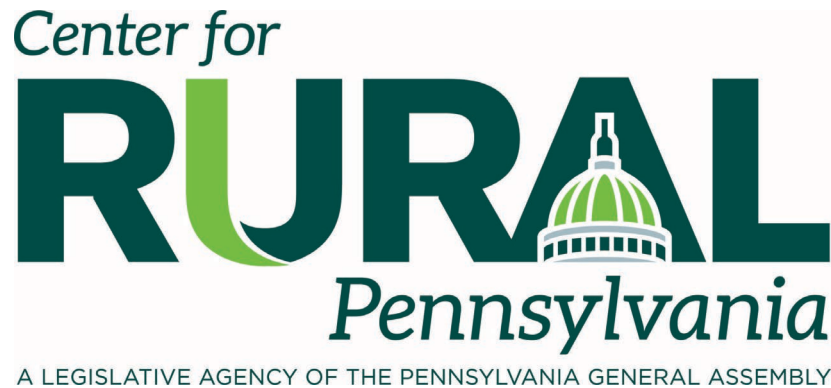


# Who is Governing Pennsylvania's Local Municipalities?

## 2021 Municipal Officials Survey Results



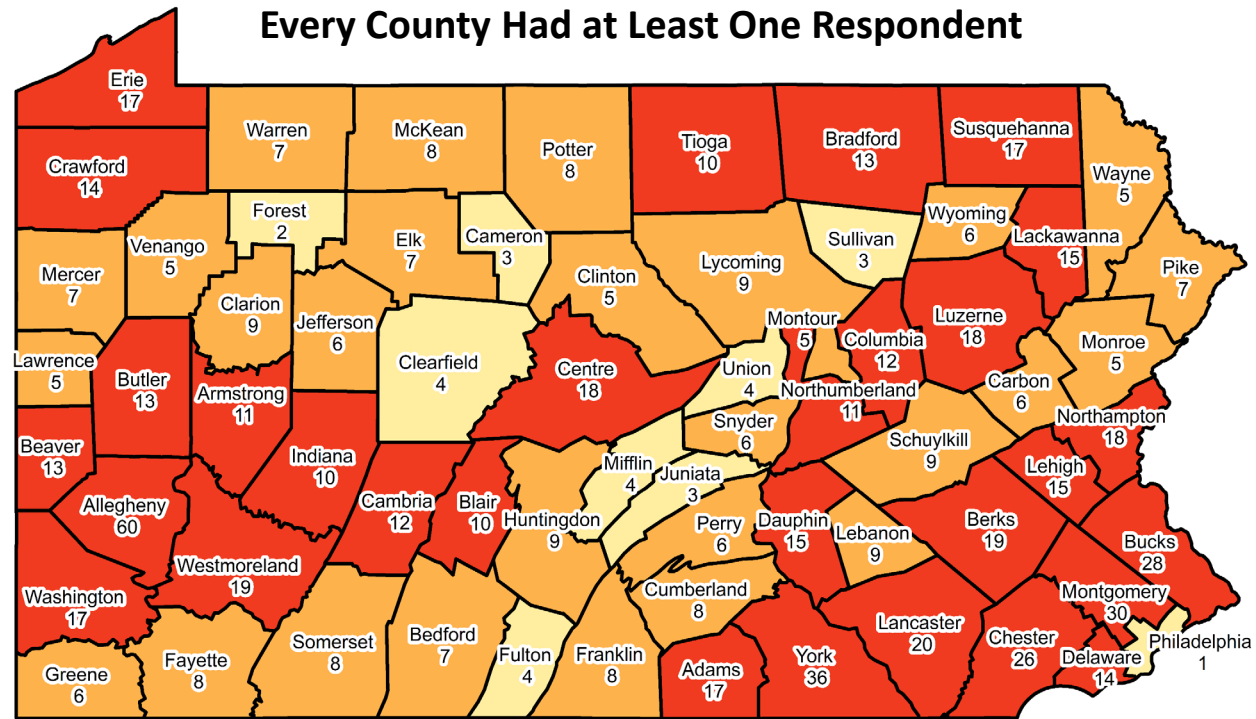
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## Survey Method and Responses

- Electronic survey distributed by local government organizations to their members.
- 866 usable responses were returned, accounting for about 7% of all municipal officials.

