

Decision Resources Ltd.

2010 City of Lakeville Residential Survey

Chapter One:
Frequencies, Analysis and
Graphics

Decision Resources, Ltd.
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Survey Overview

Decision Resources, Ltd., is pleased to present the results of this study to the City of Lakeville. This section provides a brief introduction to the specifications of the survey and a guide to the organization of the written analysis.

While the most statistically sound procedures have been used to collect and analyze the information presented herein, it must always be kept in mind that surveys are not predictions. They are designed to measure public opinion within identifiable limits of accuracy at *specific points in time*. This survey is in no way a prediction of opinions, perceptions, or actions at any future point in time. After all, in public policy analysis, the major task is to impact these revealed opinions in a constructive fashion.

The Principal Investigator for this study was Dr. William D. Morris; the Project Director overseeing all phases of the research and analysis was Mr. Peter Leatherman.

Research Design

This study contains the results of a telephone survey of 400 randomly selected residents in the City of Lakeville. Survey responses were gathered by professional interviewers across the community between May 17th and June 8th, 2010.

The average interview took 29 minutes.

All respondents interviewed in this study were part of a randomly generated sample of the residents in the City of Lakeville. In general, random samples such as this yield results projectable to their respective universe within ± 5.0 percent in 95 out of 100 cases.

Interviews were conducted by **Decision Resources, Ltd.**, trained personnel from telephone banks in St. Paul, Minnesota. Approximately twenty percent of all interviews were independently validated for procedure and content by a Decision Resources, Ltd., supervisor. Completed interviews were edited and coded at the company's headquarters in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Statistical analysis and cross-tabulations were produced by the company's CfMC Mentor Analysis System and SPSS for Windows Version 15.0.

Organization of the Study

The results of this study are presented in the following order:

The *Analysis* consists of a written report of the major findings. The results contained herein were also presented verbally to the client.

The *Questionnaire* reproduces the survey instrument as it was used in the interviewing process. This section also includes a response frequency distribution for each question.

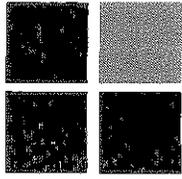
Any further questions the reader may have about this study which are not answered in this report should be directed to either Dr. Morris or Mr. Leatherman.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter One: Residential Demographics	6
Residential Demographics	7
Longevity in the Community	7
Household Composition	8
Age of Respondent	9
Home Owner	9
Gender	10
City Precinct	10
School District	11
Summary and Conclusions	11
Chapter Two: Quality of Life	12
Quality of Life	13
Factors in Selecting in the City	13
Quality of Life	14
Like Most	14
Like Least	16
Plans to Move	17
Summary and Conclusions	18
Chapter Three: City Service Ratings	19
City Service Ratings	20
City Services	20
Street-Related Services	31
Summary and Conclusions	33
Chapter Four: Importance of City Services	35
Importance of City Services	36
Importance of City Services	36
Summary and Conclusions	48
Chapter Five: City Taxes and Funding	50
City Taxes and Funding	51
Tax Comparisons	51
Value of City Services	52
Percent Going to City Government	53
Funding of City Services	54
Tax Increases for City Services	65
Support Cuts in Services	68
Summary and Conclusions	68

Chapter Six: Communications 71
 Communications 72
 Sources of Information 72
 Summary and Conclusions 74

Chapter Seven: Final Thoughts 75
 Final Thoughts 76



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Analysis

Chapter One: Residential Demographics

Residential Demographics

Adult residents of the City of Lakeville were asked a series of questions about their demographic backgrounds. These questions were asked for two reasons: first, to validate this sample against updated 2000 U.S. Census findings; and, second, to track any differences between subgroups and the rest of the population. There were no statistically significant differences between the findings of this survey and the census data. And, throughout the course of this study, subgroup differences will be discussed.

Longevity in the Community

Respondents were asked:

Approximately how many years have you lived in Lakeville?

The typical Lakeville resident has lived in the community for 13.9 years:

LESS THAN TWO YEARS	3%
TWO TO FIVE YEARS	13%
SIX TO TEN YEARS	22%
11 TO 20 YEARS	38%
21 TO 30 YEARS	16%
OVER THIRTY YEARS	9%
REFUSED	0%

Sixteen percent resided there for five years or less, while nine percent lived there for over 30 years.

“Two to five years” is posted at a higher rate by:

- renters
- eighteen to forty -four year olds
- residents in the Southern part of the city

“Six to ten years” is indicated most frequently by:

- households with children
- eighteen to forty -four year olds
- those preferring the city website

“Eleven to twenty years” is posted more often by:

- owners of homes valued over \$200,000
- over forty-four year olds
- residents in the Northwestern part of the city
- those rating the quality of life as excellent

“Twenty-one to thirty years” is cited most frequently by:

- empty nesters
- over forty-four year olds
- those preferring the local newspaper

Household Composition

Residents were told:

Could you please tell me how many people in each of the following age groups live in your household. Let's start oldest to youngest, and be sure to include yourself....

Three age groups were then read:

First, persons 65 or over?

Thirteen percent of the households contain seniors:

NONE	87%
ONE	5%
TWO	8%

Adults under 65?

The typical Lakeville households contain two non-senior adults:

NONE	11%
ONE	6%
TWO	73%
THREE	7%
FOUR OR MORE	3%

Eleven percent of the households contain seniors exclusively.

School-aged children or pre-schoolers?

Forty-seven percent of the households contain school-aged children or pre-schoolers:

NONE	53%
ONE	13%
TWO	23%
THREE OR MORE	11%

The typical household containing children has two in residence.

Age of Respondent

Lakeville residents were queried:

What is your age, please?

The typical Lakeville adult resident is 46.0 years old:

18-24	2%
25-34	14%
35-44	30%
45-54	24%
55-64	20%
65 AND OVER	10%

Sixteen percent post ages under 35 years old, while ten percent are 65 years old or older.

Home Owner

Respondents were asked:

Do you own or rent your present residence? Which of the following categories contains the approximate value of your residential property – under \$200,000, \$200,000-\$300,000, \$300,000-\$400,000, \$400,000-\$500,000, or over \$500,000?

Eight percent report renting their current residences:

RENT	8%
OWN/UNDER \$200,000	18%
OWN/\$200,000-\$300,000	51%
OWN/\$300,000-\$400,000	14%
OWN/\$400,000-\$500,000	2%
OWN/OVER \$500,000	1%
OWN/UNSURE	2%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	3%

The median owner-occupied home is valued at \$250,000.00.

Gender

The gender of each respondent was noted:

MALE	50%
FEMALE	50%

Men and women equally split the sample.

City Precinct

The precinct of residence of each interviewee was also noted:

PRECINCT 1	6%
PRECINCT 2	7%
PRECINCT 3	7%
PRECINCT 4	9%
PRECINCT 5	7%
PRECINCT 6	7%
PRECINCT 7	3%
PRECINCT 8	9%
PRECINCT 9	7%
PRECINCT 10	9%
PRECINCT 11	5%
PRECINCT 12	10%
PRECINCT 13	5%
PRECINCT 14	10%

For analysis purposes, clusters of precincts were determined to create three city regions: Northeast, Northwest, and South. The Northeast area is comprised of Precincts 6, 7, 8, 9, and 13. with the Northwest area containing Precincts 3, 4, 5, 10 and 11. Finally, south precincts are Precincts 1, 2, 12 and 14.

School District

The School District of residence was also noted:

ISD 194	71%
ISD 192	10%
ISD 196	19%

Not surprisingly, the vast majority of households are contained in the Lakeville Area School District.

**Summary and
Conclusions**

The typical adult Lakeville residents lived in the community for 13.9 years. Sixteen percent have lived there for five years or less, while nine percent have lived in the city for over 30 years. The typical adult resident is also 46 years old. Sixteen percent post ages under 35 years old, while 10% are over 65 years old. Men and women evenly split the sample.

Thirteen percent of the households contain seniors; in fact, eleven percent are composed entirely of people over 65 years old. Forty-seven percent of the households contain school-aged children or pre-schoolers. Eight percent rent their current residence. The typical owner-occupied home is valued at \$250,000.00; fifty-one percent of the homes in the community are in the \$200,000 to \$300,000 value range.

Chapter Two: Quality of Life

Quality of Life

Lakeville residents were asked a short series of questions about their quality of life. First, the factors which brought them to Lakeville were discussed. Next, a quality of life rating, coupled with aspects of the community they like most and like least were examined. Finally, plans to move within the next five years were examined.

Factors in Selecting in the City

Residents were queried:

Thinking back to when you moved to Lakeville, what factors were most important to you in selecting the city?

Two factors are cited by more than twenty percent: “schools” and “housing/neighborhoods:”

LOCATION	16%
SCHOOLS	21%
HOUSING/NEIGHBORHOOD	22%
RURAL/SMALL TOWN	19%
NEAR JOB	13%
NEAR FAMILY/FRIENDS	9%
SCATTERED	1%

The next tier is composed of “location” and “rural/small town ambience.”

While “schools” dropped five percent during the past three years, “rural/small town ambience” increased by four percent, and “to be near a job” rose by the same amount.

“Schools” is cited more often by:

- households with children
- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- those preferring the city website

“Rural/Small town” is key to:

- residents for over twenty years

“Location” is important to:

- residents for eleven to twenty years
- households with seniors
- owners of homes valued over \$300,000

“Near job” is posted at a higher rate by:

- renters
- those rating the quality of life as good or lower

Quality of Life

Residents were asked:

*How would you rate the quality of life in Lakeville
-- excellent, good, only fair or poor?*

Ninety-eight percent rate the quality of life highly; in fact, “excellent” ratings are posted by 40%:

EXCELLENT	40%
GOOD	58%
ONLY FAIR	2%
POOR	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	0%

Only two percent are more critical in their judgments. The favorable rating is the highest it has been in 13 years, and ranks among the top four communities in the Metropolitan Area.

Ratings peak among:

- households with children
- owners of homes valued between \$200,000 and \$300,000

Like Most

Respondents were asked:

What do you like MOST about living in Lakeville?

“Location” is the top aspect, posted by 21%:

LOCATION	21%
SCHOOLS	13%
PEOPLE	5%
QUIET AND PEACEFUL	12%
SMALL TOWN AMBIENCE	15%
OPEN SPACE	3%
NEIGHBORHOOD	14%
CITY SERVICES	3%
SAFE	4%
SUBURBAN	7%
PARKS AND RECREATION	3%
SCATTERED	1%

A second tier, posted by 12% to 15%, consists of “small town ambience,” “neighborhood,” “schools,” and “quiet and peaceful.”

“Location” is stated more often by:

- empty nesters
- renters
- over forty-four year olds

“Small town ambience” is selected at a higher rate by:

- women
- residents in the Southern part of the city
- those preferring the local newspaper
- those rating the quality of life as excellent

“Neighborhood” is cited more often by:

- empty nesters
- owners of homes valued between \$200,000 and \$300,000
- men
- those preferring the local newspaper

“Schools” is indicated more often by:

- residents for ten years or less
- households with children
- eighteen to forty -four year olds
- women

Like Least

Residents were asked:

And, what do you like LEAST about it?

A record 40% report there is “nothing” they like least about the community:

NOTHING	40%
TAXES	21%
GROWTH/CROWDING	12%
ROADS/TRAFFIC	11%
CITY GOVERNMENT	4%
LOCATION	2%
NEED MORE SHOPPING	4%
SCATTERED	6%

Twenty-one percent point to “taxes,” while 12% point to “growth/crowding,” and 11%, to “roads/traffic.”

As a concern, “growth/crowding” dropped ten percent in three years. But, much more noteworthy, “nothing” – city boosters – increased by 22% to 40%. This new level is the highest percentage of boosters in the Metropolitan Area.

“Nothing” is stated more frequently by:

- residents for ten years or less
- eighteen to forty-four year olds
- residents in the Northwestern part of the city
- those preferring the city website

“Taxes” is a concern among:

- residents for eleven to twenty years
- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- over forty-four year olds

“Growth/crowding” troubled:

- residents for over twenty years
- empty nesters
- residents in the Southern part of the city
- those preferring the local newspaper

“Roads” is stated more often by:

- those preferring the local newspaper

Plans to Move

Respondents were queried:

Do you have any plans to move from the City of Lakeville in the next five years?

Only eight percent have plans to move from Lakeville during the next five years:

YES	8%
NO	90%
DEPENDS	2%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	1%

Another three percent are uncertain about a near-future move.

“No” is posted at a higher rate by:

- residents for ten years or less
- households with children
- eighteen to forty -four year olds

Residents intending to move in the next five years were asked a follow-up query:

Could you tell me one or two reasons why you are thinking about moving in the next five years?

Thirty-three percent are “retiring” and moving:

DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	3%
RETIRING	33%
WARMER CLIMATE	13%
DOWNSIZING	21%
HIGH TAXES	8%
LARGER HOME	5%
JOB RELOCATION	8%
OUT OF METRO AREA	8%
SCATTERED	3%

Twenty-one percent are “downsizing,” and 13% seek a “warmer climate.”

“Retiring” is cited most frequently by:

- empty nesters
- owners of homes valued between \$200,000 and \$300,000

“Warmer climate” is stated most often by:

- those rating the quality of life as excellent

Summary and Conclusions

“Housing” and “schools” remain the major reasons for settling in the City of Lakeville. The search for “small town or rural ambience” is a secondary motive for locating in the community. When they moved to the city, “location” – nearness to areas that matter to the individual – remains the most often valued characteristic of the community. Aspects of the community which are also prized include “small town ambience,” “strong neighborhoods,” “good schools,” and “quiet and peaceful.”

A very high 98% rate the quality of life in Lakeville favorably. This favorable rating is the highest in the Metropolitan Area. In fact, 40% rate the quality of life as “excellent.”

When considering aspects of the city they like least, a record 40% report there is “nothing.” This level of city boosters is also the highest in the Metropolitan Area. “High taxes,” at 21%, leads the list of concerns, and increased five percent in three years. This level of concern, though, is lower than in other Metropolitan Area suburbs. “Growth/Crowding” and “roads/traffic” are moderate concerns, but diminished during the past three years.

Eight percent have plans to move from the community within the next five years. Retirements are the major reason for departing, followed by the need to downsize and the search for warmer climes.

Chapter Three: City Service Ratings

City Service Ratings

Lakeville residents were asked a series of questions about city services. A series of services were read, and respondents rated each. Only two services post negative ratings in excess of 20%.

City Services

Residents were instructed:

*First, I would like to read you a list of a city services.
For each one, please tell me whether you would rate
the quality of the service as excellent, good, only fair,
or poor?*

A list of 23 services was then read:

Police protection?

Ninety-seven percent rate police protection highly:

EXCELLENT	45%
GOOD	52%
ONLY FAIR	3%
POOR	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	0%

Only three percent are more critical.

Ratings peak among:

- women

Traffic enforcement?

Ninety percent rate traffic enforcement either “excellent” or “good:”

EXCELLENT	23%
GOOD	67%
ONLY FAIR	7%
POOR	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	2%

Eight percent post “only fair” or “poor” ratings.

Favorable ratings are given more often by:

- those rating the quality of life as excellent

Fire Protection?

Ninety-seven percent rate fire protection highly:

EXCELLENT	38%
GOOD	59%
ONLY FAIR	1%
POOR	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	2%

Only one percent is more critical.

Favorable ratings are cited most frequently by:

- those preferring the local newspaper

Storm drainage and flood control?

Eighty-eight percent rate storm drainage and flood control as either “excellent” or “good:”

EXCELLENT	16%
GOOD	72%
ONLY FAIR	5%
POOR	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	7%

Five percent rate them lower.

Favorable ratings are reported most frequently by:

- residents for eleven to twenty years
- households with seniors
- empty nesters
- over forty-four year olds
- those rating the quality of life as excellent

Upkeep and maintenance of parks?

Ninety-five percent rate the upkeep and maintenance of parks favorably:

EXCELLENT	25%
GOOD	70%
ONLY FAIR	4%
POOR	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED .....	.2%

A comparatively small four percent rate it as “only fair.”

Ratings peak among:

- those preferring the local newspaper

Outdoor ice rinks?

Fifty-four percent rate outdoor ice rinks highly, while 21% are more critical:

EXCELLENT	5%
GOOD	49%
ONLY FAIR .....	.19%
POOR	2%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	26%

But, a large 26% are unable to rate this service.

Favorable ratings are posted at a higher rate by: :

- residents for eleven to twenty years
- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- those preferring the local newspaper
- those rating the quality of life as excellent

Upkeep and maintenance of city beaches?

Seventy-two percent rate the upkeep and maintenance of city beaches favorably:

EXCELLENT .....	.8%
GOOD	64%
ONLY FAIR	13%
POOR	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	15%

Fourteen rate it as “only fair” or “poor.” Fifteen percent are unsure.

Ratings are higher among:

- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- those preferring the local newspaper
- those preferring the city website

They are lower among:

- those rating the quality of life as good or lower

Park and recreation programming?

Seventy-nine percent rate park and recreation programming as either “excellent” or “good:”

EXCELLENT	15%
GOOD	64%
ONLY FAIR	7%
POOR	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	15%

Seven percent see it as “only fair.” Fifteen percent are unable to rate the programming.

Ratings peak among:

- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- those preferring the local newspaper
- those rating the quality of life as excellent

Senior Center programming?

Fifty-one percent rate Senior Center programming highly:

EXCELLENT	9%
GOOD	42%
ONLY FAIR	4%
POOR	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	46%

Four percent are more critical, and a large 46% are unable to rate this type of programming.

Favorable ratings are posted at a higher rate by:

- residents for over twenty years
- households with seniors
- empty nesters
- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- over forty-four year olds
- those preferring the local newspaper

Arts Center programming?

Seventy-one percent rate Arts Center programming highly, while only six percent rate it lower:

EXCELLENT	9%
GOOD	62%
ONLY FAIR	6%
POOR	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	24%

Twenty-four percent are uncertain.

Favorable ratings are given most frequently by:

- residents for eleven to twenty years
- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- over forty-four year olds
- those preferring the local newspaper

Park ranger program?

Forty-three percent rate the park ranger program highly, while six percent are more critical:

EXCELLENT	3%
GOOD	40%
ONLY FAIR	6%
POOR	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	52%

Fifty-two percent are unsure about this program.

