

Use of Data in Local Government Decision-Making Across the State: Preliminary Findings from the Fall 2011 Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS)

Presentation for the
Michigan Local Government Benchmarking Consortium Conference
December 8, 2011

Presentation Outline

- Overview of the Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS)
- Review of the Fall 2011 MPPS questionnaire items on performance management
- Summary of findings on the use of data in decision-making by jurisdictions across the state
- How else the MPPS can help policymakers looking to improve data-driving decision making

Background:

An Overview of CLOSUP

- The Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP) was founded at the Ford School of Public Policy in 2001
- A small research center with a core staff of 4 permanent employees and additional research staff and faculty working on a wide variety of research projects, events, & courses
- The Center's primary mission is to conduct and support applied academic research that informs local, state, and urban policy issues, both in Michigan and beyond

Background:

The Development of the MPPS

- Problem: information gap in the policymaking process
 - Great deal of data available on Michigan's citizens
 - Certain amount of data available on Michigan's businesses
 - Lack of data on Michigan's local governments and public officials
- Solution: new ongoing survey program focused on local government and local government leaders

Michigan Public Policy Survey: Overview

■ A Census Survey

- Targeted respondents are the chief elected and chief appointed official in every single Michigan county, city, township, and village
- Conducted twice per year (Spring and Fall)
- Administered online for ~5/6 of the sample, via hardcopy questionnaire for ~1/6 of the sample
- 60-70% response rate by jurisdiction
- Survey content is developed in close partnership with MML, MTA, and MAC, as well as Advisory Committees made up of topic experts

Michigan Public Policy Survey: Overview

■ Goals for the Survey Program

- Fill the critical information gap about challenges and opportunities at the local level.
- Provide information to local leaders about peers across the state, spread best practices and grass-roots innovative solutions.
- Provide a voice for local-level concerns to policymakers in Lansing, foundations, community organizations, etc.
- Build a longitudinal data archive to allow tracking of fundamental changes.

Presentation Outline

- Overview of the Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS)
- Review of the Fall 2011 MPPS questionnaire items on performance management
- Summary of findings on the use of data in decision-making by jurisdictions across the state
- How else the MPPS can help policymakers looking to improve data-driving decision making

MPPS Fall 2011 questionnaire

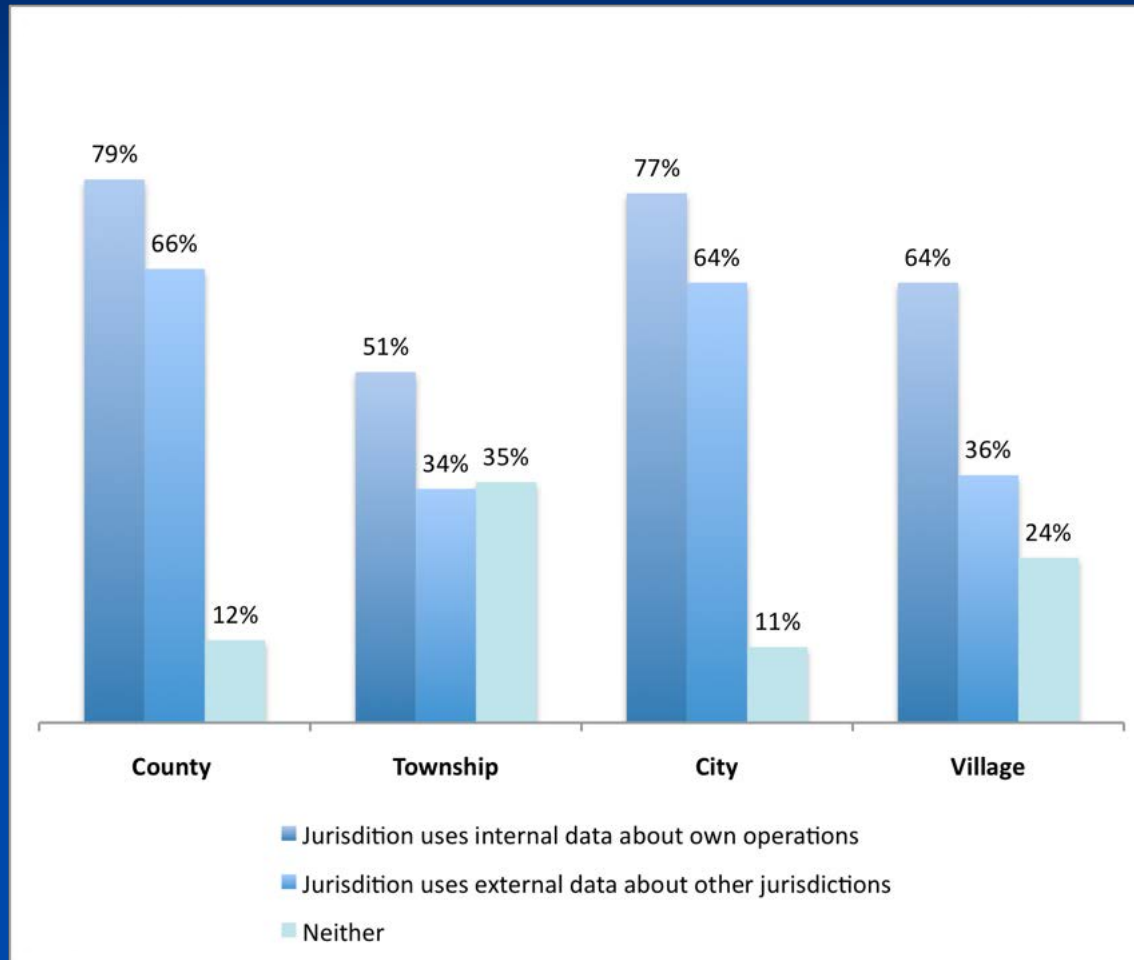
- Who uses internal and/or external data to help their jurisdictions' decision making?
- Among those who do:
what kinds? how extensively? how effective is it? who supports its use? what problems has the jurisdiction faced in doing performance management?
- Among those who don't:
are they considering it? how would they be likely to use it? what assistance would they need to institute it? who would support its use? what problems would the jurisdiction face in doing performance management?
- Dashboards and Citizen's Guides

Presentation Outline

- Overview of the Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS)
- Review of the Fall 2011 MPPS questionnaire items on performance management
- Summary of findings on the use of data in decision-making by jurisdictions across the state
- How else the MPPS can help policymakers looking to improve data-driving decision making

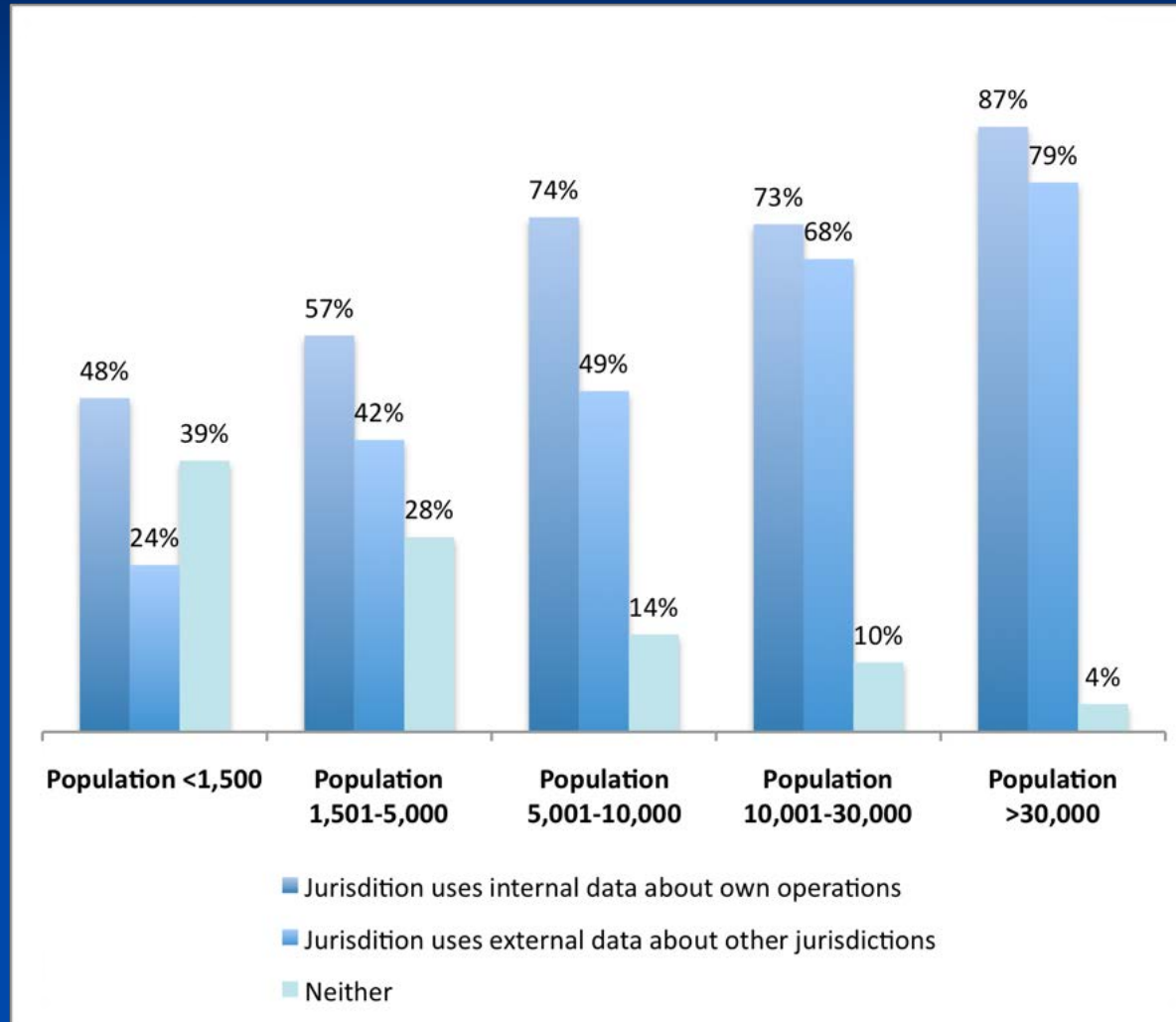
MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

Nearly 6 in 10 Michigan localities overall use internal data, 4 in 10 use external data



