

Downtown Norfolk Council

2017 Downtown Workers Study

Presentation to the DNC Board March 14, 2018

Background

- This report presents findings from the 2017 DNC Downtown Workers Study.
- Where appropriate, 2017 findings are compared with DNC's shorter studies in 2016, 2013, and 2010.





2010 2013 2016 2017



Study objectives

- Assess overall satisfaction with Downtown.
- Identify the current perceptions and misperceptions of Downtown Norfolk as a place to work, live, and play.
- Profile non-work-related use of Downtown Norfolk by Downtown Norfolk workers.
- Assess ratings of importance and performance across Downtown Norfolk's defining attributes (entertainment, recreation, cultural arts, etc.).

- Identify **performance gaps** between expectation and current performance.
- Identify and rank the perceived issues and barriers to making Downtown Norfolk more appealing as a place to work, live, and play.
- Identify other key issues.

Methodology

- 12-minute questionnaire among **Downtown Norfolk workers**.
- The study was fielded **December 1**, 2017, through January 3, 2018.
- A snowball sampling approach was used:
 - SIR provided DNC with an open link to the online survey.
 - DNC then sent the survey link to its key business contacts, asking them to take the survey and disseminate the link to their Downtown employees.
 - DNC also promoted the survey through various DNC-related channels (email blasts, social media, etc.).
- All respondents were screened to ensure they considered themselves Downtown Norfolk workers.
- A total of **512 respondents** completed the survey.



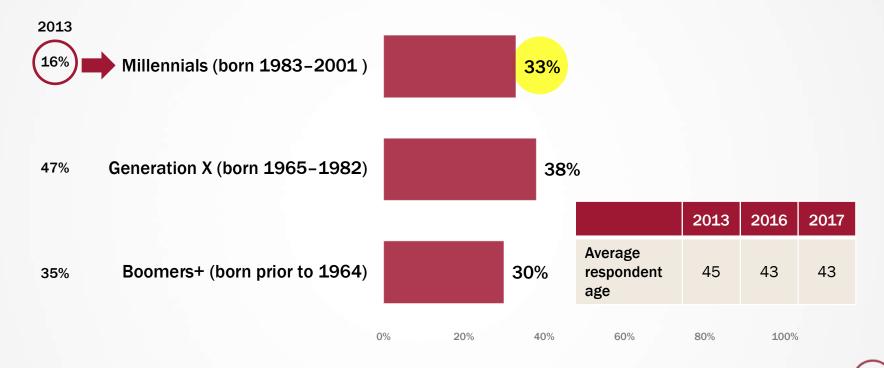
1. **Downtown** Norfolk's **DEMOGRAPHICS** Are Tracking with **National Trends**



Millennials Are Making Up a Greater Proportion of the Workforce

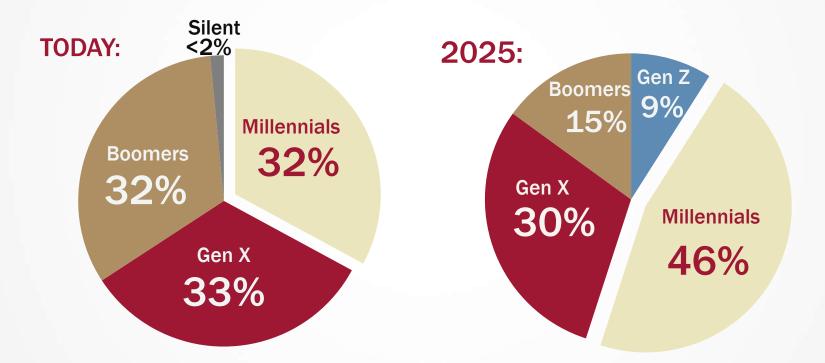


Respondents are evenly split by generation



7 Q37. In what year were you born? If you prefer to skip this question, enter "9999".

THE CHANGING WORKPLACE



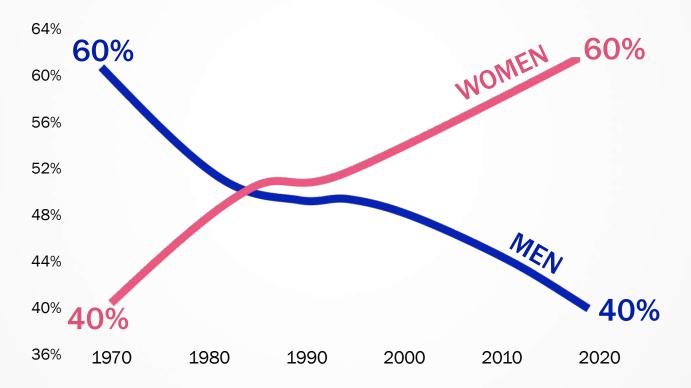


Women Are a Growing Majority of the Workforce



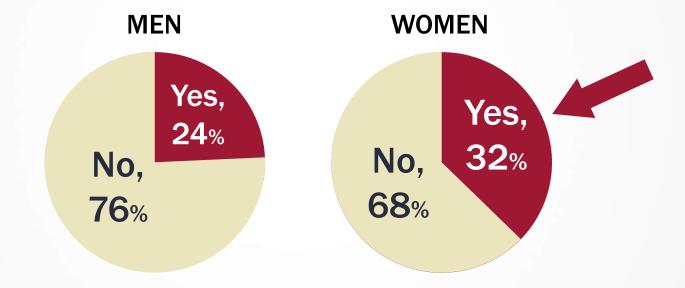
PERCENTAGE OF COLLEGE DEGREES

Women vs. Men, 1971-2017



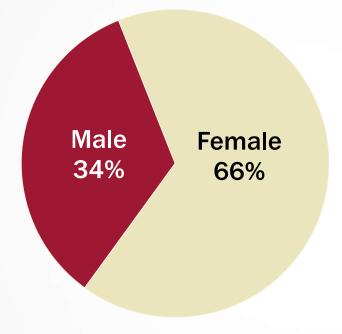


Women are MORE LIKELY than men to have college degrees





Two-thirds of respondents are women, similar to previous years



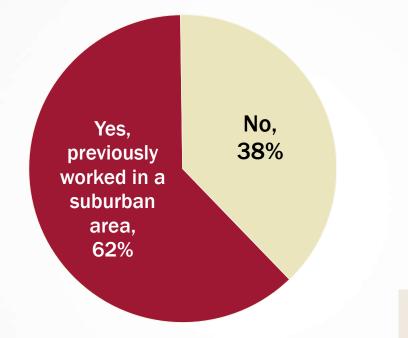
	2013	2016	2017
Gender	Female	Female	Female
	(62%)	(63%)	(66%)



Urban Centers Are Growing



Three in five respondents previously worked in a suburban area before working in Downtown Norfolk



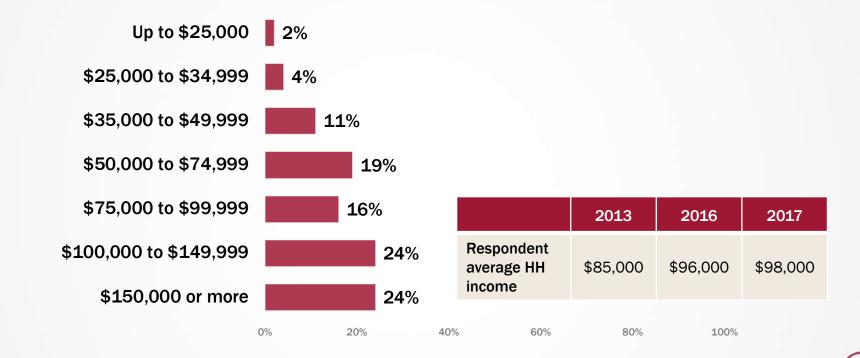
NOTE: This question was not asked in 2013 or 2016.



