Building a Citizen-Accessible Information System for Managing Iowa's Local Government Networks and Interlocal (28e) Agreements

Third Annual Building Excellence in Governance Conference

Iowa State University
Public Policy & Administration Program
Department of Political Science

Project Sponsors

- **Project funded by the IOWAccess Advisory Council**

in cooperation with

- **the Iowa State association of Counties**
- **the Iowa League of Cities**
- **the Iowa City/County Management Association**
- **the Office of the Secretary of State**
- **the School Administrators of Iowa**
- **the University of Iowa, Institute of Public Affairs**

and managed by

- **the Public Policy & Administration Program at Iowa State University, Department of Political Science**

28E Project Components, Process

Information System Development

- **Data from Secretary of State**
- **Transformation into searchable data on website**

Survey Analysis: all LGs with 28Es

- **Survey for each 28E agreement**
- **Department Director Survey**

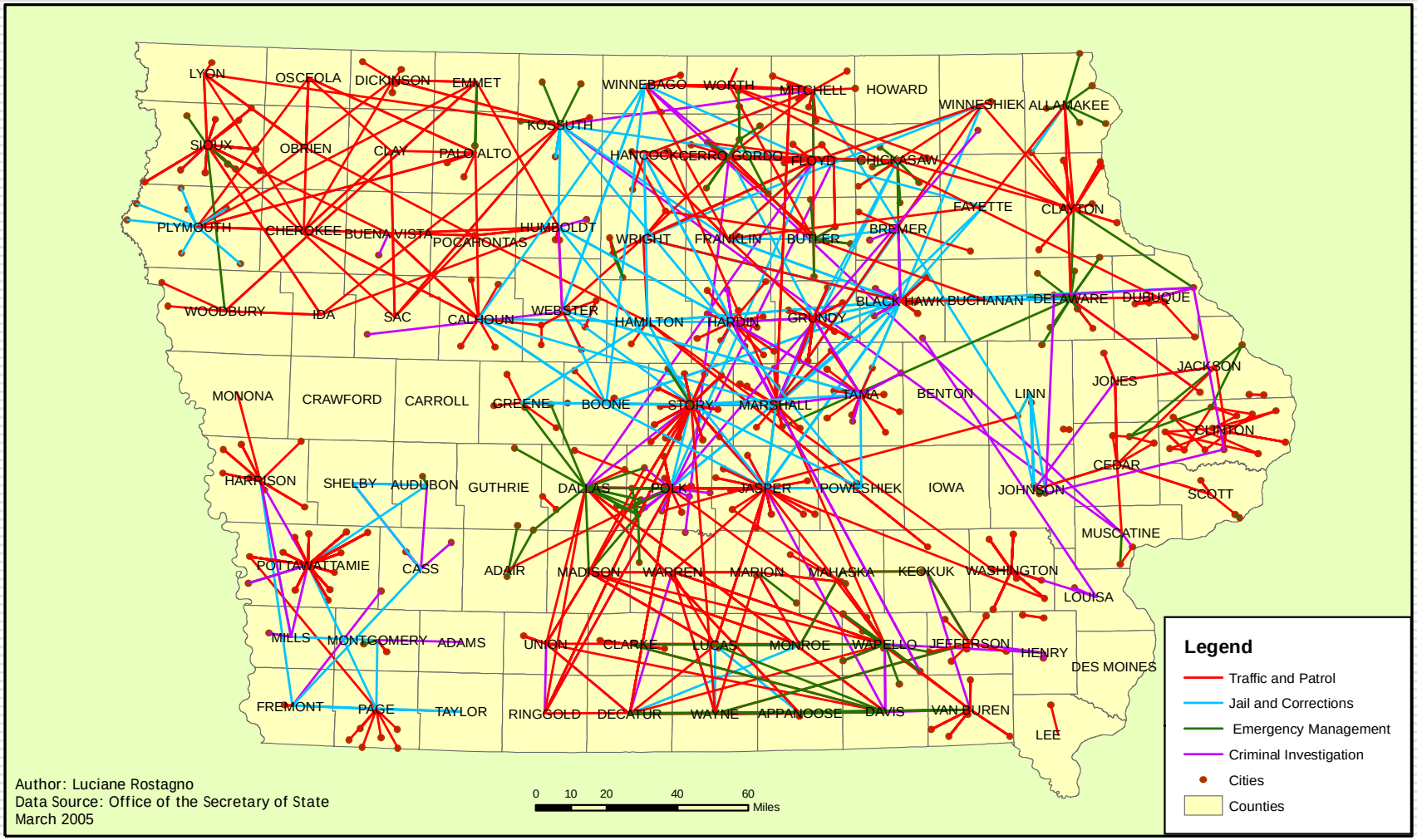
Field Studies of Selected 28Es

- **Selected Service Types**
- **Presentation on May 6 (BEGC-ISU)**

Research Questions

- What is the scope of interlocal agreements?
  - Are they used more for one type of public service than another?
  - What are the long and short term trends in use of ILAs?
  - Are they used more by one type of local government than another (e.g., more commonly by counties than cities)?
- What considerations prompt the creation of management agreements?
  - Do underlying social networks improve the likelihood that ILAs will be created?
  - Are economic and fiscal factors more important than management factors as the impetus for creating agreements?
- What are the management tools for creating and maintaining successful interlocal agreements?
  - do underlying social networks improve the likelihood that ILAs will be maintained successfully?
  - What role does information technology play in the management of agreements?

