

Alaska Primary Prevention Summit 2021 Evaluation Report

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STRATEGIC
PREVENTION SOLUTIONS

Prepared for



Alaska's Council on
Domestic Violence
& Sexual Assault



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Acronyms, Abbreviations, and Terminology

CDC – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CDVSA – State of Alaska Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

CPT - Community-based Prevention Team

CQI – Continuous Quality Improvement

DV – Domestic violence: *Domestic violence is perpetrated by romantic partner(s), household or family members and includes a pattern of violent, controlling, coercive behaviors intended to punish, abuse, and control the thoughts, beliefs, and actions of the victim.*

SA – Sexual assault: *Sexual assault occurs any time a person is forced into a sexual act through physical violence, verbal threats, manipulation, abusing authority, or other ways that a person cannot and does not consent to sexual acts.*

SEM - Social Ecological Model

SPS – Strategic Prevention Solutions

TA – Technical assistance

Acknowledgements

Strategic Prevention Solutions (www.StrategicPreventionSolutions.com) is a small research firm that meets the research, evaluation, planning, and training needs of public and non-profit entities nationwide. We specialize in working with communities, states, Tribes, and national entities to address and prevent social and health problems, including interpersonal violence, youth violence, and substance abuse.

In accordance with our contract for professional services, SPS, presents this document titled Alaska Primary Prevention Summit 2021 Evaluation Report. This document contains a summary of findings from the evaluation survey completed by individuals who attended the 2021 virtual Prevention Summit, along with comparisons between this and previous Summits across several domains. During the past decade, CDVSA has committed to building domestic violence and sexual assault (DV/SA) primary prevention programming across the state of Alaska. This includes funding community programming and offering technical assistance to support programming implementation, collaboration, and evaluation.

Our team holds close the values of community, relationship, culture, and empowerment, all of which serve as the foundation for SPS's approach to our work. We would like to thank CDVSA for the opportunity to serve the State of Alaska and our local communities. We look forward to the opportunity to share and discuss these findings to understand respondents' perceptions about the content, process, and impact of this year's Prevention Summit.

Executive Summary

In February 2021, Alaska's Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (CDVSA) hosted its sixth Primary Prevention Summit, now established as a biennial event. The Summit was developed to provide training and support to community-based prevention teams (CPTs) as they develop and implement primary prevention strategies related to domestic violence (DV), sexual assault (SA), dating violence, and stalking in their communities. The Summit aims to enhance knowledge in the area of primary prevention, to include programming implementation, coalition building, and evaluation. To evaluate its overall impact in this domain, as well as gather feedback from attendees about their experiences, CDVSA contracted with Strategic Prevention Solutions (SPS) to complete an external evaluation of this year's Prevention Summit.

The evaluation survey utilized a retrospective pre-post design and a variety of forced-choice and open-ended questions to gather Prevention Summit attendees' perceptions about this year's Summit. Respondents provided feedback related to their demographics, work setting, experiences working with their community prevention team, the overall Prevention Summit, and the specific sessions that were attended during the Prevention Summit.

Survey respondents represented a wide range of communities, organizations, and levels of experience. Most of the feedback related to the overall Prevention Summit, as well as the individual sessions, was positive in nature, and a number of respondents indicated deep appreciation for and reflection on the learning that took place during the Summit. Additionally, comparisons with prior Prevention Summits revealed several positive and encouraging trends.

- ▶ Slightly more than half of respondents were attending the Prevention Summit for the first time in 2021. More than half of respondents reported they have been working in the violence prevention field for less than three years, and over a third of respondents reporting they consider themselves new to prevention. This is consistent with the induction of a new cohort of violence prevention grantees, and may also reflect the continued challenge of staff turnover faced by many of the grantees.
- ▶ Regarding the amount of time dedicated to prevention, more respondents indicated they are able to spend more than 75%, and fewer reported spending less than 25%, of their time engaged in violence prevention work. A continued upward trend is noted in the amount of time spent on prevention since the 2017 Prevention Summit, suggesting that grantees are increasingly able to focus their time and efforts toward prevention. This may reflect increased stability of available resources, as well as an increase in the value placed on prevention by community-based agencies.
- ▶ Most respondents indicated their CPTs met regularly and engaged in prevention efforts representing a medium to high level of comprehensiveness. Respondents also noted expectations of improved abilities related to planning comprehensive programming, building partnerships with others who should be involved in violence prevention work, and supporting healthy socio-emotional environments. Similarly, most respondents indicated their team was ready to have higher-level discussions related to their prevention efforts following the Summit.
- ▶ Respondents repeatedly referenced the increased presence of Indigenous presenters and sharing of Indigenous knowledge, particularly as it related to the purpose and practice of land acknowledgements and consideration of local plants as a component of prevention efforts. Related feedback was provided in terms of new, creative, and innovative elements of the Summit, topics considered most important for it, actionable items that would be brought back to respondents' work, and appreciated aspects of the Summit. Considering the various levels of

meaning this component of the Prevention Summit may have carried for respondents, it is likely that the emphasis on Indigenous values, practices, and teachings served as a point of connection for those doing prevention work and their local communities. Considering that Indigenous individuals are regularly overrepresented among those who have been affected by violence, it may be that this focus allowed respondents to gain concrete, relevant skills and knowledge to support making their prevention efforts more inclusive, respectful, and culturally relevant.

- ▶ Most of the feedback related to areas for improvement was related to logistical aspects of this year's Prevention Summit, such as technological challenges with the virtual platform, the number of hours scheduled each day, and the need for increasingly interactive elements in sessions. Several respondents requested a virtual component or option for attending the Summit be retained following resumption of in-person activities once the COVID-19 pandemic is managed and related restrictions are lifted, citing increased accessibility by both grantees and their community-based partners.
- ▶ Overall, respondents expressed appreciation for and satisfaction with this year's Prevention Summit, despite the challenges associated with participating virtually and being unable to come together in person. All respondents indicated this year's Summit is one they would recommend to others somewhat or a great deal. The session-specific feedback was largely positive in nature as well, and reflected a moderate level of impact on respondents' learning.

The findings from the 2021 Alaska Primary Prevention Summit evaluation can be used to guide decisions and efforts related to primary prevention across the state in several ways, including:

- ▶ *Help shape future iterations of the Summit to support the needs of attendees.* Several respondents encouraged the continuation of virtual access to the Prevention Summit, noting improved accessibility for CDVSA-funded prevention grantees, as well as their community partners. Given the overall success of this year's virtual Summit, this may be something to consider to address some of the challenges associated with bringing individuals in from communities across the state for in-person Summits, such as weather-related travel impediments and local events that make it difficult for attendees to leave their work and community for multiple days. Respondents also provided a variety of suggestions related to ways in which they believed the Summit could be improved in terms of overall logistics, particularly as related to the virtual format.
- ▶ *Engage in continuous quality improvement related to the evaluation process.* It may be of benefit to revisit the content of the evaluation survey and determine whether any changes should be made to the process or content of the evaluation survey. Respondents have consistently remarked on the length of the survey, it may be that some sections could be changed or removed to more closely align with current needs related to the Prevention Summit evaluation. Additionally, it may be worth considering requesting specific learning objectives from presenters, to allow for the collecting of relevant and meaningful information regarding participants' learning and experiences.
- ▶ *Make decisions about training and technical assistance needs and offerings.* Respondents provided feedback related to areas in which they were still having difficulties, training topics and presenters they would like to see at the Summit, and unanswered questions. Using this feedback to develop and offer training and technical assistance will likely result in timely, relevant trainings that have a direct impact on respondents' prevention efforts.



Consider incorporating training or other supportive strategies for grantees that emphasize the integration of local Indigenous practices, teachings, and values with community-based prevention efforts. Many survey respondents indicated their appreciation for the aspects of this Prevention Summit that allowed for a focus on meaningful practices that supported the demonstration of respect for local Indigenous communities (i.e., land acknowledgements) and integrated traditional Indigenous values with violence prevention work. Coordinating additional opportunities for this kind of learning and reflection to take place is likely to be of benefit for grantees, their partners, and the communities engaging in prevention efforts.

Background

Alaska's Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault hosted their sixth Alaska Primary Prevention Summit, "**Staying Connected, Adapting Our Efforts, Telling Our Story**" on February 24-26, 2021. The intention of this year's Prevention Summit was to provide participants an opportunity to acquire new skills and make connections to strengthen the prevention work being done in communities throughout the state. Given the COVID-19 pandemic, this year's summit was delivered virtually and emphasized peer sharing, collaboration, and strengthening partnerships within and across communities.

Summit workshops were designed to build knowledge in the area of primary prevention work related specifically to DV, SA, dating violence, and stalking. This year, Summit topics included:

- ▶ Using a shared risk and protective factors framework
- ▶ Plant teachings and pathways to prevention
- ▶ Land acknowledgement
- ▶ Engaging youth and men in prevention work
- ▶ Strategies for adapting programming while maintaining program fidelity

Funding for this year's Primary Prevention Summit was provided by CDVSA and the Department of Health and Human Services, Section of Women's, Children's, and Family Health.

Definitions

In order to have a shared understanding of key concepts, it is important to use consistent definitions; the following are used in this report.

Prevention

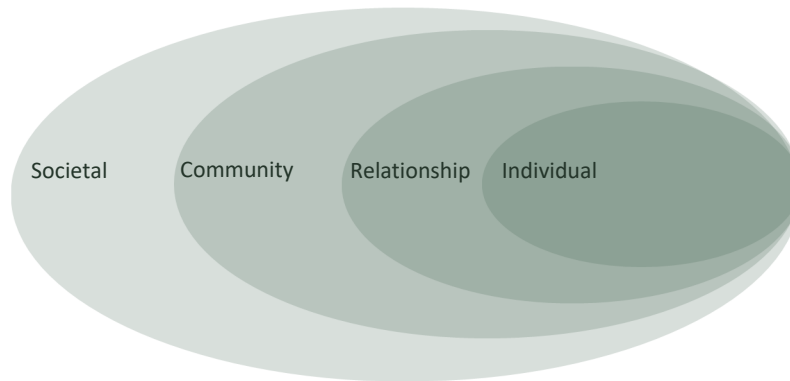
Public health classifies prevention efforts into three levels (see CDC's Beginning the Dialogue <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/svprevention-a.pdf>):

- ▶ **Primary prevention** approaches aim to stop violence before it occurs by preventing initial victimization and perpetration;
- ▶ **Secondary prevention** approaches are immediate responses to violence that deal with short-term consequences; and
- ▶ **Tertiary prevention** approaches are long-term responses to violence to deal with lasting, long-term consequences.

While it is important to work across all levels of prevention, historically prevention has taken place at the secondary and tertiary levels. Primary prevention efforts address the root causes of violence and focus on acting before a problem occurs. In line with public health, this approach shifts the responsibility of prevention to society (<https://wcsap.org/prevention-concepts>). These efforts seek to bring about change in individuals, relationships, communities, and society to effectively address the root causes of DV/SA.

Social Ecological Model

The Social Ecological Model (SEM), or social ecology, is a four-level model that demonstrates how human behavior (e.g., perpetration of violence) is influenced by the complex interplay of individual, relationship, community, and societal factors. The perpetration of violence occurs for a wide variety of reasons, and as a result of many different influences on an individual's life. The social ecological model provides a framework for understanding the various risk and protective factors, their relationship to one another, and how they influence violence prevention efforts across the social ecology (<https://vetoviolence.cdc.gov/apps/connecting-the-dots/node/5>). This model is one of the most used for comprehensive prevention programming.



Comprehensive prevention programming

A comprehensive primary prevention approach means that communities are implementing activities that take place in various settings, with a variety of populations, across the community, and throughout the year. This contributes to consistent messaging and norm setting that saturate the various levels of the social ecology so that an individual is exposed to prevention activities in multiple settings they live and throughout their lifetime.

With comprehensive prevention programming, prevention activities are not just one-time events in a classroom or at a community health fair. Violence is complex, and to address it, prevention efforts must be recurring and multifaceted, with sufficient dosage and community engagement across all levels of the social ecology. As communities increase resources for prevention, their ability to implement comprehensive prevention programming improves; this enhances their ability to impact and reduce violence in their communities. It takes time, upwards of eight years, for communities to establish the needed resources and capacity for comprehensive prevention.

In Alaska, we are building comprehensive prevention programming in communities, informed by existing and emerging primary prevention science and research. This includes promoting, using, and providing technical assistance related to prevention theory, research-based models and strategies for prevention, and best practices to CDVSA-funded agencies engaged in prevention work across the state. Because it takes time, upwards of eight years, for communities to establish the needed resources and capacities for comprehensive prevention, it is of critical importance that comprehensive primary prevention efforts in the state remain an ongoing legislative priority in order to truly impact the incidence of violence in Alaska. State investment in prevention is necessary to continue making meaningful progress in preventing violence in the state, as well as supporting local communities to collaborate to reduce all forms of harm and violence.

