



State Health Agency Governance

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Overview

- Discuss public health agency governance and structure
- Share historic and socio-political influences on the development of public health agency structure
- Refer you to resources for additional information

ASTHO PROFILE

OF STATE AND TERRITORIAL
PUBLIC HEALTH VOLUME 4



Comprehensive survey of state and territorial health agency activities, structure, governance, and resources

Profile survey overview

3

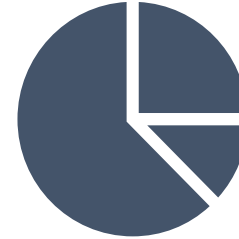
The survey is **fielded every 3 years**.



Survey respondents include Senior Deputies/Health Officials, Chief Financial Officers, and HR/Workforce Directors.

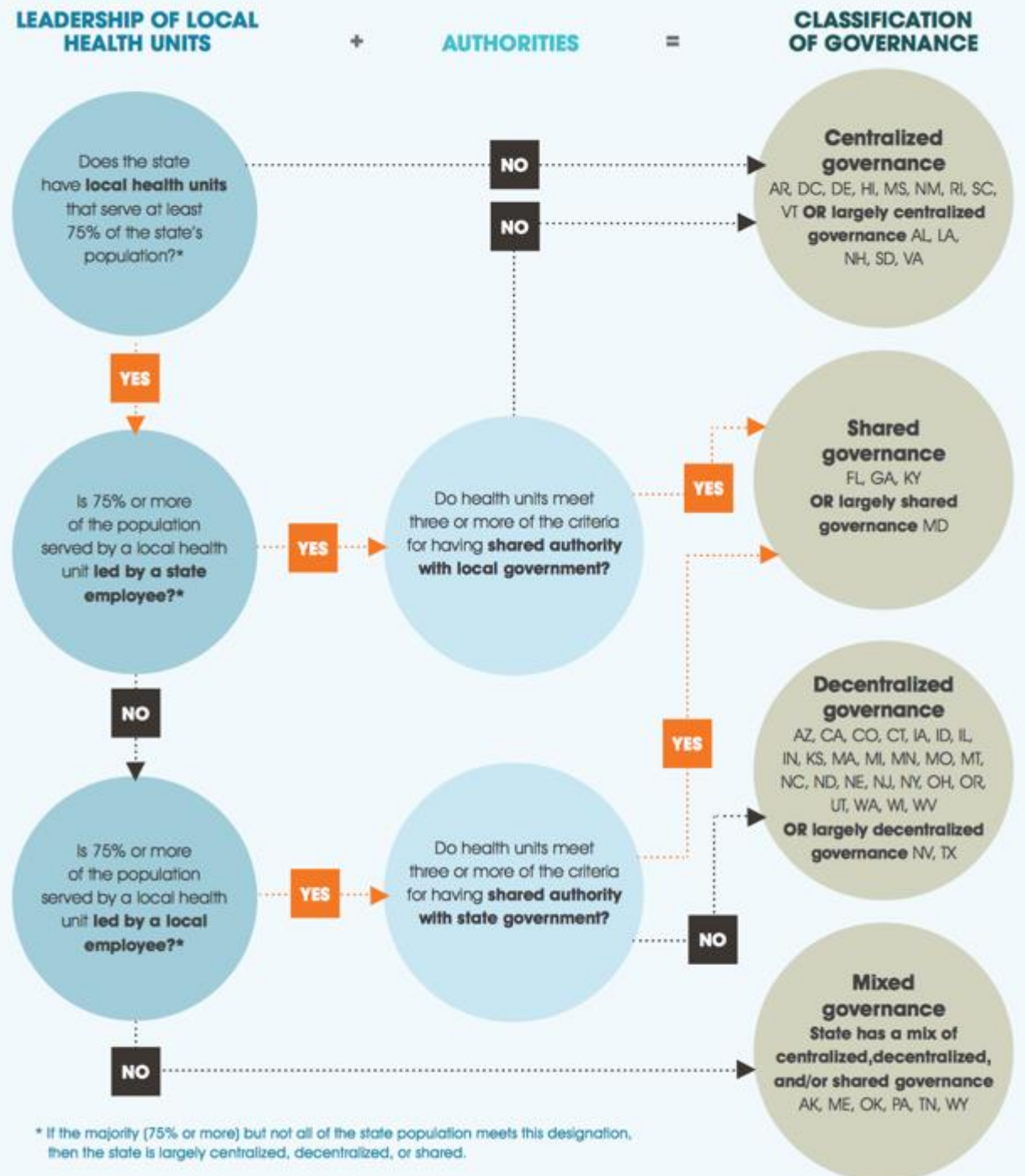
100%

In 2019, there was a **100% response rate** from all 50 states and DC.

