



## What is the Service?

Municipalities manage growth and physical form through their planning processes. The goal of planning services is the efficient and effective management of land and resources to ensure healthy and sustainable communities; economically, socially, and environmentally.

*Specific services may include:*

- Overseeing the creation and management of a municipality's Official Plan (the master planning document required under Ontario's Planning Act)
- Processing development applications received for specific projects; applications are reviewed and processed with regard to provincial legislation, Council -approved policies, and By-laws
- Leading municipal strategic planning, including environmental initiatives, urban design, transportation planning, area studies and policy development
- Providing Geographic Information Services (GIS) or mapping information

## Influencing Factors

**Application Variables:** Type, mix and complexity (in terms of scope and magnitude) of applications received and the nature of applications under applicable legislation, may include applications that are not under The Planning Act.

**Complexity:** Scope and magnitude of application.

**Government Structure:** Single-tier vs. two-tier local government structures can influence comparisons between municipalities, since upper-tier municipalities do not process all types of applications.

**Legislation:** Differences or variations in the applicable legislation and policy may impact application volumes, time spent on applications and the number of appeals. Examples might include: Planning Act, Places to Grow, Greenbelt, Niagara Escarpment Planning Area.

**Organizational Form:** Differing models can affect both the application review process, i.e. departments outside of Planning, and the number of activities beyond application processing including growth management.

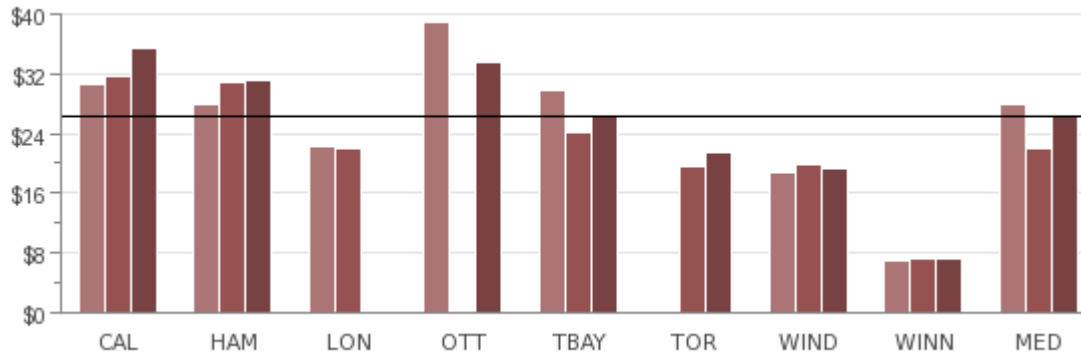
**Timing:** Average time to process a given type of application, scope of participation over and above the requirements of the Planning Act and regulations under the Municipal Act, and the involvement of other commenting and approval authorities.

# Planning

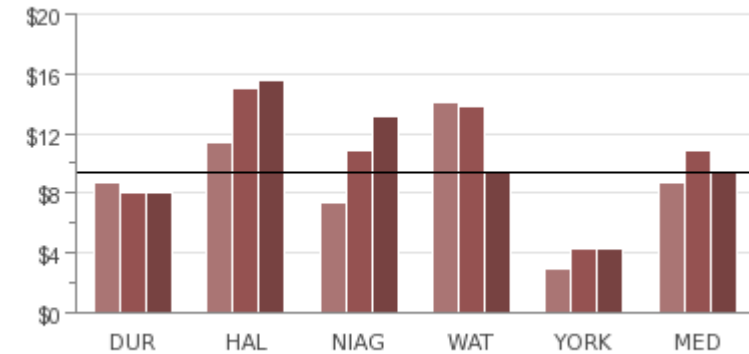
## What is the total cost for planning services per resident?

Fig 24.1 Total Cost for Planning per Capita (includes amortization)

Single-Tier



Upper-Tier



2012	\$30.62	\$27.76	\$22.33	\$38.79	\$29.78	N/A	\$18.81	\$7.01	\$27.76
2013	\$31.52	\$30.87	\$21.86	N/A	\$24.07	\$19.49	\$19.98	\$7.15	\$21.86
2014	\$35.38	\$31.07	N/A	\$33.63	\$26.30	\$21.35	\$19.32	\$7.30	\$26.30

\$8.78	\$11.34	\$7.42	\$14.02	\$2.89	\$8.78
\$8.09	\$15.05	\$10.90	\$13.76	\$4.26	\$10.90
\$8.06	\$15.55	\$13.19	\$9.32	\$4.28	\$9.32

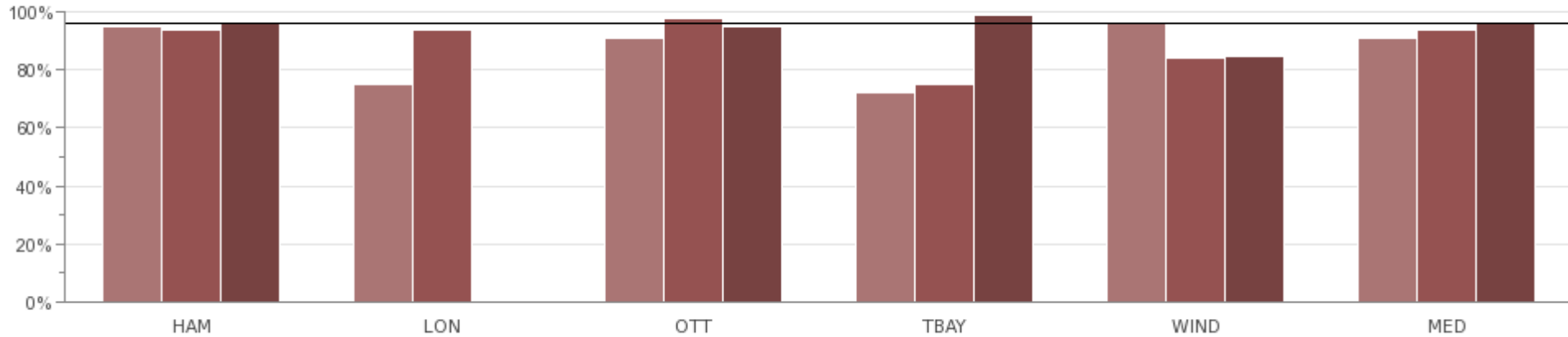
Source: PLNG250T (Service Level)

Note: The amount spent on planning-related activities and application processing can vary significantly from municipality to municipality based on the types of applications. This reflects the different organizational structures and priorities established by local Councils.

Comment: Niagara's increase in external transfers for program expenses: Lakefront Enhancement, Water Smart and Development Charge Grants

## How many development applications are processed within the legislated timeframe?

Fig 24.2 Percent of Development Applications Meeting Planning Act Timeframes (Single-Tier Only)



<b>2012</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>91%</b>
<b>2013</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>98%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>94%</b>
<b>2014</b>	<b>97%</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>96%</b>

Source: PLNG450 (Customer Service)

Note: Timeframe calculations may vary by municipality. Factors such as the volume and complexity of applications will affect results, as well as revisions, additional information and/or study requirements during consideration of applications received.

Toronto does not track this data; and the Ontario Planning Act timelines are not applicable to Calgary, Montreal and Winnipeg.