

# Hartford Health Initiative Covid-19 Survey Results

Prepared by CTData on December 16, 2020

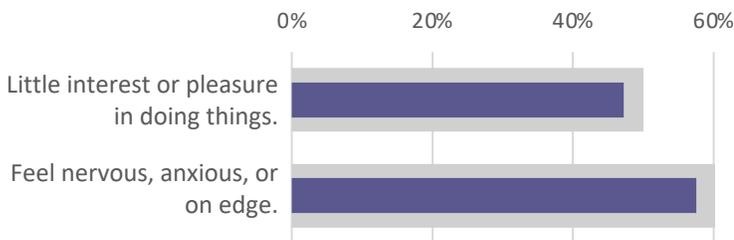


## Where does this information come from?

**The Covid-19 Survey:** This survey was developed by the UConn Department of Public Health Sciences and Hartford Health Initiative (HHI). HHI collected survey responses through phone interviews between August and November, 2020. People who answered the surveys were referred to HHI by other respondents. All data is from this source unless otherwise noted.  
**Household Pulse Survey:** This survey was created by the U.S. Census Bureau. Survey responses are collected bi-weekly via the Internet from a random, representative group of people in each state. The data in this report was collected August 19 to September 28, 2020.

## Mental Health

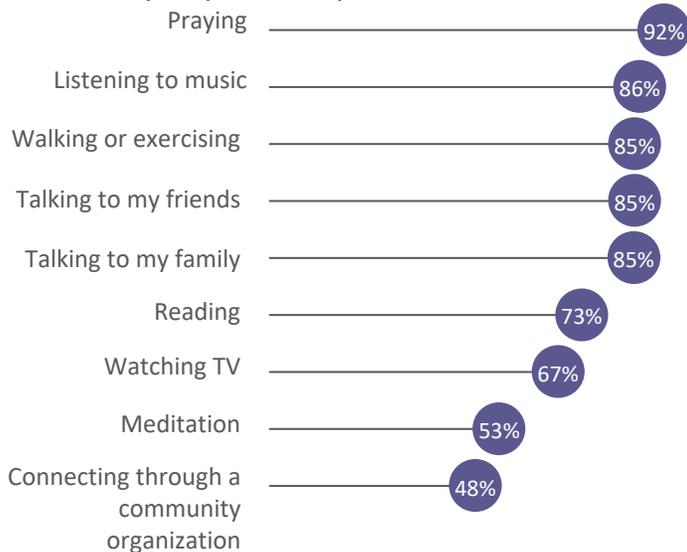
Mental health of the **people who completed the survey** compared to **Connecticut adults generally**. **HHI survey respondents** were bothered less by some mental health challenges in the past couple of weeks than **Connecticut adults generally** in the same time period.



Sources: HHI Covid Survey and Household Pulse Survey (surveyed August 19 to September 28, 2020).

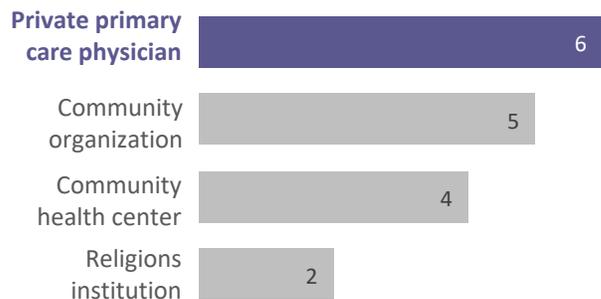
**63%** of HHI respondents were bothered by these mental health challenges more than usual.

What helps relieve their stress? Praying was almost universally helpful to respondents.



**20 people** (27%) sought mental health services for themselves or their family.

Where did respondents or their families receive mental health services?



## Income, Employment, and Food Security

People who filled out the survey for Hartford Health Initiative reported losing income less than adults in Connecticut generally.



HHI Survey: "What issues have you faced? Lost income"  
Connecticut, Household Pulse Survey: Someone in Household Lost Income since March 13, 2020 (surveyed August 19 to September 28).

More people who filled out the HHI survey may have had difficulty finding adequate food in the supermarket than Connecticut adults generally.

**33 people (45%)** received financial, food, water, or other essential support.

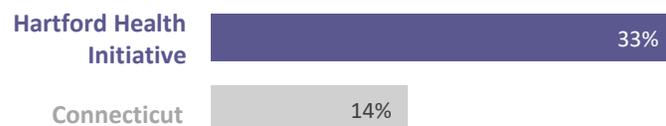
Among those who received essential support, over half received support from Foodshare.

