



## ICMA Planning across Generations Survey 2013

The “Planning Across Generations” Survey was a joint project of USDA, Cornell University, and ICMA. It was conducted in the fall of 2013 and closed in May 2014. Surveys were mailed to 7,948 city-type and county governments. An online option was also available. The survey response rate is 19%, with 1,478 local governments responding.

The summary below shows the percentages that provided answers in response to each individual question. Not all local governments answered each question, so the percentages are not based on all survey respondents. The number reporting (N) is provided for each question.

### Values and Attitudes

Please indicate the degree to which you agree with the following statements.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
When communities provide services for seniors and children, all community members benefit. (N=1,463)	1%	1%	4%	45%	48%
Seniors are a resource for the community. (N=1,465)	1%	0%	4%	49%	46%
Children are a resource for the community. (N=1,461)	1%	1%	5%	46%	47%
The community has a responsibility to care for seniors. (N=1,460)	2%	3%	17%	47%	32%
The community has a responsibility to care for children and youth. (N=1,461)	2%	2%	13%	46%	38%
Communities that keep people for their entire lifespan are more vibrant. (N=1,460)	1%	3%	19%	41%	37%
The needs of families with young children are similar to the needs of the elderly with regards to the physical environment (e.g., walkability, parks, transportation, affordable housing). (N=1,465)	1%	8%	12%	50%	28%
Families with children generate sufficient tax revenue to cover the cost of services they demand. (N=1,462)	6%	40%	33%	18%	3%
Seniors generate sufficient tax revenue to cover the cost of services they demand. (N=1,458)	6%	36%	34%	22%	3%
Families with children represent a valuable consumer population. (N=1,464)	1%	1%	7%	67%	25%
Seniors represent a valuable consumer population. (N=1,441)	0%	2%	16%	64%	18%

Please indicate the extent to which you agree the following statements are true of your community?

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
Senior participation has led to a common vision regarding planning for all ages. (N=1,462)	1%	18%	37%	37%	7%
Participation of families with children has led to a common vision regarding planning for all ages.(N=1,460)	1%	15%	34%	43%	7%
My community is <u>not</u> divided by race, class, or old-timer/new-comer divisions. (N=1,464)	4%	29%	22%	36%	10%
Ethnic or cultural diversity has led to new approaches to planning and/or programming for all ages. (N=1,458)	2%	18%	38%	37%	6%
Seniors can find the range of services they need within my community. (N=1,466)	2%	19%	15%	54%	11%
Families with children can find the range of services they need within my community. (N=1,462)	1%	15%	15%	57%	13%
My community has an adequate supply of health care providers. (N=1,461)	5%	20%	15%	46%	15%
Public schools are of high quality in my community. (N=1,457)	3%	9%	15%	46%	27%
Crimes rates are low in my community. (N=1,466)	2%	10%	15%	50%	24%
Residents feel safe and secure in streets and parks. (N=1,466)	2%	10%	15%	50%	24%

\*Based on 1,434 answering the question.

**My community's board/council is predominantly:**

Long-time residents (66%)	Evenly mixed (33%)	Newcomers (1%)
Older residents (38%)	Evenly mixed (57%)	Younger residents (5%)
Conservative (43%)	Evenly mixed (49%)	Liberal (8%)
Representative of elites (8%)	Evenly mixed (40%)	Representative of community (52%)
Male (61%)	Evenly mixed (36%)	Female (3%)

## Services

### Which of the following facilities, services or programs are available in your community?

	Percent reporting*		Percent reporting*
Inter-generational programs for seniors and youth (N=547)	38%	Youth center (N=556)	39%
Home-delivered meals or groceries for seniors (N=1,191)	83%	Family literacy/parenting programs (N=672)	47%
Home modification services for seniors (N=598)	42%	After-school programs (N=1,120)	78%
Adult day care (N=653)	46%	Summer camps (N=938)	65%
Home visiting for seniors (N=717)	50%	Youth employment programs (N=492)	34%
Senior center (N=1,155)	81%	Home visiting for families with children (N=288)	20%
Community center shared by all ages (N=682)	48%	Publicly supported preschool (N=746)	52%

\*Based on 1,434 answering the question.

### Which of the following mobility-related services and facilities are available in your community?

	Percent reporting*		Percent reporting*
Demand-response transit (aka "dial-a-ride") (N=859)	64%	Public restrooms in commercial districts and parks (N=808)	60%
Taxi vouchers for seniors (N=172)	13%	Street furniture/places to sit and rest (N=872)	65%
School buses used to transport seniors (N=149)	11%	Walk-to-school programs (N=455)	34%
Public funding for community groups to use vans (N=292)	22%	Enhanced crosswalks (e.g., extended crossing times, sidewalk bump-outs, highly-visible paint) (N=671)	50%
Larger lettering on street/traffic signs (N=286)	21%	Volunteer driver program (N=285)	34%

\*Based on 1,341 answering the question.

