

HIV, STI, & Viral Hepatitis Sentinel Network

Virtual Meeting: Ending the HIV Epidemic Query

August 27, 2019

Agenda

- Introductions
- EtE Overview
- EtE Query Results
- Discussion

Introductions



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Latisia Grant

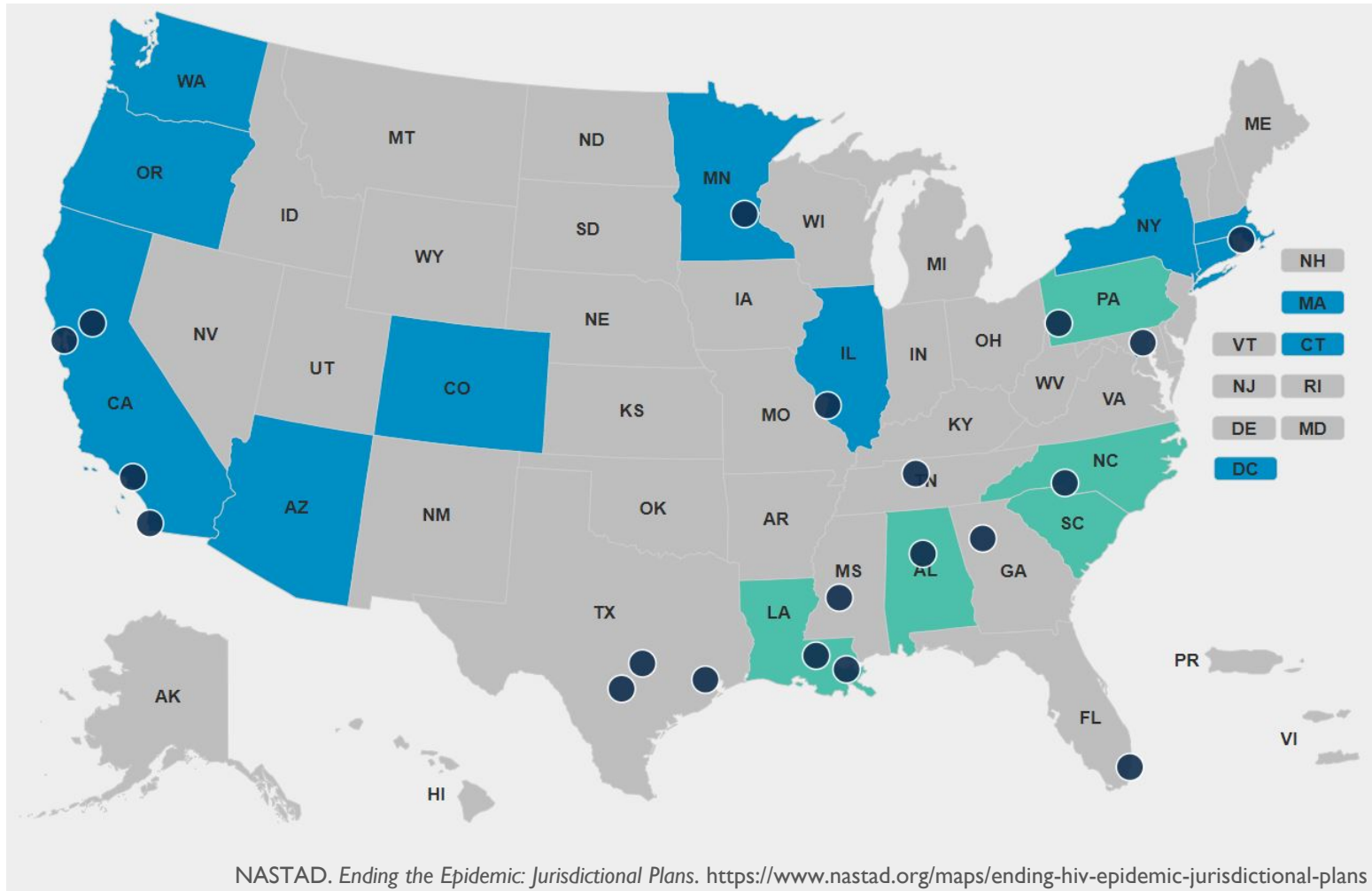
**Senior Program Analyst,
HIV, STI, & Viral Hepatitis**

NACCHO

EtE Overview: How did we get here?

- National HIV/AIDS Strategy: Updated to 2020
- UNAIDS: *Ending the AIDS Epidemic by 2030 and Fast-Track Cities Initiative*
- Jurisdictional (local and state) plans to end the HIV epidemic
- On December 1, 2018, the Act Now: End AIDS Coalition and AIDS United released *Ending the HIV Epidemic in the United States: A Roadmap for Federal Action*
- On February 5, 2019, *Ending the HIV Epidemic (EtHE): A Plan for America* was announced during the State of the Union Address

