

WINTER SPARE THE AIR STUDY
2010-2011 WINTER WOOD SMOKE SEASON



CONDUCTED FOR THE



BAY AREA
AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT

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INTRODUCTION

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) was established in 1955 by the California State Legislature as the first multi-county agency in the State to address the problem of air pollution on a regular basis. The BAAQMD's primary regulatory authority covers stationary sources of air pollution such as factories, industrial facilities, manufacturing operations, gasoline stations and dry cleaners. The BAAQMD is also responsible for transportation control measures to reduce emissions from mobile sources of air pollution in its Clean Air Plan.

Serving the counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and the western half of Solano and southern half of Sonoma, one of the BAAQMD's primary charges is to increase public awareness of positive air quality choices. To facilitate this effort, the Spare the Air Program was established by the BAAQMD in 1991 to educate residents about air pollution and to encourage them to modify their behavior to reduce and prevent it. During the summer ozone season (May to October), the BAAQMD conducts episodic public education campaigns designed to encourage the public to reduce their driving and use of certain household products on days that are expected to violate ozone air quality standards. During the winter season (November to February), the focus of the Program shifts to reducing the impact of wood burning on air quality by encouraging the public to *not* burn wood and to replace their wood-burning fireplaces and stoves with cleaner alternatives, such as natural gas fireplaces.

Although today many air quality management districts throughout the country administer similar programs, the Spare the Air program in the Bay Area was the first of its kind.

MOTIVATION FOR STUDY The primary motivation for this study was to better understand the public's attitudes and behavior with respect to burning wood, their awareness of the Winter Spare the Air Program, as well as the impact that the Program has had on awareness, opinions and behavior relevant to burning wood and air quality. In this respect, this study is quite similar to past surveys conducted for the BAAQMD every year since 2001.

The passage of California Senate Bill 656 to reduce public exposure to particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5) was another key motivation for the study.¹ SB 656 requires the California Air Resources Board (ARB), in consultation with local air districts, to develop and adopt a list of the most readily available, feasible and cost-effective control measures that could be used to reduce PM10 and PM2.5—with the goal of making progress in the near-term toward attainment of State and Federal PM10 and PM2.5 standards. Although the Bay Area is currently in attainment for the Federal PM10 and PM2.5 standards, like almost every other area in California it does not meet the stricter State standards.

1. Particulate matter (PM) consists of very small liquid and solid particles suspended in the air, and includes particles smaller than 10 microns (PM10) as well as finer particles smaller than 2.5 microns (PM2.5). Ambient PM is made up of particles that are emitted directly—such as soot and fugitive dust—as well as secondary particles that are formed in the atmosphere from reactions involving precursor pollutants such as oxides of nitrogen, sulfur oxides, volatile organic compounds, and ammonia. Exposure to PM is linked to increased frequency and severity of asthma attacks and even premature death in people with pre-existing cardiac or respiratory disease. Infants and children, the elderly, and persons with heart and lung disease are the most sensitive to PM pollution.

OVERVIEW OF METHODOLOGY A full description of the methodology used for this study is included later in this report (see *Methodology* on page 67). A total of 1,300 randomly selected residents within the District's boundaries participated in the survey on one of 31 interviewing dates between November 22, 2010 and February 26, 2011. Randomly selected respondents were offered the option of participating by telephone or online at a secure, password-protected website hosted by True North. Probability-based sampling techniques and monitoring of the demographics resulted in a sample that is representative of the adult population within the District.

When compared with the past surveys conducted for the District on wood burning and the Winter Spare the Air Program, there are several methodological changes worth noting at the outset of this report. In the interest of improving the *validity* and *reliability* of select opinion and behavior measures, the 2010 study continued several questionnaire changes that were first implemented in the 2004 season. The most notable of these changes addressed how the questionnaire measured the impacts of the Winter Spare the Air Program. The changes were made so that the impacts of the winter program on wood burning behavior would be measured using the same basic methodology employed by the BAAQMD—and recommended by CARB and EPA²—to measure the impacts of the summer Spare the Air Program on driving behavior.³

Based on the 2005 results, several additional refinements were made to the 2006 questionnaire with respect to measuring ownership of wood-burning heating devices and the practice off-season burning. Because these improvements occasionally involved changing the wording, format and/or response options for a particular question, in some cases it is not possible to statistically compare the results of the post-2006 surveys with previous surveys for select measures. Where such comparisons are possible, however, this report presents the results from past surveys.

STATISTICAL SIGNIFICANCE Many of the figures and tables in this report present the results of questions asked in 2010 alongside the results found in prior years for identical questions. In such cases, True North conducted the appropriate tests of statistical significance to identify changes that likely reflect actual changes in public opinion or behavior over time—as opposed to being due to chance associated with selecting two cross-sectional samples independently and at random. Differences between studies are identified as *statistically significant* if we can be 95% confident that the differences reflect an actual change in public opinion or behavior between the two studies. Statistically significant differences within response categories over time are denoted by the † symbol which appears in the figure next to the appropriate response value for 2010.

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2. The CARB/EPA Method is summarized in the Transportation Research Board's (TRB) journal—*Transportation Research Record*—for 2004 in an article entitled *Development of a Quantification Method for Measuring the Travel and Emissions Impacts of Episodic Ozone Alert Programs* (pages 153-159). It is described in detail in the following air resources guidance report: CARB, "Quantification Method Reference Manual: A Method to Measure Travel and Emissions Impacts of Ozone Action Public Education Programs," April 2003. In addition to Eric Schreffler, Dr. Timothy McLarney and Richard Sarles, the TRB paper and guidance report were co-authored by Joann Lu and Jeff Weir of CARB, as well as Thomas Higgins and Dr. Will Johnson of K.T. Analytics.
 3. For a detailed description of the updated CARB/EPA Method and its application to the BAAQMD's summer Spare the Air Program, see the *Spare the Air Study: 2010 Summer Ozone Season* report prepared for the BAAQMD by True North.

ORGANIZATION OF REPORT This report is designed to meet the needs of readers who prefer a summary of the findings, as well as those who are interested in the details of the results. For those who seek an overview of the findings, the sections titled *Just the Facts* and *Conclusions* are for you. They provide a summary of the most important factual findings of the survey in bullet-point format and a discussion of their implications. For the interested reader, this section is followed by a more detailed question-by-question discussion of the results from the survey by topic area (see *Table of Contents*), as well as a description of the methodology employed for collecting and analyzing the data. And, for the truly ambitious reader, the questionnaire used for the interviews is contained at the back of this report (see *Questionnaire & Toplines* on page 71).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS True North thanks Ralph Borrmann and Dr. David Fairley of the BAAQMD for their valuable input during the design stages of this study. Their expertise and insight improved the overall quality of the research presented here.

DISCLAIMER The statements and conclusions in this report are those of the authors, Dr. Timothy McLarney and Richard Sarles at True North Research, Inc. (True North), and not necessarily those of the BAAQMD. Any errors or omissions are the responsibility of the authors.

ABOUT TRUE NORTH True North is a full-service survey research firm that is dedicated to providing public agencies with a clear understanding of the values, perceptions, opinions and behaviors of their residents and customers. Through designing and implementing scientific surveys, focus groups and one-on-one interviews, as well as expert interpretation of the findings, True North helps its clients to move with confidence when making strategic decisions in a variety of areas—such as planning, policy evaluation, performance management, and developing effective public information campaigns.

During their careers, Dr. McLarney (President) and Mr. Sarles (Principal Researcher) have designed and conducted over 600 survey research studies for public agencies—including dozens of studies related to air quality and Spare the Air public education programs.



JUST THE FACTS

The following is an outline of the main factual findings from the 2010 study. For the reader's convenience, we have organized the findings according to the section titles used in the body of this report. Thus, to learn more about a particular finding and how it may compare to findings from prior surveys (where applicable), simply turn to the appropriate report section.

WINTER WOOD BURNING BEHAVIOR

- Forty-three percent (43%) of respondents reported that their household contained at least one *wood-burning* fireplace, pellet stove, or wood stove.
- Twenty percent (20%) of households in the District contain at least one fireplace that burns natural gas or propane.
- Among households with a wood-burning fireplace or wood stove, natural wood logs were the most common type of wood primarily burned (43%), followed by manufactured logs (25%) and scrap wood (5%).
- When considering primary *and* secondary types of wood burned, the most commonly used wood was natural wood logs, mentioned by 60% of households with a wood-burning fireplace or wood stove. Almost half (47%) used manufactured logs, and approximately one-fifth (21%) burned scrap wood.
- Twenty-one percent (21%) of respondents in households that primarily burn natural wood logs were unable to identify the type of wood that they burn. Among those who knew the type of wood, oak was the most common (45%), followed by hardwood in general (20%) and pine (13%).
- When households that primarily burn natural wood logs were asked how they typically acquire their wood, respondents were split between those who gather their own (39%), those who purchase the wood from a local store (29%), and those who rely on a wood supplier (26%). Six percent (6%) mentioned an alternative source.
- Almost three-quarters (72%) of respondents who primarily burn natural logs stated that their wood is already dry and seasoned at the time they acquire it, whereas 17% reported that they typically acquire wood that is fresh-cut, 11% indicated that it depends or is a mixture, and 1% were unsure.
- Households that burn wood were divided between those who primarily burn for heat (47%) and those who primarily burn for ambiance (54%).
- Eighty-one percent (81%) of households that contain a pellet stove planned to use the device this winter. The rate of use was somewhat lower for natural gas/propane fireplaces (66%), wood stoves (56%), and wood-burning fireplaces (49%).
- Overall, 8% of District households that own a wood-burning fireplace, wood stove, or pellet stove reported that they would not use their wood-burning heating device *at all* during the winter due to the campaign.⁴
- Forty-percent (40%) of respondents indicated that they expected to burn wood on a weekly basis, although most (25%) stated that they would burn wood three or fewer days per week. Overall, 22% indicated that they expected to burn wood two to three times per month, 20% once per month, and 11% expected to burn wood less often than once per month.

4. That is, they mentioned air quality and/or health-related reasons for not using the wood-burning device this winter *and* they were aware of the Spare the Air Tonight campaign. Note that this figure does not include households that intend to use their wood-burning device, but did refrain from burning wood on at least one occasion due to the campaign (see Figure 37 on page 34 for figure on full campaign impacts).

- Thirty-nine percent (39%) of respondents whose household includes at least one wood-burning fireplace, pellet stove and/or wood stove *and* expected to burn wood during the winter months indicated that they had burned wood during the week prior to the interview. Approximately 17% had burned wood the day prior to the interview.
- On a typical burn day, wood-burning households averaged 3.83 hours of burning time.
- On a typical burn day, wood-burning households consumed an average 4.52 logs.
- More than half (55%) of respondents indicated that they started their most recent fire between 6PM and 8:59PM, and an additional 19% started their fire a bit earlier between 3PM and 5:59PM.

CHANGES IN WOOD BURNING BEHAVIOR

- Overall, 62% of households that own a wood-burning heating device and expected to burn wood this season reported that they anticipated burning wood at about the same frequency this season as last.
- Forty-six percent (46%) of respondents who have a wood-burning fireplace, wood stove and/or pellet stove *and* expected to burn wood during the 2010-2011 winter season indicated that, on at least one occasion, they refrained from burning wood.
- When asked *why* they chose not to burn wood on these occasions, 19% specifically mentioned the Winter Spare the Air campaign and an additional 3% offered an air quality or health-related reason.
- Among all households with a wood-burning fireplace, pellet stove or wood stove, 8% chose not to burn *at all* during the winter season because of the Winter Spare the Air Tonight campaign, and an additional 12% refrained from burning on at least one occasion for the same reason.
- Among the target market for Spare the Air alerts (households with a demonstrated inclination to burn wood that week), 18% chose not to burn on the Spare the Air day in response to the campaign, and an additional two-thirds (67%) refrained from burning but for reasons unrelated to Spare the Air.

RECALL AND AWARENESS OF WINTER SPARE THE AIR MESSAGING

- Overall, 59% of adults in the Bay Area recalled being exposed to news stories, advertisements or public service announcements related to the Winter Spare the Air Program during the winter months.
- More than one-third of *all* respondents encountered Bay Area Air Quality Management District or Winter Spare the Air Program information via television (36%) and/or radio (34%). Approximately 18% of respondents encountered information via a newspaper, 10% on a website, and 7% on a billboard.
- One-fifth (20%) of adults in the Bay Area said they encountered Winter Spare the Air information on television in *an advertisement or public information announcement that talks about fires, wood smoke, air quality and the Winter Spare the Air program*.
- More than one-quarter (28%) of all respondents said they encountered Winter Spare the Air information on television in a news program, 21% saw a televised weather alert, and 4% saw a televised interview with an air quality expert or representative.
- Of those respondents surveyed on the day after a Winter Spare the Air episode, 22% were aware that a Winter Spare the Air advisory had been issued the day before.

ATTITUDES ABOUT WOOD SMOKE

- Approximately 64% of adults in the Bay Area perceive that there are negative health effects associated with breathing wood smoke.
- When asked to identify some of the specific negative health effects associated with breathing wood smoke, most respondents focused on lung disease in general (41%) or made a specific reference to asthma (35%).
- Seventeen percent (17%) of Bay Area adults perceive that their neighborhood periodically experiences air pollution from wood smoke. Ten percent (10%) stated that the problem was a small one, 5% indicated it was a moderate or medium problem, and 1% felt that air pollution due to wood smoke was a big problem in their neighborhood.

POLICY ATTITUDES

- Most respondents (59%) indicated that they were aware of the BAAQMD's policy that prohibits wood burning on nights when air pollution is expected to reach unhealthy levels.
- One-fifth (21%) of respondents felt well-informed about the rules that are part of the new policy, 29% felt somewhat informed, 23% slightly informed, and 26% felt not at all informed about the rules that are part of the policy.
- More than three-quarters (76%) of Bay Area residents indicated that they support the no-burn policy on nights when air pollution is expected to reach unhealthy levels. Approximately 16% opposed the policy, 3% said it depends, and 6% offered no opinion.
- The majority (57%) of respondents felt that households should *not* be allowed to burn on holidays like Christmas and New Year's when pollution levels are high, 36% felt households should be able to burn on holidays regardless of pollution levels, and 8% were unsure.
- Forty-one percent (41%) of households with a wood-burning device typically burn wood on holidays, and almost 10% would continue to burn on a holiday, regardless of a Spare the Air episode. The overwhelming majority (86%) of households with a wood-burning device do not typically burn on holidays or would *not* burn on holidays if a Spare the Air episode were called.
- Three-quarters or more of the public appear correctly informed regarding the fact that violators of the 'no burn' policy will receive a warning prior to citations (90%), that households with natural gas/propane fireplaces are still allowed to burn on designated 'no burn' days (78%), and that residents are required to check the status of air quality prior to burning wood between November and February (77%).
- More than two-thirds of respondents also held the correct opinion that households for which wood burning is their only source of heat are still allowed to burn wood on 'no burn' days (70%), and that they can be cited at any time of the year if there is a lot of visible smoke coming from their chimney (70%).
- Only 51% agreed that wood burning is a major source of pollution in the Bay Area contributing up to one-third or more of the airborne particle pollution on many winter days, 58% incorrectly assumed that *no* households are allowed to burn wood on no burn days, 52% of respondents felt that households with EPA certified stoves would still be allowed to burn on 'no burn' days, and 42% believed that it's okay to burn different types of wood, including driftwood, treated wood, moist wood, and used pallets, as long as it is a clean air day.
- Overall, 48% of respondents indicated that they know how to find out whether today is a 'no burn' day.

- When asked what sources they would turn to for this information, the most commonly mentioned sources were a website in general (63%), newspaper (24%), radio (17%), the District's website (16%), and telephone hotline (14%).

FIREPLACE & POLLUTION KNOWLEDGE

- A clear majority (82%) of respondents correctly labeled as false the statement, *It is okay to burn materials other than firewood in my fireplace.*
- The percentage who correctly identified as false the other three statements was much lower, with just 56% disagreeing that *All fires in my fireplace should produce visible smoke from the chimney*, 56% disagreeing that *A fireplace is an efficient source of heat*, and 41% disagreeing that *Manufactured logs burn cleaner than seasoned firewood.*

PERCEPTIONS OF ENTITIES

- Prior to taking the survey, 61% of respondents had heard of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and 62% had heard of the Winter Spare the Air Program.
- Among respondents who had heard of the BAAQMD, 46% held a favorable opinion of the agency, whereas 42% held a neutral opinion or were unsure, and just 10% held an unfavorable opinion.
- Among respondents who had heard of the Winter Spare the Air Program, 59% held a favorable opinion of the Program, whereas 29% held a neutral opinion or weren't sure of their opinion, and 9% held an unfavorable opinion.
- Forty-three percent (43%) of respondents recalled hearing, reading or seeing a news story, advertisement or public service announcement in the six months prior to taking the interview that pertained to the BAAQMD. The corresponding figure for the Winter Spare the Air campaign was 60%.



CONCLUSIONS

As noted in the *Introduction*, this study was designed to provide a better understanding of the public's attitudes and behavior with respect to burning wood, their awareness of the Winter Spare the Air Program, as well as the impact that the Program has had on awareness, opinions and behavior relevant to wood burning and air quality. Whereas subsequent sections of this report are devoted to conveying the detailed results of the study, in this section we attempt to 'see the forest through the trees' and note how the collective results answer some of the key questions that motivated the research.

What is the profile of wood burning behavior in the Bay Area?

Overall, 43% of households in the Bay Area own at least one *wood-burning* fireplace, wood stove or pellet stove, and 23% burned wood in the 2010-2011 winter months. Among households that own a wood-burning device, 22% expected to burn wood on a weekly basis, 29% expected to burn less often than once per week, and 49% did not expect to burn wood this season. Natural wood logs were the most commonly-cited type of wood burned, used by 60% of households as a primary or secondary choice. Almost three-quarters (72%) of households that burn natural wood reported that their wood is already dry and seasoned at the time it is acquired.

Wood burning behavior varies considerably depending on how frequently a household burns. Wood-burning households can easily be divided between the 42% that burn at least once per week (frequent burners) and the 58% that burn less often (infrequent burners). Not only do frequent burners build fires more often, they tend to burn significantly more hours per burn day (an average of 4.55 hours) and consume more wood per burn day (an average of 5.03 logs) when compared with infrequent burners (averages of 3.24 hours and 4.18 logs). Their reasons for burning wood are also different. Whereas frequent burners primarily build fires for heat (57%), infrequent burners primarily build fires for ambiance (57%). For more information about wood burning behavior in the Bay Area, see *Winter Wood Burning Behavior* on page 12.

How effective was the Winter Spare the Air Campaign during the 2010-2011 winter?

The Winter Spare the Air campaign seeks to shape public awareness and opinions about the District and air quality issues, as well as change behavior with respect to burning wood. Accordingly, the survey sought to measure impacts that the campaign had on each of these dimensions.

Despite a relatively quiet winter season, with only four Spare the Air Alerts issued, the BAAQMD followed a successful 2009-2010 Winter Spare the Air campaign with another solid year, overall. Fewer opportunities for residents to encounter and respond to the campaign through Spare the Air Alerts and related media coverage resulted in a reduction in recalled exposure to information about the BAAQMD and campaign-related messaging. Nevertheless, the campaign motivated 8% of households with a wood-burning fireplace, pellet stove, or wood stove not to

burn *at all* during the winter season, and an additional 12% not to burn on at least one occasion. In other words, one-fifth—or approximately 207,000 households—reduced their wood burning during the 2010-2011 winter season because of the Spare the Air Campaign. This percentage is in line with the findings of the previous four studies, during which the percentage of eligible households that reduced wood burning in response to the campaign ranged from a low of 18% in 2006 to a high of 27% in 2008.

Exposure to air quality and related campaign information decreased from 2009 but remained on par with the average over the past five years, with nearly 60% of adult residents in the Bay Area indicating they encountered Winter Spare the Air messaging this winter season. Additionally, a significant portion (20%) of adult residents recalled seeing a televised *advertisement or public information announcement about fires, woodsmoke, air quality and the Winter Spare the Air program*. Those who encountered one of these televised advertisements or announcements exhibited considerably higher levels of awareness and knowledge of the ‘no burn’ policy and the negative effects of wood smoke, and also held more positive opinions of the BAAQMD and the Program in general.

With respect to the public’s attitudes about wood smoke, the Program has succeeded in raising recognition of the negative health impacts of breathing wood smoke by 15% since 2002. This increased awareness of the health-related problems caused by wood smoke arguably underpins what is broad and continually increasing support for the BAAQMD’s adoption of the *Regulation 6, Rule 3: Wood-burning Devices* policy designed to improve air quality in the region. Approximately 76% of Bay Area adults support the policy that prohibits wood burning on nights when air pollution is expected to reach unhealthy levels, up from an already-impressive 71% in 2009. Moreover, on popular wood-burning holidays such as Christmas and New Year’s, the overwhelming majority (86%) of households with a wood-burning device either do not typically burn or *would not* burn on holidays if a Spare the Air episode were called.

Is there a relationship between the number of Spare the Air Alerts issued and residents’ awareness of and response to the campaign?

Comparing the number of episodes called during a winter season and response to the campaign in terms of household behavior change (see figures 38 and 39 on page 36) as well as residents’ awareness of and exposure to air quality information (see Figure 42 on page 38 and Figure 84 on page 64) suggests that yes, there exists a relationship between the number of Spare the Air Alerts issued and residents’ awareness of and response to the campaign.

Between 1995 and 2005, only one Spare the Air Tonight episode was issued. Prior to 2006, response to the campaign was substantially lower

than that identified in recent winter seasons with just 2% of eligible households in 2005 and 4% of eligible households in 2004 responding to the campaign. In 2006, research on the impacts of fine particles on public health prompted the federal government to strengthen particulate matter air quality standards, resulting in a sharp increase in the number of episodes called during that winter season. Consequently, with the substantial increase in episodes came a substantial increase in awareness of and response to the campaign across all dimensions tested in 2006. Since that time, response to the campaign has remained high and proportional to the number of Spare the Air Tonight episodes—and thus opportunities for exposure to air quality information—issued during each winter season.

The over-arching goal of the BAAQMD is to improve air quality in the Bay Area, and seasonal reductions in the number of days with unhealthy levels of particulate matter are welcome indicators of a successful program. However, therein lies a tension: with fewer Spare the Air Alerts comes fewer opportunities for residents to encounter Program messaging and air quality information, and thus a greater challenge for the BAAQMD to reach its target audience moving forward.

Are there any opportunities that the Program can take advantage of to be more successful in the future?

An opportunity to enhance the impact of the Winter Spare the Air campaign exists in greater penetration of Spare the Air notifications. During winter seasons such as 2010-2011 with relatively few Spare the Air alerts, the extent to which notifications reach members of eligible wood-burning households is critical, as weeks or months may pass before another outreach opportunity arises. In the current study, awareness of specific Spare the Air alerts decreased significantly since 2009, with more than three-quarters (78%) of Bay Area adults surveyed on the day after an alert saying they were *not* aware that a Spare the Air alert had been issued. Regardless of how compelling the message may be, if the message does not reach large portions of the target audience then the Winter Spare the Air program will fall short of its potential for eliciting positive air-quality actions from the public on Spare the Air days.

A second opportunity for improvement can be found in public knowledge of the BAAQMD's wood-smoke policy. Overall support for the 'no burn' policy has increased, but public awareness of the policy has remained virtually unchanged since 2008. A need exists then to improve public awareness of the policy itself, as well as the specific rules that are components of the policy. For example, only 21% of respondents felt well-informed about the rules that are part of the policy, and more than half had no idea how to find out whether today is a 'no burn' day. Specific areas where public knowledge is low include exceptions to the 'no burn' policy for households that rely exclusively on wood-burning for their heat, that EPA certified stoves are *not* excluded from the 'no burn' policy, and that burning certain types of wood is never allowed.

A third opportunity lies in the public's knowledge with respect to fireplaces and pollution. A substantial percentage of adult residents mistakenly believed that *All fires in my fireplace should produce visible smoke from the chimney* (44%), *A fireplace is an efficient source of heat* (44%), and *Manufactured logs burn cleaner than seasoned firewood* (59%). The extent to which residents are correctly informed about wood smoke and fireplace pollution will be reflected ultimately in their opinions of and response to the BAAQMD and its Winter Spare the Air Program.

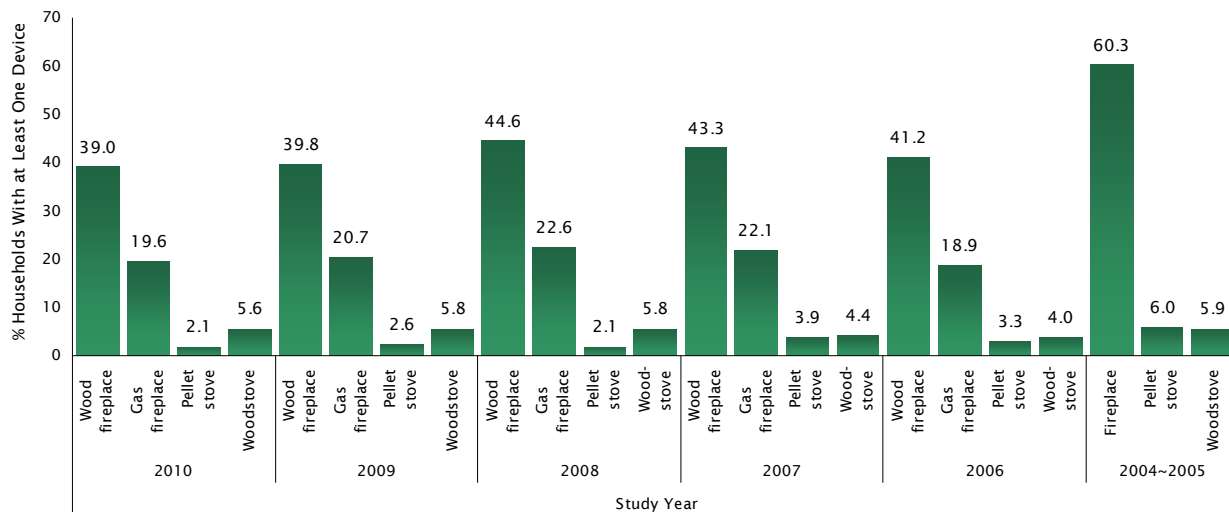
WINTER WOOD BURNING BEHAVIOR

One of the key objectives of the survey was to profile respondents' use of wood-burning heating devices, including fireplaces, pellet stoves, and wood stoves. Accordingly, the first series of questions in the survey asked respondents about the types of wood-burning heating devices they have in their home, as well as their use of these devices during the 2010-2011 winter months of November through February. Whereas prior to 2005 the surveys did not distinguish between wood-burning fireplaces and those that use natural gas or propane at the outset of the interview, as shown in Figure 1 this distinction was added to Question 1 in the 2006 survey.

HEATING DEVICES The first question in this series asked respondents to identify how many wood-burning fireplaces, natural gas/propane burning fireplaces, wood stoves, and pellet stoves their household contains. As shown in Figure 1 for 2010, 39% of households contain at least one wood-burning fireplace, 20% contain at least one fireplace that burns natural gas or propane, 2% contain at least one pellet stove, and 6% contain at least one wood stove. Collectively, 43% of respondents reported that their household contained at least one *wood-burning* fireplace, pellet stove, or wood stove, whereas 57% of respondents indicated that their household does not contain a wood-burning heating device (see Figure 2 on page 13).⁵

Question 1 *Do you have a _____ in your home? If yes, ask: How many: _____s do you have in your home?*

FIGURE 1 HEATING DEVICES IN HOME: 2004 ~ 2010 (N = 1,300)⁶



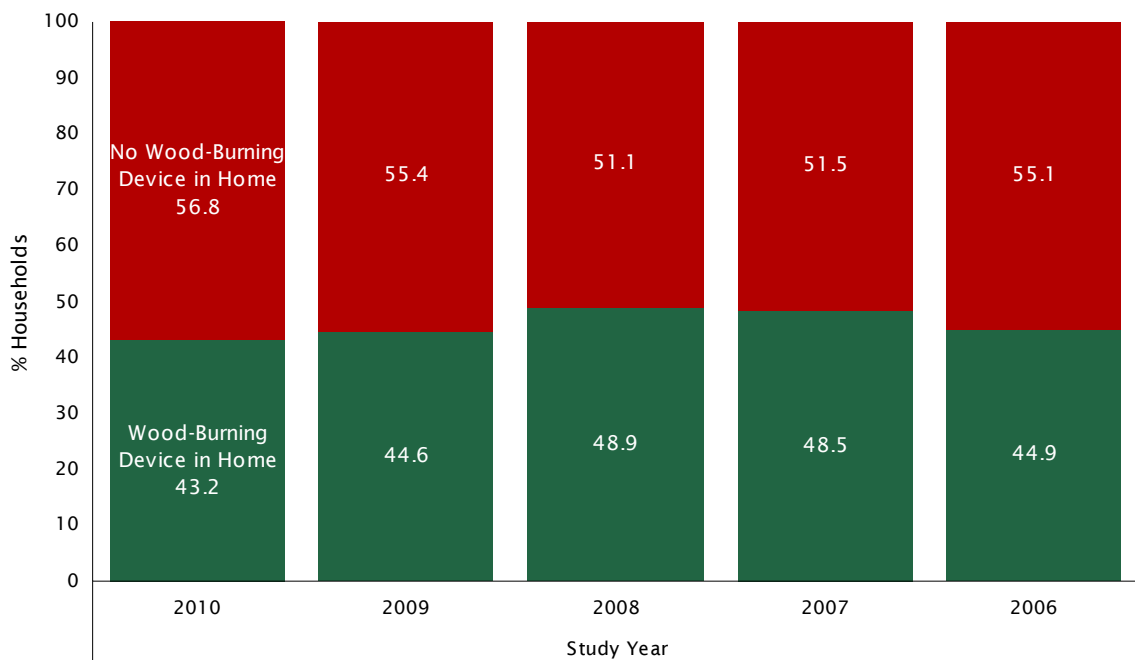
† Statistically significant change (p < 0.05) between the 2009 and 2010 studies.

5. Because some households contained more than one type of heating device—e.g., a fireplace *and* a wood stove—one can not simply add the percentages shown in Figure 1 to determine the percentage of households that have at least one type of heating device.
 6. The n = 1,300 refers to the number of respondents who received this question. This convention will be followed throughout the report to allow the reader to identify how many respondents are included in each figure.

TABLE 1 NUMBER OF HEATING DEVICES IN HOME: 2004 ~ 2010 (N = 1,300)

		Number of Devices		
		One	Two	Three or more
2010	Wood-burning fireplace	33.2	5.7	0.2
	Gas / Propane fireplace	15.8	3.0	0.8
	Pellet stove	1.5	0.6	0.0
	Woods tove	5.2	0.4	0.0
2009	Wood-burning fireplace	35.1	4.0	0.7
	Gas / Propane fireplace	16.1	3.8	0.9
	Pellet stove	2.1	0.3	0.2
	Woods tove	5.2	0.6	0.0
2008	Wood-burning fireplace	39.6	4.0	1.0
	Gas / Propane fireplace	19.7	1.6	1.2
	Pellet stove	1.8	0.3	0.0
	Woods tove	5.2	0.5	0.2
2007	Wood-burning fireplace	38.0	4.7	0.6
	Gas / Propane fireplace	18.6	3.0	0.5
	Pellet stove	3.8	0.1	0.0
	Woods tove	4.0	0.3	0.0
2006	Wood-burning fireplace	35.2	4.8	1.2
	Gas / Propane fireplace	15.0	3.3	0.6
	Pellet stove	2.8	0.0	0.4
	Woods tove	3.9	0.1	0.0
2004/ 2005	Fireplace	50.4	8.1	1.7
	Pellet stove	5.3	0.4	0.4
	Woods tove	5.2	0.4	0.2

FIGURE 2 WOOD-BURNING DEVICE IN HOME: 2006 ~ 2010 (N = 1,300)



For the interested reader, the following figures show how the presence of wood-burning fireplaces, wood stoves, and pellet stoves varied by county of residence (see Figure 3), home type, and age of home (see Figure 4).

