



# Creating an Equitable Future for Health and Well-Being:

Research Findings from FORESIGHT's  
Large-Scale Engagement Process

Created in partnership with **Public Agenda**,  
a nonpartisan research and public engagement  
organization dedicated to strengthening democracy  
and expanding opportunity for all Americans

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# Creating an Equitable Future for Health and Well-Being

## Research Findings from FORESIGHT's Large-Scale Engagement Process

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

FORESIGHT is a nationwide collaborative effort to equitably envision and bring about a new future for health and well-being. The project began by [scanning the health and well-being horizon](#) and gauging how the nation might be impacted by various trends and emerging issues in the future. In late 2019 and early 2020, a diverse group of individuals, working in many different parts of the health ecosystem across the country, reflected on the scan's findings and identified trends, opportunities, and challenges with the greatest potential to transform health and well-being in the future. These trends were woven into four stories—or scenarios—detailing what health and well-being might look like in 30 years.

FORESIGHT's scenarios were then developed into four [videos](#) intended to help viewers think about the future. When shared with viewers, the videos prompted conversations (that took several different forms, as described below) about wide-ranging topics, including many of the trends and emerging issues found in FORESIGHT's future scanning.

In summer 2020, FORESIGHT used the scenarios to engage with more than 7,500 people across the United States, sparking their imaginations and inspiring conversations about their hopes and aspirations for the future. Participants gravitated toward some of the ideas featured in the scenarios—including many that aren't a common part of our national conversation on health and well-being—and rejected others. Across four methodologies—community conversations, a focus group, an online survey, and a nationally representative poll—FORESIGHT invited input from a diversity of Americans, particularly those experiencing the greatest inequities in our current system. Their input is the foundation of a shared vision for a bold, equitable future for health and well-being.

### PRIMARY OUTCOME: Participants articulated a bold vision for the future of health and well-being

The FORESIGHT team in partnership with Public Agenda considered participants' collective input and organized it into five interconnected themes that together comprise a vision for the future of health and well-being.



1. **Economic well-being.** Participants in the community conversations and those who engaged through the online survey expressed concerns about growing economic inequality, and the national poll found those concerns are widely held among Americans in general. Community conversation and online survey participants expressed a desire for a future economic system focused on opportunities for meaningful work that provides economic, personal, and social benefits. Concern about growing economic inequality between “haves” and “have-nots” was a top worry for participants across all methodologies.



2. **Inclusive, just communities.** Community conversation and online survey participants indicated an interest in living in small, diverse, self-organizing, and environmentally attuned communal arrangements. Similarly, national polling participants felt hopeful about a future that includes communities living sustainably. Many respondents envisioned these communities as diverse and inclusive but warned that the formation and strengthening of these types of communities could risk deepening racial and socioeconomic divides.



- 3. Holistic, innovative, culturally rooted health care.** Community conversation and online survey participants hoped for a future in which everyone has access to holistic and preventative care, including mental health services. Participants expressed desire for a future in which health insurance has been decoupled from employment. They envisioned compassionate, high-quality, affordable, accessible, and culturally responsive health care that is available to everyone, including older people, immigrants, and people for whom English is a second language. Similarly, the polling found that after watching the scenario videos, Americans overall identified preventative care and national health insurance as giving them hope for the future, with some differences across political ideologies.



- 4. Regenerative practices for people and planet.** Participants in the community conversations and the online survey indicated that their health is intimately tied to the planet's health. They want universal access to clean air and water and to healthy and sustainable food systems. Participants acknowledged the need for technological innovation in sustainable food, transportation, and energy systems, but were dismayed by the idea of technology taking over nature. Polling found that increased investment in renewable and alternative energy, commitments to environmental sustainability, and climate stabilization and agricultural advances to combat climate change were among the top three ideas from the scenario videos that gave Americans hope for the future.



- 5. Equitable access to basic needs and supports.** When community conversation and online survey participants were asked to envision a future for health, they often described a future in which everyone's basic needs for food, housing, health care, and lifelong education are met. They also envisioned a future for health in which people are loved and cared for and have safe communities in which to live, play, and grow. Similarly, the polling found that inequality was among the top three ideas from the scenario videos that sparked worry for Americans, although a greater share of self-identified liberal than self-identified conservative Americans indicated inequality as a top worry after watching the videos.

Many of these themes may feel familiar to those who are invested in health and well-being. Although the vision may not be new, it is ambitious. When invited to think broadly and boldly about the future, participants returned to the basics: economic security; community infrastructure; a health care system that serves them; a healthy planet; and access to the most essential things they need to thrive, including housing, food, and education. This vision may not seem original, but the United States is not on a trajectory to achieve it. It will take sustained effort and commitment from many individuals and organizations across sectors to achieve this vision. Participants in FORESIGHT's large-scale engagement recognized that addressing these five themes will be essential to ensuring that the United States is able to respond equitably to the complex changes on the horizon.

## ADDITIONAL FINDING: Process revealed differences across methodologies<sup>1</sup>

FORESIGHT prioritized diversity and inclusion in this process, engaging people across differences, including race, age, gender, geography, socioeconomic status, and community, and using various data collection strategies. In particular, the community conversations prioritized and centered the voices of those who are experiencing the greatest inequities in our current system of health and well-being, including communities of color, immigrants and refugees, members of rural communities, youth and elders, people with disabilities, and many others. The online survey collected data from many individuals working in broadly differing roles and sub-sectors across the field of health and well-being. The national polling collected quantitative data from a large, representative sample of Americans.

The different methodologies used to engage participants complemented and enhanced each other, providing the FORESIGHT team with a well-rounded perspective on the future of health and well-being.

Some of the differences found across methodologies include the following:



### Economic well-being

- While economic well-being was identified as a top hope for respondents across all methodologies, there were differences in which economic plans (i.e., cooperative structures, universal basic income, new ways of measuring economic productivity) depicted in the videos gave them the most hope for the future.
- Participants in the online survey and community conversations expressed enthusiasm about ideas such as cooperative shared-ownership models and alternative measures of well-being, but these ideas resonated less with poll respondents.



### Inclusive, just communities

- There was widespread enthusiasm for building and supporting small, local, community-based living arrangements, but participants in the community conversations and online survey raised concerns about the potential for segregation, polarization, and lack of resilience in such communities.

<sup>1</sup> To maintain consistency with how FORESIGHT has talked about this work in the field and with our partners, we refer to these methodologies as community conversations, an online survey, and polling. These terms may not be reflective of the language typically used to describe such activities in the field of qualitative and quantitative research, but they are reflective of how FORESIGHT brought participants into the work and how we have described this work to key stakeholders. The first two (community conversations and the online survey) were largely qualitative methods, designed to invite people to share stories about the future they hoped to see. What we are calling the poll—a survey conducted by nonpartisan research organization NORC—was largely quantitative and designed to be representative of the adult U.S. population.



### Holistic, innovative, culturally rooted health care

- The poll found that Americans overall are hopeful about national health insurance, but views on this issue differ by political ideology.
- Nearly half of Americans were worried about surveillance being used to promote well-being. This trend was stronger among White Americans than Americans of color and was explored in more detail by participants in the community conversations and online survey.



### Regenerative practices for people and planet

- Climate change and its effects are a bigger concern for people who identify as liberal, and they have a stronger appetite for interventions that would mitigate its impacts.
- Although Americans felt hopeful about a future that includes agricultural advances to combat climate change, the qualitative data revealed concerns about the role of technology in food production.



### Equitable access to basic needs and supports

- A greater share of liberal compared to conservative Americans named growing inequality as a top worry when considering the future.

## ADDITIONAL FINDING: Centering historically marginalized voices prompted a different conversation

Although FORESIGHT's community engagement process included a nationally representative poll, it was not as a whole designed to be representative of all Americans. Rather, the process was envisioned as a conversation about the future, one that centered the voices of those experiencing the greatest inequities in the present system. That focus guided many of FORESIGHT's decisions in this process. The FORESIGHT team invested in a partnership with [Marnita's Table](#), a community-based nonprofit that specializes in bringing people together across difference, to ensure that a true diversity of voices were at the table and that the process was equitable and not extractive of communities already bearing the greatest burdens (particularly in the midst of a global pandemic, economic collapse, climate catastrophe, and protests against racial injustice).

Across multiple methodologies, the team prioritized hearing from community members in their own voices, allowing them to share their stories and what matters most to them. Centering marginalized voices prompted different kinds of conversations; for example, people experiencing inequities were more likely to notice different things in the FORESIGHT scenarios and pointed out where and how different trends and emerging issues risked deepening inequities. Efforts to anticipate future trends and their potential impacts rarely include the voices of people who are or have historically been marginalized. FORESIGHT chose to put those voices at the center of its process, and many who participated expressed appreciation for the conversation and a desire for more conversations of this kind in order to achieve a more equitable future for health and well-being.

Americans, particularly those experiencing inequities, hold deep and ambitious hopes for the future and were eager to engage in a conversation about what it would take to build a future in which everyone thrives, without exception. But they also emphasized the impacts and legacies of centuries of inequity. As participants explored

trends and opportunities on the horizon, they feared and predicted that the most troubling changes on the horizon, including climate change, would hit them hardest. And they assumed that coming changes, new technologies, and opportunities would likely pass them by and be available only to those at the very top. Centering their voices reveals the imperative to address systemic inequities now if we hope to build a future that is just, equitable, and inclusive.

### **ADDITIONAL FINDING: Government and technology lifted up as key mechanisms for achieving an equitable future**

Participants in the community conversations and online survey identified two mechanisms for achieving the equitable future for health and well-being they articulated. These are not themes or ends in and of themselves, but instead offer insights into *how* people think progress toward the future vision should be made.



First, people felt that achieving such a future would require a government that represents the people it serves and works toward the best interests of those people. They envisioned a future in which local, state, and national political representation is diverse, reflective of the communities served, ethical, and transparent.



Second, many participants reckoned with accelerating technological change and its potential impacts on the future of health and well-being. In general, people were enthusiastic about technological changes that can reduce their burdens, allowing them to live more fulfilling lives, but expressed great apprehension about technologies that would replace intimate relationships and bodily functions, such as education robots or exo-wombs, as well as those that would further increase surveillance and decrease privacy.

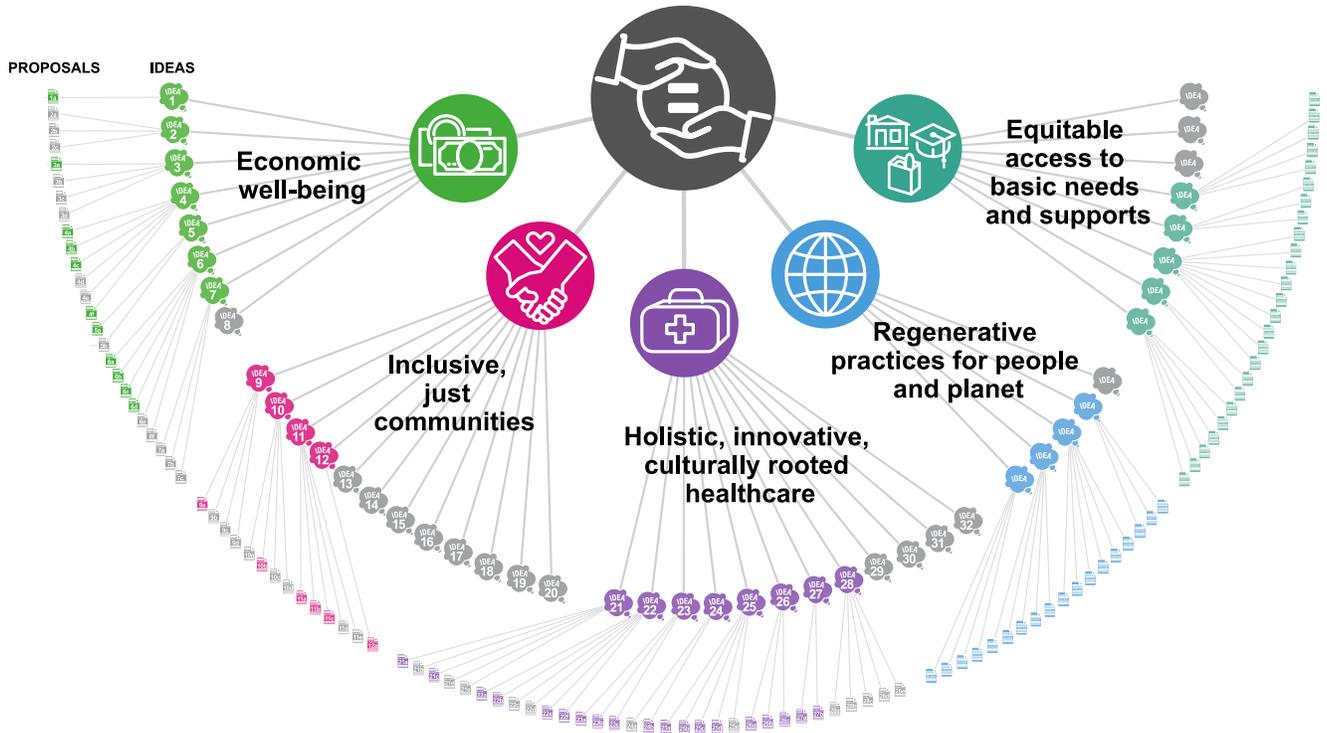
### **ADDITIONAL FINDING: Residents thought broadly about what matters for health and well-being**

The reactions participants shared—particularly in the community conversations and online survey—reveal that people think of their health as systemic and interdependent. They understand the deep connections between economic security, food access and sustainability, systemic racism, and their health, and they hope for systemic solutions that will address these many interconnected issues in the future.

## **National Convening and What's Next**

In late 2020, FORESIGHT shared the early findings from this process and the vision developed from participants' inputs with a diverse group of more than 100 individuals, including health care workers, industry champions, policymakers, academics, farmers, nonprofit leaders, community organizers, and residents. This national group—acting in the role of stewards—convened and collaboratively generated more than 60 proposals intended to further participants' bold vision for the future of health and well-being. The proposals and other outputs of FORESIGHT's national convening can be found [here](#). In 2021 FORESIGHT, in partnership with others, will begin to build the infrastructure for this equitable future.

# FORESIGHT National Convening Map of Themes, Ideas, and Proposals



## INTRODUCTION & OVERVIEW

FORESIGHT is a catalyst to equitably envision and bring about a new future for health and well-being in the United States. Launched in 2019 and collaboratively funded by [17 philanthropies](#), FORESIGHT began with the understanding that our system for health and well-being is failing us and needs to be reimagined and transformed if we hope to achieve a world in which everyone thrives—without exception. Of course, the work of building a new future is challenging. As anticipated changes on the horizon grow increasingly complex and uncertain, we are at risk of locking in or worsening existing inequities. Fortunately, we—all of us working together—have the power to shape the future. Over the last two years, the FORESIGHT team has collaborated with thousands of people across the United States to develop a vision for the future that reflects the hopes and realities of all of us, particularly those experiencing the greatest inequities in the system we have now.

**The work of building a new future is challenging. As anticipated changes on the horizon grow increasingly complex and uncertain, we are at risk of locking in or worsening existing inequities.**

FORESIGHT began with a small group of experts looking toward the future. These futurists—professionals with rigorous academic training to anticipate future trends and their potential impacts—conducted a scan of the health and well-being horizon to understand how the United States might be affected by various trends and emerging issues in the future. They looked at a wide range of information sources, including academic literature, news stories, and other media, and identified likely challenges and opportunities in many of the areas that impact health, including medicine, climate, food, cultural values, and more. These were captured in the report, [Scanning the Health and Well-Being Horizon: Trends, Opportunities, and Challenges](#).

Then, FORESIGHT shared the futurists' report with a diverse group of individuals from around the country, all of whom work in different parts of the health and well-being system—grassroots advocacy, policy, agriculture, healthcare, nonprofits, public health, and more. The members of this group reviewed the report and identified the future trends that they believed held the greatest potential to transform health and well-being going forward. The prioritized trends were woven into four [scenarios](#)—stories reflective of possible futures—that were then presented in four 2-minute videos.

