



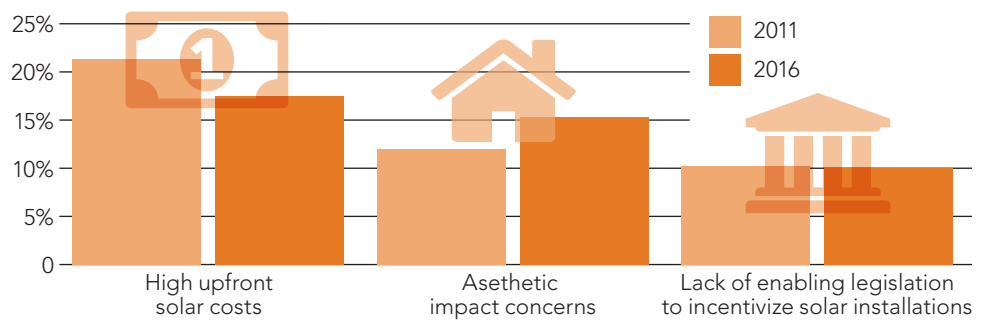
**INTRODUCTION**

With support from the U.S. Department of Energy, the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) conducted a survey to learn more about the priorities and activities of U.S. local governments related to the adoption of solar energy. Launched in the spring of 2016, this survey was conducted in follow-up to ICMA’s 2011 Solar Survey of Local Governments. The information collected through these efforts allows for an analysis of changes in solar energy priorities and activities over the last five years.

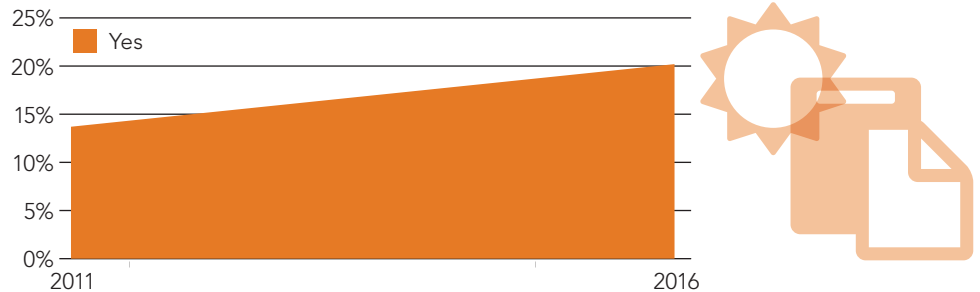
**SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS**

- While **high upfront solar costs** continued to be the most commonly cited challenge to solar energy development, the proportion of respondents citing this as a challenge **declined** between 2011 and 2016.
- Between 2011 and 2016, there was an **increase** in the proportion of jurisdictions that have mechanisms in place for **expedited permitting**.
- The use of **e-mail permit submission** and **online permitting** for solar PV projects **increased** between 2011 and 2016.

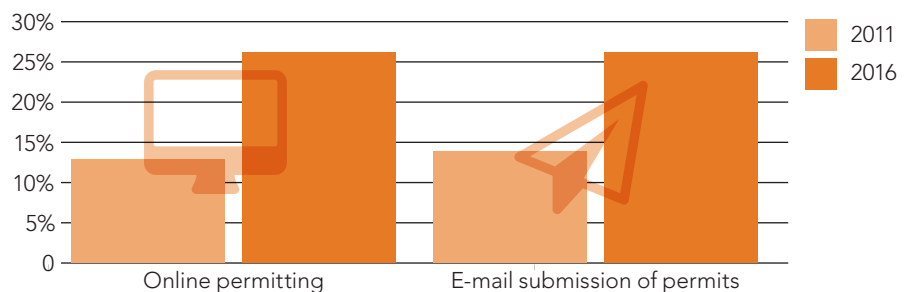
Top three challenges to solar energy development



Do you have any mechanisms for expediting permitting for solar PV installations?



Please indicate the ways to submit permits for solar PV projects.



**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Visit ICMA’s website for more information on the 2016 Solar Survey and other solar energy information resources

- 2016 Solar Survey Summary Report—[www.icma.org/2016solarsurveyreport](http://www.icma.org/2016solarsurveyreport)
- ICMA Solar Energy Topic Area—[www.icma.org/KN/solarenergy](http://www.icma.org/KN/solarenergy)

photo: Rick Willoughby, <http://bit.ly/2d40IMy>.