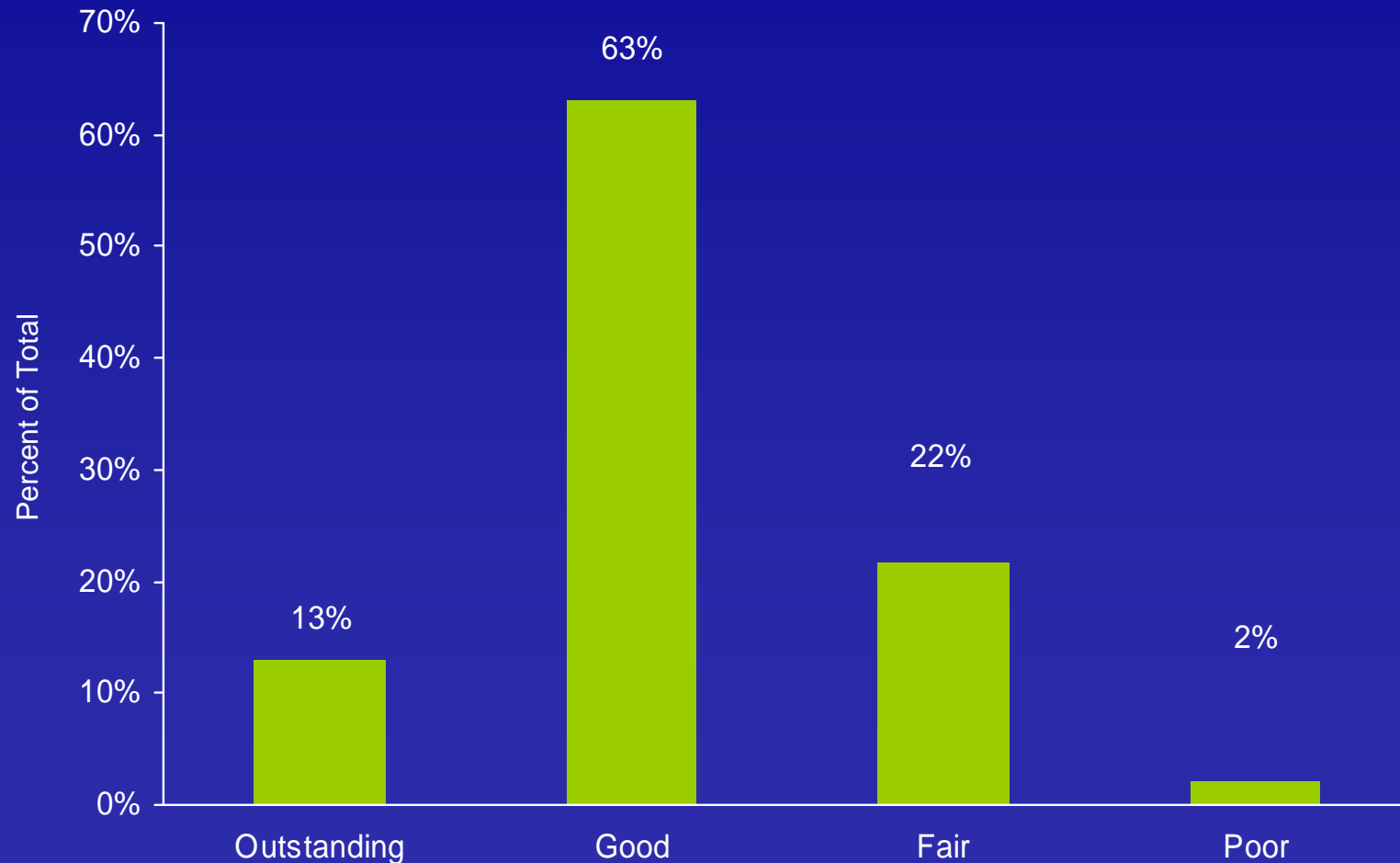




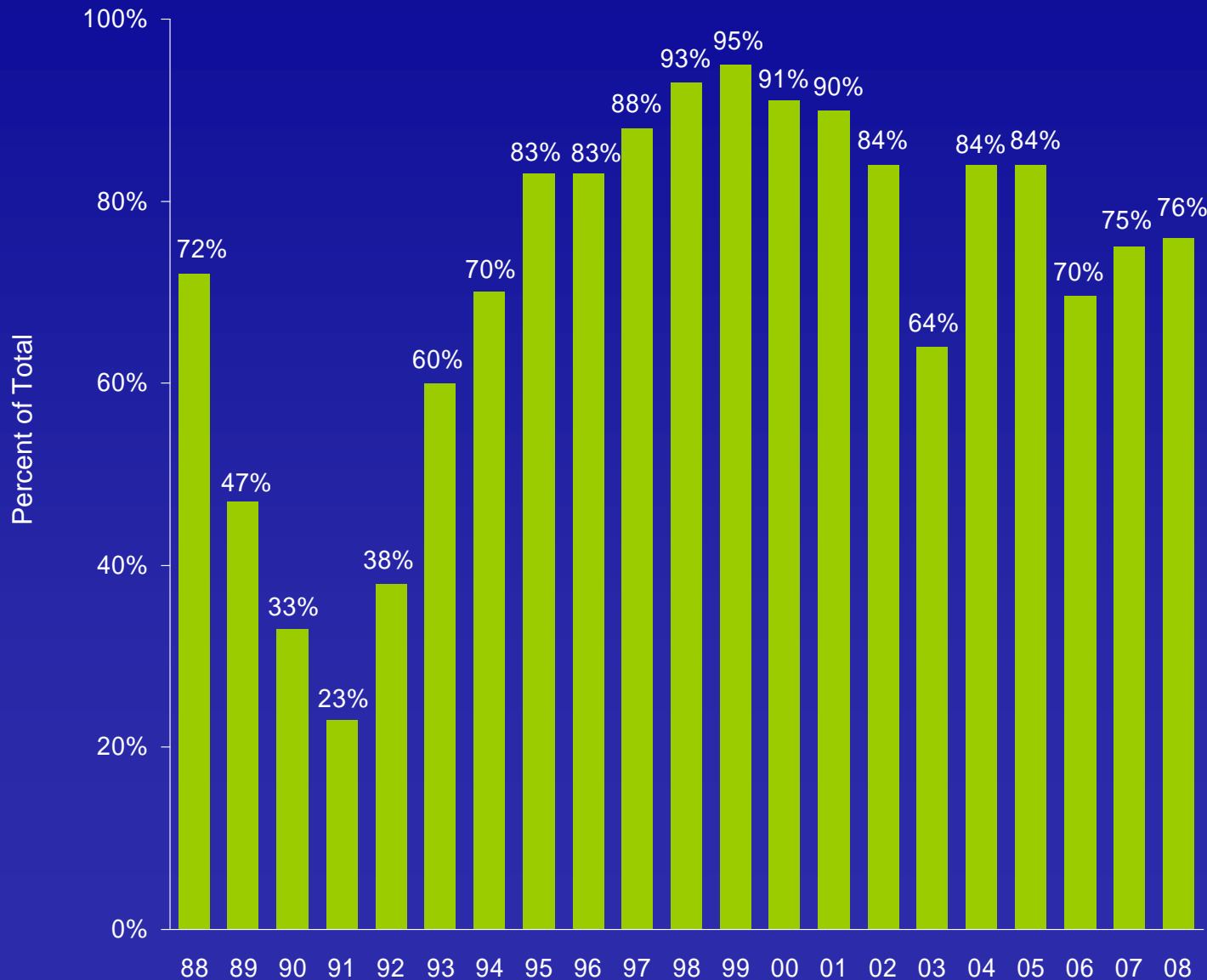
**Massachusetts High Technology Council
2008 CEO Business Climate &
Public Policy Priority Survey**

February 15, 2008

Massachusetts' Rating As a Place to Create, Operate and Expand Technology Businesses in 2008

