



**CENTRAL FLORIDA  
FOUNDATION**

## **Table Talk 2021**

### **Participant Perspectives**

*Key findings from a survey among adults who participated in  
Central Florida Foundation's TableTalk conversations,  
October/November 2021*

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CENTRAL FLORIDA  
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## About

Table Talk provides everyone in the Central Florida region with a way to share their voice. Participants share insights about Central Florida Communities today and offer ideas for how our communities can be even better in the future.

Across the region, participants gather at tables (virtual and in-person) to talk about issues and ideas that matter to community building.

In 2021 approximately five hundred adults took part in Table Talk events across six Counties.

Table Talk participants encourage each other, create connections, and build community. The changemaking doesn't stop with Table Talk, but rather begins.

## Why Table Talk Data Matters

Table Talk is an unparalleled event in the region that invites residents from every walk of life in the truest sense of democratic representation, to join in, represent their views, and let their perspectives be known.

Each year that Table Talk is held, attendees complete feedback surveys. These data sets are meaningful portraits of the ideas, concerns, and motivations of Central Florida residents.

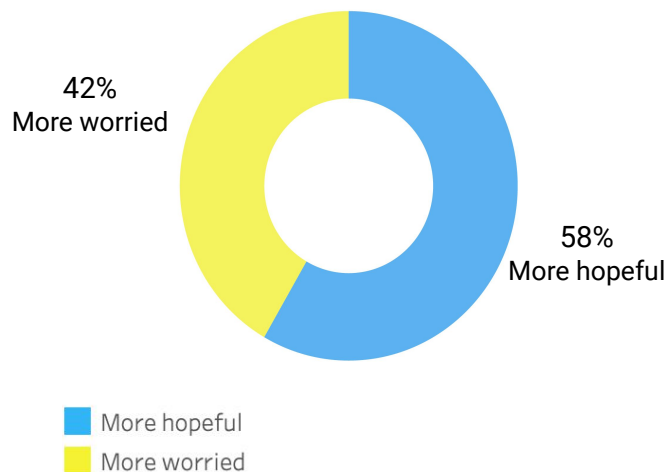
Funders, policymakers, service providers, and community members all benefit from the portraits of insight created through the Table Talk events and subsequent survey analysis.

# **Table Talk Youth Results**

# Youth Community Outlook

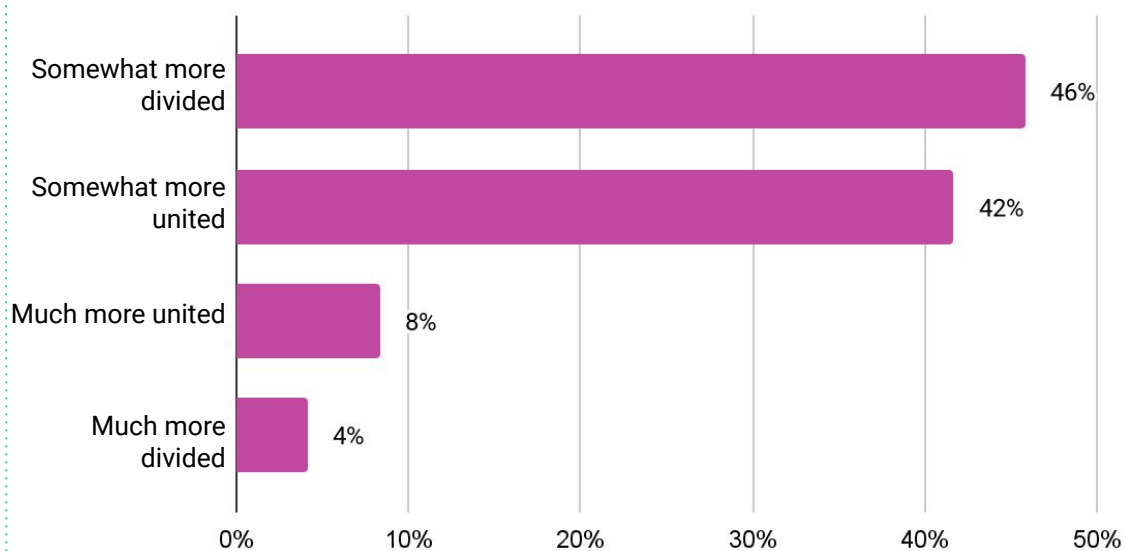
# Community Youth Outlook

## Hopeful Vs. Worried About the Future



*\*numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole number*

## Perceptions of unity and division when addressing important goals and challenges

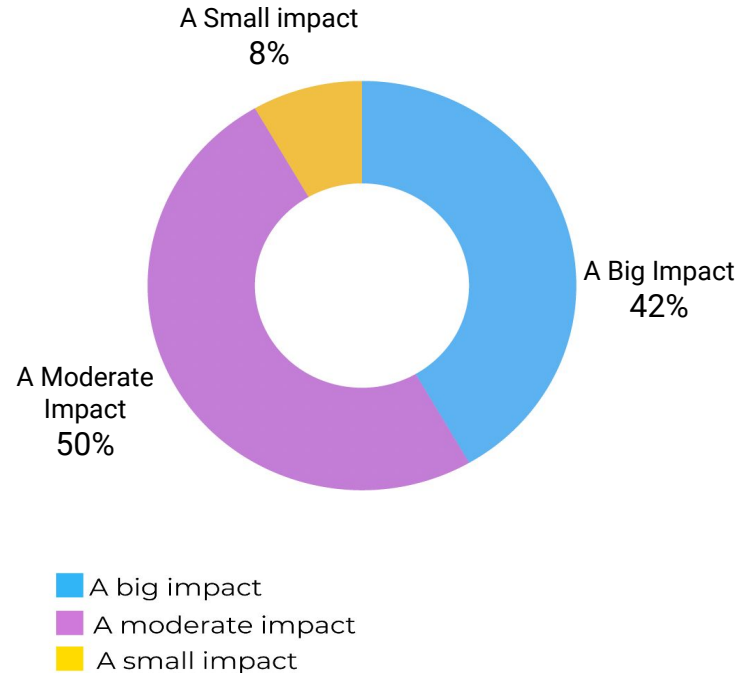




# **Community Youth Involvement**

# Youth Community Involvement

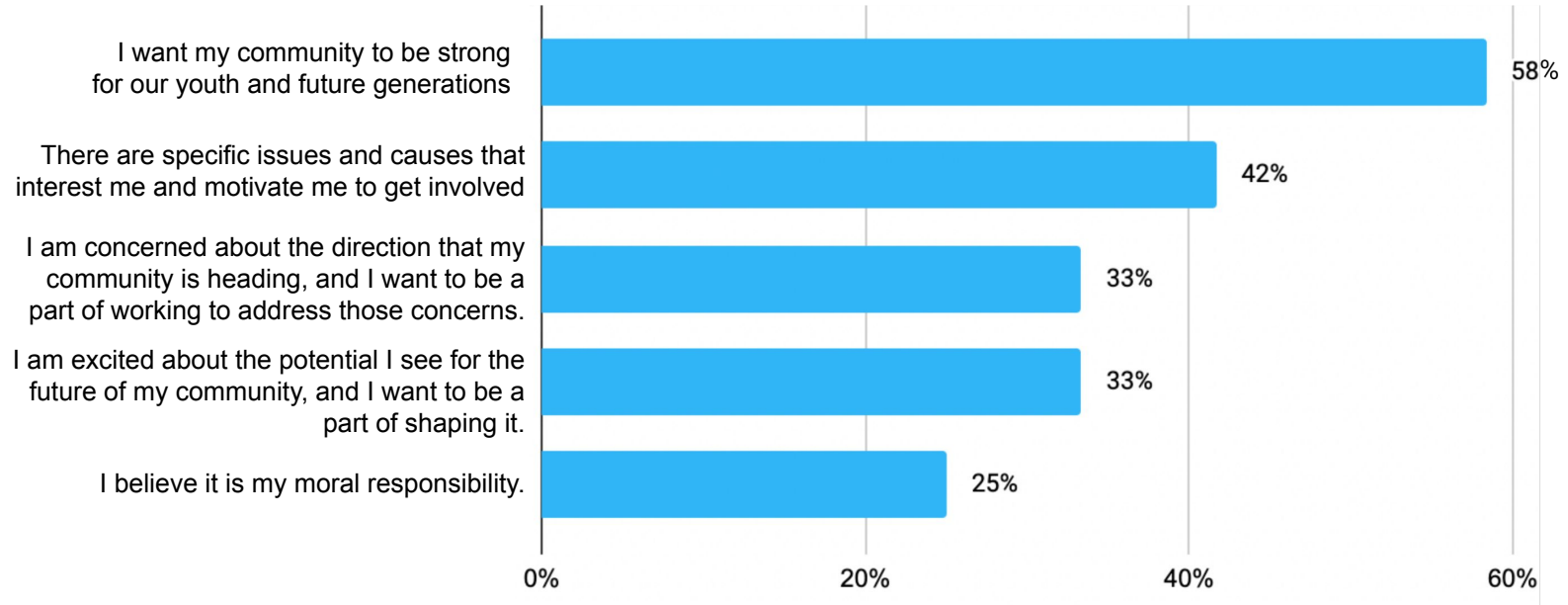
What Impact the Youth Can  
Have on Making Communities  
Better Places to Live