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**Which of the following are engaged in cross-agency partnerships to serve children or seniors?**

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	Percent reporting*		Percent reporting*
School district (N=816)	62%	Public health department (N=711)	54%
Housing agency (N=501)	38%	Community college (N=393)	30%
Transportation or highway department (N=306)	23%	Libraries (N=972)	74%
Fire department (N=654)	50%	Hospital or health care providers (N=677)	52%
Police department (N=757)	58%	Parks and recreation department (N=850)	65%
Planning department (N=408)	31%	Economic development agency/Chamber of Commerce (N=411)	31%
Area Agency on Aging (N=721)	55%	Child Care Resource and Referral Agency (N=307)	24%

\*Based on 1,307 answering the question.

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**Schools in the community**

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	Yes (Percent reporting)	No (Percent reporting)
Does local government have any tax or budget control over schools? (N=1,431)	19%	81%
Does local government participate in school district educational facility planning? (N=1,414)	28%	72%
Do schools and local government share any facilities (e.g., playing fields, gyms, computer labs)? (N=1,472)	58%	42%
Does local government have any joint use (or similar) agreements or with schools? (N=1,405)	56%	44%

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**Services offered by schools in the community**

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	<b>Yes (Percent reporting)</b>
Nutrition programs/meals for seniors (N=360)	36%
Child care services (N=483)	50%
Health care services for all (N=155)	16%
Recreation programs for all ages (N=471)	49%
Adult education services (N=494)	51%
Other (N=35)	4%

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\*Based on 969 answering the question.

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**What are the most trusted institutions that seniors and families with children use for information about services?**

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	<b>Seniors</b>	<b>Families with children</b>
Schools (N=1,289)	8%	99%
Religious institutions (N=1,192)	96%	74%
Health care providers (N=1,055)	96%	73%
Employers (N=591)	51%	88%
Community nonprofits (N=1,016)	92%	81%
Police (N=921)	92%	84%
Fire department (N=802)	92%	86%
City/county information and referral services (N=1,018)	95%	82%
Local retail providers (e.g., banks, grocery stores) (N=487)	87%	79%

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**Does your local government work with the following institutions to deliver information and services?**

	Percent reporting*		Percent reporting*
Schools (N=978)	74%	Community nonprofits (N=979)	74%
Religious institutions (N=557)	42%	Police department (N=1,061)	80%
Health care providers (N=528)	40%	Fire department (N=991)	75%
Employers (N=514)	39%	Local shops and businesses (N=592)	45%

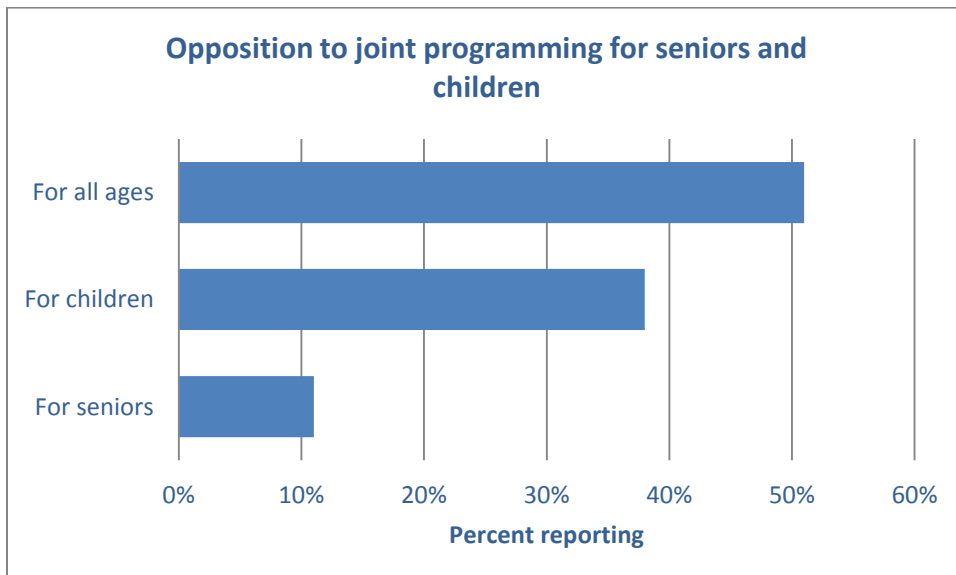
\*Based on 1,325 answering the question.

