



2018 Annual Planning Survey Results



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF PLANNING AND RESEARCH
DECEMBER 2018

Annual Planning Survey Results 2018

This publication may reference complex and specific laws and regulations. Any such reference is provided merely for the convenience of the reader. Always refer to the actual text of applicable laws and regulations, and consult with an attorney when applying them.

As with all Governor's Office of Planning and Research publications, you may print all or part of this book. You need not secure permission; just copy it accurately and give credit to the Governor's Office of Planning and Research.

For further information on this or other OPR documents, please visit www.opr.ca.gov or contact the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613.



State of California

Edmund G. Brown Jr., Governor

Governor's Office of Planning and Research

Ken Alex, Director

Elizabeth Baca, Deputy Director

1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812
(916) 322-2318
www.opr.ca.gov

Project Management

Michael McCormick, AICP
Greta Soos

Report Production

Beth Hotchkiss



Letter from the Deputy Director

The Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) is pleased to announce the release of the 2018 Annual Planning Survey results. OPR's Annual Planning Survey is distributed to all cities and counties California and provides the latest information on local planning activities, the status of city and county General Plans, and issues of statewide concern.

OPR conducts the Annual Planning Survey each year to gain perspective on policies and planning and the local level and to evaluate trends over time. Responses to the survey aid OPR and other state agencies in the development of tools and guidance for local jurisdictions. The survey highlights areas of progress as well as implementation challenges for specific policies. Moreover, the survey helps identify areas of local leadership.

This year, in addition to posting the full results of the survey, we are again providing a summary of a number of questions that are policy and program focused. We are also including information on how local governments track progress on general plan policies.

We appreciate the time and effort of all the cities and counties in completing the Annual Planning Survey – this year with responses from 63 percent of all cities and counties in the state. The survey is used in a variety of ways to show progress on implementing state programs, support State policy initiatives, identify gaps in resources for local governments, and create understanding in how the State can generally support local governments in achieving statewide goals. We hope that the survey is useful to our local partners, and welcome comments and suggestions on how it can be more effective and informative in the future.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Baca, MD, MPA

Introduction to the Survey

Each year the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR) distributes a survey to every city and county planning department in the state. The survey asks for basic information on the status of each jurisdiction's planning efforts and explores, in greater depth, the policies and programs that jurisdictions are implementing.

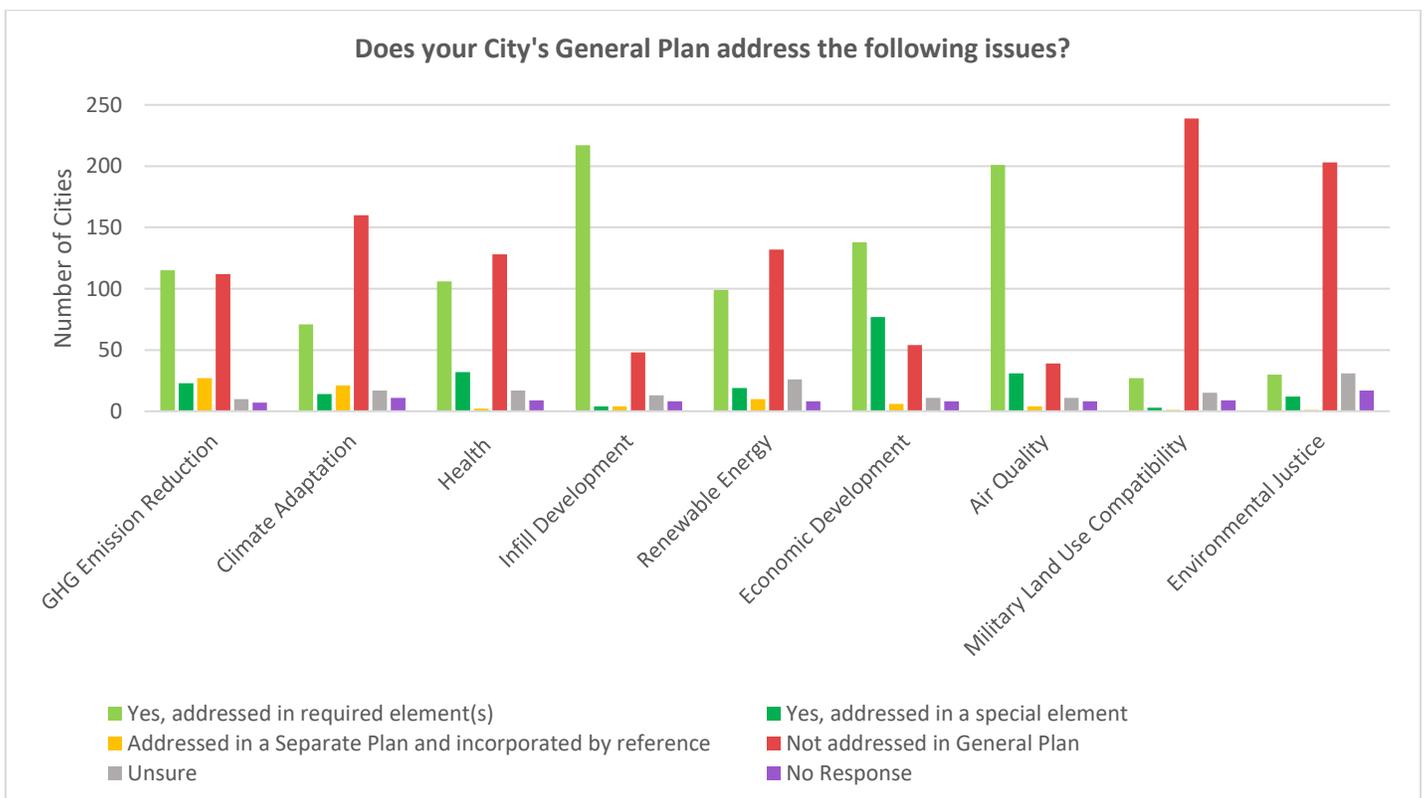
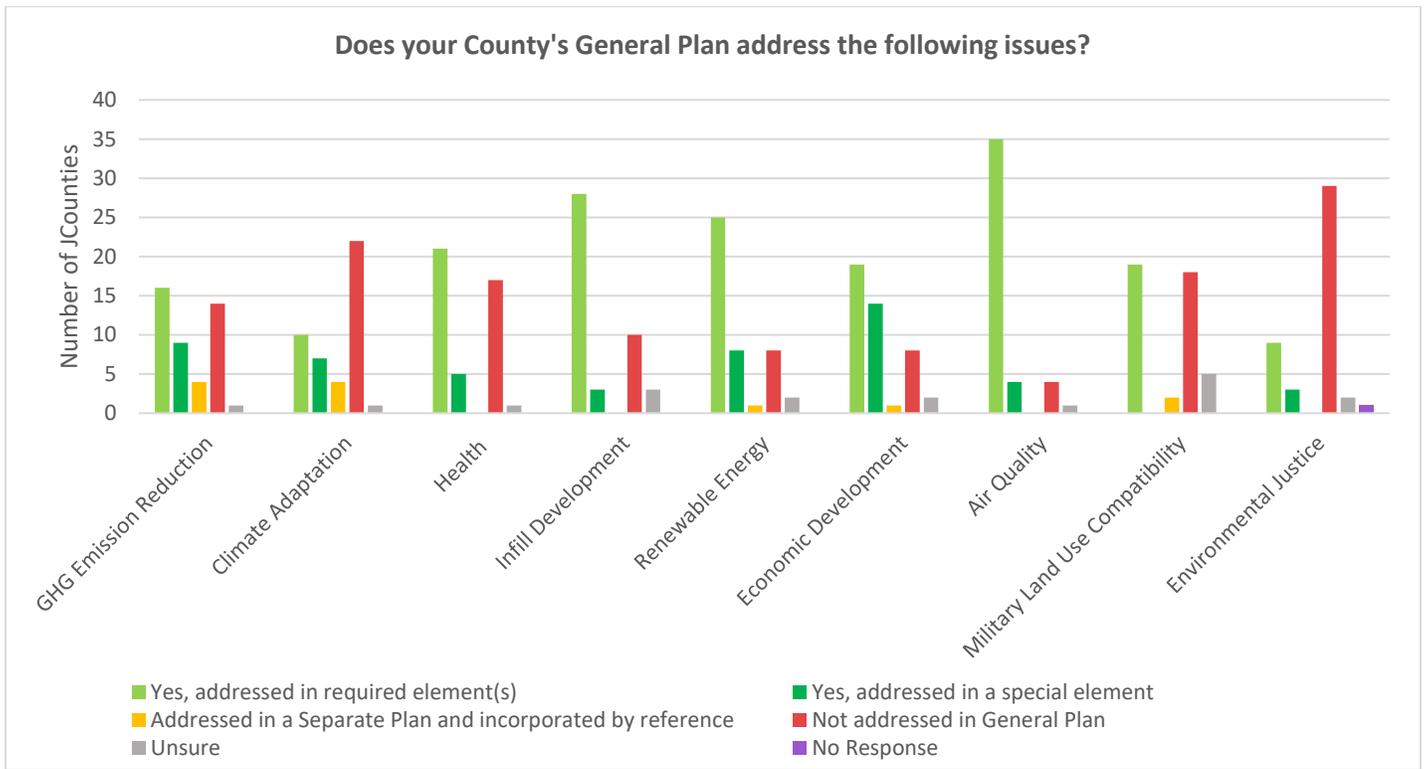
OPR distributed this year's survey electronically during the summer of 2018. Jurisdictions could complete the form online or in hard copy format. OPR accepted survey responses through September 2018. Follow up calls and emails were made to both respondents and non-respondents through October 2018 to maximize the number and quality of responses. The responses to the survey are used to help inform the work of OPR and other state agencies as they develop guidance and tools to support local governments. Academic institutions also use the survey responses to inform a variety of research initiatives. The results are made available each year on OPR's website in PDF with further detail in a companion Excel document.

2018 Results

This year, 338 of the 540 cities and counties (63%) in California completed the 2018 Annual Planning Survey. This includes 294 of the 482 cities (61%) and 44 of the 58 counties (76%). The following graphs give an overview of selected questions and responses from the 2018 Annual Planning Survey. For each of the graphs, the total number of respondents is shown, unless stated otherwise. Questions and answers not highlighted below are general information questions that are used to update the Directory of Planning Agencies. Further details for each of the questions below and answers to questions not represented in this overview may be found in Excel format [2018 APS Answers](#).

