

Research in Project Management Leadership and Trends – 2008 and 2009

PMI Silicon Valley sponsored research with Insights Learning & Development and the University of Westminster (UK) to identify the top challenges faced by project managers, how their leadership style may connect with these challenges, and the leadership competencies required for success.

Survey data was sent to 2200 project managers and 10% (n=220) responded. The results were presented at PMI Global Congress in October 2008 and at the PMI NorCal Symposium in September 2008.

Follow are highlights of the research results. The full presentation is available upon request.

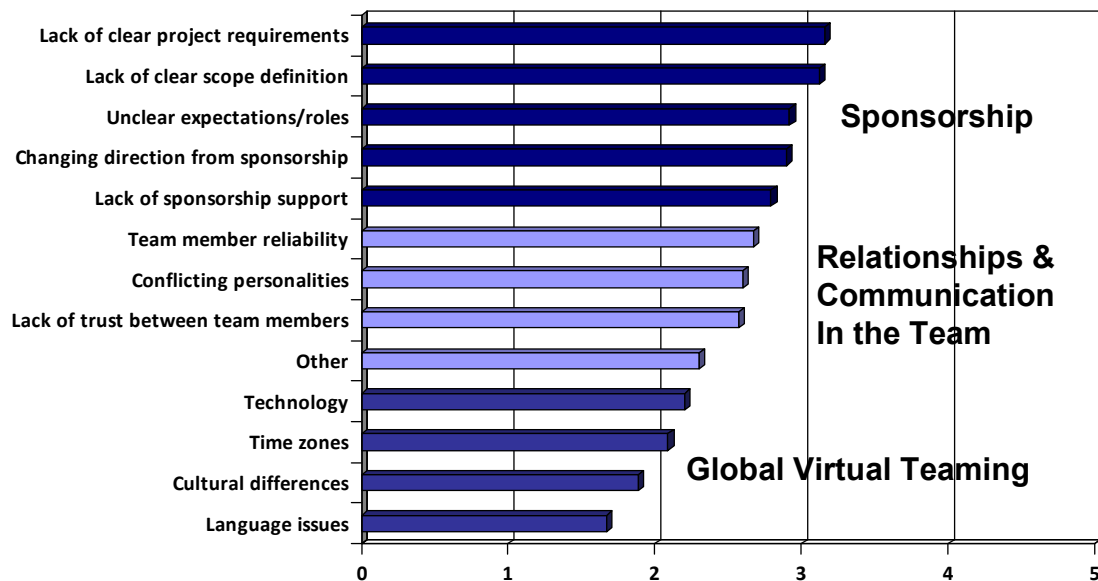
Research Demographics

- ☑ Over 67% of the Respondents have over 8 years experience managing projects and most (67%) are in roles of Project or Program Managers.
- ☑ 77% hold professional certifications and of those, 91% hold PMI-based certifications.

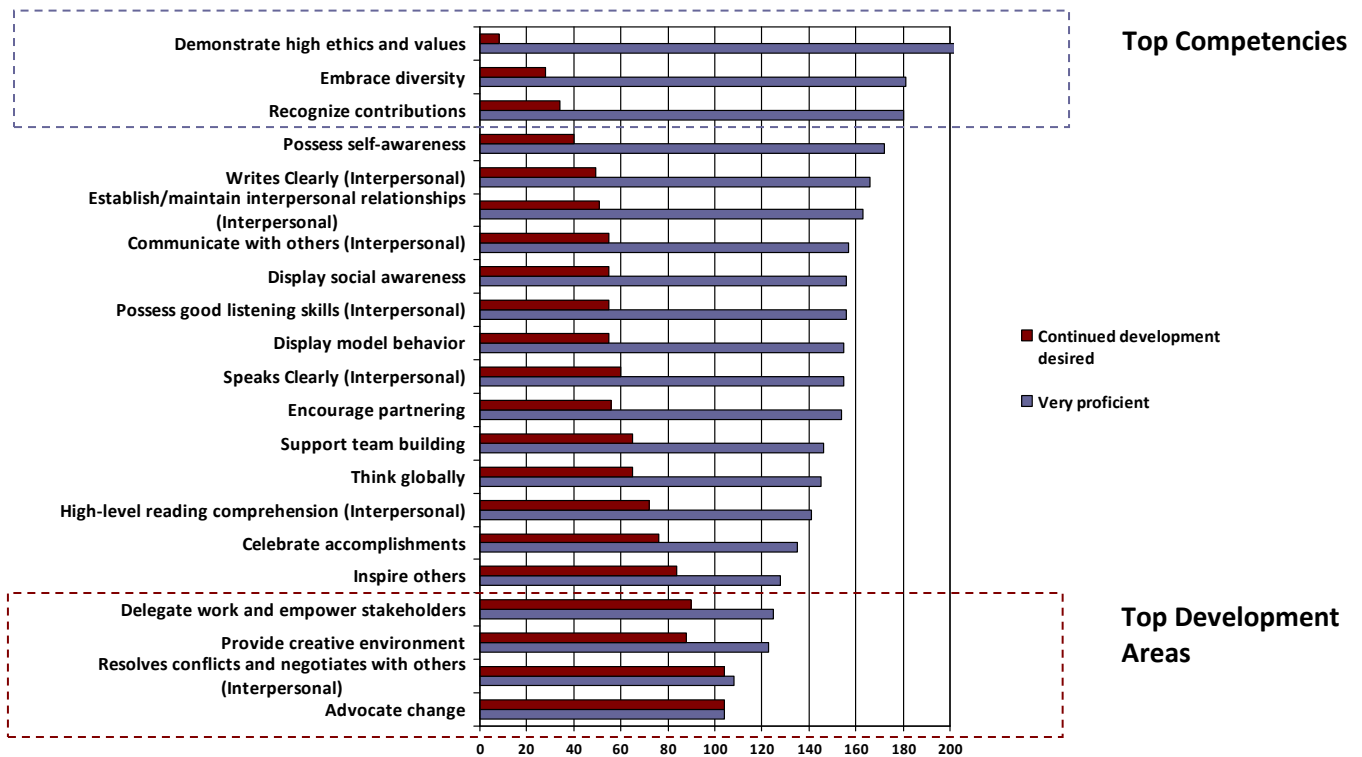
Key Findings

- ☑ 94% of the projects are “somewhat Important” or “important” to the organization’s strategy;
- ☑ 42% indicate their projects are going “OK” or worse.
- ☑ Using the PMBOK, Scope, Risk, and Communication were cited as the top 3 challenges.
- ☑ Sponsorship and the soft skills surrounding managing expectations of customers topped the list of challenges as shown below.

CHALLENGES THAT IMPEDE TEAM PERFORMANCE



- ☑ In addition, project managers identified the top competencies requiring further development, as shown in the graph below. This data correlates with the previous chart surrounding the leadership skills required for managing ‘up the chain’, influencing, negotiating, and advocating change.



☑ Lastly, respondents indicated that training was needed most in the following areas:

- How to influence stakeholders, team members, and executives “up the chain”
- Inspiring and Motivating Team
- Virtual/Global/Diverse/Remote/ “Millennial” Team Leadership
- Giving and receiving feedback
- Negotiating
- Conflict resolution & situational leadership
- Risk management
- Strategy
- Finance
- How to lead technical teams

☑ In 2009, Insights, PMI Silicon Valley and the University of Westminster will be conducting Phase II of research, sending the survey to 10,000 project managers globally in conjunction with PMI chapters from around the globe.

Please [contact us](#) to receive a copy of the complete results.