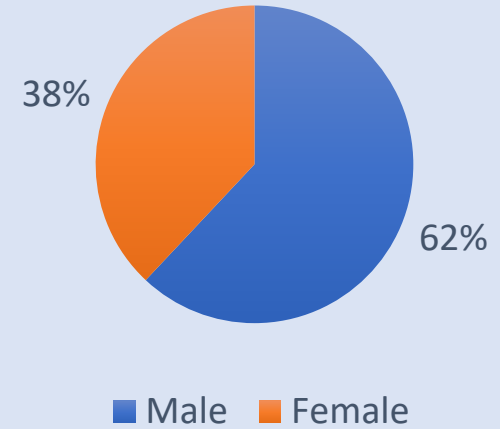# USE OF COMPUTERS IN SCHOOLS

By: Teddy Mutinge

Executive Summary

- This survey was conducted with the aim of wanting to know how computers are being incorporated in schools for learning purposes.

- Data was collected using an online questionnaire.

- The respondents were asked to provide their gender, age, location of the school, level of education, acknowledge to have used a computer in school and the period of using computer.

- In addition the respondents provided information on how confident they are performing various tasks using a computer.

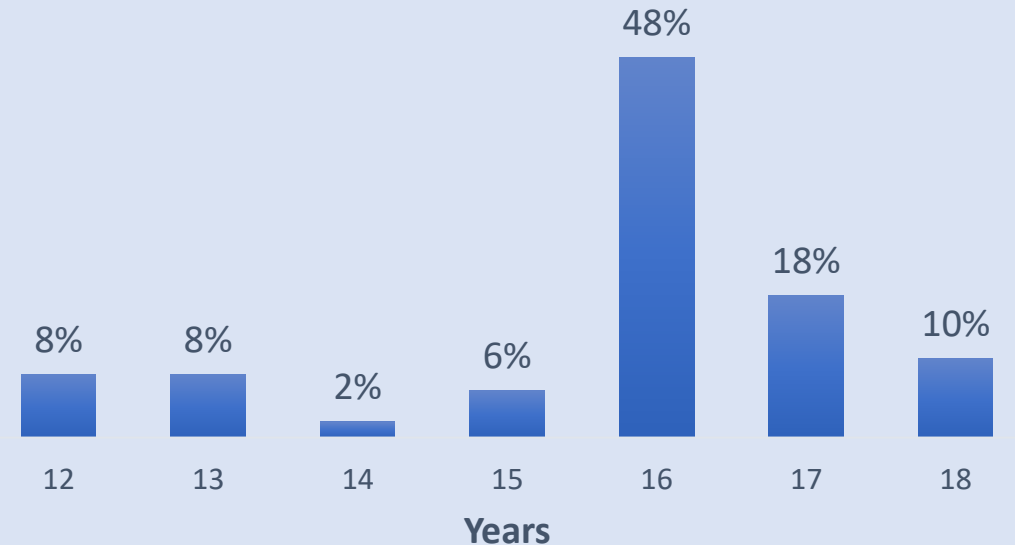- The survey resulted into 50 responses.

Analysis

- There was a significant number of males than females who participated in the survey.

- The respondents age ranged between 12 years to 18 years.

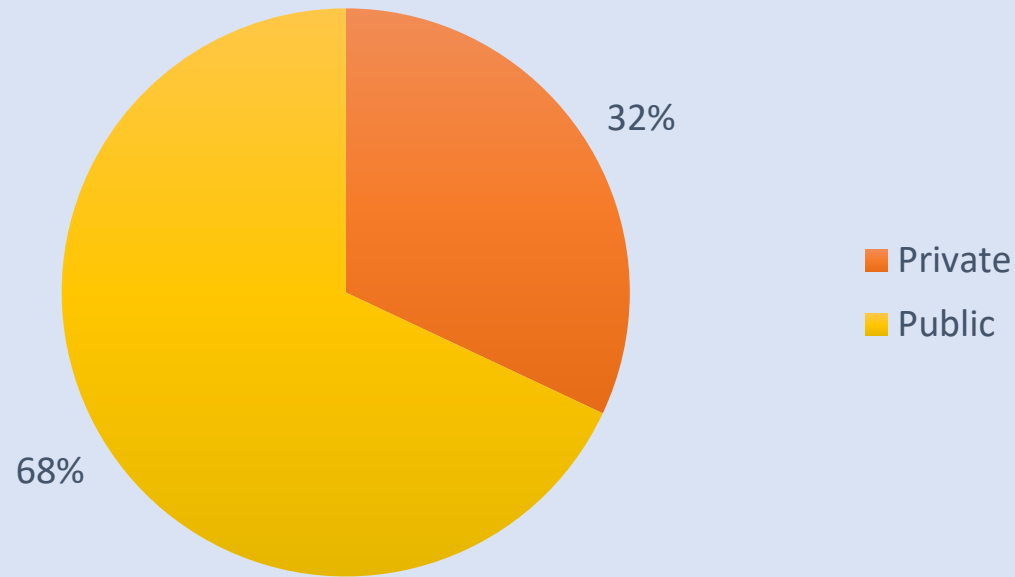- The common age among the respondents was 16 years.

