

# Experience Downtown Plan Update

Community Survey Summary





# Methodology

- Distributed widely through existing networks and social media to understand existing Downtown assets, needs, and opportunities for the future.
- Survey remained open from **February 5<sup>th</sup> to early March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**
- Duplicate and unfinished surveys were discarded.

**DOWNTOWN COLORADO SPRINGS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY** Experience Downtown Colorado Springs Plan Update

1. What typically brings you Downtown? (Select all that apply)

- I work Downtown
- I live Downtown
- Visiting friends/family
- I visit restaurants/bars
- I shop at small businesses
- I attend sporting events
- I visit music venues
- Other - Write In

2. How do you **usually** get around Downtown (Select one)

- I mostly drive around Downtown
- I mostly walk around Downtown
- I mostly bike around Downtown
- I mostly use public transportation (e.g. the ZEB free shuttle)
- I mostly e-scooter around Downtown
- Other - Write In

3. What are the **biggest challenges** you face when **navigating Downtown**? (Select your top 3)

- Insufficient pedestrian facilities: Poor sidewalks, street crossings, etc.
- Lack of lighting
- Perceptions of safety

# Total Responses



1,859





# Key Findings

- **Restaurants, bars, and small businesses** are the most attractive elements of Downtown.
- **Parking convenience and availability** is a major concern of Downtown visitors.
- **More diverse and higher density housing types** are most desirable, such as affordable and smaller apartments, townhomes, and ownership opportunities.



