

Evaluation of the „Education Dreams” Program carried out from 10 to 12 of 2017



Methodology of the evaluation study

Online surveys.

In-depth individual interviews (IDI).

Focus group interviews (FGI).

Phone interviews.

Analysis of existing data.

Study groups

Seven target groups took part in the study:

- The program graduates: **123** surveys, **5** IDI, **1** FGI
- Current scholars: **152** surveys, **15** IDI
- Parents/legal guardians: **107** surveys, including 10 phone interviews
- Regional coordinators: **8** IDI
- Principals of schools participating in the program: **14** surveys
- Teachers/councillors : **5 phone** interviews
- Employees of the dorms where scholars live: **17** surveys verified on the phone

Survey response rate:

- Scholars: **61%**
- Graduates: **41%**

EFC graduates' perspective

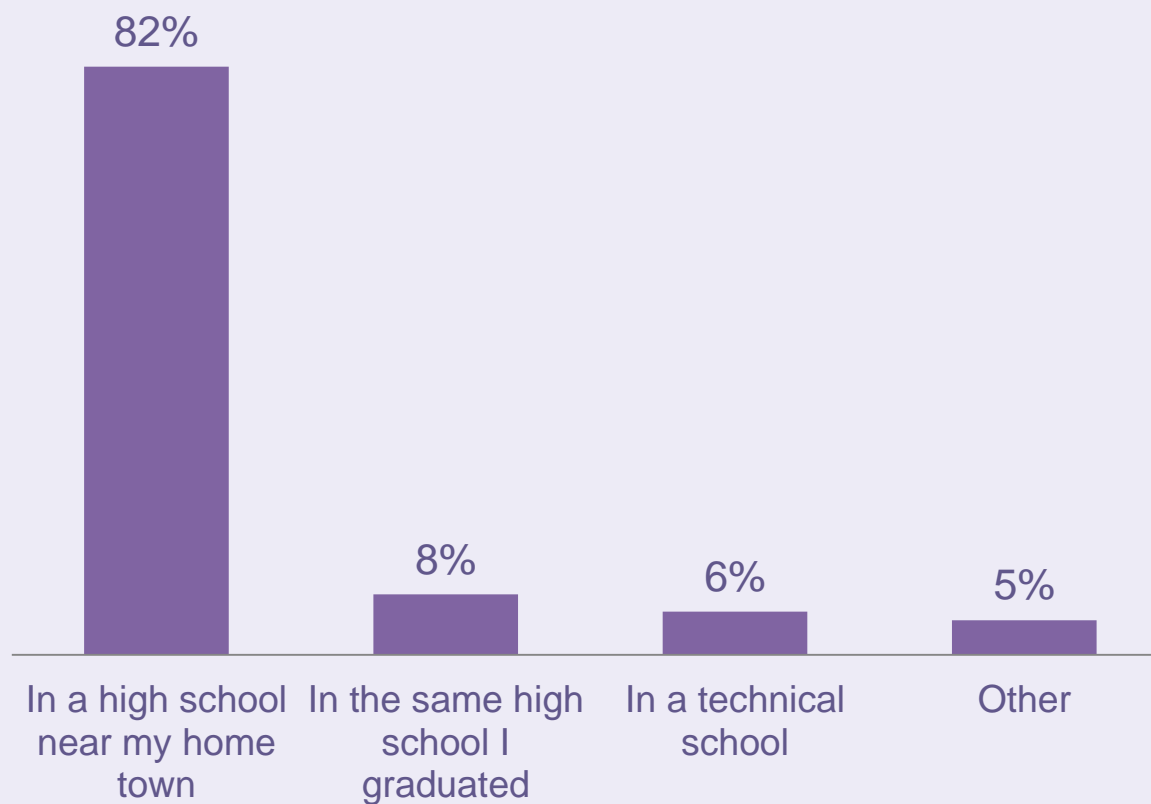
University studies

„I had these plans before and I believe I would carry them out without the program, however it would have been harder to do.”