Ratings peak among:

- residents for over twenty years
- over forty-four year olds

- those preferring the local newspaper
- those rating the quality of life as excellent

Forestry program?

Forty-two percent rate the forestry program as either “excellent” or “good,” while seven percent rate it lower:

EXCELLENT	4%
GOOD	38%
ONLY FAIR	7%
POOR	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	52%

Fifty-two percent are unsure about the program.

Favorable ratings are posted at a higher rate by:

- over forty-four year olds
- men
- those preferring the city newsletter
- those preferring the local newspaper
- those rating the quality of life as excellent

Condition of city trails?

Eighty-two percent rate the condition of city trails as either “excellent” or “good,” while five percent see it as “only fair:”

EXCELLENT	14%
GOOD	68%
ONLY FAIR	5%
POOR	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	14%

Fourteen percent are uncertain.

Favorable ratings are cited most frequently by:

- residents for eleven to twenty years
- owners of homes valued between \$200,000 and \$300,000
- those rating the quality of life as excellent

Snow removal on city trails?

Sixty-four percent rate the snow removal on city trails highly, while nine percent are more critical in their evaluations:

EXCELLENT .....	.7%
GOOD	57%
ONLY FAIR	8%
POOR	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	26%

Twenty-six percent are unsure.

Ratings increase among:

- residents for eleven to twenty years

They decrease among:

- households with children
- eighteen to forty -four year olds

Animal control?

Eighty-two percent rate animal control favorably:

EXCELLENT	6%
GOOD	76%
ONLY FAIR	12%
POOR	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED .....	.6%

Thirteen percent rate animal control unfavorably.

Ratings are higher among:

- residents in the Northeastern part of the city

They are lower among:

- residents for over twenty years
- empty nesters
- renters
- residents in the Southern part of the city
- those preferring the city newsletter

Educational programming provided by the Police and Fire Department?

Seventy-one percent rate the educational programming provided by the Police and Fire Department as either “excellent” or “good:”

EXCELLENT	13%
GOOD	58%
ONLY FAIR	2%
POOR	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	26%

Three percent are more negative, while 26% are uncertain.

Ratings peak among:

- residents for eleven to twenty years
- households with children
- those preferring the local newspaper

Community celebrations, such as Pan-o-prog?

Ninety-six percent rate community celebration favorably:

EXCELLENT	33%
GOOD	63%
ONLY FAIR	2%
POOR	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED . . . . .	.2%

Only two percent are more critical in their evaluations.

Favorable ratings are posted most often by:

- those rating the quality of life as excellent

Street lighting?

Eighty-eight percent rate street lighting favorably, while ten percent are more negative in their judgments:

EXCELLENT	14%
GOOD	74%
ONLY FAIR	10%

POOR	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	2%

Ratings are higher among:

- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- men
- residents in the Northeastern part of the city

They are lower among:

- renters
- women
- residents in the Southern part of the city

Lighting along bicycle and pedestrian trails?

Sixty percent rate the lighting along bicycle and pedestrian trails; but 18% rate it “only fair:”

EXCELLENT	6%
GOOD	54%
ONLY FAIR	18%
POOR	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	23%

Twenty-three percent are uncertain.

Favorable ratings are cited most frequently by:

- over forty-four year olds
- residents in the Northwestern part of the city
- those rating the quality of life as excellent

Unfavorable ratings are mentioned most often by:

- households with children
- owners of homes valued between \$200,000 and \$300,000
- eighteen to forty -four year olds
- residents in the Southern part of the city

Building and Inspection services?

Sixty-five percent rate building and instruction services highly, while 13% rate them less favorably:

EXCELLENT .....	.2%
GOOD	63%
ONLY FAIR	11%
POOR	2%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	22%

Twenty-two percent are uncertain about these services.

Favorable ratings are cited most frequently by:

- residents for eleven to twenty years
- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- over forty-four year olds
- those rating the quality of life as excellent

Unfavorable ratings are mentioned most often by:

- empty nesters
- residents in the Southern part of the city

Property maintenance enforcement?

Seventy-eight percent rate property maintenance enforcement favorably, while 11% rate it more critically:

EXCELLENT	2%
GOOD	76%
ONLY FAIR	10%
POOR	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	12%

Twelve percent are unsure about this enforcement service.

Favorable ratings are cited most frequently by:

- residents for eleven to twenty years
- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- over forty-four year olds
- men
- residents in the Northeastern part of the city
- those preferring the local newspaper

Unfavorable ratings are mentioned most often by:

- renters

- residents in the Southern part of the city
- those preferring the city newsletter

Economic development and planning?

Seventy-six percent rate economic development and planning as either “excellent” or “good:”

EXCELLENT	2%
GOOD	74%
ONLY FAIR	15%
POOR	2%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED .....	.8%

Seventeen percent rate them as “only fair” or “poor.”

Favorable ratings are cited most frequently by:

- residents in the Northwestern part of the city

Unfavorable ratings are mentioned most often by:

- residents in the Southern part of the city

Quality of drinking water?

Eighty percent rate the quality of drinking water highly:

EXCELLENT	12%
GOOD	68%
ONLY FAIR	16%
POOR	2%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	3%

Eighteen percent rate its quality more negatively.

Favorable ratings are cited most frequently by:

- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- residents in the Northeastern part of the city
- those preferring the local newspaper
- those rating the quality of life as excellent

Unfavorable ratings are mentioned most often by:

- residents for ten years or less
- renters
- eighteen to forty -four year olds
- residents in the southern part of the city
- those rating the quality of life as good or lower

With the sole exception of outdoor ice rinks, negative evaluations consistently stay below the 20% threshold.

Street-Related Services

Residents were instructed:

Roadways in the City of Lakeville consist of both city and county streets. City streets are those found in residential neighborhoods and also include major streets such as Ipava Avenue, Jacquard Avenue, Flagstaff Avenue and Holyoke Avenue. County streets are the following major roadways: Cedar Avenue or County Road 23; Kenwood Trail or County Road 50; Dodd Boulevard or County Road 9; 185th Street or County Road 60, 215th Street or County Road 70; and Pilot Knob Road or County Road 31.

Again, please tell me whether you would rate the quality of the following services as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

A short list of four services was then read:

Snowplowing of city streets?

Eighty-nine percent rate snow plowing highly:

EXCELLENT	21%
GOOD	68%
ONLY FAIR	9%
POOR	2%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	1%

But, 11% are more unfavorable in their evaluations.

Unfavorable ratings are mentioned most often by:

- those preferring the city newsletter

Street sweeping?

Eighty-six percent rate street sweeping as either “excellent” or “good.”

EXCELLENT	13%
GOOD	73%
ONLY FAIR	10%
POOR	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	3%

Eleven percent rate it as “only fair” or “poor.”

Unfavorable ratings are mentioned most often by:

- renters

Street maintenance and repair?

Seventy-five percent rate street maintenance and repair as either “excellent” or “good.”

EXCELLENT	6%
GOOD	69%
ONLY FAIR	22%
POOR	3%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	1%

But, 25% rate them as “only fair” or “poor.”

Favorable ratings are cited most frequently by:

- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- those preferring the local newspaper
- those rating the quality of life as excellent

Unfavorable ratings are mentioned most often by:

- those rating the quality of life as good or lower

Mowing of boulevards?

Eighty-three percent rate the mowing of boulevards highly:

EXCELLENT	10%
GOOD	73%
ONLY FAIR	10%
POOR	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	6%

Ten percent see it as “only fair.”

Favorable ratings are cited most frequently by:

- those preferring the local newspaper

Unfavorable ratings are mentioned most often by:

- empty nesters
- renters

The only road-related service exceeding the 20% negative rating is “street maintenance and repair,” at 25%. However, since the negative norm percentage among suburbs is 50%, Lakeville’s rating is among the lowest across the Metropolitan Area.

Summary and Conclusions

When only the opinions of residents providing ratings of a service are considered, the percentage of favorable ratings ranges between 72% and 99%. The table below arrays each service with the percentage of informed respondents who rate it as either “excellent” or “good.”

City Service	Favorable Rating
Fire protection	99%
Community celebrations	98%
Police protection	97%
Upkeep and maintenance of parks	96%
Education programming provided by the Police and Fire Department	96%
Storm drainage and flood control	95%
Condition of city trails	94%

City Service	Favorable Rating
Senior Center programming	93%
Park and recreation programming	92%
Arts Center programming	92%
Traffic enforcement	92%
Street lighting	90%
Mowing of boulevards	89%
Street sweeping	89%
Snowplowing of city streets	89%
Snow removal on city trails	88%
Park ranger program	88%
Property maintenance enforcement	88%
Forestry program	86%
Animal control	86%
Upkeep and maintenance of city beaches	84%
Building and inspection services	83%
Economic development and planning	82%
Quality of drinking water	82%
Lighting along bicycle and pedestrian trails	77%
Street maintenance and repair	75%
Outdoor ice rinks	72%

The mean favorable percentage for all city services is 88.6% – about four percent higher than the Metropolitan Area suburban norm.

Chapter Four: Importance of City Services

Importance of City Services

Lakeville residents were asked to evaluate the importance of each of 27 city services. In each case, respondents were queried if they considered each to be essential, very important, somewhat important, or not very important at all. For comparative purposes, the percentage of respondents who view a service as “essential” is key.

Importance of City Services

Lakeville residents were asked:

Now, I would like to re-read you that list of city services. For each one, please tell me if you consider it be an essential city service, a very important city service, a somewhat important city service, or not a very important service at all.

The list of 27 services was then re-read:

Police protection?

Eighty-one percent view police protection as “essential:”

ESSENTIAL	81%
VERY IMPORTANT	19%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	0%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	0%

There are no statistically significant sub-group differences.

Traffic enforcement?

Sixty-one percent rate traffic enforcement to be “essential:”

ESSENTIAL	61%
VERY IMPORTANT	37%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	2%

NOT VERY IMPORTANT	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	0%

“Important” is posted at a higher rate by:

- residents for ten years or less

Fire Protection?

Seventy-eight percent rate fire protection as “essential:”

ESSENTIAL	78%
VERY IMPORTANT	21%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	1%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	0%

There are no statistically significant sub-group differences.

Storm drainage and flood control?

Thirty-eight percent rate storm drainage and flood control as “essential:”

ESSENTIAL	38%
VERY IMPORTANT	51%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	9%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	3%

“Important” is indicated at a higher rate by:

- those preferring the city newsletter

Upkeep and maintenance of parks?

Twenty-one percent rate the upkeep and maintenance of parks as “essential:”

ESSENTIAL	21%
VERY IMPORTANT	67%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	11%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	0%

“Important” is stated most frequently by:

- residents for eleven to twenty years
- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- residents in the Southern part of the city
- those preferring the local newspaper
- those preferring the city website

“Not important” is posted most often by:

- owners of homes valued under \$200,000
- residents in the Northeastern part of the city

Outdoor ice rinks?

Only four percent rate outdoor ice rinks as “essential:”

ESSENTIAL	4%
VERY IMPORTANT	33%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	52%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT .....	.9%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	3%

“Important” is stated most frequently by:

- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- those preferring the local newspaper

“Not important” is posted most often by:

- owners of homes valued between \$200,000 and \$300,000
- residents in the Northeastern part of the city
- those preferring the city newsletter

Upkeep and maintenance of city beaches?

Only five percent see the upkeep and maintenance of city beaches as “essential:”

ESSENTIAL	5%
VERY IMPORTANT	59%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	34%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	1%

“Important” is stated most frequently by:

- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- those preferring the local newspaper

“Not important” is posted most often by:

- households with seniors
- owners of homes valued under \$200,000
- those preferring the city newsletter

Park and recreation programming?

Nine percent view park and recreation programming to be “essential:”

ESSENTIAL	9%
VERY IMPORTANT	54%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	36%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	2%

“Important” is stated most frequently by:

- households with children
- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- those preferring the local newspaper
- those preferring the city website

“Not important” is posted most often by:

- empty nesters
- renters
- those preferring the city newsletter

Senior Center programming?

Nine percent also regard Senior Center programming as “essential:”

ESSENTIAL .....	.9%
VERY IMPORTANT	49%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	37%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED .....	.5%

“Important” is stated most frequently by:

- residents for over twenty years
- owners of homes valued under \$200,000
- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- those preferring the local newspaper

“Not important” is posted most often by:

- renters
- those preferring the city newsletter

Arts Center programming?

Only three percent see Arts Center programming as “essential:”

ESSENTIAL	3%
VERY IMPORTANT	43%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	47%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	2%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	5%

“Important” is stated most frequently by:

- over forty-four year olds
- those preferring the city website
- those rating the quality of life as excellent

“Not important” is posted most often by:

- renters
- eighteen to forty -four year olds
- those preferring the city newsletter
- those rating the quality of life as good or lower

Park ranger program?

A very small two percent regard the park ranger program as “essential:”

ESSENTIAL	2%
VERY IMPORTANT	31%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	49%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT .....	.5%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	14%

“Not important” is posted most often by:

- those preferring the city newsletter

Forestry program?

Again, a small three percent view the forestry program as “essential:”

ESSENTIAL	3%
VERY IMPORTANT	33%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	47%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	5%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	13%

“Important” is stated most frequently by:

- residents in the Northwestern part of the city
- those preferring the local newspaper
- those preferring the city website

“Not important” is posted most often by:

- residents in the Northeastern part of the city
- those preferring the city newsletter

Condition of city trails?

Only five percent view the condition of city trails to be “essential:”

ESSENTIAL	5%
VERY IMPORTANT	61%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	31%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	2%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	3%

“Important” is stated most frequently by:

- those preferring the city website

“Not important” is posted most often by:

- households with seniors
- those preferring the city newsletter

Snow removal on city trails?

Seven percent rate snow removal on city trails as “essential:”

ESSENTIAL	7%
VERY IMPORTANT	39%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	44%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	7%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	3%

“Important” is stated most frequently by:

- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- residents in the Southern part of the city
- those preferring the local newspaper

“Not important” is posted most often by:

- residents for ten years or less
- those preferring the city newsletter

Animal control?

Ten percent see animal control as an “essential” service:

ESSENTIAL	10%
VERY IMPORTANT	61%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	26%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	2%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	1%

“Important” is stated most frequently by:

- households with children

“Not important” is posted most often by:

- empty nesters
- renters

Educational programming provided by the Police and Fire Department?

Six percent view educational programming provided by the Police and Fire Department as “essential:”

ESSENTIAL	6%
VERY IMPORTANT	60%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	30%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	3%

“Important” is stated most frequently by:

- residents for eleven to twenty years
- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- residents in the Southern part of the city

“Not important” is posted most often by:

- residents for over twenty years
- residents in the Northwestern part of the city

Community celebrations, such as Pan-o-prog?

Thirteen percent see community celebrations as “essential:”

ESSENTIAL	13%
VERY IMPORTANT	59%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	24%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	4%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	1%

“Important” is stated most frequently by:

- residents for over twenty years
- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- residents in the Southern part of the city
- those preferring the local newspaper
- those rating the quality of life as excellent

“Not important” is posted most often by:

- residents for ten years or less
- residents in the Northeastern part of the city
- those preferring the city newsletter

Street lighting?

Thirty-three percent think street lighting is an “essential” service:

ESSENTIAL	33%
VERY IMPORTANT	60%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	6%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	1%

“Important” is stated most frequently by:

- residents for eleven to twenty years
- owners of homes valued over \$300,000

Lighting along bicycle and pedestrian trails?

Eleven percent consider the lighting along bicycle and pedestrian trails to be “essential:”

ESSENTIAL	11%
VERY IMPORTANT	57%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	30%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	2%

There are no statistically significant sub-group differences.

Building and Inspection services?

Nine percent think building and inspection services are “essential” services:

ESSENTIAL	9%
VERY IMPORTANT	67%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	22%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	2%

“Important” is stated most frequently by:

- residents in the Northwestern part of the city

“Not important” is posted most often by:

- renters
- residents in the Northeastern part of the city

Property maintenance enforcement?

Eleven percent rate property maintenance enforcement as an “essential” service:

ESSENTIAL	11%
VERY IMPORTANT	68%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	20%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	1%

“Important” is stated most frequently by:

- owners of homes valued under \$200,000
- residents in the Northwestern part of the city

“Not important” is posted most often by:

- renters

Economic development and planning?

Thirty percent think economic development and planning are “essential” functions:

ESSENTIAL	30%
VERY IMPORTANT	58%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	11%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	0%

“Important” is stated most frequently by:

- residents in the Northwestern part of the city

“Not important” is posted most often by:

- residents in the Northeastern part of the city
- those preferring the city newsletter

Quality of drinking water?

Forty-five percent see the quality of drinking water as “essential:”

ESSENTIAL	45%
VERY IMPORTANT	52%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	3%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	0%

“Important” is stated most frequently by:

- residents for ten years or less

Snowplowing of city streets?

Fifty-four percent think the snowplowing of city streets is an “essential” service:

ESSENTIAL	54%
VERY IMPORTANT	44%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	2%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	0%

“Important” is stated most frequently by:

- owners of homes valued between \$200,000 and \$300,000
- over forty-four year olds

Street sweeping?

Twenty-one percent regard street sweeping to be an “essential” service:

ESSENTIAL	21%
VERY IMPORTANT	54%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	25%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	0%

“Important” is stated most frequently by:

- households with seniors
- owners of homes valued under \$200,000
- residents in the Northwestern part of the city

“Not important” is posted most often by:

- residents in the Northeastern part of the city

Street maintenance and repair?

Forty-five percent think street repair and maintenance are “essential” services:

ESSENTIAL	45%
VERY IMPORTANT	49%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	6%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	0%

“Important” is stated most frequently by:

- men
- those rating the quality of life as excellent

Mowing of boulevards?

Seventeen percent rate the mowing of boulevards as an “essential” service:

ESSENTIAL	17%
VERY IMPORTANT	59%
SOMEWHAT IMPORTANT	23%
NOT VERY IMPORTANT	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	1%

“Important” is stated most frequently by:

- owners of homes valued under \$200,000
- residents in the Northwestern part of the city
- those preferring the city newsletter

“Not important” is posted most often by:

- residents for ten years or less
- renters
- residents in the Southern part of the city
- those preferring the city website

The range of “essential” ratings spans between 2% and 81%.