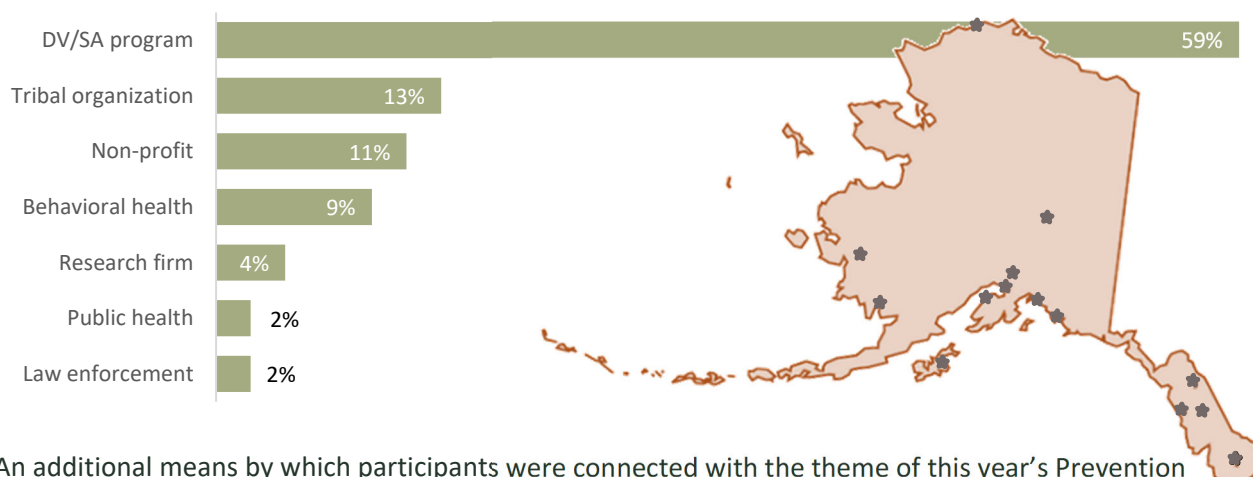
Findings

A retrospective pre-post survey design utilizing a variety of open-ended and forced choice items was used to gather Summit participants’ perspectives on the impact of the Summit and their overall experience attending it. Following the Prevention Summit, a survey link was sent via email to individuals registered for the Prevention Summit. The survey was made available for responses for two weeks following the event. Attendees received an additional invitation to the survey one week prior to closing the survey.

This section opens with an overview of participant information for the survey respondents, such as the type of organization they represent and whether they have attended the Prevention Summit in the past. Following this, respondents’ feedback related to their experiences with their CPT, the overall Prevention Summit, and the individual Prevention Summit sessions will be presented, before closing with several comparisons between this and prior years’ Prevention Summit data (i.e., 2013 – 2019) and a consideration of general trends.

Participant Information

One hundred and thirteen individuals registered for the Summit, including presenters and CDVSA staff. A total of 22 complete surveys were received from individuals who provided feedback related to the 2021 Prevention Summit. An additional 24 partially completed surveys were received; in these cases, respondents did not answer all the questions for which a response was expected¹. For the purpose of this report, both partial and complete responses were included in the analysis (*n* = 46). Throughout this report, in cases where there were notably fewer responses to a particular item, the number of respondents is noted. This Prevention Summit had representatives from 15 Alaskan communities and a variety of organizations. For slightly more than half of respondents (54.3%), this was the first Prevention Summit they attended.



An additional means by which participants were connected with the theme of this year’s Prevention Summit was via “Gift of Place” packages distributed prior to the Summit. These packages, which were received by just over three quarters of participants (77%), included teas, truffles, salve making kits, salves, and cedar bundles.

¹ Overall, the response rate for the 2021 Prevention Summit Evaluation Survey was 41%; this includes partial responses.

Violence prevention experience

The level of experience related to working to prevent violence in their community varied among respondents, with three quarters reporting they were either new to prevention (39%) or somewhat experienced with prevention (35%). About one quarter of respondents stated they were very experienced with prevention (26%).

More than a third of respondents indicated they consider themselves to be new to violence prevention work.



This aligns closely with the number of years respondents reported having been working to prevent violence in their community, with just under one third (30%) of respondents reporting having worked in the field for less than one year, one third (33%) for one to two years, and just over one third (37%) for more than three years. About one quarter of respondents (24%) endorsed having worked to prevent violence for more than five years.

More than half of respondents have been working in violence prevention for less than 3 years.



Making time for prevention

Among those respondents representing a domestic violence / sexual assault (DV/SA) program, tribal organization or government, non-profit, public health organization, behavioral health organization, or law enforcement, only one respondent reported being unable to spend time on prevention work. About 40% of respondents stated they were able to spend some time on prevention, while over half (57%) reported they were able to dedicate as much time as needed to prevention work. Specifically, about one quarter of these respondents (26%) reported spending less than 25% of their time on DV/SA primary prevention work, one third (33%) stated between 25% and 50% of their time was dedicated to prevention efforts, 6% reported between 51% and 75% of their time, and the remaining 35% of respondents reported they spend more than 75% of their time on prevention work.

Considering their personal beliefs about the importance of violence prevention (compared to other issues, such as advocacy), nearly two thirds (65%) of respondents stated that prior to attending this year's Prevention Summit, they personally prioritized the prevention of violence a great deal compared to responding to violence (i.e., advocacy) or other issues. No respondents stated they did not prioritize violence prevention. Of the remaining respondents, about one quarter (24%) reported violence prevention was somewhat of a priority, and 10% prioritized violence prevention efforts a little (5%) or not at all (5%). Following the Prevention Summit, a slight increase in overall prioritization of prevention was noted.

Personal confidence in prevention efforts

A total of 37 respondents shared their personal feelings of confidence related to prevention efforts. Prior to attending this year's Prevention Summit, 19% of respondents reported feeling not at all or a little confident in their ability to plan programming to prevent violence in their community; this decreased to 11% of respondents after attending the Prevention Summit. The number of respondents reporting feeling somewhat or very confident increased slightly from pre- to post-Summit.

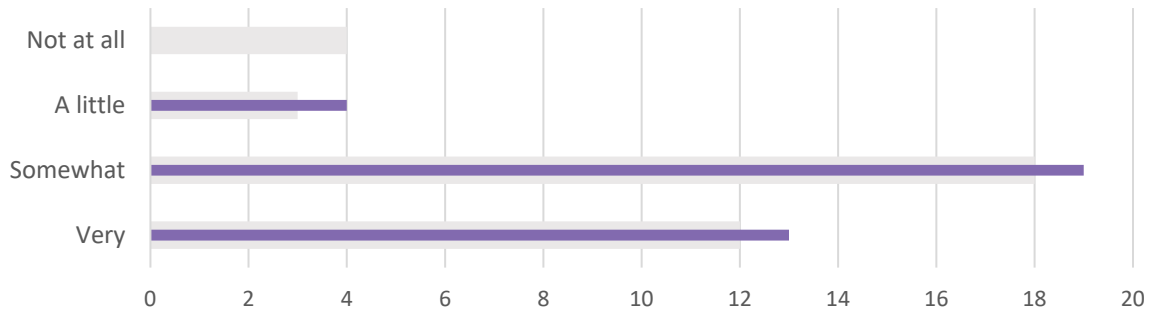
Nearly one third (30%) of respondents reported feeling not at all or a little confident in their ability to work at the outer levels (e.g., community, societal) of the social ecology prior to attending the Prevention Summit; afterward, this number decreased by 53% (to 16% of respondents). The number of respondents who reported feeling somewhat or very confident increased from 70% to 81% after attending the Prevention Summit.

Finally, 35% of respondents initially reported feeling not at all or a little confident in their ability to explain the connection between their current prevention programming and the outer levels of the social ecology. After attending this year's Prevention Summit, this number decreased by nearly half (to 19% of respondents). The number of respondents reporting feeling somewhat or very confident in this domain increased by 25% (from 65% to 81%) after attending this year's Prevention Summit.

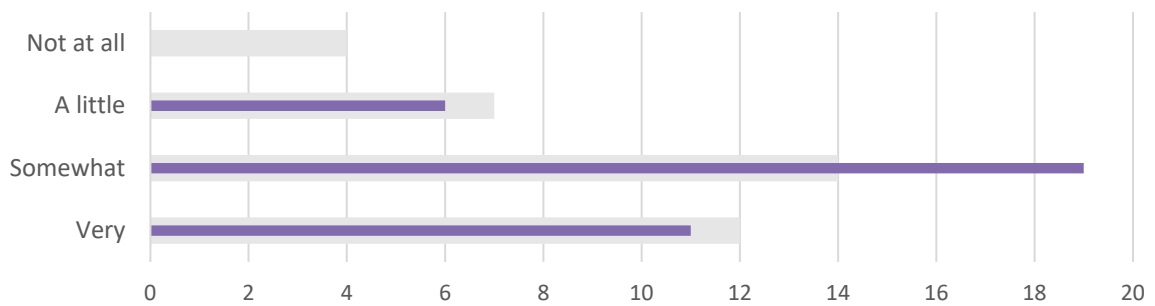
After attending this year's Prevention Summit...

■ Before Summit ■ After Summit

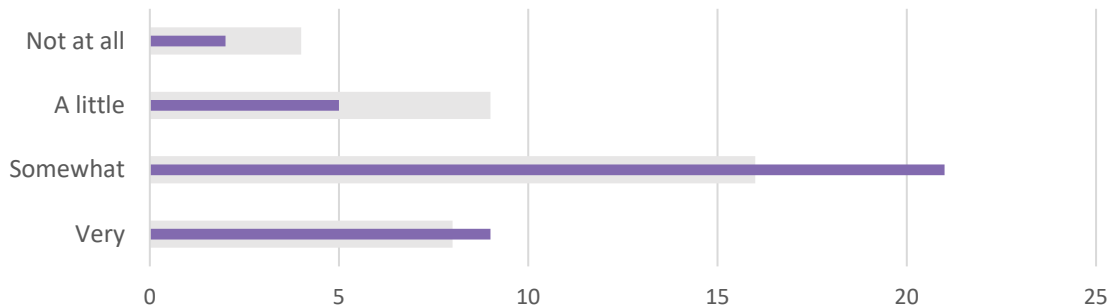
No respondents felt not at all confident in their ability to plan violence prevention programming in their community.



Half as many respondents felt not at all or a little confident in their ability to work at the outer levels of the social ecology (e.g., community, society).



More than 80% of respondents felt somewhat or very confident in their ability to explain the connection between their current prevention programming and the outer levels of the social ecology.



Community Prevention Teams

A total of 35 respondents provided feedback related to their CPTs prioritization of prevention efforts, comprehensiveness of prevention programming, ability to build partnerships, promotion of healthy socio-emotional environments, and meeting content and processes.

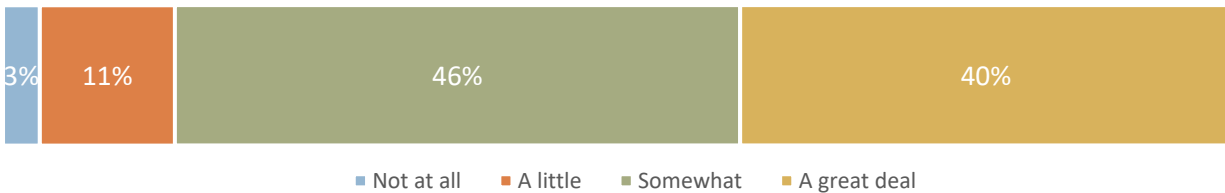
Prioritization of prevention efforts

Overall, more than 90% of respondents reported a belief that their team prioritized violence prevention efforts at a level equal to or greater than other issues, including advocacy. Nearly half of respondents (46%) expected their team's prioritization of primary prevention of violence would be at least somewhat affected by their participation in the Prevention Summit, while another 40% reported expecting their team would be affected a great deal in this domain.

More than 90% of respondents reported their team prioritized prevention efforts at a level equal to or greater than other issues.



Nearly 90% of respondents expected their team's prioritization of primary prevention to be affected somewhat or a great deal as a result of their participation in the Prevention Summit.

