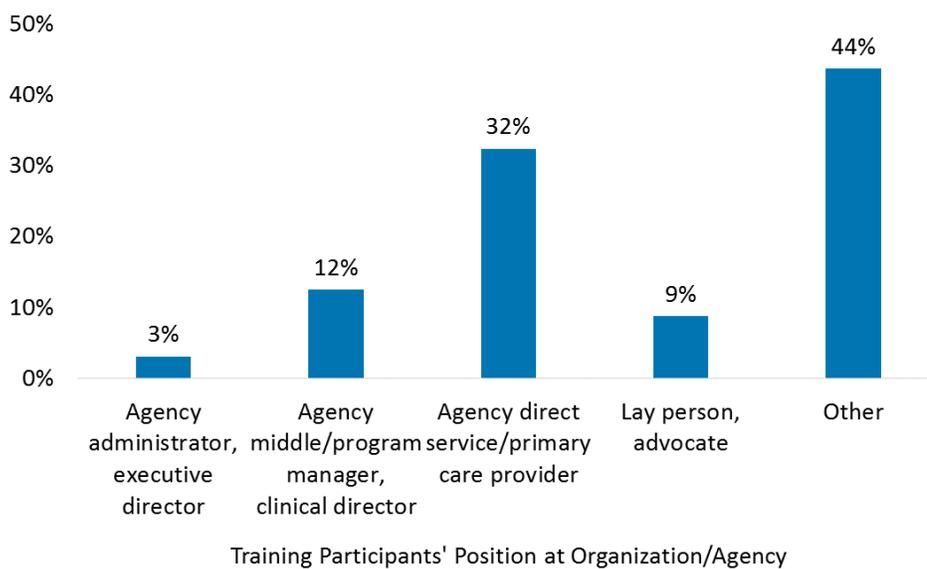




Behavioral Health Initiative for Older Adults and People with Disabilities Training Evaluations Data Summary October 2017 - March 2018

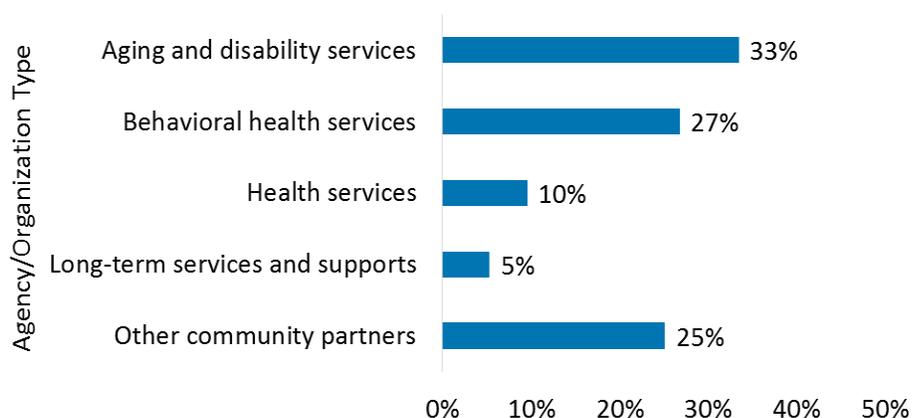
This summary is based on workforce development training evaluations collected by the Institute on Aging (IOA) at Portland State University (PSU) from individuals who attended one of the 108 workforce development training events conducted, hosted, or planned by a Behavioral Health Specialist between October 2017 and March 2018. The IOA successfully sent electronic evaluation forms to 2,061 participants who included their name and email address on rosters at training events, 901 (44%) of whom completed the survey. Data were gathered concerning training participants' job characteristics, their knowledge about the topic before the training, how much they learned as a result of the training, their confidence in their ability to use the knowledge they gained, and their perceptions of the training, trainer(s), and the training environment.

Responding Training Participants' Characteristics



Respondents were asked to categorize their position (figure to the left). The largest group selected was "other" (44%), followed by direct service or primary care providers (32%). The "other" group included a wide variety of stakeholders, such as case managers, eligibility and benefit specialists, social workers, property managers, adult foster/care home providers, family members, researchers, and others.

