

**County Gap and On Line Needs Assessment**  
**Conclusions and Recommendations**  
**November 14, 2003**

Conclusions

- The vast majority of participants are Extension users
- The voices of particular populations (i.e. youth, nonExtension users, others) were unevenly represented in the data and don't represent the actual make up of New Hampshire residents
- The data represents a geographically diverse citizen voice from around the state
- Economic needs are the highest priority of NH residents
- Land and human related needs are high priorities for NH residents
- Many of the needs/issues are interrelated
- Regional/local differences in needs/issues exist in the data
- In spite of the low number of youth participation in the assessments, youth related needs/issues were a priority for many participants
- The needs/issues identified in this process are similar to those found by other assessment processes within and outside Extension (i.e. UNH Center for Integrated Regional Problem Solving symposium)
- Participants prefer a wide variety of ways to receive educational programs and information including face to face methods and an expanding interest in technology, especially web based technology
- It is difficult to determine distinct future program directions and responses to needs/issues from this data
- The data doesn't specifically indicate which Extension programming efforts should continue

Recommendations

- Additional effort should be given to gather needs data from underrepresented and underserved populations
- Programs supporting economic, land and human related needs should continue to be pursued.
- The determination of future program directions should consider which economic, land and human issues match Extension's mission and capacity and which need to be brought to the attention of other educational, governmental and service entities.
- Future program directions need to be sensitive to local/regional differences in needs/issues
- Extension staff should complement face to face delivery methods with web and other technology
- Cooperative Extension should supplement this data with other needs assessment processes and capacity criteria to determine future program directions
- Data should be gathered on which Extension programs should be continued.