

Community Advisory Council Survey Results Report



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
JUNE 2023

Prepared by the County of San Luis Obispo Board Supervisors ad hoc committee on community advisory councils.

Dawn Ortiz-Legg *District Three Supervisor*
Jimmy Paulding *District Four Supervisor*

With staff support from Kelley Abbas and James Sofranko

75 total respondents

Community Advisory Council	Number of Respondents	Respondent Names
Avila Valley Advisory Council (AVAC)	14	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Steve Benedict (Chair) 2. Margaret Greenough 3. michael clayton 4. John Janowicz 5. Denise Allen 6. Curtis Cole 7. Robert Pusanik 8. Carol Hayden 9. Jim Hartig 10. Judy Kaatz 11. William Crewe 12. Mary Matakovich 13. Julia Hartzell 14. Sheri Robesky
Cayucos Citizens Advisory Council (CCAC)	8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. John Carsel (President) 2. Jim Dantona 3. Marie Jaqua 4. Glenn Oelker 5. Kelly Borchard 6. Francie Farinet 7. Paul Choucalas 8. Larry Fishman
Creston Advisory Body (CAB)	6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sheila Lyons (Chairperson) 2. Jim Wortner 3. Don Clark 4. Wayne Waszkiewicz 5. Michael Aarons 6. Matt Lynge
Los Osos Community Advisory Council (LOCAC)	10	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Andrea Lueker 2. Patricia Bartel (Chair) 3. Kristin Horowitz 4. Patrick McGibney 5. larry bender 6. Larry Raio 7. jim Stanfill 8. Robin McPeak 9. John Lindt 10. Linde Owen

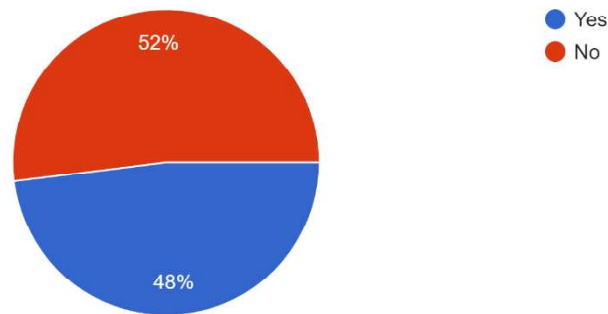
Community Advisory Council	Number of Respondents	Respondent Names
North Coast Advisory Council (NCAC)	8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Brian Glusovich (Chair) 2. Jeff Kwasny 3. Karen Chrisman 4. Lourdes Nilon 5. Kermit Johansson 6. Gwen Kellas 7. Mike Broadhurst 8. Ted Key
Santa Margarita Area Advisory Council (SMAAC)	3	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stacey Phillips (Chairman) 2. Stuart Souza 3. john wilkins
San Miguel Advisory Council (SMAC)	1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Michael Sanders (Chairperson)
Shandon Advisory Council (SAC)	6	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Amy Russell 2. Susan Howard 3. Jennifer Tallent Joseph 4. Chad Wittstrom (Chairperson) 5. Mark Wiley 6. April Tallman
South County Advisory Council (SCAC)	8	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Darrell Victor 2. Garald (Gary) Spelbring 3. Harry Walls 4. Jerry Bridge (Vice Chair) 5. Robert Wachsmuth 6. Steve Schumann 7. Richard Wright 8. Darrell Sisk
Templeton Area Advisory Group (TAAG)	4	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Scott Shirley (Chair) 2. Bruce Jones 3. Jerry Jones 4. Fred Russell
Vitality Advisory Council of Oceano (VACO)	7	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Karen M. White 2. April Paz 3. Barney Fostet 4. Adam Verdin 5. Gina McMahon 6. Jennifer Rokes 7. Linda M Austin (Chair)

I. ROLE OF CACs

1. **Question #2. Do you see the role of the CAC as advising only your district supervisor (as opposed to advising the Board of Supervisors as a whole)?**

