



What to study if you want to get rich

Responses from SGH Polish and international students



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SUMMARY

The paper presents the opinions of international (43%) and local (57%) students of the Warsaw School of Economics (SGH), collected through an online and traditional paper questionnaire in the period June - September 2024. The main objective of the research was to examine the opinions of Polish and international students of SGH on the perception of the functions of organisations in terms of the career opportunities they create in relation to the field of study chosen by students.

According to Polish and international SGH students, in order to develop a career and earn more,

- It is worthwhile to work in risk management to get a top position.
- The best time in life to reach a top position is between 36 and 45 years of age.
- Sales and finance are responsible for the success and longevity of a company.
- Sales and production are the most challenging jobs to do.
- The highest-paid jobs are not necessarily related to the tasks that are most important for a company's financial success and longevity.

BUT

The highest salaries go to the IT.

AND

IT is also best placed to deal with today's digital challenges.

SO

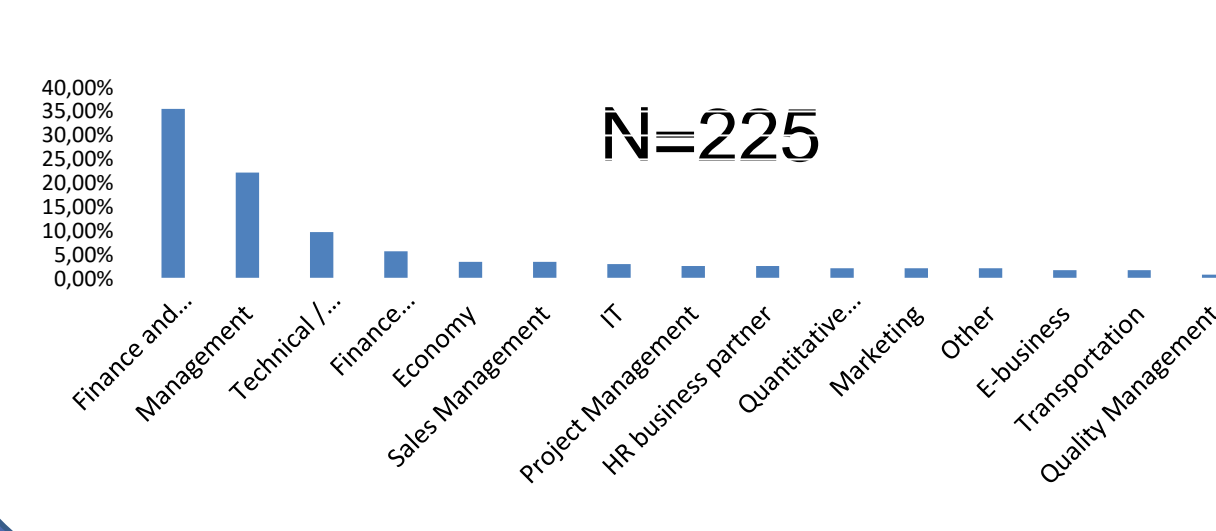
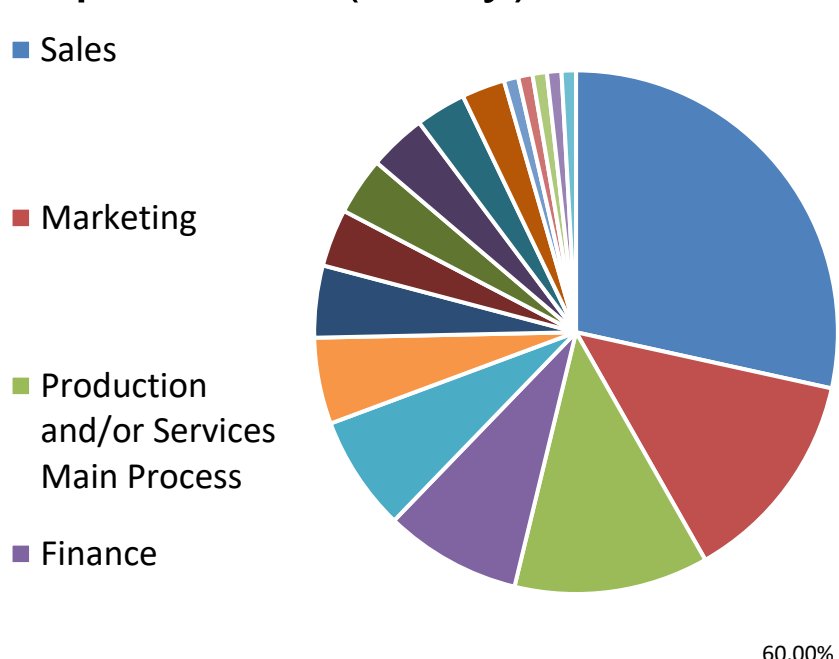
This may be why students would start their careers as IT specialists if they were to start their education over.

SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS

Respondents' main field of study

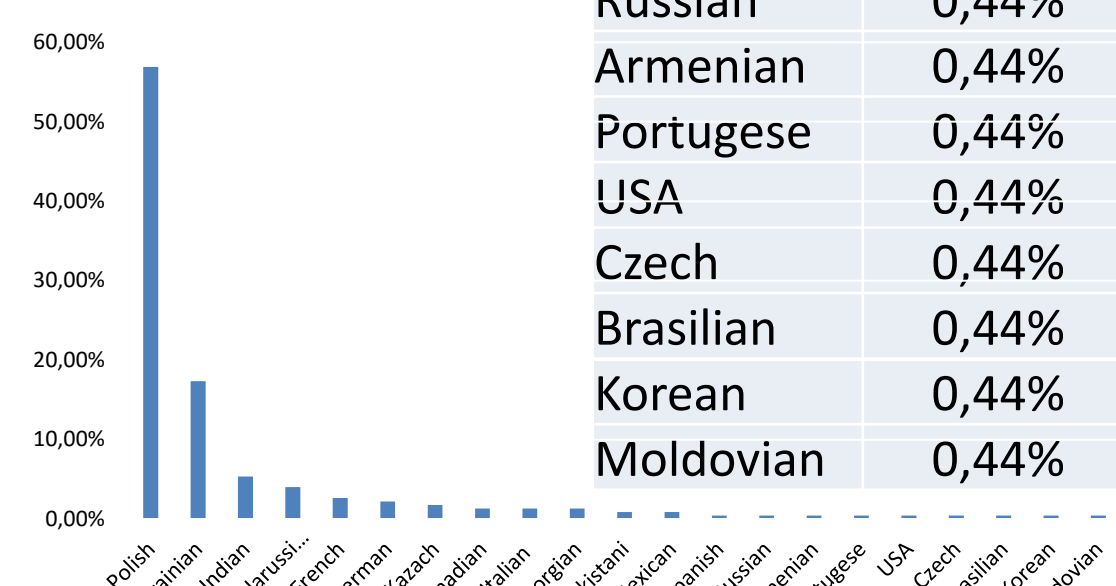
Finance and Accounting	35,56%
Management	22,22%
Technical / polytechnical	9,78%
Finance Management	5,78%
Economy	3,56%
Sales Management	3,56%
IT	3,11%
Project Management	2,67%
HR business partner	2,67%
Quantitative methods	2,22%
Marketing	2,22%
Other	2,22%
E-business	1,78%
Transportation	1,78%
Quality Management	0,89%

Respondents' work experience (if any)



Respondents' nationality

Polish	56,89%
Ukrainian	17,33%
Indian	5,33%
Belarussian	4,00%
French	2,67%
German	2,22%
Kazach	1,78%
Canadian	1,33%
Italian	1,33%
Georgian	1,33%
Pakistani	0,89%
Mexican	0,89%
Spanish	0,44%
Russian	0,44%
Armenian	0,44%
Portugese	0,44%
USA	0,44%
Czech	0,44%
Brasilian	0,44%
Korean	0,44%
Moldovian	0,44%