Urban Incomes Are Growing



The average household income of respondents is \$98,000 – up \$13,000 from 2013





There Is a Move Toward 15-Minute Convenience



Top desires for their "ideal" neighborhood:

Percent saying "4" or "5"

Having access to stores, restaurants, and services close to my home (within about 15 minutes)

> I would love to live within 15 minutes' commute of my work and/or my school.





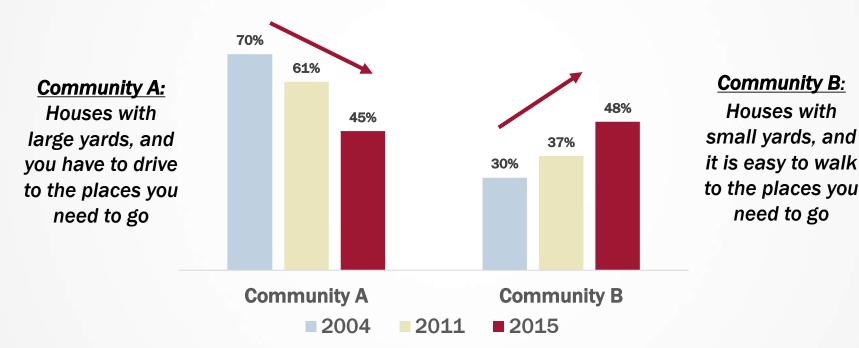
Q40. How much do you agree with each of the following statements, when thinking about your ideal neighborhood? Please use a scale of 1 to 5, where "1" means "completely disagree" and "5" means "completely agree."

Future Movers n = 300



WALKABLE COMMUNITY TRENDS

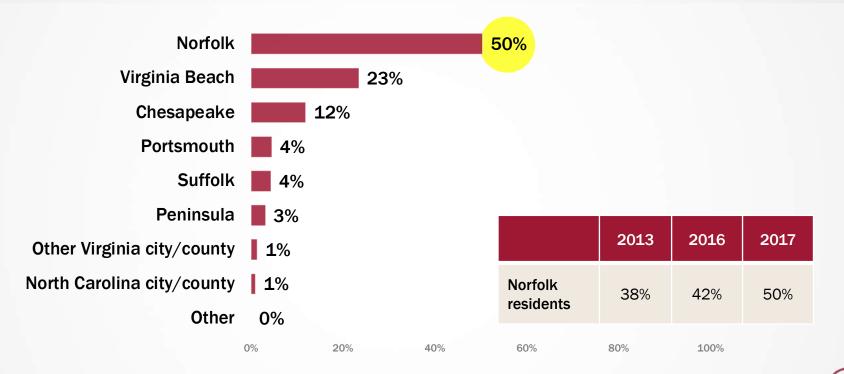
Such a big shift in about 10 years is remarkable.





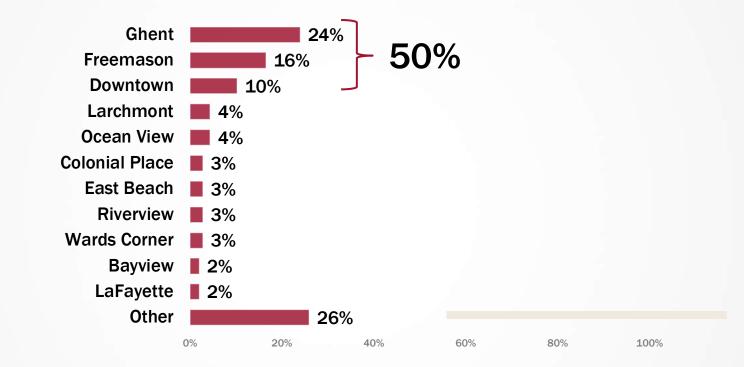
Source: National Association of Realtors National Community and Transportation Preference Survey (2004, 2011, 2015)

Half of the survey respondents live in Norfolk





Of the respondents who live in Norfolk, most live in the neighborhoods of Ghent, Freemason, and Downtown



21

Note: Question was asked to respondents who indicated they lived in Norfolk in Q2.

Demographic changes 2013–2017

Higher income, more who live in Norfolk

ATTRIBUTE	AVE	RAGE RESPON	CHANGE		
	2013	2016	2017	(2013-2017)	
Age	45	43	43	-2 years	
Gender	Female (62%)	Female (63%)	Female (66%)	Slightly more women	
HH income	\$85,000	\$96,000	\$98,000	+\$13,000	
Race	N/A	N/A	White (89%)	N/A	
Ethnicity	N/A	N/A	Non-Hispanic (97%)	N/A	
Days at work	5 days (86%)	5 days (85%)	5 days (79%)	Slightly fewer who work 5 days a week	
Years working Downtown	8.9 years	8.0 years	9.7 years	Slightly longer tenure Downtown	
Home location	Norfolk (38%)	Norfolk (42%)	Norfolk (50%)	More from Norfolk	





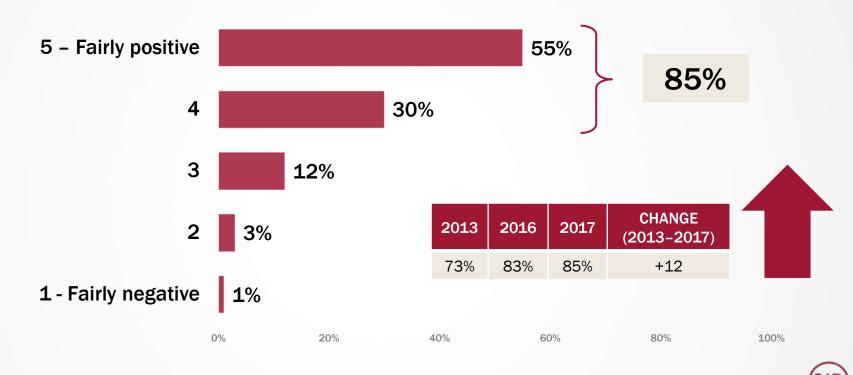


OVERALL SATISFACTION

Generally, what is your overall perception of Downtown Norfolk: more positive or more negative?



85% of respondents have positive perceptions of Downtown Norfolk Positive perception has increased 12 percentage points in 4 years

