Section 6
Human Resources Development

1. IT Education in Public Schools

In fiscal 2002, there was one educational use computer for every 9.7 pupils at public schools, and 99.5% of public schools were connected to the Internet. High-speed Internet connections at over 400 kbps were available in 56.8% of all public schools, and 29.2% of regular classrooms had LAN installations. In fiscal 2002, 58.0% of schools has their own website, showing an upward trend.

In fiscal 2002, 87.6% of teachers at public schools knew how to operate computers, and 52.8% of teachers were able to use computers to conduct their classes.
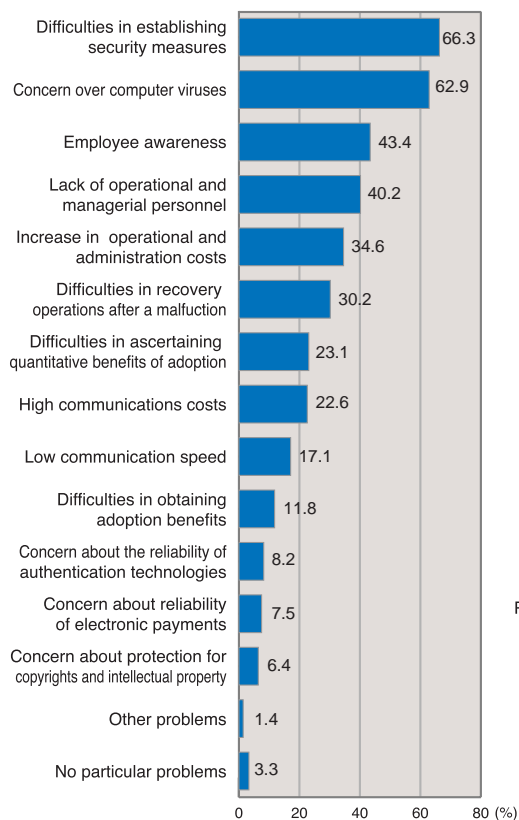
2. Development of IT Experts

The use of IT in corporate activities has both spread and expanded with the introduction of various information systems for e-commerce and greater business effi-
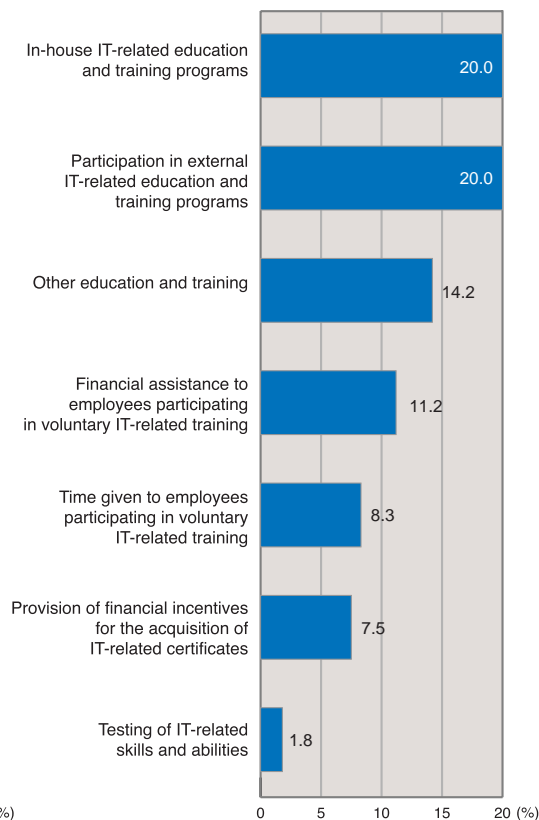
ciency. The importance of developing and maintaining well-informed human resources to address the growing corporate competition arising from the creation of new services, and deal with the threats of unauthorized access and virus infections, is increasing. In terms of problems arising from usage of corporate information and communications networks, "employee awareness" was cited by 43.4% of companies, "lack of operational and managerial personnel" by 40.2% of companies **(Figure 2-6-1)**. In-house IT training is offered by 53.2% of companies, with the most common contents being "in-house IT-related education and training programs" and "participation in external IT-related education and training programs" at 20% **(Figure 2-6-2)**.

According to a study conducted by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, 15,318 people obtained a master's degree in an IT-related field in fiscal 2002, with 1,790 obtaining a doctoral degree.

Figure 2-6-1 Problems Deterring Use of Information and communications Networks (Corporate Networks and the Internet) (multiple responses possible)

Figure 2-6-2 Types of I T Training for Employees by Corporations (multiple responses possible)

Source for Figures 2-6-1 and 2-6-2: Communications Usage Trend Survey in 2003, MPHPT

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