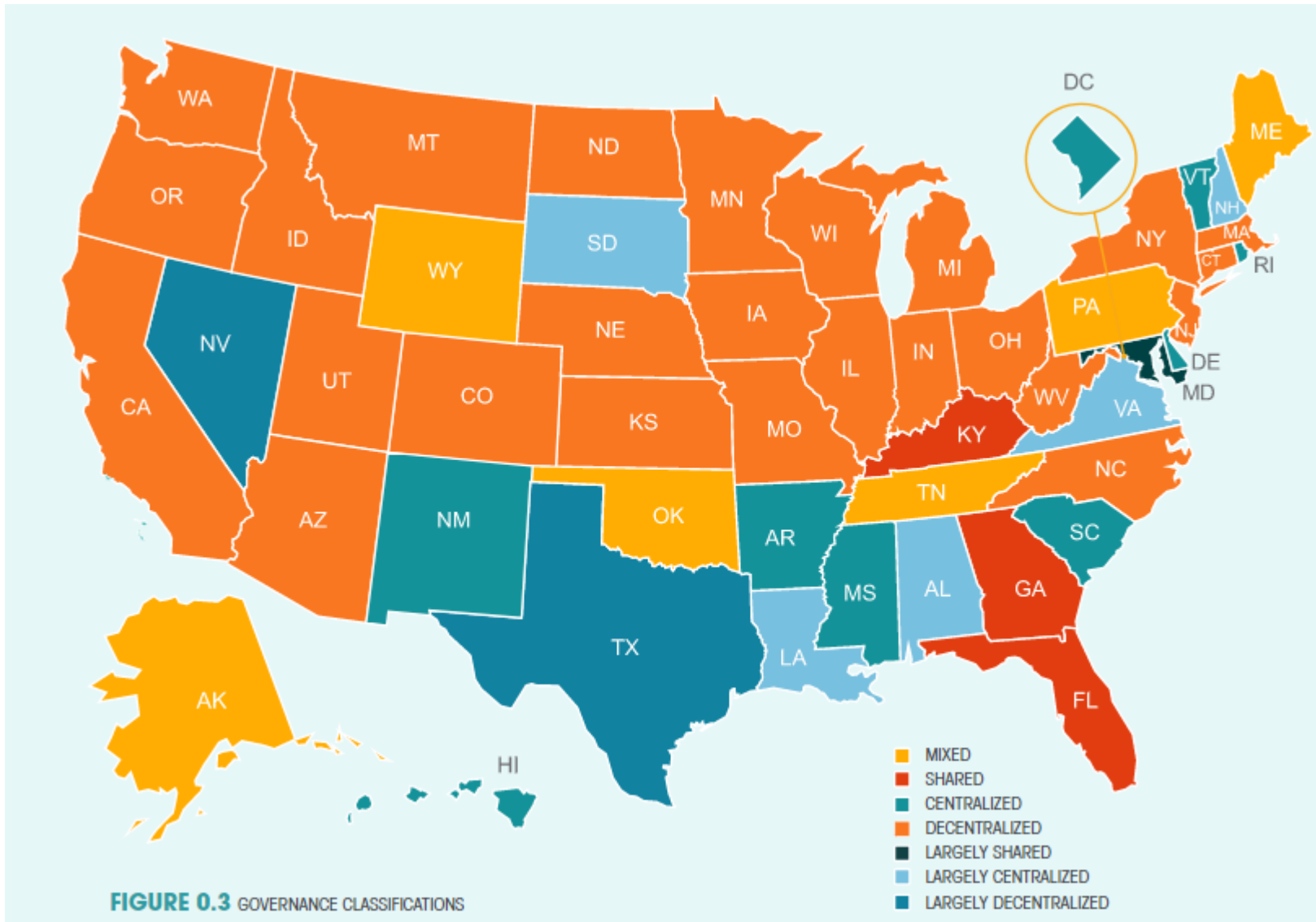


Secondary data sources include data from de Beaumont Foundation, PHAB, CDC, health