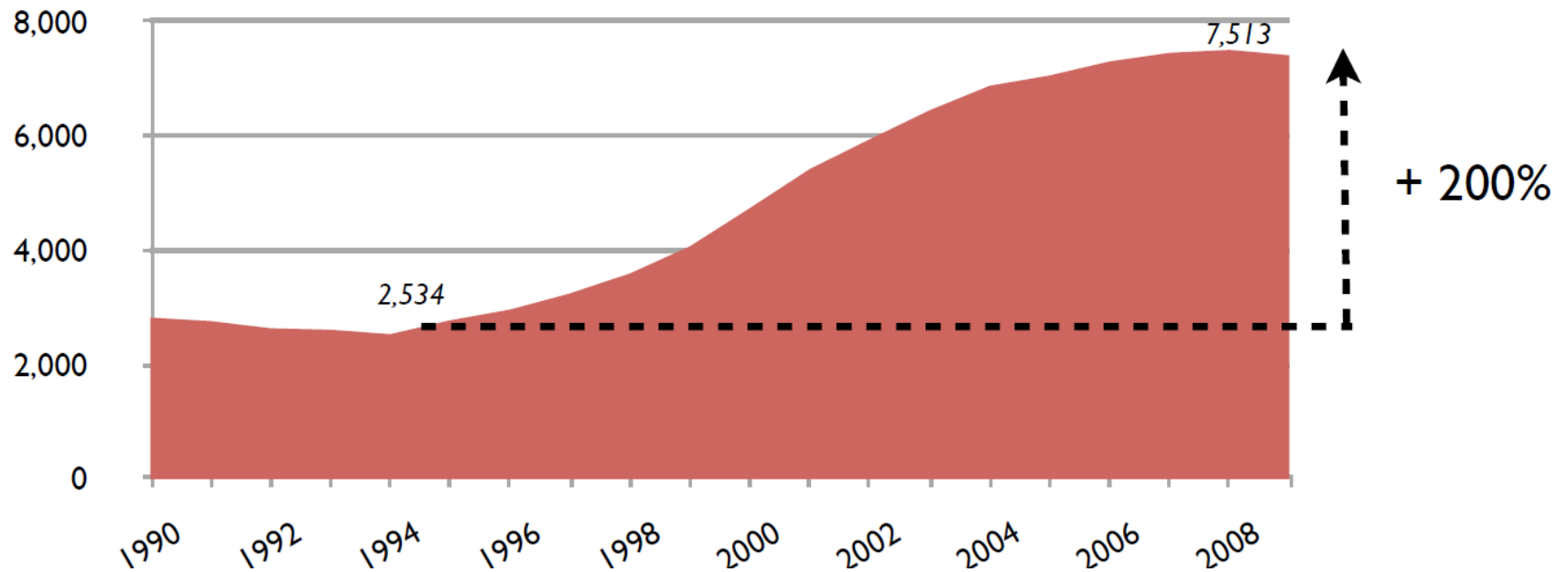


Russian Vocational Education at the Tipping Point

Professor Alan Kantrow
Director, Skolkovo Infrastructure Research Centre

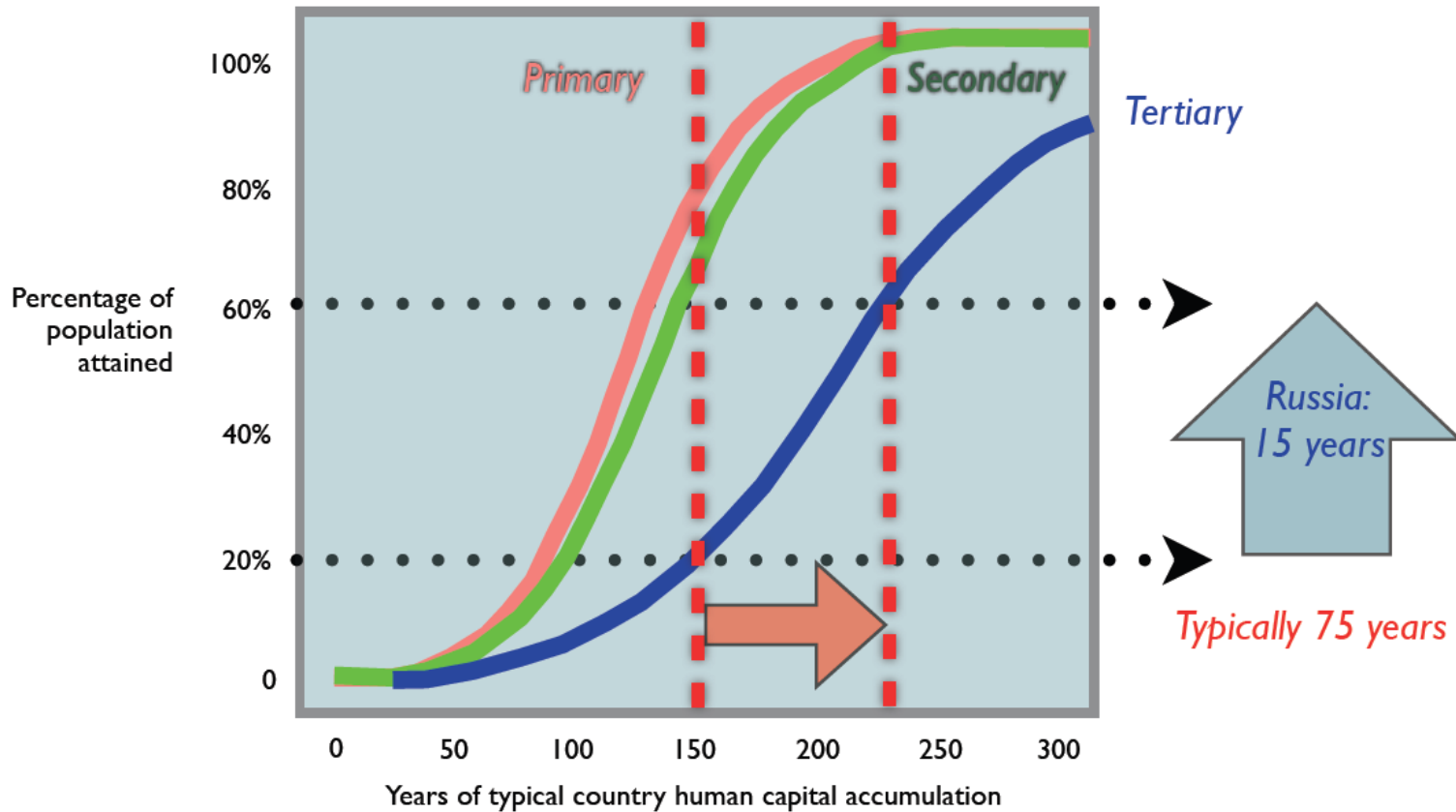
Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO
March 2011

