



C A L I F O R N I A

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

SB882: Survey Results

Research Overview

- DOJ Research Services administered a survey of law enforcement agency heads across the state to support the efforts of the SB-882 (2021-2022) Advisory Council on Improving Interactions between People with Intellectual and Development Disabilities and Law Enforcement
- Agency heads were asked to share their insight through a series of multiple choice and free-response questions
- The survey remained open for responses from January 28th to February 28th



Research Overview

Goal to gather agency perspectives on:

Strengths and gaps of
current IDD and
mental health related
trainings

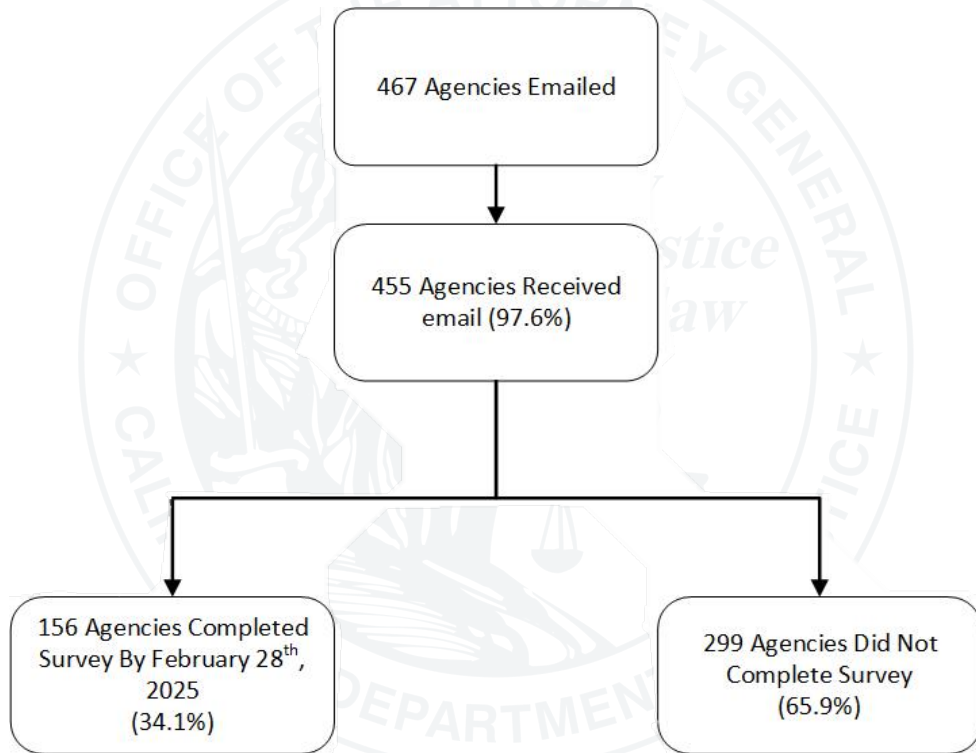
Use of special units to
response to calls
involving people with
behavioral conditions,

What additional
resources are lacking
to improve
interactions.



156 out of 467 (34.1%) contacted agencies completed the survey

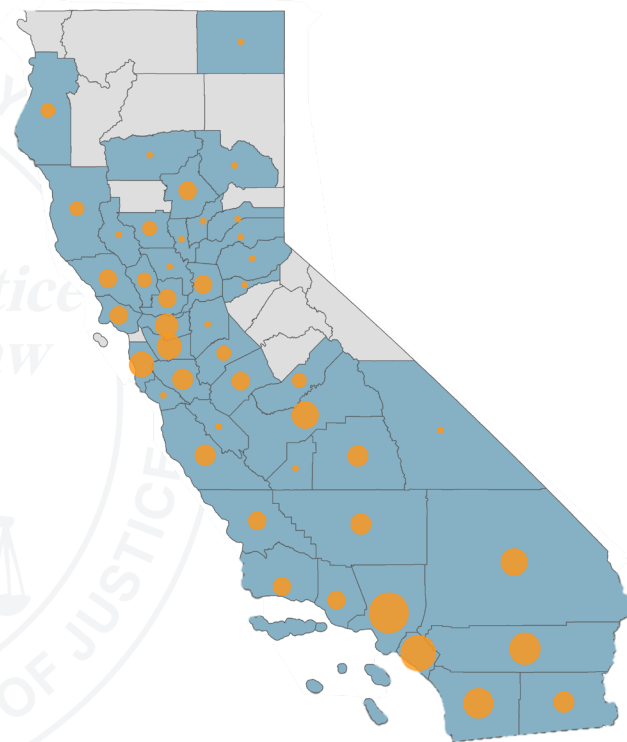
Response Rate



The agencies from the sample represent a wide of agency types, size, jurisdictions, and geographic locations

