



Integrating Health into the Comprehensive Plan

The State of Practice in the United States

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The comprehensive plan

- Authorized or required by...
 - State legislation
- Establishes...
 - 10-30 year vision
- Identifies...
 - Social, economic and environmental topical problems
- Outlines...
 - Goals, action items, and policies for future growth & development
- Provides...
 - Legal foundation for local level regulations, policies and ordinances
- Guides...
 - Public and private decisions



Comprehensive plan-making process

- **STEP 1** Partnerships
- **STEP 2** Existing Conditions
- **STEP 3** Community Visioning & Engagement
- **STEP 4** Development & Adoption
- **STEP 5** Implementation & Evaluation

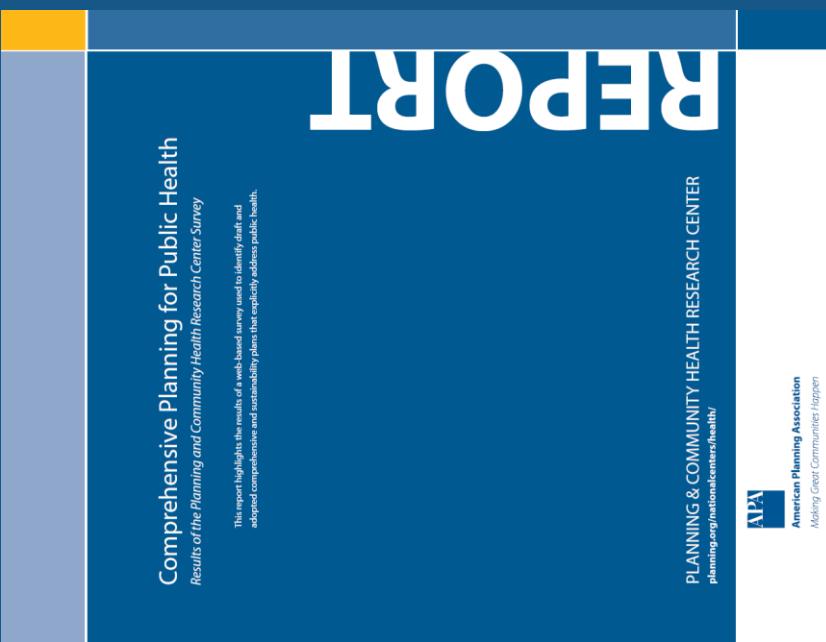
American Planning Association Planning and Community Health Research Center

Identify...

- Comprehensive plans that explicitly address public health

Evaluate...

- Impact on local policies, regulations and standards for improving public health

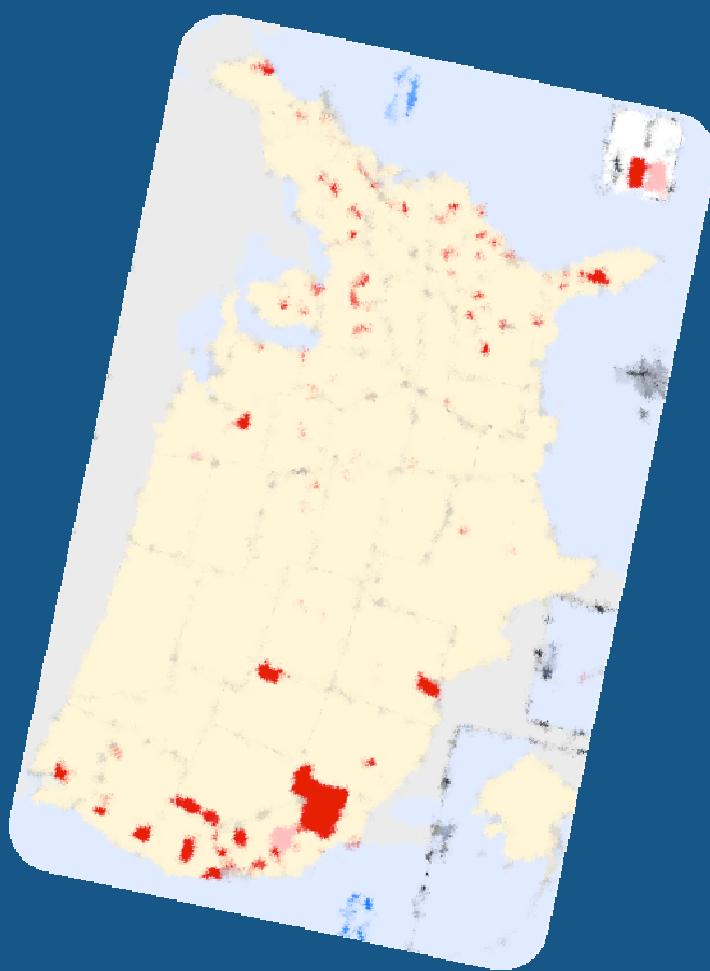


Source: Hodgson, K. *Comprehensive Planning for Public Health*. American Planning Association, 2011.



