

# Workforce Readiness and Afterschool

Network Leads Survey Summary



# Survey Highlights

- Questions asked about value of afterschool programs in preparing students for today and tomorrow's workforce
- Administered to Afterschool Network Leads-unique panel of experts with connectivity to program directors, school districts, business/industry, departments of education, and policymakers
- Survey utilized comprehensive skills list from the National Network of Business and Industry Associations along with additional skills from other nationally-regarded publications.
- Administered during summer of 2016
- 37 of 50 Network Leads participated (74% response rate)

# Top Ten Skills Developed By Afterschool

- Integrity
- Initiative
- Adaptability
- Teamwork
- Communication
- Respect
- Problem Solving
- Self-Confidence
- Critical Thinking
- Self-Discipline

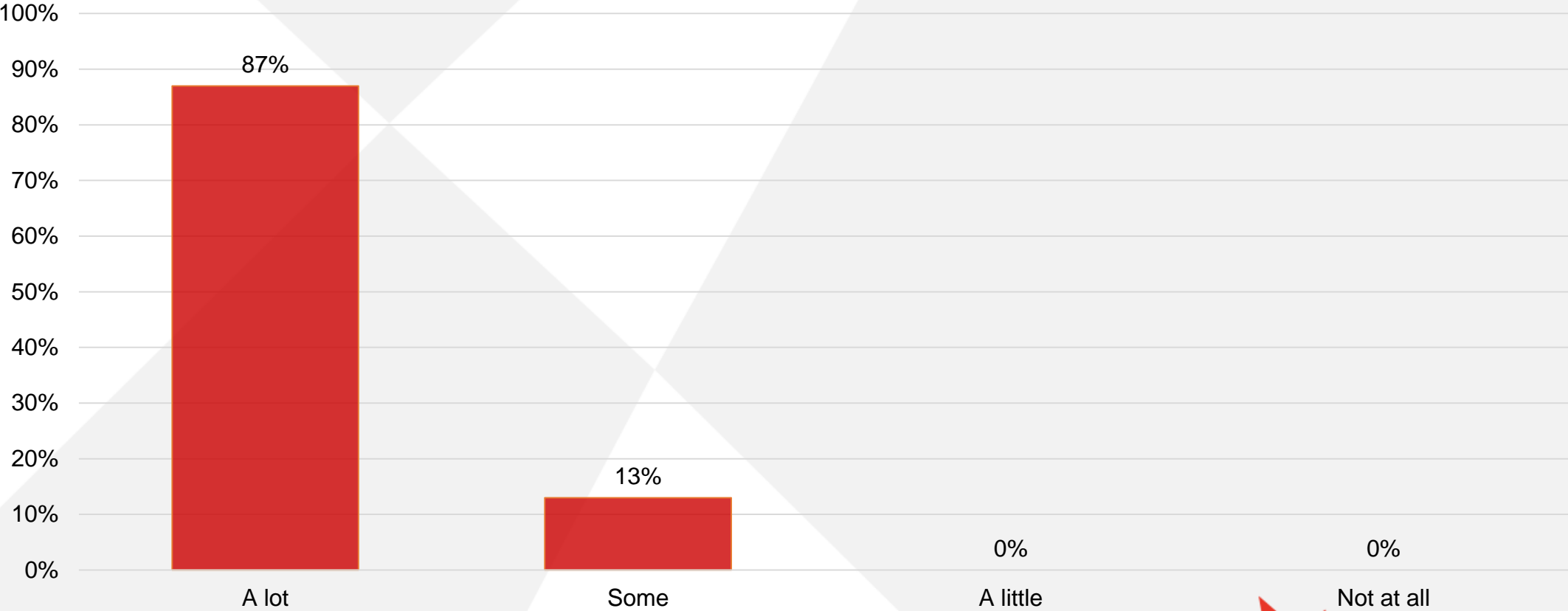
50%+ respondents indicated afterschool programs help students develop the skill A LOT (other choices were SOME and NOT AT ALL)

# Top Five Skills Developed By Afterschool

- Teamwork
- Communication
- Problem Solving
- Self-Confidence
- Critical Thinking

Respondents were asked to select TWO skills that they thought were best developed in afterschool programs