**What are the barriers to joint programming for different ages?**

	Percent reporting*		Percent reporting*
Turf issues (N=354)	27%	Regulations to protect children (N=199)	15%
Lack of common data systems (N=426)	32%	Regulations to protect frail elders (N=126)	10%
Segregated funding streams (N=625)	47%	Concerns about safety (N=247)	19%
Lack of funding (N=1,093)	83%	Liability (N=511)	39%
Department head or staff opposition (N=78)	6%	Elected official opposition (N=107)	8%
Lack of information (N=493)	37%	Customer preference for age-segregated services (N=283)	21%

\*Based on 1,325 answering the question.

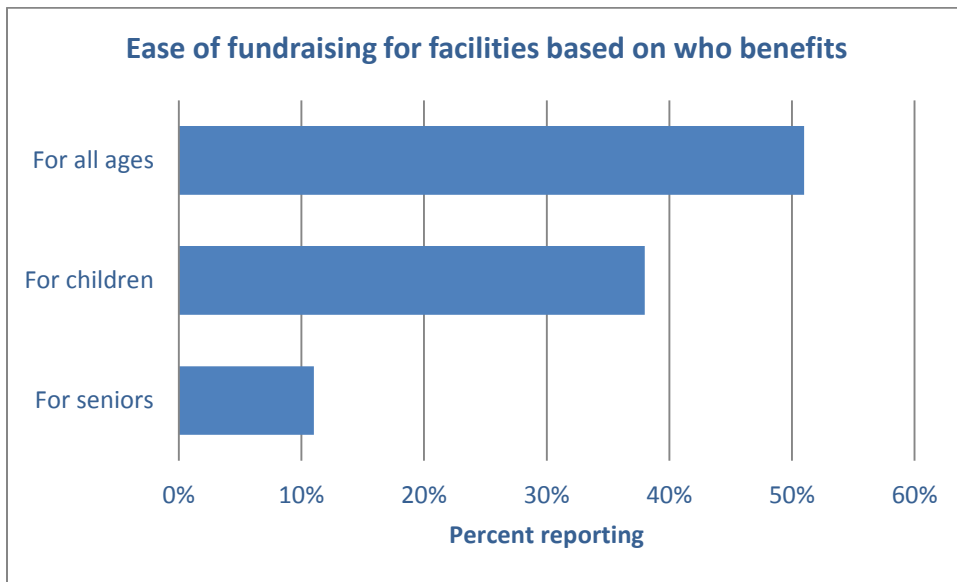
**Is there opposition to joint programming for different ages?**



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Is it easier to raise funds (e.g., bonds, taxes) if facilities are for?

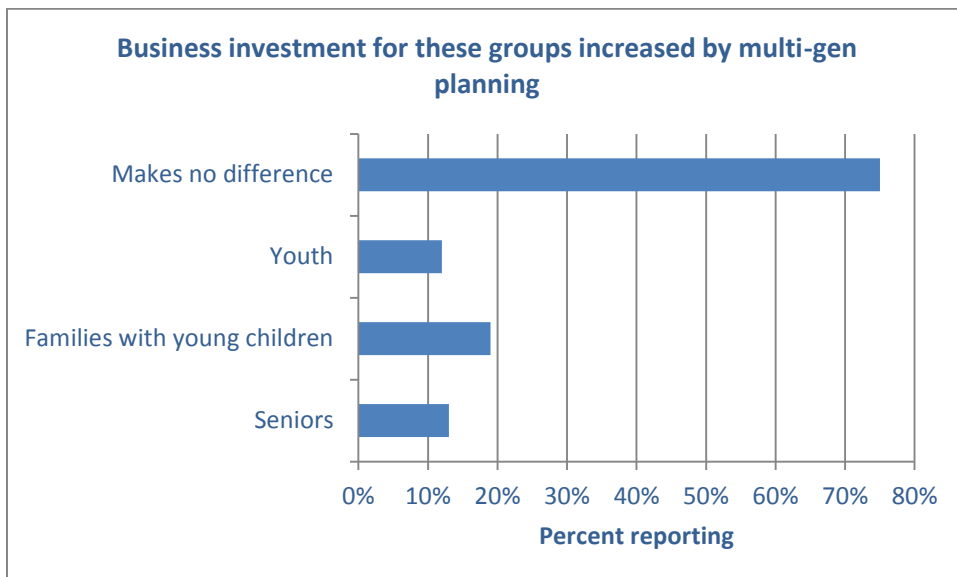
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Does planning for all ages lead to more business and developer investment in services or facilities for the following groups?

