

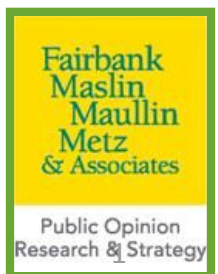


# Future Of Transportation National Survey

#10131



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# Methodology

**On behalf of Transportation For America, Public Opinion Strategies and Fairbank, Maslin, Maullin, Metz and Associates conducted a national telephone survey of 800 registered voters, including 700 landline interviews and 100 cell phone interviews.**

**The survey was conducted February 27-March 2, 2010, and has a margin of error of ± 3.46%.**

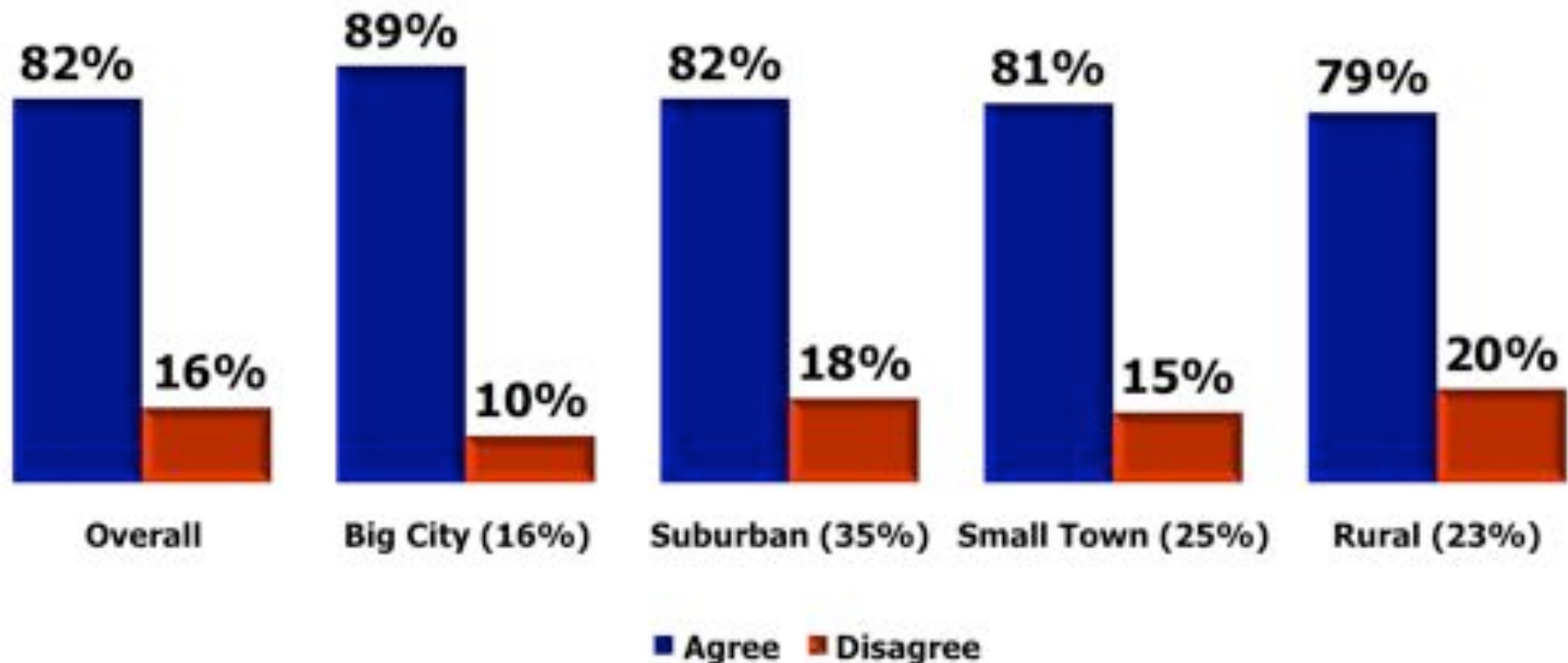


# Attitudes on Transportation Options

**There is a strong sense that the nation would benefit from improved public transportation.**

***Transportation Statements***

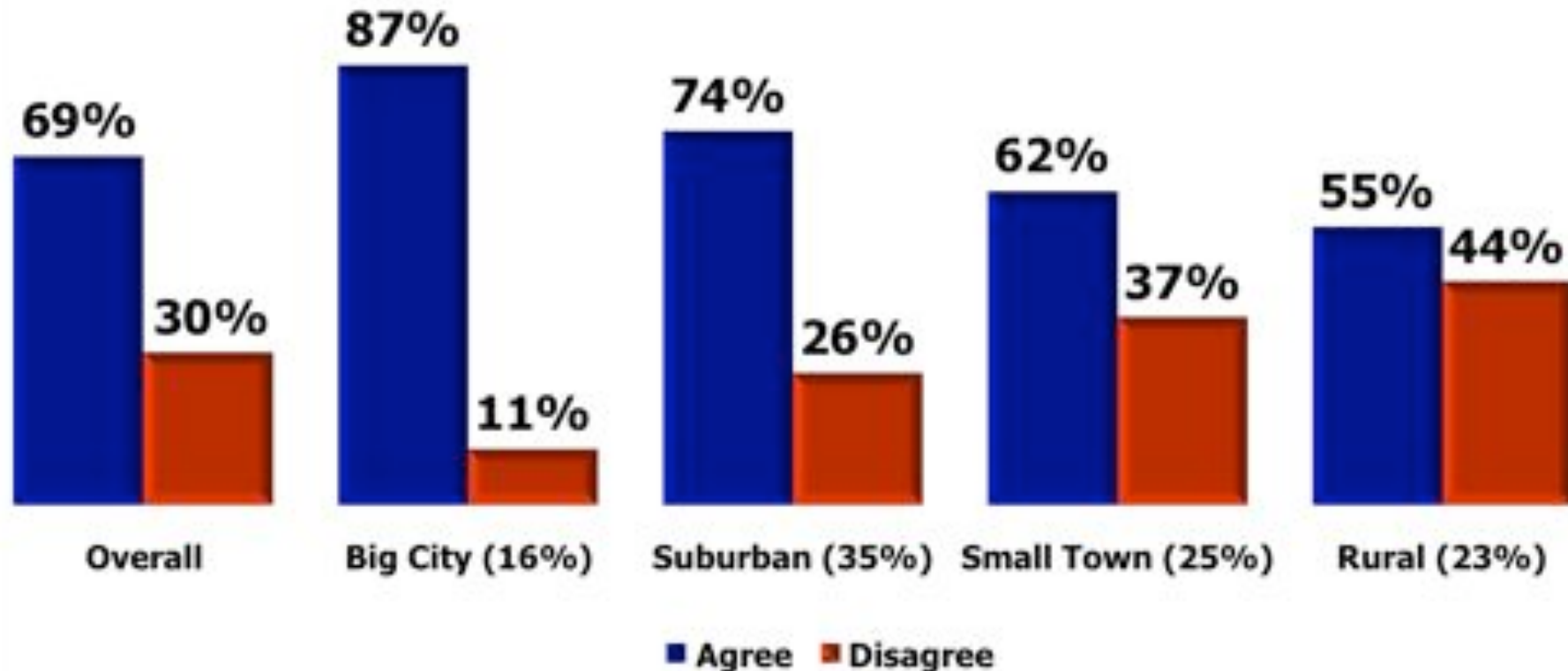
**The United States Would Benefit From an Expanded and Improved Public Transportation System, Such as Rail and Buses**



