

MUNICIPAL LEADER PERCEPTIONS of urban water issues in Utah

MELISSA
HAEFFNER,
PhD



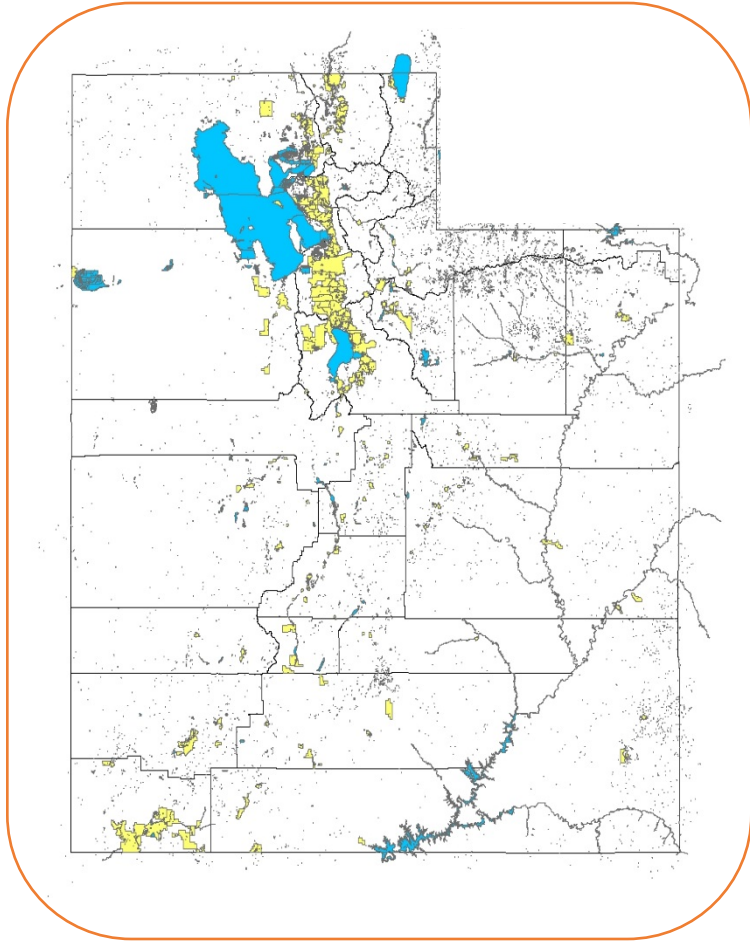
@melissahaeffner

Courtney Flint, PhD

Douglas Jackson-Smith, PhD



WHAT ARE municipal leader perceptions on water in Utah?



