

Optimizing Application Development



Summary Results | April 2019

Survey Summary

- ▶ **Between February and April 2019, Gatepoint Research invited selected executives to participate in a survey themed *Optimizing Application Development*.**
- ▶ **Candidates were invited via email and 206 executives have participated to date.**
- ▶ **Management levels represented are predominantly IT and application development team senior decision makers: 7% hold the title CxO, 13% are VPs, 50% are Directors, and 30% are Managers.**
- ▶ **Survey participants represent firms from a wide variety of industries including business services, construction, education, financial services, healthcare, media, manufacturing (primary, general, high tech), mining, retail trade, transportation, utilities, and wholesale trade.**
- ▶ **Responders work for firms with a wide range of revenue levels:**
 - **27% work in Fortune 1000 companies with revenues over \$1.5 billion;**
 - **18% work in Large firms whose revenues are between \$500 million and \$1.5 billion;**
 - **55% work in Mid-Market or Small companies with less than \$500 million in revenues.**
- ▶ **100% of responders participated voluntarily; none were engaged using telemarketing.**

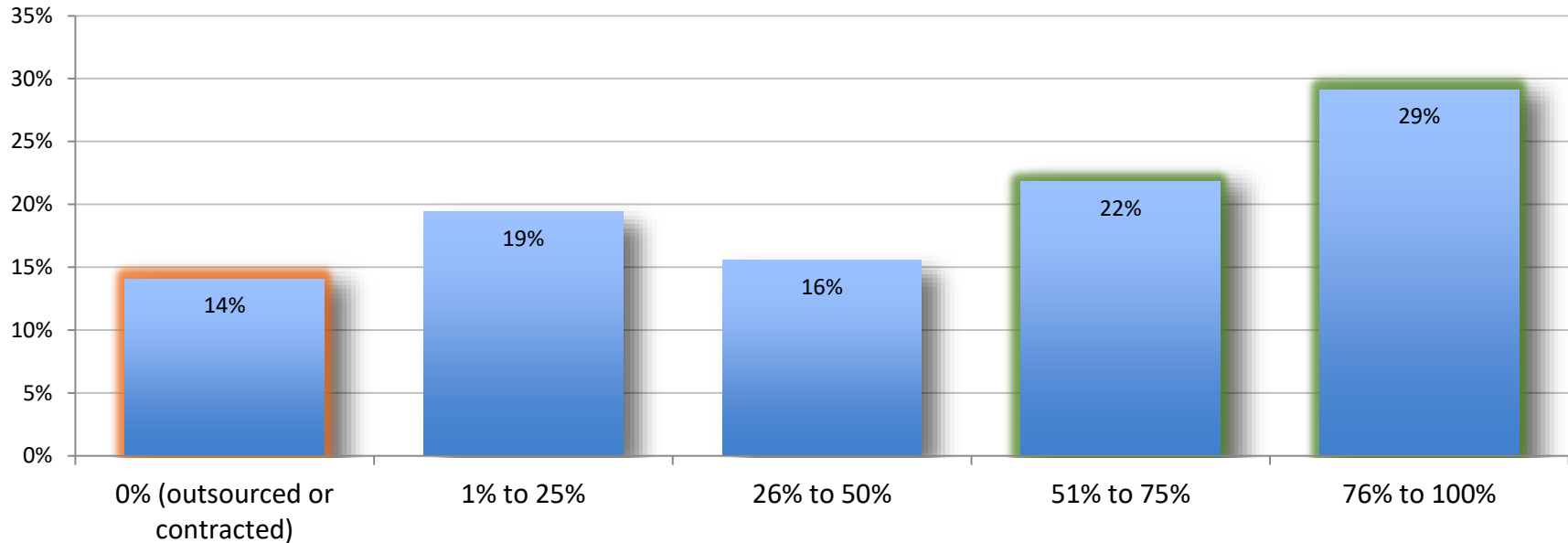
Executive Overview

Application development teams across all industries are responding to the demands of their markets. Newer, faster, smarter applications need to be developed for web and mobile use. Re-utilizing code for different purposes and hand-coding requires extensive testing, slowing the time-to-market cycle. What are organizations doing to speed up application development?