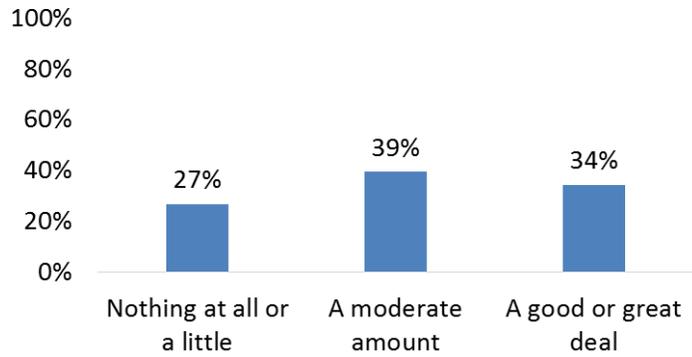
A majority of participants reported working for an aging and disability services organization (33%), followed by behavioral health services (27%). A smaller share reported working for health services (10%) or long-term services and supports organizations (5%). One quarter of respondents (25%) reported working for other types of agencies, including but not limited to law enforcement, universities, housing and property management firms, faith organizations, advocacy groups and non-profits.



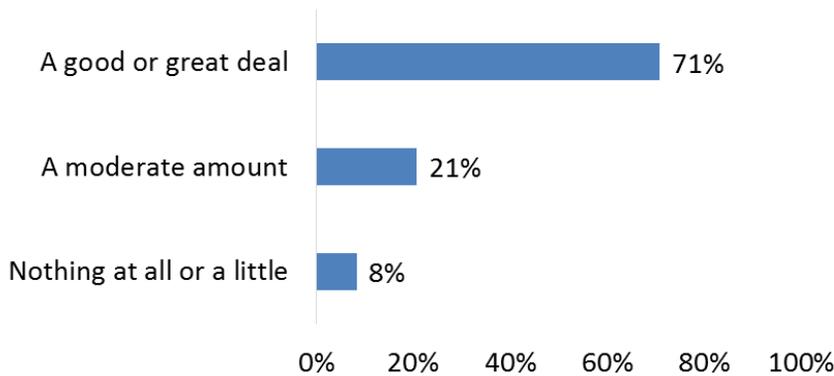
Knowledge Gains

Knowledge before attending training

About a quarter (27%) of respondents reported having little or no knowledge of the training topic prior to the training. Seventy-three percent of respondents reported having at least a moderate amount of knowledge before the training (see the figure to the right).



Knowledge gained as a result of training

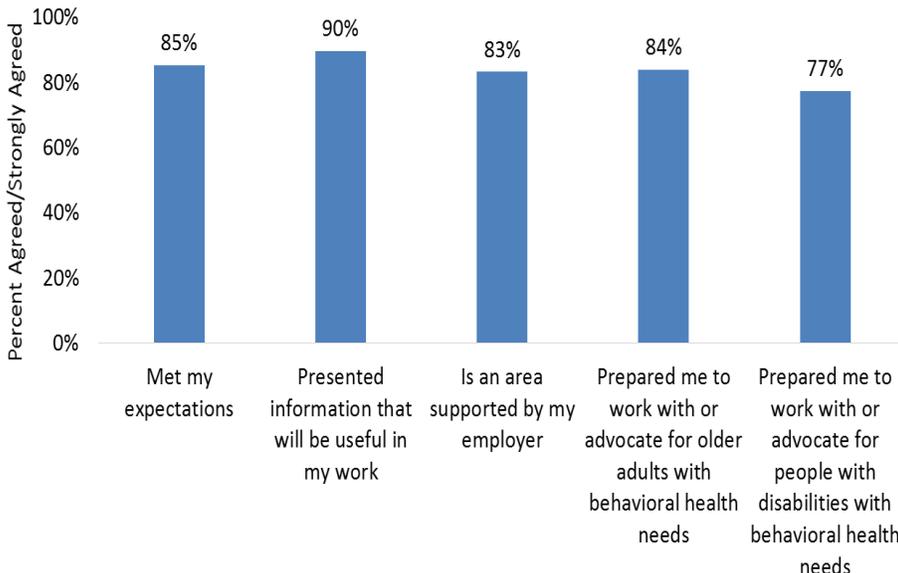


Knowledge gained as a result of training

Trainings provided valuable information, according to the training participants. Seventy one percent reported having learned a good or great deal, and another 21 percent reported they learned a moderate amount. Only eight percent reported having learned little or nothing at all (see the figure to the left).