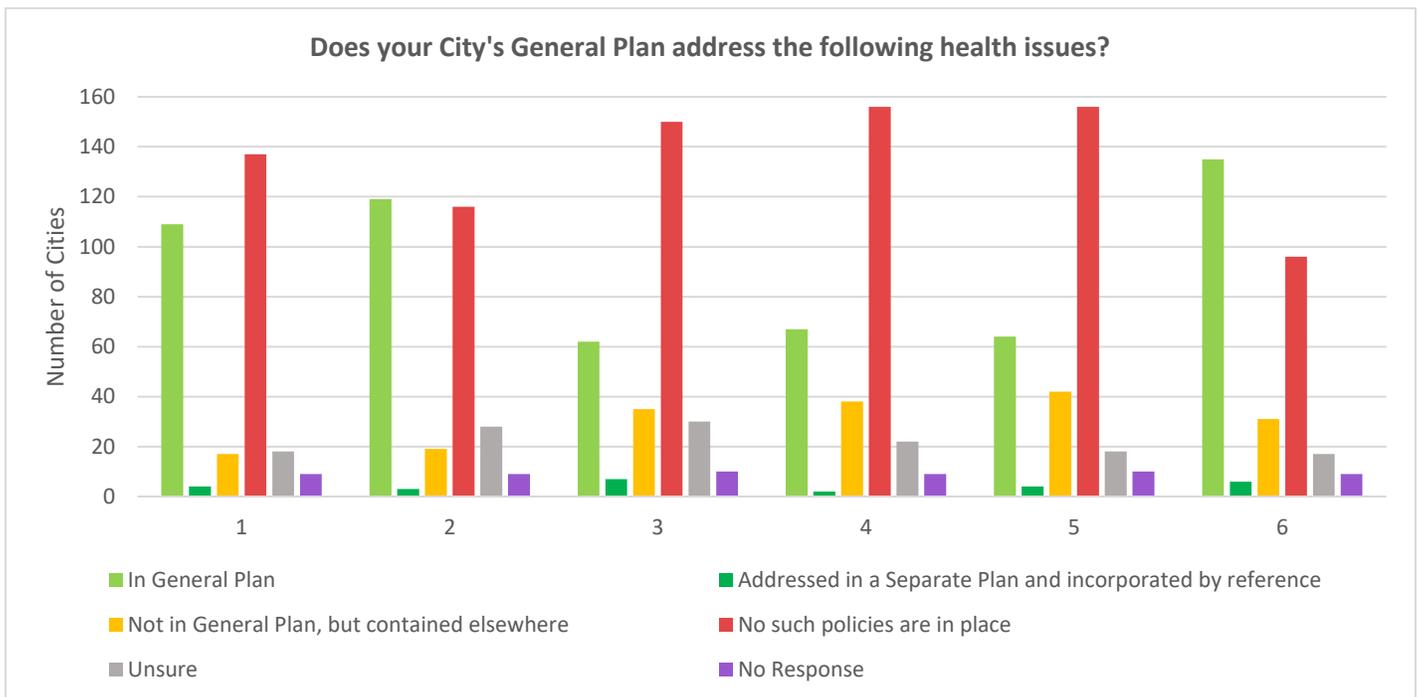
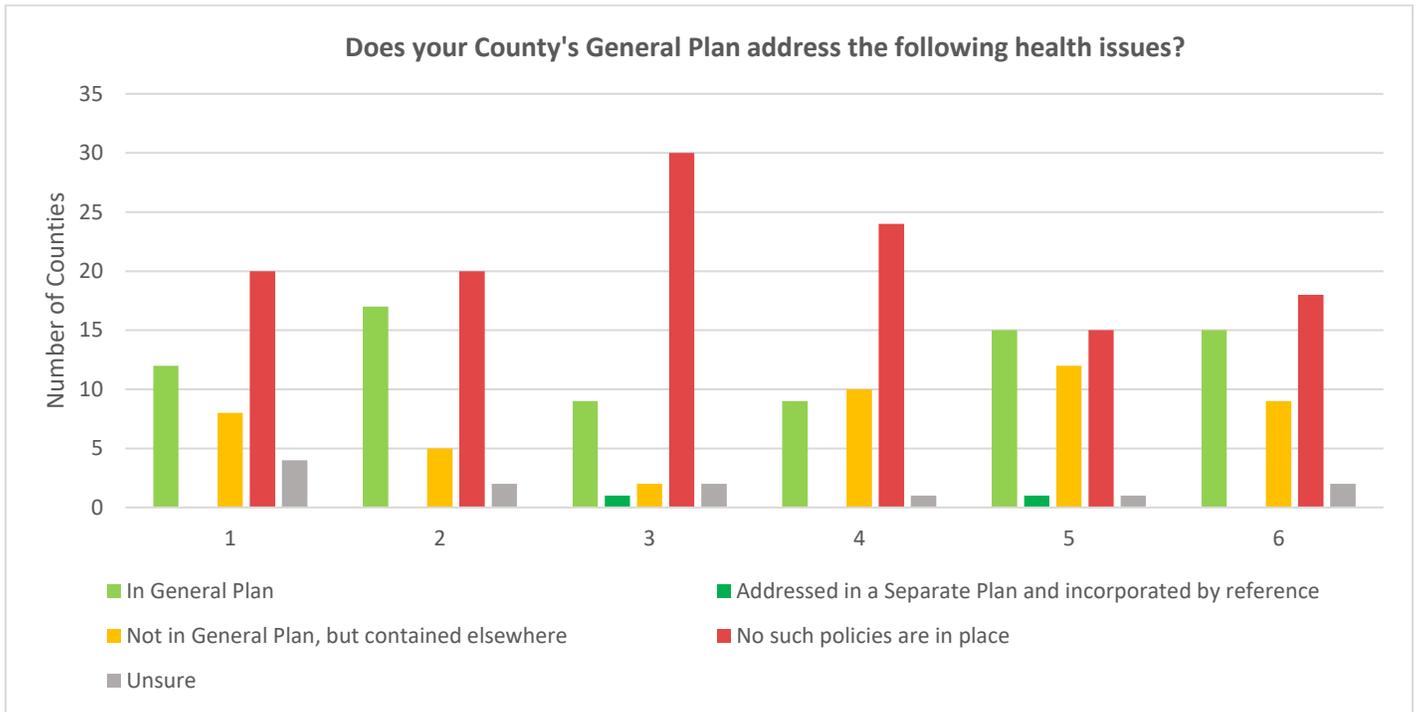
Question 7. Does your General plan address the following issues?

The issue areas highlighted in this question were selected due to their current prominence in local policy discussions. An issue these responses highlight is the number of jurisdictions not currently consistent with new statutory mandates on environmental justice and climate change adaptation.



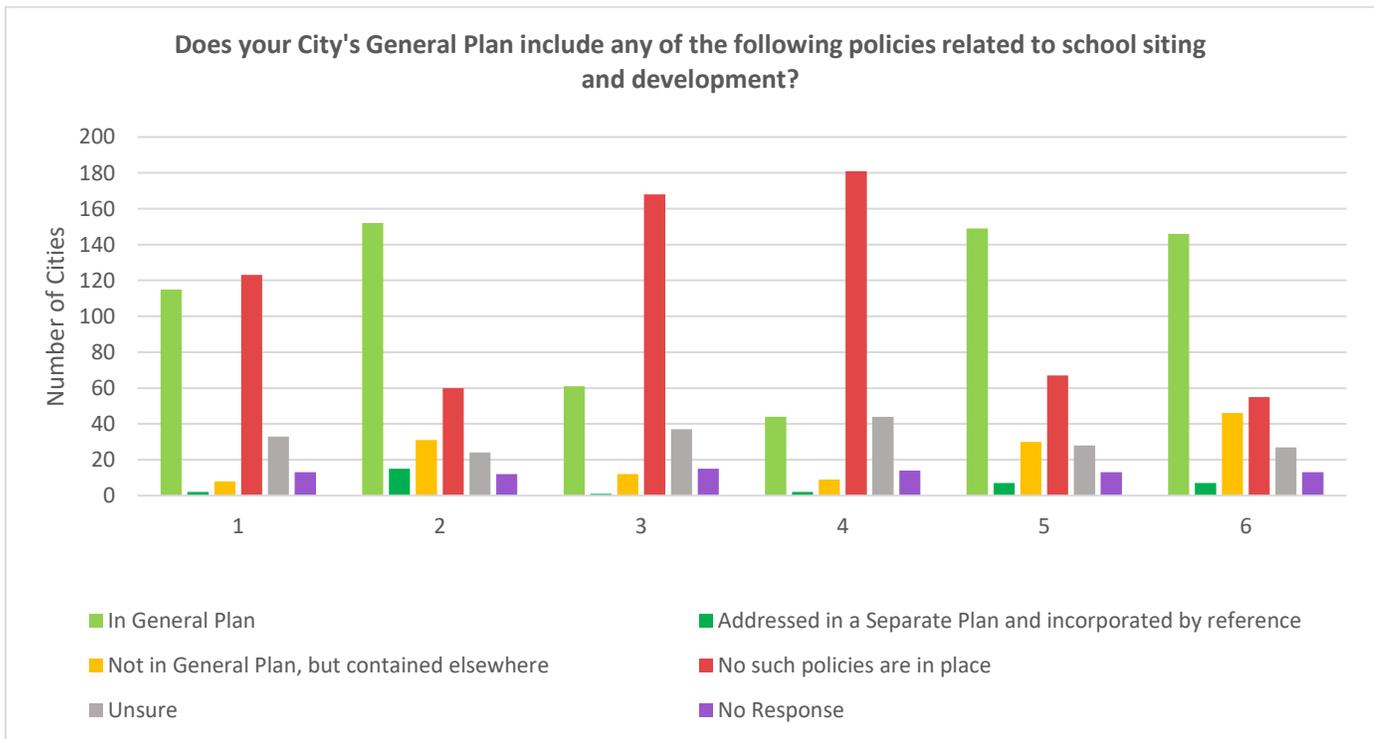
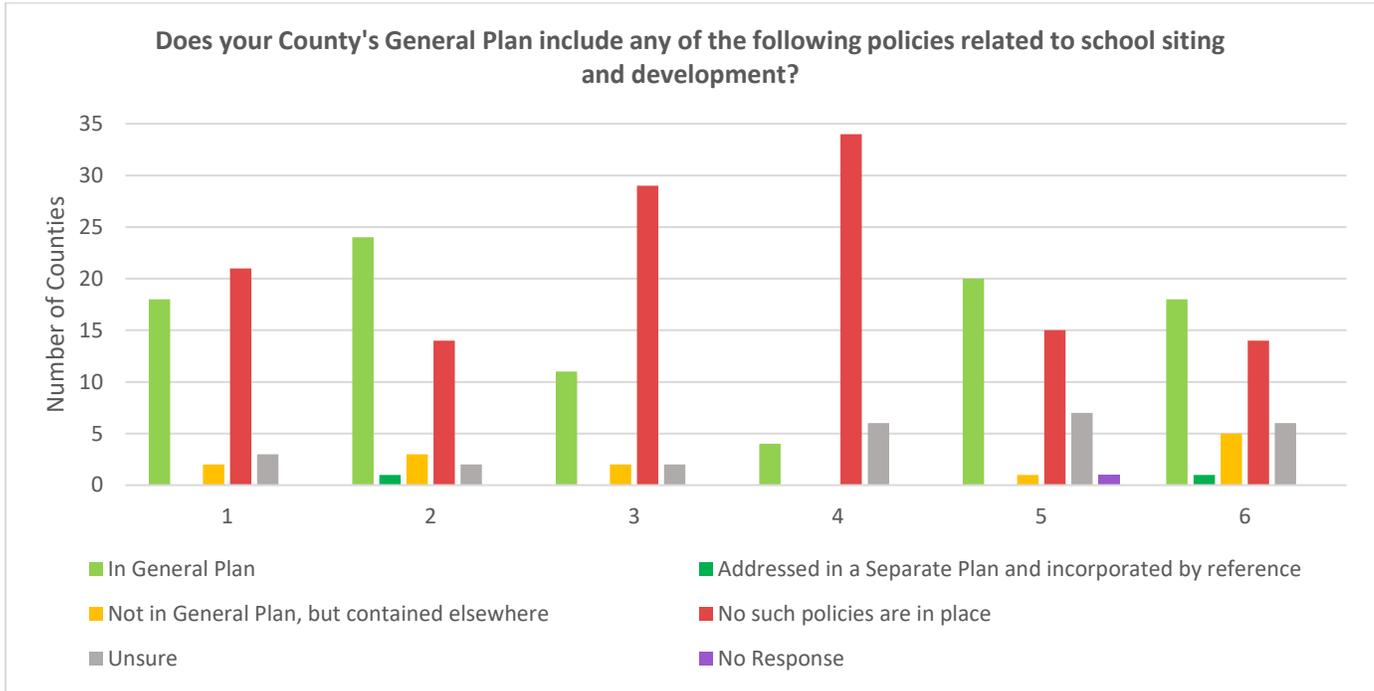
Question 8. Does your General Plan include any of the following health-related policies?