**There is a strong sense that their community would benefit from improved public transportation.**

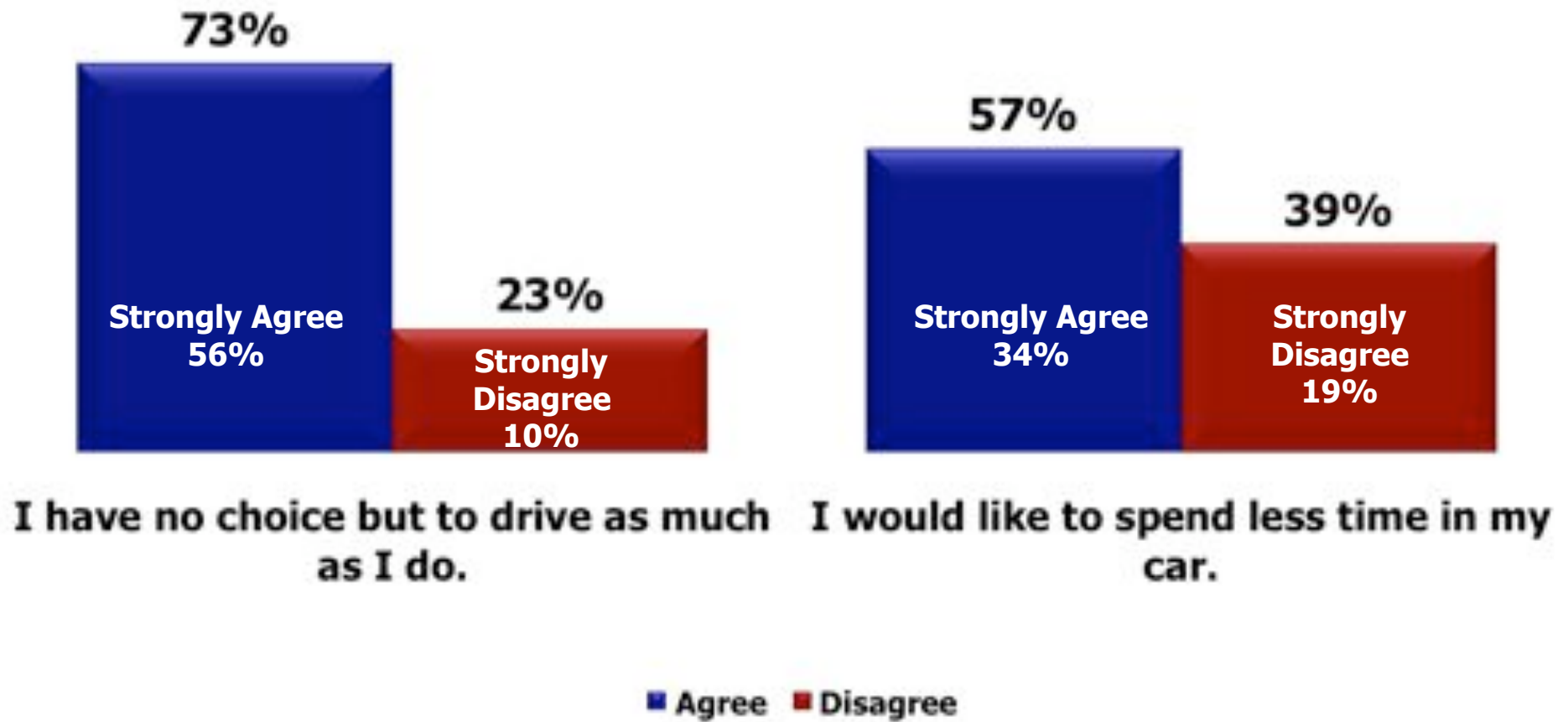
**Transportation Statements**

**My Community Would Benefit From an Expanded and Improved Public Transportation System, Such as Rail and Buses.**



**Voters overwhelmingly feel they have no choice right now, but a majority would like to spend less time in a car.