Summary and Conclusions

The table below shows each service with the percentage of respondents who consider it to be “essential” in the first column. Then, the second column provides an “importance score,” which is the rank of the service’s combined “essential” and “very important” ratings .

City Service	Essential Rating	Importance Score
Police protection	81%	1
Fire protection	78%	2
Traffic enforcement	61%	3
Snowplowing of city streets	54%	4
Quality of drinking water	45%	5
Street maintenance and repair	45%	6
Storm drainage and flood control	38%	7
Street lighting	33%	8
Economic development and planning	30%	9
Upkeep and maintenance of parks	21%	10
Property maintenance enforcement	11%	11
Building and inspection services	9%	12
Mowing of boulevards	17%	13
Street sweeping	21%	14
Community celebrations	13%	15
Animal control	10%	16
Lighting along bicycle and pedestrian trails	11%	17
Education programming provided by the Police and Fire Department	6%	18
Condition of city trails	5%	19
Upkeep and maintenance of city beaches	5%	20
Park and recreation programming	9%	21
Senior Center programming	9%	22

City Service	Essential Rating	Importance Score
Arts Center programming	3%	23
Snow removal on city trails	7%	24
Forestry program	3%	25
Outdoor ice rinks	4%	26
Park ranger program	2%	27

The average essential rating given to the 27 city services is 23.4%. The top eight scoring services are awarded ratings almost double the norm.

Chapter Five: City Taxes and Funding

City Taxes and Funding

Lakeville residents were asked a series of questions about city taxes and funding city services. Initially, respondents were queried about their property tax burden, focused on the city share. Next, residents were questioned about funding decisions on each of the 27 services. Respondents who favored increased funding of any service were asked about increasing taxes to fund the change. Residents who wanted to keep any service at current funding levels were asked how they felt about a property tax increase to maintain the service. Finally, respondents were asked if they support service cuts if current city property taxes could be reduced.

Tax Comparisons

Residents were initially asked:

In comparison with nearby cities, do you think that the property taxes in Lakeville are very high, somewhat high, about average, somewhat low, or very low?

Fifty-six percent see their city property taxes as either “very high” or “somewhat high:”

VERY HIGH	10%
SOMEWHAT HIGH	46%
ABOUT AVERAGE	36%
SOMEWHAT LOW	1%
VERY LOW	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	8%

Thirty-six percent rate property taxes as “about average.”

“About average” is stated most frequently by:

- men

Next, Lakeville residents were queried:

Do you consider the city portion of your property taxes to be very high, somewhat high, about average, somewhat low, or very low in comparison with neighboring cities?

Fifty-three percent think the city portion of their property tax is “high:”

VERY HIGH	9%
SOMEWHAT HIGH	44%
ABOUT AVERAGE	39%
SOMEWHAT LOW	2%
VERY LOW	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	7%

Thirty-nine percent view it as “about average.”

“High” is cited more often by:

- over forty-four year olds

“About average” is indicated more often by:

- owners of homes valued between \$200,000 and \$300,000

Value of City Services

Respondents were queried:

When you consider the property taxes you pay and the quality of city services you receive, would you rate the general value of city services as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

Eighty-two percent view the value as either “excellent” or “good:”

EXCELLENT	11%
GOOD	71%
ONLY FAIR	13%
POOR	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	5%

Fourteen percent think the value is either “only fair” or “poor.”

Unfavorable ratings are given most frequently by:

- residents for over twenty years
- households with seniors
- those preferring the city newsletter

The positive value rating is at the highest point since 2001.

Percent Going to City Government

Lakeville residents were asked:

For each dollar of property taxes you pay, about what percentage do you think goes to city government -- ten percent or less, 11 to 20 percent, 21 to 30 percent, 31 to 40 percent, 41 to 50 percent, or over 50 percent?

The typical respondent estimates the percentage as 18.2%:

10 PERCENT OR LESS	20%
11 TO 20%	32%
21 TO 30%	27%
31 TO 40%	8%
41 TO 50%	1%
OVER 50 PERCENT	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	12%

“10% or less” is cited more often by:

- residents for ten years or less
- owners of homes valued under \$200,000
- eighteen to forty -four year olds
- those preferring the city website
- those rating the quality of life as good or lower

“11% to 20% “ is stated more frequently by:

- residents in the Northwestern part of the city
- those preferring the local newspaper

“21% to 30% “ is reported more often by:

- owners of homes valued between \$200,000 and \$300,000
- over forty-four year olds
- men
- those preferring the city newsletter

Funding of City Services

Respondents were instructed:

Now, for the final time I am going to read the list of city services. Given the current economic and financial environment, the city may have to make some additional tough choices in the next couple of years with respect to scaling back or eliminating certain city services. For each of the following please tell me if you would support an increase in funding for the service, keep the funding for the service at its current level, make cuts in the funding for the service, or eliminate funding for the service.

The list of 27 city services was then re-read:

Police protection?

Seventeen percent would “increase funding,” while only two percent would “cut or eliminate” police protection services:

INCREASE FUNDING	17%
KEEP THE FUNDING	81%
MAKE CUTS	1%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	0%

“Increase funding” is stated more often by:

- residents for ten years or less
- owners of homes valued under \$200,000
- eighteen to forty -four year olds

“Keep the funding” is cited more frequently by:

- residents for over twenty years
- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- over forty-four year olds
- men
- those preferring the city newsletter

Traffic enforcement?

Only five percent would “increase funding,” while three percent would “cut or eliminate” traffic enforcement services:

INCREASE FUNDING	5%
KEEP THE FUNDING	92%
MAKE CUTS	3%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	0%

There are no statistically significant sub-group differences.

Fire Protection?

Eight percent would “increase funding,” while only one percent would “cut or eliminate” fire protection services:

INCREASE FUNDING	8%
KEEP THE FUNDING	91%
MAKE CUTS	1%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	0%

“Keep the funding” is reported most often by:

- residents for over twenty years
- over forty-four year olds
- those preferring the city newsletter

Storm drainage and flood control?

Only two percent would “increase funding,” while 13% would “cut or eliminate” storm drainage and flood control services:

INCREASE FUNDING	2%
KEEP THE FUNDING	84%
MAKE CUTS	12%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	1%

“Keep the funding” is reported most often by:

- empty nesters
- over forty-four year olds
- those preferring the city newsletter

“Make cuts” is posted more frequently by:

- households with children

Upkeep and maintenance of parks?

Only two percent would “increase funding,” while 13% would “cut or eliminate” the upkeep and maintenance of parks:

INCREASE FUNDING	2%
KEEP THE FUNDING	86%
MAKE CUTS	13%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	0%

“Make cuts” is posted more frequently by:

- residents for over twenty years
- empty nesters
- those preferring the city website

Outdoor ice rinks?

Only one percent would “increase funding,” while a whopping 43% would “cut or eliminate” outdoor ice rinks:

INCREASE FUNDING	1%
KEEP THE FUNDING	55%
MAKE CUTS	38%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	5%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	2%

“Keep the funding” is reported most often by:

- renters
- residents in the Northwestern part of the city

Upkeep and maintenance of city beaches?

Only two percent would “increase funding,” while 19% would “cut or eliminate” the upkeep and maintenance of city beaches:

INCREASE FUNDING	2%
KEEP THE FUNDING	79%
MAKE CUTS	18%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	1%

“Keep the funding” is reported most often by:

- residents for ten years or less
- renters
- those preferring the city newsletter

“Make cuts” is posted more frequently by:

- residents for over twenty years

Park and recreation programming?

Only three percent would “increase funding,” while 16% would “cut or eliminate” park and recreation programming:

INCREASE FUNDING	3%
KEEP THE FUNDING	80%
MAKE CUTS	16%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	1%

“Keep the funding” is reported most often by:

- residents for ten years or less
- renters

Senior Center programming?

Again, only three percent would “increase funding,” while ten percent would “cut or eliminate” Senior Center programming:

INCREASE FUNDING	3%
KEEP THE FUNDING	83%
MAKE CUTS	10%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	4%

“Keep the funding” is reported most often by:

- over forty-four year olds

“Make cuts” is posted more frequently by:

- eighteen to forty -four year olds

Arts Center programming?

Only two percent would “increase funding,” while 27% would “cut or eliminate” Arts Center programming:

INCREASE FUNDING	2%
KEEP THE FUNDING	68%
MAKE CUTS	24%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	3%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	3%

“Keep the funding” is reported most often by:

- residents in the Northwestern part of the city

“Make cuts” is posted more frequently by:

- households with children

Park ranger program?

Only one percent would “increase funding,” while 35% would “cut or eliminate” the park ranger program:

INCREASE FUNDING	1%
KEEP THE FUNDING	56%
MAKE CUTS	29%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	6%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	8%

“Keep the funding” is reported most often by:

- residents in the Northwestern part of the city
- those preferring the city newsletter

Forestry program?

No one would “increase funding,” while 35% would “cut or eliminate” the forestry program:

INCREASE FUNDING	0%
KEEP THE FUNDING	57%
MAKE CUTS	29%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	6%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	9%

“Keep the funding” is reported most often by:

- residents for ten years or less
- residents in the Northwestern part of the city
- those preferring the city newsletter

Condition of city trails?

Only one percent would “increase funding,” while 14% would “cut or eliminate” services dealing with the condition of city trails:

INCREASE FUNDING	1%
KEEP THE FUNDING	83%
MAKE CUTS	13%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	2%

“Keep the funding” is reported most often by:

- those preferring the local newspaper

“Make cuts” is posted more frequently by:

- residents in the Northeastern part of the city

Snow removal on city trails?

Only one percent would “increase funding,” while 28% would “cut or eliminate” snow removal services on city trails:

INCREASE FUNDING	1%
KEEP THE FUNDING	69%
MAKE CUTS	26%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	2%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	2%

“Make cuts” is posted more frequently by:

- residents in the Northeastern part of the city

Animal control?

Only one percent would “increase funding,” while 14% would “cut or eliminate” animal control services:

INCREASE FUNDING	1%
KEEP THE FUNDING	85%
MAKE CUTS	14%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	0%

“Keep the funding” is reported most often by:

- residents in the Northwestern part of the city
- those preferring the local newspaper

“Make cuts” is posted more frequently by:

- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- residents in the Southern part of the city
- those preferring the city website

Educational programming provided by the Police and Fire Department?

Only two percent would “increase funding,” while 13% would “cut or eliminate” educational programming provided by the Police and Fire Department:

INCREASE FUNDING	2%
KEEP THE FUNDING	84%
MAKE CUTS	13%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	2%

There are no statistically significant sub-group differences.

Community celebrations, such as Pan-o-prog?

Only one percent would “increase funding,” while 17% would “cut or eliminate” community celebrations:

INCREASE FUNDING	1%
KEEP THE FUNDING	82%
MAKE CUTS	16%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	0%

“Keep the funding” is reported most often by:

- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- women

“Make cuts” is posted more frequently by:

- men

Street lighting?

Only two percent would “increase funding,” while only five percent would “cut or eliminate” street lighting:

INCREASE FUNDING	2%
KEEP THE FUNDING	93%
MAKE CUTS	5%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	1%

“Keep the funding” is reported most often by:

- those rating the quality of life as good or lower

Lighting along bicycle and pedestrian trails?

Four percent would “increase funding,” while ten percent would “cut or eliminate” lighting along bicycle and pedestrian trails:

INCREASE FUNDING	4%
KEEP THE FUNDING	83%
MAKE CUTS	10%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	4%

“Keep the funding” is reported most often by:

- residents in the Southern part of the city
- those preferring the city newsletter

“Make cuts” is posted more frequently by:

- residents in the Northeastern part of the city

Building and Inspection services?

Only one percent would “increase funding,” while 12% would “cut or eliminate” building and inspection services:

INCREASE FUNDING	1%
KEEP THE FUNDING	84%
MAKE CUTS	12%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	3%

“Make cuts” is posted more frequently by:

- residents for eleven to twenty years
- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- residents in the Northeastern part of the city

Property maintenance enforcement?

No one would “increase funding,” while 12% would “cut or eliminate” property maintenance enforcement:

INCREASE FUNDING	0%
KEEP THE FUNDING	86%
MAKE CUTS	12%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	3%

“Keep the funding” is reported most often by:

- residents in the Northwestern part of the city

“Make cuts” is posted more frequently by:

- owners of homes valued over \$300,000

- residents in the Northeastern part of the city

Economic development and planning?

Three percent would “increase funding,” while 11% would “cut or eliminate” economic development and planning services:

INCREASE FUNDING	3%
KEEP THE FUNDING	86%
MAKE CUTS	11%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	0%

“Keep the funding” is reported most often by:

- households with seniors
- empty nesters
- renters
- those preferring the local newspaper

“Make cuts” is posted more frequently by:

- households with children
- residents in the Northeastern part of the city

Quality of drinking water?

Seven percent would “increase funding,” while only three percent would “cut or eliminate” actions impacting the quality of drinking water:

INCREASE FUNDING	7%
KEEP THE FUNDING	89%
MAKE CUTS	2%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	1%

“Keep the funding” is reported most often by:

- residents in the Northwestern part of the city

Snowplowing of city streets?

Only five percent would “increase funding,” while only three percent would “cut or eliminate” the snowplowing of city streets:

INCREASE FUNDING	5%
KEEP THE FUNDING	91%
MAKE CUTS	3%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	1%

There are no statistically significant sub-group differences.

Street sweeping?

Only two percent would “increase funding,” while 19% would “cut or eliminate” street sweeping services:

INCREASE FUNDING	2%
KEEP THE FUNDING	78%
MAKE CUTS	19%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	1%

“Keep the funding” is reported most often by:

- renters

“Make cuts” is posted more frequently by:

- residents in the Northeastern part of the city

Street maintenance and repair?

Six percent would “increase funding,” while only three percent would “cut or eliminate” street maintenance and repair services:

INCREASE FUNDING	6%
KEEP THE FUNDING	92%
MAKE CUTS	3%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	0%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	0%

“Keep the funding” is reported most often by:

- those preferring the city newsletter

Mowing of boulevards?

Only two percent would “increase funding,” while 18% would “cut or eliminate” the mowing of boulevards:

INCREASE FUNDING	2%
KEEP THE FUNDING	80%
MAKE CUTS	17%
ELIMINATE FUNDING	1%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	1%

“Keep the funding” is reported most often by:

- residents in the Northwestern part of the city
- those preferring the local newspaper

“Make cuts” is posted more frequently by:

- residents in the northeastern part of the city

In every case, no less than a 50% majority supports keeping funding at the same level.

Tax Increases for City Services

Respondents were asked:

You stated you wanted to see (a/some) city service(s) receive additional funding....

Would you favor or oppose an increase in city property taxes to provide that additional funding?

By a 53%-44% margin, residents would favor an increase in city property taxes to provide that additional funding:

FAVOR	53%
OPPOSE	44%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	3%

“Favor” is stated more often by:

- those preferring the city website

“Oppose” is indicated at a higher rate by:

- residents for over twenty years
- households with seniors
- renters
- those preferring the city newsletter

Residents who supported a property tax increase were asked a follow-up query:

By what percentage would you be willing to increase your property taxes to provide funding for services you mentioned?

The typical respondent would support a 2.6% increase in their property taxes:

ONE PERCENT	17%
TWO PERCENT	31%
THREE PERCENT	26%
FOUR PERCENT	6%
FIVE PERCENT	17%
TEN PERCENT	3%

“3% “ is cited more often by:

- eighteen to forty -four year olds
- men

“5% “ is mentioned more often by:

- owners of homes valued under \$200,000

Next, Lakeville residents were asked:

You stated you wanted to see (a/some) city service(s) receive funding at the current level....

Would you favor or oppose an increase in city property taxes if it were needed to maintain those city services at their current level?

By a 58%-38% majority, respondents opposed an increase in city property taxes to maintain those city services at their current level:

FAVOR	38%
-----------------	-----

OPPOSE	58%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	5%

“Favor” is reported most frequently by:

- residents for eleven to twenty years
- owners of homes valued between \$200,000 and \$300,000
- those preferring the city website
- those rating the quality of life as excellent

“Oppose” is indicated more often by:

- residents for over twenty years
- renters
- men
- those preferring the city newsletter
- those preferring the local newspaper

Respondents favoring a tax increase were asked a follow-up query:

By what percentage would you be willing to increase your property taxes to maintain funding for services you mentioned?

The typical respondent would accept a 2.4% increase in their property taxes to maintain funding for these services:

ONE PERCENT	29%
TWO PERCENT	26%
THREE PERCENT	14%
FIVE PERCENT	20%
SEVEN PERCENT	3%
TEN PERCENT	9%

“1% “ is stated more often by:

- residents for ten years or less

“2% “ is reported most frequently by:

- households with seniors

“5% “ is cited more often by:

- owners of homes valued between \$200,000 and \$300,000
- over forty-four year olds
- those preferring the local newspaper

- those rating the quality of life as excellent

Support Cuts in Services

Respondents were asked:

Would you favor or oppose cuts in city services if they would reduce your current CITY property taxes? Do you feel strongly that way?

By a 63%-34% margin, residents oppose cuts in city services even if they would reduce their current city property taxes:

STRONGLY FAVOR	6%
FAVOR	28%
OPPOSE	49%
STRONGLY OPPOSE	14%
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	4%

Supporters tend to be:

- owners of homes valued under \$200,000
- residents in the Northeastern part of the city

Opponents are typically:

- residents in the Southern part of the city

Summary and Conclusions

The table below shows each service with the percentage of respondents who consider it to be “essential” and a score, which is its rank among all 27 services.

City Service	Cut/Eliminate Percentage	Funding Priority
Fire protection	1%	1
Police protection	2%	2
Traffic enforcement	3%	3

City Service	Cut/Eliminate Percentage	Funding Priority
Snowplowing of city streets	3%	3
Quality of drinking water	3%	3
Street maintenance and repair	3%	3
Street lighting	5%	7
Lighting along bicycle and pedestrian trails	10%	8
Senior Center programming	10%	8
Economic development and planning	11%	10
Property maintenance enforcement	12%	11
Building and inspection services	12%	11
Education programming provided by the Police and Fire Department	13%	13
Upkeep and maintenance of parks	13%	13
Storm drainage and flood control	13%	15
Animal control	14%	16
Condition of city trails	14%	16
Park and recreation programming	17%	18
Community celebrations	17%	18
Mowing of boulevards	18%	20
Street sweeping	19%	21
Upkeep and maintenance of city beaches	19%	22
Arts Center programming	27%	23
Snow removal on city trails	28%	24
Forestry program	35%	25
Park ranger program	35%	25
Outdoor ice rinks	43%	27

The average “cut/eliminate” percentage given to the 27 city services is 14.8%. The bottom five ranked services have “cut/eliminate” percentages almost double the norm.

