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New Zealand General Social Survey 2012: Results for Auckland

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Executive summary

The New Zealand General Social Survey (NZGSS) is a two-yearly national survey conducted by Statistics New Zealand that provides information on the well-being of New Zealanders aged 15 years and over. This is the third in the series, since 2008. Face-to-face interviews with 8550 individuals were conducted by Statistics New Zealand between April 2010 and March 2011.

This report presents overall data for a representative sample of 1970 Auckland respondents. The primary purpose of this report is to provide an overview view of levels of well-being. Comparisons with the findings of the two previous surveys, in 2008 and 2010 are also presented.

Personal well-being

Overall, at a personal level, most respondents (87%) were satisfied with life as a whole. Nearly half (48%) rated their standard of living as high or fairly high, and the majority (79%) were satisfied with their standard of living. Most respondents (89%) were satisfied with their levels of knowledge and skills, and nearly all (97%) rated formal education as being important. Most (88%) rated their physical health as being good or better, with both moderate and heavier activities being unimpeded by health issues (86% and 85% respectively). Over seventy per cent reported no limitations to what they wanted to accomplish or the kind of work they wanted to do due to either physical or emotional health problems. Most respondents in paid employment (81%) were satisfied with their jobs. Half of all respondents (50%) said they had the right amount of time for leisure and recreation, but 39 per cent said they did not have enough. Over half (64%) would have liked to have taken on more leisure interests but could not, citing lack of free time (due to work and family) and cost as being the main impediments.

Social connectedness

Many respondents reported high levels of social interaction and support between themselves and their family and friends. A significant level of material assistance was reported by people for their children living away from them; with 93 per cent having provided some form of material assistance to children under 18, and 68 per cent having provided such assistance for children aged 18 to 24. However, for relatives aged under 18 and aged 18 to 24, the level of material support was much lower, with around 27 or 28 per cent providing some support. The picture for family and friends aged over 65 is similar, with 29 per cent of respondents having provided some support for this older group.

Respondents also reported high levels of social contact, both face-to-face and via communications media with family and friends living elsewhere, with the majority having been in some form of contact at least weekly (76% face-to-face, and 86% non-face-to-face). Conversely, 16 per cent of respondents reported that they had felt

isolated from others at least some of the time. Most respondents (over 90%) said they had access to support for both small favours and for significant need, such as in times of crisis.

The extent of social capital and social interaction is also reflected in the level of voluntary work provided by respondents to community organisations, and amount of help given by respondents to others at their discretion. Over a quarter of respondents (28%) had provided their voluntary assistance in the four weeks prior to survey interview, with over half of them (57%) having done so on a weekly basis. Most of this assistance (94%) involved face-to-face contact with people. Sixty-one per cent of respondents had provided some assistance to other individuals in the four weeks prior to interview, with nearly half of these (47%) doing so at least once a week.

Physical well-being

Most respondents (85%) said that they were satisfied with where they were living. However, a third (34%) reported that their house or flat had a major problem, mainly concerning cold and damp, or being too small. A quarter of respondents (26%) reported a major problem with their street or neighbourhood, with noise being the most prominent mention (11%).

Most respondents (91%) said they had access to most of the facilities they wanted to get to, including shops, schools, post shops, libraries, medical services, and so on. A similar proportion expressed satisfaction with the condition of facilities in their area. Respondents expressed lower satisfaction with access to transport and its condition, with 70 per cent and 72 per cent respectively being satisfied. Three-quarters of respondents (77%) were satisfied with basic council services such as water supply, drainage, rubbish collection and roads in their area.

Access to the natural environment is an important feature of life in New Zealand. The majority of respondents (76%) who wanted access to natural water-based environmental resources (such as rivers, lakes and coastline) said they could access these all or most of the time. A similar proportion (75%) said they could access natural land-based resources such as native bush, forests, nature reserves, and open green areas in their area all or most of the time. As to the condition of water- and land-based resources, most respondents expressed satisfaction (82% and 88% respectively).

Environmental stewardship

The majority of respondents reported energy and water savings practices, with 65 per cent of respondents saving on energy consumption all or most of the time, and 56 per cent saving on water consumption all or most of the time. Mostly, reasons for savings on water and energy consumption were less to do with environmental than

other reasons. Another aspect of environmental stewardship is recycling. Most respondents (86%) said they had recycled all or most of what they could.

Personal safety and crime

Respondents said they felt safe in daytime situations, including being at work (rated as safe or very safe by 98% of respondents), waiting for or using public transport (97%), and walking alone in one's neighbourhood by day (97%). However, perception of safety dropped markedly at night. Only 59 per cent regarded waiting for or using public transport at night as being very safe or safe. Similarly, walking alone on one's neighbourhood at night was rated as safe or very safe by 66 per cent of respondents.

Crime had affected 15 per cent of respondents in the last twelve months. Five per cent had suffered more than one crime. For two per cent of respondents violence was involved.

One-in-eight of working respondents (12%) had experienced some kind of physical health problem or injury while working. For half of them (53%) this resulted in some cost to them in additional expense or loss income. Around one-in-eight employed respondents (12%) said that they had experienced emotional hurt or severe distress because of work. One third of them (33%) reported there were additional costs or loss of income, and for 42 per cent emotional distress from work had impacted negatively on their quality of life.

Traffic accidents in the last twelve months had affected eight per cent of respondents. For most of these people (82%), there were no adverse effects on quality of life, but 17 per cent were adversely affected.

Lack of preparation for a natural disaster has the potential to impact on the safety of people. Apart from having a can opener, warm clothes and blankets or sleeping bags, significant proportions of respondents did not possess other essential items. Only 24 per cent had a household emergency plan.

Multicultural society

Nearly all respondents agreed that it is good that New Zealand can have different values (94%), different ways of living (93%) and be made up of different ethnic groups (90%). There was a lower but still high level of agreement that it is good for New Zealand to have immigrants who are from many different cultures (81%).

Forty-two per cent of respondents were first generation, i.e. not themselves born in New Zealand (and with neither parent nor one parent born in New Zealand). Nearly all respondents said they belong to New Zealand. However, for recent immigrants, i.e. those who had arrived since 2007, one-in-five (20%) said they did not belong.

Most respondents (86%) said that they could express their identity easily or very easily.

Discrimination in the form of being treated unfairly or having something nasty happen to one because of the group they belonged to was experienced by nine per cent of respondents. For eighty per cent of those discriminated against, this had occurred more than once, mainly at work or in a public place. Of public organisations, those to do with health services tended to be perceived as places where different groups were accepted and tolerated, followed by schools and other educational facilities, and shops. Organisations and groups that were seen to be least tolerant were employers, followed by organisations involved in regulatory functions, such as council, the courts, and police.

Comparison of survey results with previous surveys

The General Social Survey has been previously conducted in 2008 and 2010, with all surveys starting in April of each year and finishing the following March. In each survey the same questions were asked, with very few exceptions, thus allowing for direct comparisons to be made. Most results are consistent across the three surveys, i.e. agree to within two or three percentage points. The main exceptions are as follows.

Employment tightening

Since 2008, there has been a slight drop in employment level from 67 per cent to 64 per cent, and an increase in part-time employment, matched by a decline in full-time employment. There is also a slight tendency to move from having more than one job to having only one.

Standard of living improving in some areas but declining in others

There are increases in proportions of households having heating available in all rooms (from 78% to 84%) and having a personal computer (from 81% to 88%). However, there is a decrease in having home contents insurance, from 77 per cent to 71 per cent. Cost was increasingly cited as a reason for not having heating in all main rooms, a best outfit to wear, a personal computer, or home contents insurance.

Improvements in perceptions of public amenities

Satisfaction levels increased between 2008/09 and 2012/13 for the following:

- the condition of facilities in one's area, from 87 per cent to 90 per cent;
- access to public transport, from 65 per cent to 70 per cent;
- the condition of public transport vehicles, from 60 per cent to 72 per cent;
- with basic council services, from 69 per cent to 77 per cent;
- the state of lakes, rivers and coastlines from 76 per cent to 82 per cent.

Multi-cultural society

There have been marked changes in social composition and improvements in attitudes to diversity. The proportion of respondents classified as “first generation”,¹ has risen from 36 per cent in 2008/09 to 42 per cent in 2012/13 of all respondents. Ease of expressing one’s identity has improved from 81 per cent who agree that it is very easy or easy, to 86 per cent.

Perceptions of fair treatment of different groups by organisations that deal with the public (including government agencies, health, education, justice and police, commerce and employment) are at the same levels or better than those found in the 2008/09 survey. Positive perceptions far outweigh the negative.

¹ To be “first generation”, one must not be born in New Zealand, even though one of their parents might be. If both parents are New Zealand born, they qualify as “second generation”.

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1. Introduction

The New Zealand General Social Survey 2012 (NZGSS) is the third of a two-yearly face-to-face survey of respondents throughout New Zealand conducted by Statistics New Zealand. This survey provides wide-ranging data on social and economic outcomes of New Zealanders aged 15 years and over. It offers a comprehensive examination of aspects of social health, safety and well-being. The three surveys provide opportunity to measure changes in social indicators over time. Similar surveys are conducted in other OECD countries, and international comparisons of findings are broadly comparable.

Method and sample

Interviews were conducted by Statistics New Zealand between April 2012 and March 2013. The 2012 NZGSS personal questionnaire was answered by 8462 individuals aged 15 years and over, who were interviewed in their homes. Interview durations averaged 45 minutes. The Auckland sample size was 1970. The overall response rate was 78%.

Data was collected using household and personal questionnaires. Households were selected at random using a multistage sample design. One individual in the household was selected to answer the household questions, which related to all those usually-resident there (e.g. family relationships and household income). Then an individual in the household was selected at random to answer the personal questionnaire. Data was collected using computer-assisted personal interviews, supervised by trained interviewers.

This report shows the total sample results for the survey questions. Breakdowns by demographic and other descriptive variables derived from survey questions are available on request. Comparisons with the results of the 2008/09 and 2010/11 surveys are also reported.

Owing to rigorous sample design, findings based on survey respondents can be interpreted as being representative of Aucklanders. However, each percentage point is associated with a margin of error. The size of the margin of error depends on two things, (1) the size of the sample or sub-sample, and (2) the value of p , the percentage value. As to the percentage value, for any sample size, margin of error is maximum when $p=50\%$ but is less for values of p above 50% as well as below 50%. Hence it is difficult to prescribe any simple rule of thumb for specifying the margin of

error for any specific p value. A rough guide based on sample size is provided by the following table, setting p=50%.

Table 1: Margins of error by sample size

<i>Sample size</i>	1,970	1,500	1,000	900	800	700	600	500	400	300
<i>Maximum margin of error (%)</i>	±2.2	±2.5	±3.1	±3.3	±3.5	±3.7	±4.0	±4.4	±4.9	±5.7

<i>Sample size</i>	200	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30
<i>Maximum margin of error (%)</i>	±6.9	±9.8	±10.3	±11.0	±11.7	±12.7	±13.9	±15.5	±17.9

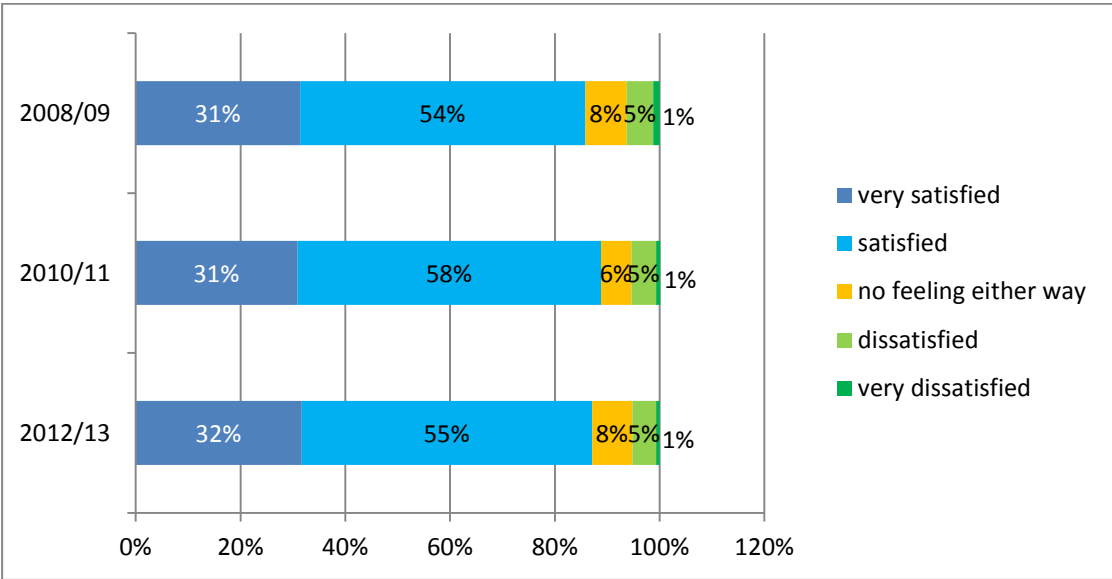
2. Summary of main findings

2.1 Overall life satisfaction

Question: How do you feel about your life as a whole right now?