Jurisdictional EtE Plans

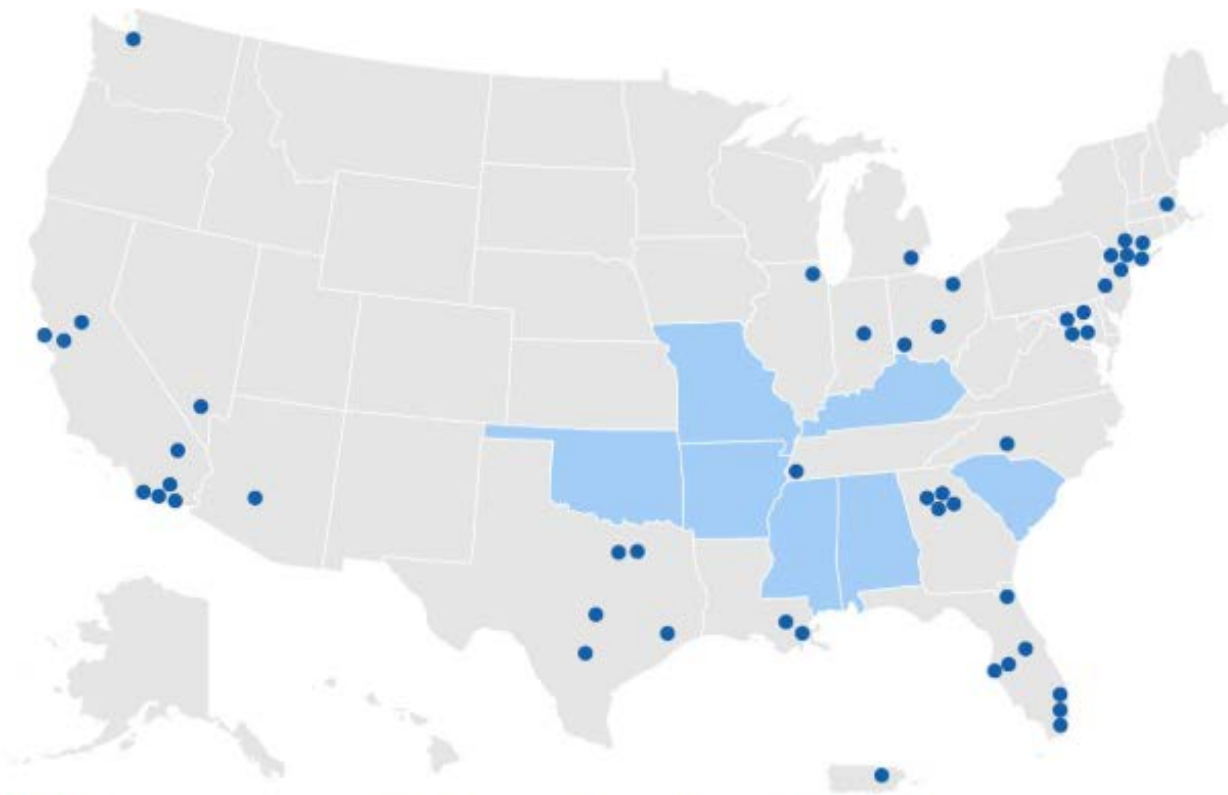


-  State plan available
-  State plan in development
-  Local plan available or in development

Federal EtHE Initiative

- Announced during the 2019 State of the Union Address
- Aims to reduce the number of new HIV infections by:
 - 75% within 5 years
 - 90% within 10 years
- Phase I: During the first 5 years, focus will be on the 48 counties, plus Washington, DC, and San Juan, PR, where more than 50% of HIV diagnoses occurred in 2016 and 2017, and 7 states with a substantial number of HIV diagnoses in rural areas
- Phase II: Efforts will be even more widely disseminated across the nation to reduce new infections by 90 percent by 2030
- Phase III: Intensive case management will be implemented to maintain the number of new infections at fewer than 3,000 per year

Phase I Jurisdictions

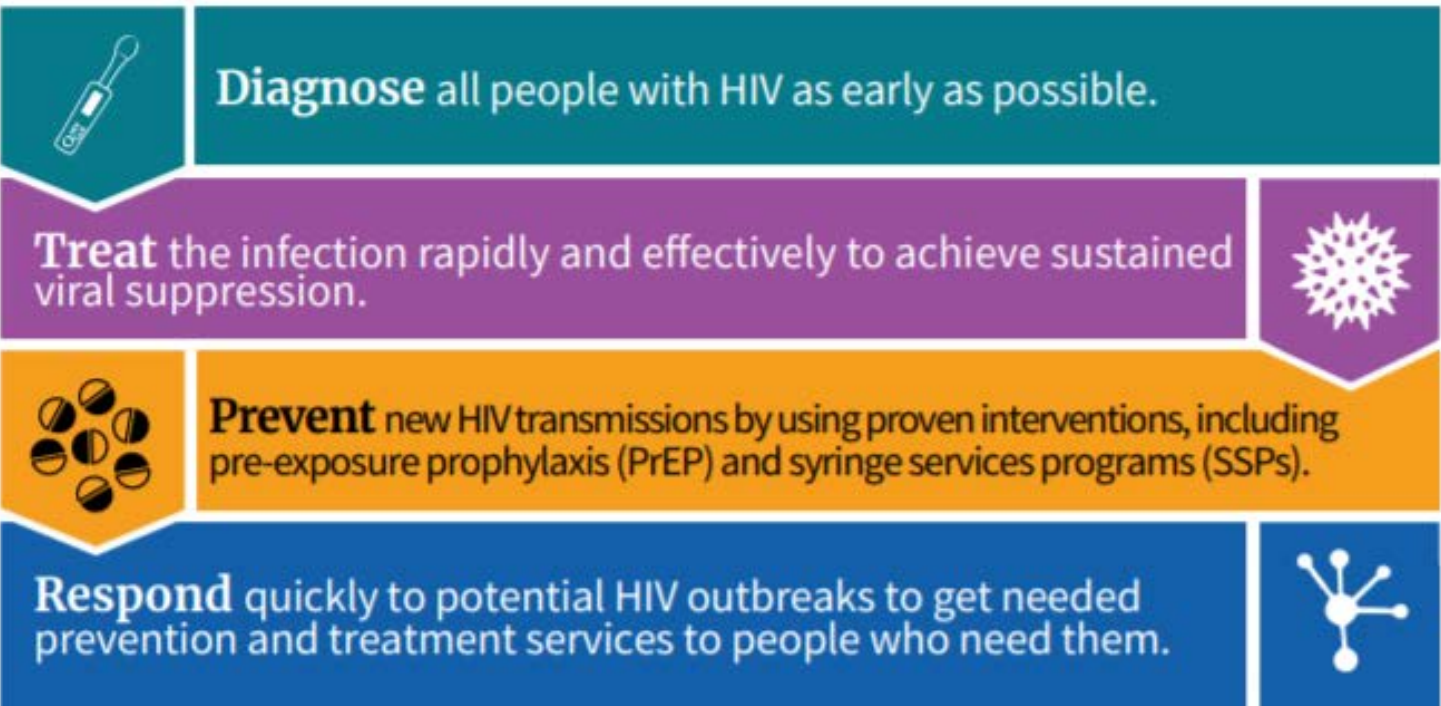


48 high burden counties, Washington, D.C., San Juan P.R., and 7 states with a substantial rural burden

List: <https://files.hiv.gov/s3fs-public/Ending-the-HIV-Epidemic-Counties-and-Territories.pdf>

EtE Initiative Pillars

HHS will work with each community to establish local teams on the ground to tailor and implement strategies to:



Additional information available at www.hiv.gov.