Residents who wanted to increase funding for any service – 29% of the sample – narrowly favored a property tax increase to provide additional funding. But, among residents who wanted to maintain funding for any service, respondents opposed a property tax increase by a 58%-38% margin. In any case, a 63%-34% majority opposes service cuts even if it would reduce their current city property taxes.

Chapter Six: Communications

Communications

In this very short chapter, residents were asked about their preferred sources of information about Lakeville City Government and its activities. They were given three choices to indicate their preferences.

Sources of Information

Residents were initially asked:

How would you prefer to receive information about Lakeville City Government and its activities?

First choices are arrayed below:

FIRST CHOICE

DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	0%
NONE	0%
"MESSAGES"/CITY NEWSLETTER	31%
CITY'S WEBSITE	20%
LOCAL NEWSPAPER	31%
CABLE TELEVISION	4%
CITY MEETINGS	3%
CITY STAFF/COUNCIL	0%
FRIENDS/NEIGHBORS/WORD OF MOUTH	2%
E-MAIL	5%
MAILINGS	4%
AUTOMATED TELEPHONE CALLS	1%

Two sources dominate the list: “Messages” – the City Newsletter – and the local newspaper. The City’s website ranked second in popularity.

“Messages/City Newsletter” is key to:

- over forty-four year olds

“City’s website” is important to:

- residents for ten years or less
- households with children
- eighteen to forty -four year olds

“Local newspaper” is cited most frequently by:

- residents for over twenty years
- empty nesters
- over forty-four year olds

Next, a second choice was solicited:

SECOND CHOICE

Thirty-two percent point to the “local newspaper:”

DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	1%
NONE	4%
"MESSAGES"/CITY NEWSLETTER	20%
CITY'S WEBSITE	17%
LOCAL NEWSPAPER	32%
CABLE TELEVISION	12%
CITY MEETINGS	2%
CITY STAFF/COUNCIL	0%
FRIENDS/NEIGHBORS/WORD OF MOUTH	4%
E-MAIL	5%
MAILINGS	3%
AUTOMATED TELEPHONE CALLS	1%

“Messages” and the City’s website are second ranked, at 20% and 17%, respectively.

“Messages/City Newsletter” is key to:

- residents in the Southern part of the city

“City’s website” is important to:

- households with children

“Cable television” is mentioned most frequently by:

- empty nesters

Finally, a third choice was requested:

THIRD CHOICE

“Messages” ranks a narrow first, followed by the “City’s website,” “cable television,” and “the grapevine:”

DON'T KNOW/REFUSED	2%
NONE	10%
"MESSAGES"/CITY NEWSLETTER	19%
CITY'S WEBSITE	15%
LOCAL NEWSPAPER	11%
CABLE TELEVISION	15%
CITY MEETINGS	5%
CITY STAFF/COUNCIL	1%
FRIENDS/NEIGHBORS/WORD OF MOUTH	14%
E-MAIL	3%
MAILINGS	3%
AUTOMATED TELEPHONE CALLS	3%

“None” is stated more often by:

- residents for ten years or less
- renters
- owners of homes valued under \$200,000
- eighteen to forty -four year olds

“Messages/City Newsletter” is key to:

- those rating the quality of life as excellent

“Local newspaper” is cited most frequently by:

- households with children

“Word of mouth” is key to:

- residents for over twenty years
- households with seniors
- empty nesters
- owners of homes valued over \$300,000
- over forty-four year olds
- residents in the Southern part of the city

Summary and Conclusions

By far the most preferred sources of information about City Government and its activities are the “local newspaper,” and the “City Newsletter,” mentioned by 72% and 70%, respectively. Next, the “City’s website” is posted by 52%.

Chapter Seven: Final Thoughts

Final Thoughts

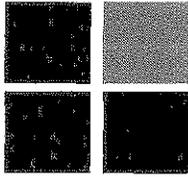
To create an overall budget priority ranking, the scores indicating the importance of a service and the funding priority are combined – the lower the overall score, the greater the desire of the public to protect that service’s funding. The table below arrays the priority ranking for each service.

City Service	Importance	Funding Priority	Priority Ranking Score	Positive Rating
Fire protection	2	1	3	99
Police protection	1	2	3	97
Traffic enforcement	3	3	6	92
Snowplowing of city streets	4	3	7	89
Quality of drinking water	5	3	8	82
Street maintenance and repair	6	3	9	75
Street lighting	8	7	15	90
Economic development and planning	9	10	19	82
Property maintenance enforcement	11	11	22	88
Storm drainage and flood control	7	15	22	95
Building and inspection services	12	11	23	83
Upkeep and maintenance of parks	10	13	23	97
Lighting along bicycle and pedestrian trails	17	8	25	77
Senior Center programming	22	8	30	93
Education programming provided by the Police and Fire Department	18	13	31	96
Animal control	16	16	32	86
Community celebrations	15	18	33	98
Mowing of boulevards	13	20	33	89
Street sweeping	14	21	35	89
Condition of city trails	19	16	35	94
Park and recreation programming	21	18	39	92

City Service	Importance	Funding Priority	Priority Ranking Score	Positive Rating
Upkeep and maintenance of city beaches	20	22	42	84
Arts Center programming	23	23	46	92
Snow removal on city trails	24	24	48	88
Forestry program	25	25	50	86
Park ranger program	27	25	52	88
Outdoor ice rinks	26	27	53	72

The top quartile of services – the first seven services boxed by a double-line border – should be prioritized to maintain funding at current levels and/or make changes which will improve these services. The second quartile of services – the second seven services boxed by a double-lined border – should have funding reduced judiciously, if necessary. The third quartile – the third seven services boxed by a double-lined border – should be considered candidates for moderate or average funding cuts. The fourth quartile – the fourth seven services boxed by a double-lined border – are primary candidates for large cuts or service termination. Any shaded cell indicates a positive service rating which is uniquely low and suggests a need for a more in-depth service review.

In general, residents view the City of Lakeville very favorably. Tax hostility remains virtually unchanged from three years ago, but the value of city services in terms of the city property tax level increased. Lakeville elected officials and city staff possess a decisive advantage, one not commonly found in growing cities: solid performance evaluations of their past policies and continued confidence in their ability to plan for the future.



Decision
Resources Ltd.

Survey

DECISION RESOURCES, LTD.
3128 Dean Court
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55416

CITY OF LAKEVILLE
Residential Study
FINAL MARCH 2010

Hello, I'm _____ of Decision Resources, Ltd., a nationwide polling firm located in Minneapolis. We've been retained by the City of Lakeville to speak with a random sample of residents about issues facing the city. The survey is being taken because the City is interested in your opinions and suggestions. I want to assure you that all individual responses will be held strictly confidential; only summaries of the entire sample will be reported. (DO NOT PAUSE)

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| 1. Approximately how many years have you lived in Lakeville? | LESS THAN TWO YEARS....3% |
| | TWO TO FIVE YEARS.....13% |
| | SIX TO TEN YEARS.....22% |
| | ELEVEN - TWENTY YRS...38% |
| | 21 TO 30 YEARS.....16% |
| | OVER THIRTY YEARS.....9% |
| | REFUSED.....0% |
| 2. Thinking back to when you moved to Lakeville, what factors were most important to you in selecting the city? | LOCATION.....16% |
| | SCHOOLS.....21% |
| | HOUSING/NEIGHBORHOOD..22% |
| | RURAL/SMALL TOWN.....19% |
| | NEAR JOB.....13% |
| | NEAR FAMILY/FRIENDS...9% |
| | SCATTERED.....1% |
| 3. How would you rate the quality of life in Lakeville -- excellent, good, only fair, or poor? | EXCELLENT.....40% |
| | GOOD.....58% |
| | ONLY FAIR.....2% |
| | POOR.....0% |
| | DON'T KNOW/REFUSED....0% |
| 4. What do you like MOST about living in Lakeville? | LOCATION.....21% |
| | SCHOOLS.....13% |
| | PEOPLE.....5% |
| | QUIET AND PEACEFUL...12% |
| | SMALL TOWN AMBIENCE...15% |
| | OPEN SPACE.....3% |
| | NEIGHBORHOOD.....14% |
| | CITY SERVICES.....3% |
| | SAFE.....4% |
| | SUBURBAN.....7% |
| | PARKS AND RECREATION...3% |
| | SCATTERED.....1% |

5. What do you like LEAST about it? NOTHING.....40%
 TAXES.....21%
 GROWTH/CROWDING.....12%
 ROADS/TRAFFIC.....11%
 CITY GOVERNMENT.....4%
 LOCATION.....2%
 NEED MORE SHOPPING.....4%
 SCATTERED.....6%
6. Do you have any plans to move from the City of Lakeville in the next five years? YES.....8%
 NO.....90%
 DEPENDS (VOL.).....2%
 DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....1%

IF "YES" OR "DEPENDS," ASK: (N=39)

7. Could you tell me one or two reasons why you are thinking about moving in the next five years? DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....3%
 RETIRING.....33%
 WARMER CLIMATE.....13%
 DOWNSIZING.....21%
 HIGH TAXES.....8%
 LARGER HOME.....5%
 JOB RELOCATION.....8%
 OUT OF METRO AREA.....8%
 SCATTERED.....3%

Turning to city services....

First, I would like to read you a list of a city services. For each one, please tell me whether you would rate the quality of the service as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

	EXC	GOO	FAI	POO	DKR
8. Police protection?	45%	52%	3%	0%	0%
9. Traffic enforcement?	23%	67%	7%	1%	2%
10. Fire Protection?	38%	59%	1%	0%	2%
11. Storm drainage and flood control?	16%	72%	5%	0%	7%
12. Upkeep and maintenance of parks?	25%	70%	4%	0%	2%
13. Outdoor ice rinks?	5%	49%	19%	2%	26%
14. Upkeep and maintenance of city beaches?	8%	64%	13%	1%	15%
15. Park and recreation programming?	15%	64%	7%	0%	15%
16. Senior Center programming?	9%	42%	4%	0%	46%
17. Arts Center programming?	9%	62%	6%	0%	24%
18. Park ranger program?	3%	40%	6%	0%	52%
19. Forestry program?	4%	38%	7%	0%	52%
20. Condition of city trails?	14%	68%	5%	0%	14%
21. Snow removal on city trails?	7%	57%	8%	1%	26%
22. Animal control?	6%	76%	12%	1%	6%
23. Educational programming provided by the Police and Fire Department?	13%	58%	2%	1%	26%
24. Community celebrations, such as Pan-o-prog?	33%	63%	2%	0%	2%
25. Street lighting?	14%	74%	10%	0%	2%

	EXC	GOO	FAI	POO	DKR
26. Lighting along bicycle and pedestrian trails?	6%	54%	18%	0%	23%
27. Building and Inspection services?	2%	63%	11%	2%	22%
28. Property maintenance enforcement?	2%	76%	10%	1%	12%
29. Economic development and planning?	2%	74%	15%	2%	8%
30. Quality of drinking water?	12%	68%	16%	2%	3%

Roadways in the City of Lakeville consist of both city and county streets. City streets are those found in residential neighborhoods and also include major streets such as Ipava Avenue, Jacquard Avenue, Flagstaff Avenue and Holyoke Avenue. County streets are the following major roadways: Cedar Avenue or County Road 23; Kenwood Trail or County Road 50; Dodd Boulevard or County Road 9; 175th Street or County Road 60, 215th Street or County Road 70; and Pilot Knob Road or County Road 31.

Again, please tell me whether you would rate the quality of the following services as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?

	EXC	GOO	FAI	POO	DKR
31. Snowplowing of city streets?	21%	68%	9%	2%	1%
32. Street sweeping?	13%	73%	10%	1%	3%
33. Street maintenance and repair?	6%	69%	22%	3%	1%
34. Mowing of boulevards?	10%	73%	10%	0%	6%

Now, I would like to re-read you that list of city services. For each one, please tell me if you consider it be an essential city service, a very important city service, a somewhat important city service, or not a very important service at all.

	ESS	VRI	SMI	NOT	DKR
35. Police protection?	81%	19%	0%	0%	0%
36. Traffic enforcement?	61%	37%	2%	0%	0%
37. Fire Protection?	78%	21%	1%	0%	0%
38. Storm drainage and flood control?	38%	51%	9%	0%	3%
39. Upkeep and maintenance of parks?	21%	67%	11%	1%	0%
40. Outdoor ice rinks?	4%	33%	52%	9%	3%
41. Upkeep and maintenance of city beaches?	5%	59%	34%	1%	1%
42. Park and recreation programming?	9%	54%	36%	0%	2%
43. Senior Center programming?	9%	49%	37%	1%	5%
44. Arts Center programming?	3%	43%	47%	2%	5%
45. Park ranger program?	2%	31%	49%	5%	14%
46. Forestry program?	3%	33%	47%	5%	13%
47. Condition of city trails?	5%	61%	31%	2%	3%
48. Snow removal on city trails?	7%	39%	44%	7%	3%
49. Animal control?	10%	61%	26%	2%	1%
50. Educational programming provided by the Police and Fire Department?	6%	60%	30%	1%	3%

	ESS	VRI	SMI	NOT	DKR
51. Community celebrations, such as Pan-o-prog?	13%	59%	24%	4%	1%
52. Street lighting?	33%	60%	6%	1%	1%
53. Lighting along bicycle and pedestrian trails?	11%	57%	30%	1%	2%
54. Building and Inspection services?	9%	67%	22%	0%	2%
55. Property maintenance enforcement?	11%	68%	20%	1%	1%
56. Economic development and planning?	30%	58%	11%	1%	0%
57. Quality of drinking water?	45%	52%	3%	0%	0%
58. Snowplowing of city streets?	54%	44%	2%	1%	0%
59. Street sweeping?	21%	54%	25%	0%	0%
60. Street maintenance and repair?	45%	49%	6%	0%	0%
61. Mowing of boulevards?	17%	59%	23%	1%	1%

Moving on.....

As you may know, property tax revenues are divided among the City of Lakeville, Dakota County, and your local public school district.

62. In comparison with nearby cities, do you think that the property taxes in Lakeville are very high, somewhat high, about average, somewhat low, or very low?	VERY HIGH.....	10%
	SOMEWHAT HIGH.....	46%
	ABOUT AVERAGE.....	36%
	SOMEWHAT LOW.....	1%
	VERY LOW.....	0%
	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....	8%
63. Do you consider the city portion of your property taxes to be very high, somewhat high, about average, somewhat low, or very low in comparison with neighboring cities?	VERY HIGH.....	9%
	SOMEWHAT HIGH.....	44%
	ABOUT AVERAGE.....	39%
	SOMEWHAT LOW.....	2%
	VERY LOW.....	0%
	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....	7%
64. When you consider the property taxes you pay and the quality of city services you receive, would you rate the general value of city services as excellent, good, only fair, or poor?	EXCELLENT.....	11%
	GOOD.....	71%
	ONLY FAIR.....	13%
	POOR.....	1%
	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....	5%
65. For each dollar of property taxes you pay, about what percentage do you think goes to city government -- ten percent or less, 11 to 20 percent, 21 to 30 percent, 31 to 40 percent 41 to 50 percent or over 50 percent?	10 PERCENT OR LESS....	20%
	11 TO 20%.....	32%
	21 TO 30%.....	27%
	31 TO 40%.....	8%
	41 TO 50%.....	1%
	OVER 50 PERCENT.....	0%
	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED....	12%

Now, for the final time I am going to read the list of city services. Given the current economic and financial environment, the city may have to make some additional tough choices in the

next couple of years with respect to scaling back or eliminating certain city services. For each of the following please tell me if you would support an increase in funding for the service, keep the funding for the service at its current level, make cuts in the funding for the service, or eliminate funding for the service. (ROTATE)

	INC	SAM	CUT	ELM	DKR
66. Police protection?	17%	81%	1%	1%	0%
67. Traffic enforcement?	5%	92%	3%	0%	0%
68. Fire Protection?	8%	91%	1%	0%	0%
69. Storm drainage and flood control?	2%	84%	12%	1%	1%
70. Upkeep and maintenance of parks?	2%	86%	13%	0%	0%
71. Outdoor ice rinks?	1%	55%	38%	5%	2%
72. Upkeep and maintenance of city beaches?	2%	79%	18%	1%	1%
73. Park and recreation programming?	3%	80%	16%	1%	1%
74. Senior Center programming?	3%	83%	10%	0%	4%
75. Arts Center programming?	2%	68%	24%	3%	3%
76. Park ranger program?	1%	56%	29%	6%	8%
77. Forestry program?	0%	57%	29%	6%	9%
78. Condition of city trails?	1%	83%	13%	1%	2%
79. Snow removal on city trails?	1%	69%	26%	2%	2%
80. Animal control?	1%	85%	14%	0%	0%
81. Educational programming provided by the Police and Fire Department?	2%	84%	13%	0%	2%
82. Community celebrations, such as Pan-o-prog?	1%	82%	16%	1%	0%
83. Street lighting?	2%	93%	5%	0%	1%
84. Lighting along bicycle and pedestrian trails?	4%	83%	10%	0%	4%
85. Building and Inspection services?	1%	84%	12%	0%	3%
86. Property maintenance enforcement?	0%	86%	12%	0%	3%
87. Economic development and planning?	3%	86%	11%	0%	0%
88. Quality of drinking water?	7%	89%	2%	1%	1%
89. Snowplowing of city streets?	5%	91%	3%	0%	1%
90. Street sweeping?	2%	78%	19%	0%	1%
91. Street maintenance and repair?	6%	92%	3%	0%	0%
92. Mowing of boulevards?	2%	80%	17%	1%	1%

IF "INCREASE FUNDING" FOR ANY SERVICE, ASK: (N=115)

You stated you wanted to see (a/some) city service(s) receive additional funding....