FIGURE 3 WOOD-BURNING DEVICE IN HOME BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE (N = 1,300)

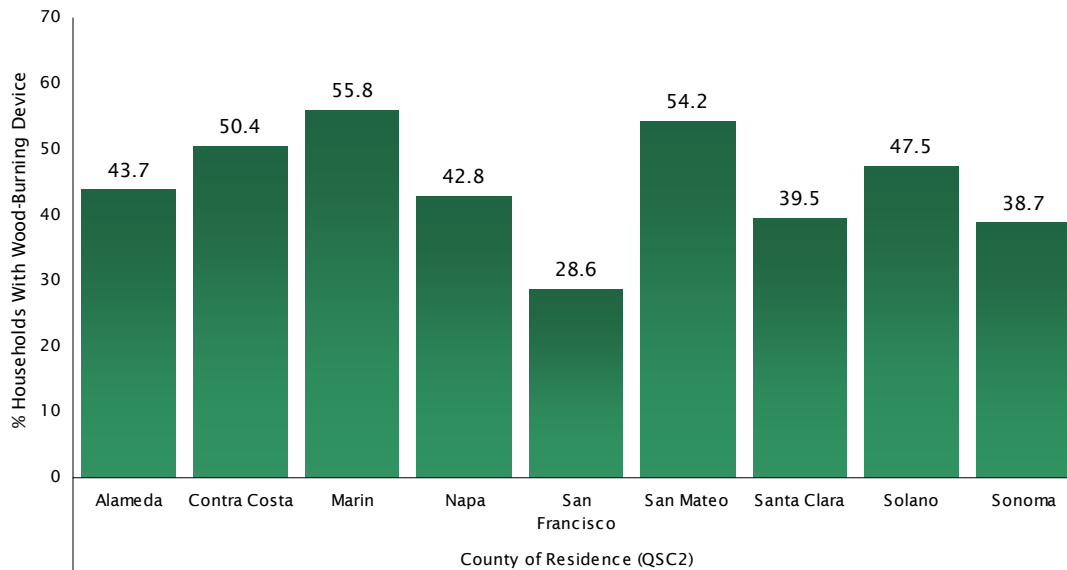
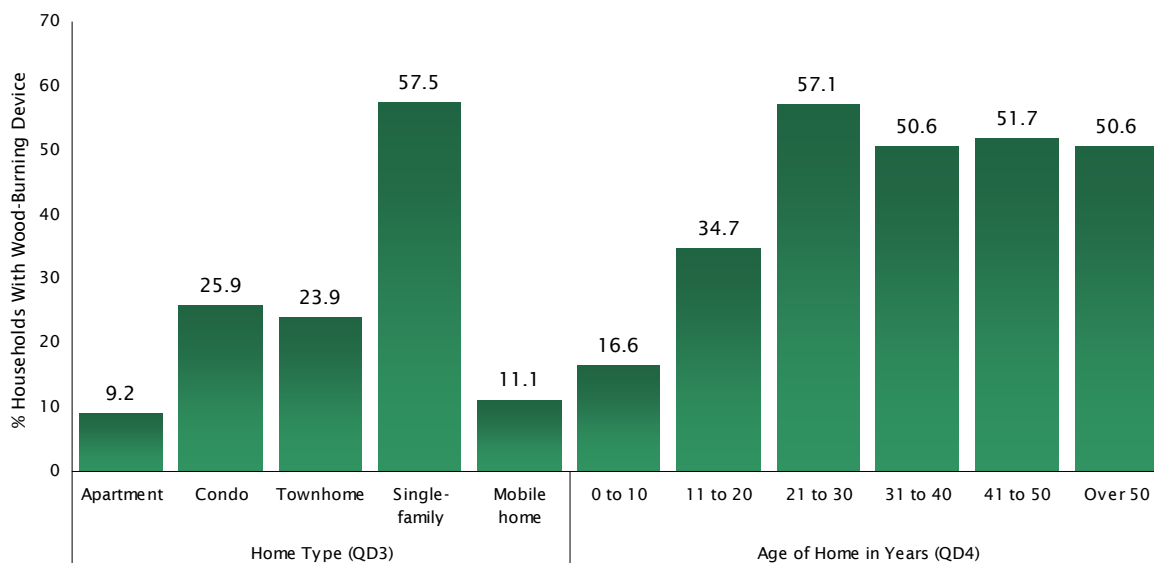


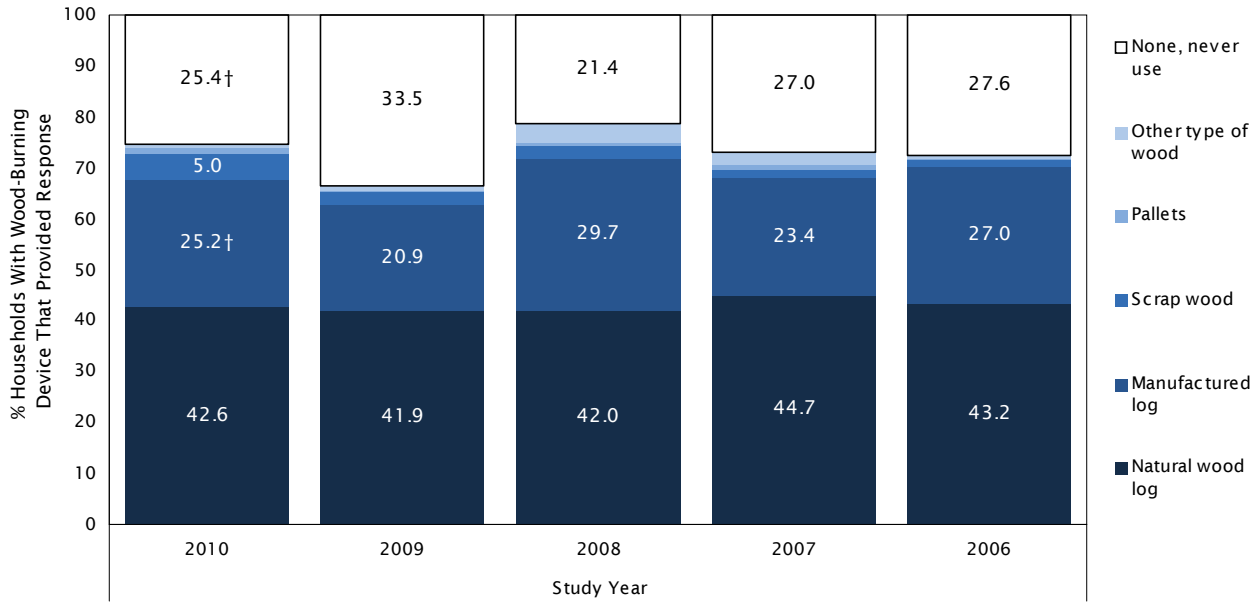
FIGURE 4 WOOD-BURNING DEVICE IN HOME BY HOME TYPE & AGE OF HOME IN YEARS (N = 1,300)



FUEL TYPE & SOURCE For the 43% of respondents who reported that their household contains a wood-burning fireplace or wood stove, the survey next inquired about the type of wood they *primarily* use in the fireplace or stove (see Figure 5). The most commonly used wood was natural wood logs (43%), followed by manufactured logs (25%), and scrap wood (5%). Approximately 2% of respondents indicated that they primarily use pallets or “other” wood, and 25% volunteered that they never use their wood-burning fireplace or wood stove. Compared with 2009, there was a statistically significant increase in the percent of households with a wood-burning fireplace or wood stove that primarily use manufactured logs, as well as a significant decrease in the percentage that indicate they never use their wood-burning device(s). Figure 6 displays how the proportional use of natural wood versus manufactured logs as a primary type of wood burned varied by county among all households with a wood-burning fireplace or wood stove.

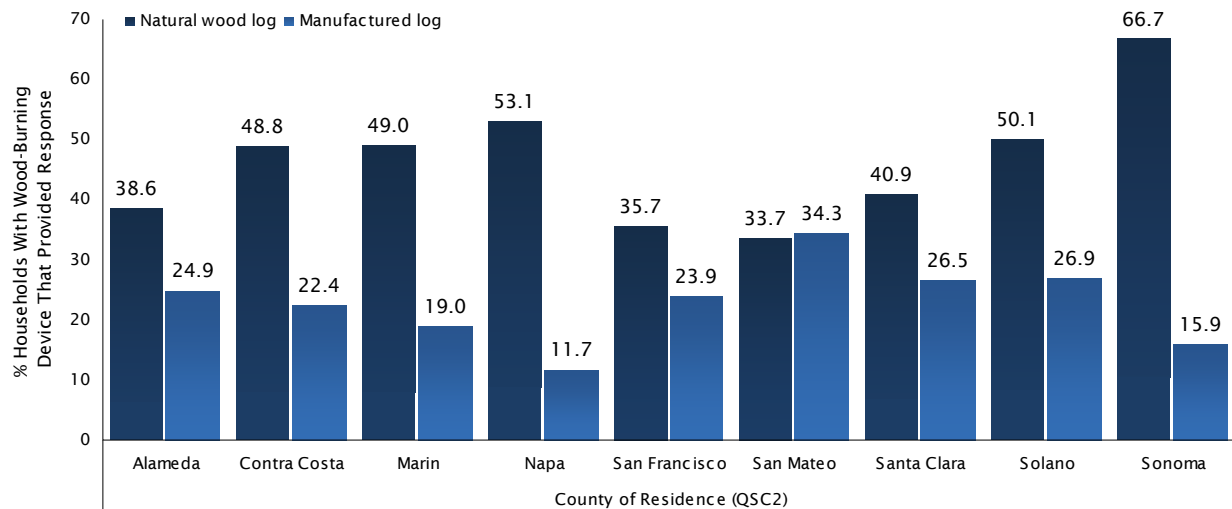
Question 2 What type of wood do you primarily use in your wood-burning fireplace or wood stove: natural wood logs, manufactured logs such as Duraflame or Presto, scrap wood, pallets, or some other fuel?

FIGURE 5 PRIMARY TYPE OF WOOD BURNED: 2006 ~ 2010 (N = 543)



† Statistically significant change ($p < 0.05$) between the 2009 and 2010 studies.

FIGURE 6 PRIMARY TYPE OF WOOD BURNED BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE (N = 543)



New to the 2010-2011 survey, Question 3 asked respondents in households with a wood-burning fireplace or wood stove about any other types of wood burned, listing each of the wood types not mentioned as the *primary* type cited by the respondent in response to the previous question. Figure 7 combines responses to questions 2 and 3 to display the percentage of primary and secondary wood types burned among households with a wood-burning fireplace or wood stove.

When considering primary *and* secondary options, the most commonly used wood was natural wood logs (60%), followed by manufactured logs (47%), and scrap wood (21%). Approximately 5% of respondents indicated that they use pallets, and 1% mentioned some other type of wood. Figure 8 displays how the use of natural wood versus manufactured logs as a primary or secondary type of wood burned varied by county among all households with a wood-burning fireplace or wood stove.

Question 3 *Do you also ever burn: _____?*

FIGURE 7 PRIMARY OR SECONDARY TYPE OF WOOD BURNED (N = 543)

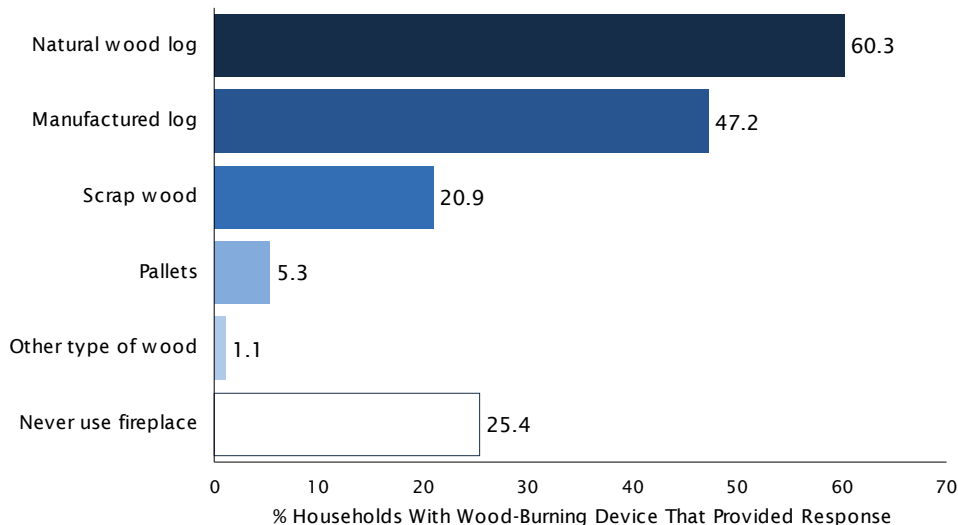


FIGURE 8 PRIMARY OR SECONDARY TYPE OF WOOD BURNED BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE (N = 543)

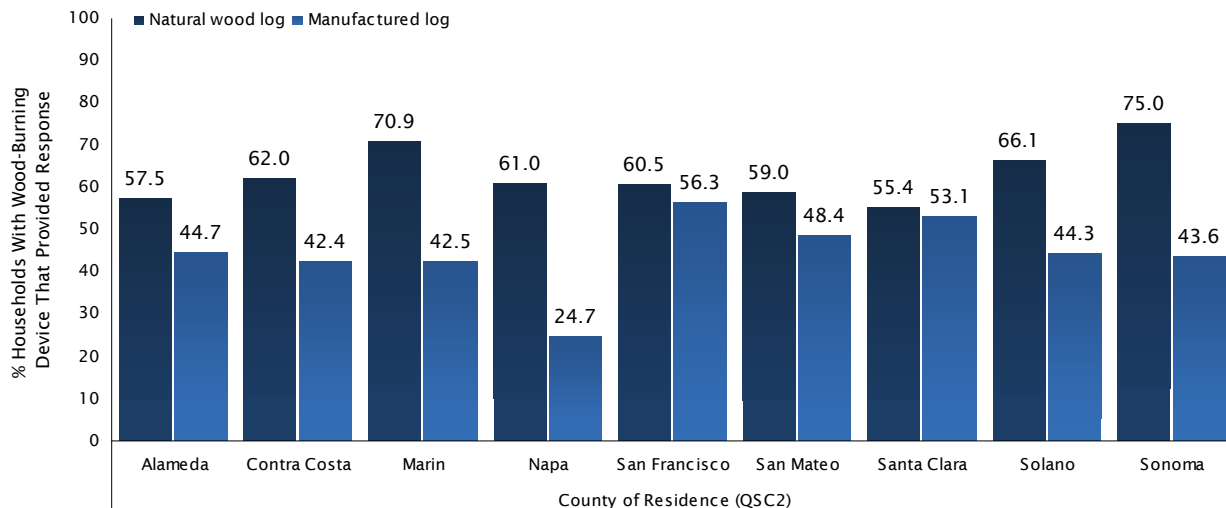
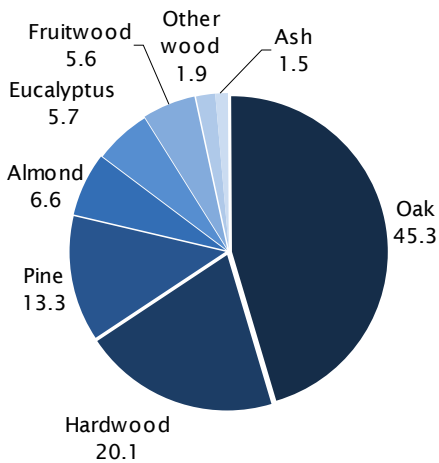


FIGURE 9 TYPE OF NATURAL WOOD BURNED (N = 303)



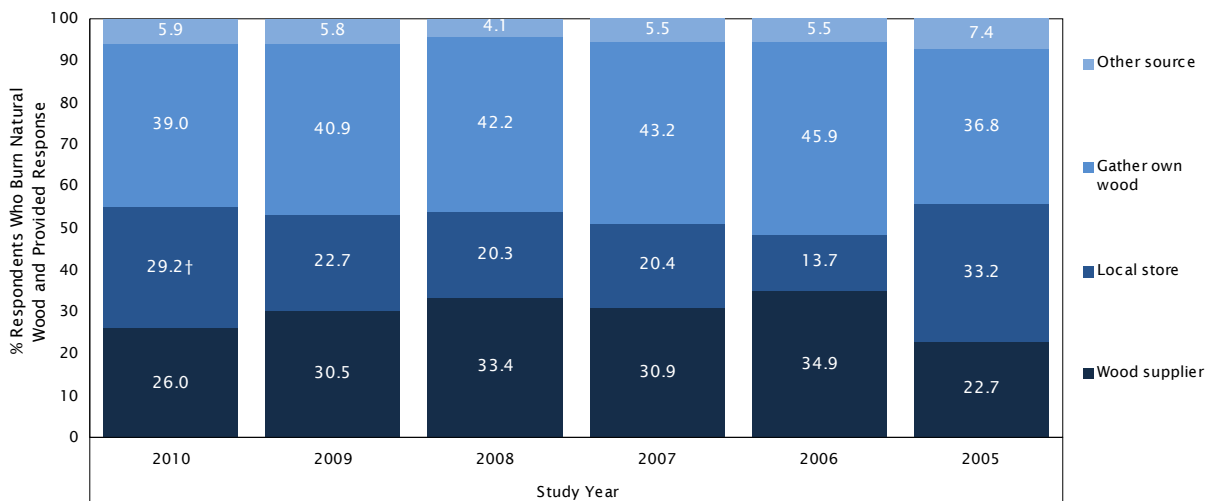
Question 4 *What type of natural wood do you typically burn?*

Households that reported they *primarily* burn natural wood logs were next asked a series of questions about the *type* of natural wood they burn (Question 4), from where they purchase their wood (Question 5), and the state of the wood they burn (Question 6). Approximately 21% of respondents in 2010 were unsure of the type of natural wood they burn. Figure 9 shows that among those who knew the type of wood, oak was the most common (58%), followed by hardwood in general (20%) and pine (13%).

When asked how they typically acquire their wood, respondents were split between those who gather their own (39%), those who purchase the wood from a local store (29%), and those who rely on a wood supplier (26%). Six percent (6%) mentioned an alternative source (Figure 10). Compared with the results of the 2009 survey, there was a statistically significant increase in the percentage who respondents who purchase the wood from a local store.

Question 5 *Do you typically purchase your wood from a wood supplier, the local store, or do you gather your own wood?*

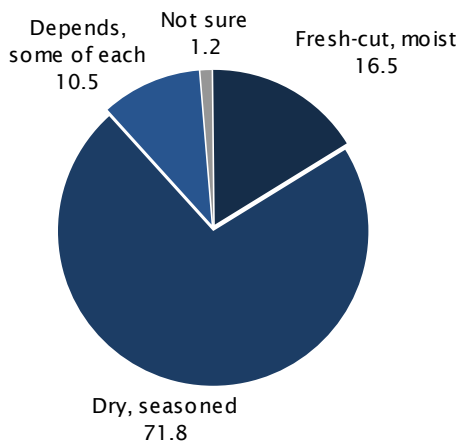
FIGURE 10 SOURCE FOR NATURAL WOOD: 2005 ~ 2010 (N = 303)



† Statistically significant change ($p < 0.05$) between the 2009 and 2010 studies.

Question 6 *At the point that you acquire your wood, is it fresh-cut and somewhat moist or is it already dry and seasoned?*

FIGURE 11 CONDITION OF WOOD AT POINT OF ACQUISITION (N = 303)

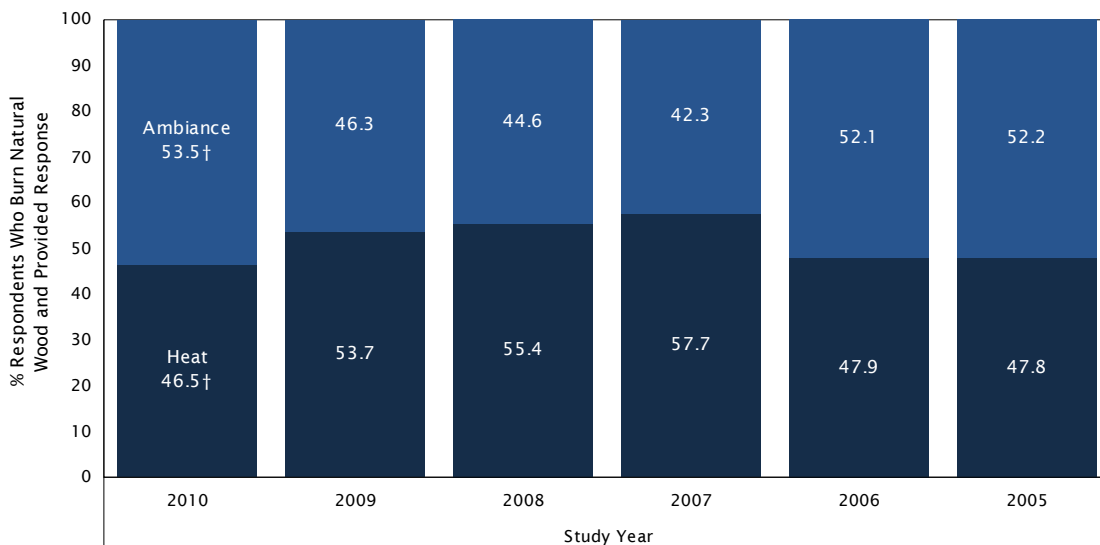


For those who primarily burn natural wood, the survey next inquired as to whether—at the point the respondent acquires their wood—the wood is fresh-cut and somewhat moist or if it is already dry and seasoned. As shown in Figure 11, almost three-quarters (72%) of respondents in 2010 stated that their wood is already dry and seasoned at the time they acquire it, whereas 17% reported that they typically acquire wood that is fresh-cut, 11% indicated that it depends or is a mixture, and 1% were unsure.

PRIMARY REASON FOR BURNING WOOD Households that have a wood-burning fireplace or wood stove and expected to use it during the winter were next asked to indicate the *primary* reason for why they use the device—to heat their home, or for the ambiance of having a fire? Figure 12 shows that respondents, as a whole, were rather evenly divided between those who primarily burn for heat (47%) and those who primarily burn for ambiance (54%). Compared with 2009, there was a statistically significant change in behavior, with a greater proportion of respondents indicating they primarily use their fireplace or wood stove for the ambiance of having a fire.

Question 7 *When you use your fireplace or wood stove, which of the following would you say is the primary reason you do so? For heating your home or for the ambiance of having a fire?*

FIGURE 12 PRIMARY PURPOSE OF WOOD BURNING: 2005 ~ 2010 (N = 303)



† Statistically significant change ($p < 0.05$) between the 2009 and 2010 studies.

USE OF FIREPLACE, WOOD STOVE OR PELLET STOVE Respondents whose household contained at least one wood-burning fireplace, natural gas/propane fireplace, pellet stove, or wood stove were next asked—for each device they own—whether they have used or intend to use the device this winter from November to February. As shown in Figure 13, 81% of households in 2010 that contain a pellet stove indicated that they would use the device this winter. The rate of use was somewhat lower for natural gas/propane fireplaces (66%), wood stoves (56%), and wood-burning fireplaces (49%). The results for the 2009 through 2004 surveys are presented for comparison.

Question 8 *Will you use your _____ this winter?*

FIGURE 13 HEATING DEVICE USAGE THIS WINTER: 2004 ~ 2010 (WOOD-BURNING FIREPLACE N = 207 GAS FIREPLACE N = 260; PELLET STOVE N = 27; WOOD STOVE N = 73)

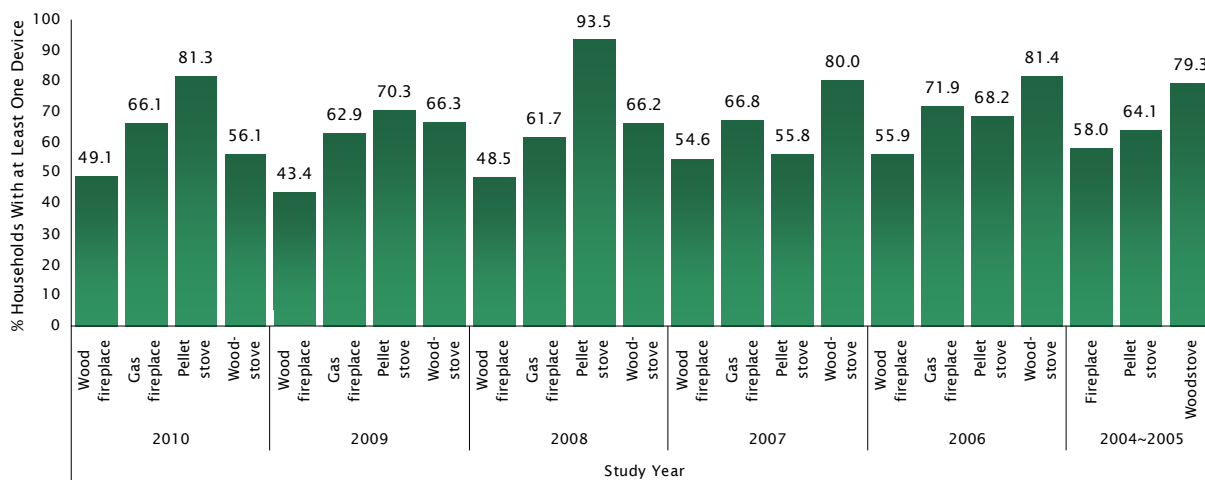


FIGURE 14 OVERALL WOOD-BURNING DEVICE USAGE THIS WINTER BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE (N = 560)

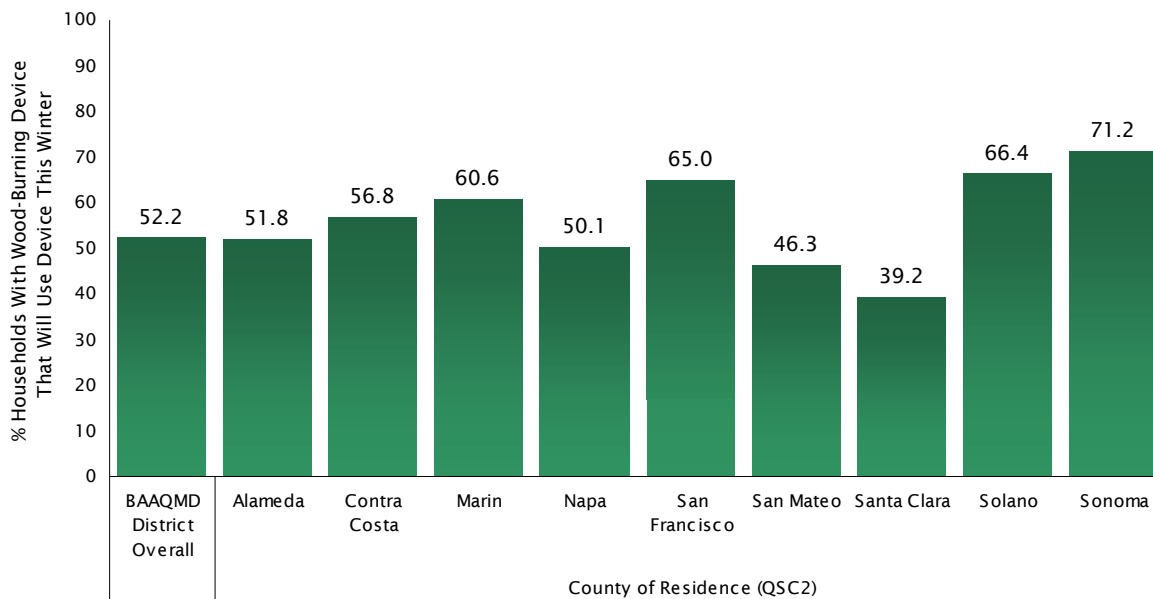
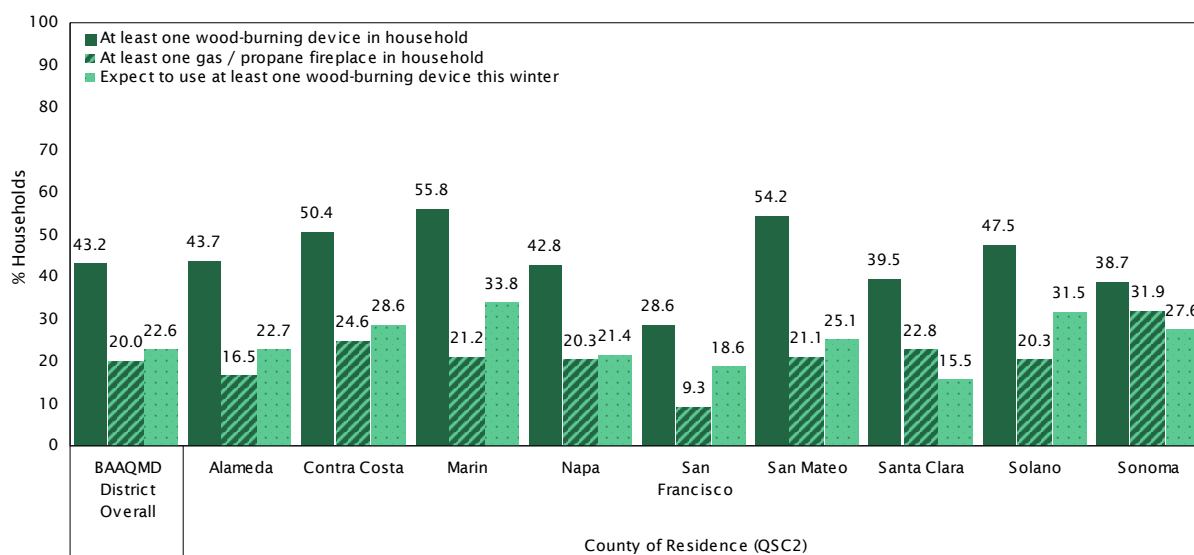


Figure 14 on the previous page summarizes the information collected in Question 7 among all households with a wood-burning device—overall and by county. Overall, 52% of households with at least one wood-burning device indicated that they would use the device this winter. The reported rate of expected use in 2010 among households with a wood-burning device was highest in Sonoma County (72%) and lowest in Santa Clara County (39%).

Below, Figure 15 provides a more detailed summary of the presence and expected use of wood-burning heating devices for the District as a whole, as well as by the nine member counties. Among *all households in the District*, 43% own a wood-burning fireplace, pellet stove, or wood stove, 20% own a natural gas/propane fireplace, and 23% expected to use a wood-burning device this winter. Ownership (56%) and expected use (34%) was highest in Marin County.

FIGURE 15 WOOD-BURNING DEVICE USAGE THIS WINTER BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE (N = 1,300)



Respondents who indicated that they do not expect to use their fireplace, wood stove, or pellet stove this winter in Question 8 were next asked to indicate *why* they do not intend to use the device. Figure 16 summarizes the results of those who offered campaign-related reasons. Approximately 16% of wood-burning fireplace owners who did not intend to use the device this winter offered a reason related to air quality and an additional 26% mentioned a specific health-related reason. Approximately 32% of natural gas/propane fireplace owners mentioned air quality or health-related reasons, whereas the corresponding percentage among wood stove owners was 47%. The remaining respondents offered a reason unrelated to air quality or health.

Figure 17 displays the percentage of households that own a wood-burning fireplace, wood stove, or pellet stove and indicated that they will not use the device this winter for reasons that can be attributed to the Winter Spare the Air campaign.⁷ Overall, 8% of households District-wide reported that they would not use their wood-burning heating device at all during the winter due

7. That is, they mentioned air quality and/or health-related reasons for not using the wood-burning device this winter *and* they were aware of the Winter Spare the Air campaign. Note that this figure does not include households that intend to use their wood-burning device, but did refrain from burning wood on at least one occasion due to the campaign (see Figure 37 on page 34 for figure on full campaign impacts).

to the campaign. Among the nine member counties, San Mateo had the highest percentage of wood-burning device-owning households that fit this description, whereas Solano had the lowest (see Figure 18 on the next page).

Question 9 Why do you not expect to use your _____ this winter?

