

Alpha-to-Omega

Socrates Programme

229854-CP-1-2006-1-DE-GRUNDTVIG-G1PP

First Results

Outline

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Methodological Remarks I

Survey period:

The time frame for the survey period ranged during early summer 2007.

Selection of participants:

Selection of participants as well as coordination of the data collection was done by the persons in charge for the respective countries. Therefore the sample structure is not representative (and could not be) due to the explorative character of the study.

Scientific standards in data acquisition and analysis:

Data were collected from the paper questionnaires and then underwent a thorough validation (check for correct data entry, examination of internal consistency). Subsequent data analysis was done by using SPSS.

All answers concerning open questions were taken into account as long as they were available in German, English or French.

The categories are going to be summarised and the results are presented after the next step of analysis in the report to come.

Methodological Remarks II

Definition of categories (missing values):

“No answer” was assigned when the respondent either did not mark a category or this was not unambiguous (e.g. two or more marks when only one was intended – though in some cases the question was transformed in a multiple response question though this was not initially intended).

“Not applicable” was assigned when a respondent was not meant to answer a specific question (e.g. reasons for not attending courses when the respondent had attended courses)

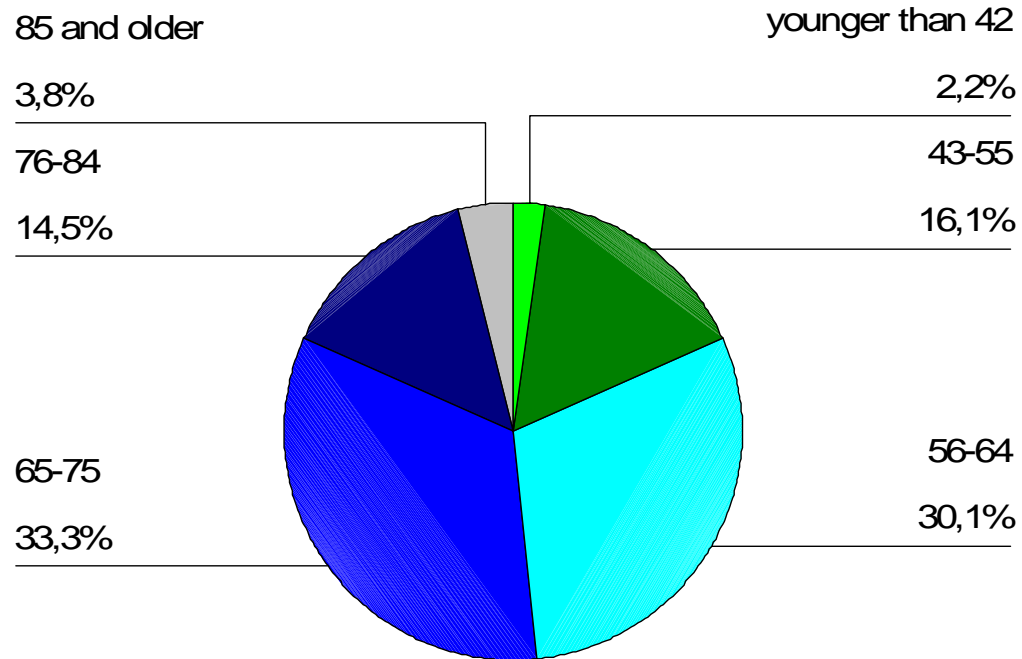
For the analysis what is referred to as “total” or the base for the percentage values is the total of valid answers not including the above mentioned missing values.

Questions with multiple responses:

Analysis of multiple response questions includes two “totals”, one referring to the total number of answers given and the other referring to the number of respondents of that specific question.

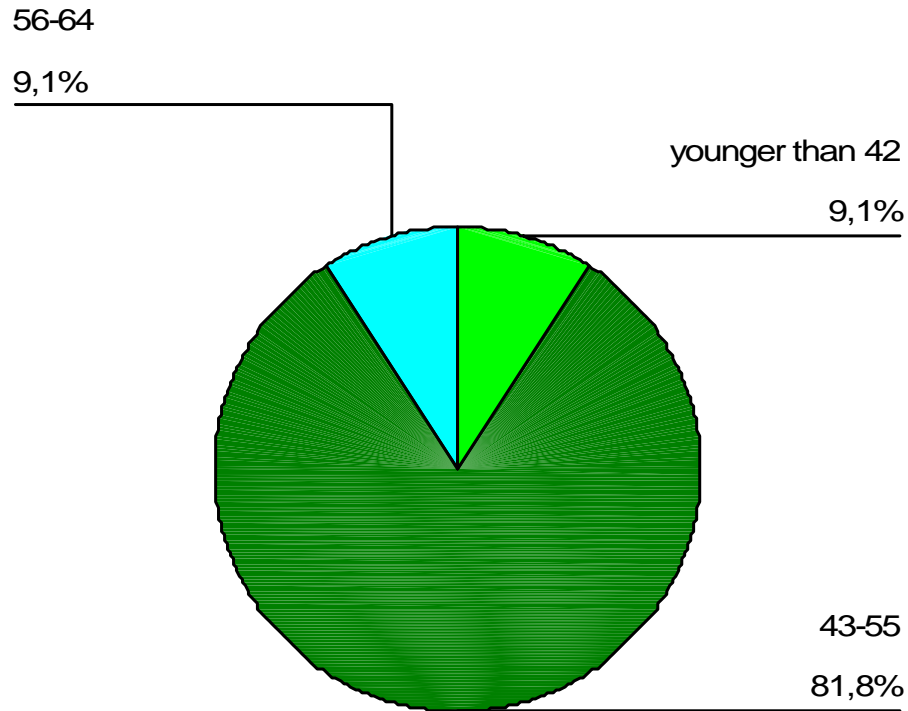
Sample Structure: Age

All cases: “Age” (in years)



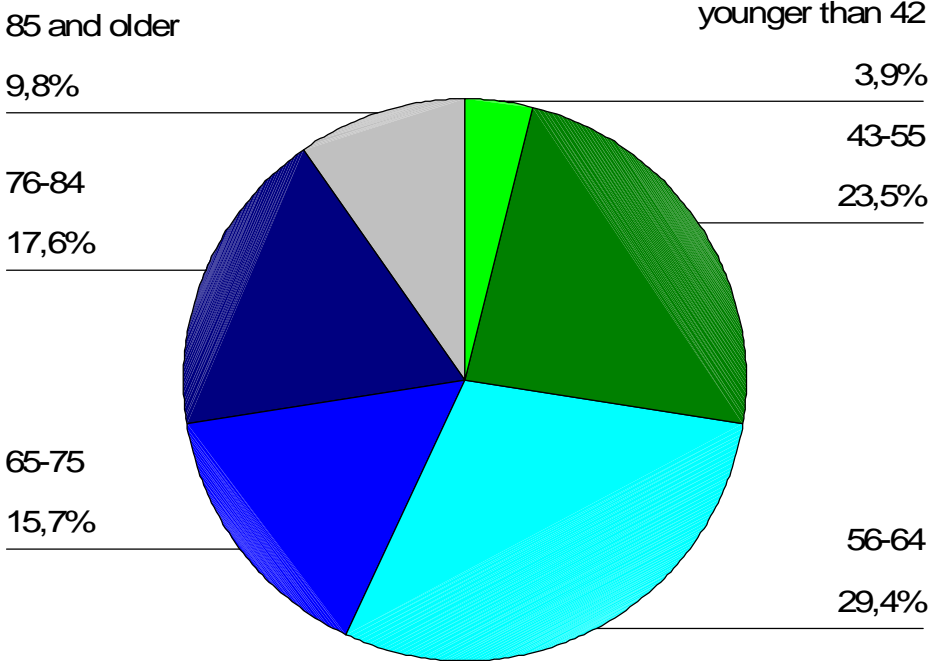
Sample Structure: Age (in years)

Ireland: “Age” (in years) (N=11)



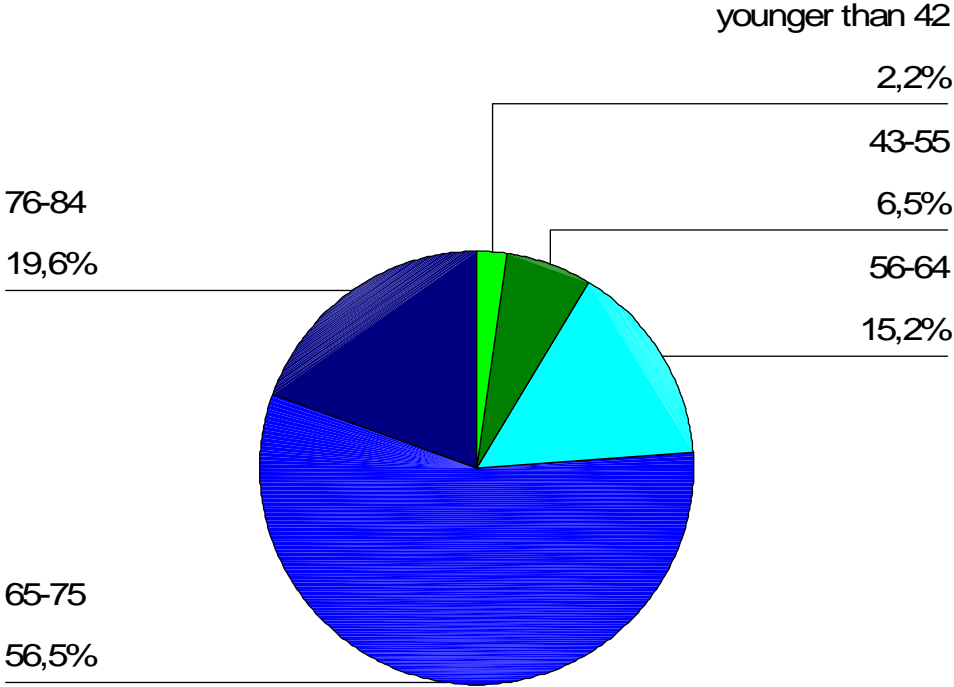
Sample Structure: Age (in years)

Austria: “Age” (in years) (N=51)



