

# Downtown Resident Study

## Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership October 2008



**Resident Sample Demographics**

**Decision to Move Downtown**

**Satisfaction with Downtown Living**

**Shopping Behavior**

**Downtown Parks & Events**

**Transportation Usage & Attitudes**

**Summary of Findings**

# METHODOLOGY & OVERVIEW

## Methodology

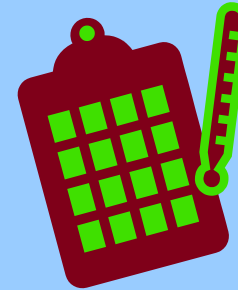
2,927 paper surveys sent via mail to residents in PDP's data base

An on-line version of survey was also available to residents on SMG website

"Reminder" postcard sent out to boost response rate

Data collected mid-August through late September

No \$ incentive provided to residents



## Study Results

413 surveys collected

413 out of 2,927 = 14.1% response rate

87 on-line + 326 paper = 413 total

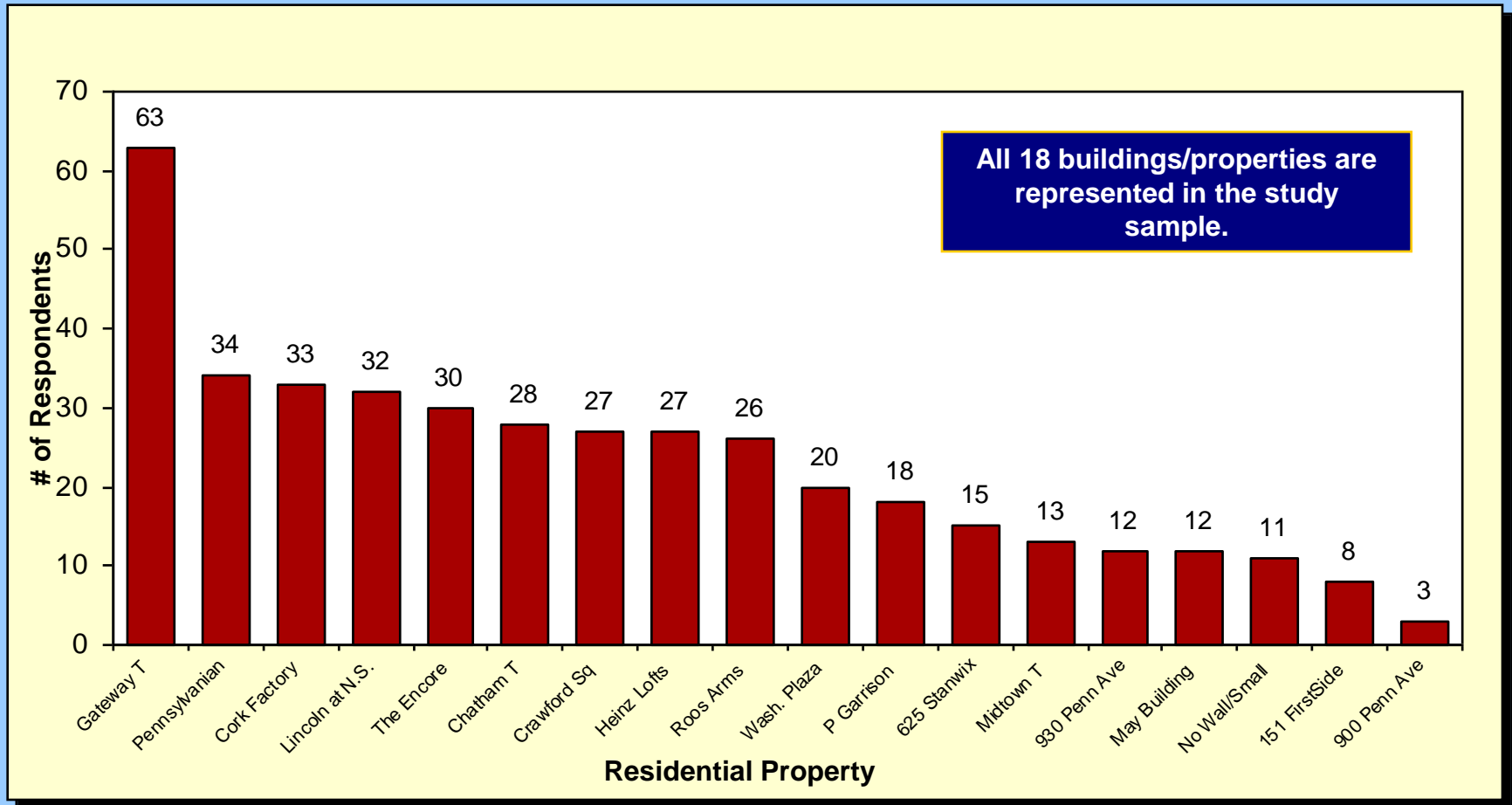
"Reminder" postcard boosted response by almost 120 surveys (very productive)

Surveyed residents represent an even mix of Downtown's buildings/properties

# **PROFILE OF RESIDENT SAMPLE**

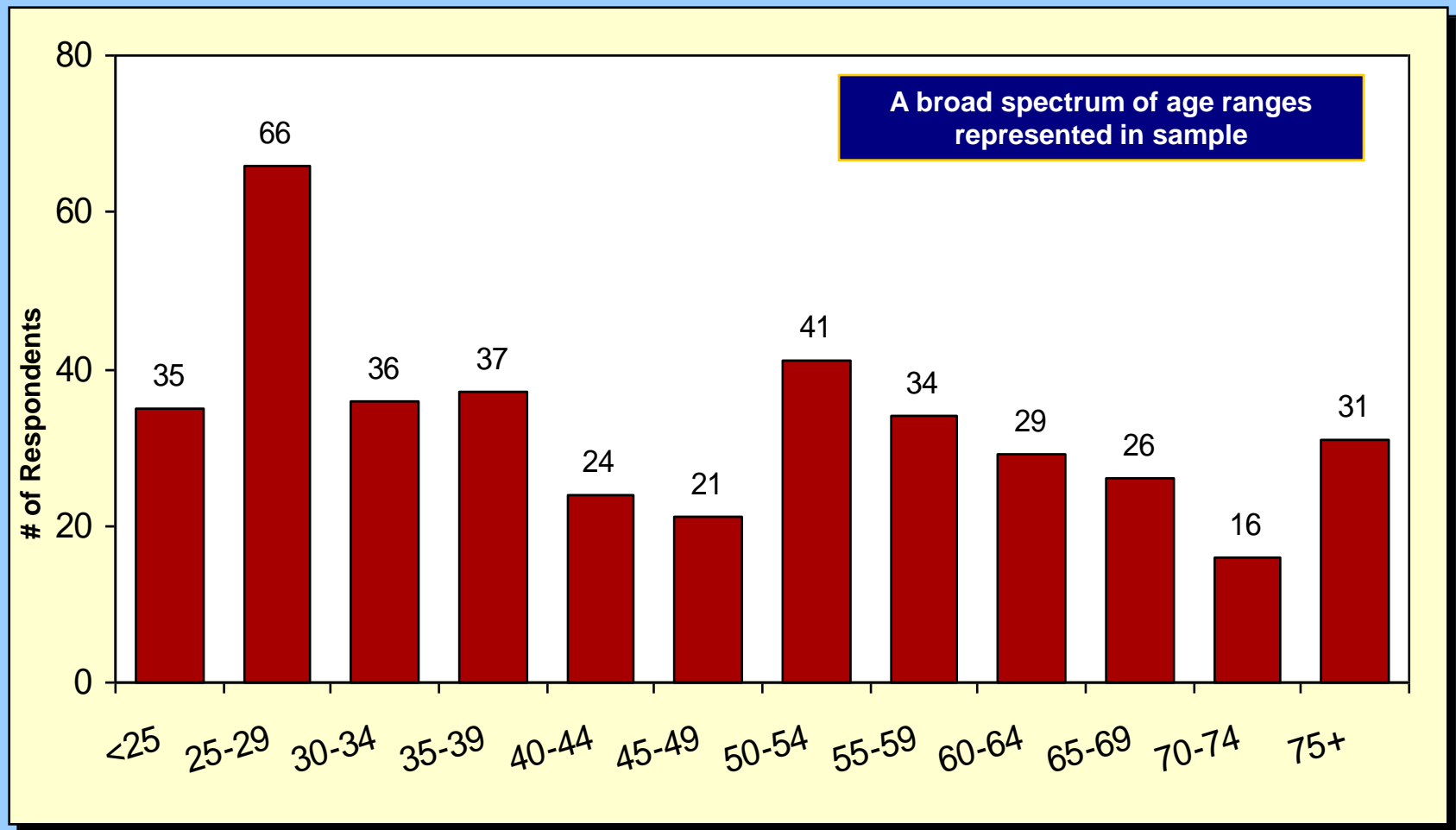
# BUILDING / PROPERTY

## Current Residences of Study Respondents



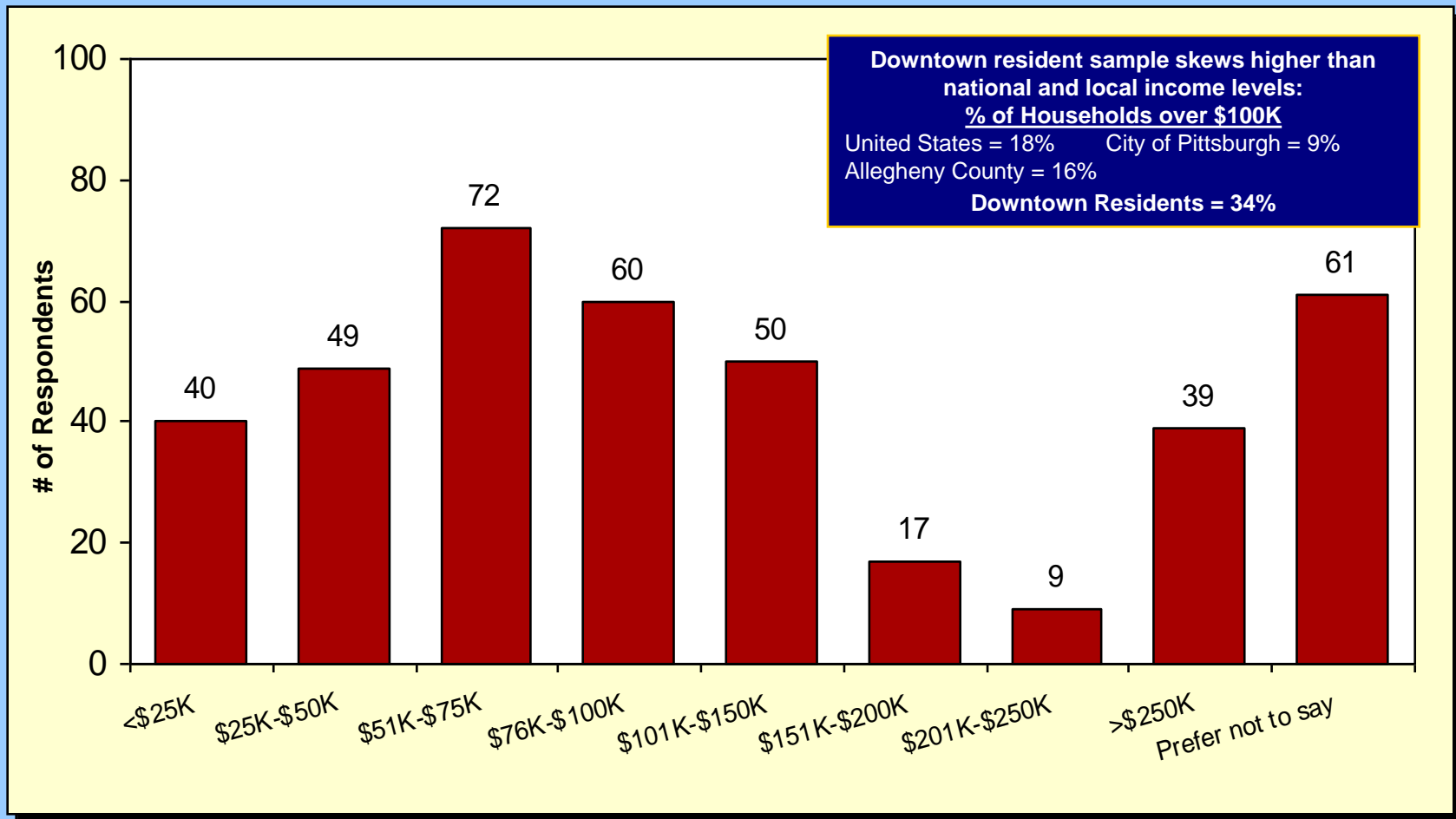
n = 412 (1 respondent did not want address to be known)

# AGE OF RESIDENTS



n = 396

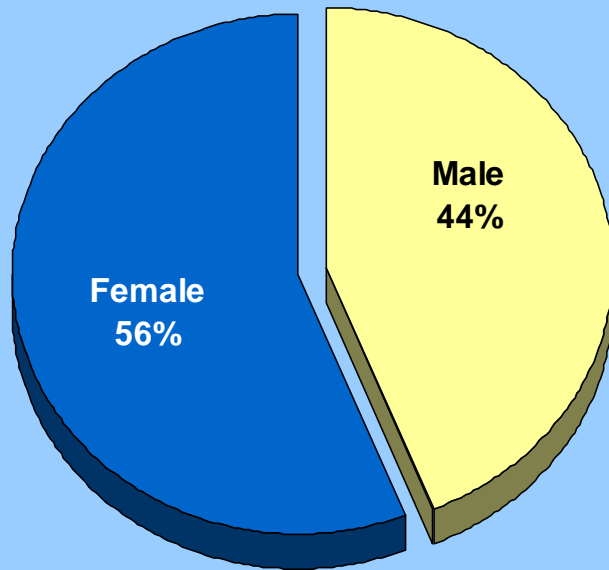
# TOTAL ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME



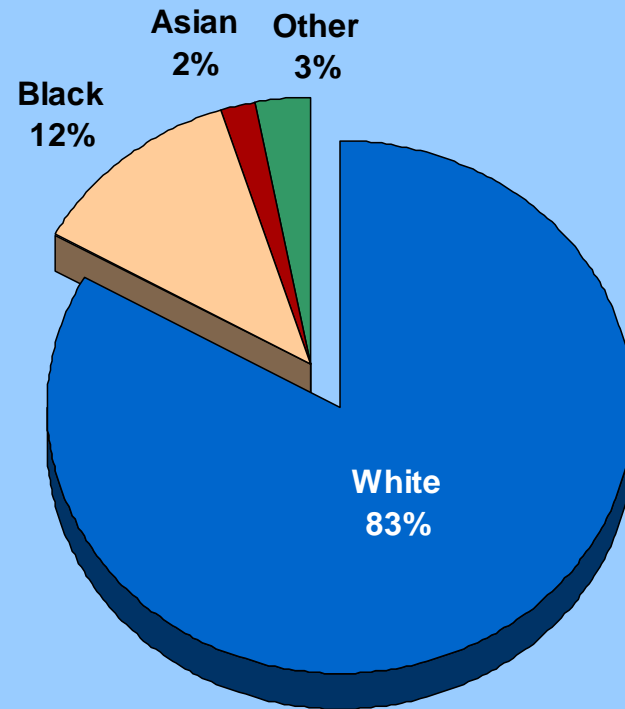
n = 397

Source of HH income statistics for US, AGH County,  
and City of Pgh: 2006 American Community Survey  
(ACS) US Census Bureau