agency websites, and ASTHO member data.

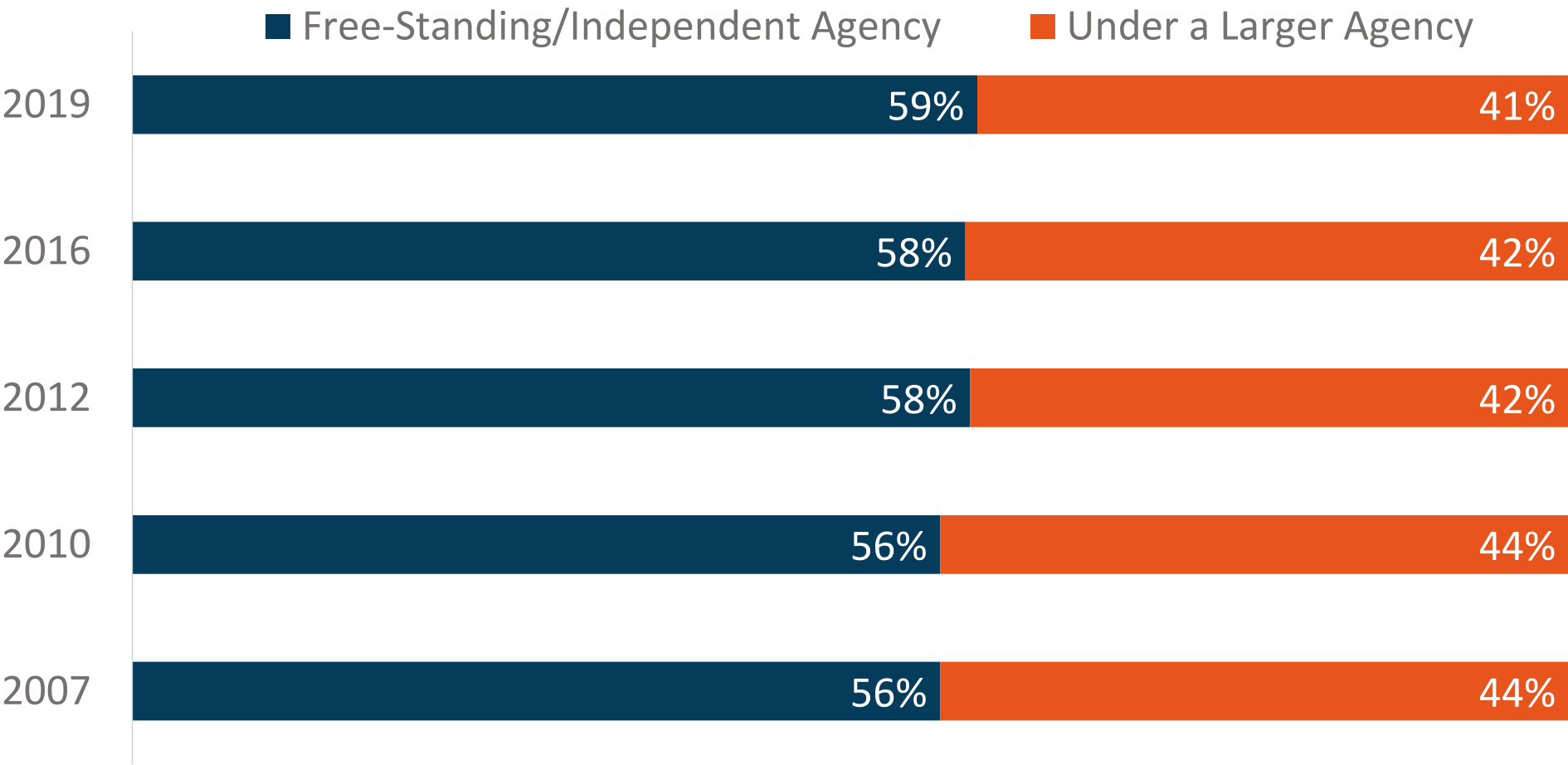
State health agency governance categorization



2019 state health agency governance classification

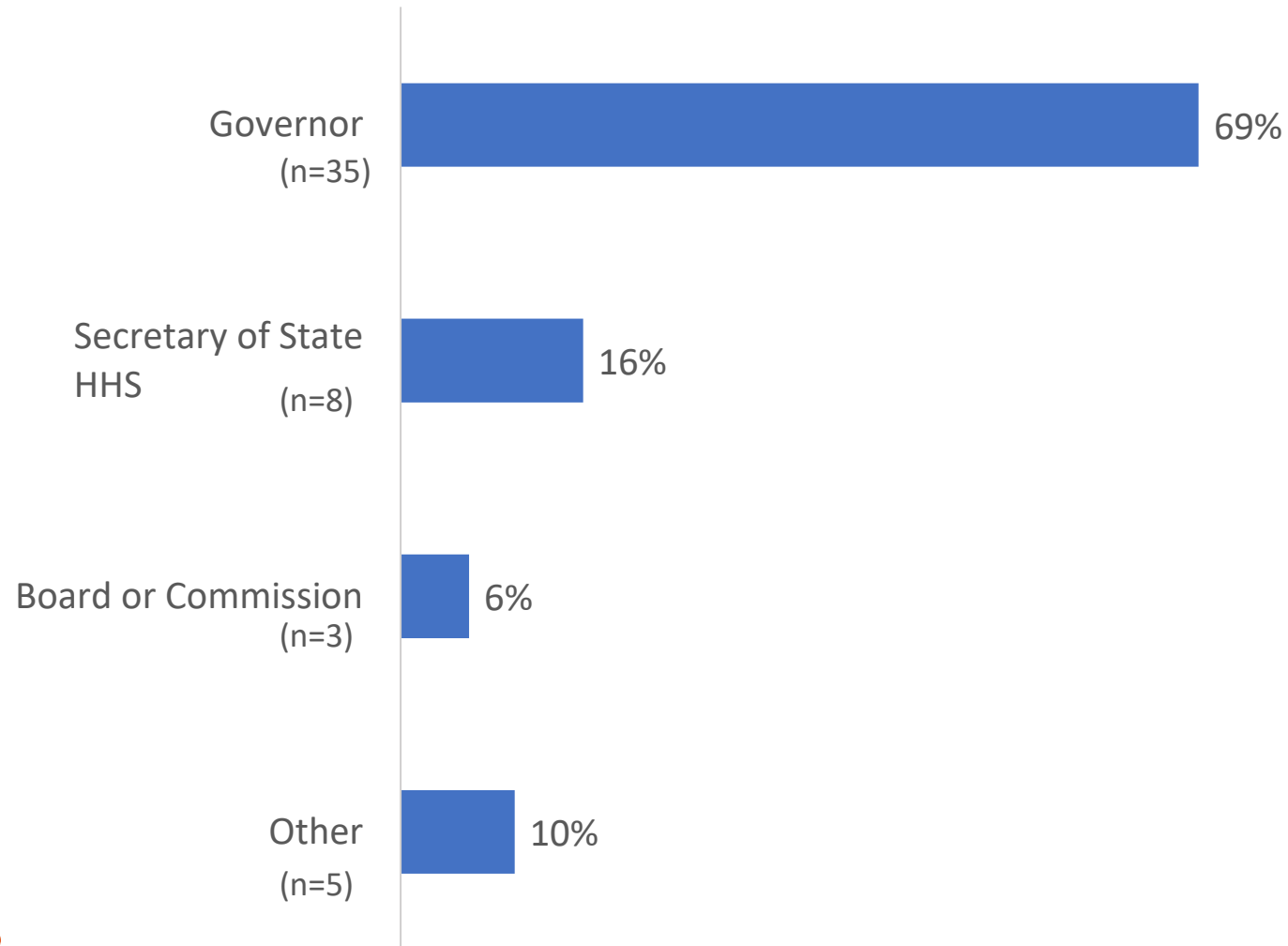


Structure of state health