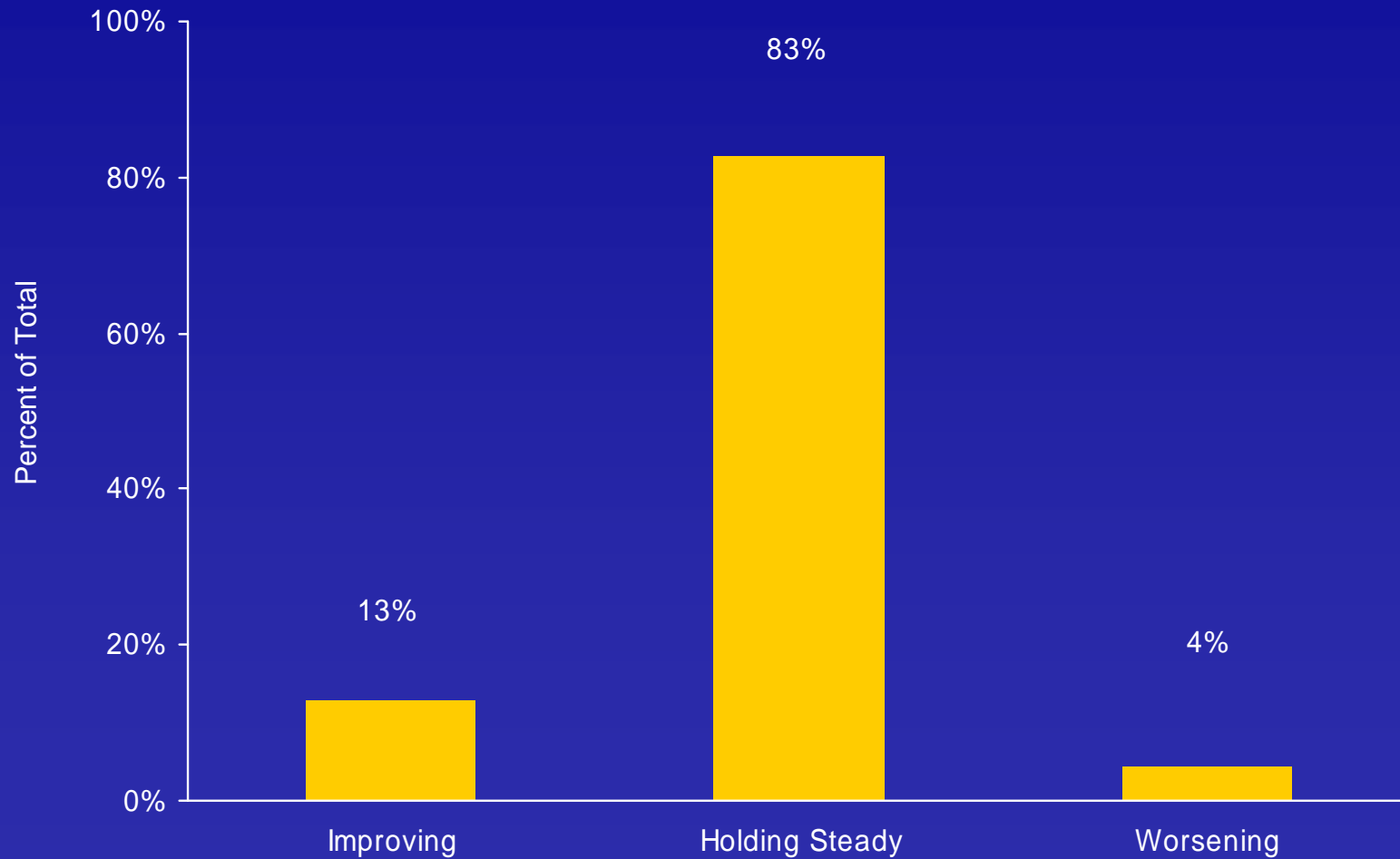


Historical Outstanding/Good Rating of the Mass. Technology Climate (1988–2008)