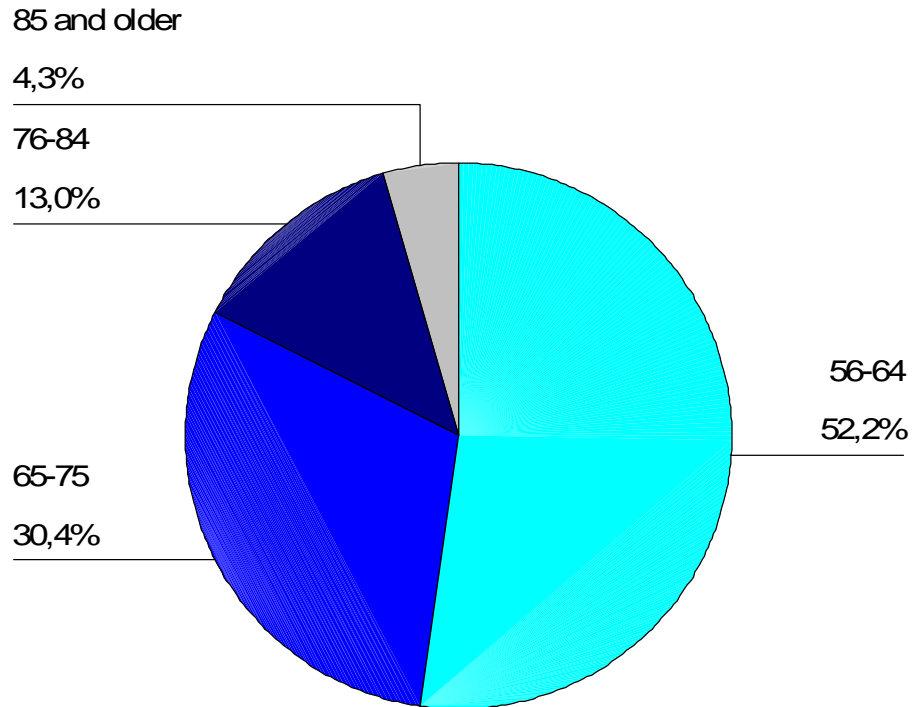
Sample Structure: Age (in years)

Germany: “Age” (in years) (N=46)



Sample Structure: Age (in years)

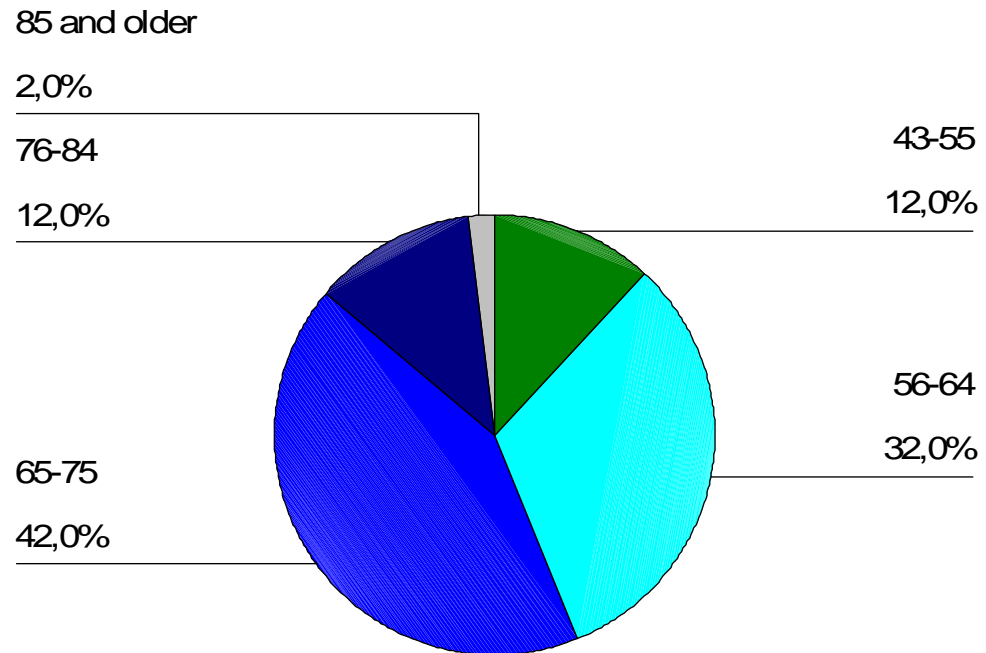
Greece: “Age” (in years) (N=23)



Based on 39 out of 48 cases.

Sample Structure: Age (in years)

Romania: “Age” (in years) (N=50)

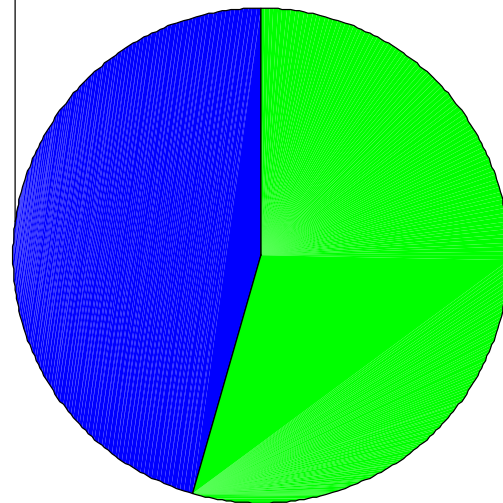


Sample Structure: Gender

All cases: “Gender“

female

45,6%

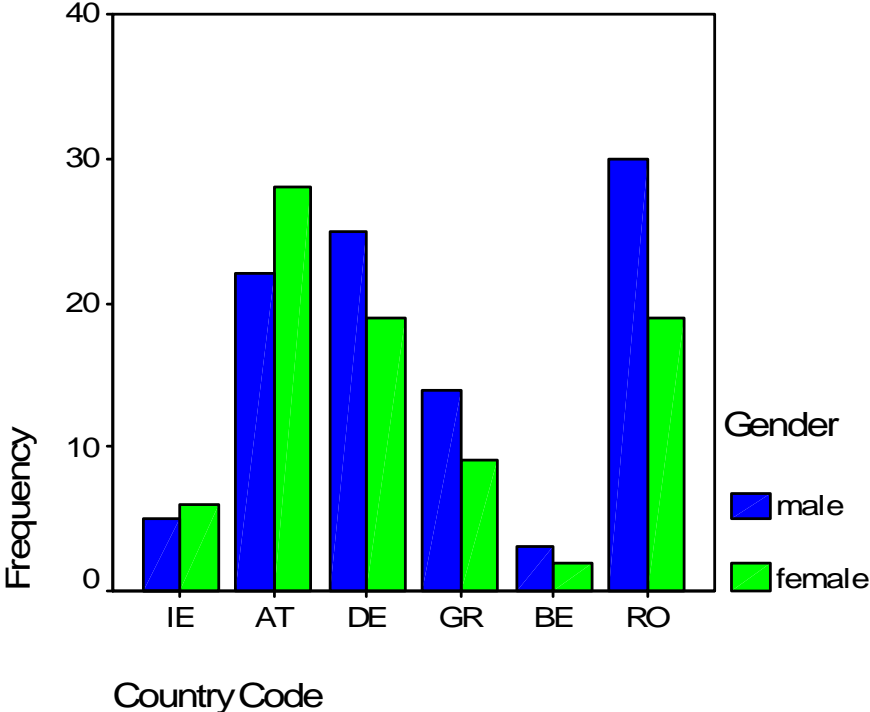


male

54,4%

Sample Structure: Gender

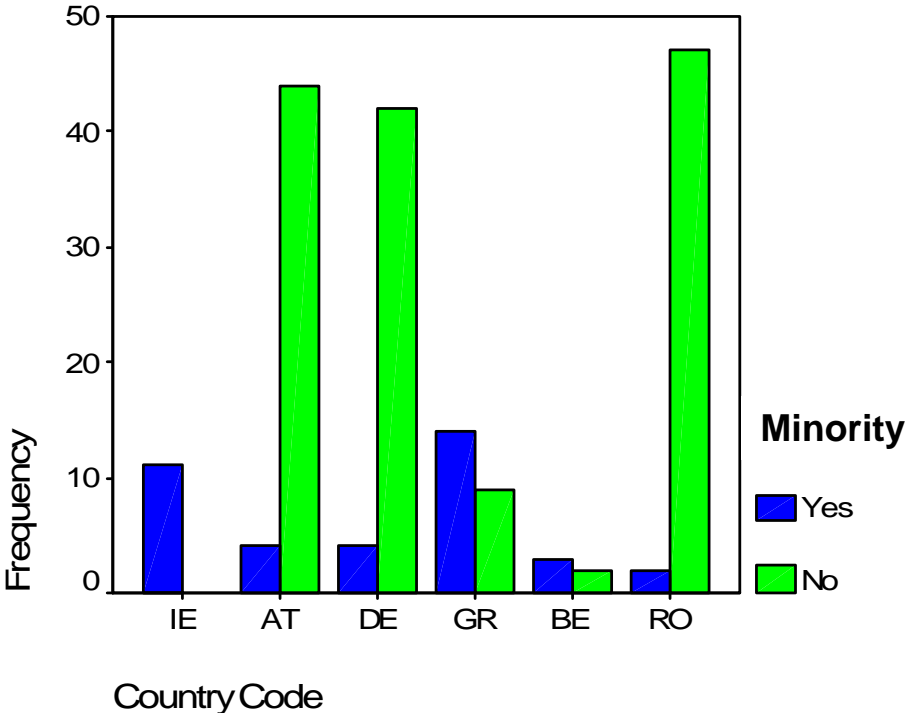
All cases: “Gender“ and “Country-Code” (N=182)



Sample Structure: Minority

All cases: “Minority” and “Country-Code” (N=182)

