



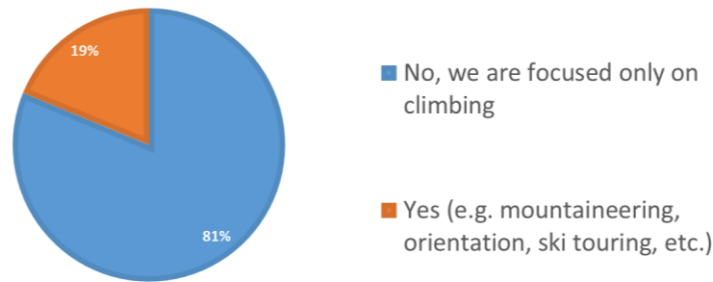
Analysis report of the Croatian climbing clubs

The survey was sent to 24 clubs that are all members of the Croatian Federation of Sports Climbing, HSPS.

We received answers from 16 clubs.

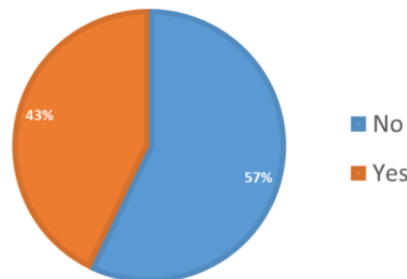
GENERAL INFO

1. Does your club specialize in any other activity (other than climbing)?



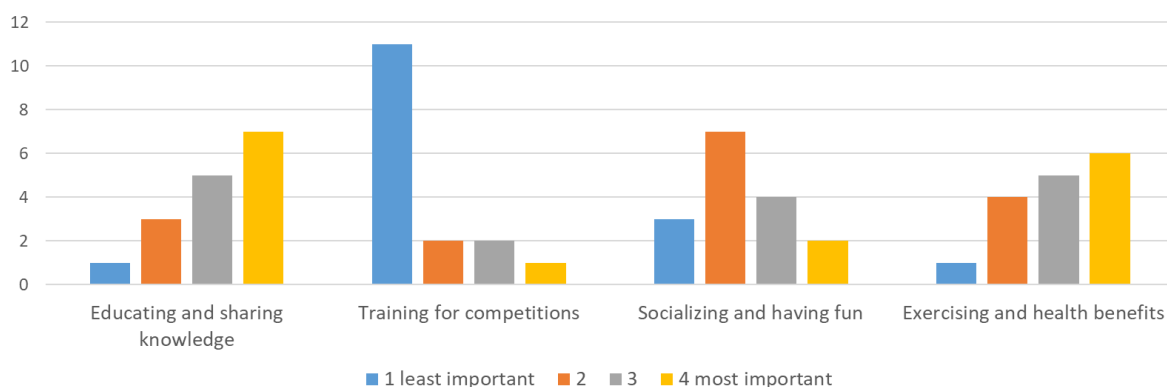
We can see from the graph that most of the participating clubs are strictly climbing clubs. Only 3 clubs have members that participate in other activities.

2. Is any member of your club part of some minority (e.g. ethnic minority, racial minority, religious minority, sexual minority, or disabled people)?



Almost half of the clubs have members that are some minority. The ones that don't have are mostly small clubs that are from the countryside, but there is also one big club. Two of the clubs did not answer.

