



# 2008

# Metro Residents Survey

Public opinion on the region's quality of life, leading regional issues, and the Metropolitan Council



# Background

---

- An opinion poll – measuring and understanding public opinion
- 1,495 metro area residents participated by mail response or phone interview (53% response)
- Provides a time-series – 1982-2008



# Topics investigated

---

- Assets of the region – quality of place
- Major problems facing the region
- Commuting solutions
- The Metropolitan Council, its responsibilities and performance

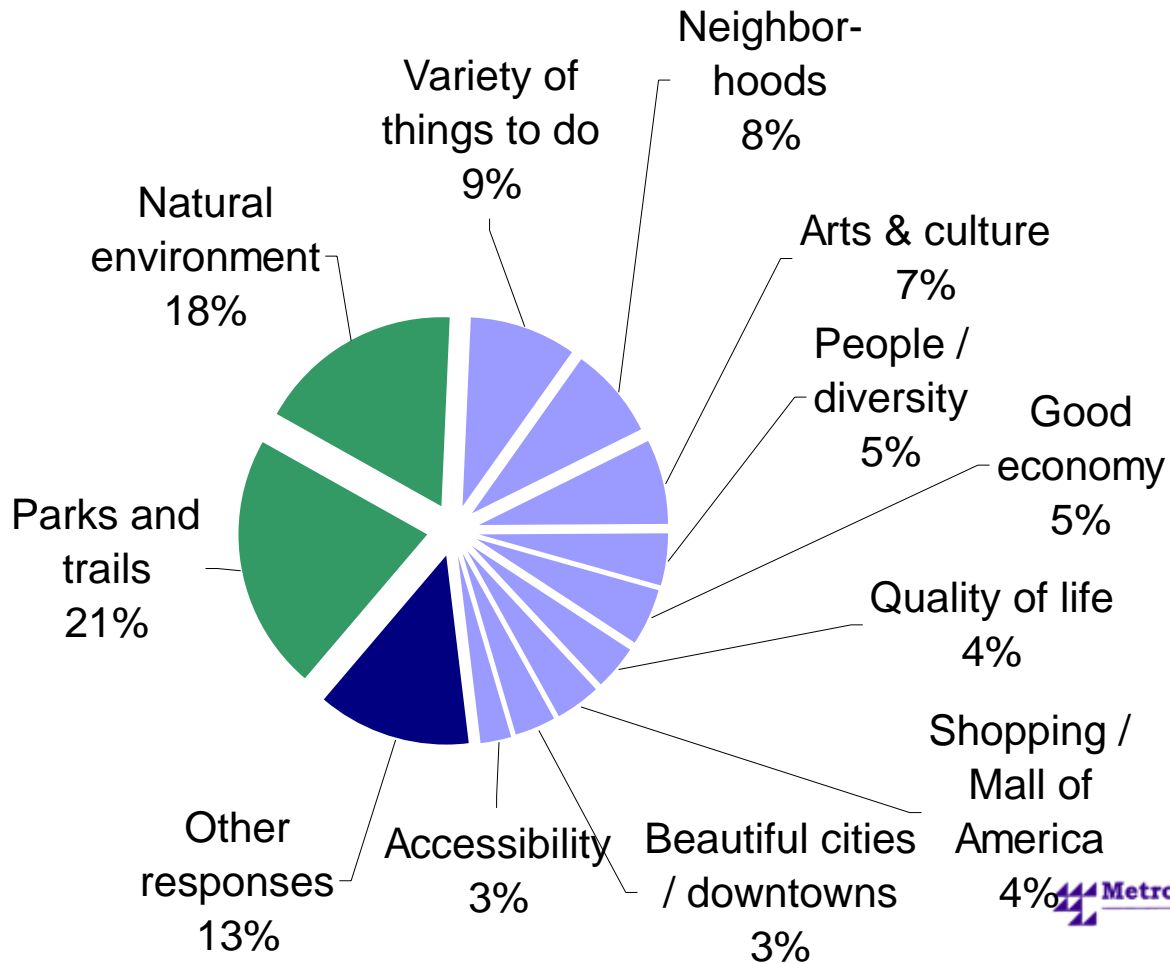


# Most attractive feature or asset

access outdoor activities trails open public easy lakes parks seasons fishing natural resources park availability bike walking paths good biking museums city green nice lake great areas space available nature spaces think outdoors enjoy feel walk kids quality just people live variety entertainment work say minneapolis rivers place state minnesota close clean beautiful shopping cultural environment arts theatre places recreation life family recreational opportunities sports mall america center trees different safe events use cities area river beauty new care metro twin downtown restaurants theatres culture music neighborhoods diversity friendly schools low crime community plays jobs diverse art big transportation cleanliness

Text frequencies of Metro Residents Survey responses using TAPORware Word Cloud  
<http://taporware.mcmaster.ca>