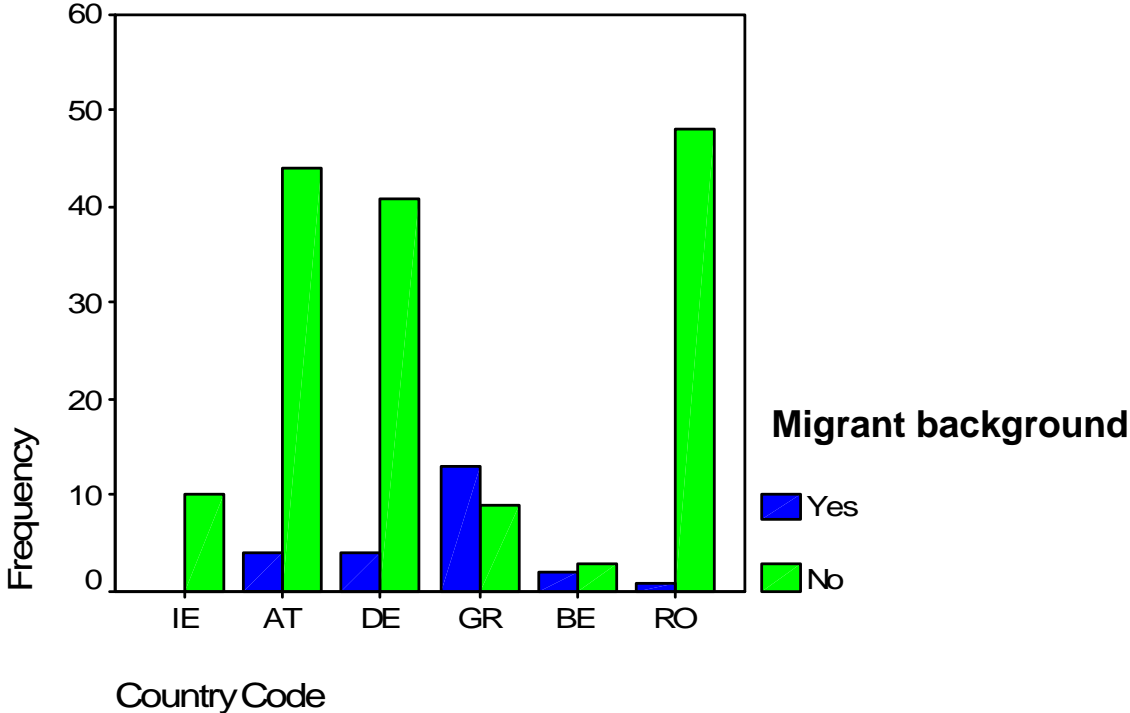
21% of the respondents state that they belong to an ethnic or social minority; the figures vary over the participating countries to a great extent.



Sample Structure: Migrant background

All cases: “Migrant background“ and “Country-Code” (N=182)

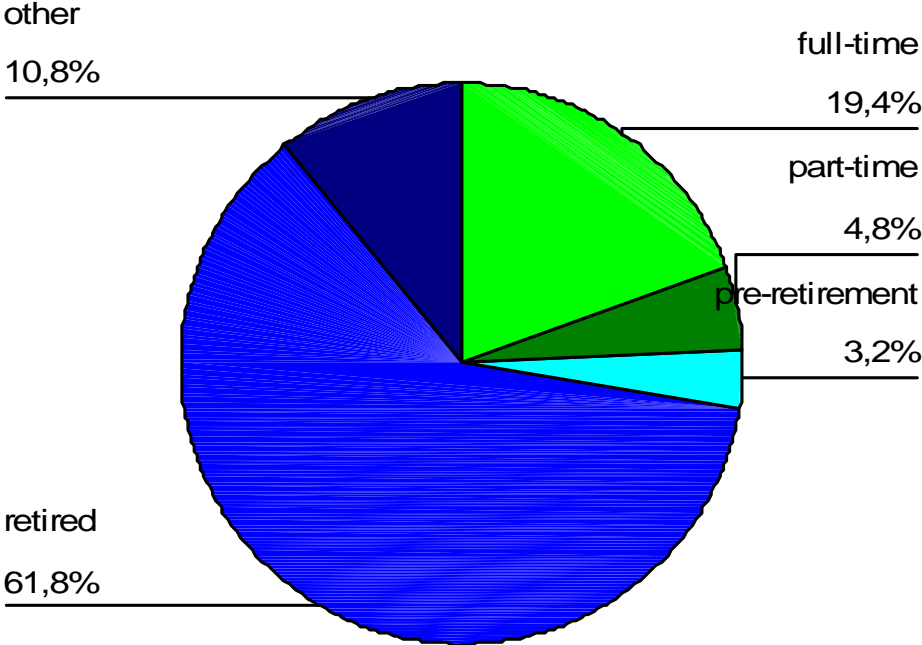
13% of the respondents state that they have a migrant background; again the figures vary over the participating countries to a great extent.



Frequencies Section A: General information

A6 “Current labour status” (N=186)

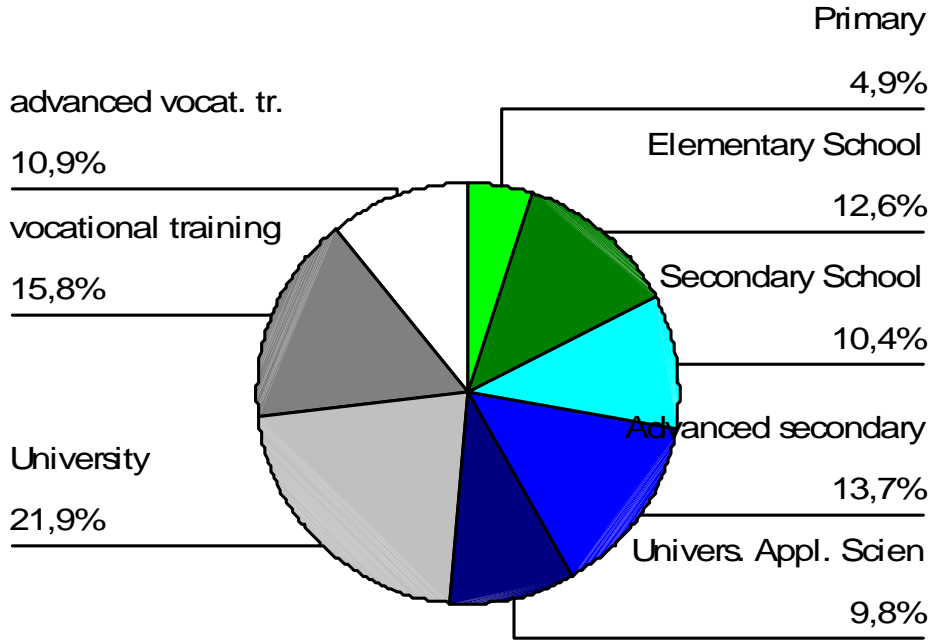
“Housewife”, “motherhood”, “unemployed” and “self-employed” are stated as comments concerning“ other labour status.



Frequencies Section A: General information

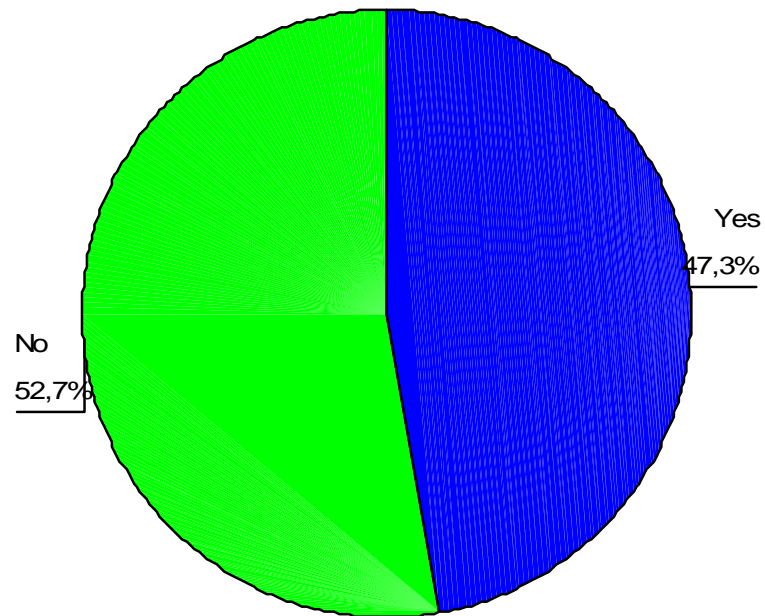
A8 “Educational level” (N=183)

Since very few respondents (2 each) have stated “other” or “none of the above” they are not integrated in the pie chart.



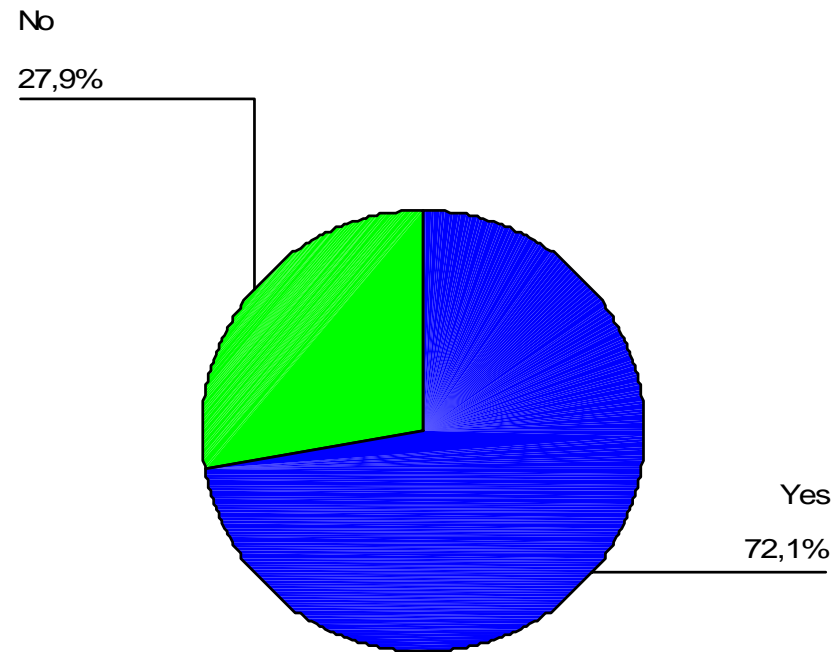
Frequencies Section A: General information

A9 “Age-related health problems” (N=182)



