

The Fall 2009
Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS):
Local Government
Economic and Workforce
Development Issues

Presentation for the Michigan Municipal League (MML)
Capital Conference
April 14, 2010

Presentation Outline

- Brief background on the University of Michigan's Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP)
- Overview of the Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS)
- Summary of findings on education, economic, and workforce development from the Fall 2009 Wave of the MPPS
- Looking ahead in 2010

Background:

An Overview of CLOSUP

- The Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP) was founded in 2001 and is housed in the UofM's Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy
- CLOSUP is a small research center with a core staff of 3 permanent employees with additional research staff and affiliates across UM
- Base funding comes from the University of Michigan, with additional funds raised from external sources for specific projects
 - W.K. Kellogg Foundation is supporting the MPPS

Background:

The Mission of CLOSUP

- To conduct and support applied research that informs local, state, and urban policy issues
- To disseminate research findings to key policymakers (e.g., legislators, local officials, foundations, non-profits)
- To facilitate student learning of and engagement with local, state, and urban policy issues

Background:

An Overview of CLOSUP

- Activities:
 - Conduct internal research projects such as the MPPS
 - Sponsor state and local policy-relevant research by other faculty across UM: 51 projects sponsored to date
 - Events: conferences, seminars, lectures, panel discussions
 - Teaching and student-focused activities:
 - Ford School applied policy seminars; internships for students;
 - employing students on research projects

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Michigan Public Policy Survey: Genesis

- Problem: information gap in the policymaking process
 - Great deal of data on Michigan's citizens – MSU State of the State Survey
 - Great deal of data on Michigan's businesses – various business surveys
 - Lack of ongoing data on Michigan's local governments and public officials
- Solution: ongoing survey program focused on Michigan's local government and local government leaders

Michigan Public Policy Survey: Overview

- Conducted twice per year (Spring and Fall)
 - Spring 2009: Fiscal and Economic Development Issues
 - Fall 2009: Economic, Educational, and Workforce Development
 - Spring 2010: Fiscal and Economic Development Tracking
 - Fall 2010 (tentatively): Intergovernmental Cooperation
- Survey content is developed in close partnership with MML, MTA, and MAC, as well as experts from around the state & nation
- Surveys are administered online for $\sim 3/4$ of the sample, via hardcopy questionnaire for $\sim 1/4$ of the sample
 - Targeted respondents are the chief elected official and the chief appointed official in every single Michigan county, city, township and village

Michigan Public Policy Survey: Overview

■ Goals for the Survey Program

- Fill the critical information gap about the challenges of policymaking at the local level
- Assist *you* as local leaders: provide information about your peers across the state, improve policymaking, spread best practices and grass-roots innovative solutions
- Provide a voice for local-level concerns to policymakers in Lansing, foundations, community organizations, etc.
- Build longitudinal data archive to allow tracking of fundamental changes
- Further academic knowledge and build student interest in local government

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MPPS: Fall 2009 Wave

- General topics covered in the Fall wave:
 - Perspectives on the importance of education in worker success, the strategy of developing a highly-educated workforce, brain drain, and local school performance
 - The role of local government in workforce development efforts
 - Opinions on current policy issues such as PA 312, a possible constitutional convention, term limits, etc.
 - Implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), *aka* the Federal Stimulus Package

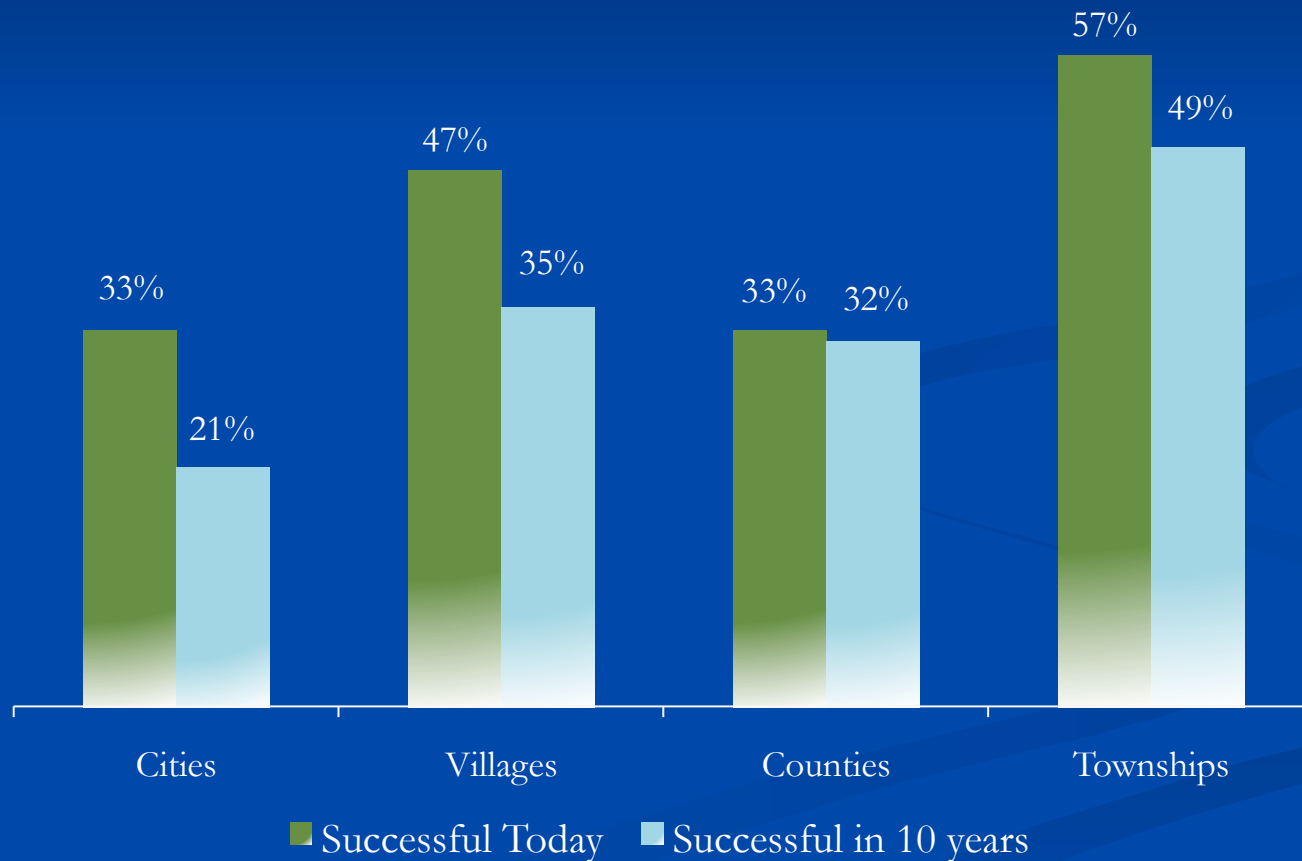
MPPS: Response Rates

- The Fall 2009 wave contacted the top elected and top appointed official in every local Michigan jurisdiction
 - 1,720 total respondents
 - 1,303 unique jurisdictions
 - 260 respondents from 202 cities and 141 respondents from 104 villages
 - 70% response rate by unit (70% of counties, 71% of cities, 47% of villages, and 75% of townships)
 - 83% of survey responses were completed online

