

Results of
Community Needs
Survey

Logandale, Moapa and Overton
Nevada

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Introduction

University of Nevada Cooperative Extension’s mission is to discover, develop, disseminate, preserve, and use knowledge to strengthen the social, economic and environmental well-being of people. We help people improve their lives through an educational process focused on issues and needs. Nevada Cooperative Extension uses several methods to identify issues and assess needs including written surveys. Results of needs assessments are used to identify topics and audiences for classes, workshops, news articles, written publications, grant writing and other program efforts.

An educational program may address some but not all of the needs identified in this survey. Many needs may be better addressed through planning and regulation, or services provided by other agencies. Nevada Cooperative Extension’s role in addressing some issues may be one of coordination/networking to encourage everyone in the community to work together to solve problems. The results of this survey may be helpful to other organizations as they plan for expansion and look for ways to address community concerns. Knowledge of the needs most important to our community is critical to effective planning. If we focus our energy on high priority needs, our chances of improving the quality of life are greatly enhanced.

Based on current needs assessments, Extension’s program efforts will focus on public involvement in community issues, community economic development, and job-seeking skills. Youth programming will focus on reducing risk-taking behaviors while increasing decision-making skills. Traditional subject-matter programs will be offered in areas of interest to residents, and efforts will be made to increase participation in traditional 4-H programs.

Executive Summary

Written survey forms were sent to all active P. O. Box holders in Logandale (950), Moapa (600) and Overton (1600) in December 1998. This included business as well as residential boxes. The majority of the 203 usable responses came back in December with a few returned in January and February. The survey addressed community issues, youth issues, community services, recreation facilities, information needs, information delivery, and demographics. This publication contains a summary and a report of respondents’ answers by percentages to each of the questions asked. Further analysis of the data collected will be printed in other formats.

Community Issues

Respondents were asked to indicate whether specific issues were a problem to them or their family. Issues that were of concern to 75% (small problem + major problem) or more of respondents include:

- Impact of government policy on public land use
- Lack of good-paying jobs
- Status of medical care
- Amount of recreation for adults
- Overpriced goods and services
- Growth management

Youth Issues

Over 75% of respondents expressed that these issues were either a small or major problem for youth in the community:

- Paying for education after high school
- Drug abuse
- Peer pressure to use drugs/alcohol
- Lack of values/respect for others
- Tobacco use
- Alcohol abuse
- Peer pressure for sexual activity
- Friends using drugs/alcohol
- Deciding what to do after high school
- Having satisfying/enjoyable work
- Dating concerns
- Eating the right foods
- Making decisions
- Abuse
- Family having trouble paying bills
- Living up to parents' expectation

Community Services

Over 50% of respondents identified these community services as not being adequate:

- Crisis shelter
- Mental health services
- Job training opportunities
- Homeless services
- Medical specialties
- Variety of retail stores
- Domestic counseling
- Drug support groups
- Emergency health facilities
- Drug/alcohol counseling
- Parenting classes

Recreation

Over 75% of respondents expressed that for future planning these recreational options were either somewhat or very important:

- Walking trails
- Covered picnic areas
- Open green areas in parks
- Recreational trails along the river
- Bike trails

Information – Classes/Workshops

Respondents were asked if they would like to attend a class or receive printed information on a number of topics under general subject headings. The three topics with the most interest in each subject were:

Agriculture

Noxious weeds
Pesticide application
Wildlife habitat

Health and Nutrition

Nutrition
Losing weight
Stress management

Economic Development

Community development planning
Community economic analysis
Home based business

Horticulture

Vegetable gardening
Trees and shrubs
Fruit trees

Community Involvement

Making a difference in your community
How local government works
Communication with government officials

Resource Management

Advance directives (living trust &
durable power of attorney)
Wills/estate planning
Lowering utility bills

Family Life

Building self-esteem
Planning for children's college
Science activities for small children

Youth Activities

How to start a business
After-school programs
Being a volunteer

Information Delivery

Respondents ranked the usefulness of methods for receiving educational information. Those ranked 75% and above were:

- Written publications
- Newspaper
- Newsletter
- Public classes/workshops
- Computer programs/information
- TV (in general)

Eighty two percent preferred to attend classes at night, with Monday and Wednesday being the best nights.