*\*numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole number*

# Youth Community Involvement

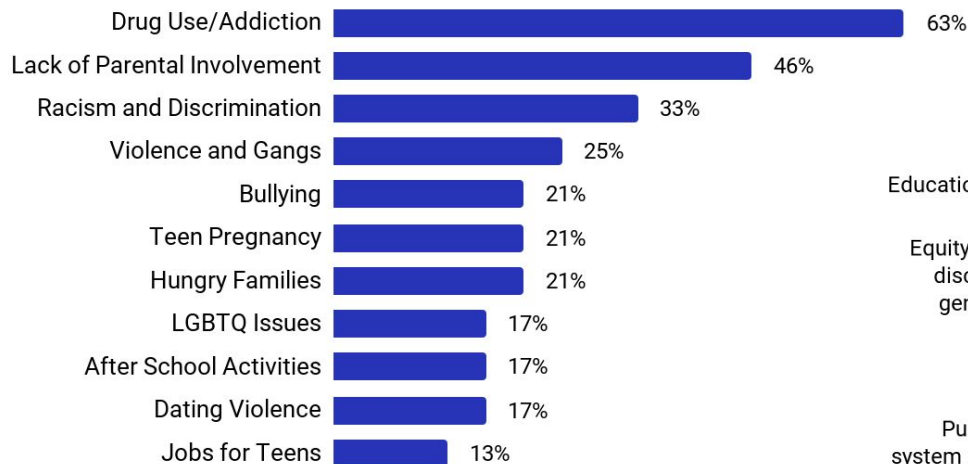
Motivating reasons to be involved and engaged



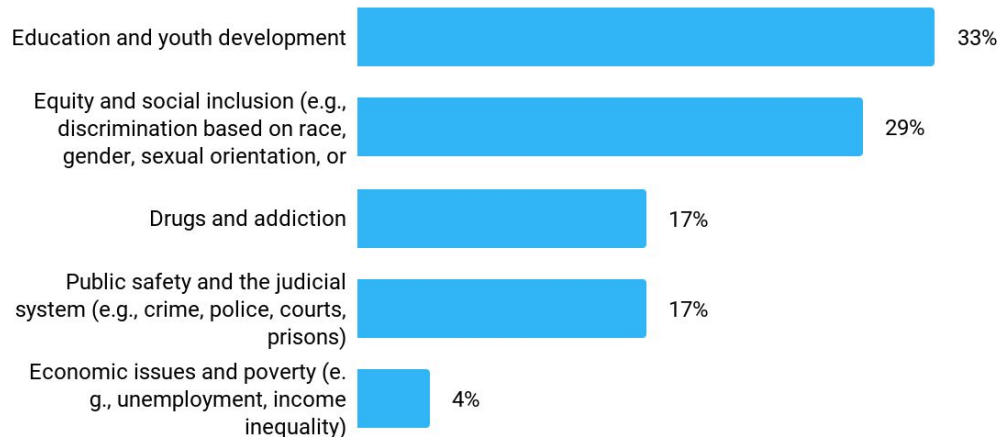
*\*numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole number*

# Youth Insight Snapshot

## Top Issues To Be Addressed by the Community



## Top Issues of Concern to Youth



*\*numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole number*

# **Table Talk Adult Results**

## Survey Methodology

The survey was provided at the close of all events. The survey was actively promoted for a period thereafter of approximately one month.

Out of nearly 500 potential respondents a total of 202 participants completed the survey.

Percentages within this report are based on the total number of respondents answering each question.

The terms “Participants” and “respondents” are used interchangeably and refer to persons who attended a Table Talk event and completed the survey.



# **Table Talk Issues Insights**

# Community Outlook

How 2021 challenged and changed our community

Lack of in person contact

Polarization

Loss of jobs

Affordable housing

Mental health

Healthcare issues

Food insecurity

Lack of resources

Racial injustice

Resilience

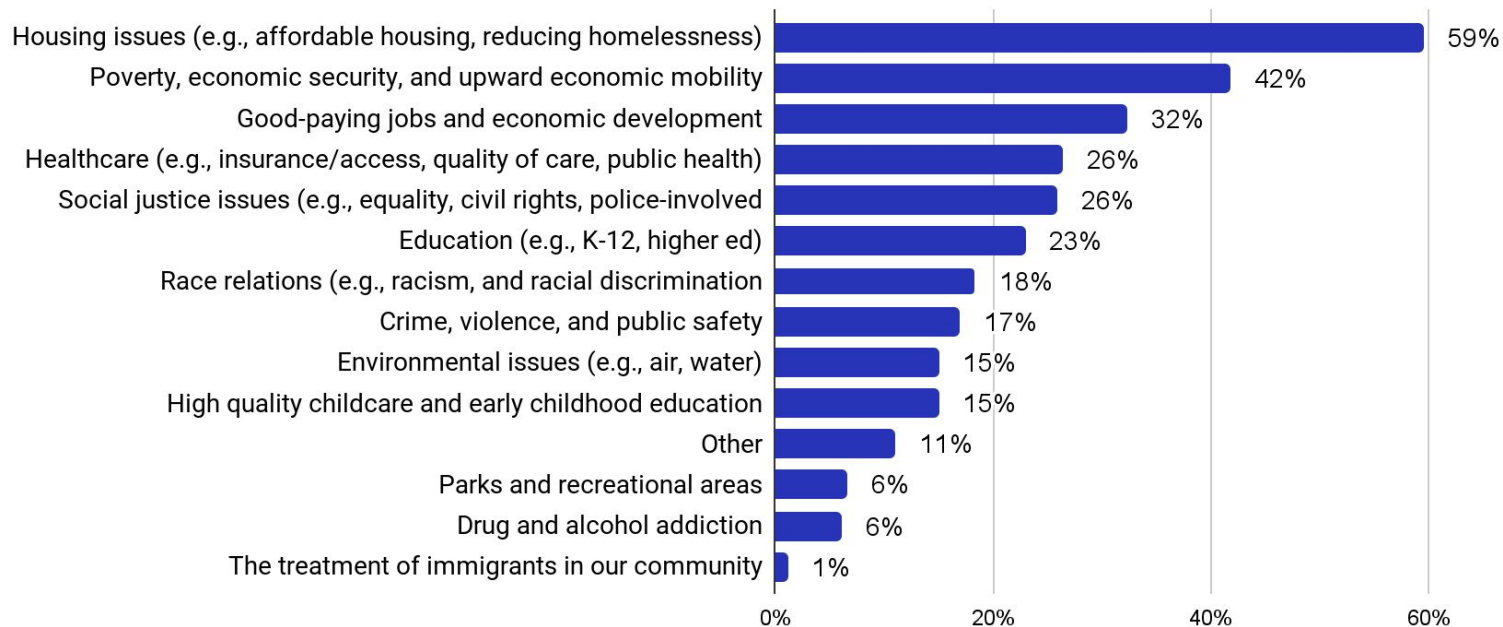
Workforce Issues

Homelessness

Wealth inequality

# Issues Insight

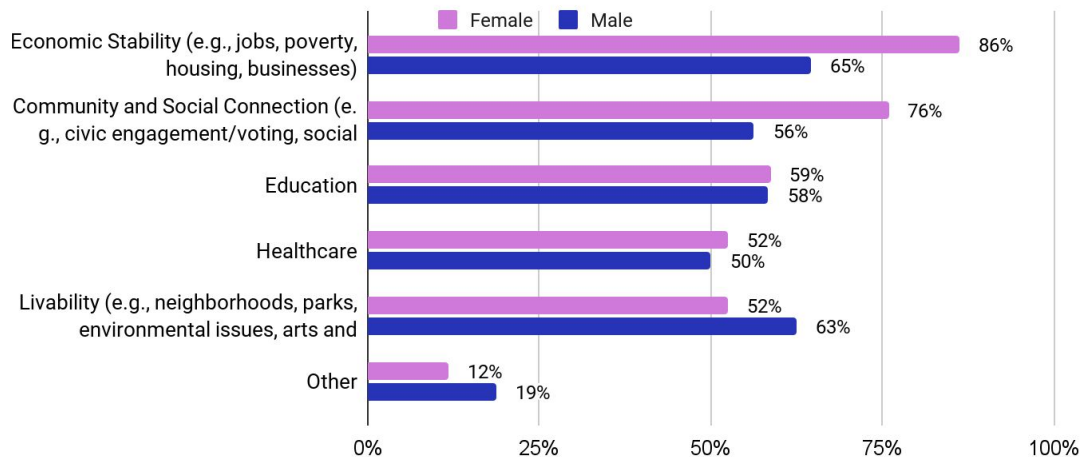
## Community Wide Top Issues of Concern to Participants