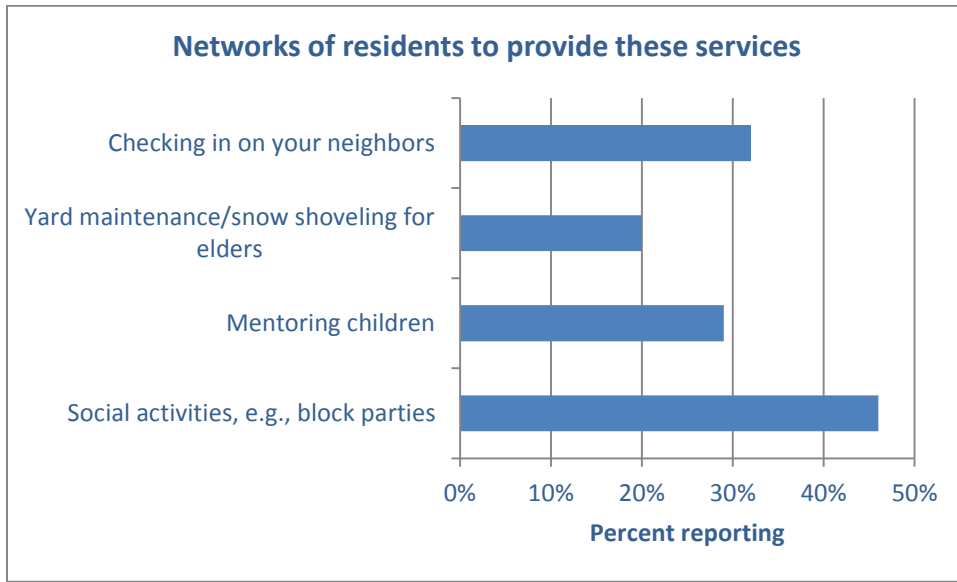
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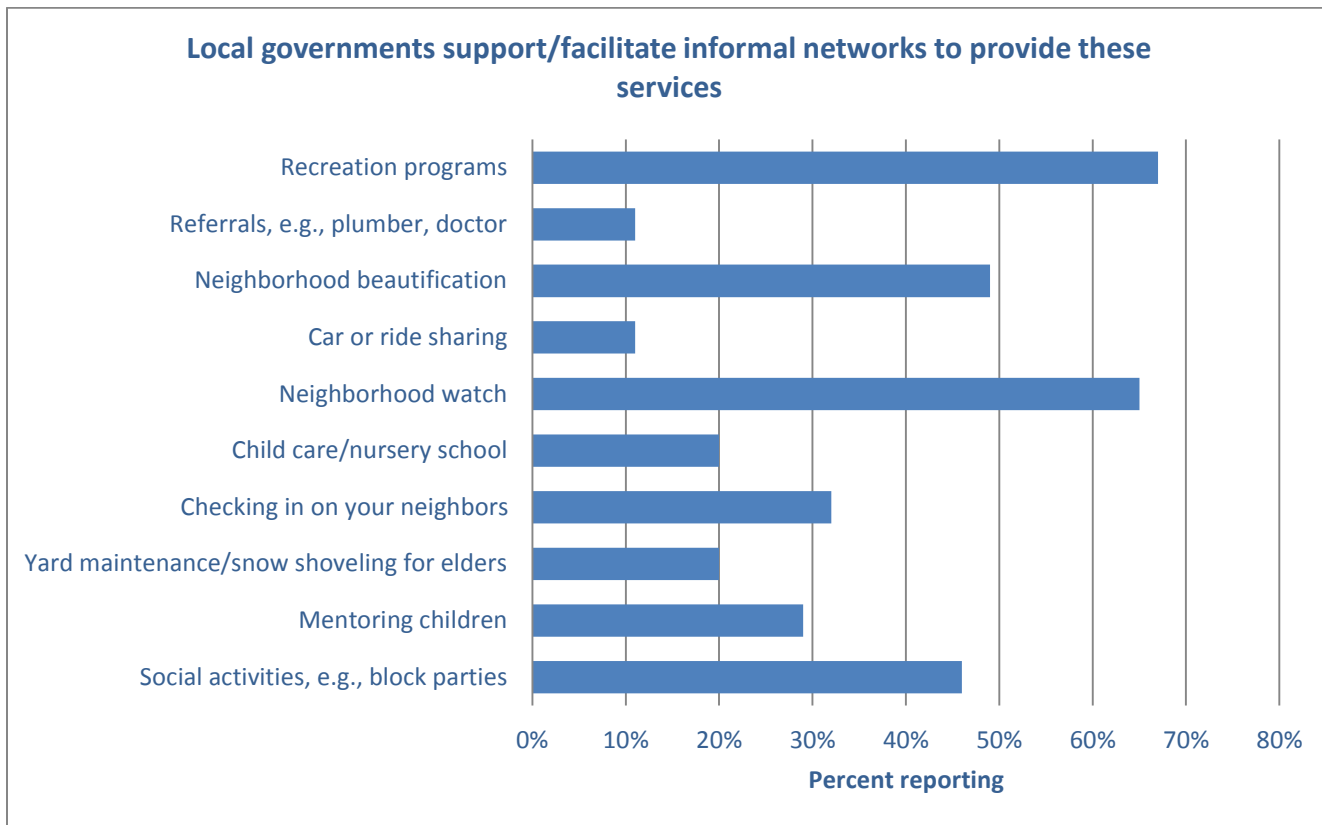
Does your local government support or facilitate informal networks of residents to provide the following?