93. Would you favor or oppose an increase in city property taxes to provide that additional funding?	FAVOR.....	53%
	OPPOSE.....	44%
	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....	3%

IF "FAVOR," ASK: (N=61)

94. By what percentage would you be willing to increase your property taxes to provide funding for services you mentioned?	ONE PERCENT.....	17%
	TWO PERCENT.....	31%
	THREE PERCENT.....	26%
	FOUR PERCENT.....	6%
	FIVE PERCENT.....	17%
	TEN PERCENT.....	3%

IF "CURRENT LEVEL," ASK: (N=399)

You stated you wanted to see (a/some) city service(s) receive funding at the current level....

95. Would you favor or oppose an increase in city property taxes if it were needed to maintain those city services at their current level?	FAVOR.....	38%
	OPPOSE.....	58%
	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....	5%

IF "FAVOR," ASK: (N=151)

96. By what percentage would you be willing to increase your property taxes to maintain funding for services you mentioned?	ONE PERCENT.....	29%
	TWO PERCENT.....	26%
	THREE PERCENT.....	14%
	FIVE PERCENT.....	20%
	SEVEN PERCENT.....	3%
	TEN PERCENT.....	9%
97. Would you favor or oppose cuts in city services if they would reduce your current CITY property taxes? (WAIT FOR RESPONSE) Do you feel strongly that way?	STRONGLY FAVOR.....	6%
	FAVOR.....	28%
	OPPOSE.....	49%
	STRONGLY OPPOSE.....	14%
	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....	4%

Thinking about communications....

98. How would you prefer to receive information about Lakeville City Government and its activities? (PROBE FOR THREE RESPONSES)

	FIR	SEC	THI
DON'T KNOW/REFUSED.....	0%	1%	2%
NONE.....	0%	4%	10%
"MESSAGES"/CITY NEWSLETTER.....	31%	20%	19%
CITY'S WEBSITE.....	20%	17%	15%
LOCAL NEWSPAPER.....	31%	32%	11%
CABLE TELEVISION.....	4%	12%	15%
CITY MEETINGS.....	3%	2%	5%
CITY STAFF/COUNCIL.....	0%	0%	1%
FRIENDS/NEIGHBORS/WORD OF MOUTH.....	2%	4%	14%
E-MAIL.....	5%	5%	3%
MAILINGS.....	4%	3%	3%
AUTOMATED TELEPHONE CALLS.....	1%	1%	3%

Moving on....

Could you please tell me how many people in each of the following age groups live in your household. Let's start oldest to youngest, and be sure to include yourself....

99. First, persons 65 or over?	NONE.....87%
	ONE.....5%
	TWO OR MORE.....8%
100. Adults under 65?	NONE.....11%
	ONE.....6%
	TWO.....73%
	THREE.....7%
	FOUR OR MORE.....3%
101. School-aged children and pre-schoolers?	NONE.....53%
	ONE.....13%
	TWO.....23%
	THREE OR MORE.....11%
102. What is your age, please? (READ CATEGORIES, IF NEEDED)	18-24.....2%
	25-34.....14%
	35-44.....30%
	45-54.....24%
	55-64.....20%
	65 AND OVER.....10%
103. Do you own or rent your present residence? (IF "OWN," ASK:) Which of the following categories contains the approximate value of your residential property -- under \$200,000, \$200,000-\$300,000, \$300,000-\$400,000, \$400,000-\$500,000, or over \$500,000?	RENT.....8%
	OWN/UNDER \$200,000....18%
	OWN/\$200K-\$300K.....51%
	OWN/\$300K-\$400K.....14%
	OWN/\$400K-\$500K.....2%
	OWN/OVER \$500,000....1%
	OWN/UNSURE.....2%
	DON'T KNOW/REFUSED....3%
104. Gender.	MALE.....50%
	FEMALE.....50%
105. City Precinct.	PRECINCT 1.....6%
	PRECINCT 2.....7%
	PRECINCT 3.....7%
	PRECINCT 4.....9%
	PRECINCT 5.....7%
	PRECINCT 6.....7%
	PRECINCT 7.....3%
	PRECINCT 8.....9%
	PRECINCT 9.....7%
	PRECINCT 10.....9%
	PRECINCT 11.....5%
	PRECINCT 12.....10%
	PRECINCT 13.....5%
	PRECINCT 14.....10%

106. School District.

ISD 194.....71%
ISD 192.....10%
ISD 196.....19%

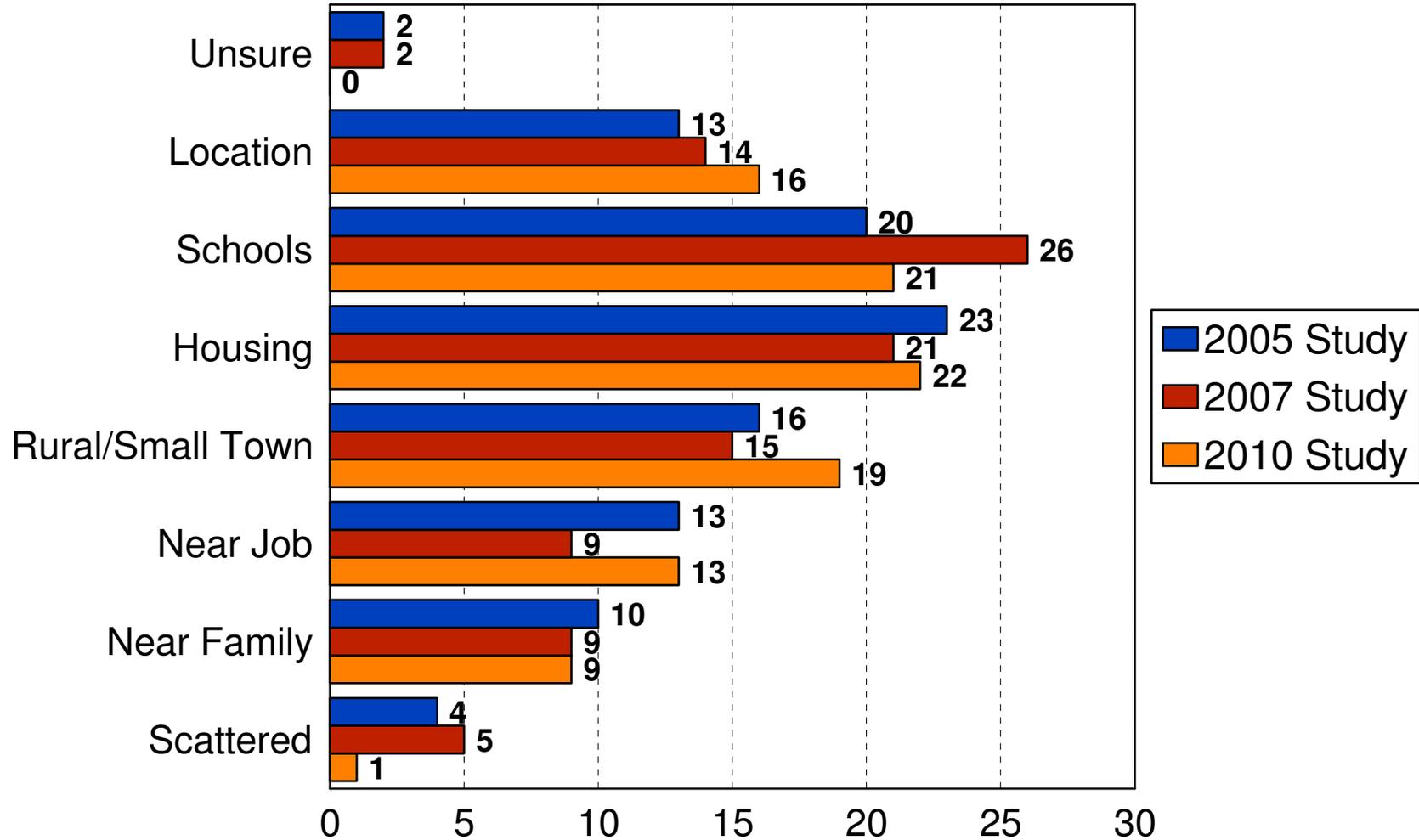
City of Lakeville

2010 Residential Study

Decision Resources, Ltd.