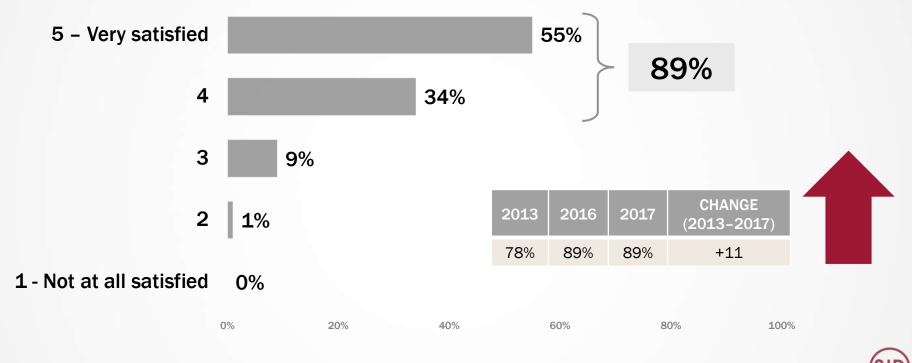


OVERALL SATISFACTION

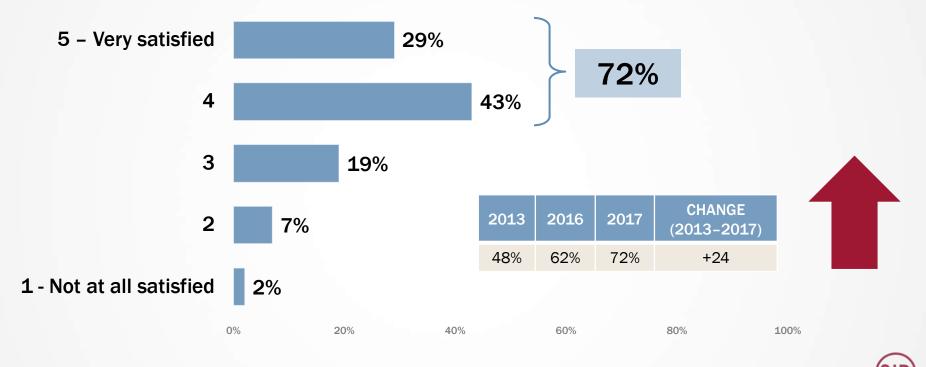
How satisfied are you with Downtown Norfolk as a place to do each of the following: ____



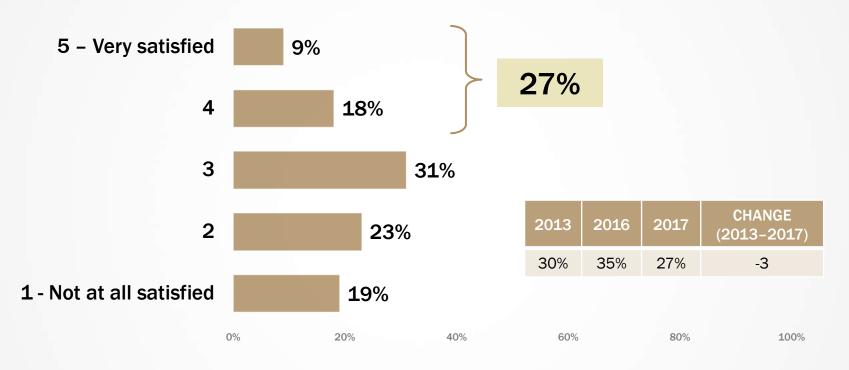
Nine in ten respondents are satisfied with Downtown Norfolk as a place to WORK, an increase of 11 percentage points from 2013



Seven in ten respondents are satisfied with Downtown Norfolk as a place to PLAY, an increase of 24 percentage points from 2013



Similar to 2013, about three in ten respondents are satisfied with Downtown Norfolk as a place to LIVE



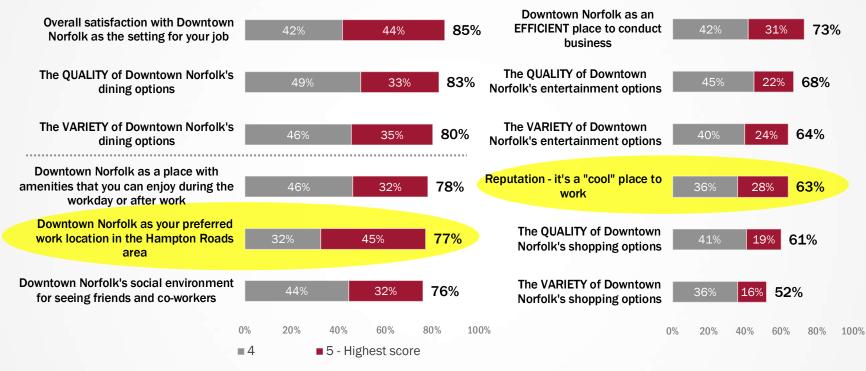


SATISFACTION RATINGS OF DOWNTOWN NORFOLK 2013 vs. 2017

SATISFACTION RATING	2013	2016	2017	CHANGE (2013-2017)	
Overall perception	73%	83%	85%	+12	
To LIVE	30%	35%	27%	-3	
To WORK	78%	89%	89%	+11	
To PLAY	48%	62%	72%	+24	



Overall satisfaction across most measures is high



REFERRAL / ENGAGEMENT NET PROMOTER SCORE™



NET PROMOTER SCORE™ calculation

And the second s

FRED REICHHELD

The percentage of visitors, customers, respondents who are "**promoters**" (highly likely to recommend you)

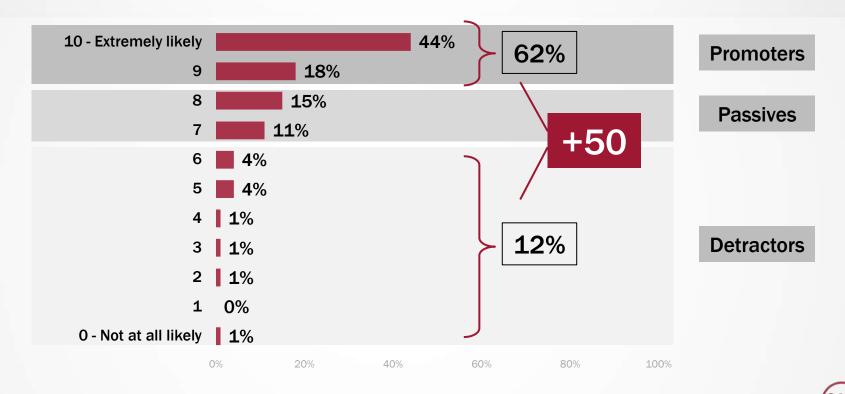
minus the percentage who are "**detractors**" (less likely to recommend you) of Promoters (Rating 9 or 10)

of Detractors (Rating 0 to 6)

NET PROMOTER SCORE™

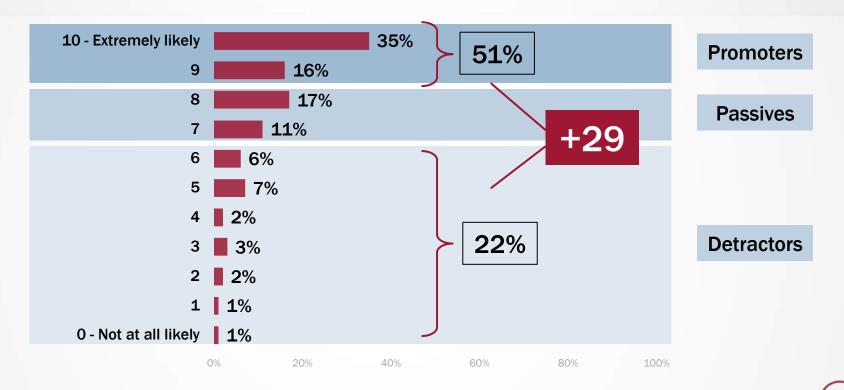


Downtown Norfolk's NPS as a place to WORK: +50

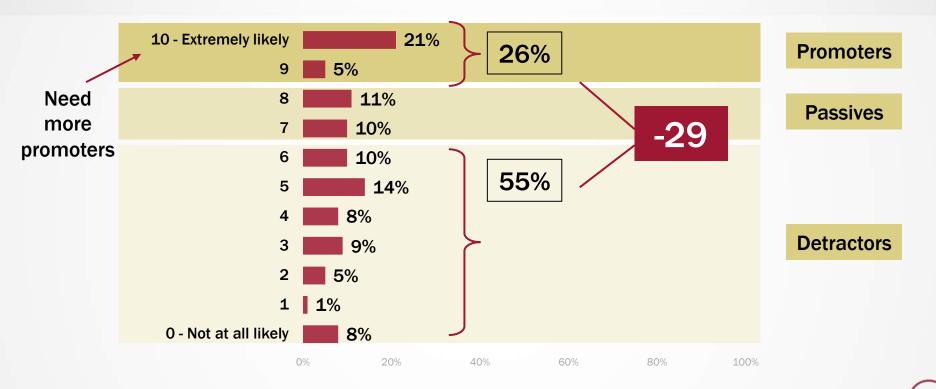


34 Q6. How likely are you to recommend Downtown Norfolk to a relative or friend as a place to do each of the following? To work