Russian university enrollment



Source: Rosstat (numbers are given in thousands of students)

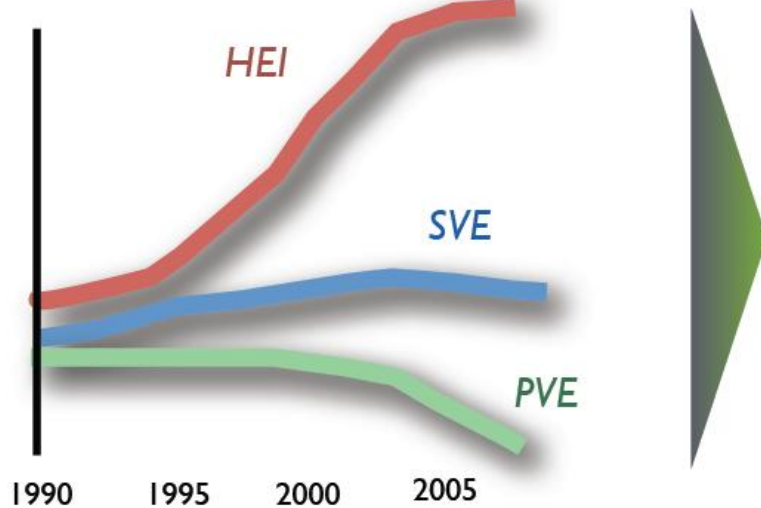
Russian university enrollment surge



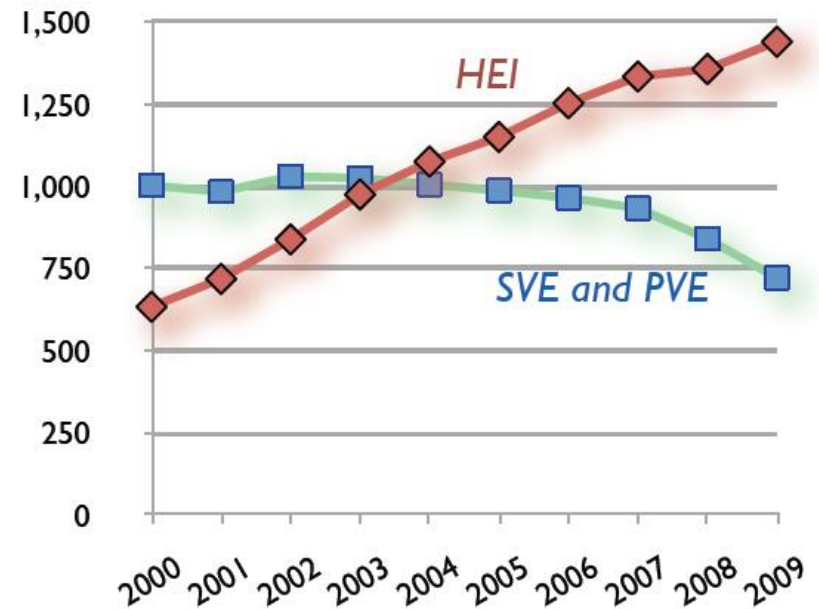
Source: International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis

Russia as a “university nation”