agencies, 2007-2019 (n=48-51)



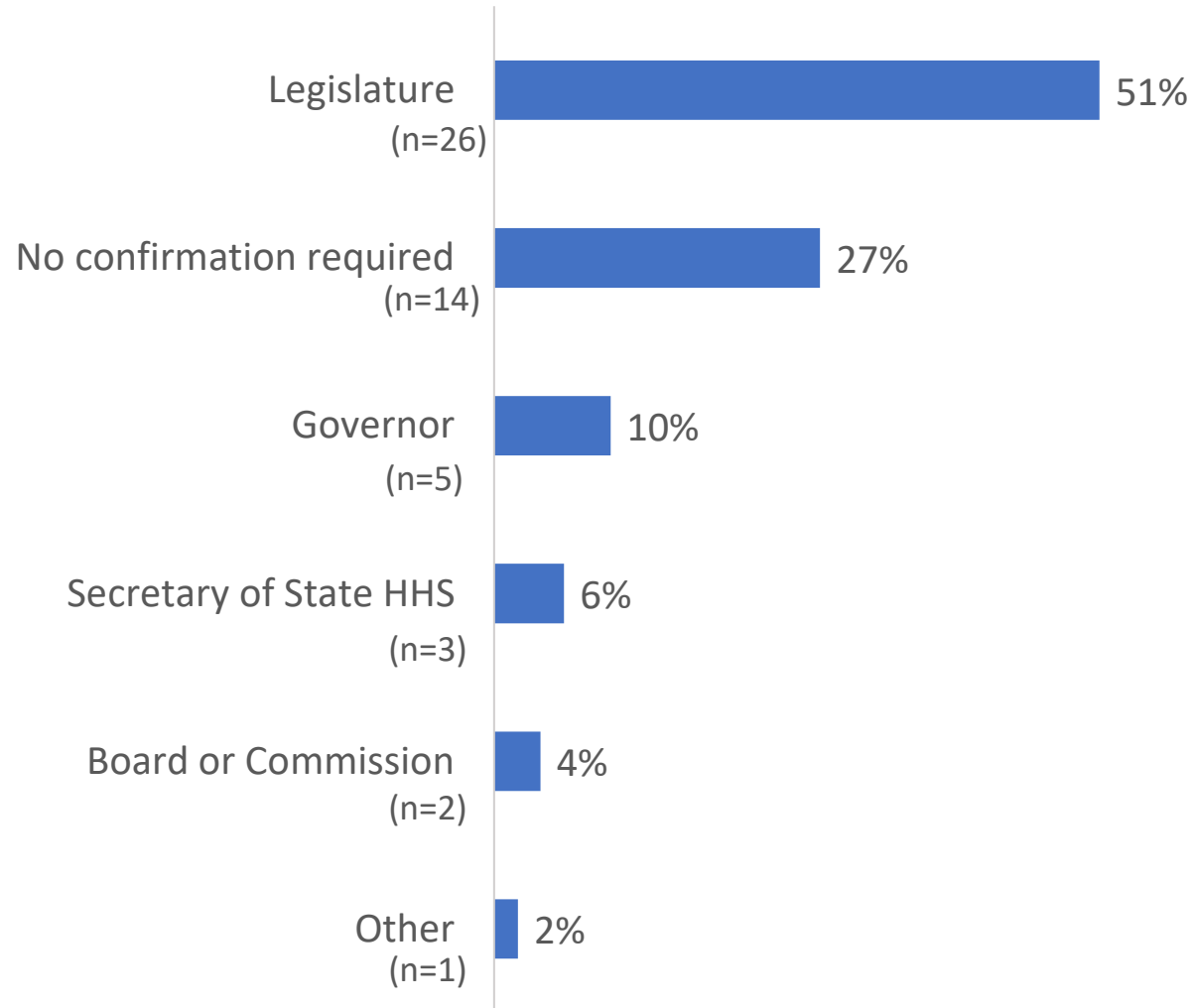
Who appoints the health official in each state?