FIGURE 16 REASON FOR NOT USING HEATING DEVICE THIS WINTER (WOOD-BURNING FIREPLACE N = 248; GAS FIREPLACE N = 84; PELLET STOVE N = 4; WOOD STOVE N = 30)

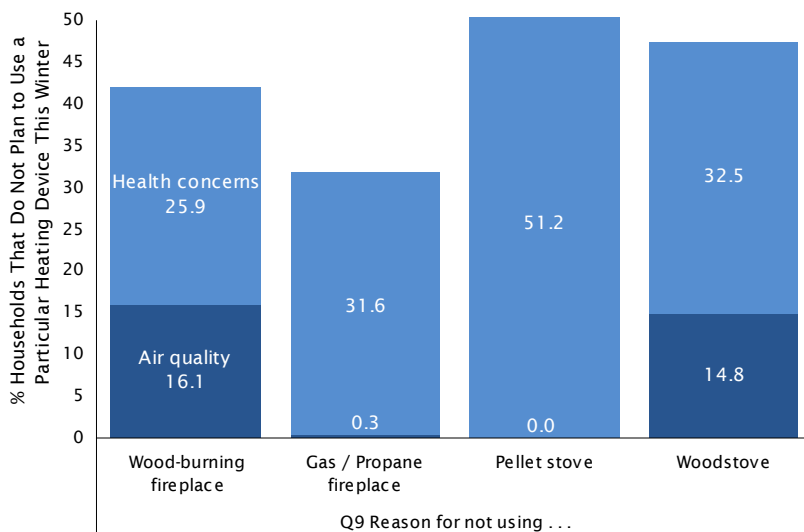


FIGURE 17 NOT BURNING WOOD THIS WINTER BECAUSE OF WINTER SPARE THE AIR CAMPAIGN: 2006 ~ 2010 (N = 268)

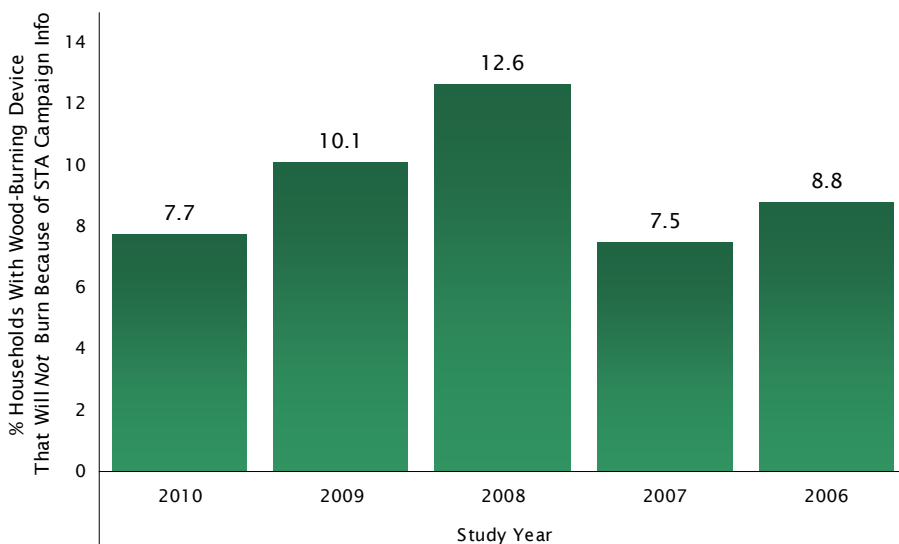
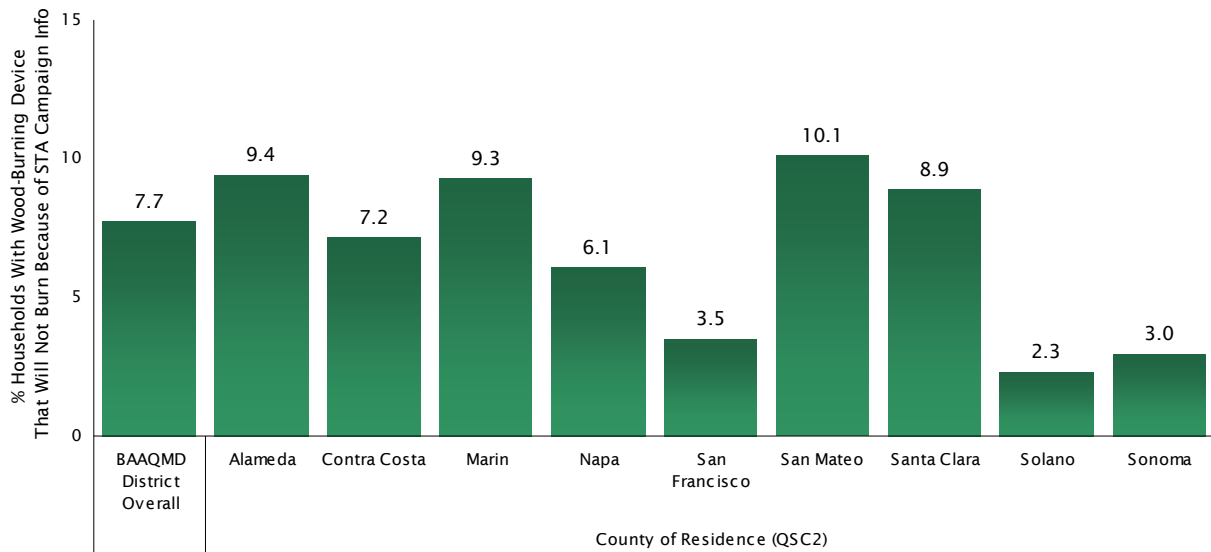


FIGURE 18 NOT BURNING WOOD THIS WINTER BECAUSE OF WINTER SPARE THE AIR CAMPAIGN BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE (N = 268)



SEASONAL WOOD BURNING BEHAVIOR The next series of questions were asked only of respondents who owned at least one wood-burning fireplace, pellet stove, or wood stove *and* indicated that they would burn wood during the 2010-2011 winter months.

The first question (Question 10) asked each respondent how often they expected that they would burn wood this winter—at least once per week or less often? Respondents who indicated that they expected to burn wood less often than once per week were next asked (Question 11) to be more specific as to how often they expected to burn wood—two to three times per month, once per month, or less often than once per month? For respondents who indicated that they expected to burn wood weekly, Question 12 asked how many days they expected to burn wood in a typical winter week. The results to all three questions are combined in Figure 19 on page 23.

Overall, 40% of respondents indicated that they expected to burn wood on a weekly basis, although most (25%) stated that they would burn wood three days or less per week. Overall, 22% indicated that they expected to burn wood two to three times per month, 20% once per month, and 11% expected to burn wood less often than once per month.

When compared with 2009, there were two statistically significant changes in the expected frequency of wood-burning among households that own a wood-burning device and expected to use it this winter (see Table 2 on page 23): households were less likely to burn one or more times per week, and more likely to burn 2 to 3 times per month.

Question 10 How often do you expect to burn wood this winter? At least once per week or less often than that?

Question 11 Would you say that you will burn wood about two to three times per month, once per month, or less often than once per month?

Question 12 In a typical winter week, how many days do you expect to burn wood?

FIGURE 19 FREQUENCY OF WOOD BURNING THIS WINTER (N = 293)

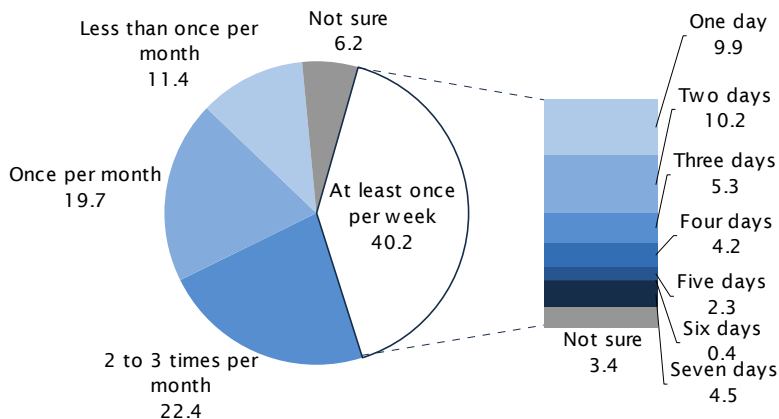


TABLE 2 FREQUENCY OF WOOD BURNING THIS WINTER: 2004 ~ 2010 (N = 293)

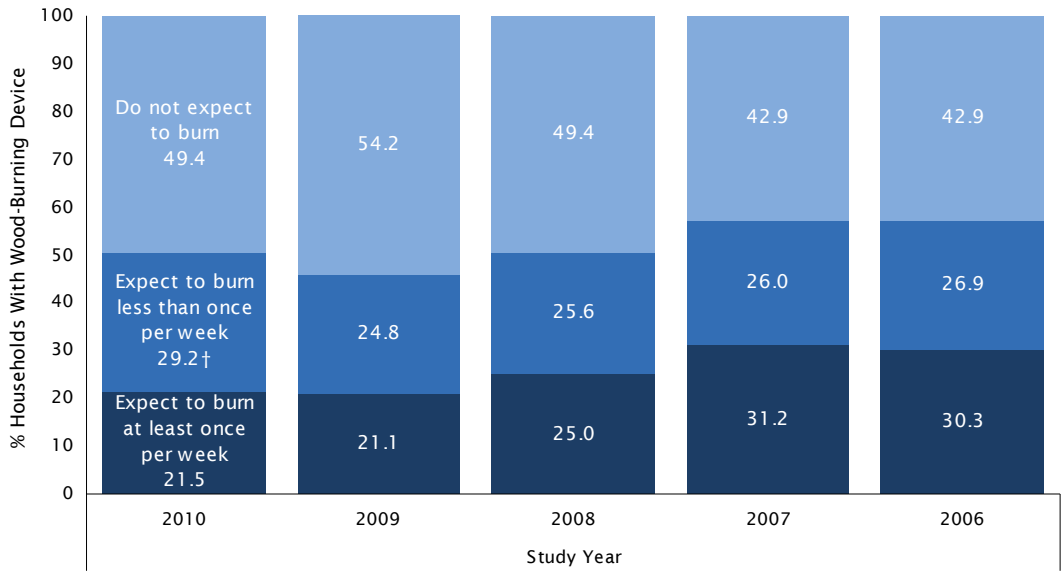
	Study Year						
	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
At least once per week	40.2%†	44.7%	48.7%	54.3%	52.9%	48.9%	34.2%
One day	9.9%	11.9%	10.3%	10.4%	10.0%	9.3%	11.2%
Two days	10.2%	8.2%	16.2%	8.6%	17.2%	11.5%	5.6%
Three days	5.3%	6.9%	6.0%	10.1%	8.0%	10.4%	6.1%
Four days	4.2%	4.3%	2.2%	6.6%	3.5%	4.3%	1.0%
Five days	2.3%	2.1%	4.0%	8.3%	3.8%	3.2%	2.6%
Six days	0.4%	0.6%	0.5%	0.2%	1.9%	0.8%	1.5%
Seven days	4.5%	6.2%	5.9%	8.9%	7.2%	7.2%	6.1%
Not sure # of days	3.4%	4.5%	3.6%	1.3%	1.3%	2.2%	0.0%
2 to 3 times per month	22.4%†	16.2%	19.8%	14.9%	15.0%	18.5%	28.1%
Once per month	19.7%	20.0%	15.2%	18.0%	15.0%	17.0%	15.8%
Less than once per month	11.4%	14.8%	13.2%	11.4%	16.4%	11.7%	18.4%
Not sure of frequency	6.2%	4.3%	3.1%	1.4%	0.6%	4.0%	3.6%

† Statistically significant change (p < 0.05) between the 2009 and 2010 studies.

Figures 20 and 21 provide a useful summary of wood burning behavior among households that own a wood-burning heating device in the District overall, as well as by county. Overall, 22% of households in 2010 expected to burn wood weekly, 29% expected to burn wood less frequently than once per week, and 49% indicated that they do not expect to burn wood this winter. When compared with 2009, the percentage of households that expected to burn wood less than once per week increased significantly.

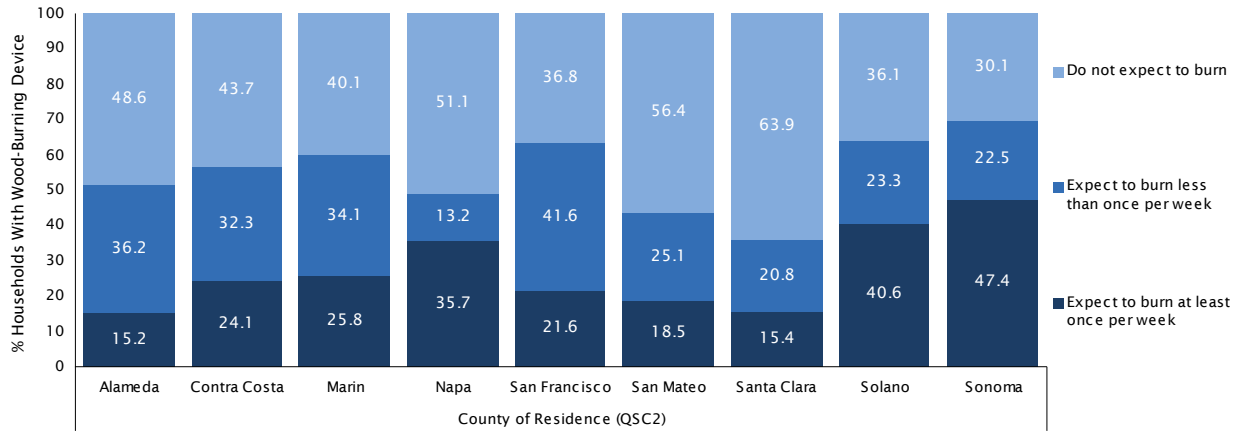
Among the nine member counties, Solano and Sonoma counties had the highest percentages of wood-burning device-owning households that expected to burn wood weekly, whereas Alameda and Santa Clara counties had the lowest.

FIGURE 20 FREQUENCY OF WOOD BURNING THIS WINTER AMONG ALL WOOD-BURNING DEVICE HOUSEHOLDS: 2006 ~ 2010 (N = 560)



† Statistically significant change ($p < 0.05$) between the 2009 and 2010 studies.

FIGURE 21 FREQUENCY OF WOOD BURNING THIS WINTER AMONG ALL WOOD-BURNING DEVICE HOUSEHOLDS BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE (N = 560)



WOOD BURNING BEHAVIOR IN PAST WEEK Respondents were also asked whether they burned wood in the past week and, if yes, if they burned wood the day or evening prior to the interview. The results to these two questions are combined in Figure 22. Thirty-nine percent (39%) of respondents whose household includes at least one wood-burning fireplace, pellet stove, and/or wood stove *and* expected to burn wood during the winter months indicated that they had burned wood during the week prior to the interview. Moreover, 17% had burned wood the day prior to the interview.

When compared with the 2009 season, there were no statistically significant changes in the percentage of households that reported they had burned wood in the week prior to the interview (see Table 3).

Question 13 *Did you burn wood in the past seven days?*

Question 14 *Did you burn wood yesterday or last night?*

FIGURE 22 BURNED WOOD IN PAST SEVEN DAYS (N = 293)

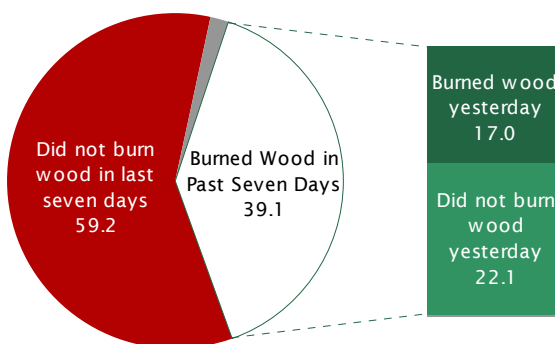


TABLE 3 BURNED WOOD IN PAST SEVEN DAYS: 2004 ~ 2010 (N = 293)

	Study Year						
	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004
Burned wood in past seven days	39.1%	34.7%	38.3%	53.1%	51.0%	43.0%	32.1%
Burned wood yesterday	17.0%	13.8%	15.1%	27.2%	22.3%	21.7%	12.8%
Did not burn wood yesterday	22.1%	20.9%	23.2%	25.9%	28.7%	21.1%	19.4%
Not sure of burning yesterday	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.4%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%
Did not burn wood in last seven days	59.2%	65.0%	61.5%	45.8%	49.0%	56.6%	67.3%
Not sure of burning in past seven days	1.7%	0.2%	0.0%	0.7%	0.0%	0.4%	0.5%

The following figures show the percentage of wood-burning device-owning households that burned wood in the seven days prior to the interview (figures 23 & 24) and on the day prior to the interview (Figures 25 & 26) for the District as a whole, as well as by the nine member counties.

FIGURE 23 BURNED WOOD IN PAST SEVEN DAYS AMONG ALL WOOD-BURNING DEVICE HOUSEHOLDS: 2006 ~ 2010 (N = 560)

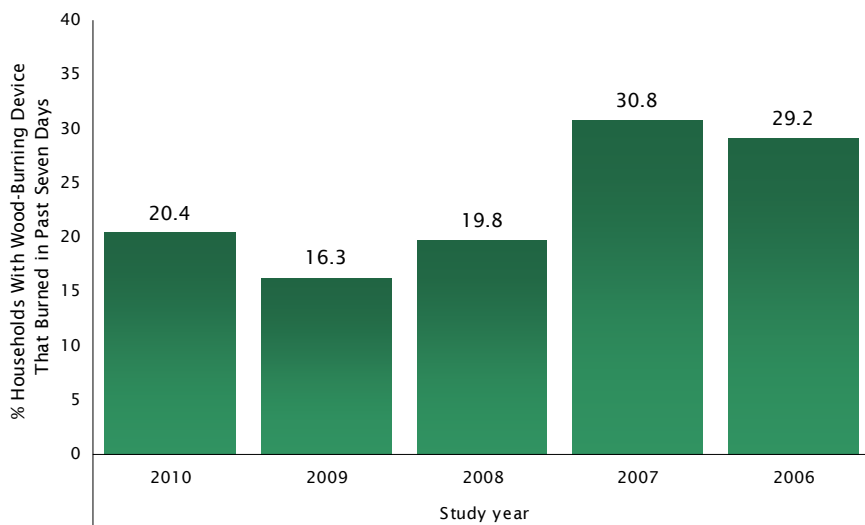


FIGURE 24 BURNED WOOD IN PAST SEVEN DAYS AMONG ALL WOOD-BURNING DEVICE HOUSEHOLDS BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE (N = 560)

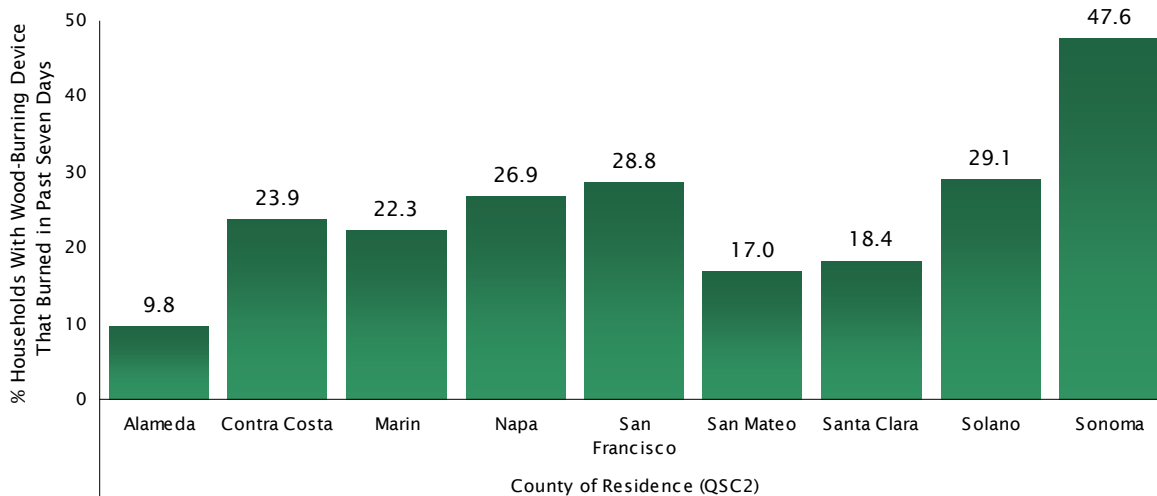


FIGURE 25 BURNED WOOD YESTERDAY AMONG ALL WOOD-BURNING DEVICE HOUSEHOLDS: 2006 ~ 2010 (N = 560)

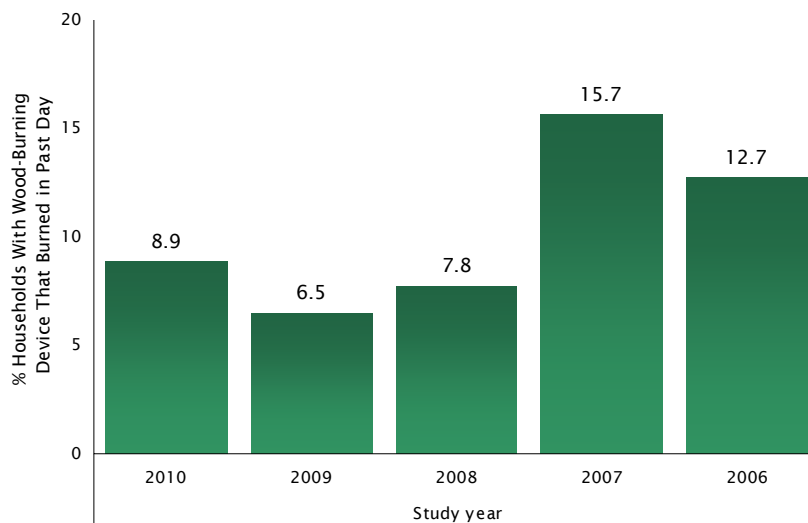
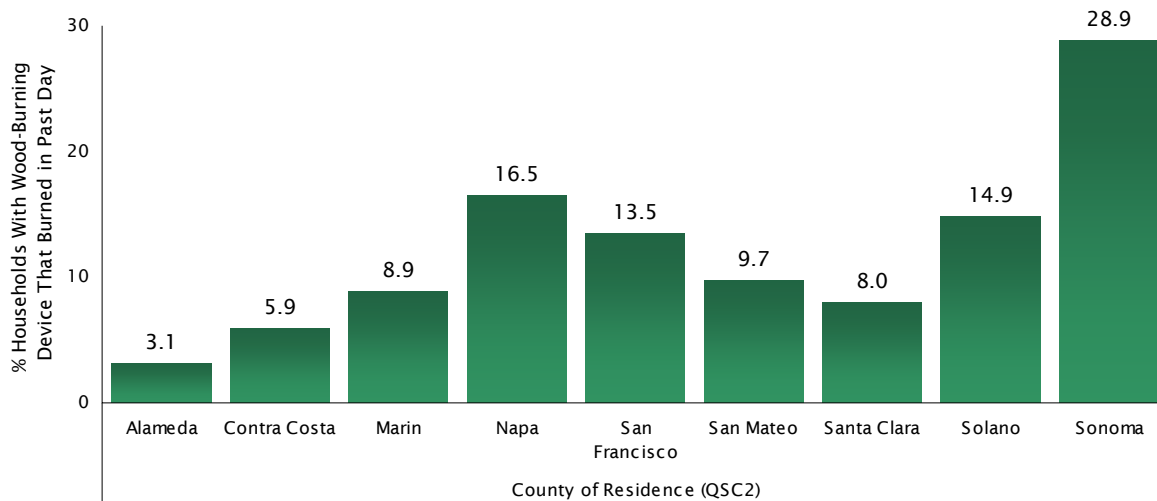


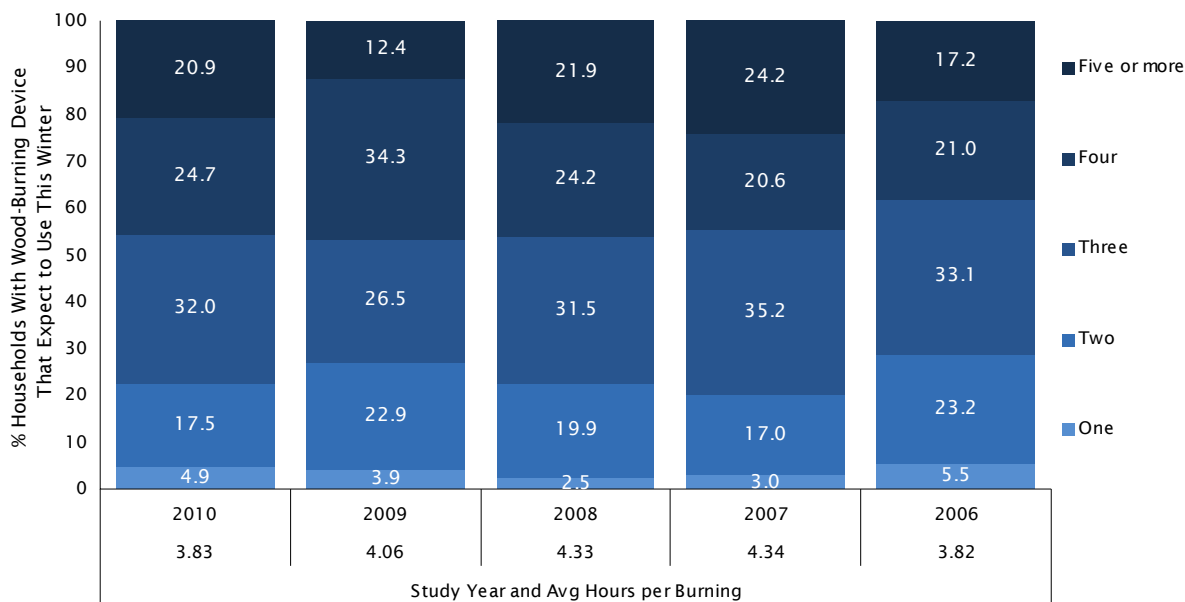
FIGURE 26 BURNED WOOD YESTERDAY AMONG ALL WOOD-BURNING DEVICE HOUSEHOLDS BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE (N = 560)



DURATION & VOLUME OF WOOD BURNING Questions 15 and 16 asked respondents with wood-burning devices who also expected to use the device this winter to estimate the number of hours they have a fire burning—as well as the number of logs they burn—on a typical day that they burn wood. In terms of hours, respondents were split between those who burn at least four hours on a typical day (46%), those who burn approximately three hours per day (32%), and those who burn less than three hours (22%). The average duration among all respondents who received this question in 2010 was 3.83 hours, which is statistically similar to the 4.06 hours reported in 2009. Among the nine member counties, respondents from Sonoma County reported the highest average hours burned per burn day at 5.51 hours (Figure 28). Frequent burners also reported a longer duration (4.55 hours) for a typical burn day when compared with those who burn less than once per week (3.24 hours).

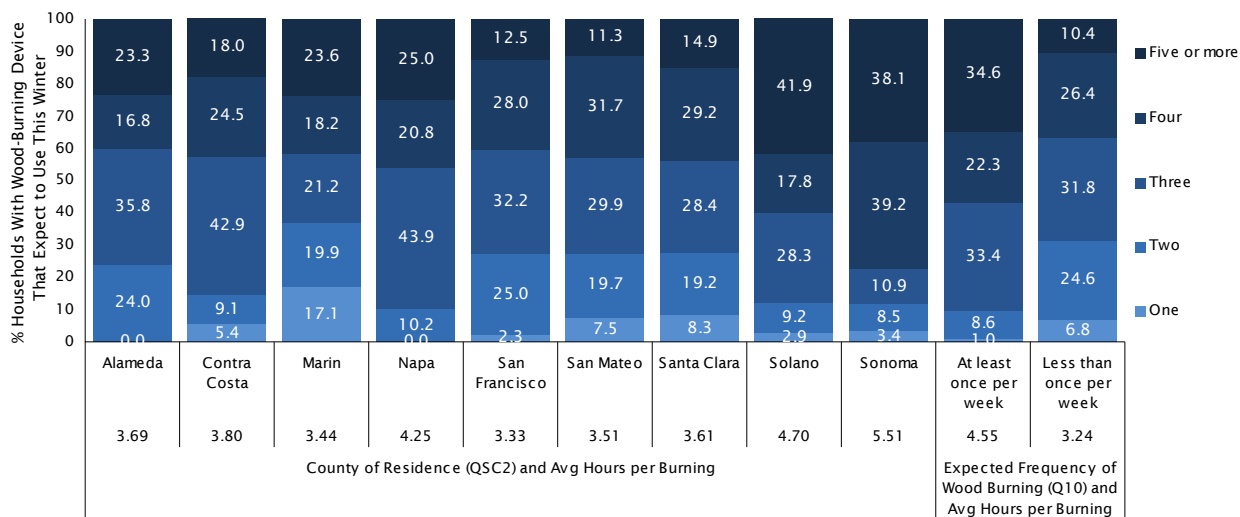
Question 15 *In a typical day that you burn wood, how many hours of the day do you have a fire burning?*

FIGURE 27 DISTRIBUTION AND AVERAGE HOURS OF BURNING IN TYPICAL DAY OF WOOD-BURNING: 2006 ~ 2010 (N = 293)



† Statistically significant change (p < 0.05) between the 2009 and 2010 studies.

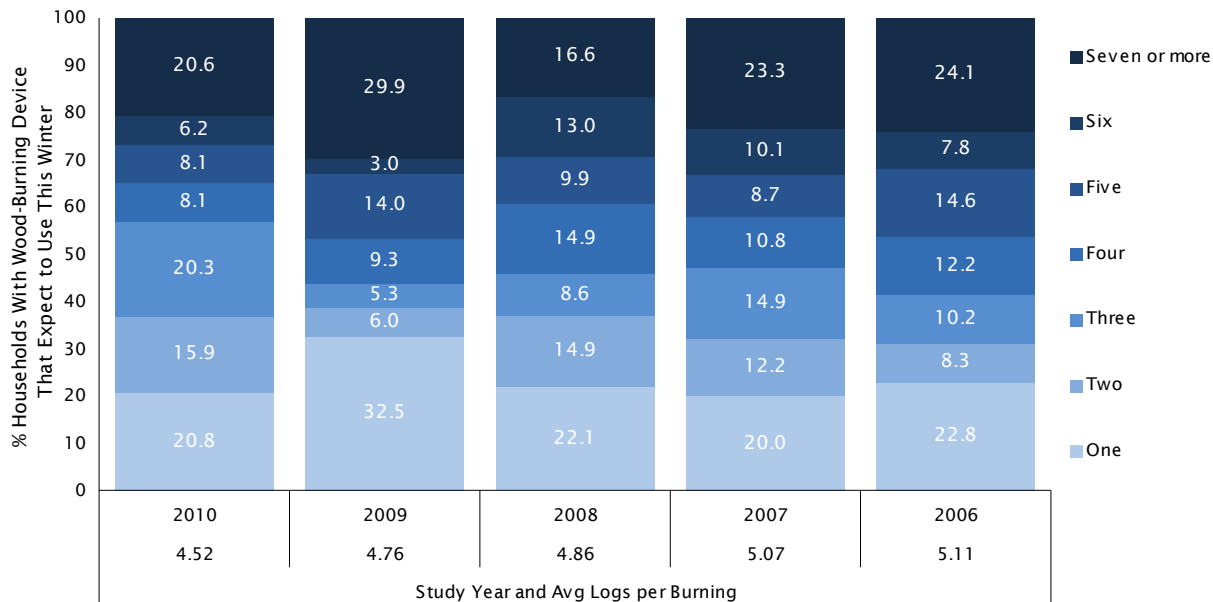
FIGURE 28 DISTRIBUTION AND AVERAGE HOURS OF BURNING IN TYPICAL DAY OF WOOD-BURNING BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE & EXPECTED FREQUENCY OF WOOD BURNING (N = 293)



In terms of volume, respondents were split in 2010 between those who burn one or two logs per typical burn day (37%), those who estimated that they burn three to five logs (37%), and those who reported burning more than five logs per day (27%). The average number of logs reported per burn day in 2010 was 4.52, similar to the 4.76 recorded in the prior study (Figure 29).

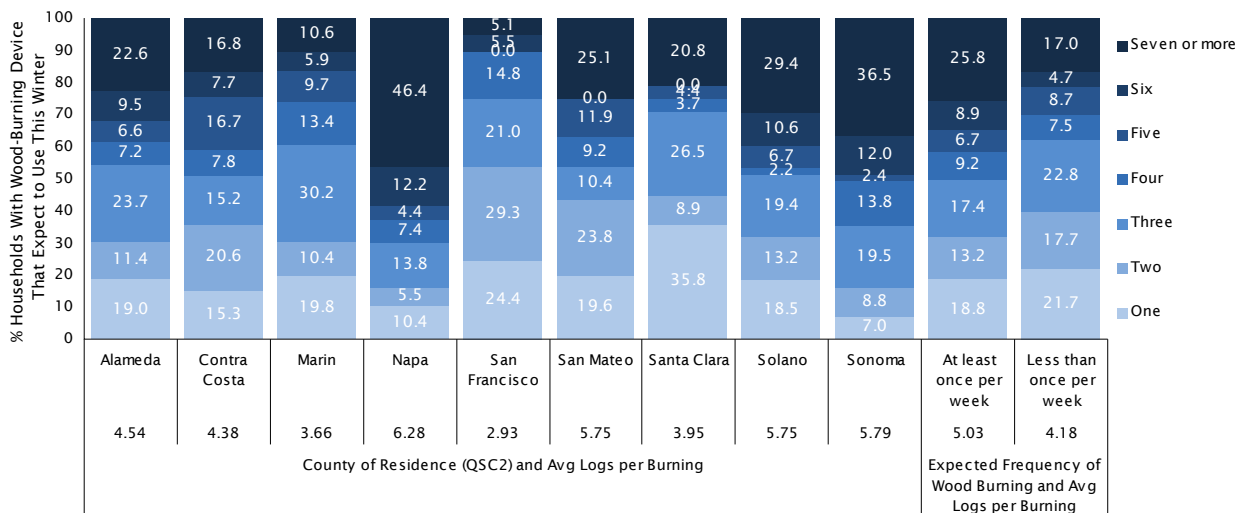
Question 16 *In a typical day that you burn wood, how many logs do you burn throughout the entire day?*

FIGURE 29 DISTRIBUTION AND AVERAGE NUMBER OF LOGS BURNED IN TYPICAL DAY OF WOOD-BURNING: 2006 ~ 2010 (N = 280)



As shown in Figure 30, counties that reported longer than average burn durations on a typical burn day also tended to report higher than average volumes of logs burned per burn day. Frequent burners also reported a higher number of logs burned (5.03) per burn day when compared with their counterparts (4.18) who burn less frequently than once per week.

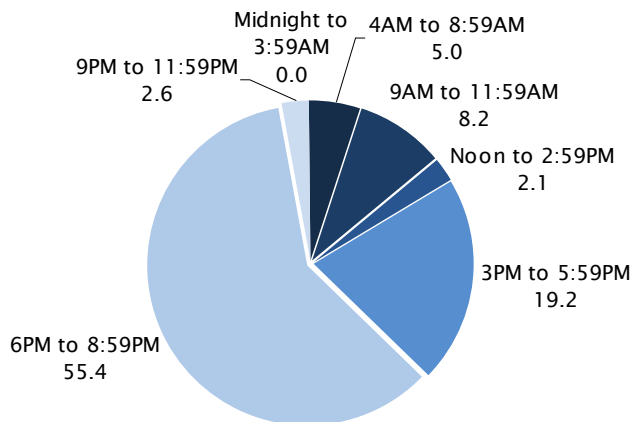
FIGURE 30 DISTRIBUTION AND AVERAGE NUMBER OF LOGS BURNED IN TYPICAL DAY OF WOOD-BURNING BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE & EXPECTED FREQUENCY OF WOOD BURNING (N = 280)



The final question in this series asked respondents to identify the time of day that they first lit their most recent fire. More than half (55%) of respondents indicated that they started their most recent fire between 6PM and 8:59PM, and an additional one-quarter (19%) started their fire a bit earlier between 3PM and 5:59PM (see Figure 31).