**

**Transportation Statements**



# Voters also say they want the choice of transportation options.

## Transportation Statements

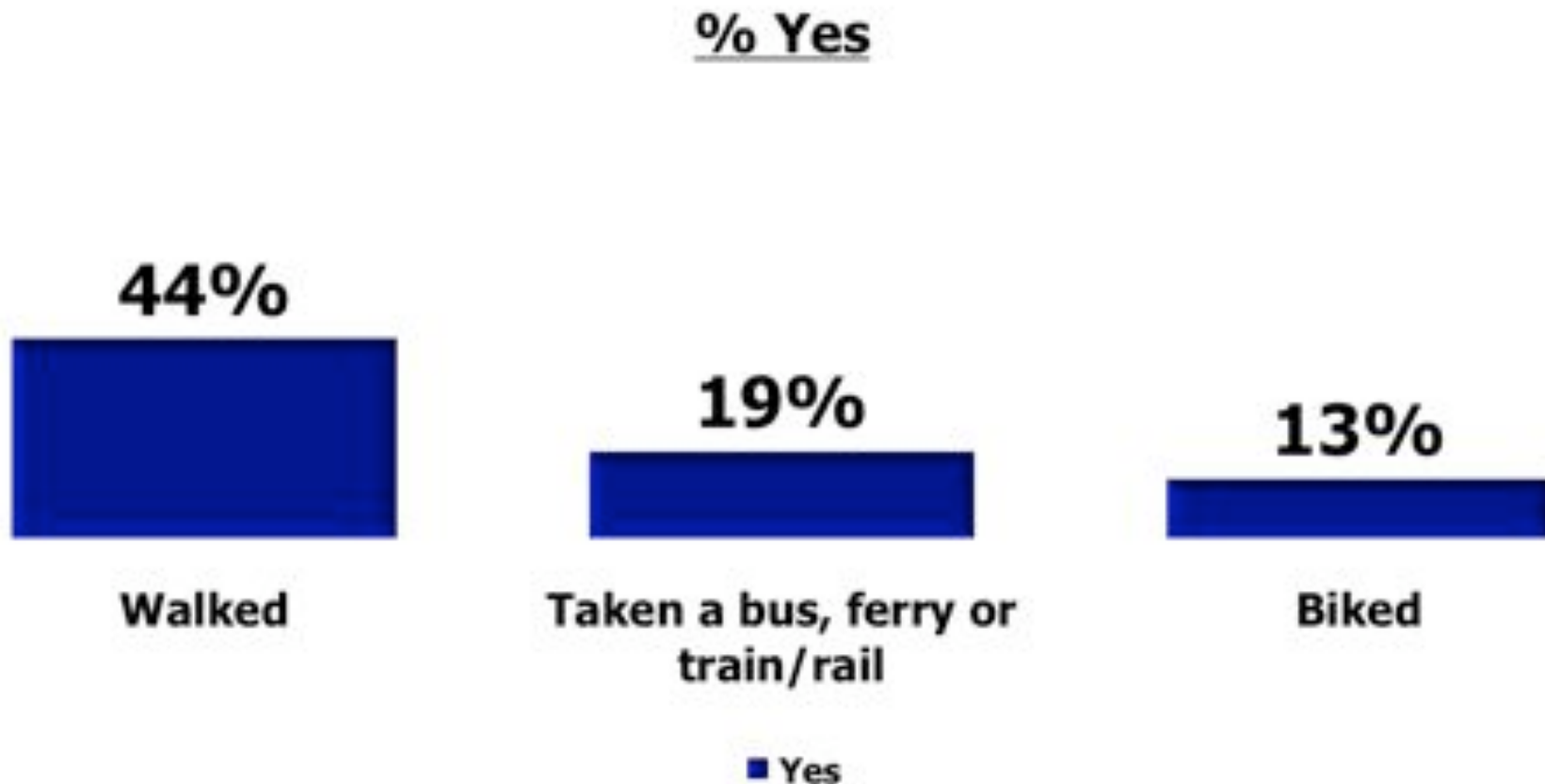


I would like more transportation options, so I have the freedom to choose how to get where I need to go.

I would like to use public transportation more often, but it is not convenient to or available from my home or work.

