



Trust

Alaska Mental Health
Trust Authority



Report: PPE Survey Results

In Collaboration with thread

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thread

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Report: PPE Survey Results

thread

Introduction

Alaska's non-profits, frontline workers, and service providers are adapting to new and essential public health measures due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The need for *Personal Protection Equipment* (PPE) is critical in these measures for containing the virus as well as promoting community well-being, employee safety, and stakeholder protection. The demand for PPE has rapidly grown and is predicted to continue through 2021 as organizations comply with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) requirements, State of Alaska mandates, and reopening of the economy in the new normal.

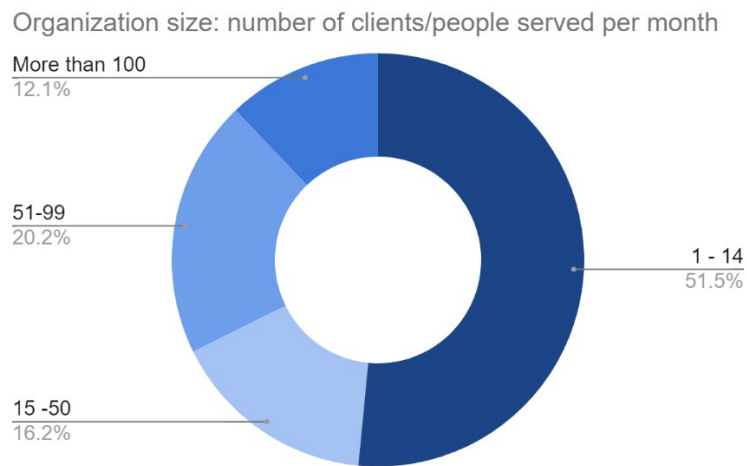
The Rasmuson Foundation, Alaska Mental Health Trust, State of Alaska – Department of Health and Social Services, and the Denali Commission in partnership with the University of Alaska Anchorage College of Health have worked collaboratively to support the **Alaska PPE Resource Links Project**. The project vision is *to advance public health by linking PPE resources with service providers*. The project helps to delineate the need for PPE with many types of providers and then facilitates resource connections including the state or municipal emergency operating centers, Alaskan manufacturers, and the marketplace.

To understand needs for PPE among childcare programs, the project partnered with thread to conduct a PPE survey. thread works to increase access to affordable, high-quality early care and education for Alaska's children by providing direct services for families, educating early childhood professionals, and collaborating with communities.

An online PPE survey (Google Forms platform) was distributed via email by thread with voluntary participation. The survey collected needs on types of PPE for preparedness associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. The survey was confidential and individual answers were protected. The survey results presented help to gauge PPE needs with Alaska programs and providers.

Survey Participant Demographics

A total of 99 providers participated in the survey. Based upon full operational program capacity, 51 (or 51.5%) were small providers serving 1-14 people (children, clients, and staff) per month, 16 (or 16.2%) were providers serving 15-50 people per month, 20 (or 20.2%) were providers serving 51-99 people per month, and 12 (or 12.1%) were large providers serving more than 100 people per month.



Survey participants were from five regions of Alaska: 66 (or 67%) from South Central (or Cook Inlet), 11 (or 11%) from Southeast (or Sealaska), 10 (or 10%) from the Kodiak, 8 (or 8%) from the Interior (or Doyon), and 4 (or 4%) from the Chugach.

74 (or 75%) of the survey participant organizations were based in urban areas of Alaska, with 25 (or 25%) based in rural areas of Alaska. Note: some providers can be based in one community and have a larger geographic service area such as a region.

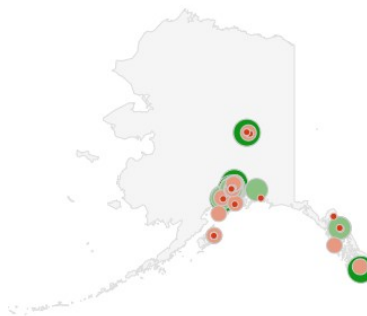
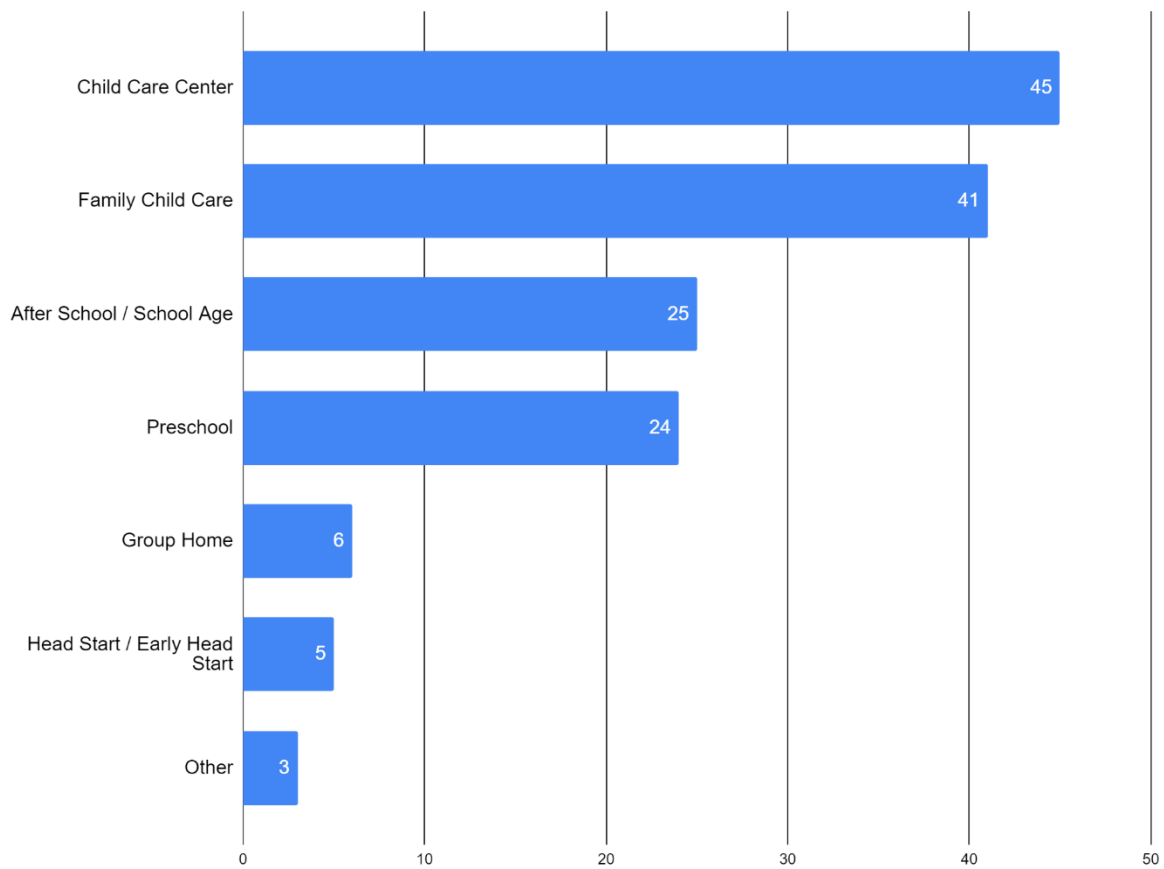


