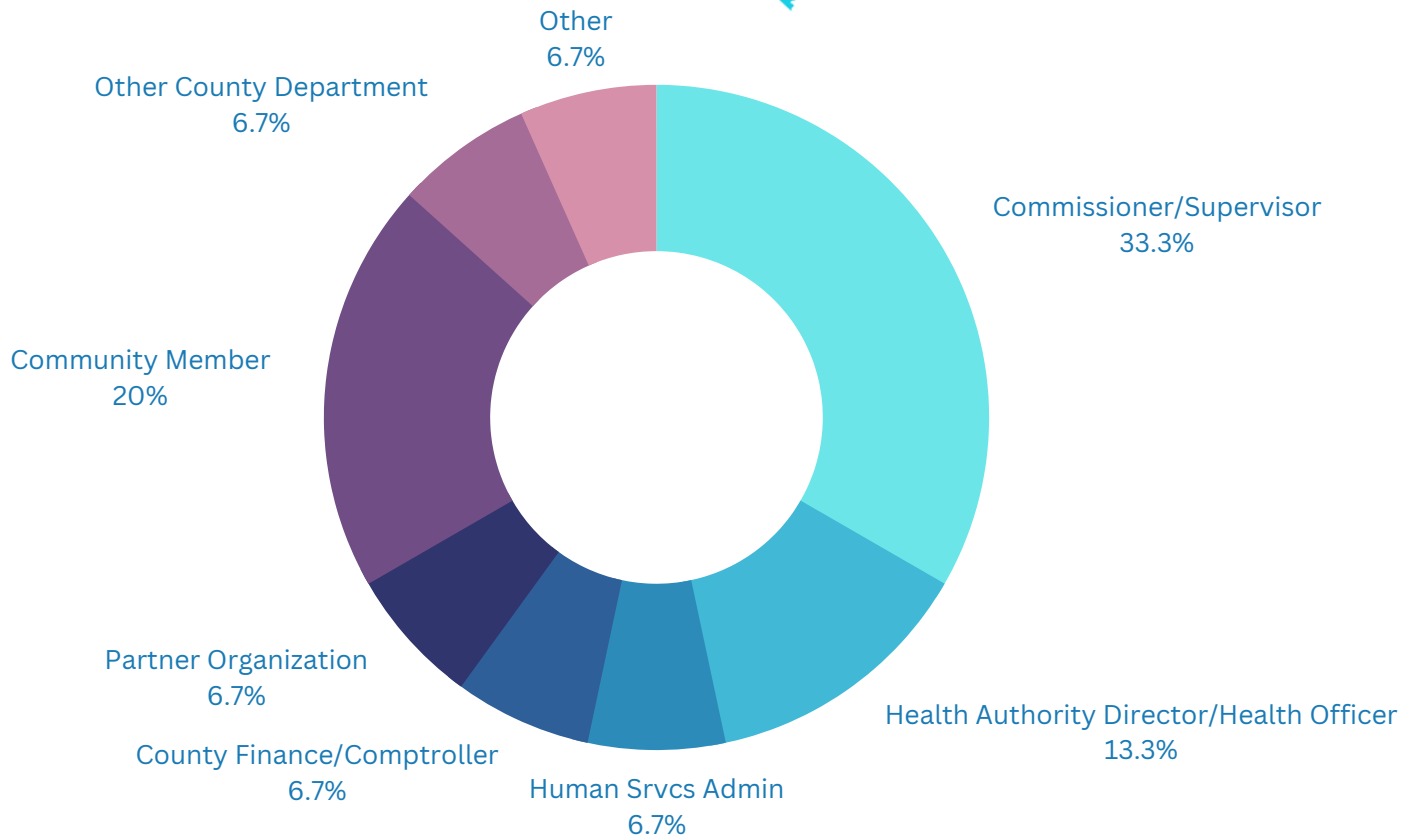
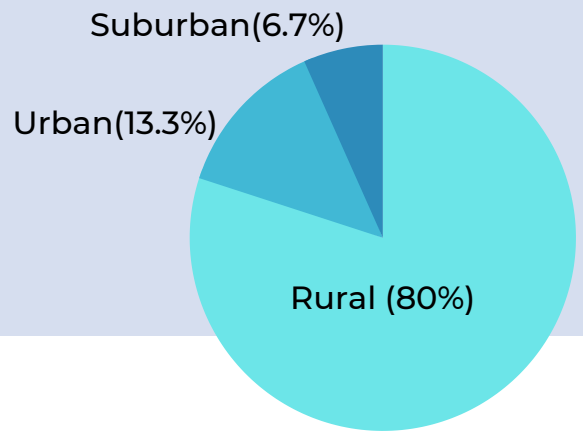
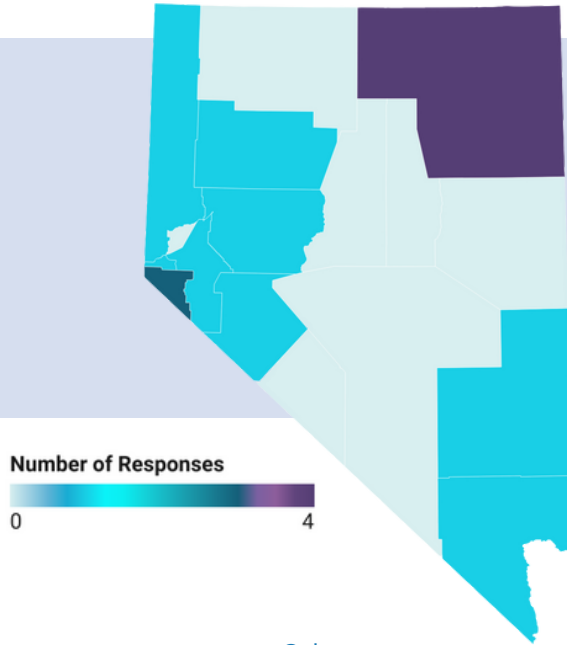