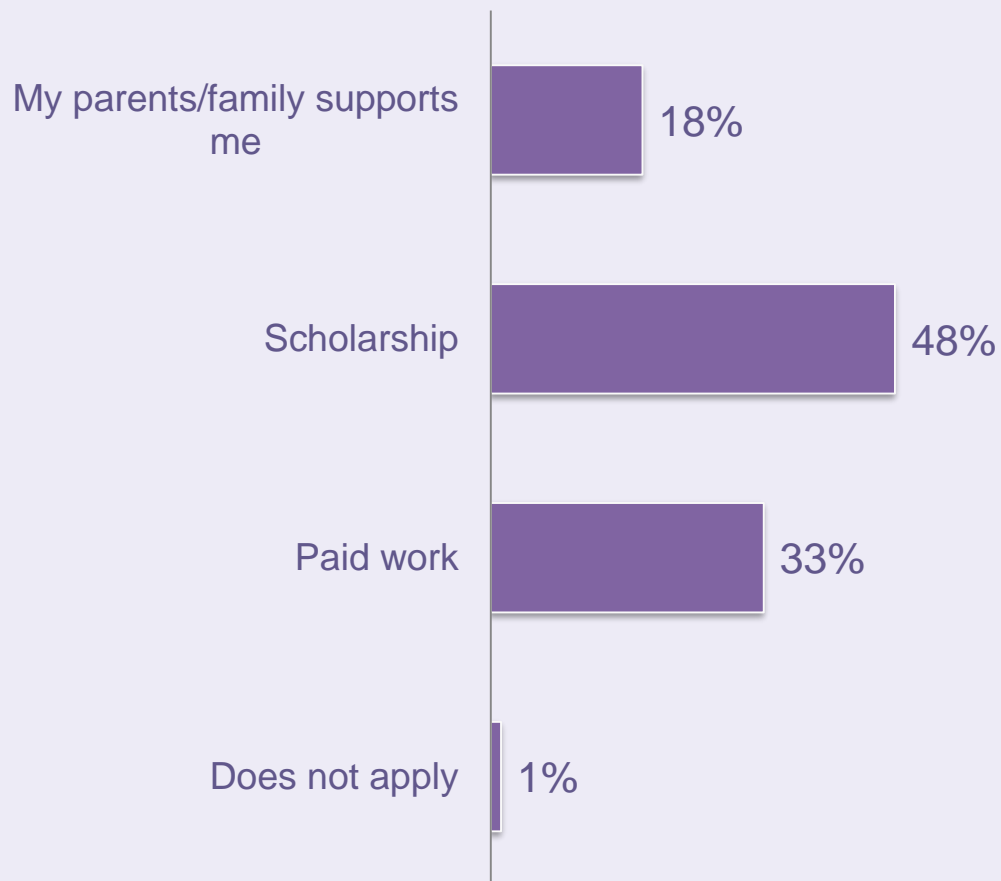
EFC graduates' perspective

Alternative place of education in the case of not receiving the scholarship



EFC graduates' perspective

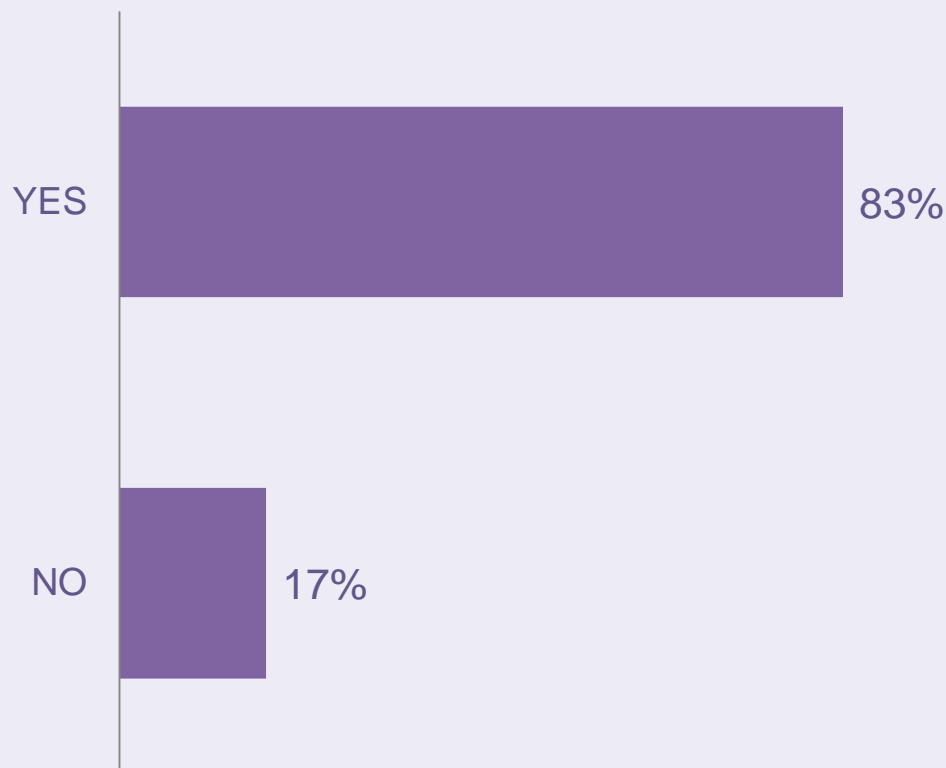
Source of income after completing the Education Dreams program



EFC graduates' perspective

The Education Dreams program impact on further educational plans

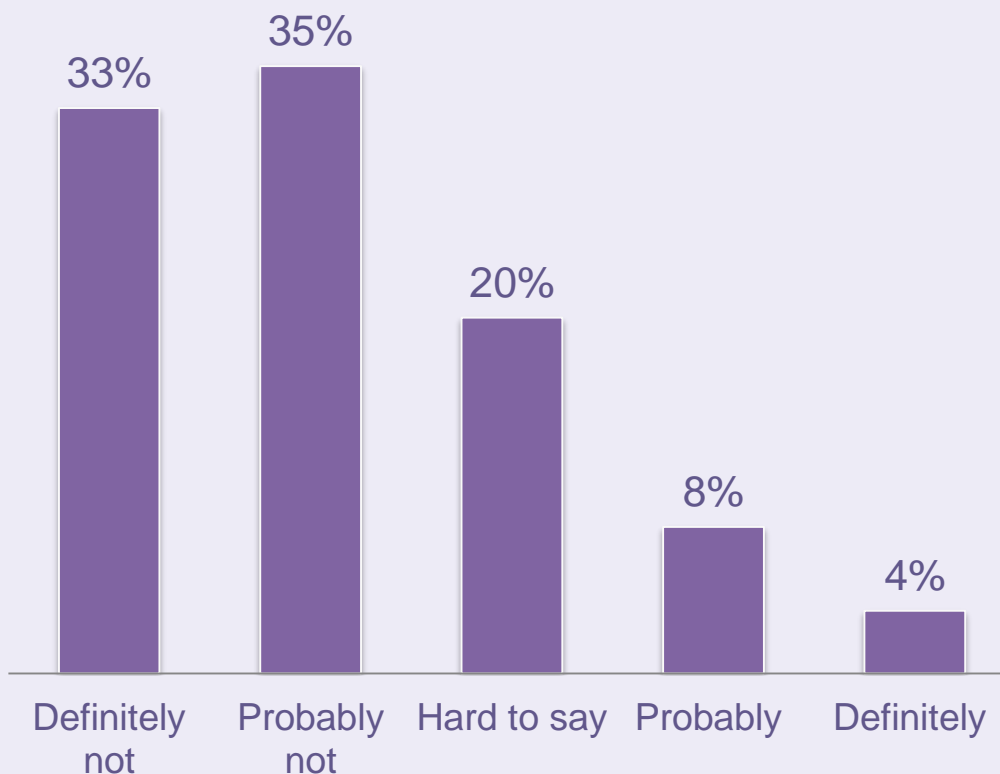
„It did have an impact because EFC showed me that I can do more than I thought. Metaphorically – I was in a valley surrounded by hills. I thought that was the whole world. EFC lifted me to the top of the closest hill. From there I realized that there are many of them and that they are higher, but since we managed to reach this point, all you have to do is take your pick and get to work 😊”



EFC graduates' perspective

The perspective of returning to graduate's home town

„I am very drawn to the city, where there are big development perspectives, goals which I can continue growing into and conditions which allow for it. However I will always return to my home town with sentiment.”



