

Innovative Citizen Participation  
and New Democratic Institutions  
**CATCHING THE DELIBERATIVE WAVE**

DATABASE UPDATE 2021

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@oecdgov | #delibWave

**Three  
criteria for  
a case  
study to be  
included in  
the OECD  
Database:**

- 1. Representativeness:** Members of the process were randomly selected & demographically stratified to be broadly representative of the population
- 2. Deliberation:** Requires time – this was operationalised as a minimum one full day of face-to-face meetings in-person, online, or hybrid
- 3. Impact:** Commissioned by a public authority who could respond to and act on the recommendations



# Methodology

## 1. Data collection

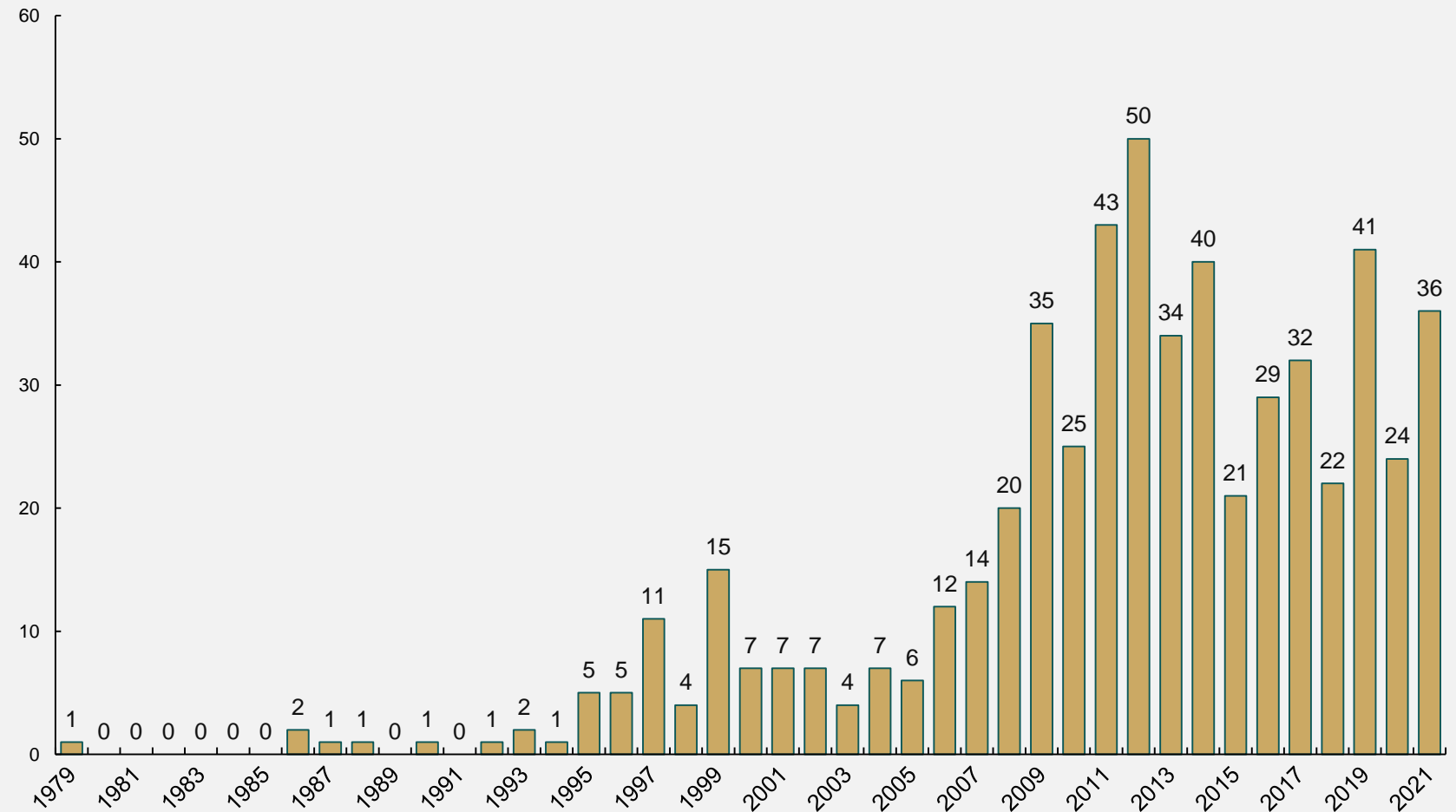
- Desk research
- Targeted call to OECD Innovative Citizen Participation Network and the Democracy R&D Network
- Open call for submissions