2022 NACO PUBLIC HEALTH SURVEY PRELIMINARY FINDINGS REPORT

In September 2022, the Nevada Association of Counties (NACO) conducted a public health survey to collect a baseline understanding of public health services across Nevada's counties. This report contains preliminary results of the survey. As of October 26, 2022, 15 representatives from 10 counties participated in the NACO Survey. The findings from this survey will allow NACO to customize tools and resources to best meet local community needs.

10/17
Counties
Represented



QUALITATIVE FINDINGS

WHAT IS YOUR COUNTY'S APPROACH TO PUBLIC HEALTH?

"Public health services work well in the quad-counties. Regionalization works really well."

-Carson City

"Churchill County has partnered with Eureka, Pershing, and Mineral Counties to develop the Central Nevada Health District. The goal is to develop services to increase access to Public health Preparedness, Disease Investigation, reduction in the spread of communicable diseases, and Environmental Health Services."

-Churchill County

" Public health has come a long way. We have not had any public health nurses since 1998. A contract with NVHC was approved to help fill that gap as well as provide access to healthcare for Medicare and Medicaid patients...."

We created our health board in 2016. At the same time we made significant improvements to vaccinations. The public health official is engaged in all aspects. This entire movement help create an environment of communication, transparency and accountability. The health board make significant strides and we were starting to work on overall community health, suicide awareness and behavioral health. And then COVID happened which was a big setback, but we are making progress again. "

-Elko County

"We partner with the Quad counties and rely on CCHHS for much of our public health needs.."

-Douglas County

"In a general sense there isn't a focus on public health that is easily identifiable.."

-Douglas County

IS THERE A DESIRE TO EXPAND, MODIFY, OR REDUCE SERVICES IN SOME AREAS?

*"Lyon county would like to **expand** services, inclusive of new hospital, housing, transportation and strengthen workforce development."*

*"There is always a need to **expand** Rural Frontier Community's access to services. Our county is HUGE in acreage and the coverage is limited in services."*

-Elko County

*"We recognize the need to **expand** and **better support** and develop our workforce to increase retention and meet the needs of our growing population. We are engaged in developing and implementing a health equity plan. We would like to develop our policy capabilities and recognize that we are lacking capacity in other fundamental Public Health Service areas."*

-Washoe County

*" We are **expanding** to the Central Nevada Public Health District.."*

-Mineral County

"I do not believe a regional health district is a good option for our area because the politics and priorities are so vastly different throughout the county and neighboring counties. In addition, a health district is not under the control of elected officials which I also believe is not in our best interest. However, I do believe a health department would be useful.."