*\*numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole number*

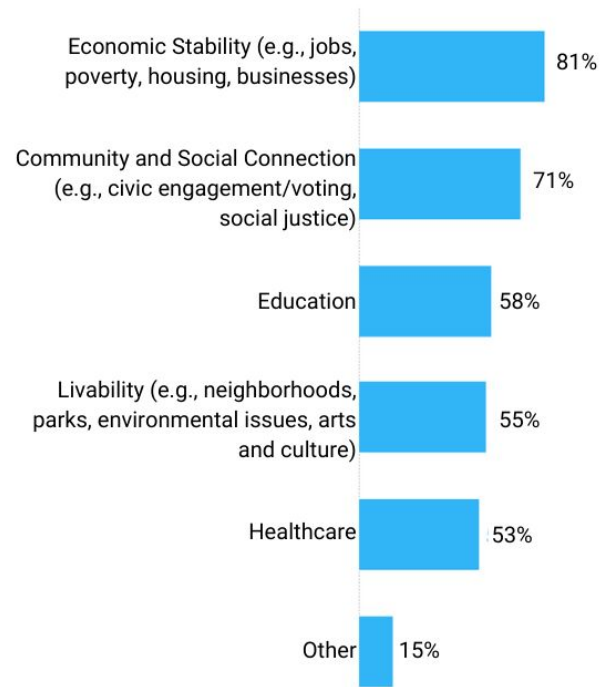
# Issues Insight

## Florida Wide Top Issues of Concern to Participants



*\*numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole number*

## All Participants



## Issues Insight

On average, housing, economic stability, and job opportunities were at the top of people's concerns for both community-based and state-wide based issues that people feel matter.

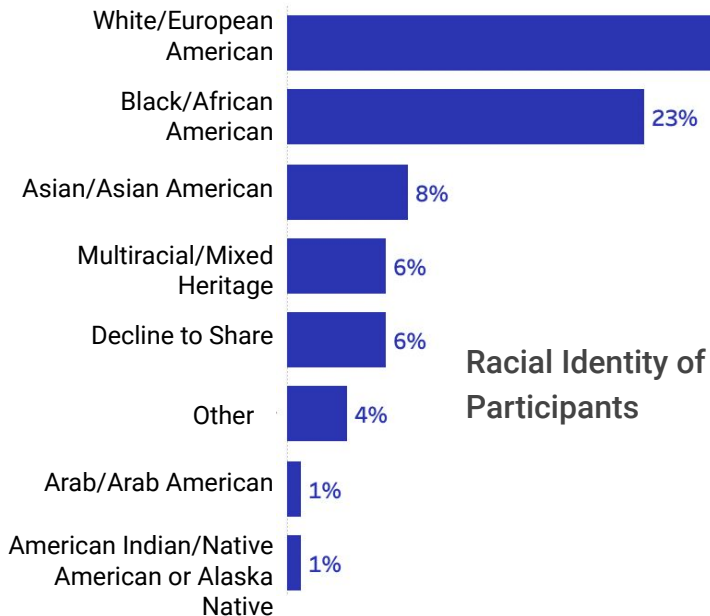
GenX'rs shared the same concerns as the average of respondents. But other age groups differed.

Among GenY & GenZ respondents, the top three community issues are housing, economy, and healthcare.

Baby Boomers put housing, economic issues, and environmental issues in their top three community concerns.

# **Table Talk Demographics**

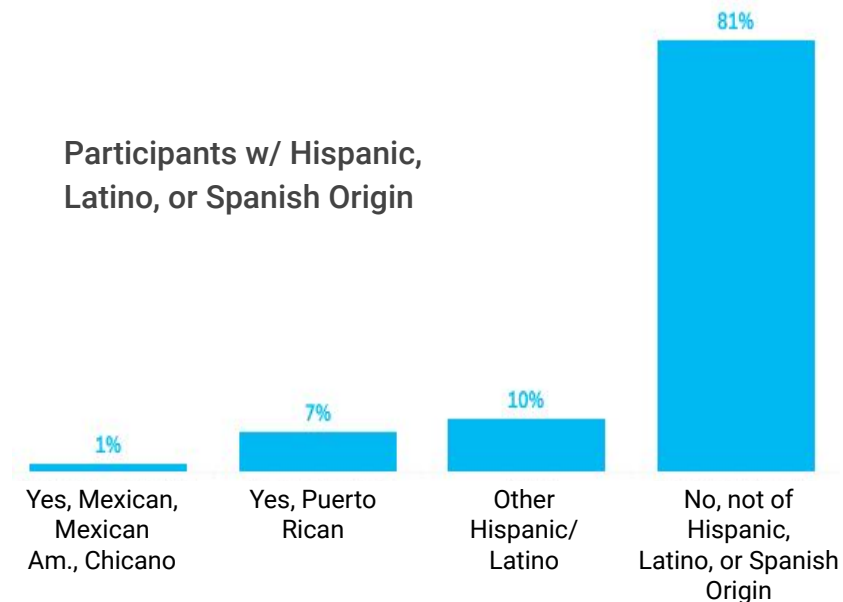
# Demographics



31% Are Parents

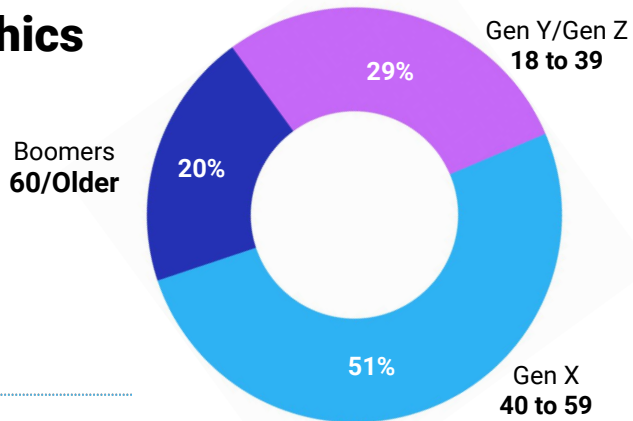


**Participants w/ Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin**

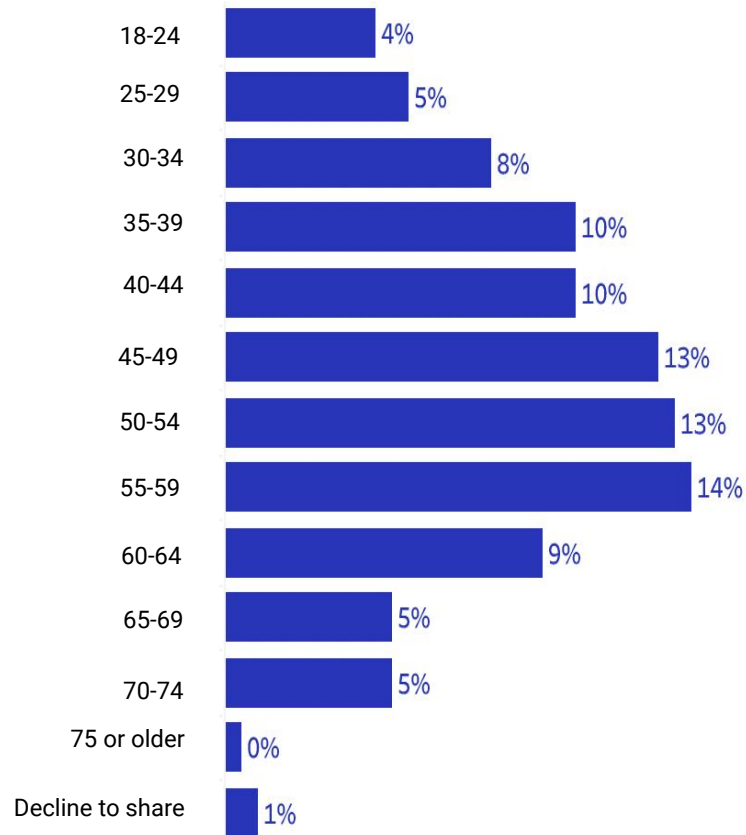
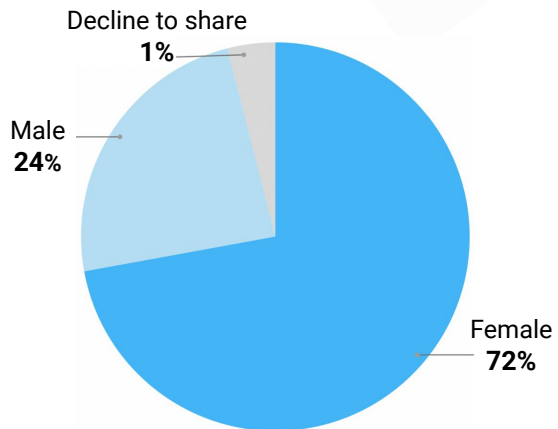


