

Jobseeker Preferences Report PhD 2022

13% of visitors to jobs.ac.uk are looking for PhD opportunities

Summary

13% of 8,512 survey respondents are prospective PhD students, and 68% of those are actively searching and applying for PhDs, with a further 25% just browsing but open to applying for a PhD opportunity.

What is the main reason for your visit to jobs.ac.uk today?

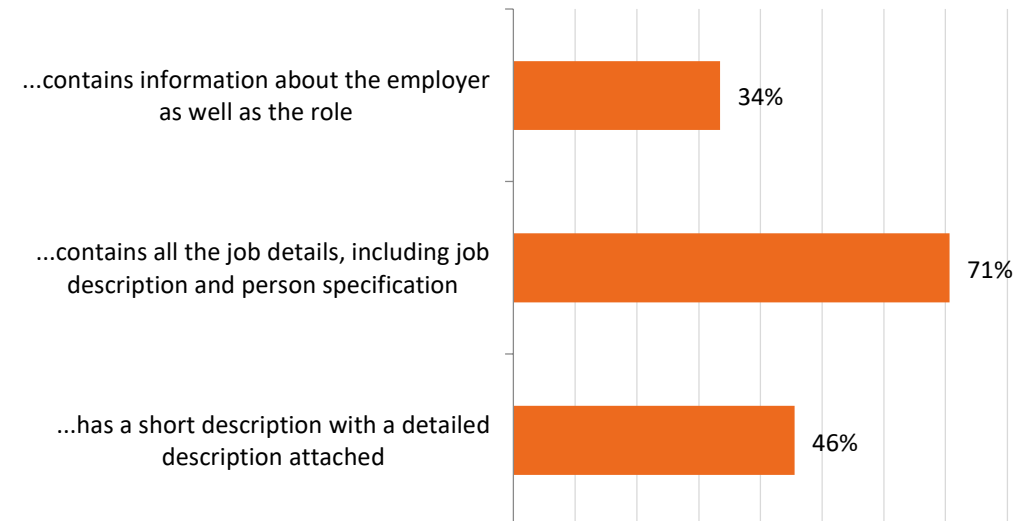


How can we help?

More than 85% of candidates indicate that a clear job description is the most important part of an advert.

For support and guidance on getting the most out of your job advert, please get in touch on enquiries@jobs.ac.uk

I prefer a PhD advert that...



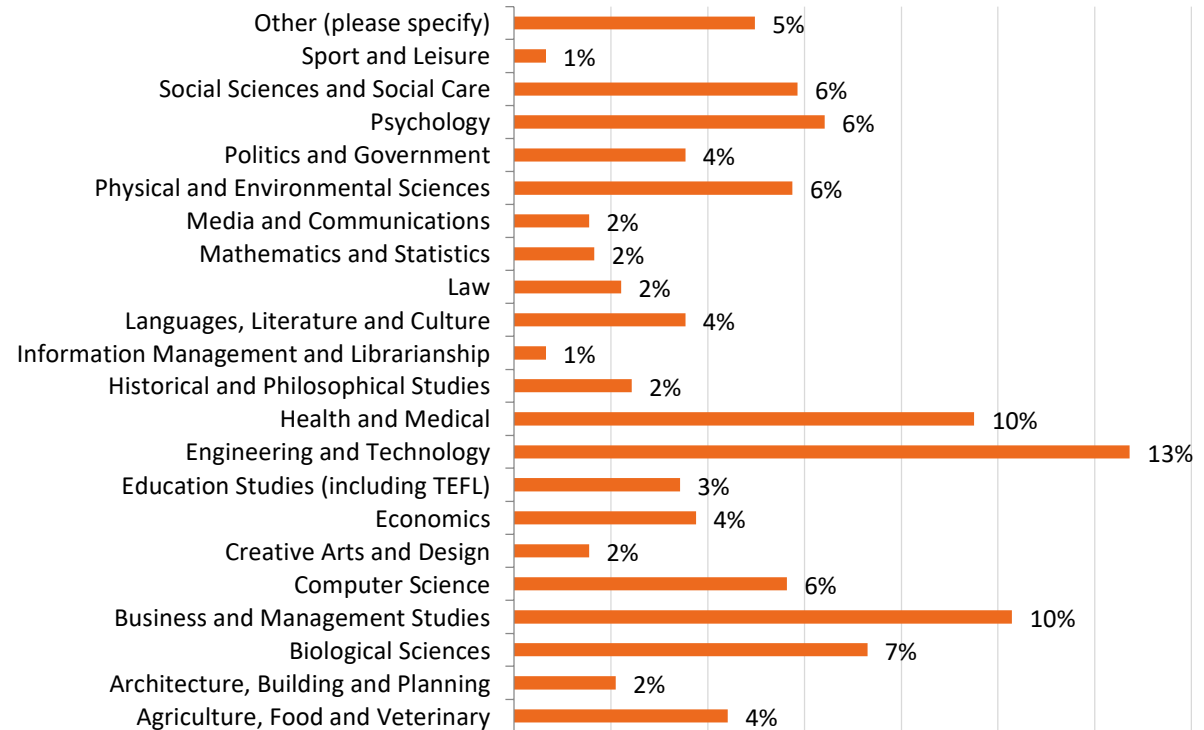
PhD insights

2 out of 3 respondents are signed up to receive PhD email alerts

Do you use PhD email alerts when searching online for a PhD?



What academic discipline does your research interest fall into?



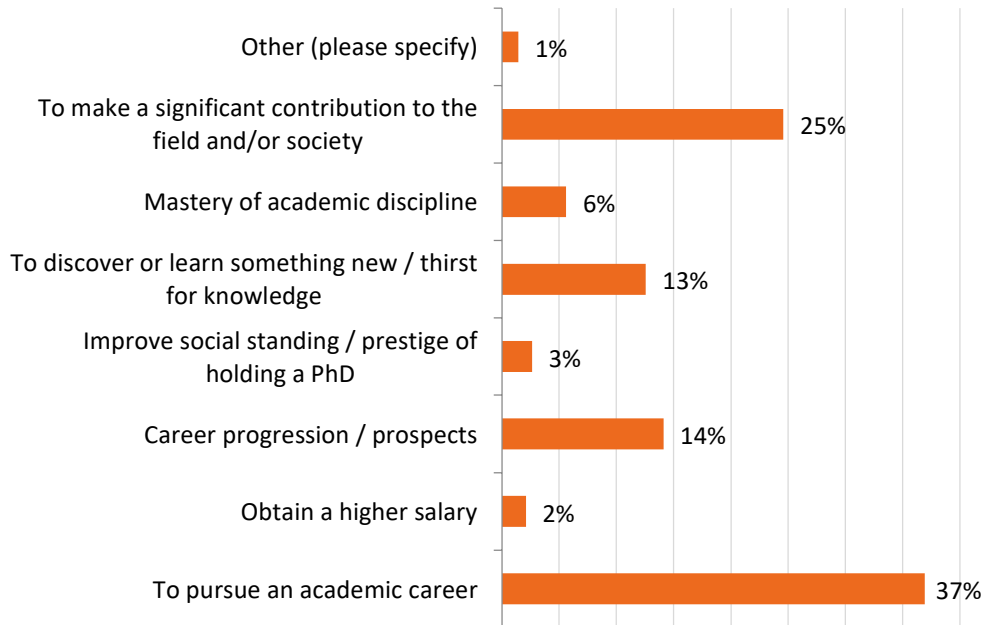
[See appendix here for full academic discipline breakdown](#)



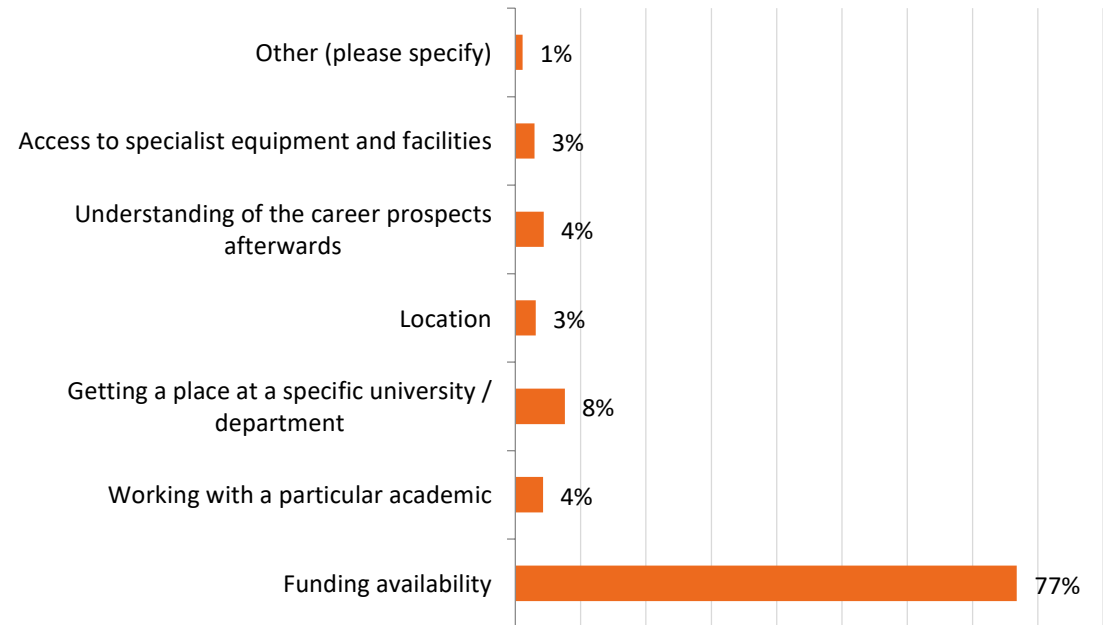
General insights

- The main reason respondents are looking for a PhD is to pursue an academic career
- Funding availability is quoted as being the main deciding factor for doing a PhD

Reasons why respondents are seeking a PhD



What would be the deciding factor in doing a PhD?