3. How would you prioritize your goals regarding young climbers in your club?



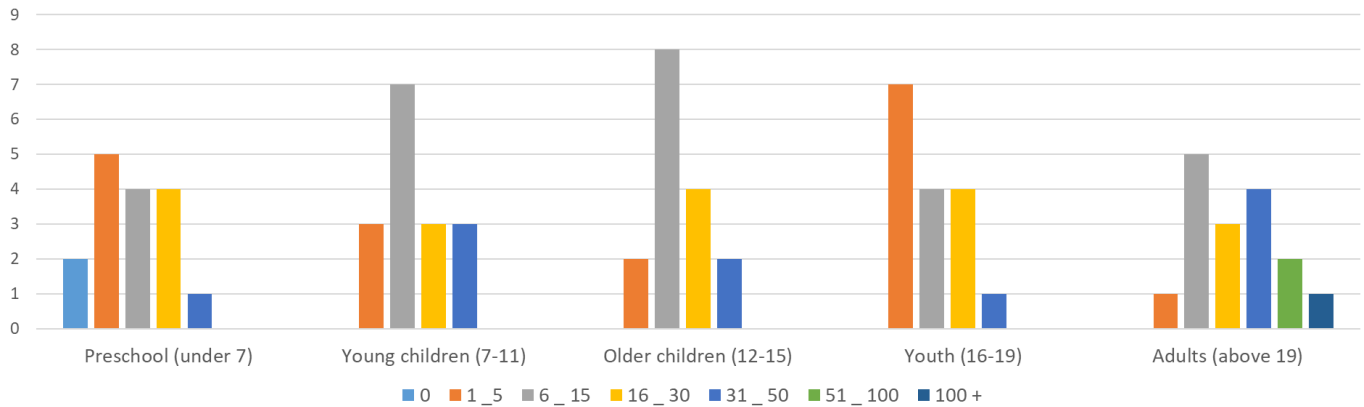


We can see from the answers that for most of the clubs, the focus is on exercising and health benefits, and education. Training for competitions is the least important to almost all of the clubs, but one of the biggest clubs in Croatia set it as the most important.

'Socializing and having fun' is somewhere in the middle of prioritized goals.

CLIMBING ACTIVITIES

4. Roughly estimate the number of climbers in your club in different age brackets:

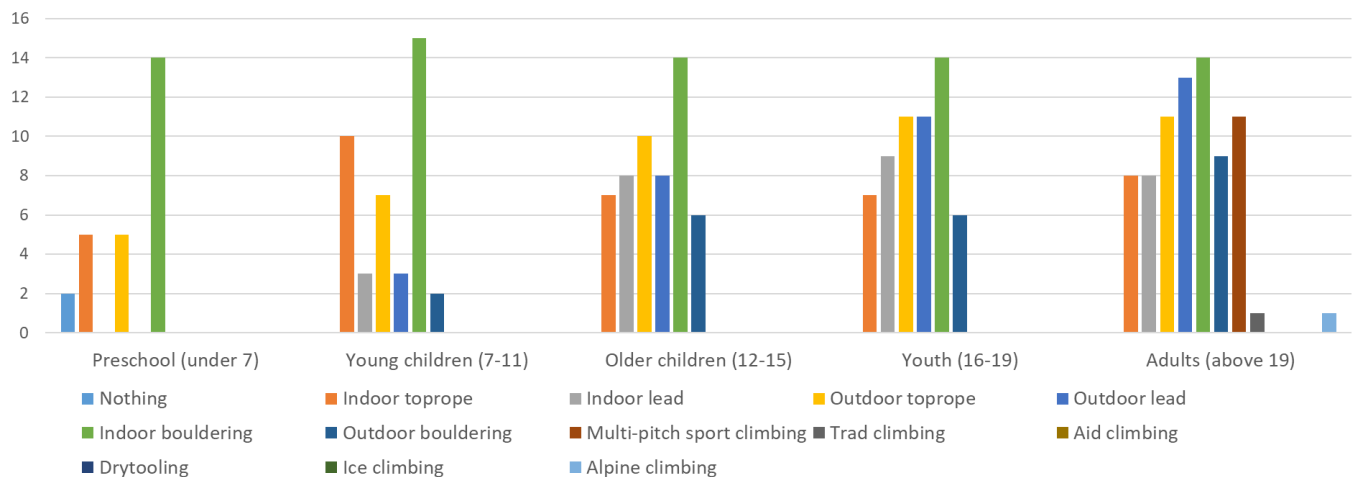


Only 2 clubs don't have preschool children. Others have up to 30, and only one club has over 30 preschools. Young and older children are much more numerous in most of the clubs. The numbers drop again for the youth climbers. It shows it is much easier to attract children from primary schools.

Only in the adult age group, some clubs have over 50 members.

The clubs differ a lot in their size, from less than 30 to more than 200 climbers of all ages. Smaller groups cannot have all age groups.

