

**THE ROLE OF INTER-
ORGANIZATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS IN
HEALTH SERVICES PROVISION
AMONG RURAL, METROPOLITAN, AND
URBAN LOCAL HEALTH
DEPARTMENTS**

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ONE MODEL OF SERVICE PROVISION BY LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

Resources:

Financial

Human

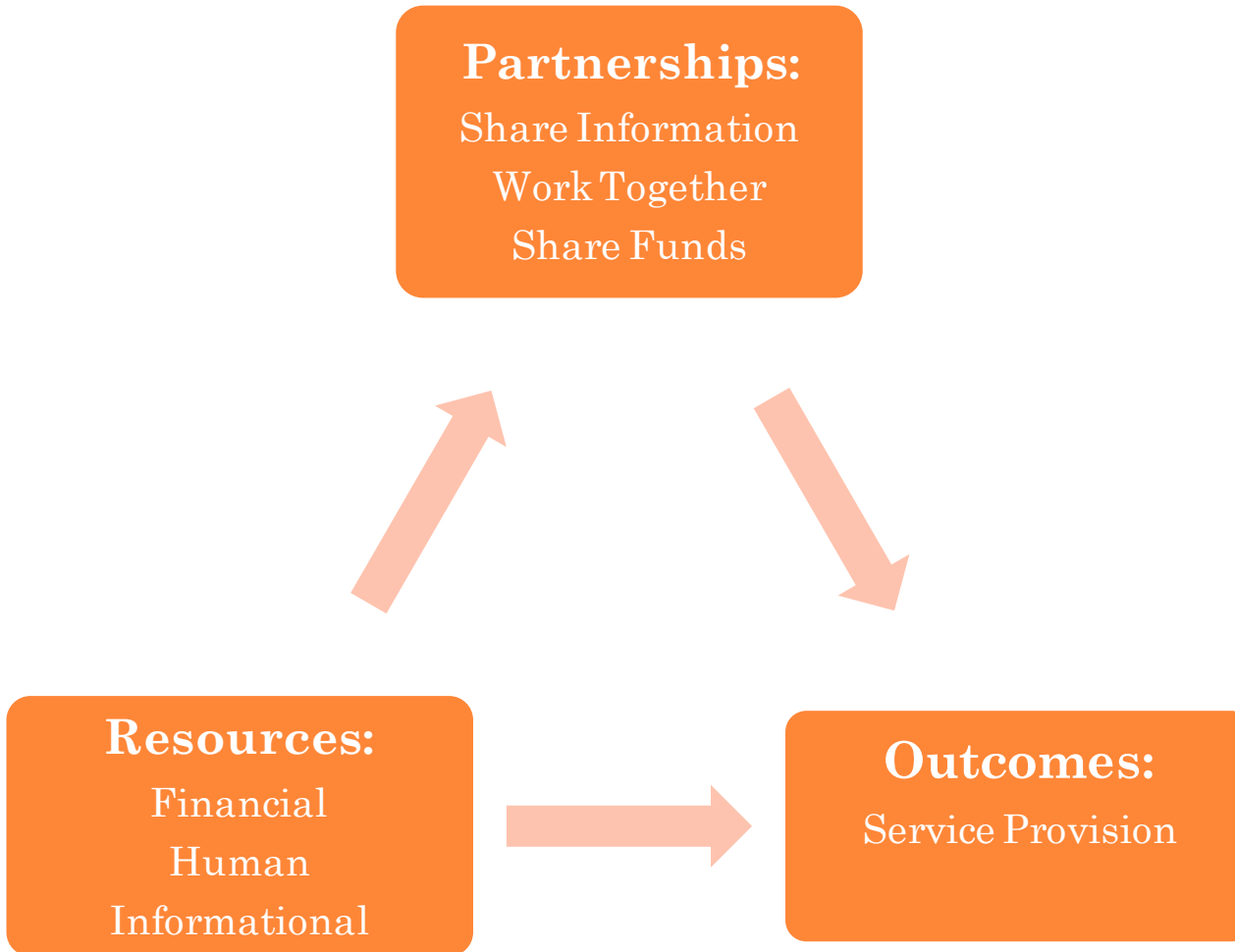
Informational



Outcomes:

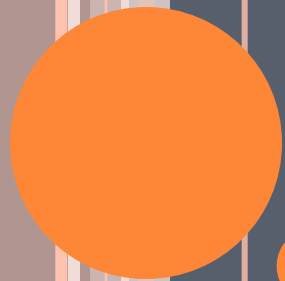
Services provided to
the community

AN ALTERNATE MODEL WITH PARTNERSHIPS AS A MEDIATOR



STUDY GOALS

- Determine how resources and partnerships work together to facilitate the provision of essential health services by local health departments
- Compare **urban, metropolitan, and rural** Local Health Department resources, partnerships, and service provision



DATA AND METHODS



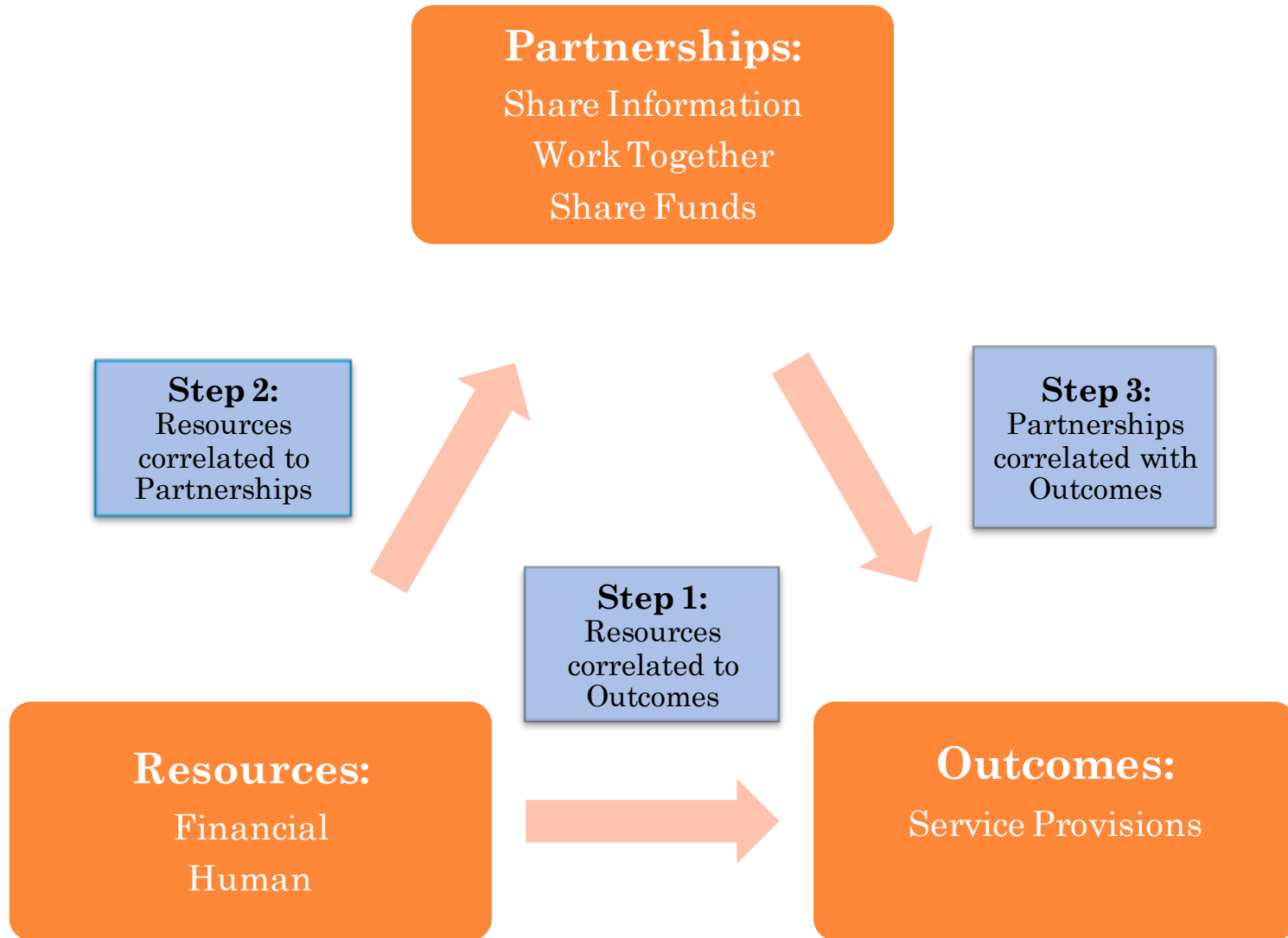
DATA SOURCE: NACCHO

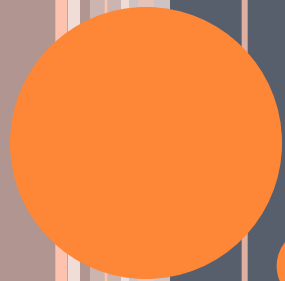
- 2005 profile study core and supplemental questionnaires
- 434 Local Health Departments completed the core and supplemental questionnaires
 - 84% response rate
- Variables
 - LHD setting
 - Resources
 - Partnerships
 - Service provision

METHODS: COMPARING URBAN, METRO, AND RURAL LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

- Standard inferential methods used to examine differences in resources, partnerships, and service provision in the three types of
 - ANOVA for continuous measures
 - Chi-squared for categorical measure

METHODS: TESTING THE MODEL

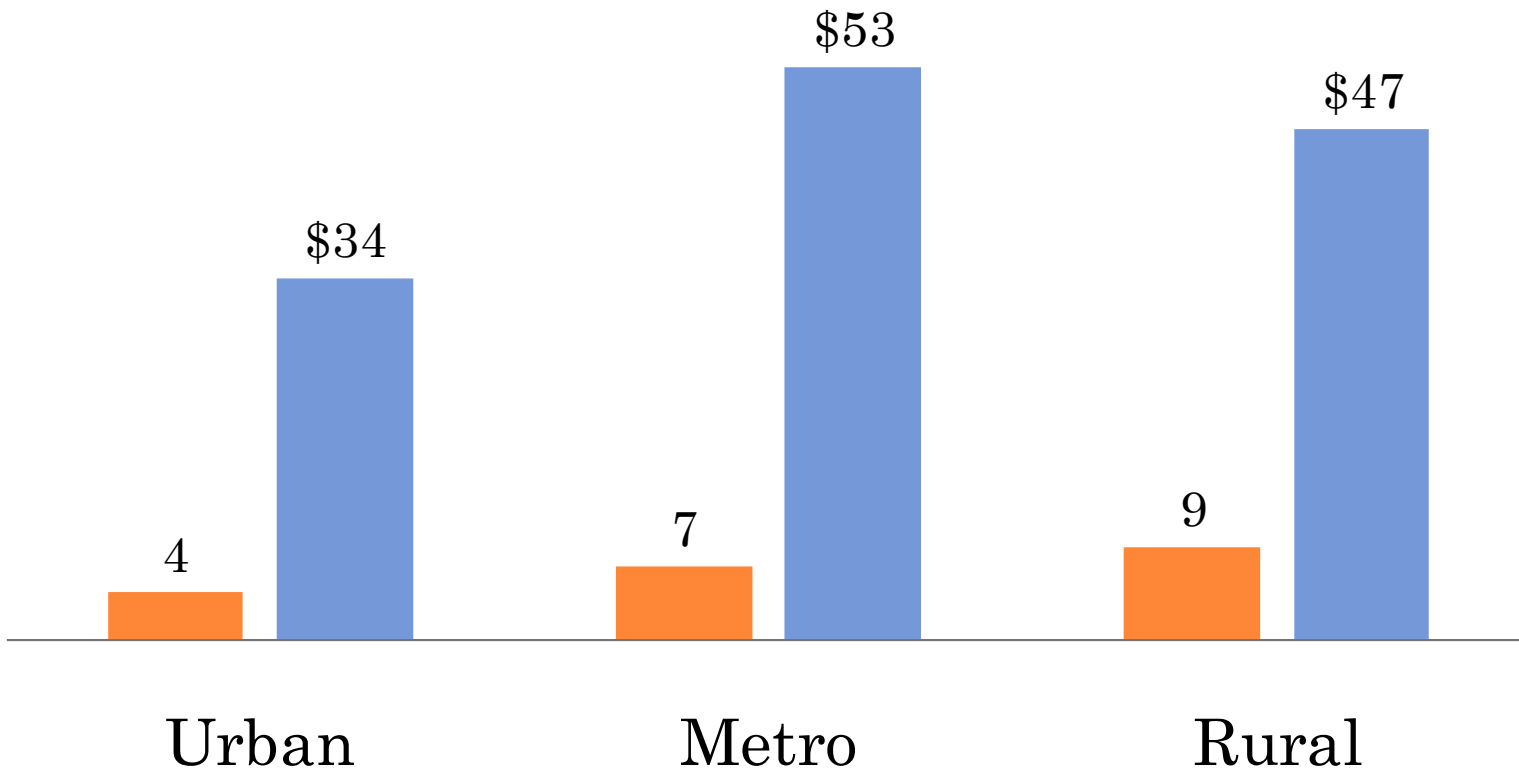




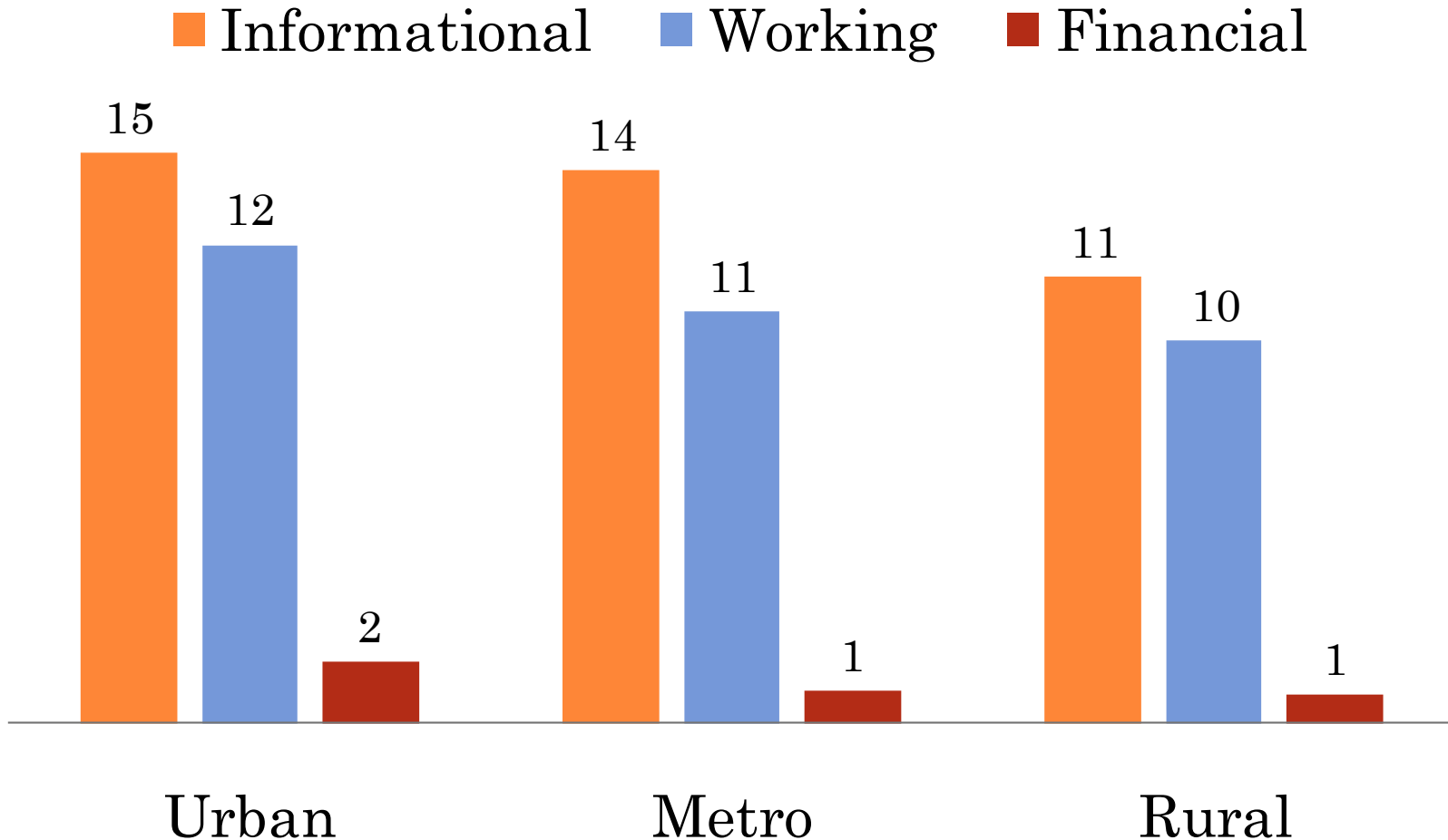
RESULTS

DIFFERENCES IN RESOURCES

■ FTE per 10k ■ Expenditures per capita

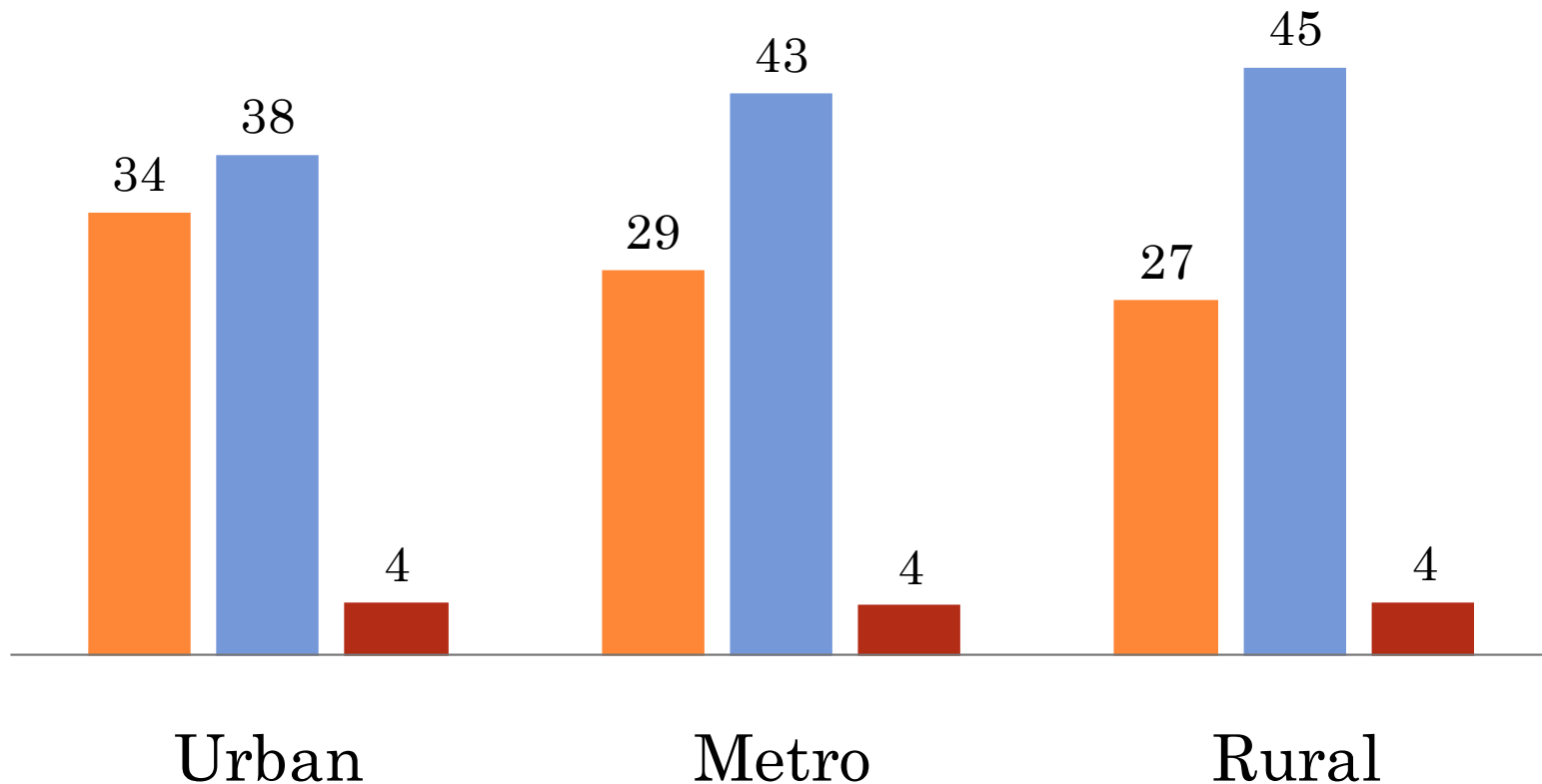


DIFFERENCES IN PARTNERSHIPS



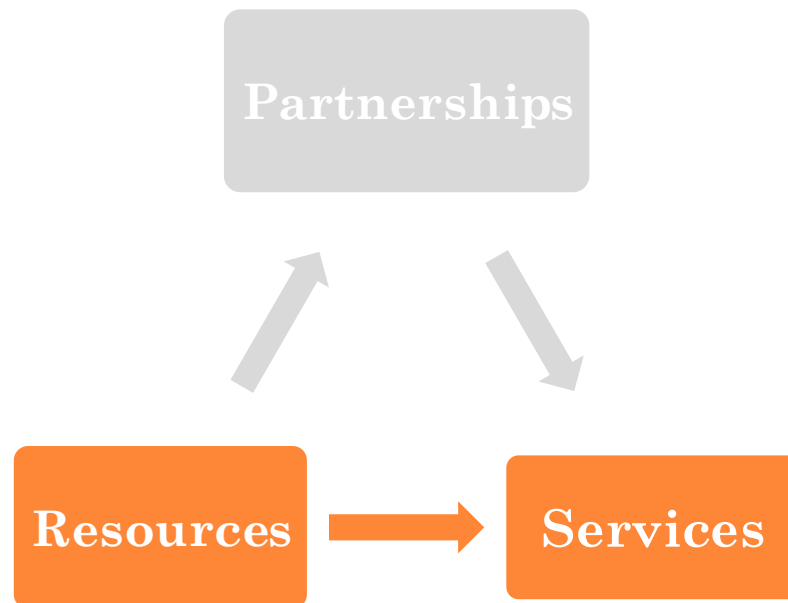
DIFFERENCES IN SERVICE PROVISION

■ LHD ■ Other ■ Not Available



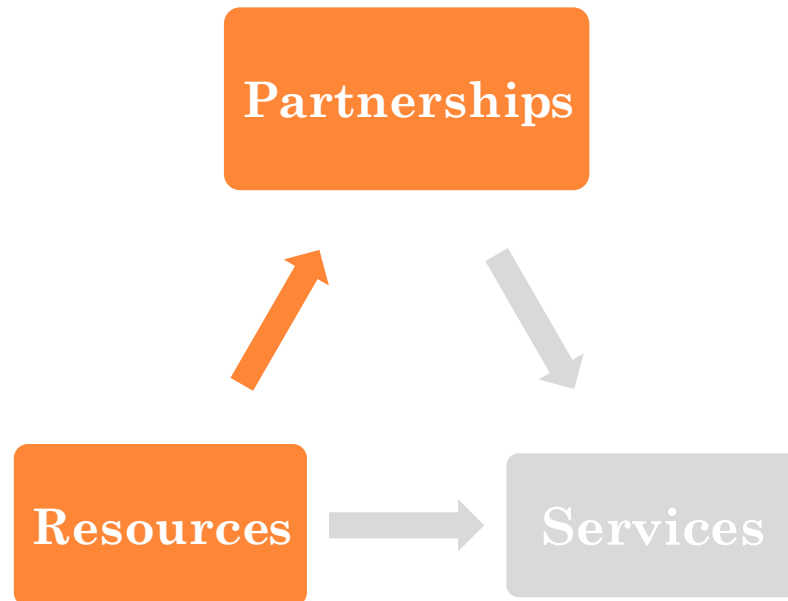
MODEL TESTING STEP 1: RESOURCES AND SERVICE PROVISION

- The more staffing and funding per capita, the more services provided
- Resources accounted for 21.5% of the variance in the number of services provided



