

**2003-2004**

**NEED ENERGY WORKSHOP**

**EVALUATION REPORT**

**April, 2004**

**Prepared by:**

 **Lang Consulting Group**

# NEED ENERGY WORKSHOP 2003-2004

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

### GENERAL

- Two-hundred forty three (243) workshop evaluations were completed from 11 workshop locations.
- For the majority of workshop participants (91%), the workshop was their first NEED program.
- Nearly one-half (47%) of the participants teach elementary (4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>) grade levels.

### OVERALL SATISFACTION

- Workshop participants were very satisfied with the workshop overall, with 93% giving 6 or 7 ratings on a seven-point satisfaction scale.
- Participants rated the workshop organization, presenters' knowledge, facilitators' skills and pre-workshop communication high (98%, 98%, 95%, 83%, respectively).
- Nearly all (94%) of the participants would recommend the workshop to other teachers, because the workshop is interesting and informative, and the materials and activities are great.

### WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES

- Participants' favorite workshop activities were the hands-on activities, stations and kits.
- When asked how could the activities be improved, 34% said "nothing" and/or "the workshop was great."
- Nearly three-fourths of participants thought the activities encouraged them "a lot" to learn more about energy.

### DELIVERY TO STUDENTS

- Over two-thirds are "very likely" to use the activities in their classrooms.
- Nearly all (93%) of the participants said they will be able to comfortably deliver the activities to their students. Interestingly, as grade level increases, the teachers' comfort level increases.
- The participants said they would reach over 11,000 students during the school year using workshop activities and materials.

# CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

## CONCLUSIONS

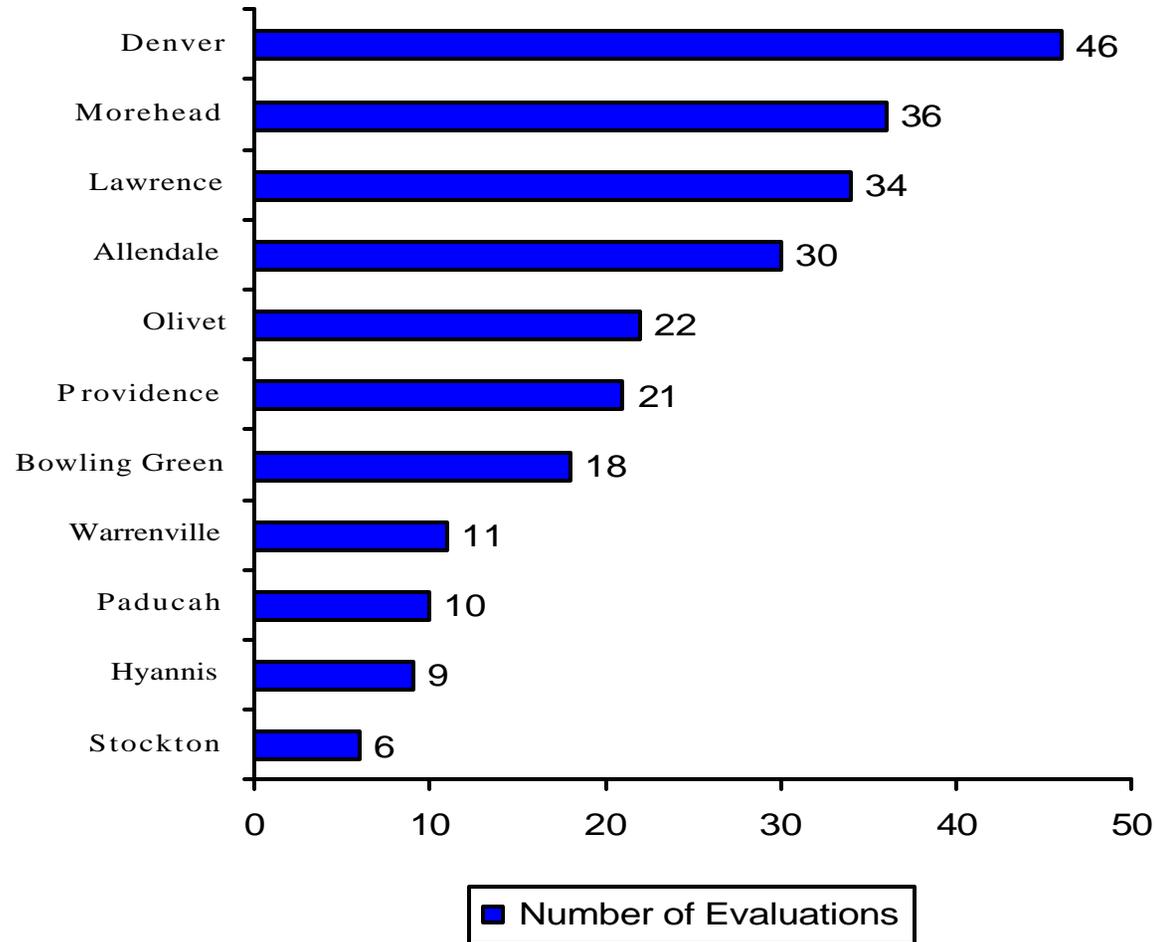
- The NEED workshop was very well received by the participants. The evaluation ratings were excellent and the comments very positive.
- The participants had a great experience, learned a lot, and left feeling comfortable in delivering the NEED materials and activities to their classrooms. Many participants expressed their appreciation to NEED for providing them with science/energy activities and materials that their students would not only learn from, but also enjoy.
- Some suggested improvements are:
  - Have more grade specific activities, especially for primary and secondary grades
  - Have more activities, more hands-on
  - Allow more time

## RECOMMENDATIONS

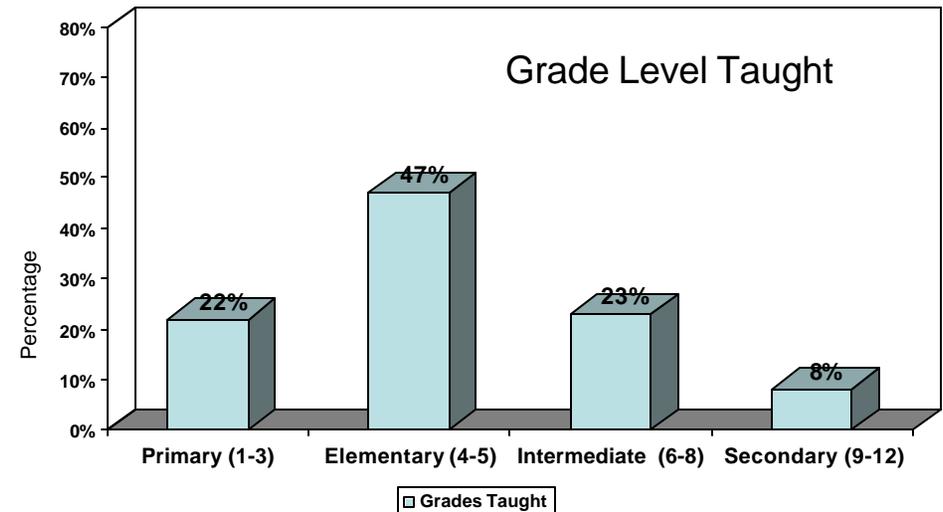
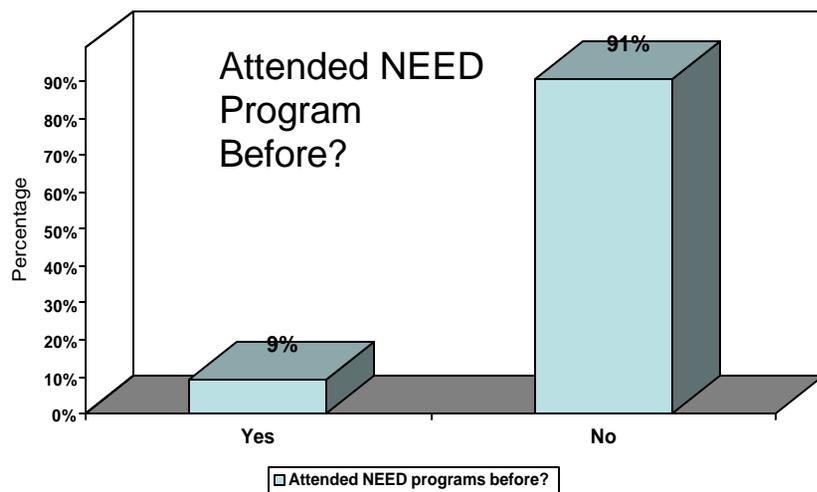
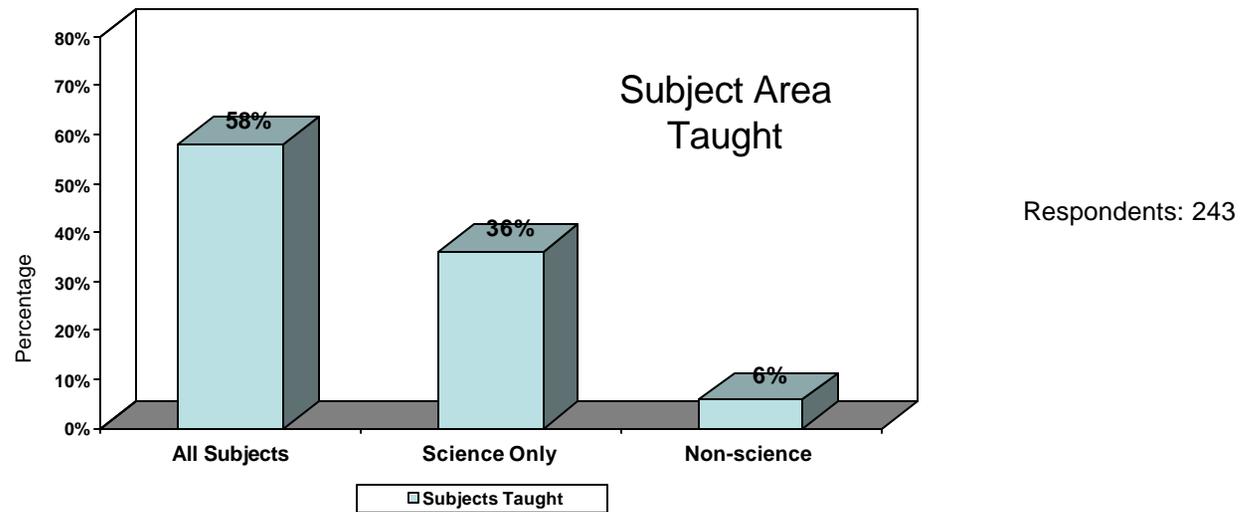
- Although the NEED program is targeted for elementary and middle school grades, determining a way to better accommodate the primary and secondary grade teachers should be considered.
- Revise the survey by reducing the number of open-ended questions. Participants comments tend to be repetitive.
- Keep up the good work.

# **DETAILED RESULTS**

**✓ 243 WORKSHOP EVALUATIONS WERE RETURNED. BELOW SHOWS THE NUMBER RETURNED BY WORKSHOP LOCATION.**

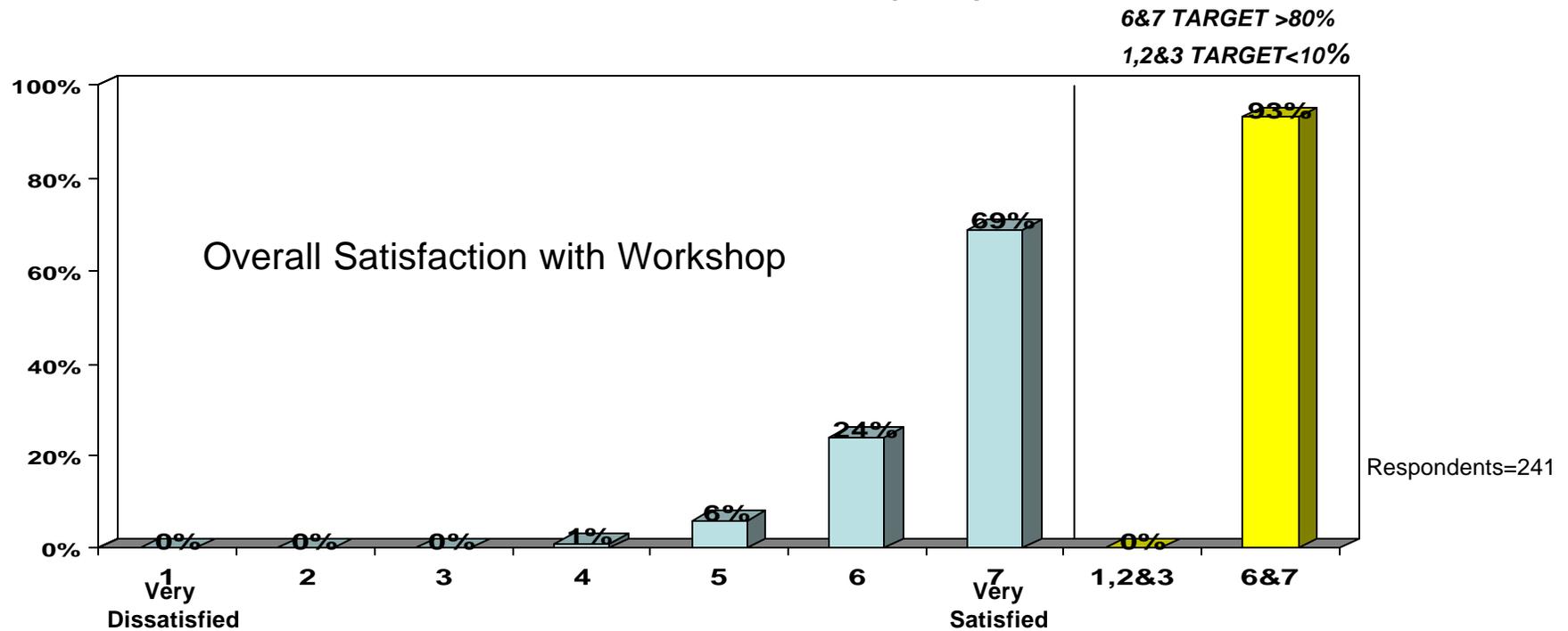


- ✓ **OVER ONE-HALF OF THE PARTICIPANTS TEACH ALL SUBJECT AREAS---OVER TWO-THIRDS TEACH GRADES ONE TO FIVE.**
- ✓ **THE WORKSHOP WAS THE FIRST NEED PROGRAM FOR NEARLY ALL OF THE PARTICIPANTS (91%).**



✓ PARTICIPANTS WERE VERY SATISFIED WITH THE WORKSHOP: 93% GAVE 6 OR 7 RATINGS.

✓ PARTICIPANTS' SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDED MANY POSITIVE COMMENTS ABOUT THE WORKSHOP (35%).

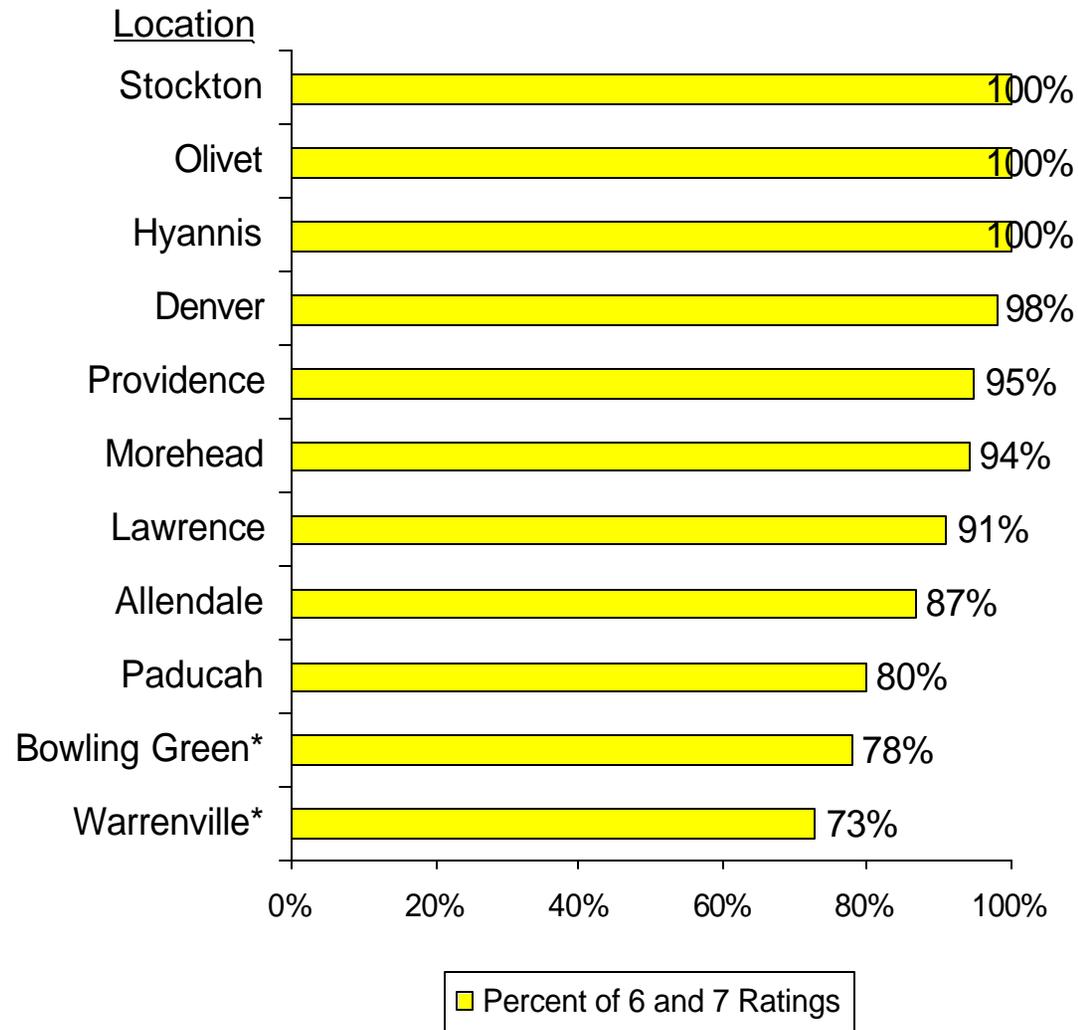


**WHAT COULD WE HAVE DONE TO GET A HIGHER RATING?**

- Nothing, workshop was great. (35%)
- Have more activities/more hands-on (6%)
- Slow the pace (4%)
- Have more for my grade level--3<sup>rd</sup> grade/high school (4%)
- Fix the computer/technical problems (Warrenville) (4%)

68 Comments

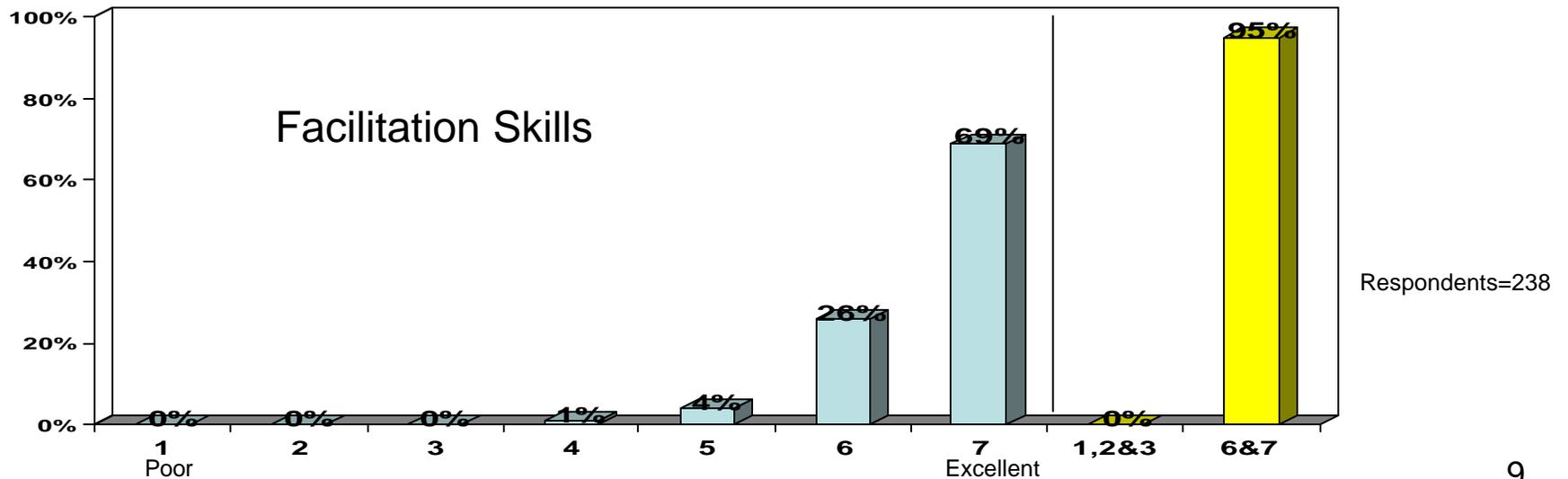
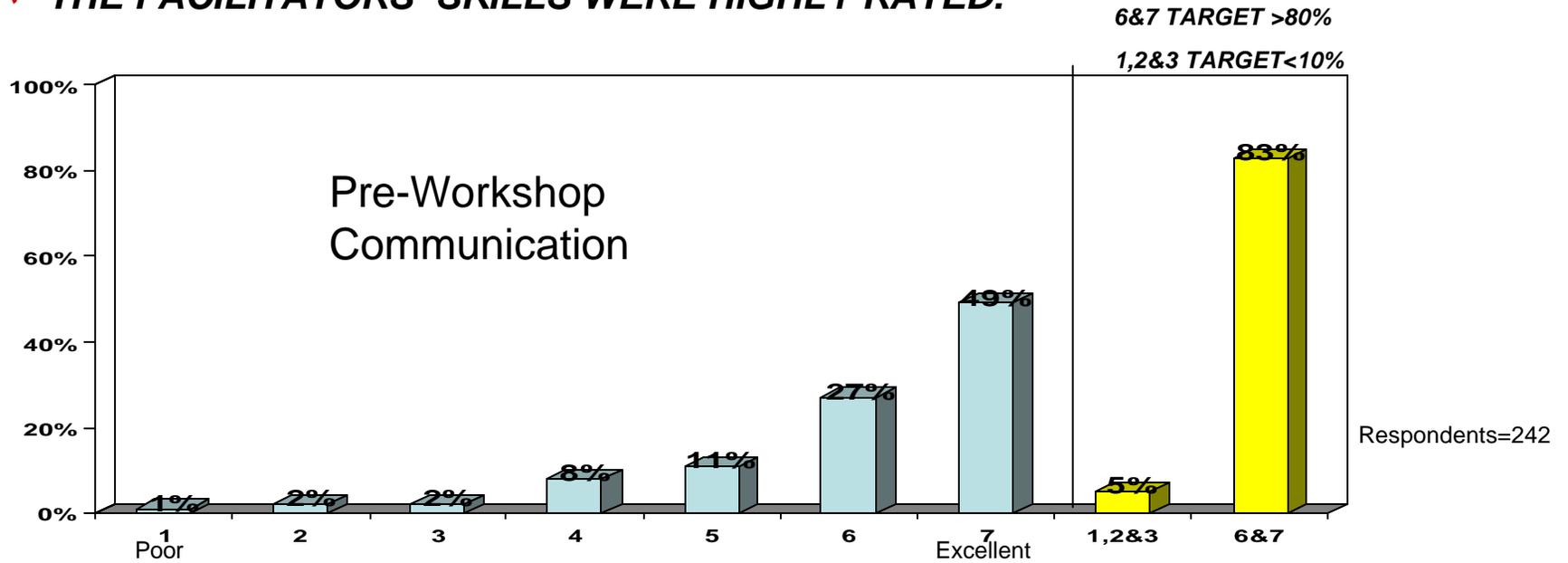
**✓ FOR NINE OF THE 11 WORKSHOP LOCATIONS, PARTICIPANT SATISFACTION WAS HIGH.**



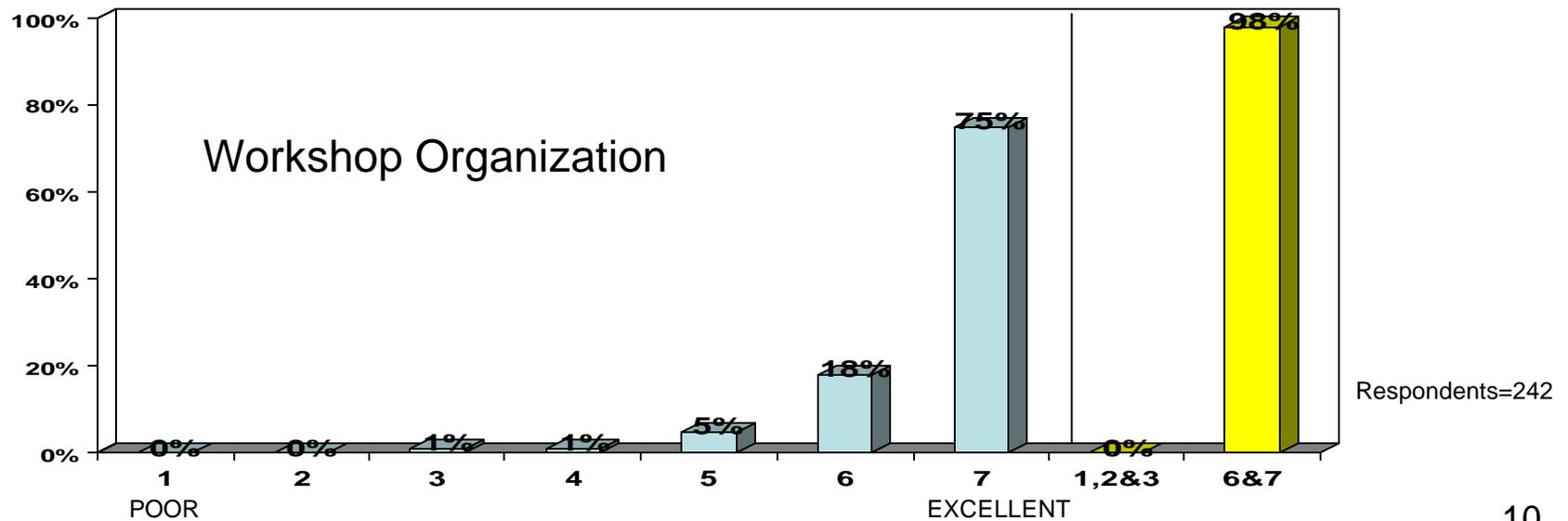
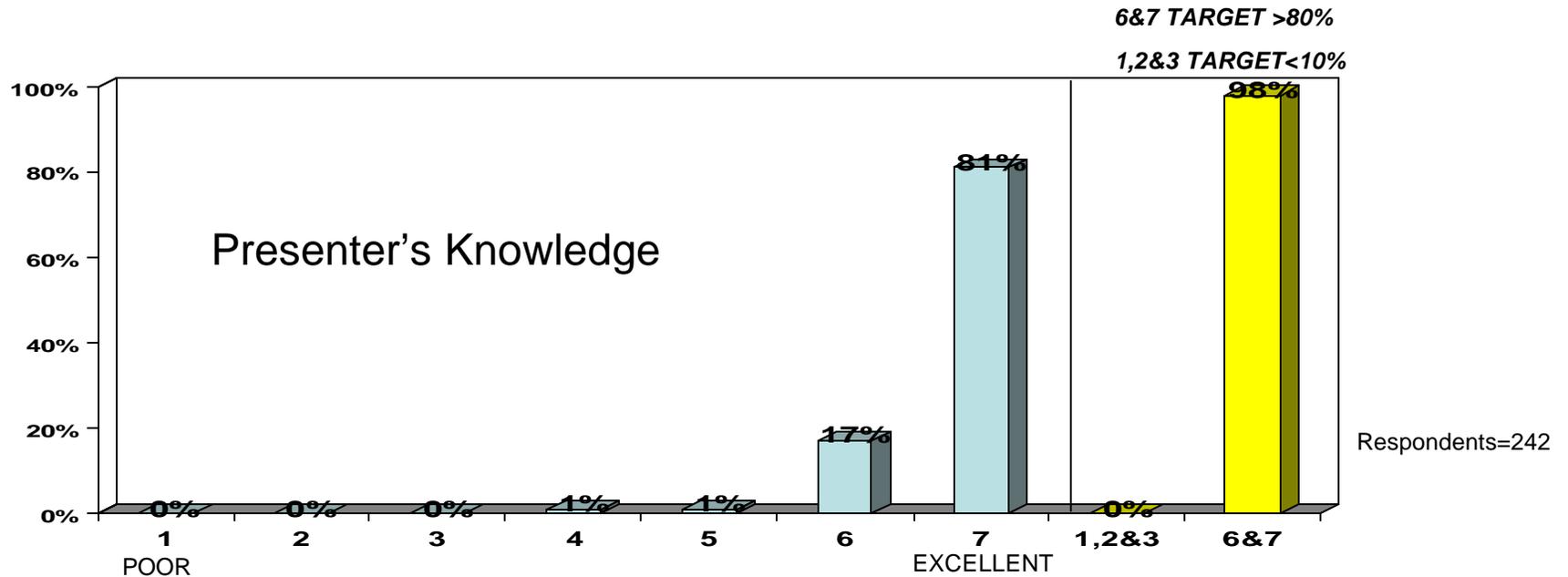
\*NOTE: Bowling Green participants thought there were too many students at a station and not enough food for the students' lunch. At Warrenville there were some technical problems.

✓ **ALTHOUGH PARTICIPANTS RATED THE PRE-WORKSHOP COMMUNICATION FAIRLY HIGH, THIS AREA RECEIVED THE LOWEST RATING AMONG THE FOUR PERFORMANCE AREAS.**

✓ **THE FACILITATORS' SKILLS WERE HIGHLY RATED.**



✓ **BOTH WORKSHOP ORGANIZATION AND THE PRESENTERS' KNOWLEDGE RECEIVED VERY HIGH RATINGS.**



✓ **PARTICIPANTS' SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT INCLUDED POSITIVE COMMENTS AND FEW SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS.**

**WHAT COULD WE HAVE DONE TO IMPROVE PERFORMANCE?**

- Nothing, workshop was great. (25%)
- Have more activities/materials for the lower grades (7%)
- Improve the sign-up/confirmation process (6%)
- Have more pre-workshop information (6%)

68 Comments

✓ **PARTICIPANTS LIKED THE HANDS-ON ACTIVITIES AND STATIONS THE MOST.**

**WHICH WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES DID YOU ENJOY THE MOST?**

- Hands-on Activities (17%)
- Stations/Experiments/Labs (13%)
- Kits (10%)
- Everything (9%)
- Students Teaching and Presenting (8%)
- Games (7%)
- Skits/Songs/Performances (7%)
- Carnival (6%)

264 Comments

**✓ WHEN ASKED WHAT WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES ARE THE MOST APPROPRIATE FOR THE PARTICIPANTS' GRADE LEVEL, A FEW DIFFERENCES EMERGED:**

⇒ MORE PARTICIPANTS WHO TEACH THE INTERMEDIATE GRADES THOUGHT ALL THE ACTIVITIES WERE APPROPRIATE FOR THEIR STUDENTS COMPARED TO THE PARTICIPANTS WHO TAUGHT THE OTHER GRADE LEVELS.

⇒ MORE PARTICIPANTS WHO TEACH THE YOUNGER GRADES THOUGHT THE STATIONS/EXPERIMENTS WERE APPROPRIATE FOR THEIR STUDENTS.

⇒ MORE PARTICIPANTS WHO TEACH THE HIGHER GRADES THOUGHT THE ENERGY-RELATED ACTIVITIES WERE APPROPRIATE FOR THEIR STUDENTS.

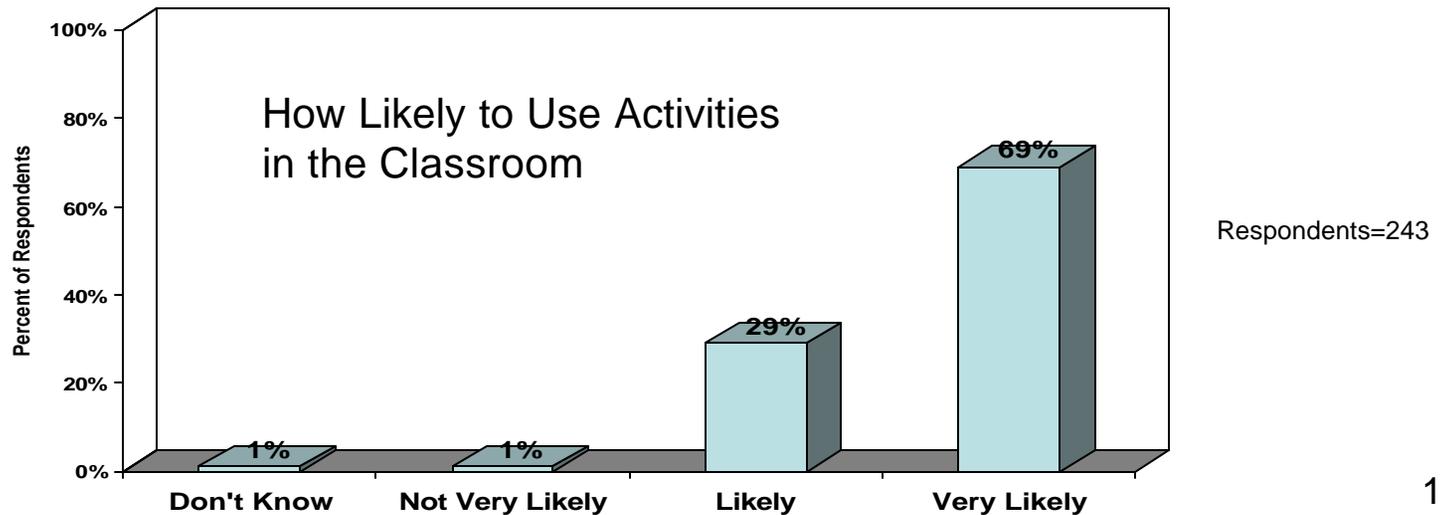
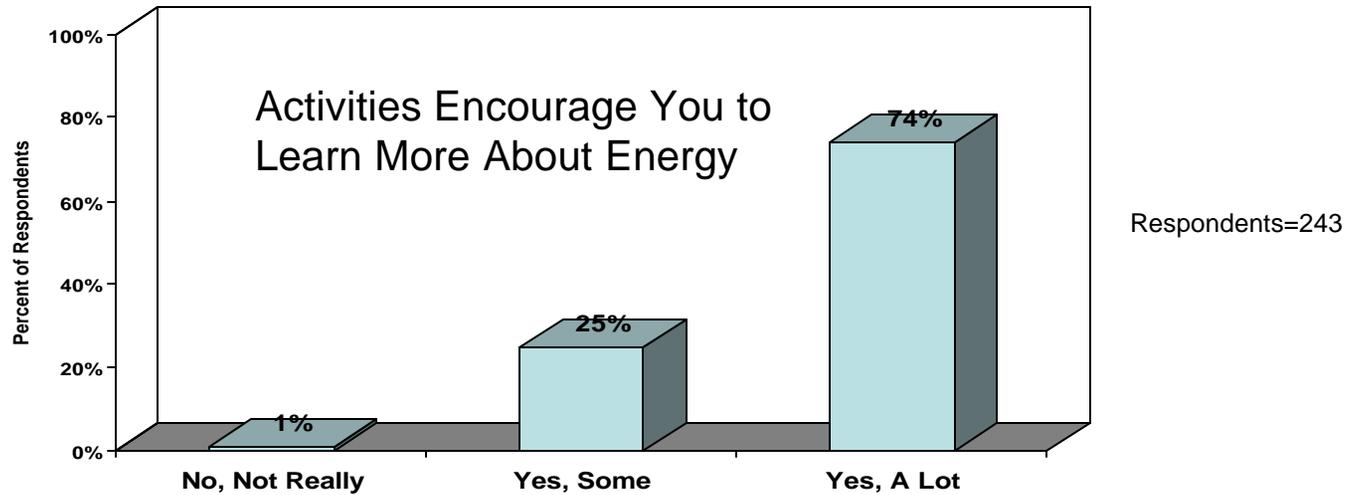
**✓ WHEN ASKED WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN DONE TO IMPROVE THE ACTIVITIES, MANY PARTICIPANTS SAID “NOTHING” AND/OR “THE WORKSHOP WAS GREAT.” (34%).**

**WHAT COULD HAVE DONE TO IMPROVE THE ACTIVITIES?**

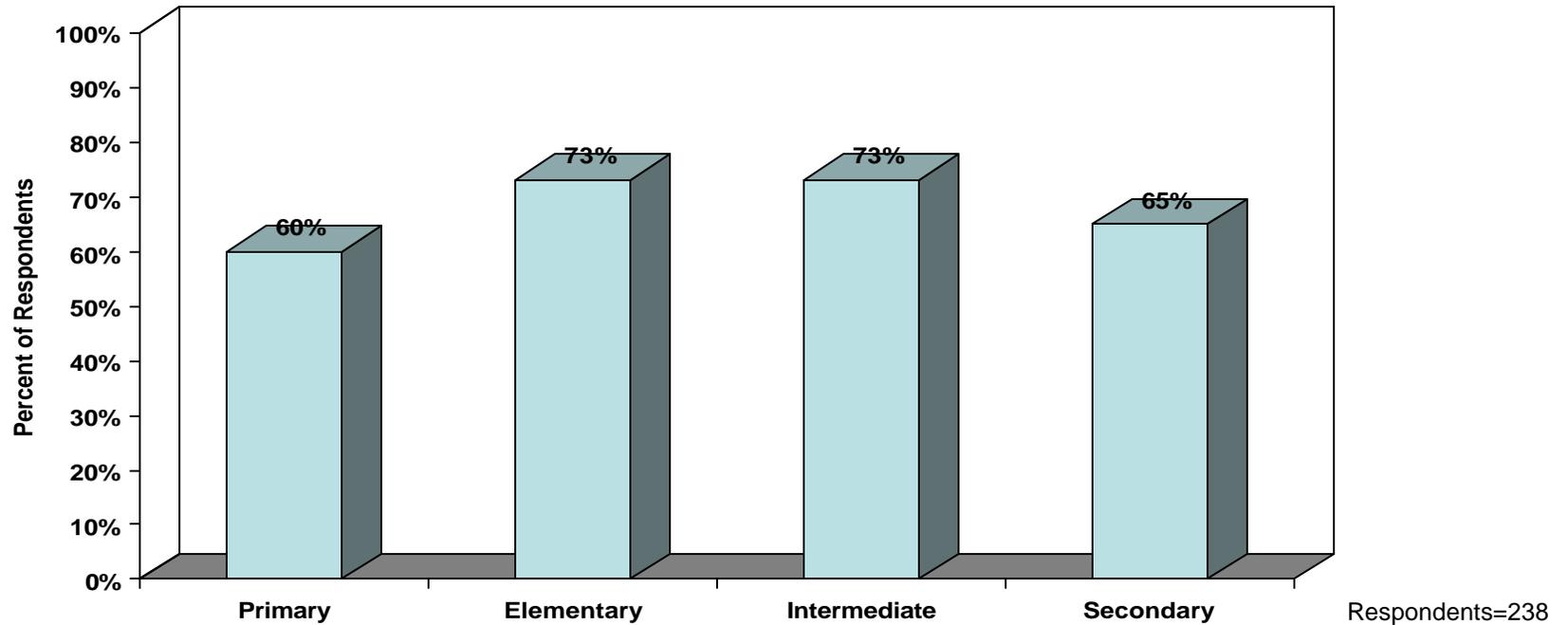
- Nothing/workshop was great. (34%)
- Have more for primary grades (9%)
- Provide more of an introduction/preview (7%)
- Split up by grade levels (6%)
- Include less games, more content (6%)

70 Comments

- ✓ **NEARLY THREE-FOURTHS OF THE PARTICIPANTS SAID THAT THE WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES ENCOURAGED THEM “A LOT” TO LEARN MORE ABOUT ENERGY.**
- ✓ **OVER TWO-THIRDS OF THE PARTICIPANTS SAID THEY WOULD BE “VERY LIKELY” TO USE THE ACTIVITIES IN THEIR CLASSROOMS.**

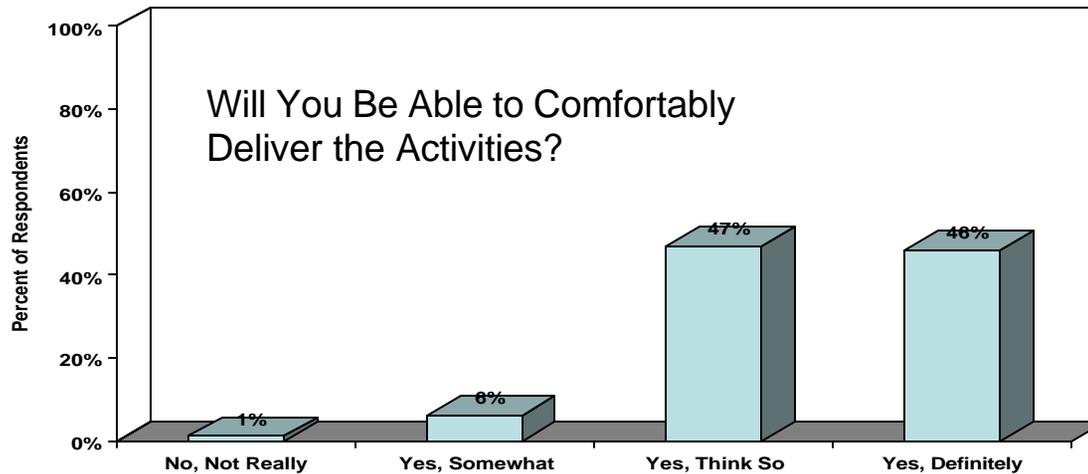


**✓ TEACHERS WHO TEACH THE ELEMENTARY AND INTERMEDIATE GRADES WILL BE SOMEWHAT MORE LIKELY TO USE THE WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES IN THEIR CLASSROOMS.**

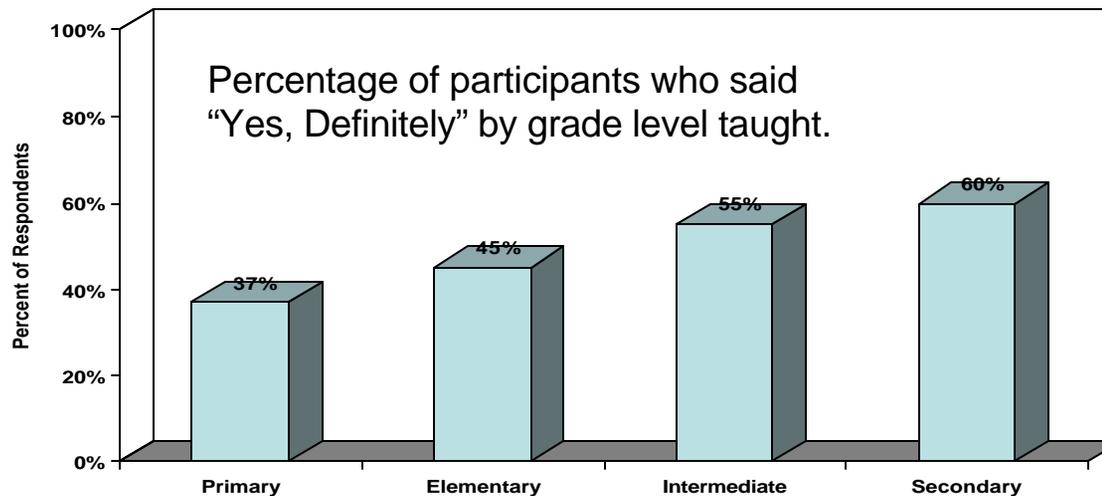


Percentage of participants who said its “Very Likely” that they will use the activities in their classrooms.

**✓ WHEN ASKED IF THEY WILL BE ABLE TO COMFORTABLY DELIVER THE ACTIVITIES TO THEIR STUDENTS, NEARLY ALL OF THE PARTICIPANTS (93%) SAID “YES, DEFINITELY” OR “YES, THINK SO.” AS GRADE LEVEL INCREASED, TEACHERS WERE MORE COMFORTABLE DELIVERING THE WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES TO THEIR STUDENTS.**

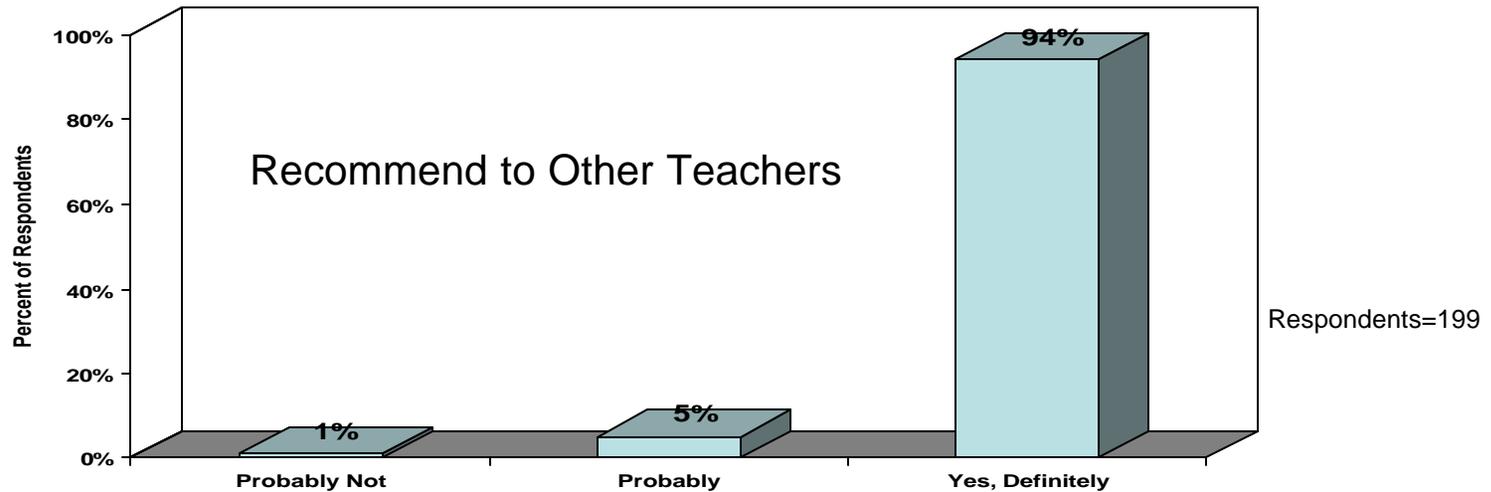


Respondents=232



Respondents=228

✓ **NEARLY ALL WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS (94%) WOULD RECOMMEND THE WORKSHOP TO OTHER TEACHERS.**



**EXPLAIN WHY YOU'D RECOMMEND THE WORKSHOP**

- Workshop is interesting and informative (29%)
- Materials, activities and ideas are great (22%)
- Helps teachers teach science better (8%)
- Fits in with the classroom, curriculum and standards (7%)
- The topics are important (6%)
- Provides free materials and “goodies.” (6%)

207 Comments

**✓ PARTICIPANTS SAID THEY WOULD REACH A TOTAL OF 11,361 STUDENTS DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR USING NEED ACTIVITIES AND MATERIALS.**

**✓ PARTICIPANTS FOUND OUT ABOUT THE WORKSHOP IN A VARIETY OF WAYS. THE MAIN REASON THEY ATTENDED WAS TO LEARN MORE ABOUT TEACHING SCIENCE.**

**HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT THE WORKSHOP?**

- Mail, email, fax, internet (18%)
- School, district, principal (13%)
- Teacher, co-worker (10%)
- Newsletter, flier (10%)

**WHY DID YOU CHOOSE TO ATTEND?**

- Currently teach science and want to learn more (11%)
- Need resources related to energy (5%)
- Content matches my curriculum (5%)

263 Comments

**✓ EIGHTY-EIGHT (88) PARTICIPANTS WROTE ADDITIONAL COMMENTS. MOST OF THESE WERE GENERAL AND POSITIVE (78%), COMMENTING ON THE “GREAT JOB” AND THE “AWESOME WORKSHOP.” SOME SPECIFIC COMMENTS WERE:**

⇒ “Gets better every time! Each attendance to a workshop always has new information and adds to my understanding of the subject of energy, which enables me to become a more efficient and effective teacher!”

⇒ “Wow, what a commitment you have made to energy education. It will touch the lives of many children.”

⇒ “....You might want to have a debrief of the different levels (elementary, middle and high school) so that they can share ideas on how to implement this in the classroom. It just brings everything together at the end...”

⇒ “This is the best science workshop I have ever been part of!”

⇒ “Thank you so much for the materials and activities. Many of these things will be used in my classroom. It is obvious these activities were developed by teachers for teachers. Thank you!”