



## YOUTH BAROMETER 2017

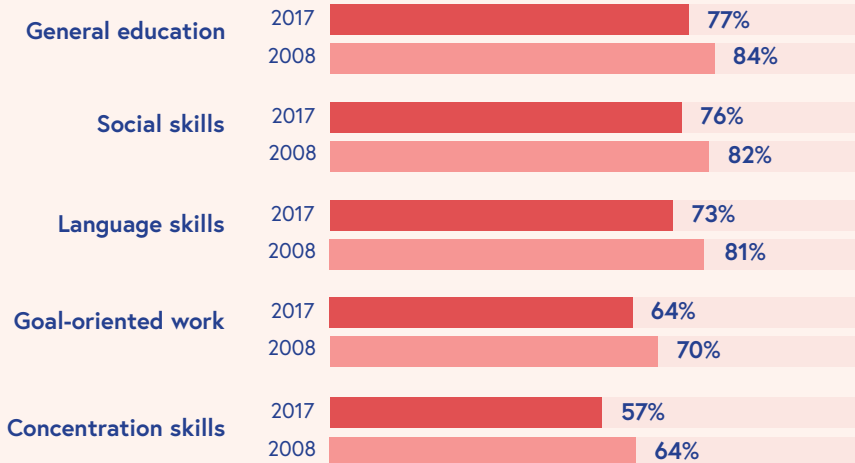
# EDUCATIONAL PATHWAYS AND ROADSIDES

School is an important place of learning, but the significance of other learning environments is on the rise. Influencing and economic skills are not easily adopted either in or outside of school, whereas general knowledge and social interaction are learned both in and outside of school. Young people have strong confidence in the significance of education, and personal motivation drives them forward in their study career. The majority of young people are satisfied with the educational pathway they have chosen. However, money is a factor that affects young people's possibilities to study.

Finnish young people think that the role of school in teaching many key skills is less significant than ten years ago

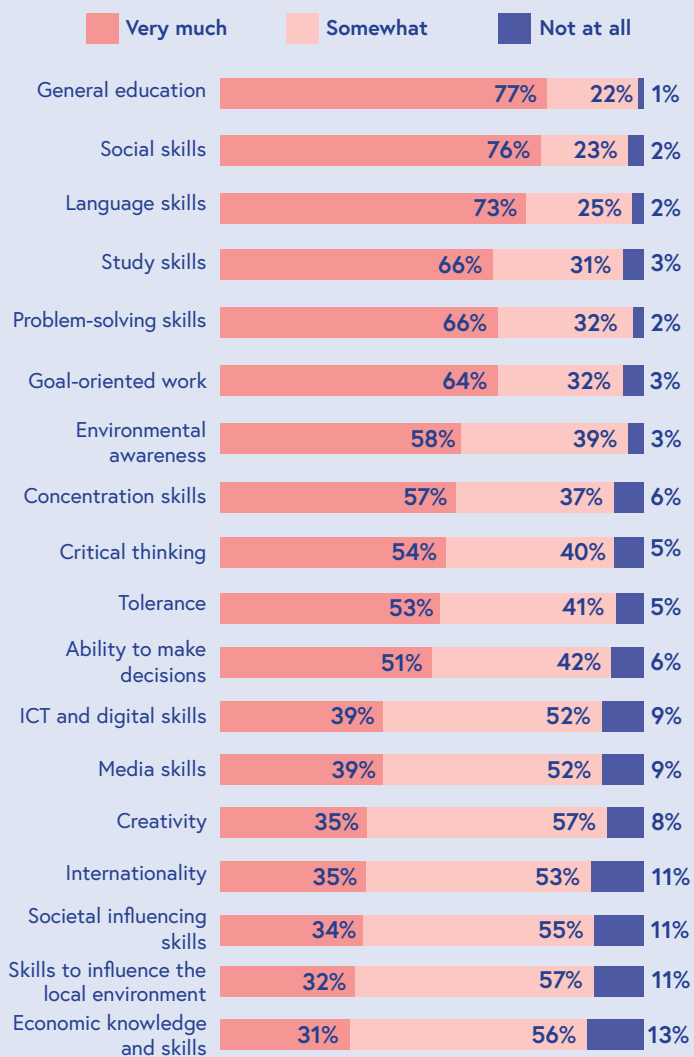


How much you have learned the following topics in comprehensive school and upper secondary education?" (those who answered 'very much' and 'quite a lot')