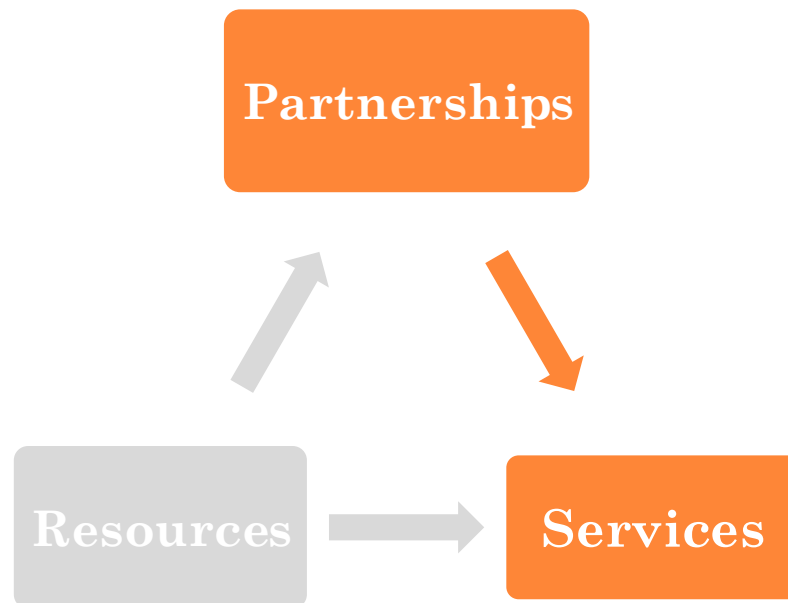
MODEL TESTING STEP 2: RESOURCES AND PARTNERSHIPS

- The higher the per capita **staffing**, the greater the number of all types of partnerships
- The higher the per capita **funding**, the greater the number of working partnerships



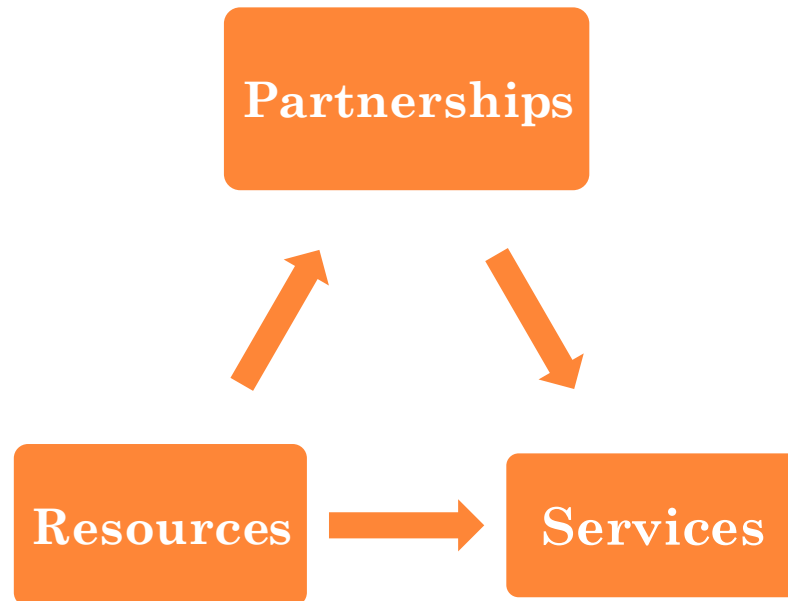
MODEL TESTING STEP 3: PARTNERSHIPS AND SERVICES

- All partnerships were significant predictors of the number of services provided
- The greater the number of partnerships, the greater the number of services provided

