

# Virginia State of the Commute Survey: Five Key Findings

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# Background and Objectives

- The 2007 Virginia State-of-the-Commute (SOC) project was a survey of approximately 7,000 employed residents of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The purpose of the survey was to document trends in commuting behavior and collect attitudinal data regarding Virginia commuters.
- The survey expanded on one conducted by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOCG) in 2007.

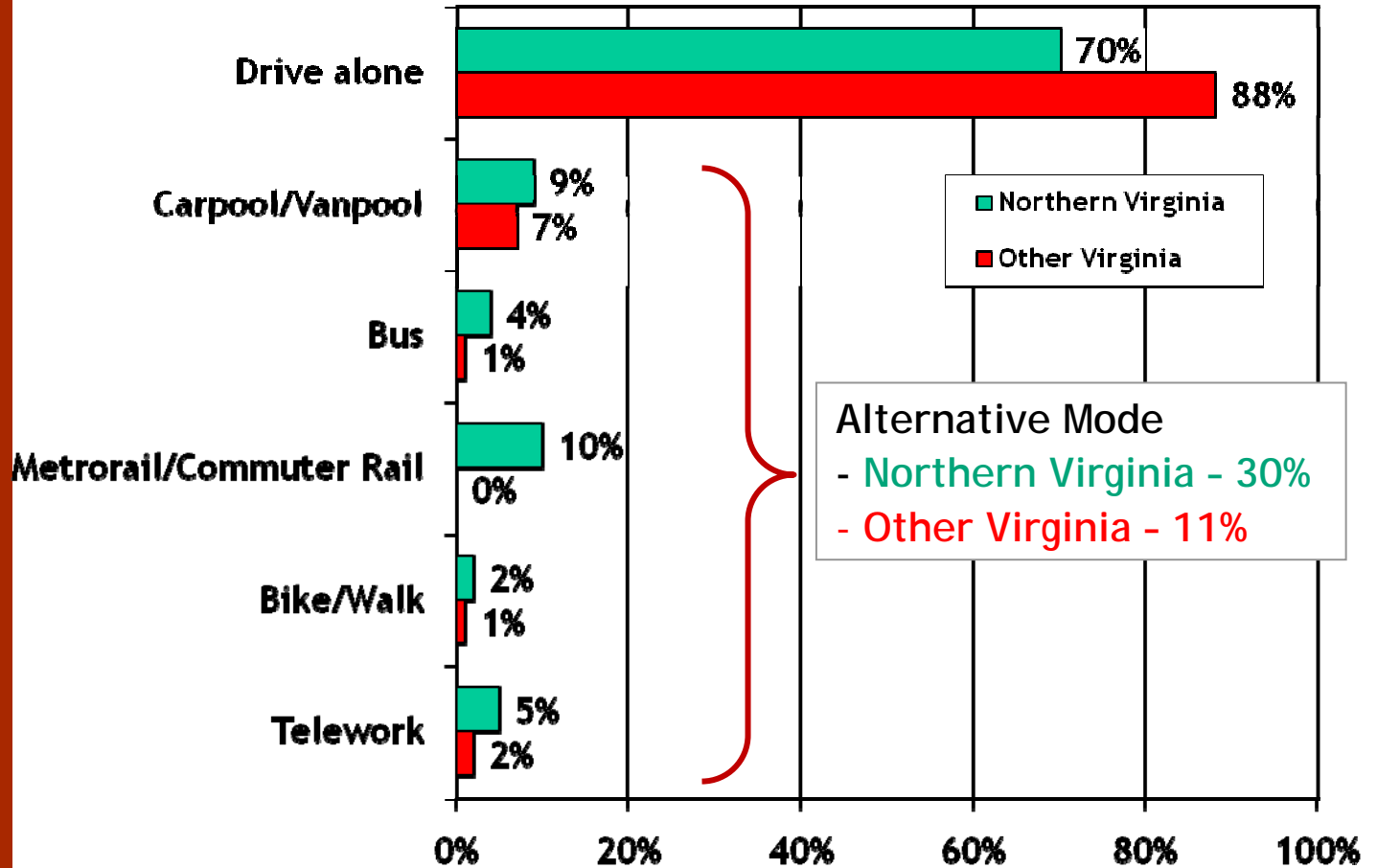
## Objectives

- Develop a profile of the mode split for Virginia
- Understand differences between market areas
- Assess awareness and role of Transportation Choices
- Assess support for Transportation Choices

