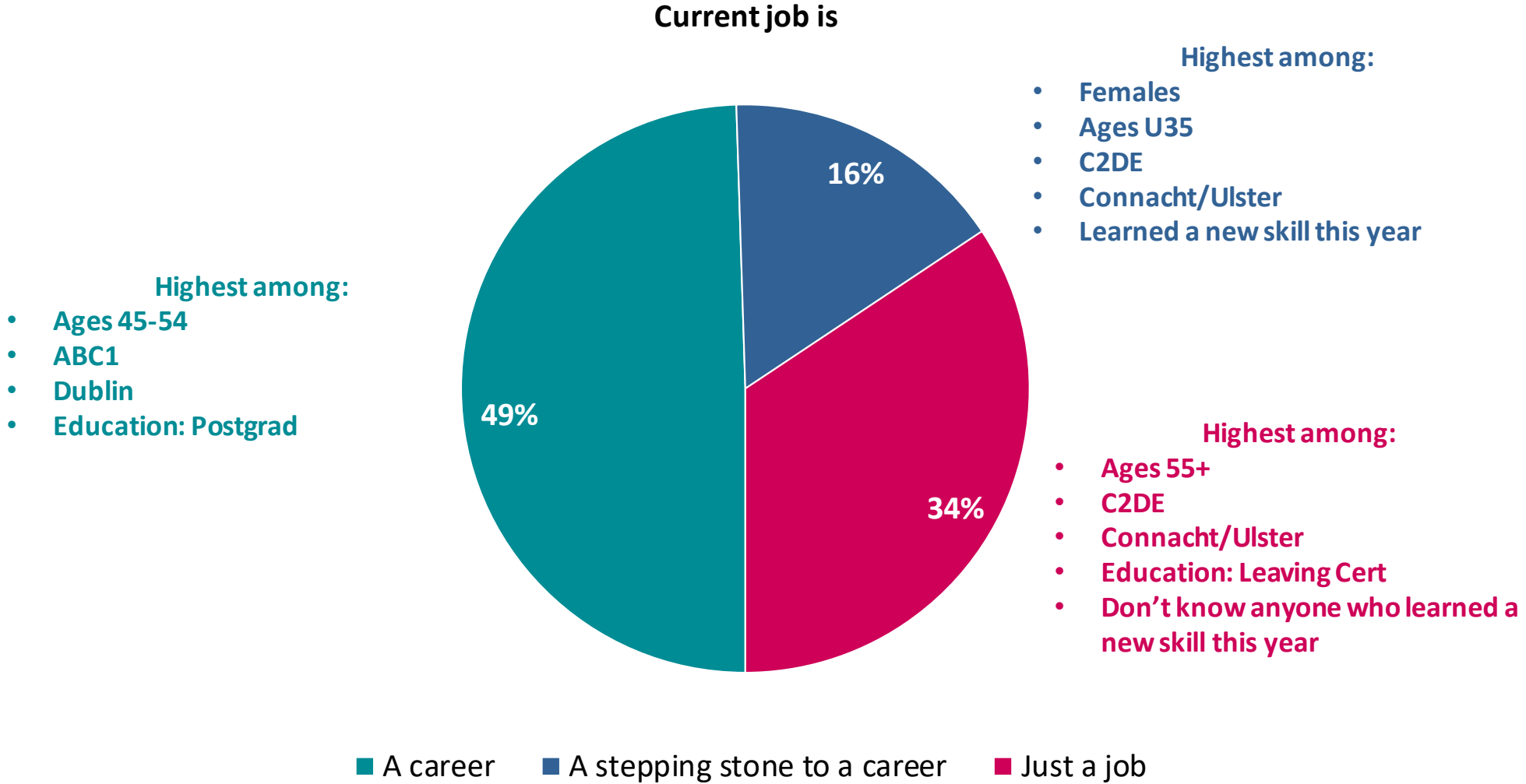
**Not applicable' results excluded*

Q9. How confident are you that you will have the level of skills needed for the type of job you would like to have in the next 5 years?



Just under half describe their current job as a career, one third feel it is just a job, and 16% view it as a stepping stone to a career


BASE : All those employed N/a excluded - 682)



**Not applicable' results excluded*

Q10. Do you consider your current job to be ...?

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