

Comparisons between Different Groups of Respondents

The research team identified several items of interest when comparing the different groups among survey respondents. For example, while all respondents tended to characterize their initiatives as successful, those responses identified as criminal justice, state level, fully implemented, and aimed at building general capability tended to indicate the highest levels of success.

- Participants from the criminal justice area reported a higher level of success than public health participants. Criminal justice responses also have higher scores than public health responses in regards to participants' knowledge about relevant business processes, information technologies, and management practices in their organizations.
 - Comparing state versus local initiatives, state initiatives reported a higher level of success than local ones. In addition, participants in state initiatives gave higher scores than participants in local initiatives about their knowledge related to information needs, management practices of their own organizations, the broader environment of the initiative and their communication and collaboration skills. Lastly, strategies developed by participants in local initiatives were judged less appropriate and effective than state ones.
 - Our analysis comparing the current status of the initiatives indicated that implemented initiatives received higher scores than those still in development, especially in regards to questions about the success of the initiative, which can be expected. Moreover, when we looked at the results of t-tests between implemented initiatives versus defunct initiatives, we see that implemented initiatives reported a higher level of executive support, better leadership, and more willingness of participants than defunct initiatives. These results suggest some success factors in cross-boundary information sharing initiatives.
 - Initiatives that aimed at building general capability received higher scores than initiatives which sought to solve a specific need or problem in questions related to the success of initiatives. Moreover, respondents who participated in initiatives that aimed at building general capability reported more satisfaction with addressing concerns or issues in the initiative than respondents who participated in the initiatives that aimed at solving a specific need or problem.
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