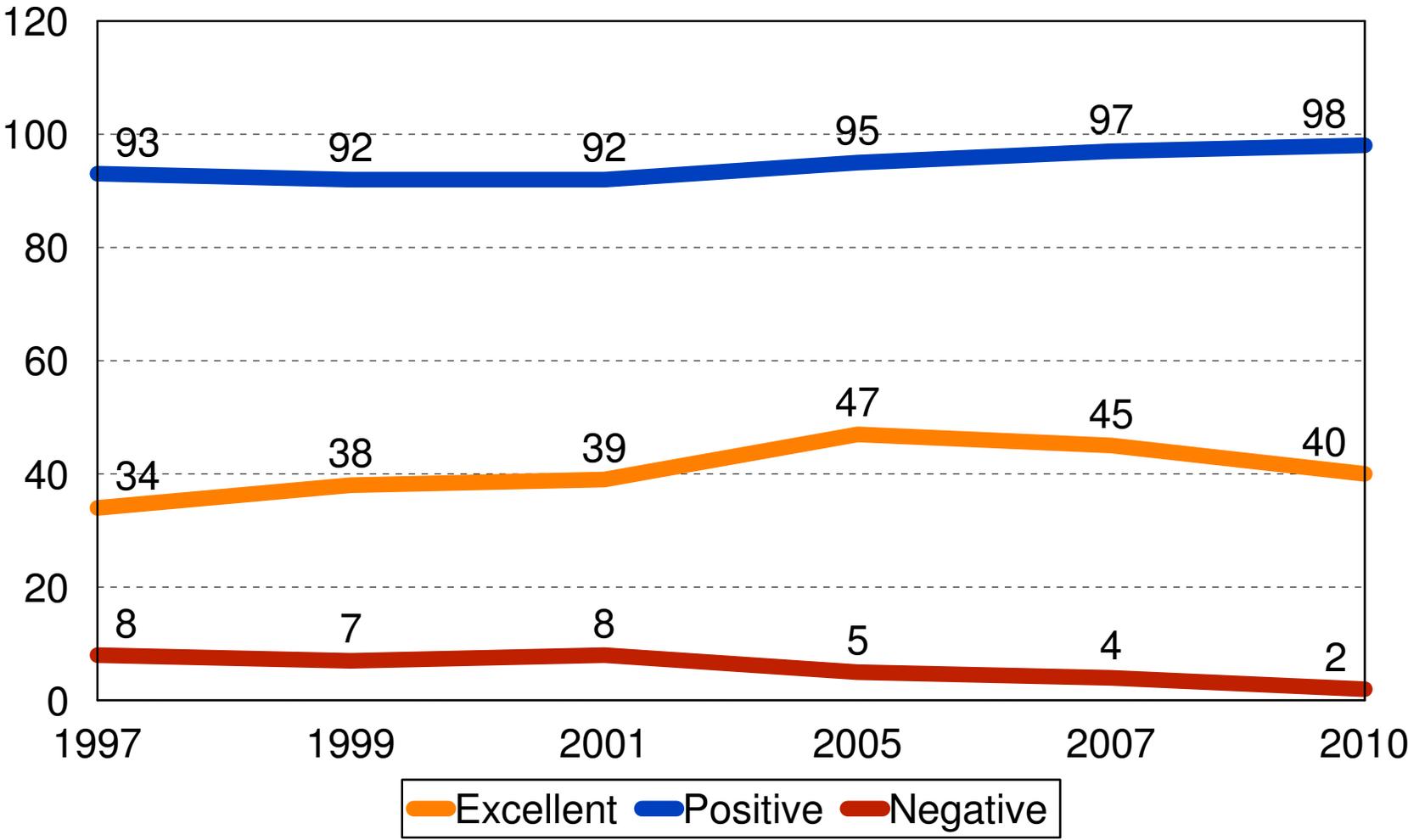
Selection of Community

2010 City of Lakeville Study



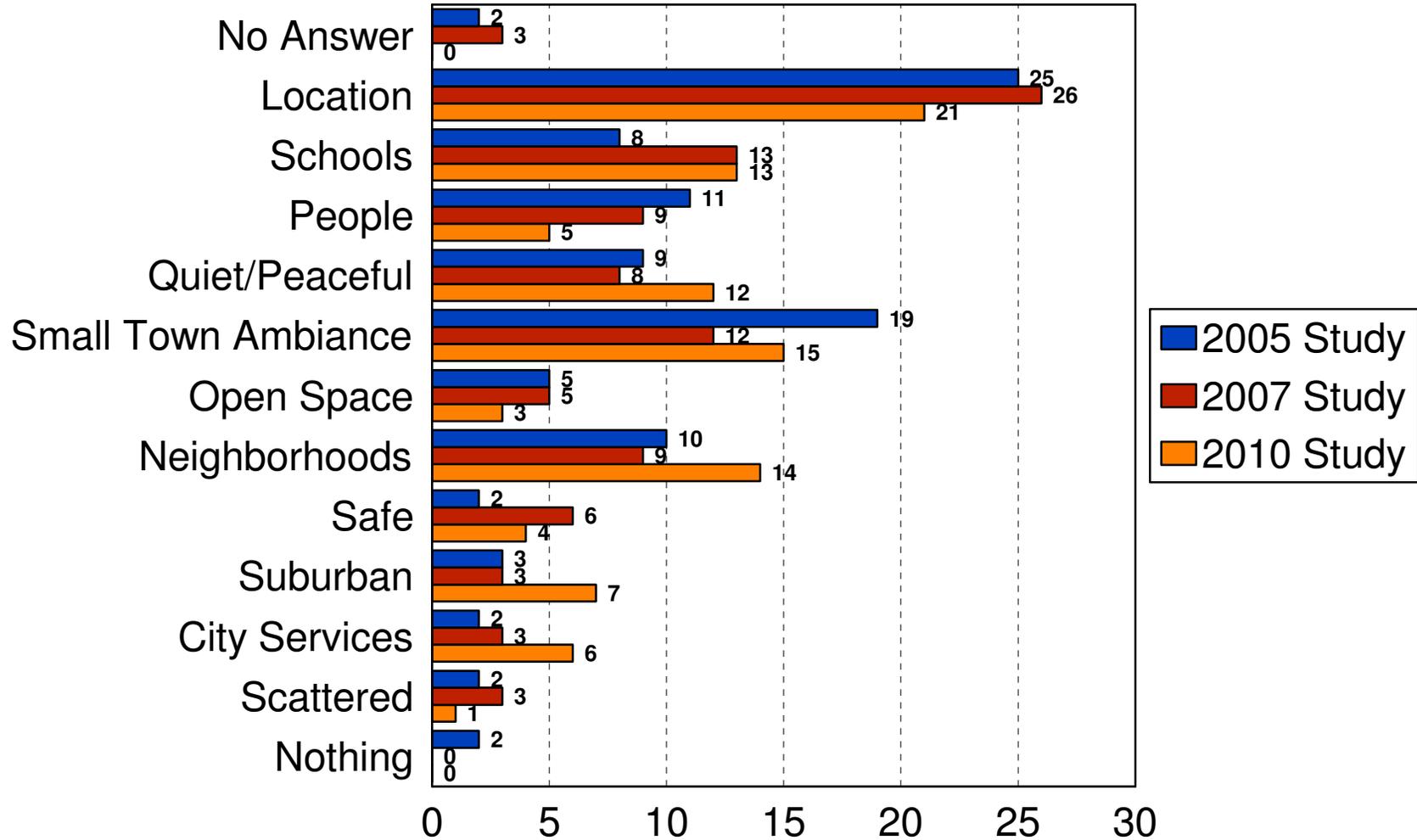
Quality of Life Rating

2010 City of Lakeville Study



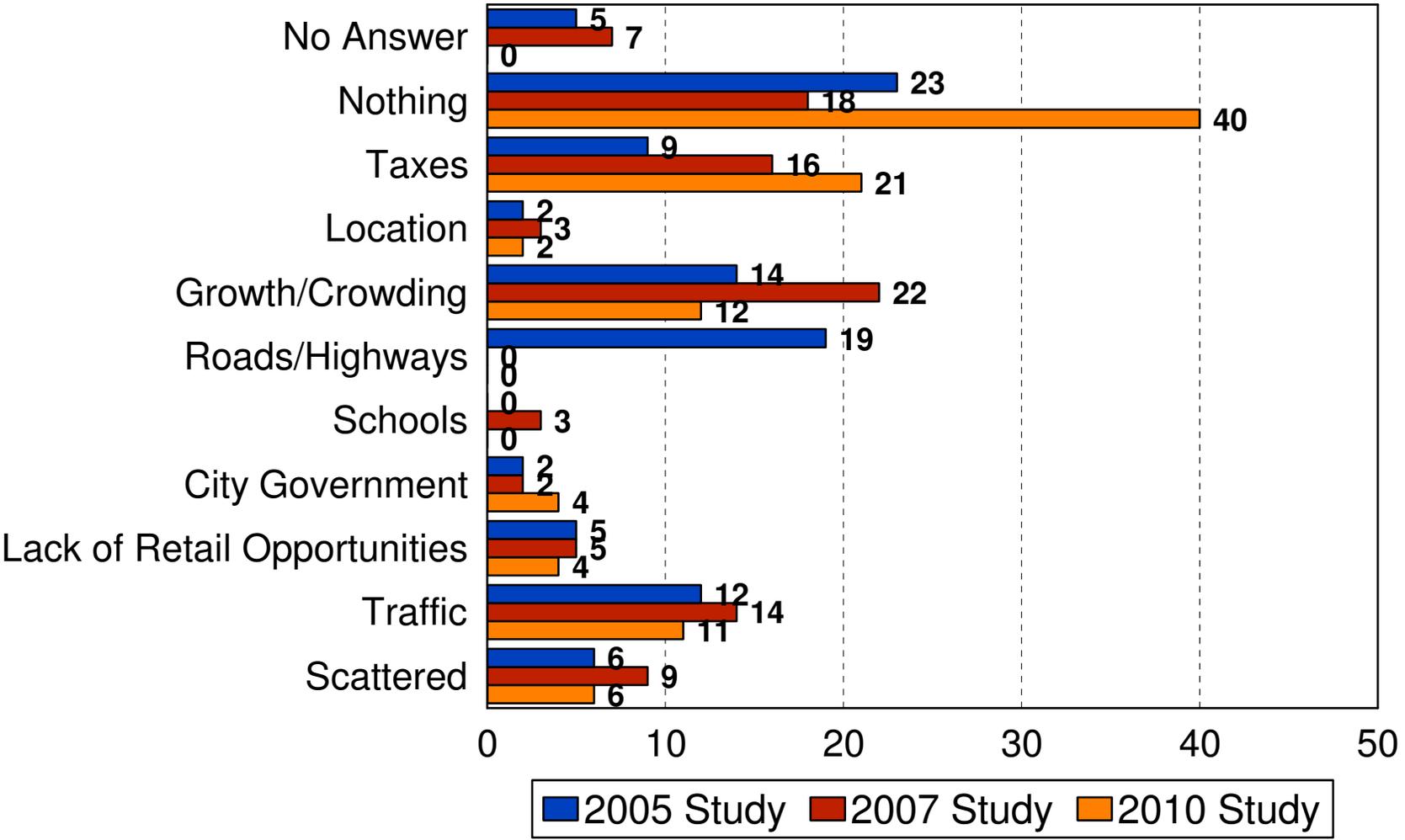
Like Most about City

2010 City of Lakeville Study



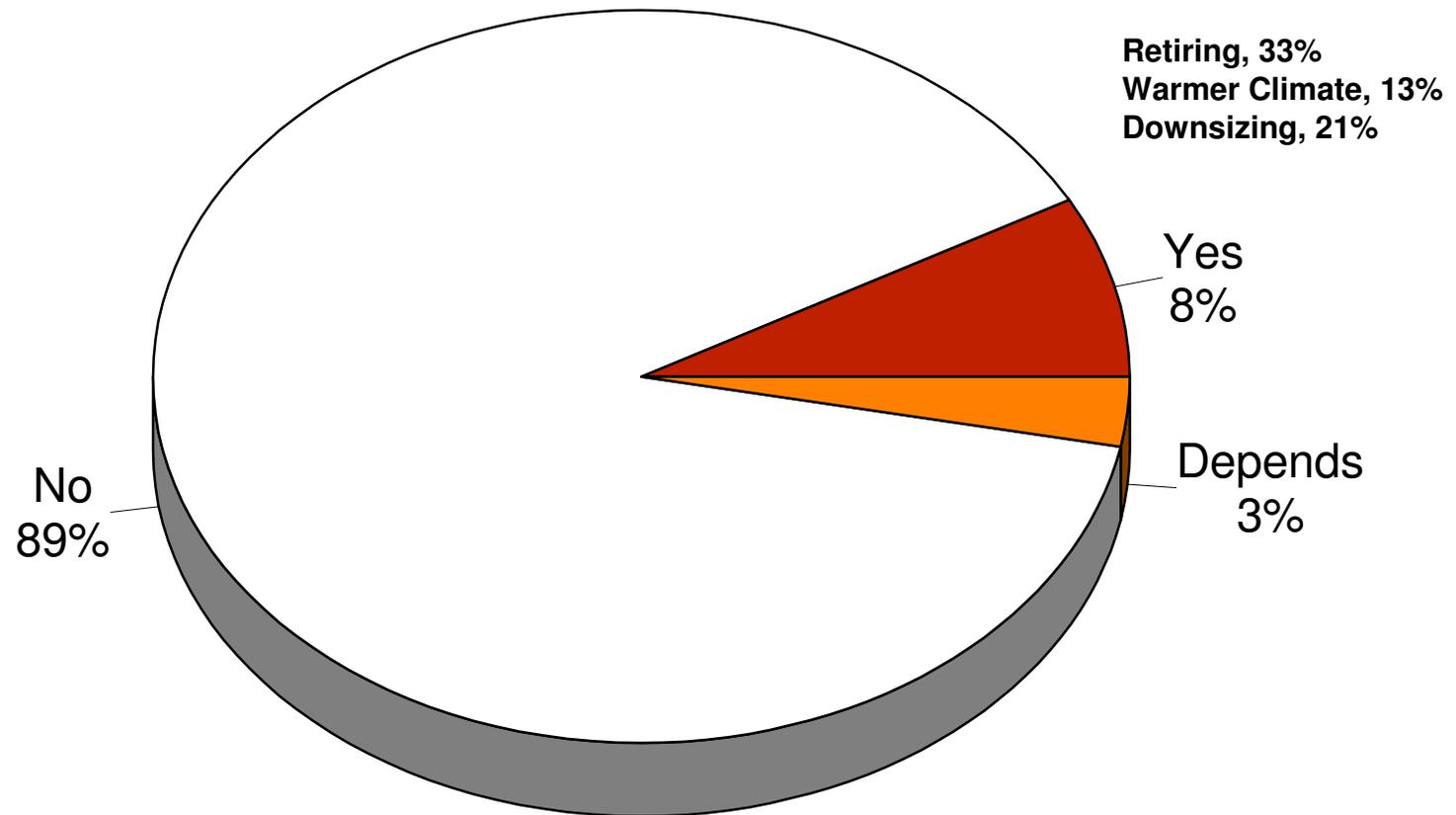
Like Least about the City

2010 City of Lakeville Study



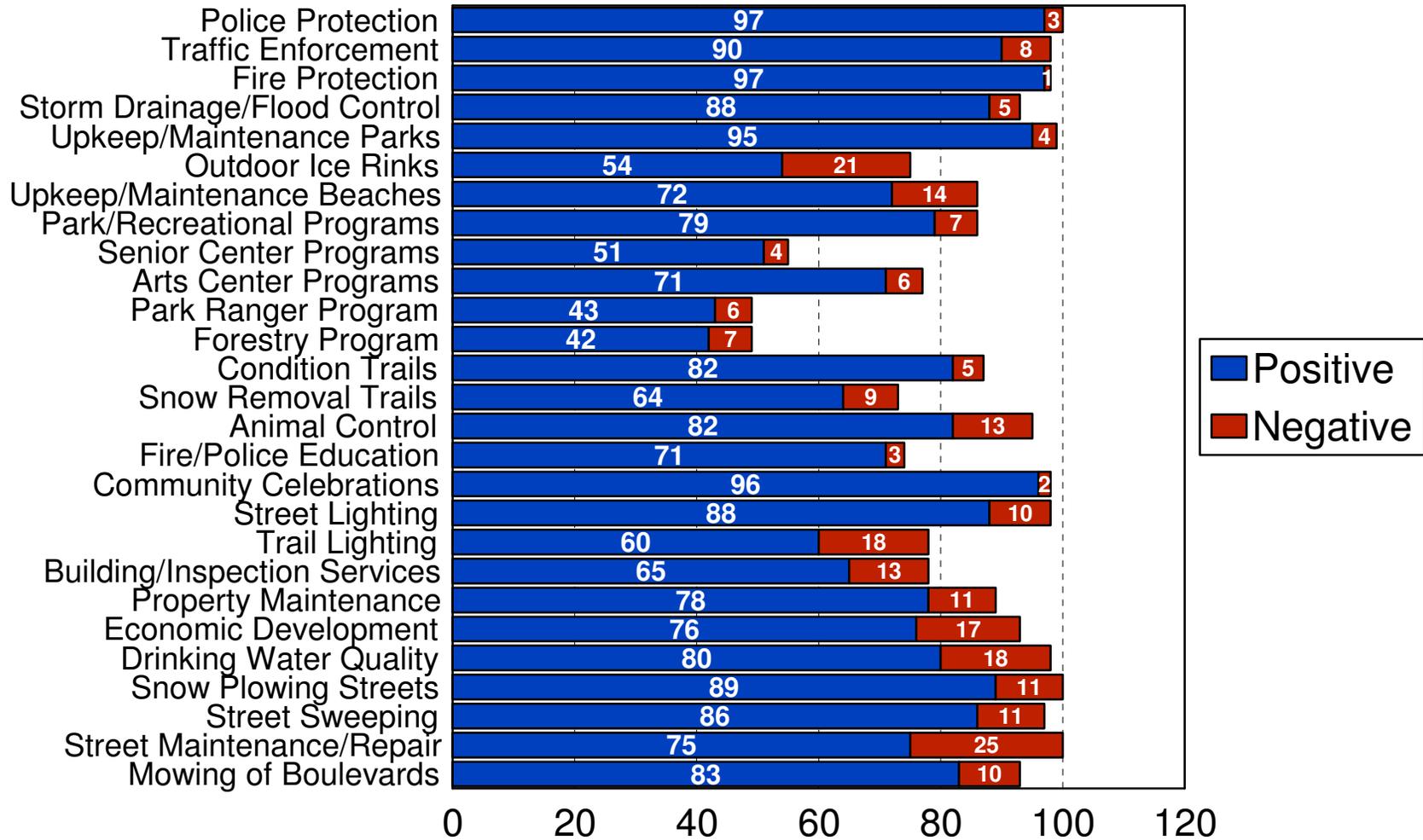
Plans to Move Next Five Years

2010 City of Lakeville Study



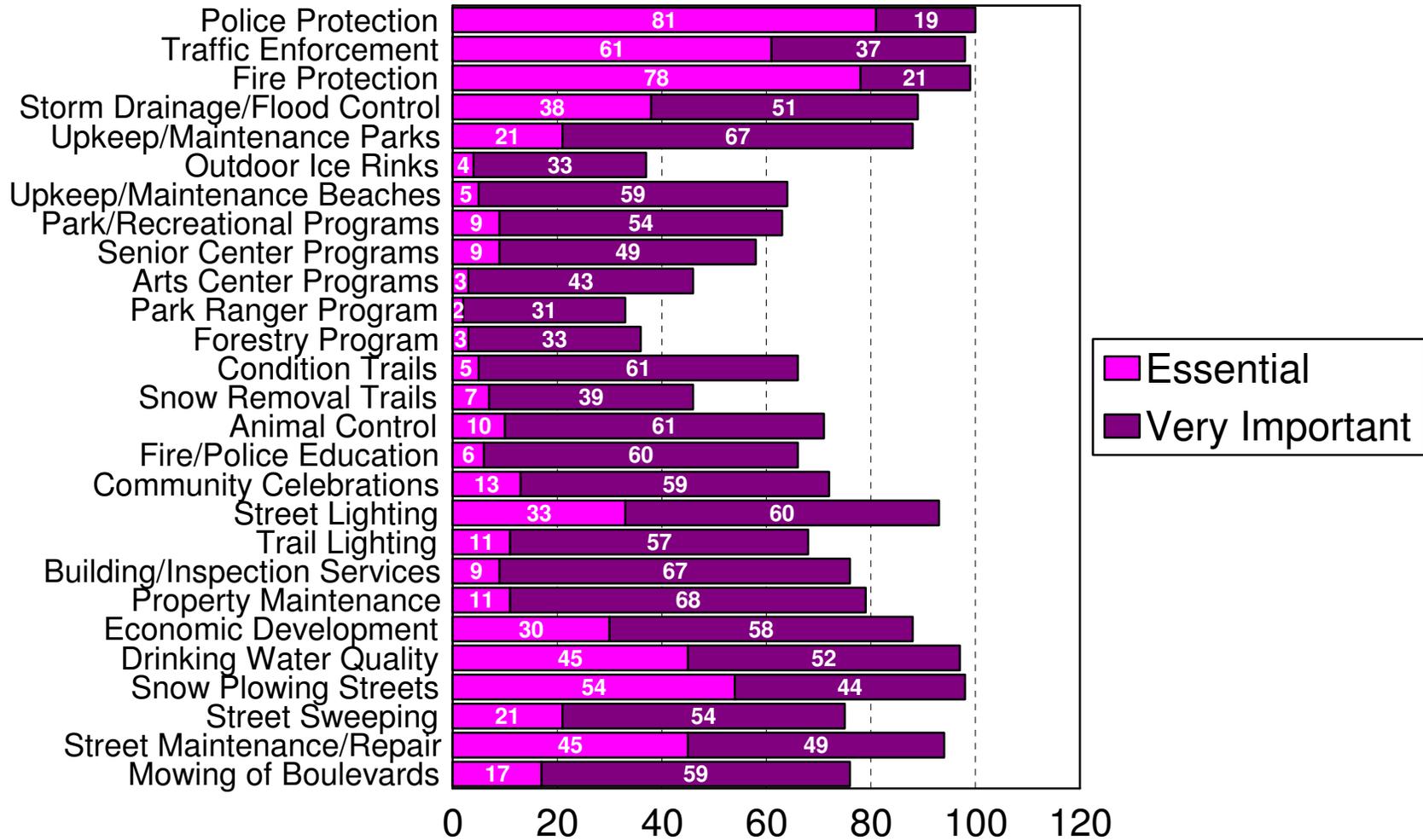
City Service Ratings

2010 City of Lakeville Study



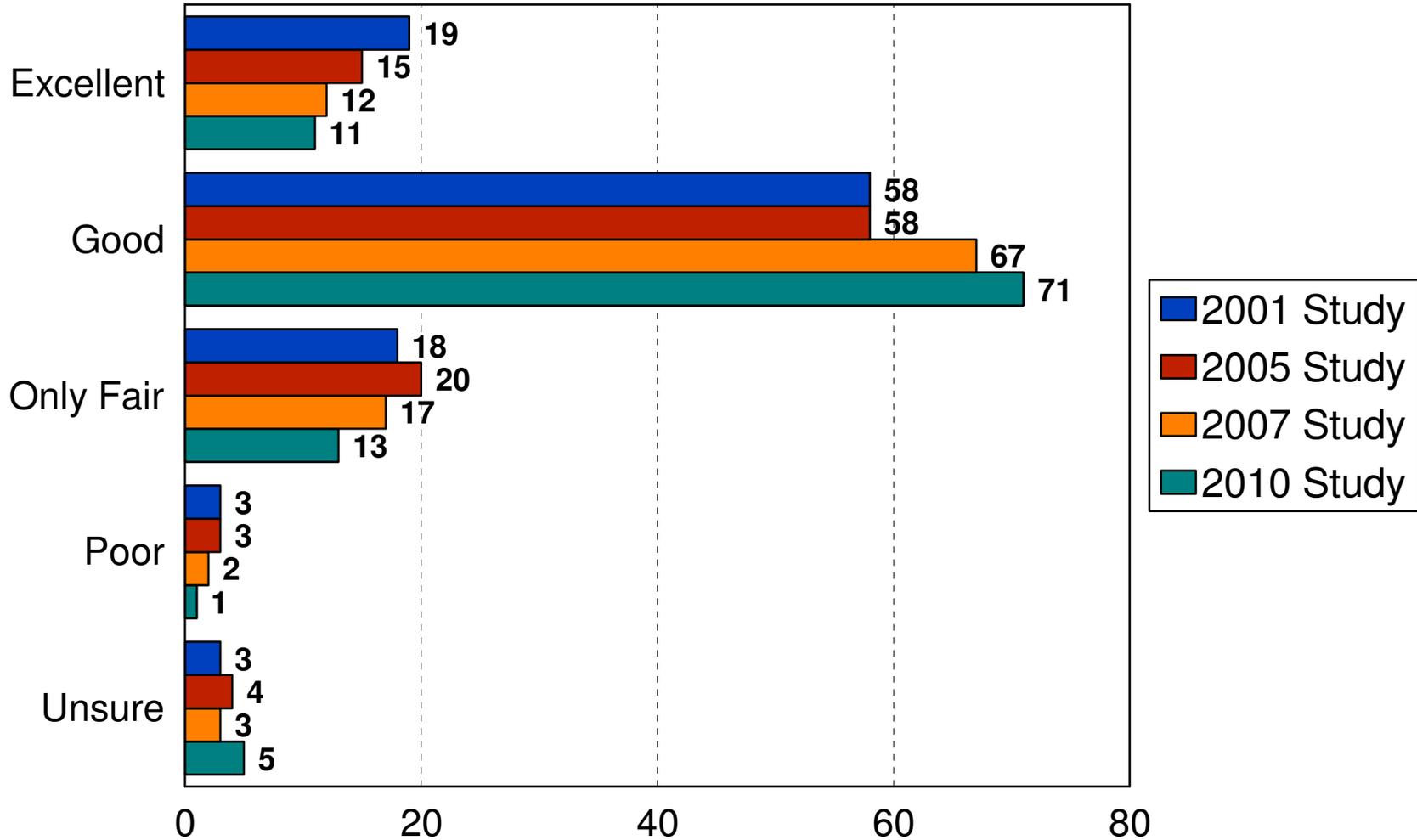
