

TREE CITY USA®

2008 SUMMARY REPORT



Dear Tree City USA Friends:

Enclosed you will find the 2008 Summary Report for the Tree City USA Program, including national and state data, for your review.

As you will see, the commitment to, and investment in urban and community forestry across the nation continues to grow as more and more cities and towns seek to achieve Tree City USA status. It is inspiring to see communities dedicated to maintaining, and in many cases enhancing, their community forestry program even during these trying economic times. Communities around the country are realizing that strong urban and community forestry programs are a wise investment and community leaders and citizens are dedicated to protecting and growing their investment.

The partnership between the National Association of State Foresters, the USDA Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Program and the Arbor Day Foundation continues to support local, state, regional and national efforts to grow and strengthen the urban elements of our nation's forests. The Arbor Day Foundation appreciates this unique partnership and we look forward to expanding the impact of this collaborative work in the years to come.

We encourage you to share this information with your colleagues and community-level partners so that all of your hard work and commitment to urban forest management throughout your state may be celebrated.

Best regards,

Dan Lambe
Vice President, Programs
Arbor Day Foundation

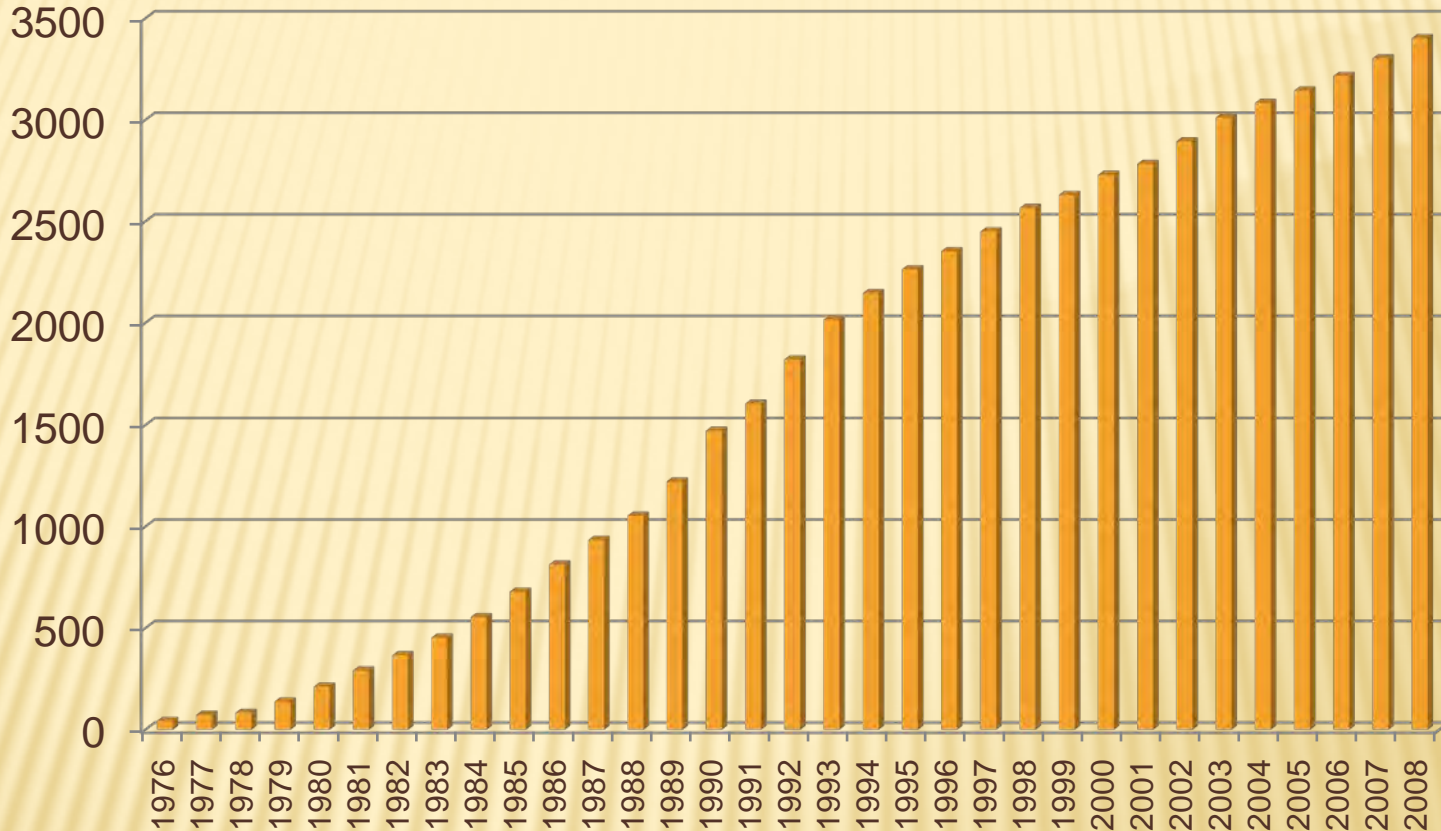


2008 TREE CITY USA PROGRAM ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 3,402 Tree City USA Communities
- 134 first time communities
- 98.8% recertification rate
- 541 Tree City USA Growth Award recipients
- More than \$1 billion spent by Tree City USA communities on their urban and community forests
- More than 138 million people live in a Tree City USA community