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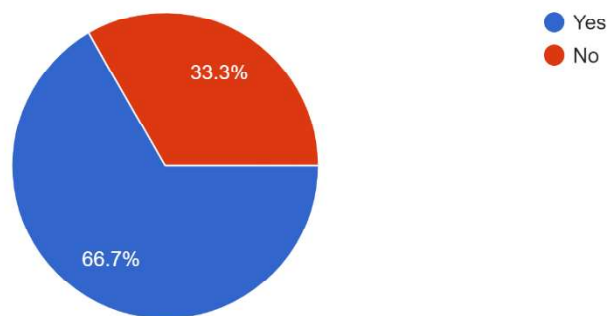
75 responses



-
2. **Question #3. CACs are advisory bodies with no legislative authority to approve or deny projects. Do you think that adding a clarifying statement to your agenda and/or website about the role of the advisory council would be helpful to clarify the role of CACs for other community members?**

Question #3. CACs are advisory bodies with no legislative authority to approve or deny projects. Do you think that adding a clarifying statement to yo...fy the role of CACs for other community members?

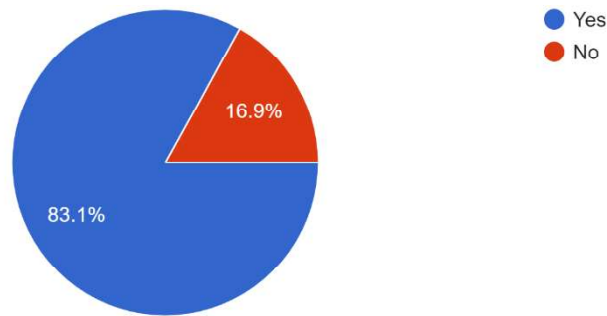
75 responses



II. MISSION STATEMENT AND BYLAWS

5. Question #4. Does your CAC have a mission statement in your bylaws or posted on your agendas?

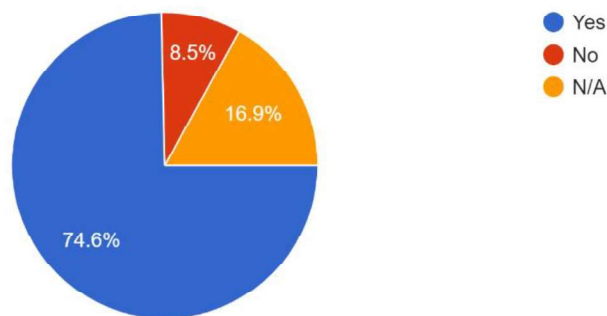
Question #4. Does your CAC have a mission statement in your bylaws or posted on your agendas?
71 responses



According to survey responses from CAC chairs, all but one CAC has a mission statement.

6. If YES, do you find it helpful in clarifying the role of your CAC?

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71 responses

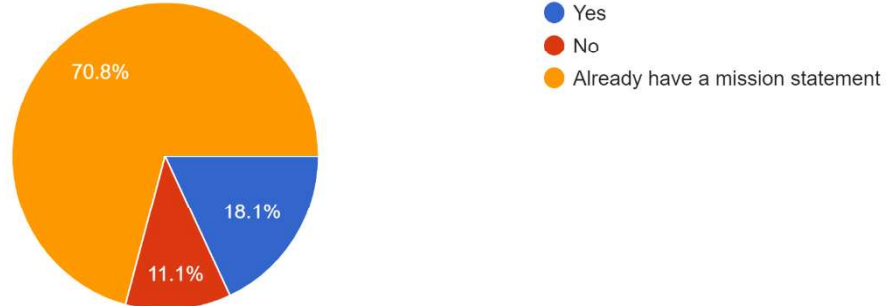


Among those who said YES to having a mission statement, 86% (51) found it helpful, 8% (5) did not find it helpful.