# 1.

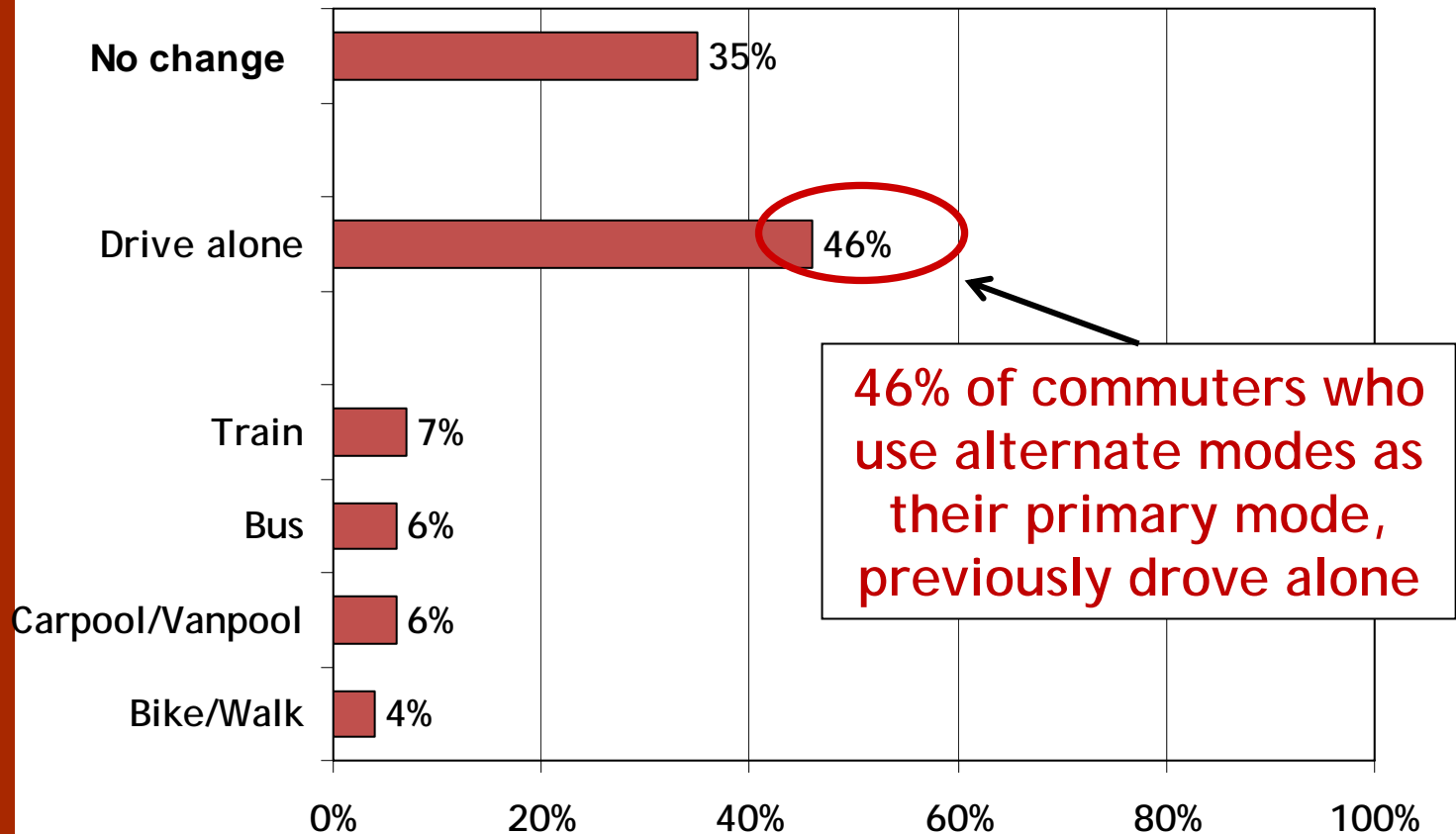
## *When It Comes to Work Trips, Virginians Are Embracing Transportation Choices*

# Alternate Mode Share Is Significantly Higher in Northern Virginia Than in Other Areas



Primary Mode based on Q15 Now thinking about LAST week, how did you get to work each day . . .

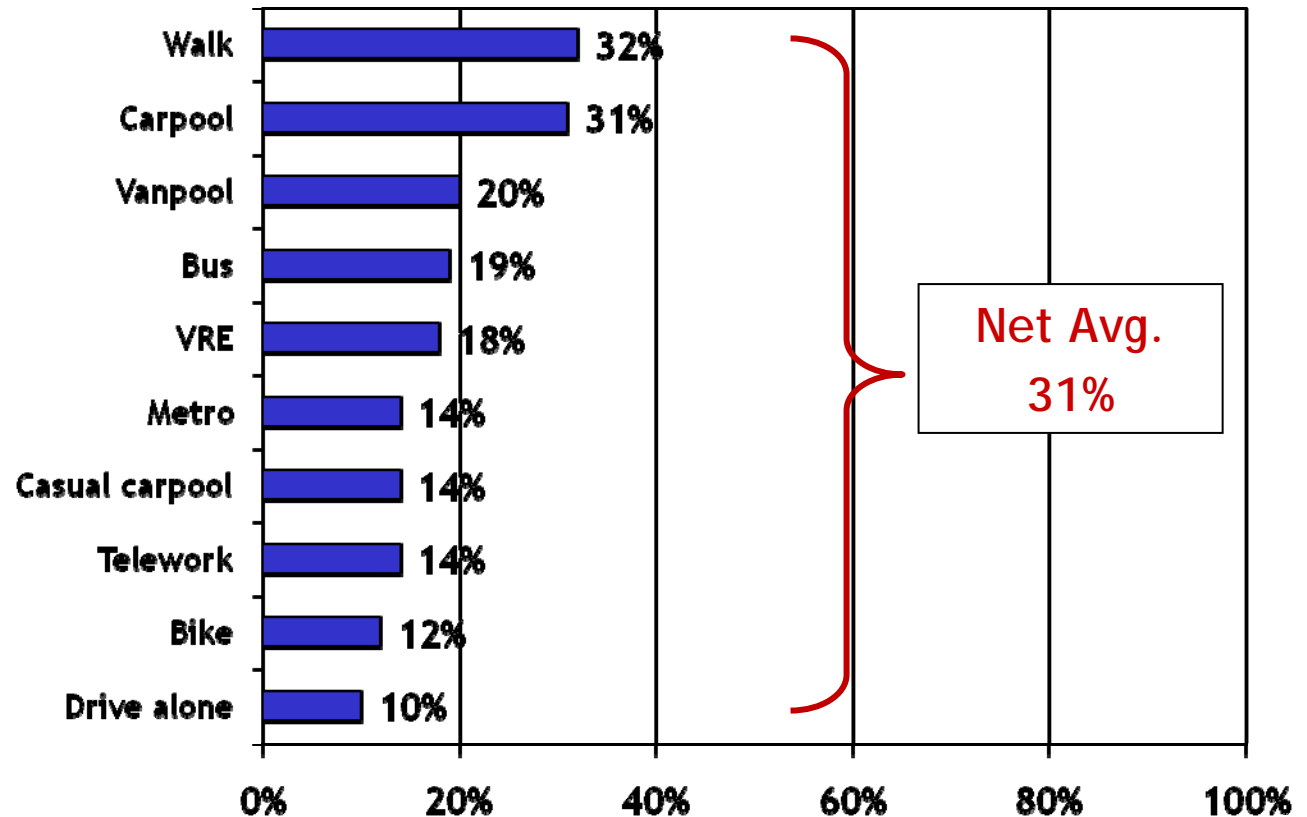
# Transportation Choices Are Attracting People That Use To Drive Alone