-Elko County

*" **Expand** behavioral health services in underserved areas and vulnerable populations specifically youth, and expand opioid treatment centers."*

-Clark County

*"Yes, we would like to **expand**."*

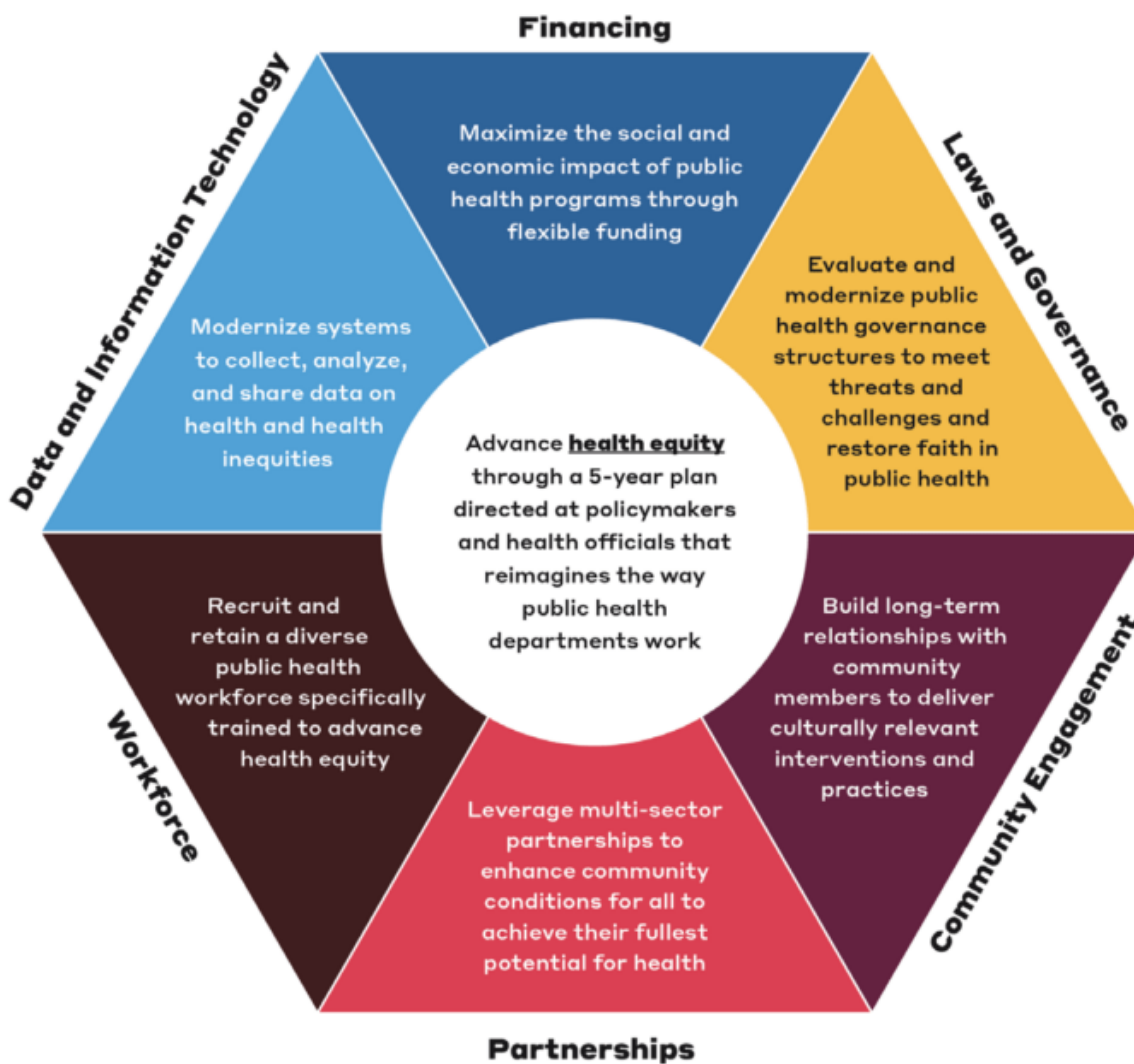
-Lincoln County

"It makes sense to use one agency in the quad-counties and potentially save money. Need to explore a governance structure that makes sense and need our questions answered such as "Does Carson City still have control over or shared control over the budget?" Who manages a health district? Are they appointed or elected? An interlocal agreement may be able to resolve these concerns.."