# Most attractive feature or asset

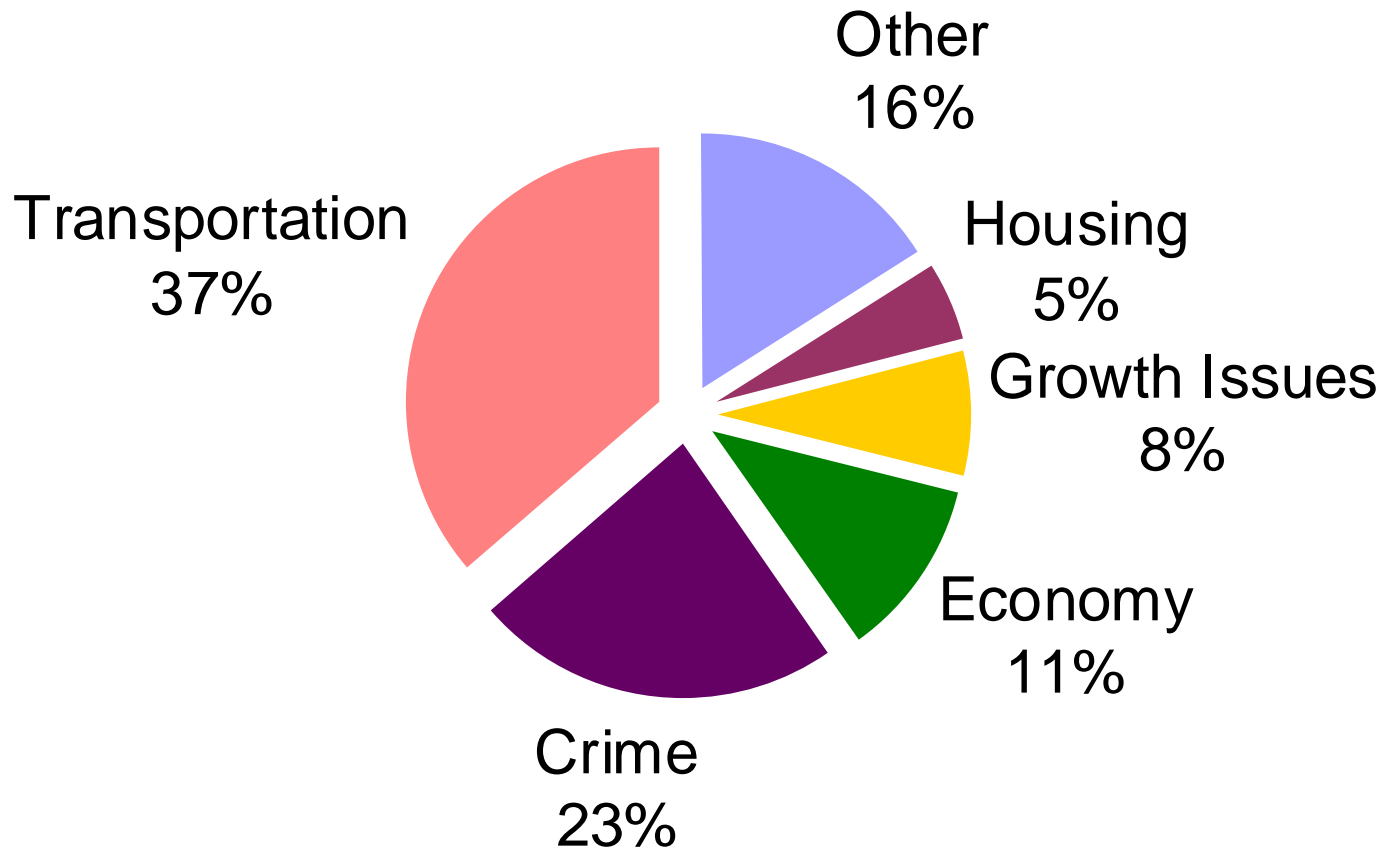




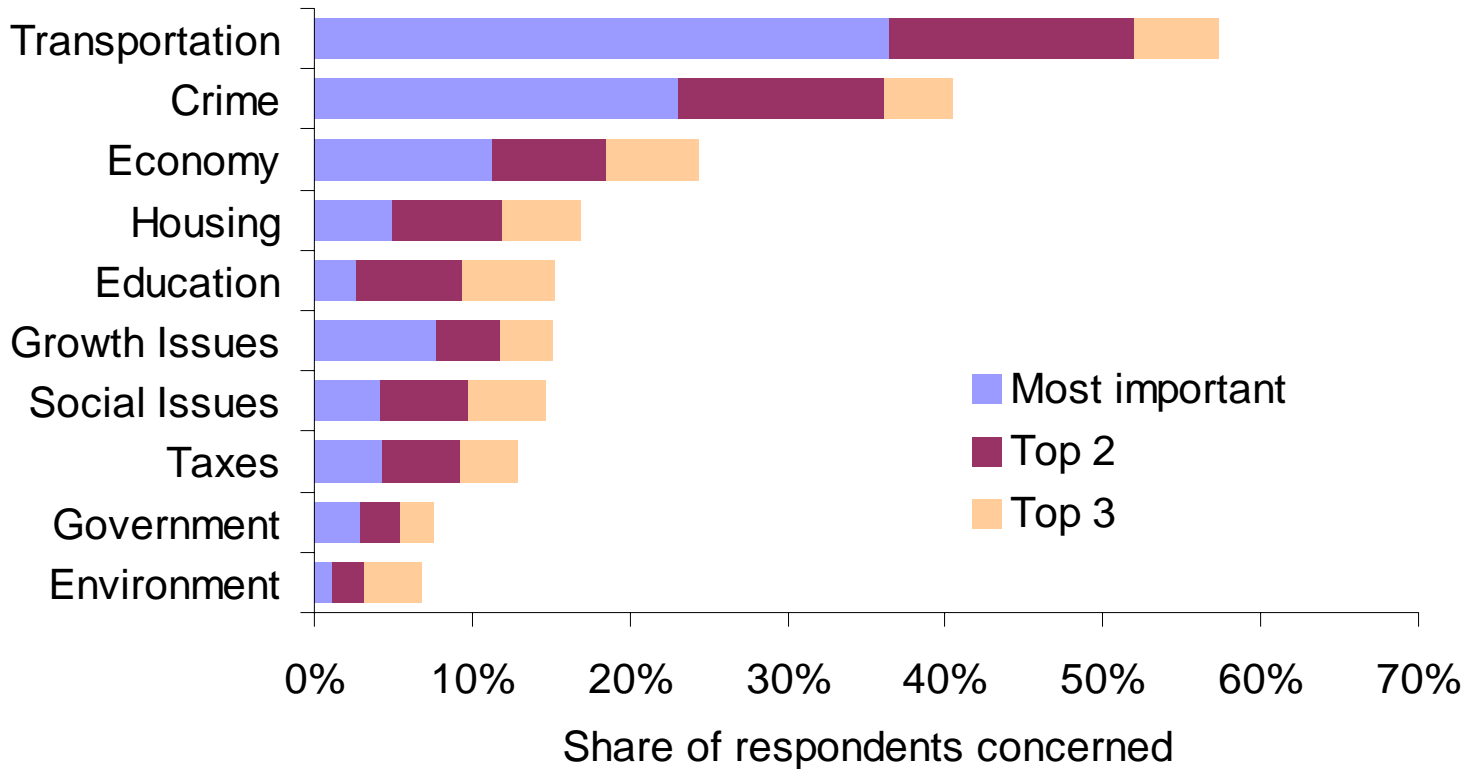
# The most important problem facing the Twin Cities

homes cities cost problem education population growth keeping  
funding affordable care work higher free good **housing** income  
**transportation** infrastructure especially **roads** bridges going  
**gangs** **people** **public** kids school bus live economic urban bad  
north **taxes** metro **transit** buses lot city violence **area** twin  
use time congested **high congestion** **traffic** **road** there's  
construction small mass light rail living **jobs** gas **crime** drugs  
murders robberies problems safe **downtown** neighborhoods  
shootings gang areas inner minneapolis rate safety crimes  
**property** suburbs better immigrants schools business rush hour  
**lack** foreclosures unemployment **economy** state market  
government tax sprawl poor quality losing money job welfare loss  
poverty

