

Appendix II: Survey Data

Demographics

<i>N = 942</i>	<i>Survey Respondents</i>
Native American	
Yes	272
No	654
<i>Don't know/Refused</i>	16
Gender	
Female	485
Male	409
<i>Other (Includes non-binary/third gender)</i>	18
<i>Prefer not to answer</i>	30
Age	
18-26	402
27-46	289
47-66	160
67 or older	59
<i>Prefer not to answer</i>	32
Level of Education	
<i>Some high school</i>	8
<i>High school/GED</i>	213
<i>Some college</i>	251
<i>Associate's degree</i>	99
<i>Bachelor's degree</i>	225
<i>Post baccalaureate (Master's, PhD, JD, MD, etc.)</i>	101
<i>Other</i>	25
Political Party	
<i>Republican</i>	142
<i>Independent</i>	140
<i>Democrat</i>	427
<i>Libertarian</i>	26
<i>Other</i>	93
<i>Prefer not to answer</i>	114
Total Household Income	
<i>\$0 - \$20,000</i>	299
<i>\$20,001 - \$37,000</i>	190
<i>\$37,001 - \$46,000</i>	68
<i>\$46,001 - \$57,000</i>	66
<i>\$57,001 - \$88,000</i>	82
<i>\$88,001 - \$150,000</i>	91
<i>\$150,001 and above</i>	32
<i>Prefer not to answer</i>	114
Parent or Guardian of Child under 18	
Yes	222
No	702

Community Engagement

Question: Are you registered at your current address?

Answer	Percentage
Registered at my current address	89.6%
Registered at an old address	6.8%
Not registered at all	2.7%
Don't know/Refused	1%

Question: Did you vote in the 2016 presidential election?

Answer	Percentage
Yes	64.9%
No	34.9%
Don't know/Refused	0.2%

If answered, "No" – Were you old enough?

N=330

Answer	Percentage
Yes	36.4%
No	63.6%

Question: Did you vote in the 2018 primary election?

Answer	Percentage
Yes	72.7%
No	25.3%
Don't know/Refused	2%

If answered, "No" – Were you old enough?

N=238

Answer	Percentage
Yes	87.6%
No	10.7%
Don't know/Refused	1.7%

Question In your opinion, do you believe your vote matters?

Answer	Percentage
Strongly agree	42.6%
Somewhat agree	42.9%
Somewhat disagree	8.2%
Strongly disagree	4.4%
Don't know/Refused	2%

Question: In your opinion, how would you rate your community as a place to live?

Answer	Percentage
Excellent	34.8%
Good	43.3%
Fair	16.6%
Poor	5.2%
Don't know/ Refused	0.1%

Question: In your opinion, how would you rate your impact on your own community?

Answer	Percentage
A big impact	10.4%
A moderate impact	42.5%
A small impact	37.4%
No impact at all	9.1%
Don't know/ Refused	0.6%

Question: How often do you discuss politics and public affairs with others online—such as exchanging messages on e-mail or posting on social networking sites? [please select one option from the list below]

Answer	Percentage
Every day	11.9%
At least once a week	15.8%
At least once a month	14.4%
Less than once a month	16.6%
Never	41.2%
Don't know/ Refused	0.1%

Barriers

Question: In just a few words, please explain the most significant barrier for you to make a difference in your community. (Open Response)



*The word cloud above was made by the program NVivo, taking synonymous terms of four letters or more from the open responses.

Top 10 Themes- Word Frequency

Word	Count
Time	285
Work/School	161
Finding/Opportunities	82
Money/Resources	76
Knowing	55
Political	54
Involvement	49
Family	32
Access	24
Young	21

*Terms were combined where they shared themes in responses

Time

Example responses:

- "I'd say now just time commitment."
- "Time and commitment. Partly motivation but not as much."
- "Time, I do not have enough time in my day."
- "Time - just so many different factors such as working and job."
- "Time that I have available."

