

Mapping Prevention Science Education courses across Europe

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Background

The Science for Prevention Academic Network (SPAN) is funded by the European Commission and involves 32 institutions across 25 European countries. SPAN aims to improve the integration of prevention science in the higher education sector and to improve skill mobility across Europe. One objective is to map prevention education courses, modules and programs.

A course or module: a short syllabus, like one or two semesters, providing academic credits.

A program: a series of courses or modules leading to an academic award, like Bachelor, Postgraduate Diploma, Master or PhD.

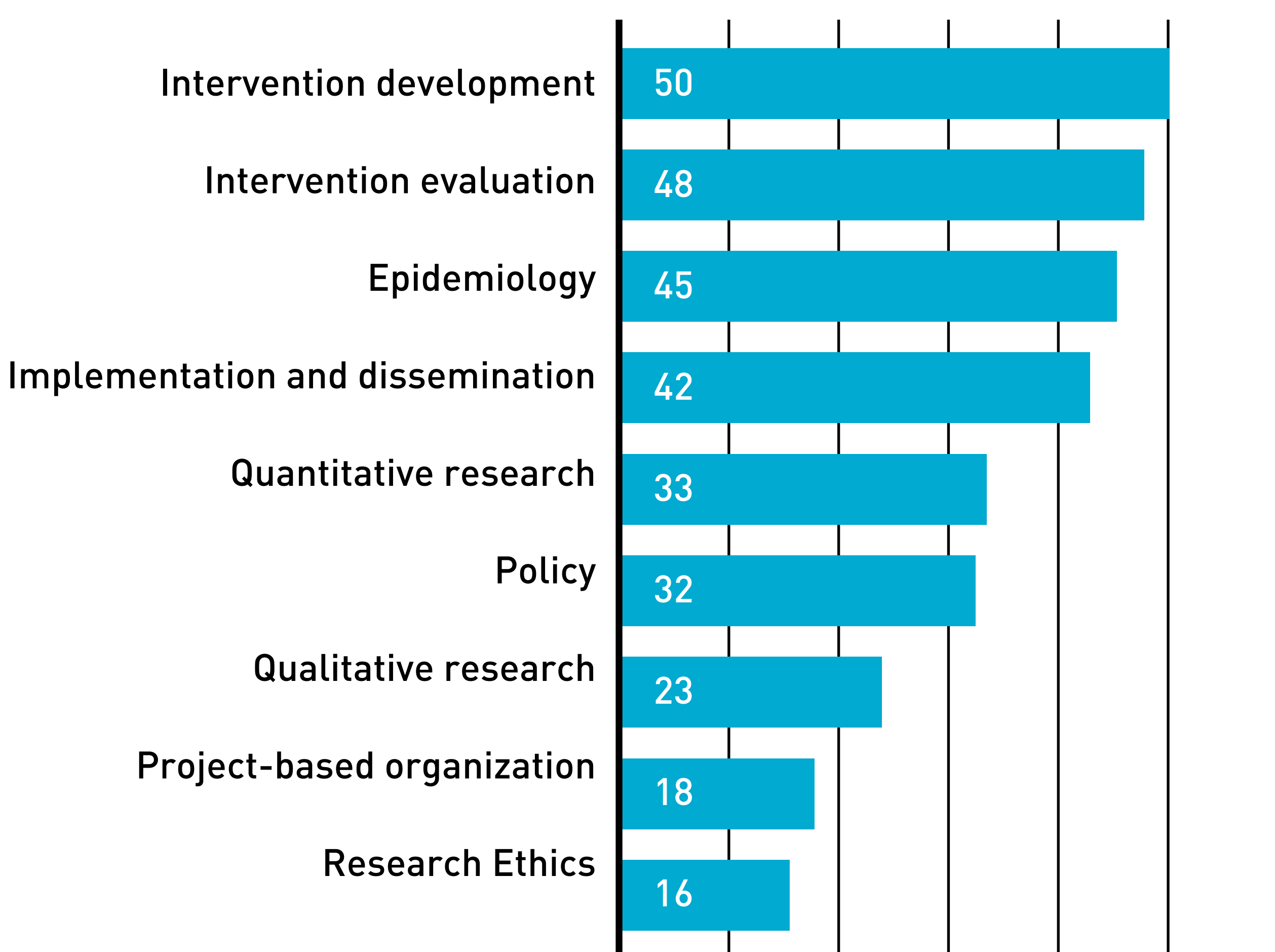
generic term 'course' is further used

Sample : Web based survey distributed to 353 prevention scientists in EU via PubMed plus snowball; 48% RR.