Benefits of participating in the program

Greater independence

Greater courage

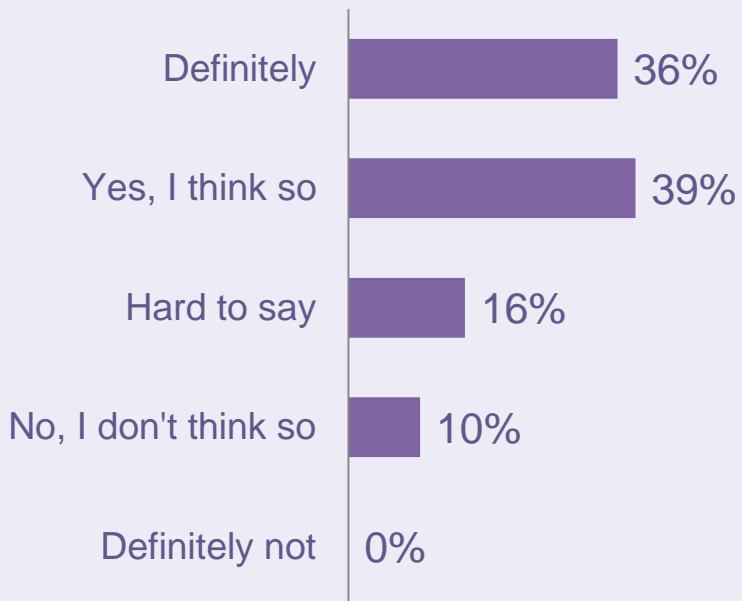
Skills related to living in the city

Skills related to travelling

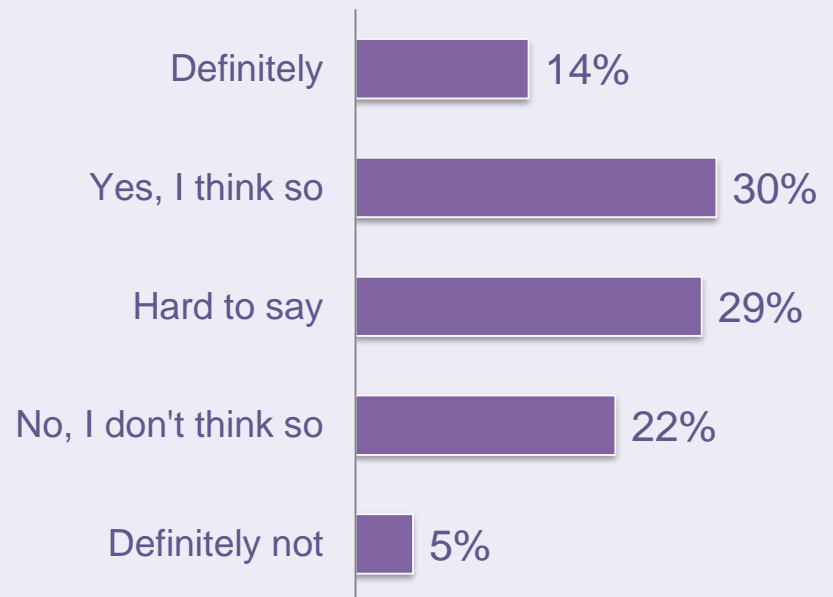
Windsurfing and skiing/snowboarding

EFC graduates' perspective

A sense of bond with other Education Dreams program graduates

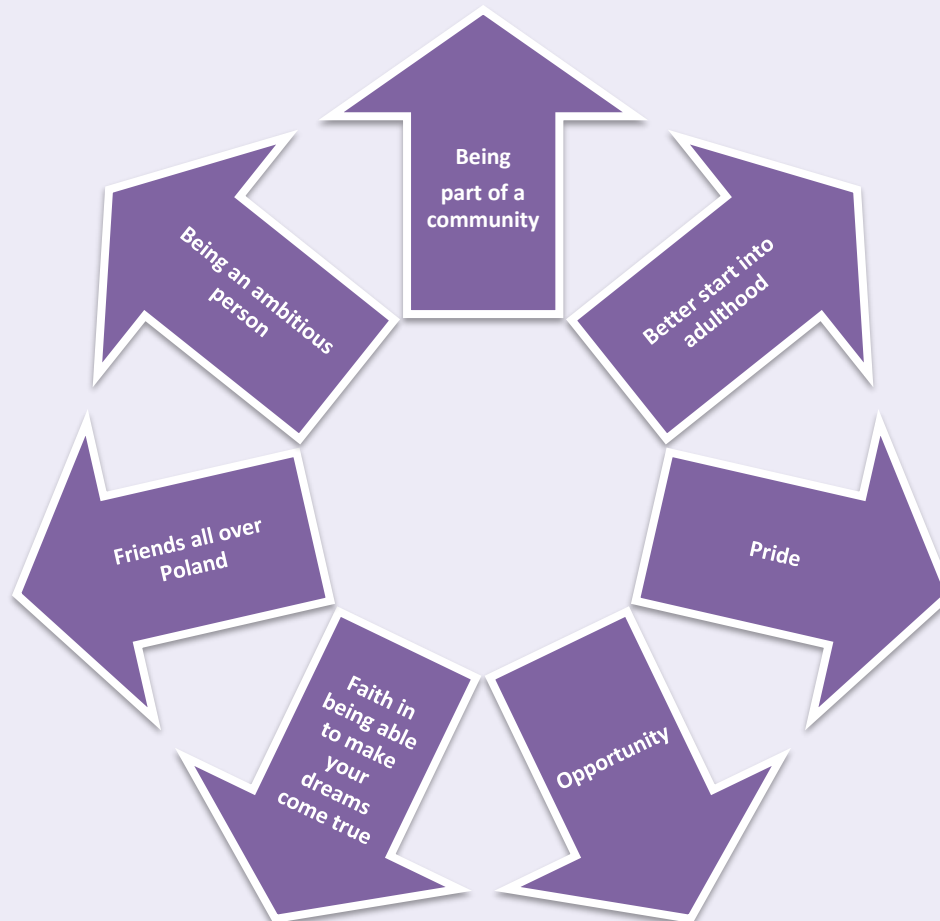


A sense of bond with Education Dreams program scholars



What does it mean to be an EFC graduate

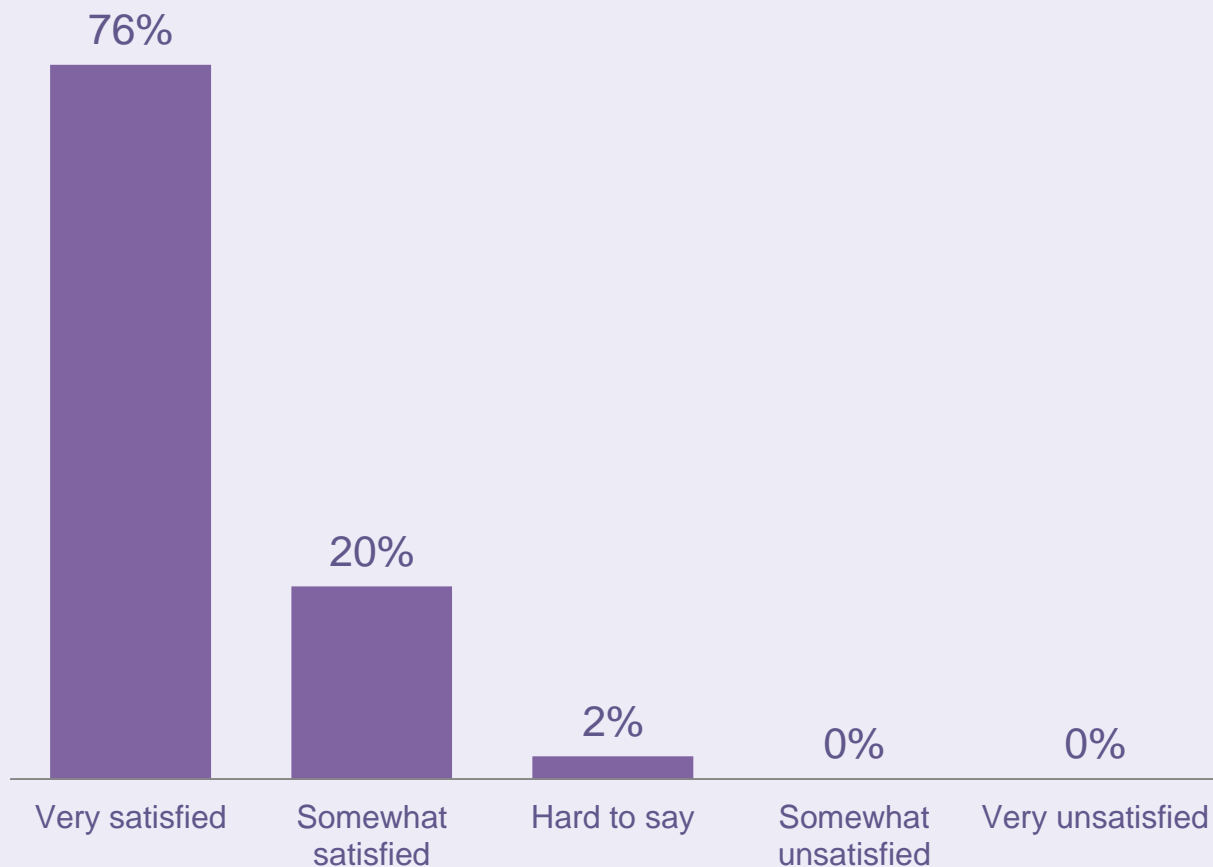
„Being a person who was given an opportunity at a better start to their adult life. Being proud of creating such a unique community. Being a person with many amazing experiences, which were made possible to gain only thanks to EFC.”



EFC graduates' perspective

Program participation satisfaction

„Up to this moment it was the best decision of my life. From an insecure child I matured through high school to the point, where I strongly believe that nothing is impossible. Apart from a good education, which is very important, I think all scholars noticed a big change within themselves in quite a short amount of time, because we had to move out of our homes and start a young-adult life. Besides, the people at the Foundation are incredible, including the coordinators. Special greetings go out to Mr. Maciej Ziółkowski, who is a fantastic person and working with him was very enjoyable.”



Greatest benefits of participating in the program

„The Education Dreams program allowed me to change my life”

„Thanks to the scholarship I have the courage to make important decisions and take responsibility for them.”