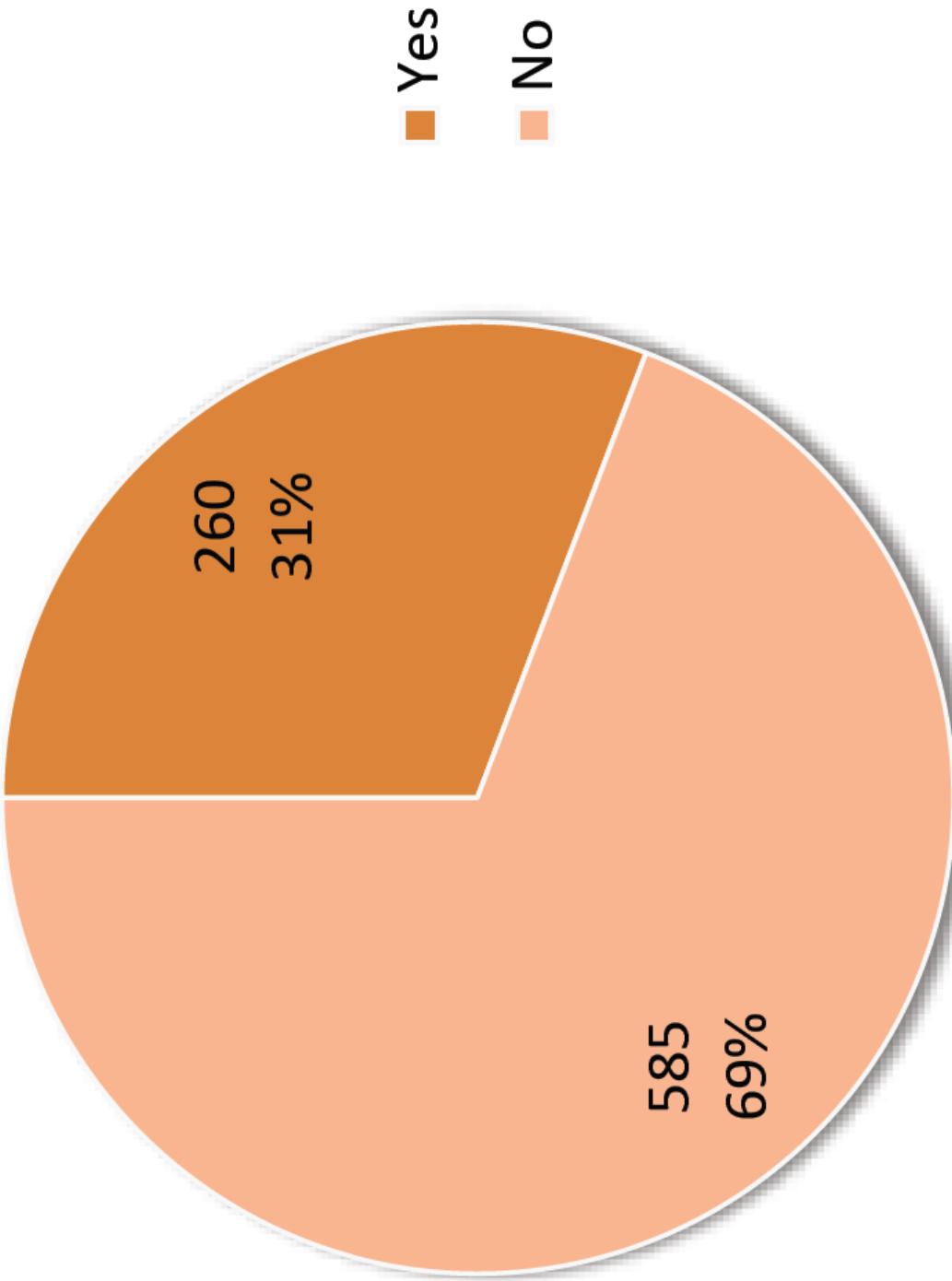
Survey Background

- June & August 2010
- 890 U.S. local governments
 - 35.6% - 10,000 to 49,999
 - 19.4% - 50,000 to 149,999
 - 12% - 2,500 to 9,999
 - 9% - 150,000 to 499,999
 - 8% - 500,000 +
- 95% of respondents indicated their jurisdiction had a comprehensive plan



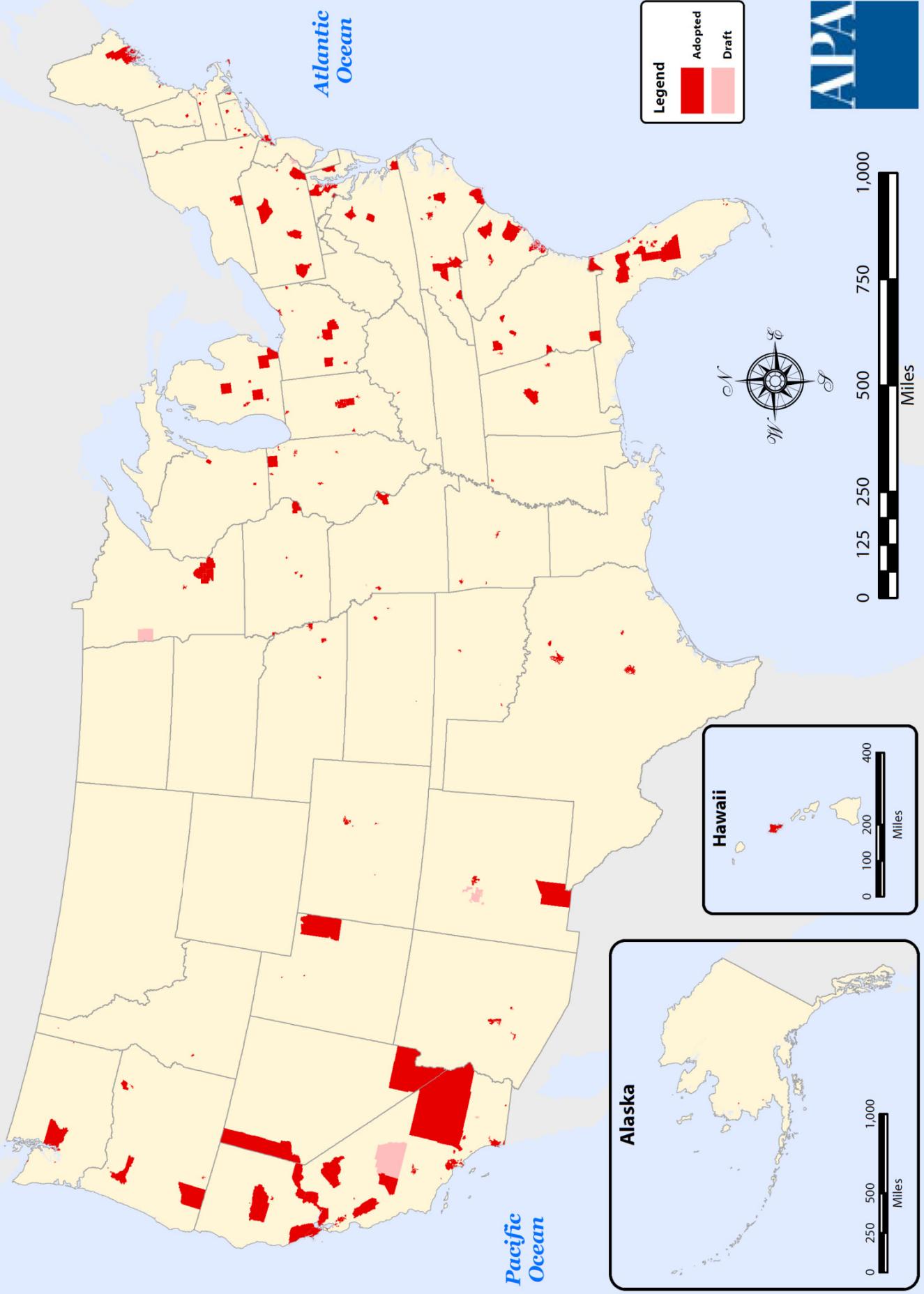
Source: Hodgson 2011.