Gender

38%

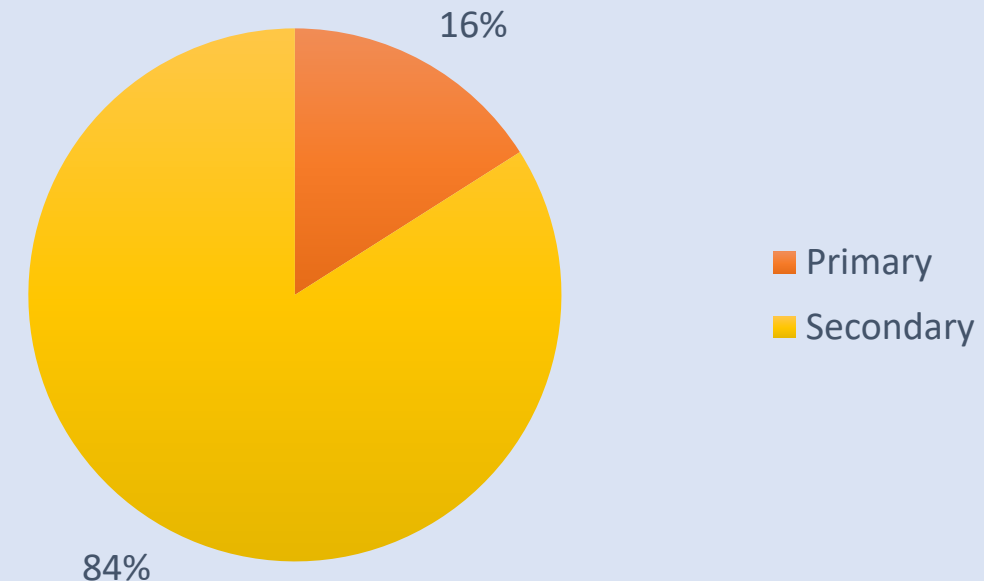62%

■ Male ■ Female

Age distribution

8%   8%   2%   6%   48%   18%   10%

12   13   14   15   16   17   18

Years

Type of School

32%

68%

- Private
- Public

- Those enrolled in public schools were more than those in private school.

Current level of Education

16%

84%

- Primary
- Secondary

- The survey showed a higher number for those pursuing secondary school education compared to the primary school education.

Distribution by County
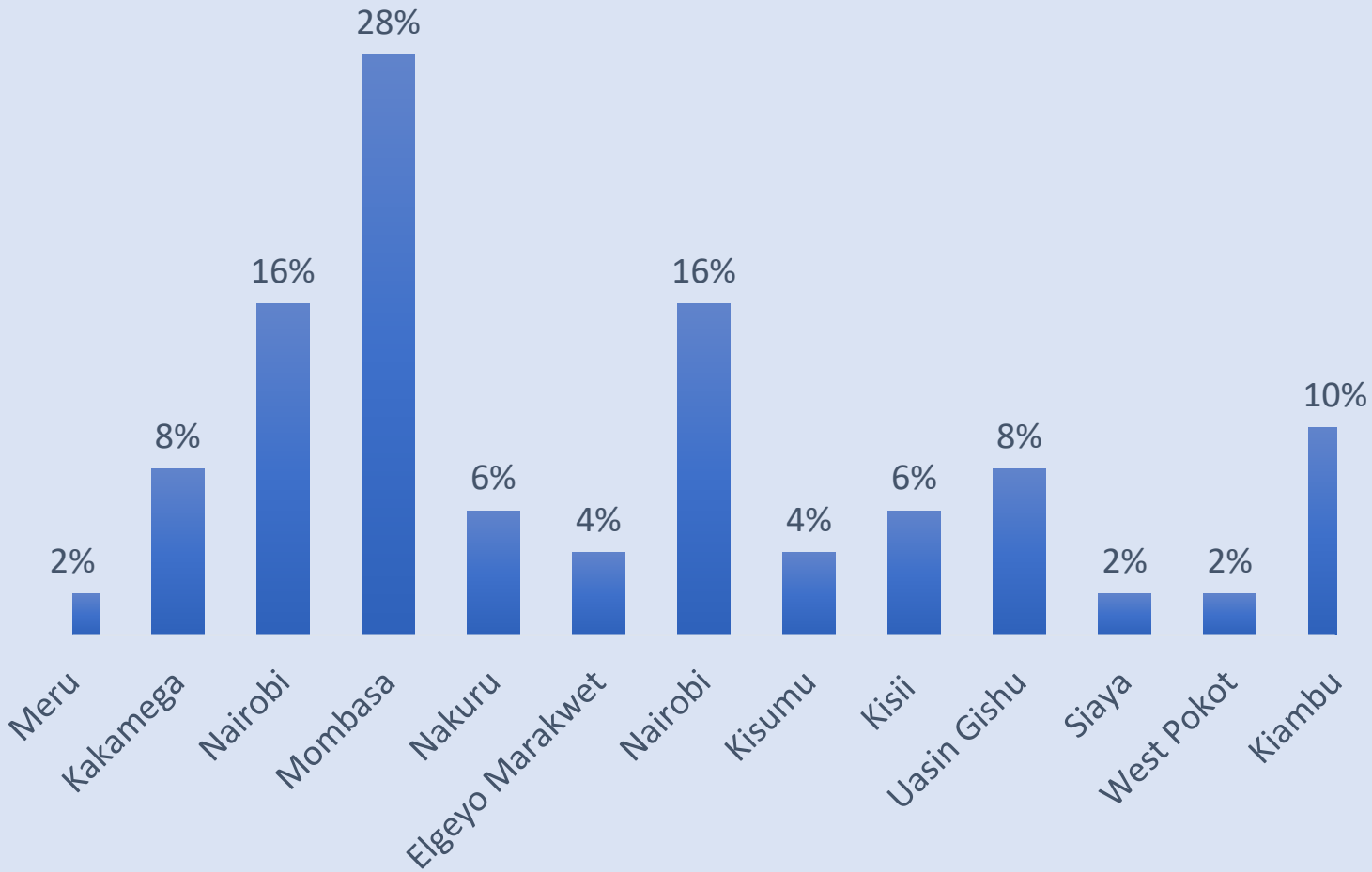
Majority of the respondents schooled in Mombasa.