1993 to 2003 Iowan Agreements



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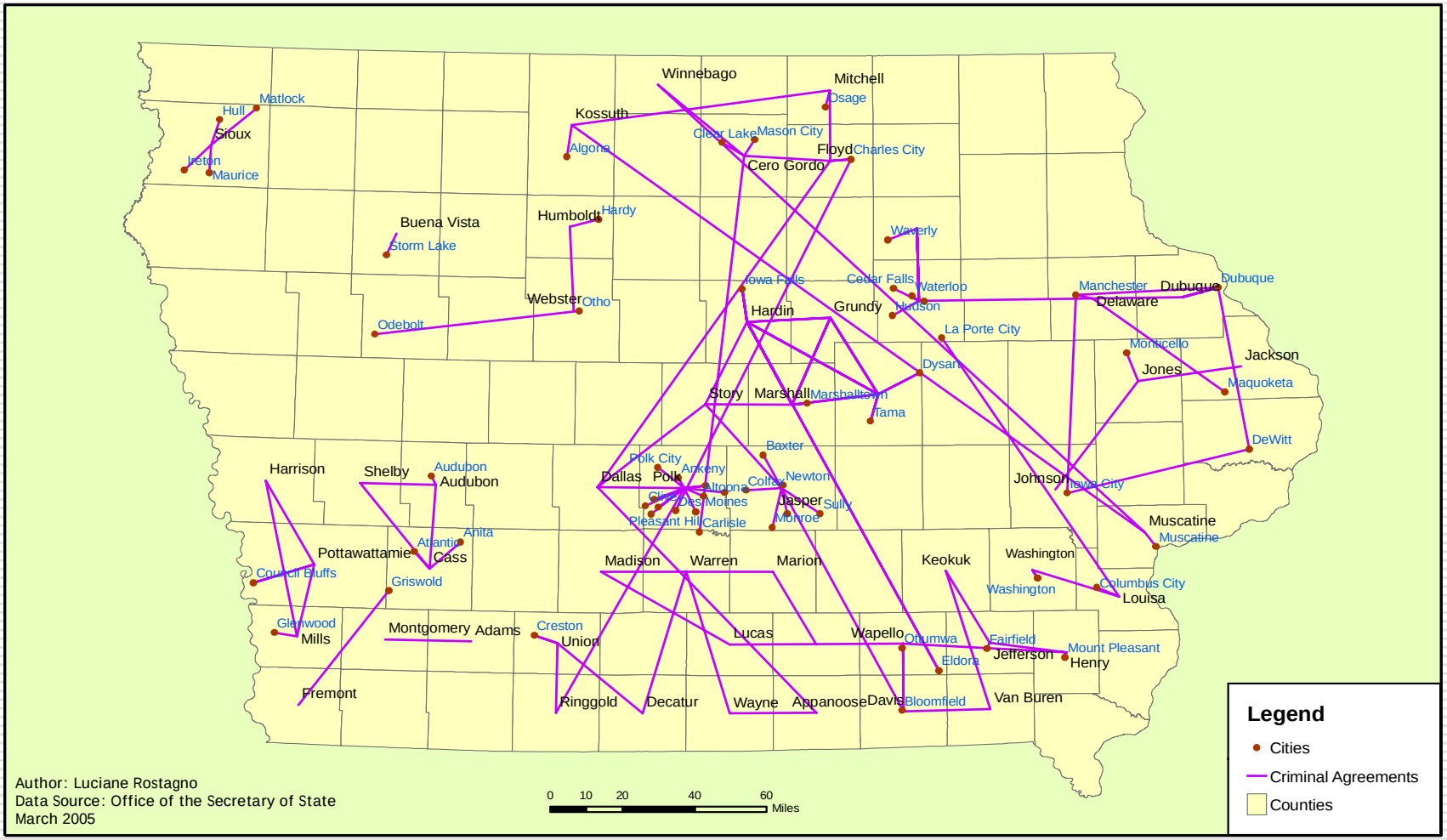
Iowan Criminal Investigation Agreements



Author: Luciane Rostagno
Data Source: Office of the Secretary of State
March 2005

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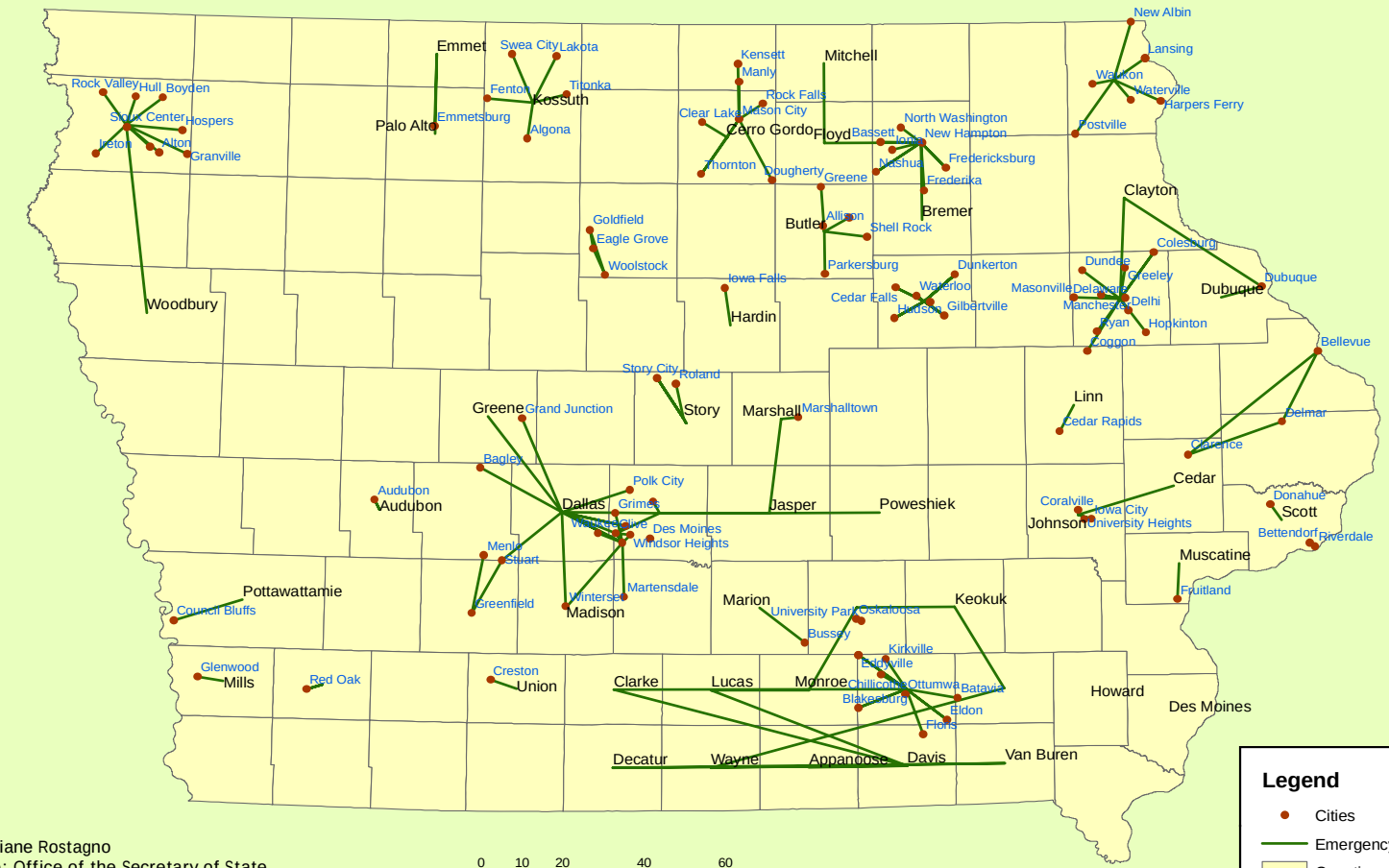
Iowan Emergency Management Agreements