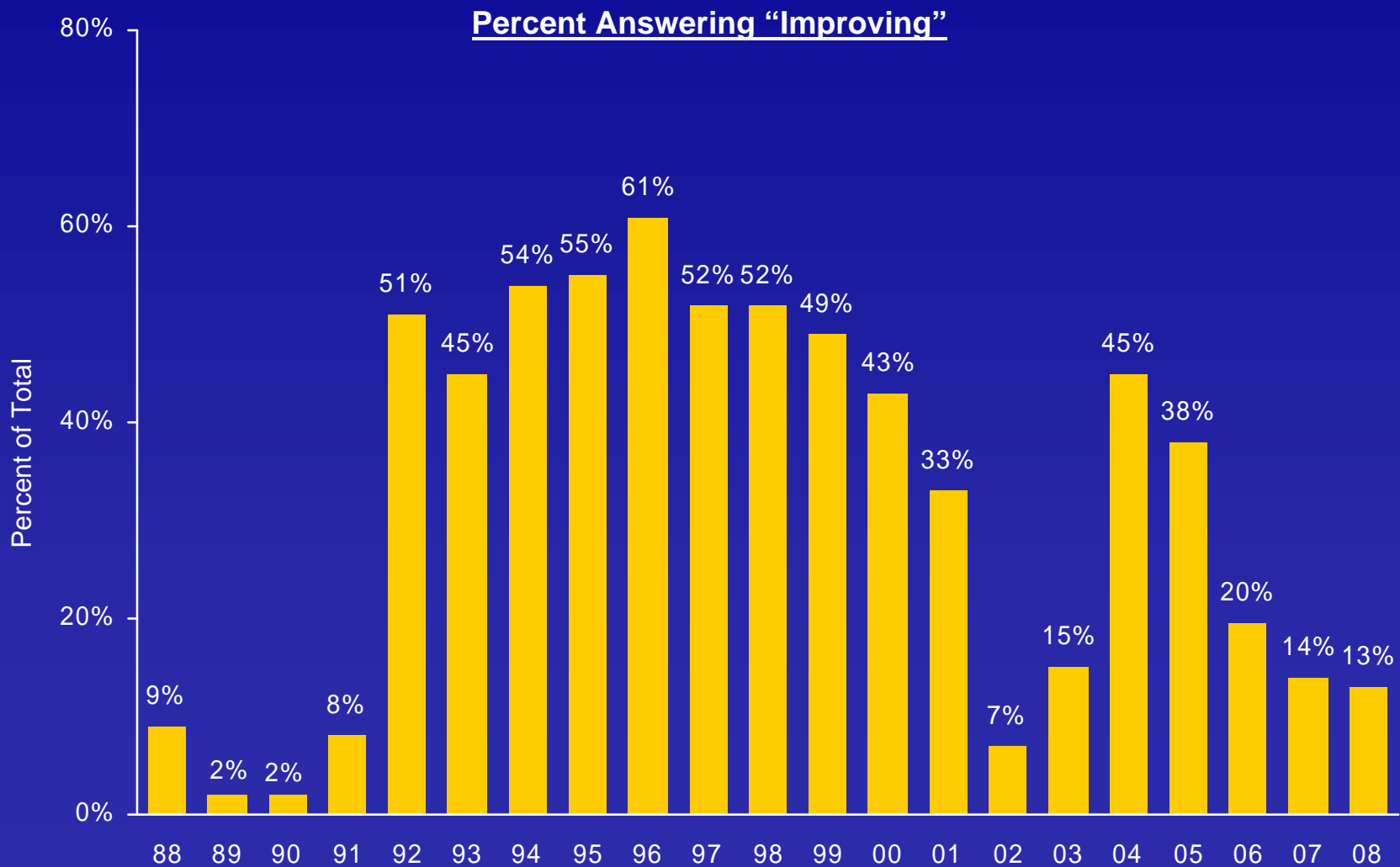


Source: Massachusetts High Technology Council's 2008 CEO Survey

In Which Direction is the Mass. Technology Climate Heading in 2008?

