



# strada

EDUCATION FOUNDATION

## Expanding Access to High-Quality Work-Based Learning

*New Models for Student Success*

# Internships and Beyond

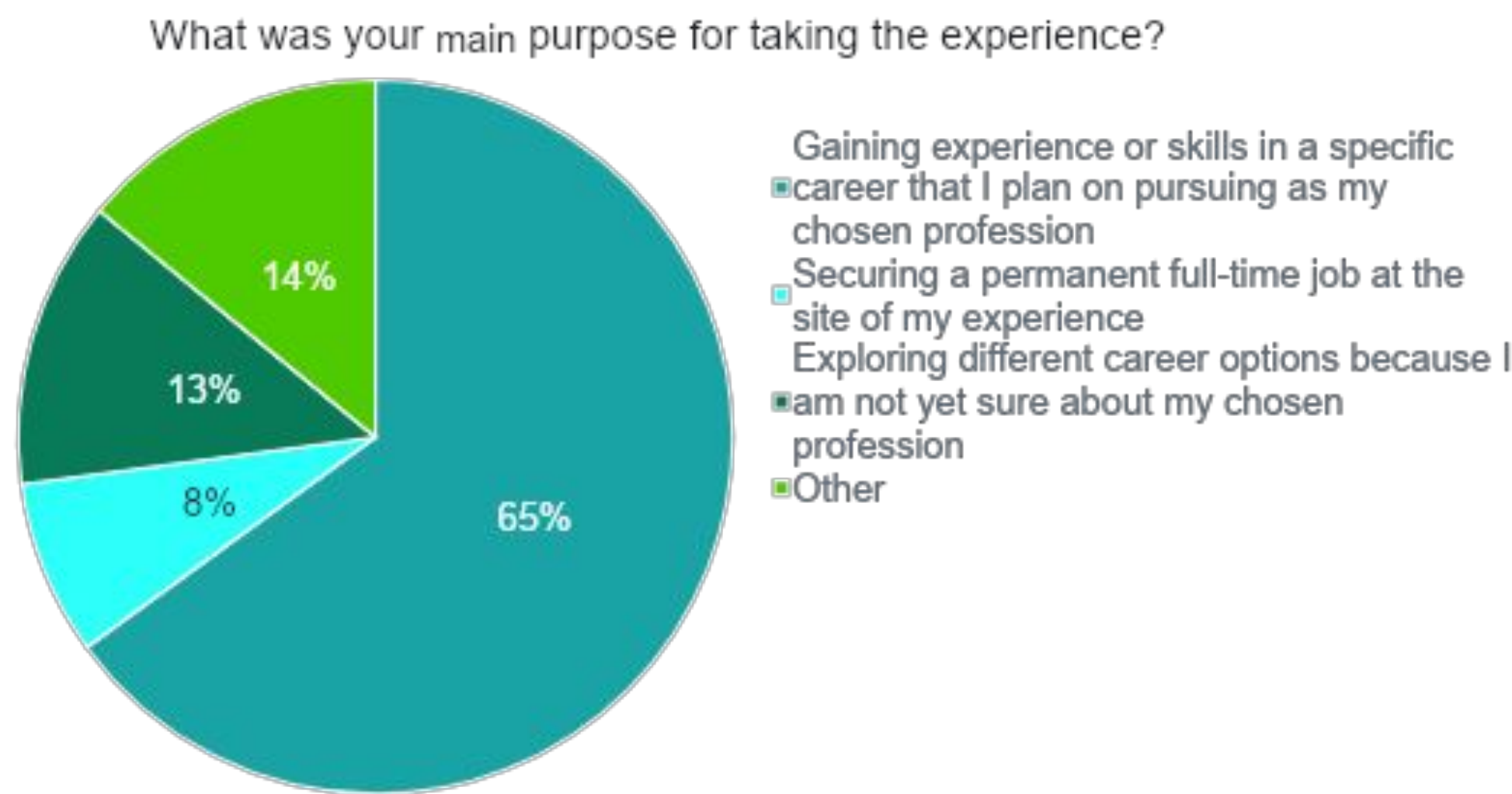
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National Survey of Work-Based Learning:

- Fall 2024 nationally representative survey of seniors enrolled at public four-year institutions (n=2,131)
- Student experiences with
  - Internships (paid and unpaid)
  - Practica, student teaching or clinicals
  - Undergraduate research
  - Project-based learning
  - On-campus jobs
  - Off-campus jobs

