

ON THE TABLE 2018

Participant Perspectives on Community and How to Effect Change

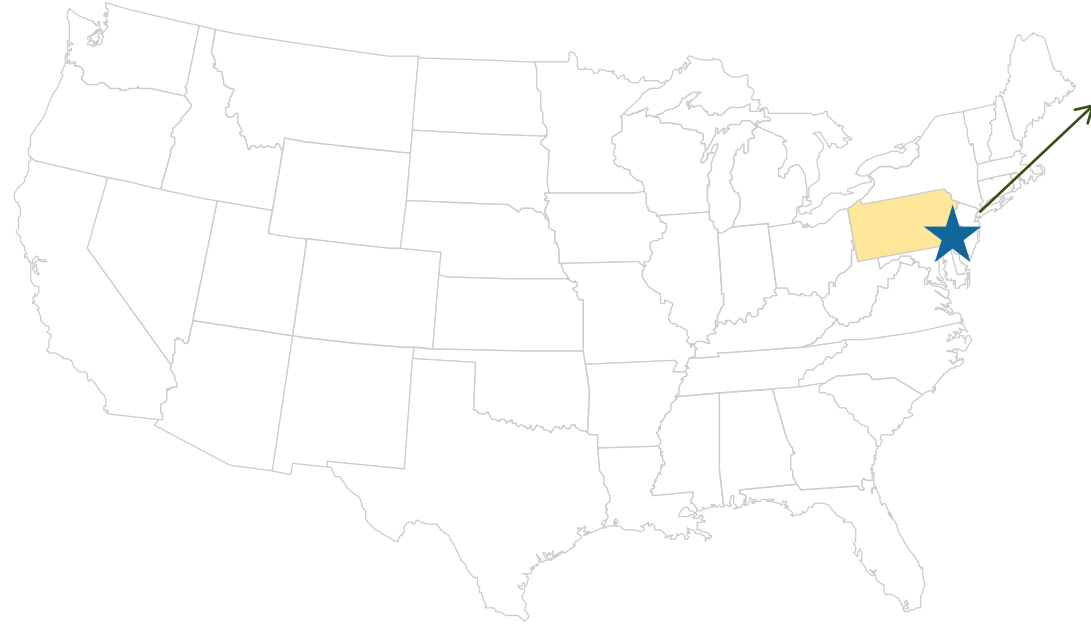
Key findings from a survey among adults who participated in The Philadelphia Foundation On the Table conversations, with support from The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, November 2018



PUBLIC OPINION
STRATEGIES



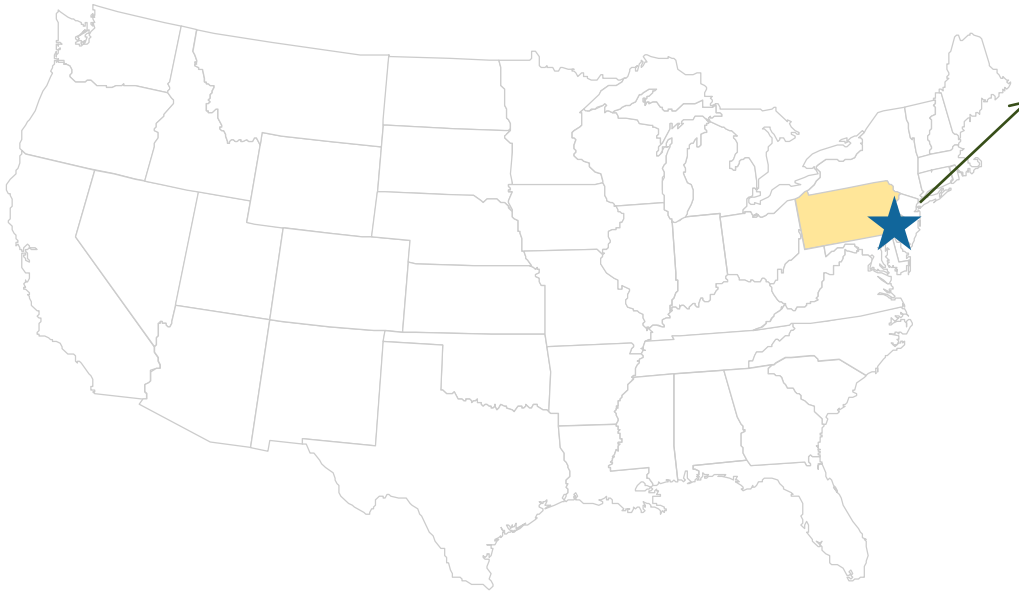
Methodology



- The Philadelphia Foundation estimates that approximately 5,000 adults participated in *On the Table* conversations on November 8, 2018.
- This report presents the findings among 861 adults who participated in *On the Table* conversations and completed the post-conversation survey, which was conducted online and via paper.
- Survey field period: November 8 to 23, 2018
- Notes:
 - Throughout this report, the term “participants” is used to refer to *On the Table* participants who completed the survey.
 - For each question, percentages are based on the total number of respondents who answered it.
 - “Whites” self-identify as non-Hispanic white adults.
 - “African Americans” self-identify as non-Hispanic African-American or black adults.

Methodology (continued)

Geographic regions are defined by ZIP Codes

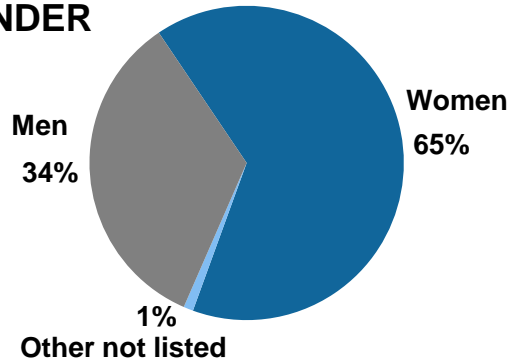


Center City	Northwest Philly	North Philly		Upper North/ Northeast Philly		South Philly	West/SW Philly
19102	19118	19120	19132	19111	19136	19112	19104
19103	19119	19121	19133	19114	19138	19145	19131
19106	19127	19122	19134	19115	19141	19146	19139
19107	19128	19123	19137	19116	19149	19147	19142
19110	19129	19125	19140	19124	19150	19148	19143
	19144	19130		19126	19152		19151
				19135	19154		19153

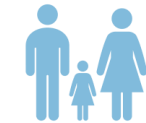
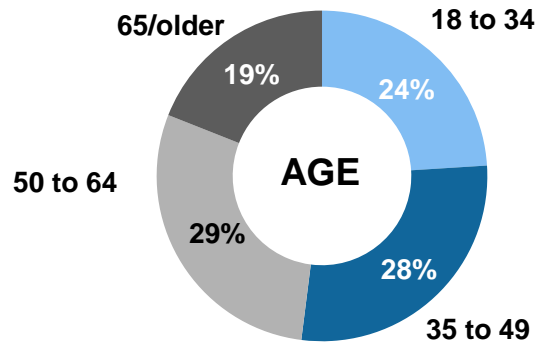
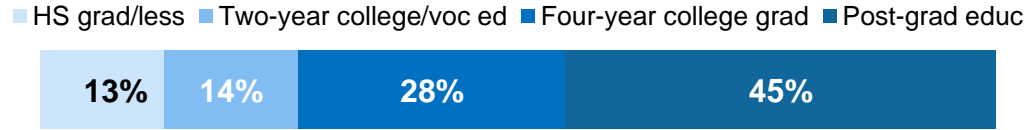
Montgomery/Bucks Counties				Delaware/Chester Counties		
18901	19020	19072	19428	19008	19061	19311
18960	19027	19090	19440	19013	19063	19312
18969	19031	19095	19444	19015	19064	19319
18974	19038	19096	19446	19017	19073	19333
19001	19044	19401	19464	19023	19081	19335
19002	19046	19403	19468	19026	19082	19348
19003	19047	19406	19525	19028	19083	19355
19004	19066	19422		19033	19086	19382
19006	19067	19426		19050	19087	19465