Most respondents (87%) said they were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with life as a whole. Only 5 per cent said they were “very dissatisfied” or “dissatisfied”. The proportion of respondents who were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their life as a whole rose slightly from 2008/09 and then eased back to 87%.

Figure 1: Overall life satisfaction



BASE: Total sample in each year

2.2 Health

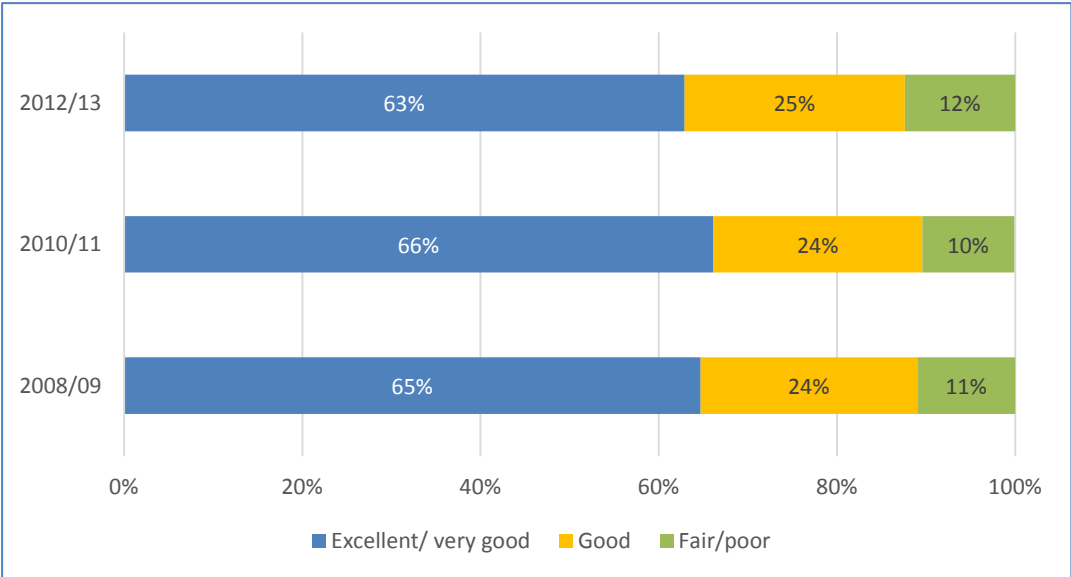
Respondents were asked a number of questions relating to their physical and emotional health. Indications of physical health, apart from overall ratings of health, were given by respondent self-ratings of limitations to activity due to health factors in various common settings, and how often these occurred. Emotional health was assessed in terms of how often and how much emotional problems interfered with everyday activities. This section ends with questions on past and present smoking.

2.2.1 Overall rating of personal health

Question: in general, would you say your health is excellent, very good, good, fair or poor?

Around two-thirds of respondents (63%) said their health is “excellent” or “very good”. A further quarter (25%) rated their health as “good”. Twelve per cent said their health was “fair” or “poor”. Ratings of overall health compared to previous years are shown below.

Figure 2: Overall rating of health



BASE: Total sample

Positive ratings of “excellent” or “very good” show little change over the years, with 65 per cent of respondents rating their health positively in 2008/09, 66 per cent in 2010/11, and 63 per cent in 2012/13.

2.2.2 Physical health

Question: Now I'm going to read a list of activities that you might do during a typical day. Please tell me if your health now limits you in the following activities:

- moderate activities such as moving a table, pushing a vacuum cleaner, bowling, or playing golf.
- climbing several flights of stairs.

Most respondents (86%) reported no limitations at all with moderate activities. Ten per cent reported they were “limited a little”, and five per cent said they were “limited a lot”. Compared to the previous surveys these percentages are a very similar levels.

Similar levels are reported with more strenuous activities, such as climbing several flights of stairs. Eighty five per cent of respondents reported no limitation at all, ten per cent said they were “limited a little”, and five per cent said they were “limited a lot”. Again, these percentage levels are similar to those reported in previous years.

Question: During the past 4 weeks, how much of the time have you accomplished less than you would like as a result of your physical health?

The majority of respondents (71%) said that there were no limitations to what they accomplished. Just over a fifth (22%) said that there were limitations to what they accomplished some or a little of the time. Seven per cent experienced limitations due to physical health all or most of the time. These percentages are consistent with those reported in the previous surveys.

Question: During the past four weeks, how much of the time were you limited in the kind of work or other regular daily activities you do as a result of your physical health?

Seventy two per cent of respondents reported no limitations their activities due to their physical health. Seven per cent were limited all or most of the time. These percentage levels are very similar to the two previous years.

2.2.3 Emotional health and well-being

Question: During the past four weeks, how much of the time have you accomplished less than you would like as a result of any emotional problems, such as feeling depressed or anxious?

The majority of respondents (72%) said they were not impeded in accomplishing what they would have liked due to emotional problems. However, a quarter (25%) said emotional problems did limit them “some” or “a little of the time”. Three per cent were limited by emotional problems “all” or “most of the time”. These percentages are at similar levels over the three surveys.

Question: During the past 4 weeks, how much of the time did you do work or other regular daily activities less carefully than usual as a result of any emotional problems?

Around three-quarters of respondents (74%) said that emotional problems did not result in them doing things less carefully. Around a quarter (23%) had done things less carefully due to emotional problems “some” or “a little of the time”, though very few (3%) were impeded by emotional problems “all” or “most of the time”. These percentage levels are very similar to those in the two previous surveys.

Question: During the past 4 weeks, how much did pain interfere with your normal work including both work outside the home and housework?

Pain appears to be a more prominent factor in impeding activity than emotional problems. While the majority (63%) did not have pain interfere with their normal work, almost a quarter of respondents (24%) said that pain interfered “moderately” or “a little bit”. One in eight respondents (12%) reported that pain interfered with their work “extremely” or “quite a bit”. This compares with 10 per cent in 2008/09 and 11 per cent in 2010/11.

Question: How much of the time during the past four weeks have you felt calm and peaceful?

The majority of respondents (70%) said they felt calm and peaceful “all” or “most of the time”. Only two per cent said they felt calm and peaceful “none of the time”. There was little variation from levels reported in the two previous surveys.

Question: How much of the time during the past four weeks did you have a lot of energy?

Two-thirds of respondents (65%) said they had a lot of energy “all” or “most of the time”. Around a third (32%) said they had energy “some” or “a little of the time”. Only two per cent said they had a lot of energy “none of the time”. In comparing the three surveys, differences are evident. In 2008/09, 62 per cent of respondents reported they had a lot of energy “all” or “most of the time”, compared with 67 per cent in 2010/11 and 65 per cent in 2012/13.

Question: How much of the time during the past four weeks have you felt downhearted and depressed?

The majority of respondents (62%) said they had not felt downhearted or depressed at all. A third (34%) reported being downhearted and depressed “some” or “a little of the time”. Only a few (4%) were so “all” or “most of the time”. Levels of not being downhearted show a slight increasing trend, from 58 per cent in 2008/09 to 59 per cent in 2010/11 and 62 per cent in 2012/13.

Question: During the past 4 weeks, how much of the time has your physical health or emotional problems interfered with your social activities?

Health or emotional problems interfered with the social life of three-quarters of respondents (75%) “none of the time”. Interference “some” or “a little of the time” was reported by 21 per cent of respondents, but “all” or “most of the time” by only four per cent. These levels are very similar to those found in the previous two surveys.

2.2.4 Smoking

Question: Do you smoke cigarettes regularly, that is, one or more a day? (Don't count pipes, cigars, or cigarillos. Count only tobacco cigarettes)

Fourteen per cent of respondents smoked regularly. There has been a marked decline in smoking incidence since 2008, with 17 per cent saying they smoked in 2008/09, 13 per cent in 2010/11, and 14 per cent most recently.

Question: Have you ever been a regular smoker of one or more cigarettes a day? (This question is asked of current non-smokers only)

Twenty eight per cent of currently non-smoking respondents (n=1701) reported that they had smoked at some time in the past. This level has not changed over the period of the three surveys.

2.3 Knowledge and skills

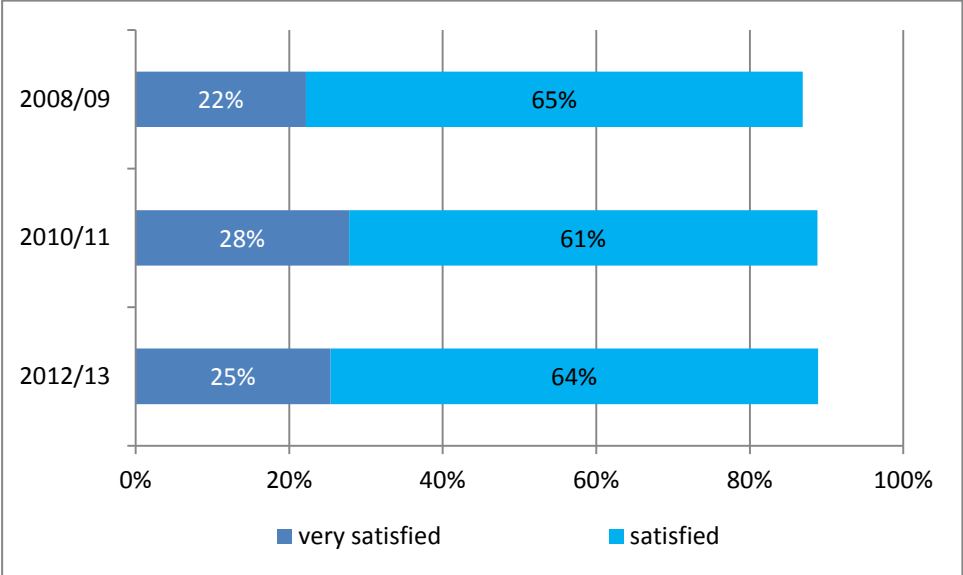
This section is about the knowledge, skills and abilities acquired from life experience, work, formal education, and training. Questions cover satisfaction with one's knowledge, skills and abilities and reasons for dissatisfaction, if any. Questions were also asked to identify impediments to further education and training, if any. This section also measures overall perception of the importance of formal education.

2.3.1 Personal satisfaction with knowledge, skills and abilities

Question: In general, how do you feel about your knowledge, skills and abilities?

Most respondents (89%) were very satisfied or satisfied with their knowledge, skills and abilities. Only three per cent were very dissatisfied or dissatisfied. These satisfaction levels are very similar to those found in the two previous surveys.

Figure 3: Satisfaction with knowledge, skills and abilities



BASE: Total sample

Question: Why are you dissatisfied with your knowledge, skills and abilities?

The main reasons given by those who were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with their knowledge and skill levels (n=62) were:²

- I don't have the right type of knowledge, skills and abilities to do what I want to do in life (51%);
- I didn't take the right subjects at school to do what I want to do in life (41%)
- I don't have the right level of knowledge, skills and abilities to do what I want to do in life (30%);
- I don't have the right level of knowledge, skills and abilities needed in the workplace (28%);
- I don't have the right type of knowledge, skills and abilities needed in the workplace (23%).

Note that base numbers are too low to permit reliable year-on-year comparisons.

2.3.2 Incidence of and impediments to study or training

Question 3: Are you currently doing any study or training?

Of all respondents, around a quarter (26%) said they were studying or in training.

In previous years, this question was only asked of respondents who were dissatisfied with their educational and skill attainments. In the current survey, of those who were dissatisfied or neutral about their levels of knowledge, skills and abilities (n=240), 18 per cent said they were currently studying or in training. Due to low base numbers, year-on-year comparisons are not reliable.

Question 4: Would you like to do any study or training now?³

In this survey all respondents who said they were not doing any study or training at the time of the survey were asked if they would like to be in study or

² Note that respondents could express more than one reason.

³ In previous years, this question was asked only of those who were neutral, satisfied or very dissatisfied with their knowledge, skills and abilities and were not currently studying. Hence results are not comparable.

training. Almost a third (31%) of those respondents (n=1538) said they would like to be.

Question 5: What is preventing you from doing the study or training you'd like to do? and

Question 6: What is the main thing that prevents you now from doing more study or training?

