

Survey on Private-Public Partnerships at the Local Level

Report of Results

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Prepared by:

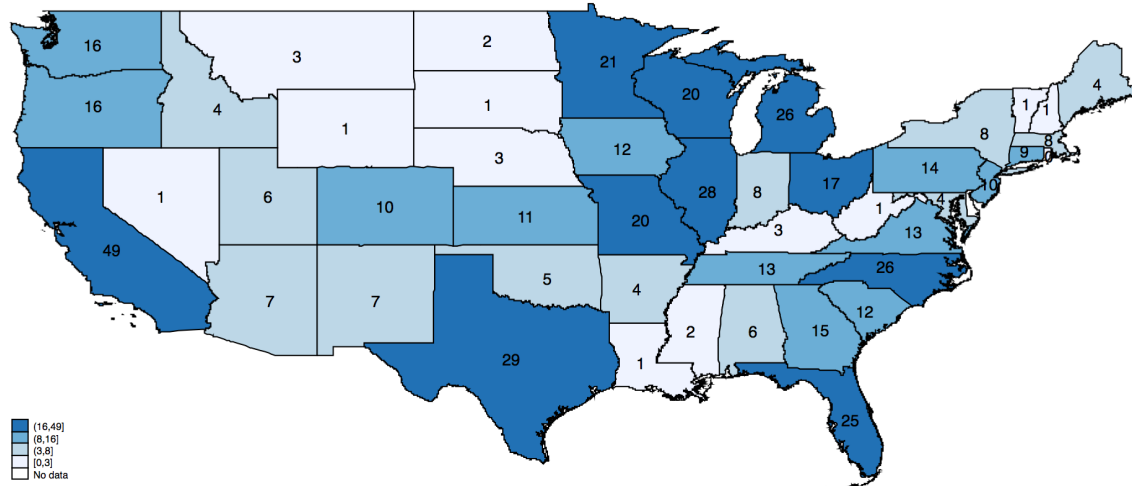
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**This is a brief report of initial results for the city and county officials who participated
in a survey administered in December 2015.**

Survey Sampling Frame

The sample of local officials for the survey was limited to cities and county governments with a population above 10,000. We emailed both the chief elected executive (e.g., the mayor or equivalent) and the chief non-elected executive or equivalent (e.g., the city manager or equivalent). This report is based on the 498 officials who filled out the survey. These officials come from all across the United States, with Figure 1 showing the number of survey respondents from each state.

Figure 1. Number of Respondents by State



Governments Partner with Each Other To Save Money and Improve Functions

91% of governments **partner with other government entities** (i.e. states, counties, special districts, other municipalities) **to provide services** to constituents?

[Among those who partner with other governments:]

How does your jurisdiction partner with other government entities to provide services?

78% - We partner with other government entities to save money and / or improve our administrative functions (e.g. financial, legal, IT, etc).

22% - We pay an hourly rate to other government entities to provide some services directly to our constituent (i.e. waste removal, utility services, building department services, police, etc).

43% - We pay a percentage of fees to other government entities to provide some services directly to our constituents (i.e. waste removal, utility services, building department services, police, etc).

Waste Removal is the Most Common Area that Governments Partner with Private Companies

61% of governments pay private companies to provide services to residents.

[Among those who partner with private companies:]

For which of the following services did you partner with a private company?

- 82% - Waste removal
- 34% - Building department services
- 26% - Community planning & Zoning
- 24% - Utility services
- 14% - Public safety
- 10% - Code enforcement/rental housing inspections
- 29% - Other (List of common responses: public works, recycling, street sweeping, snow removal)