Question 17 *Thinking back to your most recent fire, approximately what time of the day did you first light the fire?*

FIGURE 31 TIME OF LIGHTING MOST RECENT FIRE (N = 293)



CHANGES IN WOOD BURNING BEHAVIOR

Having measured respondents' basic wood burning behavior, the survey next focused on whether respondents had made changes in their wood burning behavior during the 2010-2011 winter season in response to the Winter Spare the Air campaign or other factors.

GENERAL CHANGES IN WOOD BURNING BEHAVIOR The first question in this series asked respondents if they expected to burn wood more frequently, less frequently, or at about the same frequency as the prior winter season. Overall, 62% of households that own a wood-burning heating device and expected to burn wood this season anticipated burning wood at about the same frequency this season as last (Figure 32). Approximately 20% expected to burn less often this season, whereas 11% expected to burn more frequently. Among the nine member counties, Napa contained the highest proportion of households that expected to burn more frequently this season, whereas Santa Clara contained the largest percentage that expected to burn less frequently (see Figure 33 on page 32).

Question 18 *This winter, do you expect that you will burn wood more often, less often, or about the same frequency as you did last winter?*

FIGURE 32 EXPECTED FREQUENCY OF WOOD BURNING THIS WINTER COMPARED WITH LAST WINTER: 2005 ~ 2010 (N = 293)

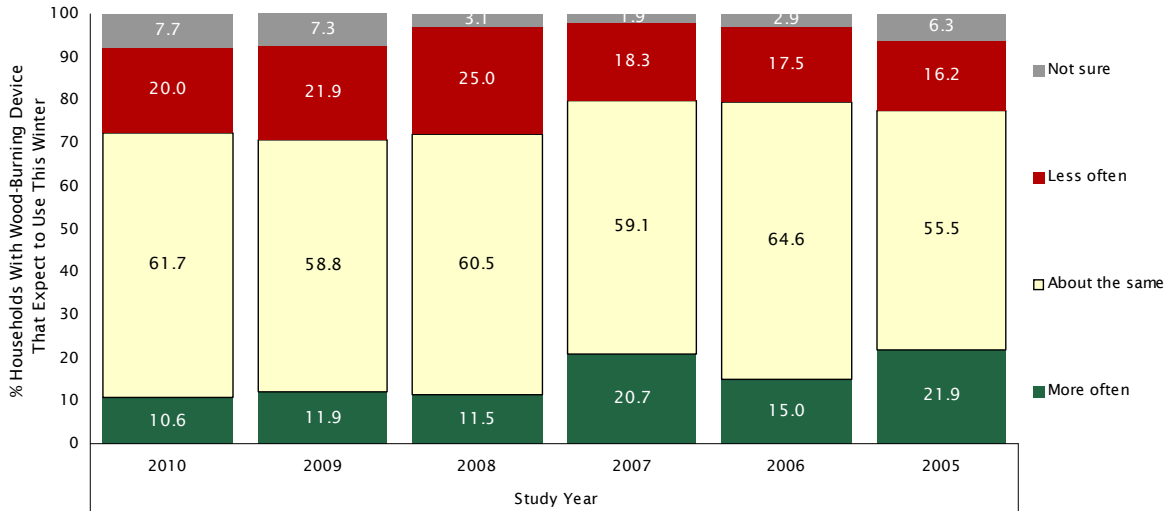
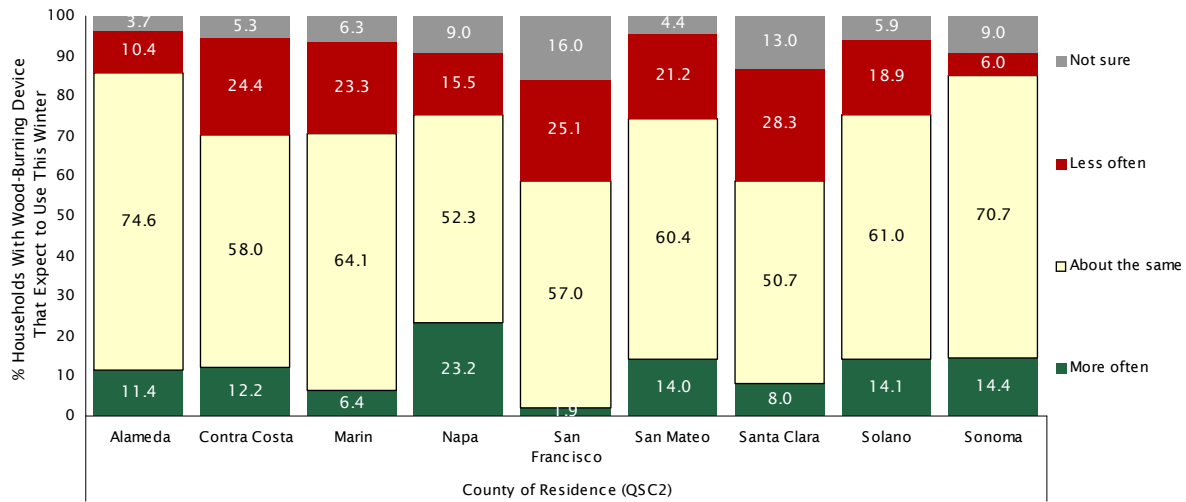


FIGURE 33 EXPECTED FREQUENCY OF WOOD BURNING THIS WINTER COMPARED WITH LAST WINTER BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE (N = 293)



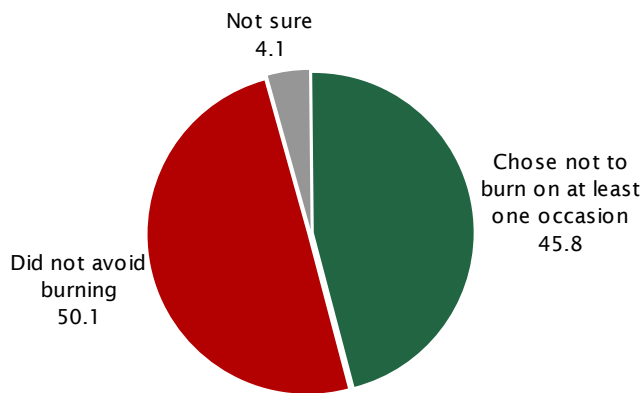
SEASONAL CHANGES IN WOOD BURNING BEHAVIOR Those in households that burned wood this winter (or anticipated doing so) were next asked whether there were occasions when they normally would have burned wood, but refrained from doing so. For those who answered in the affirmative, the survey next asked in an open-ended manner *why* they decided not to burn wood on these occasions.

The manner in which these questions were asked, as well as their placement in the survey relative to specific questions about the Winter Spare the Air Campaign, was changed in 2004 from prior surveys. Previous surveys first introduced the Winter Spare the Air Program and then asked if individuals responded to the Program by reducing the amount of wood they burned. Asking the question in this manner is likely to prompt a *socially desirable* response from some respondents that they had reduced their wood burning even if they had not—which leads to artificially high estimates of the campaign’s impact. To more accurately measure reductions in wood burning that can be attributed to the campaign, the 2004 to 2010 surveys employed an indirect approach similar to that used in the CARB/EPA Method for estimating reductions in driving due to the summer Spare the Air Campaign.

As shown in Figure 34, 46% of respondents who have a wood-burning fireplace, wood stove, and/or pellet stove *and* expected to burn wood during the 2010-2011 winter season indicated that—on at least one occasion this season—they refrained from burning wood. When asked *why* they chose not to burn wood on these occasions, 19% specifically mentioned the Winter Spare the Air campaign and an additional 3% offered an air quality or health-related reason (see Figure 35).⁸ When compared with 2009, the proportion who cited the Winter Spare the Air campaign as the reason for why they refrained from burning wood decreased significantly. For the interested reader, the proportion of respondents who mentioned the campaign or air quality and/or health reasons as a reason for not burning wood at least once this winter is shown by county in Figure 36 on page 34.

8. Among those who refrained from burning wood due to Winter Spare the Air, air quality and/or health-related reasons, the average number of occasions they refrained from burning wood during the season prior to taking the interview was 4.25.

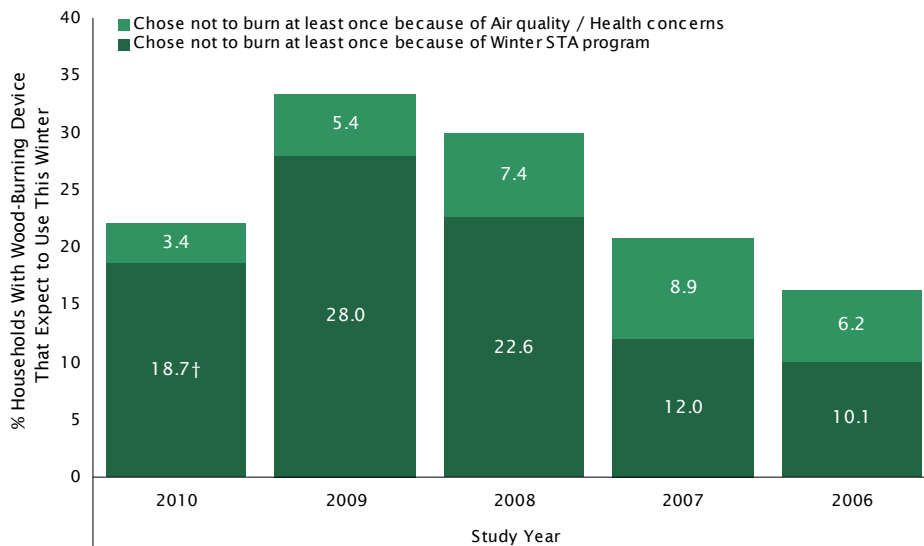
FIGURE 34 CHOSE NOT TO BURN THIS WINTER (N = 293)



Question 19 *Were there occasions this winter when you normally would have burned wood, but decided not to?*

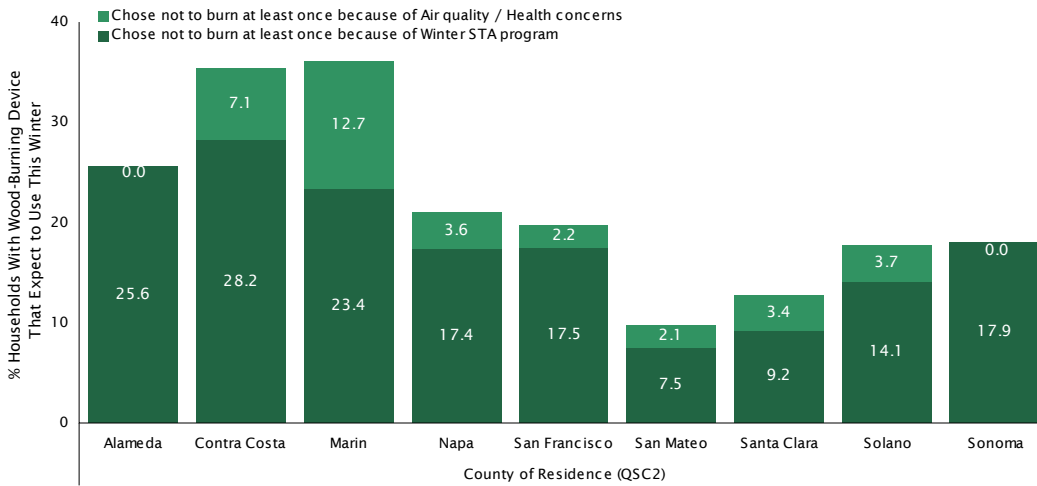
Question 20 *Why did you decide not to burn wood on these occasions?*

FIGURE 35 CHOSE NOT TO BURN THIS WINTER BECAUSE OF WINTER SPARE THE AIR CAMPAIGN INFO OR AIR QUALITY / HEALTH CONCERNS: 2006 ~ 2010 (N = 293)



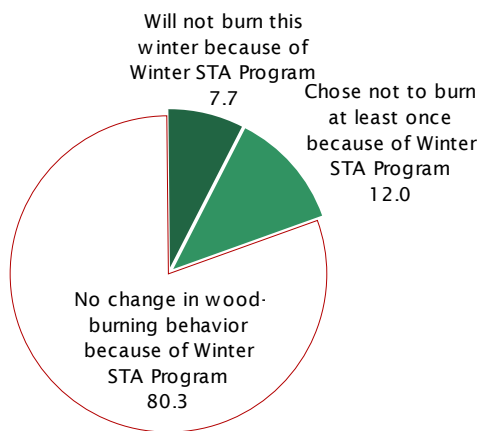
† Statistically significant change ($p < 0.05$) between the 2009 and 2010 studies.

FIGURE 36 CHOSE NOT TO BURN THIS WINTER BECAUSE OF WINTER SPARE THE AIR CAMPAIGN INFO OR AIR QUALITY / HEALTH CONCERNS BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE (N = 293)



SEASONAL CAMPAIGN IMPACTS ON WOOD BURNING To estimate the proportion of adults in the District who reduced the amount of wood that they burned during the winter season in response to the campaign, one must combine the responses from several questions in the survey. Naturally, respondents who do not live in a household that contains a wood-burning fireplace, wood stove, or pellet stove (Question 1) should not be included in the analysis because they could not respond to the campaign by reducing their wood burning behavior. Respondents who chose not to burn wood *at all* during the winter (Question 8), did so because of air quality or health related reasons (Question 9), *and* were aware of the Winter Spare the Air Program (Question 23) can be considered a Spare the Air (STA) reducer. So too can respondents who indicated that although they did burn wood, they refrained from doing so on occasion (Question 19), did so because of the campaign and/or for air quality/health reasons (Question 20), *and* were aware of the Winter Spare the Air Program (Question 23).

FIGURE 37 SPARE THE AIR REDUCERS (N = 560)



Among all households with a wood-burning fireplace, pellet stove or wood stove, 8% chose not to burn *at all* during the winter season because of the Winter Spare the Air campaign, and an additional 12% refrained from burning on at least one occasion for the same reason. Collectively, the Winter Spare the Air campaign influenced approximately 20% of households with a wood-burning fireplace, pellet stove or wood stove to reduce their wood burning during the 2010-2011 winter season (Figure 37).

Table 4 shows that of the 560 respondents in the survey who were eligible to respond to the campaign, 110 (20%) reduced their wood burning behavior on at least one occasion during the 2010-2011 winter in response to the Winter Spare the Air Program.⁹ This represents 207,022 households out of the estimated 1,050,340 households with a wood-burning heating device. In terms of the reliability of the estimate, we can be 95% confident that the actual proportion of Winter Spare the Air reducer households this season was between 16.42% and 23.00%.

TABLE 4 SPARE THE AIR REDUCERS: CONFIDENCE INTERVAL

Winter Spare the Air Alert Reducers		
Universe Estimate (households with heating device)		1,050,340
Sample Size (surveyed households with heating device)		560
STA Reducers		110
Non-STA Reducers		450
Proportion of STA Reducers		19.71%
Proportion of Non-STA Reducers		80.29%
Maximum Margin of Error (95% confidence)		3.29%
Confidence Interval for Proportion of Winter STA Reducers	Lower Bound	16.42%
	Upper Bound	23.00%

Figure 38 displays the estimated percentage of wood-burning fireplace, wood stove, and pellet stove owning households that reduced their wood burning on at least one occasion due to the Winter Spare the Air Program by study year. For reference, the confidence intervals are also shown to provide a sense for the reliability of the estimates.¹⁰ Compared with 2009, the percentage of spare the air reducers identified in 2010 was lower, although not quite statistically significant. Historically, the 2010 percentage was in line with the findings of the past four studies, during which the percentage of eligible households that reduced wood burning in response to the campaign ranged from a low of 18% in 2006 to a high of 27% in 2008. Just 4% of eligible households in 2004 and 2% of eligible households in 2005 responded to the campaign.

Figure 39 displays the number of Spare the Air Tonight episodes called per winter season, as they correspond to Study Year. Comparing figures 38 and 39, we see a relationship between the number of episodes and response to the campaign. That is, response to the campaign during winter seasons in which no Spare the Air Tonight episodes were called (2004 and 2005) was low, which one would expect given fewer opportunities to encounter campaign and air quality information, as well as fewer opportunities to respond to the campaign by not burning on specific

9. The survey included a follow-up question (Question 21) which asked respondents who refrained from burning wood for campaign-related reasons (Question 20) how many times they refrained from burning wood for air quality or health-related reasons during the winter season. The average response was 3.98 times, although the small sample size for this question means that the statistical margins of error around the estimate are large. Moreover, respondents who did not burn wood at all during the winter were not asked this question, so the figure represents the average reduction among individuals who normally burn wood.

10. The confidence intervals indicate the range within which one can be 95% confident that the true value exists.

episodes evenings. With the substantial increase in episodes during the 2006 and 2007 seasons came a substantial increase in awareness of and response to the campaign.¹¹ Since that time, response to the campaign has remained high and proportional to the number of Spare the Air Tonight episodes—and thus opportunities for exposure to air quality information—called during each winter season.

FIGURE 38 SPARE THE AIR REDUCERS BY STUDY YEAR SHOWING CONFIDENCE INTERVALS (N = 560)

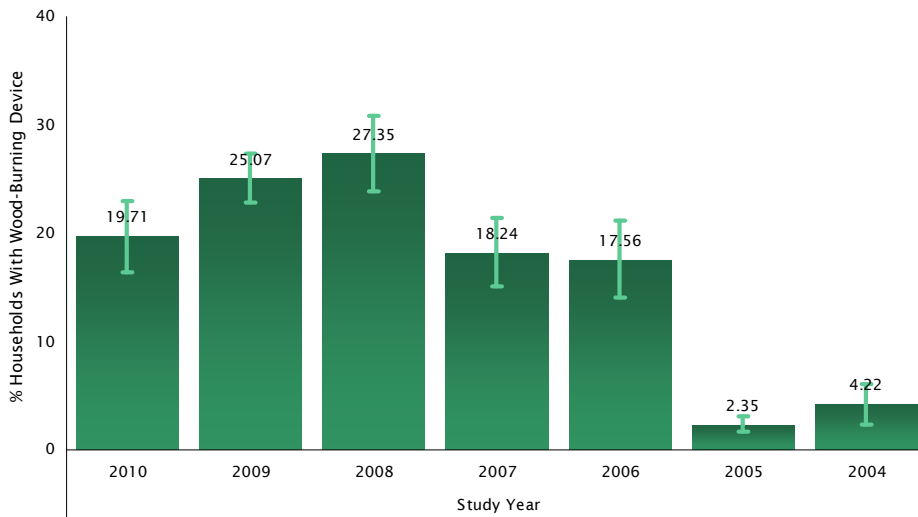


FIGURE 39 NUMBER OF SPARE THE AIR TONIGHT EPISODES PER SEASON

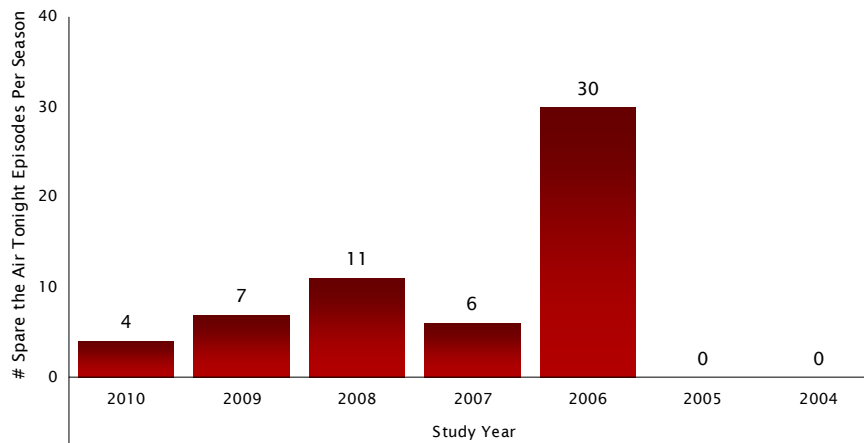
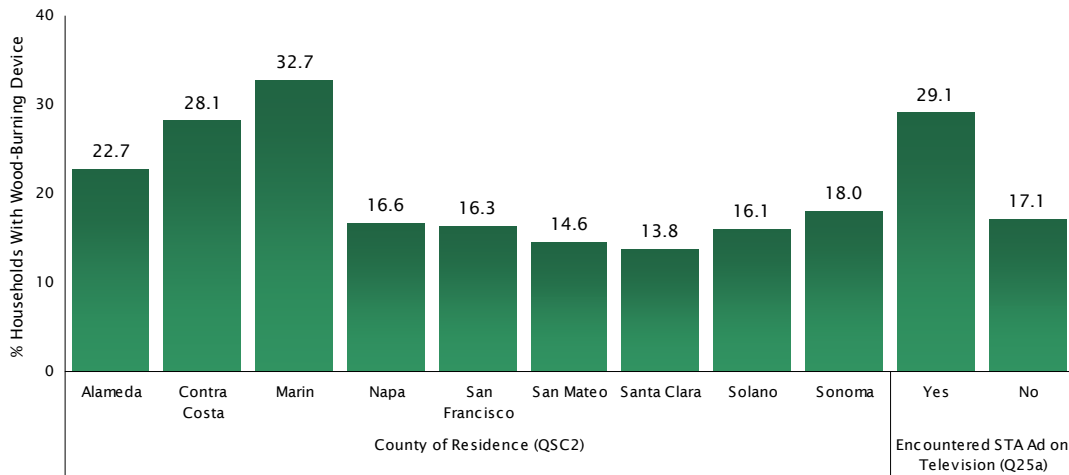


Figure 40 provides the percentage of wood-burning households that reduced their burning on at least one occasion due to the Winter Spare the Air Program by county of residence and whether or not the respondent had encountered a Spare the Air advertisement on television. Households in Marin, Contra Costa, and Alameda, and those in which the survey respondent had seen a Spare the Air advertisement or announcement on television were the most likely to have responded to the campaign.

11. Between 1995 and 2005, only one Spare the Air Tonight episode was called. In 2006, research on the impacts of fine particles on public health prompted federal government to strengthen particulate matter air quality standards, resulting in a dramatic increase in the number of episodes called during the 2006 winter season.

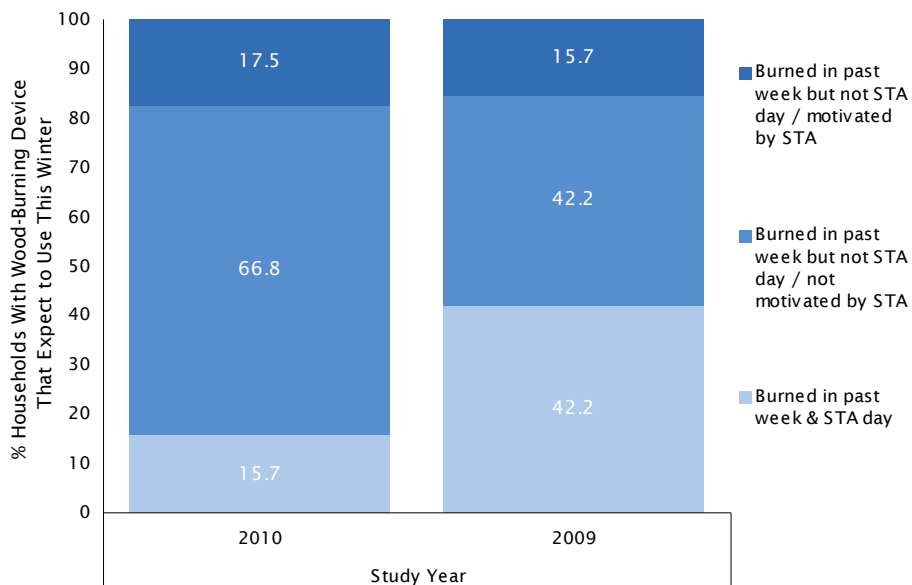
FIGURE 40 SPARE THE AIR REDUCERS BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE & ENCOUNTERED STA AD ON TELEVISION (N = 560)



EPISODIC IMPACTS OF CAMPAIGN ON WOOD BURNING Whereas the prior section discussed changes to wood-burning on a *seasonal* basis, the 2010 study also sought to identify the impact that occurs when specific Spare the Air alerts are issued. To accurately characterize the impacts, it is important to isolate the target market for the alert: households that are inclined to burn on the Spare the Air episode. Figure 41 shows that among households that burned during the week prior to a Spare the Air alert (and thus had demonstrated an inclination to burn), 18% chose not to burn on the episode in response to the campaign, similar to the figure found in 2009. An additional 67% refrained from burning on the Spare the Air day, but for reasons not related to the campaign. Approximately 16% of households that had burned in the week prior to the Spare the Air day also burned on the Spare the Air day.

Question 22 *You previously indicated that you chose not to burn wood yesterday or last night. Why did you decide not to burn wood yesterday or last night?*

FIGURE 41 ANALYSIS OF WOOD BURNING ON STA EVENINGS: BURNED THIS SEASON AND IN PAST WEEK (N = 31)



RECALL AND AWARENESS OF WINTER SPARE THE AIR MESSAGING

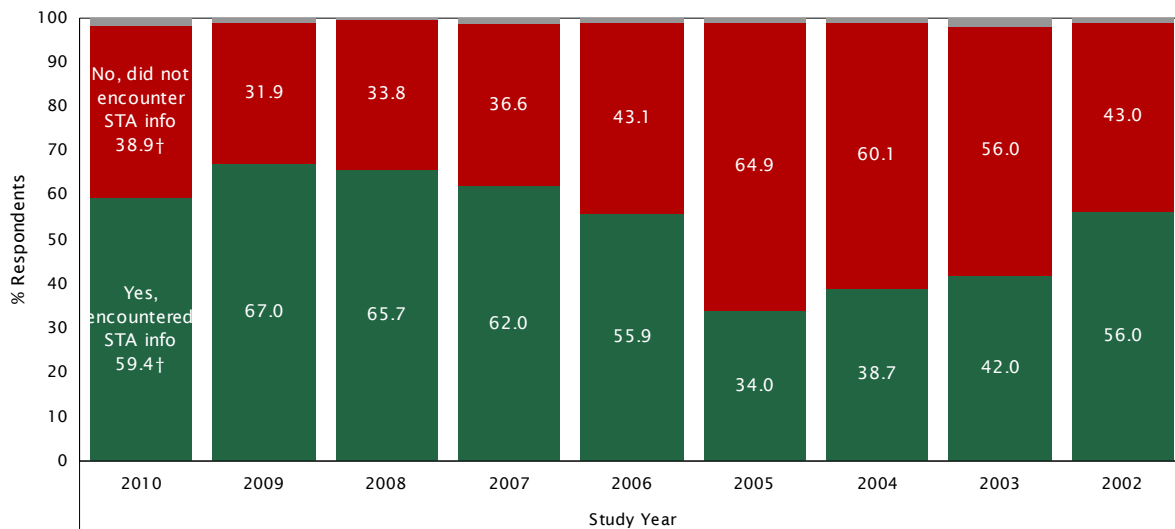
Although the ultimate goal of the Winter Spare the Air Campaign is to persuade individuals to reduce the amount of wood they burn and to replace wood-burning devices with cleaner alternatives, there are a series of related objectives which must be met for this to occur. For example, regardless of how compelling the message may be, if the message does not reach the target audience then the campaign cannot succeed in its primary goal. Thus, an objective of the campaign is simply to increase awareness of the Winter Spare the Air Program and related events.

RECALL EXPOSURE TO SPARE THE AIR MESSAGING Accordingly, a series of questions was asked of respondents about their recall of Winter Spare the Air messaging. The first of these questions asked: *During this winter, have you heard, read, or seen any new stories, advertisements or public service announcements about the Winter Spare the Air Alert Program, poor air quality, or requests not to use your fireplace, pellet stove or wood stove?*

Figure 42 presents the results to this question for the study years 2002 through 2010. In 2010, 59% of respondents recalled being exposed to news stories, advertisements, or public service announcements related to the Winter Spare the Air Program during the winter months. This finding is significantly lower than the 67% recorded in 2009, which was the highest level of recalled exposure in the nine studies summarized in this report.

Question 23 *During this winter, have you heard, read, or seen any news stories, advertisements, or public service announcements about the Winter Spare the Air Alert Program, poor air quality, or requests not to use your fireplace, pellet stove, or woodstove?*

FIGURE 42 ENCOUNTED WINTER SPARE THE AIR INFORMATION: 2002 ~ 2010 (N = 1,300)



† Statistically significant change ($p < 0.05$) between the 2009 and 2010 studies.

For the interested reader, Figures 43 and 44 display the percentage of respondents who recalled being exposed to news stories, advertisements, or public service announcements related to the Winter Spare the Air Program during the 2010 winter months by county, gender, age and education level. When compared with their respective counterparts, those in Marin County and those over 35 were the most likely to recall being exposed to the Winter Spare the Air Program. Gender and education level did not appear to be strong predictors of exposure to the Program.

FIGURE 43 ENCOUNTERED WINTER SPARE THE AIR INFORMATION BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE & GENDER (N = 1,300)

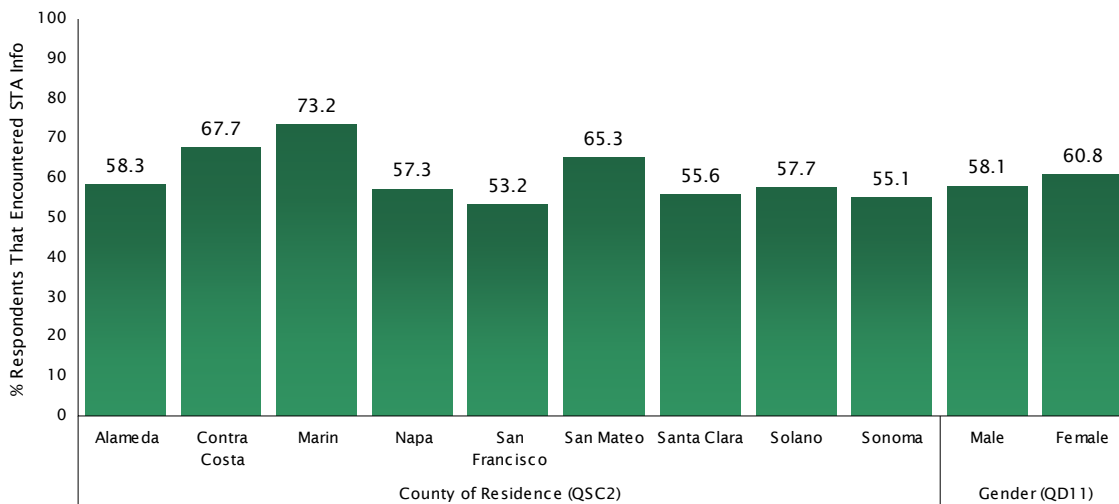
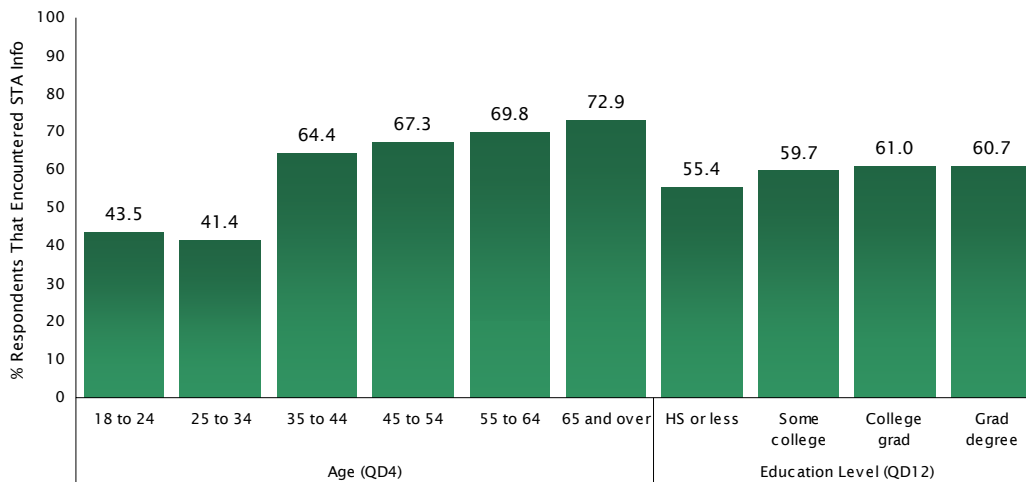


FIGURE 44 ENCOUNTERED WINTER SPARE THE AIR INFORMATION BY AGE & EDUCATION LEVEL (N = 1,300)



INFORMATION SOURCE Those who indicated that they recalled hearing, reading, or seeing Winter Spare the Air related information during the winter were next asked where they obtained the information. In prior years, this question was asked in an open-ended manner, allowing respondents to mention a particular source or sources without being prompted. To gauge more accurately the exposure to various media types, in 2010 the question was modified to ask respondents if they had or had not encountered Bay Area Air Quality Management District or Winter Spare the Air Program information via *each* of the media types presented below in Figure 45. Percentages in the figure were calculated to represent the portion of *all* survey respondents who encountered information, not just those who received the question. As shown in the figure, more than one-third of *all* respondents encountered Bay Area Air Quality Management District or Winter Spare the Air Program information via television (36%) and/or radio (34%). Approximately 18% of respondents encountered information via a newspaper, 10% on a website, and 7% on a billboard. For the interested reader, Figure 46 on the next page looks at exposure to media types by age of the respondent.

