

# Reported Barriers to AAC Service Delivery & Post-Professional Learning Preferences Among Speech-Language Pathologists



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## INTRODUCTION

- Preservice training includes a dedicated AAC course in 90% of speech-language pathology and speech and hearing science graduate program. (Johnson & Prebor, 2019)
- SLPs report **limited** or **poor comfort** with AAC. (Marvin et al., 2003)
- **41%** of graduate programs report **≥50%** of students graduate with clinical hours in AAC.
- **51%** report they believe **at least 50%** of the students are prepared to provide services to individuals with AAC needs upon graduation. (Johnson & Prebor, 2019)
- SLPs report **inadequate** preparation to deliver AAC services. (Costigan & Light, 2019; Marvin et al., 2003)

**RQ 1:** What are the perceived barriers to AAC service delivery?

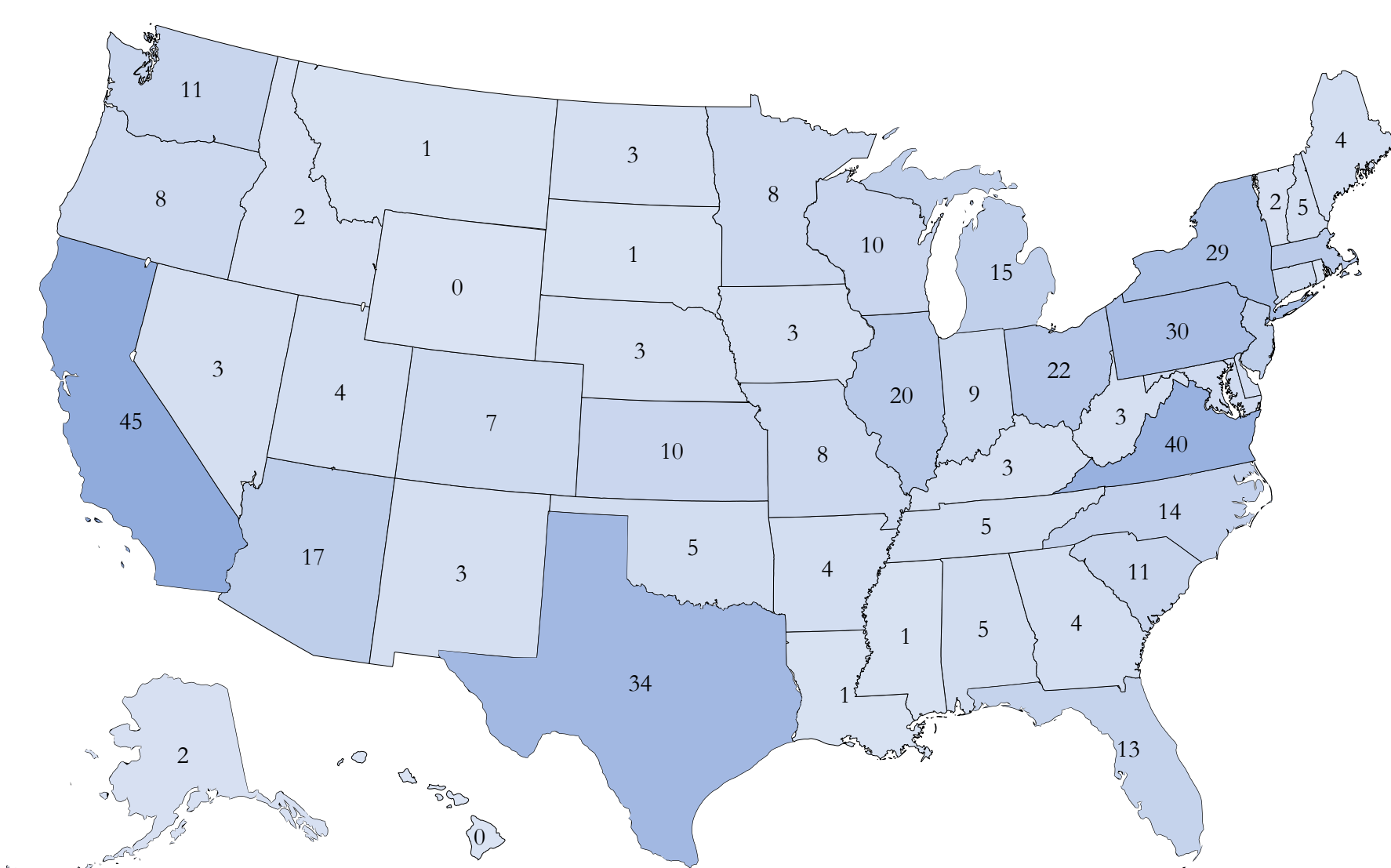
**RQ 2:** What are the learning preferences for post-professional instruction and training in AAC?