FIGURE 1: SURVEY PARTICIPANT ORGANIZATIONS BY LOCATION.

Participants were asked to select the types of services offered by their organization (as of the survey in October 2020): 45% of survey participants selected child care center, 41% family child care, 25% after school (school age), 24% preschool, 6% group home, 5% Head Start/Early Start, and 3% selected other.

Note: survey participants could select each that applied and 35 providers (or 35%) offer multiple services.

Service provider type (check all that apply)

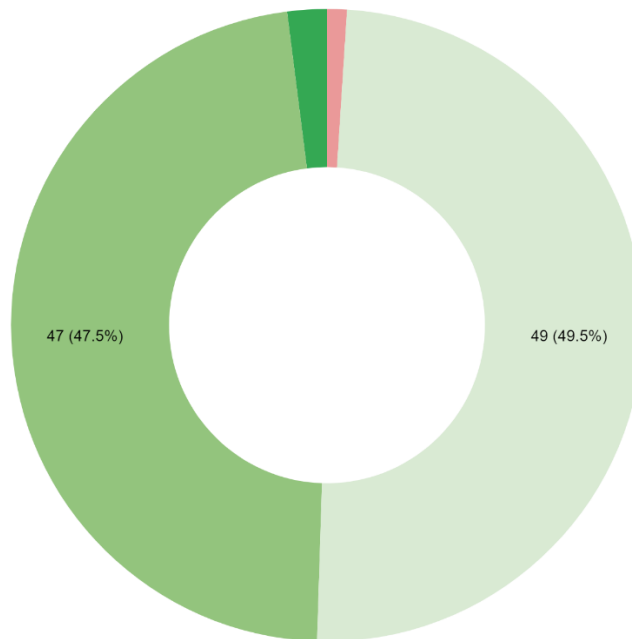


In regards to operational status during the COVID-19 pandemic (at the time of the survey in October 2020), 99% of the survey participants were open. 49.5% of survey participants were operating on a limited scale or limited programs due to COVID-19 restrictions; 47.5% indicated fully operational; and 2% indicated fully operational and serving individuals with COVID-19. 1% were closed and working on processes/supplies to re-open.

Note: on March 27, 2020 (with amendments on April 10 and May 5, 2020), the State of Alaska issued a COVID-19 health mandate declaring Alaska essential services and businesses that included home-based care for children, residential facilities for children, and childcare facilities for essential workers needing childcare at critical jobs.

Which of the following best describes your current situation

- Closed and working on processes/supplies needed to re-open
- Operating on a limited scale or limited programs due to COVID restrictions including virtual delivery
- Fully operational
- Fully operational AND serving individuals with COVID