# GENDER AND RACE



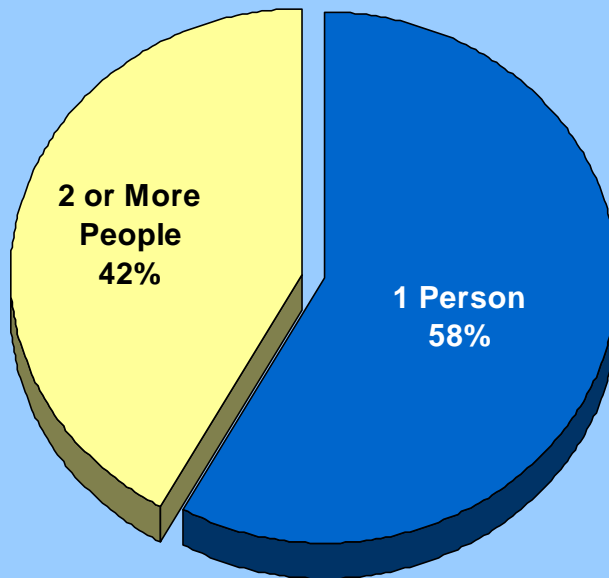
n = 399



n = 389



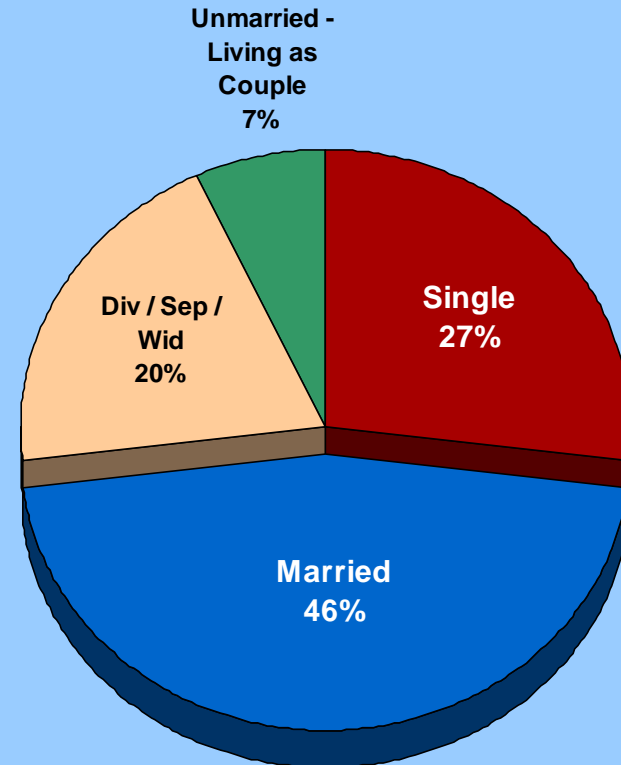
# HOUSEHOLD SIZE & MARITAL STATUS



Average Household Size = 1.4 people

Just 3% of households have children

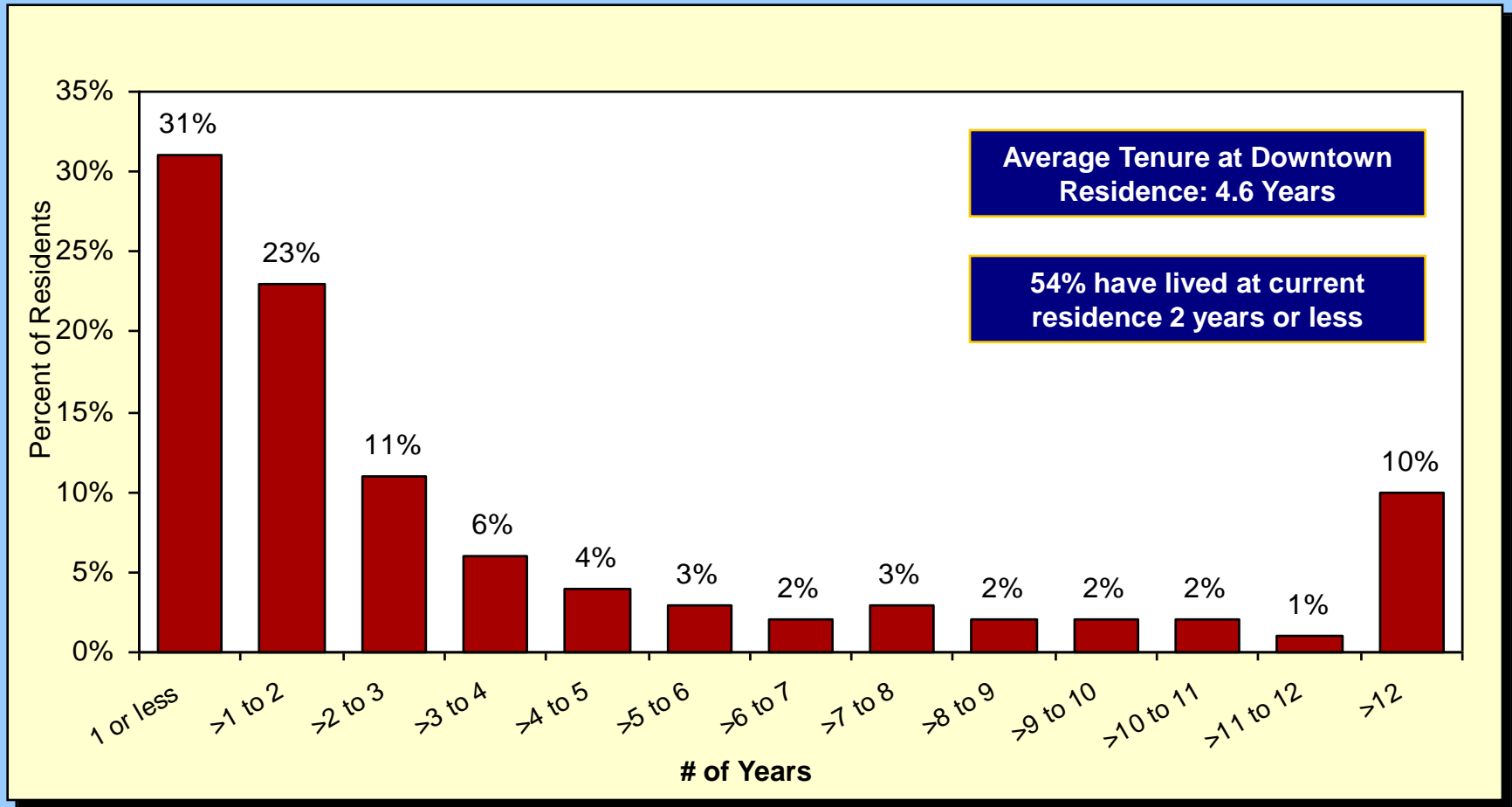
n = 401



n = 398

# TENURE AT DOWNTOWN RESIDENCE

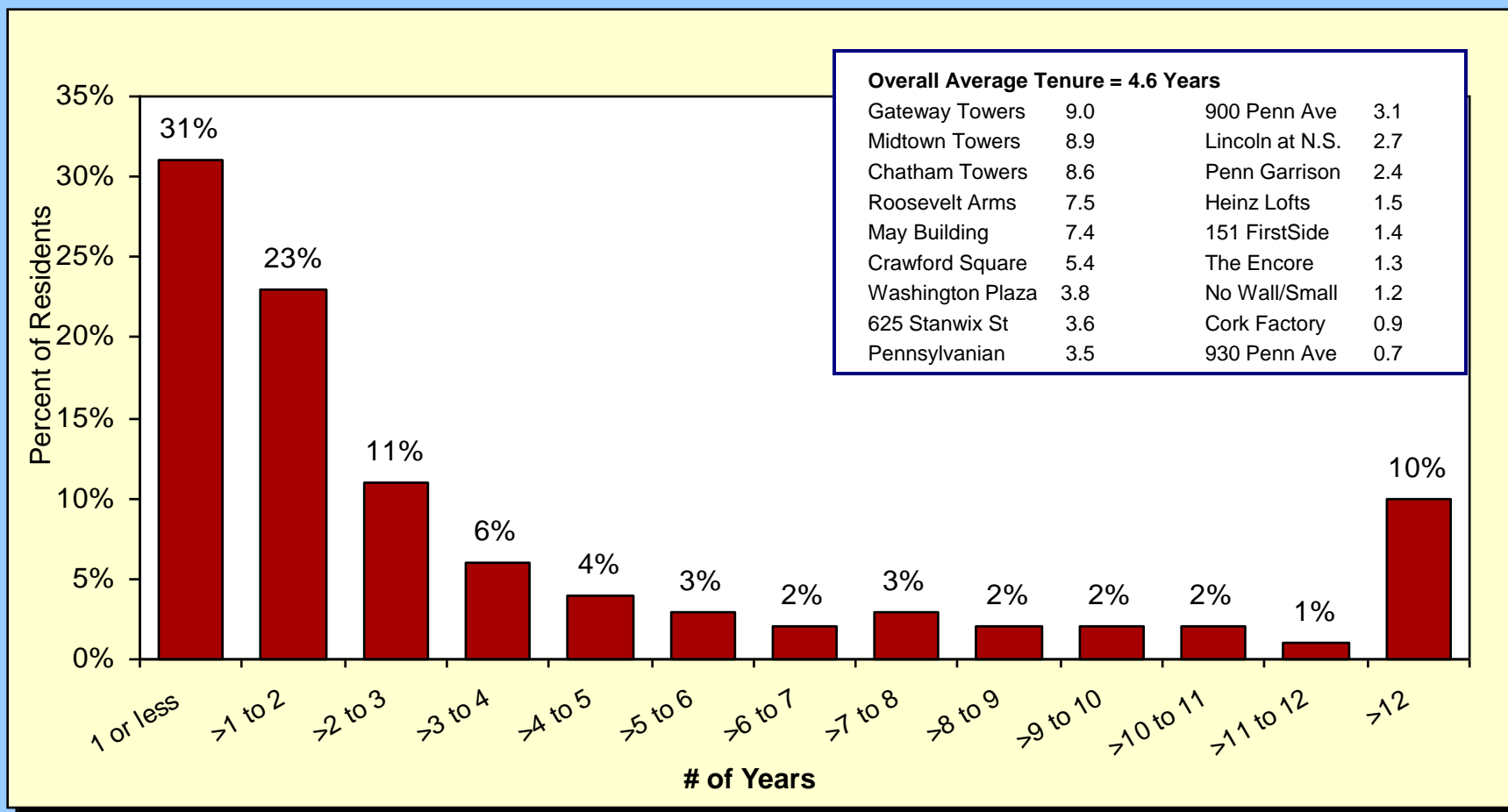
## Number of Years Lived at Current Residence



Q1. How long have you lived at your current Downtown residence? (n = 413)

# TENURE AT DOWNTOWN RESIDENCE

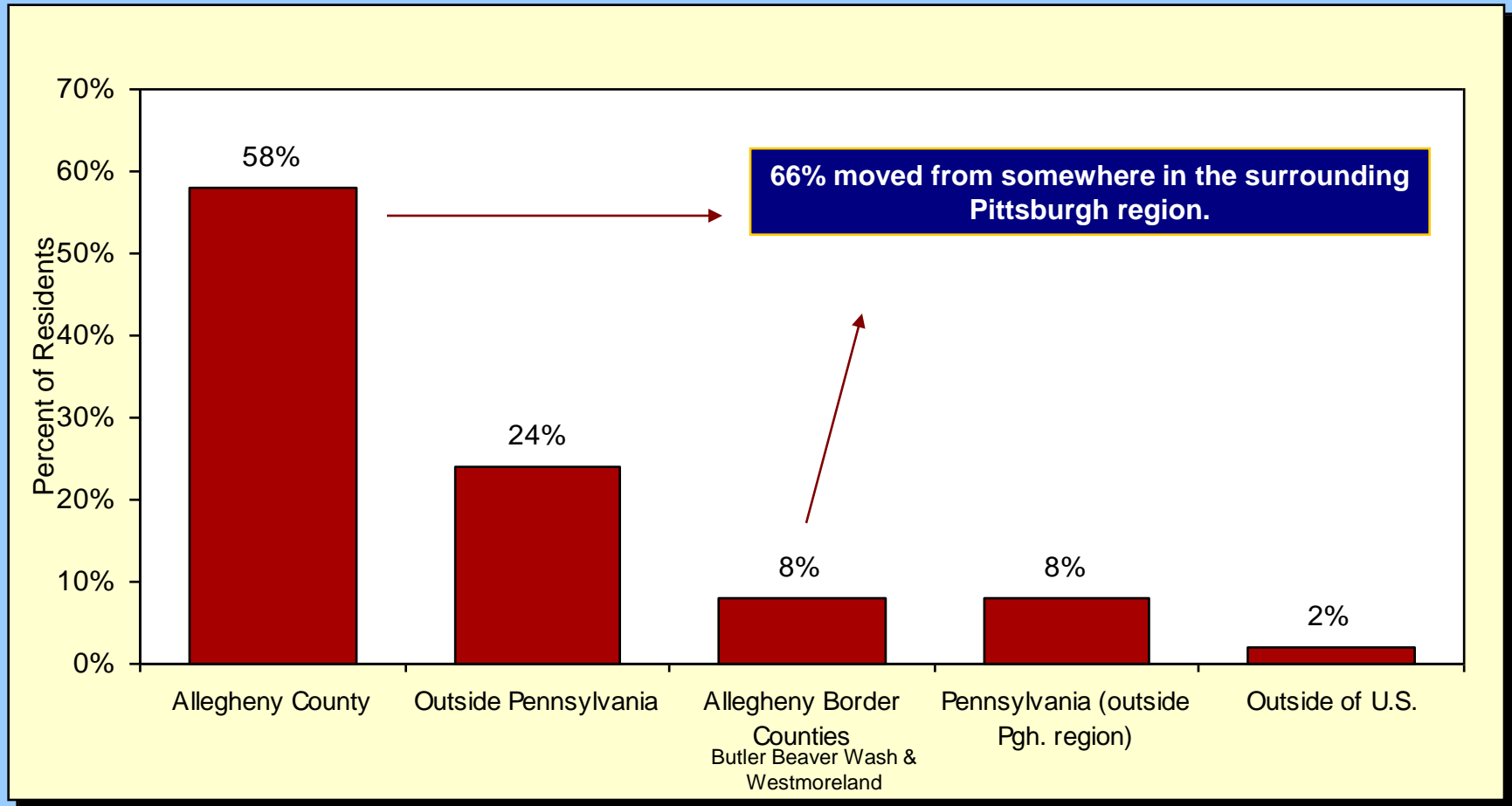
## Number of Years Lived at Current Residence



Q1. How long have you lived at your current Downtown residence? (n = 413)

# PREVIOUS RESIDENCE

## Location of Residence Prior to Moving Downtown

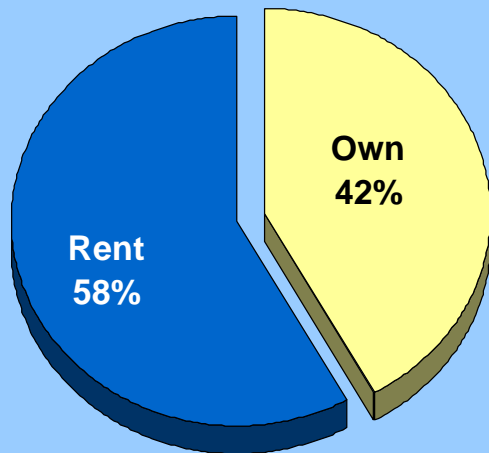


Q2. Where did you last live prior to moving to your current Downtown residence? (n = 408)

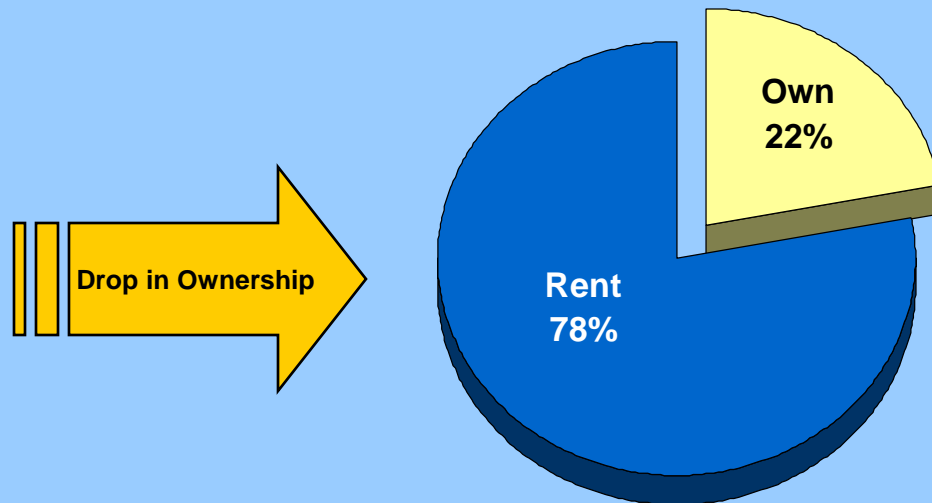
# OWNERSHIP STATUS

Rent versus Own

Prior Residence



Current Residence  
(Downtown)



A higher “renter” status accompanied the move to Downtown.  
“Renter” up 20 percentage points, “Owner” down 20 percentage points.

Q3. Which best describes your status at your prior residence? (n=404)

Q33. Do you own or rent at your current residence? (n=397)

# SUMMARY OF DEMOGRAPHICS

GENDER	n	%
Male	176	44%
Female	223	56%
<b>Total</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>100%</b>
MARITAL STATUS	n	%
Married	106	26.6%
Single	181	45.5%
Divorced/Widowed/ Separated	81	20.4%
Unmarried living as couple	30	7.5%
RACE/ETHNICITY	n	%
White	325	83%
Black	45	12%
Asian	8	2%
Other	11	3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>100%</b>

AGE	n	%
Less than 25	35	9%
25 – 29	66	17%
30 – 34	36	9%
35 – 39	37	9%
40 – 44	24	6%
45 – 49	21	5%
50 – 54	41	10%
55 – 59	34	9%
60 – 64	29	7%
65 – 69	26	7%
70 – 74	16	4%
75+	31	8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>100%</b>
Downtown HH Size	n	Average
<b>Average HH size</b>	<b>401</b>	<b>1.4 people</b>

# SUMMARY OF DEMOGRAPHICS

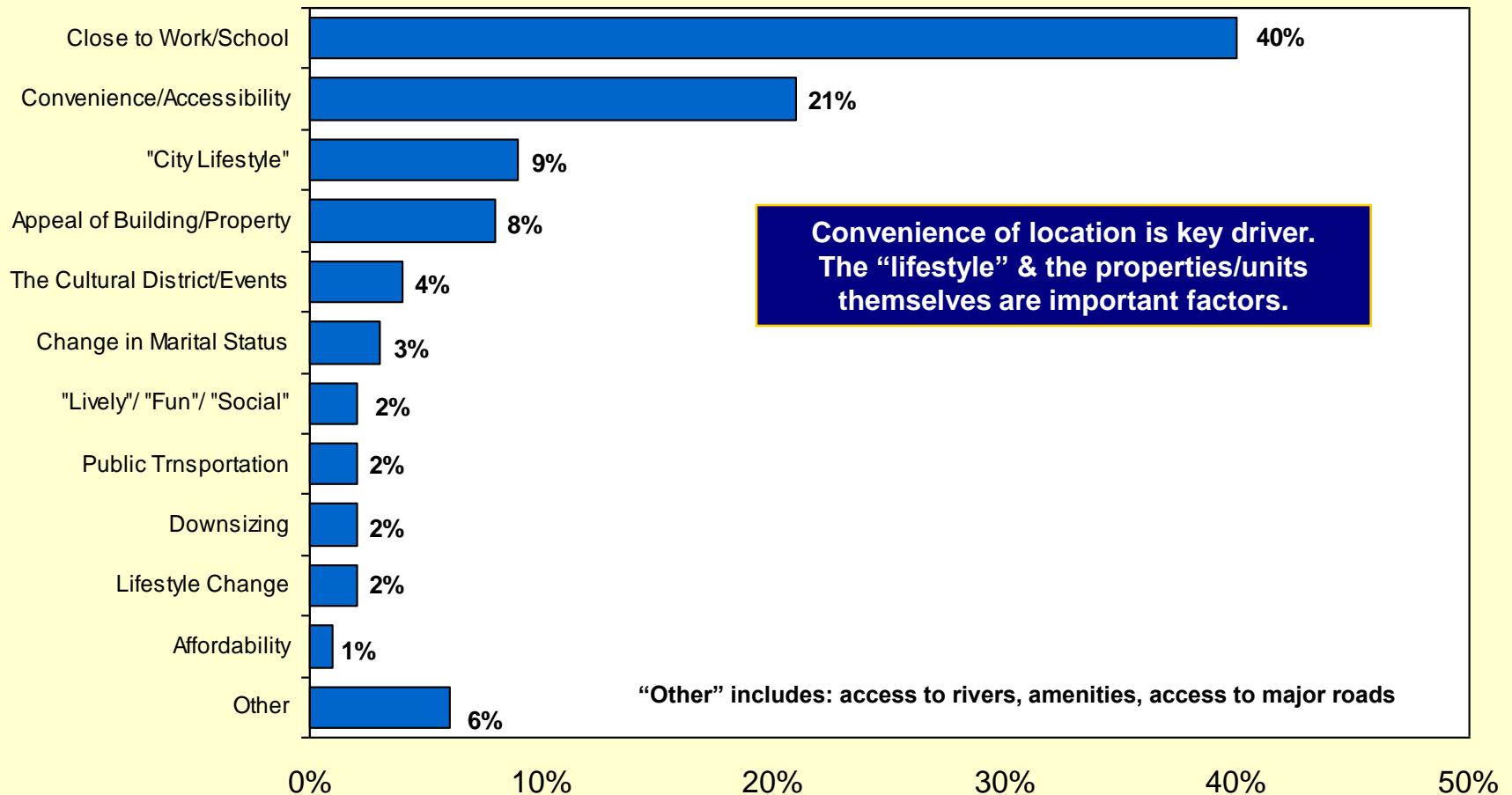
INCOME	n	%
<\$25K	40	10%
\$25K-\$50K	49	12%
\$51K-\$75K	72	18%
\$76K-\$100K	60	15%
\$101K-\$150K	50	13%
\$151K-\$200K	17	4%
\$201K-\$250K	9	2%
>\$250K	39	10%
Prefer Not to Say	61	16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>397</b>	<b>100%</b>