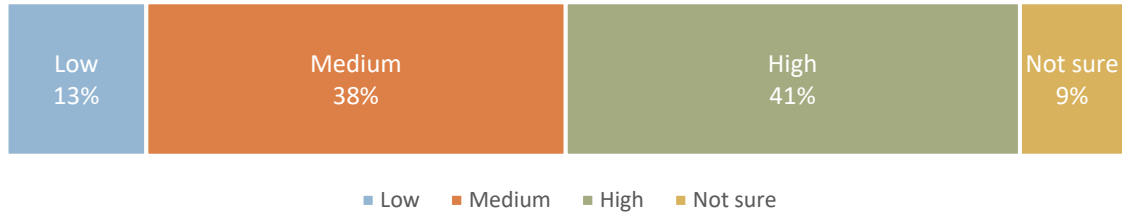


Survey respondents provided additional feedback related to the impact of this year's Prevention Summit on their team's prioritization of primary prevention. Several respondents identified that their community prevention team was already doing very well in this regard, with some indicating that their work has shifted to also include equity-focused efforts. Others remarked on the importance and benefit of having a space in which prevention work was the primary focus.

Comprehensiveness of prevention programming

Survey respondents described a range of comprehensiveness in their existing prevention programming. Of the 91% of respondents who felt they knew enough about their organization’s prevention programs to respond to the question, 14% reported a low level of comprehensiveness (i.e., programming consists mainly of awareness-building activities, one-time prevention awareness talks, and / or programs that address only one population within one setting). About 41% of these respondents reported their programming was at a medium level of comprehensiveness (i.e., programming includes prevention strategies in different settings or with different populations, and the same message is reinforced across those settings), while the remaining 45% reported a high level of comprehensiveness (i.e., programming includes prevention strategies in different settings or populations, across most or all levels of the social ecology, including community and societal).

Most respondents indicated their current programming is at a medium or high level of comprehensiveness.

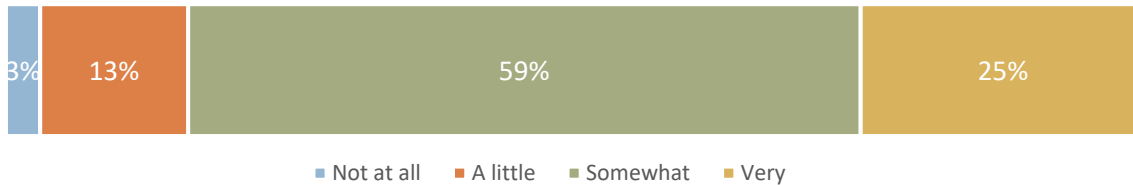


Half of respondents reported their belief that attending the Prevention Summit would somewhat impact their team’s ability to plan comprehensive prevention programming, with an additional 31% reporting they believed their team would be affected a great deal. One participant did not believe their team would be affected in this domain as a result of attending the Prevention Summit. Some survey respondents provided additional comments related to the expected impact of the Prevention Summit on their team’s ability to plan comprehensive prevention programming; for example, several described having been given a different perspective on prevention work and networking opportunities that helped to rekindle interest and efforts in building comprehensive prevention programming.

Ability to build partnerships

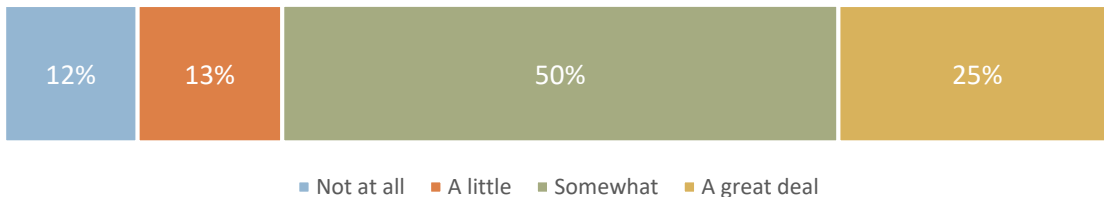
A total of 32 survey respondents provided feedback related to their community prevention team’s ability to build partnerships with people or organizations in their community who should be a part of preventing violence, and the anticipated impact of the Prevention Summit on their team’s abilities in this domain. Prior to attending this year’s Prevention Summit, 16% of respondents reported it was not at all or a little easy for their team to build partnerships, while nearly 60% stated it was somewhat easy, and 25% reported it was very easy for their team to do so.

More than 80% of respondents reported it is somewhat or very easy for their CPT to establish partnerships.



Nearly 90% of respondents reported a belief that attending the Prevention Summit would impact their team’s ability to easily build partnerships with people or organizations to some degree, with half anticipating their team would be affected somewhat, and 25% stating their team would likely be affected a great deal. About 12% of respondents reported they did not expect the Prevention Summit to impact their team’s ability in this domain; a review of the data indicates at least some of these individuals feel their teams are already engaging in a high level of partnership with people or organizations in their community to prevent violence.

Almost 90% of respondents expect their team's ability to build partnerships will be impacted by having attended the Prevention Summit.



Survey respondents also provided additional feedback related to the anticipated impact of the Prevention Summit on how easily their team is able to build partnerships with people or organizations. Some indicated challenges facing their team, such as a need for adequate, consistent funding. Others indicated that partnering and collaborating is an area in which their community prevention team currently thrives.

Promotion of healthy socio-emotional environments

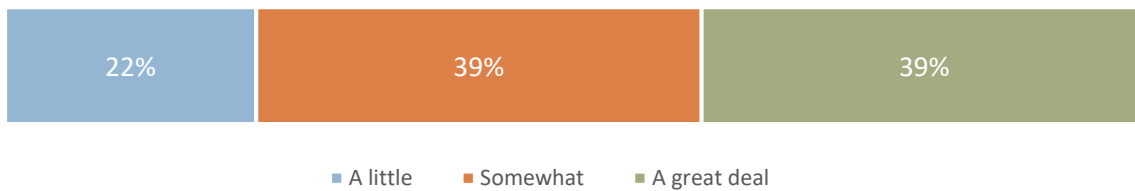
A total of 31 survey respondents provided feedback related to their community prevention team’s support of healthy socio-emotional environments through practices such as inclusion and equity. Prior to attending this year’s Prevention Summit, 90% of respondents reported their team supported these environments somewhat or a great deal.

Prior to this year's Prevention Summit, all respondents reported their CPT supported healthy socio-emotional environments to some degree.



Nearly 80% of respondents reported a belief that their team would be affected somewhat or a great deal in this domain as a result of their attendance at the Prevention Summit. No respondents reported their team was not likely to be impacted in regards to their ability to promote healthy socio-emotional environments.

More than 75% of respondents anticipate their team's ability to support these types of environments will be affected somewhat or a great deal as a result of having attended the Prevention Summit.

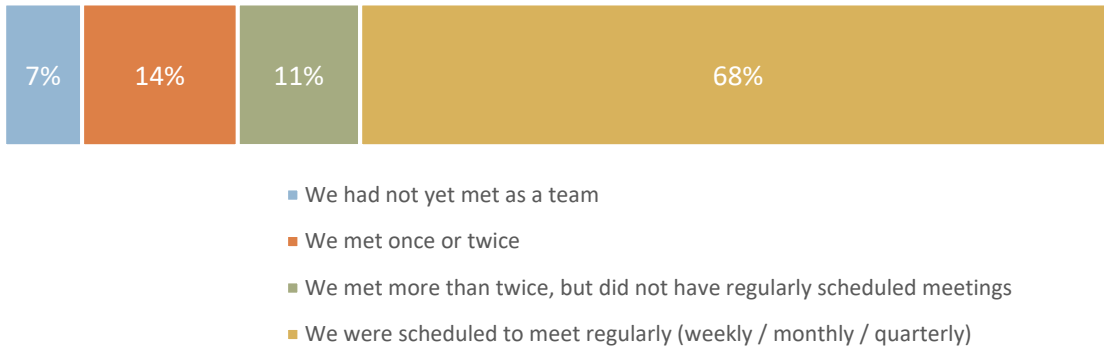


Survey respondents provided additional feedback related to their team’s ability in this domain. Some respondents indicated the land acknowledgements workshop was an important component of strengthening their team’s abilities, and others noted that work focused on equity and inclusivity was an ongoing, complex process.

Meeting content and processes

A total of 28 survey respondents provided feedback related to their community prevention team meetings, including their frequency, level of discussion, content, and overall process. Prior to attending this year’s Prevention Summit, just over two thirds (68%) of respondents reported they were scheduled to meet with their team on a regular basis (i.e., weekly, monthly, or quarterly) to plan how to prevent violence in the community. Among those who were not meeting regularly, more than 75% respondents had met with their team at least once.

Prior to this year's Prevention Summit, more than two thirds of respondents reported their CPT was meeting on a regular basis.

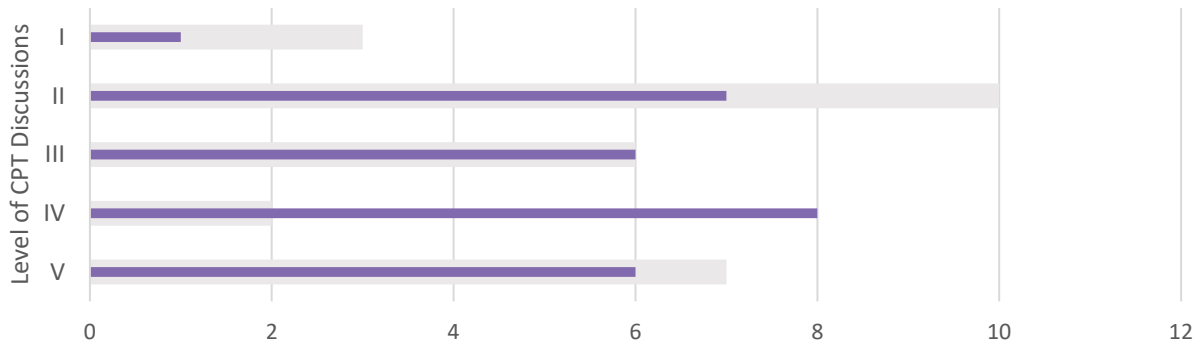


A number of respondents provided additional feedback related to the ways in which attending this year's Prevention Summit would impact the way their team meets or collaborates to plan violence prevention efforts in their communities. Most frequently referenced were comments related to strategies for identifying and engaging missing partners, as well as the benefits of building interest and excitement for prevention efforts, access to important resources, and shared language for communicating programming with partners. Several respondents shared their belief that having attended the Prevention Summit will reinforce their coalition's engagement and efforts.

Respondents also shared feedback related to the level of their community prevention team discussions, including changes they have noticed. Initially, nearly half (46%) of respondents reported their team was either working to understand the basics of prevention or understood the basics and was ready to implement a prevention strategy; this number decreased to 29% of respondents following their attendance at this year's Prevention Summit. The number of respondents reporting their team was ready to implement a prevention strategy and evaluate its impact stayed the same from pre- to post-Summit; notably, this reflected an increase in perceived capacity for all but one respondent (i.e., five of the six identified understanding the basics and being ready to implement a prevention strategy prior to attending this year's Summit). Four times as many respondents reported their team was ready to do more advanced planning for comprehensive prevention after attending this year's Prevention Summit, and more than 20% of respondents indicated their team was implementing comprehensive prevention programming both before and after the Summit.

■ Before Summit ■ After Summit

Four times as many respondents reported their CPT was ready to engage in more advanced prevention planning after attending the Prevention Summit.



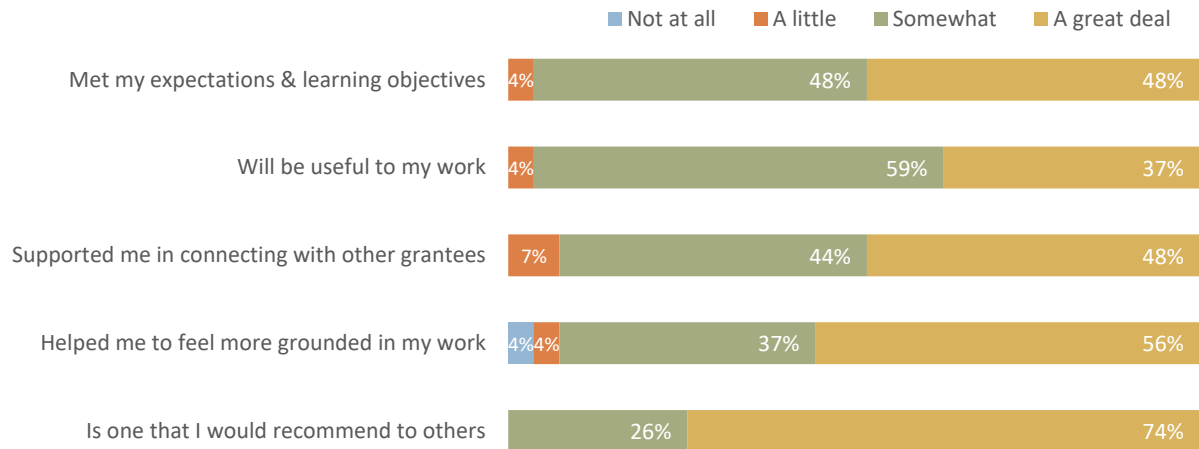
- I** - Working to understand the basics
- II** - Understand the basics and ready to implement a prevention strategy
- III** - Ready to implement a prevention strategy and evaluate its impact
- IV** - Ready to do more advanced planning for comprehensive prevention
- V** - Implementing comprehensive prevention programming

Survey respondents provided additional feedback related to the content and process of their community team’s discussions about prevention. For some, this included changes they noted following the Prevention Summit, though several respondents acknowledged it was too early to evaluate changes in this domain. Most frequently referenced were respondents’ perceptions of renewed enthusiasm, increased depth of conversation around prevention topics, involvement of new and returning partners, and establish a common understanding for moving forward with violence prevention efforts in the community, both within and outside of the prevention teams.