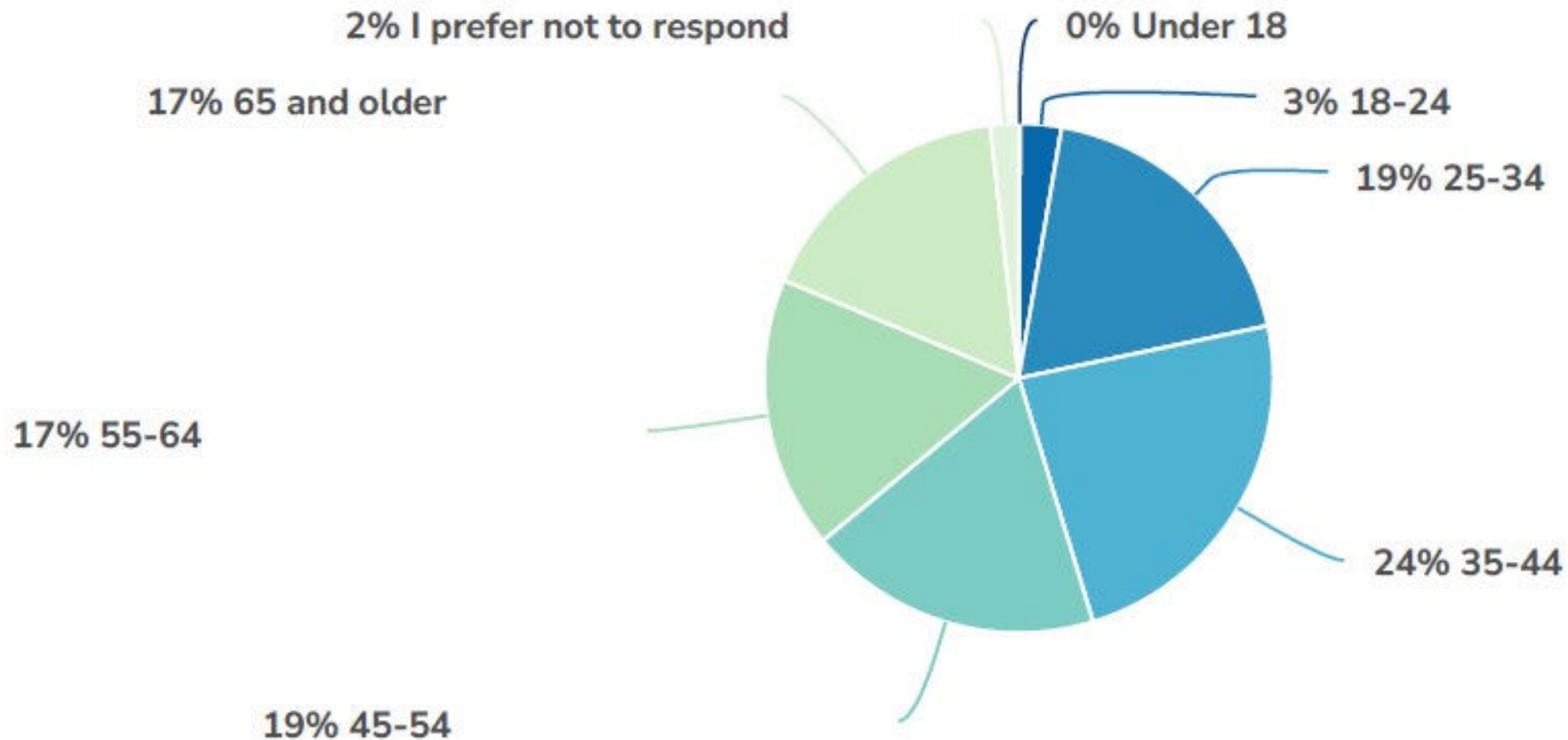


# Key Findings

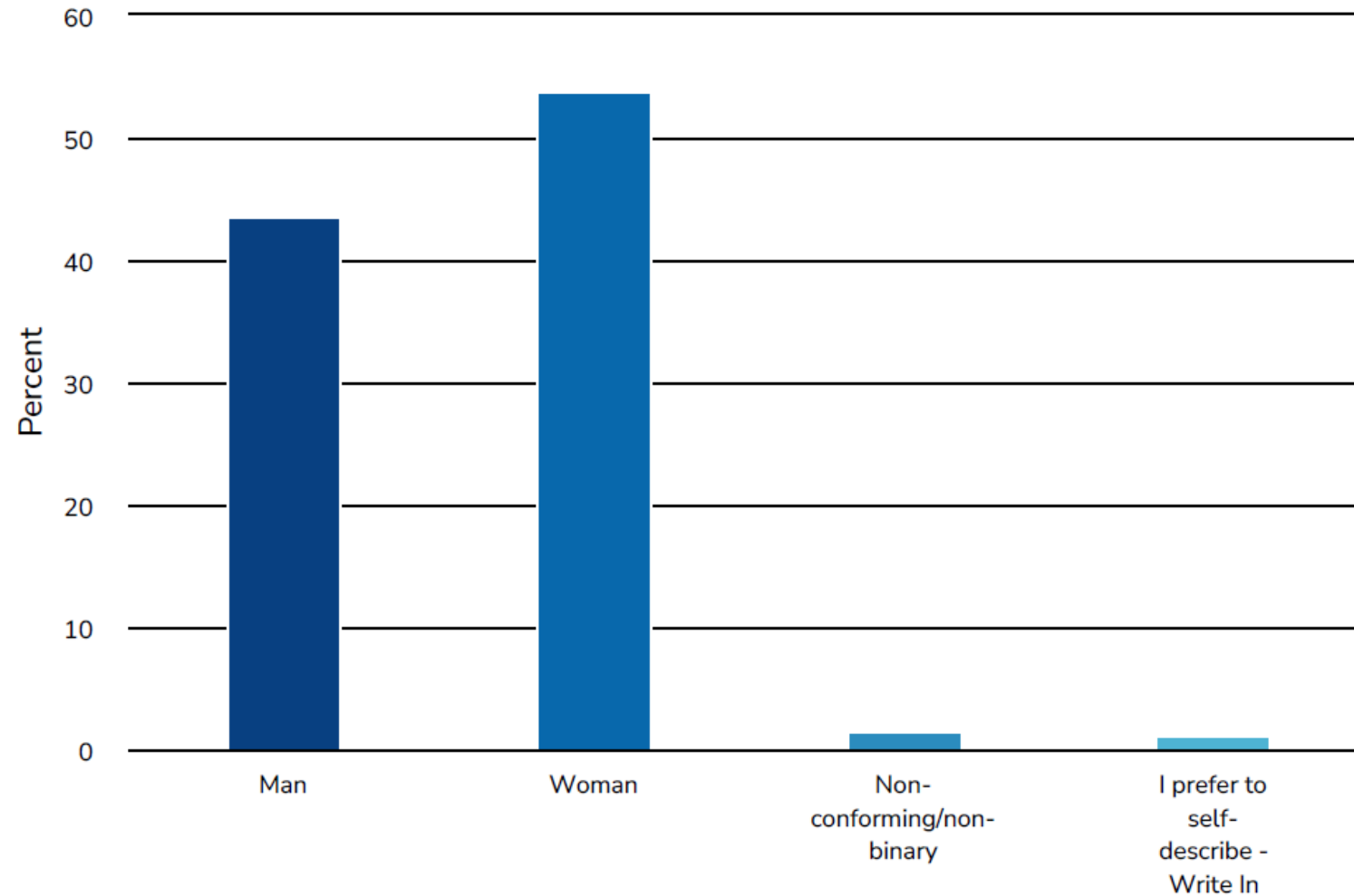
- **73% of participants said they usually feel safe Downtown**, but most people also think that ensuring a clean and safe environment is Downtown's biggest challenge.
- **Ending homelessness and building a full-size grocery store** are prominent goals.



# Demographics: Age



# Demographics: Gender Identity



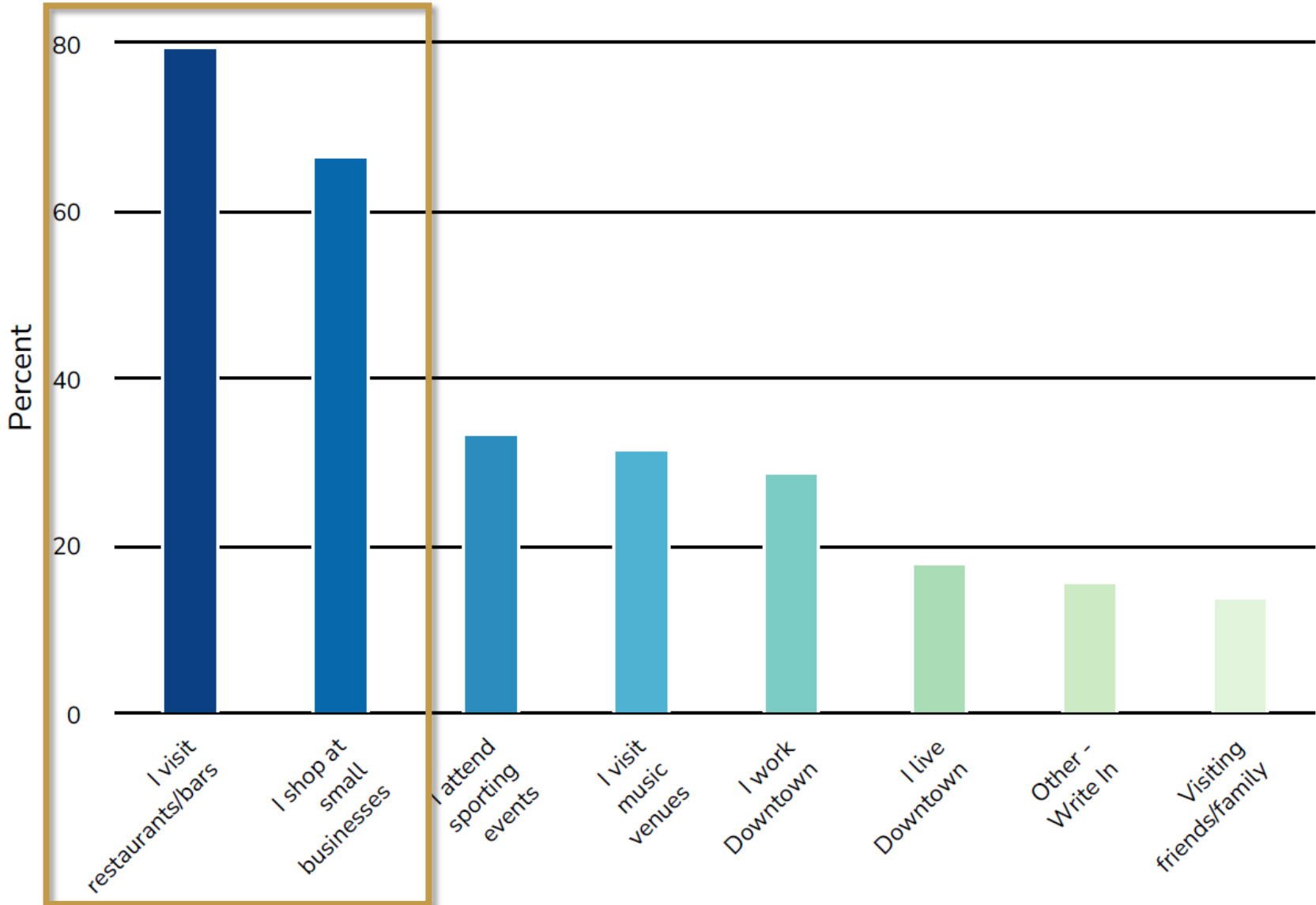


# Demographics: Racial Identity

Value	Percent
Alaskan Native	0.2%
Asian or Asian American or South Asian	2.3%
Black or African American	2.3%
First Nation/American Indian/Indigenous	1.3%

Hispanic or Latino/a	7.1%
Middle Easter/North African	0.6%
Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander	0.4%
White/European American	81.9%
I prefer not to answer	7.9%