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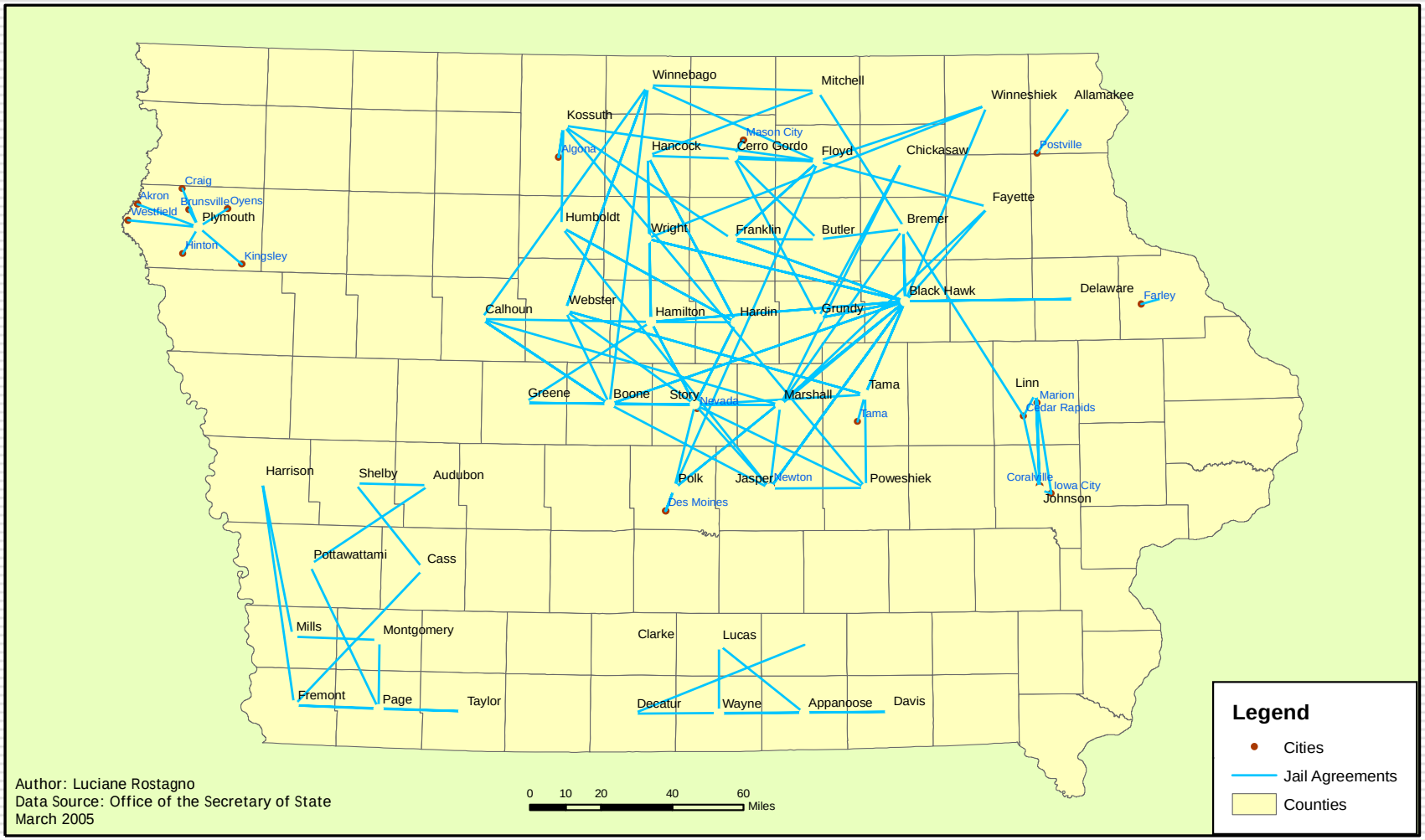
Iowan Jail and Corrections Agreements