HIV, STI, & Viral Hepatitis Sentinel Network

Purpose:

- Assess local health department (LHD) efforts, needs, challenges, and successes
- Advance NACCHO's ability to fulfill its mission to be a leader, partner, catalyst, and voice for LHDs

Membership:

- Open to all LHDs
- Currently more than 130 LHDs from over 40 states

Member Responsibilities:

- Complete brief surveys on an approximately quarterly basis

EtE Query

Purpose

- For LHDs engaged in EtE efforts, assess how they are engaged and what they may need to advance this work
- For LHDs not engaged in jurisdictional EtE efforts, assess interest in jurisdictional plan development and what may be needed to jump start the discussion locally

Respondents

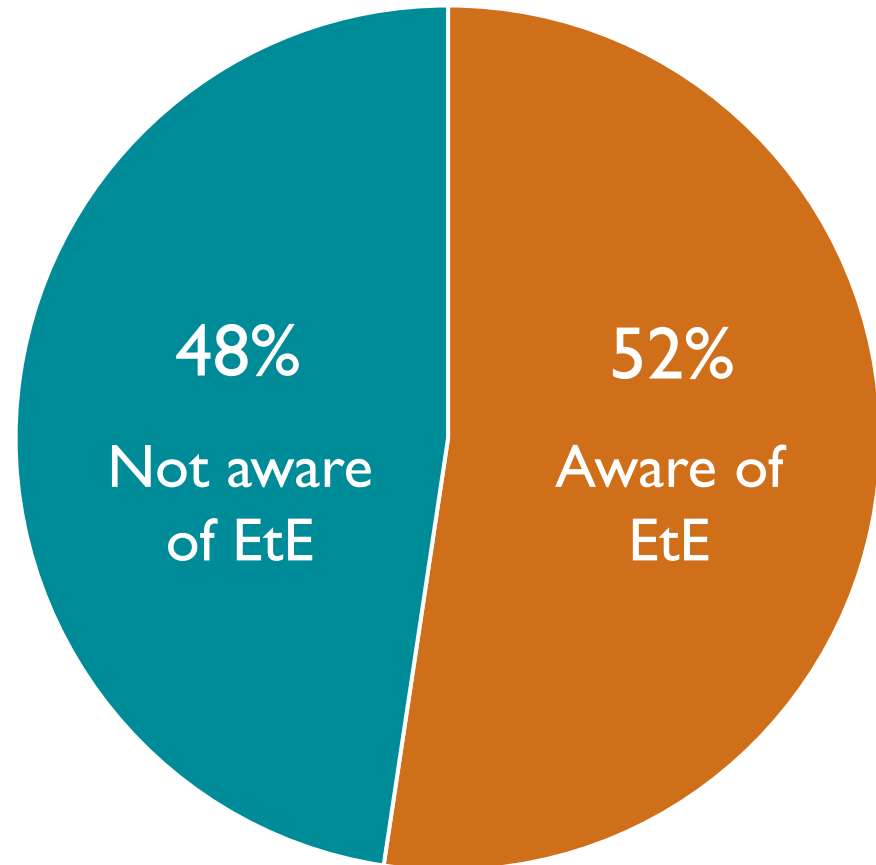
- Query conducted Feb-Mar 2019
- 63/135 (47%) Sentinel Network members responded
- 31 states represented in results

Query Results

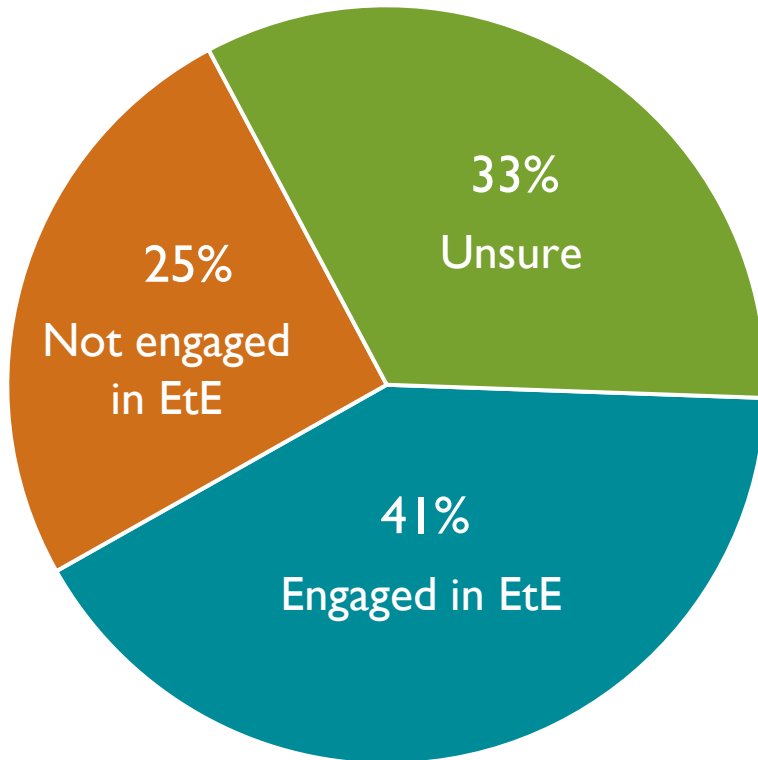
Local Health Department Engagement in Jurisdictional
Ending the HIV Epidemic Initiatives

Awareness of EtE Initiatives

48% of LHDs were **unfamiliar with EtE plans or initiatives** prior to receiving this query