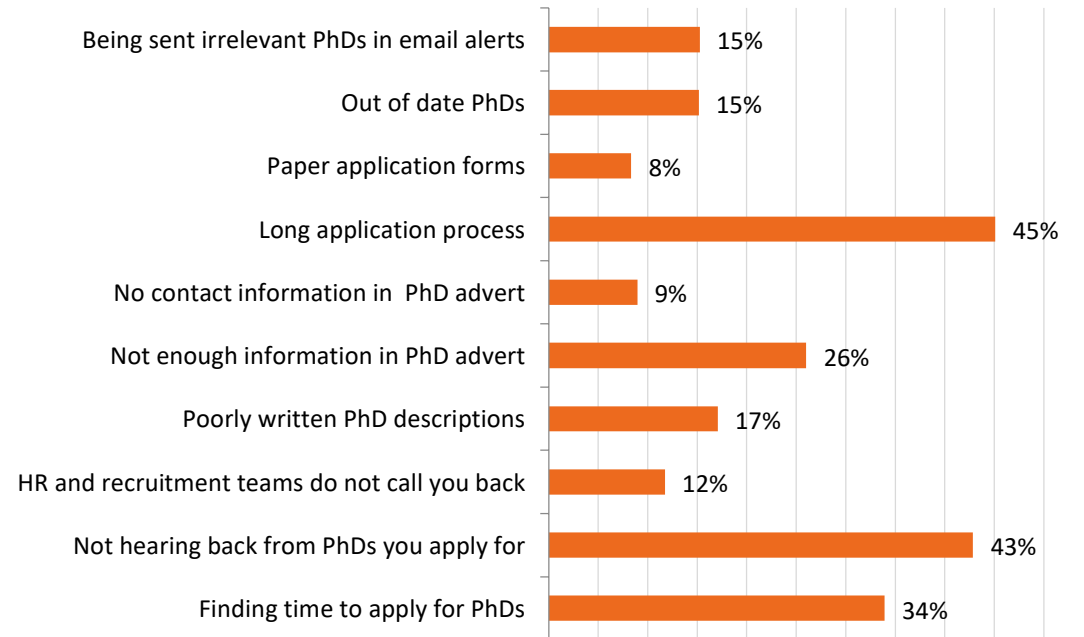
PhD adverts and the recruitment process

- Over 75% prefer a job advert that contains a clearly defined research project
- 49% of respondents would also like to see information about the qualifications required for the role
- 45% of respondents are frustrated by the long application process

The most important parts of a job advert, aside from the title, salary and location, are...



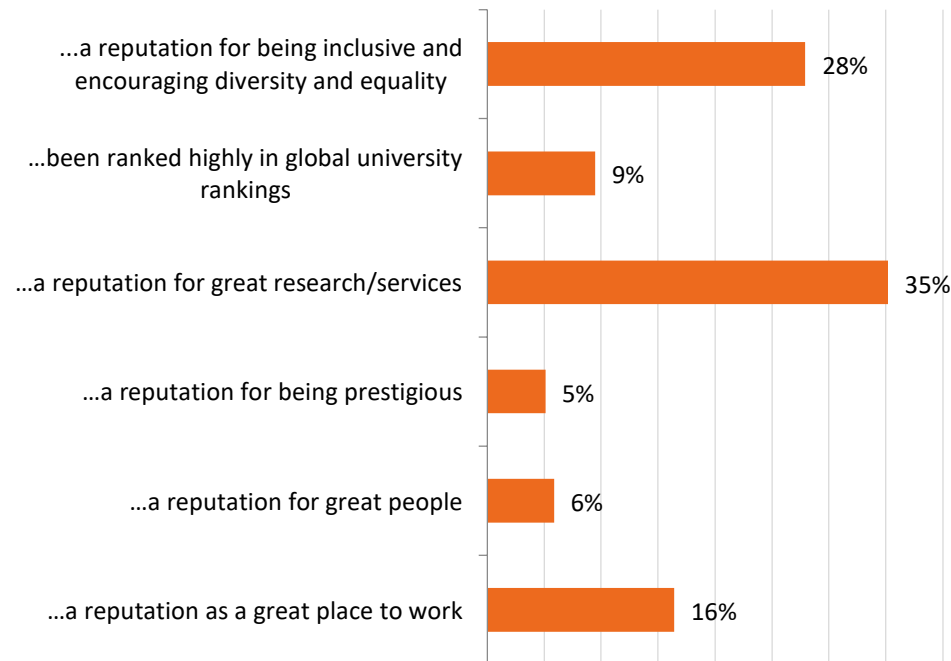
The most frustrating parts of the job seeking process are...



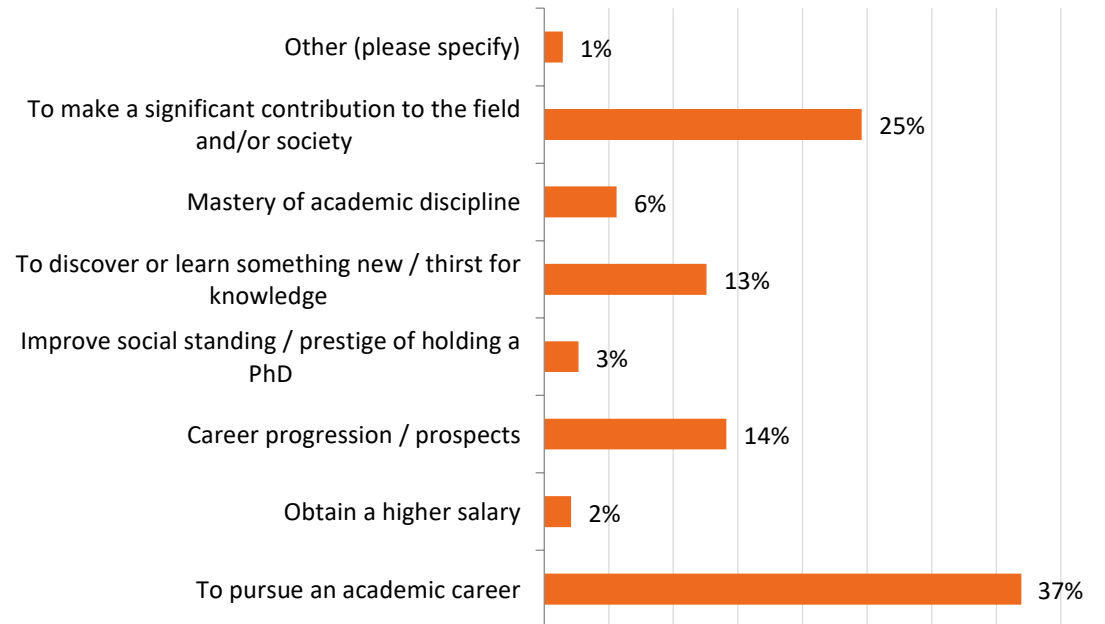
In the workplace

- jobs.ac.uk visitors are seeking PhD opportunities at institutions that have a reputation for great research and for encouraging diversity and inclusion
- 37 % of prospective PhD candidates are seeking opportunities to pursue an academic career

Which of the following is the MOST important if you were to consider a PhD? The employer has....



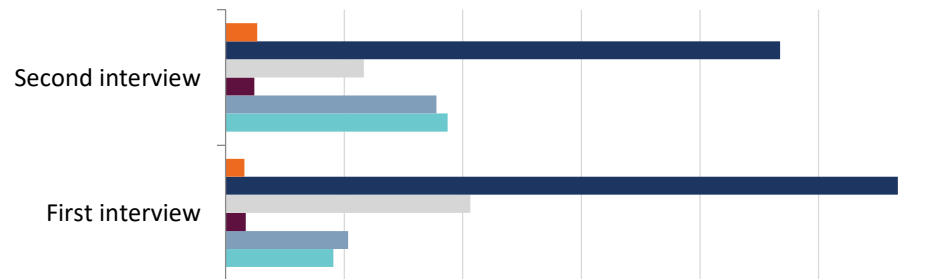
Why respondents are seeking PhD opportunities:



PhD interview preferences

In the aftermath of the pandemic, the majority of respondents would still prefer in-person interviews for local PhDs. Video interviews are the preferred method for PhDs overseas.

Preferred interview method for PhDs overseas



	First interview	Second interview
None of the above	2%	3%
A video interview	57%	47%
A telephone interview	21%	12%
A job fair at the recruiting organisation	2%	2%
A home-country based interview	10%	18%
An interview overseas in the country where the position is based	9%	19%

Preferred interview method for local PhDs



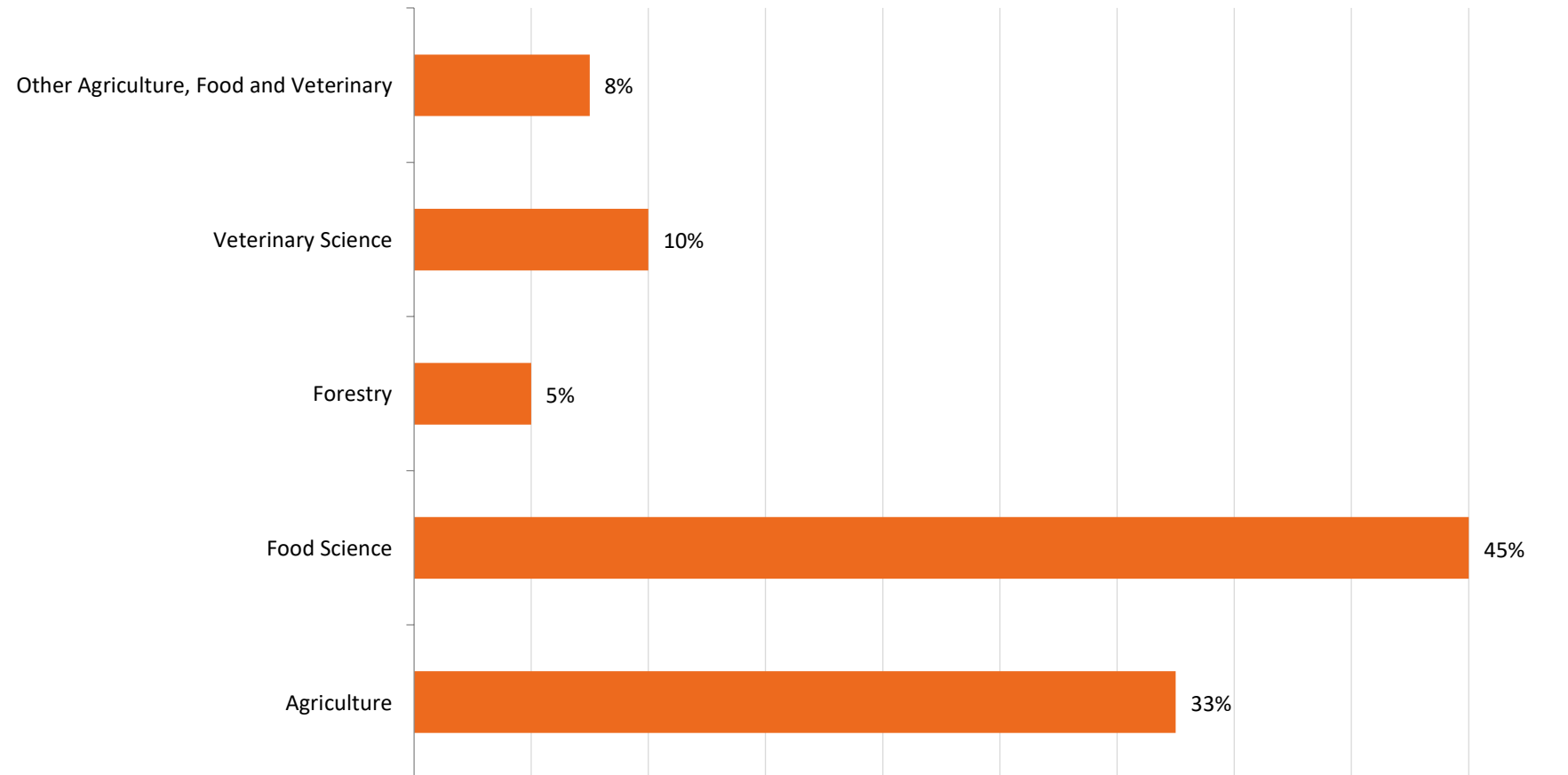
	First interview	Second interview
None of the above	1%	3%
A video interview	39%	27%
A telephone interview	16%	8%
A job fair at the recruiting organisation	6%	10%
An in-person interview in the town or city where the position is based	37%	52%