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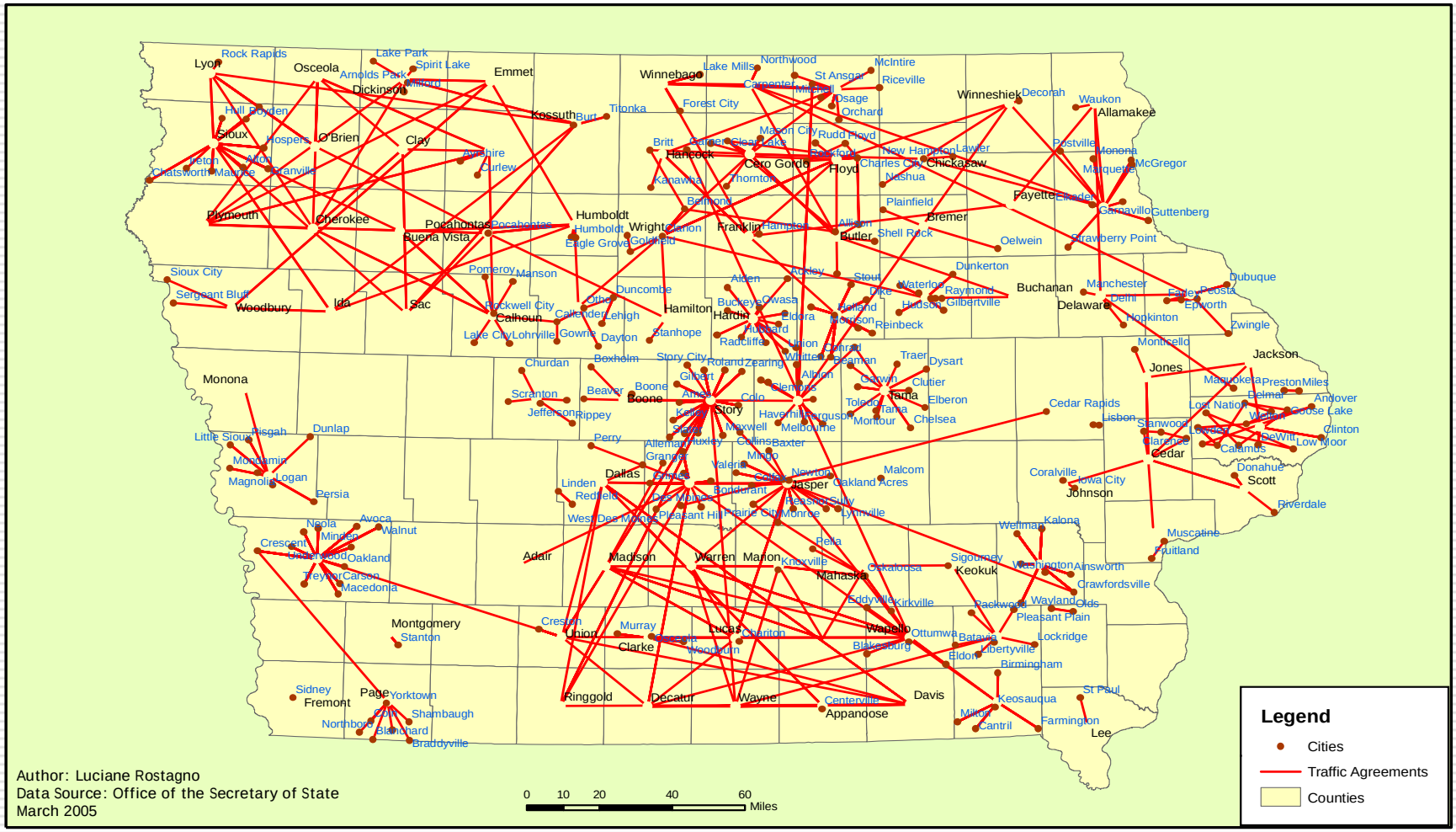
Iowan Traffic and Patrol Agreements