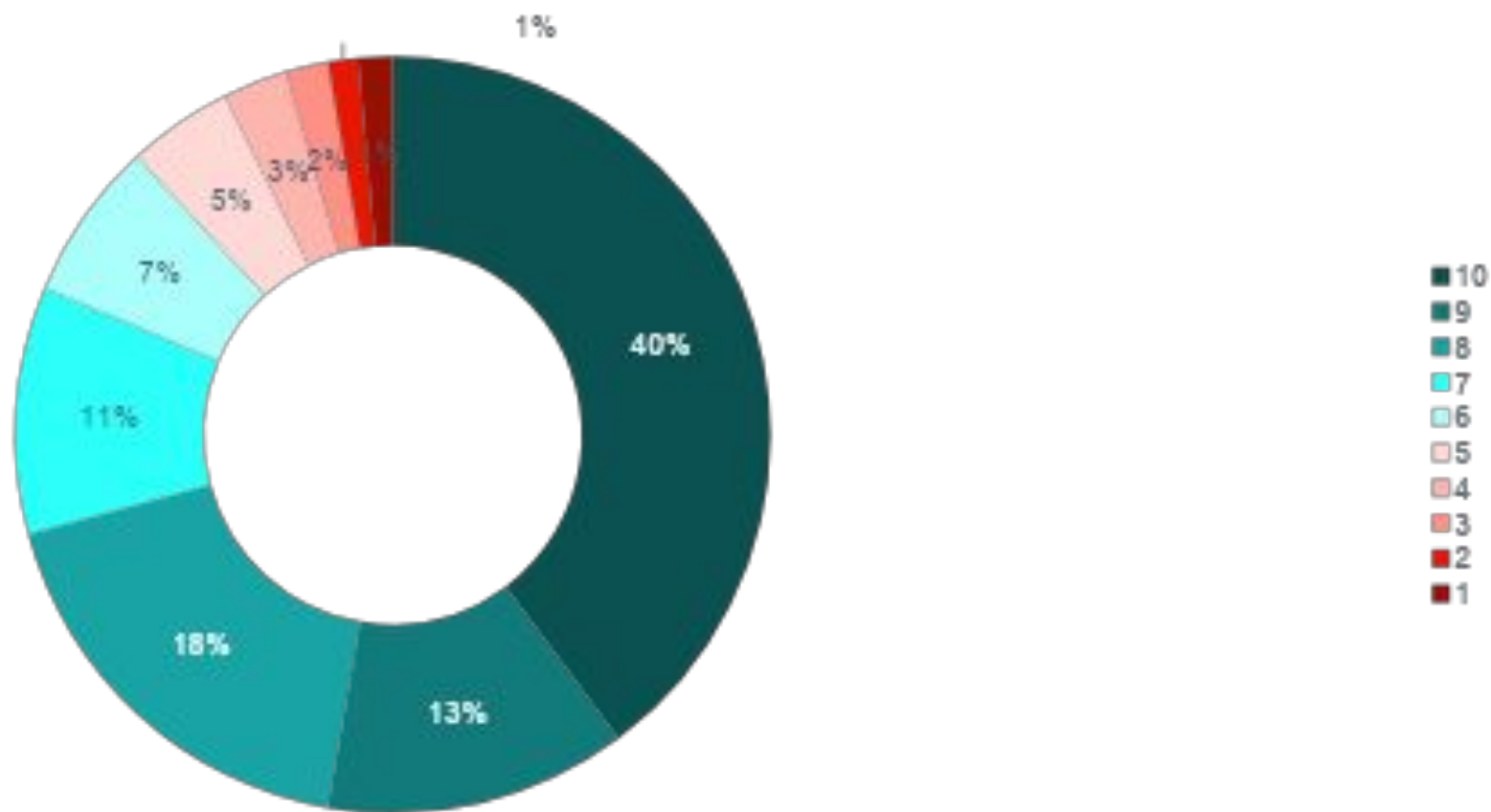


# Students most often pursue work-based learning to gain skills for specific careers



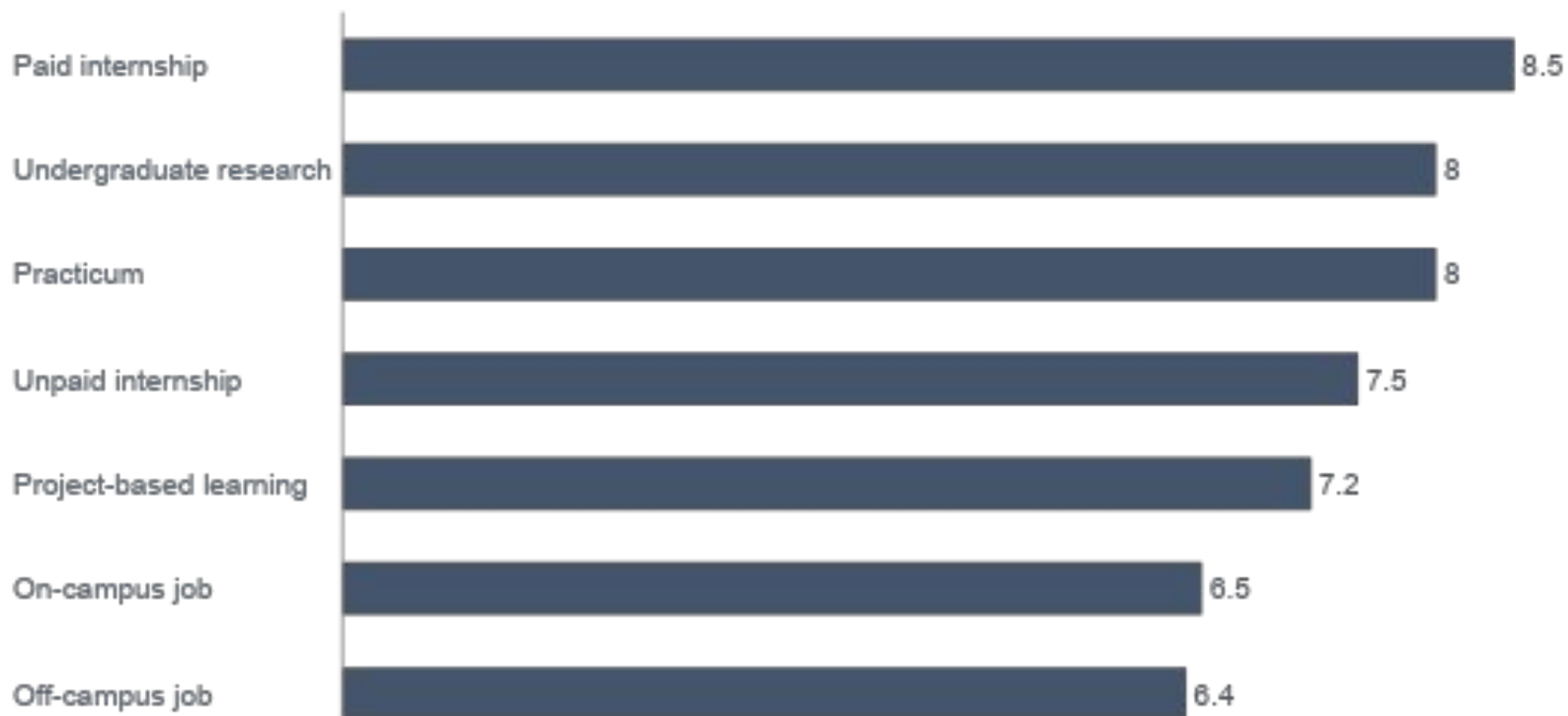
# More than 8 in 10 students feel their work-based learning experience makes them a stronger job candidate

Please rate the extent to which your experience makes you a stronger candidate for the kind of job you want  
Use a scale of 1 to 10 where 1 = *Not At All* and 10 = *A Great Deal*



# Students find value across many types of work-based learning experiences

Please rate the extent to which your experience makes you a **stronger candidate** for the kind of job you want  
Use a scale of 1 to 10 where 1 = *Not At All* and 10 = *A Great Deal*