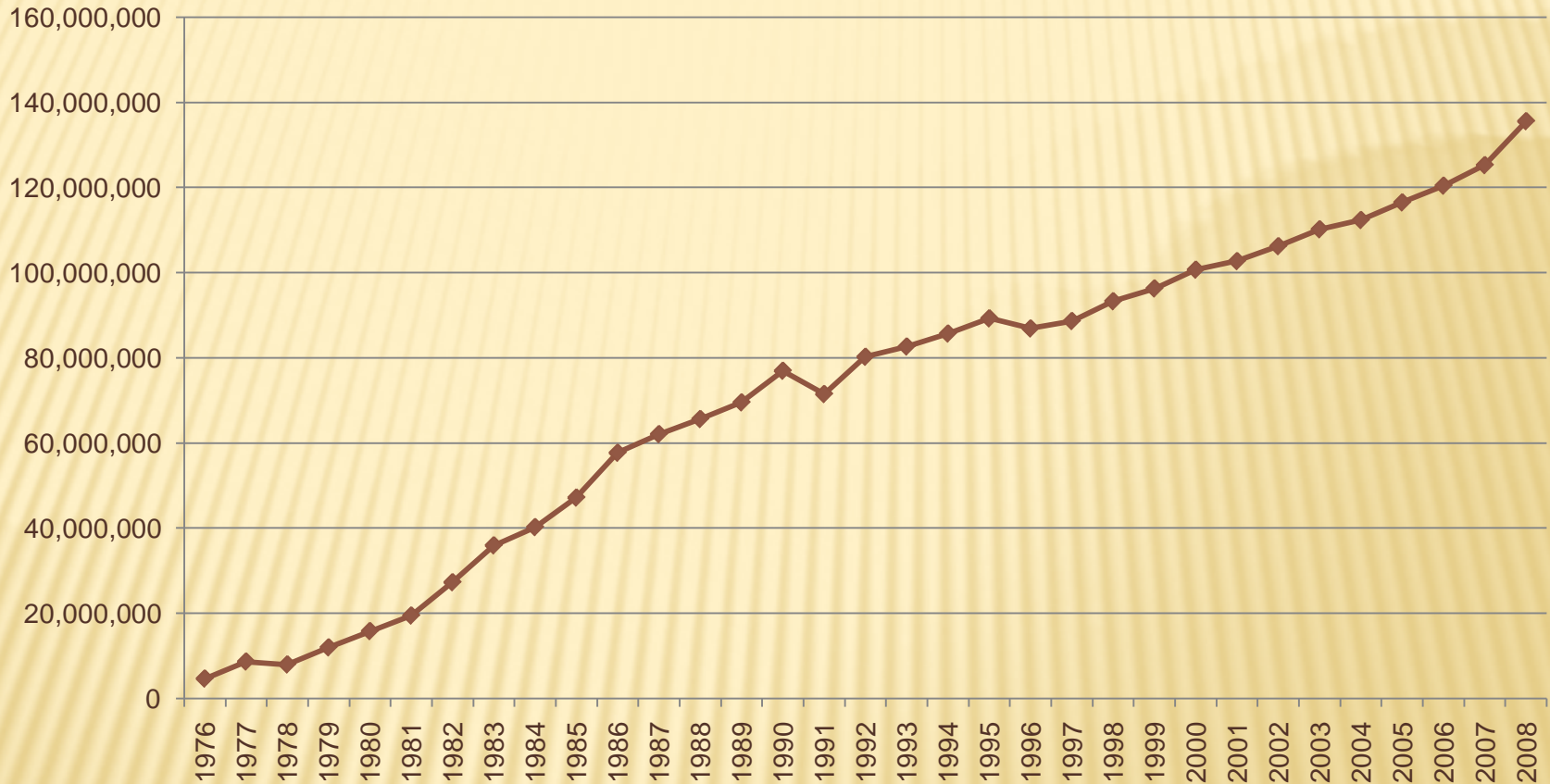
Total Tree City USA Communities Nationwide



Tree City USA communities have increased from 42 communities in 16 states in 1976 to 3,402 communities in 2008.