## 2. Data cleaning & validation

- Validation with practitioners to ensure that all data for cases since at least 2018 is correct

# The “deliberative wave” has been building since 1979, gaining momentum since 2010

Number of representative deliberative processes per year, 1979 – 2021



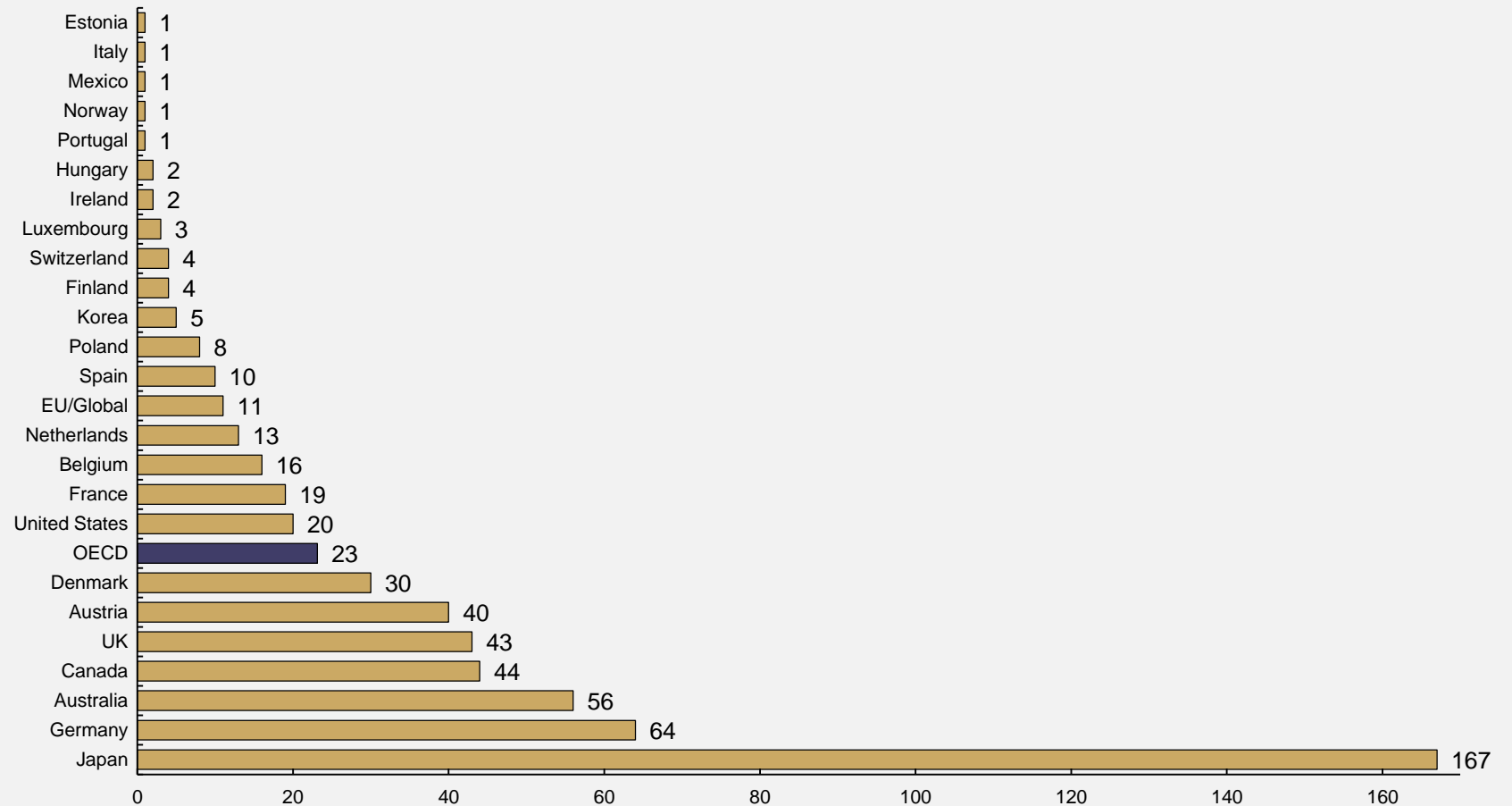
Note: n=566; Data for OECD countries is based on 24 OECD countries that were members in 2021 plus the European Union. Processes that spanned over multiple years are noted by the year of their completion (except for permanent ongoing processes).