Methods

Selection

- Purposive sample
- 12 cities

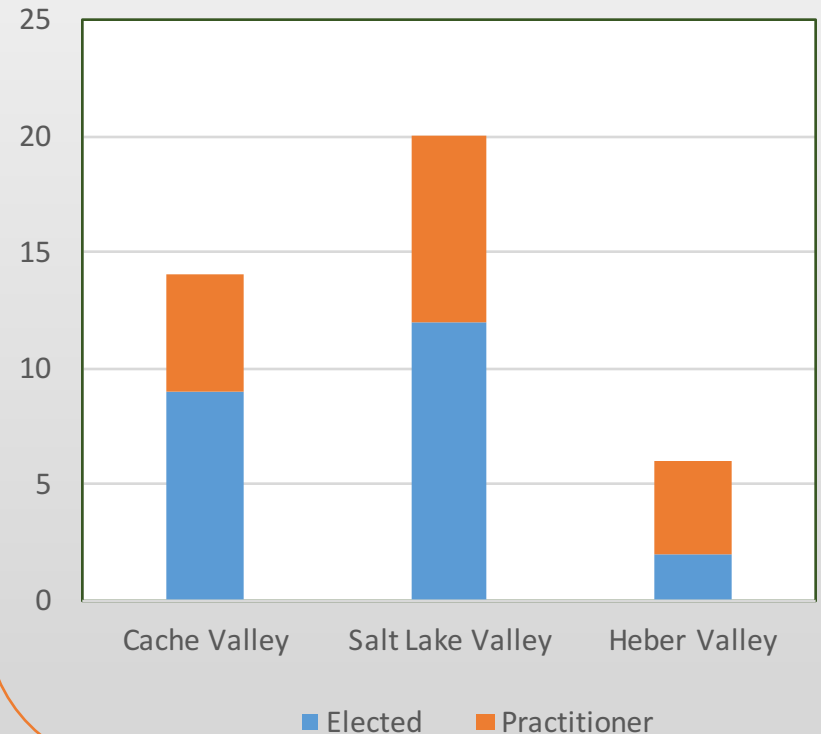
Technique

- Semi-structured interviews

Analysis

- NVIVO 11 Pro
- Kappa coefficient

41 usable transcripts



Geographic variability

Salt Lake

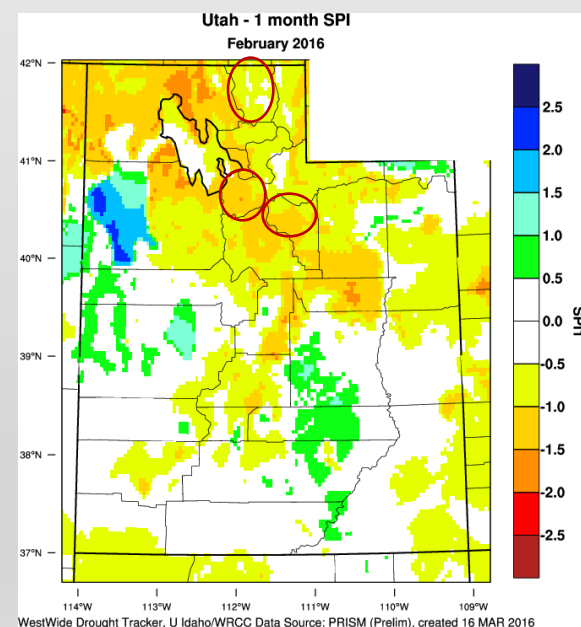
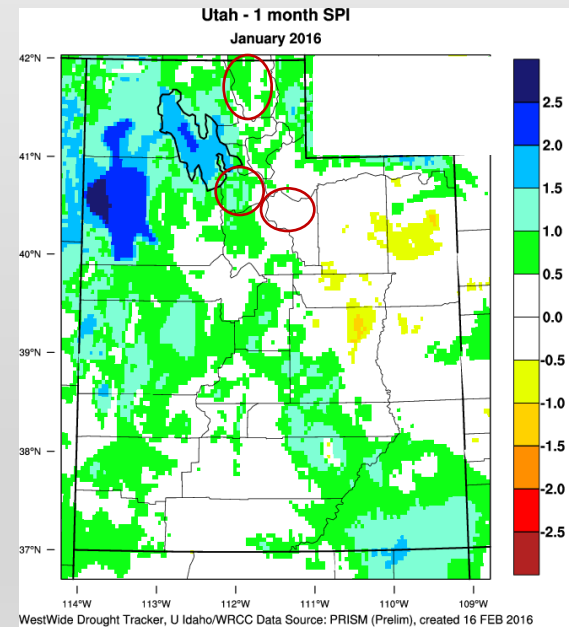
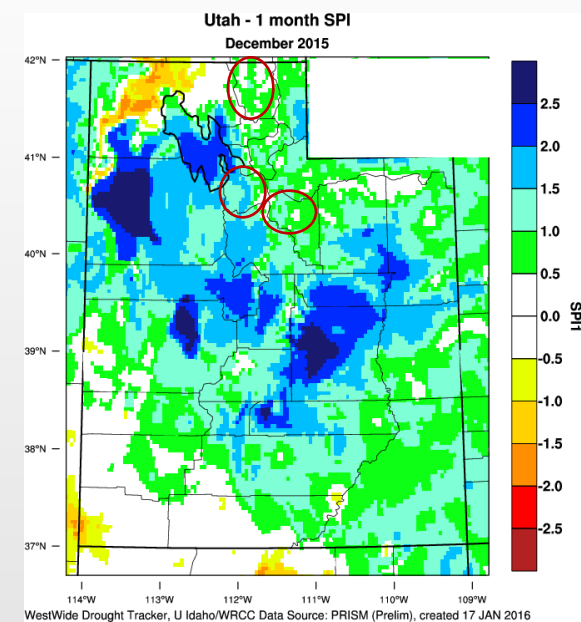
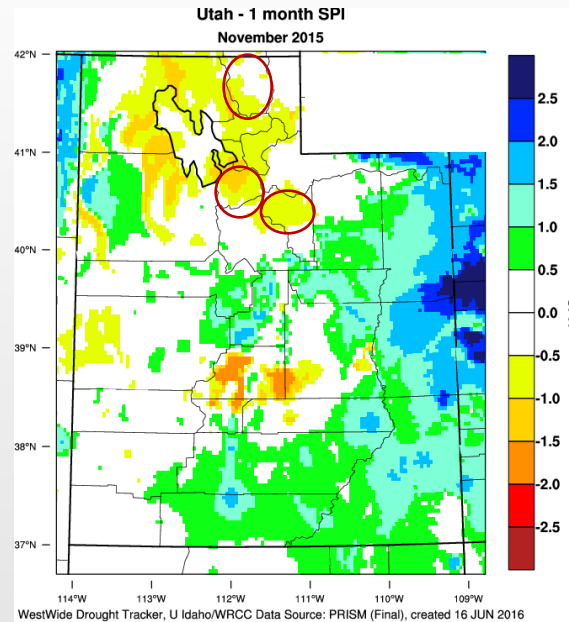
- State capital
- Suburbs

Heber

- 4th fastest growing in US

Cache

- Economically significant agriculture



Sources: PRISM (Parameter-elevation Regressions on Independent Slopes Model <http://prism.oregonstate.edu>), National Weather Service Cooperative Observer Network