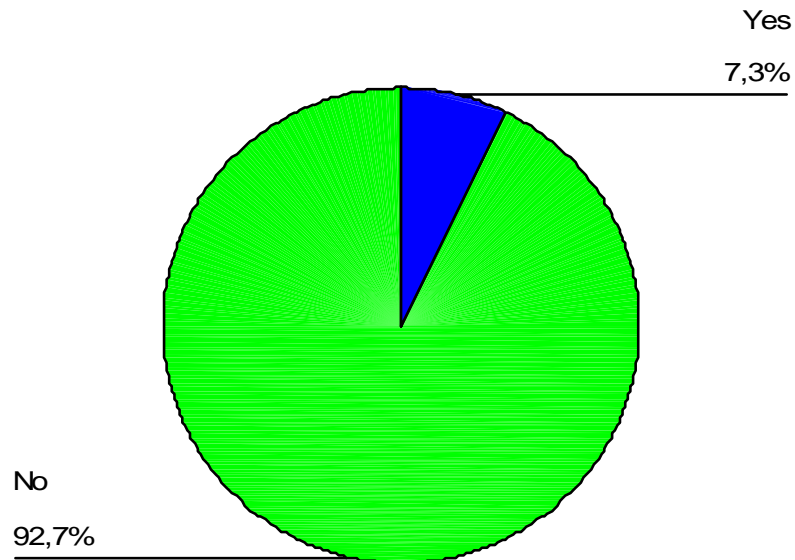
Frequencies Section A: General information

A10 “Glasses” (N=183)



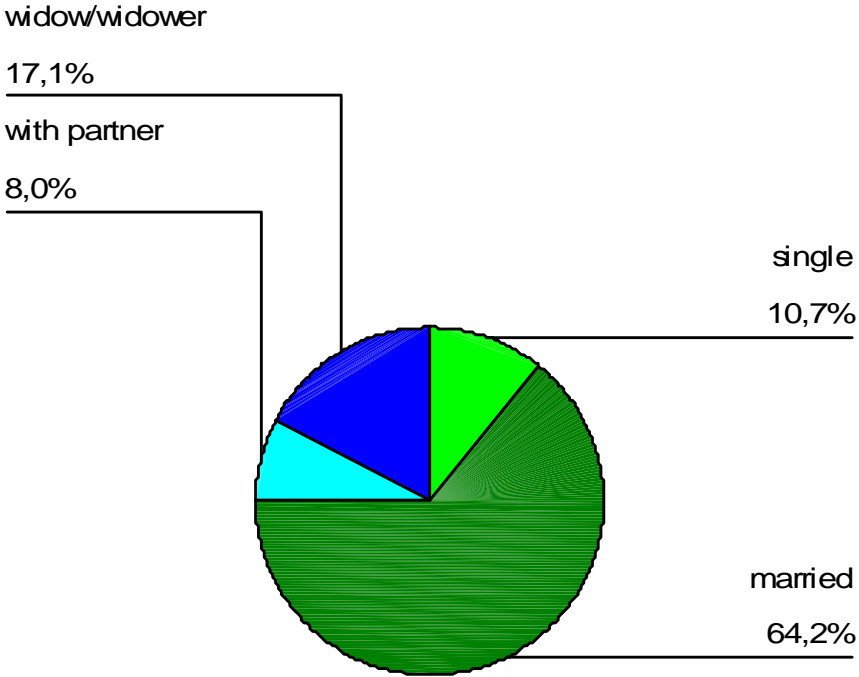
Frequencies Section A: General information

A11 “Hearing devices” (N=178)



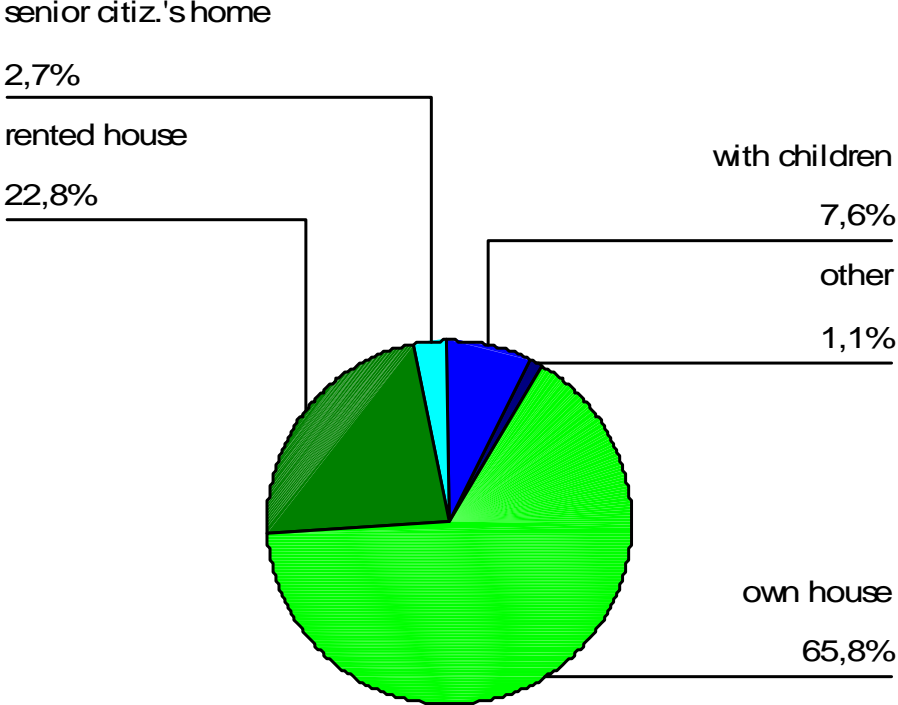
Frequencies Section A: General information

A12 “Marital status” (N=187)



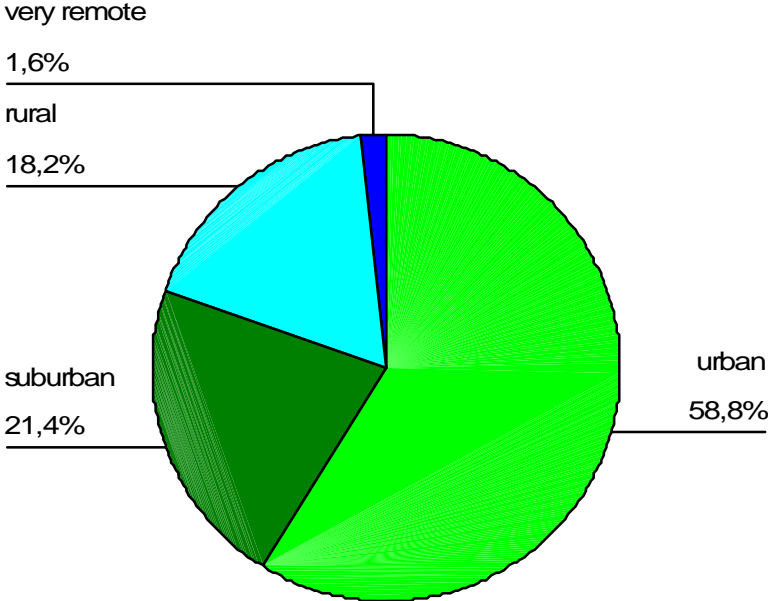
Frequencies Section A: General information

A13 “Kind of home” (N=184)



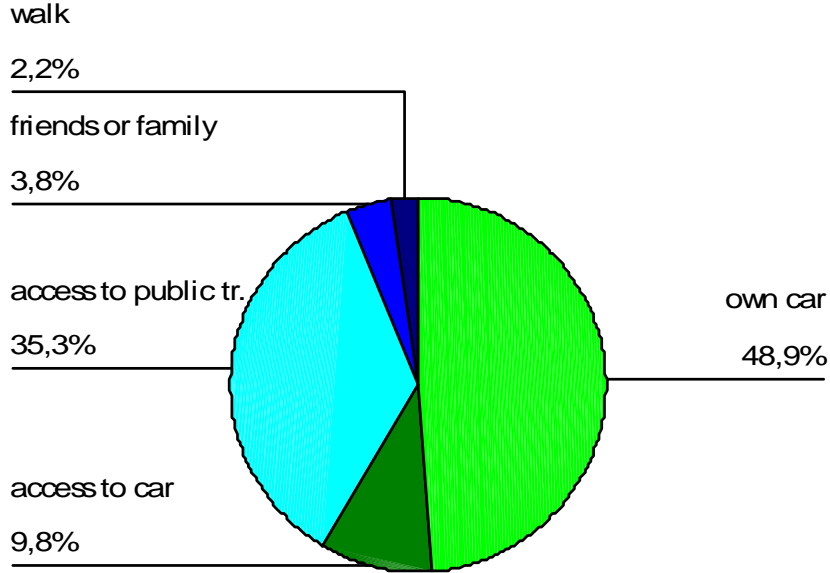
Frequencies Section A: General information

A14 “Kind of area” (N=187)



Frequencies Section A: General information

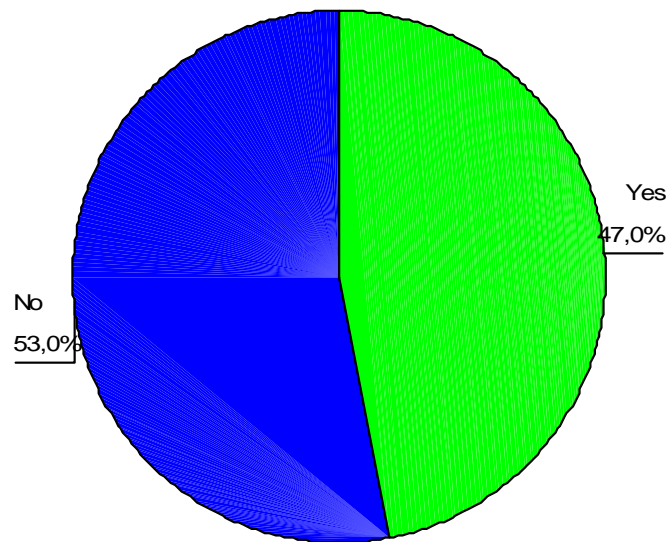
A15 “Forms of mobility” (N=184)



Frequencies Section B: Questions on adult learning

B1 “Attendance adult learning courses” (N=183)

The analysis of the following questions (B2 – B14) refers to those 47% of the respondents (n=86), who have attended an adult learning course. For those who have attended more than one course it was sometimes difficult to average over the courses for the next questions. This leads to a certain amount of missing responses.