This survey asks respondents to report:

- ▶ Is application development handled in-house?
- ▶ How significant is their application development backlog?
- ▶ How confident are they in the web and mobile app development skill level of their development team?
- ▶ Are they familiar with low-code development?
- ▶ What changes are they considering to increase application development productivity?

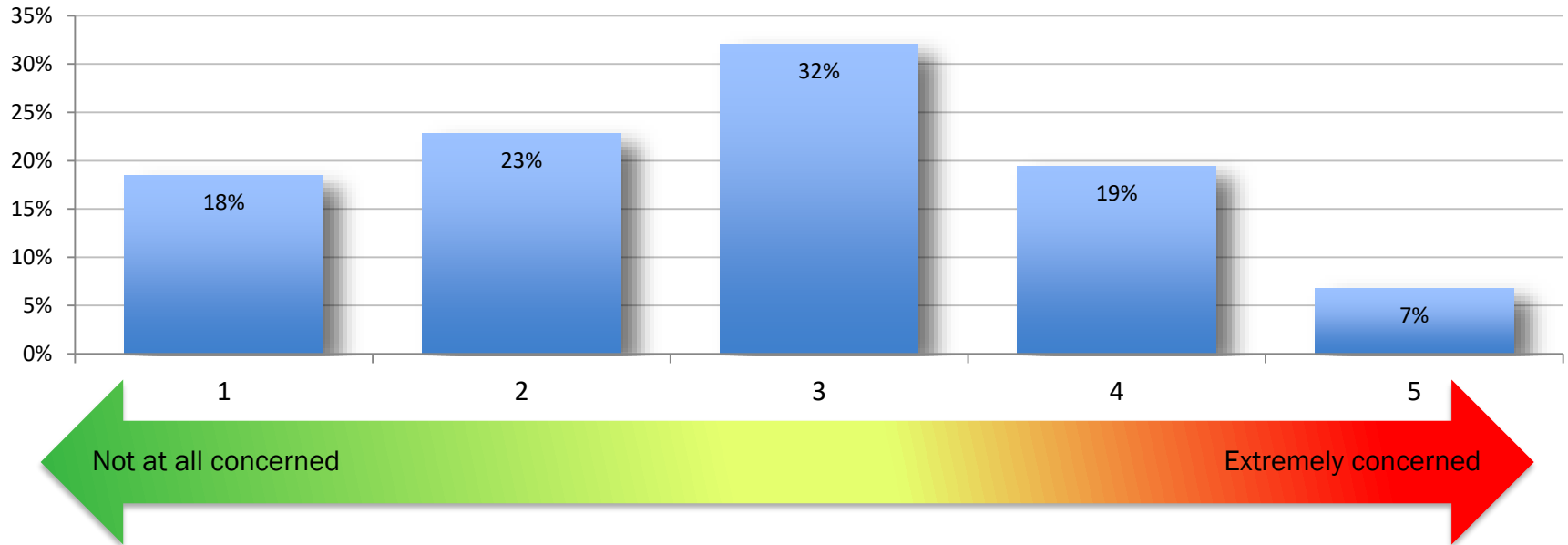
What percentage of web/mobile applications are developed in-house?



Most respondents (61%) develop the majority of their web/mobile apps in-house, but a significant number (14%) outsource or contract all web and mobile application development to specialists.