Total Population

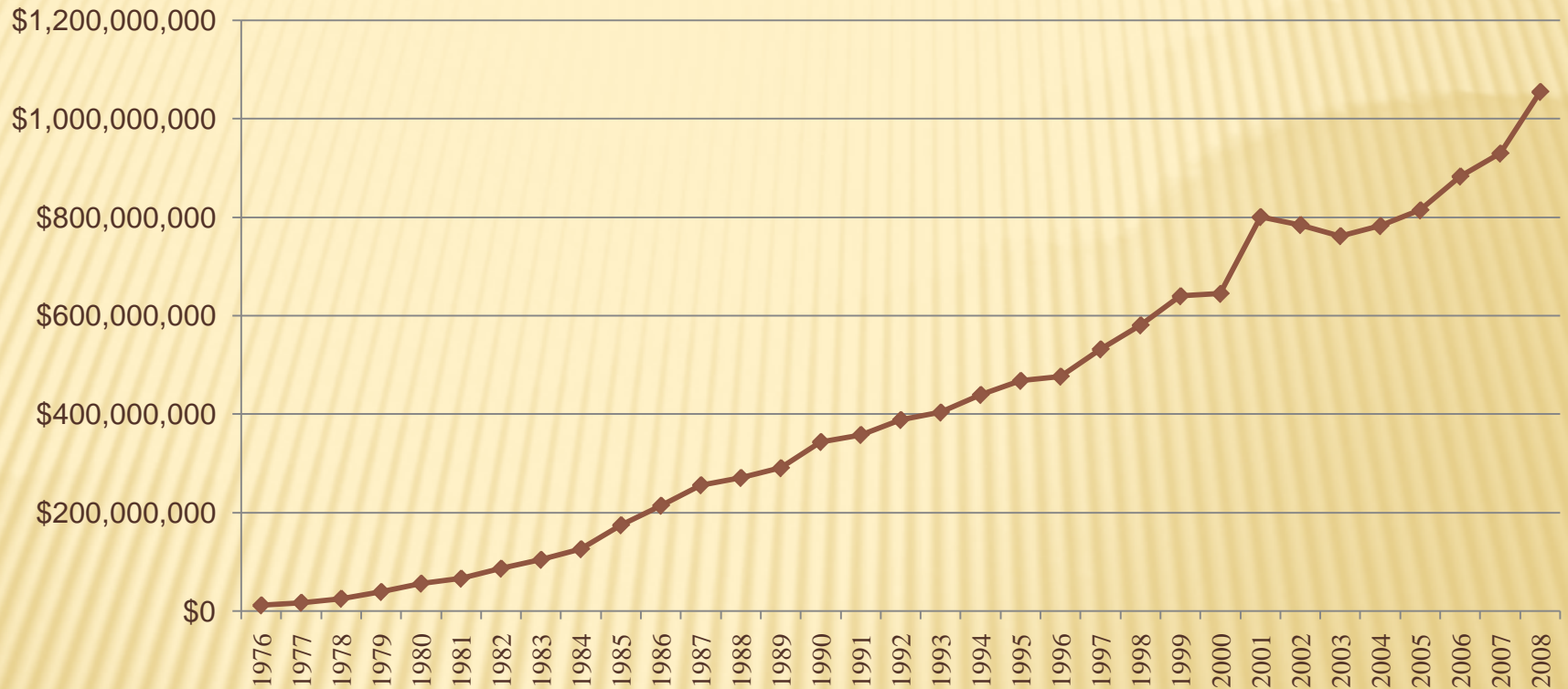


Since 1976, the number of citizens living in a Tree City USA community has grown from 4.6 million to over 138 million nationwide.

- Largest Tree City Community: New York City, New York
- Smallest Tree City USA Community: Kaena Point STS, Hawaii



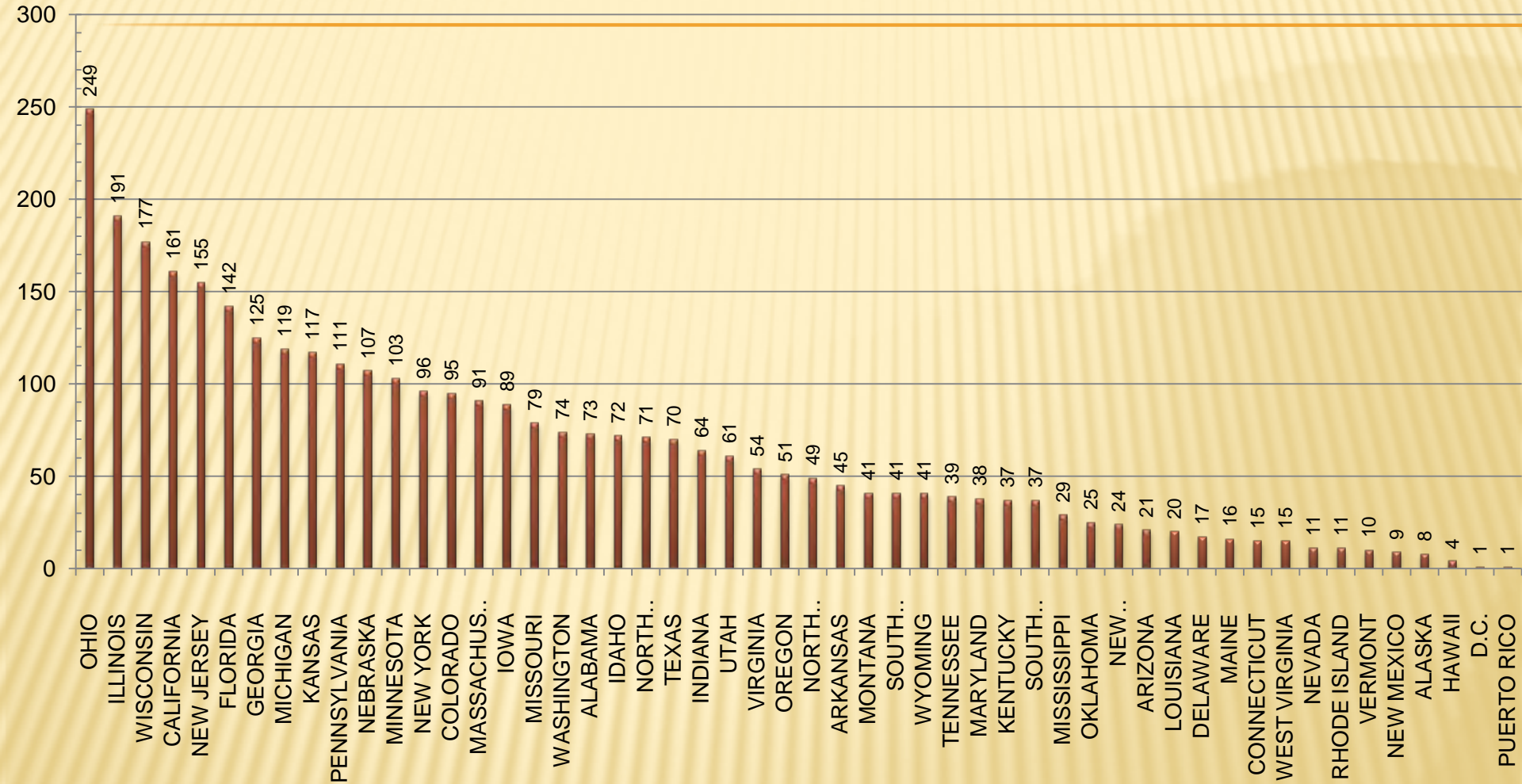
Reported Community Forestry Expenditures



Tree City USA communities spent more than \$1 billion on their urban and community forest management during 2008 compared to \$11 million in 1976 increasing the per capita spending from \$2.52 (1976) to \$7.65 (2008).



