# This-Ability

### Final summary Based on data collected

July 2019 - January 2024

## What was This-Ability?

This-Ability was a 4-year programme aimed at engaging 359 young people with a disability, learning disability/difficulty or a long term health/mental health condition and finding 200 of them sustainable employment.





It is important to note that the programme was delivered over a period including the **Covid-19** pandemic which presented challenges to recruitment and achieving outcomes. For example, changes in the labour market and heightened anxiety amongst participants who feared going to work, meant securing employment became more difficult for many.

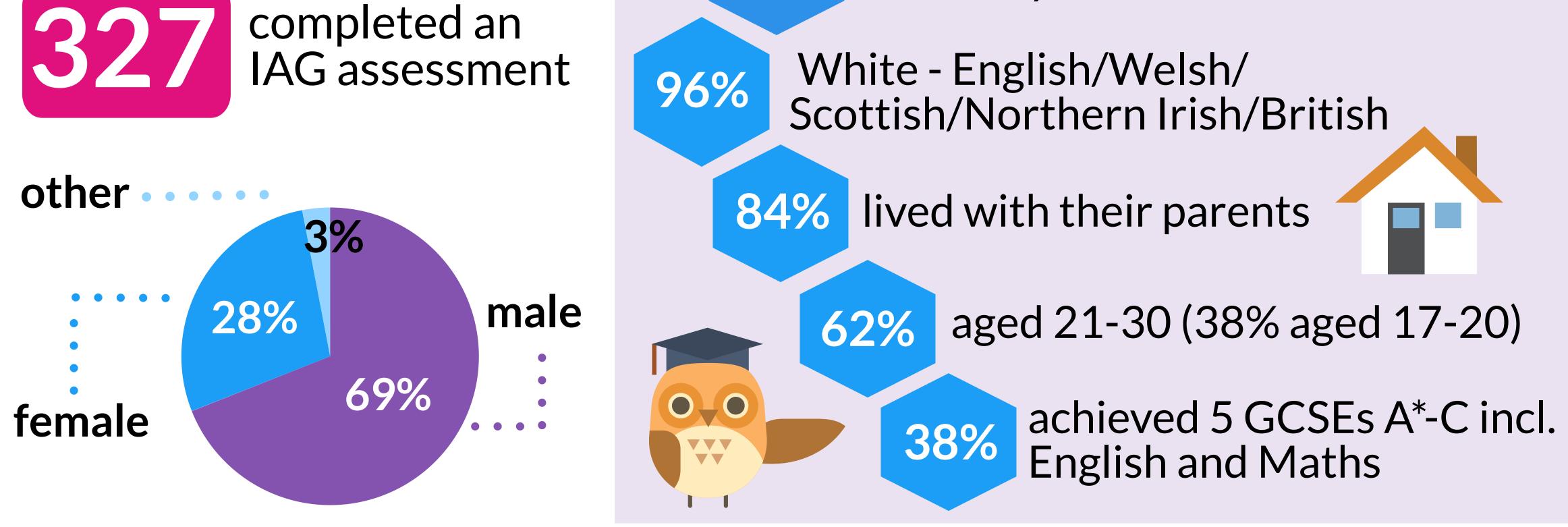
ioined the programme \*completed baseline survey or baseline IAG assessment and exit survey

# Who took part?

### Of the 289 young people who completed a baseline survey:

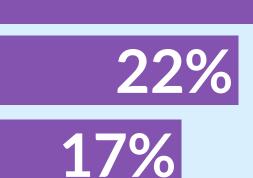
51%

had a disability which limits their daily activities



### What were young people doing before joining?

Not working and looking for work Not working and not looking for work Volunteering



58%

involved with mental health/ 20% counselling services

0			
Formal education	9%		
Long-term sick or disabled	4%	31%	had visited their GP in the last 3 months
Other	3%		last 3 months
In training	3%		
Work Placement	2%	1%	involved with drug/alcohol
Looking after children	2%		services
Caring	1%		
Travelling	0.3%		
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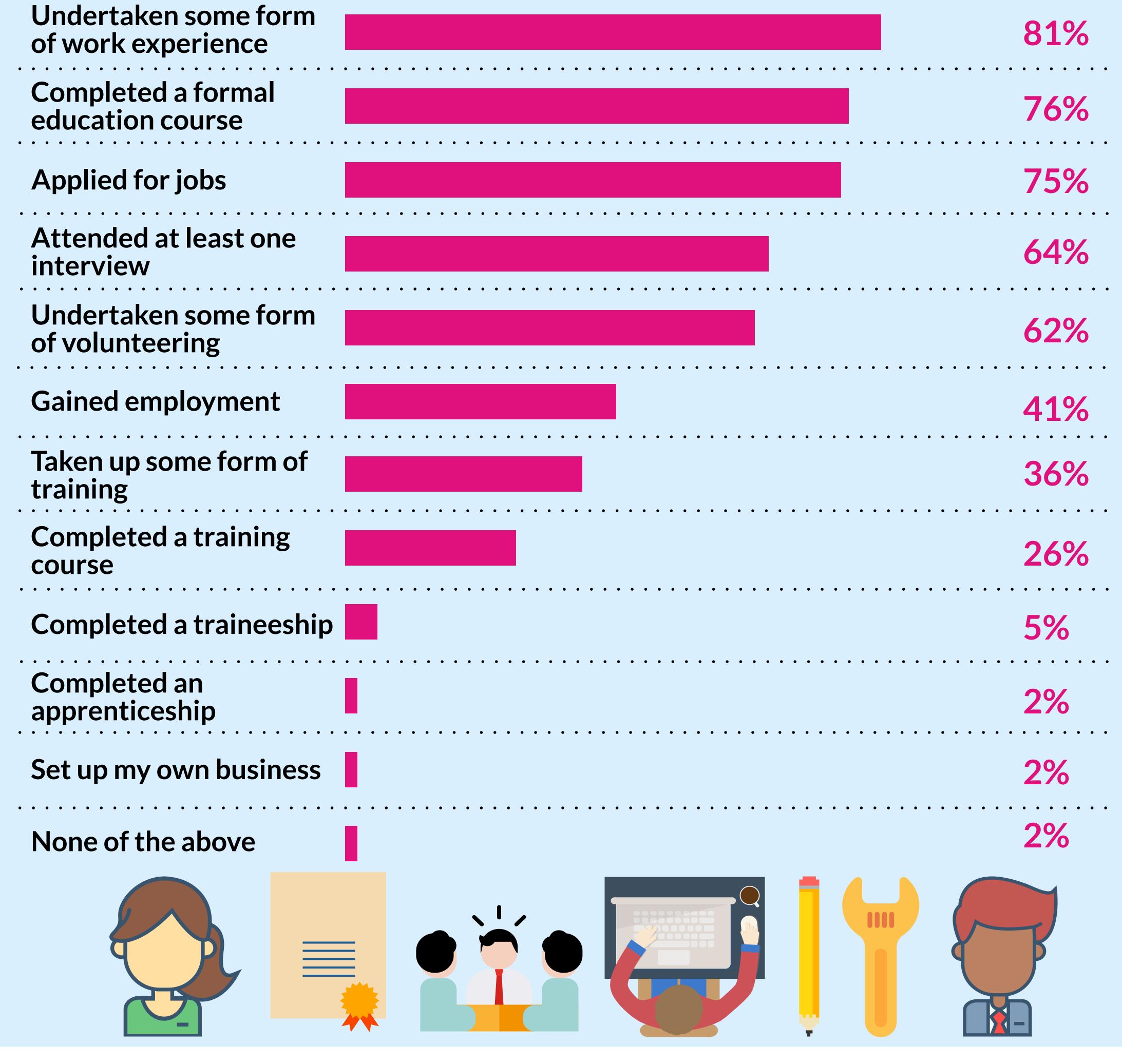


