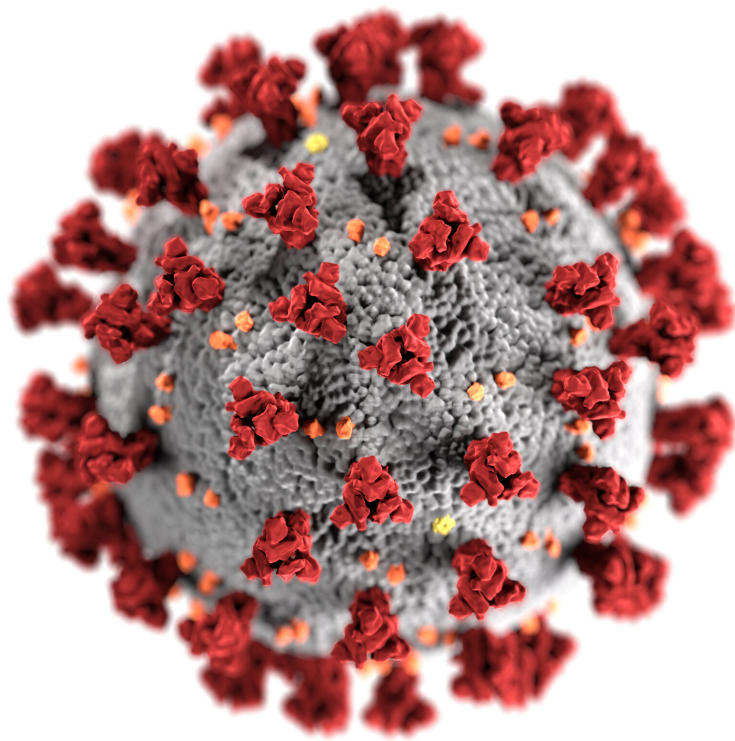


Pulse Poll #2:

The COVID-19 Crisis in Nebraska and
Southwest Iowa's Nonprofit Community



Nonprofit Association
of the Midlands

Serving Nebraska & Western Iowa

Survey: COVID-19 Taking Severe toll on Nebraska and Southwest Iowa's Nonprofits

From April 23-29, 2020, Nonprofit Association of the Midlands (NAM), conducted a second pulse poll survey to gauge the evolving effects of the COVID-19 outbreak on Nebraska and Iowa's nonprofits and the vital programs and services they provide. This was a follow-up to the survey we conducted in mid-March 2020. This survey was taken by 231 nonprofit organizations. We found that nonprofits are continuing to step up without hesitation to serve their communities, to protect public health, and to support their own employees. This is a snapshot of what we learned.

Nearly all respondents (97%) have been impacted or expect to be impacted by COVID-19. Of those, 63% have experienced significant impact, 33% moderate impact, and 3% low impact.

Immediate and Long-Term Investment

Although full impact of the COVID-19 pandemic is still unfolding, it has already laid bare deep inequities and the human and economic toll of years of under-investment in critical systems and needs – including nonprofits and the people and communities they serve.

Times of crisis underscore the continuing importance of nonprofits, as providers of immediate care and assistance, economic stability, spiritual comfort, news, education, mental health counseling, environmental stewardship, outlets for grief, hope and inspiration, and as strong partners in developing short- and long-term solutions to address inequity and comprehensive social problems.

Past experience has shown that economic downturns typically hit nonprofits immediately, while economic recovery reaches the nonprofit community much later than other sectors. After many years of under-funding of vital infrastructure and supports, a significant infusion of funds is needed now, and more will be needed for the long term.