These questions were asked of those who said they were not studying or training but would like to (n=457). Overall, impediments to study or training included:

- the cost of study (42%);
- too busy with family (37%);
- have too little time (37%);
- age (12%);
- student debt (8%).

When asked to select their main barrier to study or training, the cost of study received highest mention (at 15%). Being too busy with family and having too little time were next highest, at 11 per cent each.

2.3.3 Attitudes to formal education

Question 7: Please think only about the study and training that people do at schools, universities technical institutes and places like that. It does not include any other ways of learning. Which of the answers on {card prompt} matches your feelings about education?

All respondents were asked this question. Nearly all respondents (97%) felt that formal education is "very important" or "important". Over three-quarters (79%) said education is "very important". This is very consistent with the levels found in the previous two surveys.

2.4 Paid work

This section reports on respondents' work status, the main occupation they have, the incidence of working in more than one job, and hours worked. It also reports respondents' satisfaction levels with their jobs as well as with their working arrangements.

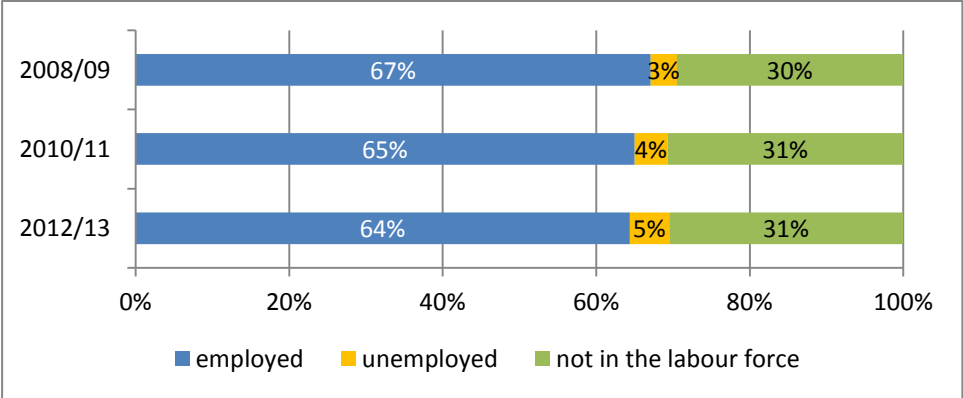
2.4.1 Employment status

Employment status was determined by Statistics New Zealand from a series of questions around personal data rather than from a specific question. Employment status is reported in this section due to its relevance to the subject area.⁴ To be "employed", the respondent must be in a job or business. Note that the category "unemployed" excludes people under 15 years of age but includes those not in employment but looking for, and available for work. All others are classified as being "not in the labour force".

Of all Auckland respondents, nearly two-thirds (64%) were in paid employment. Five per cent were "unemployed", and the remainder (31%) were "not in the labour force". Compared with the two previous surveys there appears to be a slight decreasing trend in employment. In 2008/09, 67 per cent of all respondents were in employment, decreasing to 65 per cent in 2010/11 and 64 per cent in this survey. However, the differences are small and within the margins of error of the three surveys.

Statistics New Zealand used similar procedures to determine if an employed individual was in full-time or in part-time work. Of all those in employment, 77 per cent were in full-time work. This represents a decline since 2010/11 and 2008/09 where 82 per cent of respondents reported were working full-time in both surveys.

Figure 4: Employment status



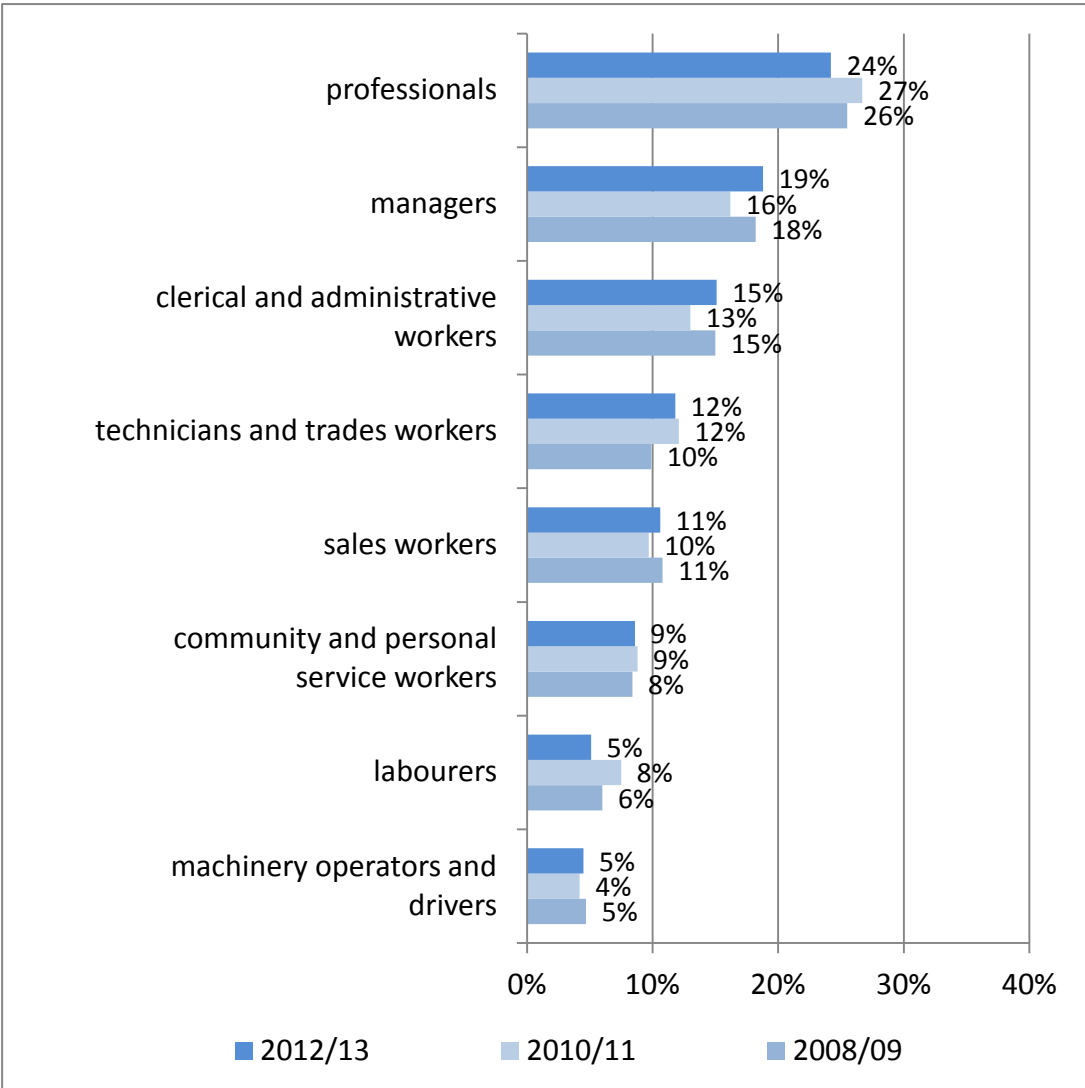
⁴ For derivation of this variable see <http://www.stats.govt.nz/methods/classifications-and-standards/classification-related-stats-standards/labour-force-status.aspx>

2.4.2 Characteristics of employment

Question: (Looking at [card prompt]) which one of the categories would you consider your job to be in?

Respondents could nominate which employment category their occupation belonged to. The highest proportion of employed people were in the “Professionals” category (24%), followed by “Managers” (18%), with “Clerical and administrative workers” (15%) in third place. The smallest proportions were “Labourers” and “Machinery operators and drivers”, accounting for five per cent of the workforce each. The following figure shows occupational categories ranked by share of proportion of employment in 2012/12, compared to the two previous surveys.

Figure 5: Occupational categories



BASE: Those in employment

Share of employment category shows variability over the period of the three surveys. This variability may reflect differences in economic circumstances over the period rather than being due to sample variability. There are proportionately fewer professionals and labourers in 2012/13, compared to 2010/11. Conversely, there are proportionately more managers and clerical and sales people in 2012/13 compared with 2010/11.

Question: How many jobs do you currently have?

Most of those in employment (93%) have one job. There has been a marked drop in the proportion of employed people who have more than one job, from 10 per cent in 2008/09 to eight per cent in 2010/11, dropping to six per cent in 2012/13.

Question: What employment arrangement applies to your job?

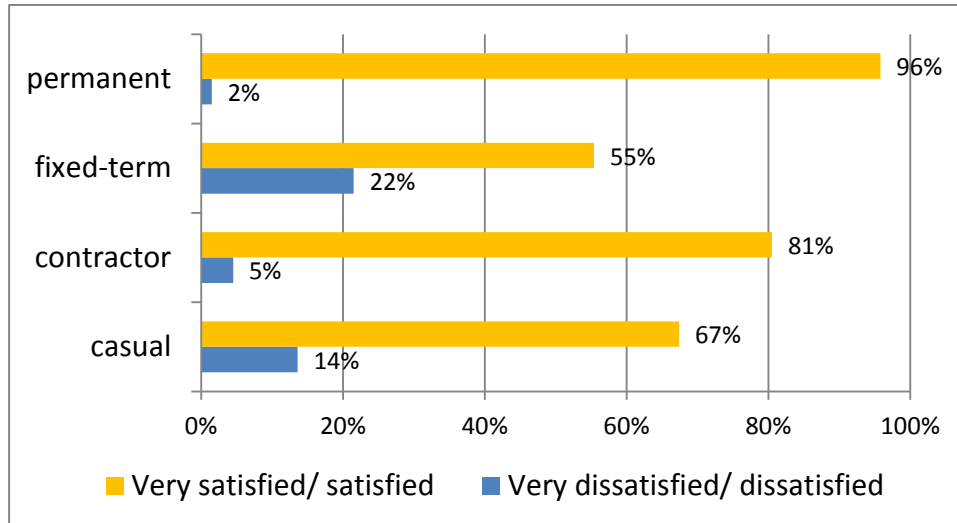
Just over three-quarters (75%) of those in employment have a permanent job. Nine per cent are contractors, and eight per cent are casuals. These proportions are consistent since 2008. All smaller categories show little variation over the years as well.

2.4.3 Attitudes to employment situation and job satisfaction

Question: How do you feel about being [employment arrangement, *i.e.* your employment arrangement]?

Overall, most employed respondents said they were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with their employment arrangements. However, there are marked differences by type of employment arrangement. Those on fixed term or casual working arrangements show markedly lower satisfaction levels, with correspondingly higher levels of dissatisfaction. There is a very similar pattern of responses in the two earlier surveys.

Figure 6: Satisfaction with current employment arrangement



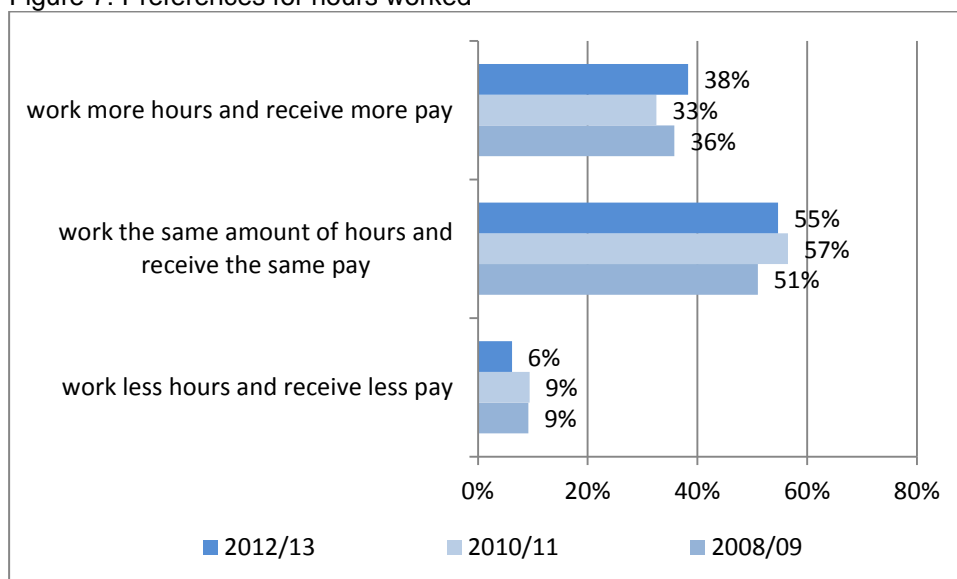
BASE: Those in employment

Question: if you had the opportunity, would you choose to:

- work more hours and receive more pay
- work the same amount of hours and receive the same pay
- work less hours and receive less pay

Just over half of employed respondents (55%) said they would still prefer to work the same amount of hours and at the same pay. Thirty eight per cent of them said they would choose to work more hours and receive more pay. This is an increase over the 2008/09 level (36%) and follows the drop to 33 per cent in 2010/11. Preference for working longer hours at more pay is mirrored by a drop in preference to work fewer hours at less pay.