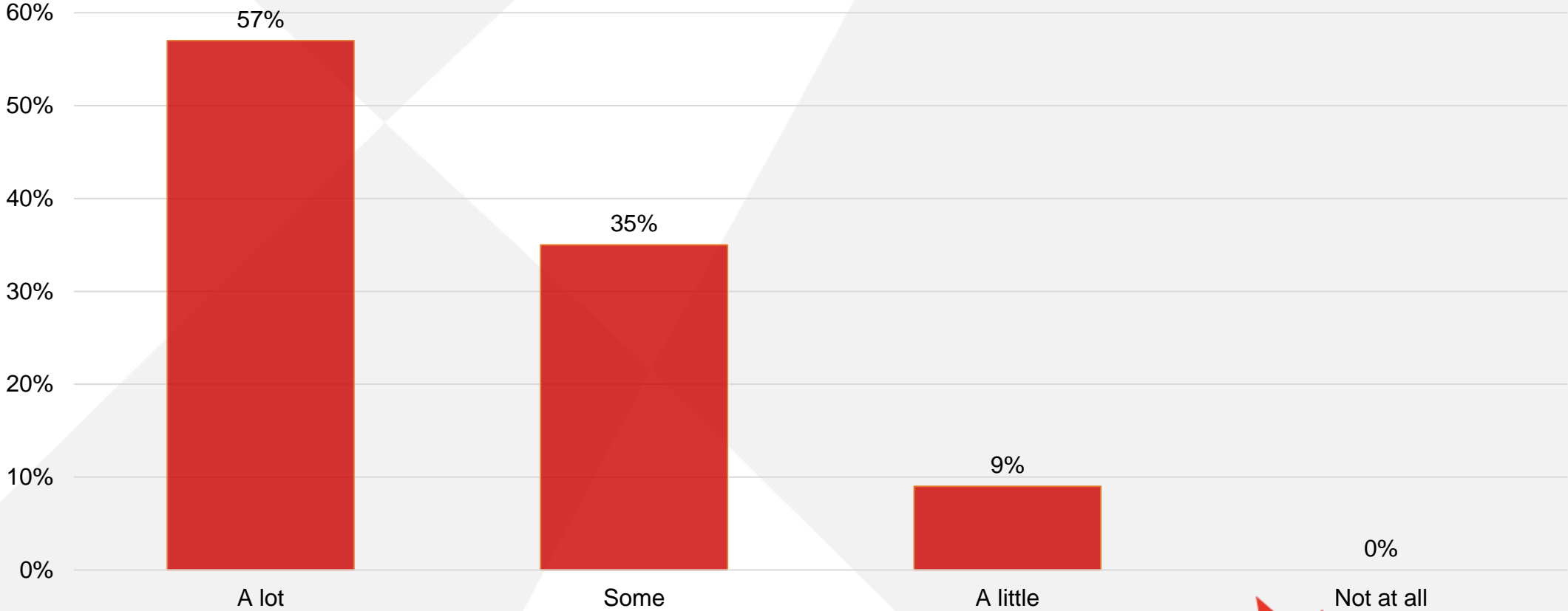
**87%** report that afterschool programs help develop **SELF-CONFIDENCE** in students **A LOT**; **13%** report that it does **SOME**.



# Self-Confidence

- Most frequent ways afterschool helps develops **self-confidence**:
  - Provide opportunities to try new things
  - Provide opportunities to excel and perform
- Specific activities that help develop **self-confidence**:
  - Programs that allow choice
  - STEM/Robotics
  - Student Leadership/Government

**57%** report that afterschool programs help develop **CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS** in students **A LOT**; **35%** report that it does **SOME**.

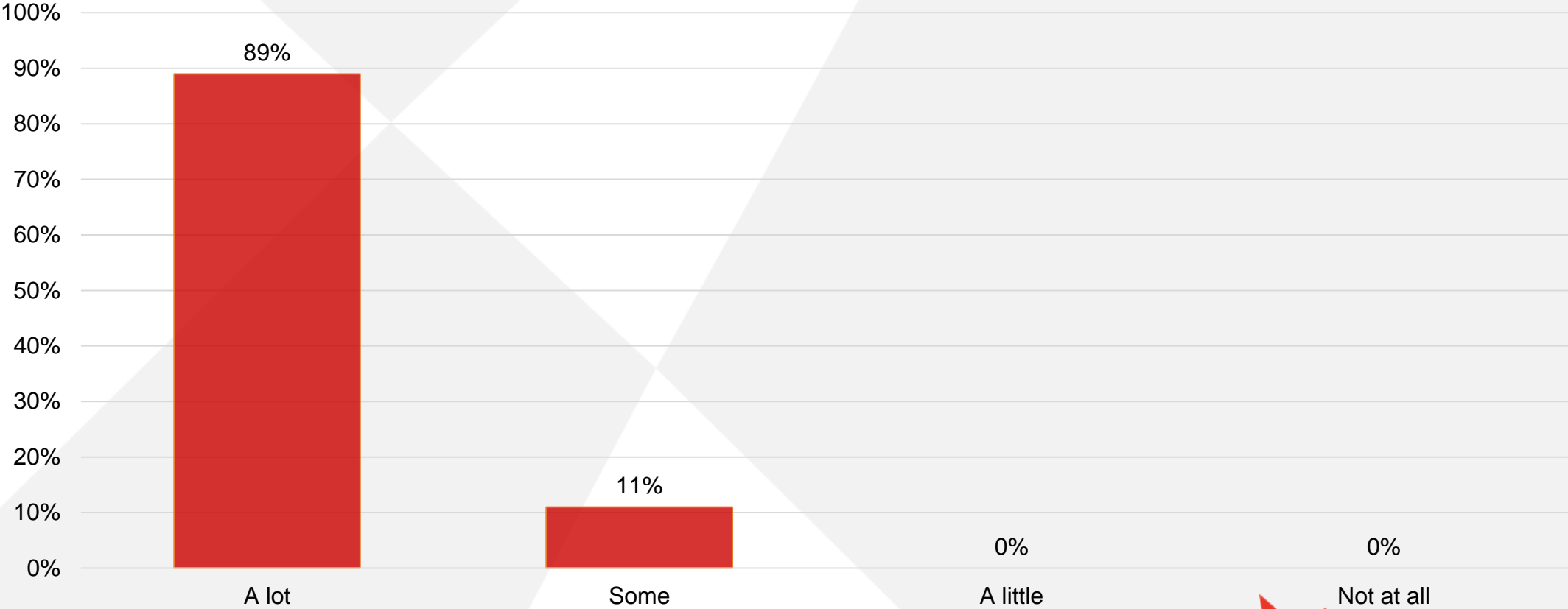


# Critical Thinking

- Most frequent ways afterschool helps develops **critical thinking**:
  - Provides opportunities to share opinions
  - Provides opportunities to inquire about topics of interest
  - Provide opportunities to problem solve
- Specific afterschool activities that help develop **critical thinking**:
  - Reflection
  - Discussion
  - Argumentative essays



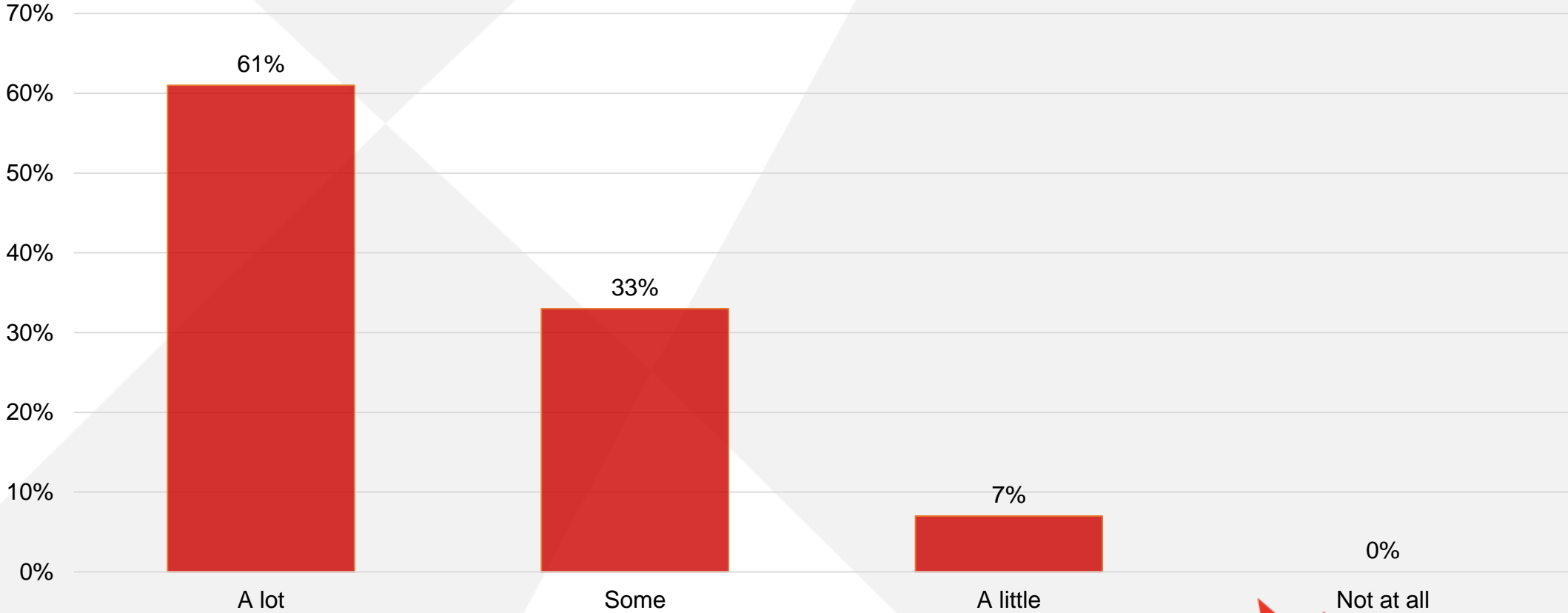
**89%** report that afterschool programs help develop **TEAMWORK SKILLS** in students **A LOT**; **11%** report that it does **SOME**.