MPPS: A Brief Summary of Results

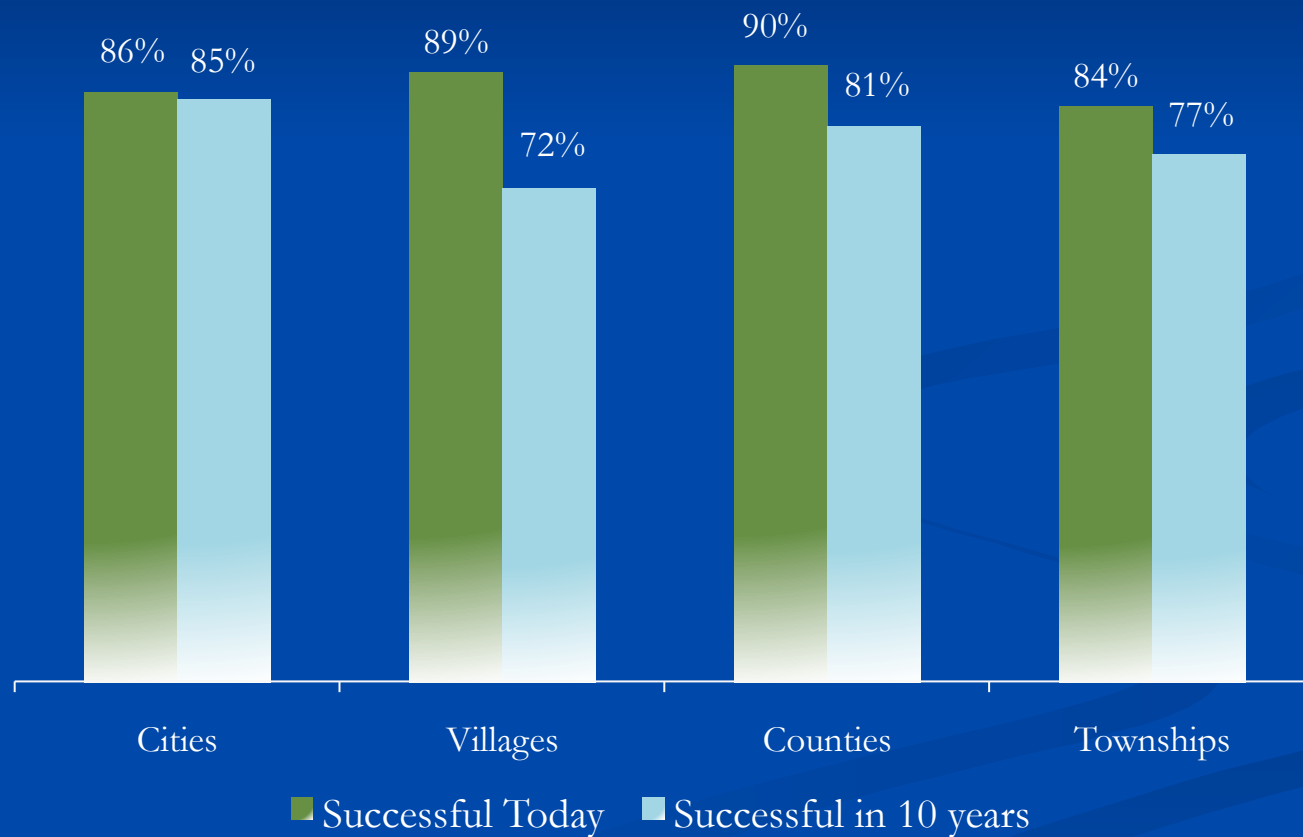
MPPS: Worker Education and Success

- Thinking about various levels of education and how they relate to job opportunities in your community today, in your opinion, how successful can workers with a **GED or high school diploma alone** be in your local economy?



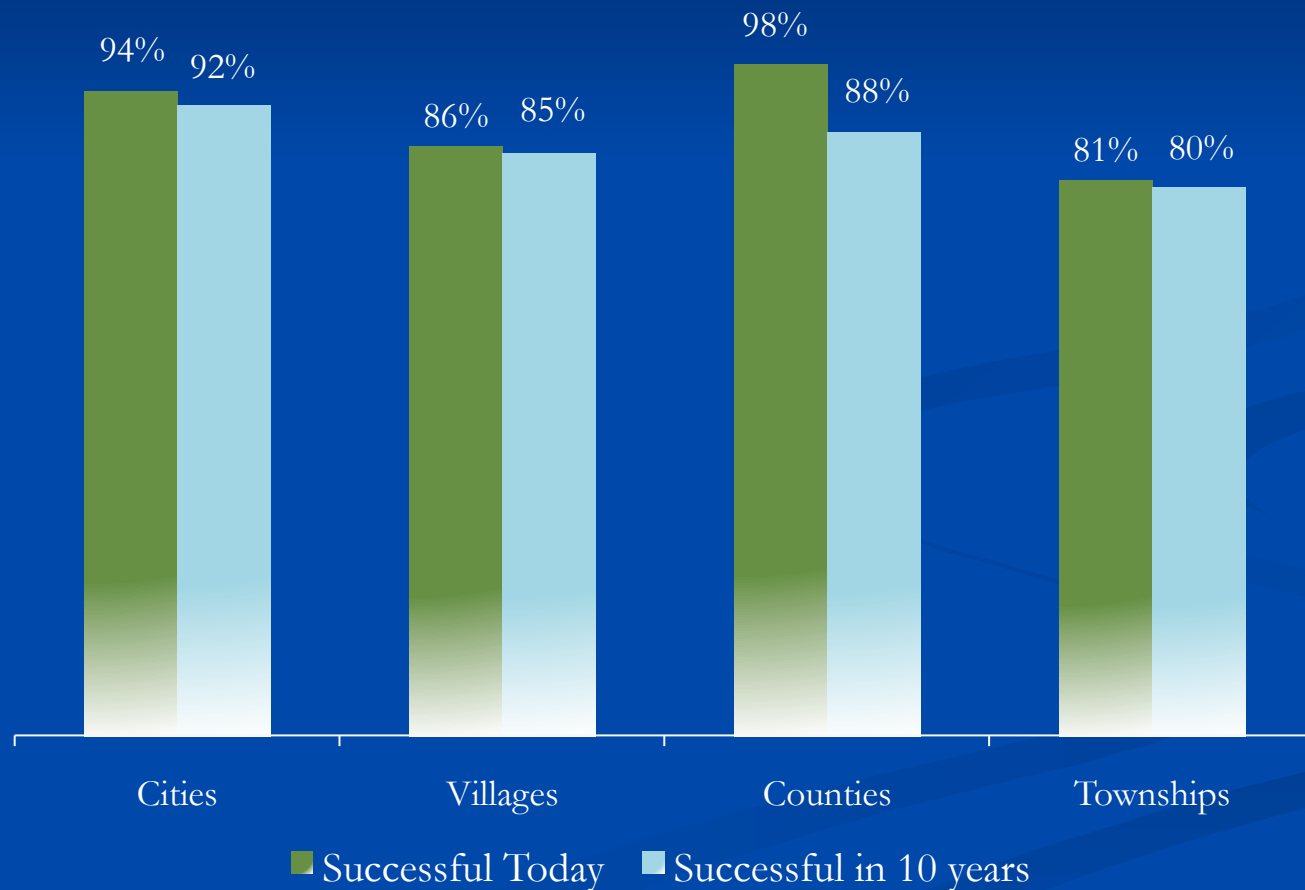
MPPS: Worker Education and Success

- How successful can workers with a vocational degree or technical certificate be in your local economy?



