

PUBLIC WORKS CONSTRUCTION STANDARDS - NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS UPDATE

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Governments

2012 Public Works Roundup
May 24, 2012

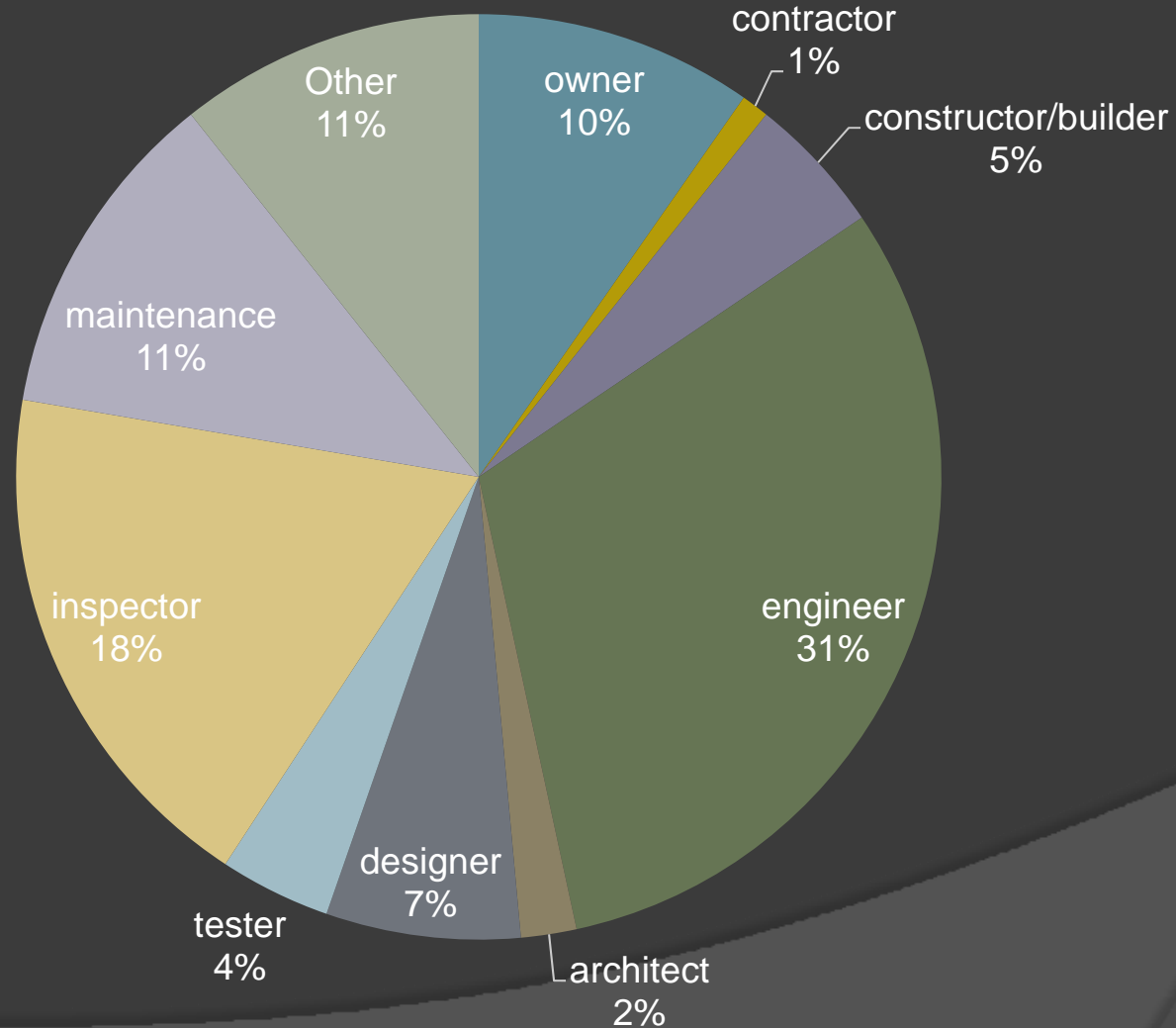
Background of Construction Standards

- Recognition that inconsistent construction standards in use throughout the region was contributing to less than consistent product and compatibility issues among communities.
- The “Blue Book” was first published in 1977 by the North Central Texas Council of Governments’ Public Works Council.
- The Blue Book was revised and improved over time through a complex Public Works Committee structure for general provisions, methods and materials.
- Until the late 1990’s, the Blue Book was edited by NCTCOG and produced by a private contractor responsible for periodic amendments.
- NCTCOG responded to regional desire to bring the process in-house and to address construction .
- The Standard Drawings were first introduced in 1997 as a graphical companion to the Blue Book.
- The current PW Construction Standards version was adopted in 2004.
 - Contains Standard Specifications and Standard Drawings
- Since then the Standards have been on “maintenance mode” and iSWM has been a major focus of the Public Works program.