-Carson City

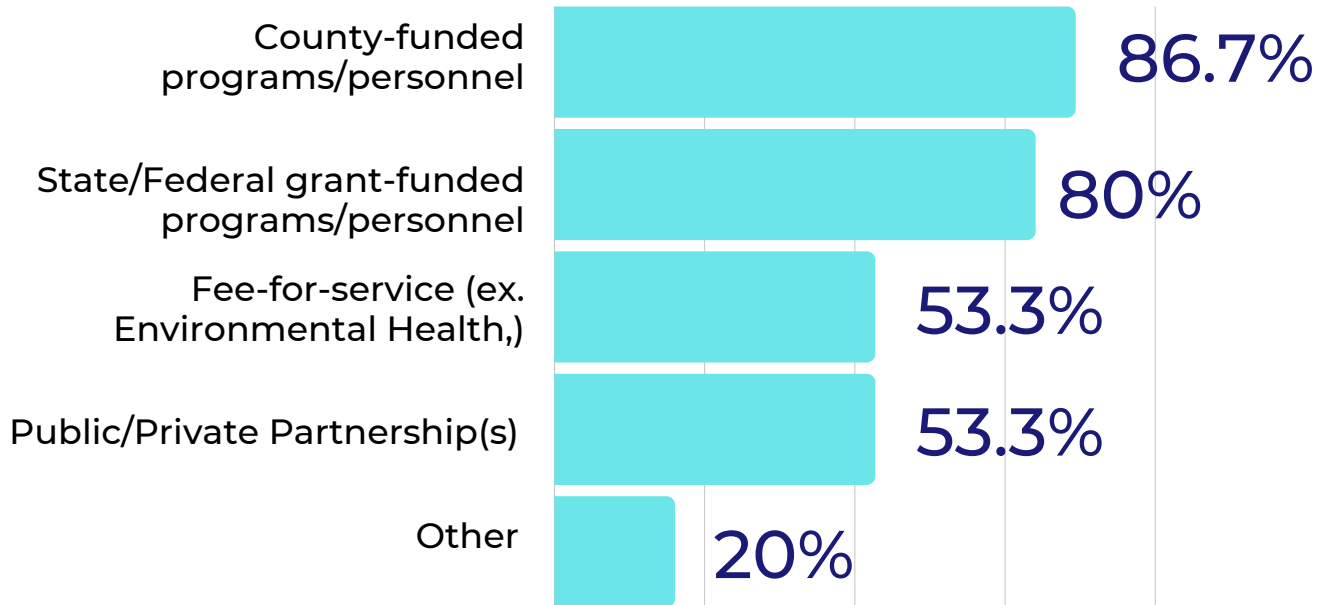
QUANTITATIVE FINDINGS

The 2022 NACO Public Health Survey assessed county-level public health infrastructure based on the six core areas of the Bipartisan Policy Center's (2021) *Public Health Forward: Modernizing the U.S. Public Health System* framework for federal, state, and local governments.



FUNDING & REVENUE (FINANCING)

Which budgetary mechanisms are currently in place to support public health infrastructure in our county? (By percentage of responses)



We recognize budgets are tight - has the county discussed additional funding mechanisms to support expanding public health infrastructure?