Actor variability

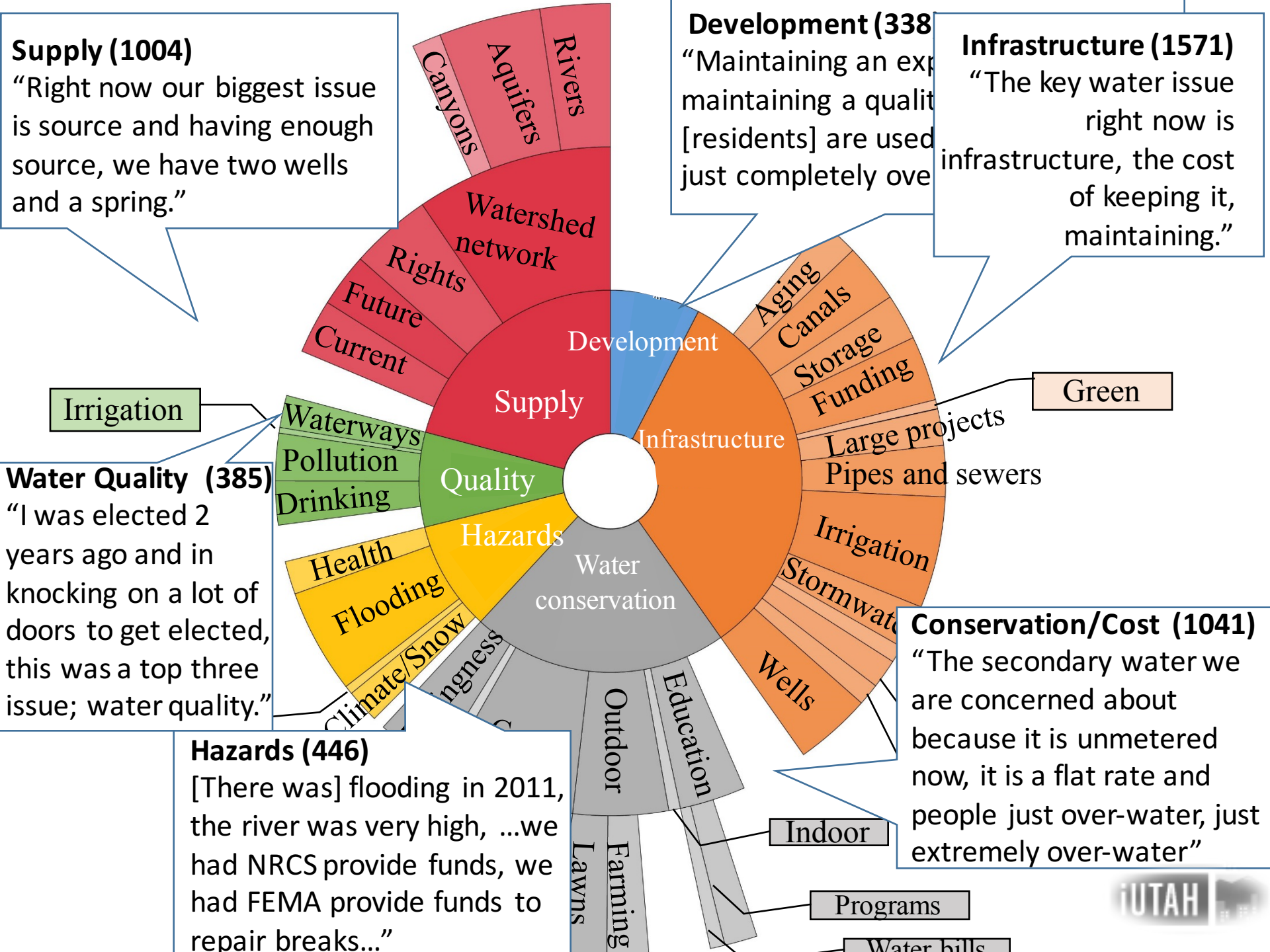
Elected

- Mayors
- City Council

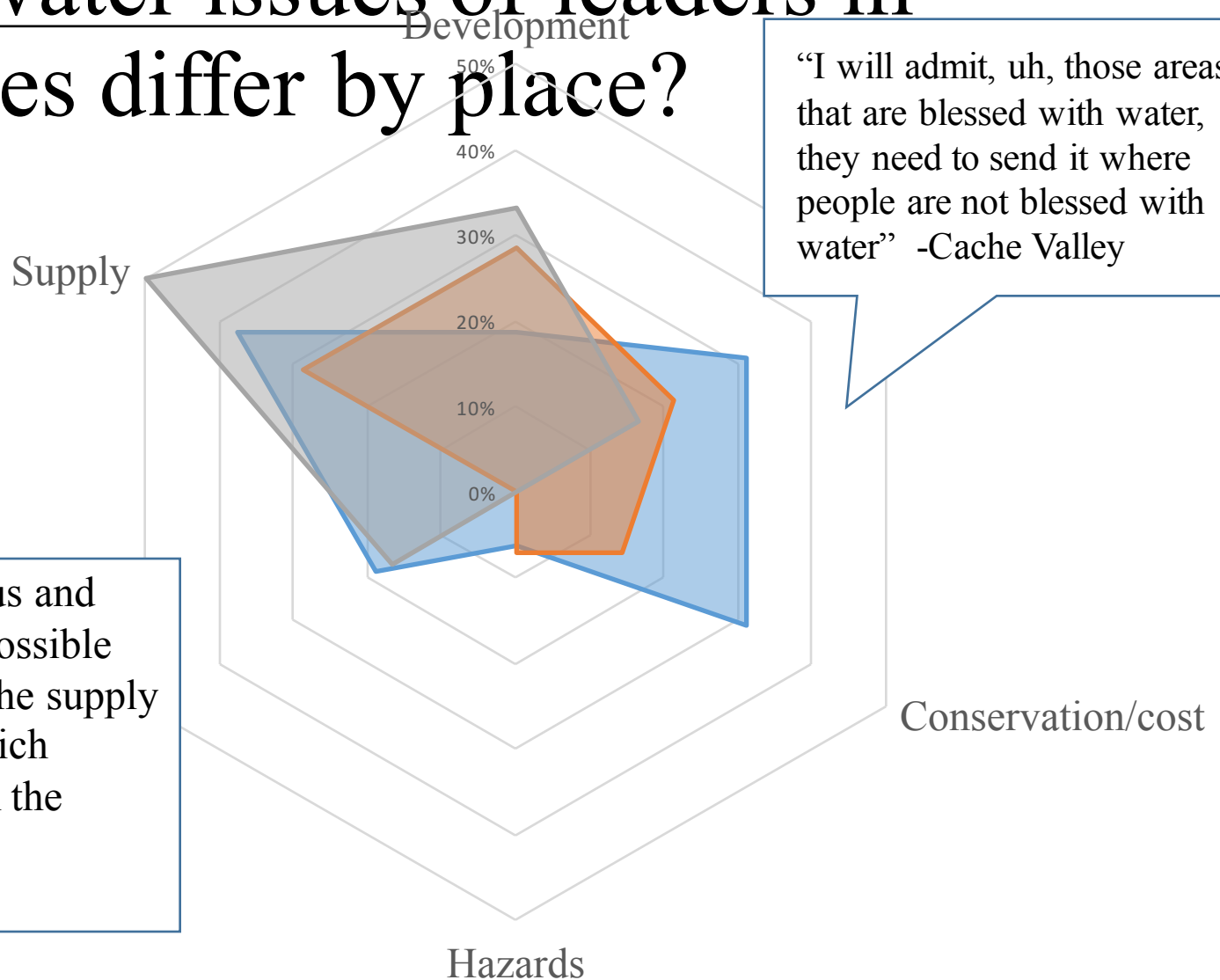
Practitioner

- Public utilities
- Public works





Do key water issues of leaders in Utah cities differ by place?



“I will admit, uh, those areas that are blessed with water, they need to send it