1. Policies that explicitly promote health equity (e.g., policies that ensure all groups have access to grocery stores, park space, etc)
2. Policies to support lifecycle housing or aging-in-place
3. Policies that help to mitigate the urban heat island
4. Zoning that ensures grocery stores and/or fruit and vegetable vendors are accessible across your jurisdiction
5. Zoning that facilitates opportunities for local food production including urban or front/backyard farming and community gardens
6. Policies to promote active living (e.g., planning to integrate physical activity into daily routines)



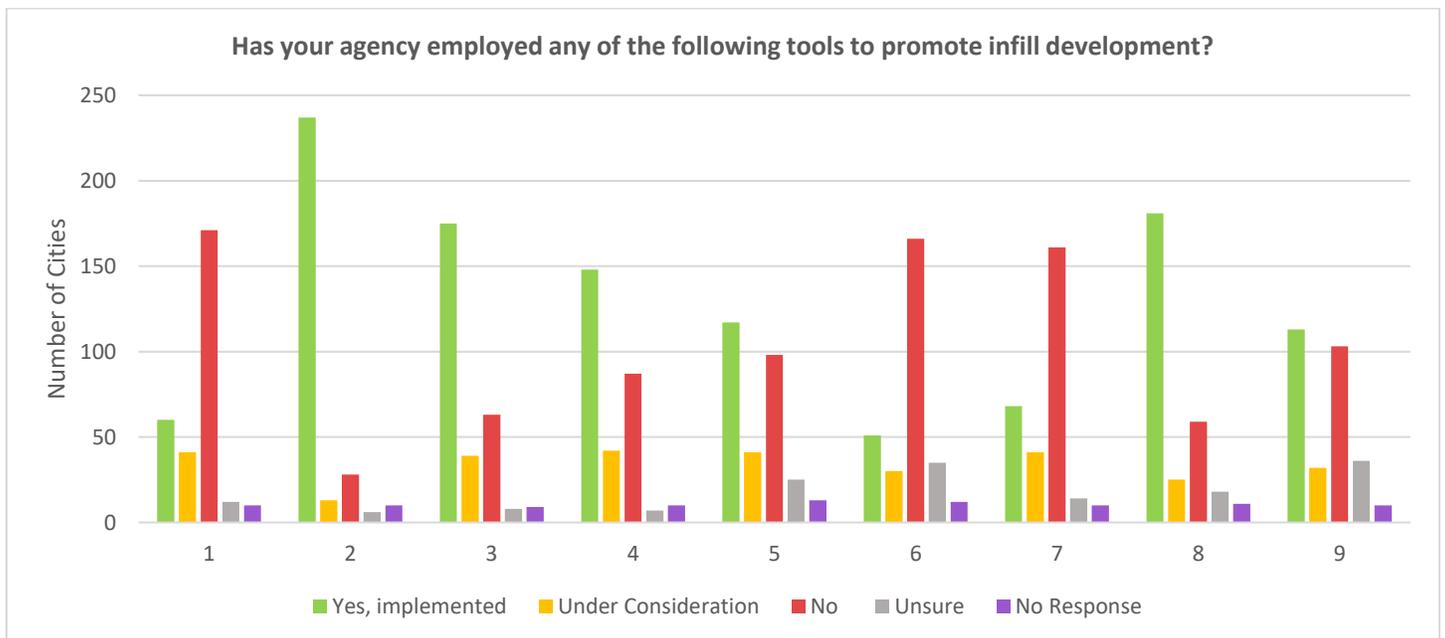
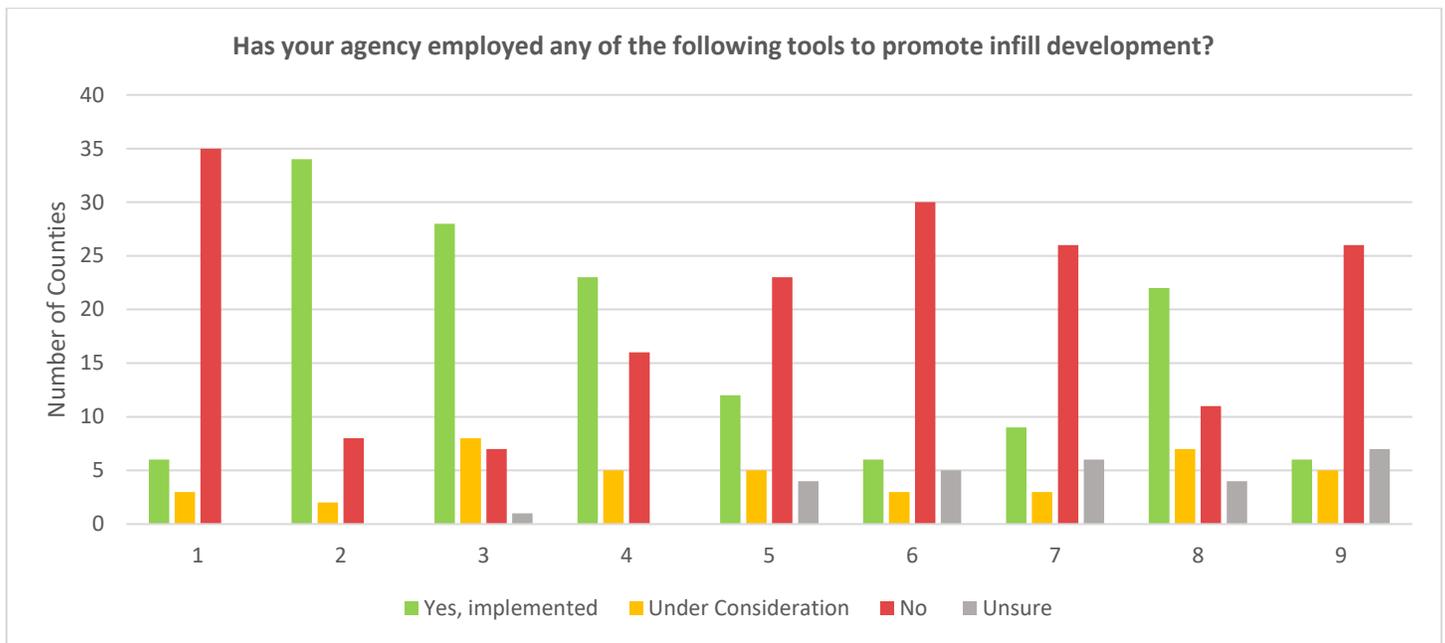
Question 9. Does your jurisdiction have any of the following policies related to school siting and development?

1. Policies that encourage neighborhood schools (i.e., schools where the majority of students live in the immediate geographic area)
2. Policies that support schools in areas with safe pedestrian or bicycle access
3. Policies that support schools in infill or priority development areas
4. Policies that support rehabilitation of existing school facilities
5. Policies that support the joint use of school facilities (e.g., keeping playgrounds open for community use)
6. Policies that align with goals for complete streets
7. Other (See [2018 APS Answers](#))



