# IBM Egypt Skills and Education Study

November 2 – 18, 2022





## EGYPT KEY FINDINGS

#### **STEM Jobs:**

- *Job Seekers* report the highest levels of familiarity with STEM jobs, with over three-in-five saying they're very or somewhat familiar with these types of jobs. As compared to *Job Seekers* in the 12 other surveyed countries, Egypt *Job Seekers* report the highest familiarity with STEM jobs.
- While the majority of all audiences don't currently work in a STEM job, a notable one-fifth of *Students* and *Job Seekers* report currently working in the STEM field and three-in-five *Job Seekers* and *Career Changers* are interested in working in STEM. Compared to *Career Changers* in the other surveyed countries, Egypt *Career Changers* are more interested in working in a STEM job.
- A vast majority of all audiences agree that career opportunities in STEM jobs will increase over the next 10 years, with more than 70% of *Students* agreeing that career opportunities in STEM jobs will increase.
- Four-fifths of *Job Seekers* and *Career Changers* and nearly two-thirds of *Students* agree that there are fewer STEM jobs in Egypt than there are in other countries. A majority of *Career Changers* also think their age is a barrier to finding a STEM job.

#### **Digital Credential Programs:**

- A majority of all audiences are familiar with digital credential programs, and *Job Seekers* have the highest levels of familiarity. Those that have earned a digital credential overwhelmingly agree that it was helpful in achieving their career goals.
- Cost is top-of-mind for all audiences, as it's one of the most important factors to consider when deciding to earn a digital credential.

**Methodology**: This study was conducted by Morning Consult on behalf of IBM from November 2-18, 2022. The study was conducted among a sample of 400 Students, 100 Job Seekers, and 101 Career Changers in Egypt. The interviews were conducted online, and the margin of error is +/- 5 percentage points for Students and +/- 10 percentage points for Job Seekers and Career Changers at a 95% confidence level. The data was weighted to target population proportions for a representative sample based on age, gender, and educational attainment.

## **GLOBAL KEY FINDINGS**

#### . Awareness of STEM jobs is low, and many are concerned these careers won't pay enough.

- 50% of *Students*, *Job Seekers*, and *Career Changers* are interested in pursuing a STEM-related job.
- 64% of *Career Changers* are not familiar with STEM jobs.
- Many respondents are unsure of which careers are considered to be a STEM job.
- 62% share concerns that they won't be able to find a STEM job that pays enough to support themselves or their family.
- 2. With misconceptions that STEM training is expensive, many learners say they don't know where to start and that they don't know enough about digital credentials.
  - 61% think they are not qualified to work in a STEM job because they don't have the right academic degrees.
  - 40% of *Students* say the greatest barrier to professional or technical skill development is that they don't know where to start.
  - 60% of respondents worry that digital credentials may be costly to obtain.
  - 27% of *Job Seekers* and *Career Changers* say that affordability is the single most important consideration when pursuing digital credentials and training for STEM jobs.
  - Being able to continue to work while earning a credential is particularly important to *Career Changers*.

## **GLOBAL KEY FINDINGS**

## 3. Respondents are optimistic that jobs in STEM fields will increase in the future, and that digital credentials are a good way to supplement traditional education and increase career opportunities.

- 66% of all respondents are of the opinion that STEM jobs across industries will increase over the next decade.
- 47% of *Students, Job Seekers*, and *Career Changers* are familiar with digital credential programs.
- 86% of those who have earned a digital credential agree that it helped them achieve career goals.
- 75% of all respondents agree that digital credentials are a good way to supplement traditional education
- Increased career opportunities and qualifications were top reasons why respondents across the globe said they wanted to earn digital credentials.