Importance of City Services

2010 City of Lakeville Study



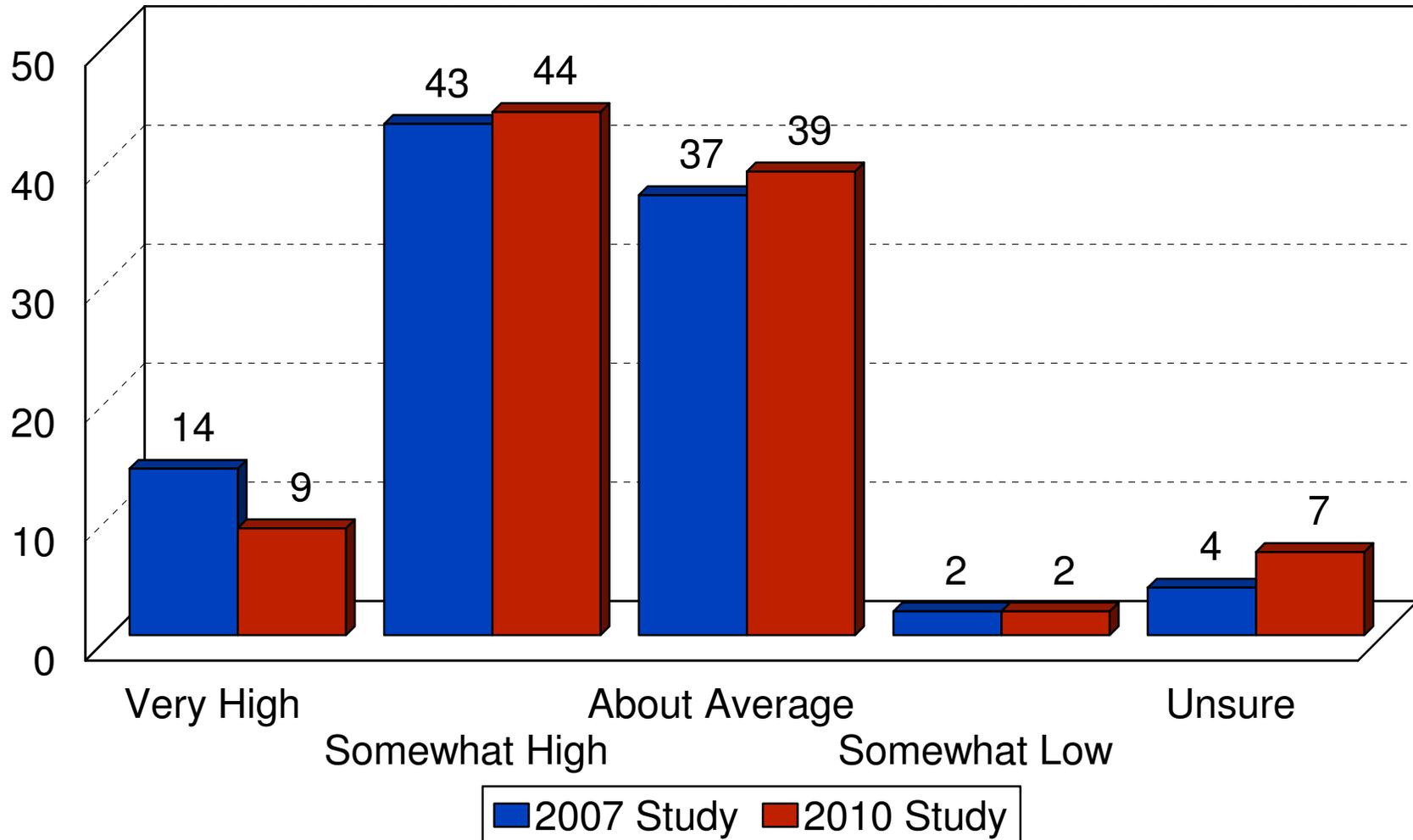
Value of City Services

2010 City of Lakeville Study



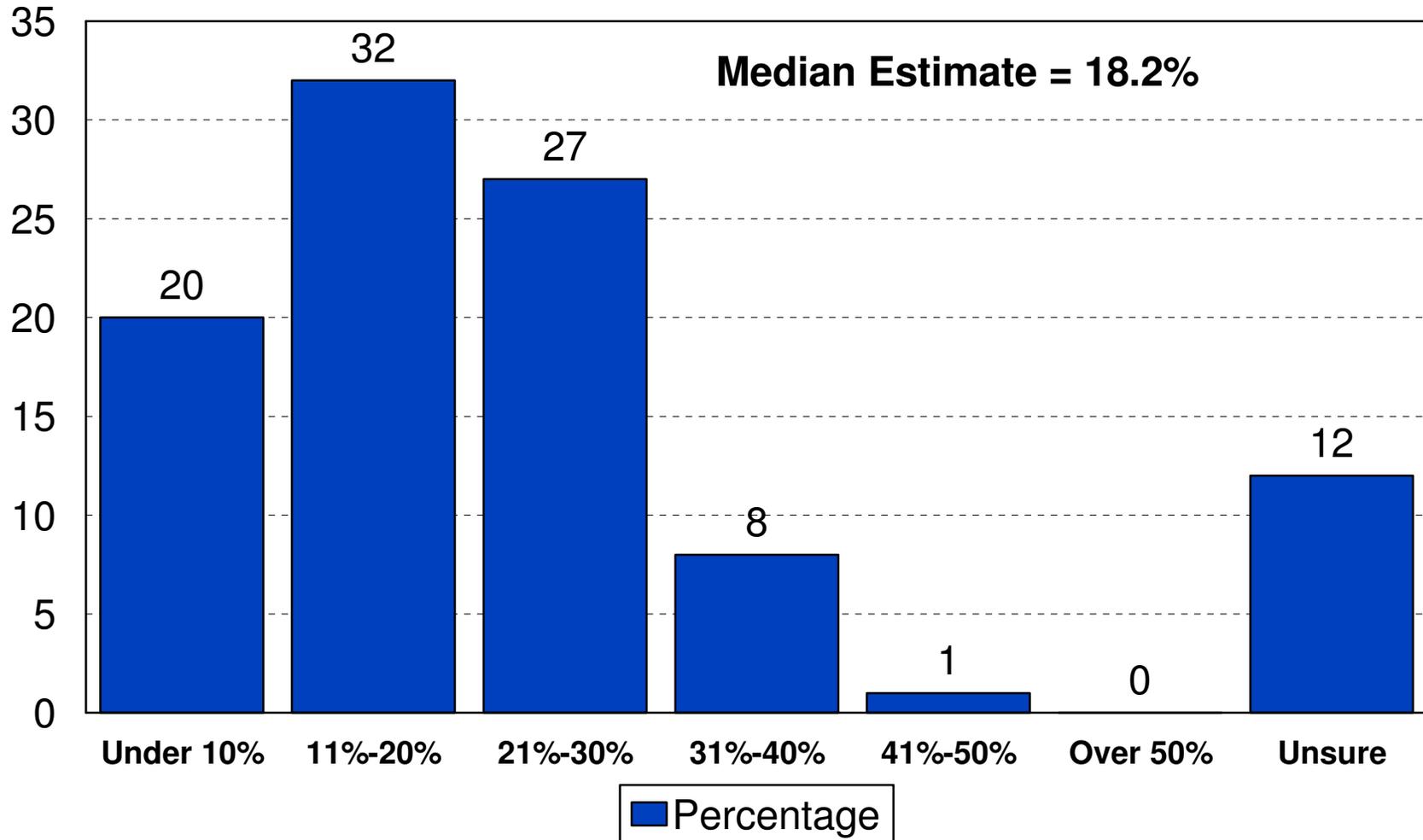
Property Tax Rating

2010 City of Lakeville Study



Percentage to City Government

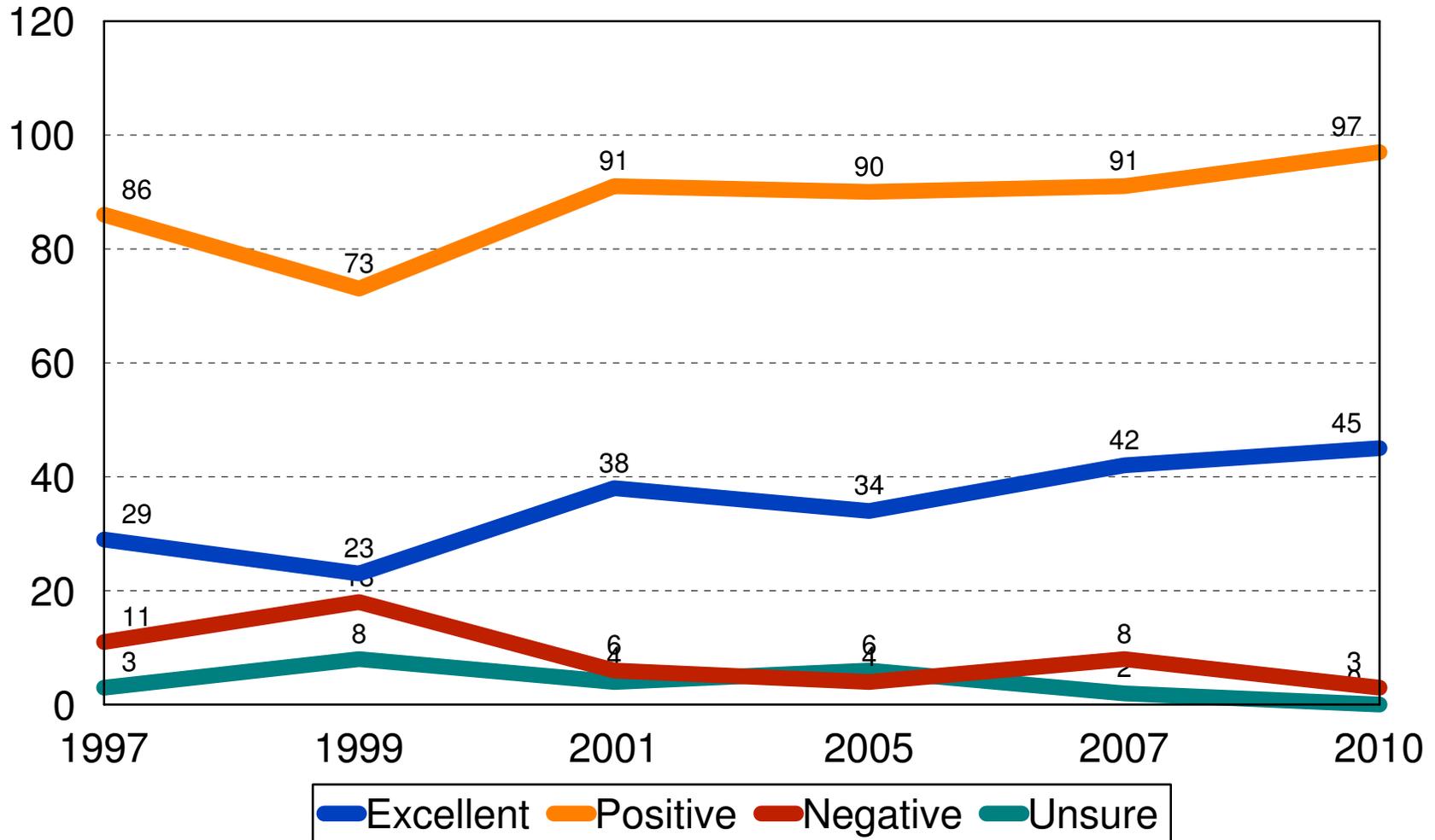
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Police Protection

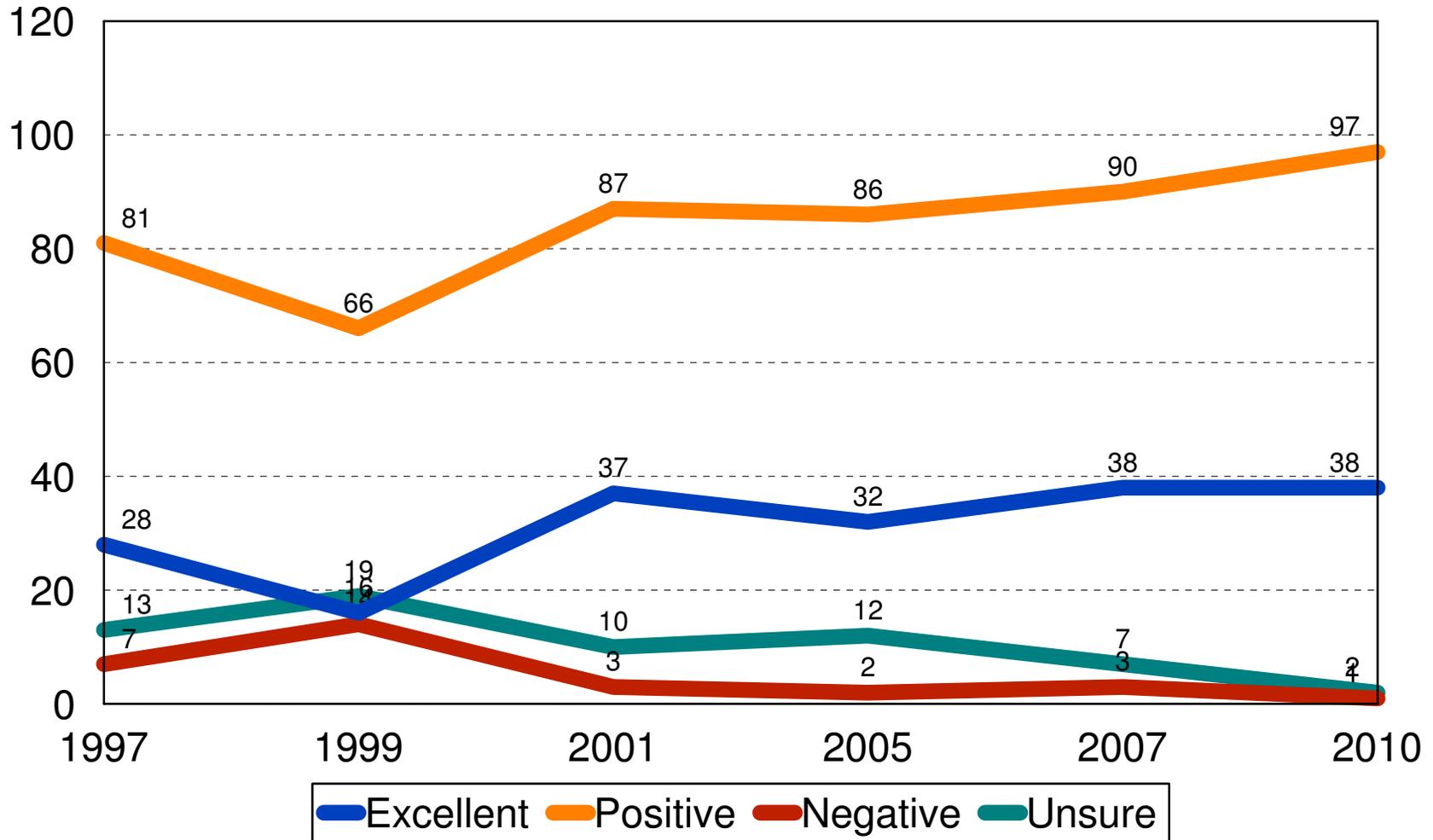
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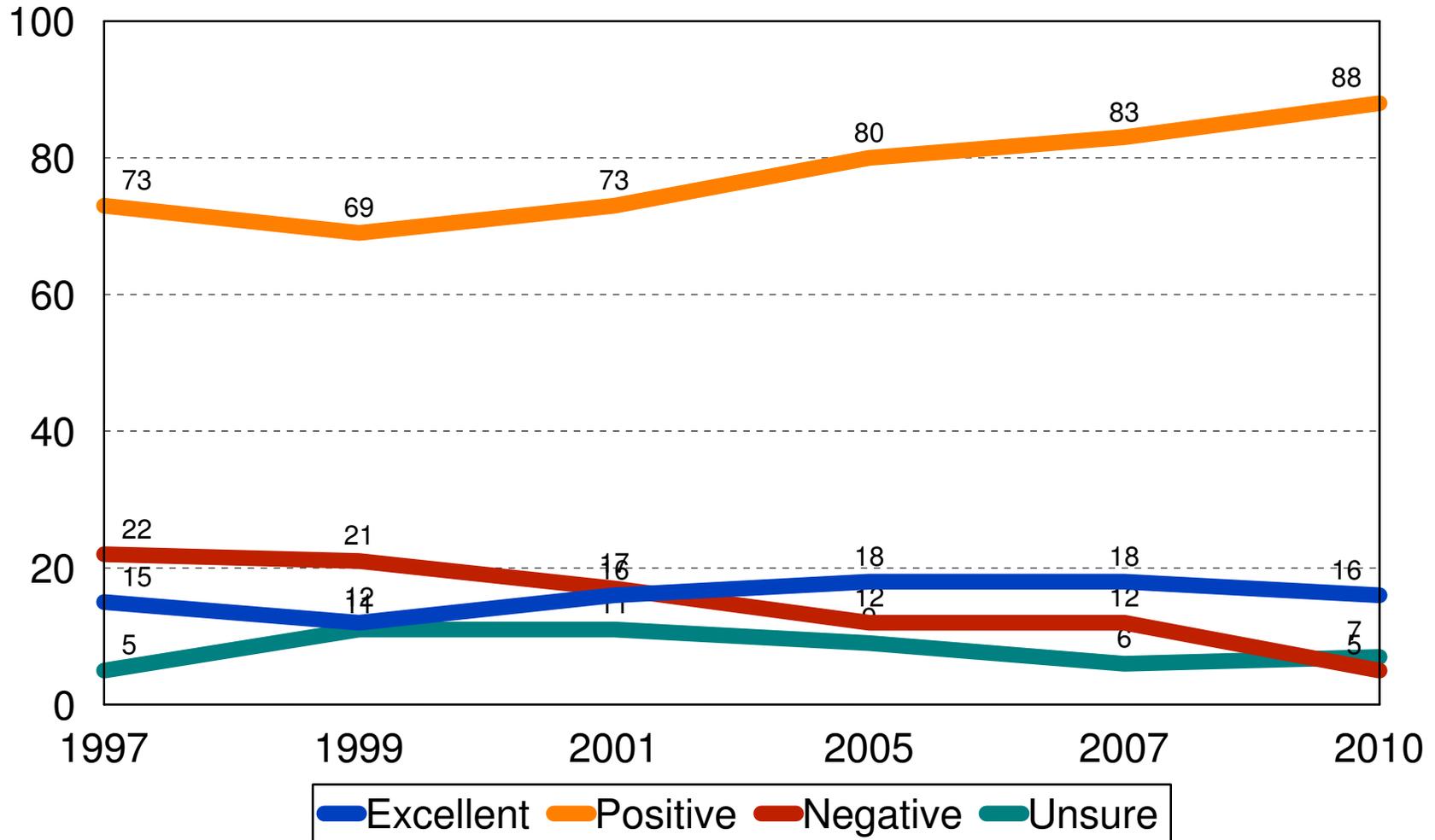
Fire Protection

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Storm Drainage/Flood Control