5. Choose the types of climbing you do in your club with children/youth in different age brackets:

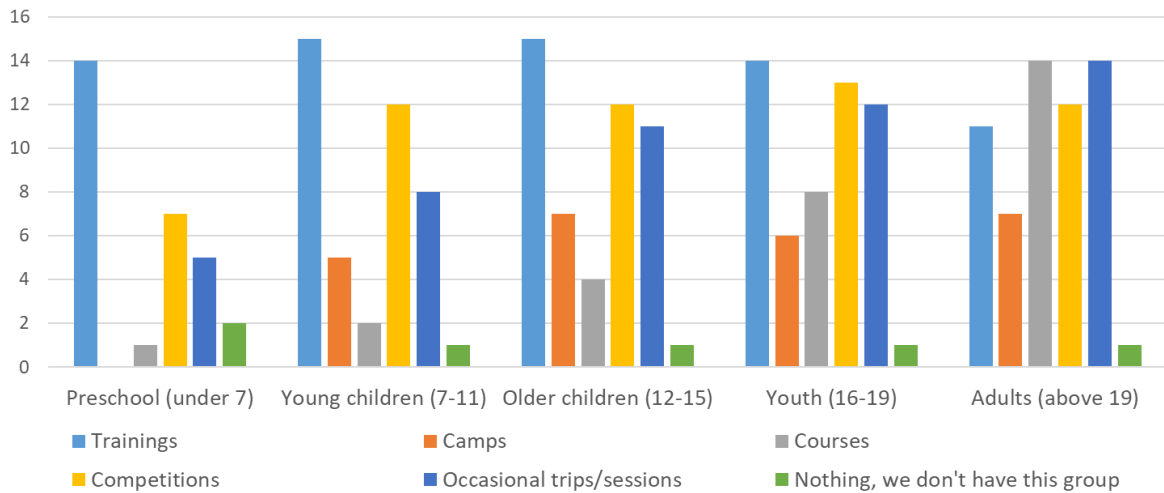


Indoor bouldering is the most common type of climbing in all age brackets. Preschool children only climb top rope and boulder, mostly indoors since it is easier to control and it's safer in general. Lead climbing is introduced to young children and is becoming more important through the years. Most of the clubs do lead climbing with older children.

We can see that there are a few clubs, that also have adult climbers, that participate in alpine activities such as aid climbing, alpine and multi-pitch climbing.



6. Choose the climbing activities you organize in your club for children/youth in different age brackets:



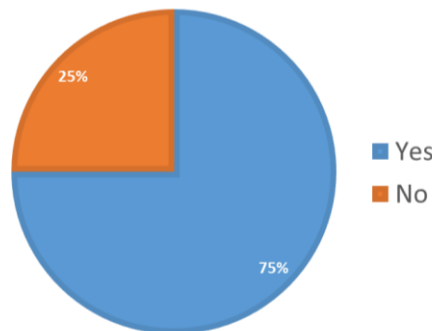
All of the clubs but one have regular training. Organizing competitions, occasional trips, and courses increase with age. There are no camps for preschool children, and the number of camps stays low through all age brackets.

7. Write if you organize any other climbing activities for young climbers that weren't mentioned in the last question:

Only 1 club answered that they do DWS and climbing from the sea.

COMPETITORS

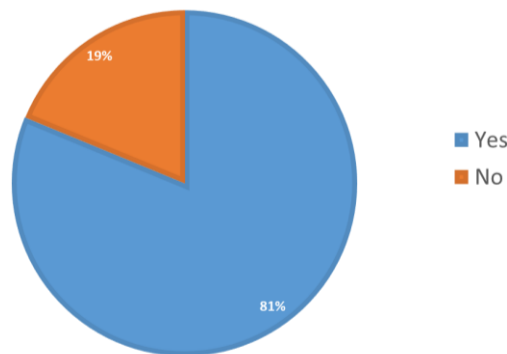
8. Do you have any young competitors in your club that compete on a national level?



Three quarters of the clubs have at least one young competitor on the national level.

