

On the Table CLT 2017 Impact Report

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On October 25, 2017, residents across Charlotte-Mecklenburg came together in conversation to talk about issues that impact the region and its quality of life. This conversation-oriented initiative known as

On the Table CLT was an opportunity for friends, families, neighbors, colleagues, and even people who were meeting for the first time to gather around a shared meal and have a real dialogue about what is important to them with the intention of fueling meaningful change.

On the Table CLT was a community engagement initiative that encouraged participants to discuss how to support and strengthen their communities. Participants demonstrated personal investment in the communities where they live, work, and/or play as they interacted with one another and shared their ideas for improvement. Collaborative efforts promoted by *On the Table CLT* presented an occasion for communities to grow as sites of connection, inclusion, and opportunity. The initiative operated under three core beliefs, which recognized, one, the power of deep connection with those who are inside and outside one's network; two, that movements can begin with the simple act of sharing one's stories and ideas; and three, that residents of Charlotte-Mecklenburg have what it takes to make their communities and region even better. *On the Table CLT* expanded upon the work of Leading on Opportunity—an organization whose mission is to bring together community sectors in order to implement the recommendations put forward by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Opportunity Task Force, which involve improving economic mobility in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.¹

The Community Building Initiative (CBI) and Foundation For The Carolinas (FFTC) organized *On the Table CLT* with support from The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation. Knight Foundation brought *On the Table* to 10 cities across the country in 2017: Lexington, KY (March 15); Philadelphia, PA (May 23); Long Beach, CA (September 23); Gary, IN (September 26); Akron, OH (October 3); Detroit, MI (October 4); Miami, FL (October 17); Charlotte, NC (October 25); Columbus, GA (November 7); and San Jose, CA (November 15). This *On the Table* replication project draws from an initiative that originated in Chicago in 2014 as part of The Chicago Community Trust's Centennial celebration. Since its inception and expansion into other cities, *On the Table* has been an occasion for residents of a city or region to convene and discuss local opportunities and challenges while focusing on strategies to make their communities safer, stronger, and more dynamic.

All 10 cities designated their own specific day in 2017 to convene residents in mealtime conversations for discussions on how to make their city a better place to live, work, and play. Following the conversations, participants had the opportunity to take a survey about their *On the Table* experience. This survey featured 27 questions that were standard across all 10 cities, plus up to five additional questions that were unique to each city. Following the collection of survey data, all cities receive a report summarizing and analyzing the survey data and a link to a data exploration tool. Community foundations can use insights from the data to inform strategic planning, and local decision-makers, organizations, and residents can use the data to collaborate around improving the quality of life in their cities. A national report incorporating data from all 10 cities and exploring correlations and comparisons in the full data set will be produced in early 2018.

¹ To learn more about the mission and work of Leading on Opportunity, visit <https://leadingonopportunity.org/>.



Research Methodology

Knight Foundation invited the University of Illinois at Chicago's (UIC) Institute for Policy and Civic Engagement (IPCE) to serve as the research partner for this *On the Table CLT* initiative. We set out to gain a deeper understanding of the conversations through results gathered from a survey of *On the Table CLT* participants.² This report presents the results of the survey and incorporates analyses to provide insight into the summary data. The data can be accessed and explored through ipce.shinyapps.io/OTTCLT17.

The central questions guiding this research include: Who responded to the survey? How did the conversations go? How did the conversations impact respondents? CBI and FFTC were also interested in learning more specifically about social capital in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. Their custom questions focused on the extent to which respondents learned about connections that people have in their communities; how respondents might help to build more connection in their community; how connected respondents feel toward the history of Charlotte; what respondents think should be Charlotte's top priority for building a more connected community; and respondents level of connection to various groups and organizations. The research questions and learning objectives influenced the formatting of the survey, which included a total of 32 questions.

We collected survey data using three methods: a public web link to the Qualtrics survey, an e-mailed unique link to the Qualtrics survey, and distributed print surveys.³ To accommodate non-English speakers, the survey was translated into Spanish, Chinese-Simplified, and Vietnamese. The collection of survey data began the morning of the *On the Table CLT* conversations (October 25) when the public web link opened. On the same day and immediately following conversations, print surveys were made available to participants. Following the conversations, participants for whom we had e-mail addresses received an e-mail invitation to take the survey.⁴ Surveys were collected through November 19, 2017.

The respondent population discussed in this report is a self-selected sample of participants who partially or fully completed the survey.⁵ All three survey sources yielded a total of 1,014 responses (733 through the e-mailed link, 162 through the web link, and 119 through the print survey).⁶ Because this group constitutes a non-random sample of total participants, conclusions cannot be scientifically generalized beyond the respondent group. However, the data and analysis provide useful insight into the opinions, habits, and backgrounds of a number of engaged Charlotte-Mecklenburg residents.

² See Appendix A for the full survey.

³ Qualtrics is a web-based service for administering surveys.

⁴ We had e-mail addresses only for those who provided it through the registration process or during sign-in on the day of the conversation. Registration and signing in were not required for participation, and those who did not register or sign in were able to access the survey through the public web link shared by CBI and FFTC or through print surveys.

⁵ See Appendix B for a summary report featuring visualizations of responses for all survey questions.

⁶ The estimated survey participation rate is 17%. This is calculated by dividing the total number of survey respondents (1,014) by the estimated number of *On the Table CLT* participants (6,119). CBI and FFTC provided the estimated number of *On the Table CLT* participants.



THE CONVERSATIONS

Who Responded?

Given that the perspectives, ideas, and experiences of over 1,000 respondents inform this report, it is worth exploring what we know about who responded to the survey. This section summarizes data about respondent demographics such as gender, age, educational attainment, race and/or ethnicity, geography, length of residence, and homeownership status; it also presents information about respondents' civic attitudes and engagement behaviors. Additionally, it incorporates Mecklenburg County comparison data and national comparison data where available. When comparing *On the Table CLT* data to Mecklenburg County resident data, only those respondents who live in Mecklenburg County (and not the full data set) are compared to representative data.

Without having survey data for everyone who participated in the *On the Table CLT* initiative, we are unable to explain differences, if any, between our respondent group and regional and national comparison groups.⁷ While we have survey data for respondents, this data does not fully reflect participation in *On the Table CLT*. This study represents a subset of *On the Table CLT* participants—itsself a subset of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg population—who self-selected to respond to the survey.

Demographics

Gender and Age

Nearly three-quarters (73%) of respondents identified as female, and 27% identified as male (see Figure B.1). With regard to age, the respondent group was made up primarily of respondents who were 40 years old and up; 21% of respondents were in their 40s, 24% were in their 50s, and 23% were 60 years old and up. At 13%, the smallest age group was made up of respondents who were 18 to 29 years old. Additionally, 18% of respondents were in their 30s (see Figure B.2). Compared to Mecklenburg County resident data, Mecklenburg County respondents were overrepresented in the 50s age group and the 60s-and-up age group, and they were underrepresented and slightly underrepresented in the 18-to-29-year-old age group and the 30s age group, respectively. While 24% of Mecklenburg County respondents were in their 50s, 16% of all Mecklenburg County residents are in their 50s. Also, 24% of Mecklenburg County respondents were 60 years old and up, while 19% of all Mecklenburg County residents are 60 years old and up. Whereas 13% of Mecklenburg County respondents were 18 to 29 years old, 24% of Mecklenburg County residents are in this age range. Eighteen percent of Mecklenburg County respondents were in their 30s, compared to 21% of all county residents. At 21%, Mecklenburg County respondents in their 40s were nearly on par with the county data for this age range (20%) (see Figure B.3).⁸

⁷ For example, the respondent group is 73% female and 27% male. While it is possible that this accurately reflects participant make-up, it is also possible that the participant breakdown was closer to 50/50, but females responded to the survey at disproportionately higher rates. Without having data for all participants, we cannot know if the rate at which certain groups participated was proportional or disproportional.

⁸ U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S0101; generated using American FactFinder; <<http://factfinder2.census.gov>>; (17 May 2017).



Educational Attainment

Respondents reported high levels of educational attainment. Both respondent data and Mecklenburg County data reflect highest degree obtained. Nearly one-half (46%) of respondents reported having earned a graduate degree, and 42% reported having earned a bachelor's degree (see Figure B.4). When compared to Mecklenburg County data as a whole, there was notable overrepresentation of Mecklenburg County respondents who are in possession of a graduate degree and bachelor's degree.⁹ Whereas 14% of all Mecklenburg County residents have a graduate degree, 48% of Mecklenburg County respondents reported having earned the same. Likewise, whereas 28% of all Mecklenburg County residents have a bachelor's degree, 41% of Mecklenburg County respondents reported having earned the same (see Figure B.5).¹⁰

Race

In terms of race and/or ethnicity, 62% of respondents identified as White and 26% identified as Black or African American. Smaller percentages of respondents identified as Multiracial (5%), Hispanic or Latino/a (4%), Asian (3%), and Other (2%) (see Figure B.6).¹¹ Compared to all of Mecklenburg County where 52% of the resident population is White, 62% of the Mecklenburg County respondent pool was White. However, whereas 30% of Mecklenburg County residents are Black or African American, 26% of Mecklenburg County respondents were Black or African American. Furthermore, 4% of Mecklenburg County respondents identified as Hispanic and/or Latino/a, while 11% of all Mecklenburg County residents are Hispanic and/or Latino (see Figure B.7).¹²

Geography

A majority (89%) of respondents said they currently live in Mecklenburg County, with much smaller percentages also reporting Cabarrus County, NC (3%), Union County, NC (2%), and York County, SC (2%) (see Figure B.8). A majority (78%) of respondents also said they currently live in Charlotte, though much smaller percentages reported being from Huntersville (3%), Matthews (3%), Davidson (2%), and Concord (2%) (see Figure B.9). The top respondent ZIP codes include 28205 (7%), 28211 (7%), 28210 (6%), 28209 (5%), 28203 (5%), 28269 (4%), 28226 (4%), 28202 (4%), 28277 (4%), and 28207 (4%) (see Figure B.10).

Length of Residence

The percentage of respondents who indicated they were long-term residents who have lived in their local community for 20 or more years (31%) was nearly equivalent to the percentage of respondents who said they were newcomers, or those who have lived in their local community for zero to four years

⁹ For the education variable, in addition to including only those respondents who live in Mecklenburg County when comparing to representative data, only those 25 years of age or older are included as well (as opposed to the full data set).

¹⁰ U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table S0101; generated using American FactFinder; <<http://factfinder2.census.gov>>; (17 May 2017).

¹¹ Unlike census data, the *On the Table CLT* race variable features an "Other" response option. Because of this, the *On the Table* race percentages are very modestly lower than they would be if the "Other" was not a featured category.

¹² U.S. Census Bureau; 2011-2015 American Community Survey 5-year estimates, Voting Age Population by Citizenship and Race (CVAP), published 02/01/2017.

(30%). The percentages for long-term and newcomer resident respondents were similar to national rates, as 32% of people nationally have lived in their local community for 20 or more years, and 28% of people nationally have lived in their local community for zero to four years (see Figure B.11).¹³

Homeownership

Regarding homeownership, 75% of respondents indicated they own their primary residence, and 23% said they rent (see Figure B.12).¹⁴ Mecklenburg County respondent homeowners were an overrepresented group, as 76% of Mecklenburg County respondents reported owning their primary residence, compared to 57% of all Mecklenburg County residents (see Figure B.13).¹⁵

Relationship to FFTC

When asked about their relationship to FFTC, 52% of respondents said they have attended one of the Foundation's events. Just over one-quarter (26%) had not heard of FFTC, and 17% indicated some other relationship to FFTC than that which were listed, with the top "other" response being that respondents had heard of them. Furthermore, 16% said they are a grantee, 6% said they are a funder, 5% indicated they have volunteered with the Foundation, and 3% said they work there (see Figure B.14).

Civic Attitudes and Activities

The first four subsections in 'Civic Attitudes and Activities' (Community Connections; Feeling of Connection to Charlotte's History; Top Priority for Building a More Connected Charlotte; and Level of Connection to Local Groups, Organizations, and Institutions) report on results from custom survey questions that CBI and FFTC helped created based on their interest in learning more about existing social capital in Charlotte-Mecklenburg and how to increase it. According to the definition with which they provided survey respondents, "social capital, the connections and networks that people have within and across their communities, is a critical factor in exposing individuals to information, resources, and opportunities." The remaining subsections (Personal Impact and Community Attachment; Social Issues; Engagement Habits; Places to Connect' and Engagement with News Sources) incorporate findings from the core survey questions—including in all 10 Knight *On the Table* surveys—that ask about community attitudes and to what degree respondents participate in engagement activities.

Community Connections

Over one-quarter (29%) of respondents reported that they learned a lot about connections that people have within and across their communities during their *On the Table CLT* experience, and 46% indicated they learned some (see Figure B.40). In terms of how they might help to build more connection in their communities as a result of their *On the Table CLT* conversation, 17% named an action related to building

¹³ Pew Research Center, December, 2008, "American Mobility. Who Moves? Who Stays Put? Where's Home?"

¹⁴ Just like the race variable, the *On the Table CLT* homeownership variable also features an "Other" response option (unlike in the Census data), which has slight implications for the *On the Table CLT* homeownership percentages showing lower than they otherwise would.

¹⁵ U.S. Census Bureau; American Community Survey, 2015 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates, Table DP04; generated using American FactFinder; <<http://factfinder2.census.gov>>; (17 May 2017).

new relationships, 17% provided a response regarding volunteering, and 16% gave an action specifying increasing personal involvement (see Figure B.41).¹⁶

Build New Relationships

Many of the respondents who named an action related to building new relationships expressed wanting to interact with those who are different from them. Largely, these respondents were interested in “hav[ing] more discussions with people of different views” and “get[ting] to know people who are different than me.” As one respondent said, “I would like to connect more frequently with others outside my church, school, [and] neighborhood community.” Some respondents mentioned “being more deliberate in my efforts to engage with people and groups I don’t already know,” “get[ting] to know people outside my general daily life,” and “making an effort to connect with those outside my immediate circle.” One respondent said they wanted to “engage in more open and honest dialogue with people who are different than me [and who] have different perspectives and backgrounds,” and another respondent said he/she intends to “[talk] to people I normally wouldn’t and [ask] them questions about their lives in their communities.”

Several respondents who named a related action expressed interest in continuing to “develop” the relationships they began during *On the Table CLT*. As one respondent said, “It would be good to connect with the people I met during the On The Table event since we really [are] on track with [some things].” These respondents were interested in “reconnect[ing] with those at the table,” and they felt a “need to keep talking” and “keep contact with some of the people [they] met at On the Table to work with them on the issues in the community.” One respondent made the intention to “reach out to a couple of the folks I met at On the Table to work with them on the issues in the community.”

Within this theme, other respondents mentioned “fellowship,” “bringing people together,” and “meet[ing] new people.” Not only did some respondents say they want to “continue introducing myself to new people,” but they also want to “[introduce] people to each other whose potential relationship could be mutually beneficial.” Some other respondents expressed similar sentiments, saying they could build more connection “by being more open and engaging with other people with whom [they] have contact on a daily basis” and by “find[ing] like-minded people [who] want to formulate solutions to some of the issues facing our local community.” Additionally, one respondent said, “Encourage each other to meet and build relationships, walk that talk myself, and then DO something with those relationships to leverage the power of people toward social change.”

Volunteer

Respondents who mentioned volunteering wanted to either “[get] more involved through volunteer[ing]” or “continue volunteering.” Those respondents who wanted to begin volunteer efforts mentioned “look[ing] for volunteer opportunities,” “becom[ing] more aware of volunteer opportunities,” and “research[ing] organizations to volunteer with that will allow me to feel more

¹⁶ More detail on these three themes and the other themes that emerged within this variable can be found in Appendix C.

connected to my community in ways that permit me to use my talents and indulge my interests.” Those respondents who wanted to volunteer “more” and “more often” brought up “seek[ing] out additional volunteer opportunities” and “continu[ing] to volunteer for my community.”

Some respondents who mentioned volunteering also identified where or with whom they were interested serving. “Local schools,” “community events,” “local organizations,” and “neighborhood projects” were just some of the examples provided by respondents. There were a few respondents who challenged themselves to “get involved in volunteer opportunities that are outside [their] comfort zone” and to “serve more and volunteer—[especially] in areas [they] may not have ventured in before.” Overall, many of the respondents expressed wanting to “invest [their] time in volunteering” and “inspire others to do the same.”

Increase Personal Involvement

With regard to increasing personal involvement, a number of respondents used the phrase “get more involved.” Many of these respondents indicated wanting to “become more actively engaged in my community,” “continue to be involved and to care,” “get out there and get involved,” and “look for more ways to be involved.” “I’m inspired to become more involved,” said one respondent, and another respondent expressed, “I feel more connected to Charlotte as my new community, so I am inspired to do more in this city.” One respondent seemed to challenge himself/herself to “[get] involved with things I normally would not,” and another seemed excited by the prospect of becoming “more involved and try[ing] to bring others along with me!” There was one respondent who described what efforts he/she would take in getting involved: “I will . . . ask more questions and try to be more hands on in trying to see change.” Another respondent expressed what he/she wanted to get out of his/her engagement efforts: “I want to feel more connected and tuned in.”

Some respondents provided some specificity with regard to how they wanted to become involved. Respondents largely said they wanted to get more involved with “community events,” “community functions,” and “community activities.” One respondent reported learning about opportunities at their *On the Table CLT* event: “there were a few organizations that participants were involved in that I would like to be involved in[,] too.” Other individual respondents provided the following types of engagement activities as areas of interest: “voter turnout,” “local government,” “education opportunities,” “cross[-]cultural initiatives in our city,” “politics and local community affairs,” “community leadership,” and “neighborhoods and planning.”

Feeling of Connection to Charlotte’s History

Respondents were also asked the extent to which they felt the following statement was true: “I feel engaged with and connected to the history of Charlotte.” At 43%, the greatest proportion of respondents said that statement was somewhat true. One-quarter (25%) of respondents said very true, and an equal percentage (25%) said not very true (see Figure B.42).



Top Priority for Building a More Connected Charlotte

In looking ahead to Charlotte's future, respondents raised a range of priorities for building a stronger, more connected community over the next year. Nearly one-half (45%) of respondents named a topic related to equity and social inclusion, 31% gave a topic regarding economic issues and poverty, 24% indicated a topic around education and youth development, 22% said a topic having to do with collaboration, and 22% provided a topic referencing housing and homelessness (see Figure B.43).¹⁷

Equity and Social Inclusion

In order to build a stronger, more connected community, many respondents were interested in expanding efforts around improving equity and social inclusion. A large proportion of respondents focused on people, especially in bringing people together across differences in order to learn and build relationships. For example, some respondents said they wanted to “hear stories,” “learn about and understand differences among people,” “listen to people with different views,” and “see how much better our communities can be if we talk, help, lead, care, give just a little tiny bit of ourselves, [and] get out of our comfort zone to learn how wonder[ful] ‘the others’ can be.” As one respondent noted, “healthy human connection cannot exist if there is no equity and [if] disparities continue.” According to another respondent, “there shouldn’t be ‘two Charlottes,’” and one more respondent stressed the importance of “making sure all voices are part of decisions affecting Charlotte.”

Some respondents indicated they want to see further work done in the area of equity and social inclusion and provided examples of how to do this. For example, one respondent gave the idea for “group social exchanges (10 [to] 12 people) where you meet with the same people [two] or [three] times to develop relationships with diverse Charlotte,” and another focused on “get[ting] people to work together to solve some of the barriers to social equity and upward mobility.” A third respondent indicated wanting to “continue to work on relationship building—get in a different part of town and meet different people,” and a fourth respondent said, “stop telling people what they need and let them decide what they need in their communities.” Still yet, a few other respondents said, “[organize] cross-community work teams,” “listen to the concerns of the community and then act,” and encourage “residents to learn about, have empathy for, and work together to create a strong, accepting community.”

Other respondents wanted to change perceptions and beliefs for the better. “Get people from different cultures, creeds, SES status, sexual persuasions, zip codes, colors of skin . . . into the understanding that we are all a common humanity . . . working toward our collective good” and “continue efforts to bring people together from diverse backgrounds and build relationships so we can see more commonalities we share, not just differences, and work toward a common goal” were just two examples provided. As another respondent noted, “people need to go outside their neighborhood and into [other neighborhoods] to see that we all have different issues and they all are to be addressed.”

¹⁷ More detail on these five themes and the other themes that emerged within this variable can be found in our Issues Codebook in Appendix D.

A few other respondents were more specific in what they wanted to see addressed for building a more inclusive society. One respondent suggested “using arts and culture as a way to build bridges within the community and support access and equity.” Another respondent said “dismantling racism by: 1) enabling conversation, education, self-awareness, community awareness, 2) breaking down myths and replacing with truths, [and] 3) breaking down and reconstructing the policies and systems that perpetuate racism in our community.” Other respondents indicated wanting to see “race relations” improved, “equity through housing, jobs, and transportation policy,” “equity with access to housing, food, school education and healthcare,” “equity and economic opportunity,” “equity in public school education,” and “creating equity in the City’s resources.”

Furthermore, there were some respondents who focused on expanding and improving *On the Table CLT* as a way of creating more opportunities for inclusion. Several of these respondents were interested in seeing “more . . . events of this magnitude to bring people together and establish connections” as well as creating space for “more conversations with people outside your own community.” Some wanted to see more diversity at their conversation and suggested ways and reasons to improve: “At our On the Table, I feel it was a room full of relatively like[-]minded people. In order to have an impact and make others aware of the issues impacting our community, it is important to bring in others who may not be as community focused as our group was”; “reach out to a more varied group of people to participate in conversations. Most people at the forum were from the same socioeconomic place”; “get people to the table who don’t normally show up”; “[invite] people to the table who are not normally invited”; and “keep fostering these types of events to create space for discussion amongst people that wouldn’t normally meet.”

Economic Issues and Poverty

A large proportion of respondents were interested in focusing on economic issues and poverty for building a stronger, more connected community. Some respondents brought up “economic mobility,” or “upward mobility,” and “making everyone understand that economic mobility . . . [is] everyone’s business no matter where you live.” As one respondent said, “We must work on economic mobility. We need to use the report published last March to begin to tackle specific issues.” Another respondent suggested “galvaniz[ing] . . . around making the recommendations in the Economic Opportunity Task Force report a reality.”

Other respondents expressed a need for addressing “economic disparity” and advancing and improving “equality in economic opportunities.” These respondents said they want to “address the structural economic inequity problems ‘baked in’ to the systems of employment, housing, and environment.” They also indicated wanting to work to “bridge the economic gap for the city’s citizens,” work toward “economic independence” for residents, and encourage “economic empowerment for all.” In addition to improving one’s personal economic station, some respondents were interested in seeing more “economic development,” especially “in the minority community,” as well as “equality in economic development.”



Some respondents also mentioned “addressing” and “tackl[ing] poverty.” For example, they want “to work on the ways people can rise up out of poverty” and see Charlotte provide “poverty resources.” They also want to move “families [and] individuals out of poverty [and prevent] the number of families [and] individuals in poverty from growing”; essentially, they would like to see “improvements in the numbers living in poverty.”

Education and Youth Development

Many respondents said Charlotte should give its attention to education and youth development in order to build a stronger, more connected community. From “pre-K [to] high school,” respondents want Charlotte to “invest in education” and “put more money and focus on schools and equal education across the board.” One respondent wants to see public education “support[ed]” and “equal opportunity at all public schools regardless of race or financial status,” and another brought up “convinc[ing] the larger community of the necessity of investment in education in the most needy areas.” A third respondent suggested “flood[ing] impoverished, low[-]performing schools with better facilities, resources, [and] trained volunteers to boost student success.” A few respondents tied economic mobility in with education, saying that “economic mobility [can be improved] through integrated education.”

A number of respondents mentioned “equitable education,” such as “making high-quality early childhood care and education available to every family in Mecklenburg County” and creating “equitable access to quality public education and opportunities regardless of racial make-up of schools.” According to one respondent, Charlotte should “drive greater racial diversity in . . . schools [and] focus additional education resources on low[-]income students and families.” A second respondent suggested, “improving education for the youngest, most vulnerable students in the school system.” Some respondents said they want to see “better education” in Charlotte as well as have the city “[build] a stronger, more effective public school system,” “improve [the] education system,” and “[strengthen] public schools.” According to one respondent, Charlotte’s top priority should be to “help the board of education understand parental concerns and realities to develop a plan for creating stable, successful schools instead conducting student reassignment every [six] years.”

Some respondents brought up youth development efforts. They were interested in “youth program development,” “youth development initiatives,” as well as “encouraging youth to get involved.” These respondents also said they wanted to see Charlotte “investing in the youth,” “engaging with . . . school systems to build up our youth,” and “connecting with our youth via organizations, school, church, etc.”

Collaboration

To build a stronger, more connected community, some respondents focused on collaboration, such as building connections, establishing relationships, and continuing to have conversations. Several respondents mentioned connections in their communities, such as “cross[-]neighborhood” and “cross-cultural.” They expressed wanting to “[find] ways to make connections across geography and difference,” as well as “work on social connections between all areas of the city.” One respondent



developed a formula for generating outcomes from connections: “create connections + develop relationships = build trust, then problem solve.”

Many respondents also indicated the importance of “community relationships” and building “unity [among] people with differences.” These respondents said they wanted to see Charlotte expand “community relations” and “pull together people who have a sense of loyalty and love for Charlotte.” Essentially, they want Charlotte to “[make] it so people can connect” and to “[connect] the people who don’t normally interact.” “People need to interact in meaningful, fun ways,” said one respondent, and another suggested “focus[ing] on the things that bring people together [rather] than divide us.” Additionally, they said they want to see the community “breaking down . . . silos so people know what is happening and can get involved.” A few respondents stressed “really talking to the community” and “listen[ing] to the people.”

Furthermore, other respondents brought up creating “more opportunities like this to build social capital and [allow] people to be heard and make connections,” as well as “more opportunities for people to come together, have specific discussions about issues and then schedule actions in response to these discussions.” A few respondents indicated wanting more conversations, but said “action must take place as well.” As one respondent said, “continue conversations like this, but lead us to action.” Several respondents said they wanted “more conversations with people outside [their] own community,” “more frequent opportunities to engage with structural activities and conversations to keep people organized and cordial,” and “more events like On the Table, allowing momentum for community conversation to grow.” As one respondent noted, “We don’t know what’s going on across the street[,] let alone across the block or neighborhood,” and another respondent said he/she wants to connect through “meet-ups and dinners and social media forums.” Largely, they want to “encourage more community conversations,” especially “well-publicized[,] curated conversations between people from different backgrounds.”