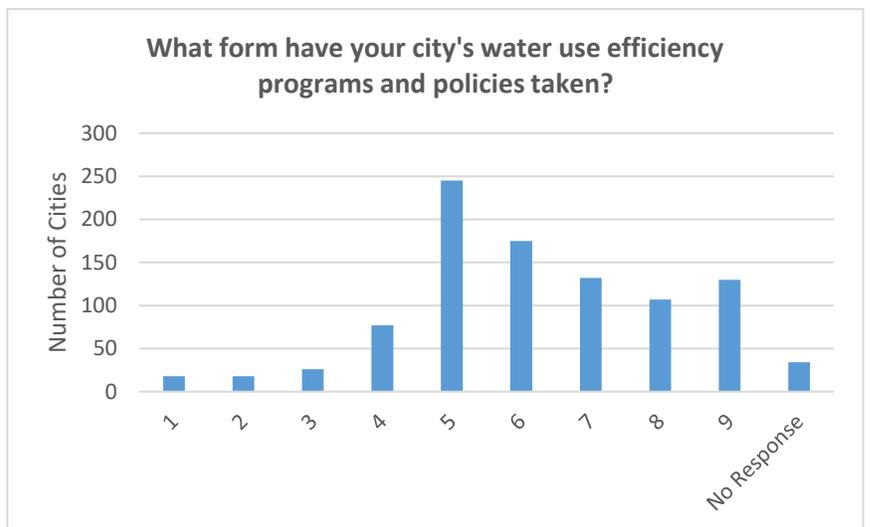
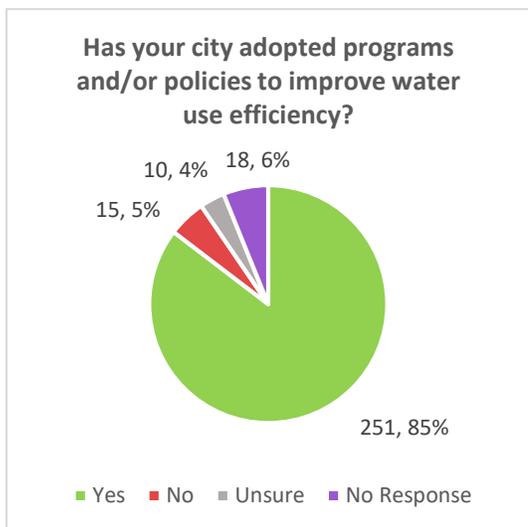
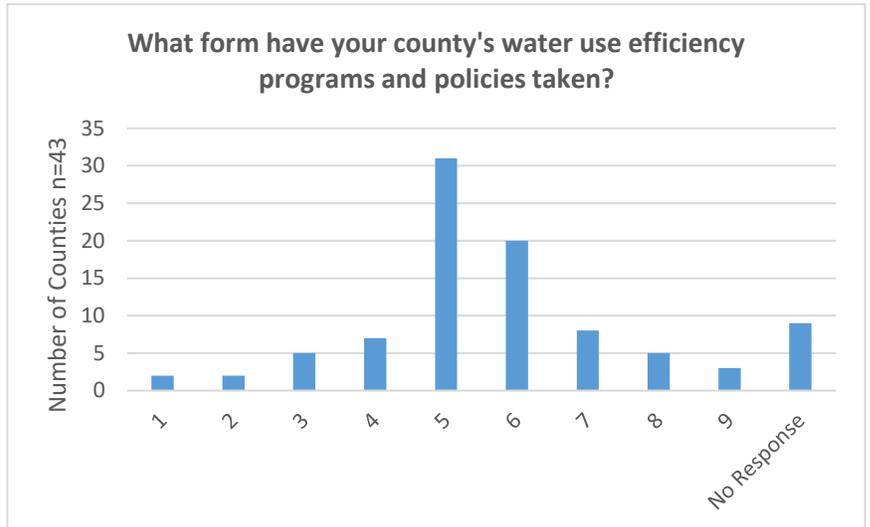
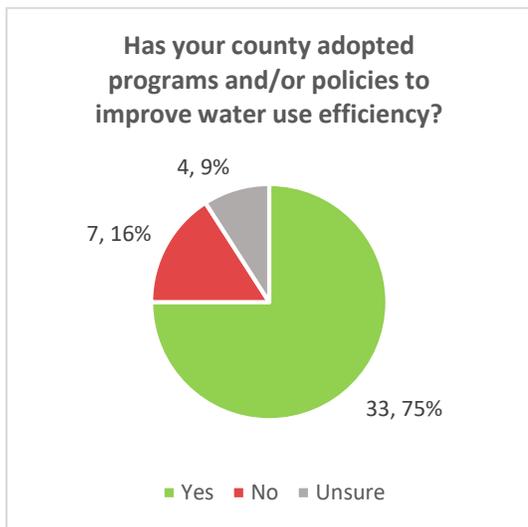
Question 10. Has your Agency employed any of the following tools to promote infill development?

1. Implementation of Form-Based Zoning Codes
2. Density bonuses
3. Reduced parking requirements
4. Expedited permit processing
5. Improvements of infrastructure and/or utilities in infill areas
6. Financial incentives for development costs, particularly for infrastructure
7. Financial incentives for pre-development costs (fee reductions, waivers, deferrals)
8. Coordination of CEQA analysis and review (tiering, etc)
9. Development of partnerships with school districts
10. Other (See [2018 APS Answers](#))



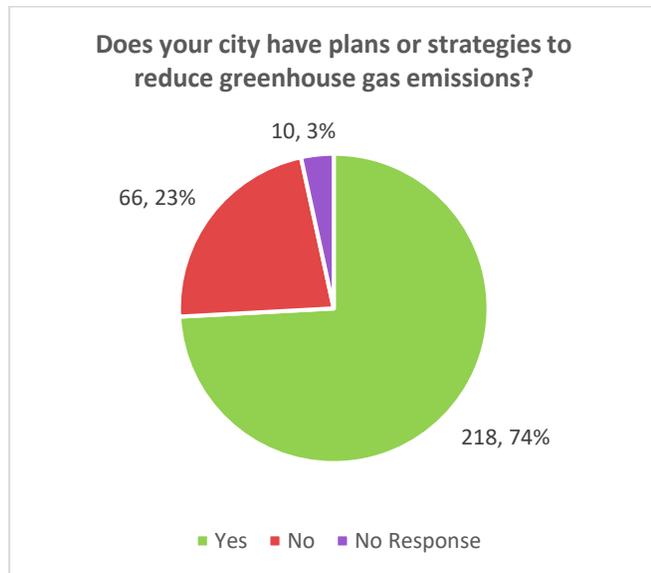
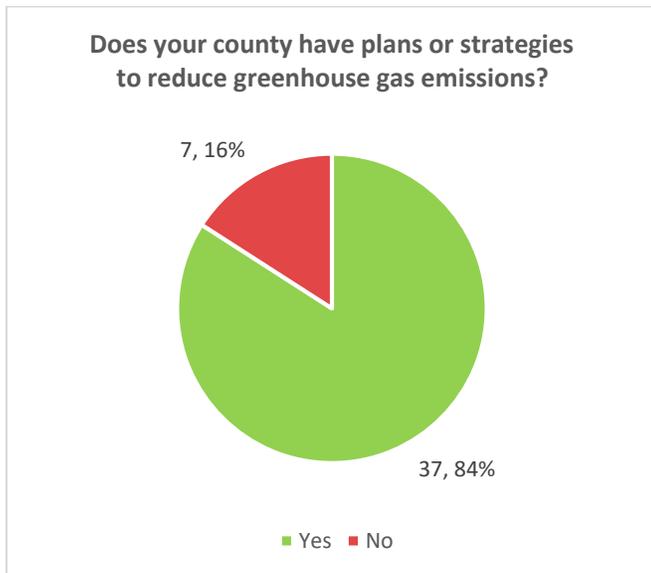
Question 11. Has your jurisdiction adopted programs and/or policies to improve water use efficiency? If yes, what form have these programs and policies taken?

1. Retrofit requirements for commercial buildings at re-sale
2. Retrofit requirements for residential buildings at re-sale
3. Regulations that prohibit development projects that would result in a net increase in water use
4. Ordinances for recycled water
5. Ordinances or landscaping standards
6. Development standards that require or promote low-impact development (LID)
7. Residential water use restrictions (e.g., limited landscape watering times)
8. Commercial water use restrictions (e.g., limited landscape watering times)
9. Requirements for water metering at residential developments
10. Other (See [2018 APS Answers](#))



Question 12. Mitigation- Does your jurisdiction have plans or strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions? If yes, what documents address this?

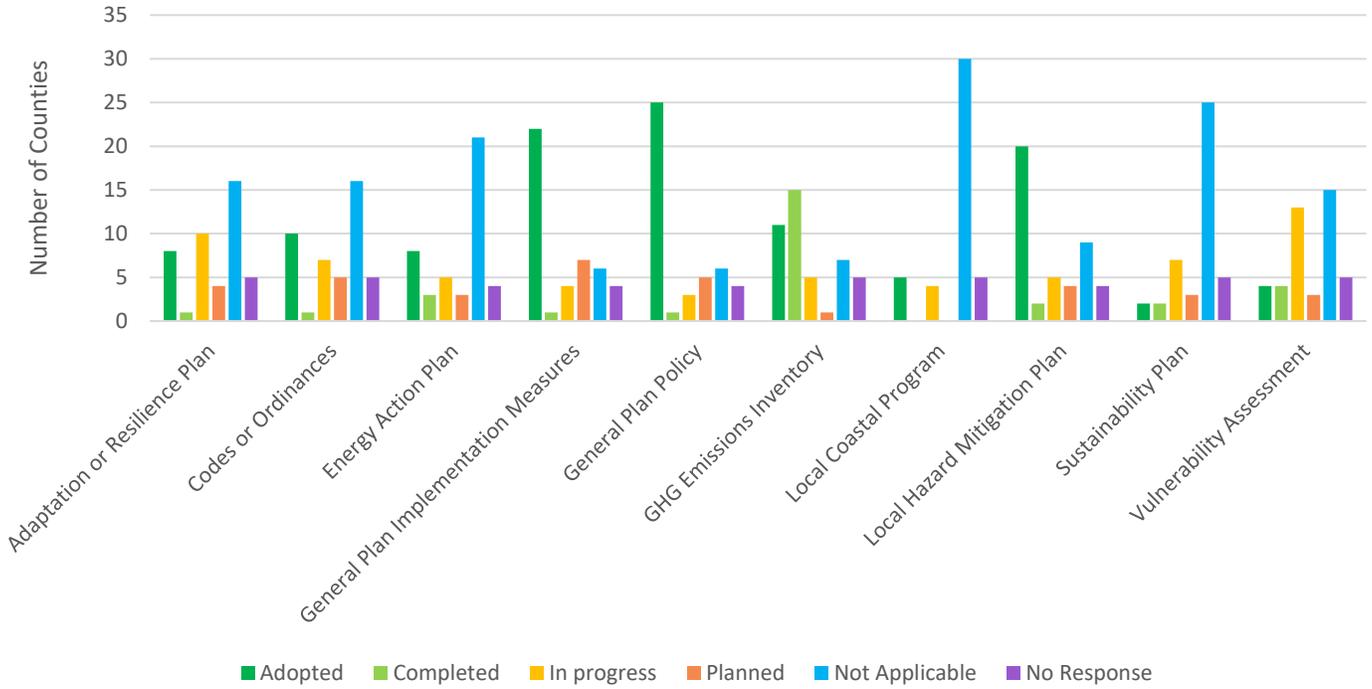
Note: Please be cautious when interpreting the second set of graphs for this question. Some may have indicated N/A because they indicated "No" in the first part of the question while others may have indicated N/A because the plan may not apply to their community. In future surveys, OPR will resolve this ambiguity.



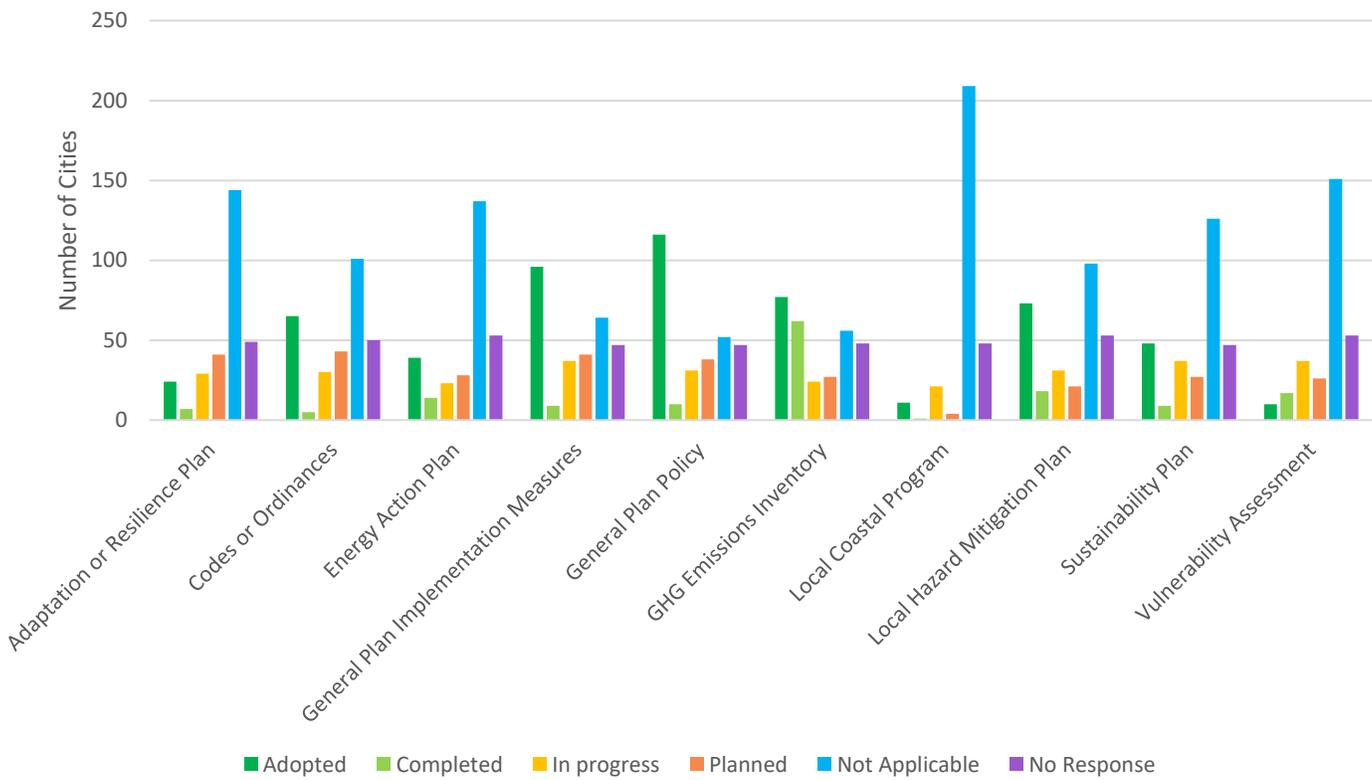
For the second part of this question please refer to the following definitions:

- **Adaptation or Resilience Plan:** A plan focused on addressing the city's, region's or community's vulnerability to climate change impacts. This document may also include discussions on vulnerability.
- **Climate Action Plan:** A plan that combines discussions focused around climate change that include, but are not limited to, vulnerability, emissions, adaptation and mitigation. Climate Action Plans also outline policies and measures that a local jurisdiction will enact to address climate change overall.
- **Codes/Ordinances:** These documents serve as implementation tools for the above documents. They create the connection between policy and implementation and work to specify how climate change policies will work on the ground.
- **Energy Action Plan:** A plan focused on creating renewable energy and improving energy efficiency.
- **General Plan Implementation Measures:** Typically these measures are an implementation of a Climate Action Plan or General Plan that creates policies and programs to address climate change.
- **General Plan Policies:** When climate change considerations are incorporated into a jurisdiction's General Plan - can refer to both greenhouse gas emissions and climate change impacts and adaptation.
- **GHG Reduction Plan:** This plan is focused on greenhouse gas emissions and outlines consistency with State CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.
- **GHG Emissions Inventory:** An overview of greenhouse gases and courses of emissions. These studies are often completed as a part of General Plan, Climate Action Plan and GHG emissions reduction plan but may be completed separately.
- **Local Coastal Programs:** Planning tools used by local governments to guide development in the coastal zone consistent with the Coastal Act.
- **Sustainability Plan:** This type of plan is typically focused on a more holistic vision of a community that includes considerations of climate change as one component. These plans are often seen as "visioning" documents.
- **Vulnerability Assessment:** A document that analyzes how a community, city, or region and/or its infrastructure may be impacted by climate change.

County documents that address greenhouse gas emission reduction

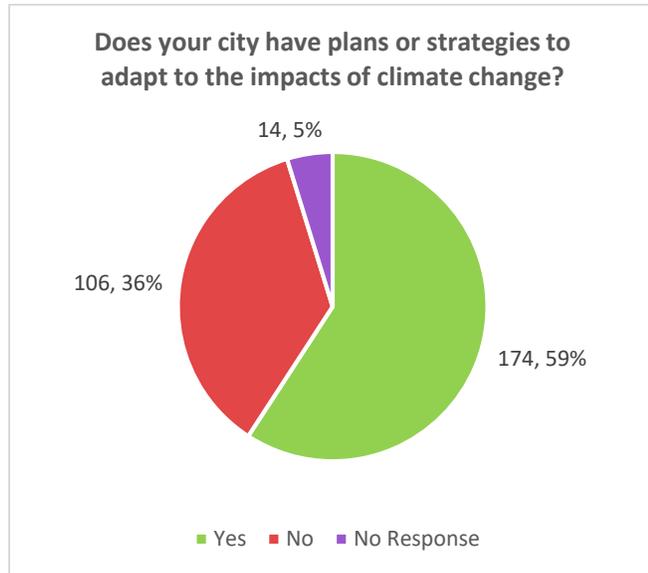
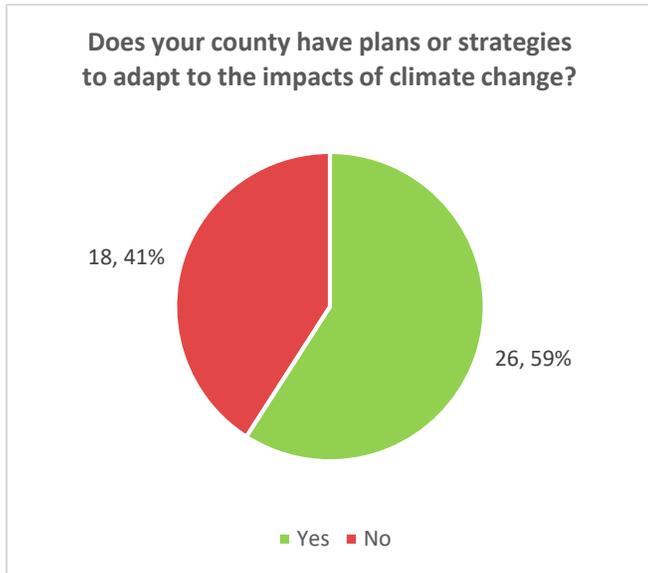


City documents that address greenhouse gas emission reduction



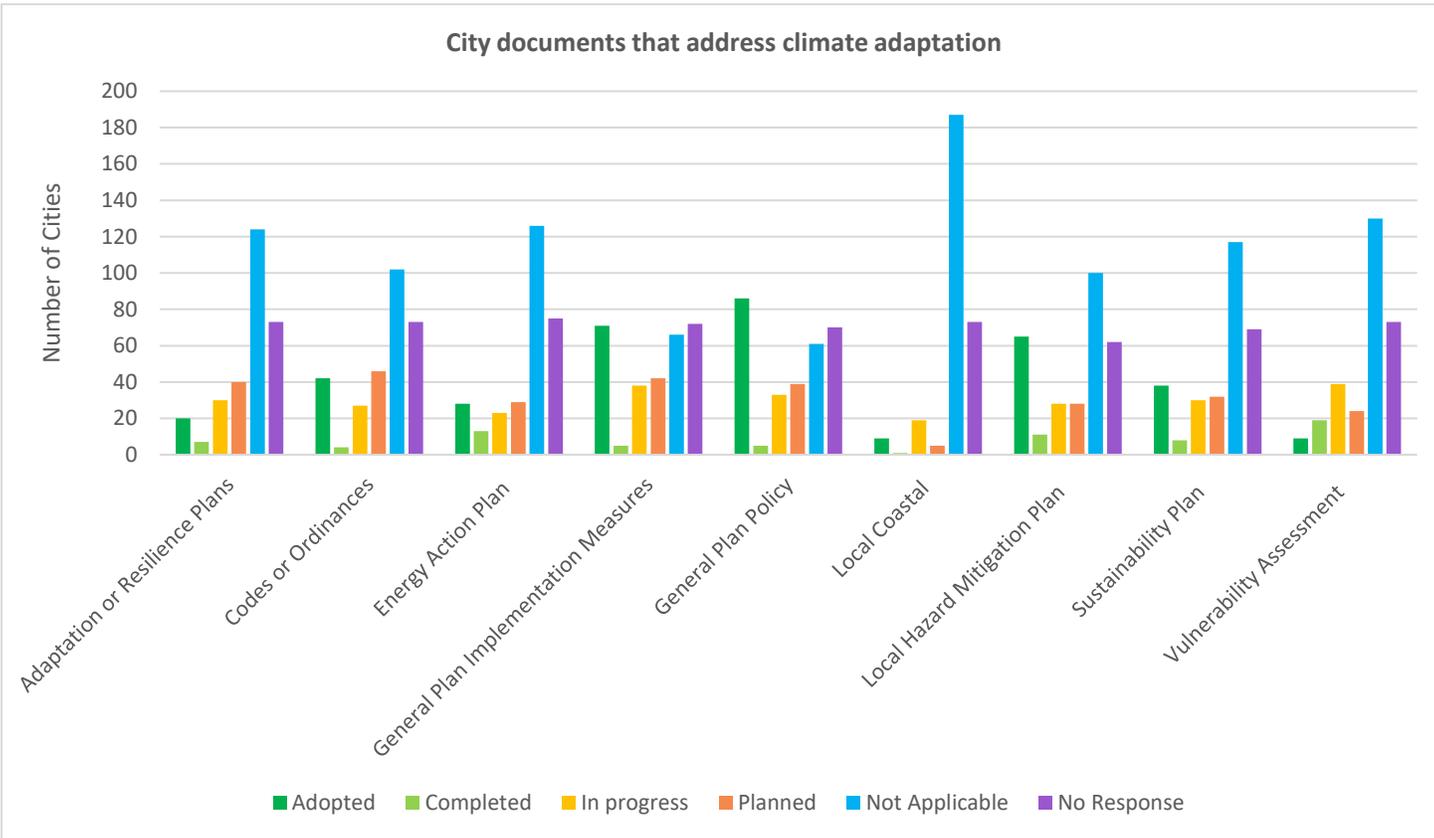
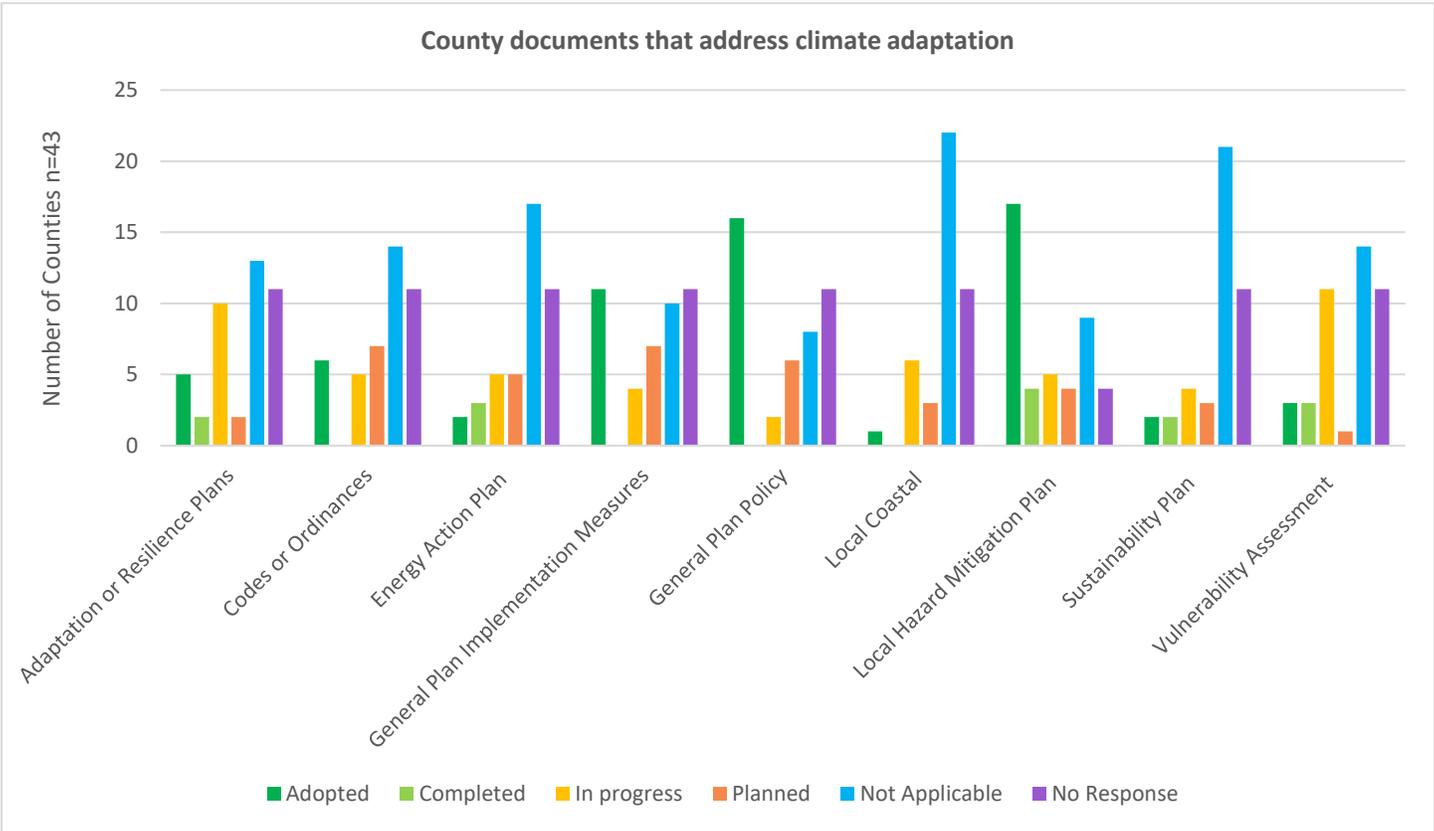
Question 13. Adaptation- Does your jurisdiction have plans or strategies to adapt to the impacts of climate change? If yes, what documents address this?