where people are not blessed with water” -Cache Valley

We’re trying to focus and delay as long as a possible the need to trigger the supply up in Bear Lake which would then result in the increase in cost.
- Salt Lake Valley

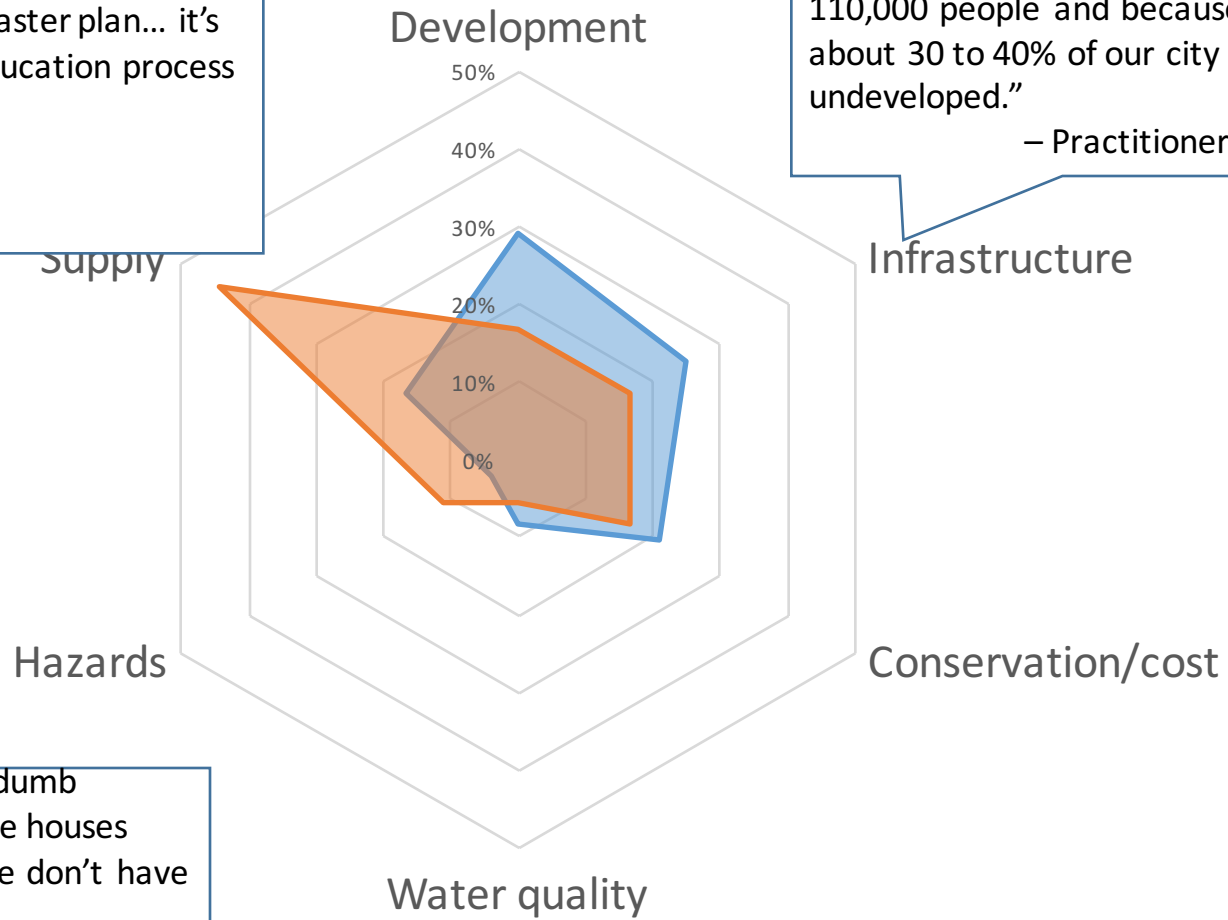
Do key water issues of leaders in Utah cities differ by position?