Frequencies Section B: Questions on adult learning

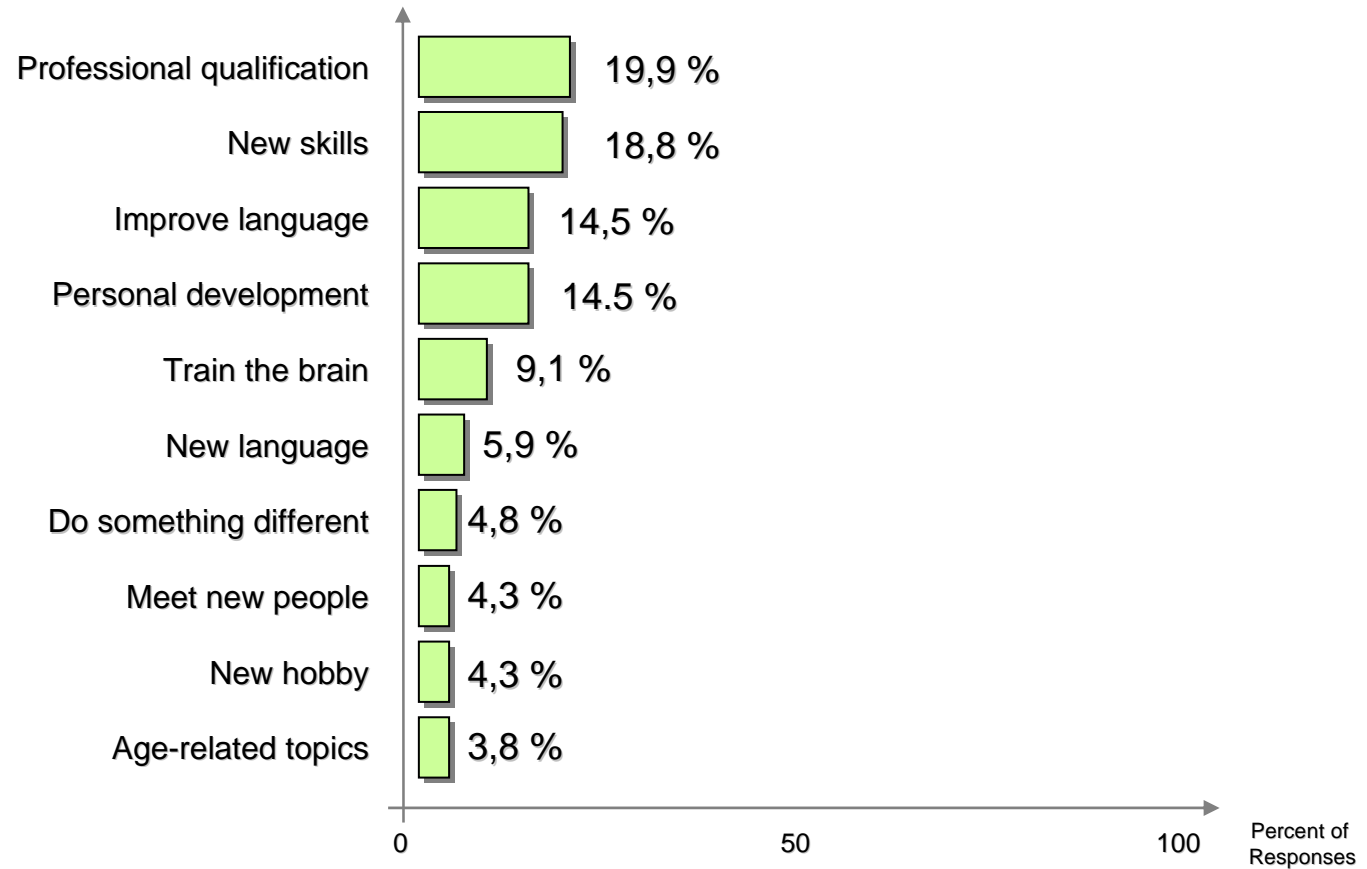
B2 “Reasons for Attending” (Percent of Responses, N=186)

Category label	Code	Count	Pct of Responses	Pct of Cases
professional qualification	1	37	19,9	45,7
new skills	2	35	18,8	43,2
improve language	3	27	14,5	33,3
new language	4	11	5,9	13,6
new hobby	5	8	4,3	9,9
do sth. different	6	9	4,8	11,1
meet new people	7	8	4,3	9,9
train the brain	8	17	9,1	21,0
personal development	9	27	14,5	33,3
age-related topics	10	7	3,8	8,6
		-----	-----	-----
	Total responses	186	100,0	229,6

107 missing cases; 81 valid cases

Frequencies Section B: Questions for all

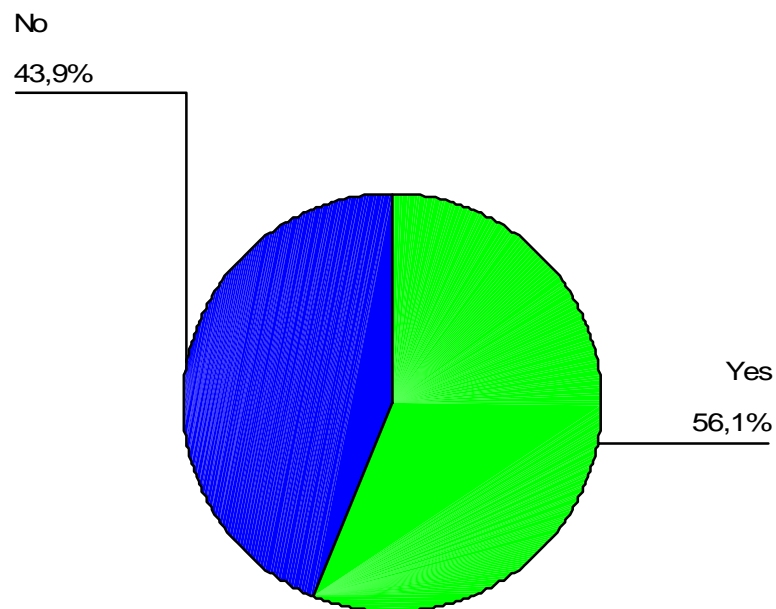
B2 “Reasons for Attending” (Percent of Responses, N=186)



Frequencies Section B: Questions on adult learning

B3 „Payment for courses“

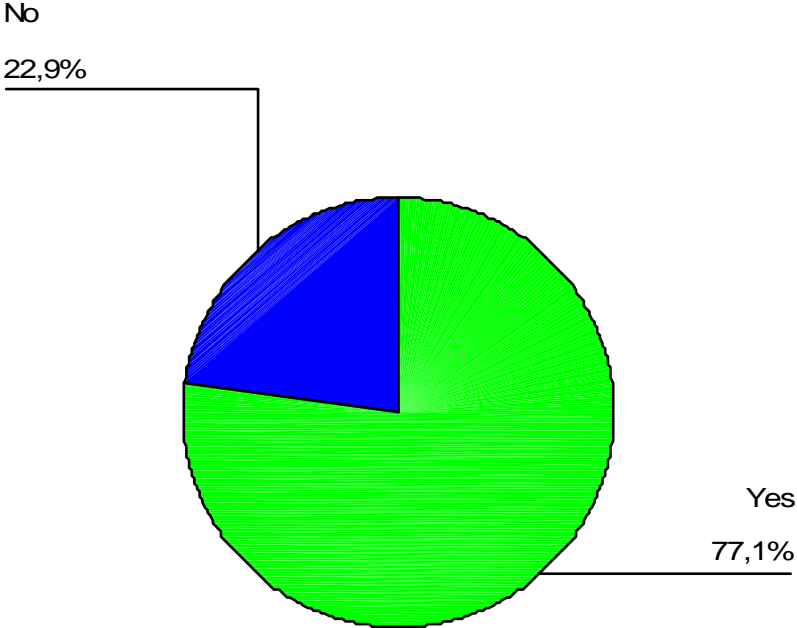
Less than 20 % of the respondents have stated a figure, mostly between 80 and 300 €, in some cases the fees were added up to a total or yearly amount.



Frequencies Section B: Questions on adult learning

B4 „Certificate“

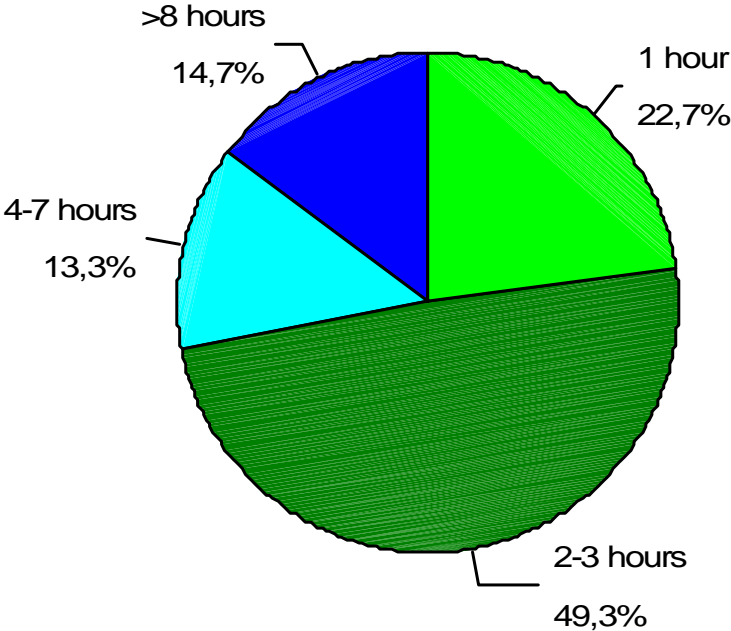
More than half of the respondents (55%), who have received a certificate, state that this has been of importance.