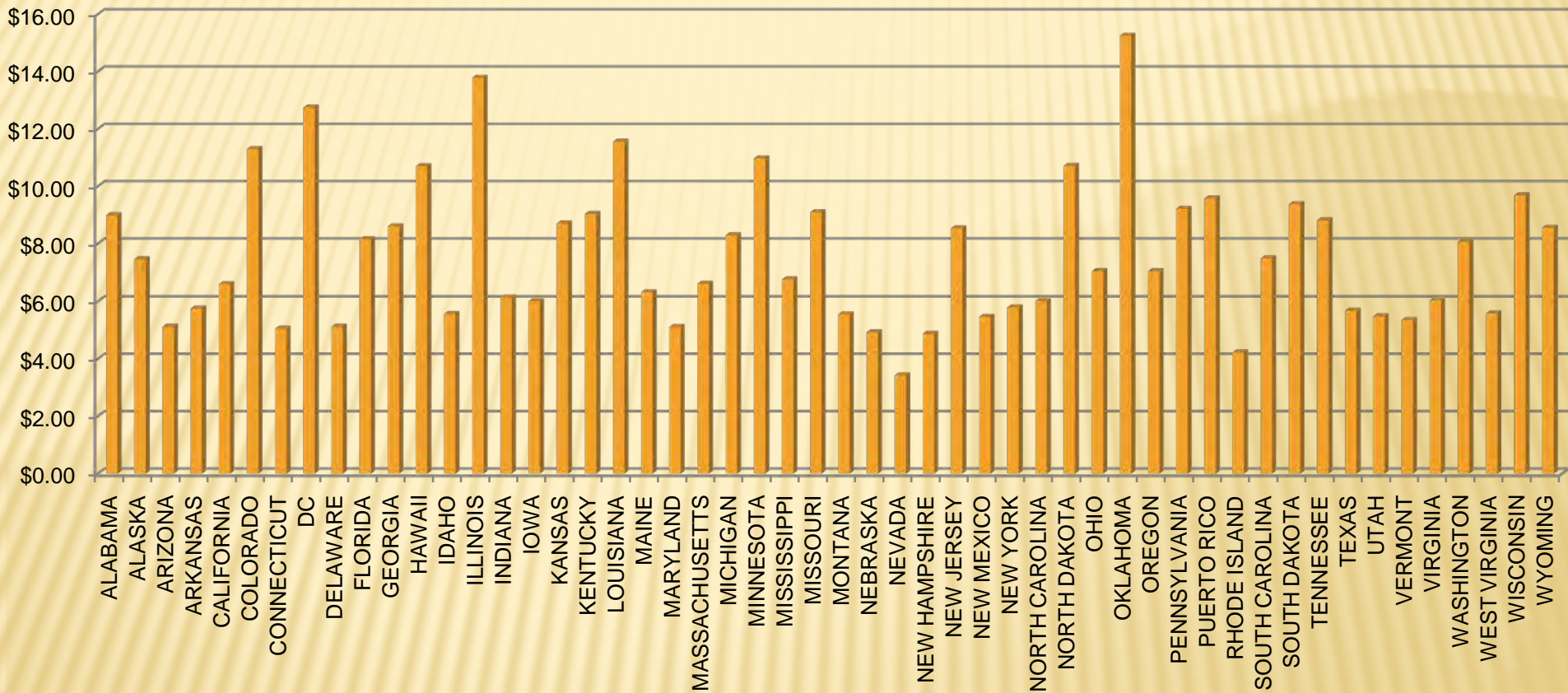
Current Year Total Tree Cities



Tree City USA communities were recognized in every state, District of Columbia and Puerto Rico during 2008.



2008 Average Expenditure per capita per State



“Economic benefits for Irmo are that once these trees are established they will cut down on dust, provide more shade to lower cooling costs, reduce storm water runoff, and save electricity.”

Whitt Cline, Irmo, S.C.
1st year Tree City USA Community



TREE CITY USA®

Total Reported Tree City USA Community Forestry Expenditures on Tree Care Nationwide past 5 years

➤ 2004	\$782,653,709
➤ 2005	\$815,753,836
➤ 2006	\$886,633,583
➤ 2007	\$937,278,499
➤ 2008	\$1,062,049,329