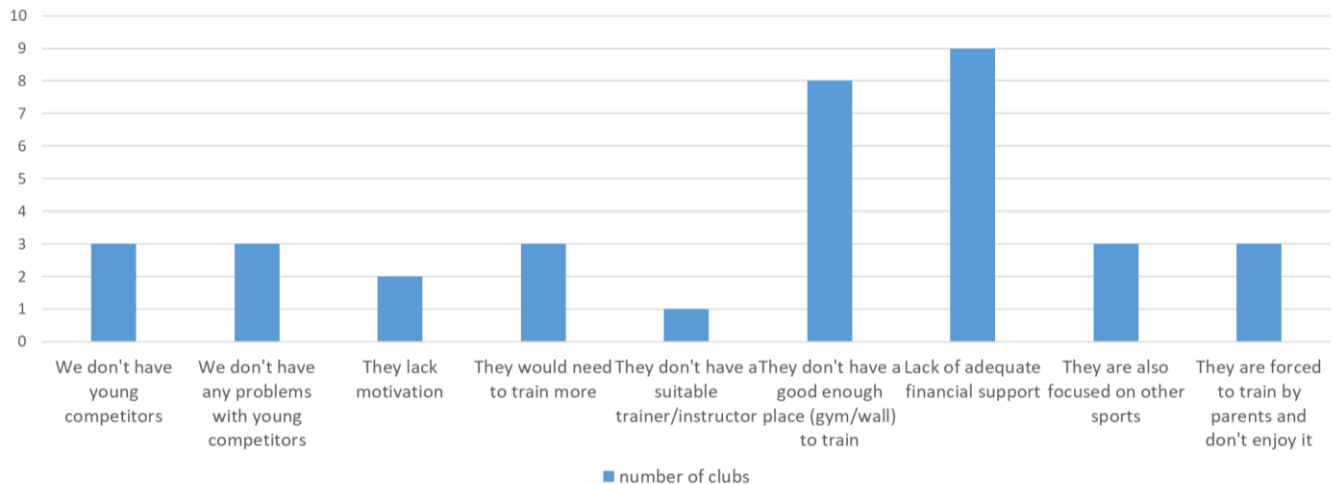


9. Do you have any young competitors in your club that compete in other climbing competitions or leagues (not on a national level)?



Only 19 % (3 clubs) of the clubs do not have any young competitors. Through competition clubs can get money and new members, so most of the clubs encourage young climbers to participate in them.

10. Does your club face any problems regarding young competitors (on any level)?



More than half of the clubs don't have adequate financial support to help young competitors or/and don't have a good enough place to train.

Others problems are also mentioned, but they are spread out through the clubs. It is interesting to see that only 1 club has a problem with trainers which is very encouraging.

11. Does your club have any program for young competitors who stopped competing? (Please share your tips & tricks on how to keep them motivated and avoid losing their interest in climbing)

Clubs have some experience with former competitors. Their suggestions are:

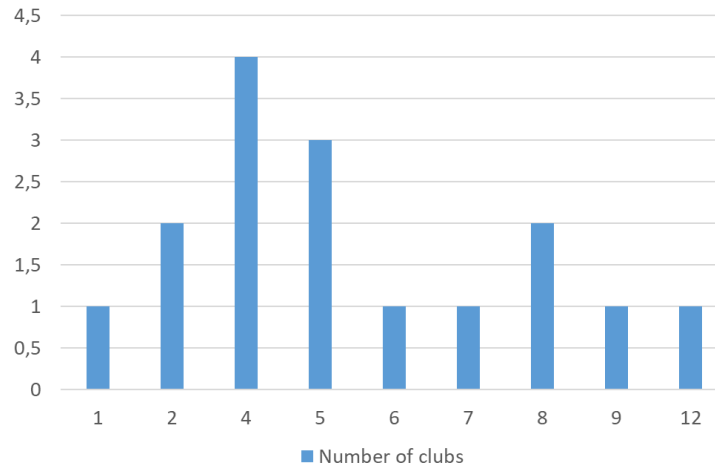
- Climbing as a tool for socializing and in recreational purposes
- The best motive to stay in climbing proved to be team trips to competitions and climbing trips, camps where young people further socialize. Guiding them to courses and education, to get a certification.
- Just a lot of conversation and to have the opportunity to always be able to return to competitions when they feel ready.
- Additional work with a good coach



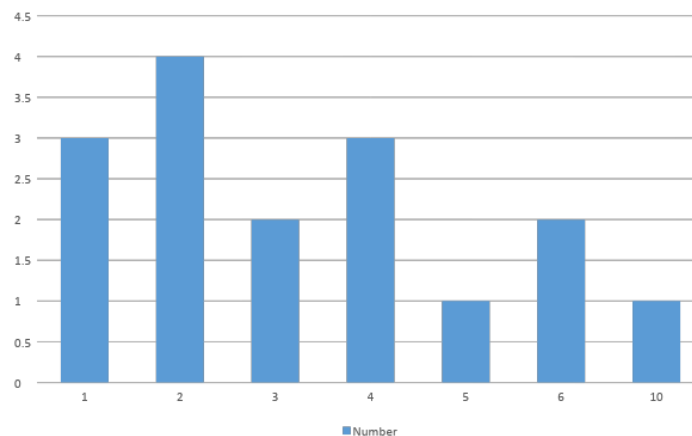
STAFF

Write the number of professional staff in your club that work with children/youth (instructors/coaches/trainers/leaders/assistants/helpers):

12. Number of all staff (with licence or not):



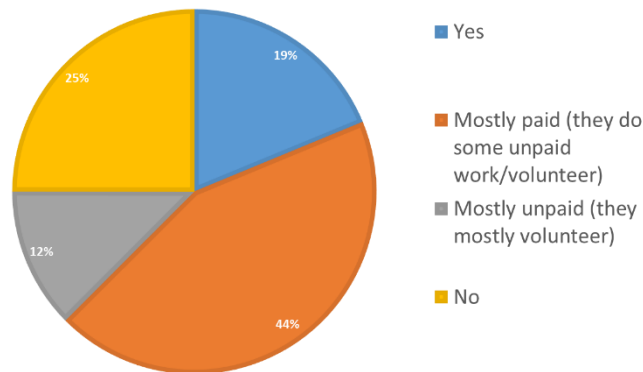
13. Number of staff with licence:



Comparing the above graphs we can see that two thirds of the staff have a licence (a total number of 86 versus 56 without the licence). Staff without licence are mostly experienced climbers, that haven't completed instructor course. All of the clubs have at least 1 licenced staff member.