Frequencies Section B: Questions on adult learning

B5 „Time per week“ (N=75)

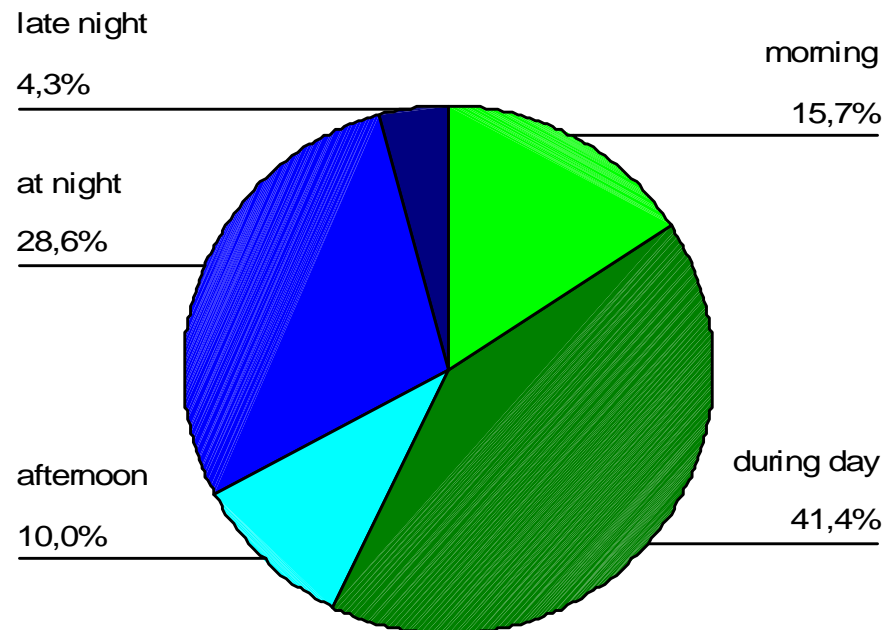
Additionally few respondents stated either “other” or more than one category (for different courses), which could not be taken into account.



Frequencies Section B: Questions on adult learning

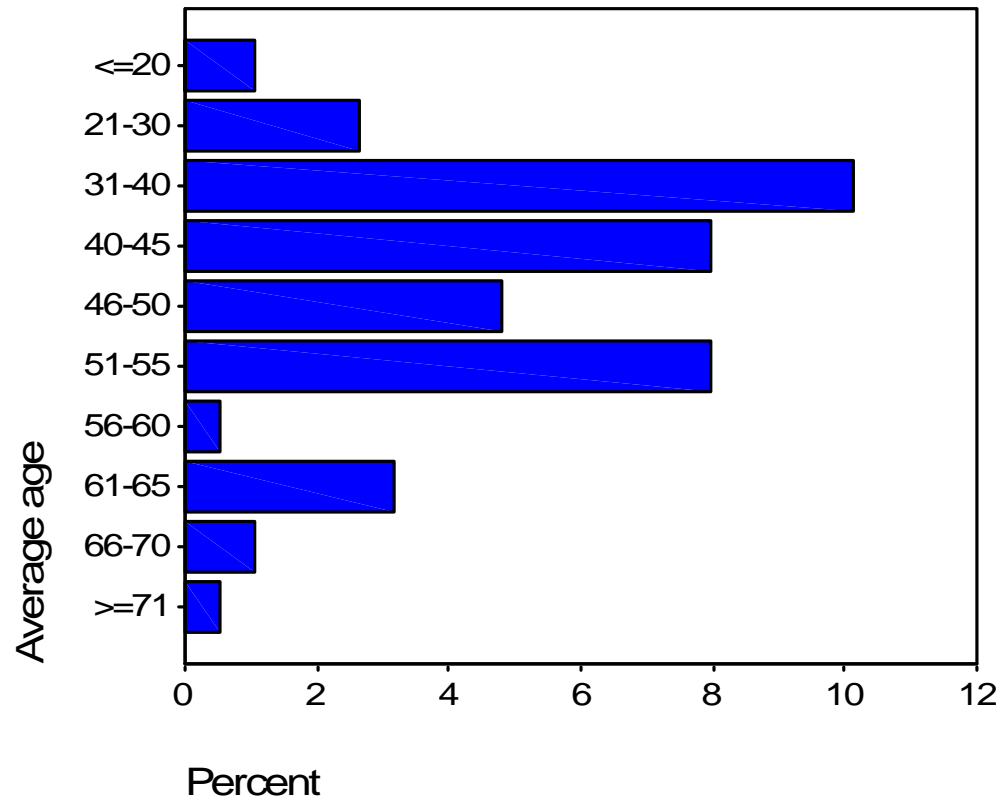
B6 „Time of the day“ (N=70)

Again a number of respondents (n=15) could not decide on a category because they had attended different courses.



Frequencies Section B: Questions on adult learning

B7 „Average age in the courses“ (N=75)



Frequencies Section B: Questions on adult learning

B8 “Feeling comfortable in the courses”

Almost everyone (1 “not comfortable”, 3 “no answer”) felt comfortable in the courses, therefore no chart is displayed.

B9 „Ability to follow the learning requirements“

The same (see B8 is true here).

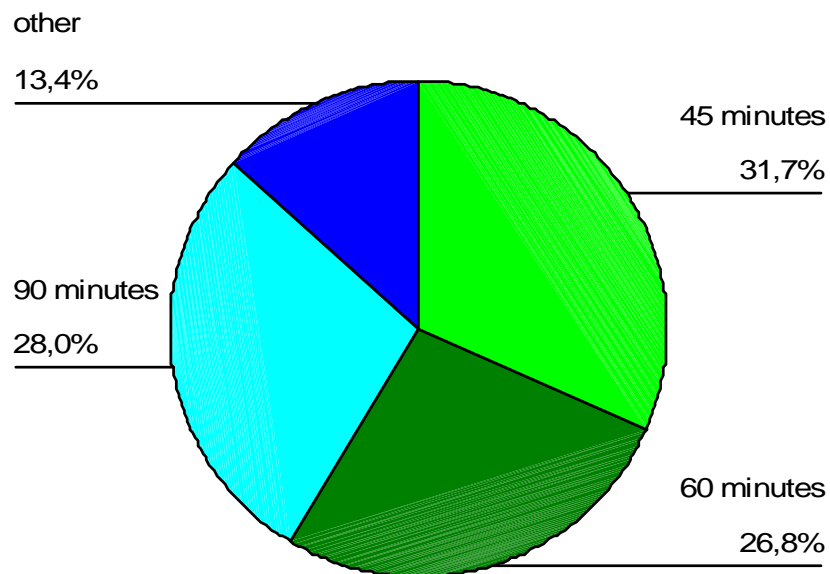
B10 “ Successful completion of the courses”

Again almost all respondents who have already attended a course on adult learning have successfully completed this/these course/s.
(3 “not successful”, 5 “no answer”).

Frequencies Section B: Questions on adult learning

B11 „Duration teaching unit“

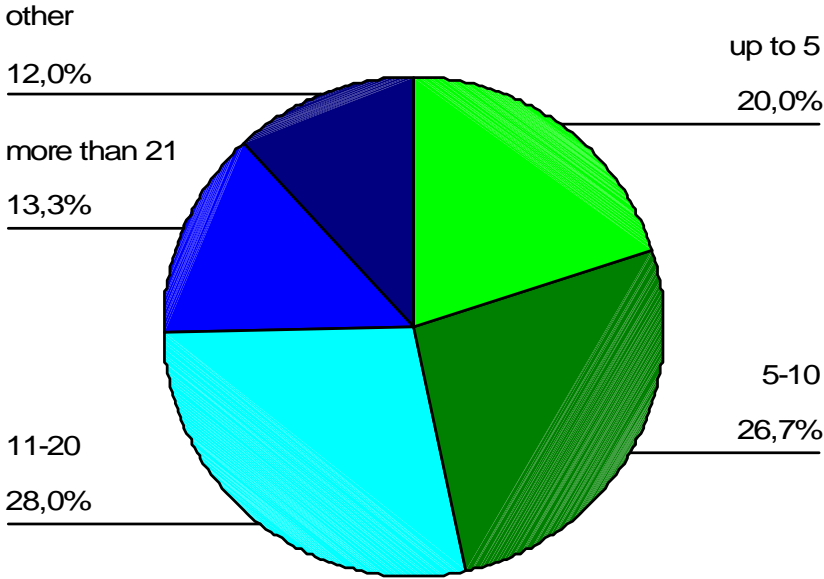
The statements concerning “Other” (n=8) mostly refer to “2-3 hours” or one day.



Frequencies Section B: Questions on adult learning

B12 „Number of teaching units“

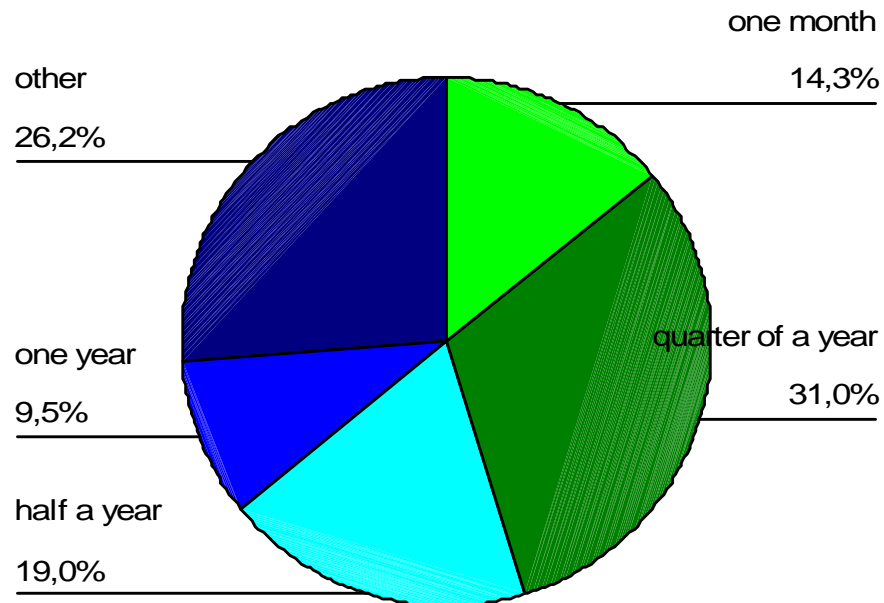
The statements concerning “Other” (n=5) refer to different situations related to different courses. The same is true for most of the answers coded as “missing values” (n=10); the respondents could not decide on one category, this then had to be treated as missing value.



Frequencies Section B: Questions on adult learning

B13 „Duration of the course”

Most of the statements concerning “Other” (n=22) again refer to different situations related to different courses. Additionally durations like “couple of days” or “weekend” are stated.