# The most important problem facing the Twin Cities

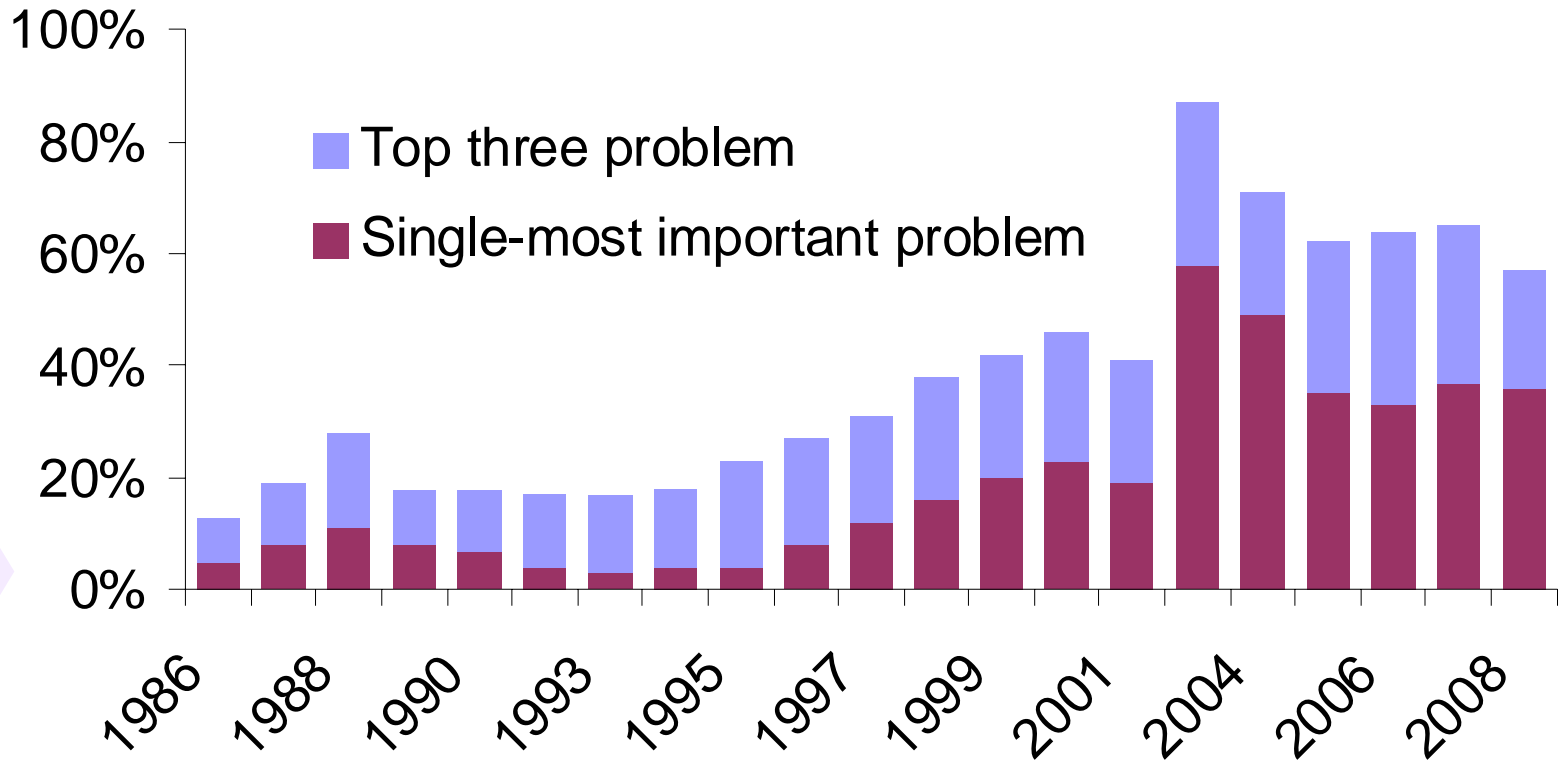


# Top three concerns





# Most important problem: Transportation and traffic



# Commuters very likely to try alternatives

Drive in a more fuel-efficient vehicle

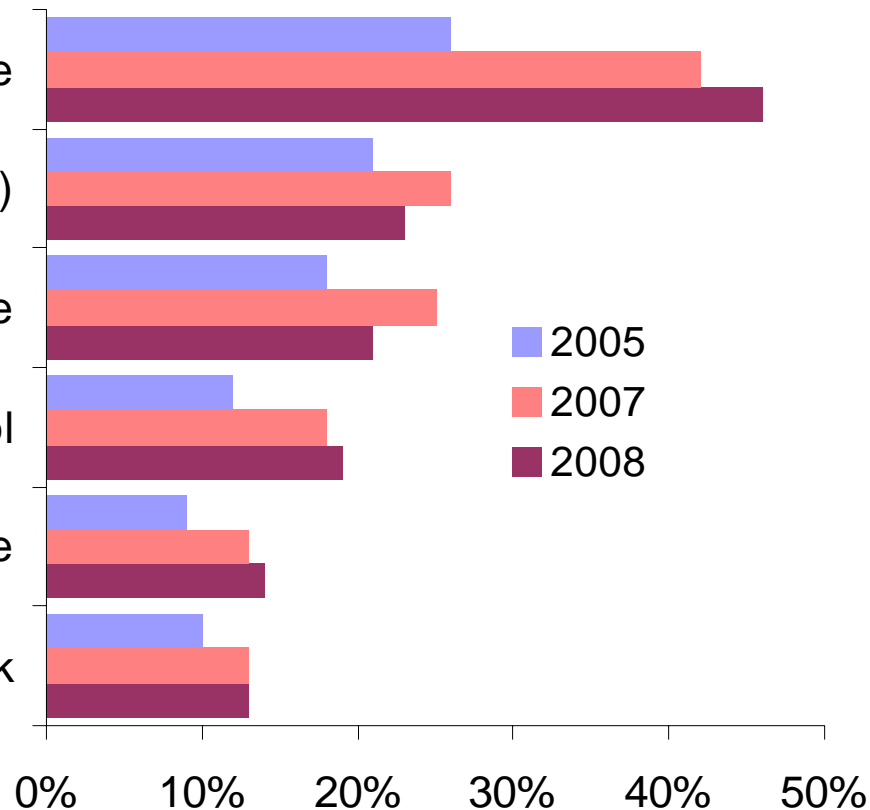
Take transit (buses or LRT)