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**Does planning for all ages lead to more business and developer investment in services or facilities for these groups?**



**Does your community have mobile home parks (for all ages) or dedicated senior housing in these locations?**

	In the center of town	On the fringe of town	Do not have
Mobile home parks (N=1,355)	25%	48%	38%
Dedicated senior housing (N=1,334)	62%	32%	23%

**Does your community provide the following services on site to these types of housing?**

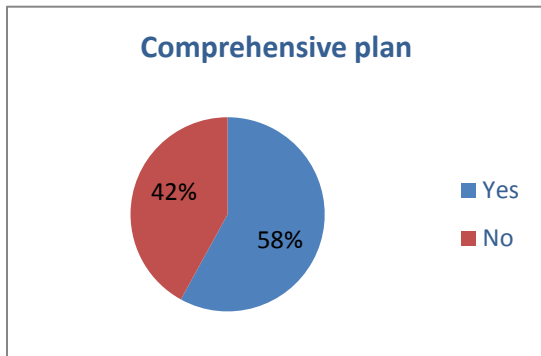
	Recreation	Transit stops	Supportive services	Not applicable
Mobile home parks (N=1,185)	6%	19%	7%	76%
Dedicated senior housing (N=1,222)	20%	37%	26%	52%

**Tax breaks are provided to.....**

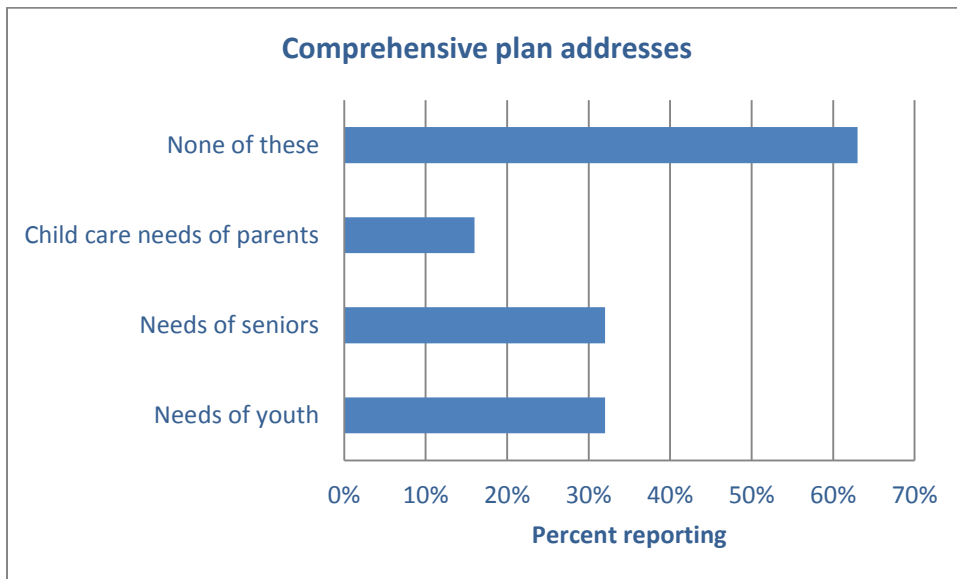
	All seniors	Income-restricted seniors	Neither
Property tax breaks (N=1,379)	29%	32%	43%
Sales tax breaks (N=1,322)	3%	2%	96%

**Planning and Participation**

**Does your community have a comprehensive plan?**



Based on 1,391 reporting

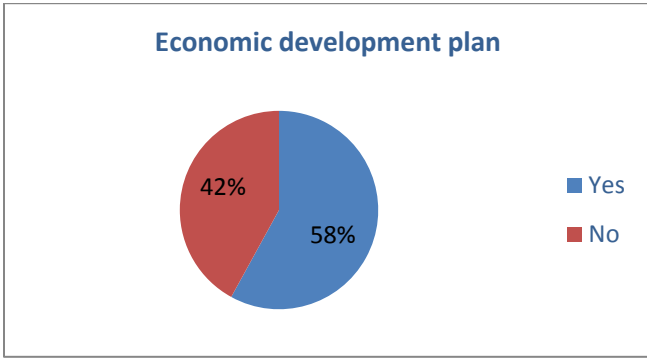


Based on 1,063 reporting

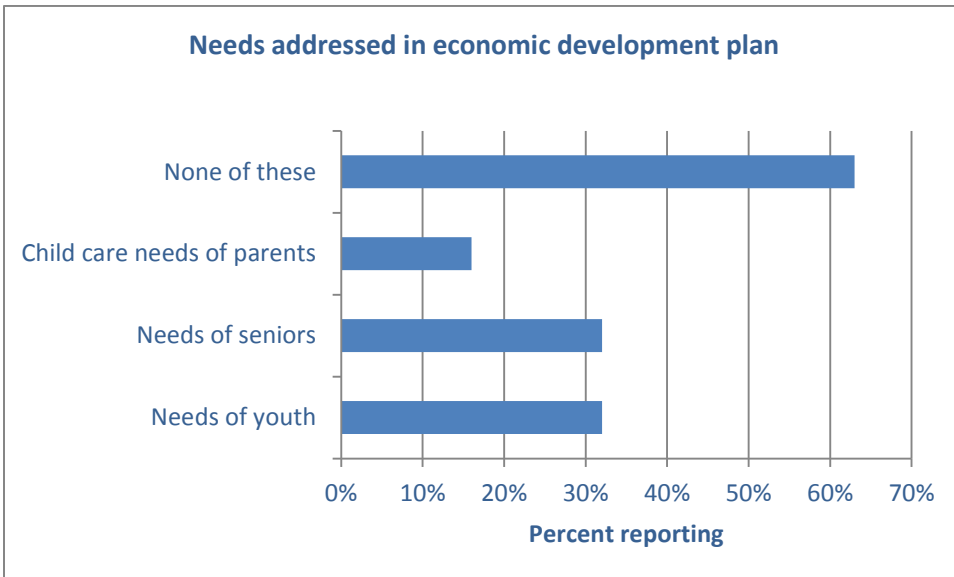
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**Does your community have an economic development plan?**

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Based on 1,371 reporting.

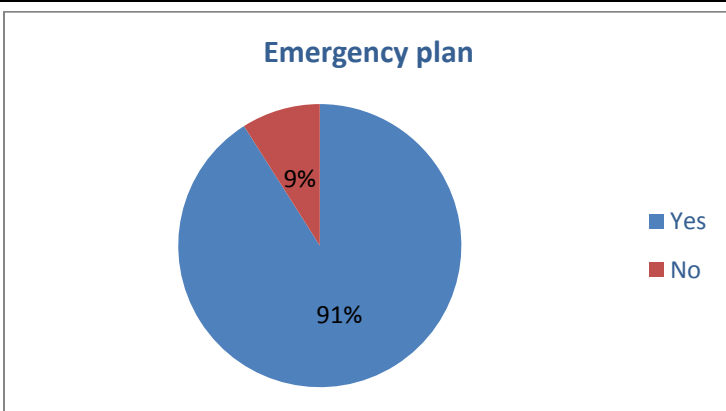


Based on 785 reporting.

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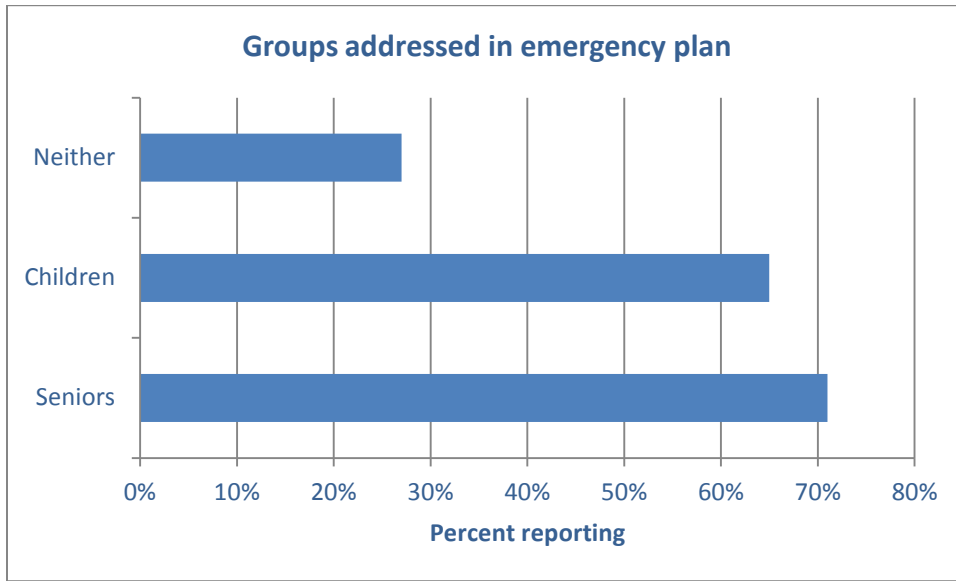
**Does your community have an emergency plan?**

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Based on 1,371 reporting.

**Does your plan specifically address?**



Based on 1,208 reporting.

**What percent of your community contains the following?**

	Zero	Less than 25%	Less than 50%	Less than 75%	Greater than or equal to 75%
Sidewalk system connecting residences and services (N=1,404)	7%	30%	23%	19%	21%
Bike lanes (N=1,390)	37%	43%	12%	5%	2%
“Complete streets” (designed for all modes of transit – walking, biking, etc. – not only cars) (N=1,394)	30%	40%	13%	9%	9%
Neighborhood schools (N=1,391)	10%	17%	27%	20%	36%
Park or playground within ½-mile of every resident (N=1,394)	9%	27%	25%	20%	18%
Public gathering spaces (e.g., coffee shop/cafe, retail hub) (N=1,401)	6%	32%	27%	18%	17%
A mix of retail, services, and housing (N=1,397)	7%	33%	25%	18%	16%
Access to fresh food markets (N=1,394)	12%	34%	18%	14%	22%

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**Ninety-three percent (1,279) of respondents report zoning, subdivision regulations, or building codes.**

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<b>Covered by codes</b>	<b>Zero percent</b>	<b>Under 25%</b>	<b>Under 50%</b>	<b>Under 75%</b>	<b>Equal to or greater than 75%</b>
Mandate sidewalk system (N=1,244)	22%	17%	13%	12%	36%
Contain pedestrian-friendly design guidelines (N=1,225)	21%	22%	18%	13%	26%
Require street connections between adjacent developments (N=1,220)	21%	17%	14%	17%	31%
Require “complete streets” (e.g., designed for all modes of transit – walking, biking, etc. – not only cars) (N=1,223)	32%	19%	15%	12%	23%
Promote affordable housing (N=1,227)	18%	31%	23%	13%	15%
Allow family-sized housing (with 2 or more bedrooms) (N=1,240)	3%	9%	14%	25%	50%
Allow multi-family housing (N=1,244)	4%	31%	30%	17%	20%
Mandate universal design for new housing construction (physically accessible to people with limited mobility) (N=1,2150)	39%	28%	13%	8%	12%
Provide density bonuses (e.g., for affordable housing, open space, transit) (N=1,219)	48%	22%	13%	7%	10%
Allow accessory dwelling units (e.g., “granny flats”) (N=1,217)	33%	31%	16%	9%	12%
Allow child care centers (N=1,225)	5%	33%	27%	15%	20%
Allow child care business in residential units by right (N=1,206)	20%	28%	18%	13%	21%
Promote parks or recreation facilities in all neighborhoods (N=1,234)	9%	17%	18%	20%	36%
Allow mixed-use (e.g., retail and services in residential areas) (N=1,234)	10%	37%	28%	12%	13%

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**Housing and child care availability**

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	<b>Adequate supply</b>	<b>Inadequate supply</b>
Affordable housing (N=1,363)	55%	45%
Family-size housing (2+ bedrooms) (N=1,373)	82%	18%
Rental housing (N=1,367)	68%	32%
Senior housing (N=1,354)	52%	48%
Affordable, quality child care (N=1,333)	56%	44%

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**How engaged are the following groups in planning for their needs?**

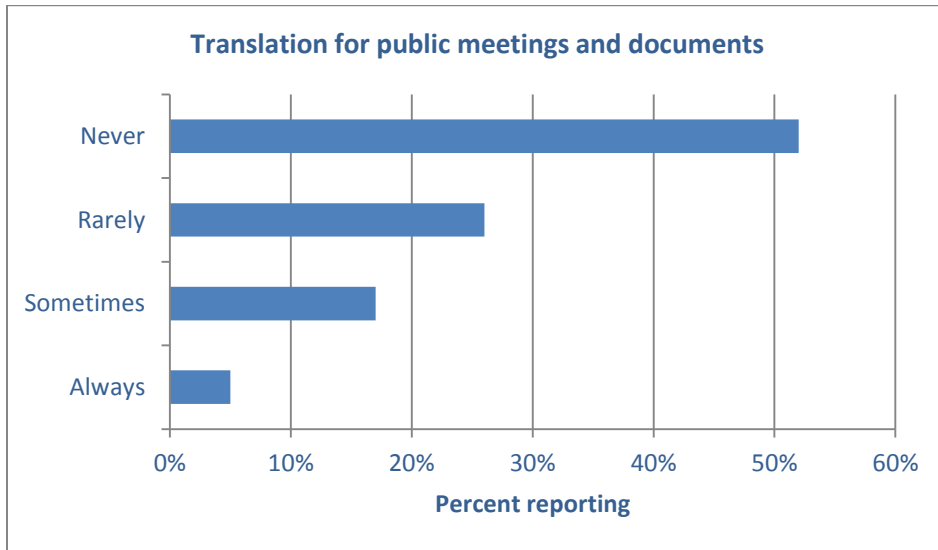
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	<b>Not at all engaged</b>	<b>Somewhat engaged</b>	<b>Very engaged</b>
Seniors (N=1,378)	14%	69%	17%
Families with young children (N=1,370)	18%	69%	13%
Youth (N=1,362)	46%	48%	5%

**How do you know the needs of the following groups?**

	Surveys	Large public meetings	Small focus groups	Advisory groups	Social networking (e.g., Facebook, texting)
Seniors (N=1,228)	40%	43%	35%	59%	24%
Families with young children (N=1,196)	38%	40%	33%	47%	41%
Youth (N=1,115)	31%	26%	30%	47%	45%

**Do you provide foreign language translation for public meetings and documents?**



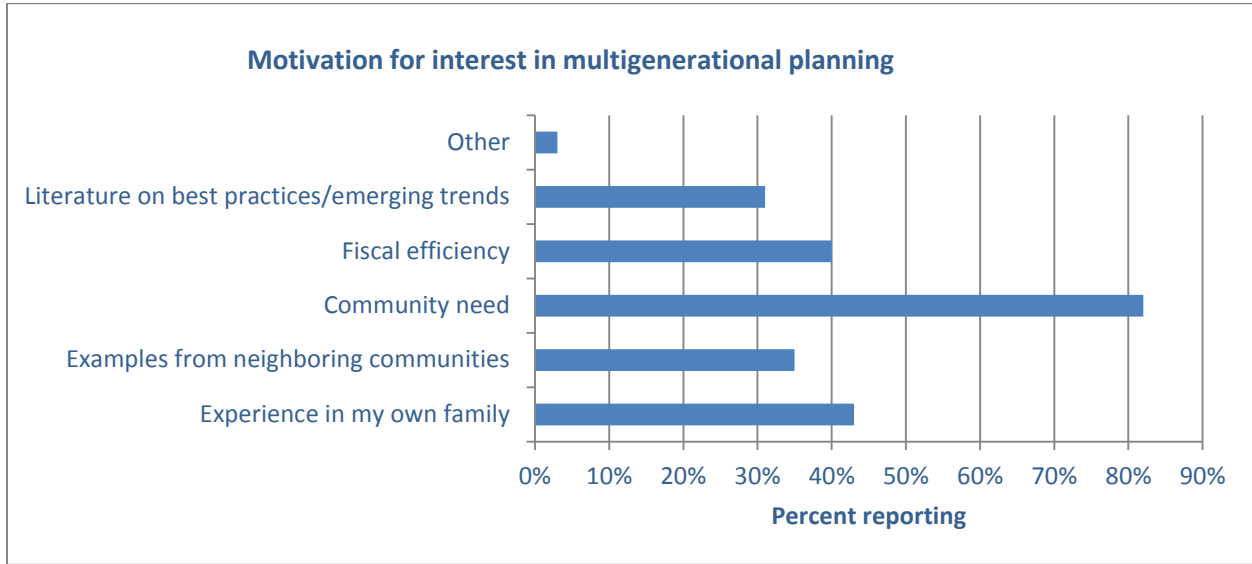
**What motivates you to engage in multi-generational planning for seniors and families with children?**

	Seniors	Families with young children
Availability of government funding for services or programs (N=861)	96%	84%
Pressure from local elected leaders (N=463)	88%	81%
Interest of staff or prioritization by staff (N=621)	90%	89%
Pressure from business/nonprofit leaders (N=324)	80%	85%
Political engagement of seniors and families with young children (N=598)	95%	76%
Desire to attract or retain of seniors and families with young children in the community (N=700)	90%	82%
Other (N=72)	90%	86%

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**What motivates your own professional interest in multigenerational planning??**

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Based on 1,258 reporting.