

Map Source: Iowa Department of Natural Resources, "Natural Resources Geographic Information Systems Library," <http://www.igsb.uiowa.edu/nrgislib/>.

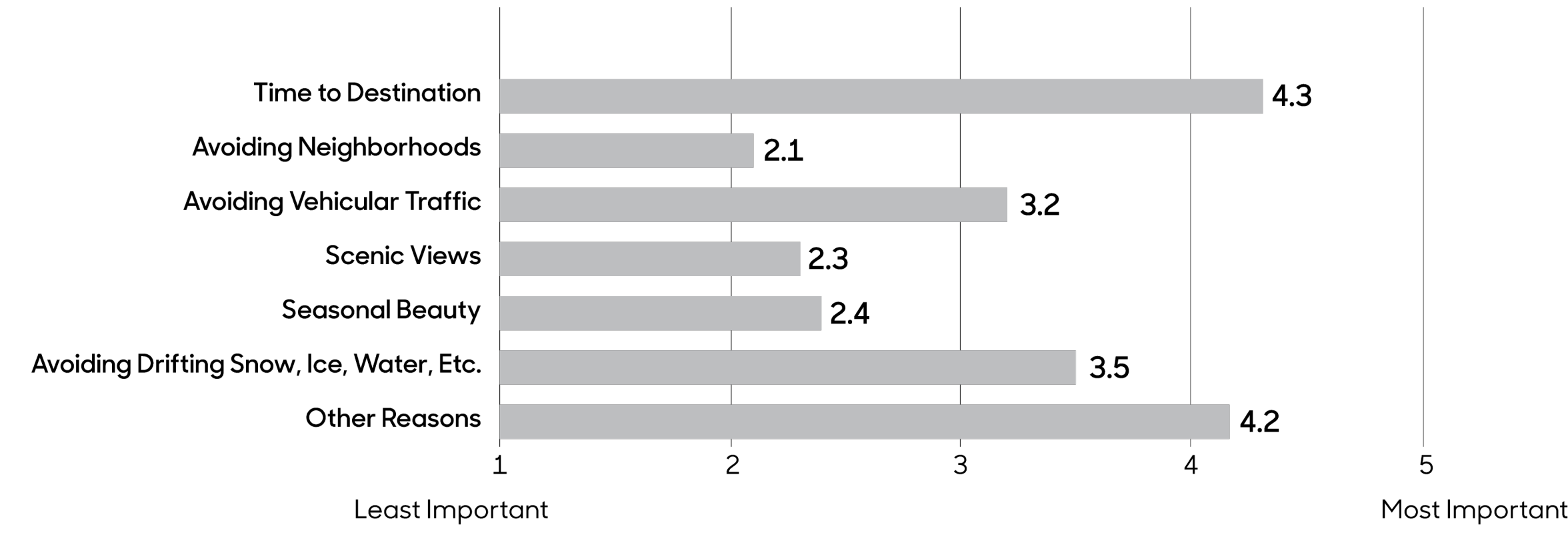
How They Get There

This map shows the commuting routes identified by 88 survey respondents. The frequency that the routes are used is depicted by their thickness, with most frequently used routes being the thickest. The primary commuting corridor in Decorah is Highway 9 to the southeast. Some people also go north-south on Highway 52 and travel on County Roads W38 and A34. In town, Montgomery Street, Water Street, and College Drive to Locust Road are the most heavily traveled.

The circulation patterns that emerge when routes for biking, walking, and commuting are overlaid suggest suitable types of transportation enhancements. For example, where pedestrian and vehicular traffic intersect, such improvements could include creating better visibility, defining crossing points, or improving signage.

Why They Go That Way

On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the most important, survey participants ranked the characteristics and features that factored into their choice of commuting route. Among Decorah participants, time to destination is the most important factor, with a mean value of 4.3, followed by other reasons (4.2), which include avoiding schools at start and end times, road conditions, avoiding stoplights, and for walkers, availability of sidewalks. Avoiding weather-related issues such as snow and ice is also considered important, with a mean value of 3.5. Avoiding neighborhoods, scenic views, and seasonal beauty are not critical factors in determining commuting routes.



Decorah Commuting Routes

Transportation Behavior and Needs Survey
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