(a) Student Enrollment Growth Trajectories



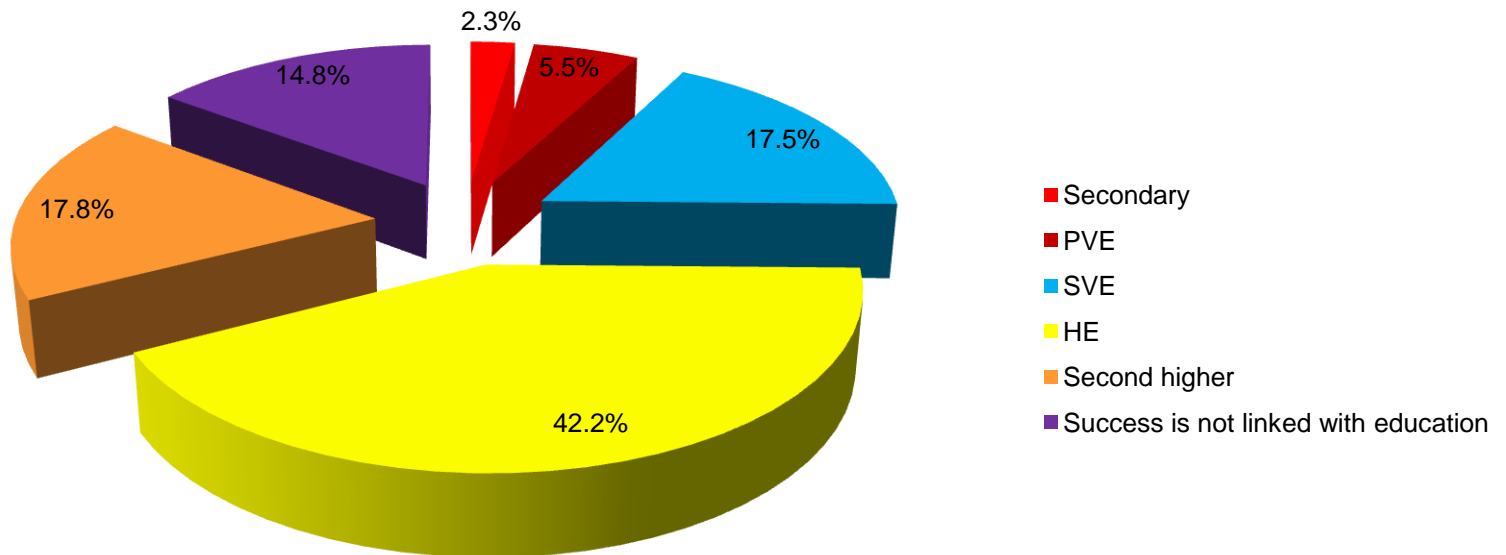
(b) Graduates of HEI vs. Vocational Education(000)



Source: Rosstat

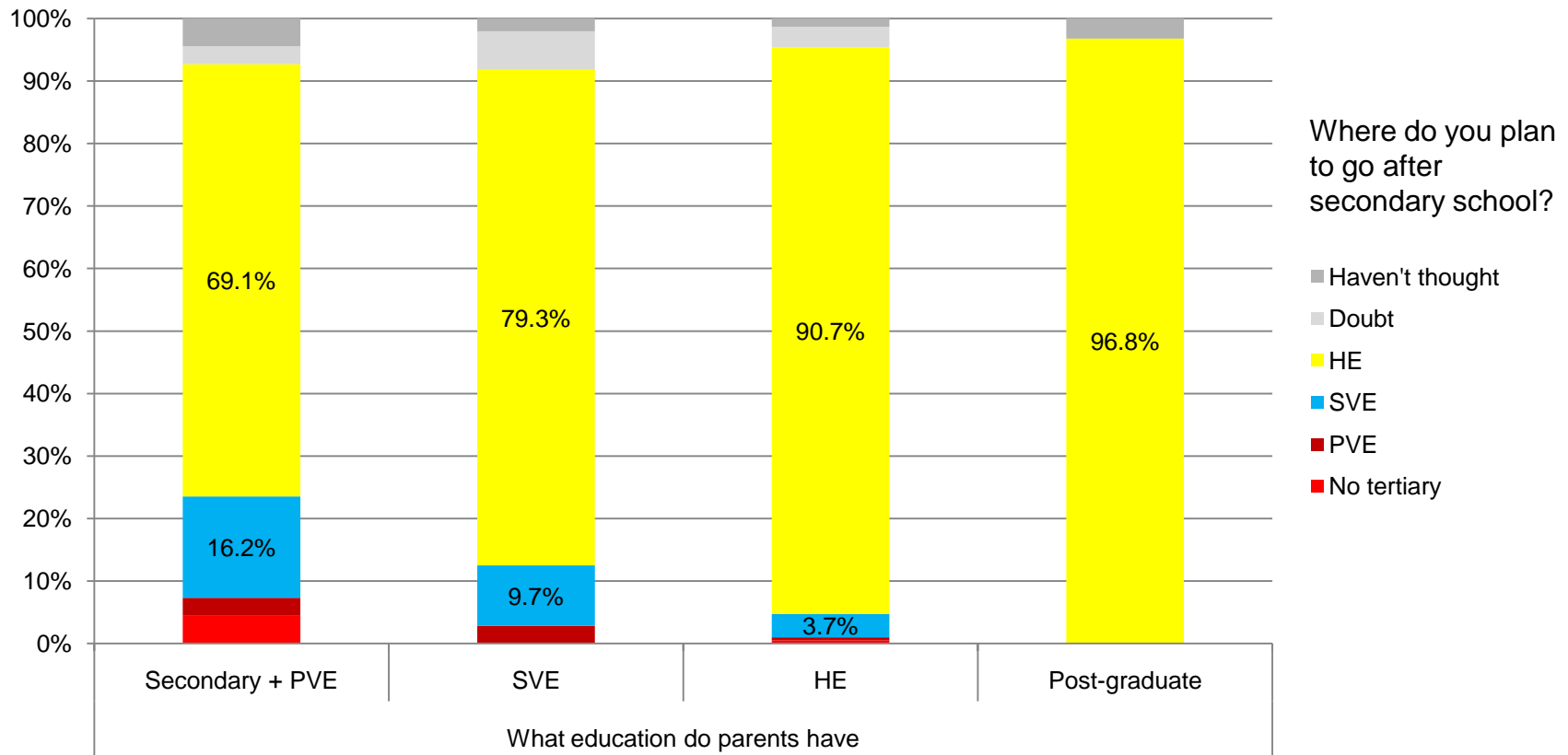
Educational aspirations

What level of education do you consider necessary for life success?