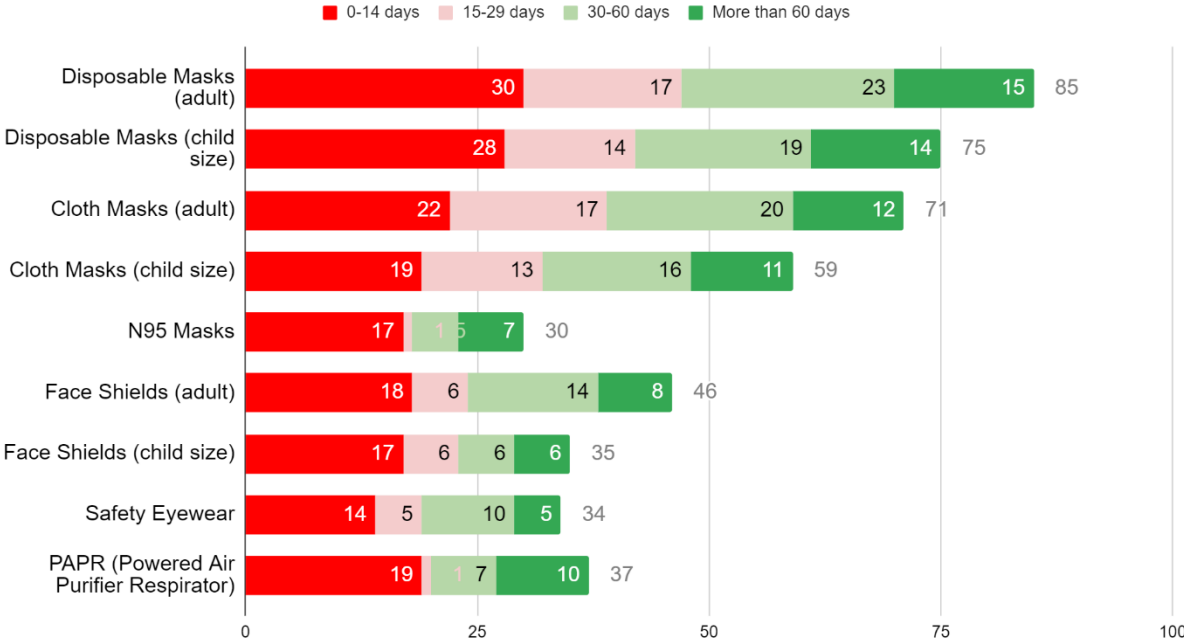
PPE Needs

Survey participants shared their company/organization PPE needs based upon four categories: (1) face/eye coverings, (2) gloves, (3) testing supplies, and (4) basic and other supplies. Participants were asked to base their responses upon current needs, knowledge, and operational requirements.

Face/Eye Coverings

In this category, disposable and cloth masks for both adults and children were among the highest selected PPE items in use by survey participants. 86% of participants indicated that adult size disposable masks apply to their organization (or 9% does not apply and 5% skipped the question). Regarding need for adult size disposable masks, 30 providers (or 35%) that use the item indicated less than 14 days on hand, and 17 providers (or 20%) also indicated 15-29 days on hand. Combined this represents 55% that use the item.

Need for Face/Eye Covering



76% of participants indicated that child size disposable masks apply to their organization (or 16% does not apply and 8% skipped the question). Regarding need for child size disposable masks, 28 providers (or 37%) that use the item indicated less than

14 days on hand, and 14 providers (or 19%) also indicated 15-29 days on hand. Combined this represents 56% that use the item.

For adult cloth masks, 71 (or 72%) of the survey participants indicated the item applies to their organization. For those participants that use adult cloth masks in their organization, 22 (or 31%) indicated less than 14 days of supply on hand, and 17 (or 24%) indicated 15-29 days of supply on hand. Combined this represents 55% that use the item.

For child size cloth masks, 59 (or 60%) of the survey participants indicated the item applies to their organization. For those participants that use child size cloth masks in their organization, 19 (or 32%) indicated less than 14 days of supply on hand, and 13 (or 22%) indicated 15-29 days of supply on hand. Combined this represents 54% that use the item.

For N95 masks, 45 (or 45%) of the survey participants indicated the item does not apply to their organization, and another 24 (or 24%) skipped the question. For those 30 (or 30%) participants that indicated use of N95 masks in their organization, 17 (or 57%) indicated less than 14 days on hand, and 1 (or 3%) indicated 15-29 days of supply on hand. Combined this represents 60% that use the item.

For adult face shields, 35 (or 35%) of the survey participants indicated the item does not apply to their organization, and another 18 (or 18%) skipped the question. For those 46 (or 46%) participants that use adult face shields, 18 (or 39%) indicated less than 14 days of supply on hand, and 6 (or 13%) indicated 15-29 days of supply on hand. Combined this represents 52% that use the item.

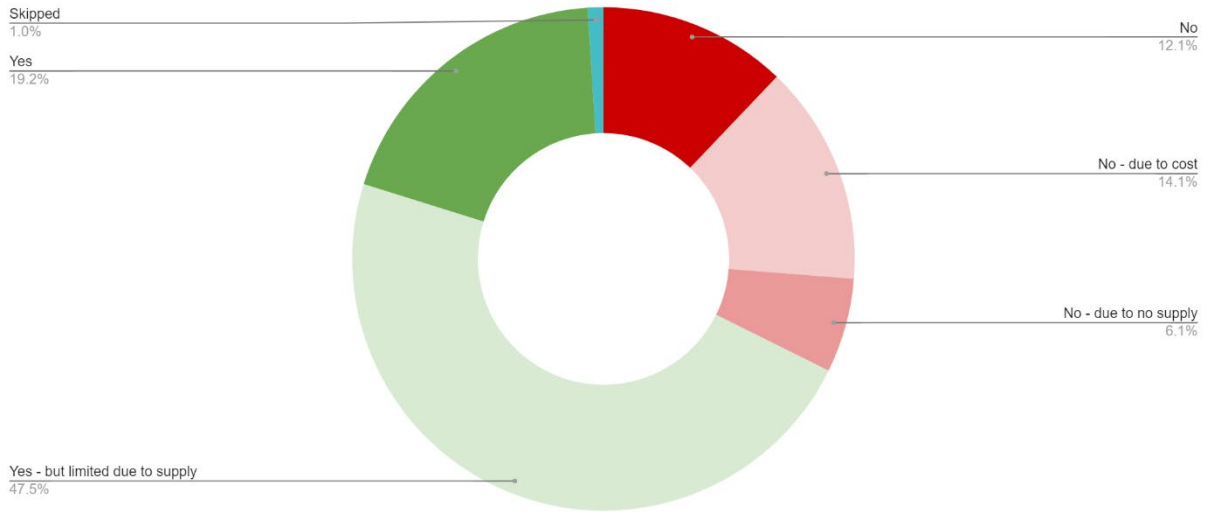
For child face shields, 40 (or 40%) of the survey participants indicated the item does not apply to their organization, and another 24 (or 24%) skipped the question. For those 35 (or 35%) participants that use child face shields, 17 (or 49%) indicated less than 14 days of supply on hand, and 6 (or 17%) indicated 15-29 days of supply on hand. Combined this represents 66% that use the item.

