



TRANSFORMATION  table

Creating space to connect with
our common humanity.

A SURVEY OF TRANSFORMATION TABLE'S PAST PARTICIPANTS' EXPERIENCE

January 2023
Results Compiled by Mpowrd Analytics

Introduction

The mission of Transformation Table is to provide tools and resources for others to create the space around shared meals that highlight diverse global food cultures. The belief guiding this work is that bringing people together around food creates unique opportunities for connection, dialogue, and understanding.

The objective of this survey was to gather data on individual experiences of participation in Transformation Table dinners and community events to determine what impact the experience had on participants. Additionally, this survey sought to gather feedback on the mission of Transformation Table to identify strategic and tactical shifts that would increase the impact of Transformation Table dinners.

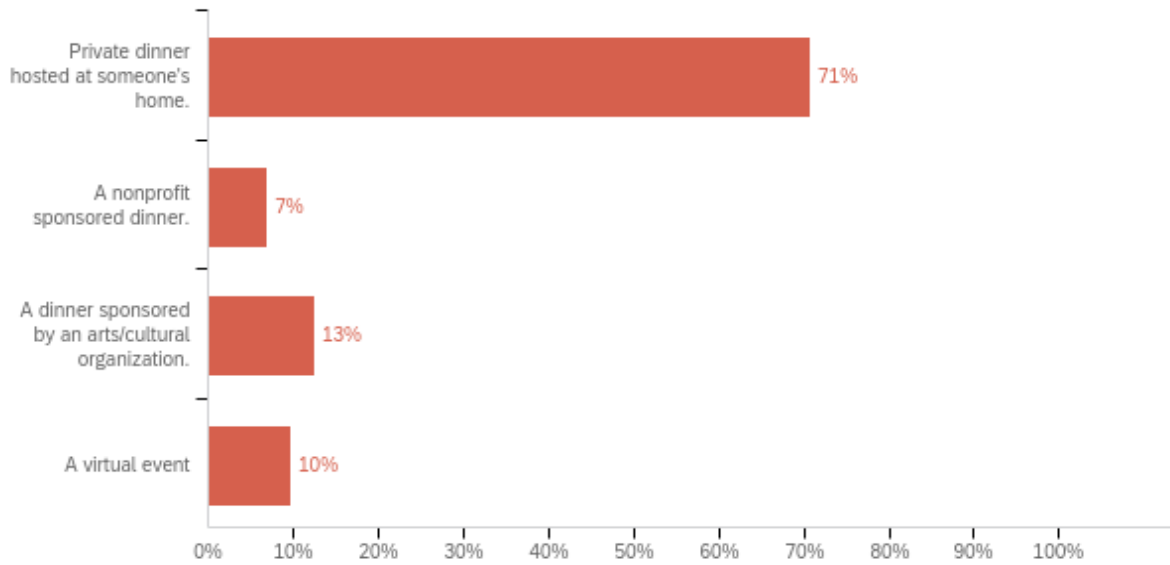
This survey was administered in the fall of 2022. It was distributed to 321 chefs, hosts, and diners that participated in Transformation Table dinners between the inception of the organization and the fall of 2022. 89 individuals responded, giving us a response rate of 28%.

Results indicate that experiences of participating in Transformation Table dinners was overwhelmingly positive. 87% of respondents agreed that the mission of the organization is being achieved. 78% of respondents said that eating a meal from the chef's country of origin caused them to think differently about that culture. And 86% of individuals said they connected with someone they otherwise would not have because of the dinner.

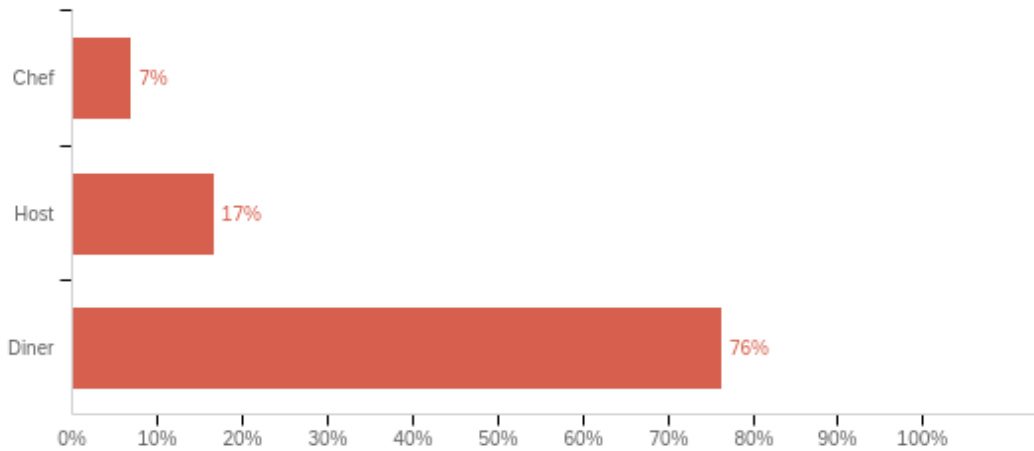
What follows is a detailed presentation of results from the Transformation Table participant survey. The first section presents data on the characteristics of participants. The second section includes results from all quantitative survey responses, both in the aggregate and disaggregated by race. The third section provides an inventory of all qualitative data from individual respondents.

Section 1. Participant Characteristics

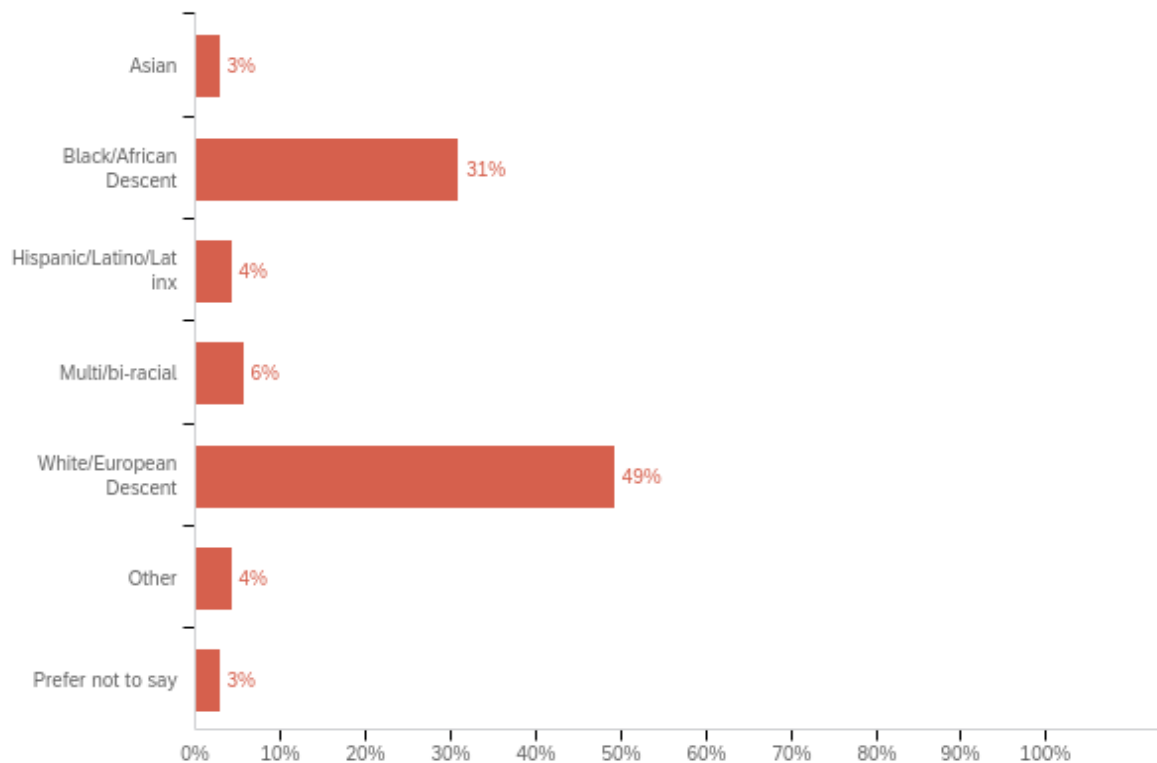
Which dinner did you attend?



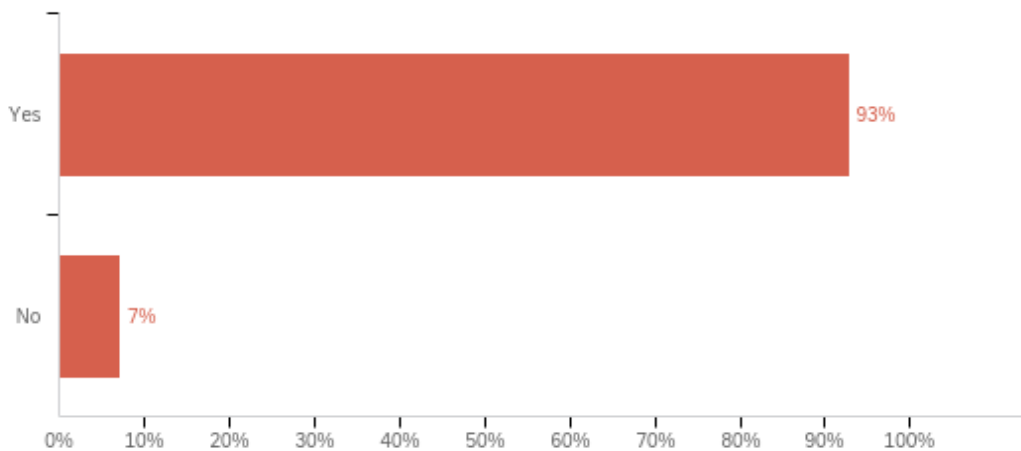
How did you participate at the dinner?



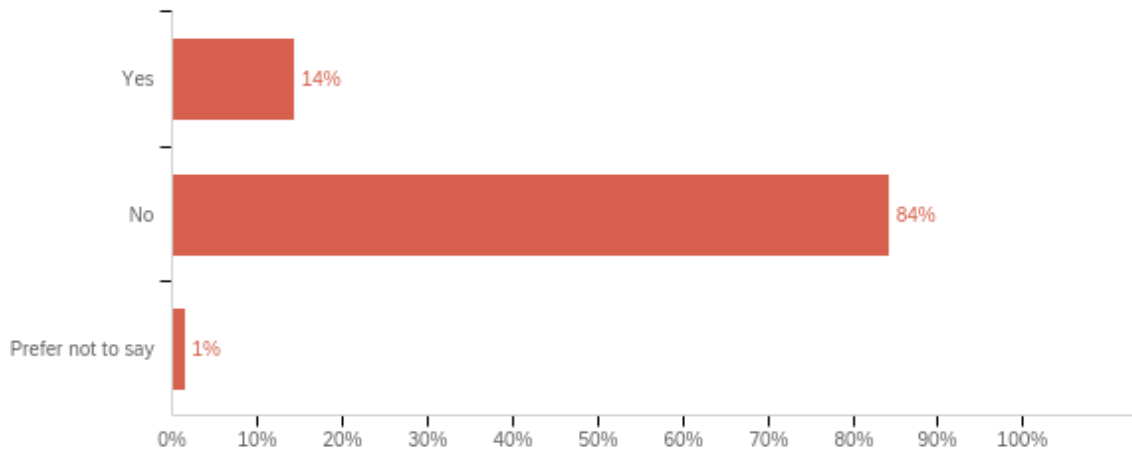
What is your race/ethnicity?



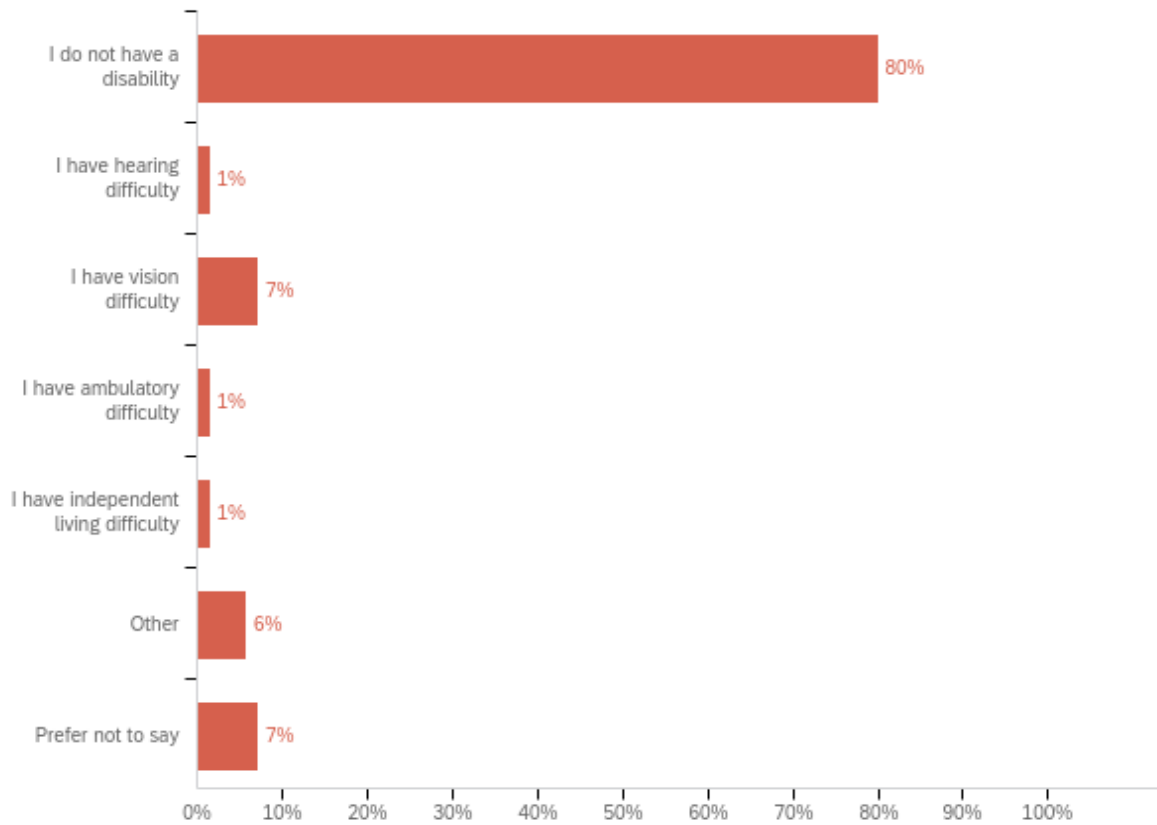
Is English your native language?



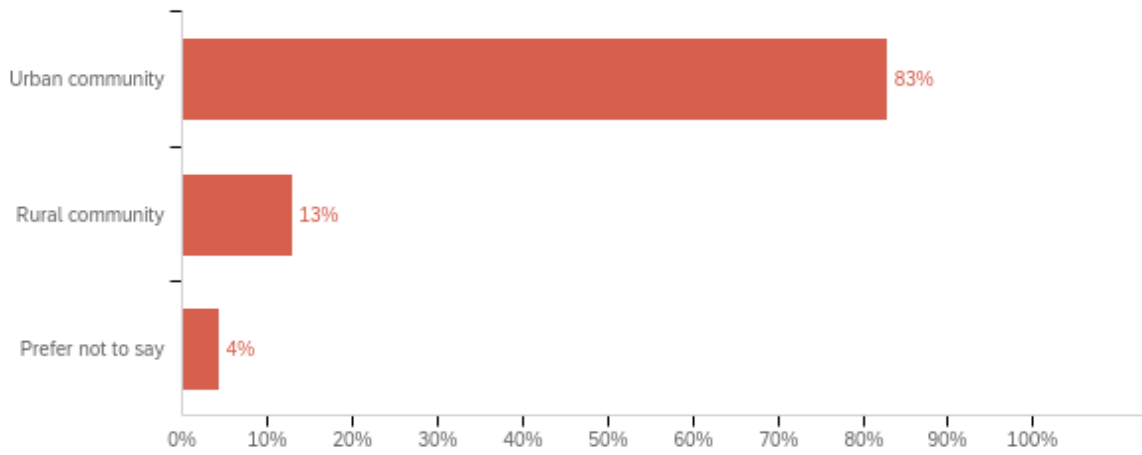
Do you speak a language other than English in your home?



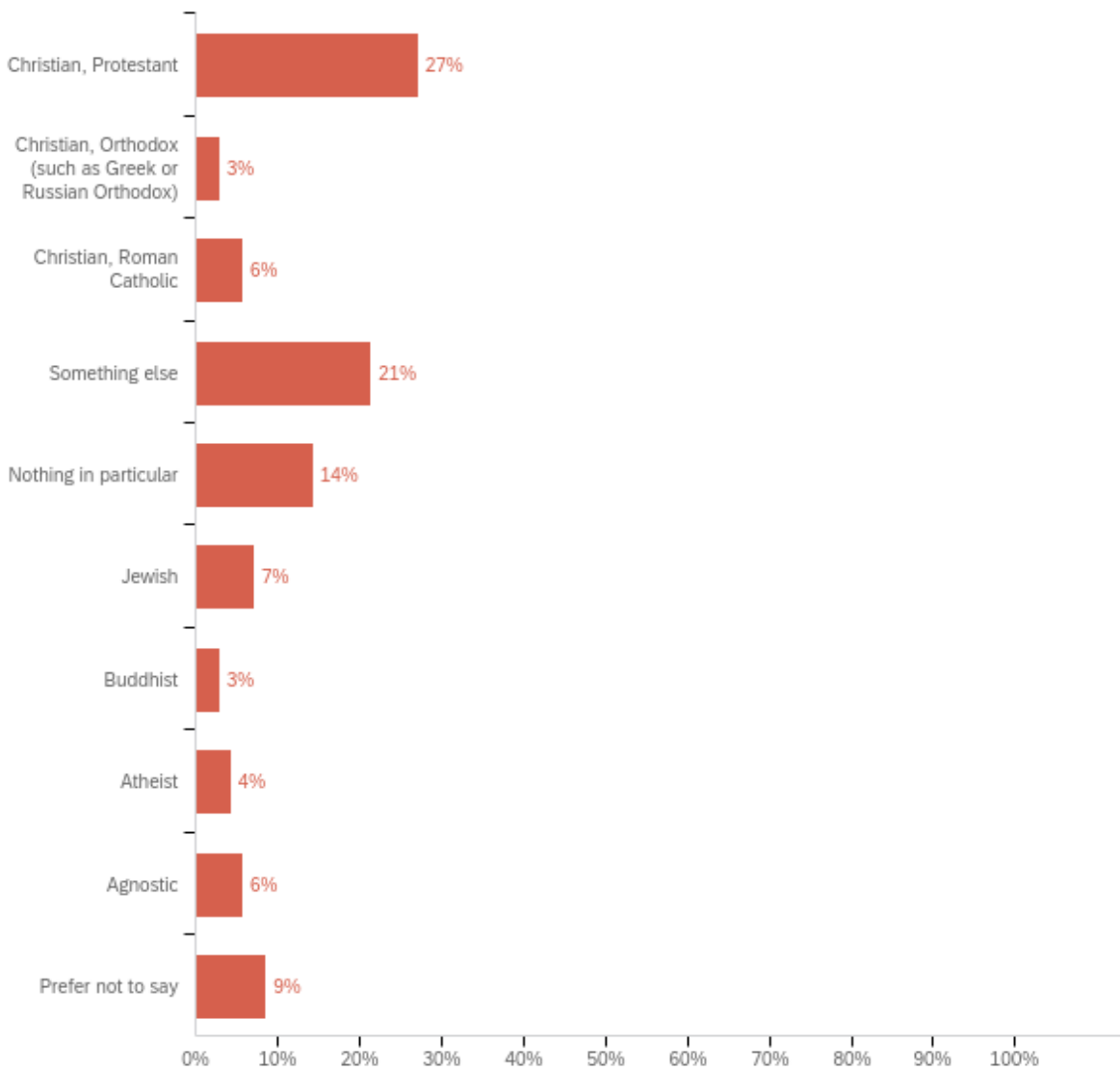
What is your disability status? (Select all that apply.)



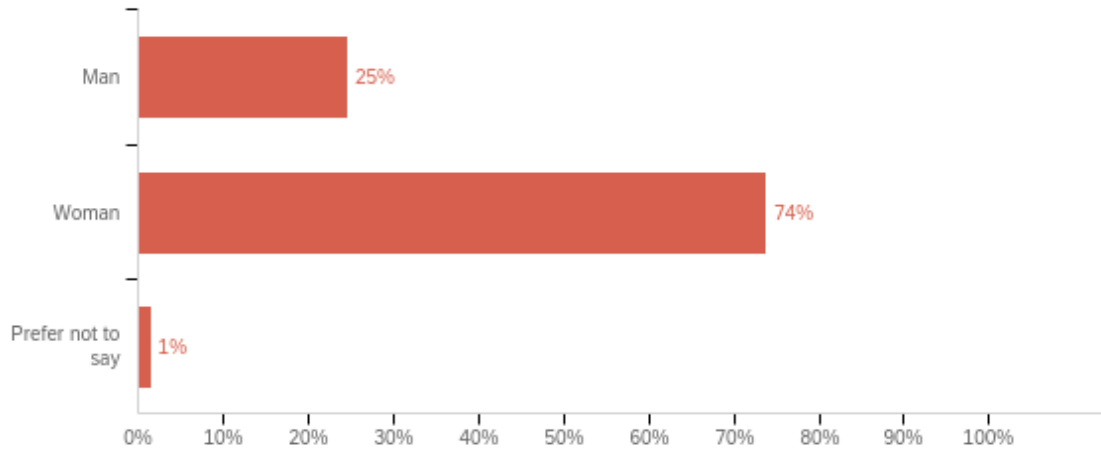
Do you live in an urban or rural community?



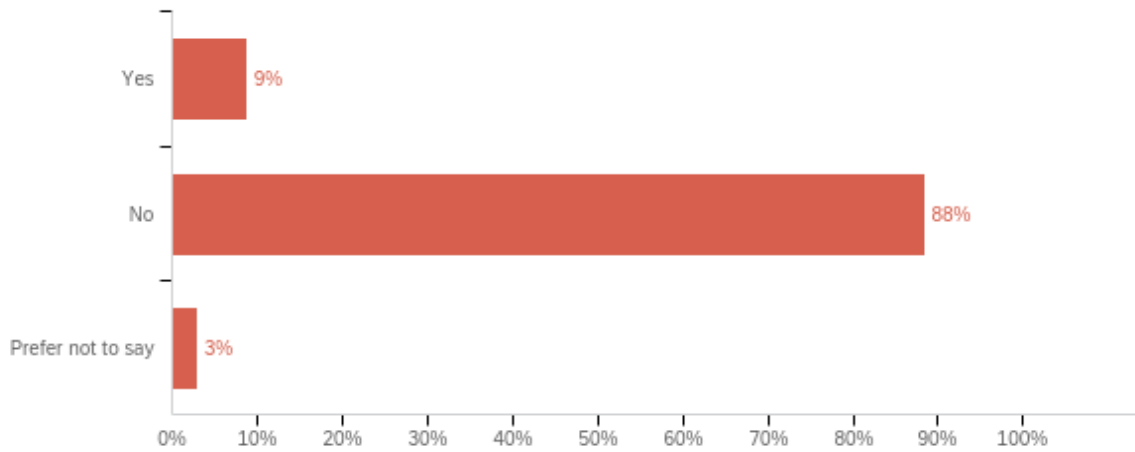
How would you describe your religion?



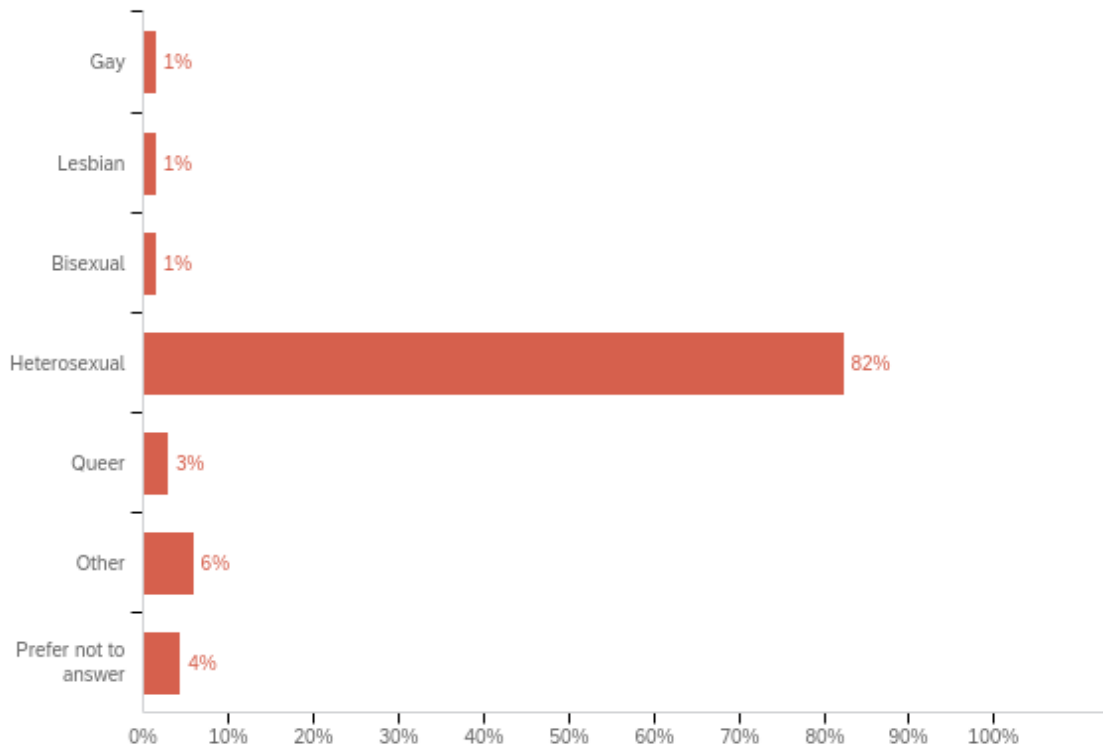
How would you describe your gender identity?



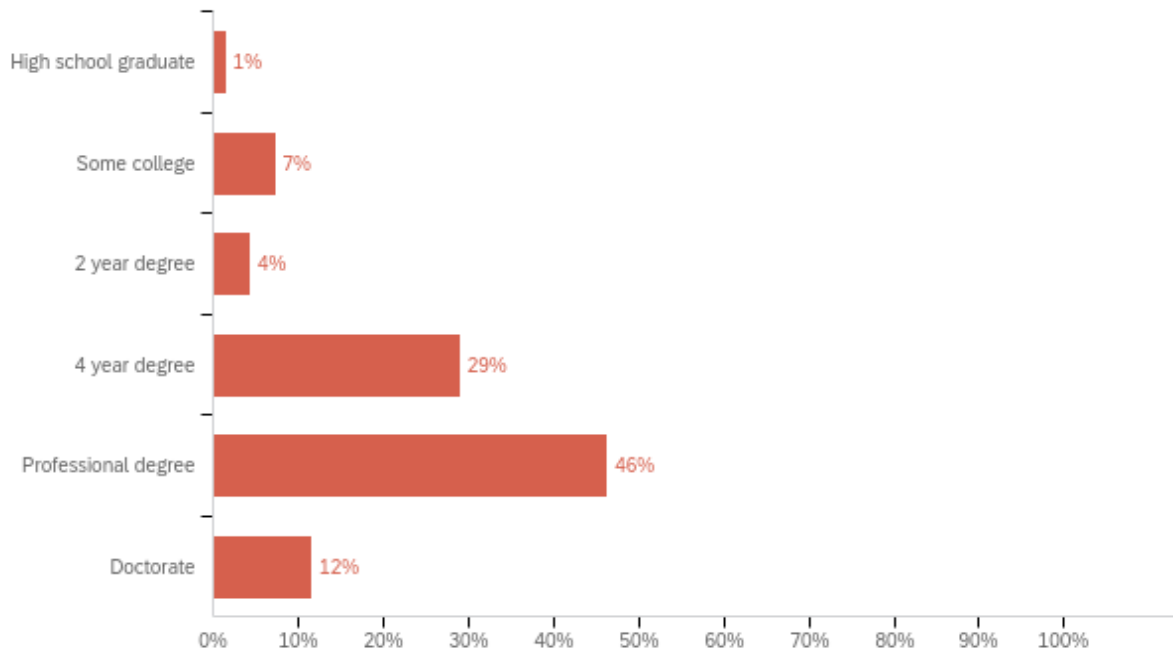
Do you identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community?



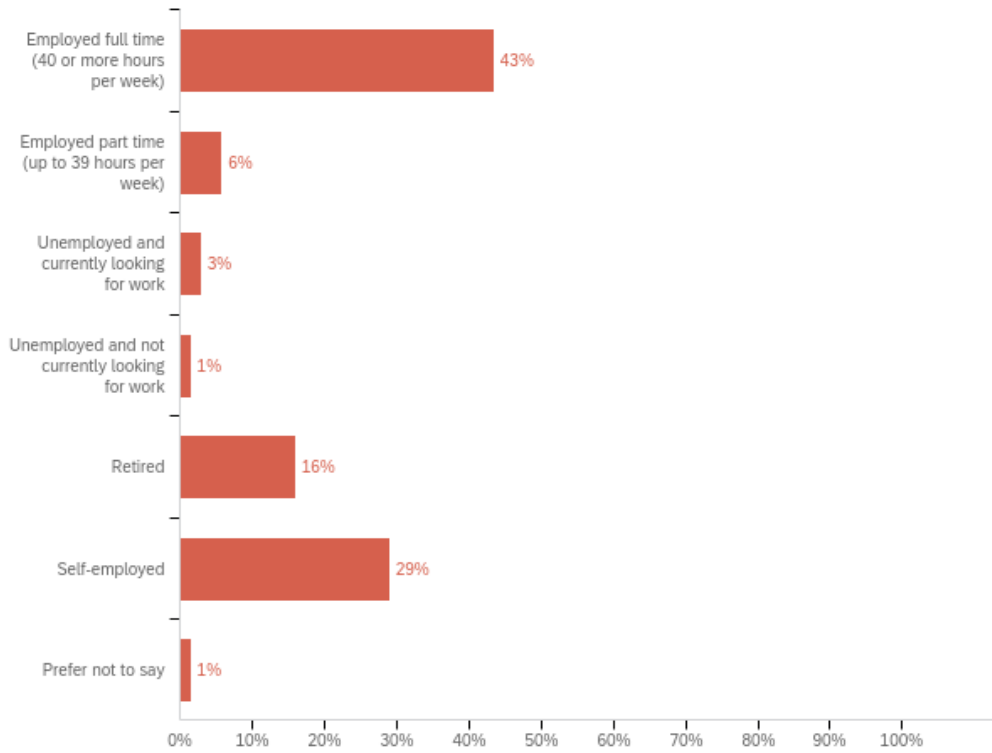
How would you describe your sexual orientation?



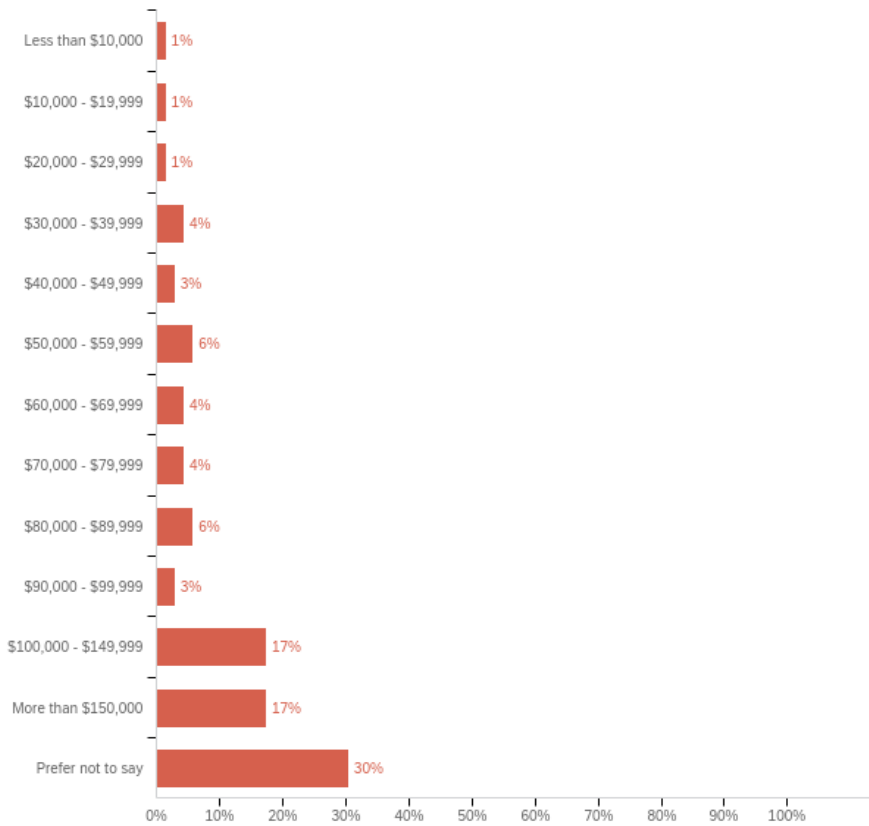
What is your education level?



How would you describe your employment status?



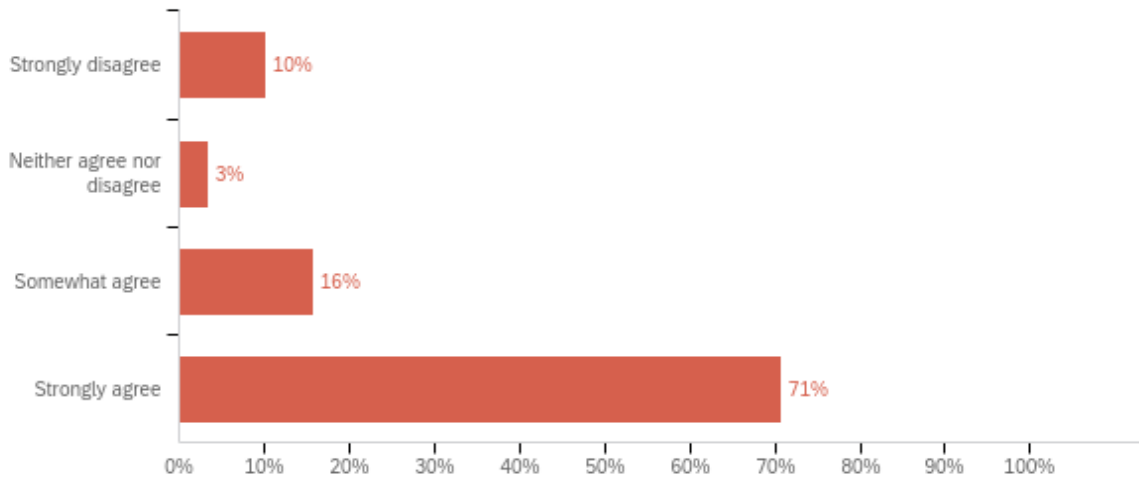
What is your income level?



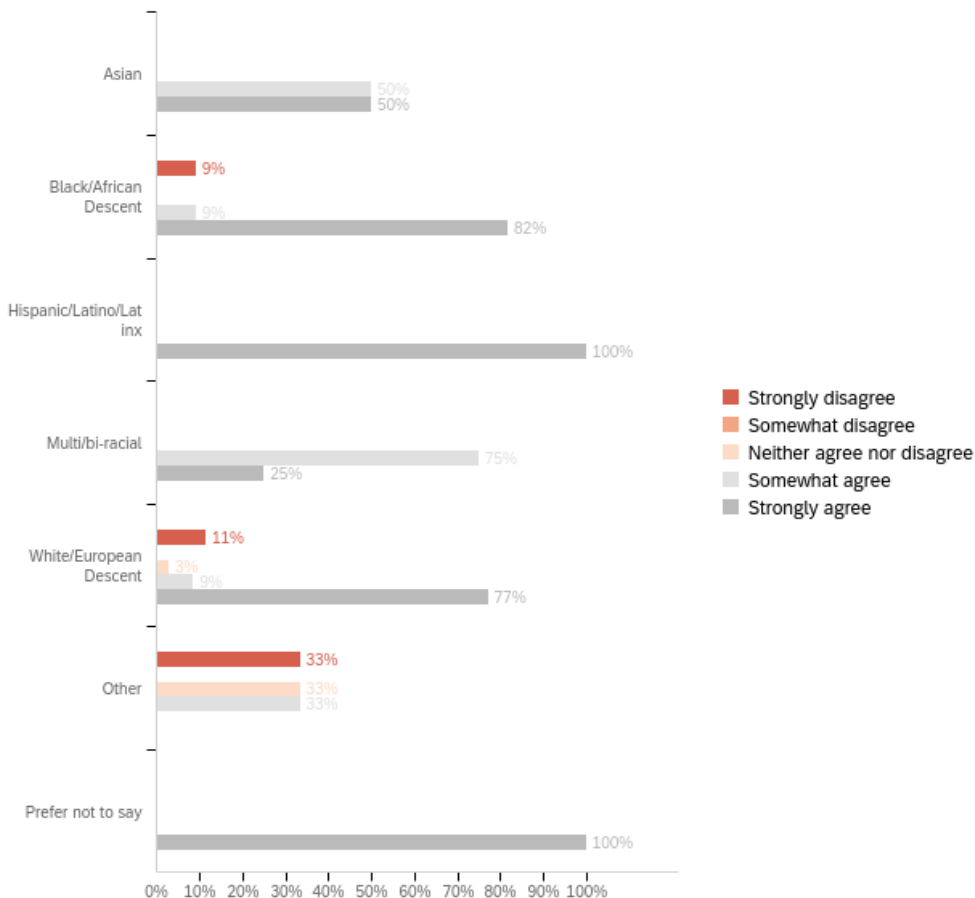
Section 2. Quantitative Results

The mission of Transformation Table is to bring people of diverse backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives from the community together. Given your experience, to what extent do you agree that the mission was achieved?

Aggregated Results:

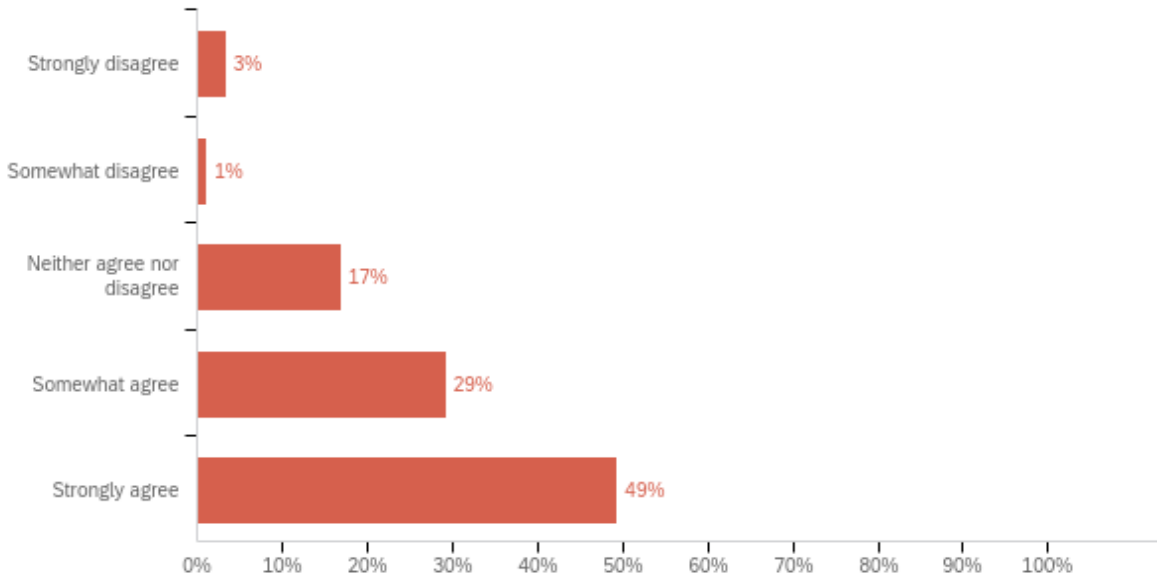


Disaggregated Results:

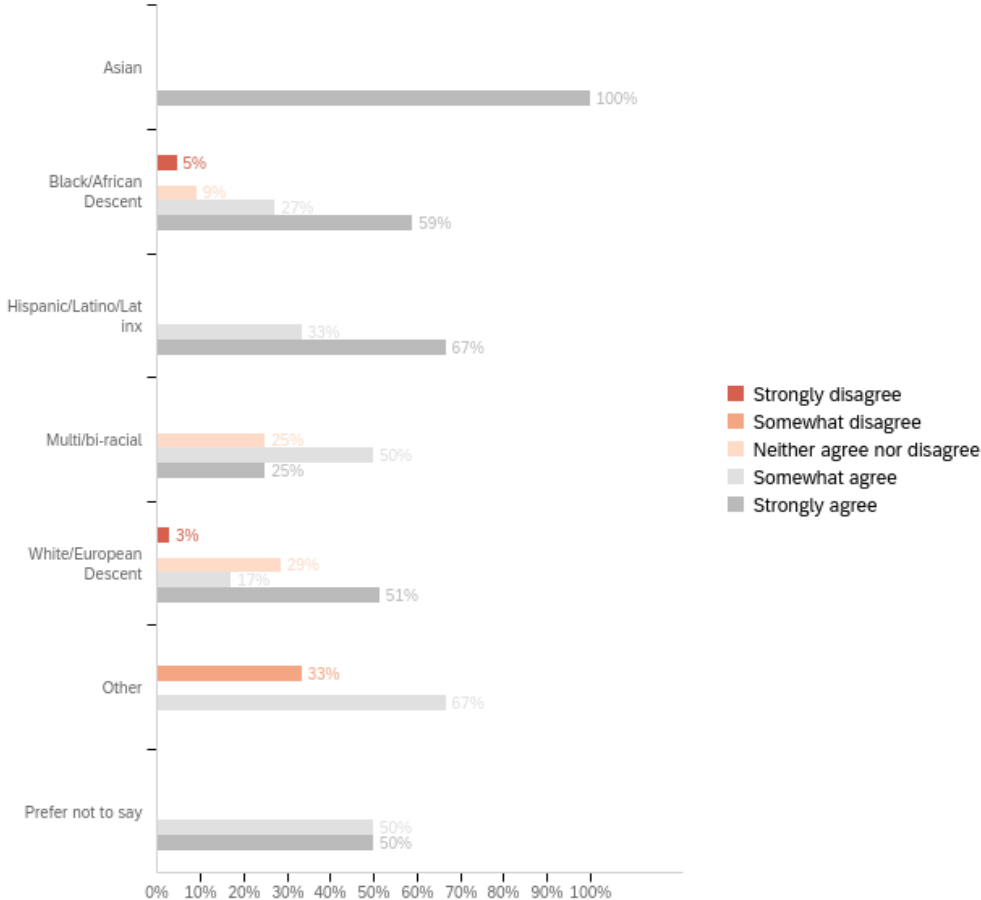


To what extent do you agree/disagree with the following statement: Eating a meal cooked by a chef representing their country and cuisine made me think differently about the country/cuisine being represented.

Aggregated Results:

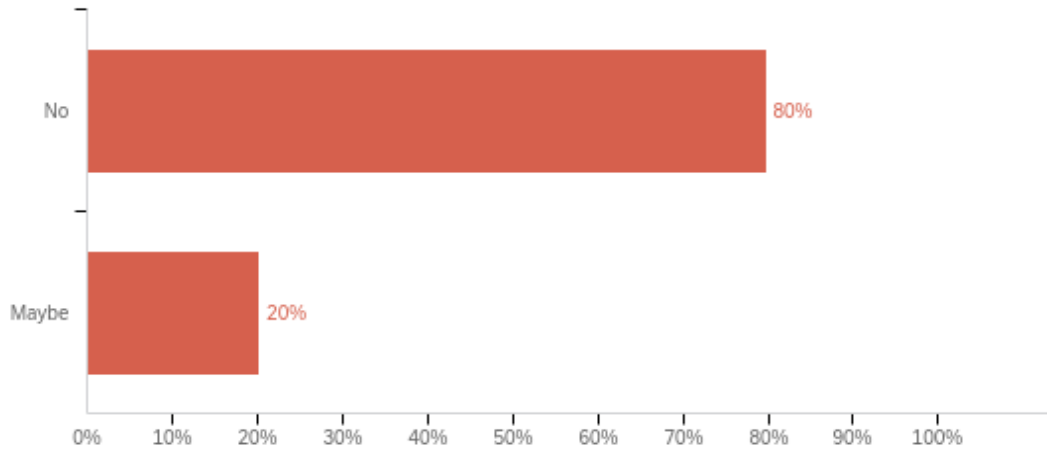


Disaggregated Results:

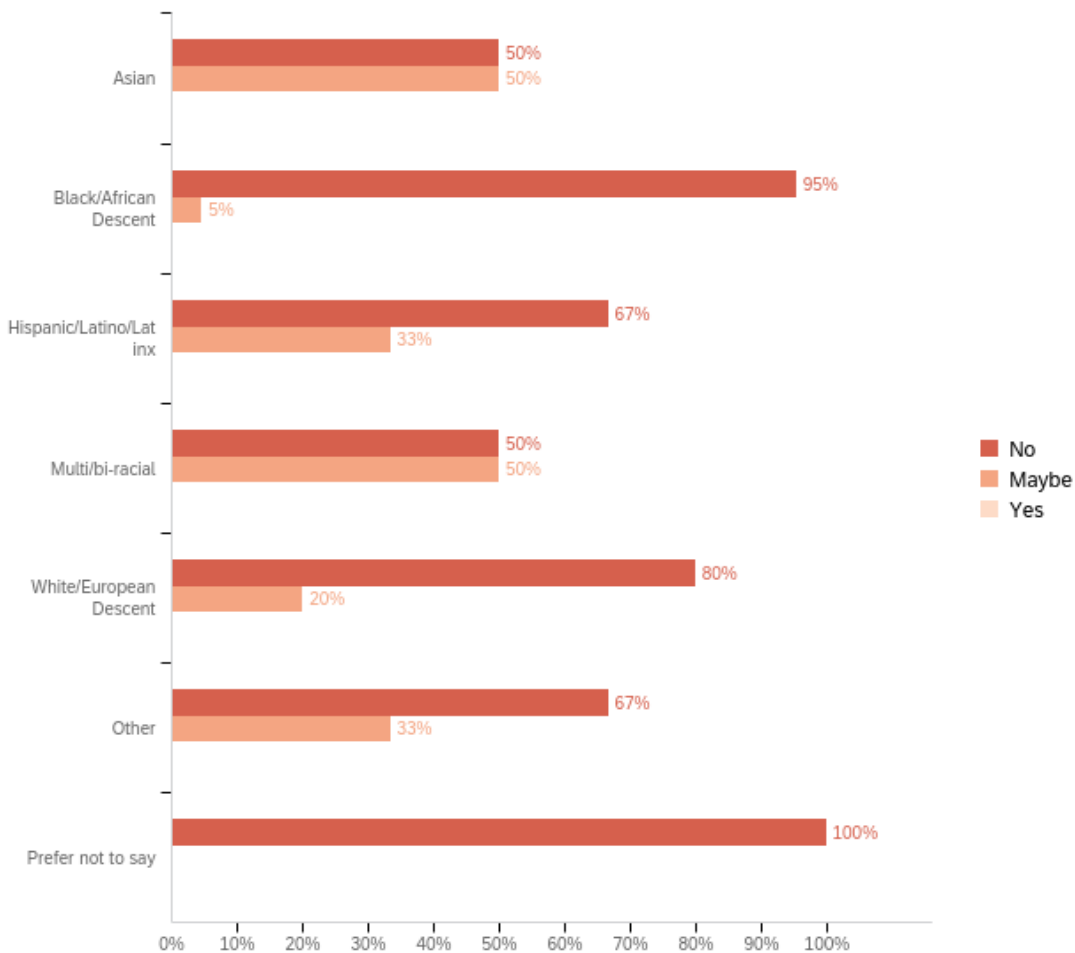


Given your Transformation Table experience, do you believe there is a need to shift the organization's mission?

Aggregated Results:

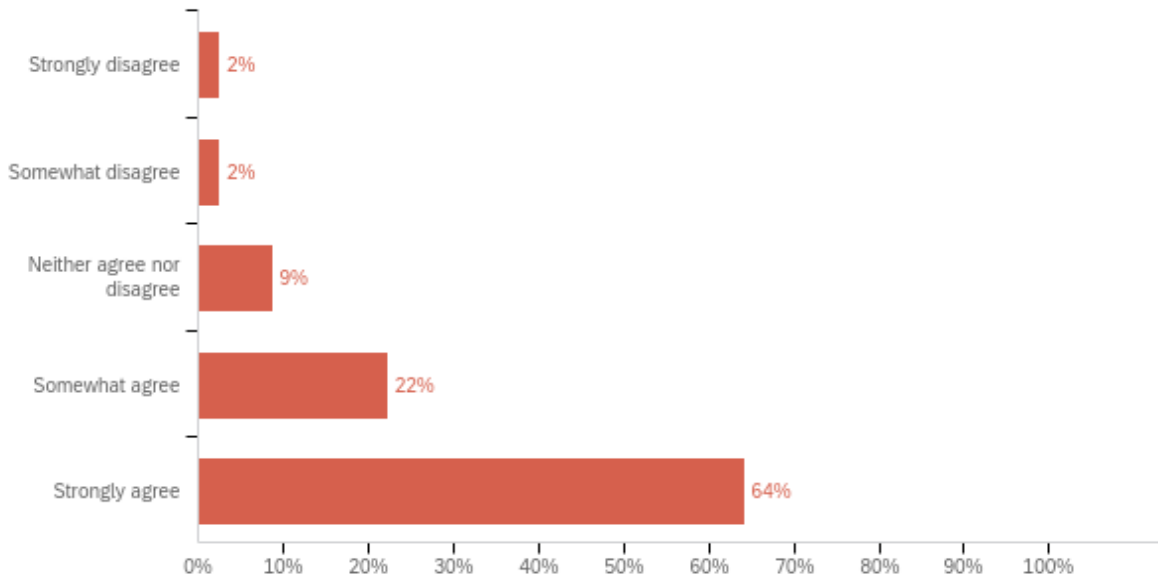


Disaggregated Results:

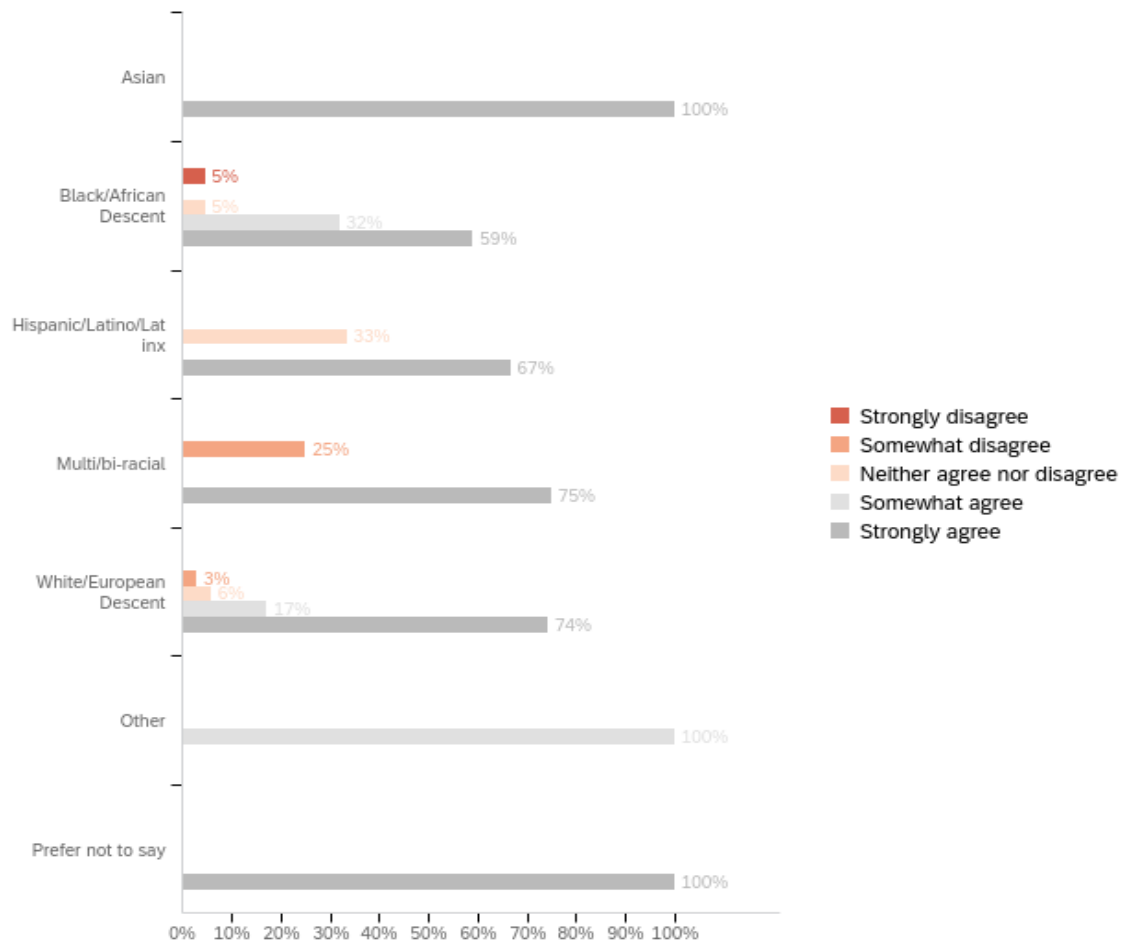


To what extent do you agree with the following statement: *I was able to meet and connect with someone I wouldn't have otherwise.*

Aggregated Results:

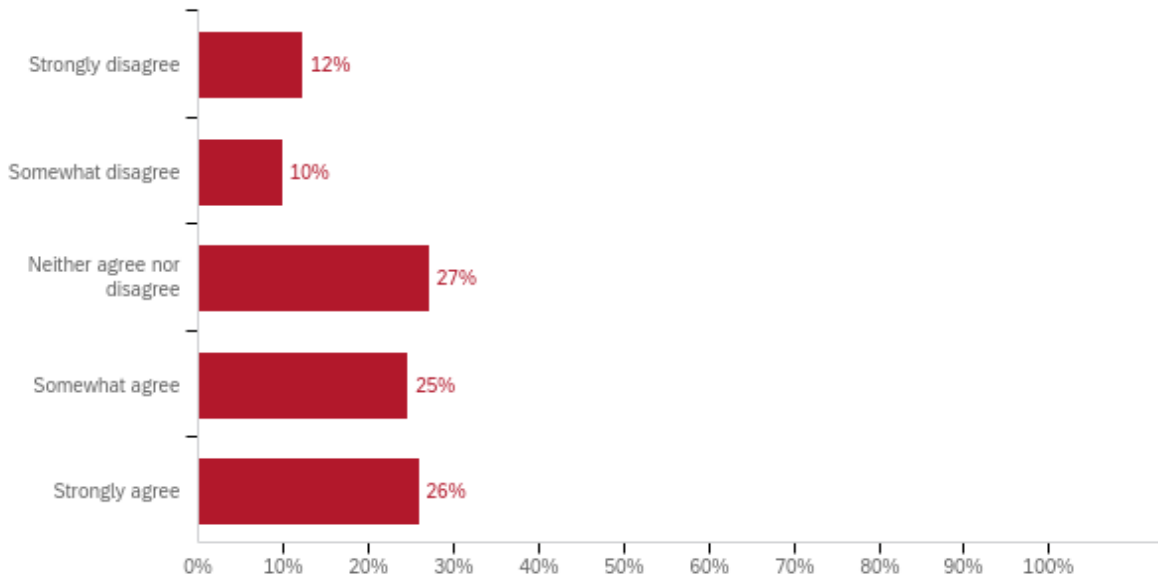


Disaggregated Results:

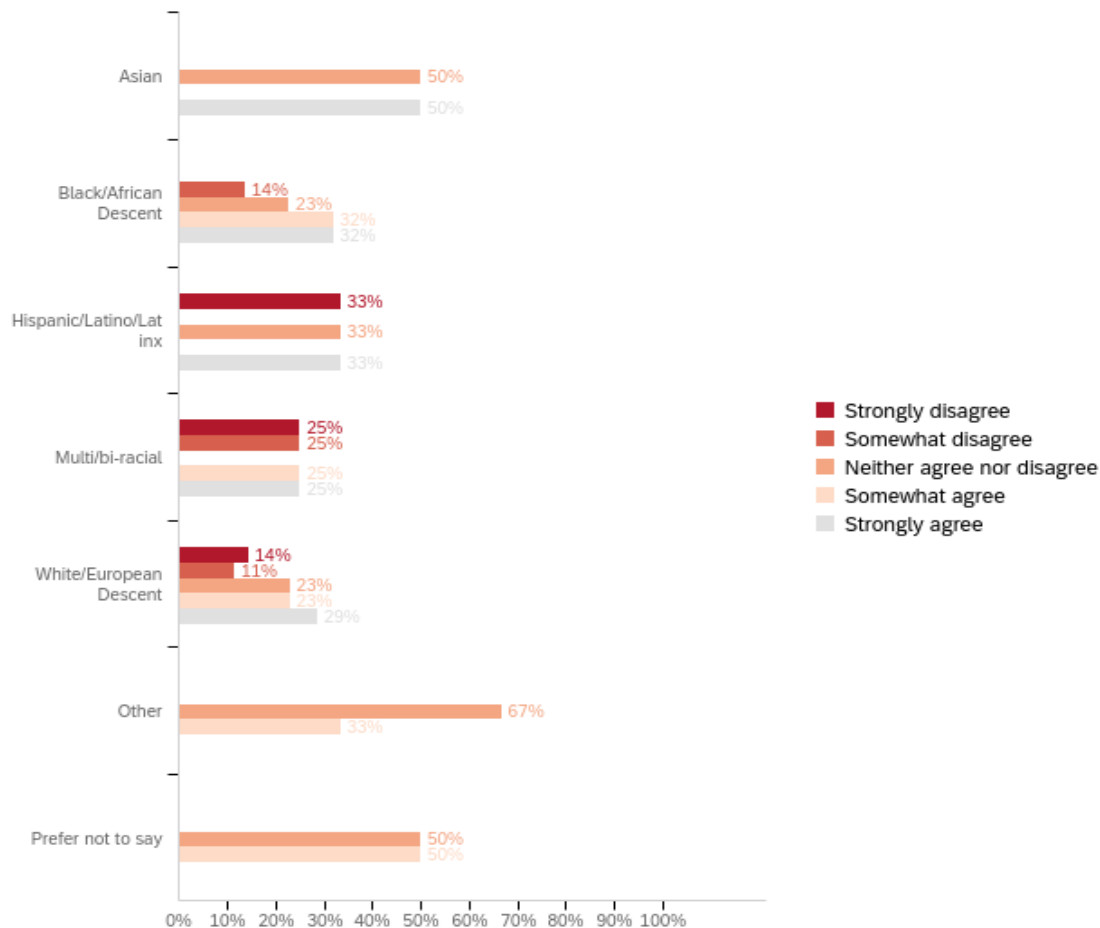


To what extent do you agree with the following statement: my Transformation Table experience facilitated collaboration beyond the dinner.

Aggregated Results:

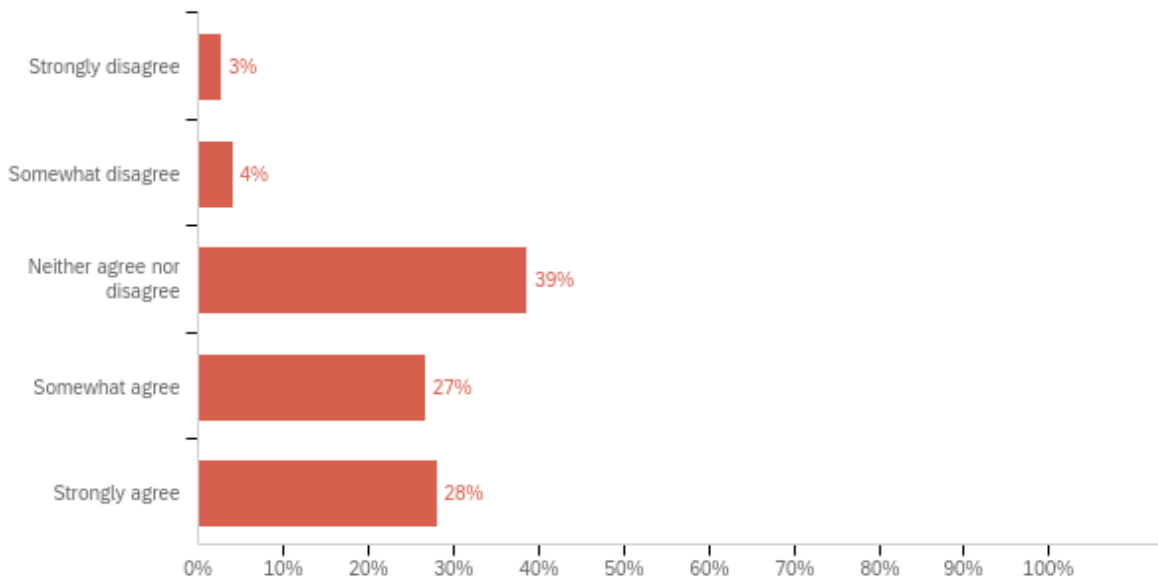


Disaggregated Results:

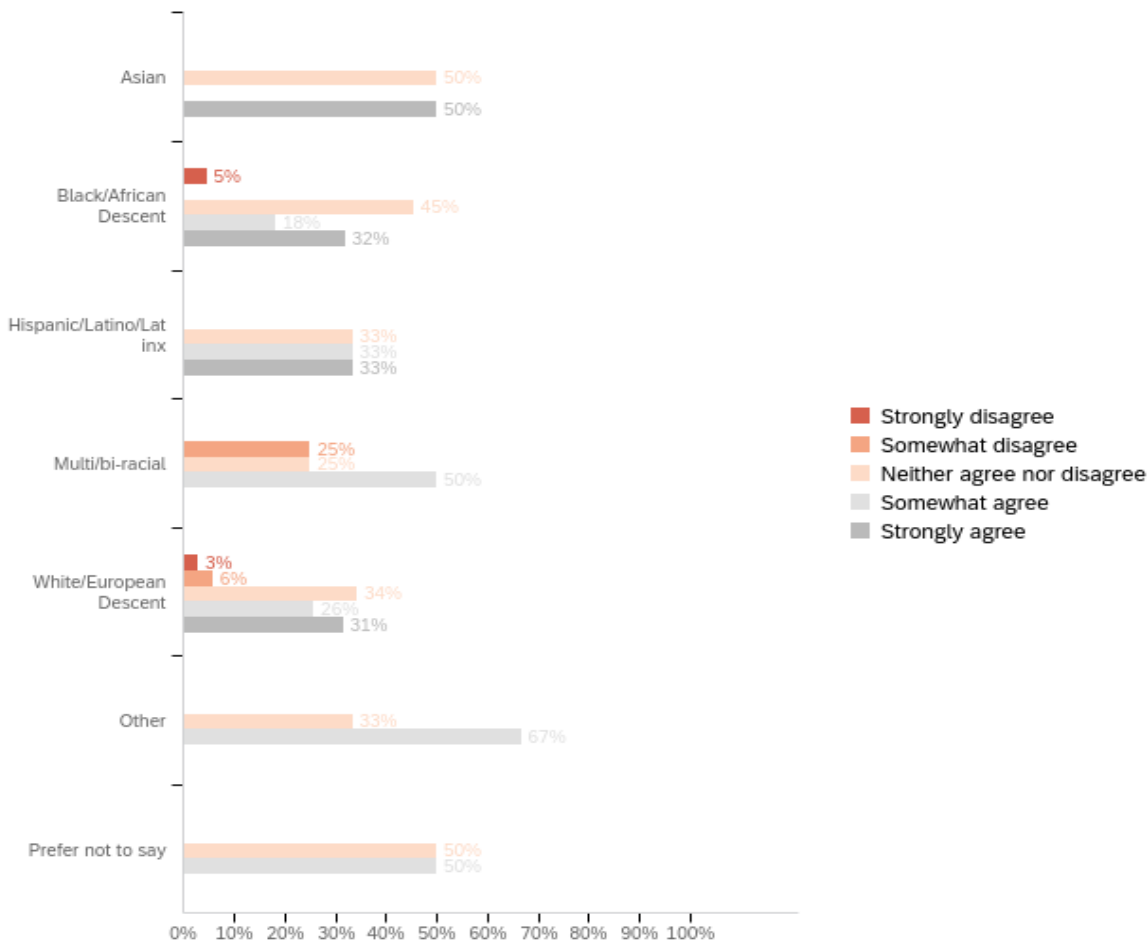


To what extent do you agree with the following statement: *As a result of sharing a meal with strangers it shifted my mindset.*

Aggregated Results:

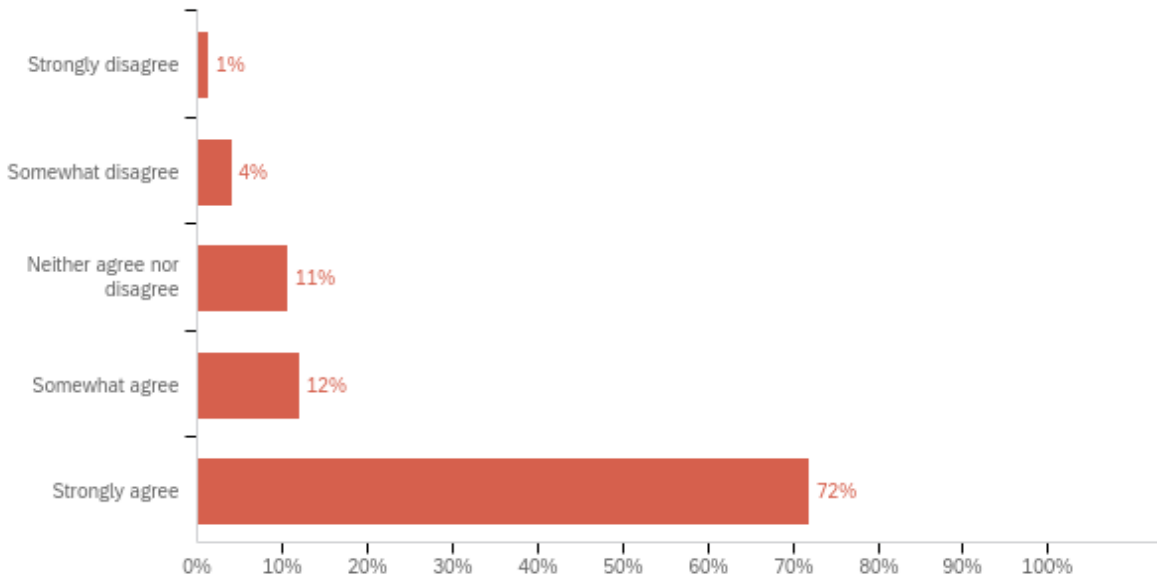


Disaggregated Results:

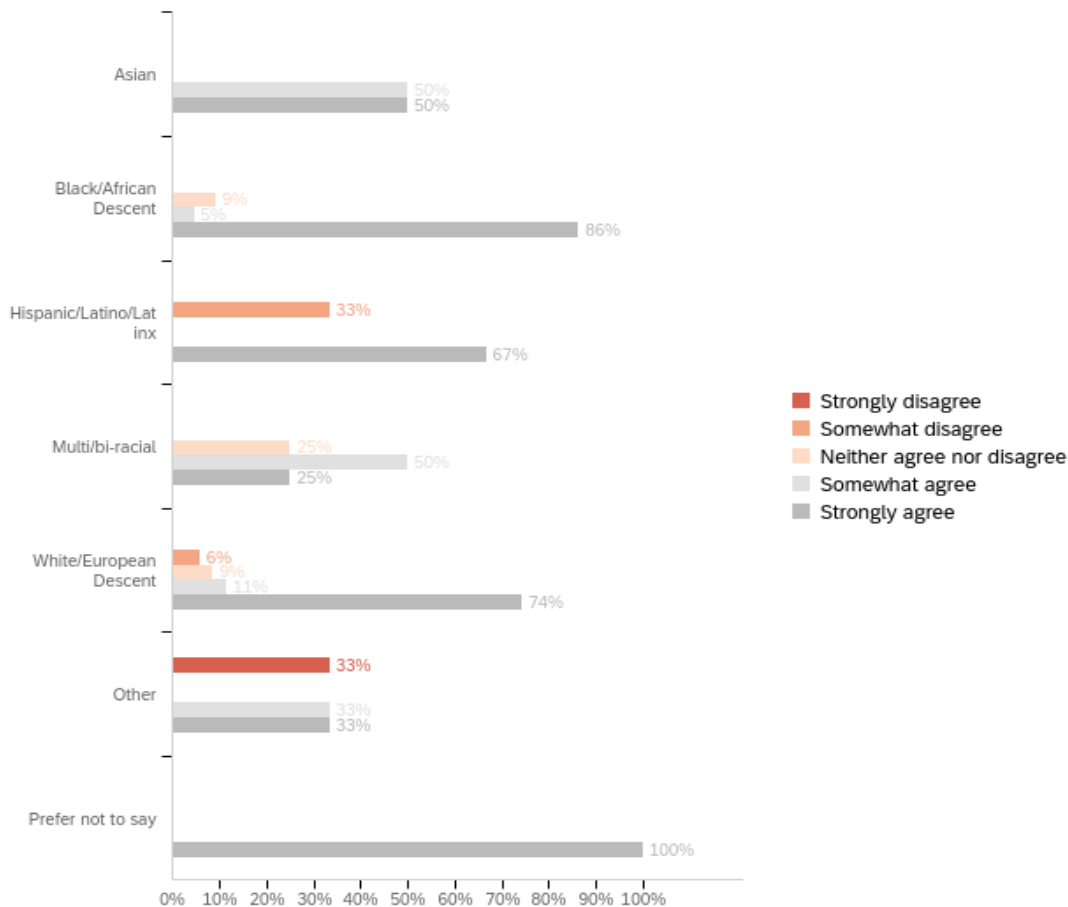


To what extent do you agree with the following statement: *I was satisfied with the composition of the group at the dinner I attended.*

Aggregated Results:



Disaggregated Results:



Section 3. Qualitative Results

How did it feel to share a meal with strangers?

It was a really fantastic experience! I felt like everyone at the table came there with an open mind and an open heart, and Tina did an excellent job of moving the conversation along. I loved it.

I was comfortable. I thought the conversations were engaging and informative

great

Really great, very educational.

I absolutely loved it. The vibe was great!

It was pleasant and warming. Partly because I knew that everyone in attendance had agreed to dine with strangers.

Engaging

Nerve wracking and magical

Very comfortable. Loved it!

Good

Great!

Enlightening

AMAZING. Strangers for 5 minutes, and then laughing like old friends.

Very comfortable

Food is both nourishment and cultural language. Participants speak the same language.

nerve-wracking and freeing, because the focus wasn't on just me, we shared telling our stories

It was an enjoyable experience.

I bare it have recollection of this dinner. It was 2-3 years ago possibly more. But I do have strong positive feelings when trying to remember.

Great

I loved the people I met!

Good

I knew a number of the people at my table, so it didn't feel like I was with strangers

It was very interesting

It felt joyous, celebratory, and very natural.

Enjoyable and enlightening. Loved the experience.

Learned a lot about others' cultures

Very gratifying to have meaningful conversations about things that matter.

exciting

I prepared the food but I enjoyed seeing them enjoy their meal!

Excellent. Great way to meet new people and make new friends.

Great. Food from Sierra Leone on the piazza at Magnolia Gardens.

it was a great evening and I still enthuse about it regularly to any who will listen

great

Interesting and exciting

Great

It felt like family.

I personally loved it, I think often times we are constantly on the go and just to stop and have that human connection with people who literally we see on a daily basis unknowingly was amazing.

Enjoyed

I was totally comfortable with the experience.

It was great to meet new people in this context. Lots of great food and conversation with new friends

I only attended a virtual session, so it felt marginally less alone than usual.

great!

It felt great.

I was a little nervous, especially as we were hosting, but Tina is so warm, welcoming and engaging that she quickly set the tone for a lovely evening. I enjoyed very much the conversations we had and count it as one of my most interesting meals ever, certainly in our home.

I'm in the culinary field so it wasn't out of the ordinary

exciting and interesting

I loved it, but I'm an extrovert

Refreshing to be able to be open and honest in non-judgmental setting.

Great but no ongoing interaction which I hoped for.

It was a very rewarding experience

Loved it

Approached with an open mind and reply enjoyed the conversations.

Fun!

I had a somewhat atypical Transformation Table experience as a virtual meeting through the FAB conference. It was a rich conversation, but did not include a meal.

Wonderful

I enjoyed the meal and felt like I got to know people at it.

awkward at first and then very comfortable

It felt very nice since everyone was friendly and the hosts were welcoming.

Awkward and uncomfortable at first and that grew to camaraderie and shared joy at the experience.

It was great seeing everyone from different organizations and ethnic backgrounds.

Loved the experience

I loved sharing conversation over food with other folks.

It was a comfortable experience. Not awkward at all

We had an awesome time

It felt comfortable, because of Tina's hospitable presence and that of the hosts

Very interesting

I was open to it, and I'm a social person so it wasn't a stretch

I would confess that my husband and I entered the meal with lots of excitement around the Transformation Table idea/vision but wouldn't be honest if I didn't acknowledge that we did have some anxiety as well around who we would be meeting and what would be eating. The dinner - both times when we were the guests, and the hosts was so fulfilling not just as food but also as conversation.

Surprisingly comfortable and easy

Fabulous! I love hearing different perspectives and learning about folk within and out of the culture.

I was a little nervous at first because I didn't know anyone, but it was a warm and welcoming experience and I really enjoyed it.

It was a bit awkward for me meeting so many new people, but I'm not great with strangers :) It was very interesting hearing other people's stories.

I have found each experience I have had with Transformation Table to be a warm and enriching experience. It was very engaging to share a meal with strangers and to meet people I would otherwise most likely not meet or come across here in the Charleston area.

Great

I enjoyed it, but it was a long time ago and I don't remember much about it.

I was a little nervous at first, but the nervousness went away after I began conversing with other participants who I did not know.

Eye-opening

I enjoy things like this!

Awkward at first, but everyone was excited about the food. Tina was wonderful at stimulating the conversation. I keep in touch with many of the people who were at the first dinner I attended (which I also hosted).

It's weaving together- you expand your knowledge

I loved it. It allowed me to appreciate different points of view

The intimate nature of the dinners presented the opportunity for us to have meaningful conversations. I loved hearing everyone's fascinating life story and connecting on a personal level! I made lifelong friends that I might never have met.

Amazing

It was lovely, and I would recommend it to others.

wonderful!

Great

Awesome!

Given your Transformation Table experience, do you believe there is a need to shift the organization's mission? If yes or maybe, why and how would you like to see the mission change? If no, why not?

I love the mission of transformation table and don't see a need to change it.

It would be interesting to diversify based on socioeconomic factors and age

It works the way it is, and it's a simple concept

The mission does not need to change.

The activity of dining and eating with strangers is the mission! It's the bringing together a welcoming table, an experienced chef, and an open-minded group of hungry folks!

I love the concept

Don't change, just do more.

It's fine the way it is

Good the way it is.

Designed to do exactly what it does

How could you build a lasting network of all the dinner guests, so the experience is not forgotten or lost? What would be the ongoing engagement? I don't have the answer, but I think you could do more to build community around this.

Asking chefs from minorities community and have subjects based about their community and traditions

Diversity allows us to see through the eyes of others. When that occurs, we find out we are more alike than we think.

N/A, no need to change your mission

The mission of bringing people together through food ways is strong and rewarding and should not be changed.

Nothing contained with participants after the dinner, I wanted it to but I believe life go it in the way and now I have no memory of them,

I need more information about the ways TT could change or stay on the same track

Though we were somewhat racially diverse, we were of similar social and political positions

I think the mission is beautiful and the intention is clear. The approach to reaching this intention fully will evolve and change I am sure

I would not like to see the mission change. Please see my response to the next question for more.

I think it is achieving its mission to unify and close gaps of understanding.

The mission may not need to be changed, perhaps the implementation.

I think allow more time to talk with all participants

I have only been to the first one and have not been informed about other get togethers

Should have a bi partisan voice

Agee with the mission.

I love the mission and think it's more important than ever

not exactly sure, but it seems a bit unreachable for a broader demographic

I enjoyed meeting new people of various cultures and experiences

It's on track

It works for my comfort level.

No, I do not feel like the mission should change. The mission is to bring "strangers together" essentially breaking bread with people you wouldn't normally.

Everything is good.

Provide more opportunities for people from different socio-economic backgrounds. The two I attended felt like a lot of people knew each other or operated in the same spheres

N/A

is always a gray and only the organization itself can decide change. If the question was made the to me is a maybe.

If it's not broke, don't fix it.

I think it is powerful in its approachability and simplicity.

It should stay the same because most people don't get a chance to experience it outside of the dinners

The mission is simple and profound: bringing people together to share, learn, and explore is feeding the spirit, while eating together is feeding the body. Mealtime becomes the opportunity for connection and reflection that lasts well after we've all gone home.

I think there's a lot of work to be done still.

I think the mission is perfect and still relevant

Find some ways in advance where people know they can connect again. There was some talk about putting together an email list for those who attended, but I never saw one.

The mission is clear and accessible

does not need to change

I really enjoyed the format, the meal, and the people involved

I know plenty of people who have not had the experience yet.

I love the mission! I wish I had attended one of the dinners.

Bringing people together with diverse backgrounds for a meal is a great mission and a way to share.

After the one meal I was invited to, I wrote back and asked to be more involved but don't recall hearing anything. I wasn't sure it still existed.

I think the mission is right on point, especially now!

The mission statement is well written, but when I attended the dinner, I would have liked to hear more sharing of personal stories publicly, rather than in tet-a-tet discussions, so everyone hears our stories. Make it also a little bit of a public speaking training in a friendly environment.

I think the mission is perfectly suited and served.

My overall experience with TT has been amazing and educational. I don't think they're any specifics that need to be changed at this point.

I think it is a lovely model and would like to see if continue/ pick back up again.

I have stayed in contact with several of the folks who I met through TT. We continue to have conversations about race and current events years after our initial conversation.

Every effort at getting a diverse group of people to talk with each other is worthwhile.

I think it's simple and concise which is what I enjoy the most

I think the mission has legs and could be developed almost infinitely; that said, I think the question should be how Tina's custody should evolve--I would place her needs over those of the organization (though I would love to see the organization continue as-is!)

I met and talked with fascinating people, particularly different races, that i would never have known otherwise.

Maybe not the mission but the method? I think try to figure a way to solicit participants that are from both sides of the aisle?

I love the mission; I would like to see its use expand. I was lucky to attend a dinner with the BEE Collective and enjoyed seeing how effective Transformation Table model worked for different organizations who had possibly worked together but hadn't dined together or really gotten to know each other learn together.

See next answer

I believe if it is not broken, why fix it? The TT worked beautifully. The mission was accomplished, and it has had a lasting effect.

I really believe in the mission of transformation table and love Tina's story about how it started and her reasons for starting TT.

Maybe there could be a topic of conversation, or some other focal point for conversation in addition to getting people together.

I did not say I thought the mission should change...

It's not broken and requires no change.

Don't really know, but it seems like it isn't reaching as many people as it could.

The mission is clear, and in my opinion, the event fulfilled the mission head on.

I think it is important to continue the mission. We need these times of opportunity to learn and grow our worldly view.

The mission is fine. The only thing that needs to be changed is the scale. How can more people be a part of this?

There is just as much of a need now as ever for the original mission of TT.

Because it works (for me) the entire experience

The mission is a great one and is working

There is an ongoing need for people to connect with and learn about people outside of their normal circle of friends. There are not many opportunities to do that in a meaningful and intentional way.

You are just scratching the surface of what we all need

I believe there aren't many other groups doing things like this with intention. What are you doing works & works well.

I thought it was a valuable experience personally and professionally. lovely to meet neighbors who I wouldn't otherwise cross paths with. And lovely to be exposed to a new cuisine!

I think the mission is excellent. I only did one experience online during Covid. I loved all the people in the group and have connected with some since. However, my experience wasn't very varied in the diversity of opinion or countries, our views of the people participating. I didn't get a chance, unfortunately, to be in person, although it was a lovely evening.

I love the work Tina is doing and wish I could be more involved. Tina knows how to build community.

Given that we are now living in a "post George Floyd" world, do you feel that the mission of Transformation Table needs to change? Why or why not?

Bipartisan thoughts and ideas would be great.

Can prob go a couple layers deeper but I think it's still a beautiful start

Doesn't that only mean we need these sorts of opportunities more?

Don't know that it necessarily needs to change but do think it even more important.

Honestly, I'm not sure I understand the question. Is this like when we were supposed to be "post racial" after Obama was elected? In fact, it seems to me the incidents of hatred and intolerance of different ideas, opinions, backgrounds, races, ethnicities and religions is on the rise. We see that in book banning and trying to erase the teaching of history in schools. It seems we need Transformation Table even more than ever.

I believe communication and compassion are always paramount

I do not think so. I have always been comfortable in settings such as this.

I don't know enough about the conversation facilitation to comment, but I love the premise of sharing a meal with people from diverse backgrounds and having a whole table conversation. Post George Floyd, it seems like perhaps there needs to be a strong group facilitator that can broach relevant topics like racism and white supremacy.

I don't think so. It seems to me that the mission has always been aligned with the movement for Black lives, in that the dinner table allows us to connect, to share in the power of food, and to know each other's humanity up close.

I don't think the mission needs to change. Perhaps include more sociopolitical and historical narratives

I don't feel it needs to change I feel like we need TT even more now. I think there is nothing like sharing a meal and conversation over dinner to get to know people especially folks from a different culture than yours.

I don't think the mission needs to change. If anything, I would hold more dinners and possibly once a year being everyone together who attended a dinner and discuss what we may have learned or been surprised to learn.

I feel like more people today would be open to the experience then even a few years ago.

I now live in Minneapolis/St. Paul, so I know quite a bit about the impact of George Floyd's murder at the hands of police. I believe that Transformation Table's mission to bring diverse people together is more important than ever. We need people to find commonalities instead of focusing on their differences. We need to rediscover and connect with each other's humanity.

I think TT anticipated post-George-Floyd and is a valid response

I think discussing meaningful topics would be good...try to see where people stand on certain ideas.

I think have people of different socio-economic positions would be powerful

I think perhaps even deeper conversations, that focus on what types of actions communities need to take/engage in to activate true racial equity and social justice could be a focus. It is lovely to have a dinner with folks around culture and experience a new cultural tradition around food, but it is another whole thing to move the conversation to taking action(s)

so we can truly move towards a just/beloved community for all people regardless of their race, cultural background, perspective, etc.

I think we still need opportunities for people of different backgrounds to get to know each other personally.

I think you could build more advocacy into the mission.

I think, from my standpoint, it's even more beneficial than ever to share a meal with a racially and socio-economically diverse table. Of course, more overt activism is needed, but these more intimate occasions of weaving people together to see perspectives not often revealed to us, is incredibly valuable in shifting society.

I would like to see the transformation tables occur more frequently

If anything changes it would be geared towards more conversations about injustices and how to combat them.

Include current events <https://www.metroweekly.com/2022/06/south-carolina-lawmakers-approve-anti-trans-health-care-provision/>

It opens up more conversations about said issue.

It should keep being diverse and bring in people of diverse backgrounds, maybe people who cannot afford the fee, from lower / poorer communities, so they share their stories too. Expose us to what we don't know happens on the back streets and lower Charlestonian communities.

It's just more important

I'd like to see it expand.

Maybe include more white people as to transform their thinking

Maybe seeing it as a mission is problematic? How about an opportunity?

NO, the more we can learn/share about each other the better our world will be. You are hard-pressed to stab me if I am hugging you. When we come together around food, we find more that we have in common than uncommon.

No

No

No

No - I attended transformation table in the summer of 2020 and it was impactful to me.

No, I don't. There were no expectations other than me having a good meal and meeting new people. If you start putting conversation topics in front of people, it creates some anxiety.

No, I think it is important mission to continue.

No, because the ultimate goal is still the same and the mission should remain the same.

No, especially given post George Floyd we need more conversations and more real human connection.

No, the "pre-George Floyd" world had the same issues, and we addressed those things at our dinner.

No, the mission can add new things without taking away from what started

No, the mission is achieving the goal of allowing to see the world from multiple viewpoints

No, we need it more than ever.

No.

No. Bringing people together from different backgrounds to break bread and learn about each other is a social good on its own and can have positive ripple effects.

No. Getting people to the table and talking...that's the point!

No. The open dialogue is much needed.

No. I think having groups from various backgrounds expands everyone's viewpoint

No. Isn't it the premise that if we know each other, the fear or discomfort will subside?

No. It needs to be intensified. Expand conversations and interactions.

No. It's important to Bring diverse people together

No. The mission is the solution.

No. We needed this before George Floyd.

Not Sure

Not necessarily. Should the topic arise, it should be discussed though

Not sure change is needed

Not sure it needs to change but would think it would organically evolve.

Perhaps gently help white folks understand how they can become anti racist

Same as above

Stay the same.

The casual / non-confrontational style of TT feels very approachable, there isn't a hard agenda and that is nice.

The mission should be to foster communication, empathy and sharing

The mission should not be changed and in fact should be strengthened.

The mission was incredibly valuable prior to 2020 and perhaps even more so now

There is nothing inherently bad about diversity. It is frightening to anyone who believes s/he must give up "something".

There was some talk about putting together an email list for those who attended, but I never saw one.

There's opportunity to think differently about how to do it, but no question we need increased opportunity to for human connection, learning and comfort.

Think it is fine. Keep it simple.

This feels like a question that is asking whether the conversations at the dinners should be more guided, almost scripted to talk more directly about racial issues. I think the initial meetings of the participants should not be scripted. But I think once they know each other, perhaps there is a subsequent dinner with the same people and then the conversations can be a bit deeper.

To me the mission of Transformation Table is to increase proximity opportunities for different people to gather. I do not see that needing to change post George Floyd, I just see a greater need.

more topics

no

no

no I think it needs to expand to other places, though. Everybody should have this opportunity. Maybe even down to kids in school. Sort of like hunger organizations and their college-level bowls of rice meals...

not really... but I feel the topic of micro aggressions would be interesting to bring into the picture...

Please elaborate on your response above. If you did connect with someone, how was it valuable personally and/or professionally? If you didn't connect with someone, why not?

Because of my profession, I likely could have crossed paths with other guests

Valuable insight into their world view and perspective

I've told many people about Transformation Table, and they attended as well with positive experiences

It was interesting to see how close and interconnected our social circles were.

I didn't keep in touch with anyone, and I would have liked to have had a way for that to be more natural or part of the experience.

Of the people I didn't know, I enjoyed the connection, but it didn't extend beyond the meal.

I enjoyed meeting new people

It was eye opening and refreshing to share a meal with gregarious folks from different walks of life.

The connection was very interesting during the dinner by the fact of our differences that brought different opinions

Again, cross pollination of diverse neighborhood residents. Continued connection may not have occurred, but the acknowledgment of various points of views were realized.

I sat next to the kindest Jewish couple, and they gave me advice that I still hold onto to this day.

It was an opportunity to engage with people who I didn't know through the Gibbes.

The value for me was strictly personal. I am retired

I have followed up with a few of the attendees

I connected with people I already knew and nothing direct transpired after dinner

I was a part of one TT that was at the museum. It was a lot of people and perhaps more than I would have preferred to be able to really have a deeper connection. However, I connected with people that I wouldn't have otherwise. I appreciate the multi-generational aspect as well as the intention of bringing folks from different backgrounds: races and cultures

My husband Gary and I were new to South Carolina. At Transformation Table, we met some people who ended up becoming close friends, and with whom we keep in touch even after relocating.

My usual circle of connections doesn't provide me with the opportunity to socialize with people outside the scope of my work and friend pool.

Valuable connections were forged.

I don't know if my dinner partner was ready for this experience

It's good to meet new people and see other points of view

I connected with everyone. I enjoyed cooking for everyone and enjoyed listening to their conversations. It was awesome!

Expand my development of new relationships.

It was valuable because we got to hear people's deeply held feelings. We met a diverse group - both by race, affluence, age and gender. It was hard to achieve - especially in Charleston

I enjoyed meeting new people but did not see anyone again

Always good to meet a new person

I wish I had gotten their information so that I could stay in contact.

Personally, I was able to connect with two neighbors that I didn't even realize lived in the same area I did. I was great to be able to really discuss what community looks/feels like.

Great connection

I met the person who cooked the dinner and found a new food connection. I also connected with the host and got to know her a bit better, even though we had met previously

My session was virtual, and my parents were there making it difficult to connect with anyone new.

is always rewarding meet people and make sure learn something from them

I know very few people at the gathering.

I had warm, kind and lively conversation with people who live all around me but with whom I hadn't connected, and likely wouldn't have. Part of that is the phenomenon of staying within our comfortable circles and part of it is just the hustle of day to day and not stopping to talk with our neighbors. There were people here that I knew through school or the neighborhood, but I had never sat and had a glass of wine with them. Some people I never saw again and others I was then given an authentic connection to as we moved through life forward and I saw them again.

Just meeting and cooking with Mrs. Janet was a different experience

I enjoyed the space most as a personal experience, that I was "the me" I am in my personal life, and not "the me" in my professional life.

We became friends but then they moved away

I met people from countries I have never been to or know much about and found we had a lot in common.

There were several people at the event I went to that I would've loved to see again. But I did not get the sense that anybody wanted to do that other than me.

This was an opportunity to sit down with new people and learn and share commonalities with hopes of making a new friend or maybe a business contact. To me it was an opportunity to break through social barriers that often exist in our society between races such as different churches different neighborhoods. Of course, these barriers exist because of white suppression established and maintained for centuries. However, I think it is important that white guests understand these events are not opportunities to relieve their white guilt or prove their open mindedness. This puts a heavy burden on Black guests. Its dinner and hopefully good conversation.

The people present were interesting and engaging, but no further connections were made.

I enjoyed the evening and hearing about other's lives, but it did not lead to a second encounter.

It was virtual and everyone was in the restaurant industry, but I was more of an observer.

I was able to spend time with a couple that I barely knew and got to know them much better

I was invited by someone I didn't know and might not have met her otherwise.

I connected with Tina and that has made my world a better place to live in

I did not really keep in touch with anyone I have met at the Transformation Table after the dinner, (except the person I knew already), but it was nice meeting them. Maybe engage us more in the future events, keep us in the loop, follow-up with us, like through means of this questionnaire for instance.

By virtue of sharing a meal with people I might never have come in contact with in "regular" life, the experience as a whole was more impactful than connecting with any particular individual.

I am now a part of the Doula collective in the Tri-County.

I gained respect for everyone at the table and still think of them. I wish I had done a better job of staying connected.

I met several women through TT and keep in touch with them today.

I connected with someone whose life experience is completely different. We remain Facebook friends. I get to celebrate achievements with them

I had great conversation although I didn't meet anyone, I wanted to necessarily hang out with

I met two people in my community but outside my typical work/life pattern who I have been fortunate to re-encounter in other contexts happily! even if we have not developed more than an acquaintance

I did connect with at least 5 people I would love to know better.

I exchanged info but fumbled the follow through

I have stayed connected with the host of my first TT dinner almost weekly. Others have been contacts as needed.

I would never have met Benny Starr in a social situation much less my own dining room. I have followed his career and run into him several times.

I don't believe, the woman I spoke to most, that our worlds would have ever collided. Yet, were able to find some commonality as we sat across from each other and opened up. The most important piece is that the environment is safe and conducive for being vulnerable.

I went to a Muslim family's home for an Iftar dinner. The food was amazing and the group of people who were there were so diverse and so interesting. I was glad to have the opportunity to share a special dinner with folks from a different religion and culture than my own.

One person I met, I ended up befriending and we also have connected in the professional world. Without the dinner, I would never have met them.

The value has primarily been on a brief personal level. Beyond the dinner I have not connected with anyone I met specifically at that Transformation Table dinner.

Valuable personally

It was fine. I don't think I really "connected" with anyone at the event, since most people had another primary connection at the event. So I felt a bit awkward because other people seemed to know each other and I didn't.

I met someone from the community who my agency could collaborate with. We were able to exchange contact information and work together on some issues in the community. I would have likely not met this person otherwise.

Yes, it helped me see my community more and get outside my typical comfort zone

I live a life that puts me around different people all the time. I didn't need this event to accomplish that mission.

One lady at our dinner made it clear that she was "only there for the food". She was the one I wanted to connect with the most and in the end, she is the person that I have interacted with the least. I am social media friends with everyone who was at my dinner. Four of them have moved away. Two of them I am in fairly regular contact with, and one has given me the opportunity to speak at her office about work that I do.

I was able to connect a few folks to align with their purpose it was very good for them and me

I met people from other countries and allowed me to see US differently

First, there's Tina! I would hope I would have met this wonderful, loving, creative and inspiring woman somewhere else, but maybe not, and my life would be less for it! And, then there's our hostess Nilsy. Another amazing, passionate light-filled woman that I wouldn't be friends with, except for TT. I also experienced new foods, cultures and customs that I might not have-new life-enriching adventures!

Met someone who had different political views than mine, and it was a lovely conversation.

I was delighted to hear others' stories, their experience of living in Charleston as a unique neighbor with a different lived experience than mine.

Definitely met new people. And it was a good point in time for me to do so during Covid. I've become Facebook friends with a few of the people I met, though no one very close.

Such connections are so valuable.

Please elaborate on your response to the previous question: To what extent do you agree with the following statement: my Transformation Table experience facilitated collaboration beyond the dinner.

Awesome experience

I did attend the talk of the host a couple months later, downtown

Came to understand other cultures better

There was no real follow-up with the dinner guests.

The interesting point is to be one night with people that I maybe would never had the chance to meet

Transformation Table participation led to collaboration on issues facing local communities.

As a dialectic, I wish there was a way for us to stay connected and I recognize that maybe one night together is all that was needed.

I got to know others well enough to follow up and that says a lot.

There was no ongoing facilitation from the organizers

After the dinner, I had followed up with the owner of a black-led catering service (I can't remember her name, sorry) to utilize her services for my place of business. We also widened our social and professional networks through the other connections we made at the dinner, resulting in my attending, for example, workshops in small local businesses, the SC women's march, and more.

Did not seem interested in continuing conversation

My mindset is always open to new experiences.

I could have 'networked' after but did not. BUT I have infused principles of the dinner in some of my work in culinary festivals and events

I was able to connect + keep in touch with people who I met during fellowship with food

In both examples, I have followed the cook and have purchased her food on several occasions. With the host, we were able to see each other in different networking circles and there was a strong tie.

I was able to talk to people different than me. That is important.

I know the homeowner.

Nothing comes to mind directly, so that's why it was neutral response.

As I mentioned I became friends with someone I met there

I have connected with at least 2 people from the dinner in a professional capacity.

It just didn't happen. No one is to blame. A conversation over dinner can be just that. It doesn't have to lead to something momentous to be worthwhile.

I was able to bring in folks I met into a new homeless initiative in the City and raise extra funds.

I had hoped to be more involved and never heard back years after one terrific dinner together.

I was not looking for more than I got.... interesting conversation with strangers at least two of whom became my friends

My recollection is that we were encouraged to keep in touch, but that connection was in no way facilitated. In fact, repeated responses for contact information for other guests went unanswered.

I am a part of the doula collective.

I wish I had done a better job of staying connected with the folks I met. Though I suppose there is little opportunity to.

Unfortunately, I'm unable to load the previous form to see what the question was.

aside from Facebook connections, I did not develop any personal relationships

I didn't connect with anyone afterwards

A project outside of my work hasn't resulted, but I have worked with Tina herself more extensively as a result of that dinner!

Life gets busy. I should have followed up

I have a different perspective that enables me to be more transparent in my interactions with people outside of my cultural comfort zone.

I wish we could have kept in touch with those we ate with, but life has happened, and we all have gone back to our perspective worlds and we really have not communicated much in 3 years.

I was not able to keep in contact with any of my dinner mates except Tina. That is partly due to that I wasn't living here at the time.

As I mentioned before, one person I met at the dinner became a friend and a community partner for me in my work.

I did not have contact beyond the dinner with anyone I met at the dinner.

I recall no follow-up to the dinner.

I don't think I started a working relationship with anyone I met at TT.

I have collaborated with Tina on some things since my dinner. I have also collaborated w/one of the participants.

The one person I met - we have met many times since - she is a rock star and a valuable asset to our community

The opportunity was there, but I did not follow through

As I said previously, I met wonderful people with whom I have become friends!

We grew as people

My personal experience didn't spark any collaborations, but I'm sure other people made connections in that way.

I'd hoped to get together with the group again; we exchanged emails; then life happened as it often does.

Connection yes... Collaboration not so much.

If your mindset did shift [because of the dinner], how? If not, why not?

Already open minded but just not living in a world where there are ample opportunities to connect with others from different backgrounds

I am very open to conversation and opinions.

Anytime you sit down with people that you don't know, it's inevitable that you're going to learn something new, whether that be good or bad.

I don't know how much it shifted as I'm open, but I felt expanded

It didn't so much shift my mindset as it did affirm it. Love meeting new people and the meal provided a great opportunity.

She did not add to the overall group which was perfect and diverse prior to her arrival.

Came to understand other cultures better

We spoke about AME Mother Emanuel murders, though we all shared the sadness, my eyes were opened to a closer connection to how it felt for the African American community in Charleston / the forgiveness, the anger, the fear. It became a lot more personal.

People from different cultures and lives brought to me question about my life

Seeing through another person's eyes.

Just built my curiosity and support for others

I'm a gay man married to a Jewish man raising a daughter who transitioned at 4 years old. I would say I'm fairly receptive to differences.

Our event was virtual, and the event proved to me that a virtual event could still be deep and high touch

I am open minded to different perspectives and experiences. The dinner was so long ago I do not remember much about the subjects of conversation

In my case I did not feel I was amongst strangers. It was not so different from my own culture that it shifted my mindset

I think it shifted my awareness of the diversity of experience and people who live in the Low Country.

I remained open-minded and accepting of differences. I enjoy meeting people who are from different backgrounds and beliefs. We are all connected.

I was disappointed in the young person's responses

I did not participate in the conversation, but I thought most everyone is leaning to the 'left.' It was interesting.

BJ Dennis was our cook, and his insights on heirloom grains was extraordinary. I also got to learn from the librarian of Mother Emanuel. It was extraordinary

It gave me a huge perspective of others

One individual stood out as he shared his work and I feel more informed about the nature of minority contracting and the challenges to get hired

I organize dinners myself, so I have this experience somewhat often.

It was a very diverse group. That alone is necessary.

I conduct similar events.

It furthered my sense of compassion towards others and my openness towards friendship outside of my typical circle. It opened my eyes to all of the interesting lives around me and the brightness and drive of others' talents and pursuits.

It's a small thing, but I think about the chef--their story and their "why", and in some instances, I'll ask.

I believe I was fairly open minded before but it did give me greater insight.

It was fun to see some local cuisine Gullah prepared by a MasterChef

Although the dinner was virtual it was nice to meet people from different backgrounds.

This was not necessarily different form our normal experiences.

I have a lifetime of experience talking to strangers.

I wish it could have been in person.

I live with an open mind and heart

I believe getting to know people face to face is an experience that cannot be replicated any other way. The meal set a foundation for everyone enjoying the time spent and the rest seemed to come together. There should be more of it!

I think of myself as an informed person.

Being a foreigner, I exposed my opinion on how the American society functions in Charleston, and later I understood that I might have been too tough and judgmental. It is the way people live, it is not wrong or right, it is just different. There are things to be improved in any society, but a constructive critique is what helps, not a judgmental one.

I'm not sure that my mindset shifted at all. I went into the event with an open heart and mind and with that, enjoyed a wonderful experience.

I think more specifically in my role as leader and advocate in my community.

I was able to hear a deeper response to the topic of race in the south.

I heard experiences of racism from women that were shocking. It helped me frame other people's experiences.

I was already pretty open to meeting diverse people. I've traveled a lot and lived overseas.

I'm pretty open minded as I think anyone willing to attend an event like this probably is already

I always had faith! The reality was so lovely, but I've been a believer in this model for a long time!

I already had a positive mindset re people different. I was thrilled to meet such talent.

I am pretty open, plus the participants were similar in outlook

It gave me the chance to meet people outside of my circle whose experiences I may have otherwise encountered but most likely those stories would not have been firsthand.

I have always had an open mind so I am not sure there was a lot of shifting, but it certainly refreshing to share.

I was challenged by the hospitality and the conversation.

Because I was new to the area, I got an idea of what people are like in Charleston. It was a good cross-section of different people from different backgrounds.

My mindset did not shift... I have always been open to learning about and experiencing different cultures, people and experiences. That has not changed. I've enjoyed the cultural exchanges and any new experience I had attending Transformation Table dinners.

The dinner met my expectations. So did the people at the table

I learned some things I did not know about another culture in our community (the need for additional resources) which was shared by another participant.

It helped me understand how people came to live in Charleston from diverse background

My purpose for attending was to learn about the way others think. Not so much to focus on what I believe.

I feel like I was pretty open minded about meeting different people before my dinner and remain that way now. I think the ability and the opportunity to meet people outside of the folks you encounter in day-to-day life is one of the gifts that TT gave me. We all are walking in our own circles and TT takes you on a path outside, even if it's just for one night. Just getting to hear and an open mind with folks you do not know I like the fact you do not know who you will be Dining with do go with an open mind be ready to be challenged

One conversation allowed me to see how the opportunity for home ownership is different in some groups

How important it is to find opportunities to step outside of your comfort zone. The rewards are immeasurable.

Seeing other viewpoints allows for better collaboration

My mindset is pretty stable, so I didn't experience a shift. Just a really nice time.

It underscored my existing mindset of valuing time with strangers and sharing stories across cultures.

It was a lovely evening.

TT experiences are mind-opening.

If you were satisfied with the group's composition [at the dinner], why? If not, why not?

Please elaborate on your response to the previous question. If you were satisfied with the group's composition, why? If not, why not?

Nicely balanced

It was a great mixed of willing participants.

There were varying ages, cultures, what I imagine to be economic backgrounds. It wasn't a group where everyone looked and sounded like each other.

Seemed like a nice, positive group of people. Enjoyed the discussion.

Tina curated a lively and interesting bunch!

Good balance between man and woman and between Afro-American culture and Caucasian culture

Participants came from all walks of life--Gender, education, income, ethnicity, neighborhoods, occupations, etc.

It was a mix of people from various backgrounds, which made the conversation rich and layered.

The people in our group were from all towns fast away from where I live. And the people I met represented a variety of jobs and interests.

It was a good number of people I knew

I loved the group we ate with. As I recall, it was one of the larger groups, at 12 people.

I would like to see more economic diversity.

More time to meet everyone would have been better

My first experience was great

Again, I was just an observer

Different people. Different cultures. Different experiences.

We had a wealthy real estate developer there, and a high school teacher. And a big mix of others. It just felt very special

I thought it was great group of all different people aspects people and perspectives

I think the overriding issue is cost. It is an amount that is not comfortable to everyone who would want to participate, and it creates barriers... keeping some people away who would be great additions to a future dinner event... example... someone who was a migrant worker, and worked the fields of Johns Island and later went to school. Learning about his story....

Several topics and conversations make the night great.

I love diversity.

I liked how varied the table was. As a host, it was comforting to know, at least slightly, a few faces but exciting to not know all of them. The fact that we all lived near each other sweetened the situation too. It gave us a common understanding for easy banter but also an unexpected adventure in getting to know those who live among us but who are still strangers.

It was good just eating with strangers

It would be nice if it had been more diverse -- more random in who might have been there.

I thought it was a great diverse crowd

Very diverse from ag, gender and race/ethnicity.

Seemed like a very good mix of people, black AME, Jewish Unitarian, and other faiths. That was probably the biggest thing I learned about people.

I sat next to people of varying age (high school to retirement), race, and from different parts of the US--NY, Chicago, ATL, CHS

Nicely diverse but all were engaging.

They were people I would not have met otherwise. And it was my introduction to Fawzia!

It was nearly all white women, except for Tina. That was the general make-up of the FAB conference. But the conversation was very real and intimate!

Yes, it was a mixed group and small enough for everyone to talk around the round table

It definitely was a diverse group of people, and we did get to share and know each other at the dinner.

All members of the groups we participated in were interesting for different reasons

I was the only foreigner at that table. It would have been nice to have met some immigrants for instance and find out about their experiences.

There was a variety of professions, cultures, race and age sitting at the table.

Everything was fine and welcoming.

We had a fun mix of folks.

I attended during COVID so my session was a zoom with tea.

everyone brought something different to the event

The individuals themselves were familiar, as a Charleston group, but the mix disrupted the ingrained patterns of Charleston's segregation

The first dinner was at the Gibbs and the group was diverse in every way: age race, interest, etc. the one in North Charleston was more stand up and not curated and introductions were more awkward.

It was a reminder that the right people are always at the right place at the right time no matter who they are.

It was made up of people I knew and those I didn't.

I don't have a frame of reference to not be satisfied. I think the excitement is that you don't know who you will be dining with. That's the best part.

We were a very diverse group. We represented different races, religions and cultures and I think that is a great way to get to know other folks. .

I remember most of the group being women. As a man, it would have been good for me to have more men in the room to feel like there were more folks like me.

The composition of the various groups at the Transformation Table dinners I have participated in reflected the topic, venue, and/or audience specific to that event. Perhaps broadening the some of the audiences to ensure a mix of the income backgrounds of participants would be a plus, i.e., having a specific number of funded slots for people who might not attend otherwise due to cost.

Again, it seemed like most people at the dinner knew other people there and it didn't feel "hosted" or "curated" enough to ensure people blended or mixed with new people.

There were several different cultures represented at our table. It would be great to have more males involved.

I wish it was longer and you could do it more frequently!

I think the curated group experience is an outstanding approach to putting things together.

I thought our group was very well put together.

My dinners were very diverse

Tina did a great job in selecting the group for maximum diversity

We had people of all ages, life stages, life experiences, careers, races, religions, country/state of birthplace, and ethnicities. It enriched our conversation.

People that want to be part of the change is important

I loved all the dinner mates. Very nice folks.

It was a great group, diverse along multiple markers of identity

It was a lovely lovely group., That said, given that it was online... Perhaps that could've been more global reach. But it really was lovely

Given your Transformation Table experience, what worked well?

The communication. People listened.

Being greeted by the homeowner and just enjoying someone else's personal space. I think this led into fluid conversation and introductions.

The intimate setting and amazing hosts

I also attended a supper at a cultural institution. At both, everything was comfortable and flowed very well. Excellent organization.

All was coordinated well

All of them.

Everything

all of it - delicious food, great guest, perfect size, good flow of conversation

Everything

Intermix of participants, food was fabulous!

intimate setting, cultural cuisine

All of it

We got to know each other well despite it being a virtual

Cultural food and chef

I enjoyed the aesthetics, the presentation, the people. It was a lovely experience

I loved the pre-dinner drinks and socializing, the actual dinner, the conversation starters, and the chef.

The arts/cultural organization dinner and the private dinners both worked well.

Chef was awesome

Everything worked well. Hosts were great. Everyone was very nice and seemed to have enjoyed each other's company.

The atmosphere and environment.

All of it.

The private setting created a more family dinner feeling.

I think the flow of everything worked well, I loved the mingling before dinner aspect.

Sharing Ideas - Respect the culture

The food was delicious. The conversations were interesting

Everyone was social and together at a time when the world felt very distant, and I was grateful for that.

Diversity of the group

Tina is an excellent host and an easy dinner companion. The food was great, and the company was too.

I just love cooking for different people

There was so much time to talk with the chef, ask questions, learn about food -- and every morsel was divine.

People and food were wonderful

Pre socializing, dinner conversation, great menu, discussion of chef's country and food selections, etc...

Speaking to the people immediately to the left or right of me at the table.

different courses described by chef

WiFi worked for us all

The combination of the location, people who attended, and the food served.

Peoples' willingness to experience something new.

Tina was able to draw people out to share intimately despite it being a group of strangers in a virtual space.

Small group that could all join in conversations. Having a round table was perfect

A nice dinner in a nice home facilitated by a leader from Transformation Table.

everything

The group was small, so we basically managed to talk to each other and interact more meaningfully.

At the home, it was a bit cramped but comfortable and cozy.

The location, atmosphere, other diners, information shared.

It was great meeting so many people and hearing their experiences. Walking into the experience with a intention curates the conversation to specifically get down to business about the topic. This is far more effective than organic conversation with strangers.

the flow of conversation, the laughter

Being in someone's home so they were able to prepare dinner comfortably

everything

Orchestrated seating.

Intimacy of home meal

Dinner from native sharing their culture

The all of it.

Everything

I experienced a dinner at a home and a fundraising event.

Having a dinner at someone's house was a nice, intimate experience.

good food, good conversations, good causes!!

The meal!

The food was good. The venue was good. The people seemed happy to be there.

The randomness of the seating of participants; the explanation of the food and its culture while it was being prepared.

The entire flow was perfect, in my opinion.

I hosted a private dinner, and I also attended a dinner at a plantation. I'm not sure if that was sponsored by a specific group. The focus on the food story to break the ice really worked well.

I've been to two - just the conversation

I liked the dinner at a private home

The size and composition of the group.

Coordination

The food. The foood.

attendees, food, environment, all five stars

The conversation flowed. Felt like meeting people I should've known

I experienced TT in Kabul, Afghanistan. It was amazing.

Given your Transformation Table experience, what could be improved?

More events

I honestly don't see where anything could have been improved upon. The communication from sign-up was great, the food was wonderful, the hosts and their home was lovely, and the guests were all open to conversations of various subjects. I think it was wonderful.

But lead in and lead out

Nothing I can think of.

None

Already great!

Nothing.

more ways to connect after the dinner

The balance between the talking sharing and the explanation from the chef

I have nothing to offer at this time.

I liked it as I experienced

Variety of attendees

I like the more intimate gatherings, so everyone present has an opportunity to connect with the group. I also like when there is a question/prompt that gives us an opportunity to share and learn about each other. A little more direction/guidance for communication that opens the opportunity for connection especially for those who need the nudge. Also, this can help to make sure the louder voices to be balanced with the softer ones.

It would be great to have some topics answered in popcorn style, while others are answered around the table, to allow for introverts who have trouble jumping into the conversation. I'm always trying to think about how to better help introverts have a good experience. Maybe even allowing some structured one-on-ones during the social part, like asking folks to talk about a topic and then change partners. I know it can feel forced, like speed dating, but it may help those who are shy.

More opportunities for follow up.

More mingle time with finger food

No partisan voice

Cannot think of anything.

Not sure of anything...except doing more!

I want to attend more dinners.

More speaker

trying to figure out how to interact with everyone.... giving everyone a chance to speak... perhaps some facilitated questions posed to the group... I always invite the quiet ones to say something because they always get overlooked in these settings

Unknown since I only did virtual.

small scale table

Nothing needs to be improved.

It's been a bit, but I feel like we were a little harried preparing for our guests. Maybe as hosts, we could have a better game plan in set up. It all worked out great but that's the only thing I can think of.

It was perfect

A more randomly diverse group.

It was very long. I like long dinners but this one was very long between courses. The chef needed more help!

More of them more often.

Finding a way to connect outside of the event, or maybe share and then another event with the same people together, in order to get to know them better.

I was new to it and don't have any real critiques.

More frequently

No suggestions

It was a while ago, but I remember it so fondly it's hard to say. Maybe a more informal social event after the dinner?

I'd just love to be in person with a more diverse group eating a fabulous meal!

Advance notification of opportunities to join in

Building on the one good experience.

more of the same

Please see my previous answers about inviting people from underrepresented, marginalized, vulnerable groups. It is a matter of safety and security too, but there are always solutions.

Follow up. My experience ended when the dinner ended, and I don't think that fulfills the richness of the mission.

Nothing at this time.

It was lovely.

Zoom was great but we ran out of time so quickly. I think either booking slightly more time or having a couple less people in the session. Our group was 10 people.

maybe more structured questions/ icebreakers to enhance conversation

Maybe a way to connect all of us after the fact

Maybe more communications/connectivity after the dinner?

Perhaps a follow up discussion via zoom with a subject facilitated.

More political diversity

Random guests work but I did like the non-profit dinner I attended with a theme.

If it ain't broke don't fix it.

Perhaps to be able to rotate a bit at the table to share with others. Like perhaps a progressive dinner works. Participants rotate after so many minutes with a food category. Ex. 10 minutes with appetizer, rotate seating and have the entree', then rotate again for the dessert. Then come back together for the wrap up and coffee or something. Just a thought.

I think Tina does a marvelous job and wouldn't change anything.

Like I said, having a focused topic of conversation. Also, maybe sharing some music, dance, or movement after the dinner would have been fun!

More active "hosting" to be sure people meet and mingle beyond their known groups.

Nothing, everything was great.

More frequency to events

More dinners happening more often! Maybe special "alumni dinners" can be held.

I think a second dinner or other event with the same people would facilitate the budding relationships made at the dinner.

I'm not sure more of them / outdoors: long table /

Perhaps a list of participants with contact info at end of meal

Kitchen available for out-of-town chefs

nothing comes to mind

More global in nature?

What made you agree to be a host for Transformation Table?

Tina

I love Tina

Open to meeting new people, love of food, and subject matter.

I experienced it as a diner initially.

I was asked as a board member for Enough Pie.

Having heard about my friend's experiences

Tina had a great idea

I met Tina when she was getting started and wanted to be supportive. I also had attended an event, so I was excited to try the host position

No brained for me.

I wanted to make sure that I got an invitation so the best way to do that was to offer to host

I like working with Tina

I had to pick something... But none of the choices really fit. It was a virtual event, so we were all everything. I couldn't just skip the question

What benefit did you get out of being a host for Transformation Table?

Spending time with Tina

It fed my joy of entertaining and I love meeting new people - and I didn't;t have to cook! lol

Delicious meal and new acquaintances.

Glad to share my home with others.

A wonderful memory in our home and a chance to get to know great people.

It was lovely to see our table filled with such a beautiful mix of people from our community.

Having my kids see us opening our home to strangers

The chance to fill my house with laughter, great food, and new friends.

An experience like no other.

I don't remember but I think our dinners were free.

To get to see how well it was organized

What was the benefit to you [as a chef] of sharing your cultural heritage through food?

Give us a chance to let people try dishes that are traditional

Not everyone is familiar with my food, so I was happy to share

Just spreading knowledge

What motivated you to be a diner at a Transformation Table dinner?

I am a people person.

Well, I'm not a chef, our house wasn't big enough to accommodate dinner guests, so a diner was the only way to participate.

Open mind, hungry to grow & break out of my white middle class bubble here in the south as I'm from NY but it's not organically happening in schools or neighborhoods because those seem to be segregated too and I work from home

Tina's caring and friendliness.

By invitation.

I was invited and sponsored, which meant a lot. I think volunteer opportunities would be a great to allow for people who cannot pay to attend and help in some capacity.

Partner

Love sharing meals with people and received an invitation.

Someone I had met through my job (can't remember her name, sorry) recommended it to me.

Concerns about our national discourse

I met Tina and she encouraged me to apply, so I did. I'm so glad!

Tina Singleton

I was invited from Charleston Promise Neighborhood

Meet people and share ideas

last minute invitation to represent the ethnicity of the food being served

My parents invited me.

meet people that may think different then me

Invitation

Learning something new, being with people that were unfamiliar

Tina Singleton

Meet different people.

I don't have any friends who are black, and I live in Charleston, which seems kind of ridiculous.

the concept is very compelling

The idea of sharing a unique meal with people I did not know.

Knowing the organizer.

Attending the FAB conference and knowing Tina :)

Wanting to promote understanding and connection within the community

A lovely invitation at a time I was relatively new to the community.

it seemed like an interesting way to spend an evening

I was invited by my host organization leader, being an IREX Fellow, and was curious, and still am, to get to know as many people as possible, their way of thinking, their culture, their values, etc.

The unique experience and the fact that a friend invited me.

I was invited by colleagues, and I always wanted an opportunity to participate in something like TT.

It was offered as part of the FAB workshop. I was eager to have conversation with people who don't look like me.

support for Tina

Trying something different

I had read about TT and wanted to experience it!!

Love meeting a diverse group

Novelty of the experience and the idea of trying new foods.

I had read about it and followed Tina's story.

I was trying to get to know people in my new city.

Friends and organizations involved

To engage with people who don't look like me

Invited by venue host who is a friend.

I had heard about it from someone who attended a previous dinner and was curious about it.

Learning about it at TEDx

Tina

To meet new people

I was invited and said yes!

Meeting neighbors

Admiration for Tina.

Is there anything else you would like us to know?

CONTINUE! As more people are beginning to gather again, I would urge you to continue Transformations Tables because it provides such an enormous bridge for people that may not otherwise be there.

I really feel the concept is beautiful and special and would have loved to attend more. Like instead of a date night to be able to do that more often for example

The proper name for the evening meal is "supper" as in "Mom, what's for supper?" Jesus didn't go the last DINNER!

thank you for creating this platform!

I would like to bring your dinner to Netherlands!

For this survey, it was hard to answer follow up questions for questions on a different page. Just some feedback on survey design.

Tina has impeccable taste in who to bring together

I love that you have created this project and that you continue to grow and expand your expression of TT. I look forward to see how it evolves and continues to offer connection and intimacy in a world of humans that need to feel more connection and unity than ever before. Thank you for your service to this intention.

The Transformation Table experience was one of the pivotal moments of our time in South Carolina. It opened our social network and helped us feel so much more connected and included in the community there, beyond our jobs. We were deeply grateful for it and continue to be. I hope that it continues and even spreads to other parts of South Carolina. As a nonprofit fundraiser, I wish I could be there to help raise money or brainstorm ways to offset costs.

Thank you for this important work.

I overall enjoyed the experience!!

Very thankful for the opportunity to meet a diverse group of people.

Hope they continue.

I think this is scalable as an idea.

LOVED IT!!!

I think this is a wonderful idea.

My home has never felt so warm, and I would love to do it again!

Keep doing the dinners

It was hands down one of the best meals, and we've shared our experience with so many people.

I hope you'll reinvigorate the program!

I wanted it to go deeper, and be more often, in order to make some real connections and possibly some friendships.

Tina Singleton does an amazing job, and the origin story is terrific

I hope you all are doing well

It's an inspired concept!

Keep up the great work. I hope you land on the right model and that you get the clients you want and deserve!

I'd love to participate more.

I have only attended a private dinner hosted at someone's house and have never been part of other activities, so my opinions are based only on that small-scale event. I'd like to take part in other events too.

I can't wait until TT is up and running again.

I appreciated the opportunity

I really love your effort and I'm excited to see where it heads next.

maybe organize dinners around themes

Go TINA!!

Great idea

I am a huge supporter.

Tina needs to come back to Charleston.

I really loved this experience and I hope it will be able to continue.

I don't have anything to add. I really think a lot of TT and Tina and hope to continue to participate.

I appreciated the experience.

I love Tina!! She is such a dynamic, powerful woman!

It would be great to offer this opportunity to high school and middle school youth groups (mentoring, school classroom, etc.)

Tina is amazing and the perfect person to run something like this.

thank you for the work that you do. you are appreciated.

Love love love / flying high on Hope

It might be a good idea to suggest that participants continue to dine together in future outside of transformation table to increase the impact of the dinner ie not one and done

Love your program! Please keep the mission, and perhaps find additional programs in support of the mission. And another reunion, please!!

I hope you continue!

Love the intention!

Bravo, Tina!