### **European Union**

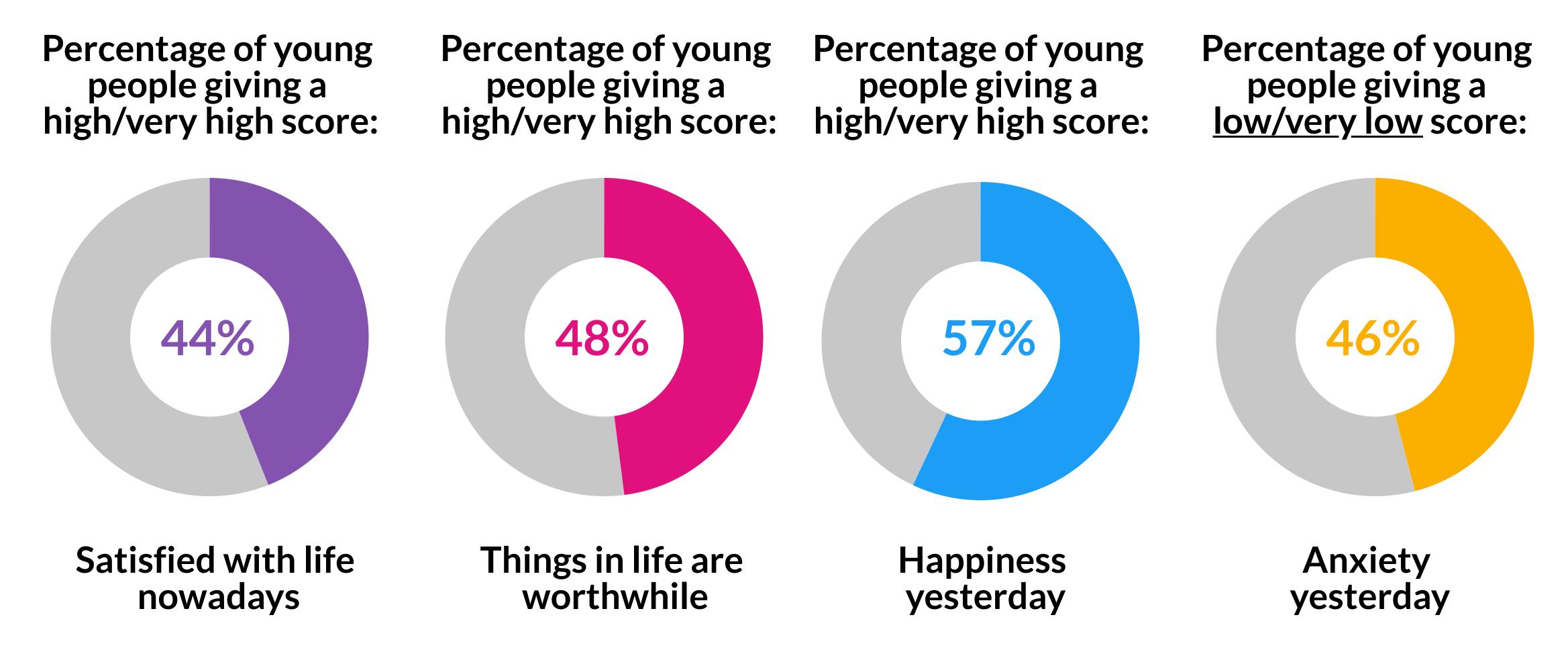
European Social Fund

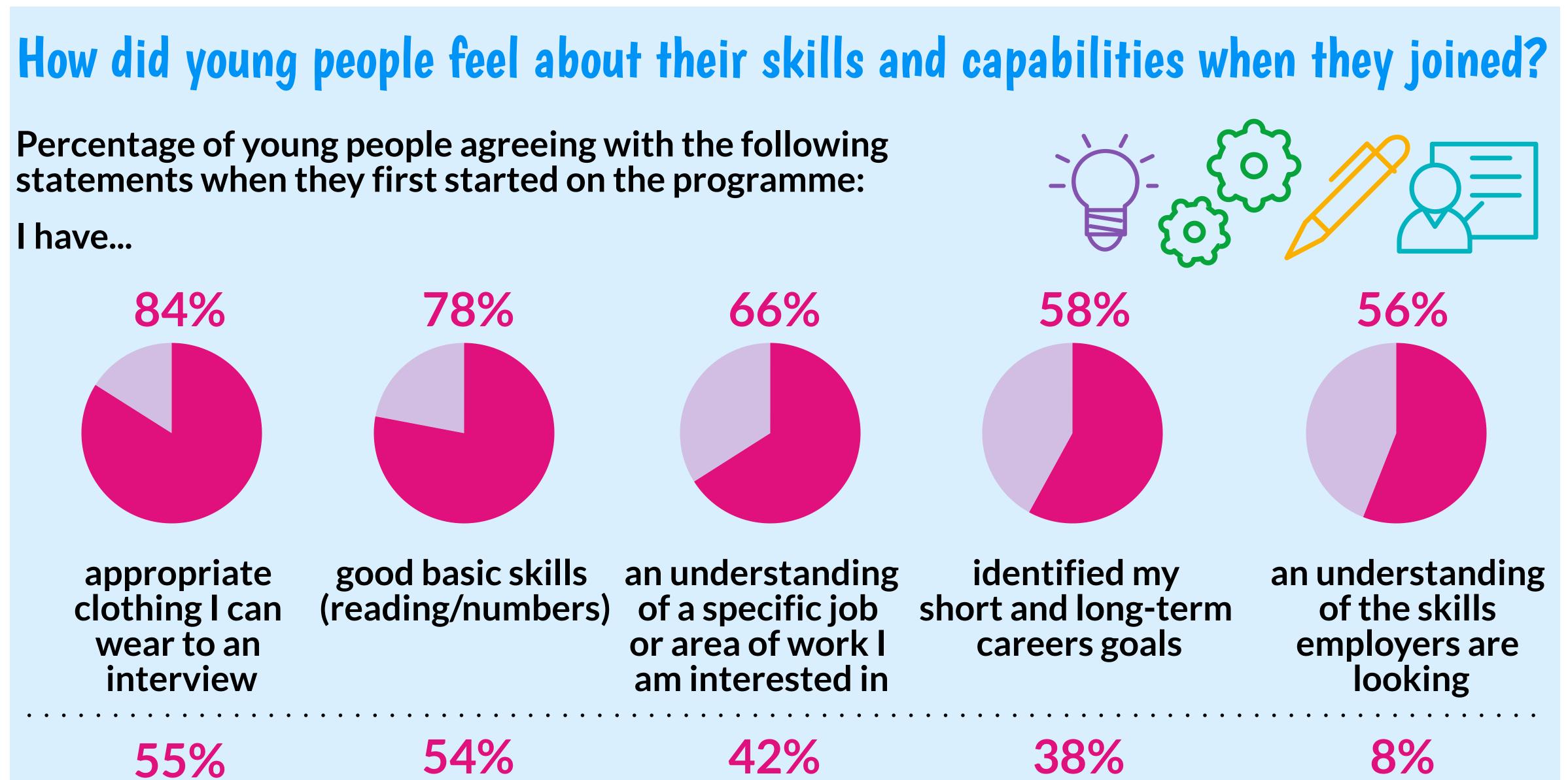


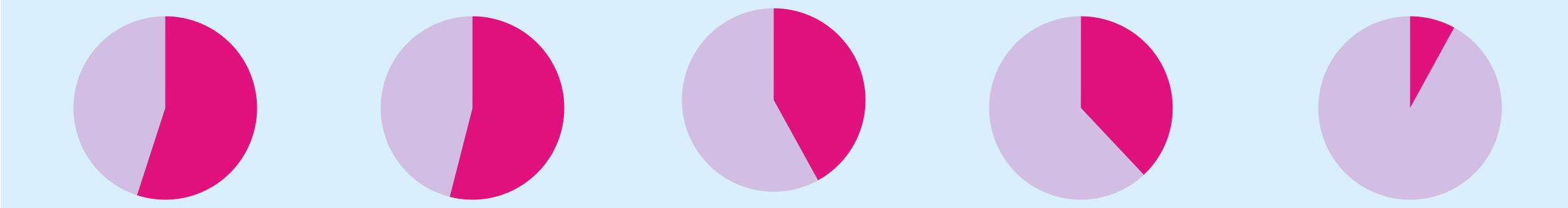
Centre for **Regional Economic** and Social Research What experiences of the labour market did young people have before they joined the programme?



How did young people feel about their lives when they joined the programme?







good specific skills for the job I am looking for

the ability to put together a CV

identified additional training I want to take up

confidence in myself

43%

an understanding of how to set up my own business

### What support did young people receive?

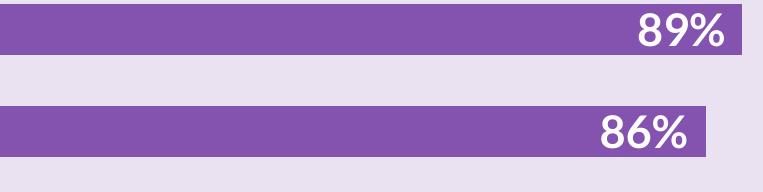
235 young people completed the exit survey. They received the following:

Help with developing life skills

Help with developing generic employability skills

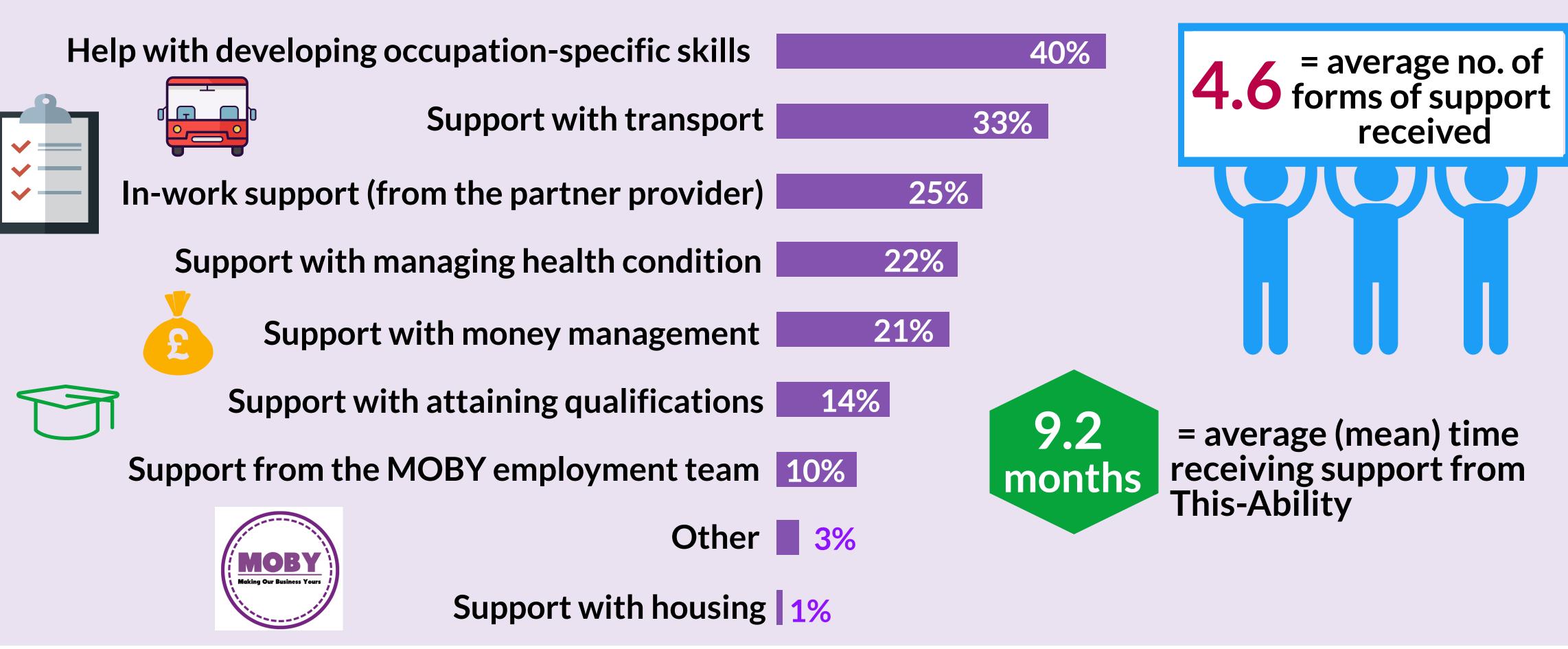
Work preparation activities

Work experience placements/traineeships



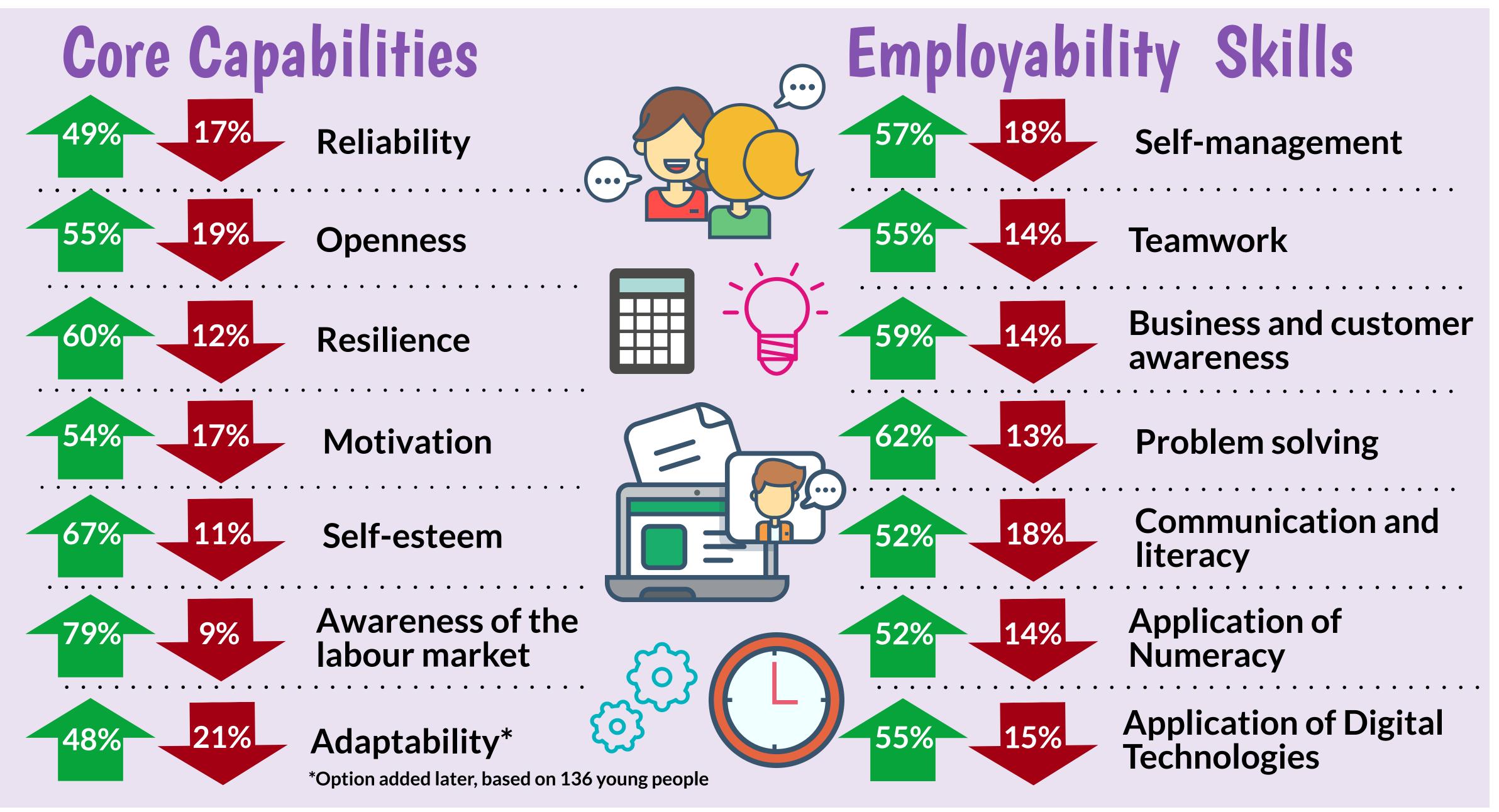






### How did young people progress?

Of the 244 young people who completed at least two journey scale assessments, the following recorded more positive or negative scores at the latest point compared to when they started on the programme:



### What actions did young people take?

250 young people completed the exit and/or post-exit survey. They had undertaken the following actions since starting on the programme:

Applied for jobs

