

Health, Well-being, and Social Capital in Southwest Georgia



What did we want to know?

- *The Two Georgias Initiative* was a 5-year effort funded by the Healthcare Georgia Foundation, funding local coalitions to address health equity across rural Georgia.
- The EPRC wanted to know baseline levels on a range of topics prioritized by the local coalitions.



What did we do?

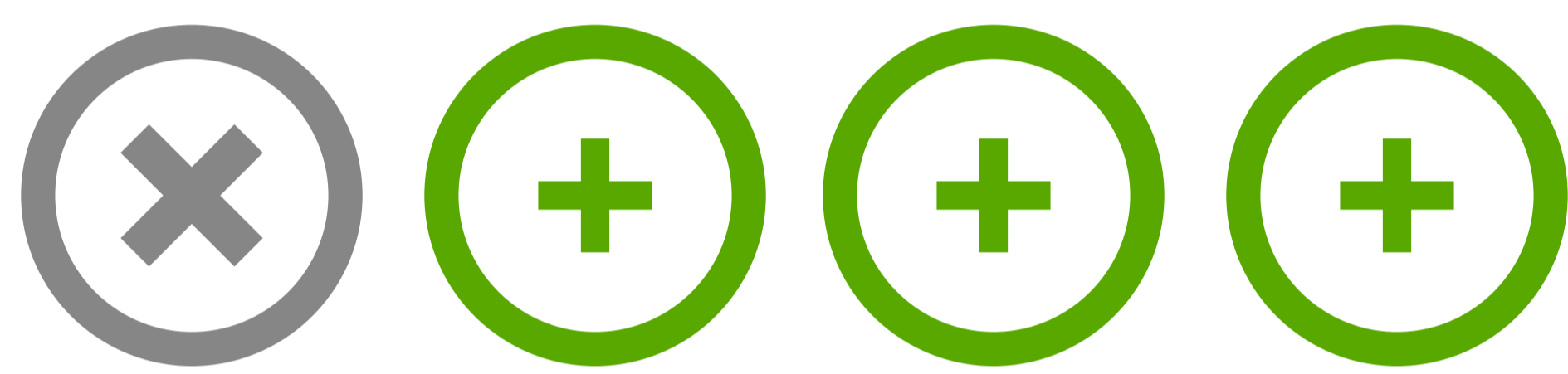


- We conducted a survey with households in 1103 counties across Georgia.
- We received 11 responses from 5 Southwest Georgia counties.
 - **Cook, Clay, Early, Miller and Decatur counties** responded to questions about health, well-being, and social capital. Their responses are reported here.

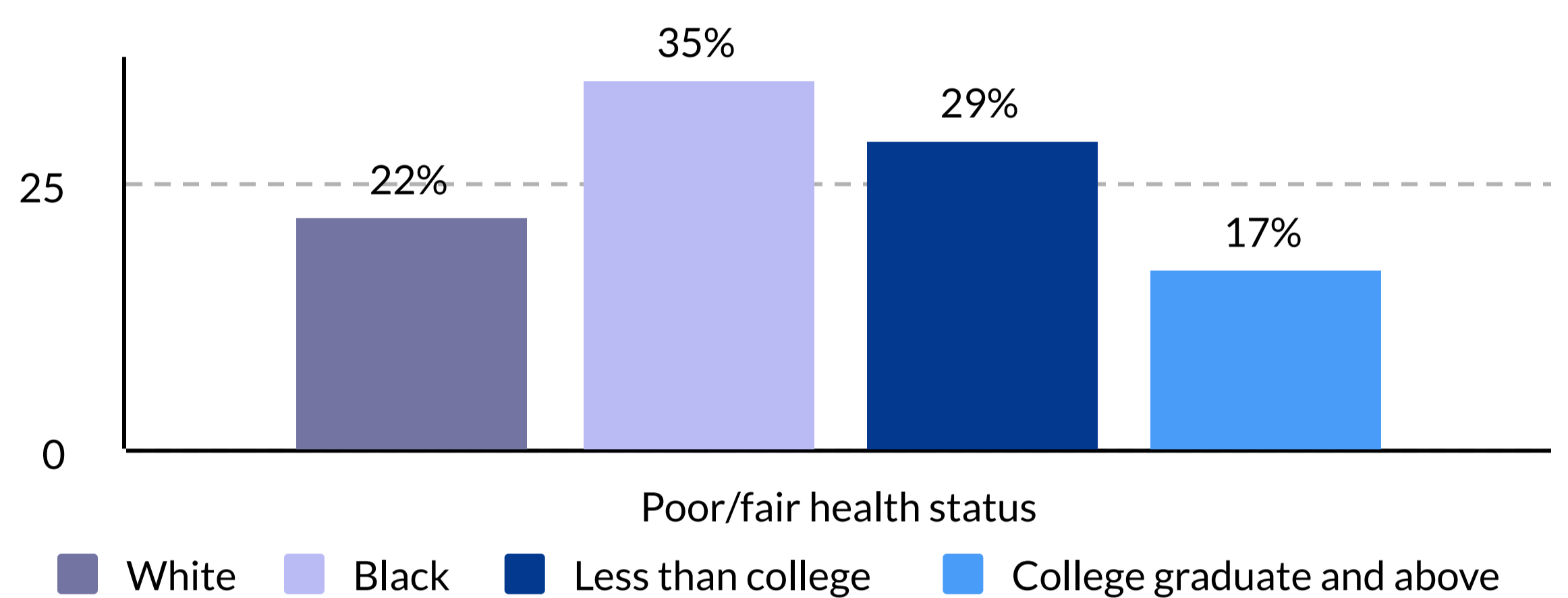
What did we find?