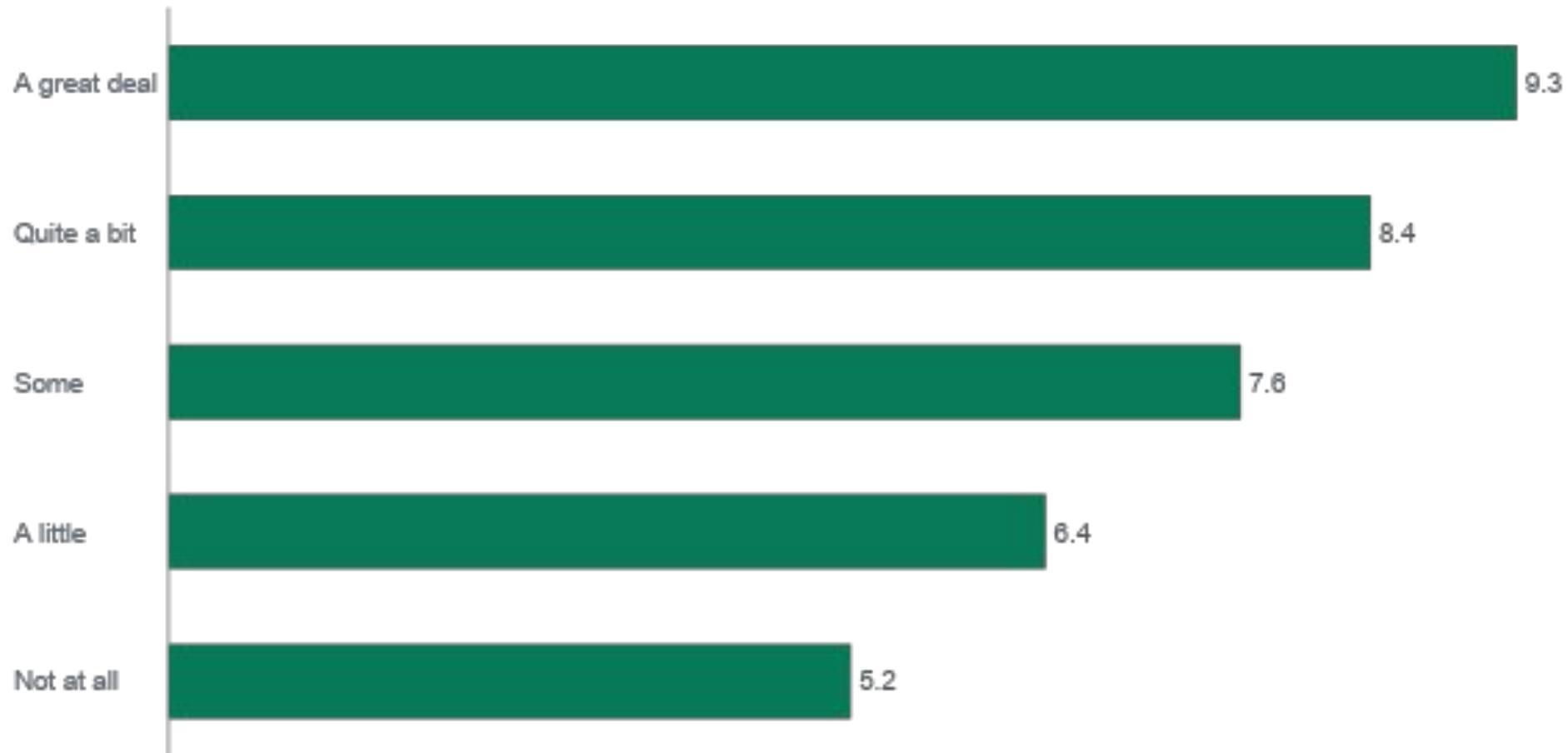


High-quality  
work-based learning  
=  
Skills  
+  