Before the pandemic 46 people (53%) were employed full- or part-time. Of those,

**20 people (43%)** were laid off or placed on furlough.

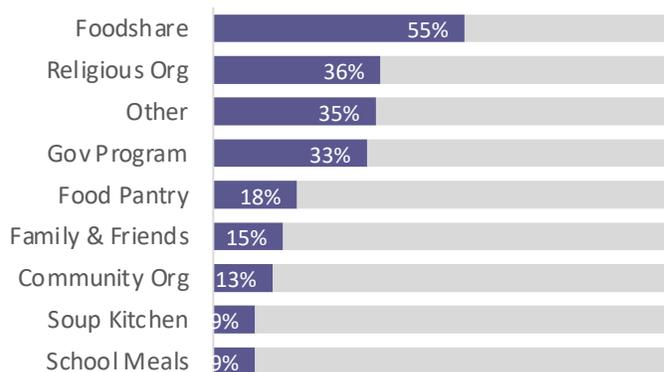
**37 people (51%)** had emergency savings to help with expenses during shutdown.

Supermarket did not have adequate food:



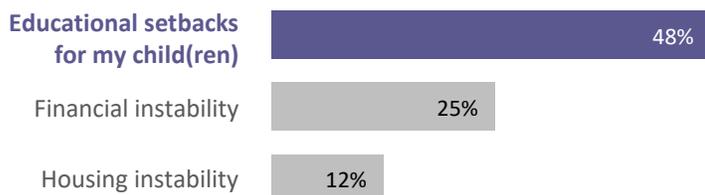
HHI: When shutdown did you have access to adequate food supply at your local supermarket?  
CT: Household Pulse Survey: Stores did not have desired food.

Those who received support received it from:

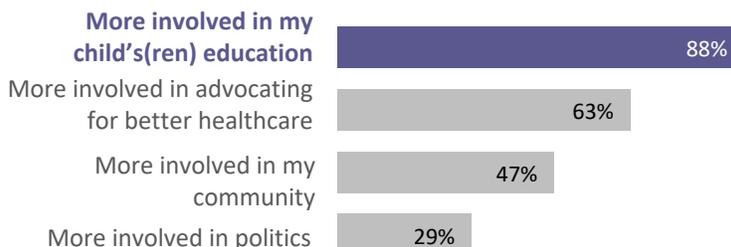


### What is respondents outlook for the future?

#### Long-term negative for me personally



#### Long-term positive for me personally



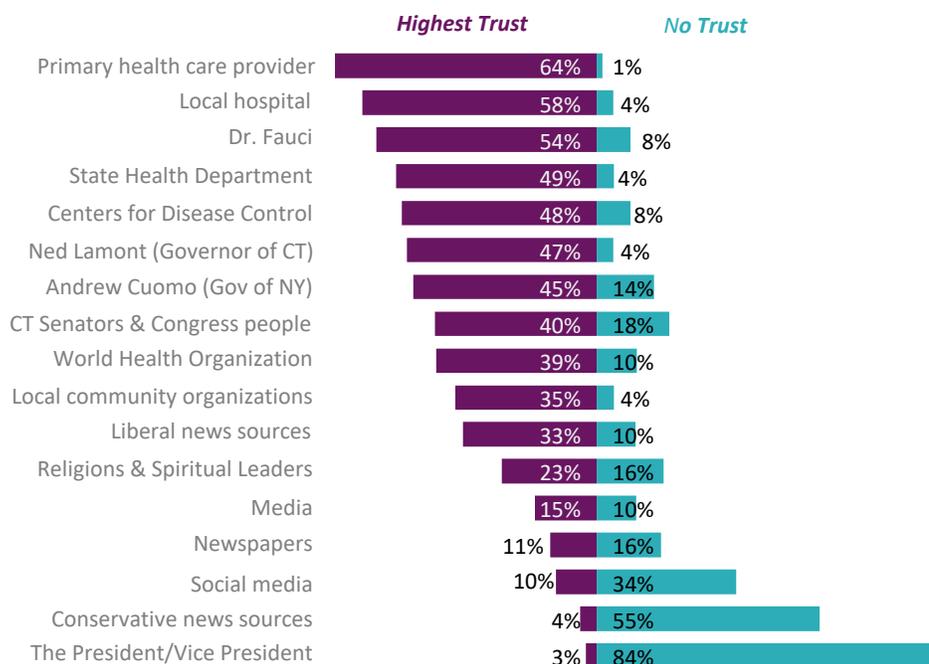
## While many respondents answered many questions about the virus correctly, there were some exceptions.