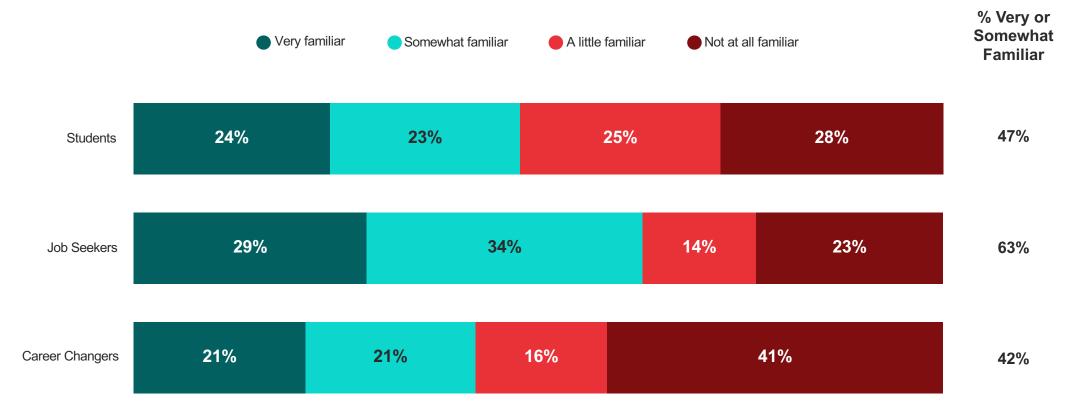
# 4. Learners and workers around the world are planning to make a change, with many looking for a new job in the next 12 months.

- 61% of *Students* and *Career Changers* are actively looking for a new job now or plan to within the next year.
- More than 80% of all respondents have plans to build their skills in the next two years.
- At least 90% are confident they can develop skills or learn something new from an online program.
- 25% of all respondents say they plan to complete online coursework in the next two years.

# More than three-in-five Job Seekers (63%) are familiar with STEM jobs, while more than half of Students and Career Changers are unfamiliar

How familiar would you say you are with the idea of STEM jobs?

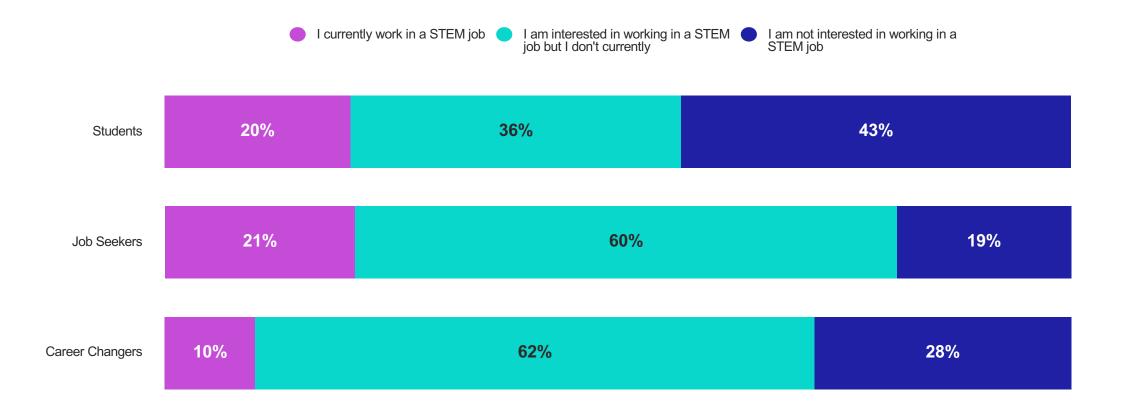
"STEM stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Math and a STEM job is one that relies on any of those fields."



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Although a majority of respondents across audiences do not currently work in a STEM job, one-fifth of Students (20%) and Job Seekers (21%) report that their current position is in STEM; Three-fifths of Job Seekers (60%) and Career Changers (62%) are interested in working in a STEM job

Which of the following would you say describes you?

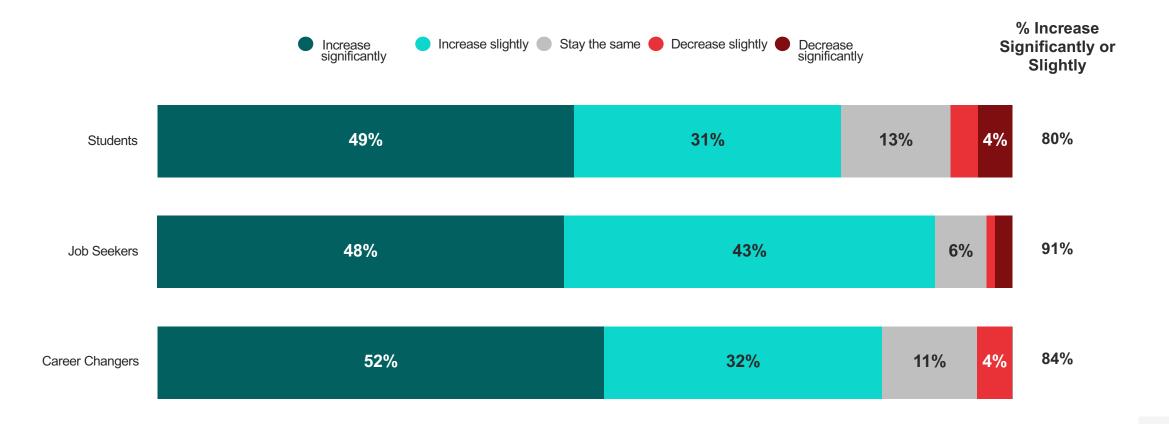


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#### EGYPT: SKILLS AND EDUCATION STUDY