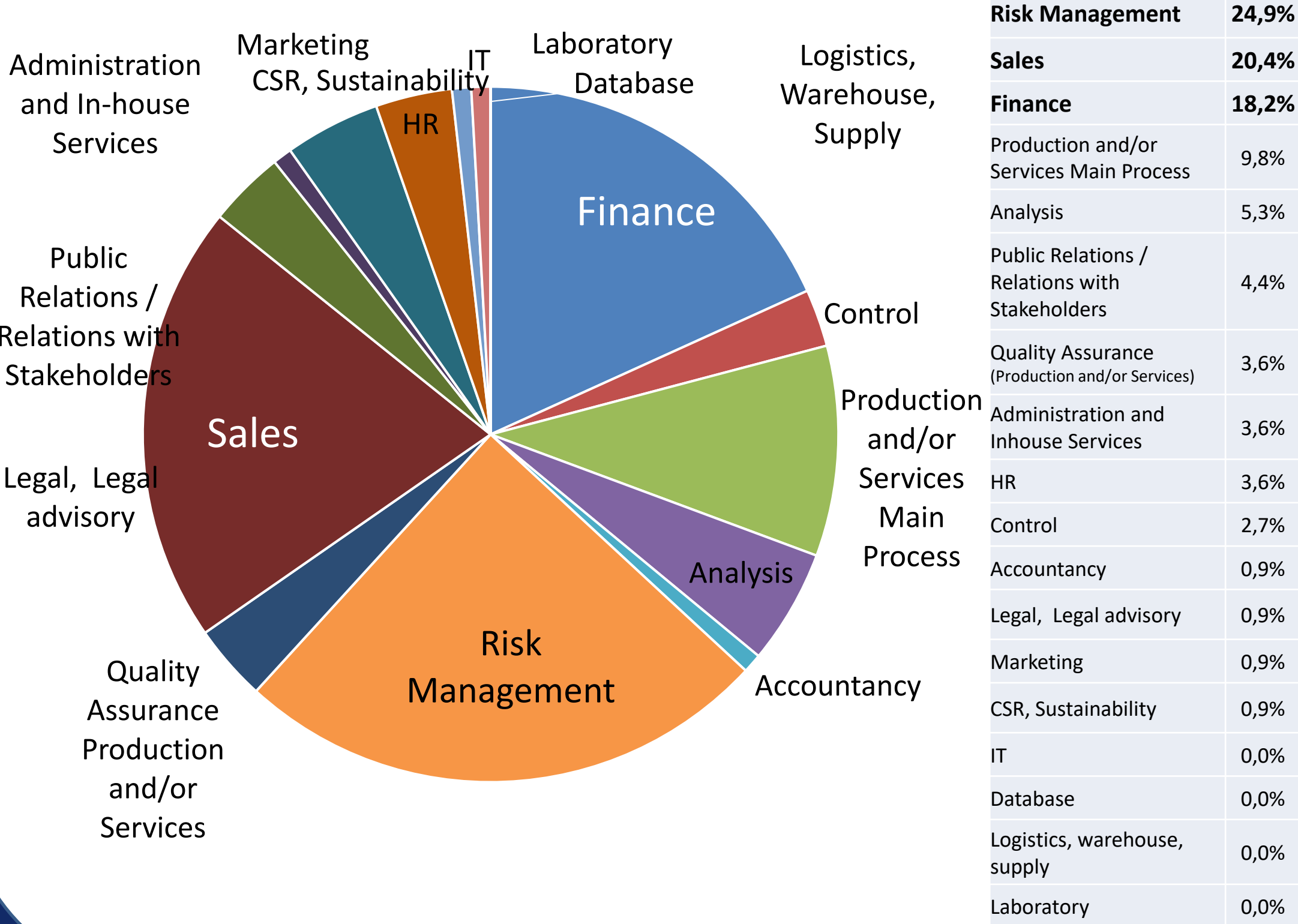
STUDY

The study was carried out in the form of a questionnaire. The survey has been prepared for the purposes of the study included thirty questions aimed at identifying the opinions of the students surveyed on which professions are most preferred when promoting to the positions of CEO, CFO, CIO, CSO, etc. in companies. It was intended to present a situation where there are no other differences between candidates on a position asked, but the profession performed up to the moment of applying for a position. It was also juxtaposed with questions related to students' opinions on which professions and positions in companies are most important for their financial success, longevity or ability to cope with the challenges of digital transformation and the modern world. It is important to note that the research presented does not represent facts, but only the opinions of the respondents. The research was opened with an introductory question about who, i.e. who represents a high position in a particular profession, should be selected for the position of CEO. And it ended with a more personal question about what a respondent would like to study if he or she could start their educational adventure over again.