Housing and Homelessness

Finally, some respondents indicated that Charlotte should focus on housing and homelessness for building a stronger, more connected community. Respondents primarily mentioned “providing access to” affordable housing. As one respondent said, “I think Charlotte needs to have rent control and more affordable housing so that civil servants like myself don’t continue to be priced out of desirable neighborhoods that are close to Uptown where we work.” While some respondents indicated wanting to “[address] the affordable housing and living wage issue,” others expressed wanting Charlotte to turn its attention to “affordable housing that isn’t segregated economically”; these respondents said they want to see more mixed-income neighborhoods with affordable housing. Other respondents were interested in seeing “builders, government, community members [work together] to provide affordable housing for those living below the poverty line.” Overall, respondents said they want the city to “save affordable housing and create more,” and to “ensure that affordable housing is included in every growth and development project.” This may require, as one respondent indicated, “defining what affordable housing means to Mecklenburg County residents.”



Level of Connection to Local Groups, Organizations, and Institutions

When asked what their level of connection is with certain groups, organizations, and institutions, over one-half of respondents reported having a strong connection with nonprofits, volunteer and/or service organizations, and religious institutions. Over two-thirds (69%) of respondents indicated a strong connection with nonprofits, 63% indicated a strong connection with volunteer and/or service organizations, and 51% indicated a strong connection with religious institutions. Nearly one-half (48%) of respondents indicated having a strong connection with their neighbors. Over one-third (36%) of respondents reported a strong connection to their fitness center, 36% reported a strong connection to a community center, parks, and public library, and 35% of respondents said they have a strong connection to their local schools. One-third (33%) of respondents indicated a strong connection to an affinity group, club, or meet-up group, and 33% indicated a strong connection to mentors. Finally, only 22% of respondents said they have a strong connection with local government (see Figure B.44).

Personal Impact and Community Attachment

Respondents reported largely positive attitudes toward their own potential for influencing change and toward their local community. With regard to how much impact respondents think people like themselves can have in making their community a better place to live, 49% said they believe they can have a big impact, and 35% said they believe they can have a moderate impact. The 49% of respondents who think they can have a big impact was greater than the 32% of people nationally who believe they have this level of efficacy, and the 35% of respondents who think they can have a moderate impact was similar in number to the 37% of people nationally who said the same (see Figure B.15).¹⁸

Respondents also reported high levels of attachment to their local community. Forty-four percent of respondents indicated they are very attached to their local community, and 43% said somewhat attached. In comparison, 19% of people nationally are very attached, and 48% of people nationally are somewhat attached (see Figure B.16).¹⁹

Social Issues

When respondents were asked to identify the social issues that are most important to them, 55% said education and youth development, 48% said economic issues and poverty, 44% said equity and social inclusion, and 36% said housing and homelessness (see Figure B.17). Following this, using the same set of issue areas, respondents were asked to identify the social issues to which they primarily contribute their time, talent, and/or financial resources. Nearly one-half (47%) of respondents said education and youth development. Additionally, 29% said equity and social inclusion and 27% said economic issues and poverty (see Figure B.18).²⁰

¹⁸ Pew Research Center, November 2016, “Civic Engagement Strongly Tied to Local News Habits.”

¹⁹ Ibid.

²⁰ We used our issues codebook (see Appendix D) to populate the response options for these two questions highlighting important social issues and contributions to social issues.

Engagement Habits

Respondents reported high levels of engagement across all measures considered. One-quarter (25%) of respondents said they are very involved in community and neighborhood activities where they live; in comparison only 11% of people nationally indicate this level of involvement. An even larger percentage (44%) of respondents reported that they are somewhat involved, which is slightly higher than the 39% of people nationally who said the same (see Figure B.19).²¹

With regard to how they engaged with their community over the past year, respondents were most likely to have donated, volunteered, or attended a public meeting. Eighty-five percent of respondents said they donated more than \$25 to a charitable organization within the past year; 81% said they participated in volunteer activities through or for an organization within the past year; and 67% said they attended public meetings in which there was discussion of community affairs within the past year. Additionally, 35% said they worked with people in their neighborhood to fix or improve something in the past year. With regard to how respondents compare to national percentages, respondent involvement exceeded national involvement for all activities. Nationally, 50% of people donated this past year (compared to 85% of respondents), and 24% volunteered this past year (compared to 81% of respondents). Only 8% of people in the U.S. attended a public meeting about community affairs within the last year (compared to 67% of respondents), and 8% worked with people in their neighborhood to fix or improve something (compared to 35% of respondents) (see Figure B.20).²² When it comes to voting in local elections, 64% reported that they always vote (see Figure B.21).

Places to Connect

Respondents reported connecting with others in a variety of places. Over one-half (55%) of respondents said they like to connect with others at religious institutions. Additionally, 38% of respondents cited schools, 35% selected parks, 30% named public squares, and 30% specified a place other than those provided in the response options, with the top three “other” responses being community events and meetings (8%), restaurants (7%), and work (6%). Finally, 25% said a community rec center, 23% indicated a library, 15% selected shopping centers, and 11% chose a community garden (see Figure B.22).

Engagement with News Sources

Respondents also reported the frequency with which they get information about their local community from common online and offline sources. Sixty percent of respondents said they receive information about their local community from word of mouth several times a week to every day, which was double the percentage of people who rely on word of mouth this frequently nationally (31%) (see Figure B.29). The 59% of respondents who reported tuning in to local radio for information about their community several times a week to every day was higher than the 35% of people nationally who listen to the radio

²¹ Pew Research Center, December, 2008, “American Mobility. Who Moves? Who Stays Put? Where's Home?”

²² United States Department of Commerce. Bureau of Census, United States Department of Labor. Bureau of Labor Statistics, and Corporation for National and Community Service. Current Population Survey, September 2015: Volunteer Supplement. ICPSR36411-v1. Ann Arbor, MI: Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research [distributor], 2016-04-29. <https://doi.org/10.3886/ICPSR36411.v1>



for news this frequently (see Figure B.25). Over one-half (57%) of respondents indicated they rely on social networking sites several times a week to every day to consume information about their local community, which was over five times the percentage at which people nationally use social media sites to get local information this frequently (11%) (see Figure B.27). In terms of local television news, 48% of respondents said they watch the news several times a week to every day, which was less than the 51% of people nationally who watch the news this frequently (see Figure B.24). With regard to local newspapers, 46% of respondents said they consult a newspaper for information about their community several times a week to everyday, while 28% of people nationally do the same (see Figure B.23). Nearly one-third (32%) of respondents reported gathering information from newsletters or e-mail listservs several times a week to every day, which was four times greater than the 8% of people nationally who rely on a newsletter or e-mail listserv this frequently (see Figure B.28). Finally, 22% of respondents indicated they read blogs for information about their local community several times a week to every day, which was greater than the national percentage of 5% for this level of frequency (see Figure B.26).²³

How Did the Conversations Go?

An essential aspect of this research is exploring the conversations themselves. This section groups data on why respondents were drawn to the conversations, the relative familiarity or unfamiliarity with other participants in the conversation, and where the conversations took place. It also uncovers the range of issues respondents raised in conversation, and it describes solutions or next steps that respondents reported were generated from their conversations. Finally, it discusses content shared about *On the Table CLT* on social media.

Conversation Dynamics

Respondents reported participating in *On the Table CLT* for a number of reasons. Over two-thirds (68%) of respondents said they participated to discuss and address important issues in their community, and 65% said they wanted to learn from and listen to others. Nearly one-half (47%) of respondents wanted to meet and build relationships with new people, 41% participated to get more involved in their community, and 32% intended to support the organizer of the conversation (see Figure B.30).

In terms of how familiar respondents were with the other people at the conversations, over one-half (58%) of respondents said that the other participants were people they did not know before the conversation. Over one-quarter (27%) of respondents said there was an equal mix of both people they knew and did not know before the conversation. Only 14% of respondents said that the other participants were mostly people they knew before the conversation (see Figure B.31).

Nearly all (99.6%) respondents said their conversations took place in Mecklenburg County (see Figure B.32). A large majority (95%) of respondents said their conversations took place in Charlotte; 4% of respondents indicated their conversation occurred in Davidson (see Figure B.33). In terms of ZIP codes, at 37%, 28202 featured the most respondents, followed by 28205 (9%), 28223 (9%), 28211 (7%), 28036 (6%), 28270 (5%), 28206 (4%), 28203 (3%), 28210 (2%), and 28208 (2%) (see Figure B.34).

²³ Pew Research Center, November, 2016, “Civic Engagement Strongly Tied to Local News Habits.”

Issues Raised

On the Table CLT provided an opportunity for participants to raise and discuss issues that impact the quality of life in and around Charlotte-Mecklenburg. A majority of respondents (81%) reported raising an issue of concern in their conversation. The issues that emerged help identify respondents' priorities and concerns and where they would like to see their communities headed. As seen through survey responses, respondents touched on a range of issues, with the top four being equity and social inclusion, economic issues and poverty, education and youth development, and housing and homelessness (see Figure B.35).

Equity and Social Inclusion

Sixty percent of respondents raised an issue related to equity and social inclusion during their conversations. Largely, respondents reported discussing segregation in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. For example, many respondents described a "lack of integration" and said there are "homogenous, segregated communities." As one respondent said, "segregation still exists. People live in their own bubbles." This "bubble" metaphor was mentioned several times, as respondents said they are "living in a 'bubble' of similar people," "we live in silos [and] bubbles and rarely leave them to meet people outside of our racial and economic demographics," and "the part of Charlotte that I live in is very bubble[-]like, with little interaction with diversity unless sought out."

According to other respondents, "socioeconomic classes are divided" in Charlotte, and there are "not enough diverse neighborhoods." These respondents were calling for "community integration"—"[we] need to develop [a] strategic action plan to get people involved in cultural integration." They also talked about a "lack of connection," such as "connectivity between neighborhoods and communities," "meaningful contact between diverse groups in the Charlotte area," and "organic interaction between people with differences." According to some respondents, "people [are] working in silos [and] funding happens in silos," "most people don't know their neighbors," and there exists "isolation of some people and neighborhoods." Therefore, there is "a need to create connection and empathy as our community has grown and become more diverse," explained one respondent.

Several respondents talked about "the issue of race and how it's a taboo topic to discuss with others in Charlotte." One respondent said they talked about the "failure of the community (historically) to address the issue of race, which underlies so many of our other problems such as the education gap, crime, housing, etc." Another respondent mentioned talking about "racism in Charlotte, especially as it relates to upward mobility," and a third respondent explained racism as "systemic and so often unconscious." Some respondents who discussed racism noted the "racial divide within [their] community," and one respondent said they "realized that we have been quiet [too] long about inequality in our neighborhood."

Additionally some respondents said they discussed the need to reach out to others in their community who are not typically involved. According to one respondent, there is "disinterest by all but a small minority. So [many] never look beyond their own bubble [and] . . . don't see that what happens in [the] community affects us all." Another respondent talked about "reaching people in the community who



'just want to be left alone' to help them see the value in inclusiveness." Even in their own conversations, a few respondents felt people were missing. There was "not enough of the community represented," such as a "lack of Latinx community members at the table," and a "lack of representation of African Americans in the conversation."

Finally, a number of respondents brought up issues of access, especially with regard to the following services: transportation, housing, food, quality schools, healthcare, jobs, child care, and other resources. They also want to see increased access to upward mobility, social capital, and more opportunities.

Economic Issues and Poverty

Forty-three percent of respondents brought up an issue regarding economic issues and poverty. Many respondents talked about economic mobility (or the lack thereof), as well as economic disparities and how it can "be hard to rise from the bottom" and "[escape] the poverty line." Poverty was another prominent topic of conversation, and related discussions occurred with regard to wages and income; respondents reported mentioning, "wage disparities in the Charlotte community," "limited decent middle class jobs with decent wages," "lack of access to jobs," "lack of living wage mak[ing] it impossible to make ends meet," and "low minimum wage perpetuat[ing] poverty." One respondent noted a need for "better job development opportunities for adults to help end the cycle of poverty."

Some respondents similarly noted a "lack of economic opportunity," as well as "economic inequality," "economic segregation," and the "economic divide." A few respondents expressed concern for the "uneven economic development" and the "rapid development [that] is displacing the people and businesses that make Charlotte a great place to live." One respondent brought up "adapting to the growth of Charlotte."

Education and Youth Development

Nearly one-third (32%) of respondents raised an issue related to education and youth development. Overall, many respondents discussed "education inequality" and "disparities in schools." One respondent described the state of public education as in "crisis," and another spoke about "failures in our education system." A number of respondents brought up the need for "quality education" and a "better education system," where "educational materials [are equalized] for the entire school system." One respondent said they would like to see "programs to help low[-]income and at[-]risk K-12 youth."

For many respondents, the main issue with schools was a "segregated education system based on class and race." Currently, as several respondents noted, there is "inequality in the schools and a lack of opportunity for lower income students"; furthermore, there are "unequal education opportunities," an "achievement gap," a "lack of effective early childhood education for underserved communities," and "low standards for education," especially for "schools in low[-]income areas." As one respondent noted, there are "forgotten neighborhoods and schools that do not have the same care and concern as other parts of the city," and someone else indicated, "Our school is diverse, but not inclusive." Respondents reported talking about the "benefits of integrated schools" and indicated wanting to see "diversity in



public schools” and “equal education for all students.” Another respondent explained “how important it is to our family to send our children to a school with a diverse student body.”

Some respondents discussed the “lack of support for public schools.” Several respondents said they talked about CMS public schools and the “school system.” A few respondents described schools as “overcrowded” and lacking “funding.” One respondent made note of “the transition away from supporting public education in Charlotte to the funding and support of charter private schools,” and another suggested “investing more in traditional public schools . . . [in order to] bring the focus back to community schools, not charter schools.” According to one respondent, “Charlotte schools used to be one of the best, [but] now people move out of Charlotte for better schools.”

Housing and Homelessness

Over one-quarter (29%) of respondents brought up an issue regarding housing and homelessness. The majority of respondents who did so reported discussing “affordable housing,” including its relative absence in Charlotte and the need for more. One respondent identified affordable housing (as well as homelessness) as a “pressing issue.” Other respondents who discussed affordable housing mentioned how “middle class neighborhood[s] are being torn down for expensive[,] (non)affordable living,” the lack of affordable housing within all of the new housing growth,” and “affordable housing [versus] pricey new development.” They also described their “fear of poor residents being pushed out of affordable housing in older neighborhoods,” and they want to see “affordable housing that is developed equitably and sustainably within the community.”

Other housing issues respondents brought up include “segregated housing,” “housing prices and cost of living,” and “homelessness.” One respondent noted “the issue of rapid housing growth and lack of diversity. . . . [The] city cannot keep up with the developers, [causing us to lose] our history and character, and pushing those out who cannot afford it.” Another respondent brought up the “lack of access to opportunities ([such as] school, transport time, child care, jobs, community support, etc.) with new Section 8 housing being out in the deep suburbs.” Additionally, one respondent explained that the “costs of living have gotten so high that even myself, as a working young professional[,] cannot afford living in this city.” With regard to homelessness, it was described as “prevalent” and needing a “holistic approach.”

Solutions Generated

On the Table CLT is rooted in the idea that dialogue can spur new ideas for action. In addition to the discussion and dissection of issues in conversations, 48% of respondents said their conversation generated a specific solution. A total of 396 respondents provided a solution. We randomly selected a number of solutions to share for illustrative purposes only.²⁴ These demonstrate the range respondents put forward—from high-level and complex ideas to simple actions that impact everyday life. Solutions

²⁴ The mention of a specific solution does not indicate an endorsement from IPCE, CBI, or FFTC. Furthermore, CBI and FFTC should not be assumed to take responsibility for a solution mentioned in this report. We randomly selected the ideas referenced above in order to show the types of solutions that respondents proposed.



submitted via the *On the Table CLT* survey are available for viewing in the data exploration tool (ipce.shinyapps.io/OTTCLT17).²⁵

A number of the solutions provided presented ideas around furthering community engagement efforts, as well as creating connections and building relationships. For example, one respondent reported that a teenager at his/her conversation came up with the idea of meeting with the police, and the library is seeking to arrange that connection and conversation. Another idea focused on volunteering in the community, and a third idea proposed having nursing students help in their communities. One other idea suggested having more conversations like *On the Table CLT*. Relatedly, one idea was for community members to get to know other people and overcome their prejudices. Another idea suggested having a city-wide pep rally at the Panthers Stadium that would focus on encouraging youth to build relationships with those different than them. One respondent said he/she wants to see diversity consciously increased in public schools. Someone else mentioned promoting networking as a means of connecting to a community that is typically inaccessible.

A few other solutions focused on safety and on transportation. The first was an idea to install additional Uptown emergency call boxes, and the second was to improve public transportation.

Social Media

Social media provided an opportunity to deepen engagement efforts with *On the Table CLT* and expand participation in the initiative. CBI and FFTC launched their social media campaign in July 2017 as a method of promoting *On the Table CLT* and creating a virtual space where conversations could begin or continue. The campaign served as a useful tool in capturing live content from conversations as they occurred and providing opportunities for online engagement by those who were not able to participate in physical conversations.

We used the social media monitoring platform Meltwater Buzz to analyze social media activity and understand the influence of this initiative in the digital realm.²⁶ We tracked the designated hashtag #OnTheTableCLT. In total, #OnTheTableCLT saw more than 1,100 public mentions; these mentions were amplified, generating 4.3 million total impressions. The month of October saw the highest number of mentions, which not surprisingly, peaked on the day of the *On the Table CLT* initiative.

Social media captured the enthusiasm surrounding the initiative through an array of posts and picture-sharing on various platforms, including Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook; of these, Twitter was the most popular medium used throughout the social media campaign. Additionally, Twitter saw 365 unique influencers—accounts with large numbers of followers who helped amplify the message. When it comes to breaking down the levels of engagement on Twitter, 43% of tweets were original tweets, 56% were retweets, and 2% were @message tweets. Furthermore, 35% of tweets featured links, and 22%

²⁵ The responses in the data exploration tool have been scrubbed of all identifying information.

²⁶ See Appendix E for a visual summary of key findings from the social media analysis.

contained media. In terms of tweeters' platforms, 57% used a mobile device, 30% used a desktop, and 10% are unknown.

Social connections went beyond advertising the initiative and spreading the word. Many offered commentary on what social media users were thinking about in the context of *On the Table CLT* or what they had discussed in conversations. Some comments from social media users include: "CLT community needs access to services, affordable housing, employment, transportation & healthcare"; "Great #OnTheTableCLT convo today - talked abt schools, housing, jobs and CLT's young leaders. Let's keep talking!"; "Awesome conversation and meeting new / old faces & grappling with the challenges (and growth) within our community"; and "When we build relationships and dialogue, that is just the first step in building community."

How Did Conversations Impact Respondents

The short-term impact *On the Table CLT* conversations had on respondents demonstrates the significance and value of these types of civic conversations. This section brings together data regarding the outcomes of these conversations, including new connections forged and an understanding of how to address community issues. Additionally, it reports the likelihood of a respondent taking action following their conversation and the actions that respondents indicated they are most likely to take.

Conversation Outcomes and Future Actions

Nearly three-fourths (74%) of respondents reported connecting with others at their conversation by speaking with one or more attendees they did not already know before and/or after the conversation. Additionally, 38% exchanged contact information with one or more attendees they did not already know, and 15% made specific plans to work with one or more attendees. Furthermore, 14% indicated not connecting with other conversation attendees in any of the ways listed in the response options (see Figure B.36).

After participating in their conversation, 59% of respondents said they have a-little-to-somewhat-better understanding of how they, personally, can help address the issues facing their community; 12% of respondents said they had a much better understanding, and 20% indicated no change (see Figure B.37). In terms of how likely they are to take specific actions or next steps regarding an issue or solution discussed, 86% of respondents indicated they are somewhat-to-very likely to take action (see Figure B.38). Of the actions or next steps respondents are likely to take, 78% said they are interested in building relationships and collaborating, and 68% said they want to raise awareness and educate others. Additionally 59% said they hope to get more involved in community and 58% said they intend to volunteer (see Figure B.39).



ANALYSIS

We conducted a set of analyses that go beyond the original guiding questions of this study. These analyses help deepen understanding of the survey response summary data and are useful in identifying areas of opportunity for further investigation or action. These additional analyses include an exploration of subgroup comparisons for groups such as gender, age, level of education, race, and geography across responses to a variety of questions, and include a disparity analysis between the social issues respondents reported are most important to them and the social issues to which they said they contribute their time, talent, and/or financial resources. Additionally, this section also features comparisons between questions of interest to CBI and FFTC.

Subgroup Comparisons

Each question analyzed in this section contains comparisons between various subgroups based on gender, age, level of education, race, and geographic regions.

Gender

Regarding gender, we conducted analyses between male- and female-identifying respondents. While the original survey provided an “Other” gender option, too few respondents selected this option for inclusion in subgroup analyses.

Age

Based on the original survey question, which asked for year of birth, we created five age groups categorized by decade: the youngest group (made up of respondents who were 18 to 29 years old), the 30s group, the 40s group, the 50s group, and the oldest group (made up of respondents who were 60 years old and older).

Education Level

Though more specific information regarding respondents’ educational background was obtained, we dichotomized responses for the purpose of analysis. We divided responses into two categories: college-educated (made up of respondents with a college degree or higher) and respondents without a college degree (made up of respondents with some college or less).

Race

For an analysis by race, we created four racial subgroups: Blacks (consisting of respondents indicating Black or African American), Whites (consisting of respondents indicating White), Latinos (consisting of respondents indicating Hispanic or Latino/a), and Other (which includes respondents indicating American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, and Other).

Geography

For the geography variable, we categorized respondents in Charlotte into five areas based on their self-reported place of residence: Center City (zip code 28202), East, West, North, and South.



Learning About Connections at *On the Table* CLT

Respondents were asked the following closed-response question, “To what extent did you learn about connections that people have within and across their communities during your *On the Table* experience?”

In terms of age, the younger the respondent, the more likely they were to say that they learned a lot about building connections. Forty-four percent of the youngest age group (18 to 29 year olds) indicated that they learned a lot about building connections at their conversation, which was twice as many as the 22% of the oldest age group (60 years old and up) who did the same. The other respondent age groups (30s, 40s and 50s) averaged 29%.

With regard to racial and ethnic groups, 38% of Black respondents selected a lot, compared to 25% of Latino respondents and 26% of White respondents.

Building Connections

Survey respondents were also asked to answer the open-response question, “As a result of your *On the Table* conversation, how might you help to build more connection in your community?” We categorized these responses according to our ‘Building Connections’ codebook.²⁷

In terms of age groups, respondents in their 30s stand out by most frequently mentioning volunteering, hosting conversations and events, and connecting with organizations. Over one-quarter (26%) of respondents in their 30s mentioning volunteering, while an average of 15% of respondents in the other age groups did the same. With regard to hosting conversations and events, 11% of respondents in their 30s named this activity, compared to an average of 4% for respondents in the other age groups. Finally, whereas 4% of all other age groups suggested connecting with organizations, 12% of respondents in their 30s brought up the same.

Respondents without a college degree were nearly twice as likely to suggest sharing information and raising awareness. Nearly one-quarter (23%) of respondents without a college degree mentioned an idea related to sharing information and raising awareness, as compared to 12% of college-educated respondents.

Analyses by geographic regions show that Center City respondents were significantly more likely to mention attending events as a way to build connections, as compared to other Charlotte respondents. While over 30% of Center City respondents listed an idea related to attending events, respondents in other regions mentioned attending events an average of 10% of the time.

Feeling of Connection to Charlotte’s History

Survey respondents were asked to respond the following close-response statement, “I feel engaged with and connected to the history of Charlotte.”

²⁷ See Appendix C for the ‘Building Connections’ codebook and definitions.

With regard to age, the oldest two age groups (50s and 60 years old and up) were nearly three times as likely as the youngest age group to say that it is ‘very true’ that they feel engaged with and connected to Charlotte’s history. An average of 33% of these older respondents indicated that this statement was ‘very true’, whereas only 13% of 18 to 29 year olds made the same selection.

When respondents were grouped by race or ethnicity, Latino respondents were one-half as likely to state that it is ‘very true’ that they feel engaged with and connected to Charlotte’s history. While 21% of Black respondents and 28% of White respondents selected ‘very true’ in response to this statement, only 11% of Latino respondents made the same selection.

Homeowners were nearly twice as likely as were renters to select ‘very true’ in response to the above-referenced statement. While 15% of renters indicated that this statement felt ‘very true’ to them, 28% of homeowners did the same.

Analyses by geographic groups shows that respondents in the West region of Charlotte were both least likely to select that it is ‘very true’ that they feel engaged with and connected to Charlotte’s history and most likely to select ‘not very true.’ While 13% of West respondents selected ‘very true’, an average of 25% of respondents in the other regions said the same. Furthermore, 36% of West respondents selected ‘not very true’, compared to the 26% of respondents in other regions who selected ‘not very true.’

Top Priority for Building a More Connected Charlotte

Survey respondents were asked to answer the open-response question, “What should be Charlotte’s TOP priority for building a stronger, more connected community over the next year?” We categorized responses using our issues codebook.²⁸

Analyses by gender showed that female respondents were more likely to mention education and youth development and less likely to mention government than male respondents. Female respondents mentioned priorities related to education and youth development 26% of the time, as compared to only 18% of male respondents. However, female respondents mentioned government only 4% of the time, which was less than half of the 10% of male respondents who did the same.

At 8%, respondents without a college degree were four times as likely to mention an issue related to health than were the 2% of their college-educated counterparts (2%).

In terms of racial and ethnic groups, an average of 23% of White, Black, and Latino respondents suggested a priority related to collaboration, whereas only 10% of respondents of other races and ethnicities did the same.

²⁸ See Appendix D for the full list of issues and their definitions.

Homeowners were 10% more likely than were renters to mention issues related to both collaboration and equity and social inclusion. One-quarter (25%) of homeowners mentioned collaboration, but only 15% of renters did the same. Furthermore, 47% of homeowners mentioned equity and social inclusion, as compared to 37% of renters.

Analyses by geography shows that respondents in East and West Charlotte more highly prioritized arts and culture (7% each) than respondents in the North (2%), South (2%) and Center City (0%).

Level of Connection to Local Groups, Organizations and Institutions

In response to the question, “What is your level of connection to the following groups, organizations, and institutions?” respondents were directed to select the following answers: strong connection, weak connection, or no connection.

Analyses by gender showed that female respondents were roughly ten percent more likely to cite a strong connection to clubs (35%), community centers (39%), and local schools (38%), compared to males who named a strong connection to clubs (25%), community centers (28%), and local schools (27%) less frequently.

