
BC Protected Area Research Forum: FORUM EVALUATION

Conference Steering Committee

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The Context

- Park agencies need good science to make informed decisions
- Most agencies have limited capacity to do their own research
- Many academics do park related research, but do not always report in ways that park agencies use
- Many academics could benefit by knowing the kind of research park agencies most need
- Research done by park agencies often does not get communicated to academics

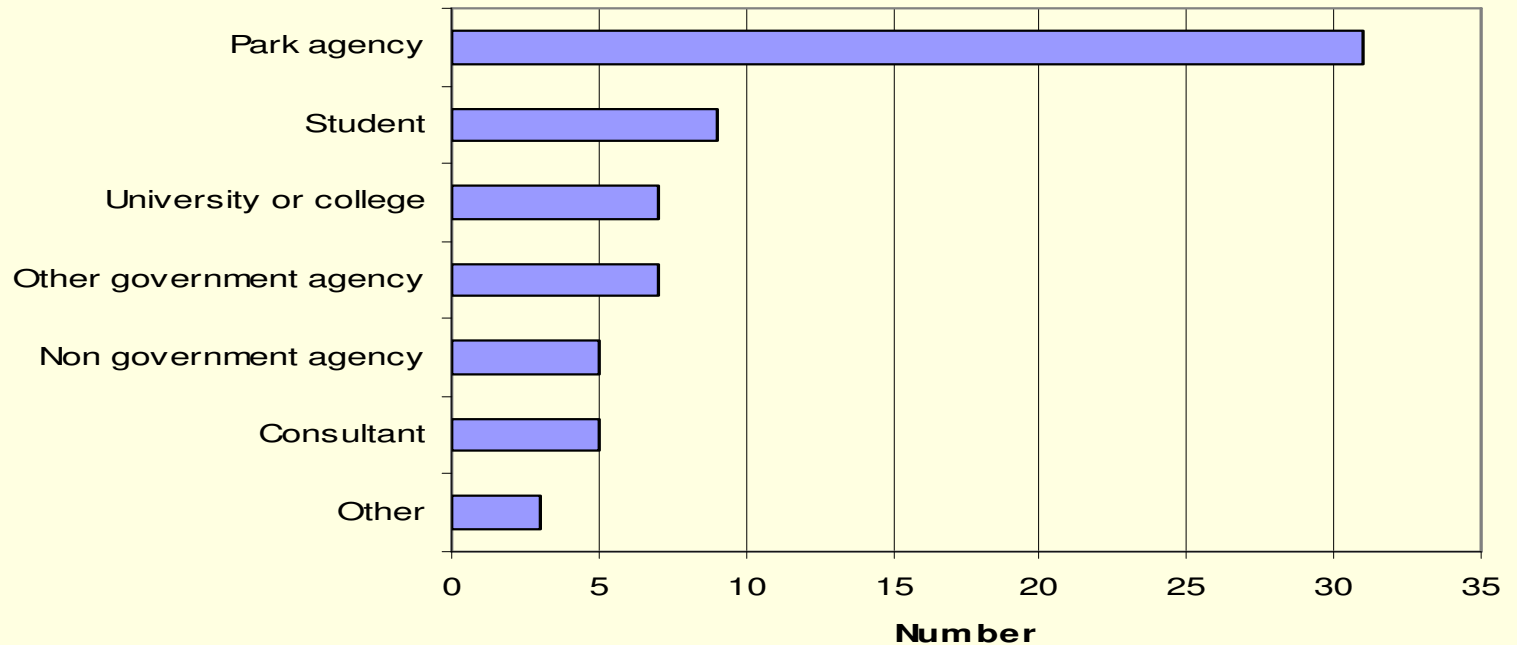
The Concept

- Create a “forum” – not a conference
- Format determined by agency and academics
 - roundtable discussions
 - panel discussions
 - fireside chats
 - workshops
 - poster sessions
 - formal presentations
 - lunch and dinner speakers

Participants (about 180 delegates)

- Concerted effort to recruit agency staff
- Registration managed by an NGO (Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society)

