



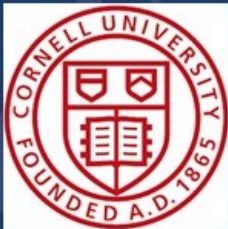
Sustainability and Local Government – Linking the Environment and the Economy

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International City County Management Association

Kansas City September 26, 2016



ICMA 2016 | SEPT 25-28

KANSAS CITY

102nd ANNUAL CONFERENCE

ICMA Sustainability Survey 2015

ICMA Leaders at the Core of Better Communities
 777 North Capitol Street, NE • Suite 500 • Washington, DC 20002-4201

Local Government Sustainability Practices-2015

Dear Chief Administrative Officer:

This survey of local government sustainability practices is a Rural Planning Divisions of the American Planning Association of Agriculture. We seek to understand how local government ICMA's website (<http://icma.org>). You may also complete the

Thank you in advance for your time.

Robert J. O'Neill, Jr.
 Robert J. O'Neill, Jr.
 Executive Director, ICMA

1. Indicate which of the following are a priority in your jurisdiction?
 a. Environmental protection b. Social equity

2. Has your jurisdiction adopted a sustainability plan?
 2a. If yes, please indicate if the plan contains goals or
 1. Social equity 4. Economic development
 2. Energy conservation 5. Disaster mitigation
 3. Climate change 6. Public health
 2b. If yes, does the sustainability plan include performance measures?
 1. Yes 2. No

3. Which of the following sustainability actions has your jurisdiction implemented?
 a. Dedicated a budget line item specifically for sustainability
 b. Adopted a climate mitigation plan
 c. Adopted a climate adaptation plan
 d. Conducted a greenhouse gas inventory of local government
 e. Conducted a greenhouse gas inventory of the community
 f. Set greenhouse gas reduction targets for local government
 g. Set greenhouse gas reduction targets for the community

4. Has your local government had to respond to a major disaster in the past 15 years? 1. Yes 2. No
 4a. If yes, what type?
 1. Hurricane 3. Tornado 5. Flood 7. Blizzard or ice storm 8. Toxic spill
 2. Earthquake 4. Wildfire 6. Drought 9. Other: _____

5. Do you have a hazard mitigation plan or an emergency evacuation/relocation plan? 1. Yes 2. No
 5a. If yes, does either plan specifically address issues of at-risk (low income, seniors, etc.) residents? 1. Yes 2. No

6. Do the departments in your jurisdiction coordinate on the following programs or policies?

	Yes	No	No program or policy
a. Economic development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Land use planning / permitting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Environmental protection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Seeking funding and grants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Storm water management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Energy planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Provision of affordable housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Hazard mitigation / evacuation planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Climate change mitigation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Climate change adaptation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
k. Open space / farmland preservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

7. Do localities in your region coordinate on the following programs or policies?

	Yes	No	No program or policy
a. Economic development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b. Land use planning and permitting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c. Environmental protection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d. Seeking funding and grants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e. Storm water management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
f. Provision of affordable housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
g. Hazard mitigation / evacuation planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
h. Open space protection / farmland preservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
i. Climate change mitigation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
j. Climate change adaptation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
k. Open space / farmland preservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
l. Watershed management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
m. Roads, public transit and/or bike-pedestrian systems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

8. Does your local government own any of the following municipal utilities? (Check all that apply).
 a. Electric utility b. Storm water utility c. Gas utility d. Water utility
 e. District heating f. Wastewater utility g. Communications utility (e.g., cable, telephone, internet)

9. Is any part of your community served by an electric cooperative? 1. Yes 2. No

- n = 1,899 municipalities, towns, and counties
- 22% response rate
- Follow up to 2010 Sustainability Survey
- Funded by USDA



Sustainability Survey 2015

Putting it together...

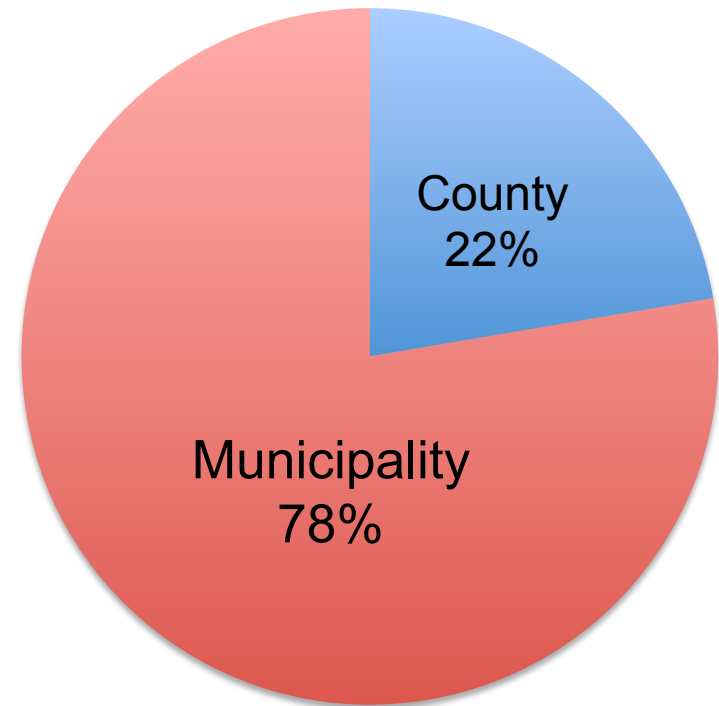
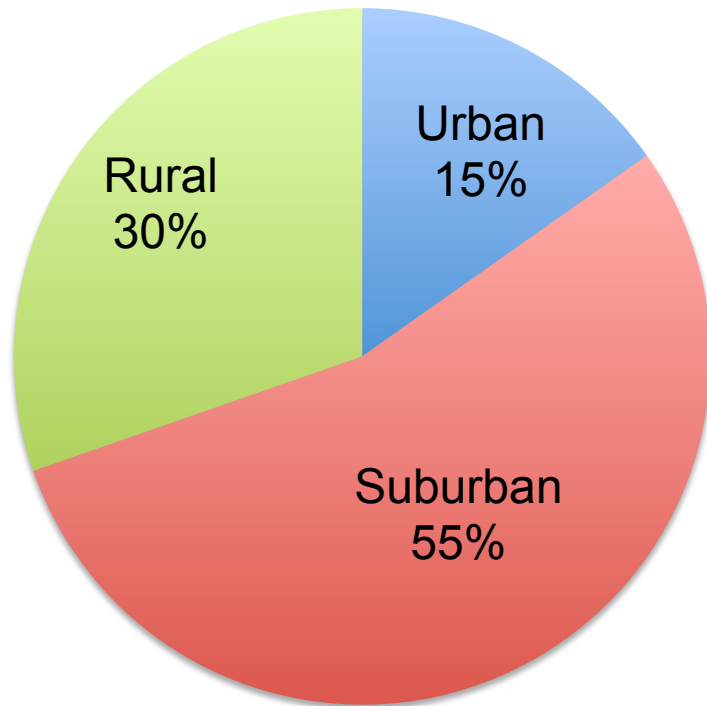
- Some continuity to 2010 Survey
- Focus groups: ICMA, American Planning Association
- Practitioner interviews
- APA Division input