Analyses by age revealed the most differences between groups in the responses to this question. The youngest group (18 to 29 year olds) much less frequently cited a strong connection to neighbors and religious institutions than older age groups, and respondents in their 40s were most likely to note a strong connection to local schools. While only 19% of respondents in the youngest age group said they have a strong connection to their neighbors, an average of 51% of all other age groups stated the same. At 34%, respondents in the youngest age group were also least likely to mention a strong connection to religious institutions. However, this percentage grew as respondents increased in age, as 62% of the oldest age group cited a strong connection to religious institutions. Respondents 60 years old and up were nearly twice as likely to say they have a strong connection to clubs (44%) than the youngest age group, of whom 24% reported the same.

Other differences in age subgroups included level of connection to local schools, non-profit organizations, and mentors. Over one-half (53%) of respondents in their 40s cited a strong connection to local schools, which was considerably more than respondents in the other age groups who cited a strong connection to local schools 30% of the time. Meanwhile, 79% of respondents in their 50s were most likely to state a strong connection to non-profit organizations, as compared to 70% of respondents 60 years old and up and an average of 62% of respondents in their 40s, in their 30s, and 18 to 29 years old. The youngest age group was most likely to report no connection to non-profit organizations, with 17% of respondents selecting this option, which was more than twice as often as the average of 7% of other respondents who reported the same. Finally, at 48%, respondents aged 18 to 29 years old were also most likely to report a strong connection to mentors. This was more than two times that of the 23% of respondents 60 years old and older who said the same. Similarly, 50% of respondents 60 years old and up reported no connection to mentors, which was twice as many as the 25% of the youngest age group who indicated the same.



With regard to educational background, college-educated respondents were more likely to have a strong connection to non-profit organizations and fitness centers than respondents without a college degree. Seventy percent of college-educated respondents cited a strong connection to non-profit organizations (7% selected no connection) as compared to 57% of respondents without a college degree who said the same (17% selected no connection). At 39%, nearly twice as many college-educated respondents identified a strong connection to fitness centers, compared to 20% of respondents without a college degree. Additionally, 49% of respondents without a college degree stated they had no connection to fitness centers, while 34% of college-educated respondents said the same.

When respondents were grouped by race or ethnicity, analyses revealed that White respondents were most likely to cite a strong connection with their neighbors and Black respondents were most likely to cite a strong connection with mentors. While 53% of White respondents said they have a strong connection with their neighbors, 38% of Black respondents and 30% of Latino respondents said the same. With regard to mentors, 44% of Black respondents said they have a strong connection to mentors, which was more than the 32% of Latinos and 28% of White respondents who said the same.

In terms of homeownership, homeowners were more likely to select that they have strong connections to neighbors and religious institutions, while renters were more likely to have a strong connection to mentors. Over one-half (55%) of homeowners indicated a strong connection to both neighbors and religious institutions, but only 25% of renters said they have a strong connection to neighbors and 38% of renters said they have a strong connection to religious institutions. Additionally, 42% of renters said they have a strong connection to mentors, but only 29% of homeowners said the same.

Analyses of respondents by geographic area revealed that respondents in Center City (14%) were nearly twice as likely to have no connection to their neighbors, as compared to respondents from the other regions, in which an average of 7% of respondents indicated the same. At 58%, respondents in the South region were more likely to cite a strong connection to religious institutions than were respondents from the other regions, who averaged 43%. Nearly one-half (49%) of respondents from Center City listed no connection to religious institutions, which was nearly twice as much as the 26% average of respondents in the other regions who stated the same. Center City respondents most frequently stated they had no connection to local schools, and West region respondents were most likely to state they had a strong connection to local schools. More than one-half (51%) of Center City respondents cited no connection to local schools, whereas an average of 31% of respondents in the other regions did the same. At 44%, however, West respondents were more likely to state a strong connection to local schools than the average of 31% of respondents in other regions who stated the same. Respondents in the West region were most likely to name no connection to fitness centers (48%), which was more than the average of 32% of respondents in other regions who said they had no connection to fitness centers. One-half (50%) of Center City respondents cited a strong connection to fitness centers, which is considerably more than the 34% of respondents in other regions who stated the same.



Important Social Issue

In this section, subgroups were analyzed by their responses to a close-ended, multiple-choice question asking, “Which of the following social issues are most important to you?”²⁹

At 13%, male respondents were nearly three times as likely as the 5% of females to name an issue related to religion and morals. Female respondents, however, were more likely to select equity and social inclusion as an issue that is important to them, with 46% of female respondents and 36% of male respondents selecting this issue.

With an average of 45%, the two oldest age groups—50s and 60 years old and up—most frequently selected housing and homelessness, as compared to all other age groups, which averaged 27%. At 20%, the 30s and 40s age groups were twice as likely to select family, compared to the other age groups that averaged 10%. Finally, the youngest age group, 18 to 29 year olds, were most likely to select transportation. Nineteen percent of 18 to 29 year olds selected this issue, which was more than twice as many as the other age groups, as they averaged 9%.

One-half (50%) of college-educated respondents selected economic issues and poverty, which was considerably more than the 35% of respondents without a college degree.

With regard to racial and ethnic groups, Latino respondents were more likely to select immigration and migration, but much less likely to choose housing and homelessness than White or Black respondents. Forty percent of Latino respondents indicated that immigration was an important issue to them, as compared to 10% of White respondents and 2% of Black respondents. Black and White respondents were much more likely to choose housing and homelessness as an important issue, with 37% of Black respondents and 38% of White respondents selecting it. Only 19% Latinos selected housing and homelessness as an important issue. White respondents were more likely to select environment and parks than other racial and ethnic groups, with 13% of White respondents selecting it, as compared to 2% of Black respondents and 3% of Latino respondents.

In terms of geography, at 28%, respondents who lived in Center city selected arts and culture more often than the 11% average of respondents who lived in the other regions. At 15%, respondents living in West Charlotte were nearly three times more likely to select government than the average of 5% of respondents in the other regions who selected it.

Primary Social Issue Contribution

The following subgroup analyses were based of the closed-response, multiple-choice question, “To which social issues do you PRIMARILY contribute your time, talent, and/or financial resources?” Response options were identical to the question above regarding important social issues.

²⁹ See Appendix D for the full list of issues and their definitions.

Female respondents more frequently selected health (20%) and food access (14%) than the 9% of males who chose health and the 7% of males who chose food access.

Respondents in the two oldest age groups—50s and 60 years old and up—selected economic issues and poverty and housing and homelessness more often than respondents in the other age groups; the youngest age group, 18 to 29 year olds, was most likely to select education; and respondents in their 40s were most likely to select family. One-third (33%) of respondents in the two oldest age groups selected economic issues and poverty, compared to an average of 23% of the other age groups that did the same. The same was true for housing and homelessness, as 24% of the two oldest age groups chose this issue, but only an average of 16% of the other age groups did the same. The youngest age group was more likely to choose education, with 60% of the youngest respondents reporting contributing to this issue; in comparison, an average of 46% of other respondents did the same. Finally, 32% of respondents in their 40s selected family, which was more than the average of 20% of respondents in the remaining age groups who did the same.

At 32%, respondents without a college degree were more likely to select family than the 22% of college-educated respondents who said the same. However, college-educated respondents were more likely to select education and youth development. Nearly one-half (49%) of college-educated respondents selected this issue, compared to 30% of respondents without a college degree.

In terms of race and ethnicity, 11% of White respondents and 8% of Latino respondents selected environment and parks, which was more often than the 2% of Black respondents who did the same. At 32%, Latino respondents were also far more likely to select immigration and migration than the 6% of White respondents and 2% Black respondents who selected this issue.

In a breakdown of geographic areas, Center City respondents were more likely to select arts and culture as compared to other regions, but much less likely to select family. At 32%, Center City respondents chose arts and culture more frequently than the average of 21% of respondents from the other regions who did the same. Respondents from regions other than Center City were more likely to select family, with an average of 25% of these respondents selecting this issue. This was over three times more than the 8% of Center City respondents who did the same. The East region was nearly twice as likely to select public safety and the judicial system. As compared to the average of 6% of respondents from other regions, 10% of East respondents selected public safety and the judicial system.

Issues Raised During Conversation

Survey respondents were asked to respond to the question, “Did you raise an issue of concern regarding your community? If yes, please specify.” We categorized responses using our issues codebook.³⁰

Analyses by gender found that female respondents more frequently mentioned equity and social inclusion, economic issues and poverty, and housing and homelessness than their male counterparts.

³⁰ See Appendix D for the full list of issues and their definitions.

Female respondents raised an issue related to equity and social inclusion 63% of the time, as compared to 52% for males. Likewise, 47% of female respondents mentioned economic issues and poverty, while only 36% of male respondents did so. Finally, 32% of female respondents mentioned housing and homelessness issues, but only 21% of male respondents did the same.

Analyses of respondents by race or ethnicity showed that Latino respondents were much less likely to mention economic issues and poverty than were Black or White respondents. While 46% of both Black and White respondents mentioned an issue related to economic issues and poverty, only 17% of Latino respondents did the same.

Geographic analyses highlighted that, at 17%, respondents who lived in the East region were more than twice as likely to mention collaboration than the 8% of respondents in the other regions. Only 3% of respondents who lived in Center City raised an issue related to collaboration. At 13%, Center City respondents were also much less likely to mention education and youth development issues as compared to an average of 33% of respondents in other geographic areas. Fifty percent of Center City respondents reported raising a housing and homelessness issue, but only an average of 27% of respondents in the other geographic groups did the same.

Disparity between Important Issues and Contributions

When considering the social issues that were most important to respondents (important issues) and the social issues to which they contribute their time, talent, and/or financial resources (contributions), the data reveal disparities between these two variables (see Figure F.1). These disparities can be useful indicators of social issues where greater contribution of time, talent, and financial resources are needed.

Transportation resulted in the greatest issues-to-contributions disparity. Among the respondents who mentioned transportation as a social issue, only 21% also reported that they contribute their time, talent, and/or financial resources to this cause. Government featured the next greatest disparity, with 22% of those concerned with this social issue also contributing toward it. Public safety and the judicial system featured the third greatest disparity, as 24% of those concerned with this social issue also reported contributing toward it. Notably, education and youth development had by far the highest number of respondents considering it the most important social issue (n=502), and 68% of respondents reported contributing their time, talent, and/or financial resources to it. Arts and culture and religion and morals were the two issues with the least amount of disparity. Eighty-three percent of respondents who were concerned with arts and culture also expressed contributing to it, and 76% of respondents who expressed concern with religion and morals also reported contributing to it.

Question Comparisons

We conducted comparative analyses on certain pairs of questions that were of interest to CBI and FFTC. These comparisons include the relationship between: 1) groups with which respondents reported having a strong connection and locations where respondents said they like to connect; 2) contributions to social issues and social issues respondents said they think should be Charlotte's top priority; 3) action and perceived impact; 4) new understanding of how to address community issues and perceived impact; and



5) new understanding of how to address community issues and action. All results include only respondents who answered both questions being compared.

Relationship between Strong Connections and Where Respondents Like to Connect

This comparison shows the percent of respondents who said they have a strong connection with certain groups and organizations and who also said they like to connect with others at certain locations. Respondents indicated they most like to connect with others at religious institutions, schools, parks, and public squares (see Figure B.22). In comparing groups with which respondents reported having a strong connection to locations where respondents said they like to connect, we found the following: Of respondents who reported having a strong connection with local schools, 65% also said they like to connect at schools. Of respondents who reported having a strong connection with religious institutions, 86% also said they like to connect at a religious institution. Furthermore, of respondents who reported having a strong connection with a community center, parks, and/or public library, 38% also said they like to connect at a community rec center, 37% also said they like to connect at a library, and 49% also said they like to connect at parks. Of respondents who reported having a strong connection with local government, 45% also said they like to connect at public squares. Finally, of respondents who reported having a strong connection with a fitness center, 33% also said they like to connect at a community rec center (see Figure G.1).

Relationship between Contributions to Social Issues and Top Priorities

This comparison shows the percent of respondents who contribute their time, talent, and/or financial resources to certain social issues and who also said they think certain social issues should be Charlotte's top priority for building a stronger, more connected community over the next year. Overall, equity and social inclusion, economic issues and poverty, education and youth development, and housing and homelessness were the top priorities named by respondents (see Figure B.43). In comparing the contributions to social issues respondents reported making and social issues respondents said they think should be Charlotte's top priority, we found the following: Of respondents who reported contributing to housing and homelessness, 34% said they believe housing and homelessness should be a top priority. Of respondents who reported contributing to food access, 30% said they believe housing and homelessness should be a top priority. Of respondents who reported contributing to health, 10% said they believe health should be a top priority. Of respondents who reported contributing to economic issues and poverty, 40% said they believe economic issues and poverty should be a top priority. Furthermore, of respondents who reported contributing to equity and social inclusion, 53% said they believe equity and social inclusion should be a top priority. Of respondents who reported contributing to health, 51% said they believe equity and social inclusion should be a top priority. Finally, of respondents who reported contributing to education and youth development, 48% said they believe equity and social inclusion should be a top priority (see Figure G.2).

Relationship between Action and Perceived Impact

This comparison shows the relationship between responses for how likely respondents are to take action regarding an issue or solution discussed during their *On the Table* CLT conversation and how much impact respondents feel they can have in making their community a better place to live. Overall,



86% of respondents indicated they are somewhat (45%) to very likely (41%) to take action regarding an issue or solution discussed during their conversation (see Figure B.38), and 84% of respondents said they think they can have a moderate (35%) to a big (49%) impact (see Figure B.15). With regard to the relationship between action and perceived impact, the largest group was the 27% of respondents who said they are very likely to take action and who also said they think they can have a big impact. The next two largest groups were the 18% of respondents who said they are somewhat likely to take action and who also said they think they can have a big impact, and the 18% of respondents who said they are somewhat likely to take action and who also said they think they can have a moderate impact (see Figure G.3).

Relationship between New Understanding of How to Address Community Issues and Perceived Impact

This comparison shows the relationship between responses on the extent to which respondents feel they have a better understanding how to address community issues and how much impact respondents feel they can have in making their community a better place. Overall, 69% of respondents said they have a somewhat (35%) to a little better (34%) understanding of how to address community issues following their conversation (see Figure B.37), and 84% of respondents indicated they can have a moderate (35%) to big (49%) impact (see Figure B.15). With regard to the relationship between new understanding of how to address community issues and perceived impact, 19% of respondents who said they have a somewhat better understanding of community issues also said they think they can have a big impact (see Figure G.4).

Relationship between New Understanding of How to Address Community Issues and Action

This comparison shows the relationship between responses on the extent to which respondents feel they have a better understanding of how to address community issues and how likely respondents are to take action regarding an issue or solution discussed during their *On the Table CLT* conversation. Overall, 86% of respondents indicated they are somewhat (45%) to very likely (41%) to take action regarding an issue or solution discussed during their conversation (see Figure B.38), and 69% of respondents said they have a somewhat (35%) to a little better understanding of how to address community issues following their conversation (see Figure B.37). With regard to the relationship between new understanding of how to address community issues and action, 21% of respondents who selected having a little better understanding of how to address community issues also said they were somewhat likely to take action. Additionally, respondents who said they are very likely to take action appeared more likely to have gained a better understanding of how to address community issues (see Figure G.5).

CONCLUSION

This report was an exploratory study examining the content of *On the Table CLT* conversations and information about all survey respondents. While results cannot be generalized to the broader Charlotte-Mecklenburg population, this study reveals important insights that are worth highlighting.



First, *On the Table CLT* respondents were a highly engaged group across all measures considered, especially when comparing Charlotte-Mecklenburg respondents to national data. The majority of respondents said they are involved in community and neighborhood activities, with notable proportions of respondents reporting having donated and volunteered this past year. Slightly smaller but still noteworthy percentages were seen for respondents who have been involved in less common but highly impactful engagement activities, such as attending a public meeting about community affairs and working with people in their neighborhood to fix or improve something.

Second, education and youth development, economic issues and poverty, equity and social inclusion, and housing and homelessness stood out as high priorities for respondents. These were the top four social issues respondents reported being most important to them and the top four issues raised in conversation. According to the disparity analysis (an analysis between the social issues respondents reported are most important to them and the social issues to which they said they contribute their time, talent, and/or financial resources), economic issues and poverty and housing and homelessness featured greater disparity, while education and youth development and equity and social inclusion featured less disparity.

Third, CBI and FFTC expressed interest in learning more about existing social capital in Charlotte-Mecklenburg and how to increase it. Overall, respondents reported learning about connections that people have within and across their communities during their *On the Table CLT* experience. In terms of how they might build more connection as a result of their *On the Table CLT* conversation, respondents reported being interested in building new relationships, volunteering, and increasing personal involvement. Respondents who were interested in building new relationships expressed wanting to meet new people, interact with those different than them, and develop relationships with other participants they met at *On the Table CLT*. With regard to volunteering, respondents expressed either getting more involved by volunteering or continuing their volunteer efforts, with both efforts supported by the action of researching and looking into new volunteer opportunities. Finally, respondents who wanted to increase personal involvement were inspired to get more involved and find ways to become more actively engaged in their communities. Furthermore, respondents indicated that the top priorities for building a stronger, more connected community over the next year should be related to equity and social inclusion, economic issues and poverty, education and youth development, collaboration, and housing and homelessness.

On the Table CLT was an opportunity for residents of Charlotte-Mecklenburg to get together with old friends and new acquaintances to have conversations about the issues that they care about the most. In doing so, many people came together to share their experiences about life in Charlotte-Mecklenburg and how they would like to see it become an even better region that serves all of its residents. Conversations served as a catalyst for generating ideas and potential actions and created a space for participants to make personal connections so that they might find ways to ignite change with fellow residents.



APPENDICES

Appendix A: *On the Table* CLT Survey



Institute for Policy and
Civic Engagement

Welcome, and thank you for taking part in this survey!

The purpose of this research is to understand who participated in *On the Table* and the nature and quality of the conversation event in which you participated on October 25, 2017, coordinated by Foundation For The Carolinas. The University of Illinois at Chicago's Institute for Policy and Civic Engagement (IPCE) is administering the survey.

The survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete. Completion of this survey is voluntary, you may skip any question, and there are no right or wrong answers. Your responses will be kept confidential. Collected data will be stored in locked offices in a locked suite, and data with direct identifiers will be password protected. Data will be kept throughout the research study period and will be deleted after five years. No personally identifiable data will be reported, and confidentiality will be protected to the fullest extent possible. IPCE and Foundation For The Carolinas will have access to your e-mail address, but Foundation For The Carolinas will not have access to your individual responses. Results of this study will be publicly available at www.ipce.uic.edu and onthetableclt.org.

The principal investigator of this research is IPCE Director Joseph Hoereth. If you have any questions about the survey, you may contact IPCE by phone at 312-355-0088 or by e-mail at jhoereth@uic.edu. You may also contact the Office for the Protection of Human Subjects (OPRS) by phone at 312-996-1711 or by e-mail at uicrb@uic.edu.

By responding to the survey, you acknowledge the following:

- You have read the above information
- You voluntarily agree to participate in this study
- You are at least 18 years of age

Please mark your answers like this: ● not like this: ✕ ☒ ☐

Begin here

1. Please provide the e-mail address used to register you for *On the Table*. If you DID NOT register online, please provide your e-mail address below.

E-mail Address: _____

2. Which best describes your MOST IMPORTANT reason(s) for participating in *On the Table*? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ To discuss and address important issues in my community
- ☐ To learn from and listen to others
- ☐ To meet and build relationships with new people
- ☐ To get more involved in my community
- ☐ To support the organizer of the conversation
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

If you participated in MORE THAN ONE *On the Table* conversation, please refer to only one of your conversations for the next two questions.

3. Where did your conversation take place?

County: _____

City or Town: _____

Neighborhood: _____

4. The other people at my conversation were:

- ☐ Mostly people I did NOT know before the conversation
- ☐ Mostly people I knew before the conversation
- ☐ An equal mix of both

5. Did you raise an issue of concern regarding your community?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please provide examples:



6. Did your conversation(s) generate any specific solutions?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please provide examples:

7. How did you connect with others at your conversation(s)? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ I spoke with one or more attendees **I did not already know** before and/or after the conversation(s)
- ☐ I exchanged contact information with one or more attendees **I did not already know**
- ☐ I made specific plans to work with one or more attendees to address a new idea, issue, or project in the future
- ☐ None of the above

8. After participating in your conversation(s), to what extent do you better understand how you, personally, can help address the issues facing your community?

- ☐ Much better
- ☐ Somewhat better
- ☐ A little better
- ☐ No change

9. How likely are you to take specific actions or next steps regarding an issue or solution discussed?

- ☐ Very likely
- ☐ Somewhat likely
- ☐ Not too likely
- ☐ Not at all likely

If you answered NOT TOO LIKELY or NOT AT ALL LIKELY, please skip to Question 11.

10. Please select the actions or next steps you are likely to take regarding an issue or solution discussed. (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Build relationships and collaborate
- ☐ Get more involved in community
- ☐ Improve myself through personal development and learning
- ☐ Raise awareness and educate others
- ☐ Become more politically involved
- ☐ Donate
- ☐ Volunteer
- ☐ Provide support for my family
- ☐ Take action through my job
- ☐ Mentor or motivate others
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

11. How much impact do you think people like you can have in making your community a better place to live?

- ☐ A big impact
- ☐ A moderate impact
- ☐ A small impact
- ☐ No impact at all

12. In general, how attached do you feel to your local community?

- ☐ Very attached
- ☐ Somewhat attached
- ☐ Not very attached
- ☐ Not at all attached

13. Which of the following social issues are most important to you? (CHOOSE UP TO THREE)

- ☐ Arts and Culture
- ☐ Economic Issues and Poverty
- ☐ Education and Youth Development
- ☐ Environment and Parks
- ☐ Religion and Morals
- ☐ Equity and Social Inclusion
- ☐ Family
- ☐ Food Access
- ☐ Government
- ☐ Health
- ☐ Housing and Homelessness
- ☐ Immigration and Migration
- ☐ Public Safety and Judicial System
- ☐ The Media
- ☐ Technology
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

14. To which of the following social issues do you PRIMARILY contribute your time, talent (knowledge or skills), and/or financial resources?
(CHOOSE UP TO THREE)

- ☐ Arts and Culture
- ☐ Economic Issues and Poverty
- ☐ Education and Youth Development
- ☐ Environment and Parks
- ☐ Religion and Morals
- ☐ Equity and Social Inclusion
- ☐ Family
- ☐ Food Access
- ☐ Government
- ☐ Health
- ☐ Housing and Homelessness
- ☐ Immigration and Migration
- ☐ Public Safety and Judicial System
- ☐ The Media
- ☐ Technology
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

15. How involved are you in community and neighborhood activities where you live?

- ☐ Very involved
- ☐ Somewhat involved
- ☐ Not too involved
- ☐ Not at all involved

16. Since October 2016, have you:
(Select all that apply)

- ☐ Worked with people in your neighborhood to fix or improve something?
- ☐ Donated money, assets, or property with a combined value of more than \$25 to charitable or religious organizations?
- ☐ Done any volunteer activities through or for an organization?
- ☐ Attended any public meetings in which there was discussion of community affairs?
- ☐ None of the above

17. How often do you vote in local elections, such as for mayor or a school board? Across the nation, these elections have about 20% voter turnout.

- ☐ Always vote
- ☐ Sometimes vote
- ☐ Rarely vote
- ☐ Never vote
- ☐ Prefer not to answer / Not eligible to vote

18. Where do you like to connect with others?
(Select all that apply)

- ☐ Parks
- ☐ Library
- ☐ Community rec center
- ☐ Schools
- ☐ Public squares
- ☐ Religious institution, such as a church
- ☐ Community garden
- ☐ Shopping centers
- ☐ Other (please specify): _____

19. How often, if ever, do you get information about YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY from each of the following sources, whether online or offline?

	Every day	Several times a week	Several times a month	Less often	Never
Local newspaper	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Local television news	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Local radio	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A blog about your local community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A person or organization you follow on a social networking site	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
A newsletter or e-mail listserv about your local community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Word of mouth from friends, family, co-workers and neighbors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

To help us better understand who participated in *On the Table*, please respond to the following demographic questions. Your responses are confidential.

20. Where do you currently live?

County: _____

City or Town: _____

Neighborhood: _____

Zip Code: _____

21. About how many years have you lived in your local community?

Number of Years: _____

22. Do you own or rent your primary residence?

- ☐ Own
☐ Rent
☐ Other (please specify): _____

23. What is your current gender identity?

(Select all that apply)

- ☐ Male
☐ Female
☐ A gender identity not listed here (please specify): _____

24. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

- ☐ Less than high school
☐ High school diploma or GED
☐ Some college
☐ Associate/Vocational degree
☐ Bachelor's degree
☐ Graduate degree

25. In what year were you born? Year: _____

26. How would you identify your race and/or ethnicity? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ American Indian/Alaska Native
☐ Asian
☐ Black or African American
☐ Hispanic or Latino/a
☐ Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander
☐ White
☐ Other (please specify): _____

27. What is your relationship to Foundation For The Carolinas? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ Funder
☐ Grantee (my organization has received funds from them)
☐ I have volunteered with them
☐ I work there
☐ I've attended one of their events
☐ I had not heard of Foundation For The Carolinas before *On the Table*
☐ Other (please specify): _____

Social capital, the connections and networks that people have within and across their communities, is a critical factor in exposing individuals to information, resources, and opportunities.

28. To what extent did you learn about connections that people have within and across their communities during your *On the Table* experience?

- ☐ A lot
☐ Some
☐ A little
☐ Not at all

29. As a result of your *On the Table* conversation, how might you help to build more connection in your community?

30. To what extent is the following statement true: "I feel engaged with and connected to the history of Charlotte."

- ☐ Very true
☐ Somewhat true
☐ Not very true
☐ Not at all true

31. What should be Charlotte's TOP priority for building a stronger, more connected community over the next year?

32. What is your level of connection with the following groups, organizations, and institutions?

	Strong Connection	Weak Connection	No Connection
Neighbors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mentors	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Local Government	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Nonprofits	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Affinity Group / Club / Meet-up Group	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Volunteer / Service Organization	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Religious Institution (such as a church, mosque, or synagogue)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Community Center / Parks / Public Library	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Local Schools	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Fitness Center	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

On the Table 2017

Summary of Results for All Respondents

Following On the Table, 733 participants responded to the survey by clicking on an e-mail link, 162 responded by clicking on the web link, and 119 responded by submitting a print survey.

In total, 1,014 On the Table participants fully or partially responded to the survey. This document provides a summary of responses by question. The 'n' provided in each question is the number of respondents for that question.

