### 2022 Statewide Needs Assessment Survey

# Envisioning the Future: Greenlee County

Arizona Cooperative Extension conducted a statewide needs assessment survey in Fall 2022 to better understand community needs and priorities. Cooperative Extension users, topical experts, and members of the general public from each county were invited to participate via online or paper survey. Participants were shown 99 items across topics relevant to Cooperative Extension and asked to rank how important it is to prioritize each item in their community on a 5-point scale.

Greenlee County had 108 survey responses.



Health and community wellbeing

Education and youth development

Agriculture

Natural resources and the environment

Community and economic development

## **Top Priorities**Identified by Greenlee County Respondents

Percent of respondents who selected "extremely" or "very" important

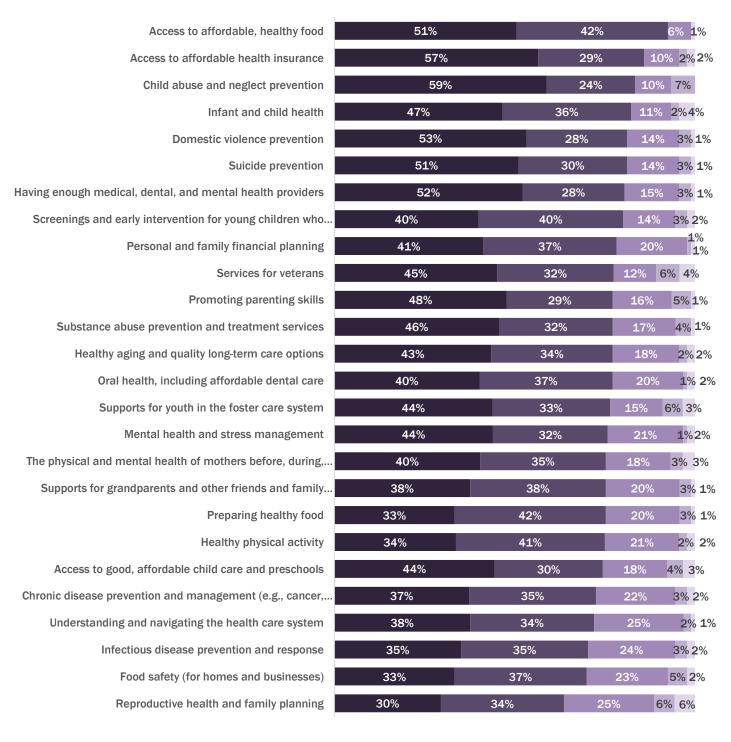
Quality K-12 education, 96
Preserving family or individually-owned farms and ranches, 95%
Water policy and water rights, 93%
Recruitment and retention of qualified teachers, 93%
Access to affordable, healthy food, 92%
Having enough, quality water for irrigation and livestock, 92%
Helping all young people graduate high school or get a GED, 91%
Water-efficient farming and ranching, 88%
Support for new farmers and ranchers, 88%
Affordable housing, 86%
Farm and ranch profitability, 86%
Access to affordable health insurance, 86%
Planning for and reducing the severity of wildfires, 86%
Having enough well-trained agricultural workers, 86%
Planning for and reducing drought effects, 85%
Water quality, 85%
Water conservation, 84%
Child abuse and neglect prevention, 83%
Crop nutrient management (fertilizer and soil amendment), 83%
Youth internships, apprenticeships, and mentoring for career development, 82%



#### **HEALTH AND COMMUNITY WELLBEING**

#### Priorities ranked by "extremely" + "very important"

Between 88 and 93 participants responded to each item in this section.

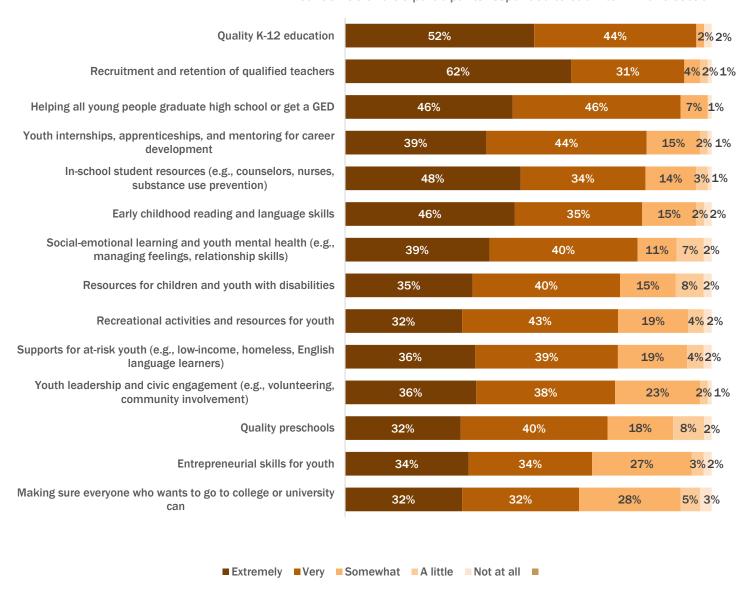


■Extremely ■Very ■Somewhat ■A little ■Not at all

#### **EDUCATION AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

#### Priorities ranked by "extremely" + "very important"

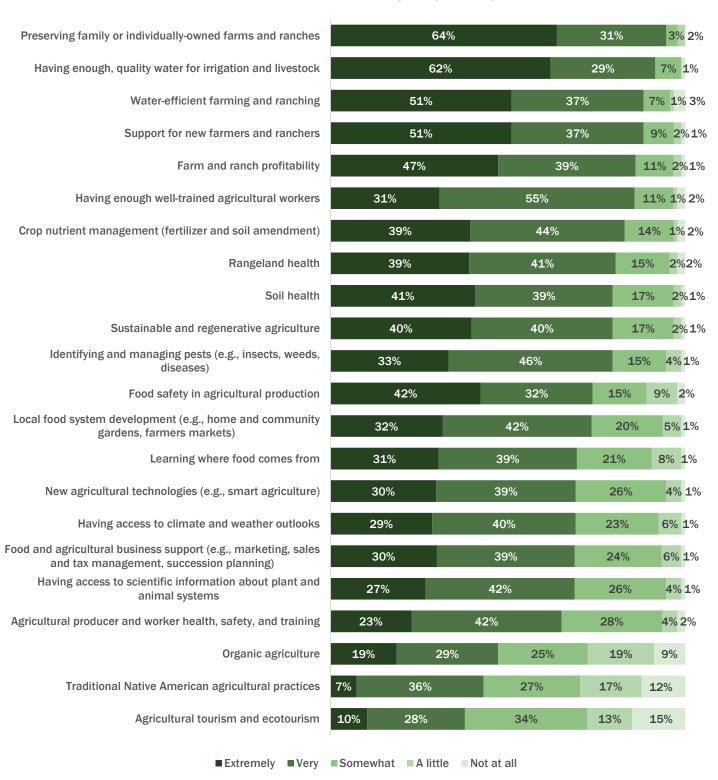
Between 90 and 96 participants responded to each item in this section.



#### **AGRICULTURE**

#### Priorities ranked by "extremely" + "very important"

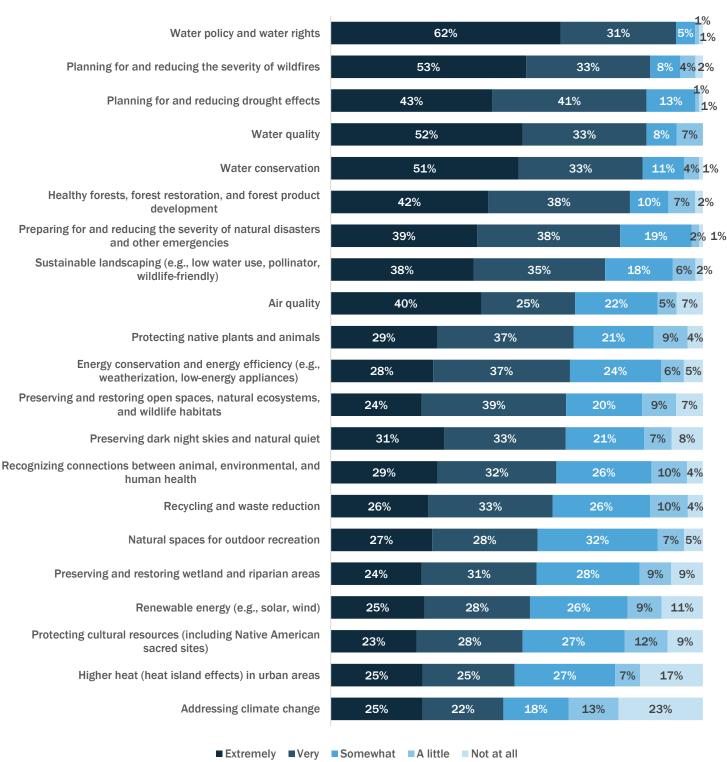
Between 81 and 95 participants responded to each item in this section.



#### **NATURAL RESOURCES**

#### Priorities ranked by "extremely" + "very important"

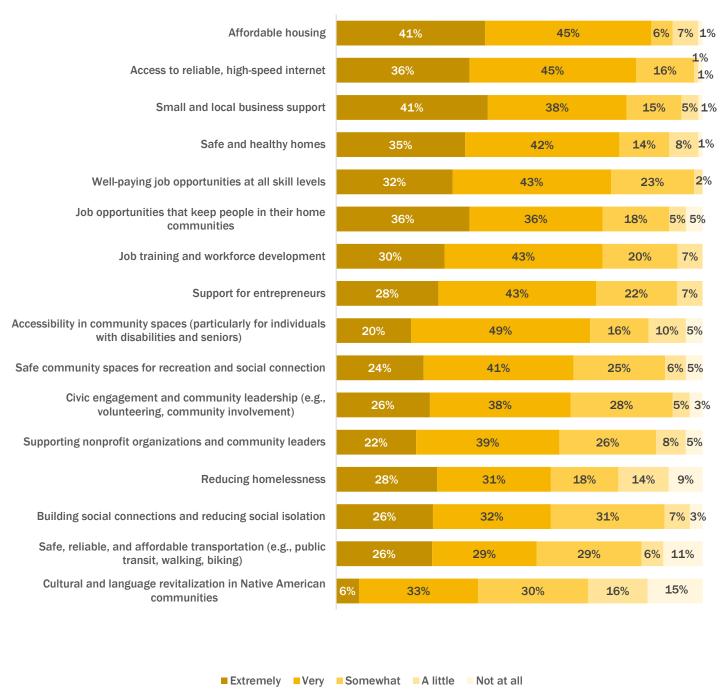
Between 89 and 99 participants responded to each item in this section.



#### COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

#### Priorities ranked by "extremely" + "very important"

Between 80 and 88 participants responded to each item in this section.



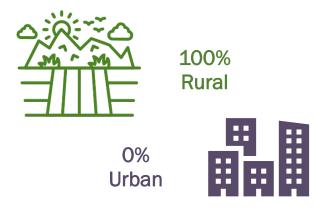
#### WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE SURVEY?

100% of survey participants identified as rural residents.

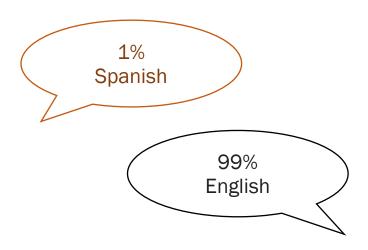
(n=108)

99% of respondents took the survey in **English**.

(n=108)



Note: Rural includes respondents who reported living on tribal lands.

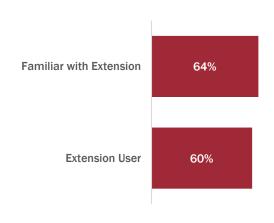


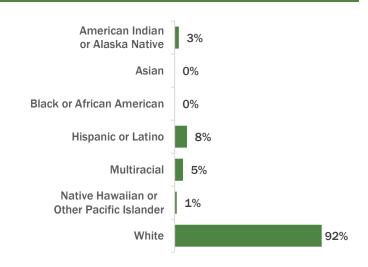
64% of survey participants were **familiar** with Cooperative Extension, and 60% had attended an event or program.

(n=108)

92% of survey respondents identified as **White.** 

(n=77)





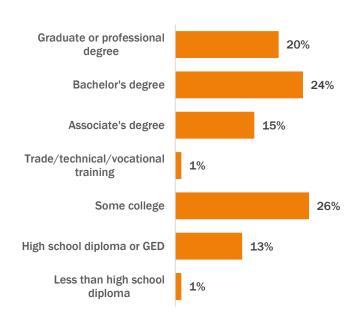
Note: Race/ethnicity categories are inclusive, meaning that respondents are included in each category they selected.

43% of participants had a bachelor's degree or higher.

(n = 86)

31% of participants had an annual household income of less than \$50,000.

(n = 72)



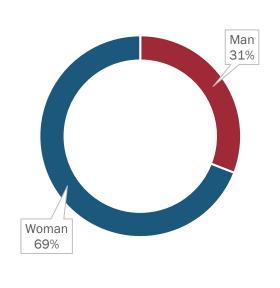


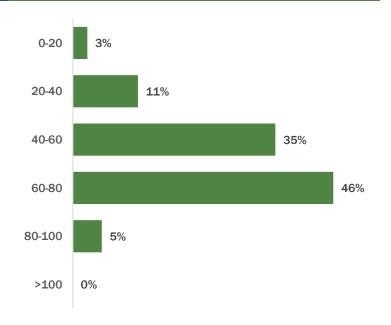
69% of survey respondents identified as female.

(n = 81)

81% of participants were between the ages of 40 - 80 years old.

(n = 79)





#### **ABOUT THIS REPORT**

**Arizona Cooperative Extension** is the outreach arm of the University of Arizona and the Division of Agriculture, Life and Veterinarian Sciences, and Cooperative Extension (ALVSCE) with the mission of engaging with people through applied research and education to improve lives, families, communities, the environment and economies in Arizona and beyond. Arizona Cooperative Extension has offices in every county and five tribal reservations. It is part of a nationwide network of scientists and educators who work with communities to solve problems using scientific and local knowledge.

To better understand community needs and priorities, Arizona Cooperative Extension partnered with the Community Research, Evaluation, and Development (CRED) team within the Norton School of Human Ecology to lead a statewide needs assessment survey effort in 2022. The results summarized in this report can be used to inform strategic planning efforts and to facilitate dialogue about how best to meet community needs.

**The needs assessment survey**, available in English and Spanish, included 99 items across the following topics:

- Health and community well-being (26 items)
- Education and youth development (14 items)
- Community and economic development (16 items)
- Agriculture (22 items)
- Natural resources and the environment (21 items)

Participants were asked to rank how important it is to prioritize each item in their community using the following scale: (5) extremely important, (4) very important, (3) somewhat important, (2) a little important, (1) not at all important, or I don't know (not included in analysis).

Both a web-based version and a paper and pencil version were available in English and Spanish. More details about the survey development and methods can be found in the statewide report.

**Greenlee County** had 108 total survey respondents, recruited by:

<u>In-person distribution:</u> An estimated 35 community members were recruited to participate in the survey by probation officers at the Greenlee County South Annex Building.

<u>Web-based distribution:</u> The survey link was also distributed to the Greenlee County Master Gardeners listserv and emailed to at least 20 personal emails.