Sample Description

- **Geographic Representation:** The sample includes agencies from 46 of 58 counties across the state
 - Counties without responses tended to be small
- **Agency Jurisdiction:** Most responses were from small urban areas (44%), followed by rural (27%) and suburban areas (26%)
- **Agency Size:** Around 44% of responses were from agencies that employ less than 50 people, and around 11% employ more than 500 people
- **Agency Type:** Police departments (69%) were the most common agency type that completed the survey, followed by sheriff offices (14%)

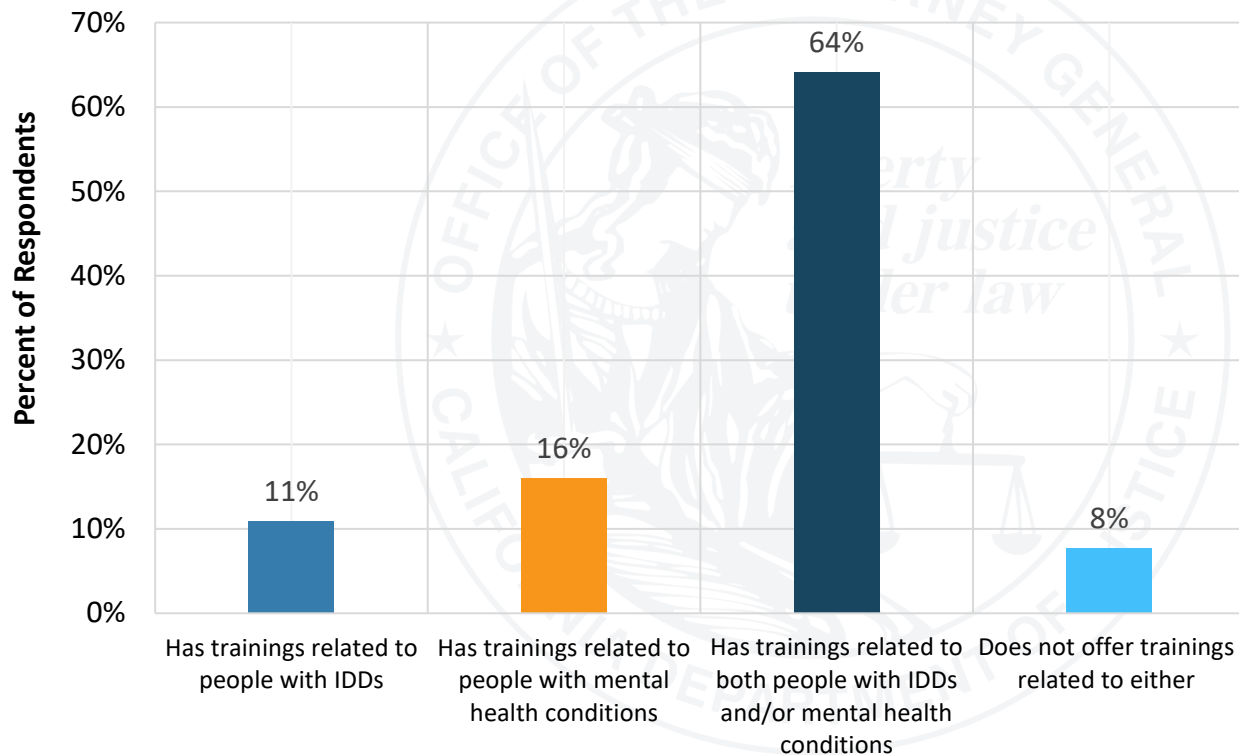


Number of Responses ● 4 ● 8 ● 12 ● 16



9 out of 10 agencies reported some type of training for IDD/mental health

Type of Training Offered



Almost all agencies (151, 96%) reported that all or at least some of their trainings are POST certified



Identifying needs for improvement

Need for Improvement: Domains and Question Format

The survey asked respondents to indicate the extent to which there is a need for improvement in four domains of training. Agencies responded to questions on a three-point scale:

1 = No Need For Improvement; 2 = Some Need for Improvement; 3 = Significant Need for Improvement