# Demographics

## Age



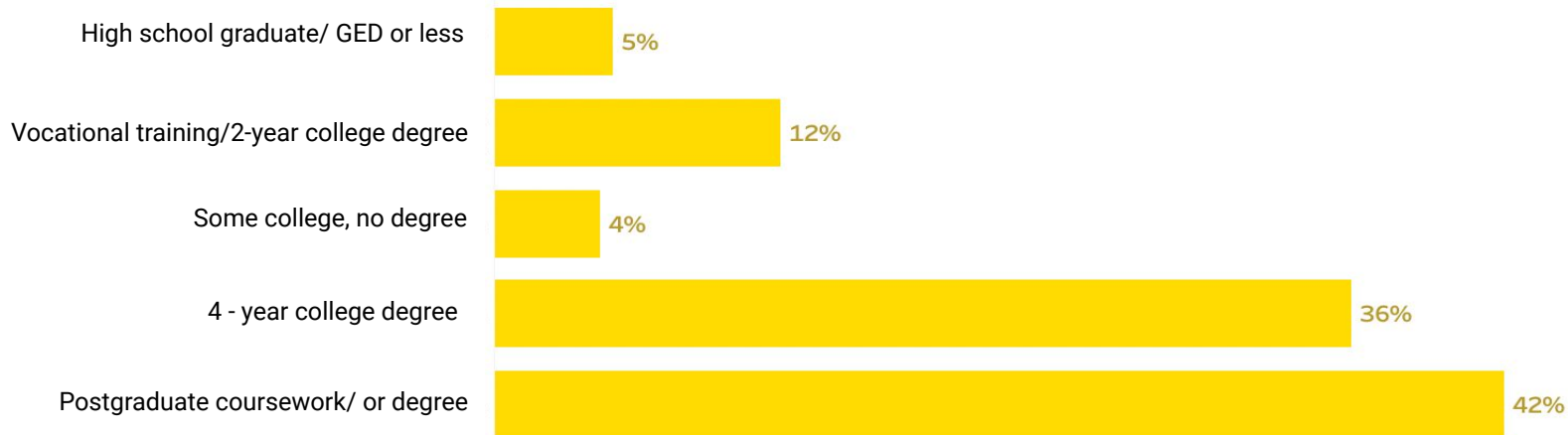
## Gender



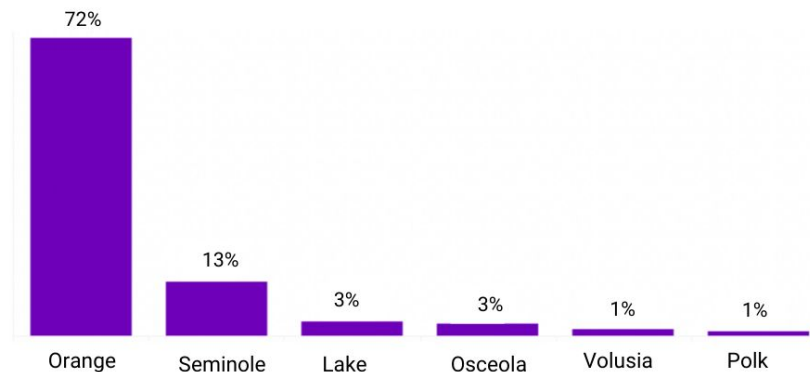
*\*numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole number*

# Demographics

## Educational Levels



## Counties that Participants Reside in



## Demographics Insight

The overall number of Table Talk participants decreased in 2021 due to COVID19 impacts. But several demographic indicators among survey respondents stayed similar to the prior year.

Rates of participation among men (24%) and women (72%) as well as among Hispanic & Latino community members (19%) reflected the prior year.

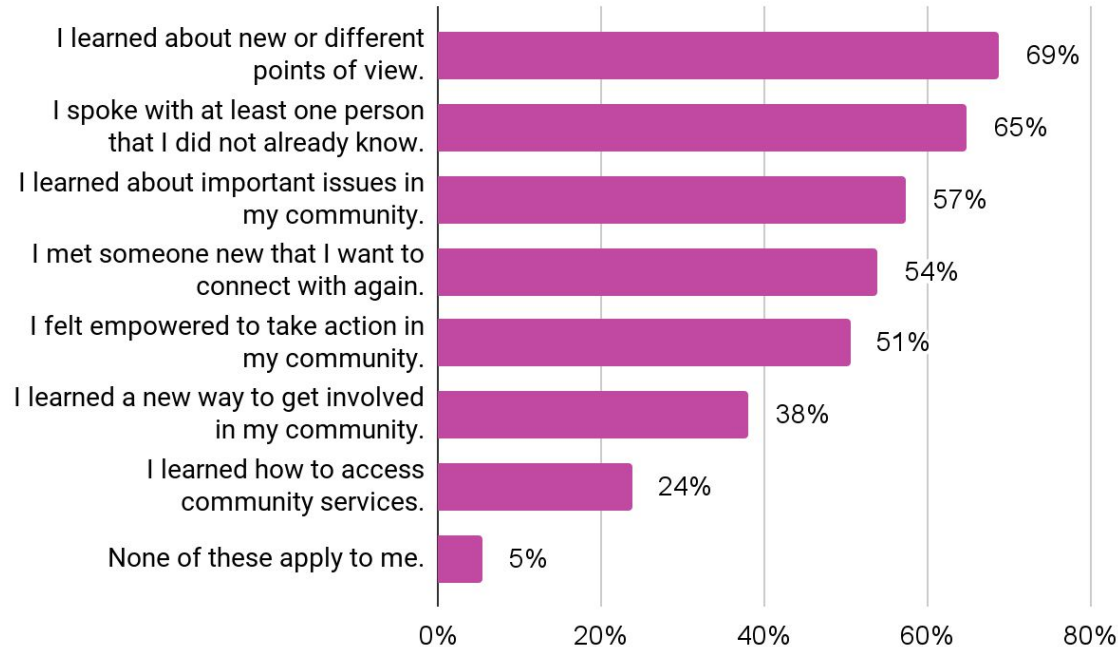
Changes to the audience demographic included a decrease in respondents between 18-34 (17%). Representation among all Central Florida Counties also shifted more to Orange & Seminole County attendees.

African American participation rose to 23% - up 7% from the prior year.

# Table Talk Changemakers

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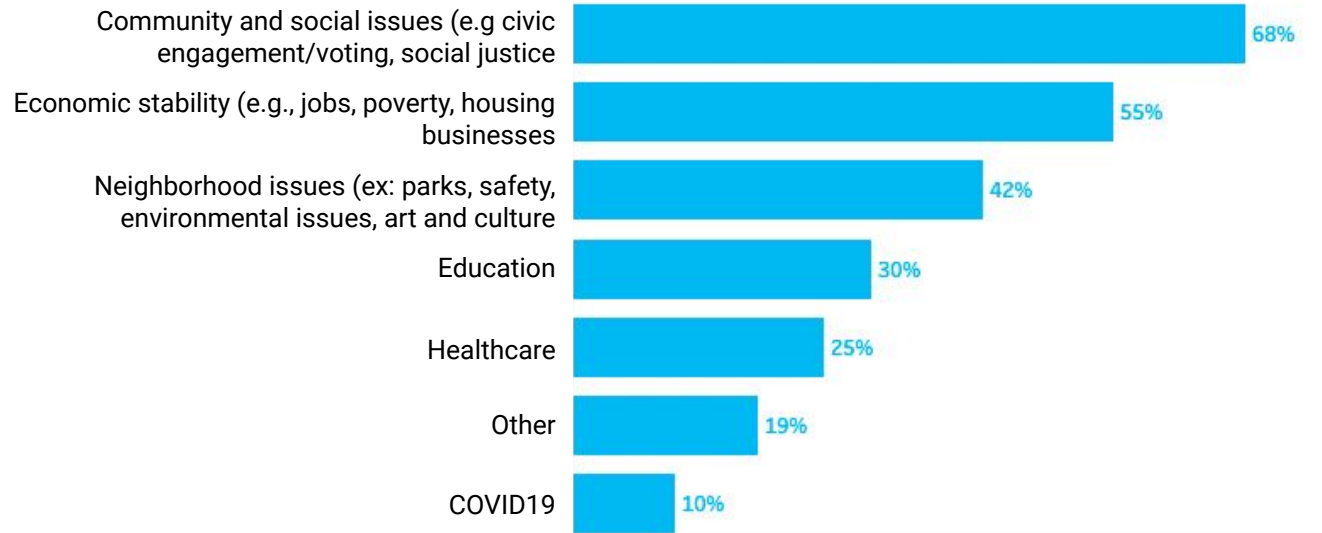
## Experiences Participants Had Through Table Talk