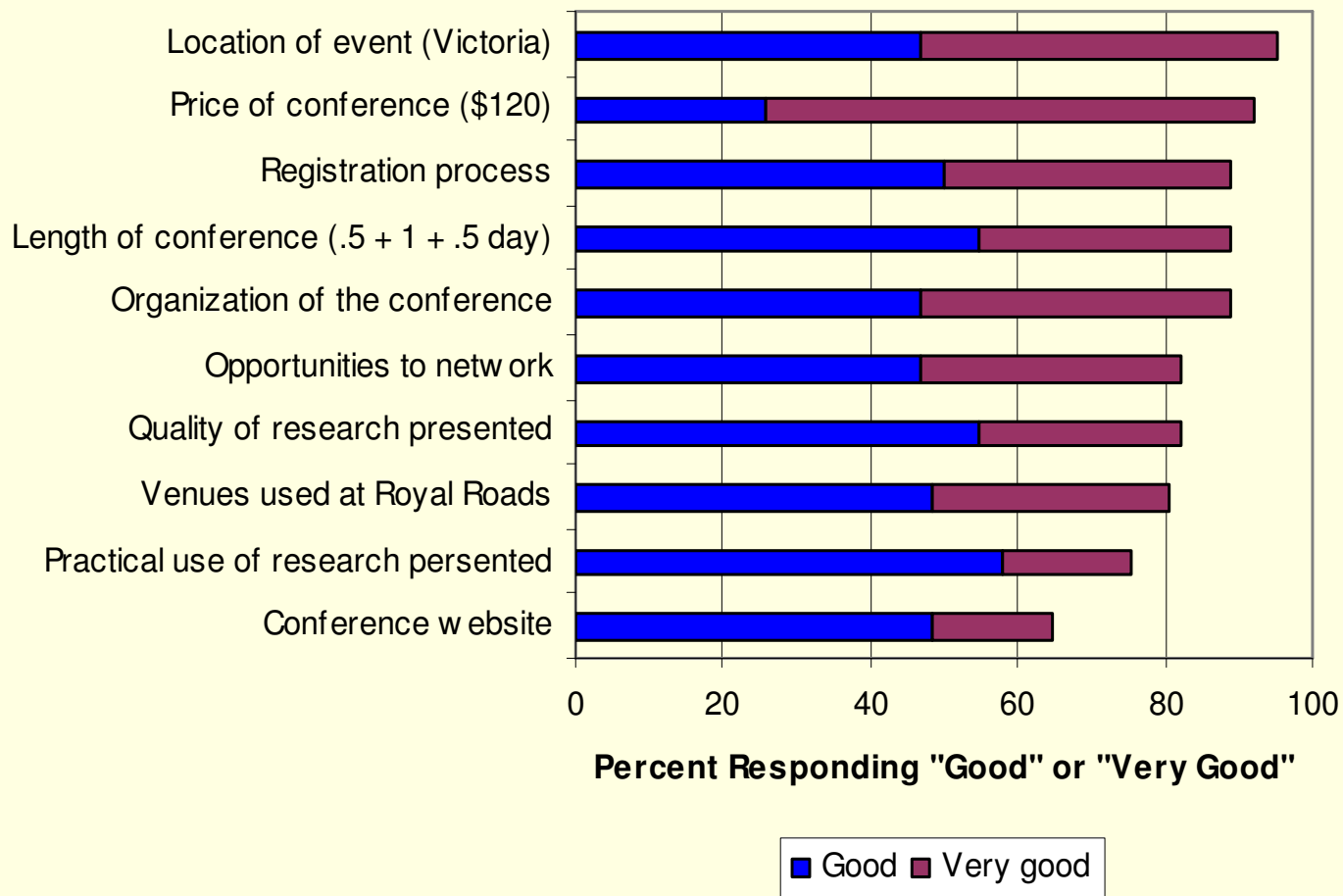
Figure 1. Conference Participants