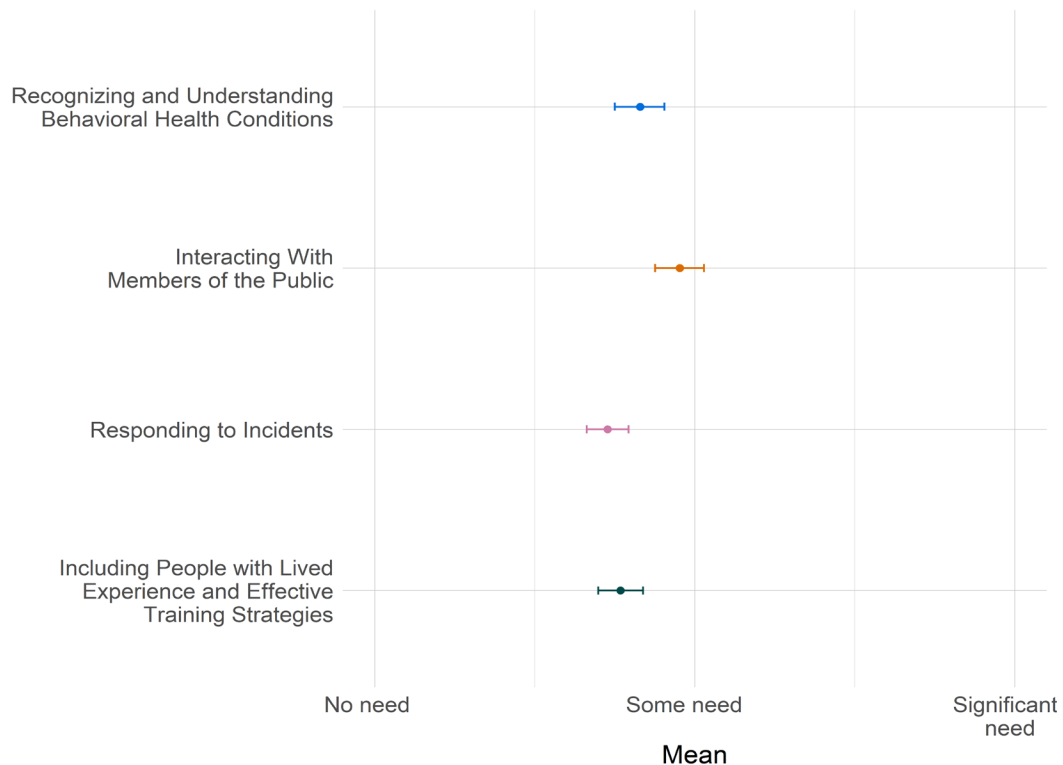
The training domains participants were asked about:

1. Recognizing and Understanding Behavior Health Conditions
2. Interacting with Members of the Public
3. Responding to Incidents
4. Including People with Lived Experience and Effective Training Strategies



LEAs largely report little-some need for improvement across all topics of training

Need for Improvement: Most Cited Domains that Need Improvement



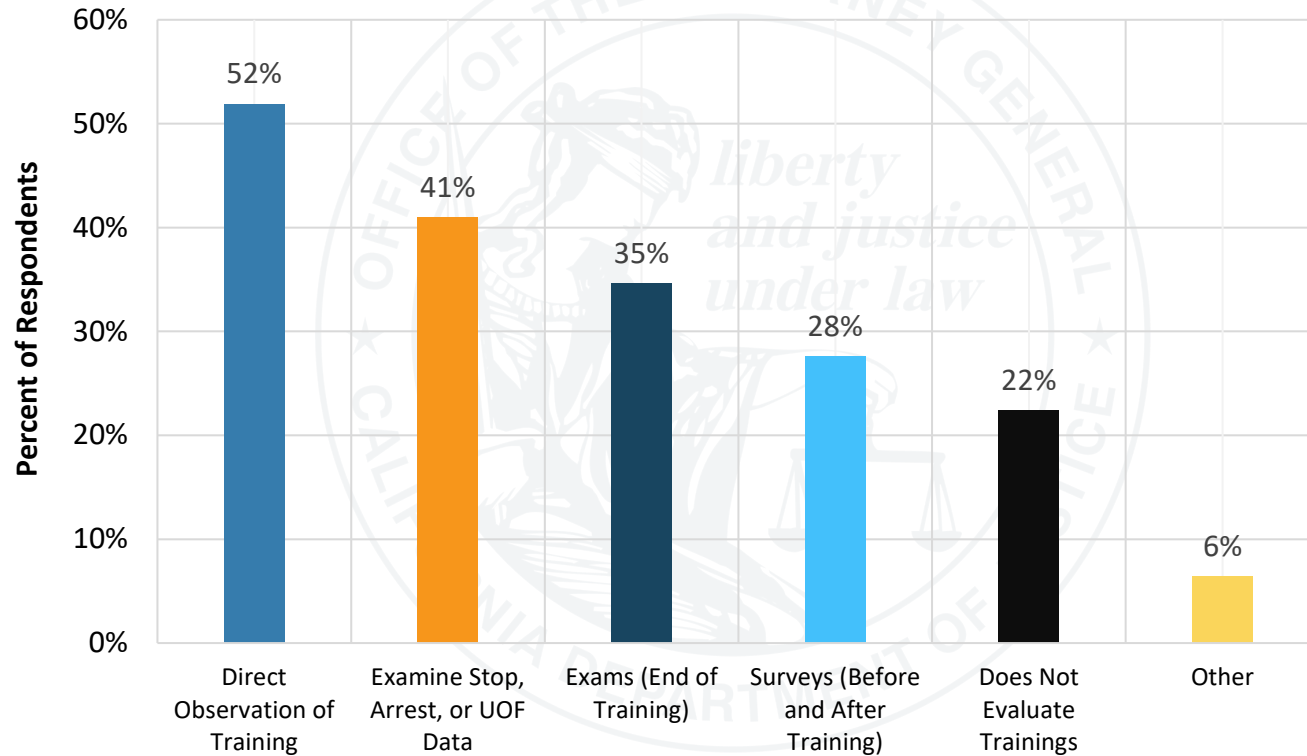
A little less than 1 in 5 LEAs do not include handling 911/988 in their offered trainings

