

Table A: Issues Mentioned by Governors in State of the State Addresses, 2012–2017

<i>Issue expressed by governors</i>	<i>2012 percentage of governors mentioning the issue (N=43)</i>	<i>2013 percentage of governors mentioning the issue (N=49)</i>	<i>2014 percentage of governors mentioning the issue (N=42)</i>	<i>2015 percentage of governors mentioning the issue (N=44)</i>	<i>2016 percentage of governors mentioning the issue (N=43)</i>	<i>2017 percentage of governors mentioning the issue (N=48)</i>
Education	95.3%	100.0%	95.2%	90.9%	88.4%	93.8%
Tax/revenue initiative	81.4	71.4	66.7	72.7	62.8	70.8
Health care	55.8	79.6	73.8	59.1	65.1	66.7
Economic development/jobs	90.7	77.6	83.3	81.8	72.1	58.3
Safety/corrections	55.8	67.3	73.8	63.6	62.8	58.3
Natural resources/energy	65.1	57.1	59.5	61.4	53.5	50
Performance/accountability	55.8	30.6	33.3	56.8	39.5	45.8
Transportation/roads/bridges	48.8	46.9	50	68.2	48.8	41.7
Surplus/deficit/rainy day funds/reserves	60.5	32.7	54.8	36.4	32.6	37.5
Pensions/OPEBs	32.6	18.4	21.4	4.6	18.6	14.6
Transparency	25.6	12.2	26.2	11.4	9.3	10.4
Local government	25.6	14.3	26.2	36.4	30.2	8.3
Borders/illegal immigrants	11.6	8.2	7.1	6.8	4.7	8.3
Ethics reform	7	16.3	14.3	20.5	7	2.1
Debt reduction	7	6.1	16.7	6.8	7	0
Average # of Issues Mentioned by Governors	7.2	6.4	7	7.3	6	6
# Issues Mentioned by >66% of Governors	3	5	5	4	2	3

Source: Content analysis of state of state addresses conducted by Megan Phillips, MPA candidate and Sarah Beth Gehl, Ph.D. candidate, Public Policy (2012); Sarah Beth Gehl, Ph.D. candidate, Public Policy (2013); Keegan Smith, MPA candidate (2014 and 2015); Katherine Willoughby (2016); Anna Sexton, MPP candidate (2017) and Katherine Willoughby, all of the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Georgia State University, Atlanta, Ga.