When presented with statements about the virus (some false and some true), most people answered most statements correctly. However, a high percentage still believe some myths.

Messages	Correct
Coronavirus can be cured with home remedies (FALSE)	79%
Coronavirus began in China (TRUE)	73%
Most people who get coronavirus will have relatively mild flu-like symptoms or no symptoms (TRUE)	69%
Most people who get coronavirus will die (FALSE)	67%
Pets can spread coronavirus (FALSE)	46%
Coronavirus was developed in a lab (FALSE)	46%

## Where do people get their information about Covid-19?

When asked about how much trust they had in certain sources of information, there were many sources that a lot of people trusted, and a few that had very little trust. Over half of respondents had the **highest amount of trust** in primary health care providers, local hospitals, and Dr. Fauci from the National Institutes of Health. Over half of respondents had **no trust** in the President and Vice President or conservative news sources.



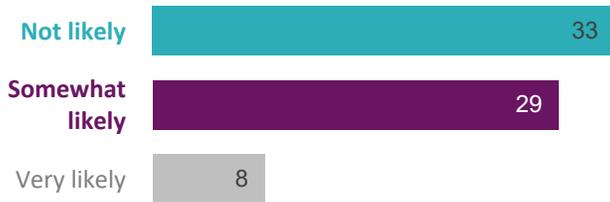
### Sources of Information

The most common sources of information included TV (100%), health care provider or hospital (99%) and newspapers and community organizations (95% each).

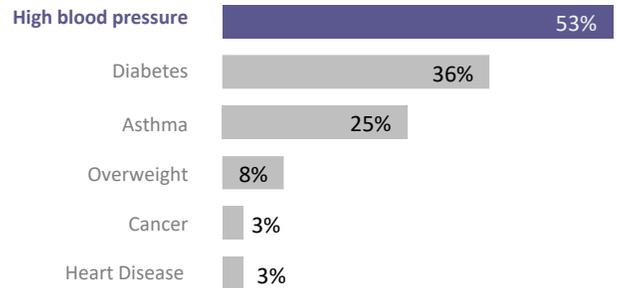
- TV: 100%
- Health care providers or hospital: 99%
- Newspapers: 95%
- Community organizations: 95%
- Radio: 92%
- Social media: 90%

## Risk, Prevention, and Outlook

Almost half of respondents believe it's **“not likely”** that they will contract the virus. Almost an equal number believe it's **“somewhat likely.”**



Among those who have health conditions that make them more susceptible, **high blood pressure** was most common.



### 34% essential workers

A total of 25 people (34%) were essential workers, making them more at-risk of contracting the virus.

**16%** didn't know anyone that had Covid at that moment

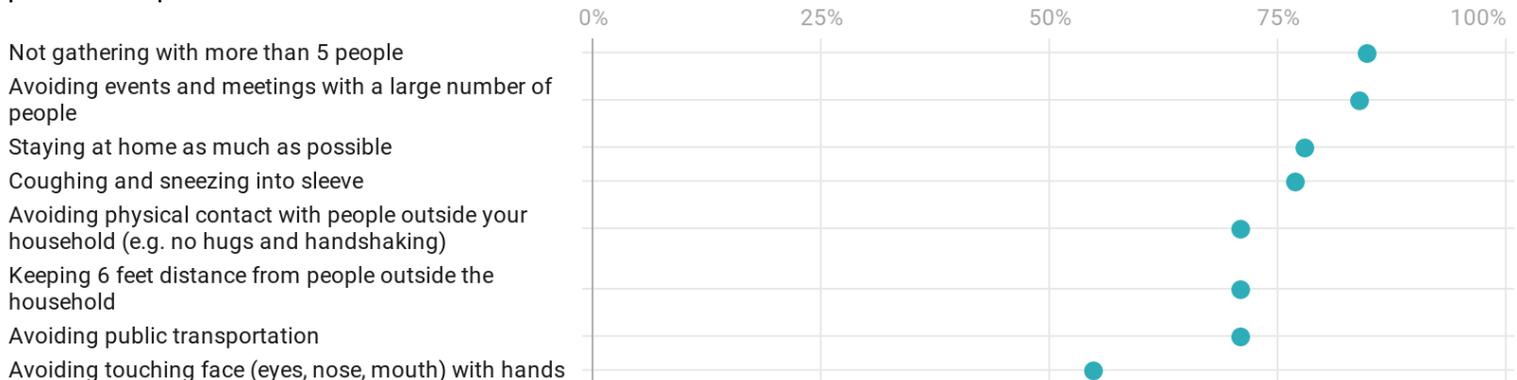
**60%** did know people who had died from Covid.