42.9%

Yes - the county has explored additional funding

28.6%

Yes - there have been discussions, but have not moved forward

0%

No - there is not interest in additional public health capacity at this time

35.7%

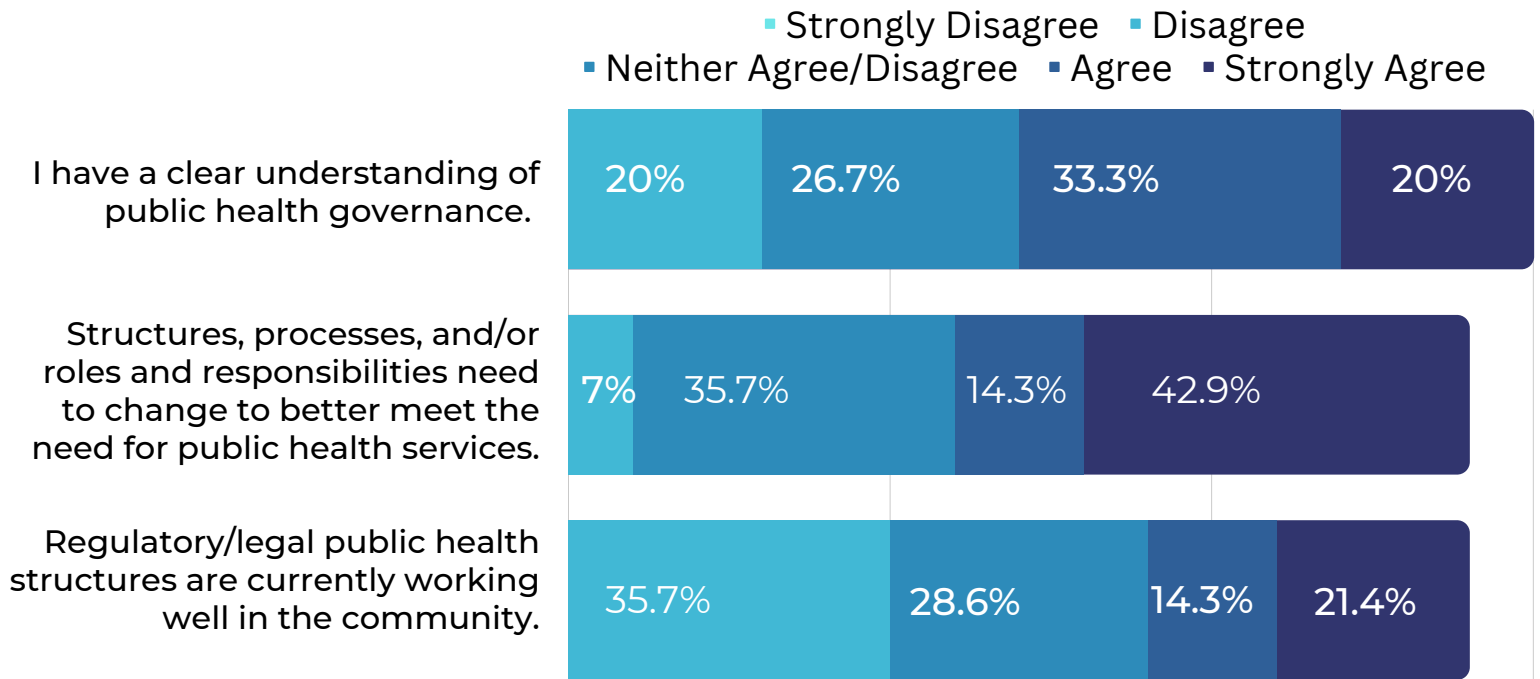
Other - Don't want to raise fees, partner with FQHCs, State make appropriate investments, too many other competing interests.

28.6%

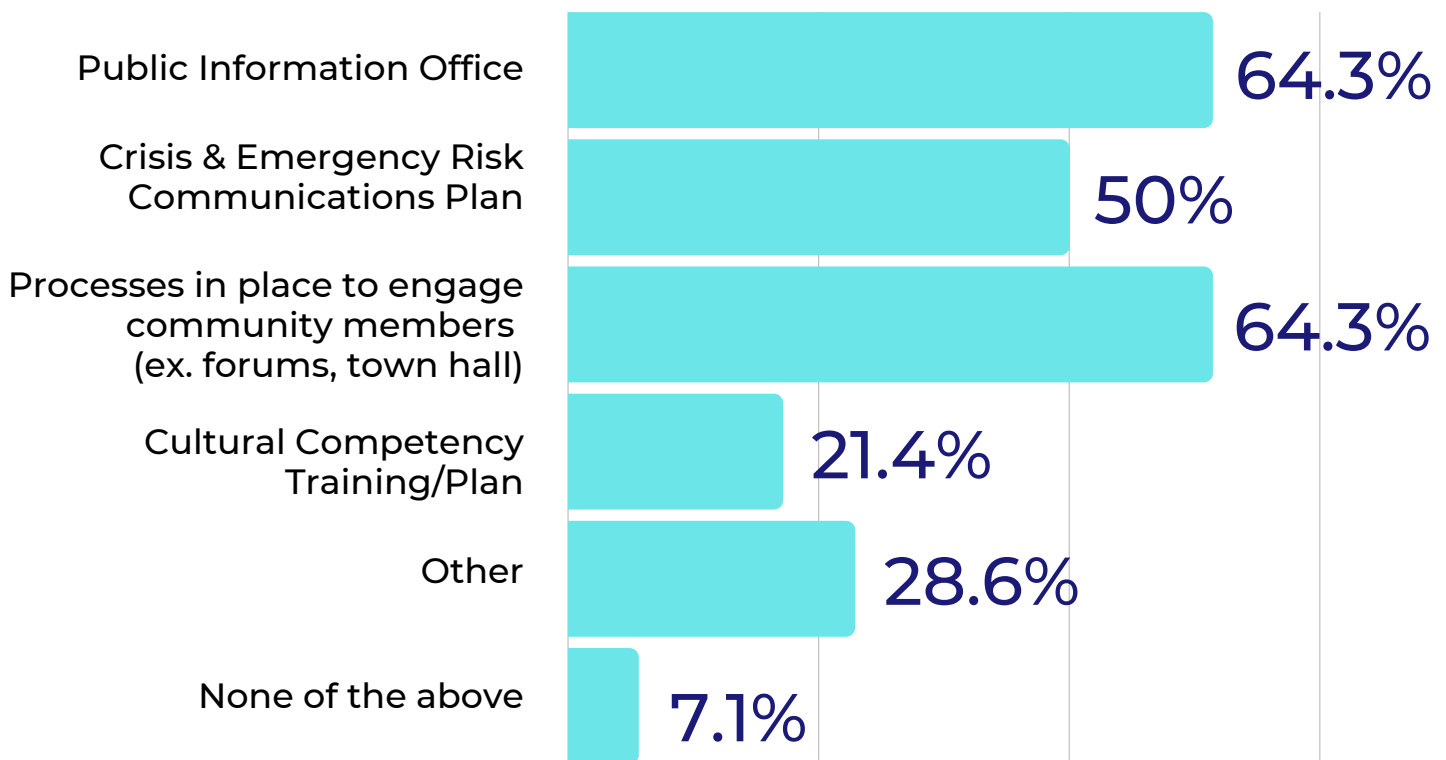
This is an area needing NACO's assistance.