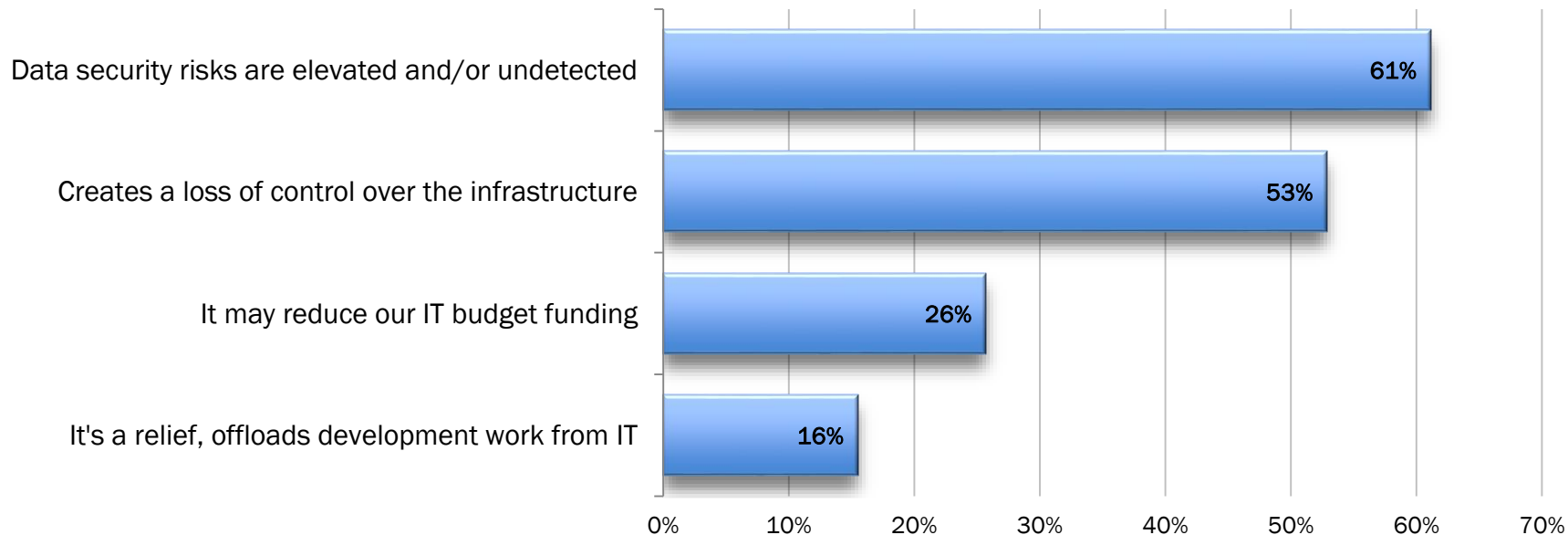
How concerned are you about your application backlog?

(Rate 1 to 5, 1 = not at all concerned, 5=extremely concerned)



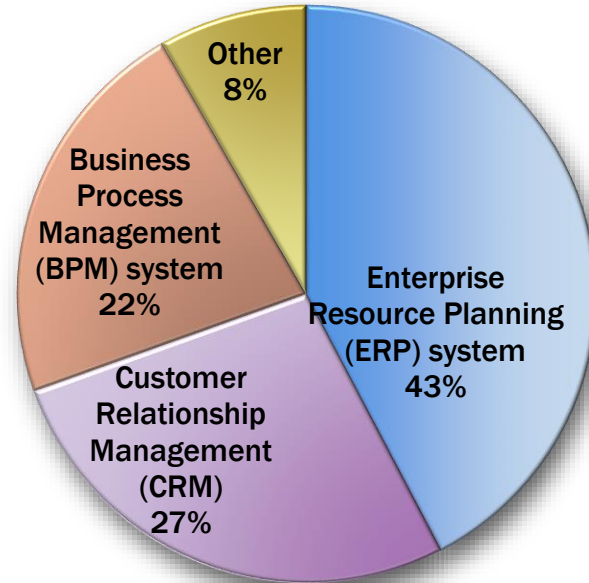
Backlog in the app dev area is of high to extreme concern for more than a fourth of respondents. A mere 18% can say they have no concern at all.

Does your department have any concerns with “shadow IT” in the organization?