Topics Excluded From Training



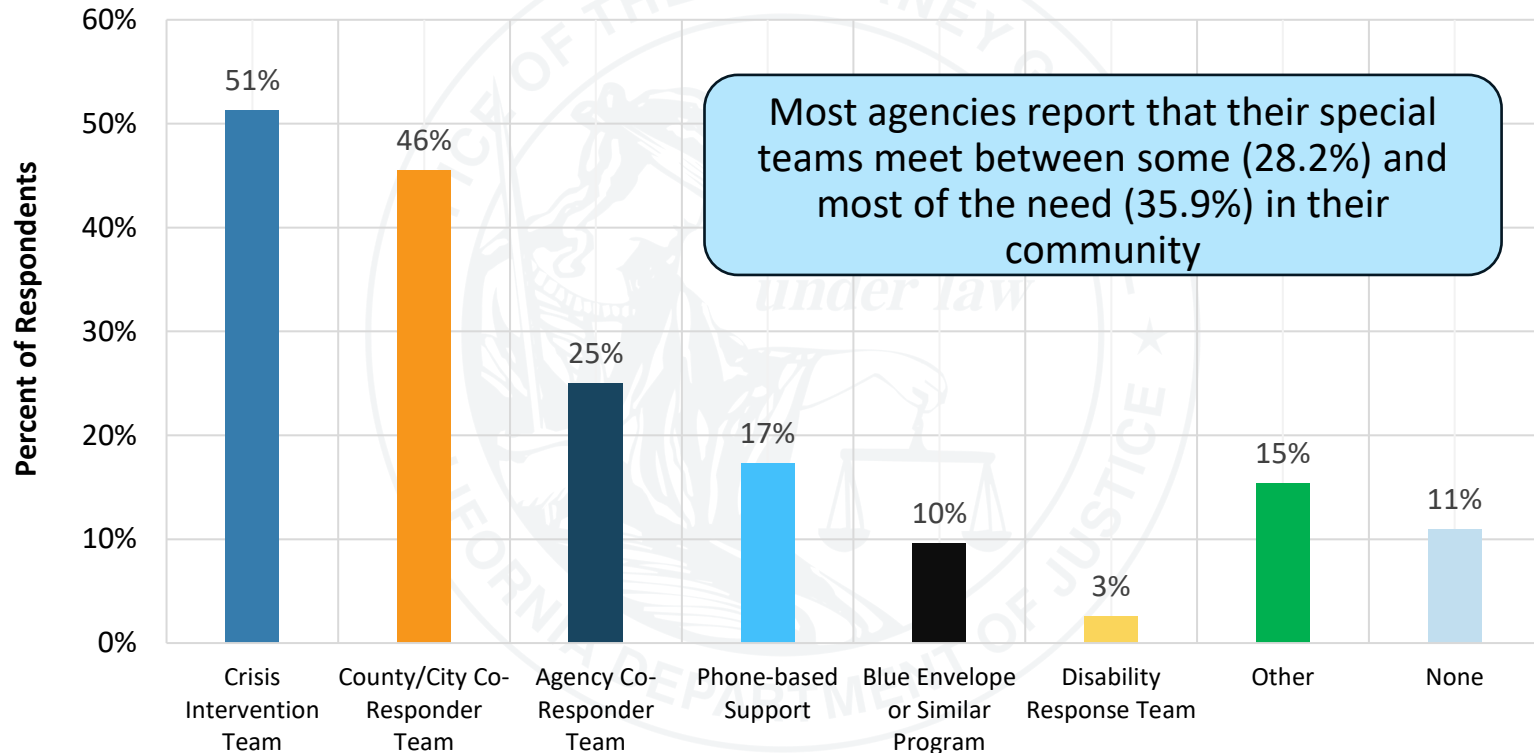
Agencies reported a range of methods to assess whether trainings delivered desired results