Small Town and Rural
Planning



Who Answered the 2015 Survey?

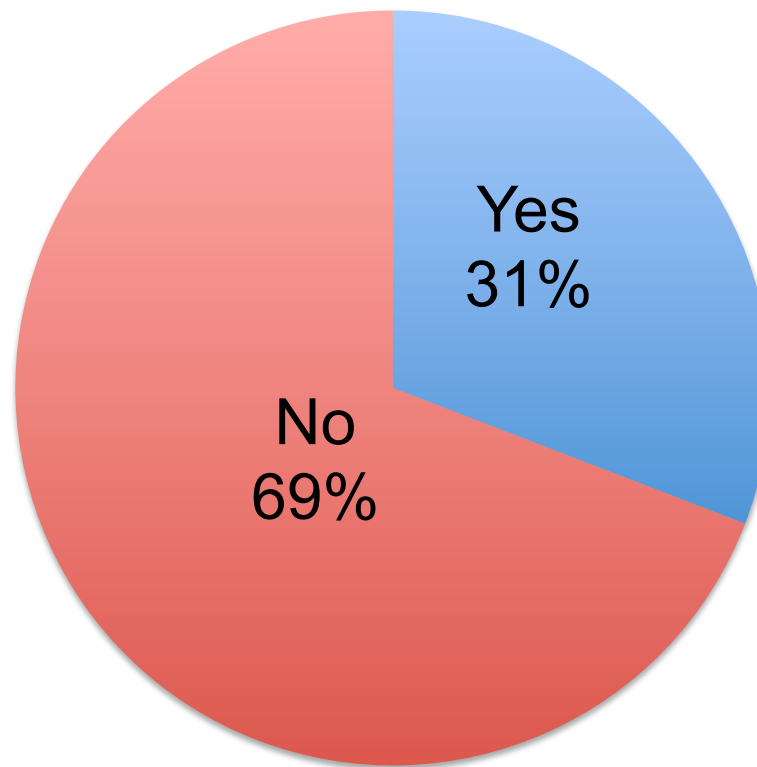


N= 1,899



Sustainability Plans

Has your jurisdiction adopted a sustainability plan?



49% metro core
28% suburbs
29% rural



Community priorities

Communities without a sustainability plan
n = 1,313



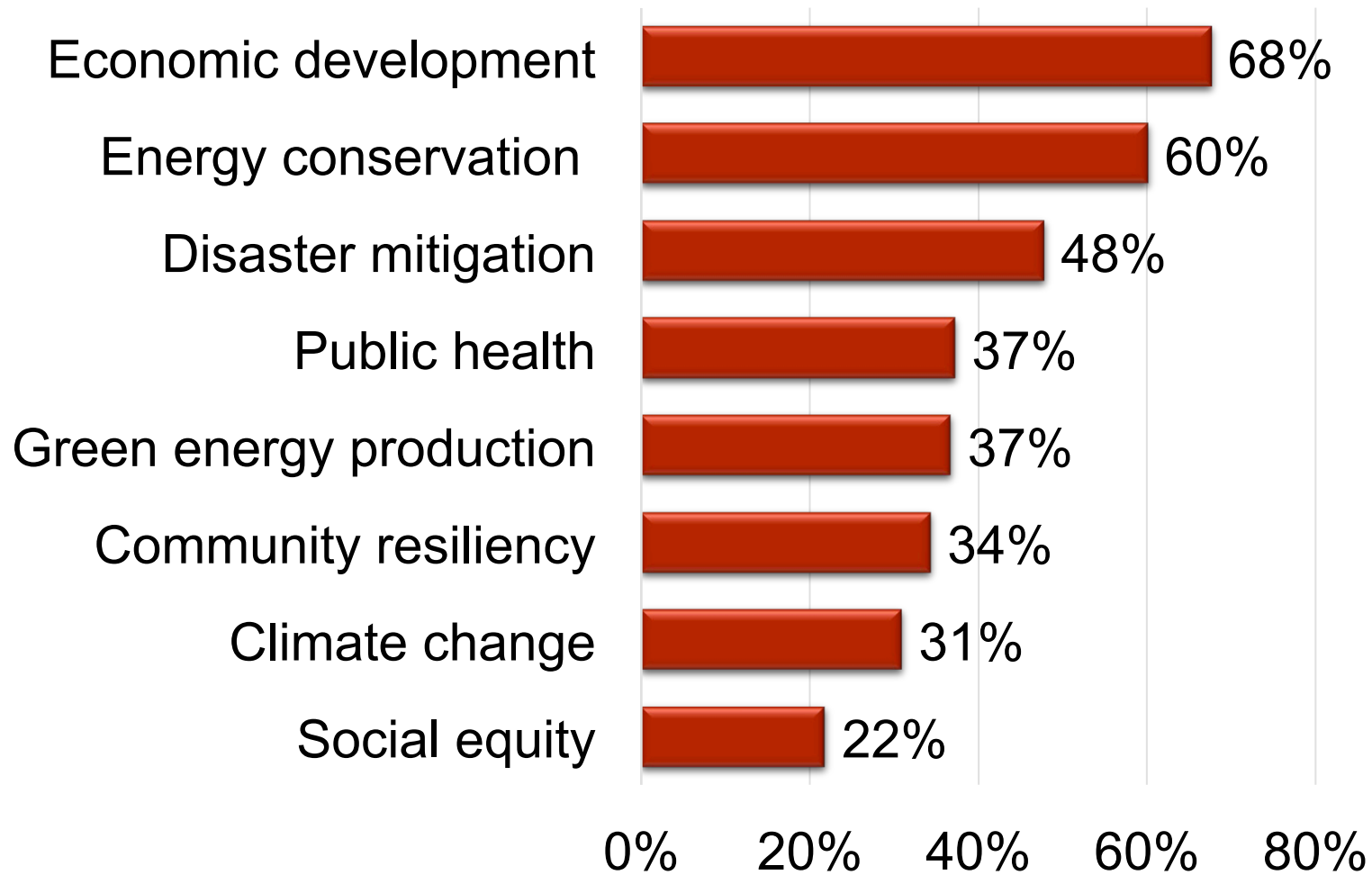
Communities with a sustainability plan
n = 586



Priorities more balanced with a sustainability plan.



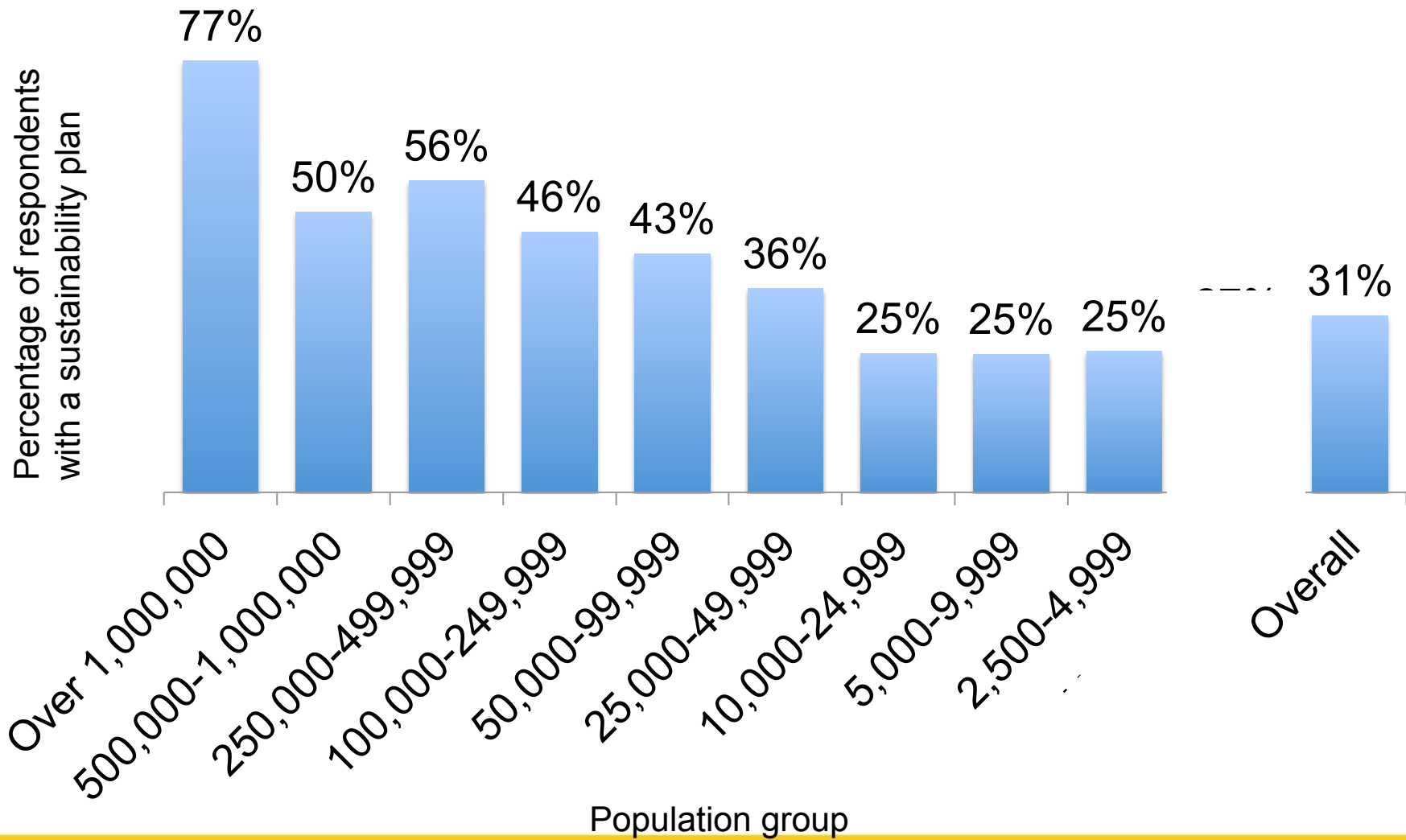
Goals or Strategies in Sustainability Plans



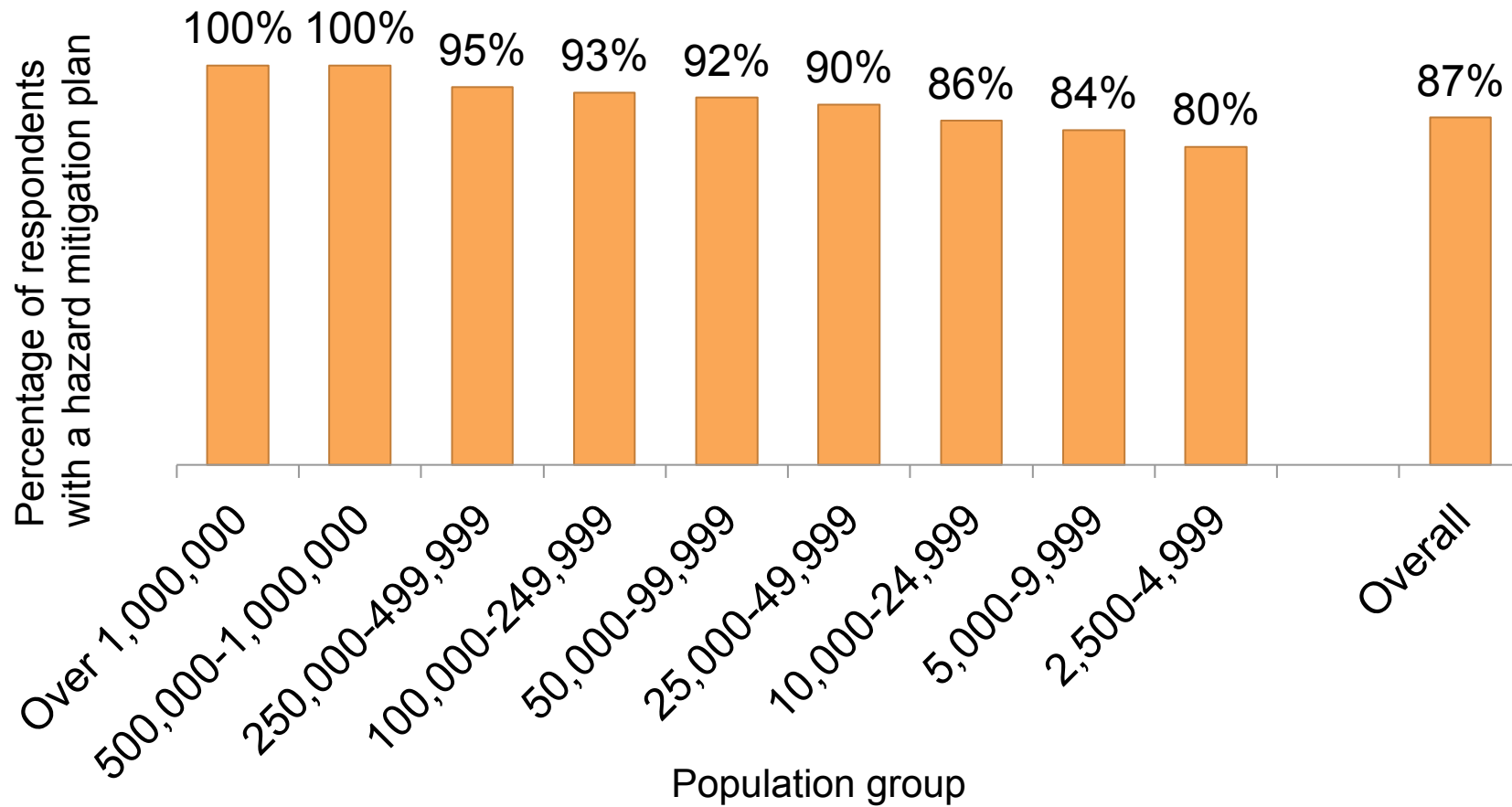
N= 586 municipalities with sustainability plans



Larger Communities More Likely to Have a Sustainability Plan



More places, including smaller ones, have hazardous mitigation or emergency plan



- 76% reported a major disaster in last 15 years
- Floods and blizzards most common



Waste management

Waste management in government

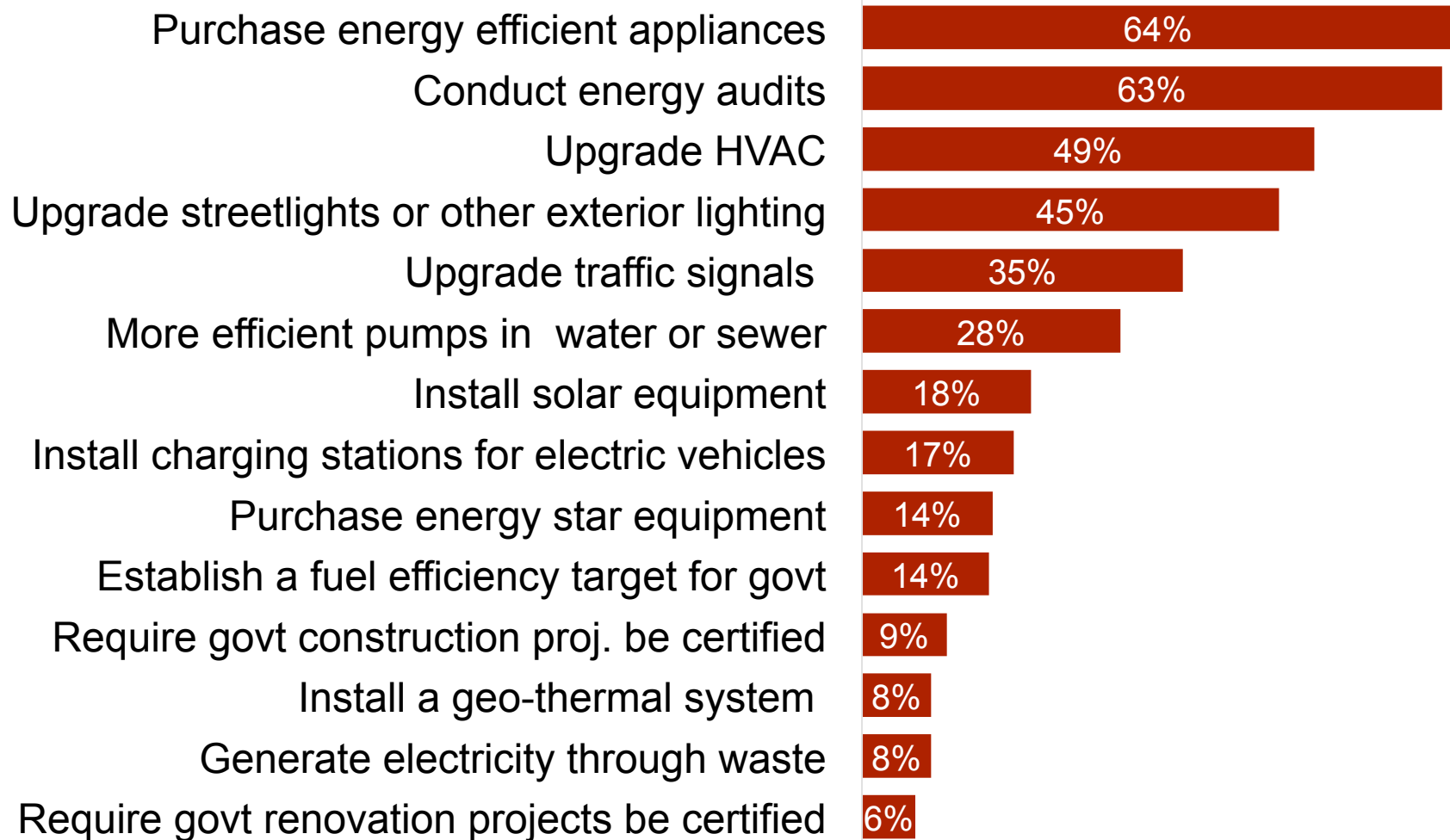
- Implemented a recycling program (66%)

Waste management in community

- Recycling for homes (57%)
- Recycling of electronic waste (55%)
- Recycling of hazardous waste (52%)
- Collection of yard waste for composting (46%)



Energy projects undertaken by government

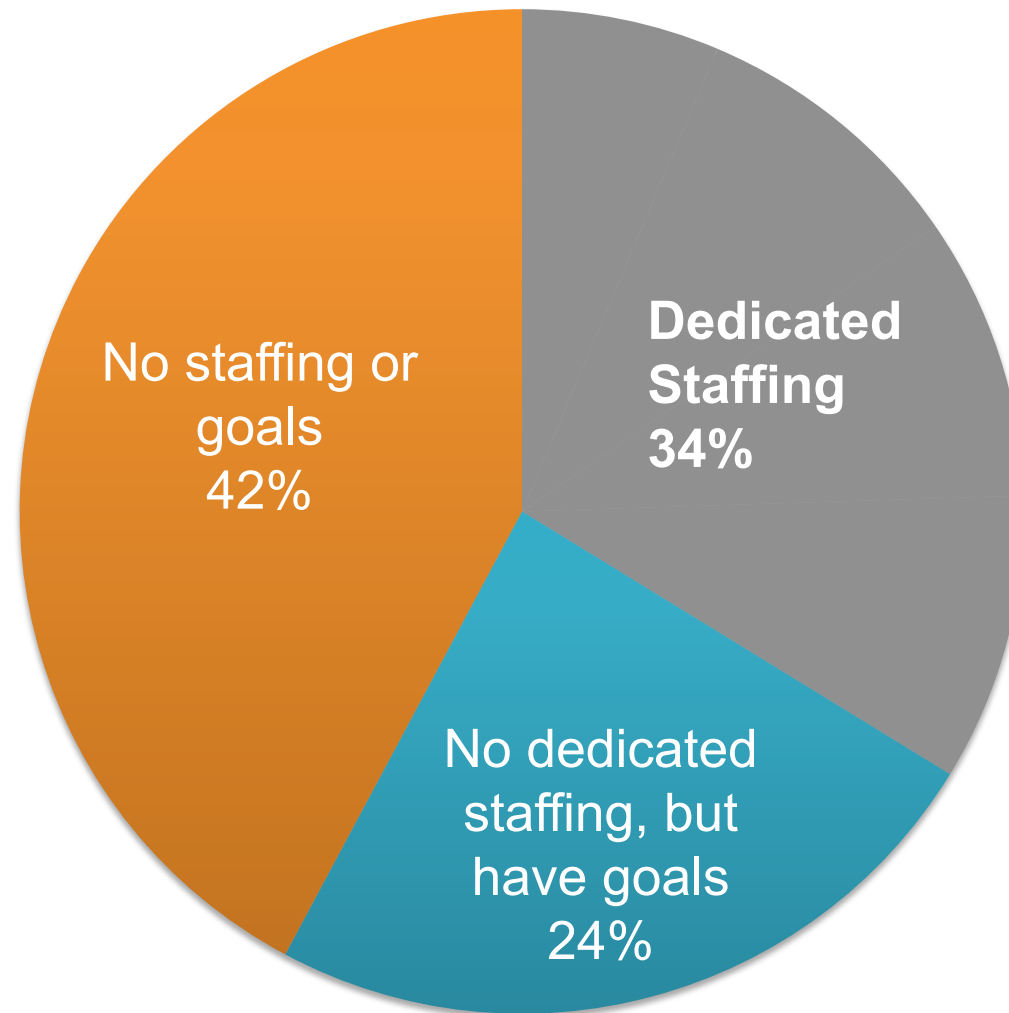


Local governments least likely to address climate change directly

Climate Change Policy	Percent of communities
Adopted a climate mitigation plan	6%
Adopted a climate adaptation plan	3%
Local government GHG inventory	14%
Community wide GHG inventory	9%
Local government GHG targets	11%
Community GHG targets	7%



Where are the staff for sustainability?



2/3s of local governments dedicate no human resources to sustainability



Monitoring Sustainability Actions

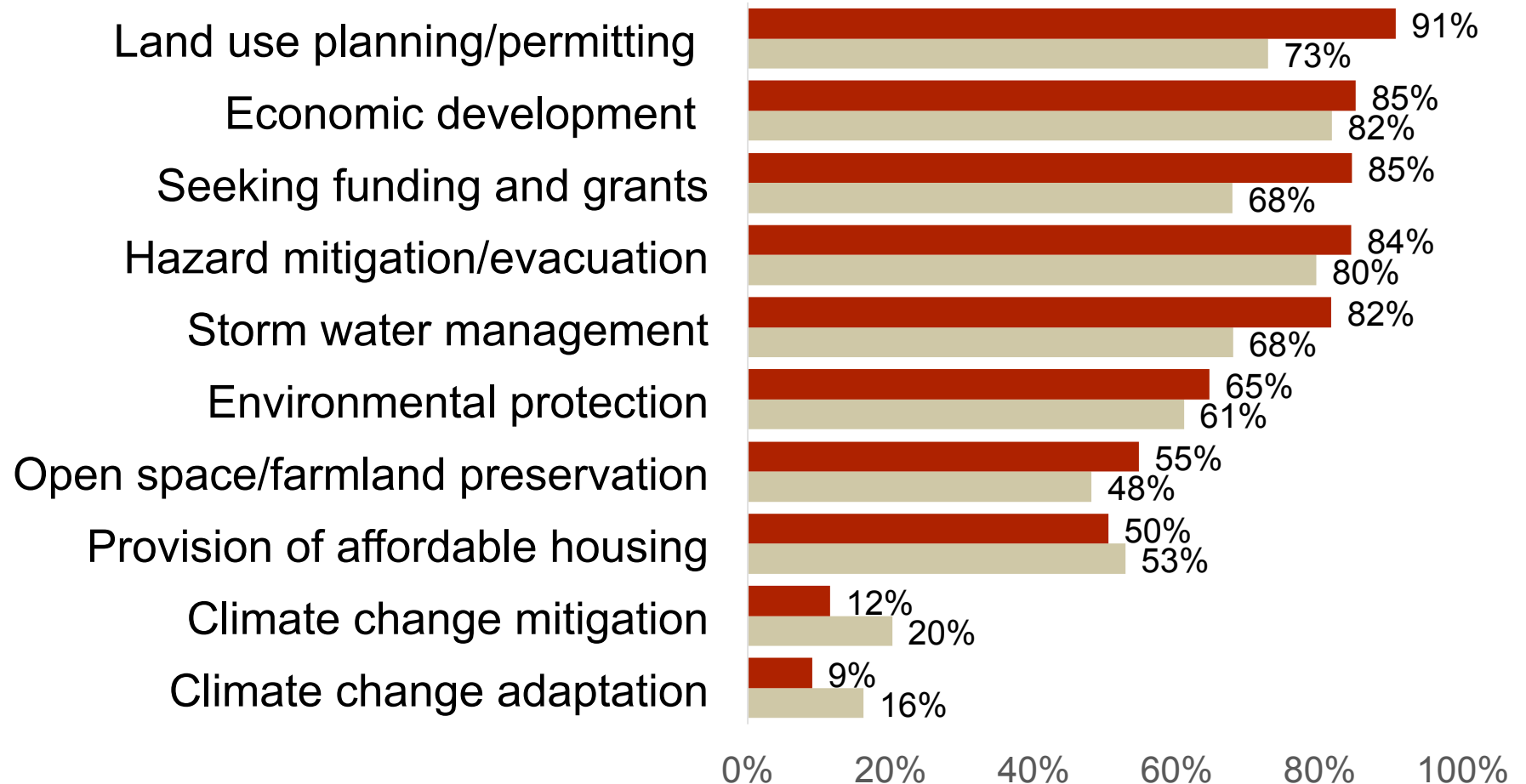
Action	Community tracks	Positive results
Recycling	45%	85%
Government Energy Conservation	29%	91%
Community Energy Conservation	8%	59%
Water Conservation	22%	72%



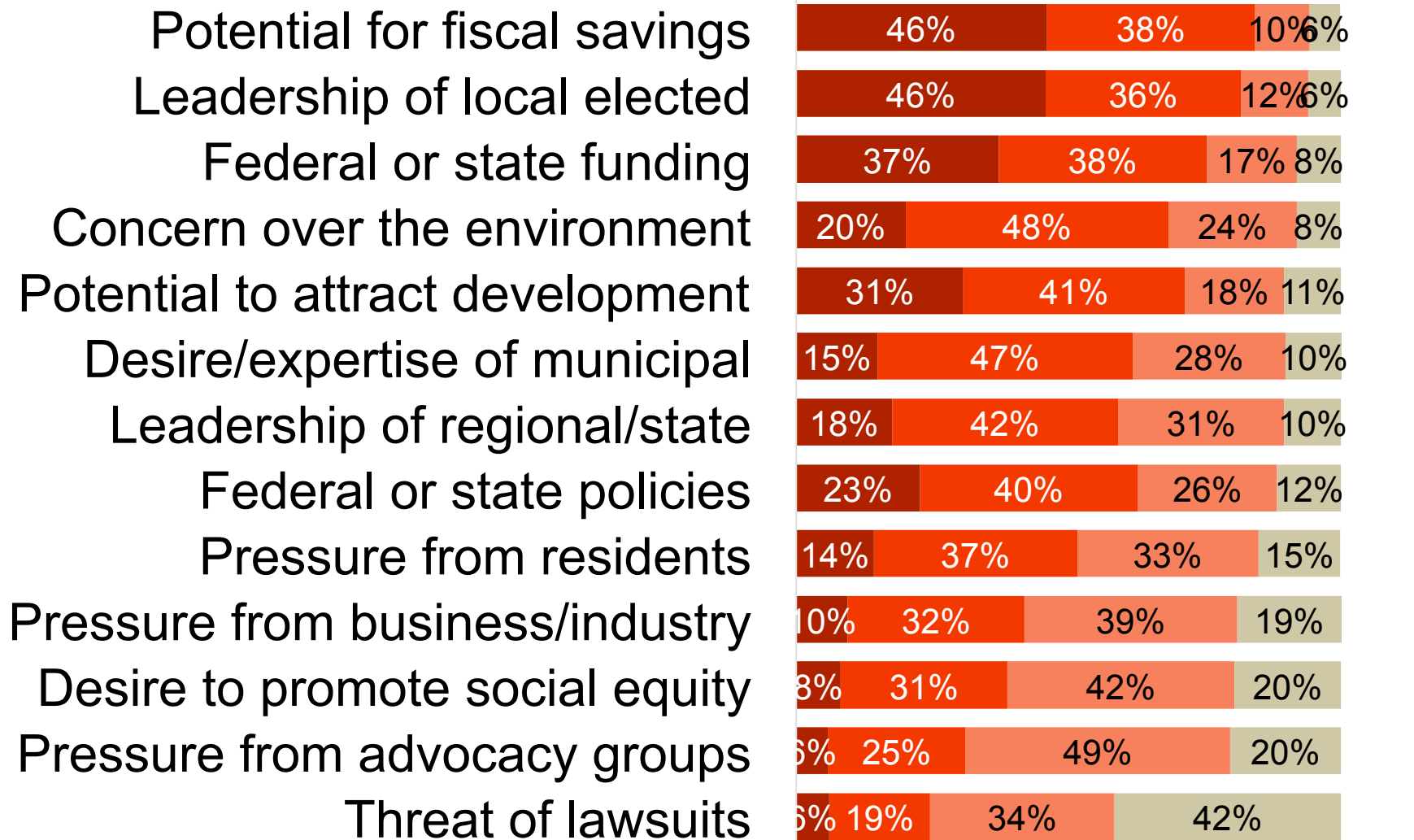
Breaking Through Silos

■ Departments Coordination

■ Regional Coordination



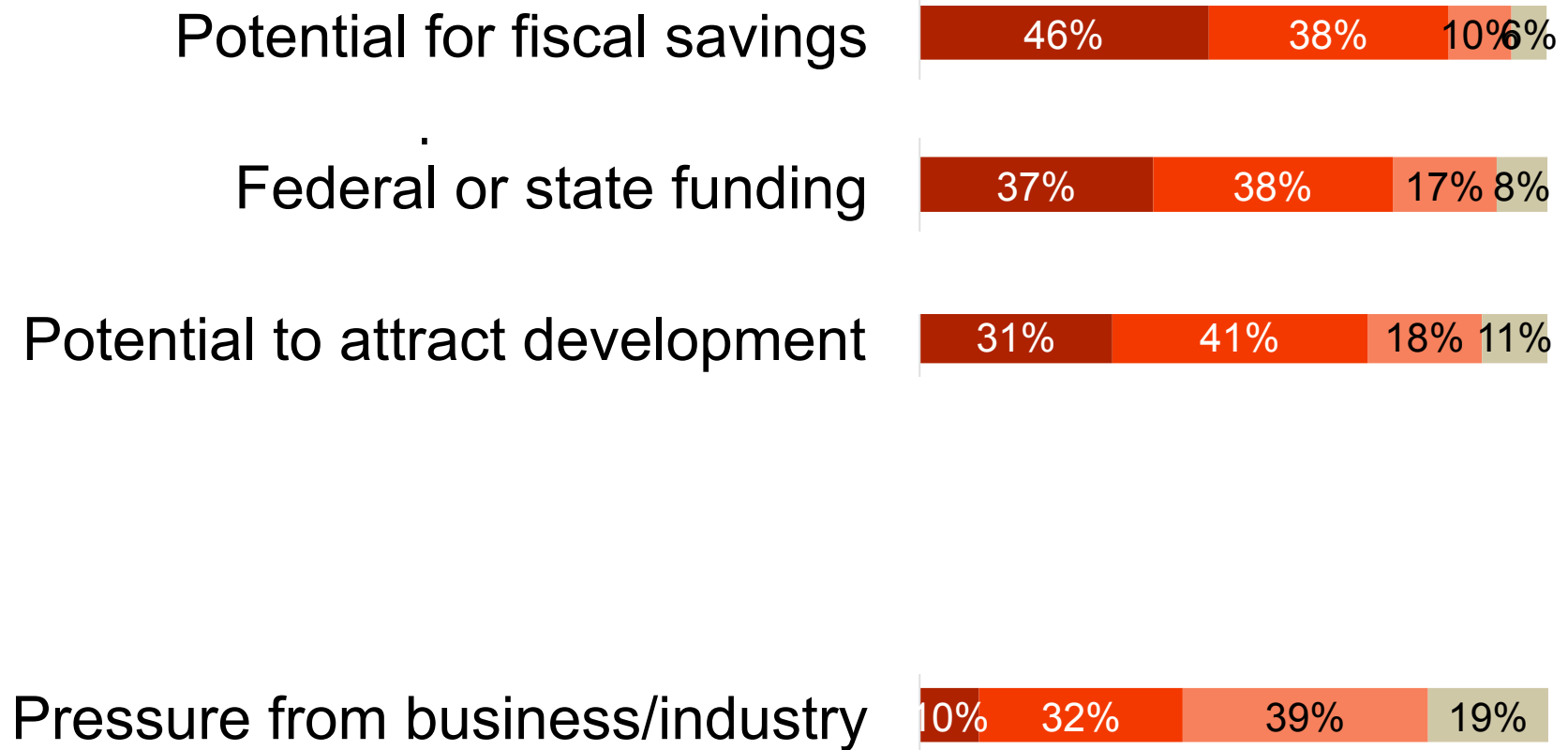
Factors Motivating Sustainability



Very Significant
 Significant
 Limited significance
 Not significant



Factors Motivating Sustainability



Economic factors help drive environmental sustainability

■ Very Significant

■ Significant



Factors Motivating Sustainability

Leadership of local elected 

Desire/expertise of municipal 
Leadership of regional/state 

Local leadership important

■ Very Significant ■ Significant ■ Limited significance ■ Not significant



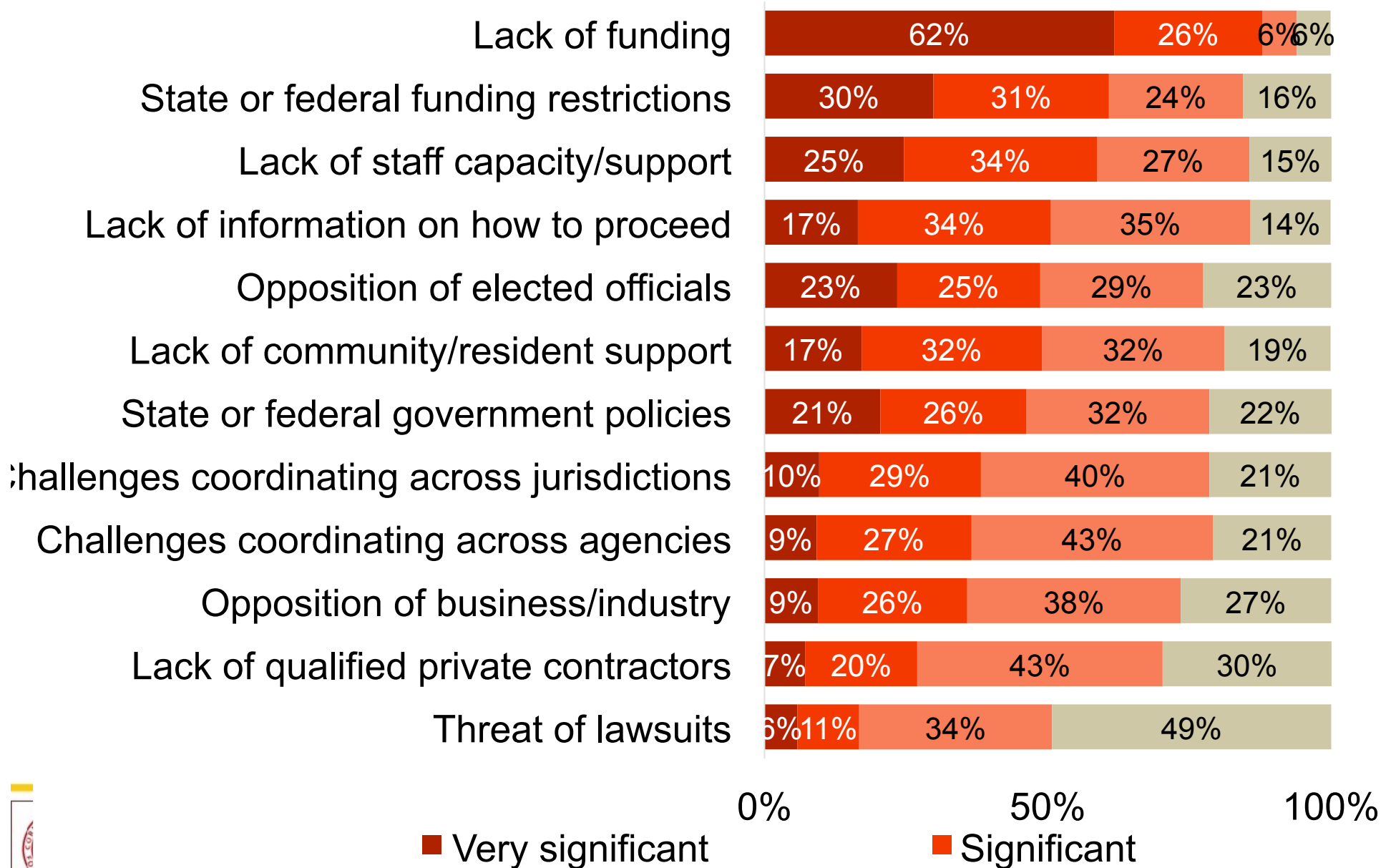
Factors Motivating Sustainability

Community pressure is not a big motivator



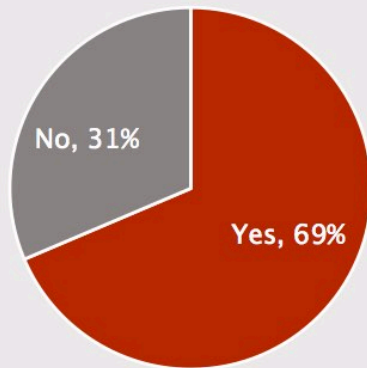
■ Very Significant ■ Significant ■ Limited significance ■ Not significant

Factors Hindering Sustainability

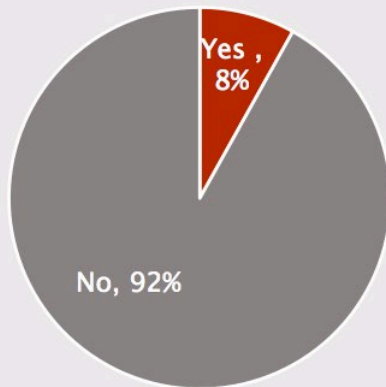


Social Equity Still Not on the Radar

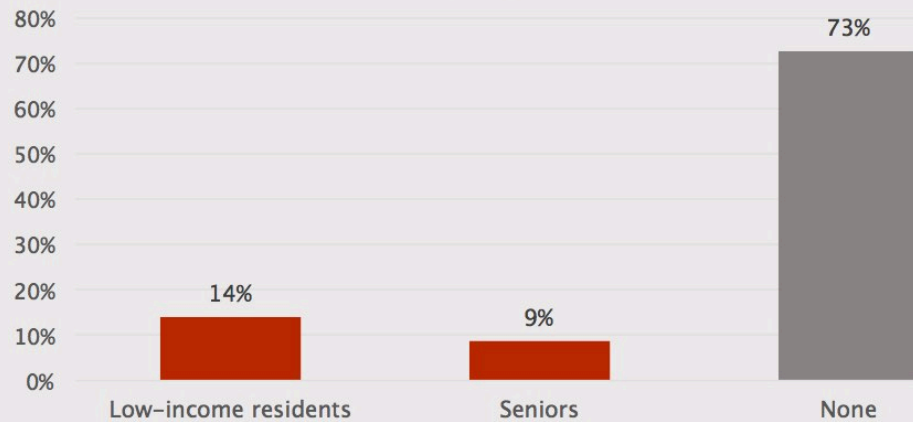
Mitigation plan or emergency evacuation/
relocation plan address populations at risk



Protect low-income households from water
service shut off? (N=1,899)



Energy conservation programs assist the following ?
(N=1,899)



Questions/Comments?

Additional Information on survey can be found at

<http://www.mildredwarner.org/planning/sustainability>

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**PLANNING FOR
SUSTAINABILITY**



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