7. Do you think it would be helpful for your CAC to adopt a mission statement?

Do you think it would be helpful for your CAC to adopt a mission statement?

72 responses



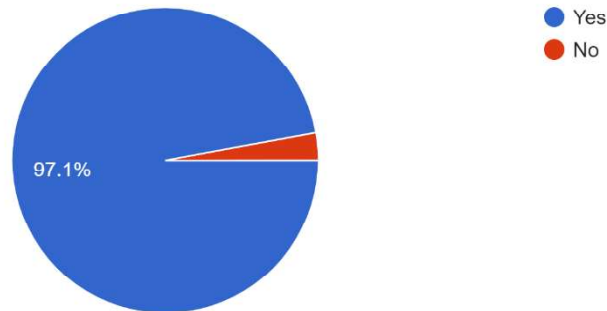
Among those who said their CAC did not have a mission statement, 58% (7) think it would be helpful to adopt one, while 33% (4) did not.

III. LAND USE RECOMMENDATION LETTERS

9. Question #5. After your CAC discusses and/or deliberates on a project, does it send a letter to the decision-makers (Planning and Building Department, Planning Commission, district supervisor and/or Board of Supervisors) summarizing the CAC’s decision and/or recommendations?

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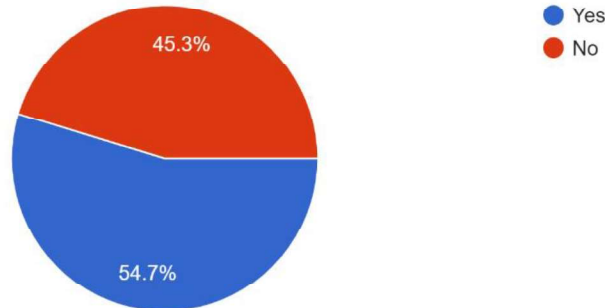
69 responses



10. If you send a letter, do you have a specific format or template you use?

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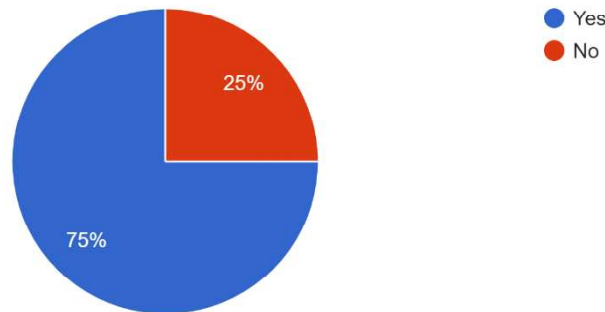
64 responses



11. Do you think it would be helpful if our Planning and Building Department provided a standard form CACs could use to summarize community feedback and the CAC's discussion/decision on a specific project?

Do you think it would be helpful if our Planning and Building Department provided a standard form CACs could use to summarize community feedback a...AC's discussion/decision on a specific project?

72 responses



IV. COUNTY STAFF LIAISONS

13. Question #6. Does your CAC have any dedicated County staff liaisons? Check all that apply.

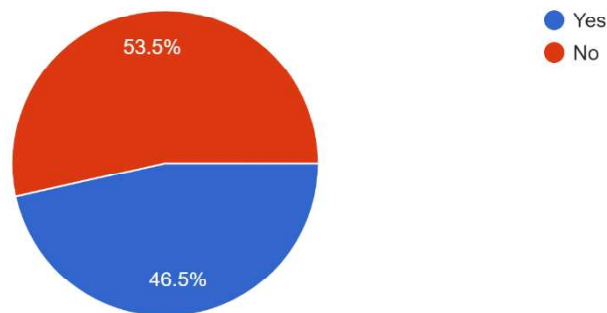
Department/Agency (County depts highlighted)	All respondents (%)	# of CACs* (%)
Planning & Building	65 (90)	11 (100)
County Sheriff	60 (80)	9 (82)
CHP	52 (72)	8 (73)
Public Works	32 (44)	5 (45)
Cal Fire	10 (14)	1 (9)
Parks and Rec	5 (7)	1 (9)
Harbor District	4 (6)	
PG&E/Diablo Canyon	4 (6)	
Community Services District	3 (4)	
School District	3 (4)	1 (9)
State Parks	1 (1)	

*Whether a CAC has staff liaison is based on the survey response from each CAC chair.