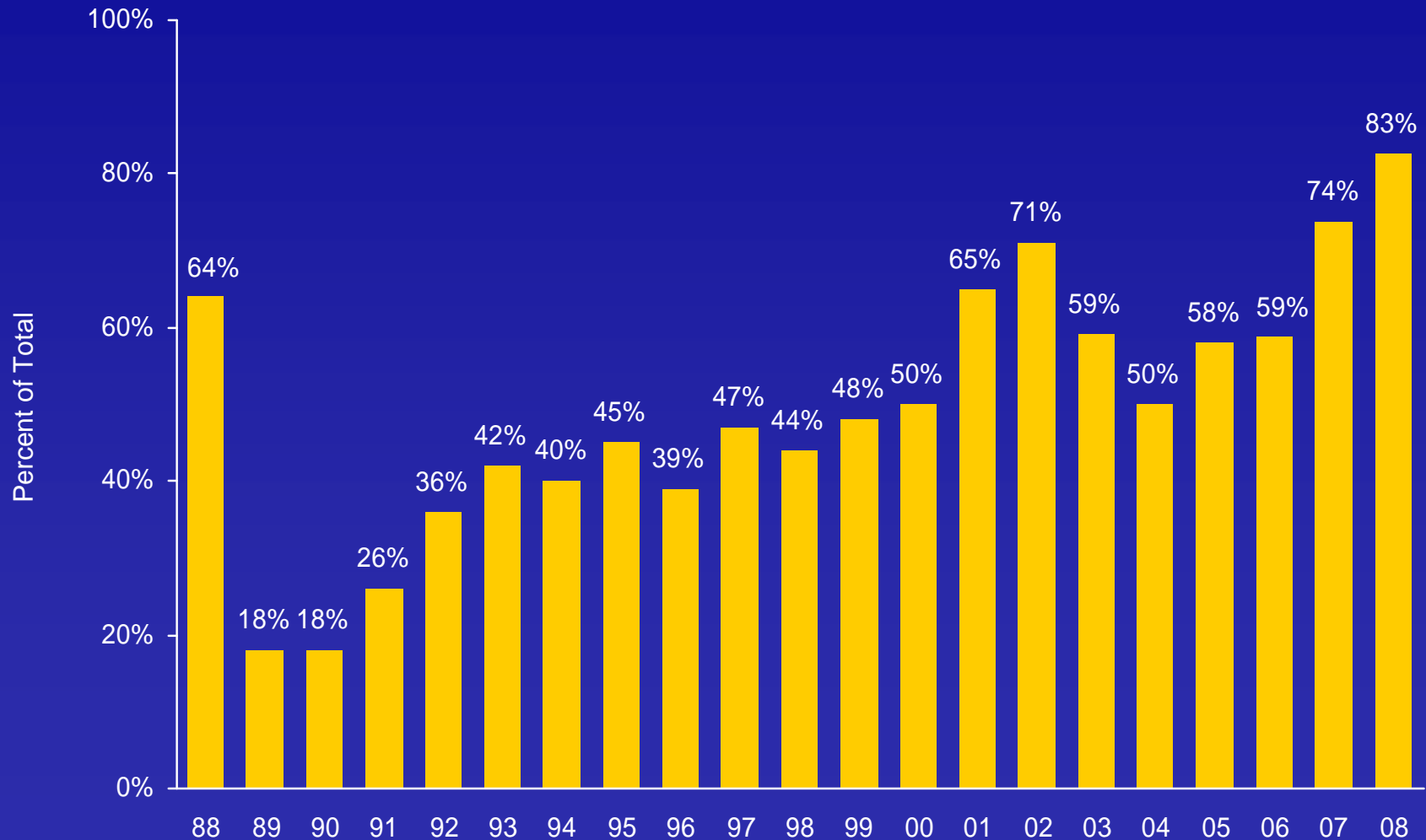


In Which Direction is the Mass. Technology Climate Heading in 2008?