Downtown Norfolk's NPS as a place to PLAY: +29



Downtown Norfolk's NPS as a place to LIVE: -29



NPS[™] scores have <u>increased considerably</u> since 2013, especially in WORK and PLAY

NPS [™] SCORES	2013	2017	CHANGE (2013–2017)
TO WORK	12	50	+38
TO PLAY	-17	29	+46
TO LIVE	-46	-29	+17





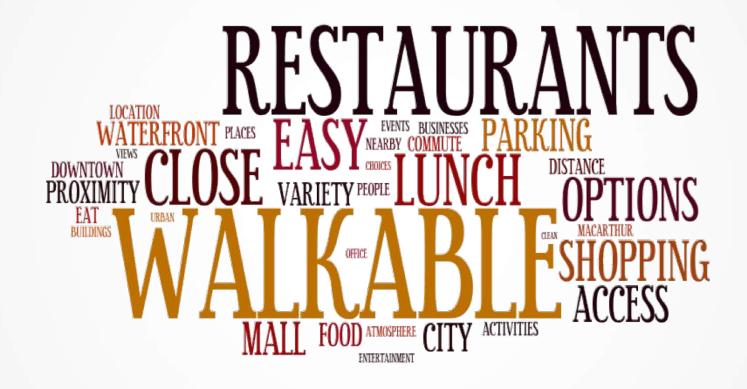
Respondents who are Boomers, live in Norfolk, and have worked Downtown for more than 10 years give higher NPS[™] scores across all categories

	GROUP	TO WORK	TO PLAY	TO LIVE
	Millennial	54	27	-35
Generation	Gen X	41	26	-37
	Boomer	58	43	-9
Time worked	orked 0-5 years 4	47	25	-38
in Downtown	6-10 years	41	27	-39
Norfolk	10+ Years	60	37	-8
Desidence	In Norfolk	55	39	2
Residence	Outside Norfolk	46	19	-59





What are the top three things you LIKE MOST about Downtown Norfolk as the setting for your job?



What are the top three things you LIKE LEAST about Downtown Norfolk as the setting for your job?

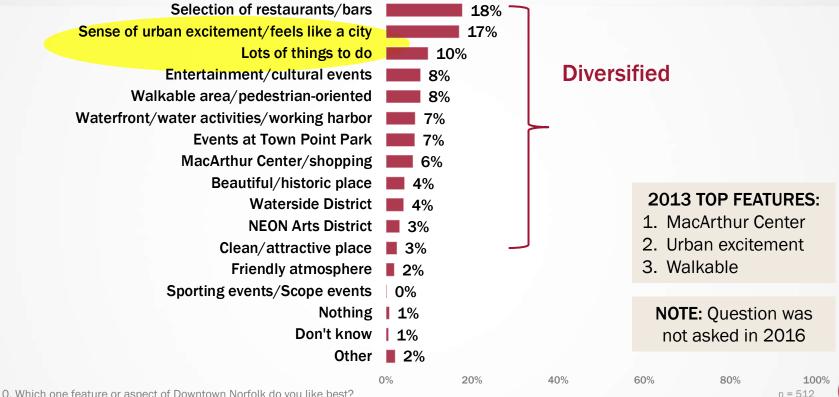




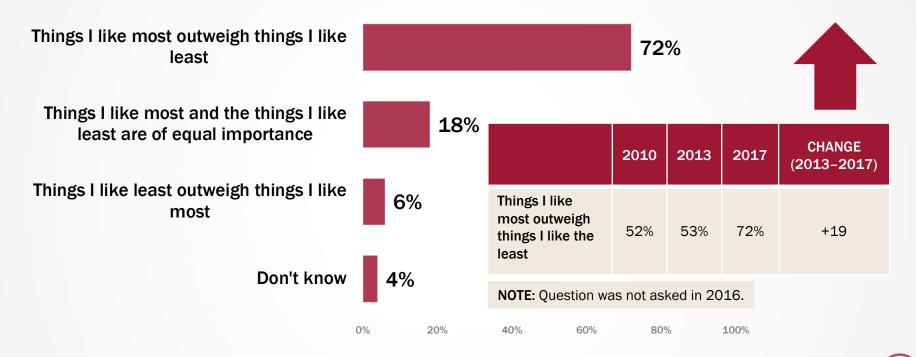
Which **one feature** or aspect of Downtown Norfolk do you like best?



There are many things respondents "like best" about **Downtown Norfolk**



Seven in ten respondents feel that the things they like about Downtown Norfolk outweigh the things they dislike, an increase from past years



44 Q17. All things considered, how do the things you like most about Downtown Norfolk as your work setting compare to the things you like least about Downtown Norfolk as your work setting?

n = 512

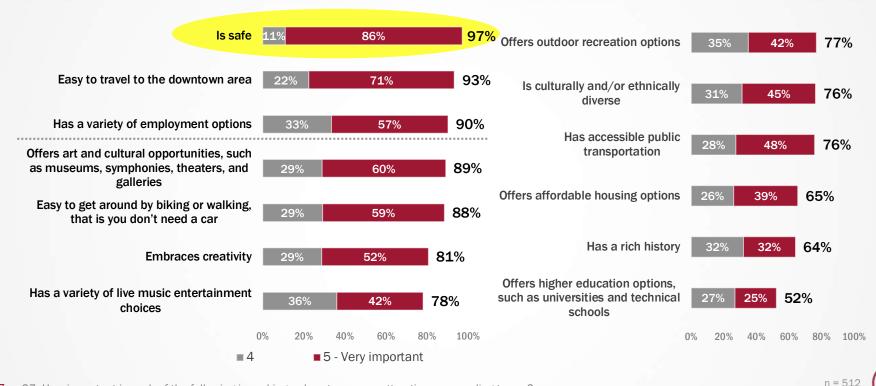




How **important** is each of the following in making a downtown area attractive or appealing to you?



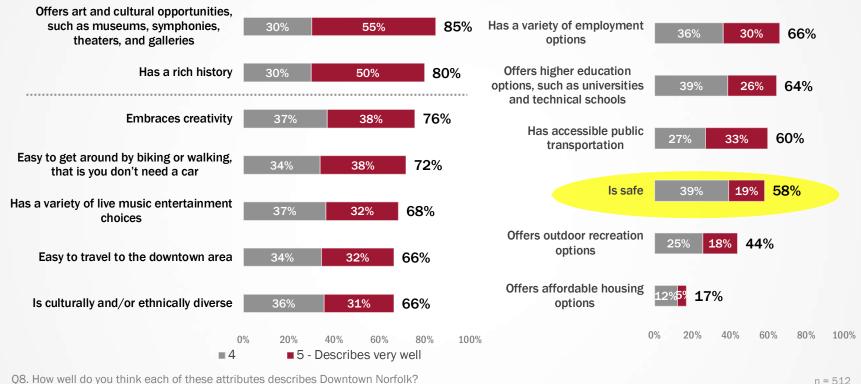
Respondents say safety, ease of travel, and employment options are the most important attributes of a downtown area



How well do you think each of these **attributes** <u>describes</u> **Downtown** <u>Norfolk?</u>



Ratings of safety in Downtown Norfolk are low on the list



Note: "Don't know" responses were removed before analysis.