14. Is there a designated officer on your CAC that interfaces with your staff liaison(s)? Mark “no” if any member is given the opportunity to interface with your staff liaison(s) as they see fit.

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71 responses



According to CAC Chairs, only 2 CACs have dedicated officers for interfacing with staff.

15. How many points of contact (e.g., meetings, calls, emails, etc.) do you have with your staff liaison(s) per month?



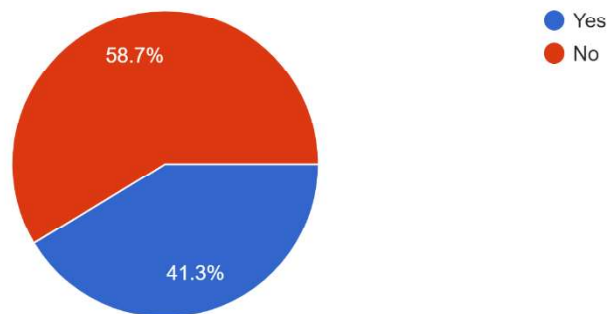
	Mean	Median
Chairs Only	3.08	3.5
All Respondents	2.34	1

V. CAC MEMBER TRAINING

17. Question #7. Are you aware that the Planning and Building Department provides training for new CAC members regarding the Land Use Process?

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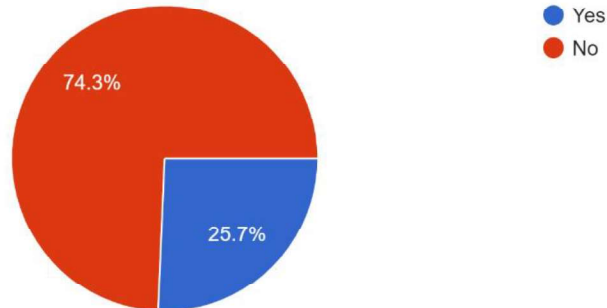
75 responses



18. Have you attended the training?

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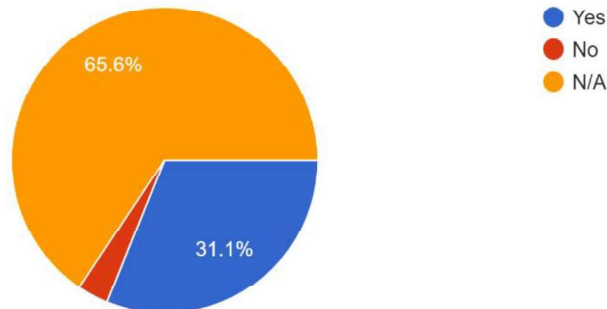
74 responses



19. If YES, did you find it useful?

If YES, did you find it useful?

61 responses

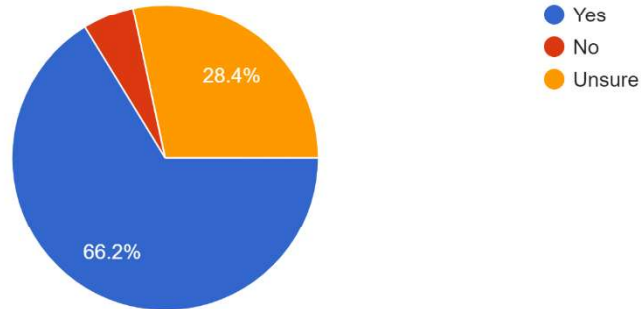


Among those who attended the training (21), 90% (19 respondents) found it useful while 10% (2 respondents) did not.