Figure 1. Does your jurisdiction's draft or adopted comprehensive plan contain explicit goals, objectives or policies that address public health? (n=845)



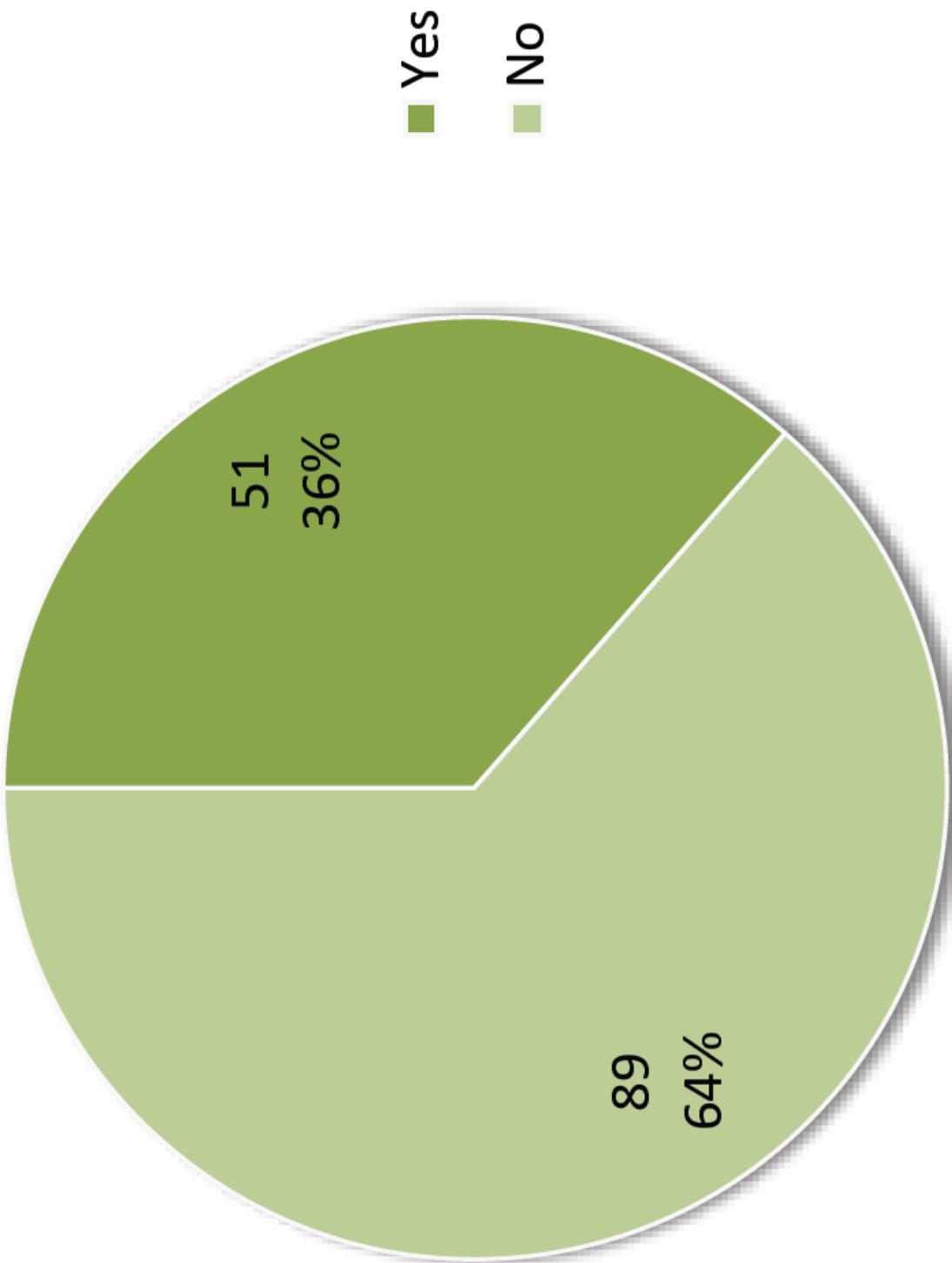
Source: Hodgson 2011.