*\*numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole number*

# Table Talk Changemakers

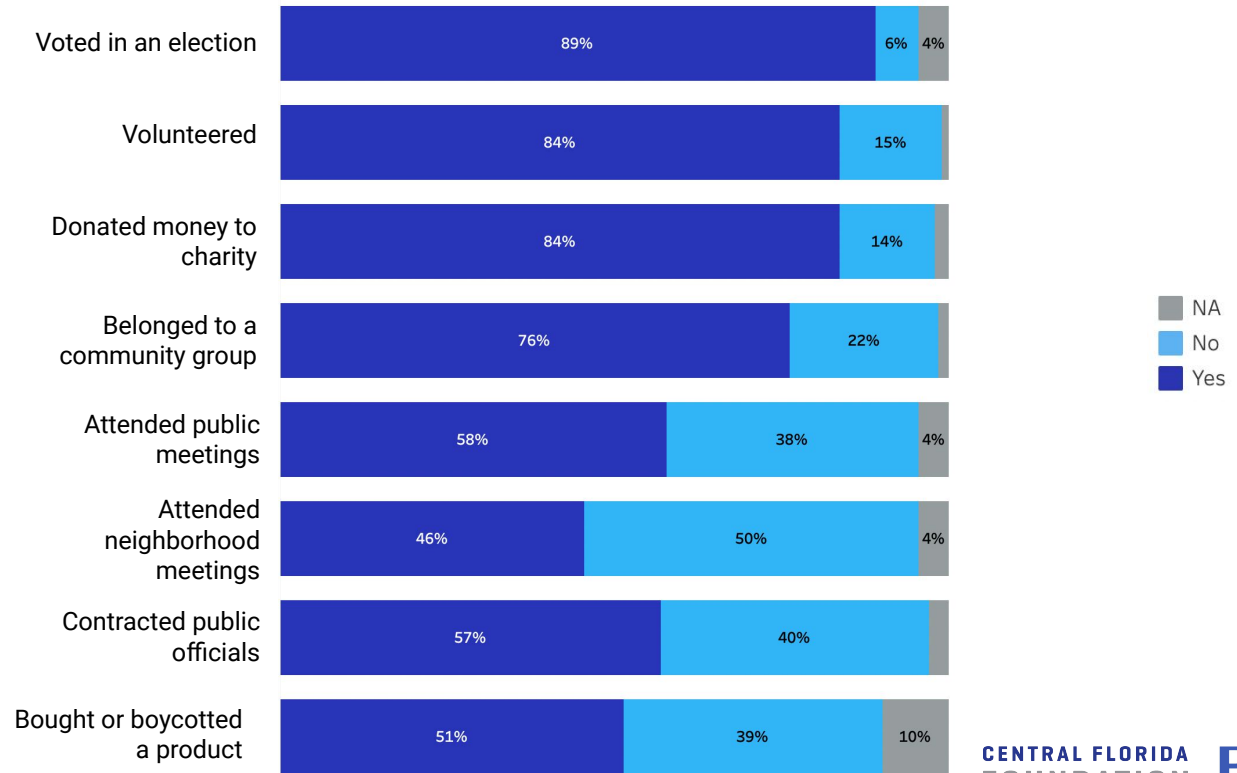
## Topics Discussed at Table Talk Events



*\*numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole number*

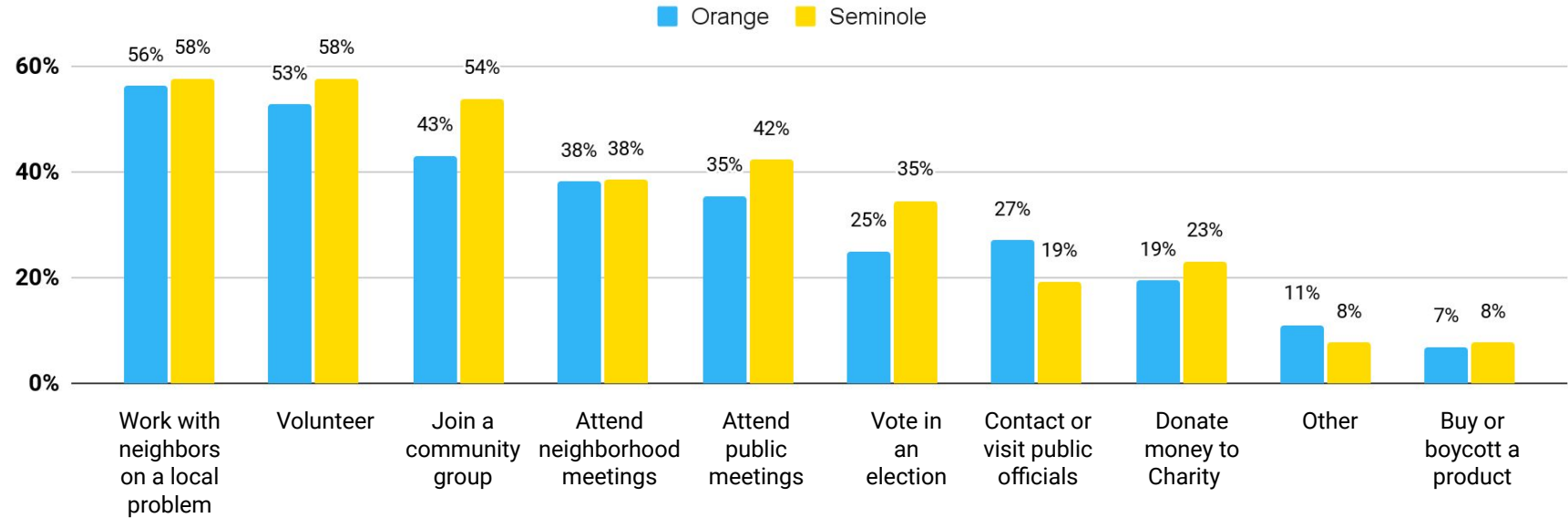
# Table Talk Changemakers

## Experience



# Table Talk Changemakers

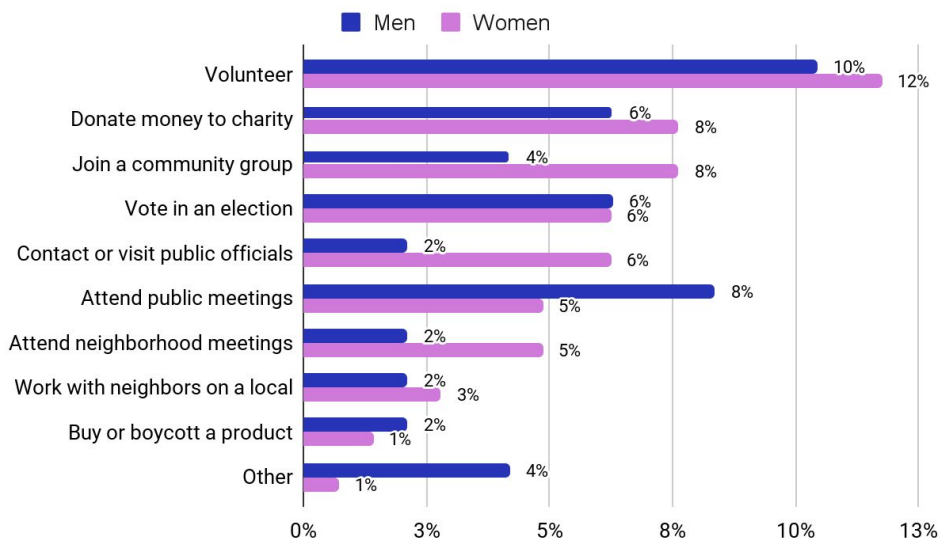
Actions Participants would like to take by County



