## 2022 Statewide Needs Assessment Survey

## Envisioning the Future: Santa Cruz 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.

Santa Cruz County had 165 survey responses.

## **Top Priorities** Identified by Santa Cruz County Respondents

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

Quality K-12 education, 99%
Recruitment and retention of qualified teachers, 97%
Early childhood reading and language skills, 97%
Water quality, 96%
Infant and child health, 96%
Screenings and early intervention for developmental delays, 96%
Having enough medical, dental, and mental health providers, 95%
Water conservation, 95%
Safe and healthy homes, 95%
Affordable housing, 94%
Quality preschools, 94%
Child abuse and neglect prevention, 94%
Domestic violence prevention, 94%
In-school resources (e.g., counselors, nurses, substance use prevention), 93%
Promoting parenting skills, 93%
Supports for grandparents and other friends and family raising children, 93%
Access to affordable health insurance, 93%
Social-emotional learning and youth mental health, 93%
Resources for children and youth with disabilities, 93%
The physical and mental health of mothers before, during, and after pregnancy, $93\%$
Mental health and stress management, 93%
Well-paying job opportunities at all skill levels, 93%
Helping all young people graduate high school or get a GED, 93%
Youth internships, apprenticeships, and mentoring for career development, 93%



Health and community wellbeing

Education and youth development

Agriculture

Natural resources and the environment

Community and economic development

## **Cooperative Extension**

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