# What typically brings you Downtown?



n=1,852

# What typically brings you Downtown?

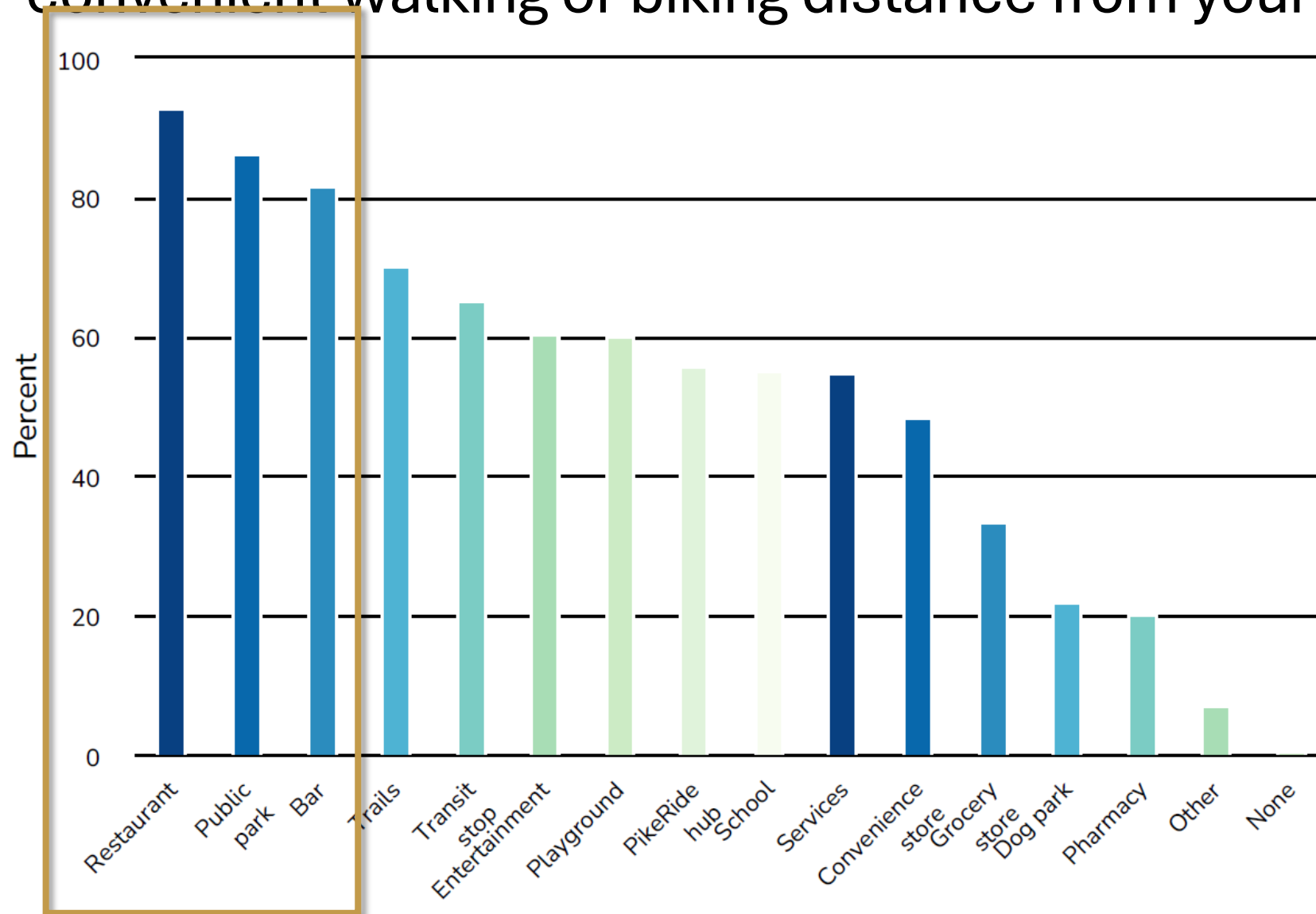
## **Key open-ended responses:**

- Church and religious services
- Community events
- Visit art galleries
- Walking or biking through
- Meetings or appointments
- Visit the library



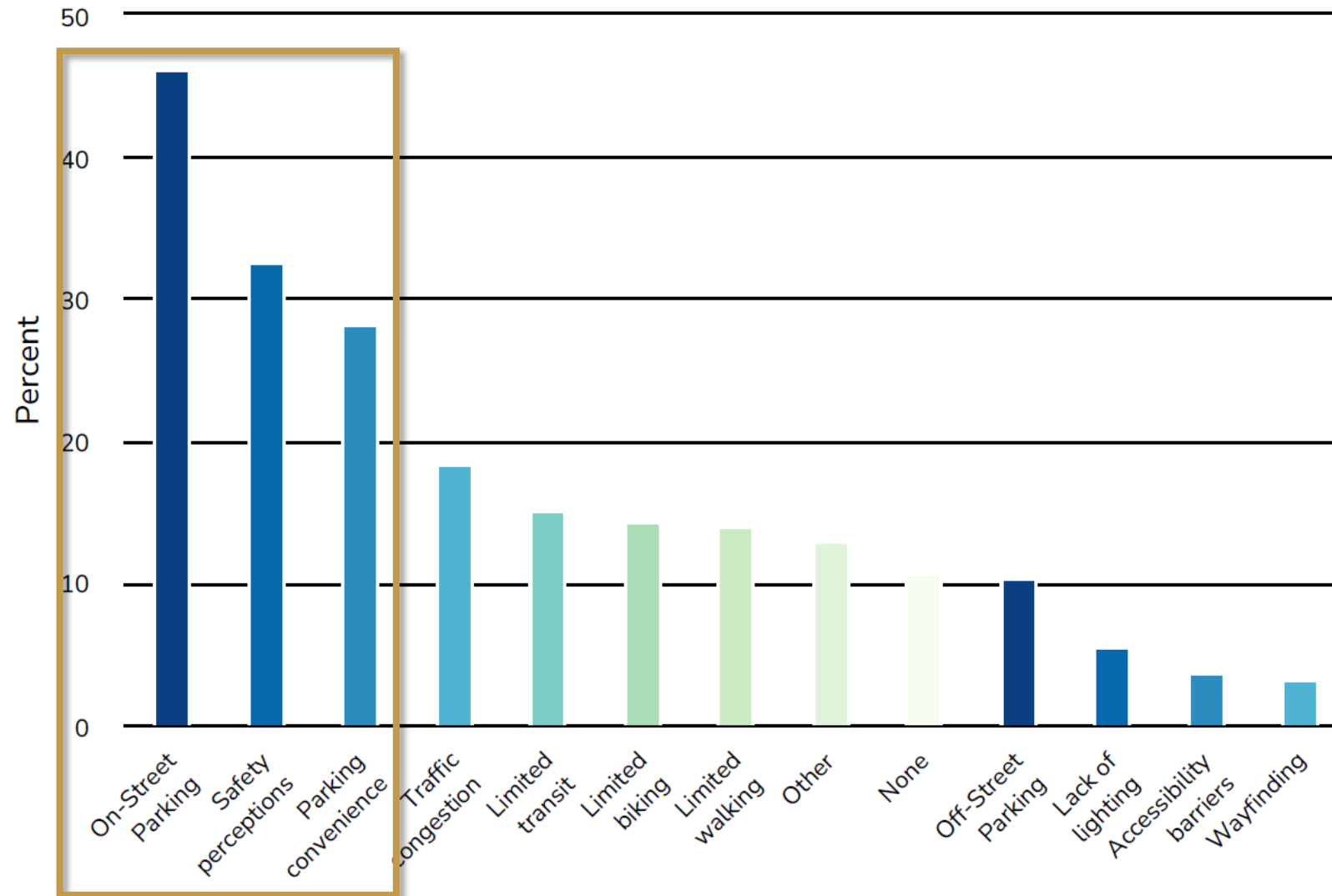
n=288

If you live Downtown, select the amenities that are within a convenient walking or biking distance from your home