Have you used a computer in school?
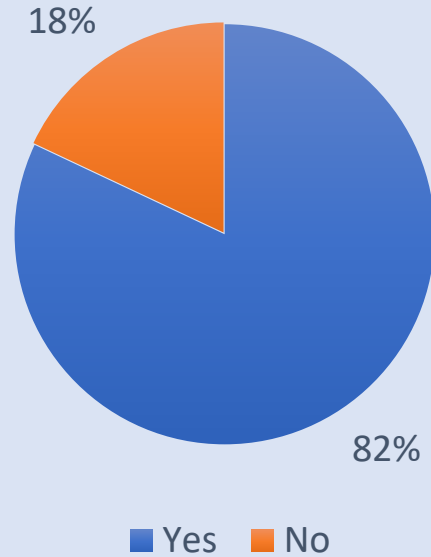
- A significant number admit to have used a computer in school.

- Majority have used a computer for more than a year.

Duration for using computer
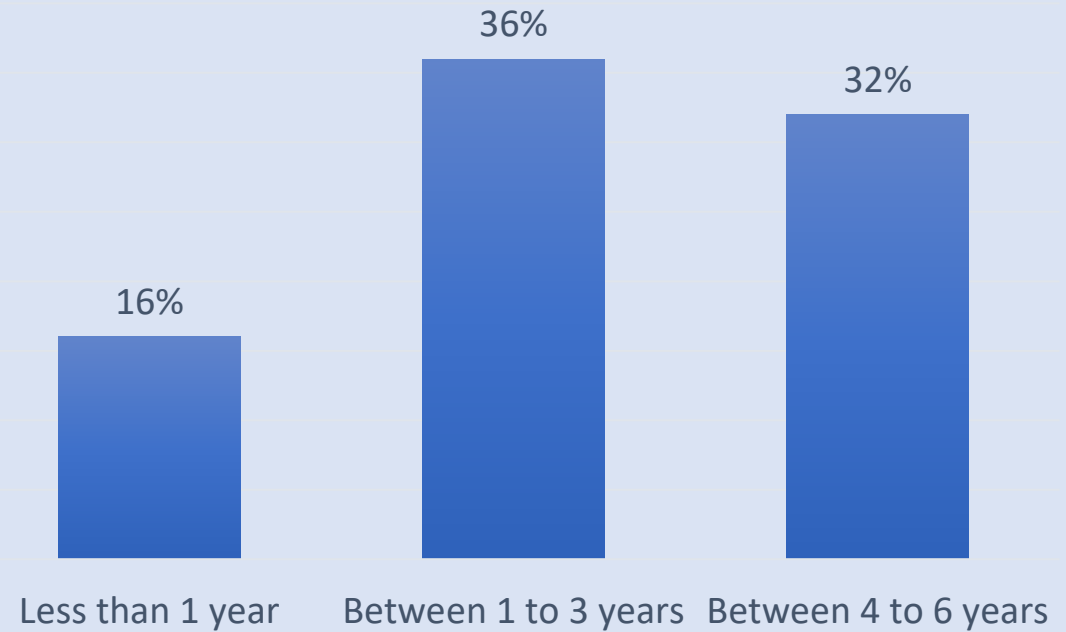
Relationship between Level of education and use of computers