Figure 7: Preferences for hours worked

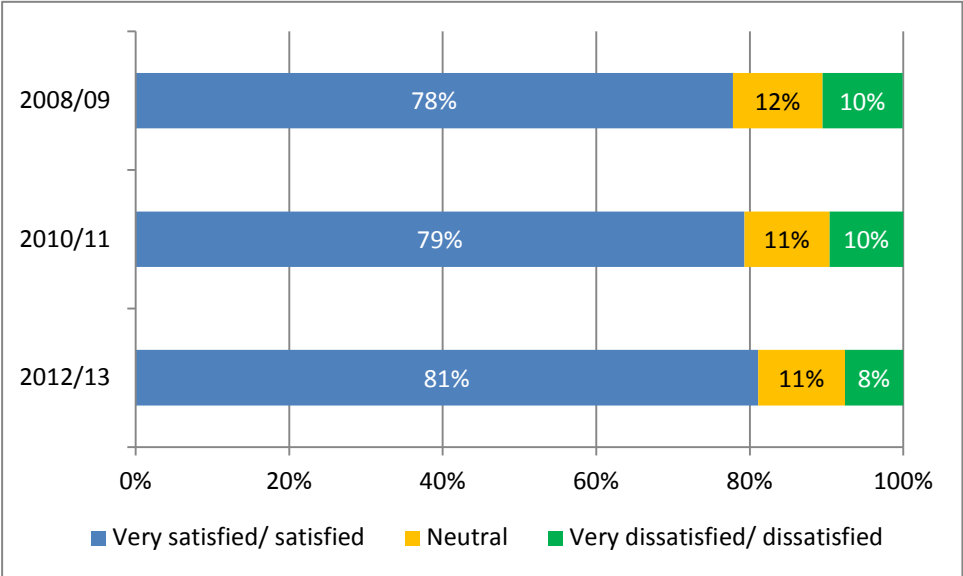


BASE: Those in employment

Question: Think about the last four weeks in your job. How do you feel about your job?

The majority of employed respondents (81%) said they were very satisfied or satisfied with their jobs. Compared to the previous surveys, job satisfaction appears to be on a slight but rising trend, with 78 per cent being satisfied in 2008/09 and 79 per cent in 2010/11. In all three surveys, dissatisfaction was at 10 per cent or less.

Figure 8: Job satisfaction



BASE: Those in employment

2.5 Standard of Living

This section reports how respondents rated their standard of living, and their satisfaction with that. It looks at material well-being in terms of possession of common household items, and participation in common activities. It also looks at the measures people take in order to save money which might compromise their well-being.

2.5.1 Possession of common household and personal items

Question: I'm now going to ask you about some things you may or may not have. By have, I mean have access to in your household.

Do you have –

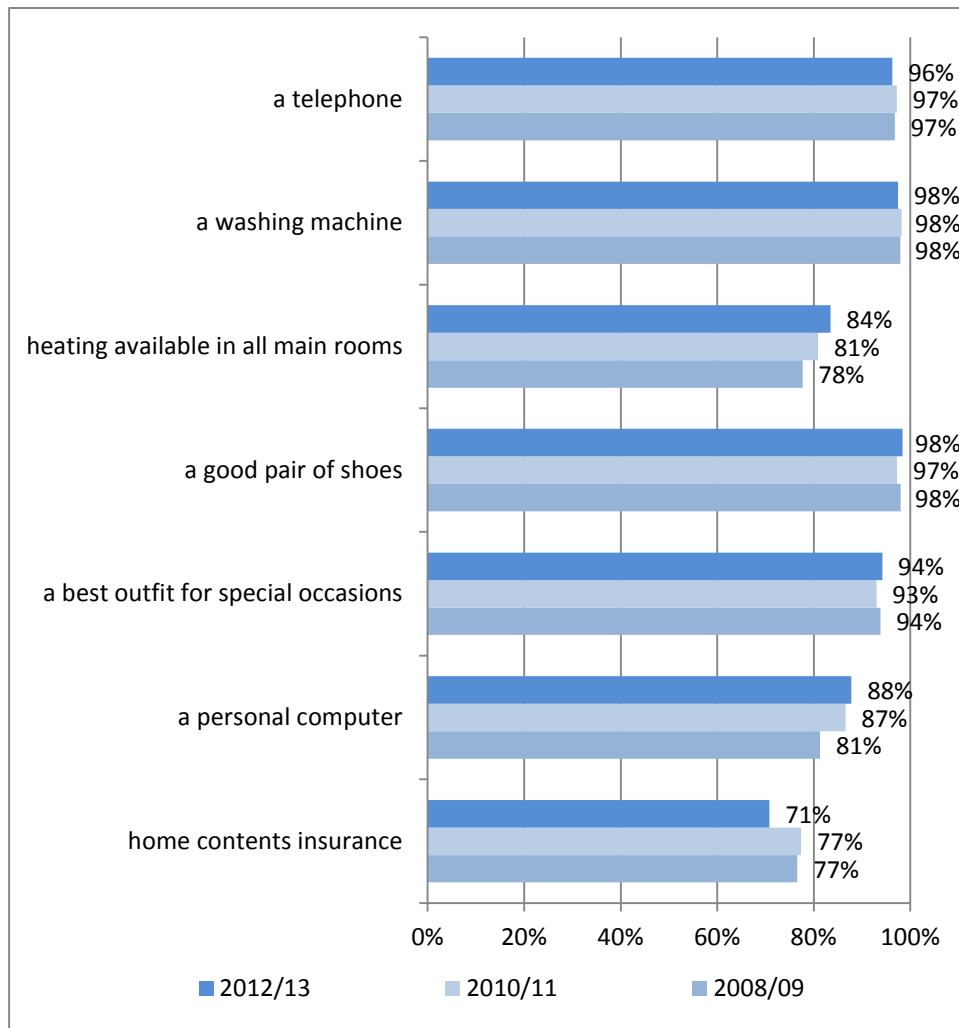
- a telephone?
- a washing machine?
- heating available in all main rooms?
- a good pair of shoes?
- a best outfit for special occasions?
- a personal computer?
- home contents insurance?

The majority of respondents said they have or have access to these items. Nearly all have a telephone (96%), a washing machine (96%), a good pair of shoes (98%), a best outfit for special occasions (94%) and a personal computer (88%).

Comparatively fewer have heating available in all rooms (84%) and home contents insurance (71%).

Compared to previous surveys, as shown in figure 7 below, there have been gains since 2008/09 for having heating available in all main rooms (from 78% to 84%), and for possession or access to a personal computer (from 81% to 88%). However, there has been a decline in having home contents insurance, from 77 per cent in 2008/09 to 71%.

Figure 9: Possession of common household items



BASE: Total sample aged 18 and over

Question: Is the reason you don't have [item] because you don't want it, because of the cost, or some other reason?

For those not possessing an item, cost is a dominant factor, particularly for home heating and home contents insurance. Cost was cited as an impediment to ownership as follows:

- Telephone (60% of those not possessing this);
- Washing machine (54%);
- Heating in all main rooms (56%);
- Good pair of shoes (89%);
- Best outfit for special occasions (59%);
- Personal computer (43%);
- Home contents insurance (59%).

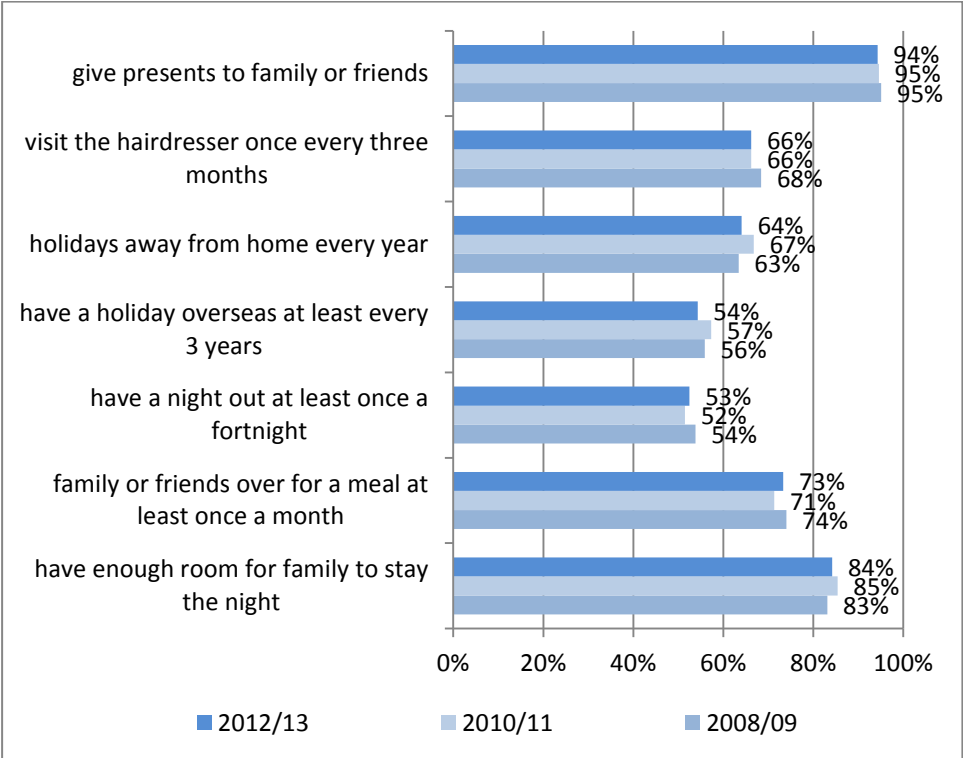
2.5.2 Ability to participate in common activities

Question: Now I am going to ask you about some different activities that you may or may not do. Can you tell me whether you –

- give presents to family or friends on birthdays, Christmas, or other special occasions?
- visit the hairdresser once every three months?
- have holidays away from home every year?
- have a holiday overseas at least every 3 years?
- have a night out at least once a fortnight?
- have family or friends over for a meal at least once a month?
- have enough room for family to stay the night?

Most respondents have given presents to family or friends (94%) and had enough room for family to stay the night (84%). Still common but less so were having family or friends over for a meal at least once a month (73%), visits to hairdressers once every three months (66%), and holidays away from home every year (64%). Only around half of respondents had overseas holidays at least once every three years (54%), or had a night out at least once a fortnight (52%). These levels of occurrence have hardly changed since the 2008/09 survey.

Figure 10: Participation in common activities



BASE: Total sample aged 18 and over

Question: Is the reason you don't have [activity] because you don't want it, because of the cost, or some other reason?

Cost is a dominant factor only for not having holidays away from home every year (63%), and not having overseas holidays at least every three years (68%). Not wanting it is highest for not having a night out at least once a fortnight (24%), followed by not visiting a hairdresser once every three months (18%).

2.5.3 Keeping costs down

Question: In the last 12 months, have you done any of these things 'not at all', 'a little', or 'a lot'?⁵

- gone without fresh fruit and vegetables to help keep down costs?
- continued wearing clothing that was worn out because you couldn't afford a replacement?
- put off buying clothing for as long as possible to help keep down costs?
- stayed in bed longer to save on heating costs?
- postponed or put off visits to the doctor to help keep down costs?
- NOT picked up a prescription to help keep down costs?
- spent less time on hobbies than you would like to help keep down costs?
- done without or cut back on trips to the shops or other local places to help keep down costs?

A quarter of respondents aged 18 years and over (26%) have done at least one of the above a “lot” to save on costs. Eleven per cent have done one of the things, seven per cent two of them, four per cent three of them, and four per cent four or more of them. Specific costs saving measures used “a lot” and “a little” (combined) or “a lot” are summarised in the table below.

Table 2: Cost savings actions

	a lot %	a little or a lot %
going without fresh fruit and vegetables	2	16
continued wearing of clothing that was worn out because one couldn't afford a replacement	5	24
putting off buying clothing for as long as possible	15	48
staying in bed longer	3	10
postponing or putting off visits to the doctor	4	18
not picking up a prescription	1	8
spending less time on hobbies	13	39
doing without or cutting back on trips to the shops or other local places	14	47

BASE: Total sample aged 18 and over

These levels are consistent with those found in the previous surveys.