Note: Please be cautious when interpreting the second set of graphs for this question. Some may have indicated N/A because they indicated “No” in the first part of the question while others may have indicated N/A because the plan may not apply to their community. In future surveys, OPR will resolve this ambiguity. Moreover, due to a technical glitch, the number of county respondents for the second part of the question is 43.



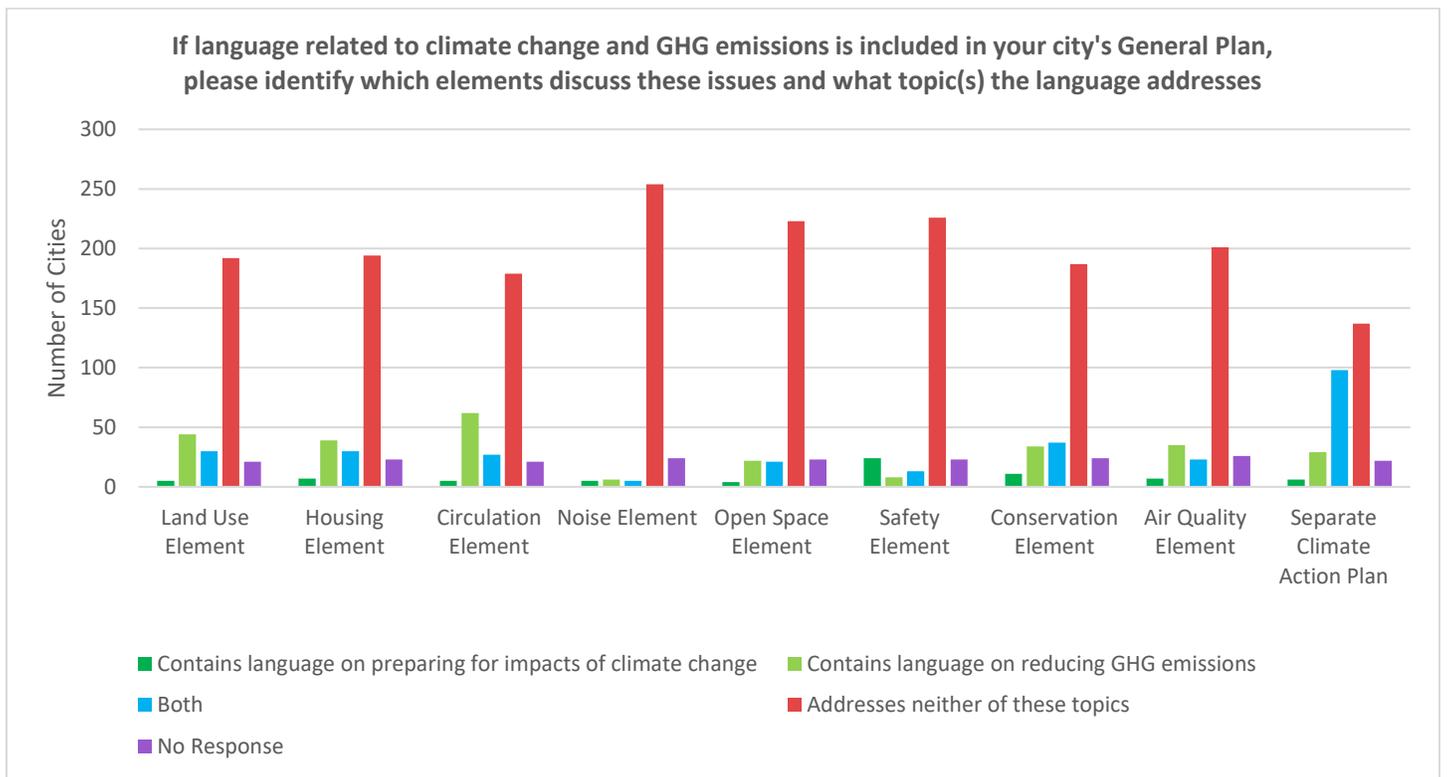
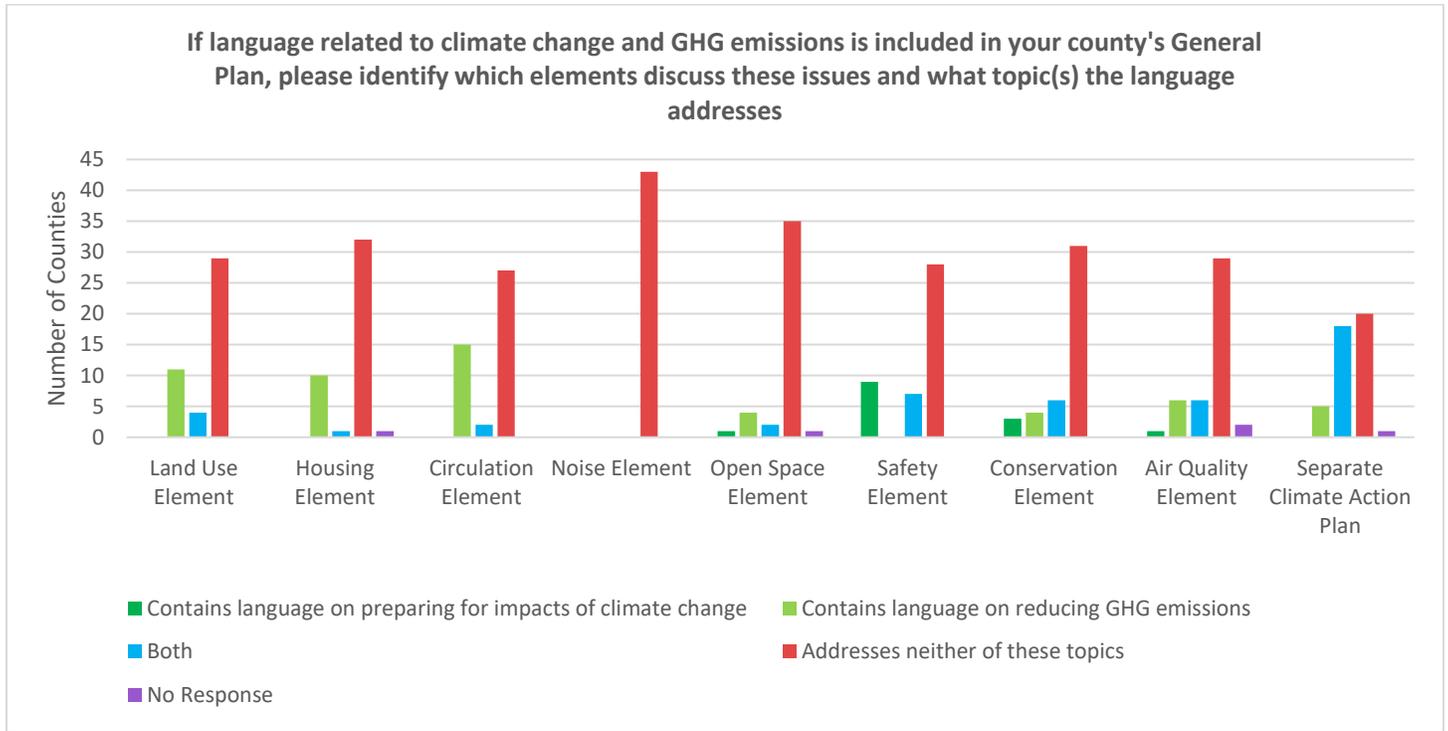
For the second part of this question please refer to the following definitions:

- **Adaptation or Resilience Plan:** A plan focused on addressing the city's, region's or community's vulnerability to climate change impacts. This document may also include discussions on vulnerability.
- **Climate Action Plan:** A plan that combines discussions focused around climate change that include, but are not limited to, vulnerability, emissions, adaptation and mitigation. Climate Action Plans also outline policies and measures that a local jurisdiction will enact to address climate change overall.
- **Codes/Ordinances:** These documents serve as implementation tools for the above documents. They create the connection between policy and implementation and work to specify how climate change policies will work on the ground.
- **Energy Action Plan:** A plan focused on creating renewable energy and improving energy efficiency.
- **General Plan Implementation Measures:** Typically these measures are an implementation of a Climate Action Plan or General Plan that creates policies and programs to address climate change.
- **General Plan Policies:** When climate change considerations are incorporated into a jurisdiction's General Plan - can refer to both greenhouse gas emissions and climate change impacts and adaptation.
- **GHG Reduction Plan:** This plan is focused on greenhouse gas emissions and outlines consistency with State CEQA Guidelines Section 15183.
- **GHG Emissions Inventory:** An overview of greenhouse gases and courses of emissions. These studies are often completed as a part of General Plan, Climate Action Plan and GHG emissions reduction plan but may be completed separately.
- **Local Coastal Programs:** Planning tools used by local governments to guide development in the coastal zone consistent with the Coastal Act.
- **Sustainability Plan:** This type of plan is typically focused on a more holistic vision of a community that includes considerations of climate change as one component. These plans are often seen as "visioning" documents.
- **Vulnerability Assessment:** A document that analyzes how a community, city, or region and/or its infrastructure may be impacted by climate change.

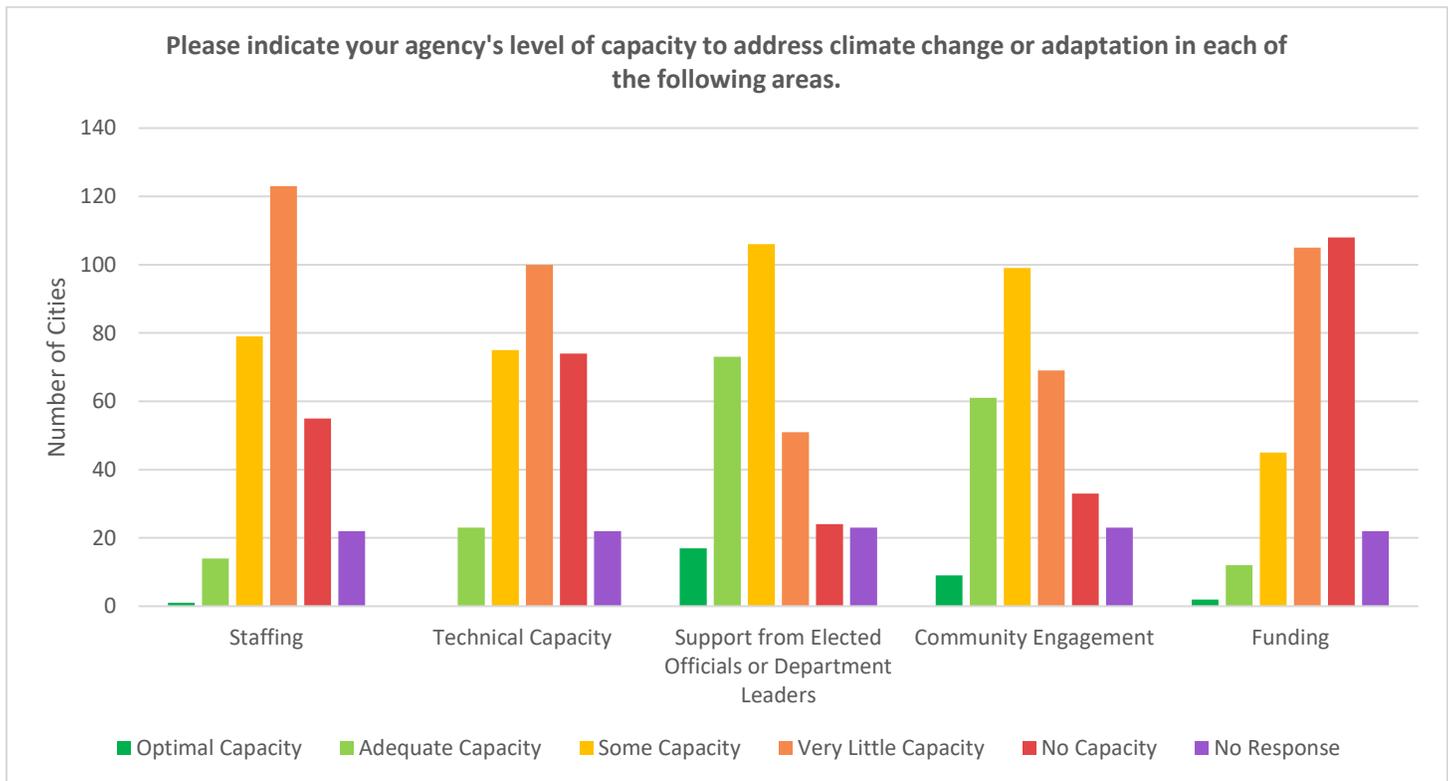
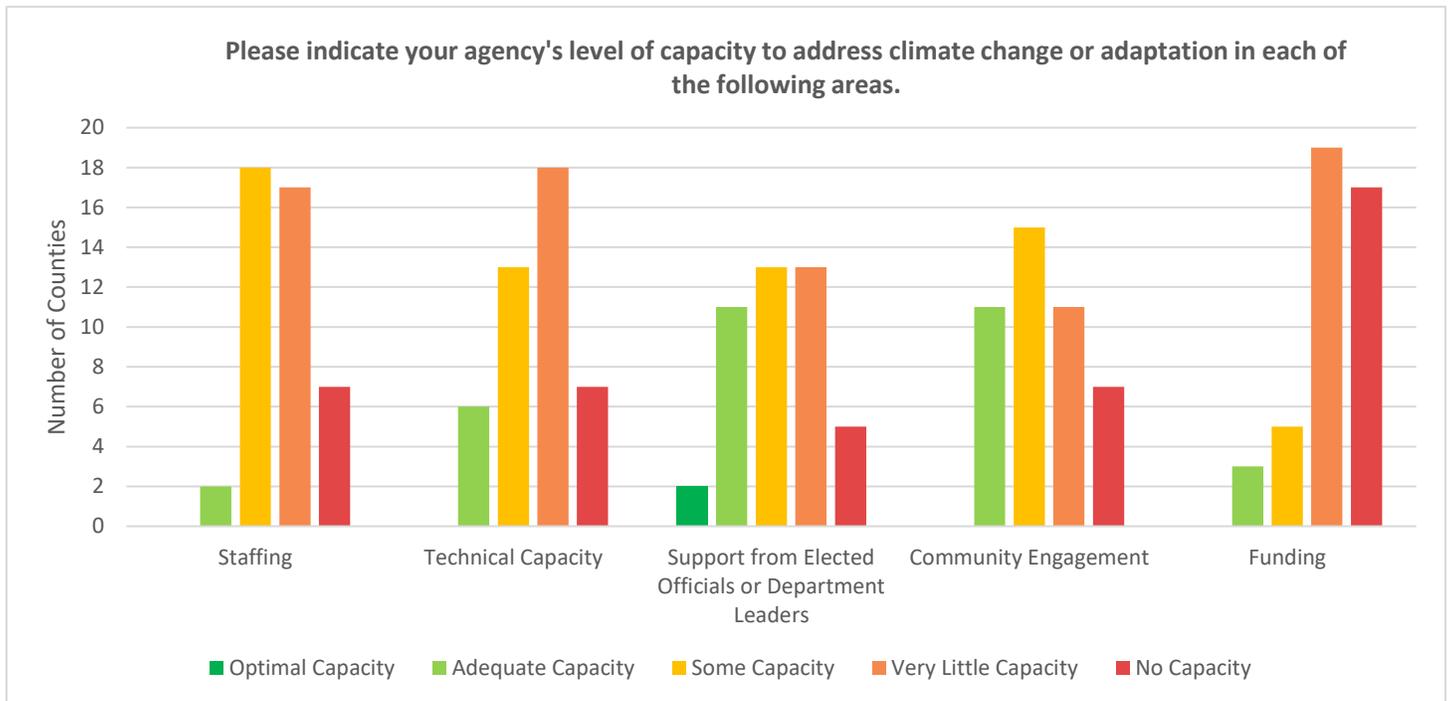


Question 15. If language related to climate change and GHG emissions is included in your General Plan, please identify which elements discuss these issues and what topic(s) the language addresses. (Select all that apply)

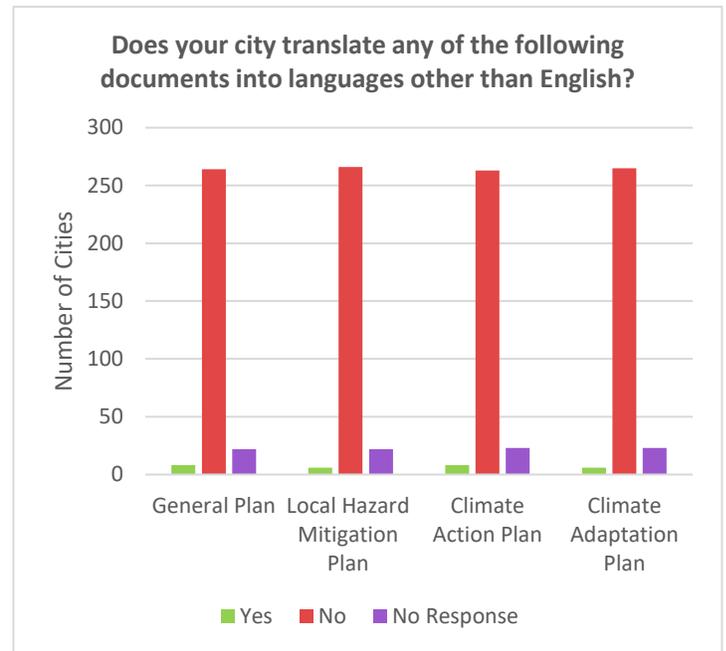
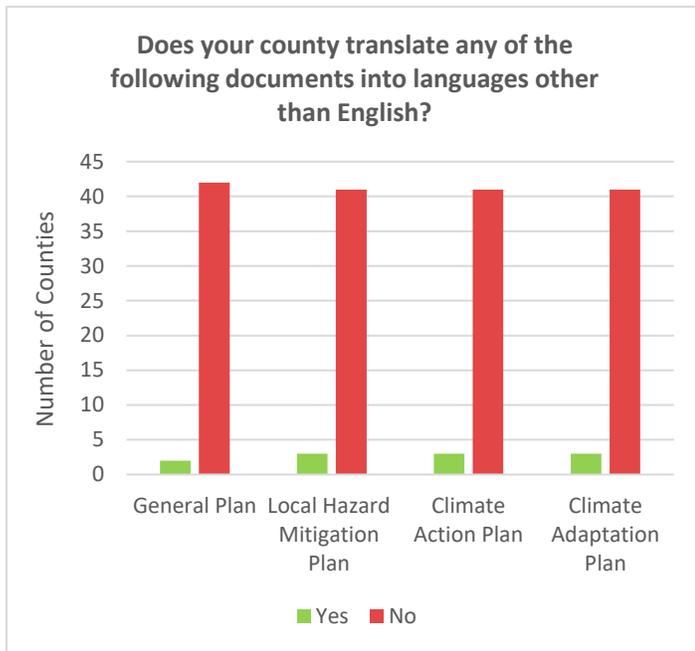
Note: Ambiguous answers (e.g. "Contains language on reducing GHG emissions & addresses neither of these topics") were removed from the data set. Please see [2018 APS Answers](#) for more detailed information.



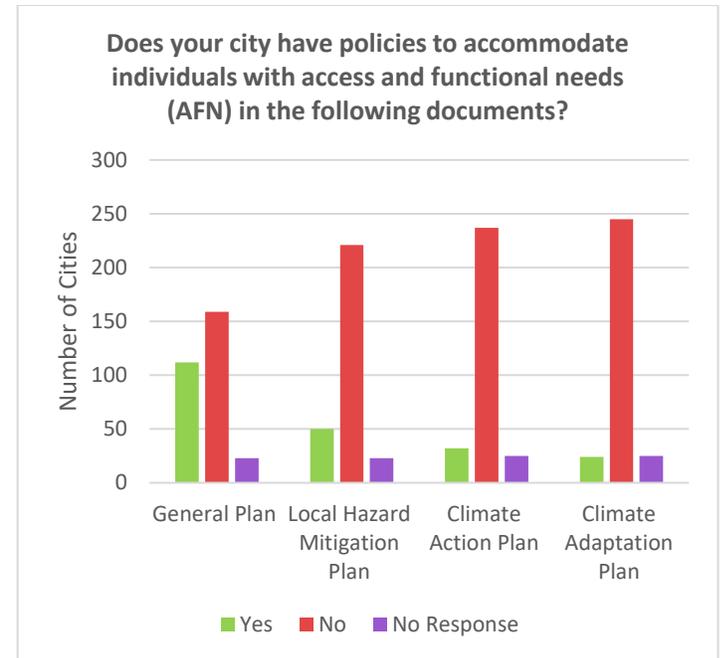
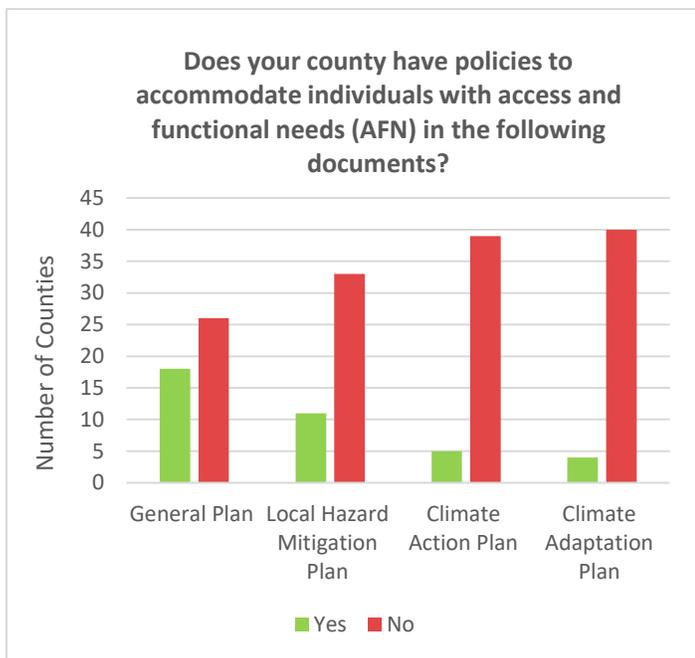
Question 15 (continued). Please indicate your agency's level of capacity to address climate change or adaptation.



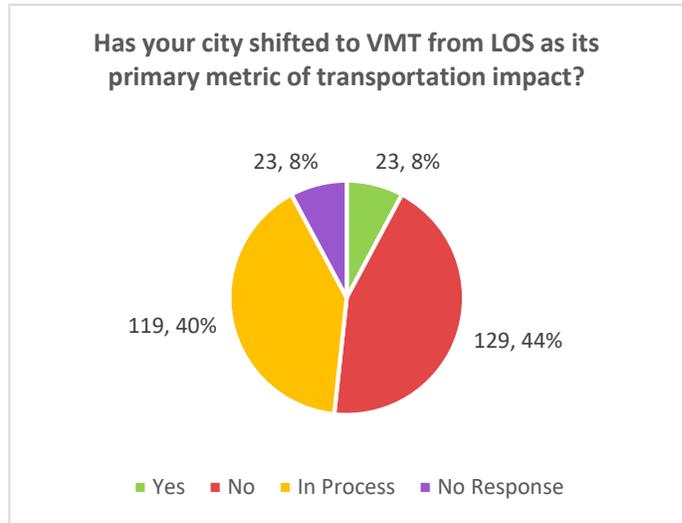
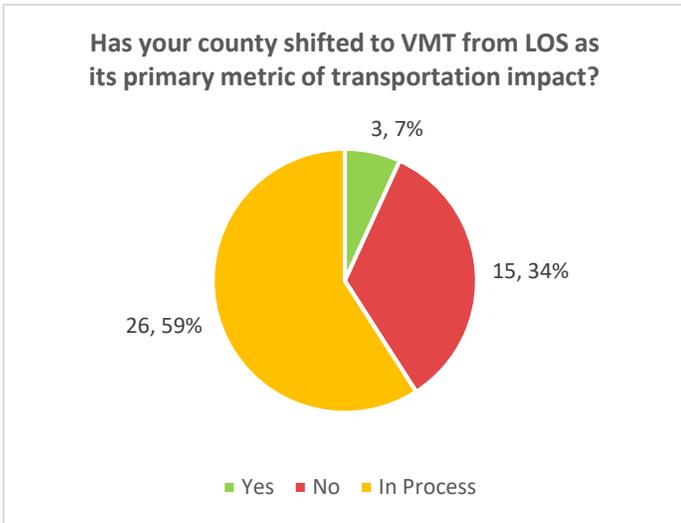
Question 16. Climate Vulnerable Communities - Does your jurisdiction translate any of the following documents into languages other than English?



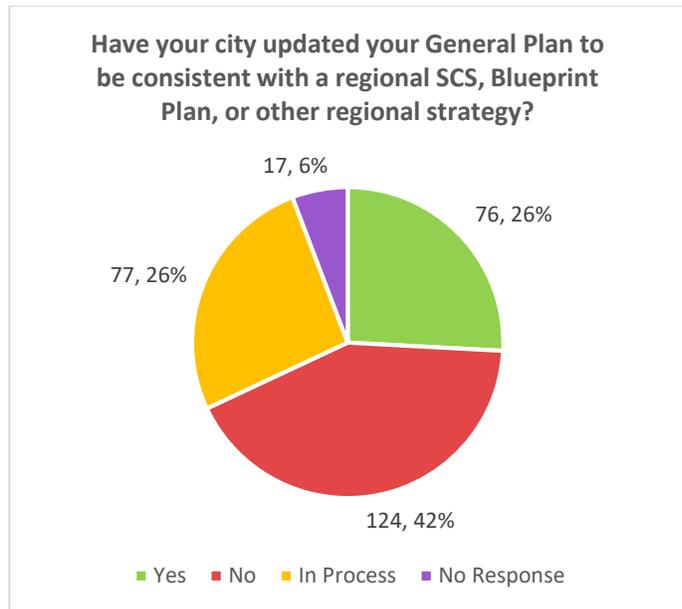
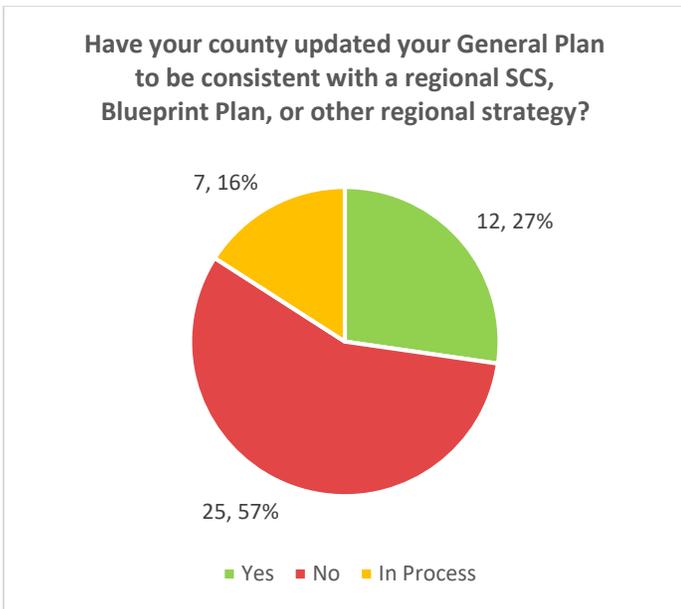
Question 16 (continued). Does your jurisdiction have policies to accommodate individuals with access and functional needs (AFN) in the following documents?



Question 16 (continued). Has your jurisdiction shifted to Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) from Level of Service (LOS) as its primary metric of transportation impact?



Question 16 (continued). Have you updated your General Plan to be consistent with a regional Sustainable Communities Strategy (SCS), Blueprint Plan, or other regional strategy?



Question 17. Has your jurisdiction used the following climate change related tools and resources?

Note: The Governor’s Office of Planning and Research identified these tools due to their inclusion in various State guidance documents supporting local planning for climate change.

1. Cal-Adapt - <http://cal-adapt.org>
2. California Adaptation Clearinghouse - <http://resilientca.org>
3. California Adaptation Planning Guide - <http://resources.ca.gov/climate/safeguarding/local-action/>
4. California Climate Action Portal (CAP-Map) - <https://webmaps.arb.ca.gov/capmap>
5. CalOES MyHazards - <http://myhazards.caloes.ca.gov/>
6. CalOES MyPlan - <http://www.caloes.ca.gov/cal-oes-divisions/hazard-mitigation/myplan-internet-mapping-tool>
7. CalOES Office of Access and Functional Needs - <http://www.caloes.ca.gov/cal-oes-divisions/access-functional-needs/oafn-web-map>
8. Coastal Storm Modeling System: CoSMoS - https://walrus.wr.usgs.gov/coastal_processes/cosmos/
9. Cool California - <http://www.coolcalifornia.org/>
10. Funding Wizard - <https://fundingwizard.arb.ca.gov>
11. Georgetown Climate Center Adaptation Clearinghouse - <http://www.adaptationclearinghouse.org>
12. NOAA Sea Level Rise Viewer - <https://coast.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/tools/slr>
13. Our Coast Our Future Sea Level Rise Viewer - <http://data.pointblue.org/apps/ocof/cms/>
14. SEEC Clearpath California Emissions Management Tool - <http://californiaseec.org/seec-clearpath/>
15. US Climate Resilience Toolkit - <https://toolkit.climate.gov/>
16. Urban Footprint - <http://www.sgc.ca.gov/resources/urban-footprint/>
17. Other (See [2018 APS Answers](#))