"The political will requires education. We have found that if you'll educate them ...typically when we do a master plan... it's a, it's a long and difficult education process for councils and Mayors."

- Practitioner

"In quantity is where I think we get worried a little bit because [our city] is 110,000 people and because we still have about 30 to 40% of our city that's undeveloped."

- Practitioner



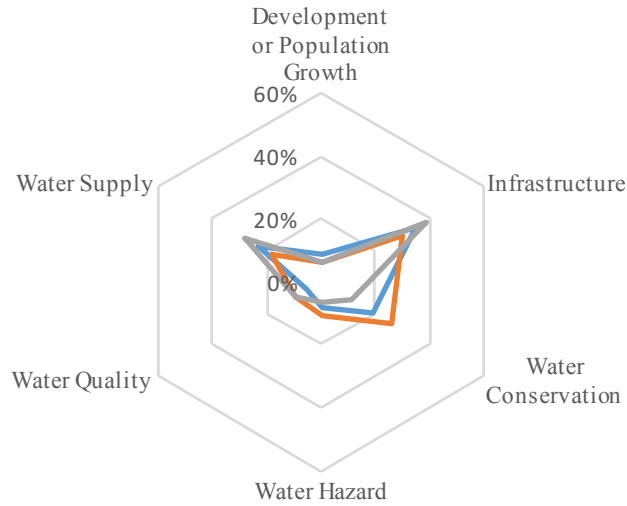
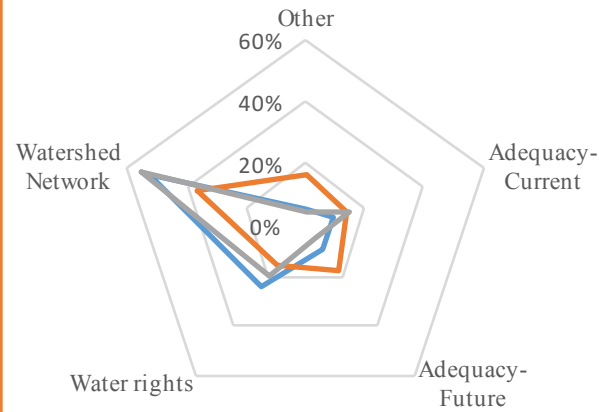
"I think we're, we're not dumb enough to build out all the houses and then go, 'Oh crap! We don't have any more water!'"

- Elected official, same city

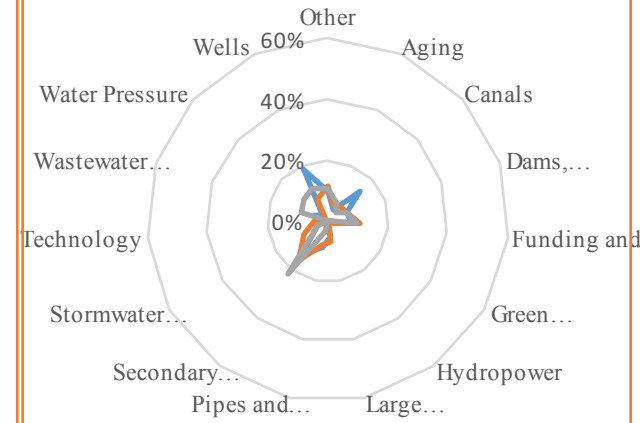
■ Elected (24) ■ Practitioner (18)

