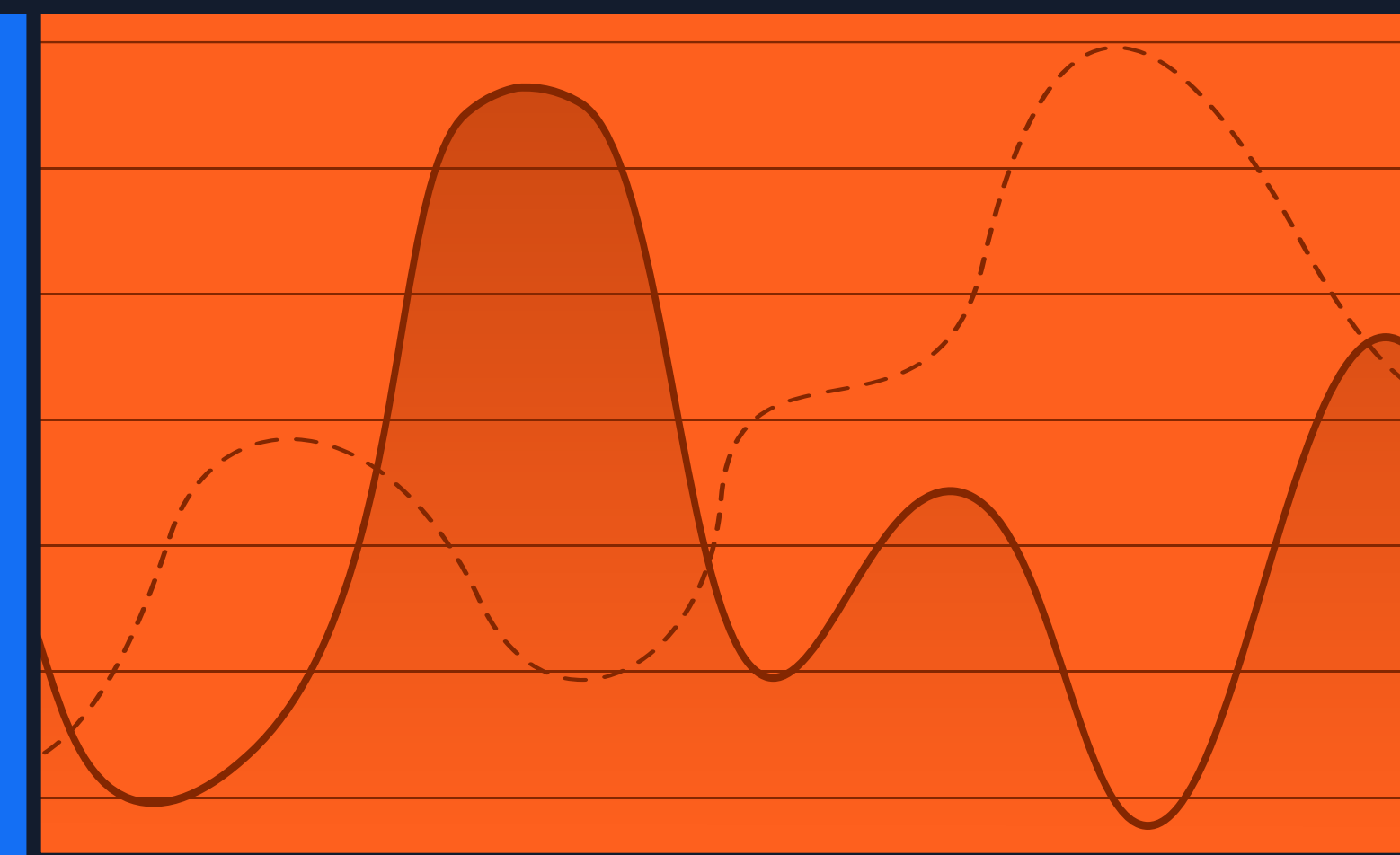
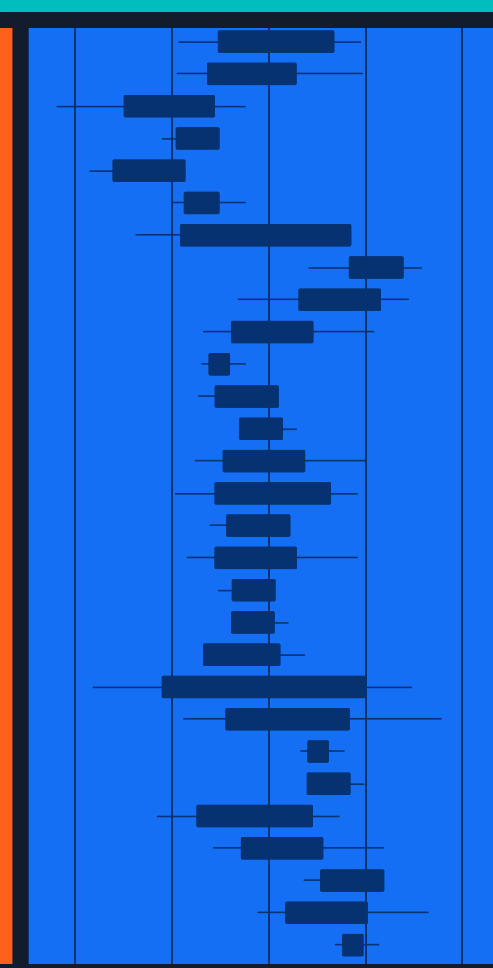


THE STATE OF



MENDIX DEVELOPER

COMMUNITY 2023



In March of 2023, we released our first-ever Mendix Developer Community Survey. Covering a range of topics, this survey focused on developers and their backgrounds, as well as development teams and their compositions. With such a robust and rapidly growing community, we wanted to know what the landscape of our developer community looked like.

300,000

**ACTIVE
DEVELOPERS**

4,000+

CUSTOMERS

200,000

**APPLICATIONS
BUILT**

50 MILLION+

**END
USERS**

TL;DR - KEY STATS

73%

OF DEVELOPERS USE LOW-CODE PREDOMINANTLY OR EXCLUSIVELY.

31%

OF DEVELOPERS HAVE FORMAL COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION.