Overall Prevention Summit Feedback

A total of 27 respondents provided feedback related to their overall perceptions about the 2021 Primary Prevention Summit. Nearly all of the respondents agreed somewhat or a great deal with the following statements:

Overall, this Prevention Summit...



Survey respondents provided descriptions of the changes they experienced in their perspective of prevention as a result of attending this year’s Prevention Summit. The most frequently referenced changes were related to an increased strength of their belief in prevention as an important tool for community wellbeing, recognizing the importance and mutual benefit of establishing partnerships for their work, and a better sense of why it is important to adapt programming to local communities, along with a more substantial skillset from which to create those adaptations. Several respondents indicated they were still processing the content of the Prevention Summit and could not yet speak to the ways in which their perspective has changed.

Several respondents also considered the ways in which prevention is viewed in their local community, including how those perceptions have changed over time and factors that contributed to that change. A great deal of variability was present in respondents’ feedback, with some speaking to the misperceptions of what prevention work is or focuses on by the general community, while others shared that their communities placed a great deal of value on prevention work and supported their efforts. Several respondents felt that prevention did not get the recognition it deserved as an important component of community wellbeing, and some spoke to the importance of engaging and collaborating with community partners as a means to support prevention messaging.

In describing elements of this year’s Prevention Summit that were new, creative, or innovative, survey respondents most frequently identified learnings taken from specific sessions, particularly those on land acknowledgement and plant teachings, the increased presence of Indigenous individuals, values, and practices, as well as developing strategies to connect with others doing similar work across the state. While not a specific component of a particular session, several respondents shared how they were positively impacted by the sharing of knowledge and experience related to specific Indigenous traditions.

Survey respondents provided feedback about what they perceived to be the two most important things that were learned during this year's Prevention Summit. The most frequently referenced topic was that of the significance of land acknowledgements, along with references to the information provided during other Summit sessions (e.g., planning and organizational tools, adapting evidence-based practices, plant learning). Several respondents also provided feedback about the ways in which they were personally impacted by the Indigenous presence during this year's Prevention Summit.

Considering actionable items that were taken away from this year's Prevention Summit, survey respondents most frequently referenced the importance of more fully understanding land acknowledgements and embedding them in their work. Strategies related to evaluation, collaboration, and effectively communicating about programs were also identified by several respondents as domains in which action steps would be taken.

When asked about recommended improvements to this year's Prevention Summit, survey respondents provided a variety of suggestions. Most frequently referenced were issues related to logistical aspects of this year's Prevention Summit; these respondents expressed having had difficulties related to technology and the length of time each day, considering the virtual format. Others expressed a desire for a more closely held schedule, more interactive elements in session, a shorter evaluation survey, and more time for discussion in breakout rooms. Several respondents also noted a hope that an online component would be maintained for the Prevention Summit once in-person Summits were again taking place.

Respondents also described a number of aspects of this year's Prevention Summit that they really appreciated. The most frequently referenced domain was related to the presence of many communities and organizations, and having opportunities to connect with and learn from each other. Several respondents expressed appreciation for the emphasis on Indigenous values and perspectives, particularly related to land acknowledgements and plant learning. Several individuals also noted the online format of the Prevention Summit as something that seemed to expand access to the event, which they appreciated.

Survey respondents also provided feedback related to topics that they would like to see offered at future Prevention Summits. Most respondents indicated an interest in specific topics, programs, or tools, including youth-led sessions, doing effective prevention work with limited resources, communicating programming, victim services, male engagement, implementing specific programs, and building Alaska-based "best practices" by highlighting work being done successfully in local communities and their lessons learned.

Prevention Summit Sessions

Pre-Summit Workshop: Planning a Successful Prevention Communication Campaign

A total of 15 survey respondents provided feedback about their experience with the pre-conference workshop, **Planning a Successful Prevention Communication Campaign**. Overall, respondents indicated a moderate level of impact in relation to their experience with the session's learning objectives:

- Increase overall knowledge related to the topic presented during this session
- Improve understanding of the key principles and best practices of a prevention communication campaign
- Put communication best practices into action

Comparing respondents' ratings, before and after attending the Prevention Summit, the number of low ratings decreased by 100% for the first two items, and the moderate and high ratings saw increases of 50 – 100% across all items. When asked about their perceptions of the session's content and presenter, all respondents indicated the following statements were mostly or very true for them, suggesting a positive overall perception of the session:

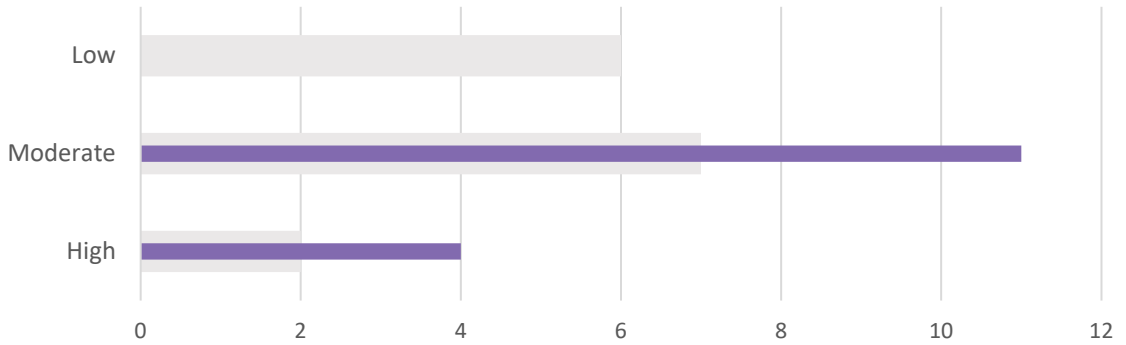
- The session's content was useful, appropriate for my level of experience, and presented in an organized manner
- The session's presenter knew the subject matter, maintained my interest, and was responsive to questions and comments

Several respondents also provided additional feedback related to this session, including both appreciated aspects and recommendations for improvement; this session-specific feedback can be found after the charts that follow.

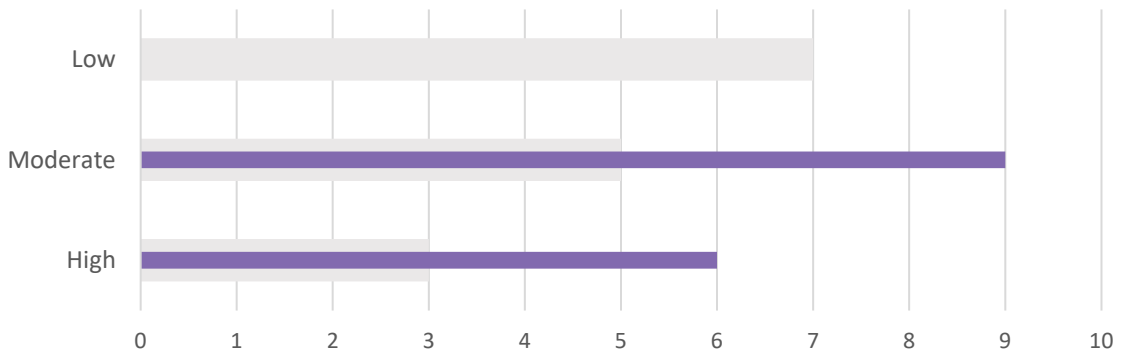
After attending this workshop...

■ Before Summit ■ After Summit

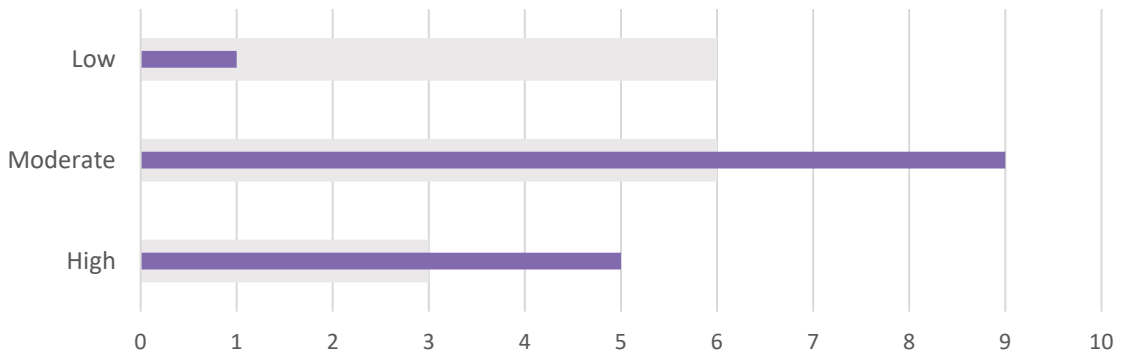
All respondents reported an increase in their overall knowledge related to the topic presented during this session.



All respondents reported a moderate or high level of understanding of the key principles and best practices of a prevention communication campaign.



Nearly 60% more respondents reported a moderate or high level of ability to put communication best practices into action.



All respondents reported a positive overall perception of this session's content and presenter.

■ Mostly true ■ Very true

Content was useful, appropriate for my level of experience, and presented in an organized manner



Presenter knew the subject matter, maintained my interest, and was responsive to questions and comments



"The presenter was able to provide examples of how to use the plan. It was very helpful."

"The documents included in this workshop were helpful for organization/structure/guidance."

"The time in break out rooms was not long enough. I think going through a process like that is very long and complex and should be something that is stated at the beginning so folks know what kind of time is needed to have a thorough conversation about each step."

"This was super useful!"

"I would love to see this content expanded. I didn't learn new material, but benefited a great deal from the way he organized the approach to implementation. I would have loved more time to engage in the small group work and learn the next levels."

Prevention Summit Session: Connecting Hearts and Sharing Gifts through Plant Teachings

A total of 24 survey respondents provided feedback about their experience with the **Connecting Hearts and Sharing Gifts through Plant Teachings** session. Overall, respondents indicated a moderate to high level of impact in relation to their experience with the session and its learning objectives:

- Increase overall knowledge related to the topic presented during this session
- Describe how a community's traditional values can support prevention efforts

Comparing respondents' ratings before and after attending this Prevention Summit session, the number of individuals endorsing a low level of overall knowledge decreased by more than 90% and the number of individuals endorsing a moderate or high level of knowledge doubled. Similarly, the number of respondents endorsing a low ability to describe how a community's traditional values can support prevention efforts decreased by 80%, while the number endorsing a moderate or high ability in this regard increased by nearly 60%.

When asked about their perceptions of the session's content and presenter, nearly all respondents indicated the following statements were mostly or very true for them, suggesting a positive overall perception of the session:

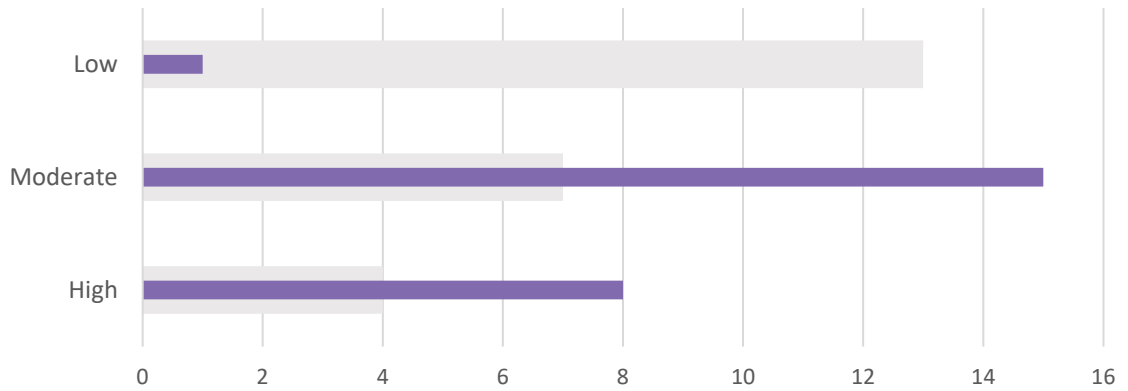
- The session's content was useful, appropriate for my level of experience, and presented in an organized manner
- The session's presenter knew the subject matter, maintained my interest, and was responsive to questions and comments

Several respondents also provided additional feedback related to this session, including both appreciated aspects and recommendations for improvement; this session-specific feedback can be found after the charts that follow.