n=1,891

# What are the biggest challenges you face when navigating Downtown?



n=1,847

# What are the biggest challenges you face when navigating Downtown?

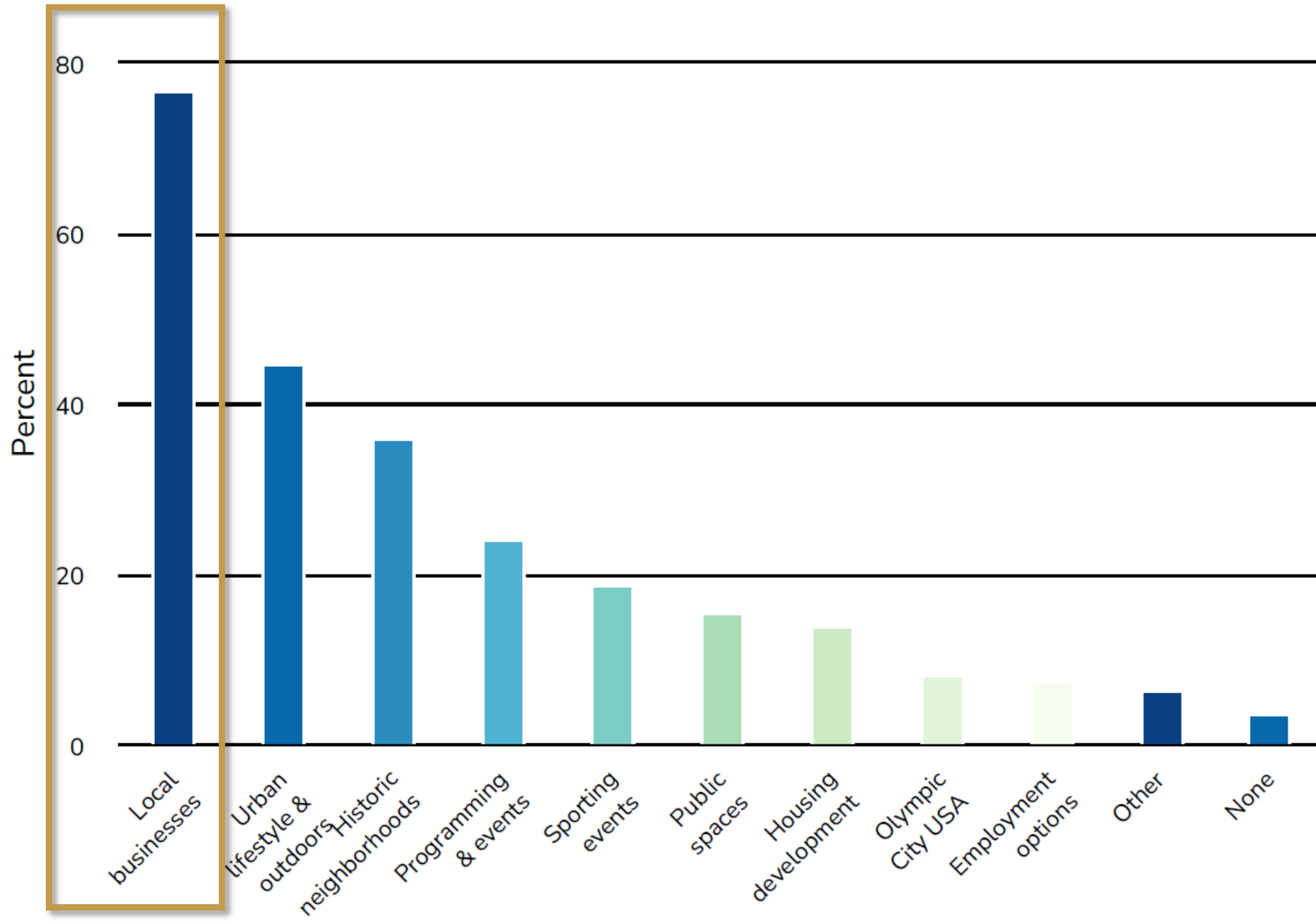
## **Key open-ended responses:**

- Homelessness
- Cars making it dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists
- Cost of parking
- Lack of public restrooms