For safety eyewear, 43 (or 43%) of the survey participants indicated the item does not apply to their organization. For those 34 (or 34%) participants that use the item, 14 (or 41%) indicated less than 14 days on hand, and 5 (or 15%) indicated 15-29 days of supply on hand. Combined this represents 56% that use the item.

For powered air purifier respirators (PAPRs), 41 (or 41%) of the survey participants indicated the item does not apply to their organization, and another 21 (or 21%) skipped the question. For those 37 (or 37%) participants that use PAPRs, 19 (or 51%) indicated less than 14 days on hand, and 1 (or 3%) indicated 15-29 days of supply on hand. Combined this represents 54% that use the item.

Survey participants were asked if their organization/company provides disposable or cloth masks to clients. 67% (or 66) responded yes with 47 (or 47.5%) indicating it can be limited due to supply. 32 (or 33%) responded no, with 6 (or 6.1%) of those participants indicated it was due to no supply, and with 14 (or 14.1%) of those participants indicated it was due to cost.

Do you provide disposable or cloth masks to clients?



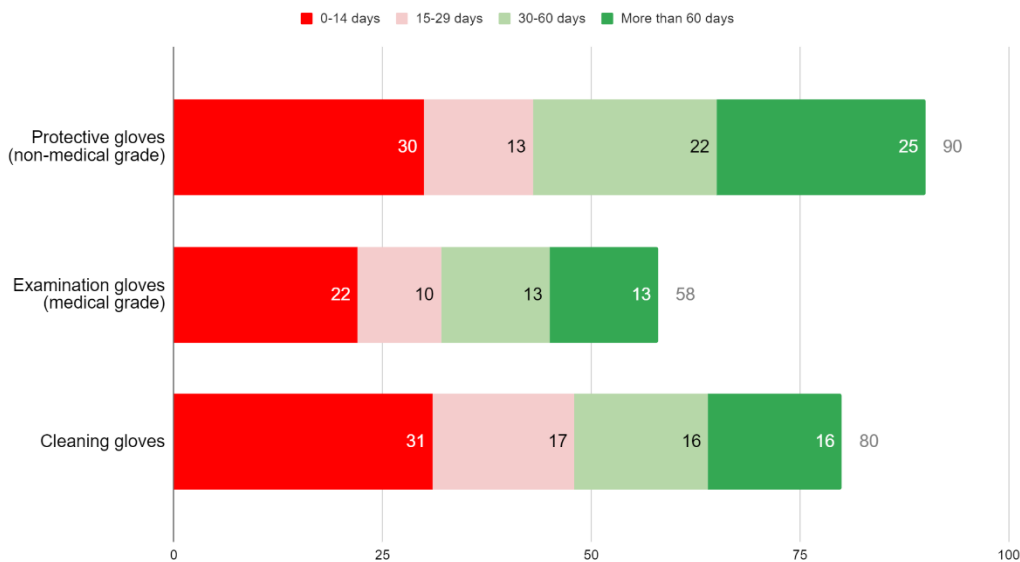
Gloves

Most participants (or 91%) indicated that protective gloves (non-medical grade) apply to their organization (or 5% does not apply and 4% skipped the question). It was also one of the highest selected PPE items. For participants that use protective gloves, 30 (or 33%) indicated less than 14 days of supply on hand, and 13 (or 14%) indicated 15-29 days of supply on hand. Combined this represents 47% that use the item.

Cleaning gloves were also one of the highest selected PPE items in use among survey participants. Regarding need, 31 (or 39%) of those organizations that use cleaning gloves indicated less than 14 days of supply on hand, and another 17 (or 21%) indicated 15-29 days of supply on hand. Combined this represents 60% that use the item.

For examination gloves, 20 (or 20%) of survey participant organizations indicated it does not apply, and another 21 (or 21%) skipped the question. 22 (or 38%) that use the item indicated less than 14 days of supply on hand, and another 10 (or 17%) indicated 15-29 days of supply on hand. Combined this represents 55% that use the item.

