

Southern Nevada Vending Machines Increase Access to COVID-19 testing

Background: The Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) implemented a vending program to improve access to COVID-19 testing to rural and underserved populations.

Planning/Implementation: Clark County in Southern Nevada includes the Las Vegas Metro area and multiple rural townships and areas spanning 7,891 Square miles.

Indicators for machine placement:

- Need
 - Site locations determined by using Health Equity Index as a tool to identify areas in high need. (2 Rural, 4 Urban)
 - Existing testing locations (cost, distance)
 - Rates of illness in area
- Accessibility
 - Machine availability at sites (3 are accessible 24/7)
 - Ease of Registration

Key factor-Community Partnerships

Leveraged existing and created new community partnerships with trusted members of the community.

Results: An evaluation Survey was conducted in March of 2023 to assess satisfaction and reason for use. Additionally, a review of registration zip codes were conducted.

The top three reasons clients chose the vending machine program were:

1. Convenience/ease of access
2. Available on demand
3. Cost

62% of registrants live in a zip code with a health equity index of 4 or 5 (highest and very high need).

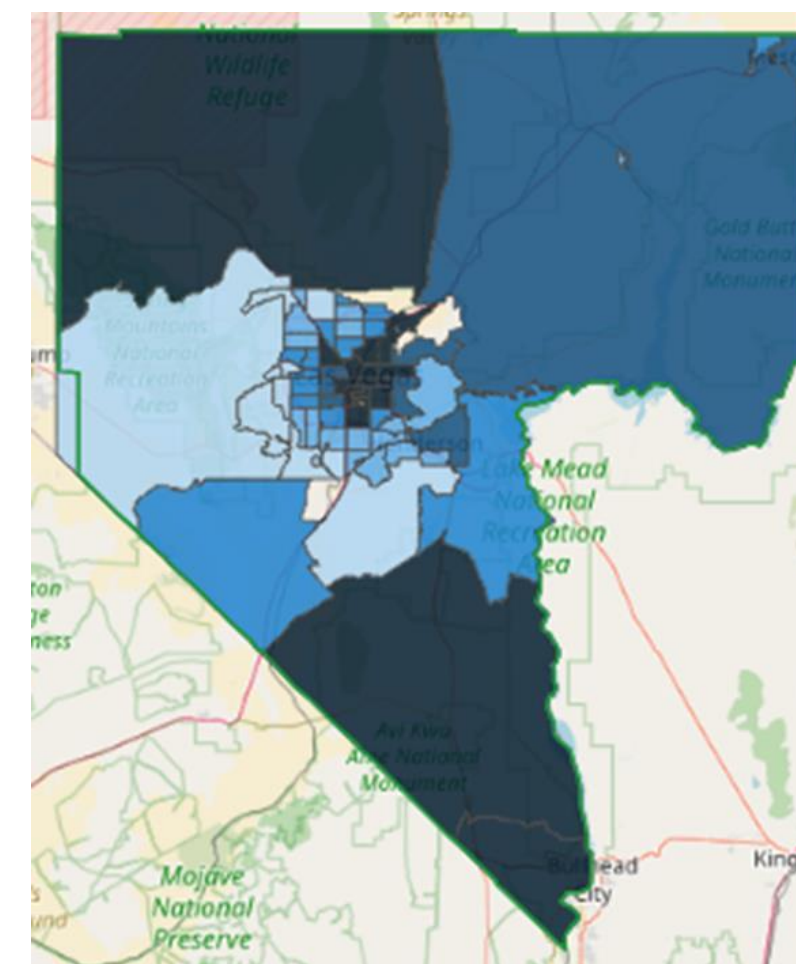
31% of registrants are living in a rural Nevada zip code
40,932 COVID-19 antigen test kits were distributed
1/3 of all tests vended have been from rural sites

Next Steps:

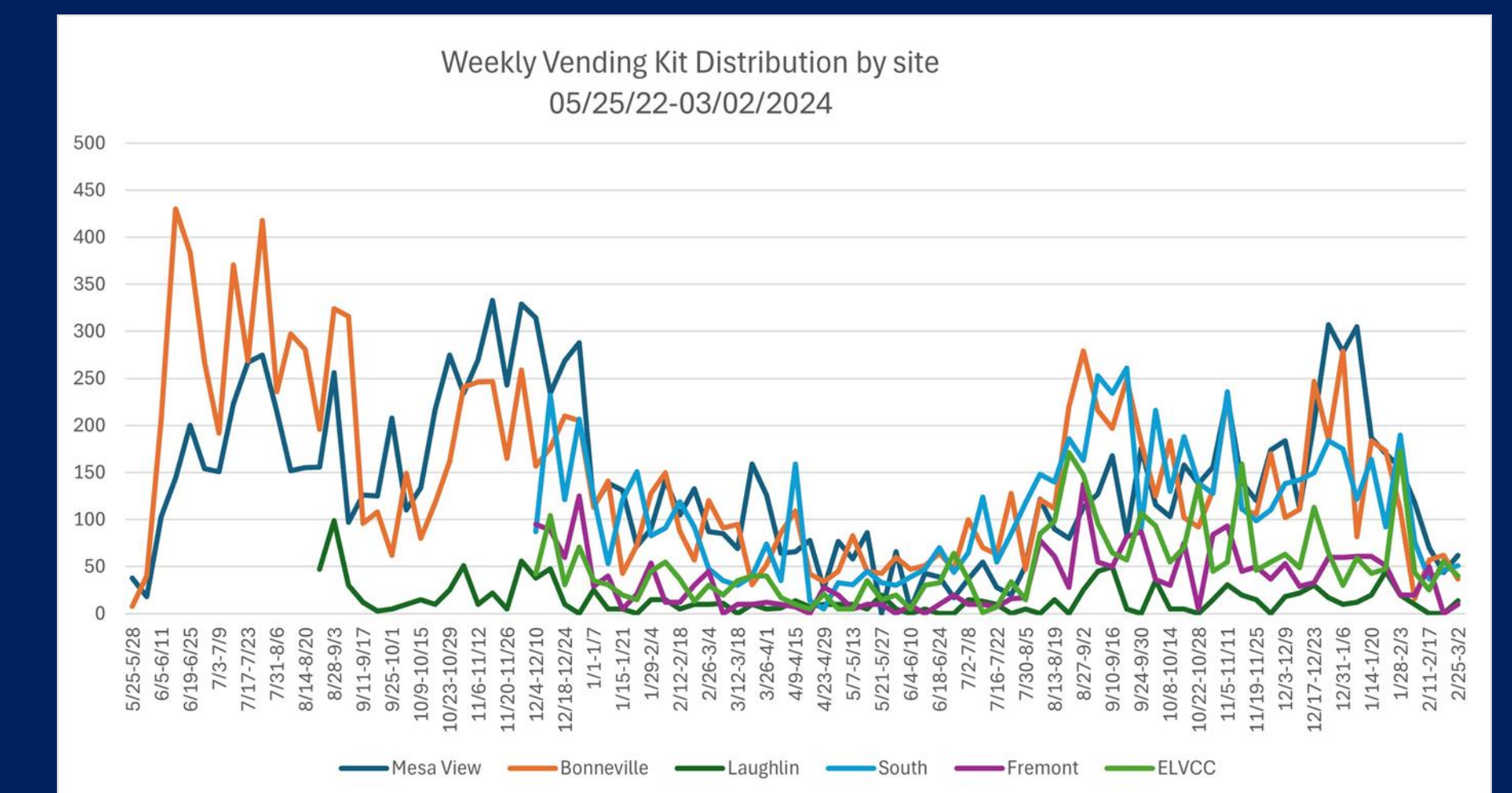
Expand the use and public health supplies distributed by machines (wound kits, Narcan, pregnancy tests)