Total content, Place

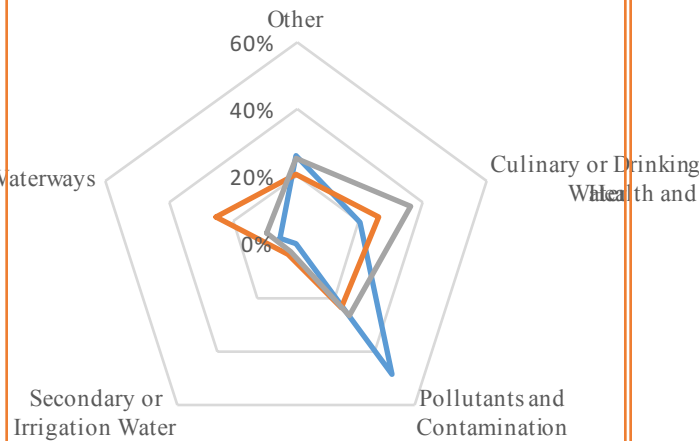
Water Supply



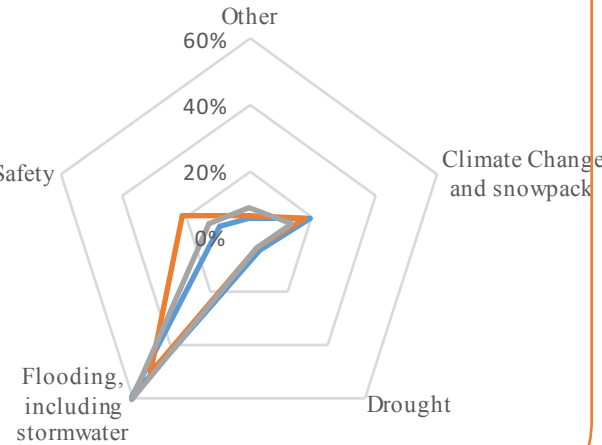
Infrastructure



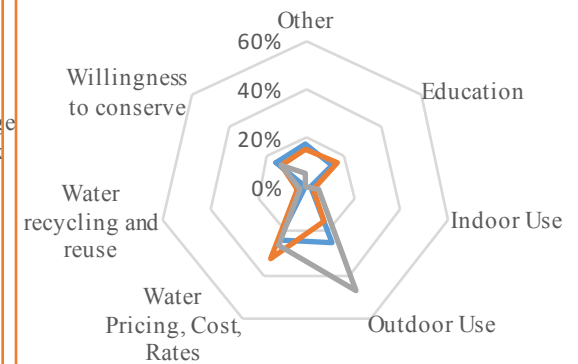
Water Quality



Water Hazards



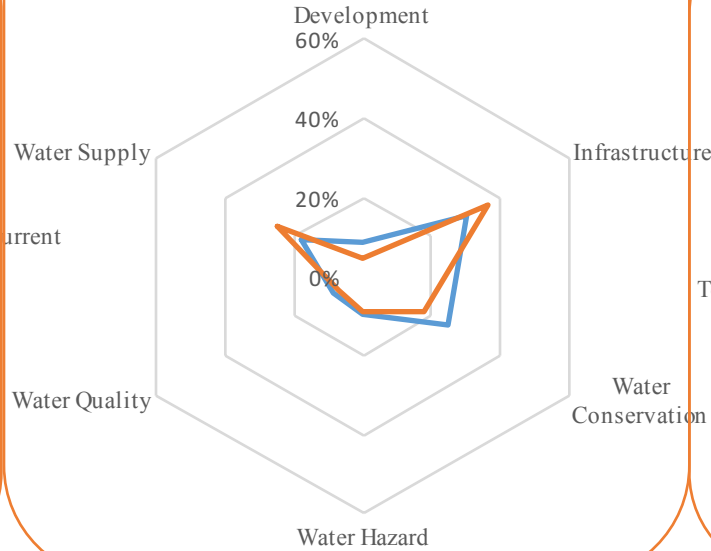
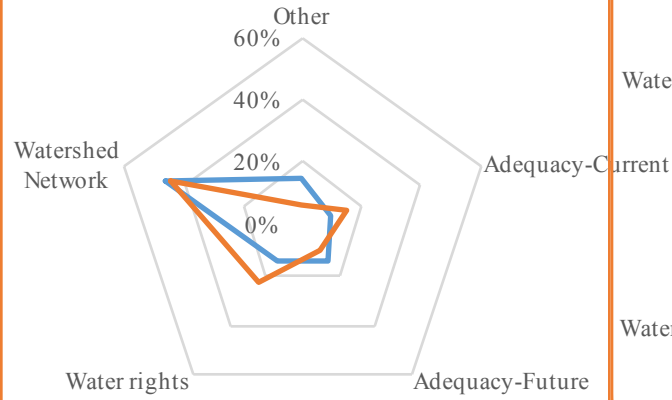
Water Conservation



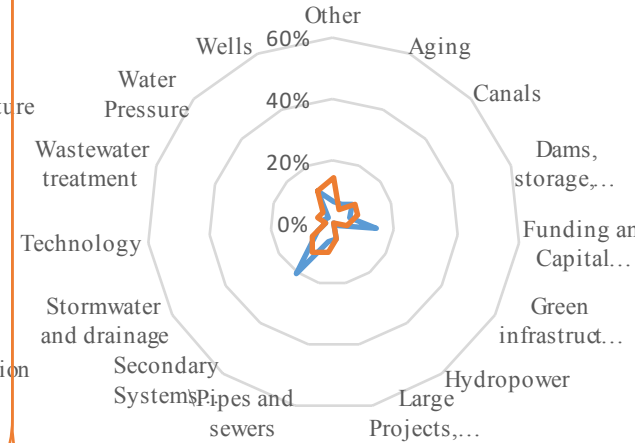
■ Salt Lake Valley (16)
 ■ Cache Valley (14)
 ■ Heber Valley (6)

