

Junior Achievement's

2009 Kids and Careers Poll

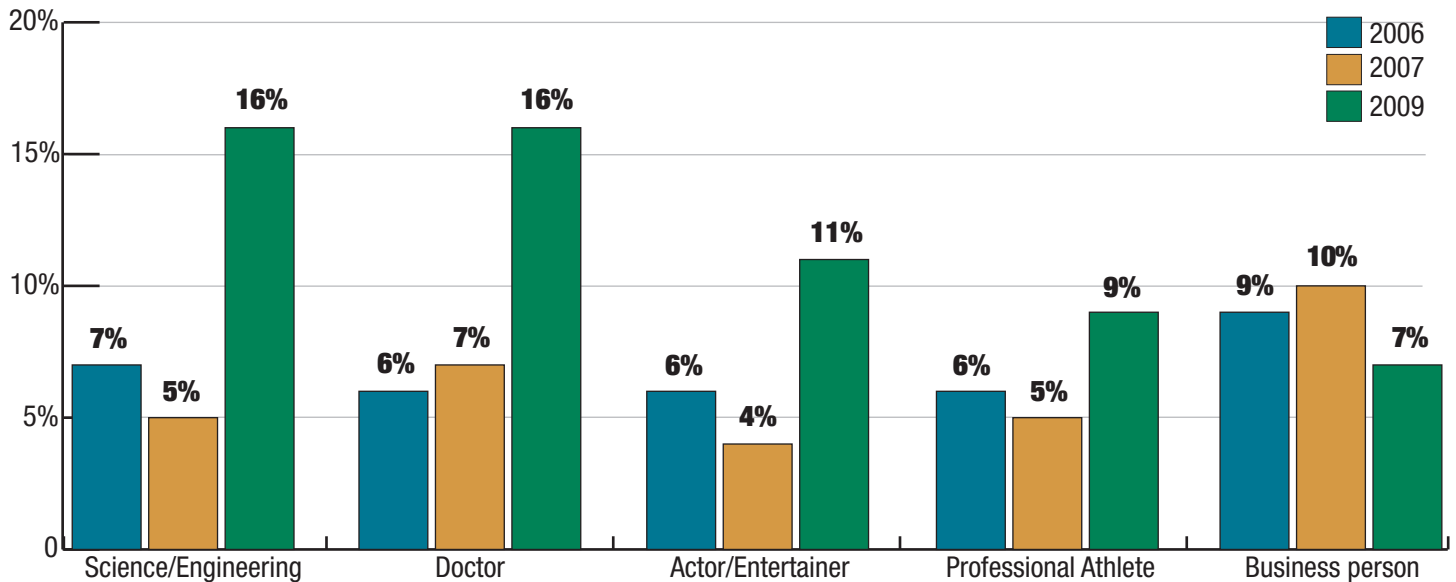
funded by the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM)

The results of Junior Achievement's 2009 "Kids and Careers" Poll portray a surprising decline in teen interest in careers in business. The decline could be attributed to the current state of the economy and teens' desire to pursue careers with greater perceived job security and income potential.

Regardless of which career path teens choose, Junior Achievement programs teach them valuable work-readiness skills such as leadership, teamwork, and creative thinking.

Surprise findings in the 2009 Poll Results

What is your ideal career*?



Even though teens seem hesitant to identify "business person" as their ideal career—despite it being their top choice in this poll from 2003 to 2007—business is still the greatest job generator in the U.S. economy. As such, young people continue to need to learn strong business skills, which are key to economic recovery and prosperity.

Teens and human resources experts both recognize the importance of work-readiness skills, such as those taught by Junior Achievement programs.

The Society for Human Resource Management President and CEO Laurence G. O'Neil says, "Workforce readiness is a key concern for SHRM and the entire human resources profession, which is why we support Junior Achievement. Businesses and organizations need workers who possess the skills and professionalism to succeed in their jobs."

Which of the following life skills or talents do you feel is most important for your success as an employee?