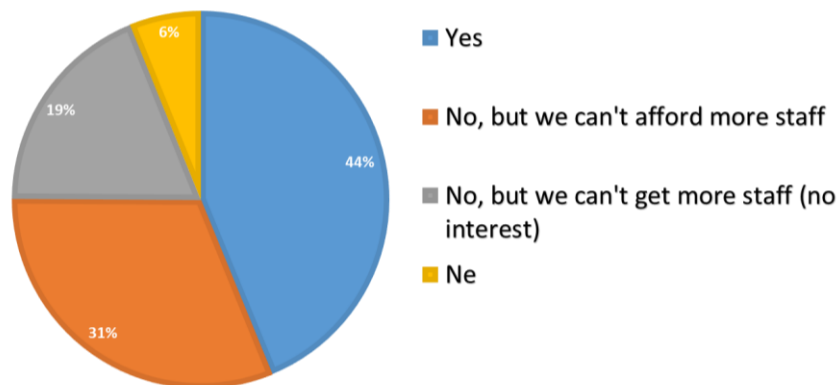


14. Are the instructors (and other staff) paid for their work?



55% of the instructors are paid something but they also volunteer a lot. Only 19% are fully paid. A quarter (4 clubs) don't pay their staff anything (they volunteer). We can see that most of the work is done by enthusiasts that want climbing to progress as a sport or as an activity.

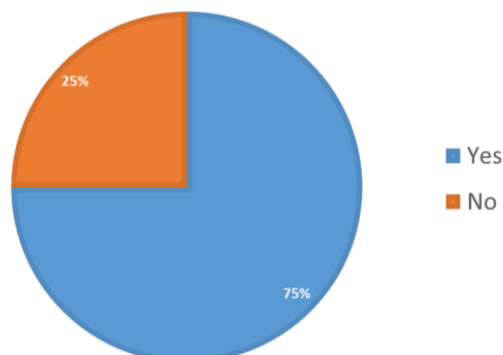
15. Is the number of your staff sufficient for all the climbing activities that you organize for children/youth?



Almost half of the clubs have enough staff which is very encouraging. Half of the clubs have some problems, from which the biggest problem is financing (they can't afford more staff).

ORGANIZATION

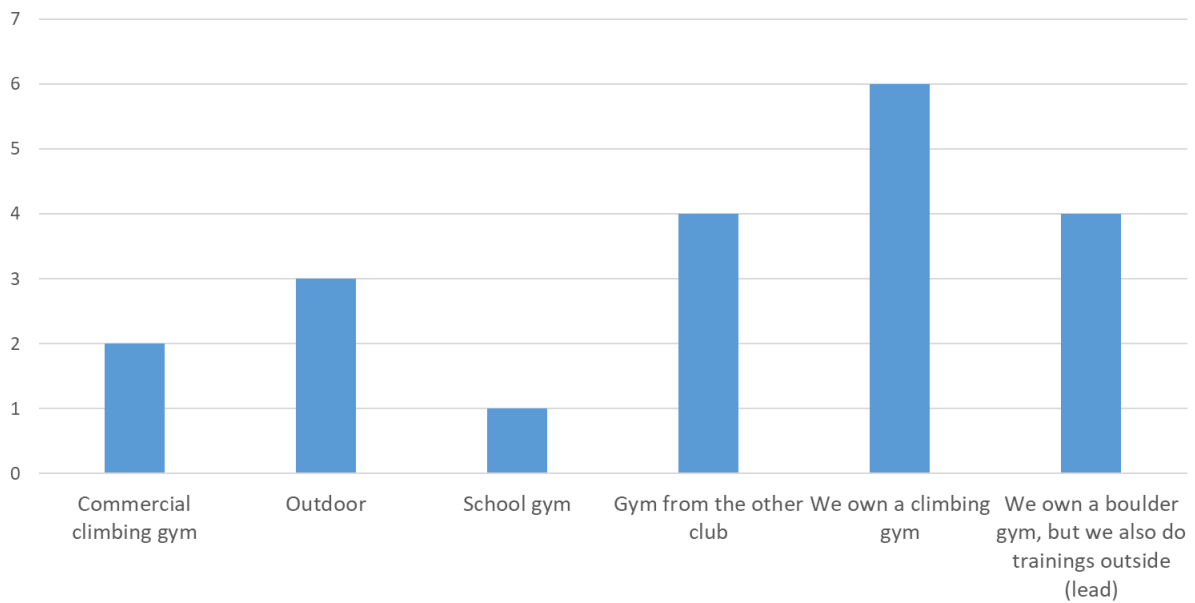
16. Does your club have its own climbing gym/wall?