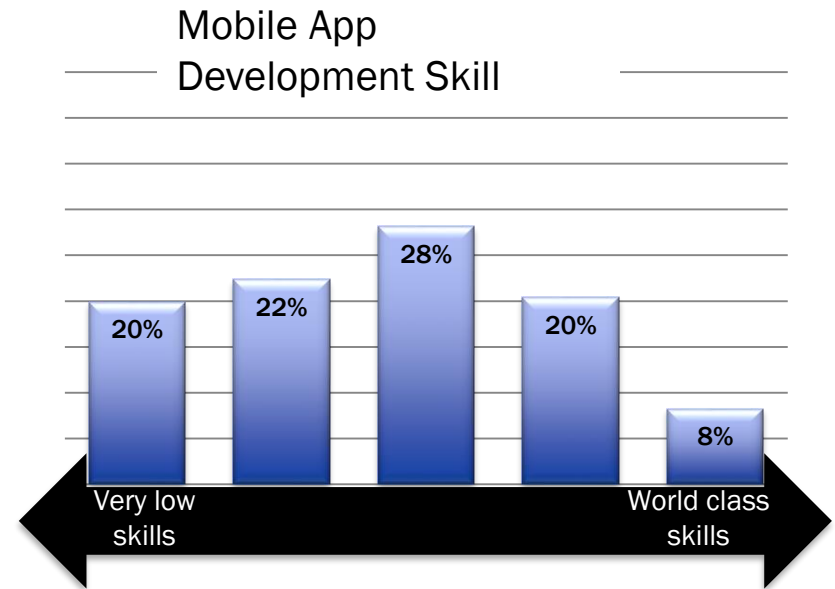
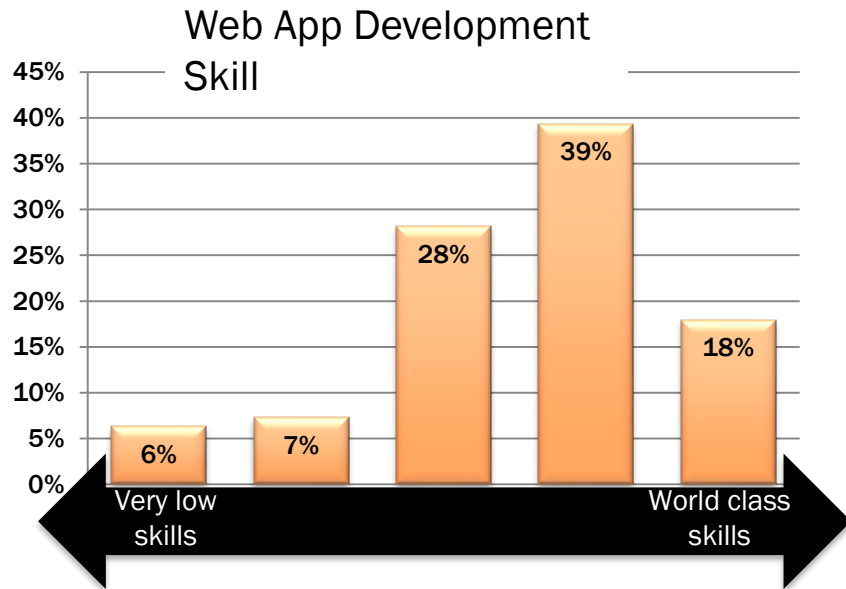
Shadow IT activity increasing or masking security risks worries 61% of respondents, and more than half also fear a loss of control over the infrastructure, leading to other problems. Only 16% see it as a workload relief.

Which of your legacy systems costs you the most to maintain?



