Return to In-Person Events Survey

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Summary of General Findings

Number of Individual Responses: 335
Number of Organization Responses: 311

Survey responses were collected between September 7, 2021 and October 2, 2021. These results are compiled from survey responses from nonprofit organizations providing services to every county in the state and have budgets ranging from $0 to $10 million+. While we received adequate representation from every nonprofit mission type recognized by the Alliance of Arizona Nonprofits, 41% of responses represent Health & Human Service organizations. The Alliance has the ability, upon request, to provide more in-depth analyses of the data based on service region, nonprofit size (by employees or annual budget), mission type, and service demographics.
This survey was aimed at understanding current individual behavior and preferences related to attending in-person events, as well as nonprofit organizational behavior and considerations of holding in-person events now and in the near future.

**Individual Comfort With Attending In-Person Events**

63% of individuals are currently comfortable with attending in-person events. 11% were not ready to answer at the time they took the survey. 95% of individuals said that they were comfortable attending in-person events were comfortable only if certain criteria were met.

![Necessary Criteria For Comfortable Attendance](chart)

75% of the individuals stated there were necessary criteria for them to feel comfortable attending an in-person event chose two or more criteria. When asked for comment about what “Other” meant, respondents stated responsible attendees, vaccination requirements, cleaning protocols, and requesting sick individuals stay home.

For those individuals that stated they were not currently comfortable attending in-person events, there were several factors that would increase their comfort.

![Increase Comfort For Individuals Not Currently Attending In-Person Events](chart)
For individuals that chose “Other,” 44% stated a vaccination requirement would make them more comfortable attending in-person events. 97% of respondents stated multiple criteria were necessary for them to attend in-person events. For those that stated “More time to pass was necessary,” 43% stated they were not sure how much time would be necessary while 21% stated between 3-6 months were necessary for their comfort levels to rise.

Nonprofit In-Person Events & Meetings

*Board and Committee Meetings*
47% of nonprofits stated they have begun holding board and committee meetings in-person while 8% are still contemplating moving to in-person meetings. 20% of organizations are hosting these meetings in-person only while 80% are hosting these as a hybrid meeting with both in-person and virtual options.

In-Person Events
35% of nonprofits have held in-person events this year, 27% are scheduling or planning in-person events in the near future, while 38% of nonprofits are still contemplating holding in-person events. 59% of events were completely in-person, 45% were a hybrid of in-person and virtual and 10% were other.

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I think virtual conferences and events have shown that working remotely is beneficial for both the employee and the employer in many cases. Learning and networking can still take place. During this time, safety should be first until COVID-19 is no longer a daily risk to attendees and their families.

I can provide feedback that our number of new volunteers at each orientation has skyrocketed due to the fact that people have been saying we are one of the only places to volunteer. People are ready to get back to in-person.
Of those that stated “Other,” 21% of organizations stated they are planning in-person events in the future but may add on hybrid options depending on the state of COVID as the event nears. 11% stated they had in-person events previously but are not currently hosting them because of rising COVID rates. 16% stated their in-person events were limited to small groups (less than 25 people).

"Though my employer is holding in-person events, I would prefer that we do not. In the office we have certain requirements, like masks, which are not required for the events. It is irresponsible and dangerous. And unfair to employees who are seemingly protected in the office but are not afforded those same protections at events they’re required to attend."

When hosting in-person events, the following safety protocols are in place.

Of those that stated “Other,” 48% stated they held events that were outside.

The majority of events that are being held are small. 34% stated their events were small (25 people or less), 37% stated they were medium (25-99 attendees), 29% stated large (100-200 attendees), and 21% stated very large (200+ attendees).

"Hosting a hybrid event has been challenging just in regards to the technology & making sure everything goes smoothly. We are also trying to create a “zoom room” with relevant tech that will help us with classes and meetings – it would be great to have a local company create a forum or webinar on different technologies with a range of pricing to determine what would work best."
When asked for additional information about their events, 13% of organizations stated they are holding off on having additional events based on the COVID infection rates. Additionally, there were several respondents who stated that although their organization was holding in-person events, employees are not being included in the discussion and decisions are coming from the top down.

**Alliance Events**

If the Alliance started to hold in-person events, 56% of respondents stated they would be most interested in attending hybrid events that are in-person with a virtual option. 46% stated would prefer small in-person events (less than 25 people), 37% would prefer mid-size in person events (25-50 people), 25% prefer large in-person events (50+ people), while 16% would not attend an in-person event at this time.

75% of respondents stated they would prefer to attend future conferences and summits in a hybrid format that includes in-person and virtual options while 38% preferred in-person. 26% said they would prefer virtual conferences and summits. 11% of respondents said they would only attend virtual and would not consider any in-person conferences or summits at this time.

When asked for additional feedback, 21% of respondents said they would rather the Alliance hold either hybrid or virtual options because it is safer but also because it cuts down on travel and increases their ability to participate. 34% of respondents stated if there were mask, vaccination, or COVID test requirements they would be willing to attend in-person events.