Language

For 90 courses in 21 countries the language of delivery is mentioned, in total 16 different languages. Six courses are given in the United Kingdom, but twenty-four courses are given in English, plus four in English and another language.

The particular perspective of the courses is on **scientific prevention research** or on **understanding evidence based prevention for policy and practice.**



Course level:

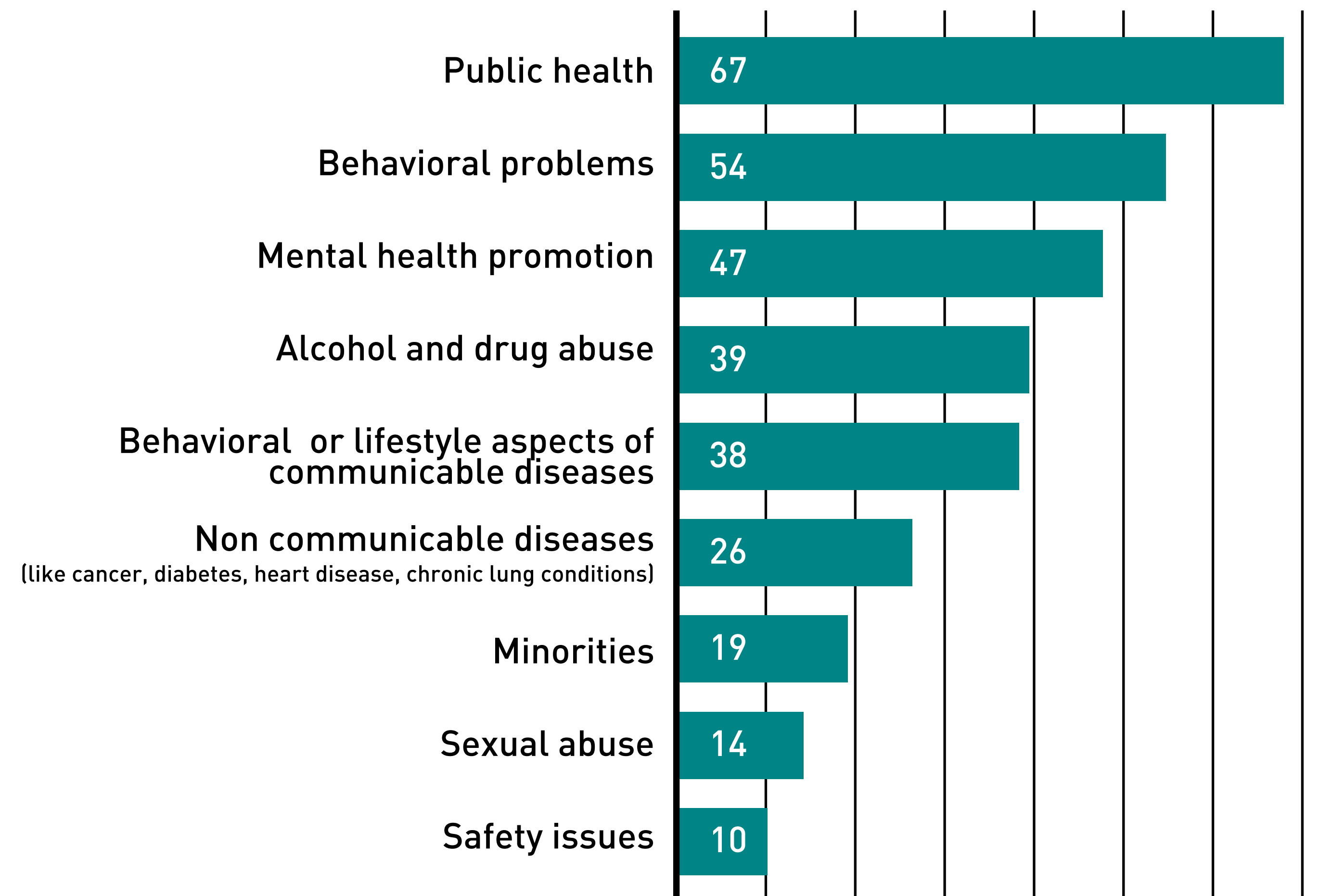
1st cycle (3-4 years) **Bachelor** 15
 2nd cycle: (1-2 years) **Master** 45 **Postgraduate** 10
 3rd cycle: (3-4 years) **Doctoral** 14

Conclusions

Quality framework for education and international mobility could be improved by a clearer and more complete database of courses, modules and programs.