*\*numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole number*

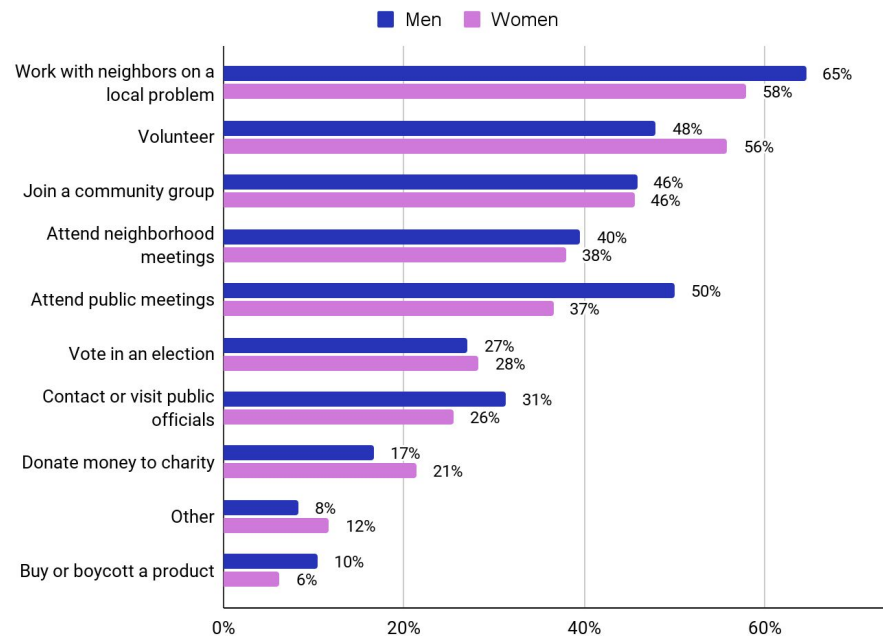
# Table Talk Changemakers

## Actions Participants took as a result of attending table talk



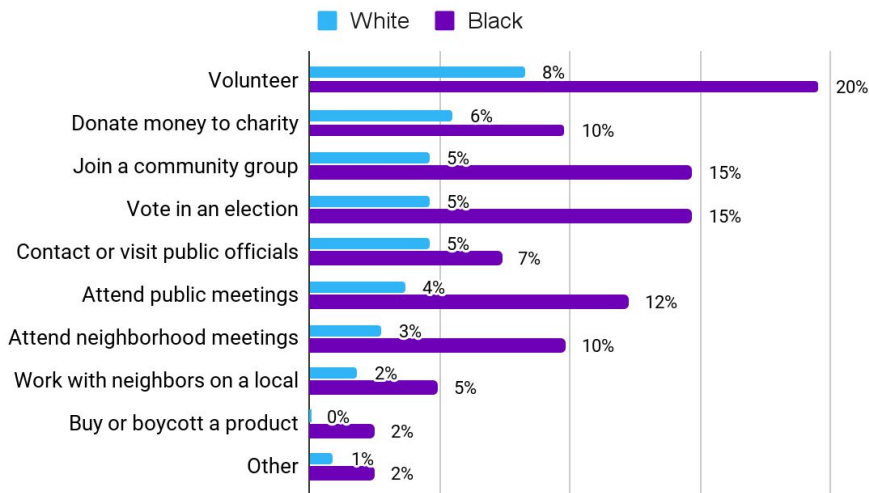
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## Actions Participants would like to take in the future

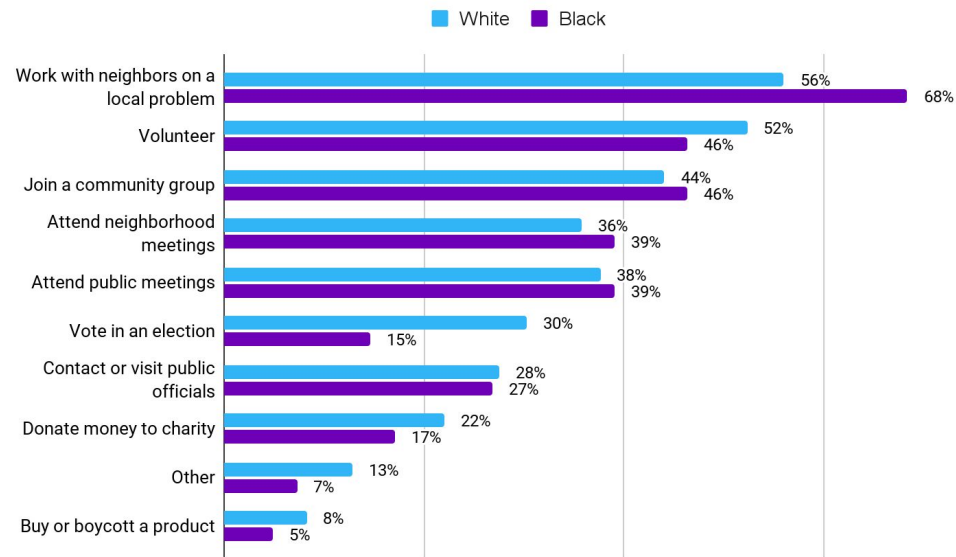


# Table Talk Changemakers

Actions Participants took as a result of attending table talk



Actions Participants would like to take in the future



\*numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole number

## Table Talk Changemakers Insight

People's experience and ideals about community actions varied by racial/ ethnic identity as well as by gender category.

44% and 46% of Latino and White participants respectively felt empowered to take action because of Table Talk.

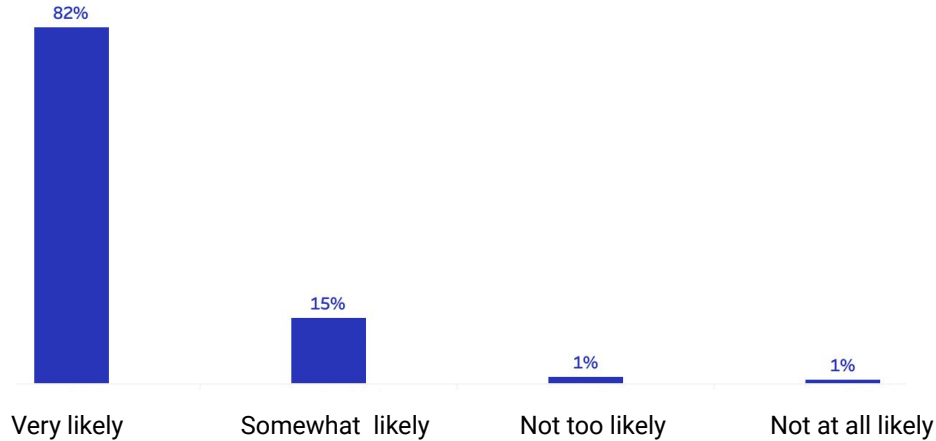
57% of Black participants felt empowered to take action.

33% of men vs 45% of women felt empowered to action by Table Talk.

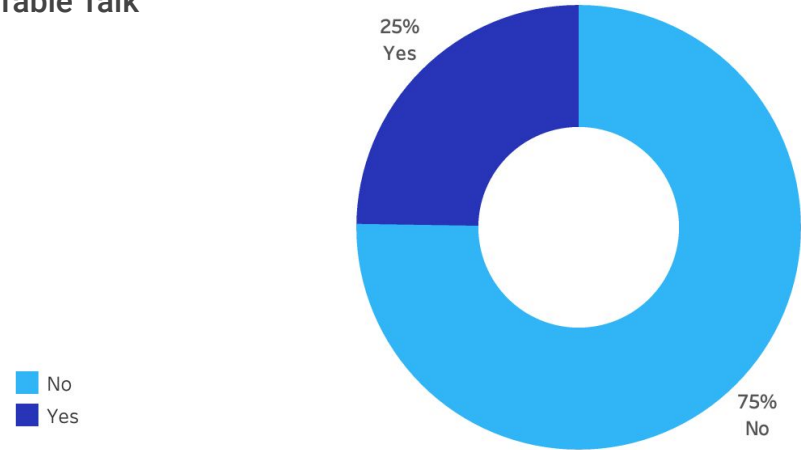
# Community Involvement

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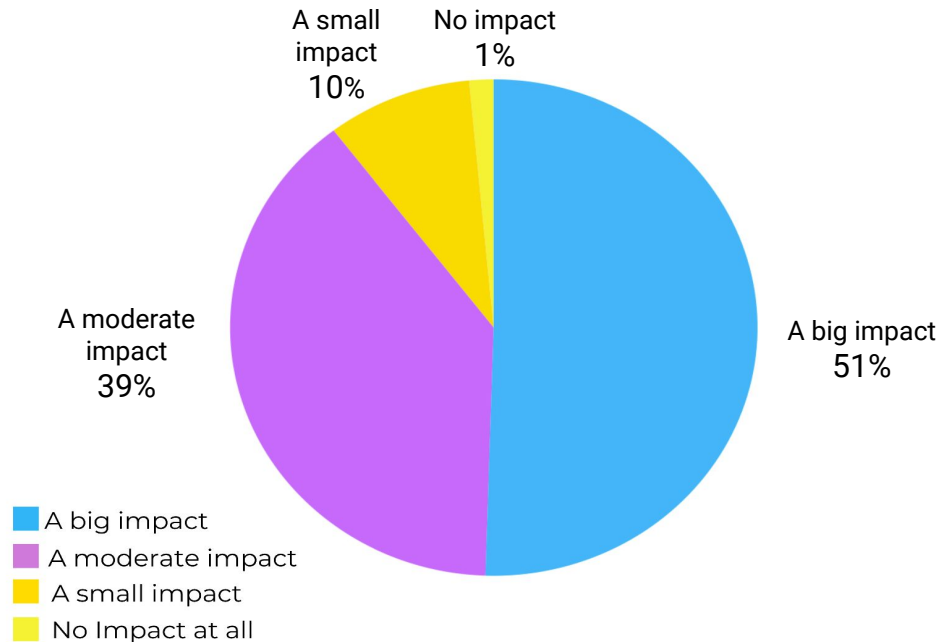
% of Participants Who Want to be Part of Table Talk 2022



% of Respondents Who Participated in 2020 Table Talk



# Community Involvement



What Impact “People Like You”  
Can Have on Making  
Communities Better Places to  
Live

## Community Involvement Insights

Table Talk members are just that - members. They want to and will participate again under the right conditions.

While half of people believe they can make a big impact, the other half present an opportunity for communicating the power of individuals to create better communities.

Neither race nor gender affected people's sense of impact capacity.

## Community Involvement Insights

Some areas of identity do relate to differing responses:

People of Hispanic/ Latino ethnicity were less likely (46%) to believe in a big impact capacity than other groups (51%).

Those who are more worried about the future had a lower rate of belief in big impact by individuals (41%).

People with a 4 year degree have the lowest rate of believing in big impacts among all educational levels.