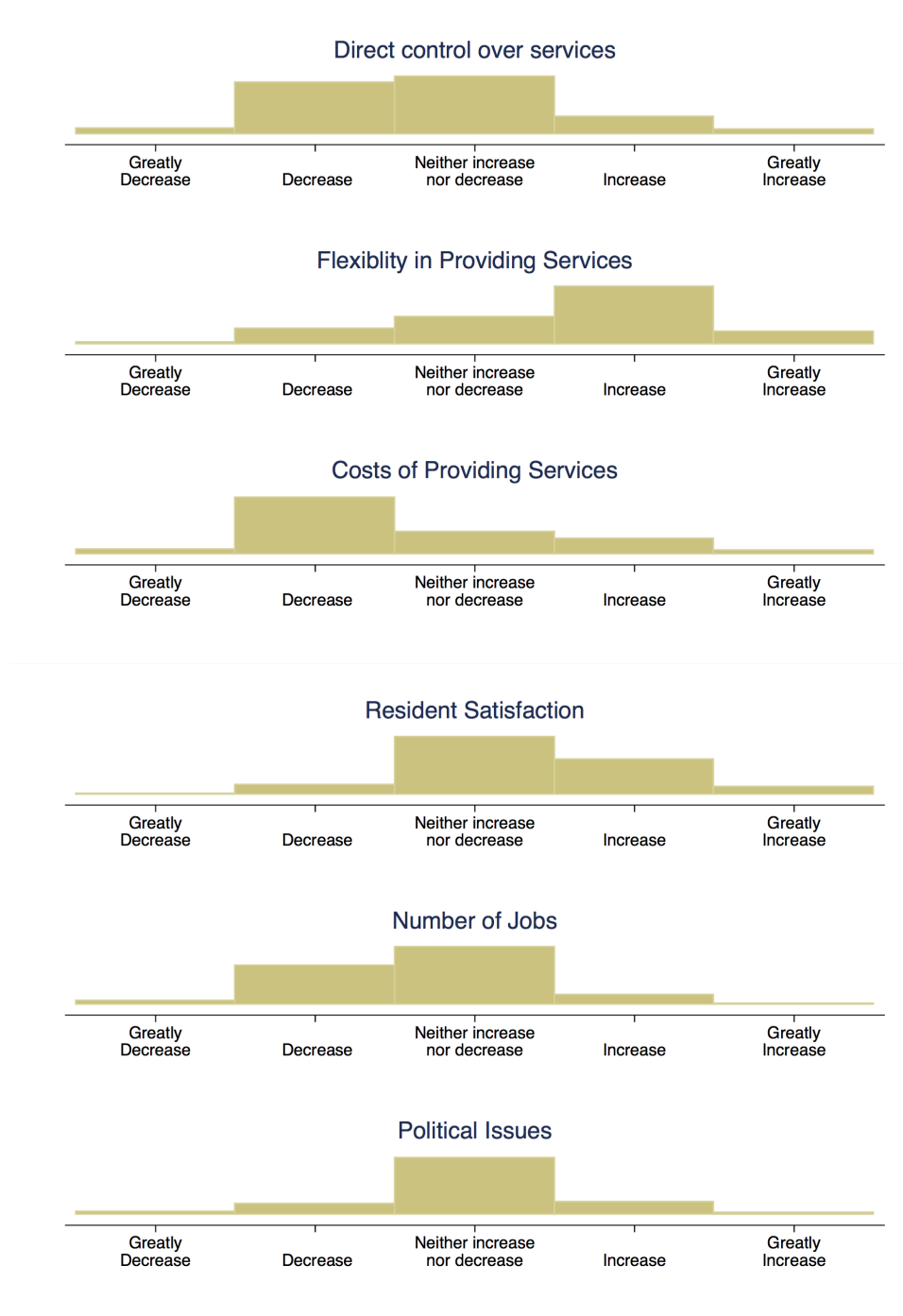
Costs, Customer Service, and Experience are the Most Important Criteria when Looking for Private Partners to Work with

Suppose you had decided to partner with a private company to provide services directly to your residents and you were deciding between multiple potential partners. Please indicate the criteria you would use to make your choice. Drag and drop the items on the following list to indicate your preference (1=Most preferred, 2=Second most preferred, etc.).

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Costs	191	134	100	27	9	3	2
Customer service	124	149	134	42	14	1	2
Experience	128	136	143	46	8	4	1
Locally owned	15	27	51	172	124	52	25
Relationship with company representatives	5	15	25	122	153	89	57
Positive media coverage (in trade publications, traditional news, industry blog, etc)	0	4	9	41	103	200	109
National footprint	3	1	4	16	55	117	270

The Expected Effects of Partnering with Private Companies (Cons: Costs, Control and Jobs; Pros: Flexibility, Satisfaction)

Q: Please indicate how you think partnering with a private company to deliver services directly to your residents impact the following outcomes:



The City Manager the Most Important Stakeholder in Deciding Whether to Partner with a Private Company to Provide Services

Q: In deciding whether to partner with a private company providing community development services, how much would the following stakeholders in your jurisdiction influence the decision?

	A lot	Some	Little	None
Manager / Chief Appointed Executive	67%	26%	4%	3%
Mayor / Chief Elected Executive	48%	31%	13%	8%
Council / Commission Members	52%	32%	12%	4%
Direct report to chief executive, responsible for relevant service (e.g. Director of Community Development)	50%	40%	7%	3%
Mid-level manager responsible for relevant service (e.g. Chief Building Official)	24%	58%	15%	3%
Existing employees providing relevant service (e.g. building inspectors)	17%	55%	22%	6%
Constituents and constituent groups (e.g. builders' associations)	12%	46%	33%	9%

Expected Timeline for Public-Private Cooperation

Q: How likely are you to partner with a private company to provide community development services in the following timeframes?

	Very Unlikely	Unlikely	Undecided	Likely	Very Likely
In 2016	36%	15%	13%	19%	17%
In next 3 years	23%	18%	19%	23%	17%
In next 5 years	19%	16%	26%	21%	18%