■ Agree ■ Disagree

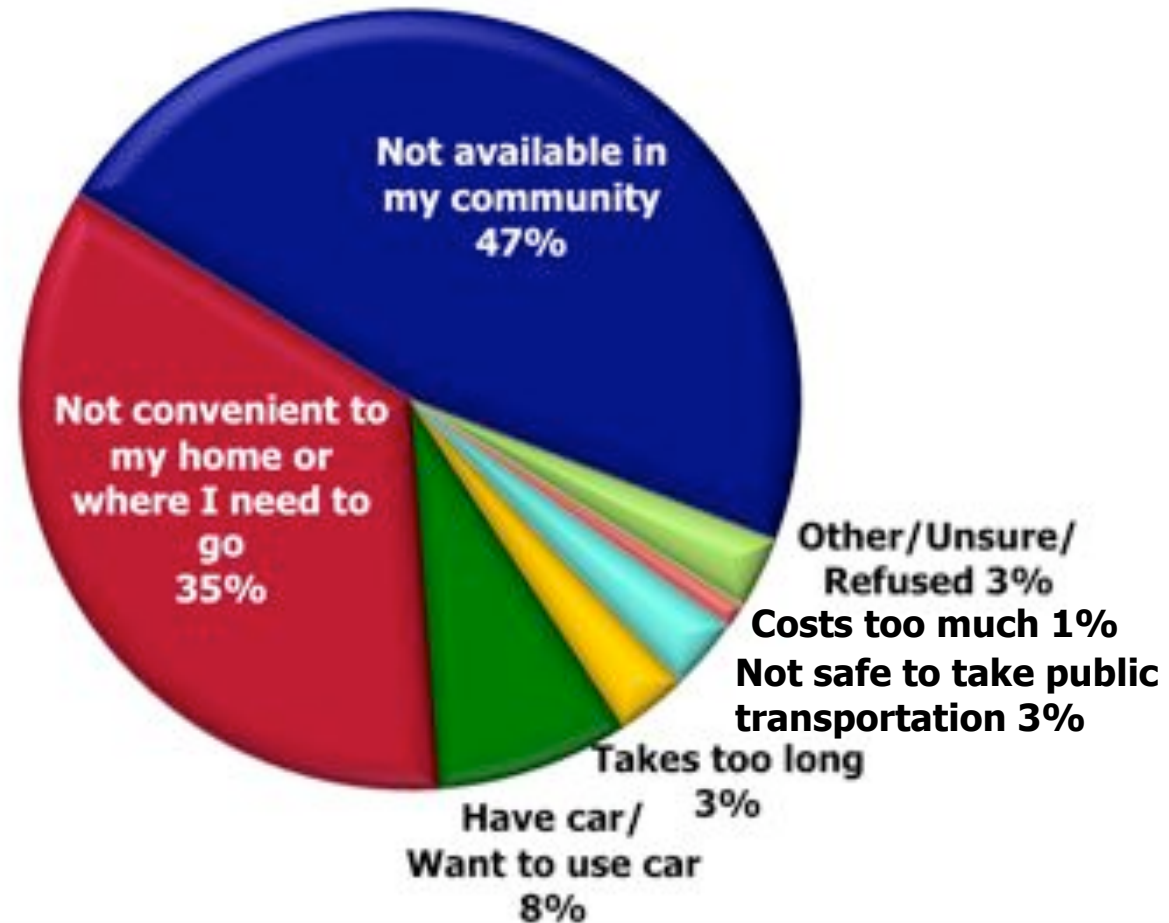
**One-in-five voters have used public transportation – either bus, rail, or ferry – in the last month, while twice as many have walked.**



*In the past month, have you done any of the following in order to go to work or school, run errands or go shopping?*



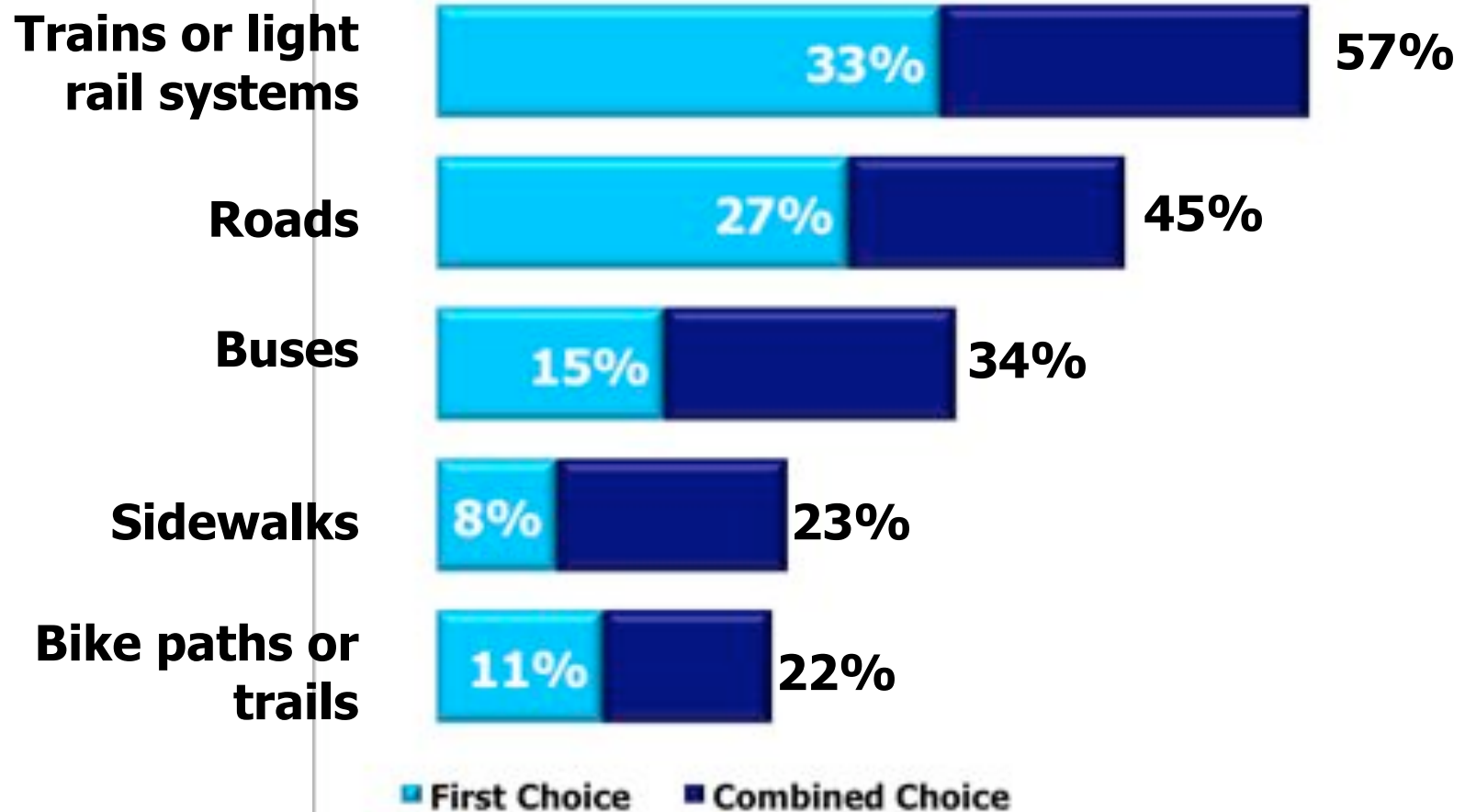
## For those who have not taken public transportation in the last month, availability is the main barrier to use.