20. Would it be helpful to have other relevant County Departments attend to discuss their processes at a CAC training?

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74 responses

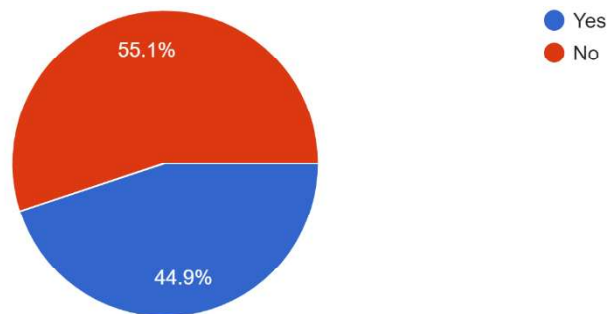


VI. CODE OF CIVILITY

22. Question #8. Has your CAC adopted a code of civility for CAC members?

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69 responses



23. Do you think having a code of civility is or would be helpful? Please elaborate.

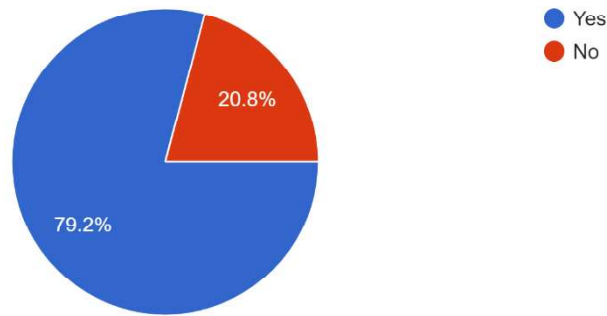
Keyed responses from the 35 CAC members who state they do not already have a code of civility:

Yes: 14 (40%)
No: 13 (37%)
Unsure: 8 (23%)

24. Question #9. To improve the conduct and effectiveness of CAC members, would you be willing to sign a statement that acknowledges the purpose of your CAC, commits to a code of civility, and indicates that you have completed CAC training (assuming that was made available to you)?

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72 responses



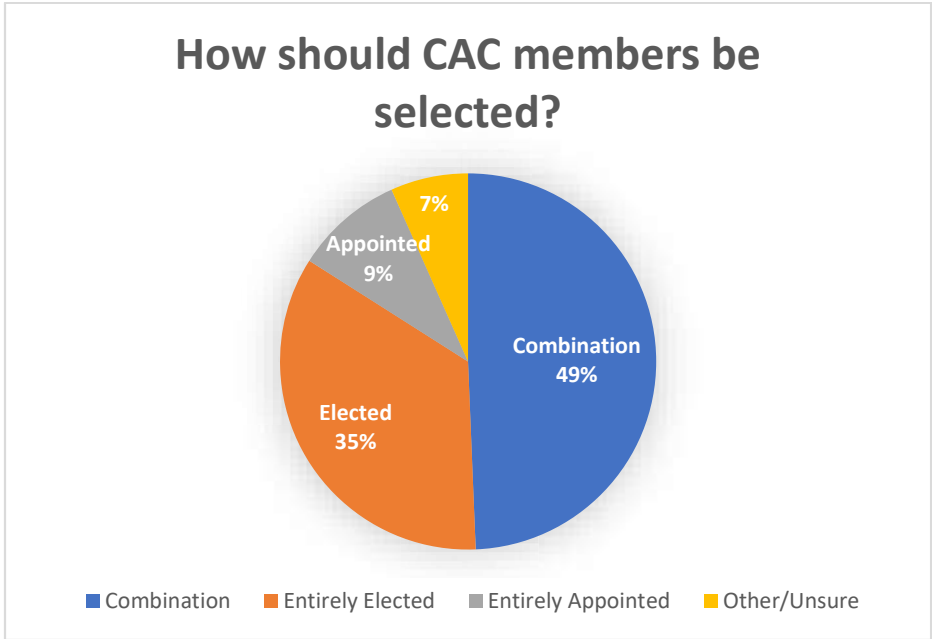
VII. CAC MEMBERSHIP

26. Question #10. Please describe the composition of your CAC by estimating the number of members who are elected, appointed, etc.