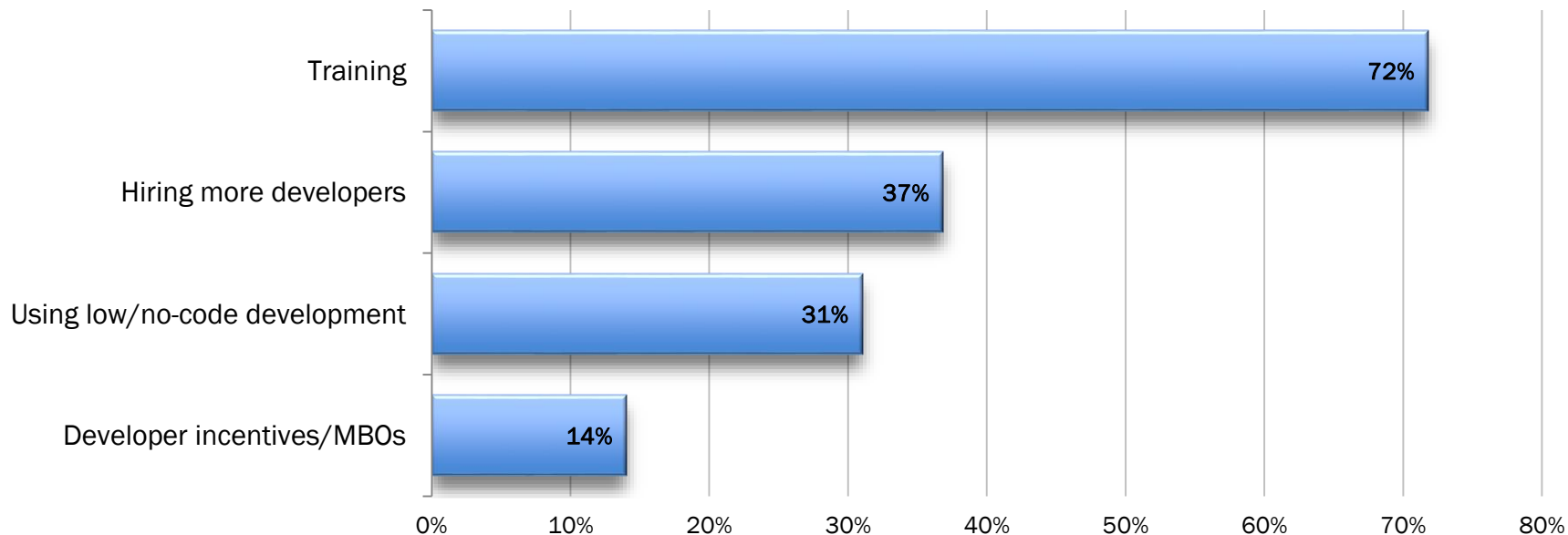
The three most central systems in any enterprise are, not surprisingly, also cited as the most costly. 43% of respondents identify their ERP as the most expensive to maintain, whereas CRM is most costly for 27%, followed by BPM systems (22%).

What is the level of web and mobile development skill in your app dev organization?



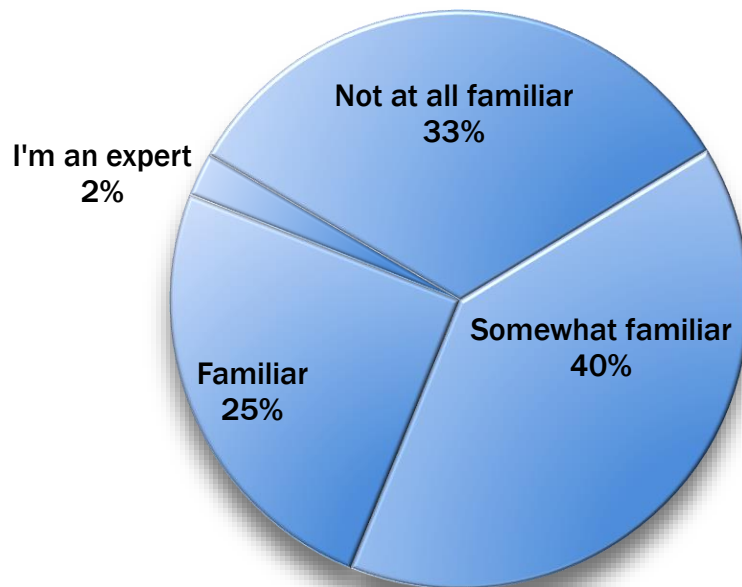
Mobile application development skills are not as advanced among surveyed organizations as web app development skills. More than half (57%) of respondents say they have very high to “world class” web app development skills, twice as many as those with the same level of expertise in mobile app development skills.

What are you doing to improve developer productivity?