PET OWNERSHIP	n	%
No Pets	295	74%
Own Dogs	50	13%
Own Cats	56	14%
Own Other Pets	8	2%
Average # of Dogs	50	1.04
Average # of Cats	56	1.46
Average # of Other Pets	8	No responses
"Other" Types of Pets	Birds, Fish, Rabbit	

# **DECISION TO MOVE DOWNTOWN**

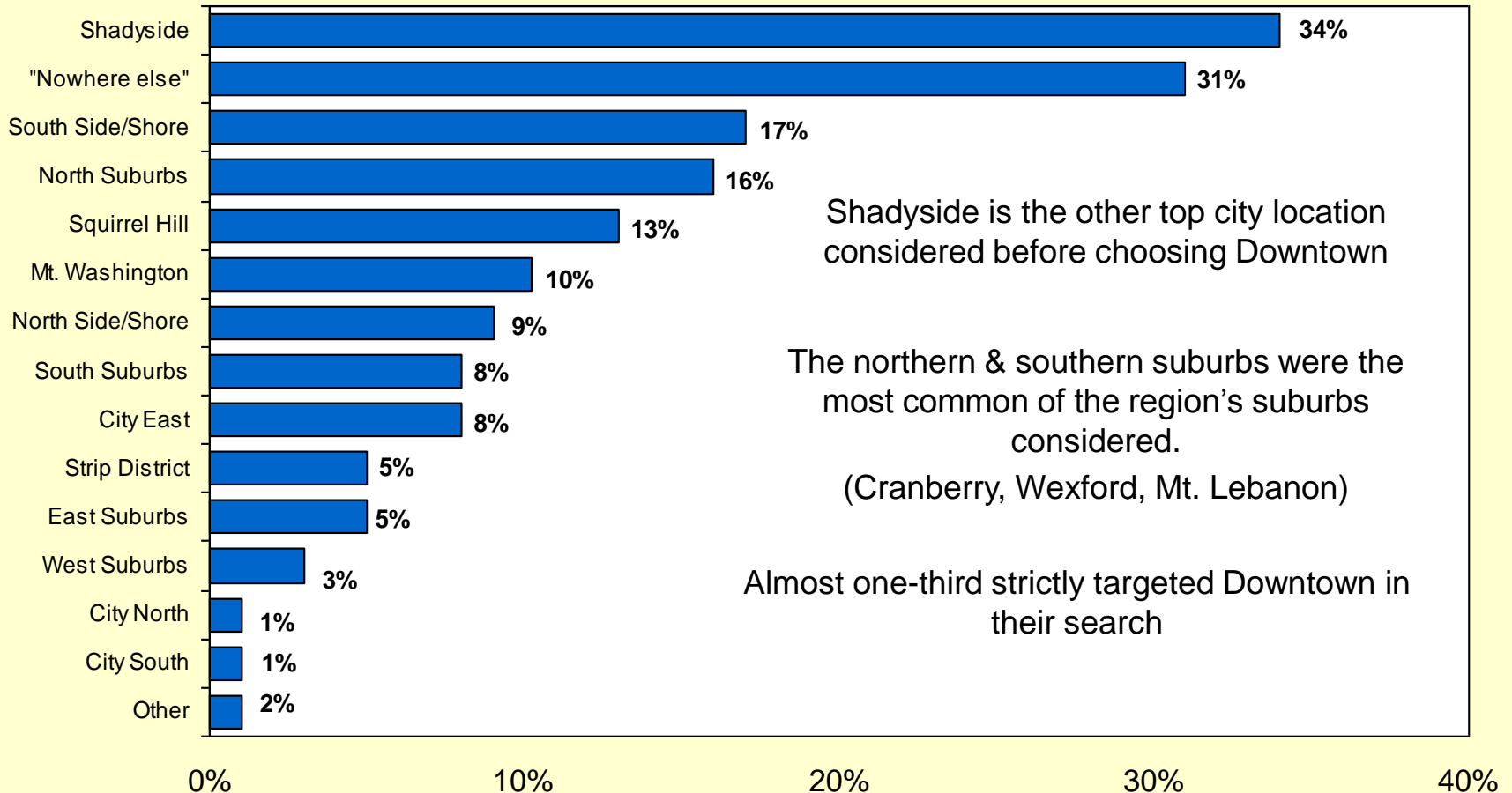


# PRIMARY REASON FOR MOVING DOWNTOWN



Q4. What was the primary reason you chose to live Downtown? (n=402)

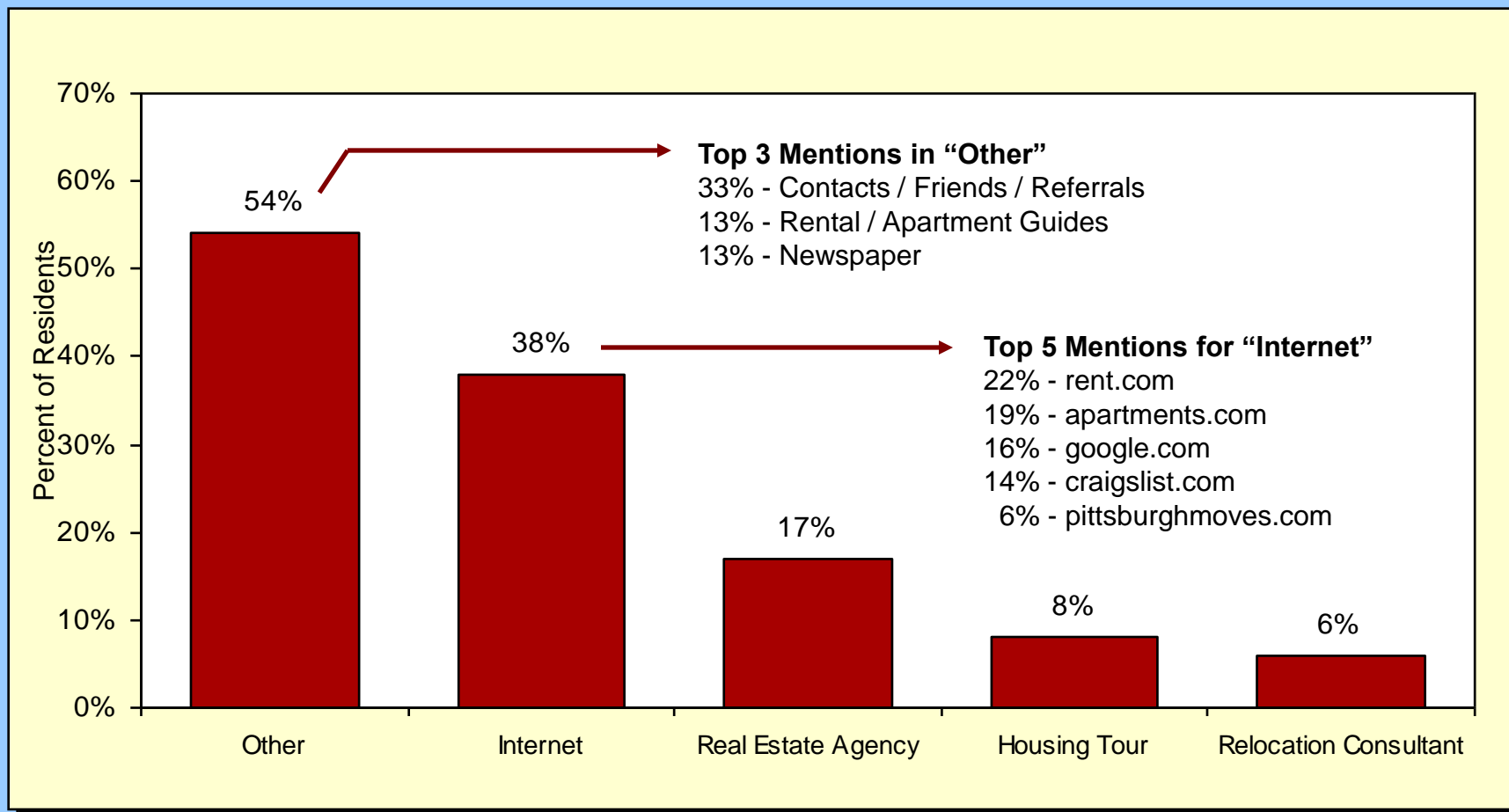
# OTHER LOCATIONS CONSIDERED IN HOUSING SEARCH



Q5. Prior to moving Downtown, what communities were included in your housing search? (n=374)

Q5 is a multiple response question. 374 people provided 645 answers. The above chart reflects the % of people mentioning each location.

# RESOURCES USED IN HOUSING SEARCH



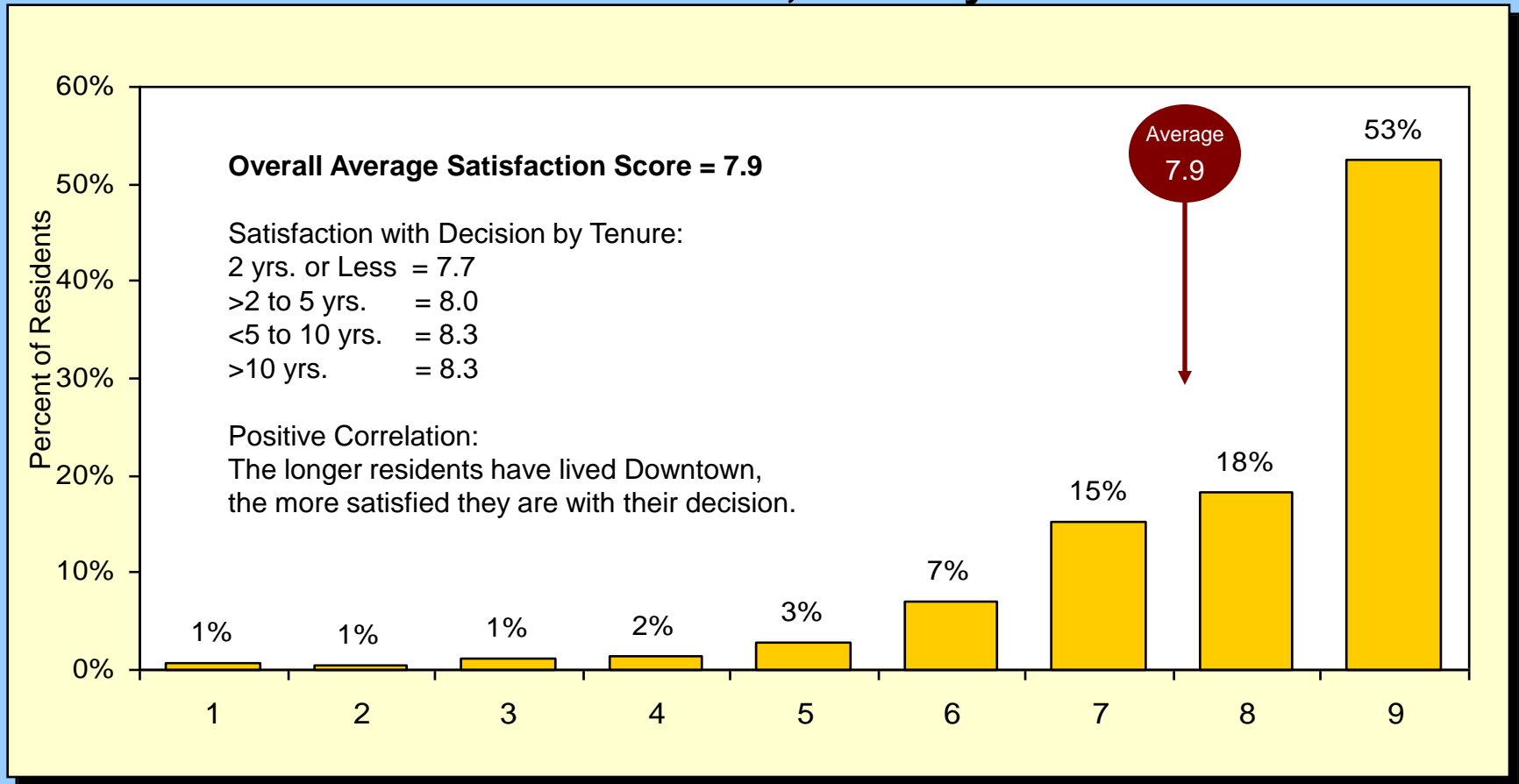
Q6. Which resources did you use to find your current property/building? (n = 404)

Q6 is a multiple response question. 404 people provided 494 answers.  
The above chart reflects the % of people mentioning each resource.

# **SATISFACTION WITH DOWNTOWN LIVING**

# SATISFACTION WITH DECISION TO MOVE DOWNTOWN

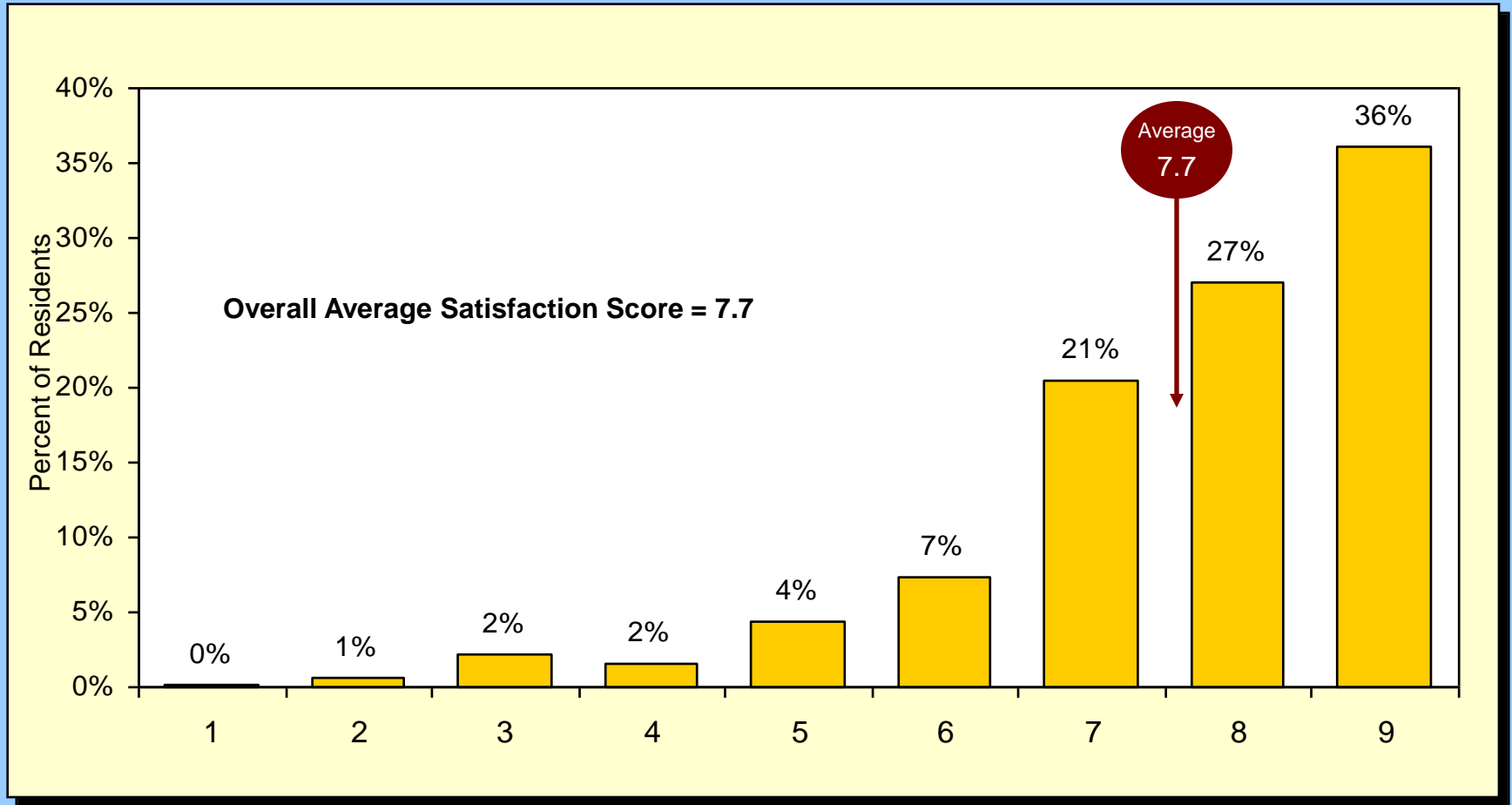
1 = Not satisfied at all; 9 = Very satisfied



Q9. How satisfied are you with your decision to live in Downtown? (n = 411)

# SATISFACTION WITH DOWNTOWN RESIDENCE

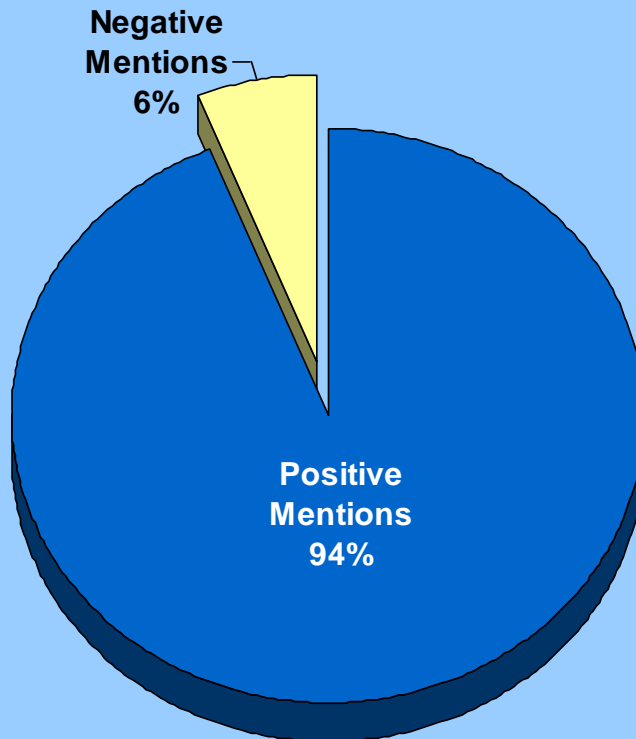
1 = Not satisfied at all; 9 = Very satisfied



Q8. How satisfied are you with your property/building choice? (n = 410)

# FACTORS THAT IMPACT THE QUALITY OF “DOWNTOWN LIVING”

## Positive & Negative Factors Cited by Residents



1,355 “quality of life” factors were cited by the Downtown residents. 1,275 or 94% of these answers were “positive” or favorable. Just 6% of the factors reference “negative” or unfavorable issues.