Three-quarters of the clubs have some kind of home climbing wall.

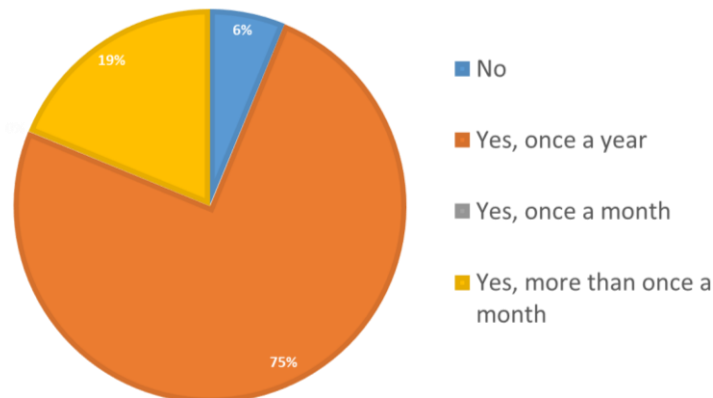


17. If your club doesn't have its own climbing gym/wall, how do you organize your training?



Most of the clubs that don't have their own gym use a gym from the other clubs or commercial climbing gyms. Some of the clubs train outside because they don't own a gym, and some as additional training.

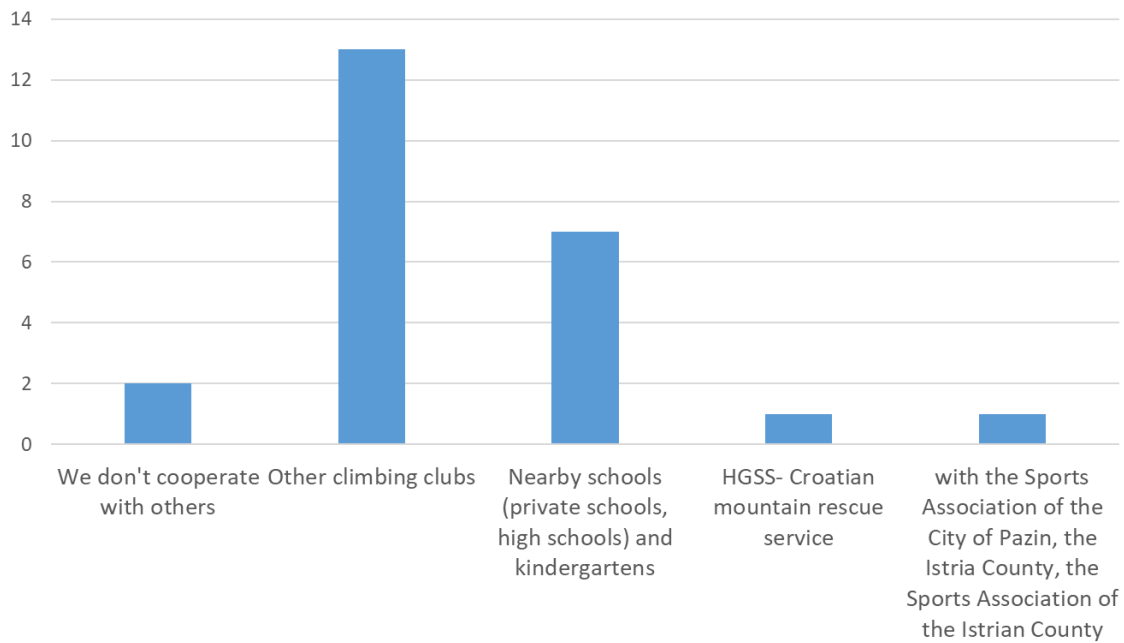
18. Do you organize any type of 'open for public' climbing events, where children can try climbing for free?