Source: SIRC primary survey in Russian regions (Yaroslavl and Krasnodar), N = 5502

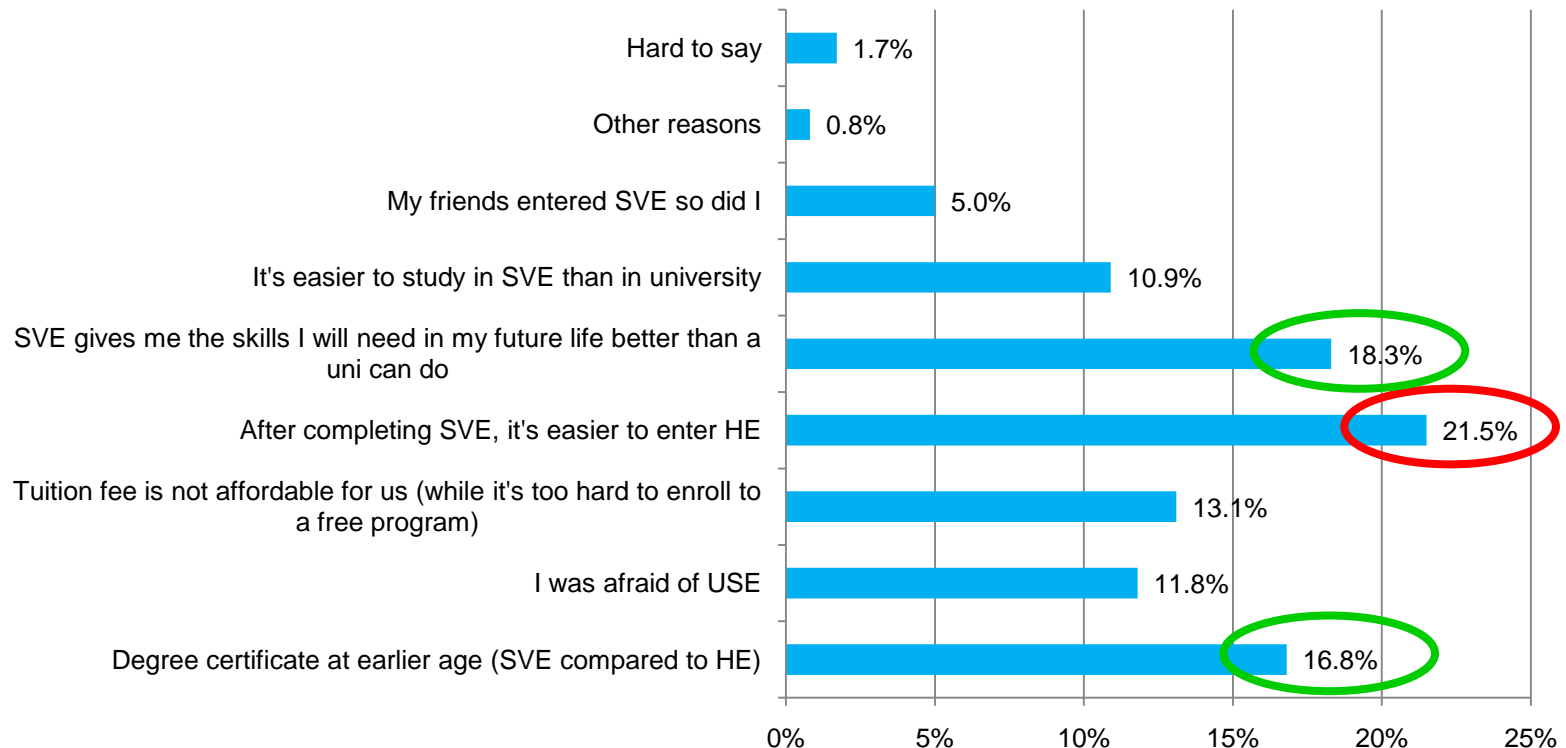
Impact of parents' education on schoolchildren's choice



Source: SIRC primary survey in Russian regions (Yaroslavl and Krasnodar), N = 5502

Reasons not to choose mainstream path

Why SVE students have preferred vocational to higher education:



Source: SIRC primary survey in Russian regions (Yaroslavl and Krasnodar), N = 5502

Knowledge economy un- and under-employment

China's frustrated 'ant tribe'

BEIJING

New college graduates find big-city dreams crushed by harsh realities

BY ANDREW JACOBS

Liu Yang, a coal miner's daughter, arrived here in July with a freshly printed college diploma, the equivalent of \$140 in her wallet and an air of invincibility.

"I think my new life is going to be even better than I imagined," she said after stepping off the train six hours after leaving the gritty province of Shanxi. At her side were four classmates from Datong University, fellow new graduates who had defied the naysayers at home who said they would find only hardship in this city of 17 million.

Their first taste of reality came that afternoon as they lugged their bags through a ramshackle neighborhood, not far from the Olympic Village, where tens



HARD WORK Li Xudong, 25, who holds a finance degree from Datong University, ended up selling instant noodles for \$180 a month, a salary reduced when he did not meet sales quotas.

them over bowls of cheap noodles, their first meal in the capital.

As the light faded and the streets became thick with young receptionists, cashiers and salesmen heading home, Mr. Yuan led his friends down a dank alley and up an unsteady staircase to his room, about the width of a queen-size bed. He shared a filthy toilet with dozens of other tenants and a common area where neighbors used the same hot plate.

Mr. Li smiled as he took in the scene. Like most young Chinese, his life until that moment had been coddled, chap-eroned and intensely regimented.