### Positive Factors Cited Most Often

#### (94%):

- Close to work or school
- Convenience / central location
- Access to restaurants
- Proximity to Cultural District / Events / Arts

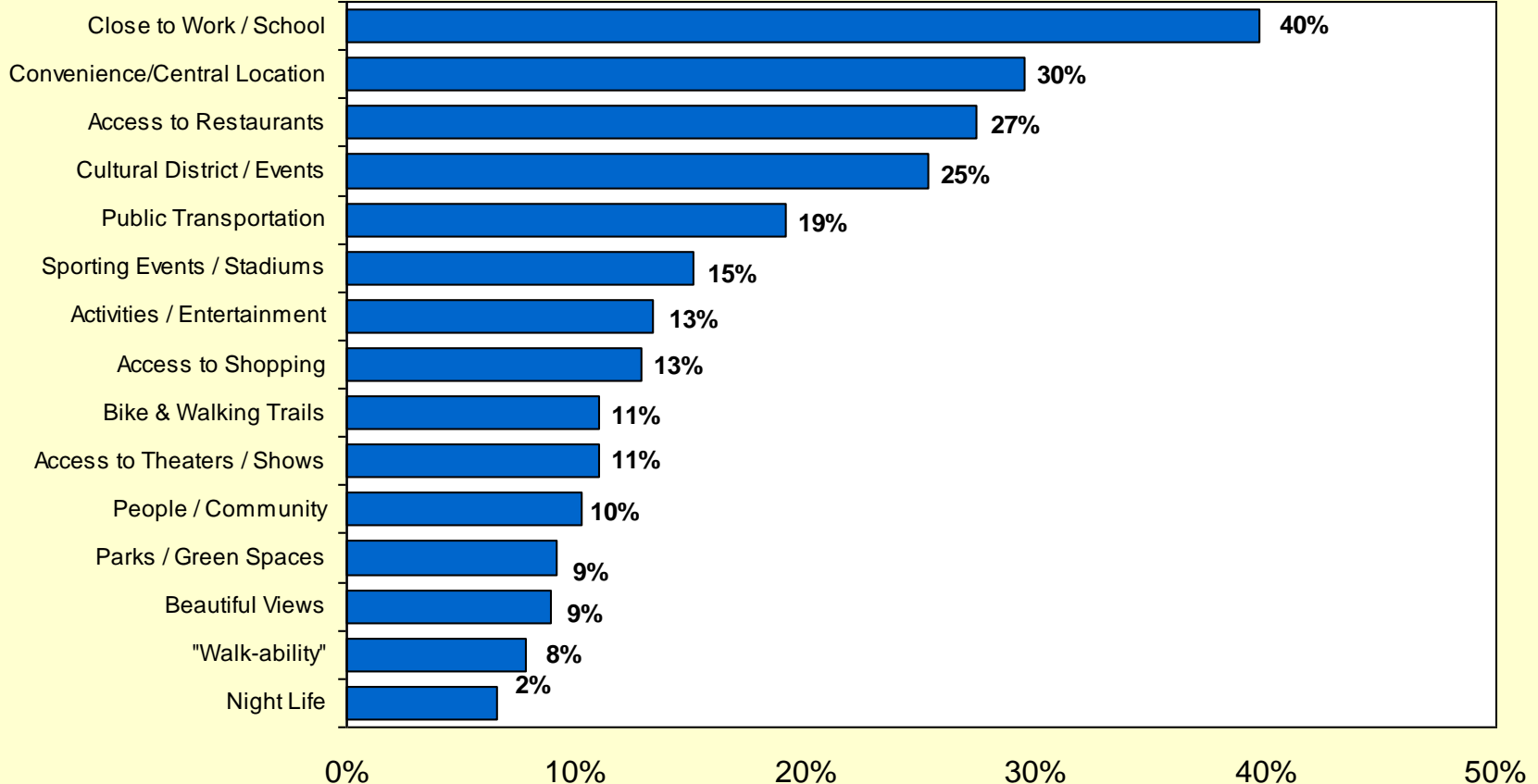
### Negative Factors Cited Most Often

#### (6%):

- Safety / Security
- Lack of Grocery Stores & Retail
- Nothing is open at night – need to stay open
- Noise / Parking / No taxis / High costs

Q10. Which aspects of Downtown living have the greatest overall impact on your quality of life (livability) as a Downtown resident? (n = 383)

# POSITIVE FACTORS IMPACTING THE QUALITY OF “DOWNTOWN LIVING”



Q10. Which aspects of Downtown living have the greatest overall impact on your quality of life (livability) as a Downtown resident? (n = 1,275 responses)

Q10 is a multiple response question. 383 people provided 1,275 answers. The above chart reflects the % of people mentioning each factor.



# NEGATIVE FACTORS IMPACTING THE QUALITY OF “DOWNTOWN LIVING”

- Safety / Security (33)
- Noise (3)
- Costs (high) (3)
- (need) more & safer bus routes from Oakland to Mellon arena area
- (need) places for guests to park for free
- accessibility - need to not have Pgh PD block access to apartments
- businesses that stay open
- cab service/parking
- Develop "retail services" w/ business hours catering to a residential com
- Downtown construction and congestion
- DT is dead at night; everything closes
- Frustrated with the smokers everywhere
- full use of buildings
- grocery store at reasonable pricing
- Grocery Stores (and operation hours of them)
- lack of weekend life
- loud noise, especially at night
- no shopping for food in area
- not closing streets to access building
- safety - I wouldn't feel safe walking around at night
- shopping (limited at this time)
- stuff needs to be open late and on weekends

**SAFETY is the primary factor.**

It accounts for 33 of 80 responses.

- There is no Grocery Store!!!!
- \$ parking
- air pollution
- black on white crime
- City closing the one road that leads to
- Develop retail shopping for a variety of life-
- styles w/ business hours catering to residents
- we need a grocery store with regular prices
- Game Events (added crowds/ticket sellers)
- have to drive to N Hills/Fox Chap for groceries
- lack of grocery shopping
- lack of police patrol, especially after
- more access to taxi service
- Parking difficulties. It's Expensive.
- Construction
- garbage everywhere
- state or PennDot doesn't notify road closures
- street bums, loiterers
- punks & vagrants on street
- coal dust
- taxes
- better property management

Q10. Which aspects of Downtown living have the greatest overall impact on your quality of life (livability) as a Downtown resident? (n = 80 responses)

# SHOPPING BEHAVIOR

# CATEGORIES SHOPPED BY DOWNTOWN RESIDENTS

Residents asked where they shop for 23 product/service categories  
Do you shop in Downtown? (yes/no) Do you shop in suburbs? (yes/no)

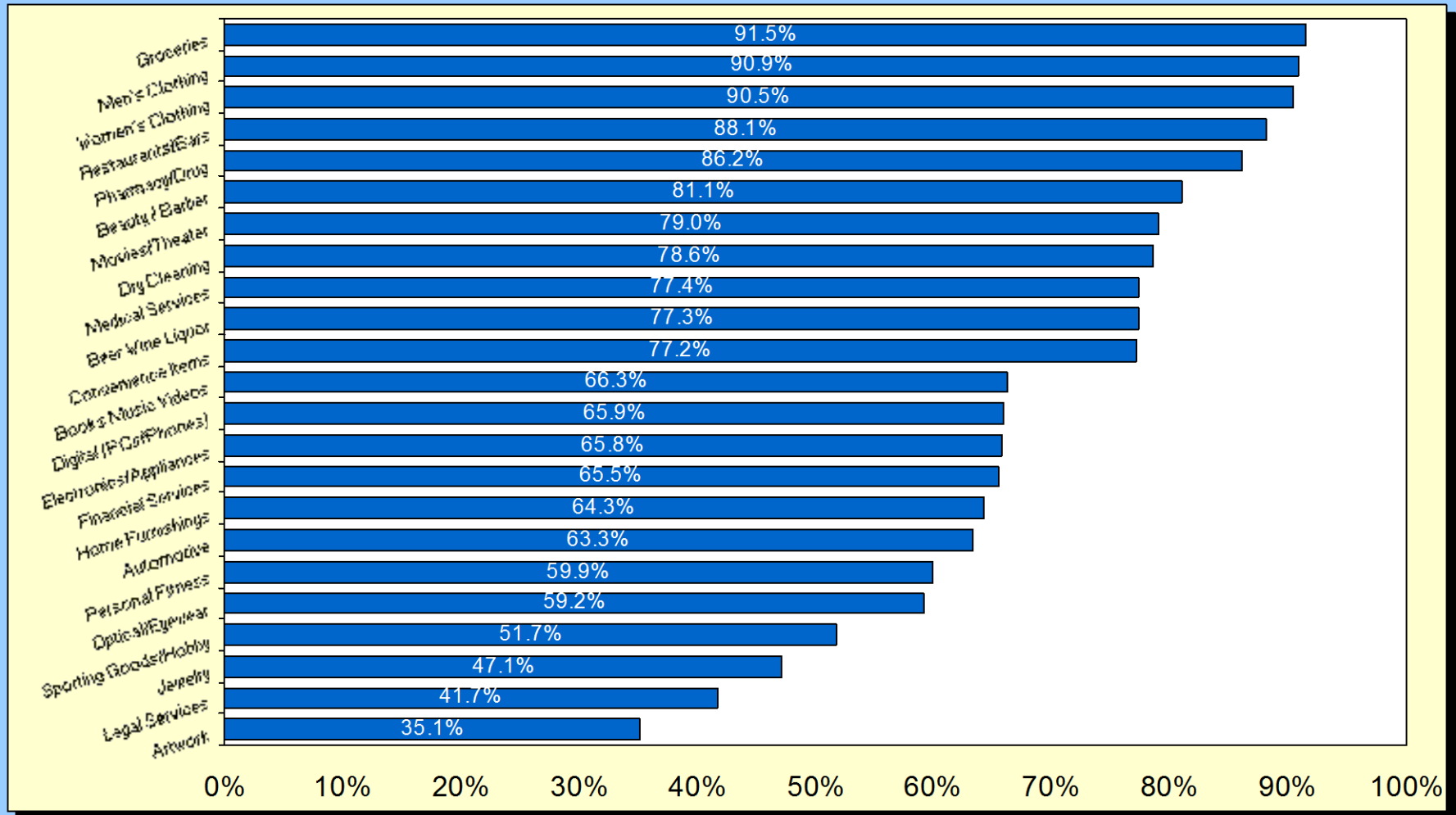
- Restaurants / Bars
- Pharmacy / Drug
- Convenience Store item
- Men's Clothing
- Financial Services
- Personal Fitness
- Movies / Theater
- Groceries

- Beauty / Barber
- Dry Cleaning
- Women's Clothing.
- Beer Wine Liquor
- Optical / Eyewear
- Legal Service
- Jewelry
- Artwork

- Electronics/Appliances
- Home Furnishing/Furniture
- Automotive
- Books / Music / Video
- Digital (PCs, Phones)
- Medical Services
- Sporting Goods / Hobby

# PERCENTAGE WHO SHOP EACH CATEGORY

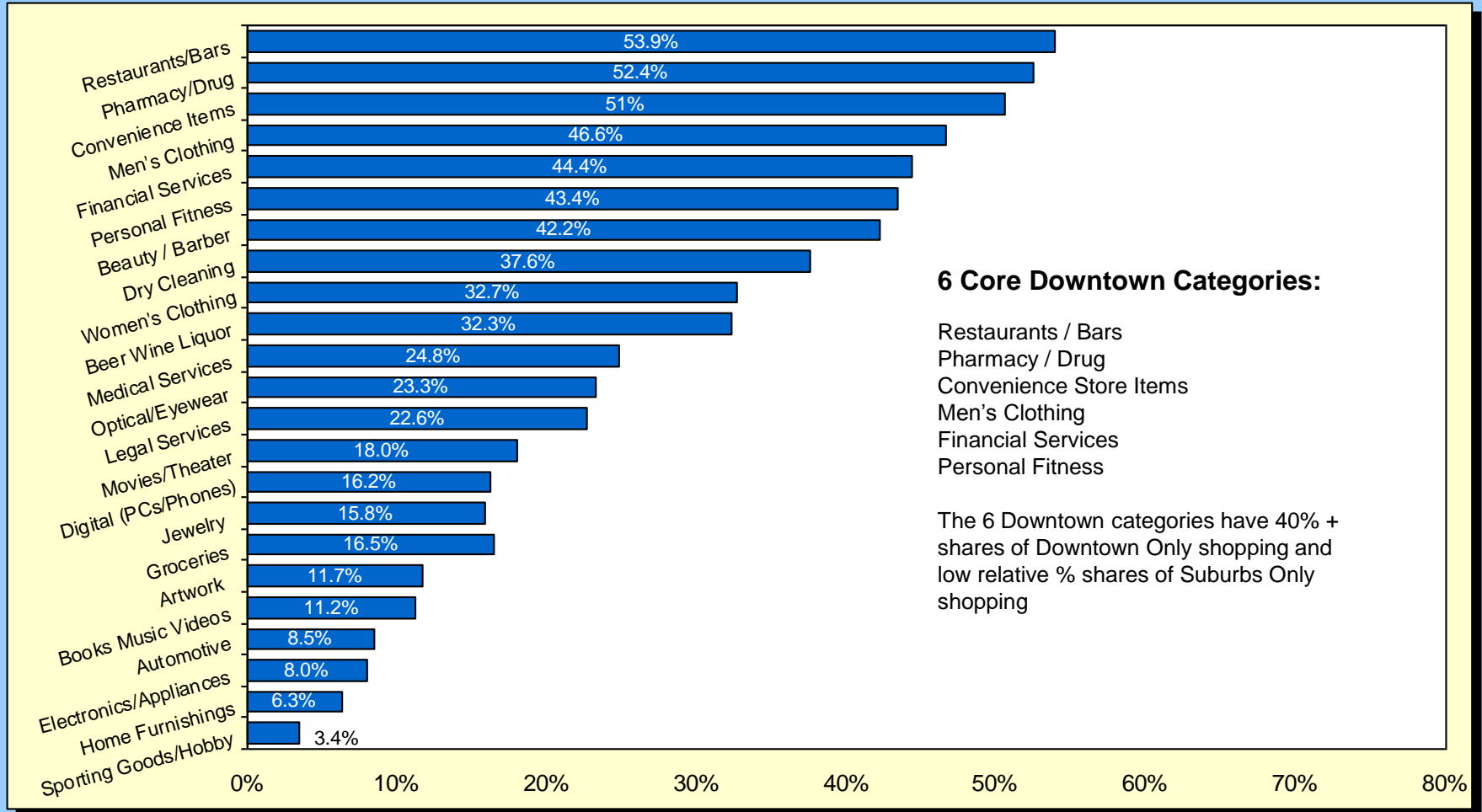
Percentage of Residents



Q11. Where do you shop for the following goods and services? (n = varies by product/service)

# SHOP ONLY IN DOWNTOWN

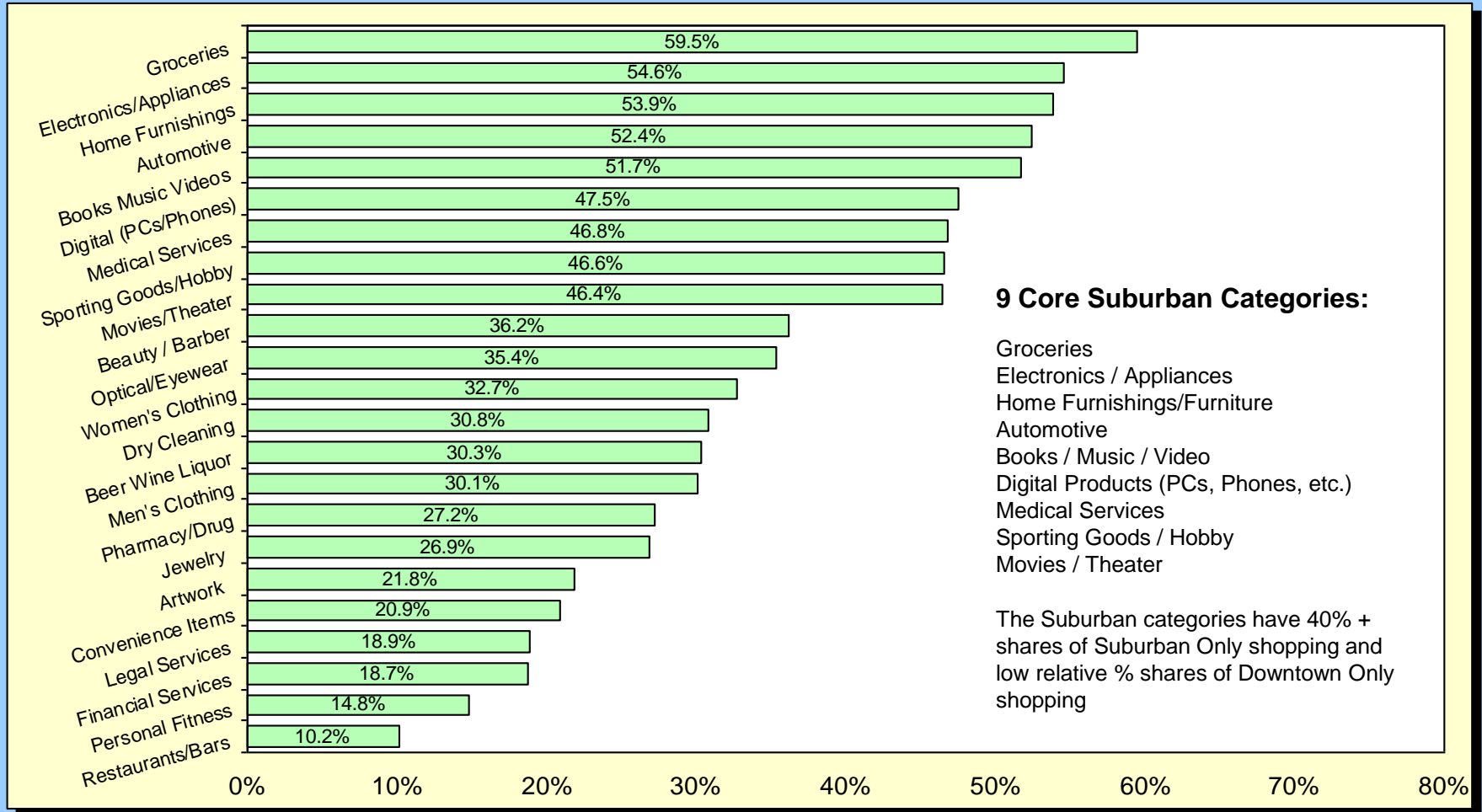
% of Residents Who Shop Exclusively in Downtown for Category