## Every County Had at Least One Respondent



Total Number of Respondents that Identified their County = 770 (89%)

<5 Responses
  5 to 9 Responses
  10+ Responses

	# Municipal Officials	# Survey Respondents	Response Rate	Margin of Error (+/-)
Cities	364	7	1.9%	36.73
Boroughs	7,110	425	6.0%	4.61
Twp 1st Class	550	26	4.7%	18.78
Twp 2nd Class	4,785	295	6.2%	5.53
Home Rule/Other	-	17	-	-
Did not Identify Municipal Type	-	96	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,809</b>	<b>866</b>	<b>6.7%</b>	<b>3.22</b>

# Demographic Snapshot of Surveyed Municipal Officials

60.8 Average Age

56% Male  
42% Female

93% White  
7% People of Color

96% Homeowners

14% Served in the Military

10% Self Employed



96% Have Home Internet Access

60% in Labor Force

20% Have Poor Internet Access

85% Participate in Volunteer Activity

2.4 Average Persons per Household

46% Have Bachelor's Degree or Higher

15% Live Alone

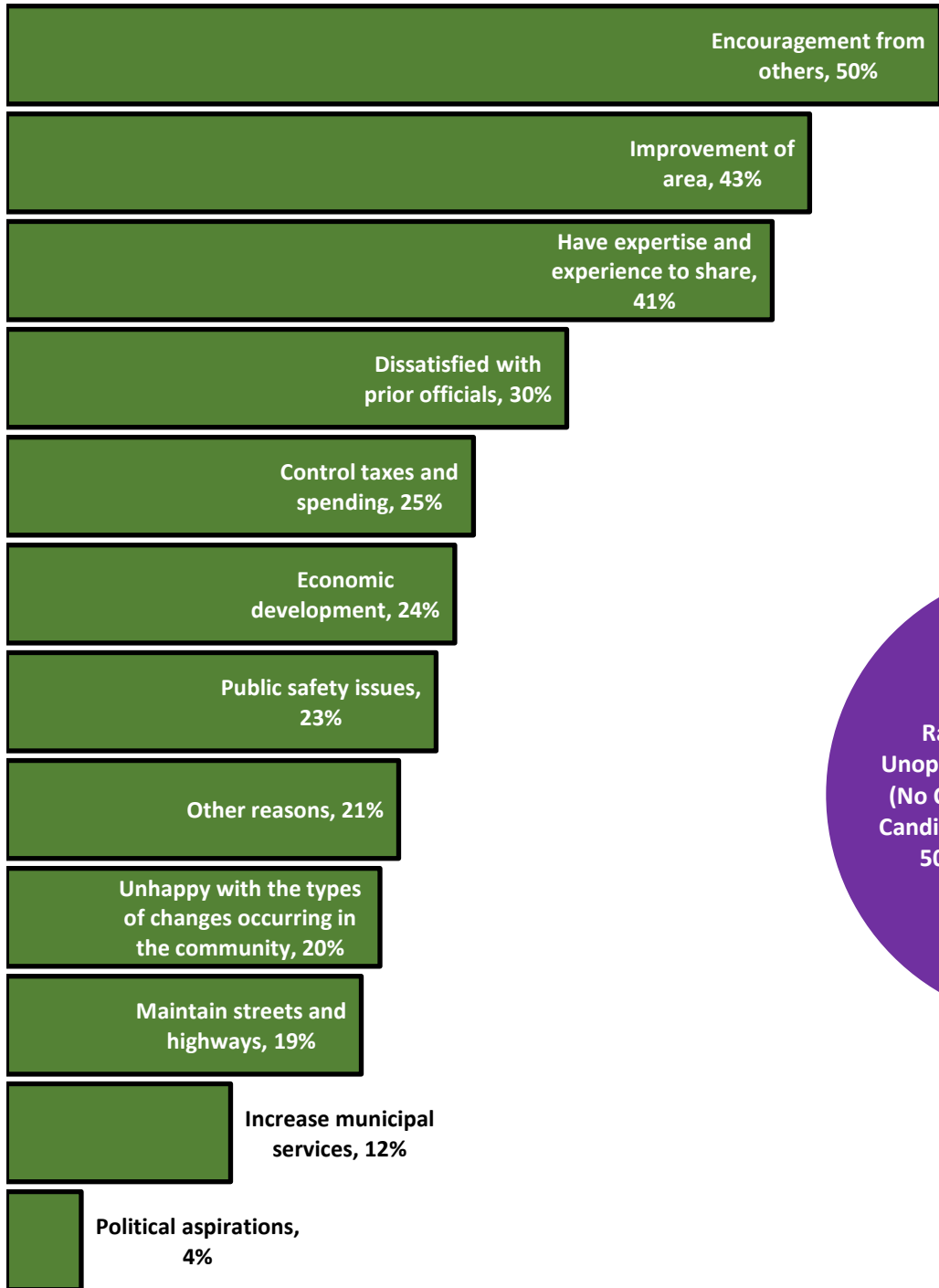
17% Households Have Children

37% Have Incomes of \$100,000+

55% Lived in the Same Mun. for 30+ years

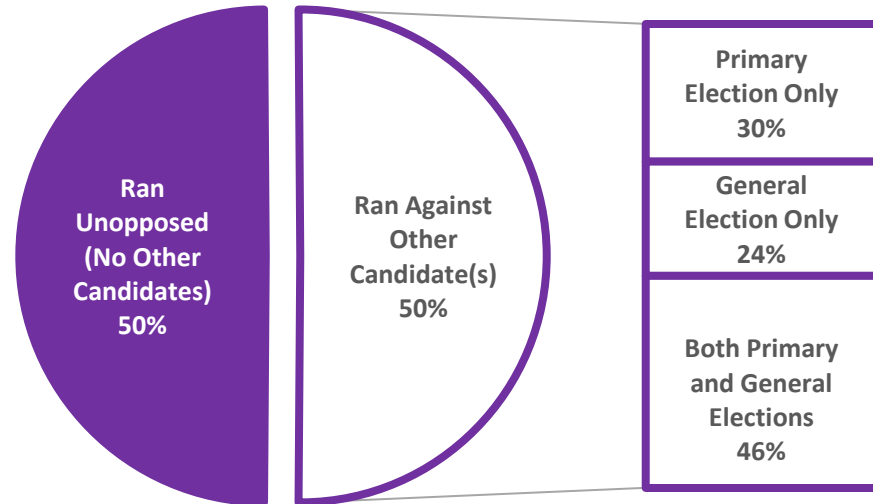
# Reasons Why Officials Initially Seek Elected Office

(Total does not add up to 100% due to multiple responses)