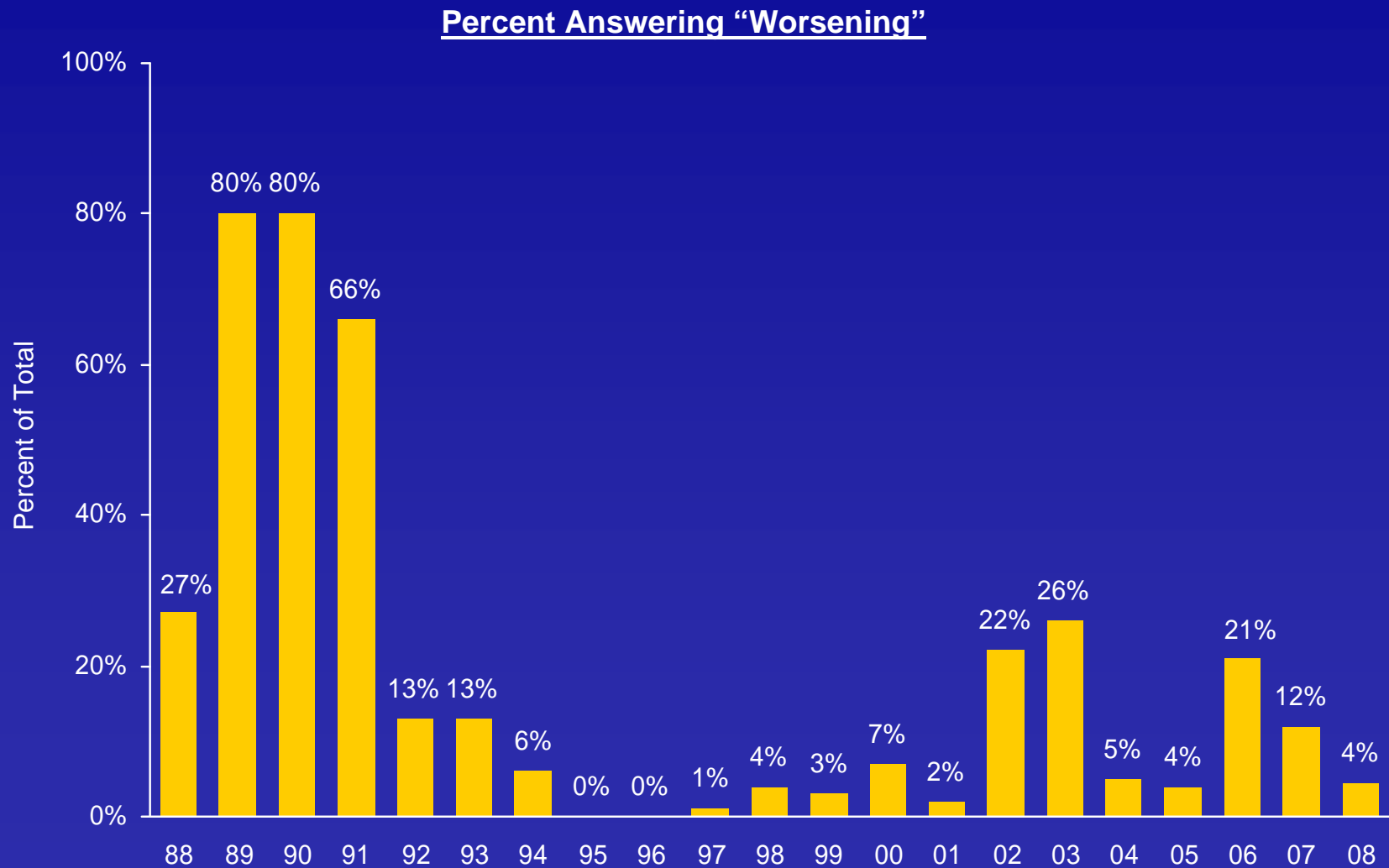


In Which Direction is the Mass. Technology Climate Heading in 2008?