85%

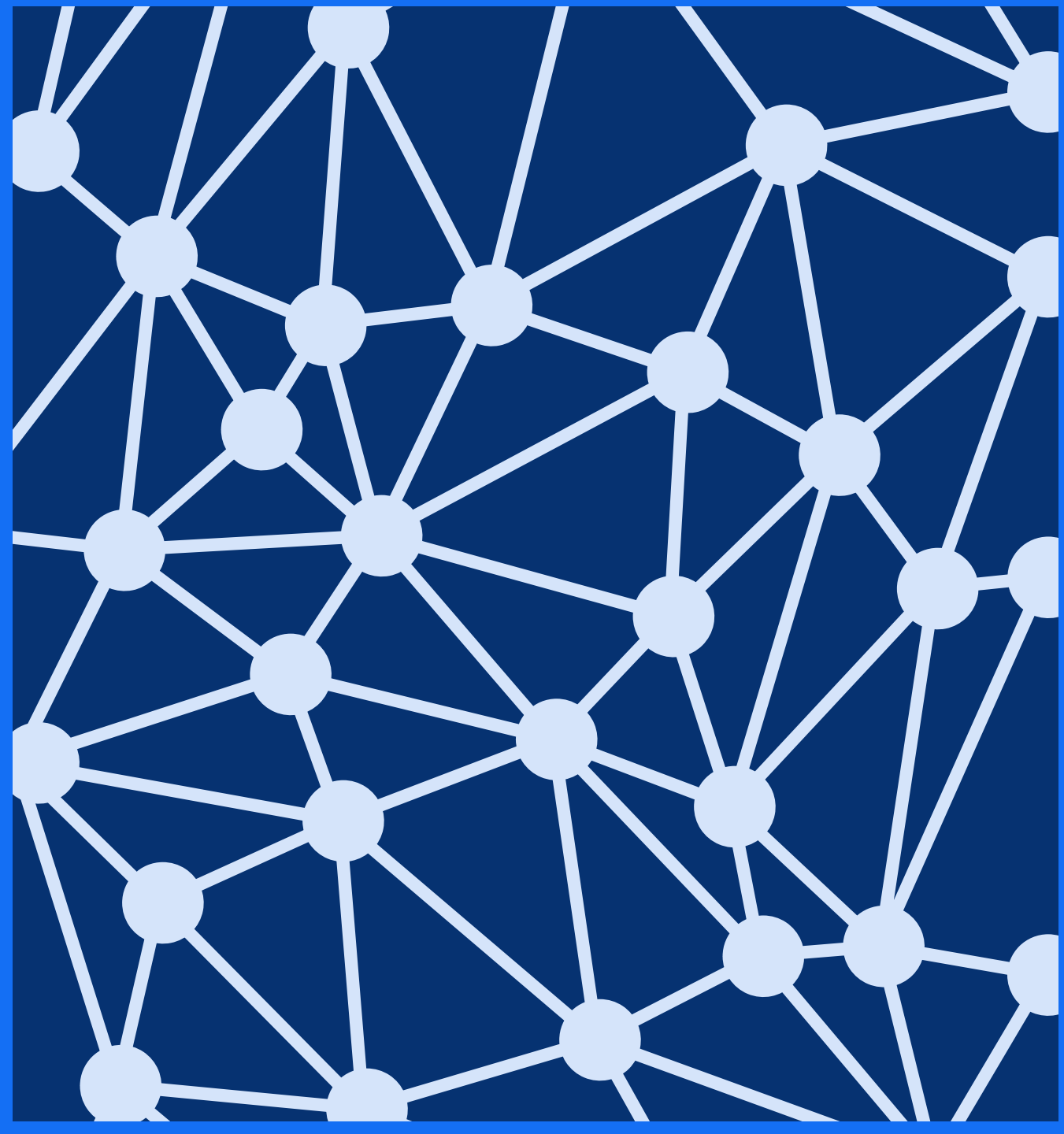
OF DEVELOPERS WORK IN TEAMS IN THEIR IT DEPARTMENTS.

47%

OF DEVELOPERS ARE PART OF MIXED (FUSION) TEAMS WITH BOTH BUSINESS AND IT FUNCTIONS.



DEVELOPER



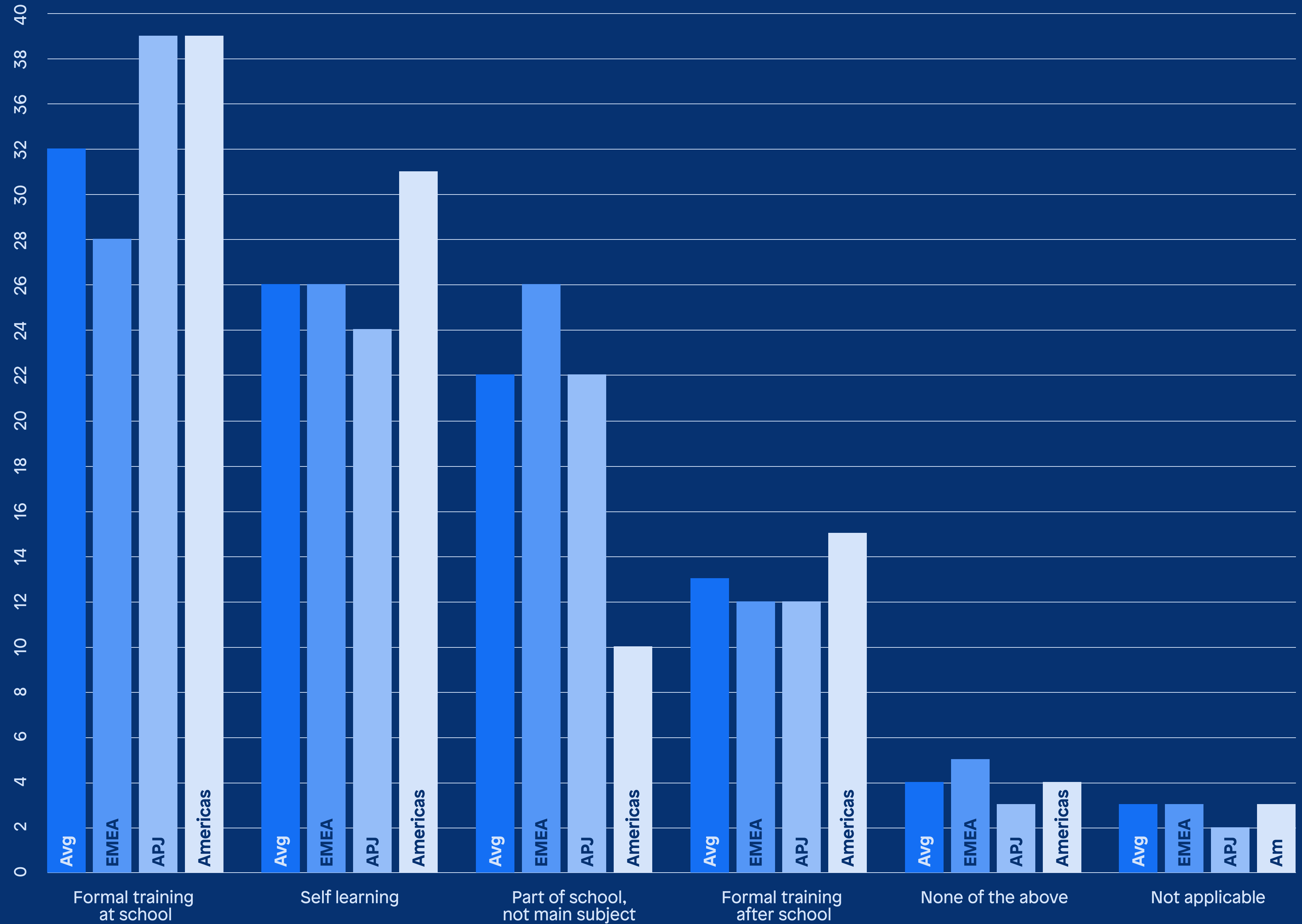
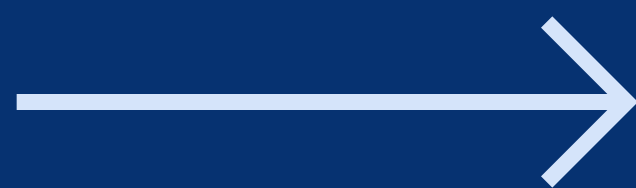
PROFILE

EDUCATION

Of our respondents, 32% have formal computer science education. Notably, another one-fourth are self-taught. This tells us that the Mendix platform attracts a diverse audience who don't necessarily need formal computer science skills to make an impact.

