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Making Mitigation Matter: Factors Enhancing Mitigation Policy and Strategy Usage Among Texas Coastal Jurisdictions

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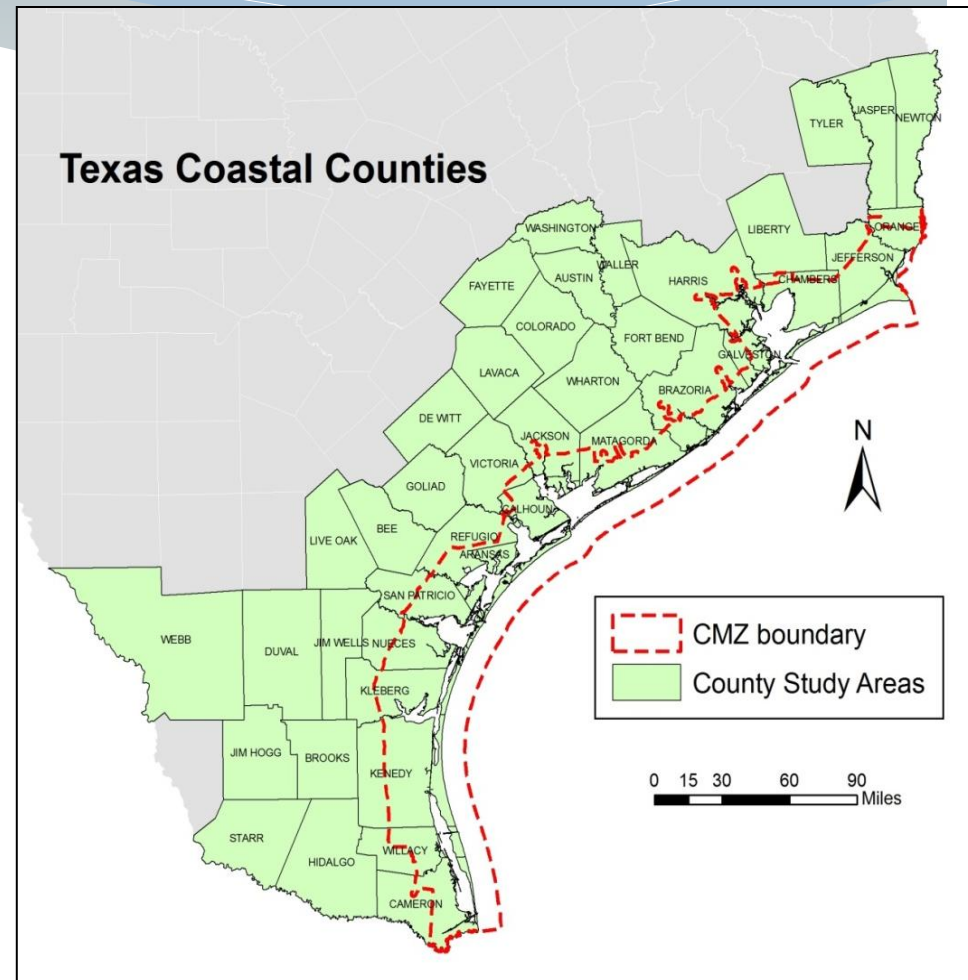
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Hazard Mitigation Policies and Strategies

* Target Area and Sample:

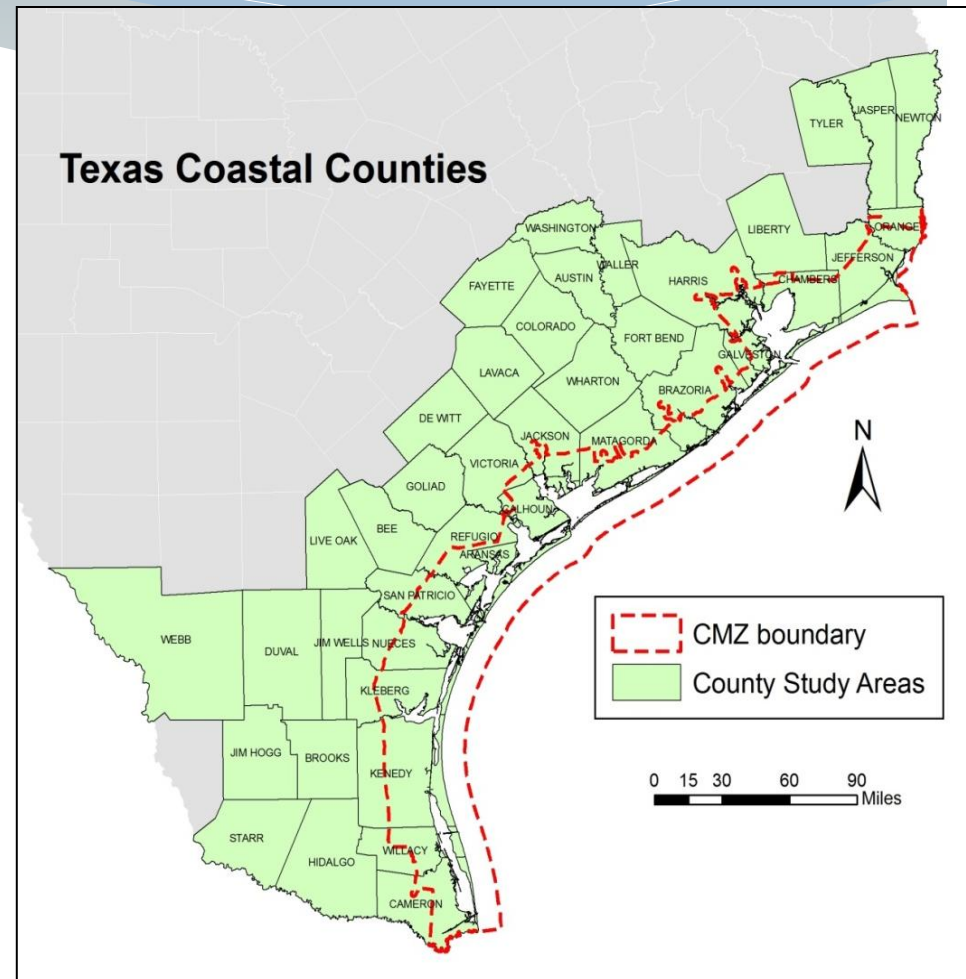
- * Targeted 267 coastal jurisdictions (41 counties and 226 municipalities).
- * Final sample was 124 jurisdictions (26 counties and 98 municipalities)
- * Response rate of 46.4%

Population Size	Targeted Jurisdictions	Responding Jurisdictions	Response Rates
< 1,000	44	11	25.0%
1,000-4,999	94	35	37.2%
5,000 - 14,999	65	38	58.5%
15,000 - 49,999	40	23	57.5%
50,000 - 99,999	14	10	71.4%
100,000-299,999	7	4	57.1%
300,000 - 499,000	1	1	100.0%
> 1,000,000	2	2	100.0%
Total	267	124	46.4%