The four videos did not predict the future nor describe a single, ideal future; instead, the scenarios depicted in the videos presented possibilities (good and bad) for what health and well-being might look like 30 years from now. They presented a range of possibilities intended to spark viewers' imaginations and inspire conversations about their aspirations for the future. The FORESIGHT team took this approach because past experiences had shown how difficult it can be for people to engage in conversations about what a distant, hypothetical future might look like and the many opportunities and challenges that might arise. Because FORESIGHT prioritized hearing from those experiencing the greatest inequities, it was important to have a process that helped all participants think expansively and share their hopes and aspirations for themselves, their families, and their communities.

Below are brief descriptions of and links to the four scenario videos. Because some of the concepts in the scenario videos may be unfamiliar, we have offered definitions for concepts in [blue](#). Click on the word to jump to the glossary.



### [Scenario Video 1: Crowd Control](#)

Climate crises impact migration patterns in the United States, resulting in more people moving away from the coasts and into northern and midwestern cities. Collaboration, paired with advances in agricultural and environmental technologies, is required to mitigate future climate disasters. Despite the need to come together to overcome large-scale threats, newly crowded city centers amplify differences in health care quality, employment opportunity, and food security between the “haves” and “have-nots,” and social tensions and unrest result.



### [Scenario Video 2: The Off Ramp](#)

After the pandemics of the 2020s, people move out of crowded cities to live in sustainable eco-hub communities focused on shared ownership, slow growth, and environmental sustainability. While the national government provides basic services, such as sick care, [eco-hubs](#) are largely self-sufficient and self-sustaining. They incorporate advanced technologies, such as education and health care robots, and [exo-wombs](#), which could redefine traditional gender roles. Success of these eco-hubs relies in part on ensuring that they are inclusive and free of bias.



### [Scenario Video 3: In It Together](#)

A shared frustration with the government’s inability to protect everyone equally during the global pandemics of the 2020s results in the election of a diverse and representative group of candidates. Corporate profit sharing, the rise of [cooperatives](#), and protections for [gig](#) workers, such as unions, universal health insurance, and [universal basic income](#), make it possible for people to earn a living through flexible, short-term, temporary work. Wealthy individuals and corporations resist these changes by creating gated communities, which grant them exclusive access to the most innovative health-related technologies.



### [Scenario Video 4: Trust in US](#)

Social unrest emerging from the global pandemics of the 2020s creates a wide-spread commitment to social and governmental reform and a shift toward the prioritization of well-being. A governmental commitment to transparency and accountability results in reductions in inequities and increases in opportunities. However, the result, a hyper-connected and monitored populace, means that people are under constant surveillance by the government.

Once the videos were developed, FORESIGHT—using four different methodologies—shared them with thousands of people across the country, soliciting and eliciting their hopes, dreams, and concerns for the future of health and well-being in America, with the ultimate goal of crafting a shared vision that we can all work toward together.

## Engagement Process and Research Methodologies<sup>2</sup>

FORESIGHT's engagement process was designed to understand people's reactions to the future scenarios depicted in the videos, as a way to learn about their aspirations for the future they want to see. The process centered on listening to community voices, particularly those people experiencing the greatest inequities in our current system. Participants were engaged using the following methodologies.

1. **Community Conversations.** In partnership with [Marnita's Table](#), a Minneapolis-based nonprofit that works to increase equality and bring people together across difference, FORESIGHT hosted 23 community conversations with 1,043 people in nine regions.
2. **Focus Group.** The [Disability Policy Consortium](#) conducted a focus group with nine members of the disability community in Massachusetts.
3. **Online Survey.** The [spryng](#) platform hosted an online survey that reached 487 people.
4. **National Polling.** [NORC](#), at the University of Chicago, fielded a nationally representative poll of 6,010 American adults.

Outreach employing these methodologies was conducted between May and October of 2020. As a result, many participants responded not only to the ideas presented in the videos, but also to the many crises impacting communities across the United States over those five months, including the COVID-19 pandemic, anti-Black police violence and global anti-police protests, economic distress, and climate catastrophes. Many participants across the country mentioned the pandemic and its impacts on health, economic security, community, education, and family life. The Minneapolis community conversations were held in the days following the murder of George Floyd by city police officers, which may mean that safe communities and racial equity were particularly on the minds of participants.

Because FORESIGHT tried to center equity in this process, greater focus in this analysis was placed on the community conversations, which intentionally brought in voices rarely heard in conversations of this kind, including low-income families, Indigenous leaders, disability advocates, members of rural communities, youth, and many more. All community conversations were open to all members of the community. The focus group was conducted specifically with members of the disability community in Massachusetts. To learn more about the community conversations and focus group, please see [Appendix A](#).

To supplement and add texture to the rich insights derived from the community conversations and focus group, FORESIGHT used an online survey called [spryng](#). The platform invited participants to view the scenario videos

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<sup>2</sup> To maintain consistency with how FORESIGHT has talked about this work in the field and with our partners, we refer to these methodologies as community conversations, an online survey, and polling. These terms may not be reflective of the language typically used to describe such activities in the field of qualitative and quantitative research, but they are reflective of how FORESIGHT brought participants into the work and how we have described this work to key stakeholders. The first two (community conversations and the online survey) were largely qualitative methods, designed to invite people to share stories about the future they hoped to see. What we are calling the poll—a survey conducted by nonpartisan research organization NORC—was largely quantitative and designed to be representative of the adult U.S. population.

and use them as a jumping off point to imagine and tell a story about the future they wanted to see. The link to the platform was disseminated through the broad FORESIGHT network and largely reached those who, in either a volunteer or professional capacity, work in the health and well-being system.

Finally, FORESIGHT sought perspectives from a nationally representative sample of US adults regarding their hopes and fears for the future of health and well-being. Conducted by NORC, the national poll is generalizable to the US adult population and, as such, is reported here as representing the views of Americans overall. The perspectives from this nationally representative sample were then compared to perspectives of participants in the community conversations and online survey in order to identify similarities and differences between these methodologies.

Across all four research methodologies, FORESIGHT engaged individuals in 12 languages: English, Spanish, Arabic, Amharic, Vietnamese, Burmese, Somali, Swahili, Khmer, Tagalog, Mandarin, and French. In all activities, participants watched two of the four scenario videos. Although each video addressed multiple trends and emerging issues on the horizon, not every trend or emerging issue was included in every video. For more information about the methodology for these research activities, see [Appendix A](#).

### Vision Shared at National Convening

The FORESIGHT team crafted a bold vision for the future of health and well-being based on participants' collective input gathered via the four methodologies. This vision centers broadly on five interconnected themes:



**Economic well-being**



**Inclusive, just communities**



**Holistic, innovative, culturally rooted health care**



**Regenerative practices for people and planet**



**Equitable access to basic needs and supports**

These five themes are explored in more detail—including via the voices of some of the participants—in the [next section of this report](#).

Additional findings synthesized from participant engagement via the four methodologies are discussed in a [subsequent section of this report](#). They are:

- Process revealed differences across methodologies
- Centering historically marginalized voices prompted a different conversation
- Government and technology lifted up as key mechanisms for achieving equitable future
- Residents thought broadly about what matters for health and well-being

In October 2020, the information gathered and synthesized using the four methodologies was summarized and shared at a national convening with a group of more than 100 people from across the country—representing a diversity of lived and professional experiences across health care, business, philanthropy, social services, community, government, and more. They came together to identify and recommend actions that can help communities prepare for future possibilities and realize residents’ wants and needs for the future.

National convening participants engaged in extensive discussion informed by FORESIGHT’s research activities and by their own expertise and experiences. Together, through an iterative process, they generated more than 40 ideas that could advance the five themes expressed in the vision and more than 60 proposals for actions that can be taken now to begin to build toward the vision. National convening participants reaffirmed people’s hopes that shared values—including justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion—should serve as the foundational principles for the vision. Efforts to build a new future for health and well-being should center equity, not as a discrete investment but as a commitment that impacts all facets of the work. Building on residents’ attention to government and technology in the engagement process, national convening participants considered both as key mechanisms for change that should be considered in relation to the changes suggested in each theme. Technology and government are not ends in and of themselves, but are important tools that can be used to further the broad vision residents articulated (see Figure 1). The collective work from FORESIGHT’s national convening, including the 40 ideas and 60 proposals, can be found at <http://foresightforhealth.org/map-overview/>.

**Figure 1.** Vision for an equitable future for health and well-being:

## An equitable future for health and well-being



## A VISION FOR THE FUTURE IN FIVE THEMES

Based on input gathered from the 7,500 participants in the four engagement methodologies, the FORESIGHT team identified five cross-cutting themes. Findings within each of these five themes are presented in the subsequent section of this report, each featuring a selection of quotations from participants.



**Economic well-being**



**Inclusive, just communities**



**Holistic, innovative, culturally rooted health care**



**Regenerative practices for people and planet**



**Equitable access to basic needs and supports**

These themes are interconnected. FORESIGHT's research revealed that people think about their health and well-being in deeply intertwined ways. The people who participated in this project understood this complexity; it is reflected in both the qualitative and quantitative data. This report is designed to highlight that people's vision for a healthier future is built on an understanding of the complex and intersectional nature of well-being. There is overlap both in what they hope this future will include and how they hope change will be achieved.

The report identifies where values and mechanisms emerge within each theme using the following icons:



**Equity and Racial Justice**



**Technology**



**Government**



## Theme 1: Economic Well-Being

Participants in the community conversations and online survey were concerned about growing economic inequality and hoped for an economic system that would reduce disparities between lower- and higher-income people. They felt that shift should begin by acknowledging the stark economic divides that currently exist in the United States, including the racial wealth gap. They believed that a future economic system should focus on providing opportunities for personally meaningful work that brings economic, personal, and social benefits. 

In the visions they shared for the future, many participants in the community conversations and online survey felt that economic well-being should mean that all workers earn a living wage and can rely on support from a robust social safety net for themselves and their families in times of un- or under-employment. Participants were intrigued with the idea of corporations shifting to [cooperative shared-ownership](#) models and with the idea of finding alternative measurements to gross domestic product ([GDP](#)), such as a well-being score, which would determine economic success based on measures of health and well-being.

*“A shift from more traditional corporate models to cooperative models of ownership is one hopeful future scenario. Along with that is the equity review systems that make sure companies and governments continue having more diverse representatives.”* Online survey participant, Austin, Texas<sup>3</sup> 

*“[Universal Basic Income](#) would reduce the degree to which individuals are dependent upon work to survive, which would make people with disabilities more full social participants.”* Online survey participant, Cambridge, Massachusetts

*My hope for the future is “that my child will... find meaningful work that contributes to self, to community, and nation while also delivering wages and benefits that support living with dignity, safety, and comfort. The future will be made possible by the ability to perform work remotely that contributes to multiple stakeholders in multiple communities all at the same time and by public sector decisions to support entrepreneurs through a broader social safety net.”* Online survey participant, Rochester, New York

*In the future I imagine, “the massive wealth gap is narrowed through strong public policy so that my sons can make enough money to raise a family, build some wealth, and have what I had growing up—a safe neighborhood, good access to food, a comfortable home, and an excellent education that my parents could comfortably provide for me.”* Online survey participant, Middletown, Rhode Island

*“Personally, what I’m seeing right now is a lot of inequality. Something that inspired me in the videos was the desire moving forward for a more equitable future. With Covid-19, the inequalities in our society are becoming more evident. I am a Peruvian immigrant, and I know that no matter how hard I work, I will never have the same opportunities as someone who was born in the United States. My kids can be the smartest and the most hardworking, but without money I know that they will unfortunately not be able to go very far.”* Community conversation participant, Connecticut 

<sup>3</sup> Quotes have been minimally edited for clarity.

## Impacts of automation and technology on economic well-being

Although community conversation and online survey participants envisioned a future in which they and members of their communities would have access to meaningful work, some expressed worries about how automation and other technologies would affect jobs and human relationships. Participants in the community conversations and the online survey identified the need to balance human connection and meaningful, well-paid work with the benefits of technological innovation.



*“Handing over more of what’s important to us to technology (robots) seems scary to me as less human interaction means less compassion, understanding, and forgiveness... and more separation.”* Online survey participant, Austin, Texas

*“I’m older, so I’m a fuddy-duddy, but I have issues with the idea of technology and robots taking away personal interaction. People need that connection. The more you rely on robots, the more you can be disconnected from that exchange or service that would exist between two humans. I think we need each other, we need that back-and-forth, we need to feel needed and to realize that we depend on each other. I’m torn, though. I was a teacher, and I know technology isn’t all bad, but I don’t want to walk into a third-grade classroom and see a bunch of kids on personal computers. I think they need human interaction to learn those social and interaction skills, how to behave and respond to others.”* Community conversation participant, Matanuska-Susitna, Alaska

*I am worried about “the increasing reliance and use of technology. Monitoring folks’ well-being, using AI [artificial intelligence] to educate young folks, etc. I worry about the impact of technology that I see already in society with younger generations tied to their phones and social media. I think it destroys the sense of community. I also worry about technology being used to monitor private citizens and being used as a way to track or monitor individuals that whoever is in power in government feels like should be tracked.”* Online survey participant, St. Louis, Missouri



*“Robots are already replacing us, many stores and companies have them already. The question is how to create more opportunities for everyone with the technology that already exists. I feel that robots and technology are good for our society; it makes jobs easier. I hope we have more robots and technology in the health industry so that doctors and nurses do not get overwhelmed.”* Community conversation participant, Connecticut

The videos also sparked worry among poll respondents about growing inequalities and automation eliminating some jobs. The NORC poll found that, after watching videos one and three, 53 percent of Americans indicated that growing inequality and tension between “haves” and “have-nots” was among the top three ideas from the videos that made them worry about the future; it was the most commonly cited worry across the five themes.<sup>4</sup> This worry was also associated with the theme of equitable access to basic needs and support; see page 35 for more detailed analysis of worries about inequality.



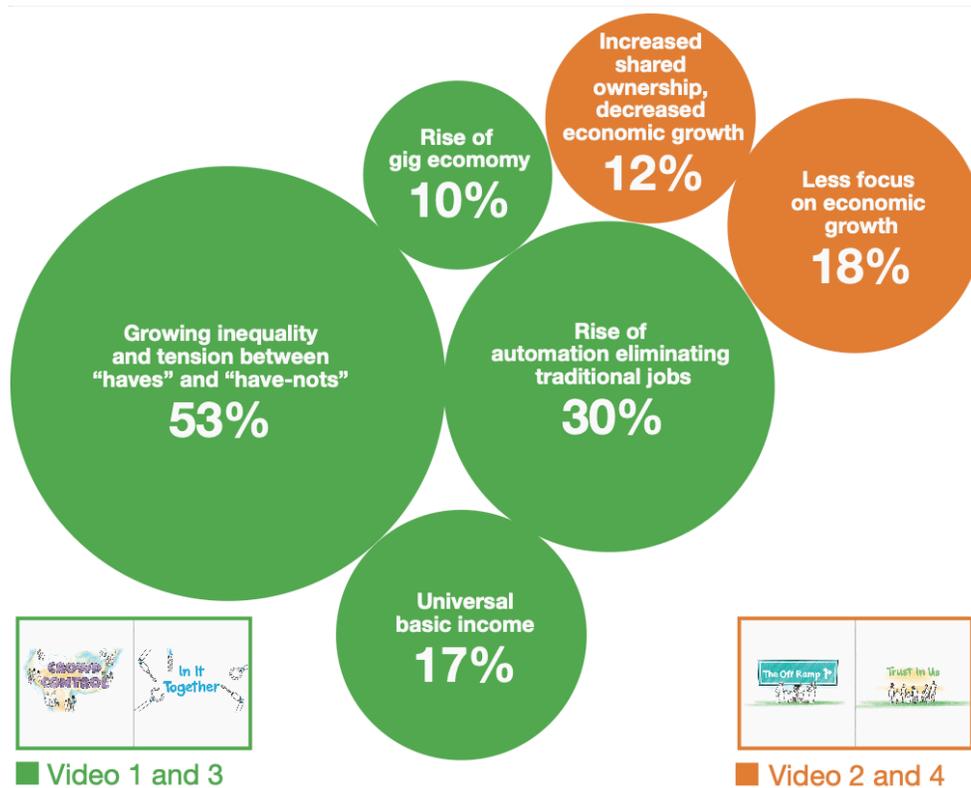
<sup>4</sup> NORC poll respondents were asked, “Thinking about the video you just watched, please identify up to three things from the video stories that gave you hope for the future.” A separate question asked, “Thinking about the video you just watched, please identify up to three things from the video stories that made you worry about the future.” Respondents were provided with 18-20 response options. For the purpose of this report, responses are reported by theme. For the full list of top hopes and worries across all videos, see Appendix B.