### 49% with health conditions that put them at higher risk

Among Hartford Health Initiative respondents, a total of 36 people (49%) said they have health conditions that make them more susceptible to the virus.

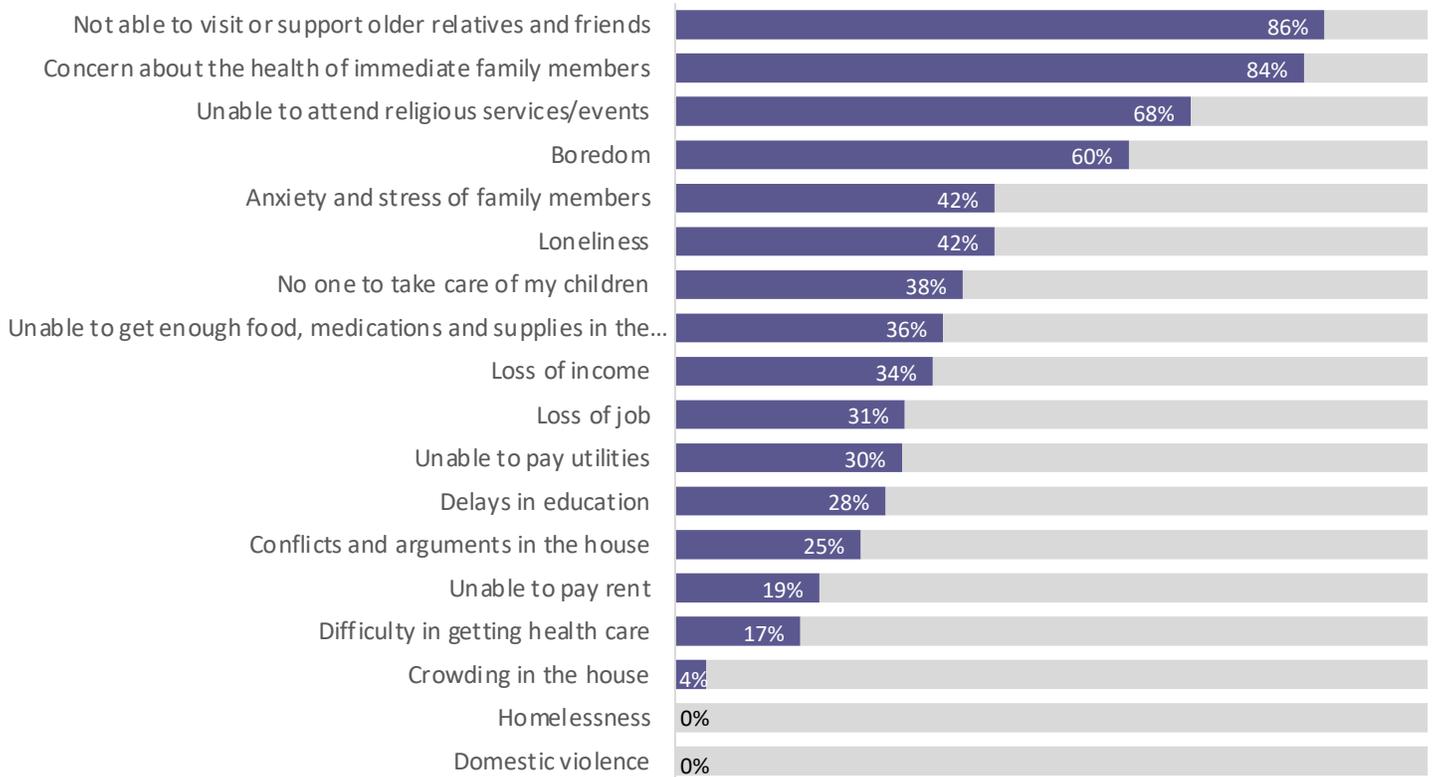
## Respondents **“always”** implementing many prevention measures

When asked about how often they wash hands after touching possibly contaminated objects or surfaces, wearing a mask when going out, and avoiding people who are sick, over 90% of respondents said they **“always”** do these things. A smaller percentage are **“always”** implementing some other important prevention practices.

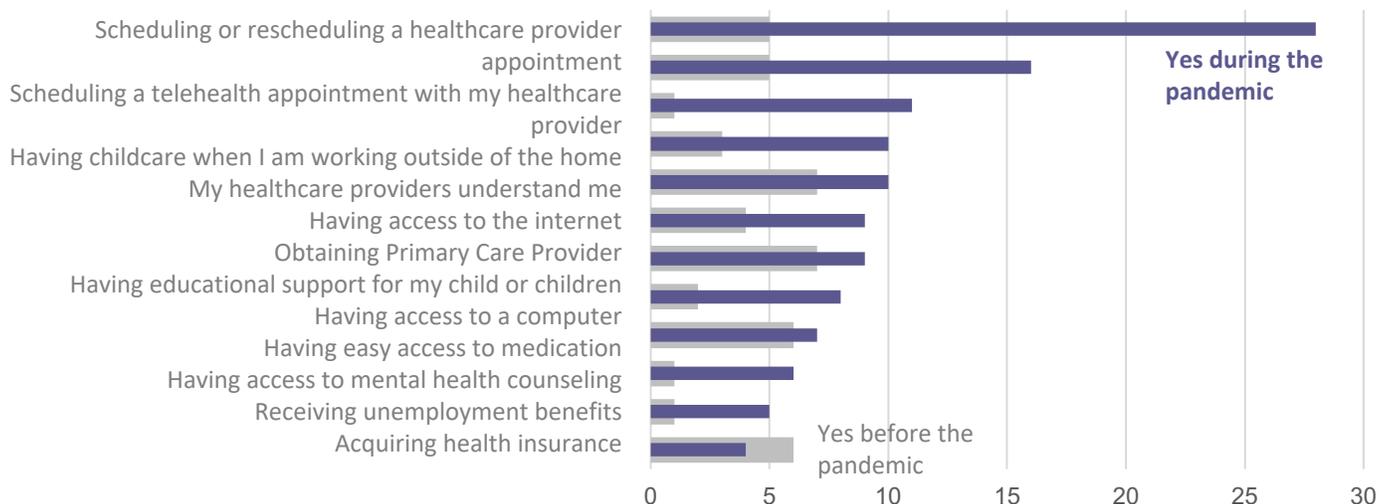


## What issues did people experience?

The **issues experienced** by most of the respondents during lockdown included not being able to visit or support older relatives and friends, concern about health of immediate family members, and the inability to attend religious services or events.

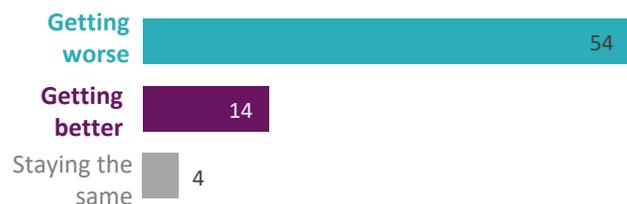


Respondents were asked whether they had any of the challenges listed below before or during the pandemic. There were more challenges faced during the pandemic. A new challenge faced by the most number of respondents was scheduling or rescheduling a healthcare provider appointment. Acquiring health insurance was less of a challenge, though the numbers are small.