Health and Well-Being

Health Status



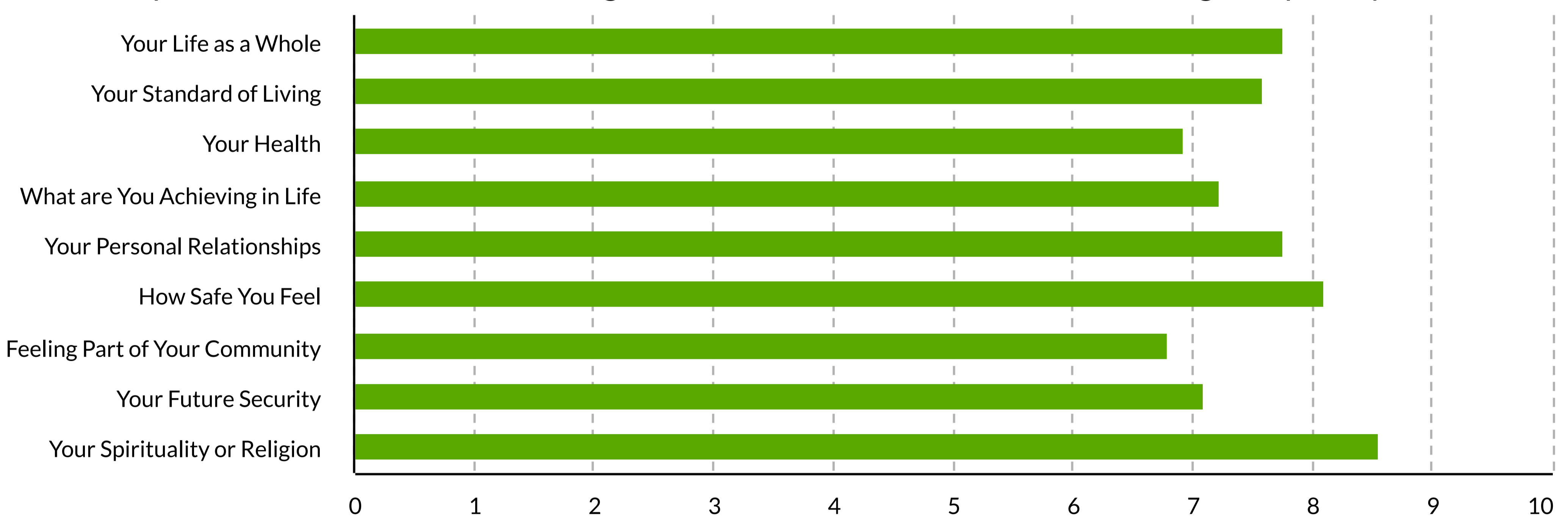
Overall, about a quarter of respondents reported poor/fair health status.



