

# **MOMENTUM FOR ACTION IS BUILDING: STATE GOVERNMENTS & CLIMATE RESILIENCE**

## **SURVEY RESULTS -- SEPTEMBER 2020**

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# THE SURVEY

- 10-question survey designed by [Climate Resilience Consulting](#) (CRC) and the [Innovation Network for Communities](#) (INC)
- Conducted: August/September 2020
- 45 respondents from 31 states, including District of Columbia
  - 36 respondents were state government employees
  - Others were consultants, local government employees, nonprofit professionals, university researchers
- Survey questions based on Framework for State Climate Resilience developed by CRC and INC, with support from Summit Foundation

# 31 STATES THAT RESPONDED

- Arizona, California, Colorado, Delaware, District of Columbia
- Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Kansas
- Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan
- Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico
- New York, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island
- South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, Washington

# MAIN TAKEAWAYS

## *SLOW START, MOMENTUM IS BUILDING*

- 1. Few of the 31 states are fully implementing key elements of climate resilience, but majority are planning to or starting to implement them**
  - Interdepartmental coordinating body
  - Principles for state investment in climate resilience
  - State climate resilience plan
  - Resilience standards for state infrastructure
- 2. Although a majority of the 31 states are dedicating existing state revenue for resilience strengthening, few are moving to generate new revenue exclusively for resilience strengthening or to authorize local governments to raise and spend new local revenue for resilience**
- 3. Majorities of the 31 states are planning, piloting, or starting to implement these supports for local communities:**
  - Climate data and risk analysis
  - Technical guidance for developing climate resilience plans
  - Communications support for building public support
  - Support for developing local “ready to go” resilience projects
- 4. Few of the 31 states have an agenda for federal policies/programs to support state and local resilience building, and not many are planning to develop one**

# 1. FEW OF THE 31 STATES ARE FULLY IMPLEMENTING KEY ELEMENTS OF CLIMATE RESILIENCE, BUT MAJORITY ARE PLANNING TO OR STARTING TO IMPLEMENT MOST OF THEM—EXCEPT GENERATING NEW STATE REVENUE EXCLUSIVELY FOR RESILIENCE

State Resilience Element	# of the 30 States that...*		
	Planning to...	Starting to implement	Well down the road of implementation
Interdepartmental coordinating body	3	13	6
Resilience investment principles	8	10	4
State resilience plan	8	7	6
Resilience standards for state infrastructure	9	7	2
Dedicated existing revenue for resilience strengthening	4	5	8
Generate new revenue exclusively for resilience	3	5	2

\* #s may total less than 30 due to additional answer choices (No and no plan, Don't know)

## 2. MAJORITIES OF THE 31 STATES ARE ACTING TO PROVIDE SOME RESILIENCE-BUILDING SUPPORTS FOR LOCAL COMMUNITIES, BUT SMALLER NUMBER PROVIDING LOCAL AUTHORITY TO RAISE REVENUE FOR RESILIENCE

	Planning to...	Piloting or starting to implement...	Well down the road of implementation
Provide local governments with climate data & risk analysis	5	7	10
Technical guidance for developing climate resilience plans	4	10	8
Communications support for building public support	5	5	7
Support developing local “ready to go” resilience projects	3	9	5
Authority to create mechanisms for generating and spending local funds on resilience	3	4	4

**3. FEW OF THE STATES HAVE AN AGENDA FOR FEDERAL POLICIES/PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT STATE AND LOCAL RESILIENCE BUILDING, AND NOT MANY MORE ARE PLANNING TO DEVELOP ONE**

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Planning to</b>	<b>No</b>
State agenda for federal resilience polices/programs	9	5	13



## SUMMARY

# SLOW START, BUT MOMENTUM IS BUILDING

- **Few of the 31 states have fully established key elements of a resilience building framework, but majorities are advancing many elements including:**
    - Interdepartmental coordinating body
    - Resilience investment principles
    - State resilience plan
    - Resilience standards for state infrastructure
    - Dedicated existing state revenue for resilience strengthening
  - Climate data and risk analysis
  - Technical guidance for developing climate resilience plans
  - Communications support for building public support
  - Support for developing local “ready to go” resilience projects
- **Few states are moving to generate new state revenue exclusively for resilience strengthening or to authorize local governments to raise and spend new local revenue on resilience**
  - **Few states have developed agendas to influence federal policies/programs for climate resilience building by states/locals**