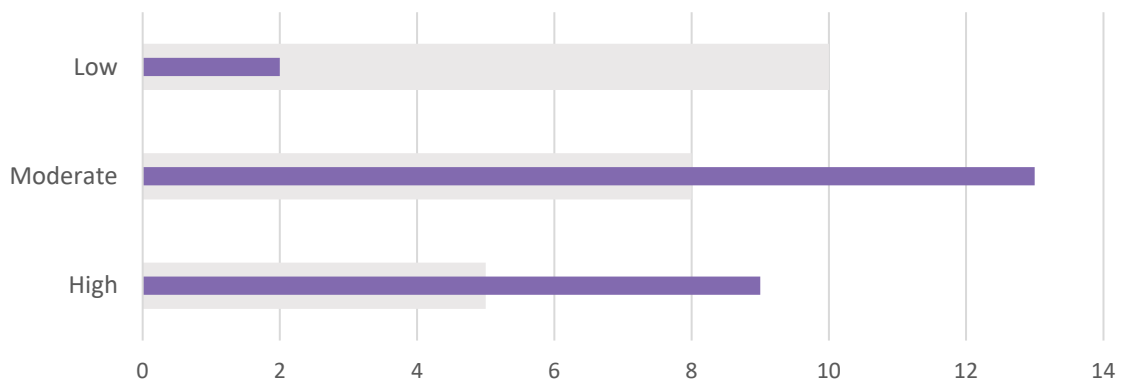
After attending this session...

■ Before Summit ■ After Summit

Twice as many respondents reported a moderate or high level of overall knowledge related to this session's topic.



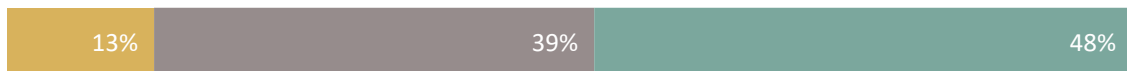
Almost 60% of respondents felt better able to describe how a community's traditional values can support prevention efforts.



Nearly all respondents reported a positive overall perception of this session's content and presenter.

■ Somewhat true ■ Mostly true ■ Very true

Content was useful, appropriate for my level of experience, and presented in an organized manner



Presenter knew the subject matter, maintained my interest, and was responsive to questions and comments



"This was the loveliest presentation on Tlingit culture I can remember. Naomi incorporated the important elements of her culture like sharing, family, balance, and kindness. I was totally enchanted."

"This was a very interesting session. I hope one day we can do a program that incorporates plants, and that we can collaborate with our community garden."

"This was a good session and could have been expanded on. More of this would be great!"

"Touched my heart and uplifted my spirits"

"I did not expect to have learned Plant Teachings and how that was connected to Prevention work. It was a change of pace from the usual prevention methods and quite refreshing."

"Loved this session!"

"Surveying this workshop and the efforts of the presenter feels uncomfortable...we should all feel honored to have witnessed this beautiful opportunity on how Indigenous communities navigate and tend to their traditional lands, this rating system takes away from the earnestness of that moment."

"I thought this was well done!"

Prevention Summit Session: Land Acknowledgement

A total of 23 survey respondents provided feedback about their experience with the **Land Acknowledgement** session. Overall, respondents indicated a moderate level of impact in relation to this session's learning objectives:

- Increase overall knowledge related to the topic presented during this session
- Describe the components of land acknowledgement

Comparing respondents' ratings before and after attending this Prevention Summit session, the number of individuals endorsing a low level of overall knowledge decreased by 90%, and the number of individuals endorsing a moderate or high level of knowledge increased by nearly 60%. The number of respondents endorsing a low level of ability to describe the components of a land acknowledgement, which accounted for more than half of all pre-session respondents, decreased by more than 90%, and the number of respondents endorsing a moderate level of ability more than tripled. Similarly, the number of respondents endorsing a low level ability to articulate how Indigenous and institutional perspectives on land acknowledgement differ, which again accounted for more than half of all pre-session respondents, decreased by more than 60%, while the number of respondents endorsing a moderate level of ability doubled, and a high level of ability increased by 50%.

When asked about their perceptions of the session's content and presenter, nearly all respondents indicated the following statements were mostly or very true for them, suggesting a positive overall perception of the session:

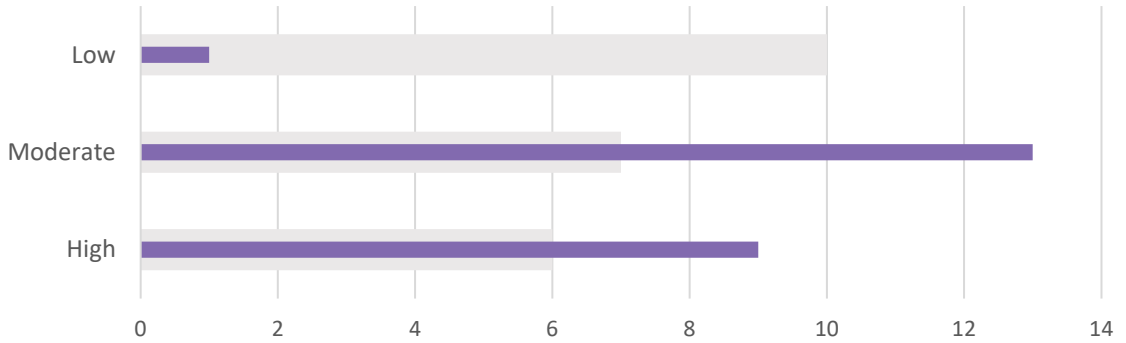
- The session's content was useful, appropriate for my level of experience, and presented in an organized manner
- The session's presenter knew the subject matter, maintained my interest, and was responsive to questions and comments

Several respondents also provided additional feedback related to the appreciated aspects of this session; this session-specific feedback can be found after the charts that follow.

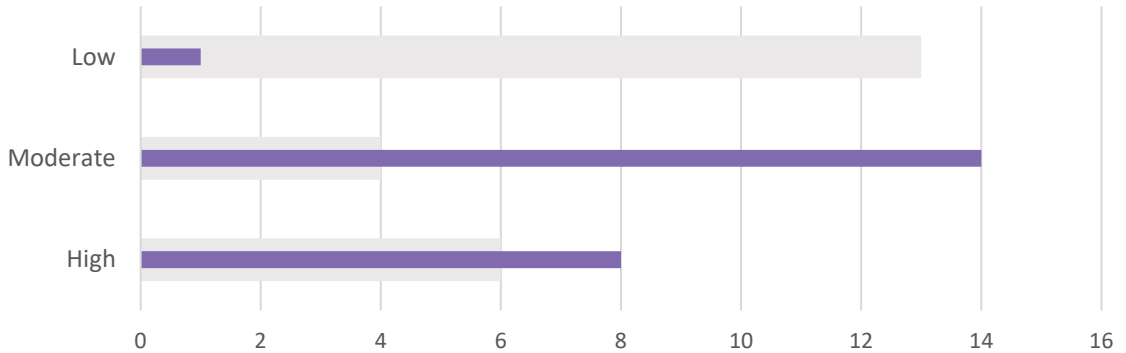
After attending this session...

■ Before Summit ■ After Summit

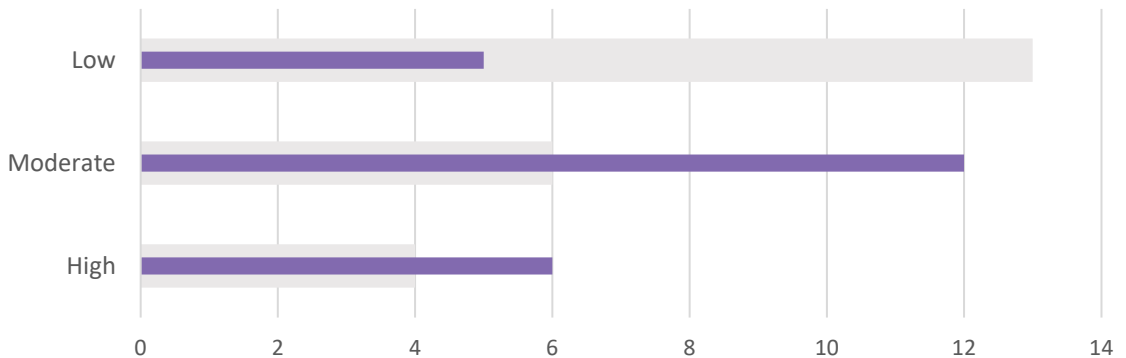
Nearly 60% more respondents endorsed a moderate or high level of overall knowledge related to this session's topic.



More than twice the number of respondents endorsed a moderate or high ability to describe the components of a land acknowledgement.

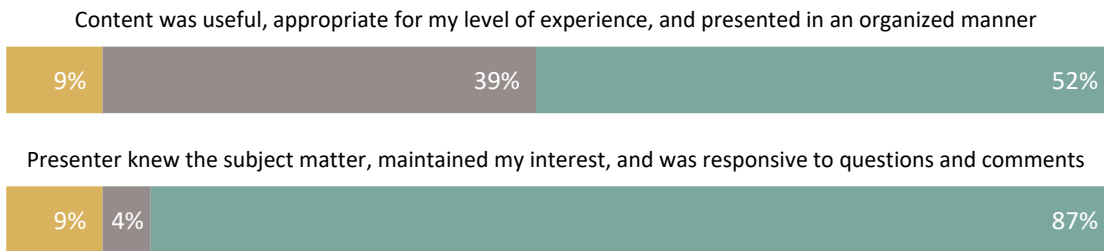


60% fewer respondents endorsed a low ability to articulate how Indigenous and institutional perspectives on land acknowledgement differ.



Nearly all respondents reported a positive overall perception of this session's content and presenter.

■ Somewhat true ■ Mostly true ■ Very true



"This session was a new concept for me. My first and only Land Acknowledgments I've experienced have been at the State Prevention Summit and LeadOn. I plan to become comfortable and more knowledgeable of the indigenous people of my area."

"Very great session for people who were new or uncomfortable with land acknowledgement."

"This workshop was so interesting, I wanted it to be longer!"

"The content wasn't new to me. As mentioned previously, I had a big AHA moment during the video."

"Loved this session too!"

"On this one, I felt like I knew more than the presenter but am grateful that she designed a workshop for this topic specifically. She was great!"

Prevention Summit Session: Working in Shared Risk and Protective Factors

A total of 24 survey respondents provided feedback about their experience with the **Working in Shared Risk and Protective Factors** session. Overall, respondents indicated a low to moderate level of impact in relation to this session's learning objectives:

- Increase overall knowledge related to the topic presented during this session
- Describe how a shared risk and protective factors framework affects violence prevention efforts
- Apply a shared risk and protective factors framework to my prevention work
- Describe how a shared risk and protective factors framework can support collaboration among community partners

Comparing respondents' ratings before and after attending this Prevention Summit session, the number of individuals endorsing a low level of overall knowledge decreased by 60%, while the number of individuals endorsing a high level of overall knowledge increased by 50%. More than half of respondents endorsed a moderate level in pre- and post-session ratings. Similar trends were noted across each learning objective, with a 40-60% decrease in the number of individuals endorsing a low level of ability, and modest increases in the number of individuals endorsing a moderate or high level of ability. Respondents' ability to describe how a shared risk and protective factors framework can support collaboration among community partners was perhaps most strongly impacted, with nearly two-thirds fewer respondents endorsing a low level of ability and a 60% increase in the number of respondents endorsing a high level of ability in relation to this learning objective.

When asked about their perceptions of the session's content and presenter, nearly all respondents indicated the following statements were mostly or very true for them, suggesting a positive overall perception of the session:

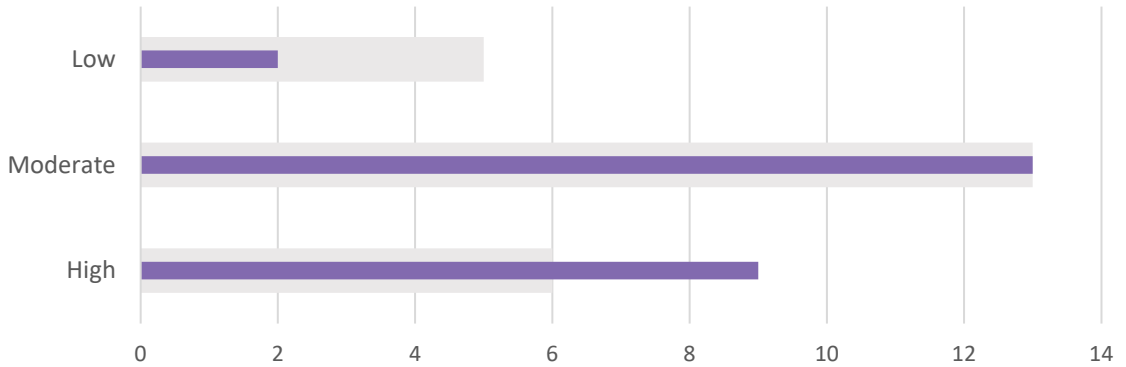
- The session's content was useful, appropriate for my level of experience, and presented in an organized manner
- The session's presenter knew the subject matter, maintained my interest, and was responsive to questions and comments

Several respondents also provided additional feedback related to this session, including both appreciated aspects and recommendations for improvement; this session-specific feedback can be found after the charts that follow.