Comprehensive plans that explicitly address public health



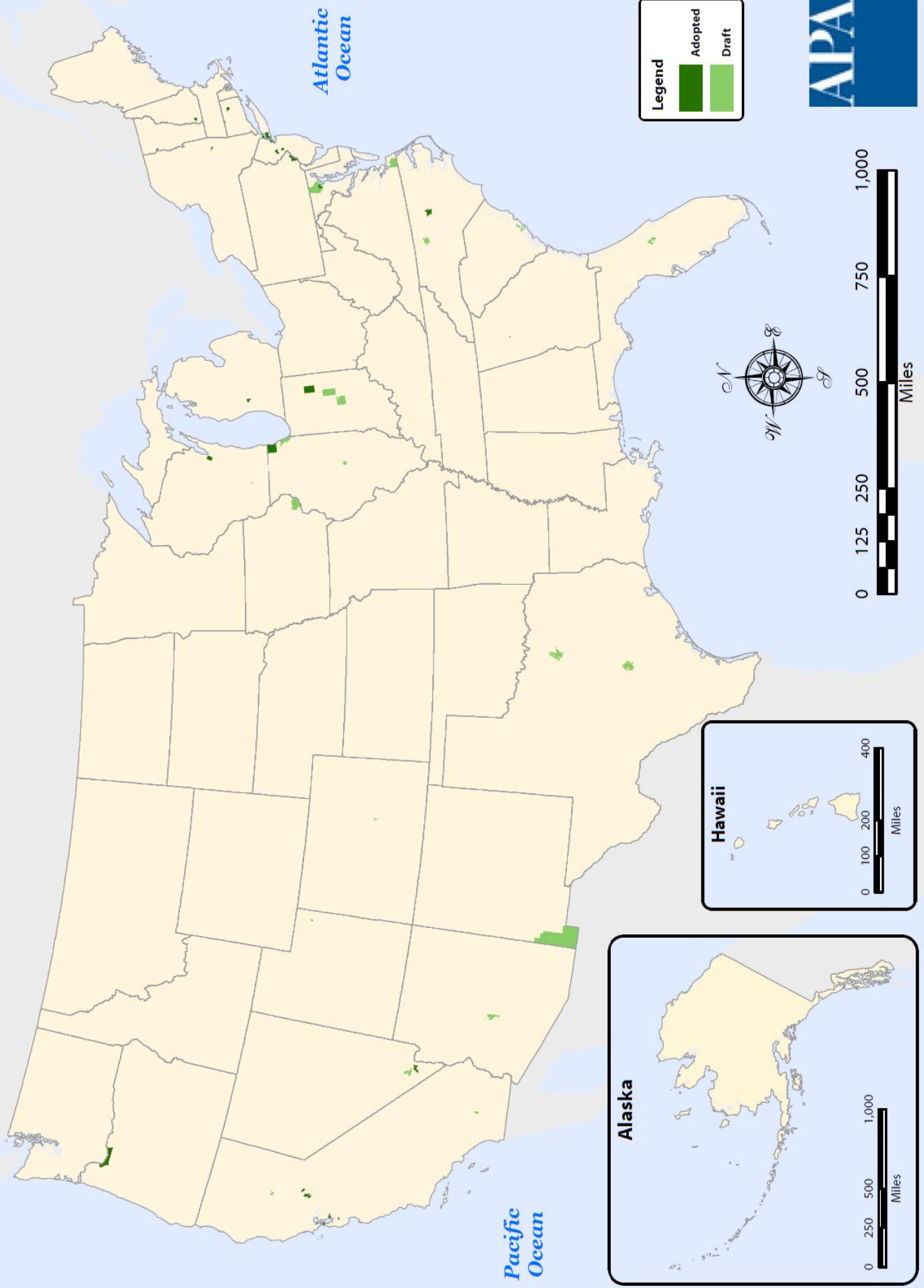
Source: Hodgson 2011.

Figure 1. Does your jurisdiction's draft or adopted sustainability plan contain explicit goals, objectives or policies that address public health? (n=140)



Source: Hodgson 2011.

Sustainability plans that explicitly addresses public health



Source: Hodgson 2011.



* 16. Which of the following PUBLIC HEALTH TOPICS are explicitly addressed in the draft or adopted comprehensive plan? Please select all that apply.

- Active Living
- Active Transportation
- Aging
- Brownfields
- Chronic Disease Prevention
- Clean Air
- Clean Water
- Climate Change
- Clinical Services
- Emergency Preparedness
- Environmental Justice
- Environmental Health
- Food Access
- Food Safety
- Food Security
- Health Disparities
- Healthy Eating
- Healthy Homes
- Health Services
- Human Services
- Infectious Disease Prevention
- Injury Prevention
- Mental Health
- Nutrition
- Obesity Prevention
- Physical Activity
- Public Safety
- Recreation
- Social Capital
- Social Equity
- Toxic Exposures
- None of the above

Source: Hodgson 2011.

Table 1. Top 10 most cited public health topics in comprehensive plans

Topic	Number of Respondents	Percent of Respondents
Recreation	183	75.3%
Public Safety	168	69.1%
Clean Water	165	67.9%
Active Transportation	161	66.3%
Clean Air	140	57.6%
Emergency Preparedness	111	45.7%
Active Living	107	44.0%
Physical Activity	104	42.8%
Environmental Health	95	39.1%
Aging	82	33.7%

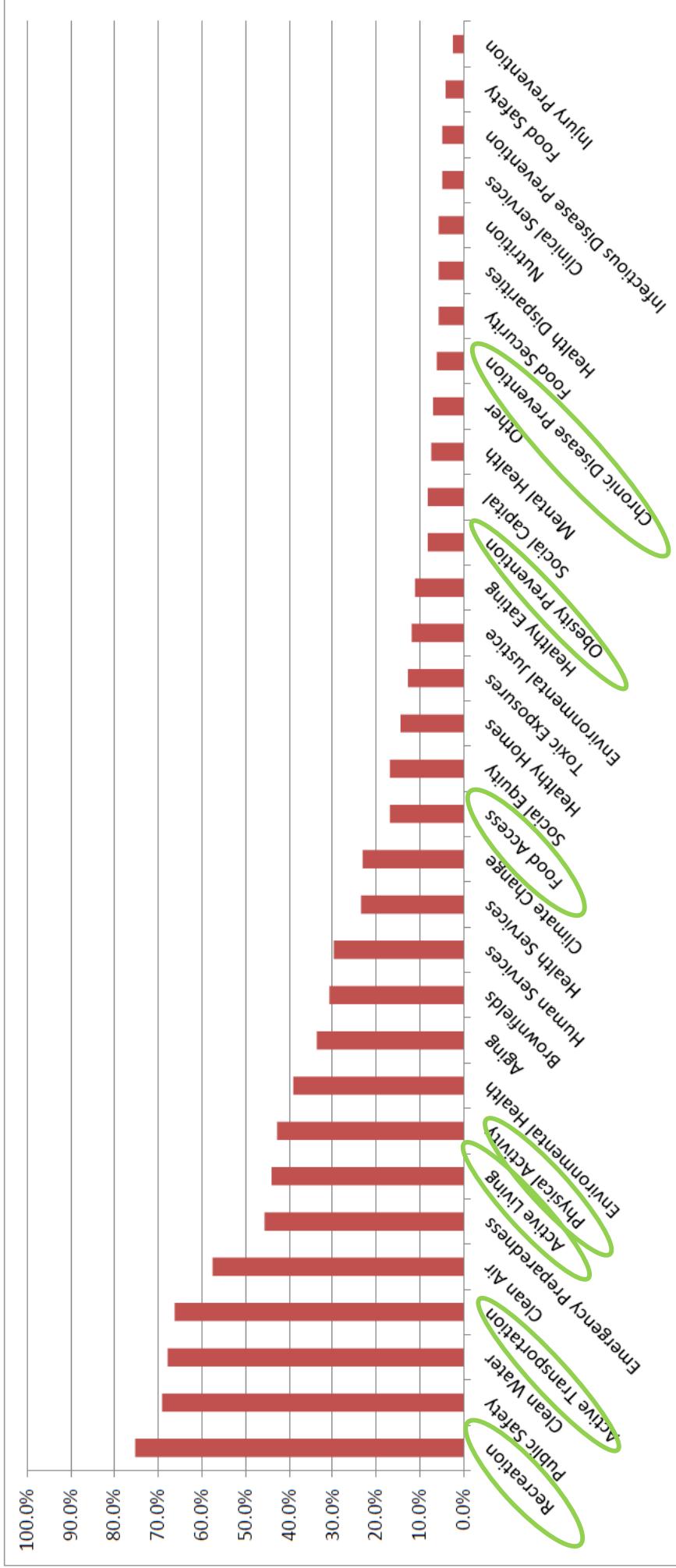
Table 2. Top 10 most cited public health topics in sustainability plans