Four-in-five Students (80%) and Career Changers (84%) and nine-in-ten Job Seekers (91%) anticipate an increase in STEM job opportunities in the next 10 years

Over the next 10 years, do you think career opportunities in STEM jobs will:



Respondents are generally unsure of which careers are considered to be a STEM job, although all groups are most likely to classify Software Developer positions as STEM jobs

Which of the following careers would you consider to be a STEM job? Please select all that apply.

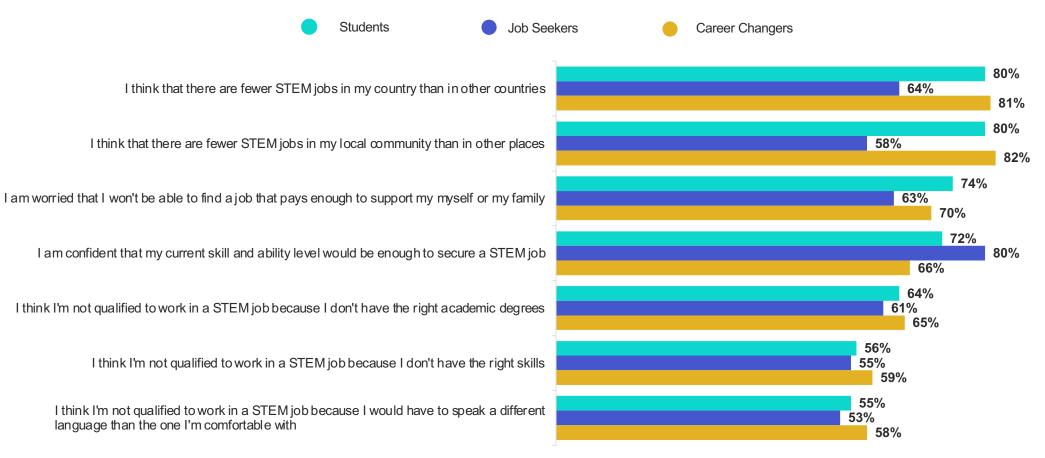
	Students	Job Seekers	Career Changers
Software Developer	49%	44%	46%
Website programmer	46%	33%	33%
Data analyst	34%	32%	35%
IT help desk	30%	24%	29%
Database administrator	29%	35%	28%
Cybersecurity analyst	26%	15%	15%
Life scientist (biologist, chemist, etc)	25%	18%	14%
Mechanical Engineer	23%	12%	9%
Customer service representative	16%	27%	14%
Project manager	14%	10%	20%
Social scientist (psychologist, sociologist etc)	13%	12%	16%
None of the above	10%	9%	8%

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#### **EGYPT: SKILLS AND EDUCATION STUDY**

Four-in-five Students (80%) and Career Changers (81%) think there are fewer STEM jobs in Egypt than in other countries compared to 64% of Job Seekers; 80% of Job Seekers are confident that their current skills and abilities are enough to secure a STEM job

If you were searching for a STEM job for your next position, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following? [Showing % Strongly + Somewhat Agree]



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#### EGYPT: SKILLS AND EDUCATION STUDY

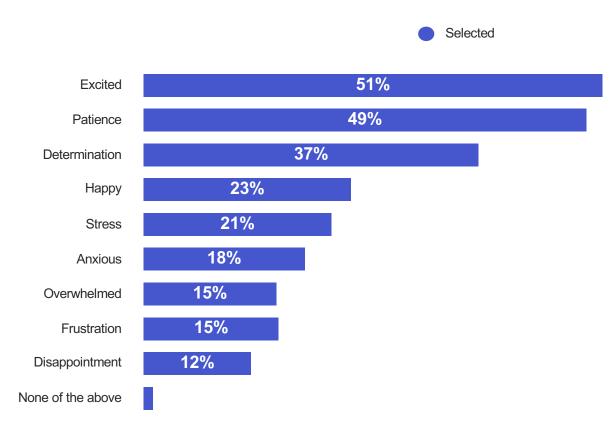
Although a majority of Job Seekers have confidence in each of the job search aspects tested, they are least confident in finding open job positions