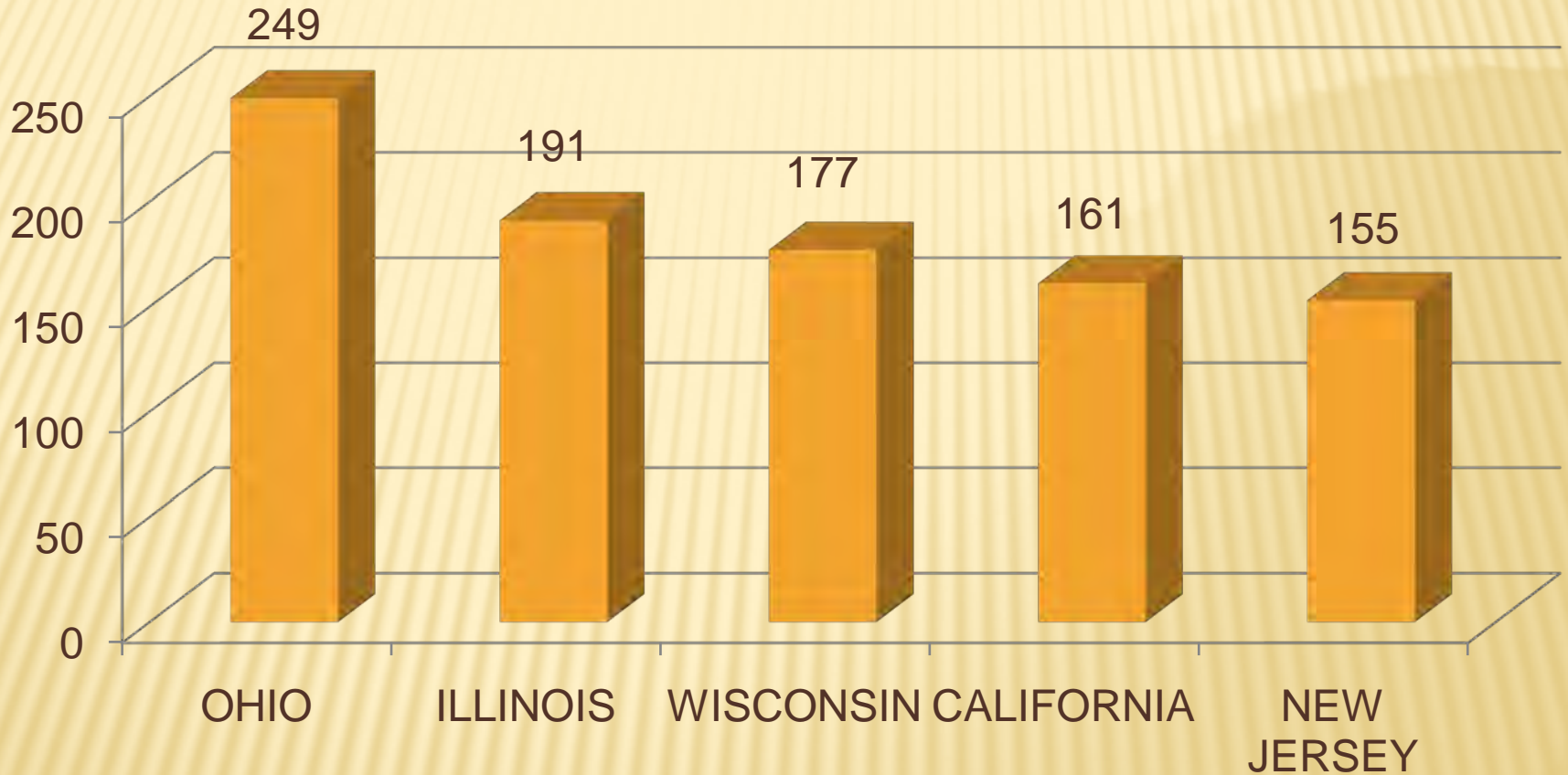


Nationwide Average per capita Tree City USA Community Forestry Expenditures

➤ 2004	\$6.96
➤ 2005	\$6.98
➤ 2006	\$7.33
➤ 2007	\$7.42
➤ 2008	\$7.65

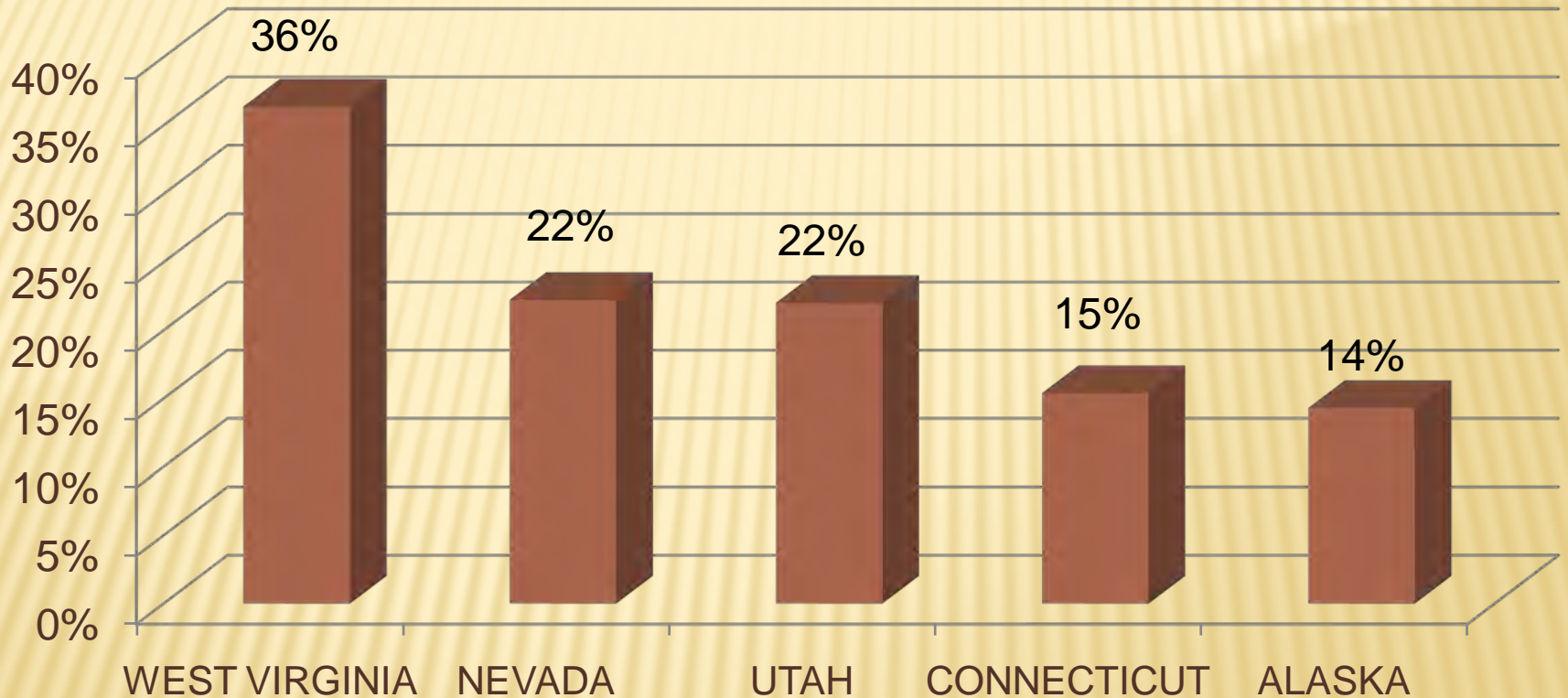


Top 5 States by Number of Tree City USA Communities