LAWS & GOVERNANCE

Participants understanding of public health laws and governance.



Does your county have the following in place to clearly communicate the roles of public health services to the public? (Selected all that apply)



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

What opportunities are there to strengthen relationships between governmental public health and community members?

Responses included:



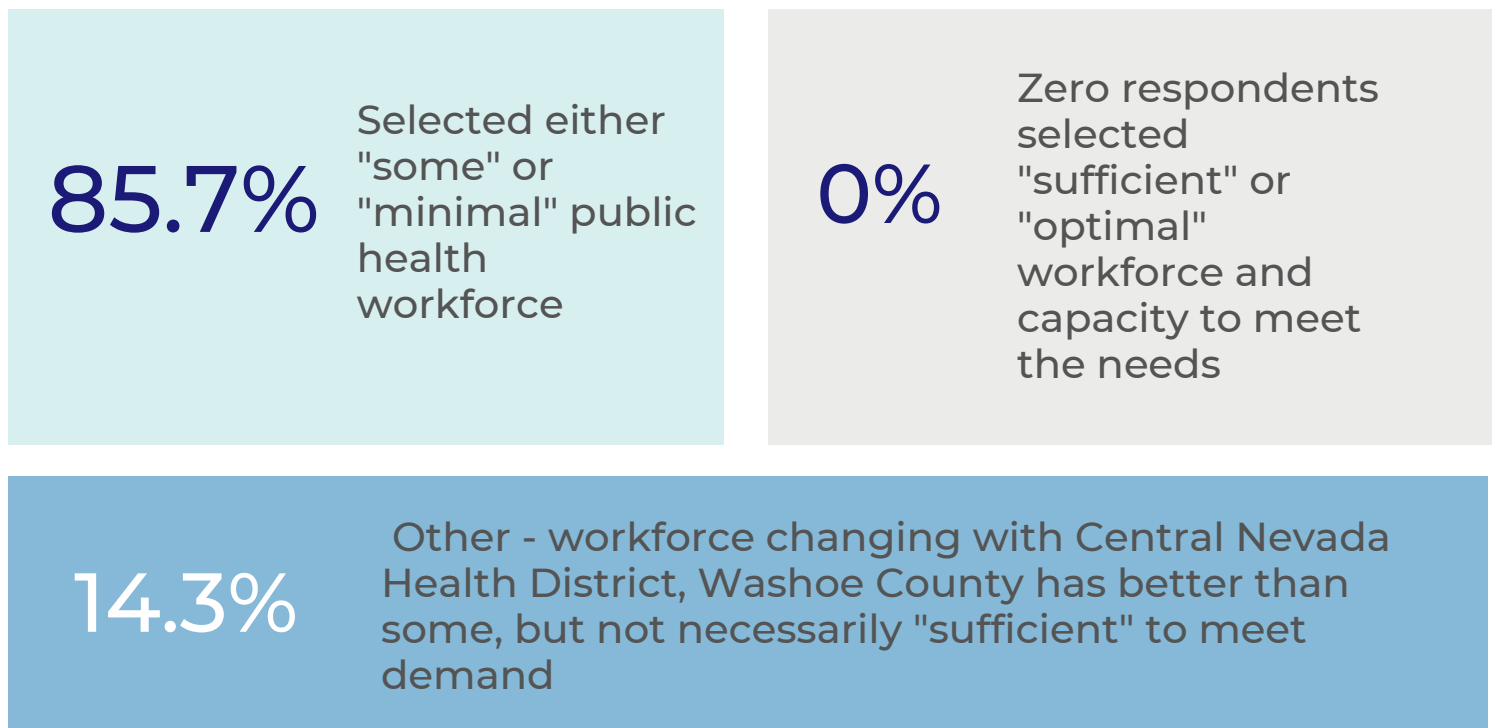
PARTNERSHIPS

Please list any partnerships/collaborations that currently exist in your county to enhance the community's health:

- Behavioral Health Task Forces/Regional Boards
- Board of Health
- Community Coalitions
- Chronic Disease Coalition
- Health Districts
- Healthcare Coalitions
- Nevada Tobacco Prevention Coalition
- Northern Nevada Outreach Team
- Other Nonprofit organizations
- Public Health Initiative Team (existed before Covid)

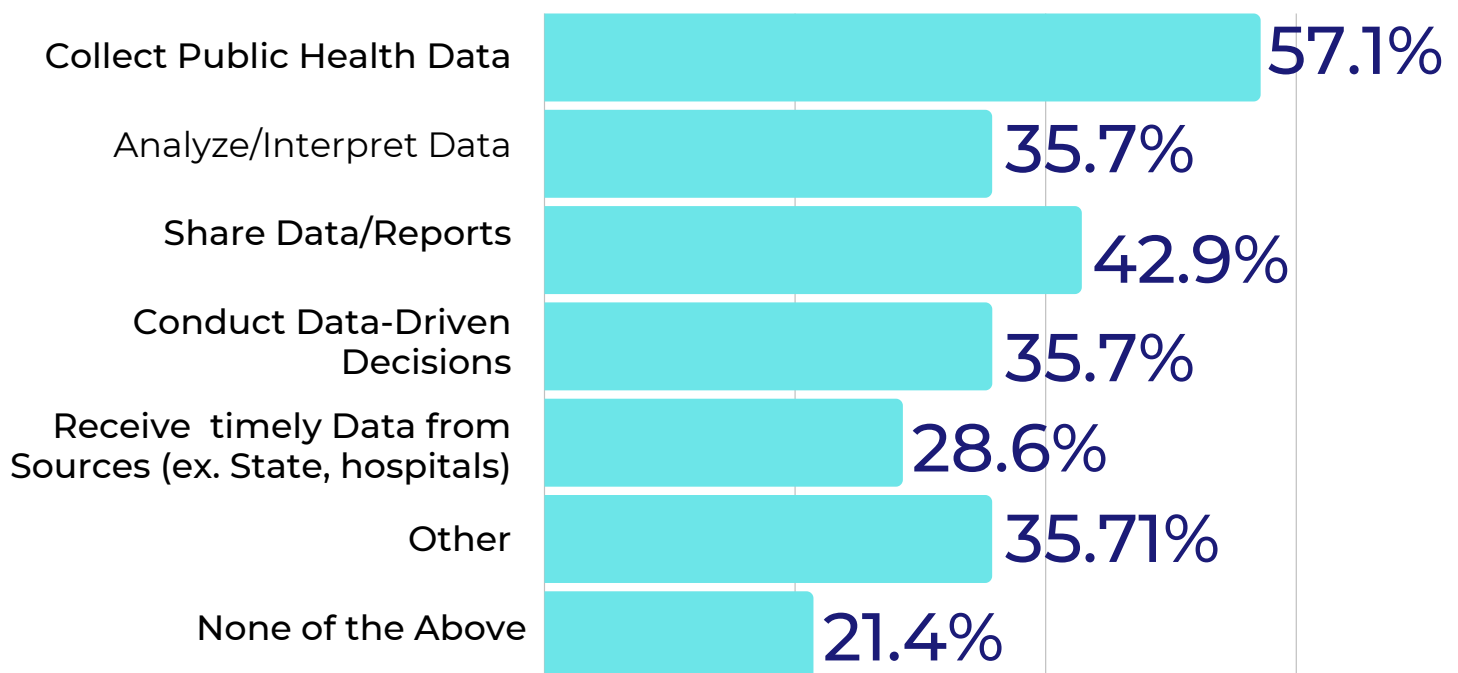
WORKFORCE

Select the capacity that best describes the public health workforce (between state and local programs) in your county:



DATA & TECHNOLOGY

The county has the ability to:



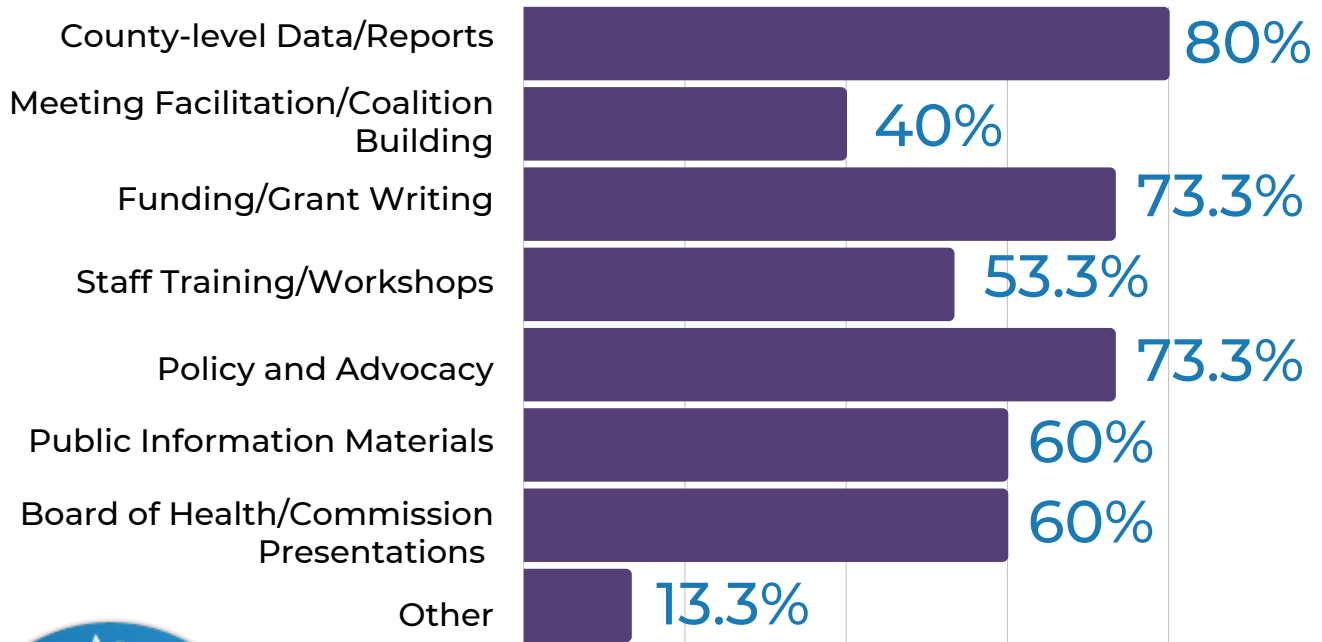
CONCLUSION

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- All participants recognized challenges with limited public health workforce.
- Most participants reported some level of desire to expand public health services.
- Counties have strong partnerships and local collaborations through health districts, task forces, coalitions, and nonprofit organizations.
- There are several opportunities to engage the community in meaningful discussions related to public health.
- There are some levels of understanding of public health laws and governance.
- Most participants reported the ability to collect public health data, but identified gaps in ability to receive data from sources, analyze/interpret data, share data and reports, and conduct data-driven decisions.
- Roughly one third of participants identified NACO can assist in identifying additional funding mechanisms to support public health infrastructure.

TOOLS & RESOURCES

The following tools/resources will be helpful for the community to address public health needs:



For more information and for additional resources, visit our website <https://www.nvnaco.org> or contact the NACO office at (775) 883-7863

This publication was funded in part or in whole by the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health through a federal grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Its contents solely represent the views of its author and do not represent the official views of the CDC nor the State of Nevada.