n=239

# What are Downtown's greatest assets?



n=1,852

# What are Downtown's greatest assets?

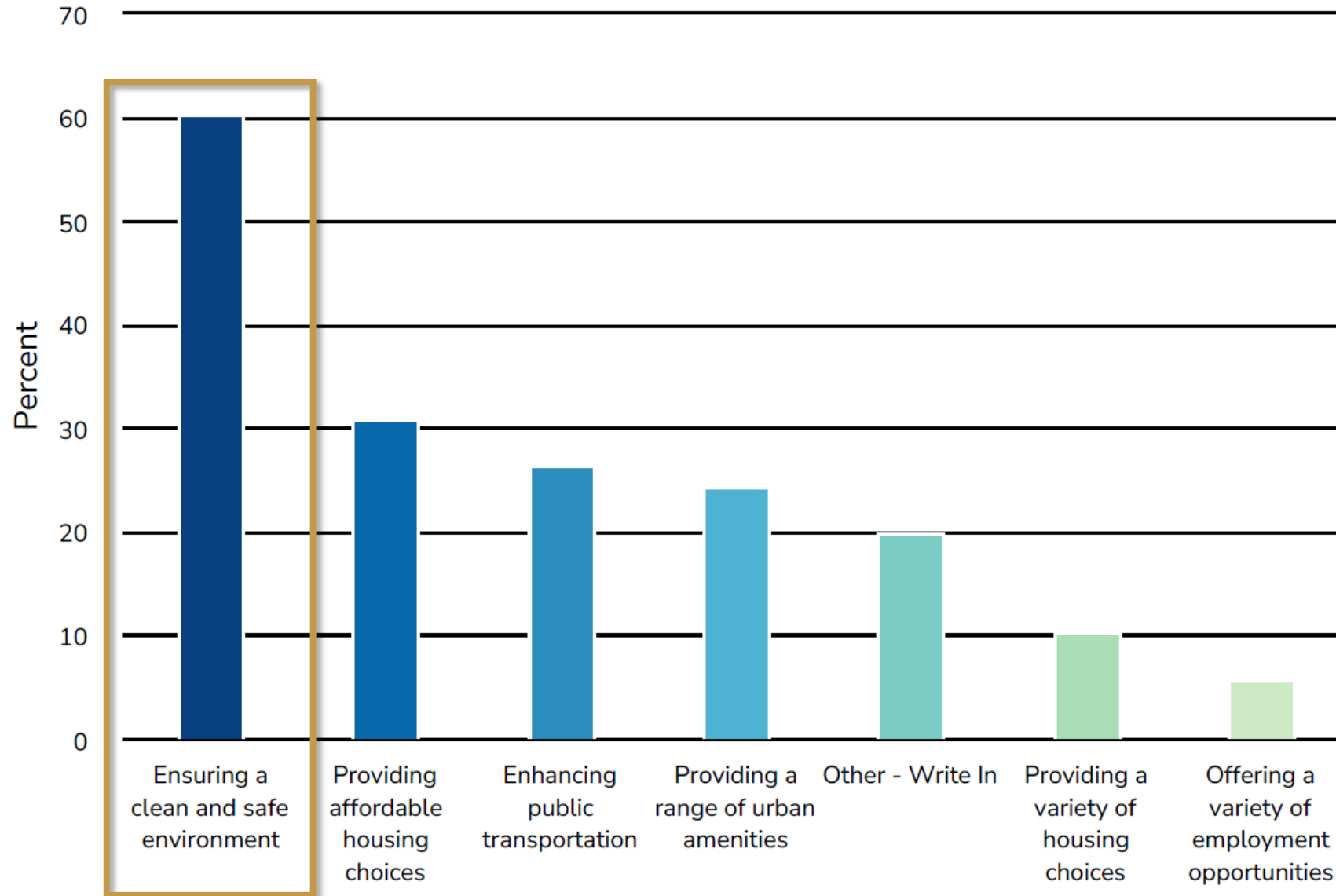
## **Key open-ended responses:**

- Restaurants and food
- Bars and entertainment
- Parks
- Walkability
- Arts and culture
- Small-town and local feel



n=121

# What are Downtown's greatest challenges?



n=1,836

# What are Downtown's greatest challenges?

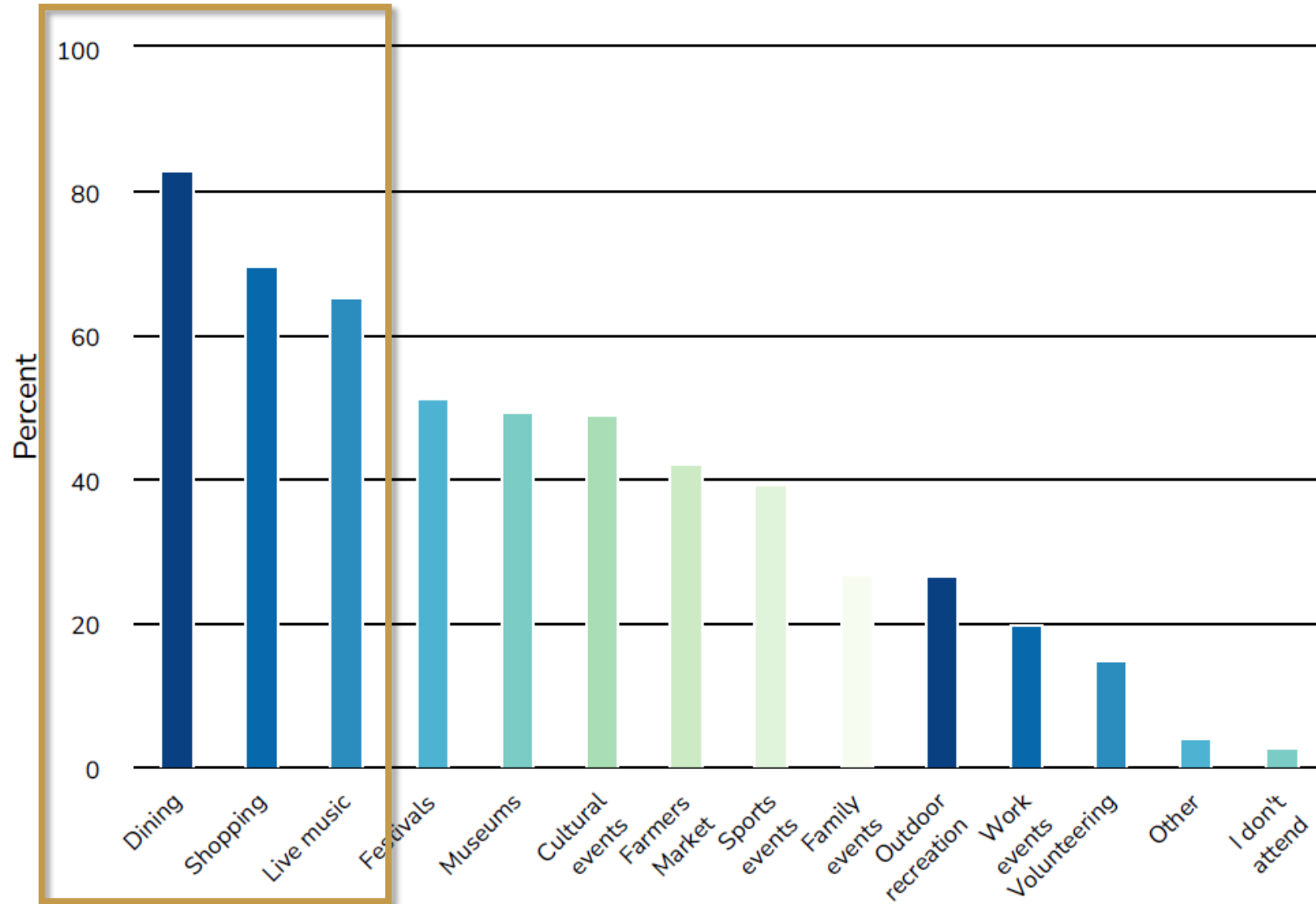
## **Key open-ended responses:**

- Homelessness
- Affordability
- No bathrooms
- Keeping local businesses
- No grocery store
- Lack of free parking