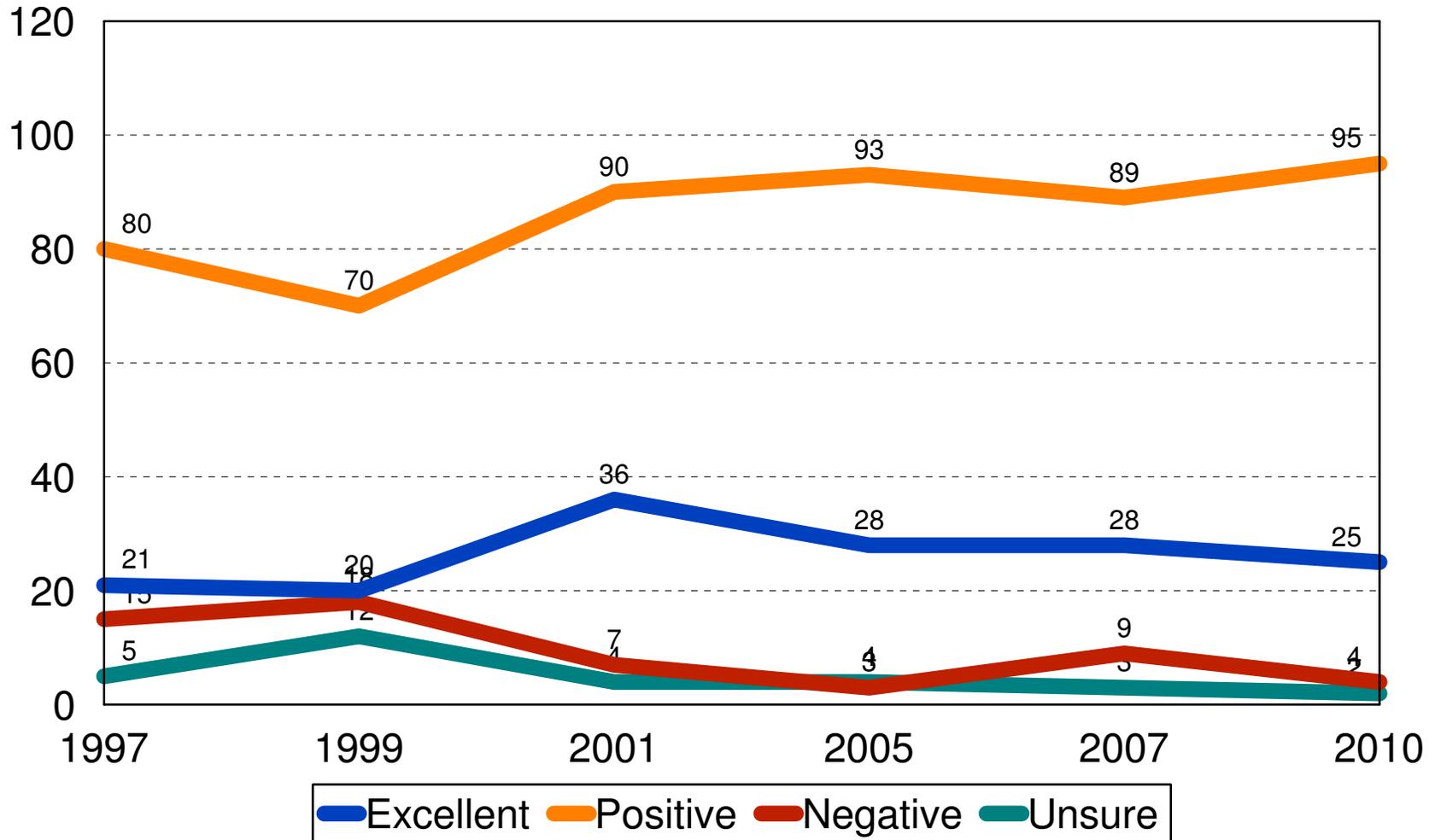
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Park Maintenance

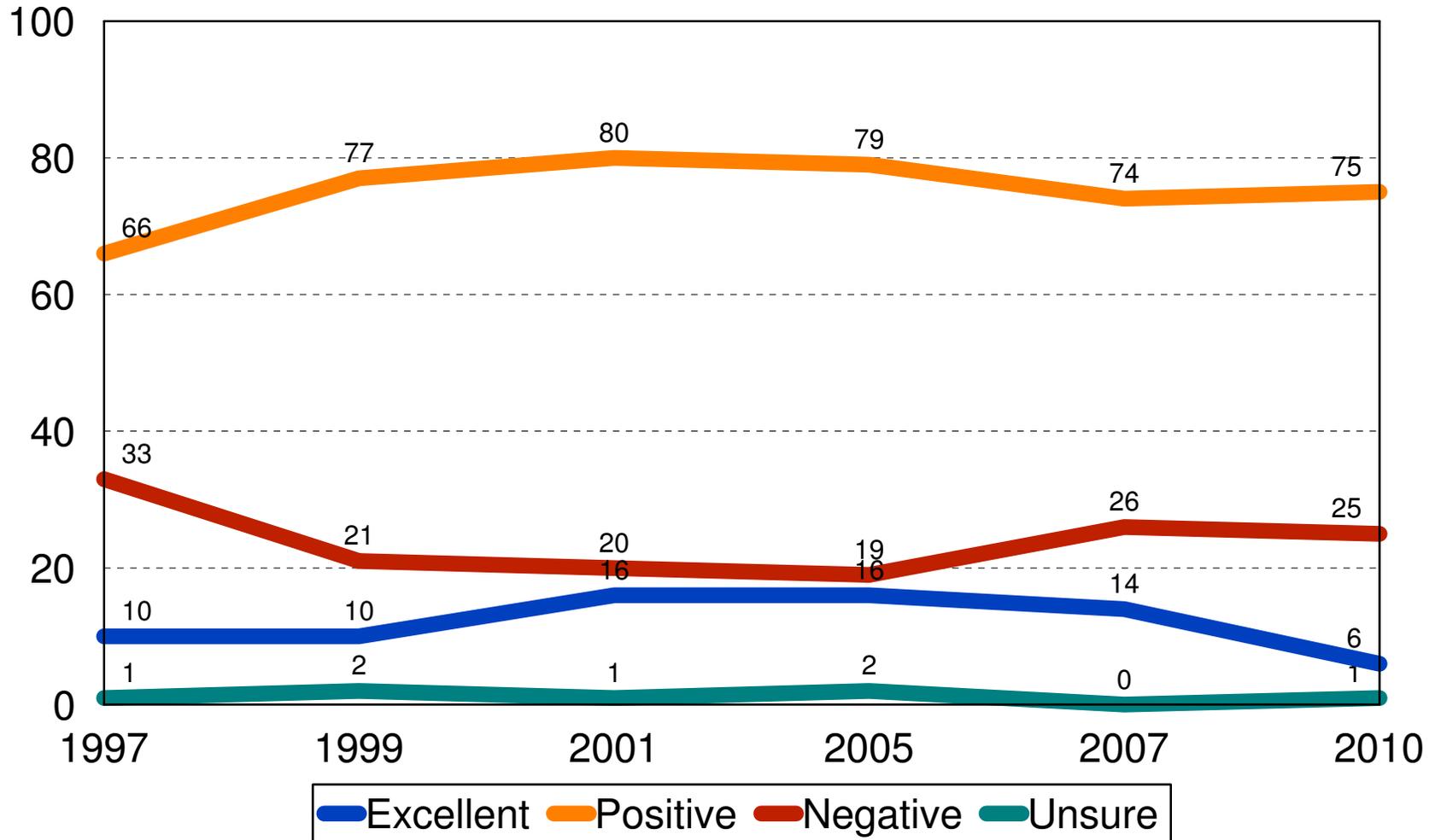
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Street Repair and Maintenance

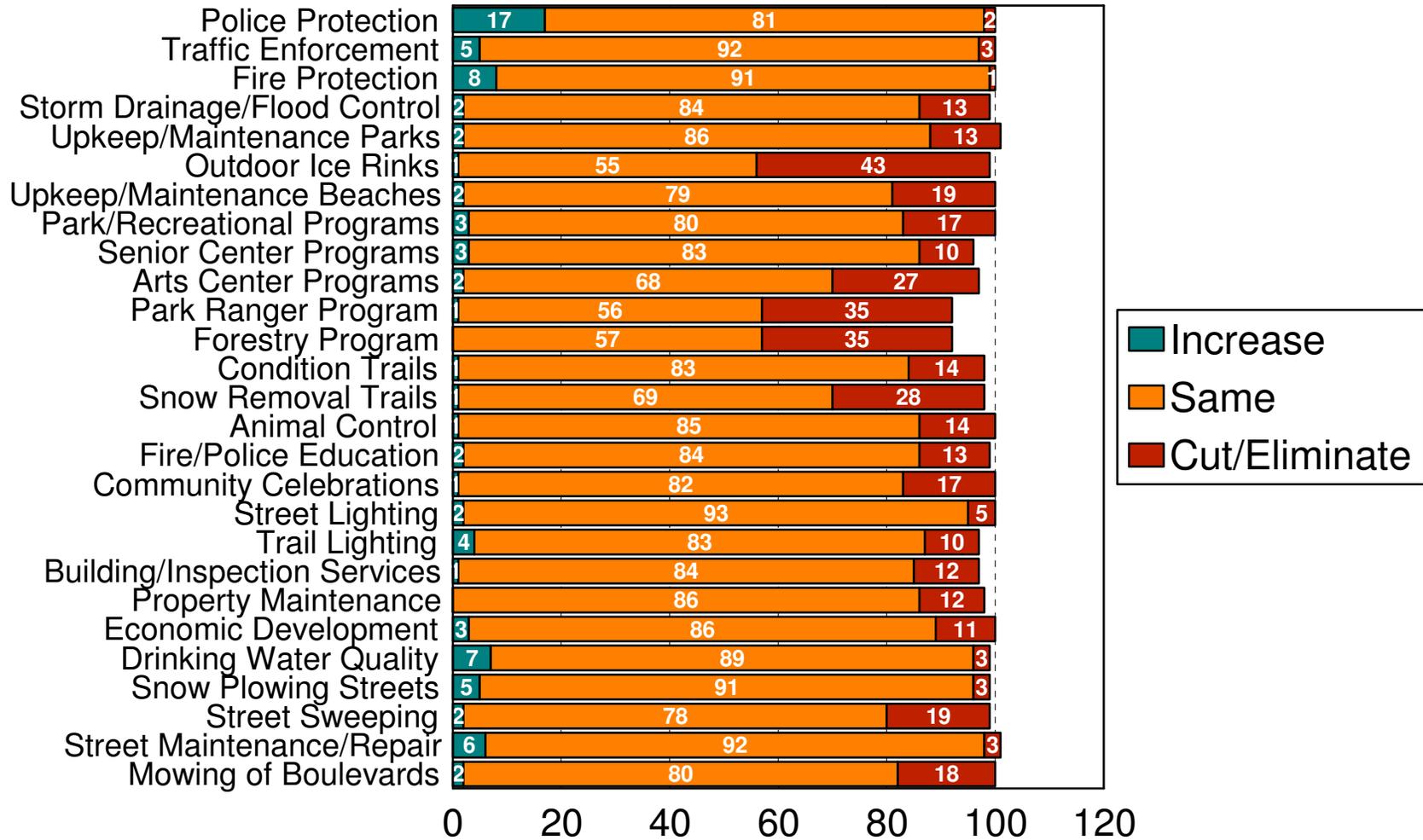
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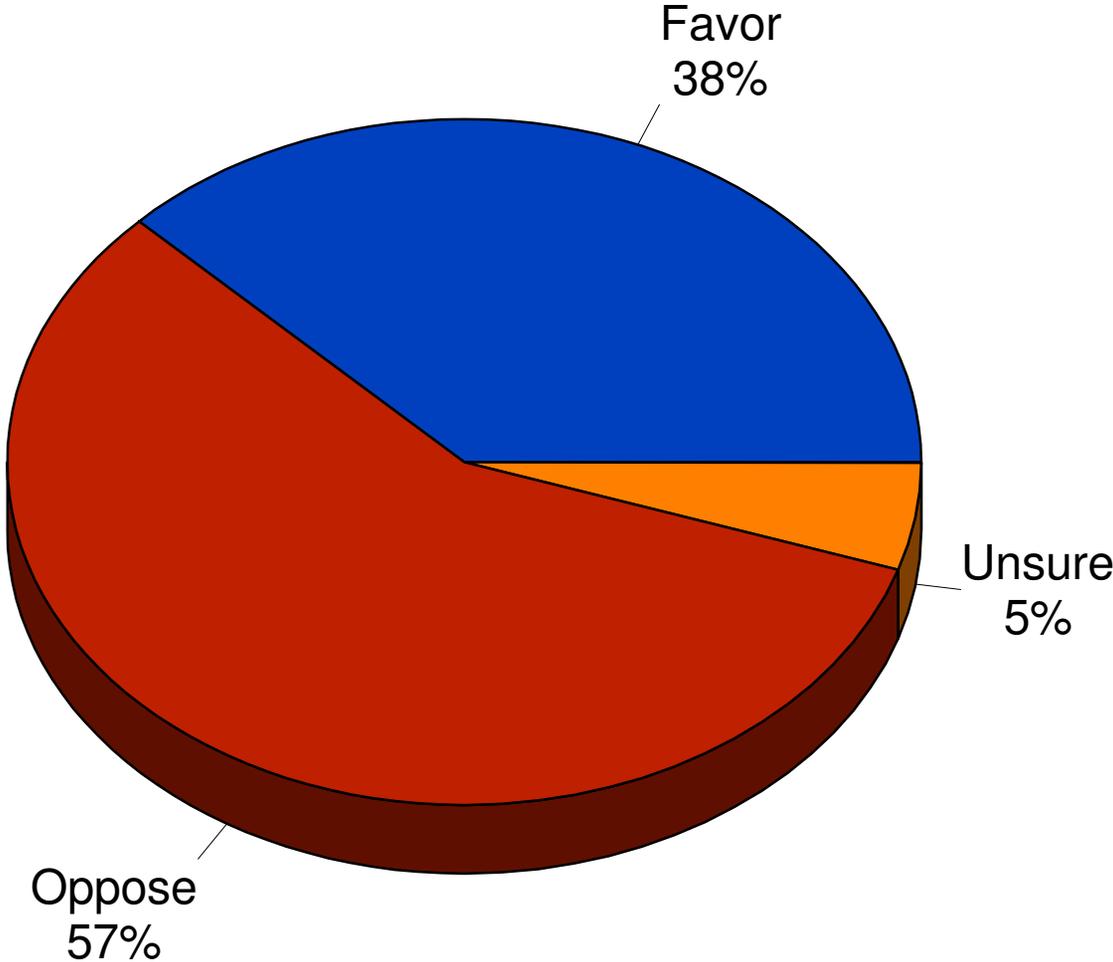
Disposition of City Services

2010 City of Lakeville Study



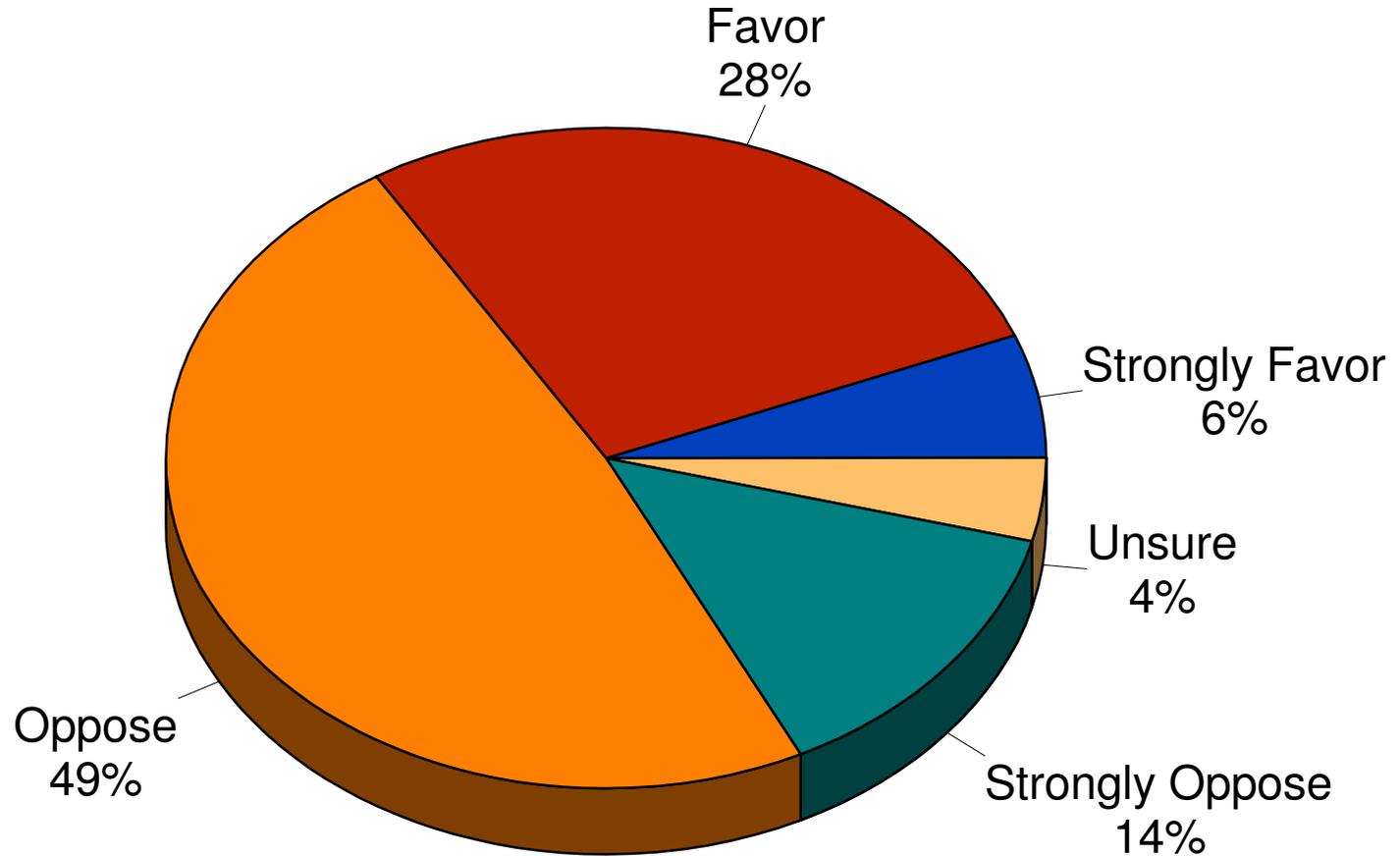
Tax Increase to Maintain

2010 City of Lakeville Study



Service Cuts for Lower Taxes

2010 City of Lakeville Study



Communications Preference

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