Topic	Number of Respondents	Percent of Respondents
Active Transportation	23	85.2%
Clean Air	22	81.5%
Clean Water	21	77.8%
Climate Change	17	63.0%
Active Living	16	59.3%
Physical Activity	16	59.3%
Recreation	16	59.3%
Environmental Health	13	48.1%
Food Access	12	44.4%
Public Safety	10	37.0%

*Respondents were able to select more than one response.

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Figure 3. Public health topics explicitly addressed in the comprehensive plans



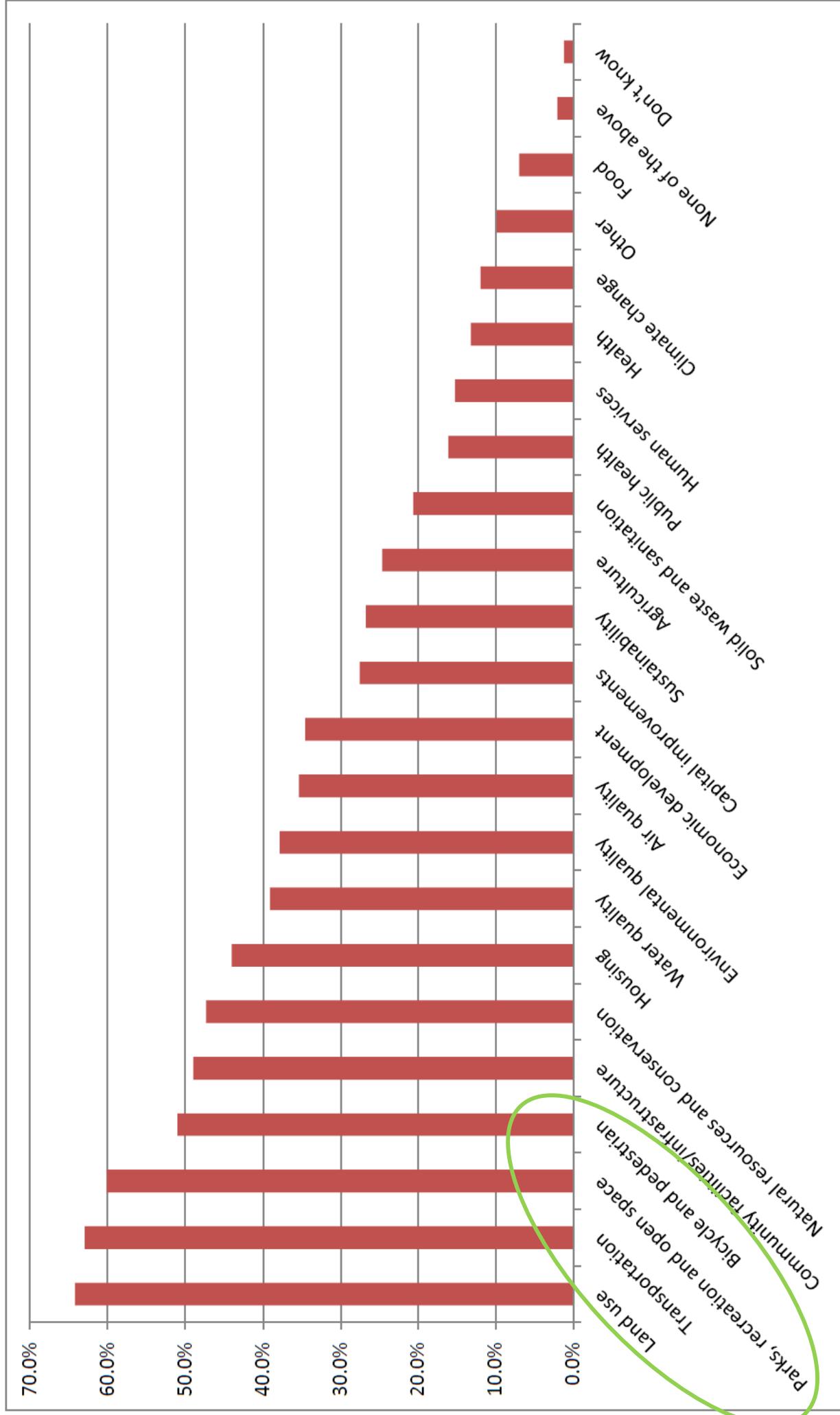
*Respondents were able to select more than one response.

Source: Hodgson 2011.