Section 1: Who Participated?

Respondent Demographics

Figure B.1: What is your current gender identity?

% of respondents (n = 960)

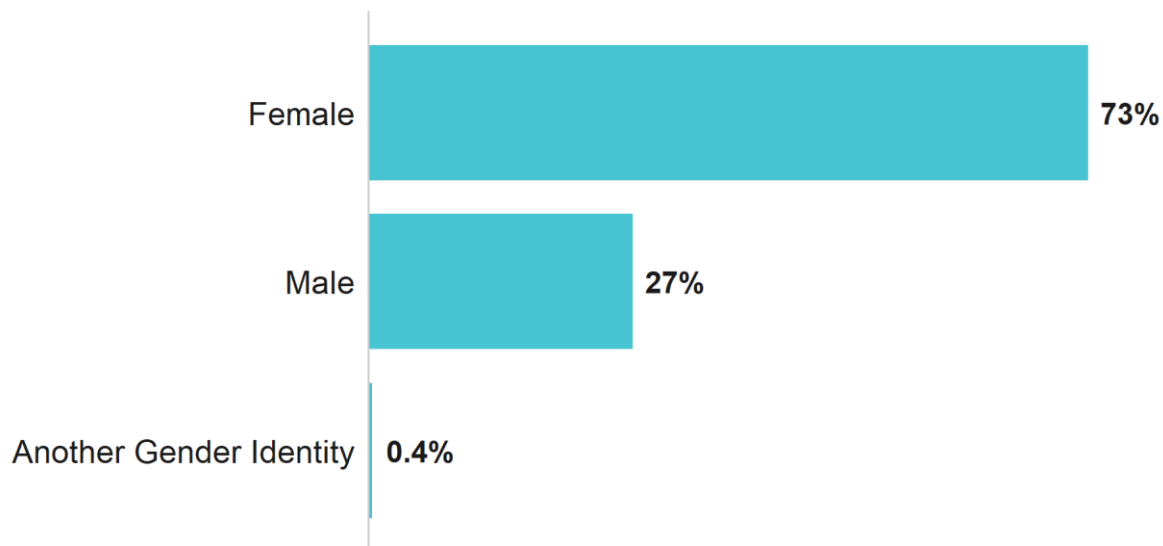


Figure B.2: Age of Respondents by Decade

% of respondents (n = 924)

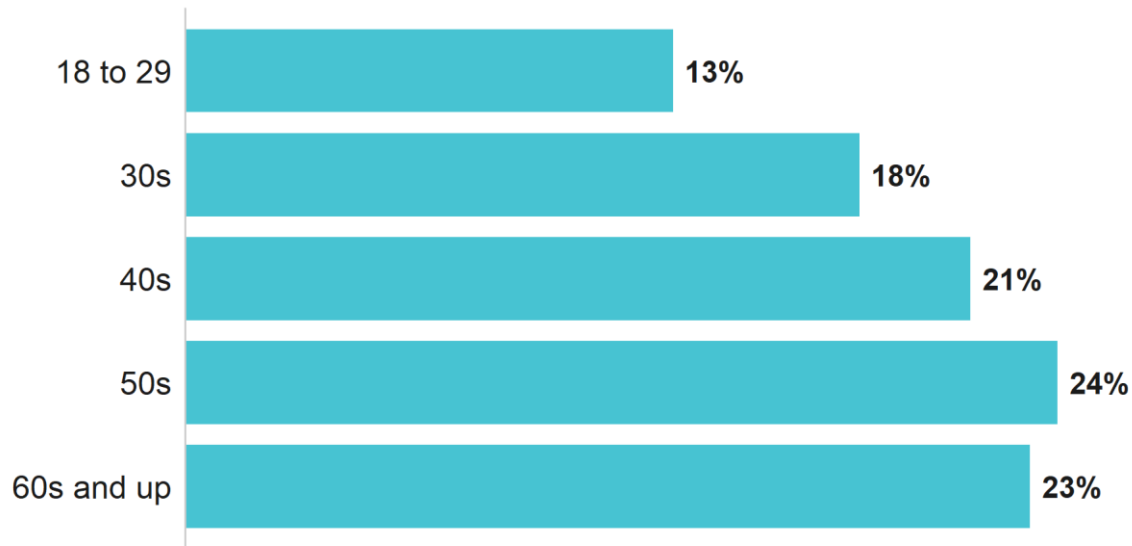


Figure B.3: Age of Respondents by Decade, Comparison

% of Mecklenburg RESPONDENTS (n = 813) compared to Mecklenburg RESIDENTS

SOURCE: U.S. Census, ACS 2011 - 2015

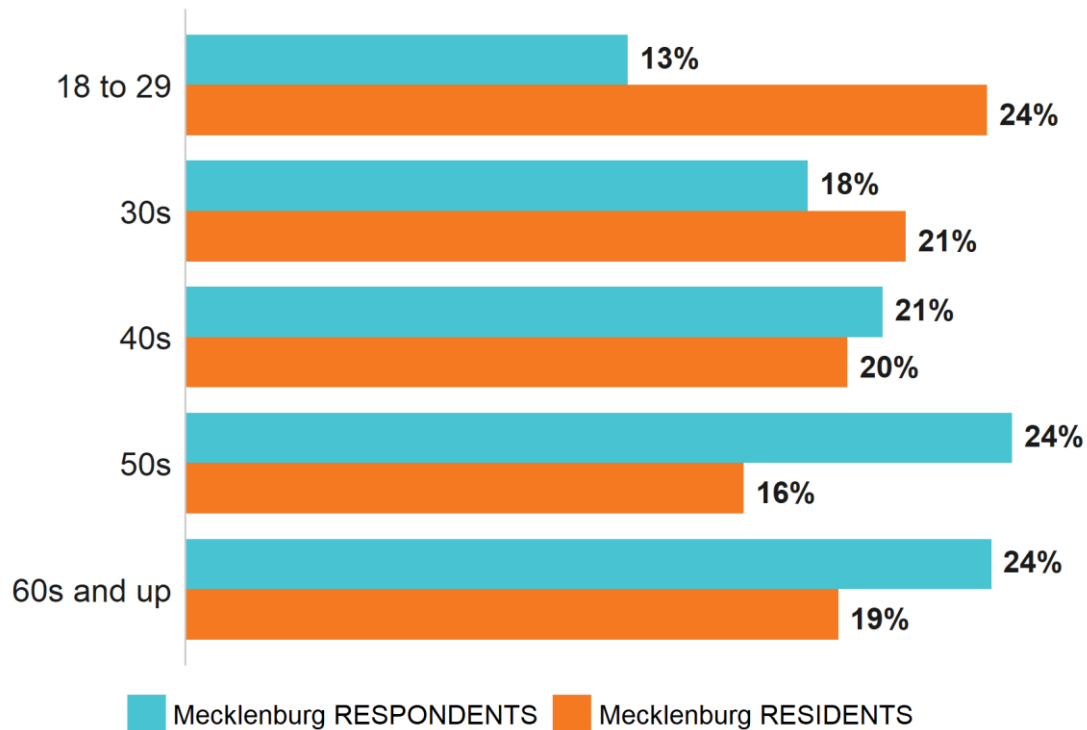


Figure B.4: What is the highest level of education you have completed?

% of respondents (n = 964)

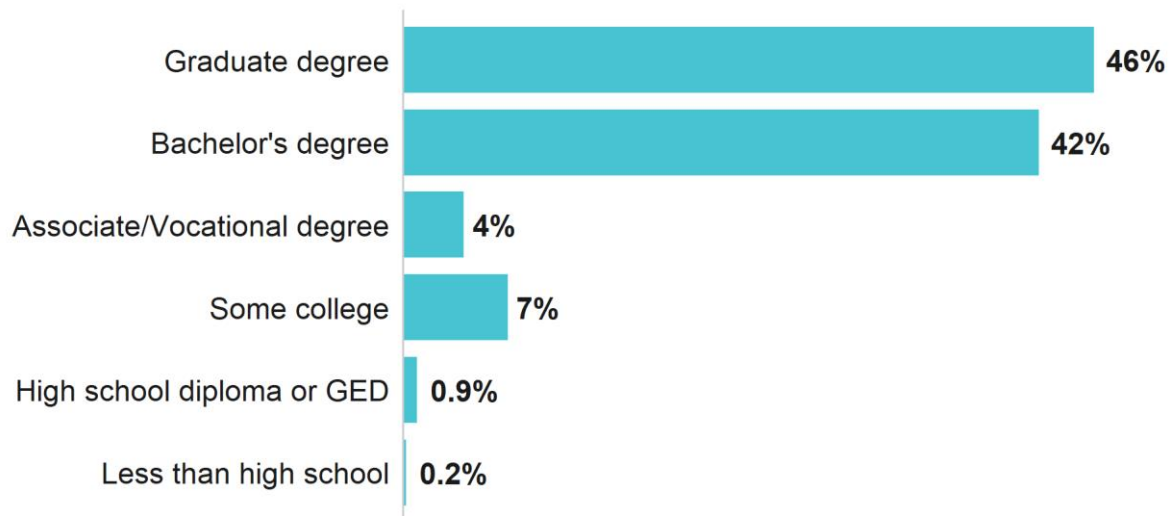


Figure B.5: Highest Level of Education, Comparison

% of Mecklenburg RESPONDENTS ages 25+ (n = 776) compared to Mecklenburg RESIDENTS ages 25+

SOURCE: U.S. Census, ACS 2011 - 2015

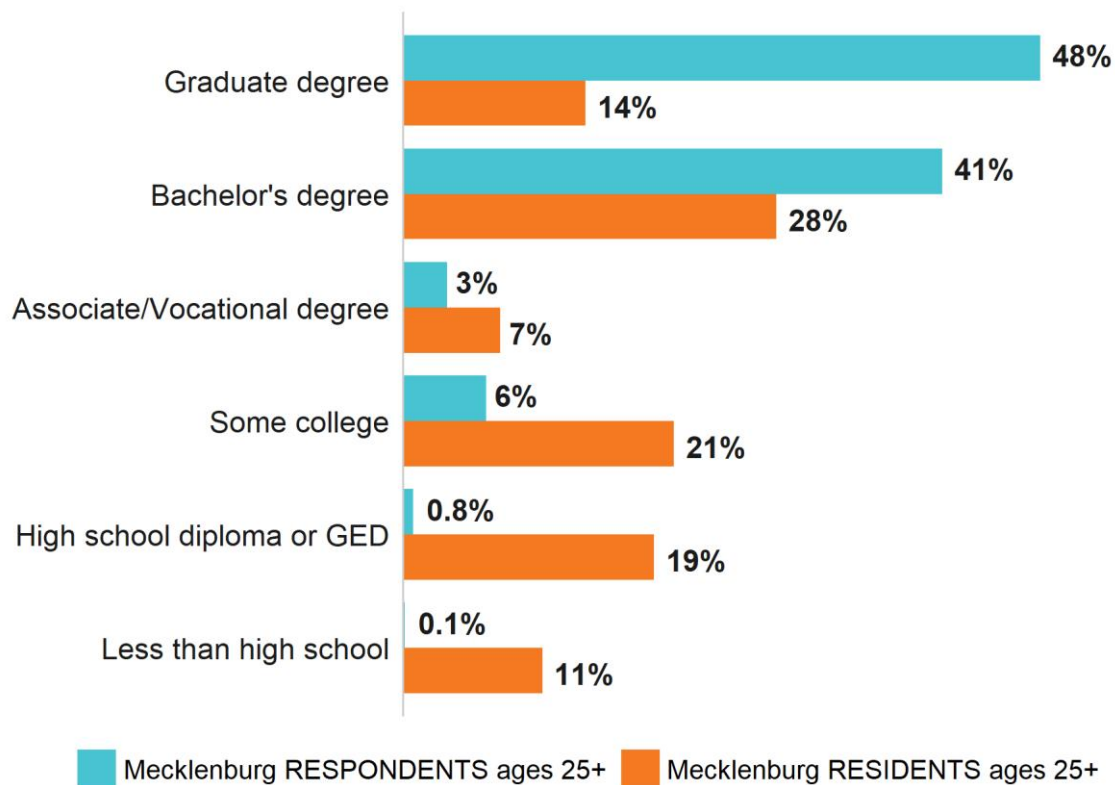


Figure B.6: How would you identify your race and/or ethnicity?

% of respondents (n = 957)

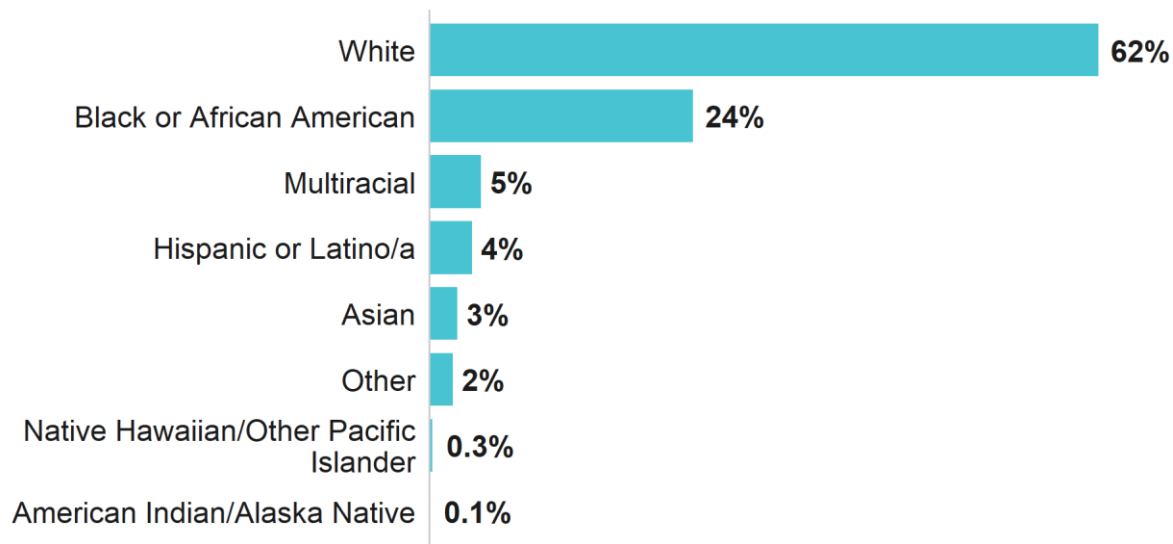


Figure B.7: Racial and/or Ethnic Identity, Comparison

% of Mecklenburg RESPONDENTS (n = 821) compared to Mecklenburg RESIDENTS

SOURCE: U.S. Census, ACS 2011 - 2015, Voting Age Population by Citizenship and Race (CVAP)

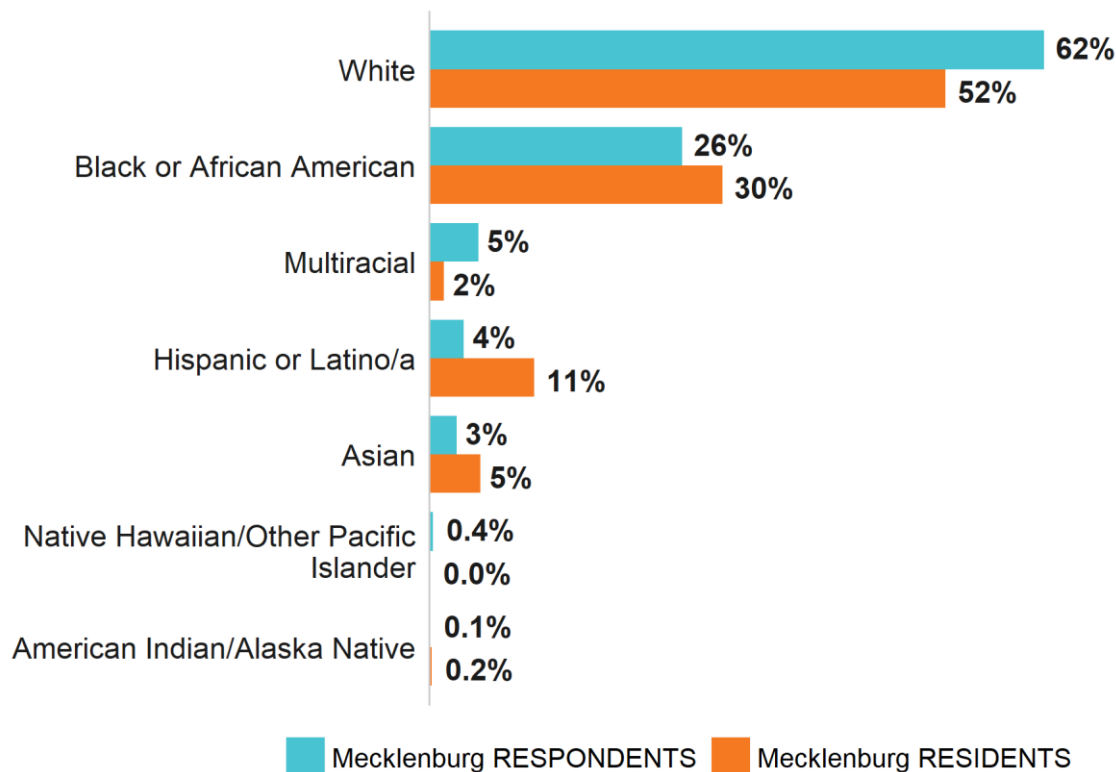


Figure B.8: Where do you currently live? Top counties:

% of respondents (n = 957)

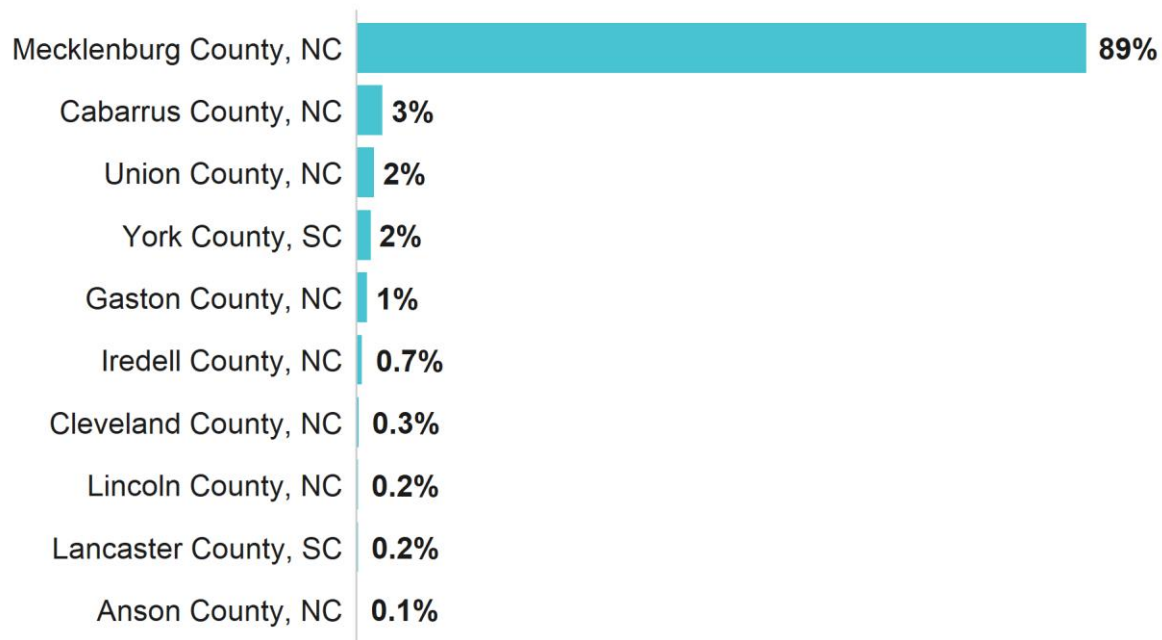


Figure B.9: Where do you currently live? Top cities:

% of respondents (n = 951)

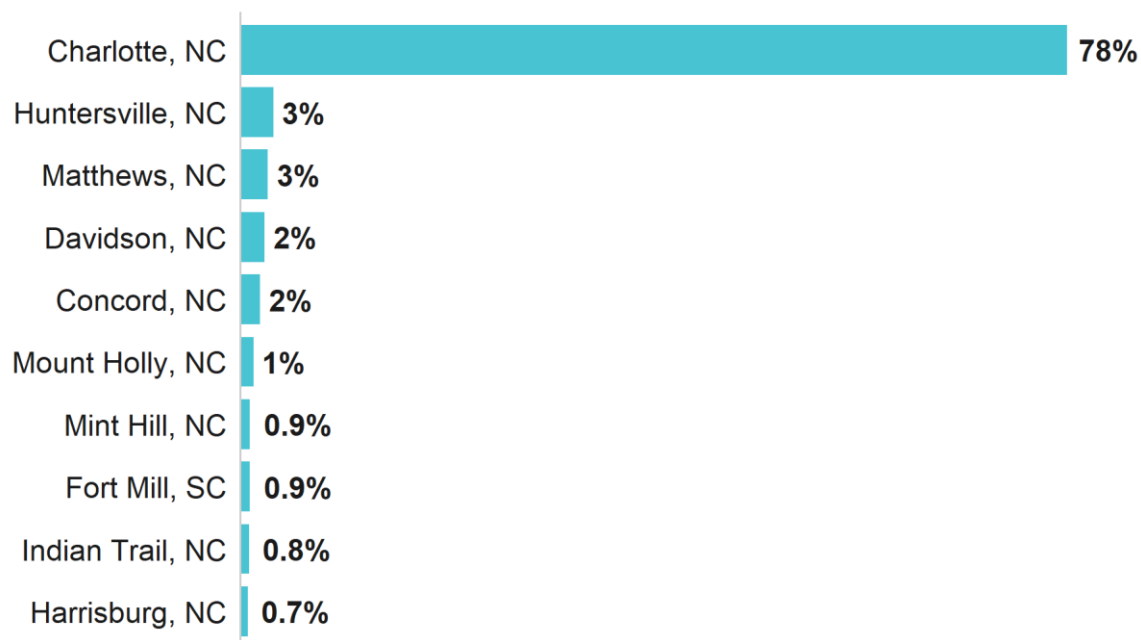
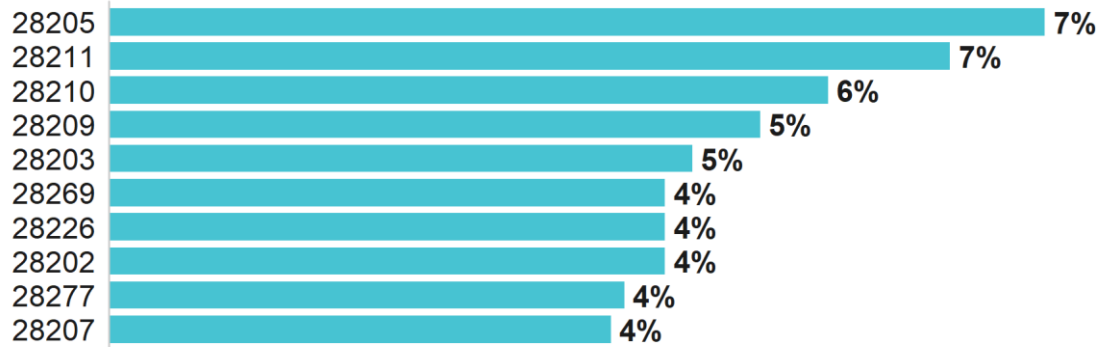


Figure B.10: Where do you currently live? Top Zip Codes:

% of respondents (n = 931)



Where Respondents LIVE

of Respondents by Zip Code

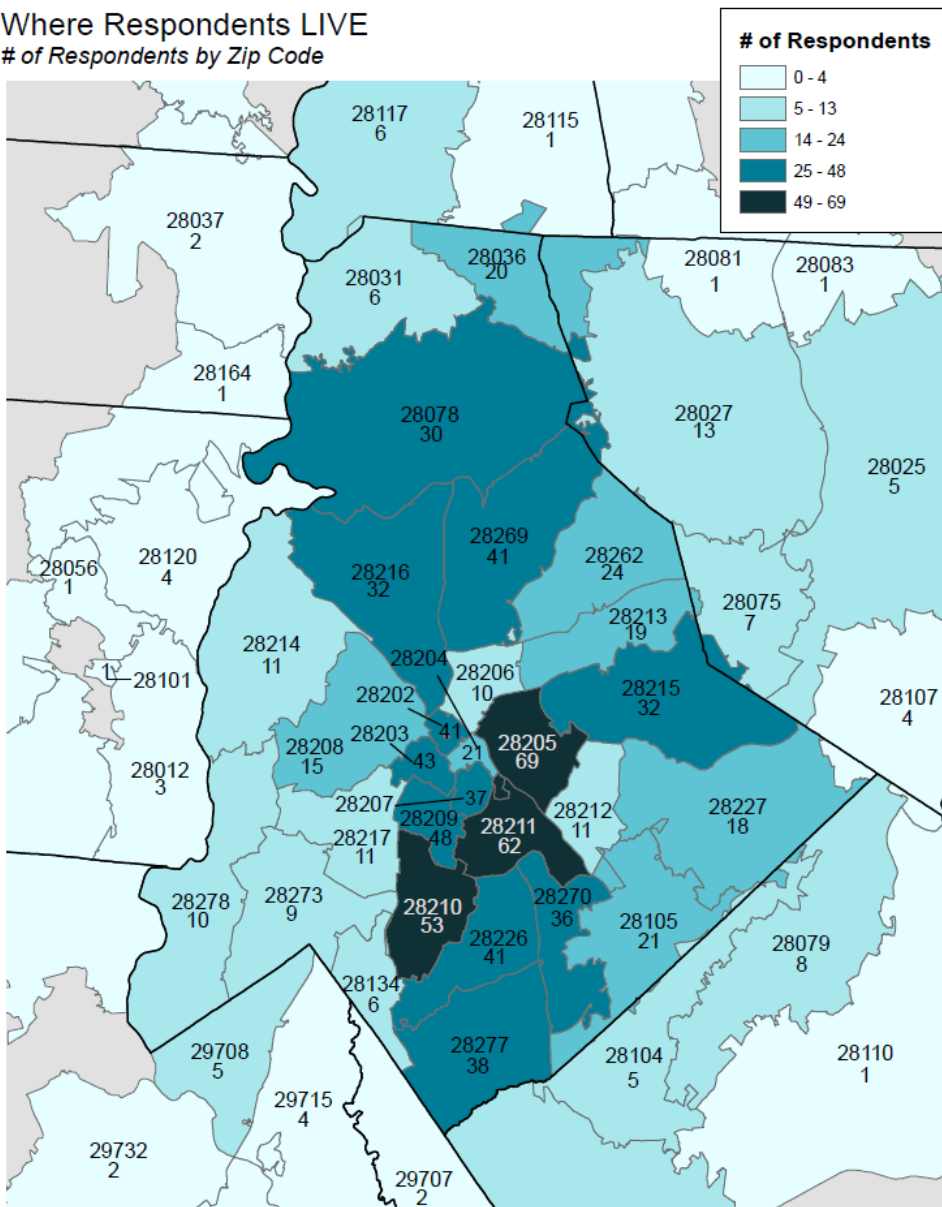


Figure B.11: About how many years have you lived in your local community?