Only 1 club doesn't organize any events. Two thirds of the clubs organize them once a year. 3 clubs organize events more than once a month.

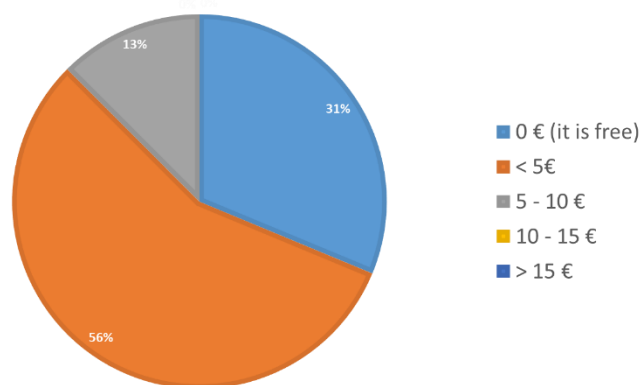


19. Choose the organizations that your club cooperates with:



Most of the clubs cooperate with other climbing clubs. Almost half of the clubs cooperate with some educational facilities like schools or kindergartens. Some of the clubs cooperate with the Croatian mountain rescue service or sports associations in their town.

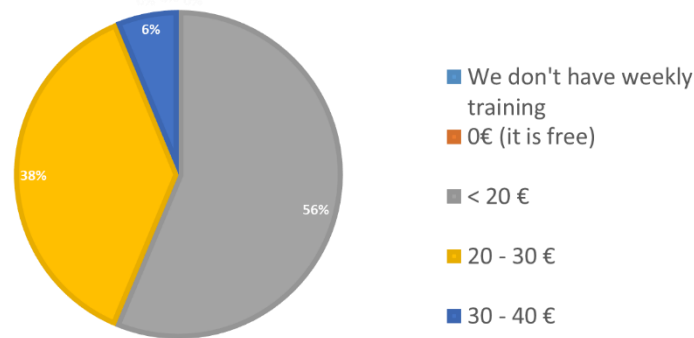
20. What is the average cost for one visit to the climbing gym (your gym or any other near you) for a young climber from your club?



31% of the clubs have free entry for children. More than half of the clubs charge less than 5 € for one visit. We can see that is quite cheap for children to try climbing.

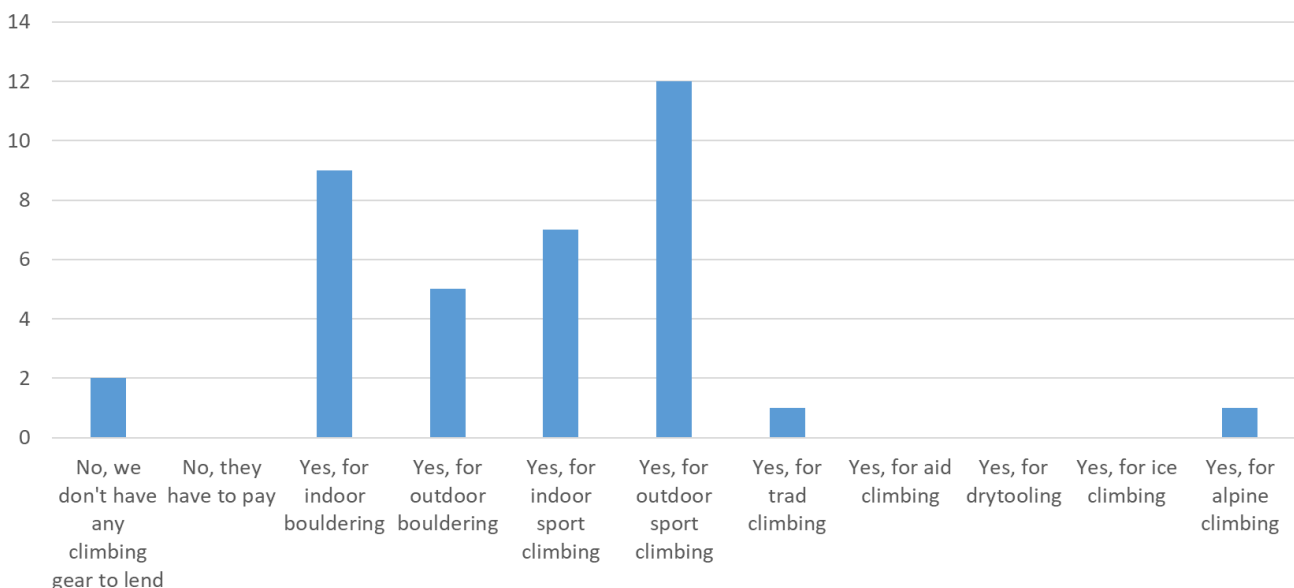


21. What is the average cost per month for regular weekly training (training once a week) for a young climber from your club?