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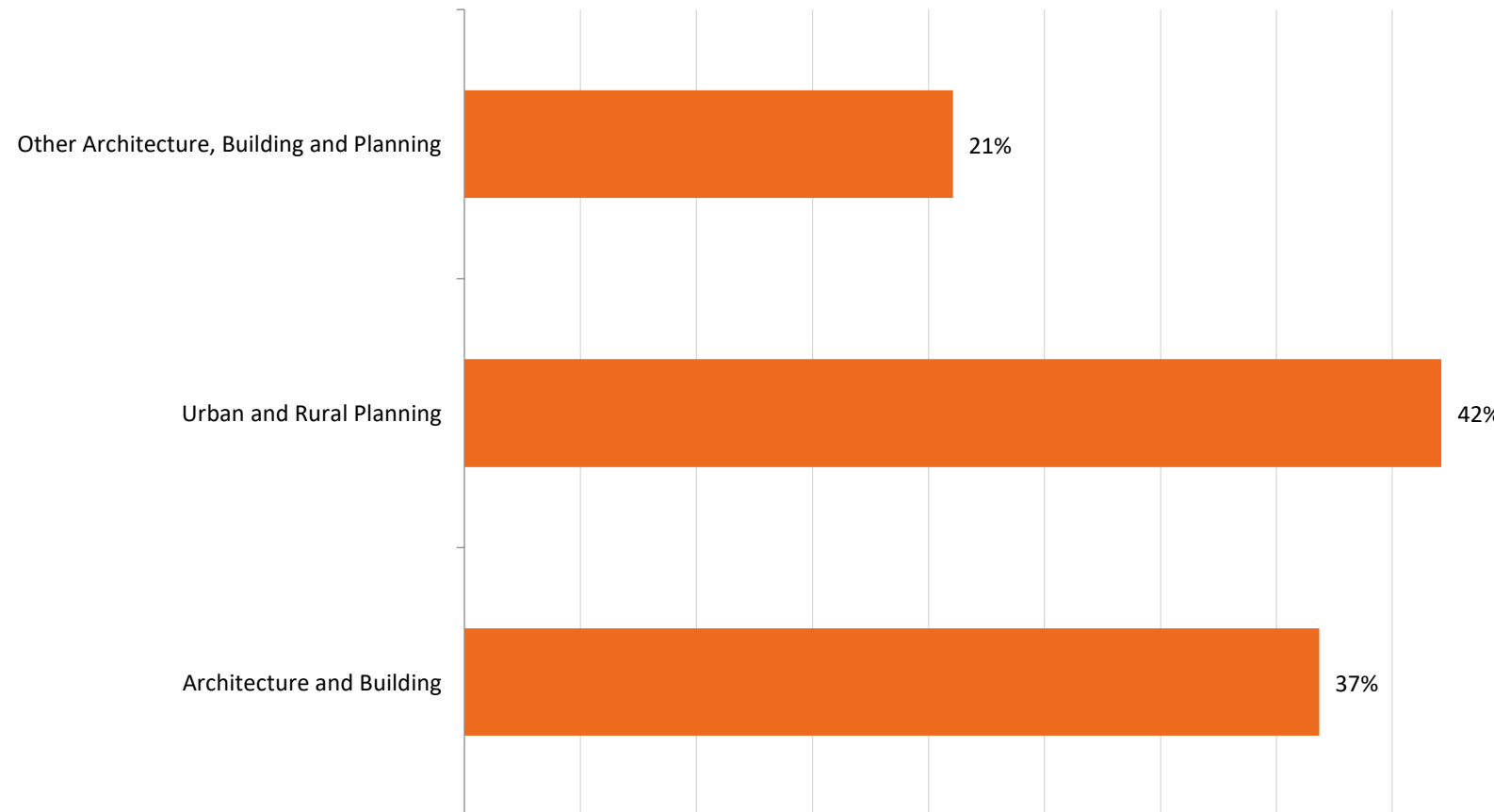
Great jobs for bright people

Appendix

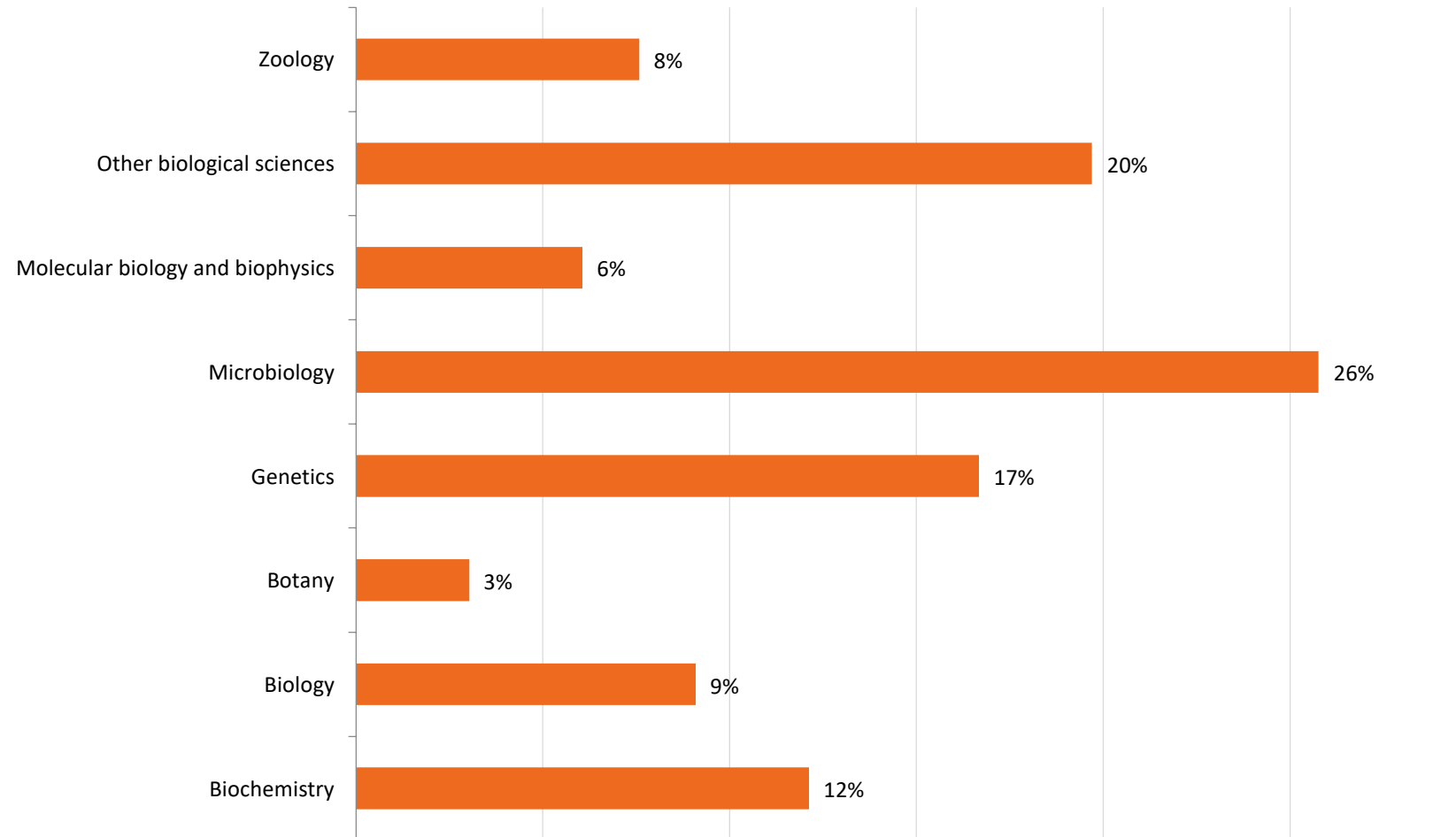
You said that your primary academic research discipline is Agriculture, Food and Veterinary. Which of the following fields best describes your research interest?