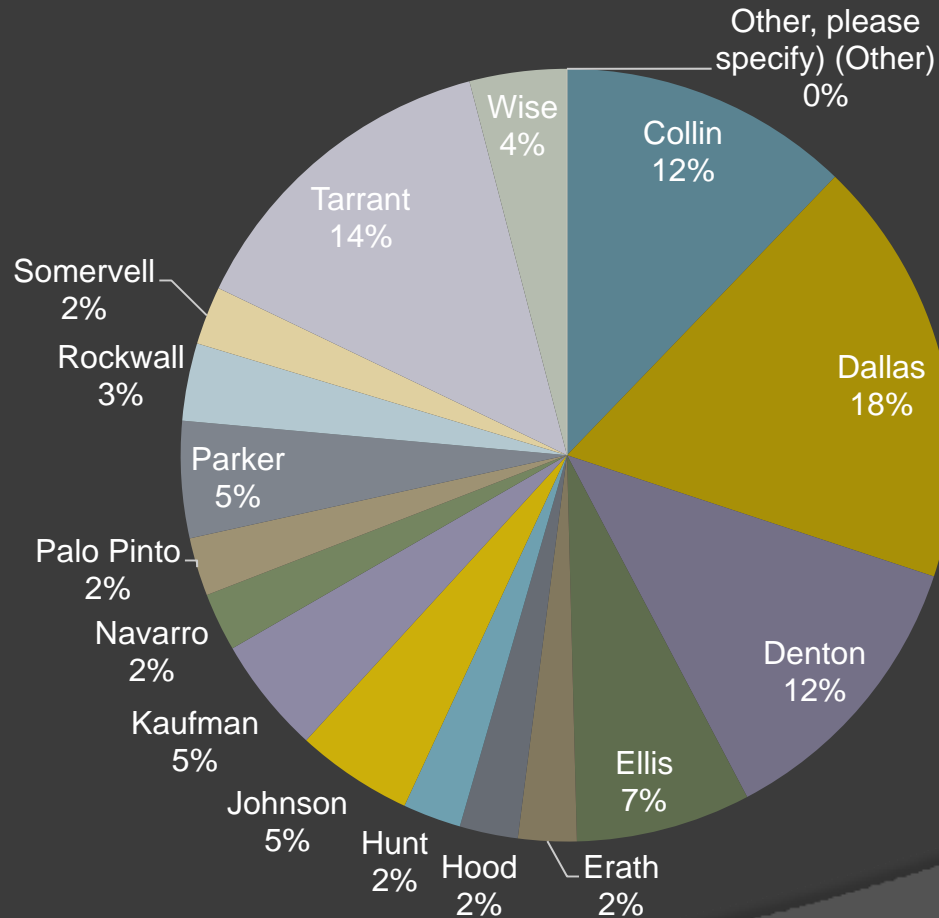
Construction Standards Update Survey

- We have continued to collect comments and suggestions for Construction Standards amendments and changes.
- The Public Works Council and staff are currently conducting a survey of North Texas public works professionals:
 - Who is using the Standards?
 - How are the Standards being used?
 - Which divisions of the Standards are current or need to be updated?
- To date, the survey has been sent out via email and standard mail to approximately 350 public works professionals.
- We have received approximately 50 complete survey responses.
- The results of the survey will help the Public Works Council decide whether the Standards need to be update, and if so, to formulate a plan for the update process.