% of respondents (n = 959) compared to National Rate

SOURCE: Pew Research Center, December, 2008, 'American Mobility. Who Moves? Who Stays Put? Where's Home?'

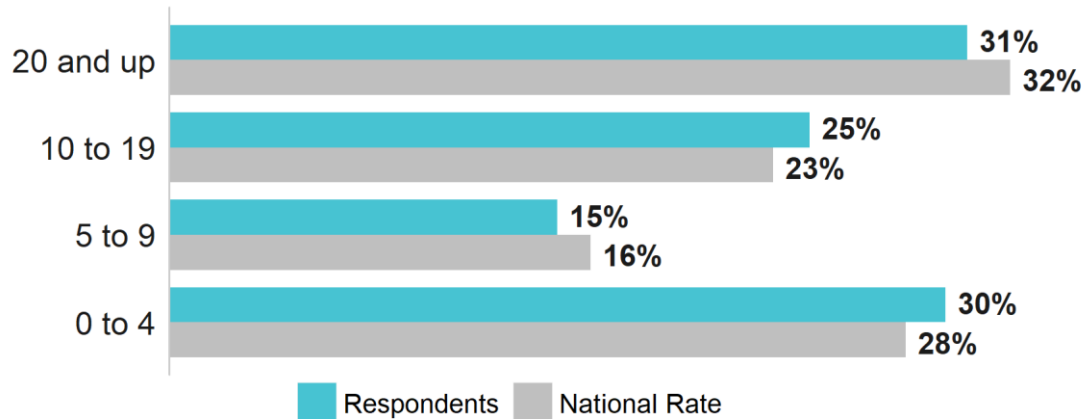


Figure B.12: Do you own or rent your primary residence?

% of respondents (n = 953)

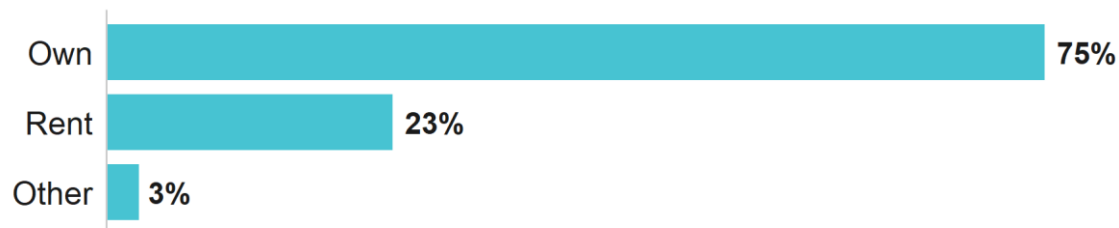


Figure B.13: Homeownership Comparison

% of Mecklenburg RESPONDENTS (n = 820) compared to Mecklenburg RESIDENTS

SOURCE: U.S. Census, ACS 2011 - 2015

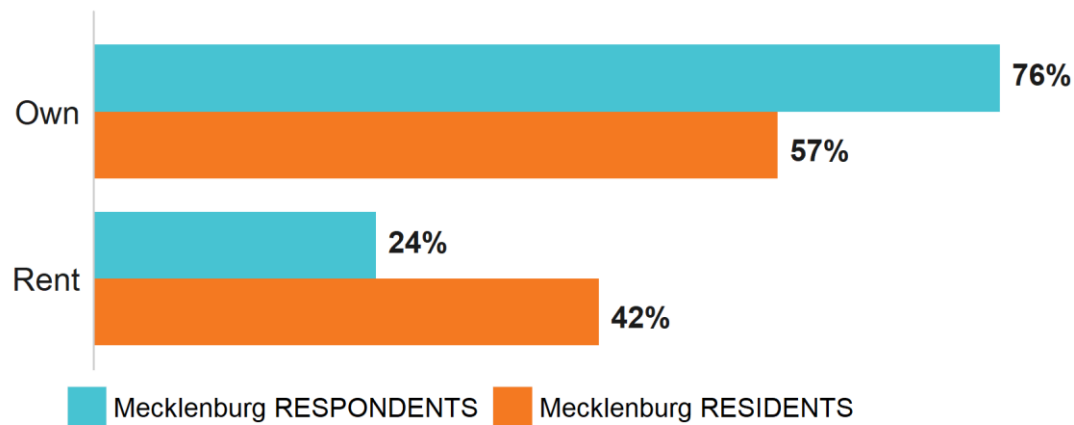
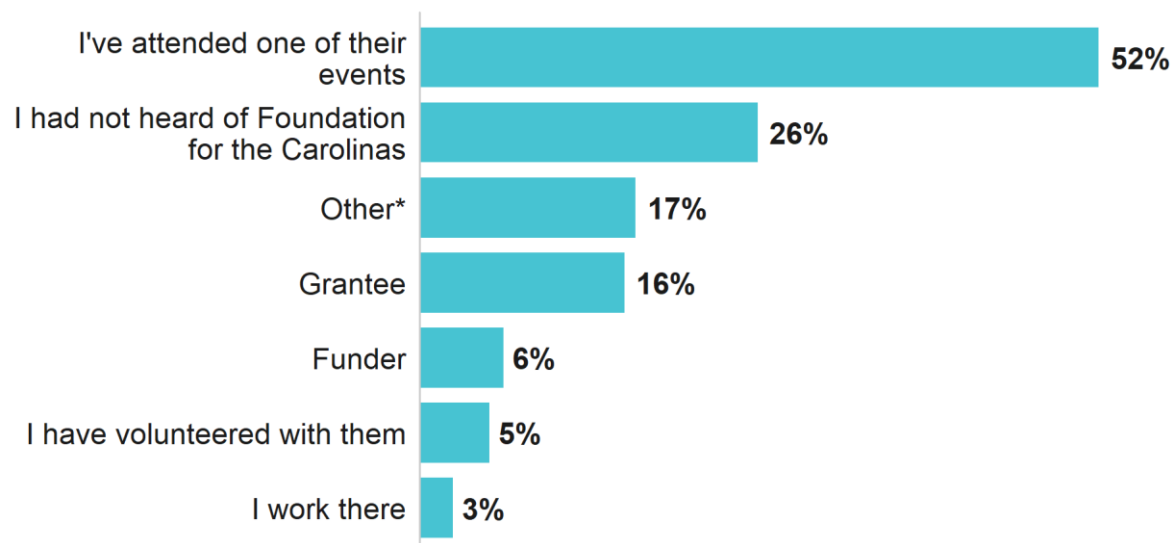


Figure B.14: What is your relationship to the Foundation for the Carolinas?

% of respondents (n = 925 // select all that apply)



*'Other' response: Heard of them (6.6%).

Civic Attitudes and Activities

Figure B.15: How much impact do you think people like you can have in making your community a better place to live?

% of respondents (n = 982) compared to National Rate

SOURCE: Pew Research Center, November, 2016, 'Civic Engagement Strongly Tied to Local News Habits'

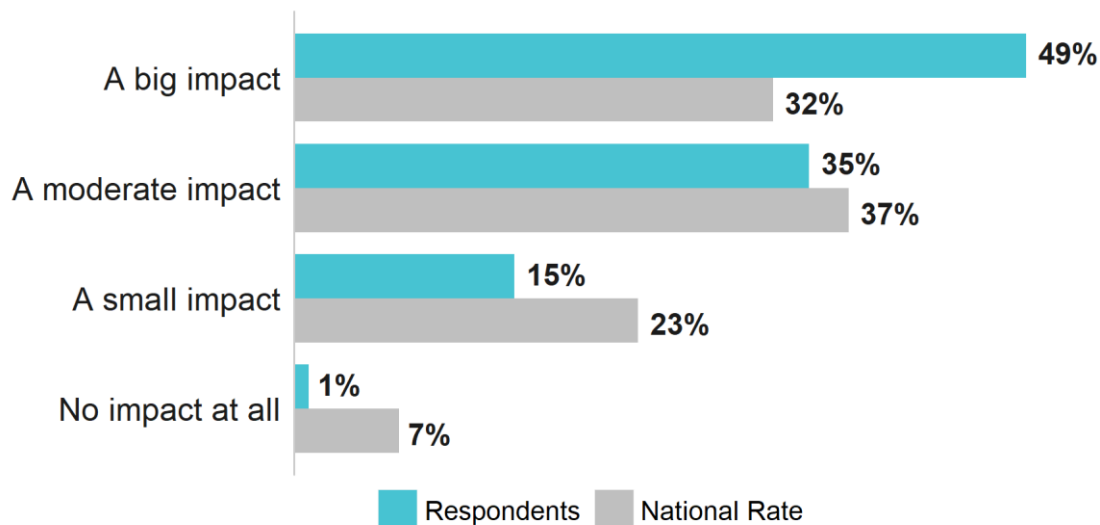


Figure B.16: In general, how attached do you feel to your local community?

% of respondents (n = 982) compared to National Rate

SOURCE: Pew Research Center, November, 2016, 'Civic Engagement Strongly Tied to Local News Habits'

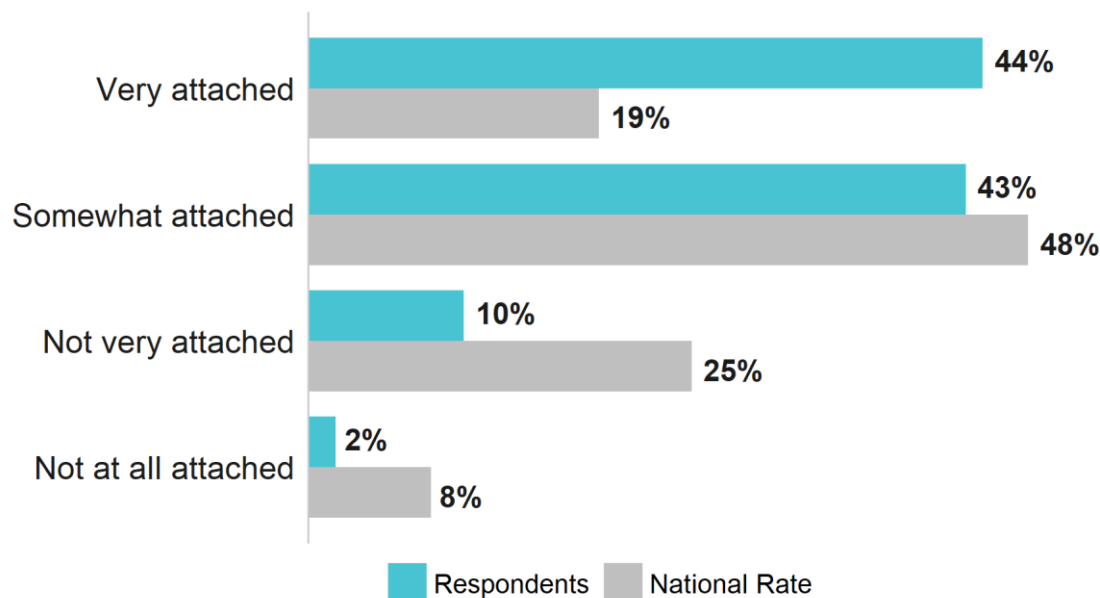
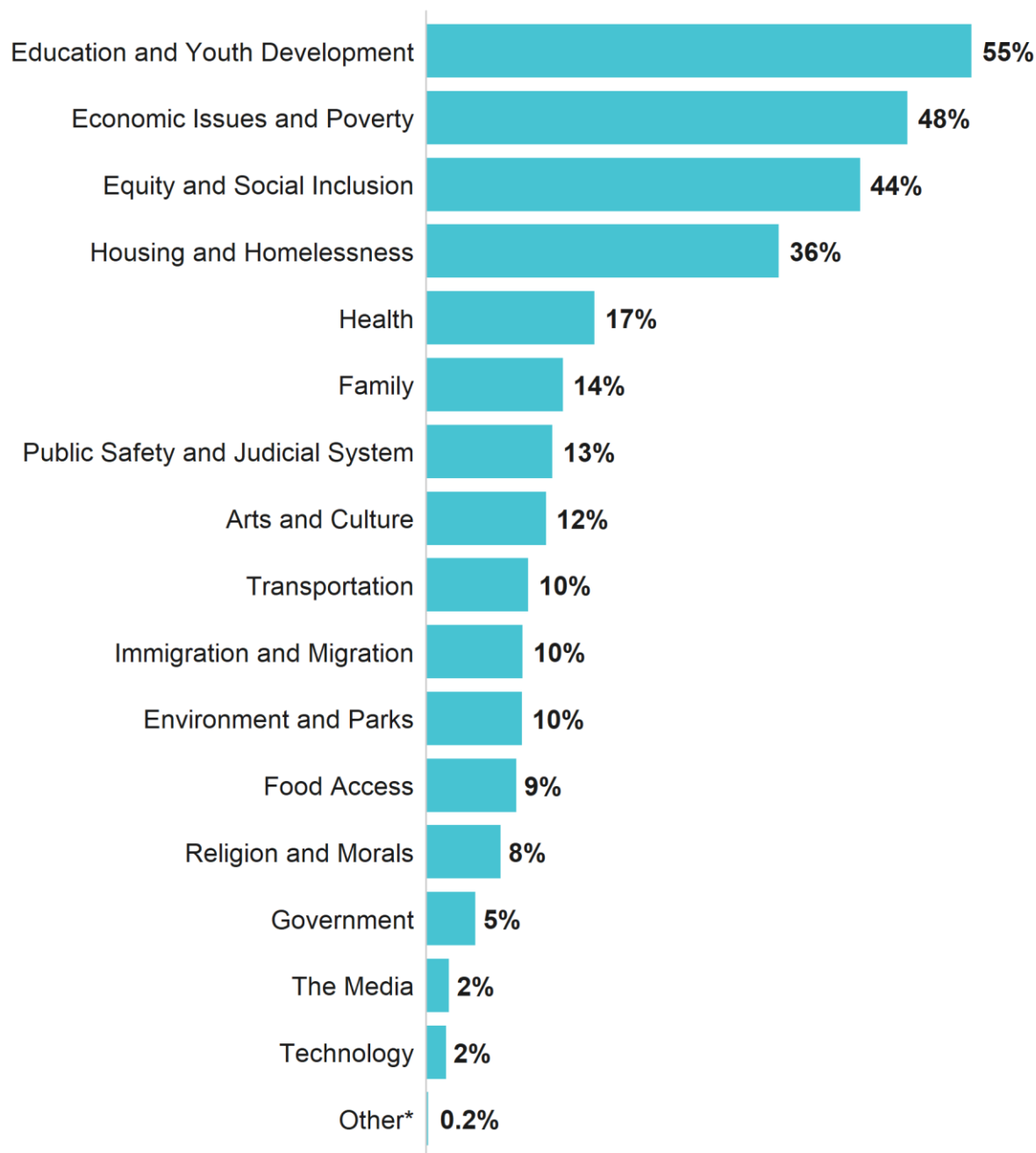


Figure B.17: Which of the following social issues are most important to you?

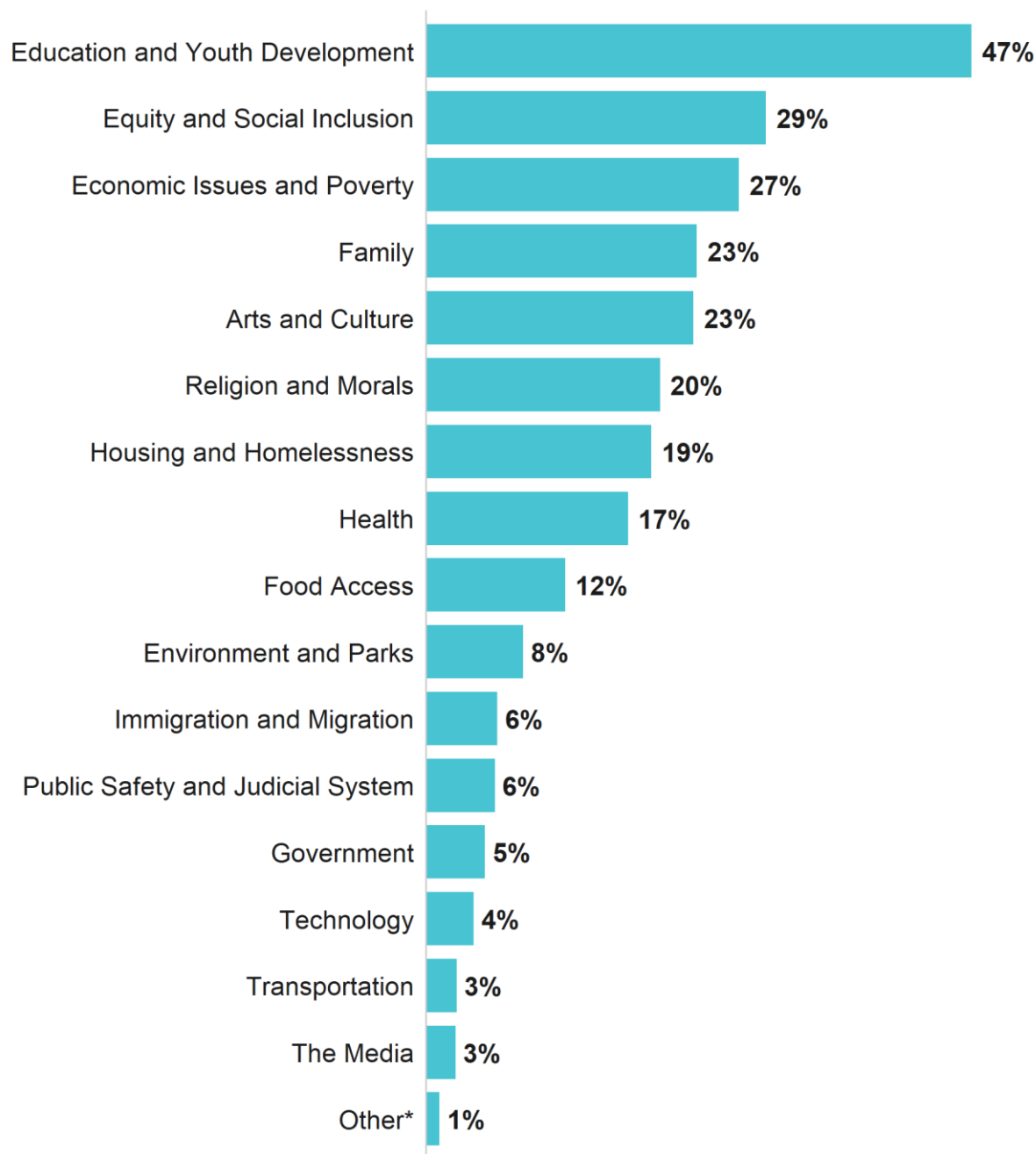
% of respondents (n = 943 // choose up to three)



*Other' responses: Collaboration (0.1%) and Community Development (0.1%).

Figure B.18: To which social issues do you PRIMARILY contribute your time, talent, and/or financial resources?

% of respondents (n = 946 // choose up to three)



*The top 3 'other' responses are: Community Engagement (0.5%), Philanthropy (0.3%), and Collaboration (0.2%).

Figure B.19: How involved are you in community and neighborhood activities where you live?

% of respondents (n = 973) compared to National Rate

SOURCE: Pew Research Center, December, 2008, 'American Mobility. Who Moves? Who Stays Put? Where's Home?'

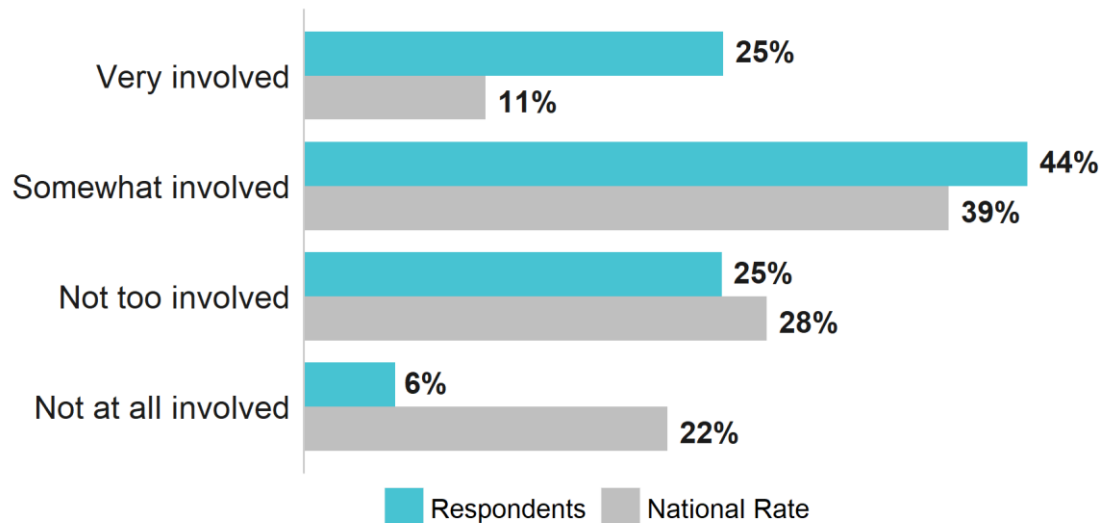


Figure B.20: Engagement Activities in the Past Year, Comparison

% of respondents (n = 973) compared to National Rate

SOURCE: U.S. Census, Current Population Survey, September 2015: Volunteer Supplement

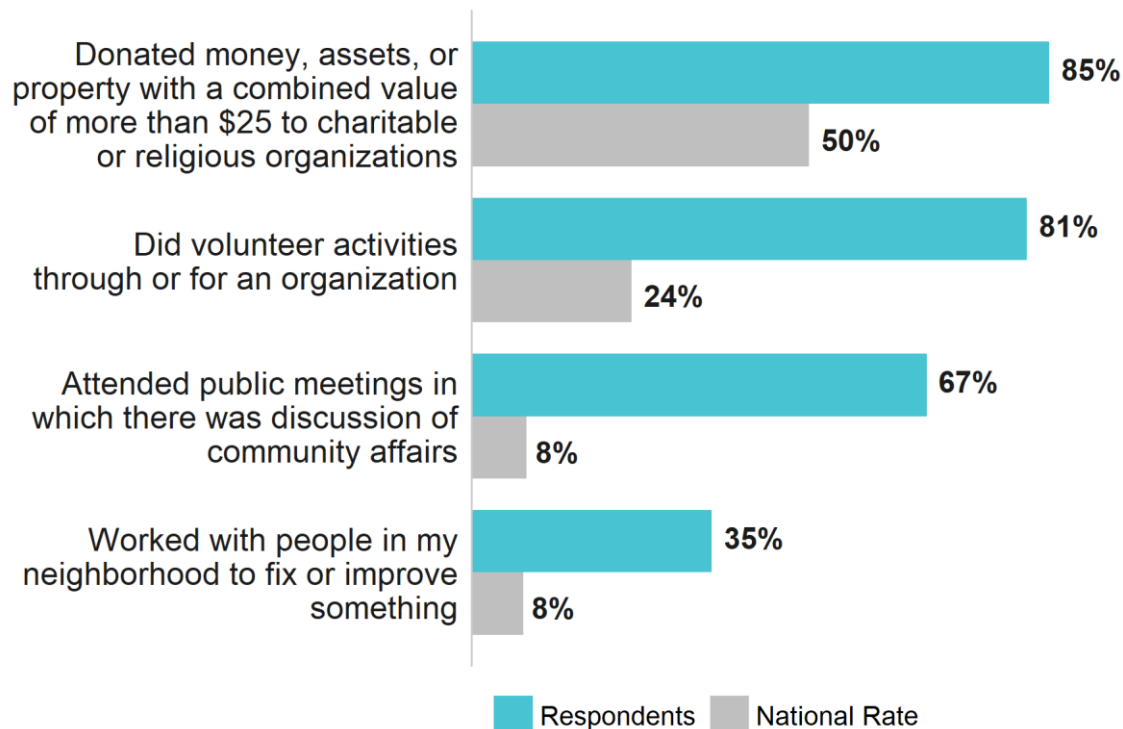


Figure B.21: How often do you vote in local elections, such as for mayor or a school board?

