Energy policies and environmental leadership among Michigan’s local governments

Data from the Michigan Public Policy Survey
The Michigan Public Policy Survey

- **Census survey** – Chief elected and appointed officials from all 1,856 counties, cities, villages, and townships
- **Administered** – online and via hardcopy
- **Topics** – wide range, such as fiscal health, budget priorities, economic development, intergovernmental cooperation, service provision, environmental sustainability, Great Lakes, citizen engagement, much more.
  - 70+% regular response rates
  - **Transparency**
    - Questionnaires online
    - Pre-run data tables online
    - Sharing of (anonymized) datasets with other researchers
What does the MPPS aim to do?

- **Improve understanding** of local government to help inform policymaking and improve quality of life.
- **Inform local leaders** about peers across the state: challenges and responses.
- **Inform state policymakers and practitioners** and other stakeholders with data about local level challenges and responses not available from any other source.
- **Build a longitudinal data archive** to allow tracking of fundamental issues such as fiscal health, government operations, the economic transition, etc.
- **Foster academic research and teaching** on state and local government issues.
Has your jurisdiction adopted policies or practices to meet your jurisdictions’ energy demands while reducing the costs or environmental impacts of energy use? 2010 vs. 2019
Which of the following, if any, have recently been a topic of discussion within your jurisdiction’s government?

- None of these have been a topic of discussion: 38%
- Utility-scale solar installations in the community: 25%
- Utility-scale wind turbines or windfarms: 22%
- Rooftop/small-scale solar installations in the community: 21%
- Energy efficiency and/or renewable energy in your jurisdiction’s zoning (if applicable): 14%
- Energy efficiency requirements in building codes: 12%
- Electric vehicle charging sites: 11%
- Energy affordability for low-income residents: 7%
Do you agree or disagree that promoting environmental sustainability and the concept of “being green” are important aspects of local government leadership?
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