

The Influence of Career Choices on Location

Byron Fitch & Martin Johnson

Harrisburg University of Science & Technology



Introduction

There are two studies that discuss the influence of career choices on locations to work and live. The first study interviewed 16 UK college students from China and found that family, overseas social life, and self-improvement influenced their decision to move (Wu, 2020). 5 of the 16 students interviewed responded that their families had a direct influence on their career choices (Wu, 2020). The second study finds different reasons for why people migrate to the U.S. from Mexico. The reasons they found were age, marital status, employment, and education (Villarreal & Blanchard, 2013).

Hypothesis

We hypothesized that 80% of career choices will choose to live internationally.

Methods

We surveyed 103 people. In addition to asking the participants career field interest and location to work on the survey, asked about the age and gender of each participant.

Results

Majority of our participants chose career fields in Cyber Security (16.5%), with the majority choosing to reside in the U.S. (63.1%). 58.3% of our participants fell within the age range of 14–19-year-olds. 66% of the responses from the survey were males. 93.2% of our participants are currently enrolled in a college or university, and 81% of those surveyed attend Harrisburg University of Science & Technology.

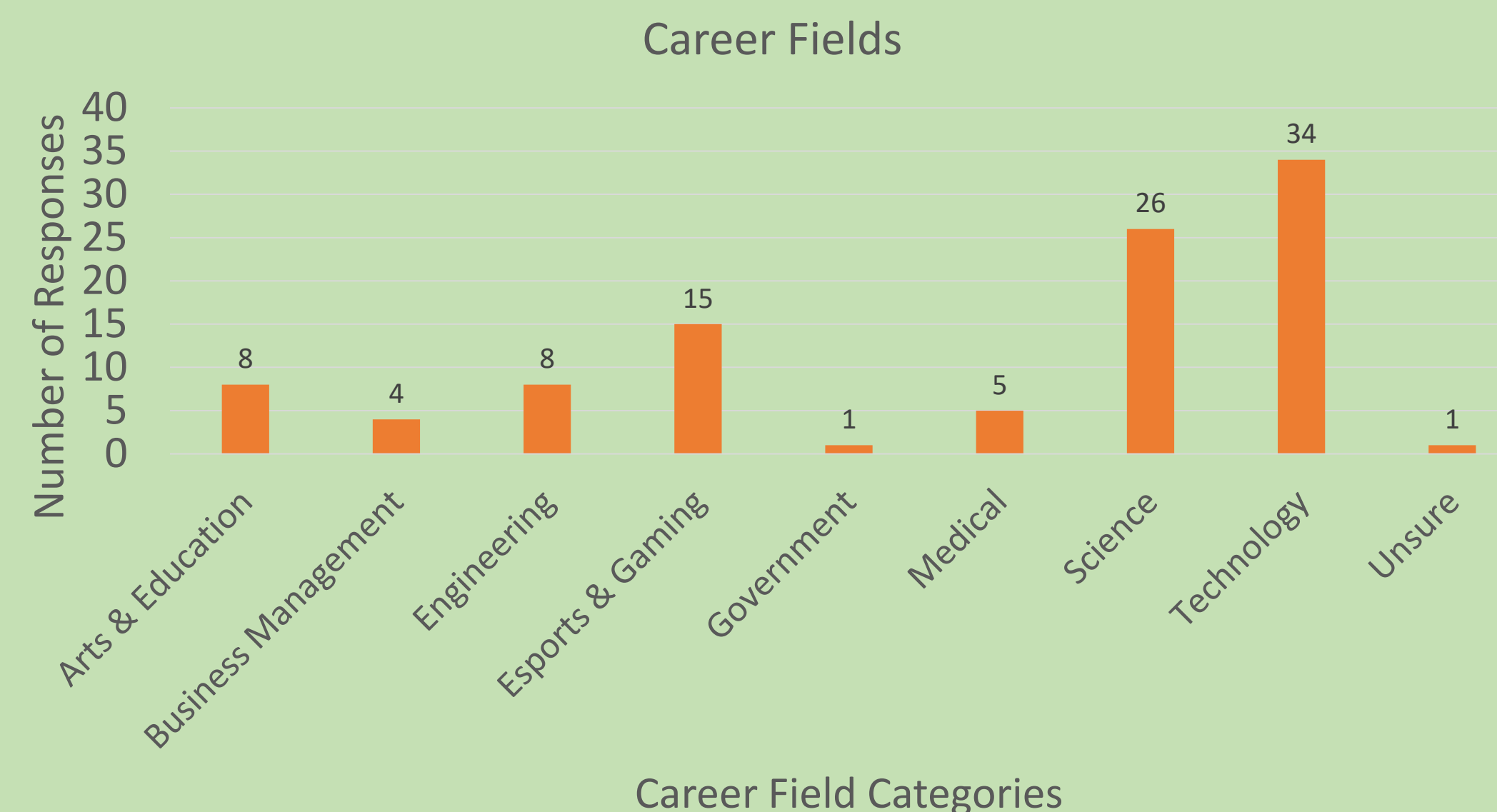


Figure 1. This graph shows different career field categories. The technology group contains the most participants. In that group, 17 participants chose computer science, which has the highest number of participants.