Yes ■ No

76%

8%

Secondary

6%

Primary

10%
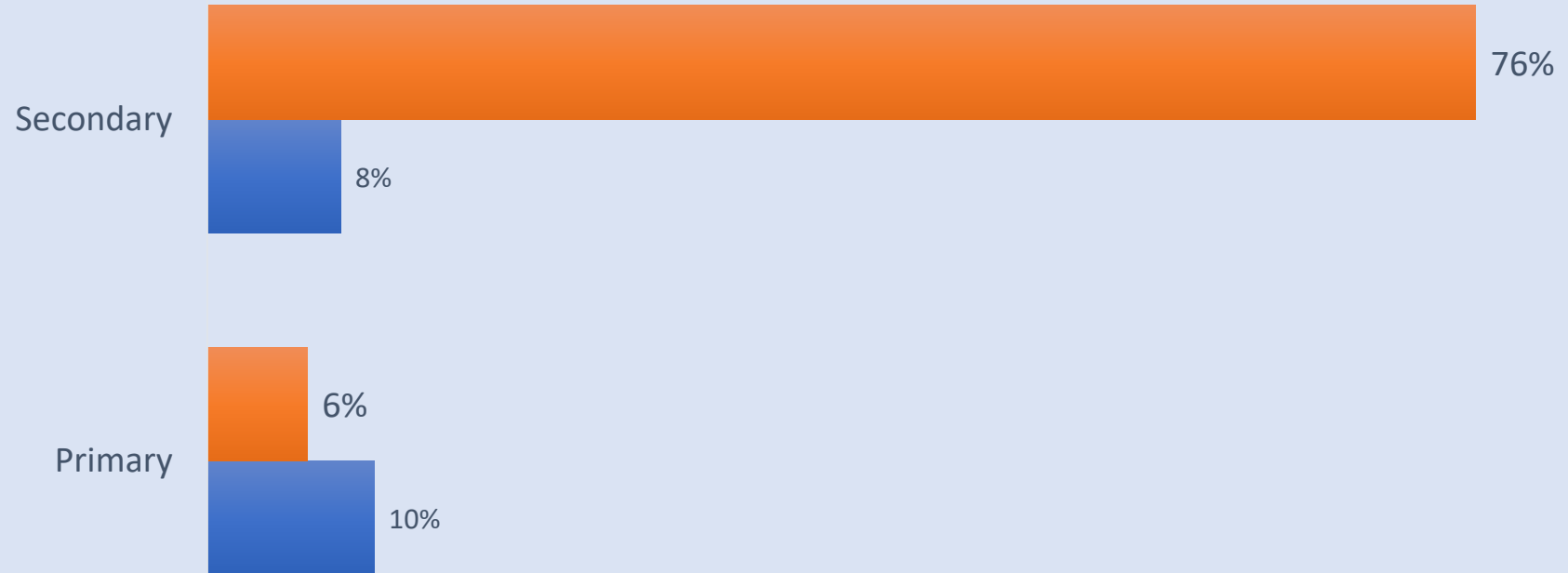
• Secondary schools are utilizing computers more than primary schools.

Relationship between gender and access to computer

54%

28%

8%

10%

Male

Female

Yes No
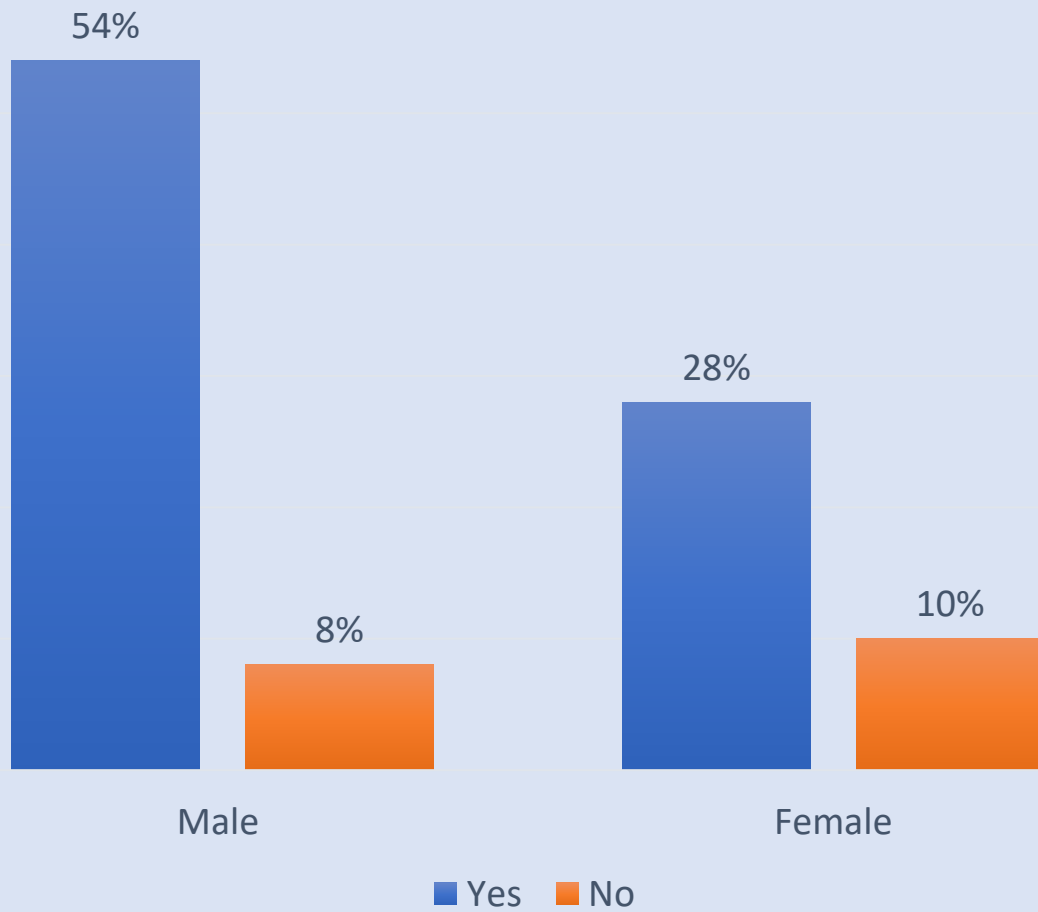
- Males have access to computers more than females.