Need for Gloves



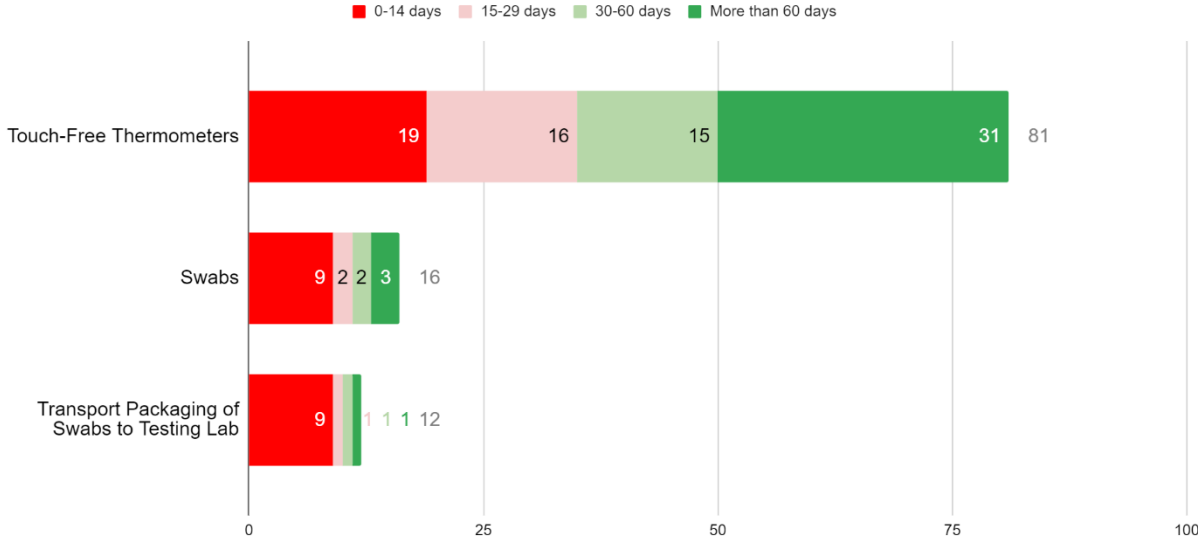
COVID-19 Testing Supplies

Touch-free thermometers were indicated to be the highest in need testing supply among providers with 81 (or 82%) of survey participants indicated it is used in their operations. 19 (or 23%) of survey participants that use in operations indicated less than 14 days of supply on hand, and another 16 (or 20%) indicated 15-29 days of supply on hand. Combined this represents 43% that use the item.

Most participant organizations did not use swabs (60% indicated does not apply and 24% skipped the question) or transport packaging of swabs (63% indicated does not apply and 25% skipped the question).

However, for the 16 (or 16%) participant organizations that use swabs, 9 (or 56%) indicated less than 14 days of supply on hand, and 2 (or 13%) included 15-29 days of supply on hand. For the 12 (or 12%) participant organizations that use transport packaging of swabs to testing labs, 9 (or 75%) indicated 0-14 days of supply on hand, and another 1 (or 8%) indicated 15-29 days of supply on hand.

Need for Testing Supplies

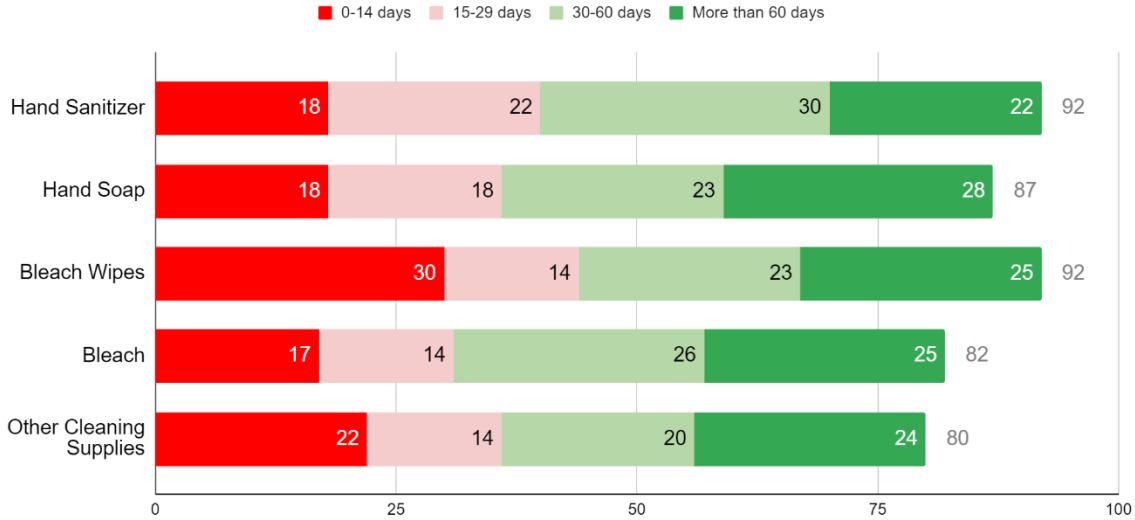


Basic PPE Supplies and Other PPE

Hand sanitizer was one of the highest in use PPE items with only 3 organizations indicating it does not apply and 4 skipped the question. 18 (or 20%) of participant organizations that use in operations indicated less than 14 days of supply on hand, and 22 (or 24%) indicated 15-29 days of supply on hand. Combined this represents 44% that use the item.

Hand soap was also one of the highest in use PPE items with only 2 organizations indicating it does not apply and 10 skipped the question. 18 (or 21%) of participant organizations that use in operations indicated less than 14 days of supply on hand, and 18 (or 21%) indicated 15-29 days of supply on hand. Combined this represents 42% that use the item.

Basic PPE Supplies



Bleach wipes were also one of the highest in use PPE items with only 3 organizations indicating it does not apply and 4 skipped the question. 30 (or 33%) of participant organizations that use in operations indicated less than 14 days of supply on hand, and 14 (or 15%) indicated 15-29 days of supply on hand. Combined this represents 48% that use the items.