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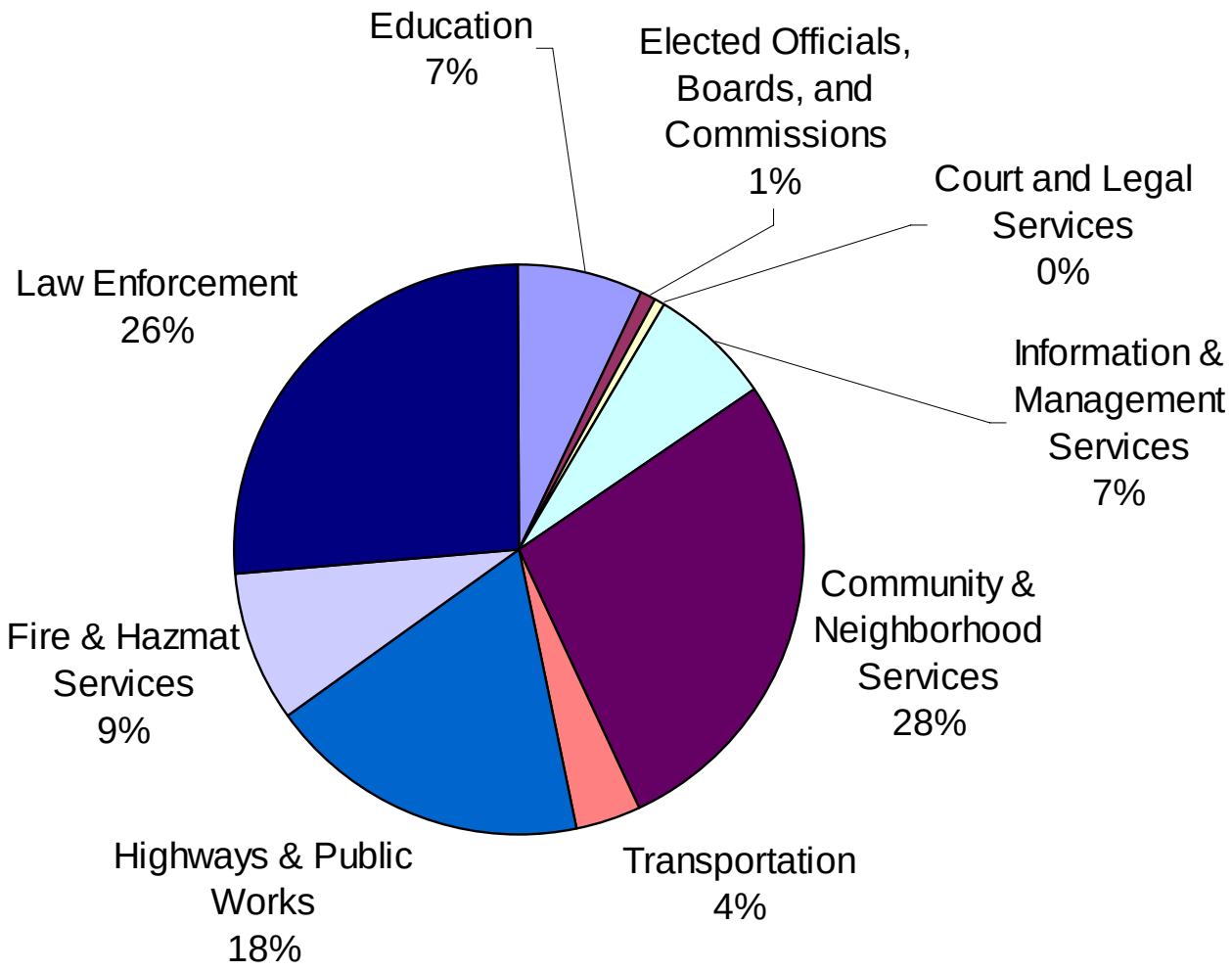
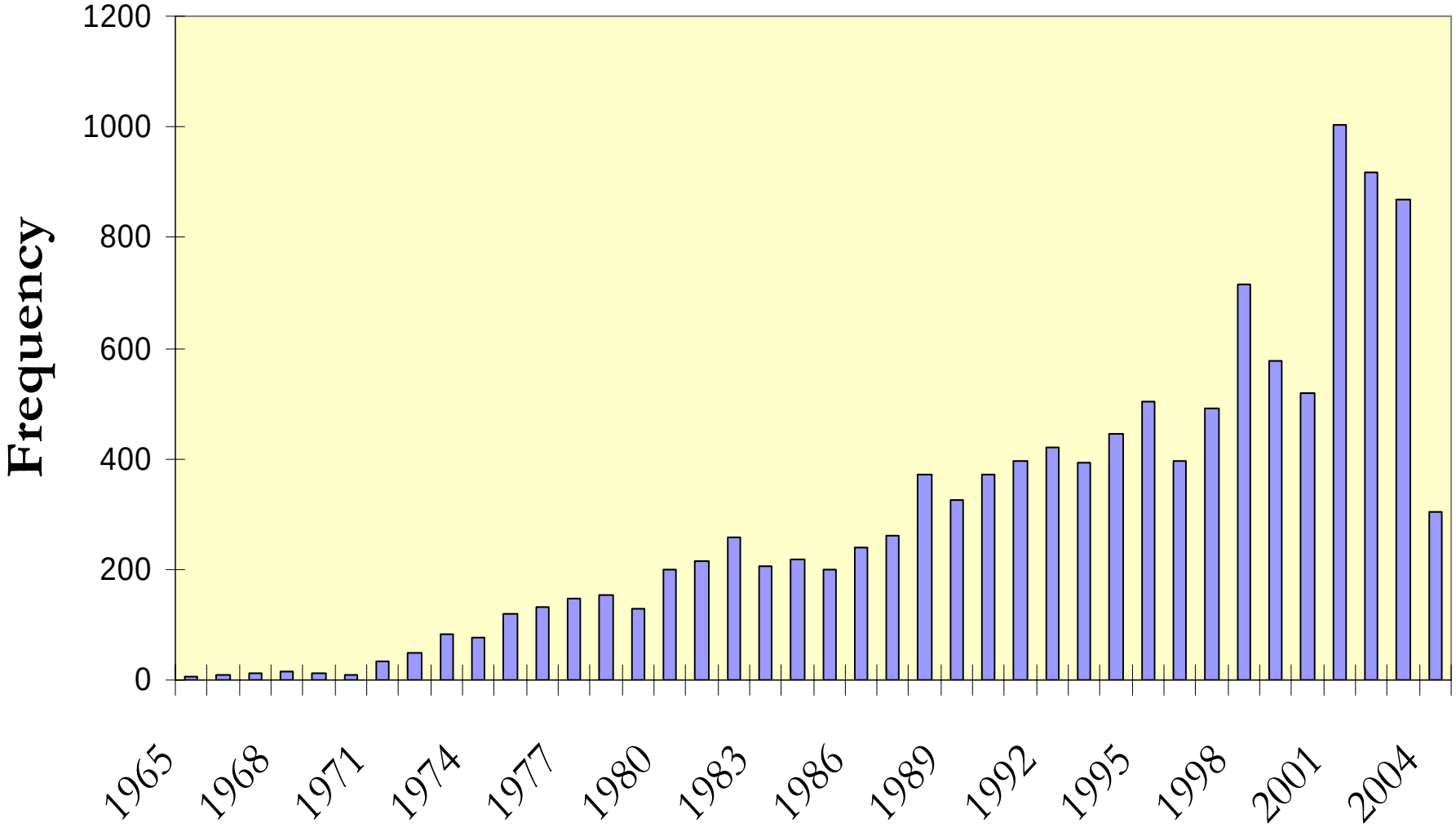