56% of the clubs charge less than 20€ for weekly training. One third of the clubs charge 20-30€ for weekly training. Only 1 club charges more than 30€ for weekly training.

22. Can young climbers from your club borrow climbing gear for free from your club?



All but 2 clubs have some gear that climbers can borrow. The most common gear is the one for sport climbing and for bouldering. There are some clubs that have technical gear for trad and alpine climbing, that can be borrowed.

23. Who do you think could benefit from being introduced to climbing as a sport in the future? (Please write target groups who could benefit from climbing)

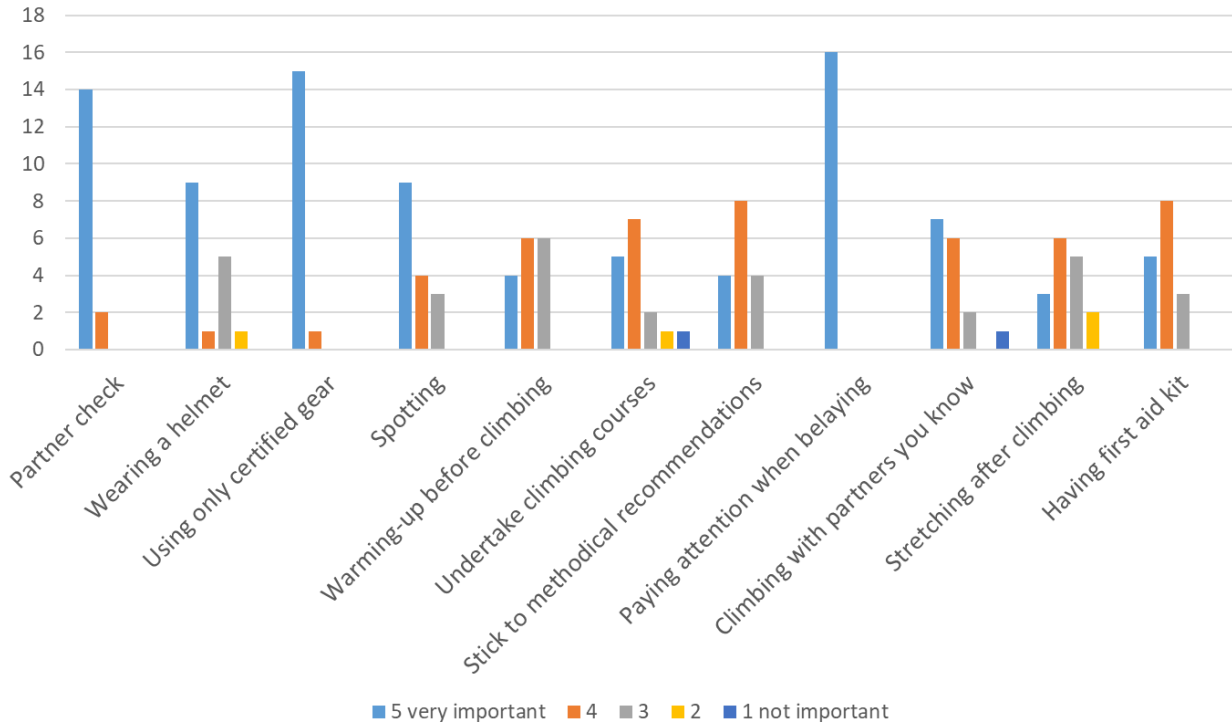
- Everybody (children, youth, and adults)
- Elderly people
- All who are interested in personal development and developing new skills.
- Local community, individuals involved in climbing
- Young people and the whole community, in order to popularize marginal sports
- Young families, especially women that are giving up sports because of their families. The local community can benefit from outdoor tourism. Kindergartens and schools could expand the curriculum with physical education activities. People with disabilities as part of rehabilitation climbing, etc.



- Everyone, adults and children, benefit from climbing because climbing is an extremely complex but also attractive sport, that is experiencing growth, among other things, due to the recommendations of doctors and physiotherapists.

SAFETY

24. Please rate how important you find the following in terms of climbing safety while climbing outdoor:



All of the clubs chose paying attention when belaying as very important. Very important or important are also partner checks and using only certified gear.

Only undertaking climbing courses and Stretching were set as not important by some clubs.

All other answers are mostly important or in the middle.