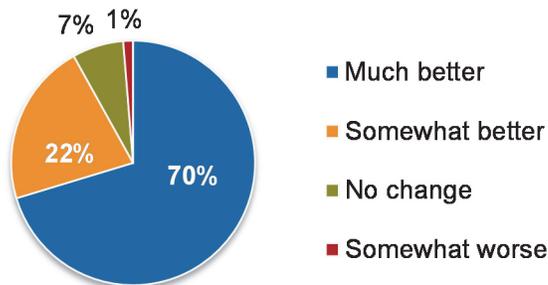


Homeowner's view of overall Habitat impact

We asked homeowners if their lives and the lives of their family members were better or worse and how much of that change could be attributed to the Habitat program. Overwhelmingly, 92 percent of homeowners said their lives were better; of those, 89 percent⁶ said they attributed that positive change either “completely” or “a lot” to Habitat (Figure 17 and 18).

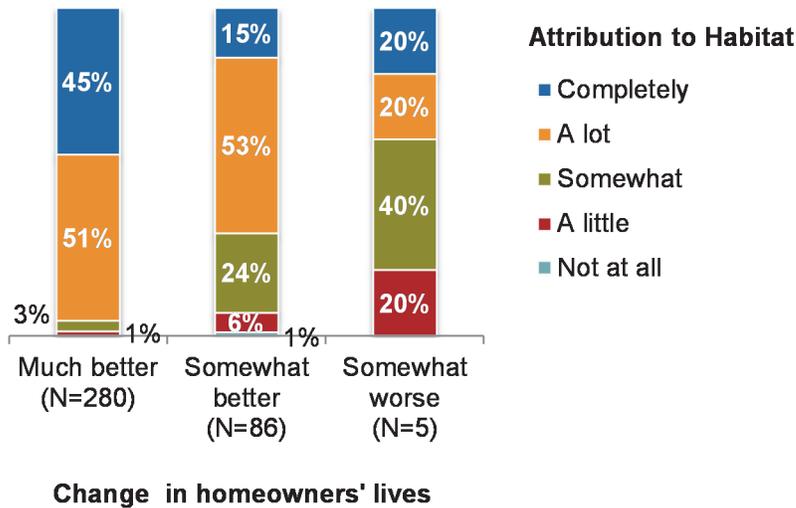
Yeah it changed my life 100%. It changed my life, very good. We already settled in my house, before I used to live in apartment, now I'm 100% safe for my family. When my kids go to school, it's a very nice place. He got the same education with my neighbor, they share the same language. And we got some more room for inside the house, I got my own bedroom, my daughter. And the other one is, I pay mortgage and that mortgage will be mine when I finish the mortgage payment. I have my own equity; I used to not have my own, now I have my own equity. And now it's very clean in our area, it's very safe. When I speak the English language, I can't say a lot, [but] I'm very happy when I live in that house. It a lot of things change in my life.

17. Change in homeowner and family members' lives



⁶ That is, of the 366 homeowners who reported their lives were “much better” or “somewhat better” and who indicated the extent to which the change in their lives resulted from Habitat homeownership, 326 said they attributed that positive change either “completely” or “a lot” to Habitat.

18. Change in homeowner and family members' lives and how much Habitat contributed to that change



Regionally

Overall, the percentages of people who said their lives were better were relatively similar ranging between 91 and 95 percent. The Twin Cities reported a higher percentage of homeowners who said their lives were “much better” (74%, compared to 70% in the South and 63% in the North). Of those who said their lives were better in each region, 92 percent of Twin Cities homeowners, 91 percent homeowners in the South, and 82 percent homeowners in the North attribute that improvement “completely” or “a lot” to Habitat.⁷

Habitat for Humanity - they make me happy because when you have little children and when they are young, they are jumping or running every day. When you rent, people complain. Now they jump and run and they are free. No one complains. They have a yard, a backyard. We're feeling good, very good. We have good neighbors. The city has a big park. They play if they want to. It's safe; there's not too much traffic. It's good. If you have a big family, it's too hard to find an apartment to fit you. They say if you have 6 children, they can't fit you. It's hard to find houses for rent. If your kids break something the owner says move out. Now, this is your house and if you broke something you can fix it. It's yours. And in the future when my kids go to college or university I'm not worried about the mortgage to pay the house. And we like that this program is so very good for the families.

Length of homeownership

Analysis revealed no differences between longer- and shorter-term homeowners regarding the overall impact.

⁷ Similar to the calculations reported in the preceding footnote, the numbers are: 178 out of 194 for the Twin Cities region; 77 out of 85 for the South; and 71 out of 87 for the North.