Attended at least one interview

Some form of work experience

Some form of volunteering

Gained employment



How many young people gained work?

this represents **34%** of young people who took part in the programme

employment\*

secured



78%

57%

54%

45%

### secured sustained employment\* of 6 months or more

Taken up additional training19%

Completed a training course 17% Completed a formal education 4%

Completed a traineeship | 1%

Set up my own business | 1%

Completed a traineeship | 1%

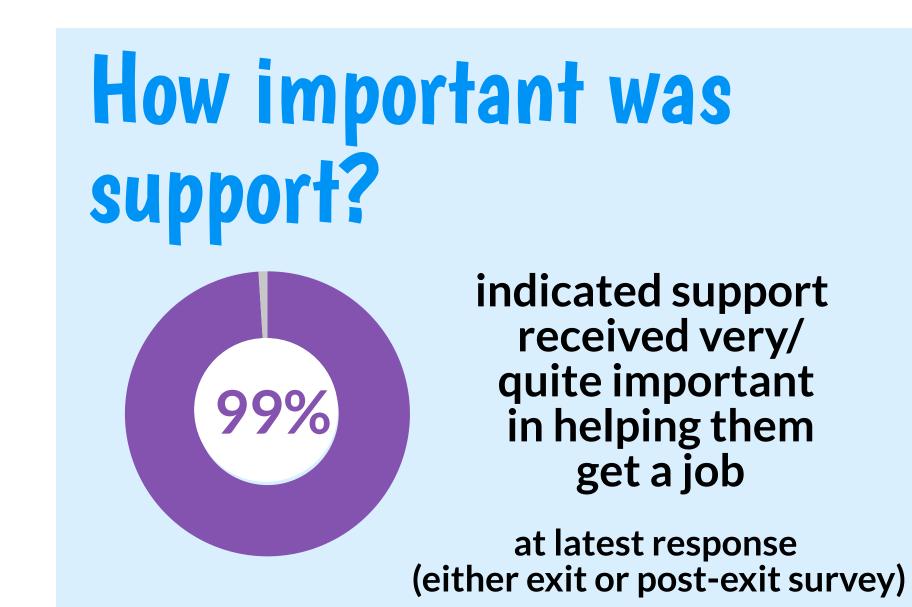
None of the above 8%





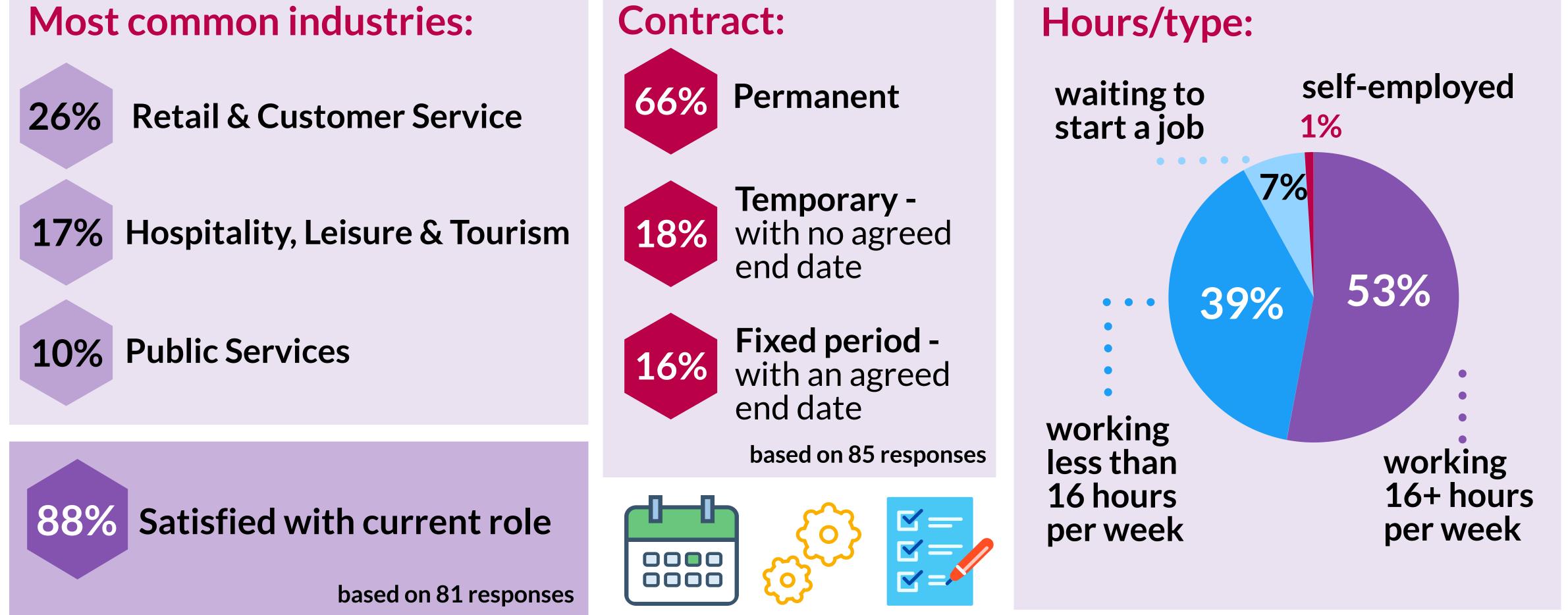
this represents **19%** of young people who took part in the programme