Question 24 *During this winter, do you recall encountering information about the Bay Area Air Quality Management District or the Winter Spare the Air Program: _____?*

FIGURE 45 SOURCE FOR WINTER SPARE THE AIR INFORMATION (N = 1,300)

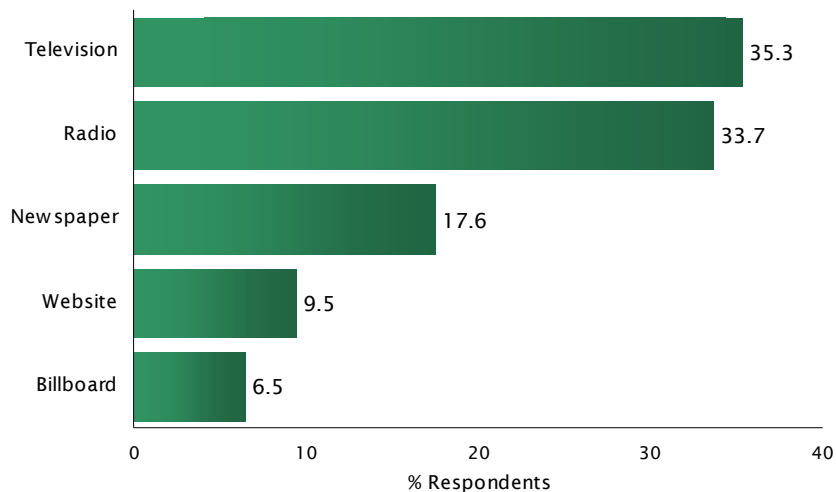
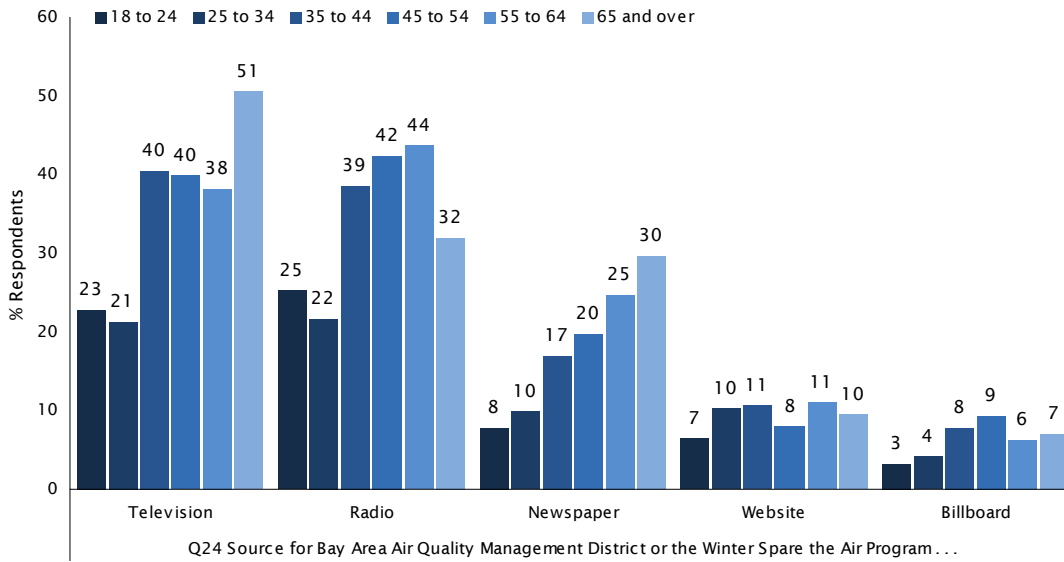


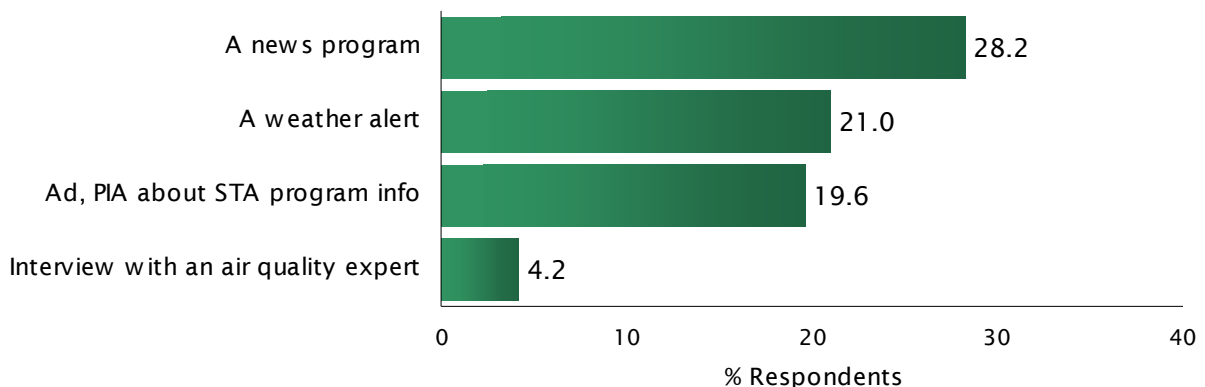
FIGURE 46 SOURCE FOR WINTER SPARE THE AIR INFORMATION BY AGE (N = 1,300)



Air quality information on television originates from a variety of sources, both directly and indirectly related to the BAAQMD’s campaign outreach efforts. To look more closely at the penetration rates of four different television sources, Question 25 was added to the 2010 survey as a follow-up for respondents who indicated they had encountered Spare the Air information on television in the prior question. The results of this question are presented below in Figure 47, with the percentages calculated to represent the portion of *all* survey respondents who encountered information from each television source. As shown in the figure, 28% of all respondents said they encountered Winter Spare the Air information on television in a news program and 21% saw it on a televised weather alert. One-fifth (20%) of all respondents said they encountered Winter Spare the Air information on television in *an advertisement or public information announcement that talks about fires, wood smoke, air quality and the Winter Spare the Air program*, and 4% saw an interview with an air quality expert or representative.

Question 25 *Information about the Winter Spare the Air program is carried on television in a number of ways. Do you recall encountering information about Winter Spare the Air on television in: _____?*

FIGURE 47 SOURCE OF SPARE THE AIR INFORMATION ON TELEVISION (N = 1,300)



For the interested reader, figures 48 and 49 present the percentage of all respondents who encountered Winter Spare the Air information on television in *an advertisement or public information announcement that talks about fires, wood smoke, air quality and the Winter Spare the Air program* by county of residence, whether or not the household has responded to the campaign by reducing wood-burning behavior, and age of the respondent.

FIGURE 48 ENCOUNTERED AD, PIA ABOUT FIRES, WOOD SMOKE, AIR QUALITY ON TELEVISION BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE (N = 1,300)

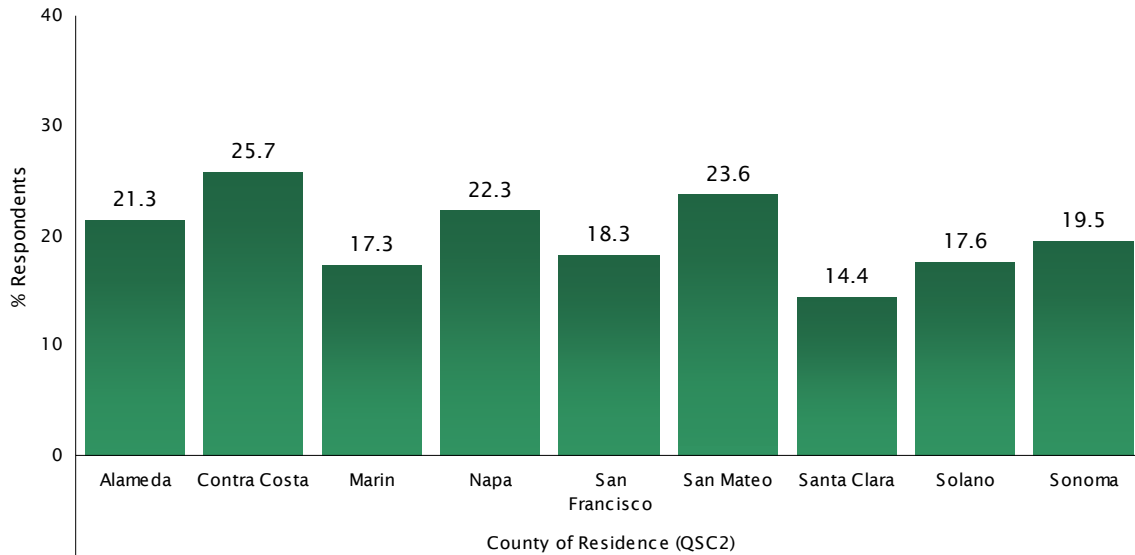
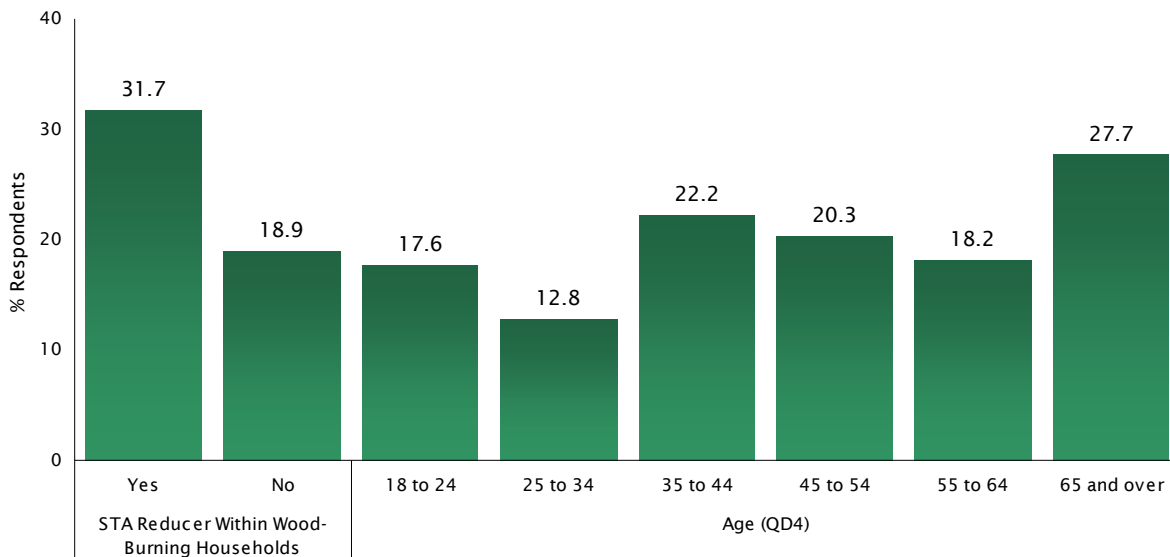


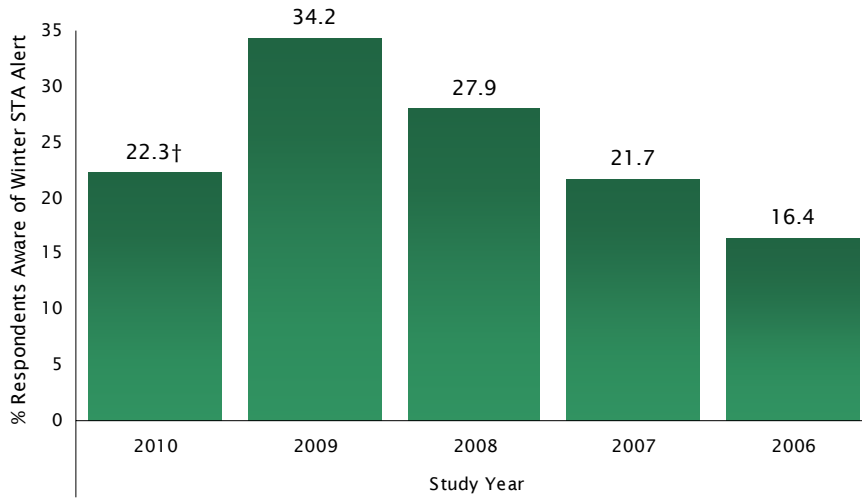
FIGURE 49 ENCOUNTERED AD, PIA ABOUT FIRES, WOOD SMOKE, AIR QUALITY BY STA REDUCER WITHIN WOOD-BURNING HOUSEHOLDS & AGE (N = 1,300)



AWARE OF SPARE THE AIR DAY The final question in this series asked all respondents who received the interview on the day after a Winter Spare the Air episode if, prior to taking the survey, they were aware that a Winter Spare the Air advisory had been issued the day before. As shown in Figure 50, 22% of respondents in 2010 answered this question in the affirmative, which is significantly lower than the proportion found in 2009. When compared with their respective counterparts, awareness was highest among Contra Costa and San Mateo County residents, those who had encountered a Spare the Air ad on television, seniors, those with higher than a high school education and, as one would expect, those in households that responded to the campaign (see Figures 51 and 52).

Question 26 *Prior to taking this survey, were you aware that there was a “Winter Spare the Air Alert” yesterday?*

FIGURE 50 AWARE OF WINTER SPARE THE AIR ALERT: 2006 ~ 2010 (N = 354)



† Statistically significant change ($p < 0.05$) between the 2009 and 2010 studies.

FIGURE 51 AWARE OF WINTER SPARE THE AIR ALERT BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE & ENCOUNTERED STA AD ON TELEVISION (N = 354)

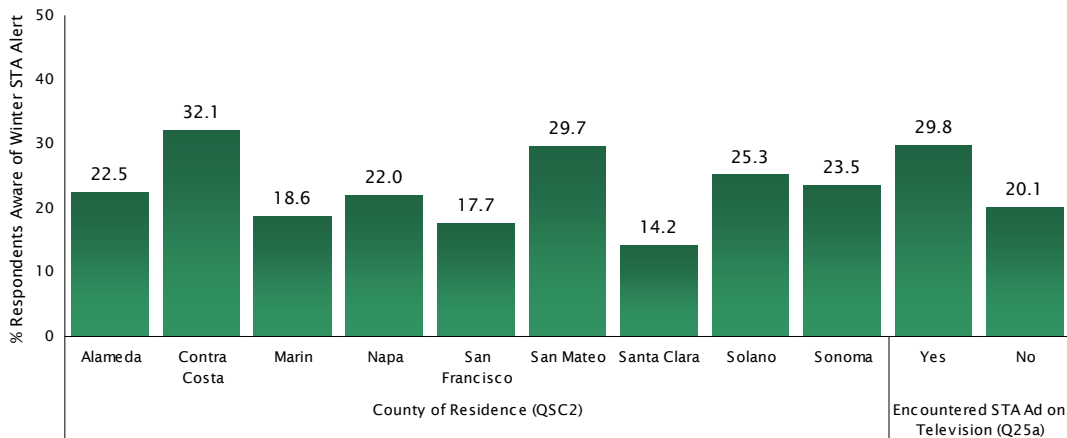
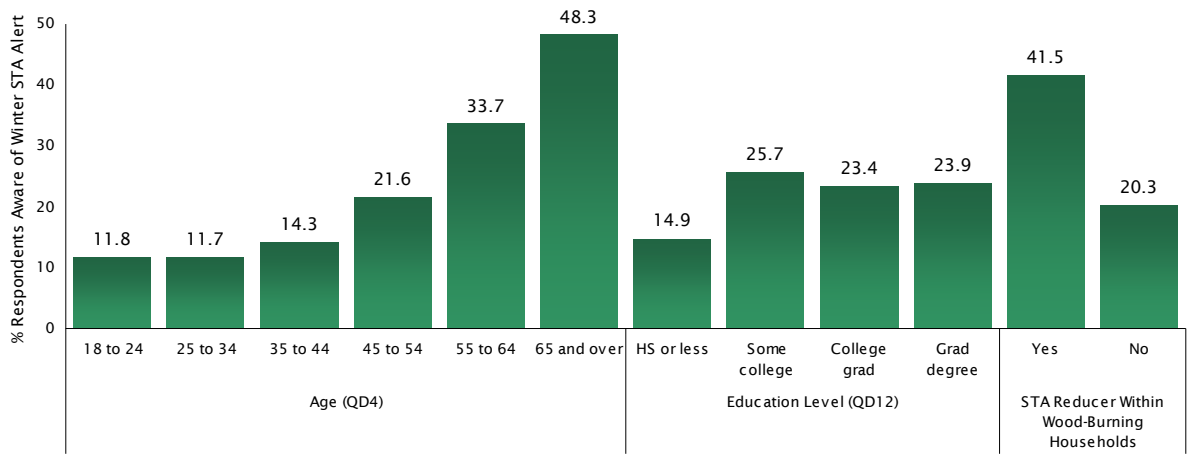


FIGURE 52 AWARE OF WINTER SPARE THE AIR ALERT BY AGE, EDUCATION LEVEL & STA REDUCER WITHIN WOOD-BURNING HOUSEHOLDS (N = 354)



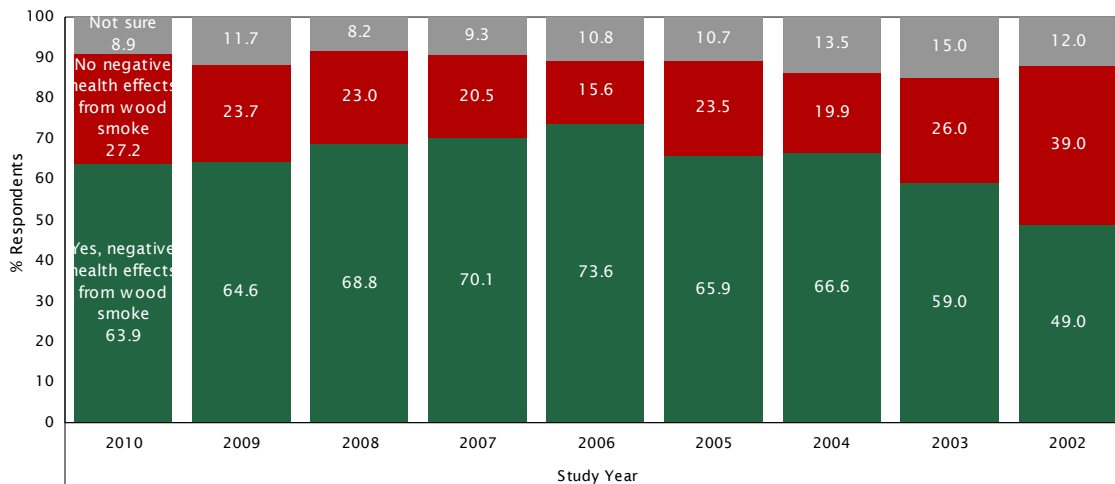
ATTITUDES ABOUT WOOD SMOKE

In addition to changing wood burning behavior, one of the goals of the Winter Spare the Air Program is to change how residents think about wood smoke and its impact on public health. To track how effective the Program has been in achieving this goal, the survey included several measures of residents' opinions and perceptions about wood smoke.

The first of these questions simply asked the respondent whether they think there are any negative health effects associated with breathing wood smoke. As shown in Figure 53, approximately 64% of adults in the Bay Area perceive wood smoke to have negative health impacts, which is statistically similar to the findings of the 2009 survey. It is worth noting that public opinion on this matter has changed substantially since 2002—in part due to the Winter Spare the Air Program. The proportion of adults that perceive wood smoke to have negative health impacts has increased by 15% since 2002.

Question 27 *Do you think there are any negative health effects associated with breathing wood smoke?*

FIGURE 53 PERCEIVE NEGATIVE HEALTH EFFECTS ASSOCIATED WITH WOOD SMOKE: 2002 ~ 2010 (N = 1,300)



† Statistically significant change ($p < 0.05$) between the 2009 and 2010 studies.

For the interested reader, figures 54 and 55 display the percentage of respondents that perceive wood smoke to have negative health impacts by a variety of demographics.

FIGURE 54 PERCEIVE NEGATIVE HEALTH EFFECTS ASSOCIATED WITH WOOD SMOKE BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE, STA REDUCER WITHIN WOOD-BURNING HOUSEHOLDS & ENCOUNTERED STA INFO (N = 1,300)

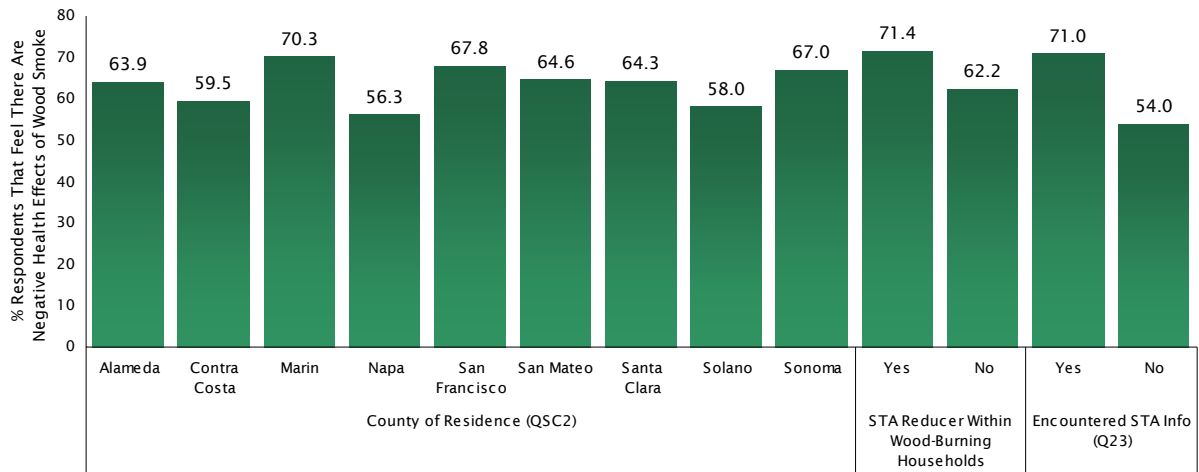
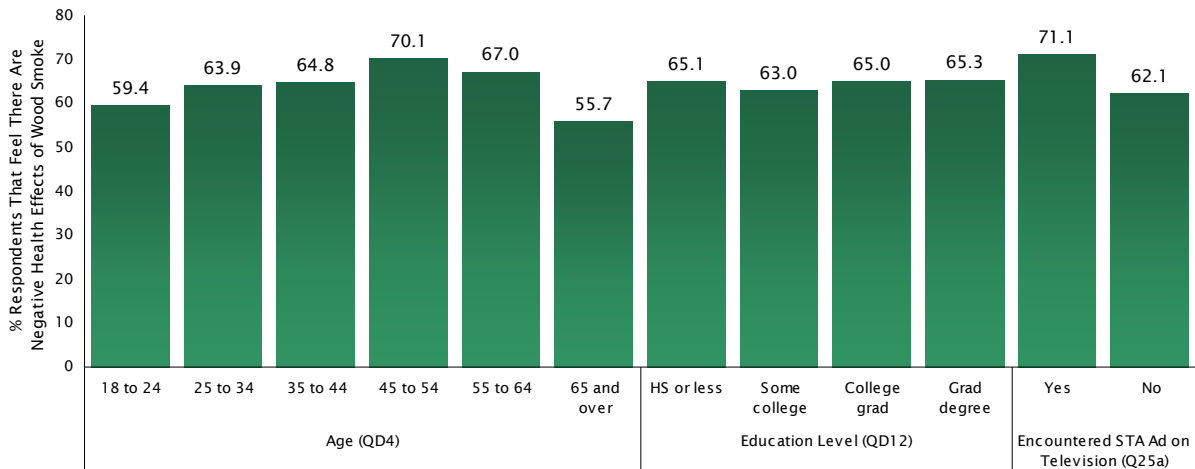
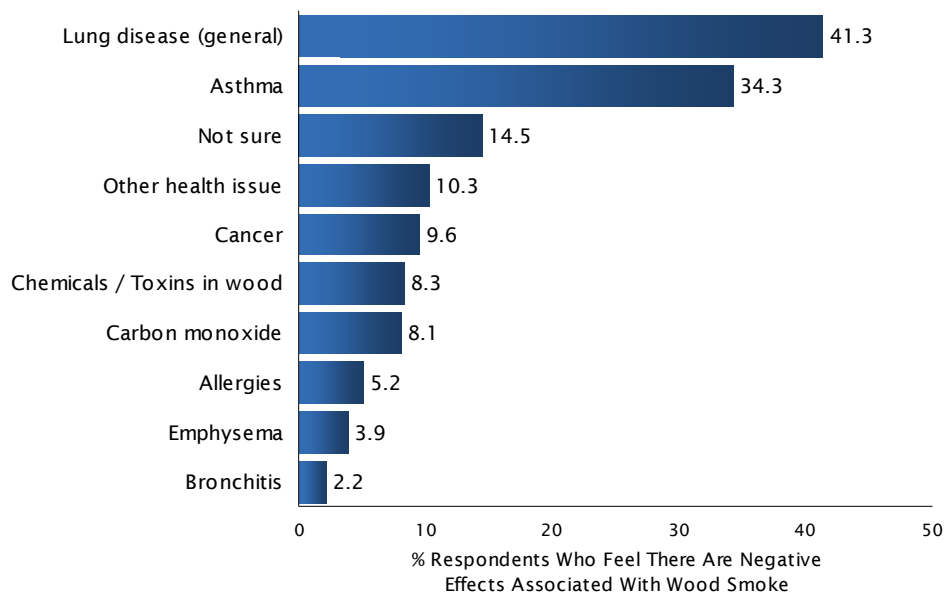


FIGURE 55 PERCEIVE NEGATIVE HEALTH EFFECTS ASSOCIATED WITH WOOD SMOKE BY AGE, EDUCATION LEVEL & ENCOUNTERED AD ON TELEVISION (N = 1,300)



Respondents who perceived wood smoke to have negative health impacts (Question 27) were next asked to identify what the specific health effects are of breathing wood smoke. This question was asked in an open-ended manner which allowed respondents to mention any health impact that came to mind without being prompted by or restricted to a list of options. Multiple responses were allowed for this question, so the percentages shown in Figure 56 on the next page represent the percentage of respondents who mentioned a particular health effect. The most common response (41%) was a general reference to lung disease, followed by a specific reference to asthma (34%). Approximately 15% of respondents were unsure, and 10% mentioned some “other” general health impact.

Question 28 *What are the negative health effects associated with breathing wood smoke?***FIGURE 56 PERCEIVED NEGATIVE HEALTH EFFECTS ASSOCIATED WITH WOOD SMOKE (N = 831)**

WOOD SMOKE A NEIGHBORHOOD PROBLEM? Most adults recognize that there are negative health impacts due to wood smoke, but do they think that *their* neighborhood has a wood smoke problem? To answer this question, the survey first informed respondents that different neighborhoods in the Bay Area experience different levels of air pollution from wood smoke. Respondents were then asked to indicate whether, in their opinion, their neighborhood periodically experiences air pollution from wood smoke. Those who perceived their neighborhood to have a wood smoke problem were asked in a follow-up question to identify the magnitude of the problem. The answers to both of these questions are combined in Figure 57.

Overall, 17% of adults surveyed indicated that their neighborhood periodically experiences air pollution from wood smoke. Ten percent (10%) stated that the problem was a small one, 5% indicated it was a moderate or medium problem, and 1% felt that air pollution due to wood smoke was a big problem in their neighborhood. When compared with 2009, there were no statistically significant changes in the perceived magnitude of their neighborhoods' wood smoke problem among those who held an opinion (see Figure 58). Figure 59 presents the results of these questions by county of residence.

Question 29 *Different neighborhoods in the Bay Area experience different levels of air pollution from wood smoke. In your opinion, does your neighborhood periodically experience air pollution from wood smoke?*

Question 30 *Would you say that periodic air pollution from wood smoke in your neighborhood is a big problem, medium problem, or a small problem?*

FIGURE 57 PERCEPTION OF PERIODIC WOOD SMOKE PROBLEM IN NEIGHBORHOOD (N = 1,300)

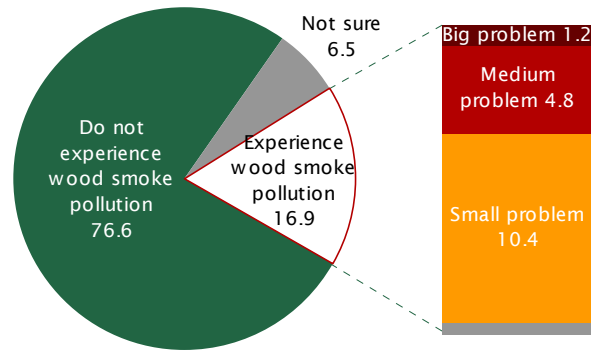


FIGURE 58 PERCEPTION OF PERIODIC WOOD SMOKE PROBLEM IN NEIGHBORHOOD BY STUDY YEAR (N = 1,300)

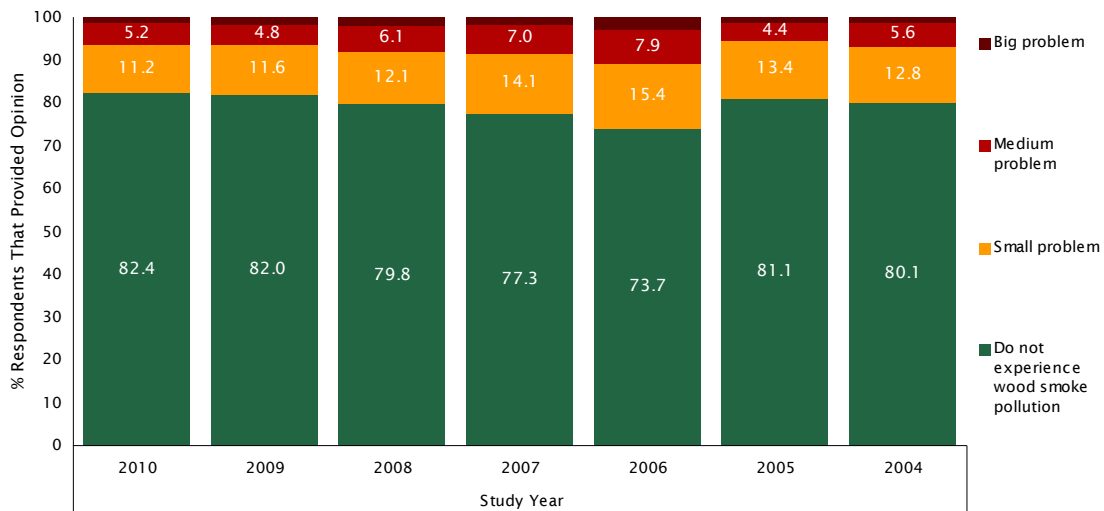
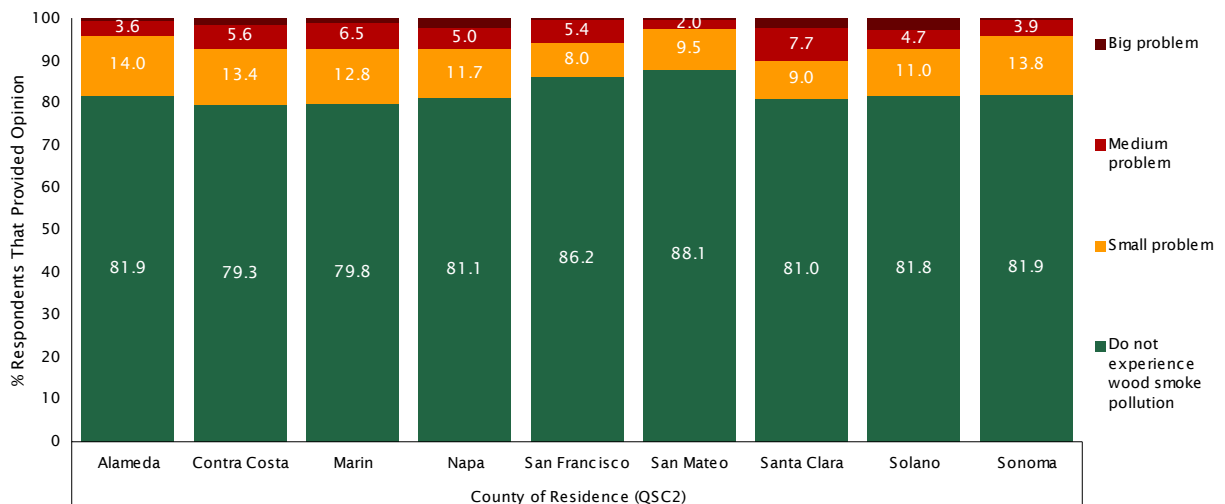


FIGURE 59 PERCEPTION OF PERIODIC WOOD SMOKE PROBLEM IN NEIGHBORHOOD BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE (N = 1,300)



POLICY ATTITUDES

In 2008, the BAAQMD adopted *Regulation 6, Rule 3: Wood-burning Devices* to reduce the harmful emissions that come from wood smoke. The rule restricts wood burning when air quality reaches unhealthy levels and a Spare the Air advisory is issued, places limits on excessive smoke, requires that only cleaner burning EPA certified stoves and inserts be sold or installed in new construction/remodels, and prohibits the burning of garbage and other harmful materials. This section of the report presents the results of a series of questions designed to measure public awareness, knowledge, and attitudes as they relate to the rule and related policies.