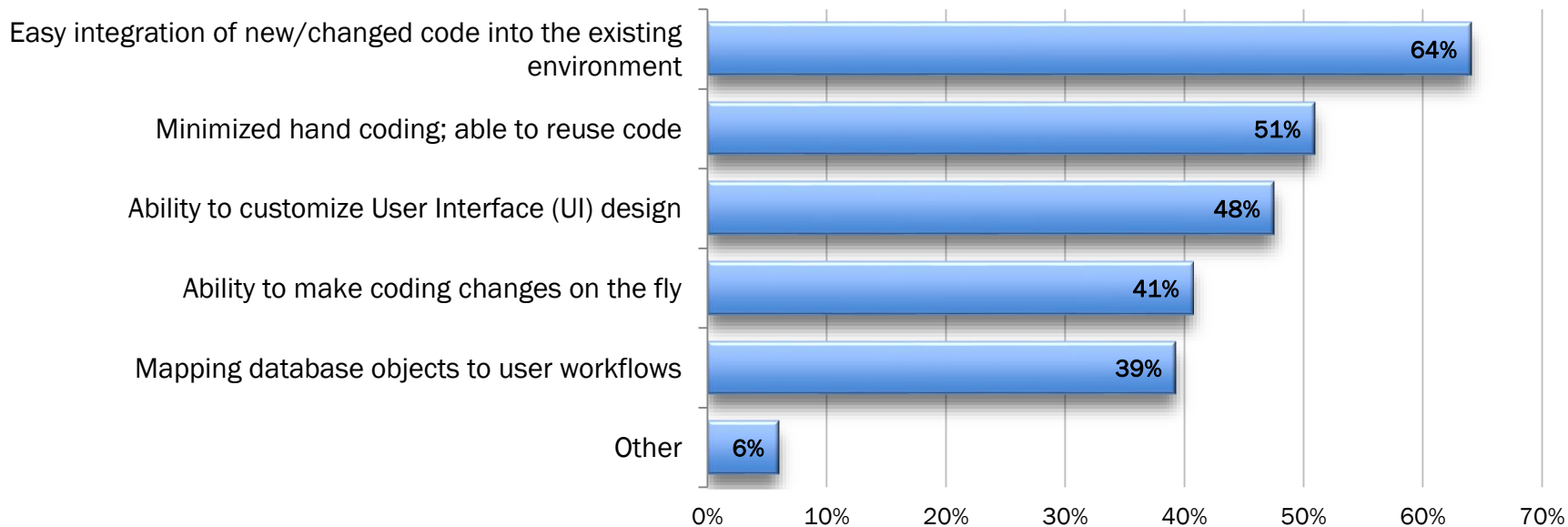
72% of respondents say they are up-skilling developers through training to achieve higher productivity levels. Others will hire more developers (37%) or provide incentives (14%), but nearly a third are considering the use of low or no code development to up productivity.

How familiar are you with low-code application development?



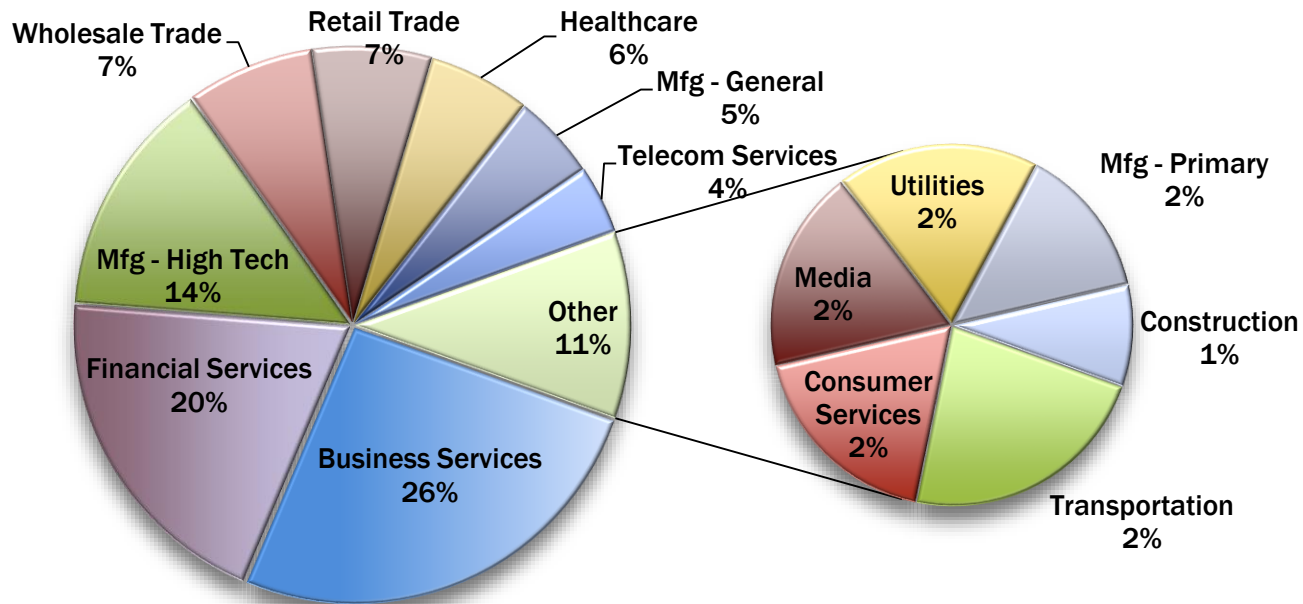
Low-code development technology is only well known to 27% of those surveyed, nearly as many as those with no familiarity at all (33%).