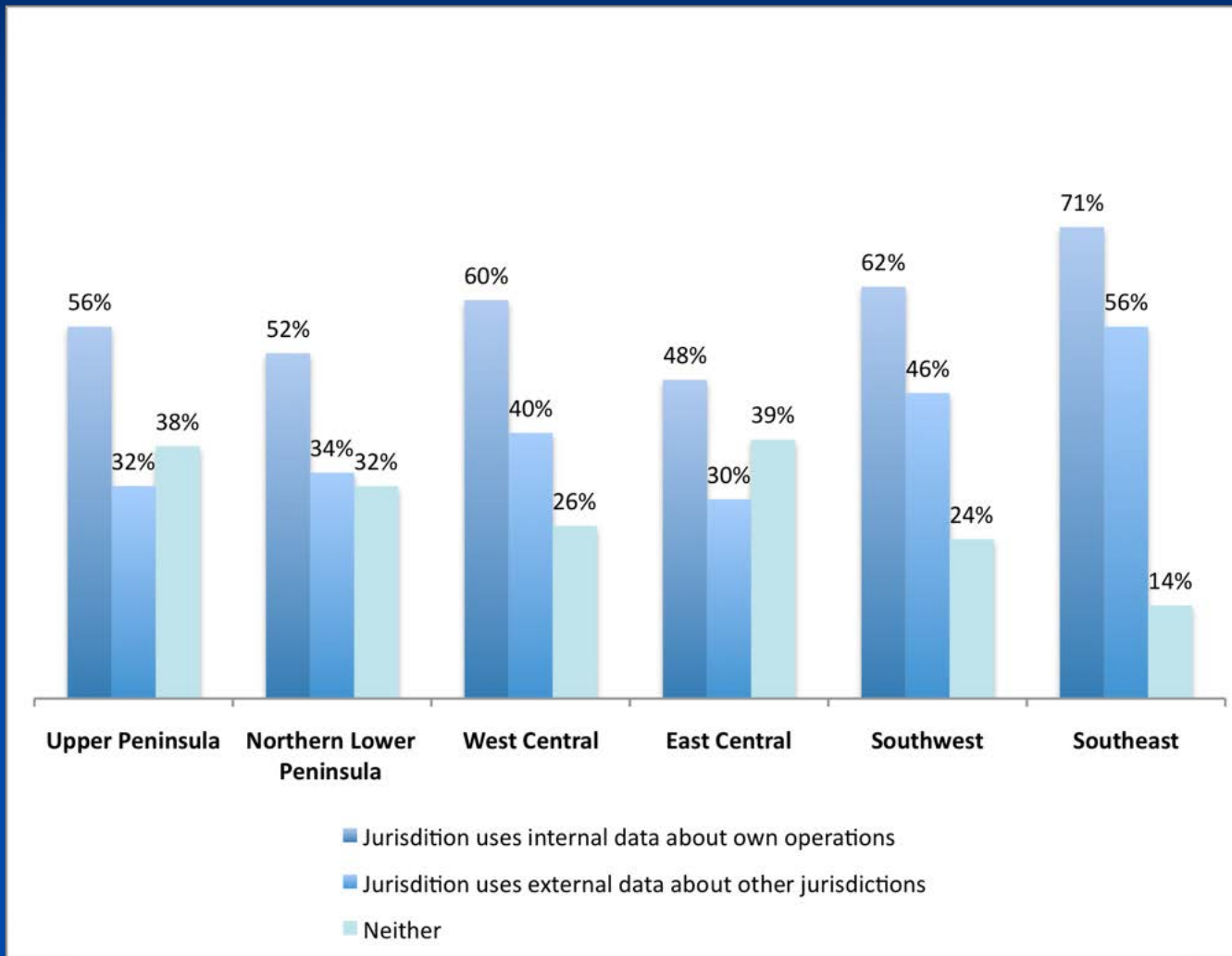
MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

Nearly 6 in 10 Michigan localities overall use internal data, 4 in 10 use external data



MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

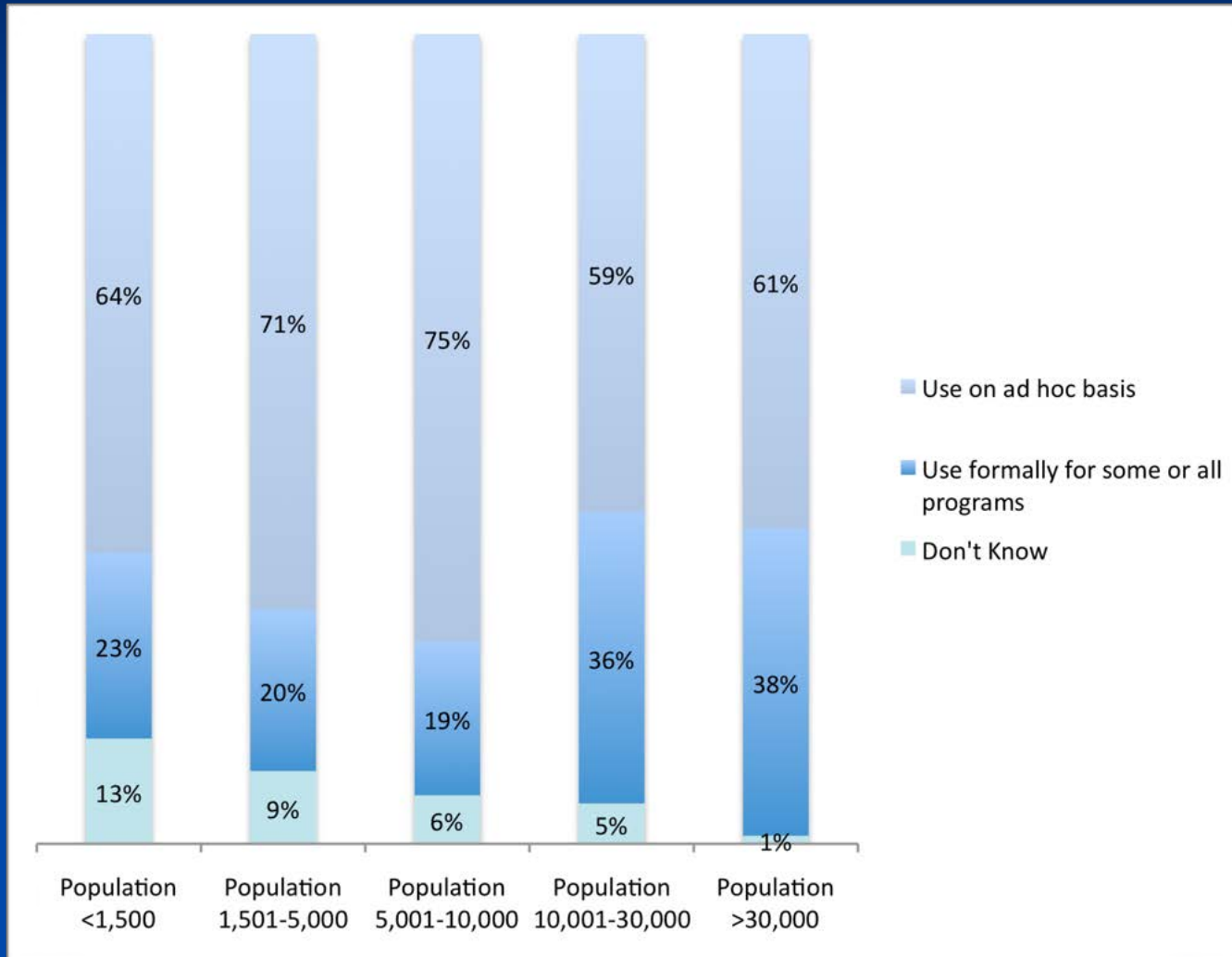
Nearly 6 in 10 Michigan localities overall use internal data, 4 in 10 use external data



The “Yes” Track

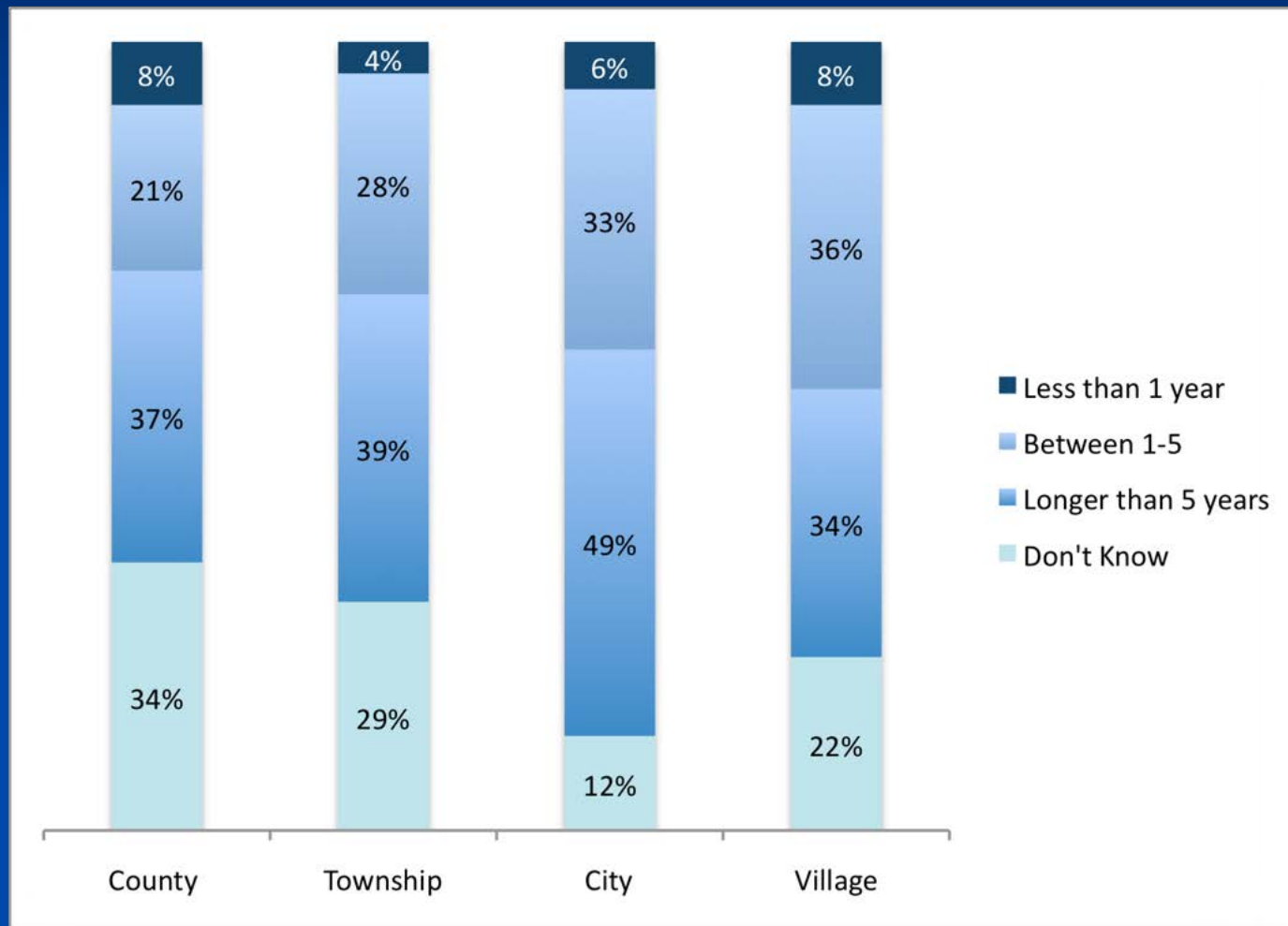
MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