*What is the main reason you have not taken public transportation in the last month?*

# Voters are most likely to perceive rail as being neglected in federal priorities.

*Types of Transportation Not Getting Enough Attention*



**A solid majority side with improving public transportation as the preferable way to reduce traffic congestion.**

**Traffic Congestion Statements**

**Some people say that we need to improve public transportation, including trains and buses, and make it easier to walk and bike to help reduce traffic congestion.**

**59%**

**Other people say that we need to build more roads and expand existing roads to help reduce traffic congestion.**

**38%**



# Federal Funding

**Voters' guess for the amount of funding that is allocated to public transportation is close to the mark, but they say we SHOULD be spending twice as much.**

**Out of every dollar the federal government invests in transportation, how many cents would you guess IS currently spent on public transportation, such as trains, rail, ferries and buses?**

**Out of every dollar the federal government invests in transportation, how many cents would you say SHOULD BE spent on public transportation, such as such as trains, rail, ferries and buses?**

**Mean Current Allocation**

**\$0.19**

**Mean Ideal Allocation**

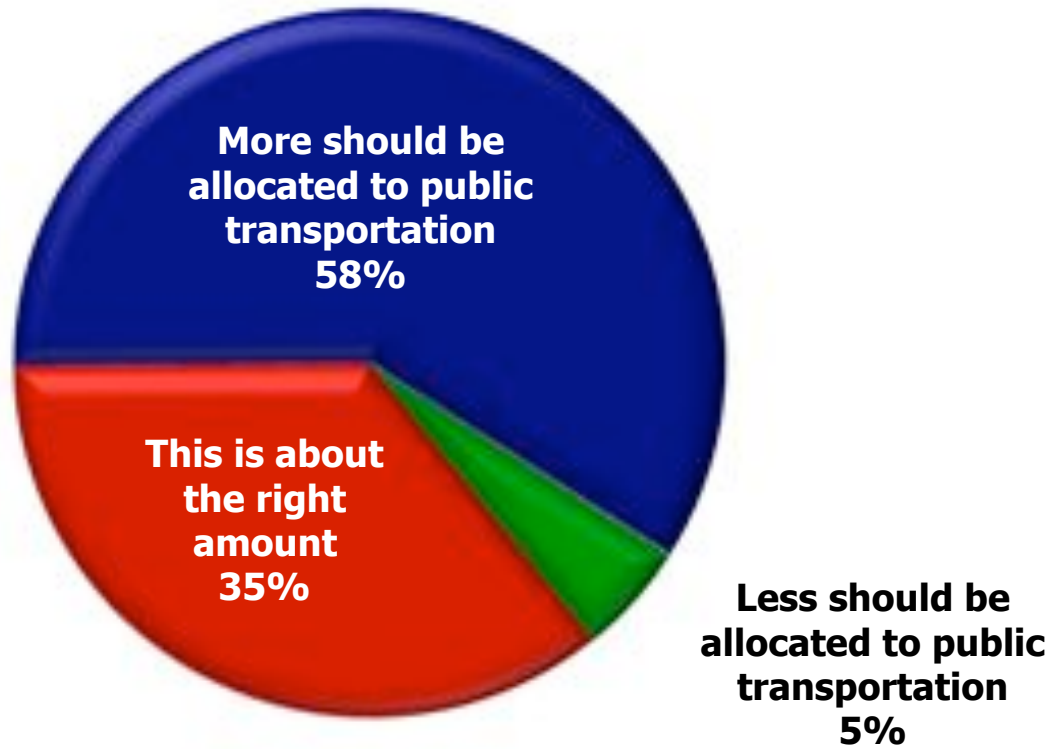
**\$0.37**

# Federal Transportation Spending

**Respondents were read a neutral description of current federal transportation spending:**

***Actually, today 80 cents out of every federal transportation dollar goes to highways, while 17 cents is used for public transportation such as such as trains, rail, ferries and buses around the country, and the remainder for other transportation needs.***