How confident are you with each of the following? [Showing for Job Seekers]



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Job Seekers are most likely to experience positive emotions, such as excitement (51%) and patience (49%), during the job hunt, although one-fifth (21%) report experiencing stress during the process Which emotions do you feel during the job search? Please select all that apply. **[Showing for Job Seekers]** 



# A safe work environment is the most important aspect of a job for Students (69%) and Job Seekers (51%), while Career Changers value competitive pay slightly more (62%)

On a scale of zero to ten where zero is not important at all and ten is very important, how important are each of the following to you if you were looking for employment? The company/organization... [Showing % Top Two Box]

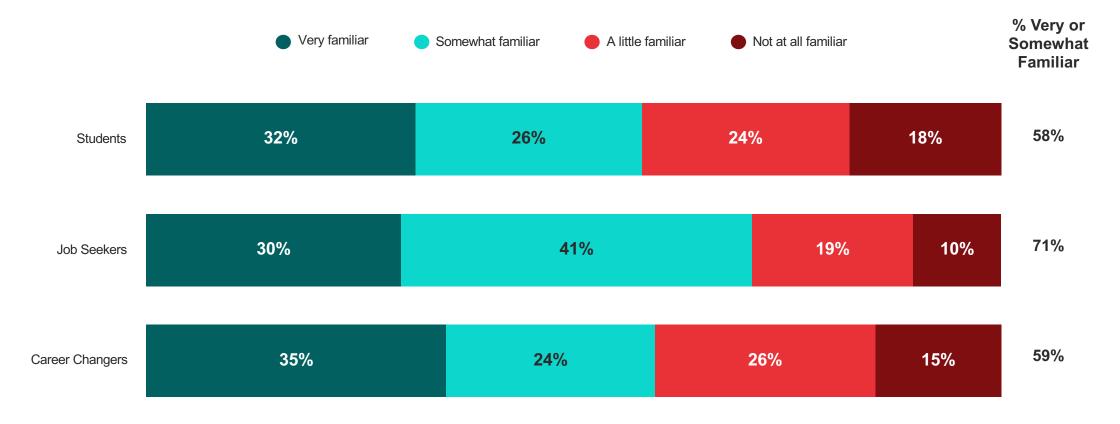
	Students	Job Seekers	Career Changers
Offers a safe work environment	69%	51%	61%
Supports work-life balance (is respectful of personal time/time off work)	63%	46%	54%
Offers a fun work environment	58%	45%	59%
Believes in the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion	58%	41%	52%
Offers the health care benefits I need/want	56%	44%	55%
Offers competitive pay/salary	54%	49%	62%
Offers educational benefits such as tuition assistance	53%	34%	40%
Offers continued learning and professional development opportunities	52%	46%	53%
Offers a clear path to mobility in the job/company (ability to be promoted)	51%	43%	46%
Offers remote working options within my country	50%	41%	42%
Adjusts workplace policies based on COVID-19 safety guidelines	47%	41%	45%
Offers good vacation/paid time off (PTO) benefits	44%	36%	40%
Offers remote working options internationally (I can live and work in a different country)	44%	32%	37%
Acts in the interests of their own political, cultural, and/or social beliefs and values	31%	25%	33%

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#### **EGYPT: SKILLS AND EDUCATION STUDY**