Q11. Where do you shop for the following goods and services? (n = varies by product/service )

# SHOP ONLY IN SUBURBS

% of Residents Who Shop Exclusively in Suburbs for Category



Q11. Where do you shop for the following goods and services? (n = varies by product/service )

# SHOPPING CATEGORY SUMMARY

## CORE DOWNTOWN - 6

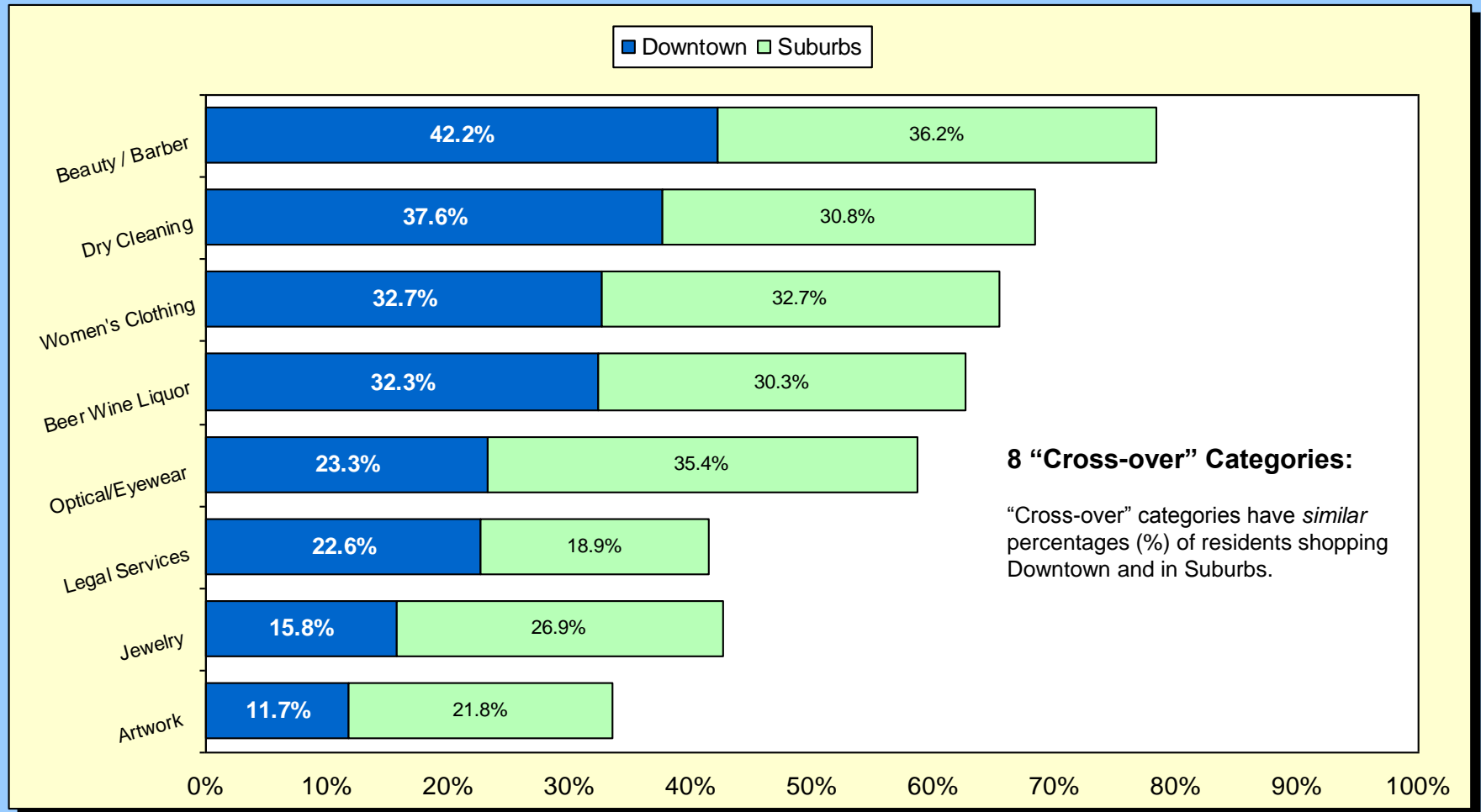
- Restaurants / Bars
- Pharmacy / Drug
- Convenience Store item
- Men's Clothing
- Financial Services
- Personal Fitness

## CORE SUBURBAN - 9

- Groceries
- Electronics/Appliances
- Home Furnishing/Furniture
- Automotive
- Books / Music / Video
- Digital (PCs, Phones)
- Medical Services
- Sporting Goods / Hobby
- Movies / Theater

# “CROSS-OVER” CATEGORIES

Categories Where Both Venues Are Equally Popular with Residents



Q11. Where do you shop for the following goods and services? (n = varies by product/service)



# SHOPPING CATEGORY SUMMARY

## CORE DOWNTOWN – 6

- Restaurants / Bars
- Pharmacy / Drug
- Convenience Store item
- Men's Clothing
- Financial Services
- Personal Fitness

## “CROSS-OVER” – 8

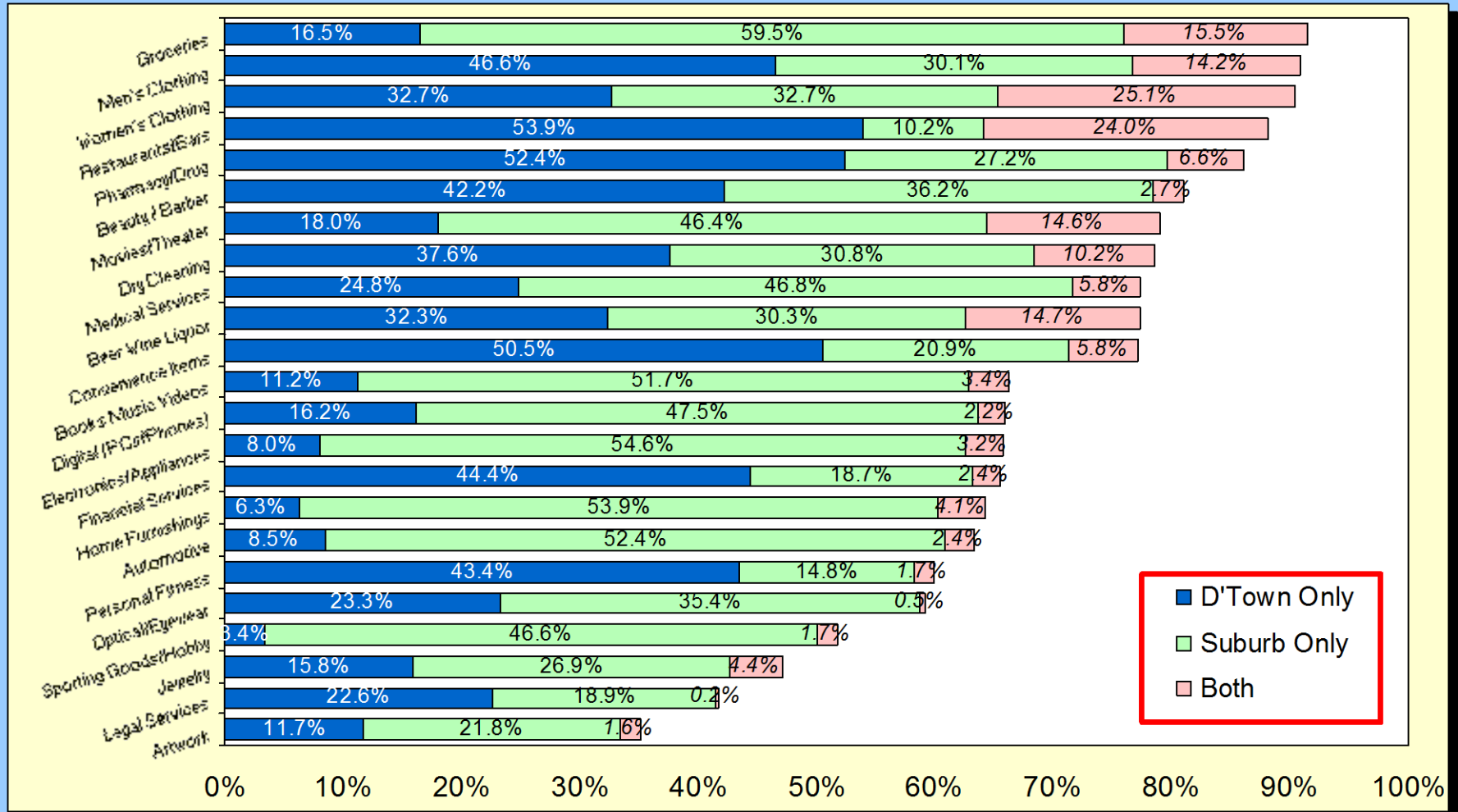
- Beauty / Barber
- Dry Cleaning
- Women's Clothing.
- Beer Wine Liquor
- Optical / Eyewear
- Legal Service
- Jewelry
- Artwork

## CORE SUBURBAN - 9

- Groceries
- Electronics/Appliances
- Home Furnishing/Furniture
- Automotive
- Books / Music / Video
- Digital (PCs, Phones)
- Medical Services
- Sporting Goods / Hobby
- Movies / Theater

# SHOPPING/SPENDING SUMMARY

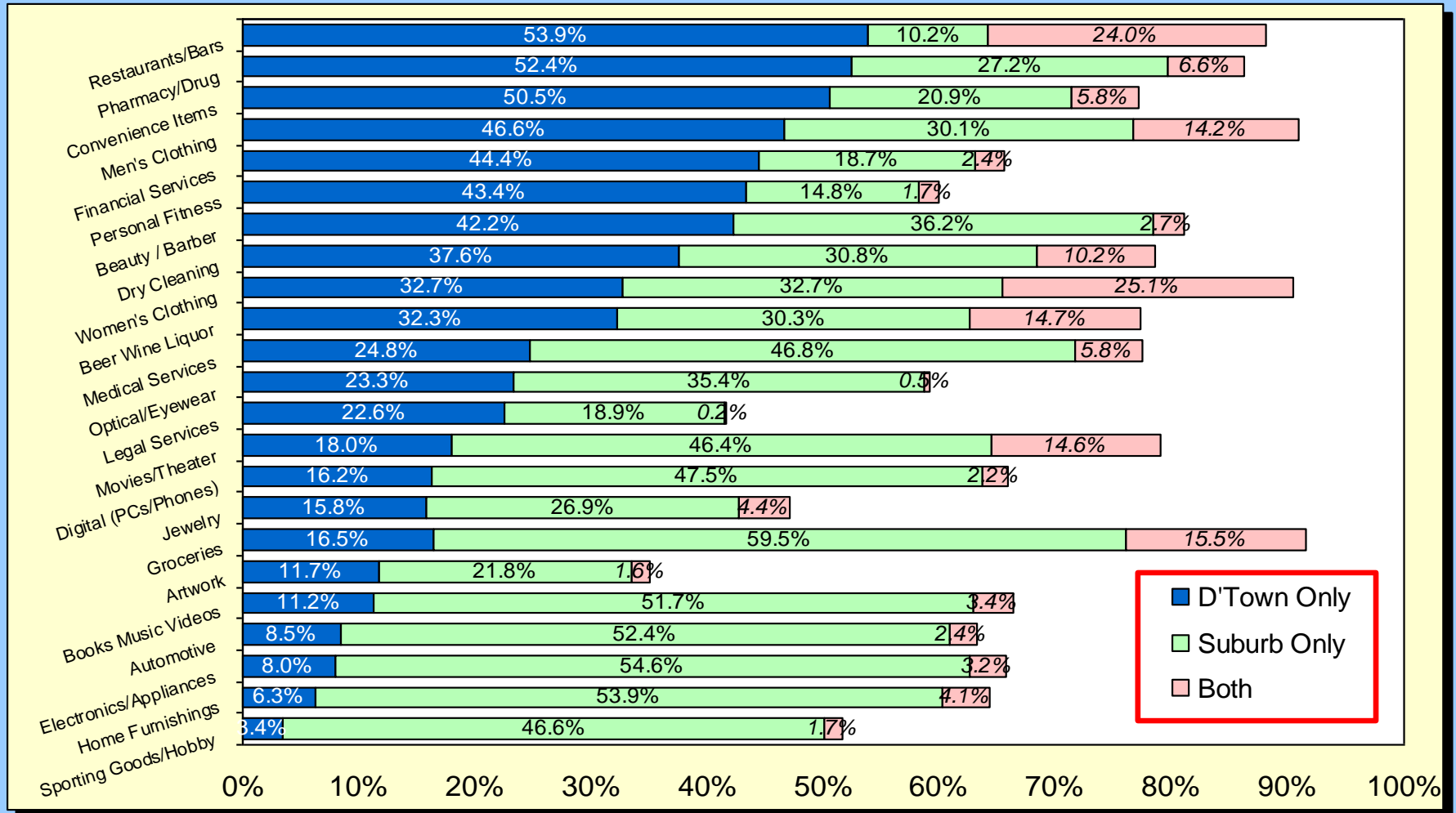
## Total Percentage of Residents



Q11. Where do you shop for the following goods and services? (n = )

# SHOPPING/SPENDING SUMMARY

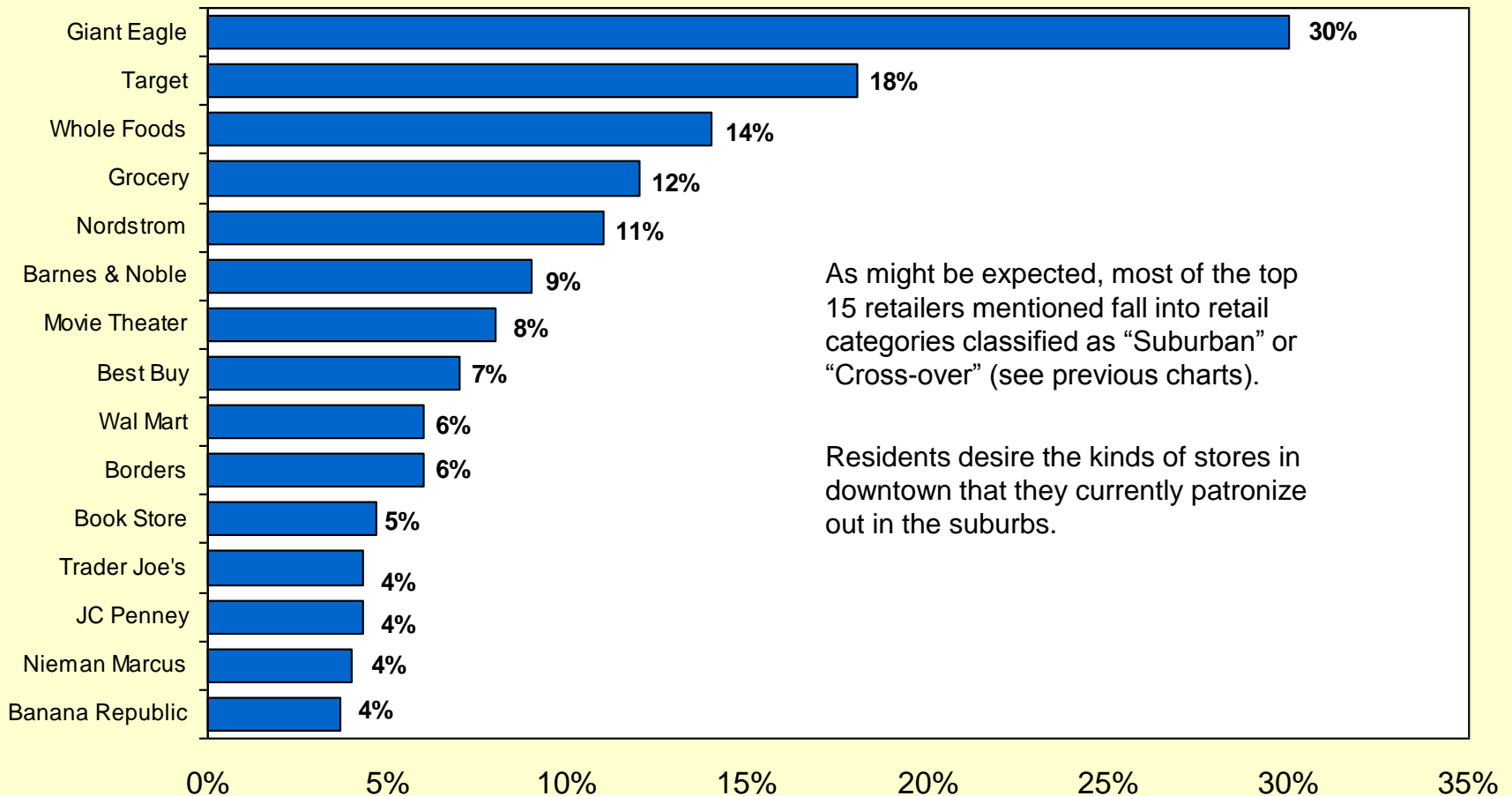
Sorted by Downtown Only Shopping %



Q11. Where do you shop for the following goods and services? (n = )