Profile of *On The Table* Participants Who Completed the Survey

GENDER

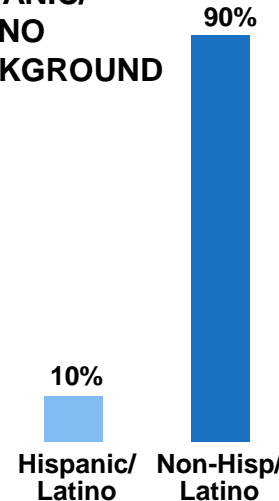


EDUCATION

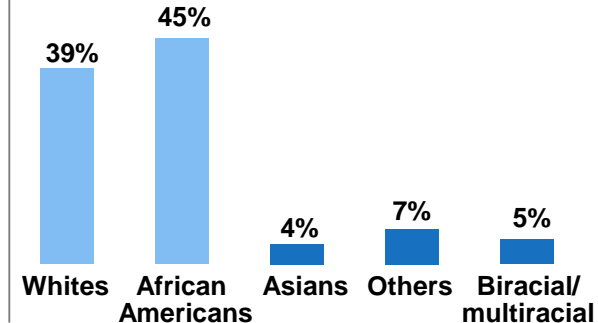


31%
Parent of
minor child

HISPANIC/ LATINO BACKGROUND

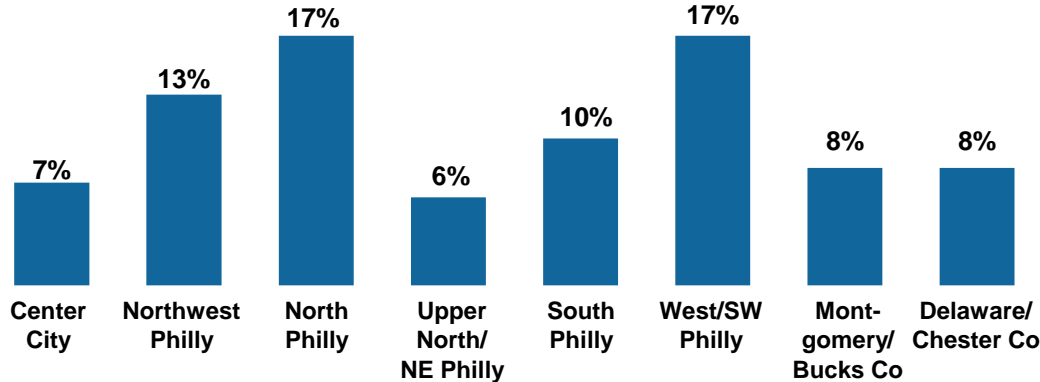


RACE



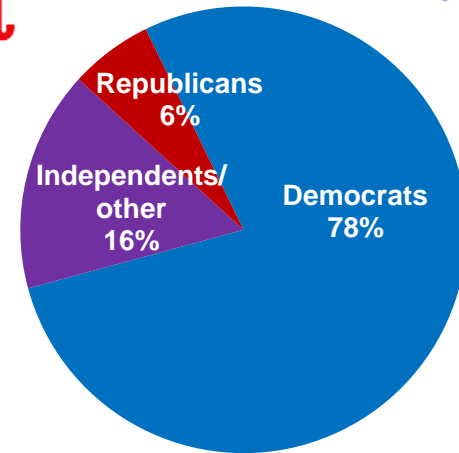
Profile of *On The Table* Participants Who Completed the Survey

Geographic Areas



18%
PARTICIPATED
in OTT last year

PARTY IDENTIFICATION



70% VOTE in
every local
election

Key Takeaways

- The overwhelming majority of Greater Philadelphia *On the Table* participants who took the survey express hope about the future of their community, and this optimistic outlook spans the entire region. Regardless of gender, age, and race or ethnicity, majorities are more hopeful than worried about what the future holds.
- Majorities see their community as embodying several positive characteristics, including being a good place to live, having a strong sense of community, changing for the better, having shared goals and priorities, and being more united than divided.
- However, there are aspects of community on which perspectives vary across racial and ethnic groups and across the Greater Philadelphia area.
 - A slight majority (54%) of white participants see their community as providing opportunities for all. African Americans are equally split on whether it does, and the majority view among Hispanic participants (59%) is that their community does NOT provide opportunities for all.
 - Participants from the surrounding suburbs are more likely than city residents to see their community as providing opportunities for everyone.

Key Takeaways *(continued)*

- In addition to their neighborhood, the aspects of their community that participants who live in the city are most happy with are public transportation and recreational opportunities. Participants who live in the surrounding counties identify the local schools at higher rates.
- When it comes to aspects of community that these *On the Table* participants are most unhappy with, the availability of quality affordable housing is an area of concern across the region.
- The top-priority issues that these *On the Table* participants want to see addressed vary by neighborhood within the Greater Philadelphia region.
 - Those who live in the city identify crime, violence, and public safety; housing issues, including affordable housing and reducing homelessness; and poverty, economic security, and upward economic mobility as top priorities.
 - Participants who live in the surrounding suburbs also identify issues related to poverty, economic security, and upward mobility; as well as jobs and economic development; and race relations and discrimination as top priorities that need to be addressed.

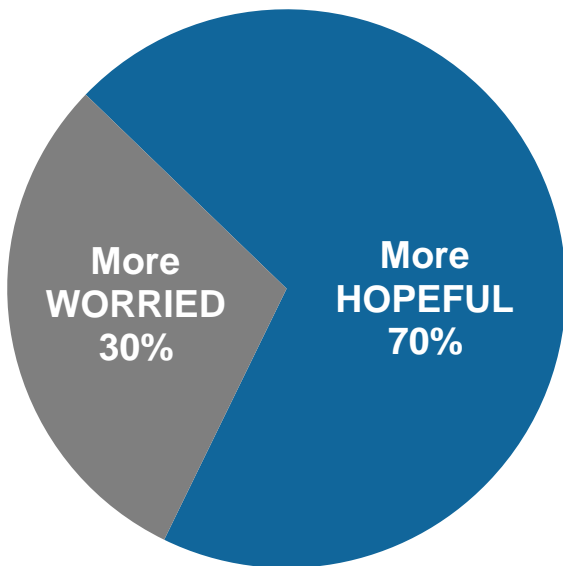
Key Takeaways *(continued)*

- These participants see residents like themselves as well as nonprofits and community organizations as the entities that are having the biggest positive impact on their community. In fact, nine in 10 believe that people like themselves can have an impact on making their community a better place to live, with the majority believing they can have a BIG impact.
- The most powerful motivator of community engagement for most participants is the desire to ensure a strong community for our youth and future generations. However, Hispanic and African-American participants also are motivated by concern about the direction their community is heading.
- Regardless of the source of motivation, these participants are inspired to act. More than nine in 10 say they will take a specific action or next step regarding an issue they discussed at *On the Table*.

COMMUNITY OUTLOOK

These *On the Table* participants are overwhelmingly hopeful about what the future holds for their community.

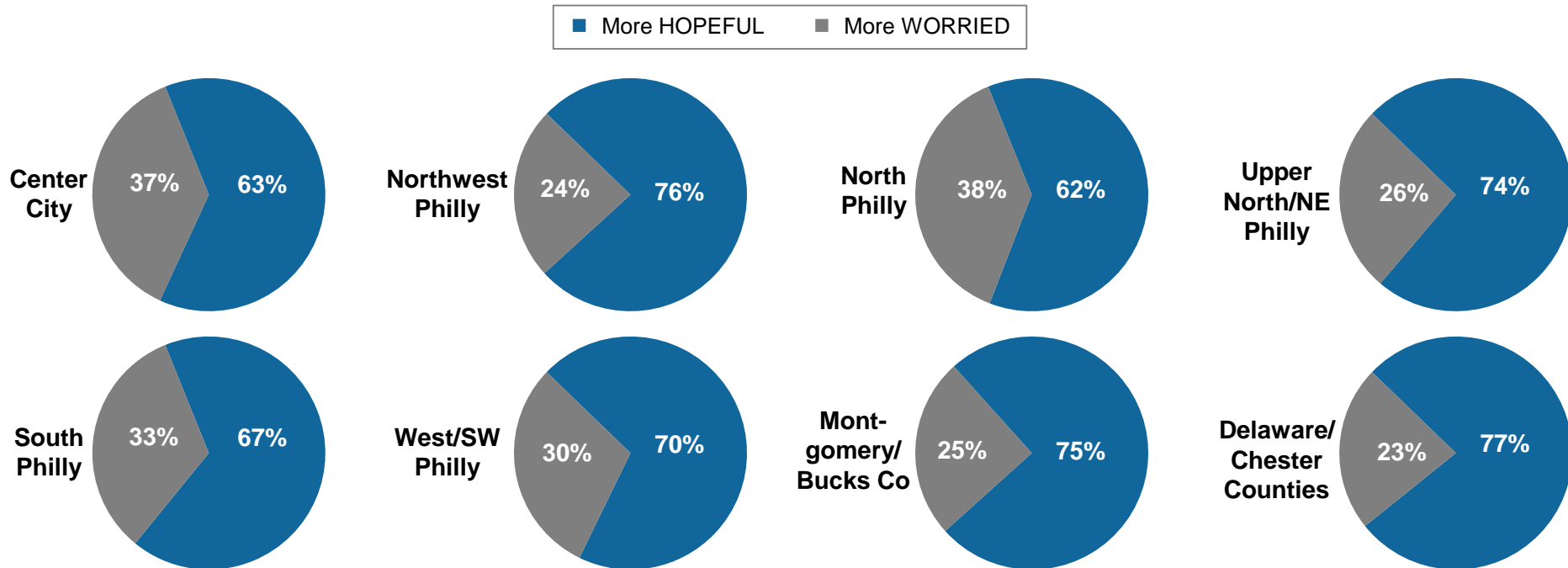
Looking ahead to the next five years or so, do you feel more hopeful or more worried about what the future holds for your community?



	Hopeful	Worried
Men	74%	26%
Women	69%	31%
Age 18 to 34	76%	24%
Age 35 to 49	72%	28%
Age 50 to 64	70%	30%
Age 65/older	61%	39%
Parents	70%	30%
Whites	75%	25%
Hispanics	61%	39%
African Americans	69%	31%

A sense of hope spans the Greater Philadelphia region.

Looking ahead to the next five years or so, do you feel more hopeful or more worried about what the future holds for your community?