More respondents who were Black or had less than a college degree reported poor/fair health status

Well-Being

Respondents rated their well-being related to various factors, with 10 being completely satisfied:

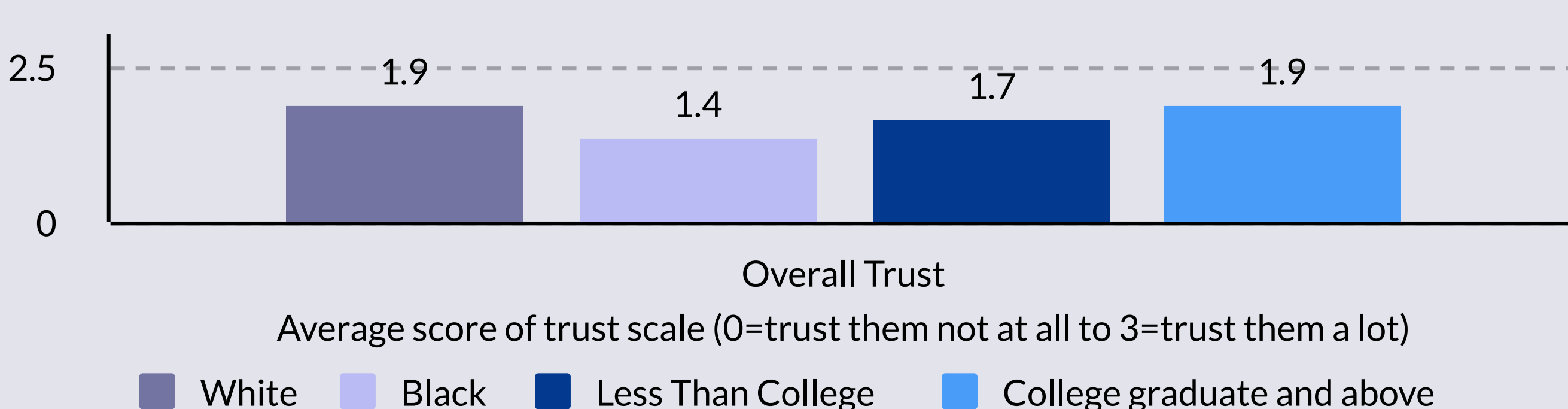
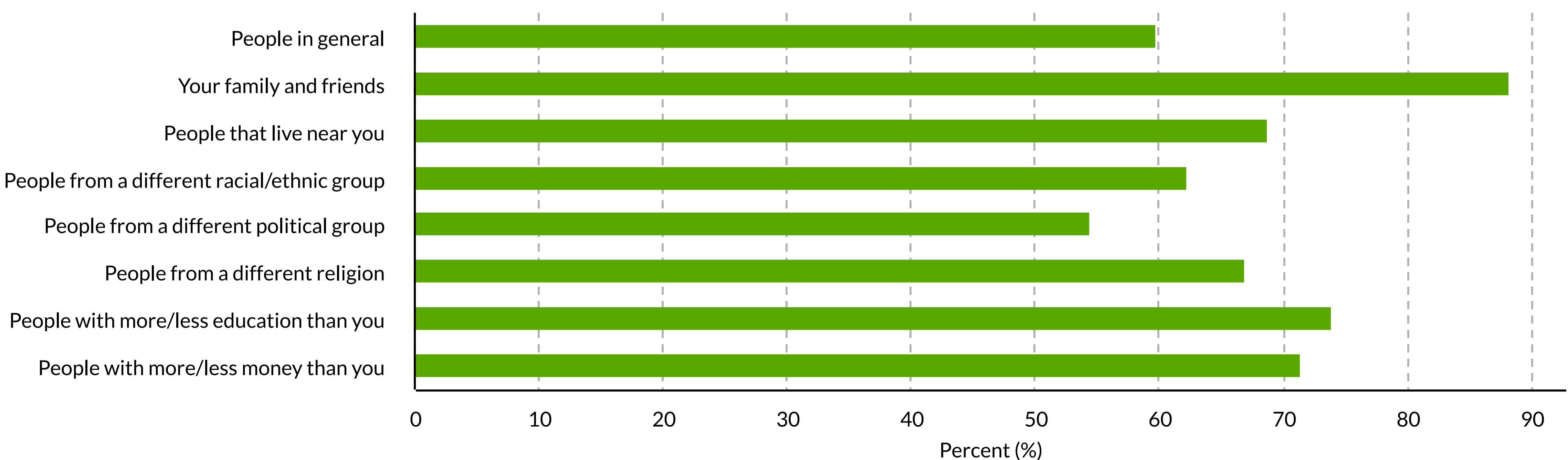


There were very small differences by race, with Black respondents having slightly lower levels of overall life satisfaction relative to White respondents. There were no differences between those with and without a college degree.

Social Capital

Trust

Percent of respondents who reported they trust the following groups of people some or a lot:



White respondents and college graduates had slightly higher average levels of overall trust than Black respondents or those without a college degree.