# RETAILERS WANTED BY RESIDENTS

## Top 15 Mentions

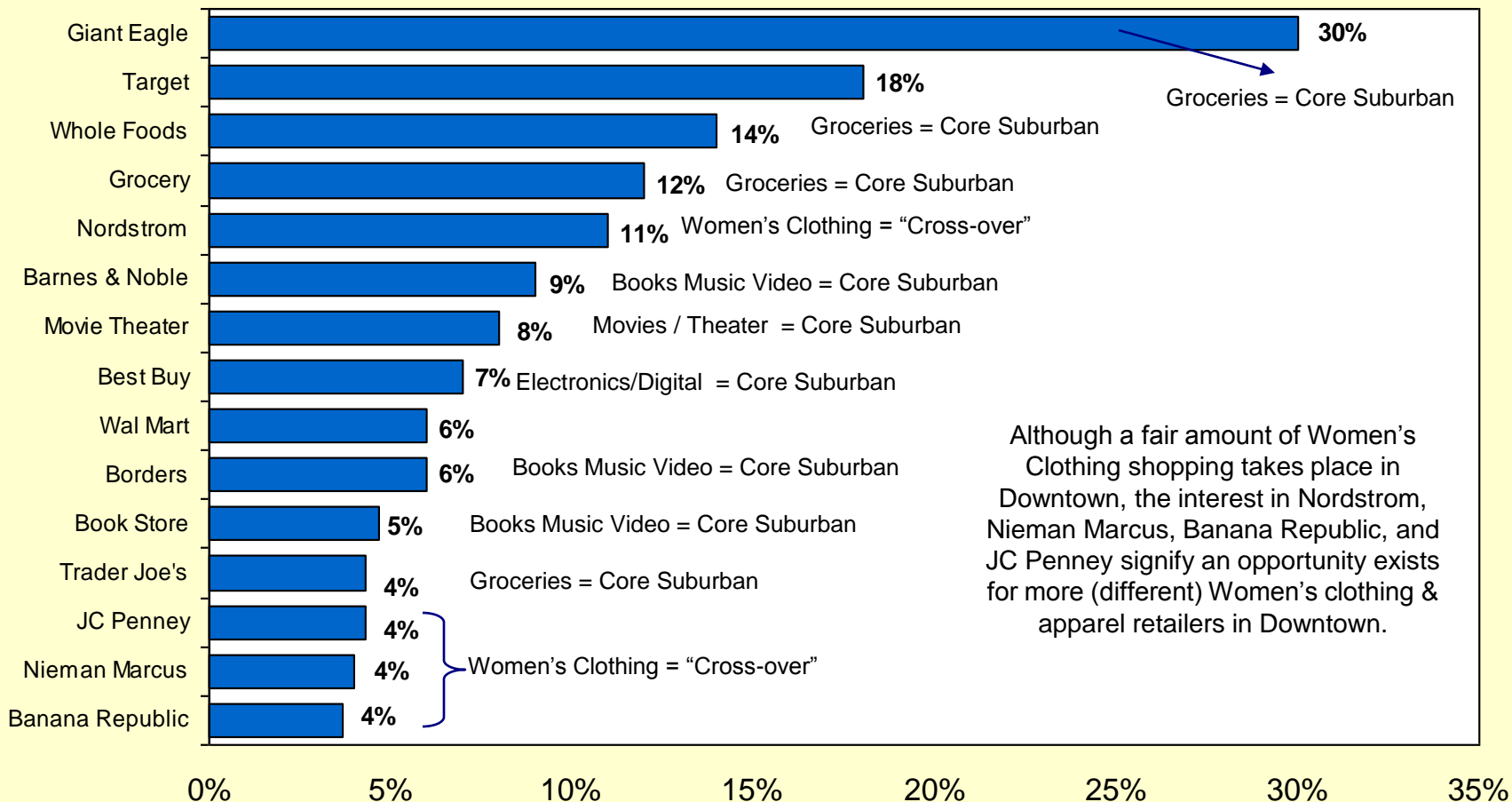


Q12. What 3 retailers would you most like to see come into Downtown? (n = 349)

Q12 is a multiple response question. 349 people provided 854 answers. The above chart reflects the % of people mentioning each location.

# RETAILERS WANTED BY RESIDENTS

## Top 15 Mentions



Q12. What 3 retailers would you most like to see come into Downtown? (n = 349)

Q12 is a multiple response question. 349 people provided 854 answers. The above chart reflects the % of people mentioning each location.

# MOST PATRONIZED DOWNTOWN BUSINESSES

- **Artwork:** Art festivals, local galleries, Wood Street Framing
- **Automotive:** Goodyear, Meineke, ZipCar
- **Beauty/Barber:** Sally Beauty Supply, Luigi Caruso, Brett James Salon, Sognatore
- **Beer Wine Liquor:** State store, Wine & Spirits, Oxford Center Wine & Spirits
- **Books/Music/Video:** Barnes & Noble, Library, The Exchange
- **Men's Clothing:** Macy's, Saks, Burlington, Brooks Bros.
- **Women's Clothing:** Macy's, Saks, Burlington
- **Convenience Items:** CVS, 7-Eleven, Rite Aid, Rosebud
- **Digital Products:** Radio Shack, Verizon, T-Mobile, Cricket
- **Dry Cleaning:** Galardi's, Chuong's (Gateway T.), "apt. / building service"
- **Electronics/Appliances:** Macy's, Radio Shack, The Exchange
- **Financial Services:** PNC, Citizens Bank, National City, Dollar Bank

Q11. Write in the specific Downtown store you patronize the most (measured in dollars spent)? (n = varies by store)

# MOST PATRONIZED DOWNTOWN BUSINESSES

- **Groceries:** Rosebud, Strip District, CVS
- **Home Furnishings:** Macy's, Burlington, Perlora
- **Jewelry:** Macy's, Clark Building, Bailey Banks & Biddle
- **Legal Services:** Buchanan Ingersoll Rooney, Cohen & Grigsby, Reed Smith
- **Medical Services:** AGH, Mercy Hospital, UPMC Downtown
- **Movies/Theater:** Harris, South Side Works, Heinz Hall
- **Optical Products:** Gateway Eye Assoc., America's Best, Heidi Optics
- **Personal Fitness:** Apartment gym, Gold's gym, Bally's, Rivers Club
- **Pharmacy / Drug:** CVS, Rite Aid, Eckerd
- **Restaurant / Bar:** Bossa Nova, Capital Grille, Palomino, Six Penn, Seviche, Eleven
- **Sporting Goods / Hobby:** Honus Wagner, stadium/arena, Station Square

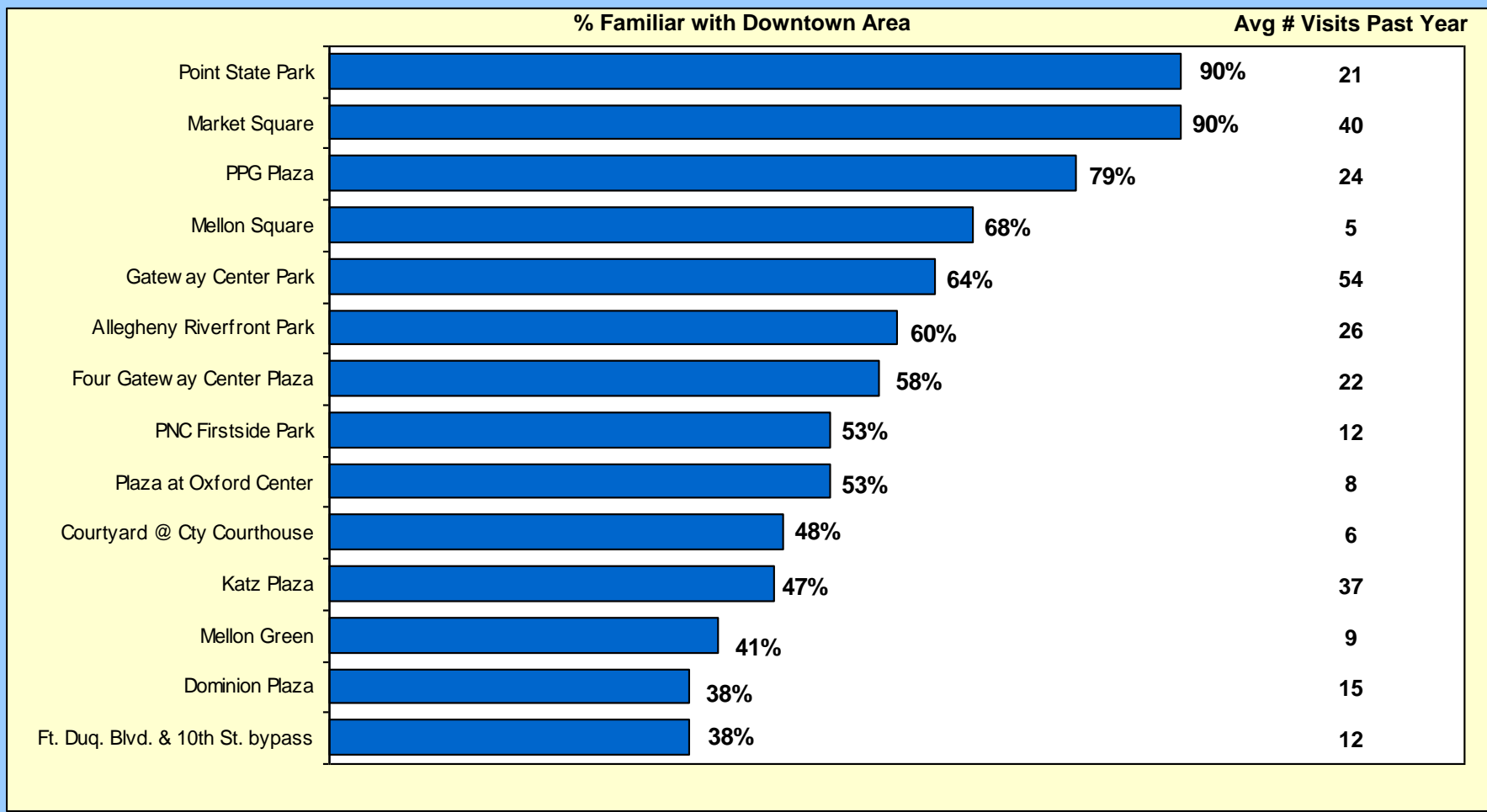
Q11. Write in the specific Downtown store you patronize the most (measured in dollars spent)? (n = varies by store)

# **PARKS & GREEN SPACES**



# DOWNTOWN'S PARKS & OUTDOOR SPACES

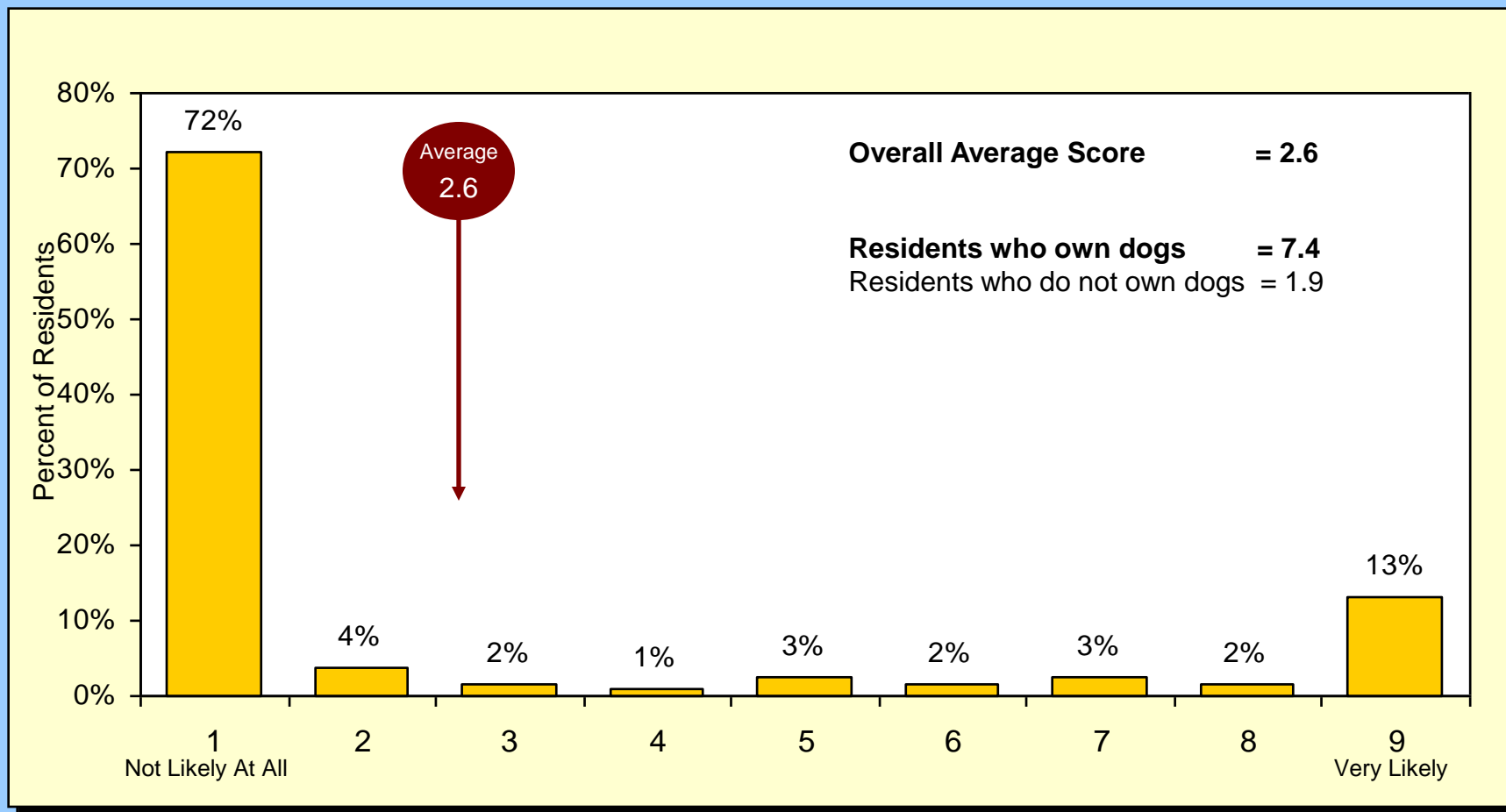
## Familiarity and Usage



Q18. Please (a) check if you are familiar with each green space/outdoor area listed (know where it is) and (b) how many times you have visited/used each area in the past year. (n = 411)

# LIKELIHOOD TO USE DOG PARK

1 = Not Likely at All; 9 = Very Likely

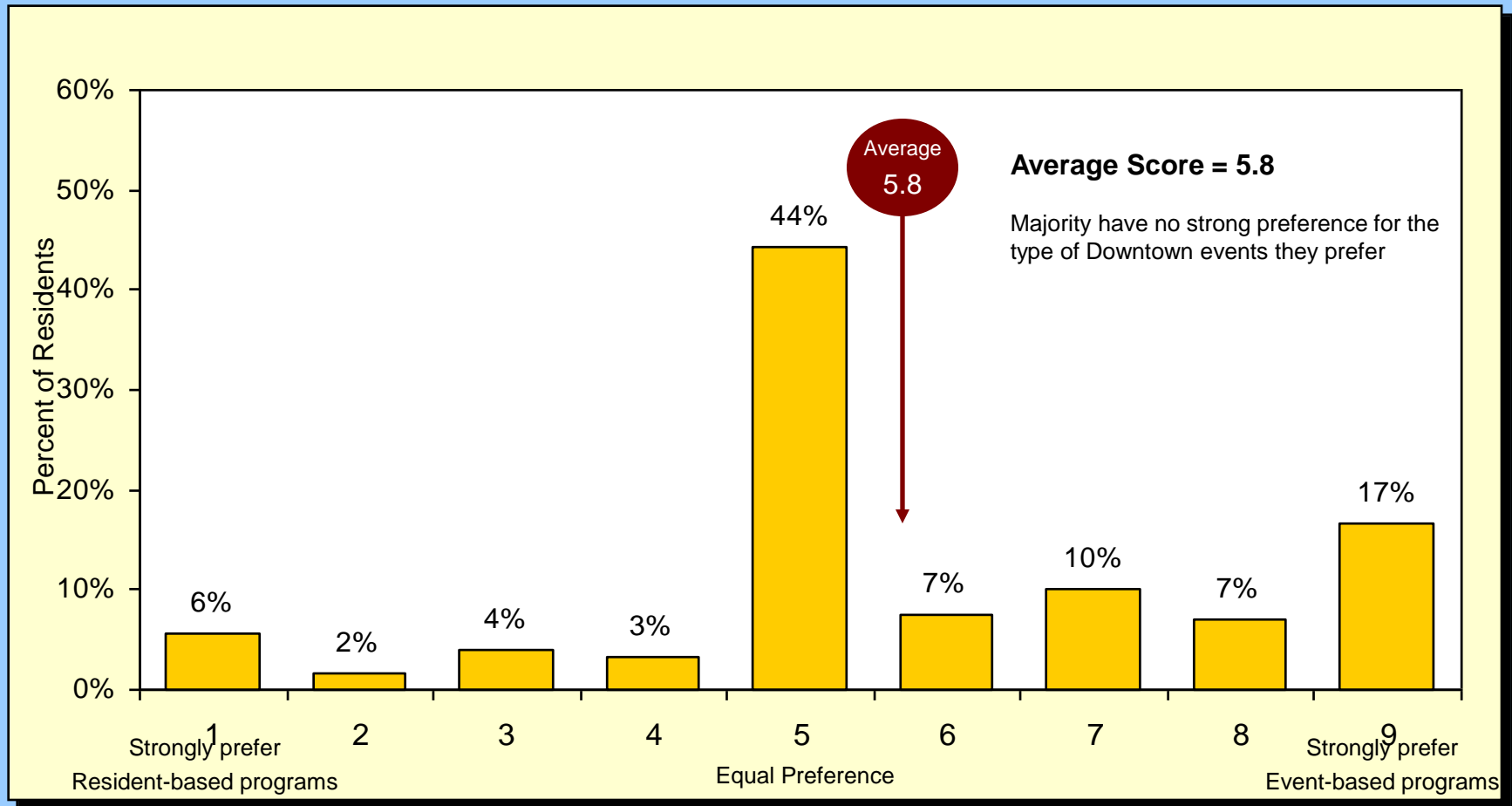


Q19. If a small off-leash dog park was established near Gateway Center, how likely would you be to use it? (n = 390)

# **EVENTS & PROGRAMMING**

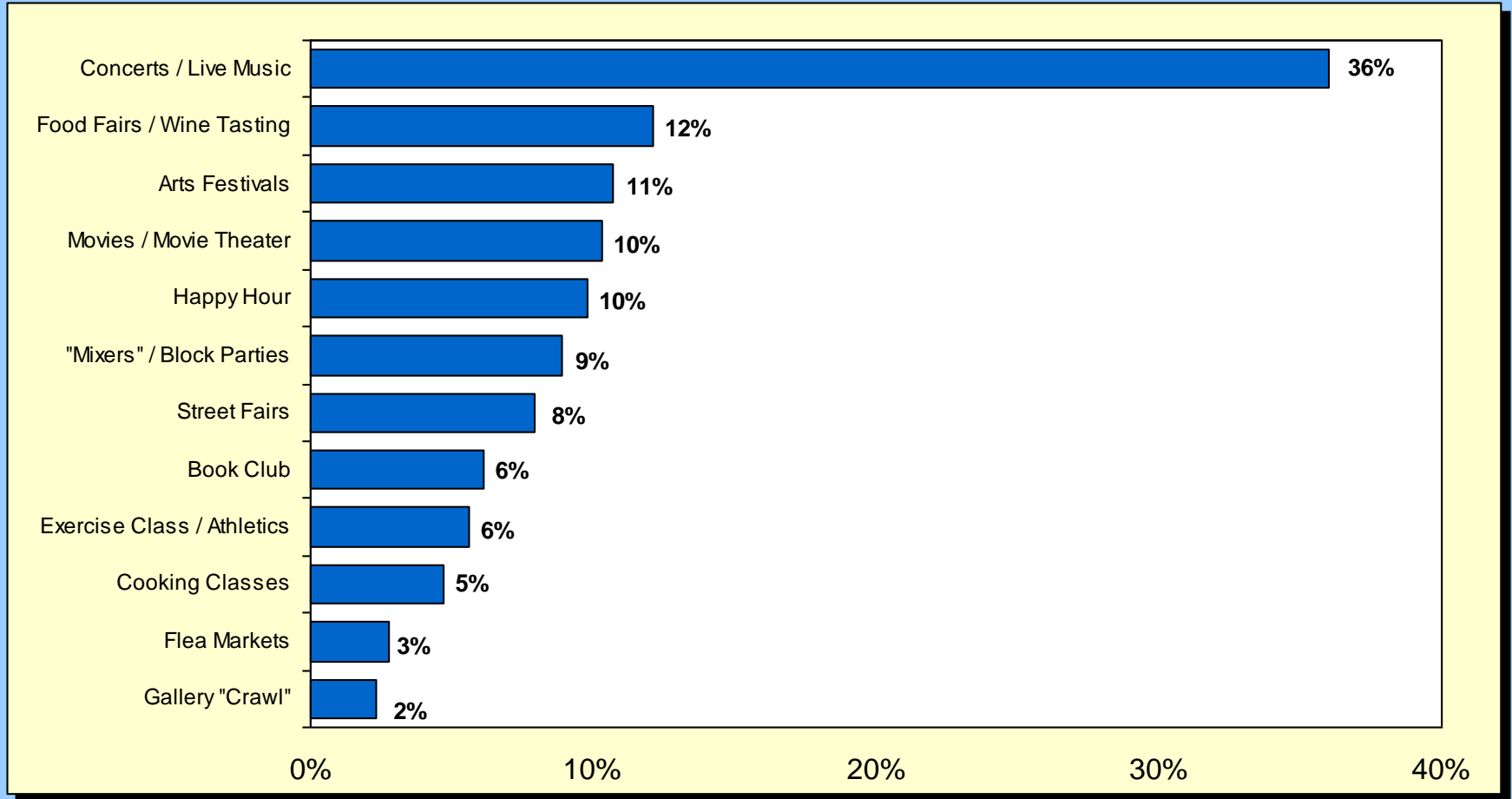
# TYPES OF EVENTS DESIRED BY RESIDENTS

1 = "Resident-based"; 9 = "Event-based"



Q20. Which event type is more desirable to you? (n = 378)

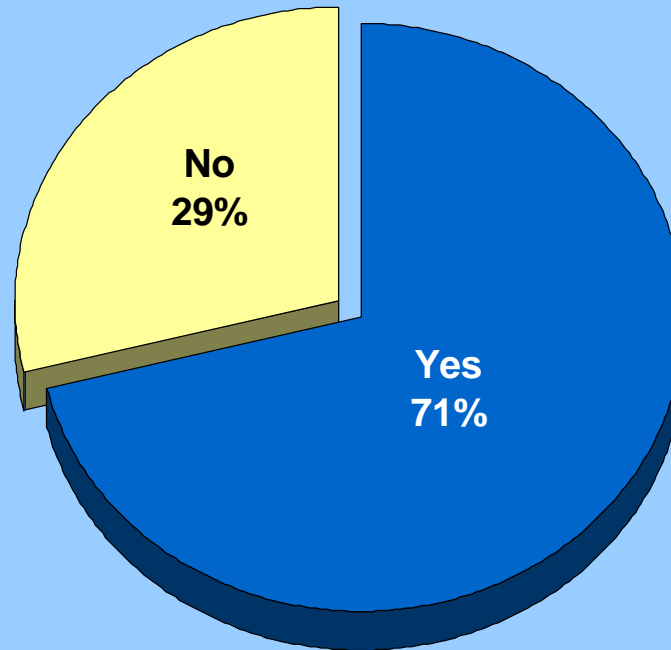
# EVENTS & PROGRAMS DESIRED BY DOWNTOWN RESIDENTS



Q21. What specific types of events programs would you like to see made available (or see more often) for you in your Downtown neighborhood? (n = 214)

Q21 is a multiple response question.  
214 people provided 343 answers. Shown above the % of people mentioning each type of event.

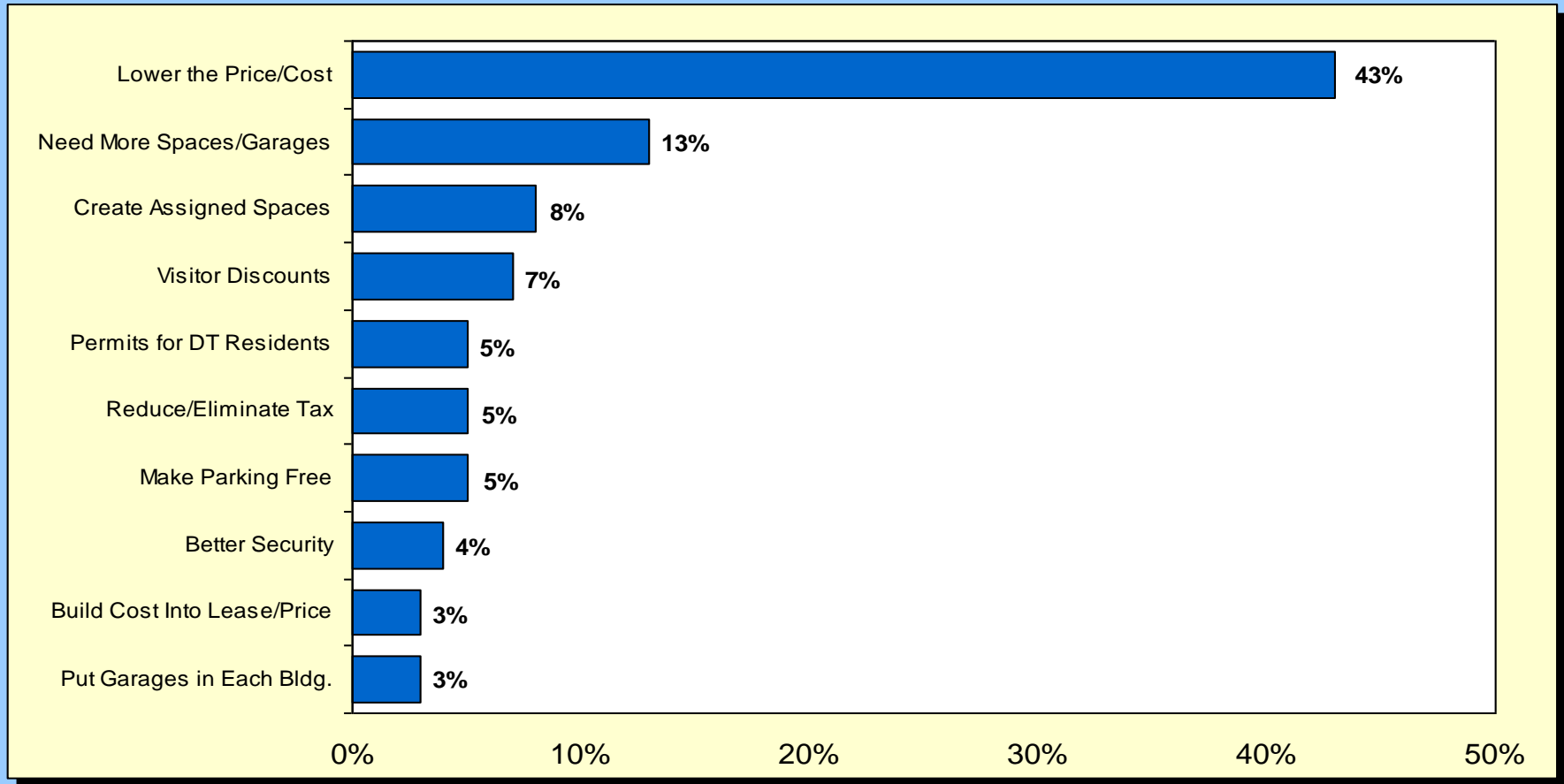
# DESIRE FOR MORE NEIGHBORHOOD INVOLVEMENT & NEIGHBOR NETWORKING



Q22. Would you like to have more opportunities to become more ? (n = 368)

# **TRANSIT ATTITUDES & USAGE**

# SUGGESTIONS TO IMPROVE PARKING



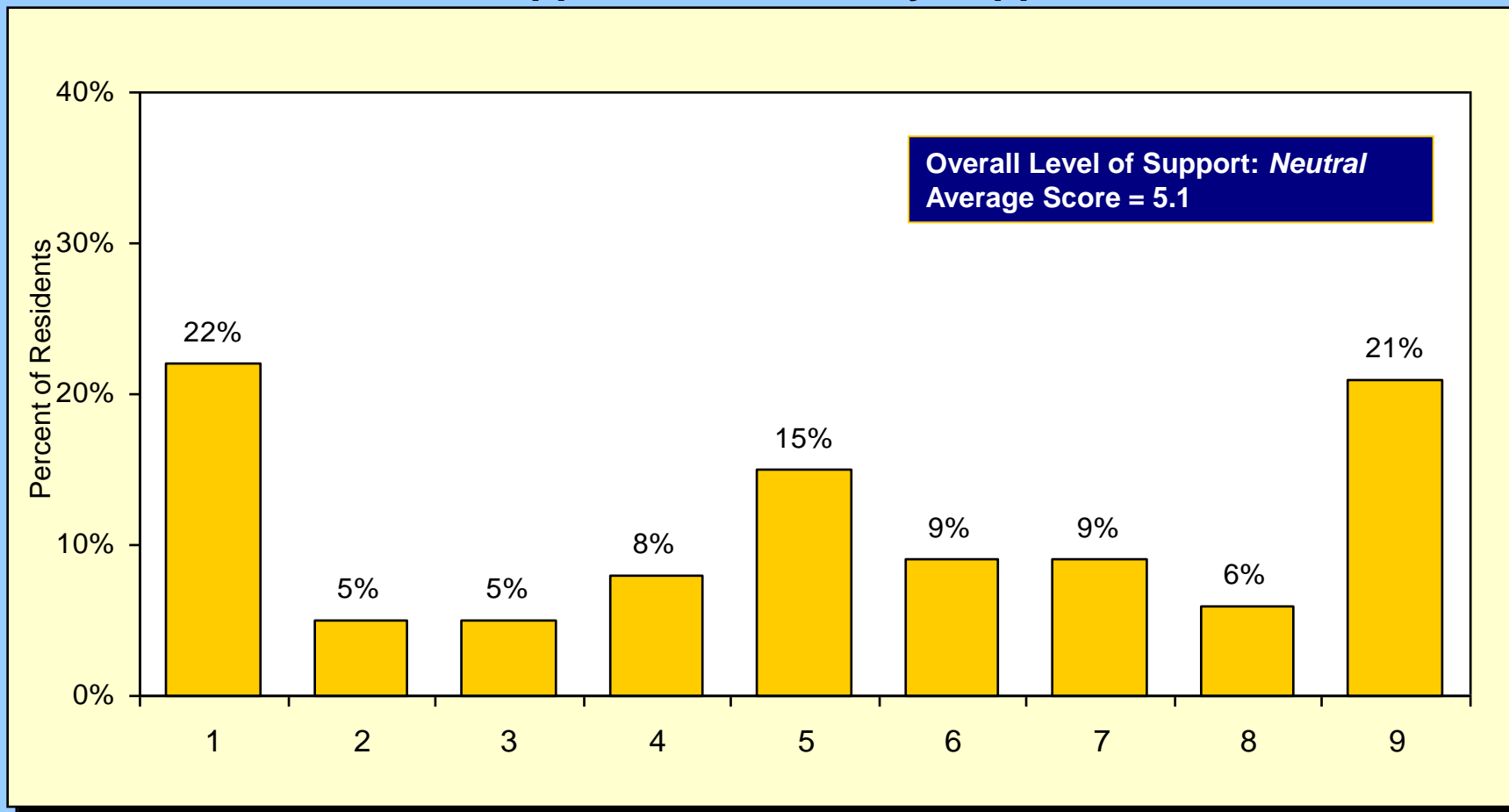
Q24. If you consider the parking situation for Downtown residents a problem, please share any ideas you have to improve it. (n = 170)

Q24 is a multiple response question. 170 people provided 196 answers. The above table reflects the % of people mentioning each idea to improve parking.



# ADD BUS SERVICE BETWEEN RUSH HOURS

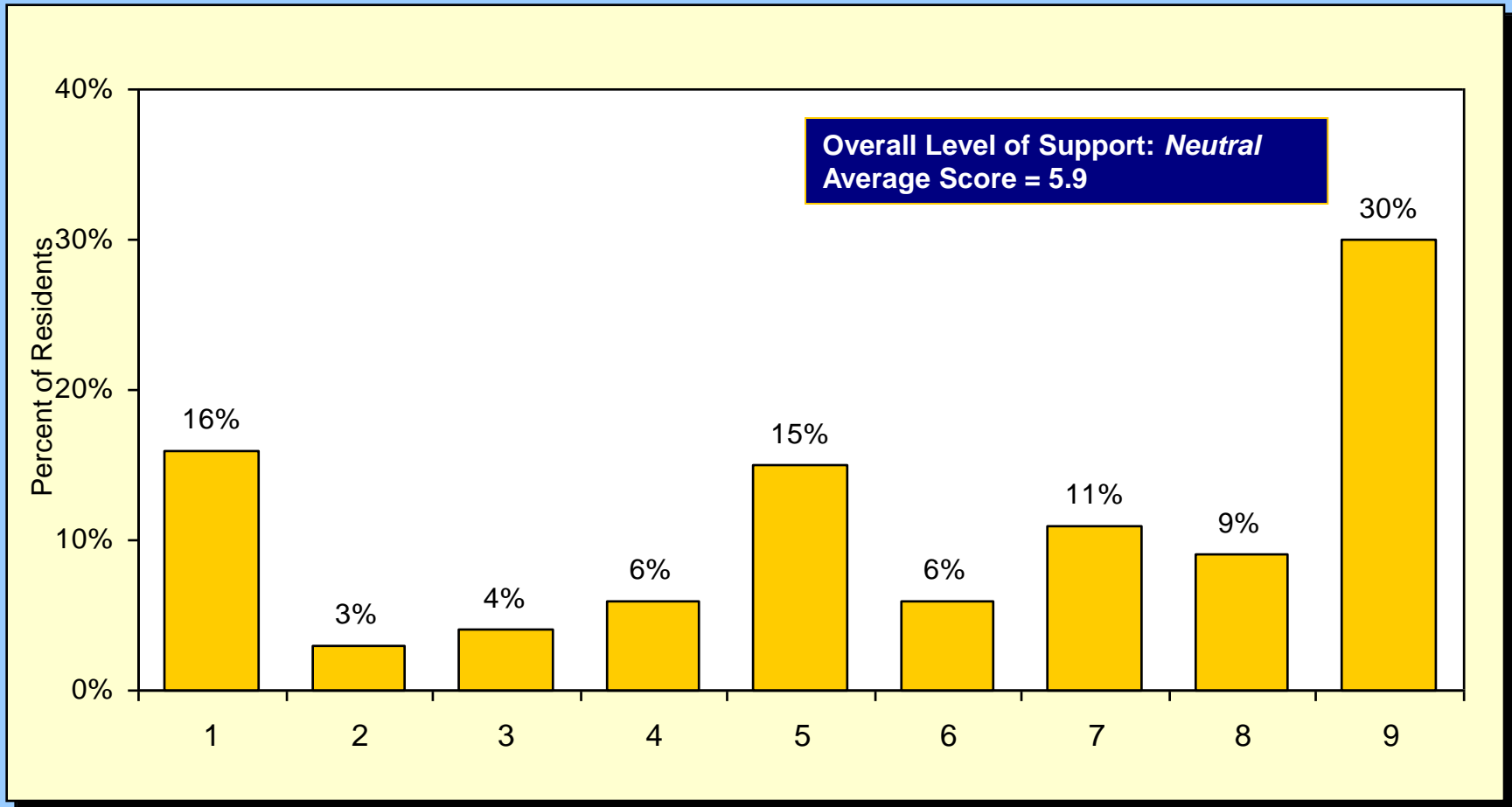
1 = No support at all; 9 = Very supportive



Q25a. Level of support for enhancing Downtown bus service by adding service between the 2 rush hour periods and after the evening rush hour peak. (n = 363 )