Work/School

Example Responses:

- "I work full time and go to work full time."
- "Work and hobbies."
- "Free time with the work schedule and getting people to buy into the message."
- "I feel like my work just eats of my life. I feel like i don't have the time or the energy."
- "Always being at work, I travel for work."
- "naturally my personality is personal responsibilities to focus on school and work not that that's a good thing but it's kind of what I end up doing."

Finding/Opportunity

Example Responses:

- "Where to start. Where to find the organization that will help the community."
- "Probably finding good opportunities to be involved. Finding the time as well."
- "Finding the right opportunities. Understanding what your community needs are and how to help them. It's difficult."
- "Finding people interested in the same activism I am."
- "Finding the right avenue to address an issue."
- "Maybe like lack of events or opportunities."

Money/Resources

Example Responses:

- "Money of course. Money rules the world. I can talk until I am blue in my face, but money has the most influence."
- "Money, time, and resources."
- "Money, because it is hard to start anything without a lot of capital these days."
- "Money and resources opportunity to use them effectively."
- "The biggest is poverty. My community is very poor and there is not a lot of money coming in for us to do much."
- "I would say probably just having the resources and time to be able to make a difference, and find people who need that time and resources."
- "Lack of resources which creates lack of access & interest for many."

Knowing

Example Responses:

- "Probably not knowing what is going on."

- “Maybe knowing when things are going wrong, seems like you only find out about it afterwards.”
- “Knowing what opportunities are out there to help.”
- “lack of knowledge on how too.”
- “Easy access to clearly defined opportunities. Not knowing what more or next steps i can do in my community”

Political

Example Responses:

- “Current political leadership, old boys club.”
- “I would say political differences in my community makes me hesitant to discuss politics among other things.”
- “Not very hospitable here for my political views. We are a pretty deep red state and people do not take kindly to a socialist.”
- “Political forces beyond my control.”
- “I do not like disagreements, so I do not involve myself in political conversations and just like to keep the peace.”

Involvement

Example Responses:

- “For me it is to get people involvement and create sense of ownership in the community.”
- “Community involvement, I can’t do it on my own so I need to get others involved and that is not always easy to do.”
- “People are not interested in listening. that is the biggest thing.”
- “I don't know how to answer that question. I like group involvement and that's not offered here or at least I don't see it advertised.”
- “Probably the biggest barrier I have is lack of funding and lack of community involvement.”

Family

Example Responses:

- “I’m stretched very thin. I am involved in community meetings, committees, etc., and still maintaining my family and home. I'd like to be more involved, but not at the cost of putting my family behind all that.”
- “Being a minority, low income and having family obligations and low income. It’s a constant uphill fight to maintain and develop family unity when your low income and finding time to engage and make a difference in your community is very hard and tiring, especially when you are a minority in that community.”
- “I work full time and am a part time grad student and I have my family to take of.”
- “Time and commitment, family and having an ill wife.”
- “Just my work schedule & my family life.”

Access

Example Responses:

- “Access to people that actually can do something about the issues. Access to the politicians. I feel bad to say this that two of my relatives are politicians. If they came to the senior center I would talk to people. “
- “Access to resources.”
- “Lack of resources which creates lack of access & interest for many.”
- “Ideological and socioeconomic differences between those in positions of power and those who are working for greater accessibility; equity; preservation and protection of ecosystems; fighting oppression; demanding fair and equal representation.”

Young

Example Responses

- “I feel like I’m a little too young still to have a big impact.”
- “Being young, it is hard to talk to people being young because they do not pay attention to you.”
- “Being my age, being young, that seems to be kind obstacle.”
- “Opportunities for young people to engage close minded community and lack of non profit volunteer opportunities.”
- “The "Good Old Boy" system of politics has become more evident. New young leaders with good ideas and transparency will have a greater impact for any community.”

Solutions

Question: Here’s a list of activities some people might do. For each, please tell me if you have done this in the past 12 months or not. In the past 12 months, have you...