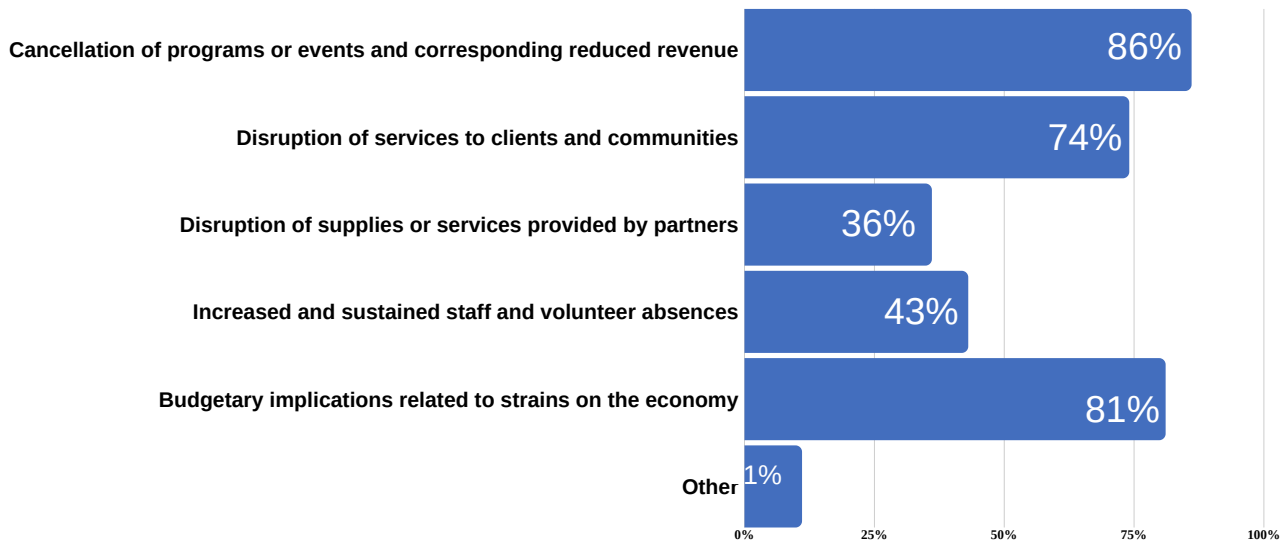
The majority (56%) of more than 13,000 nonprofits in Nebraska operate with less than \$250,000 in net assets. One in eleven Nebraskans work for a nonprofit and many of these organizations serve those individuals hit hardest by job loss as a result of the pandemic.

Impact and Actions Taken

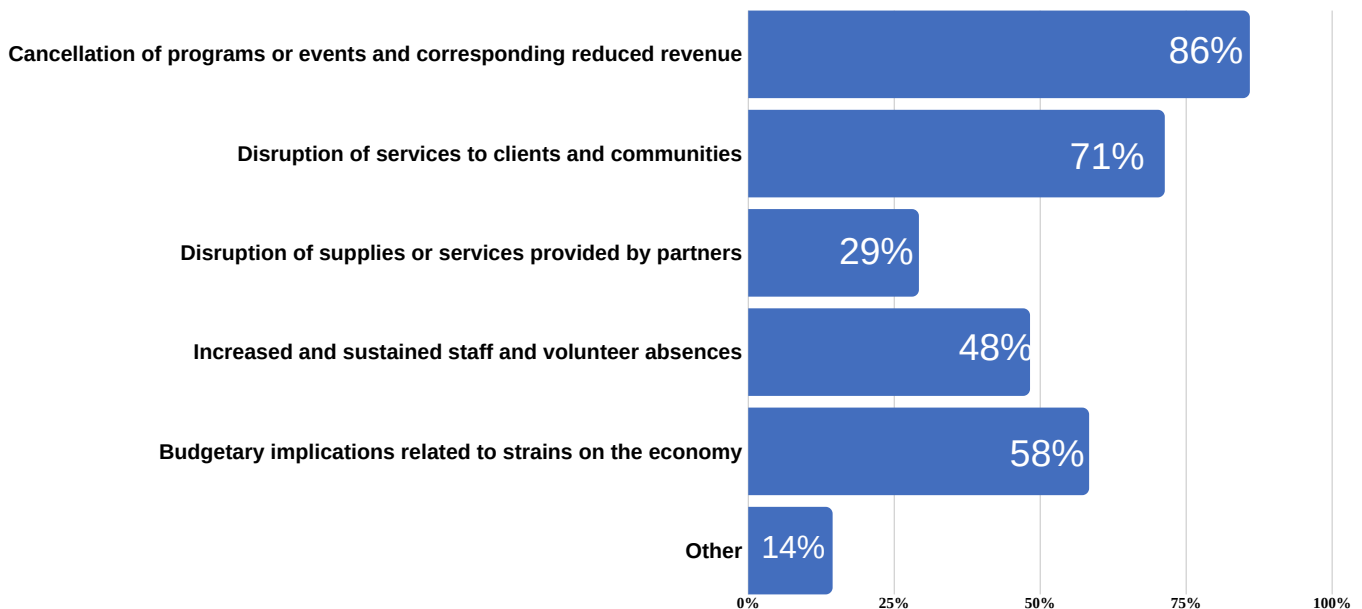
The COVID-19 crisis is already having a significant and alarming financial and programmatic impact on most nonprofits.