Demographics

Almost 2/3 of the respondents were women. Seventy-five percent had training past high school. Over 80 % of the respondents were married and approximately one-half had children in the home. Over 30% had lived in the area five years or less and over 25% had lived here more than 20 years. Almost 14% of the respondents were over 65 years old, while the largest age group (43.2%) was 46-65. Almost 93% of the respondents were white. Fifteen percent of respondent families' annual household incomes fell below \$20,000 with 42% of families reporting over \$50,000 income.

Respondents' Answers to Survey Questions

Community Issues

Below are some issues that many communities face. Please mark whether this is a problem for you and/or your family. Issues are listed by rank order of respondents' identification of major problems.

| | <u>No Problem</u> | <u>Small Problem</u> | <u>Major Problem</u> |
|---|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Impact of government policy on public land use..... | 19.9% | 37.6% | 42.5% |
| Lack of good-paying jobs..... | 27.4% | 30.3% | 42.3% |
| Status of medical care..... | 17.6% | 41.2% | 41.2% |
| Amount of recreation for adults..... | 34.5% | 42.1% | 41.2% |
| Overpriced goods and services..... | 19.0% | 40.8% | 40.2% |
| Job training opportunities..... | 36.3% | 28.6% | 35.1% |
| Inadequate preparation of youth for the world of work... | 32.4% | 33.5% | 34.1% |
| Growth management..... | 21.5% | 47.5% | 31.1% |
| Recreational activities for youth 7 th -12 th grades..... | 43.5% | 27.4% | 29.2% |
| Number of activities for families..... | 33.7% | 42.1% | 24.2% |
| Access to affordable housing..... | 49.7% | 26.6% | 23.7% |
| Number of cultural opportunities..... | 45.3% | 35.5% | 19.2% |
| Community pride and appearance..... | 41.2% | 40.1% | 18.6% |
| Recreational activities for children K-6 th grades..... | 49.1% | 32.5% | 18.4% |
| Declining environmental quality..... | 41.1% | 40.6% | 18.3% |
| Number of activities for senior citizens..... | 57.1% | 24.7% | 18.2% |
| Shortage of child care..... | 61.7% | 22.8% | 15.4% |
| Drug abuse..... | 74.3% | 11.4% | 14.3% |
| Unemployment..... | 61.4% | 24.7% | 13.9% |
| Alcohol abuse..... | 75.4% | 12.0% | 12.6% |
| Suicide/depression..... | 67.3% | 22.0% | 10.7% |
| Fear of crime..... | 34.3% | 57.3% | 8.4% |

Youth Issues

Below are some issues that many youth face. For each one, please indicate how serious you feel the problem is for youth in your community. Issues are listed by rank order of respondent's identification of major problems. Issues are listed by rank order of respondents' identification of major problems.

| | <u>No Problem</u> | <u>Small Problem</u> | <u>Major Problem</u> |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Paying for education after high school | 12.6% | 33.3% | 54.1% |
| Drug abuse | 12.5% | 37.5% | 50.0% |
| Peer pressure to use drugs/alcohol | 13.8% | 38.3% | 47.4% |
| Lack of values/respect for others | 13.5% | 41.7% | 44.9% |
| Tobacco use | 16.1% | 39.4% | 44.5% |
| Alcohol abuse | 14.1% | 44.8% | 41.1% |

| | No Problem | Small Problem | Major Problem |
|---|---------------|------------------|------------------|
| Peer pressure for sexual activity | 17.7% | 41.8% | 40.5% |
| Friends using drugs/alcohol | 15.6% | 45.5% | 39.0% |
| Deciding what to do after high school | 19.6% | 42.9% | 37.4% |
| Pregnancy prevention | 26.8% | 40.3% | 32.9% |
| Preventing HIV-AIDS | 30.2% | 38.3% | 31.5% |
| The quality of education | 36.4% | 33.8% | 29.8% |
| Family using drugs/alcohol | 27.1% | 45.2% | 27.7% |
| Dating concerns | 24.8% | 51.6% | 23.5% |
| Eating the right foods | 19.9% | 57.1% | 23.1% |
| Harassment from peers (bullying, teasing, etc.) | 25.3% | 51.9% | 22.7% |
| Making decisions | 24.5% | 53.6% | 21.9% |
| Abuse | 22.4% | 55.8% | 21.8% |
| Family having trouble paying bills | 16.8% | 62.6% | 20.6% |
| Getting along with parents/step-parents | 28.1% | 53.6% | 18.3% |
| Living up to parents' expectation | 23.8% | 62.3% | 13.9% |
| Personal safety in school | 39.9% | 52.0% | 8.1% |
| Gangs in community | 43.6% | 48.7% | 7.7% |
| Personal safety in the community | 43.6% | 48.7% | 7.7% |
| Getting along with classmates | 40.1% | 52.6% | 7.2% |