Which improvements to your application development platforms and processes would support your productivity goals?



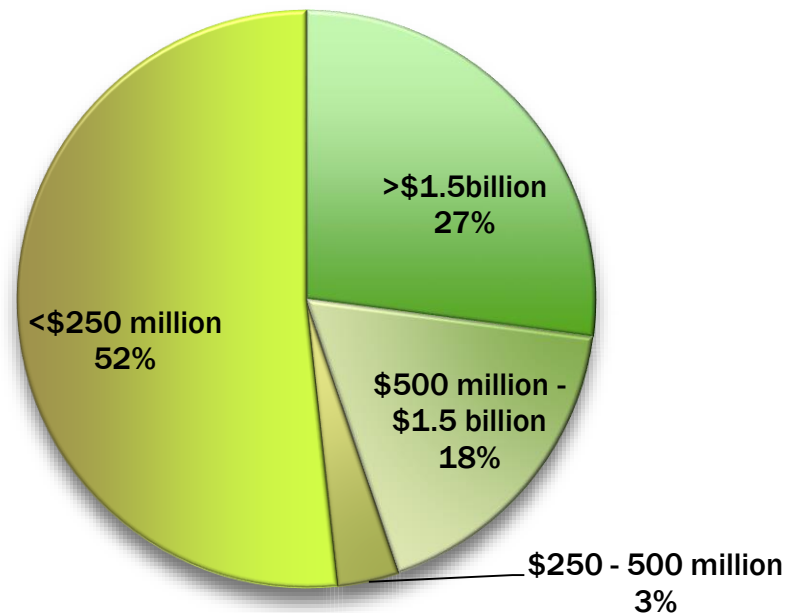
Respondents list a number of ways to achieve better productivity, with 64% agreeing that being able to more easily integrate new or changed code to existing environments ranks first. Minimizing hand coding (51%), and being able to customize the UI (48%) round out the top three productivity ideas.

Profile of Responders: Industry Sectors



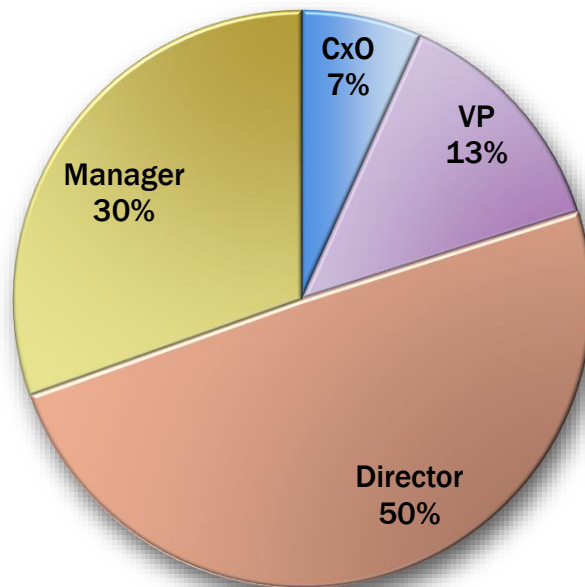
Responders represent a wide variety of industries.

Profile of Responders: Revenue



27% of those surveyed work in Fortune 1000 companies with revenues over \$1.5 billion.

Profile of Responders: Job Level



70% of those surveyed hold director or executive level positions in their organizations.



OutSystems offers a low-code development platform with advanced web and mobile capabilities, enabling visual development of entire application portfolios that integrates with existing systems.

[Learn more at outsystems.com](https://www.outsystems.com)