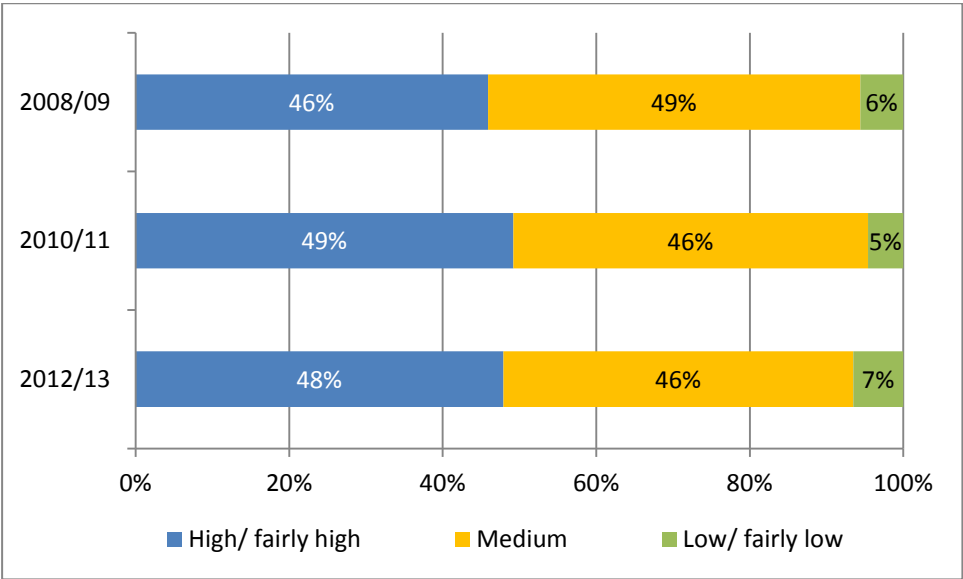
⁵ Note that this question is asked of respondents aged 18 and over.

2.5.4 Personal assessment of one’s standard of living

Question: Generally, how would you rate your standard of living?

Overall, nearly half of respondents (48%) rated their standard of living as being “high” or “fairly high”. Most of the remainder, 46 per cent, regarded their standard of living as being “medium”. At the extremes, 16 per cent rated their standard of living as being “high”, and one per cent as “low”. These findings are very similar to those recorded in the two previous surveys.

Figure 11: Personal ratings of standard of living

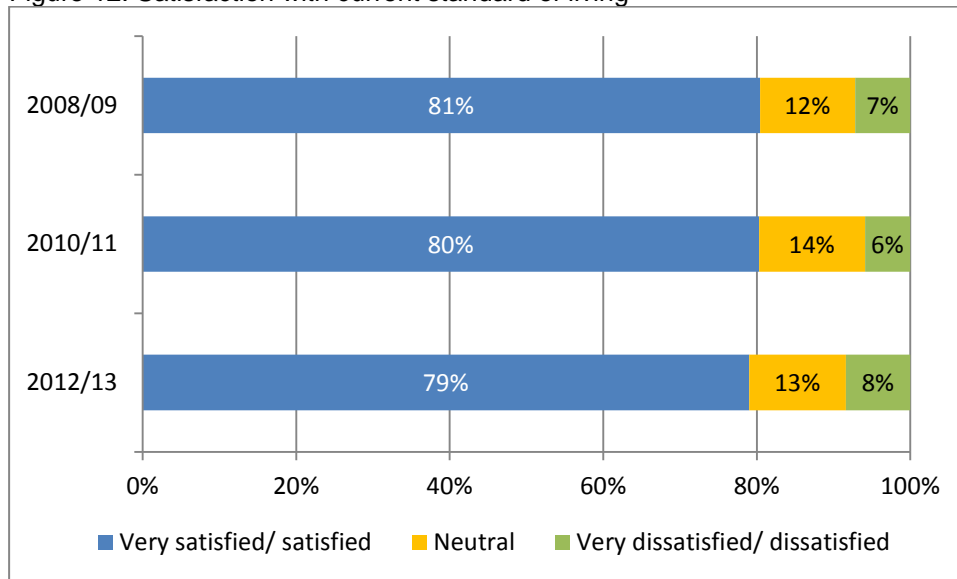


BASE: Total sample

Question: Generally, how satisfied are you with your current standard of living?

The majority of respondents (79%) said they were “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with their standard of living. Eight per cent said they were “dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied”. The remainder (13%) were neutral. Again, these findings were consistent with those of the previous two surveys.

Figure 12: Satisfaction with current standard of living

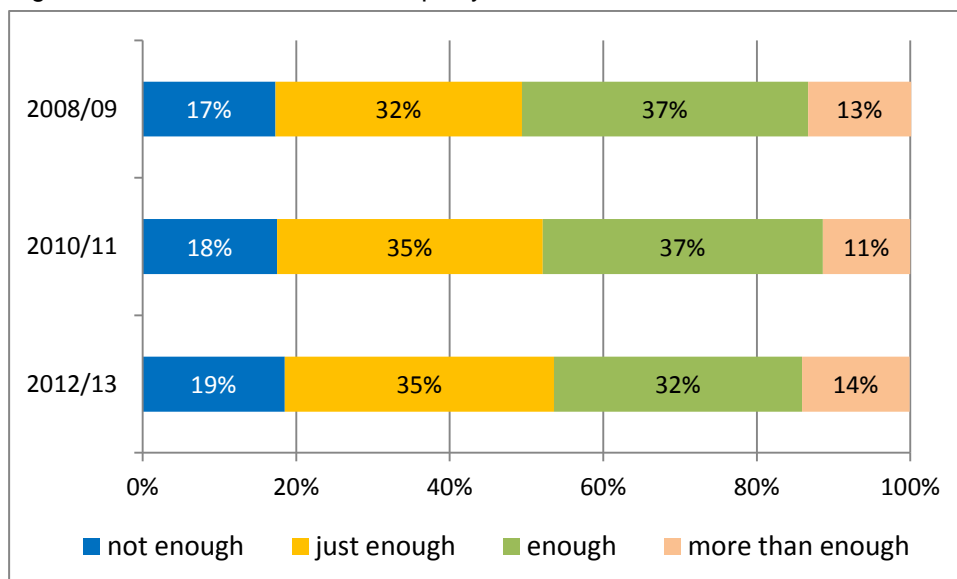


BASE: Total sample

Question: Would you say you have, not enough money, just enough money, enough money, or more than enough money?

Nineteen per cent of respondents said they did not have enough income to meet everyday needs, such as accommodation, food, clothing and other necessities. A third (32%) said they had just enough. The remainder, just under half of all respondents (46%) said they had enough or more than enough. No change in these levels is evident over the three surveys.

Figure 13: Perceived financial adequacy



BASE: Total sample

2.6 Housing

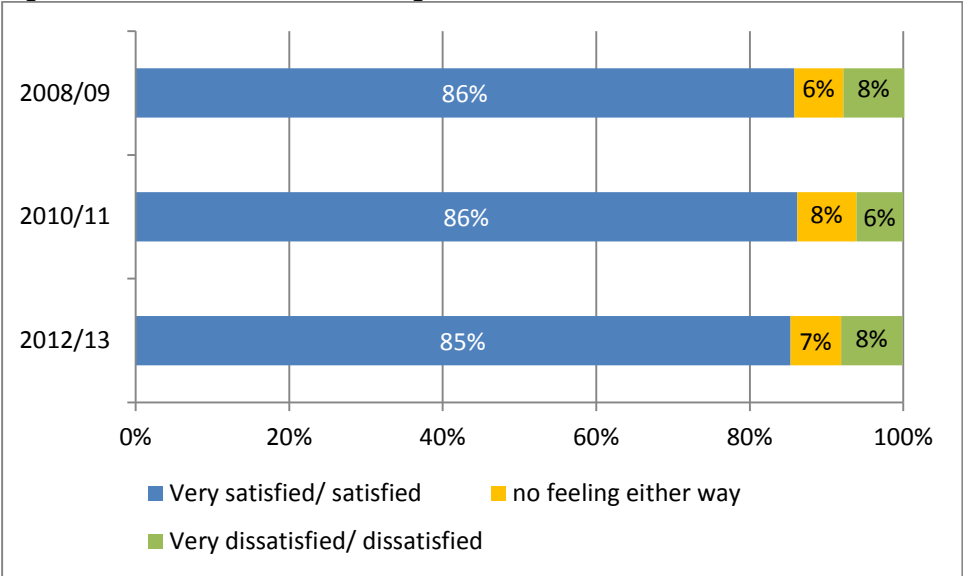
This section is about how satisfied people are with where they are currently living, whether there are major problems with their dwelling or with their neighbourhood.

2.6.1 Satisfaction with dwelling

Question: How do you feel about where you are currently living?

Most respondents (85%) said they were “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with where they are currently living. Eight per cent said they were “dissatisfied” or “very dissatisfied”. These satisfaction levels are virtually unchanged over the three surveys.

Figure 14: Satisfaction with dwelling



BASE: Total sample

2.6.2 Incidence of major problems with the dwelling

Question: First, think about any major problems you have with this house/flat. Looking at [card prompt], are any of these things major problems for you? You can choose as many as you need.

Around a third of respondents (34%) said there was at least one major problem with their house or flat. This is at the same level as reported in the 2010/11 survey, but well below the 53 per cent reported in 2008/09. Eighteen per cent of respondents reported one major problem with their dwelling, a further nine per cent had two major problems, five per cent had three, and two per cent had four or more major problems.

The main problems reported are:

- Too cold or difficult to heat/ keep warm (15% of all respondents);
- Too small (11%);
- Damp (10%);
- Too expensive (8%);
- Poor condition (6%);
- Pests such as mice or insects (5%).

The incidence of these problems is consistent across all three survey periods.

2.6.3 Incidence of major problems with residential areas

Question: Next, think about any major problems you have with the street or neighbourhood. Looking at [card prompt], are any of these things major problems for you? You can choose as many as you need.

A quarter of respondents reported that there was a major problem with their street or neighbourhood. Sixteen per cent of respondents said there was one major problem, six per cent reported two, and three per cent reported three or more major problems.

The main problems with street or neighbourhood were:

- Noise or vibration (reported by 11% of all respondents)
- Problem neighbours (6%);
- Barking dogs (5%).

Overall there has been a slight decline in reporting a major problem with the area, from 29 per cent incidence to 26 per cent. Individual factors are at similar levels.

2.7. Physical environment

This section is about amenities and includes ease of access to facilities as well as their condition, the quality of public transport, and the quality of council services such as water supply, drainage, rubbish collection, and roads. It also looks at residents' energy and water conservation practices and their reasons for these. The theme of conservation is extended to include residents' perceptions of the condition of natural water-based areas they have such as lakes, rivers, harbours, oceans and coastlines, and how accessible these are. Similarly, land-based natural areas such as native bush, forests, nature reserves, and open green spaces are also included. Finally, preparedness for natural disasters is reported.

2.7.1 Access to and quality of local amenities.

Local amenities include shops, schools, post shops, libraries, medical services, and others.

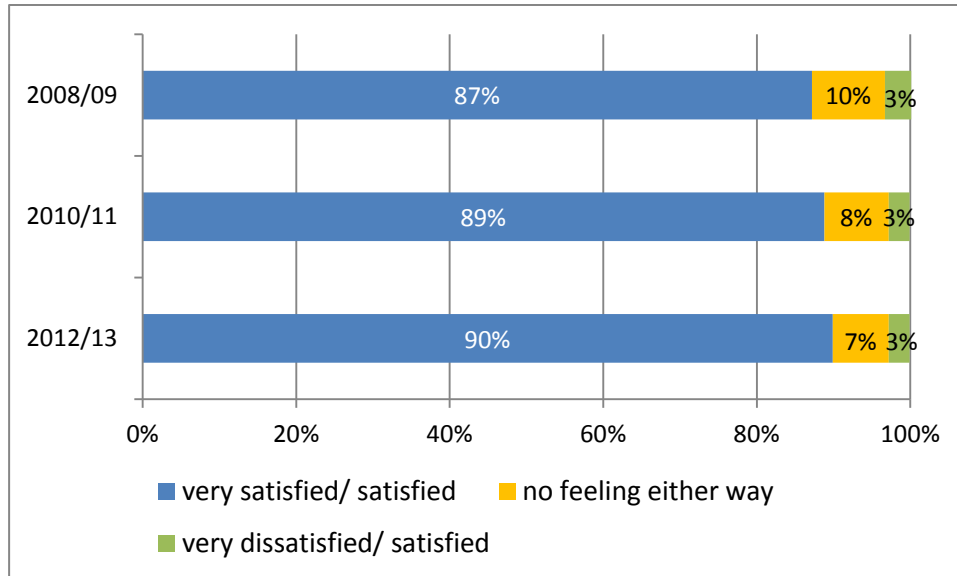
Question: overall, how many of the facilities that you want to go to can you easily get to?

Nearly all respondents (91%) said they could easily get to all or most amenities "all" or "most of the time". Fifty-nine per cent said they could "all of the time". Less than three per cent were able to get to none or a few of them easily. These results are very similar to those obtained in the two previous surveys.

Question: How do you feel about the condition of facilities in your town, city or rural area?

Nearly all respondents (89%) reported they were "very satisfied" or "satisfied" with the condition of their facilities, with 27 per cent saying they were "very satisfied". Less than three per cent expressed dissatisfaction. Satisfaction levels rose slightly from 87 per cent in 2008/09 to 90 per cent in 2012/13.

Figure 15: Satisfaction with quality of local amenities



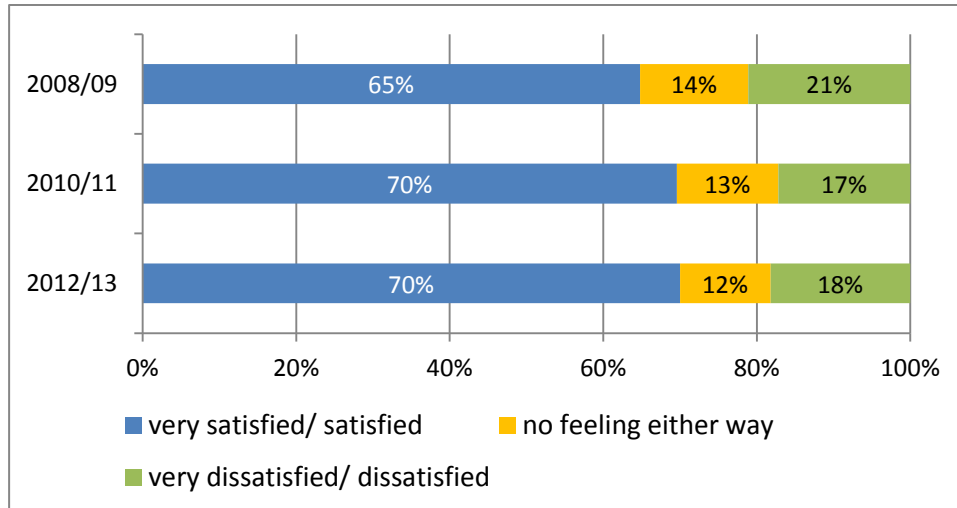
BASE: Those to whom at least one of the listed facilities is relevant, less non-response

2.7.2 Satisfaction with access to public transport

Question: How do you feel about your access to public transport in your town, city or rural area?

This question was asked of residents for whom public transport was both available and relevant (n=1292, being around 66% of respondents). Of these respondents seventy per cent were “very satisfied” or “satisfied”. Eighteen per cent were “very dissatisfied” or “dissatisfied”. Comparing satisfaction levels to previous surveys, there was very little variation in being “very satisfied”, but the level of “satisfied” grew from 46 per cent in 2008/09 to 50 per cent most recently. Most of this gain has been matched by declines in both neutral and negative ratings.

Figure 16: Satisfaction with access to public transport

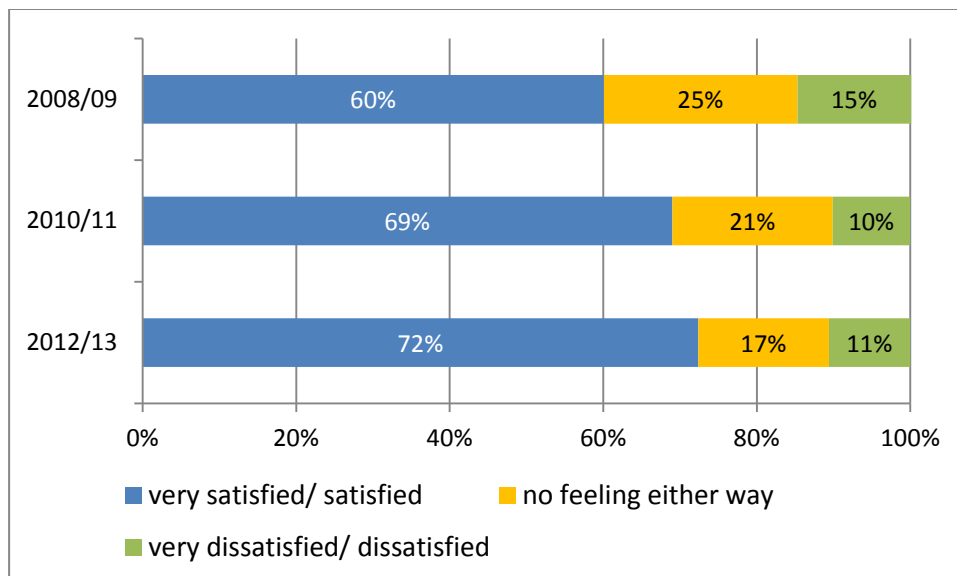


BASE: Those for whom public transport is both available and relevant, less non-response

Question: How do you feel about the condition of the public transport vehicles, such as buses and trains in your town, city or rural area?

Of those for whom public transport was both relevant and available, 72 per cent were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with the condition of public transport vehicles. Eleven per cent were “very dissatisfied” or “dissatisfied”. A marked rise in satisfaction level is evident since the 2008/09 survey, from 60 per cent to 72 per cent.

Figure 17: Satisfaction with condition of public transport



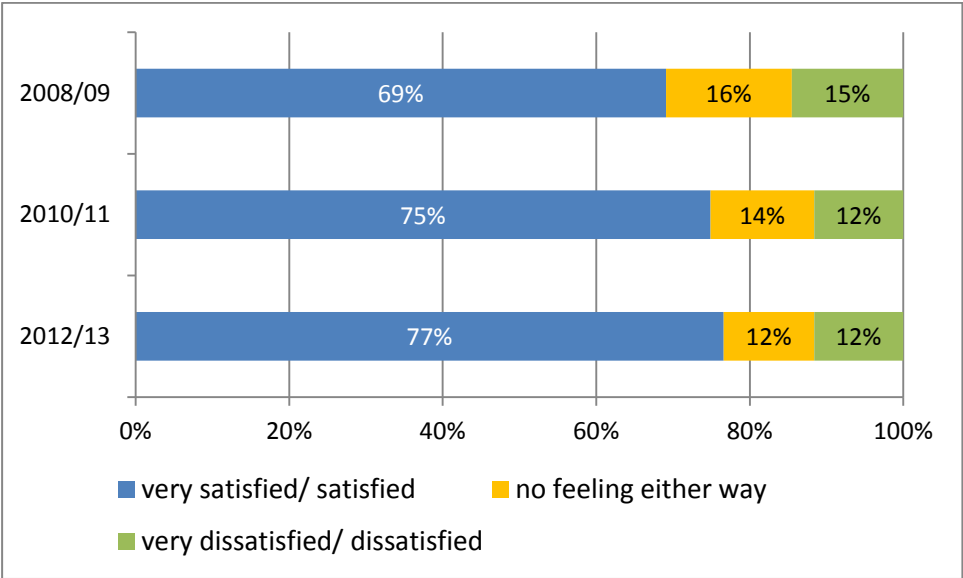
BASE: Those for whom public transport is both available and relevant, less non-response

2.7.3 Satisfaction with quality of council services

Question: Overall, how do you feel about the quality of council services such as water supply, drainage, rubbish collection and roads in your town, city or rural area?

This question was asked of respondents who had access to council services (n=1945, being nearly all survey respondents). Just over three-quarters (77%) stated they were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with these core services. This represents a two per cent rise since 2010/11, and a more marked rise from 69 per cent in 2008/09. Twelve per cent of respondents were “very dissatisfied” or “dissatisfied”.

Figure 18: Satisfaction with quality of council services



BASE: Those having access to council services

2.7.4 Conservation of energy and water

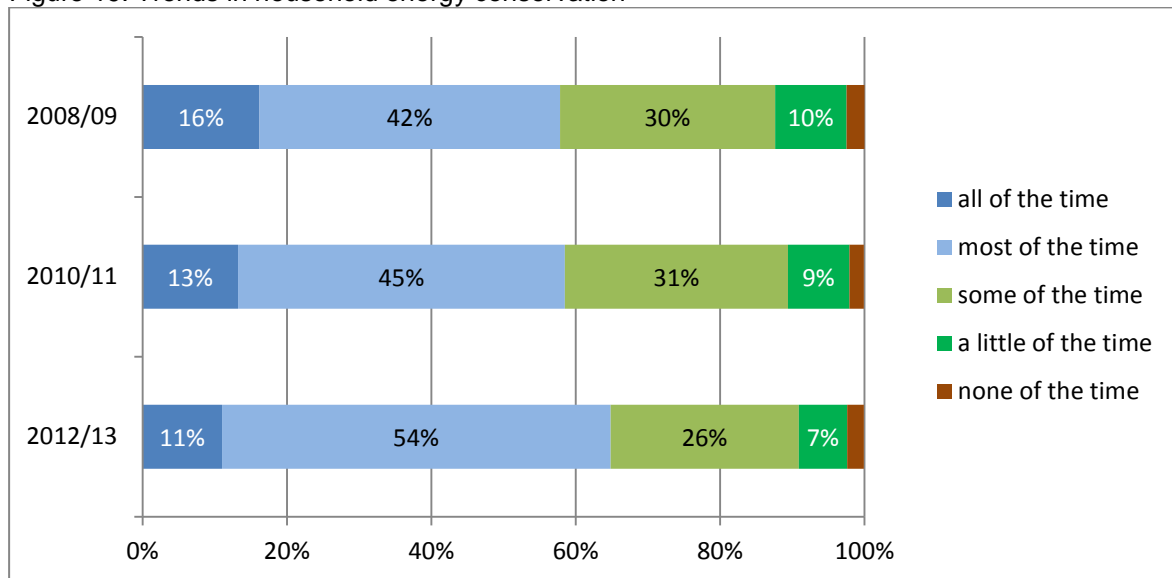
Question: Of the things that you know you can recycle, how much of this does your household actually recycle?

The majority of residents (86%) reported that their household recycled “all” or “most” of what they could recycle. These levels are consistent over the three surveys.

Question: How often does your household do things to minimise energy use?

While around two-thirds of respondents (65%) take energy-savings actions “all” or “most of the time”, just over one-in-ten (11%) do so “all of the time”. Only two per cent do so “none of the time”. Households taking energy conservation measures “all or most” of the time have risen since 2008/09 (then at 59%). However, there has been a decline in energy conservation “all of the time”, from 16 per cent in 2008/09 through 13 per cent in 2010/11 to 11 per cent in 2012/13. Most of the rise in energy conservation is accounted for by a decline for households conserving energy “some” or “a little” of the time.

Figure 19: Trends in household energy conservation



BASE: All households

Question: What are the reasons your household does things to minimise energy use?

Most of those practicing energy conservation (66%) gave a non-environmental reason for doing so. A third (33%) gave at least one environmental reason.

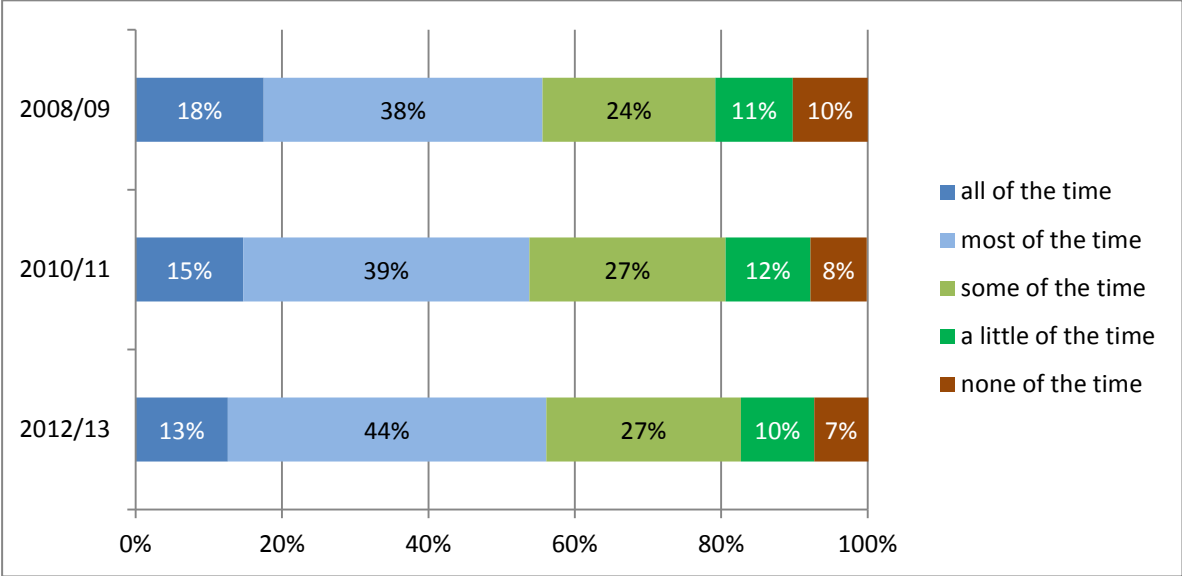
Question: How often does your household do things to minimise water use?