Jurisdictional Engagement in EtE Initiatives



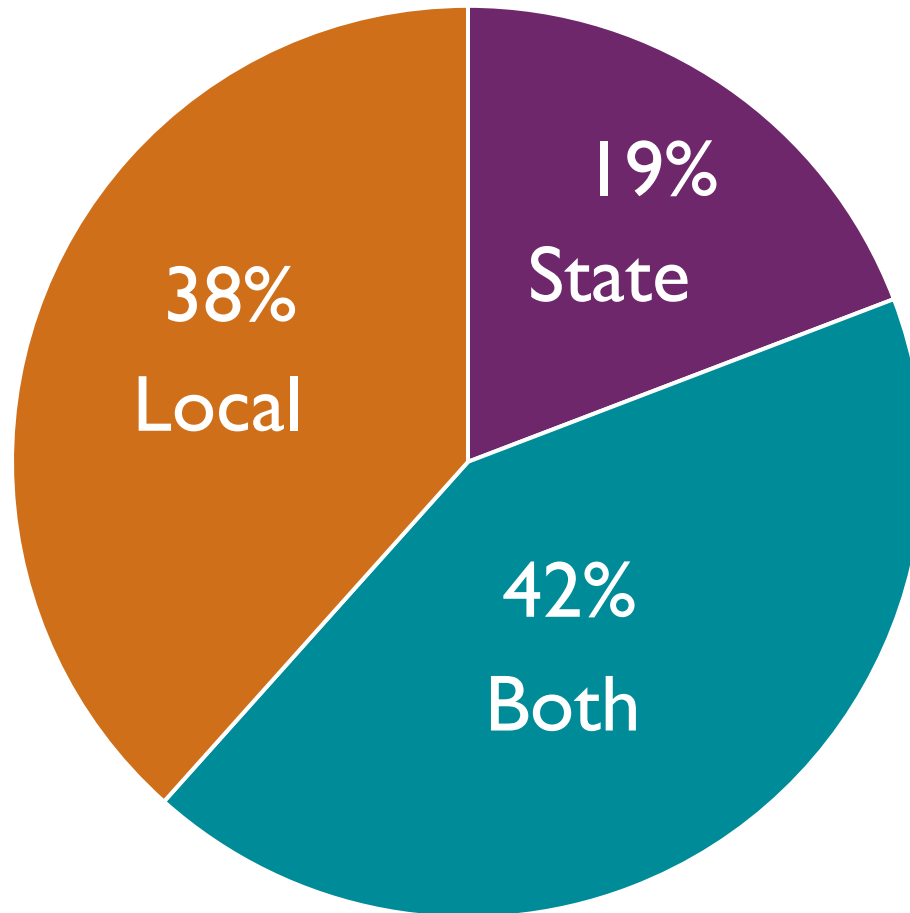
LHDs engaged in EtE

were more likely to:

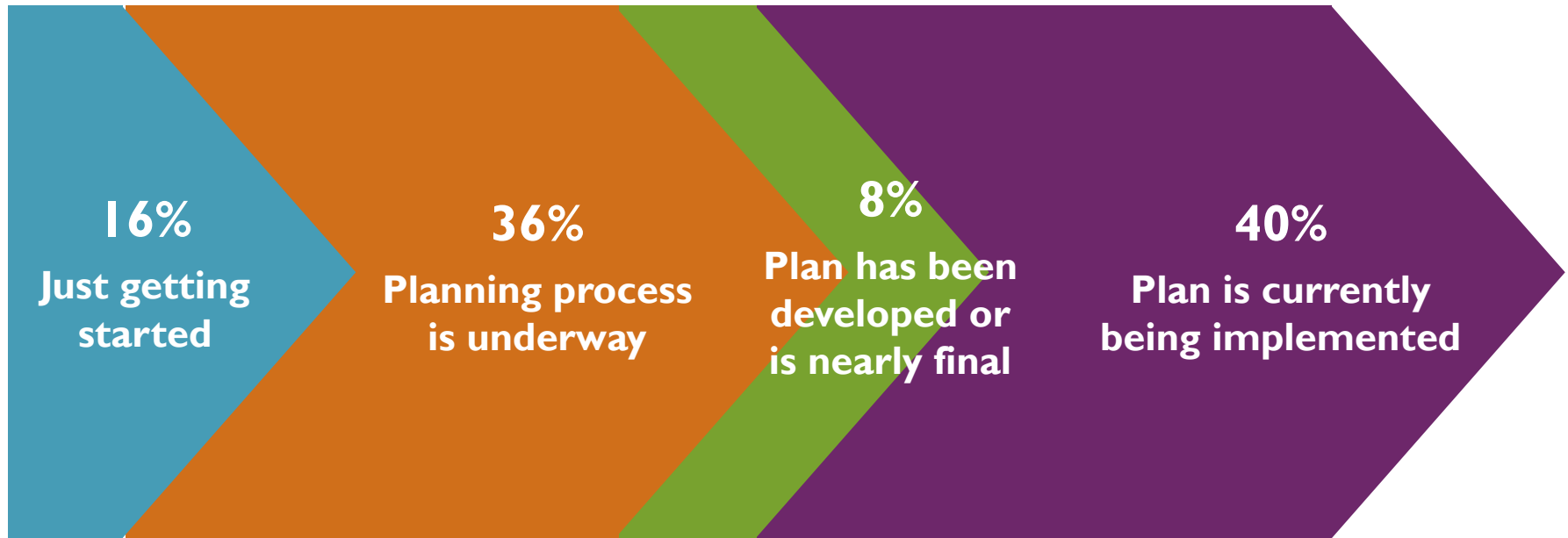
- Serve **large or extra-large** populations
- Serve **urban** communities
- Be in the **West**, less likely to be in the **South**

For LHDs in Jurisdictions with EtE Initiatives

Jurisdictional EtE Plans



Status of EtE Initiatives



LHD Engagement in EtE Initiatives: In Your Own Words

Community engagement – bringing local leaders together.

Active **co-convener**, work group implementation, data reporting and data sharing. **Implementer** of key plan strategies.

We currently **fund** one hospital and... CBO to address prevention activities.

Recipient and **pass-through funder**... overseeing backbone organization, representation on **leadership committee** ...[and] all subcommittees.

Data accrual, analysis and **epidemiology support**

Carrying out...local level initiatives organized by [state health department].

[We have] **contracted with local CBOs** to implement proposed interventions...Staff have worked with the Committees to **develop metrics** and score cards to **track progress**.

Evolving Roles and Experiences for LHDs

Broadening of our partnerships with community organizations

Currently **not engaged**

We are looking at all methods to EtE including...PrEP which had not been a focus.