\*employment or sustained employment indicated at exit or post-exit survey either via current economic status or as undertaken since programme start (+1 sustained employment based on employer evidence)



### What type of work did young people go into?

88 young people indicated employment as their current economic status either at the exit and/or post-exit survey point. Of these, the type of work they had secured was as follows (at latest point):

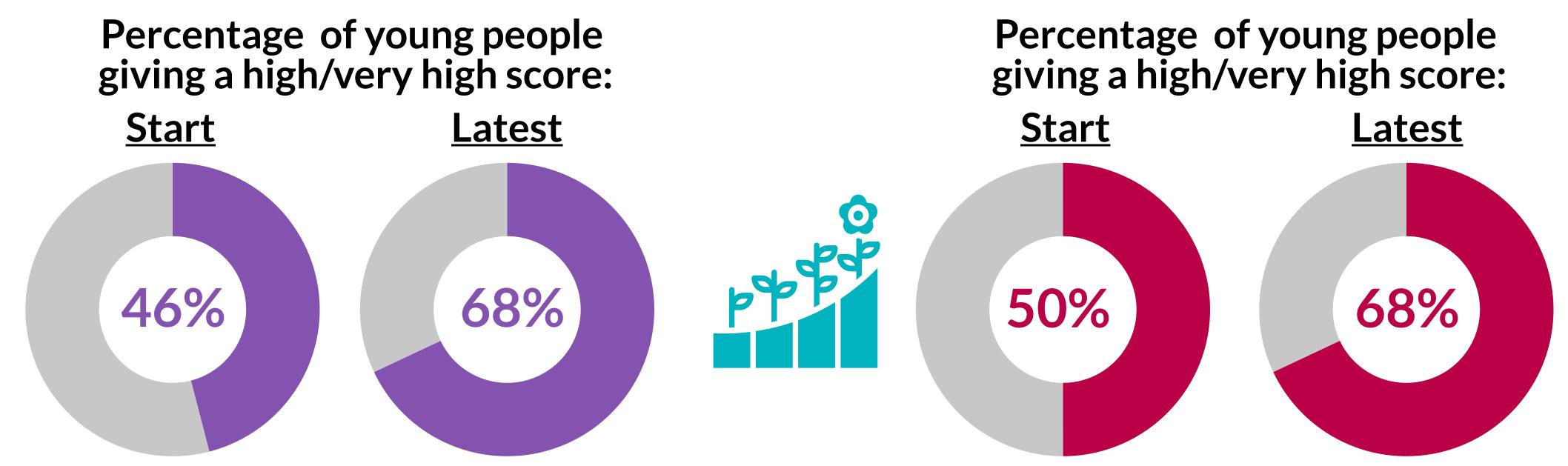


# Which young people gained work?

Larger proportions securing employment among those: aged 21-30, with Level 2 qualifications, not involved with mental health/counselling services on entry, who had <u>not</u> visited a GP in the 3 months before entry, and most notably among those who had gained employment previously. Young people who felt better about their lives on programme entry than others and those who felt more confident with their capabilities and skills were also more likely to report securing employment.

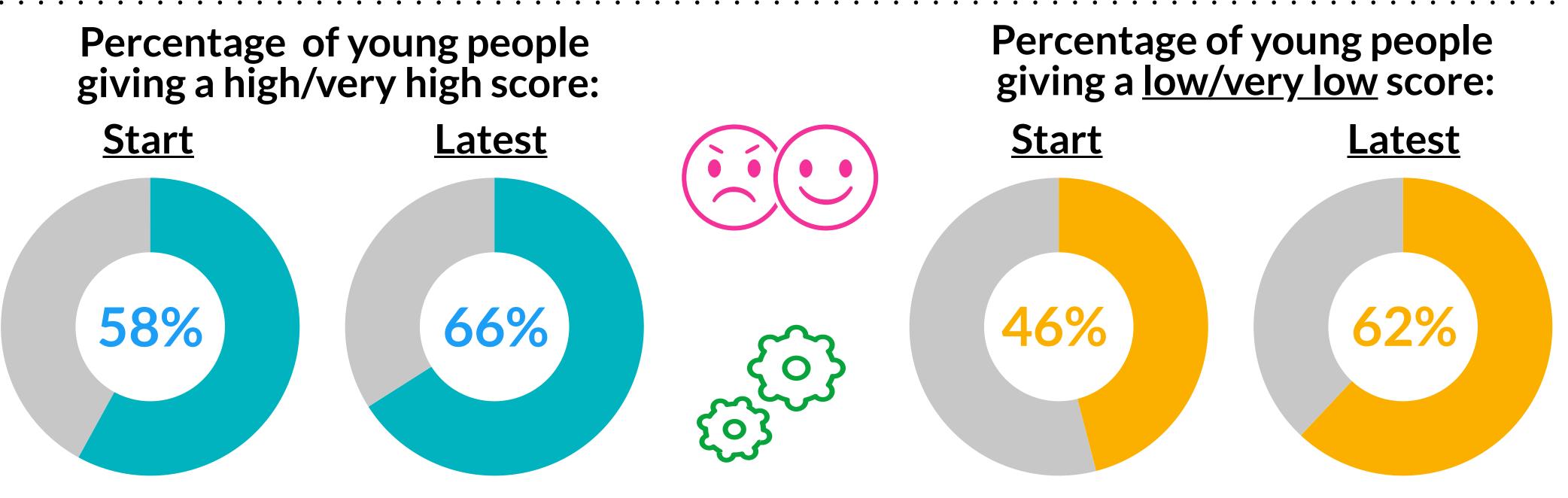
### Did young people feel better about their lives?