## METHODS

- Survey of CCC-SLPs ≥ 1 year post-graduation.
- 48 questions inquiring about:
  - primary work setting
  - prior training use of AAC
  - barriers
  - training needs
  - perceptions of AAC
- Distributed via ASHA Special Interest Groups, professional listservs, and social media.

## PRELIMINARY RESULTS

- From 9/3/2019 to 1/16/2020
- N = 581 respondents



Years in the Field of Speech-Language Pathology	Percent	
1-10 years	54%	
11-20 years	23%	
More than 20 years	23%	
	No	Yes
Undergraduate Instruction	74%	26%
Graduate Instruction	35%	65%

# SLPs report

# AAC service delivery barriers are caseload, time, & knowledge.



# Learning preferences are

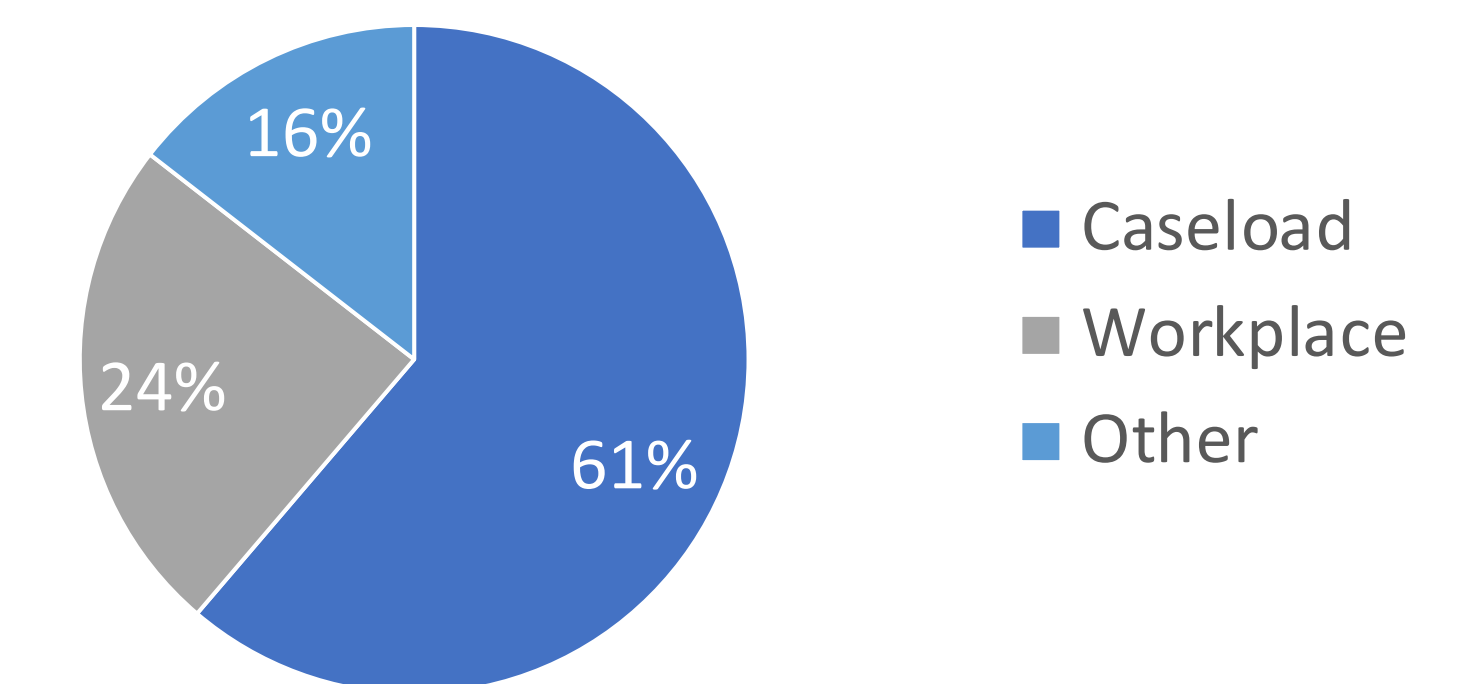
# on-the-spot in-service training

# for AAC evaluation and specific interventions.

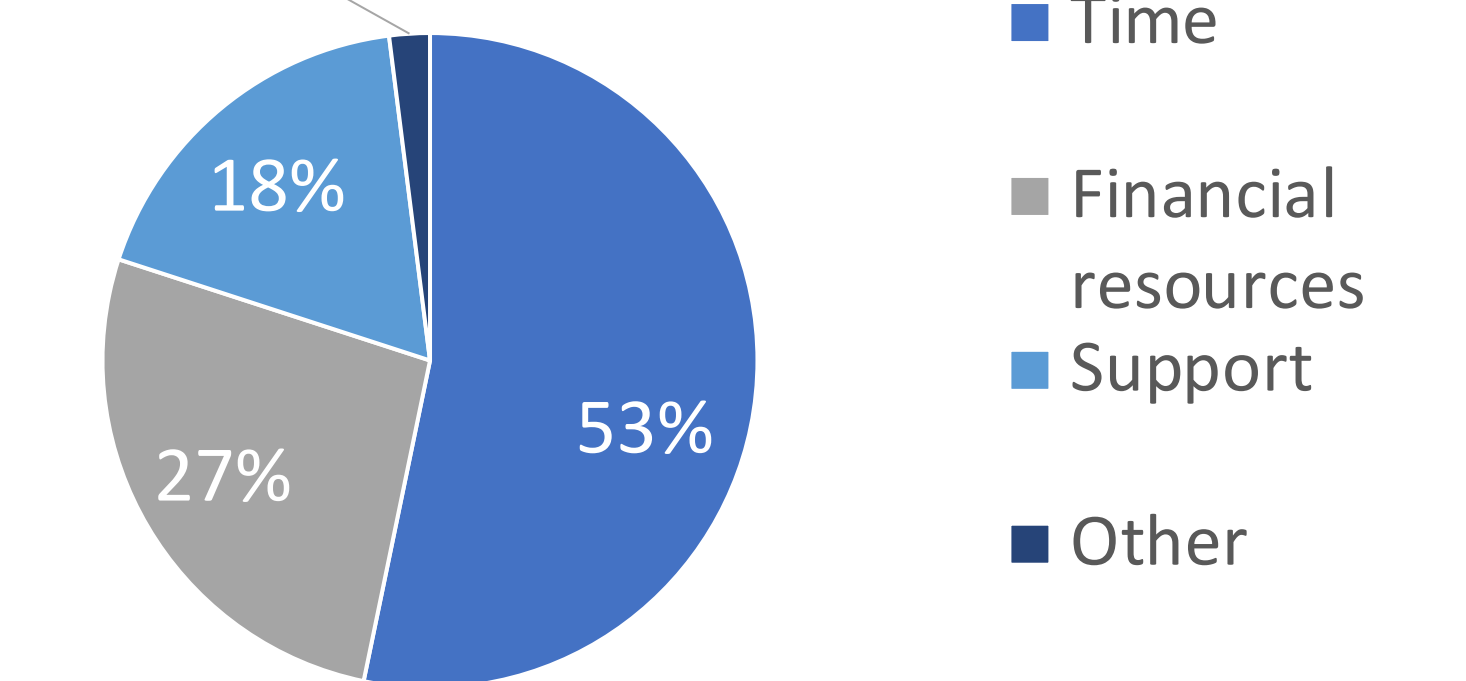
## POPULATION CURRENTLY SERVED

School-age child	Preschooler	Adult	Infant - toddler	Older adult
School	46%	Skilled nursing facility	5%	
Outpatient	11%	Acute care	3%	
Private practice	11%	Home health	3%	
Early intervention	6%	Other	3%	
University clinic	5%	Pediatric hospital	2%	
Rehab hospital	5%			