There is increased support from [state health department]

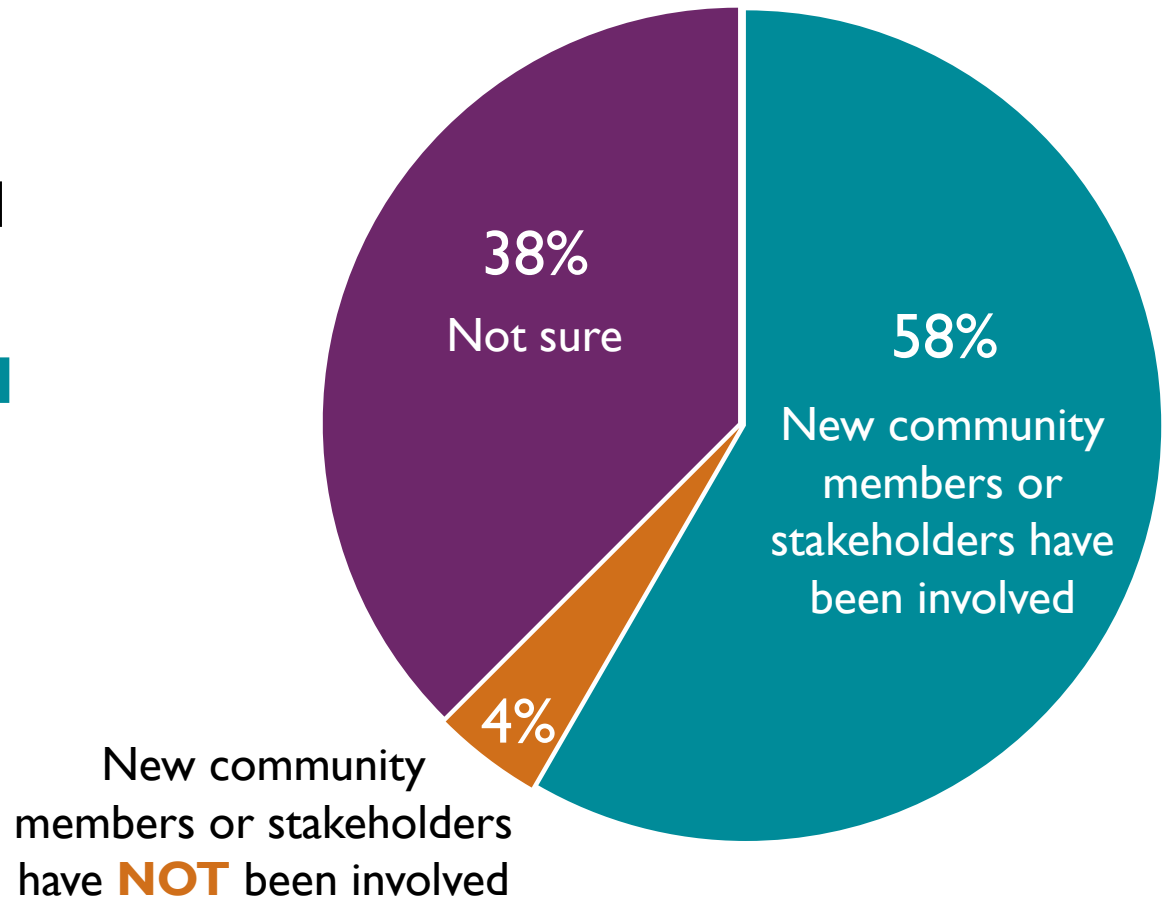
Being **led by community** primarily and not public health. Increased focus on **social justice, policy and advocacy.**

Having a contracted backbone organization has been unique, in that **other HIV planning processes...have really had [LHD] as the convener.**

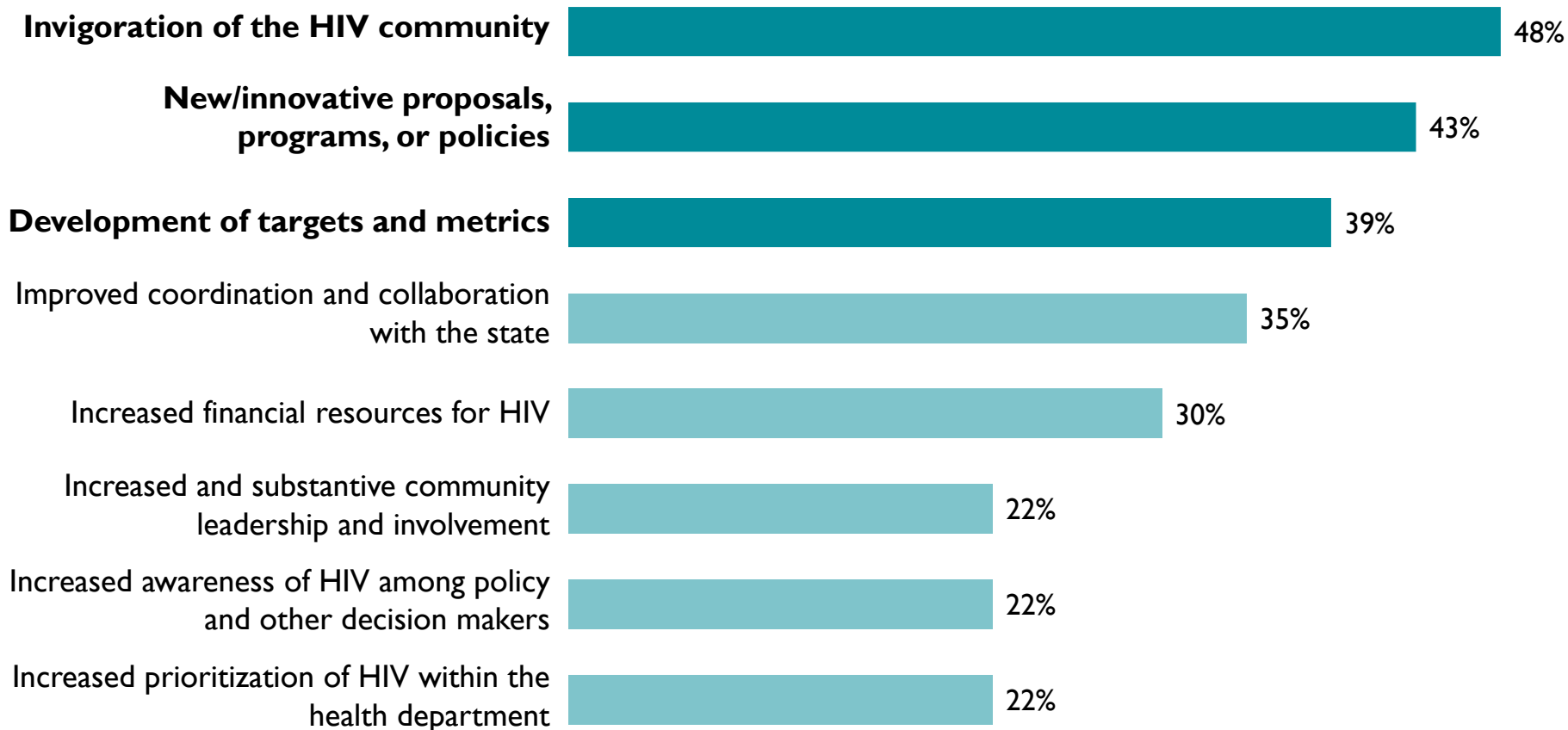
We are **not part of planning** and **not leading.**