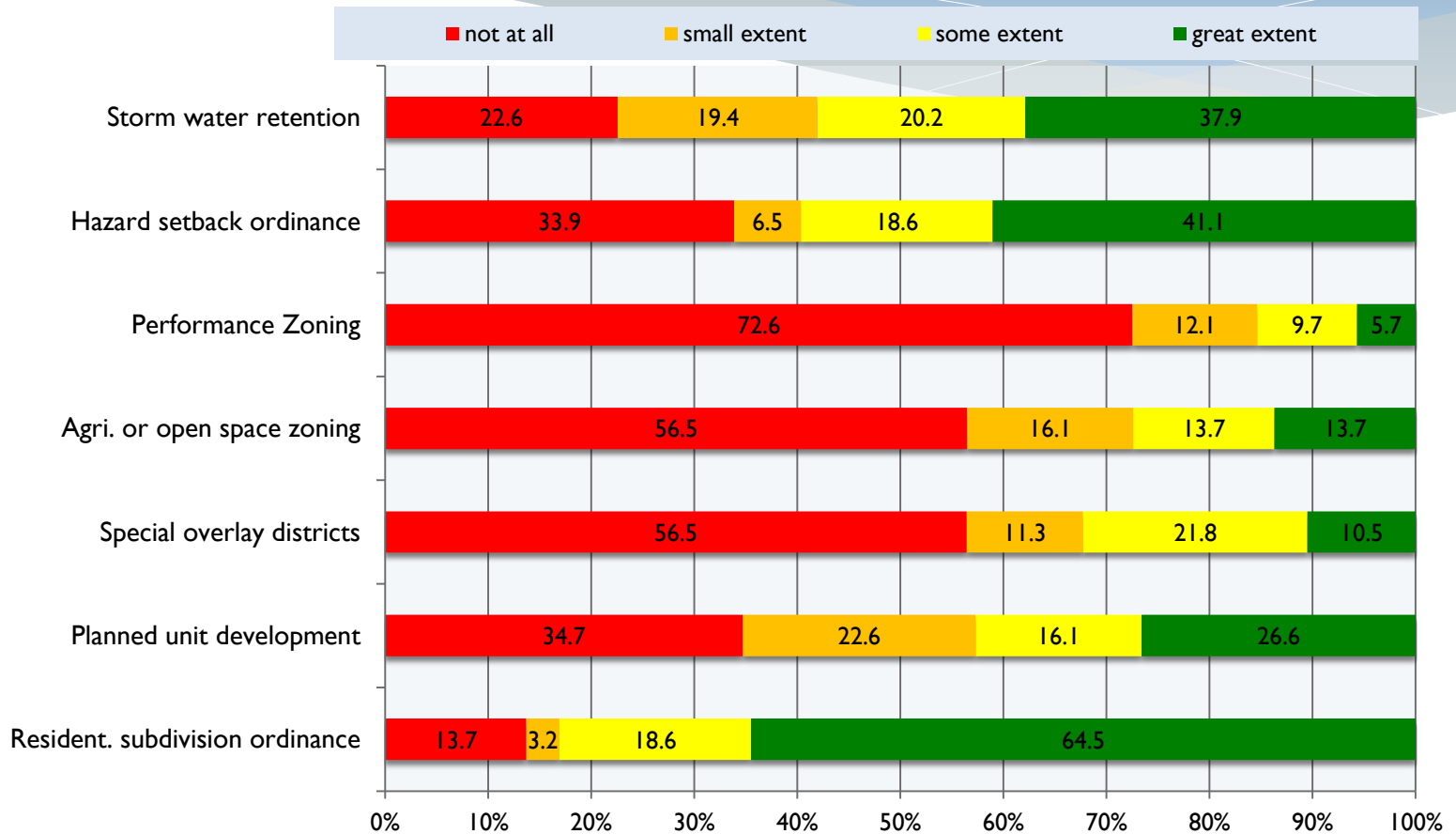


Hazard Mitigation Policies and Strategies Among Texas Coastal Jurisdictions

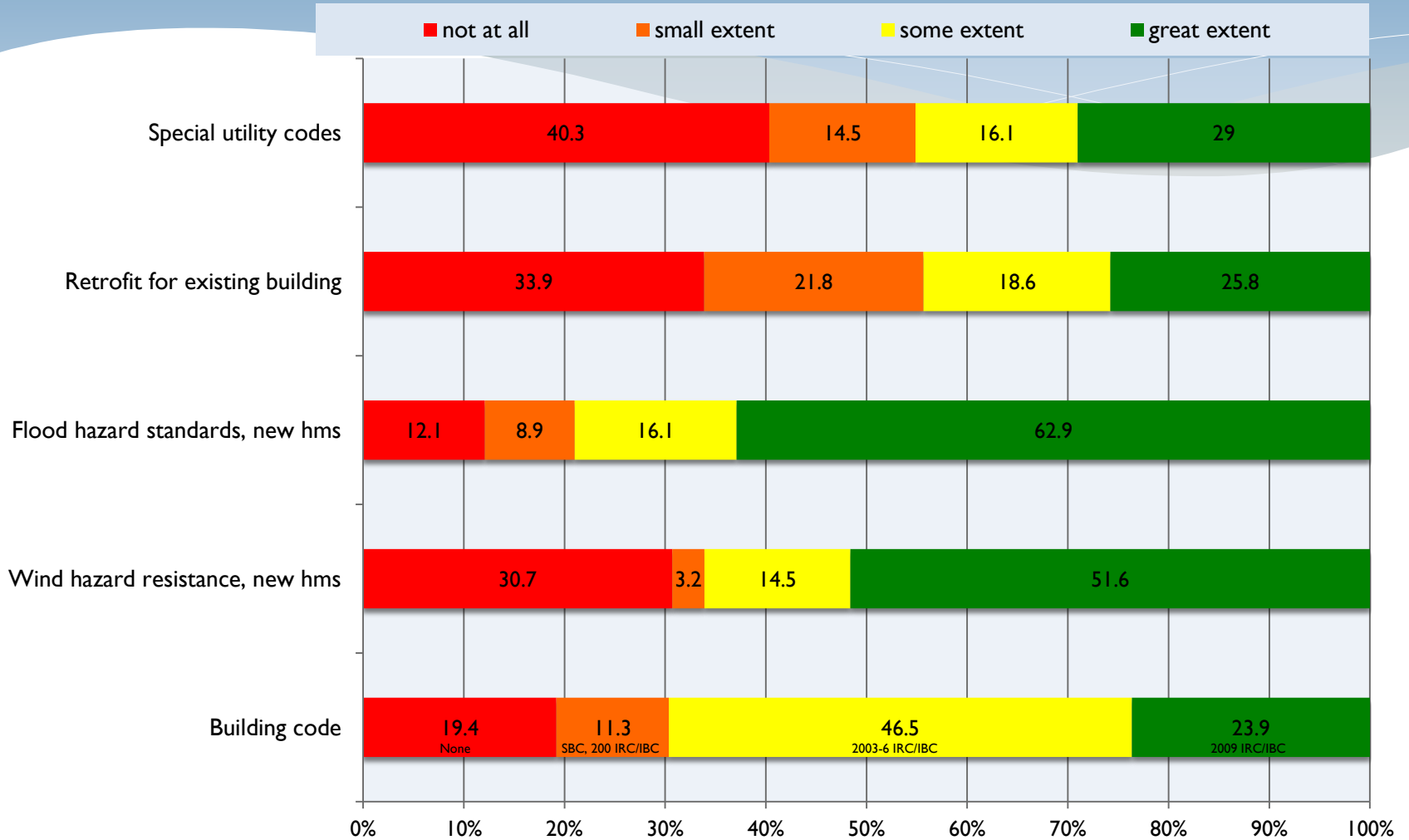
- * Last major study was in 1987, published in 1989 (Godschalk, Brower, and Beatley)
- * Examine 10 categories of HM policies and strategies (44)
 1. Development Regulation and Land Use Management (7)
 2. Limiting shoreline development and activities (3)
 3. Building Standards (5)
 4. Natural Resource Protection (5)
 5. Public Information and awareness (5)
 6. Incentives tools for environmentally sensitive/hazardous area (5)
 7. Property acquisition programs (3)
 8. Financial tools (3)
 9. Critical public & private facility policies (3)
 10. Private-public sector initiatives (5)