Two-thirds of data-using jurisdictions report doing so on an ad hoc basis



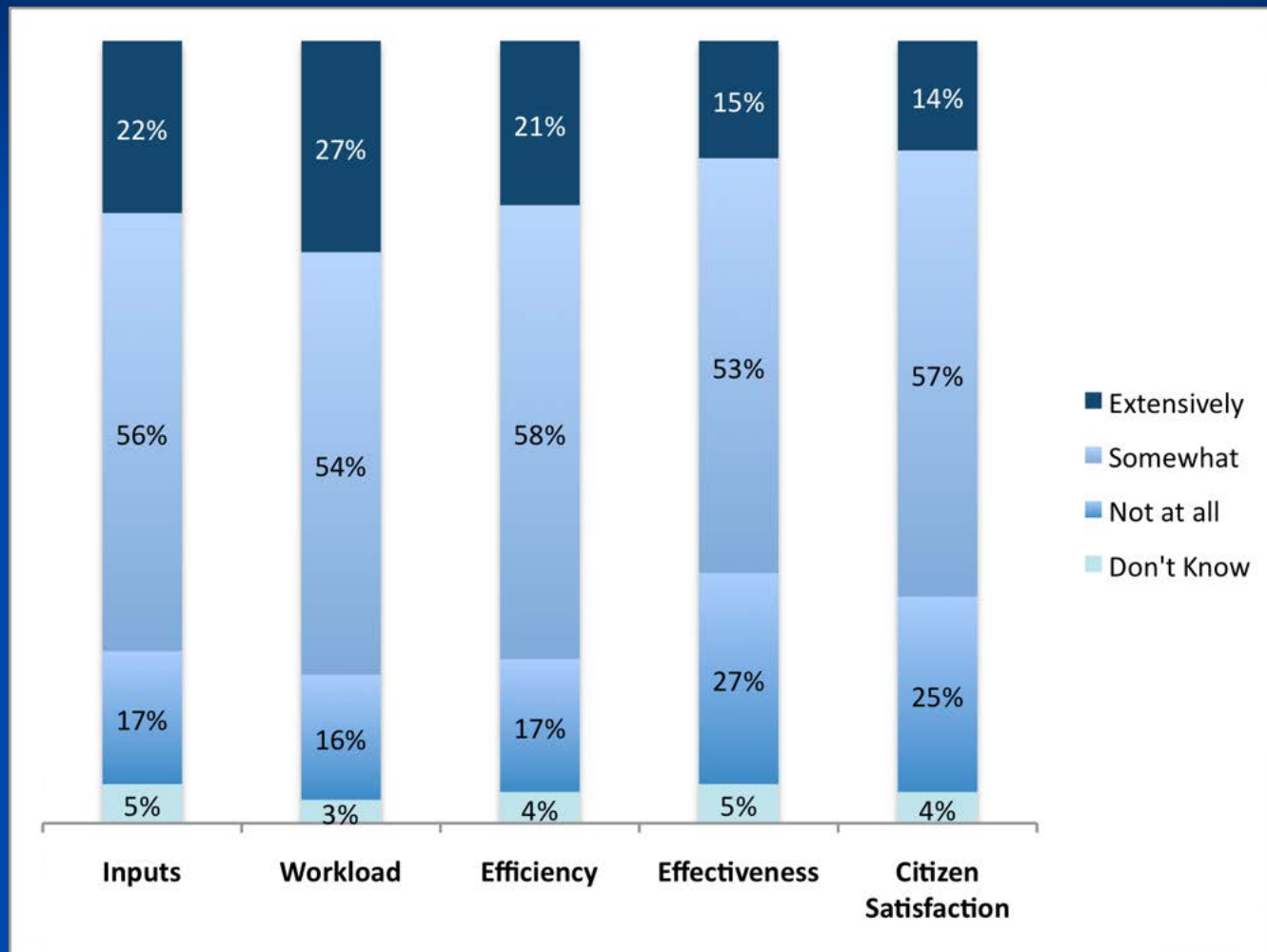
MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

Nearly half of all cities have been using performance measures longer than 5 years



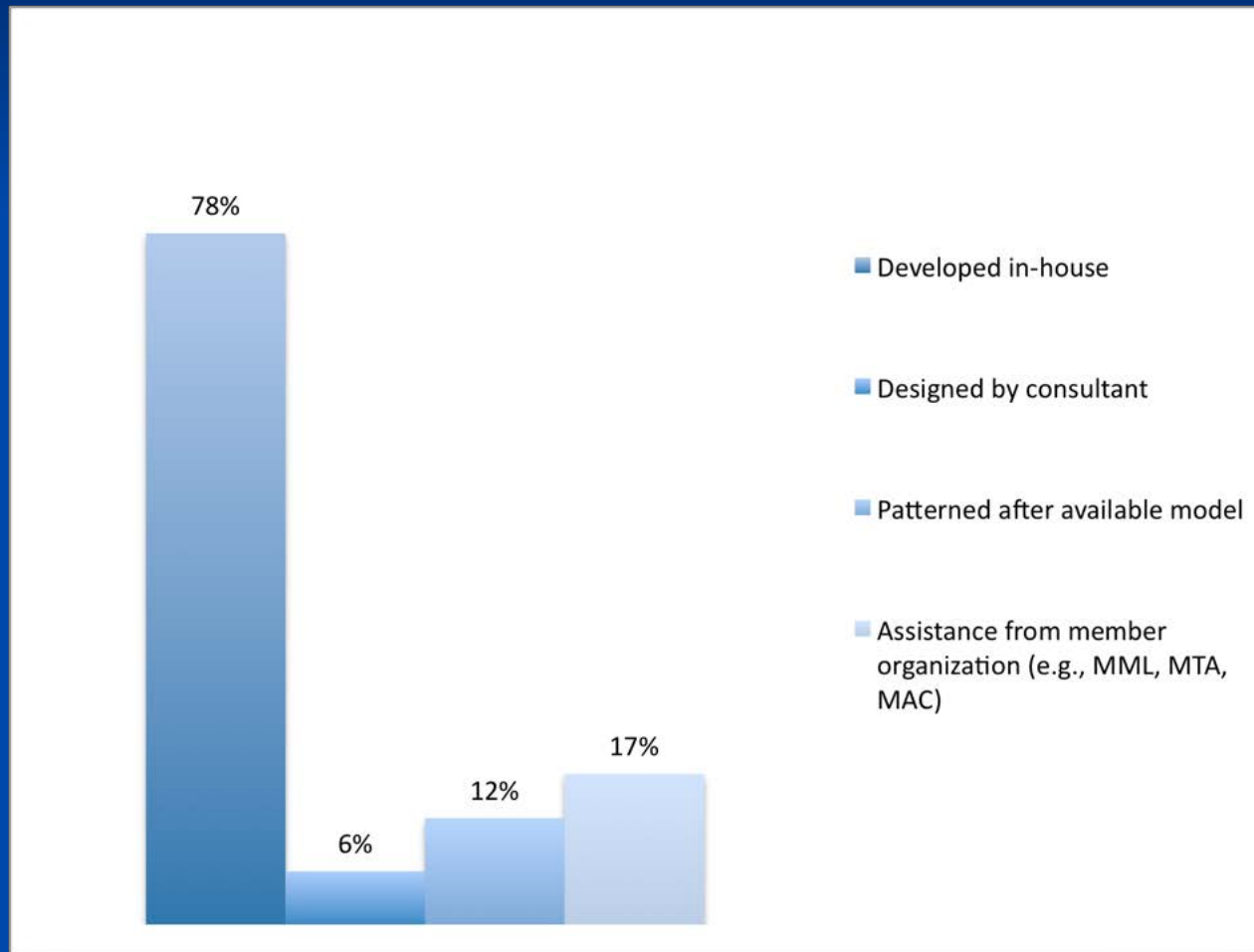
MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

Workload measures most extensively used, effectiveness and citizen satisfaction slightly less so



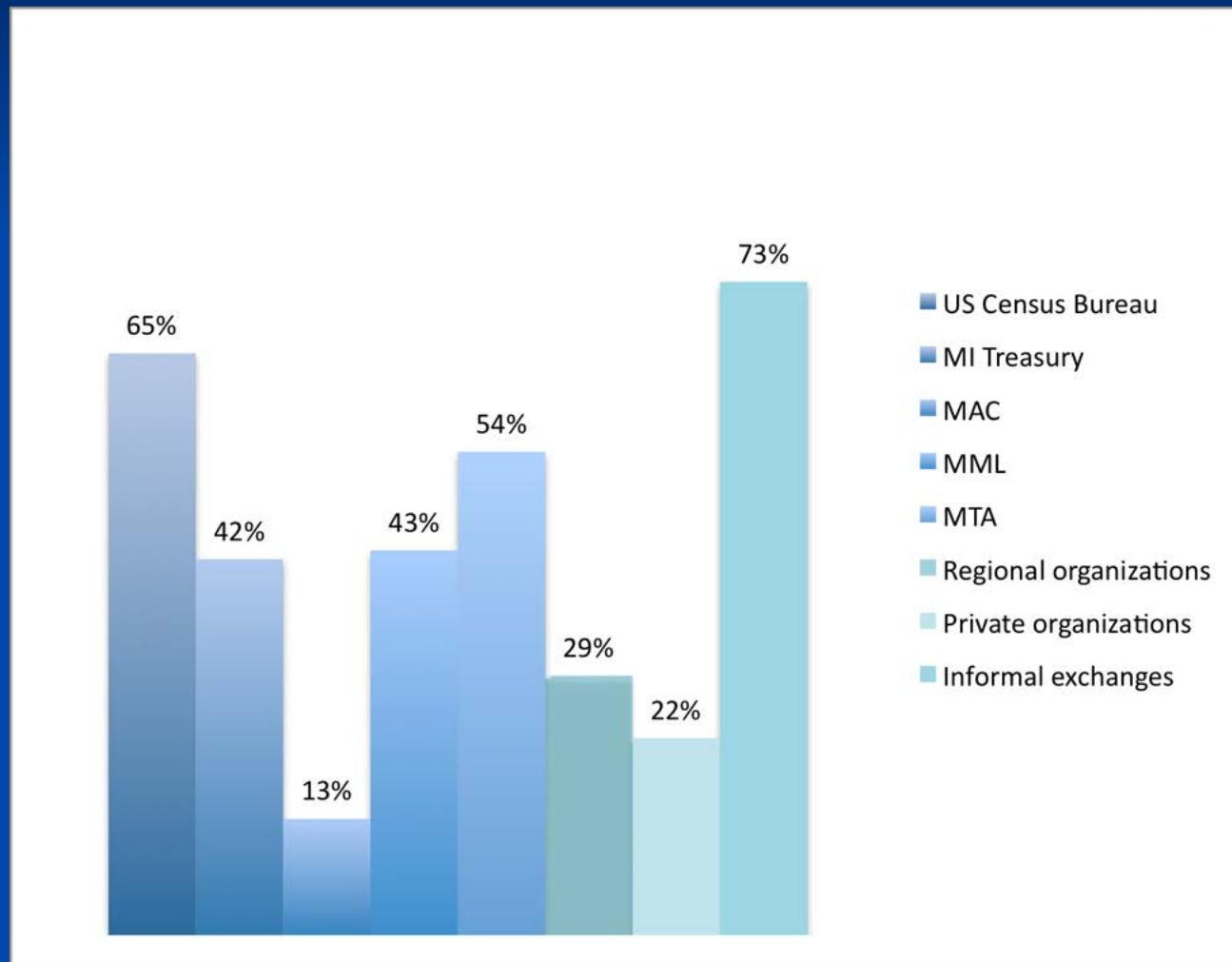
MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