QUESTION:

What kind of background do you have in programming or computer science?



EXPERIENCE

For a majority of respondents, low-code was not their first step into software development. They had at least some programming skills, which come in many flavors, including scripting and markup languages, before embracing the use of low-code. At the same time, for a considerable number of respondents, low-code was their first experience with software development. It's encouraging to see that Mendix enables a good 30% of developers without prior engineering experience to build apps.

QUESTION:

Which of the following options best reflects your experience?



64%

PROGRAMMING
FIRST, THEN
LOW-CODE

19%

LOW-CODE FIRST,
STILL LEARNING

12%

LOW-CODE FIRST, NOW
GROWING BEYOND

3%

NONE

2%

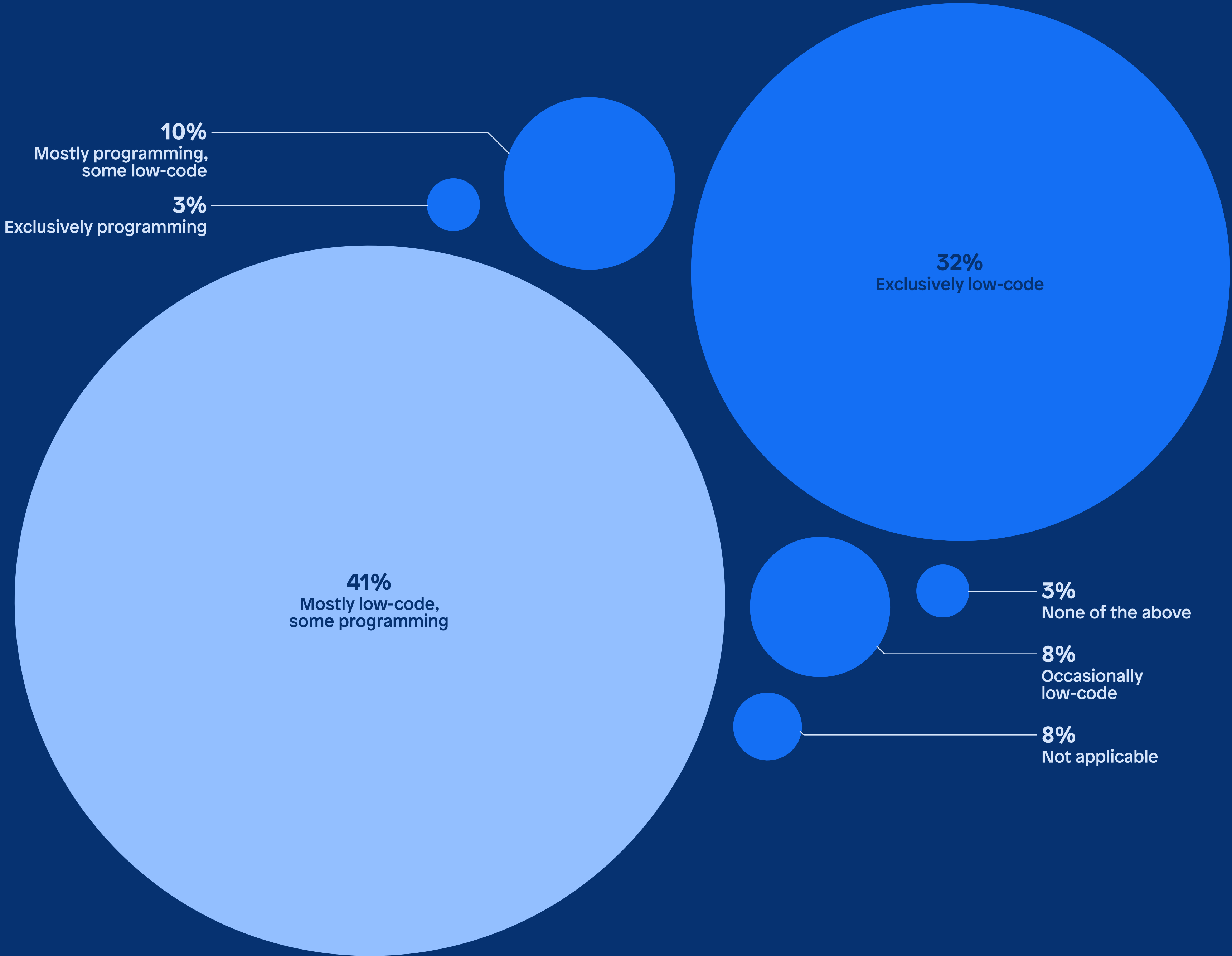
N/A

CURRENT WORK

Whatever their initial programming skills, now – in their current role – the vast majority work mostly or exclusively with low-code. Many developers are also able to use their programming skills in conjunction with Mendix, leveraging the extensibility of the platform. This indicates that what we know from qualitative research also applies at scale: for many, low-code is an added skillset, rather than a replacement, in developer careers.

QUESTION:

Which of these options best describes your current way of working in your professional role?