Learning

Subjects utilizing computer in classrooms

- Mathematics — 10%
- Test languages — 11%
- Social studies — 4%
- Computer studies — 41%
- Foreign languages — 14%
- Sciences — 8%
- Music — 9%
- Other — 3%
- Never — 1%
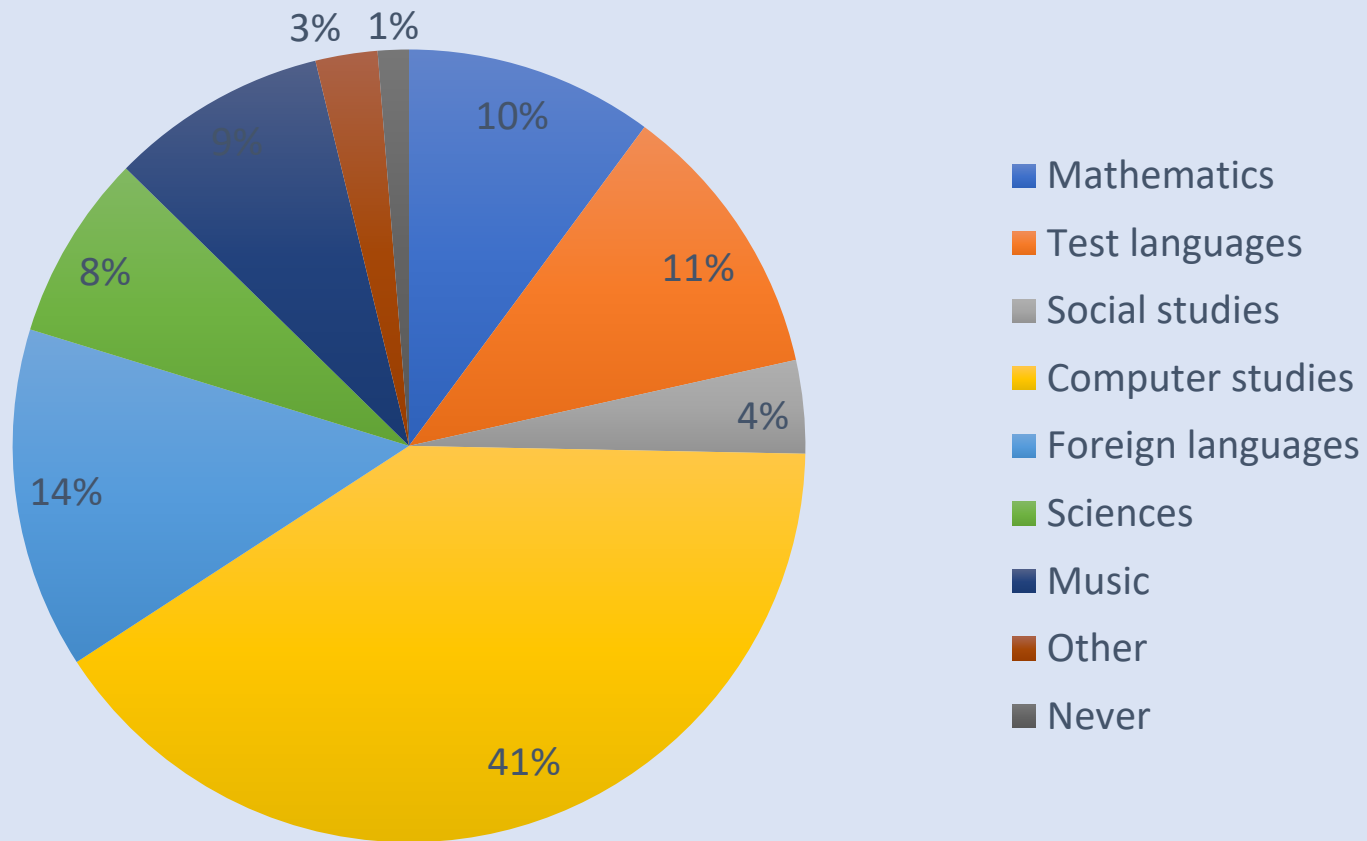
Time spent using computer for learning