Most Michigan jurisdictions develop their internal performance measures themselves



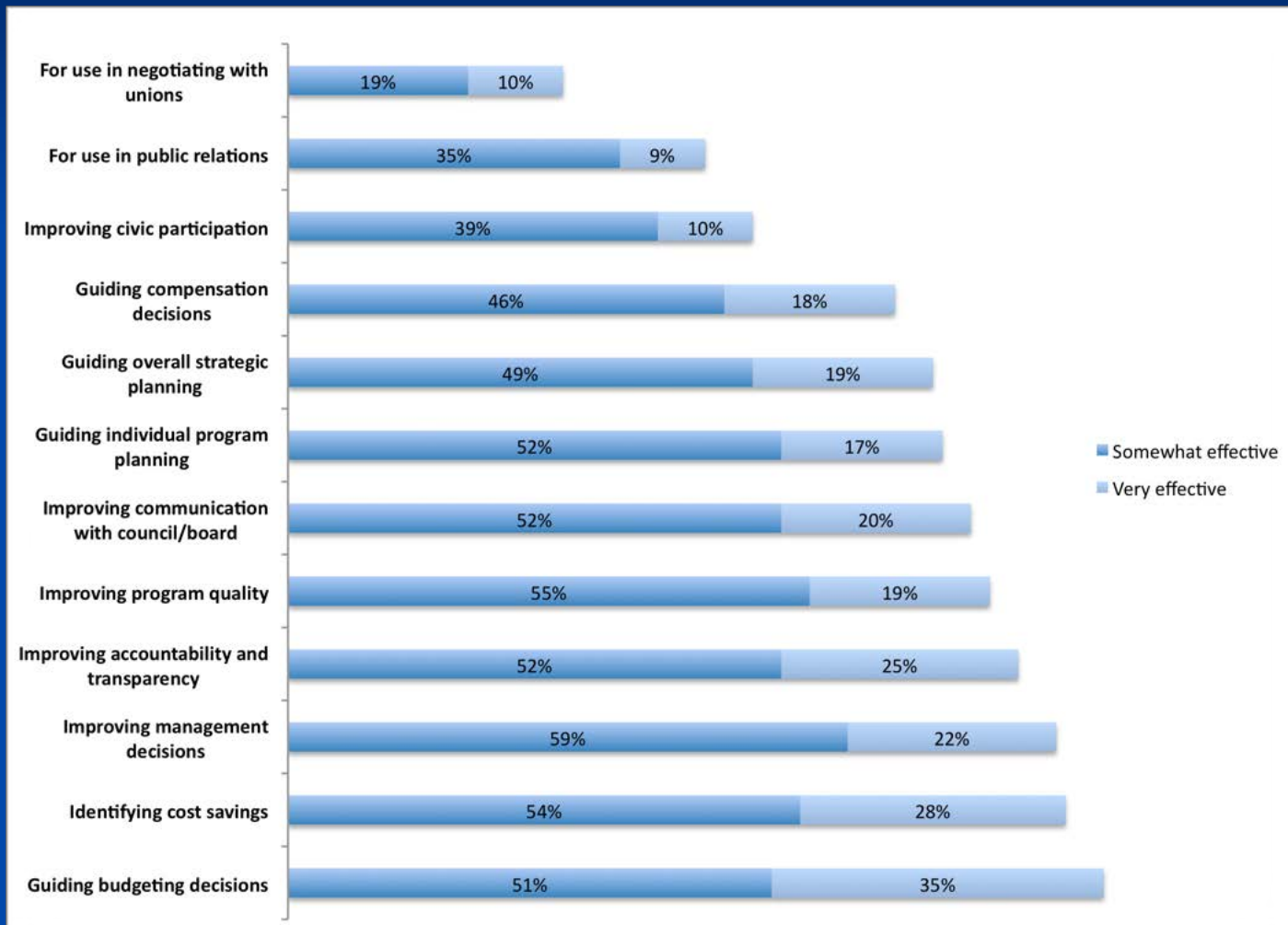
MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

Michigan jurisdictions gather their external measures from a variety of sources



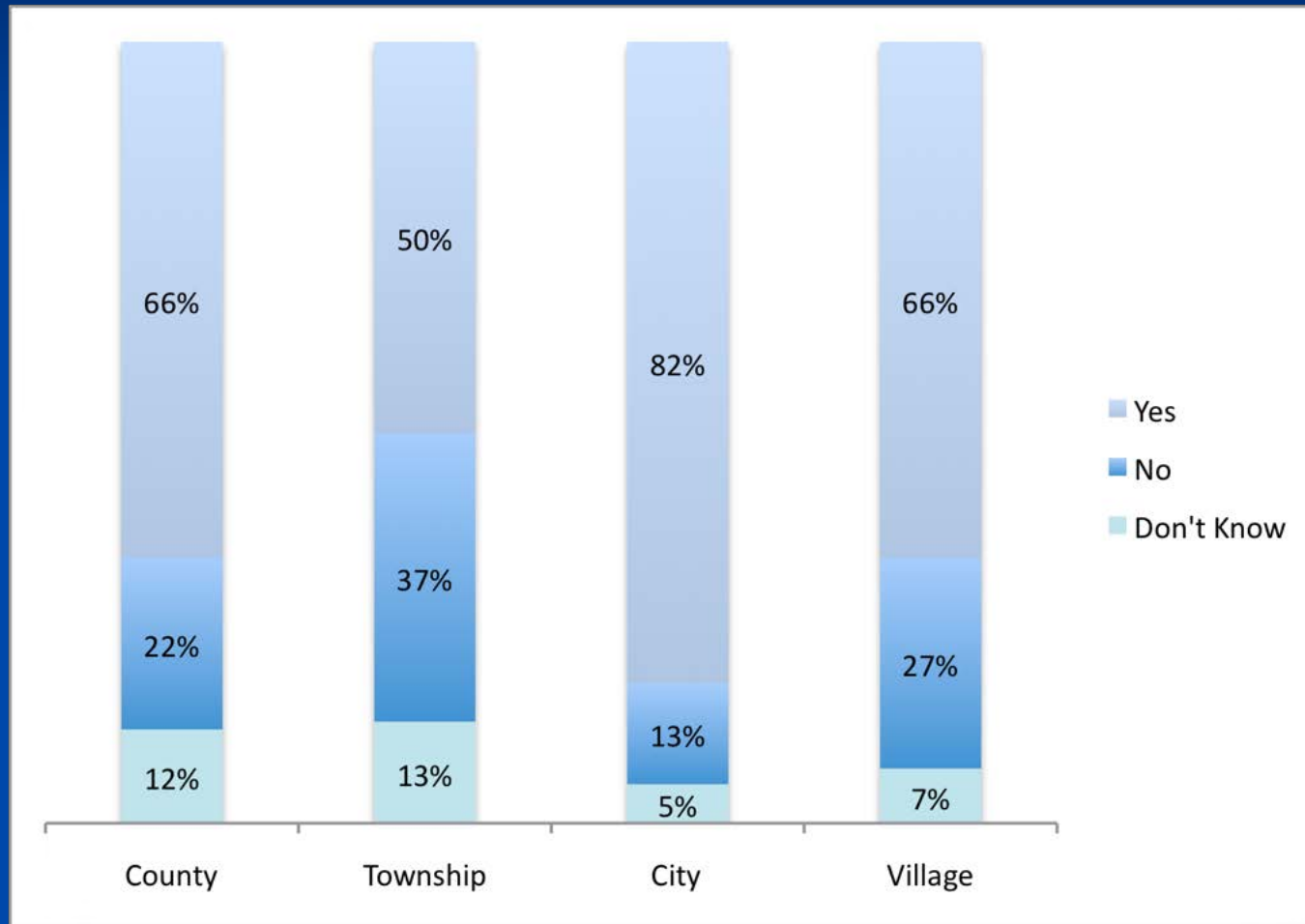
MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

Officials say performance measures generally effective, particularly at guiding decisions & cost savings