Source: OECD Database of Representative Deliberative Processes and Institutions (2021).

# Where cases of representative deliberative processes were found

Number of representative deliberative processes per country, 1979-2021\*

\*This figure is not a ranking nor is it representative of all the cases in a country. It is a graphic representation of the number of cases that the OECD has collected.



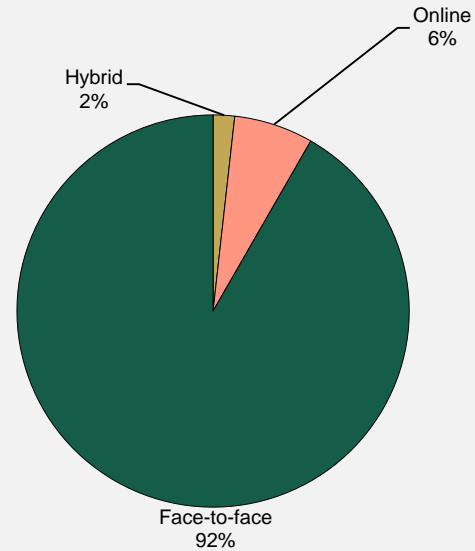
Note: n=566; Data for OECD countries is based on 24 OECD countries that were members in 2021 plus the European Union.

Source: OECD Database of Representative Deliberative Processes and Institutions (2021).

# Face-to-face, online, and hybrid methods of deliberation

The Covid-19 pandemic pushed many public authorities to do their deliberative processes online or in a hybrid format, leading to new learnings for the field

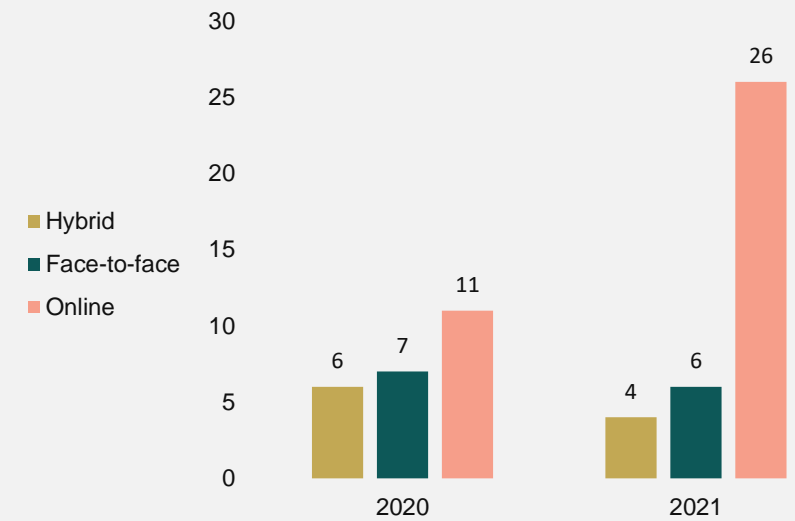
Methods used to conduct deliberative processes: Face-to-face, online, and hybrid



Note: n=566; Data for OECD countries is based on 24 OECD countries that were members in 2021 plus the European Union.