40%

35%

18%

8%

Less than 1hr a week   1hr to 2hrs a week   3hrs to 5hrs a week   More than 5hrs a week
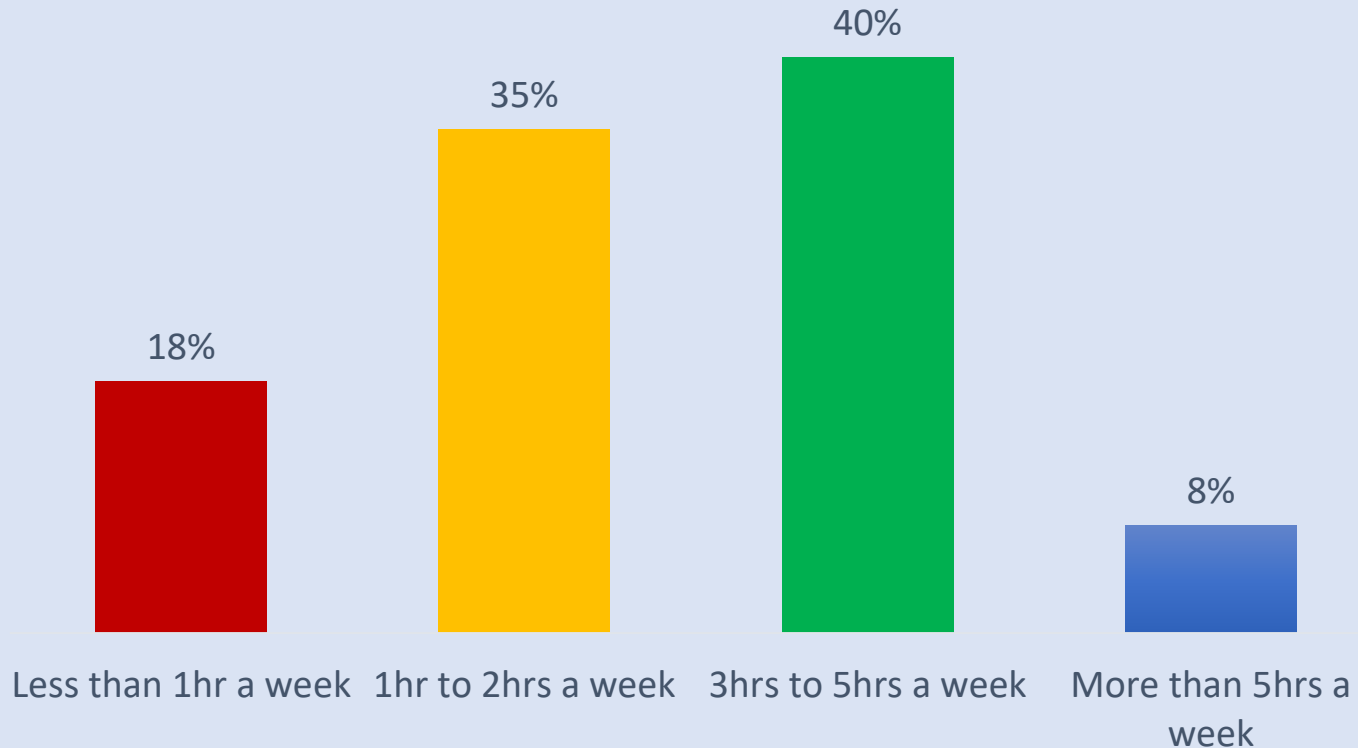
- A considerable amount of time is spent using computers for learning purposes.

- At least an hour was sufficient time to use a computer.

Class activities

- Don't know — 0%
- Search the internet to collect information — 25%
- Accessing school website — 9%
- Investigate and explore issues — 11%
- Look at films or videos — 6%
- Do tasks collectively — 16%
- Work in small groups — 10%
- Listen to student presentation — 6%
- Listen to teachers presentation — 17%

- Searching the internet to collect information was the most preferred activity for using a computer.

Skills and competence

Ability to perform various tasks

■ Not at all ■ A little ■ Somewhat ■ A lot

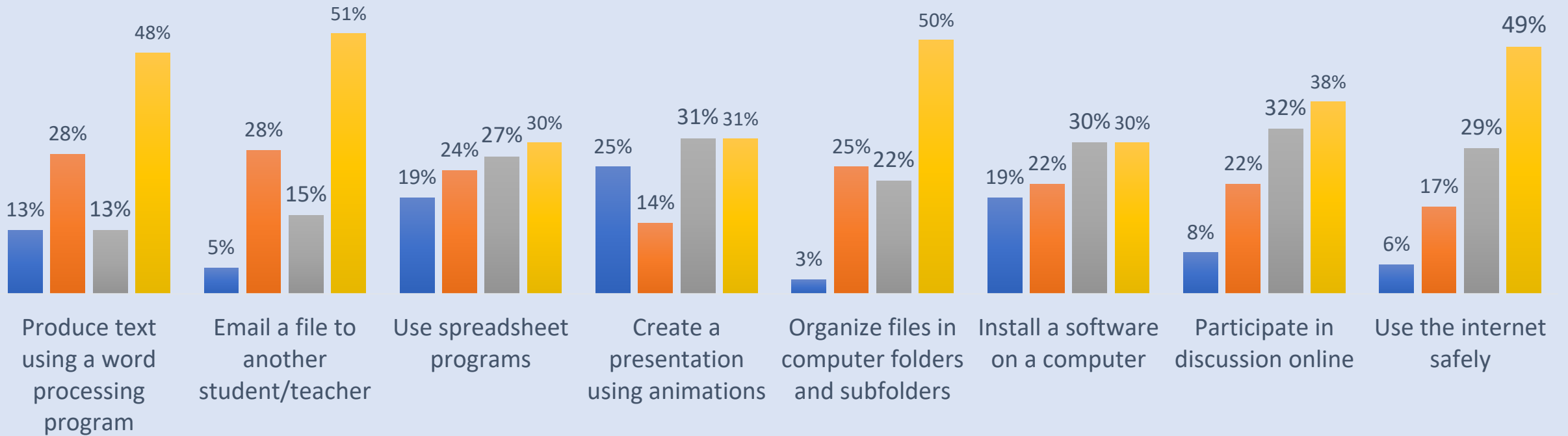| Task	Not at all	A little	Somewhat	A lot
Produce text using a word processing program	13%	28%	13%	48%
Email a file to another student/teacher	5%	28%	15%	51%
Use spreadsheet programs	19%	24%	27%	30%
Create a presentation using animations	25%	14%	31%	31%
Organize files in computer folders and subfolders	3%	25%	22%	50%
Install a software on a computer	19%	22%	30%	30%
Participate in discussion online	8%	22%	32%	38%
Use the internet safely	6%	17%	29%	49%