Training Evaluation Methods



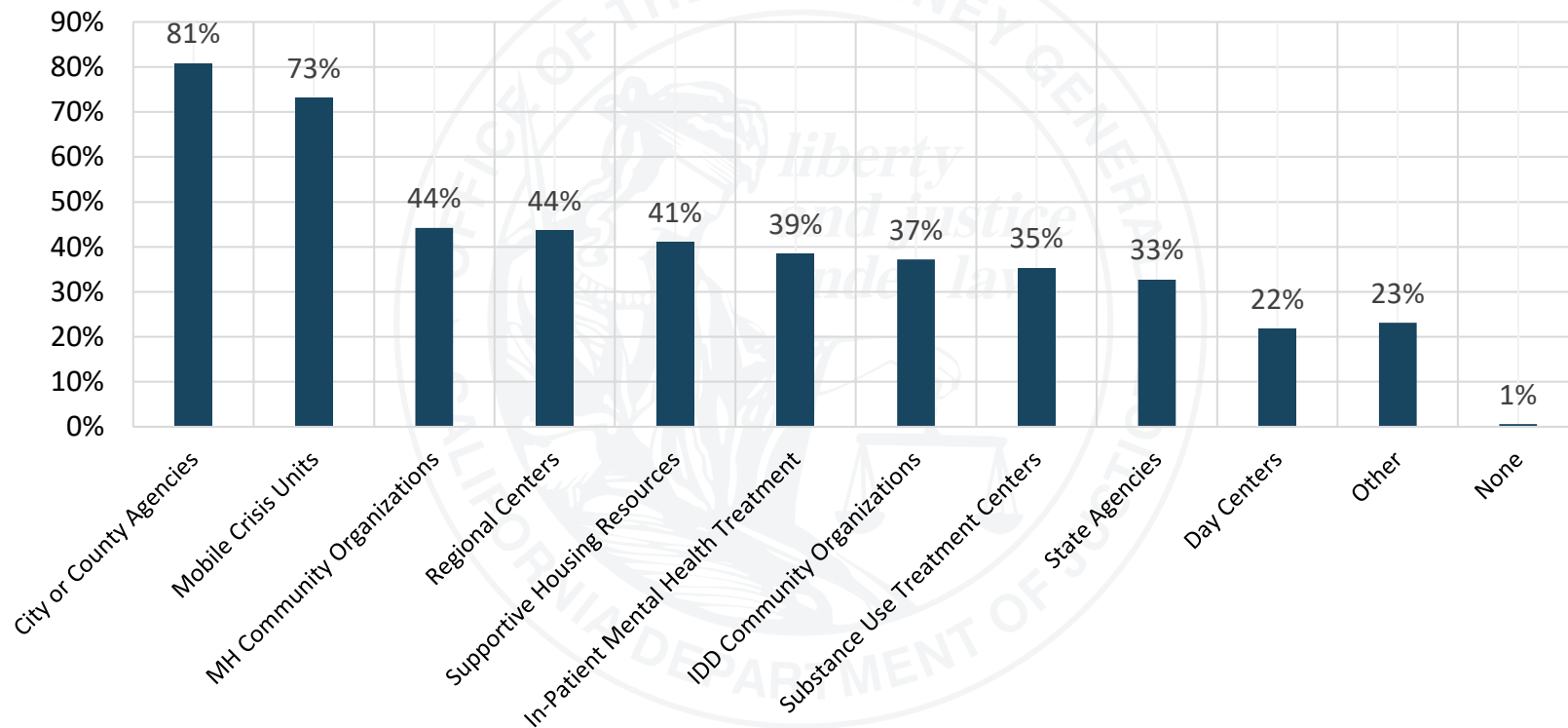
Agencies primarily utilize crisis intervention teams (51.3%) and County/City co-responder teams (45.5%)