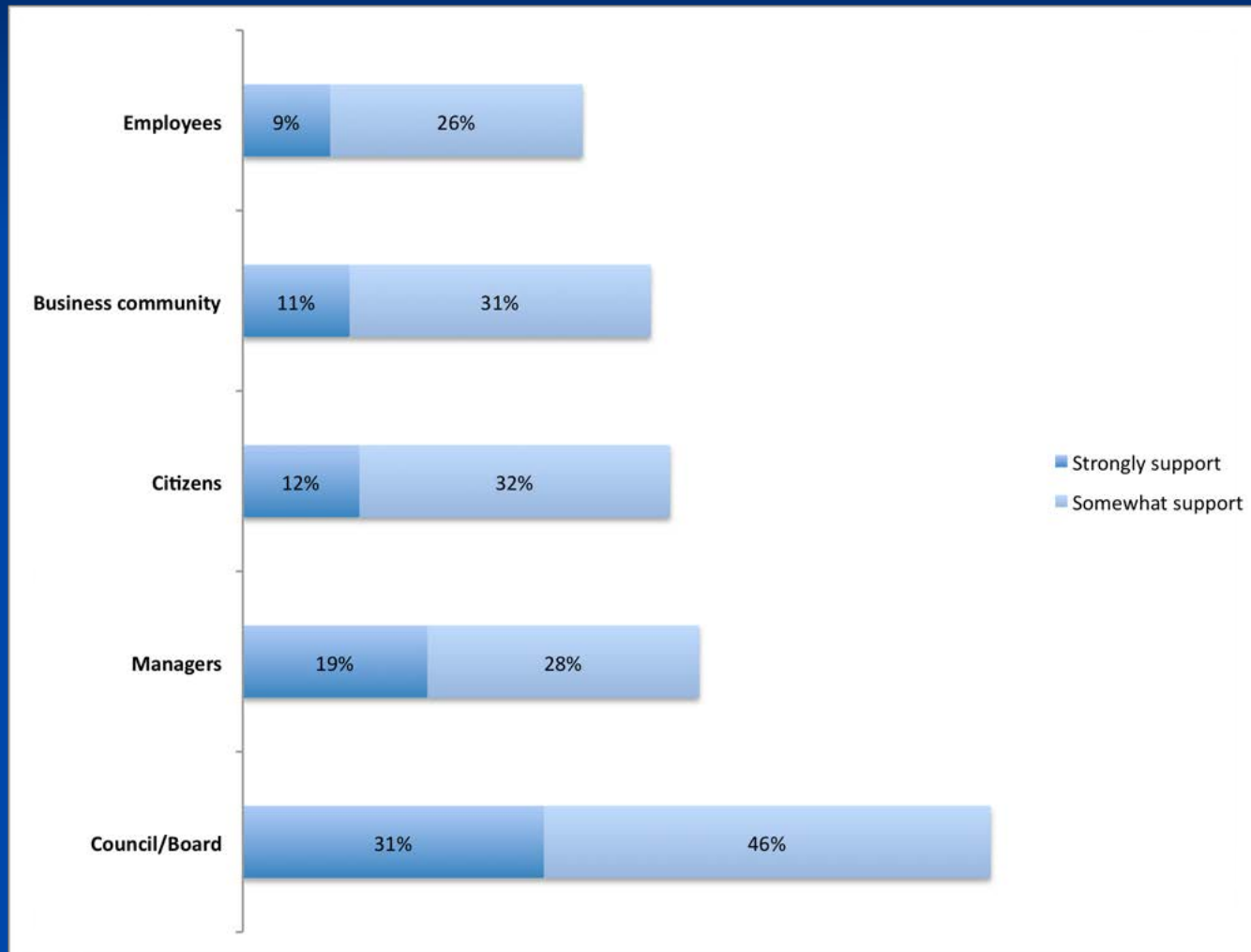
MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

A majority of jurisdictions share their performance data publicly



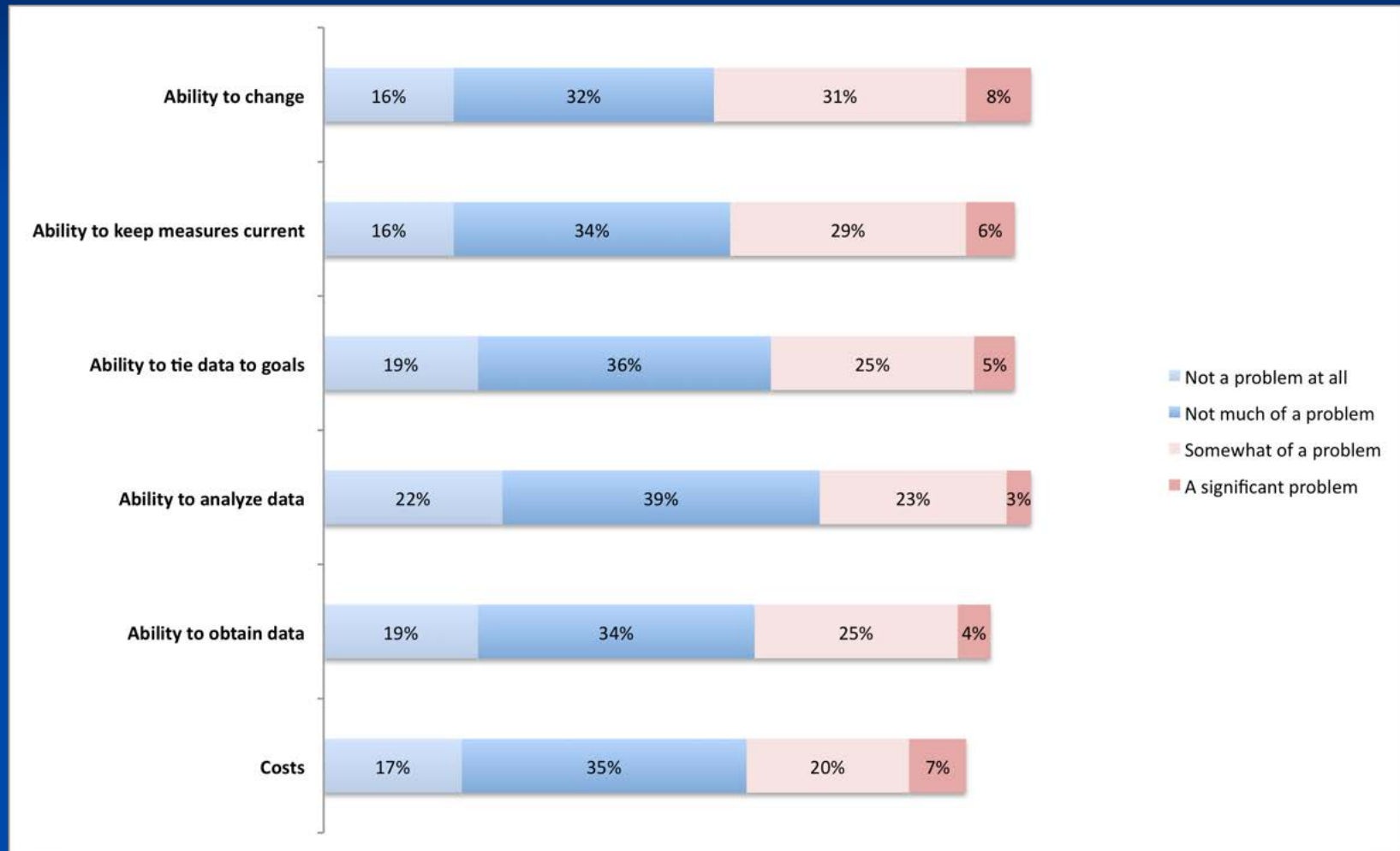
MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

Officials report overall support for performance management from key groups



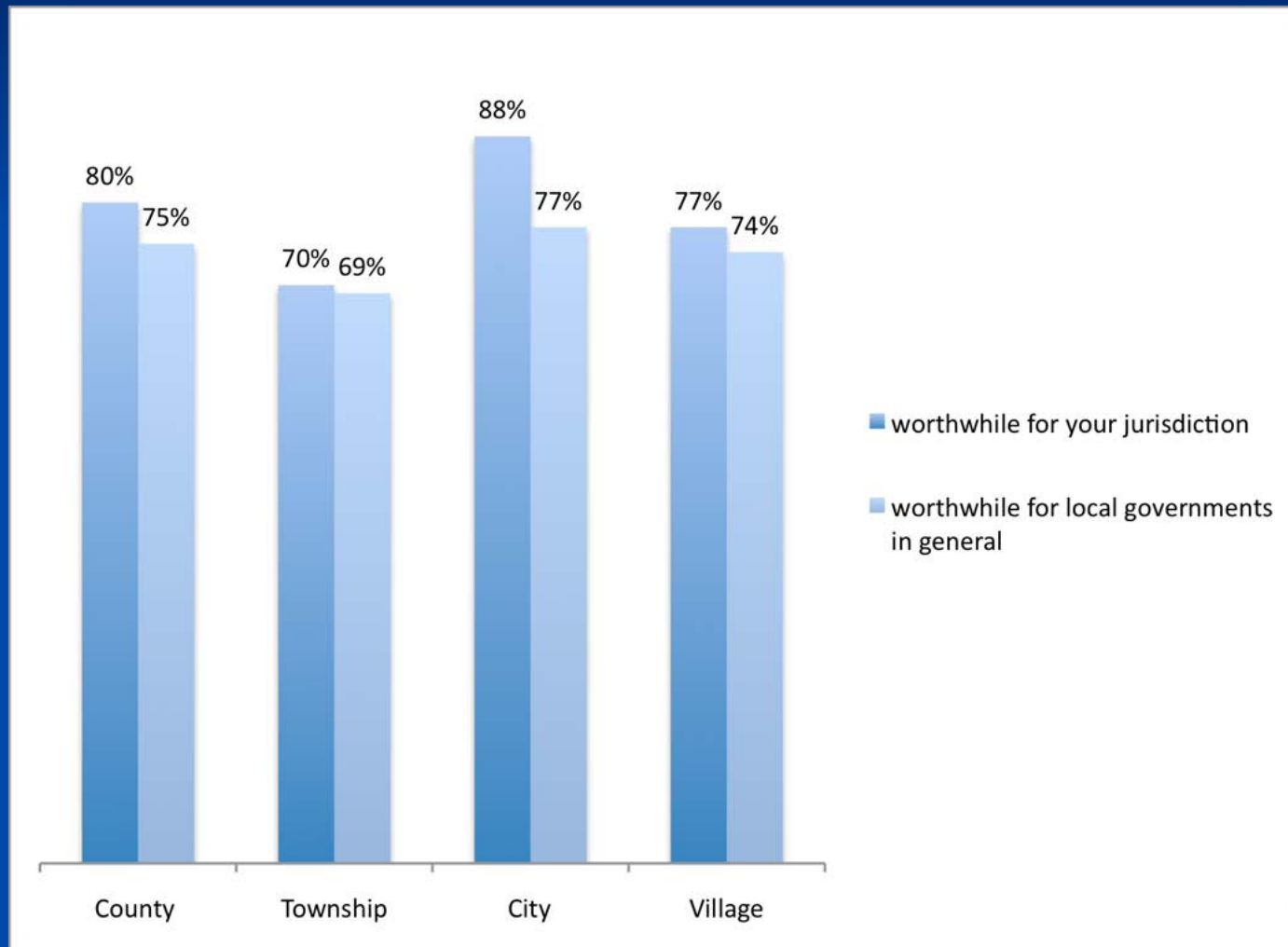
MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

Four in ten officials cite 'ability to change' as a problem in their use of performance data