Just over half of respondents (56%) said their household does things to minimise water use “all” or “most of the time”. This level is consistent with the two previous surveys.

However, over time, declines in conserving water “all of the time” are evident, from 18 per cent in 2008/09, to 15 per cent in 2010/11, and then to 13 per cent in 2012/13. Decrease in water conservation is not universal, as an increase in practicing at least some water conservation is also evident, as shown by the decrease in those

conserving water “none of the time”, from 10 per cent in 2008/09 to seven per cent in 2012/13, and also by an increase in water conservation “some” or “a little of the time” from 24 per cent in 2008/09 to 38 per cent in 2010/11 and 37 per cent in 2012/13.

Figure 20: Trends in household water conservation



BASE: All households

Question: What are the reasons your household does things to minimise water use?

The majority of respondents (59%) practiced water conservation for reasons other than environmental. A third of all respondents (32%) cited at least one environmental reason for conserving water. This compares with 43 per cent in 2010/11 and 39 per cent in 2008/09.

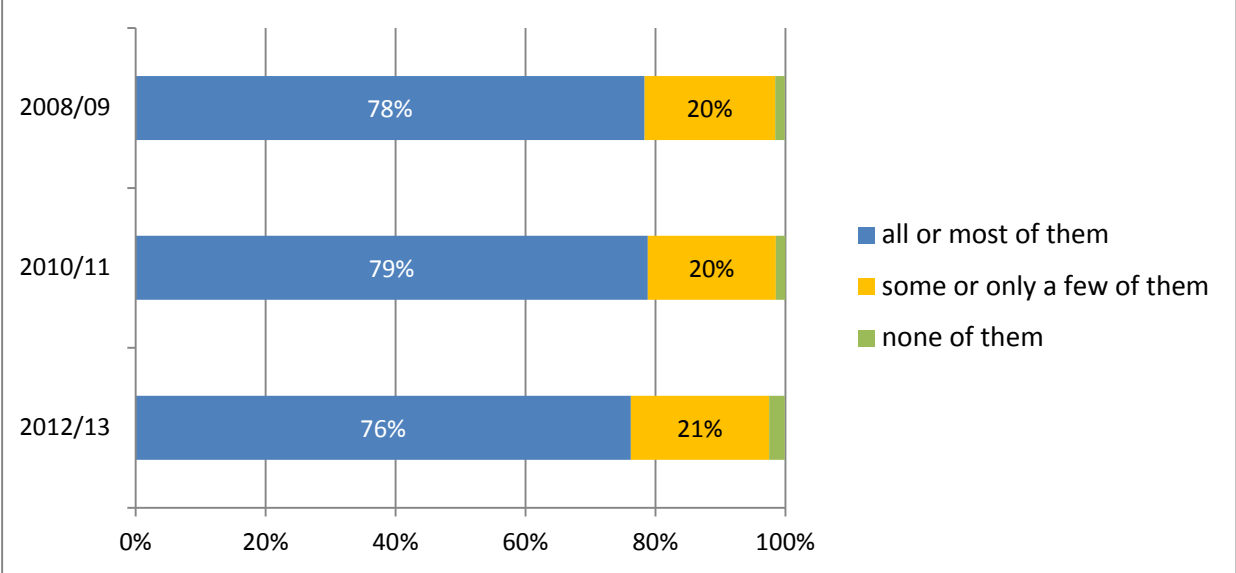
2.7.5 Satisfaction with and access to the natural environment

Question: How many of the lakes, rivers, harbours, oceans and coastlines in your local area can you easily get to?

Three-quarters (76%) of respondents who said they wanted access (n=1910, being 97% of the total sample) reported they could easily access “all” or “most” parts of the water-based natural environment in their local area. Only two per cent of respondents wanting access said they could not get it. These figures are close to the findings of the previous two surveys. Note however that there appears to be a decline in being

able to access “all of them”. Whereas 39 per cent could access “all of them” in 2008/09, 34 per cent could do so in 2010/11 and 32 per cent in 2012/13.

Figure 21: Ease of access to water-based natural environment

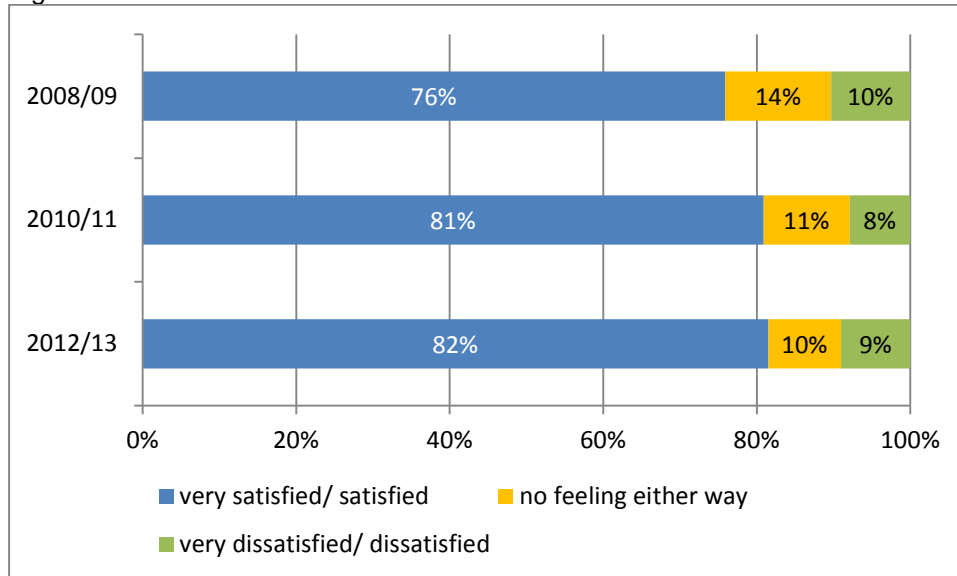


BASE: Those having or wanting access

Question: How do you feel about the state of the lakes, rivers, harbours, oceans and coastlines that you've been to?

Most respondents (82%) reported they were “very satisfied” or “satisfied” with state of the water-based natural environment they had visited. There has been a rise in satisfaction level from 76 per cent in 2008/09, through 81 per cent in 2010/11, to 82 per cent most recently.

Figure 22: Satisfaction with condition of water-based natural environment

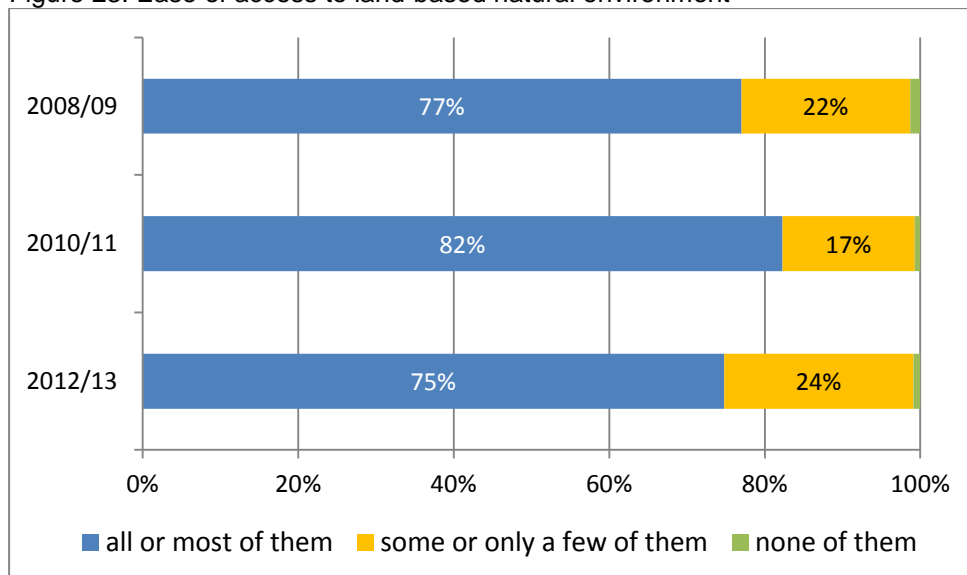


BASE: Total Sample (excluding "housebound")

Question: How many of the native bush, forest, nature reserve or open green spaces in your local area can you easily get to?

Of those respondents who would like to have access to local native bush, nature reserves, and open green spaces (n=1900, being 96% of all respondents), 75 per cent said they could easily get to "all" or "most" of them. This compares with 82 per cent in 2010/11, and 77 per cent in 2008/09.

Figure 23: Ease of access to land-based natural environment

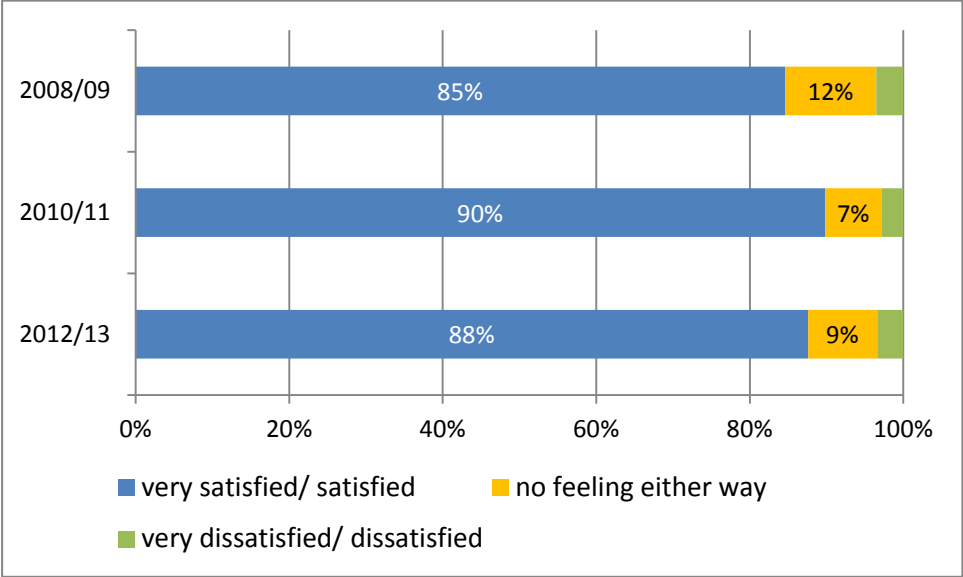


BASE: Total Sample, less "housebound" and non-response

Question: How do you feel about the state of the native bush, forests, nature reserves, and open green spaces been to?

Satisfaction level is recorded for those who would like access to such land-based natural locations but excludes those who have not been to any (n=1867, or 95% of all respondents). Eighty-eight per cent of those respondents said they were “very satisfied” or “satisfied”. Satisfaction levels are similar across the three surveys.

Figure 24: Satisfaction with condition of land-based natural environment



2.7.6 Preparedness for natural disaster

Question: There are many things that households may do to prepare for natural disasters such as earthquakes and tidal waves. Does your household have the following?