Special Units Utilized by Agencies



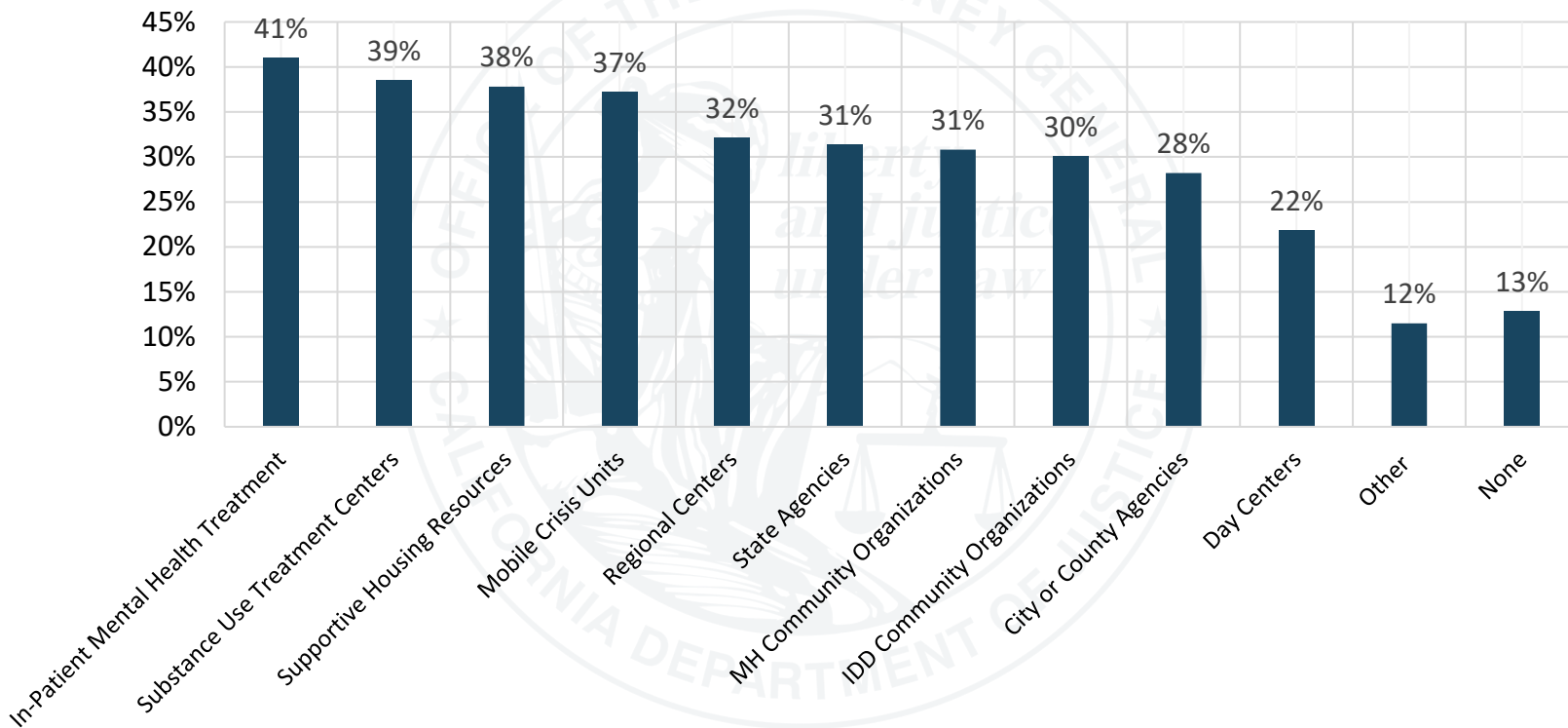
Most agencies work with or rely on City or County Agencies (80.8%) and Mobile Crisis Units (73.1%)

Resource Availability



Just over 2 in 5 agencies (41%) said it would be helpful to have better access to in-patient mental health treatment

Resource Accessibility



Access at all times of day and to trained personnel hampers resource utilization

Challenges in Utilizing Available Government and Community Resources

Theme	Number of Agencies	Percent	Margin of Error
Access	40	25.6%	4.7%
Personnel	22	14.1%	3.7%
Location	15	9.6%	3.2%
Funding	10	6.4%	2.6%
Treatment	9	5.8%	2.5%



The most common challenge for ensuring appropriate law enforcement responses was *Capacity*, which includes insufficient staffing, resources, and funding

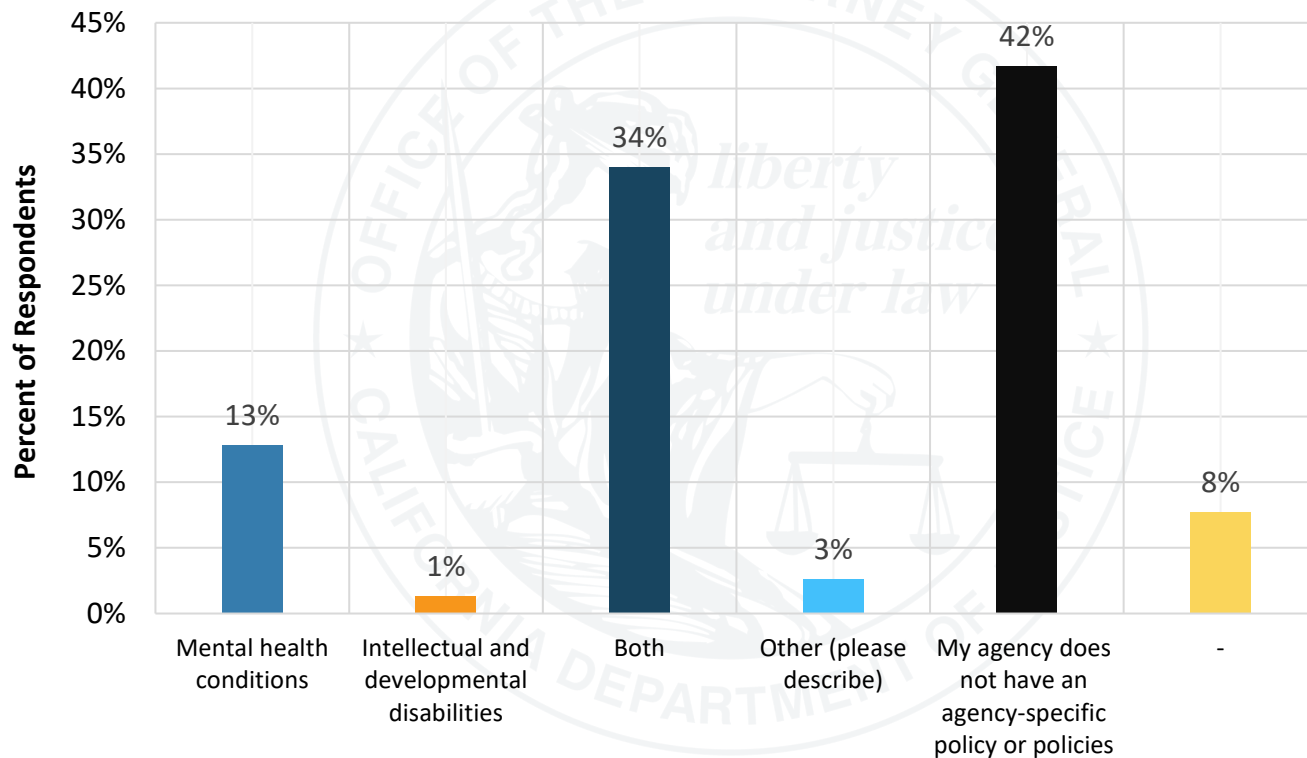
Challenges in Ensuring Appropriate Law Enforcement Response

Theme	Number of Agencies	Percent	Margin of Error
Capacity	59	37.8%	5.2%
Assessment	33	21.2%	4.4%
Safety	18	11.5%	3.4%
Liability	7	4.5%	2.2%
Trainings	6	3.8%	2.1%