Tasks	Total	Not at all	A little	Somewhat	A lot	Mean	Standard deviation	
Produce text using a word processing program	40	5	11	5	19	2.95	2.646	Somewhat
Email a file to another student/teacher	39	2	11	6	20	3.13	2.764	Somewhat
Use spreadsheet programs	37	7	9	10	11	2.68	2.382	Somewhat
Create a presentation using animations	36	9	5	11	11	2.67	2.404	Somewhat
Organize files in computer folders and subfolders	36	1	9	8	18	3.19	2.799	Somewhat
Install a software on a computer	37	7	8	11	11	2.70	2.405	Somewhat
Participate in discussion online	37	3	8	12	14	3.00	2.630	Somewhat
Use the internet safely	35	2	6	10	17	3.20	2.808	Somewhat

- It was determined that respondents somewhat knew how to perform various tasks using a during lessons.
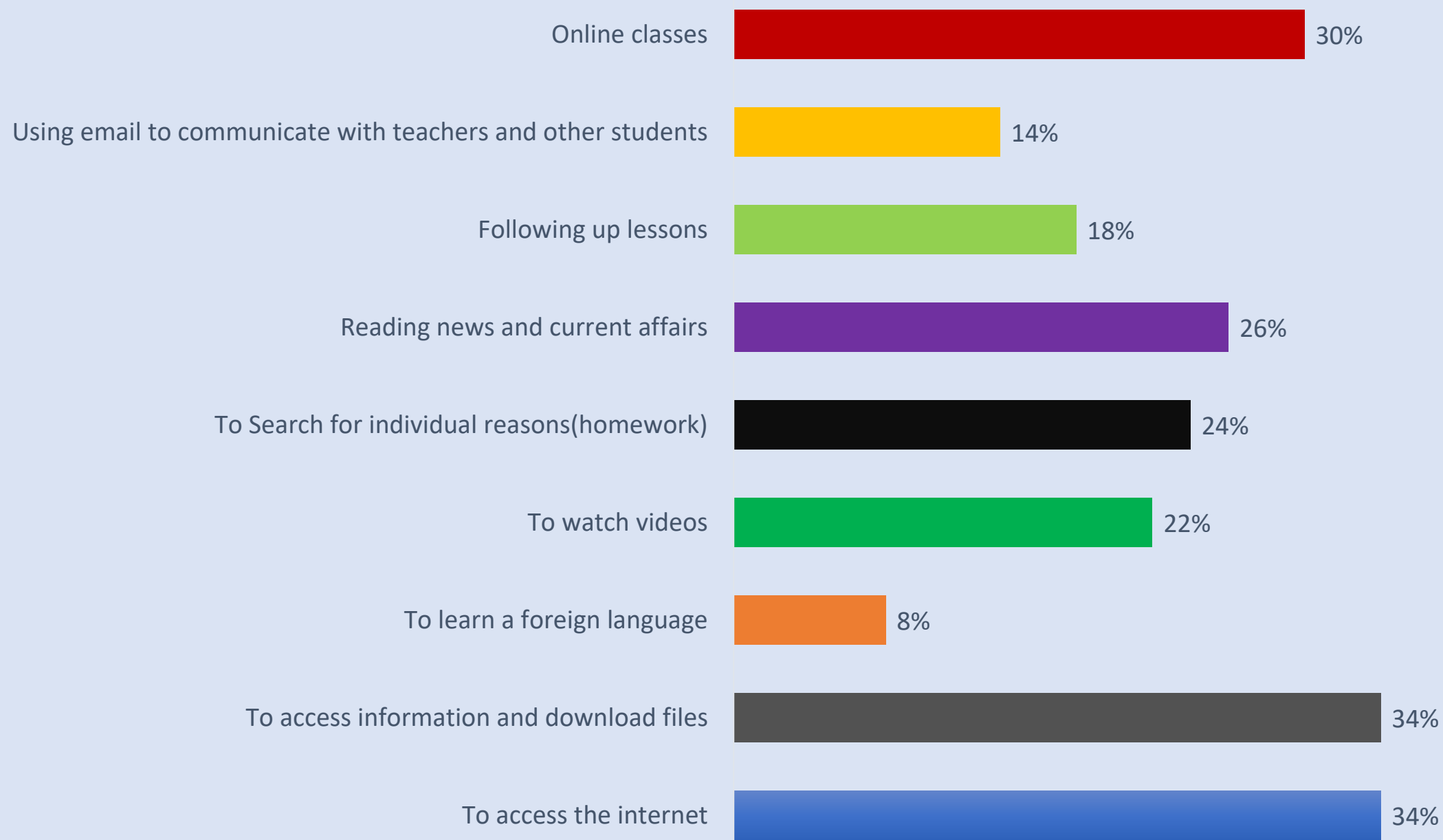
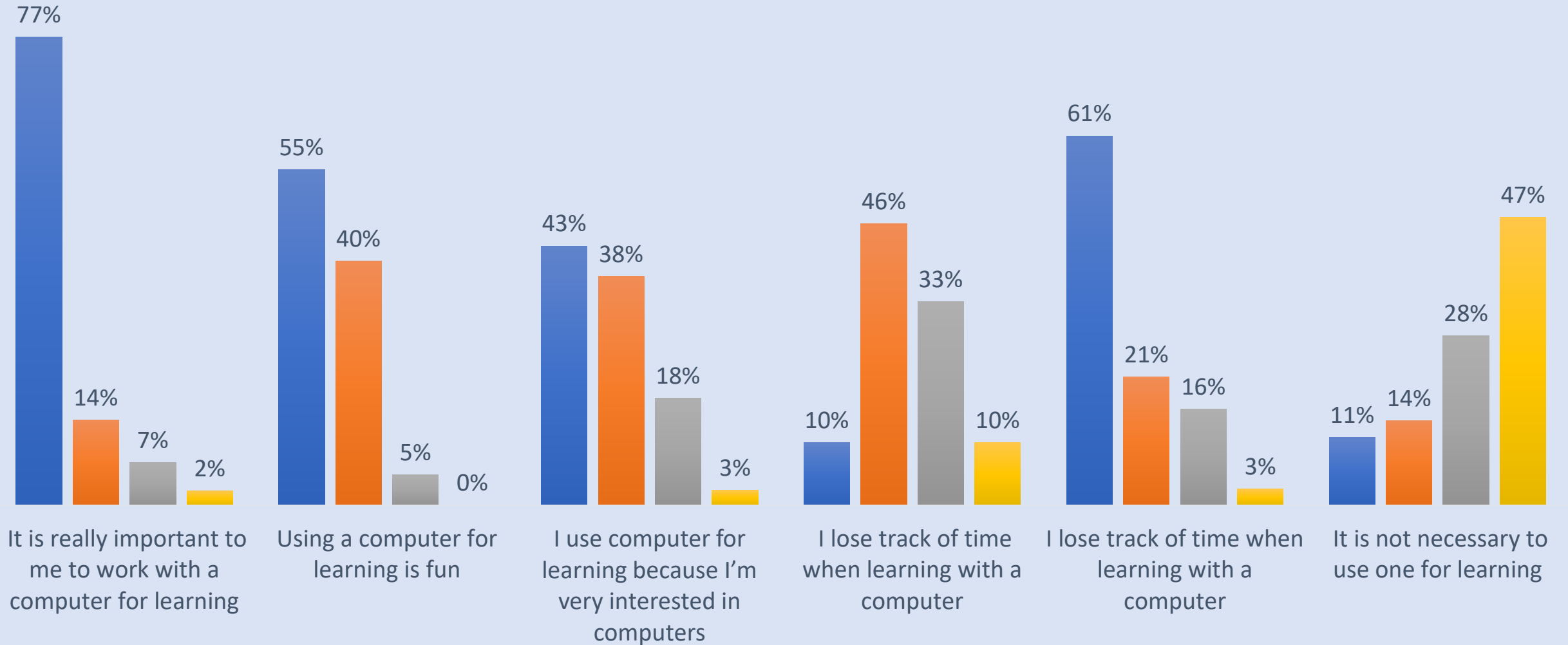# Outside class