# CHANGE BUS ROUTES TO INCREASE USAGE OF “T” SYSTEM

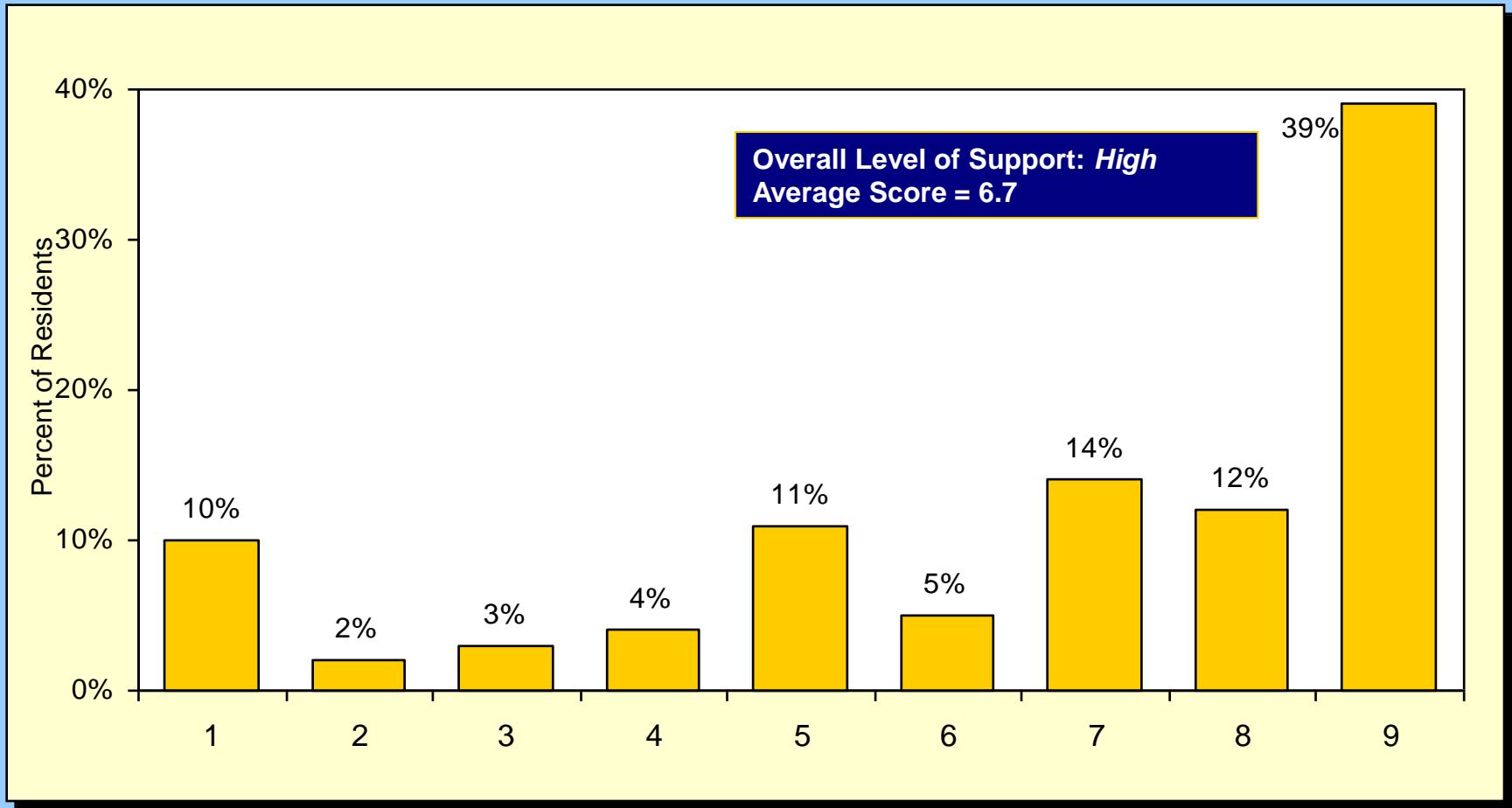
1 = No support at all; 9 = Very supportive



Q25b. Level of support for making bus routing changes that increase the usage of Downtown's T system. (n = 356)

# CREATE NEW LABELING SYSTEM FOR BUSES AND BUS ROUTES

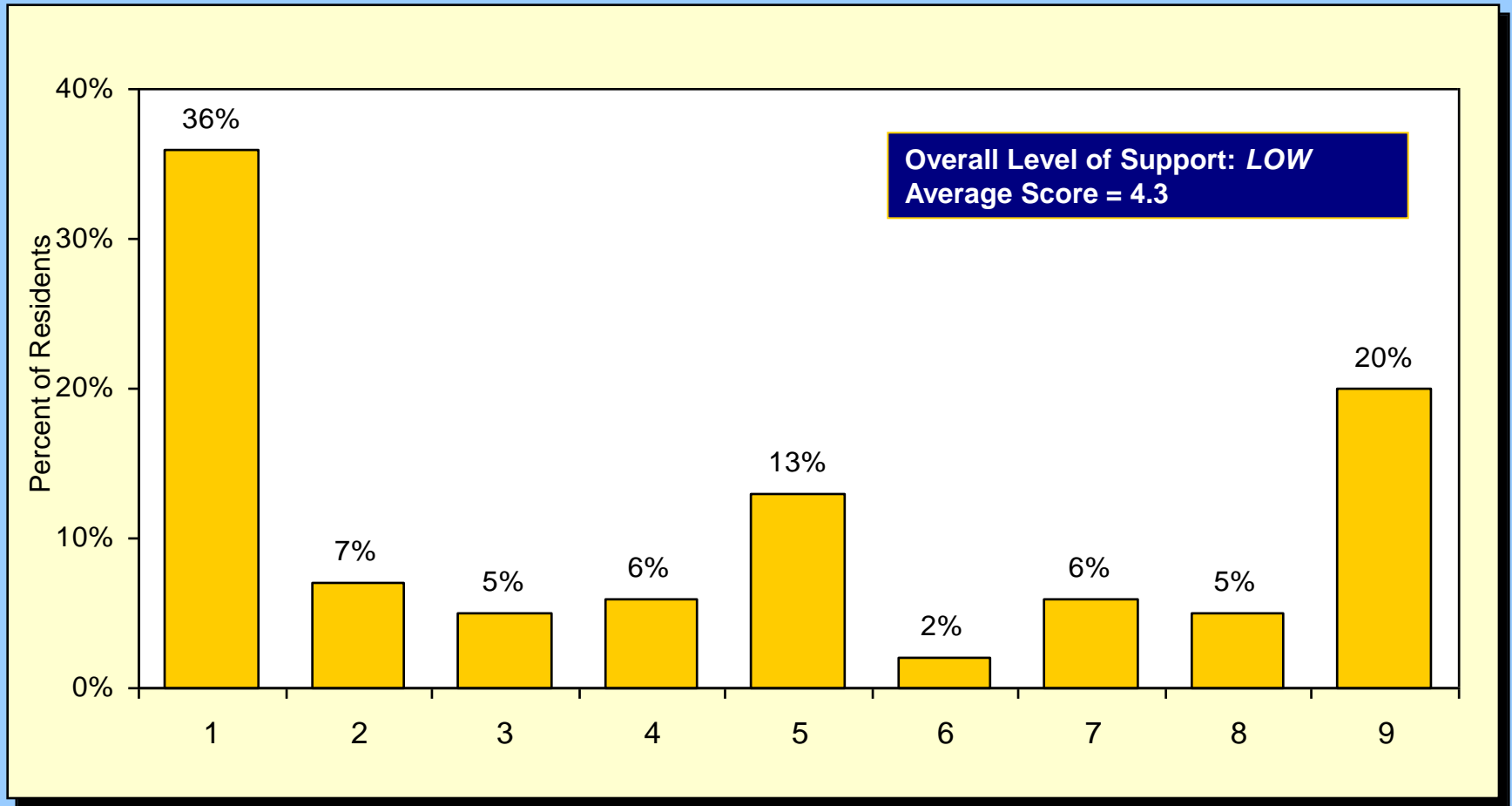
1 = No support at all; 9 = Very supportive



Q25c. Level of support for developing and implementing a new bus “labeling” system that makes the bus system easier to comprehend than the current one. (n = 365)

# DECREASE THE NUMBER OF BUS STOPS IN DOWNTOWN

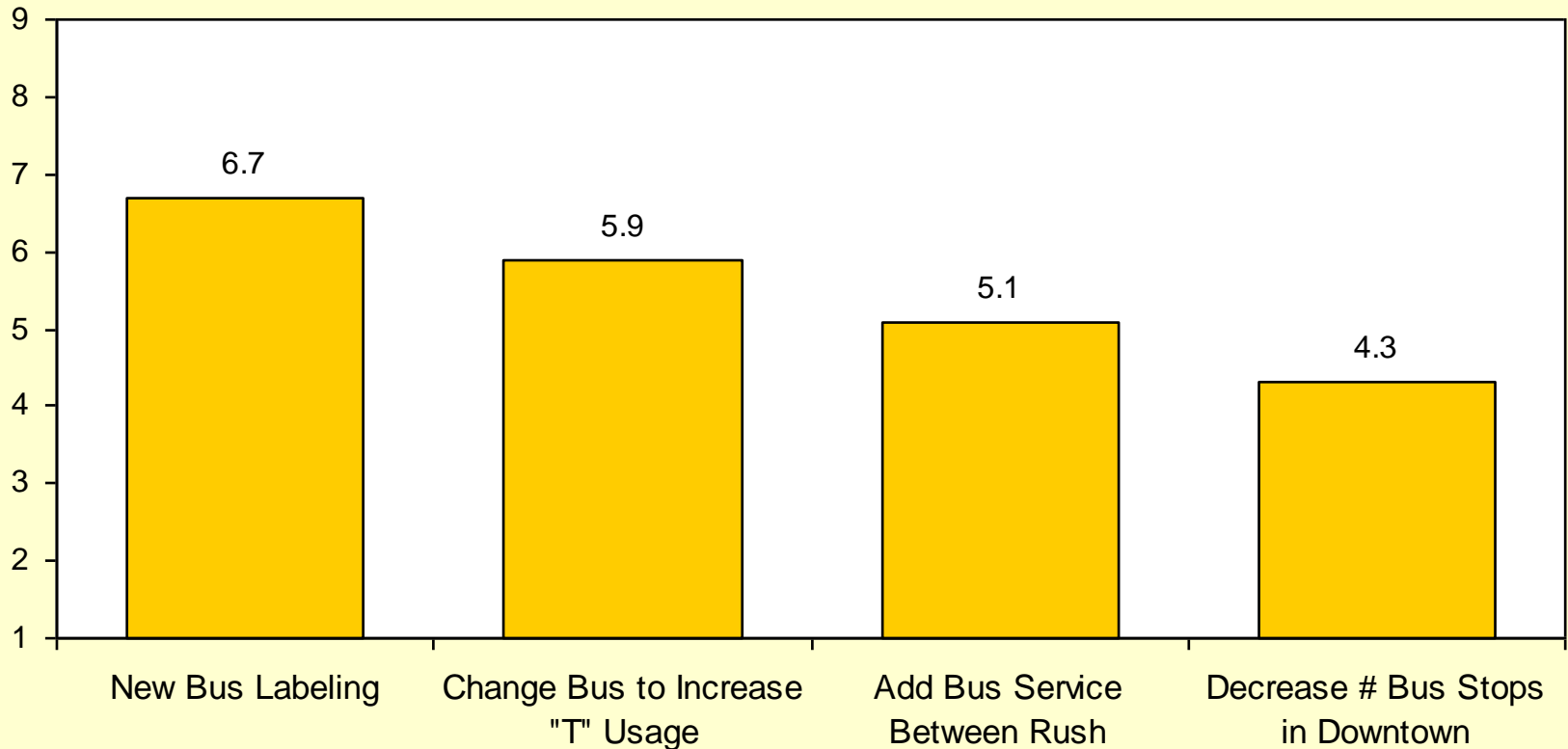
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Q25d. Level of support for fewer bus stops in Downtown. (n = 358)

# SUMMARY OF SUPPORT FOR BUS SYSTEM CHANGES

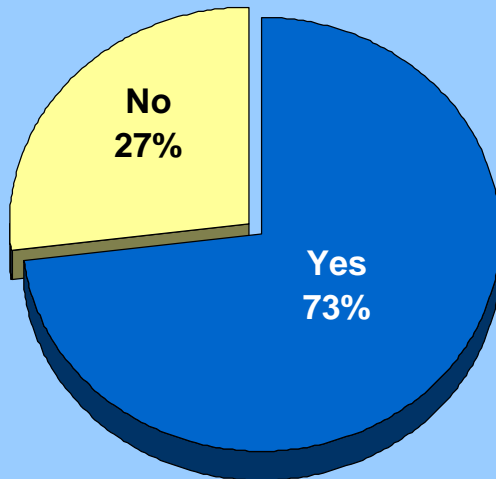
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# CAR SHARING

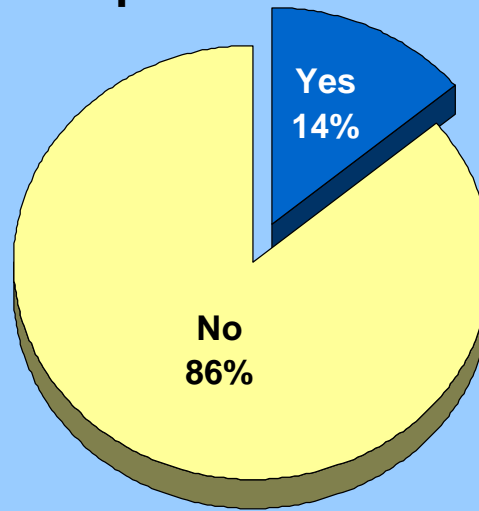
# CAR SHARING SUMMARY

**Aware of ZipCar?**



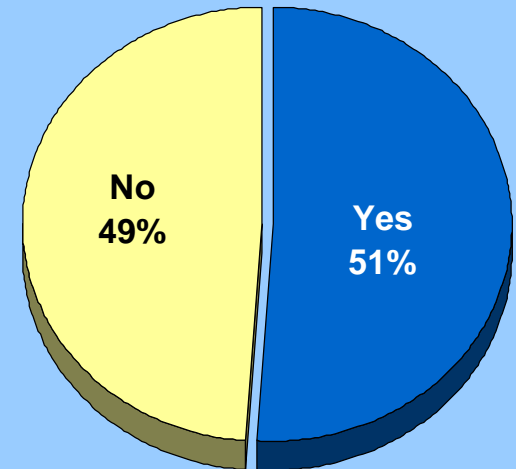
286 of 390 residents were aware of ZipCar  
In their neighborhood

**If Aware, are you  
ZipCar Member?**



38 of 280 (those who were aware) are  
ZipCar members

**If Member, has ZipCar  
Prompted You to Sell Car?**



19 of the 37 members said "Yes"

**Members used ZipCar 6.5  
times (on average) in the  
past 6 months**

Q26. Please indicate your awareness and usage of Downtown's car-sharing program. (n = 390)

# MOTIVATION TO TRY CAR SHARING OR USE IT MORE OFTEN

• Nothing	26.8%
• Cheaper rates	13.4%
• I have my own car (nothing)	7.0%
• Nothing - I don't drive	6.3%
• Eliminate the county tax	5.6%
• More availability	5.6%
• Free trial	4.2%
• If I had a need	4.2%
• If I didn't have a car	3.5%
• More information	2.8%
• If it were cheaper than owning a car	2.8%
• If I worked downtown	2.1%
• Raise the age limit	2.1%
• Need to know the system & cars are reliable	2.1%

• If my car breaks down	1.4%
• when I retire	1.4%
• Will use when my car lease expires	1.4%
• Will use when my son is able to drive	1.4%
• If gas prices go up	0.7%
• If Zip Cars had tow hitches	0.7%
• Longer usage times	0.7%
• When my car dies	0.7%
• If I could leave it at the airport	0.7%
• If I didn't have indoor parking	0.7%
• More help with customer service	0.7%
• Increase in parking cost & decrease usage of my car	0.7%

Q26e. What would motivate you to try or use the ZipCar service more often? (n = 142)



# **SUMMARY COMMENTS**

# SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

- 66% of Downtown residents lived in Allegheny County or bordering counties prior to moving Downtown. 24% previously lived outside of Pennsylvania.
- 22% own their Downtown residence – 78% currently rent.
- A wide age range in sample - the single largest group is 25-29 yrs. old.
- All income levels represented in sample - however income skews higher than comparable national, Allegheny County, or City of Pittsburgh measures.
- The majority (58%) of Downtown households are 1 person – with an average overall household size of 1.4 people.
- The number of married households is equal to the number of single, separated, and divorced households.
- Children (<18 yrs.) are present in just 3% of Downtown households.
- 54% have lived in their Downtown home for 2 years or less. The average length of time is 4.6 years.

# SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

- Proximity to work/school is the top reason cited for moving Downtown. Other frequently cited reasons include “convenience/accessibility”, “city lifestyle”, and “appeal of building/property”.
- Shadyside and South Side are the neighborhoods most likely to be also considered during the housing search process. 1 in 3 respondents looked exclusively at Downtown properties.
- Satisfaction with the decision to move Downtown is high: 7.9 on 9 point scale where 9 = Very Satisfied.
- Satisfaction with the Downtown residence (the building) is also high, with an average score of 7.7 on a 9 point scale.
- Downtown is shopped/patronized most heavily for:
  - 1. Restaurants/Bars, 2. Pharmacy/Drug 3. Convenience items
  - 4. Men’s Clothing 5. Financial Services 6. Personal Fitness
- 3 of top 4 stores residents want in Downtown are grocery-related. There is also a need for more/different women’s clothing stores.

# SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

- Saturday is the alternative or “other” day most residents would like to see the Farmer’s Market open. Produce, Meat/Seafood, and Dairy products are the goods most wish they could find at the market.
- Familiarity with Downtown parks ranges from a high of 90% (Point Park) to a low of 38% (Mellon Green). Number of visits to 14 parks varies greatly by park.
- 7 of 10 residents do want more opportunities to get involved with their Downtown neighbors and community.
- The most desired type of event (to be held in Downtown) is live music/concerts.
- A new bus “labeling” system is supported by Downtown residents, while fewer bus stops in Downtown is not.
- 73% aware of ZipCar - 14% are members – Average 1 use per month.
- Residents’ top 3 suggestions to improve parking situation:
  - Lower the cost      Create more spaces/garages      Create assigned spaces