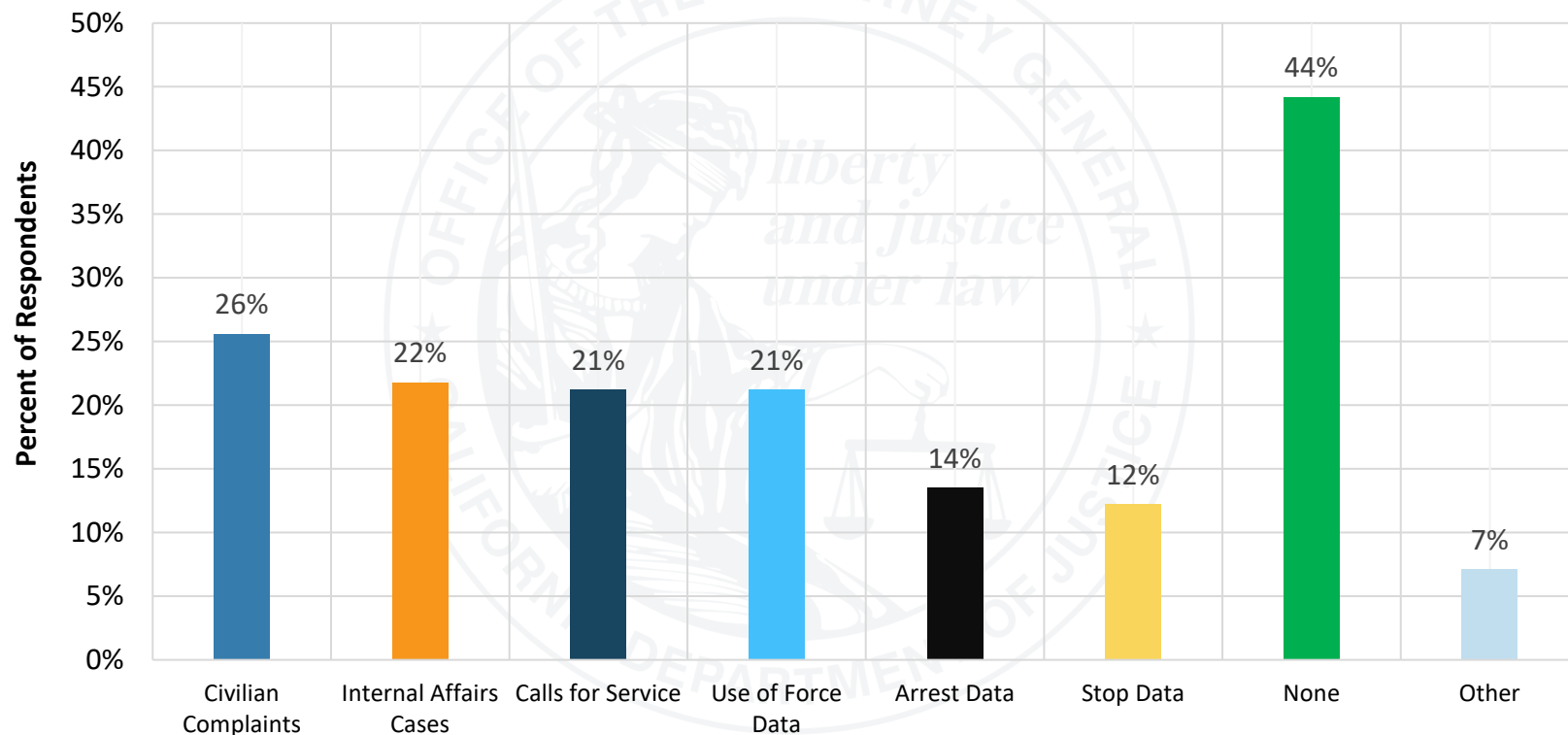
Although almost half of agencies have in-house policies related to mental health conditions, IDD, or both, 41.7% do not have any in-house policies

Use of In-House Policies



Almost half (44.2%) of agencies do not evaluate whether personnel are adhering to policies

Methods Used to Assess Impact of Policy and Training



The most common resource desired by agencies were related to the theme capacity (30.8%): a desire for resources, funding, and staffing

Additional Resources Desired By Agencies

Theme Frequency

Theme	Number of Agencies	Percent	Margin of Error
Capacity	48	30.8%	5.0%
Trainings	20	12.8%	3.6%
Institutions	18	11.5%	3.4%
Facilities	14	9.0%	3.1%
Special Teams	14	9.0%	3.1%
Providers	13	8.3%	3.0%
Housing	5	3.2%	1.9%



The most common recommendations for improving law enforcement interactions were associated with proving better quality and increasing the frequency of trainings (29.%%)

Recommendations for Improving Law Enforcement Interactions

Theme Frequency

Theme	Number of Agencies	Percent	Margin of Error
Trainings	46	29.5%	4.9%
Resources	28	17.9%	4.1%
Co-responders	23	14.7%	3.8%



Key Take Aways

LEAs evaluate trainings, but there is not a consensus approach

- While about 80% of agencies do something to evaluate their trainings, there isn't a consensus on approach.

Most LEAs have a special unit, few have one focused on IDD.

- Nearly all agencies have some special unit, though only 3% have a unit specific to intellectual or developmental disabilities.

Access and Availability of Resources

- Accessibility to resources like crisis intervention teams, mental health services, is hampered by time services are available, where they are located, and the number of available clinicians.





Questions?