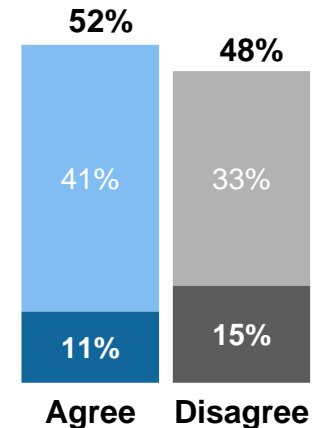
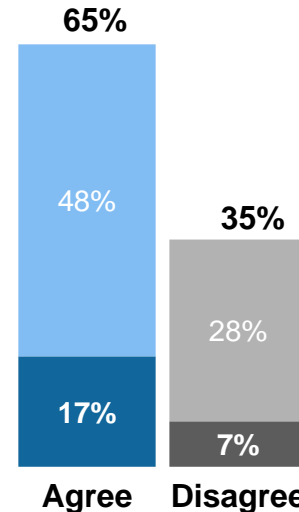
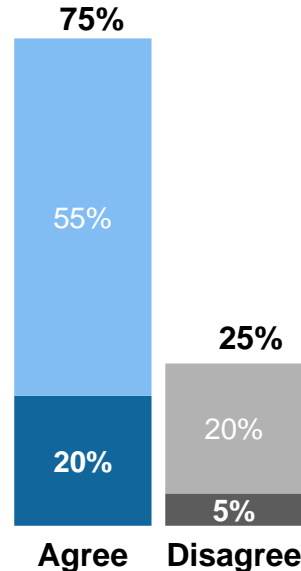
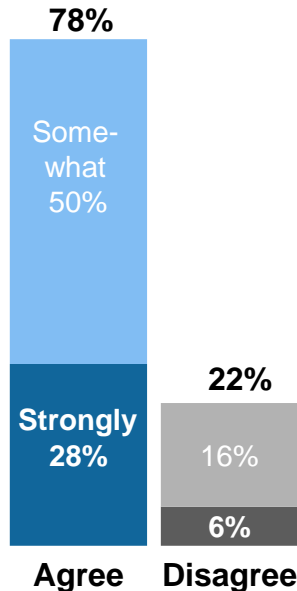
Significant majorities view their community positively on a number of dimensions, but they are split on the degree it provides opportunities for all.

The area where I live has a strong sense of community

My community is changing for the better

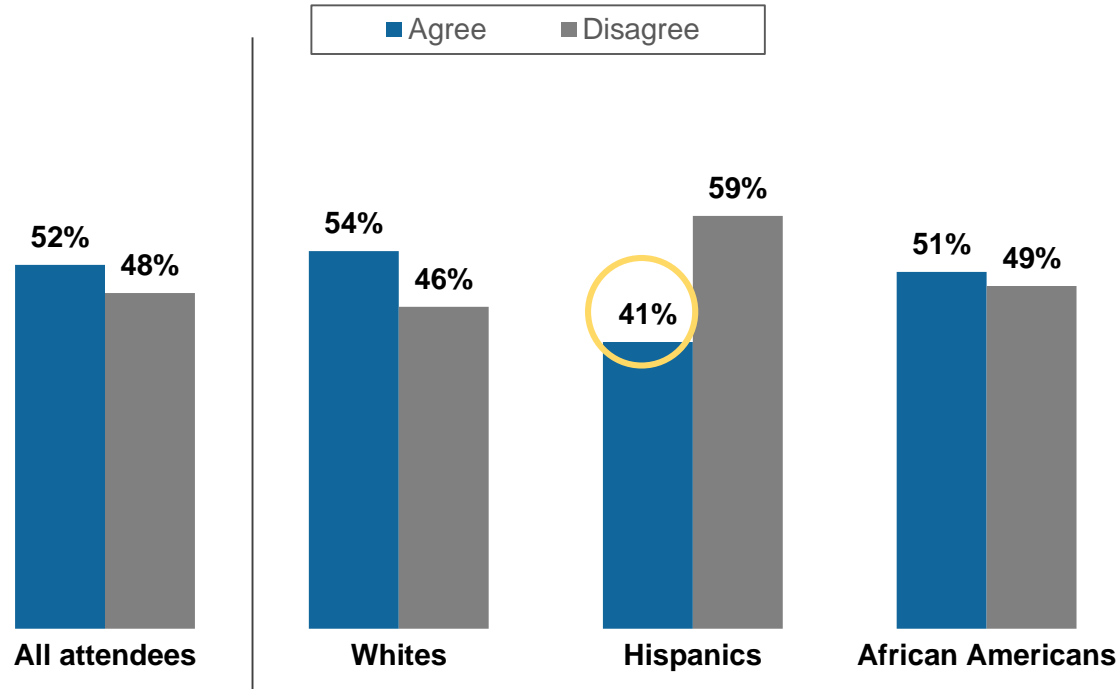
Residents have shared goals/priorities for our community

My community provides opportunities for everyone



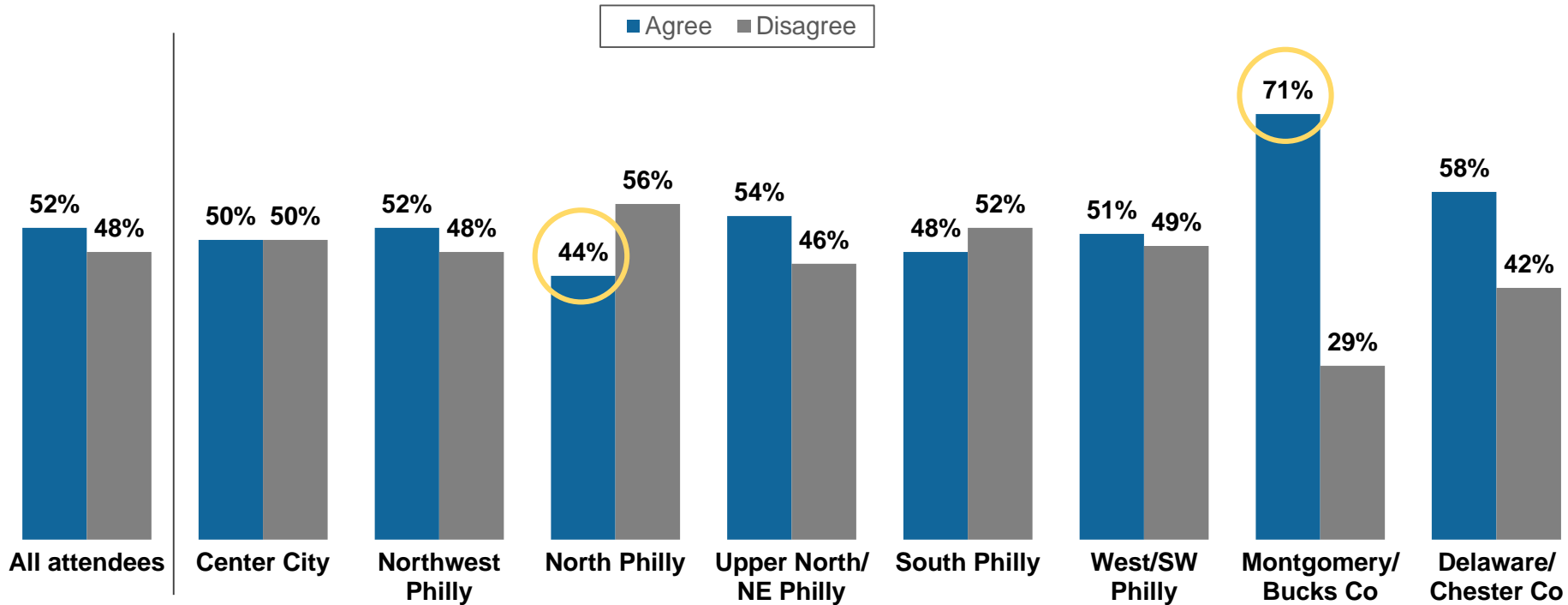
At high rates, Hispanic respondents do not see their community as one that provides opportunities for all.

My community provides opportunities for everyone:



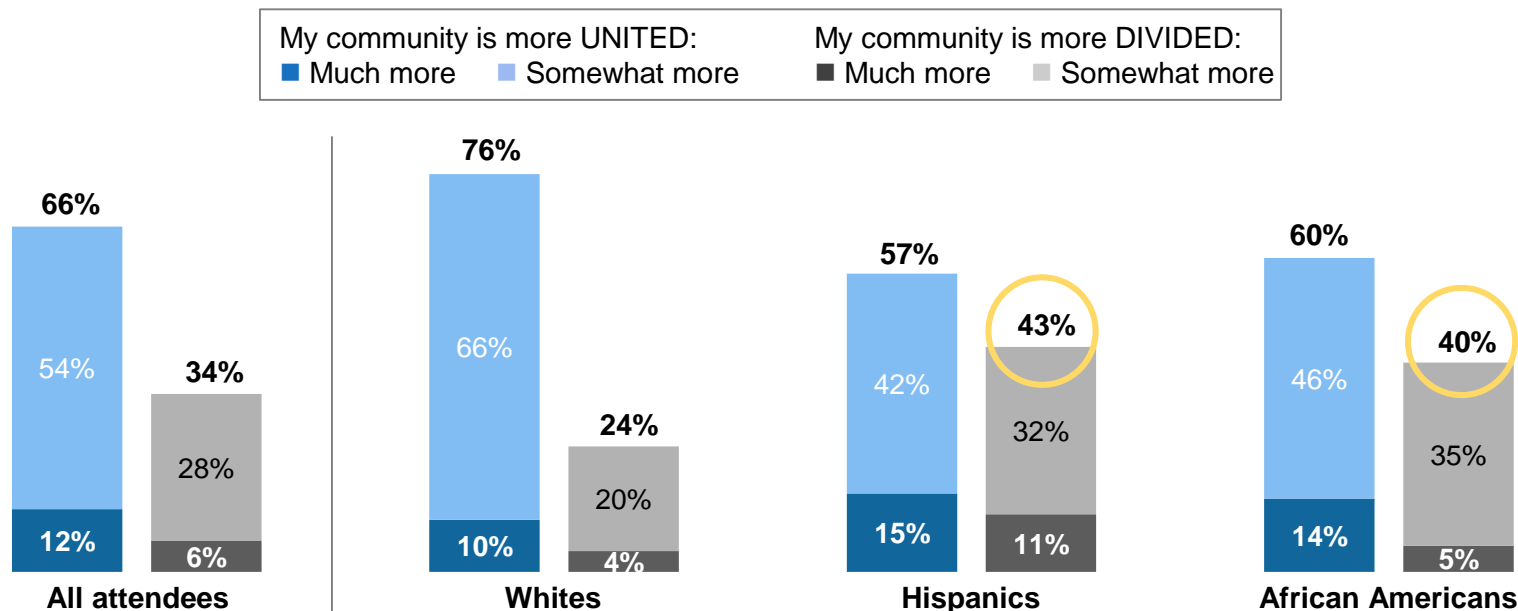
Participants from the city are much more likely to be mixed on the opportunity question than are those from the surrounding suburbs.

My community provides opportunities for everyone:



Majorities say their community is more united than divided, but racial minorities are more likely to say divided than their white counterparts.

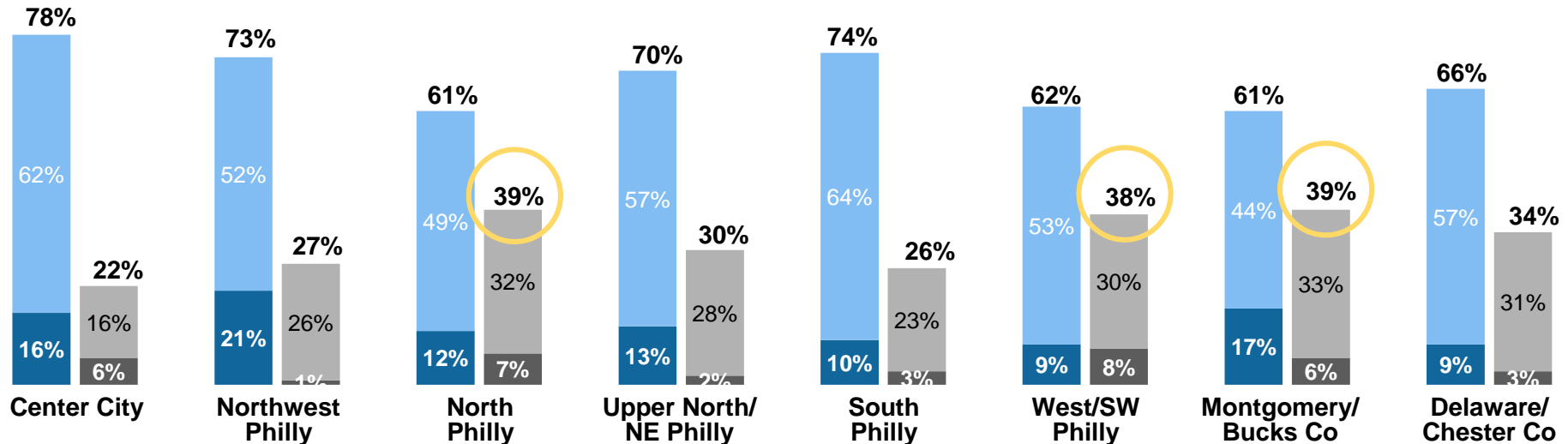
Do you think people in your community are more united or more divided when it comes to addressing important goals and challenges?



Across the Greater Philadelphia region, more participants see their community as united than divided.

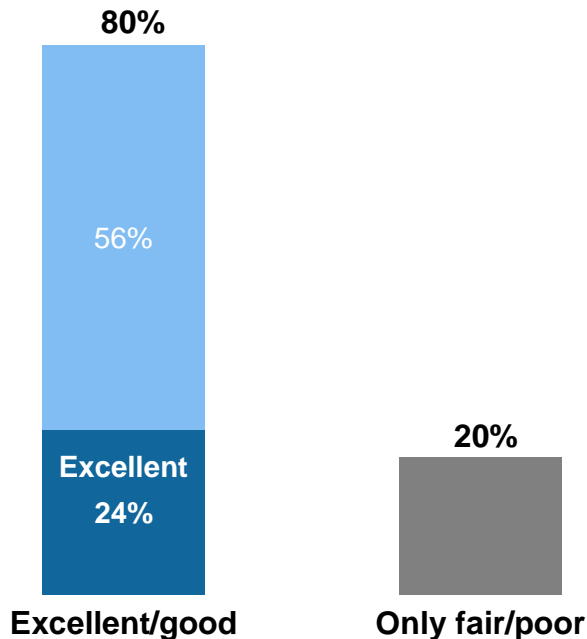
Do you think people in your community are more united or more divided when it comes to addressing important goals and challenges?

My community is more UNITED:
 ■ Much more ■ Somewhat more
 My community is more DIVIDED:
 ■ Much more ■ Somewhat more



Significant majorities rate their community as an excellent or good place to live.

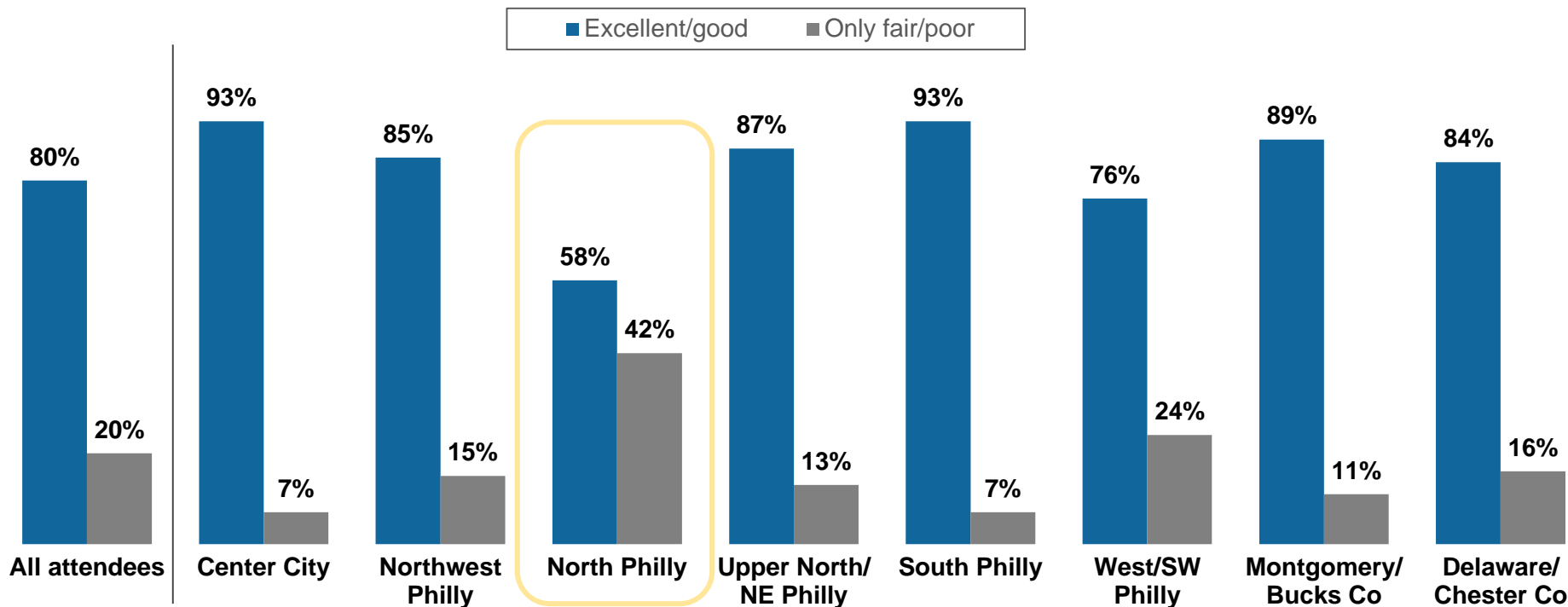
Overall, how would you rate your community as a place to live?



	Excellent/ good	Only fair/ poor
Men	85%	15%
Women	77%	23%
Age 18 to 34	76%	24%
Age 35 to 49	80%	20%
Age 50 to 64	80%	20%
Age 65/older	82%	18%
Parents	78%	22%
Whites	91%	9%
Hispanics	72%	28%
African Americans	70%	30%

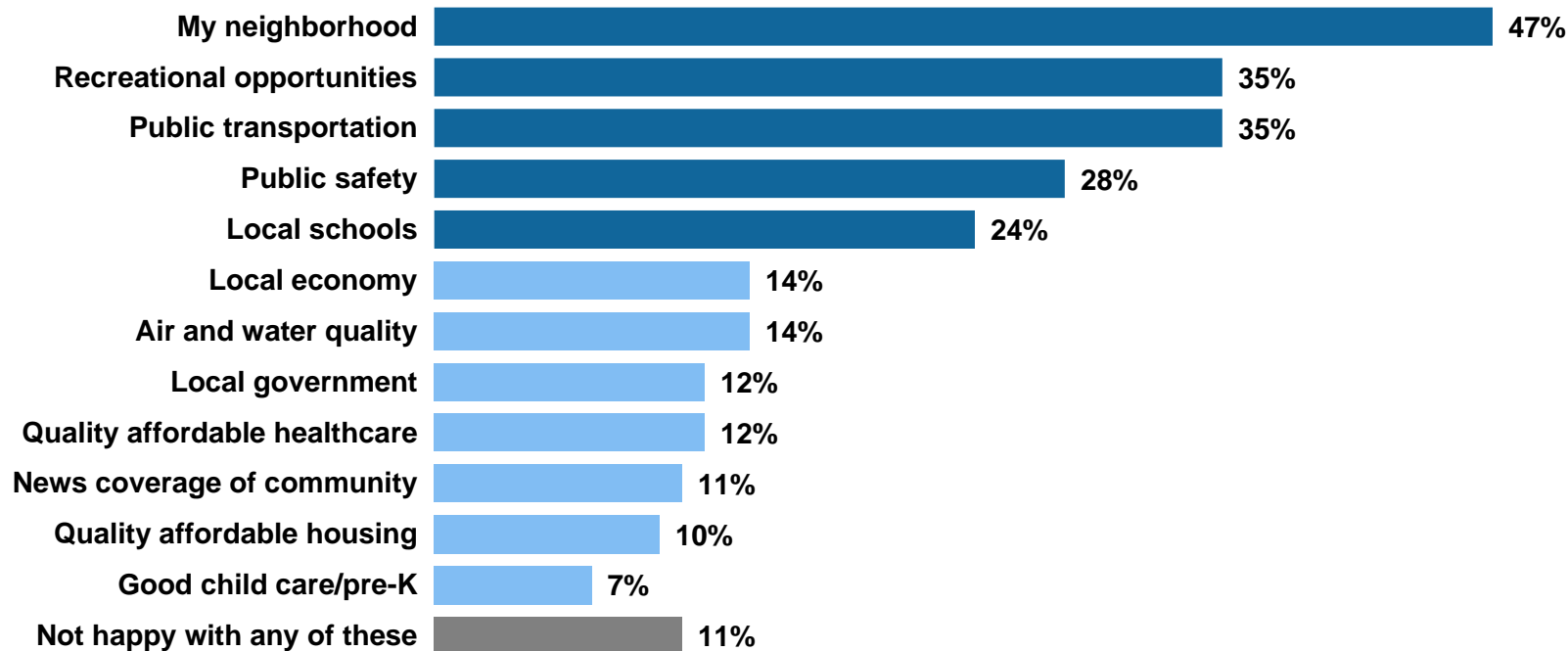
Majorities across the region rate their community as excellent or good, but residents of North Philadelphia do so at lower rates than residents of other neighborhoods.

Overall, how would you rate your community as a place to live?



Their neighborhood, recreational opportunities, and public transportation top the list of community aspects attendees are **MOST HAPPY** with.

TWO or THREE aspects of my community with which I am most happy:



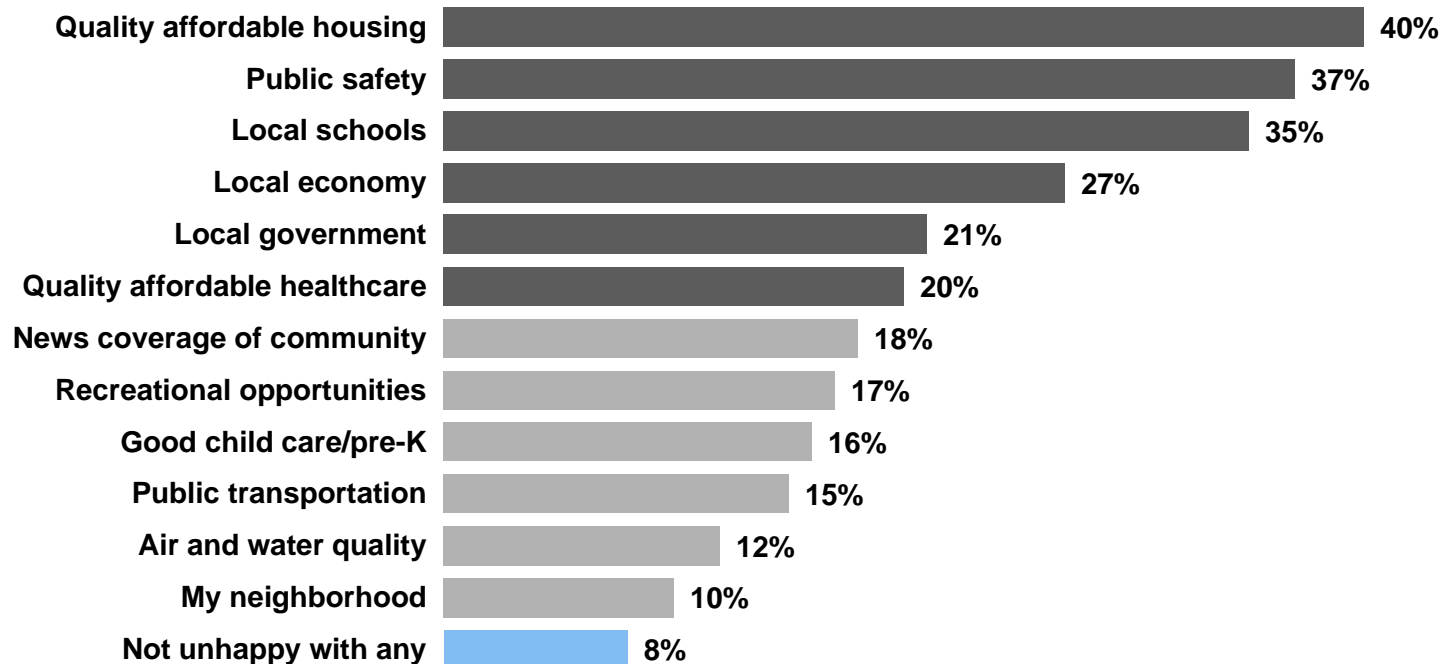
The aspects of community that participants are most happy with are consistent across Philly neighborhoods; they are somewhat different in the surrounding suburbs.

TWO or THREE aspects of my community with which I am most happy:

Center City		Northwest Philly		North Philly		Upper North/NE Philly	
Neighborhood	72%	Neighborhood	53%	Neighborhood	45%	Neighborhood	43%
Public transportation	56%	Recreation opportunities	51%	Public transportation	38%	Public transportation	42%
Recreation opportunities	39%	Public transportation	33%	Recreation opportunities	31%	Recreation opportunities	32%
						Public safety	32%
South Philly		West/Southwest Philly		Montgomery/Bucks Counties		Delaware/Chester Counties	
Neighborhood	57%	Public transportation	37%	Neighborhood	53%	Local schools	52%
Public transportation	48%	Neighborhood	35%	Public safety	50%	Neighborhood	42%
Recreation opportunities	43%	Recreation opportunities	26%	Local schools	47%	Recreation opportunities	36%

Affordable housing, public safety, and schools top the list of community aspects they are MOST UNHAPPY with.

TWO or THREE aspects of my community with which I am most UNhappy:



Affordable housing is a top concern across the Greater Philadelphia region.

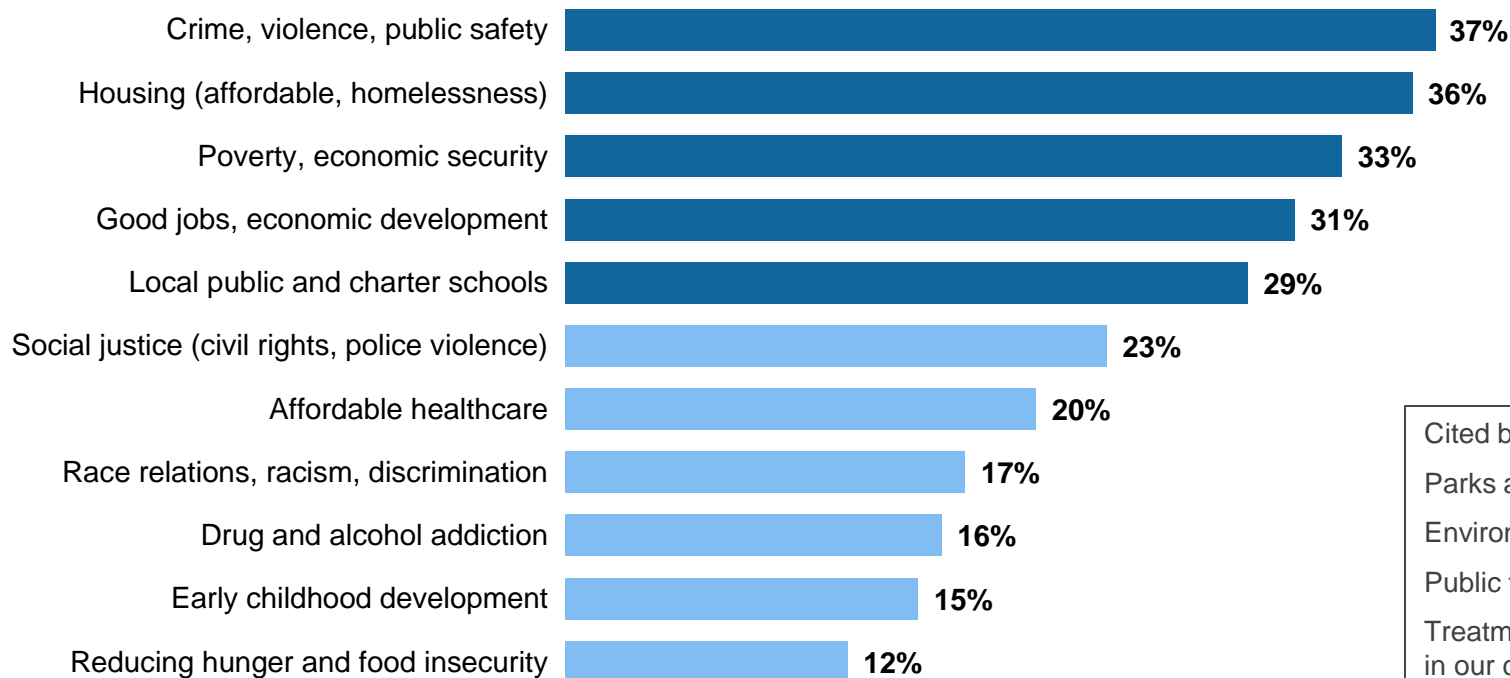
TWO or THREE aspects of my community with which I am most UNhappy:

Center City		Northwest Philly		North Philly		Upper North/NE Philly	
Housing	51%	Local schools	50%	Public safety	51%	Public safety	44%
Local schools	34%	Housing	44%	Housing	41%	Housing	38%
Public safety	25%	Public safety	34%	Local schools	38%	Local schools	36%
Local government	25%						
South Philly		West/Southwest Philly		Montgomery/Bucks Counties		Delaware/Chester Counties	
Housing	56%	Public safety	44%	Housing	28%	Housing	34%
Local schools	42%	Local schools	34%	Local news coverage	28%	Local government	31%
Public safety	32%	Housing	33%	Healthcare	26%	Healthcare	29%

COMMUNITY PRIORITIES

Crime, violence, and public safety and housing issues are the top priorities that *On the Table* participants want to see addressed.

THREE most important issues for my community to address:



Cited by less than 10%:

Parks and recreation	9%
Environmental issues	8%
Public transportation	7%
Treatment of immigrants in our community	5%

Participants of color are more likely to identify housing and crime, violence, and public safety; white participants identify poverty and public schools.

THREE most important issues for my community to address:

Whites		Hispanics		African Americans	
Poverty, economic security	39%	Housing issues	53%	Crime, violence, public safety	45%
Local public and charter schools	34%	Crime, violence, public safety	49%	Housing issues	39%
Good jobs, economic development	26%	Poverty, economic security	30%	Good jobs, economic development	37%
Housing issues	26%	Social justice (civil rights, police violence)	26%	Poverty, economic security	30%

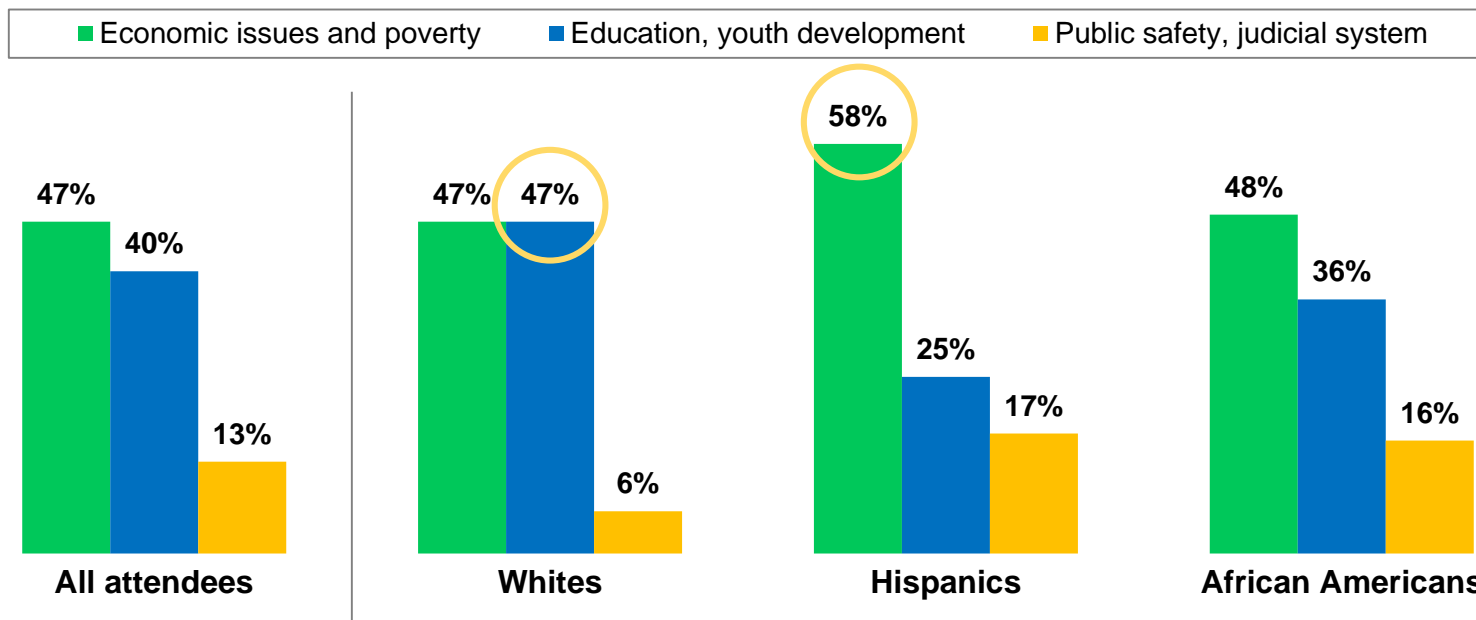
Housing, poverty, and crime are top priorities in Philadelphia; poverty, jobs, and race relations are top priorities in the suburbs.

THREE most important issues for my community to address:

Center City		Northwest Philly		North Philly		Upper North/NE Philly	
Housing issues	50%	Local public and charter schools	42%	Crime, violence, public safety	48%	Crime, violence, public safety	55%
Poverty, economic security	37%	Poverty, economic security	36%	Housing issues	40%	Jobs, economic development	42%
Crime, violence, public safety	33%	Housing issues	35%	Jobs, economic development	37%	Housing issues	34%
South Philly		West/Southwest Philly		Montgomery/Bucks Counties		Delaware/Chester Counties	
Housing issues	40%	Crime, violence, public safety	45%	Poverty, economic security	35%	Poverty, economic security	39%
Local public and charter schools	37%	Housing issues	40%	Jobs, economic development	32%	Jobs, economic development	31%
Poverty, economic security	31%	Poverty, economic security	35%	Race relations, discrimination	28%	Race relations, discrimination	28%

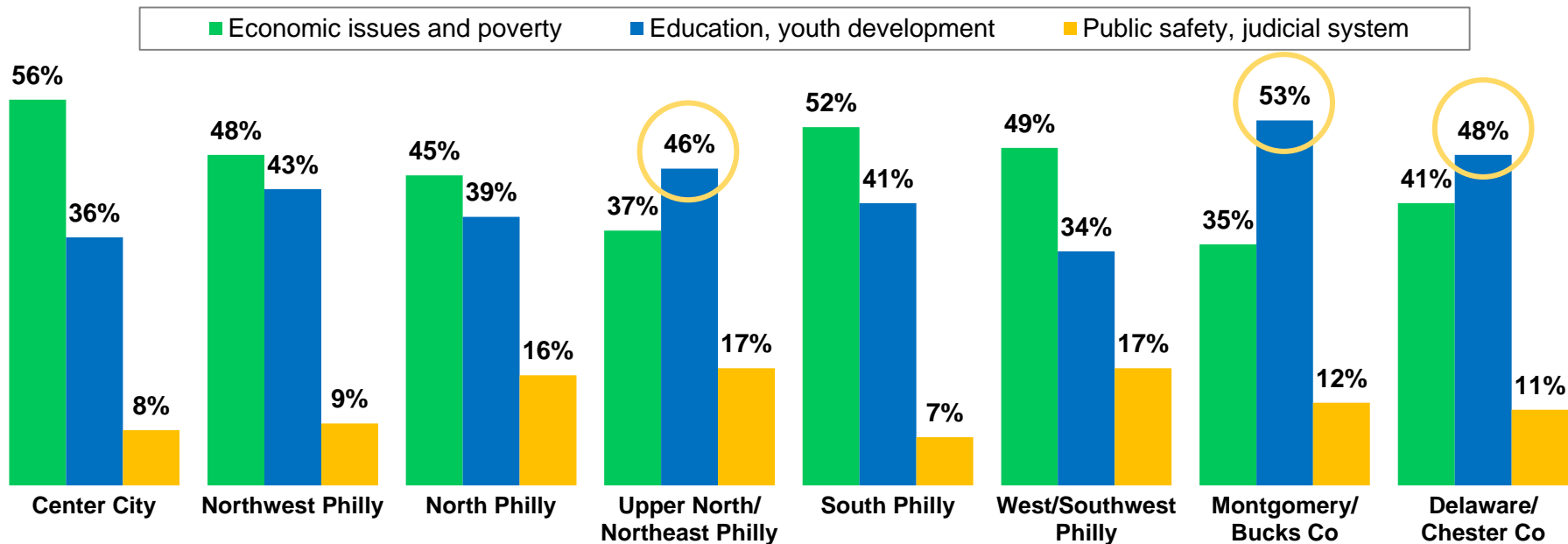
When asked to select the single most important problem to address among just three, economic issues/poverty is the top priority among participants of color; white participants place that on par with education/youth development.

Of these three issues that Philadelphia-area residents have identified as important problems facing our community, which ONE is the most important problem to address?



The single most important problem to address varies across the Greater Philly region.

Of these three issues that Philadelphia-area residents have identified as important problems facing our community, which ONE is the most important problem to address?



Questions I Want Candidates Running for Local Office to Answer:

Economic Issues and Poverty

"How will you protect residents from being displaced due to gentrification? How will you support economic development in a way that includes all residents? Do you support a minimum living wage?"

"How to address the problem of the long-term structurally unemployed? How to solve the issues of banking access for the poor?"

"How do I create more jobs as a black businessman? Where do I get more financial access?"

Public Safety and the Judicial System

"What are we doing to better educate our community about our rights?"

"Can we get more programs for convicted felons to be able to re-enter their communities with support?"

"How to remove guns from the streets? How to educate youth to avoid violence?"

"How can colored and LGBTQ people be protected from unnecessary harassment from police?"

Education and Youth Development

"Can public-private partnerships be developed with the public schools (not chartered) to increase access to smaller class sizes, appropriately prepared educational staff, and to provide the necessary educational resource material to achieve educational parity for the students in the most stressed schools?"

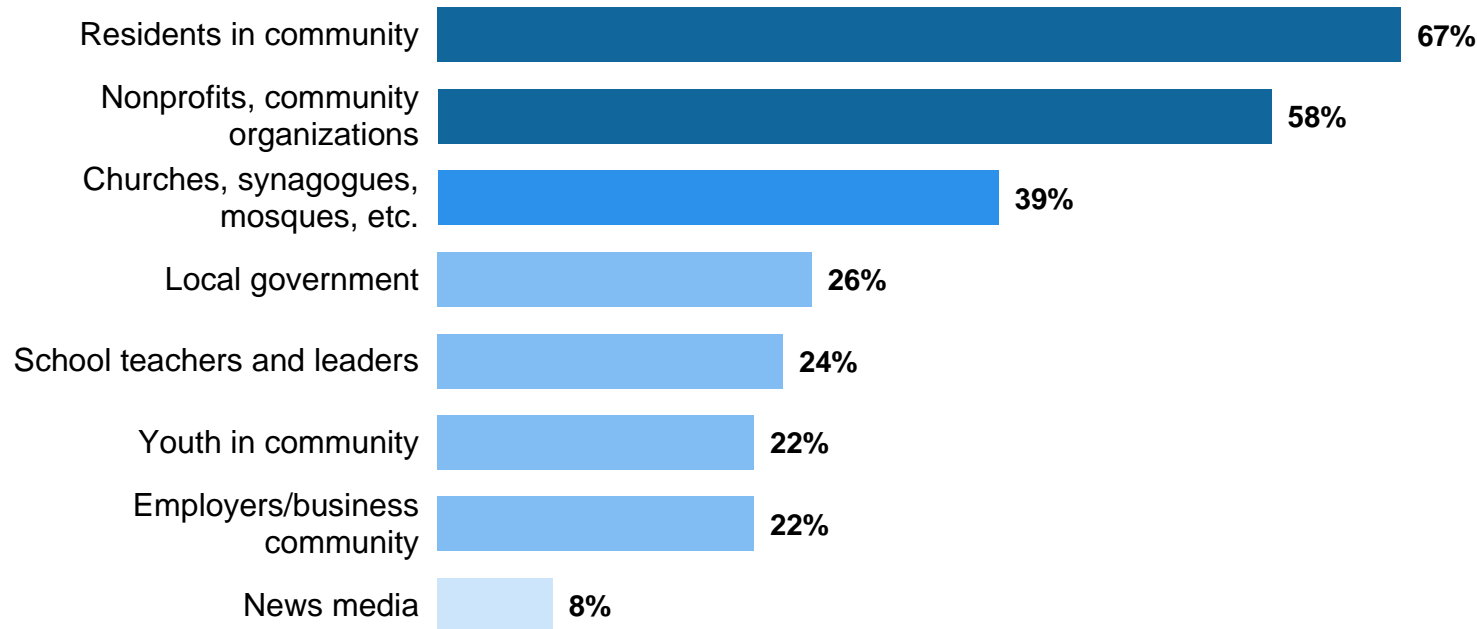
"How can we ensure that Philadelphia public schools receive enough funding for both teachers and supplies?"

"What do you believe are the best ways to evaluate school and student performance and what will you do to improve the quality of public schools?"

EFFECTING CHANGE IN MY COMMUNITY

***On the Table* participants see residents as having the greatest positive impact on their community.**

TWO or THREE groups that have the greatest impact on making my community a better place to live:



African-American and Hispanic participants identify faith communities as having an impact at higher rates than do white participants.

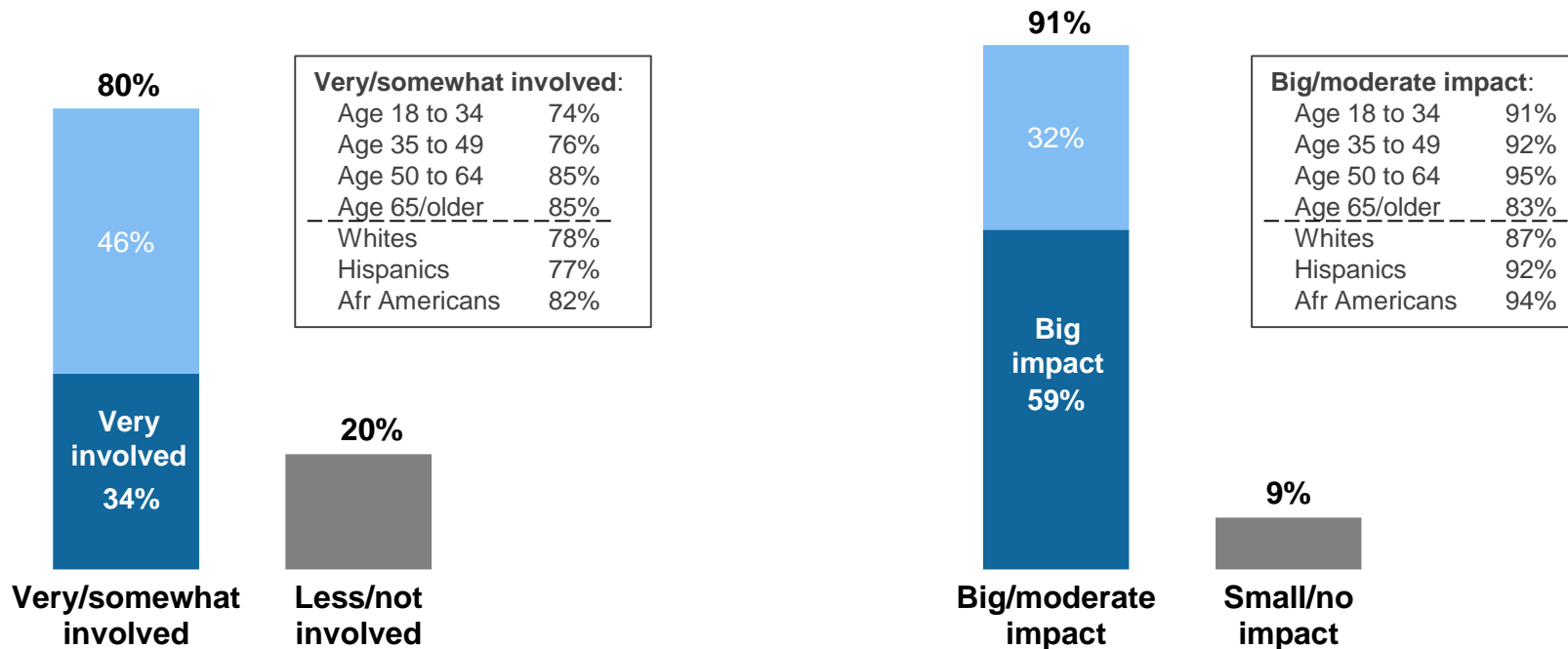
TWO or THREE groups that have the greatest impact on making my community a better place to live:

	Whites	Hispanics	African Americans
Residents in community	65%	71%	66%
Nonprofits, community organizations	64%	57%	55%
Churches, synagogues, mosques, etc.	33%	41%	48%
Local government	34%	22%	23%
School teachers and leaders	27%	20%	22%
Youth in community	14%	33%	25%
Employers/business community	25%	20%	18%
News media	6%	7%	9%

Significant majorities are involved in their community and even larger proportions believe they can make their community a better place to live.

Involvement in my community and neighborhood activities:

Impact people like me can have in making my community a better place:



The biggest motivator for community engagement is ensuring a strong community for our youth and future generations.

Which TWO of these are the most motivating to you personally as reasons to be involved and engaged in your community?



Future generations is a top motivator; participants of color are more likely to also be motivated by concern about the direction their community is heading.

My TWO most motivating reasons to be involved and engaged in community:

Want community to be strong for youth and future generations

Excited about potential for future of community, want to be a part of shaping it

Concerned about direction community is heading, want to be part of addressing concerns

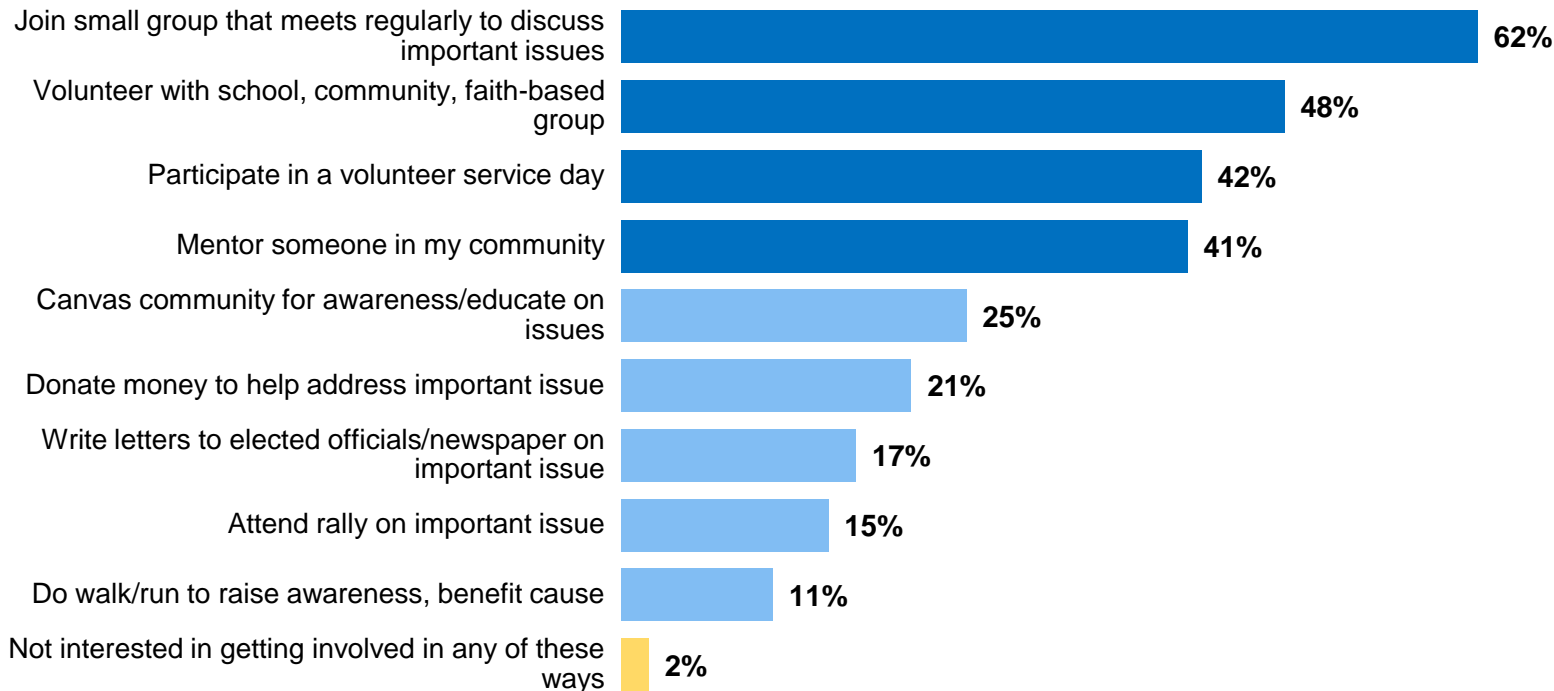
Moral responsibility

Specific issues/causes interest me, motivate me to get involved

All attendees	Whites	Hispanics	African Americans
53%	54%	59%	53%
40%	42%	41%	35%
38%	23%	62%	48%
38%	40%	22%	39%
28%	36%	16%	24%

Respondents express interest in a number of different ways to make their community a better place to live, work, and play.

In which THREE of these ways would you be most interested in getting involved in your community?

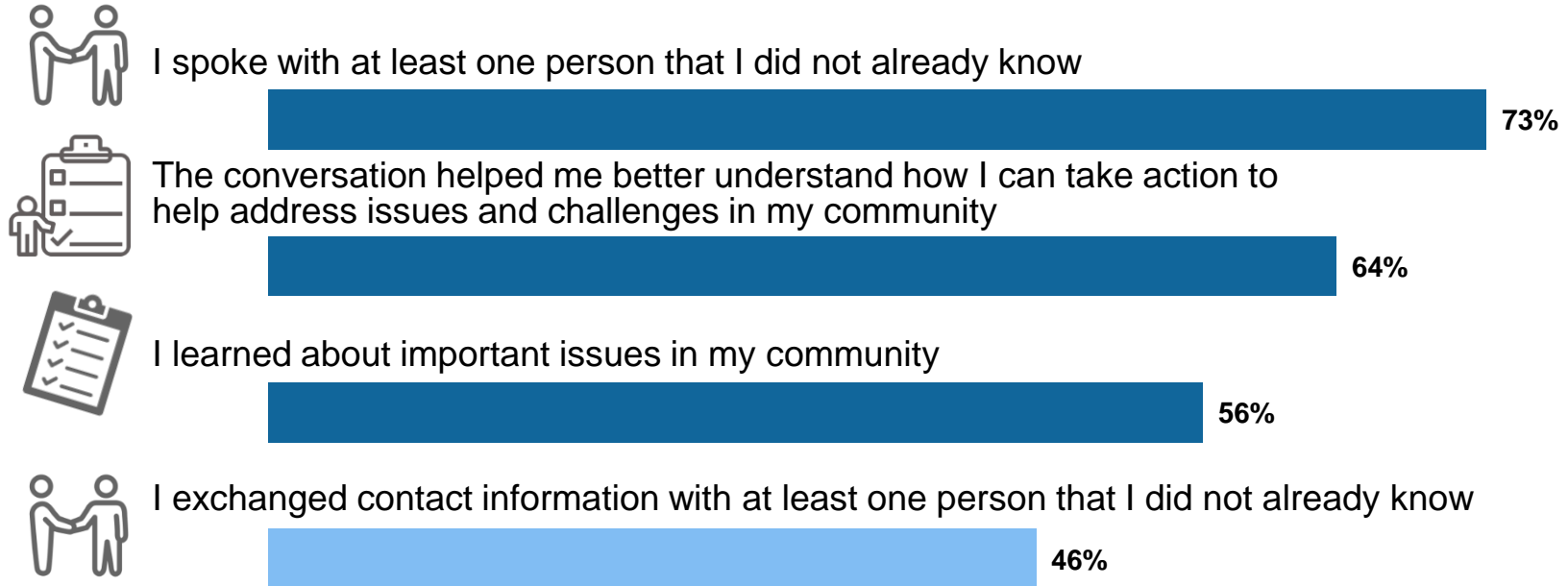




ON THE TABLE CONVERSATION EXPERIENCE

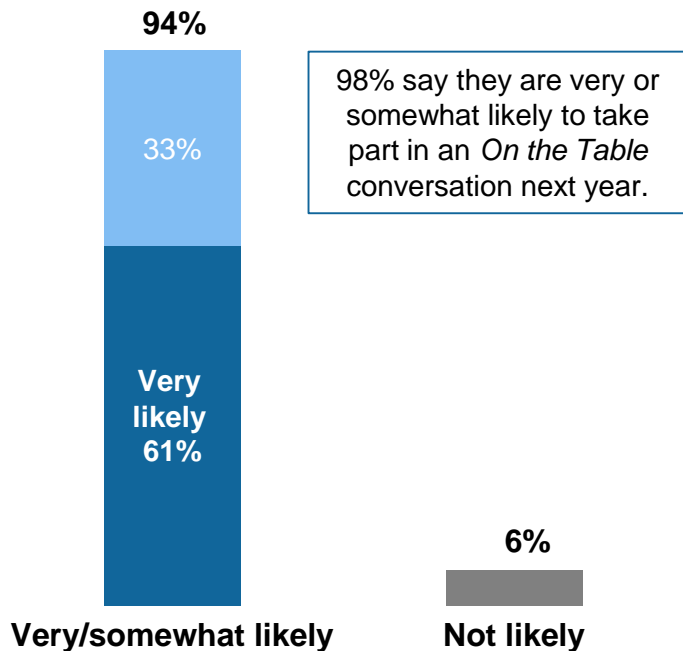
On the Table fostered greater understanding and new relationships for many.

Which of these apply to you related to your On the Table experience?



Overwhelming majorities say they will take action on an issue they discussed at *On the Table*; participants of color commit to doing so at even higher rates.

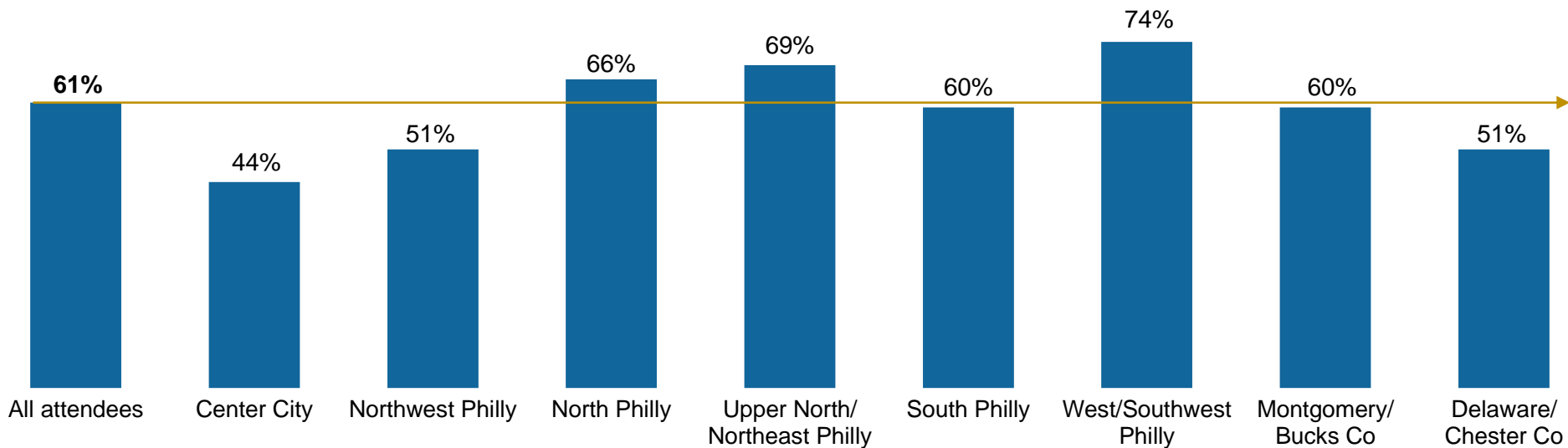
How likely are you to take specific actions or next steps regarding an issue or solution discussed at your On the Table conversation?



VERY likely to take action	
Age 18 to 34	64%
Age 35 to 49	61%
Age 50 to 64	61%
Age 65/older	53%
Parents	64%
Whites	48%
Hispanics	67%
African Americans	68%

Likelihood of taking a specific action varies somewhat, but is high across the Greater Philadelphia region.

Proportions saying they are VERY LIKELY to take specific actions or next steps regarding an issue or solution discussed at their On the Table conversation:



What specific actions do you plan to take as a result of your conversation?