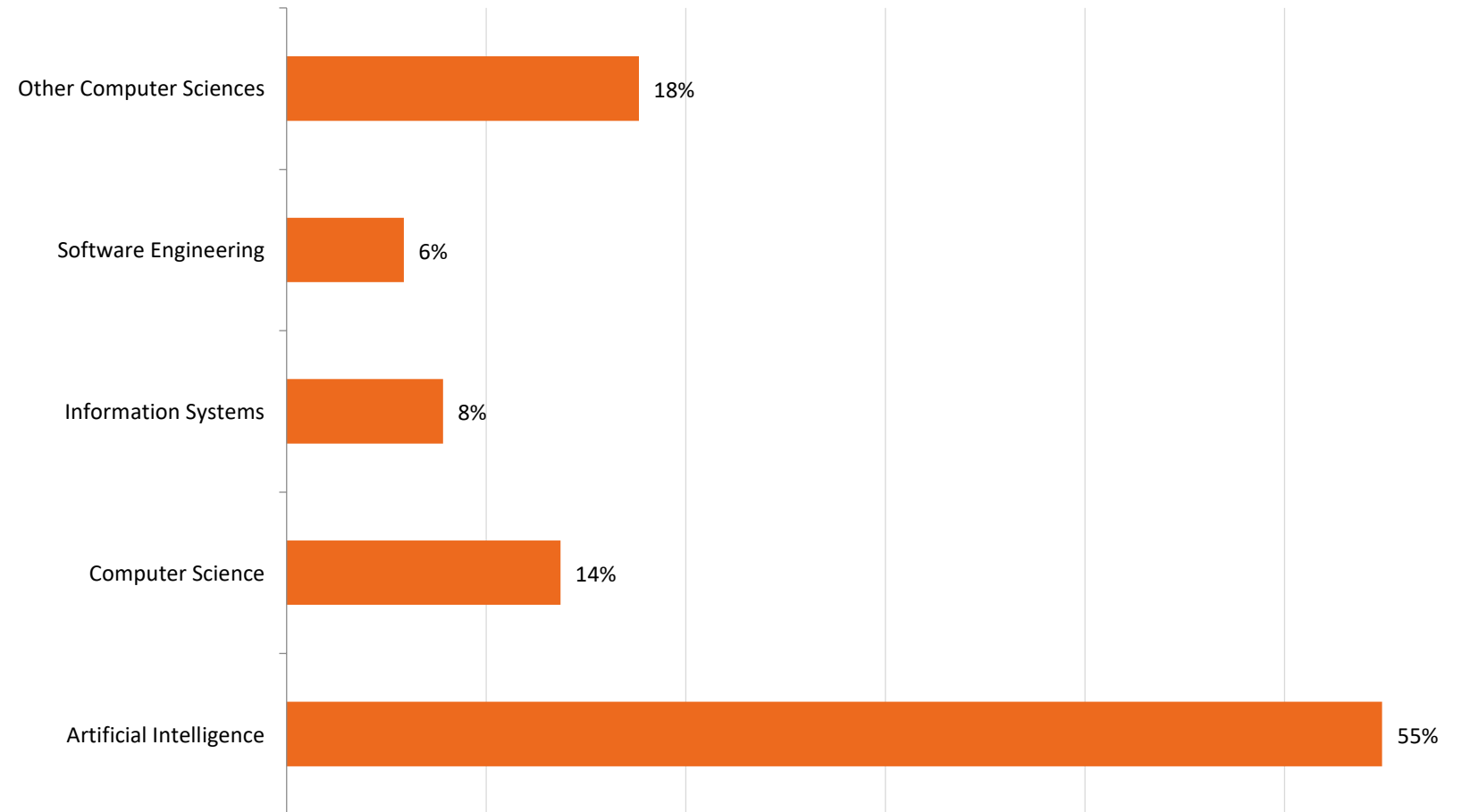
You said that your primary academic research discipline is Architecture, Building and Planning. Which of the following fields best describes your research interest?



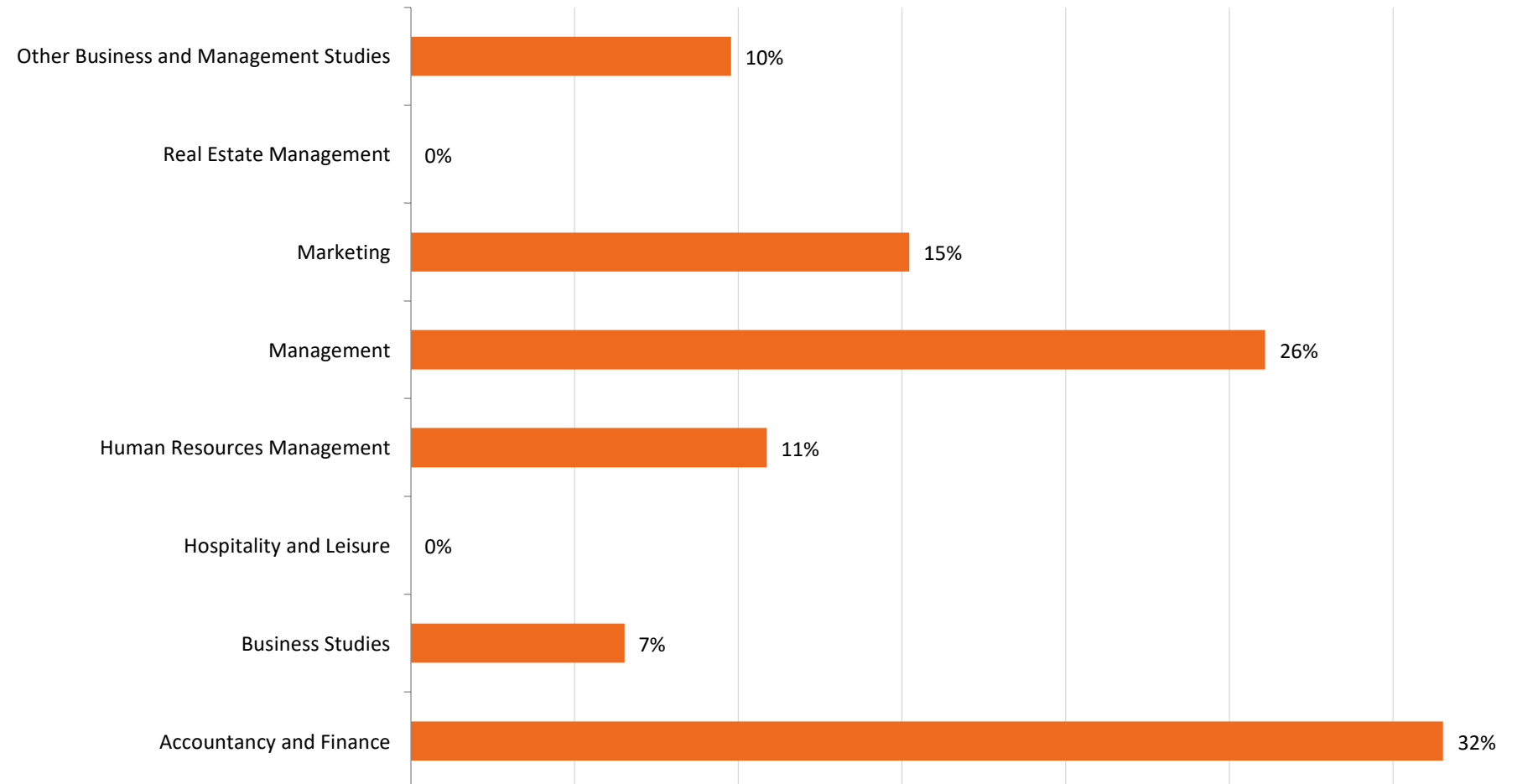
You said that your primary academic research discipline is Biological Sciences. Which of the following fields best describes your research interest? Please select one



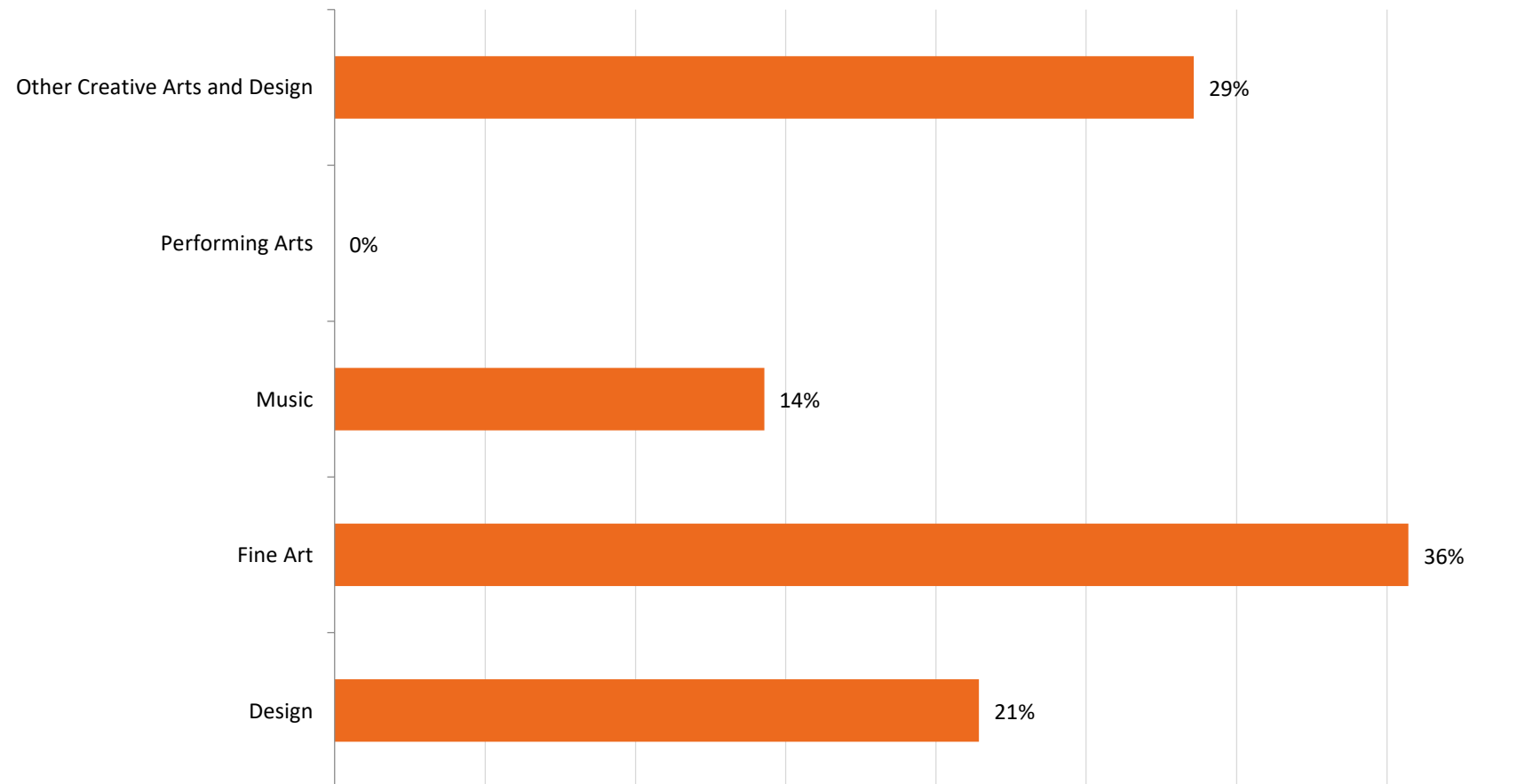
You said that your primary academic research discipline is Computer Science. Which of the following fields best describes your research interest?