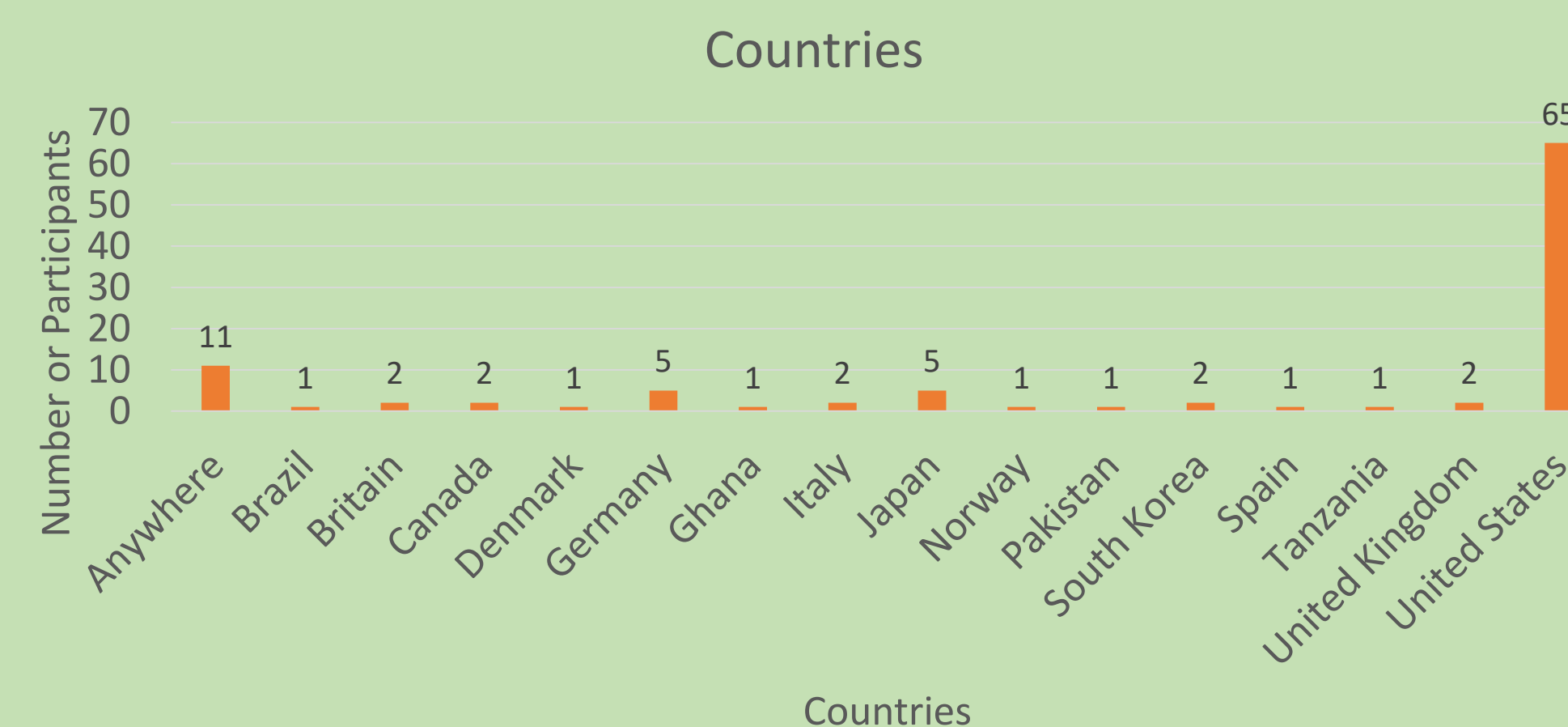


Figure 2. This chart shows which countries the participants chose to go to. The country that ranked the highest was the United States at 65 participants. This is followed by 11 participants who would go anywhere, and Japan and Germany both at 5 participants.

Statistical Analysis

Titles	Values
Null Hypothesis	$H_0 = p = 0.80$
Alternative Hypothesis	$H_a = p < 0.80$
Confidence Level	95%, $z=1.96$
Significance Level	5%, 0.05
Test Statistic	-10.94
P-Value	0.0001
Margin of Error	9.3%
Confidence Interval	$27.6% < p < 46.2%$
Reject or Fail to Reject	Reject

Conclusion

This survey brought light to each participant's country of interest based on their career field choices. Through these results many chose to reside in the United States. It rejects the initial hypothesis of 80% of career choices will choose to live internationally and found it to be 37% instead. This informs us that career fields may not have a large influence over choosing to live in countries outside of U.S.

References

- Wu, Y. Study Abroad Experience and Career Decision-Making: A Qualitative Study of Chinese Students. *Front Education China* 15, 313–331 (2020). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11516-020-0014-8>
- Villarreal, A., & Blanchard, S. (2013). How job characteristics affect international migration: the role of informality in Mexico. *Demography (Springer Nature)*, 50(2), 751–775. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13524-012-0153-5>