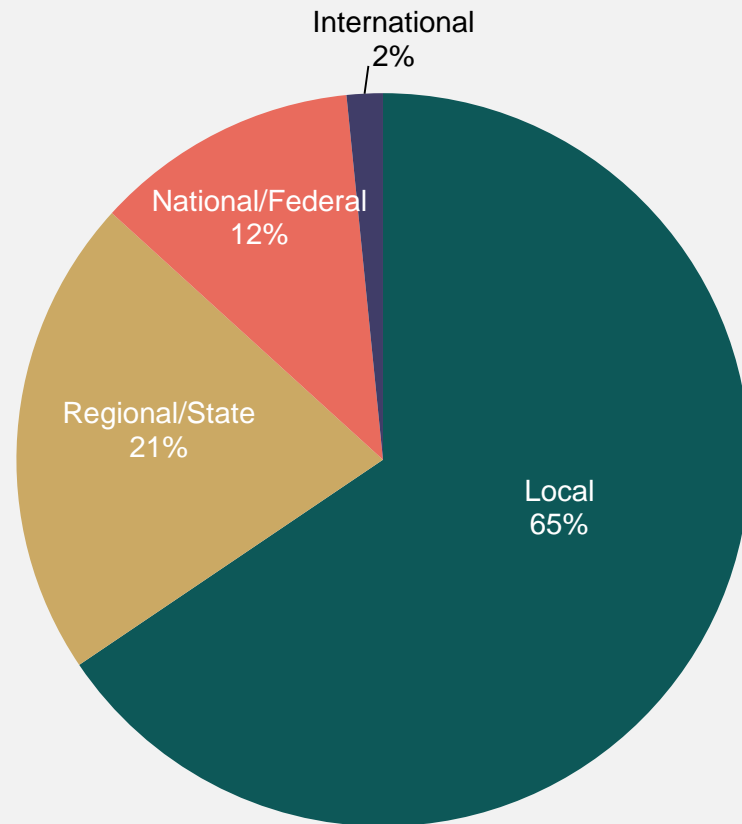
Source: OECD Database of Representative Deliberative Processes and Institutions (2021).

In 2020 and 2021, online deliberation was the most commonly used medium for conducting a deliberative process



Note: n=101; Data for OECD countries is based on 16 OECD countries (Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Mexico, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, UK and USA) that were members in 2021 plus EU/Global.

Source: OECD Database of Representative Deliberative Processes and Institutions (2021).



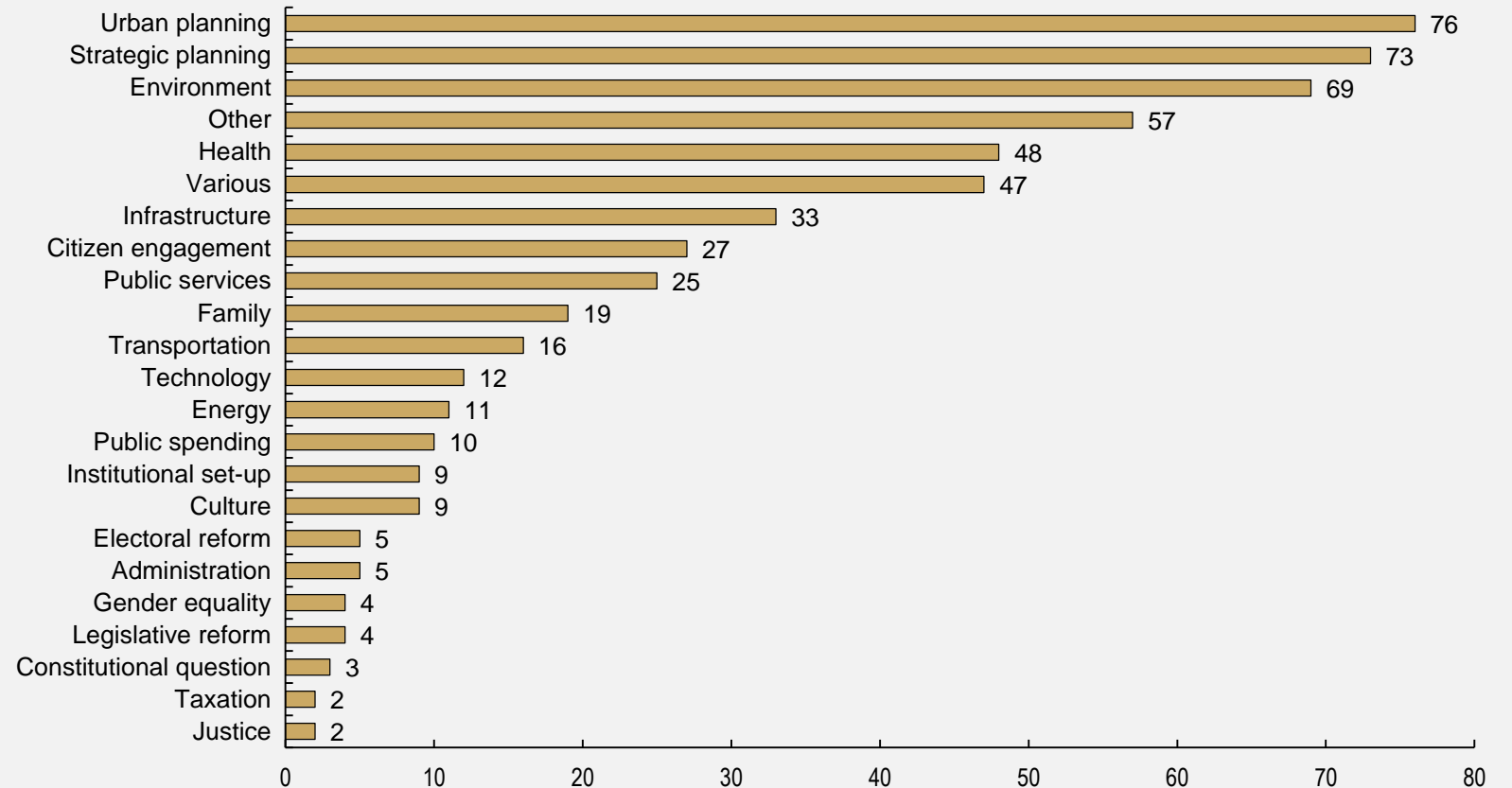
*Note: n=566; Data for OECD countries is based on 24 OECD countries that were members in 2021 plus the European Union.*