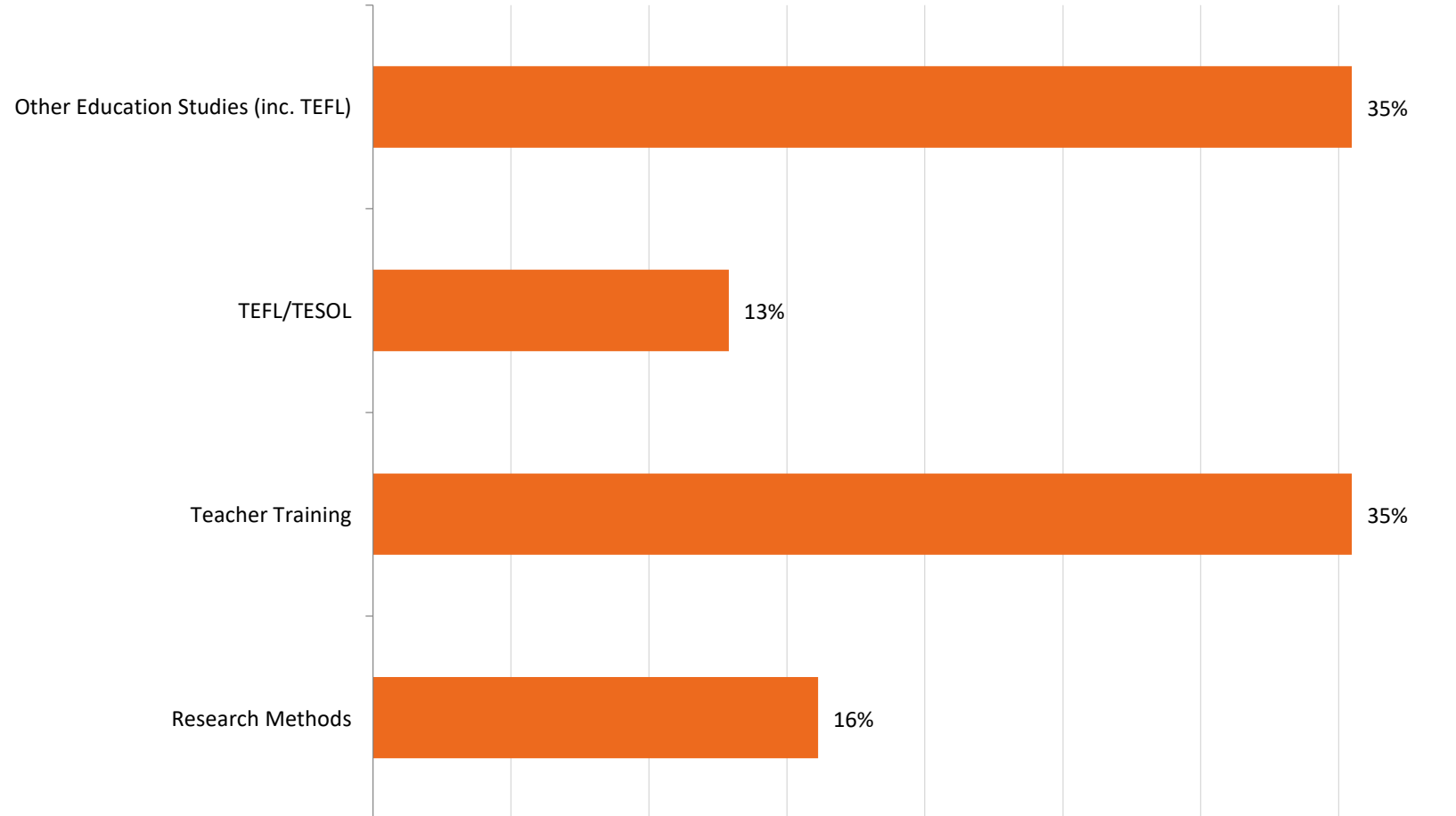
You said that your primary academic research discipline is Business and Management Studies. Which of the following fields best describes your research interest?



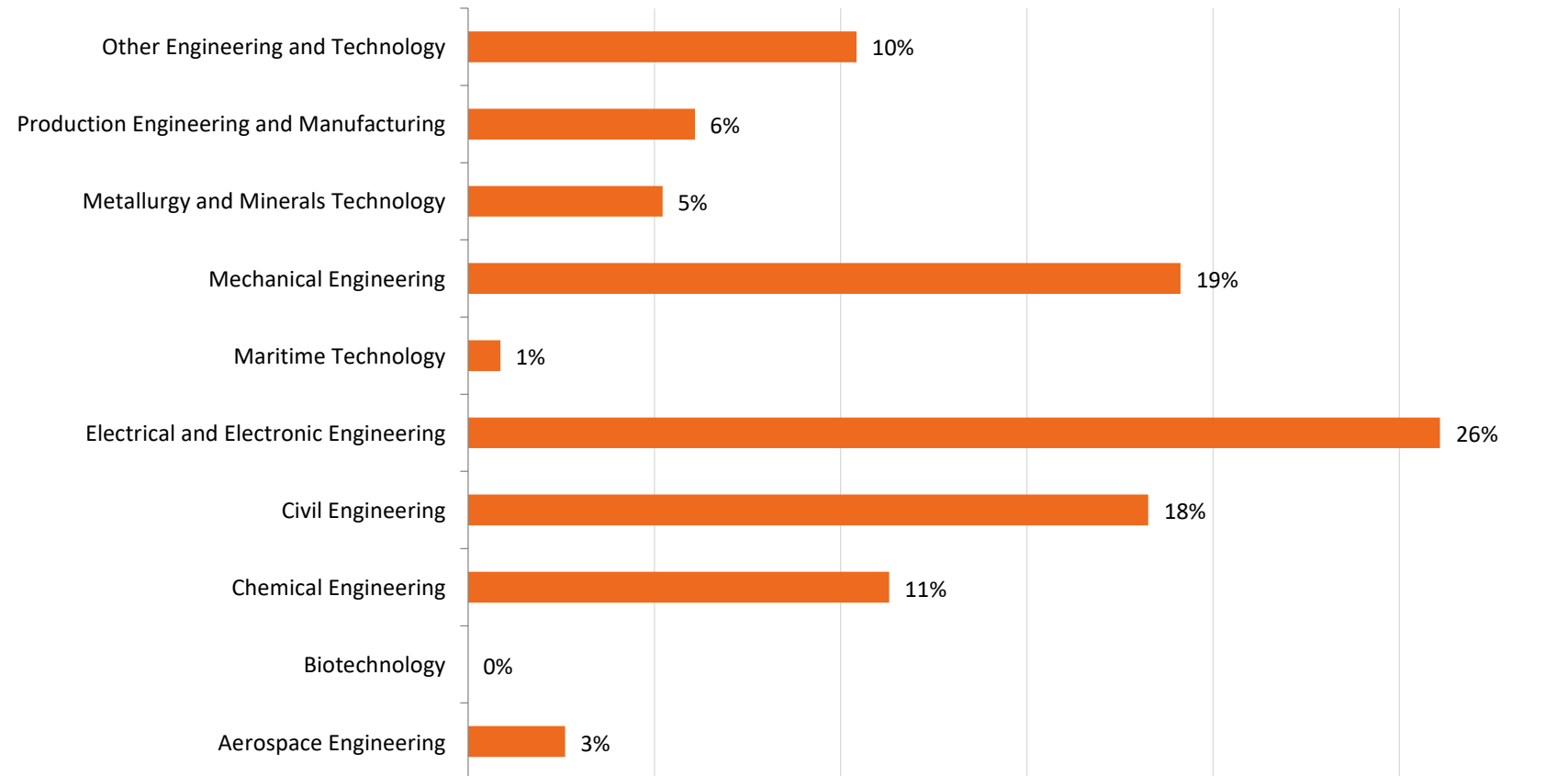
You said that your primary academic research discipline is Creative Arts and Design.
Which of the following fields best describes your research interest?



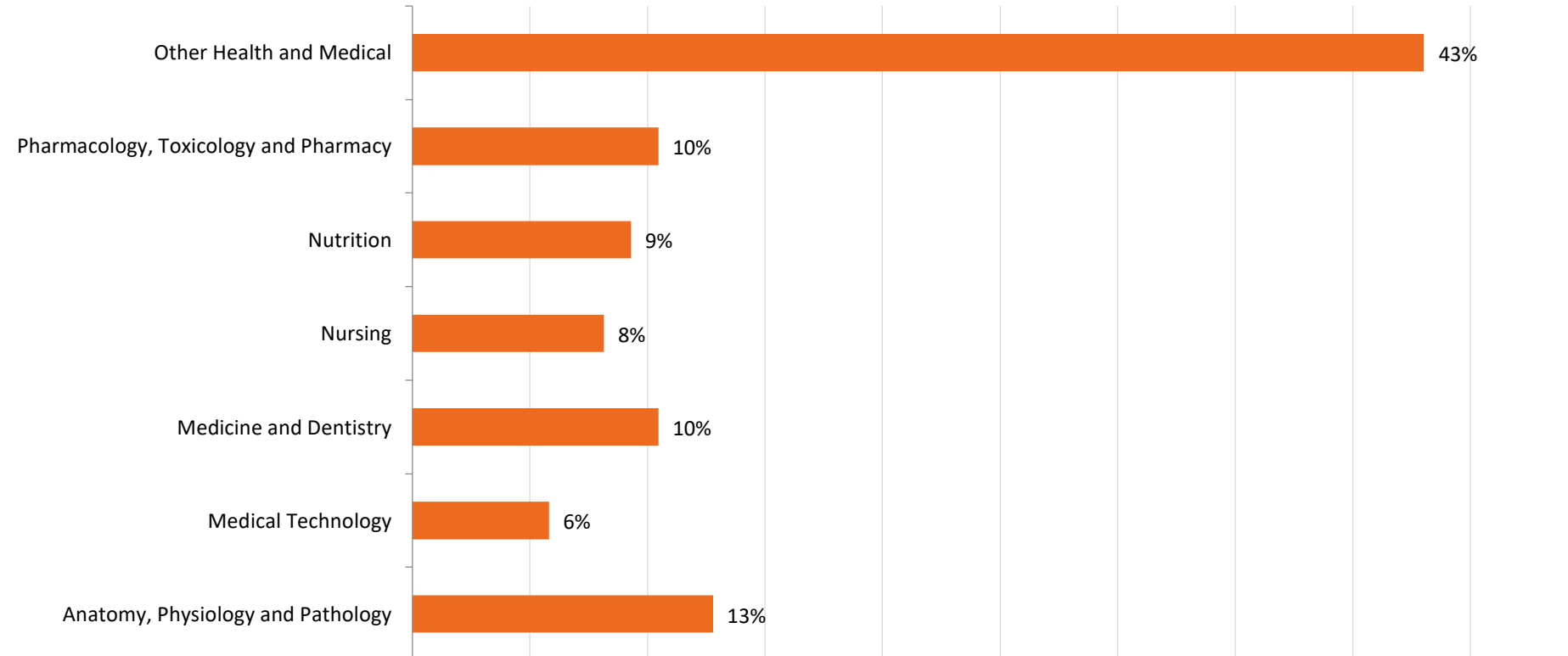
You said that your primary academic research discipline is Education Studies (inc. TEFL). Which of the following fields best describes your research interest?