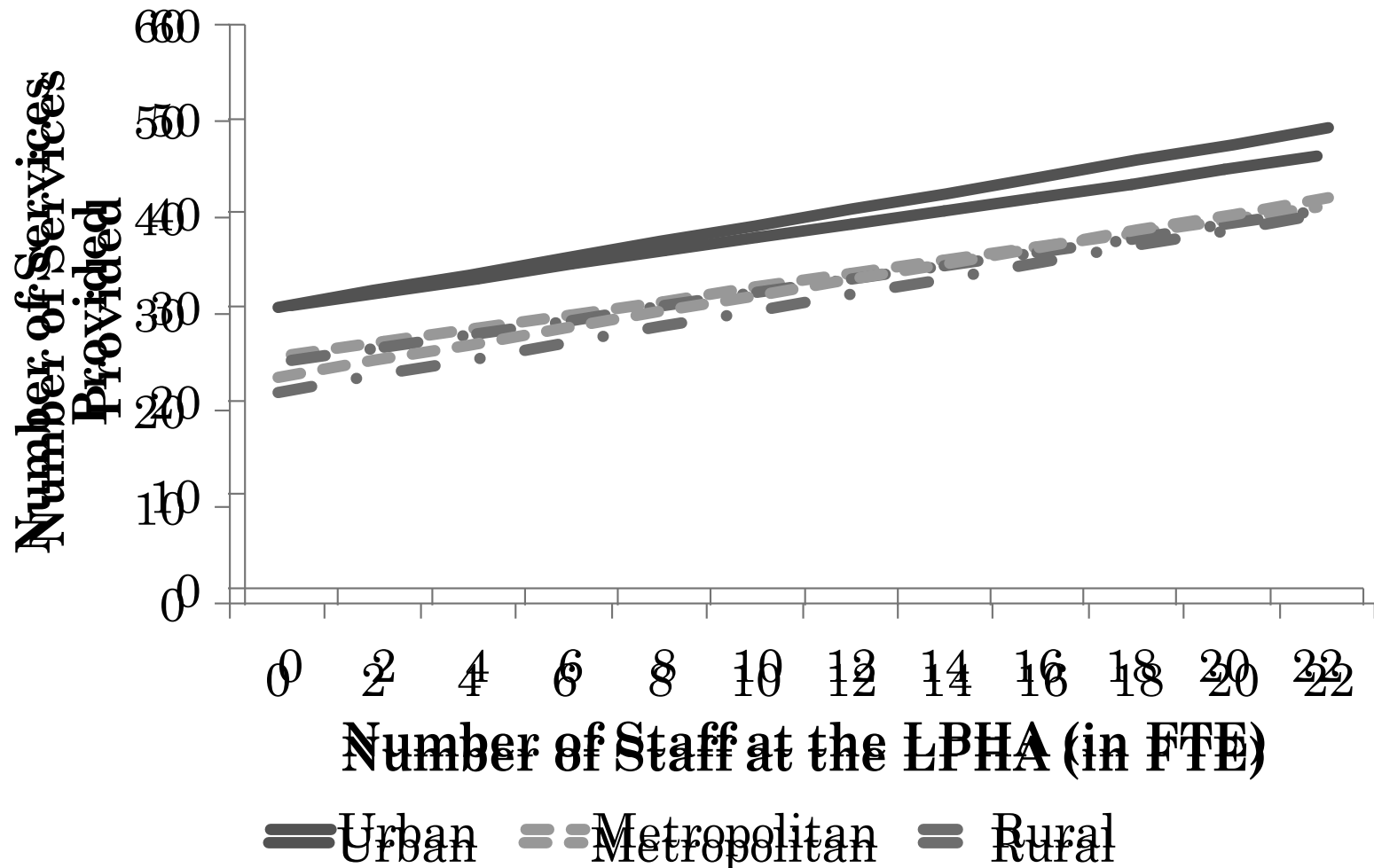


PARTNERSHIPS MEDIATE THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RESOURCES AND SERVICES

- Together, resources and partnerships accounted for 34.9% of the variance in service provision
- The proposed model is accepted as a better fit



USING THE MODEL TO SHOW THE ROLE OF PARTNERSHIPS



CONCLUSIONS

- Urban, Metropolitan, and Rural Local Health Departments differ in resources, partnerships, and service provision
- Partnerships mediate the relationship between resources and service provision
- Once partnerships were included in the model, the difference in the number of services provided by rural, metropolitan, and urban LHDs was reduced

SO WHAT?

- Local Health Departments facing increasing economic pressure may include the development of partnerships as part of their strategic plans in order to increase (or maintain) service provision
- This is especially important for **Rural** Local Health Departments, which provide fewer services and face widespread health disparities

THANK YOU!

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