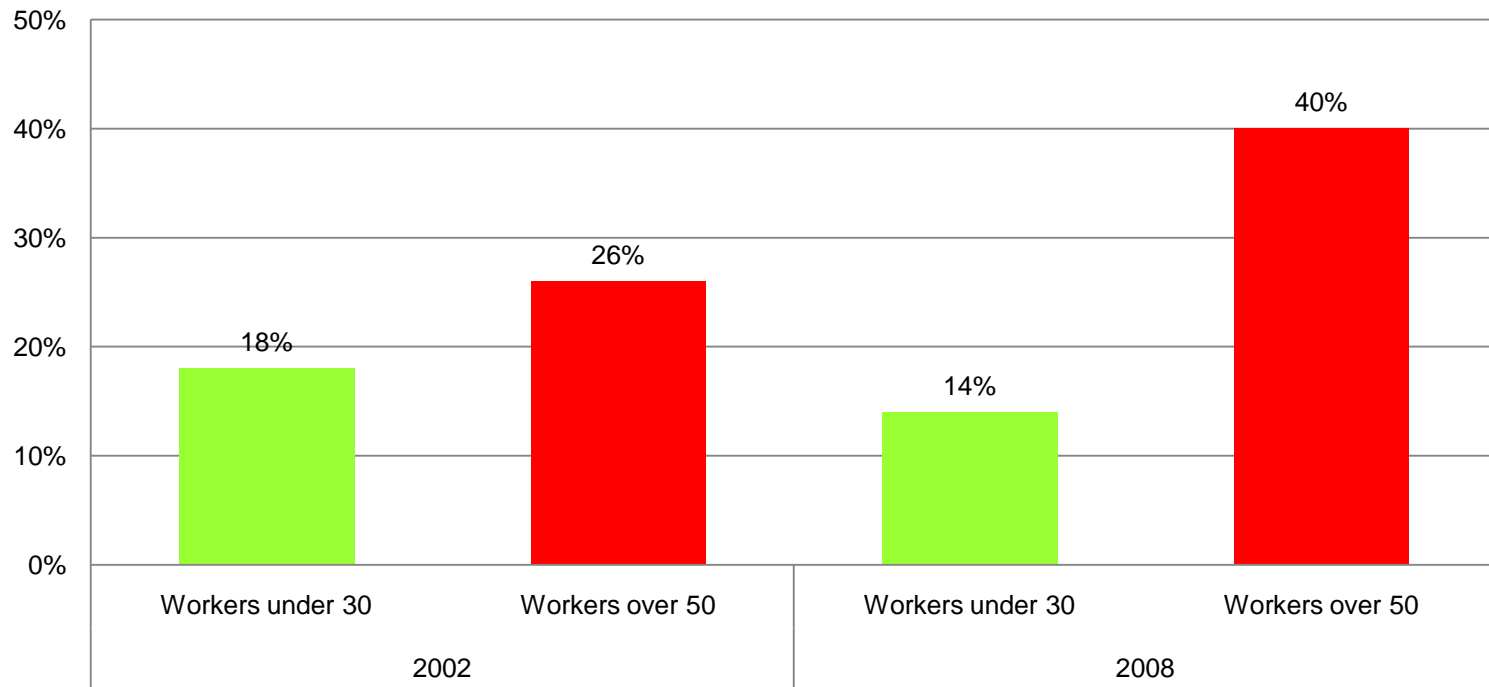
"I'm ready to go out into the world and test myself," he said.

The next five months would provide more of a test than he or the others had expected. For weeks, Mr. Li elbowed his way through crowded job fairs but came away empty-handed. His finance degree, recruiters told him, was useless because he was a waidi ren, an outsider, and thus would not be trusted to handle cash and company secrets.

Source: spread of International Herald Tribune, Nov, 25, 2010

A country for old men

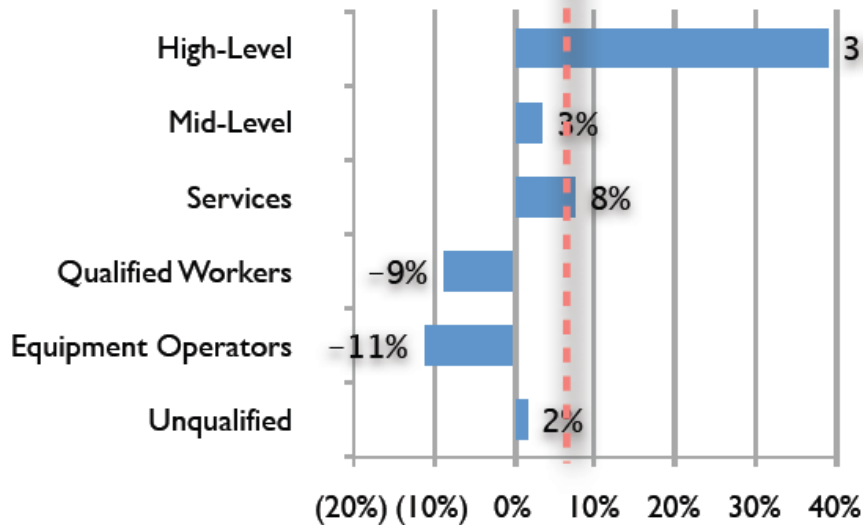
Age cohorts of workers in Russian utilities sector