Organizations have taken or are contemplating a number of actions. Below is the comparison from the first Pulse Poll taken in March to the second taken in April.

April 2020



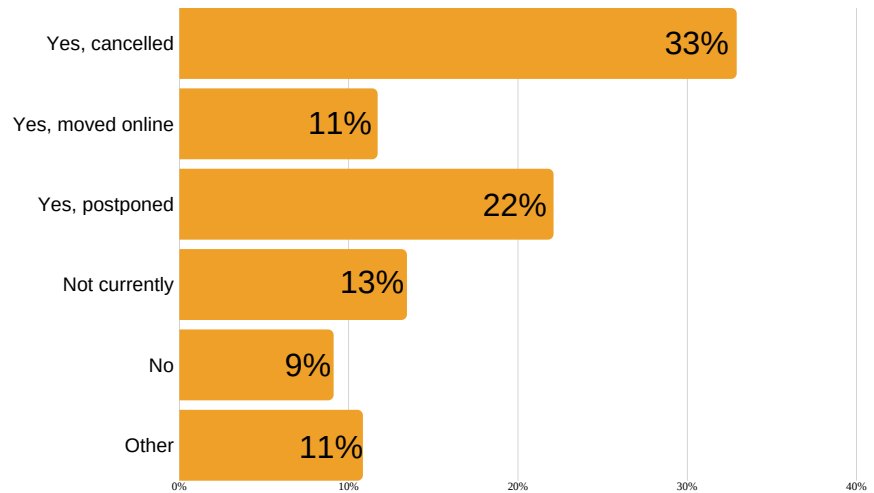
March 2020



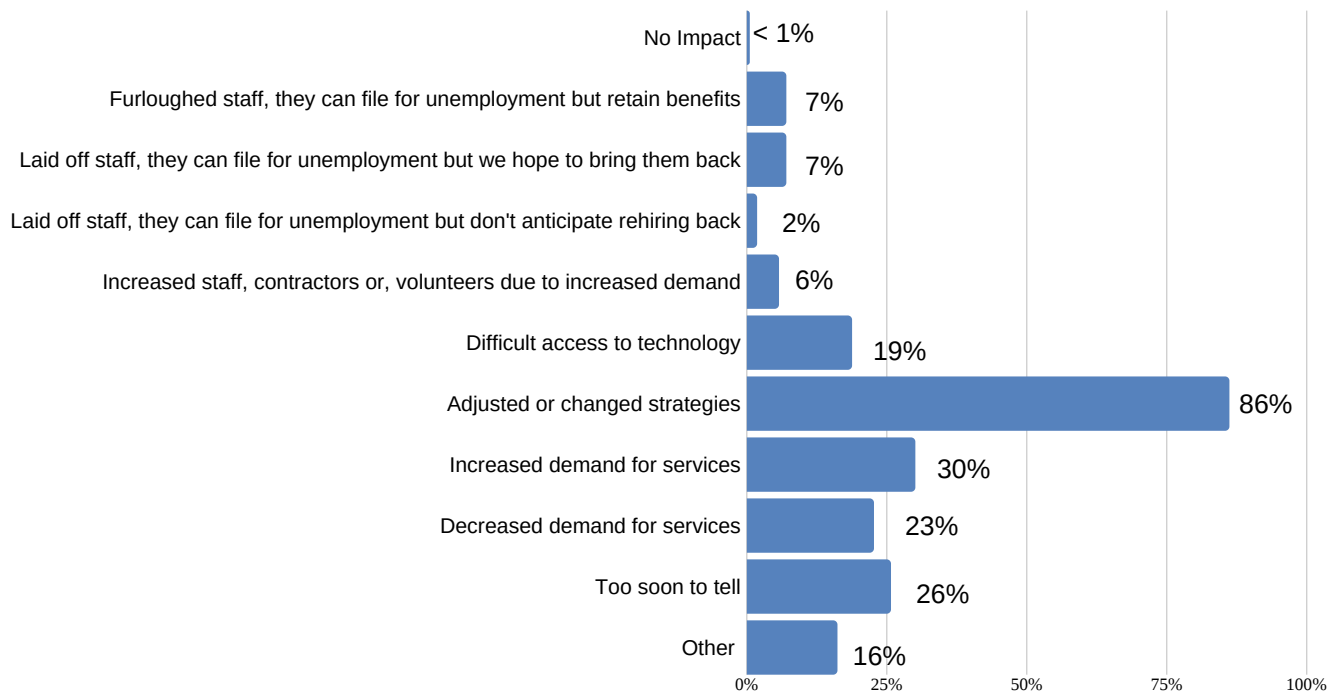
Financial Impacts

Did this crisis impact a major event or fundraiser?

