



Health Impact Reviews: FY 2024 Update

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Health Impact Reviews

- **Objective, nonpartisan, evidence-based analysis**
- Determine how a legislative or budgetary change may impact **health** and **equity**
- Prospective tool
- Requested by any Legislator or the Governor
- Can be requested for any bill topic
- Must be completed in 10 days during legislative session

(Authorizing law: [RCW 43.20.285](#))



HIR Process

Review Bill

Determine how provisions in the bill may change status quo:

- Review the bill
- Interview agencies responsible for implementation



Explore Pathways

Explore potential connections to health:

- Conduct initial literature reviews
- Review public testimony and relevant documents
- Draft a logic model



Review Literature

Conduct specific reviews of literature to determine:

- How provisions may impact health
- Who is most likely to be impacted
- How the change may impact equity



Engage People

Talk with people who have content and context expertise to:

- Verify understanding of the bill
- Refine pathway to health and equity
- Consider impacts comprehensively

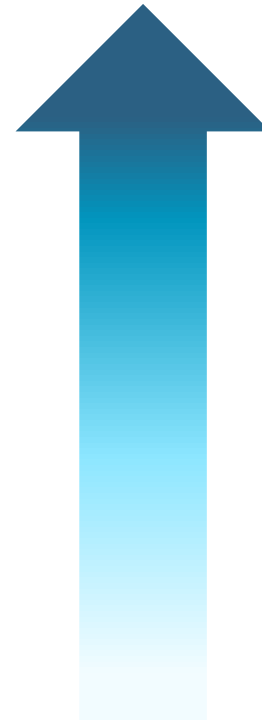
Types of Key Informant Engagement



Strength-of-Evidence Criteria

Ratings are based on criteria which consider:

- the amount of research
- appropriateness of study design
- study execution
- generalizability