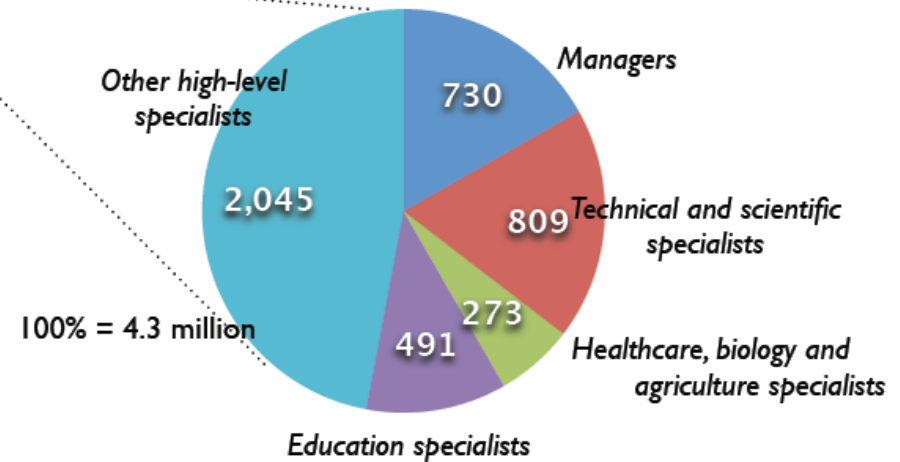
Source: Rosstat

Young workers employment

. Youngest Workers Employment Growth, 2002-2008



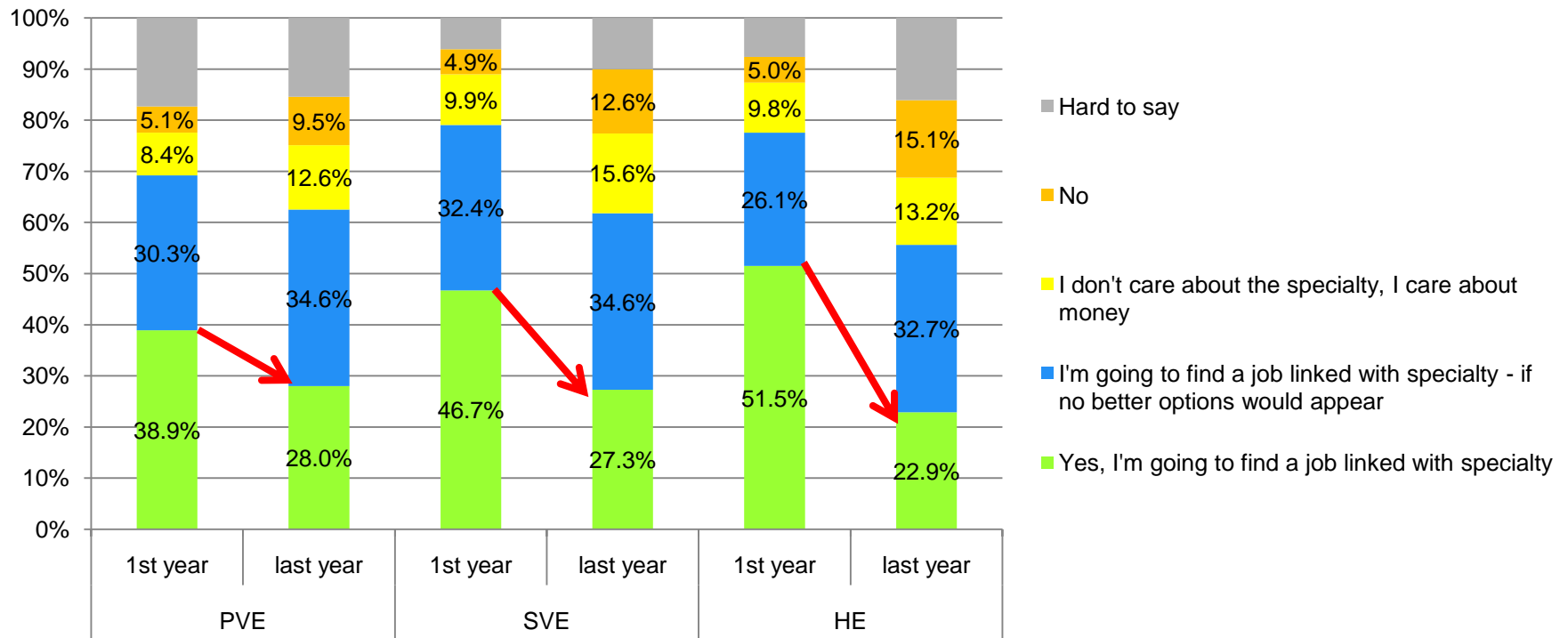
. High-level Young Workers, 2008 (000)



Source: Rosstat

Job market aspirations

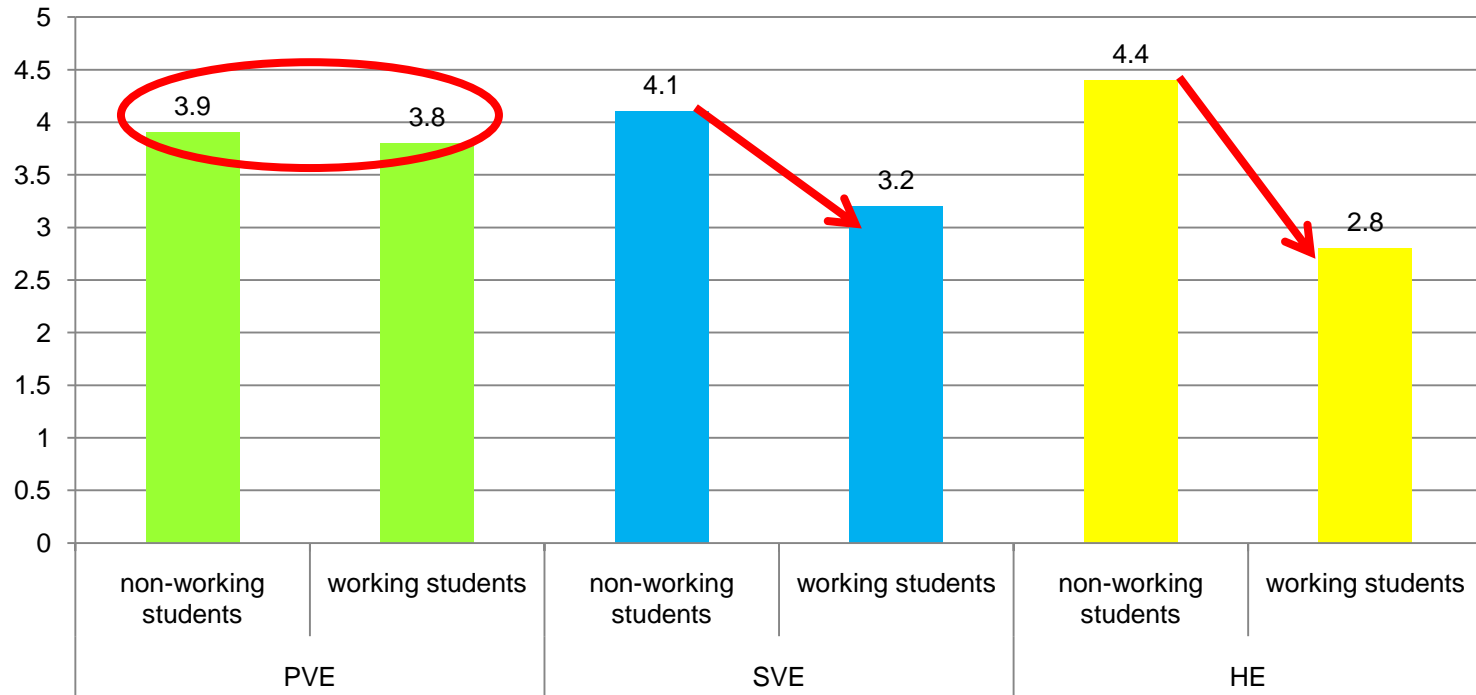
After graduation, are you going to try to find a job closely linked with your current educational focus?