## School plays an important role in strengthening young people's study skills, i.e. learning-to-learn skills...

“ How much do you think you have learned the following things in comprehensive school and upper secondary education?”

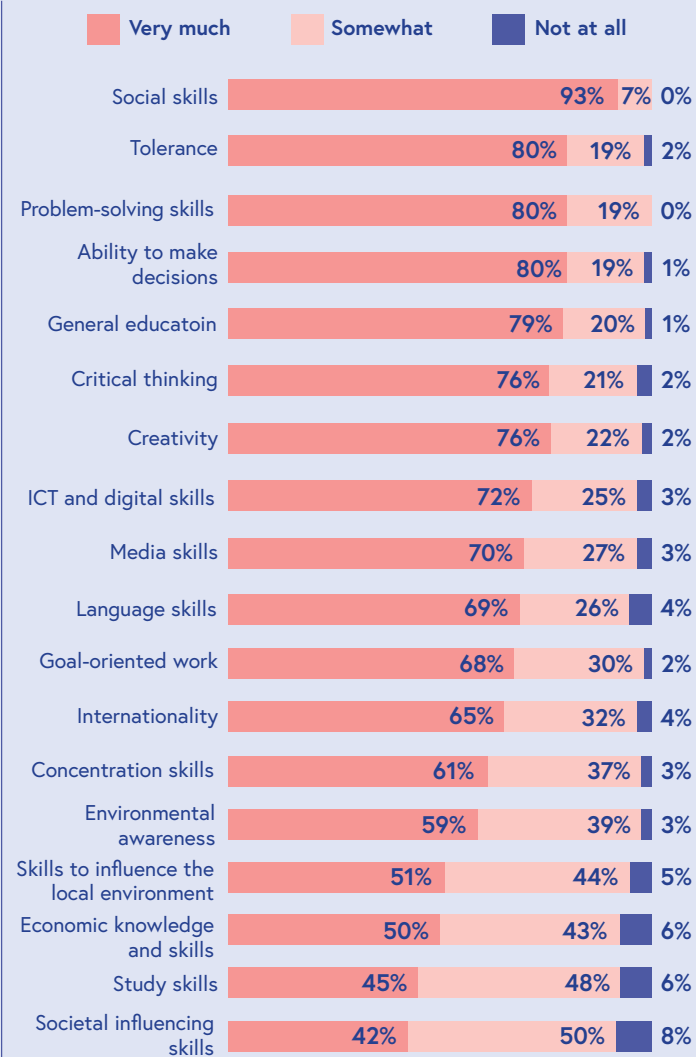


### TOP 5

1. General education 77%
2. Social skills 76%
3. Language skills 73%
4. Study skills 66%
5. Problem-solving skills 66%

## ...but young people feel that they have learned many skills more outside of school

“ How much do you think you have learned the following things outside of school?”



### TOP 5

1. Social skills 93%
2. Tolerance 80%
3. Problem-solving skills 80%
4. Ability to make decisions 80%
5. Critical thinking 76%

## Young people have positive attitudes towards learning and education



96%

think that learning new things is fun



96%

think that extensive general education is valuable as such



94%

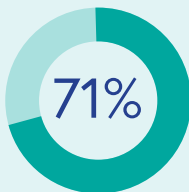
believe that education will significantly improve their employment opportunities

## The most important factor affecting young people's choice of study place is an interesting field

” How much did the following factors affect your choice of study place?”  
(those who answered 'very much' and 'quite a lot')