VERY STRONG EVIDENCE

STRONG EVIDENCE

A FAIR AMOUNT OF EVIDENCE

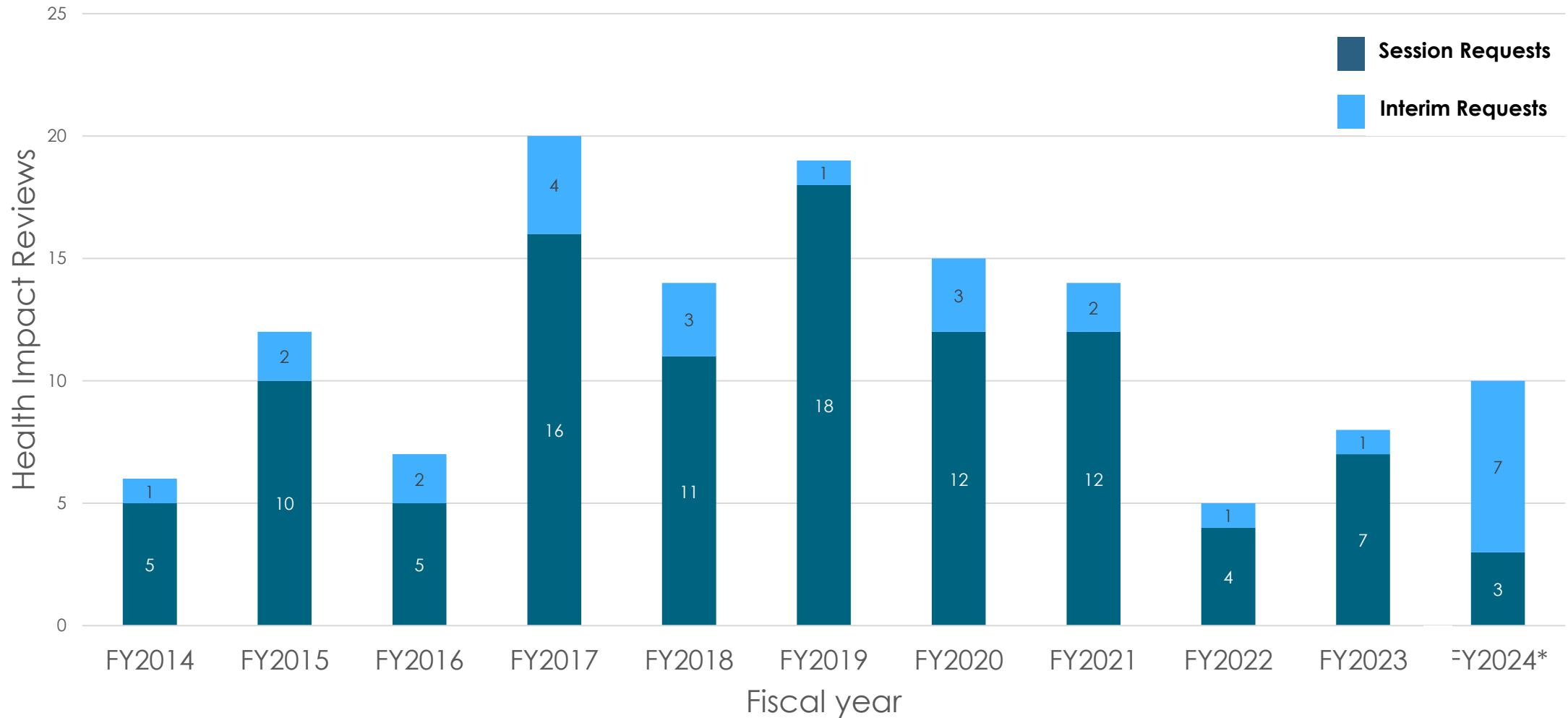
EXPERT OPINION

INFORMED ASSUMPTION

NOT WELL RESEARCHED

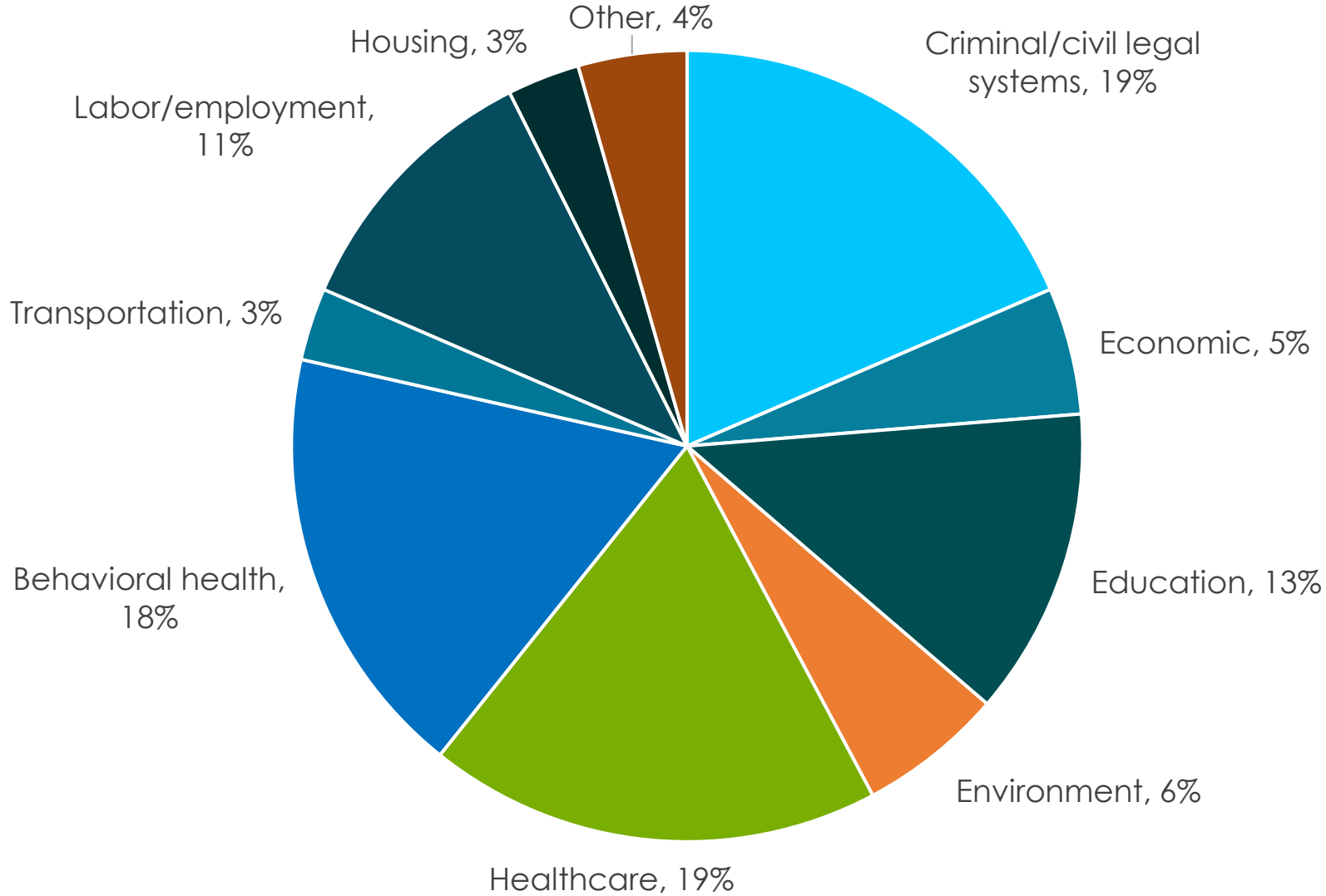
UNCLEAR

129 Completed HIRs



*Includes 1 HIR in progress

HIR Requests by Topic Area



2024 Legislative Session, By the Numbers

<p>9</p> <p>The number of Health Impact Reviews completed during Fiscal Year 2024.</p>	<p>119</p> <p>The number of key informants engaged during Fiscal Year 2024.</p>
<p>7</p> <p>The number of HIRs requested during the Interim, the most requests ever made outside of Legislative Session in a single fiscal year.</p>	<p>38%</p> <p>The percentage of HIR requests made by a first-time requester during Fiscal Year 2024.</p>
<p>19%</p> <p>The percentage of HIR requests received since 2014 that have been related to criminal/civil legal system-related topics, tying it with healthcare as the most requested policy topic area.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>The total number of HIR-related bills that passed the Legislature in 2024 and were signed into law by the Governor.</p>

How HIRs Inform Policy

Requesters have used HIRs to understand:

- The **evidence base** for a proposal
- If a bill will have the **intended impact**
- Potential **unintended consequences**
- **Equity implications**

Requesters have used HIR findings to:

- Talk with colleagues about a bill
- **Refine a policy**
- Discuss the bill on the floor
- Develop points for **budget negotiations**
- Inform members' votes



2024 Key Informant Interviewee Feedback

Survey Participants	
Role	Total
WA State Agency	13
Agency outside of WA	2
Researcher	2
Community-based organization	1
Individual, community member	1
Professional Association	1
Total	20 (17%)

Of key informants who responded...

- **95%** said participation with the HIR team was productive and meaningful
- **50%** said they used HIR findings

Ways HIR findings were used:

- Education
- Advocacy
- Dissemination

Most useful about HIR findings:

- Thorough distillation of information
- Findings provide a deep understanding of the policy topic and equity impacts, and a different way to think about the policy at hand
- The executive summary
- HIRs are objective, non-partisan, impartial