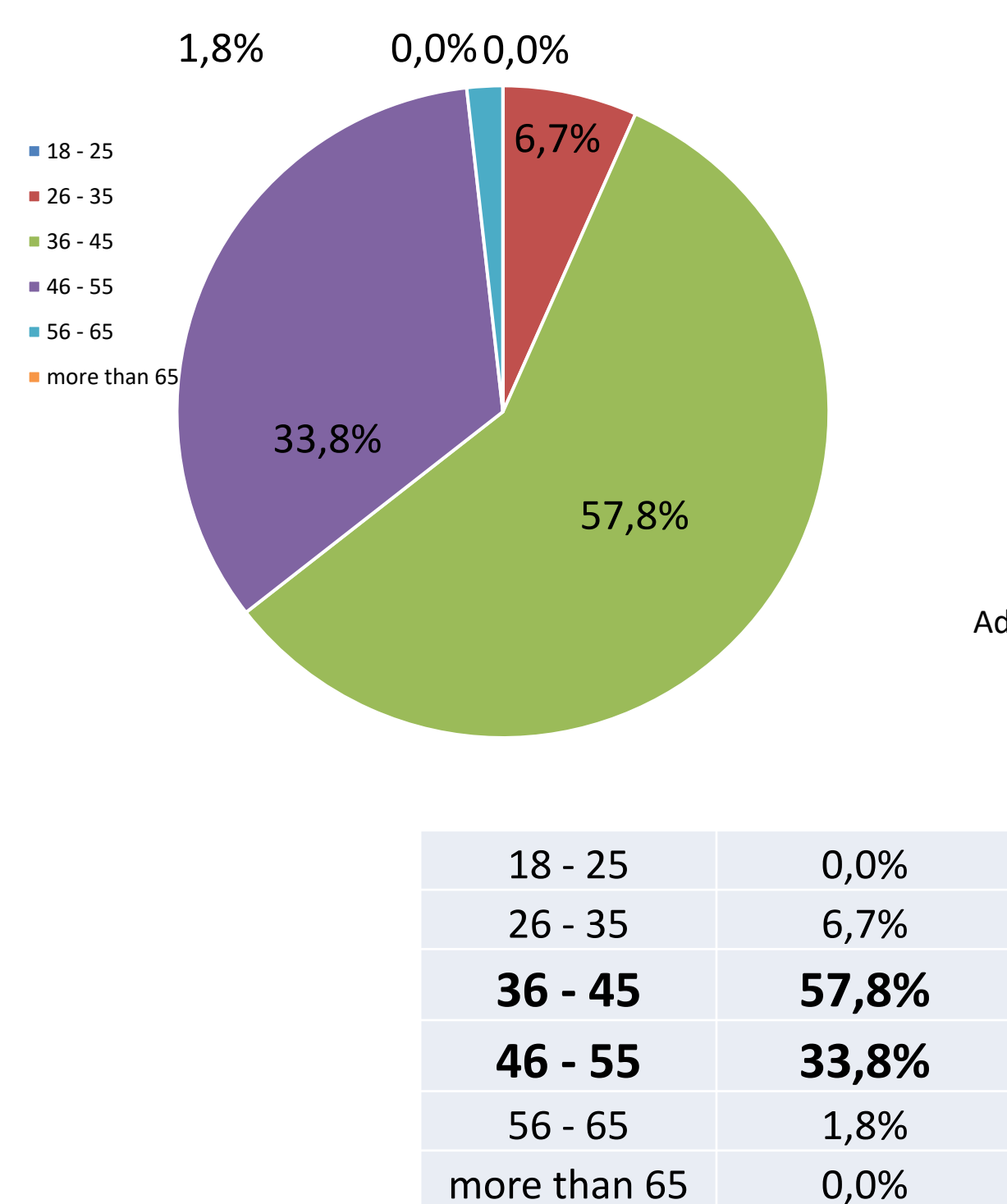
The questionnaire ended with four questions about the characteristics of the respondents. These were age, years of work experience, field of study and nationality. As the group of students surveyed was composed of Polish and international students in the ratio of 56% Polish and 44% international, it was reasonable to ask for the declaration of citizenship. The study was conducted at SGH Warsaw School of Economics in the period June - September 2024 among students currently studying at SGH in various programmes. The sample consisted of 225 students who completed the questionnaire online or in a printed paper version.