Total content, Position

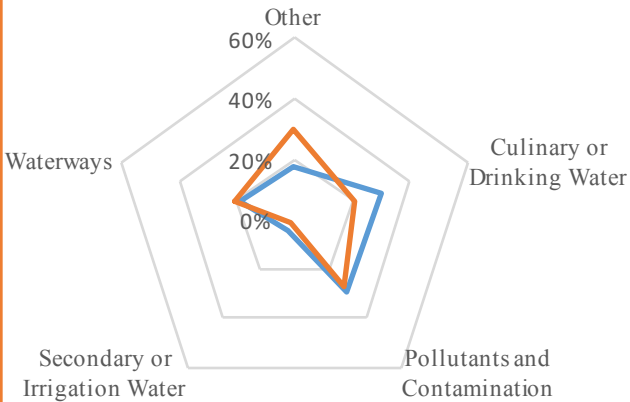
Water Supply



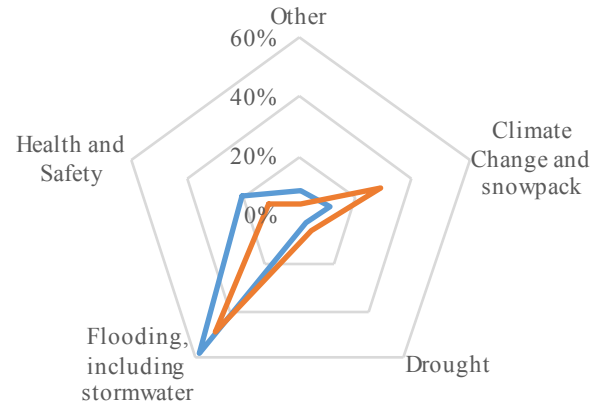
Infrastructure



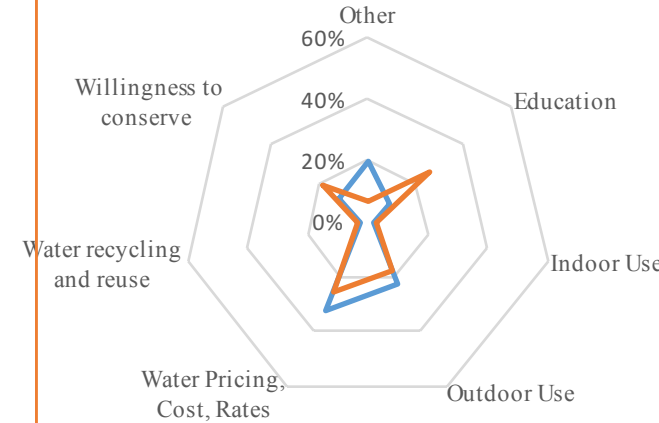
Water Quality



Water Hazards



Water Conservation

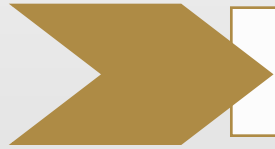


■ Elected (24) ■ Practitioner (18)

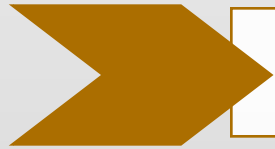
Summary



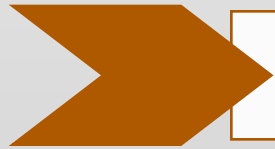
Different scales = different focus



Infrastructure is top priority for city leaders



Key issues differ by place and position

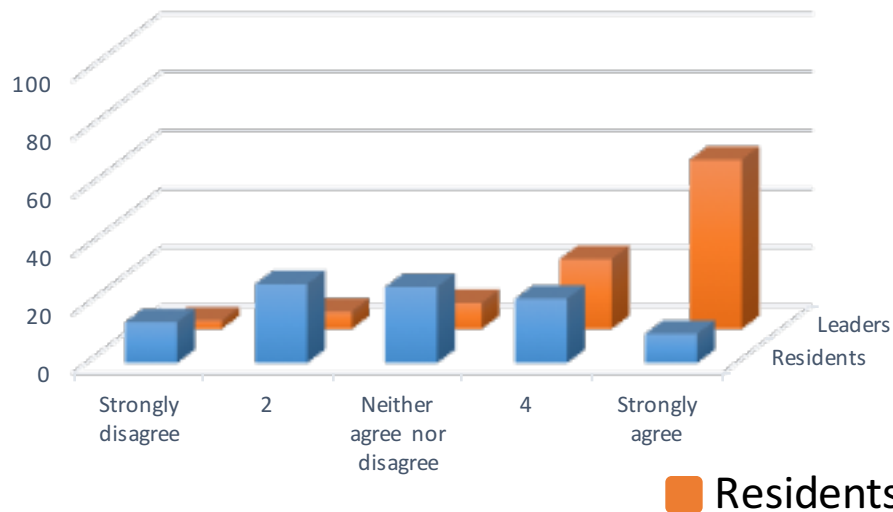


Overall, amount of time is spent on issues equally

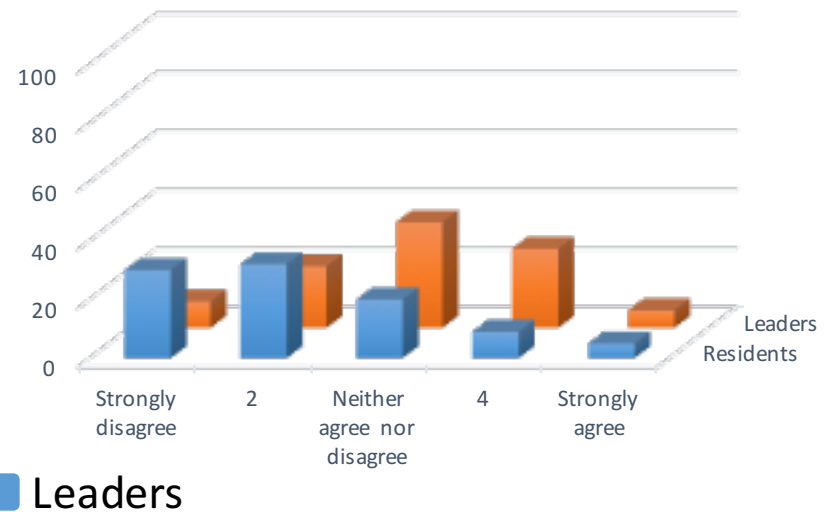
Are these the same water issues of residents?