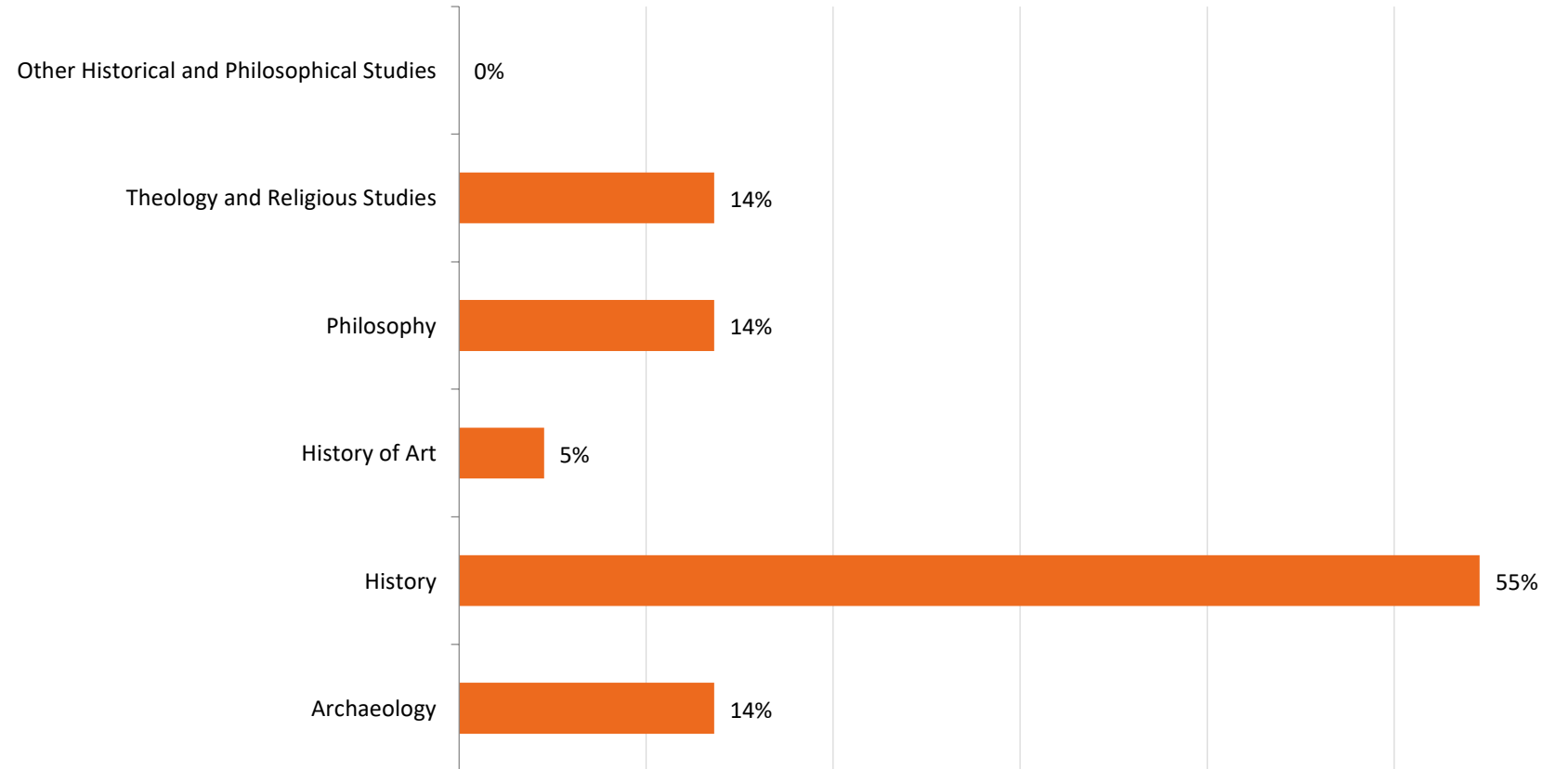
You said that your primary academic research discipline is Engineering and Technology.
Which of the following fields best describes your research interest?



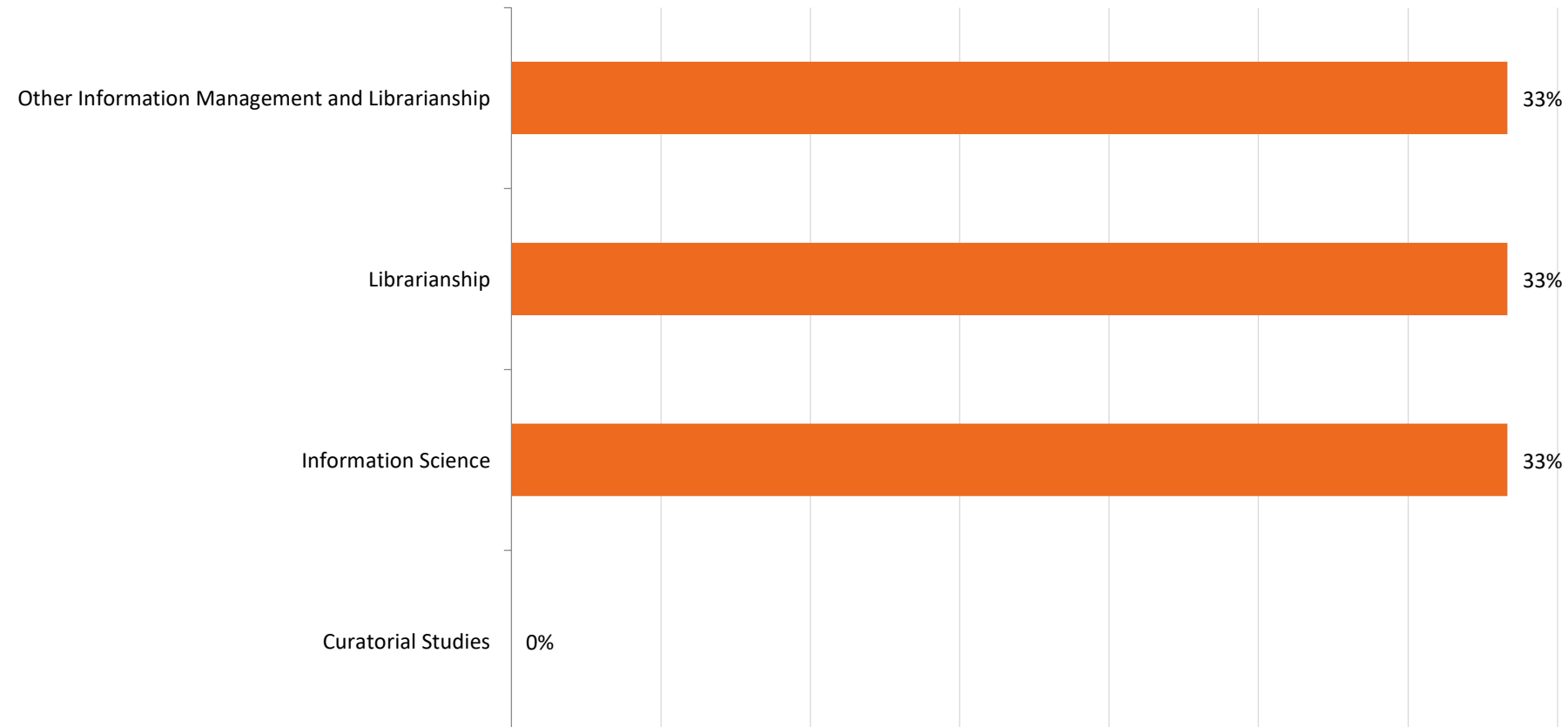
You said that your primary academic research discipline is Health and Medical. Which of the following fields best describes your research interest?



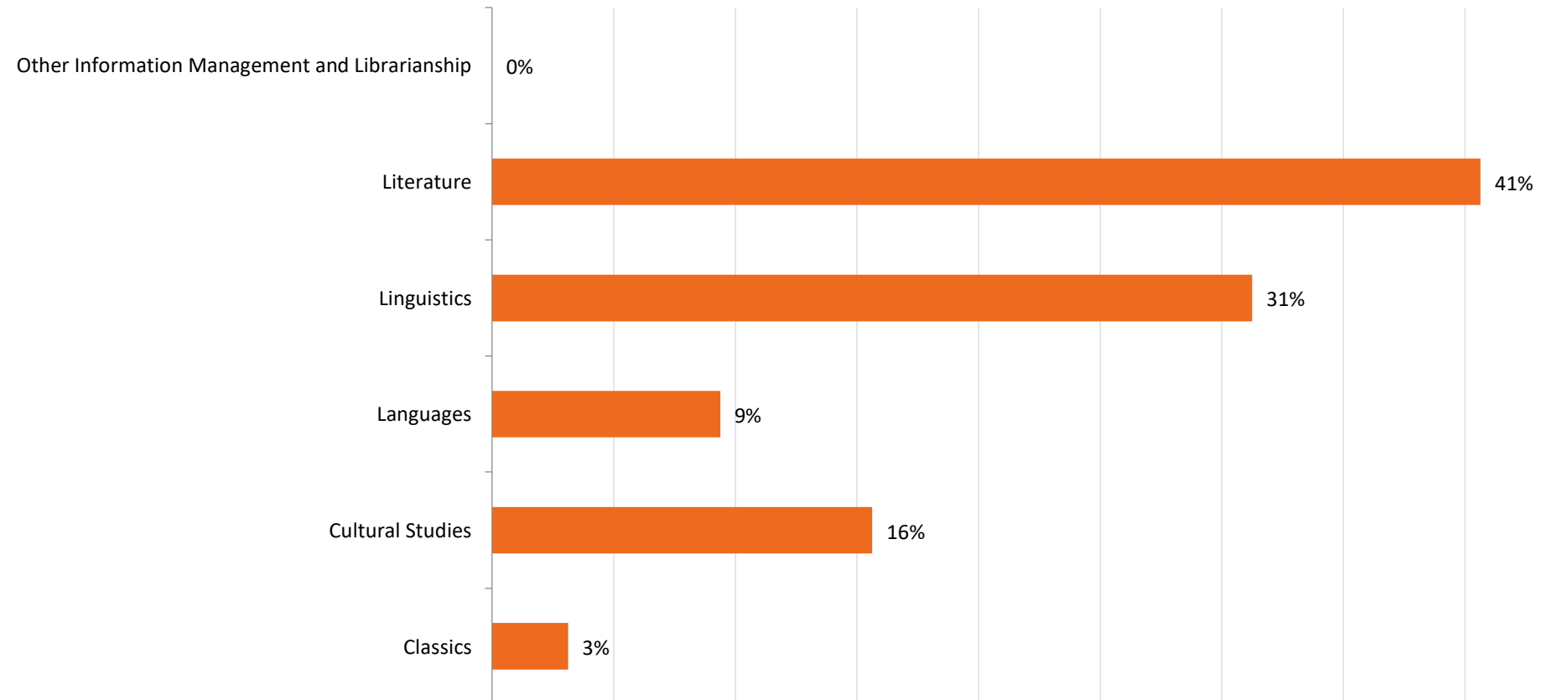
You said that your primary academic research discipline is Historical and Philosophical Studies. Which of the following fields best describes your research interest?