After watching videos one and three, 30 percent of poll respondents indicated that automation eliminating traditional jobs was among the top three ideas from the videos that made them worry about the future (see Figure 2).



**The videos sparked worry about inequality and about automation eliminating traditional jobs.**

**Figure 2.** Percent of Americans who, thinking about the video they just watched, identified each of the following ideas from the video stories as one of their top three ideas that made them worry about the future:



Base: Respondents of video one and three, n=3,072; Respondents of video two and four, n=2,938

***Mechanisms for achieving and measuring economic well-being***

Although people largely agree about the desire for a more equitable and sustainable economy, different methodologies revealed different ideas about how best to achieve it. Online survey and community conversation participants were intrigued by the idea of corporations shifting to cooperative shared-ownership models or measuring well-being instead of GDP. While the poll did not ask directly about how best to achieve economic

well-being, it found few Americans identified those ideas among the top three ideas from the videos that gave them hope for the future.

The NORC poll found that 18 percent of Americans who viewed videos one and three chose “corporations shifting toward cooperative models with shared ownership by employees and others” as one of the top three ideas from the videos that gave them hope for the future, making it the sixth most often-cited item that Americans identified as a hope after watching the videos.

Only 11 percent of poll respondents who viewed videos two and four indicated that transitioning to a US Well-Being Score (measuring how well we do with what we have, rather than how much we produce) was one of the top three ideas from the videos that gave them hope for the future, making it the ninth most often-cited idea Americans named as a hope after watching the videos.

*“I would like to see more co-ops instead of corporations where executives receive a lot more money than the rest of the employees. I think that could potentially bridge the gap between the rich and the poor.”* Community conversation participant, Connecticut

*“I liked the shift from money to people, using GDP to measure wellness, sustainability, plant-based foods, redefining gender roles, and being able to re-imagine and reset broken systems.”* Community conversation participant, Long Beach, California

*“I loved the well-being factor [as a substitute for GDP] being more focused on community well-being. That gave me hope. It struck me as a strategy we could all get behind.”* Community conversation participant, Minneapolis, Minnesota

*“It’s almost like we measure success based on GDP, but we can’t really use money to measure well-being or success.”* Community conversation participant, youth, California

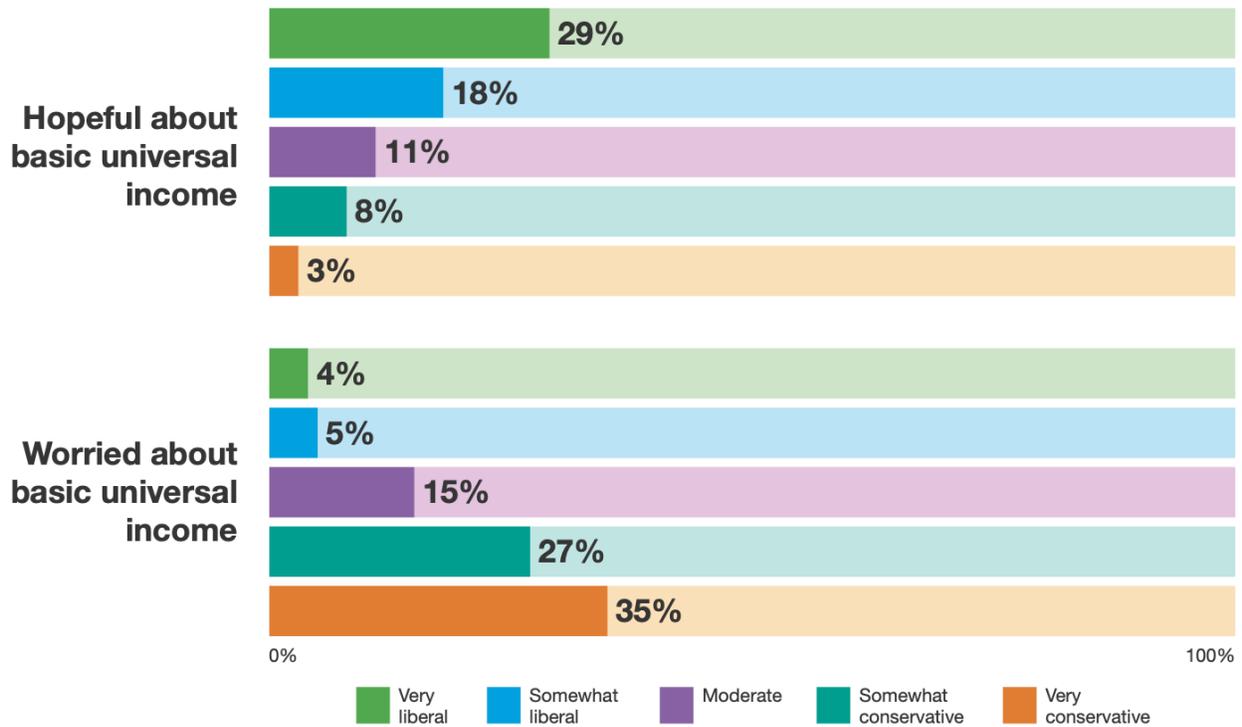
Many community conversation and online survey participants mentioned universal basic income in their conversations about how to achieve economic well-being. The polling found that liberal Americans identified universal basic income as something in the videos that gave them hope for the future. However, the poll found that conservative Americans identified universal basic income as one idea that caused them worry after watching the videos (see Figure 3).



Overall, 13 percent of Americans in the NORC poll who watched videos one and three indicated that universal basic income, described in the video as one way of ensuring that people had a base income even when between [gig opportunities](#), was one of the top three ideas from the videos that gave them hope for the future, while 17 percent of Americans indicated that universal basic income was one of the top three ideas from the video that made them worry (see Figure 3).

**After watching the videos, liberal Americans identified the possibility of a universal basic income as a cause for hope while conservatives identified it as a reason to worry.**

**Figure 3.** Percent of Americans who, thinking about the video they just watched, identified basic universal income from the video stories as one of the top three ideas that made them hopeful about the future and percent of Americans who identified universal basic income as one of the top three ideas that made them worry about the future, by political ideology:



Base: Respondents who watched videos one and three: very liberal, n=379; somewhat liberal, n=623; moderate, n=1,090; somewhat conservative, n=611; very conservative, n=292.



## Theme 2: Inclusive, Just Communities

Community conversation and online survey participants indicated an interest in living in small, diverse, self-organizing, and environmentally attuned communal arrangements such as “eco-hubs,” which are voluntary alternative family and community structures based on kinship connections and intergenerational reciprocity and care. These communities would build on people’s deep desire for human connection and cooperation, mutual aid, and community support. Participants expressed hope that the establishment of these communities would improve quality of life by reducing the social isolation, segregation, and lack of community connection that some feel characterize today’s society.

Furthermore, many participants hoped that establishing inclusive, just communities would lead to other systemic changes that reflect an ethic of collaboration and interdependence, particularly in relationship to systems of production, labor, and distribution of resources. Such changes might include community-based, self-organized initiatives; worker collectives; and elder care and support for caretakers and families. In addition to social supports, these communities would focus on health and well-being by including shared outdoor spaces, as well as open spaces for people to grow and share local food.

*“Relationships are our infrastructure.”* Community conversation participant, San Diego, California

*“Of course it makes your life worse if you’re siloed and not connected. Who do you call when you need help? How do you know if someone can give help? If I’m too sick to drive, who do I call? But through connections and sharing and letting down those barriers, we know we can trust each other.”* Community conversation participant, North Carolina

*“... the level of cooperation that allows communities to come together to make decisions democratically, decide their destiny, and shape their ability to survive. I liked the idea of people 30 years from now being able to cooperate with farmers and agricultural workers to provide food for everyone.”* Community conversation participant, San Diego, California

*“I would like to see even more church families expanding their horizon of care and community organizations stepping up, as opposed to being reliant on government. Even within our own communities, [I hope that we] step up and take care of each other.”* Community conversation participant, youth, California



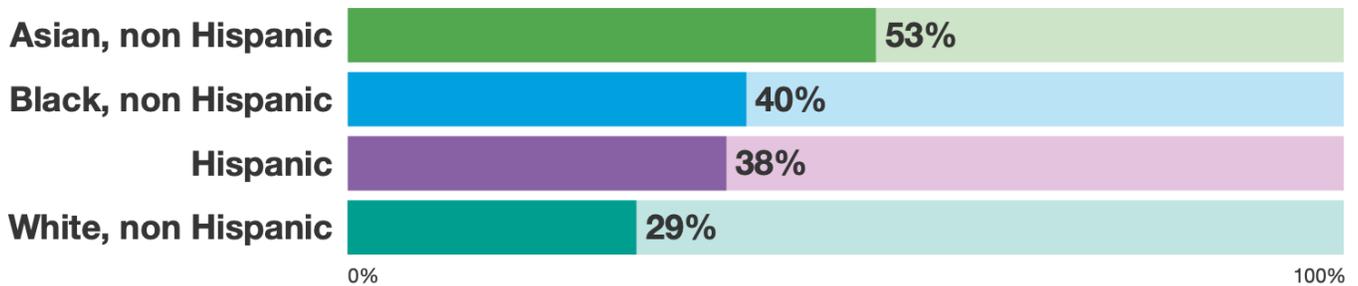
After watching videos two and four, 33 percent of poll respondents identified the rise of communities living sustainably, such as in eco-hubs, as one of the top three ideas from the videos that gave them hope for the future.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>5</sup> Americans who viewed videos one and three were not asked about any items related to inclusive, just communities.

Among poll respondents who viewed video two and four, more Americans who identify as Asian indicated the rise of sustainable eco-hub communities as one of the top three ideas from the videos that gave them hope for the future (see Figure 4). White Americans were least likely to name eco-hubs as a top hope for the future.

**More Asian Americans expressed hope about the rise of sustainable eco-hub communities after watching the videos.**

**Figure 4.** Percent of Americans who, thinking about the video they just watched, identified the rise of communities living sustainably, such as in eco-hubs, as one of the top three ideas that made them hopeful about the future, by race:



Respondents of video two and four: Asian, non-Hispanic, n=441; Black, non-Hispanic, n=1,014; Hispanic, n=1,284; White, non-Hispanic, n=2,979.

**Networks of family and chosen family**

Participants felt that small, sustainable communities could deepen relationships and social supports. Many identified stronger intergenerational relationships as a key element of the future they envisioned and saw the value of stronger networks of family and chosen family as a way of filling basic needs and deepening relationships and community connections. People identified inclusive community conversations as one way to begin to build such a community.

*“There is a sense that community can take care of community, and sometimes, there are things that politics and the government. . . shouldn’t have to [be] involved in. Just neighbors taking care of neighbors... not relying on the powers that be.”* Community conversation participant, Matanuska-Susitna, Alaska



*“I’m on the verge of relocating to be closer to people. I’m going to that pod idea, where I need a clan. People who will help my kids and trade basic needs with me. I think we have to go back to smaller village mentality.”* Community conversation participant, Minneapolis, Minnesota

*“I loved the vision of collective living in a sustainable future; it reminds me of the Kibbutzim in Israel. I thought that was a cool idea because we do have enough resources in the US for everyone to have enough food, and yet we have so many children and elderly who still go hungry. In a world where things are distributed evenly and equitably, I think it would be great to see more of that.”* Community conversation participant, New Hampshire



*“My parents stayed at my sister’s place; for a short time, they were a multi-generational home. It was an interesting learning experience to see that. There’s knowledge there, there’s a respect built in there. When you just see grandma and grandpa on holidays, it’s a different interaction than when you live in it. With the eco-hubs, it sounded like you could have self-identified hubs of people. I thought immediately, that’s my retirement. It could be a way for people in non-traditional families [to experience community and care].”* Community conversation participant, San Diego, California

### Concerns about growing polarization and divides along race and class

However, alongside their enthusiasm for small communal living arrangements, participants in the community conversations and online survey raised concerns about sustainability, equity, and racial justice in those types of communities. Some worried that moving into self-selected groups would deepen existing racial and socioeconomic divides and polarization. Others expressed concerns about their feasibility in general.



*“Eco-hubs would quickly become the gated communities of the world. The supposed environmental and racial harmony glosses over the issue of class. A mass exodus to rural eco-hubs would result in yet another wave of White flight as White folks continually sack cities of their resources all to avoid living next to BIPOC [Black, Indigenous, and People of Color]. The poor and working classes would be left in the cities with decreased revenues and vacant buildings. Certain companies (monopolies) would make ludicrous profits off of these potential futures.”* Online survey participant, Burlington, North Carolina

*“I saw that the people in [the Off Ramp scenario] were moving away from the individual [and] ideas of scarcity, [but] there is abundance, it’s just that the abundance isn’t shared properly, so that [the idea of eco-hubs] is very attractive... I think you have to remember that eco-hubs, monastic communities—these are all made up of humans, real people with foibles and differences, so there’s always that grain of salt.”* Community conversation participant, New Hampshire

*“I’m [in a small] community, but there’s not connection. I may go to church somewhere else [and] I may not shop in this area; I probably don’t know the neighbors... The children play, but they don’t come into other people’s houses. There is a factor of fear that we all have with our environment. Whether it’s the lack of community connection, the more that we have the feeling of isolation, the less we are willing to invest in this community. It’s a matter of getting to know each other, and opening yourself up is hard to do. Especially if they don’t look like you. How do you connect? It does become a have and have nots or wants and don’t want.”* Community conversation participant, North Carolina

*Who will build the ubiquitous eco-hub of the future? Who will finance and who will actually make up the labor army required? How will the eco-hubs be owned, something that looks like a community land trust, which even in 2020 is beginning to lose the radical edge of its past?”* Online survey participant, Burlington, North Carolina



### Theme 3: Holistic, Innovative, Culturally Rooted Health Care

Community conversation and online survey participants hoped for a future in which everyone has access to holistic and preventative care, including mental health care without stigma. They envisioned compassionate, high-quality, affordable, accessible, and culturally rooted health care that is available to everyone, including older people, immigrants, and people for whom English is a second language. In their vision, health care providers would work to support community and cultural values, as well as to ensure widespread access to health services regardless of location.

*My vision for the future includes “recognizing and elevating the needs of young children and their families to have a holistic approach to wellness equitably. Providing all necessary supports to ensure the supports are provided at the earliest time possible.”* Online survey participant, St. Ann, Missouri



*“I would love a more holistic care model after childbirth; [one] where both parents are a team and supported by community in order to raise their child in a healthy way. Of course, I love to picture an antiracist world too. High-quality health care with social determinants for all.”* Online survey participant, Winston-Salem, North Carolina



*“We need informed choices, not just either/or, and [to] be able to define wellness for ourselves, not have medical professionals define what our norms of behavior should be based on the narrow constrained... system that has a narrow understanding of normal. Other societies have opportunities to be freer. In another society, if a person is in crisis, rather than being handcuffed by police and locked up, they are brought to a sanctuary where they can be treated with respect and kindness... Being able to define wellness for ourselves, not having a doctor define what an ‘appropriate level’ of cognition or emotion is.”* Focus group participant, Massachusetts

*“It’s interesting to see how public health is being brought into this conversation. For Black and Brown people, police brutality and public safety is a public health issue.”* Community conversation participant, Minneapolis, Minnesota



*“The main thing that frightened me in the video is how the government does not provide the same health care to minorities that it does to other folk. I am very concerned being from the Latino community about the help the government gives us and how it can impact life and could potentially increase death if not fixed.”* Online survey participant, El Paso, Texas



*“...people have a hard time with empathy and seeing themselves in other people. Someone I was working with who is Cambodian, a client who doesn’t speak English, was trying to get to the hospital, and the doctor showed up and didn’t really know what to do... [he] said he was going to get an interpreter, but he showed up a few minutes later with a sign-language interpreter. He said, ‘legally I just have to have an interpreter there, so it doesn’t matter.’ And he went ahead and said what he needed to and asked his questions, but it was clear that she [the patient] was frustrated and didn’t really understand. I don’t think the doctor even noticed how frustrated she was.”* Community conversation participant, Kansas

*“The problem is it’s not holistic and there are no integrative options, we don’t consider the whole person, their families, their responsibilities—those things that can create tension when you’re trying to get treatment or heal. What if instead of going into a treatment center you went into a treatment community? What if it was a longer commitment—three years instead of one, with the support and cushion to succeed? If you had support to make sure your family still got dinner and you don’t have to leave them and the things you care about behind—the things that create conflict when you’re getting help? What if we didn’t just hop you around from place to place? It’s the whole of you that needs to get well. The bills still need to be paid; the kids still need to eat. So often we ask people to jump off a building and fly without giving them a cape. What if we built supportive healing communities like that and then gave people the option to leave if they wanted, or stay in community and help support others?”* Community conversation participant, Matanuska-Susitna, Alaska

### Expanding access to health care, including mental health care

Participants in the community conversations and online survey described a future in which mental health care would be destigmatized, with robust access to resources for mental and behavioral wellness.

Participants also wanted to expand access to health care for all residents. Many described decoupling health insurance from employment and identified potential ways to provide health care to all, including broadening existing programs to allow middle-income people to qualify for more affordable insurance.

*“I feel like we can’t continue to tie our health care to employment. We’re one of the few countries to do that, [but] it doesn’t work, it’s not equitable.”* Community conversation participant, New Hampshire



*“Universal health care, for example—I’ve never been a fan, because I thought, ‘who would pay for it?’ But then coronavirus happened. Today I’m a proponent of [universal health care]. How in the world does it make sense to tie our health care to our jobs? A job can be a gig, it can be gone in a day. North Carolina is a will-to-work [at-will employment termination] state. At their will, at their whim, I’m allowed to work, or be let go. My health insurance, my life insurance, my 401k is tied into that, and then I’m let go. What then? What next?”* Community conversation participant, North Carolina

*“I feel like insurance is an insane way to handle people having access to health care. It’s hard to conceptualize. I want a system where somebody like me—a transgender female—can have access to the services I need without having to justify myself to a doctor. I am curious if we could make a single-payer system that could also fit everybody, but I don’t know how we’d get that done or what it would look like.”* Focus group participant, Massachusetts

*“I’d like to see a shift toward single-payer. We’re the only industrialized country in the world that has such an ineffective health care system. One would think, with Covid and the fires [wildfires in the western United States], that we’d be saying we gotta get this done now!”* Community conversation participant, Connecticut

*“I want to see in the future that everybody has access to free insurance or that health care is a human right for everybody. Medical bills are so expensive and if you do not have insurance, we prefer not to go to the doctor. Insurance is expensive; I cannot just pick from paying rent or paying insurance.”* Community conversation participant, Kansas

Similar to the community conversations and online survey, the polling found that after watching the videos, Americans overall identified preventative care and national health insurance as giving them hope for the future. Among poll respondents who watched videos one and three, 28 percent indicated that national health insurance was among the top three ideas from the videos that gave them hope for the future (see Figure 5).

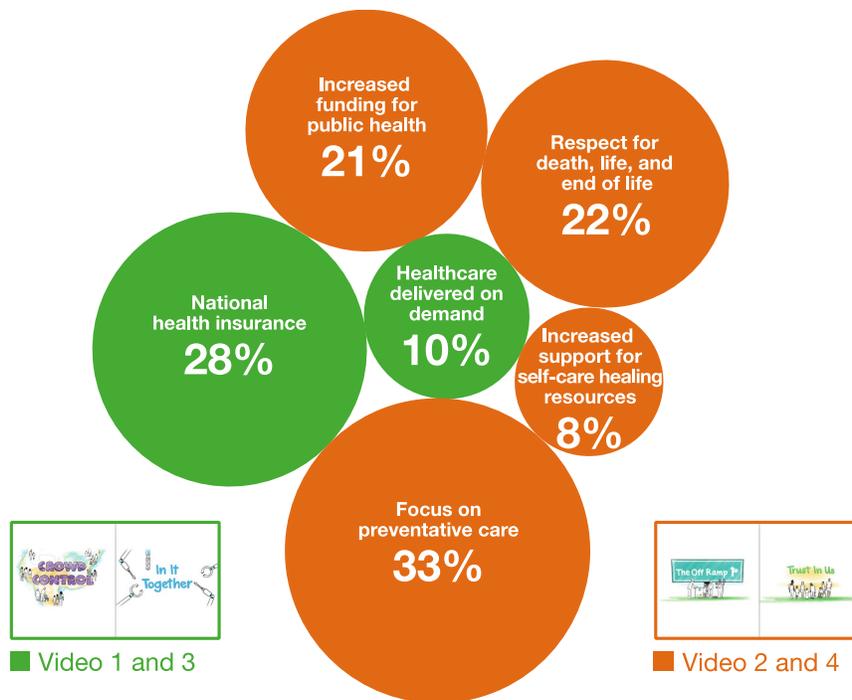


Among Americans who watched videos two and four, about one-third indicated that a focus on preventive care was among the top three ideas from the videos that gave them hope for the future, while 22 percent indicated increased funding for public health was among the top three ideas that gave them hope. Another 22 percent indicated that respect for death, life, and end of life was among the top three ideas from the videos that gave them hope for the future after watching the videos (see Figure 5).



**Preventative care and national health insurance sparked hope for the future among Americans who watched the videos.**

**Figure 5.** Percent of Americans who, thinking about the video they just watched, identified each of the following ideas from the video stories as one of their top three hopes for the future:

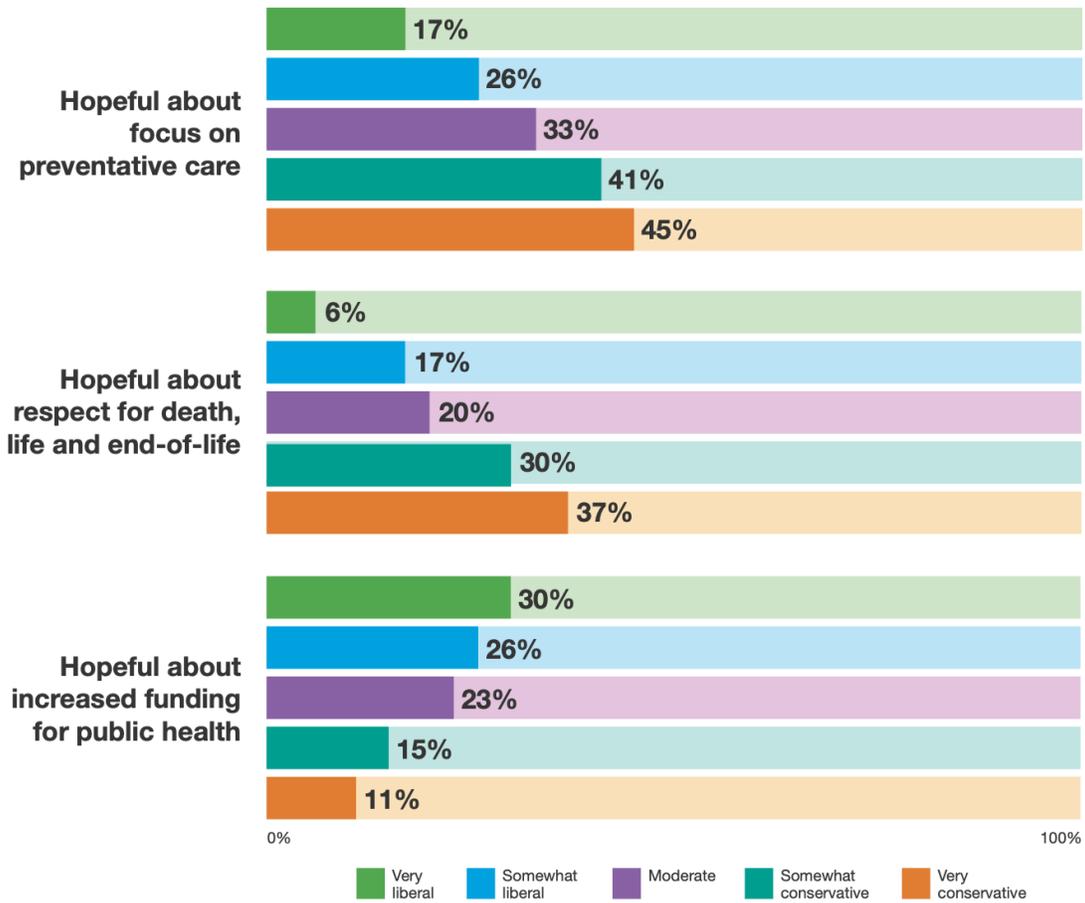


Base: Respondents of video one and three, n=3,072; Respondents of video two and four, n=2,938

Among poll respondents who viewed videos two and four, more Americans who identify as conservative indicated a focus on preventative care and respect for death, life, and end of life as being among the top three ideas from the videos that gave them hope for the future. More Americans who identify as liberal indicated that increased funding for public health was among the top three ideas from the videos that gave them hope (see Figure 6).

**More Americans who identify as conservative said the videos sparked hope about a system that would prioritize preventative care and respect for life and end of life. More who identify as liberal said the videos sparked hope about increased funding for public health.**

**Figure 6.** Percent of Americans who, thinking about the video they just watched, identified each of the following ideas from the video stories as one of their top three worries or hopes for the future, by political ideology:



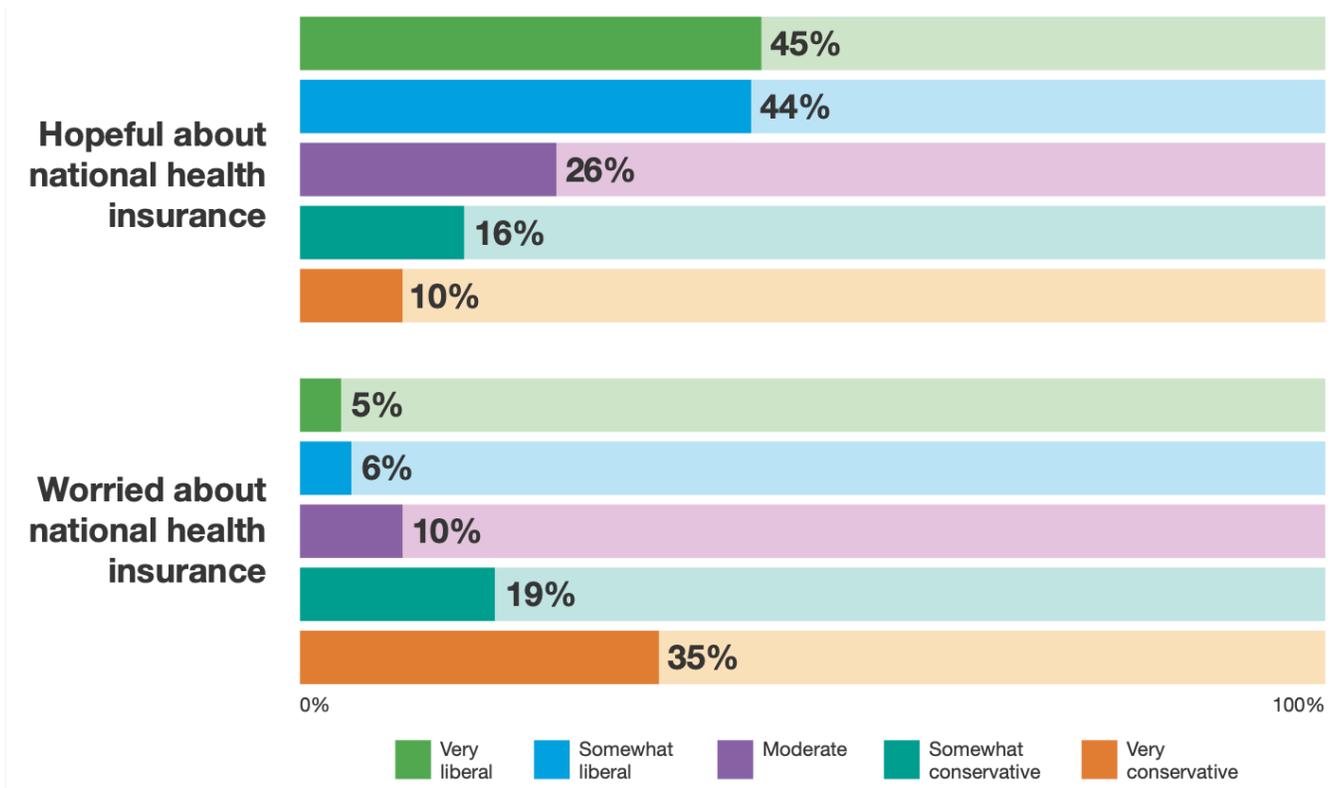
Base: Respondents to videos one and three: very liberal, n=379; somewhat liberal, n=623; moderate, n=1,090; somewhat conservative, n=611; very conservative, n=292.

While respondents largely agree on the need for greater health care access, Americans’ views differ on national health insurance, primarily according to their political ideologies. For conservatives, national health insurance sparked worry after watching the videos, while for liberal Americans, it sparked hope. Among poll respondents who viewed videos one and three, a greater share of liberals identified national health insurance as being among the top three ideas from the videos that gave them hope, while a greater share of conservative Americans said it was among the top three ideas from the videos that made them worry (see Figure 7).



**For conservative Americans, national health insurance sparked worry after watching the videos, while for liberal Americans it sparked hope.**

**Figure 7.** Percent of Americans who, thinking about the video they just watched, identified national health insurance as one of their top three hopes and worries for the future from the video stories, by political ideology:



Base: Respondents to video one and three: very liberal, n=379; somewhat liberal, n=623; moderate, n=1,090; somewhat conservative, n=611; very conservative, n=292.

**Hopes and concerns about health care technology**

Participants in the community conversations and online survey acknowledged that, although advances in health care technology could support their affordability and accessibility goals, technologies need to be responsibly integrated in ways that respect personal rights and privacy. Community conversation and online survey participants cited a few specific technologies that were included in the videos that raised concerns for them, including genetic modification and [exo-wombs](#). In general, participants expressed discomfort with technologies that replaced intimate bodily functions, such as the gestation of a baby, and those that had the potential to exacerbate existing inequities or increase surveillance.



*“Who would track the data on wellness, what data would be collected, what will be done with this data?”*  
 Online survey participant, Burlington, North Carolina

*“Technology will actually keep evolving. It’s how we use technology that matters. It’s convenient, but someone with bad intentions can steal information. We have to respect privacy and protect the older generation.”* Community conversation participant, San Diego, California

*“Exo-wombs create a commodified relationship to procreation.”* Online survey participant, Captain Cook, Hawaii

*“In the second story, designer babies were referenced as a positive health technology, but would have troubling ramifications for the editing out of the disability community from society.”* Online survey participant, Somerville, Massachusetts



*“I work as a trauma therapist and I went back to school... I went back to focus on intergenerational trauma in my Native community. And what I was struck by in the videos is in some ways some [of the ideas] were exciting, [such as] more sustainable small communities, and in some ways the solution of how to get there, was through manufacturing, or robots. And to me that feels very jarring to see and hear. To see us manufacturing our way to solutions. Coming from Indigenous communities, we know we have abundance if we share. And trauma is top-to-bottom and keeps us disconnected. It stands in the way of us being in community. We have more than enough to go around. How do we—it’s not about manufacturing—but how do we rebalance back to the center? How do we heal ourselves back to balance? How do we come back to ourselves as humanity and how do we heal ourselves? It’s disconnection from our food sources, from community, from everything.”* Community conversation participant, North Carolina

*“What is your definition of a woman and the gender roles that only [when a pregnancy can be incubated outside of a human body] they can begin to change? Why can’t gender roles be changed right now without waiting for a machine, which can fail just like a person’s body?”* Community conversation participant, youth, California

Similar to participants in the community conversations and online survey, the polling found that for nearly half of Americans the idea of surveillance being used to promote well-being was among the top three worries sparked by watching the videos. Forty-seven percent of Americans who watched videos two and four indicated that surveillance and monitoring in pursuit of well-being was among the top three ideas from the videos made them worry about the future. Meanwhile, 48 percent of Americans who watched videos two and four listed exo-wombs as being among the top three ideas from the videos made them worry about the future.



Concerns about surveillance differed somewhat by race and ethnicity. Over half of White Americans (52 percent) indicated surveillance and monitoring was among their top three worries sparked by watching the videos, compared to 44 percent of Asian Americans, 39 percent of Latino Americans, and only 32 percent of Black Americans.



## Theme 4: Regenerative Practices for People and Planet

Participants in the community conversations and online survey shared visions for the future that acknowledged the intimate connections between their health and the planet. They expressed deep concern and fear about climate breakdown and its possible consequences and stressed the need for responsible management of natural resources. They hoped for a future with universal access to clean air and water and healthy and sustainable food systems. In order to create social conditions that prioritize environmental sustainability, issues such as sustainable food, transportation, and energy systems must be prioritized in the United States and around the world. Participants acknowledged that healthy local environments are dependent on healthy global environments, requiring local and global solutions. Some participants in the community conversations and online survey noted that Indigenous people's knowledge and practices could serve as models for safe, sustainable, and equitable stewardship of natural resources.

*"In order to have health, we need people to have relationships with land beyond just ownership."*  
Community conversation participant, Minneapolis, Minnesota

*I am worried that in the future there will be "less green areas, less water. The only bays we are going to have will be lakes. Our hills will be invaded by houses. Culture starts with us. Talking to our children about this is also important. The government also needs to encourage culture... Instead of making improvements in technology they should make more improvements on how we care for our planet."* Community conversation participant, San Diego, California



*"Will there be a return to Indigenous ways, medicine, and learning? Connection to food and land and the ground is medicine from an Indigenous point of view."* Community conversation participant, Minneapolis, Minnesota

*In the future, "following the leadership of Indigenous and Black people, Americans shift our culture from extractive norms that exploit people and the earth to regenerative norms that lead to abundance and natural cycles. We build up mutual aid and support networks, connect deeply to the land we occupy, and share knowledge and access. We all have homes, health care, and the things we need to thrive, by working together to provide them."* Online survey participant, Boston, Massachusetts

### Role of technology in local, sustainable, participatory food systems

Participants in the community conversations and the online survey expressed interest in building sustainable, participatory food systems, and acknowledged that technological innovation in sustainable food, transportation, and energy systems will be required. However, participants were dismayed by the idea of technology taking over nature through such means as laboratory-produced food created from human cells—an idea that appeared in the first video.



*"One thing that stood out to me [was food] coming from our own human cells. I think what we need is actually food sustainability... There's a lot of orally based community knowledge that has been passed down through generations, [through] these slow-moving cultures with knowledge that has been developed over long periods of time. But now we're looking at what—chips in our heads instead of cellphones? Genetically engineering and modifying our foods is something we've been doing for a long time—longer*

*than lots of people realize—but we’ve had the time to observe and learn about the results of that over time in order to know that it’s safe. Some of the things we’re doing with food now we haven’t had the chance to really test and understand in that way. The kinds of things we can do to DNA—lab grown food and even humans maybe—that raises a lot of ethical questions. There are a lot of impacts and social ills that come from such a fast-moving culture, fast-moving technologies.”* Community conversation participant, San Diego, California

*“The farther we get from what is natural in our bodies, the more I get concerned. I think of convenience foods and the health crises they have created that we couldn’t anticipate beforehand and weren’t prepared for—cancer, diabetes.”* Community conversation participant, Minneapolis, Minnesota

*“Growing food from human cells sounds pretty gross.”* Online survey participant, Seattle, Washington

*“We need to return to regionalism in our agricultural practices, encouraging community gardens, community centers. I imagine a world where traditional knowledge is respected. Where we remember we are part of the world, honor our bodies as we honor the world around us. Opportunities for holistic healing, not just taking a pill. The idea of being guided by our elders. Community and work that is more in tune with our environment.”* Online survey participant, Port Angeles, Washington

## Potential impacts of climate change

Community conversation participants expressed concern about equitable access to resources, such as food and water, due to changes in climate. They also expressed concern about the possibility for mass climate migration, climate breakdown, climate changes, and anthropogenic environmental impacts.



Community conversation participants and those who participated in the online survey identified how the relationship between people and the planet intersects with equity in food justice, access to healthy land and water, and environmentally extractive corporations. They expressed concerns about the availability, quality, and management of natural and economic resources for offsetting current and future uncertainties and system-wide disruptions in food and environmental resources. Community conversation participants, who were specifically recruited to include people who have often been marginalized, acknowledged that these issues will likely first impact the most vulnerable. They felt that efforts to reform existing food, energy, and water systems must strive for both environmental sustainability and equity.

*“I can’t help but think about things happening on the coasts—from earthquakes and fires on the west coast, to hurricanes on the east coast. Maybe I’ll be safer in this area. The desire to move is realistic. But at the same time, it’s scary moving.”* Community conversation participant, North Carolina

*“I would hope that my 20-year-old son and his children will be able to experience the wilderness that I have enjoyed and experienced up here [in Alaska]. As was said earlier, we really do have a divide between what the climate needs and the mining and oil industry. There are communities here that are literally going to fall into the ocean in the coming years, but they would have to relocate at the cost of millions of dollars, and they just don’t have it.”* Community conversation participant, Matanuska-Susitna, Alaska

*“As tribal people, we’re different from other groups. This [set of scenarios] is great for all the people represented in the [videos], but what about our tribal treaty obligations? Will they fund IHS [Indian Health Service] more with the health disparities? Especially the migration part, if people are rooted in their*

*reservation, and everyone [else] is migrating because of the weather, the Natives probably wouldn't migrate. If they are rooted in their land, they probably wouldn't run. I don't think [the scenarios] was meant to relate to tribal people."* Community conversation participant, San Diego, California

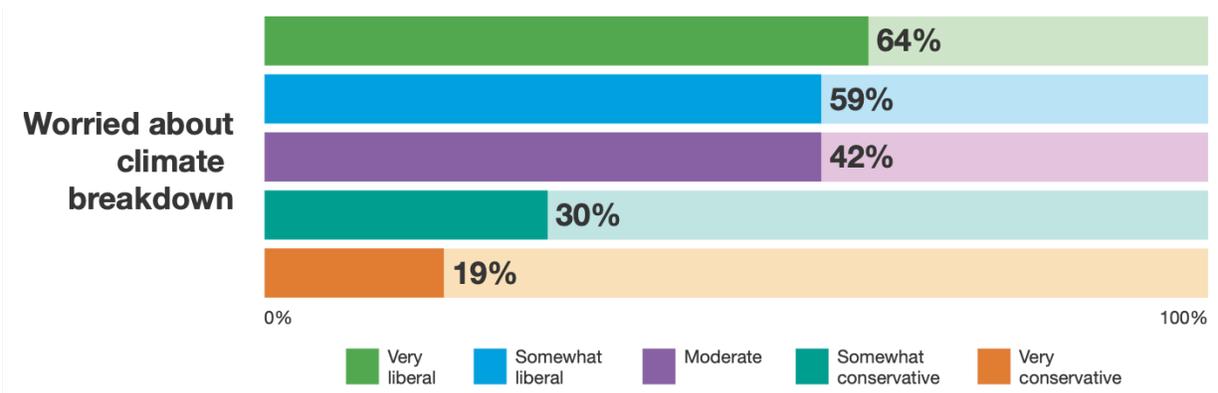
*"I'm worried about the potential for millions of people to be displaced by climate change or due to drastic economic changes, like automation."* Online survey participant, Kansas City, Kansas

Similar to reactions among participants in the community conversations and online survey, poll respondents indicated that the videos sparked worry about climate breakdown and mass migration due to climate change. The poll found that 43 percent of Americans who watched videos one and three identified climate breakdown as one of the top three ideas from the videos that made them worry about the future. Similarly, 36 percent of Americans who watched videos one and three identified mass migration due to climate change as one of the three ideas from the videos that made them worry about the future.

Among those participants who watched videos one and three in the poll, a greater share of liberal than conservative Americans identified climate breakdown as one of the three ideas from the videos that made them worry about the future (see Figure 8).

**A greater share of liberal than conservative Americans identified climate breakdown as one of the top three ideas from the videos that made them worry.**

**Figure 8.** Percent of Americans who, thinking about the video they just watched, identified climate breakdown as one of the top three ideas from the video stories that made them worry about the future, by political ideology:



Base: Respondents to videos one and three: very liberal, n=379; somewhat liberal, n=623; moderate, n=1,090; somewhat conservative, n=611; very conservative, n=292.

**Respondents' perspectives on potential solutions to mitigate the impacts of climate change**

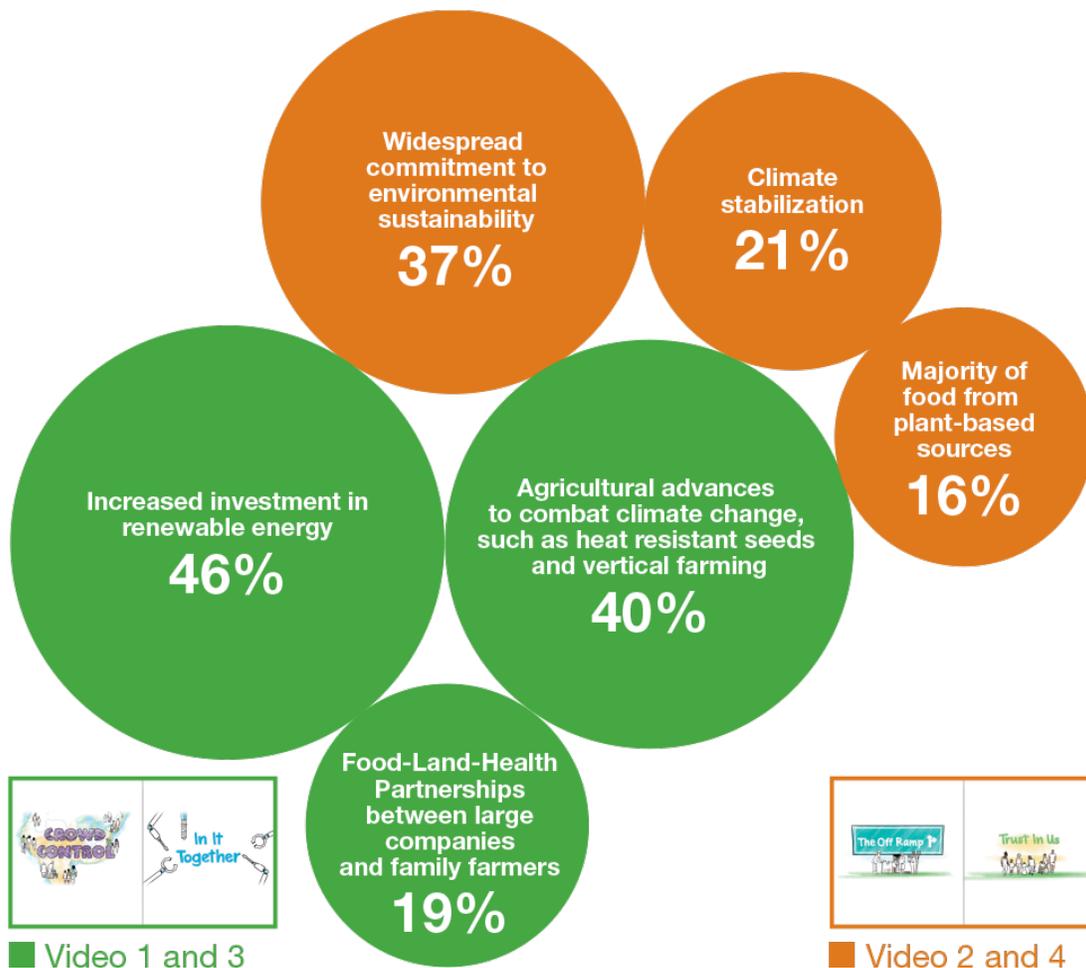
The poll found that increased investment in renewable and alternative energy, commitments to environmental sustainability and climate stabilization, and agricultural advances to combat climate change were all among the top ideas from the videos that gave Americans hope for the future.

After watching videos one and three, 46 percent of Americans indicated that increased investment in renewable and alternative energy was one of the top three ideas from the videos that gave them hope for the future. After watching videos two and four, 37 percent of respondents indicated that widespread commitment to environmental sustainability was among the top three ideas from the videos that gave them hope for the future (see Figure 9).

After watching videos one and three, the poll found that 40 percent listed agricultural advances to combat climate change as being among the top three ideas from the videos that gave them hope for the future.

**Investment in renewable and alternative energy, agricultural advancements to combat climate change, and a commitment to environmental sustainability and climate stabilization were all among the top ideas from the videos that gave Americans hope for the future.**

**Figure 9.** Percent of Americans who, thinking about the video they just watched, identified each of the following ideas from the video stories as one of their top three hopes for the future:

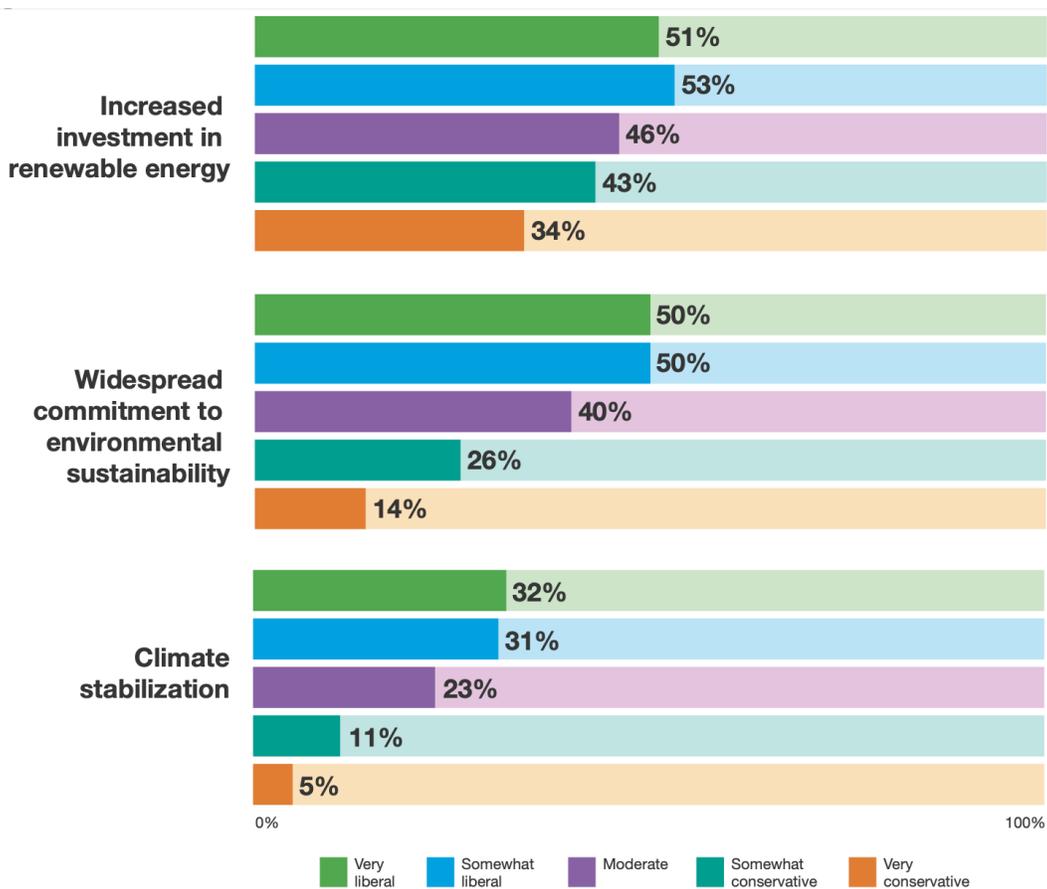


Base: Respondents to videos one and three, n=3,072; Respondents to videos two and four, n=2,938

The polling also revealed divides on this issue along lines of political affiliation. More Americans who identify as liberal than who identify as conservative indicated that increased investment in renewable and alternative energy was among their top hopes for the future sparked by videos one and three. Similarly, among those who watched videos two and four, a greater share of liberal than conservative Americans indicated that widespread commitment to environmental sustainability and climate stabilization were among their top hopes for the future (see Figure 10). In general, this data would suggest that climate change and its effects are a bigger concern for people who identify as liberal, and liberal Americans therefore may have a stronger appetite for interventions that would mitigate its effects.

**More Americans who identify as liberal than who identify as conservative said that investment in renewable energy, commitment to environmental sustainability, and climate stabilization were aspects of the videos that sparked hope for them.**

**Figure 10.** Percent of Americans who, thinking about the video they just watched, identified each of the following ideas from the video stories as one of their top three hopes for the future, by political ideology:



Base: Respondents to videos one and three: very liberal, n=379; somewhat liberal, n=623; moderate, n=1,090; somewhat conservative, n=611; very conservative, n=292.

Respondents to videos two and four: very liberal, n=333; somewhat liberal, n=573; moderate, n=1,066; somewhat conservative, n=548; very conservative, n=335



## Theme 5: Equitable Access to Basic Needs and Supports

When community conversation and online survey participants were asked to envision a future for health, they often described a future in which everyone's basic needs for food, housing, health care, and lifelong education are met. They described a society in which large economic gaps are closed and there is broad access to the social determinants of health. Alongside basic needs, community conversation participants also envisioned a future for health in which people are loved and cared for and have safe communities in which to live, play, and grow. Participants envisioned a future in which basic needs are met through a combination of small-scale community and large-scale governmental programs working together to provide these supports.



Participants in the community conversations and online survey also often expressed their vision for a society in which everyone's basic needs were met in terms of equity, in terms of equity of both income and race and ethnicity."



*"I think that it's important to have access to all the resources. Especially for people like me, that are undocumented. I can go to the doctor—and yes—there is sliding scales [sic], but they don't treat me the same as a person that had the resources. Having access to living [somewhere] that we didn't have to work 6-to-6 [a twelve-hour day] to pay rent. Our kids are suffering emotionally and mentally because we have to work more than others."* Community conversation participant, San Diego, California

*"I think about how gardening is so good for us; it gets us into fresh air, develops self-help skills, speech. It's good for children's development. In the beginning of this crisis [the pandemic], I couldn't even get any rice, so I keep thinking about how we really need to have our own food."* Community conversation participant, San Diego, California

*"I work with homeless children and adults. It's interesting that housing and food and clothing, the basic needs, Maslow was absolutely right. The brain's ability to function in these situations [where basic needs are not being met] is heavily impaired. I think the number one thing that should be addressed, we need to take care of our kids, that they have food, shelter, somewhere they feel secure."* Community conversation participant, Matanuska-Susitna, Alaska

*"As a person who is homeless, we don't have time to think about the future. We're living day-to-day. We had a lot, but it only took one catastrophic event to send us whirling. We don't have adequate health care or mental health care."* Community conversation participant, Matanuska-Susitna, Alaska

*"Rent is super expensive; it's very hard for our families to survive on one salary, so all adults have to work. Now, with the pandemic, kids don't have school, so they have to be at home all day by themselves. My kids are getting behind, they are angry all the time, they just wanted to be in their video games or in their rooms. They are sad. Our house is very small so there aren't many things to do. It is simply hard."* Community conversation participant, San Diego, California

*My vision for the future is "that each person has the food, shelter, work, and sense of community that they need and want. That there is an emphasis on well-being and health. That racism, ableism, sexism, ageism, and overall oppression are obliterated. That the drive for greed is transformed to a deep care and love for one another, the planet, and community."* Online survey participant, Apple Valley, Minnesota

*“Incrementalism will not succeed. Our demands should be big and broad... We are living in Covid-19, ecological racism... I am Black. If I get shot tomorrow... I can be futuristic all I want, but I could get shot tomorrow.”* Focus group participant, Massachusetts

Similar to the community conversations and online survey, the polling found that inequality was among the top three ideas from the videos that sparked worry for Americans, although a greater share of liberal than conservative Americans identified inequality as a top worry after watching the videos.

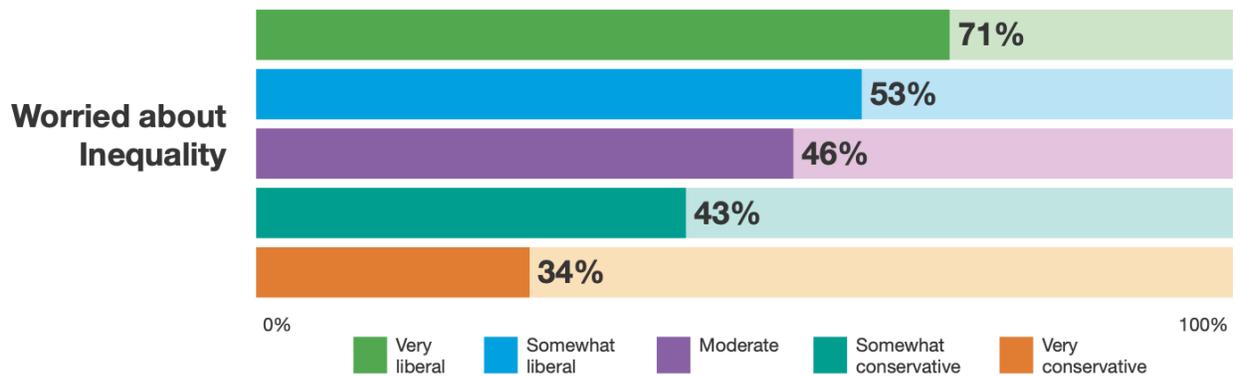
After watching videos one and three, 53 percent of Americans identified growing inequality and tension between ‘haves’ and ‘have-nots’ as being among the top three ideas from the videos that made them worry for the future. This worry is also associated with the **economic well-being** theme (see Figure 2).



Among those who watched scenario videos one and three, a greater share of liberal compared to conservative Americans selected inequality as being one of the top three ideas from the videos that made them worry (see Figure 11).

**Inequality emerged as a top worry for a greater share of liberal compared to conservative Americans after watching the videos.**

**Figure 11:** Percent of Americans who, thinking about the video they just watched, identified growing inequality and tension between ‘haves’ and ‘have-nots’ as one of the top three ideas that made them worried about the future, by political ideology:



Base: Respondents to videos one and three: very liberal, n=379; somewhat liberal, n=623; moderate, n=1,090; somewhat conservative, n=611; very conservative, n=292.

**Access to education**

Participants in the community conversations and online survey articulated a vision for a healthy and equitable future that includes a high-quality, accessible, and life-long education system. They shared a vision for education that extends beyond traditional kindergarten to grade 12 schooling to a system that supports learning and growth as a basic need throughout the lifespan, from early childcare through higher education and professional development opportunities. Participants hoped that these learning opportunities would be equally accessible to all, at a fair cost. They hoped for a future in which education enables individual, social, and economic betterment and includes

opportunities for personal and professional growth and development that can lead to meaningful work and enriched lives.

*“Imagino un future donde todos los niños y niñas tengas acceso a una educación de altísima calidad e incluyente, independiente de su clase social, religión, discapacidad, nivel socio-económico, raza o lugar de origen.” [“I imagine a future where all boys and girls have access to high-quality and inclusive education, regardless of their social class, religion, disability, socioeconomic level, race, or place of origin.”<sup>6</sup>]* Online survey participant, New York, New York



*“Can we just get rid of bias with our teachers and not have robots?”* Community conversation participant, youth, California



*“I hope for a future where children would be “raised by supportive parent(s) who had the time and basic resources to provide love, structure, and comfort to them. This would be made possible by strong parent coaching initiatives from pre-natal through [age] 18, including in-home visiting programs for all parents, generous parental leave policies for new children, and incentive plans in the workplace for improving employees’ understanding of parenting/child development and mental health/coping. Tie work to what matters. The separation of making a living from living is killing us and our future generation.”* Online survey participant, Columbia, Missouri

*“I wish that my son would have had a community and family earlier in life. I wish the educational system was reformed earlier and accepting of people as neurodiverse as they are. There is discrimination against people who think/function differently in schools. I wish there was more kindness. Adults have to model that behavior and put into play in schools.”* Community conversation participant, Matanuska-Susitna, Alaska

<sup>6</sup> The original response from the online storytelling participant was in Spanish. Public Agenda provided the English translation.

**ADDITIONAL FINDINGS**

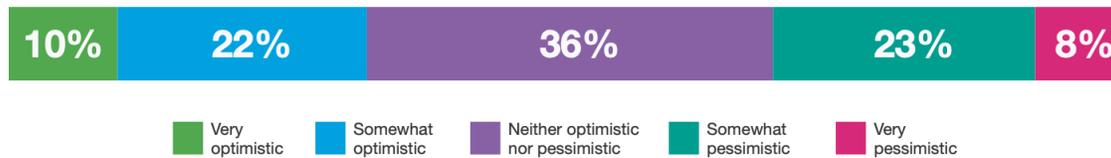
*Americans’ optimism about the future*

Although Americans expressed a variety of hopes and worries in response to viewing the scenario videos, the NORC poll found that, overall, only one-third of Americans are optimistic about the future of health and well-being (see Figure 12).

The national poll was fielded in September and October 2020, in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic but before any vaccines had been approved, during the Biden and Trump presidential campaigns, and concurrent with the Black Lives Matter protests following George Floyd’s murder by police in Minneapolis. At that time, a greater share of very conservative Americans (47 percent) said they were optimistic about the future of health and well-being and only 23 percent were pessimistic about it. By contrast, only 21 percent of very liberal Americans said they were optimistic about the future of health and well-being, while 45 percent of Americans who are very liberal indicated they were pessimistic about it. This finding is consistent with research that suggests Democrats tend to be pessimistic under a Republican administration and vice versa.<sup>7</sup>

**Only one-third of Americans were optimistic about the future of health and well-being**

**Figure 12.** Percent of Americans who indicate how optimistic or pessimistic they are about the future of health and well-being:



Base: All poll respondents, N=6,010.

*A plurality of respondents hope business, government, and community would co-lead change*

Poll respondents were asked to indicate how they hoped leadership for change should be distributed across business, government, and community. They were not asked which one of those three entities should take the lead. Instead, they were asked to place a point on a triangular graph with three points—business, government and community organizations—to indicate how leadership for change should be shared and distributed.

Forty-two percent of Americans hoped that business, government, and community organizations would all lead change in health and well-being in the future (see Figure 13).

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2019/03/21/looking-ahead-to-2050-americans-are-pessimistic-about-many-aspects-of-life-in-u-s/>

While 68 percent of Americans hoped that business would play some sort of role in leading change in health and well-being, only five percent of Americans hoped businesses would primarily lead the change. In general, participants did not believe that businesses alone should lead the change, but the majority hoped that business would collaborate with other sectors to advance a vision of equitable health and well-being.

**A plurality of Americans expressed hope that business, government, and community organizations together will lead change in health and well-being**

**Figure 13.** Percent of Americans who indicated how they hope leadership for change should be distributed across business, government, and community organizations:



Base: All poll respondents, N=6,010.

The poll found that a plurality of Americans hoped to see the biggest changes to health and well-being in how we work and make money, connect and live in society, and govern ourselves.

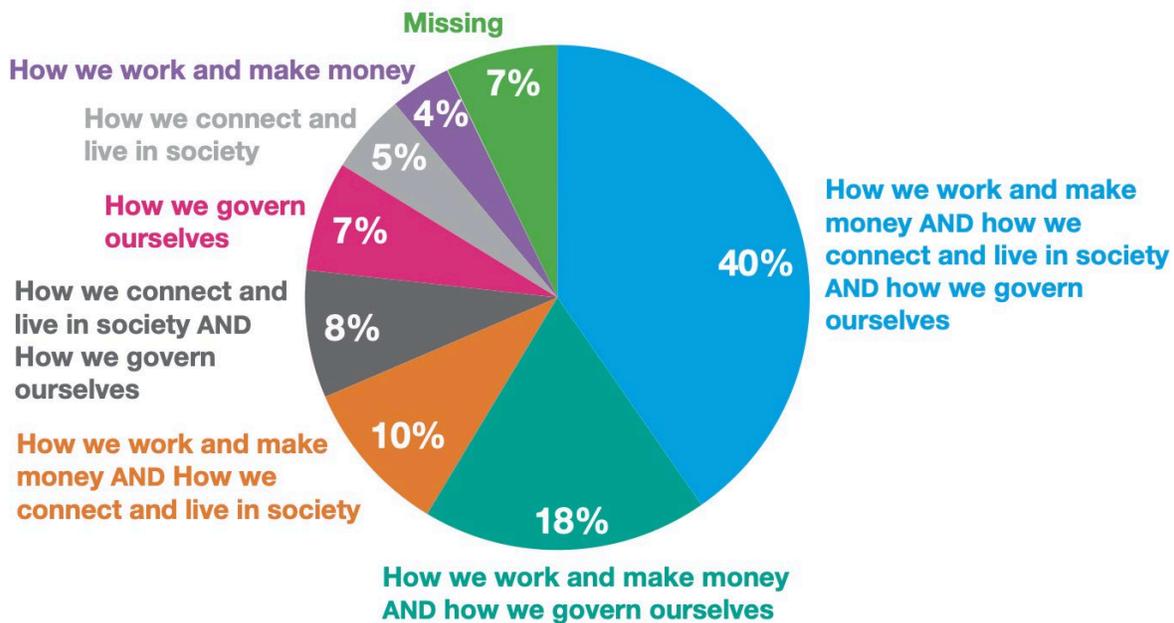
After watching the videos, poll respondents were asked where they hope to see the biggest changes to health and well-being in the future. They were not asked to choose one single area in which they hoped to see change. Instead, they were asked to indicate how they hope change will be distributed across three areas—how we work and make money, how we connect and live in society, and how we govern ourselves—by placing a point on a triangle with those three types of change as the triangle’s three points.

After watching the videos, 40 percent of Americans placed the point in the middle of the triangle to indicate that they hoped to see the biggest changes to health and well-being in the future in how we work and make money, how we connect and live in society, and how we govern ourselves (see Figure 14).

Sixty-eight percent of Americans prioritized change in how we work and make money in combination with other changes, while only four percent prioritized seeing change in how we work and make money alone. In general, Americans hoped for changes in how we work and make money, but largely in combination with changes in the other domains.

**After watching the videos, a plurality of Americans said they hoped to see change in how we work, connect, and govern ourselves**

**Figure 14.** Percent of Americans who indicated how they hope changes to health and well-being in the future will be distributed across how we work and make money, how we connect and live in society, and how we govern ourselves:



Base: All poll respondents, N=6,010.

To ensure a better future for health and well-being, about one-third of Americans said they believe that we need change in both societal and individual values. Thirty percent of NORC poll respondents believe that change needs to occur in both societal and individual values to ensure a better future for health and well-being. Further, about one-third believe the biggest changes need to come from mostly societal values, and about third believe the biggest changes need to come from individuals (see Figure 15).

More conservatives say changes need to come in individual values, while more liberals think changes need to come in societal values. Fifty-eight percent of very conservative Americans say change needs to come from individual values while only 16 percent of them say it needs to come from societal values. By comparison, only 17 percent of very liberal Americans say change needs to come from individual values and 62 percent say it needs to come from societal values.

**To ensure a better future for health and well-being, about one-third of Americans believe that we need changes in both societal and individual values**

**Figure 15.** Percent of Americans who indicated each of the following as being where we need the biggest changes in order to ensure a better future for health and well-being:



Base: All poll respondents, N=6,010.

## CONCLUSION

FORESIGHT's resident engagement process prompted people across the country to articulate a vision for an equitable future of health and well-being. It revealed much about people's hopes, desires, fears, and aspirations about what the future might hold. It also gives important guidance to those working to build a new future—guidance about what people hope to see, how they hope those changes will happen, and how to engage in robust and inclusive conversations about the future with a diversity of people.

Below are key takeaways from both the process and findings of FORESIGHT's resident engagement work that can guide future work in this area.

1. **The vision participants articulated is ambitious, even if not new.** It is striking that, even when invited to imagine any future over a long time horizon, participants in the community conversations and online survey returned to the basics: economic security; community infrastructure; a health care system that serves them; a healthy planet; and access to the most essential things they need to thrive, including housing, food, and education. This vision may not seem novel or shiny, but the United States is not on a trajectory to achieve it. It will take sustained effort and commitment from many individuals and organizations across sectors to achieve this vision. Participants in FORESIGHT's large-scale engagement process recognized that addressing these five themes will be essential to ensuring that the United States is able to respond equitably to the complex changes on the horizon.
2. **A commitment to justice, equity, and inclusion must be at the heart of our efforts to transform health and well-being.** This engagement effort revealed that people think about equity across many dimensions. The polling showed that income inequality—the widening gap between “haves” and “have-nots”—was a key worry for Americans across demographics, with 53 percent of respondents citing that as a top worry after watching the videos. In the community conversations and online survey, participants identified key structural inequities, including systemic racism, across theme that must be addressed to achieve a future in which everyone thrives, without exception. Particularly for those Americans experiencing the greatest inequities in our current system, a persistent theme was the idea that the most troubling trends and emerging issues in the future would hit them hardest and the new technologies and changes that could improve life would likely leave them behind. Addressing persistent, historic, and systemic inequity is not a separate activity, but one that must be integrated into action across all five themes. Working toward a more equitable system requires that we center the voices of those who have been historically marginalized in our visioning and in our strategies for moving that vision forward.
3. **Americans understand the complex interrelationships between the many factors that impact our health and well-being.** The vision they described and the potential solutions they identified sit at the intersection of many issues that are often addressed separately: economic security, health care, technology, the environment, food security and sustainability, housing, safety, education, community connection, and civic life. Building toward this vision will require overcoming existing siloes.
4. **Americans hope for a future in which there is greater collaboration among sectors.** The majority of participants indicated that no single sector (government, business, or community organizations) could single-handedly achieve the vision they set forth. Achieving an equitable future for health and well-being will require unprecedented collaboration across sectors and siloes.

- 5. Technology is not a salve for all of the challenges that face us.** Participants in this process did identify places where they thought technology could improve and even save lives. They also expressed deep concerns about the potential for accelerating technologies to replace personal connection, exacerbate inequities, and increase surveillance. In many cases, the visions people described were not ones of technological innovation but of a return to the basics: securing people's basic needs and creating opportunities for love, community, and connection. Any adoption of new technology should work to further these essential values, and such technologies should be designed with respect for personal autonomy, privacy, and equity.
- 6. Communities are ready to begin building the future they have envisioned, and the pathways toward that future are likely to be held in community.** Many participants shared a desire for solutions that would honor and return to the knowledge and wisdom of our ancestors, particularly but not exclusively Indigenous practices. Communities were motivated and mobilized by engaging in these conversations and were eager to begin building the future they envisioned now.
- 7. Prompting people with potential changes on the horizon did inspire different conversations about the future.** Offering people stories of possible futures prompted them to consider potential changes and solutions that may not otherwise have been at the forefront of this conversation. For example, participants gravitated toward cooperatives and well-being assessments, ideas that are not prevalent in national discourse but could offer pathways to the vision they identified. They also thought more broadly about the many factors that impact health and well-being when prompted with stories that explored a wide variety of issues. Importantly, the scenarios did not limit or constrain these conversations; they served as a jumping off point that still allowed space for people to raise many different ideas about what the future might hold and what their aspirations were. It can be challenging for people, especially those facing significant stress in the current moment, to imagine the full range of challenges and opportunities that might confront us 30 years from now. But this process confirms that all people are invested in what the future holds for them, their communities, and the people they love. In order to engage a true diversity of people in conversations about the future, we must design equitable processes that can expand people's imaginations for what is possible and create space for them to share their deepest held hopes and aspirations for the future.

## GLOSSARY

**Cooperatives:** In **worker cooperatives**, members/workers come together to spread risk and share capital in order to have ownership of their business interests.

**Eco-hub:** As defined in the scenario videos, an **eco-hub** is a sustainable community focused on shared ownership, slow growth, and environmental sustainability.

**Exo-womb:** An artificial womb that would allow a baby to be gestated outside a human body.

**Gig work:** In our current economy, **gig work** typically consists of temporary contracts that give employees flexibility to work their own hours, with low pay, no benefits, and no employment security. Current examples of gig work include driving for rideshare companies and food delivery services.

**GDP or gross domestic product:** A monetary measure of the market value of all the goods and services produced in a particular time period.

**Universal basic income:** A government program in which every adult receives a set amount of money on a regular basis.

## APPENDICES

### Appendix A: Methodology

#### 1. Community Conversations

The FORESIGHT team partnered with [Marnita's Table](#), a Minneapolis-based nonprofit whose mission is to bridge gaps across difference by bringing hard-to-reach stakeholders into key community conversations. The Marnita's Table team hosted 23 virtual community conversations about the future of health and well-being in nine regions across the country: Minneapolis, MN; Matanuska-Susitna Borough, AK; San Diego, CA; New Hampshire; Kansas; North Carolina; Connecticut; Long Beach, CA; and with seventh through twelfth grade students in Butte County and Sacramento, CA. Through these conversations, Marnita's Table engaged 1,042 people, about three-quarters of whom were Indigenous, Black, and other People of Color (IBPOC) and about 18% under the age of 24. Through their signature methodology, the Marnita's Table team intentionally recruited voices and perspectives rarely heard in conversations of this kind, including low-income families, Indigenous leaders, disability advocates, members of rural communities, youth, and many more. To be maximally inclusive, the Marnita's Table model invites people to disclose their identity in their own words; as a result, demographics below indicate who in the room identified as IBPOC or as youth and don't provide additional detail on racial or ethnic identity, age, political affiliation, or income. These conversations were conducted in ten languages: English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Khmer, Burmese, Arabic, Amharic, Somali, Swahili, and Tagalog.

All conversations were open to the community. Participants watched two sets of scenario videos, and participated in facilitated small-group conversations, responding to the ideas in the videos and sharing their own vision for the future of health and well-being. These questions included:

Is there anything you saw today that inspired you? What, if anything, stood out to you across all of the scenarios? Was there anything you liked?

Is there anything you saw today that you didn't like? What if anything stood out to you across all of the scenarios? Was there anything you found alarming or upsetting?

Is there anything we can do right now to ensure a healthy and equitable future 30 years from now? Do you have a vision for community safety in a healthier future? How might public institutions and systems shift or be designed in order to ensure the outcomes you envision?

Name two things you want or need in your future to experience health and well-being. Do you feel that you have a role in building the future you imagine? Is there anything you need to see in your future in order to thrive?

What would you like to see in the future more broadly? Is there anything happening in your community now that is promising for the future? Is there anything you'd like to see more of? Less of?

Is there anything we didn't ask that we should have? What isn't here that you would like to see? Please share your question(s) and any answers that your group discusses.

Recruitment to join these conversations typically happened through community connectors, individuals with strong and trusted relationships in community who could extend personal invitations. Community connectors were compensated for their time and for generating participation among their networks. Marnita's Table provided meals, suitable for all dietary needs from vegan to carnivore and prepared by local small businesses, for all

households who joined these conversations. They also offered devices and technological assistance to households joining these conversations who might not have access to a device with a front-facing camera or familiarity with the platform. Participants engaged in conversation over several hours, exploring the future scenarios and discussing their reactions, hopes, fears, and aspirations with one another. To learn more about the Marnita’s Table model of engagement, please visit [www.marnitastable.org](http://www.marnitastable.org).

State/Region	Number of Participants	Indigenous or other People of Color	Youth (under age 24)
Alaska, Matanuska-Susitna Borough	87	31%	25%
California, Long Beach	152	97%	8%
California, Sacramento and Butte Counties [Youth]	24	58%	83%
California, San Diego	307	88%	14%
Connecticut	103	78%	13%
Kansas	85	46%	18%
Minnesota, Minneapolis	94	81%	27%
New Hampshire	80	48%	16%
North Carolina	110	79%	18%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1043</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>18%</b>

## 2. Focus group

FORESIGHT’s partners at the [Disability Policy Consortium](#) conducted a focus group with nine persons with disabilities. Staff at the Disability Policy Consortium intentionally sought a diverse group of participants, including persons who self-identified as transgender and gender nonconforming. The age range of participants went from persons in their early 20s to persons in their early 60s. Participant composition also reflected a cross-section of disability types, including physical disability, mental health diagnosis, autism, and several disabilities. Some participants identified as being disabled from birth; others as having become disabled at some point in adulthood.

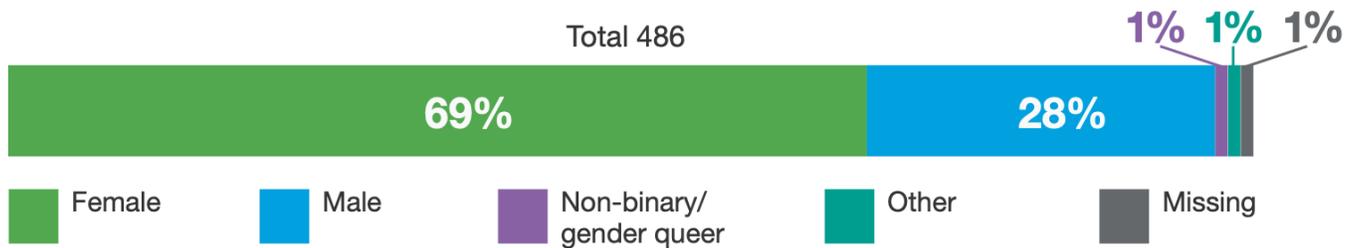
## 3. Online survey

The FORESIGHT team worked with [spryng](#), an online storytelling and sensemaking platform, to collect qualitative stories and quantitative data from a snowball sample of stakeholders and FORESIGHT contacts. Each spryng participant watched either videos one and three or videos two and four and was then asked to provide a short answer about what they were hopeful about or what worried them in the videos they watched. Participants were then also prompted: “The stories in the video gave some examples of what might be possible—good or bad—in the future. Now we want to know what you want in the future. Imagine a future in which a child you love is healthy and thriving. Please share a story about 1-2 big things that made that future possible. You may describe things you saw in the video or other ideas.” Participants were then asked to respond to a series of questions about the story they wrote.

Online survey data was collected from 487 participants from June 10, 2020, to September 8, 2020. The online survey was available in five languages: English, Spanish, Mandarin, French, and Somali. The data is not representative and therefore not generalizable to any larger population. It represents primarily people who, in either a professional or volunteer capacity, are connected to the health and well-being system.

### Online survey sample demographics

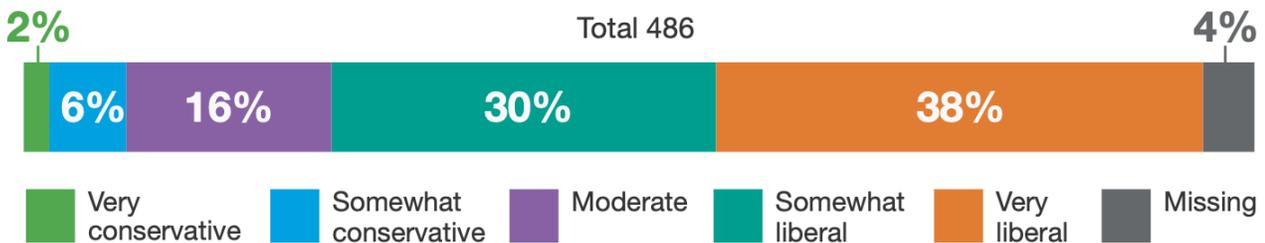
#### Gender identity



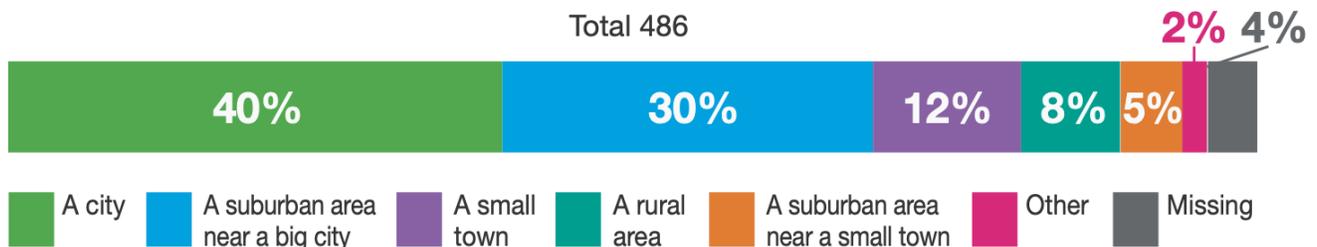
#### Annual income



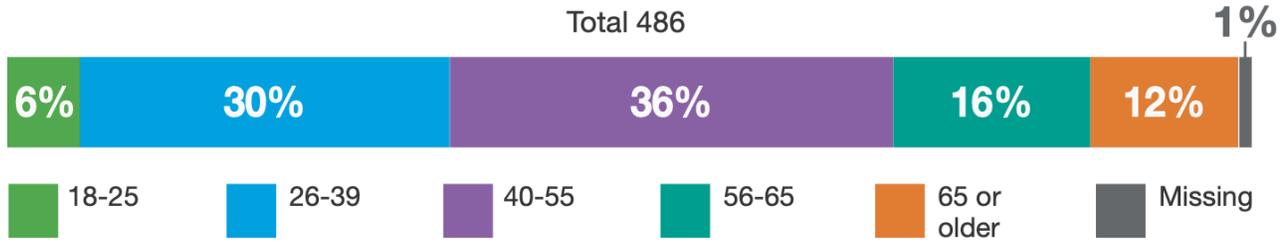
#### Political affiliation



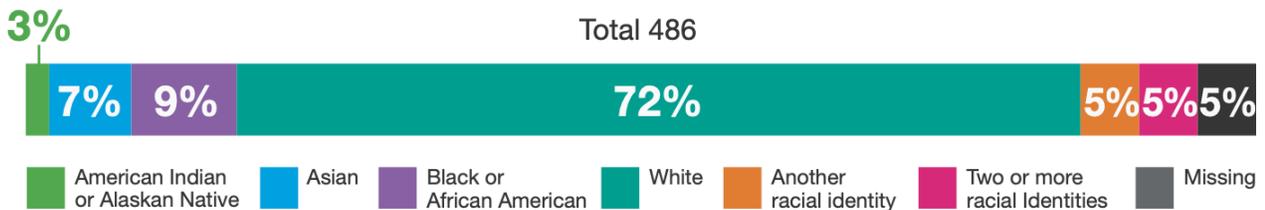
#### Geography



### Age

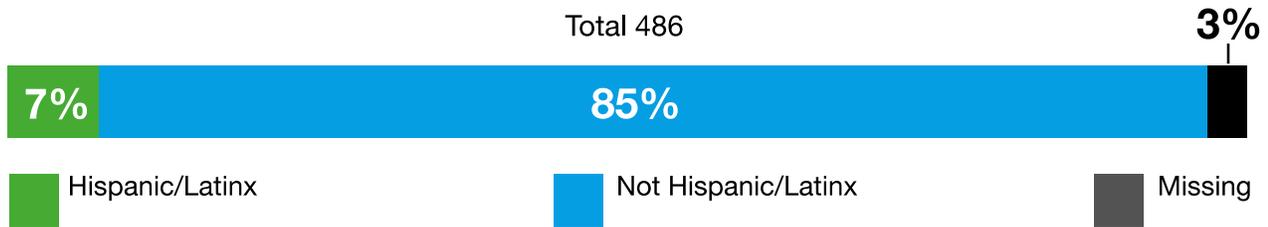


### Racial identity

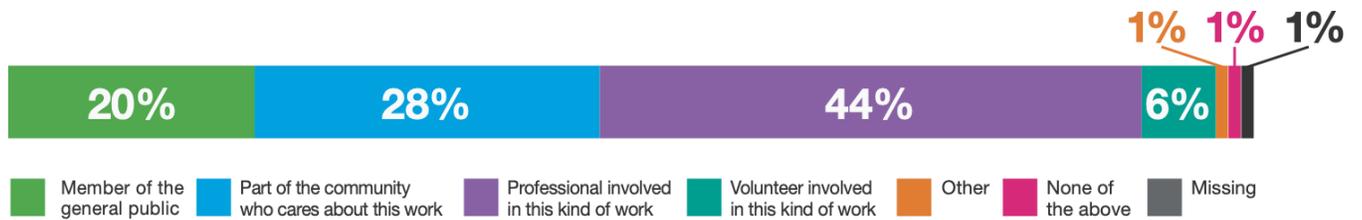


Note: Most participants who selected “another racial identity” identified as Latinx

### Ethnicity



### System role



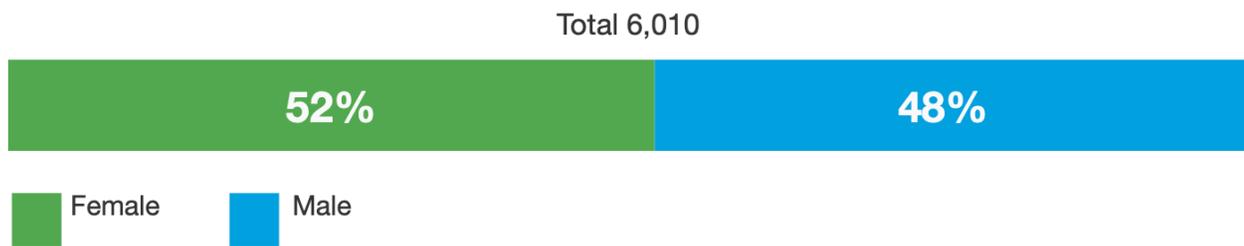
## 4. Nationally Representative Poll

FORESIGHT worked with the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago to design and field a nationally representative poll of US adults. Poll participants watched either videos one and three or videos two and four and were asked to respond to the videos they watched by ranking the top three ideas from the video that made them hopeful or worried. They chose their top hopes and worries from a list of prompts. Respondents were asked additional questions about where and how they thought change in health and well-being would occur.

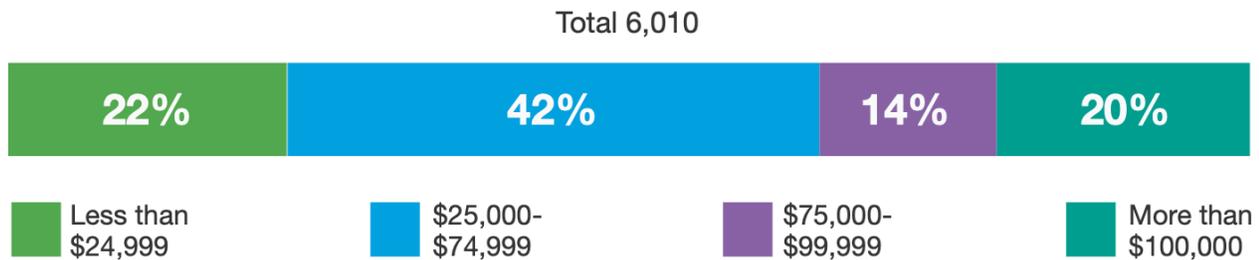
The nationally representative poll of 6,010 adults 18 years and older was fielded September 17, 2020, to October 2, 2020. The margin of error is +/- 4.33 percentage points at the 95% confidence level among all adults. The poll is weighted against the 2010 US Census. The poll was conducted in English and Spanish.

### Polling sample demographics

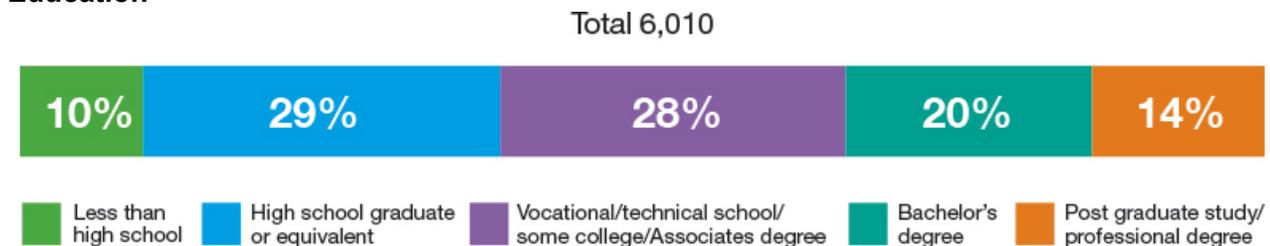
#### Gender identity



#### Annual income

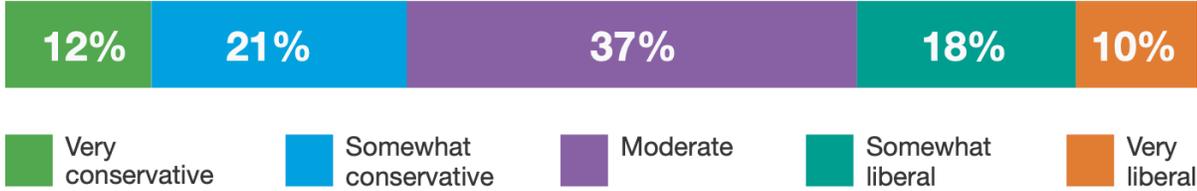


#### Education



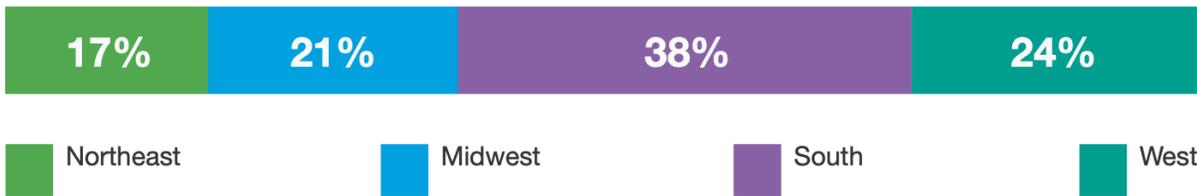
**Political affiliation**

Total 6,010



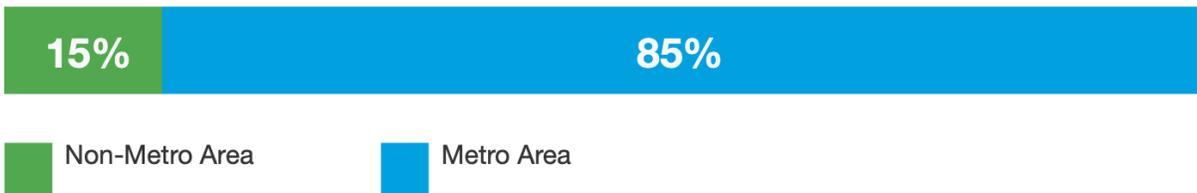
**Region**

Total 6,010



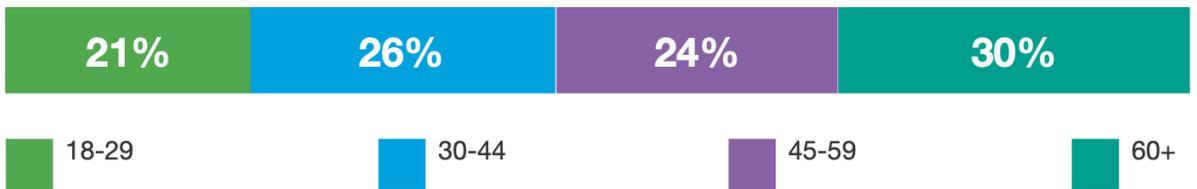
**Metro status**

Total 6,010



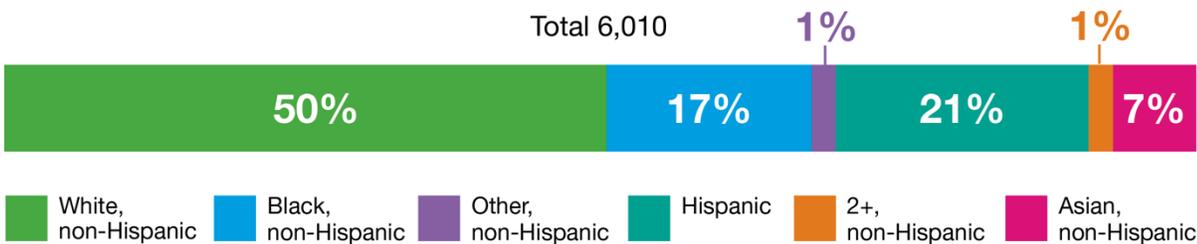
**Age**

Total 6,010



**Racial and ethnic identity**

Total 6,010



## Appendix B: Hopes and Worries from the NORC Poll

In the NORC poll, respondents were asked to watch two of the four scenario videos and then respond to a series of questions about their impressions and hopes for the future. After watching the videos, respondents were asked to answer two multiple choice questions:

Identify up to three things from the video stories that gave you hope for the future.

Identify up to three things from the video stories that worried you for the future.

For each question, respondents were given a list of ideas that appeared in the videos from which they could select their top hopes and worries. The same list was used for each question so that respondents could choose to designate the same idea as either a hope or a worry. Responses to these questions are below with the percentage of respondents who selected that answer choice as one of their top three hopes or worries for the future. Next to the answer choices are the corresponding themes from the vision to indicate how they relate to the structure of this report.



**Economic well-being**



**Inclusive, just communities**



**Holistic, innovative, culturally rooted health care**



**Regenerative practices for people and planet**



**Equitable access to basic needs and supports<sup>8</sup>**

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<sup>8</sup> The research activities helped inform the development of the themes but were not designed around them. Therefore, there were some items poll respondents were asked to respond to that did not fall into any of the five themes.

## Video one and three hopes

	Increased investment in renewable and alternative energy	<b>46%</b>
	Agricultural advances to combat climate change, such as heat resistant seeds and vertical farming	<b>40%</b>
	National health insurance	<b>28%</b>
	Increased diversity of representation in government	24%
	Food-Land-Health Partnership between large companies and family farmers	<b>19%</b>
	Corporations shifting to cooperative models with shared ownership by employees and others	<b>18%</b>
	Local leadership on key issues, such as ways to reduce climate damage	16%
	Universal basic income	<b>13%</b>
	Mass-produced 3D housing	12%
	Climate breakdown	<b>10%</b>
	Health care delivered on demand, for example through personal sensors and drones	<b>10%</b>
	Absence of strong federal guidance and legislation	8%
	Growing inequality and tension between “haves” and “have-nots”	<b>8%</b>
	Mass migration due to climate change	<b>7%</b>
	Regular equity reviews of businesses and organizations	7%
	Rise of a gig economy	<b>6%</b>
	Gig worker protections, such as Gig Boards and a Gig Union	<b>5%</b>
	Rise of automation eliminating traditional jobs	<b>3%</b>
	Skipped on web/don't know/refused	2%

## Video one and three worries

	Growing inequality and tension between “haves” and “have-nots”	<b>53%</b>
	Climate breakdown	<b>43%</b>
	Mass migration due to climate change	<b>36%</b>
	Absence of strong federal guidance and legislation	33%
	Rise of automation eliminating traditional jobs	<b>30%</b>
	Universal basic income	<b>17%</b>
	National health insurance	<b>13%</b>
	Rise of a gig economy	<b>10%</b>
	Mass-produced 3D housing	8%
	Health care delivered on demand, for example through personal sensors and drones	<b>7%</b>
	Increased diversity of representation in government	6%
	Local leadership on key issues, such as ways to reduce climate damage	5%
	Increased investment in renewable and alternative energy	<b>4%</b>
	Agricultural advances to combat climate change, such as heat resistant seeds and vertical farming	<b>4%</b>
	Corporations shifting to cooperative models with shared ownership by employees and others	<b>4%</b>
	Gig worker protections, such as Gig Boards and a Gig Union	<b>4%</b>
	Regular equity reviews of businesses and organizations	4%
	Food-Land-Health Partnership between large companies and family farmers	<b>3%</b>
	Skipped on web/don't know/refused	1%

Base: Respondents of video one and three, n=3,072

## Video two and four hopes

	Widespread commitment to environmental sustainability	<b>37%</b>
	Focus on preventative care	<b>33%</b>
	Rise of communities living sustainably, like eco-hubs	<b>33%</b>
	Respect for death, life, and end of life	<b>22%</b>
	Climate stabilization	<b>21%</b>
	Increased funding for public health	<b>21%</b>
	Legislation requiring transparency in business, government, and community practices to better understand the impact of actions	19%
	Majority of food from plant-based sources	<b>16%</b>
	Transition to the US Well-Being Score, measuring how well we do with what we have (rather than how much stuff we produce)	<b>11%</b>
	Federal government funding only essential services and innovation research	10%
	People and markets going “off the grid” to avoid surveillance	9%
	Less focus on economic growth and innovation	<b>8%</b>
	Increased focus on shared ownership, decreased focus on economic growth	<b>8%</b>
	Increased support for self-care healing resources	<b>8%</b>
	Elder councils and healers	<b>6%</b>
	Widespread artificial intelligence, such as education and well-being robots	5%
	Exo-wombs allowing babies to develop outside human bodies and redefining traditional gender roles	<b>4%</b>
	“Prejudice-free” certification for robots and other technologies	4%
	Self-selected kinship groups	<b>4%</b>
	Extensive surveillance and monitoring in pursuit of well-being	<b>2%</b>
	Skipped on web/don’t know/refused	2%

## Video two and four worries

	Exo-wombs allowing babies to develop outside human bodies and redefining traditional gender roles	<b>48%</b>
	Extensive surveillance and monitoring in pursuit of well-being	<b>47%</b>
	Widespread artificial intelligence, such as education and well-being robots	35%
	People and markets going “off the grid” to avoid surveillance	19%
	Less focus on economic growth and innovation	<b>18%</b>
	Federal government funding only essential services and innovation research	18%
	Increased focus on shared ownership, decreased focus on economic growth	<b>12%</b>
	Self-selected kinship groups	<b>12%</b>
	Elder councils and healers	<b>12%</b>
	“Prejudice-free” certification for robots and other technologies	11%
	Rise of communities living sustainably, like eco-hubs	<b>10%</b>
	Majority of food from plant-based sources	<b>8%</b>
	Transition to the US Well-Being Score, measuring how well we do with what we have, (rather than how much stuff we produce)	<b>8%</b>
	Climate stabilization	<b>5%</b>
	Increased funding for public health	<b>4%</b>
	Focus on preventative care	<b>4%</b>
	Respect for death, life, and end of life	<b>4%</b>
	Widespread commitment to environmental sustainability	<b>3%</b>
	Legislation requiring transparency in business, government, and community practices to better understand the impact of actions	3%
	Increased support for self-care healing resources	<b>2%</b>
	Skipped on web/don’t know/refused	1%

Respondents of video two and four, n=2,938

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