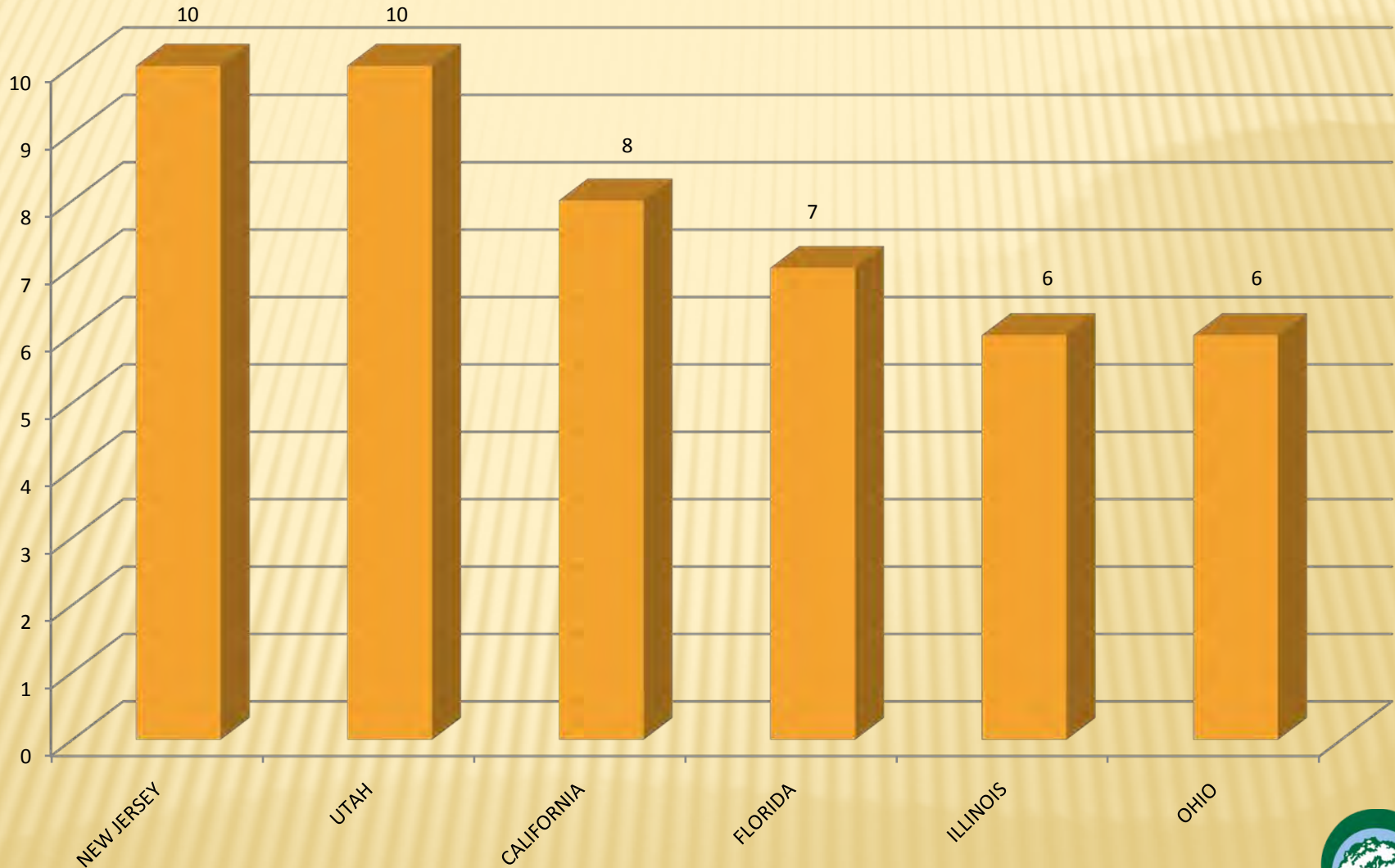


Top 5 States with Largest % Increase in Number of Tree City Communities

2007 vs. 2008



Top 6 States with Greatest number of new Tree City USA communities

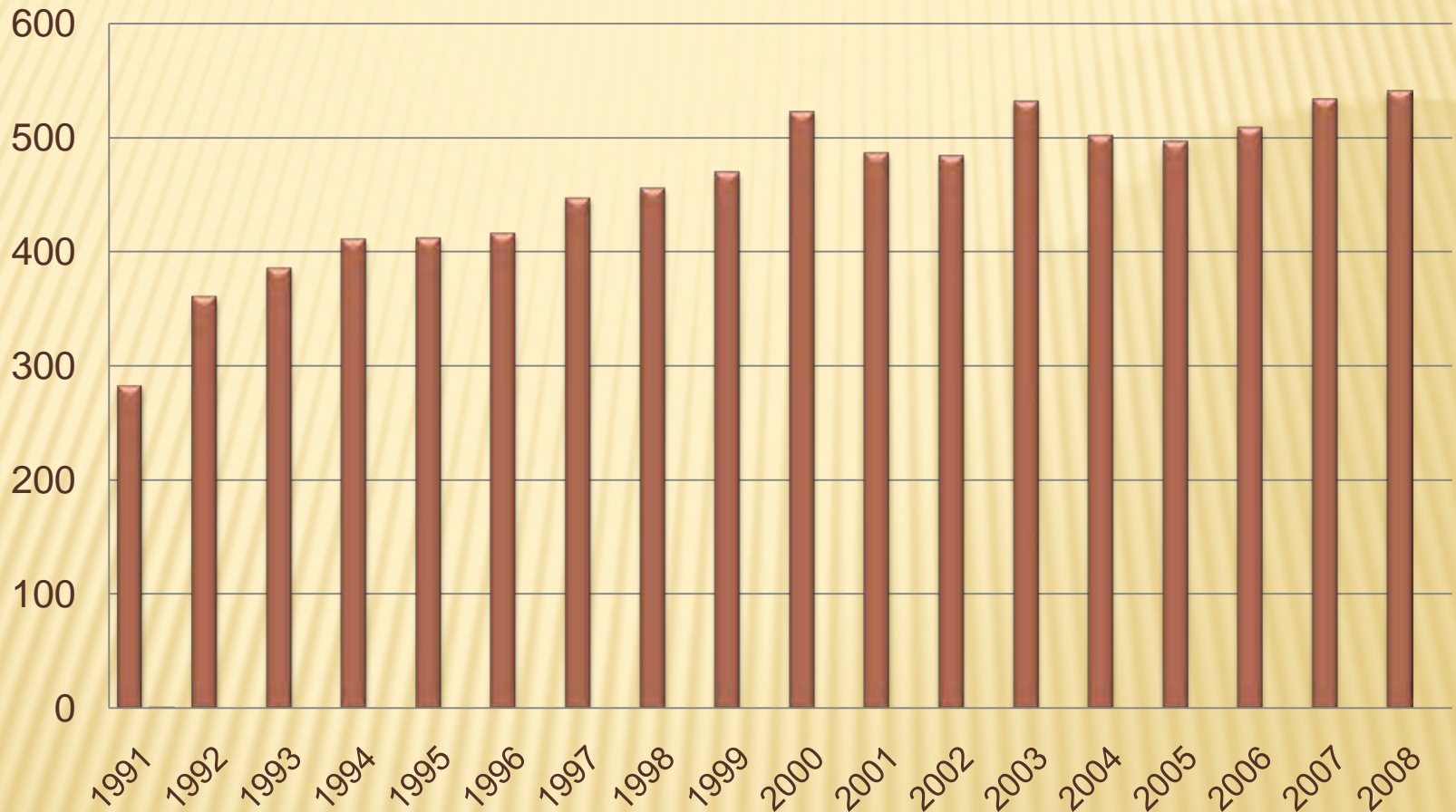


“The Highlands Ranch Metro District recognizes the importance of a strong urban forestry program, and we believe it’s a wise investment for our community.”

Terry Nolan, Metro District General Manager
Highlands Ranch, CO
18 year Growth Award recipient