AWARENESS The first question in this series simply asked respondents whether or not they were aware that the BAAQMD recently passed a policy that prohibits wood burning on nights when air pollution is expected to reach unhealthy levels. As shown in Figure 60, most respondents (59%) indicated that they were aware of the policy in 2010, which is statistically similar to the 63% recorded in 2009. Awareness of the rule was strongly and positively related to respondent age, and more than eight-in-ten (81%) respondents who encountered a Spare the Air advertisement on television reported being aware of the rule (see Figures 61 and 62).

Question 31 *Prior to taking this survey, were you aware that the Bay Area Air Quality Management District recently passed a policy that prohibits wood burning on nights when air pollution is expected to reach unhealthy levels?*

FIGURE 60 AWARENESS OF NO-BURN POLICY ON WINTER SPARE THE AIR ALERT NIGHTS: 2008 ~ 2010 (N = 1,300)

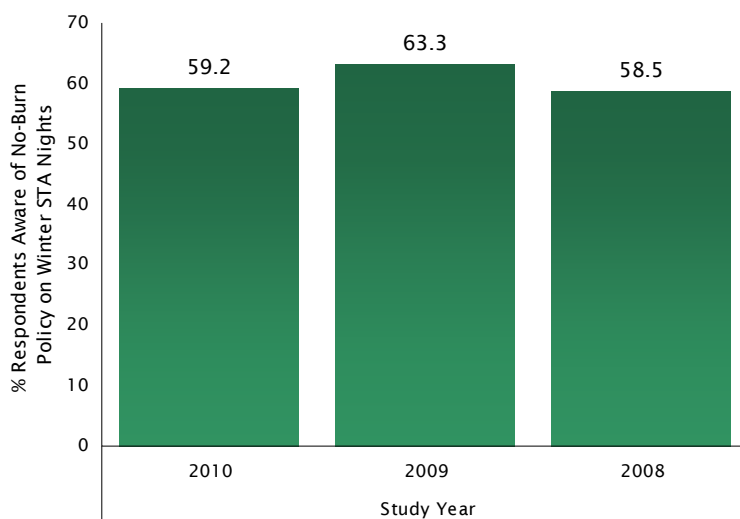


FIGURE 61 AWARENESS OF NO-BURN POLICY ON WINTER SPARE THE AIR ALERT NIGHTS BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE (N = 1,300)

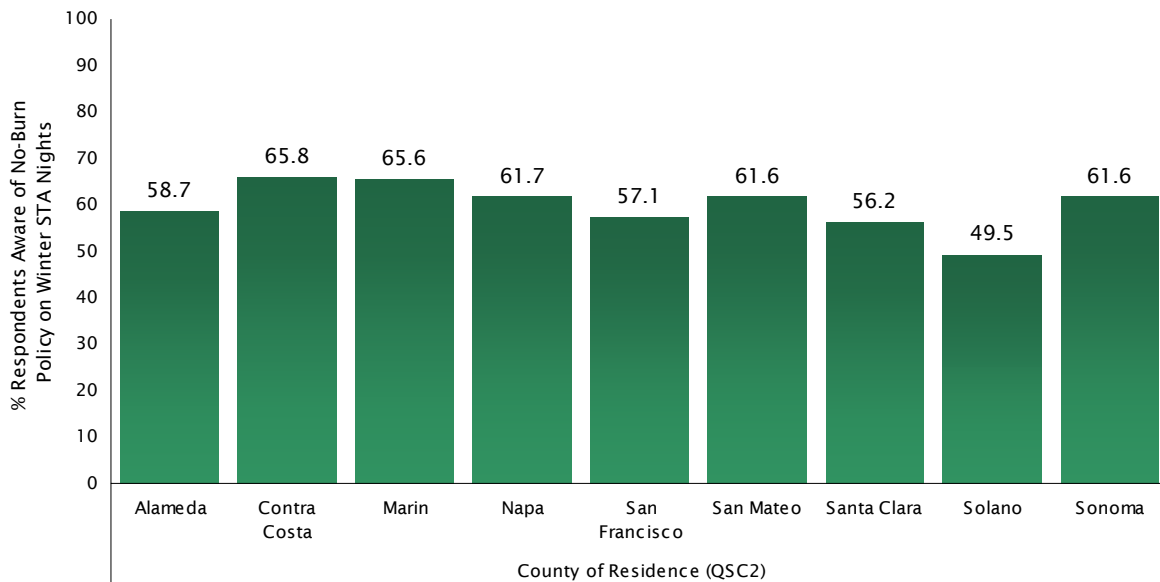
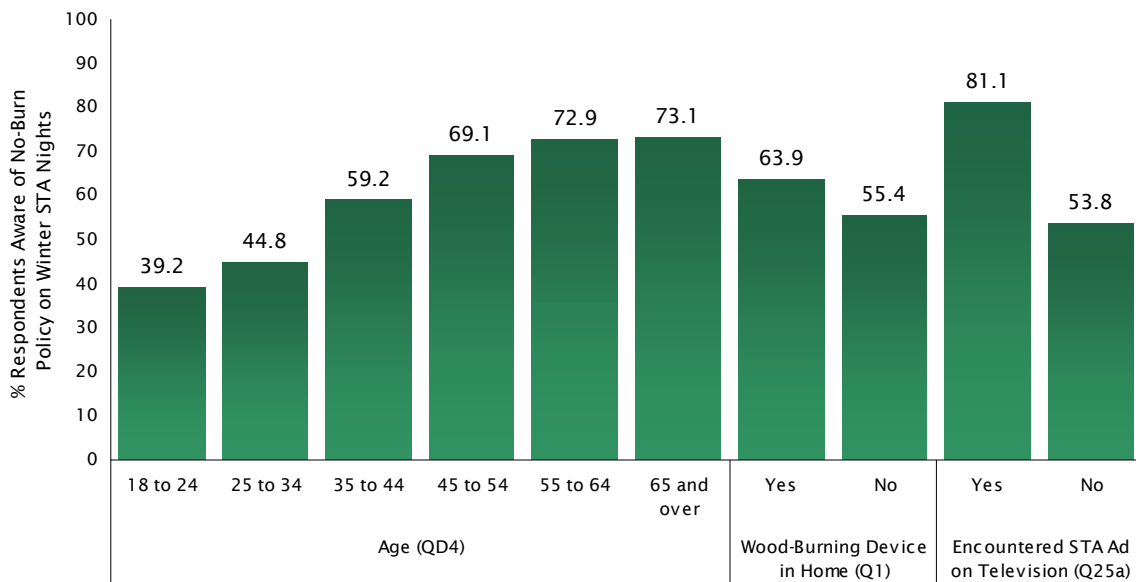


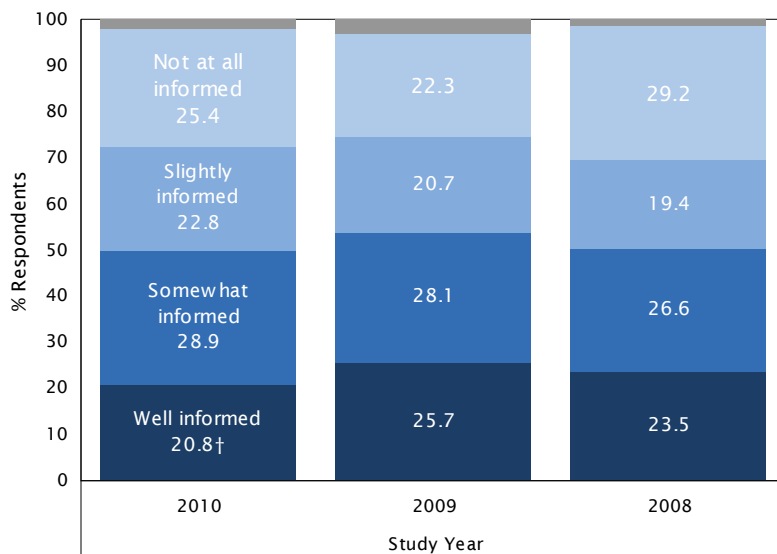
FIGURE 62 AWARENESS OF NO-BURN POLICY ON WINTER SPARE THE AIR ALERT NIGHTS BY AGE, WOOD-BURNING DEVICE IN HOME & ENCOUNTERED STA AD ON TELEVISION (N = 1,300)



Respondents were next asked how informed they felt about the rules that are part of the wood-burning policy. Overall, residents were clearly mixed in how informed they felt, with 21% feeling well-informed, 29% somewhat informed, 23% slightly informed, and 26% feeling not at all informed about the rules that are part of the policy. In the past year, the percentage who indicated that they were well informed about the rules that are part of the wood burning policy declined significantly. Contra Costa County residents, seniors, and respondents who encountered a Spare the Air advertisement on television were the most likely to report feeling at least somewhat informed about the rules that are part of the new policy (see Figures 64 and 65).

Question 32 Overall, how informed do you feel about the rules that are part of this new wood-burning policy? Would you say you feel well informed, somewhat informed, slightly informed, or not at all informed?

FIGURE 63 HOW INFORMED ABOUT NO-BURN POLICY ON WINTER SPARE THE AIR ALERT NIGHTS: 2008 ~ 2010 (N = 1,300)



† Statistically significant change ($p < 0.05$) between the 2009 and 2010 studies.

FIGURE 64 HOW INFORMED ABOUT NO-BURN POLICY ON WINTER SPARE THE AIR ALERT NIGHTS BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE (N = 1,300)

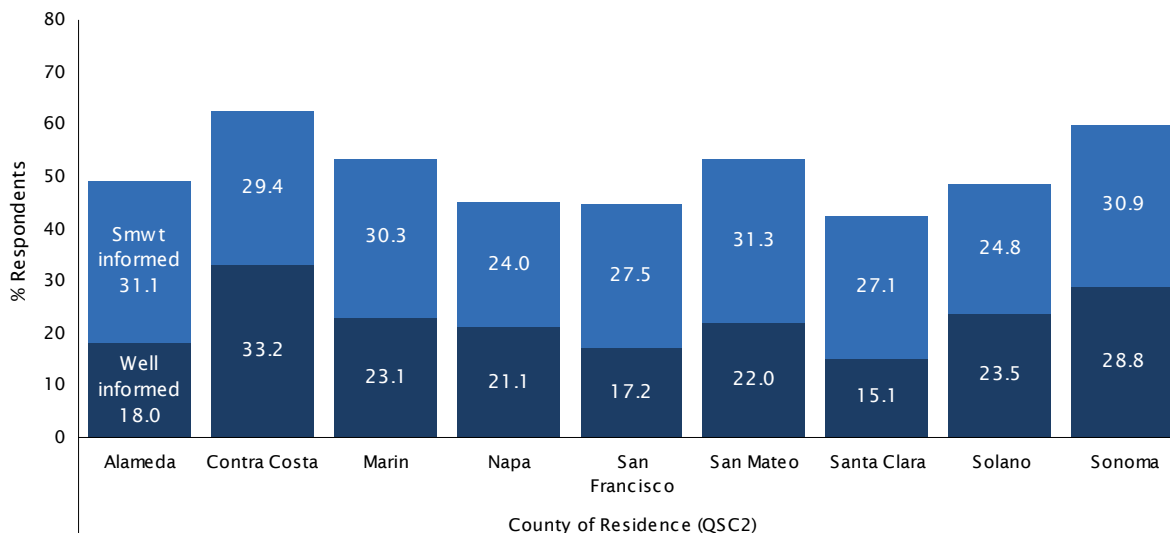
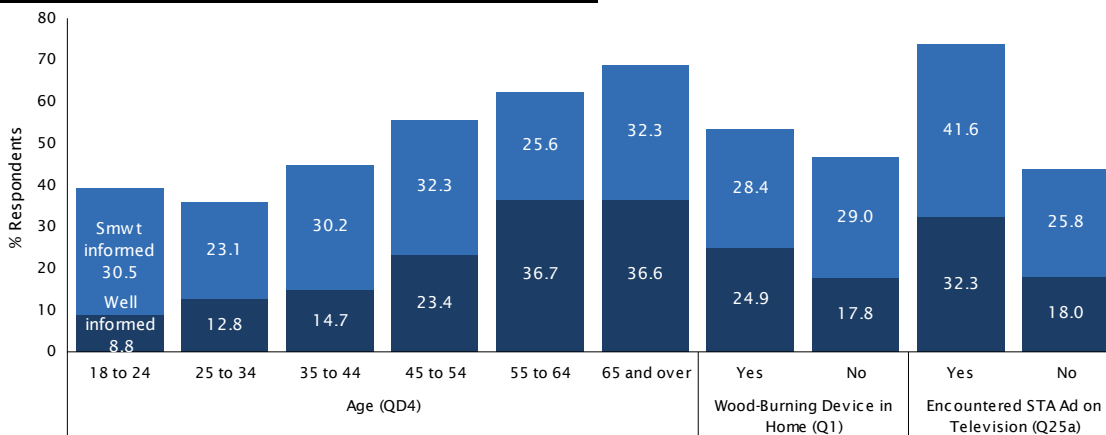


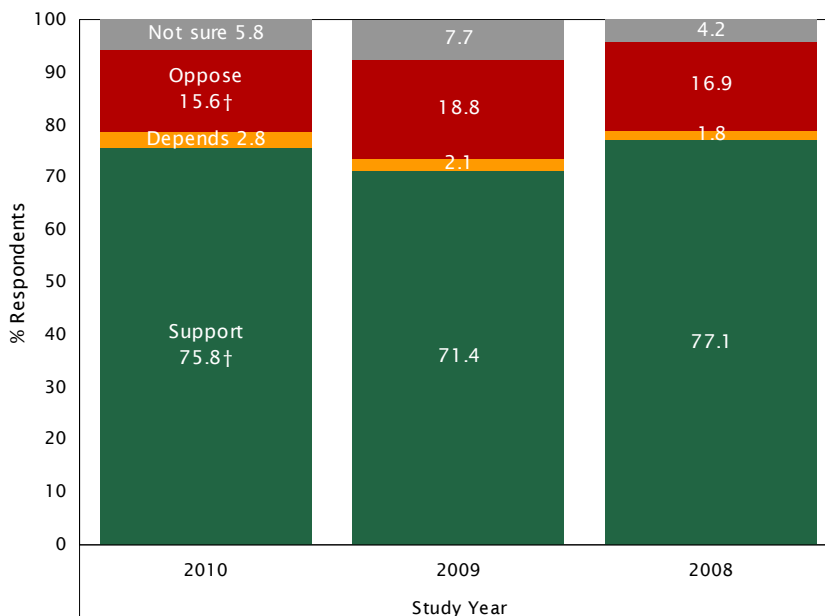
FIGURE 65 HOW INFORMED ABOUT NO-BURN POLICY ON WINTER SPARE THE AIR ALERT NIGHTS BY AGE, WOOD-BURNING DEVICE IN HOUSEHOLD & ENCOUNTERED STA AD ON TELEVISION (N = 1,300)



DO YOU SUPPORT THE POLICY? Regardless of how informed they felt about the policy, all respondents were next asked whether they generally support or oppose a policy that prohibits wood burning on nights when air pollution is expected to reach unhealthy levels. As shown in Figure 66, more than three-quarters (76%) of Bay Area residents indicated that they support the no-burn policy on nights when air pollution is expected to reach unhealthy levels. Approximately 16% opposed the policy, 3% said it depends, and 6% were unsure or offered no opinion. Compared with 2009, there was a significant increase in support for the policy. For the interested reader, figures 67 and 68 display how support for the no-burn policy varied across a host of demographic subgroups.

Question 33 *In general, do you support or oppose a policy that prohibits wood burning on nights when air pollution is expected to reach unhealthy levels?*

FIGURE 66 SUPPORT FOR NO-BURN POLICY ON WINTER SPARE THE AIR ALERT NIGHTS: 2008 ~ 2010 (N = 1,300)



† Statistically significant change (p < 0.05) between the 2009 and 2010 studies.

FIGURE 67 SUPPORT FOR NO-BURN POLICY ON WINTER SPARE THE AIR ALERT NIGHTS BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE & ENCOUNTERED STA AD ON TELEVISION (N = 1,300)

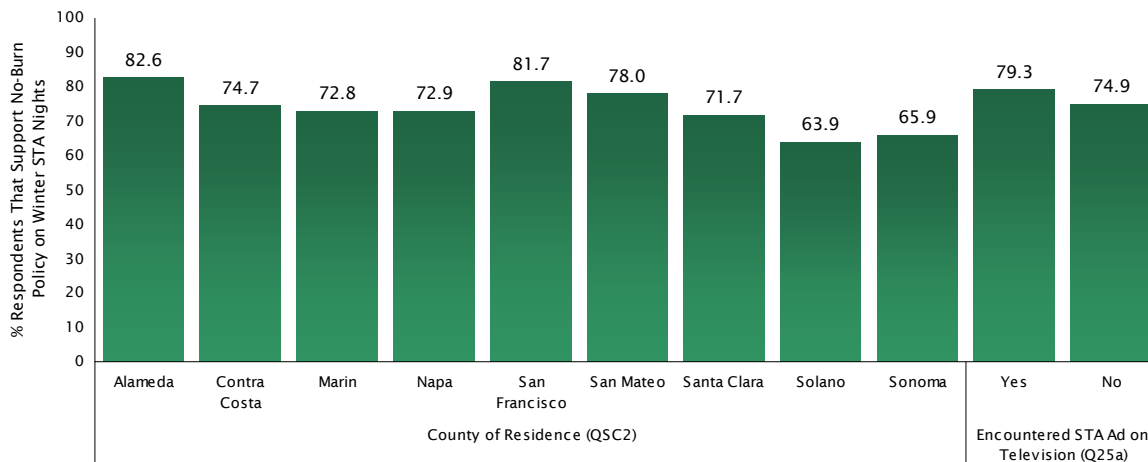
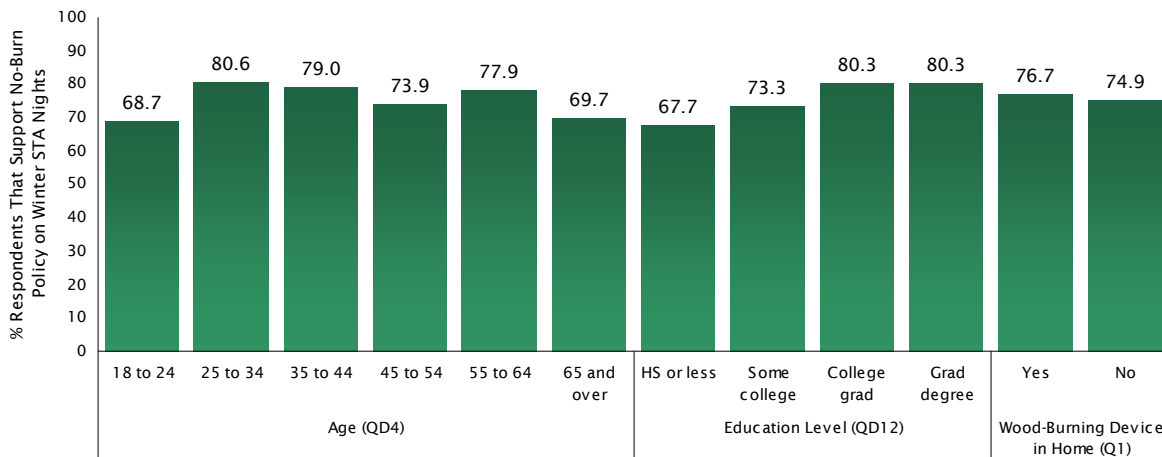


FIGURE 68 SUPPORT FOR NO-BURN POLICY ON WINTER SPARE THE AIR ALERT NIGHTS BY AGE, EDUCATION LEVEL & WOOD-BURNING DEVICE IN HOME (N = 1,300)



WOOD BURNING ON HOLIDAYS To gather a statistically reliable assessment of District residents' opinions and behaviors regarding holiday wood burning, the 2010 survey included three questions. The first asked all respondents if they felt that residents should be allowed to burn wood on holidays like Christmas and New Year's even if air pollution was expected to reach unhealthy levels. As shown in Figure 69, the majority (57%) of respondents felt that households should *not* be allowed to burn on holidays when pollution levels are high, 36% felt households should be able to burn on holidays regardless of pollution levels, and 8% were unsure. Those in Alameda County and those in households that do *not* expect to use their wood-burning device this winter were more likely than their counterparts to feel that households should not be allowed to burn on holidays when pollution levels are expected to reach unhealthy levels.

Question 34 *Should people be allowed to burn wood on holidays like Christmas and New Year's even if air pollution is expected to reach unhealthy levels that day?*

FIGURE 69 OPINION OF BURNING ON HOLIDAYS (N = 1,300)

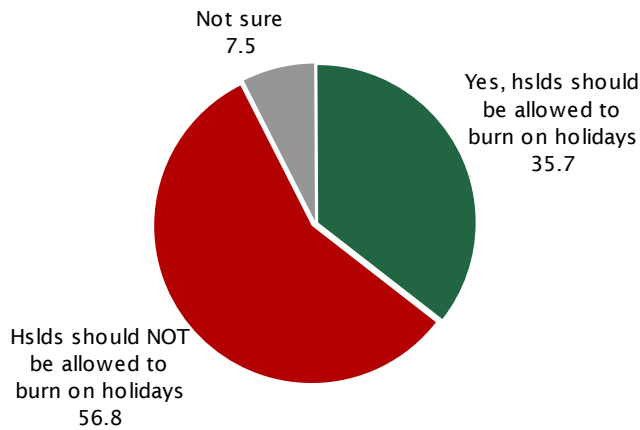
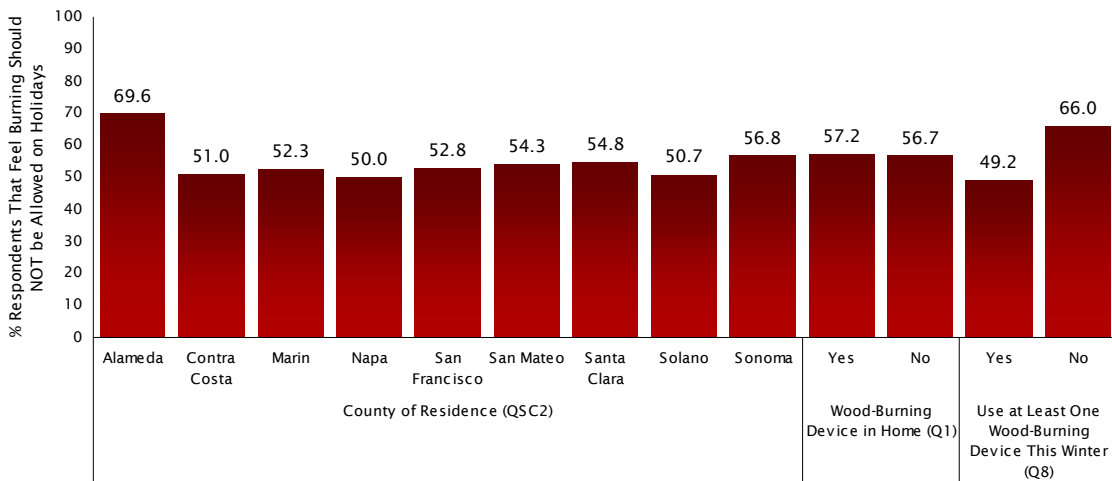


FIGURE 70 OPINION OF BURNING ON HOLIDAYS BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE & ENCOUNTERED STA AD ON TELEVISION (N = 1,300)

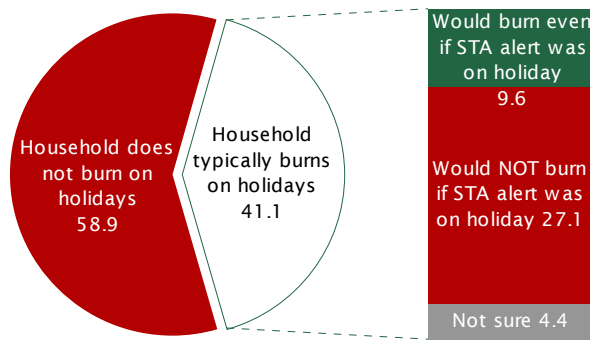


The next two questions addressed holiday wood-burning behavior. The first of these asked respondents if their household normally burns on holidays like Christmas and New Year’s, and those who said *yes* or *depends* were then asked if they would continue to do so if pollution levels were high and a ‘no burn’ day was set. Figure 71 combines the responses to these questions and presents the results among those in households with a wood-burning device. As shown in the figure, 41% of households with a wood-burning device typically burn wood on holidays, and almost 10% would continue to burn on a holiday, regardless of a Spare the Air episode. The overwhelming majority (86%) of households with a wood-burning device do not typically burn on holidays or would *not* burn on holidays if a Spare the Air episode were called.

Question 35 *Does your household normally burn wood on holidays like Christmas and New Year’s day?*

Question 36 *If air pollution levels were high and a 'no burn' day was set on Christmas or New Year’s day, would you still burn wood?*

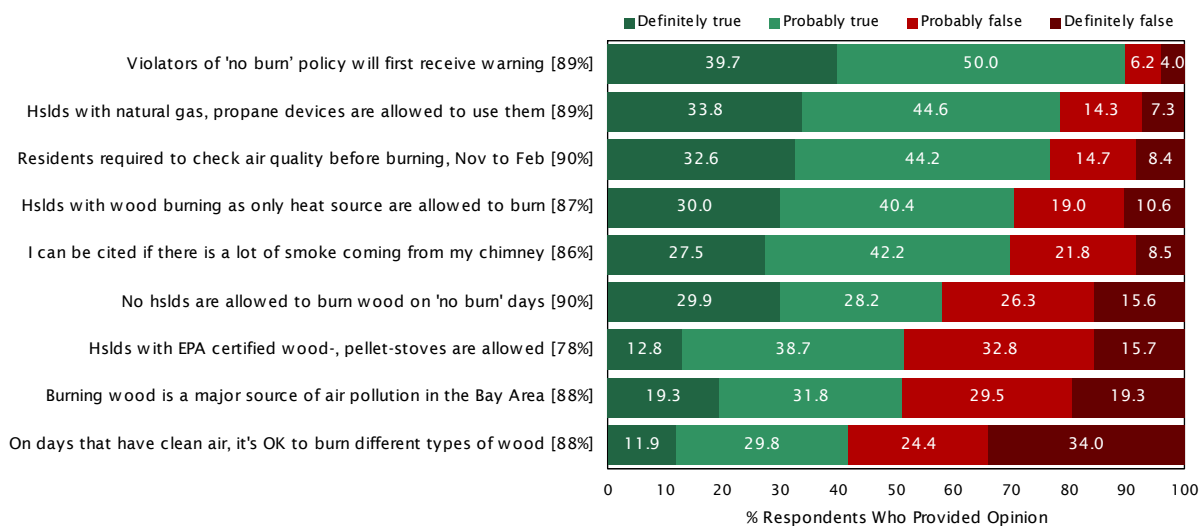
FIGURE 71 HOUSEHOLD WOOD BURNING ON HOLIDAYS (N = 560)



KNOWLEDGE ABOUT NO-BURN POLICY The next question in the Policy Attitudes section (Question 37) was designed to test respondents’ knowledge of the rules associated with wood smoke regulations. For each of the statements shown to the left of Figure 72, respondents were asked to indicate whether they thought the statement was true or false. To avoid a systematic position bias, the statements were administered in random order for each respondent. Only those who held an opinion are factored into the responses shown in Figure 72—the percentage with an opinion is shown in brackets next to each statement in the figure.

Question 37 *Next, I'm going to read a series of statements. For each statement, I'd like to know whether you think the statement is true or false.*

FIGURE 72 STATEMENTS ABOUT NO-BURN POLICY (N = 1,300)



Overall, three-quarters or more of the public appear correctly informed regarding the fact that violators of the ‘no burn’ policy will receive a warning prior to citations (90%), that households with natural gas/propane fireplaces are still allowed to burn on designated ‘no burn’ days (78%), and that residents are required to check the status of air quality prior to burning wood between November and February (77%). Approximately two-thirds of respondents also held the correct opinion that households for which wood burning is their only source of heat are still allowed to burn wood on ‘no burn’ days (70%), and that they can be cited at any time of the year if there is a lot of visible smoke coming from their chimney (70%).

Public knowledge regarding the remaining aspects of the wood burning rule was far more mixed, however. Just 51% agreed that wood burning is a major source of pollution in the Bay Area contributing up to one-third or more of the airborne particle pollution on many winter days, 58% incorrectly assumed that *no* households are allowed to burn wood on no burn days, half (52%) of respondents felt that households with EPA certified stoves would still be allowed to burn on ‘no burn’ days, and 42% believed that it’s okay to burn different types of wood—including driftwood, treated wood, moist wood, and used pallets—as long as it is a clean air day.

When compared with the 2009 survey results, there were two statistically significant changes in knowledge: a decrease in the percentage of respondents who (correctly) believed that households with natural gas/propane fireplaces are allowed to burn on 'no burn' days, and an increase in the percentage of respondents who (correctly) thought that they could be cited at any time of the year if there is a lot of visible smoke coming from their chimney (see Table 5).

TABLE 5 STATEMENTS ABOUT NO-BURN POLICY SHOWING % TRUE: 2009 ~ 2010 (N = 1,300)

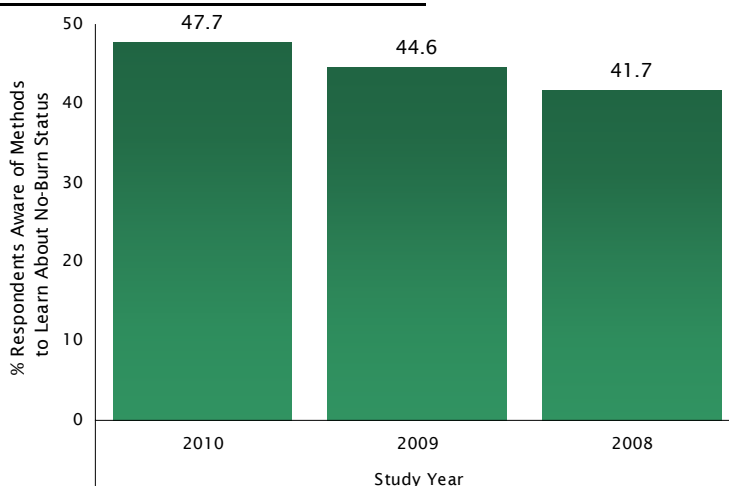
	Study Year		
	2010	2009	2008
No hsls are allowed to burn wood on 'no burn' days	58.1	59.7	56.8
Hsls with wood burning as only heat source are allowed to burn	70.4	67.1	68.5
Hsls with natural gas, propane devices are allowed to use them	78.4†	84.7	84.2
Hsls with EPA certified wood-, pellet-stoves are allowed	51.4	51.3	47.6
Violators of 'no burn' policy will first receive warning	89.7	88.9	87.8
Residents required to check air quality before burning, Nov to Feb	76.8	75.7	74.2
On days that have clean air, it's OK to burn different types of wood	41.7	41.4	35.3
I can be cited if there is a lot of smoke coming from my chimney	69.7†	61.9	64.1
Burning wood is a major source of air pollution in the Bay Area	51.2	56.2	59.2

† Statistically significant change (p < 0.05) between the 2009 and 2010 studies.

HOW TO FIND OUT ABOUT 'NO BURN' STATUS The final questions in this series were designed to measure how informed the public is about how they can find out the day's 'no burn' status. Overall, 48% of respondents indicated that they do know how to find out whether today is a 'no burn' day (Figure 73), which is statistically unchanged from the finding in 2009. Residents in Contra Costa County, those between the ages of 55 and 64, those with a wood-burning device in the home, and those who encountered a Spare the Air advertisement on television were the most likely subgroups to report awareness (see figures 74 and 75). When asked what sources they would turn to for this information (see Figure 76 on page 59), the most commonly mentioned sources were a website in general (63%), newspaper (24%), radio (17%), the District's website (16%), and telephone hotline (14%). As shown in Table 6 on page 59, there were no statistically significant changes in sources cited in 2010.

Question 38 *Do you know how you could find out whether today is a 'no burn' day?*

FIGURE 73 AWARE OF METHODS TO LEARN ABOUT NO-BURN STATUS: 2009 ~ 2010 (N = 1,300)



† Statistically significant change (p < 0.05) between the 2009 and 2010 studies.