Q19a Before starting to <RECENT MODE Q15> to work, what types of transportation did you use to get to work?

# One Out of Three (31%) Started Using Their Current Mode in Past 12 Months or Less

-- % Starting to Use Mode 12 months Ago or Less --



Q18 How long have you been using (mode Q 15) to get to work?

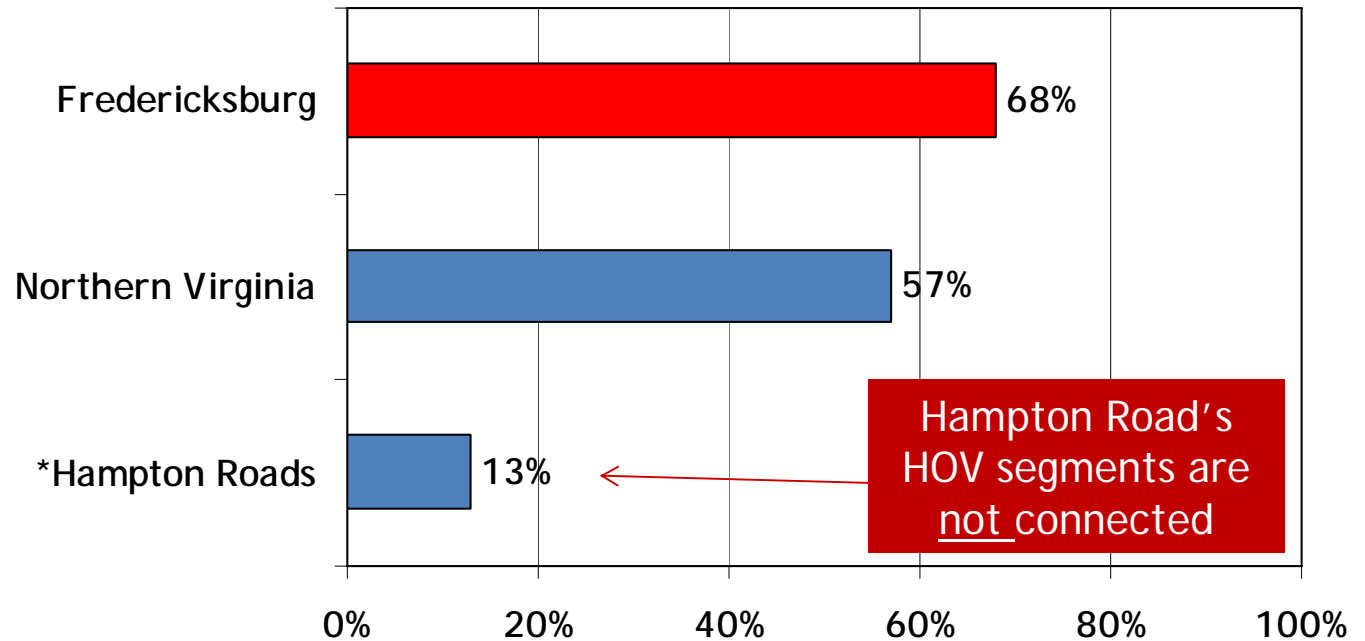
Q34 How long have you been telecommuting?

