



### Purpose

The aim of this study is evaluate how African Americans in the 37208 and 37209 zip code respond with the new found information of the COVID-19 vaccine. SARS-CoV-2 also known as COVID-19, as with most health disparities, has disproportionately affected African Americans.

### Demographic

The target demographic for this project is African American adults in the zip codes of 37208 and 37209 from any socioeconomic background. This includes Fisk University students and Cathedral of Praise Church members 18 years and older.

### Methods

To acquire participants for the “Listening Sessions” a video presentation was given before the church services of Cathedral of Praise. Additionally, GroupMe and word of mouth were also used to obtain participants. The social media post on GroupMe was share on two different group chats to notify students.

Once participants were selected, the “sessions” were conducted via Zoom. The zoom meeting conducted held approximately 20 students asynchronously.

To accurately document these interactions, the “sessions” were recorded. Afterword, the information was transcribed.

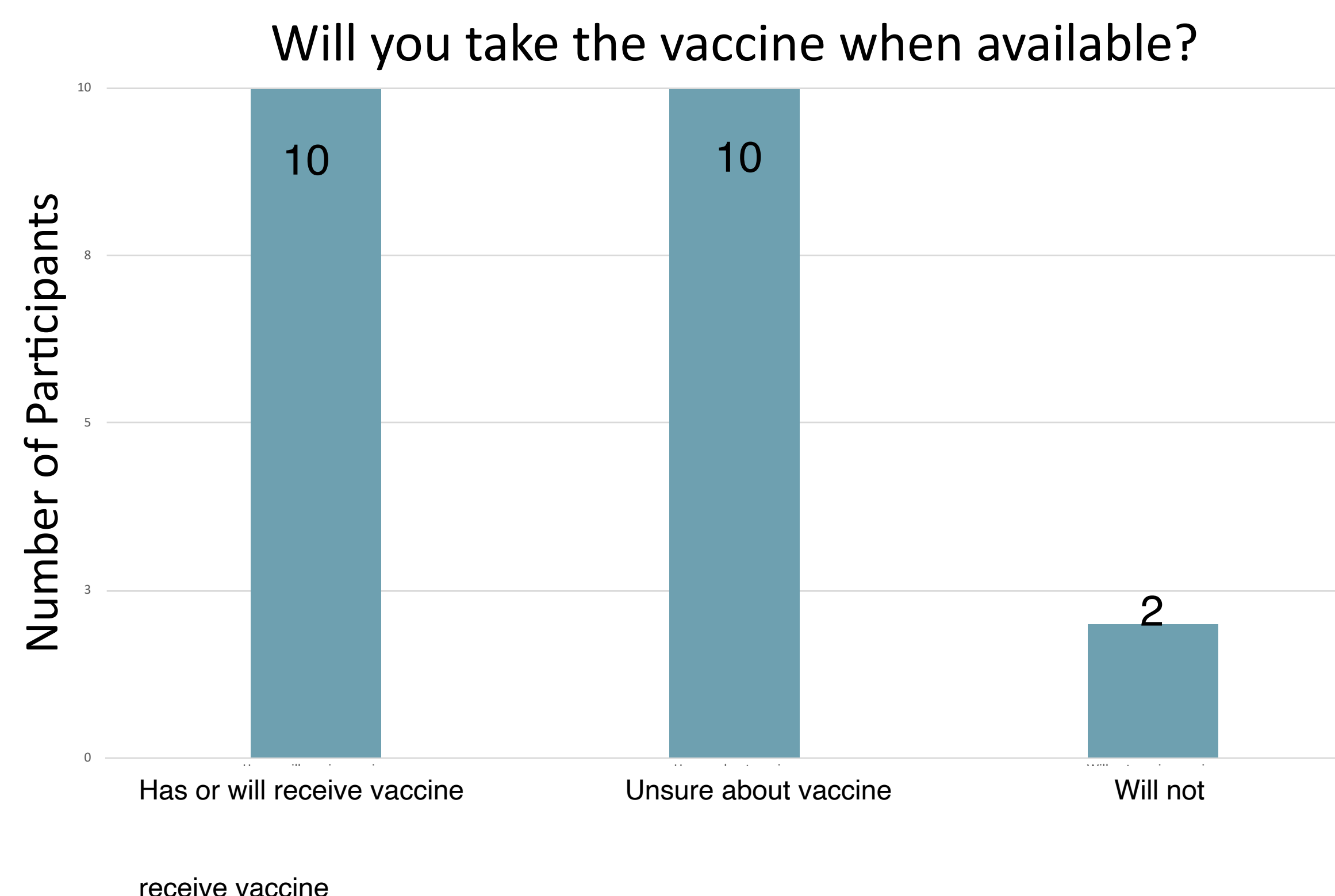
Prior to beginning the session, each person was notified the session would be recorded to ensure consent regarding the recording of the session.

Finally, participants filled out a post session survey.

### Outcomes

The outcomes of this project are as follows:

- 1) Twenty-one (21) women and men shared their opinions regarding the COVID-19 vaccine as well as personal habits and behaviors
- 2) Twelve (12) participants self-reported they do not trust the vaccine in its current state.
- 3) Most participants were students at Fisk University.



\*This shows the current stance of participants regarding the COVID-19 vaccine\*

### Student Lessons Learned

Lessons learned from this project are:

- 1) Many participants do not trust the COVID-19 vaccine currently. This reflects the community as COVID-19 vaccines are available, but not being taken as frequently.
- 2) Using incentives to encourage participants increased the number of responses to the survey.
- 3) Having informed conversations regarding diseases and vaccines can encourage the community to research those topics, as well as trust prior research that has been done.

### Community Partner Acknowledgements

Fisk University  
 Meharry Medical College  
 TN-MMC HBCU Wellness Project  
 Cathedral of Praise Church