49

Compared with Norfolk residents, residents from outside Norfolk give lower ratings on safety when describing Downtown Norfolk

ATTRIBUTE	FROM NORFOLK	FROM OUTSIDE NORFOLK
Is safe	64%	52%
Easy to travel to the downtown area	69%	64%
Easy to get around by biking or walking, that is you don't need a car	74%	69%
Offers art and cultural opportunities, such as museums, symphonies, theaters, and galleries	86%	84%
Has a variety of live music entertainment choices	67%	70%
Has accessible public transportation	57%	62%
Has a variety of employment options	63%	69%
Is culturally and/or ethnically diverse	64%	69%
Has a rich history	79%	81%
Offers higher education options, such as universities and technical schools	60%	68%
Offers outdoor recreation options	41%	46%
Embraces creativity	74%	77%
Offers affordable housing options	20%	14%

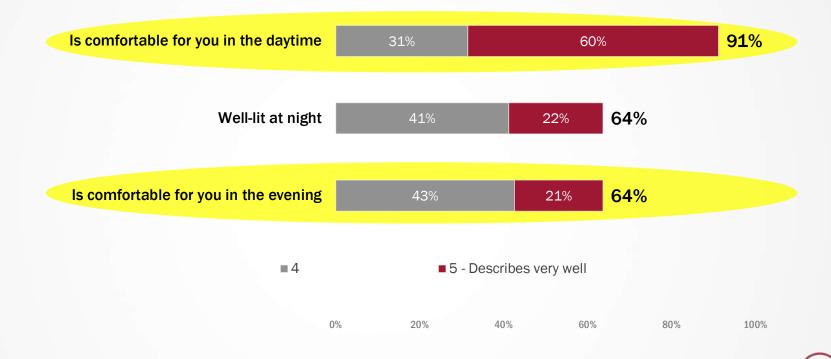


Compared with Boomers and Gen Xers, Millennial respondents also give Downtown Norfolk lower ratings on safety

ATTRIBUTE	MILLENNIAL	GEN X	BOOMER+
Is safe	55%	62%	67%
Easy to travel to the downtown area	69%	61%	75%
Easy to get around by biking or walking, that is you don't need a car	78%	68%	79%
Offers art and cultural opportunities, such as museums, symphonies, theaters, and galleries	84%	88%	96%
Has a variety of live music entertainment choices	69%	72%	79%
Has accessible public transportation	57%	62%	72%
Has a variety of employment options	68%	68%	76%
Is culturally and/or ethnically diverse	67%	68%	79%
Has a rich history	77%	82%	94%
Offers higher education options, such as universities and technical schools	56%	69%	82%
Offers outdoor recreation options	31%	45%	66%
Embraces creativity	87%	78%	84%
Offers affordable housing options	15%	20%	30%



Issues with safety center on comfort in the evening and on the area being well-lit



n = 51

Respondents who live outside of Norfolk are more concerned than Norfolk residents about this safety issue

	FROM NORFOLK	FROM OUTSIDE NORFOLK
Is comfortable for you in the daytime	92%	91%
Well lit at night	73%	54%
Is comfortable for you in the evening	71%	56%



3 KEY SAFETY-RELATED INSIGHTS TO KEEP IN MIND

1. Safety is always one of the lowest-scoring performance ratings.



RESEARCH COMPARISON: Hampton Roads vs. Richmond

How Richmond region residents associate safety with Downtown Richmond Compared With

How Hampton Roads region residents associate safety with Downtown Norfolk

Note: This are residents' perceptions, not workers'.

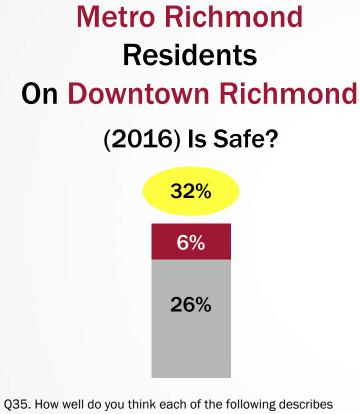


What three words come to mind when you think about Downtown Richmond?

Among residents across Metro Richmond



Telephone survey Unweighted n = 1,154

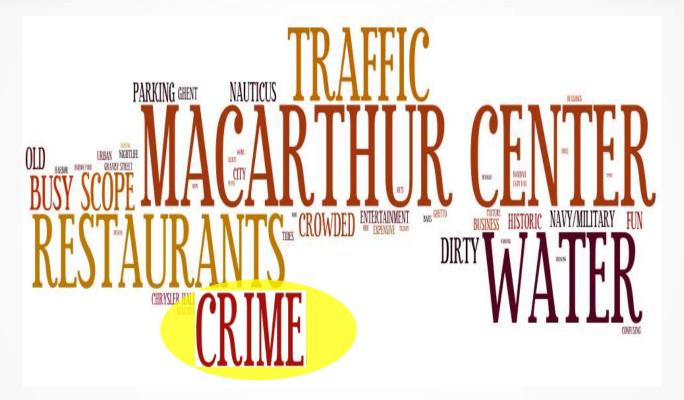


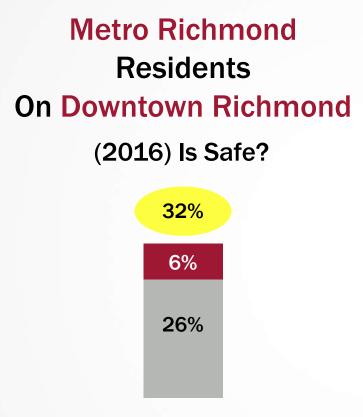
Q35. How well do you think each of the following describes downtown Richmond? Please use a scale of 1 to 5 for your answers, where 1 means "does not describe Downtown Norfolk very well" and 5 means "describes Downtown Norfolk very well."



What three words come to mind when you think of Downtown Norfolk specifically?

Among residents across Hampton Roads





Hampton Roads Residents **On Downtown Norfolk** (2017) Is Safe? 34% 9% 25%

Q35. How well do you think each of the following describes downtown Richmond? Please use a scale of 1 to 5 for your answers, where 1 means "does not describe Downtown Norfolk very well" and 5 means "describes Downtown Norfolk very well." Q20. How well do you think each of the following describes Downtown Norfolk? Please use a scale of 1 to 5 for your answers, where 1 means "does not describe Downtown Norfolk very well" and 5 means "describes Downtown Norfolk very well." 3 KEY SAFETY-RELATED INSIGHTS TO KEEP IN MIND

2. Perceptions of Downtown Norfolk safety are moving in a positive direction.



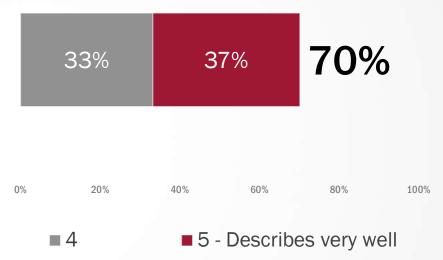
Safety-related impressions are moving in a positive direction

SAFETY	2013	2017
% who see safety as important to a downtown area	95%	97%
% who describe Downtown Norfolk as "safe"	54%	58%
% who feel Downtown is well-lit at night	48%	64%
% who feel comfortable Downtown in the evening	49%	64%



People see an improvement

Is safer, more comfortable now than 2-3 years ago





62 Q9. Please rate how well you think each of the following descriptions describe Downtown Norfolk.

3 KEY SAFETY-RELATED INSIGHTS TO KEEP IN MIND

3. Real improvements in safety are happening.



Norfolk crime plummets in 2017 after deadliest year in a decade, police chief says

By Jonathan Edwards The Virginian-Pilot Jul 10, 2017



Kristen Zeis | The Virginian-Pilot Norfolk police Chief Larry Boone took over in November 2016.