*Source: OECD Database of Representative Deliberative Processes and Institutions (2021).*

**Representative  
deliberative  
processes have  
been used at all  
levels of  
government**

# Public authorities have commissioned representative deliberative processes for a wide range of policy issues

Number of times a policy issue has been addressed through a representative deliberative process



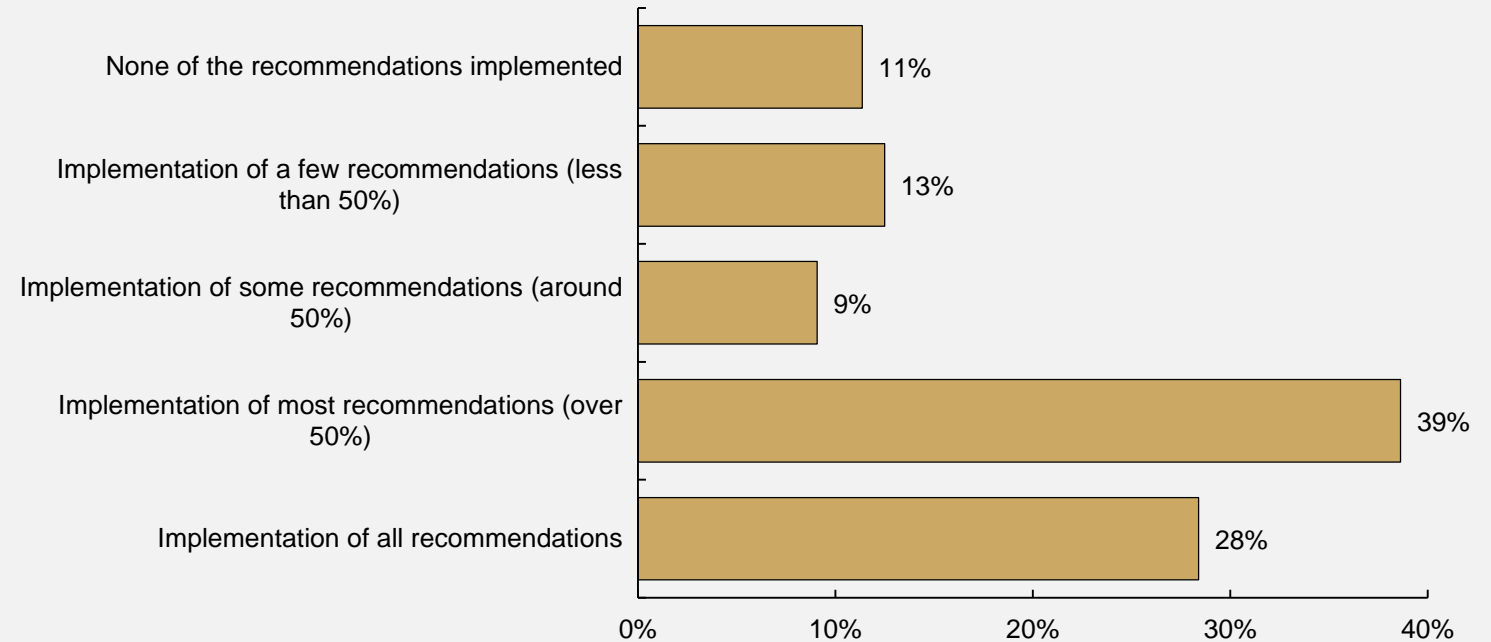
Note: n=566; Other policy issues include: agriculture; constitutional questions; consumer protection; cooperative housing; culture; firework use; gambling regulations; gender equality; justice; legislative reform; migration; noise pollution; safety; socioeconomic development; science and research; sustainable development; taxation; water management; youth.