RESULTS

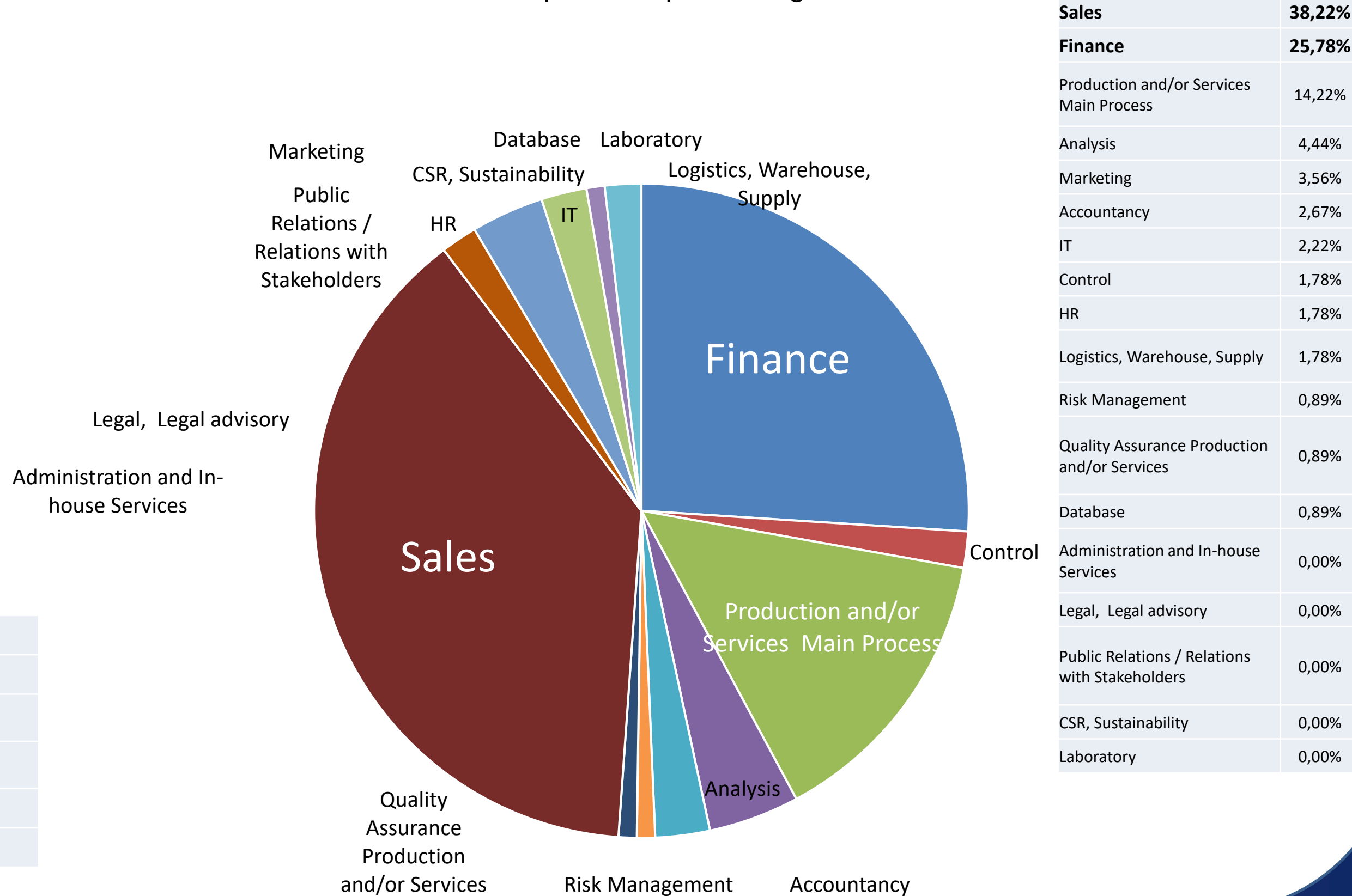
Which of these people should be recommended for the role of President/CEO if he/she has been a senior manager or director overseeing the function in recent years?