## **Community Involvement Insights**

**27% of boomers**

**62% of GenXrs**

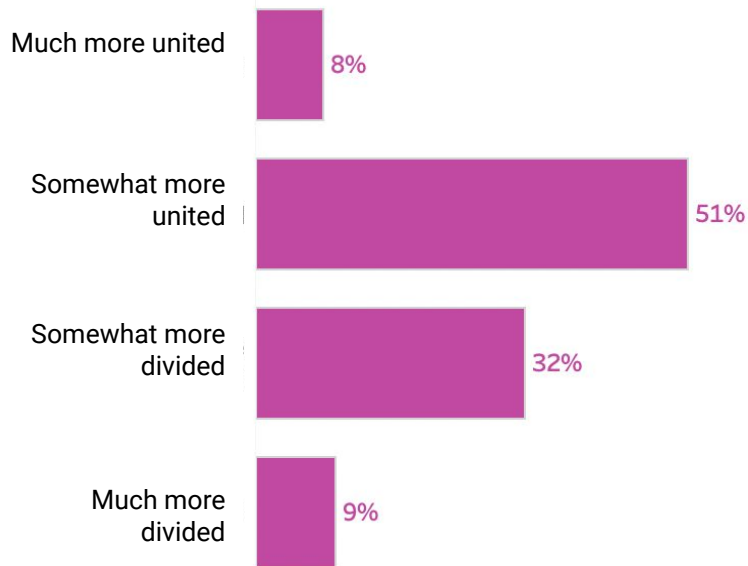
**56% of GenZ & GenY**

**Believe in their capacity for making a big impact on their communities better places to live.**

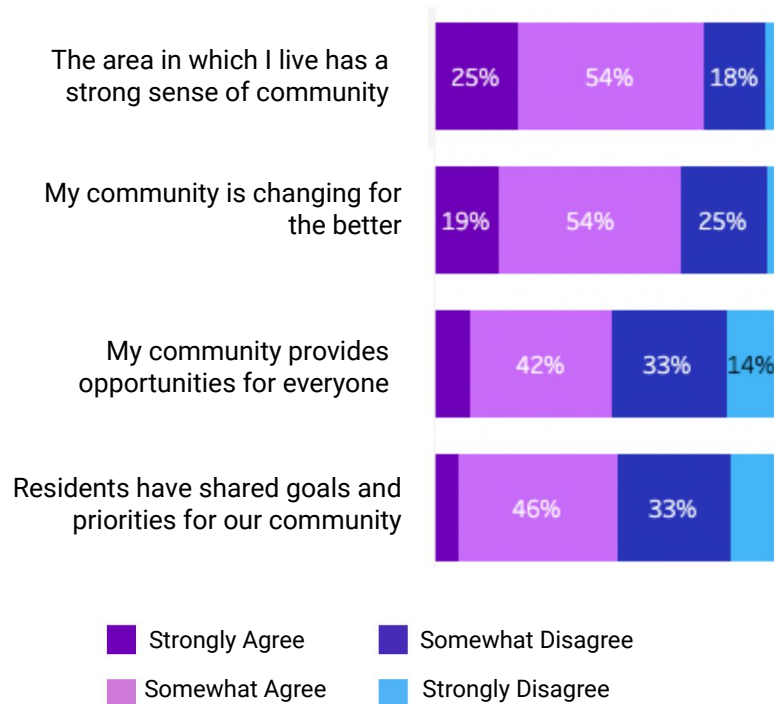
# Community Outlook

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Perceptions of unity and division when addressing important goals and challenges

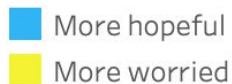
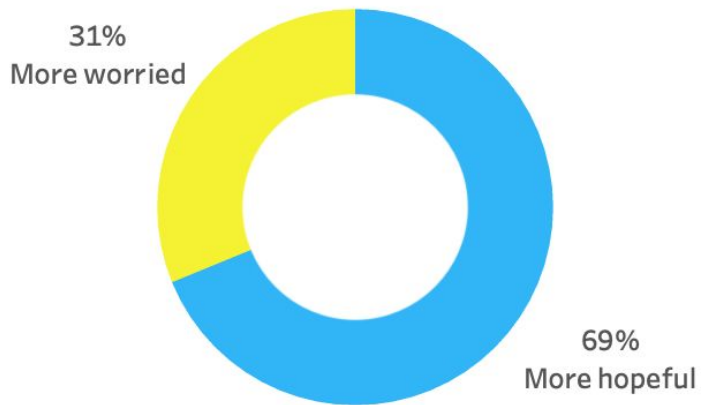


## Agree/Disagree of Community



# Community Outlook

## Hopeful Vs. Worried About the Future



### More Hopeful

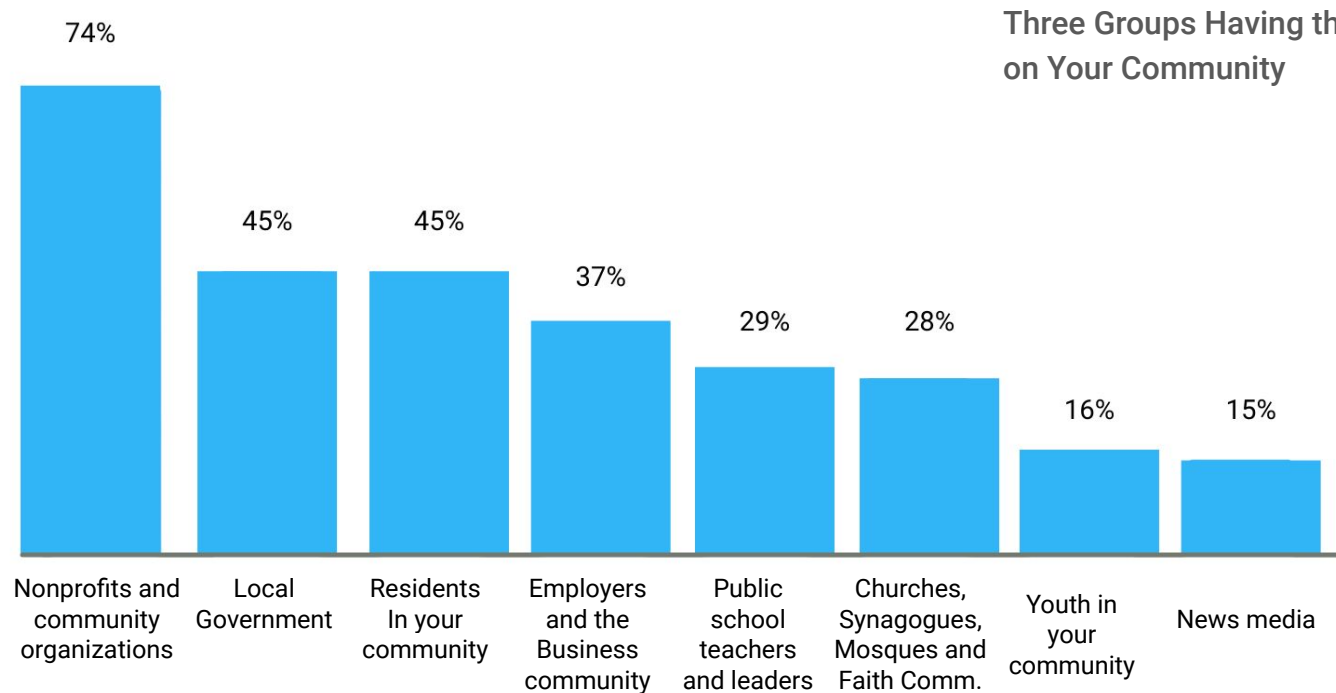
|                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Resilience               | 19% |
| Connections              | 17% |
| Leadership               | 13% |
| Community stepping up    | 11% |
| Growth                   | 10% |
| Awareness                | 9%  |
| Positive changes         | 9%  |
| Improved Communication   | 7%  |
| Community engagement     | 6%  |
| Non-Profit organizations | 4%  |

Being more or less hopeful has a clear link to how people perceive and prioritize key issues in communities.