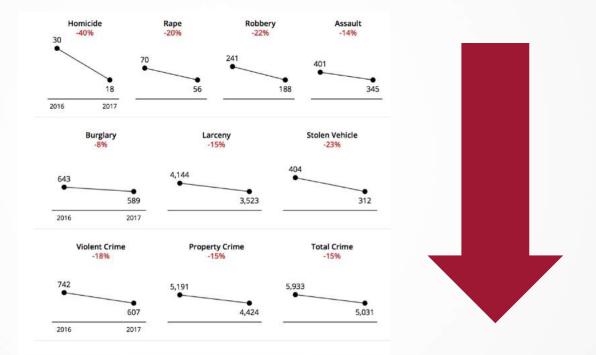
ICYMI: TOP STORIES

Traffic crashes caused delays during Hampton Roads' morning commute

Three inches of snowfall expected, causing power outages and slick roadways



CRIME IN 2017 VS. 2016 IN FIRST SIX MONTHS





Source: The Virginian-Pilot

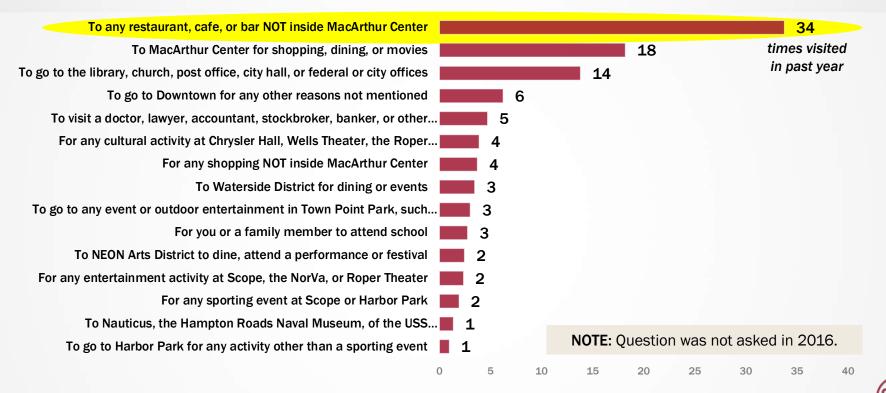




What are the top three things you LIKE MOST about Downtown Norfolk as the setting for your job?

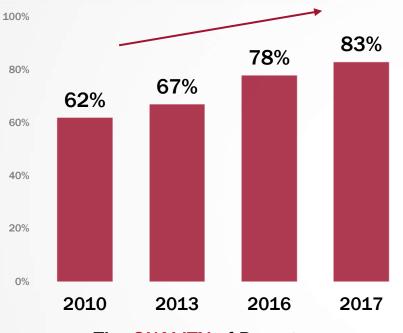


Dining establishments were the most-visited places by Downtown workers in the past year

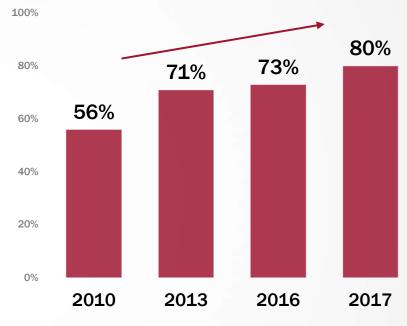


n = 512

The ratings of dining quality and variety have steadily increased over the years

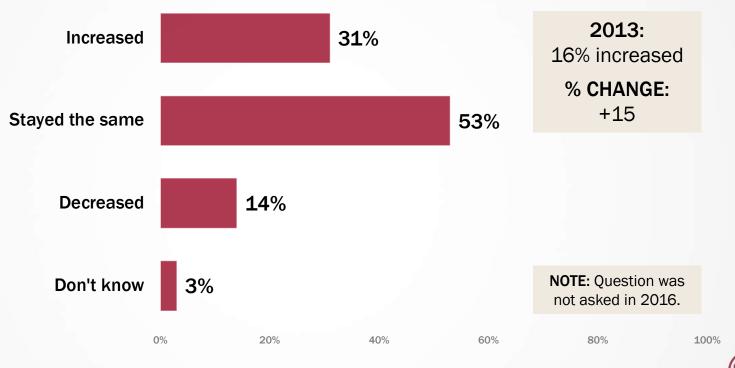


The **QUALITY** of Downtown Norfolk's dining options



The VARIETY of Downtown Norfolk's dining options

One-third of respondents say their frequency of dining Downtown has increased over the past year



Why has your use of Downtown Norfolk's restaurants increased?

"Addition of The Main and other restaurants like Jack Brown's."

"Been going to more concerts at **The NorVa** this year and trying out different restaurants before the shows."

"Easy at lunch to take **F.R.E.D**. and go to Downtown restaurants. Not having to worry about finding a parking spot is very important."

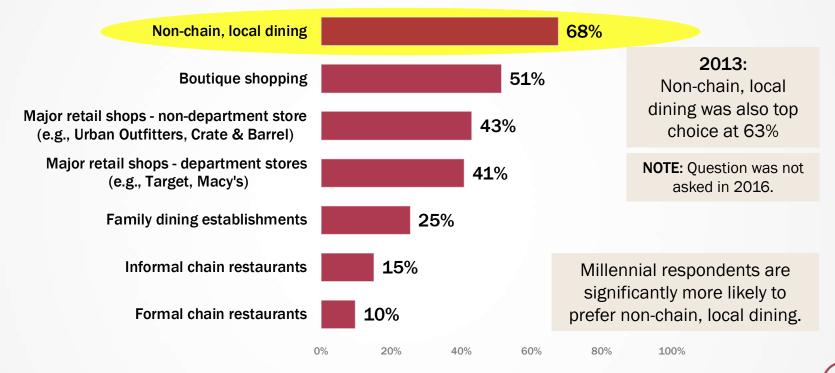
"Getting to know additional restaurants. Available discounts."

"More variety and quality of restaurants. Norfolk has really stepped up its game with the food scene."

"More variety, better options for **groups**, easier to **park** on-street on weekends, more restaurants are now open on **weekends**, more affordable now, **light-rail** makes travel easier."