% of respondents (n = 975)

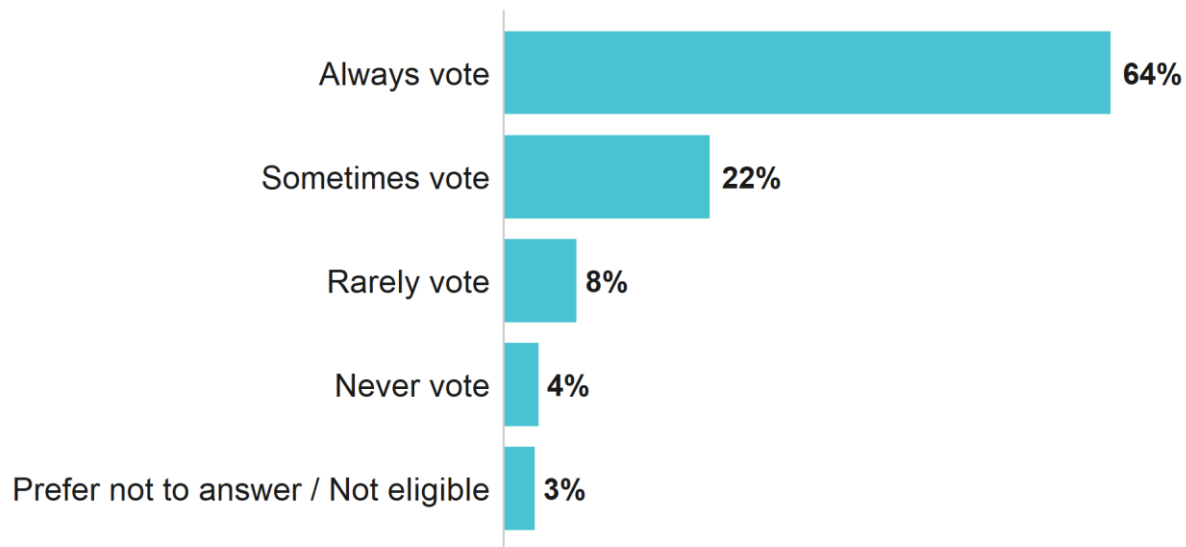
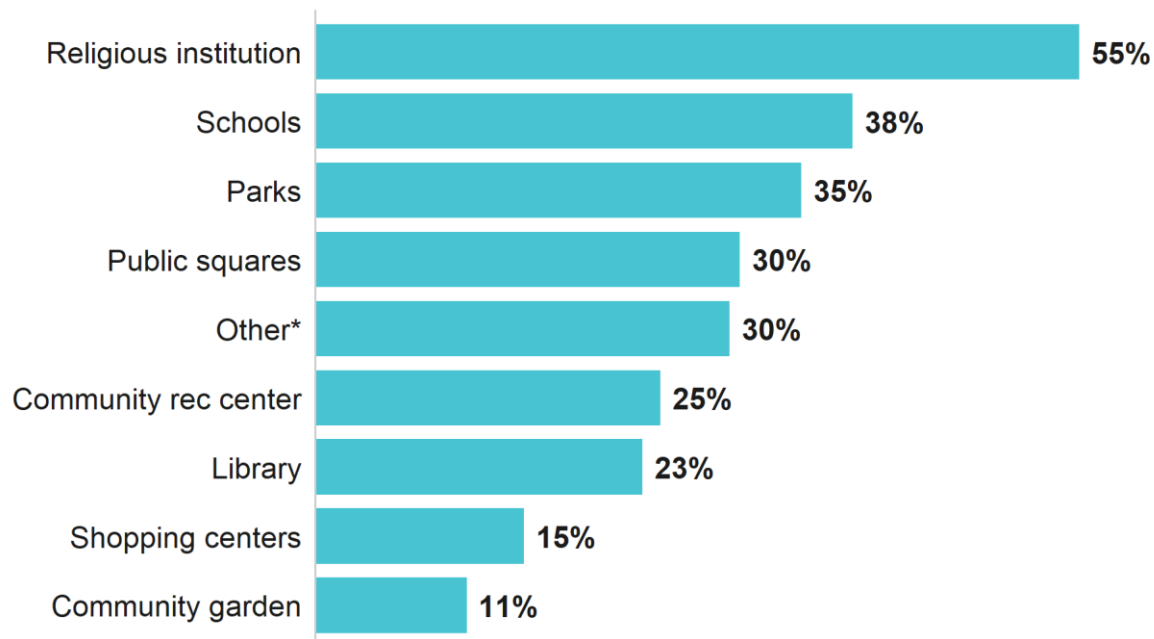


Figure B.22: Where do you like to connect with others?

% of respondents (n = 933 // select all that apply)



*The top 3 'other' responses are: Community Events and Meetings (7.9%), Restaurants (6.5%), and Work (5.9%).

Figures B.23 through B.29 present results on how often respondents get information about their local community from each of the following sources, whether online or offline.

SOURCE of comparison data: Pew Research Center, November, 2016, 'Civic Engagement Strongly Tied to Local News Habits'

Figure B.23: Local Newspaper

% of respondents (n = 857) compared to National Rate

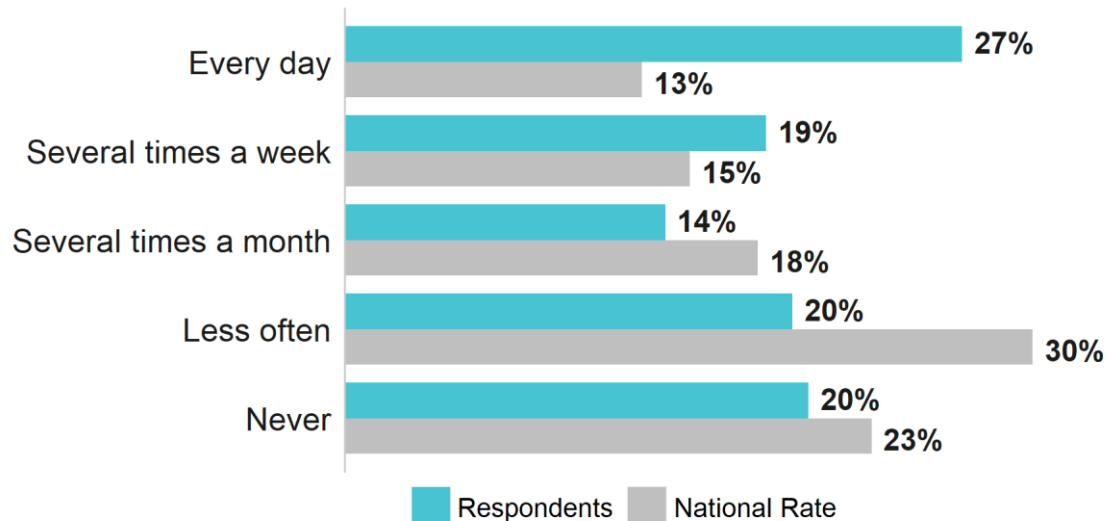


Figure B.24: Local television news

% of respondents (n = 851) compared to National Rate

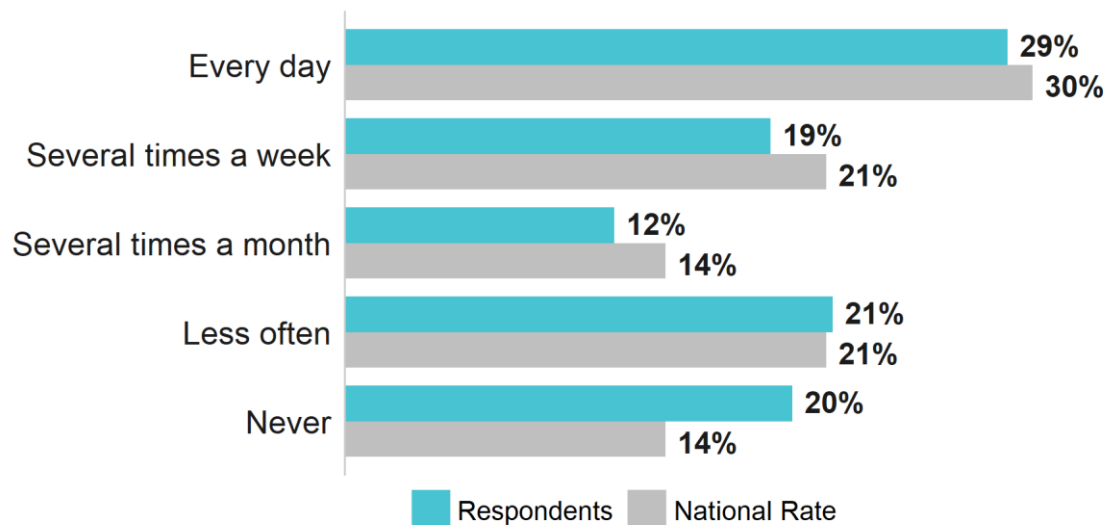


Figure B.25: Local radio

% of respondents (n = 844) compared to National Rate

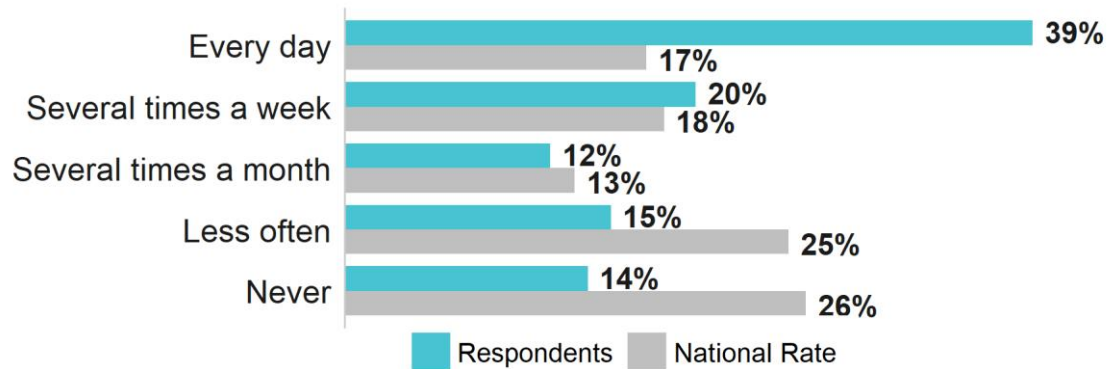


Figure B.26: A blog about your local community

% of respondents (n = 776) compared to National Rate

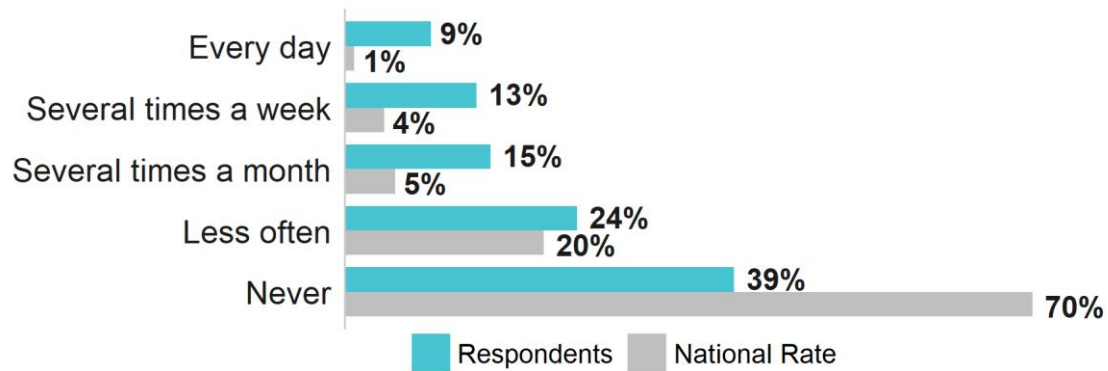


Figure B.27: A person or organization you follow on a social networking site

% of respondents (n = 851) compared to National Rate

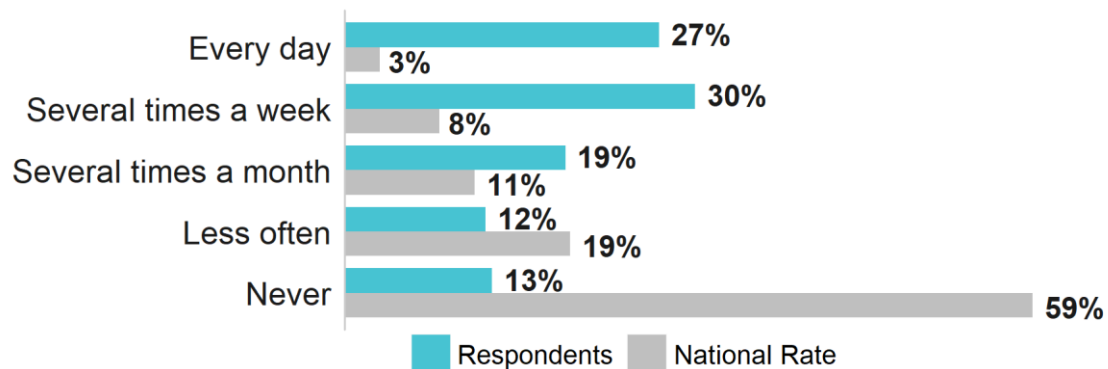


Figure B.28: A newsletter or e-mail listserv about your local community

% of respondents (n = 840) compared to National Rate

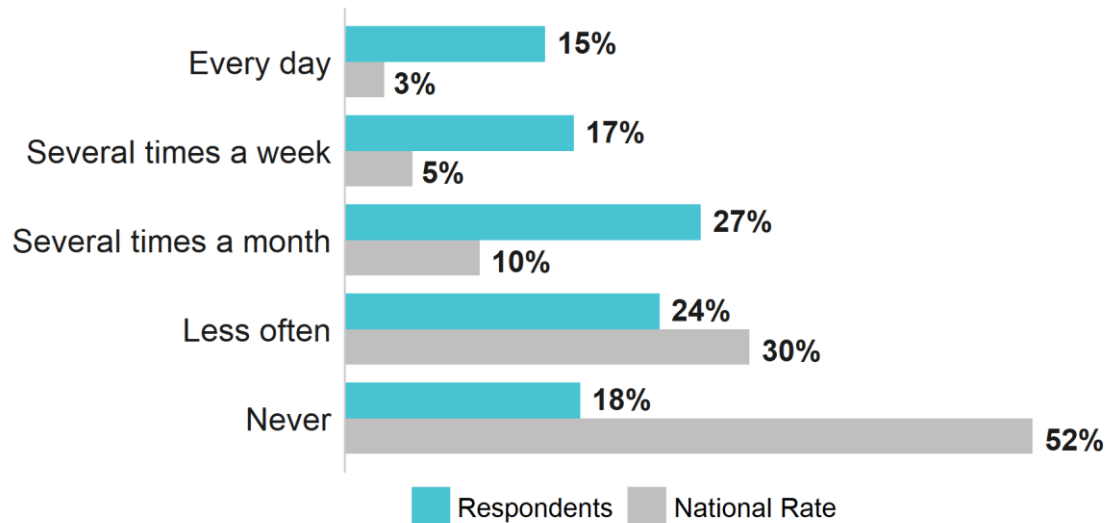
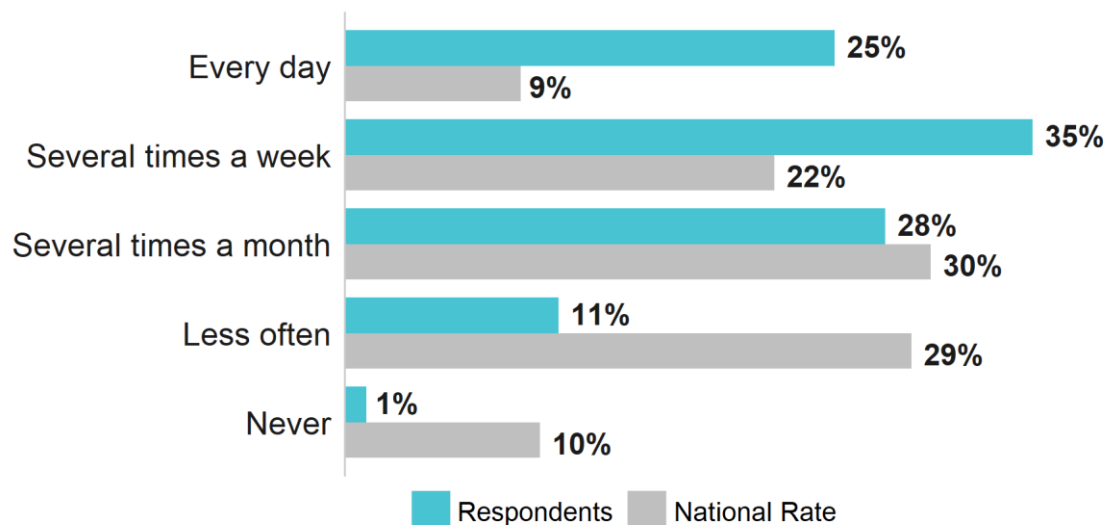


Figure B.29: Word of mouth from friends, family, co-workers and neighbors

% of respondents (n = 886) compared to National Rate



Section 2: Conversation Dynamics, Topics, and Impact

Conversation Dynamics and Topics

Figure B.30: Which best describes your MOST IMPORTANT reason(s) for participating in On the Table?

% of respondents (n = 1,010 // select all that apply)

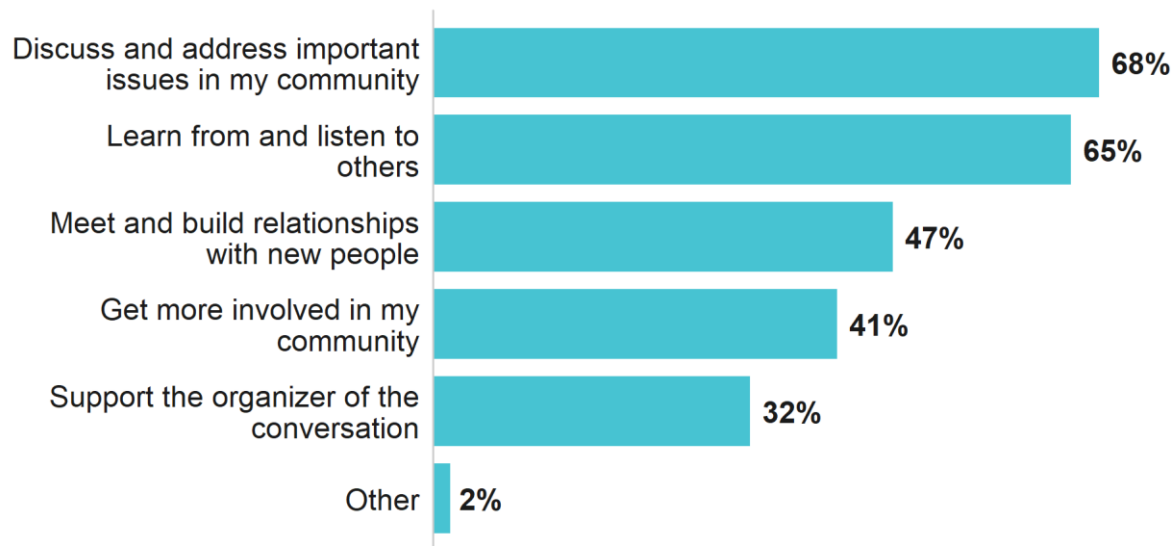


Figure B.31: 'The other people at my conversation were ...'

% of respondents (n = 1,007)

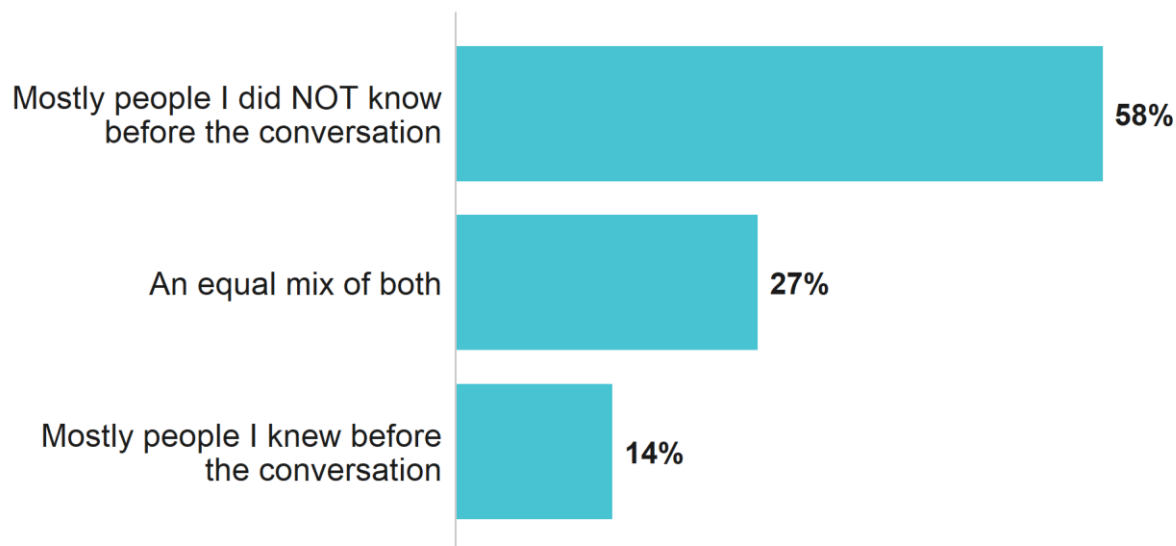


Figure B.32: Where did your conversation take place? Top counties:

% of respondents (n = 992)

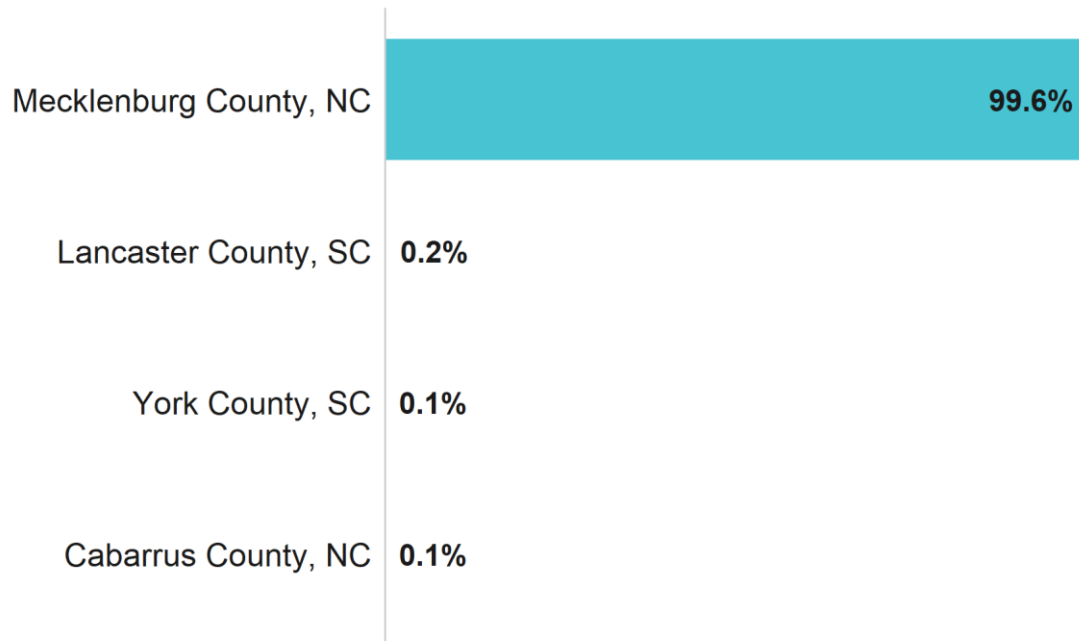


Figure B.33: Where did your conversation take place? Top cities:

% of respondents (n = 988)

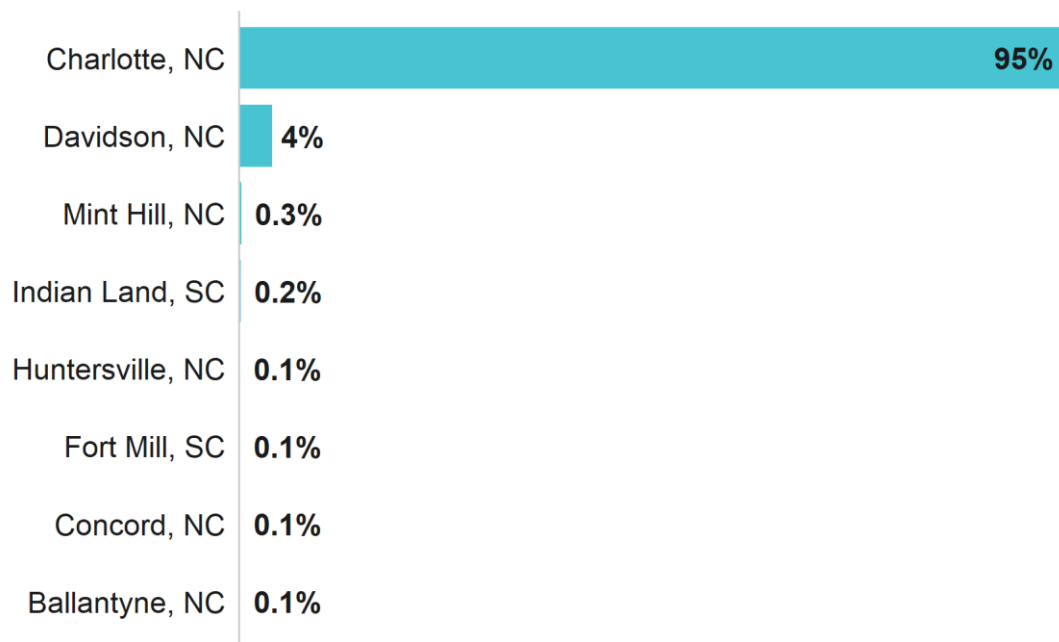


Figure B.34: Where did your conversation take place? Top ZIP codes:

% of respondents (n = 603)