Engagement of New Community Members & Stakeholders

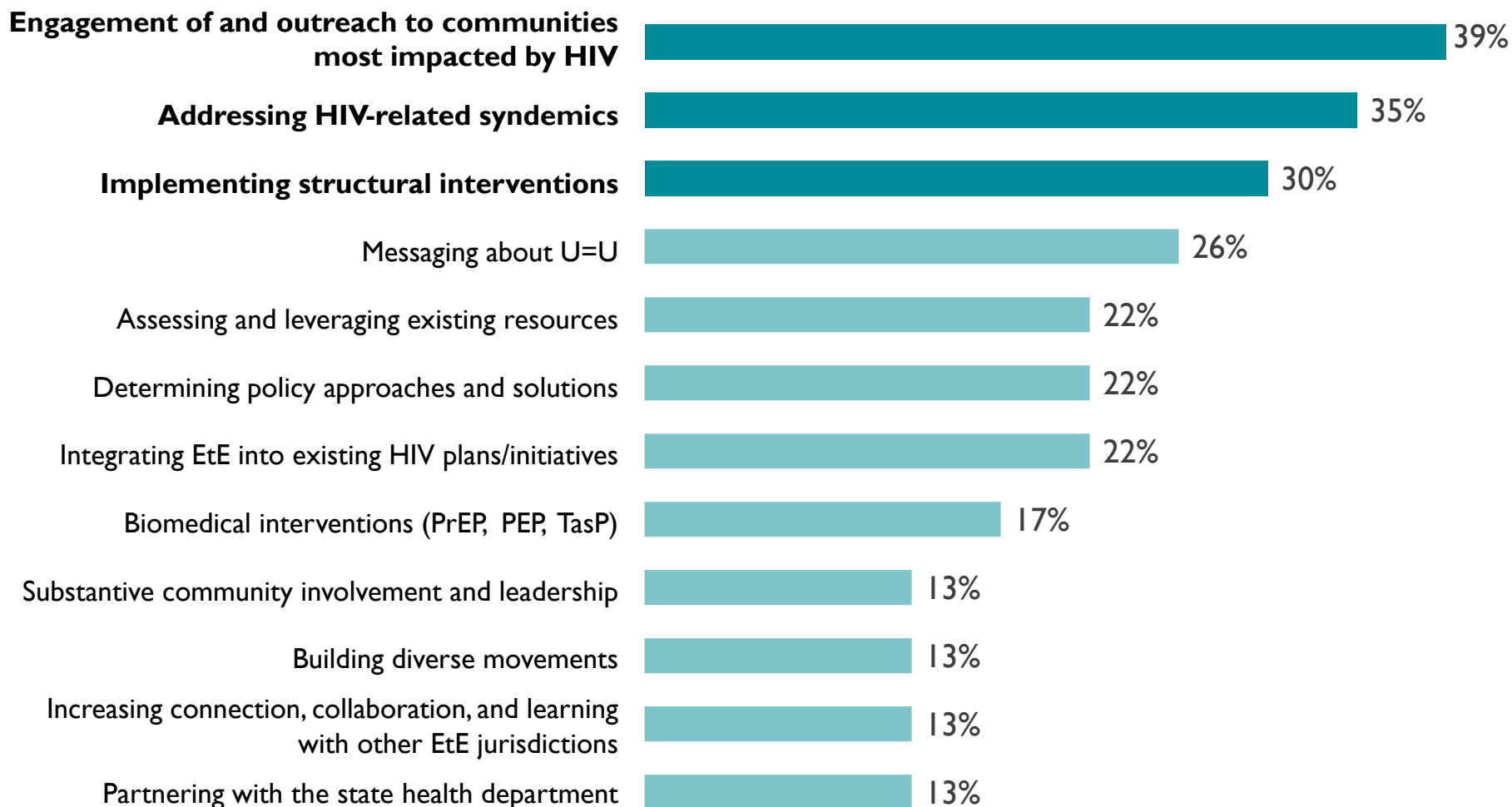
Most LHDs reported that the EtE planning process has **engaged new community members or stakeholders**



Benefits of Jurisdictional EtE Initiatives



Technical Assistance Needs



Policy Issues and Challenges

Need to **de-criminalize HIV**

State health department has improved surveillance of new HIV diagnoses - but **this information is not able to be easily shared** with the agencies that do the outreach work and testing.