Frequencies Section B: Questions on adult learning

B14 “Problems during course/s”

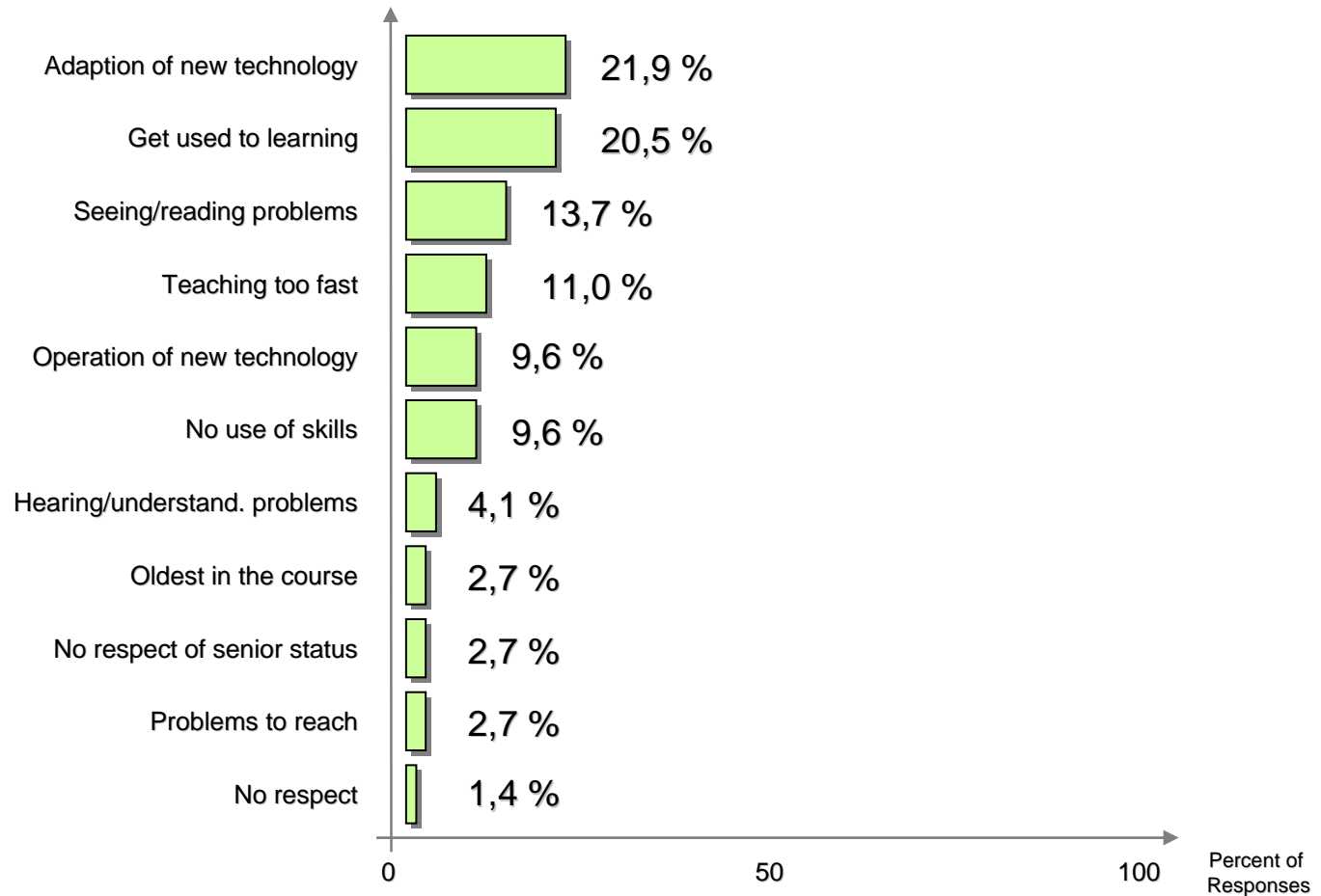
More than half of the respondents who have answered this question haven't had a single problem (40 out of 76). The other problems are distributed as follows.

Category label	Code	Count	Pct of Responses	Pct of Cases
teaching too fast	1	8	11,0	24,2
operation of new technology	2	7	9,6	21,2
adaption of new technology	3	16	21,9	48,5
get used to learning	4	15	20,5	45,5
oldest in the course	5	2	2,7	6,1
no respect of senior status	6	2	2,7	6,1
no use of skills	7	7	9,6	21,2
no respect	8	1	1,4	3,0
hearing/understanding problems	9	3	4,1	9,1
seeing/reading problems	10	10	13,7	30,3
problems to reach	11	2	2,7	6,1
		-----	-----	-----
	Total responses	73	100,0	221,2

155 missing cases; 33 valid cases

Frequencies Section B: Questions on adult learning

B14 “Problems during course/s” (n=33 resp., who had at least one problem)



Frequencies Section B: Questions for all

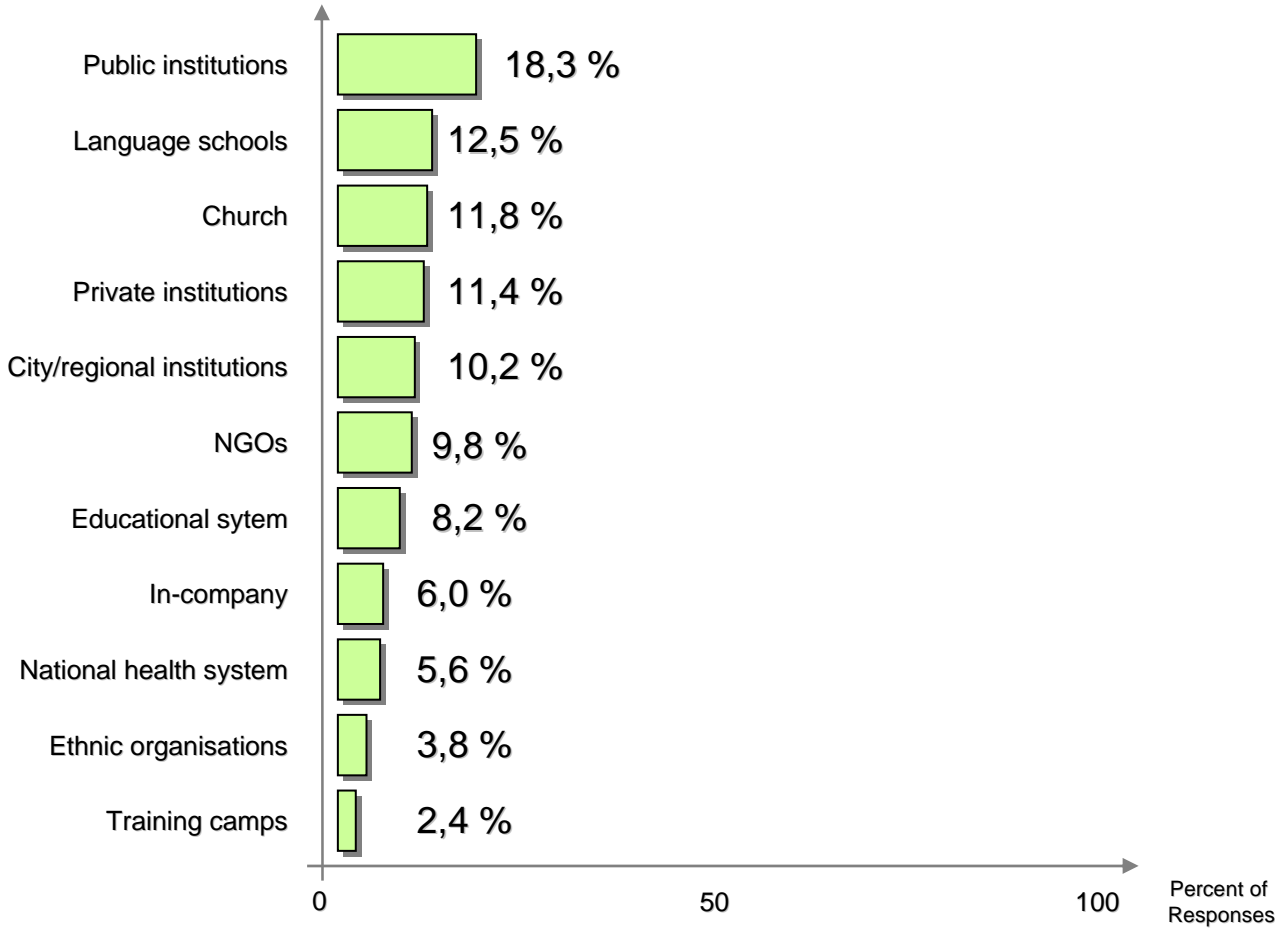
B15 “Institutions known”

Category label	Code	Count	Pct of Responses	Pct of Cases
public	1	101	18,3	68,7
private	2	63	11,4	42,9
church	3	65	11,8	44,2
city/region	4	56	10,2	38,1
national health system	5	31	5,6	21,1
educational system	6	45	8,2	30,6
in-company	7	33	6,0	22,4
training camps	8	13	2,4	8,8
language schools	9	69	12,5	46,9
NGOs	10	54	9,8	36,7
ethnic organisations	11	21	3,8	14,3
		-----	-----	-----
	Total responses	551	100,0	374,8

41 missing cases; 147 valid cases

Frequencies Section B: Questions for all

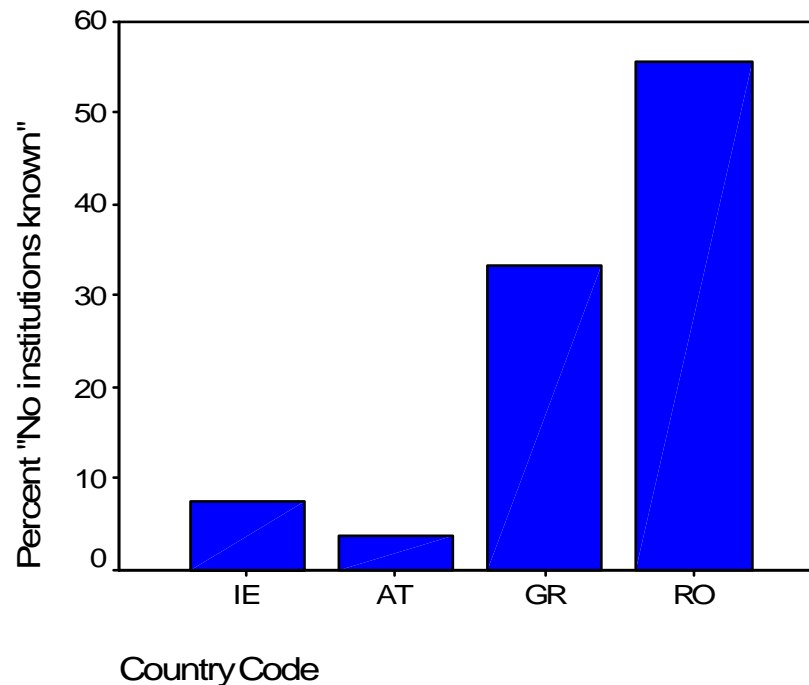
B15 “Institutions known” (Percent of Responses N=551)



Frequencies Section B: Questions for all

B15 “Institutions known” and “Country Code”

15 % (n=27) of the respondents declared, that they don't know any institution which offers adult learning courses in their area. The following graph shows the distribution of “no institutions known” concerning the different participating countries.