Equity & Access

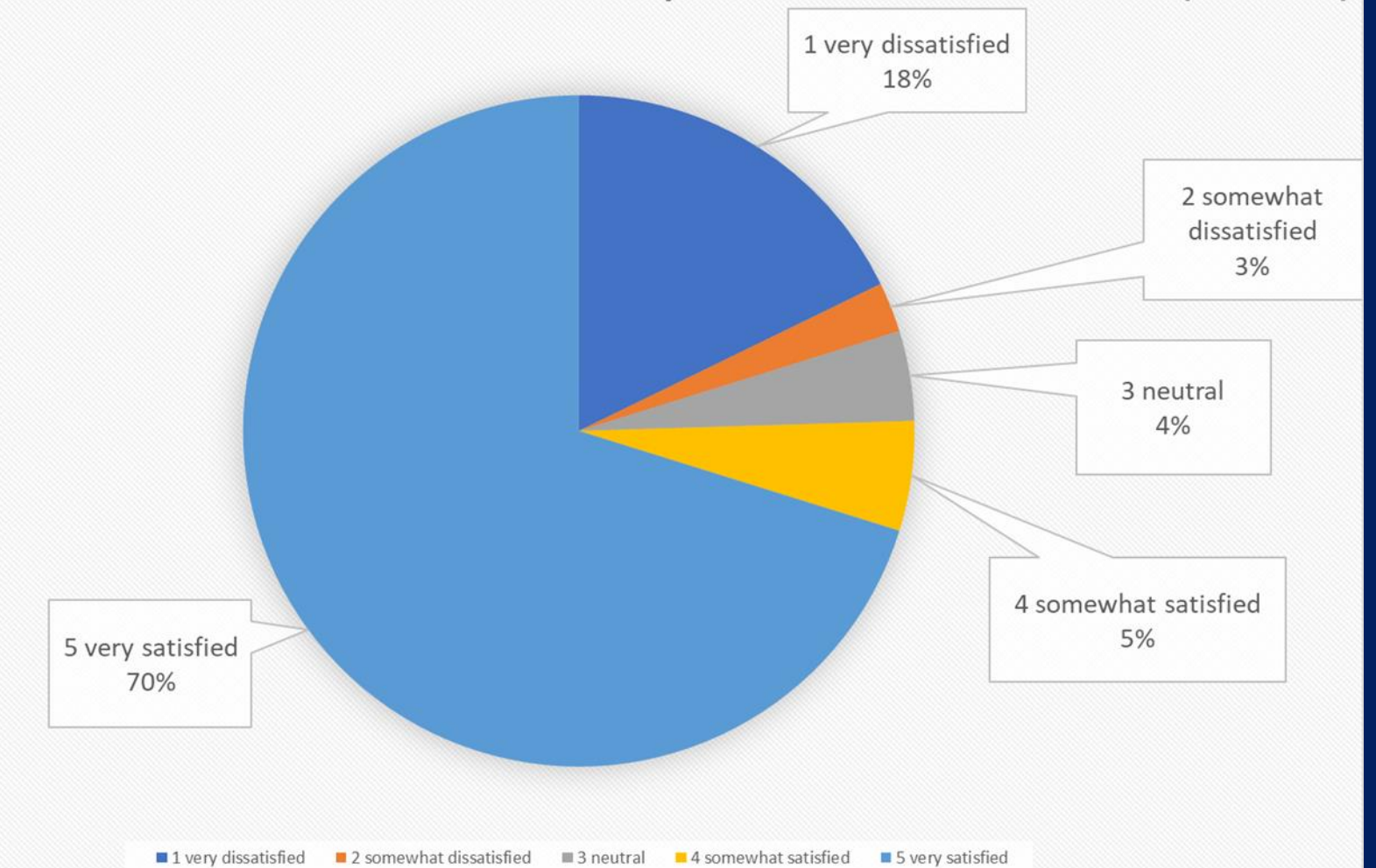
All 6 Vending machines were placed in high need areas Rural and Urban (Dark blue shades)



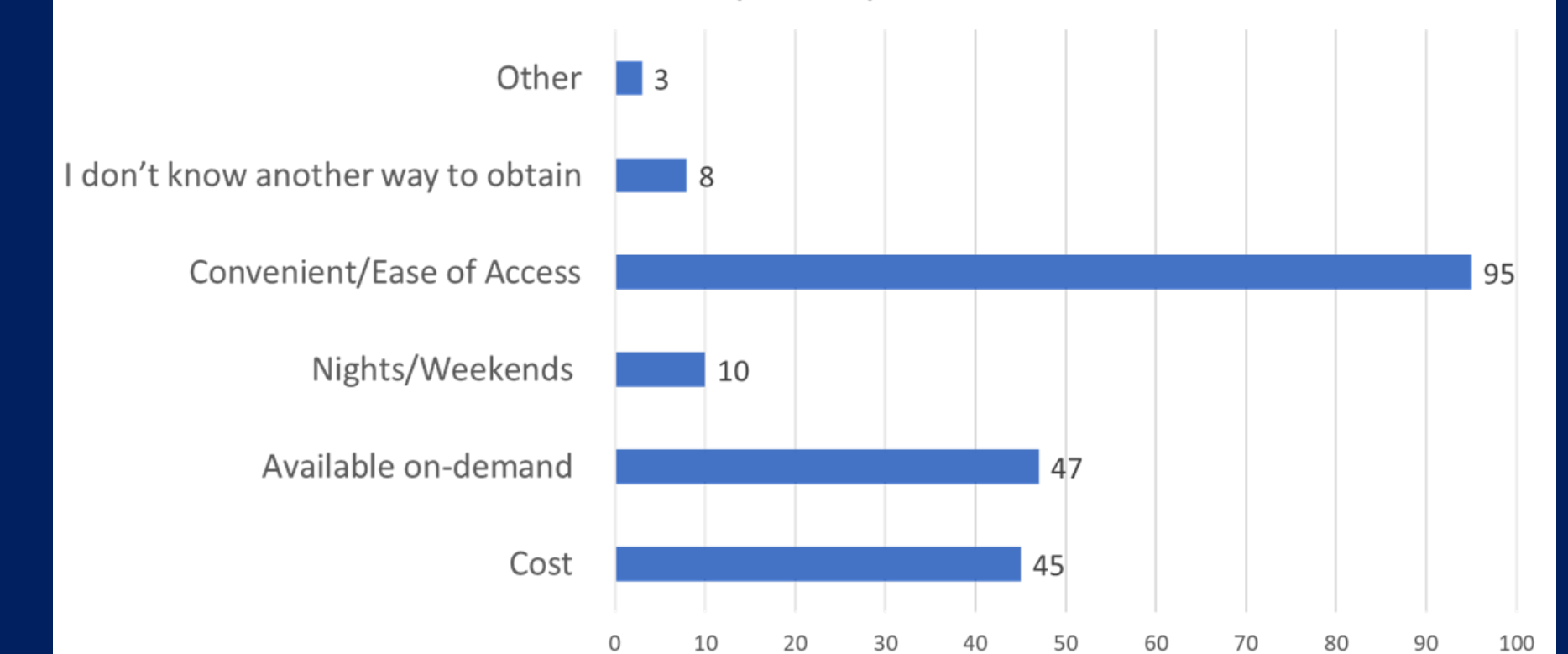
Reducing Barriers



Q3-How satisfied are you with this service? (n=208)



Q2- What was the primary reason you used the COVID vending program versus other means of obtaining tests? (n=208)



The project described was supported by Grant Number NH750T000057-01-00 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Authors:
Kimberly Franich (Franich@snhd.org)
Danielle Jamerson (Jamerson@snhd.org)
Dr. Cassius Lockett (Lockett@snhd.org)