The governor appoints the health official in more than half of all states.



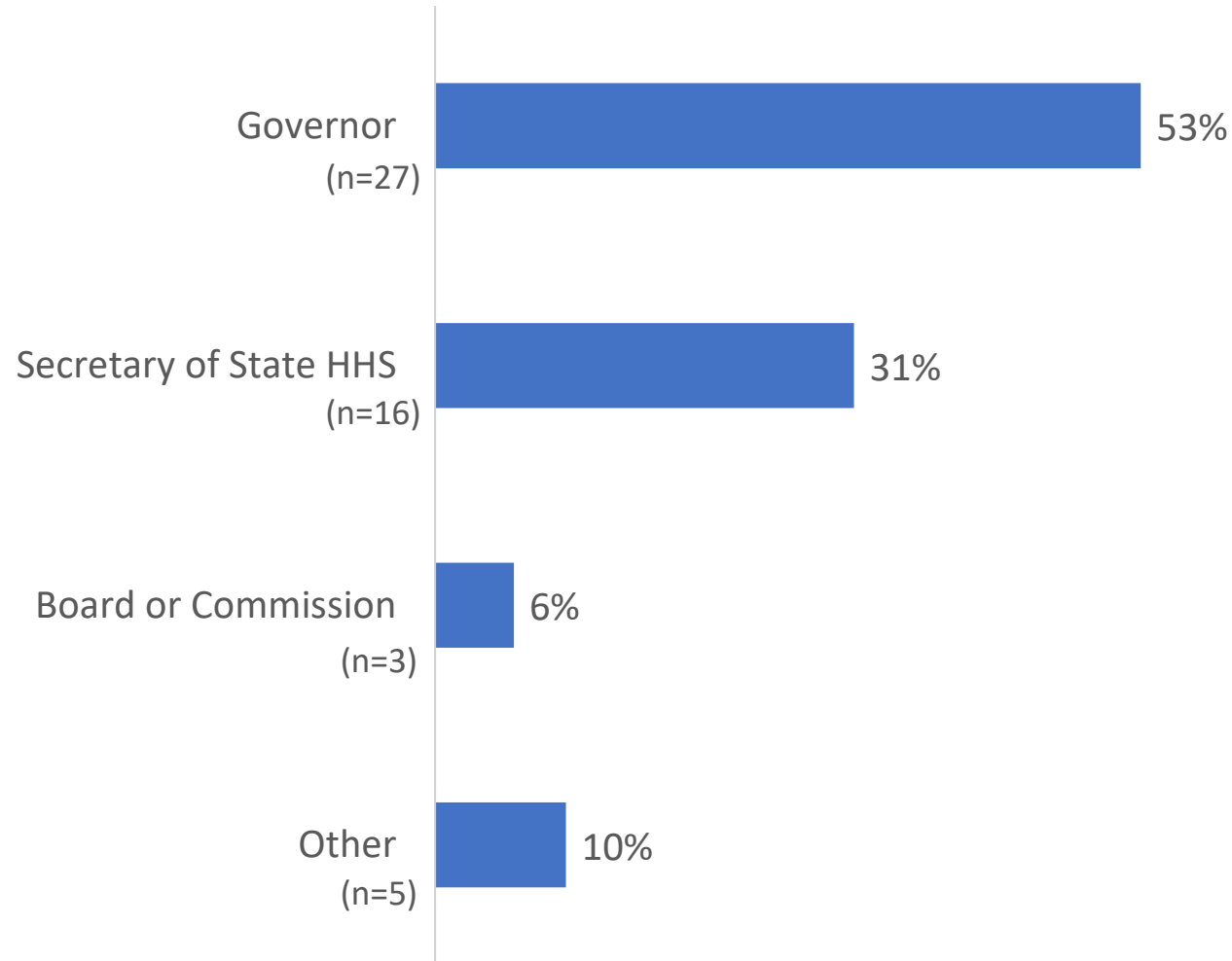
Who confirms the health official's appointment in each state?