Life is good. So when we go in and start tearing up a canal ...until we're actually out there getting started, they could care less. The minute we start, "you idiots, what are you thinking? Why are you doing this?"
- Practitioner

ADEQUATE CURRENT WATER SUPPLY

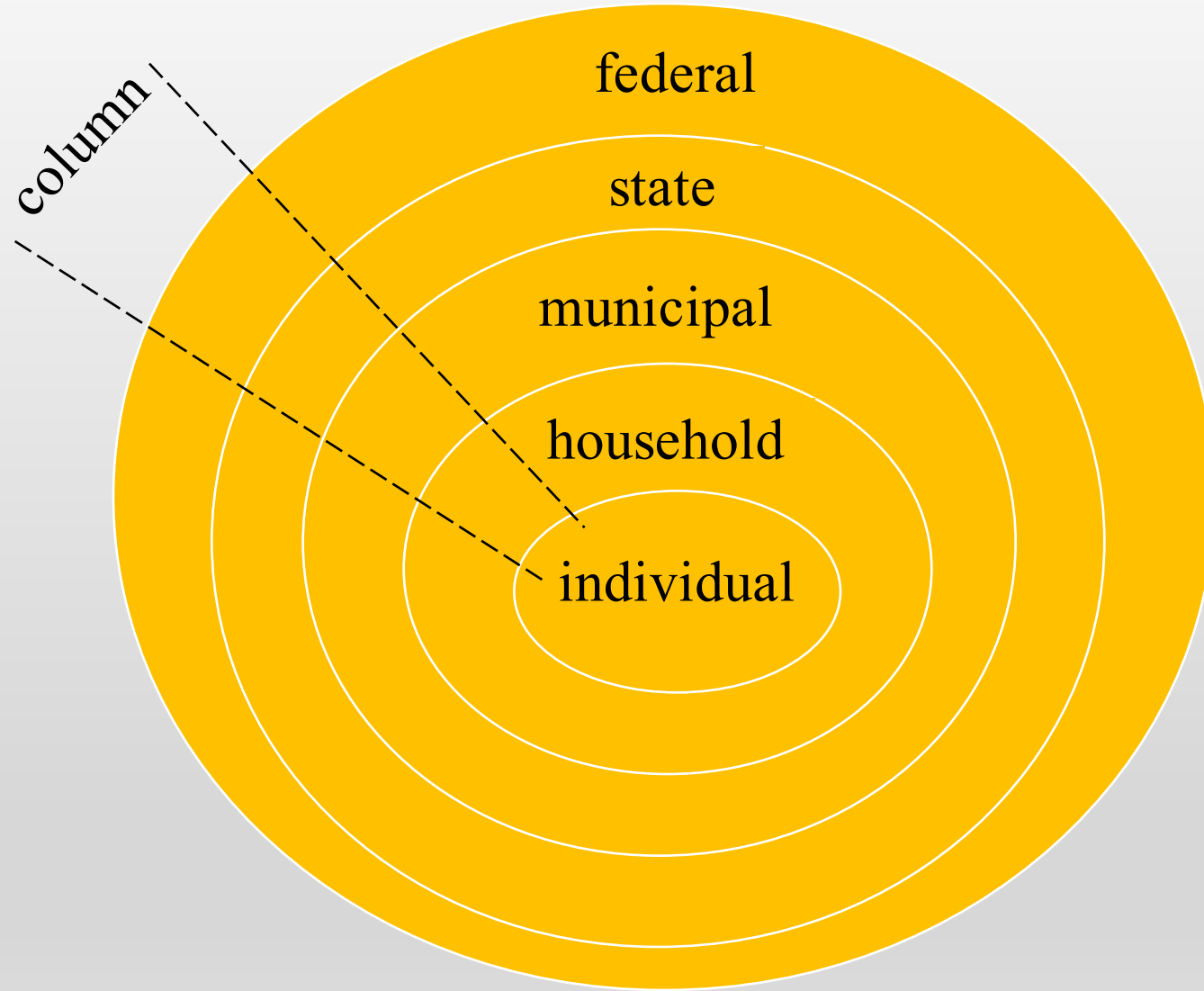


ADEQUATE FUTURE WATER SUPPLY



Residents Leaders

Column Sampling



Thank you!

Participants

Elected officials
Public utility directors

Co-authors

Courtney Flint, PhD
Douglas Jackson-Smith, PhD

Transcribers

Natalie Harker Kenley
Ashley Bell

Coders

Matthew Barnett
Ennea Fairchild

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Citations

PRISM (Parameter-elevation Regressions on
Independent Slopes Model
<http://prism.oregonstate.edu>), National Weather
Service Cooperative Observer Network (COOP)



Are these the same key water issues of state actors?

How water is framed at state level