Further study and analysis of content and structure of prevention science education might be helpful to increase and value for money.

Course topic



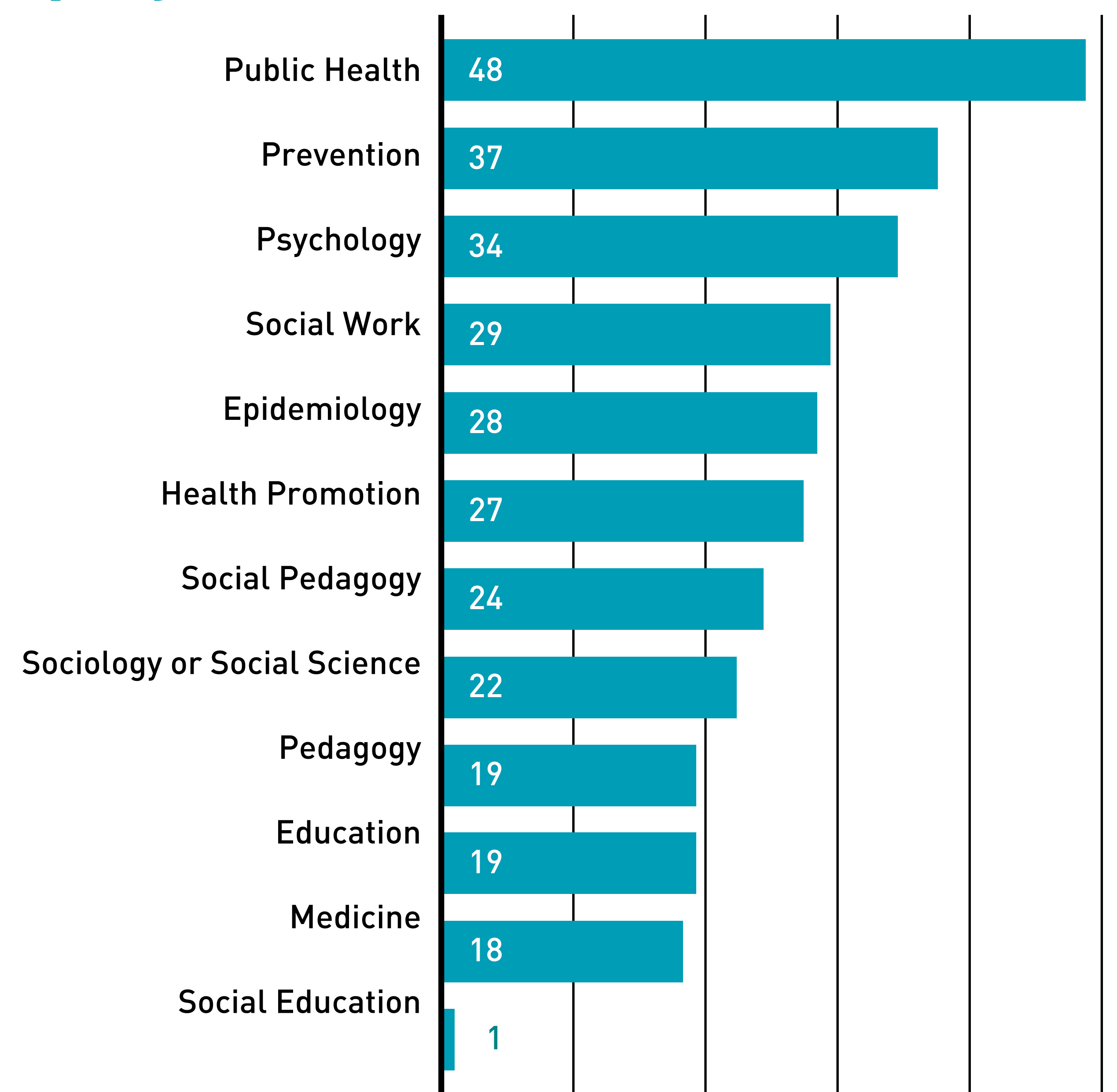
Out-of-category topics

Vulnerable target groups - disabilities , elderly people, exclusion and marginalization, delinquency.

Behavior - physical activity, sedentary behavior, nutrition, alcohol and drug abuse, traffic safety.

Prevention theory and practice - epidemiology and biostatistics, project management, intervention mapping.

The areas where students are employed afterwards



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