**231 nonprofits
respondents
anticipate losing
\$42 Million
Dollars in
revenue**



Describe the impact of COVID-19 on your organization



How do you anticipate the impact of this pandemic on the financial conditions of your organization?

39% The effects are moderate, but my organization needs additional financial supports to overcome these difficulties. My organization anticipates some mild effect in long-term.

33% The effects are moderate, but my organization can overcome these difficulties, no long-term effect is anticipated.

11% The effects are significant. My organization is in financial crisis, but still be able to continue to operate with additional financial supports. My organization anticipates some long-term effects on our operation.

5% The effects are small and only for short-term.

2% The effects are significant both long-term and short-term. My organization is in financial crisis and is struggling to continue to operate.

156
Nonprofits
Applied for
PPP*

*Of the 231 organizations who responded

Paycheck Protection Program Loans (emergency SBA 7(a) loans): Creates an emergency loan program providing loans of up to \$10 million for eligible nonprofits and small businesses, permitting them to cover costs of payroll, operations, and debt service, and provides that the loans will be forgiven in whole or in part under certain circumstances. Section 1102.

CARES ACT

On March 27, the House unanimously passed and President signed into law the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, a \$2 trillion economic stimulus law intended to provide immediate relief for individuals, nonprofits, businesses, and state and local governments. The CARES Act is the third law enacted in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

SOURCE: National Council of Nonprofits

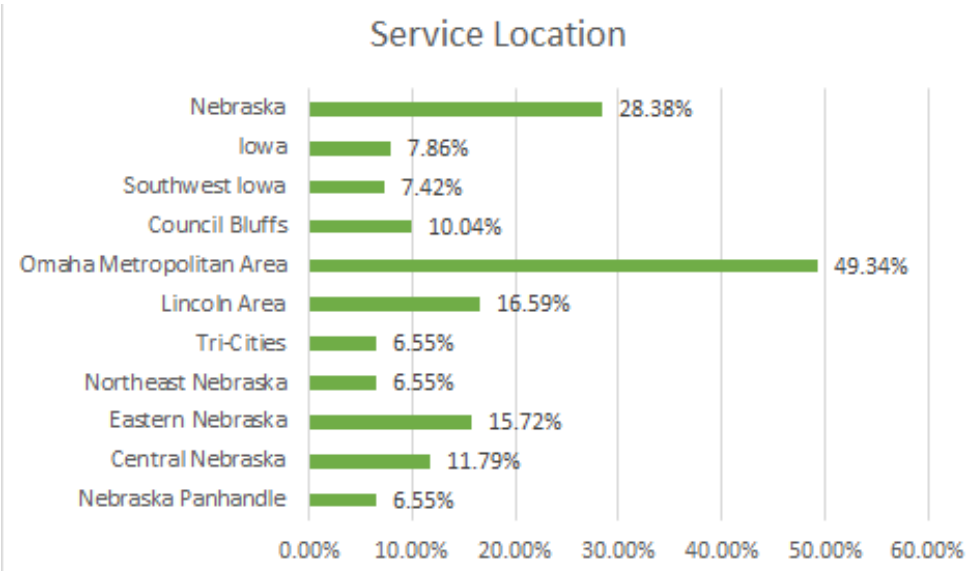
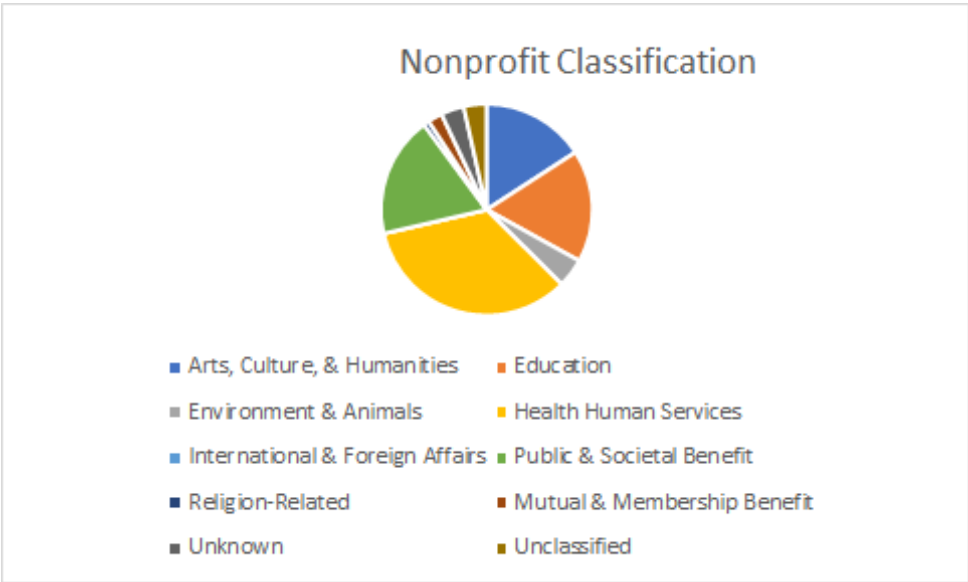
27
Nonprofits
Applied for
EIDL*