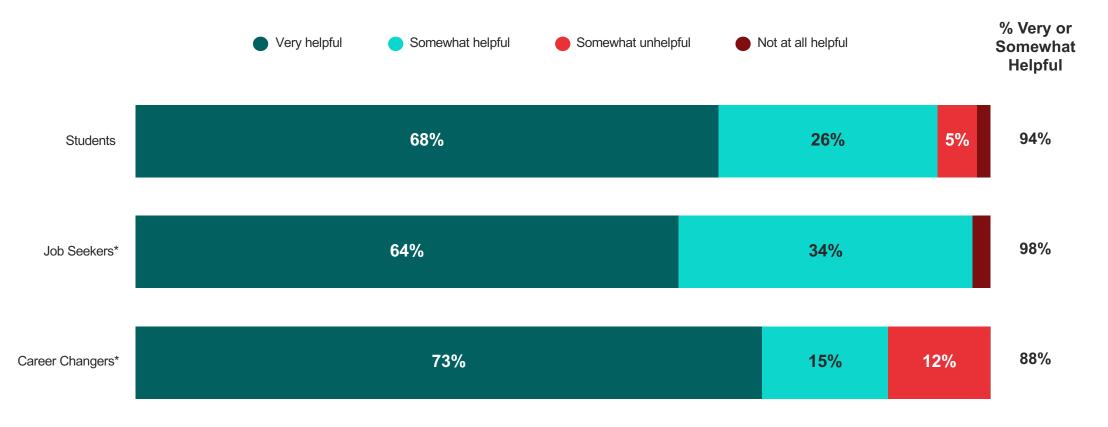
Around three-in-five Students (58%) and Career Changers (59%), and 71% of Job Seekers, are familiar with digital credential programs; Three-in-ten or more across all audiences report being very familiar with the programs

How familiar are you with digital credentials programs (These are online programs for professional or technical skill development where you can earn a credential for completion of the program).



Around nine-in-ten respondents in all audiences that have earned a digital credential agree that it was helpful in achieving their career goals

How helpful do you think your digital credential(s) were in helping you achieve your career goals?

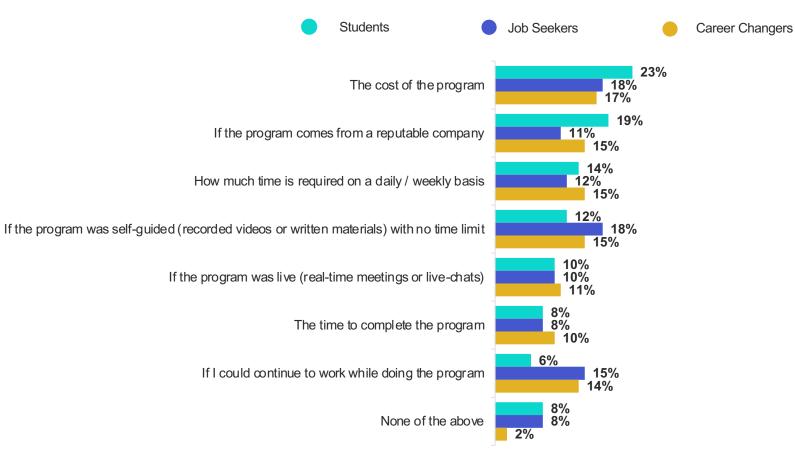


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#### EGYPT: SKILLS AND EDUCATION STUDY

All audiences cite cost as the most important factor to consider when thinking about developing their skills and earning a digital credential; Job Seekers equally consider whether the program is self-guided with no time limit

If you wanted to develop your skills and earn a digital credential, which of the following would be the most important factor for you to consider? Please choose the most important.

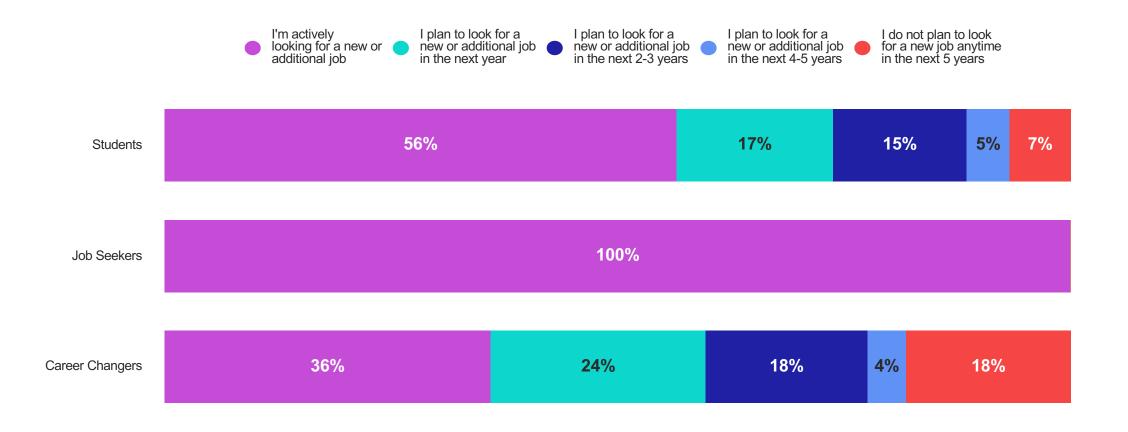


#### More than half think that digital credential programs are usually free or affordable (53%)

Based on what you know about digital credential programs, which of the following statements do you agree with most, even if neither one is exactly right? [Showing Across Students, Job Seekers, and Career Changers]

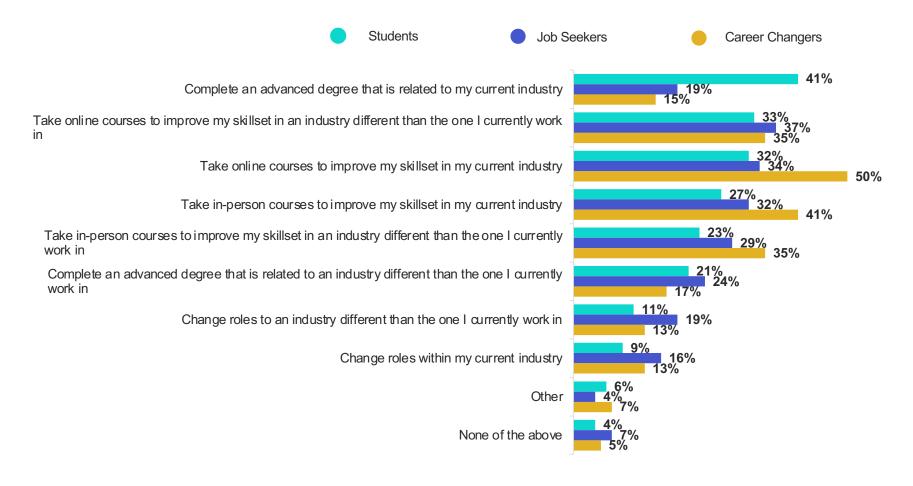
Digital credential programs are usually free or affordable	Digital credential programs are too expensive	
53%	47%	
Digital credentials are a good way to demonstrate your skills	Digital credentials are not a good way to show what you know	
74%	26%	
Digital credentials are a good way to supplement formal education	Digital credentials are not useful if you have an academic degree	
72%	28%	

82% of Career Changers that qualified for the survey are looking for or plan to look for a job in the next five years; 56% of Students and 36% of Career Changers are actively looking for a new or additional job Which best describes your current situation?



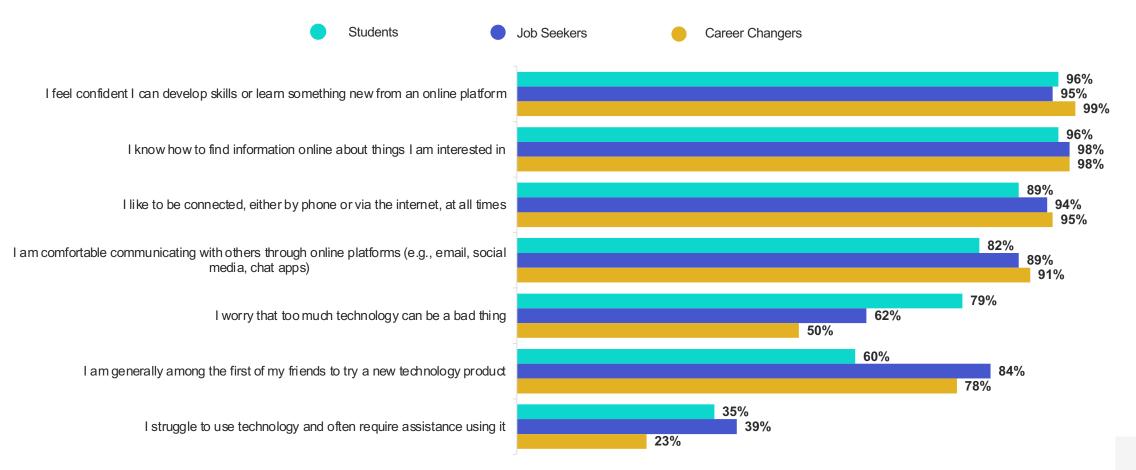
One-third or more of each audience say they plan to take online courses to improve their skillset in an industry different than the one they currently work in

Do you plan to do any of the following in the next 2 years? Please select all that apply.



More than 90% of each audience feels confident they can develop skills or learn something from an online platform and know how to find information online about things they are interested in

To what extent do you agree with the following statements? [Showing % Strongly + Somewhat Agree]



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