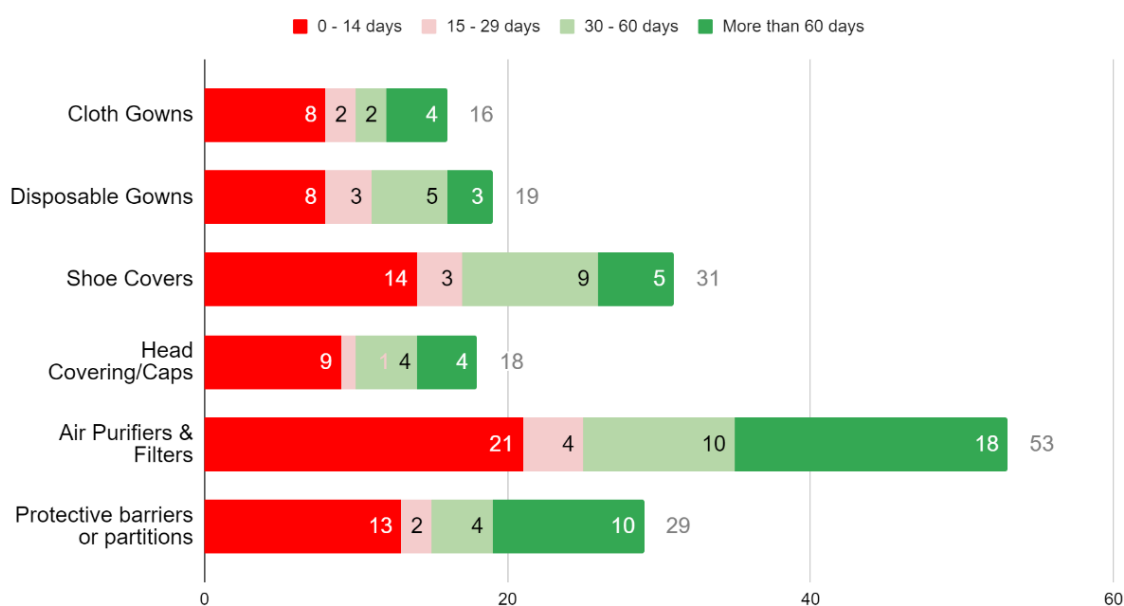
Bleach was also one of the highest in use PPE items with only 6 organizations indicating it does not apply and 11 skipped the question. 17 (or 21%) of participant organizations that use in operations indicated less than 14 days of supply on hand, and

14 (or 17%) indicated 15-29 days of supply on hand. Combined this represents 38% that use the items.

Other cleaning supplies were also one of the highest in use PPE items with only 8 organizations indicating it does not apply and 11 skipped the question. 22 (or 28%) of participant organizations that use in operations indicated less than 14 days of supply on hand, and 14 (or 18%) indicated 15-29 days of supply on hand. Combined this represents 46% that use the items.

For air purifiers and filters, 33 (or 33%) of survey participant organizations indicated it does not apply, and another 13 (or 13%) skipped the question. 21 (or 40%) that use the item indicated less than 14 days of supply on hand, and another 4 (or 8%) indicated 15-29 days of supply on hand. Combined this represents 48% that use the item.

Other PPE



For other PPE that follows below, these items generally were not used by most survey participants – 52% to 61% indicated it does not apply to their operations, and when combined with those that skipped the questions, it increases to 69% to 84%.

For those 16 organizations that use cloth gowns, 8 (or 50%) of those organization that use this PPE indicated 14 days or less of supply on hand.

For those 19 organizations that use disposable gowns in their operations, 8 (or 42%) indicated less than 14 days of supply on hand.

For those 31 organizations that use shoe covers in their operations, 14 (or 45%) indicated less than 14 days of supply on hand.

For those 18 organizations that use head coverings/caps, 9 (or 50%) indicated 14 days or less of supply on hand.

For those 29 organizations that use protective barriers or partitions, 13 (or 45%) indicated 14 days or less of supply on hand.

In the survey, participants were asked an open-ended question to identify PPE supplies/equipment not listed in the survey. Eleven participants shared the following needs:

- Food grade sanitizer
- Visual spacers
- Lysol spray
- Electrostatic sprayers
- Waterproof aprons with pockets
- Thermometers
- Towels/rags for cleaning

In addition, participants also commented for emphasizing the need or difficulty to procure gloves, hand sanitizer, hand soap, and cleaning supplies.

PPE Budgets and Resources

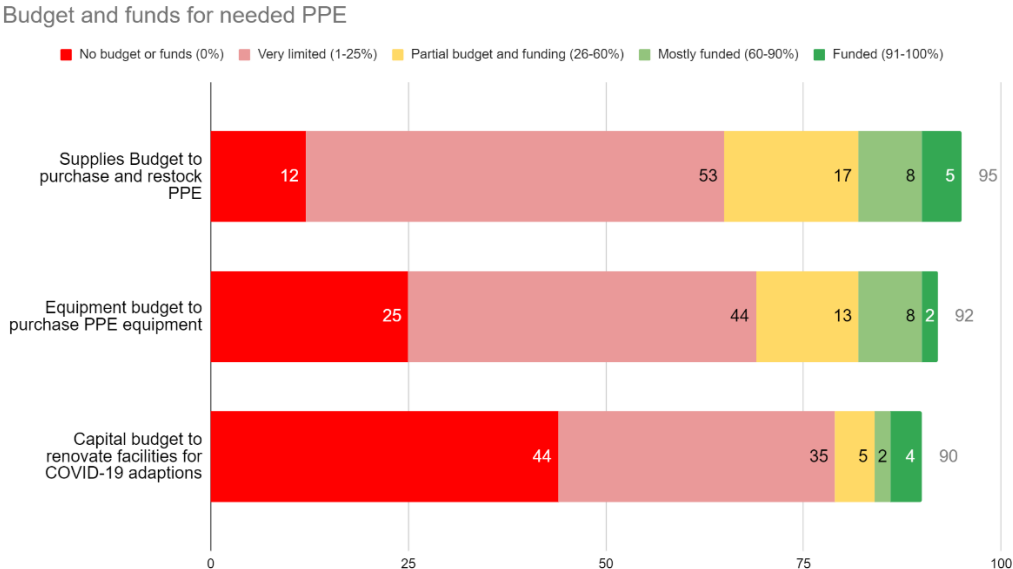
Survey participants were asked to indicate their budget and funds for needed PPE. They were also asked associated questions regarding “where to go” for buying PPE, knowledge of requesting PPE from emergency operating centers, and perceived availability of PPE items in communities.