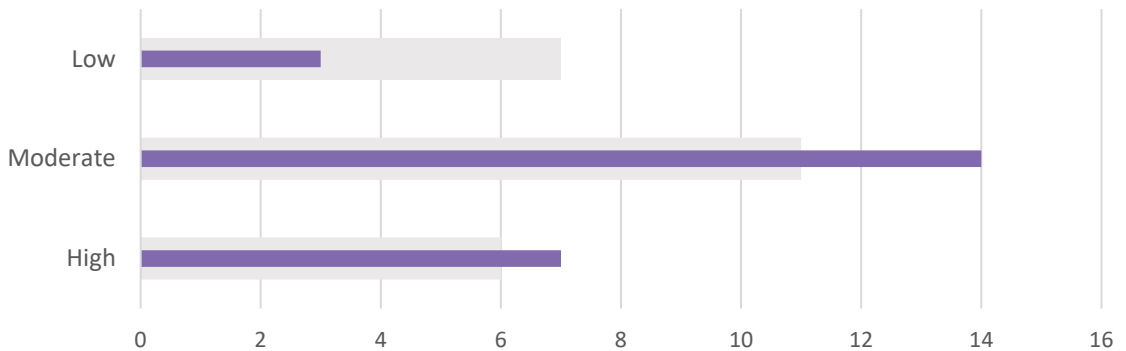
After attending this session...

■ Before Summit ■ After Summit

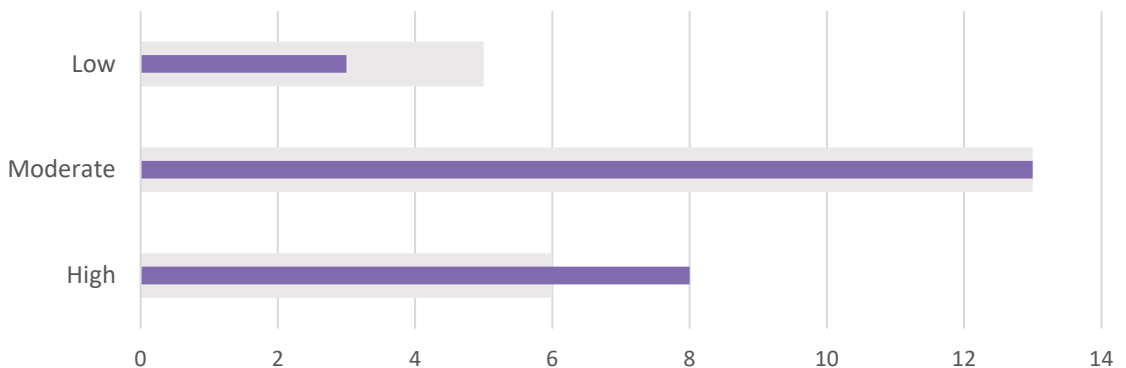
50% more respondents endorsed a high level of overall knowledge related to this session's topic.



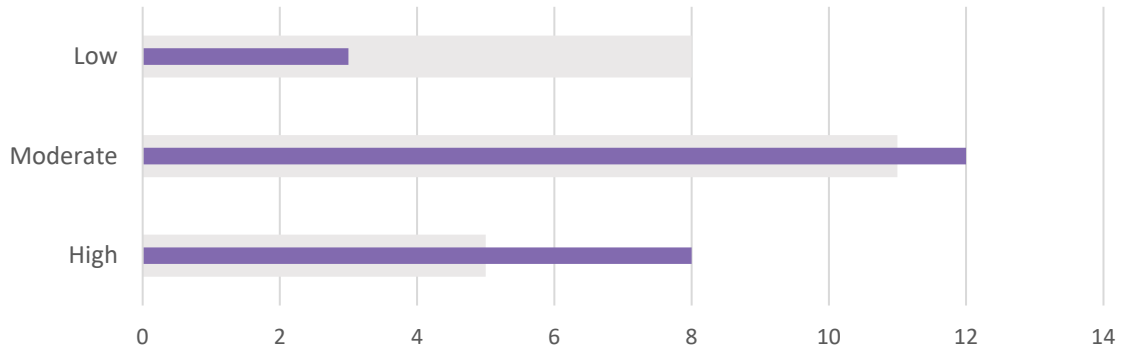
Half as many respondents endorsed a low ability to describe how a shared risk and protective factors framework affects violence prevention efforts.



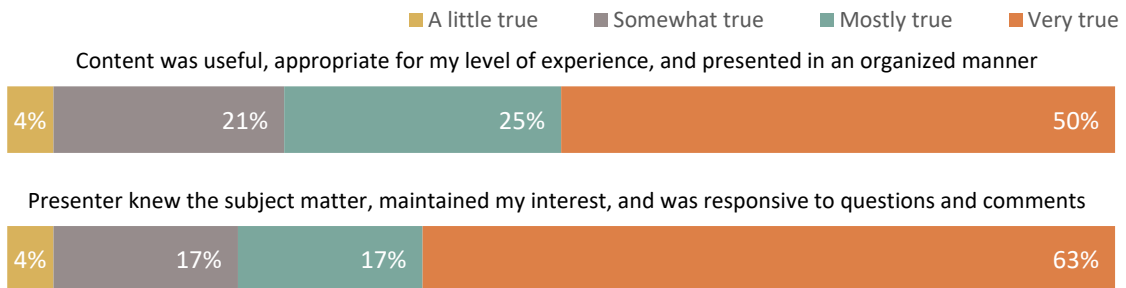
Most respondents endorsed a moderate or high ability to apply a shared risk and protective factors framework to their prevention work.



Two thirds fewer respondents endorsed a low ability to describe how a shared risk and protective factors framework can support collaboration among community partners.



More than half of respondents reported a positive overall perception of this session's content and presenter.



"I think this is an important thing to reference whenever we are doing coalition work."

"The information presented here was really great and super informative albeit a little dry and hard to do right after lunch."

"I found this format to be a little difficult to maintain interest on a virtual platform. Typically I enjoy panels and was surprised that I didn't stay engaged."

Prevention Summit Session: Going Virtual (and Other Program Adaptations): How to Adapt While Staying True to Your Programming

A total of 22 survey respondents provided feedback about their experience with the **Going Virtual (and Other Program Adaptations): How to Adapt While Staying True to Your Programming** session. Overall, respondents indicated a moderate to high level of impact in relation to this session's learning objectives:

- Increase overall knowledge related to the topic presented in this session
- List the essential elements or core components of my community's current prevention efforts
- Differentiate between green light and red light adaptations
- Identify ways to evaluate adaptations made to current prevention efforts
- Describe continuous quality improvement sessions and why they are important when making adaptations

Comparing respondents' ratings before and after attending this Prevention Summit session, the number of individuals endorsing a low level of overall knowledge decreased by 100%, with a 50% increase in the number of respondents endorsing a moderate level and more than twice the number of respondents endorsing a high level of overall knowledge. Similar gains were noted across the different learning objectives, with a 75 to 100% decrease in the number of respondents endorsing low levels of ability and changes in the moderate and high levels that ranged from 0 to 200%.

When asked about their perceptions of the session's content and presenter, nearly all respondents indicated the following statements were mostly or very true for them, suggesting a positive overall perception of the session:

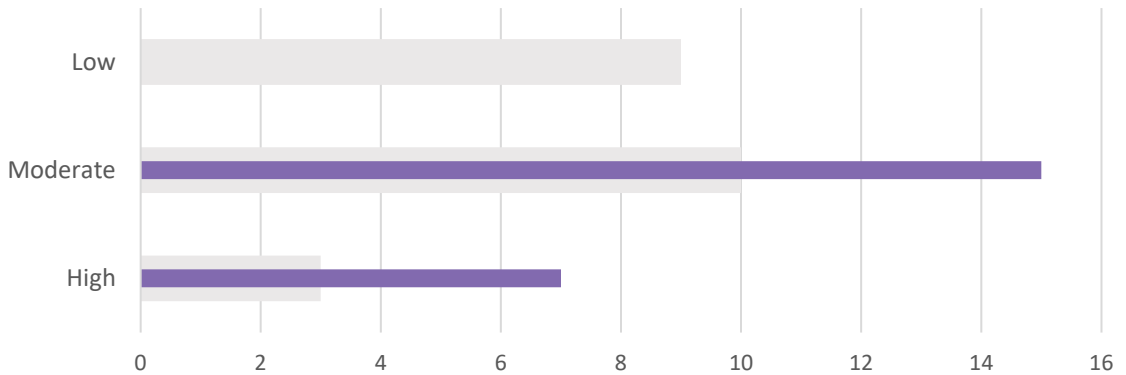
- The session's content was useful, appropriate for my level of experience, and presented in an organized manner
- The session's presenter knew the subject matter, maintained my interest, and was responsive to questions and comments

Several respondents also provided additional feedback related to this session, including both appreciated aspects and recommendations for improvement; this session-specific feedback can be found after the charts that follow.

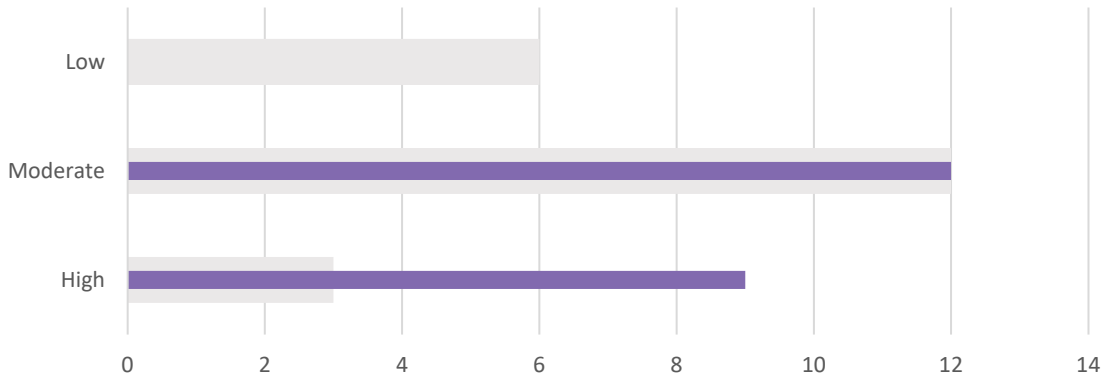
After attending this session...

■ Before Summit ■ After Summit

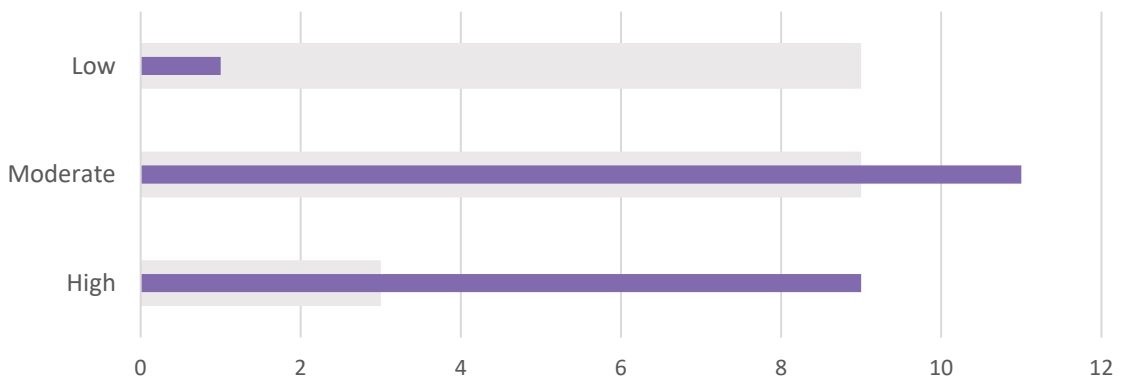
No respondents endorsed a low level of overall knowledge related to this session's topic.