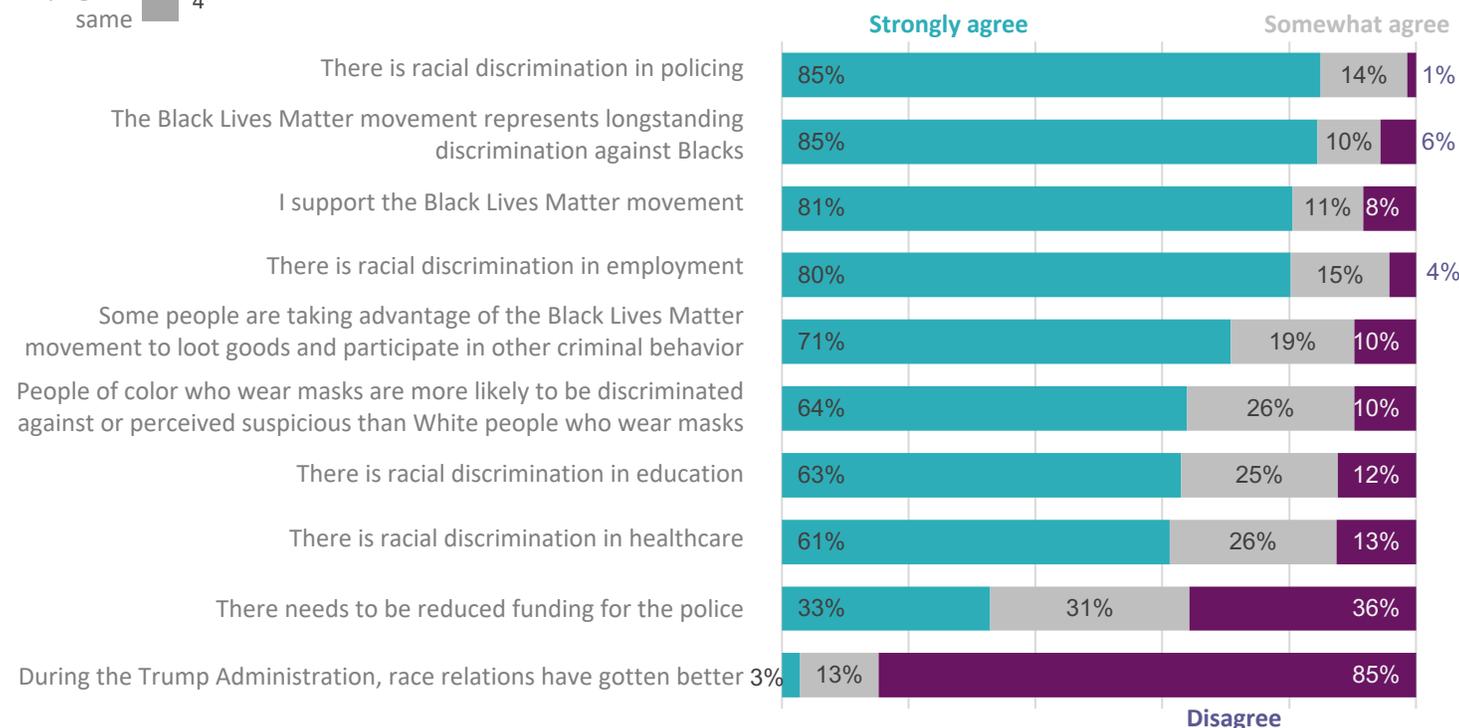


# What do people think about racial justice and other current topics?

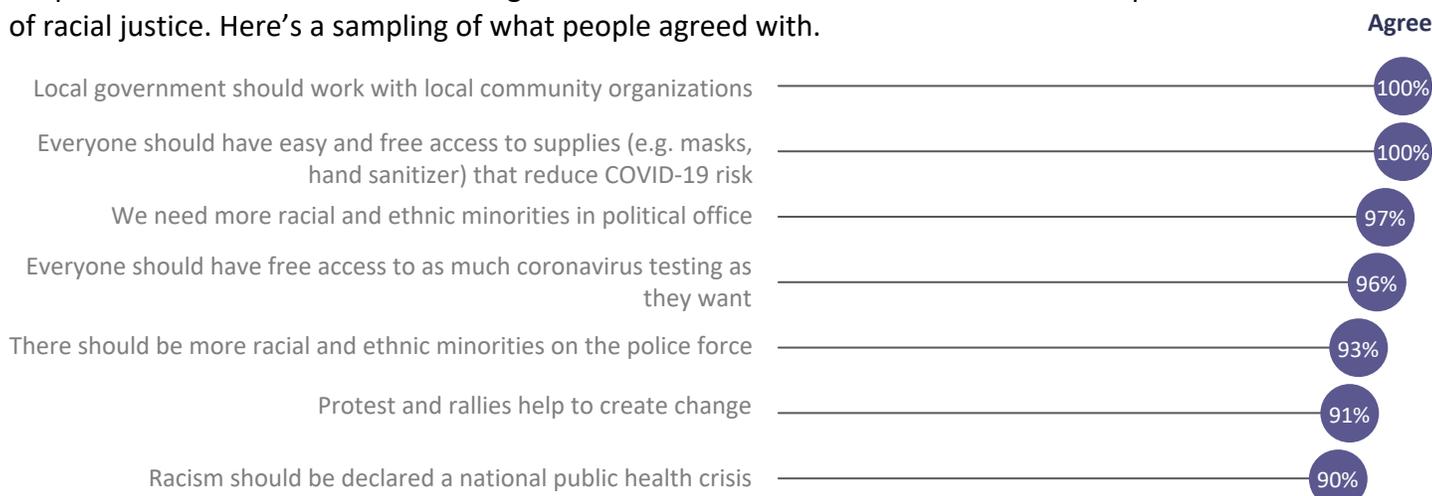
The majority of respondents (75%) believe that racial inequality is **getting worse**, while 19% believe it is **getting better**.