*Of the 231 organizations who responded

Economic Injury Disaster Loans (EIDL): Creates emergency grants for eligible nonprofits and other applicants with 500 or fewer employees enabling them to receive checks for \$10,000 within three days. Section 1110.

Who participated in the survey?

This report was drawn from responses of the 231 Nebraska and Southwest Iowa 501(C)3 organizations that completed this pulse poll from April 23-29, 2020. The graphs below show the distribution of the nonprofits missions and geographical location.



In Their Own Words

Observations from survey respondents

"Artists in residence programs had to be terminated prior to completion. Community programs for students were also terminated."

"COVID -19 has shifted our focus on fundraising to basic needs such as making sure the students get breakfast and lunch five days a week. Also, working on getting internet to homes and daycare for e-learning. All the students have access to iPads and software."

"Several existing clients are having trouble meeting their financial commitments and we have seen many new clients need loans to pay rent, utilities, etc."

"Our numbers served has increased with sexual assaults up 30% and new clients."

"It has brought most of our programming to a halt."

"Increased the demand for our services 500%. Increased the stress, strain, and concern of the staff."

"Many families have lost jobs and income, so our organization is experiencing new categories of first-time clients who would otherwise be stable, but for the mandatory closure of their workplaces due to COVID-19."

"We are largely grant funded and our grants will not be in jeopardy through June but after that, in the new fiscal year, there is worry that funders won't give at the same levels. Our overall work is certainly impacted as well in that everything we do has always been in person from youth mentoring and development to coalition work."

"Patients have not been able to see on a regular basis because of COVID-19, and more are put into a holding pattern until this passes."

"Fear, anxiety, depression, suicidal thoughts, economic devastation."

"We have seen an increase in substance abuse evaluations. All therapists are working from home, our community based services staff are still delivering meals, we are concerned about our clients with severe mental illness."

"We have suspended all events for the remainder of 2020. Our clients are being robbed the educational and cultural enrichment that our organization provides."

"Fund raising has been the biggest impact, not being able to hold events."



What NAM does

We help nonprofits help their communities. There are **thousands** of nonprofits in our area – each trying to make a difference on their own. We bring them together so that each member can benefit from our collective strength.

Nonprofit Association of the Midlands (NAM) is the only membership organization in the state dedicated exclusively to working with local nonprofits. By connecting organizations with information, education, advocacy and collaboration, we help members focus their energy on the people and communities they serve.

Our Mission - We strengthen the collective voice, leadership, and capacity of nonprofit organizations enriching the quality of community life throughout Nebraska and Western Iowa. To achieve this mission for our growing base of nonprofit organizations, NAM is committed to the following goals:

1. Enhance public recognition of the importance and role of the nonprofit sector to the people of Nebraska.
2. Provide access to high quality assistance and information on effective nonprofit management and practices.
3. Advocate on issues that affect the capacity of all nonprofits to address their communities' needs.
4. Foster communication and cooperation among nonprofits.

Join NAM today – www.nonprofitam.org