Civic Engagement

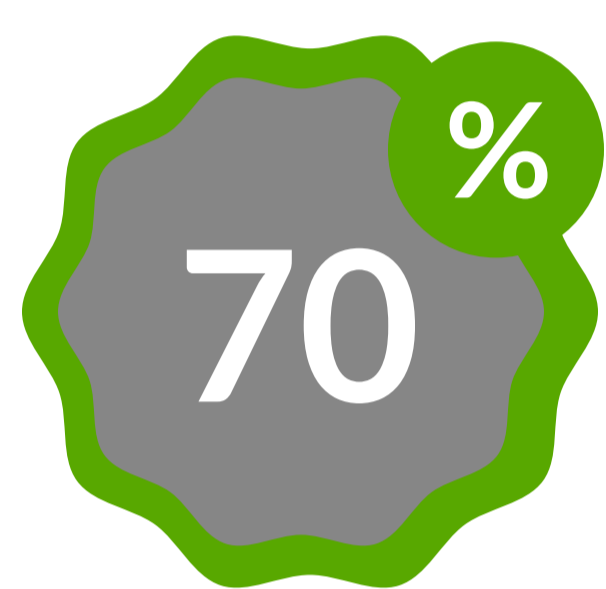
Respondents reported whether they participate in the following civic engagement activities:



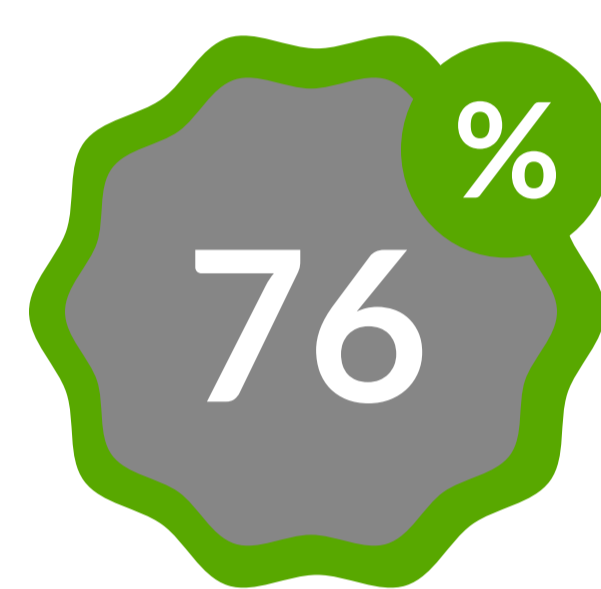
Voting

More than 2/3 of respondents voted in different types of elections, which differed by race and education.