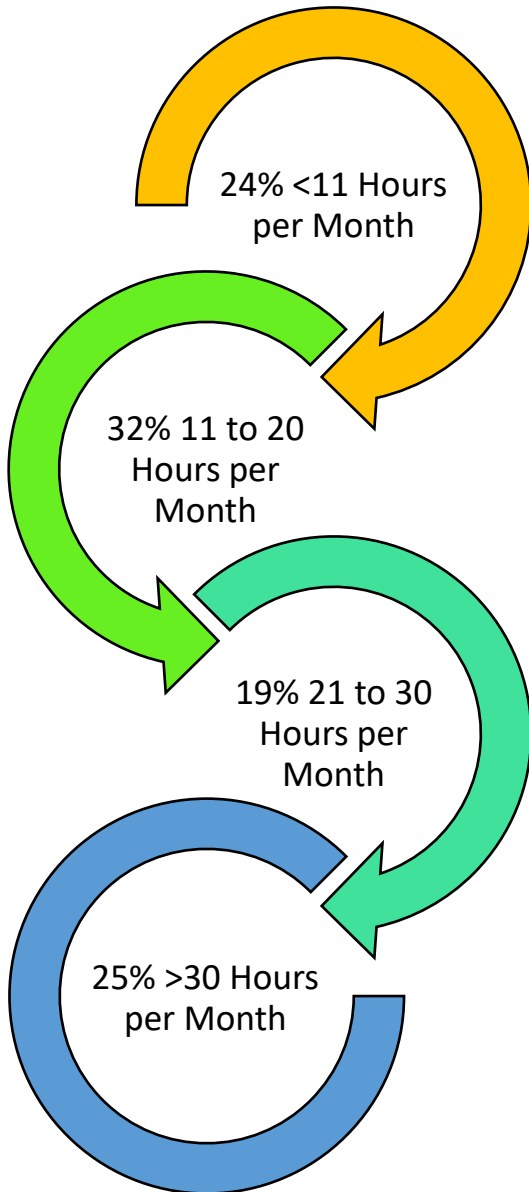


# Becoming a Municipal Official

## In the Most Recent Election, Were There Other Candidates?



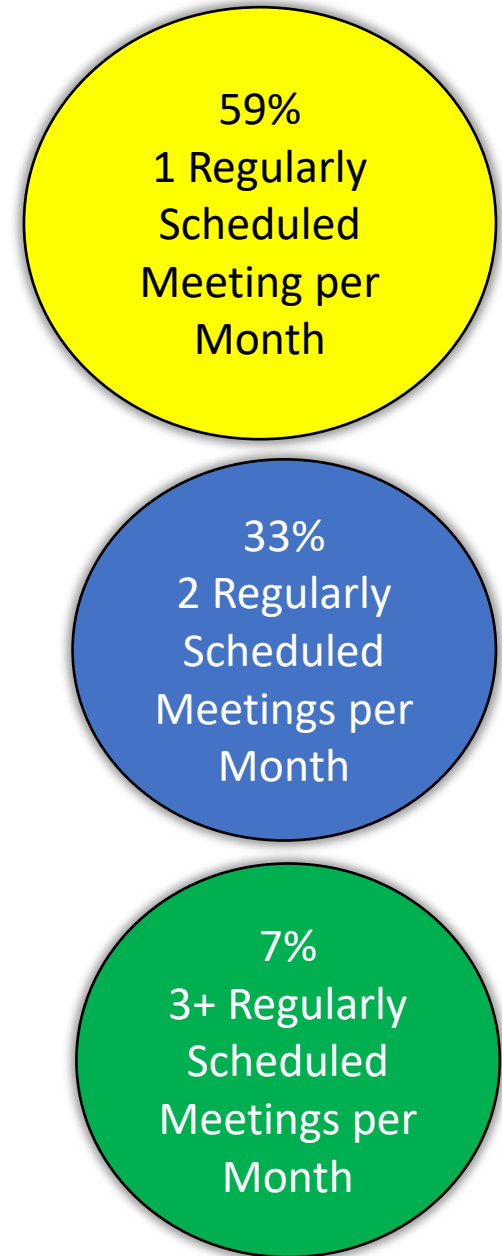
## Number of Hours per Month Spent on Municipal Business