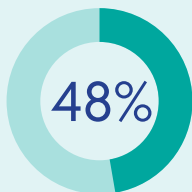
Interesting field of study



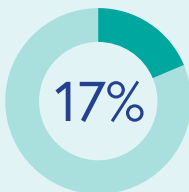
Desire to attain the best and highest education possible



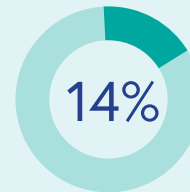
Profession or field with good employment prospects after completion of studies



Location of the educational institution



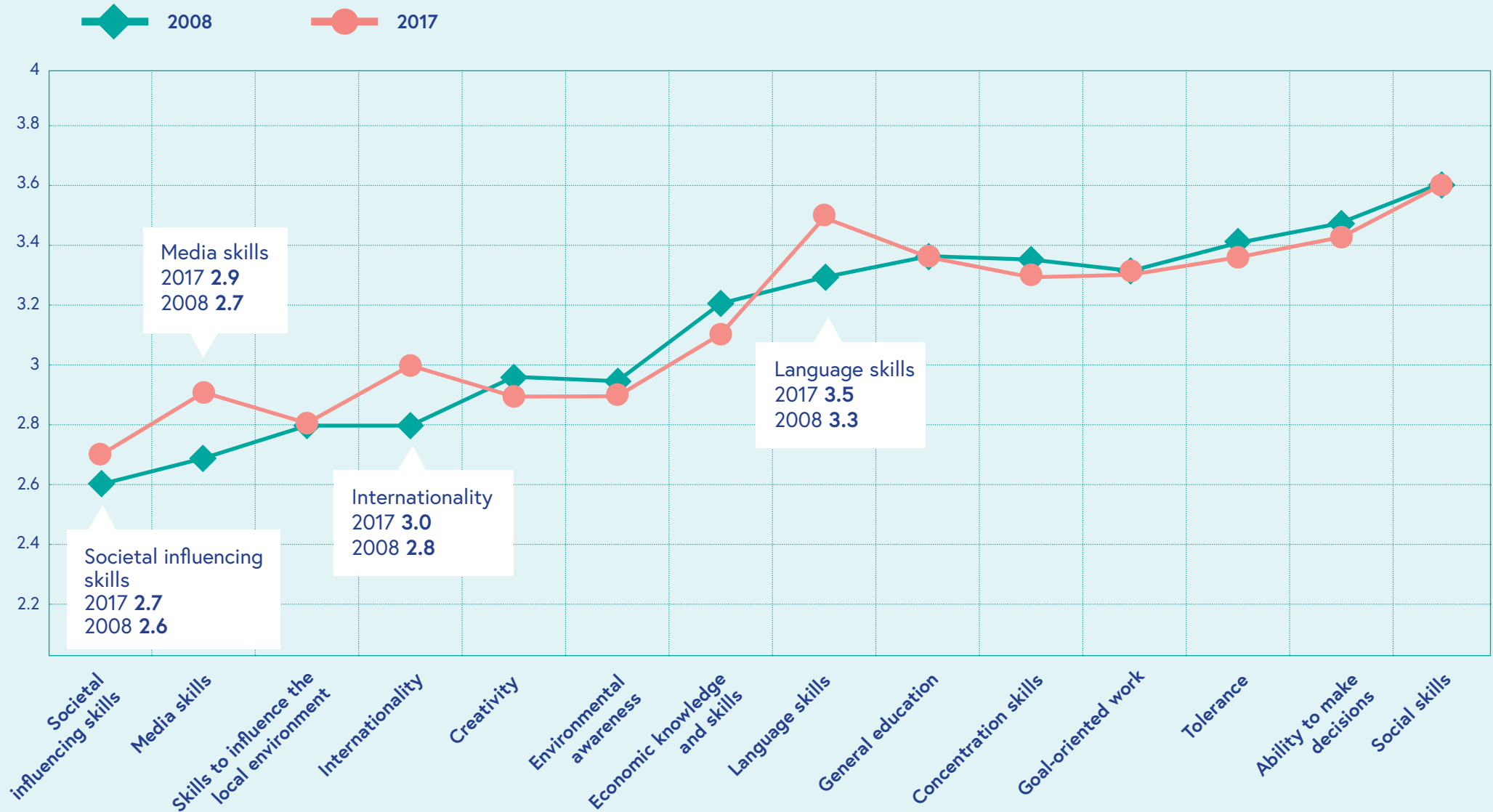
Opinion of a guidance counsellor



Friends' opinions and recommendations

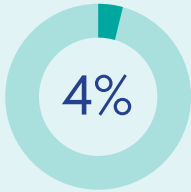
From the perspective of doing well in life, **language skills, internationality, media skills and societal influencing skills** are deemed more important than ten years ago

” How important do you think the following skills are from the perspective of doing well in life?  
(1=not at all important – 4=very important)

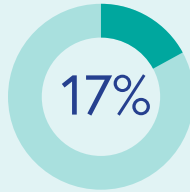


17 per cent of young people have discontinued studies leading to a qualification or degree

The share of those who discontinue increases with age



15-19-year-olds



20-24-year-olds

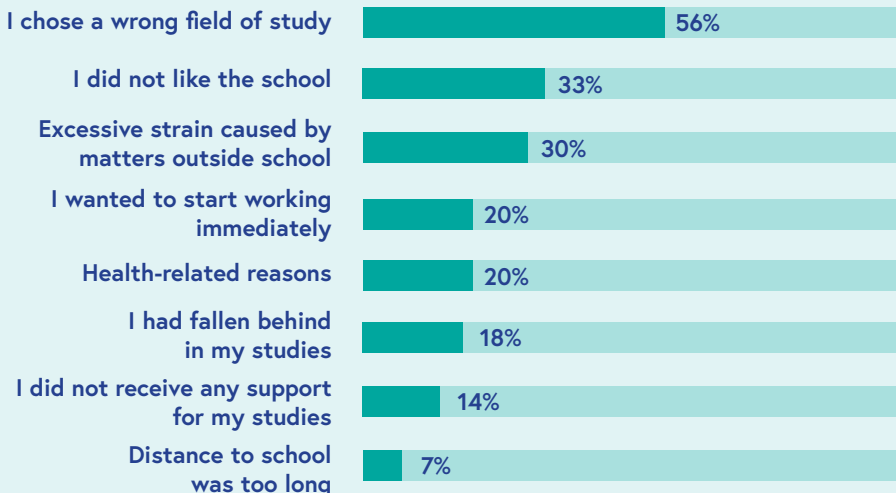


25-29-year-olds

However, most young people continue studying after a discontinuation.

## Wrong choice of field is the most common reason for withdrawal from studies

” How much did the following factors affect your decision to withdraw from studies?”  
(those who answered 'very much' and 'quite a lot')



## Lack of money narrows down the range of potential study places and may lead to discontinuation of studies

” Have you been forced to narrow down the range of potential study places due to lack of money?”



One in ten of those who have discontinued their studies have done so due to lack of money.

” Have you been forced to delay your graduation due to lack of money?”



The annual Youth Barometer measures the values and attitudes of young people aged from 15 to 29 living in Finland. The Youth Barometer addresses issues that are topical from young people's perspective. Some survey questions are repeated regularly. The Youth Barometer is published by the State Youth Council in cooperation with the Finnish Youth Research Society and the Finnish Youth Research Network.

Pekkarinen, Elina & Myllyniemi, Sami (eds.) (2018) Educational pathways and roadsides. Youth Barometer 2017. Publications of the State Youth Council 58. Publications of the Finnish Youth Research Society/Finnish Youth Research Network 200.

Read more: <https://tietoanuorista.fi/>



State youth council

FINNISH YOUTH RESEARCH SOCIETY  
FINNISH YOUTH RESEARCH NETWORK



Infographics: Mikael Heikkanen, [mikaelho.com](http://mikaelho.com)