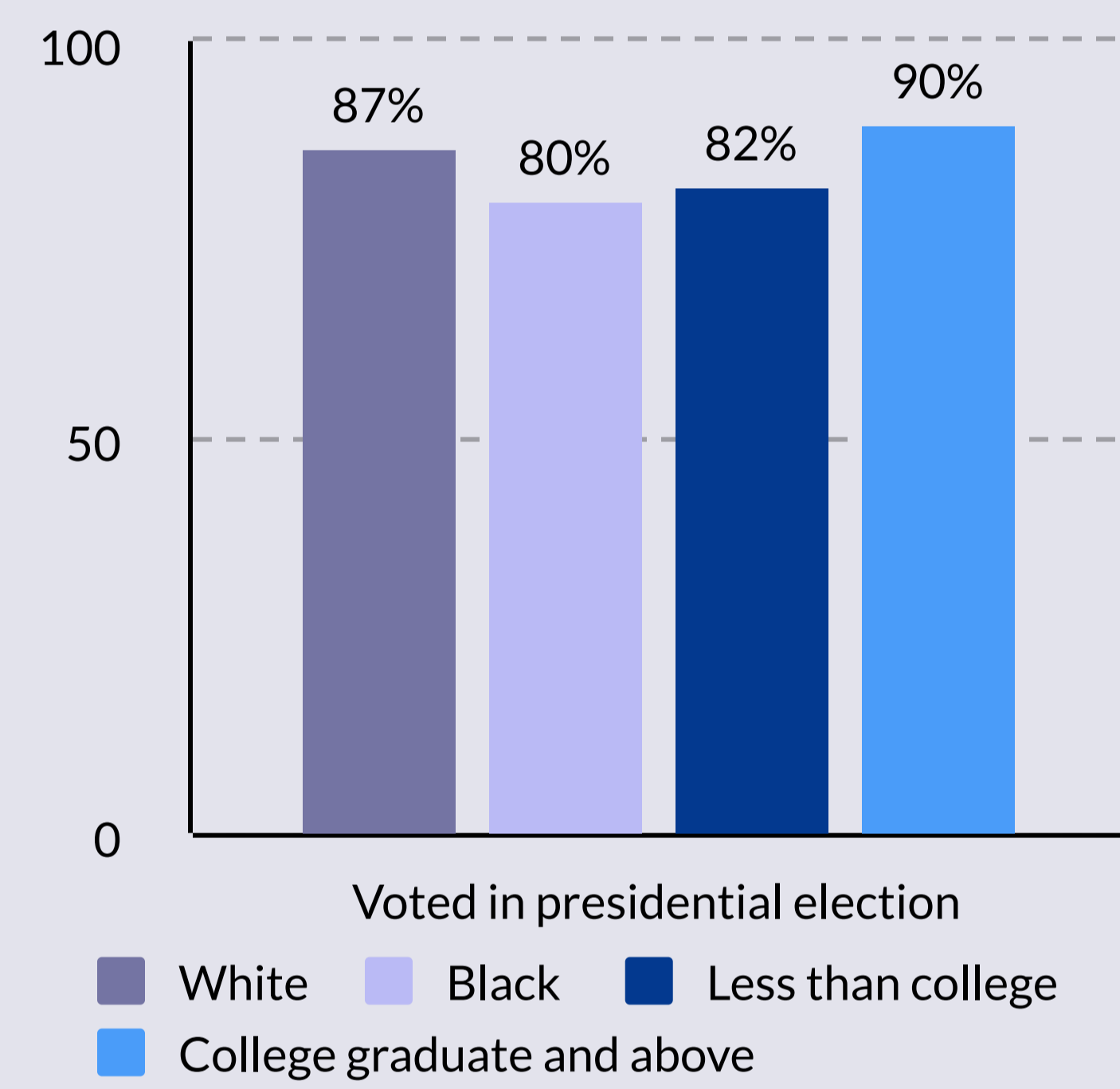
