

Survey Results

Overall, professionals perceive that the quality of their writing matters to the performance of their jobs, and 75 percent of professionals rated writing as extremely important or very important to job performance. Only one percent of participants reported that the quality of their writing was not at all important.

When we break down the responses further, we can see some variation across professions in how employees understand the importance of writing quality to everyday job performance. As Figure 1.1 illustrates, between 70 and 85 percent of participants from most fields surveyed indicated that writing quality was very important or extremely important to their jobs, with professionals from the fields of management, finance, and research representing the three highest categories. The field of computer programming included the lowest percentage of participants who rated writing quality as extremely or very important to job performance, with 48 percent of participants choosing one of these two responses.

How Important is the Quality of Your Writing for the Performance of your Job?

Extremely Important or Very Important

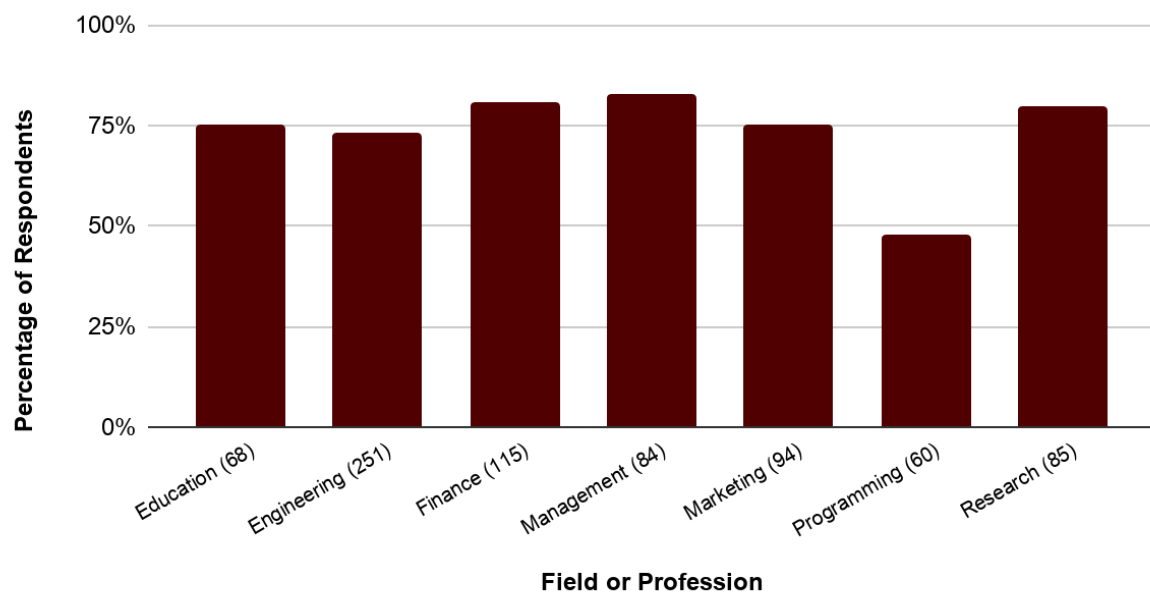


Figure 1.1

Figure 20.8. Excerpt from the body of a technical report describing results from research.¹

¹ Figure derived from Jason Swarts, Stacey Pigg, Jamie Larsen, Julia Helo Gonzalez, Rebecca De Haas, and Elizabeth Wagner, *Communication in the Workplace: What Can NC State Students Expect?* (Raleigh: North Carolina State University Professional Writing Program, 2018), <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pMpVbDRWIN6HssQQQ4MeQ6U-oB-sGUrtRswD7feuRB0/edit#heading=h.n2a3udms5sd5>. Licensed under a Creative Commons [Attribution 4.0 International](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) License.