Attended a local public meeting? (City/Trial Council, etc.)

Answer	Percentage
Yes	43.8%
No	56.1%
Don’t know/Refused	0.1%

Met with someone at the State legislature?

Answer	Percentage
Yes	17.2%
No	82.5%
Don’t know/Refused	0.3%

Worked with others to solve a problem in your community?

Answer	Percentage
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Yes	63.3%
No	36.2%
Don't know/Refused	0.5%

Been an active member of any group that tries to influence public policy or government?

Answer	Percentage
Yes	34.1%
No	65%
Don't know/Refused	1%

Question: How far are you willing to travel to a public meeting?

Answer	Percentage
I would not attend	6.9%
Only attend in my town	28.3%
I would travel to a town less than 30 minutes away	20.8%
I would travel to a town 60 minutes away	17.9%
I would travel anywhere in the state	12.8%
I would travel outside of the state	9.8%
Other	2.8%
Don't know Refused	0.6%

Question: If attendance of a public meeting or legislative hearing was possible via Facebook live or a similar format, would you be more or less likely to attend?

Answer	Percentage
More likely	61.4%
Unsure	9.8%
Less likely	26.8%
Don't know/Refused	2.1%

Question: If a friend personally invited me, I'd be more likely to attend a public meeting or legislative hearing

Answer	Percentage
Strongly agree	39.1%
Somewhat agree	47.5%
Somewhat disagree	6.9%
Strongly disagree	3%
Don't know/Refused	3.6%

Question: We are interested in how frequently and in what ways you are contacted and asked to get more involved in your community. For each of the following contact methods, please indicate how frequently you have been contacted

Receive an email

Answer	Percentage
Daily	14.5%
Weekly	23.1%
Monthly	17.9%
Less often	20.6%
Never	22.9%
Don't know Refused	0.8%

Receive a phone call

Answer	Percentage
Daily	3.7%
Weekly	9.1%
Monthly	19.1%
Less often	33.9%
Never	32.7%
Don't know Refused	1.5%

Receive a letter in the mail

Answer	Percentage
Daily	1.5%
Weekly	9.2%
Monthly	23.8%
Less often	32.9%
Never	31.4%
Don't know Refused	1.2%

In person

Answer	Percentage
Daily	3.4%
Weekly	11%
Monthly	16.3%
Less often	29.9%
Never	38.6%
Don't know Refused	0.6%

Question: Have you ever considered running for elected office?

Answer	Percentage
Yes	22.7%
No	77.1%
Don't know/Refused	0.2%

Which of the following reasons have dissuaded you? (select all that apply)

Answer	Percent of Respondents
Just not interested	48.3%
It is not the right time for me	30.7%
It costs too much to run for office	22.2%
I doubt I could win an election	22.9%
I am not sure how to run for office	24.2%
*Confidence/Skills/Experience	3.2%
*Work/Time	1.8%
*Age (Young/Old)	1.7%
Other	6.9%
Don't know Refused	23.5%

* = Represent recoded responses from 'Other' open responses that shared themes

Question: The following are a list of activities that some communities could offer before or during voting. For each, please answer whether it would make you much more likely, somewhat more likely, somewhat less likely or much less likely to vote.

Free childcare services provided by licensed professionals at polling places

Answer	Percentage
Much more likely	23.2%
Somewhat more likely	12.8%
Makes no difference	58.8%
Somewhat less likely	1.9%
Much less likely	2.3%
Don't know/Refused	0.8%

For general elections, the State of Montana sends a voter information guide

Answer	Percentage
Much more likely	44.7%
Somewhat more likely	31.1%
Makes no difference	20.9%
Somewhat less likely	1.6%

Much less likely	1.3%
Don't know/Refused	0.4%

For primary elections, the State of Montana sends a voter information guide

Answer	Percentage
Much more likely	46.7%
Somewhat more likely	30.5%
Makes no difference	19.9%
Somewhat less likely	1.3%
Much less likely	1.4%
Don't know/Refused	0.3%

The State of Montana moves to a mail-in voting system, with no physical polling places.