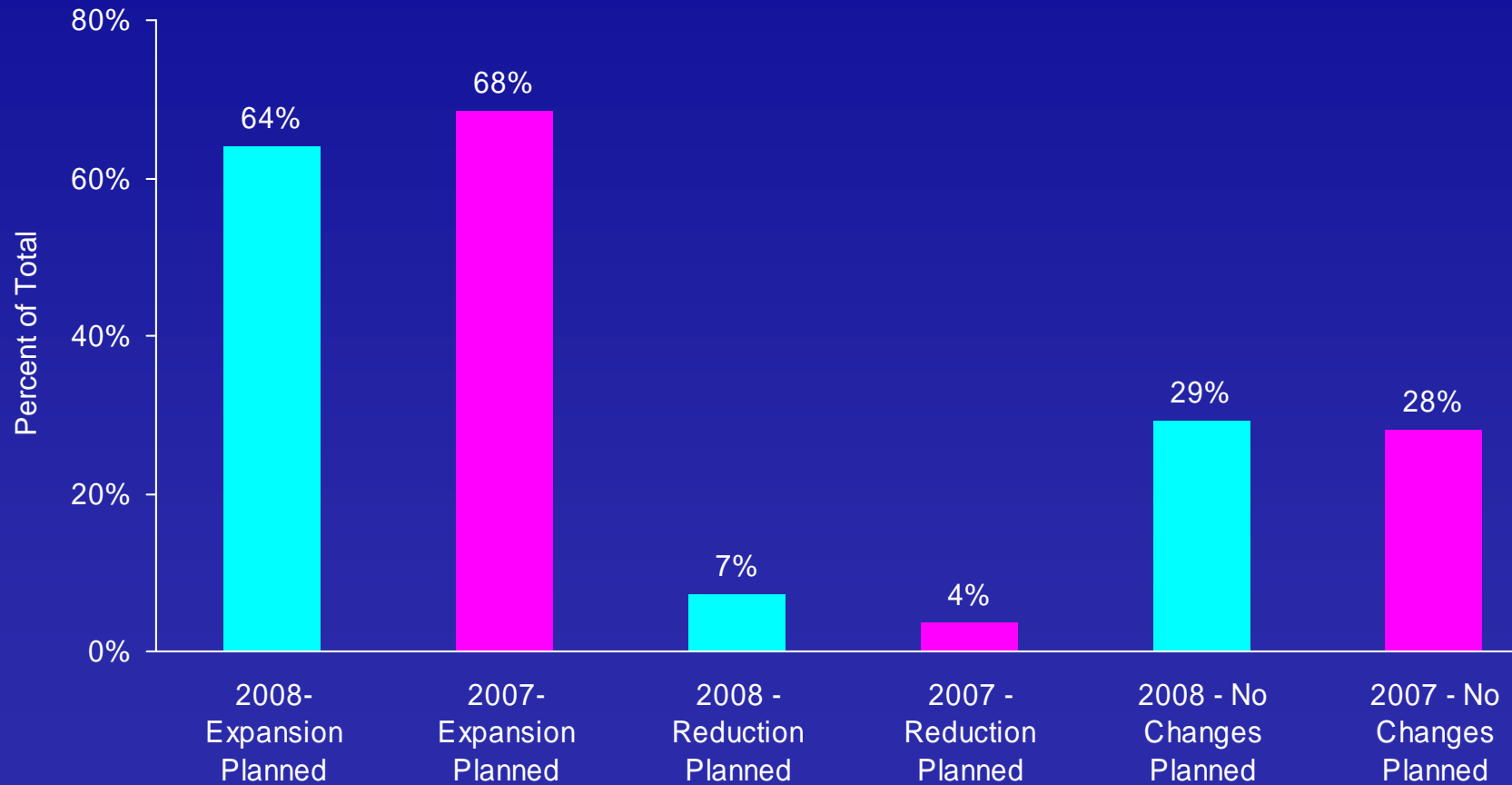
Percent Answering "Holding Steady"