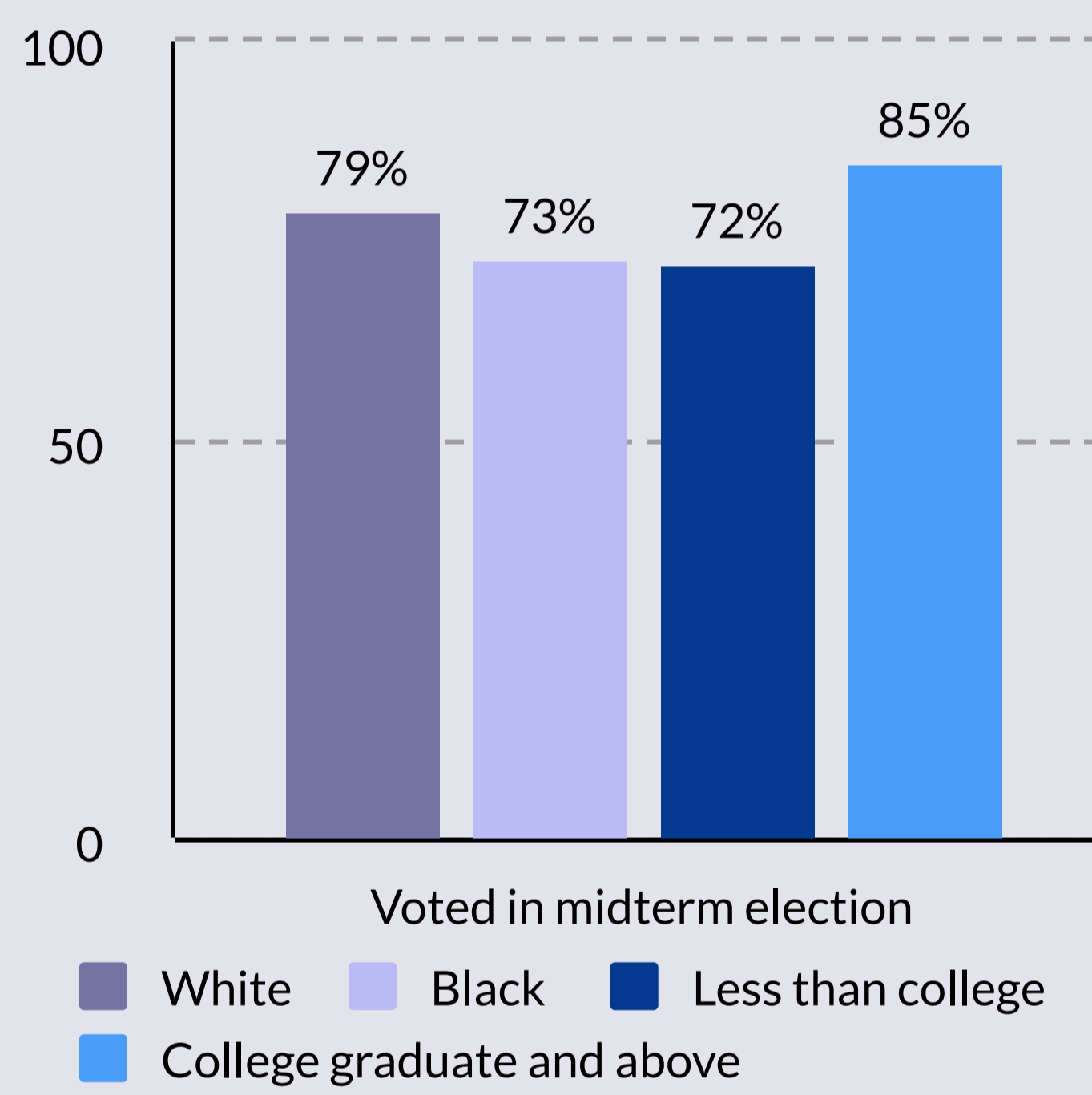
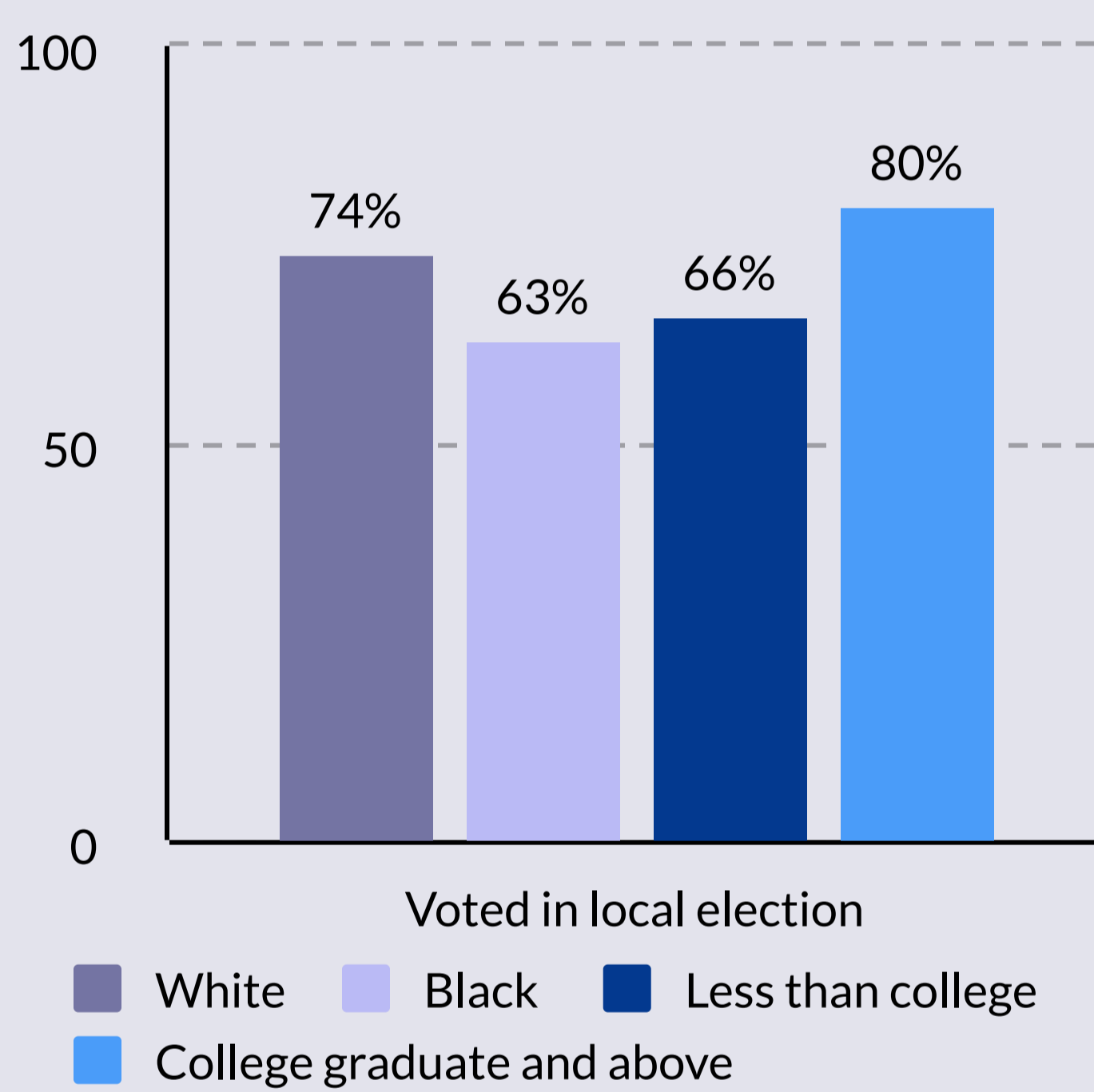