Source: SIRC primary survey in Russian regions (Yaroslavl and Krasnodar), N = 5502

Relevance of acquiring skills to job requirements

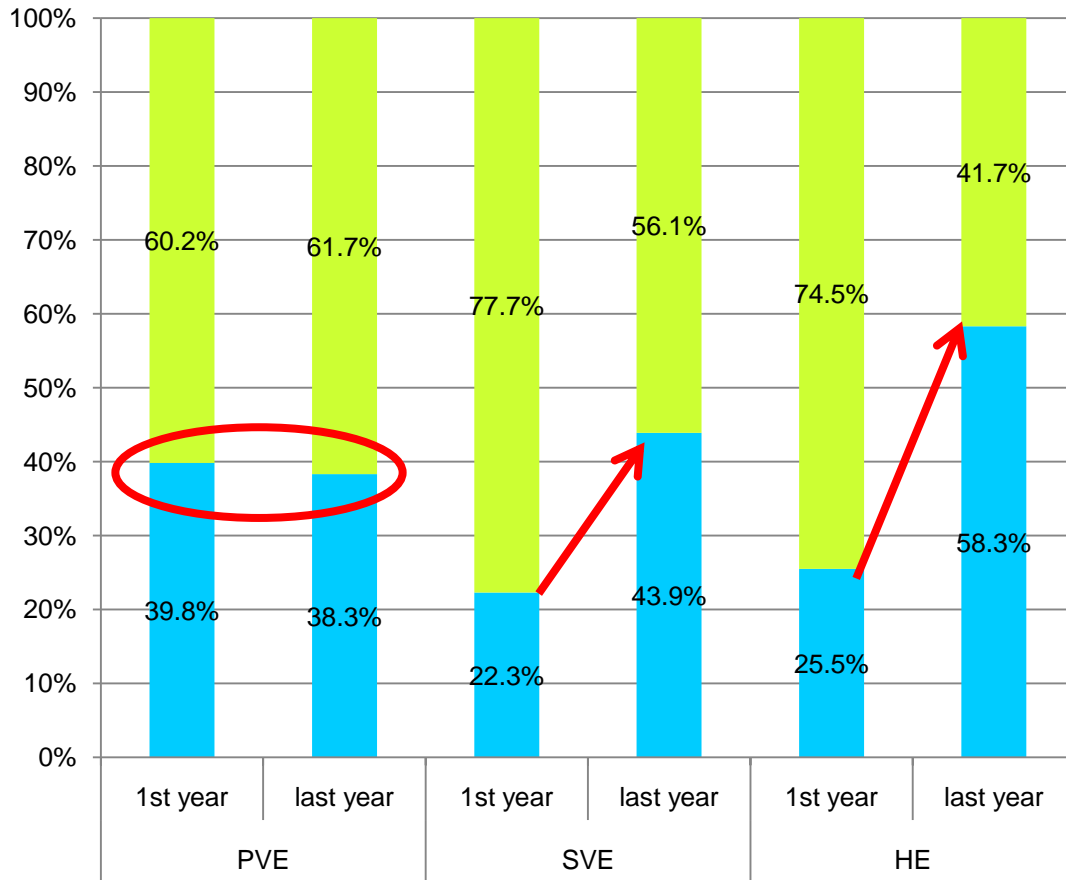
Students' assessment of the importance of skills relative to job requirements



non-working students – expected job, working students – current job; 1-5 scale

Source: SIRC primary survey in Russian regions (Yaroslavl and Krasnodar), N = 5502