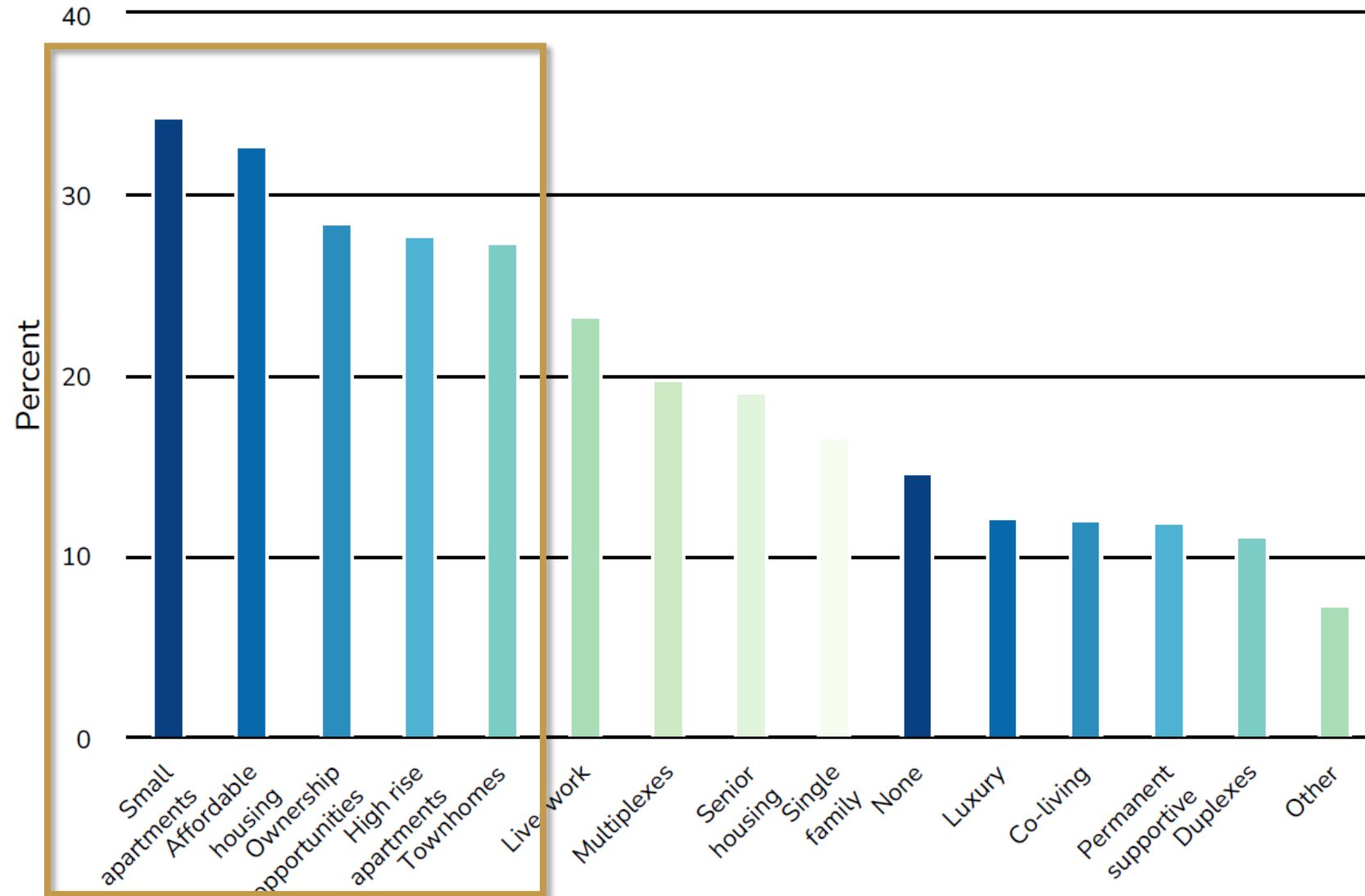
n=363

# What events & activities do you like to attend Downtown?



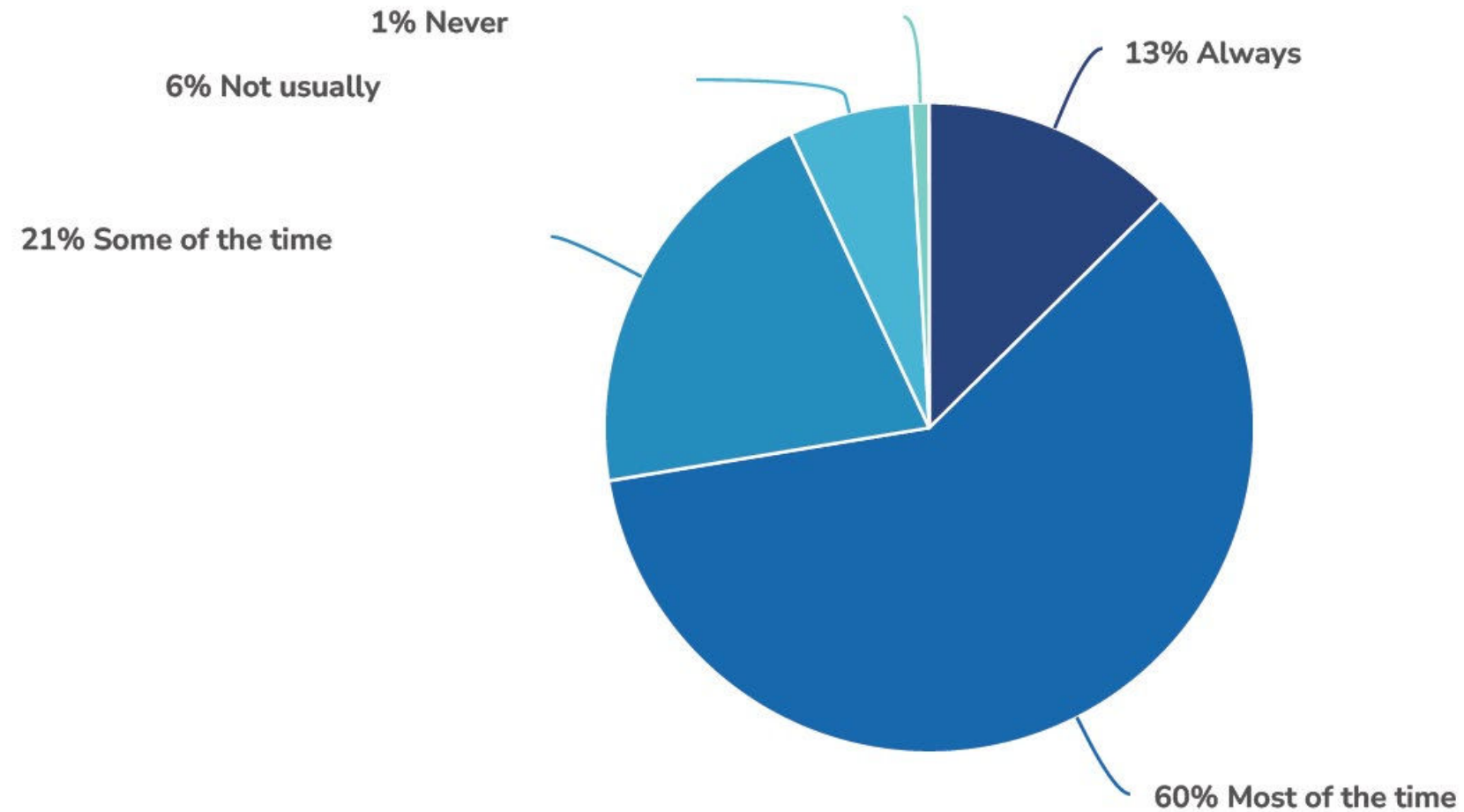
n=1,850

# What types of housing would you like to see more of in Downtown?



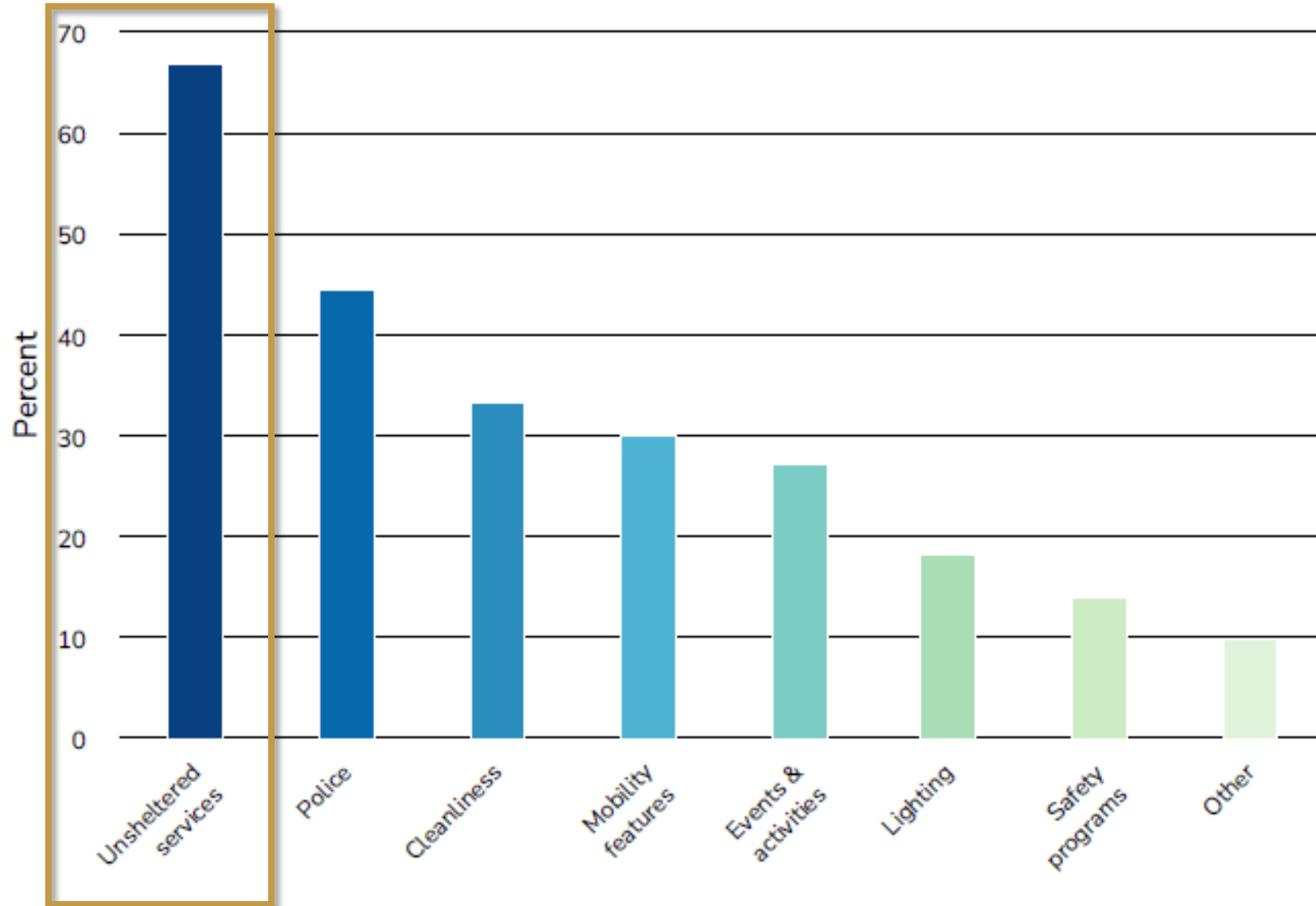
n=1,804

# Do you feel safe Downtown?



n=1,850

# What would make you feel safer Downtown?



n=1,835