Networks



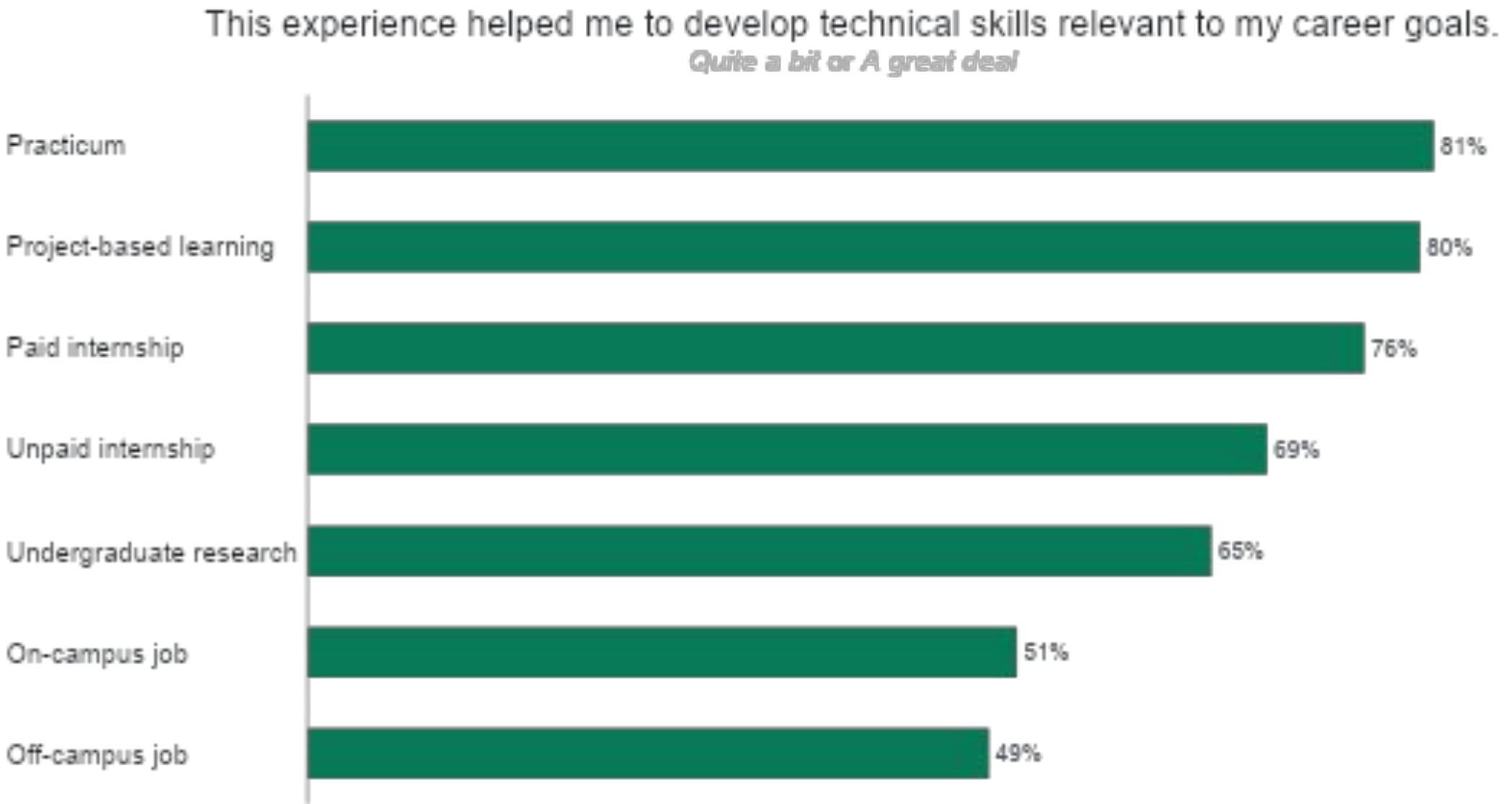
# Technical skills are linked to career value