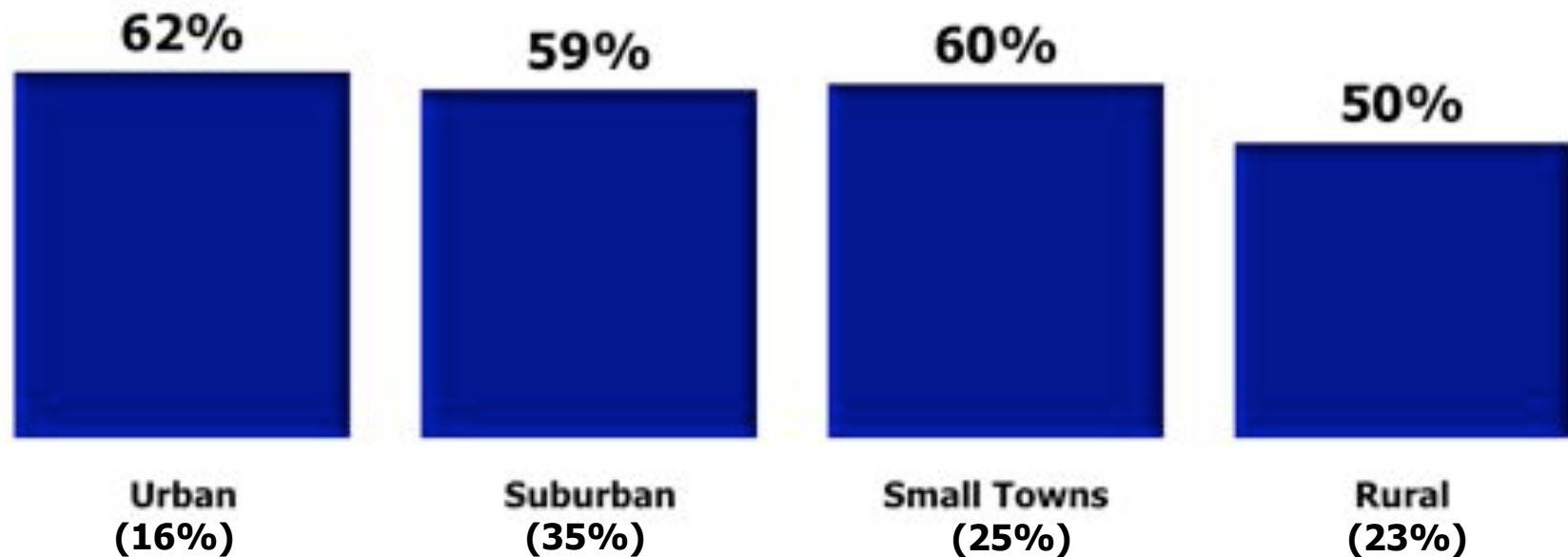
# A majority says that more should be allocated to public transportation after hearing the current reality.



*Having heard that, would you say more funding should be allocated to public transportation, less funding should be allocated to public transportation, or do you think the current amount is about right?*