Development Regulation and Land Use Management

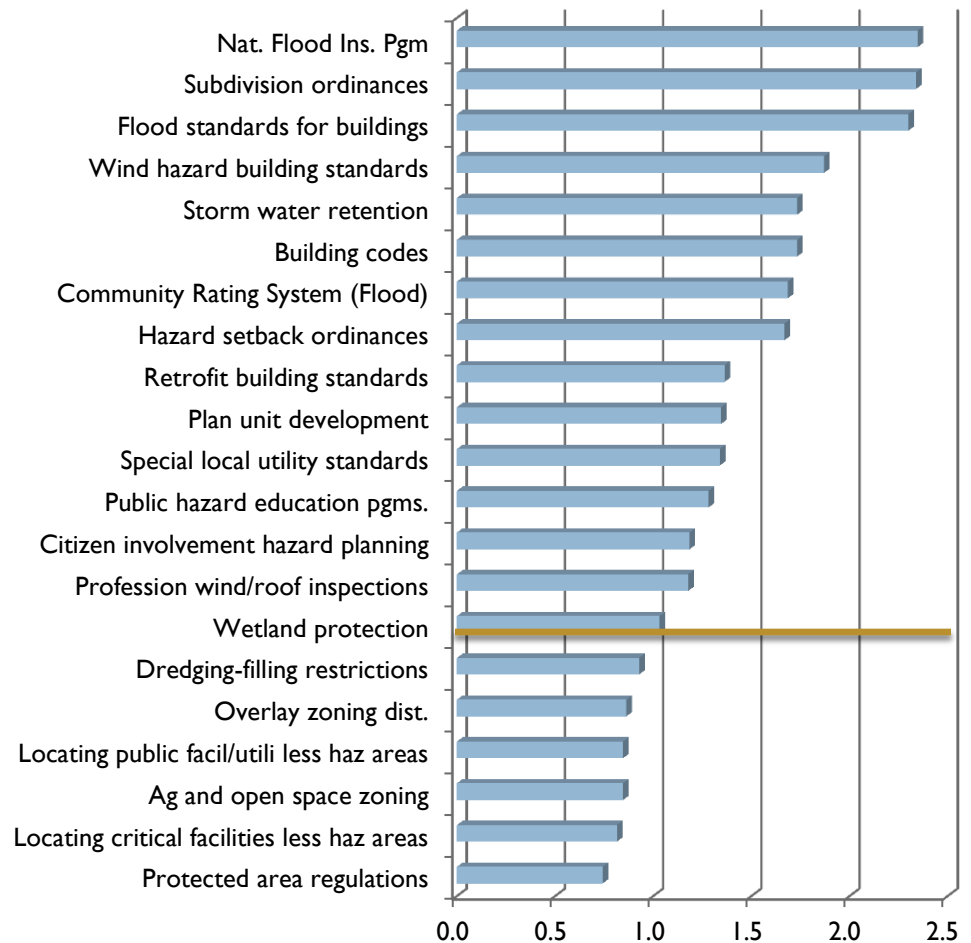


Building Standards

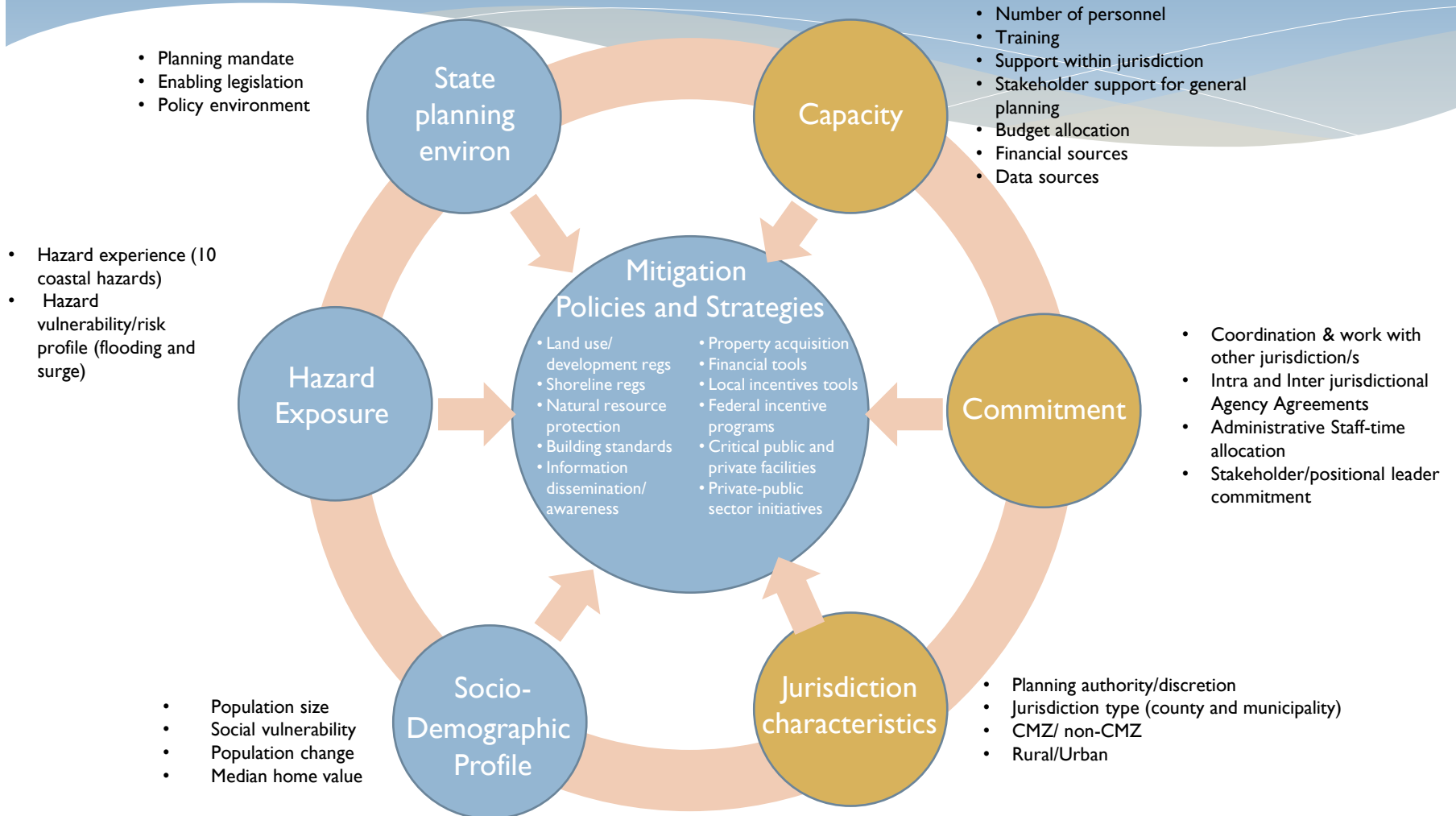


Top 21 Policies

- * Top 3:
 - * NFIP
 - * Subdivision ordinances
 - * Flood Standards
- * Top 10:
 - * 3 building codes
 - * 2 federal programs
 - * 3 land use policies
- * Only 15 of 44 had average scores above one
 - * limited portfolio and usage levels.
 - * Wetland protection is the last that is 1 or above.



Factors Influencing Mitigation



Jurisdictional Characteristics

- * Planning Authority/Discretion
 - * Home rule: considerable variation across states
 - * Counties and Municipalities (large and small)
 - * Large municipalities much more comprehensive
 - * Land Development approaches
 - * Building codes
- * Comprehensive planning versus no planning
 - * Jurisdictions with comprehensive/general plans displayed more comprehensive HM policies/strategies
- * Hazard Mitigation Plans; do they make a difference?
 - * Limited to no difference between jurisdictions with or without a LHMP

Capacity

- * Capacity: essentially the ability of a community and its organizations to do what “it” needs or wants to do; undertake actions, develop and implement policies and strategies; ability to respond effectively to change, etc.
- * Typical indicators: financial, human, physical and social capital/resources.
 - * We employed:
 - * budget,
 - * personnel,
 - * training,
 - * intra governmental support,
 - * community support for planning,
 - * additional financial resources,
 - * data and informational resources.

Capacity

* Findings:

- * Capacity has a positive effect on the overall extent to which HM policies and strategies are utilized
 - * Particularly significant for: Building standards/codes; implementing federal incentives, and property acquisition programs
- * Rough order of indicator importance.
 - * data and informational resources,
 - * additional financial resources
 - * community support for planning
 - * intra governmental/agency support
 - * training
 - * budget, personnel