Community Services

Are the following community services addressed adequately in the community? Services are listed by rank order of respondents' identification of not being adequate.

| | Very Adequate | Somewhat Adequate | Not Adequate |
|------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Crisis shelter | 4.1% | 18.2% | 77.7% |
| Mental health services | 3.3% | 19.2% | 77.5% |
| Job training opportunities | 2.5% | 24.8% | 72.7% |
| Homeless services | 7.6% | 21.9% | 70.5% |
| Medical specialties | 3.5% | 31.3% | 65.3% |
| Variety of retail stores | 6.8% | 31.3% | 61.9% |
| Domestic counseling | 3.6% | 35.5% | 60.9% |
| Drug support groups | 2.7% | 37.2% | 60.2% |
| Emergency health facilities | 8.5% | 31.7% | 59.9% |
| Drug/alcohol counseling | 3.4% | 37.6% | 59.0% |
| Parenting classes | 8.0% | 40.7% | 51.3% |
| Low-income housing | 12.3% | 50.8% | 36.9% |
| English as a second language | 17.1% | 46.8% | 36.0% |
| Alcohol support group | 13.1% | 52.5% | 34.4% |
| Fire Protection | 32.6% | 57.6% | 9.7% |

Recreation

For future recreational planning how important would each of the following be to you and your family? Recreation options are listed by rank order of respondents' identification of very important.

| | Not <u>Important</u> | Somewhat <u>Important</u> | Very <u>Important</u> |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Walking trails | 15.8% | 31.5% | 52.7% |
| Covered picnic areas | 17.7% | 43.5% | 38.8% |
| Open green areas in parks | 18.9% | 43.4% | 37.8% |
| Recreational trails along the river | 24.5% | 38.8% | 36.7% |
| Ball fields | 35.9% | 28.3% | 35.9% |
| Bike trails | 23.4% | 42.1% | 34.5% |
| Covered swimming pool | 34.9% | 32.9% | 32.2% |
| Off-road vehicle trails | 34.9% | 35.6% | 29.5% |
| Shooting range | 32.6% | 38.2% | 29.2% |
| More community access to the fair grounds | 28.6% | 44.3% | 27.1% |
| Public horse arena | 59.3% | 19.3% | 21.4% |
| Horse trails | 54.1% | 26.0% | 19.9% |
| Rollerblade park | 46.2% | 34.3% | 19.6% |
| Tennis courts | 41.0% | 43.9% | 15.1% |
| Dog park | 74.6% | 14.8% | 10.6% |
| Shuffleboard | 67.6% | 25.0% | 7.4% |

Information - Classes/Workshops

Nevada Cooperative Extension provides classes and workshops as well as printed information on many topics. Respondents were asked to indicate whether they needed written information or would like to attend a class or workshop on several topics. Topics under each subject area are listed by rank order of respondents' indication of willingness to attend a class:

| | <u>Do not need</u> <u>information</u> | <u>Would like</u> <u>only printed</u> <u>information</u> | <u>Would like</u> <u>to attend</u> <u>class/workshop</u> |
|--------------------------------|--|--|--|
| <u>Agriculture</u> | | | |
| Noxious weeds | 42.1% | 46.2% | 11.7% |
| Irrigation efficiency | 66.4% | 22.1% | 11.4% |
| Pesticide application | 43.5% | 47.6% | 8.8% |
| Wildlife habitat | 53.6% | 38.6% | 7.9% |
| Horses | 74.1% | 19.4% | 6.5% |
| Poultry | 77.4% | 16.8% | 5.8% |
| Cattle | 83.1% | 11.8% | 5.1% |
| Hay production – Alfalfa | 84.4% | 11.1% | 4.4% |
| Hay production – Other | 87.4% | 8.1% | 4.4% |
| Sheep | 87.7% | 8.0% | 4.3% |
| Rabbits | 82.5% | 13.9% | 3.6% |
| Swine | 84.8% | 12.1% | 3.0% |

| | <u>Do not need information</u> | <u>Would like only printed information</u> | <u>Would like to attend class/workshop</u> |
|--|------------------------------------|--|--|
|--|------------------------------------|--|--|