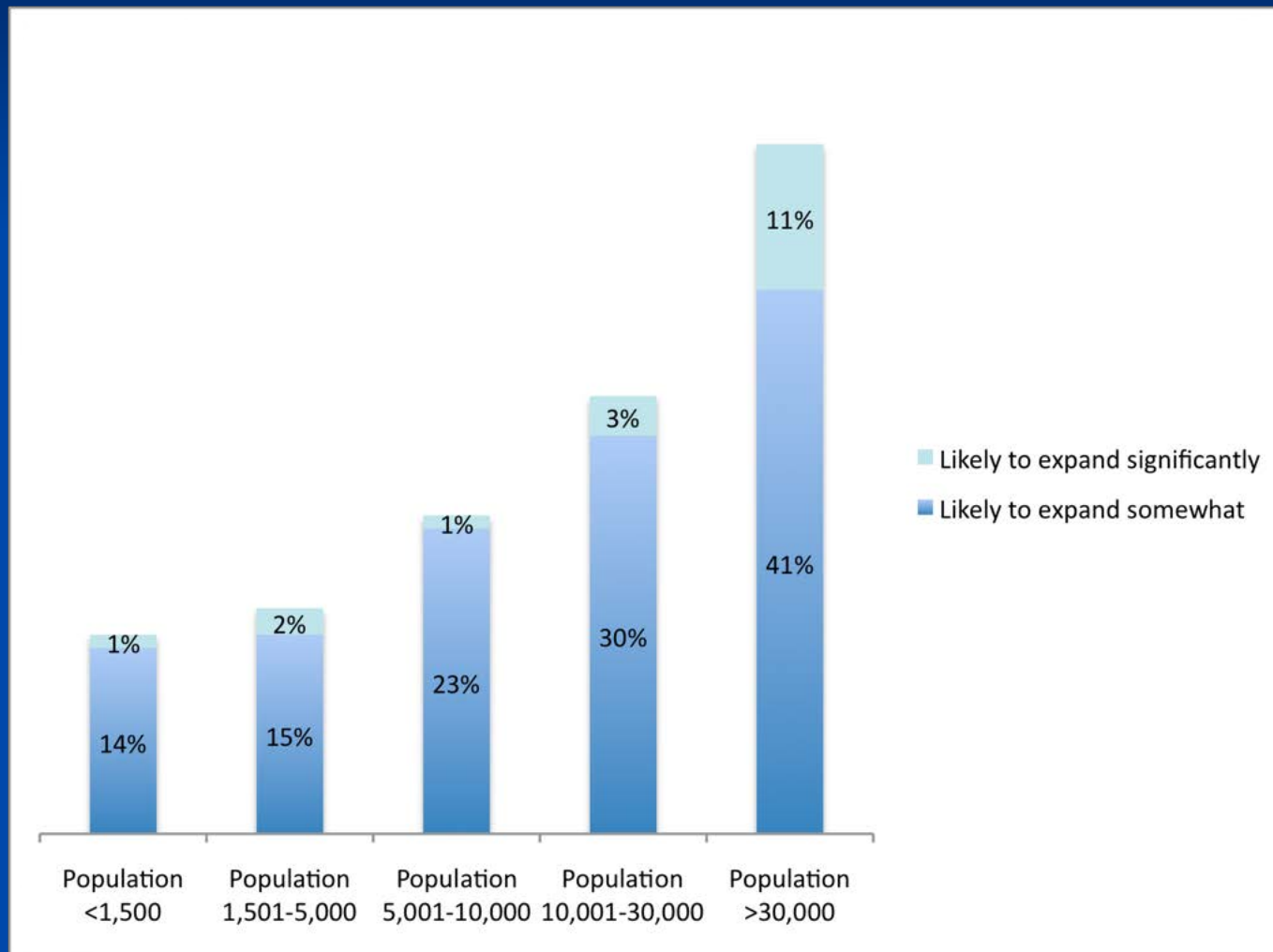
MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

Three in four local officials feel performance management worthwhile for them and others



MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

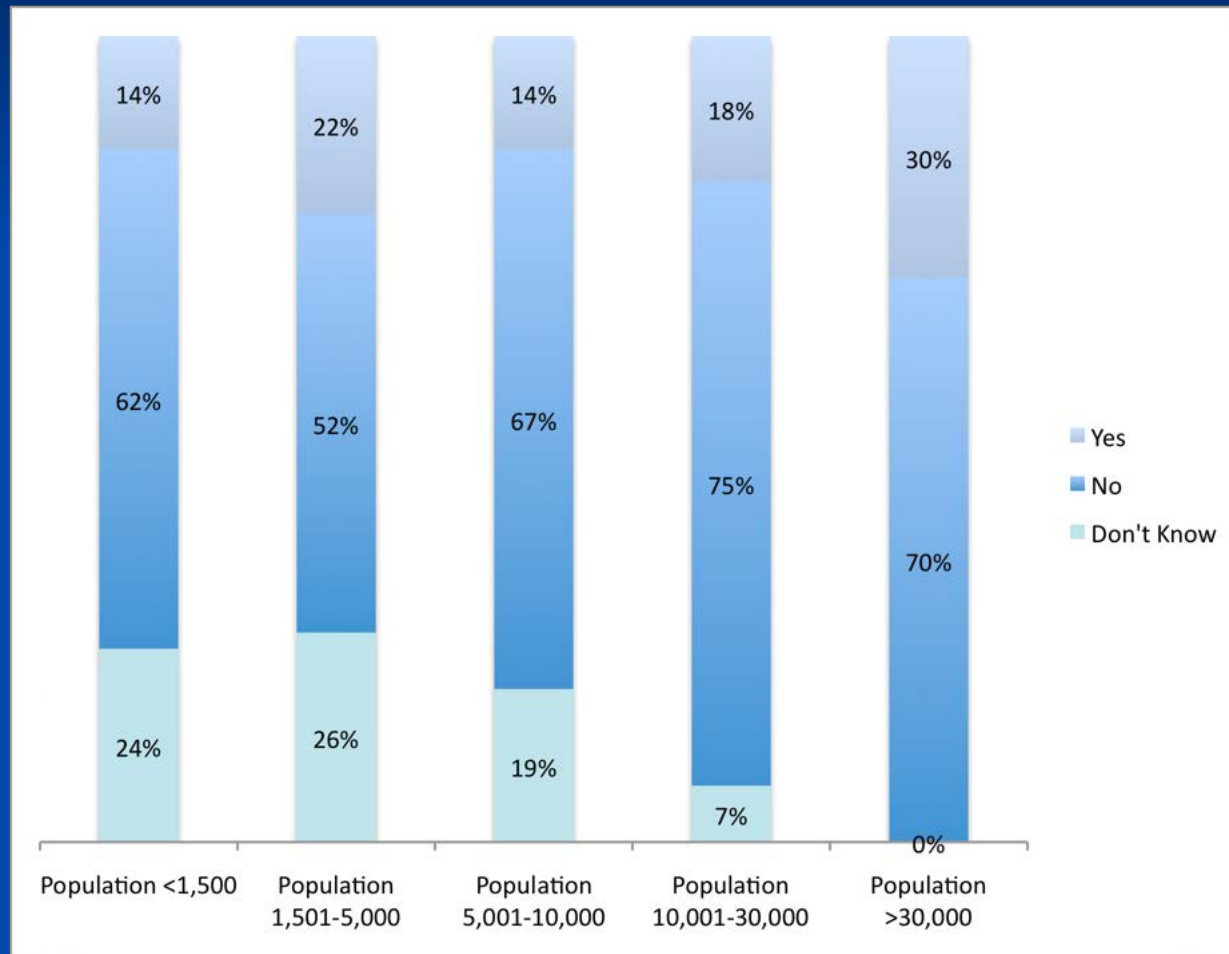
22% of jurisdictions plan to expand performance management in next 12 months



The “No” Track

MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

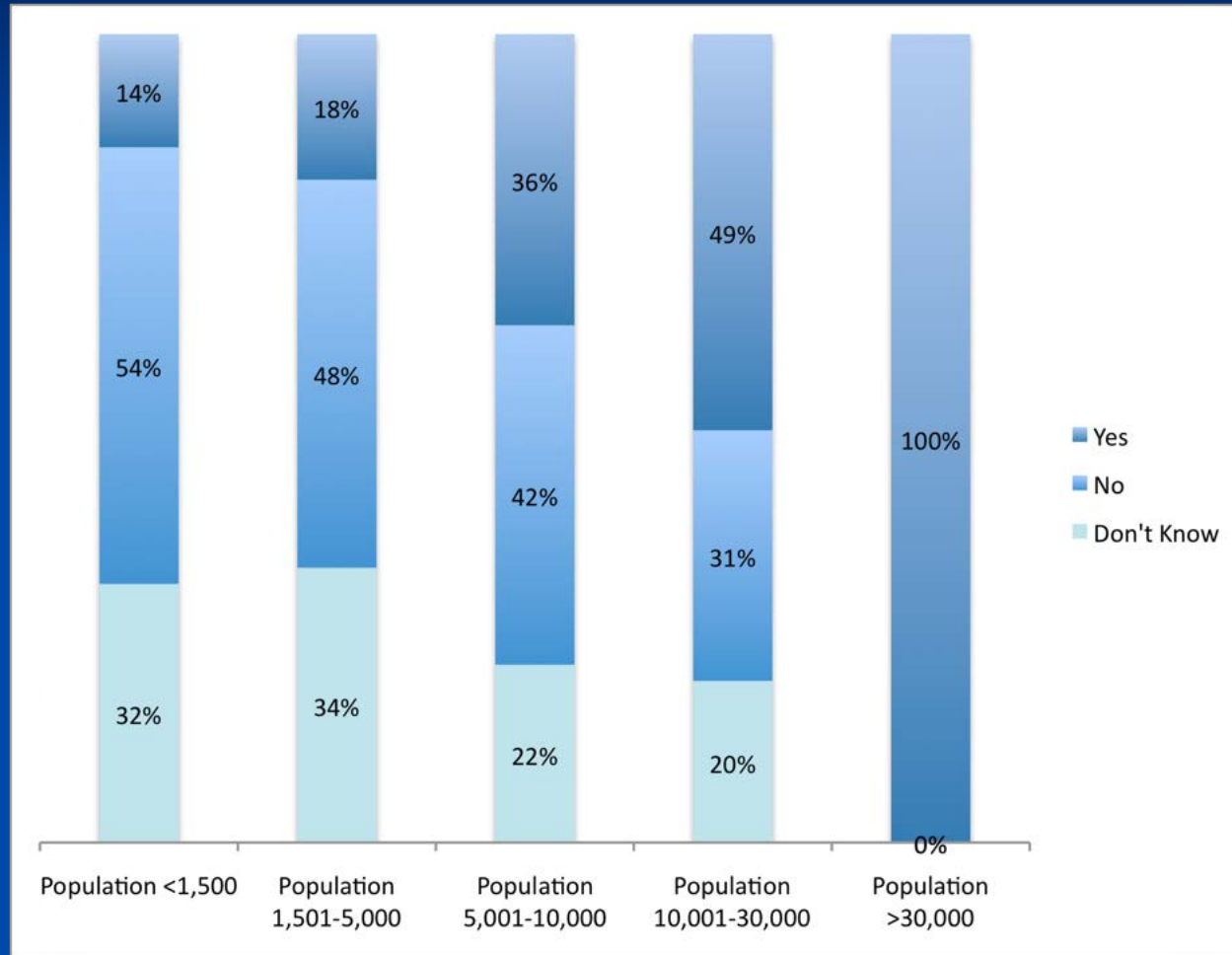
Only 17% of non-users say they engaged in performance management in the past