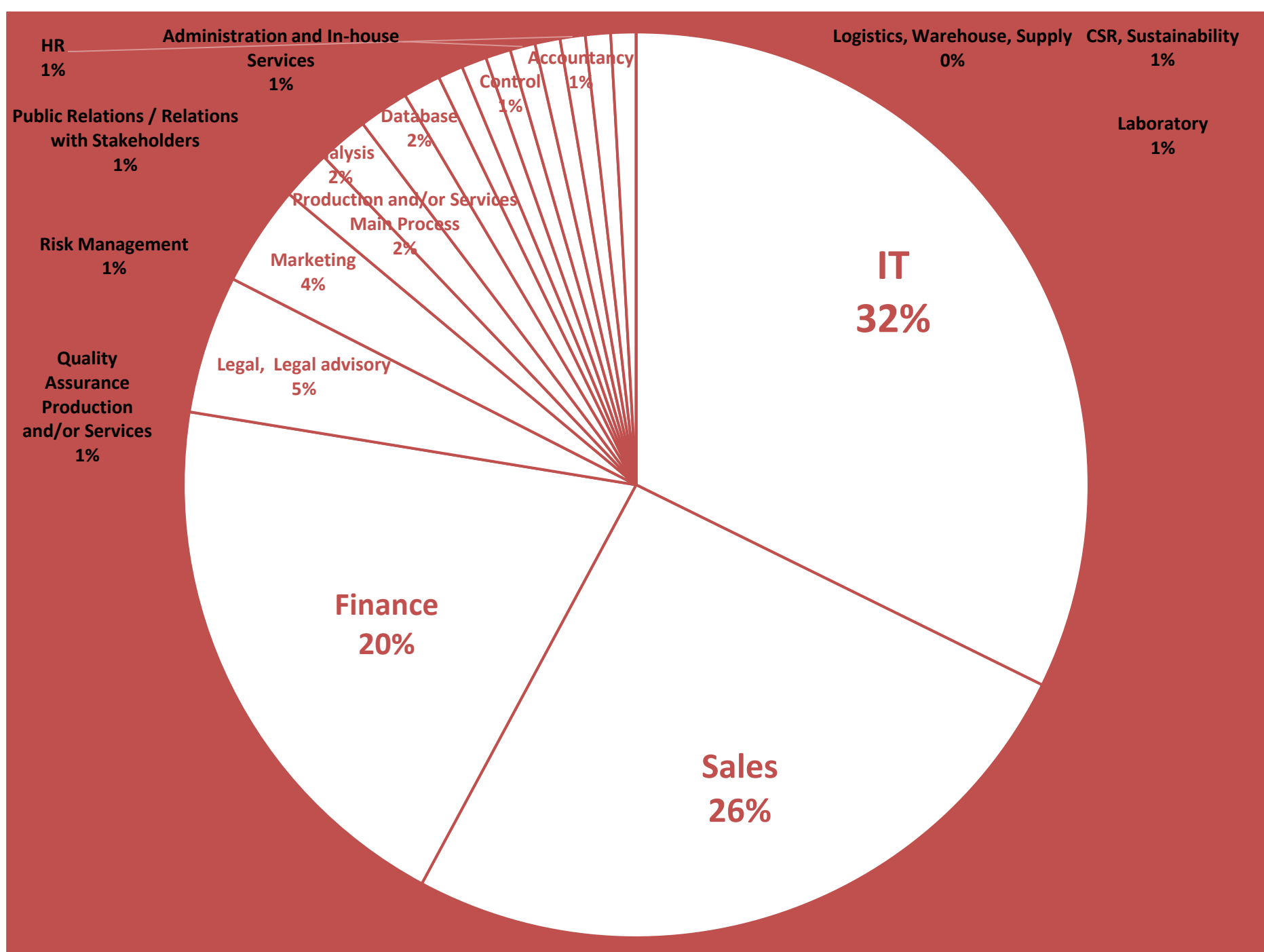
I believe that if there are no other differences between the candidates, a person of age (years) should be selected for the top position in the company:



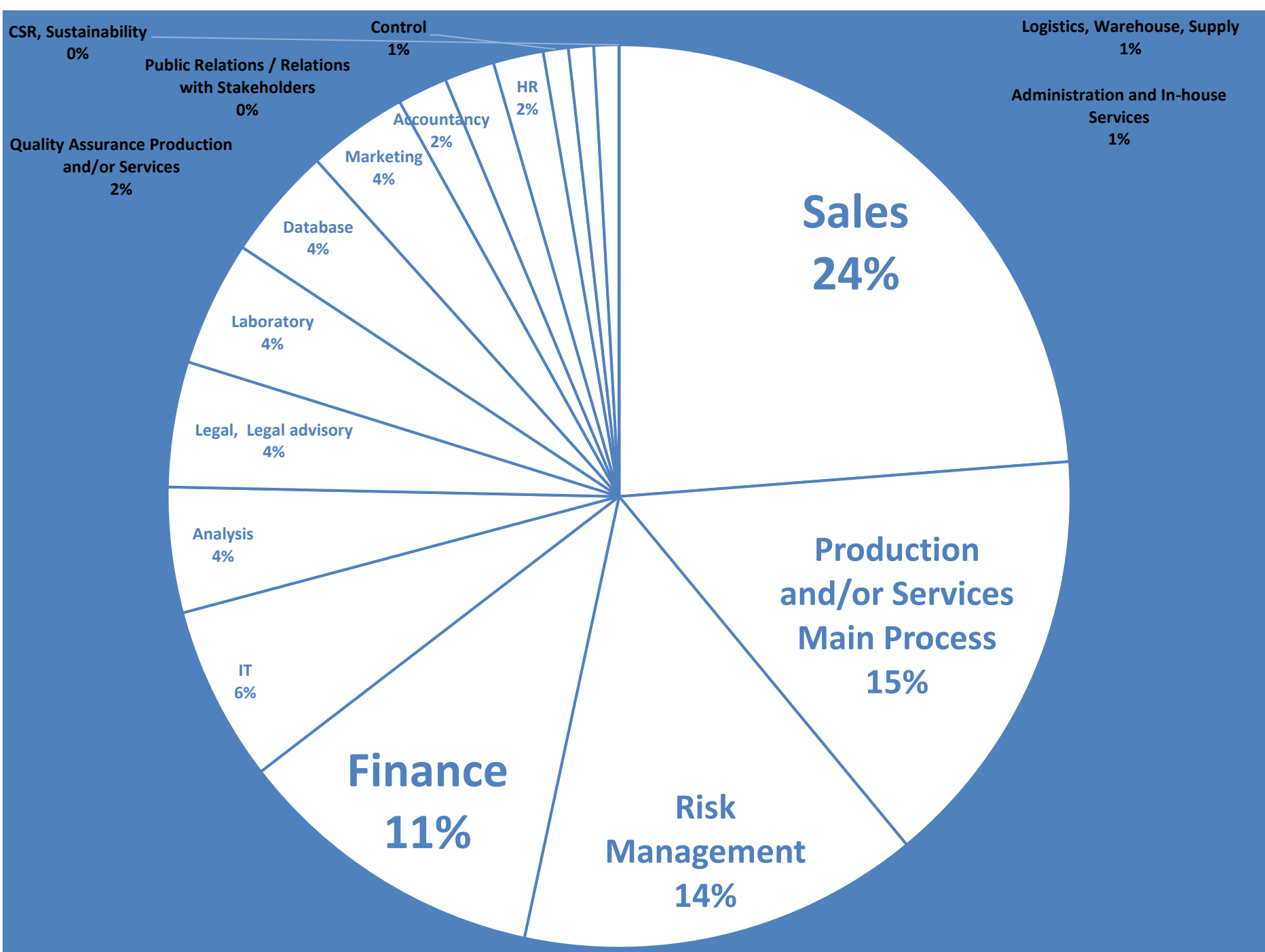
In my view, from the perspective of the financial success of the organisation, the greatest impact on that success comes from the department performing its functions well:



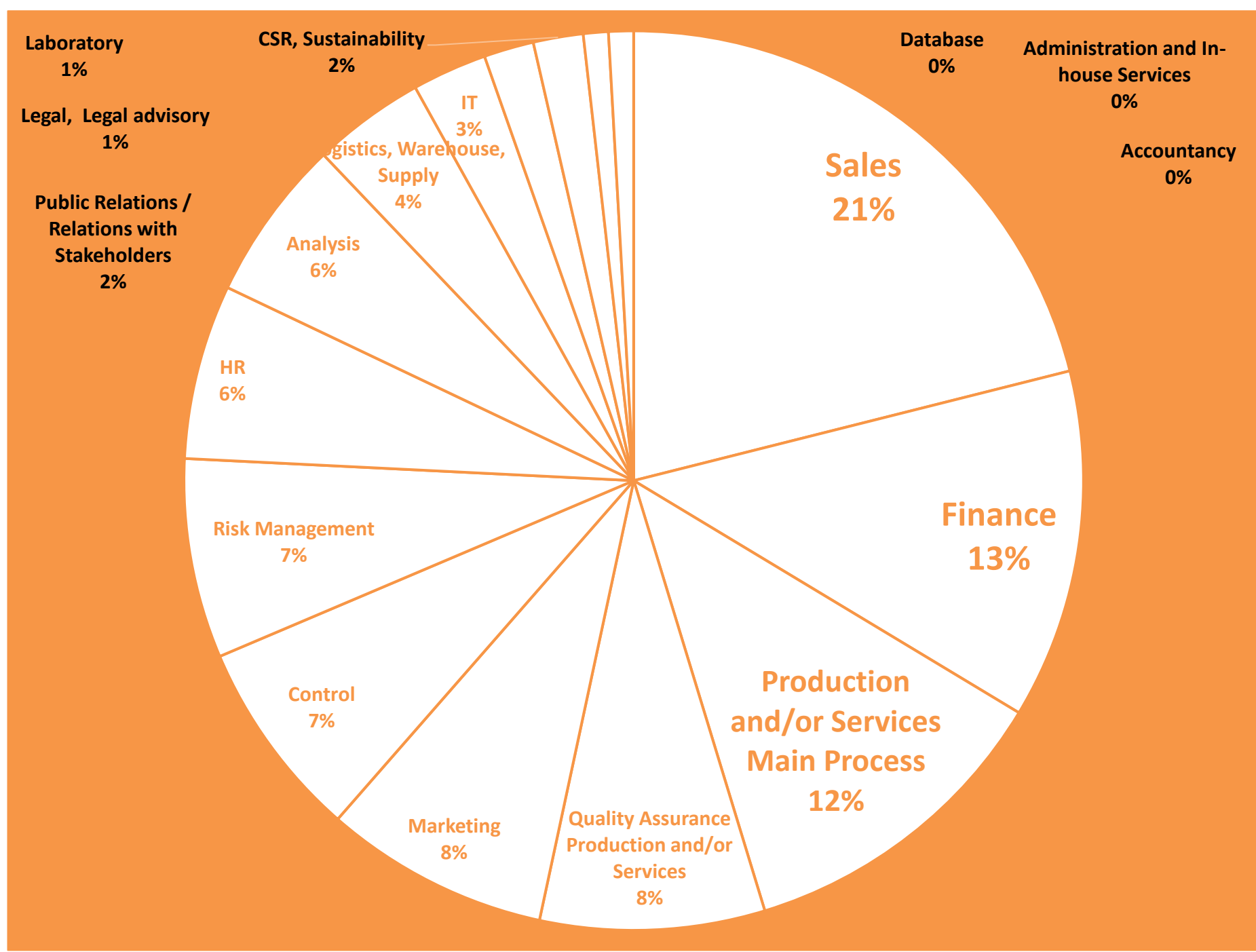
In my opinion, the person who earns the most in companies at the moment is the head of department:



In my opinion and to the best of my knowledge and belief, if only the complexity and difficulty of the job were taken into account, the highest salary should be paid to a department head:



In my opinion, it is particularly important for a company to have an above-average, well-functioning department if it is to survive in the market for many years:



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