Forum Evaluation

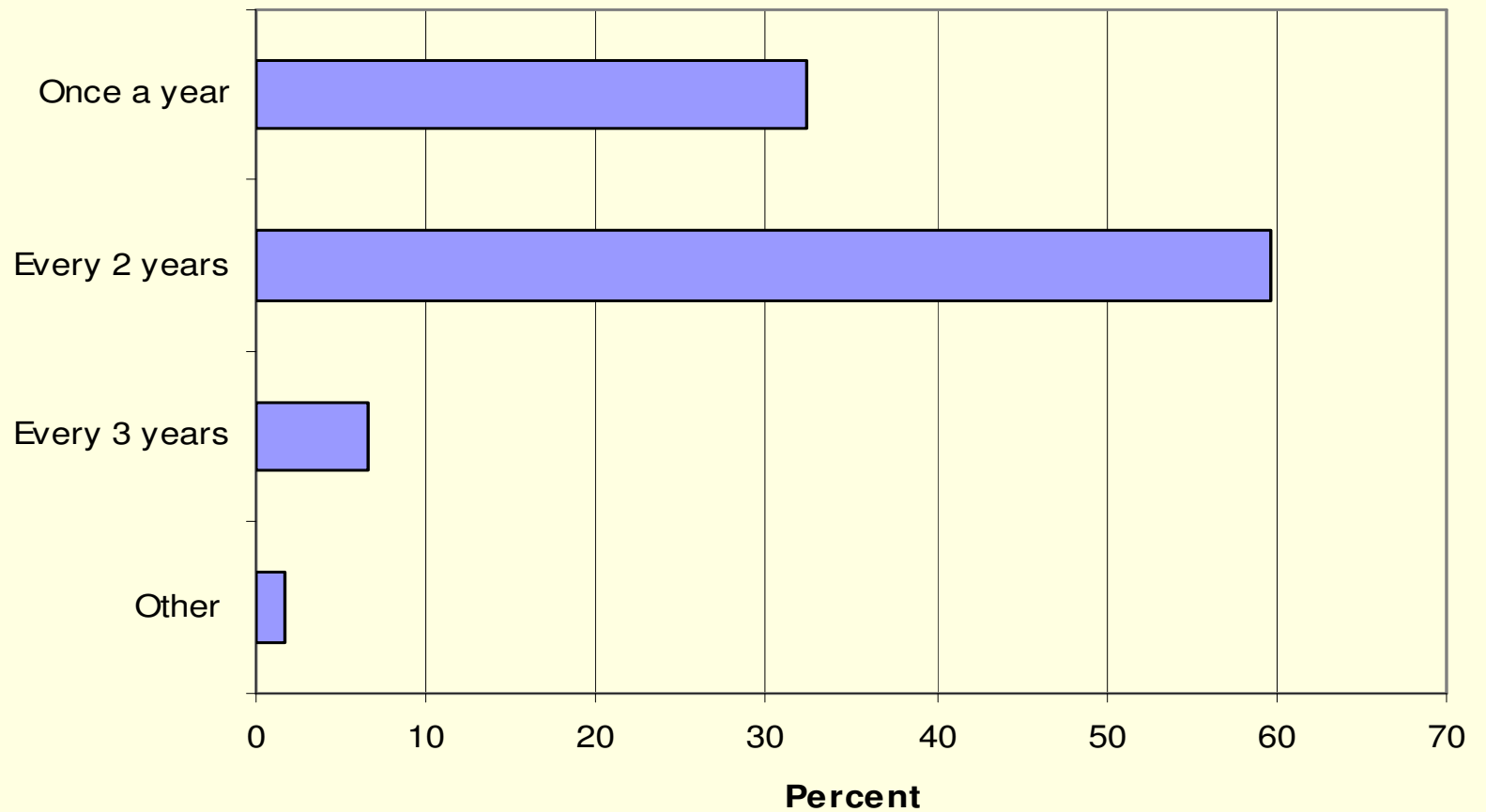
(n= 62)

Table 2. Evaluation of 2006 BC Parks Forum



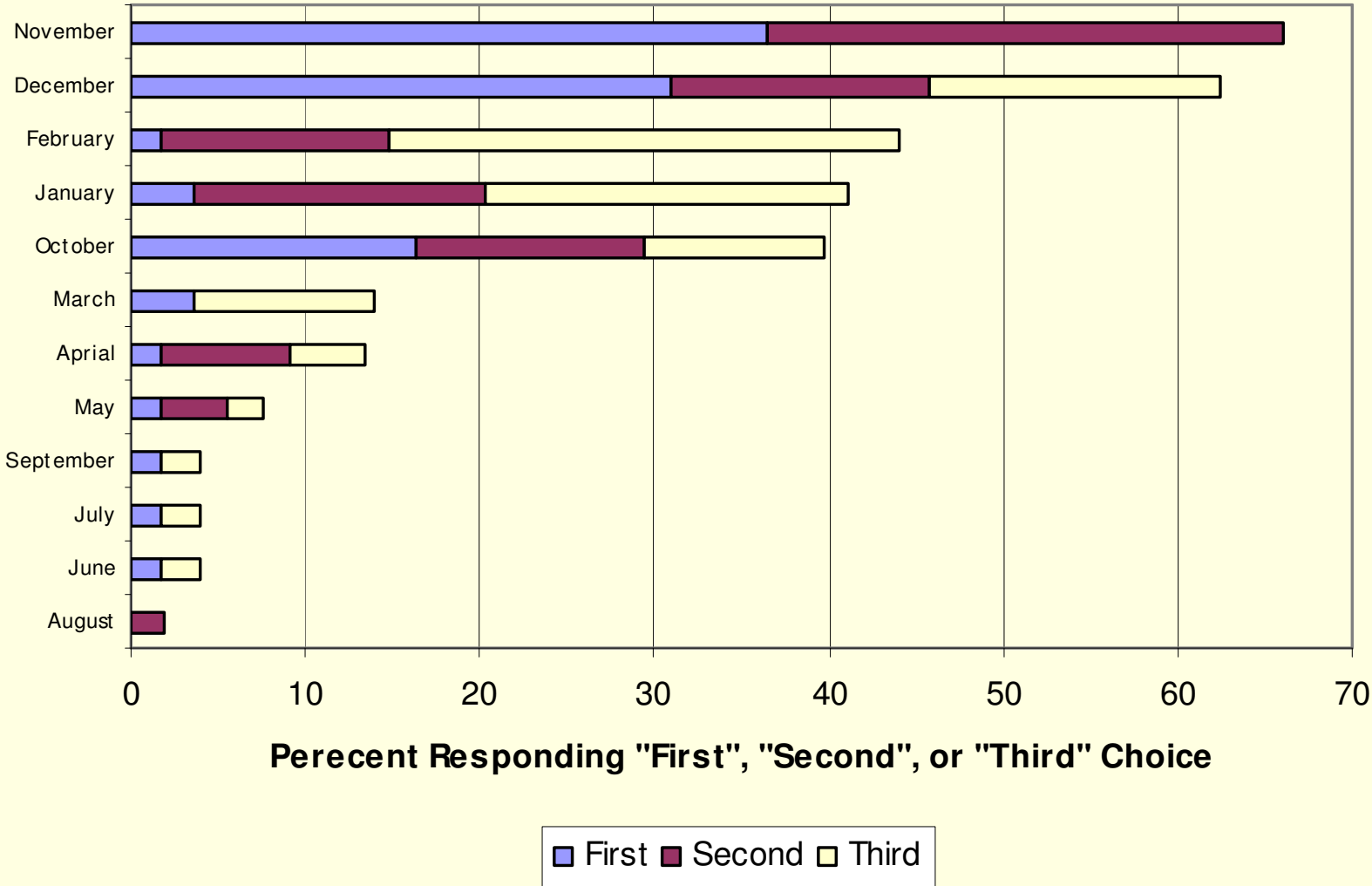
Preference to hold forum every year or every other year

Figure 3. Preferred Interval Between Conferences



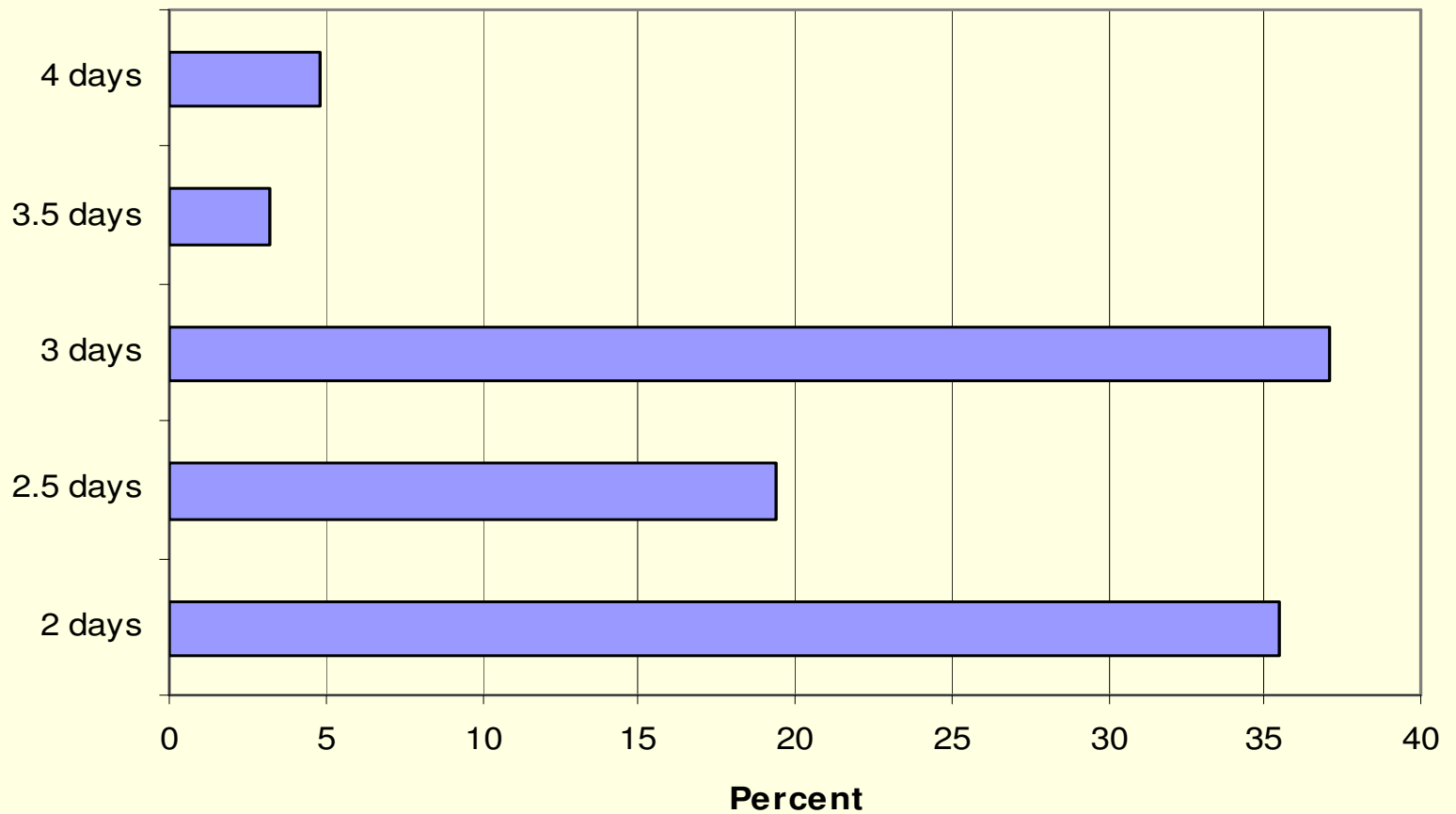
Preferred Time to Hold the Forum is Between October - February

Figure 4. Preferred Month For Holding the Conference



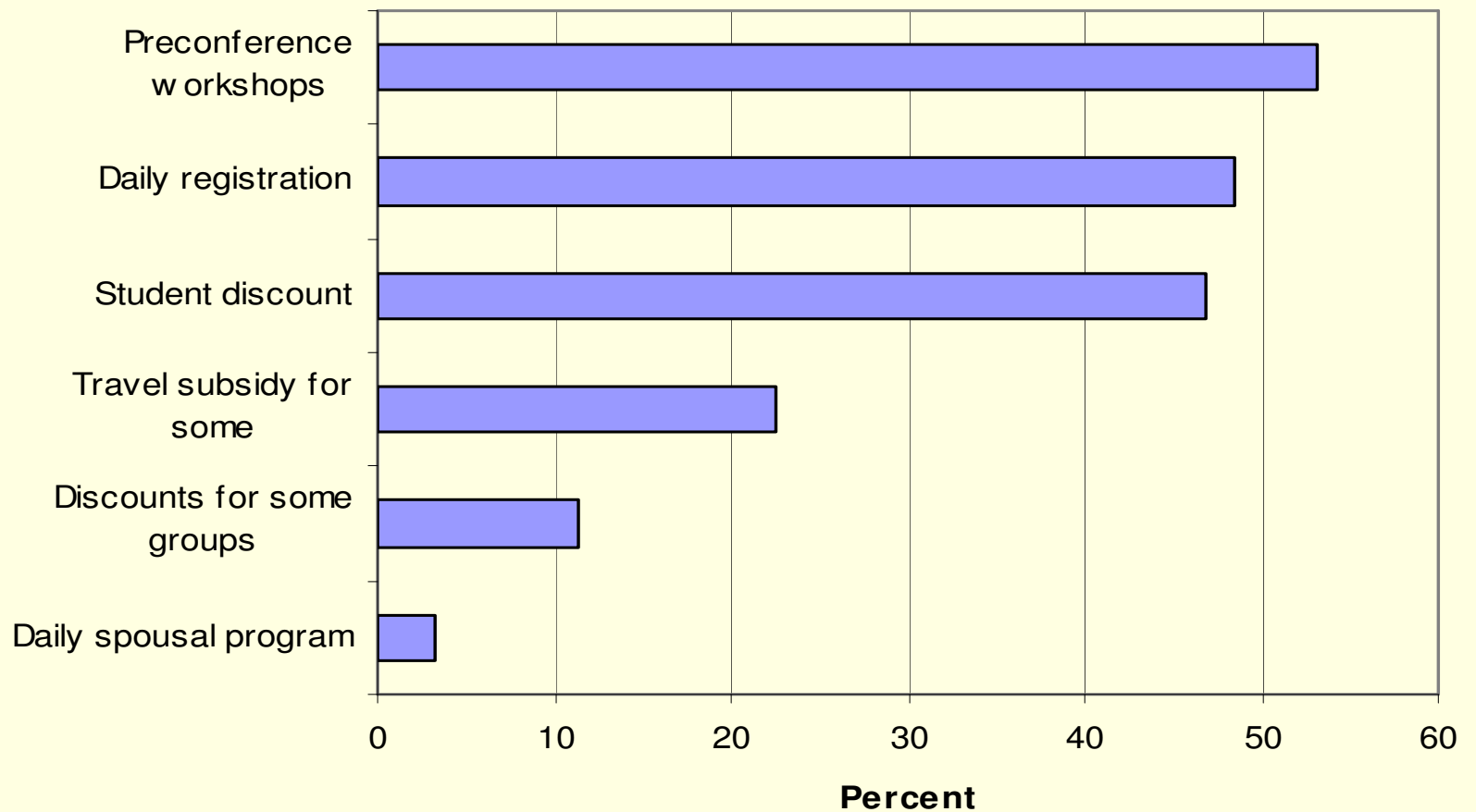
Preferred Length of Forum is 2 to 3 days

Figure 5. Preferred Length of Conference



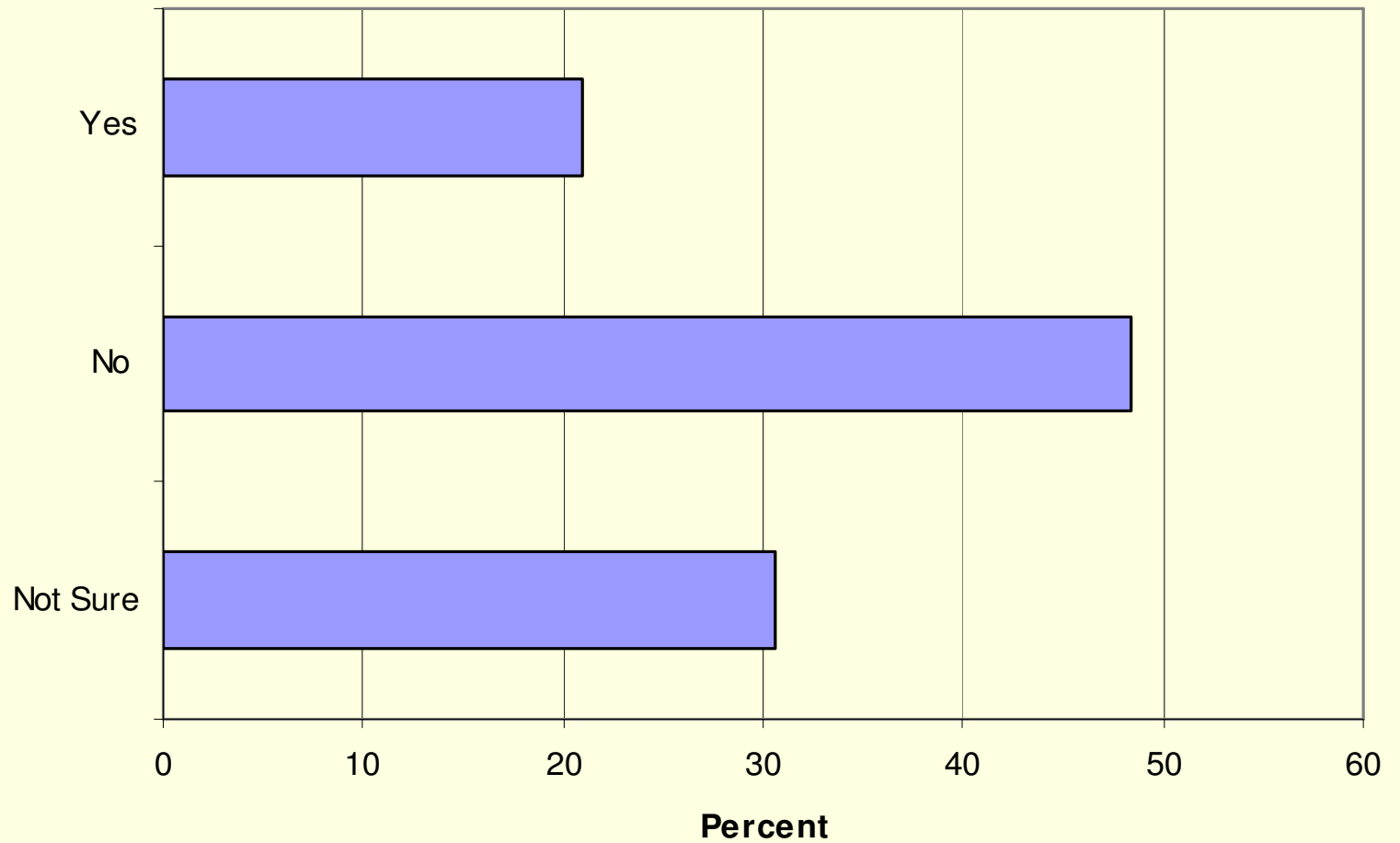
Some Support for Additional Features

Figure 6. Preferred Pricing Features



Some Interest in Volunteering

Figure 7. Interest in Volunteering



Recommendations Received

- Produce a cd version of presentations
- More discussion
- More mixers
- More in depth workshops
- Consider a “big name” speaker
- Include a “public session”
- More managers need to participate
- More “practical application” comments