Composition of 28Es, 1965-2003, by Major Service Type



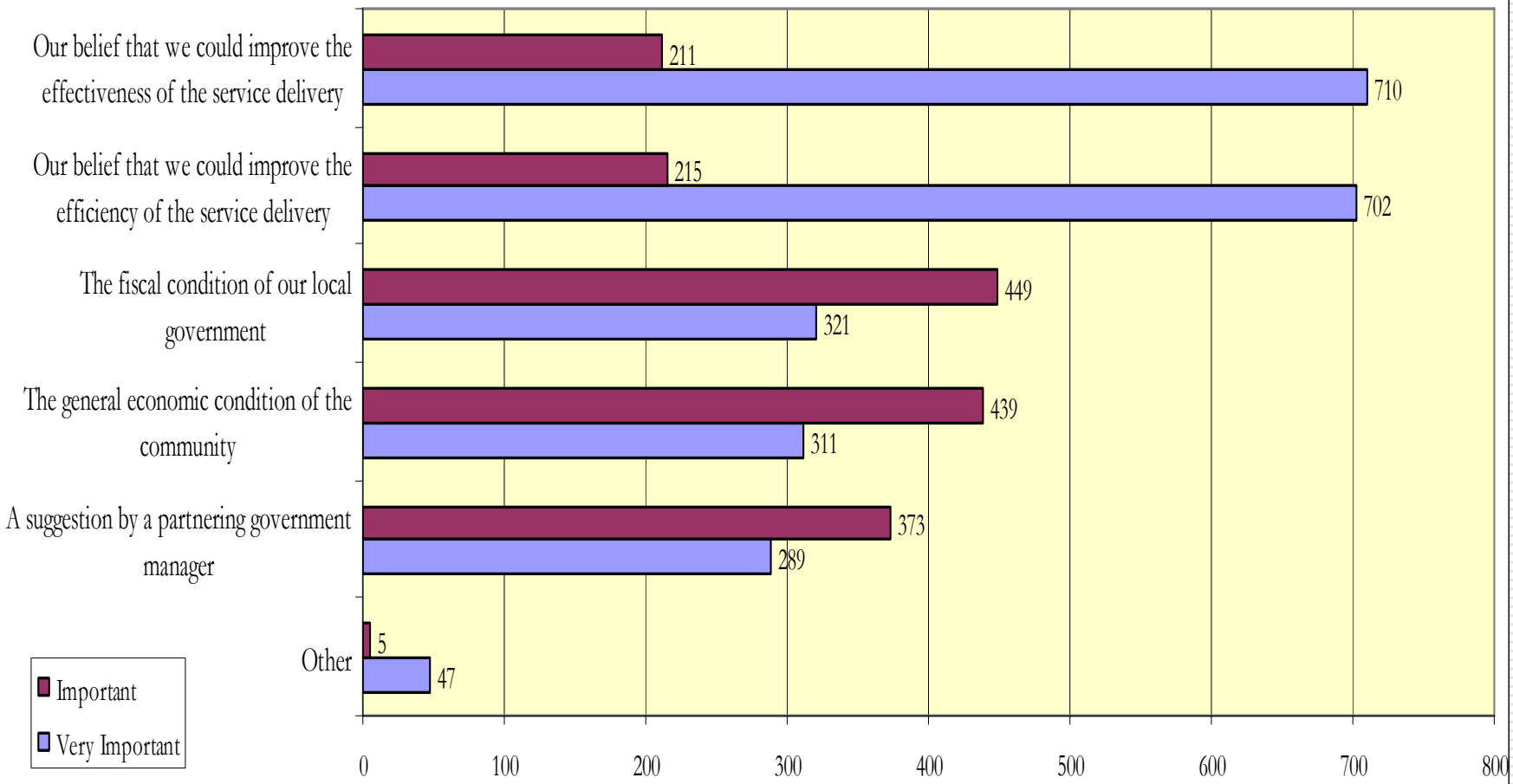
Filings of 28Es, 1965-2004 (June)