- **Living at a dorm with other scholars**
- **Changing my life perspectives**
- **Other scholars**
- **Regional coordinators**
- **Financial relief for my family**

EFC graduates' perspective

Reasons for participating in the program

- Lack of perspectives
- A reluctance to small towns/desire to live in the city
- Local community and way of life in small towns
- Family

Profits from participating in the program

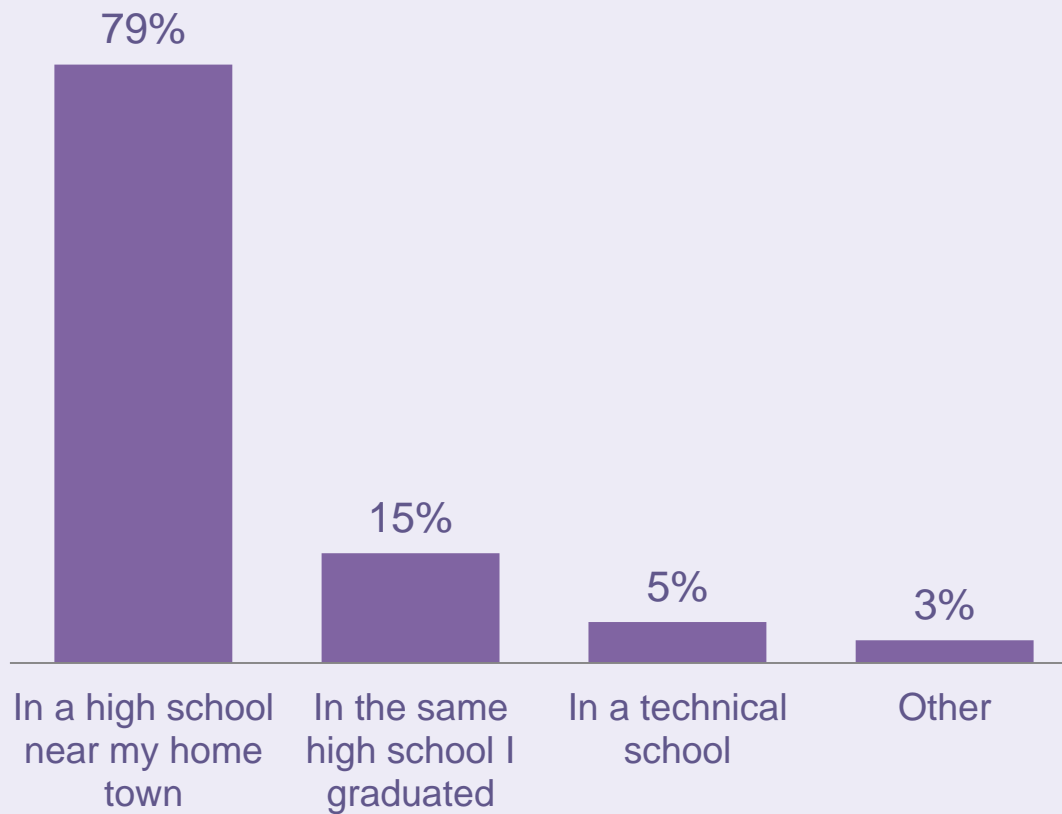
- Education in one of the best schools in Poland
- Meeting friends
- The feeling that you can aim high and make your dreams come true
- Greater self-esteem

Losses resulting from participating in the program

- Inability to spend time with family
- Losing friends from home town

EFC scholars' perspective

Alternative place of education in the case of not receiving the scholarship



EFC scholars' perspective

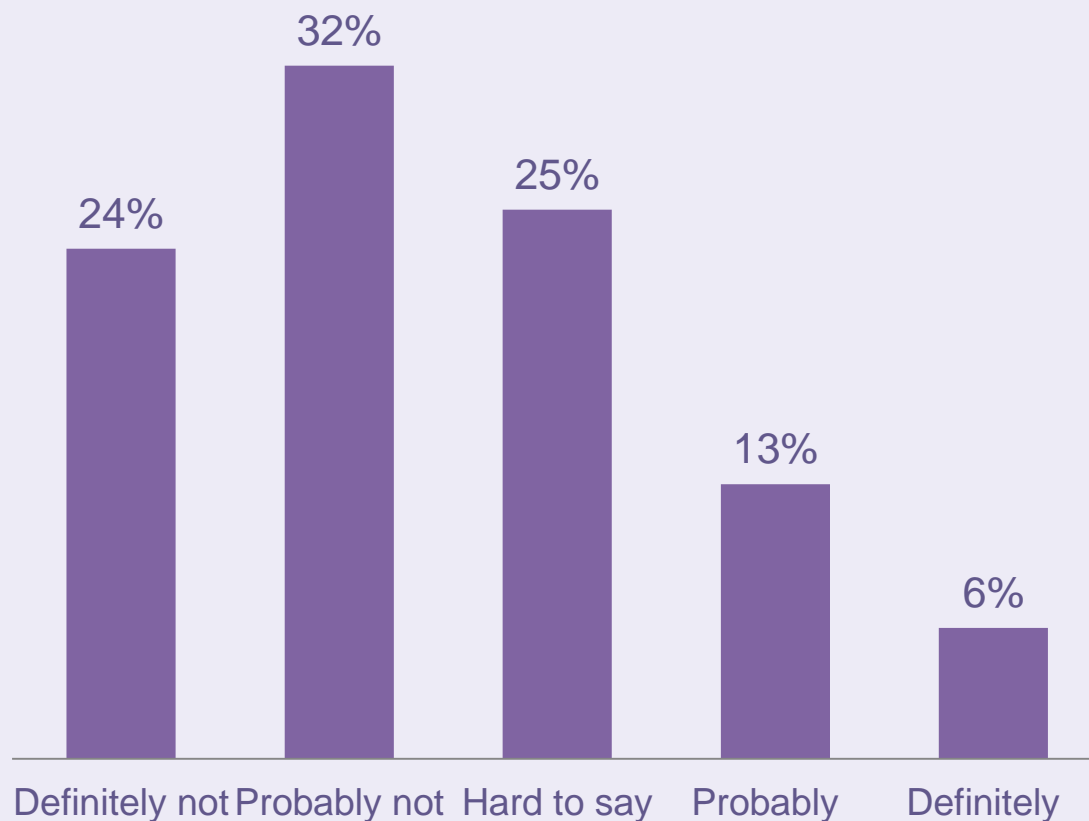
Further educational plans

„Now I see that the best universities are within my reach, thanks to the knowledge of what it really means to be a good student and excell at something.”



The perspective of returning to graduate's home town

„I am very drawn to the city, where there are big development perspectives, goals which I can continue growing into and conditions which allow for it. However I will always return to my home town with sentiment.”