CAC Membership*	Elected	Supervisor Appointed	Council Appointed/ Approved	Other
Avila Valley Advisory Council				7 or more "Elected or appointed by regional representation committees"
Cayucos Citizens Advisory Council	7 or more		2	
Creston Advisory Body	7 or more			
Los Osos Community Advisory Council	7 or more	3		
North Coast Advisory Council	5		6	1 selected by the Cambria Chamber of Commerce
Santa Margarita Area Advisory Council	7 or more			2 from Santa Margarita Ranch
San Miguel Advisory Council	7			
Shandon Advisory Council	7 or more			
South County Advisory Council	7 or more	1	2	
Templeton Area Advisory Group	7 or more		7 or more	
Vitality Advisory Council of Oceano			7 or more	

**Based on the survey responses from each CAC chair.*

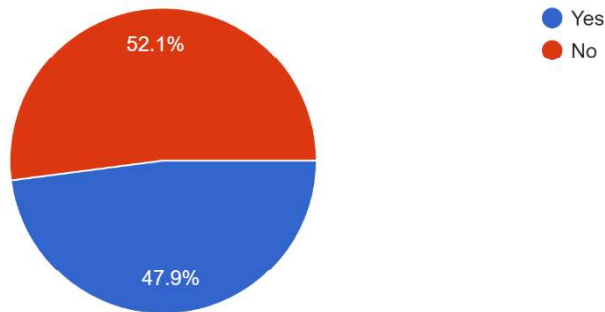
27. Question #11. Do you think it is valuable for the CAC to be entirely elected, entirely appointed, or a combination of both?



Membership Composition	Responses (%)
Combination	37 (49)
Entirely Elected	26 (35)
Entirely Appointed	7 (9)
Other/Unsure	5 (7)

28. Question #12. Do you think CAC members should be subject to term limits?

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73 responses

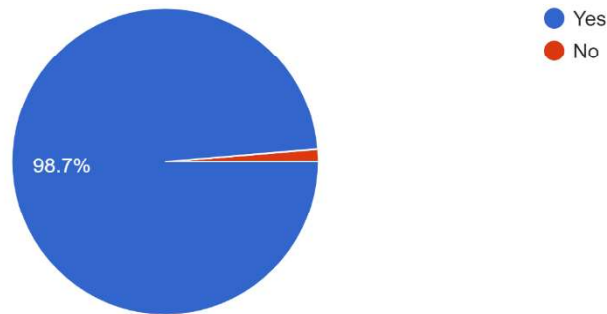


VIII. CAC MEETING PROCEDURES

29. Question #13: Does your CAC post and send notice and an agenda for regular meetings?

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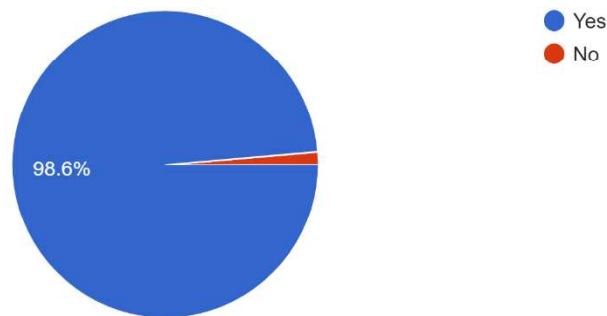
75 responses