Respondents (especially Millennials) want more non-chain, local dining options in Downtown Norfolk



72 Q30. Which of the following types of stores or restaurants, if any, do you think should be added to Downtown Norfolk to complement the existing base of stores and restaurants? Select all that apply.

n = 512



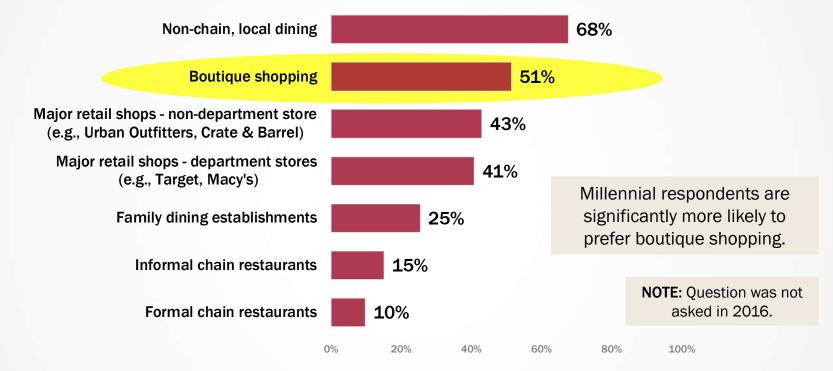


Shopping variety and quality are rated relatively lower than other attributes by all generations

ATTRIBUTE	MILLENNIAL	GEN X	BOOMER+
Overall satisfaction with Downtown Norfolk as the setting for your job	89%	83%	89%
Downtown Norfolk as a place with amenities that you can enjoy during the workday or after work	81%	74%	81%
The VARIETY of Downtown Norfolk's dining options	81%	76%	88%
The QUALITY of Downtown Norfolk's dining options	84%	81%	86%
The VARIETY of Downtown Norfolk's shopping options	54%	50%	57%
The QUALITY of Downtown Norfolk's shopping options	62%	57%	64%
The VARIETY of Downtown Norfolk's entertainment options	70%	62%	67%
The QUALITY of Downtown Norfolk's entertainment options	72%	68%	67%
Downtown Norfolk's social environment for seeing friends and co-workers	82%	74%	73%
Downtown Norfolk as an EFFICIENT place to conduct business	79%	65%	78%
Downtown Norfolk as your preferred work location in the Hampton Roads area	83%	78%	74%
Reputation — it's a "cool" place to work	72%	58%	65%



Respondents (especially Millennials) want more boutique shopping options in Downtown Norfolk



75 Q30. Which of the following types of stores or restaurants, if any, do you think should be added to Downtown Norfolk to complement the existing base of stores and restaurants? Select all that apply.

n = 512

7. **TRANSPORTATION** Is Important, and **Downtown Norfolk** Is Improving Here Too

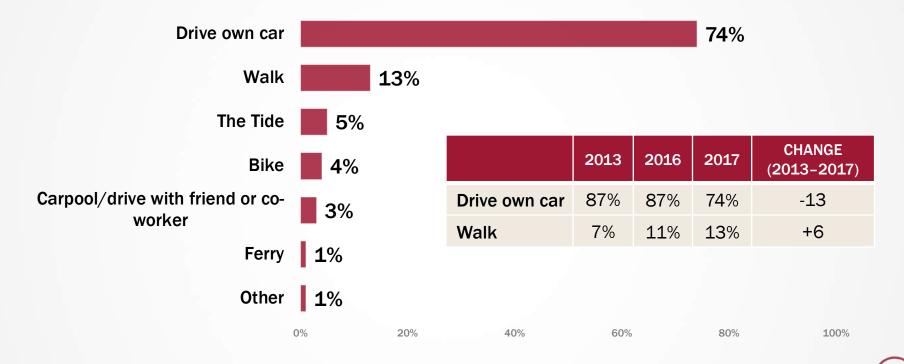


What are the top three things you LIKE LEAST about Downtown Norfolk as the setting for your job?



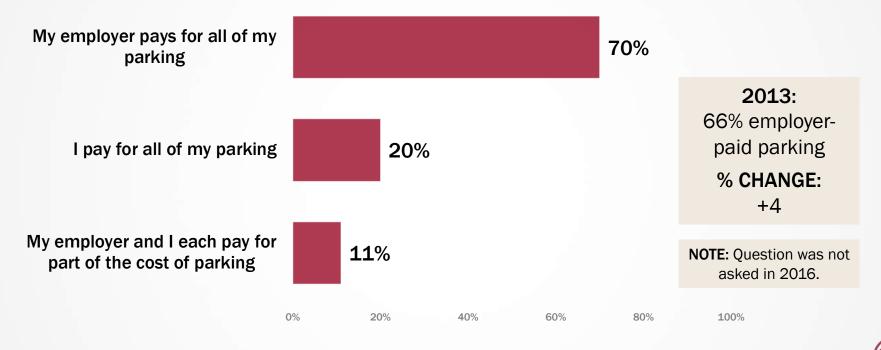


Driving to work is still the most common way to commute, but use of alternative transportation has increased since 2013





Seven in ten respondents have employer-paid parking

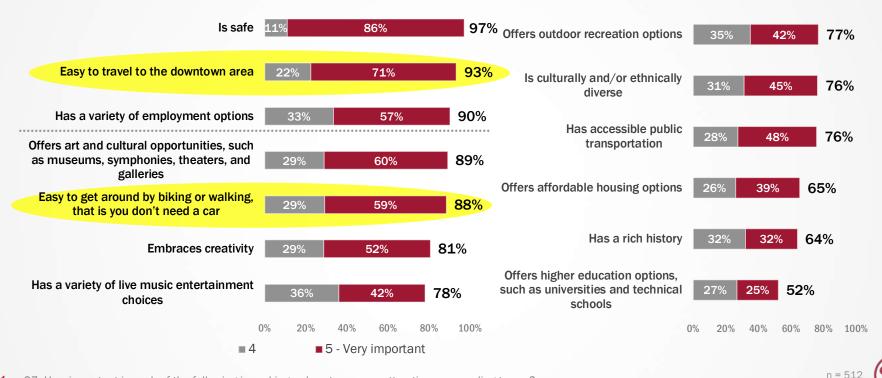




How important is each of the following in making a downtown area attractive or appealing to you?



Transportation considerations are important attributes of a downtown area

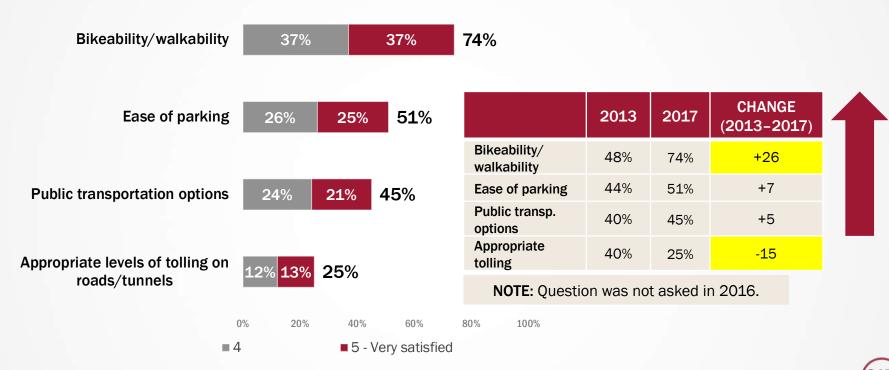


81 Q7. How important is each of the following in making a downtown area attractive or appealing to you?

How satisfied are you with each of the following, concerning your experience working Downtown?



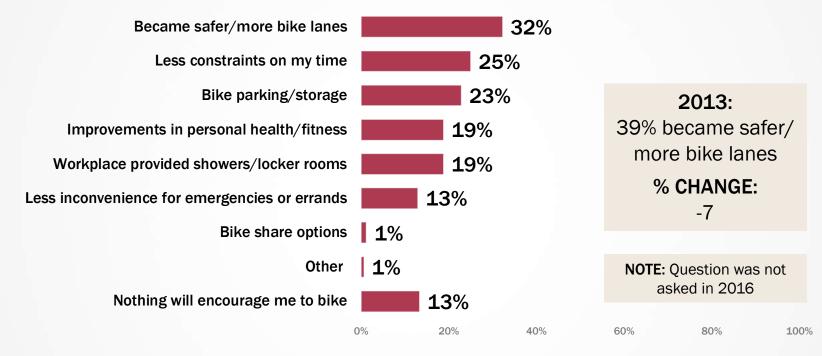
Respondent ratings of bikeability/walkability have increased considerably since 2013, while their perceptions of the appropriate levels of tolling have decreased



n = 5

83 Q33. How satisfied are you with each of the following concerning your experience working Downtown? Note: "Don't know" responses were removed before analysis.