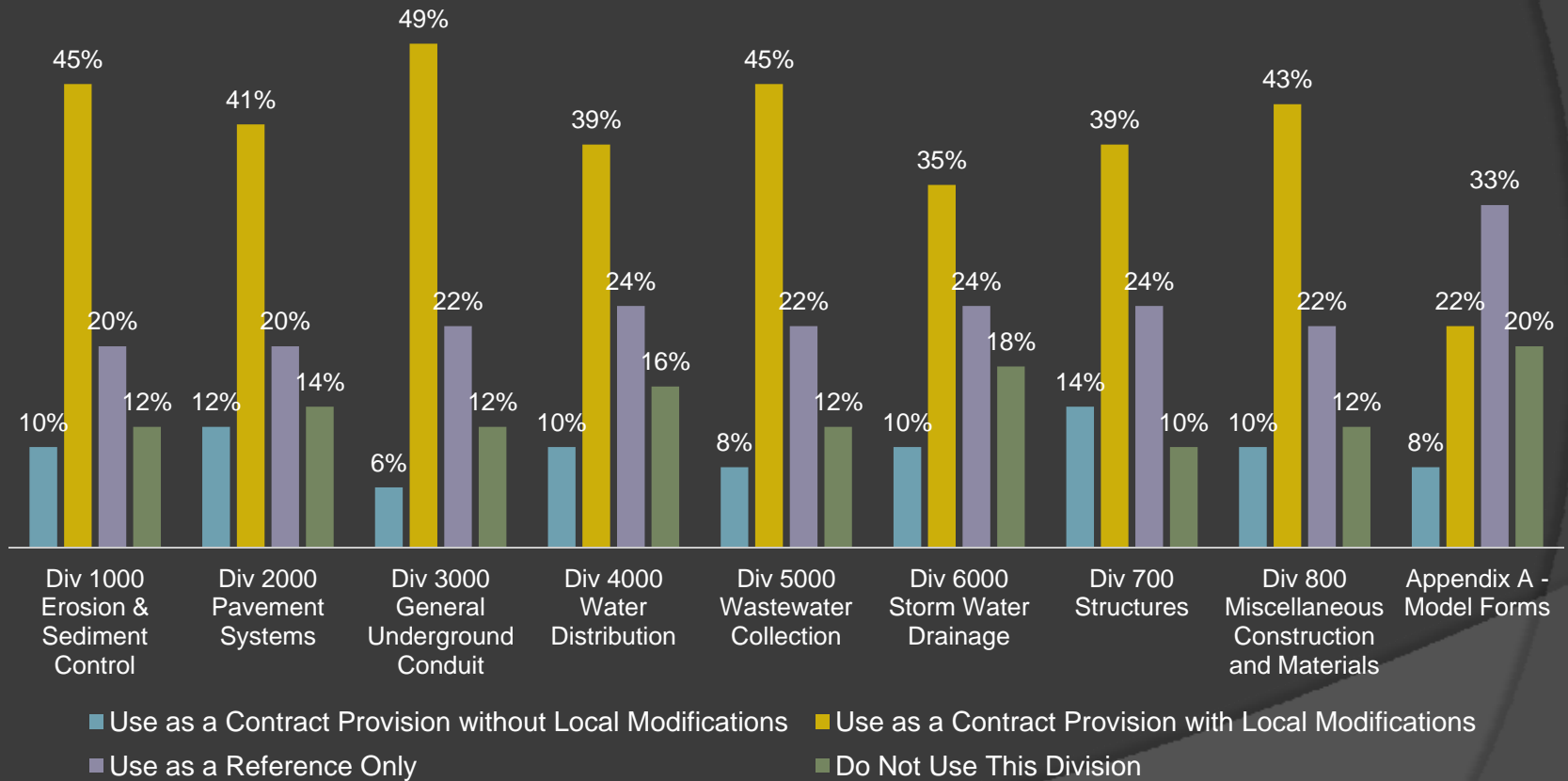
Who is using the Standards?



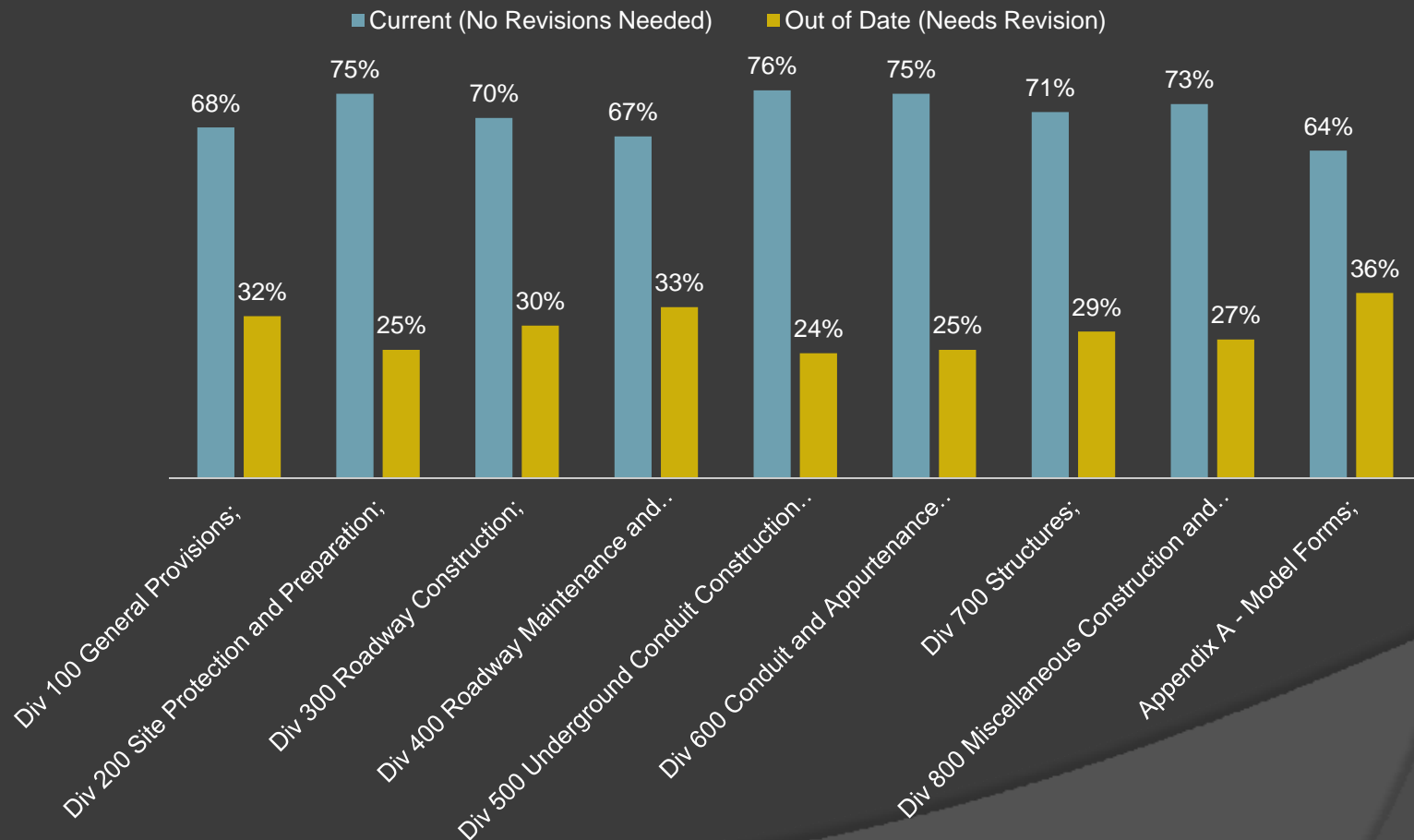
Where are the survey respondents?