Homelessness and IDU

Homelessness & unstable housing

Need to have **access to the school system**

Criminal justice reform

A need to address HIV related **stigma** in the community, addressing **mental health, psychosocial barriers, financial barriers** among people who live with HIV/AIDS to retain in care

Increase in [substance use disorder] **harm reduction**, treatment & recovery services/ resources

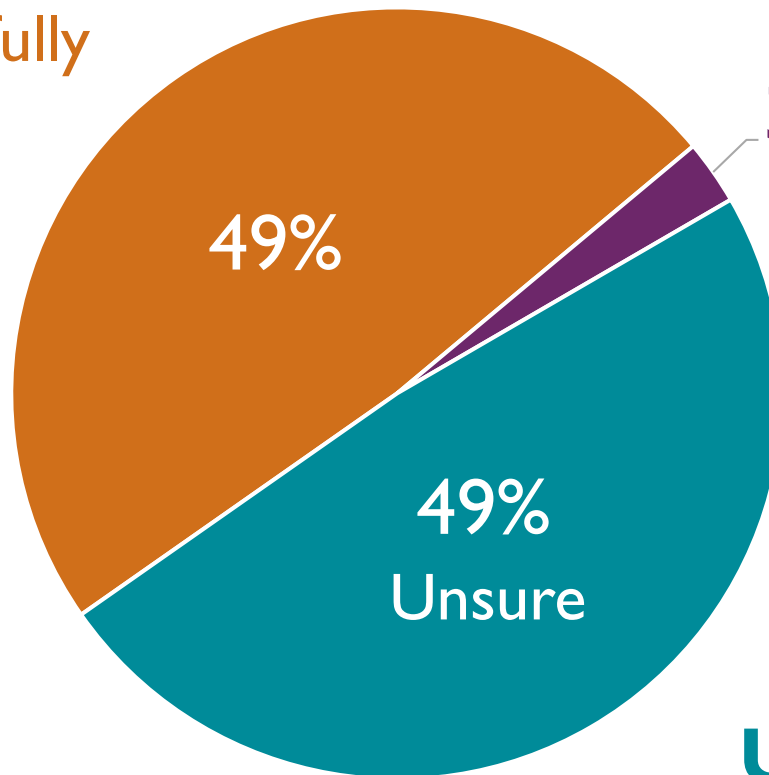
For LHDs Without or Unsure of Jurisdictional EtE Initiatives

Discussion of EtE by LHD or Community



Anticipated Impact of EtE Initiatives

Yes, an EtE plan would meaningfully impact our HIV response



No, an EtE plan would not meaningfully impact our HIV response

Unsure whether an EtE plan would be beneficial



For those that reported “No” or “Unsure” about the local impact of EtE initiatives, we heard...

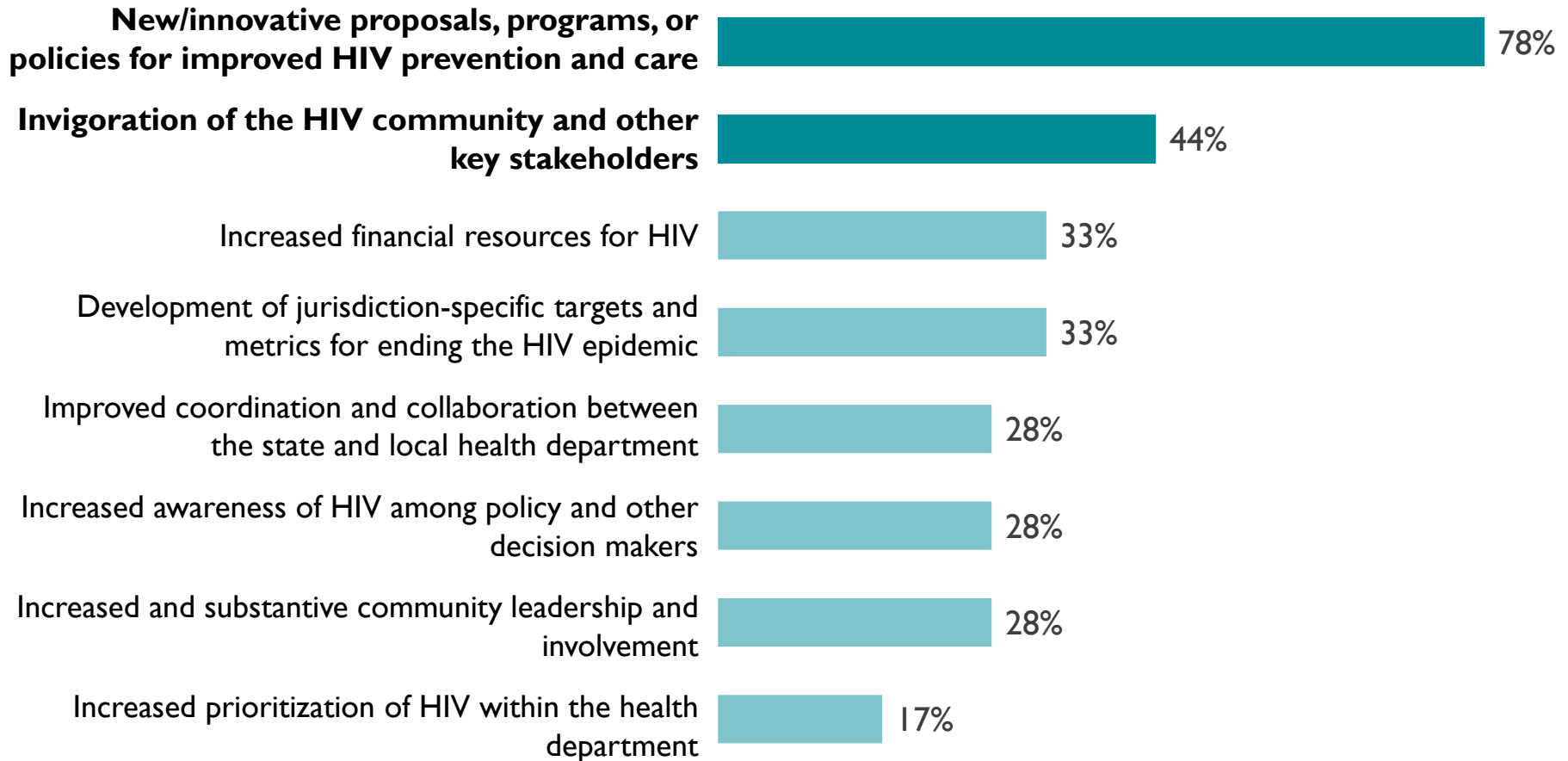
We have a small staff and this is **not a priority** item for us at this time.