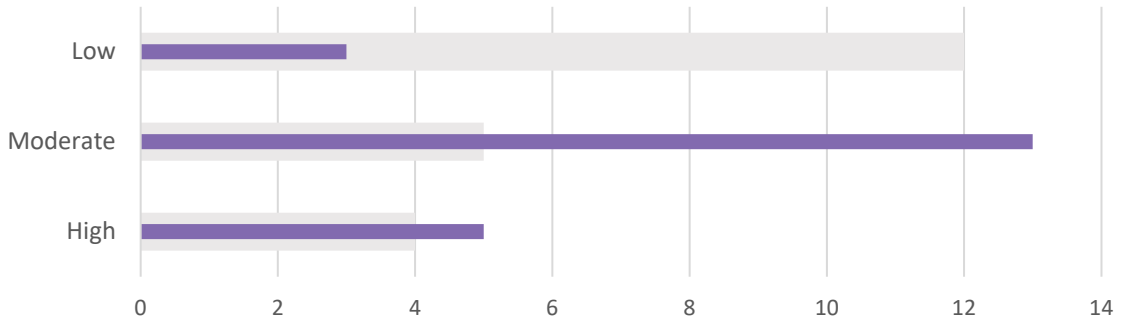
Three times as many respondents endorsed a high level of ability to list the core components of their community's current prevention efforts.



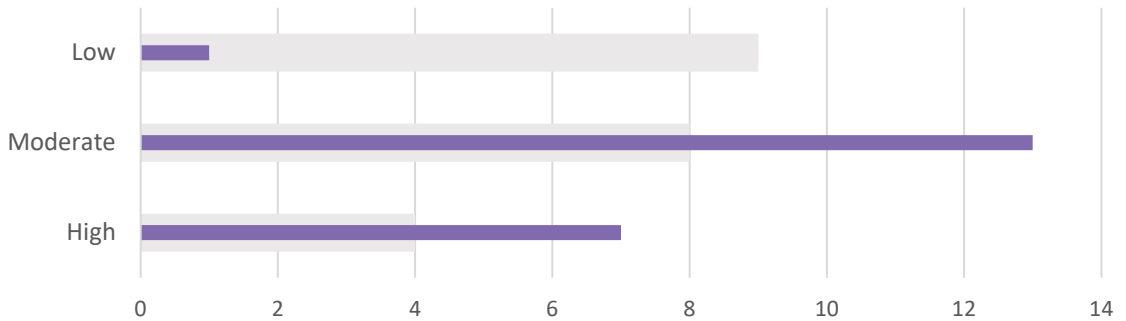
Three times as many respondents endorsed a high level of ability to differentiate between red light and green light adaptations.



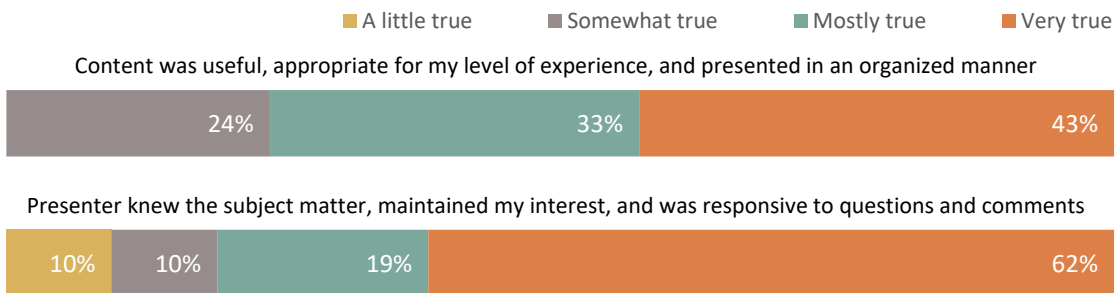
The number of respondents endorsing a low level of ability to identify ways to evaluate adaptations made to current prevention efforts decreased from nearly 60% to less than 15%.



60% more respondents endorsed a moderate or high level of ability to describe continuous quality improvement sessions and why they are important when making adaptations.



About 75% of respondents reported a positive overall perception of this session's content and presenter.



"I do not have a lot of experience or interest in adapting a program. I feel that in time evaluating a new program would be amazing but I don't think we will be doing that in the near future."

”

"Very impressed in the work that the presenters did. Intelligence with common sense and practical innovations is a beautiful thing to see."

“

"I struggled to engage in this presentation as well. Again, probably a reflection of my learning style/challenges!"

"I appreciated the introduction of 'Gantt charting' as an organizational method."

Prevention Summit Session: Sitka Youth Leadership Committee Healthy Relationships Panel

A total of 9 survey respondents provided feedback about their experience with the **Sitka Youth Leadership Committee Healthy Relationships Panel** session. Overall, respondents indicated a moderate level of impact in relation to this session's learning objectives:

- Increase overall knowledge related to the topic presented in this session
- Describe core principles for adults working with and supporting teens

Comparing respondents' ratings before and after attending this Prevention Summit session, the number of individuals endorsing a low level of overall knowledge decreased by 100%, with a 33% increase in the number of moderate ratings and a 50% increase in the number of individuals endorsing a high level of knowledge. Similarly, the number of respondents endorsing a low level of ability to describe core principles for adults working with and supporting teens decreased by 100%, while the number endorsing a moderate ability tripled.

When asked about their perceptions of the session's content and presenter, nearly all respondents indicated the following statements were mostly or very true for them, suggesting a positive overall perception of the session:

- The session's content was useful, appropriate for my level of experience, and presented in an organized manner
- The session's presenter knew the subject matter, maintained my interest, and was responsive to questions and comments

A few respondents also provided additional feedback related the appreciated aspects of this session.

"I was only able to follow part of the session, and then only on the phone without visual. I am impressed with the proficiency in all areas that the members of SYLC displayed!"

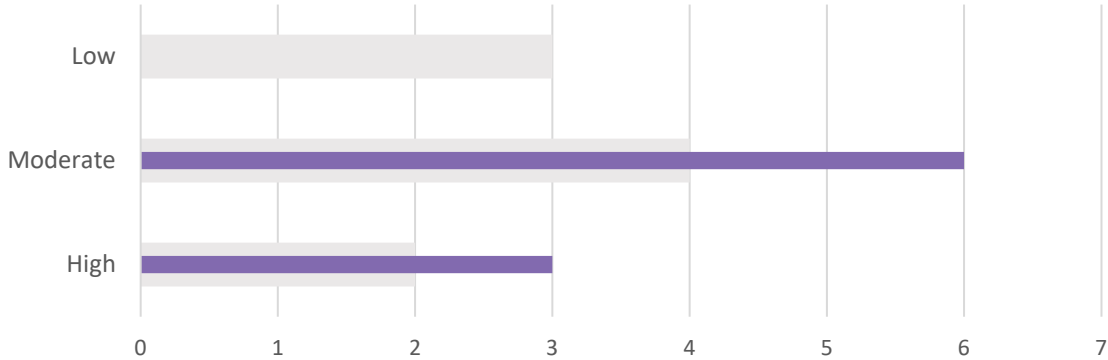
"I enjoyed hearing from the youth and learned new ways to incorporate technology during zoom meetings."

"The youth that presented were knowledgeable and well spoken, really enjoyed this session."

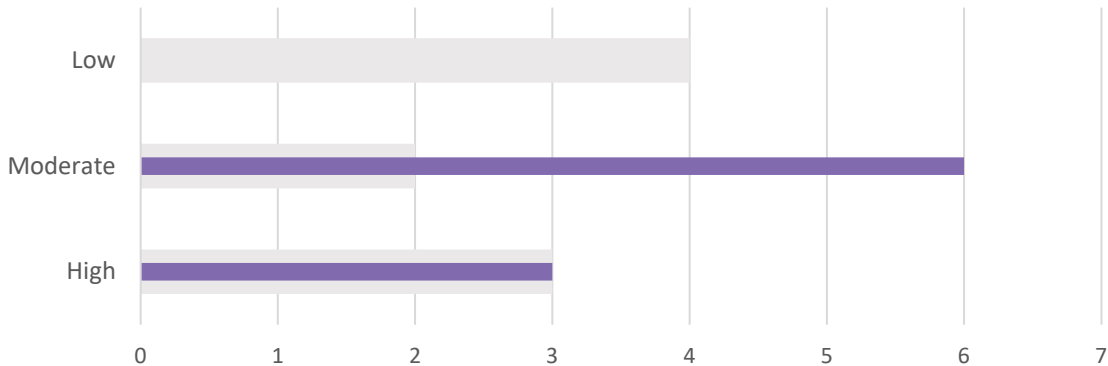
After attending this workshop...

■ Before Summit ■ After Summit

50% more respondents endorsed a moderate or high level of overall knowledge related to this session's topic.



No respondents endorsed a low level of ability to describe the core principles for adults working with and supporting teens.



Nearly all respondents reported a positive overall perception of this session's content and presenter.

■ Somewhat true ■ Mostly true ■ Very true

Content was useful, appropriate for my level of experience, and presented in an organized manner



Presenter knew the subject matter, maintained my interest, and was responsive to questions and comments



Prevention Summit Session: Male Engagement

A total of 6 survey respondents provided feedback about their experience with the **Male Engagement** session. Overall, respondents indicated a low level of impact in relation to this session's learning objectives:

- Increase overall knowledge related to the topic presented during this session
- Describe core principles for engaging men and boys in violence prevention efforts

Comparing respondents' ratings before and after attending this Prevention Summit session, two thirds of respondents indicated having a high level of overall knowledge related to this session's topic at both pre- and post-session; the one respondent indicating a low level of overall knowledge prior to attending endorsed a moderate response afterward. No changes were noted in respondents' ratings of their ability to describe the core principles for engaging men and boys in violence prevention efforts from pre- to post-session.

When asked about their perceptions of the session's content and presenter, more than half of respondents indicated the following statements were mostly or very true for them, suggesting a relatively positive overall perception of the session:

- The session's content was useful, appropriate for my level of experience, and presented in an organized manner
- The session's presenter knew the subject matter, maintained my interest, and was responsive to questions and comments

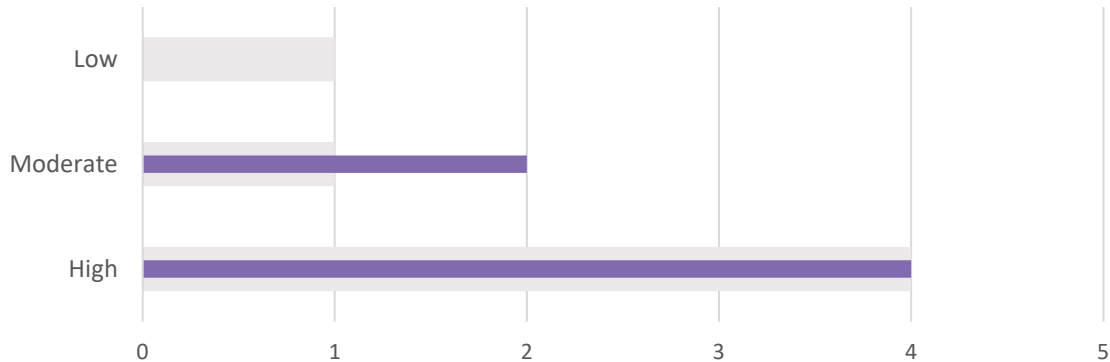
Some respondents also provided additional feedback related to this session, including appreciated aspects and recommendations for improvement.

"This is the area that I am most passionate about in my work. I did not expect to learn a great deal more than getting caught up on what everyone else is doing. There were technical problems with the session and I left with more questions than I arrived with."

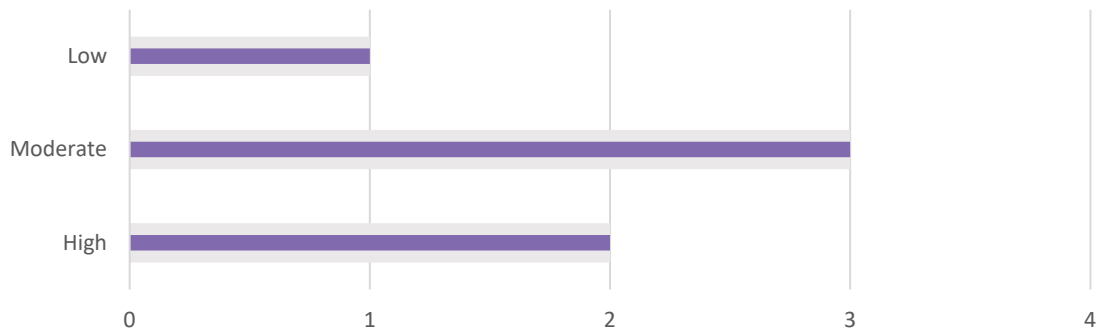
After attending this session...