Work at home or telecommute

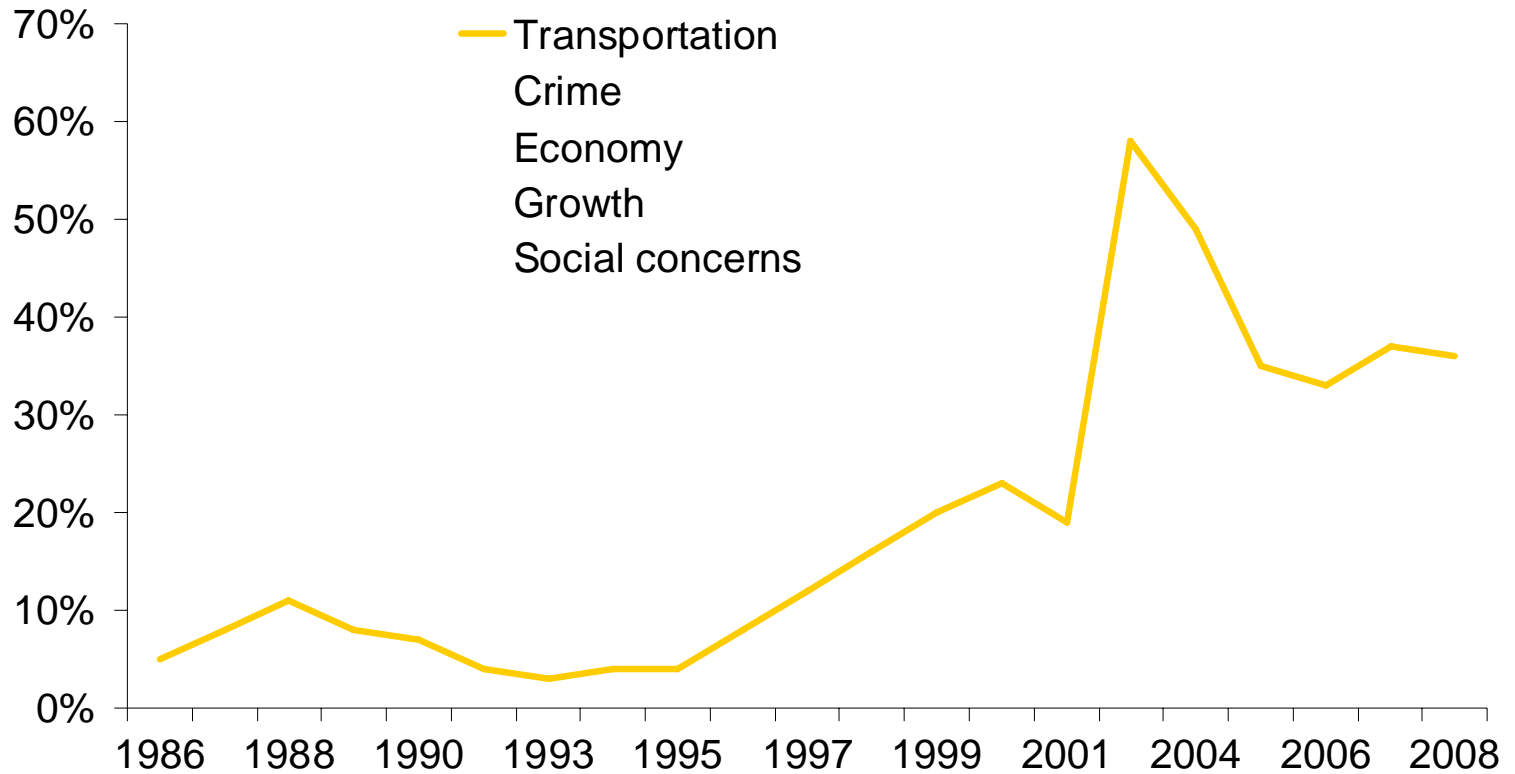
Drive/ride with others or car/van pool

Change jobs to be closer to home

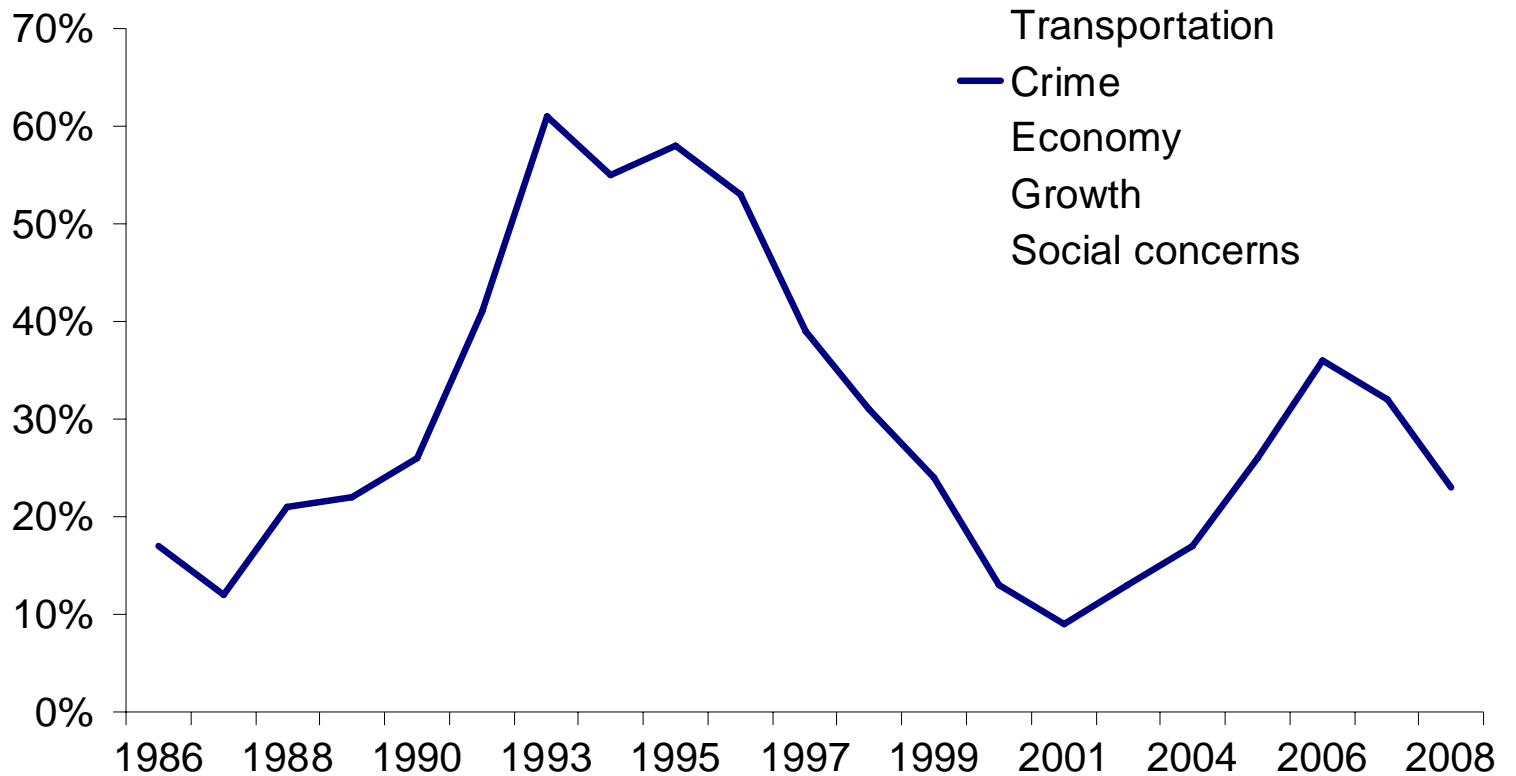
Bicycle or walk to work



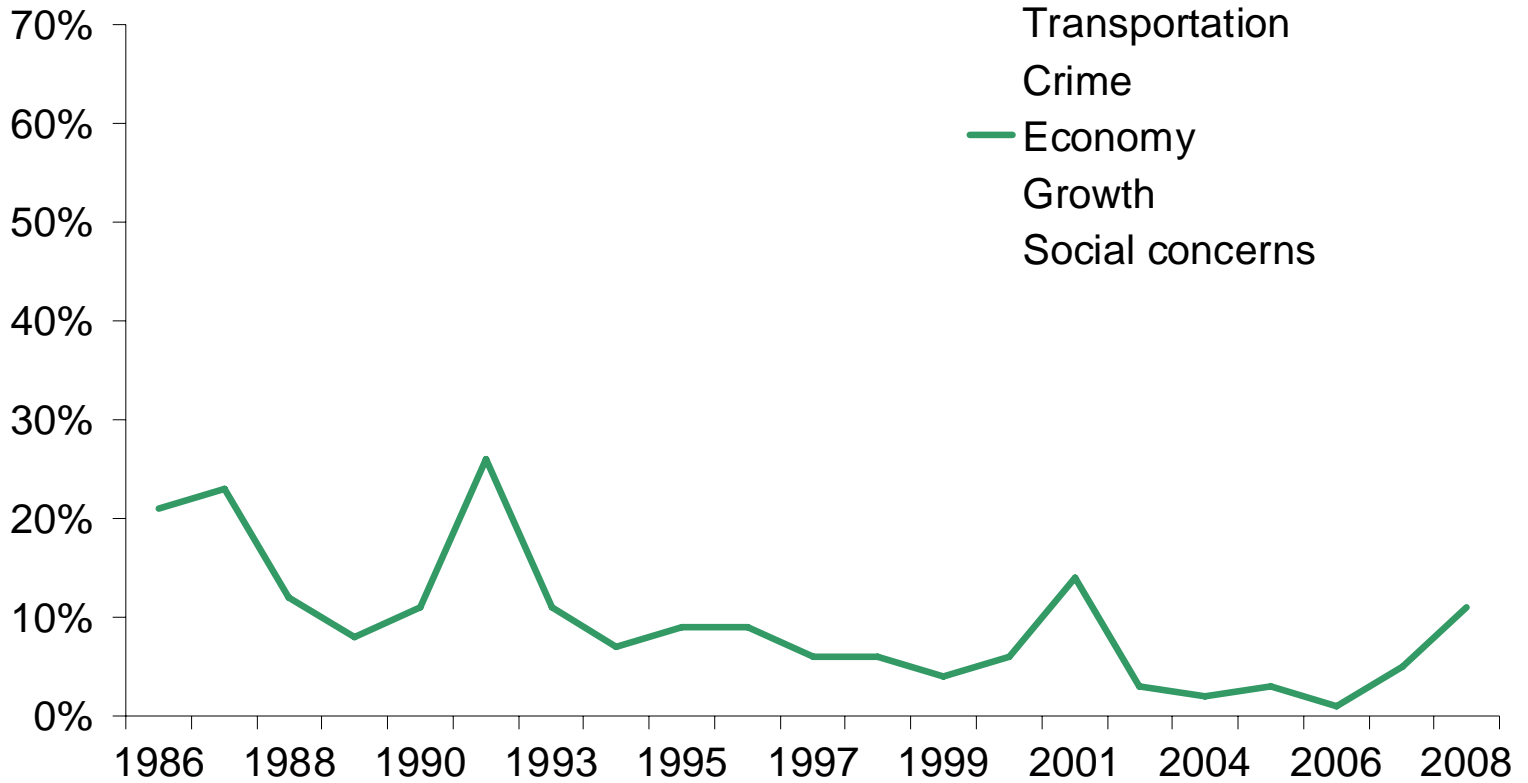