EFC scholars' perspective

Reasons for participating in the program

- Lack of perspectives
- A reluctance to small towns/desire to live in the city
- Local community and way of life in small towns
- Family

Profits from participating in the program

- Ability to study at a good high school
- Financial relief for parents
- Greater independence
- Increase in self-esteem, courage
- Opportunity to meet people from all over Poland, make friends
- Opportunity to develop interests
- Skiing and windsurfing skills
- Higher level of English

Losses resulting in participating in the program

- More difficult contact with friends and family
- Lost touch with friends
- Limited contact with nature

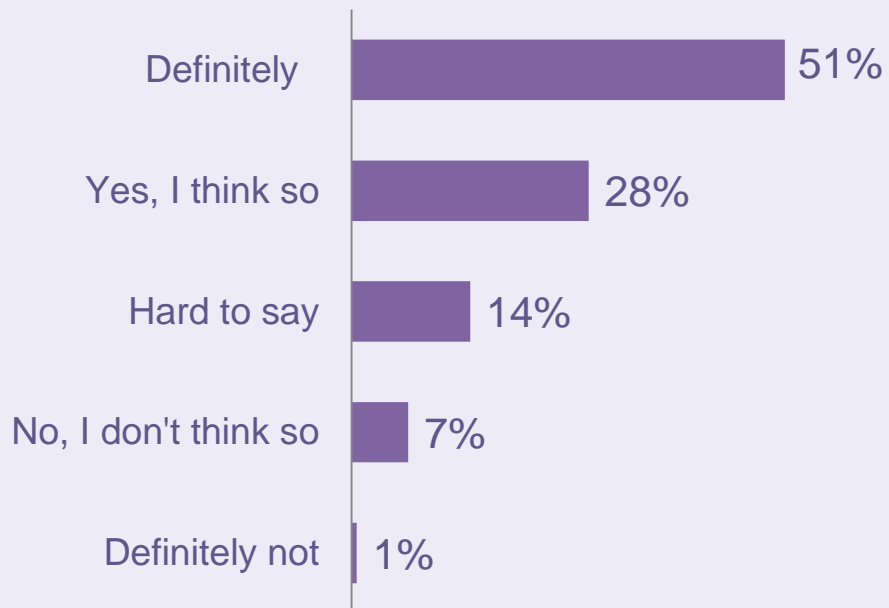
EFC scholars' perspective

What does it mean to be an EFC scholar

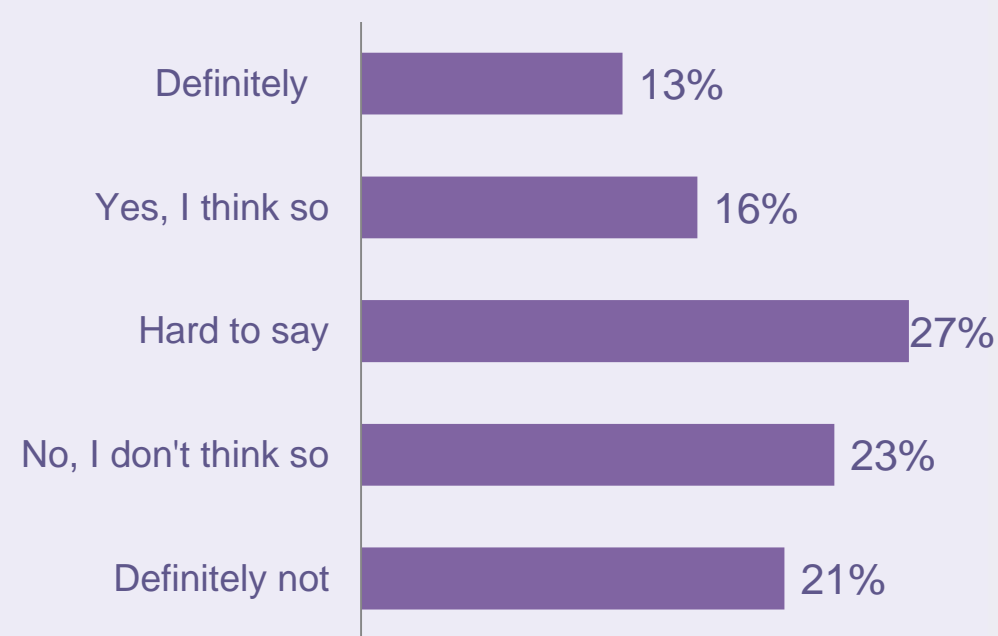


EFC scholars' perspective

A sense of bond with other Education Dreams program graduates



A sense of bond with other Education Dreams program scholars



What shapes the EFC community

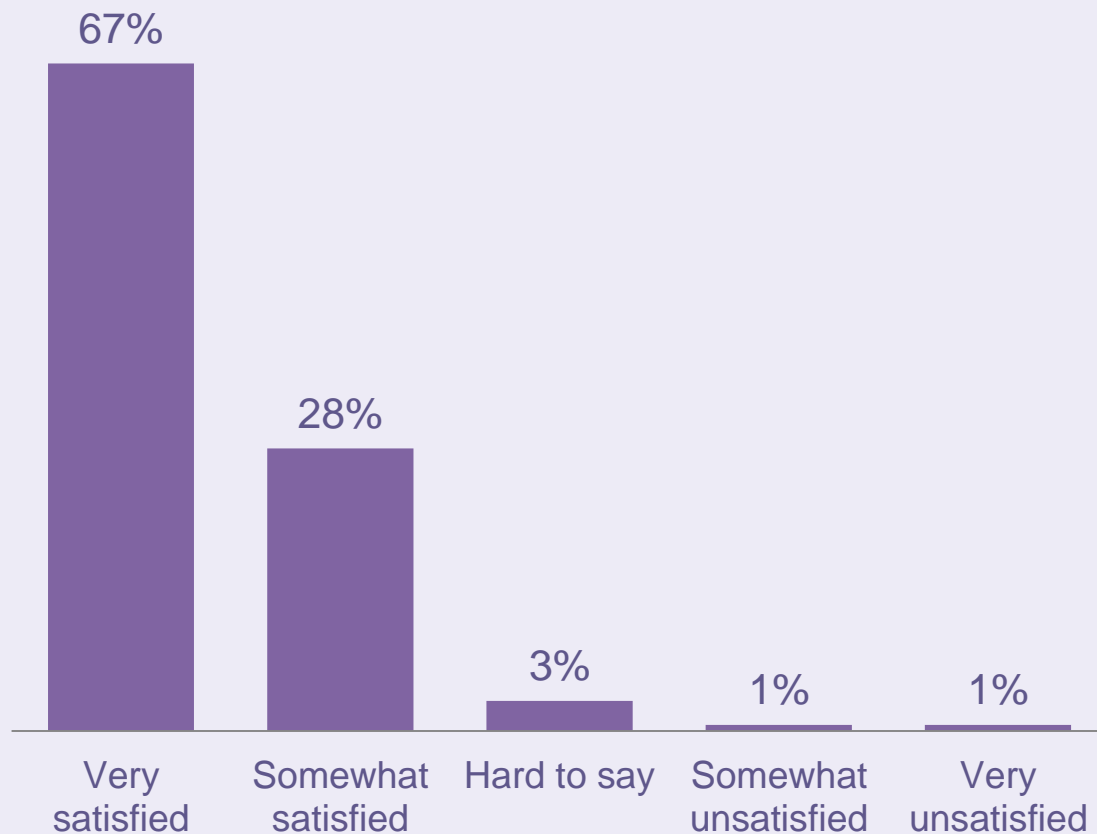
„The obligation to become an educated and respected human being because otherwise it's a waste of an opportunity given to you”

- Living in a dorm with other scholars
- Weekend getaways
- Vacation and winter holidays
- Working with coordinators (who are part of this community)
- Whether or not you have friends among scholars and keep in touch with scholars from different cities
- Social Media, especially Facebook groups
- The existence of an Alumni Association, which you can sign up for after graduating