We are not engaged at the local level because there are **regional efforts under way**

We have a very **low incidence of HIV** in our county

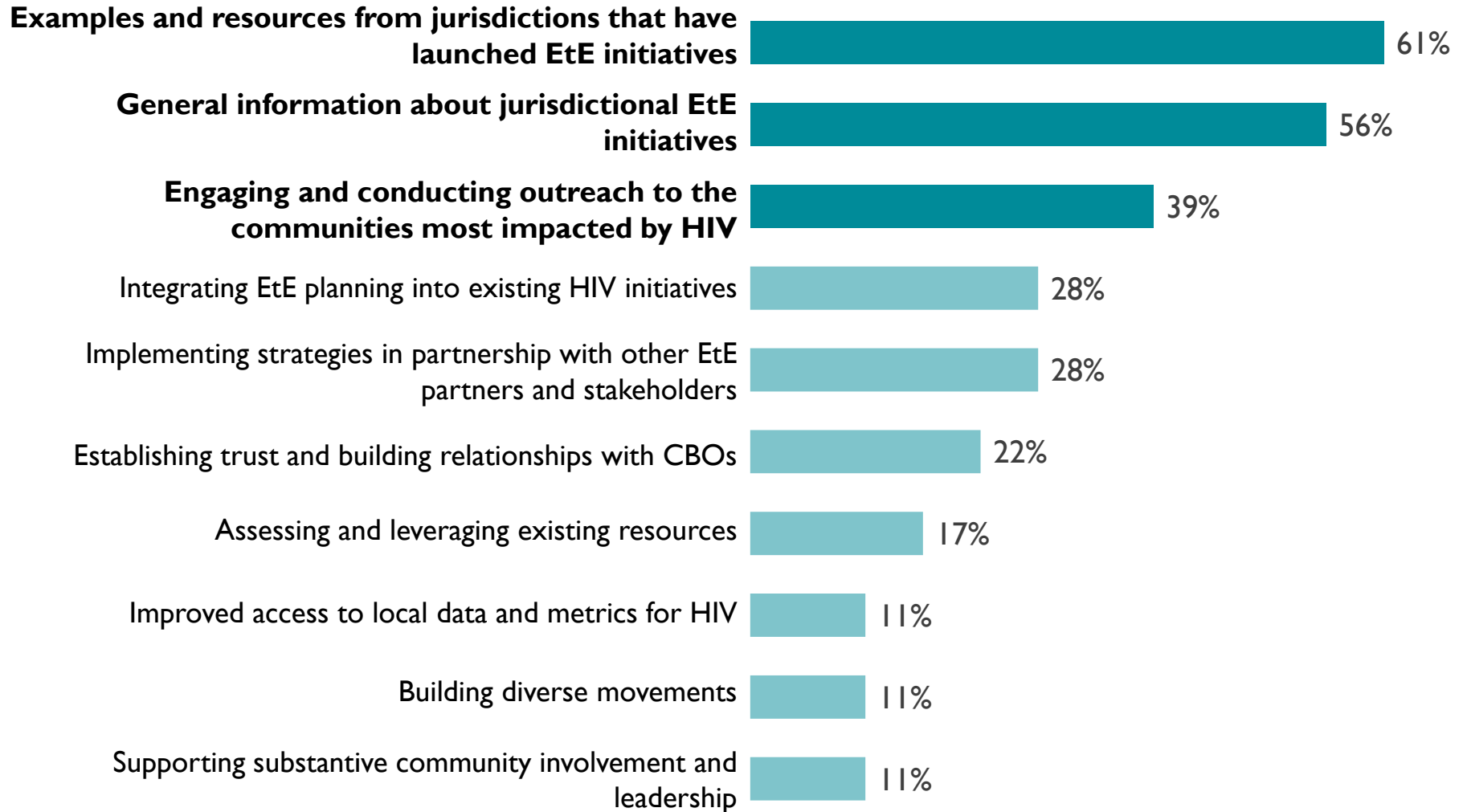
My health department does not currently have **staff**, or extra **funding**, to participate in an EtE initiative.

Anticipated Benefits of EtE Efforts



78% of LHDs not currently engaged in EtE efforts consider **new strategies for HIV prevention and care** as the greatest potential benefit of developing an EtE plan

Anticipated Technical Assistance Needs



Technical Assistance Needs

We would like to learn more about **how other local health departments are initiating an End the Epidemic plan.**

Training on **community engagement**

Engaging with similar jurisdictions that have had successes as well as best practices.

Marketing campaigns to address risk behavior and prevention, including PrEP

Information on planning process, funding opportunities, innovative ideas

We [receive] overwhelming amounts of requests with very small staff. There are no delineations...as to **what might be appropriate for small, rural, or economically challenged programs.**

Policy Issues and Challenges

HIV case reporting and follow up are performed at a state level, rather than at the local level.

Minors under 18 years old **cannot access PrEP without parental permission.** Also minors cannot seek HIV care without parental permission.

Getting **law enforcement approval** [for **syringe service programs**] has been a struggle.

Inability to have **needle exchange program**, inability to have real conversations with students in **schools** about how to protect themselves from STI/HIV

Criminalization laws surrounding HIV

There continues to be **stigma** associated with HIV, and in very conservative [state], it's harder to get someone to prioritize affordable treatment.

Key Takeaways

- Need for increased awareness of jurisdictional EtE efforts
- EtE initiatives provide opportunities to work with community and other partners in different ways
- Innovation and increased community engagement as key benefits of EtE initiatives
- Policies, inequities, stigma, and structural barriers challenge ability to end the HIV epidemic
- NACCHO should increase communication to members about EtE initiatives and support engagement and learning across jurisdictions.

Questions?

Discussion

- What new insights or understanding have you gained from these results?
- Do you think that awareness of EtE initiatives has increased since announcement of the federal EtE initiative?
- What opportunities do you see for EtE efforts as a result of the federal initiative?
- What concerns do you have about the approach for the federal initiative to end the HIV epidemic?
- If you are in a Phase I jurisdiction, what has your experience been to date?
- How do you want to stay connected and learn from EtE initiatives across the country?

Thank You!