FIGURE 74 AWARE OF METHODS TO LEARN ABOUT NO-BURN STATUS BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE (N = 1,300)

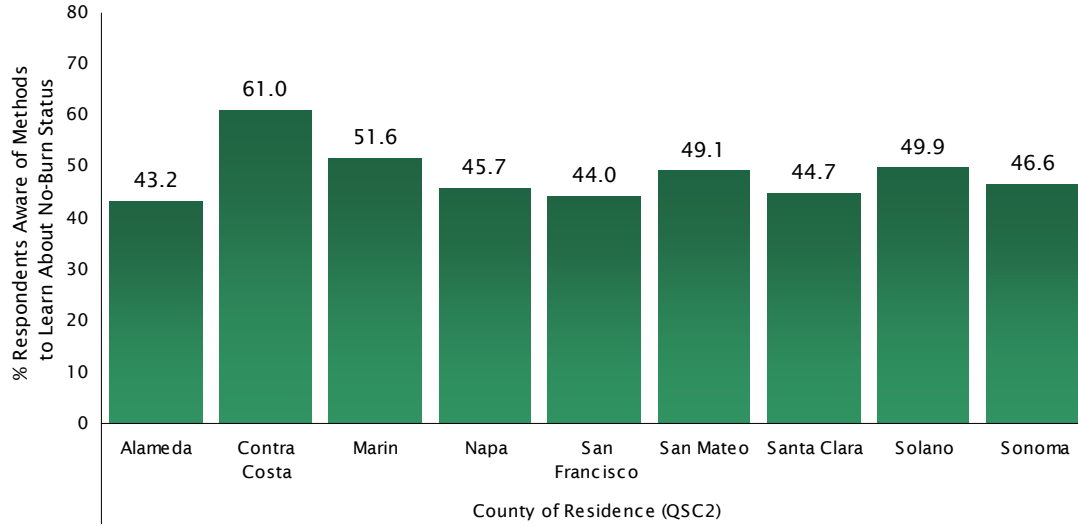
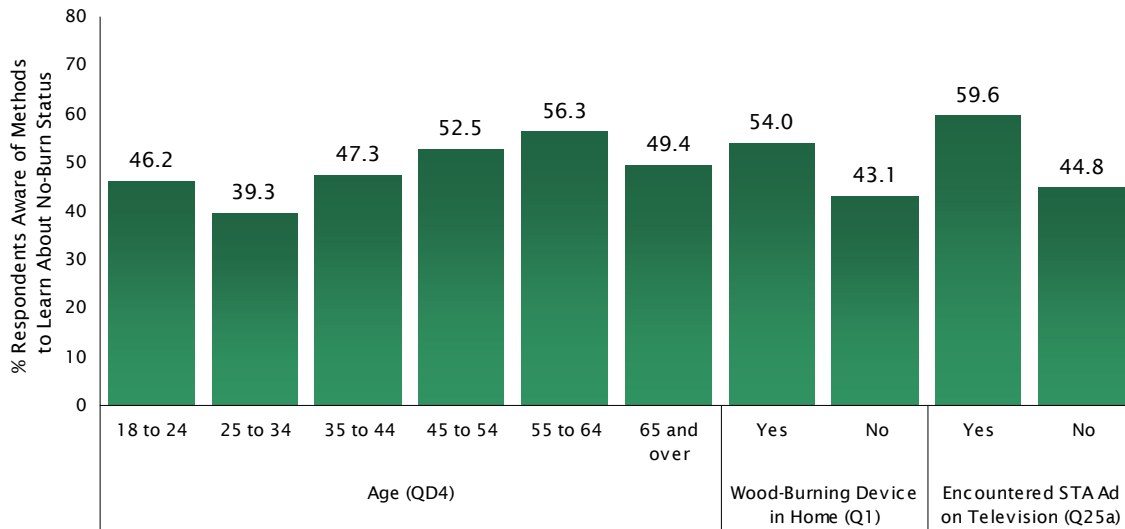


FIGURE 75 AWARE OF METHODS TO LEARN ABOUT NO-BURN STATUS BY AGE, WOOD-BURNING DEVICE IN HOME & ENCOUNTERED STA AD ON TELEVISION (N = 1,300)



Question 39 How can you find out [whether today is a 'no burn' day]?

FIGURE 76 SOURCES FOR LEARNING ABOUT NO-BURN STATUS (N = 621)

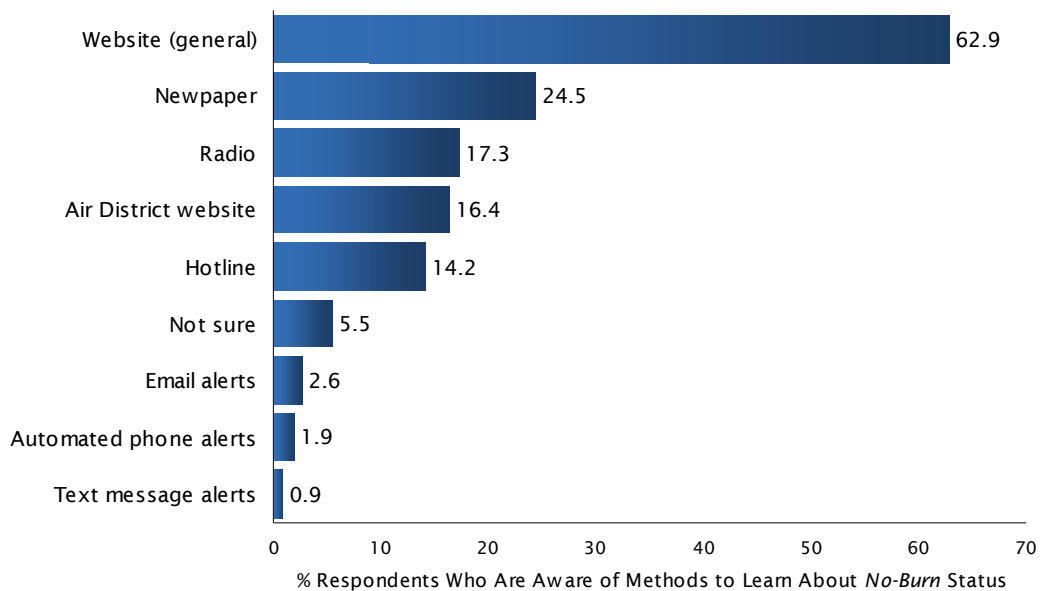


TABLE 6 SOURCES FOR LEARNING ABOUT NO-BURN STATUS: 2009 ~ 2010 (N = 621)

	Study Year		
	2010	2009	2008
Website (general)	62.9	61.8	59.2
Newspaper	24.5	22.6	24.2
Radio	17.3	16.5	16.2
Air District website	16.4	13.6	17.5
Hotline	14.2	18.2	16.4
Not sure	5.5	5.7	5.6
Email alerts	2.6	2.2	4.9
Automated phone alerts	1.9	1.2	2.1
Text message alerts	0.9	0.2	0.2

FIREPLACE & POLLUTION KNOWLEDGE

In addition to measuring respondents' awareness, knowledge and opinions regarding the 'no burn' policy, the survey continued a question series first implemented in 2007 that measured knowledge with respect to fireplaces and pollution.

For each of the statements shown to the left of Figure 77, respondents were asked to indicate whether they thought the statement was true or false. To avoid a systematic position bias, the statements were administered in random order for each respondent. Only those who held an opinion are factored into the responses shown in Figure 77—the percentage with an opinion is shown in brackets next to each statement in the figure.

A clear majority (82%) of respondents correctly labeled as false the statement, *It is okay to burn materials other than firewood in my fireplace*. The percentage who correctly identified as false the other three statements was much lower, however, with just 56% disagreeing that *All fires in my fireplace should produce visible smoke from the chimney*, 56% disagreeing that *A fireplace is an efficient source of heat*, and 41% disagreeing that *Manufactured logs burn cleaner than seasoned firewood*. When compared with 2009, the percentage of respondents who (incorrectly) believed that *A fireplace is an efficient source of heat* increased significantly (Table 7).

Question 40 *Next, I'm going to read a series of statements. For each statement, I'd like to know whether you think the statement is true or false.*

FIGURE 77 STATEMENTS ABOUT FIREPLACES & POLLUTION (N = 644)

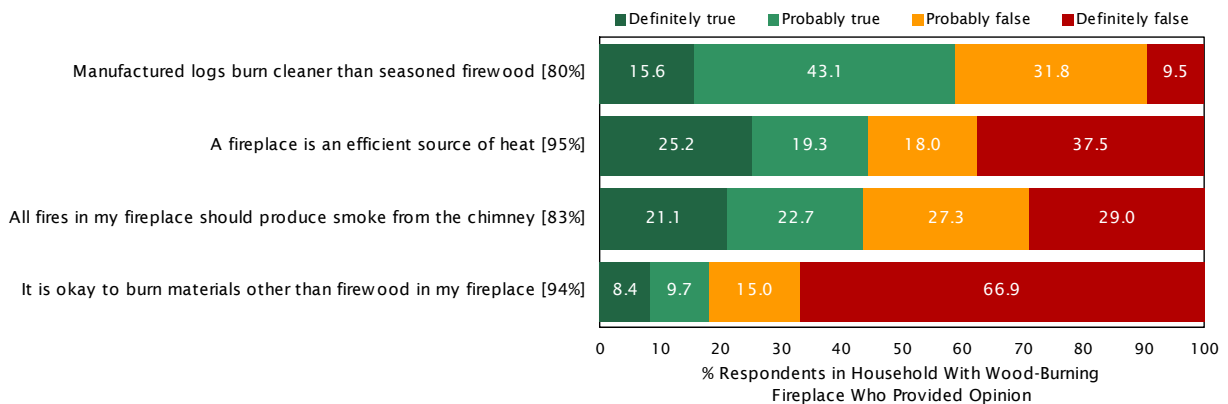


TABLE 7 STATEMENTS ABOUT FIREPLACES & POLLUTION SHOWING % TRUE: 2007 ~ 2010 (N = 644)

	Study Year			
	2010	2009	2008	2007
Manufactured logs burn cleaner than seasoned firewood	58.7	59.6	57.9	53.0
A fireplace is an efficient source of heat	44.5†	30.1	30.6	34.1
All fires in my fireplace should produce smoke from the chimney	43.7	49.6	48.8	48.9
It is okay to burn materials other than firewood in my fireplace	18.1	17.7	13.6	14.0

† Statistically significant change ($p < 0.05$) between the 2009 and 2010 studies.

PERCEPTIONS OF ENTITIES

To identify and track perceptions of the District and the Winter Spare the Air Campaign, a series of three questions was presented to respondents to measure their awareness and opinions of the agency and the Program, as well their recent exposure to information about each. Because these questions were asked in an identical manner in past winter surveys dating back to 2002, the results from these studies are also shown for comparison.

AWARENESS Figure 78 shows that awareness of the BAAQMD (61%) has decreased since 2008, although the difference between the current study and 2009 was not significant. Awareness of the Winter Spare the Air Campaign (61%) has increased over the past five years, although the change in the past 12 months was not statistically significant.

Question 41 *Let's change gears a bit. Have you ever heard of the _____?*

FIGURE 78 AWARENESS OF BAAQMD: 2002 ~ 2010 (N = 1,300)

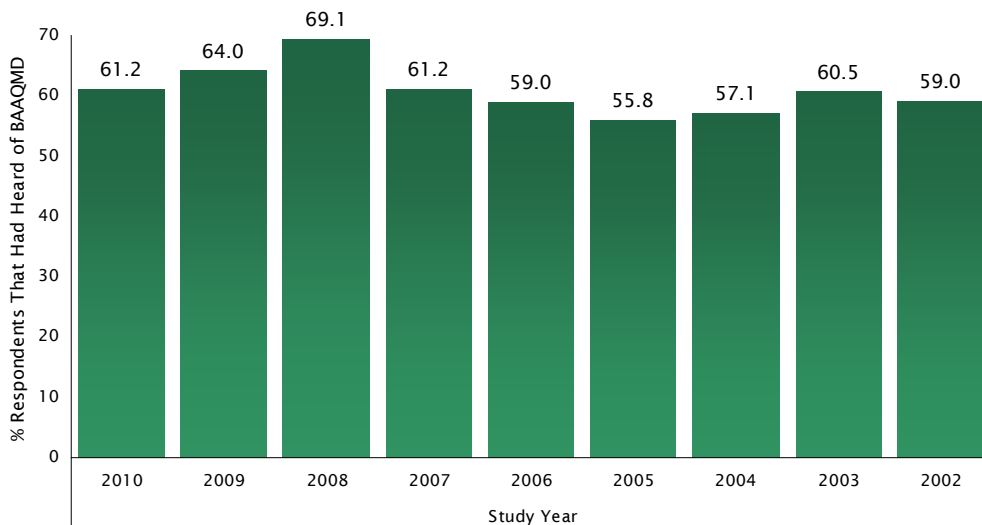
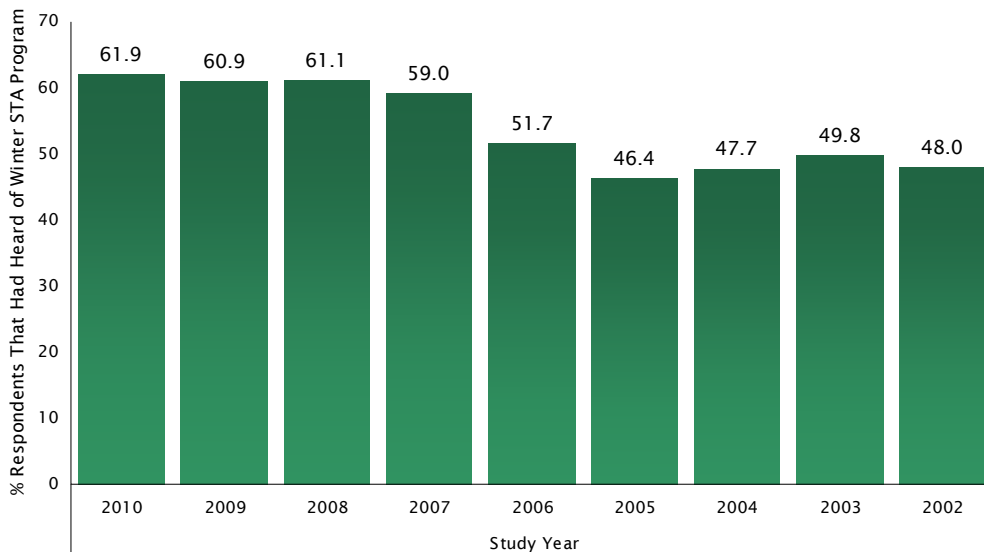
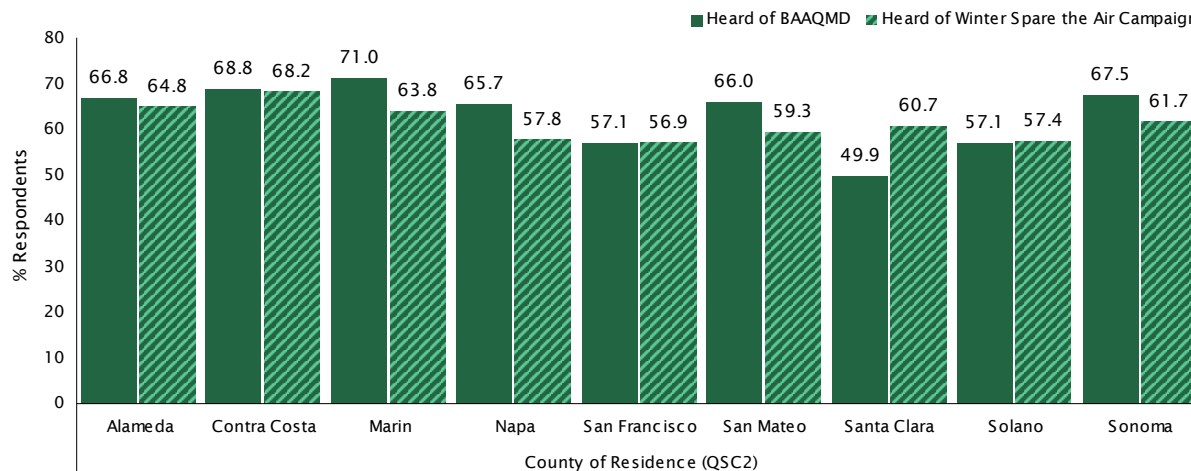


FIGURE 79 AWARENESS OF WINTER SPARE THE AIR CAMPAIGN: 2002 ~ 2010 (N = 1,300)



Across the nine member counties, awareness of the District was highest in Marin County (71%) in 2010, and lowest in Santa Clara County (50%). Awareness of the Winter Spare the Air Program, on the other hand, ranged from a high of 68% in Contra Costa County to a low of 57% in San Francisco County (see Figure 80).

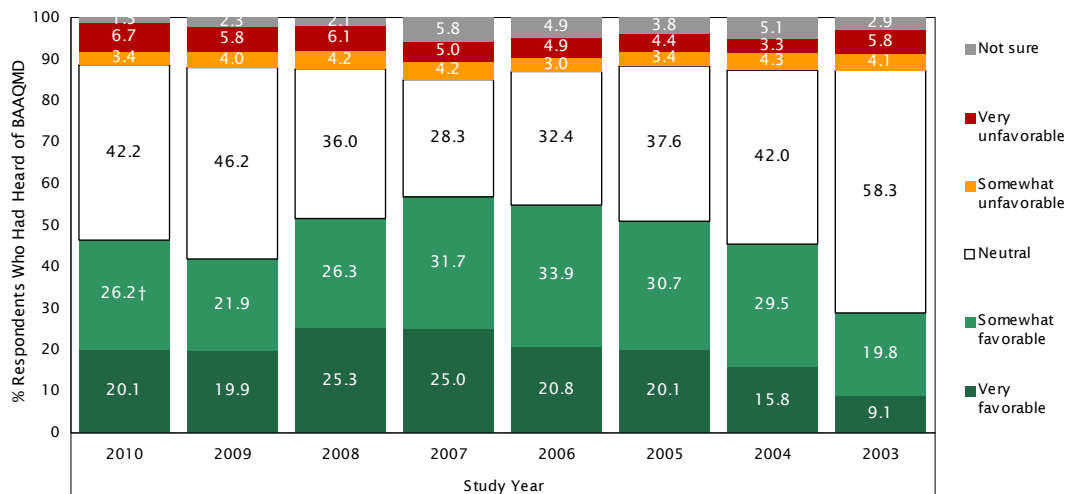
FIGURE 80 AWARENESS OF BAAQMD & WINTER SPARE THE AIR CAMPAIGN BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE (N = 1,300)



OPINIONS Respondents who had heard of an entity were next asked whether their opinion of the entity was favorable, unfavorable, or neutral. Figures 81 and 82 display the findings of these questions in 2010, as well as the findings from the 2003 to 2010 studies.¹²

Question 42 *Generally speaking, would you say you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the _____, or do you have no opinion either way?*

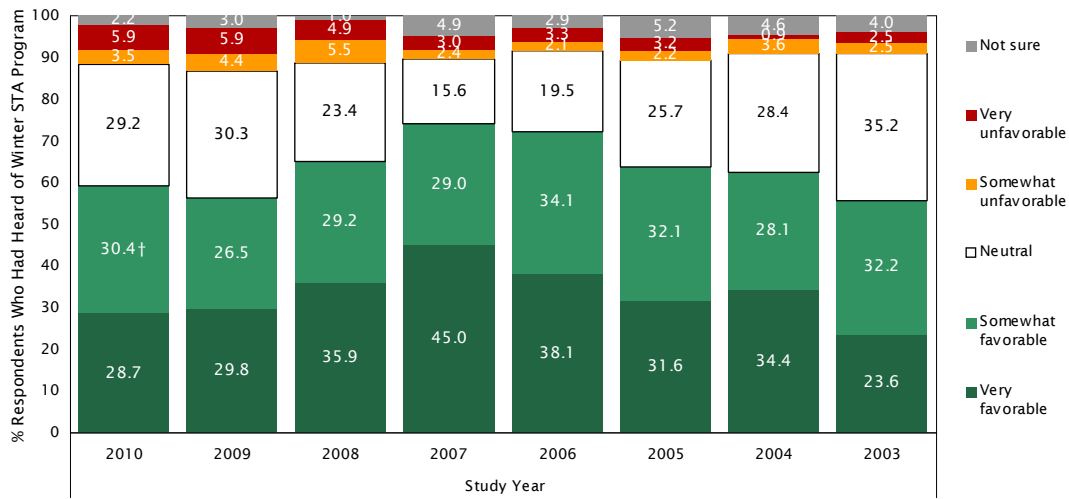
FIGURE 81 OPINIONS OF BAAQMD: 2003 ~ 2010 (N = 795)



† Statistically significant change (p < 0.05) between the 2009 and 2010 studies.

12. The response options for these questions were more limited in the 2002 study, so comparisons are not provided in Figure 81.

FIGURE 82 OPINIONS OF WINTER SPARE THE AIR CAMPAIGN: 2003 ~ 2010 (N = 805)



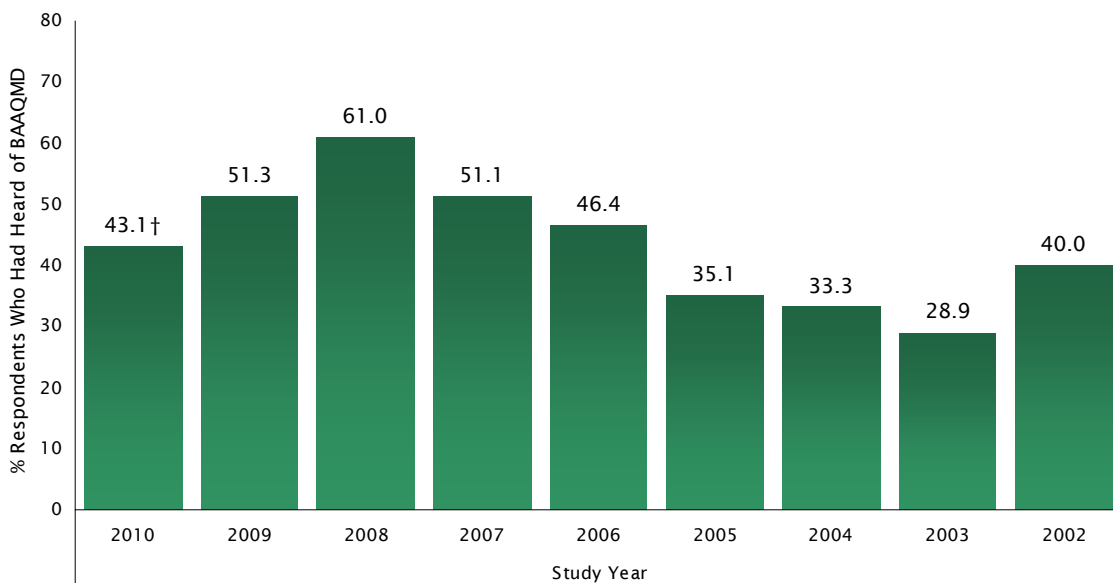
† Statistically significant change ($p < 0.05$) between the 2009 and 2010 studies.

Of the individuals who received the question in 2010, 46% held a favorable opinion of the BAAQMD, whereas 42% held a neutral opinion and just 10% held an unfavorable opinion. When compared with the opinions recorded in 2009, opinions of the BAAQMD became more favorable in 2010. The same is also true of public opinion regarding the Winter Spare the Air Campaign. Whereas 56% of respondents who had heard of the campaign held a favorable opinion of it in 2009, the corresponding percentage for 2010 was significantly higher at 59%.

EXPOSURE TO INFORMATION The last question in this series asked respondents whether they recalled hearing, reading or seeing any news stories, advertisements or public service announcements about the BAAQMD and/or the Winter Spare the Air Program in the six months prior to the interview. As shown in Figure 83 on the next page, the proportion of respondents who recalled being exposed to information about the BAAQMD during this period was 43%, down significantly from 51% in 2009. The proportion of respondents who recalled exposure to the Winter Spare the Air Program was also significantly lower in 2010 (60%) when compared with 2009 (66%).

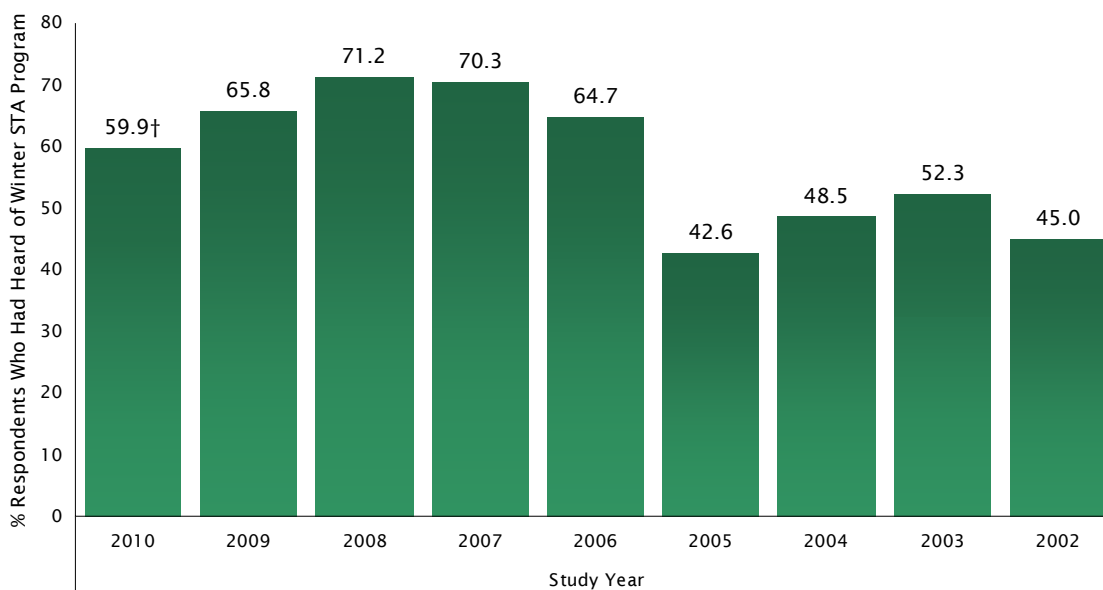
Question 43 *In the past six months, have you heard, read, or seen any news stories, advertisements, or public service announcements about the _____?*

FIGURE 83 ENCOUNTERED INFORMATION ABOUT BAAQMD IN PAST SIX MONTHS: 2002 ~ 2010 (N = 795)



† Statistically significant change ($p < 0.05$) between the 2009 and 2010 studies.

FIGURE 84 ENCOUNTERED INFORMATION ABOUT WINTER SPARE THE AIR CAMPAIGN IN PAST SIX MONTHS: 2002 ~ 2010 (N = 805)



† Statistically significant change ($p < 0.05$) between the 2009 and 2010 studies.

For the interested reader, Figures 85 and 86 display the percentage of *all* respondents who recalled hearing, reading or seeing information about the BAAQMD and the Winter Spare the Air Program—not just among those who had heard of the agency or program as shown in Figure 83. Among all respondents, recalled exposure was greatest for the District among Marin County residents, those with wood-burning heating devices in the home, and respondents 45 years and older. Recalled exposure to information about the Winter Spare the Air program was highest among Marin County residents, those with wood-burning heating devices in the home, and respondents 35 years and older.

FIGURE 85 ENCOUNTERED INFORMATION ABOUT BAAQMD & WINTER SPARE THE AIR CAMPAIGN IN PAST SIX MONTHS BY COUNTY OF RESIDENCE (N = 1,300)

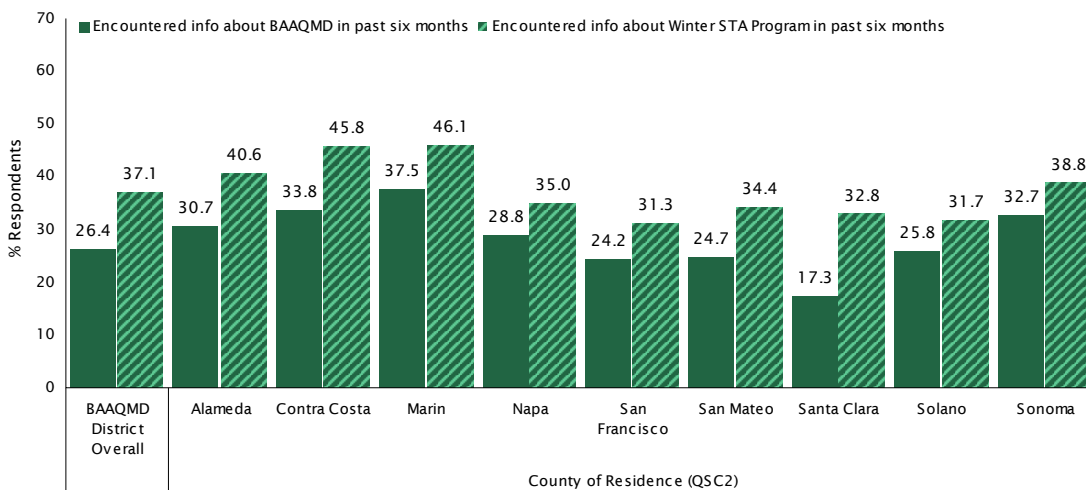
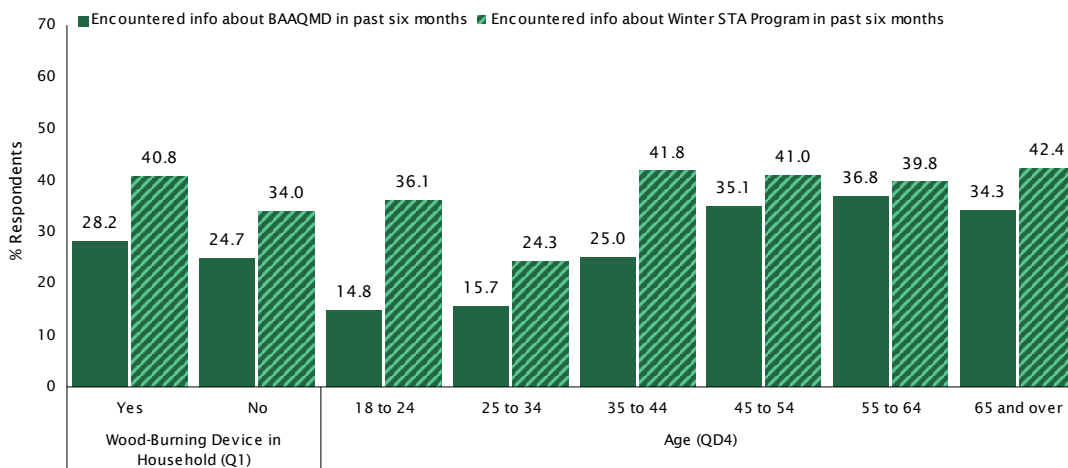


FIGURE 86 ENCOUNTERED INFORMATION ABOUT BAAQMD & WINTER SPARE THE AIR CAMPAIGN IN PAST SIX MONTHS BY WOOD-BURNING DEVICE IN HOUSEHOLD & AGE (N = 1,300)





BACKGROUND & DEMOGRAPHICS

TABLE 8 DEMOGRAPHICS OF SAMPLE: 2002 ~ 2010

	Study Year								
	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002
Total Respondents	1,300	3,000	1,200	1,200	988	2,625	700	400	400
Age									
18 to 29	19	18	15	19	19	20	11	16	15
30 to 39	21	21	23	21	25	22	19	19	18
40 to 49	21	18	19	20	18	20	23	21	18
50 to 64	23	19	22	19	21	19	18	25	27
65 and over	15	13	14	15	14	14	21	13	18
Refused	0	10	7	6	3	5	8	7	5
Home Type									
Apartment	19	19	16	20	20	21	20	21	16
Condo	7	7	4	6	5	6	4	5	2
Town home	6	6	4	6	7	8	8	5	4
Single-family detached	60	61	68	63	63	60	63	66	73
Mobile home	2	2	3	2	3	2	2	2	4
Refused	6	5	4	3	2	4	3	3	1
Age of Home									
0 to 10 years	13	12	15	13	12	11	10	14	20
11 to 20 years	11	12	12	12	10	14	10	9	18
21 to 30 years	13	13	16	14	12	13	12	14	20
31 to 40 years	14	14	12	16	15	13	13	15	10
41 to 50 years	10	11	13	10	13	10	11	14	8
Over 50 years	24	23	23	26	28	27	30	18	10
Not sure / Refused	15	16	9	11	11	13	14	16	15
Gender									
Male	51	50	44	50	52	48	43	45	44
Female	49	50	56	50	48	52	57	55	56
County									
Alameda	21	20	21	21	21	21	23	22	-
Contra Costa	14	14	14	14	13	14	15	14	-
Marin	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	-
Napa	2	3	2	3	2	2	2	2	-
San Francisco	13	13	12	12	13	13	14	14	-
San Mateo	10	11	10	10	11	11	10	11	-
Santa Clara	25	24	25	24	24	24	23	23	-
Solano	5	6	6	5	6	6	3	5	-
Sonoma	5	5	5	5	6	5	5	6	-

Table 8 displays the demographic and background information collected during the survey. The demographic and background information was used to monitor the sample during data collection, as well as provide insight into how the results of the substantive questions of the survey vary across important subgroups of adults.



M E T H O D O L O G Y

This section of the report outlines the methodology and protocols used when conducting this study, as well as the motivation for employing certain techniques.

QUESTIONNAIRE Using the 2009 questionnaire as a starting point, Dr. McLarney of True North Research worked closely with the BAAQMD to develop and refine an improved survey instrument for the 2010 study. In the interest of improving the *validity* and *reliability* of select opinion and behavior measures, the 2010 study continued several questionnaire changes that were first implemented in the 2004 season. The most notable of these early changes addressed how the questionnaire measured the impacts of the Winter Spare the Air Program. The changes were made so that the impacts of the winter program on wood burning behavior would be measured using the same methodology employed by the BAAQMD—and recommended by CARB and EPA¹³—to measure the impacts of the summer Spare the Air Program on driving behavior.