Please rate the extent to which your experience makes you a **stronger candidate for the kind of job you want**  
Use a scale of 1 to 10 where 1 = *Not At All* and 10 = *A Great Deal*



■ This experience helped me to develop technical skills relevant to my career goals.

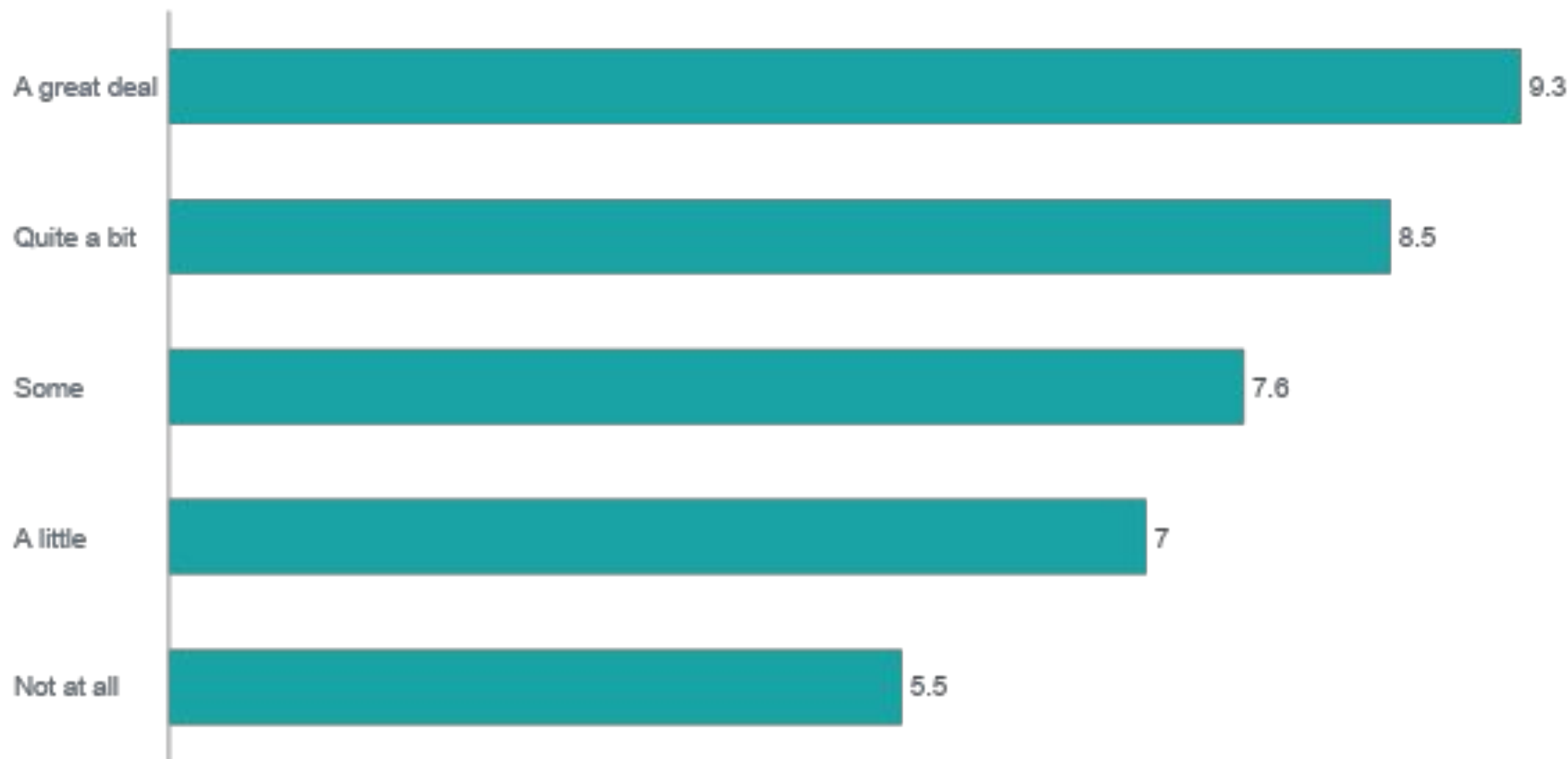
# Practica, project-based learning, and paid internships develop technical skills