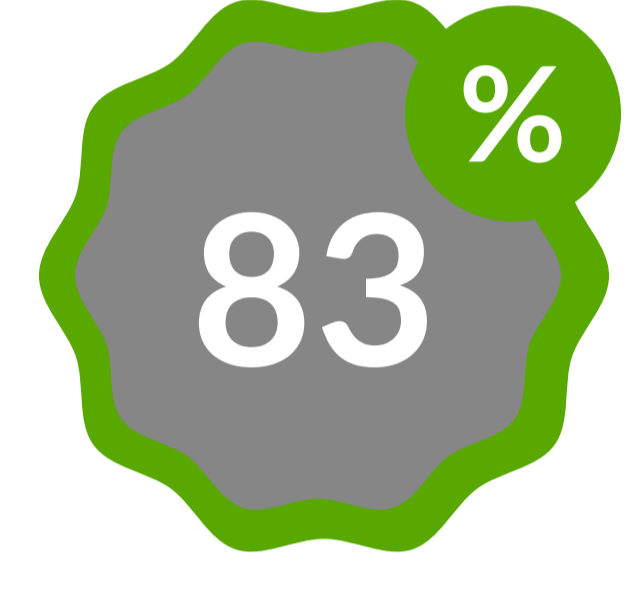
Local Election