# 2.

## *Infrastructure and Outreach Are Key for Transportation Choices*

# HOV System Infrastructure Makes a Bigger Difference

Hampton Road's HOV Lanes Are Not Connected

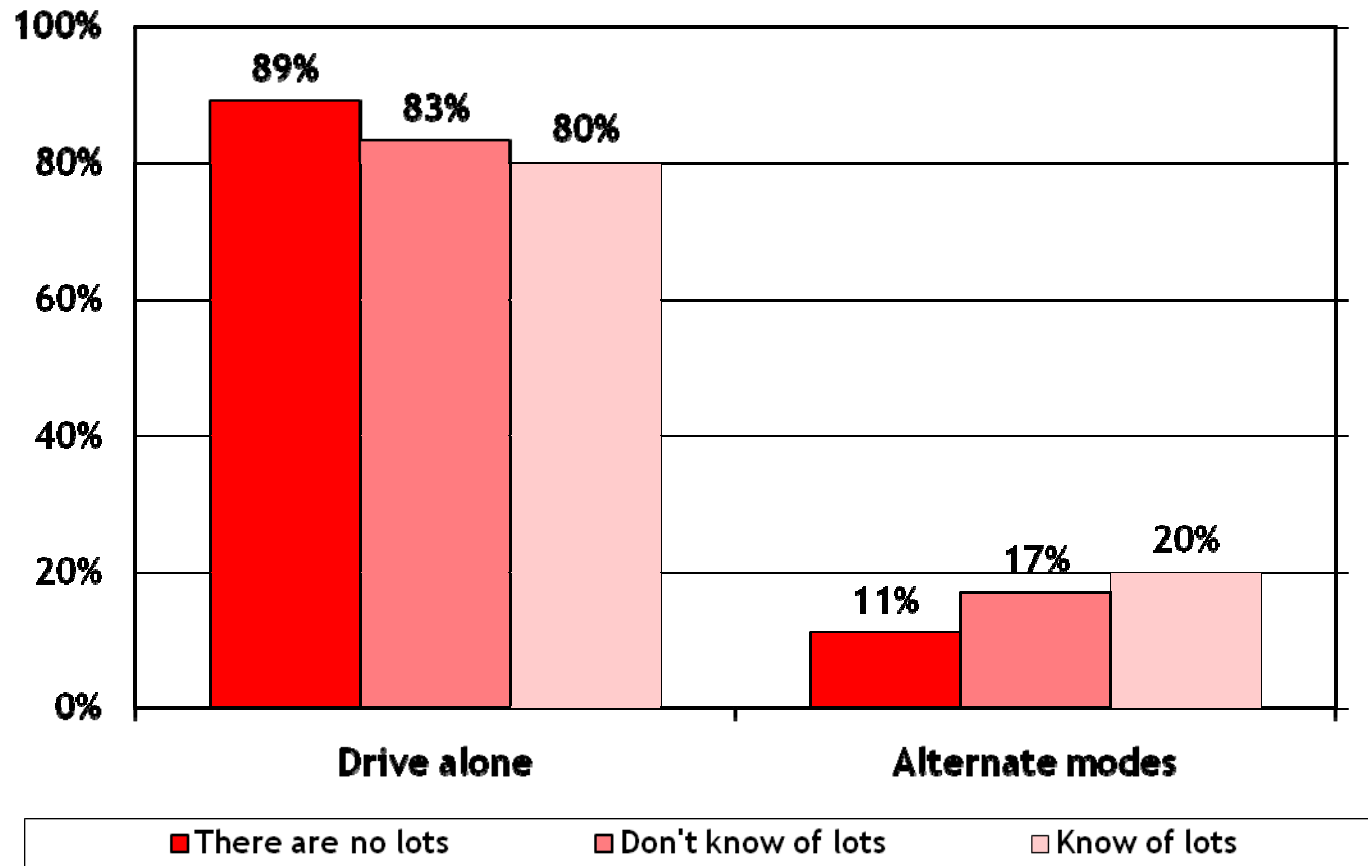


VASOC Q51. Did the HOV lane influence your decision to use your current way of commuting?



# Park & Ride Lots Make a Difference

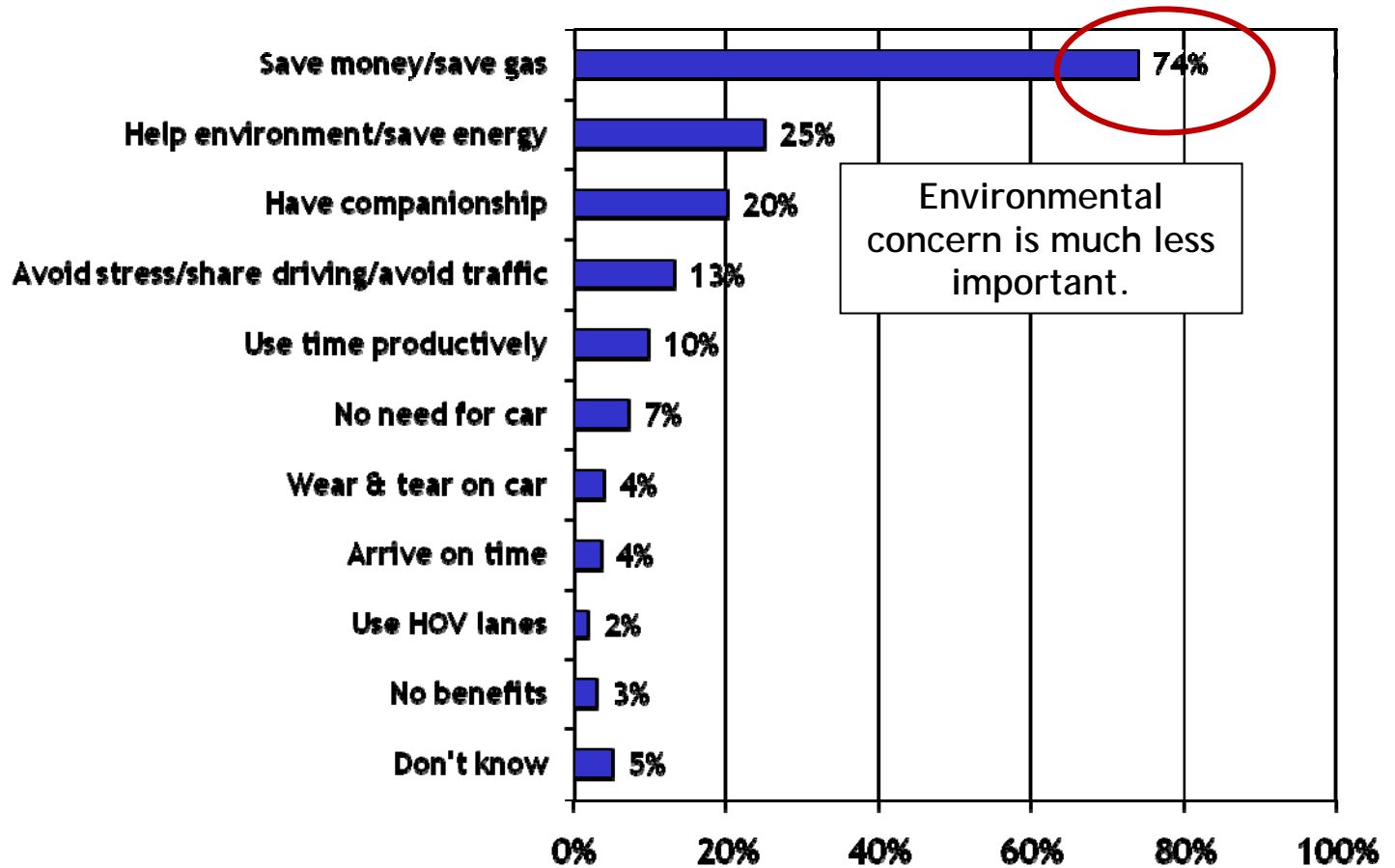
## The Drive Alone Rate Is Lower When There Are Park and Ride Lots