Source: OECD Database of Representative Deliberative Processes and Institutions (2021).



# In around two-thirds of cases, at least half of participants' recommendations are accepted by public authorities

*Implementation of recommendations produced during representative deliberative processes for public decision making, 1979-2021*

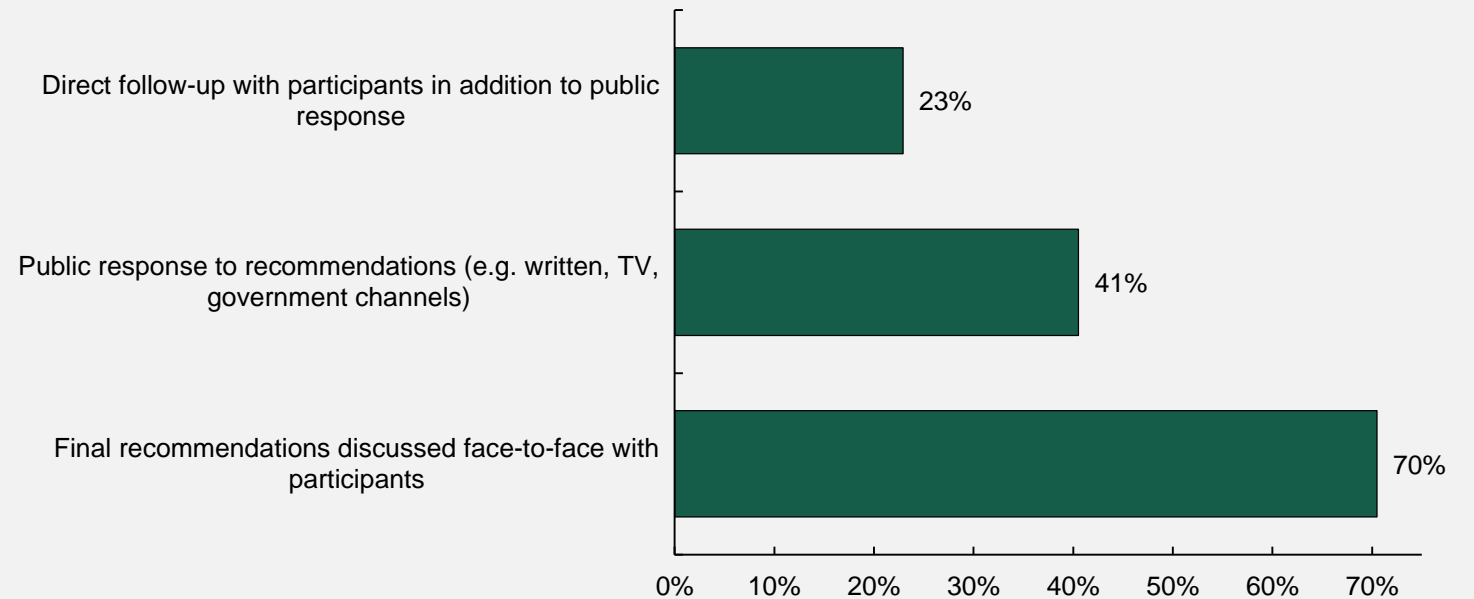


*Note: n=88; Data for OECD countries is based on 16 OECD countries that were members in 2021 (Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Estonia, France, Hungary, Ireland, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Spain, UK and USA) plus the European Union/Global, from 1997-2021.*