30. Question #14: Does your CAC record and post meeting minutes?

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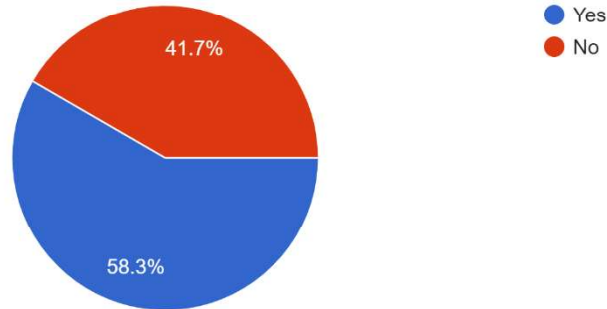
74 responses



31. Question #15: Other than taking general public comment, does your CAC have a practice of limiting discussion to items only on the agenda?

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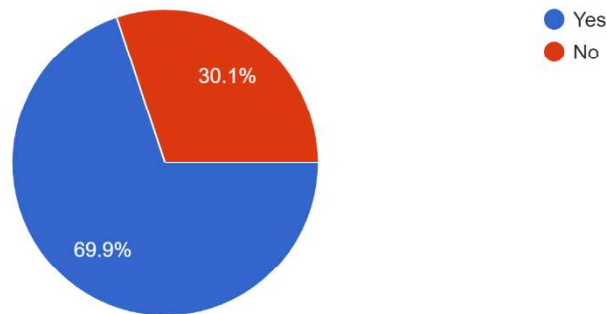
72 responses



32. Question #16: Does your CAC livestream or record your meetings?

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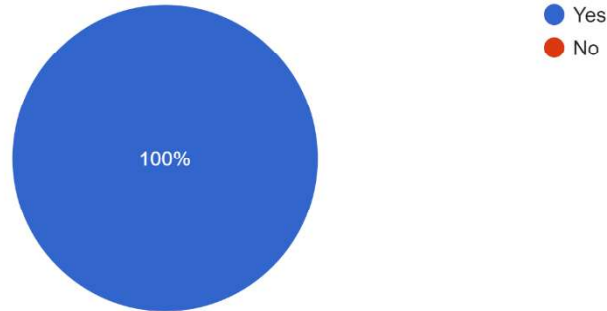
73 responses



33. Question #17: Does your CAC allow the public to address the council?

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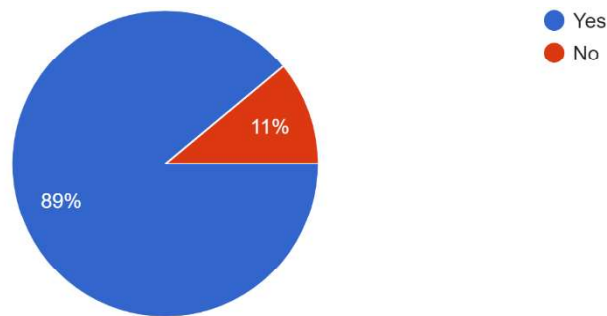
74 responses



34. Question #18: Does your CAC conduct only public votes, with no secret ballots?

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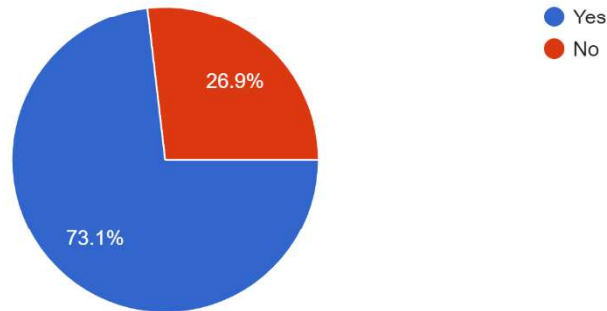
73 responses



35. Question #19: Depending on your answers above, would it be helpful if all County CAC's had consistent rules of procedures for posting and conducting meetings?

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67 responses



- END OF RESULTS -