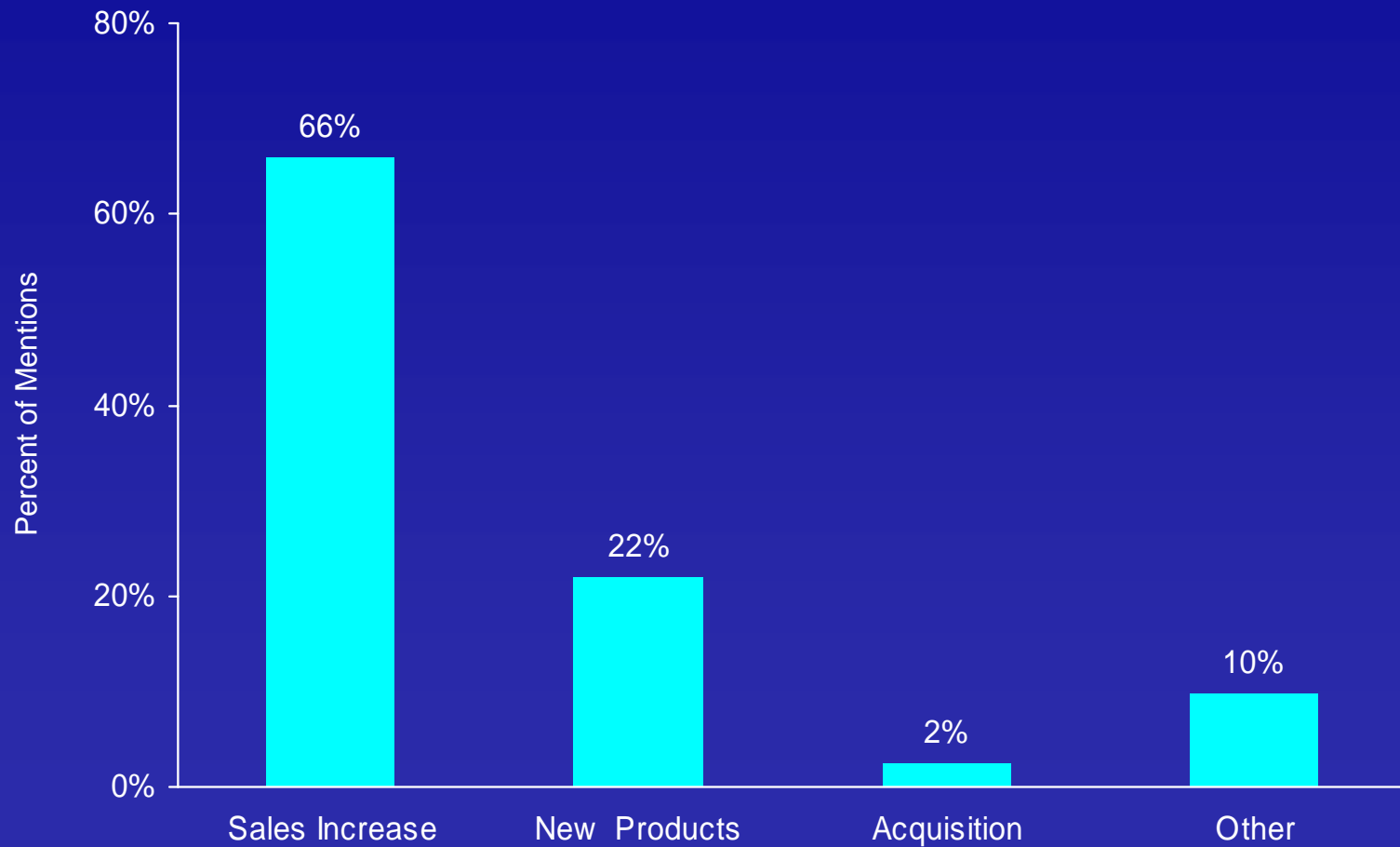
In Which Direction is the Mass. Technology Climate Heading in 2008?



Workforce Plans in 2008/2007 Evolution



Reasons for Job Expansion in the Next 12 Months



2008 Public Policy Priority Rankings

1. Work to implement the consensus K-12 priorities established by the diverse group of education stakeholders convened by the Council during the past two years; Work to oppose new taxes, protect existing favorable tax policies and make other policies more competitive (specific taxes in priority order)
 1. Lower long-term capital gains tax rate
 2. Maintain investment tax credit
 3. Broaden proposed life sciences investment tax credit, sales tax, extended net operating loss carry forward and R&D tax credit provisions to all tech sectors
 4. Reduce personal income tax
 5. Lower state fees that impact businesses
 6. Broaden the manufacturing jobs tax incentive to apply to all new manufacturing jobs created in Mass.
 7. Preserve single sales factor
 8. Maintain Proposition 2 ½
 9. Reduce estate tax
 10. Prevent unitary tax
2. Support the continued development of a long-term, tech-based, economic development strategy for our entire innovation economy

2008 Public Policy Priority Rankings Cont'd

4. Reform the state's Unemployment Insurance system to make it competitive with the structure of the other 49 states
5. Focus state's workforce development programs to address the specific needs of technology sectors (i.e., defense, biopharma and others)
6. Support federal initiatives that improve K-12 science/math education
7. Work with state and local government to increase adoption of expedited permitting
8. Work to expand/improve state's transportation infrastructure to better reflect current and future needs, including weighing in on issues of state bond investment, tolls, local aid, and public transportation/commuter rail

2008 Public Policy Priority Rankings Cont'd

9. Work with the Legislature, the Administration and the business community to strengthen the University of Massachusetts as a world-class public higher education institution
10. Support expansion of H-1B visa cap to skilled foreign born workers
11. Monitor federal tax policies that have a direct impact on the Massachusetts technology economy
12. Build on success of 2005 Base Realignment and Closure decision by working to maximize economic impact of state's defense technology bases