VASOC Q52. Do you know the locations of Park and Ride lots along the route that you take to work?  
VASOC Q15. Primary Mode

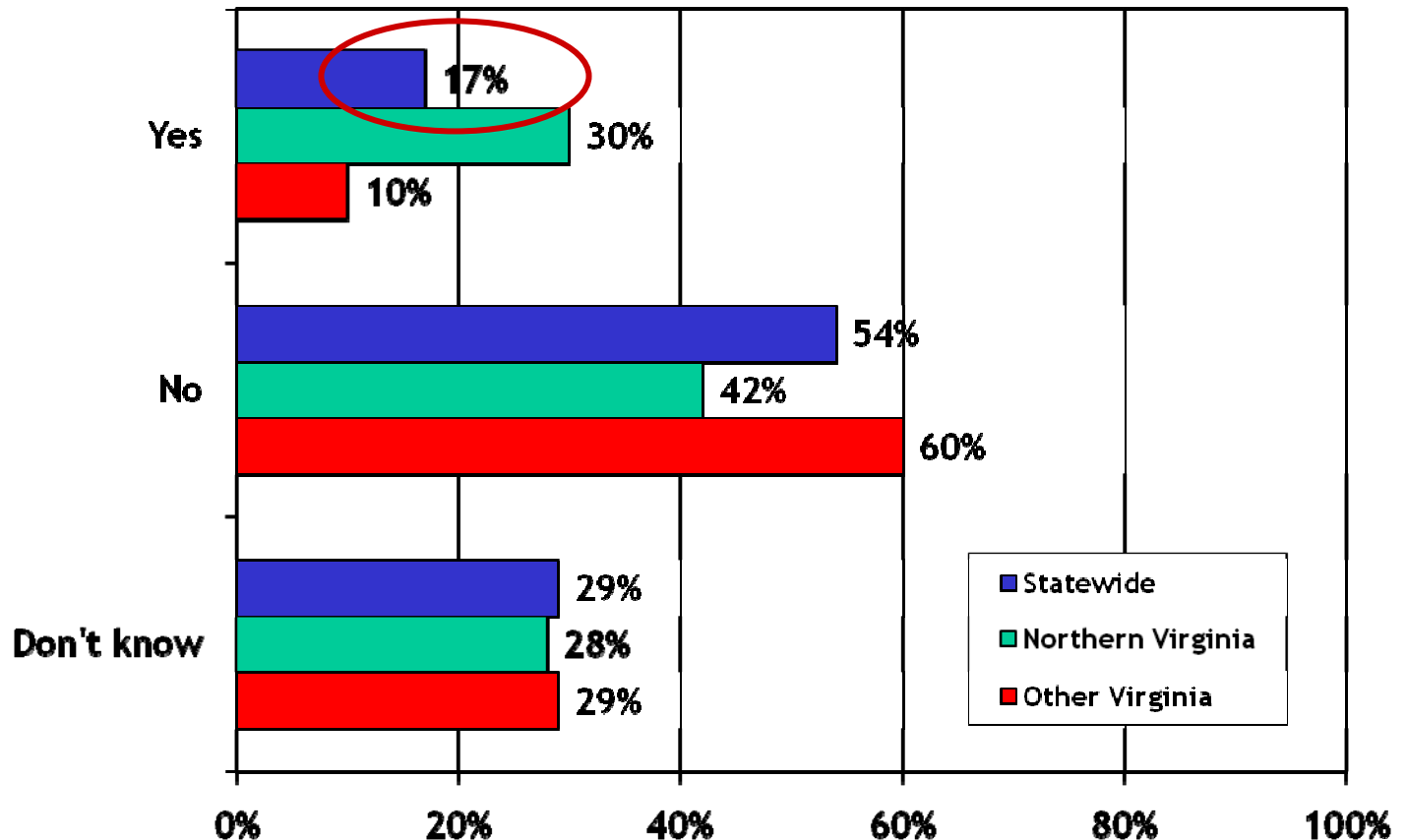
# Majority of Commuters Now Recognize the Benefits of Ridesharing/Transit

## 74% Can Cite #1 Benefit



Q56f What personal benefits do you think people who rideshare receive from using this type of transportation ( ridesharing - carpool, vanpool, bus or train)?