28E Survey Data

Local Government	**Number with at least one 28E**	**Number of 28E Agreements**
Counties	99	3934
Cities	644	6048
School Districts	226	719
Fire Districts	135	135
Total Distributed		10,836
Total Returns		1,290 (12%)

Figure 3. Importance of Reasons for Creating 28E Agreements



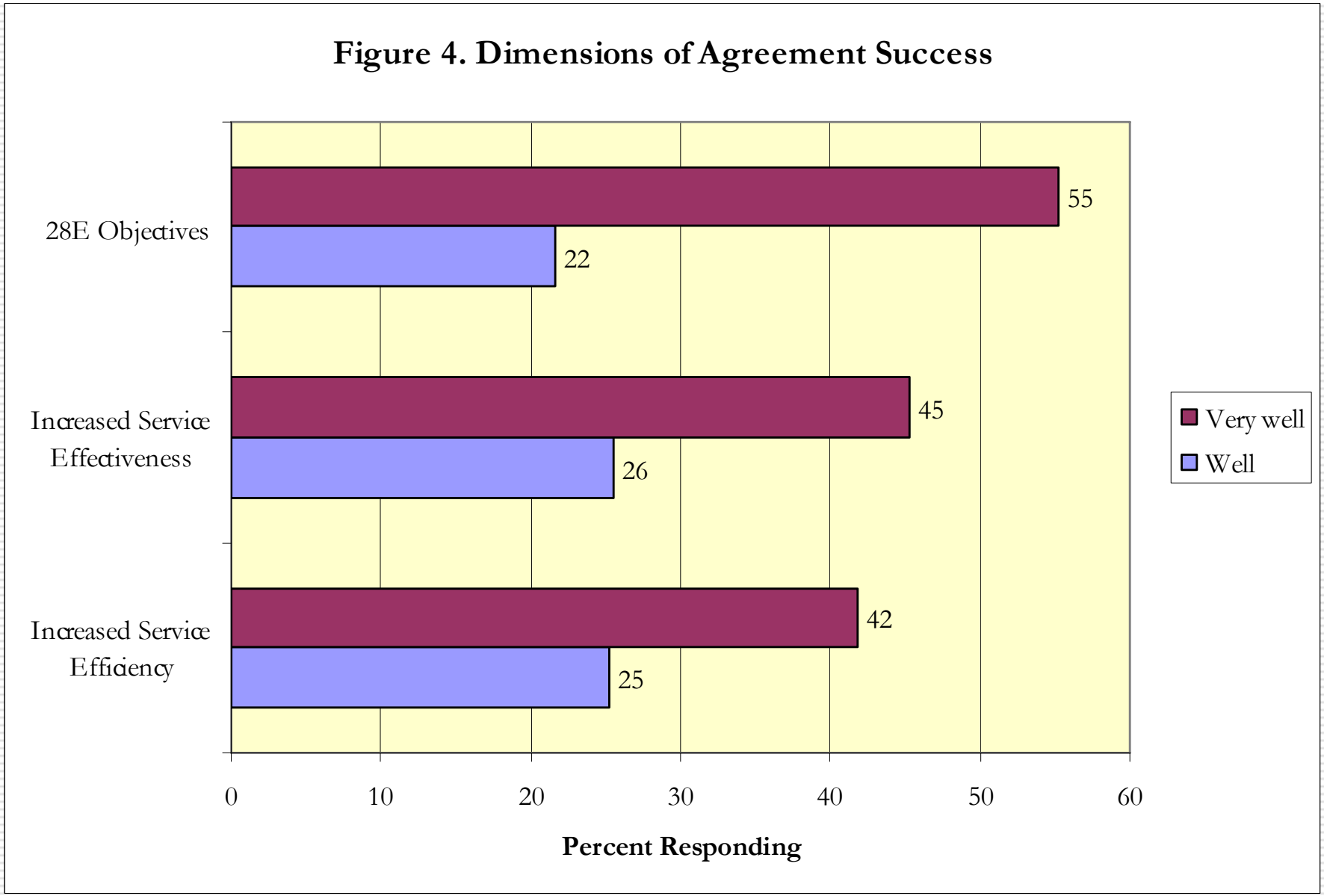
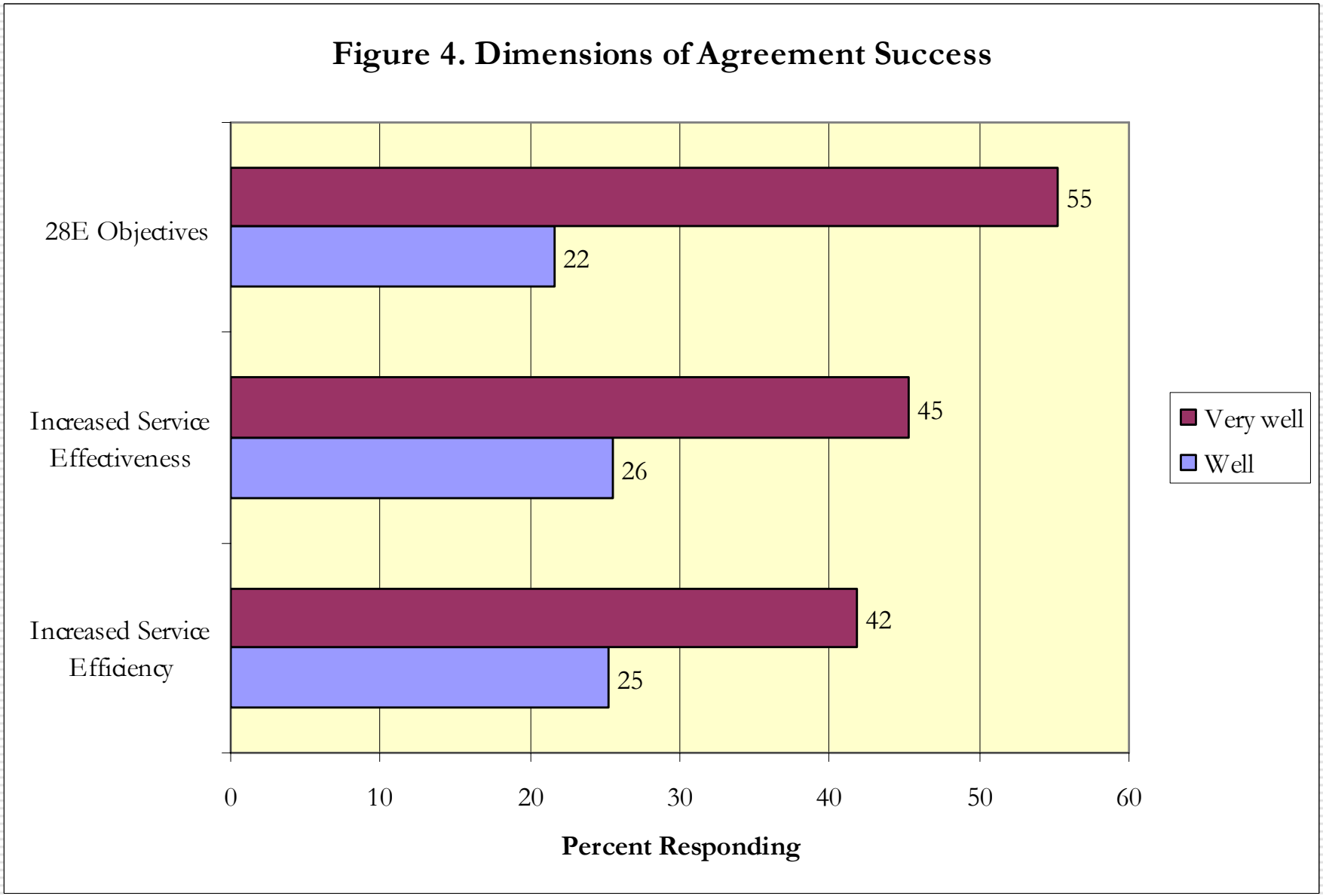