# What would make you feel safer Downtown?

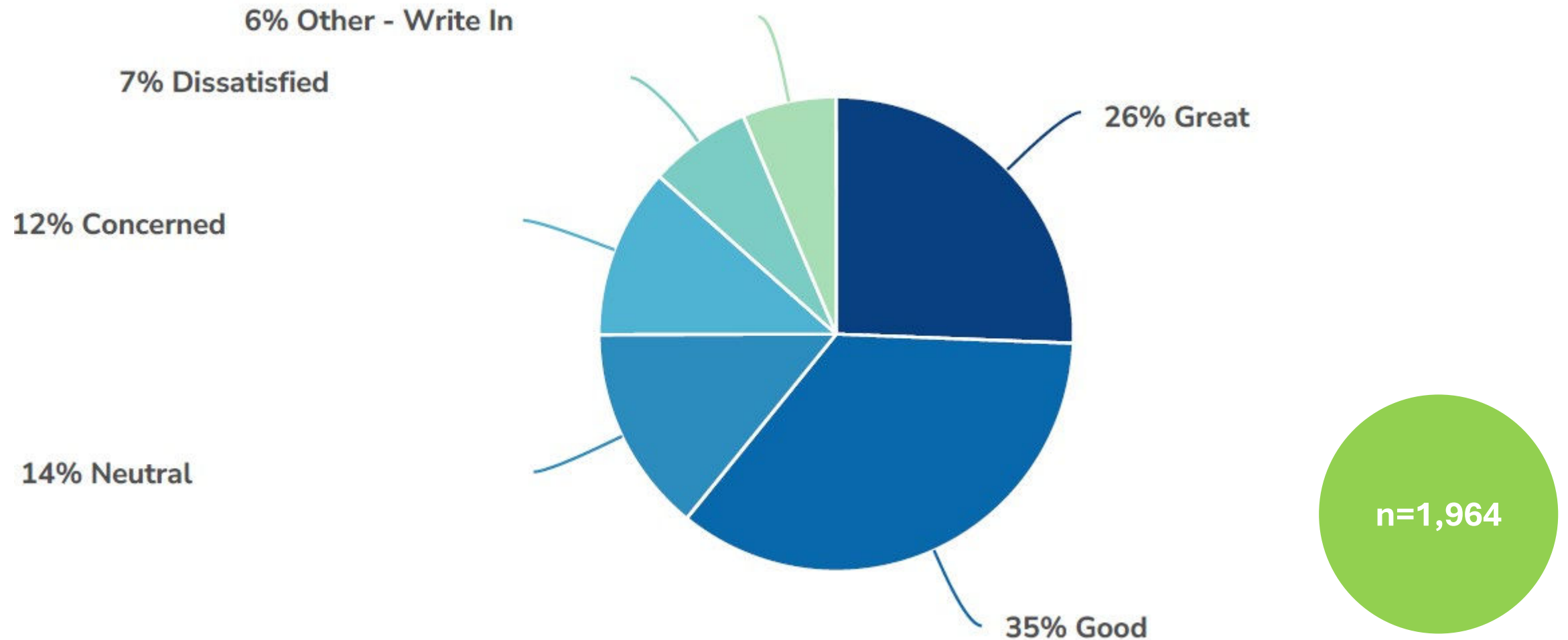
## **Key open-ended responses:**

- Addressing homelessness
- Increased evening/night activity
- Create a pedestrian-only block



n=182

Downtown has changed a lot over the last 10 years. How do you feel about how things have changed?