How are the Specifications being used?

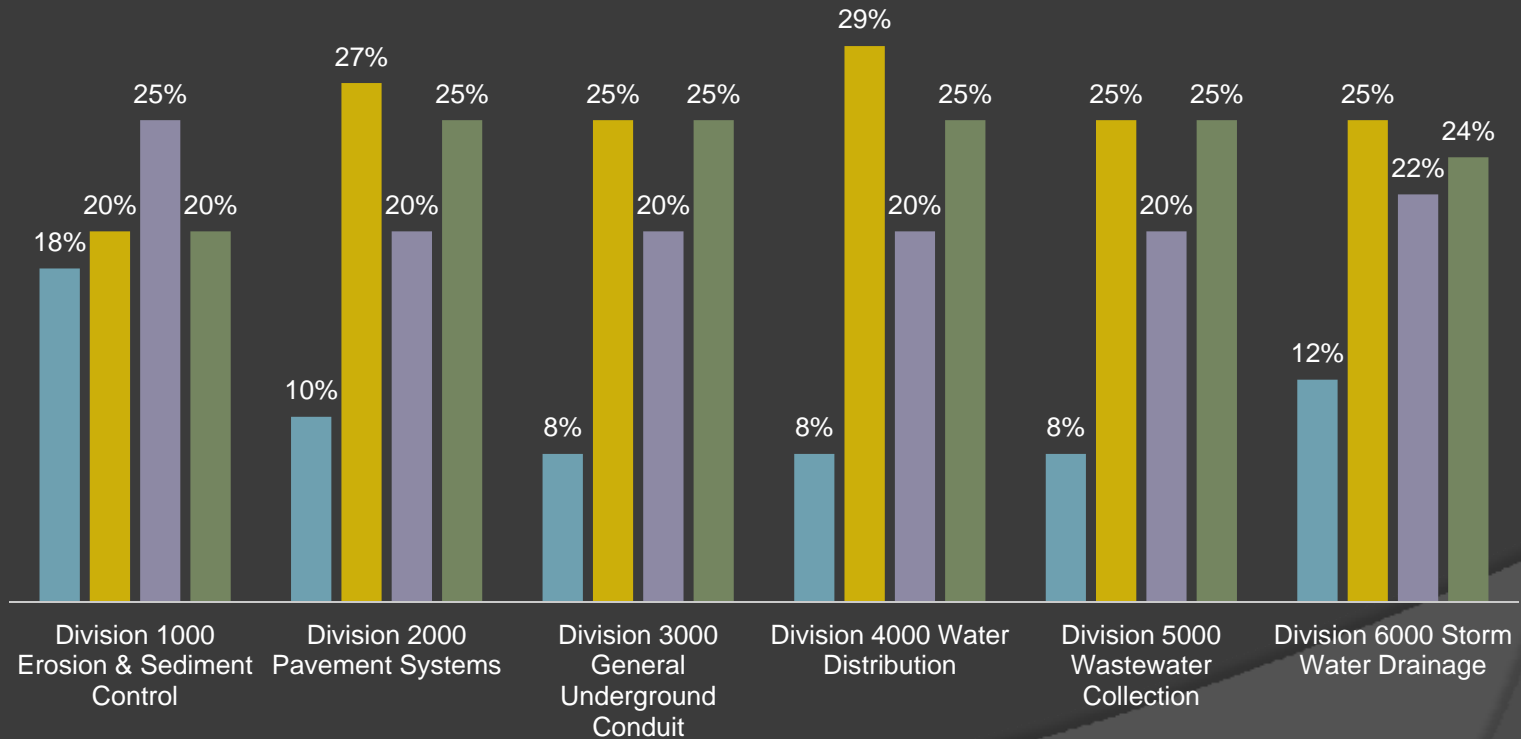


Which Divisions of the Standard Specifications are current or out of date?