Confidence in ability to use the knowledge gained

An important workforce development objective is for training participants to be able to use their knowledge gains in their work. To gauge this, we asked participants how confident they were that they would be able to do so (not shown in a figure). A majority (81%) reported being pretty or extremely confident that they would be able to use the knowledge they gained in their work. Only a small portion (6%) reported being slightly or not confident at all.



Participants' Perceptions of Trainings, Trainers, and Training Environments

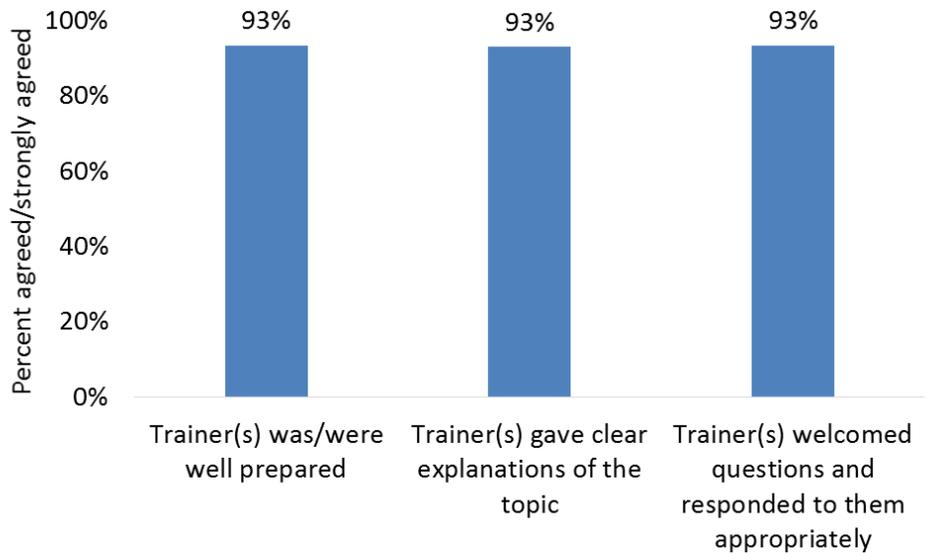
We asked several questions about the training, the trainer(s), and the environment in which the training took place. A majority (85%) reported that the training met their expectations. An even larger majority (90%) reported that the training provided information that would be useful in their work.

It is important for workforce events to have the support of employers as this support may help address

barriers to training (such as through co-sponsorship, providing release time, contributing space). Most participants (83%) reported that the training topic was in an area supported by their employer.

Finally, because older adults and people with disabilities who have behavioral health needs are the focus of this Initiative, it is important that the training topics are relevant to these two groups. A majority of training participants reported that the training prepared them to work with or advocate for these two populations (84% and 77%, respectively).

Almost all training participants perceived the trainer(s) to be prepared, knowledgeable and responsive to their questions (see the figure to the right). The vast majority (93%) agreed or strongly agreed that trainers were well prepared. Similarly, 93 percent of participants reported that the trainer(s) gave clear explanations of the training topic, and 93 percent agreed or strongly agreed that the trainer(s) welcomed questions and responded to them appropriately.



Finally, training participants were mostly satisfied with the environment in which the trainings took place (see the figure below). A majority of participants (80%) agreed or strongly agreed that the time allotted for the training was sufficient. Eighty-four percent reported that the meeting room and facilities were adequate and comfortable, and 90 percent reported that the training took place at a location that worked well for them.