Budget and Funds for Needed PPE

Regarding organization/company budgets for supplies to purchase and restock PPE, 12 (or 13%) indicated no budget or funds, 65 (or 68%) indicated no- and very limited-budgets, and 82 (or 86%) indicated no-, very limited- and partial-budgets. Note 4 participants skipped the question.

Regarding organization/company equipment budgets for PPE, 25 (or 27%) of survey participants indicated no budget, 69 (or 75%) indicated no- and very limited-budgets, and 82 (or 89%) indicated no-, very limited- and partial-budgets. Note 7 participants skipped the question.

Regarding organization/company capital budgets to renovate facilities for COVID-19 adaptations, 44 (or 49%) indicated no budget, 79 (or 88%) indicated no- and very limited-budgets, and 84 (or 93%) indicated no-, very limited- and partial-budgets. Note 9 participants skipped the question.



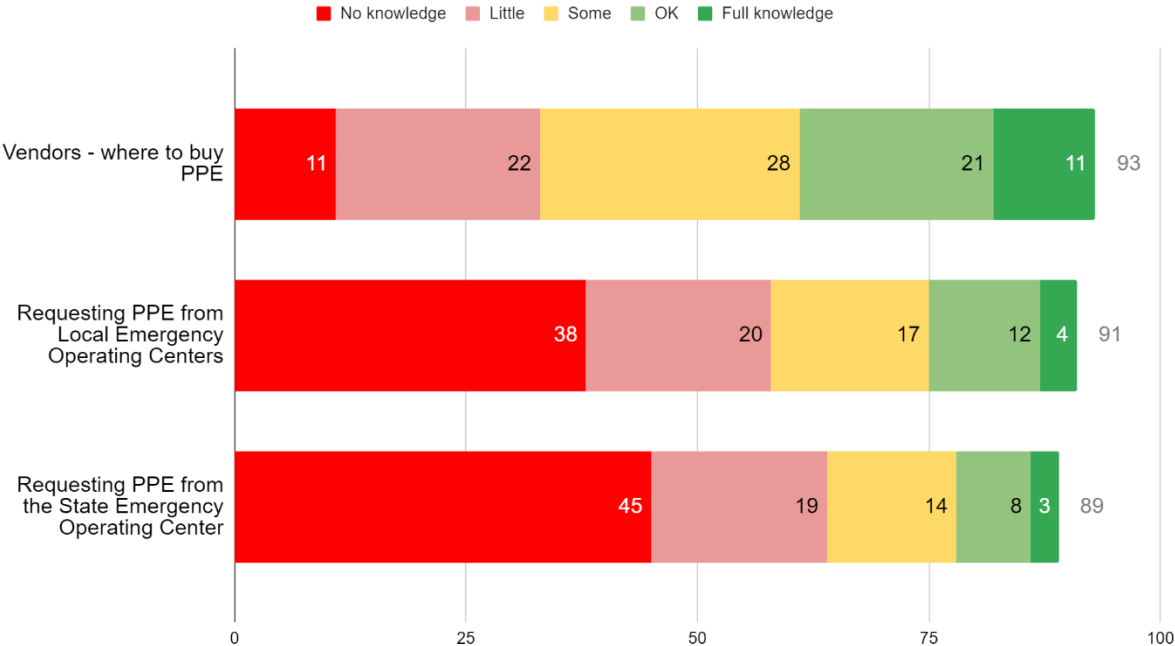
Knowledge of Vendors and EOC Resources

Survey participants were asked to indicate their knowledge of vendors or “where to buy” PPE. 11 (or 12%) indicated no knowledge, 33 (or 35%) indicated no- and little-knowledge, and 61 (or 66%) indicated no-, little- and some-knowledge. Note 6 participants skipped the question.

Survey participants were also asked to indicate their knowledge of requesting PPE from local emergency operating centers. 38 (or 42%) indicated no knowledge, 58 (or 64%) indicated no- and little-knowledge, and 75 (or 82%) indicated no-, little- and some-knowledge. Note 8 participants skipped the question.

Survey participants were also asked to indicate their knowledge of requesting PPE from the state emergency operating center. 45 (or 51%) indicated no knowledge, 64 (or 72%) indicated no- and little-knowledge, and 78 (or 88%) indicated no-, little- and some-knowledge. Note 10 participants skipped the question.