# Time Demands on a Municipal Official

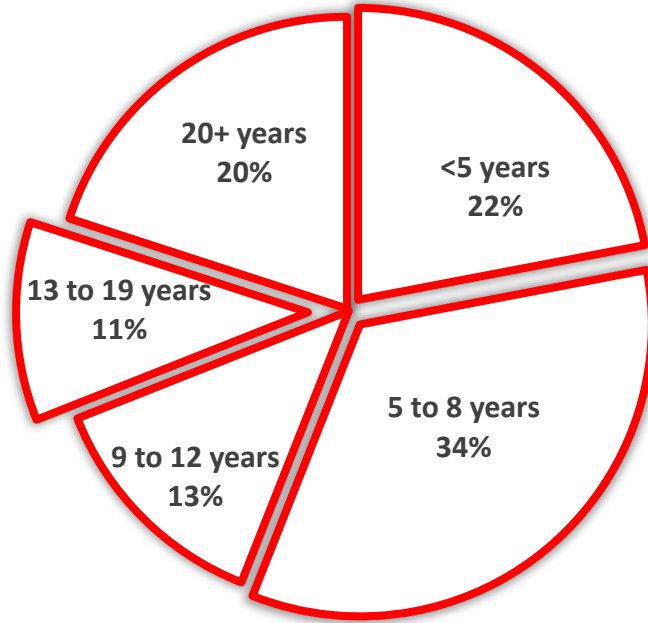


## Number of Regularly Scheduled Meetings per Month



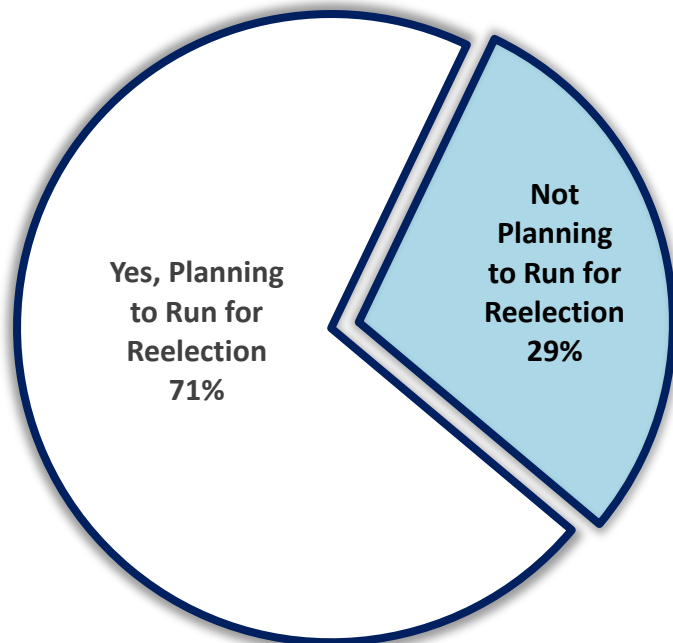
# Years in Office and Future Plans

## Number of Years in Office



## Average Number of Years in Office by:

- Male = 12.2 Years
- Female = 8.8 Years
- 75+ Years Old = 18.7 Years
- Budget <\$500,000 = 11.9 Years
- Budget >\$10 Million = 10.2 Years



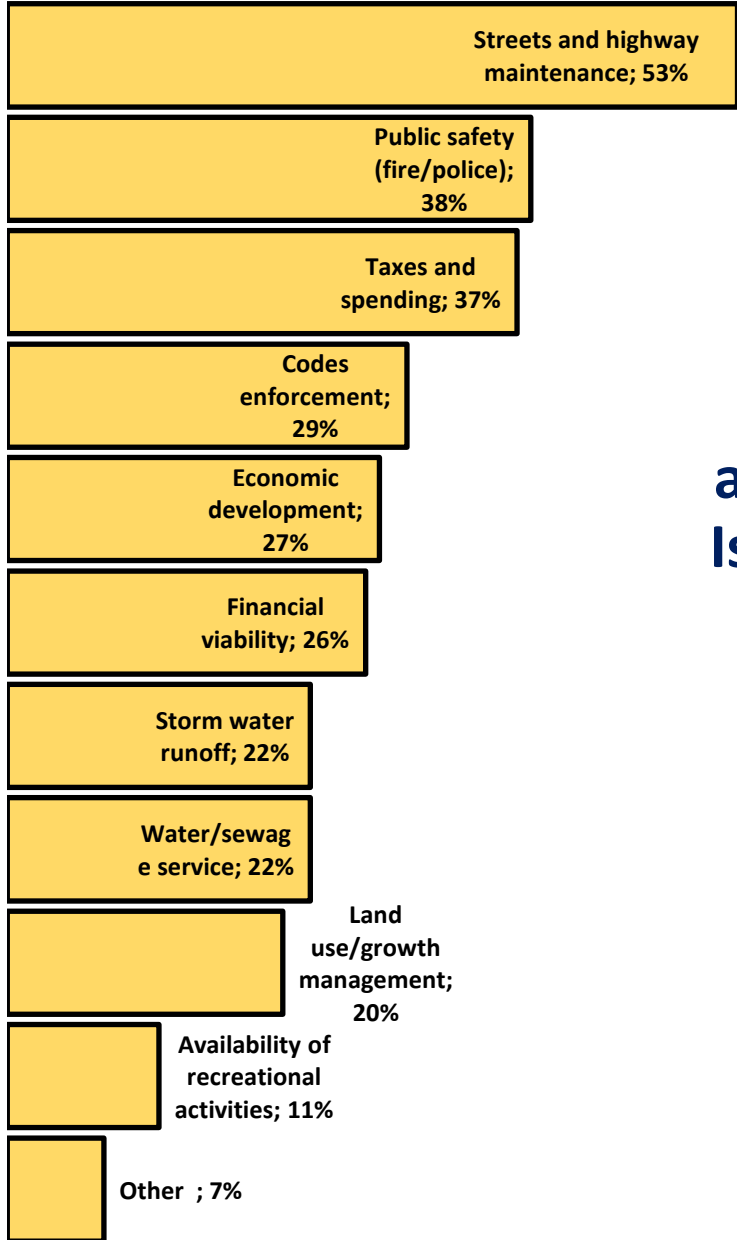
## Top 3 Reasons for Not Running for Reelection