The legislature appoints the health official in half of all states.



To whom does the health official directly report?

The health official reports to the governor in half of all states.



What do state boards of health do?

Adopt Rules Only (12)

CO, IN, IA, MA, NE, NJ, NY, NC, OH, VT, VA, WA

Reject Rules Only (1)

IL

Enforce Rules Only (1)

MD

Oversee Agency Only (1)

GA

Adopt and Enforce Rules (3)

AR, NV, ND

Adopt and Enforce Rules, Oversee Agency (1)

ID

Adopt and Enforce Rules, Oversee Agency, Appoint STHO (3)

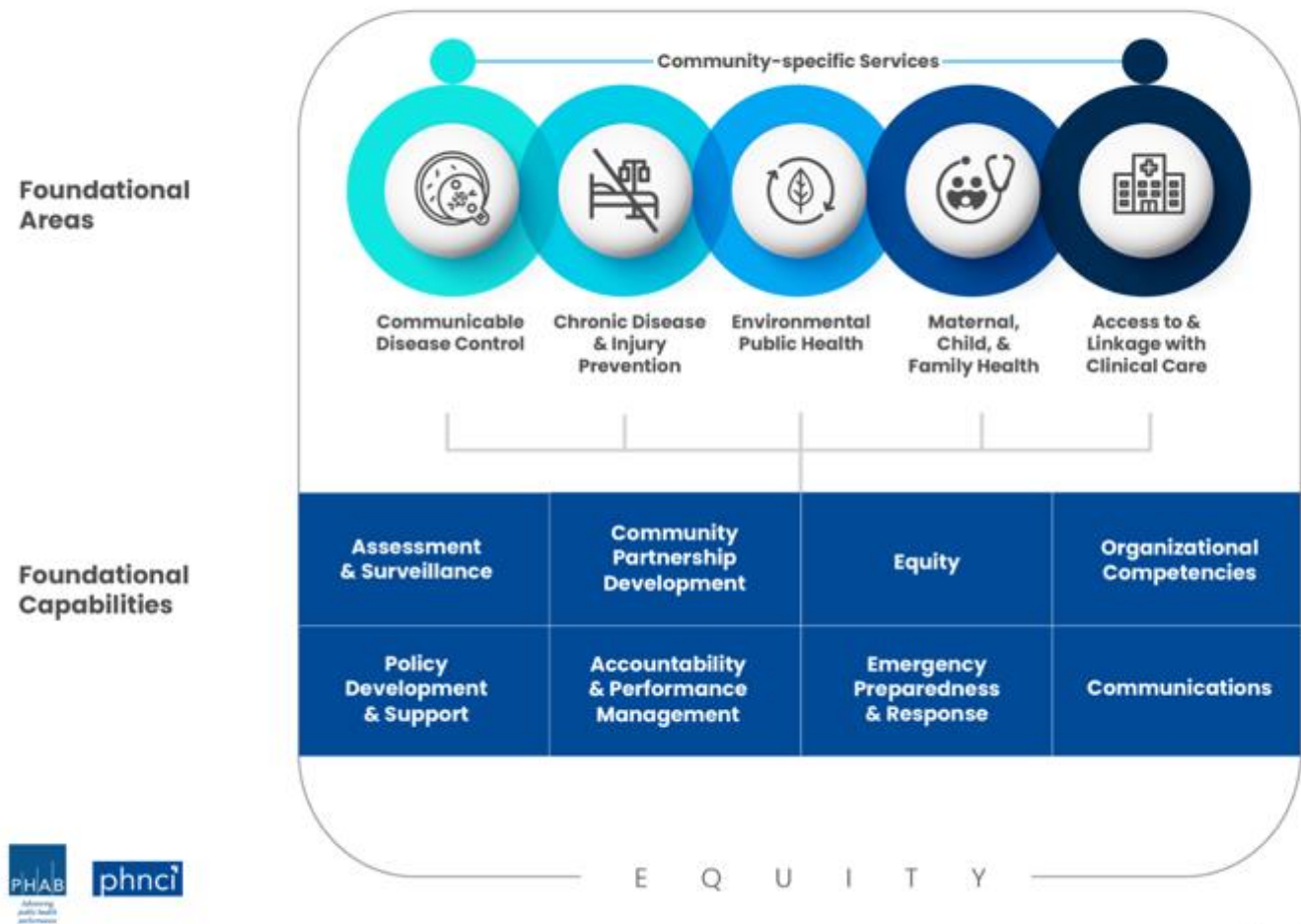
AL, MS, SC

Governance and Structure

No matter what organizational construct is used, public health agencies should work to ensure that the construct supports provision of the 10 Essential Services of PH to all people in the jurisdiction's (health equity), public health functions and capabilities, and that the agency is in a position to meet national public health standards for public health practice and other relevant public health accrediting bodies such as CLIA (public health labs) and CMS (regulation of nursing homes) as applicable.

Foundational Public Health Services

Foundational Public Health Services



February 2022

Governance and structure highlights

- Around 60% of state health agencies are free-standing/independent agencies.
- Most health officials are appointed by the governor, confirmed by the legislature, and report to the governor.
- Many states have reached out to ASTHO to inquire about other states considering changes to their SHA structure in 2021.

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ASTHO Profile Dashboard: astho.org/Profile/

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The screenshot shows the 'RESEARCH' section of the ASTHO Profile Dashboard. On the left is a navigation menu with links: 'Profile of State and Territorial Public Health', 'Full Volume 4 Profile Report', 'Volume 4 Infographic', 'Interactive Map', 'Information for Researchers', 'Forces of Change', 'State-Local Health', 'Special Topics', 'Workforce Development and Research'. The main content area is titled 'Profile of State and Territorial Public Health' and contains a detailed description of the ASTHO Profile, its history, and its purpose. Below this is a section titled 