# Social capital is linked to career value

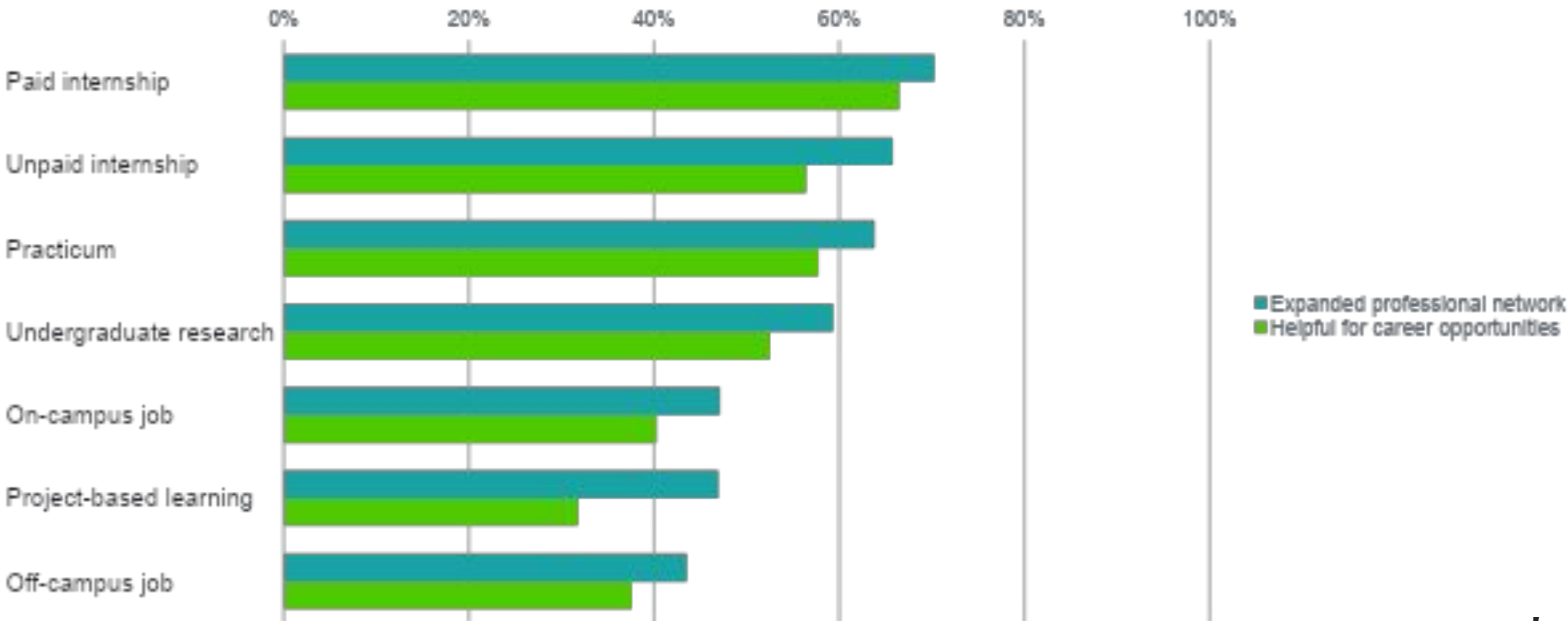
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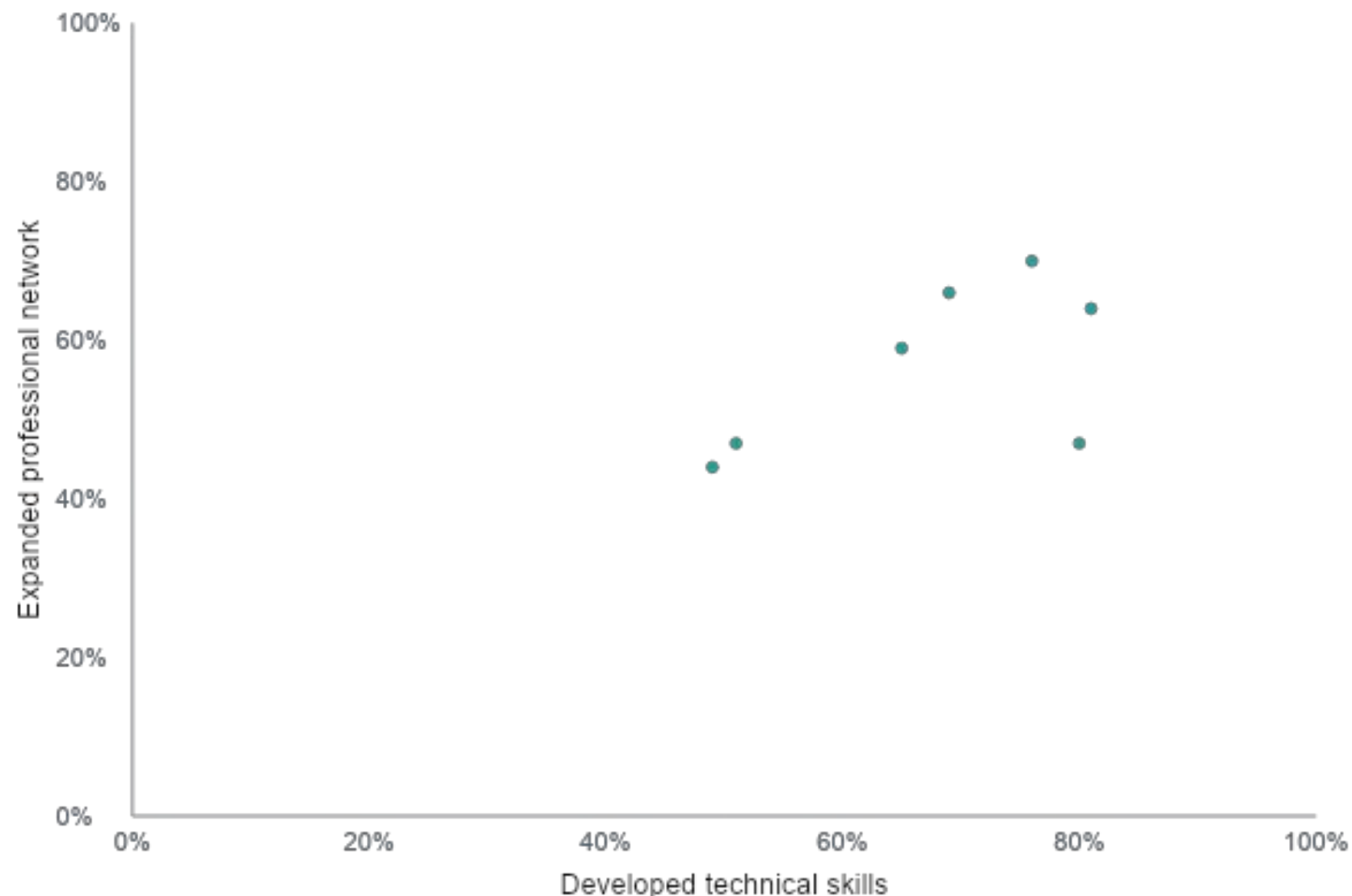
■ To what extent do you think your experience expanded your professional network?