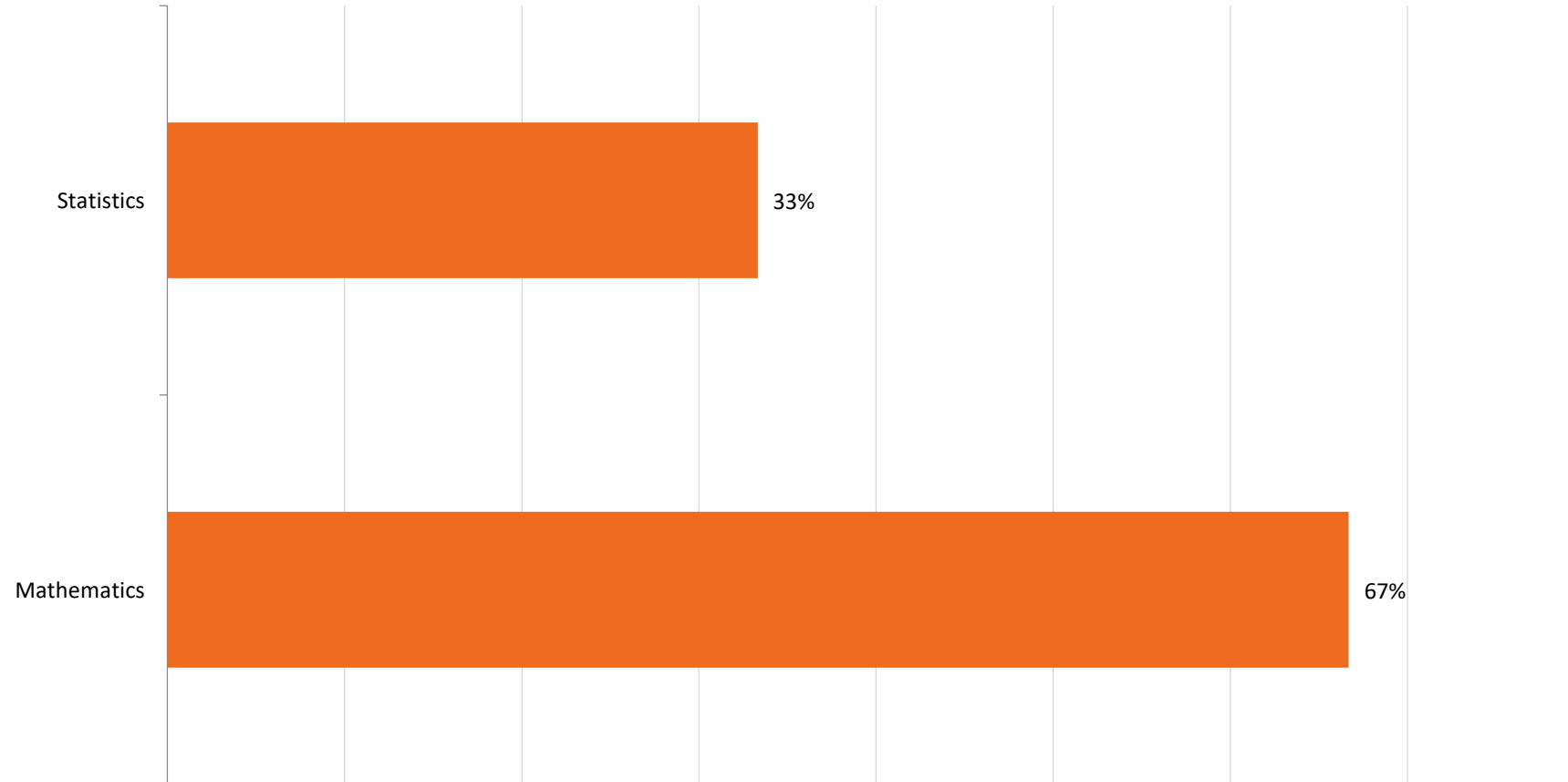
You said that your primary academic research discipline is Information Management and Librarianship. Which of the following fields best describes your research interest?



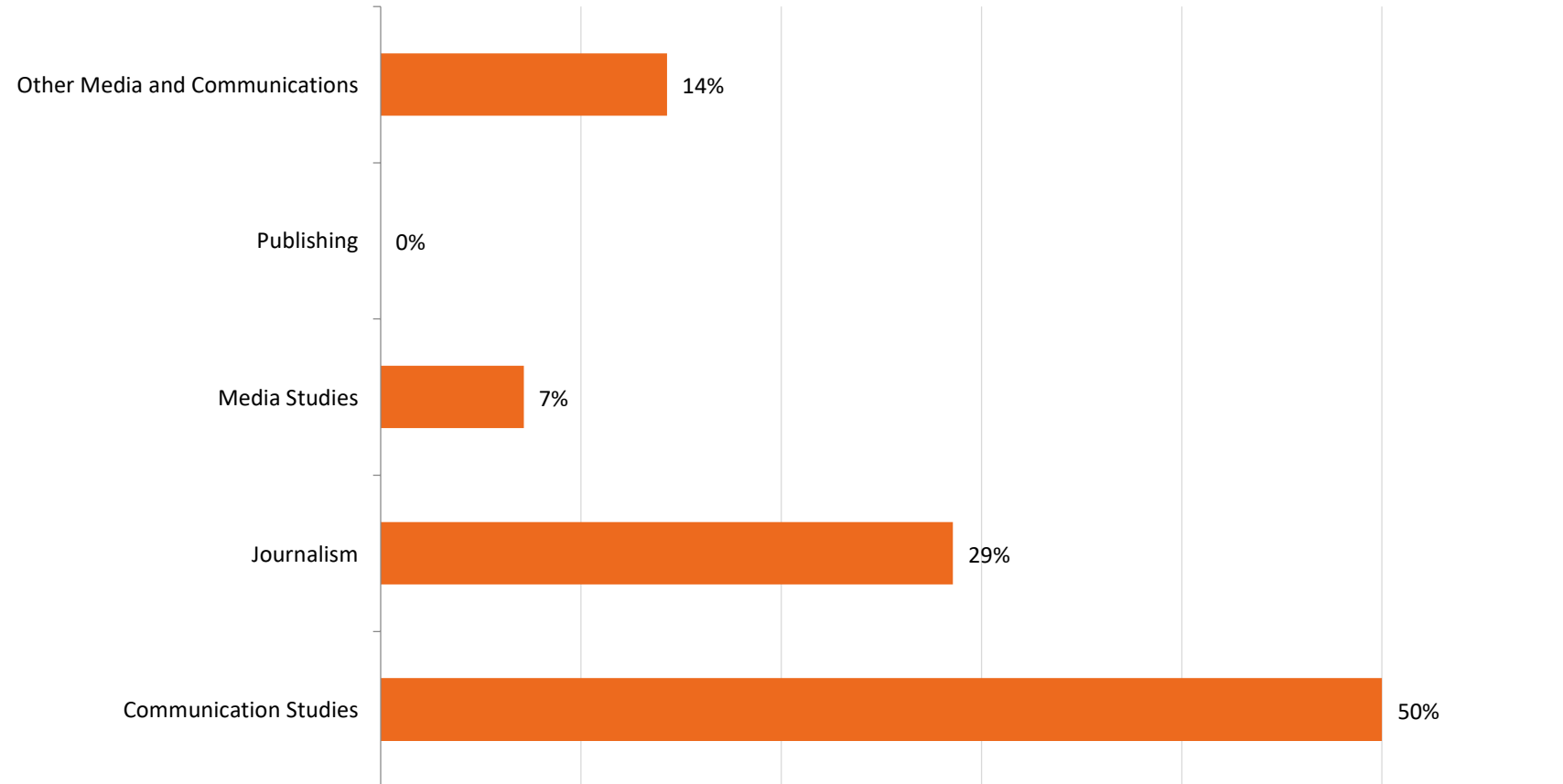
You said that your primary academic research discipline is Languages, Literature and Culture. Which of the following fields best describes your research interest?



