



Results of the 2008 Organizational Assessment Survey Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA)

Working for America

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Outline

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- Purpose of the OAS
- Results for 17 dimensions
- Performance America benchmarks
- Five highest dimensions
- Five lowest dimensions
- High-impact dimensions
- Other dimensions
- Results for performance management items
- Results for agency-specific items
- Private industry comparisons
- Comments
- Next steps



Purpose of the OAS

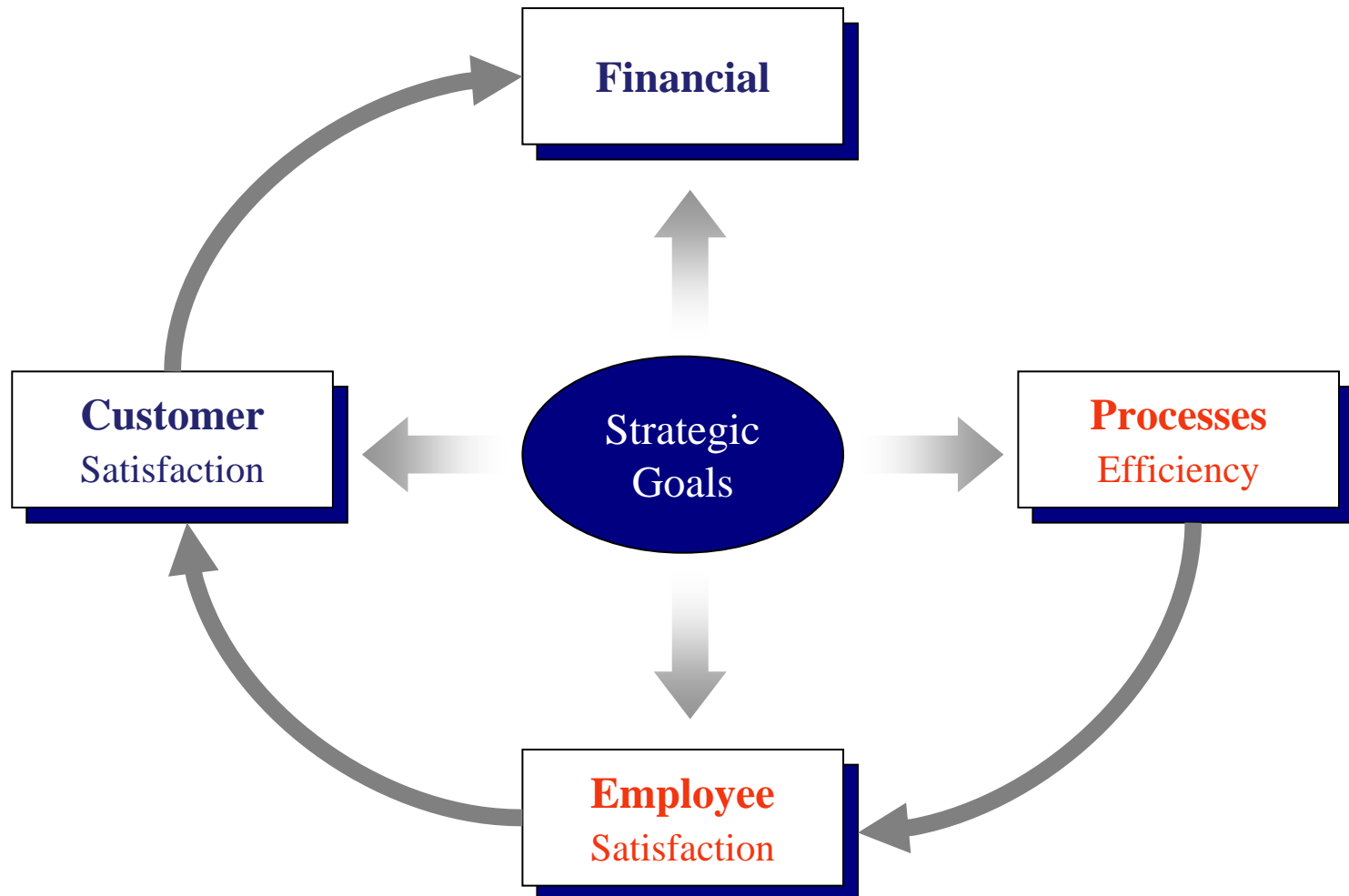
3

- Assess organizational climate and culture on 17 high-performance dimensions
- Benchmark with other agencies and private sector
- Use results to make organizational improvements
- Use results in strategic planning
- Use with customer satisfaction results as part of balanced measurement
- Improve organizational effectiveness



Balanced Measures

Use OAS data as part of a balanced measurement system



OAS Methodology

5

- Administered online to all BEA employees from November 3 to November 26, 2008
- Survey included a total of 134 items:
 - 110 core items
 - 5 performance management items (Lawler)
 - 5 agency-specific items
 - 12 demographic items
 - Two open-ended questions asking for comments about:
 - What the agency is doing well
 - How the agency can improve
- Response rate:
 - 2008: 64% (313/490)
 - 2006: 62% (319/518)
- Margin of error:
 - 2008: ± 3 percentage points
 - 2006: ± 3 percentage points



Bureau of Economic Analysis



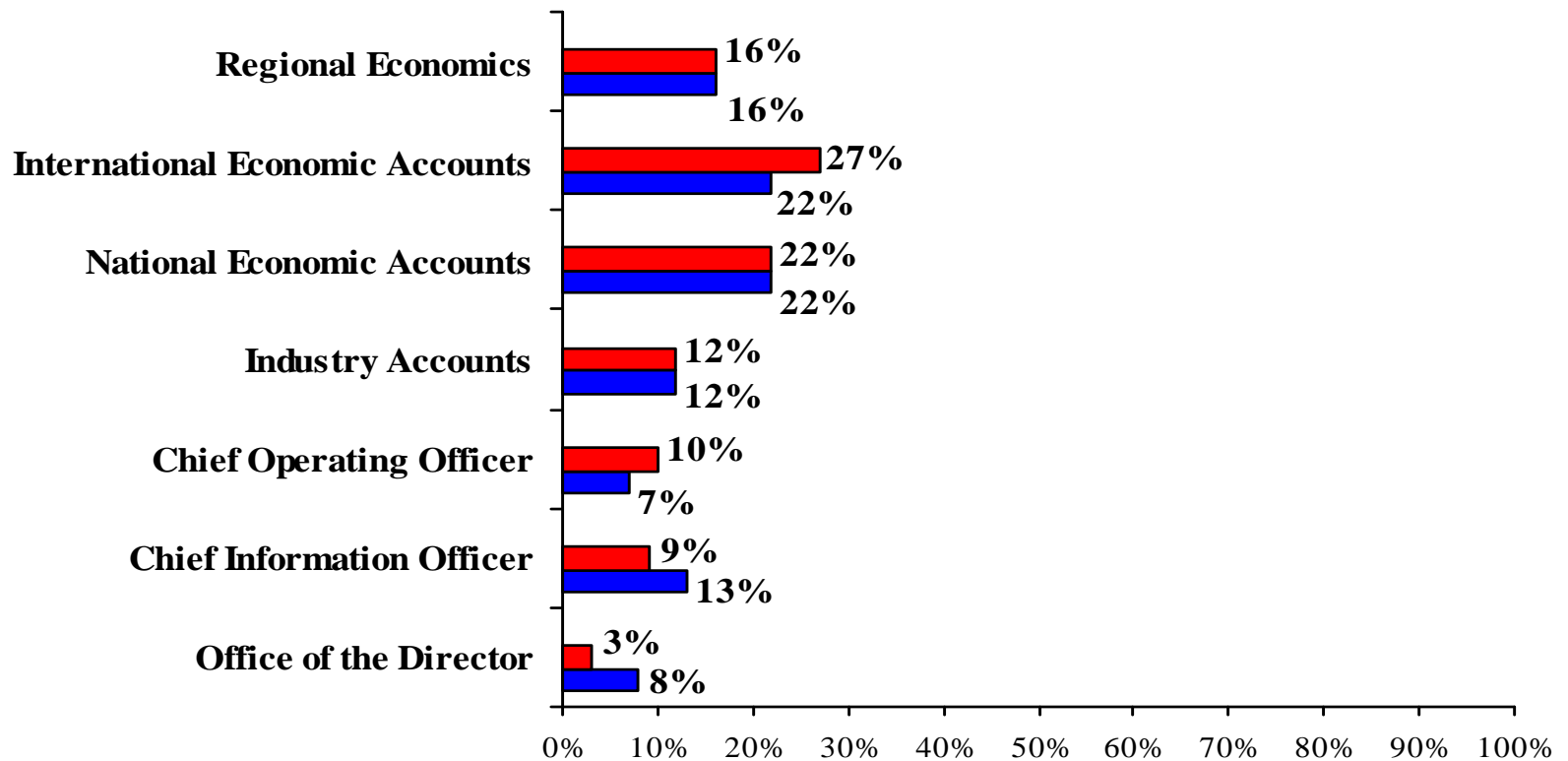
2008 OAS Results



Demographics of Survey Respondents

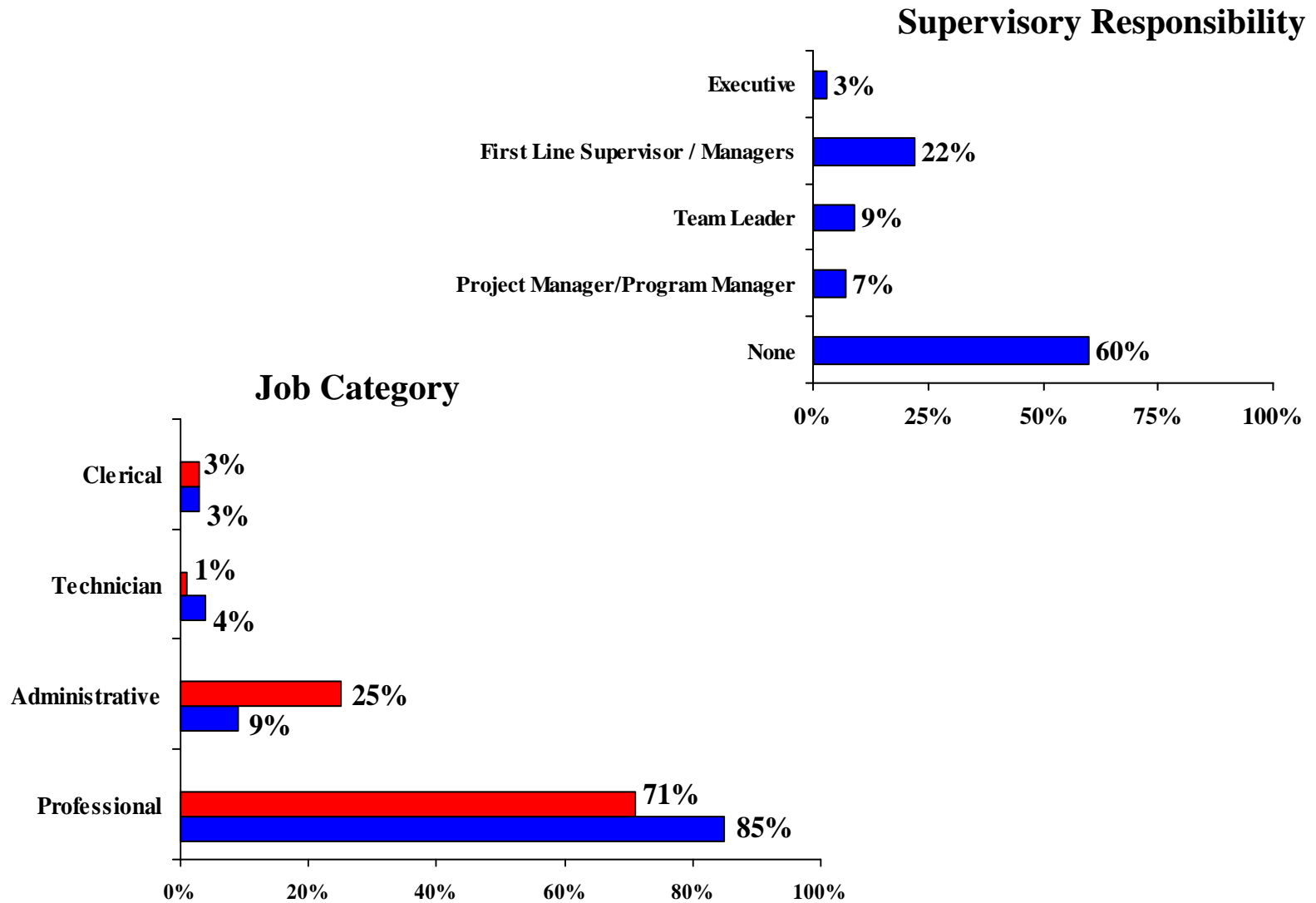
■ Sample ■ Population

Where do you work at BEA?