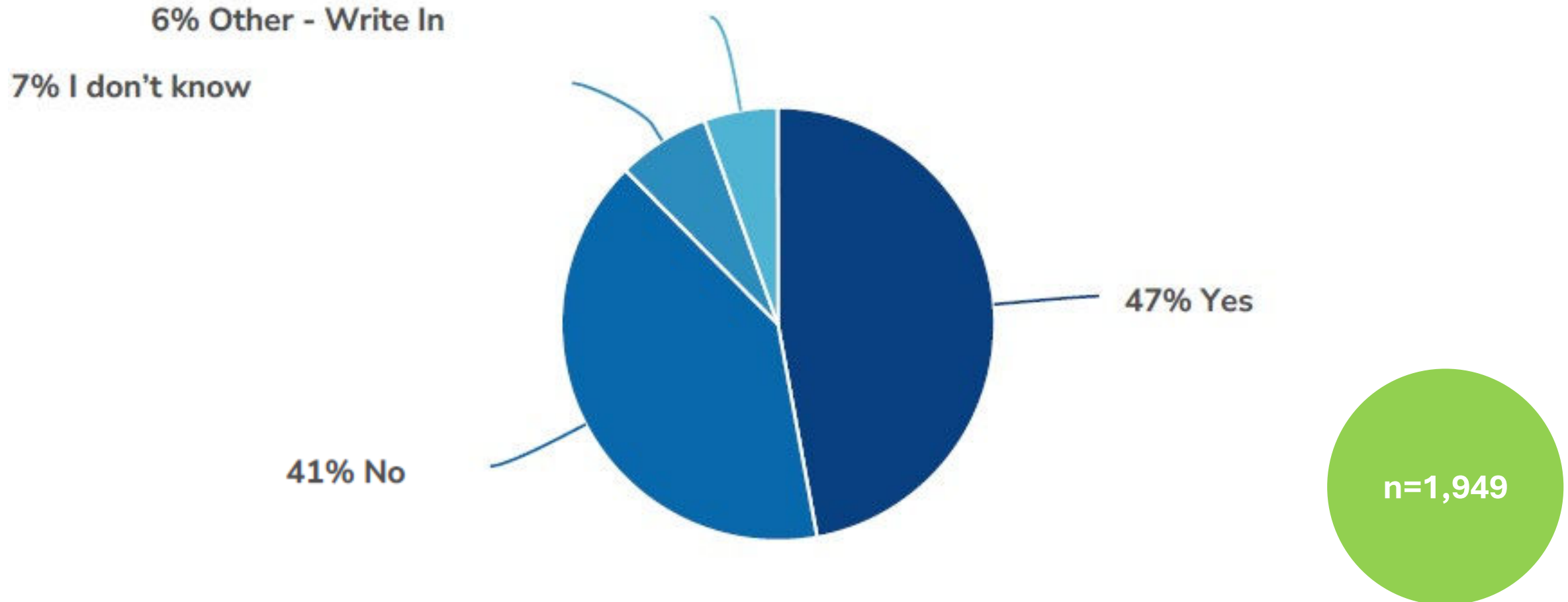
Downtown has changed a lot over the last 10 years. How do you feel about how things have changed?

**Key open-ended responses:**

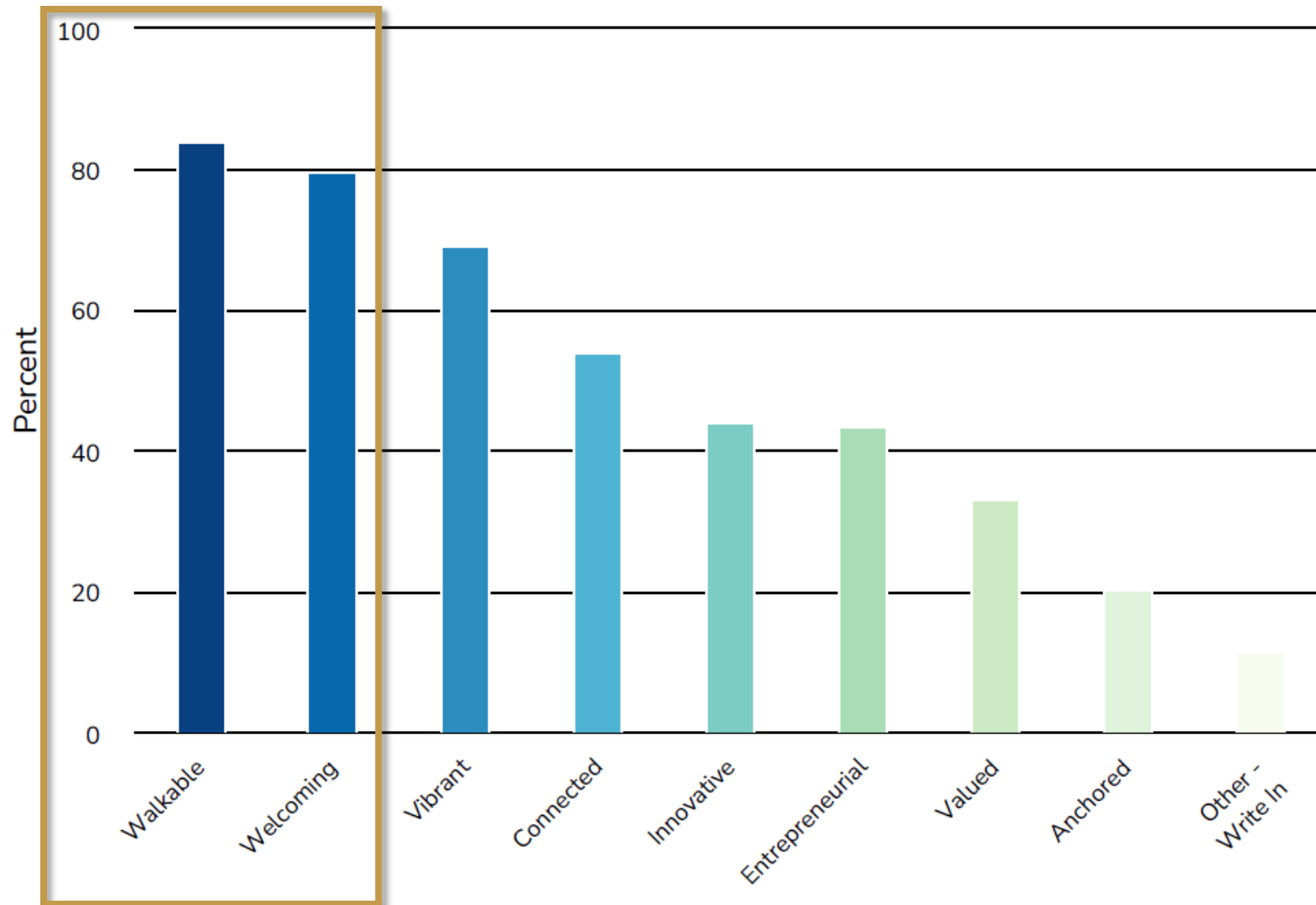
- Excited about walkability and new transit options
- Concern about increasing density
- Concern about increasing homelessness
- Concern about high-rise buildings and empty storefronts
- Excited about increased energy and people  
Downtown



New buildings have been recently built or are proposed to be built that are visible as part of Downtown's skyline. Do you believe that tall buildings (e.g., greater than 8 stories) are appropriate in Downtown Colorado Springs?



The 2016 Master Plan identifies the following values for the Vision for Downtown. Select all that are still relevant to the future of Downtown or write in a new idea:



n=1,805

**Vision Ideas:**



n=208