LEARNING

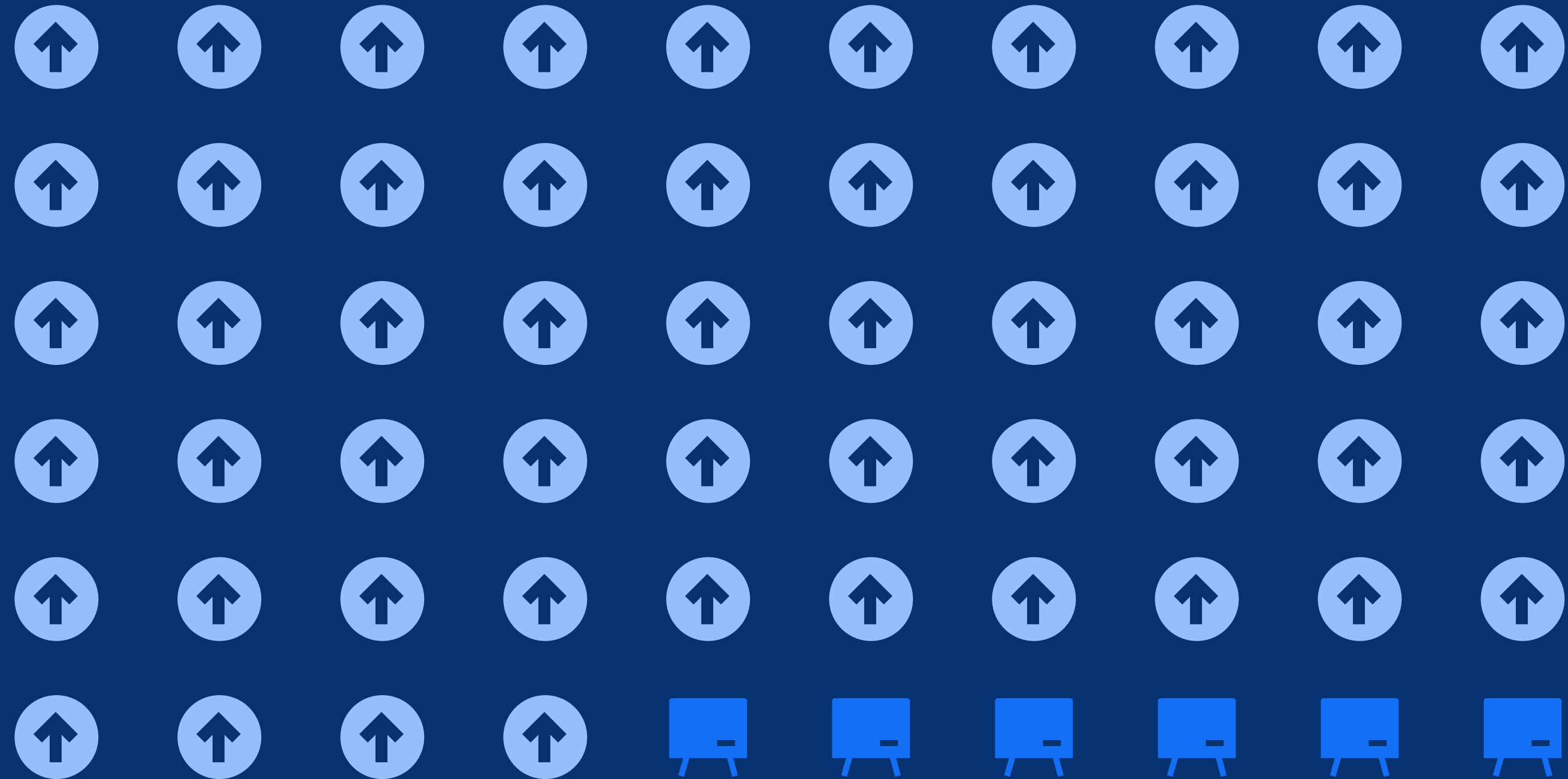
Mendix low-code developers indicate that they learn mostly by simply diving in and getting to work. While most of them end up expanding their low-code skills by way of solving increasingly complex problems, this doesn't mean they won't take advantage of tutorials or follow templates. The reported diversity of learning styles speaks to the need for organizations to provide a variety of pathways to upskill their teams.

QUESTION:

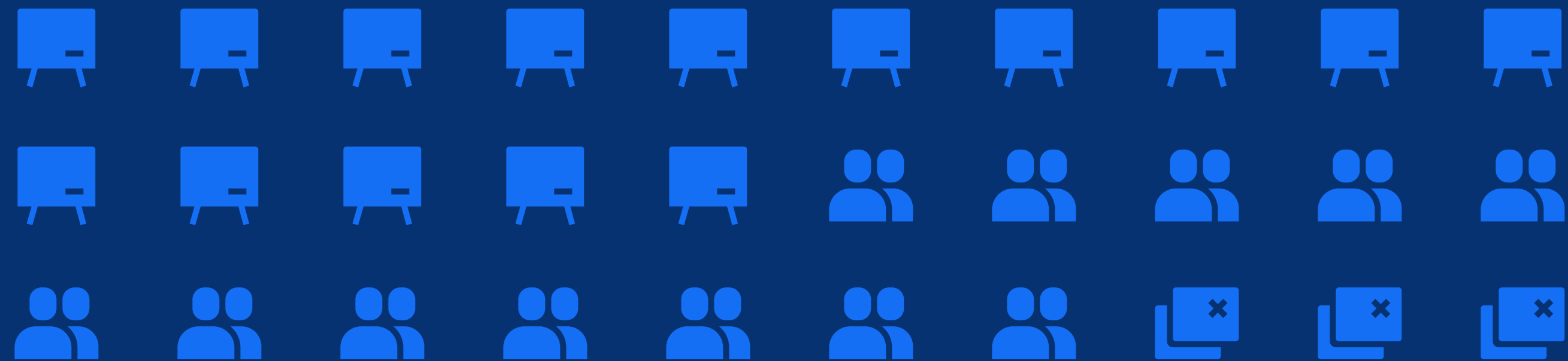
How do you expand your low-code skills?



54%
Solving increasingly
Complex
problems



21%
Following
templates,
tutorials, etc.



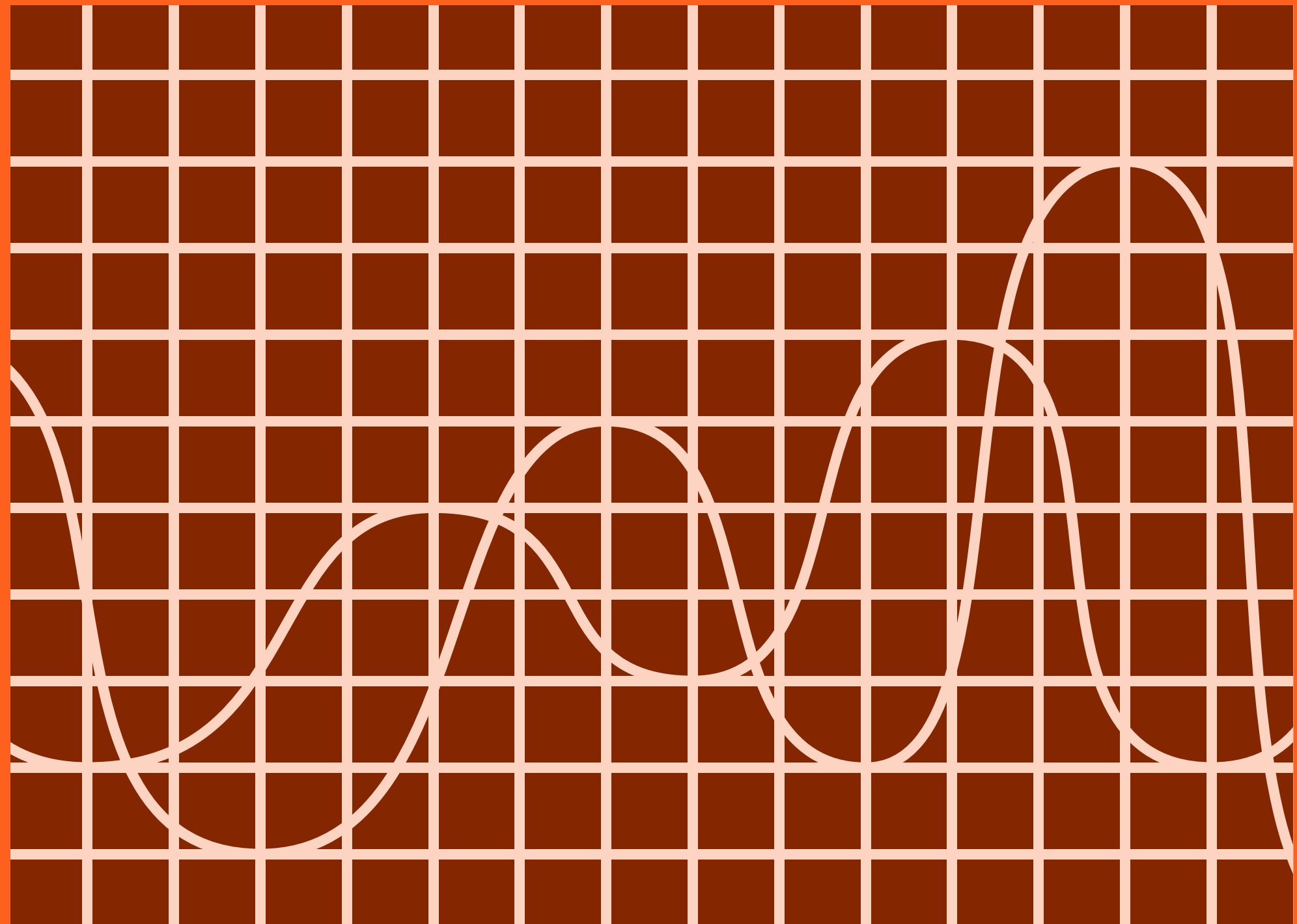
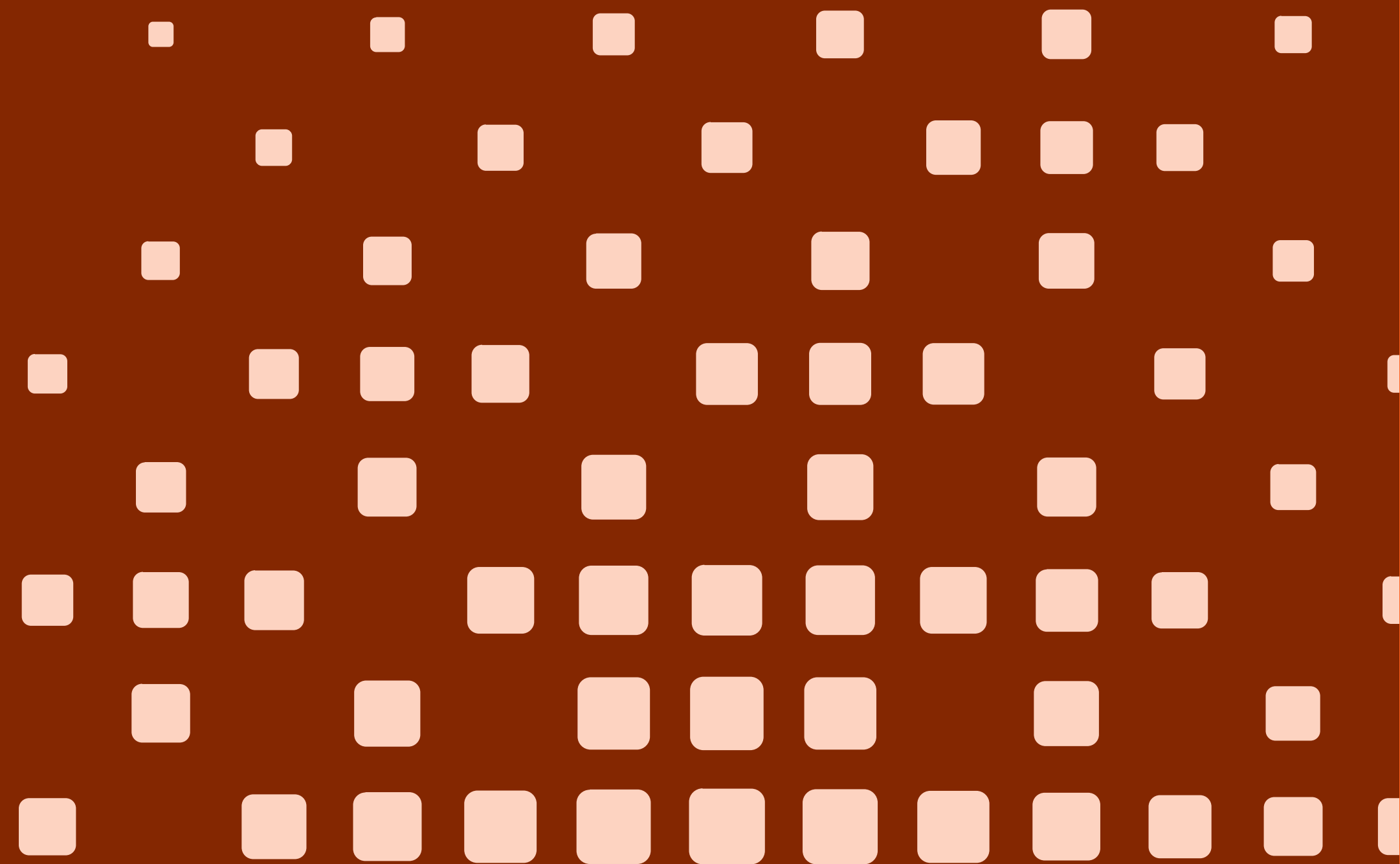
12%
Asking more
experienced
low-coders

10%
Matching
programming to
low-code



3%
Other

TECH-



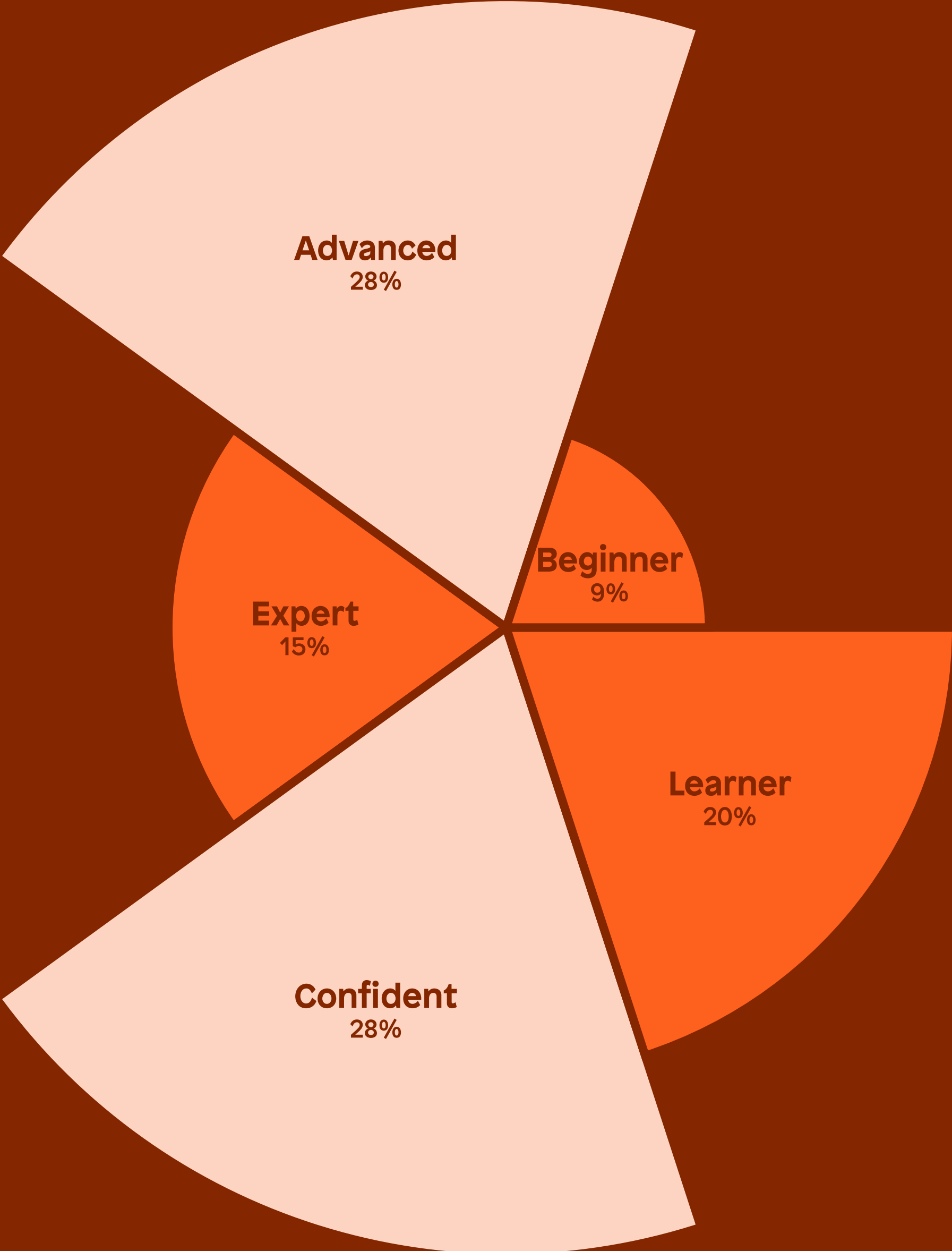
NOLOGY

KNOWING MENDIX

Our respondents feel good about their Mendix skills. The majority identify as Expert, Advanced, or Confident.

QUESTION:

How do you rate your current skill level of working with the Mendix Platform?

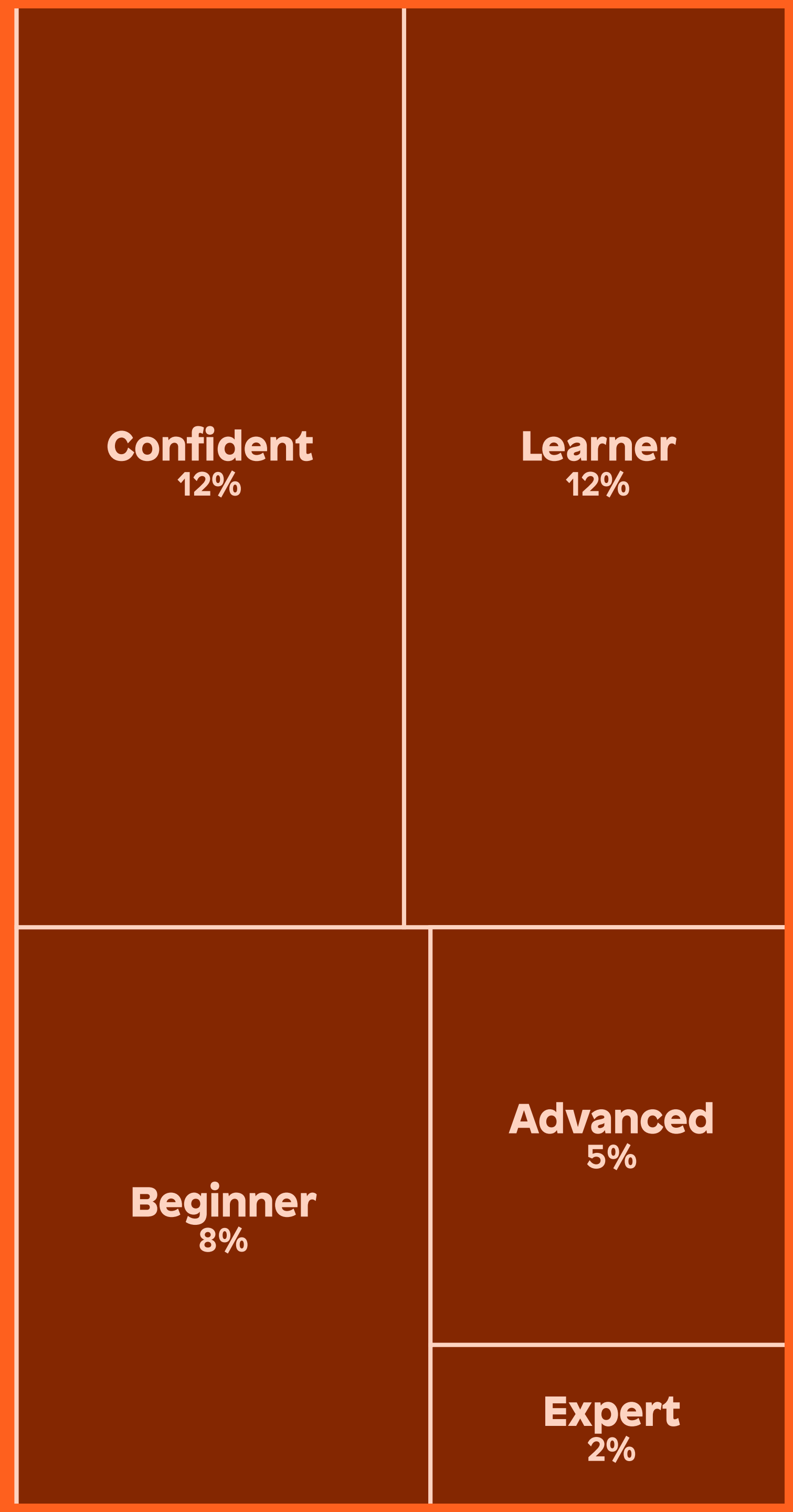


KNOWLEDGE OF OTHER LOW-CODE PLATFORMS

While the majority of developers work primarily with Mendix, some respondents indicated they do work with other platforms, too.

QUESTION:

How do you rate your current skill level of working with other low-code platforms?



POPULAR PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

Our developers have worked with anywhere from one to fourteen programming languages and frameworks and, in many cases, are able to apply this while developing with Mendix. The most popular of these are:

QUESTION:

Which programming, scripting, and markup languages have you worked with before?



HTML/CSS
72.2%



SQL
69.8%



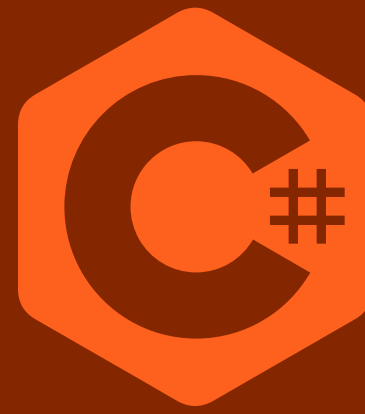
Javascript
66.1%



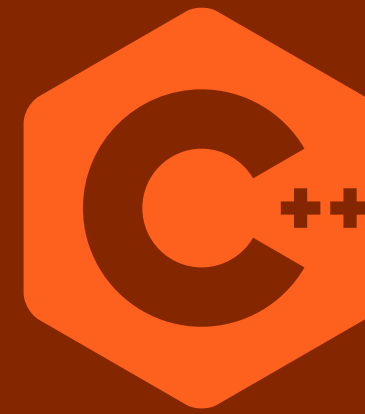
Java
62.2%



Python
36.7%



C#
31.8%



C++
28.1%



C
23.9%



PHP
20.2%



TypeScript
17.6%



Bash/Shell
13.9%



PowerShell
13.1%



Kotlin
2.6%



Go
1%



Other
12%

EMPLOY-



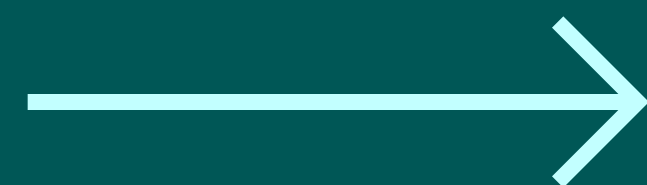
MENT

EMPLOYMENT STATUS

The majority of developers surveyed are employed. Given the increased investment into low-code platforms by organizations in general, combined with the ongoing shortage of developers, we expect this trend to continue for the foreseeable future.

QUESTION:

Which of the following best describes your current employment status?



89%

EMPLOYEE

6%

INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR/
FREELANCER OR SELF-EMPLOYED

3%

STUDENT LEARNING HOW
TO USE LOW-CODE

2%

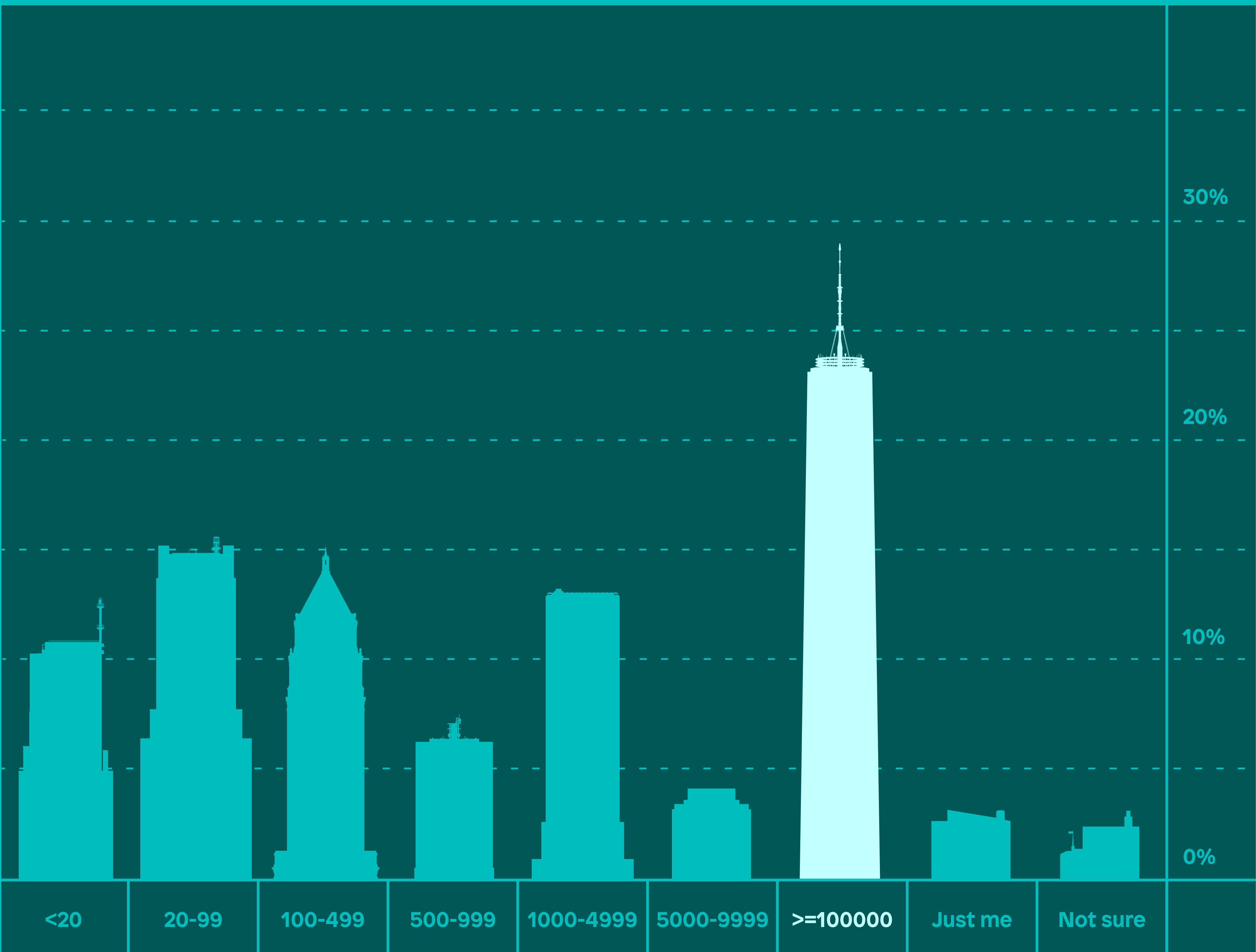
CURRENTLY BETWEEN JOBS
OR LOOKING FOR WORK

COMPANY INFO

The organizations that respondents work for vary greatly in size, showing that the scalable nature of the Mendix platform lends itself just as well to smaller companies as it does to larger enterprises. Its flexibility means firms of any size can start with one or two low-code developers and, from there, scale app development teams into full-on app factories as needed.

QUESTION:

What is the size of your organisation?



DEPARTMENTS AND TEAMS

The majority of developers surveyed work in an IT/R&D/Engineering department.

QUESTION:

Which department do you work in?



85%
IT/ R&D / Software
Engineering

5%
Other

10%
Business (Finance,
marketing, sales, etc.)

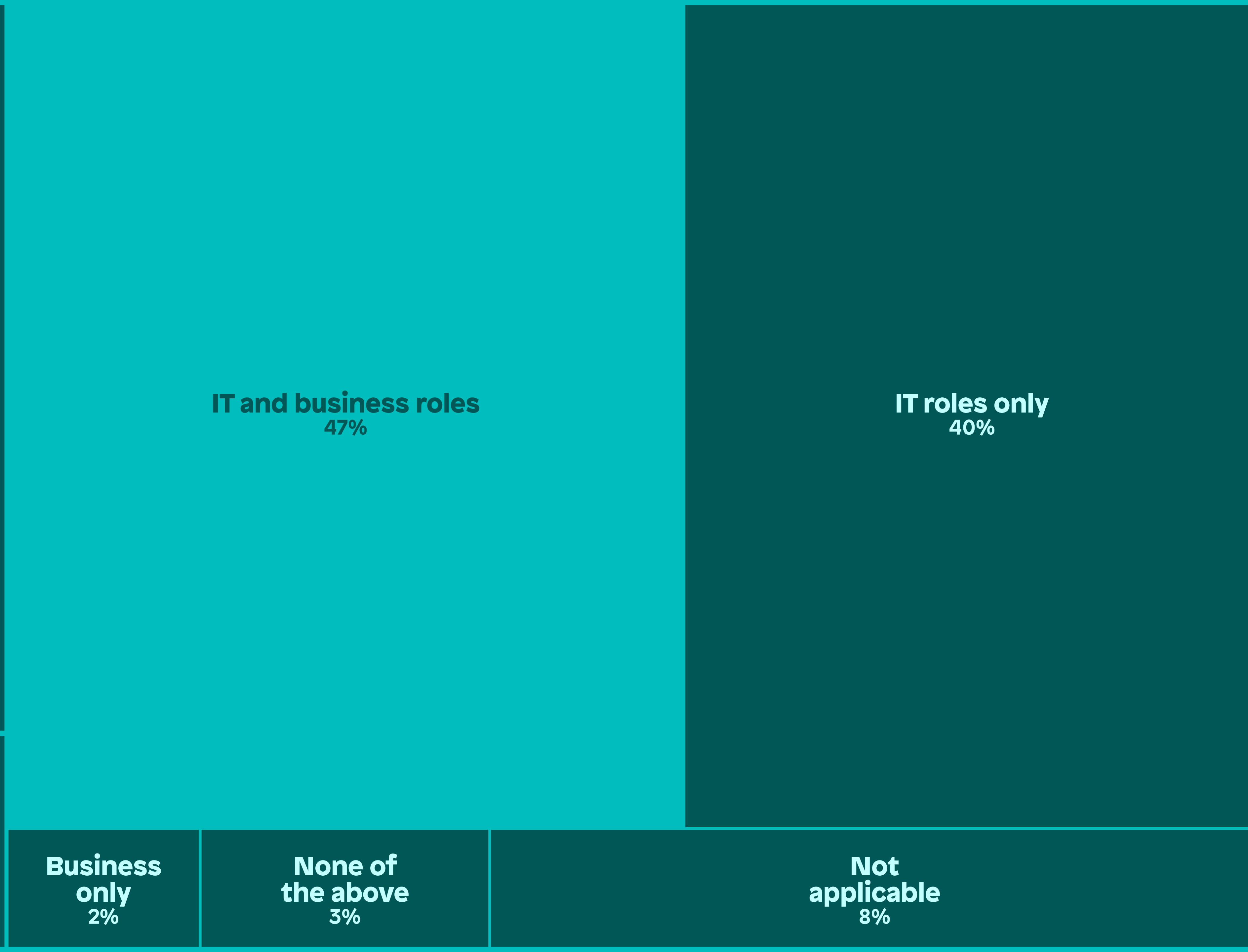
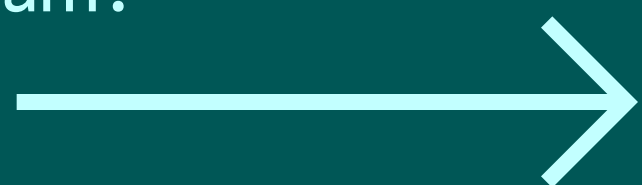
DEPARTMENTS AND TEAMS

While the majority of respondents indicated they work in a team that sits with their organization's IT or engineering department, almost half reported that their teams consist of people working in both business & IT.

We're interested in this ratio because we know that organizations who bring the knowledge held by business roles into low-code initiatives draw additional value from such fusion teams: When business roles work with rather than around IT, this mitigates the use of shadow IT and improves governance while strengthening the tangible value of the app portfolio.

QUESTION:

Who is part of your Mendix development team?



DEPARTMENTS AND TEAMS

The following types of team members in the chart below make up the development teams they work on, according to those surveyed. Depending on the app portfolio vision an organization is building out, the makeup of each team will vary. Many organizations new to low-code development will begin with a core team dedicated to building apps and honing processes. As their app portfolio grows in size and complexity, additional roles are added to ensure the needs of the team and the organization are met.



**Developers/
Engineers**
92%



Product Owners
56%



Team Leaders
54%



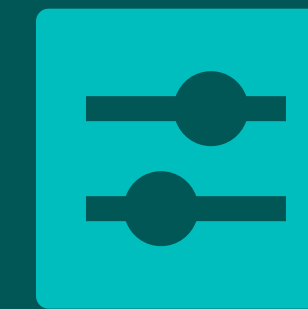
Business Analysts
36%



**Project-/Product
Managers**
35%



QA/Testers
31%



Technical Experts
27%



**Subject Matter
Experts**
26%



Power/End Users
16%



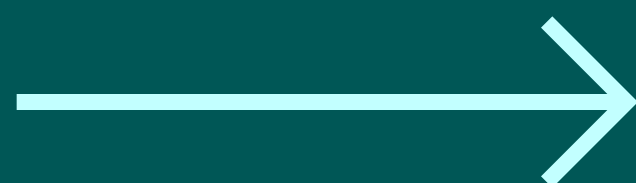
**Business
Technologists/
Citizen Developers**
9%



Other
4%

QUESTION:

Which roles are part of your development team?



TO SUM IT ALL UP...

Mendix developers represent a diverse cohort of varying professional backgrounds. Their skills range from trained to self-taught developers and from low-code-only users to those mixing low-code with other programming languages. In fact, having a previous programming background is not an inhibitor to becoming an active Mendix developer. Utilizing these previously earned skills allows them to work in a dynamic, creative way. At the same time, not having prior experience in programming neither kept respondents from picking up a career in low-code development nor did it prevent them from achieving a confident, advanced, or even expert skill level.

From the organizational point of view, there is an interesting dynamic taking place. IT team members range from technology experts to business specialists, and not all of those roles report to IT leadership. We take these to signal that the concept of fusion teams does not just look nice on paper; it's a real trend that sets organizations up for success in their digital transformation journey.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all the participants for completing this survey. We are looking forward to the next edition of the survey to continue learning how developers in our community are continuously making an impact on their personal lives, their organizations, and the world.

We invite you to [check out the Mendix platform for free](#) and learn more about how you can [enable digital transformation](#) in your organization.



APPENDIX: METHODOLOGY

Our Mendix Developer survey drew 701 active developer participants from 54 countries around the world. Invitations to complete the survey were shared via email, pop-ups, or messages from customer service managers. Participation was voluntary, and respondents remained anonymous unless they opted-in to make themselves available for follow-up research.

The survey comprised 25 questions in total, with a mix of choosing from pre-defined options and giving open-ended responses. The objective was to gauge differences in the background of Mendix developers, their experience in low-code and high-code, as well as the type of environments they are currently working in.