Figure 4. Public health topics explicitly addressed in the sustainability plans



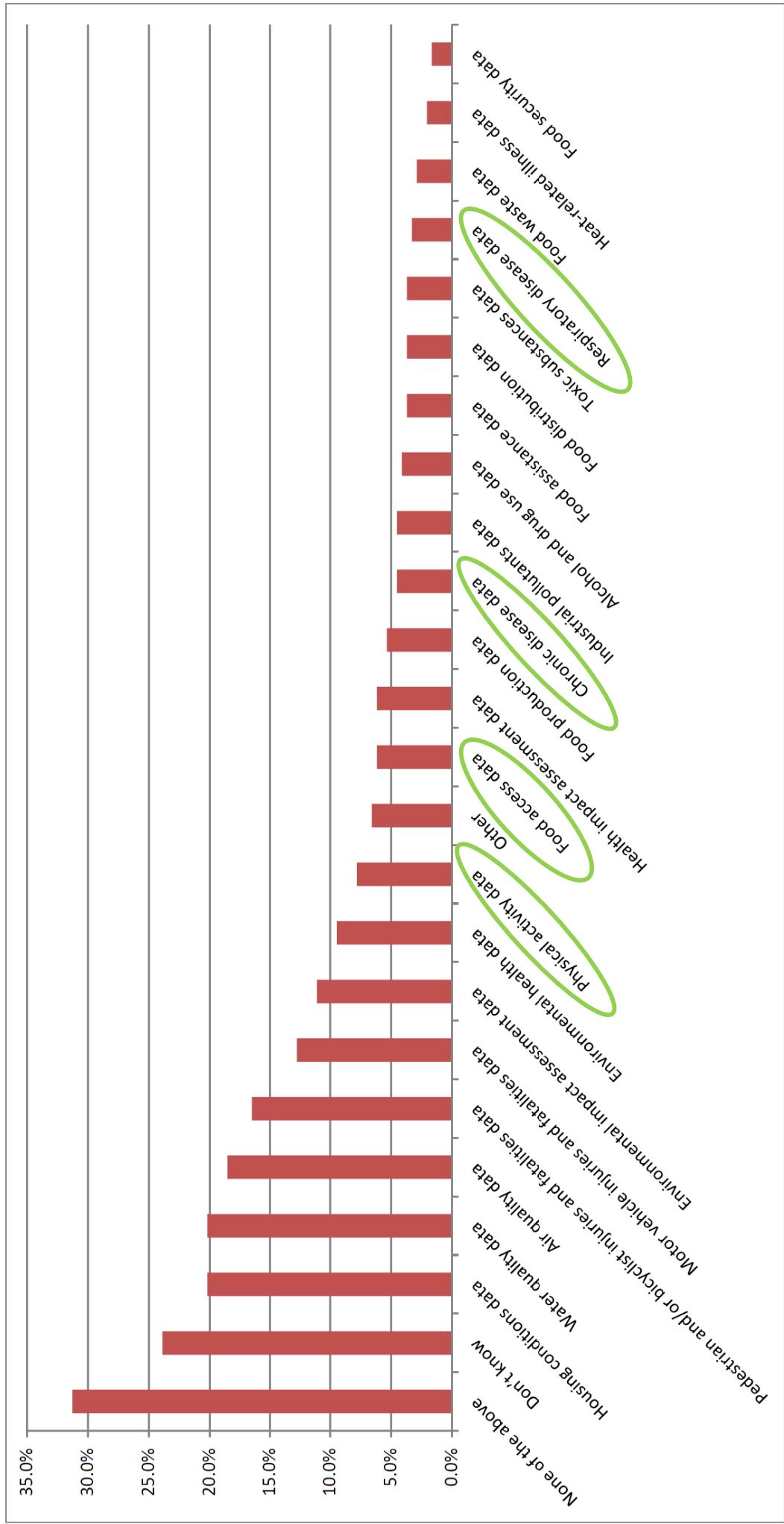
Figure 5. Location of public health components in different elements of the comprehensive plan



*Respondents were able to select more than one response.

Source: Hodgson 2011.

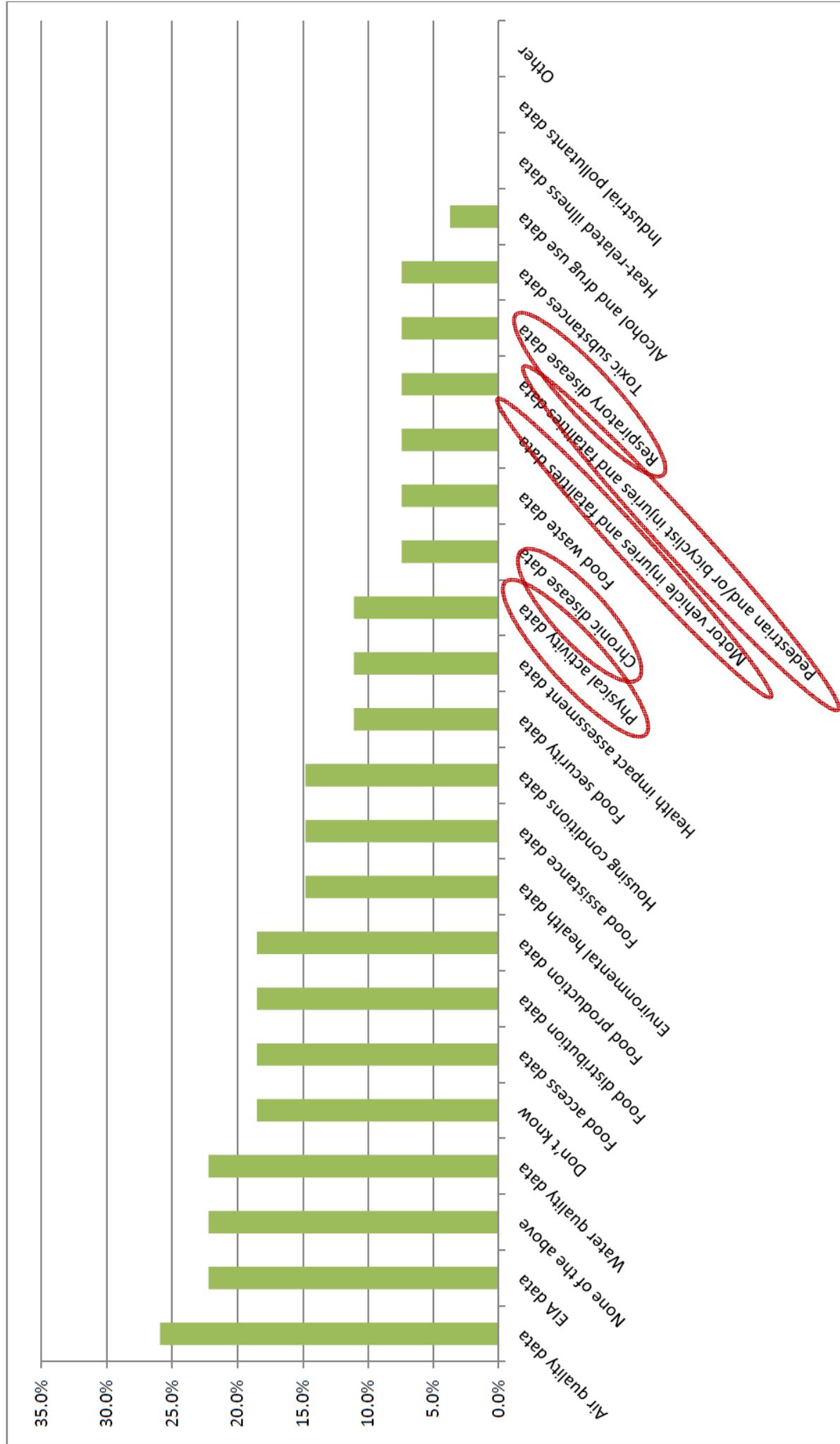
Figure 6. Public health data used in the development of public health related goals, objectives or policies in comprehensive plans



*Respondents were able to select more than one response.