Total Growth Award Communities Nationwide

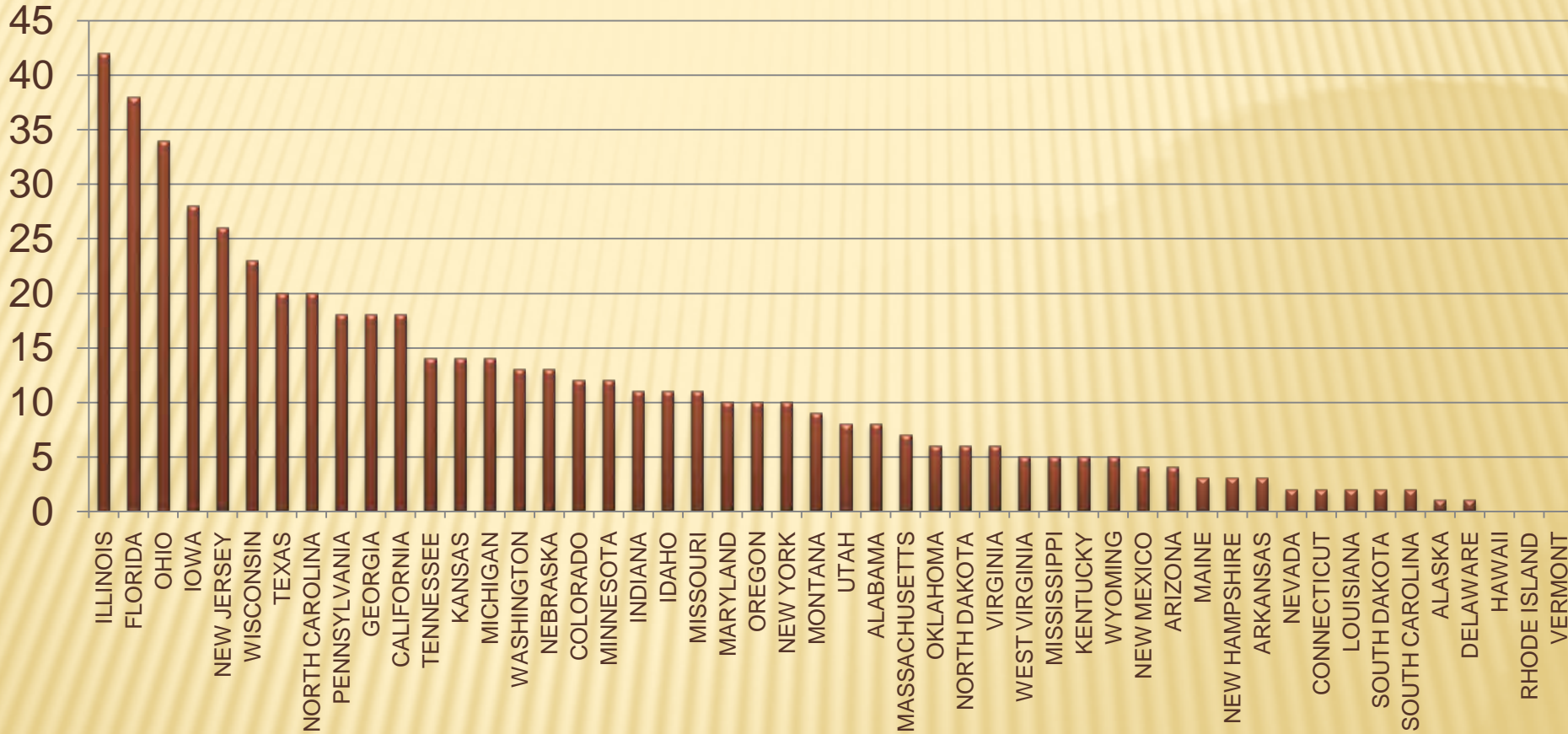


In 2008, Growth Awards were received by 541 communities nationwide – the most since the program began in 1991.



Number of 2008 Tree City Growth Award Recipients

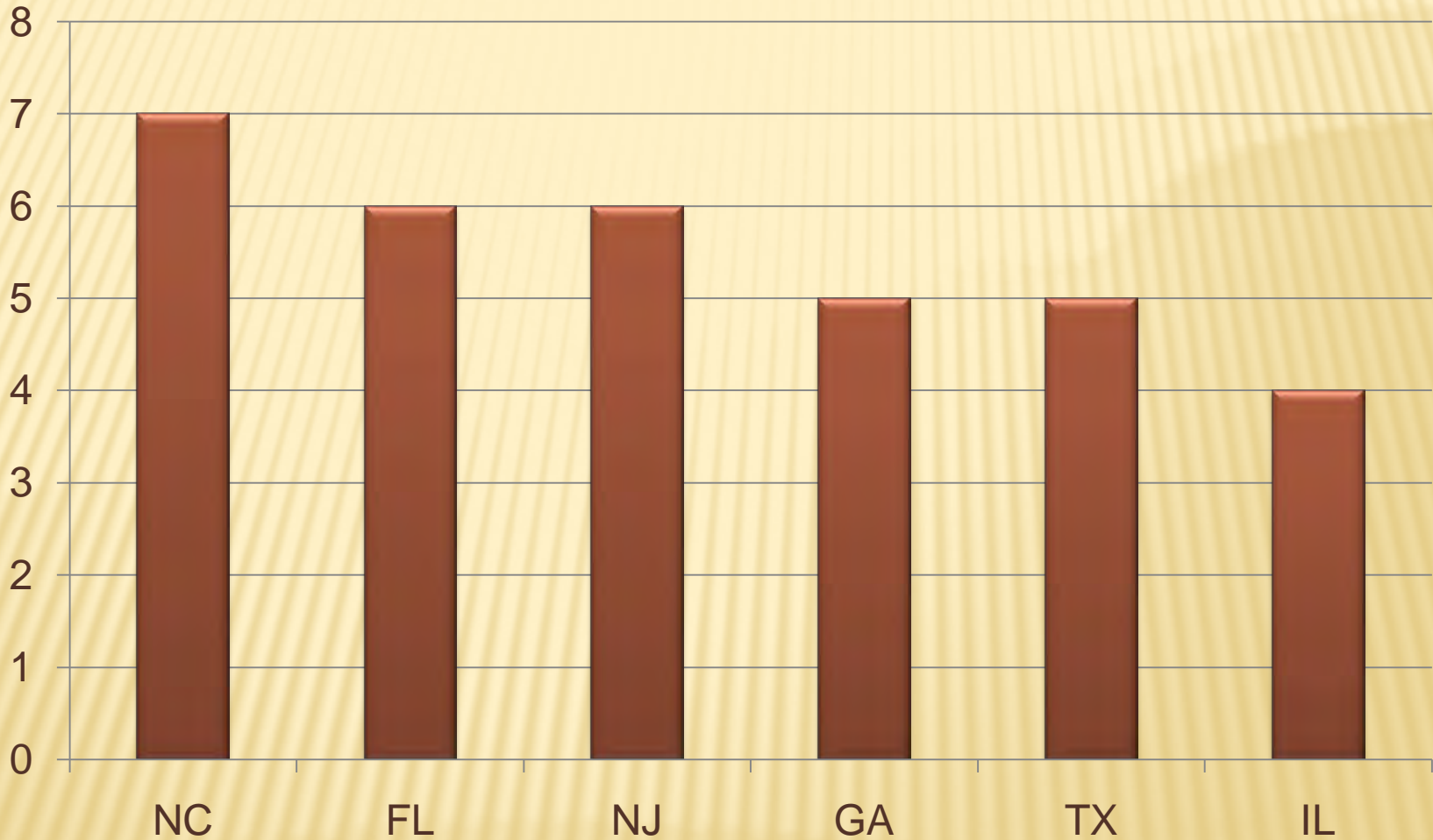
by State



Communities in 47 states met the criteria for the Growth Award during 2008.



Top 6 States with First Year Growth Award Recipients in 2008



Seventy-eight communities received a Growth Award for the first time.



Categories Utilized by Communities to Receive 2008 Growth Award (by percentage)