* among the **28% overall** who said they do not currently use any kind of data in decision-making

MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

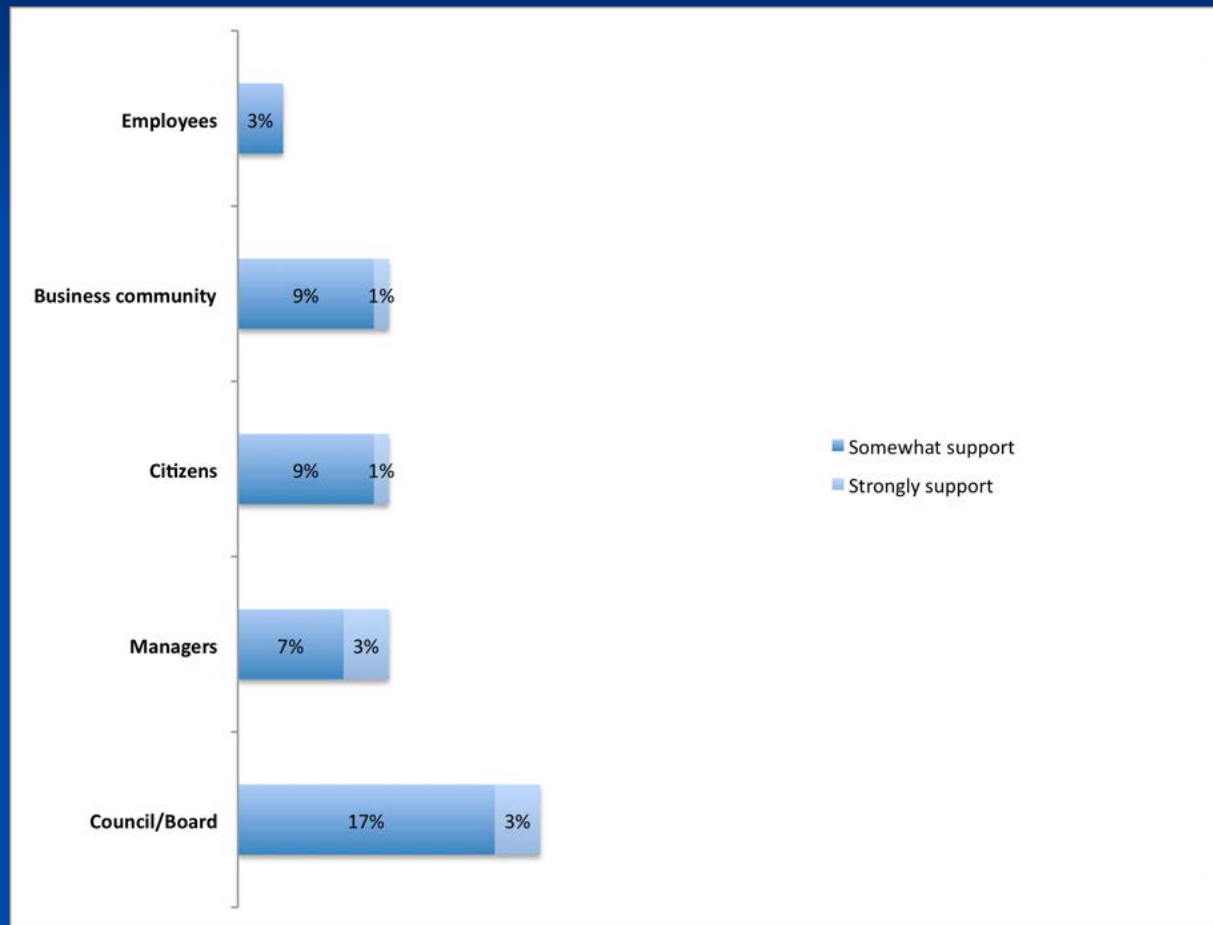
Plans for new data use in the future depend on jurisdiction size



* among the **28% overall** who said they do not currently use any kind of data in decision-making

MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

Not much support or opposition to performance management among key groups



* among the **28% overall** who said they do not currently use any kind of data in decision-making

MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

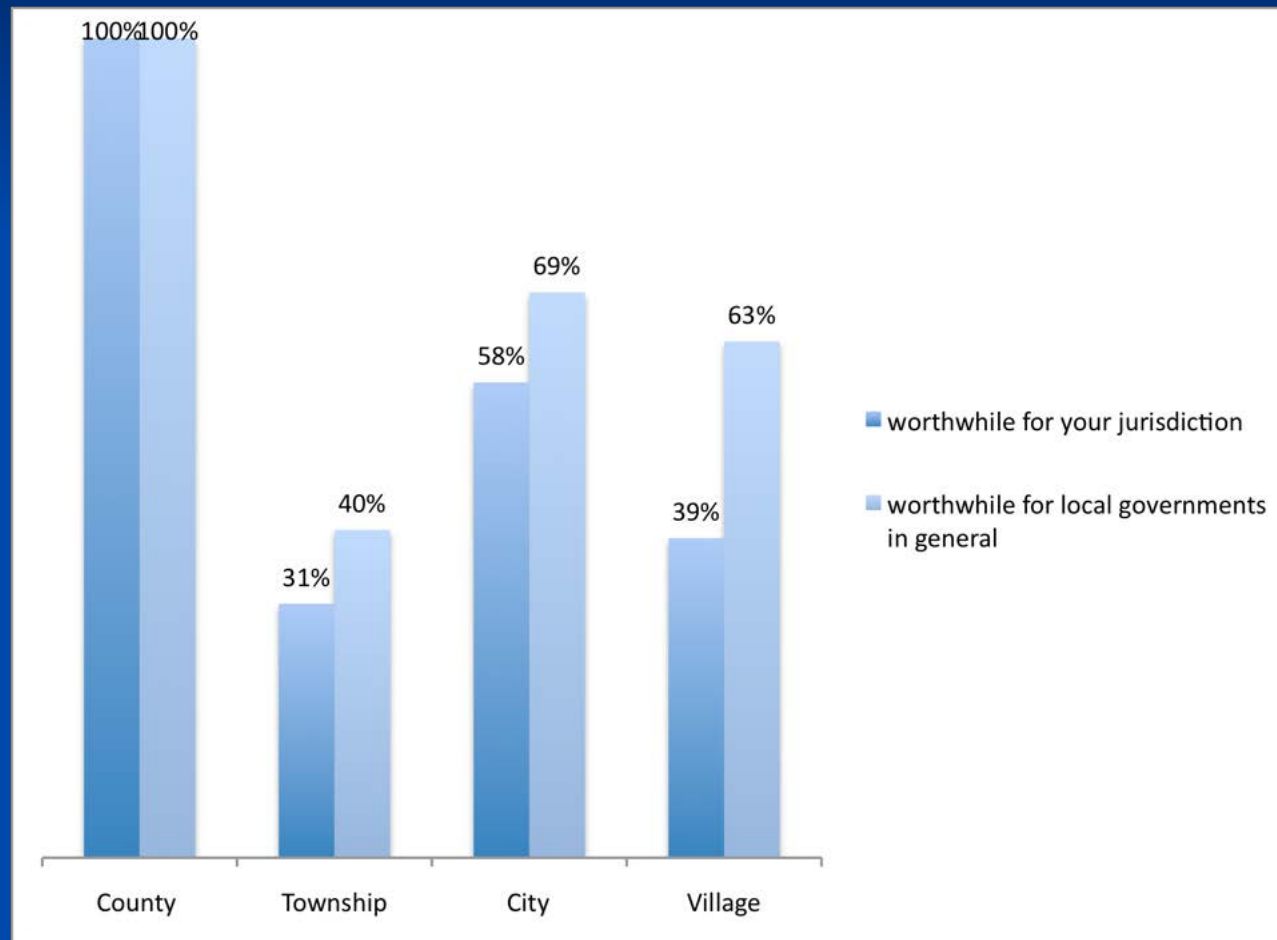
Cost the biggest anticipated problem for jurisdictions not engaged in data use



* among the **28% overall** who said they do not currently use any kind of data in decision-making

MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

Only 1/3 of non-users think performance management would be worthwhile for them

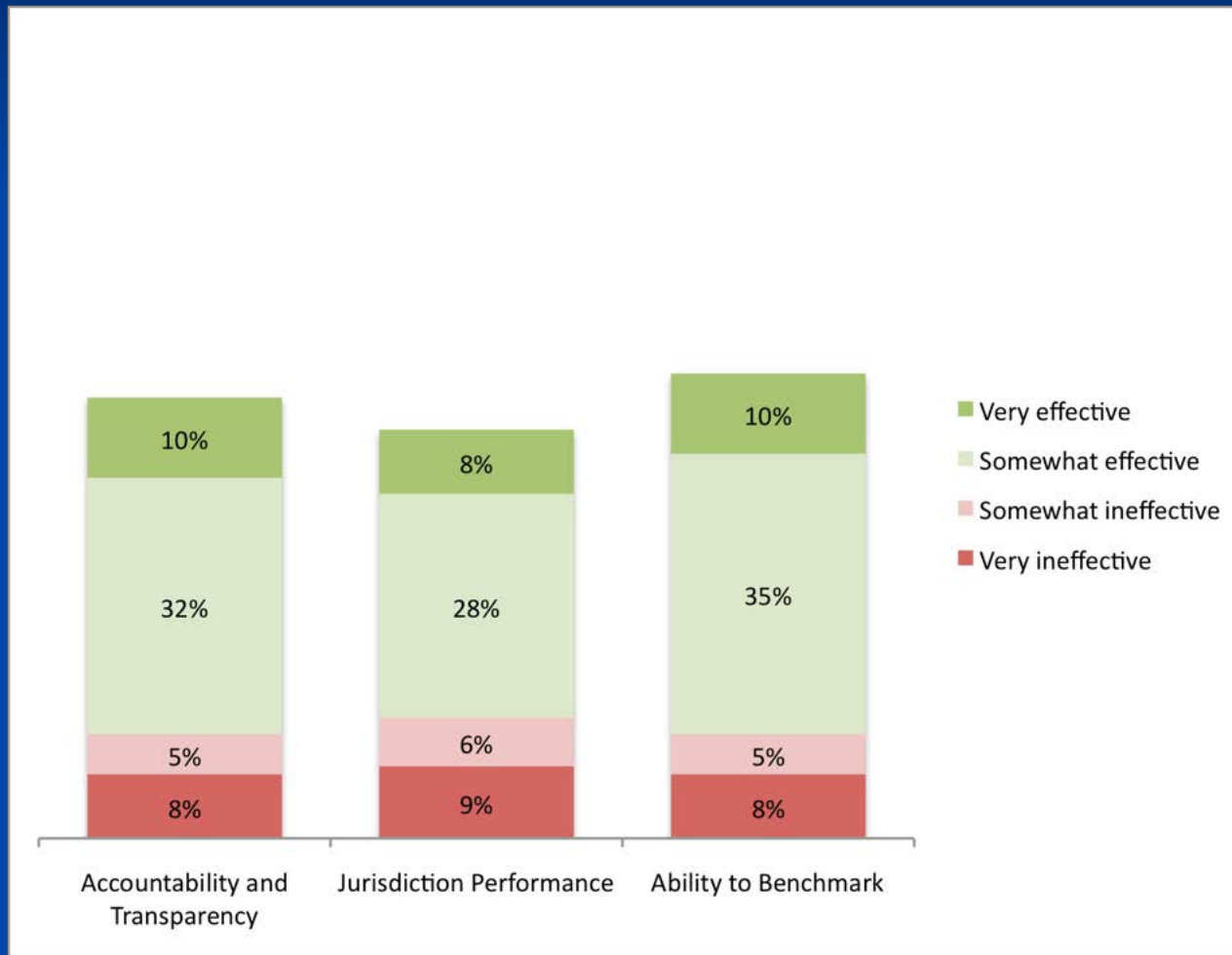


* among the **28% overall** who said they do not currently use any kind of data in decision-making

Dashboards and Citizen's Guides

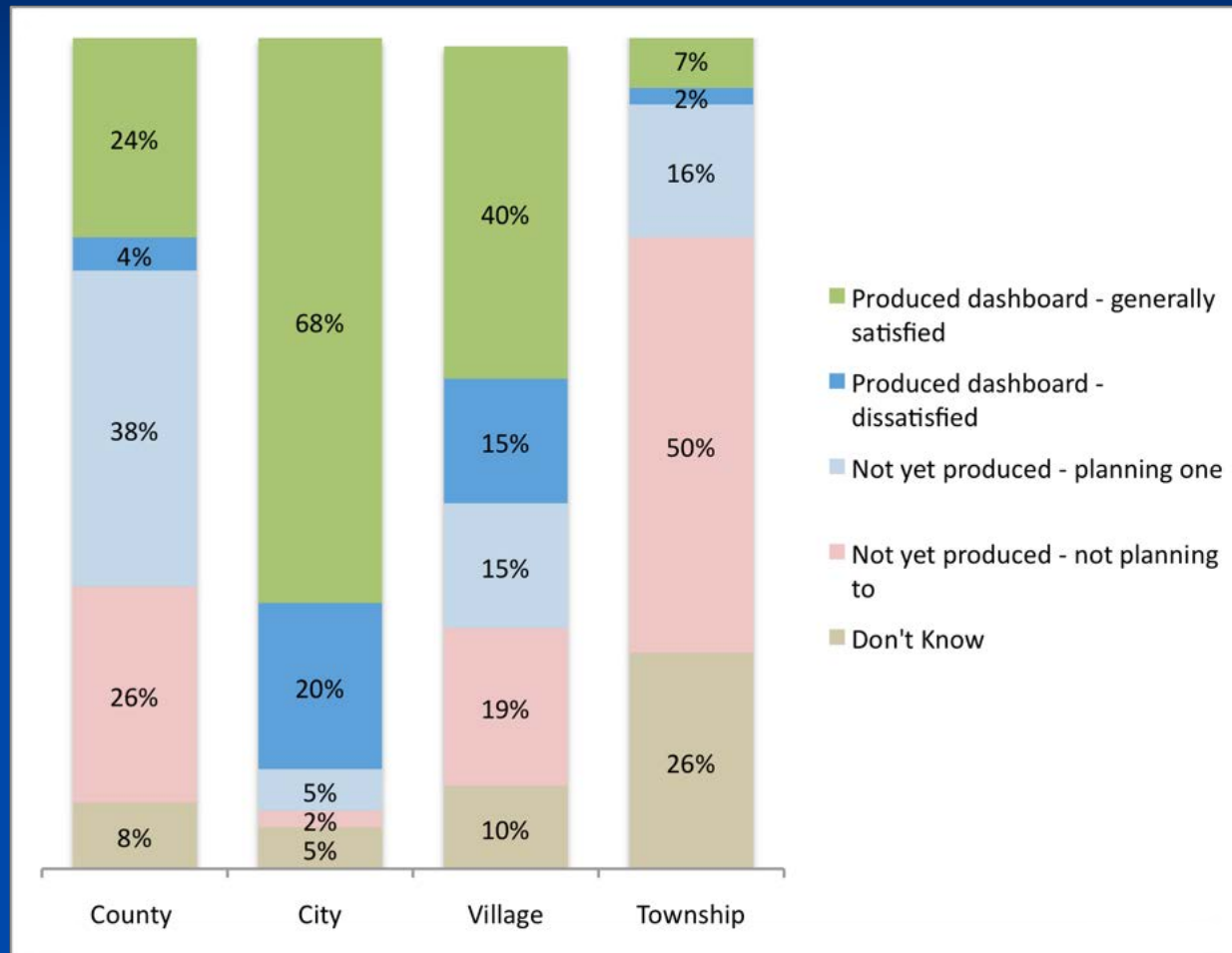
MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

Some support for the effectiveness of local government performance dashboards



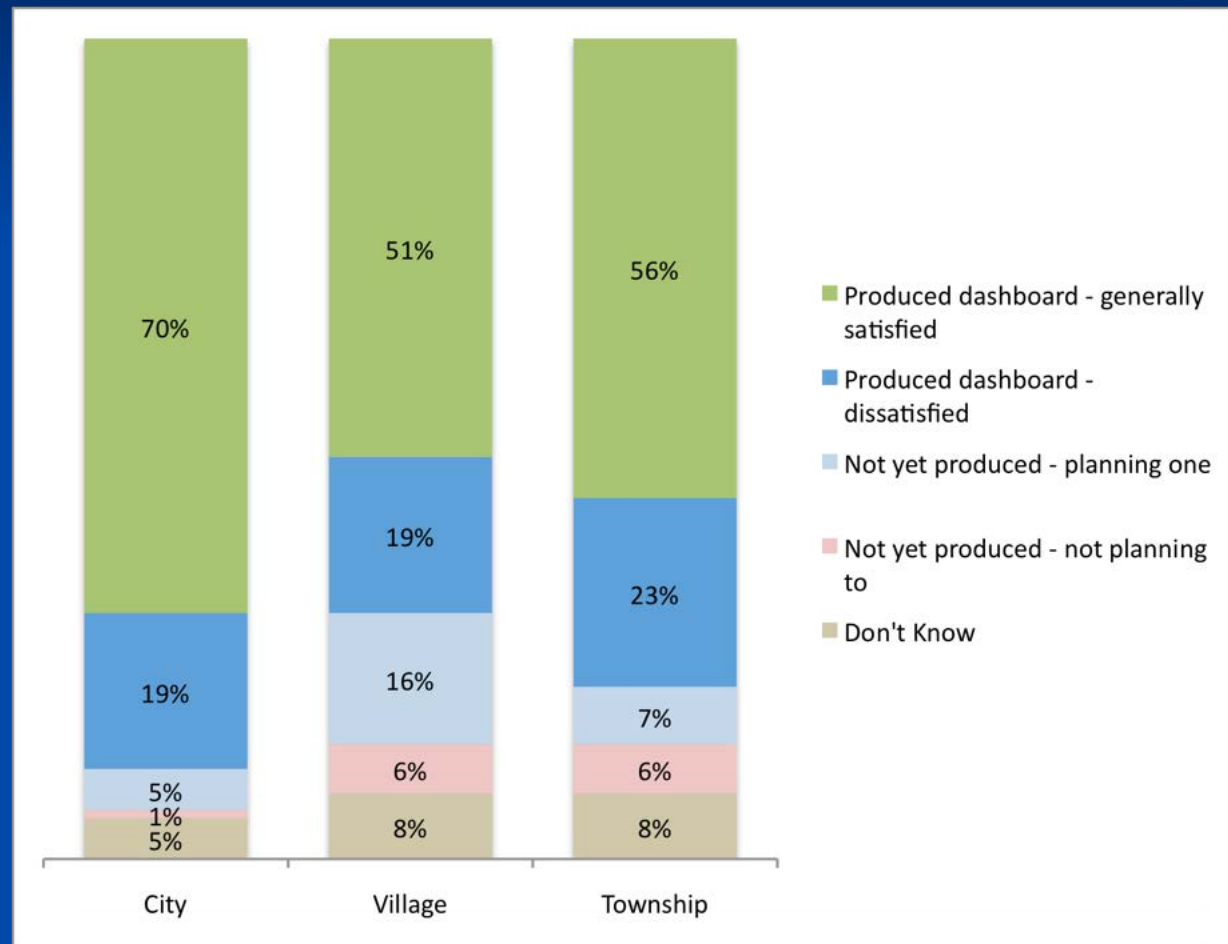
MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

Overall, cities and villages most likely to report creating a performance dashboard



MPPS Fall 2011 Wave preliminary findings:

EVIP-eligible jurisdictions most likely to report creating a performance dashboard



* among the 486 jurisdictions eligible for the EVIP statutory revenue sharing program

Key Preliminary Findings from Fall 2011

- A significant majority of jurisdictions across the state are currently doing performance measurement and management
 - However, a majority of those who do performance measurement report it is ad hoc rather than formal or systematic
- Among those that are not currently doing performance management, few are planning to start new activities

Presentation Outline

- Overview of the Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS)
- Review of the Fall 2011 MPPS questionnaire items on performance management
- Summary of findings on the use of data in decision-making by jurisdictions across the state
- How else the MPPS can help policymakers looking to improve data-driving decision making

Current and future MPFS survey content on benchmarking & performance management

- Types of questionnaire items?
- Targeted to specific jurisdiction types? (counties only? counties and cities?)
- Other survey topics?
- How should MPFS data and reports be analyzed and disseminated?

Use of Data in Local Government Decision-Making Across the State: Preliminary Findings from the Fall 2011 Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS)

Presentation for the
Michigan Local Government Benchmarking Consortium Conference
December 8, 2011