Respondents were asked questions about racial justice. Eighty-five percent of people **strongly agreed** that “there is racial discrimination in policing” and “the Black Lives Matter Movement represents longstanding discrimination against Blacks. On the flip side, 85% **disagreed** that “during the Trump Administration, race relations have gotten better.”



Respondents were asked about their agreement with a series of statements about the pandemic and issues of racial justice. Here’s a sampling of what people agreed with.



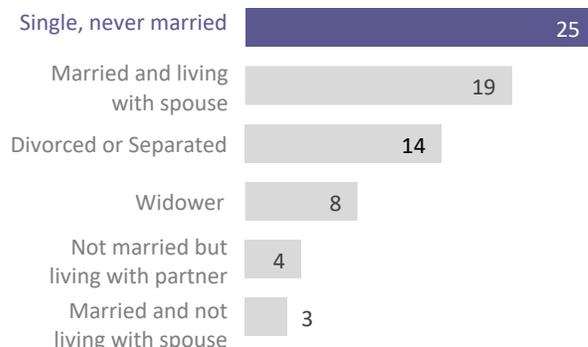
## What do we know about people that completed the Hartford Health Initiative survey?

**100%** identified as **female**

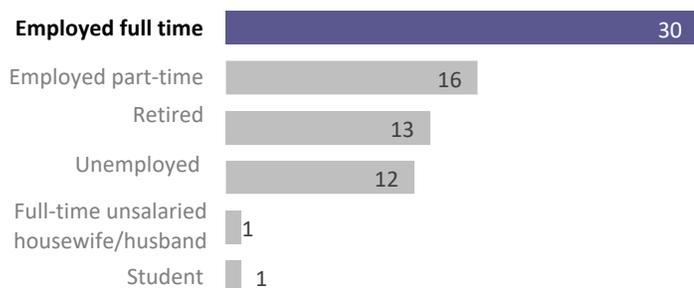
**100%** identified as **Black or African American**

**99%** spoke **English** as their first language

The vast majority of people who filled out the survey were **single and never married**.



The majority of respondents were **employed either full- or part-time before the shut-down**.

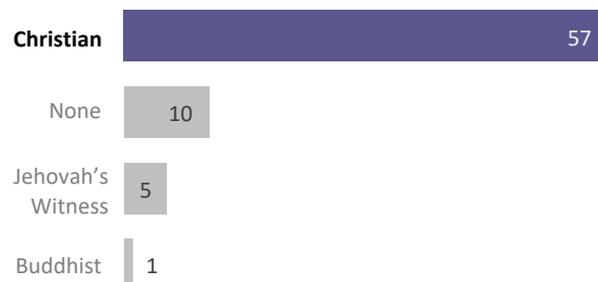


**63%** did not have **children under age 18** living with them

**54** The median **age** (in the middle)

**60%** **rented** and **40%** **owned** their homes.

The majority of people said they were **Christian**.



**16** people (34%) were **essential workers**

**14** The median years of **formal education**



## Recommendations from UConn Department of Public Health Sciences Researchers

1. Trusted Information
  - Build “health resource center” on HHI website (information: how to stay healthy, food resources, testing sites, free PPE, low-cost services, child care, advocacy resources like employee assistance program information, etc.)
2. Communication Outlets
  - HHI, faith based organizations, social media, trusted local newspapers, local radio, etc.
3. Health care
  - Connect constituents with health professionals, health fairs, health information
  - Encourage participation in contact tracing; partner with local health department
4. Advocacy- city, state and national levels