Key changes to the 2010 survey included adding a question to identify secondary types of wood burned in fireplaces and woodstoves, adding a question series to assess holiday wood-burning behaviors and opinions, and reworking the question series regarding campaign media sources to identify more accurately residents' exposure to Winter Spare the Air Program information.

CATI & PRE-TEST Before fielding the survey, the questionnaire was CATI (Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing) programmed to assist the live interviewers when conducting the interviews. The CATI program automatically navigates the skip patterns, randomizes the appropriate question items, and alerts the interviewer to certain types of keypunching mistakes should they happen during the interview. The integrity of the questionnaire was pre-tested internally by True North and by dialing into random homes within the District prior to formally beginning the survey. Two training sessions were conducted to familiarize interviewers with the study and to answer questions and clarify details of the study.

SAMPLE & WEIGHTING Because the primary focus of the study was to gather information from adults who reside within the District, households were chosen for this study using a random digit dial (RDD) sampling method. An RDD sample is drawn by first selecting all of the active phone exchanges (first three digits in a seven digit phone number) and working blocks that service the area. After estimating the number of listed households within each phone exchange that are located within the area, a sample of randomly selected phone numbers is generated with the number of phone numbers per exchange being proportional to the estimated number of households within each exchange in the area. This method ensures that both listed and unlisted households are included in the sample. It also ensures that new residents and new developments have an opportunity to participate in the study, which is not true if the sample were based on a telephone directory.

13. The CARB/EPA Method is summarized in the Transportation Research Board's (TRB) journal—*Transportation Research Record*—for 2004 in an article entitled *Development of a Quantification Method for Measuring the Travel and Emissions Impacts of Episodic Ozone Alert Programs* (pages 153-159). It is described in detail in the following air resources guidance report: CARB, "Quantification Method Reference Manual: A Method to Measure Travel and Emissions Impacts of Ozone Action Public Education Programs," April 2003. In addition to Eric Schreffler, Dr. Timothy McLarney and Richard Sarles, the TRB paper and guidance report were co-authored by Joann Lu and Jeff Weir of CARB, and Thomas Higgins and Dr. Will Johnson of K.T. Analytics.

Although the RDD method is widely used for local and regional surveys, the method also has several known limitations that must be adjusted for to ensure representative data. Research has shown, for example, that individuals with certain demographic profiles (e.g., older women) are more likely to be at home and are more likely to answer the phone even when other members of the household are available. If this tendency is not adjusted for, the RDD sampling method will produce a survey that is biased in favor of women—particularly older women. To adjust for this behavioral tendency, the survey included a screening question which initially asked to speak to the youngest male adult available in the home. If a male adult was not available, then the interviewer was instructed to speak to the youngest female adult currently available. This protocol was followed—to the extent needed—to ensure a representative sample of adults. In addition to following this protocol, the sample demographics were monitored as the interviewing proceeded to make sure they were within certain tolerances. Because the District is composed of seven complete counties and two partial counties, respondents were initially asked the ZIP code of their residence so that only those within the District’s boundaries were included in the study.

The final raw data were weighted by age groups within each county to exactly match updated demographic projections for 2010 based on Census and California Department of Finance estimates. The results presented in this report are the weighted results, which are representative at the District-wide level, as well as within the nine member counties.

MARGIN OF ERROR By using an RDD probability-based sample and monitoring the sample characteristics as data collection proceeded, True North ensured that the sample was representative of adults and households in the District. The results of the sample can thus be used to estimate the opinions of *all* adults—and characteristics of *all* households—in the District. Because not every adult or household in the District participated, however, the results have what is known as a statistical margin of error due to sampling. For household characteristics, the margin of error refers to the difference between what was found in the survey of 1,300 households for a particular question and what would have been found if all of the estimated 2,432,147 households in the District had been interviewed.

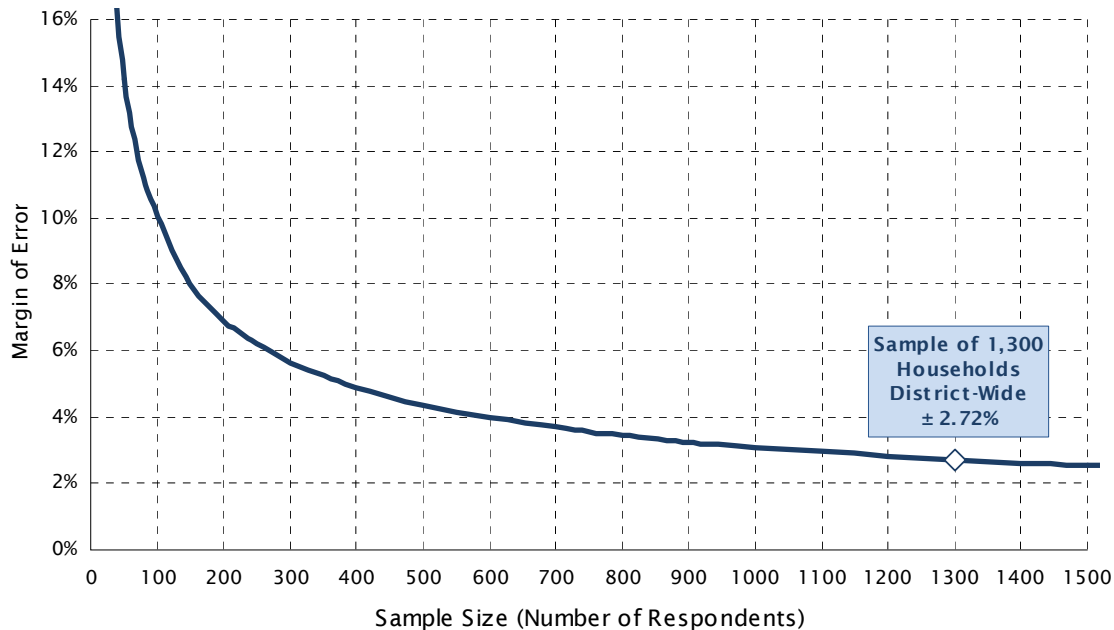
For example, in estimating the percentage of District households that have a woodstove (Question 1), the margin of error can be calculated if one knows the number of households in the District, the size of the sample, a chosen confidence level, and the distribution of responses to the question. The appropriate equation for estimating the margin of error, in this case, is shown below.

$$\hat{p} \pm t \sqrt{\left(\frac{N-n}{N}\right) \frac{\hat{p}(1-\hat{p})}{n-1}}$$

where \hat{p} is the proportion of households that indicated they possess a woodstove (0.056 for 5.6% in this example), N is the total number of households in the District (2,432,147), n is the sample size that received the question (1,300), and t is the upper $\alpha/2$ point for the t-distribution with $n - 1$ degrees of freedom (1.96 for a 95% confidence interval). Solving this equation using these values reveals a margin of error of $\pm 0.82\%$. This means that with 5.6% of sampled households indicating they own a woodstove, one can be 95 percent confident that the actual percentage of all households in the District with a woodstove is between 4.8% and 6.4%.

Figure 87 provides a graphic plot of the *maximum* margin of error in this study. The maximum margin of error for a dichotomous percentage result occurs when the answers are evenly split such that 50% provide one response and 50% provide the alternative response (i.e., $\hat{p} = 0.5$). For this survey, the maximum margin of error is 2.72% for District-wide estimates.

FIGURE 87 MAXIMUM MARGIN OF ERROR PLOT



Within this report, figures and tables show how responses to certain questions varied by county, as well as by demographic characteristics such as presence of a heating device in the home, respondent age, and education level. Because the margin of error grows exponentially as the sample size decreases (see the left side of Figure 87), the reader should use caution when generalizing and interpreting the results of questions received by only a small percentage of the sample or when comparing results within subgroups of respondents.

DATA COLLECTION Interviews were conducted via telephone during weekday evenings (5:30PM to 9PM) and on weekends (10AM to 5PM) between November 21, 2010 and February 26, 2011. Interviews were conducted on randomly selected evenings ($n = 939$), as well as targeted for Winter Spare the Air Alert episodes throughout the season ($n = 361$). It is standard practice not to call during the day on weekdays because most working adults are unavailable and thus calling during those hours would bias the sample. Interviewing was also suspended on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day.

DATA PROCESSING Data processing consisted of checking the data for errors or inconsistencies, coding and recoding responses, categorizing open-end responses, and preparing frequency analyses and crosstabulations. Because the research objectives involved comparing the 2009 results with those of prior studies, where appropriate, True North also accessed and processed data from the 2009 through 2002 winter season surveys to allow for comparisons.

STATISTICAL SIGNIFICANCE Many of the figures and tables in this report present the results of questions asked in 2010 alongside the results found in prior years for identical questions. In such cases, True North conducted the appropriate tests of statistical significance to identify changes that likely reflect actual changes in public opinion or behavior over time—as opposed to being due to chance associated with selecting two cross-sectional samples independently and at random. Differences between studies are identified as *statistically significant* if we can be 95% confident that the differences reflect an actual change in public opinion or behavior between the two studies. Statistically significant differences within response categories over time are denoted by the † symbol which appears in the figure next to the appropriate response value for 2010.

ROUNDING Numbers that end in 0.5 or higher are rounded up to the nearest whole number, whereas numbers that end in 0.4 or lower are rounded down to the nearest whole number. These same rounding rules are also applied, when needed, to arrive at numbers that include a decimal place in constructing figures and charts. Occasionally, these rounding rules lead to small discrepancies in the first decimal place when comparing tables and pie charts for a given question.

QUESTIONNAIRE & TOPLINES



BAY AREA
AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT

Winter 10-11 Spare the Air Tonight Survey
Designed by True North Research
Final Toplines
1,300 Respondents

Section 1: Introduction to Study

Hi, my name is _____ and I'm calling on behalf of TNR, a public opinion research firm. We're conducting a survey concerning issues of importance to residents in the Bay Area region and we'd like to get your opinions.

If needed: This is only a survey about important issues in the Bay Area. I'm NOT trying to sell anything.

If needed: The survey should take about 12 minutes to complete.

If needed: If now is not a convenient time, can you let me know a better time so I can call back?

If the person says they are an elected official or is somehow associated with the survey, politely explain that this survey is designed to measure the opinions of those not closely associated with the study, thank them for their time, and terminate the interview.

Section 2: Screener for Inclusion in the Study

For statistical reasons, I would like to speak to the youngest adult male currently at home that is at least 18 years of age. *If there is no male currently at home that is at least 18 years of age, then ask:* Ok, then I'd like to speak to the youngest female currently at home that is at least 18 years of age.

If there is no adult currently available, then ask for a callback time.

NOTE: Adjust this screener as needed to match sample quotas on gender & age

The number of respondents that received each question is shown in brackets following the question wording.

SC1 To begin, what is the ZIP code of your residence? *Read zip code back to respondent to confirm before submitting. Terminate those that fall outside District.* [1,300]

Record 5-digit ZIP code

Data on file

SC2 What county do you live in? [1,300]

1	Alameda	21%
2	Contra Costa	14%
3	Marin	4%
4	Napa	2%
5	San Francisco	13%
6	San Mateo	10%
7	Santa Clara	25%
8	Solano	5%
9	Sonoma	5%

Section 3: Heating Device Use

I'd like to begin by asking you a few questions about heating devices that you may have in your home.

Q1 Do you have a: _____ in your home? *If yes, ask: How many: _____s do you have in your home?*

A	Wood-burning fireplace* [1,300]	
	None	60%
	One	33%
	Two	6%
	Three or more	0%
	Not sure / Refused	1%
B	Natural gas or propane fireplace [1,300]	
	None	78%
	One	16%
	Two	3%
	Three or more	1%
	Not sure / Refused	3%
C	Pellet stove* [1,300]	
	None	91%
	One	2%
	Two	1%
	Three or more	0%
	Not sure / Refused	7%
D	Woodstove or woodstove insert* [1,300]	
	None	92%
	One	5%
	Two	0%
	Three or more	0%
	Not sure / Refused	3%

If Q1.1a, Q1.1b, Q1.1c AND Q1.1d = (2, 98), skip to Q23.

Only ask Q2 if Q1.1a = 1 OR Q1.1d = 1, otherwise skip to instructions preceding Q4.

*43% of households reported at least one wood-burning device.

Q2 What type of wood do you primarily use in your wood burning fireplace or woodstove: Natural wood logs, manufactured logs such as Duraflame or Presto, scrap wood, pallets, or some other fuel? If 'other', ask: what type? [543]				
	1	Natural wood log	39%	Ask Q4
	2	Manufactured log/Duraflame/Presto	23%	Skip to Q8
	3	Scrap wood	5%	Skip to Q8
	4	Pallets (not pellets)	1%	Skip to Q8
	5	Never use fireplace	23%	Skip to Q8
	6	Other	1%	Skip to Q8
	98	Not sure	7%	Skip to Q8
	99	Refused	1%	Skip to Q8
Q3 Do you also ever burn: _____?				
<i>Do not read option below that was chosen in Q2.</i>				
	<i>Randomize</i>		Yes	No
				Not Sure/Doesn't Apply
A	Natural wood logs [289]		31%	65%
B	Manufactured logs such as Duraflame or Presto [375]		29%	69%
C	Scrap wood [477]		17%	80%
D	Pallets (not pellets) [499]		5%	92%
<i>Only ask Q4 if Q2 = 1 OR Q3a=1, otherwise skip to introduction preceding Q8.</i>				
Q4 What type of natural wood do you typically burn? [303]				
	1	Ash	1%	
	2	Eucalyptus	5%	
	3	Oak	36%	
	4	Pine (Cedar)	11%	
	5	Almond	5%	
	6	Fruitwood	4%	
	7	Hardwood (general)	16%	
	8	Other wood	2%	
	98	Not sure	21%	
	99	Refused	0%	

Q5	Do you typically purchase your wood from a wood supplier, the local store, or do you gather your own wood? [303]			
	1	Wood supplier	25%	
	2	Local store	28%	
	3	Gather own wood	38%	
	4	Other source	6%	
	98	Not sure	3%	
	99	Refused	0%	
Q6	At the point that you acquire your wood, is it fresh-cut and somewhat moist or is it already dry and seasoned? [303]			
	1	Fresh-cut & moist	16%	
	2	Dry & seasoned	72%	
	3	Depends/mixed	11%	
	98	Not sure	1%	
	99	Refused	1%	
Q7	When you use your fireplace or woodstove, which of the following would you say is the primary reason you do so? For heating your home, or for the ambiance of having a fire? [303]			
	1	Heat	45%	
	2	Ambiance	52%	
	98	Not sure	3%	
	99	Refused	0%	
For the next series of questions, when I refer to "winter" I mean the months of November through February.				
<i>Only ask Q8 for each appliance where Q1.1 = 1.</i>				
Q8	Will you use your: _____ this winter?			
	<i>Do Not Randomize</i>		Yes	No
			Not Sure	Refused
A	Wood-burning fireplace [507]		49%	49%
B	Natural gas or propane fireplace [260]		66%	32%
C	Pellet stove [27]		81%	13%
D	Woodstove [73]		56%	41%
			2%	0%
			1%	0%
			5%	0%
			3%	0%

<i>Only ask Q9 for each appliance where Q8 = 2.</i>					
Q9	Why do you not expect to use your _____ this winter? <i>Do Not Read Responses. Multiple Responses OK.</i>				
<i>Do Not Randomize</i>		Air Quality Reasons	Too Much Hassle	Health Reasons	Other
A	Wood-burning fireplace [248]	16%	26%	8%	55%
B	Natural gas or propane fireplace [84]	0%	32%	1%	68%
C	Pellet stove [4]	0%	51%	0%	49%
D	Woodstove [30]	15%	32%	2%	51%
<i>Read the following instruction if Q1.1c = 1.</i>					
For the remainder of this interview, when I refer to 'burning wood' I mean burning any type of wood product, including wood pellets for a pellet stove.					
<i>Only ask Q10 if Q8a = 1, Q8c = 1 or Q8d = 1. Otherwise, skip to Q23.</i>					
Q10	How often do you expect to burn wood this winter? At least once per week or less often than that? <i>If unsure, ask them to estimate.</i> [293]				
	1	At least once per week	40%	<i>Skip to Q12</i>	
	2	Less often than once per week	54%	<i>Ask Q11</i>	
	98	Not sure	6%	<i>Skip to Q13</i>	
	99	Refused	0%	<i>Skip to Q13</i>	
Q11	Would you say that you will burn wood about two to three times per month, once per month, or less often than once per month? <i>If unsure, ask them to estimate.</i> [158]				
	1	Two to three times per month	42%	<i>Skip to Q13</i>	
	2	Once per month	36%	<i>Skip to Q13</i>	
	3	Less often than once per month	21%	<i>Skip to Q13</i>	
	98	Not sure	1%	<i>Skip to Q13</i>	
	99	Refused	0%	<i>Skip to Q13</i>	

Q12	In a typical winter week, how many days do you expect to burn wood? <i>If unsure, ask them to estimate.</i> [116]		
	1	One day	25%
	2	Two days	26%
	3	Three days	13%
	4	Four days	10%
	5	Five days	6%
	6	Six days	1%
	7	Seven days	11%
	98	Not sure	7%
	99	Refused	0%
Q13	Did you burn wood in the past seven days? [293]		
	1	Yes	39% Ask Q14
	2	No	59% Skip to Q15
	98	Not sure	2% Skip to Q15
	99	Refused	0% Skip to Q15
Q14	Did you burn wood yesterday or last night? [114]		
	1	Yes	43%
	2	No	57%
	98	Not sure	0%
	99	Refused	0%
Q15	In a typical day that you burn wood, how many hours of the day do you have a fire burning? <i>If unsure, ask them to estimate.</i> [293]		
	One		5%
	Two		16%
	Three		30%
	Four		23%
	Five or more		20%
	Not sure		6%

<i>Only ask Q16 if Q8a = 1 or Q8d = 1.</i>		
Q16	In a typical day that you burn wood, how many logs do you burn throughout the entire day? <i>If unsure, ask them to estimate.</i> [280]	
	One	19%
	Two	14%
	Three	18%
	Four	7%
	Five	7%
	Six	5%
	Seven or more	18%
	Not sure	11%
Q17	Thinking back to your most recent fire, approximately what time of the day did you first light the fire? <i>If unsure, ask to estimate.</i> [627]	
	1 4AM to 8:59AM	5%
	2 9AM to 11:59AM	8%
	3 Noon to 2:59PM	2%
	4 3PM to 5:59PM	19%
	5 6PM to 8:59PM	55%
	6 9PM to 11:59PM	3%
	7 Midnight to 3:59AM	0%
	99 Not sure / Refused	7%

Section 4: Changes in Wood Burning Behavior

Only ask Q18 if Q8a = 1, Q8c = 1 or Q8d = 1. Otherwise, skip to Q23.

Q18	This winter, do you expect that you will burn wood more often, less often, or about the same frequency as you did last winter? [293]	
	1 More often	11%
	2 Less often	20%
	3 About the same	62%
	98 Not sure	8%
	99 Refused	0%

Q19	Were there occasions this winter when you normally would have burned wood, but decided not to? [293]			
	1	Yes	46%	Ask Q20
	2	No	50%	Skip to Q23
	98	Not sure	4%	Skip to Q23
	99	Refused	0%	Skip to Q23
Q20	Why did you decide not to burn wood on these occasions? <i>Do NOT Read Response Options. Multiple Responses OK.</i> [134]			
	1	Winter Spare the Air Alert Program/ Advertisements and notices asking people not to burn wood/Laws against burning wood	41%	Ask Q21
	2	Air quality reason/health reason	7%	Ask Q21
	3	Other reason	41%	Skip to Q23
	98	Not sure	11%	Skip to Q23
	99	Refused	0%	Skip to Q23
Q21	So far this winter, how many times did you choose not to burn wood because of air quality alerts or health-related reasons? <i>If unsure, ask respondent to estimate.</i> [65]			
	One		8%	
	Two		16%	
	Three		27%	
	Four		6%	
	Five or more		19%	
	Not sure		24%	
<i>Only ask Q22 if Q14 = 2.</i>				
Q22	You previously indicated that you chose not to burn wood yesterday or last night. Why did you decide not to burn wood yesterday or last night? <i>Do NOT Read Response Options. Multiple Responses OK.</i> [65]			
	1	Winter Spare the Air Alert Program/ Advertisements and notices asking people not to burn wood/Laws against burning wood	16%	
	2	Air quality reason/health reason	0%	
	3	No need/not cold	27%	
	4	Other reason	56%	
	98	Not sure	2%	
	99	Refused	0%	
19.7% of households with at least one wood-burning device reported not burning wood this winter (Q9) or a reduction in burning wood this winter (Q20,Q22) because of Winter STA Program / Air quality info, or because of health concerns paired with encountering Winter STA. Program / Air quality info (Q23).				

Section 5: Awareness of Campaign					
Q23	During this winter, have you heard, read, or seen any news stories, advertisements, or public service announcements about the Winter Spare the Air Alert Program, poor air quality, or requests not to use your fireplace, pellet stove, or woodstove? [1,300]				
	1	Yes	59%	Ask Q24	
	2	No	39%	Skip to Q26	
	98	Not sure	2%	Skip to Q26	
	99	Refused	0%	Skip to Q26	
Q24	During this winter, do you recall encountering information about the Bay Area Air Quality Management District or the Winter Spare the Air Program: _____? [772]				
	Randomize		Yes	No	Not Sure/Doesn't Apply
A	On television		60%	39%	2%
B	On the radio		57%	42%	2%
C	In a newspaper		30%	68%	3%
D	On a website		16%	81%	3%
E	On a billboard		11%	86%	3%
Ask Q25 if Q24a = 1.					
Q25	Information about the Winter Spare the Air program is carried on television in a number of ways. Do you recall encountering information about Winter Spare the Air on television in: _____? [460]				
	Randomize		Yes	No	Not Sure/Doesn't Apply
A	An advertisement or public information announcement that talks about fires, woodsmoke, air quality and the Winter Spare the Air program		56%	41%	3%
B	A news program		80%	18%	2%
C	A weather alert		59%	36%	4%
D	An interview with an air quality expert or representative		12%	84%	4%

<i>Only ask Q26 if interviewing the day after a Winter STA Alert. Otherwise, skip to Q27.</i>			
Q26	Prior to taking this survey, were you aware that there was a "Winter Spare the Air Alert" yesterday? [354]		
1	Yes		22%
2	No		77%
98	Not sure		1%
99	Refused		0%

Section 6: Attitudes about Wood Smoke			
Q27	Do you think there are any negative health effects associated with breathing wood smoke? [1,300]		
1	Yes	64%	Ask Q28
2	No	27%	Skip to Q29
98	Not sure	9%	Skip to Q29
99	Refused	0%	Skip to Q29
Q28	What are the negative health effects associated with breathing wood smoke? <i>Don't read options. Multiple response OK.</i> [831]		
1	Lung Disease (general reference)	41%	
2	Asthma	34%	
3	Allergies	5%	
4	Bronchitis	2%	
5	Cancer	10%	
6	Emphysema	4%	
7	Chemicals/Carcinogens/Toxins in wood	8%	
8	Carbon monoxide	8%	
9	Other health issue	10%	
98	Not sure	14%	
99	Refused	0%	
Q29	Different neighborhoods in the Bay Area experience different levels of air pollution from wood smoke. In your opinion, does your neighborhood periodically experience air pollution from wood smoke? [1,300]		
1	Yes	17%	Ask Q30
2	No	77%	Skip to Q31
98	Not sure	6%	Skip to Q31
99	Refused	0%	Skip to Q31

Q30	Would you say that periodic air pollution from wood smoke in your neighborhood is a big problem, medium problem or a small problem? [220]	
	1	Big problem 7%
	2	Medium problem 28%
	3	Small problem 62%
	98	Not sure 3%
	99	Refused 0%

Section 8: Policy Attitude

Q31	Prior to taking this survey, were you aware that the Bay Area Air Quality Management District recently passed a policy that prohibits wood burning on nights when air pollution is expected to reach unhealthy levels? [1,300]	
	1	Yes, was aware 59%
	2	No, was not aware 39%
	98	Not sure 2%
	99	Refused 0%
Q32	Overall, how informed do you feel about the rules that are part of this new wood-burning policy? Would you say you feel well informed, somewhat informed, slightly informed, or not at all informed? [1,300]	
	1	Well informed 21%
	2	Somewhat informed 29%
	3	Slightly informed 23%
	4	Not at all informed 25%
	98	Not sure 2%
	99	Refused 0%
Q33	In general, do you support or oppose a policy that prohibits wood burning on nights when air pollution is expected to reach unhealthy levels? [1,300]	
	1	Support 76%
	2	Oppose 16%
	3	Depends 3%
	98	Not sure 6%
	99	Refused 0%

Q34	Should people be allowed to burn wood on holidays like Christmas and New Years even if air pollution is expected to reach unhealthy levels that day? [1,300]							
	1	Yes	36%					
	2	No	57%					
	98	Not sure	7%					
	99	Refused	0%					
Q35	Does your household normally burn wood on holidays like Christmas and New Years day? [1,300]							
	1	Yes	20%	Ask Q36				
	2	No	75%	Skip to Q37				
	3	Depends	2%	Ask Q36				
	98	Not sure	3%	Skip to Q37				
	99	Refused	0%	Skip to Q37				
Q36	If air pollution levels were high and a 'no burn' day was set on Christmas or New Years day, would you still burn wood? [290]							
	1	Yes	52%					
	2	No	42%					
	98	Not sure	6%					
	99	Refused	0%					
<i>Split-Sample. Sample A (half) gets Q37.</i>								
Q37	Next, I'm going to read a series of statements. For each statement, I'd like to know whether you think the statement is true or false. Here is the first one: _____. Do you think this statement is true or false? Would that be definitely (true/false) or probably (true/false)? [644]							
	<i>Randomize</i>		Definitely True	Probably True	Probably False	Definitely False	Not sure	Refused
A	No households are allowed to burn wood on designated 'no burn' days. There are no exceptions.		27%	25%	24%	14%	9%	1%
B	Households for which wood burning is their only source of heat are still allowed to burn wood on designated 'no burn' days.		26%	35%	17%	9%	11%	2%
C	Households that use natural gas or propane fireplaces are still allowed to use them on 'no burn' days.		30%	40%	13%	7%	10%	1%
D	Households that have EPA certified woodstoves or pellet stoves are still allowed to use them on 'no burn' days.		10%	30%	26%	12%	21%	1%

E	People who violate the 'no burn' policy will receive a warning first, and then citations for future violations.	35%	44%	6%	4%	10%	1%
F	Between November and February, residents are required to check the status of air quality prior to burning wood.	29%	40%	13%	8%	10%	0%
G	On days that have clean air, it's OK to burn different types of wood, including driftwood, treated wood, wood that is still a bit wet, and used pallets.	10%	26%	21%	30%	11%	1%
H	At any time of the year, I can receive a citation if there is a lot of visible smoke coming from my chimney.	24%	36%	19%	7%	12%	2%
I	Burning wood is a major source of air pollution in the Bay Area, contributing up to one-third or more of airborne particle pollution on many winter days.	17%	28%	26%	17%	12%	1%
Q38	Do you know how you could find out whether today is a 'no burn' day? [1,300]						
	1	Yes	48%		Ask Q39		
	2	No	47%		Skip to Q40		
	98	Not sure	5%		Skip to Q40		
	99	Refused	0%		Skip to Q40		
Q39	How can you find out? <i>Probe:</i> Are there any other ways to find out? <i>Do NOT read options. Check all mentions.</i> [621]						
	1	Check the newspaper	24%				
	2	Listen to radio	17%				
	3	Call a hotline	14%				
	4	Check the Air District's website	16%				
	5	Check a website (general reference)	63%				
	6	Sign-up for email alerts	3%				
	7	Sign-up for text message alerts	1%				
	8	Sign-up for automated telephone calls/robo-call notification	2%				
	98	Not sure	5%				
	99	Refused	0%				

Section 9: Fireplace & Pollution Knowledge

Split-Sample. Sample B (half) gets Q40, but only ask Q40 if Q1.1a = 1. Otherwise, skip to Q41.

Q40	Next, I'm going to read a series of statements. For each statement, I'd like to know whether you think the statement is true or false. Here is the first one: _____. Do you think this statement is true or false? Would that be definitely (true/false) or probably (true/false)? [263]						
	<i>Randomize</i>	Definitely True	Probably True	Probably False	Definitely False	Not sure	Refused
A	A fireplace is an efficient source of heat	24%	18%	17%	36%	4%	1%
B	All fires in my fireplace should produce visible smoke from the chimney	18%	19%	23%	24%	15%	1%
C	It is okay to burn materials other than firewood in my fireplace	8%	9%	14%	63%	6%	1%
D	Manufactured logs burn cleaner than seasoned firewood	12%	34%	25%	8%	19%	1%

Section 10: BAAQMD and Winter Spare the Air Alert Program Recognition

Q41 Let's change gears a bit. Have you ever heard of the _____? Code 'Not sure' as 'No'.

	<i>Randomize</i>	Yes	No
A	Bay Area Air Quality Management District [1,300]	61%	39%
B	Winter Spare the Air Alert Program [1,300]	62%	38%

Only ask Q42 and 0 for each item in Q41 that respondent had heard of.

Q42 Generally speaking, would you say you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of the _____, or do you have no opinion either way? *Get answer and ask: Would that be very or somewhat favorable / unfavorable?*

		Very Favorable	Somewhat Favorable	Neutral/ No Opinion Either Way	Somewhat Unfavorable	Very Unfavorable	Not sure
A	Bay Area Air Quality Management District [795]	20%	26%	42%	3%	7%	1%
B	Winter Spare the Air Alert Program [805]	29%	30%	29%	3%	6%	2%

Q43		In the past six months, have you heard, read, or seen any news stories, advertisements, or public service announcements about the _____?		
		Yes	No	Not sure
A	Bay Area Air Quality Management District [795]	43%	51%	5%
B	Winter Spare the Air Alert Program [805]	60%	37%	3%

Section 12: Background & Demographics

Thank you so much for your participation. I have just a few background questions for statistical purposes.

D1		Including yourself, how many adults live in your household? [1,300]	
	One		21%
	Two		55%
	Three or more		22%
	Refused		3%
D2		Do you have children in your home that are in elementary or middle school? [1,300]	
	1 Yes	25%	Ask D3
	2 No	71%	Skip to D4
	99 Refused	3%	Skip to D4
D3		Have your children ever raised the topic or brought home information about air pollution or the Spare the Air program? [328]	
	1 Yes		23%
	2 No		76%
	99 Refused		1%
D4		In what year were you born? Year recoded into age categories shown below. [1,300]	
	18 to 24		11%
	25 to 34		22%
	35 to 44		23%
	45 to 54		19%
	55 to 64		11%
	65 and over		15%

D5	Do you live in an apartment, condo, townhome, single-family detached home, or mobile home? [1,300]		
	1	Apartment	19%
	2	Condo	7%
	3	Townhome	6%
	4	Single-family detached home	60%
	5	Mobile home	2%
	99	Refused	6%
D6	Approximately how many years ago was your home built? [1,300]		
	1	0 to 10 years	13%
	2	11 to 20 years	11%
	3	21 to 30 years	13%
	4	31 to 40 years	14%
	5	41 to 50 years	10%
	6	Over 50 years	24%
	98	Not sure	11%
	99	Refused	4%
<i>Only ask D7 if Q1d = 1. Otherwise skip to instructions preceding D8.</i>			
D7	Is your woodstove or woodstove insert EPA certified? <i>If not sure, clarify: Most woodstoves manufactured after 1992 are EPA certified, while older ones are not.</i> [73]		
	1	Yes, EPA certified	47%
	2	No, not EPA certified	22%
	98	Not sure	21%
	99	Refused	10%
<i>Only ask D8 to D10 if ((Q1a = 1, Q1c = 1, or Q1d = 1) and (Q1b = (2, 98))). Otherwise skip to D11.</i>			
D8	Do you have natural gas service at your home? [486]		
	1	Yes	76% <i>Skip to D10</i>
	2	No	11% <i>Ask D9</i>
	98	Not sure	6% <i>Ask D9</i>
	99	Refused	7% <i>Ask D9</i>

D9	Do you pay for propane delivery at your home? [117]		
	1	Yes	7%
	2	No	56%
	98	Not sure	8%
	99	Refused	29%
D10	Besides your fireplace, do you have any other form of permanently installed devices to heat your home, such as a gas furnace, radiator, propane heater, or electric heaters? [486]		
	1	Yes	70%
	2	No	21%
	98	Not sure	2%
	99	Refused	7%
D11	Do you have an outdoor fireplace, firepit or chiminea (chim-uh-nay-uh)? [1,300]		
	1	Yes	15%
	2	No	80%
	98	Not sure	0%
	99	Refused	5%
D12	What is the last grade or level you completed in school? [1,300]		
	1	Elementary (8 or fewer years)	1%
	2	Some high school (9 to 11 years)	2%
	3	High school graduate (12 years)	14%
	4	Technical / Vocational school	1%
	5	Some college	19%
	6	College graduate	33%
	7	Some graduate school	2%
	8	Graduate, professional, doctorate degree (DDS, DVM, JD, LLM, MA, MS, MBA, MD, PhD)	22%
	99	Refused	8%

Those are all of the questions that I have for you. Thanks very much for participating. This survey is sponsored by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District.

Post-Interview Items			
D13	Gender [1,300]		
	1	Male	51%
	2	Female	49%
D14	Interview month [1,300]		
	11	November	6%
	12	December	25%
	01	January	42%
	02	February	27%