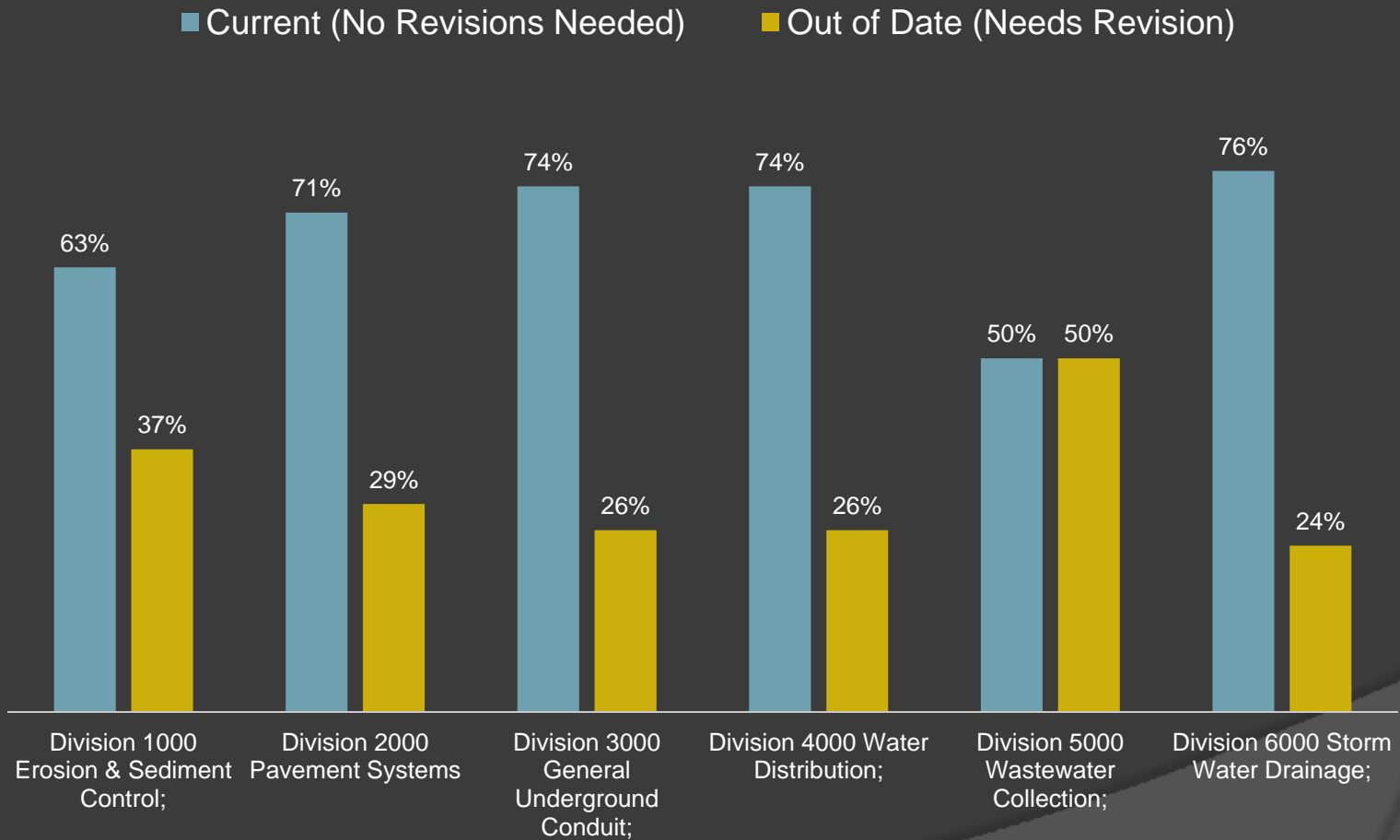


Which Standard Drawings are being used and how?

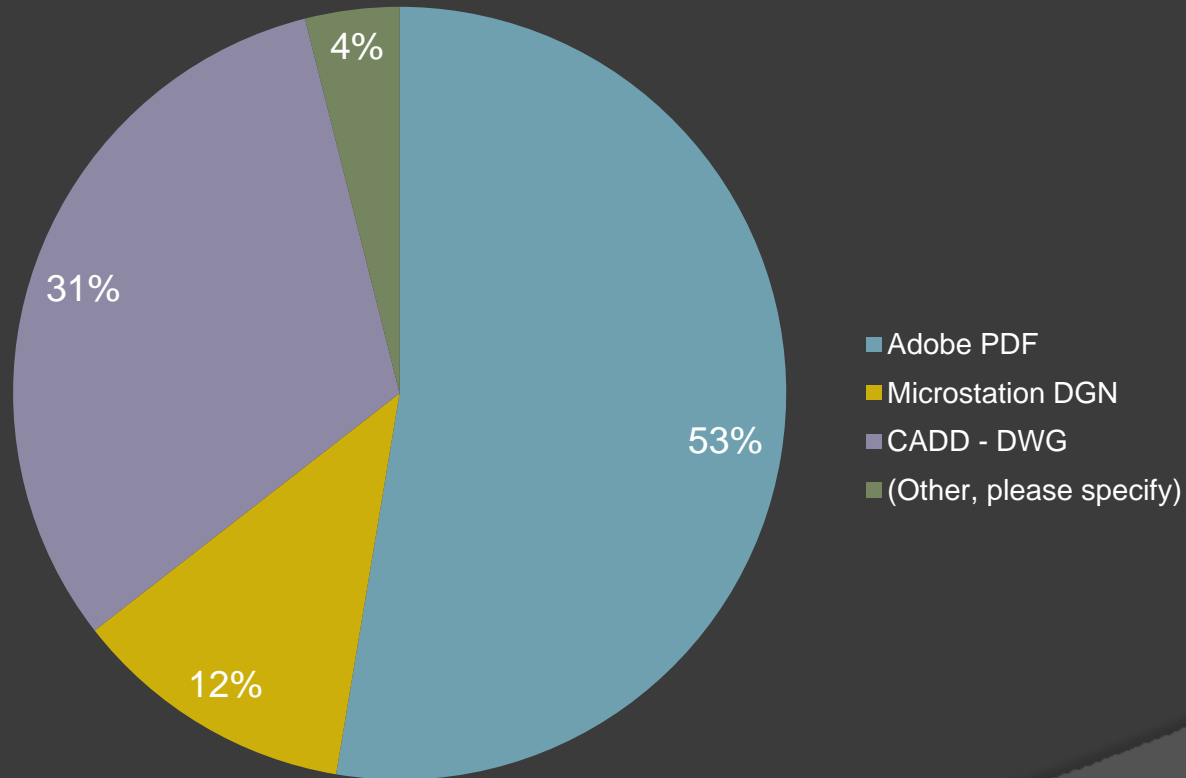
- Use as a Contract Provision without Local Modifications
- Use as a Contract Provision with Local Modifications
- Use as a Reference Only
- Do Not Use This Division