# Less Than 2 in 10 Are Aware of Guaranteed Ride Home Service



Q102 Do you know if there is a regional GRH or Guaranteed Ride Home/Emergency Ride Home program available in the event of unexpected emergencies and unscheduled overtime for commuters who rideshare or use public transportation?

# 3.

## *Employer Involvement Lifts Participation in Transportation Choices*

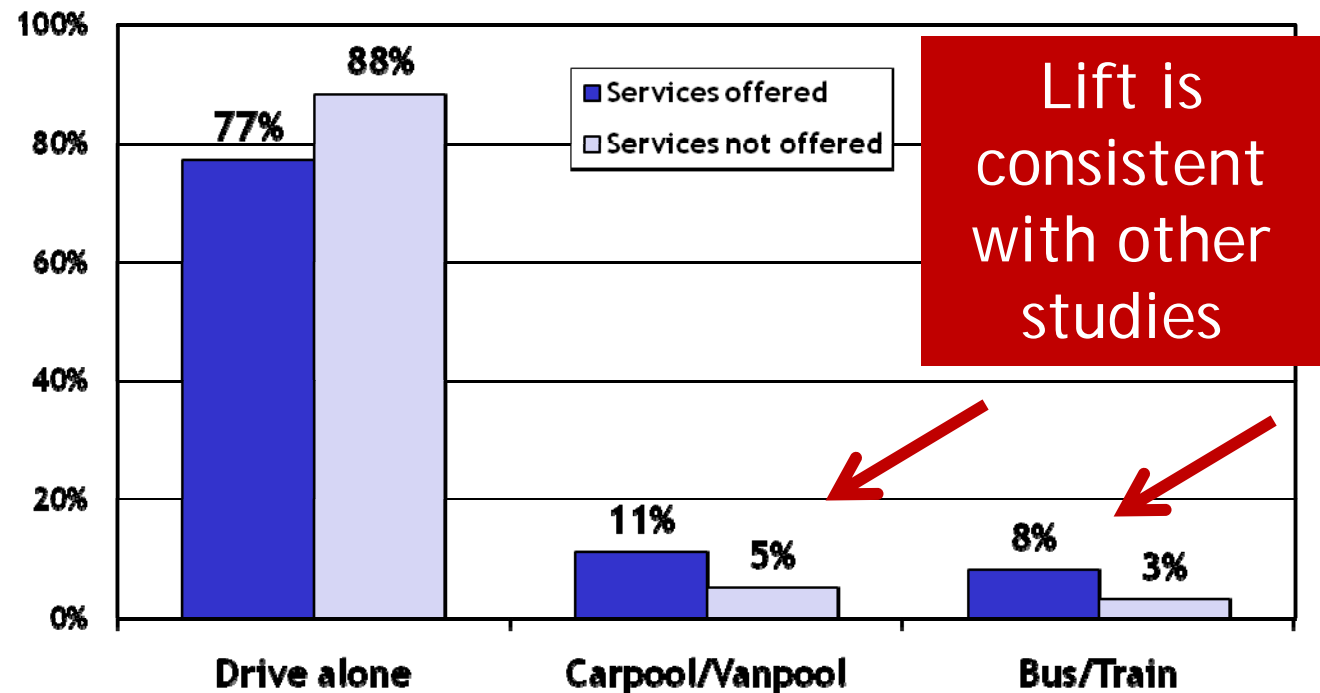
## 43% of Commuters Report Having One or More Employer-Provided Commute Services Available; The Proportion in Northern Virginia Is 10 Points Higher Than in Other Areas of Virginia

	<u>All VA</u>	<u>No VA</u>	<u>Other VA</u>
<b>Any commute service</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>40%</b>
Transit/Vanpool subsidy	14%	33%	6%
Commute info	12%	20%	9%
Preferential parking	11%	16%	9%
Bike/walk assistance	12%	17%	10%
Guaranteed Ride Home	20%	10%	24%
Carpool subsidy	2%	4%	2%

Q89/92/93/94/95/96/97 Next, please tell me if your employer makes any of the following commute services or benefits available to you. [Read list of services]

# The Proportion of Those Who Drive Alone Is Higher Among Those Whose Employers Provide No Commute Assistance Service

-- *Use of Transportation Choices are twice as high when commute services are available. --*



Q15 Primary mode (mode used most often) vs Q89-Q97 Does employer offer any commute assistance service other than free parking.

# 4.

## *Telework Has Tremendous Growth Potential*

# Overall, 1 in 10 Virginia Workers Telework 2 in 10 Northern Virginia Workers Telework

-- But workers who Telework have similar Telework characteristics, regardless of their home location.--

	<u>All VA</u>	<u>No VA</u>	<u>Other VA</u>
<b>% commuters who ...</b>			
- Telework (any frequency)	12%	21%	9%
- Telework 1+ day/wk	7%	12%	5%
Avg Telework days/week	1.7	1.6	1.9
Formal Telework program	39%	46%	35%
Informal arrangement	61%	54%	65%
Telework duration (months)	54	53	55

Q13 [Definition of Telework read]. Based on this definition, are you a telecommuter?

Q14 How often do you usually telecommute?

Q34 How long have you been telecommuting?



# Teleworking Replaces Nearly 6% of Weekly Commute Trips in VA

- On average, teleworkers Telework 1.7 days per week.

	<u>All VA</u>	<u>No VA</u>	<u>Other VA</u>
% commuters who ...			
- Telework (any frequency)	12%	21%	8%
- Telework 1+ day/wk	7%	12%	5%
<b>Estimated # Teleworkers</b>	<b><u>438,000</u></b>	<b><u>216,800</u></b>	<b><u>221,200</u></b>
Avg. Telework days/week	1.7	1.6	1.9

Q13 [Definition of Telework read]. Based on this definition, are you a telecommuter?

Q14 How often do you usually telecommute?

# There Is Substantial Telework Potential in Virginia

## *Regardless of the Workplace Geographic Region*

- Nearly a quarter of non-teleworkers “could and would” telework if offered the opportunity.
- Statewide, this equals about **751,000** potential new teleworkers.

	<u>Northern VA</u>	<u>Richmond</u>	<u>Hampton Roads</u>	<u>Other VA Areas</u>	<u>Total VA</u>
<b>Non-teleworkers</b> who ...					
Have Telework-appropriate job responsibilities	38%	35%	31%	25%	31%
Are interested in Telework	33%	27%	21%	17%	24%
- Occasional	22%	18%	12%	10%	15%
- Regular	11%	9%	9%	7%	9%
<b>Potential New Teleworkers</b>	<b>268,000</b>	<b>120,000</b>	<b>152,000</b>	<b>211,000</b>	<b>751,000</b>
(Not discounted)					

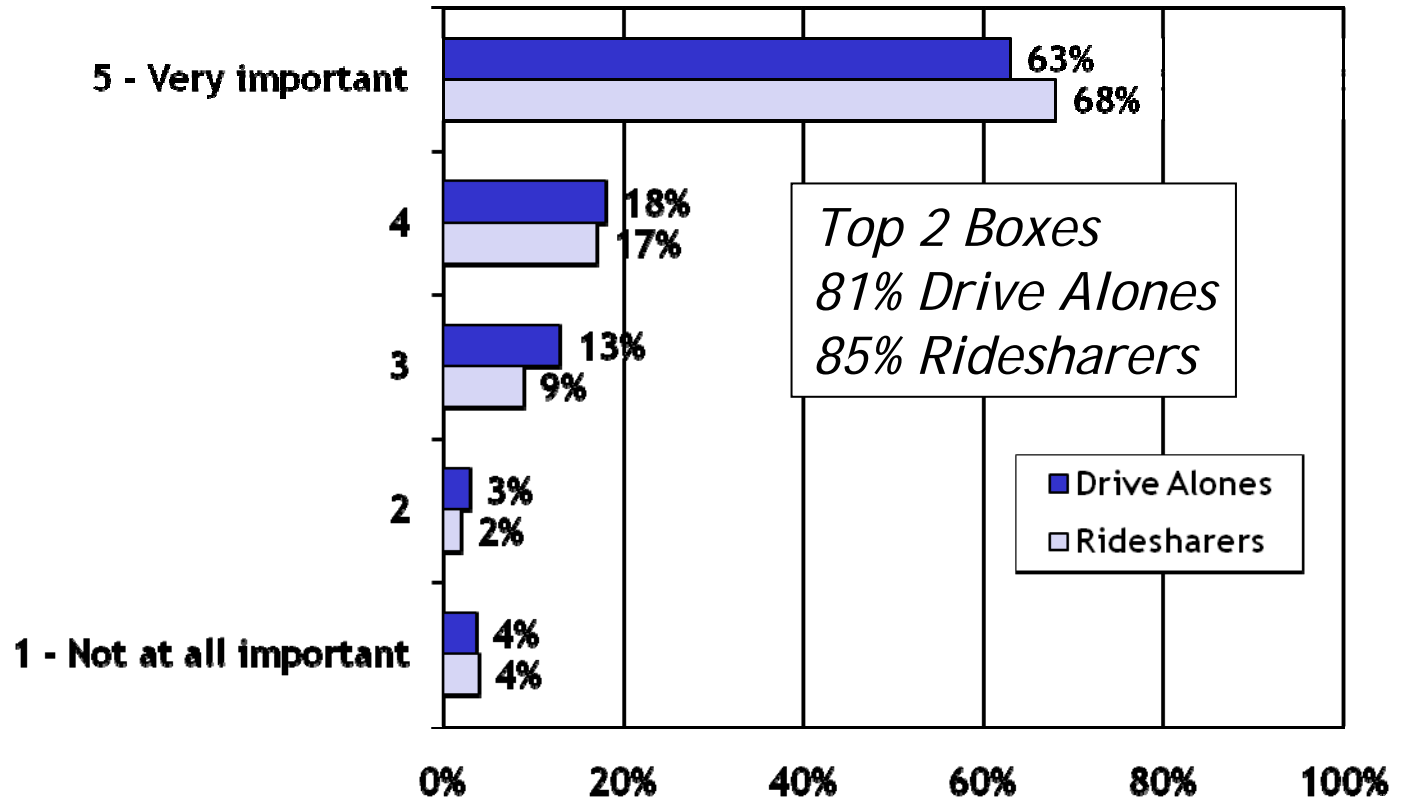
Q14e Would your job responsibilities allow you to work at a location other than your main work place at least occasionally?

Q14f Would you be interested in telecommuting on an occasional or regular basis?

# 5.

## *Investment in Transportation Choices Has Broad Based Support*

# Support for Investment in Transportation Choices Is Equally Strong Among Both Ridesharers and Drive Alones



Drive Alones  
(asked Q56n)

n = 2,995

Ridesharers  
(asked Q56r)

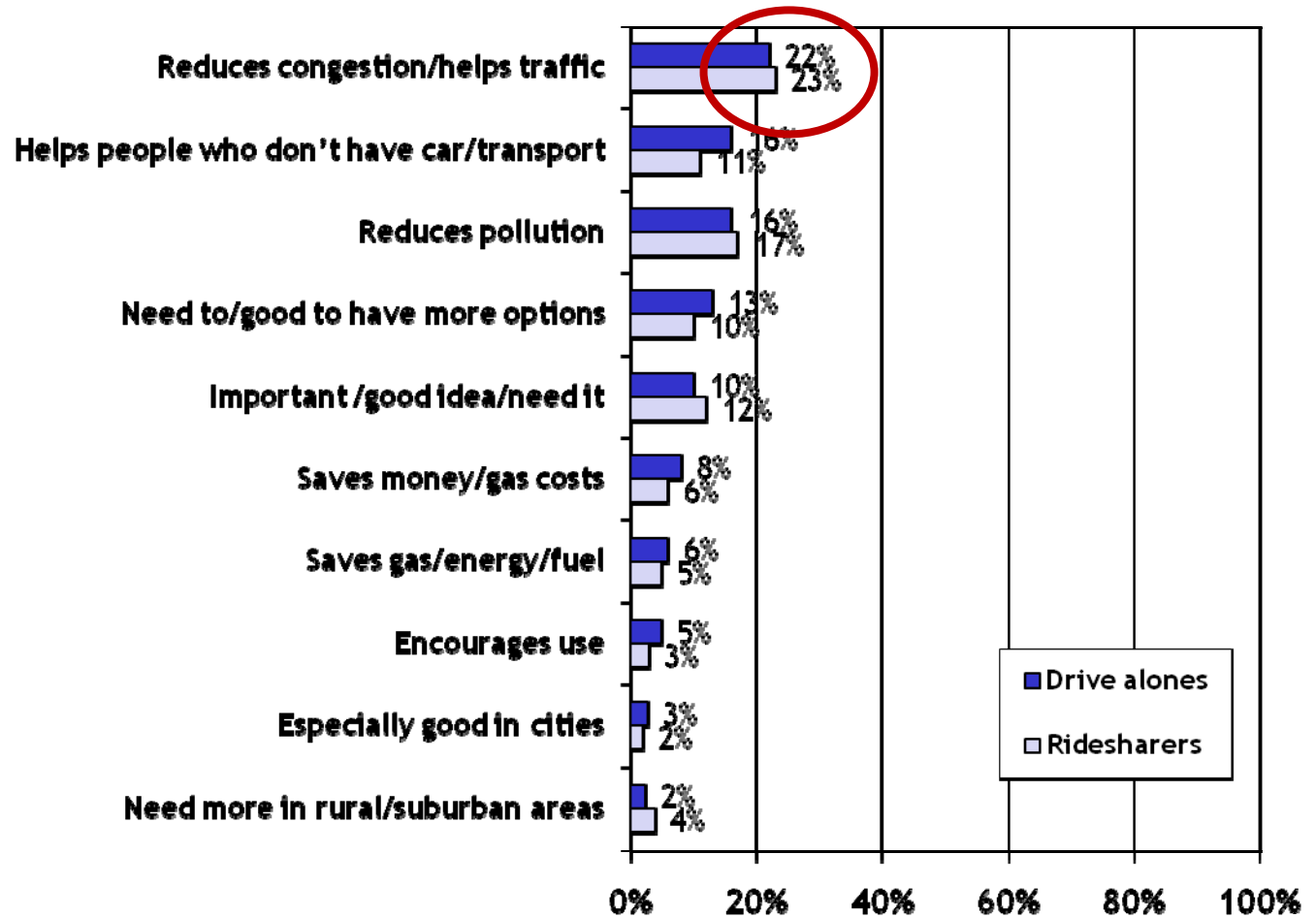
n = 496

Does not include those who said "Don't know."

Q56n/56r (Even though you might not carpool, vanpool, or ride a bus), how important to you is it that Virginia invests in programs to support and make these transportation options more available to commuters?

# Reasons for Supporting Investment in Ridesharing/Transit Programs Are Similar for Drive Alones and Ridesharers – *Reduces Congestion*

List includes top 10 most common reasons for supporting investment in ridesahring.



DAs

n = 3,029

Ridesharers

n = 501

Q56o/56s. Why do you say that?

# Summary: The Five Key Findings From the 2007 State of the Commute Survey

1. When it comes to work trips Virginians are embracing transportation choices
2. Infrastructure and outreach are key for transportation choices
3. Employer involvement lifts participation in ridesharing and transit
4. Telework has tremendous growth potential
5. Investment in transportation choices has broad based support



Any  
Questions?