*Source: OECD Database of Representative Deliberative Processes and Institutions (2021).*

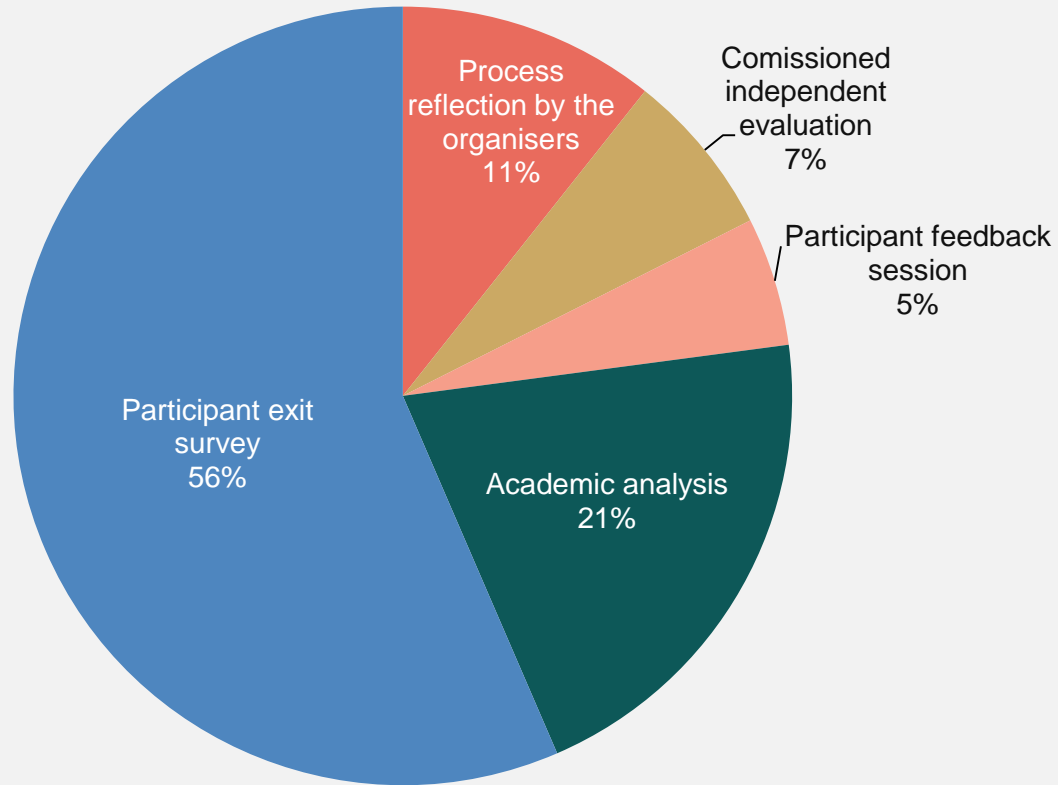
# In over two-thirds of cases, public authorities discuss participants' recommendations face-to-face with them

*Response of public authorities to the recommendations produced during representative deliberative processes for public decision making, 1979-2021*



*Note: n=255; Data for OECD countries is based on 20 OECD countries that were members in 2021 (Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, UK and USA) plus the European Union/Global, from 1979-2021.*

*Source: OECD Database of Representative Deliberative Processes and Institutions (2021).*