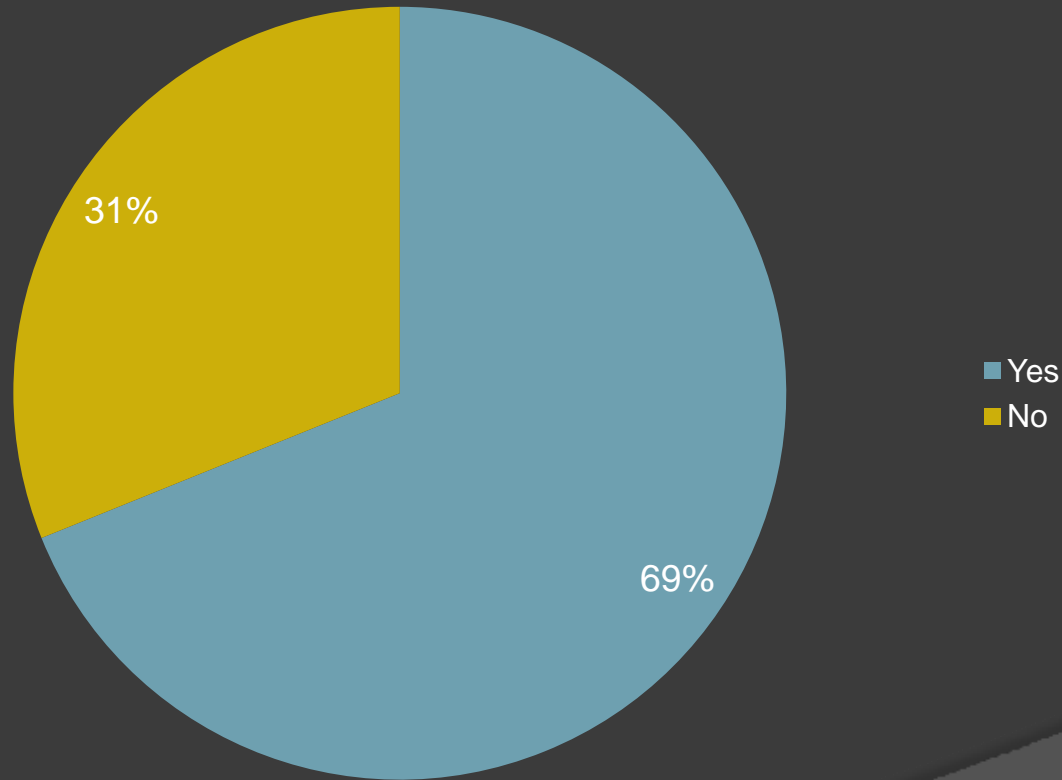
Which Standard Drawings are current or out of date?