Commitment

- * Commitment: essentially concerned with “buy-in” to the goals of mitigation, endorsement, investment of resources, involvement, promoting actions toward mitigation goals
- * Typical indicators are diverse: capturing the degree of dedication, engagement, or buy in by jurisdictional and extra-jurisdictional agencies and constituencies.
 - * We employed:
 - * inter-jurisdictional agreements,
 - * intra-governmental involvement,
 - * MOUs among community organizations/associations,
 - * involvement with state agencies
 - * FTE allocation of agency personnel.

Commitment

- * Findings:

- * Commitment: positive and extremely important impact on the overall extent to which HM policies and strategies are utilized
 - * Findings suggests increasing payoff for commitment
 - * Particularly significant for: development regulations, resource protection, information dissemination, incentives, property acquisition, facility policies, pub-private initiatives, building professionals (8 of 10).
 - * Rough order of indicator importance:
 - * intra-governmental involvement
 - * inter-jurisdictional agreements
 - * FTE allocation of agency personnel
 - * involvement with state agencies
 - * MOUs among community organizations

Making Mitigation Matter: Summary

Recognize variability in planning authority/discretion

- * Promoting appropriate programs and strategies depending on authority
- * Consider and promote upgrading of authority/discretion when appropriate
- * Promote comprehensive planning and inclusion of mitigation/recovery elements
- * Enhance Jurisdictional capacity
 - * Data/information, additional financial resources, and community support for planning
- * Enhance jurisdictional commitment
 - * Intra-governmental involvement, inter-governmental agreements, dedication of agency time, involvement with state agencies
- * Seek the double and triple bottom line
 - * Environmental restoration, mitigation, social vulnerability, transportation, water conservation etc., etc.

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