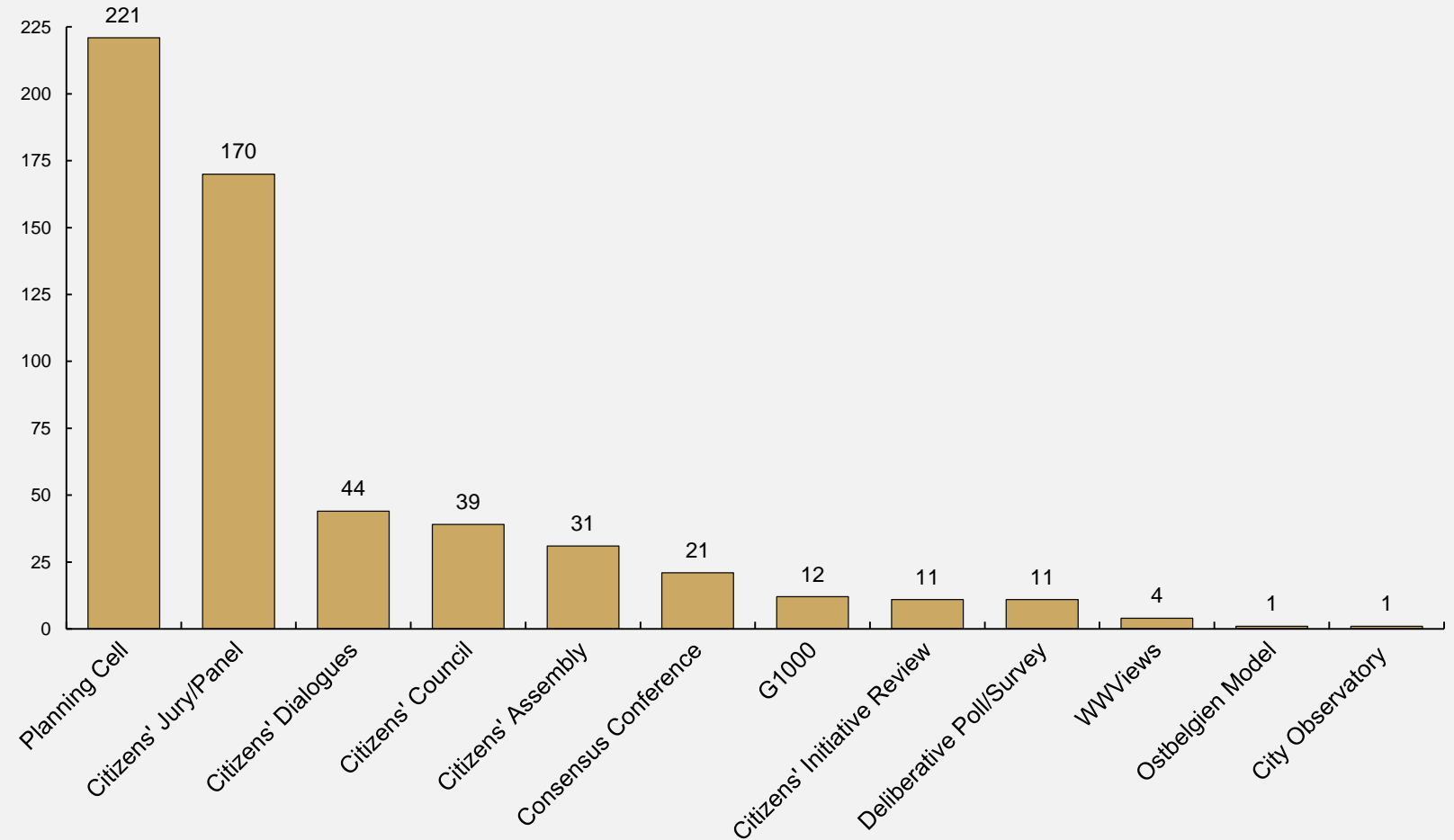
## Methods used to evaluate representative deliberative processes for public decision making, 1979-2021

*Notes: Data is from 173 deliberative processes for which data is available about the evaluation component. Data comes from 19 OECD countries (Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland, UK, and USA), and EU/Global, 1979-2021.*

*Source: OECD Database of Representative Deliberative Processes and Institutions (2021).*

# Use of different deliberative models

Total number of times each deliberative model has been used for public decision making, 1979-2021



Note: n=566; Data for OECD countries is based on 24 OECD countries that were members in 2021 plus the European Union.

Source: OECD Database of Representative Deliberative Processes and Institutions (2021).



# For further information:

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