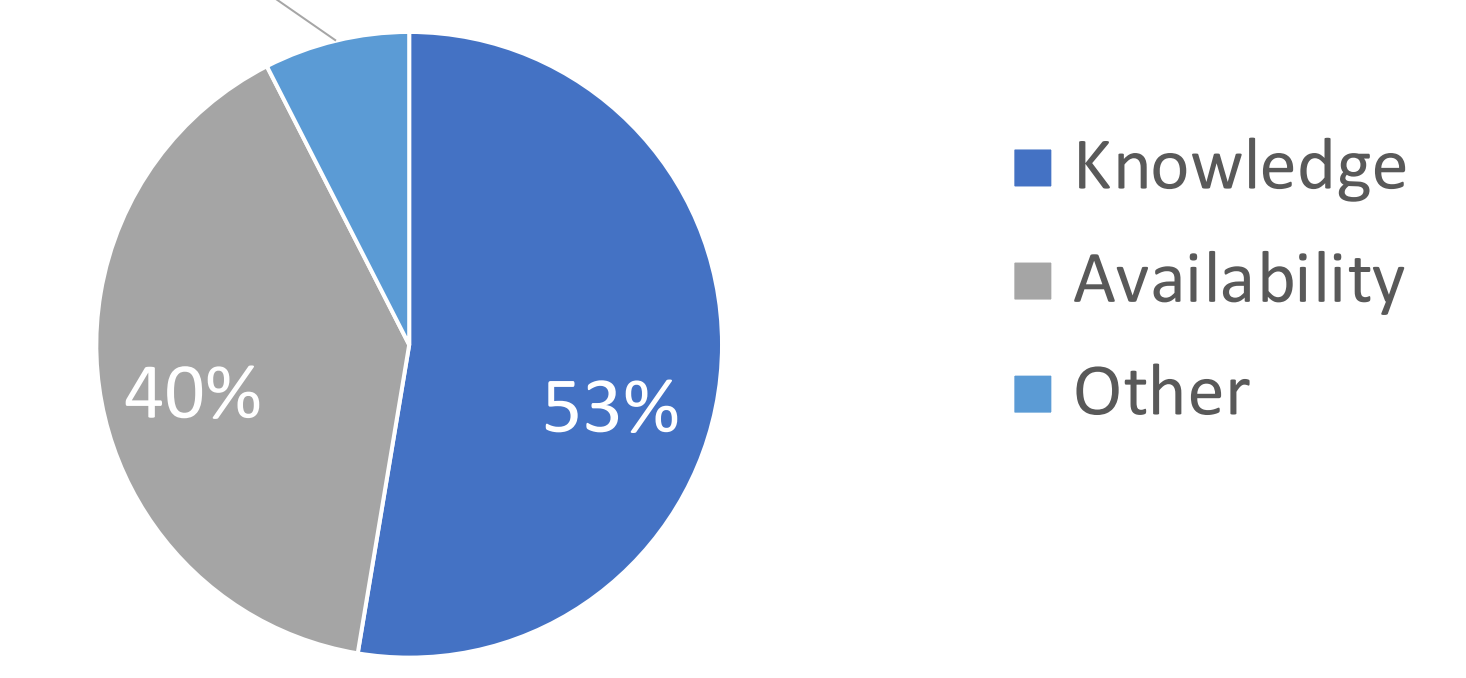
## WORK SETTING BARRIERS



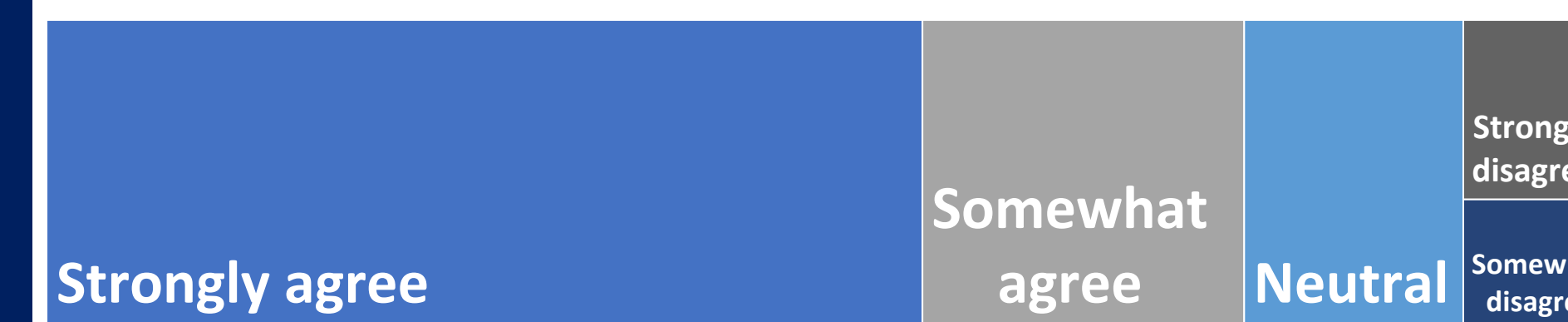
## RESOURCE BARRIERS



## AAC SYSTEM BARRIERS



## I WOULD BENEFIT FROM AAC TRAINING



## I PLAN TO PARTICIPATE IN AAC TRAINING



## Training Preferences

<b>Topic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluation (47%)</li> <li>Intervention with language focus (39%)</li> <li>Intervention with literacy focus (31%)</li> </ul>
<b>Format</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In-service (55%)</li> <li>Webinar (54%)</li> <li>Conferences (49%)</li> </ul>
<b>Dose</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On the spot training for a specific need (47%)</li> <li>Multiple events in 1 year (44%)</li> <li>Interactive guide for troubleshooting (39%)</li> <li>Single event training in 1 day (38%)</li> </ul>

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