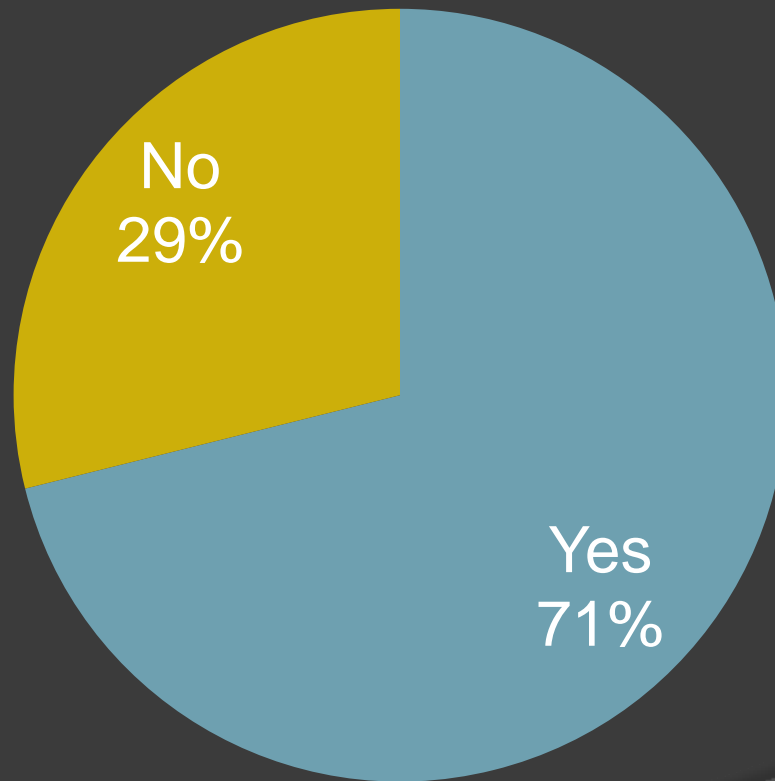
What other formats would you like to see the Standards provided in?



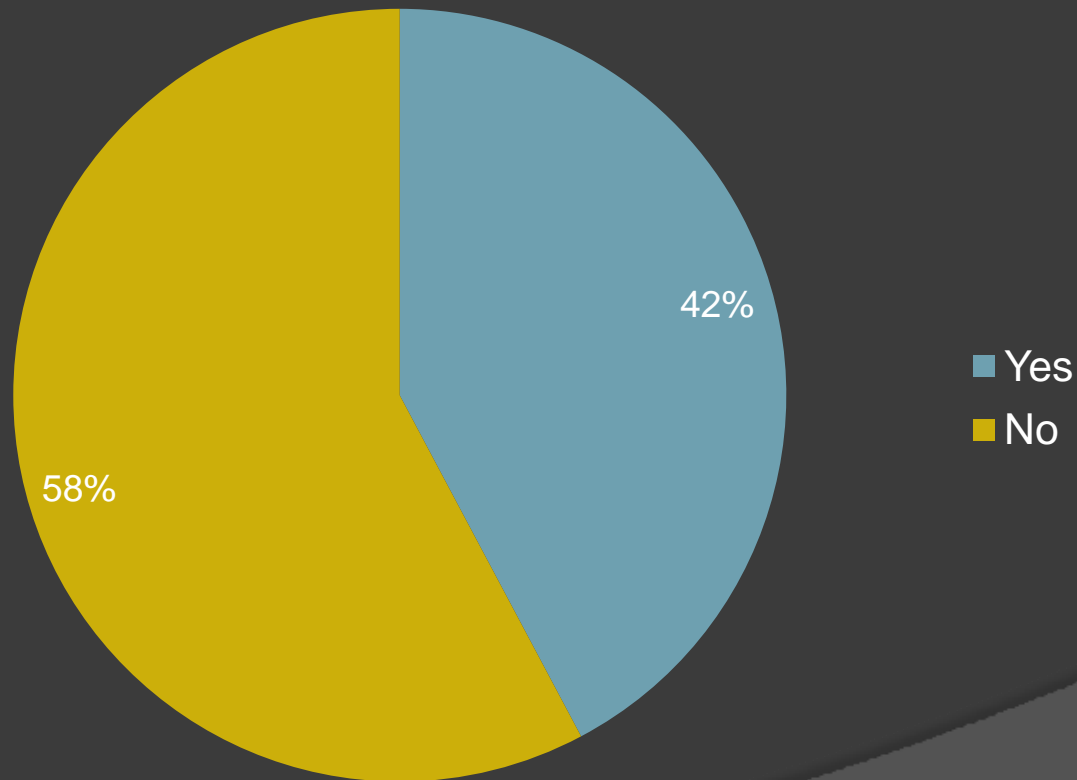
Do the Standards adequately allow for the use of
new or improved
products/systems/materials/methods?