Where Respondents Attended On The Table Conversations

of Respondents by Zip Code

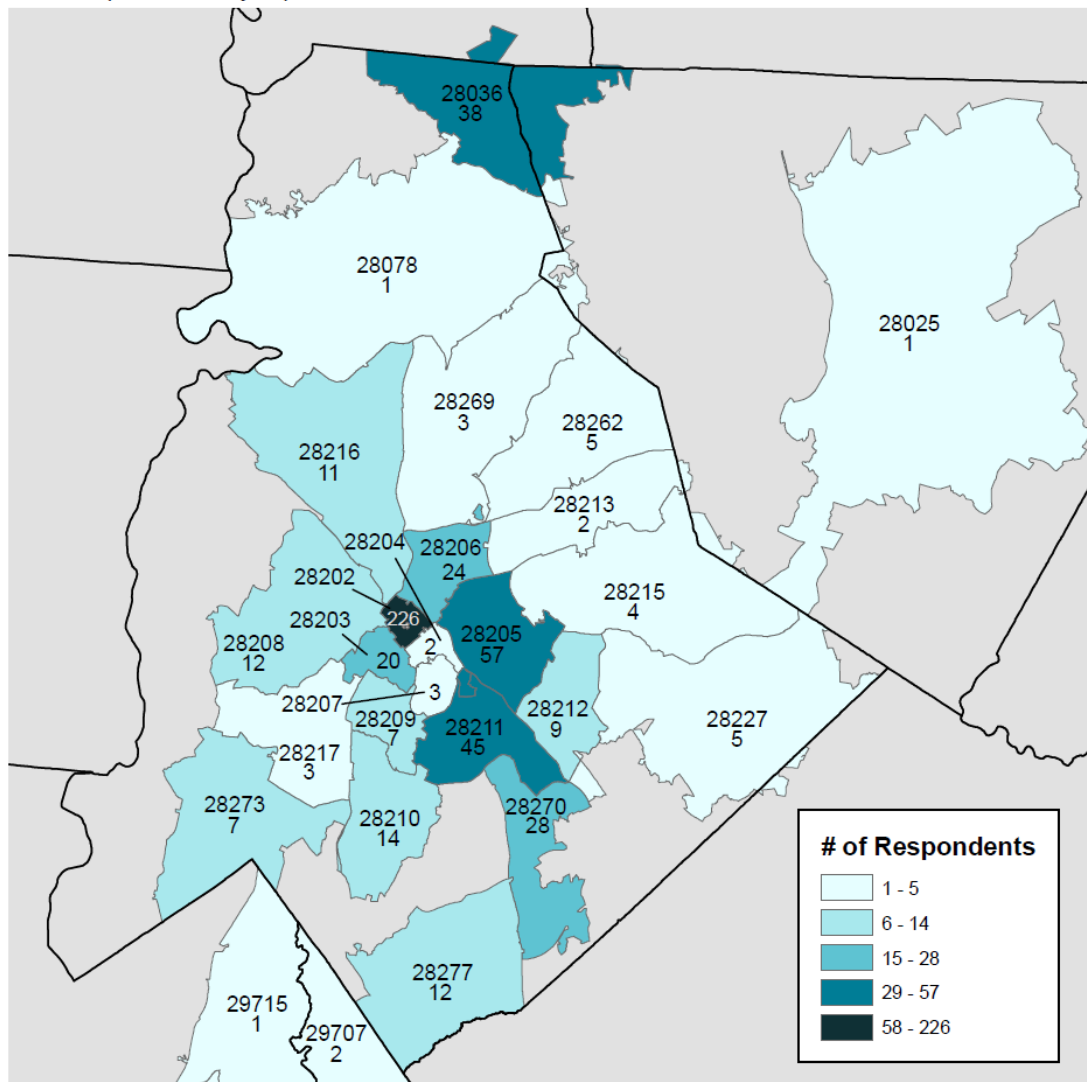
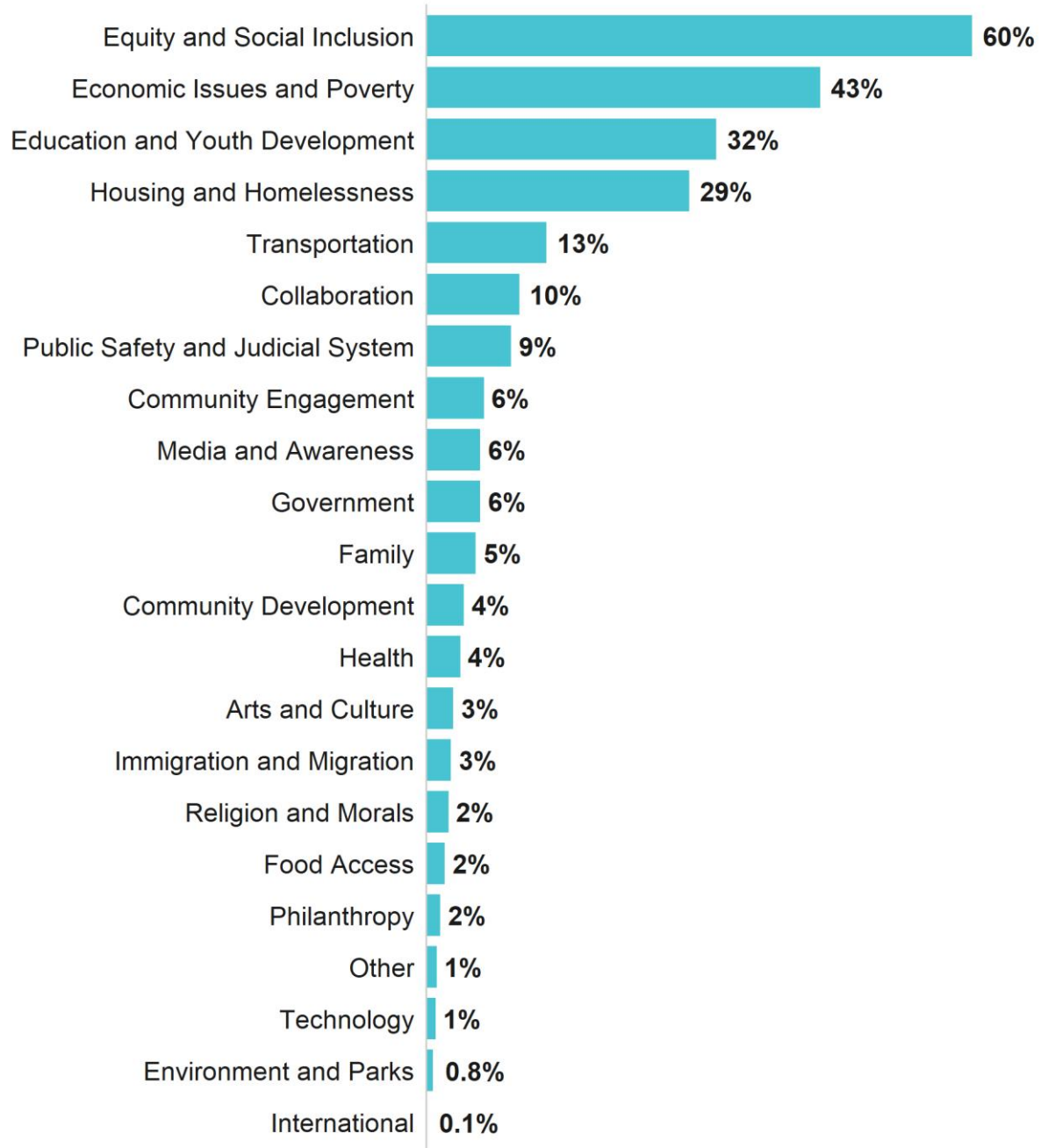


Figure B.35: Issues Raised During the Conversation

% of respondents (n = 768)



Impact of the Conversation

Figure B.36: How did you connect with others at your conversation(s)?

% of respondents (n = 982 // select all that apply)

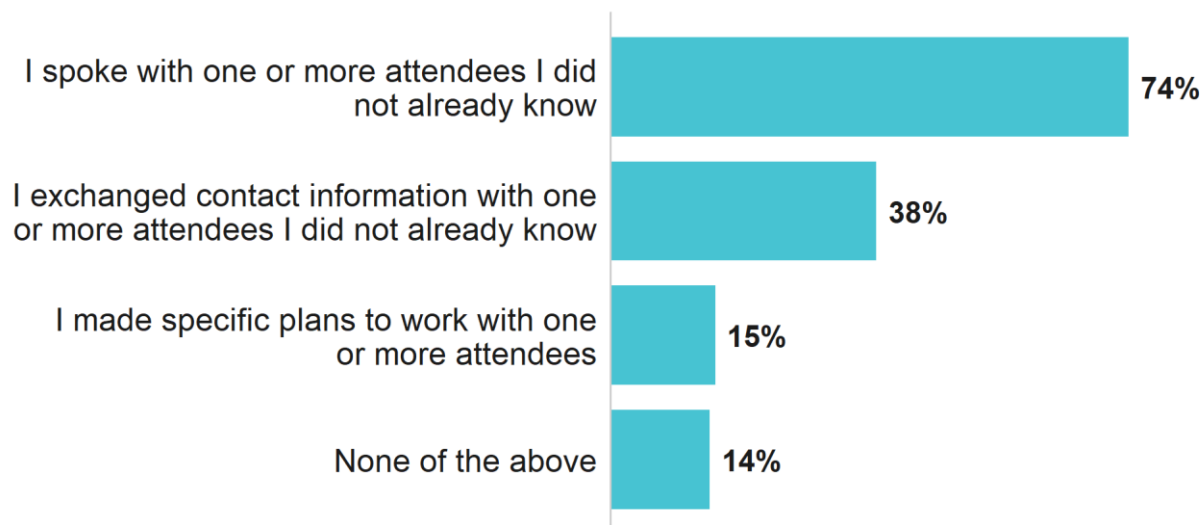


Figure B.37: After participating in your conversation(s), to what extent do you better understand how you, personally, can help address the issues facing your community?

% of respondents (n = 991)

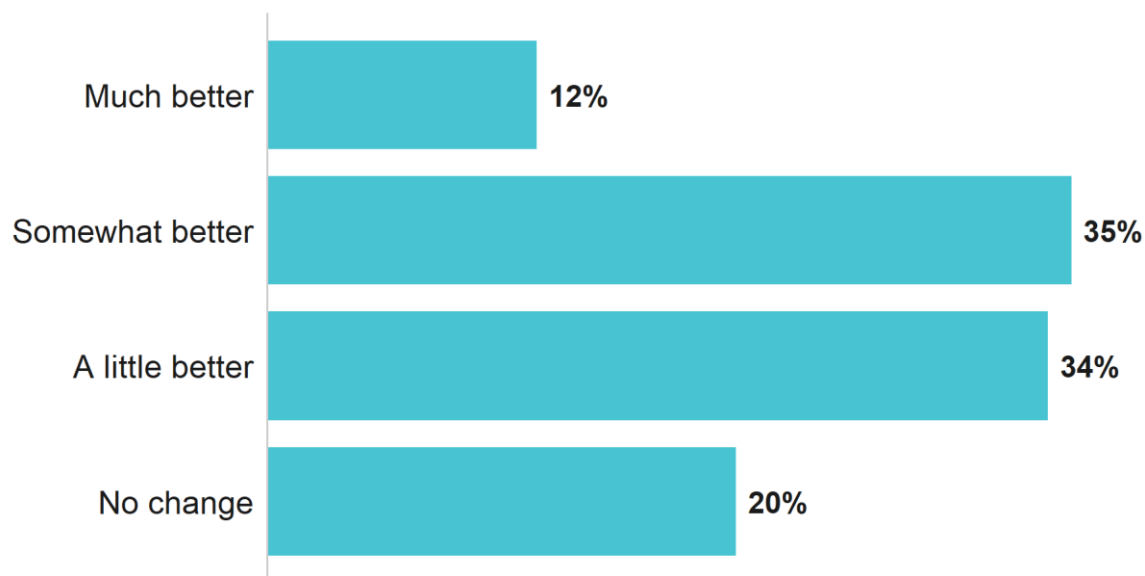


Figure B.38: How likely are you to take specific actions or next steps regarding an issue or solution discussed?

% of respondents (n = 985)

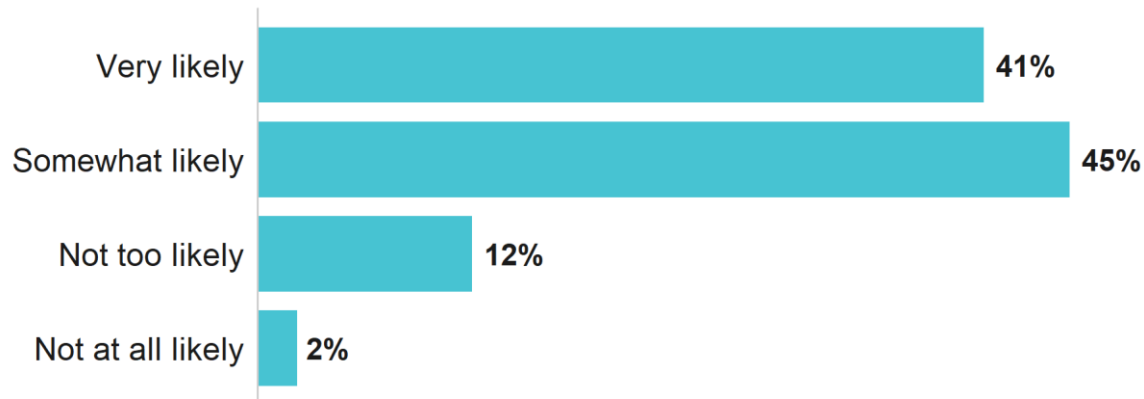
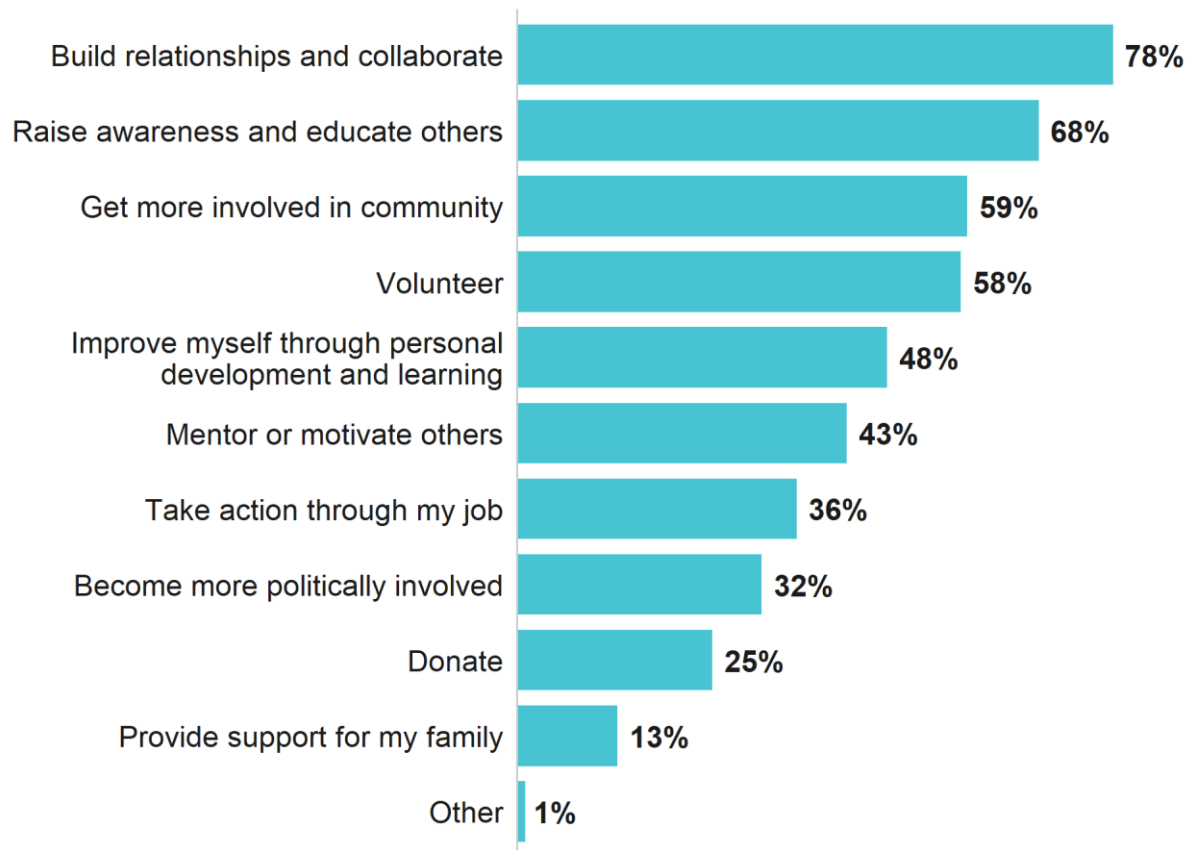


Figure B.39: Actions or next steps respondents are likely to take regarding an issue or solution discussed

% of respondents (n = 838 // select all that apply)



Section 3: Custom Questions

Figure B.40: To what extent did you learn about connections that people have within and across their communities during your On the Table experience?

% of respondents (n = 962)

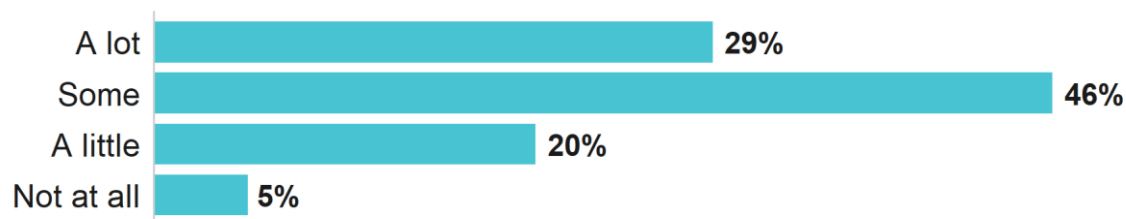


Figure B.41: As a result of your On the Table conversation, how might you help to build more connection in your community?

% of respondents (n = 580)

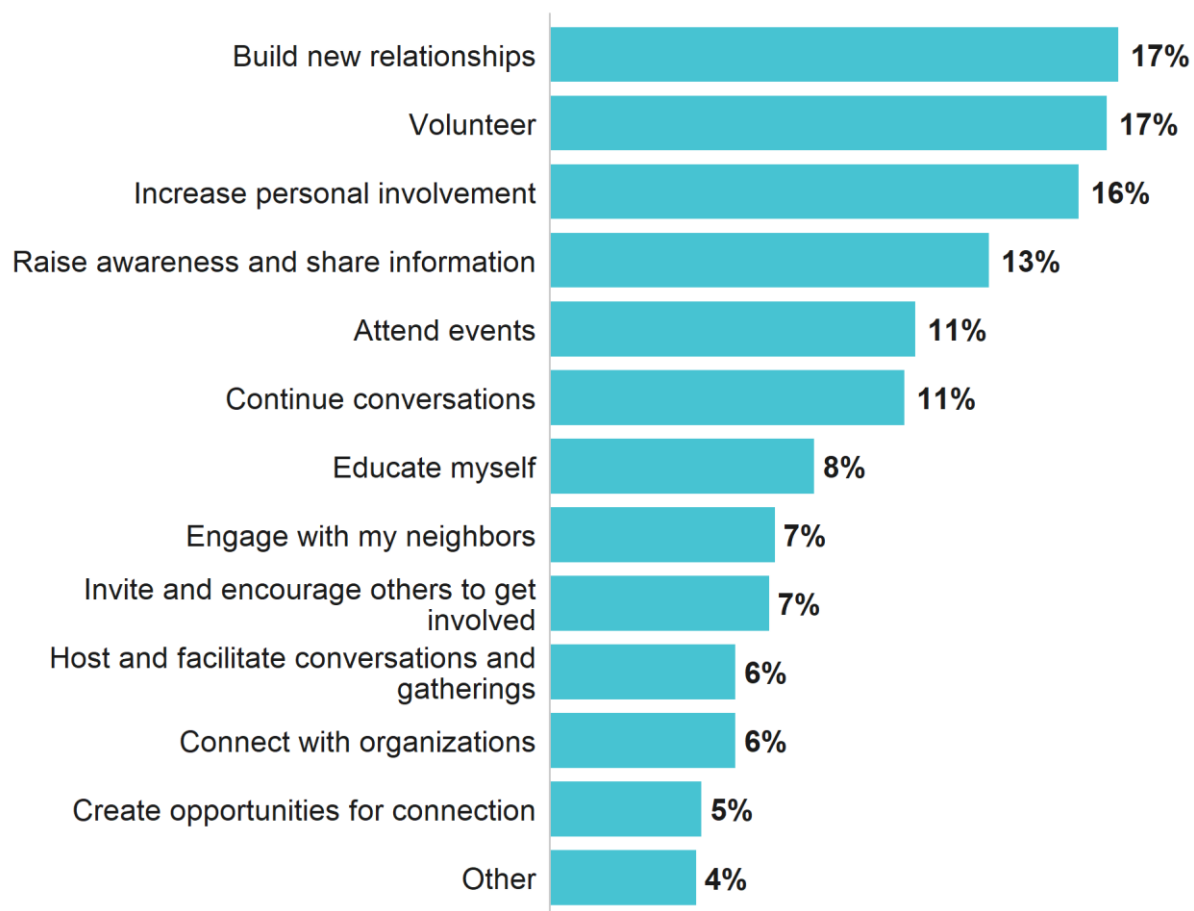


Figure B.42: 'I feel engaged with and connected to the history of Charlotte.'

% of respondents (n = 958)



Figure B.43: What should be Charlotte's TOP priority for building a stronger, more connected community over the next year?

% of respondents (n = 776)

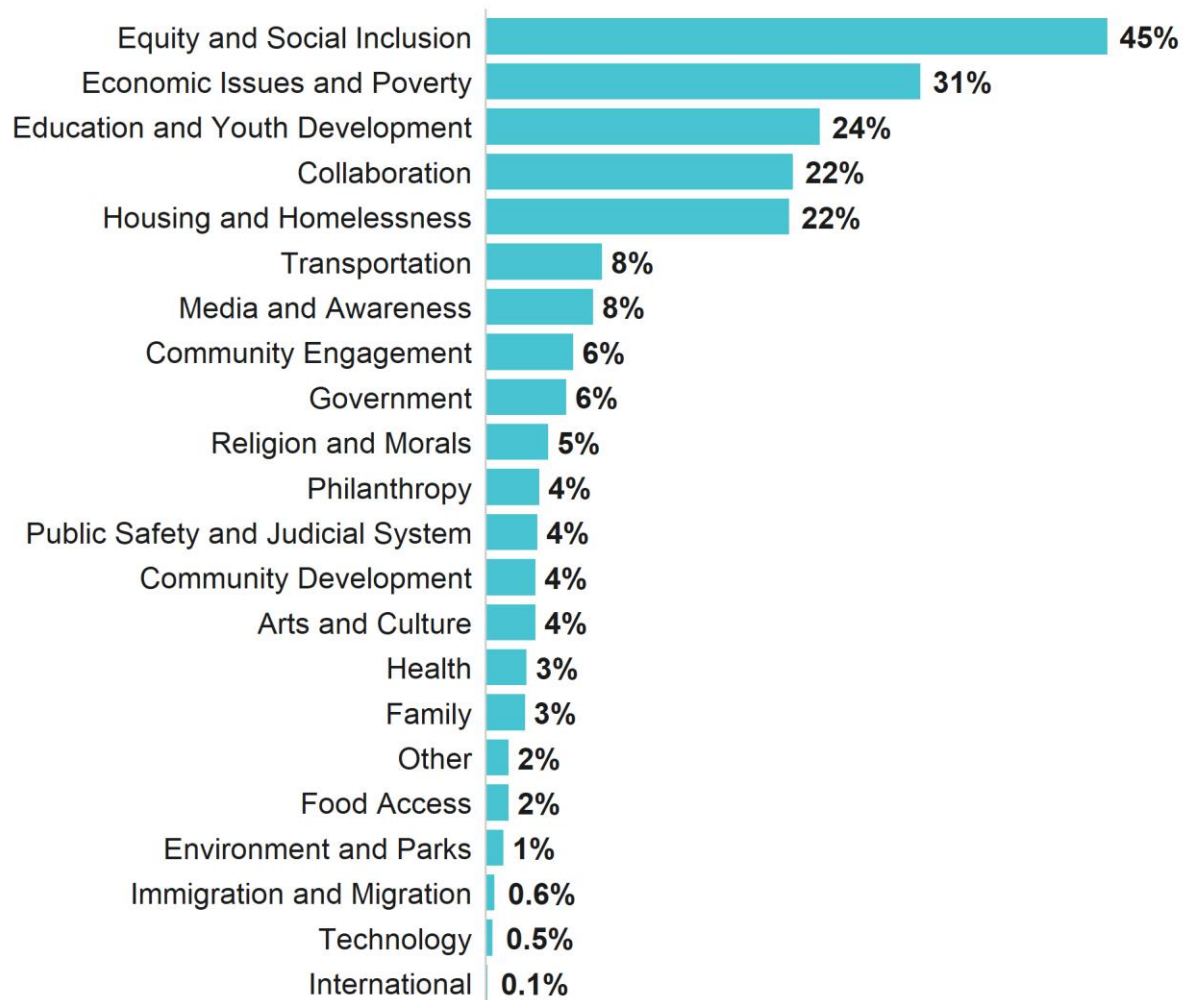
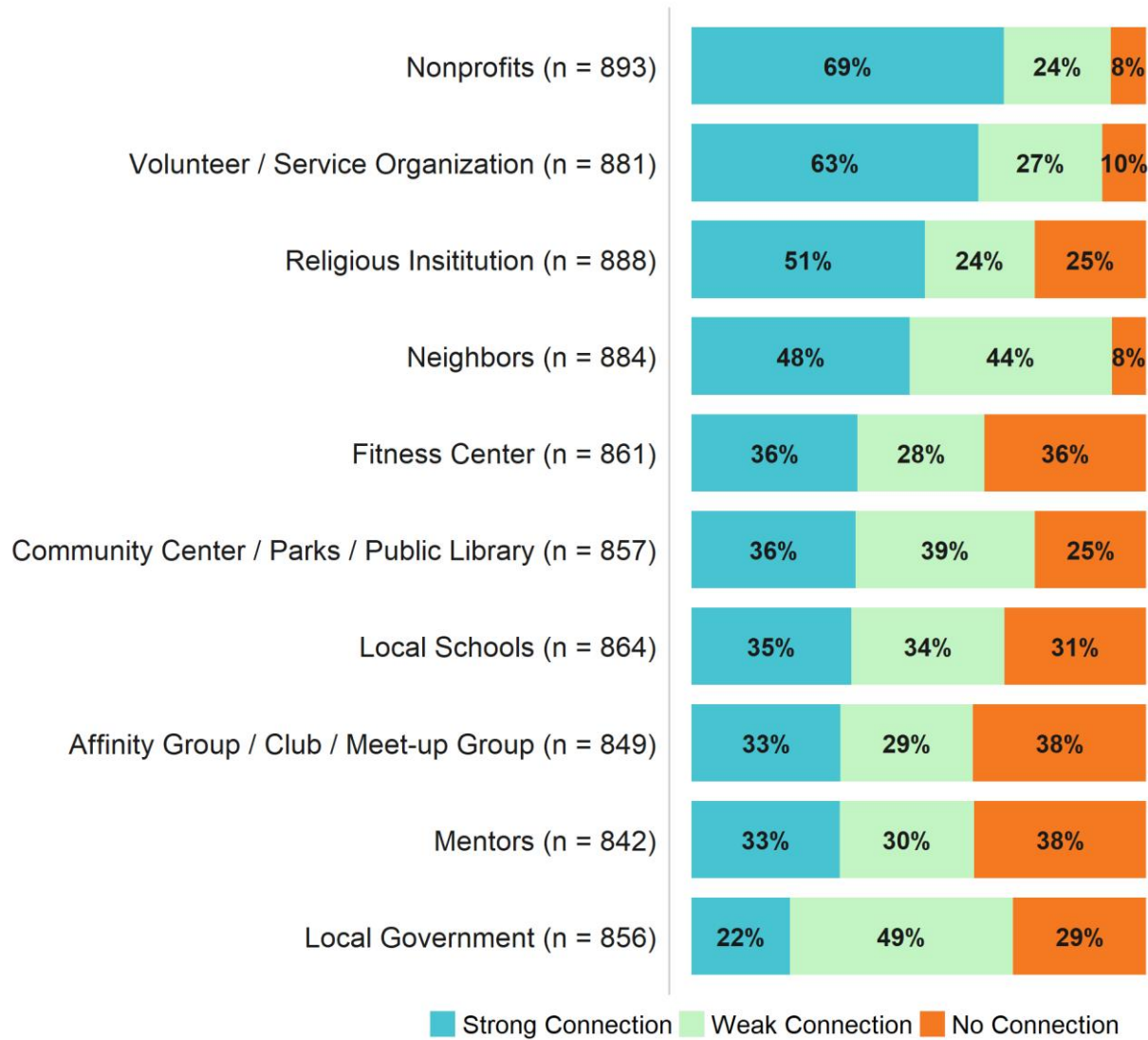


Figure 44: What is your level of connection with the following groups, organizations, and institutions?

