

NACCHO'S 2016 PROFILE STUDY: LEADERSHIP CHARACTERISTICS BY LHD TYPE

Key Findings



SMALL & RURAL LHDs

serve populations of less than 25,000 in rural areas*



MEDIUM & SUBURBAN LHDs

serve populations of 50,000-100,000 in metropolitan areas*



LARGE & URBAN LHDs

serve populations of at least 500,000 in urban areas*

Background and Methods

NACCHO conducts the Profile study every three years to develop a comprehensive description of local health department (LHD) infrastructure and practice. The 2016 Profile study included a total of 2,533 LHDs in the United States, of which 76% completed the survey.

In the Profile study, NACCHO assesses various characteristics of LHDs' top executives. *The three groups presented here are NOT inclusive of all LHDs in the U.S. For example, some LHDs in urban areas serve small populations. These narrowly defined categories illustrate how characteristics may vary based on the LHD setting.

For more information about the Profile study, email profileteam@naccho.org.

51

AVERAGE LEADER AGE IN SMALL, RURAL LHDs



4%
NON-WHITE LEADERS

52

AVERAGE LEADER AGE IN MEDIUM, SUBURBAN LHDs



5%
NON-WHITE LEADERS

54

AVERAGE LEADER AGE IN LARGE, URBAN LHDs



34%
NON-WHITE LEADERS



8:10 LEADERS ARE FEMALE



6:10 LEADERS ARE FEMALE



5:10 LEADERS ARE FEMALE

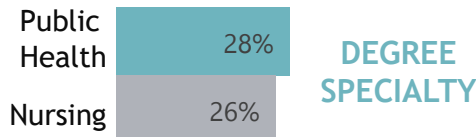
MOST COMMON HIGHEST DEGREE: BACHELORS



MOST COMMON HIGHEST DEGREE: MASTERS



MOST COMMON HIGHEST DEGREE: DOCTORATE



NACCHO Recommendations

- Explore ways to support LHDs in recruiting leaders that are diverse in age, race, and gender
- Ensure LHD leadership tools and resources are appropriate for varying education levels
- Develop resources on LHD leadership core competencies tailored to a broad range of public health expertise