MPPS: Worker Education and Success

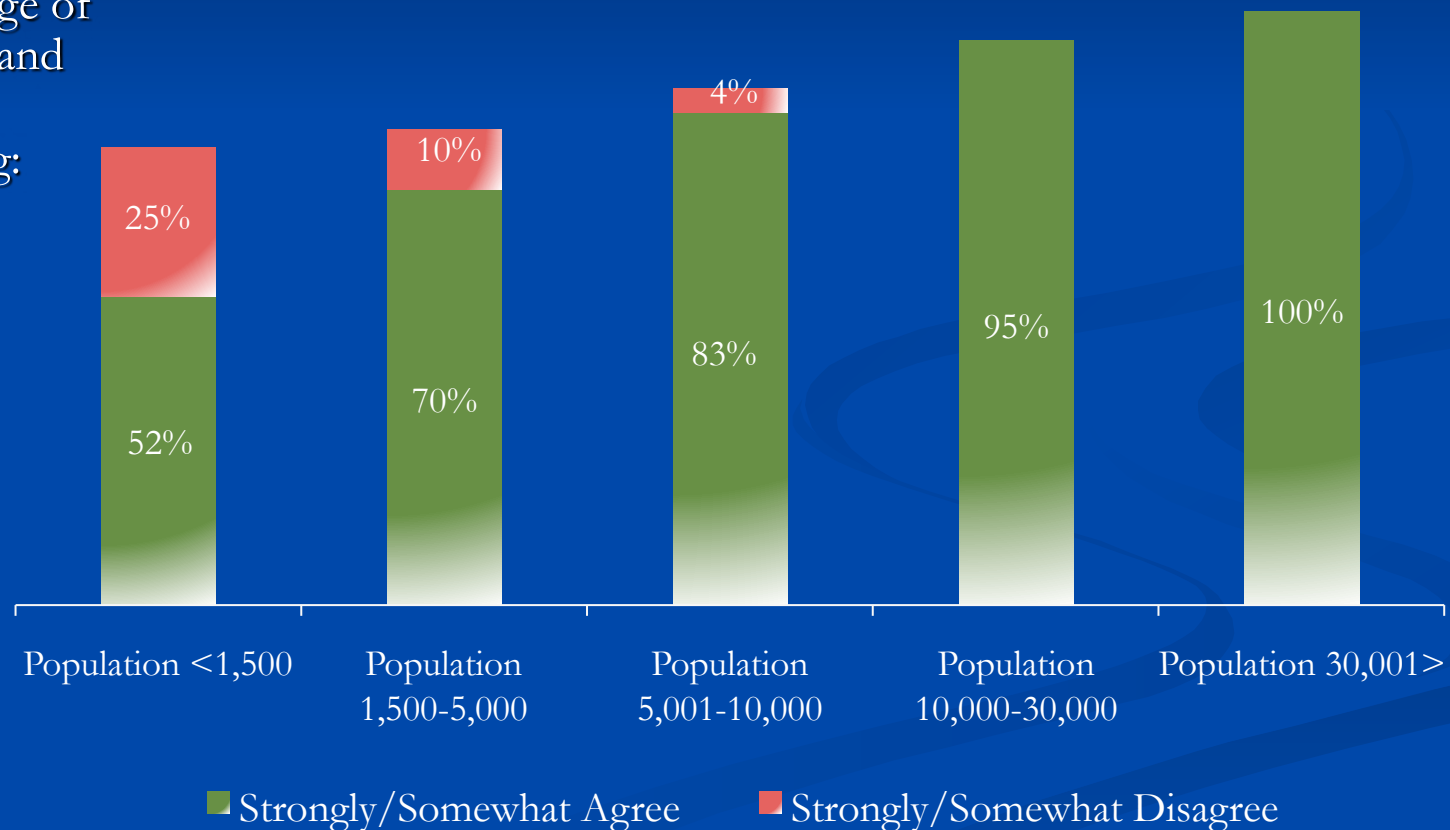
- How successful can workers with a bachelor's degree be in your local economy?



MPPS: The Strategy of Developing a Highly-Educated Workforce

- Do you agree or disagree that developing a highly-educated workforce can be an effective strategy for improving your local economy?

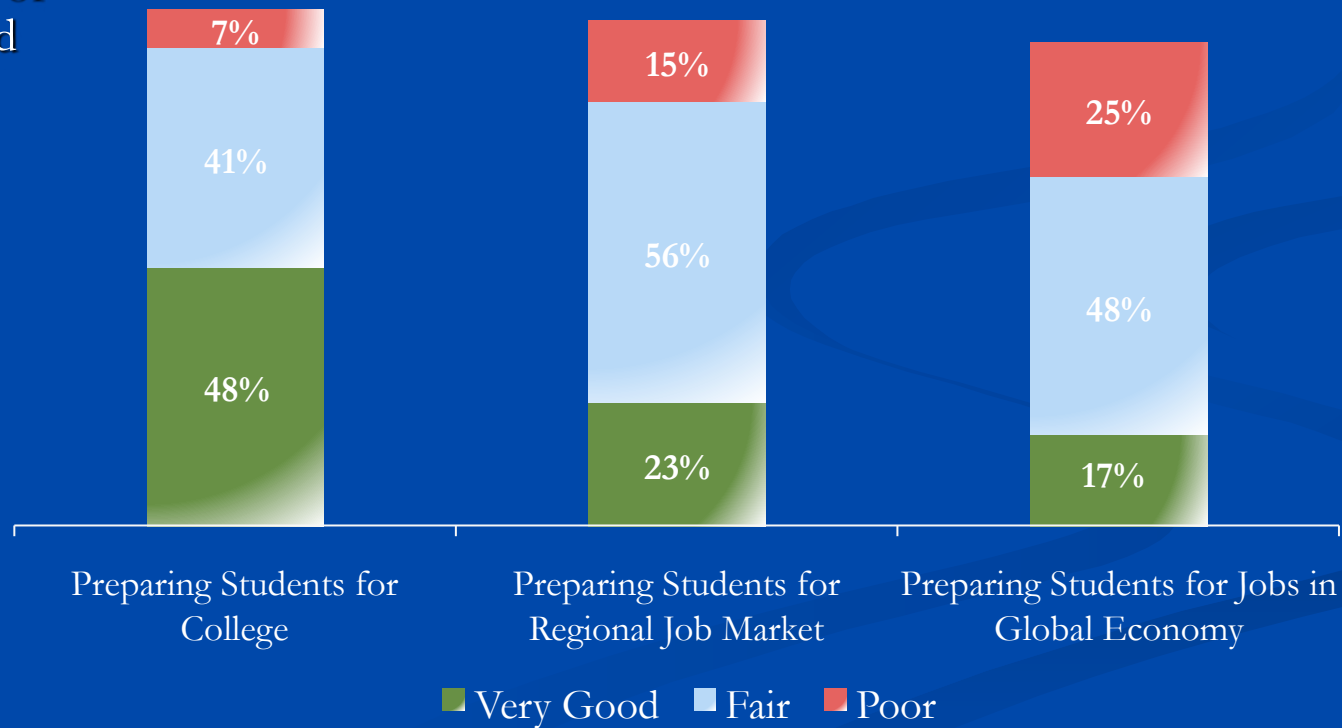
Percentage of
all cities and
villages
reporting:



MPPS: Evaluations of Local Schools

- In your opinion, how good of a job does your local K-12 education system do in preparing students for college, the job market in your region, and jobs in the global economy?

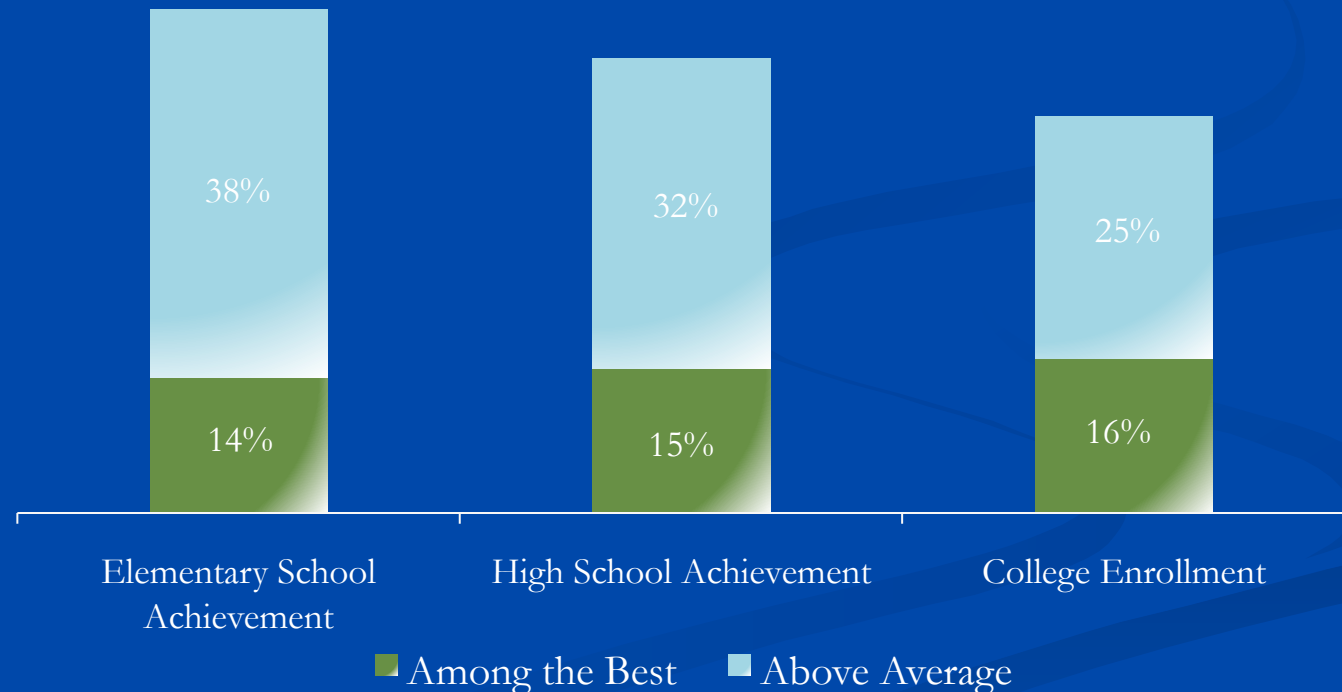
Percentage of
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villages
reporting:



MPPS: Evaluations of Local Schools

- In your opinion, how do students in your community compare with others in the state in terms of elementary school achievement, high school achievement, and college enrollment?

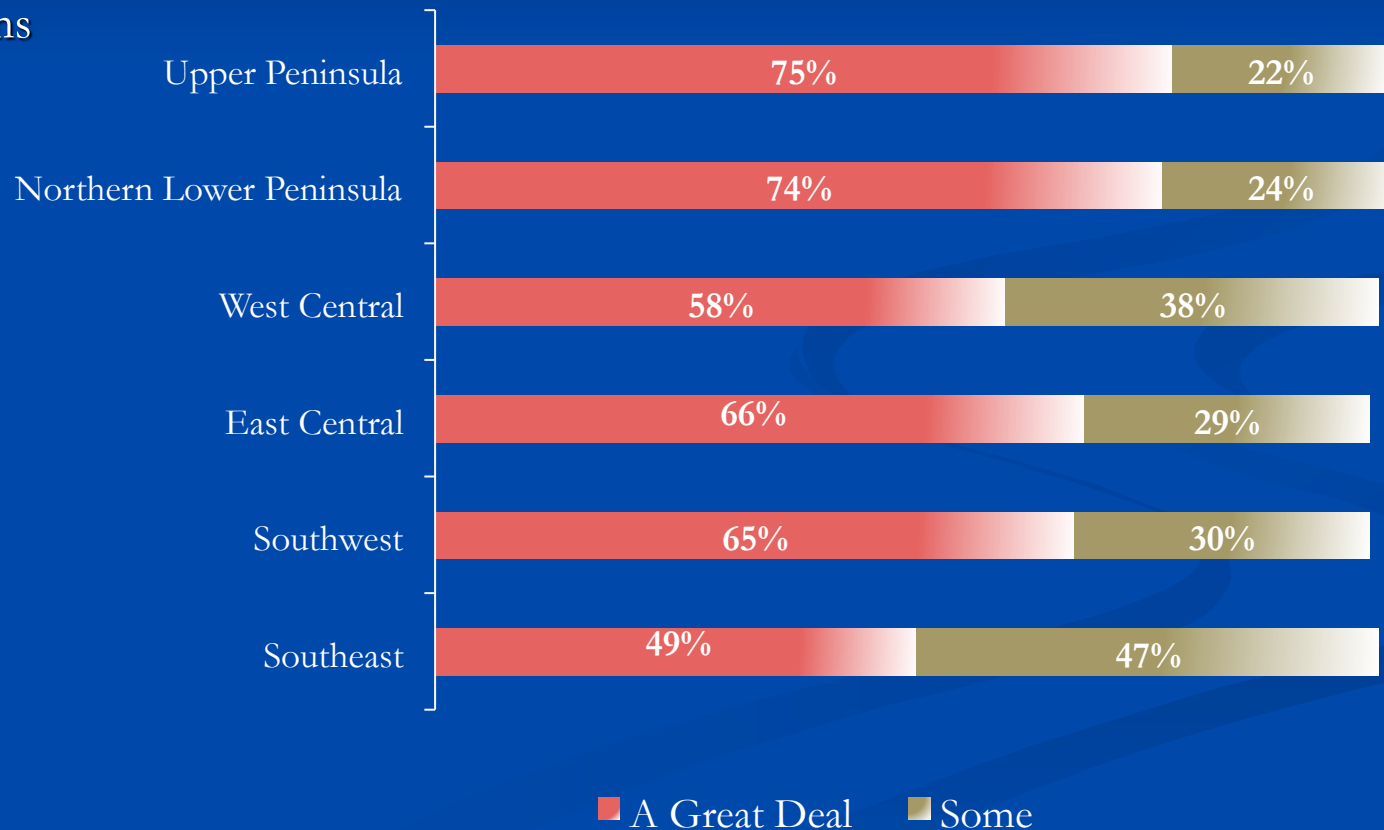
Percentage of
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MPPS: Local Workforce “Brain Drain”

- How much “brain drain” is occurring in your community among high school graduates who do not return after college?

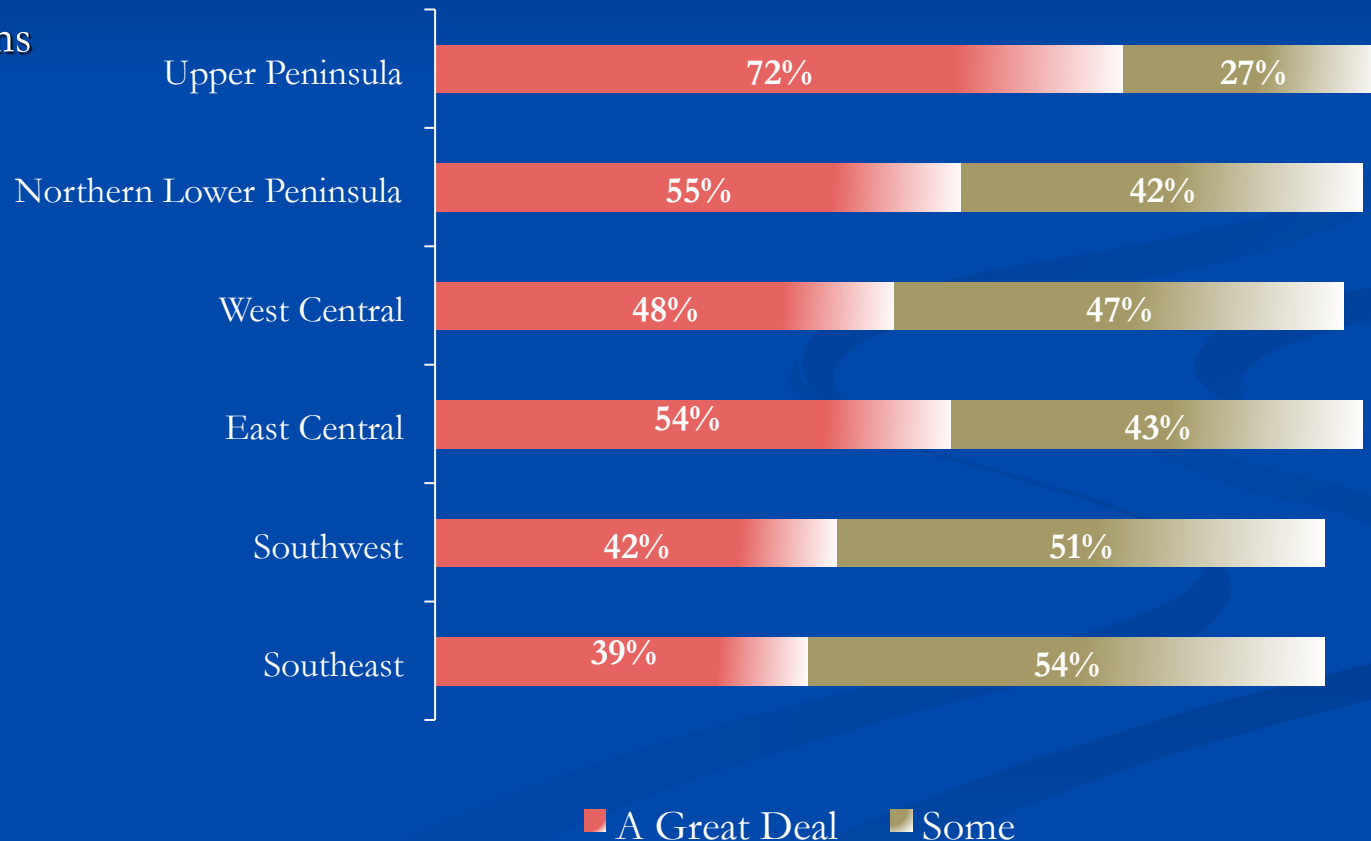
Percentage of
all
jurisdictions
reporting:



MPPS: Local Workforce “Brain Drain”

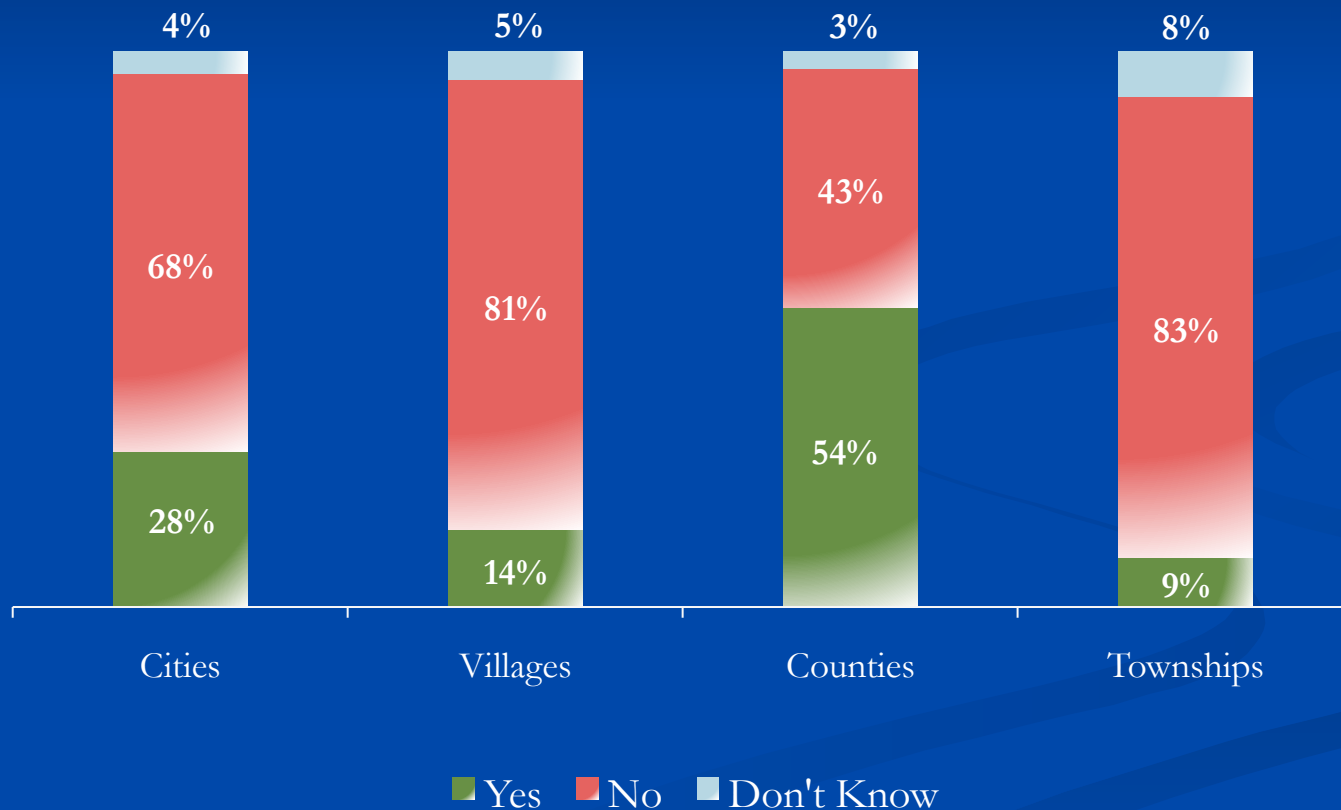
- How much “brain drain” is occurring in your community among younger members of the local workforce (~18-35) who move away?

Percentage of
all
jurisdictions
reporting:



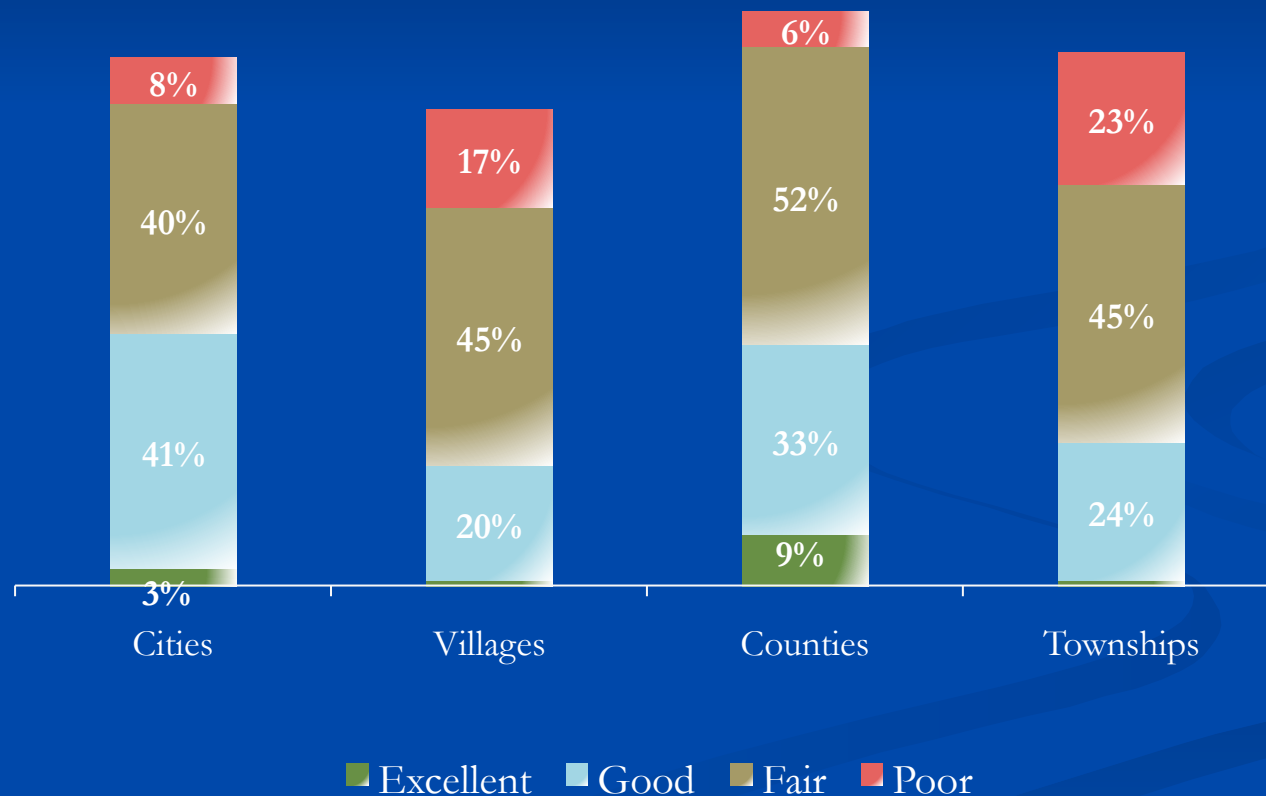
MPPS: Workforce Development Efforts

■ Does your local government play any formal role in workforce development efforts?



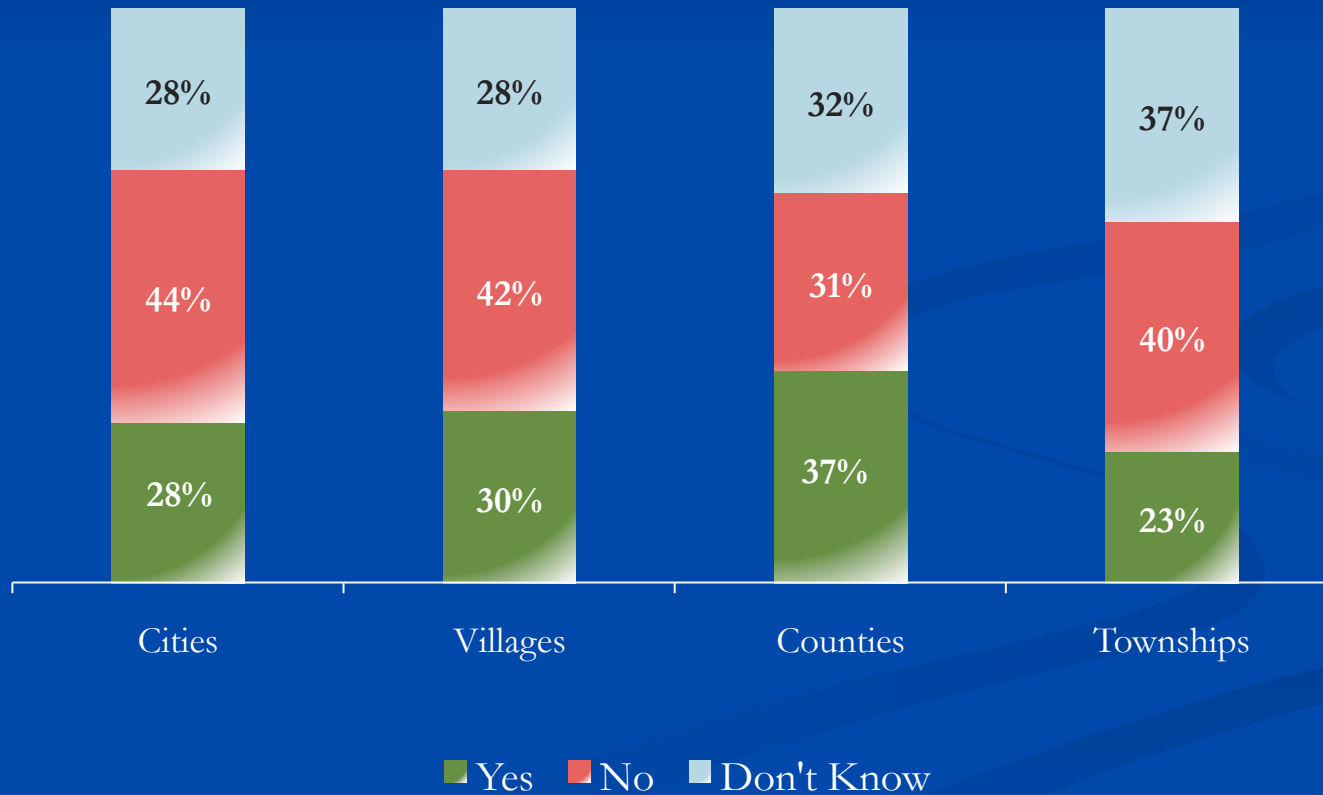
MPPS: Workforce Development Efforts

- Overall, how would you evaluate the success of workforce development efforts in your community today?



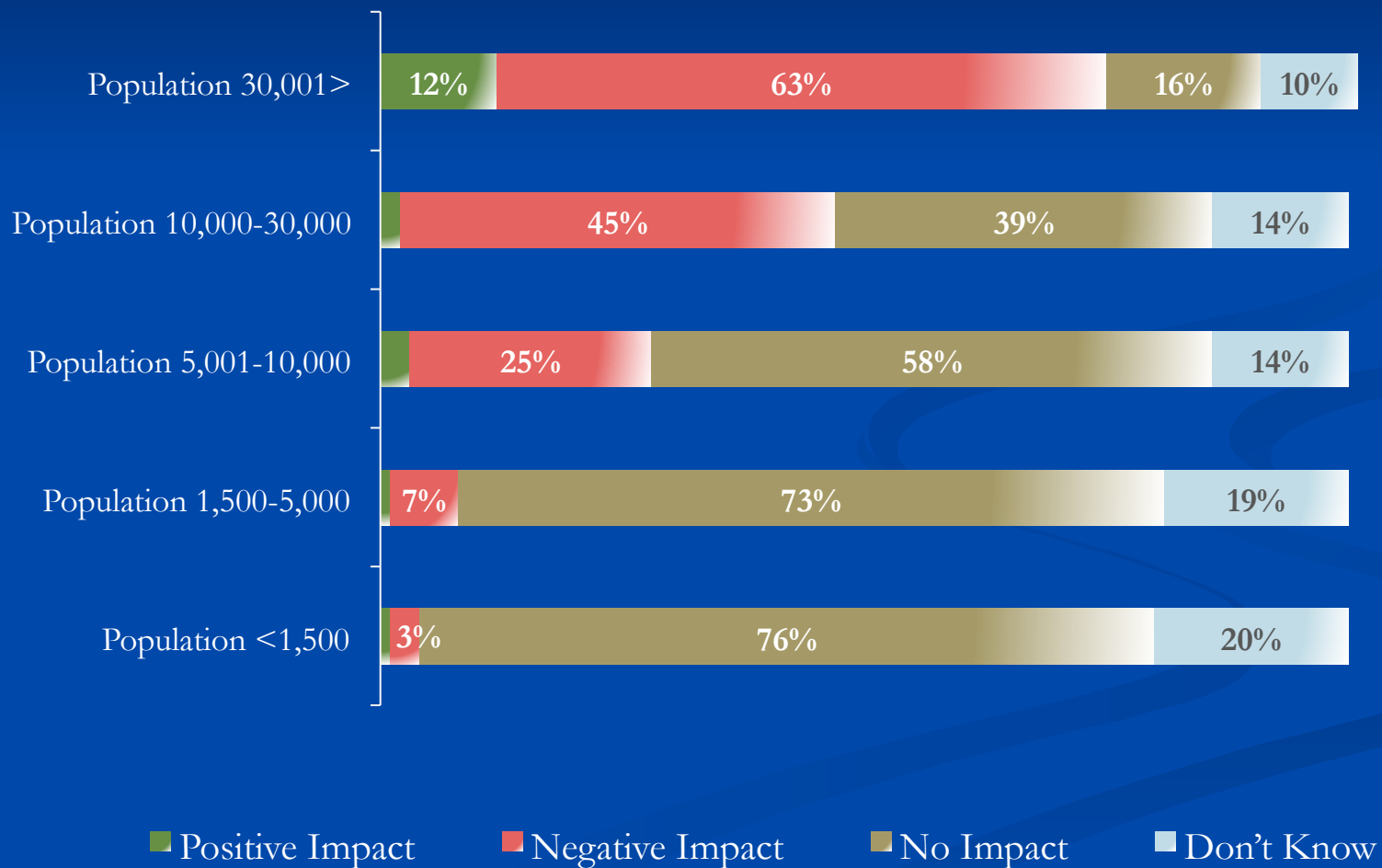
MPPS: Workforce Development Efforts

- Do you think your local government should play a larger role in workforce development efforts in your community?



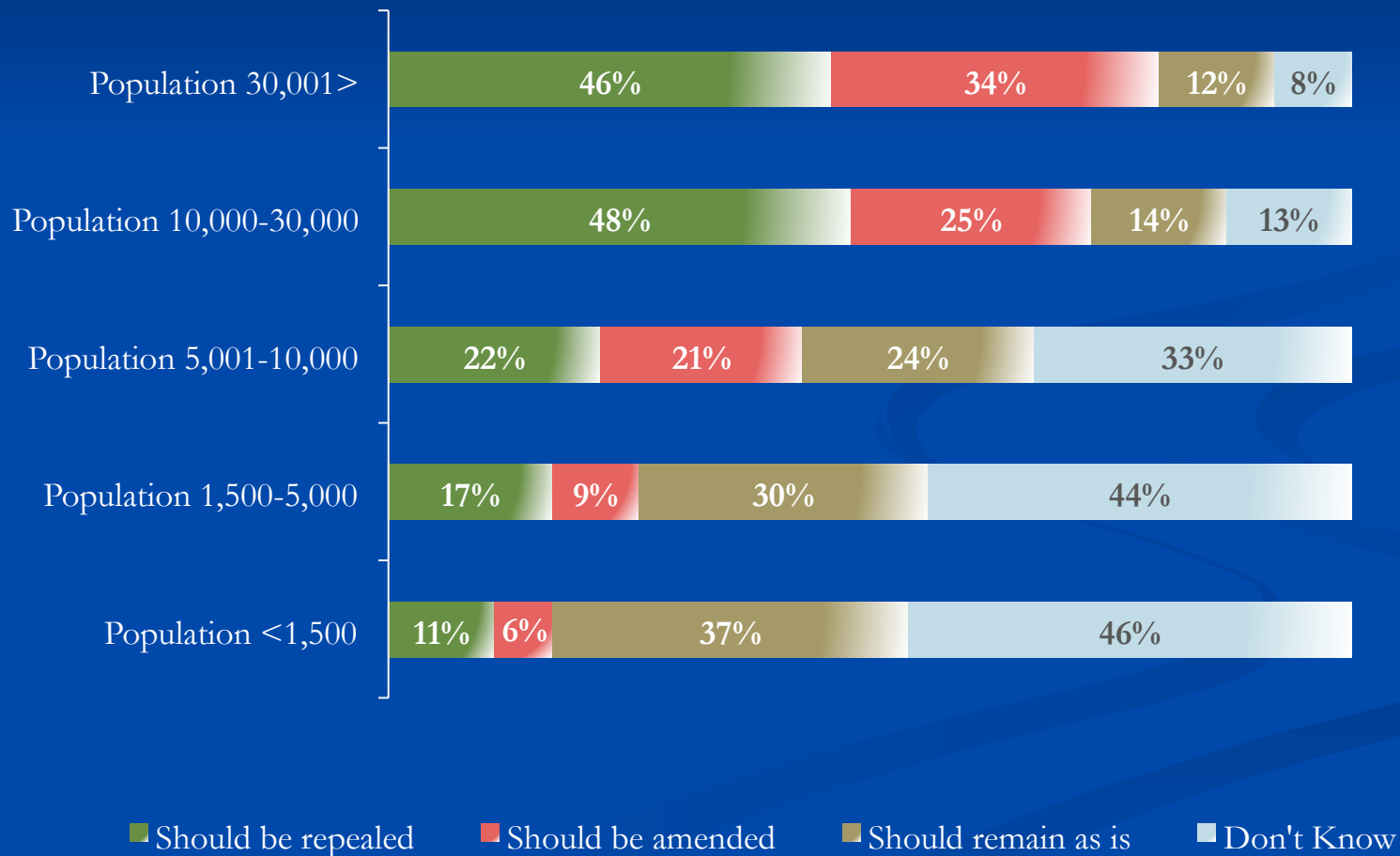
MPPS: Public Act 312

- Has Public Act 312 had a direct impact on your jurisdiction or not?



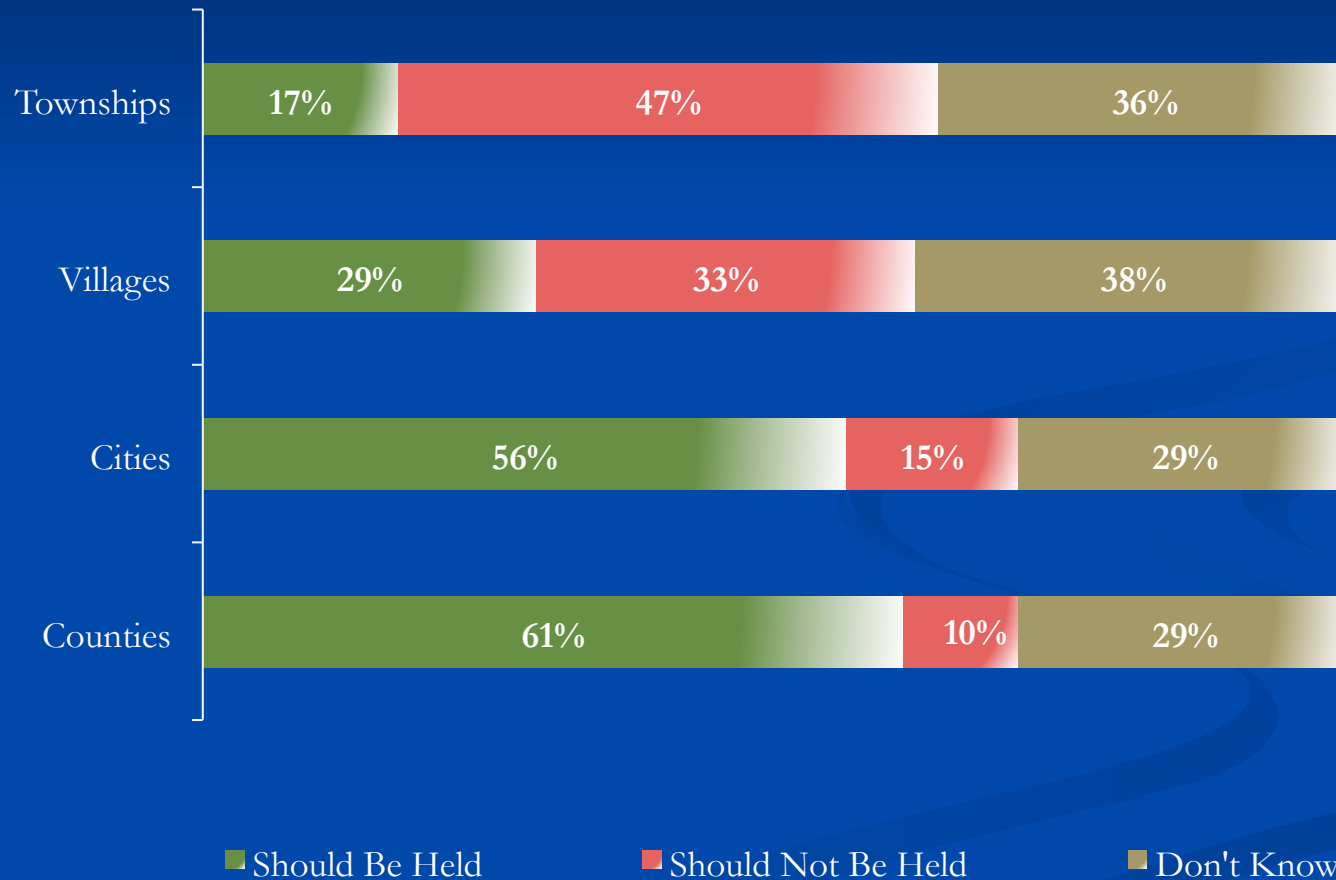
MPPS: Public Act 312

- Do believe that Public Act 312 should be repealed, amended, or remain as it is currently?



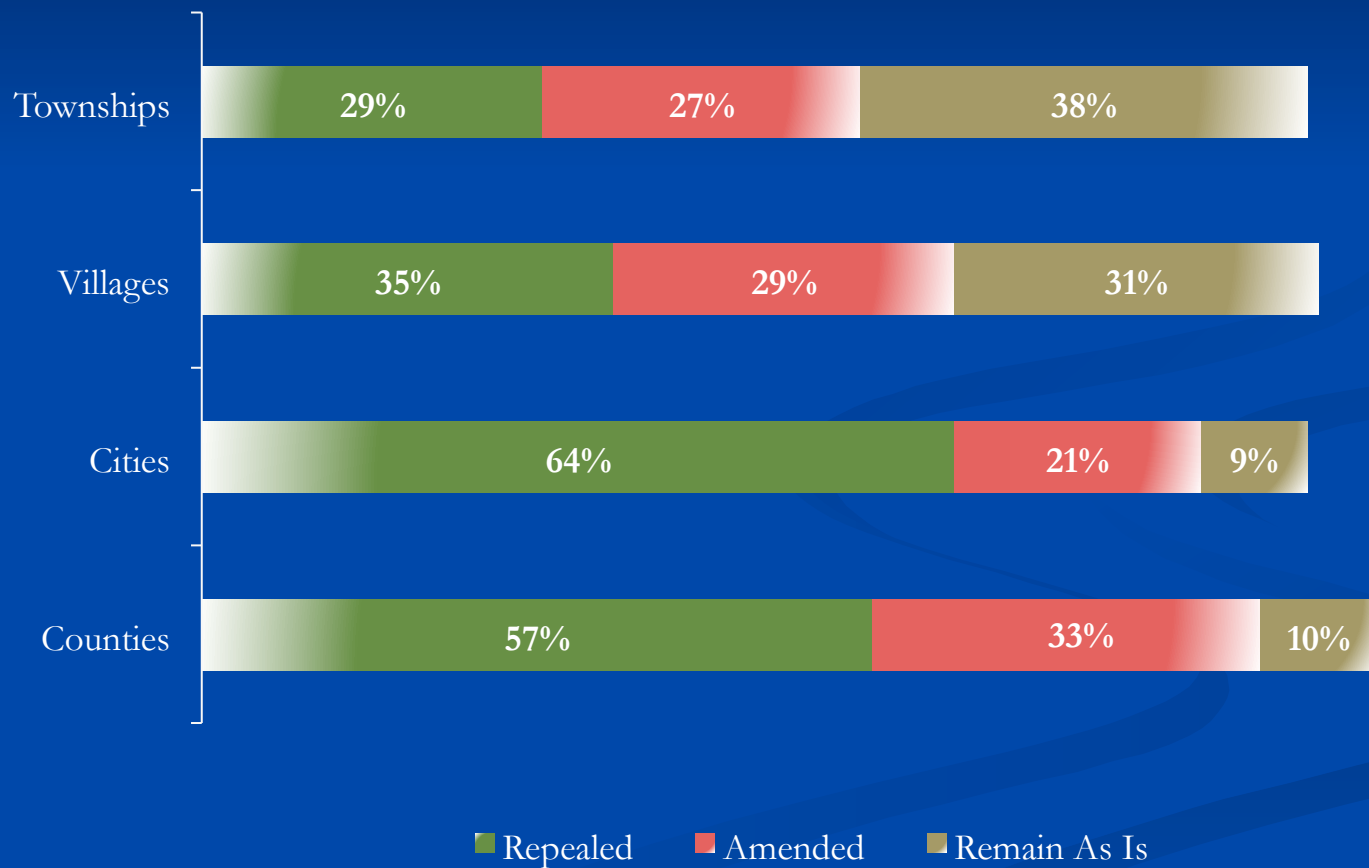
MPPS: Michigan Constitutional Convention

■ Do you think there should be a Constitutional Convention in Michigan?



MPPS: Michigan Term Limits

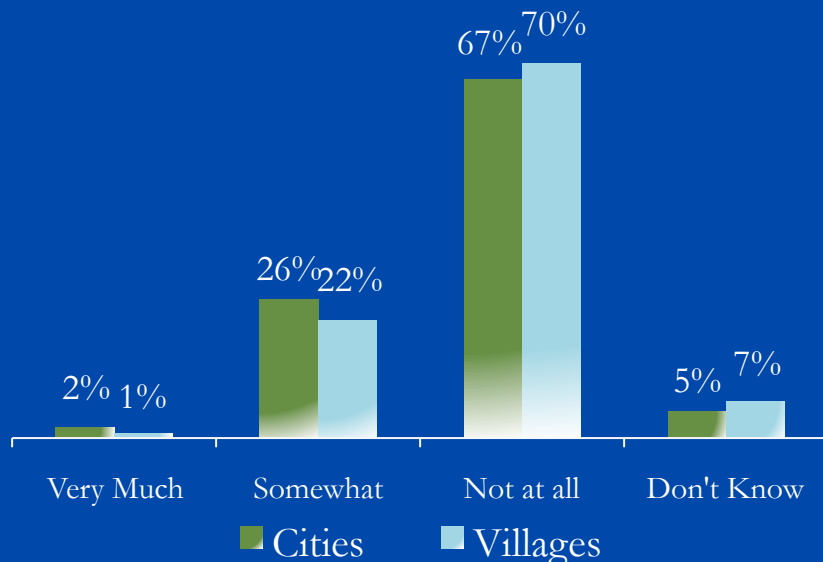
- Do you think term limits for Michigan state officials should be repealed, amended, or remain as they are currently?



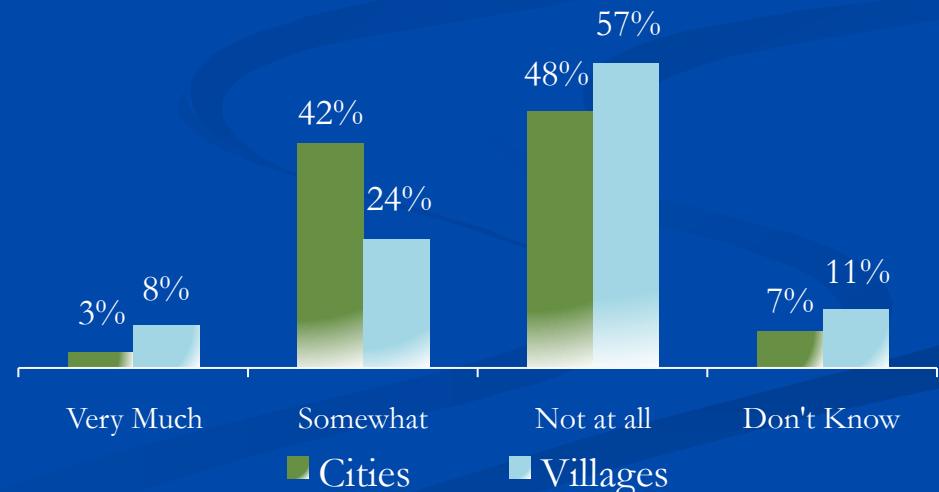
MPPS: Federal Stimulus Package

- How much do you believe the Recovery Act has helped to improve economic conditions in your community to date? How much do you believe Recovery Act funding will improve economic conditions in your community in the long term?

Stimulus has improved local economy already:



Stimulus will improve local economy in the future:



MPPS: Review of Key Findings

- Local officials believe that a bachelor's degree or vocational degree is important to worker success in their local economies and will be even more important in the future.
- The strategy of developing a highly-educated workforce has much stronger support among officials in the state's larger communities than in its smaller communities.
- Four in ten local officials believe that their local school systems do a very good job of preparing students for college, fewer say the schools do a very good job of preparing students for jobs in their regional job market or for jobs in the global economy.
- Although relatively few local jurisdictions play a formal role in workforce development efforts today, many municipal officials think their government should play a larger role in workforce development efforts.

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Michigan Public Policy Survey: Next Steps

- Fall 2009 survey key findings report
- Comprehensive data tables from both 2009 waves to be made available on CLOSUP website
- Spring 2010 survey in the field *today*, focused on fiscal health, tracking and expanded items.
- Fall 2010 survey, tentatively focused on intergovernmental cooperation
- We are seeking your feedback on how to make the MPPTS as useful as possible to *you*: email us at closup-mpps@umich.edu or call 734-647-4091

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