250 young people completed an exit and/or post-exit survey and recorded the following scores when they first started on the programme and at their latest survey point:



Satisfied with life nowadays

Things in life are worthwhile

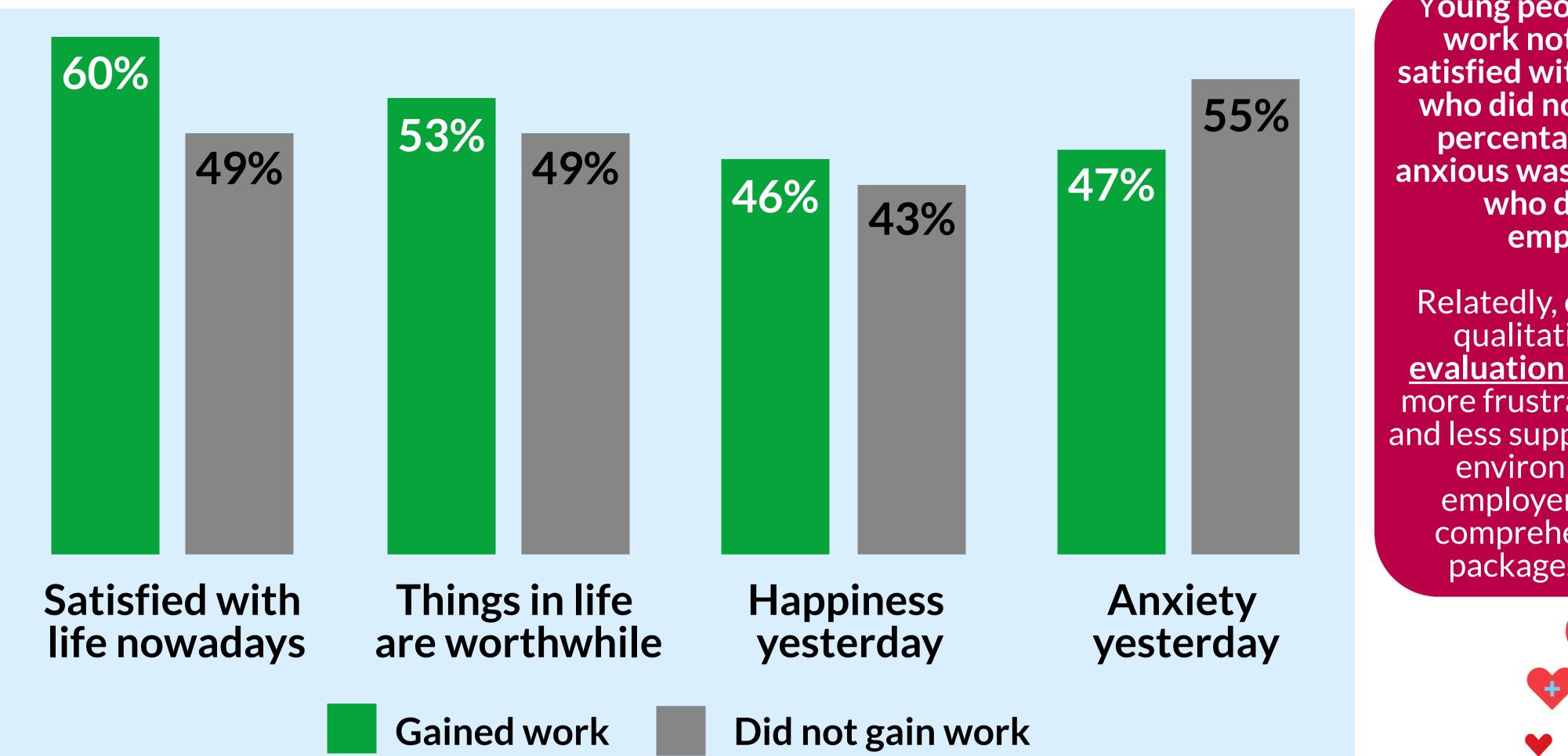


Happiness yesterday

Anxiety yesterday

# Did young people who gained work feel better than those who did not gain work?

Percentage of young people recording <u>more positive scores</u> at the latest point compared to when they started on the programme by if they gained work or not:

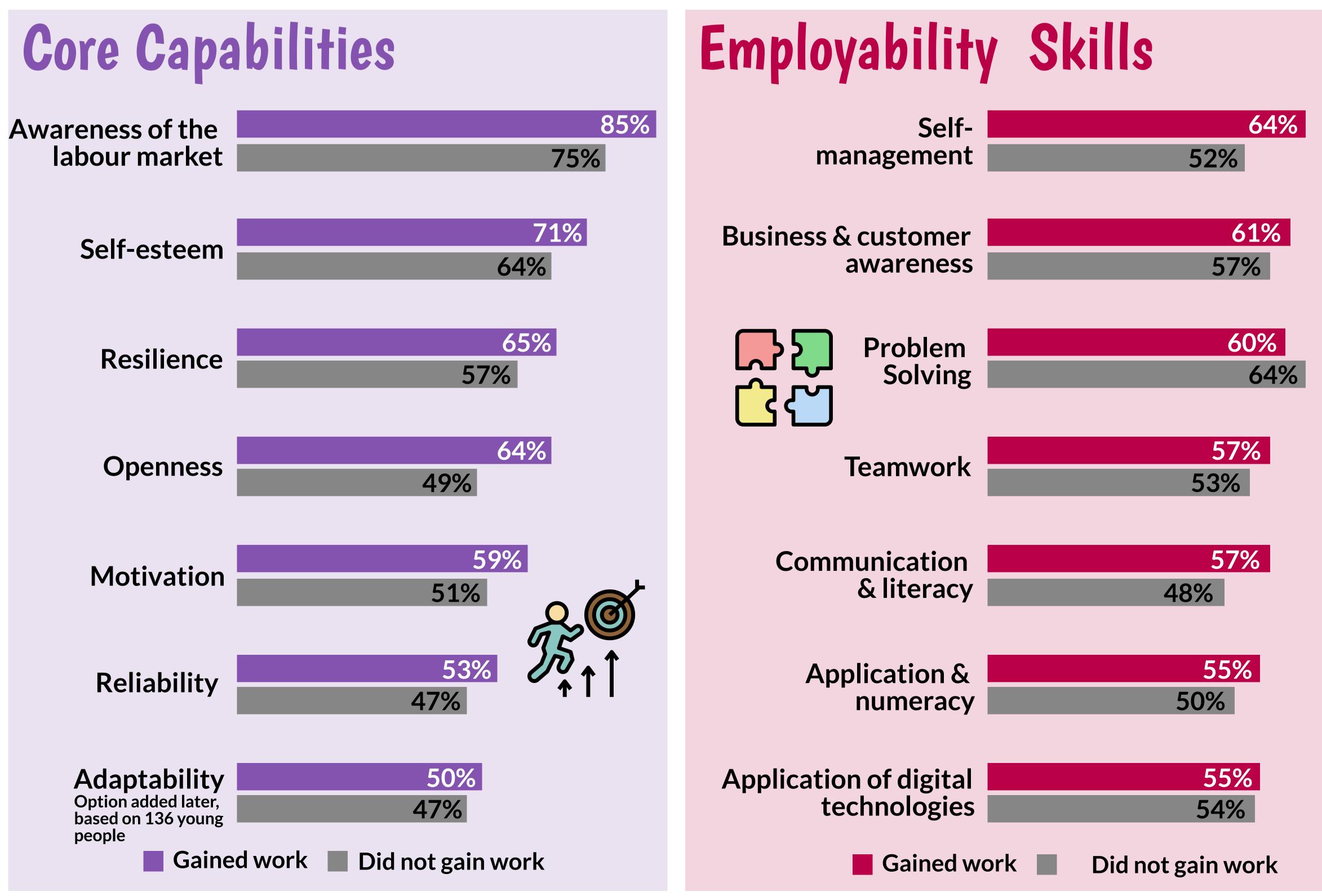


Young people who gained work noticeably more satisfied with life than those who did not, however the percentage feeling less anxious was higher for those who did not gain employment.

Relatedly, evidence from a qualitative <u>deep dive</u> <u>evaluation report</u> points to more frustration in job roles and less supportive workplace environments where employers took up less comprehensive support packages from MOBY.

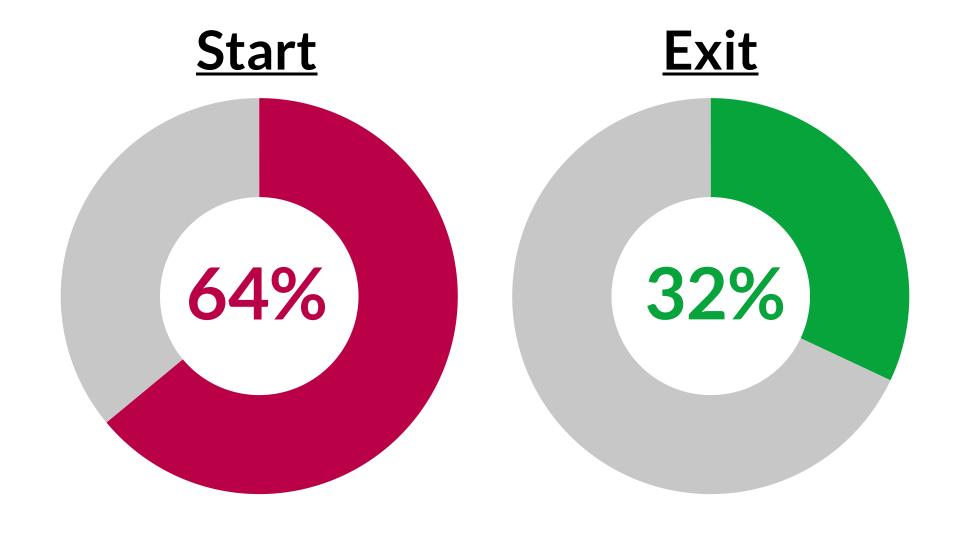
### Did young people who gained work improve their capabilities and skills more than those who did not gain work?

Percentage of young people recording <u>more positive scores</u> at the latest point compared to when they started on the programme by if they gained work or not:



### Did young people move closer to the labour market?

The proportion of young people in the 2 categories furthest from labour market fell from programme start to exit:



A measure of proximity to the labour market has been created to quantify the extent to which young people have been supported to move closer to employment. This measure combines information about a young person's characteristics, experiences and competencies to provide a single indicator of how close they are to the labour market.



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### Sheffield Hallam University

This-Ability Final Summary Infographic Report SANDERSON, Elizabeth <http://orcid.org/0000-0003-1423-1670> Available from the Sheffield Hallam University Research Archive (SHURA) at: http://shura.shu.ac.uk/33638/

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