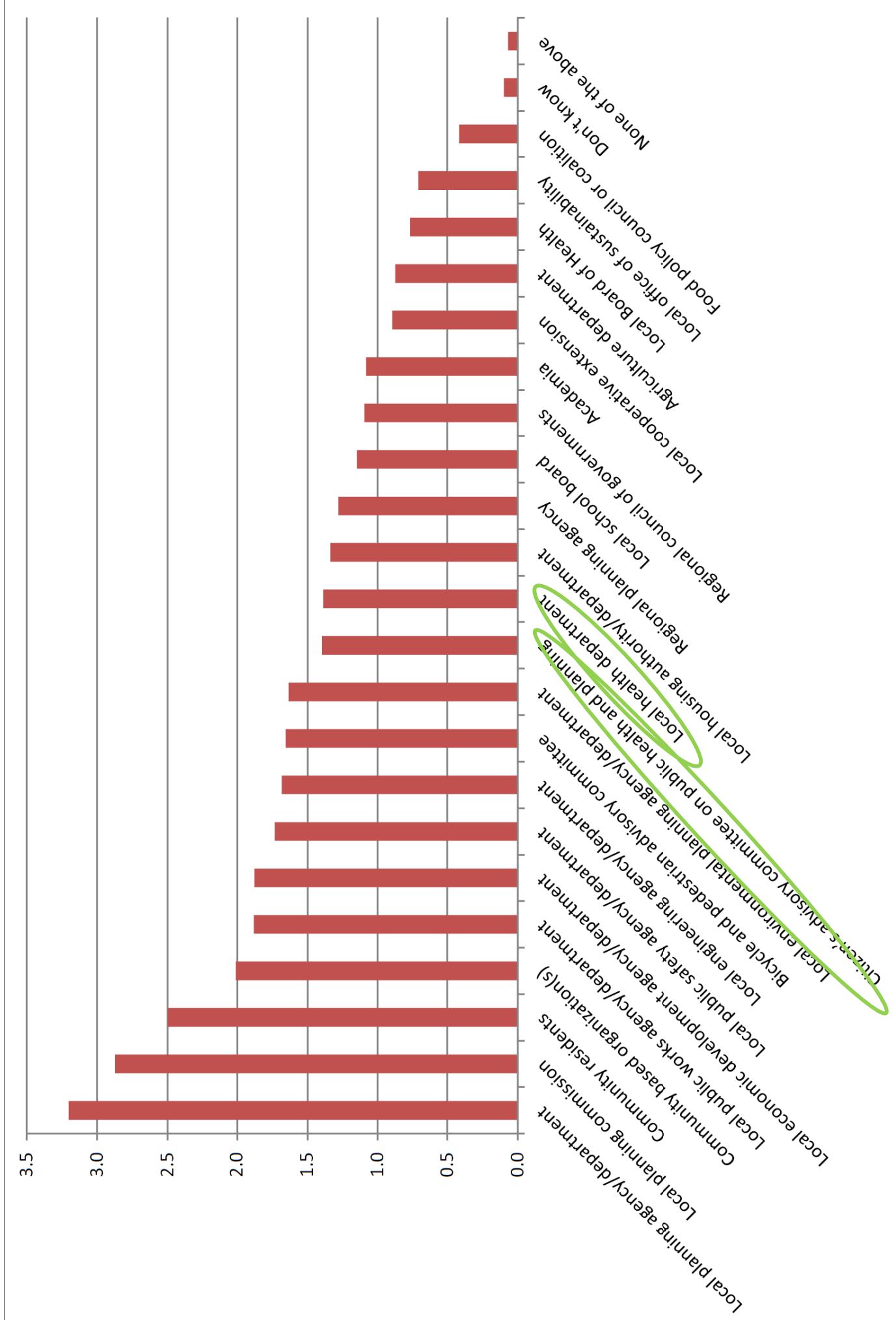
Source: Hodgson 2011.

Figure 7. Public health data used in the development of public health related goals, objectives or policies in sustainability plans



Source: Hodgson 2011.

Figure 8. Level of Involvement of groups or government agencies in the development of the public health components of the comprehensive plan



Source: Hodgson 2011.

Figure 9. Level of involvement of groups or government agencies in the development of the public health components of the sustainability plan