# Voters in every type of community would allocate more to public transportation.

## More Funding Should Be Allocated to Public Transportation, By Area Type

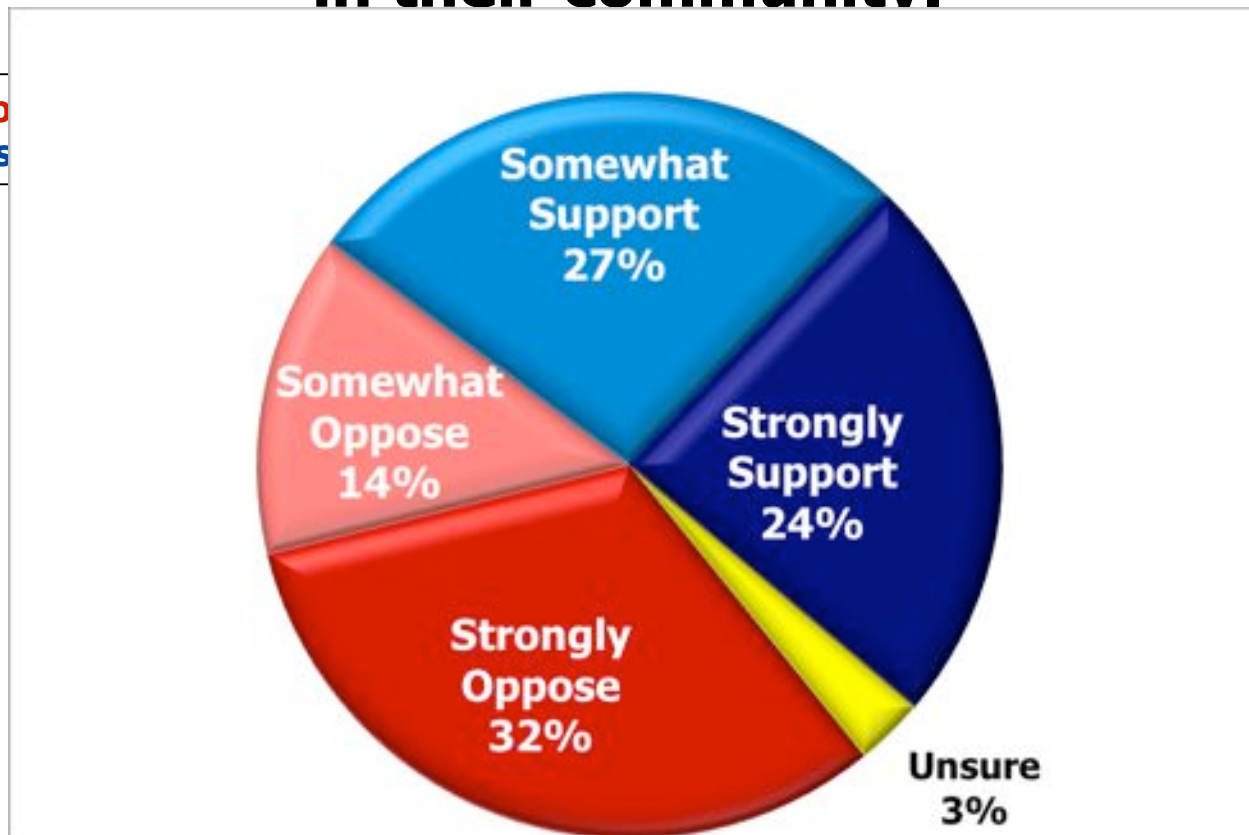


*Having heard that, would you say more funding should be allocated to public transportation, less funding should be allocated to public transportation, or do you think the current amount is about right?*



**Even in the current economic times, a majority of voters are willing to increase their own taxes in order to expand and improve public transportation in their community.**

**Total Support**  
**Total Oppose**



*In general, would you support or oppose increasing funding to expand and improve public transportation in your community, if it required a small increase in taxes or fees?*



# Outcomes

# Outcomes of Increased Options

Respondents were asked to rate a number of potential outcomes of expanding and improving public transportation and walking and biking options on 2 dimensions:

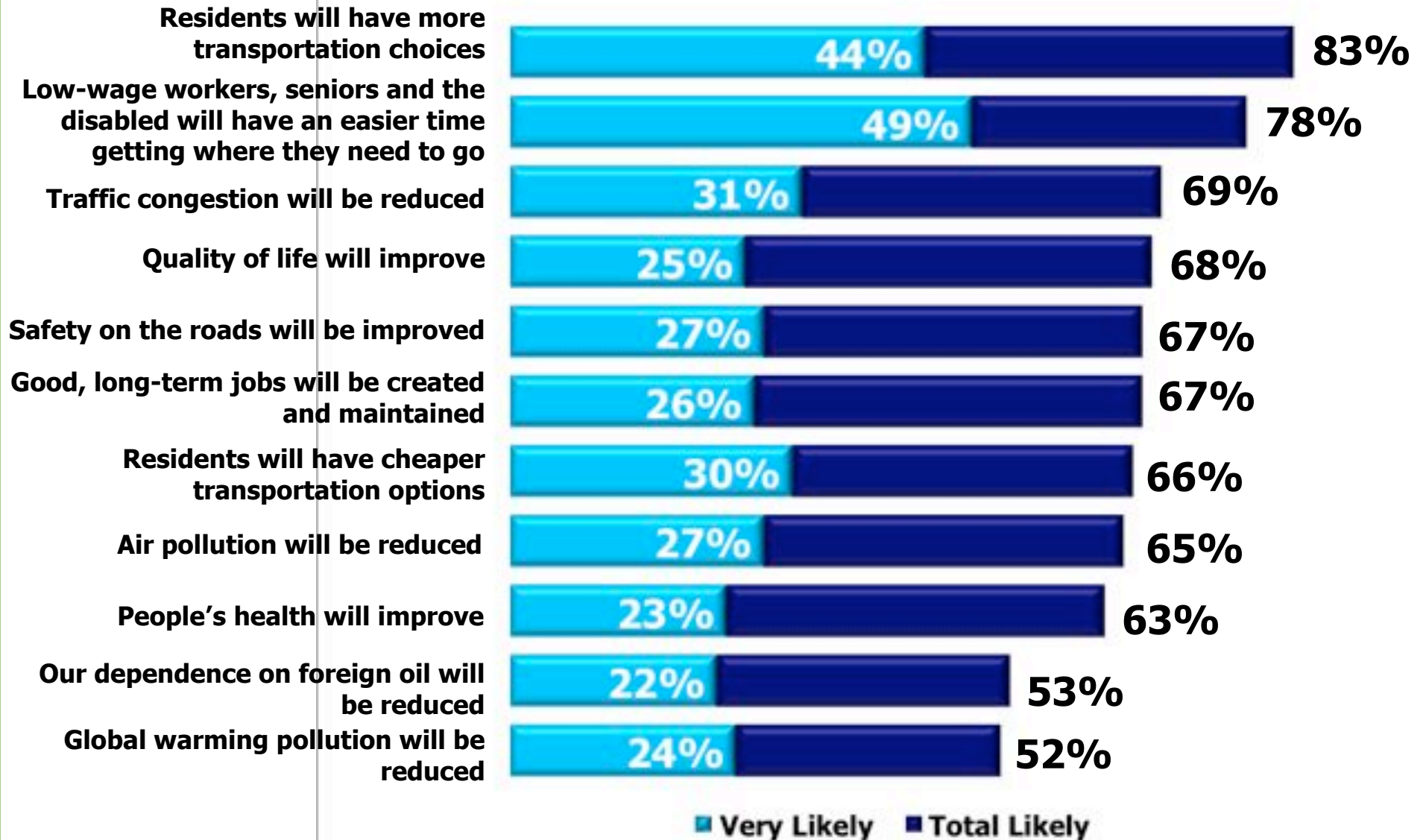
**#1**

How likely is that outcome to happen?