EFC scholars' perspective

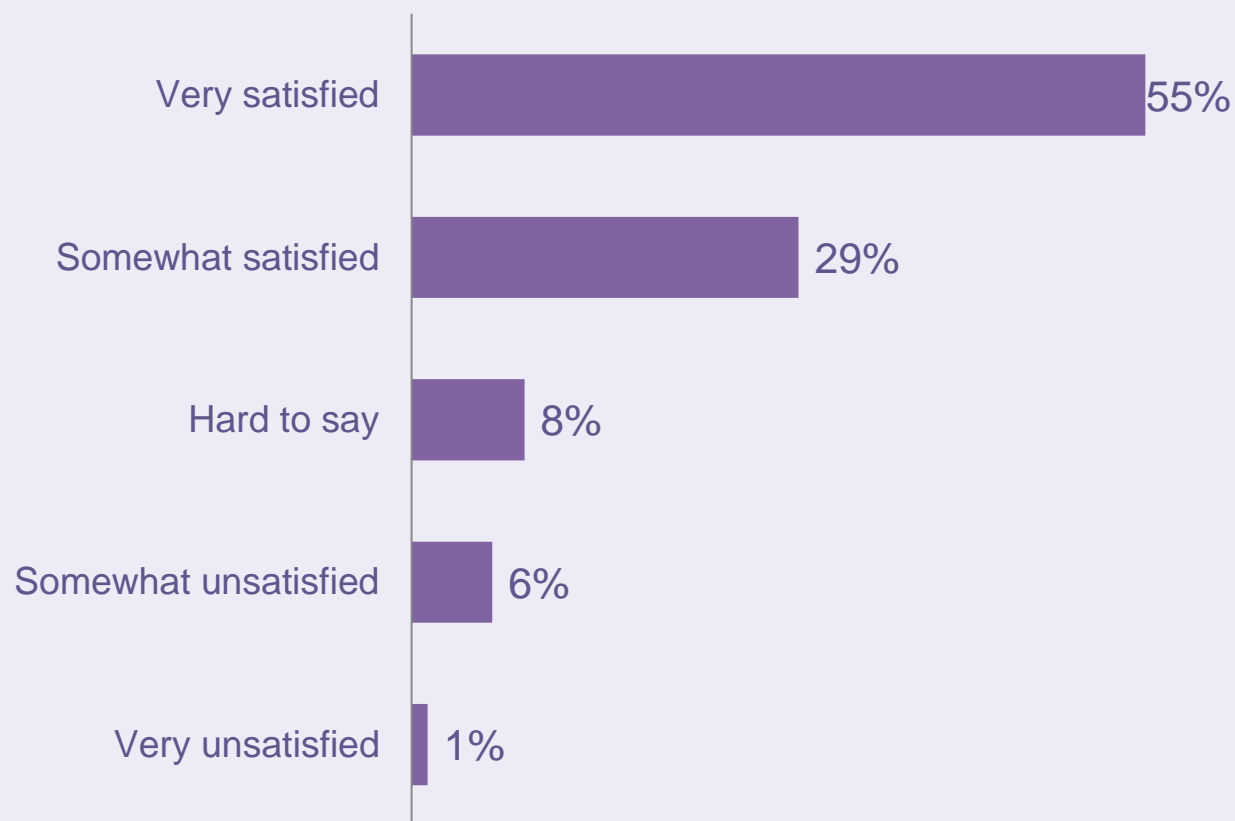
Program participation satisfaction

„The Education Dreams program helped me make my dreams come true. The people from EFC that I got a chance to meet are very positive and kind. I think that EFC is one of the best things that happened in my life.”

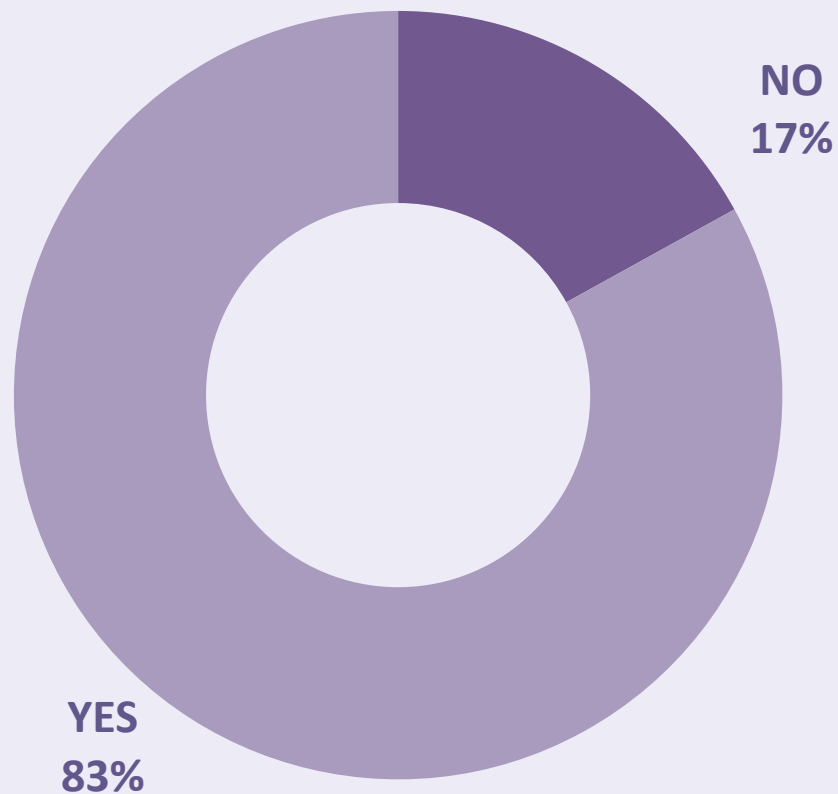


EFC scholars' perspective

Evaluation of working with coordinators



Was accommodation in a dorm a good idea?



School principles' and teachers' perspective

„You can tell that the Foundation has a very good recruitment process for this Program. All scholars, who study here are very motivated and take full advantage of the opportunity they were given.”

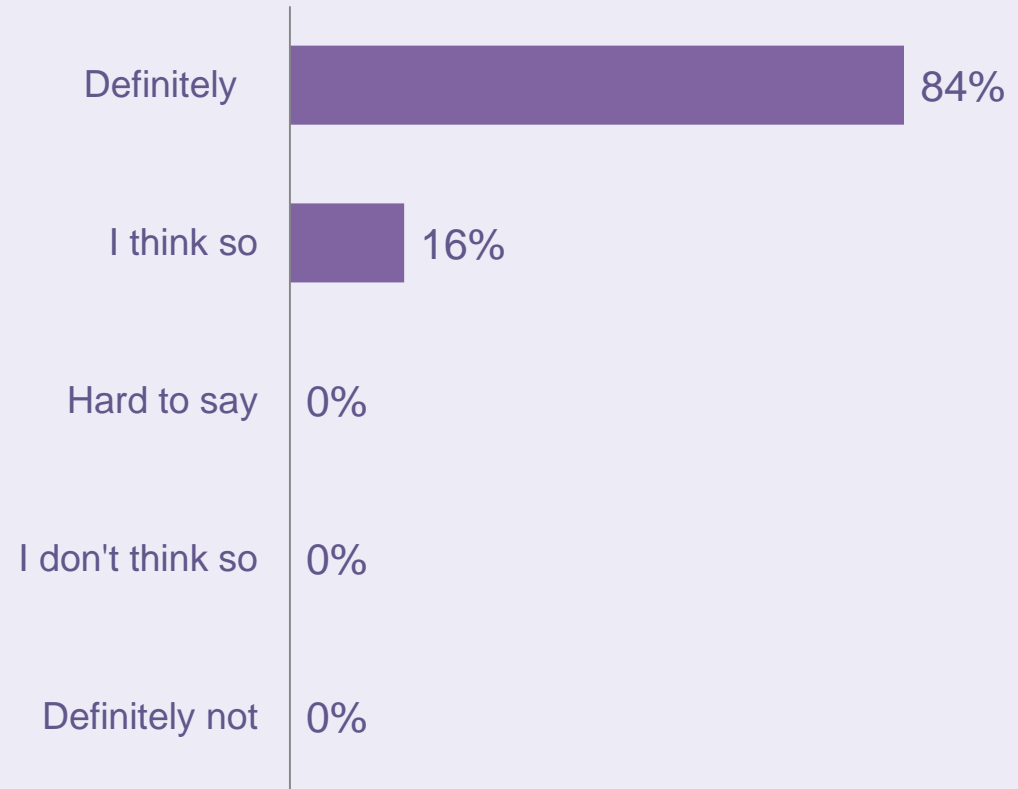
What distinguishes the EFC scholars from other students