Figure 4. Dimensions of Agreement Success
28E Objectives
Increased Service Effectiveness
Increased Service Efficiency
55
22
45
26
42
25
0
10
20
30
40
50
60
Percent Responding
Very well
Well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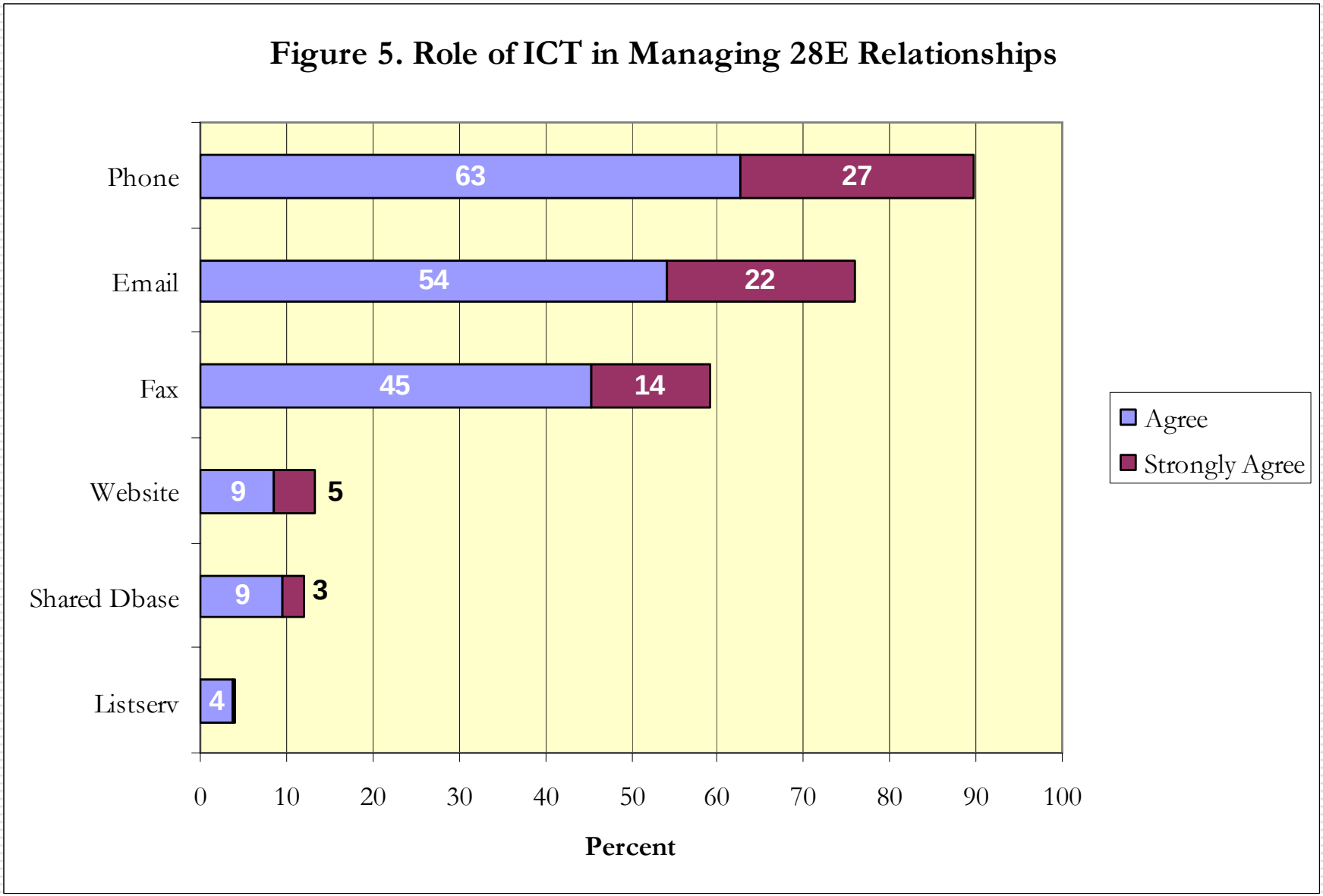
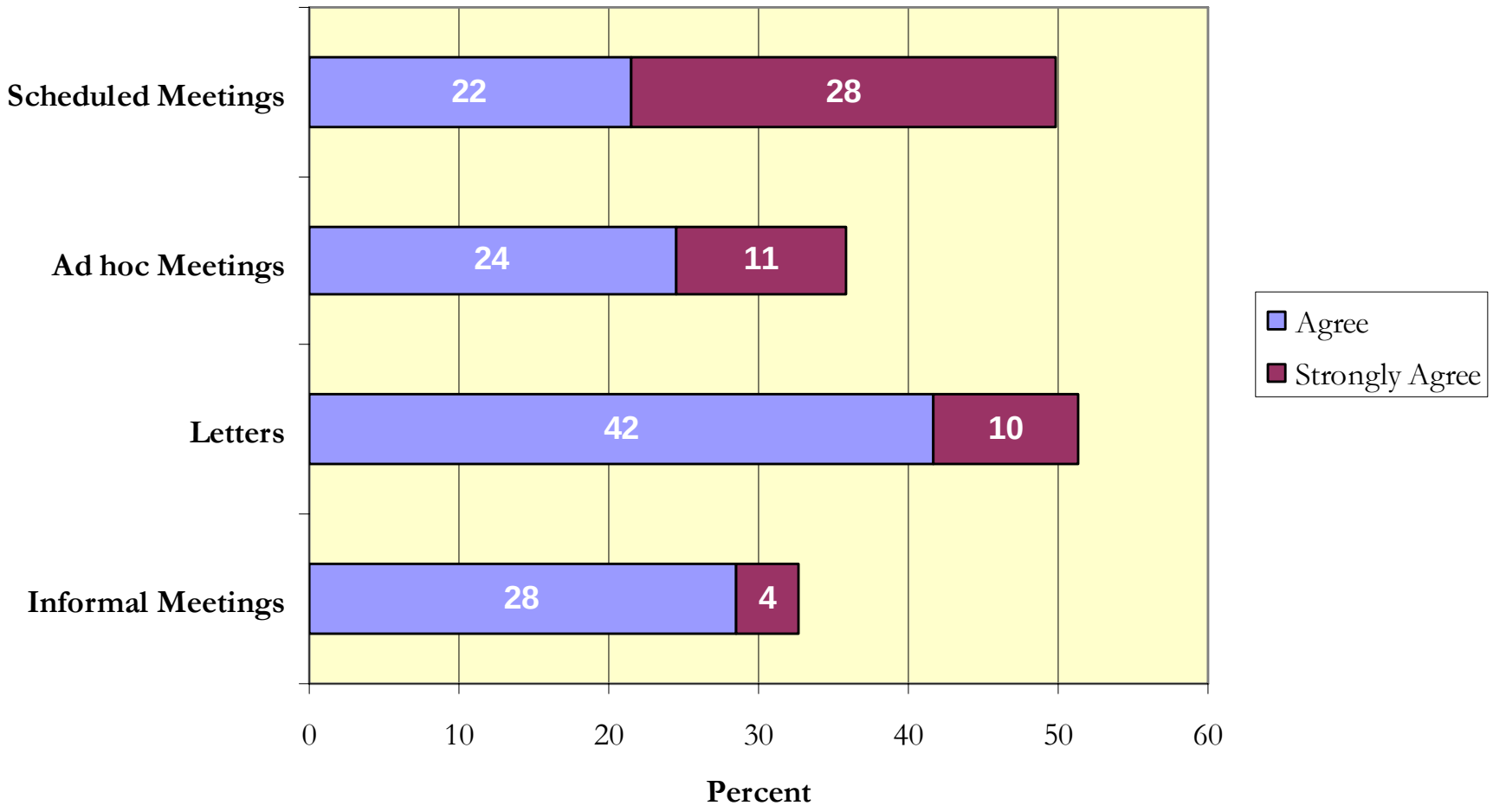


Figure 5. Role of ICT in Managing 28E Relationships
Phone
Email
Fax
Website
Shared Dbase
Listserv
63
27
54
22
45
14
9
5
9
3
4
0
10
20
30
40
50
60
70
80
90
100
Percent
Agree
Strongly Agree

Figure 6. Importance of Non-ICT Communications for Managing 28E Relationships, Ranked by Percent "Strongly Agree"



	Estimated annual costs of our 28E participation	*Estimated annual revenues from our 28E participation*	*Estimated annual savings from our 28E participation*	*Estimated monthly personal hours of 28E participation*	*Estimated monthly unit hours of 28E participation*
Mean	$ 25,879	$ 34,301	$ 30,019	3	22
Minimum	$ -	$ -	$ -	-	-
Maximum	$ 5,000,000	$ 22,000,000	$ 2,500,000	225	9,632
N	936	897	829	964	956
Short-term	$ 625,000	$ 22,000,000	$ 50,000	20	1
Ongoing Relationship	$ 2,000,000	$ 500,000	$ 1,000,000	225	20

Field Interviews

Preliminary Analysis:

economic development and traffic patrol

- Importance of underlying social networks
- Importance of organizational and personal trust
- Importance of communication between parties for healthy management of agreements