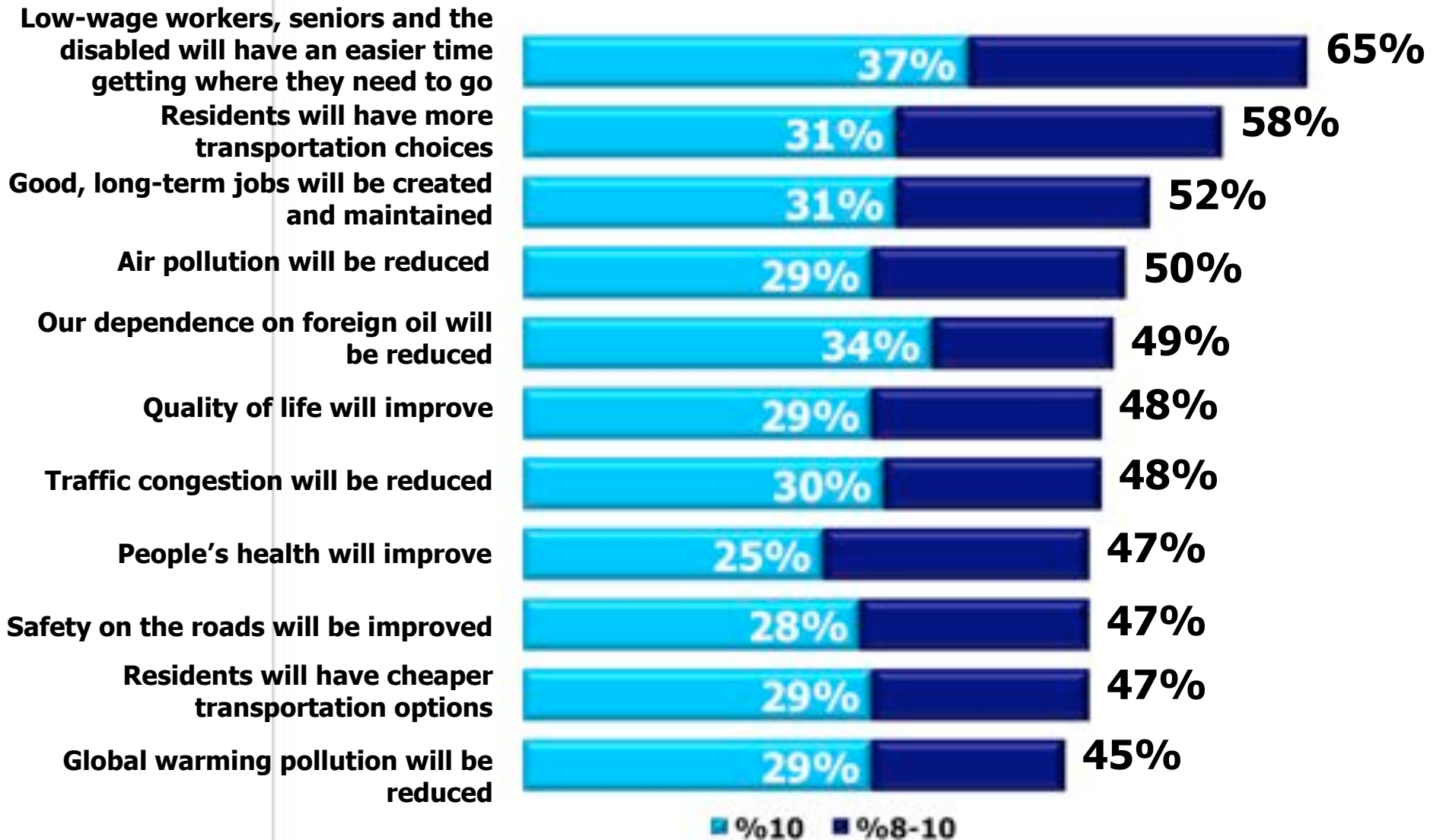
**#2**

How good or bad would it be if that outcome were to happen?

# Choice and mobility outcomes are seen as most likely.



## These are also seen as very positive outcomes.





# Top Rationales

***Accountable***  
Government officials must be held accountable for how our transportation tax dollars are spent. We cannot afford to build more roads, while existing roads are in disrepair.

***Income***  
Expanding and improving our transportation options will help those of poor or modest incomes or those without cars have a way to get to their jobs, training programs or school.

***Health***  
A better network of roads and trails that are safe for walking and bicycling would help Americans stay active and healthy. Kids could walk or bike to school, families and workers would have better transportation options, and those who choose to walk or bicycle can be healthier.

***Progress***  
It has been 50 years since government really looked at our transportation needs. We need our leaders to have their eyes on the future and invest in modern transportation options, including public transportation. We cannot rely on yesterday's transportation options in our 21st century economy.

<b><u>% Very Convincing</u></b>	<b><u>% Total Convincing</u></b>
<b>52%</b>	<b>84%</b>
<b>48%</b>	<b>85%</b>
<b>44%</b>	<b>81%</b>
<b>41%</b>	<b>81%</b>

**Which of the following do you think is the BEST reason to support expanding and improving our transportation options, including public transportation such as trains, rail, ferries and buses, as well as walking and biking options?**





## **The greatest concern about the status quo is existing roads.**

**And which one, if any, would be your greatest concern about continuing the current government approach that gives building more roads a much higher priority than public transportation in our communities?**

**We cannot properly maintain the roads we already have**

**34%**

**We can better use the roads we have by encouraging flexible work hours, telecommuting, and other strategies to reduce traffic at rush hour**

**30%**

**More roads will simply fill with more cars and traffic**

**14%**

**More roads increases our dependence on cars and oil**

**14%**

**Other/All/Unsure**

**8%**

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