- 56% Served long enough
- 16% Frustrated/disillusioned with public office
- 15% Accomplished goals

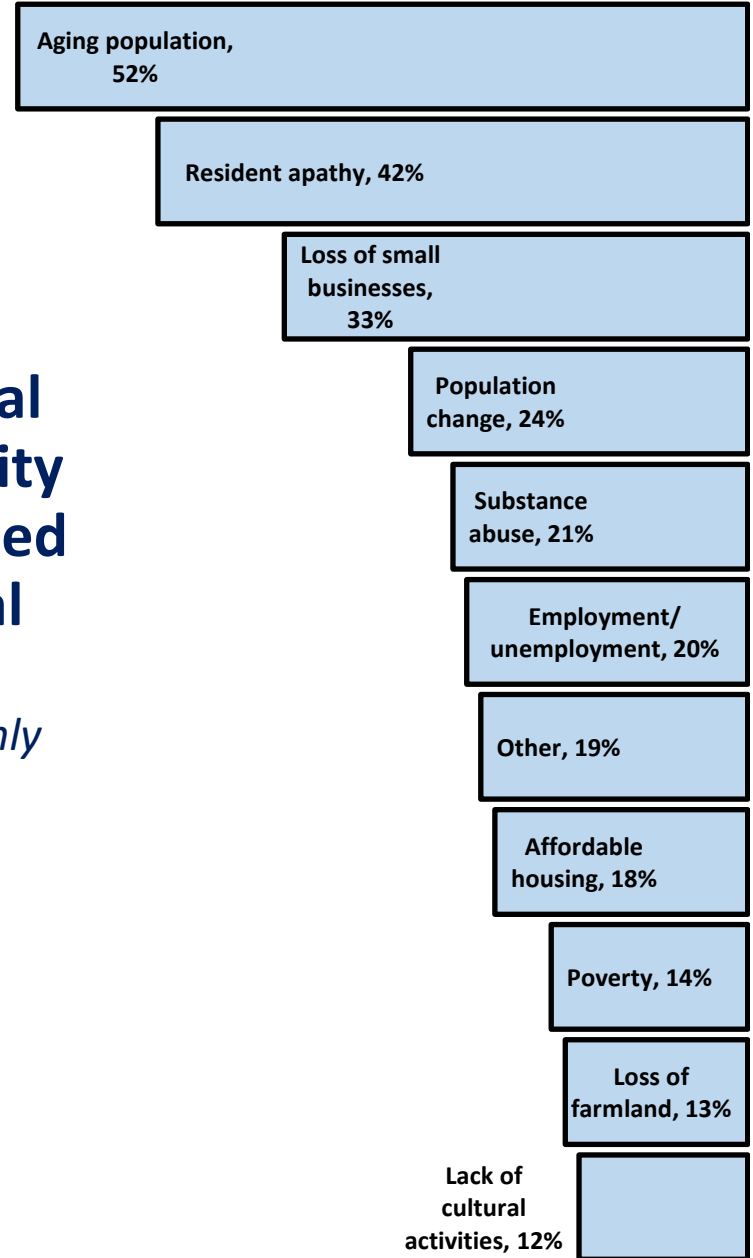
## Characteristics of Officials Not Running for Reelection:

- 65.7 Avg. Age
- 11.1 Avg. number of years in office
- 36% Female
- 51% Retired

## Most Important Government Issues Facing the Municipality



## Biggest Challenges Facing the Community



**Top Governmental and Community Issues Identified by Municipal Officials**  
*(Officials could only select 3 issues)*

Totals do not add up to 100% due to multiple selection options.

# How Municipal Officials Think Funds from the American Rescue Plan Should be Spent in their Municipality

*(Total does not add up to 100% due to multiple responses)*



**28%**

**Support for small businesses and nonprofits impacted by the pandemic**



**17%**

**Premium pay for essential workers**



**38%**

**Reimburse lost revenue in providing services**



**21%**

**Investment in broadband**



**27%**

**Other**



**16%**

**Unsure**



# Things to Remember

Average municipal officials is 61 years old and has been in office 11 years.

Many officials have a college degree, and most have attended a municipal training class in the last two years.

Most officials spend less than 20 hours a month on municipal business.

Most officials first ran for office for altruistic reasons as well as encouragement from others.

Most officials are concerned about streets and highways and an aging population.