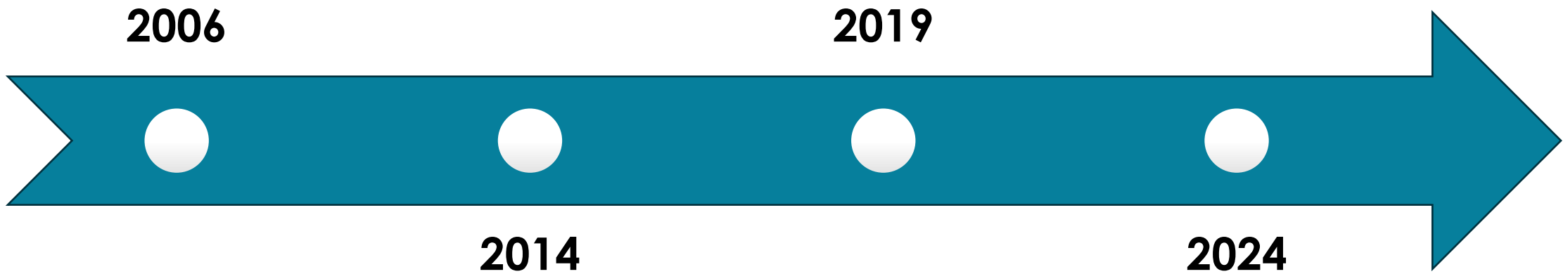
Work during the Interim

- Completing Health Impact Reviews.
- Holding outreach meetings with legislators and the Governor's policy advisors.
- Continuing to refine equity approach.
- Continuing to explore opportunities to provide compensation for key informants.
- Developing an outreach toolkit for Board and Council Members to use to discuss Health Impact Reviews.

Providing compensation for key informants

- Health Impact Reviews began including key informant interviews in 2018.
 - Since then, HIR requests have increased in number and complexity.
 - Key Informants have suggested compensation for their time.
- State Board of Health provided the opportunity for all eligible key informants to receive compensation for their time on HIRs in Fiscal Year 2024.
 - 12 eligible key informant interviewees received compensation.
 - Each received a \$100 electronic gift card.

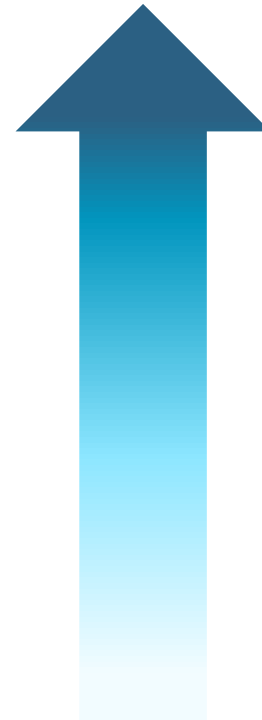
Revising the HIR Strength-of-Evidence criteria



Strength-of-Evidence Criteria

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Strength-of-Evidence: Multiple types of evidence

<p>“Published” <i>Rated for association, design, execution, generalizability</i></p>	<p>Primary research <i>Conducted by SBOH; rated for association, design, execution, generalizability</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Published literature <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Quantitative ○ Qualitative ○ Reviews/meta-analyses • Data (published, unpublished) • Reports (published, unpublished) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key informant interviews <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Washington State agencies ○ Researchers ○ Agencies in states outside of Washington State ○ Professional associations ○ Community organizations ○ People with lived experience most likely to be directly impacted by the bill

Strength-of-Evidence: Example considerations

Strength-of-Evidence ratings are based on criteria which consider:	Example of current considerations for rating published qualitative research	Example of draft considerations for rating information from key informants based on critical reflection of HIR staff methods
Association	Is the evidence generally in alignment or conflicting?	Is information from key informants generally in alignment or conflicting?
Appropriateness of study design	Methodology (e.g., interviews, focus groups)	Did staff identify key informants reflecting various communities, experiences, perspectives, locations?
Study execution	Steps taken to verify accuracy of themes with community	Did staff provide opportunity for key informants to review content?
Generalizability	Do study populations include or reflect Washington State or groups impacted by the bill?	Does information from key informants generally reflect all sides of a policy topic?

Strength-of-Evidence: Next steps

- **Now: Participate in a feedback session with the HIR Team**
 - Learn more about the draft process for information from key informants to contribute to the Strength-of-Evidence.
 - Ask additional questions.
 - Provide feedback about HIR methodology.
- **July 2024-June 2025: Implement a draft process and continue to refine it**
- **July 2025: Implement a final process**



Contact the HIR Team

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Completed Health Impact Reviews can be found on the
Washington State Board of Health website:

<https://sboh.wa.gov/health-impact-reviews>

| THANK YOU