# Teamwork Skills

- Most frequent ways afterschool helps develops **teamwork skills**:
  - Provides opportunities to work on projects in groups
  - Provides opportunities to solve problems as teams
- Specific afterschool activities that help develop **teamwork skills**:
  - Robotics
  - Sports
  - STEM

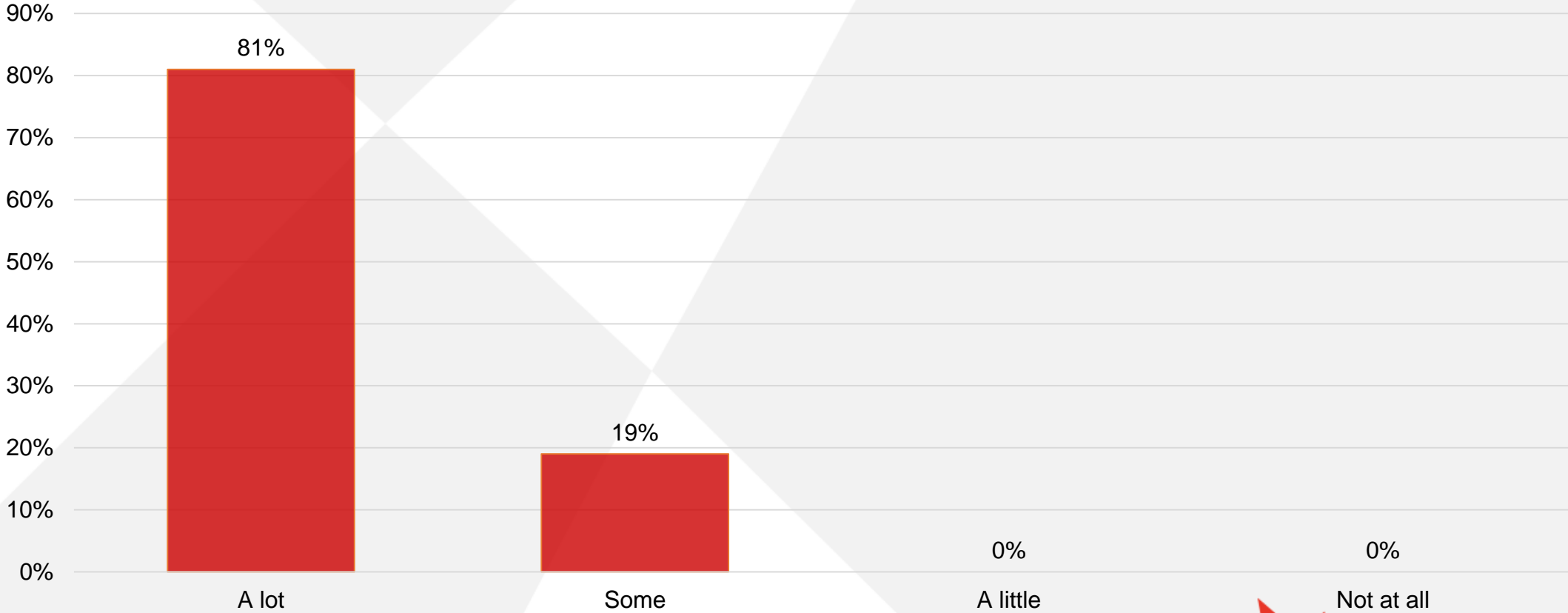
**61%** report that afterschool programs help develop **PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS** in students **A LOT**; **33%** report that it does **SOME**.



# Problem Solving Skills

- Most frequent ways afterschool helps develops **problem solving skills**:
  - Provides opportunities to identify problems that are solvable
  - Provides opportunities to strategize
- Specific afterschool activities that help develop **problem solving skills**:
  - STEM/Robotics
  - Clubs (i.e. Adventure, Photography, Cooking, and Gardening)

**81%** report that afterschool programs help develop **COMMUNICATION SKILLS** in students **A LOT**; **19%** report that it does **SOME**.



# Communication Skills

- Most frequent ways afterschool helps develops **communication skills**:
  - Provide opportunities to give presentations
  - Provide opportunities to develop writing skills
- Specific afterschool activities that help develop **communication skills**:
  - Clubs (i.e. Theater, Debate, Technology, and Book)
  - Arts performances
  - Public speaking

# Other Findings

- Respondents also indicate that participation in afterschool programs helps students improve outcomes such as attendance, behavior, and academic performance
- The next slide lists these outcomes and the degree to which respondents agree with the impact of afterschool programs

# Afterschool programs help reduce absences, increase on-time grade progression, increase GPAs, improve classroom behavior, and reduce suspensions/expulsions.