### More Worried

|                    |     |
|--------------------|-----|
| Affordable housing | 13% |
| Leadership Issues  | 10% |
| Negative changes   | 8%  |
| Wealth inequality  | 8%  |
| Over development   | 6%  |
| Gentrification     | 5%  |
| Political Division | 4%  |
| Food Insecurity    | 2%  |
| Lack of jobs       | 2%  |

# Community Outlook



## Community Outlook Insight

69% of respondents are hopeful about the next five years in Central Florida's future

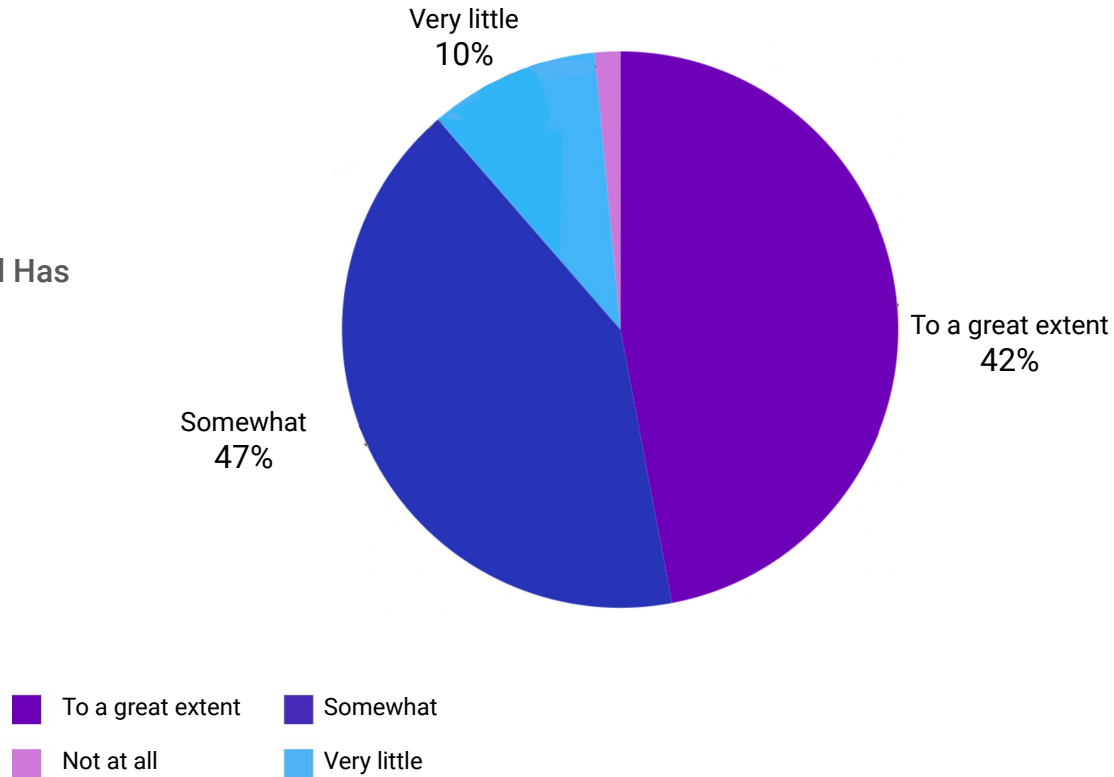
The importance of this high rate of optimism is underscored by how much hardship people said they experienced in the prior year.

Beliefs about which groups have the most impact in communities varied notably according to age, gender, race, and ethnicity. The variations were also found within groups.

# Covid Impact

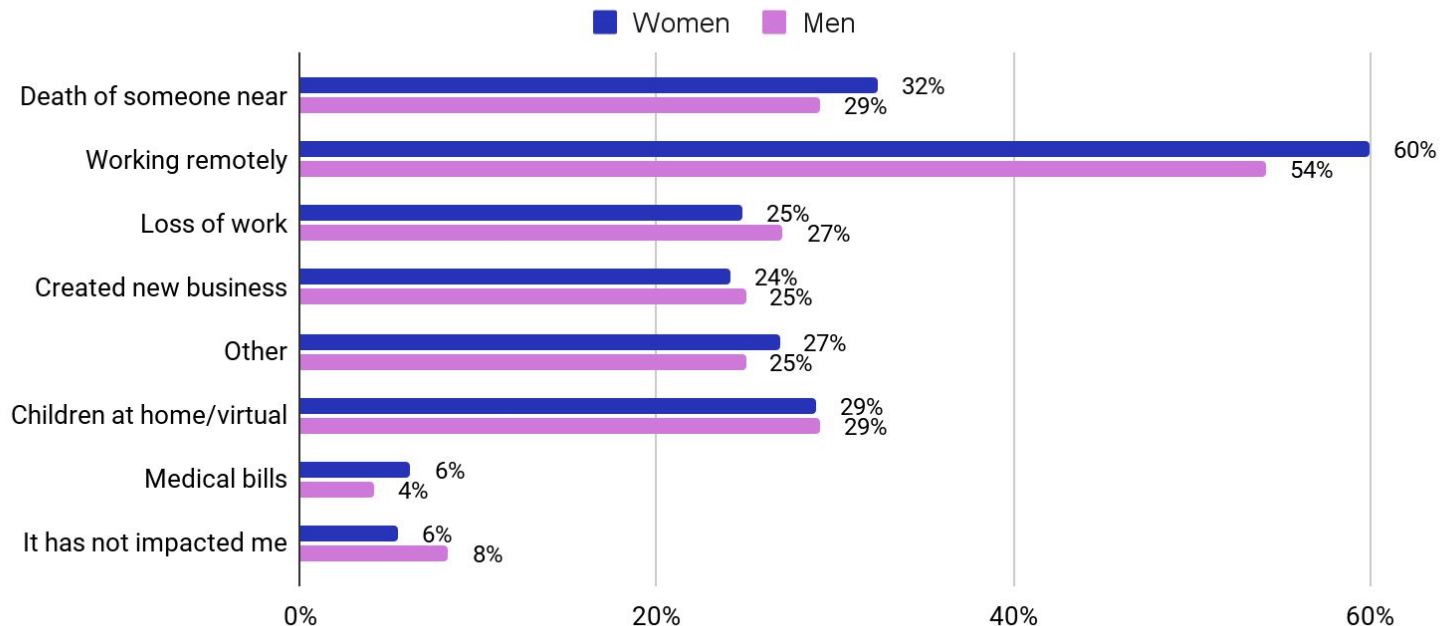
# Covid Impact

Extent to Which Covid Has  
Impacted People



# Covid Impact

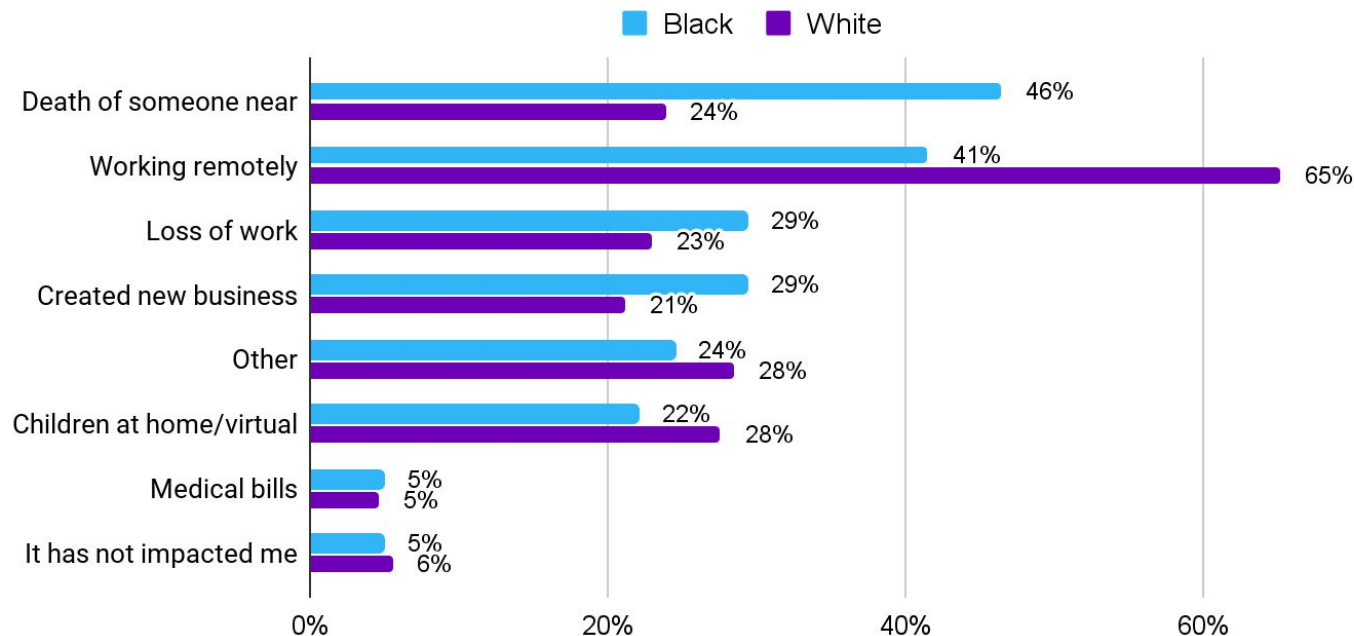
## How Covid Has Impacted People



*\*numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole number*

# Covid Impact

## How Covid Has Impacted People



*\*numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole number*

## Covid Impact Insight

1/3rd of participants reported losing a loved one due to COVID-19. Nearly 1/5th of participants said that a lack of in person contact creates challenges of isolation and decreased opportunities for community activities.

Impacts were markedly different by groupings with extreme differences most notable in racial categories.

COVID19 hardships did not correlate to more or less optimism among respondents.

# To the Future

## **Opportunities to Show Table Talk's Impact**

Through Table Talk people make new connections, discover new views, & get inspired to make a difference

## **Opportunities to Grow Table Talk's Impact**

In the future, people can learn more about community organizations, charitable giving, ways to volunteer & join organizations