# Trends in problems



# Trends in problems



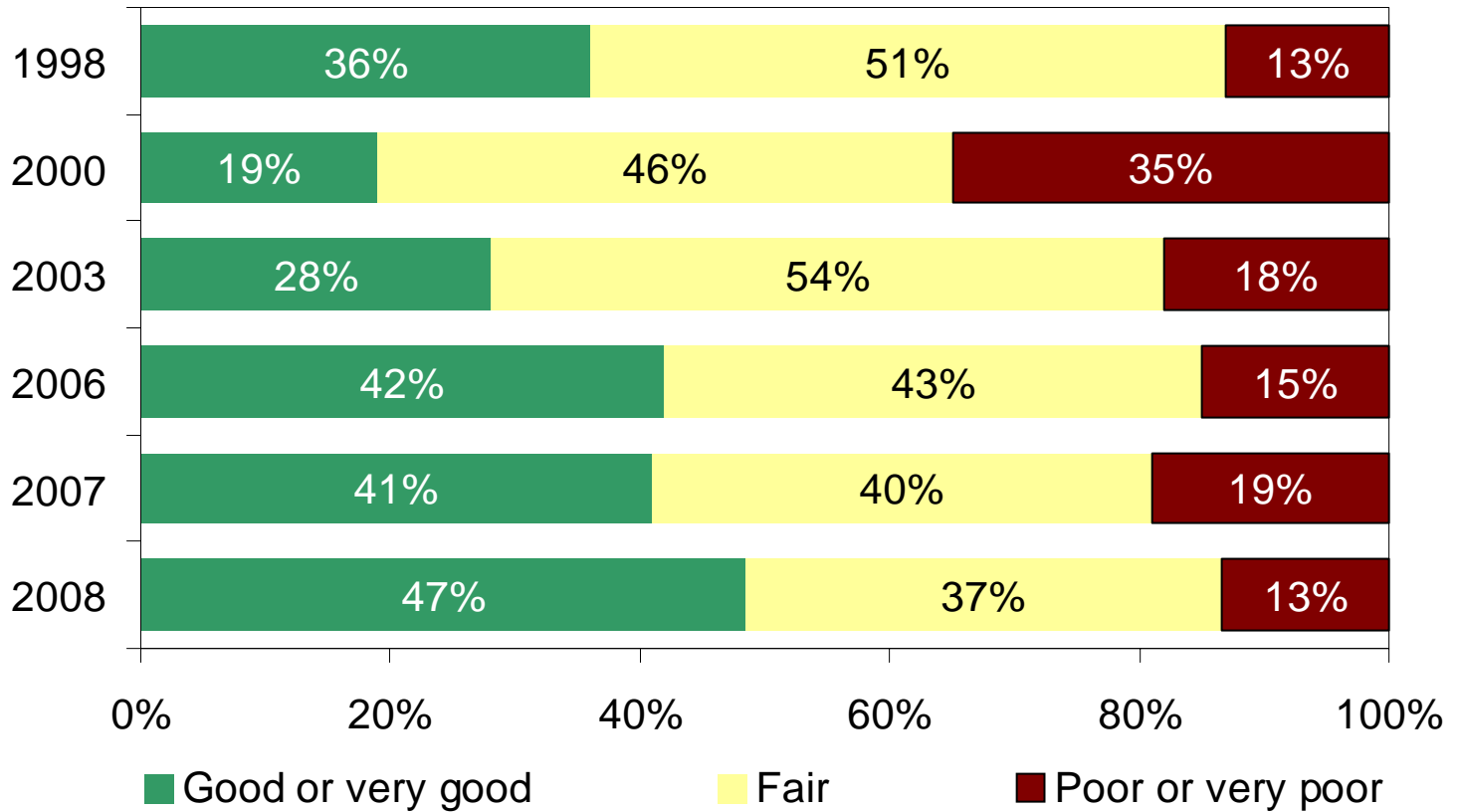
# Trends in problems



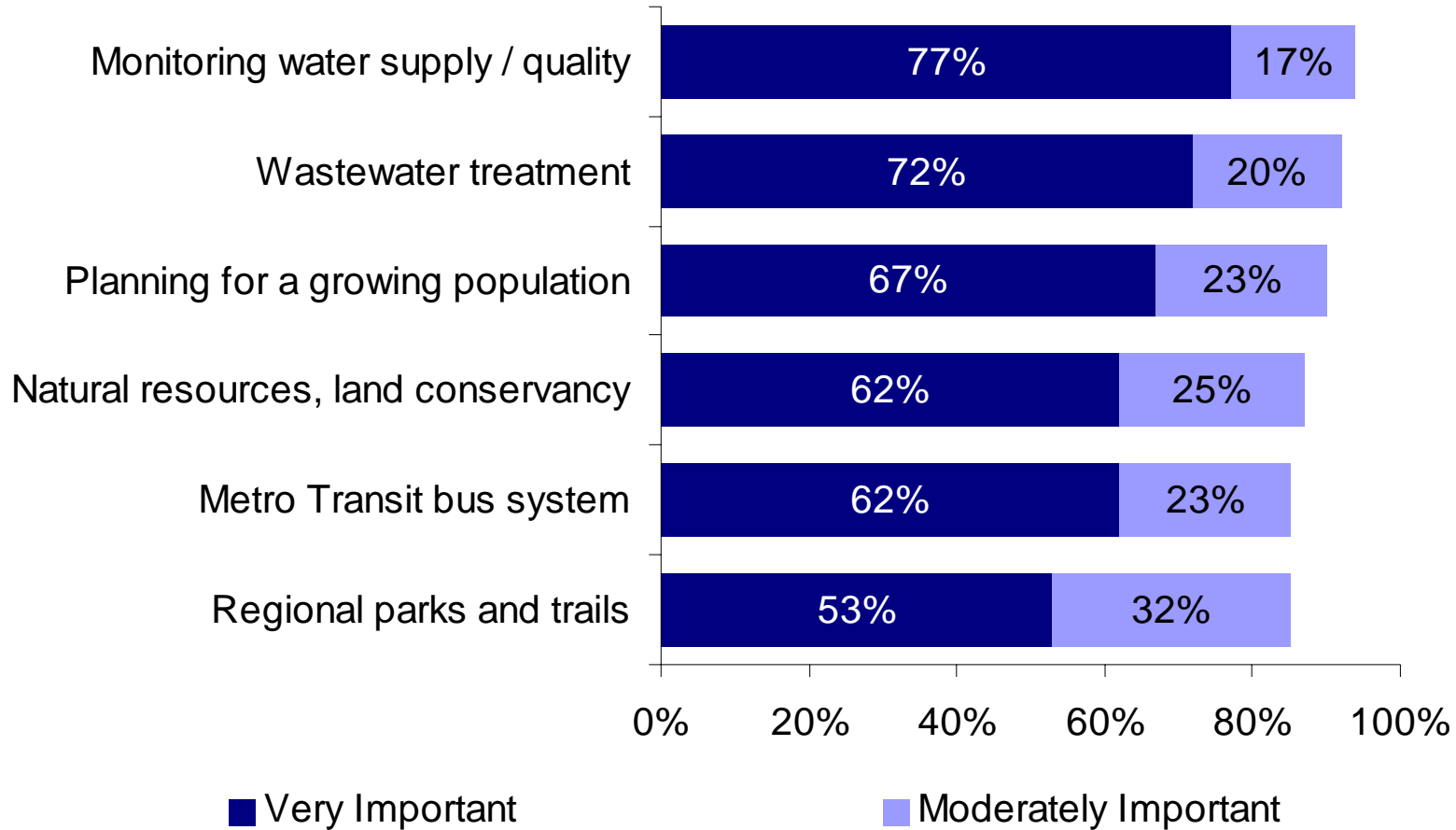


# Public opinion on Metropolitan Council's programs and performance

# Performance approval



# Importance of Council programs





# Importance of Council programs



Clean up and reuse brownfields

57%

27%

Transportation project grants

54%

25%

Jobs, housing connections

50%

27%

Coordinating across communities

42%

34%

Light Rail Transit

53%

20%

Develop and preserve housing

39%

34%

0% 20% 40% 60% 80% 100%

Very Important

Moderately Important



2008

# Metro Residents Survey

Libby Starling

[libby.starling@metc.state.mn.us](mailto:libby.starling@metc.state.mn.us)

651-602-1135