Attitude towards getting work experience while studying

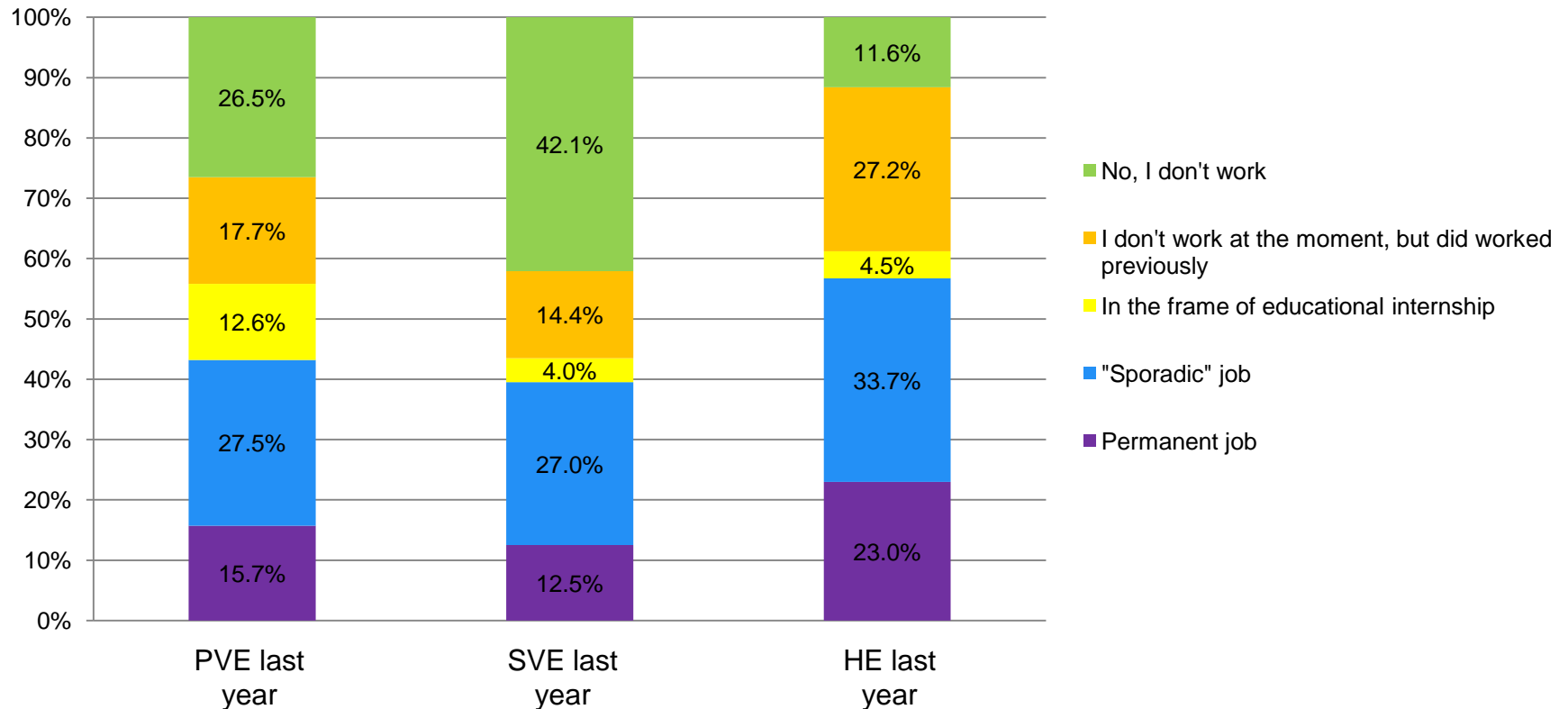


- It's important to absorb as much as possible within the education course, having a job is a distraction
- It's important to start working as early as possible because skills acquired within education are almost useless (compared to working experience)

Source: SIRC primary survey in Russian regions (Yaroslavl and Krasnodar), N = 5502

Education and profession

Do you work in parallel to your studies currently?

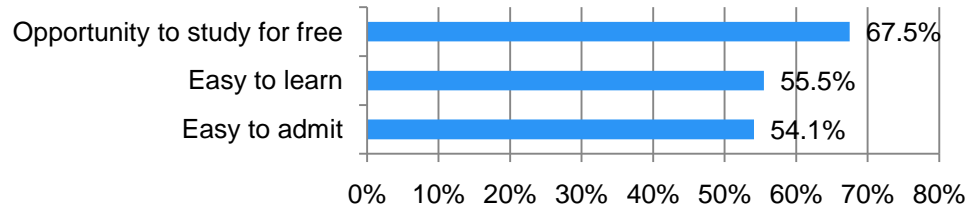


Source: SIRC primary survey in Russian regions (Yaroslavl and Krasnodar), N = 5502

Top 3 factors that influence what institution to choose

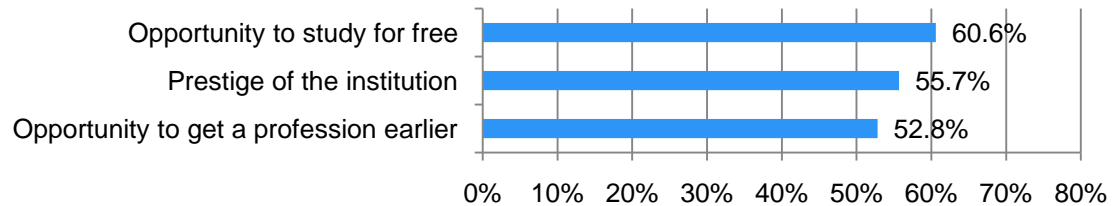
PVE students:

how to choose among PTUs and lyceums



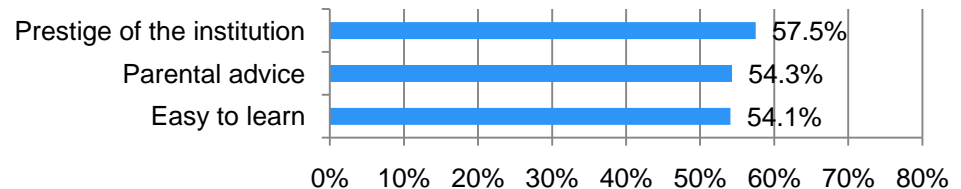
SVE students:

how to choose among colleges and technikums



HE students:

how to choose among universities and academies



Source: SIRC primary survey in Russian regions (Yaroslavl and Krasnodar), N = 5502