Knowledge of where to go for PPE supplies & resources



PPE Availability in Communities

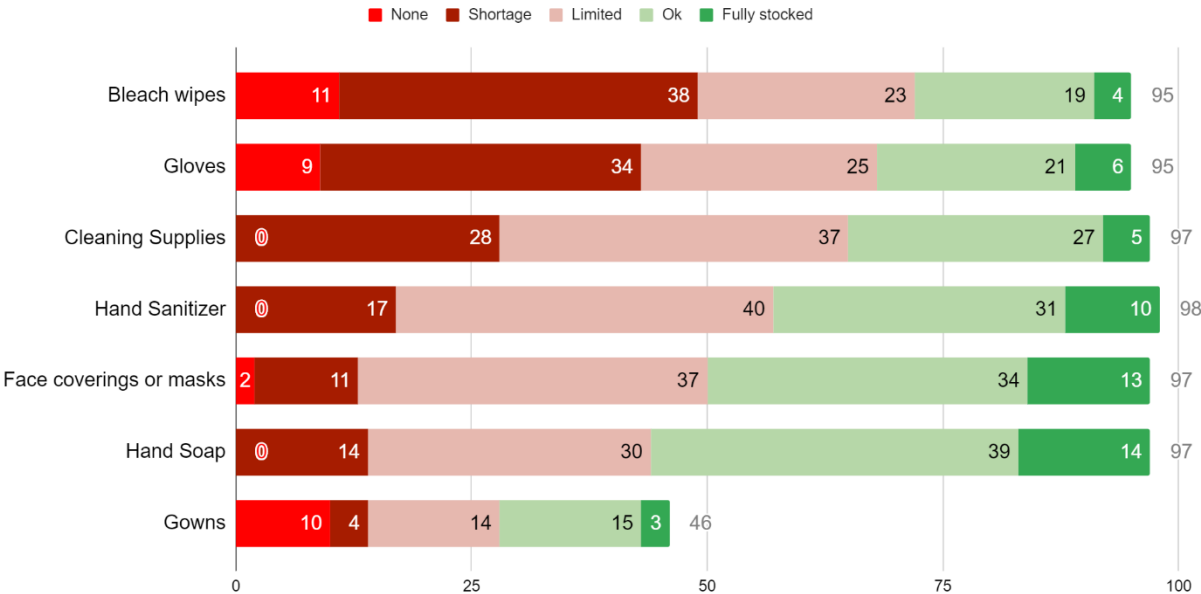
Survey participants were asked to rate the perceived availability (from individual perspectives) of PPE items in communities (e.g. stores, retailers, or other resources like local EOCs or regional organizations). From a selection of seven PPE items, the top two most perceived in limited availability (combined responses for none, shortage and limited) were bleach wipes and gloves.

For bleach wipes, 11% of participants indicated none locally available, another 38% indicated a shortage, and another 23% indicated a limited amount of the item in their community. Combined this represents 72% of all participants. Note 1 participant indicated it does not apply to their organization and 3 skipped the question.

For gloves, 9% of participants indicated none locally available, another 34% indicated a shortage, and another 25% indicated a limited amount of the item in their community. Combined this represents 68% of all participants. Note 1 participant indicated it does not apply to their organization and 3 skipped the question.

Local availability of PPE items

Rate the availability of PPE items in your community (e.g. stores, retailers or other resources like local EOCs or regional organizations)



For cleaning supplies, 28% indicated a shortage, and another 37% indicated a limited amount of the item in their community. Combined this represents 65% of all participants. Note no participant indicated it does not apply to their organization and 2 skipped the question.

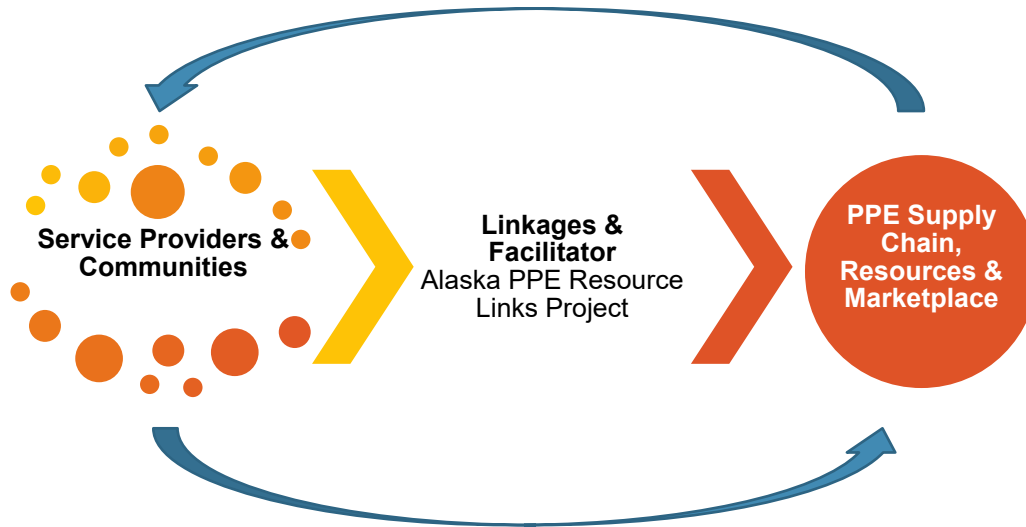
For hand sanitizer, 17% indicated a shortage, and another 40% indicated a limited amount of the item in their community. Combined this represents 57% of all participants. Note no participant indicated it does not apply to their organization and 1 skipped the question.

For face coverings or masks, 2% of participants indicated none locally available, another 11% indicated a shortage, and another 38% indicated a limited amount of the item in their community. Combined this represents 51% of all participants. Note no participant indicated it does not apply to their organization and 2 skipped the question.

For hand soap, 14% indicated a shortage, and another 30% indicated a limited amount of the item in their community. Combined this represents 44% of all participants. Note no participant indicated it does not apply to their organization and 2 skipped the question.

For gowns, 10% of participants indicated none locally available, another 4% indicated a shortage, and another 14% indicated a limited amount of the item in their community. Combined this represents 28% of all participants. Note 40 participants indicated it does not apply to their organization and 13 skipped the question.

2020 | Alaska PPE Resource Links Project



Project Vision

To advance public health by linking PPE resources with service providers.

Funded in part by the

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