Economic Development

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Home-based business | 44.8% | 35.7% | 19.6% |
| Community development planning | 34.5% | 48.6% | 16.9% |
| Community economic analysis | 42.4% | 44.6% | 12.9% |
| Grant writing | 59.7% | 27.6% | 12.7% |
| Targeted industry analysis | 63.9% | 28.6% | 7.5% |
| Main-street business | 63.2% | 30.8% | 6.0% |
| Program evaluation | 70.5% | 26.4% | 3.1% |

Community Involvement

| | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|
| Making a difference in your community | 44.0% | 38.3% | 17.7% |
| Conflict management techniques | 62.7% | 24.6% | 12.7% |
| Youth mentoring program | 61.4% | 26.4% | 12.1% |
| How to make meetings more effective | 59.2% | 29.9% | 10.9% |
| Communication with government officials | 47.6% | 42.0% | 10.5% |
| How local government works | 46.5% | 44.4% | 9.2% |
| Collaborating/networking with other groups | 69.1% | 22.8% | 8.1% |
| Recruiting and training volunteers | 70.0% | 22.1% | 7.9% |
| Consensus-building techniques | 67.4% | 26.1% | 6.5% |
| Running/managing a non-profit | 69.9% | 24.3% | 5.9% |

Family Life

| | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|
| Building self-esteem | 49.7% | 33.6% | 16.8% |
| Planning for children's college | 55.1% | 28.3% | 16.7% |
| Job-seeking skills | 56.8% | 28.8% | 14.4% |
| Parenting | 57.6% | 28.1% | 14.4% |
| Appropriate discipline | 56.3% | 29.6% | 14.1% |
| Science activities for small children | 55.6% | 31.6% | 12.8% |
| Workforce preparation | 62.1% | 25.8% | 12.1% |
| How to talk to teenagers about drugs/alcohol | 56.3% | 31.9% | 11.8% |
| Family Violence | 70.9% | 17.7% | 11.3% |
| Art activities for small children | 59.6% | 29.1% | 11.3% |
| GED (general education development) | 70.3% | 18.6% | 11.0% |
| Substance abuse and family concerns | 64.1% | 25.0% | 10.9% |
| Developmental activities for small children | 61.2% | 28.1% | 10.8% |
| Anger management | 57.9% | 31.4% | 10.7% |
| How to talk to teenagers about sex | 60.1% | 29.4% | 10.5% |
| Living with teenagers | 62.4% | 27.7% | 9.9% |
| Dating violence | 71.5% | 19.4% | 9.0% |
| Caring for a newborn | 80.4% | 14.5% | 5.1% |

| | <u>Do not need information</u> | <u>Would like only printed information</u> | <u>Would like to attend class/workshop</u> |
|--|------------------------------------|--|--|
|--|------------------------------------|--|--|

Health and Nutrition

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Losing weight | 34.8% | 45.9% | 19.3% |
| Stress management | 37.3% | 47.0% | 15.7% |
| Stretching your food dollar | 37.3% | 48.5% | 14.2% |
| Reducing fat in your diet | 37.4% | 48.9% | 13.7% |
| Eating a balanced diet | 39.4% | 47.7% | 12.9% |
| Nutrition | 33.8% | 54.1% | 12.0% |
| Diabetes | 57.0% | 34.1% | 8.9% |
| Controlling high blood pressure | 44.5% | 46.7% | 8.8% |
| Food safety | 50.4% | 42.9% | 6.8% |
| Getting more fiber in your diet | 47.8% | 46.3% | 6.0% |
| How to quit smoking | 78.3% | 16.3% | 5.4% |
| HIV-AIDS awareness | 74.8% | 20.6% | 4.6% |
| Eating disorders | 64.6% | 30.7% | 4.7% |
| Tobacco use prevention | 80.0% | 16.8% | 3.2% |
| Food for young children | 70.9% | 26.1% | 3.0% |

Horticulture

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Vegetable gardening | 18.1% | 56.3% | 25.7% |
| Home landscape design | 28.5% | 47.4% | 24.1% |
| Fruit trees | 23.6% | 55.7% | 20.7% |
| Desert landscaping | 33.1% | 47.1% | 19.9% |
| Composting | 42.0% | 39.2% | 18.9% |
| House plants | 40.9% | 43.1% | 16.1% |
| Irrigation | 47.3% | 36.6% | 16.0% |
| Trees and shrubs | 20.3% | 64.5% | 15.2% |
| Lawn care | 36.0% | 50.0% | 14.0% |