Frequencies Section B: Questions for all

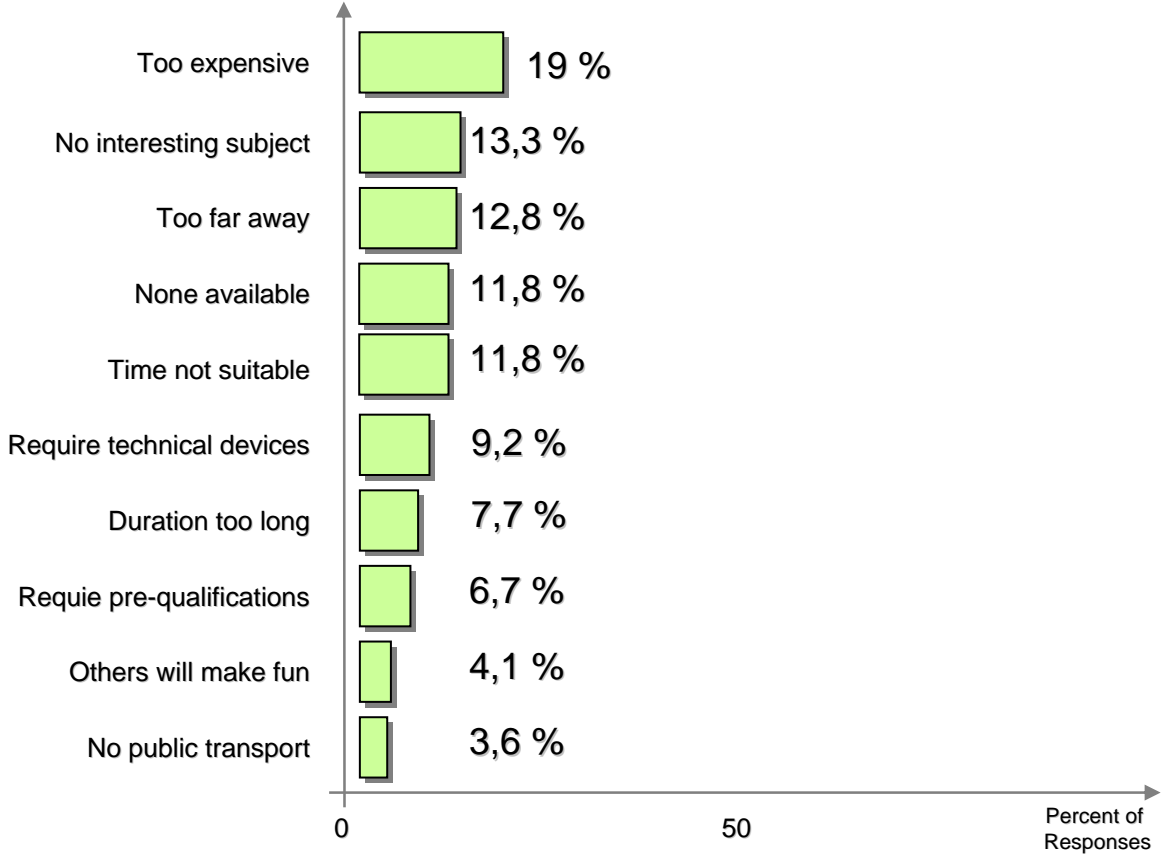
B16 “Obstacles”

Category label	Code	Count	Pct of Responses	Pct of Cases
too far away	1	25	12,8	23,6
cannot be reached by public transport	2	7	3,6	6,6
too expensive	3	37	19,0	34,9
require technical devices	4	18	9,2	17,0
require pre-qualifications	5	13	6,7	12,3
none available	6	23	11,8	21,7
time not suitable	7	23	11,8	21,7
duration too long	8	15	7,7	14,2
others will make fun	9	8	4,1	7,5
no interesting subject	10	26	13,3	24,5
		-----	-----	-----
	Total responses	195	100,0	184,0

82 missing cases; 106 valid cases

Frequencies Section B: Questions for all

B16 “Obstacles” (Percent of Responses, N=195)



Frequencies Section B : Questions for all

B17 “Forms of learning”

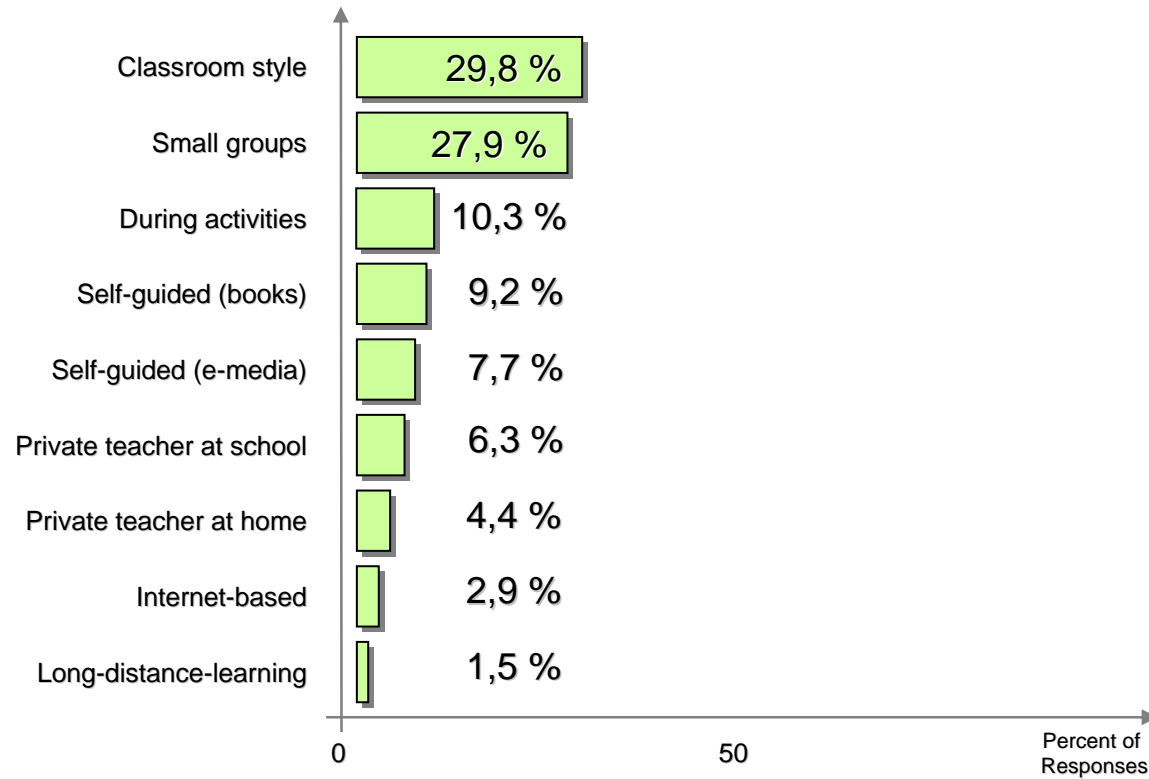
Category label	Code	Count	Pct of Responses	Pct of Cases
classroom style	1	81	29,8	47,4
private teacher at school	2	17	6,3	9,9
private teacher at home	3	12	4,4	7,0
small groups	4	76	27,9	44,4
self-guided (books)	5	25	9,2	14,6
self-guided (e-media)	6	21	7,7	12,3
long-distance-learning	7	4	1,5	2,3
internet-based	8	8	2,9	4,7
during activities	9	28	10,3	16,4
		-----	-----	-----
	Total responses	272	100,0	159,1

17 missing cases; 171 valid cases

Initially this question was not designed as a multiple response question; since quite a number of respondents chose more than one category this was changed during data entry.

Frequencies Section B: Questions for all

B17 “Forms of learning” (Percent of Responses, N=272)



Frequencies Section B: Questions for all

B18 “Courses/training programmes” (Percent of Responses, N=536)

Category label	Code	Count	%/Responses	%/Cases
language	1	59	11,0	36,6
health and lifestyle	2	70	13,1	43,5
fitness	3	30	5,6	18,6
medical	4	38	7,1	23,6
literacy	5	9	1,7	5,6
time-management	6	14	2,6	8,7
age-related subjects	7	35	6,5	21,7
arts	8	25	4,7	15,5
personal development	9	15	2,8	9,3
home improvement	10	22	4,1	13,7
gardening	11	32	6,0	19,9
history and politics	12	33	6,2	20,5
religion	13	15	2,8	9,3
social welfare	14	22	4,1	13,7
vocational training	15	10	1,9	6,2
ICT	16	40	7,5	24,8
public administration	17	6	1,1	3,7
intergenerational training	18	19	3,5	11,8
local history	19	17	3,2	10,6
handicrafts	20	14	2,6	8,7
animals	21	11	2,1	6,8
		-----	-----	-----
27 miss. cases;161 valid cases	Total responses	536	100,0	332,9

Frequencies Section B: Questions for all

B19 “Hobbies”

Category label	Code	Count	Pct of Responses	Pct of Cases
friends and family	1	114	17,5	61,6
gardening	2	59	9,0	31,9
sports	3	38	5,8	20,5
cooking	4	53	8,1	28,6
watching TV	5	65	10,0	35,1
travelling	6	82	12,6	44,3
arts	7	36	5,5	19,5
take care of the home	8	43	6,6	23,2
improve skills	9	19	2,9	10,3
movies	10	14	2,1	7,6
going out	11	31	4,7	16,8
shopping	12	26	4,0	14,1
wellness	13	31	4,7	16,8
car	14	17	2,6	9,2
religious activities	15	25	3,8	13,5
		-----	-----	-----
	Total responses	653	100,0	353,0
3 missing cases; 185 valid cases				

Contact

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