Answer	Percentage
Much more likely	33.2%
Somewhat more likely	18%
Makes no difference	30.6%
Somewhat less likely	9.4%
Much less likely	8%
Don't know/Refused	0.7%

More polling places are added in your community

Answer	Percentage
Much more likely	35.7%
Somewhat more likely	23.2%
Makes no difference	37.8%
Somewhat less likely	1.6%
Much less likely	1.4%
Don't know/Refused	0.3%

A reminder was sent telling you when and where to vote

Answer	Percentage
Much more likely	51.3%
Somewhat more likely	28.5%
Makes no difference	18.2%
Somewhat less likely	1%
Much less likely	1%
Don't know/Refused	0.2%

Someone you know drives you to the polling place

Answer	Percentage
Much more likely	32.1%
Somewhat more likely	15.2%
Makes no difference	47.7%
Somewhat less likely	2%
Much less likely	2.2%
Don't know/Refused	0.8%

Question: The following are a list of activities that some communities could offer. For each, please answer whether it would make you much more likely, somewhat more likely, somewhat less likely or much less likely to be engaged in your community.

Courses on community engagement were offered by someone you know in your community.

Answer	Percentage
Much more likely	31.2%
Somewhat more likely	37.3%
Makes no difference	28.5%
Somewhat less likely	1.1%
Much less likely	1.5%
Don't know/Refused	0.5%

Courses about the roles of elected officials and how government works

Answer	Percentage
Much more likely	27.8%
Somewhat more likely	32.9%
Makes no difference	34%
Somewhat less likely	3.4%
Much less likely	1.4%
Don't know/Refused	0.5%

Elected officials hold monthly coffee and conversations with constituents

Answer	Percentage
Much more likely	34.1%
Somewhat more likely	37.5%
Makes no difference	23.9%
Somewhat less likely	2.7%
Much less likely	1.7%
Don't know/Refused	0.2%

Local meetings (tribal, city council, etc.) are streamed on social media

Answer	Percentage
Much more likely	34.6%
Somewhat more likely	31.1%
Makes no difference	28%
Somewhat less likely	2.9%
Much less likely	3%
Don't know/Refused	0.4%

My county had a community engagement liaison who helped me find when and where to participate

Answer	Percentage
Much more likely	28.7%
Somewhat more likely	36.3%
Makes no difference	30.5%
Somewhat less likely	1.7%
Much less likely	2.5%
Don't know/Refused	0.3%

Demographics

<i>N = 942</i>	<i>Survey Respondents</i>
Native American	
<i>Yes</i>	272
<i>No</i>	654
<i>Don't know/Refused</i>	16
Gender	
<i>Female</i>	485
<i>Male</i>	409
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<i>High school/GED</i>	213
<i>Some college</i>	251
<i>Associate's degree</i>	99
<i>Bachelor's degree</i>	225
<i>Post baccalaureate (Master's, PhD, JD, MD, etc.)</i>	101
<i>Other</i>	25
Political Party	
<i>Republican</i>	142
<i>Independent</i>	140
<i>Democrat</i>	427
<i>Libertarian</i>	26
<i>Other</i>	93
<i>Prefer not to answer</i>	114
Total Household Income	
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<i>\$20,001 - \$37,000</i>	190
<i>\$37,001 - \$46,000</i>	68
<i>\$46,001 - \$57,000</i>	66
<i>\$57,001 - \$88,000</i>	82
<i>\$88,001 - \$150,000</i>	91
<i>\$150,001 and above</i>	32
<i>Prefer not to answer</i>	114
Parent or Guardian of Child under 18	
<i>Yes</i>	222
<i>No</i>	702
<i>Prefer not to answer</i>	18