Demographics of Survey Respondents

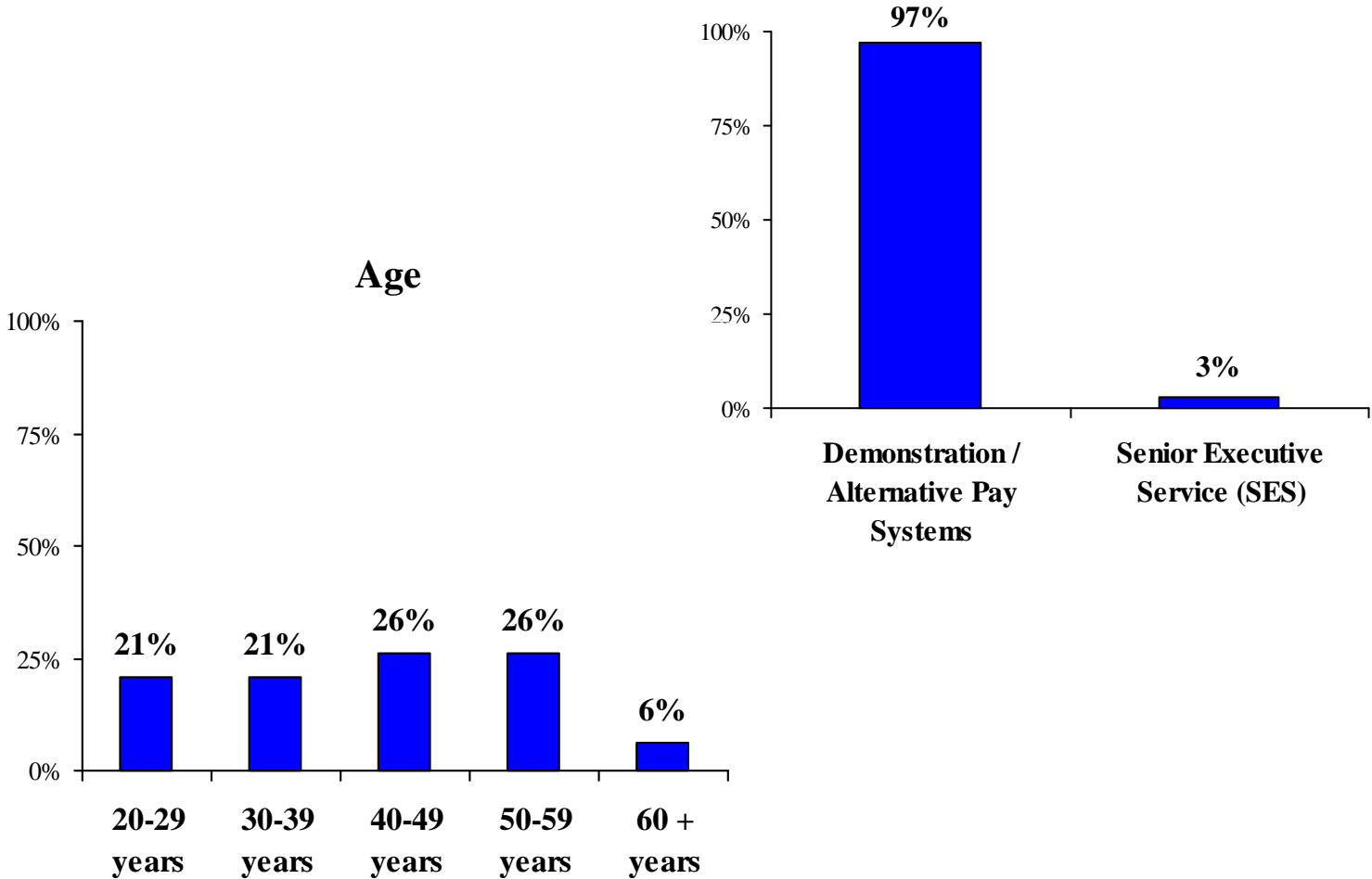
■ Sample ■ Population



Demographics of Survey Respondents

Sample **Population**

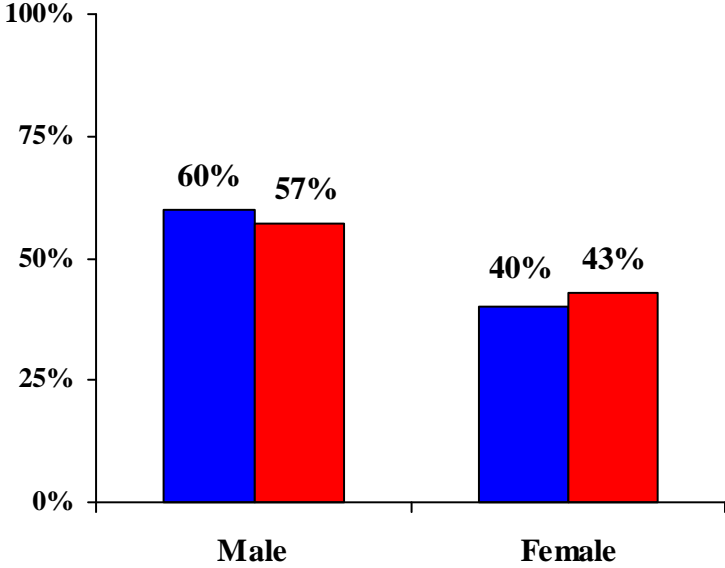
Pay Category



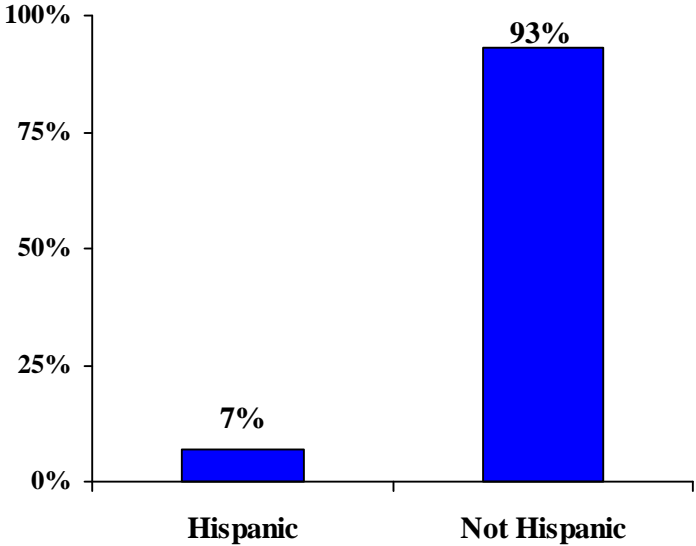
Demographics of Survey Respondents

■ Sample ■ Population

Gender

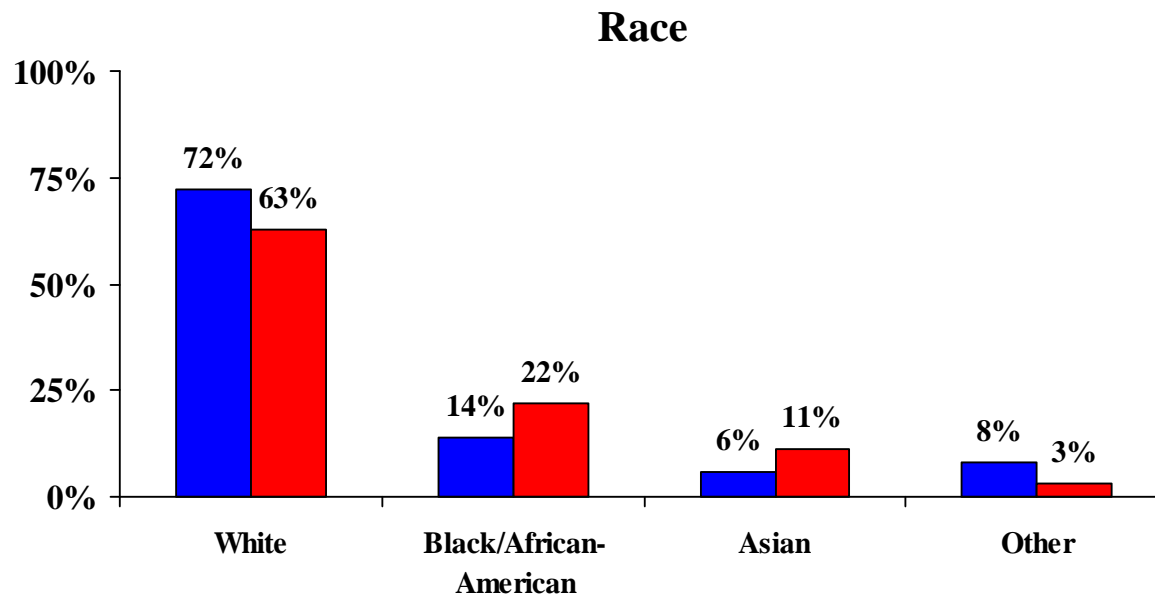


Hispanic Origin

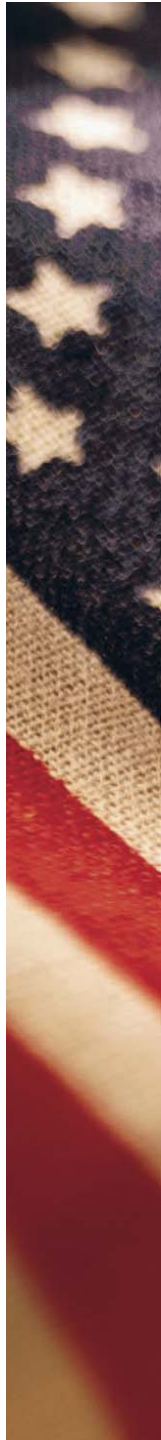


Demographics of Survey Respondents

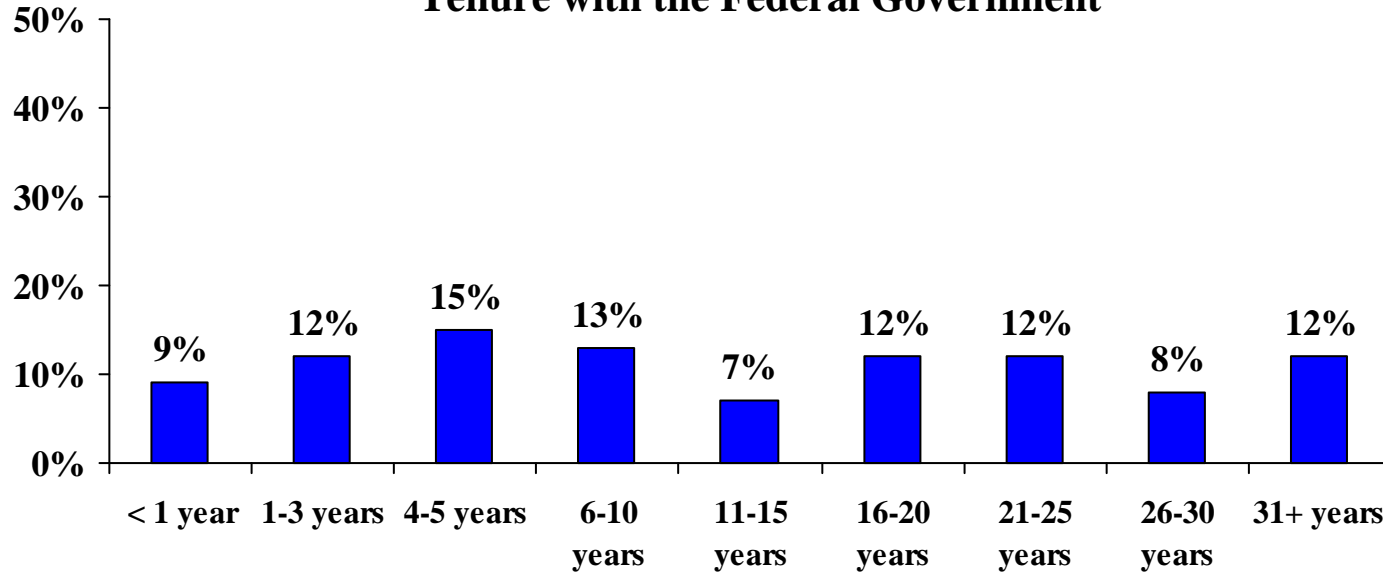
■ Sample ■ Population



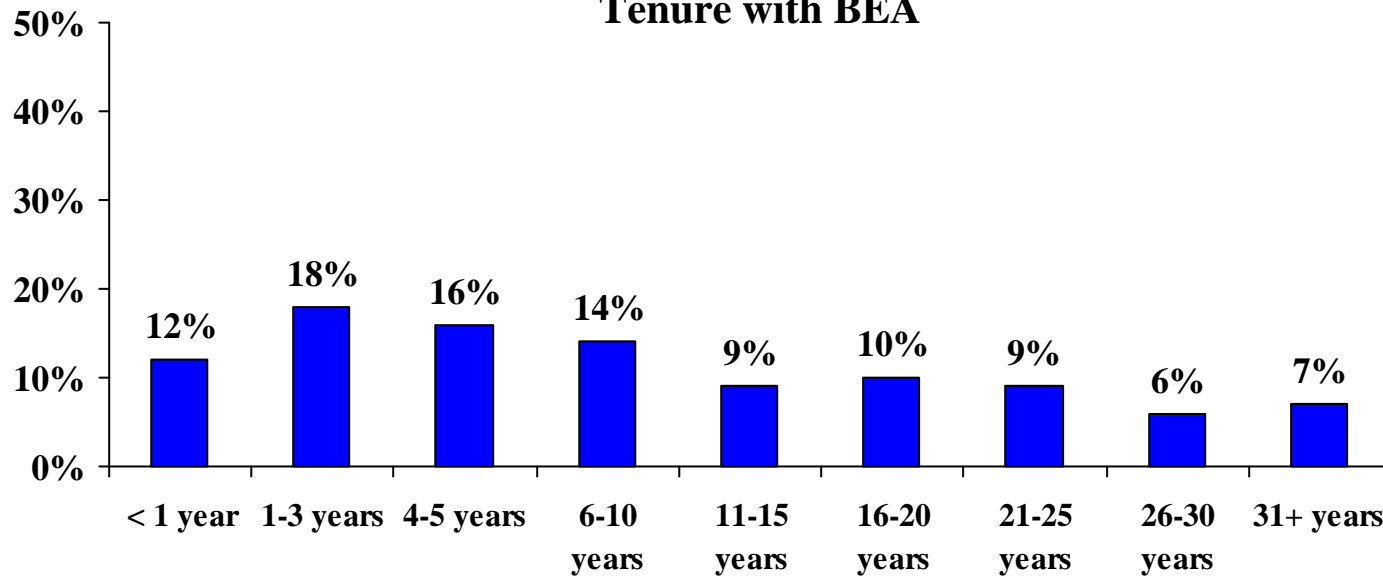
Demographics of Survey Respondents



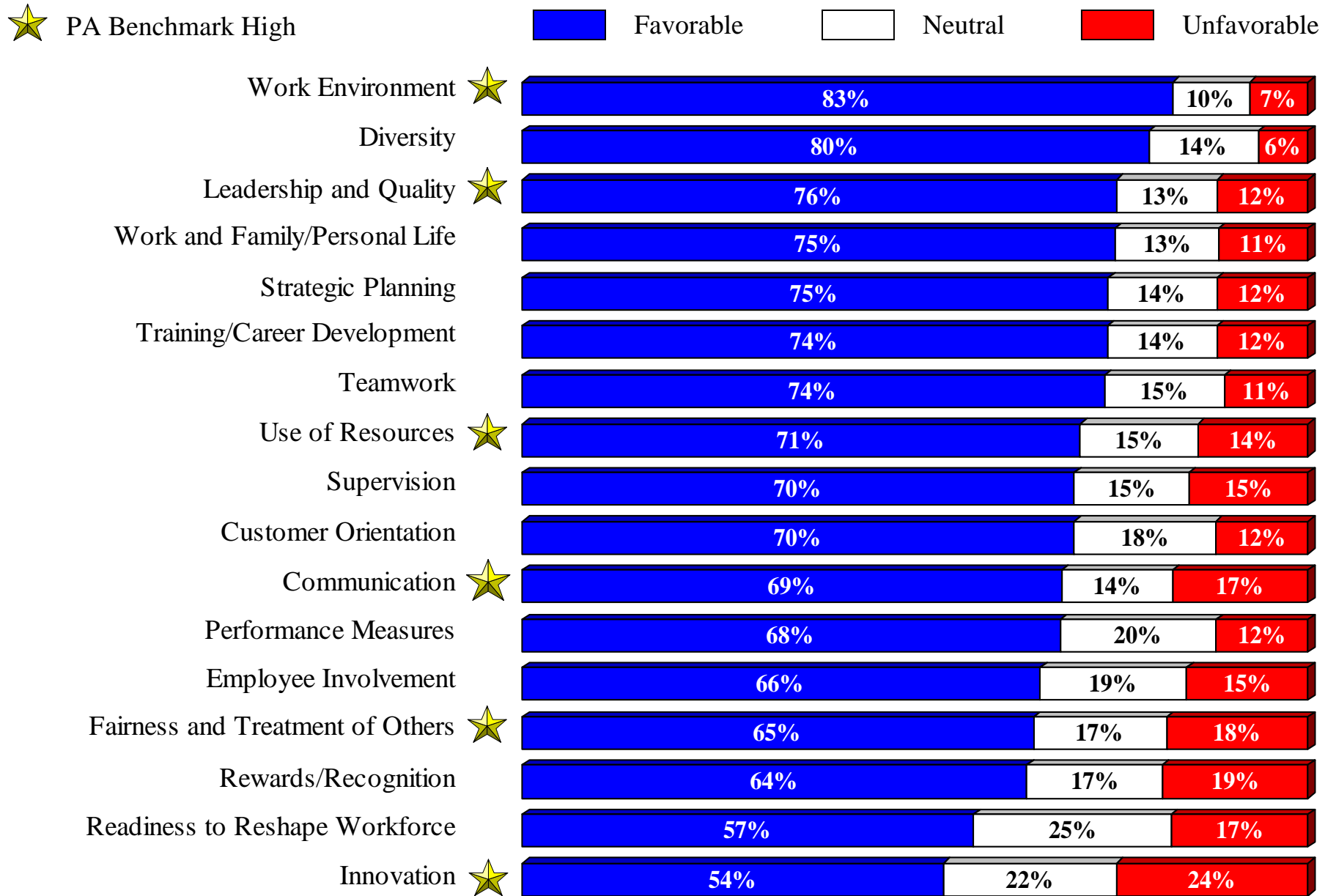
Tenure with the Federal Government



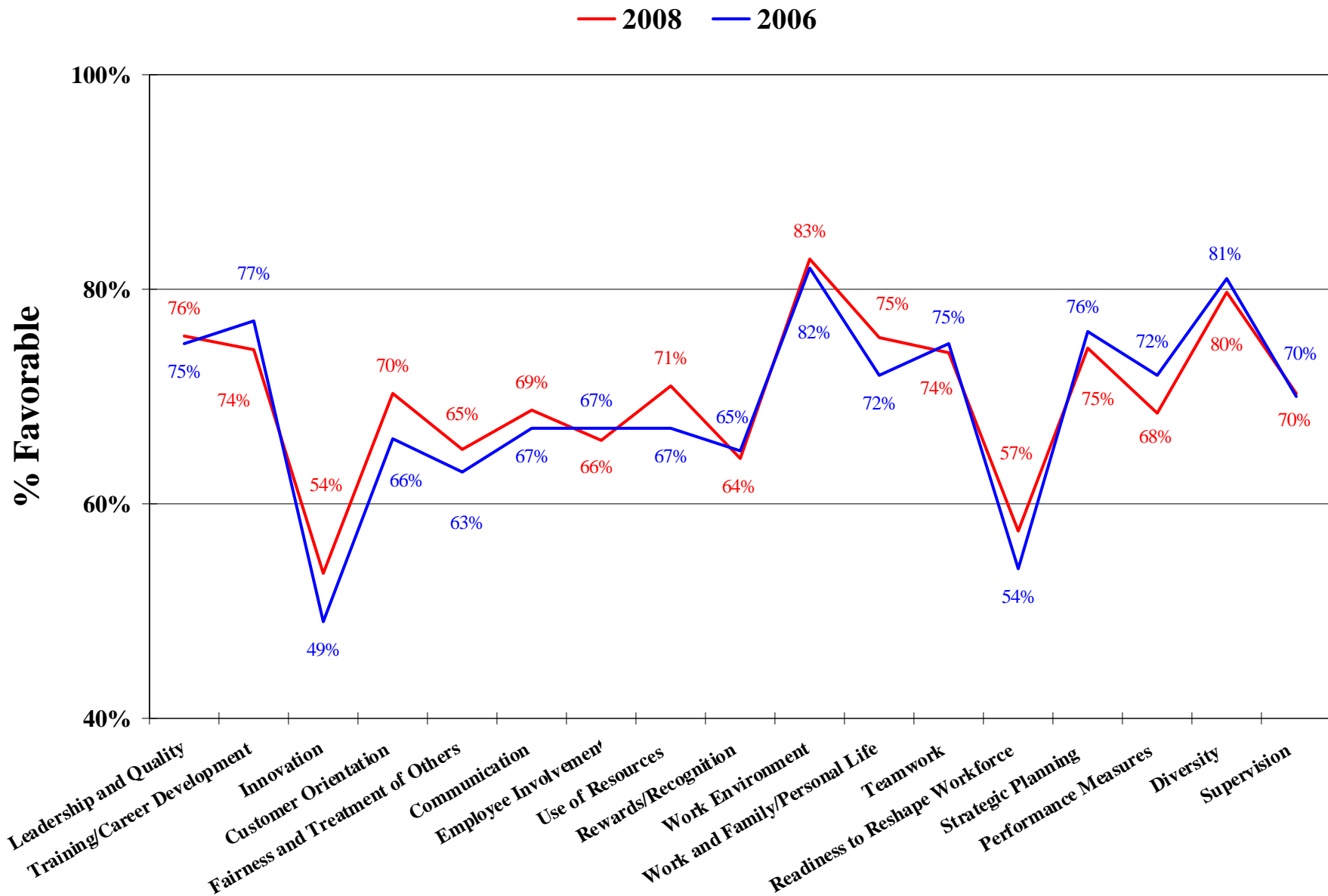
Tenure with BEA



17 OAS Dimensions



Year to Year Comparison (2008 vs. 2006)



About the Year to Year Comparison

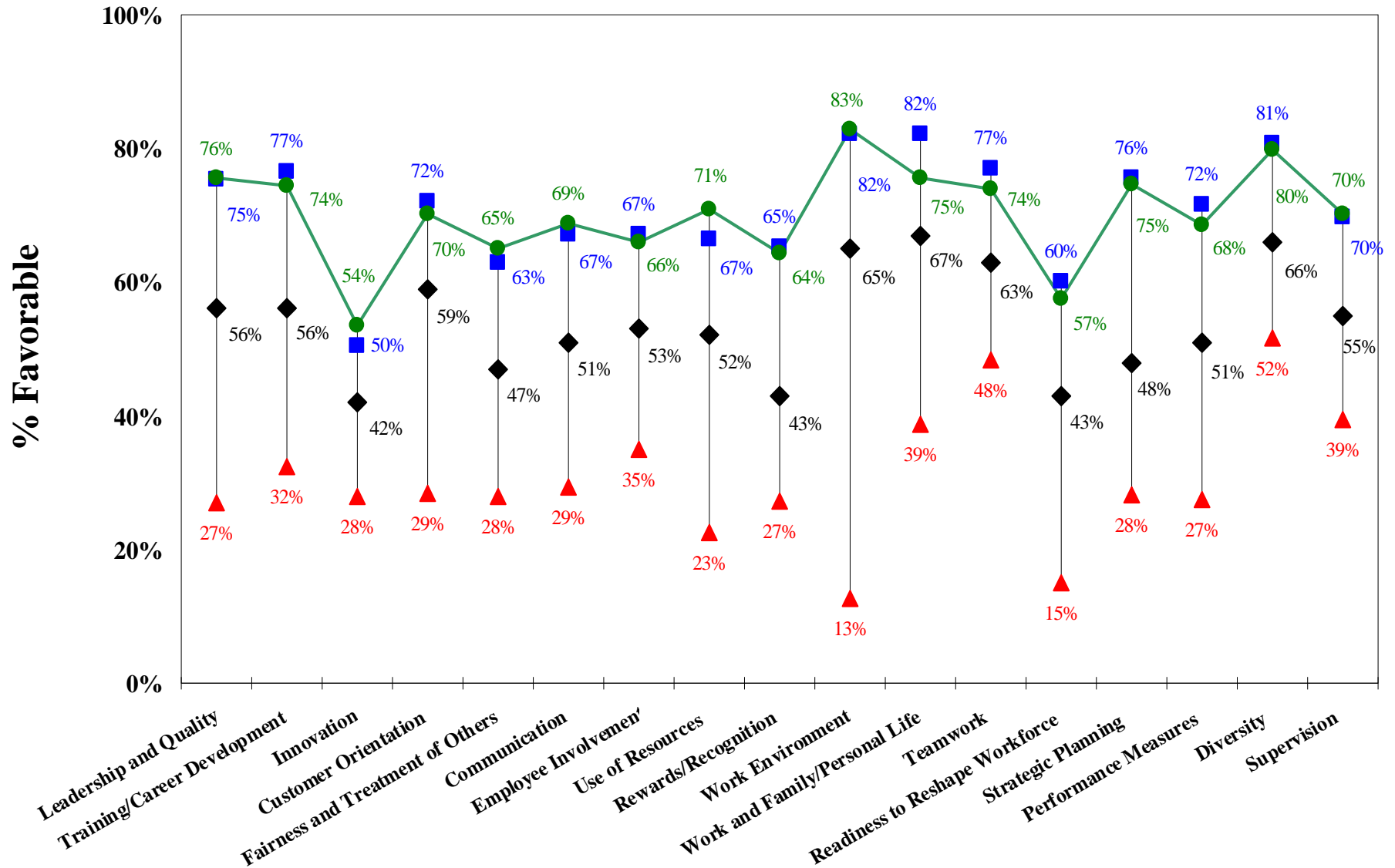
15

- Small percent favorable improvements across multiple OAS dimensions
- Improvements from 2006 to 2008
 - Innovation (+5)
 - Customer Orientation (+4)
 - Use of Resources (+4)
 - Readiness to Reshape Workforce (+3)
 - Work and Family/Personal Life (+3)
 - Communication (+2)
 - Fairness and Treatment of Others (+2)
 - Leadership and Quality (+1)
 - Work Environment (+1)
- Margin of error is three percentage points



Performance America (PA) Benchmarks

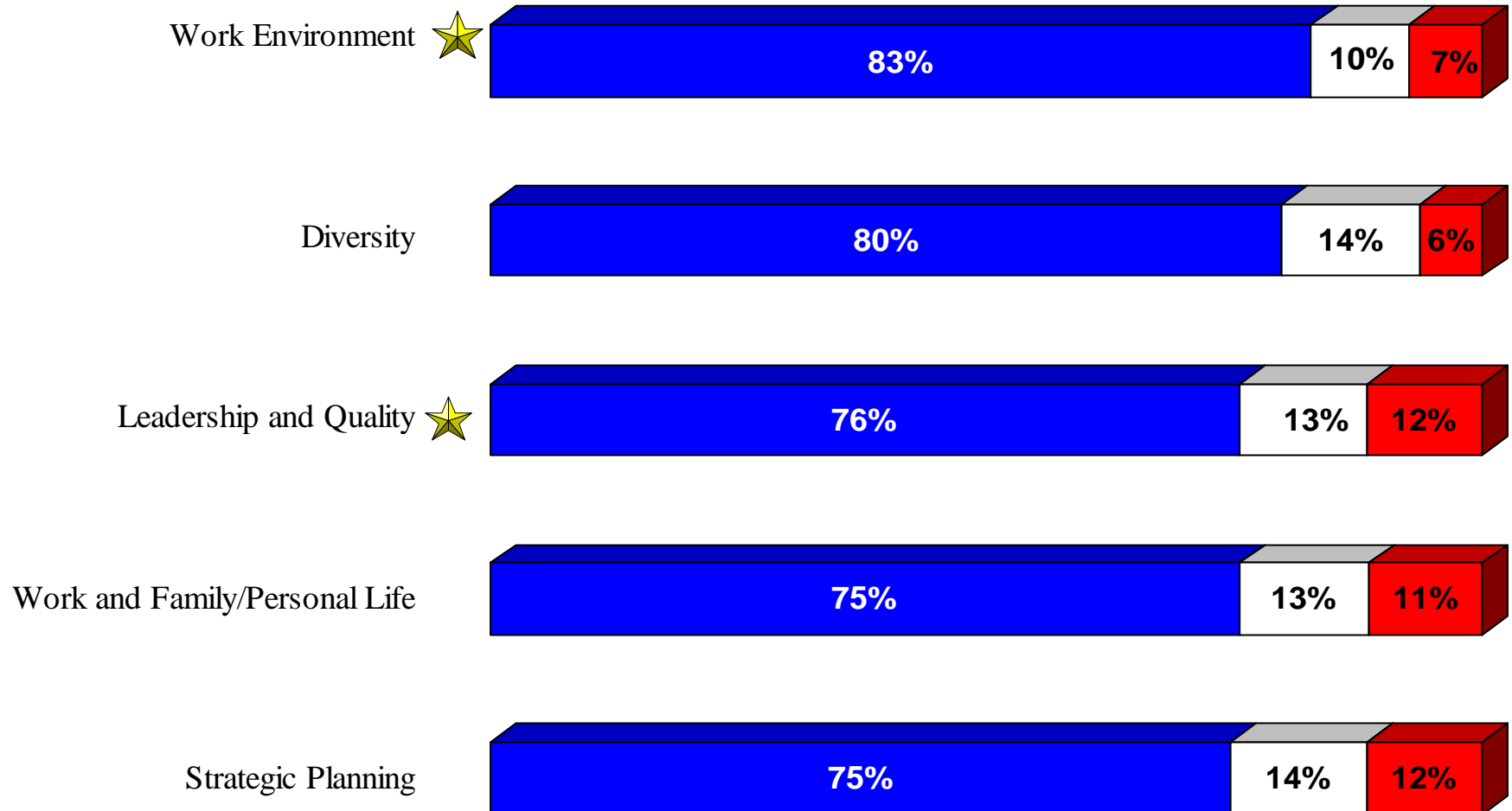
▲ Low benchmark ■ High Benchmark ● BEA 2008 ◆ Median



Five Highest Dimensions

(by % Favorable)

★ PA Benchmark High





About the Five Highest Dimensions

18

- All five of the highest dimensions qualify as strengths (66% or higher favorable responses)
- Work Environment
 - Set a new PA benchmark high
 - Favorability increased by one percentage point since 2006
 - The workplace is safe, good health practices are encouraged and physical working conditions allow employees to conduct work
- Diversity
 - Favorability was one percentage point below PA benchmark high
 - Favorability decreased by one percentage point since 2006
 - Accommodations are made for persons with disabilities, individual differences are respected and diversity is promoted through various avenues in the workplace
 - Challenge areas include how managers deal with sexual harassment and reports of discrimination



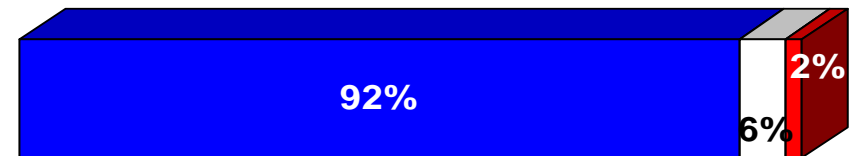
About the Five Highest Dimensions (cont'd)¹⁹

- **Leadership and Quality**
 - Set a new PA benchmark high
 - High impact dimension
 - Favorability increased by one percentage point since 2006
- **Work and Family/Personal Life**
 - Favorability was eight percentage points above PA median
 - Favorability increased by three percentage points since 2006
 - Top items indicate an understanding of employee life responsibilities and the availability of family-related benefits
- **Strategic Planning**
 - Favorability was one percentage point below PA benchmark high
 - Favorability decreased by one percentage point since 2006
 - A formal process of setting goals is established and progress is reviewed regularly

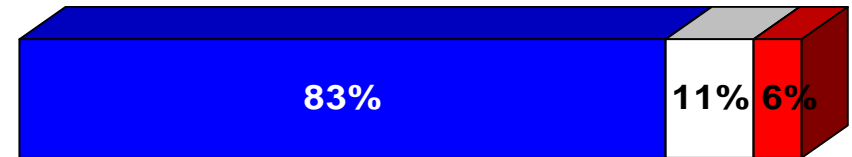
Item Results

Work Environment

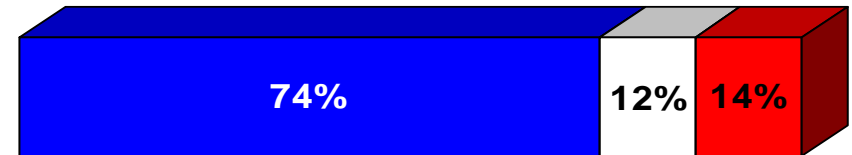
52 Employees are protected from health and safety hazards on the job.



51 Programs that encourage good health practices are supported (for example, fitness centers, health education programs).



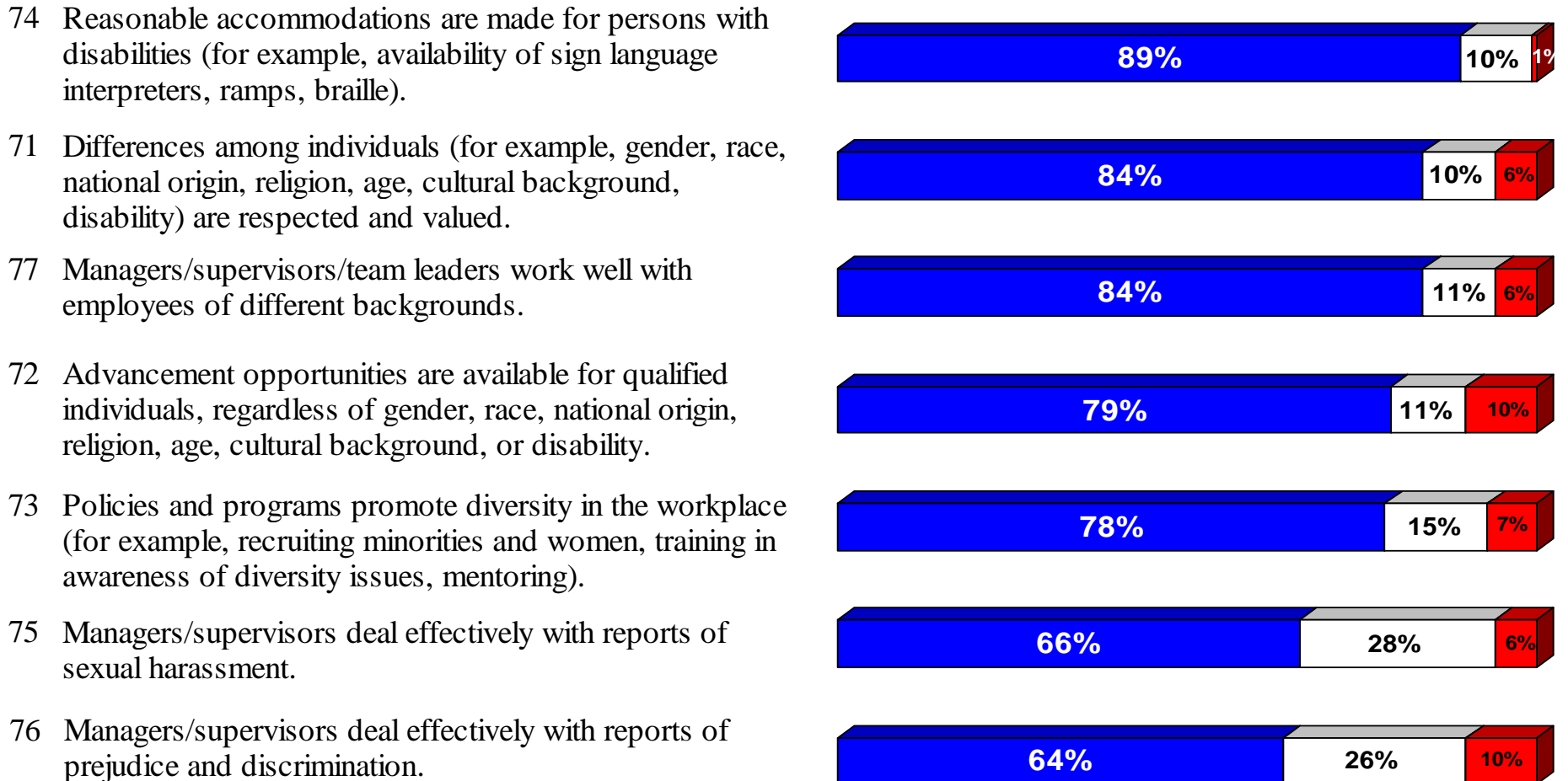
50 Physical conditions (for example, noise, temperature, lighting, cleanliness) allow employees to perform their jobs well.



■ Agree/Strongly Agree □ Neither ■ Disagree/Strongly Disagree

Item Results

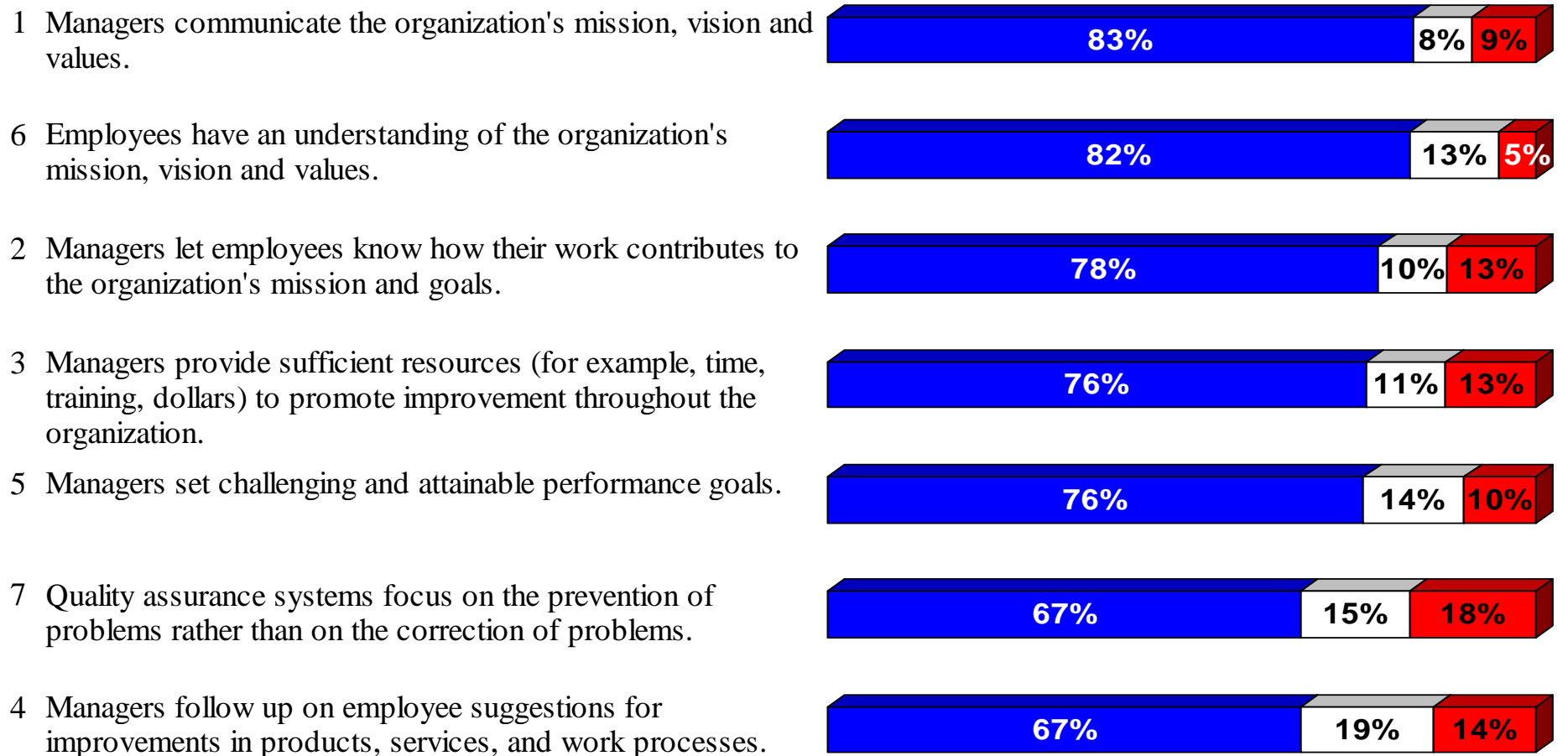
Diversity



■ Agree/Strongly Agree □ Neither ■ Disagree/Strongly Disagree

Item Results

Leadership and Quality

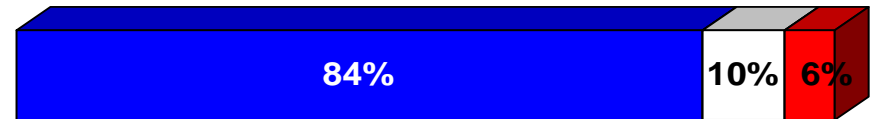


■ Agree/Strongly Agree □ Neither ■ Disagree/Strongly Disagree

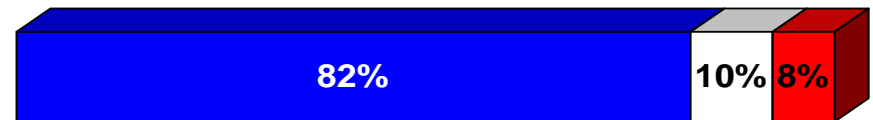
Item Results

Work and Family/Personal Life

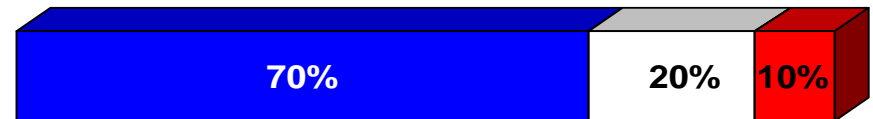
56 Supervisors/team leaders understand and support employees' family/personal life responsibilities.



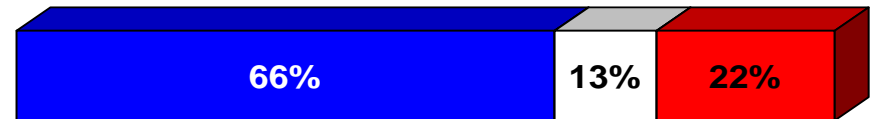
53 Family-related benefits are available to employees (for example, parental leave policies, child care, elder care).



55 Employees who take advantage of family/personal life policies and benefits do not hurt their career opportunities.



54 Employees are given the opportunity to work at home or on flexible work schedules, when the job permits (for example, Flexitime, Alternate Work Schedule, telecommuting, part-time).

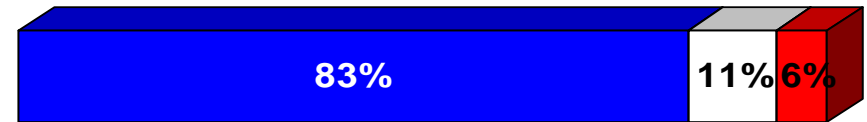


■ Agree/Strongly Agree □ Neither ■ Disagree/Strongly Disagree

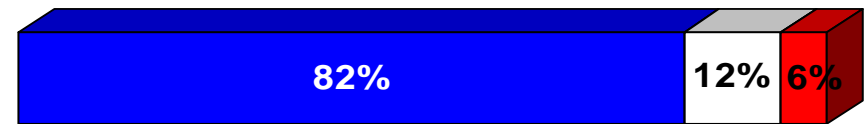
Item Results

Strategic Planning

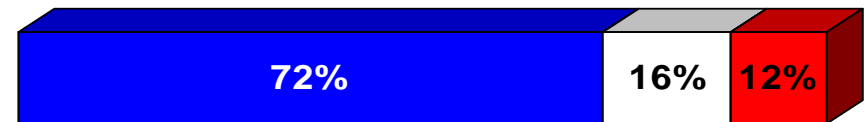
63 There is an established, formal process for developing goals and updating plans periodically.



66 Managers review and evaluate the organization's progress toward meeting its goals and objectives.



65 Performance improvement goals are established and integrated into the organization's overall strategic planning and budgeting processes.



64 Employees participate in the development of strategic/operational plans.

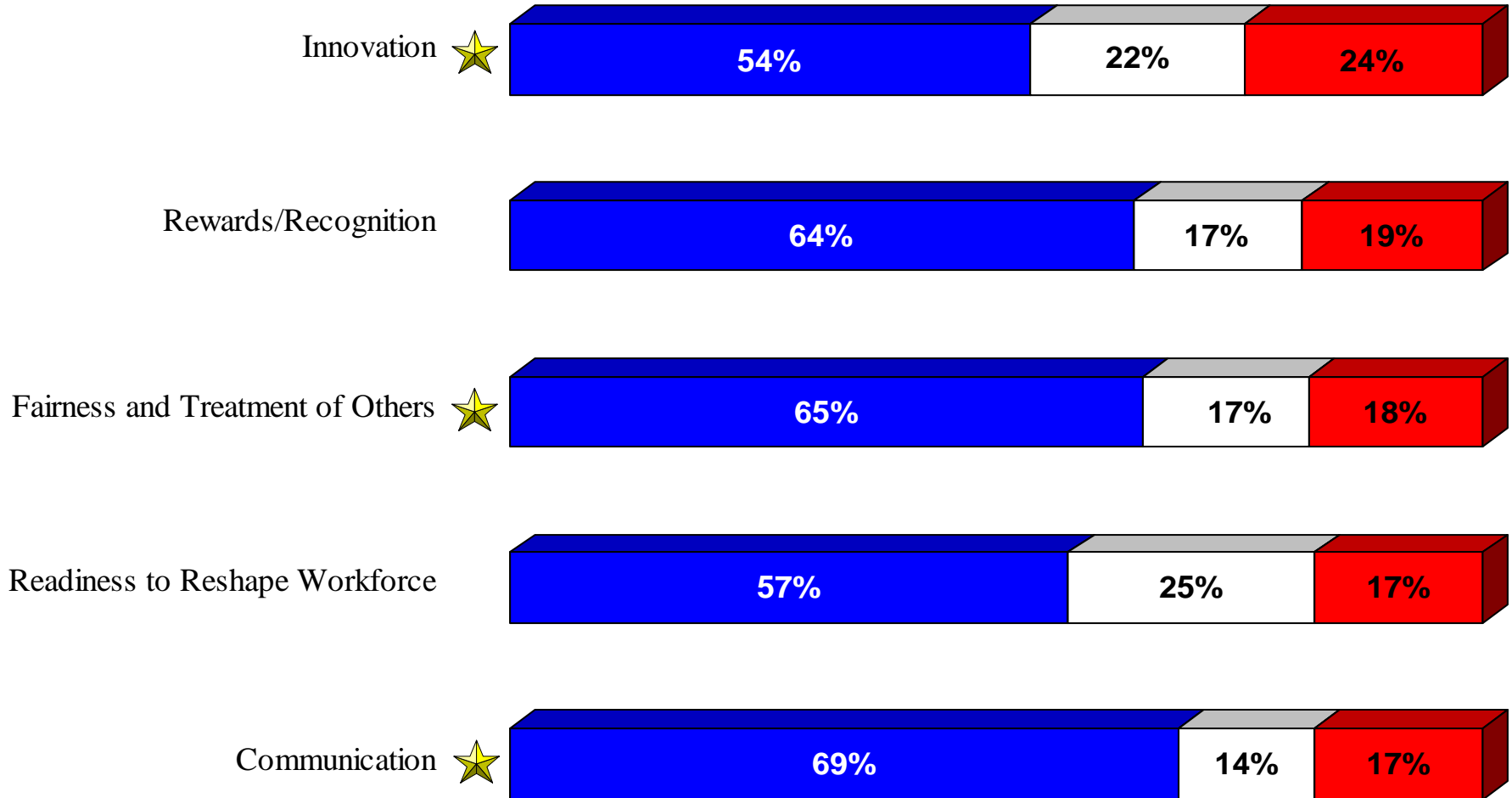


■ Agree/Strongly Agree □ Neither ■ Disagree/Strongly Disagree

Five Lowest Dimensions

(by % Unfavorable)

★ PA Benchmark High



About the Five Lowest Dimensions

26

- Innovation

- Set a new PA benchmark high: exceeded old mark by four percentage points
- Greatest improvement since 2006 (5 points)
- The most challenging items involved risk-taking and manager receptiveness to change
- The risk-taking item had the highest number of “do not know” responses, presenting an opportunity for improvement

- Rewards/Recognition

- Favorability was one percentage point below PA benchmark high
- While employees indicated that high performing individuals receive rewards, fewer agreed that pay was linked to performance and that employees were rewarded for teamwork

- Fairness and Treatment of Others

- Set a new PA benchmark high
- Favorability increased by two percentage points since 2006
- The most challenging item was fairness of work distribution
 - 14 points more unfavorable than nearest item



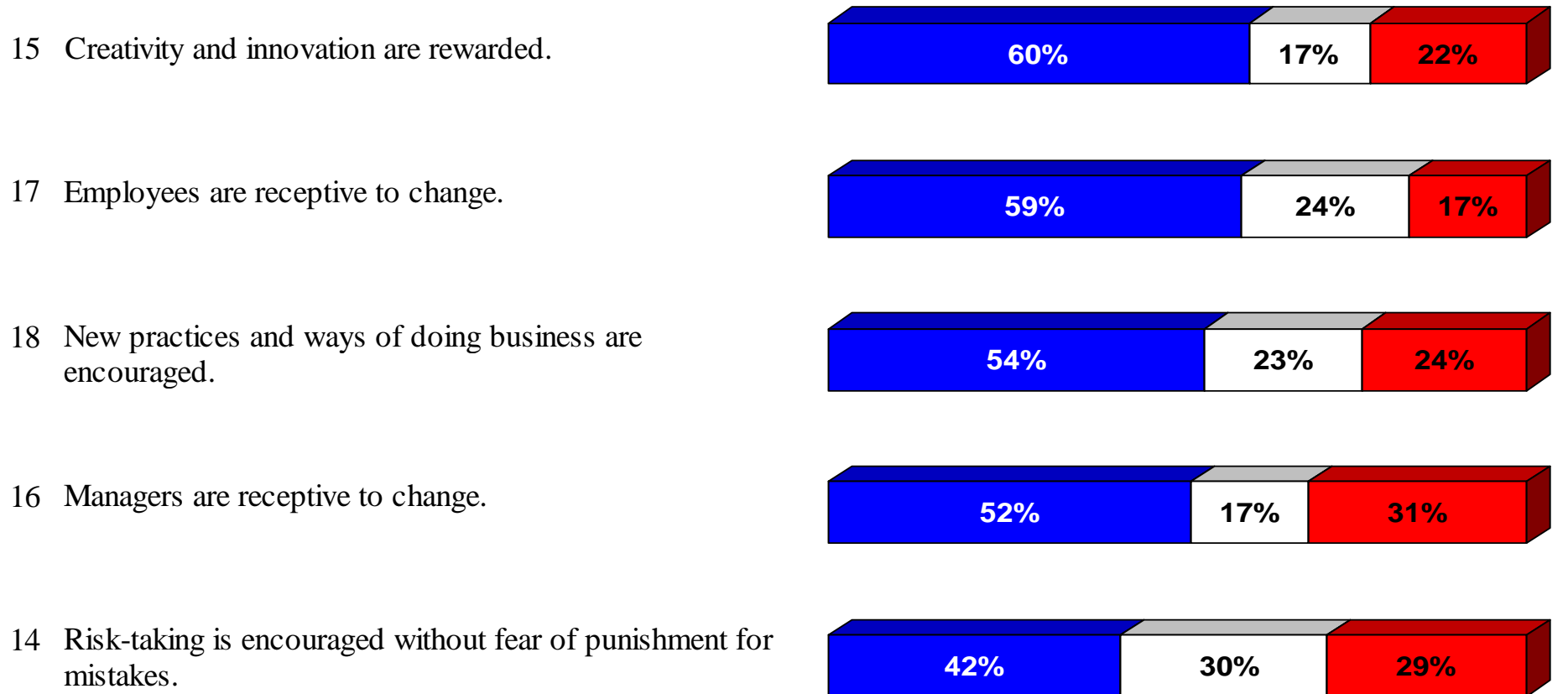


About the Five Lowest Dimensions (cont'd)²⁷

- **Readiness to Reshape Workforce**
 - Favorability was 14 percentage points above PA benchmark median
 - Favorability increased by three percentage points since 2006
 - Large percentage of neutral responses indicates that most employees have no opinion
- **Communication**
 - Set a new PA benchmark high
 - BEA set the old mark in 2006
 - Dimension qualifies as a strength (66% favorable or higher)
 - Favorability increased by two percentage points since 2006
 - The most challenging items concern communication between workgroups and across organizational levels

Item Results

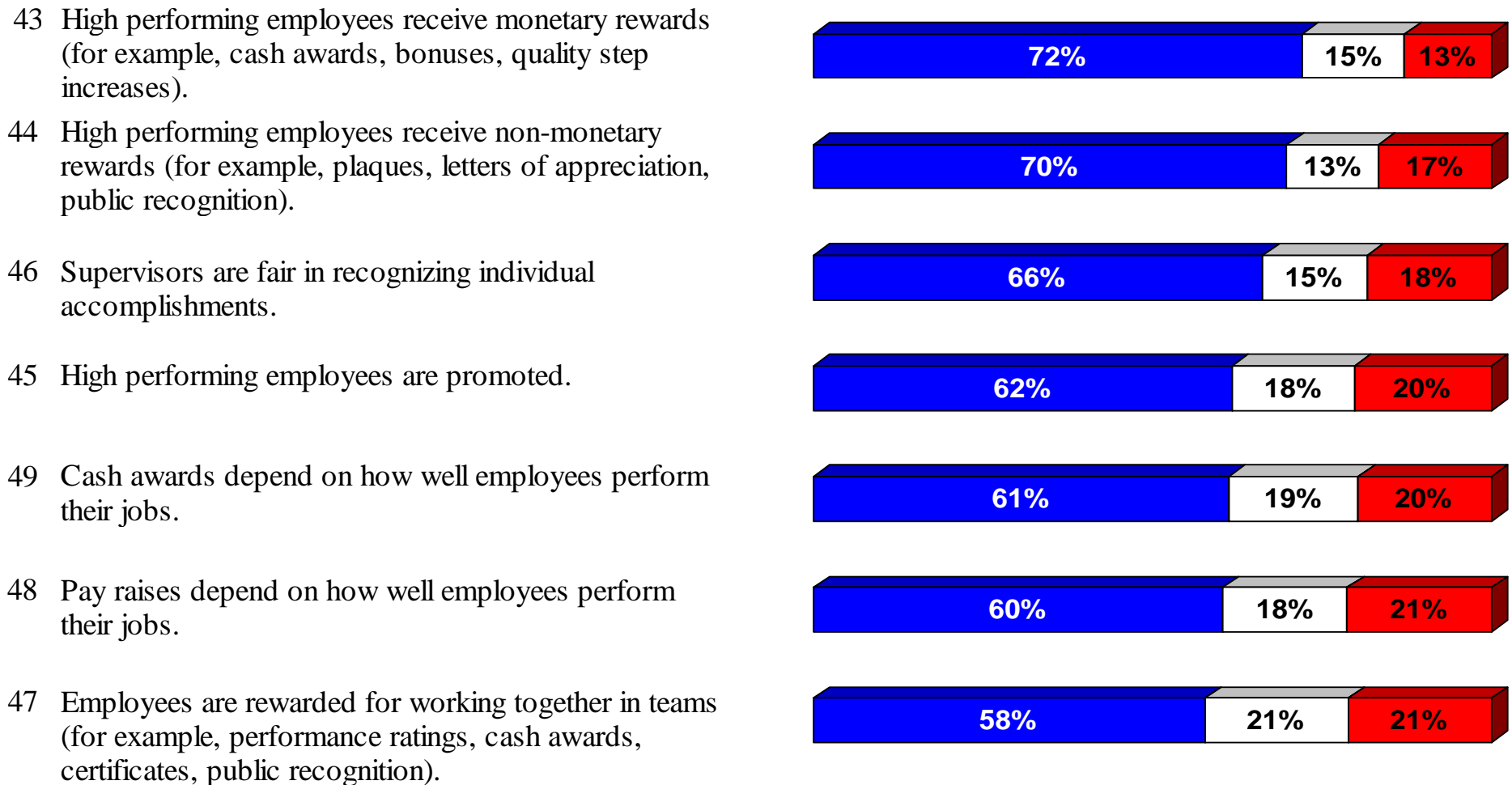
Innovation



■ Agree/Strongly Agree □ Neither ■ Disagree/Strongly Disagree

Item Results

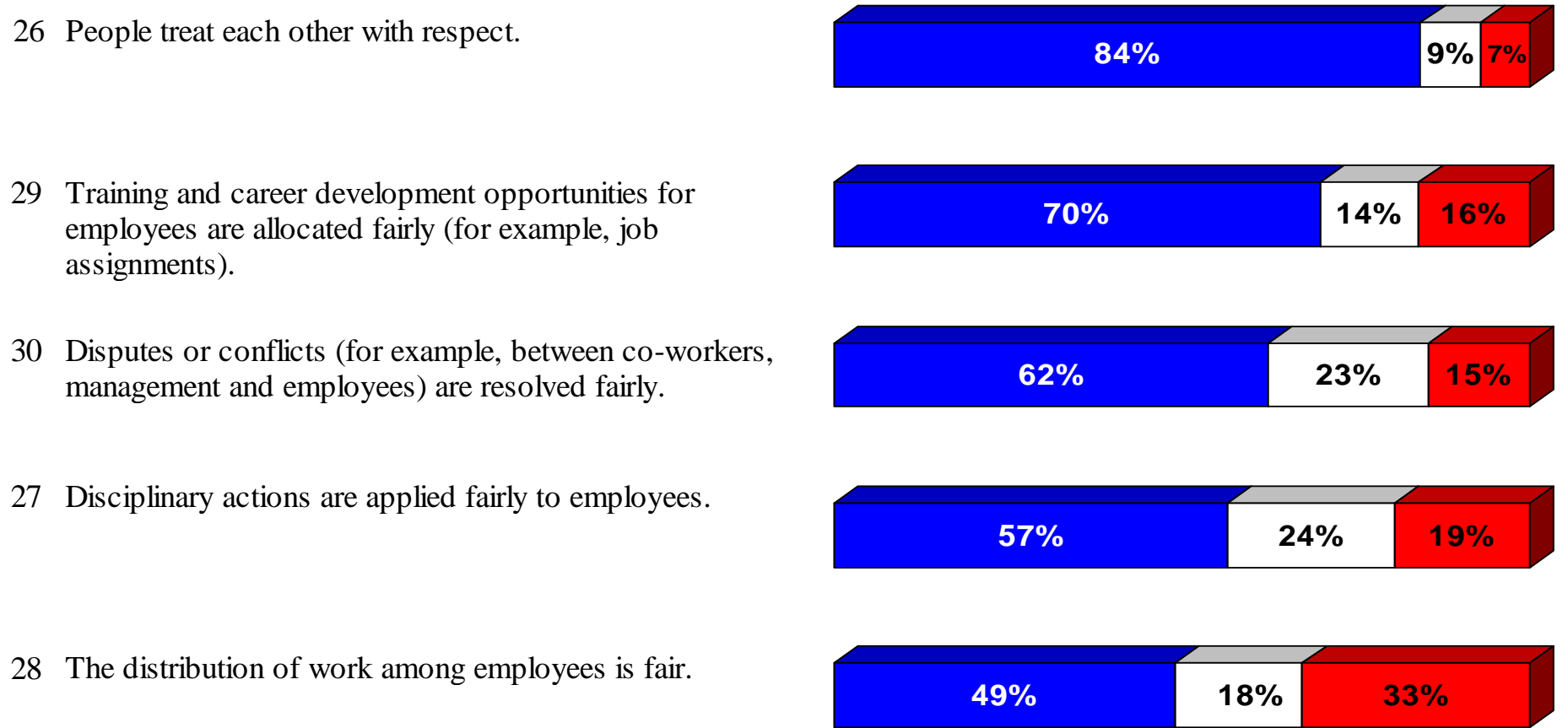
Rewards/Recognition



Note: Items are sorted by Agree/Strongly Agree ■ Agree/Strongly Agree □ Neither ■ Disagree/Strongly Disagree

Item Results

Fairness and Treatment of Others

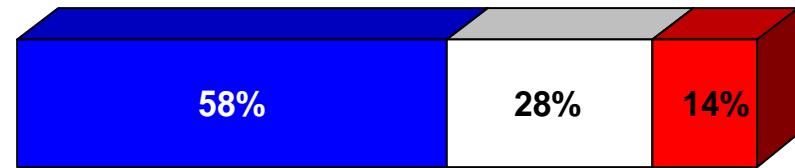


■ Agree/Strongly Agree □ Neither ■ Disagree/Strongly Disagree

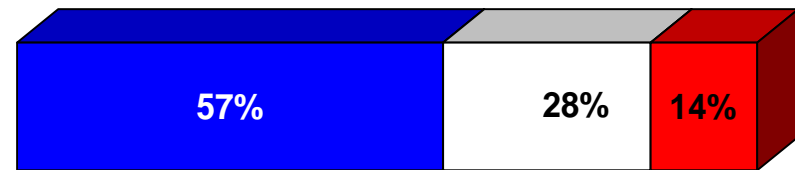
Item Results

Readiness to Reshape Workforce

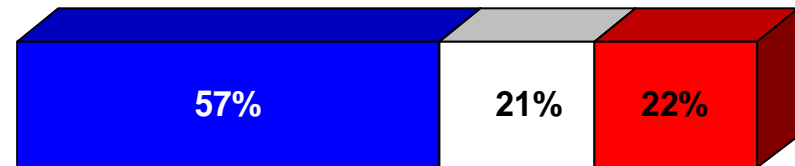
61 There is adequate advance notice of changes that affect employment (for example, downsizing, transfers, reorganizations).



60 There are strategies to protect job security (for example, early retirements and buyouts, workforce planning).



62 Employees receive training and guidance to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to perform other jobs or to pursue new careers.

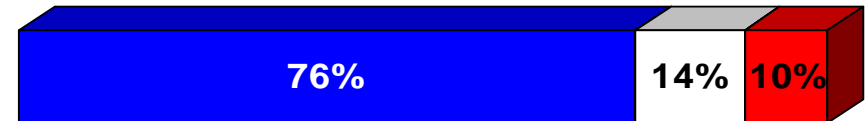


■ Agree/Strongly Agree □ Neither ■ Disagree/Strongly Disagree

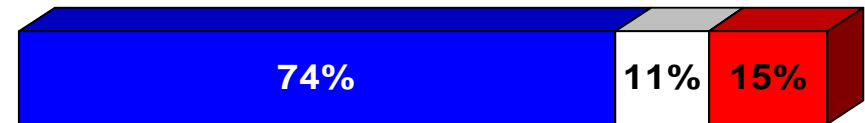
Item Results

Communication

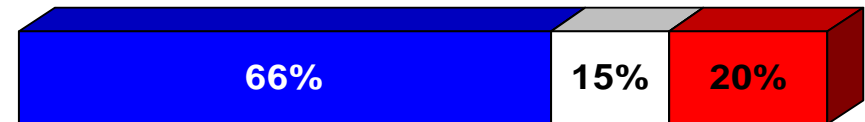
32 Managers communicate the goals and priorities of the organization.



31 Employees are kept informed on issues affecting their jobs.



33 Managers promote communication among different work units (for example, about projects, goals, needed resources).



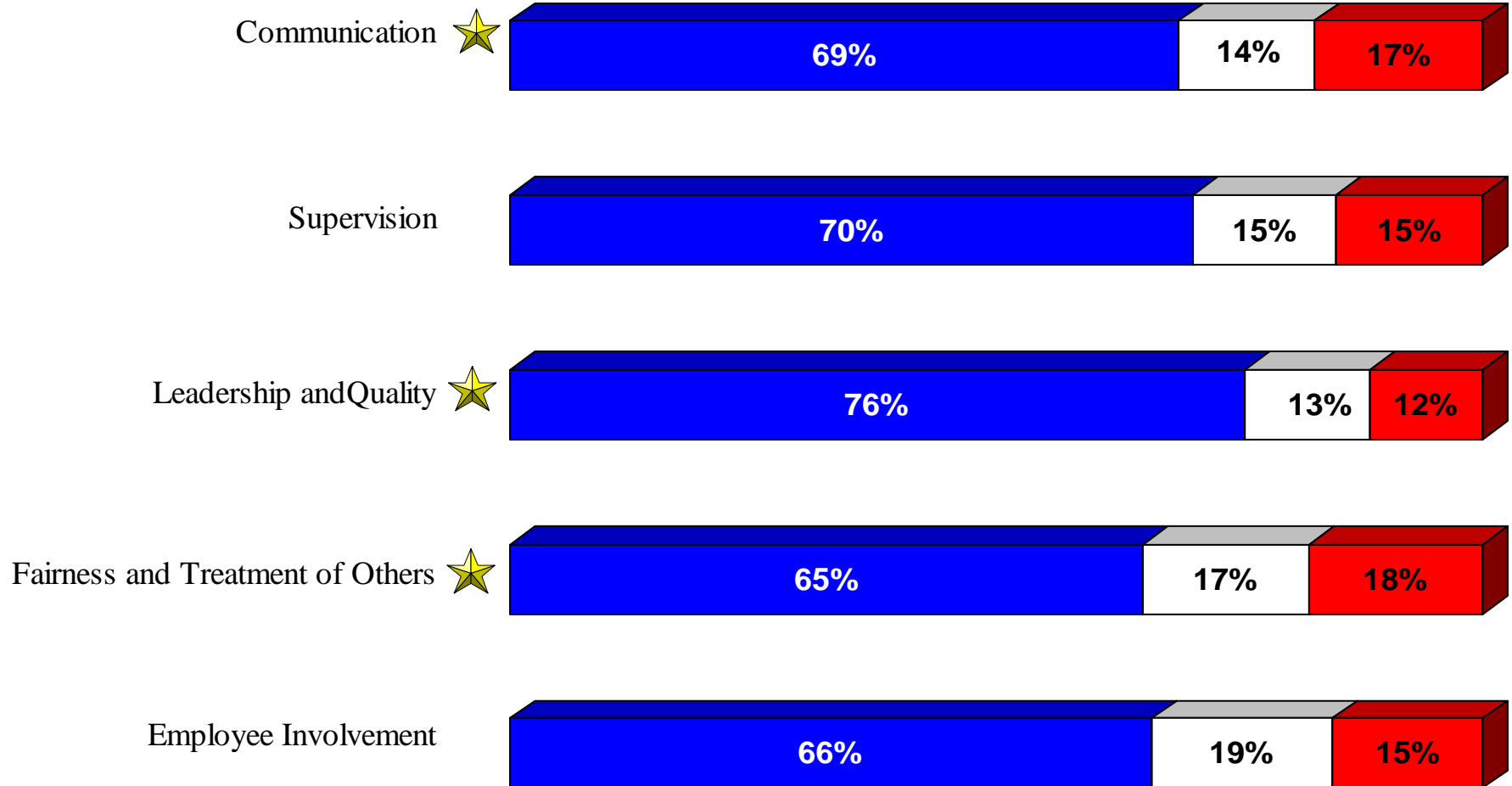
34 There is communication among various levels of the organization.



■ Agree/Strongly Agree □ Neither ■ Disagree/Strongly Disagree

High-Impact Dimensions

★ PA Benchmark High



About the High-Impact Dimensions

34

- “High-impact” dimensions are especially critical drivers of organizational health and performance
- Almost all of BEA’s results in high-impact dimensions qualify as strengths (66% favorable or higher)
- Communication
 - A strength although one of BEA’s five lowest dimensions
 - Most employees agreed that managers communicate goals and priorities of the organization
- Supervision
 - A strength
 - Favorability equaled the PA benchmark high
 - Favorability equaled that of 2006
 - The most challenging item involved supervisors and team leaders taking steps to minimize workplace stress



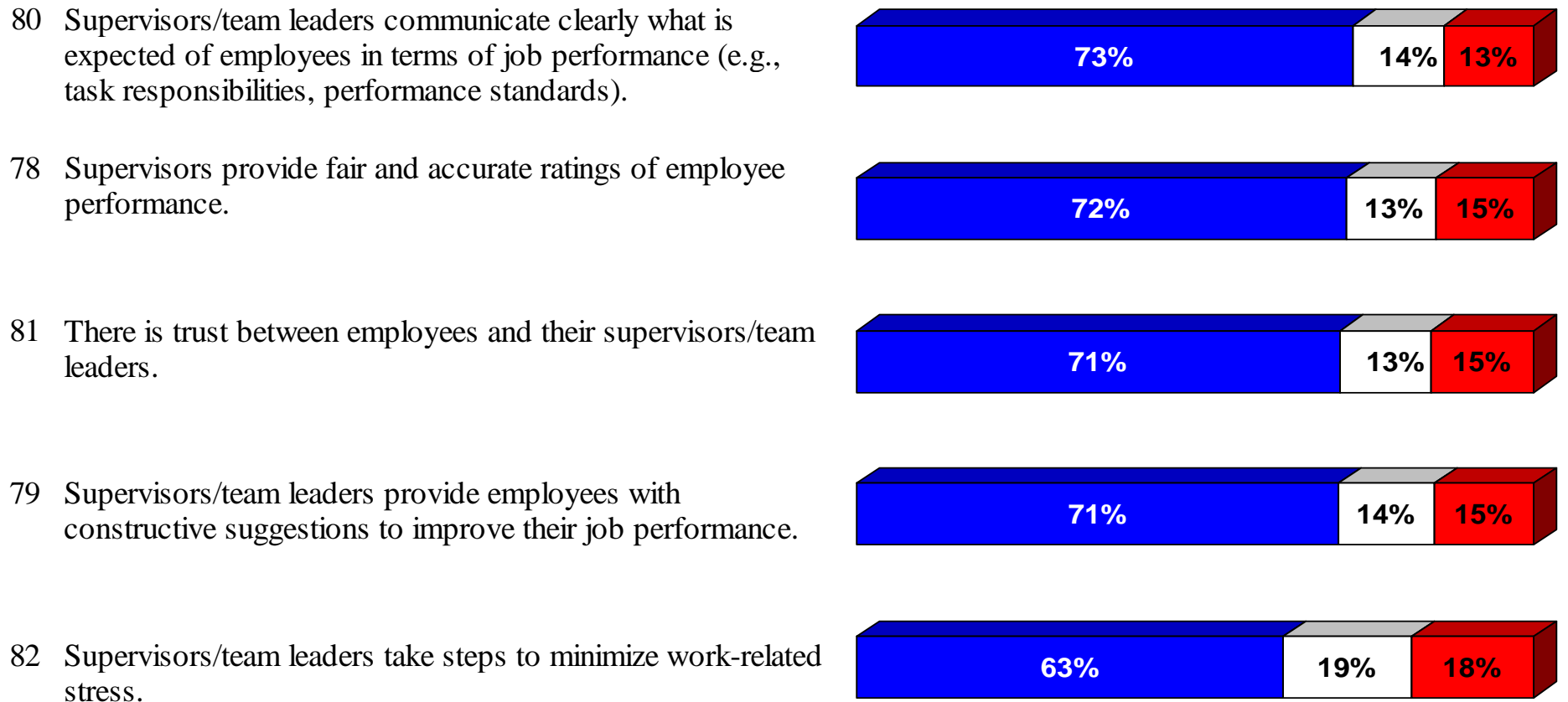


About the High-Impact Dimensions (cont'd)³⁵

- Leadership and Quality
 - One of BEA's five highest dimensions and a strength
 - PA benchmark high
- Fairness and Treatment of Others
 - One of BEA's five lowest dimensions
 - PA benchmark high
- Employee Involvement
 - A strength
 - Favorability was one percentage point below PA benchmark high
 - Favorability decreased by one percentage point since 2006
 - The most challenging item involved employee feelings of empowerment and ownership of work processes

Item Results

Supervision

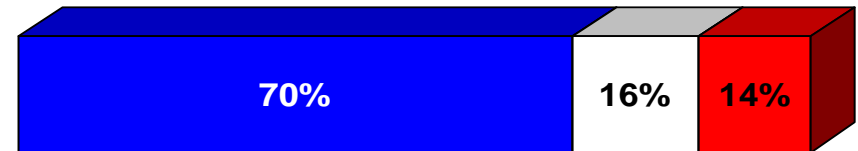


■ Agree/Strongly Agree □ Neither ■ Disagree/Strongly Disagree

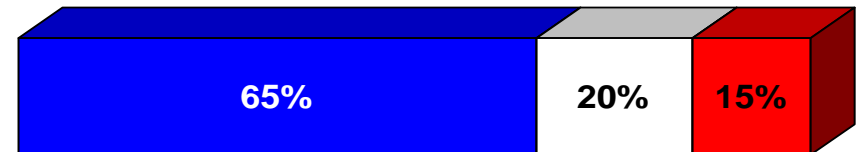
Item Results

Employee Involvement

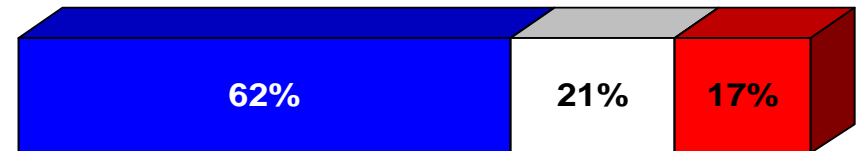
37 Managers provide an environment that supports employee involvement, contributions, and teamwork.



36 Supervisors/team leaders provide employees with the opportunity to demonstrate their leadership skills.



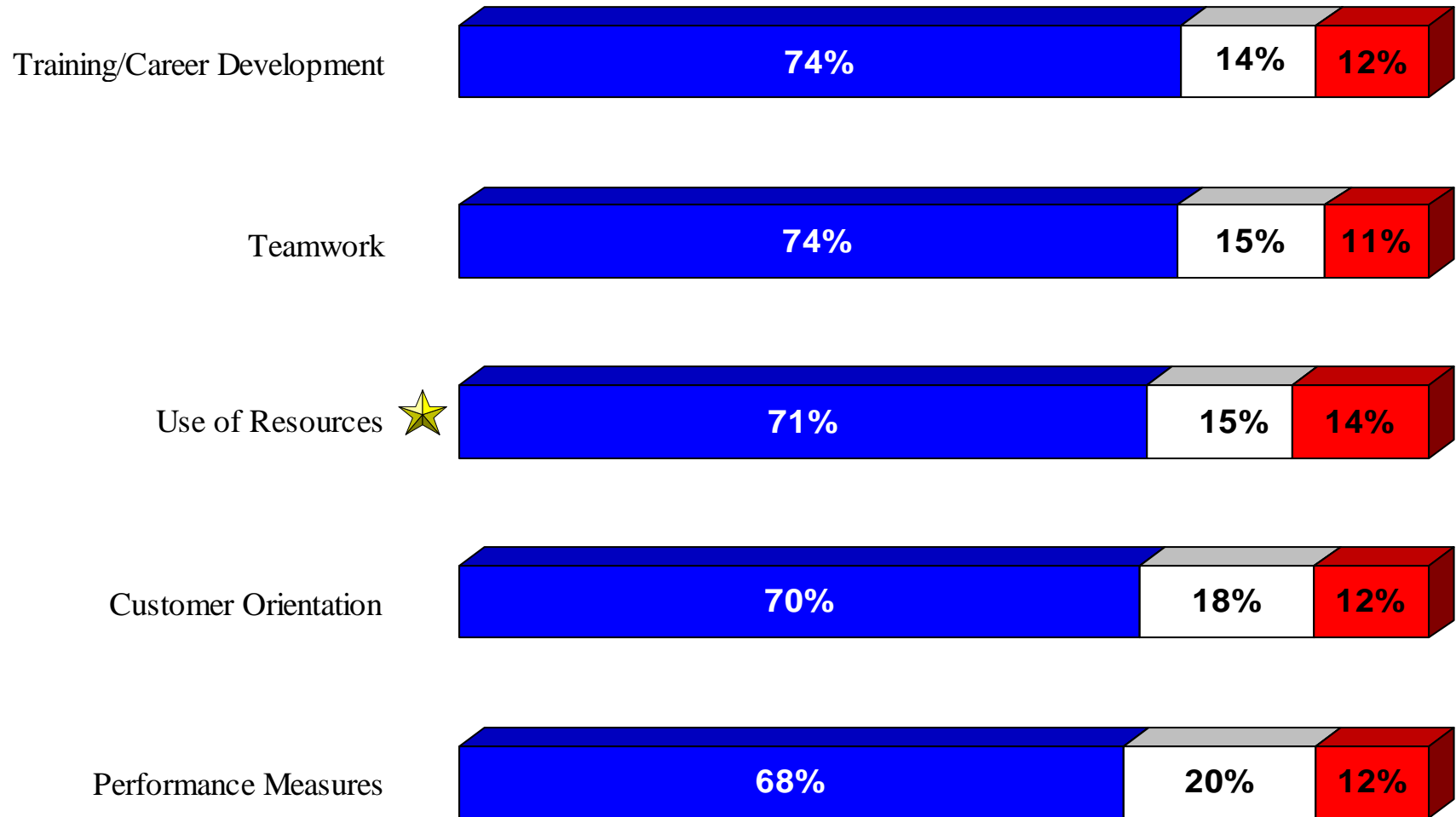
35 Employees have a feeling of personal empowerment and ownership of work processes.



■ Agree/Strongly Agree □ Neither ■ Disagree/Strongly Disagree

Other Dimensions

★ PA Benchmark High



About the Other Dimensions

39

- **Training and Career Development**
 - A strength
 - Favorability was 18 percentage points above PA benchmark median
 - Favorability decreased by three percentage points since 2006
 - All items qualify as strengths (66% favorable or higher)

- **Teamwork**
 - A strength
 - Favorability was 11 percentage points above PA benchmark median
 - Favorability decreased by one percentage point since 2006
 - Items addressing cooperation are very strong



About the Other Dimensions (cont'd)

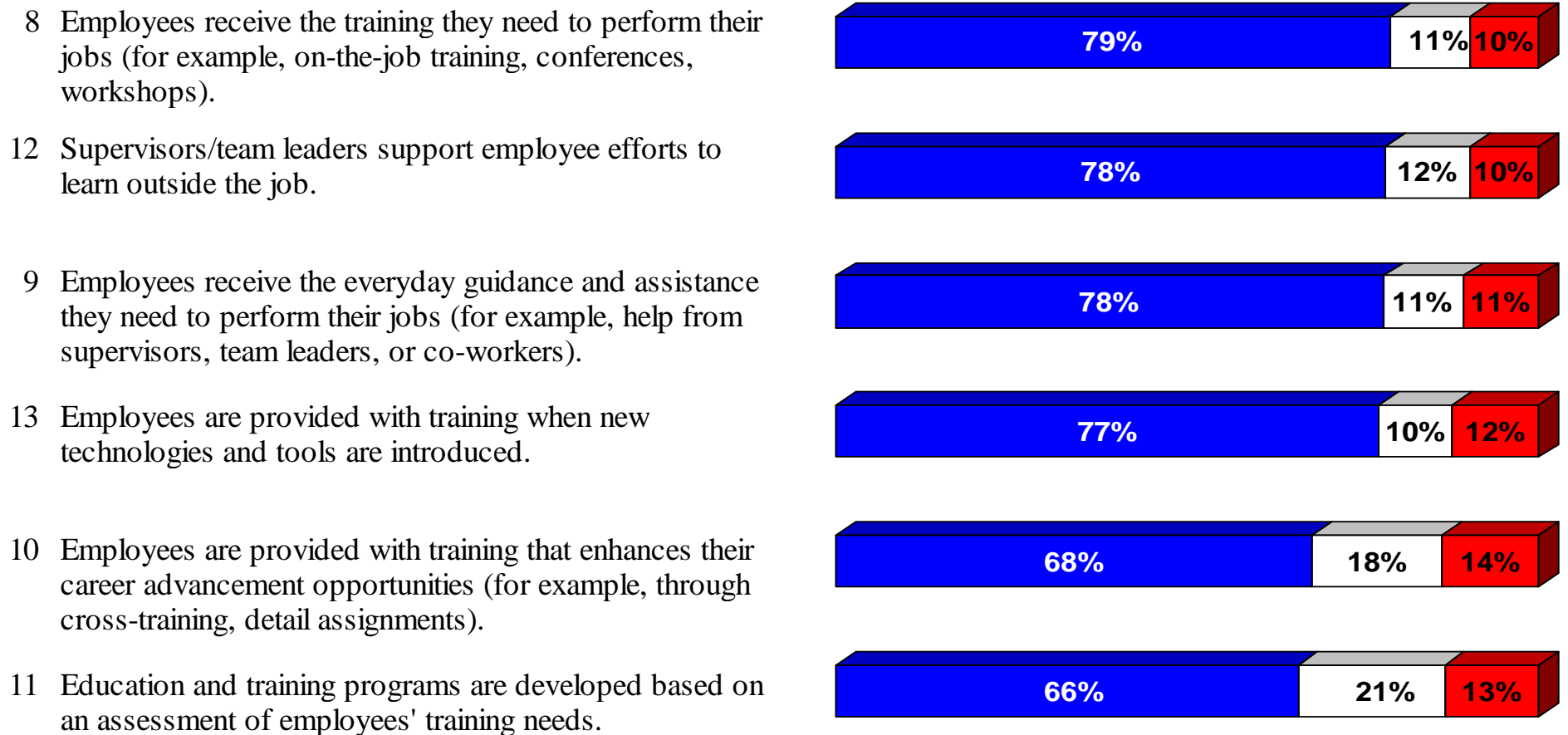
40

- Use of Resources
 - A strength
 - PA benchmark high – four points above previous mark
 - Favorability increased by four percentage points since 2006
 - Least favorable items address “red tape” and organizational hierarchy
- Customer Orientation
 - A strength
 - Favorability was 11 percentage points above PA benchmark median
 - Favorability increased by four percentage points since 2006
 - The only items that had less than 66% favorable had to do with institutional support for employees in their customer service roles
- Performance Measures
 - A strength
 - Favorability was 17 percentage points above PA benchmark median
 - Favorability decreased by four percentage points since 2006



Item Results

Training/Career Development

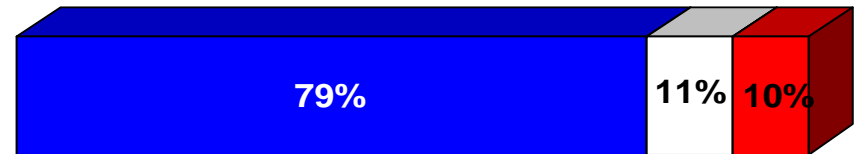


■ Agree/Strongly Agree □ Neither ■ Disagree/Strongly Disagree

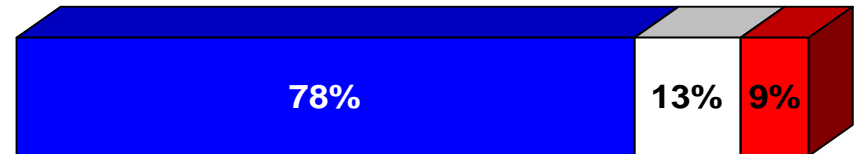
Item Results

Teamwork

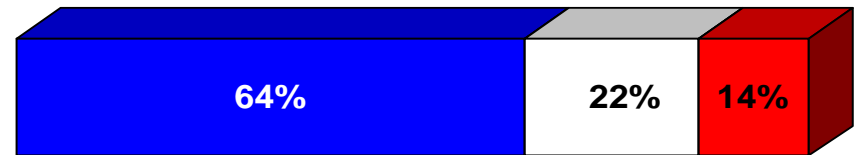
57 A spirit of cooperation and teamwork exists in my immediate work unit.



58 Different work units cooperate to get the job done.



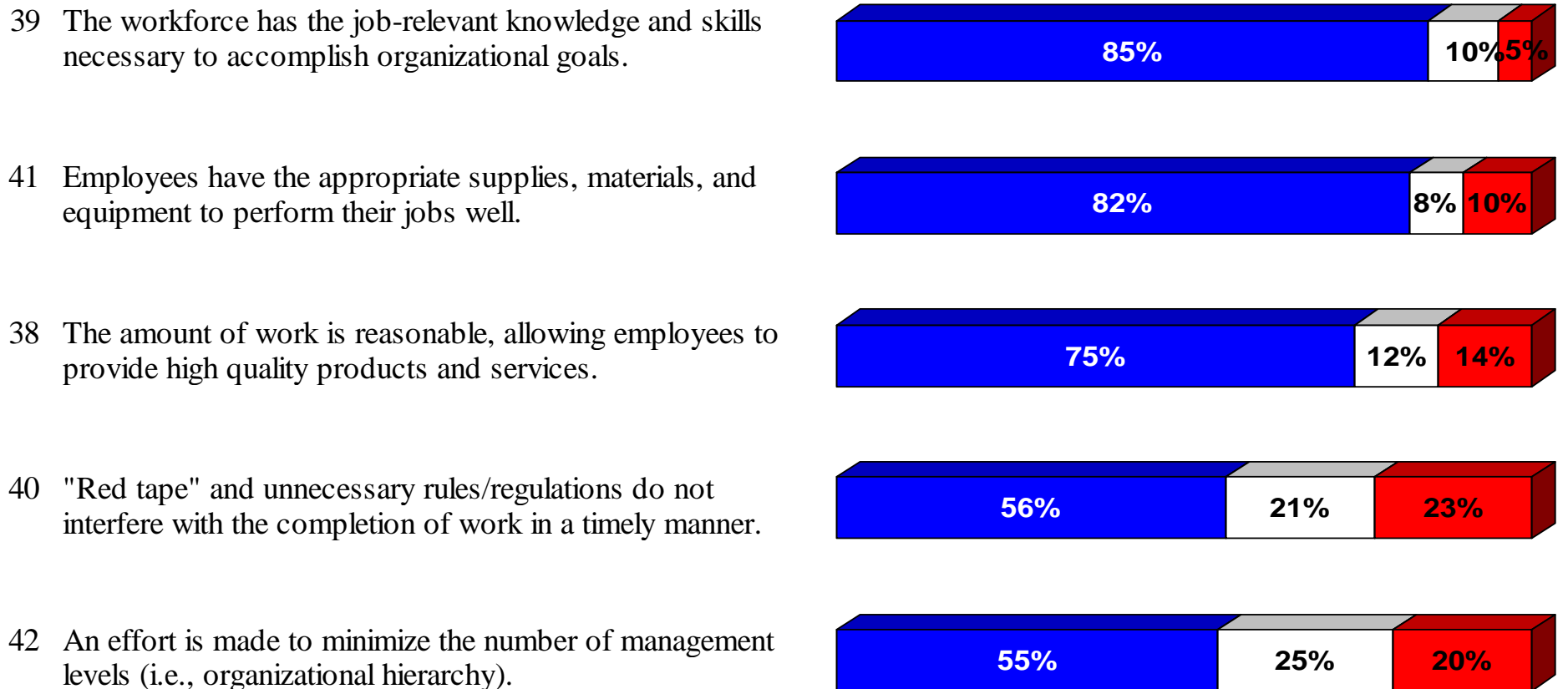
59 Employees in different work units participate in cross-functional teams to accomplish work objectives.



■ Agree/Strongly Agree □ Neither ■ Disagree/Strongly Disagree

Item Results

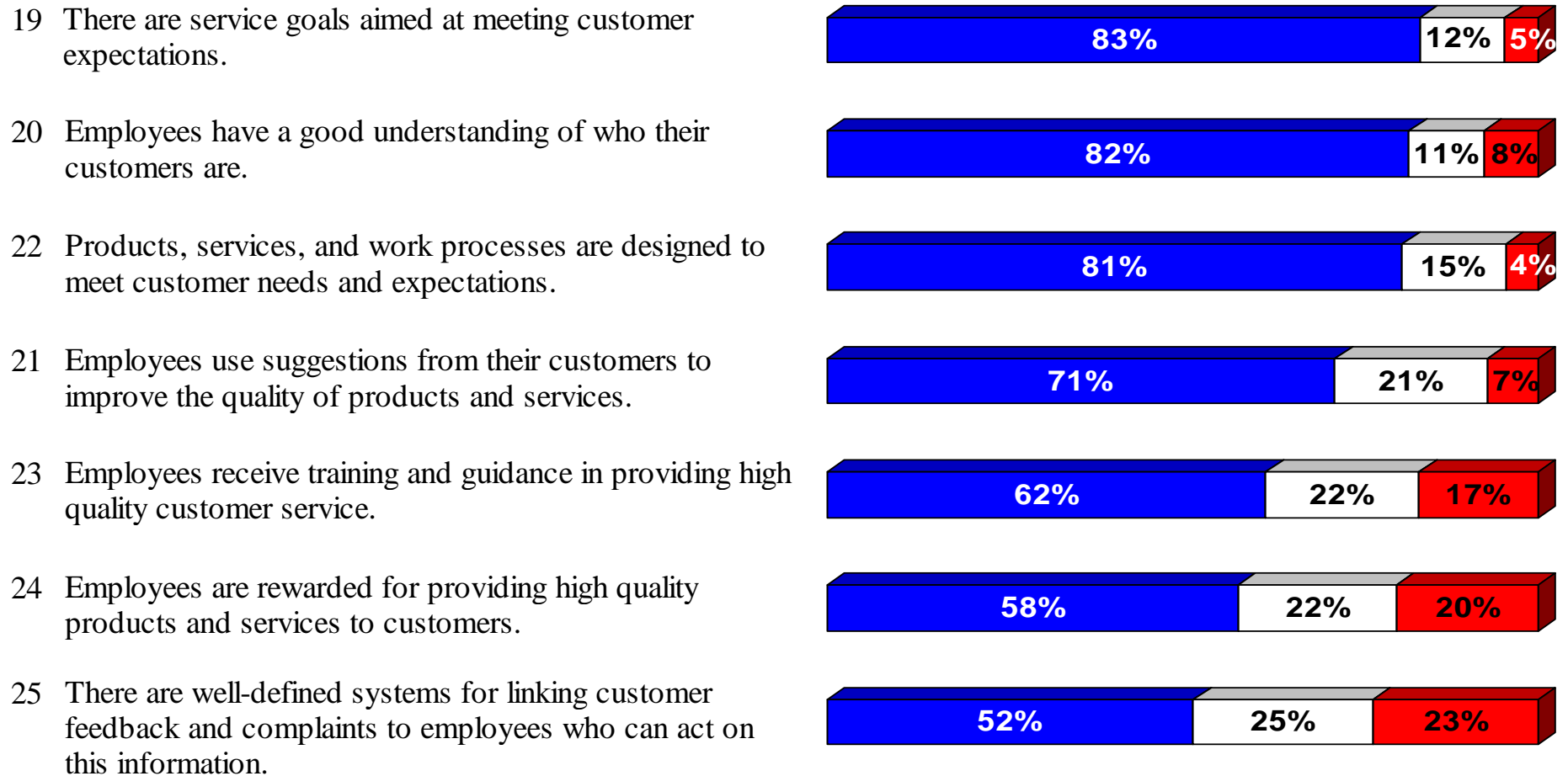
Use of Resources



■ Agree/Strongly Agree □ Neither ■ Disagree/Strongly Disagree

Item Results

Customer Orientation

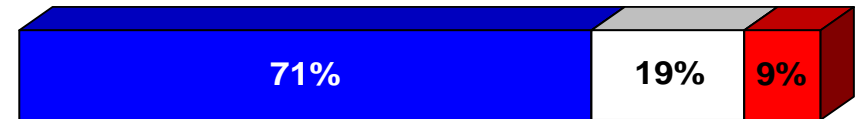


■ Agree/Strongly Agree □ Neither ■ Disagree/Strongly Disagree

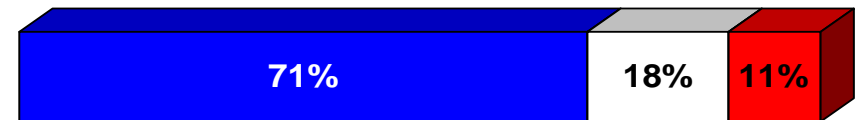
Item Results

Performance Measures

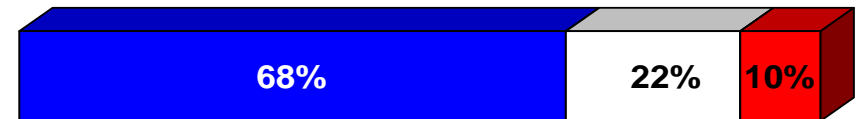
70 Information collected from customers is integrated with other key data and used to improve the quality of products and services.



68 Employees are held accountable for achieving positive results.



67 Outcome/result measures are used to assess the overall performance of the organization (for example, rates, trends, and current quality levels; meeting program objectives).

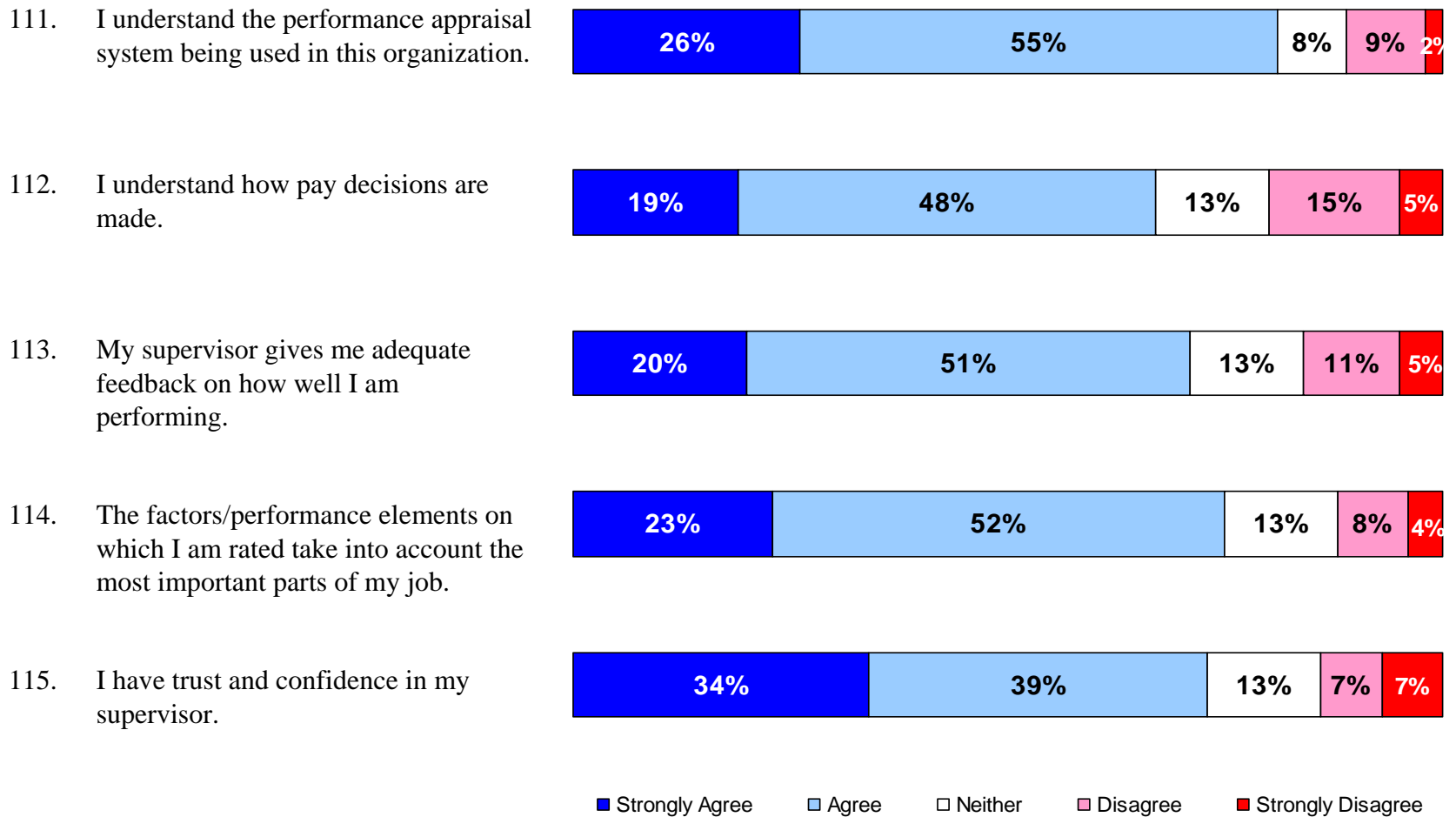


69 Assessments of the quality of systems, work processes, and products/services are performed at regular intervals across the organization.



■ Agree/Strongly Agree □ Neither ■ Disagree/Strongly Disagree

Performance Management (Lawler) Items 46

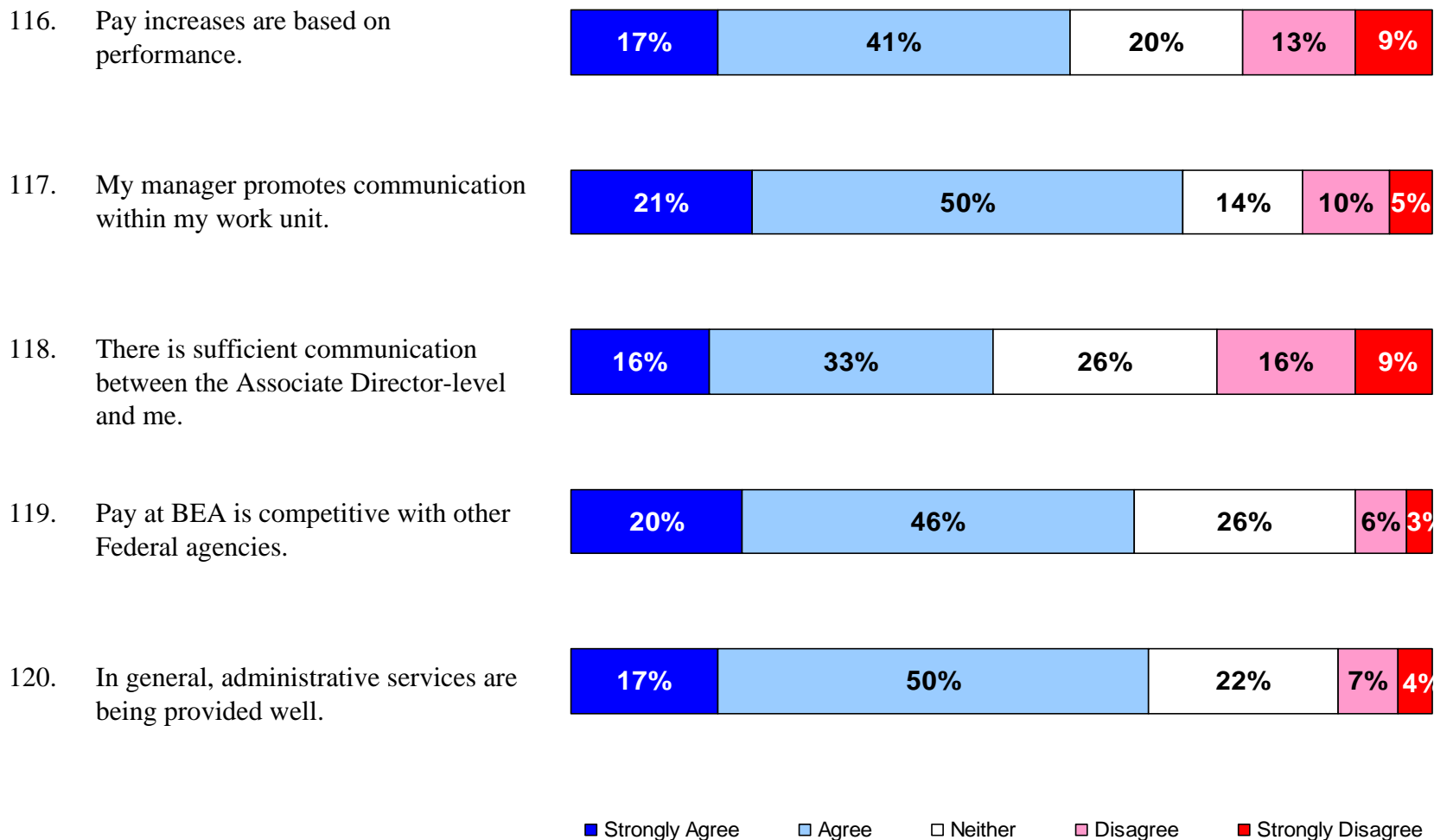


Performance Management (Lawler) Items

Comparison with Demonstration Projects

Lawler's Criteria for Effective Merit Pay Systems										
	BEA	Avg. Non-BEA	AFRL	AMRDEC	ERDC	MRMC	NRL	NSWC	NUWC - Newport	NUWC - Keyport
1. Significant rewards can be given and tied to performance			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Varies	Varies	Varies
2. Information is communicated to employees about how rewards are given (111)	81%	82%	89%	84%	76%	76%	72%	80%	91%	84%
3. Supervisors are willing to explain and support the reward system (112)	67%	64%	---	66%	59%	58%	---	65%	73%	62%
4. Rewards can vary widely, depending on performance			Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
5. Meaningful performance appraisal sessions can take place (113)	71%	63%	69%	73%	53%	60%	60%	62%	70%	60%
6. Performance can be objectively and inclusively measured (114)	75%	67%	59%	82%	64%	62%	60%	67%	73%	65%
7. High levels of trust exist or can be developed between supervisors and employees (115)	73%	68%	---	76%	55%	62%	71%	69%	75%	69%
Total number of criteria met			5	7	4	3	4	4	6	4
<p>Source: BEA OAS item numbers for criteria are given in parentheses. Note: Criteria are met if at least 66% of survey respondents agree to item.</p>										

Agency-Specific Items



Private-Sector Benchmark Comparisons

49

Blue-chip Companies

- 
- 3M
 - Aetna
 - Allstate Insurance Company
 - American Express
 - AXA
 - Bell Canada Enterprises
 - Citigroup
 - Comcast
 - Corning Incorporated
 - Daimler Chrysler
 - Deere & Company
 - Duke Energy
 - Eli Lilly and Company
 - Ford Motor Company
 - GlaxoSmithKline
 - Halliburton
 - IBM Corporation
 - Intel Corporation
 - JPMorgan Chase
 - Lockheed Martin
 - Liberty Mutual
 - Merrill Lynch
 - MetLife
 - Microsoft Corporation
 - Pacific Gas and Electric Company
 - PepsiCo
 - Prudential
 - Royal Dutch Shell
 - Siemens Corporation
 - State Farm Insurance Company
 - Sun Microsystems
 - Target Corporation
 - The Boeing Company
 - The Dow Chemical Company
 - The Home Depot
 - Toys R Us
 - Unilever
 - Union Pacific Railroad
 - United Technologies Corporation
 - Washington Mutual

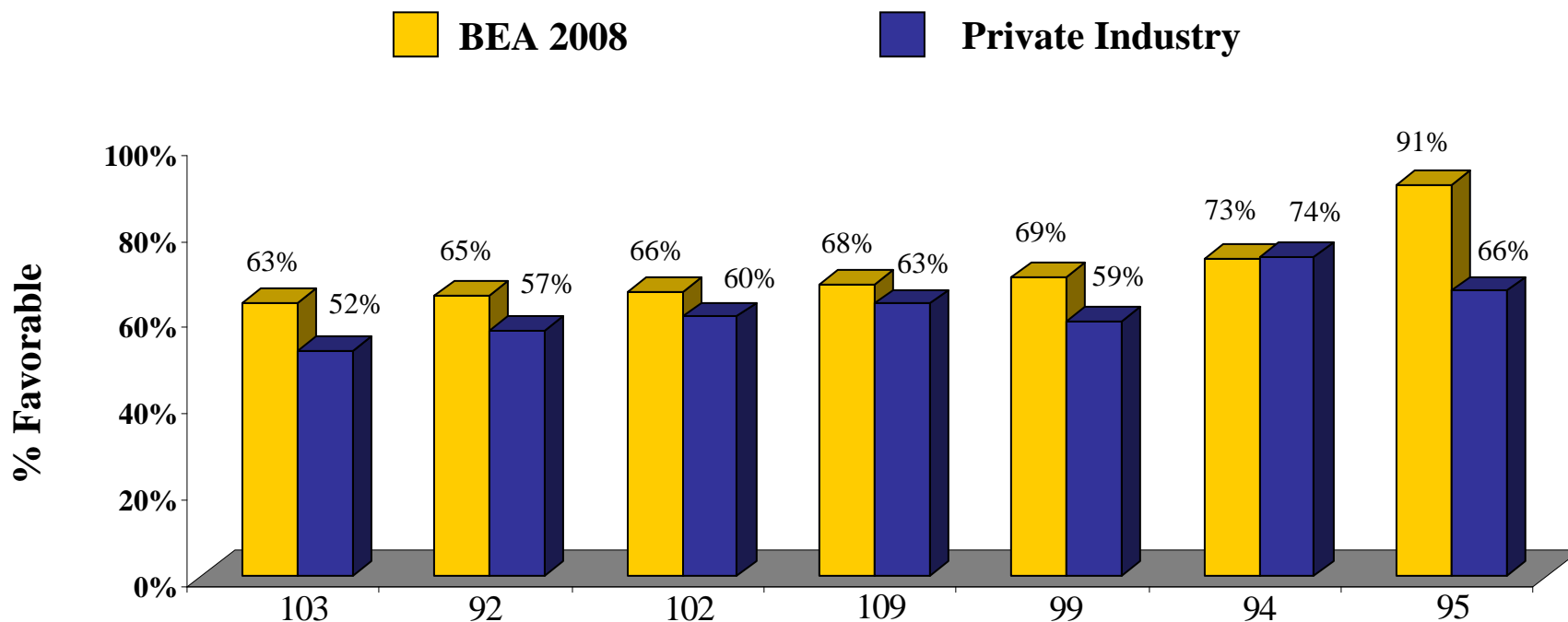


Private-Sector Benchmarks

50

- Results were about the same as the private sector in the area of Job Satisfaction
- Results are more favorable than the private sector in the following areas:
 - Organizational Satisfaction
 - Employee Involvement
 - Training and Career Development
 - Compensation Satisfaction
 - Aspects of Work

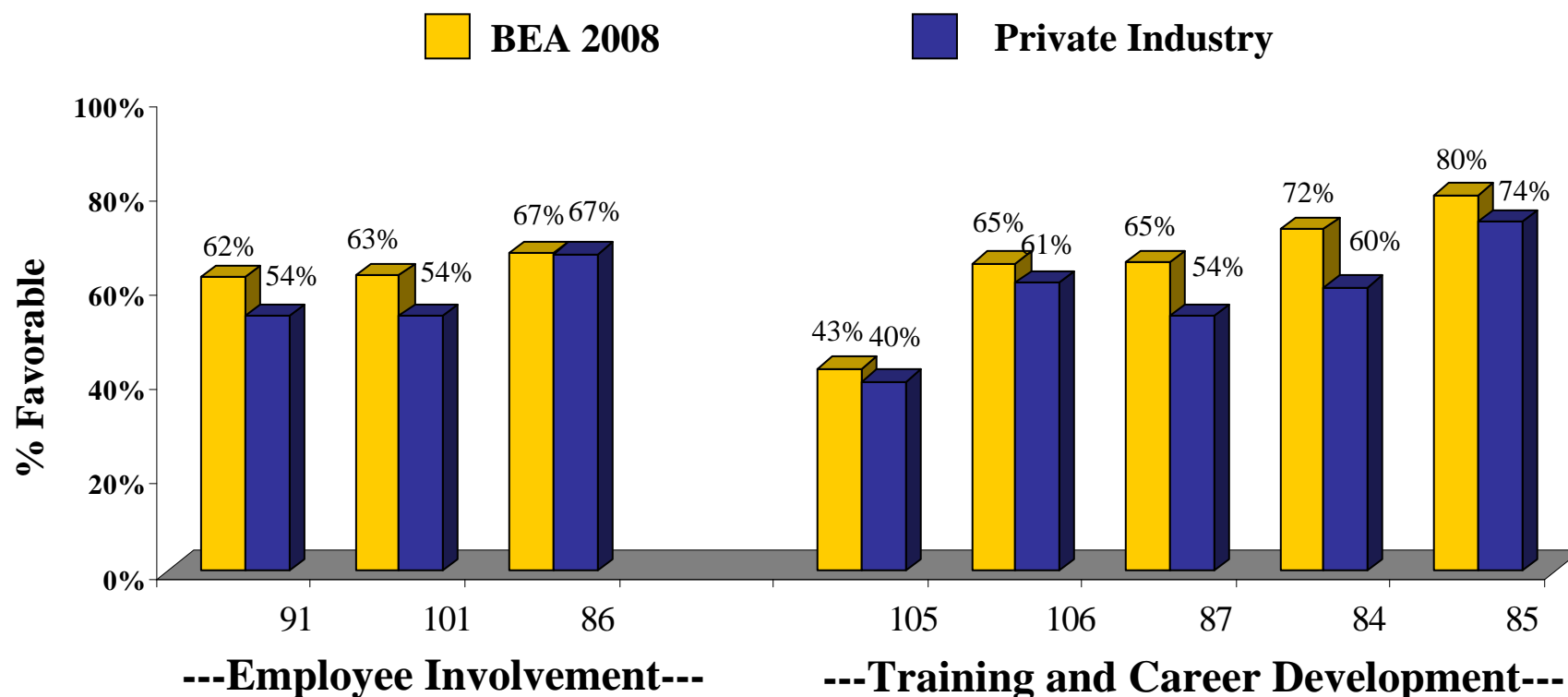
Private Industry Benchmarking



-----Organizational Satisfaction-----

- 103 [Satisfaction with] The recognition you receive for doing a good job?
- 92 This organization is making the changes necessary to compete effectively.
- 102 [Satisfaction with] The information you receive from management on what's going on in the organization?
- 109 Considering everything, how would you rate your overall satisfaction in your organization at the present time?
- 99 How would you rate your agency (or Department or Bureau) as a place to work compared to other organizations?
- 94 Overall, how good a job do you feel is being done by your immediate supervisor/team leader?
- 95 How do you rate the organization in providing job security for people like yourself?

Private Industry Benchmarking



91 Sufficient effort is made to get the opinions and thinking of people who work here.

101 [Satisfaction with] Your involvement in decisions that affect your work?

86 I feel encouraged to come up with new and better ways of doing things.

105 [Satisfaction with] Your opportunity to get a better job in the organization?

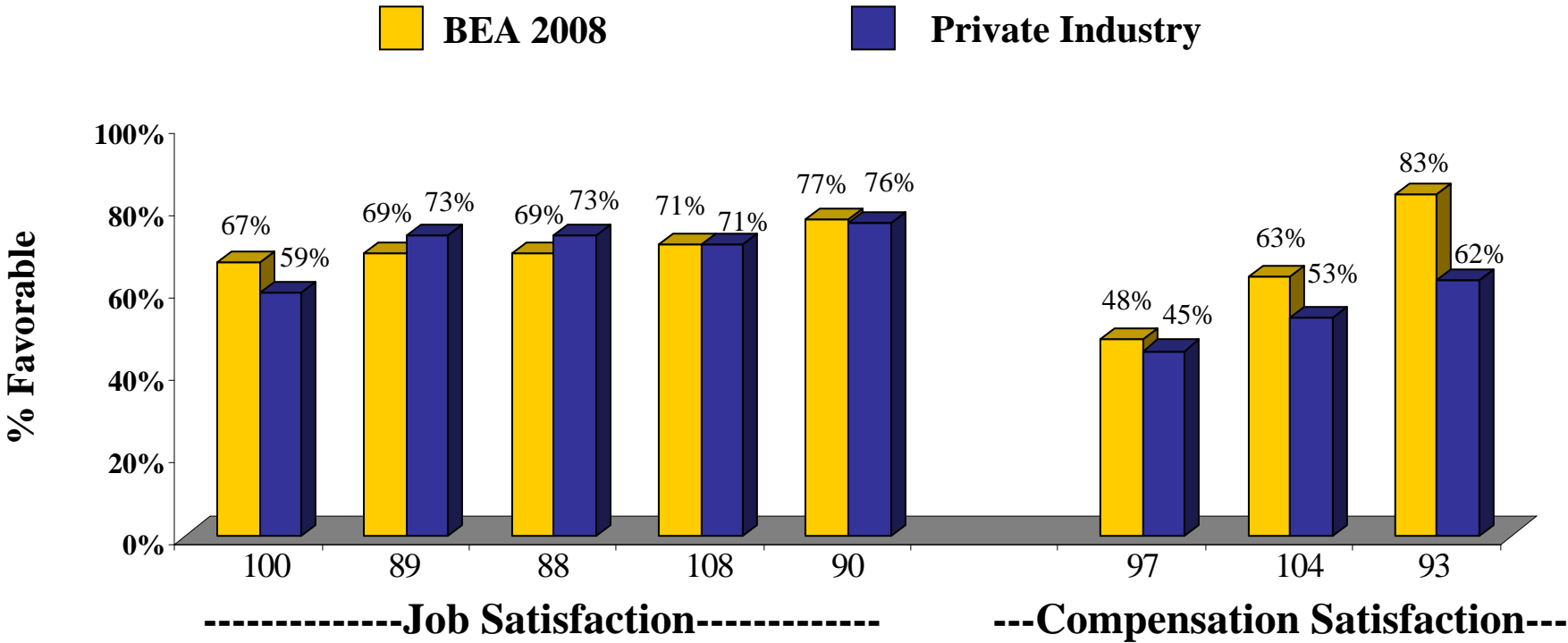
106 [Satisfaction with] The training you received for your present job?

87 Conditions in my job allow me to be about as productive as I could be.

84 I am given a real opportunity to improve my skills in the organization.

85 I have enough information to do my job well.

Private Industry Benchmarking



100 Are you considering leaving your organization? (Favorable = "No")

89 My work gives me a feeling of personal accomplishment.

88 My job makes good use of my skills and abilities.

108 Considering everything, how satisfied are you with your job?

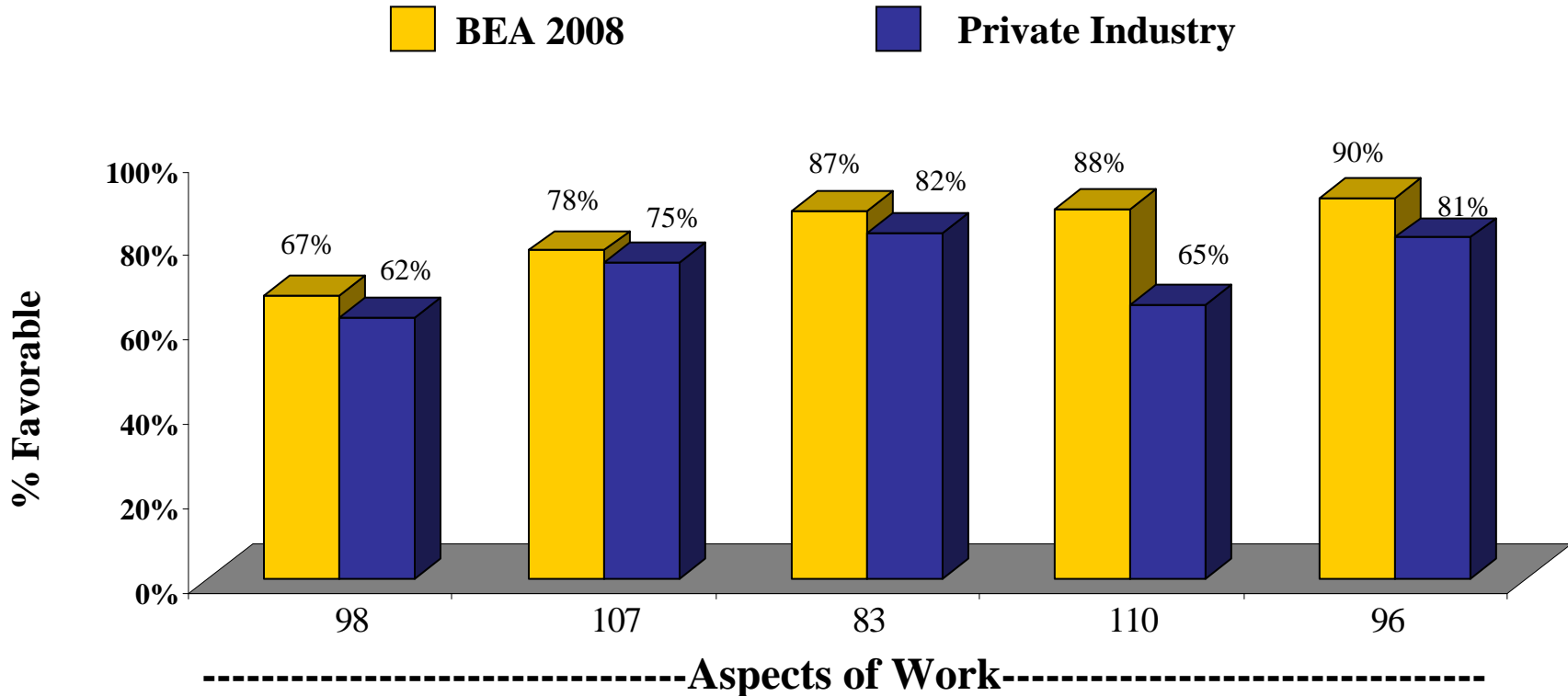
90 I like the kind of work I do.

97 In comparison with people in similar jobs in other organizations, I feel my pay is. (Favorable = "About the Same")

104 [Satisfaction with] Your pay?

93 How do you rate your total benefits program?

Private Industry Benchmarking



98 The amount of work I am expected to do on my job is. (Favorable = "About Right")

107 [Satisfaction with] Your physical working conditions?

83 The people I work with cooperate to get the job done.

110 How satisfied do you think your organization's customers are with the products and services it provides?

96 How would you rate the overall quality of work done in your work group?

Comments

55

- 77% of surveys providing comments (86 of 112) responded to: “Please...describe what your organization is doing well.”
Top response categories:
 - Leadership and Quality, 21%
 - Use of Resources, 13%
 - Training/Career Development, 11%
- 82% of surveys providing comments (92 of 112) responded to: “Please...describe what you would like to see your organization change.” Top response categories:
 - Use of Resources, 16%
 - Rewards and Recognition, 15%
 - Communication, 12%
- Comments could be coded as responding to more than one category: 713 separate codings to categories



Next Steps

56

- **Communicate Results**
 - *Share survey results with managers and employees*
- **Maintain high levels established by survey results**
- **Focus on a few dimensions for improvement**
 - *Use of Resources – “Red tape,” levels of organizational hierarchy*
 - *Customer Orientation –Support for employee customer service (rewards, training)*
 - *Innovation – capitalize on excellence to improve further*
- **Develop Action Plans**
 - *Conduct Focus Groups*
 - *Establish Action Planning Teams*
- **Track the Agency’s Progress Through:**
 - *Comparing OAS results with other performance measures*
 - *Using these results as a baseline for future comparisons*
 - *Linking results to Agency’s strategic and operational goals*
- **Re-Survey the Agency in 18-24 Months**