Access to computer outside class
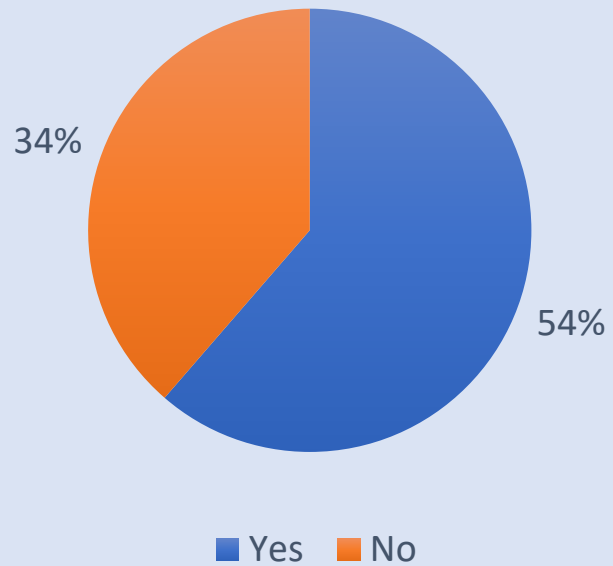
- The study showed a highly chance of accessing a computer outside class.

Reasons for using computer outside class

- Online classes — 30%
- Using email to communicate with teachers and other students — 14%
- Following up lessons — 18%
- Reading news and current affairs — 26%
- To Search for individual reasons(homework) — 24%
- To watch videos — 22%
- To learn a foreign language — 8%
- To access information and download files — 34%
- To access the internet — 34%

Student satisfaction

Satisfaction	TOTAL	Strongly agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Mean	
It is really important to me to work with a computer for learning	43	33	6	3	1	1.349	Strongly agree
Using a computer for learning is fun	40	22	16	2	0	1.600	Strongly agree
I use computer for learning because I'm very interested in computers	40	17	15	7	1	1.800	Agree
I lose track of time when learning with a computer	39	4	18	13	4	2.128	Agree
I lose track of time when learning with a computer	38	23	8	6	1	1.605	Strongly agree
It is not necessary to use one for learning	36	4	5	10	17	1.333	Strongly agree

- The study determined that it was important to use a computer for learning.
- There was downside to using a computer since losing track of time was clear.
- It was also determined that using a computer for learning was not necessary.

Conclusion

- More girl schools should be equipped with computers.
- It is important to utilize computers for learning in schools.
- It would be appropriate to equip more primary schools with computers for their learning.
- Computer studies should be prioritized in schools.
- Computer accessories such as internet should be employed.