Safety concerns and bike lane shortages are still top issues that prevent respondents from biking to work



Q34. What, if anything, might encourage you to bike more? 84 Note: Respondents were allowed to skip this question.

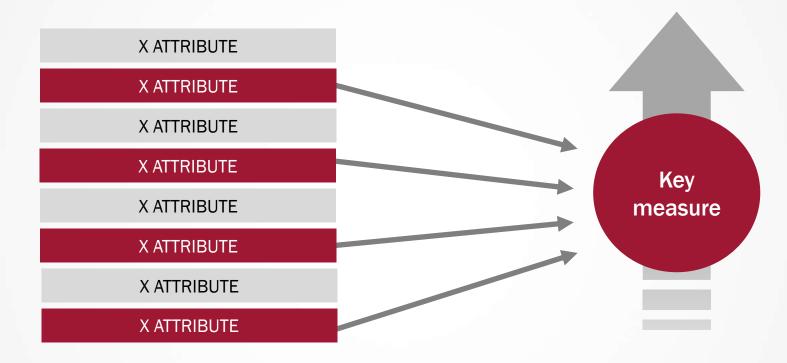
n = 433





DRIVER ANALYSIS

Identifies the specific attributes driving a key measure — as the ratings of those attributes increase, so should the overall key measure rating

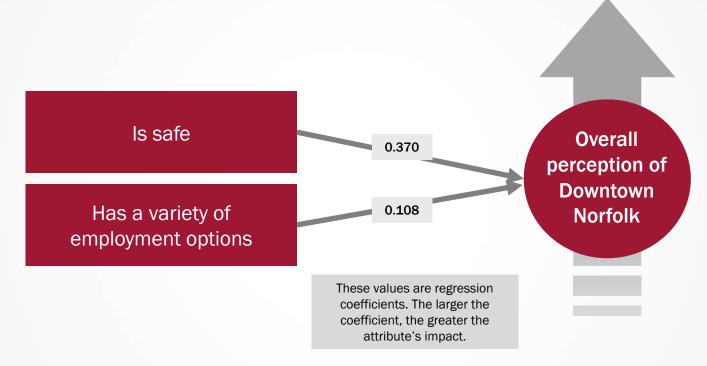


SATISFACTION RATINGS OF DOWNTOWN NORFOLK 2013 vs. 2017

SATISFACTION RATING	2013	2016	2017	CHANGE (2013-2017)
Overall perception	73%	83%	85%	+12
To LIVE	30%	35%	27%	-3
To WORK	78%	89%	89%	+11
To PLAY	48%	62%	72%	+24



DRIVER ANALYSIS: Predicting overall perception based on downtown attributes The feeling of safety and the variety of employment options drive the overall perception of Downtown Norfolk



The impact of shifting safety-related perceptions is growing more important

SAFETY	2013	2017
Safety as an overall satisfaction driver (Larger coefficient = larger impact)	0.199	0.370

NOTE: Direct safety questions were asked starting in 2013.

Is the defining event for Gen Z here?



Next Exit: TOMORROW



SATISFACTION RATINGS OF DOWNTOWN NORFOLK 2013 vs. 2017

SATISFACTION RATING	2013	2016	2017	CHANGE (2013-2017)
Overall perception	73%	83%	85%	+12
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To WORK	78%	89%	89%	+11
To PLAY	48%	62%	72%	+24



Safety, culture, and ease of travel are drivers of satisfaction with Downtown Norfolk as a place to LIVE, WORK, and PLAY

TO LIVE

- Offers affordable housing options
- Is safe
- Has a rich history

TO WORK

- Easy to travel to the downtown area
- Is safe
- Is culturally and/or ethnically diverse
- Has a variety of employment options

TO PLAY

• Is safe

- Easy to travel to the downtown area
- Is culturally and/or ethnically diverse
- Embraces creativity







GAP ANALYSIS:

Among the most-important areas, those performing below expectations are safety and affordable housing options

ATTRIBUTE	IMPORTANCE AVERAGE	PERFORMANCE AVERAGE	GAP SCORE
ls safe	4.82	3.61	75%
Easy to travel to the downtown area	4.63	3.89	84%
Offers art and cultural opportunities, such as museums, symphonies, theaters, and galleries	4.47	4.44	99%
Easy to get around by biking or walking, that is you don't need a car	4.43	4.07	92%
las a variety of employment options	4.42	3.94	89%
Embraces creativity	4.25	4.16	98%
las a variety of live music entertainment choices	4.13	3.99	97%
Has accessible public transportation	4.11	3.83	93%
s culturally and/or ethnically diverse	4.09	3.94	96%
Offers outdoor recreation options	4.09	3.45	84%
Offers affordable housing options	3.86	2.68	69%
Has a rich history	3.83	4.34	113%
Offers higher education options, such as universities and technical schools	3.49	3.88	111%



GAP ANALYSIS: GENERATION

Safety and affordable housing gaps are consistent between generations, and Millennials also find an outdoor recreation option gap

ATTRIBUTE	MILLENNIAL	GEN X	BOOMER+
s safe	74%	76%	77%
asy to travel to the downtown area	82%	82%	89%
fers art and cultural opportunities, such as museums, mphonies, theaters, and galleries	97%	101%	102%
asy to get around by biking or walking, that is you don't need a car	88%	90%	96%
as a variety of employment options	89%	87%	94%
mbraces creativity	98%	99%	100%
as a variety of live music entertainment choices	94%	94%	103%
as accessible public transportation	92%	95%	95%
culturally and/or ethnically diverse	94%	94%	102%
ffers outdoor recreation options	75%	82%	96%
ffers affordable housing options	64%	71%	78%
as a rich history	116%	113%	110%
ffers higher education options, such as universities and technical chools	112%	112%	111%



OPPORTUNITY MAP

This map helps illustrate how expectations and perceived performance on attributes can highlight strengths and opportunities.

GROWTH OPPORTUNITY

Opportunities for improvement MAINTAIN AND REINFORCE

Continue to invest and develop to build strength

SAVE RESOURCES

Should not invest resources here

RESERVE STRENGTH

A reserve that can "protect"

PERFORMANCE



OPPORTUNITY MAP

GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES are important to respondents but not rated highly; this is where you focus for the greatest ROI.

GROWTH OPPORTUNITY

Is safe

SAVE RESOURCES

- Has accessible public transportation
- Offers outdoor recreation options
- Offers affordable housing options

MAINTAIN AND REINFORCE

- Easy to travel to downtown
- Offers art and cultural opportunities
- Easy to get around by biking or walking
- Has a variety of employment options
- Embraces creativity

RESERVE STRENGTH

- Has a variety of live music entertainment choices
- Is culturally and/or ethnically diverse
- Has a rich history
- Offers higher education options



10. **Downtown Workers Want to Stay Involved** With DNC





of respondents are willing to participate in further research (198)

Q42. The opinions you shared in this survey are very helpful. This study has been conducted on behalf of the Downtown Norfolk Council (DNC). In the future, DNC may create a panel of downtown work opinion leaders to guide them on an ongoing basis. This panel would share their opinions through email surveys such as this or in-group discussions or by telephone. Would you be interested in possibly participating on such a panel, if we decide to form one?

n = 512

Overall insight:

Wow! Everyone's investment in Downtown Norfolk is paying off! Let's share our story.





Onward!