# Paid internships help build social capital

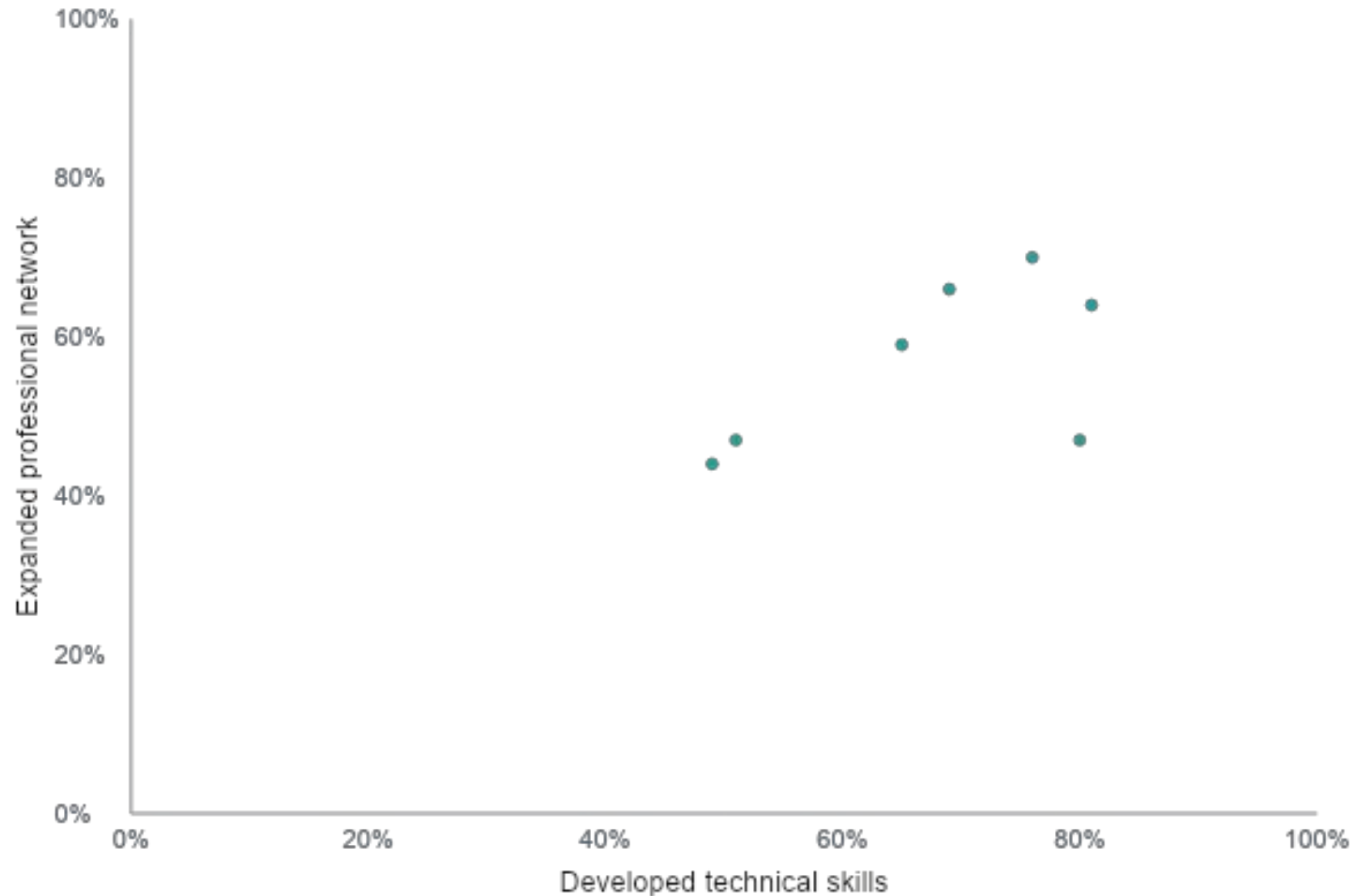
To what extent do you think your experience expanded your professional network?  
How helpful do you think people you met in experience will be for career opportunities?  
*Quite a bit/Very Helpful or A great deal/ Extremely helpful*



# Internships and practica deliver the strongest combination of technical skills and relationships



# Pay is the third key ingredient



# Action Steps



Set a goal for every student to have at least one quality work-based learning experience.



Add opportunities to develop social capital to on-campus experiences.



Work with employers to embed technical skill development.



# SHEEO Framework for Action on Work-Based Learning

	Unique SHEEO Levers				
	Policy influence	Convening and Communications	Funding Formulas	Reporting and Auditing	Training and Professional Development
<b>Action Steps to Grow Work-Based Learning</b>					
Create shared definitions of quality work-based learning					
Standardize tracking of WBL across institutions					
Conduct employer needs assessment and evaluate current WBL supply					
Incentivize and organize action from employers, institutions, and intermediaries					
Set bold state or system-wide WBL goal with implementation roadmap					