■ Before Summit ■ After Summit

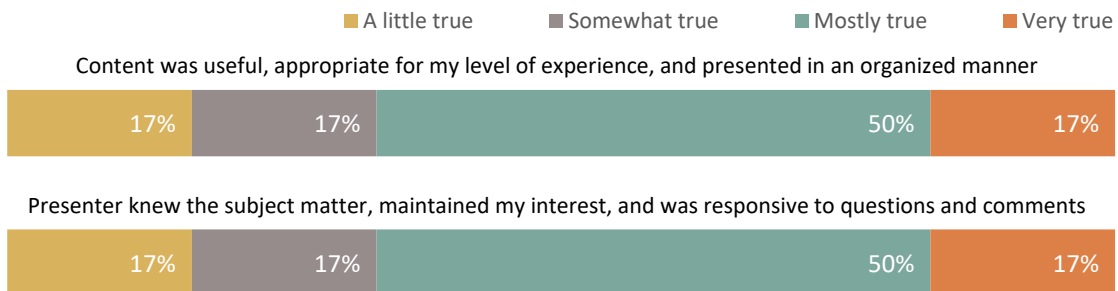
Most respondents indicated they possessed a high level of overall knowledge related to this session's topic prior to attending.



No changes were noted in respondents' ratings of their ability to describe core principles for engaging men and boys in violence prevention efforts.



More than half of respondents reported a positive overall perception of this session's content and presenter.



Prevention Summit Session: Plant Teachings and Pathways to Prevention

A total of 7 survey respondents provided feedback about their experience with the **Plant Teachings and Pathways to Prevention** session. Overall, respondents indicated a moderate level of impact in relation to this session's learning objectives:

- Increase overall knowledge related to the topic presented during this session
- Describe how a sense of interconnection influences prevention efforts in my community

Comparing respondents' ratings before and after attending this Prevention Summit session, the number of individuals endorsing a low level of overall knowledge, which comprised more than half of respondents' pre-session ratings, decreased by 100% and the number of individuals endorsing a moderate or high level of overall knowledge more than doubled. Similarly, more than 70% of respondents endorsed a low level of ability to describe how a sense of interconnection influences their community-based prevention efforts at pre-session, while all respondents endorsed a moderate or high level of ability after attending the session.

When asked about their perceptions of the session's content and presenter, nearly 75% of respondents indicated the following statements were mostly or very true for them, suggesting a relatively positive overall perception of the session:

- The session's content was useful, appropriate for my level of experience, and presented in an organized manner
- The session's presenter knew the subject matter, maintained my interest, and was responsive to questions and comments

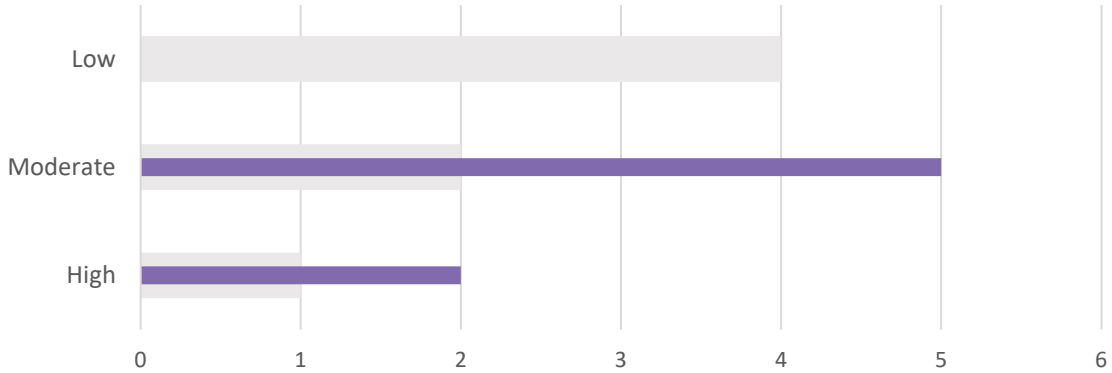
One respondent also provided additional feedback related the appreciated aspects of this session.

"Really enjoyed this breakout session. I've learned a lot about plans the past few years for my own/my family's use but am excited to be able to tie it into prevention work on a different level (not just with my children) now."

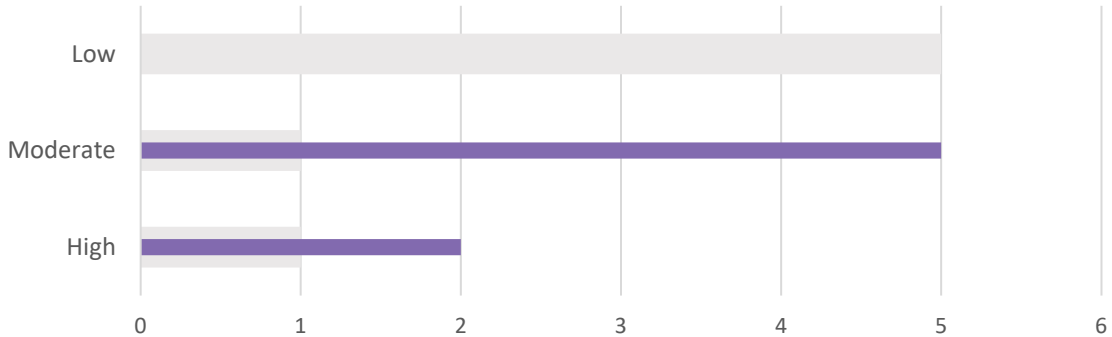
After attending this session...

■ Before Summit ■ After Summit

No respondents endorsed a low level of overall knowledge related to this session's topic.



All respondents endorsed a moderate or high level of ability to describe how a sense of interconnection influences their community-based prevention efforts.



Nearly 75% of respondents reported a positive overall perception of this session's content and presenter.

■ Somewhat true ■ Mostly true ■ Very true

Content was useful, appropriate for my level of experience, and presented in an organized manner

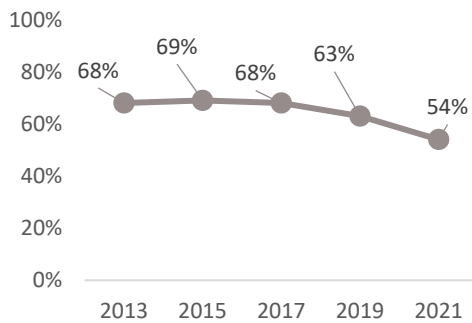


Presenter knew the subject matter, maintained my interest, and was responsive to questions and comments



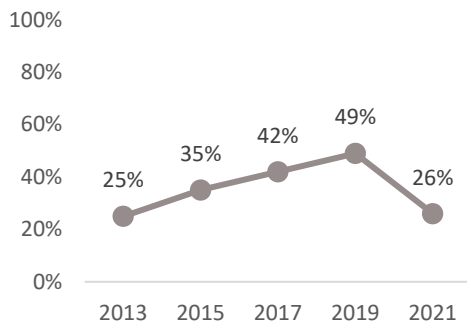
Comparisons with Prior Prevention Summits

A number of items have been asked of respondents on the Prevention Summit evaluation survey for several years; while some changes to survey design and question wording over time prevent a full, direct comparison between respondents' feedback between years, general comparisons are available in several domains.



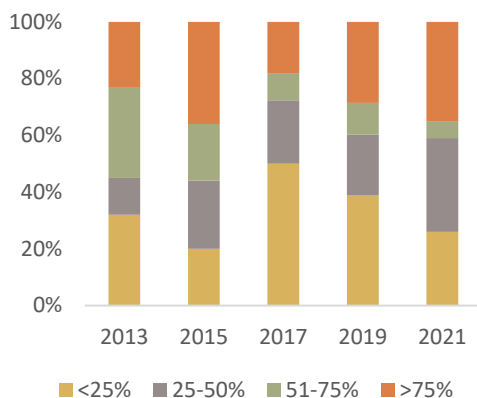
First time attending the Prevention Summit.

Compared to previous years, a lower percentage of respondents reported that it was their first time attending the Prevention Summit. This suggests individuals attending the Prevention Summit are becoming more aware of the Summit as a supportive resource, along with increased familiarity with prevention efforts being carried out across the state.



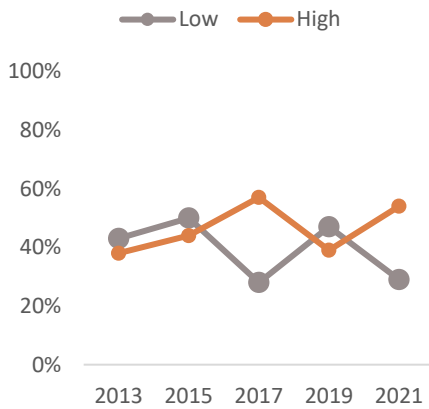
Level of experience with prevention.

Compared to previous years, a lower percentage of respondents indicated that they were "very experienced" with prevention work. Importantly, this question was changed in 2021 to separate out perceived experience level and number of years engaged in prevention efforts; this may have contributed to the change in ratings by respondents.



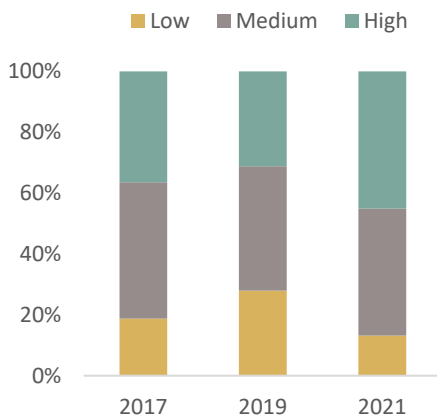
Amount of time spent on prevention.

Among respondents actively engaged in prevention work, compared to previous years, more respondents indicated they spent more than 75% of their time on prevention efforts, and fewer reported they spent less than 25% of their time doing prevention work. This suggests that overall, more people across the state are spending a greater portion of their time engaged in prevention efforts.



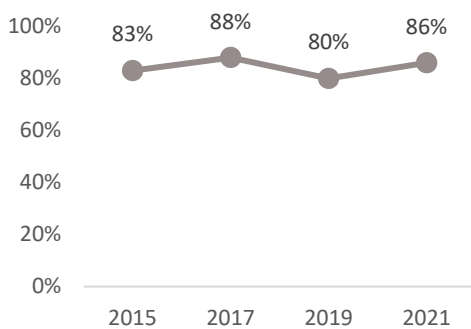
Community Prevention Team discussion levels.

Compared to previous years (with the exception of 2017, which was rated similarly to 2021), a smaller percentage of respondents reported their community prevention teams were having lower-level (i.e., level I and II) discussions, and a larger percentage of respondents indicated their teams were having higher level (i.e., level IV and V) discussions following this year’s Prevention Summit. This suggests that overall, individuals are engaging in more prevention work that is comprehensive.



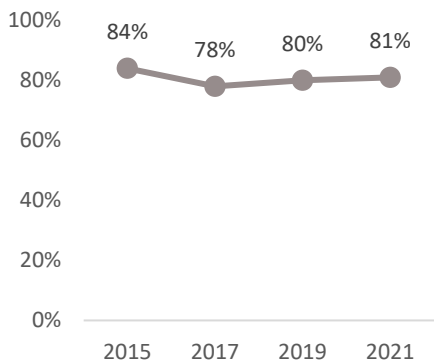
Comprehensiveness of current prevention programming.

Compared to previous years, a greater percentage of respondents indicated their current prevention programming was at a high level of comprehensiveness, and fewer reported that their current programming was at a low level. This suggests that overall, some progress has been made toward increasing the comprehensiveness of programming.



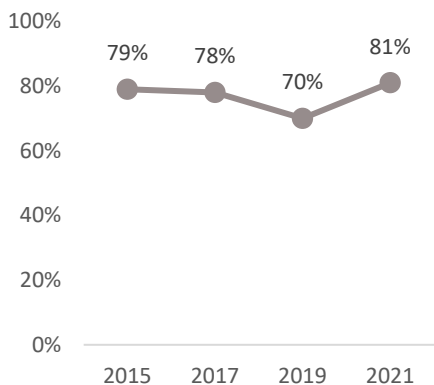
Personal confidence in ability to plan violence prevention programming in the community.

Compared to previous years, the percentage of respondents indicating they felt somewhat or very confident in this domain has remained within the 8-point range established in previous years. This suggests that individuals remain relatively confident in their ability to plan comprehensive programming for community-based violence prevention efforts.



Personal confidence in ability to work at the outer levels of the social ecology.

Similarly, compared to previous years, the percentage of respondents indicating they felt somewhat or very confident in this domain has remained within a 6-point range established in previous years. This, too, indicates a relatively stable level of confidence in respondents' confidence to work at the outer levels of the social ecology.



Personal confidence in ability to explain the connection between current prevention work and the outer levels of the social ecology.

Compared to previous years, a greater percentage of respondents indicated they were somewhat or very confident in their ability related to this domain. While the overall percentage has stayed within an 11 point range since 2015, this year represents the highest confidence ratings for this domain since it was included on the Prevention Summit evaluation.