Resource Management

| | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-------|
| Advance directives (living trust & durable power of attorney) | 31.8% | 45.7% | 22.5% |
| Wills/estate planning | 33.1% | 44.6% | 22.3% |
| Investment basics | 41.8% | 36.3% | 21.9% |
| Retirement planning | 45.8% | 32.4% | 21.8% |
| Basic money management | 46.4% | 34.3% | 19.3% |
| Home record keeping | 46.5% | 35.4% | 18.1% |
| Consumer protection/Small claims court | 42.2% | 40.8% | 17.0% |
| Lowering utility bills | 37.8% | 50.7% | 11.5% |
| Insurance | 52.9% | 37.1% | 10.0% |
| Credit | 58.7% | 32.2% | 9.1% |
| Shopping skills | 56.4% | 35.7% | 7.9% |

| <u>Do not need information</u> | <u>Would like only printed information</u> | <u>Would like to attend class/workshop</u> |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
|------------------------------------|--|--|

Youth Activities

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| How to start a business | 50.4% | 32.3% | 17.3% |
| Job skills | 61.2% | 25.4% | 13.4% |
| Life-skills classes | 60.2% | 26.6% | 13.3% |
| After-school programs | 57.0% | 31.1% | 11.9% |
| Community sports programs | 60.2% | 28.6% | 11.3% |
| Being a volunteer | 57.6% | 31.8% | 10.6% |
| Social etiquette | 59.7% | 26.9% | 13.4% |
| 4-H clubs | 63.9% | 27.1% | 9.0% |
| Camping programs | 60.7% | 31.1% | 8.1% |

Information Delivery

For you, how useful is each of the following **methods for receiving educational information**? Percentages listed or a combination of somewhat and very useful.

| | |
|--|-------|
| Written publications | 90.1% |
| Newspaper | 89.4% |
| Newsletter | 86.5% |
| Public classes/workshops | 80.0% |
| Computer programs/information | 76.7% |
| TV (in general) | 75.2% |
| Public access television | 74.8% |
| Video taped programs | 69.8% |
| Word of mouth | 67.4% |
| Internet | 67.2% |
| Correspondence course | 66.7% |
| Radio | 64.2% |
| Information provided at retail stores .. | 57.8% |

What **time of day** is it easiest to attend a meeting/class? Percentages listed or a combination of somewhat and very convenient.

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Early morning (7:00 a.m.) | 34.5% |
| Morning (10:00 a.m.) | 55.0% |
| Afternoon | 59.3% |
| Evening | 81.7% |

Which **day of the week** is best for you to attend educational programs?

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Sunday | 5.8% |
| Monday | 18.2% |
| Tuesday | 14.9% |
| Wednesday | 19.8% |
| Thursday | 9.9% |
| Friday | 12.4% |
| Saturday | 19.0% |

Demographics

Gender

| | |
|--------------|-------|
| Male | 36.5% |
| Female | 63.5% |

Education

| | |
|--|-------|
| Less than high school graduation | 6.1% |
| High school graduation or GED | 18.9% |
| Post HS or vocational training | 7.2% |
| Some college | 31.7% |
| College graduate | 22.2% |
| Advanced college degree | 13.9% |

Marital Status

| | |
|----------------|-------|
| Single | 7.5% |
| Married | 82.1% |
| Divorced | 6.9% |
| Widowed | 3.5% |

Number of children living at home

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| 0 | 48.9% |
| 1 | 12.5% |
| 2 | 15.9% |
| 3 | 11.4% |
| 4 or more | 11.4% |

How long have you lived in E. Clark Co.

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| 0-5 years | 32.6% |
| 6-10 years | 15.7% |
| 11-15 years | 15.7% |
| 16-20 years | 9.6% |
| Over 20 years | 26.4% |

Age group

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Under 21 | 2.8% |
| 21-35 | 14.8% |
| 36-45 | 25.6% |
| 46-64 | 43.2% |
| 65 or older | 13.6% |

Race

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| White | 92.7% |
| African American | .6% |
| Hispanic/Latino | 2.8% |
| Pacific Islander or Asian | 1.1% |
| Native American or Alaskan Native ... | 2.2% |
| Other | .6% |

Annual Household Income

| | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Under \$10,000 | 6.9% |
| \$10,001 - \$20,000 | 8.2% |
| \$20,001 - \$30,000 | 8.8% |
| \$30,001 - \$40,000 | 15.1% |
| \$40,001 - \$50,000 | 19.5% |
| Over \$50,000 | 41.5% |

Community in which you reside

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| Logandale | 45.3% |
| Moapa | 14.5% |
| Overton | 40.4% |

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