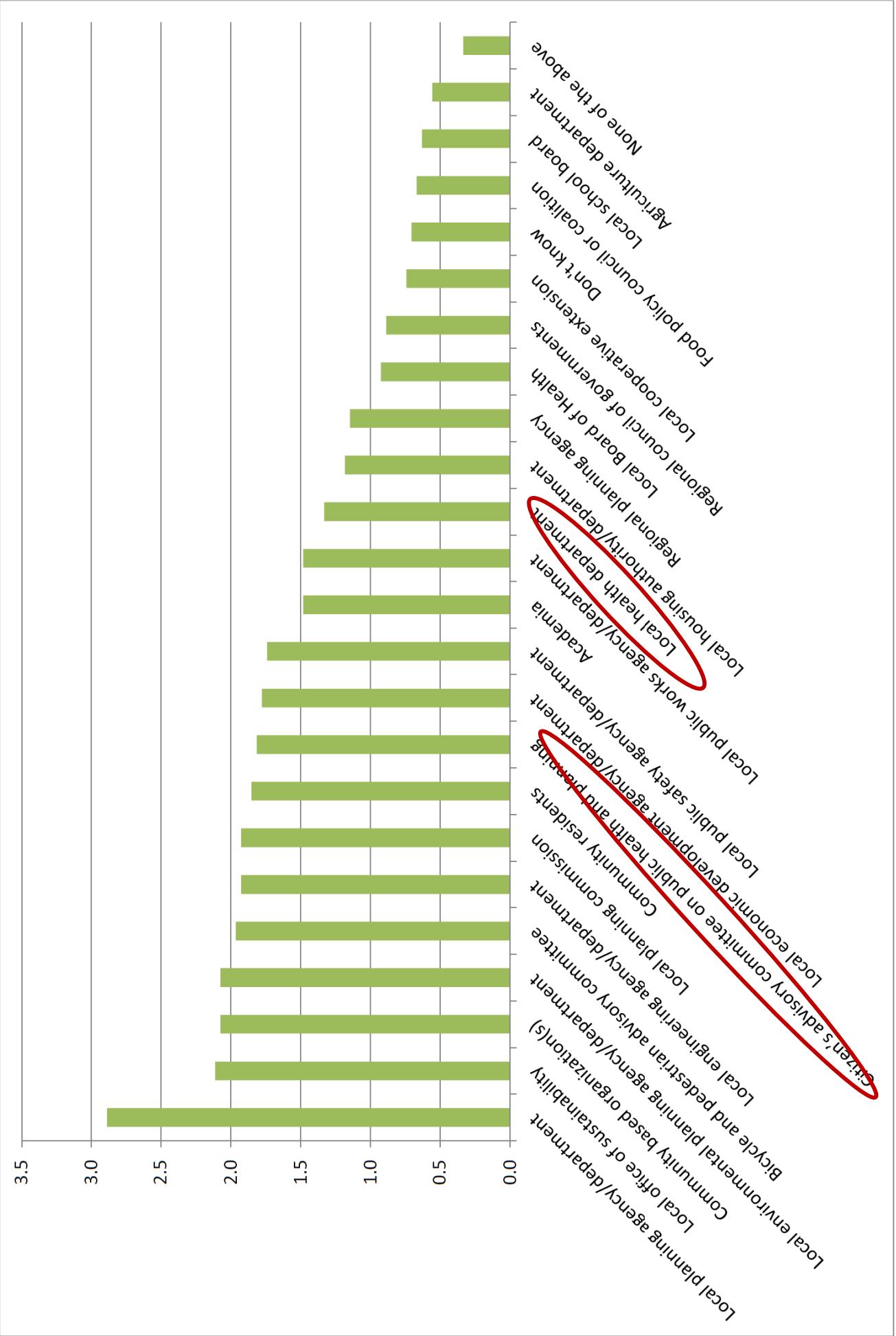


Table 9. Reasons for including public health

Reason	Comprehensive Plans		Sustainability Plans	
	# of respondents	% of respondents*	# of respondents	% of respondents*
Community awareness	115	47.3%	12	44.4%
Community support	125	51.4%	14	51.9%
Federal government funding	10	4.1%	1	3.7%
Foundation funding	9	3.7%	0	0.0%
Government staff resources	59	24.3%	8	29.6%
Local government funding	25	10.3%	5	18.5%
Political awareness	72	29.6%	11	40.7%
Political support	75	30.9%	10	37.0%
State government funding	16	6.6%	1	3.7%
Support by the local health department	61	25.1%	4	14.8%
Support by the local planning agency	109	44.9%	11	40.7%
Don't know	23	9.5%	4	14.8%
None of the above	16	6.6%	2	7.4%
Other	23	9.5%	1	3.7%

*Respondents were able to select more than one response.

Source: Hodgson 2011.

Table 10. Barriers to including public health

Barrier	Comprehensive Plans # of respondents	% of respondents*	Sustainability Plans # of respondents	% of respondents*
Lack of community awareness	41	16.9%	2	7.4%
Lack of community support	13	5.3%	1	3.7%
Lack of federal government funding	38	15.6%	8	29.6%
Lack of foundation funding	23	9.5%	5	18.5%
Lack of government staff resources	39	16.0%	5	18.5%
Lack of local government funding	54	22.2%	9	33.3%
Lack of political awareness	45	18.5%	1	3.7%
Lack of political support	24	9.9%	2	7.4%
Lack of state government funding	46	18.9%	8	29.6%
Lack of support by the local health department	11	4.5%	1	3.7%
Lack of support by the local planning agency	5	2.1%	0	0.0%
Don't know	44	18.1%	5	18.5%
None of the above	69	28.4%	6	22.2%
Other	15	6.2%	2	7.4%

*Respondents were able to select more than one response.

WA					King County					St. Louis Park*				
MN					Nassau County					San Diego City				
FL					CA					San Jose				
BA					Baltimore County*					Napa County				
FL					MD					North Miami				
CA					PA					South Gate*				
CA					PA					Kings County*				
TX					PA					Easton*				
WI					CA					Marin County*				
NE					FL					Austin*				
ACTIVE LIVING					Alachua County*					Sacramento City*				
Active Living					* * *					Oneida Nation*				
Active Transportation					* * *					Omahe				
Physical Activity					* * *					Chronic Disease Prevention				
Recreation					* * *					Health Disparities				
CHRONIC DISEASE					* * *					Obesity Prevention				
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH					* * *					Brownfields				
Brownfields					* * *					Clean Air				
Clean Air					* * *					Clean Water				
Clean Water					* * *					Environmental Health				
Environmental Health					* * *					Environmental Justice				
Environmental Justice					* * *					Toxic Exposures				
Toxic Exposures					* * *					CLIMATE				
CLIMATE					* * *					Climate Change				
Climate Change					* * *					Emergency Preparedness				

Source: Hodgson 2011.

														WA	King County	
NE	WI	CA	FL	TX	CA	PA	CA	FL	MN	MD	CA	CA	FL	St. Louis Park*		
FOOD & NUTRITION															Nassau County	
Food Access	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Food Safety	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Food Security	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Healthy Eating	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Nutrition	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
HEALTH & HEALTH CARE																
Aging	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Clinical Services	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Healthy Homes	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Health Services	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Human Services	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Infectious Disease Prevention	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Mental Health	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
SOCIAL HEALTH																
Social Capital	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Social Equity	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
SAFETY																
Injury Prevention	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Public Safety	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	
Number of Topics	31	28	27	27	27	25	23	22	22	21	21	20	19	17	17	17
% of Topics	100%	90%	87%	87%	87%	81%	74%	71%	71%	68%	68%	65%	61%	55%	55%	55%



Sources

- Comprehensive Planning for Public Health: *Results of the Planning and Community Health Research Center Survey (APA 2011)*,
<http://www.planning.org/research/publichealth/>
- Health & Community Design Lab, <http://act-trans.ubc.ca/>



Thank you!

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