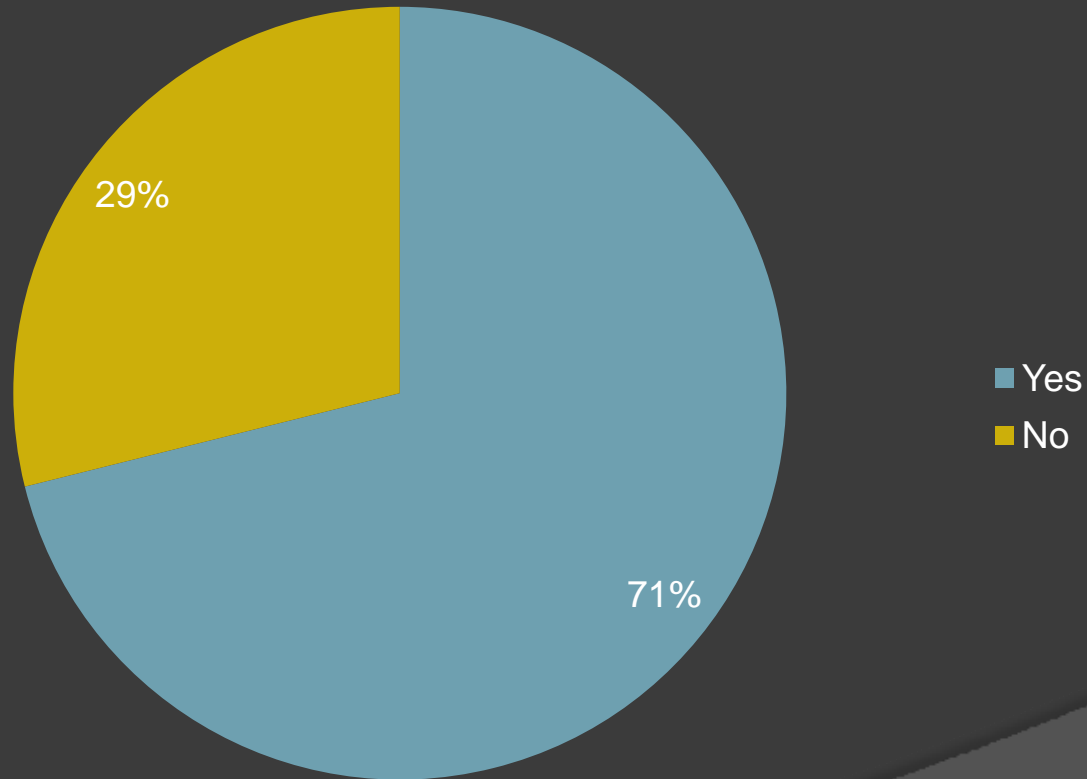
Do you feel TxDOT Standard Specifications for Construction and Maintenance of Highways, Streets, and Bridges (including Standard Drawings) should be incorporated by reference?



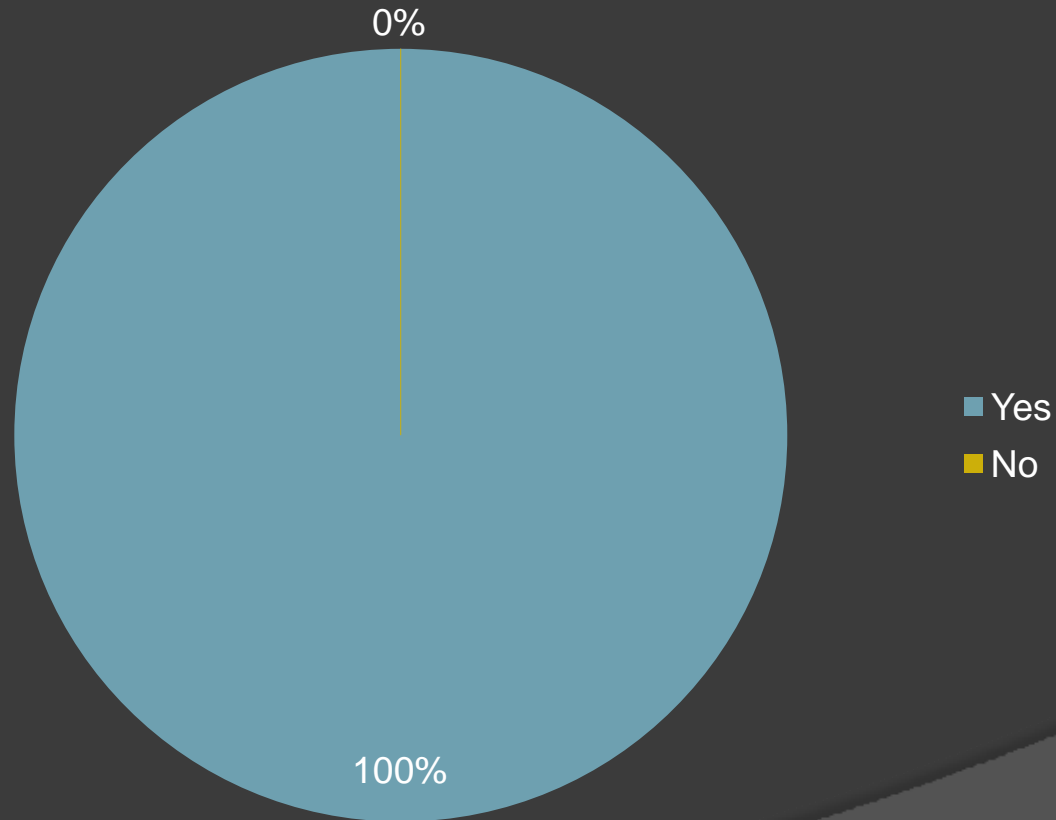
Do you feel the Standards adequately address the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)?



Do you feel the Standards need to incorporate multi-modal considerations for roadways?



Should NCTCOG continue to provide the Public Works Construction Standards to the region?



In Summary:

- A wide range of respondents feel that the Standards are a benefit to the region and should continue to be provided.
- The Construction Standards need to be updated.
- NCTCOG should continue to provide the Standards.
- Thanks to all of you who have completed the survey. If you have not, please visit <http://www.nctcog.org/envir/SEEDevEx/pubworks/index.asp> to access the survey and give us your thoughts on the use and effectiveness of the Construction Standards.