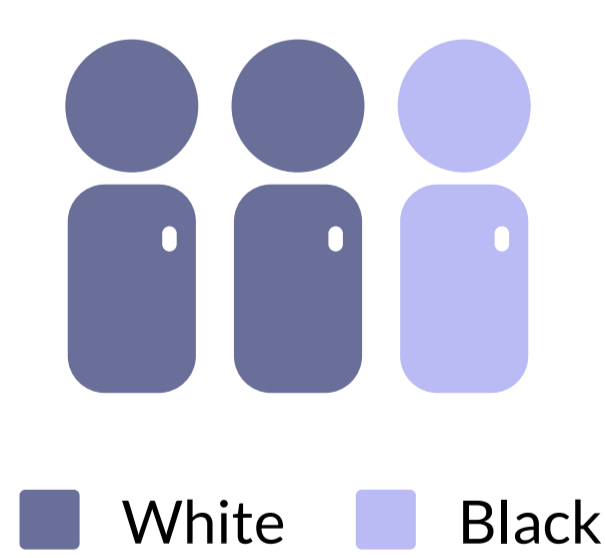
Midterm Election



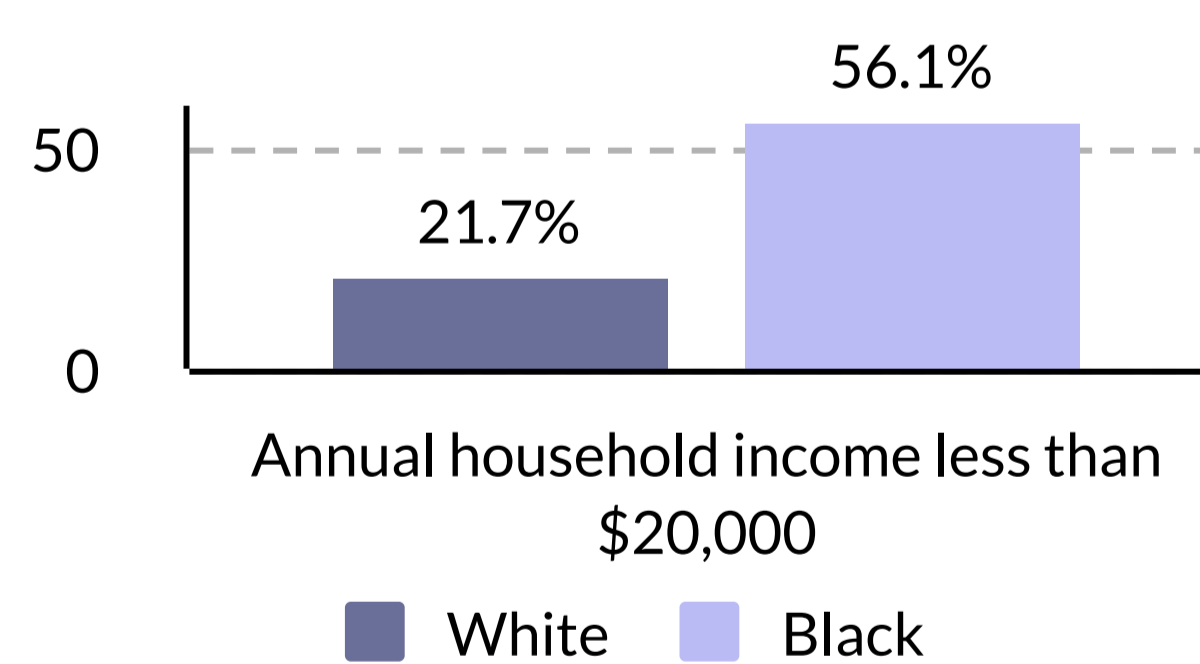
Presidential Election



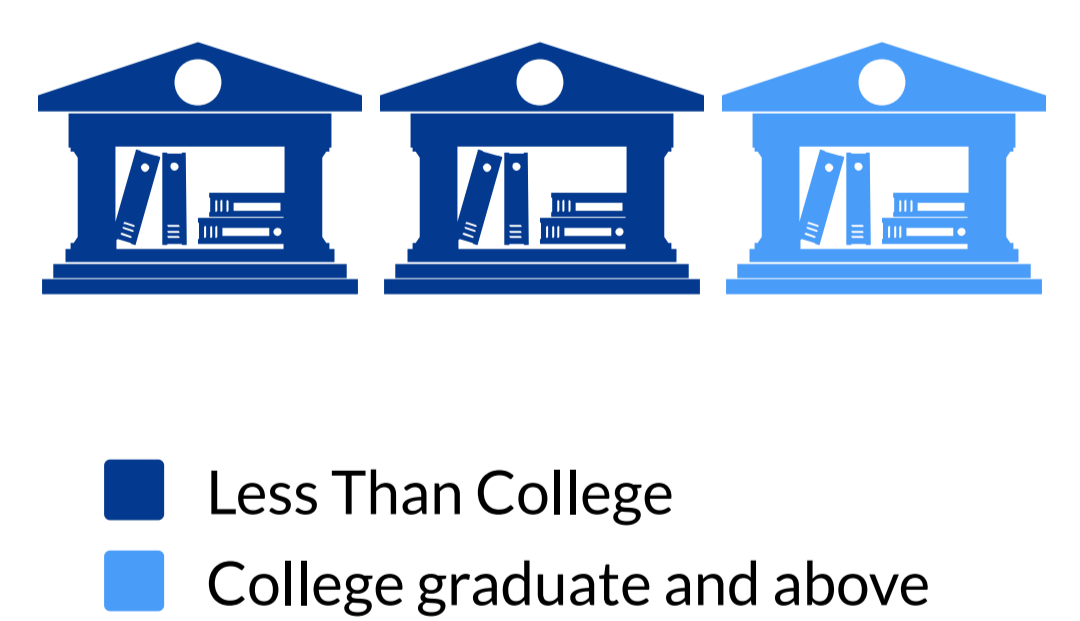
Who participated in the survey?



Almost 2/3 of respondents were White and less than 1/3 were Black.



2.5x as many Black respondents reported an annual household income below \$20,000.



Less than 1/3 of respondents had a college degree.

What does this mean?

By understanding the well-being, social capital, and quality of life of residents, local health coalitions and organizations can:

- tailor their programs to address community needs, such as where to focus efforts
- use the information in future grant applications
- assess whether their efforts are effective at creating change at the end of an initiative



Read more about the Two Georgias Initiative here:

<https://www.healthcaregeorgia.org/rural-health/>

This infographic was supported by Cooperative Agreement 5U48-DP00909 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The findings and conclusion are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention