

# Orange County, North Carolina Community Values Survey Summary

Orange County’s Long-Term Recovery Group thanks everyone for providing their input on the Community Values Survey. The survey was open from August 31 through September 11, 2020 and collected 1535 responses. This survey was instrumental in helping Orange County’s leaders understand what our community values the most when it comes to recovery from COVID-19 and how to avoid future disruptions in the future. The survey results are now being used to create a disaster recovery plan to increase the resilience of our community.

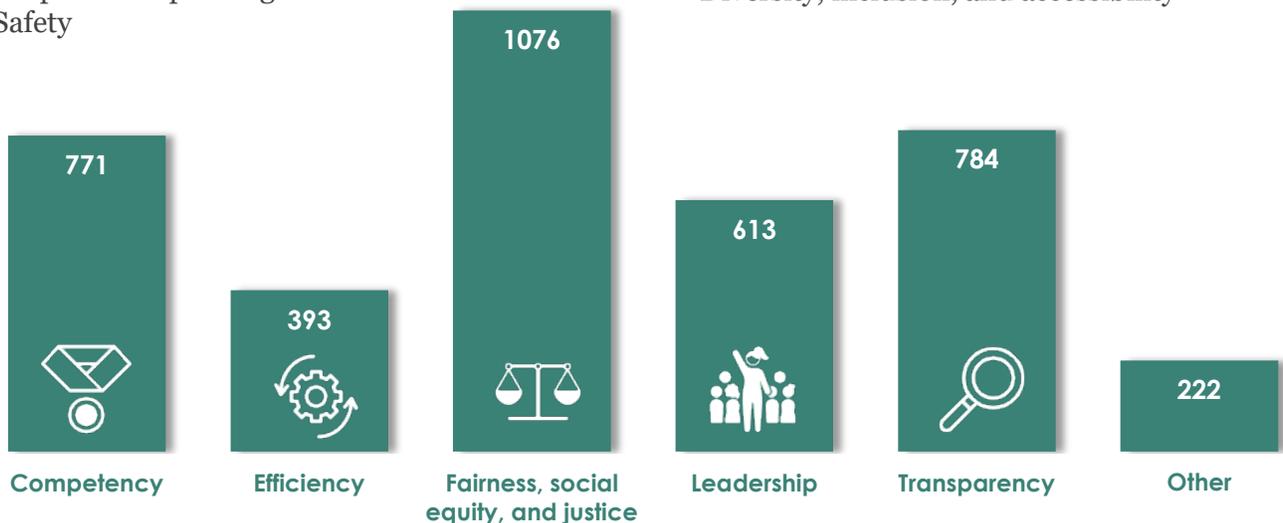
Race/Ethnicity	Responses
American Indian or Alaskan Native	6
Asian / Pacific Islander	24
Black or African American	43
Hispanic	27
White / Caucasian	1034
Multiple Ethnicities / Other	48
I prefer not to answer.	107
No Response	246

This survey was made available across diverse communities and in a variety of languages. Survey respondents self-identified their race according to the results in the table to the right. This survey was published online through Survey Monkey in English and Spanish and was translated and administered in Karen, Burmese, and Mandarin-Chinese by phone. The Long-Term Recovery Group will continue to prioritize the engagement of community members underrepresented in this survey throughout the disaster recovery plan development process.

## Orange County Community Values

The graphic below summarizes the top values of the Orange County community. “Other” values include:

- ✓ Communication and engagement
- ✓ Responsible spending
- ✓ Safety
- ✓ Environmental stewardship
- ✓ Diversity, inclusion, and accessibility





The **biggest challenges** for individuals and families to overcome during the pandemic include:

- **Isolation and aloneness** from limited social interactions, social distancing, and staying home.
- Challenges associated with supporting children during this uncertain and unique time, especially related to the **virtual learning environment and finding reliable childcare options**
- Concerns and stresses over **money and finances**, whether through decreased business revenue, loss of jobs, or uncertain economy
- **Mental and physical health** concerns related to COVID-19, including maintaining mental and physical health, caring for sick loved ones, finding translated information about the virus, and frustrations and anxieties related to wearing face masks
- Lack of access to, and **closures of, facilities, businesses, and services**
- **Limited access to reliable, high speed internet** limiting the ability of people to work from home and for their children to participate in distance learning

Orange County can strengthen the community's **ability to bounce back** from future disasters by:

- Being better prepared through **advanced planning**, including planning for pandemics and contingency planning.
- **Strengthening communication and information sharing**, especially related to the virus and the programs and services available to help people in need. Information needs to be provided in more languages to ensure universal understanding.
- Establishing new, and maintain existing, programs and services that **support the most vulnerable people** in the community
- Putting policies and programs in place that **support businesses**, especially small businesses.
- Increasing access to, and quantity of, **affordable housing** and programs that support rent and mortgage payments.
- **Continuing efforts to strengthen leadership and enforce law and order** (e.g., wearing masks). Stronger leadership will help to unite people, increase efficiency, and better educate the public. Policy makers should respect science and integrate it into decision making.
- Establishing and maintaining a **rainy-day fund or general fund** for programs that can help support individuals, schools, and businesses throughout the pandemic.

**Top issues that Orange County should prioritize addressing in the future:**

This table highlights how priorities differ between different races/ethnicities in the community. The count of responses for each issue are summarized by race and have been shown as a percent of the total responses received from each race/ethnicity to normalize the data for comparison purposes.

“Other” issues noted that should be prioritized include:

- ✓ Improving school buildings and public infrastructure (e.g., roads), including accessibility of transportation
- ✓ Environmental preservation, stewardship, and health
- ✓ Economic development

Race/Ethnicity	Income inequality	Climate change	Racial injustice	Healthcare access	Housing affordability	Education / Achievement gap	Broadband internet availability	Other
American Indian or Alaskan Native	10%	5%	10%	10%	24%	10%	24%	10%
Asian / Pacific Islander	13%	4%	14%	16%	16%	13%	17%	7%
Black or African American	14%	9%	16%	14%	17%	14%	13%	3%
Hispanic	15%	9%	15%	15%	16%	14%	12%	3%
Multiple Ethnicities / Other	14%	10%	15%	13%	15%	12%	14%	6%
White / Caucasian	13%	13%	15%	14%	15%	14%	13%	3%
No race or ethnicity specified	11%	12%	13%	14%	13%	14%	15%	7%