1. A focus on learning
2. High levels of motivation for studying
3. Bigger engagement in school life
4. Modesty

Parents' and guardians' perspective

The program impact on educational opportunities

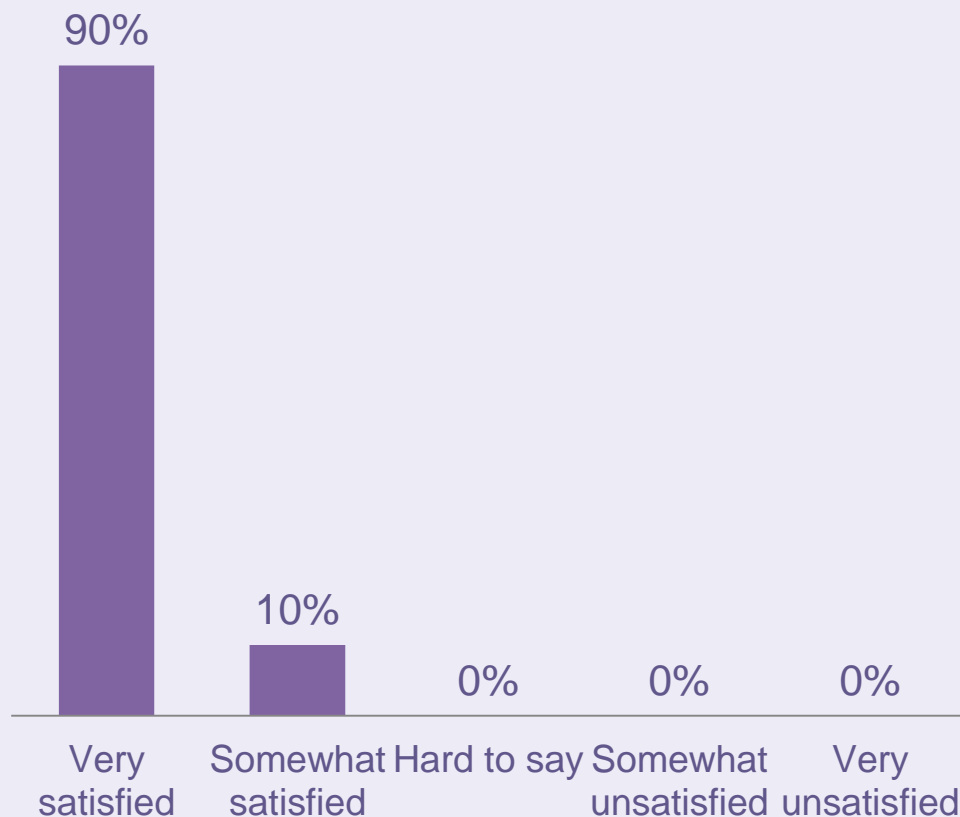
„The possibility of an education at a good, high level school. Financing many activities such as vacation camps, increases self-esteem – the child doesn't feel inferior. My child became much more independent (living away from home), having to plan their own day around studying and resting. Participating in big city cultural life, e.g. school trips to the theater. Additional English classes increase the child's language skills.”



Parents' and guardians' perspective

Overall satisfaction from child participation in the program

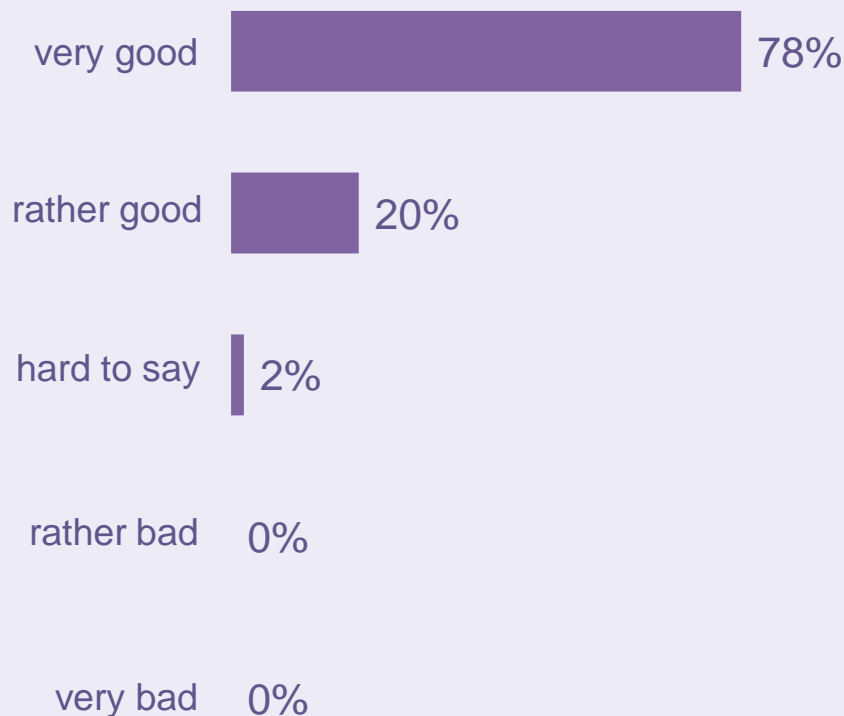
„Thanks to the program my child has been ensured of very good educational conditions. This is a relief for us, we don't have to worry about purchasing textbooks and paying for our child's life in the city. We also greatly appreciate all the summer and winter camps.”