% of respondents



Appendix C: Building Connections Codebook – Defined

Attend Events

An attend events code refers to respondents' plans to attend events within their community, including neighborhood meetings and events, public forums, city council meetings, volunteering events, and more discussion-based meetings like *On The Table*.

Build New Relationships

A build new relationships code reflects respondents' desire to reach out and form new relationships with other community members. Within this code, respondents mentioned creating regular meeting groups, bringing people together to make new connections, getting out of their communities and introducing themselves to people outside their usual contacts, and making intentional efforts to meet people in other communities and neighborhoods whom they do not already know.

Connect with Organizations

A connect with organizations code refers to responses that mention researching and connecting with organizations, coordinating partnerships between organizations, and supporting non-profit organizations that engage with and work to improve the community.

Continue Conversations

A continue conversations code refers to responses that mentioned continuing the conversations that were started at *On The Table* events, with particular emphasis on the importance of having positive and open public dialogues.

Create Opportunities for Connection

A create opportunities for connection code refers to respondents who plan to create programs, organizations, or events that focus on increasing connections between community members.

Educate Myself

An educate myself code refers to responses that mention a desire to learn more about Charlotte's communities, to gain knowledge about local organizations and opportunities, to listen more and speak less during conversations, and to educate one's self in order to be able to contribute to the community more effectively.

Engage with My Neighbors

An engage with my neighbors code refers to respondents who plan to speak with their neighbors more often, to participate in neighborhood activities, and to organize their neighbors to pursue change.

Host and Facilitate Conversations and Gatherings

A host and facilitate conversations and gatherings code refers to the respondents who proposed organizing, planning, facilitating, and hosting conversations and gatherings that are modeled after *On The Table* conversations. Respondents often mentioned organizing these conversations with the particular intent of bringing together diverse groups of people from different communities.

Increase Personal Involvement

An increase personal involvement code refers to respondents who plan to increase their involvement in community affairs by participating more often in non-profit efforts, politics, advocacy, community activities, cultural events, and volunteering.



Invite and Encourage Others to Get Involved

An invite and encourage others to get involved code reflects respondents' intent to inspire, motivate, and encourage others to get more involved in their community. Often this involves inviting others to attend events, to collaborate on projects, and to reach out to friends and neighbors who do not normally participate in community events.

Raise Awareness and Share Information

A raise awareness and share information code refers to responses that mention spreading the word about community events, raising awareness about issues, speaking up more often, and sharing information with friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers about ideas, policies, activities, and opportunities in the local community.

Volunteer

A volunteer code refers to respondents who intend to volunteer more often with local community organizations. Respondents often mentioned specific community issues they would like to address while volunteering and researching volunteer opportunities.



Appendix D: Issues Codebook – Defined

Arts and Culture

An arts and culture code may refer to art initiatives such as art for social change as well as public art and art infrastructure, or it may acknowledge culture through cultural institutions (such as historic buildings) and city events and activities (such as festivals) as well as through opportunities for ethnic cultural awareness.

Collaboration

A collaboration code refers to working together and building relationships to create partnerships and expand networks. It may function at the community or individual level and often involves crossing divides and building bridges while working toward collective impact. Sharing resources and holding dialogues/conversations are other indicators of collaboration.

Community Development

A community development code refers to identifying community assets and building up the community, particularly through local economic development, in order to improve quality of life. It also refers to building a sense of community and creating community for those who live there.

Community Engagement

A community engagement code refers to overall involvement and participation in one's neighborhood or community in order to make a difference. Often there is an organizing element at the grassroots level as well as intentions for improved neighbor relations and opportunities for neighborhood gatherings.

Economic Issues and Poverty

An economic issues and poverty code refers to economic development, on one end, and economic insecurity, or poverty, on the other, covering in the intermediate unemployment and jobs as well as income inequality and wage issues.

Education and Youth Development

An education and youth development code refers primarily to schools (such as school system or curriculum) and students (often at the high school level) with additional focal points on mentoring and general youth development. It is also inclusive of other related topics such as community relationships, parent involvement, and research.

Environment and Parks

An environment and parks code refers to overall environmental sustainability efforts and clean up as well as recreational opportunities for all. It is inclusive of greenspace as well as farmland and agriculture.

Equity and Social Inclusion

An equity and social inclusion code uses a social justice lens to account for forms of exclusion and issues of access and equality for underserved groups. Reference is largely made to youth access and engagement concerns as well as to issues of disparity as noted across income levels, racial groups, and neighborhoods.

Family

A family code refers to the overall functioning and behavior of the family unit, particularly through parent involvement and support (or lack thereof) and child concerns such as childcare.



Food Access

A food access code refers primarily to food insecurity, focusing on problems of hunger and food deserts and solutions regarding food assistance and urban agriculture.

Government

A government code refers to the governing habits of the state and regional municipalities, especially regarding fiscal issues and taxes, including pensions and cuts to social services, as well as transparency, accountability, and corruption. It also involves the function of government, particularly through elections, public engagement, and public policy.

Health

A health code refers to the wellbeing of both people and communities, considering in particular mental health issues and addiction while also taking into account public health, quality of life issues, nutrition and wellness, and health care.

Housing and Homelessness

A housing and homelessness code primarily refers to homelessness and issues around home ownership and renting responsibilities.

Immigration and Migration

An immigration and migration code refers to the displacement, movement, and integration of immigrant communities, including those who are undocumented and those who are refugees.

International

An international code refers to world affairs.

Media and Awareness

A media and awareness code refers to raising awareness around issues of importance and addressing ignorance, particularly through the media and social media. It includes improving communication and building new narratives, especially around persistent stigmas.

Religion and Morals

A morals and religion code refers largely to personal attributes and attitudes, such as apathy or hope. It is also inclusive of faith-based community work.

Philanthropy

A philanthropy code refers to increased funding and support for programs and nonprofit organizations and often incorporates a need for organizational capacity building, institutional community outreach, and corporate social responsibility. On the individual level, it refers to civic responsibility and volunteering, with individuals taking action for the greater good.

Public Safety and Judicial System

A public safety and judicial system code may refer to public safety and crime as well as the criminal justice system, including instances of gang violence, gun violence, drugs, and trafficking, and how officials such as police can better provide community security.



Technology

A technology code refers to technology in a general sense and includes references to access, training, and improvement.

Transportation

A transportation code refers to transportation access and transportation infrastructure.



Prepared by Meltwater Buzz



Social Media Analysis Report Charlotte, NC

Hashtag Usage

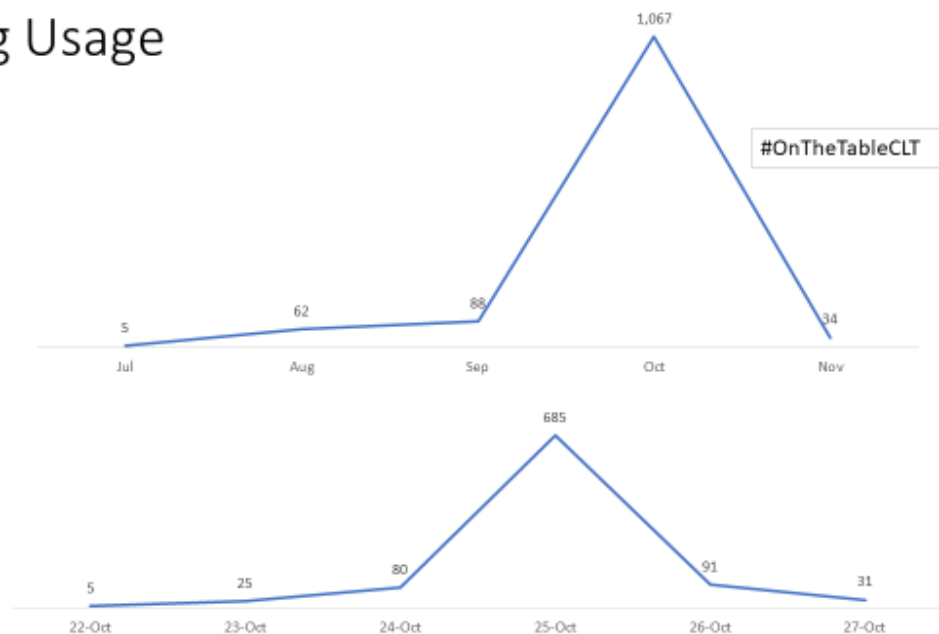
1,143

Total mentions

4.37M

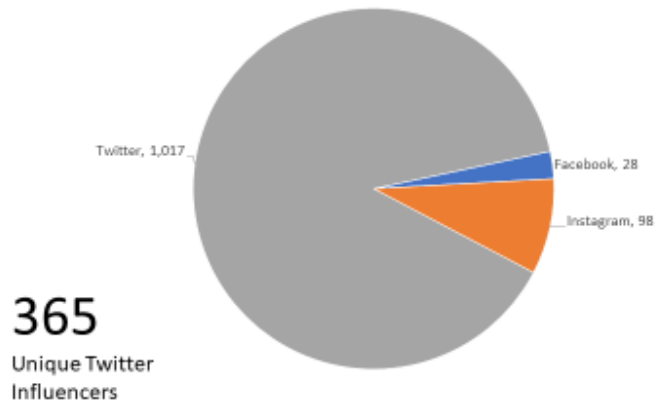
Total impressions

The event occurred on
Oct 25.



Platform Breakdown

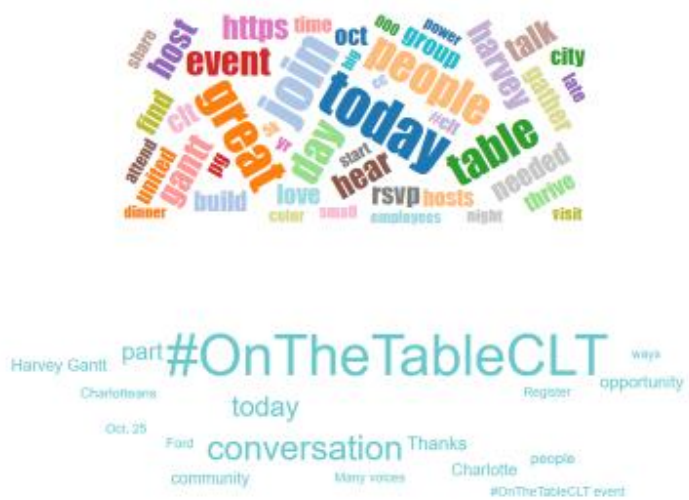
#OnTheTableCLT



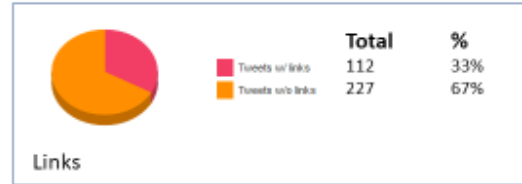
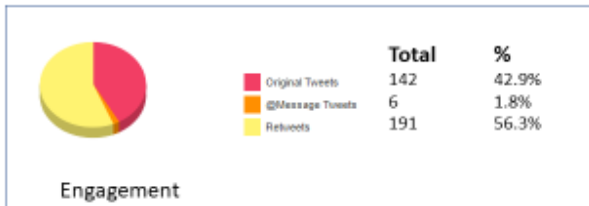
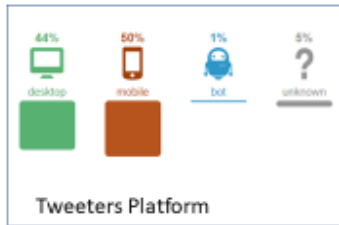
Hashtag Usage

Top Influencers

Twitter User	Posts
@C8iCharlotte	88
@OpportunityCLT	33
@beawilliamsapr	28
@ugotjuice	27
@peppamint_petty	27
@m_a_h_o_n_e_y	18
@JEFordNCTOY	17
@TeamJaneeen	15
@sknightfdn	13
@FionixConsult	13

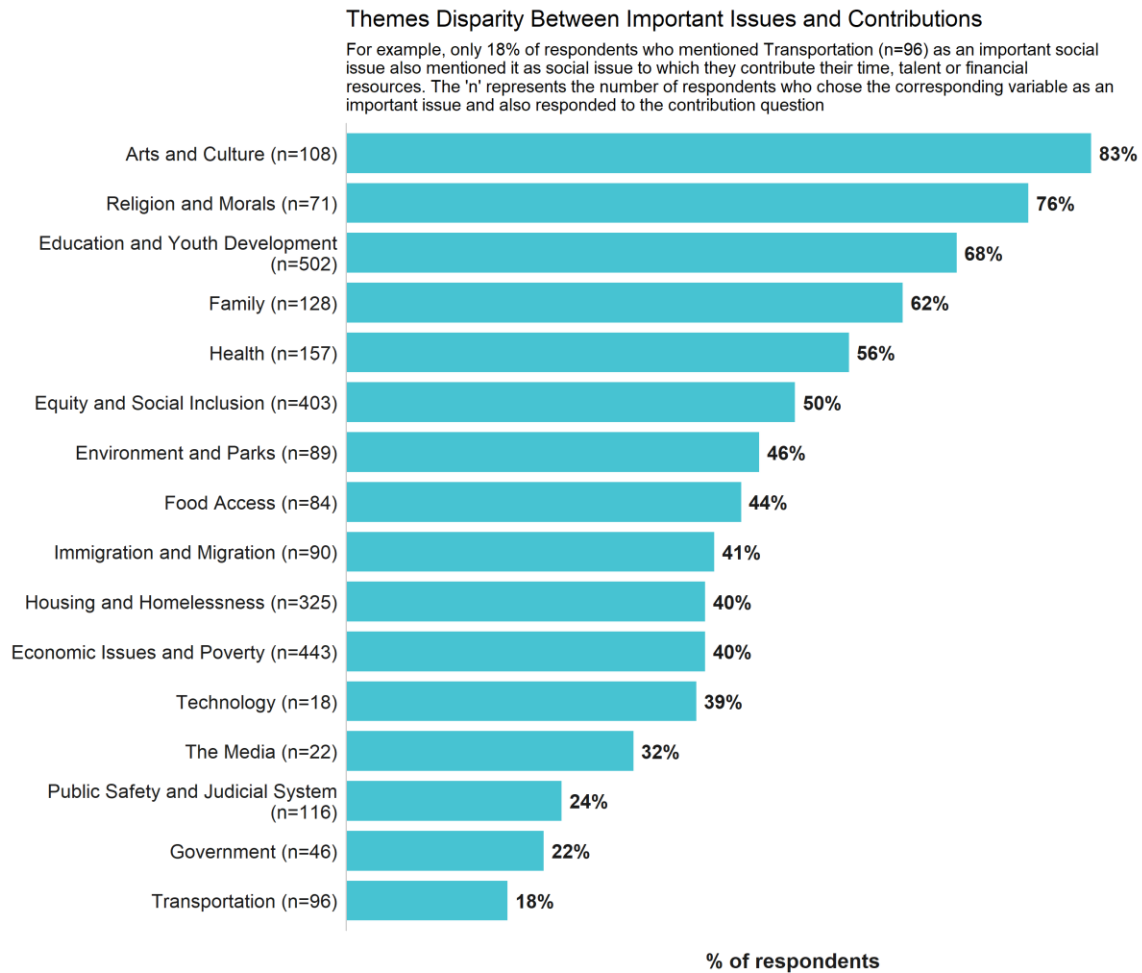


Twitter Insight



Appendix F: Visualization of Disparity between Important Issues and Contributions

Figure F.1



APPENDIX G: Visualizations for Question Comparisons

Figure G.1

Relationship between Strong Connections and Where Respondents Like to Connect

Shows the percent of respondents who have a strong connection with the group or organization listed in the left hand column, who also like to connect with others at the location listed on the bottom row. For example, 86% of respondents who have a strong connection with Religious Institution (such as a church, mosque or synagogue) also selected Religious institution as a place where they like to connect with others. Note that these results include only respondents who answered both questions (n = 778).

Group or Organization with which the Respondent has a Strong Connection	Volunteer / Service Organization	10.7%	27%	24.3%	34%	32.3%	58.4%	41.4%	12.3%
	Religious Institution (such as a church, mosque or synagogue)	8.9%	25.3%	21.9%	31.1%	28.6%	86%	41.1%	15.6%
	Nonprofits	11%	24.5%	22.6%	34.5%	35.7%	55.4%	39.5%	12.3%
	Neighbors	12.2%	27.2%	24.2%	37.5%	35.8%	57.8%	43.6%	13.9%
	Mentors	12.4%	28.3%	26.7%	37.8%	39%	53.4%	45.4%	15.5%
	Local Schools	13%	27.5%	26%	32.1%	29.4%	57.3%	64.9%	11.5%
	Local Government	11.9%	22.6%	25%	38.7%	44.6%	56.5%	38.1%	14.9%
	Fitness Center	11.5%	33.3%	21.1%	38.5%	36.3%	56.3%	37.8%	13.3%
	Community Center / Parks / Public Library	14%	38.4%	37.3%	48.7%	37.6%	53.9%	44.3%	15.5%
	Affinity Group / Club / Meet-up Group	9.8%	28.9%	23%	33.6%	34%	57%	37.9%	15.6%
		Community garden	Community rec center	Library	Parks	Public squares	Religious institution	Schools	Shopping centers
Location where respondents like to connect with others									

Figure G.2

Relationship between Contributions to Social Issues and Top Priorities

Shows the percent of respondents who contribute their time, talent or financial resources to the social issue listed in the left hand column, who also think the social issue listed on the bottom row should be Charlotte's TOP priority for building a stronger, more connected community over the next year. For example, 52.6% of respondents who contribute to Equity and Social Inclusion also think that Equity and Social Inclusion should be the top priority. Note that these results include only respondents who answered both questions (n = 751) and the issues presented are the top ten 'contributions'.

Contribution	Religion and Morals	1.3%	30.5%	23.4%	2.6%	44.8%	3.2%	3.2%	3.2%	26%	8.4%
	Housing and Homelessness	4%	35.8%	22.5%	0.7%	41.7%	4%	4%	5.3%	33.8%	4%
	Health	1.7%	33.1%	28%	0%	50.8%	0.8%	1.7%	10.2%	16.9%	5.1%
	Food Access	1.1%	33.7%	23.6%	1.1%	41.6%	2.2%	5.6%	1.1%	29.2%	9%
	Family	4.2%	25.7%	27.5%	1.8%	44.3%	2.4%	1.8%	3.6%	22.2%	3.6%
	Equity and Social Inclusion	2.2%	33%	23%	0.4%	52.6%	3%	1.3%	3.5%	23.5%	3.5%
	Environment and Parks	7.9%	25.4%	19%	4.8%	36.5%	3.2%	1.6%	3.2%	15.9%	7.9%
	Education and Youth Development	2.7%	28.6%	26.8%	1.6%	48.1%	3.2%	1.1%	1.1%	20.5%	3.5%
	Economic Issues and Poverty	3.8%	39.8%	21.3%	0.5%	45%	3.8%	0.9%	3.3%	27.5%	2.8%
	Arts and Culture	7.4%	30.9%	22.3%	1.1%	45.1%	2.9%	1.7%	1.7%	17.1%	4%
		Arts and Culture	Economic Issues and Poverty	Education and Youth Development	Environment and Parks	Equity and Social Inclusion	Family	Food Access	Health	Housing and Homelessness	Religion and Morals
Top Priority											

Figure G.3

Relationship between Action and Perceived Impact

Shows the relationship between responses for how likely respondents are to take action regarding an issue they discussed during On the Table and how much impact respondents feel they can have in making their community a better place. For example, 27.2% of respondents who are very likely to take action also feel they can have a big impact. Note that these results include only respondents who answered both questions (n = 976).

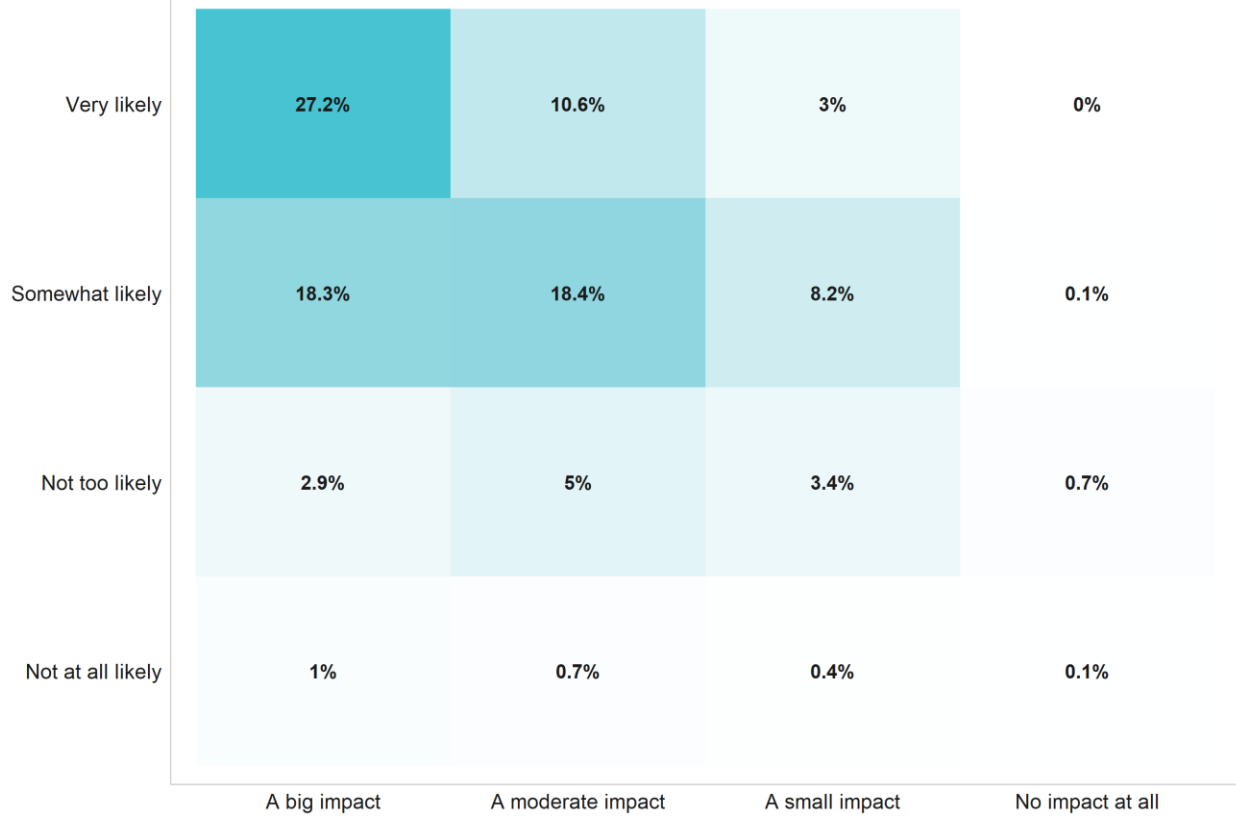


Figure G.4

Relationship between New Understanding to Address Community Issues and Perceived Impact

Shows the relationship between responses on the extent to which respondents better understand how they can address community issues and how much impact respondents feel they can have in making their community a better place. For example, 18.7% of respondents who selected somewhat better understanding also feel they can have a big impact. Note that these results include only respondents who answered both questions (n = 982).

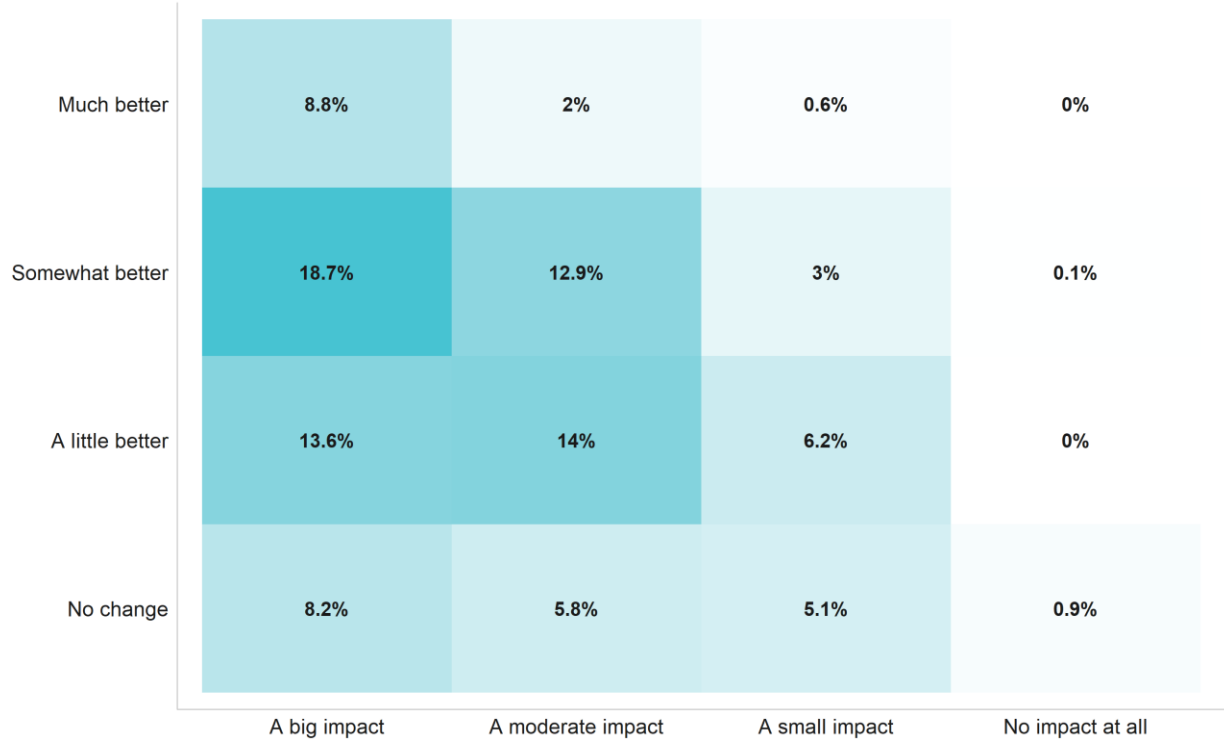


Figure G.5

Relationship between New Understanding to Address Community Issues and Action

Shows the relationship between responses on the extent to which respondents better understand how they can address community issues and how likely respondents are to take action regarding an issue they discussed during On the Table. For example, 20.5% of respondents who selected a little better understanding are also somewhat likely to take action. Note that these results include only respondents who answered both questions (n = 985).