'About the Dashboard' which describes the interactive data visualization system and lists its capabilities: viewing national aggregate and individual agency-level data, and longitudinal data views. It also mentions that users can access in-depth information about the survey, dashboard layout, specific data points, and analytic decisions by accessing the technical notes documentation. At the bottom is a section titled 'Explore the Data' with a prompt to click on buttons to navigate to different sections of the dashboard. There are six buttons arranged in a 3x2 grid: 'Activities', 'Governance', 'Workforce', 'Finance', 'Planning and Quality Improvement', and 'Individual Agency Profiles'.

RESEARCH

Profile of State and Territorial Public Health

The ASTHO Profile is the only comprehensive source of information on state and territorial public health agency activities, structures, and financial and workforce resources. Launched in 2007 and fielded every two to three years, the Profile aims to define the scope of state and territorial public health services, identify variations in practice among state and territorial public health agencies, and contribute to the development of best practices in governmental public health. The Profile highlights descriptive findings from each survey round, and includes summaries of the structure, activities, and resources of individual state and territorial agencies. These data represent the breadth of work overseen by health agencies and the structural nuances and limitations in which they conduct their work.

About the Dashboard

The Profile dashboard is an interactive and customizable data visualization system that presents data from the 2012, 2016, and 2019 surveys. The new data visualization system includes the following capabilities:

1. viewing national aggregate and individual agency-level data, and
2. longitudinal data views.

Users can access in-depth information about the Profile survey, the dashboard layout, specific data points, and analytic decisions by accessing the technical notes documentation.

Explore the Data

Click on the buttons below to navigate to different sections of the dashboard.

- Activities
- Governance
- Workforce
- Finance
- Planning and Quality Improvement
- Individual Agency Profiles