Parents' and guardians' perspective

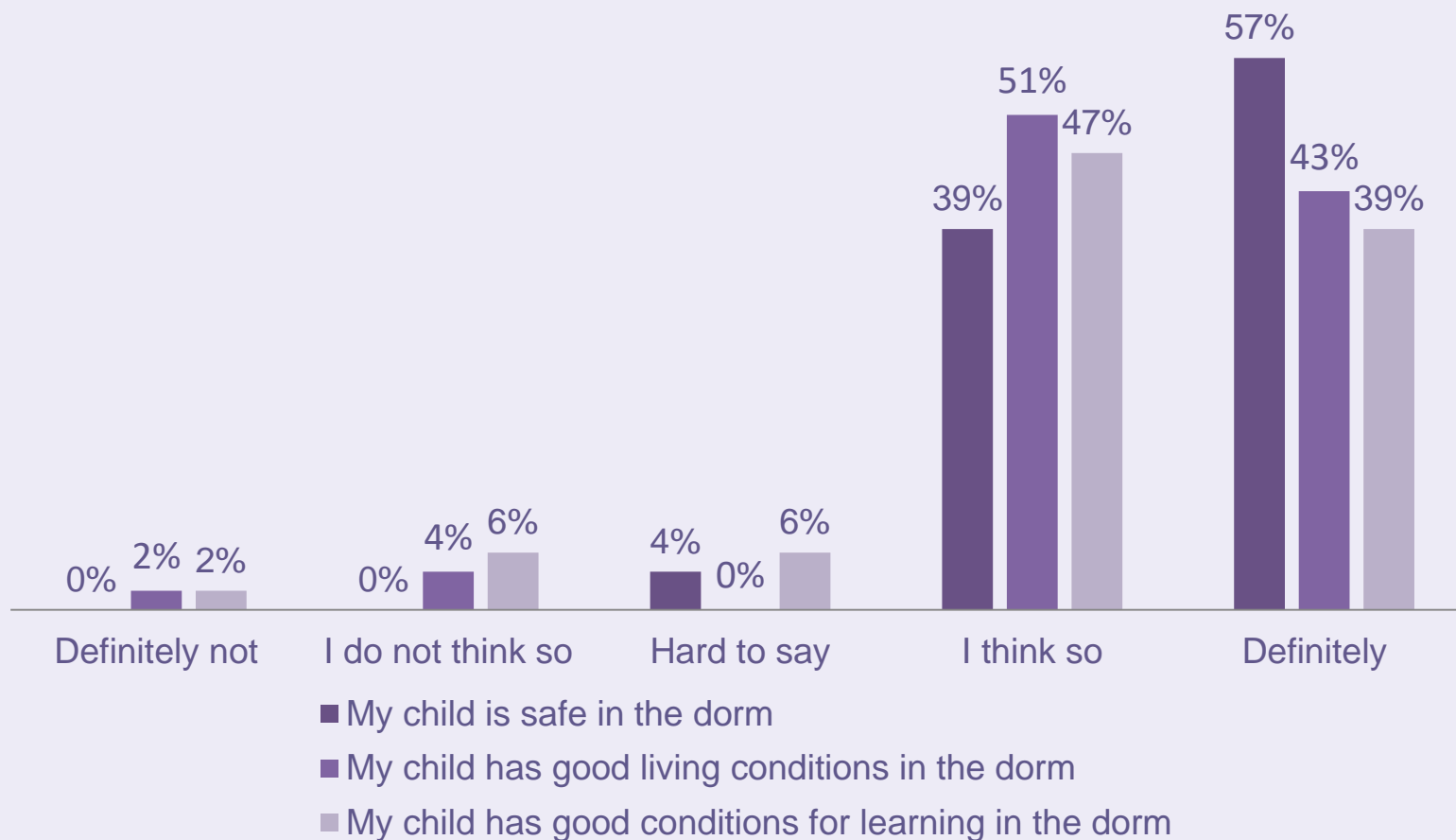
Overall evaluation of working with the EFC Foundation

„Working with the Foundation was always based on trust and concrete actions. Communication was very good, hassle-free, there weren't any critical situations. Coordinators were always available for the scholars and so were all other Foundation employees.”



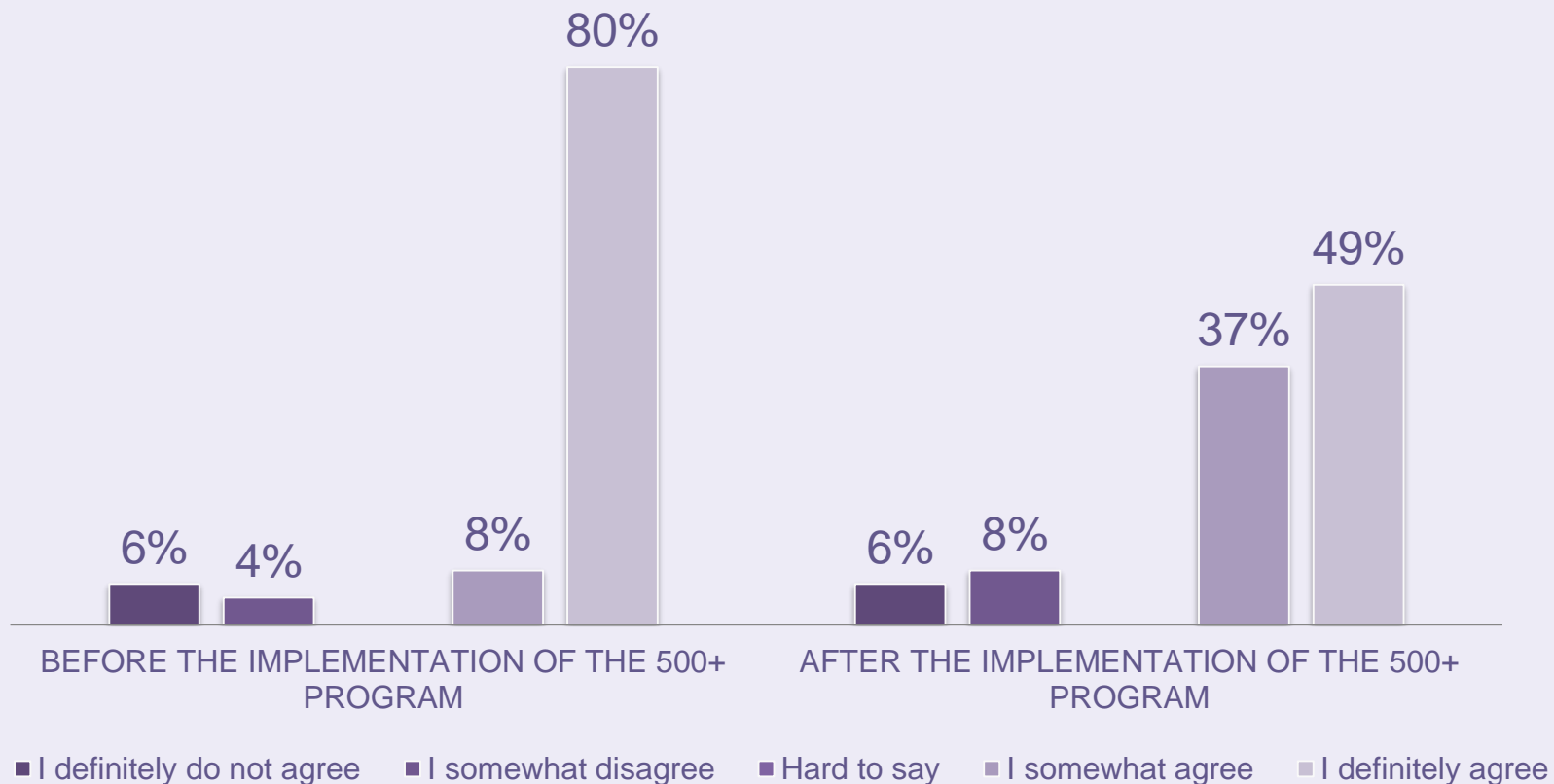
Parents' and guardians' perspective

Evaluation of the dorm conditions



Impact of the 500 plus program on the financial situation of scholars' families

If mychild had not received the scholarship, I would not be able to afford their education in the high school they are currently in?



Results of the Education Dreams Program

The Education Dreams Program brings concrete results expressed in actual educational choices.

The Program graduates are not planning a return to their home towns.

Participation in the Program changes the scholars' life perspective.

Participation in the Program leads to an increase in independence and courage in decision making regarding one's future, but also to an improvement in self-esteem and confidence.

Conclusions from the results and impact

The Education Dreams program is a well structured and much needed program, which brings measurable results and has an ongoing impact. It is worth it to keep carrying out the Program in its current shape and scope.

The Program has many strong points but one of the strongest and most distinctive ones is the recruitment process, which should be kept in its present form.

Recommendation for the program

The Education Dreams program is a well structured and much needed program, which brings measurable results and has an ongoing impact. It is worth it to keep carrying out the Program in its current shape and scope.

The Program has many strong points but one of the strongest and most distinctive ones is the recruitment process, which should be kept in its present form.

One of the most important aspects of the Program is the fact that its participants feel like they are part of a community. It is worth it to underline this is in the communication, and also remember which of the Program's elements build this community.

Thank you:

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