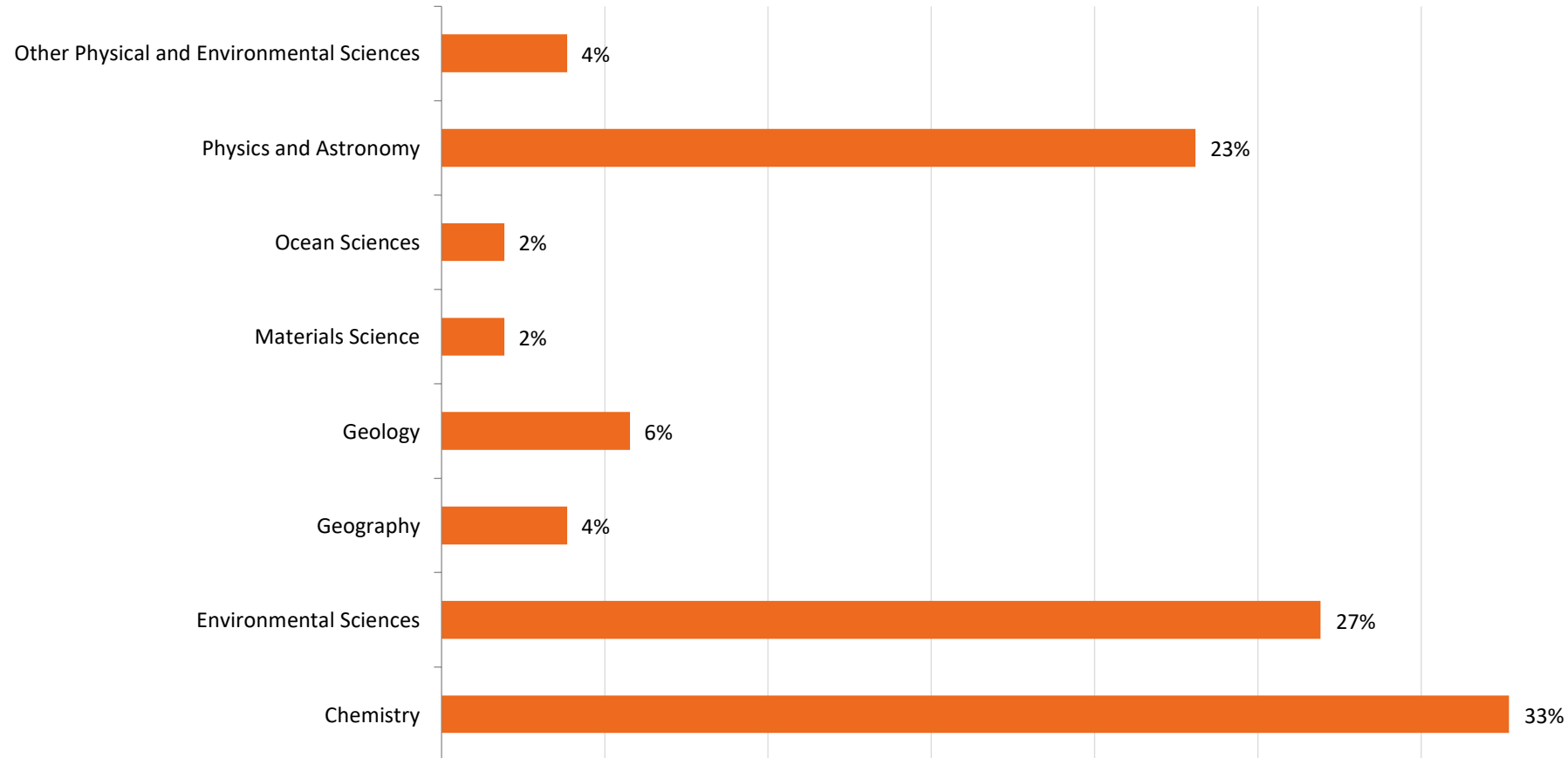
You said that your primary academic research discipline is Mathematics and Statistics.
Which of the following fields best describes your research interest?



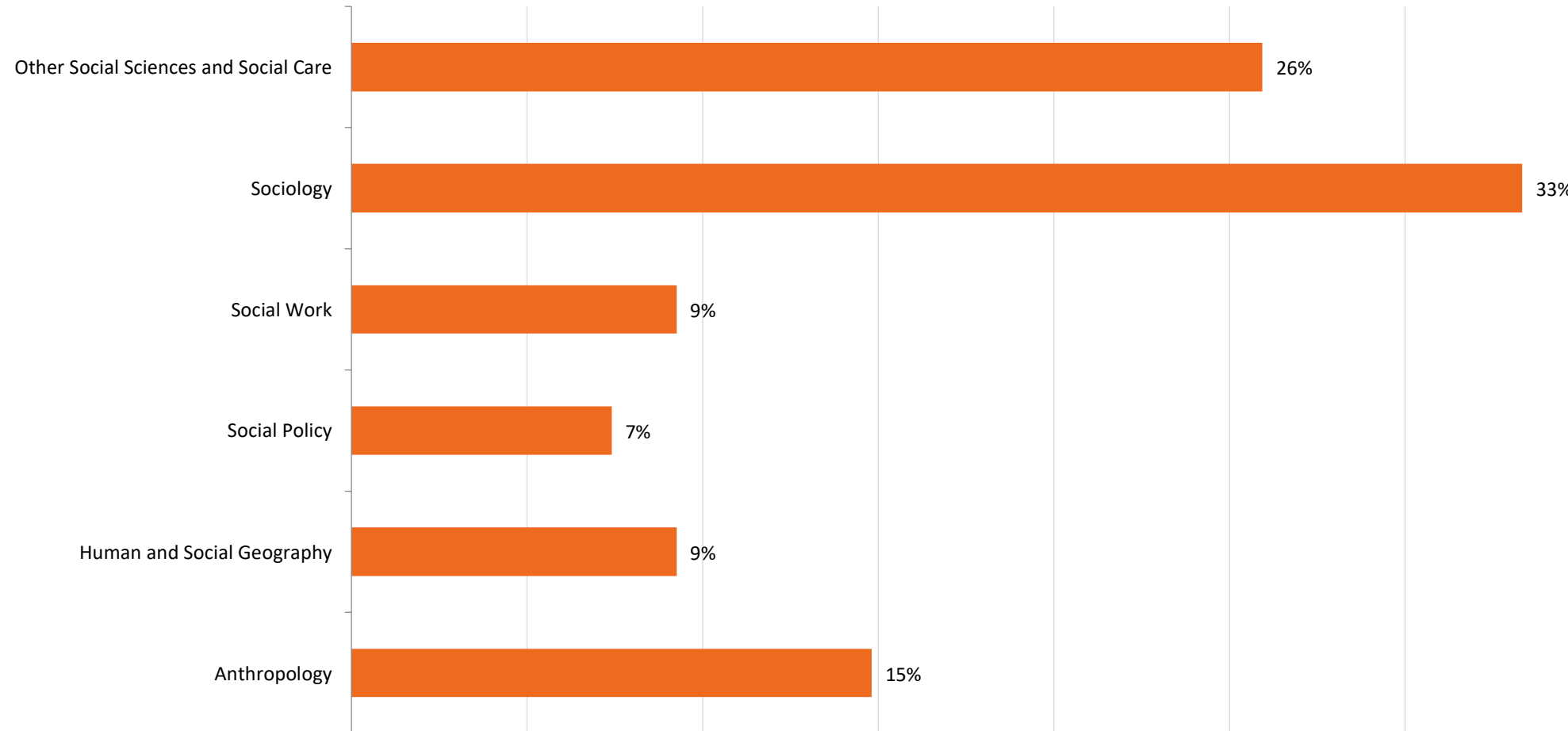
You said that your primary academic research discipline is Media and Communications.
Which of the following fields best describes your research interest?



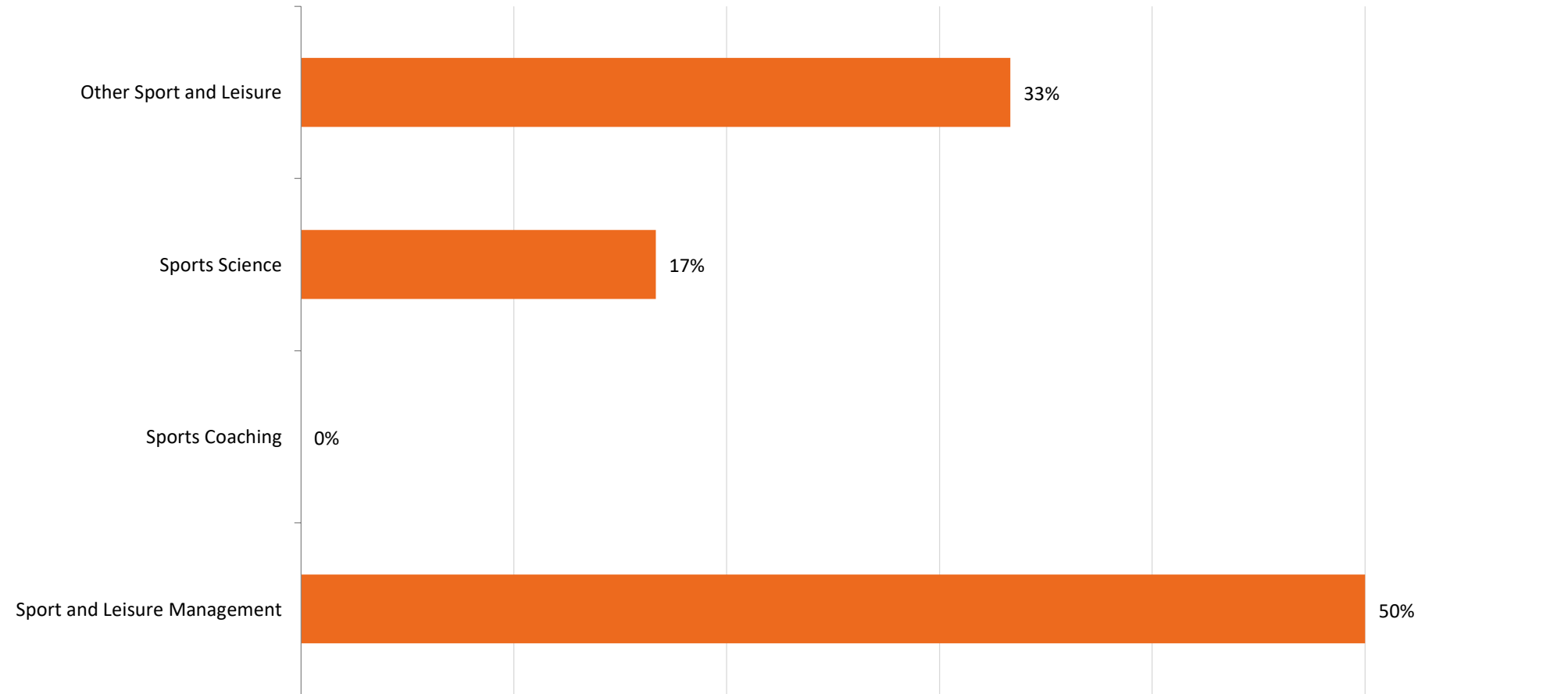
You said that your primary academic research discipline is Physical and Environmental Sciences. Which of the following fields best describes your research interest?



You said that your primary academic research discipline is Social Sciences and Social Care. Which of the following fields best describes your research interest?



You said that your primary academic research discipline is Sport and Leisure. Which of the following fields best describes your research interest?



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