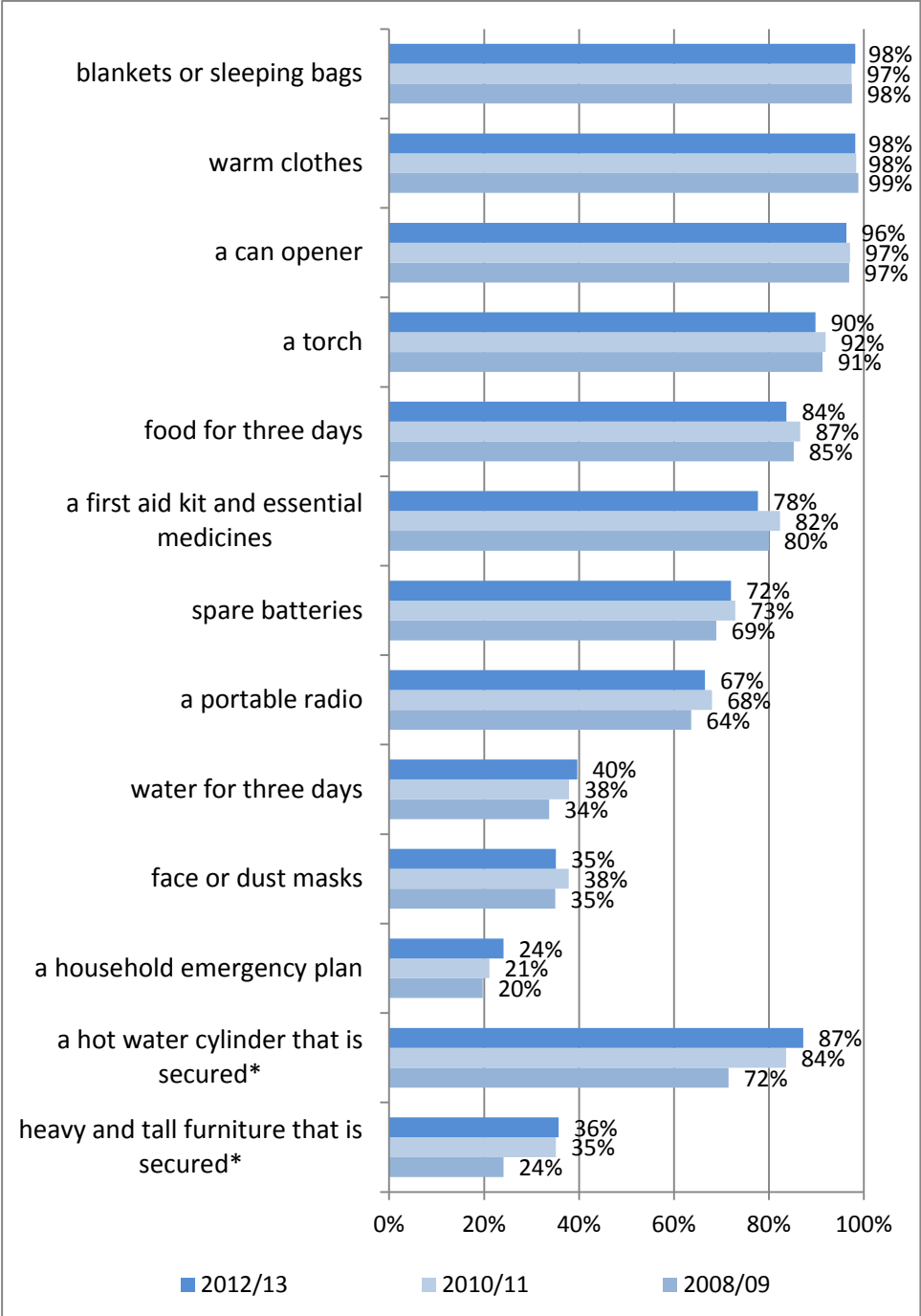
Levels of preparedness, compared to the two previous surveys, are summarised in figure 25 on the following page.

Shortcomings in levels of preparedness are indicated by the decreasing proportions of households possessing key items.

Nearly all households were well prepared in having blankets or sleeping bags (98%), warm clothes (98%) and a can opener (96%). They were least prepared in having water for three days (40%), face or dust masks (35%) or a household emergency plan (24%).

Over the period of the three surveys, strongest gains are evident for having secured heavy furniture, which rose from 24 per cent in 2008/09, through 35 per cent in 2010/11 to 36 per cent in 2012/13, and for secured hot water cylinders, which rose from 72 per cent in 2008/09, through 84 per cent in 2010/11, to 87 per cent in 2012/13. Smaller gains are noted for having water for three days, which rose from 34 per cent, through 38 per cent to 40 per cent, and for having a household emergency plan, which rose from 20 per cent in 2008/09 to 24 per cent in 2012/13.

Figure 25: Items possessed in preparedness for a natural disaster



BASE: All households, except where marked with an *. These percentages are based on households possessing the item.

2.8 Safety and security

This section deals with respondents’ perceptions of personal safety in five common situations, experience of crime, and the consequences of those experiences. Accidents and harms and their consequences at work, in traffic, and in domestic situations are also described.

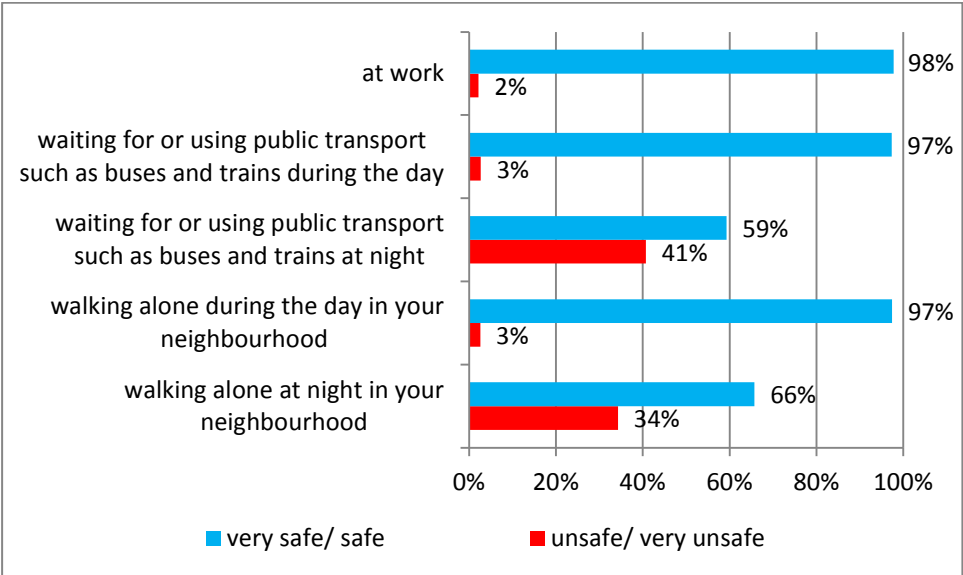
2.8.1 Perception of personal safety in common situations

Question: In your day-to-day life, overall, how safe do you feel in the following situations?

- at work
- waiting for or using public transport such as buses and trains during the day
- waiting for or using public transport such as buses and trains at night
- walking alone during the day in your neighbourhood
- walking alone at night in your neighbourhood.

Nearly all respondents (over 97%) reported feeling “safe” or “very safe” in all daytime situations. However, ratings of safety dropped markedly for the two night time situations, *waiting for or using public transport such as buses and trains at night* (59%) and *walking alone at night in your neighbourhood* (66%).

Figure 26: Perceived safety levels in common situations



BASES: All respondents present in each situation

Looking at ratings of “very safe” it appears that there are different perceived levels of risk associated with each situation. Over half of respondents (54%) rated *work* as “very safe”, closely followed by *walking alone during the day in your neighbourhood* (43%). However, ratings of “very safe” are lower for *waiting for or using public transport such as buses and trains during the day* (35%). Ratings of “very safe” fall to low levels in the two night time situations. Only nine per cent rate *waiting for or using public transport such as buses and trains at night*, and 12 per cent rate *walking alone at night in your neighbourhood* as being “very safe”.

Ratings of “safe” or “very safe” appear almost unchanged since the 2010/11 survey.⁶ Apart from a drop in ratings of “very safe” from 48 per cent to 43 per cent for *walking alone during the day in your neighbourhood*, ratings of “very safe” are consistent as well.

2.8.2 Experience of crime and its consequences

Question: In the last 12 months, did you have any crimes committed against you? This could be anything from harassment, assault, or verbal abuse, to theft, vandalism or arson.

Question: Was there more than one crime?

Question: Was there violence involved/ How many of these crimes involved violence?

One-in-seven respondents (15%) said they had at least one crime committed against them in the 12 months prior to interview. Five per cent experienced more than one crime. Two per cent said the crime or crimes involved violence. The incidence of experience of crime is summarised in Table 3 below.

Table 3: Incidence of experience of crime

	2008/09 (N=1896)	2010/11 (N=1957)	2012/13 (N=1968)
In the last 12 months, did you have any crimes committed against you?	18%	17%	15%
Was there more than one crime?	7%	6%	5%
One crime- violence involved	2%	2%	1%
More than one crime/ violence involved	2%	2%	1%
<i>Any violent crime</i>	4%	4%	2%

This table shows a decrease in the incidence of crime from 18 per cent in 2008/09 to 15 per cent in 2012/13.

⁶ Note that differences in scales used preclude comparisons with the 2008/09 survey.

Question: Did any of these things happen to you as a result of that crime/those crimes involving violence?

A small sample of respondents (n=43) reported what happened to them as a result of having a violent crime committed against them, as follows:

- experienced emotional hurt or severe distress (61%);
- had costs to cover or things to replace or repair (41%);
- physical injury or health problem (26%);
- nothing happened (11%);
- had another thing happen (5%).

Base numbers are too low to permit comparisons across the three surveys.

Question: Overall, what effect has that crime/have those crimes involving violence had on your quality of life?

Of these respondents, 17 per cent said their quality of life was significantly worse, for 26 per cent it was slightly worse, for 39 per cent it had no effect, and for 17 per cent it worked out better in the end.

Question: Did any of these things happen to you as a result of that non-violent crime/those non-violent crimes?

Those respondents who had suffered any non-violent crime (n=57) reported the following consequences of non-violent crime:

- experienced emotional hurt or severe distress (32%);
- had costs to cover or things to replace or repair (60%);
- physical injury or health problem (1%);
- nothing happened (21%);
- had another thing happen (2%).

Question: Overall, what effect has that non-violent crime/those non-violent crimes had on your quality of life?

Of respondents experiencing non-violent crime, eight per cent said their quality of life was significantly worse, 22 per cent said it was slightly worse, for 59 per cent there was no effect, and for 11 per cent it worked out better in the end.

2.8.3 Work place injury and its consequences

Question: In the last 12 months, did you have any kind of physical health problem or injury while working? This could be anything from an accident to a long term back problem or Occupational Overuse Syndrome.

Around one in eight respondents in work (12%) said they had had a physical health problem or injury while working in the previous 12 months. This equates to nine per cent of all respondents. The incidence of work-related injury or problem is about the same in all three surveys.

Question: Did this cause you to have any additional costs, loss of money or income?

Around half (53%) of those affected (n=171) said it caused them to have additional costs, loss of money, or income.

Question: In the last 12 months, did you experience any emotional hurt or severe distress because of work?

Around one-in-eight of employed respondents (12%) said they had experienced work-related emotional hurt or severe distress. This represents a decline since 2008/09 and 2010/11 when 16 per cent had a problem.

Question: Did this cause you to have any additional costs, loss of money or income?

Of those experiencing emotional hurt or severe distress (n=162), 33 per cent said there were additional costs, loss of money, or income. The two previous surveys showed similar levels.

Question: Overall, what effect have all those incidents at work had on your quality of life?

Of those who had experienced work-related injury or emotional distress (n=289), around half (47%) said there was no effect on their quality of life. For 37 per cent it was slightly worse, and for five per cent it was significantly worse. Eleven per cent said it had worked out better in the end. These outcomes were at very similar levels in the two previous surveys.

2.8.4 Incidence of traffic accidents and their consequences

These questions were directed at all road users, including being a driver, a passenger, pedestrian or cyclist.

Question: In the last 12 months, have you had any traffic accidents?

Eight per cent of all respondents reported that they had had a traffic accident in the previous twelve months. There has been a decline in accidents since 2010/11 (11%) and 2008/09 (10%).

Question: Was there more than one accident?

Of those involved in any traffic accident (n=147), 17 per cent had more than one. Compared to the previous surveys the levels are similar.

Question: Did any of these things happen to you as a result of that accident/those accidents?

For those respondents involved in any traffic accident, 42 per cent had costs to cover or things to replace or repair, 14 per cent had a physical injury or health problem, 12 per cent experienced emotional hurt or health problem, and for 40 per cent, nothing happened.

Question: Overall, what effect has that/have those accidents had on your quality of life?

Overall, for those involved in a traffic accident, there was no effect on quality of life for the majority of them (76%). For 15 per cent it was slightly worse, and for two per cent, it was significantly worse. For six per cent, it worked out better in the end. Compared to 2010/11, the levels were the same. There was no data for 2008/09.

2.8.5 Incidence of domestic-related accidents and their consequences

Question: In the last 12 months, have you had anything else happen to you that you have not already mentioned? For example, accidents at home, or while on holiday, or things that happened in your leisure time. Did more than one thing happen to you?

Few respondents (6%) reported being involved in any other type of accident.

Of those who experienced a domestic-related accident (n=126), 26 per cent had had more than one.

Question: Did any of these things happen to you as a result of that accident/those accidents?

Most of these respondents reported they had a physical injury or health problem (84%). Twenty per cent had costs to cover or things to replace or repair, and 11 per cent had experienced emotional hurt or severe distress. For nine per cent, nothing happened.

Question: Overall, what effect has that incident/those incidents had on your quality of life?

For 44 per cent of those respondents, there was no effect on their quality of life. For 46 per cent it was slightly worse, and for five per cent, it was significantly worse. For another five per cent it worked out better in the end.

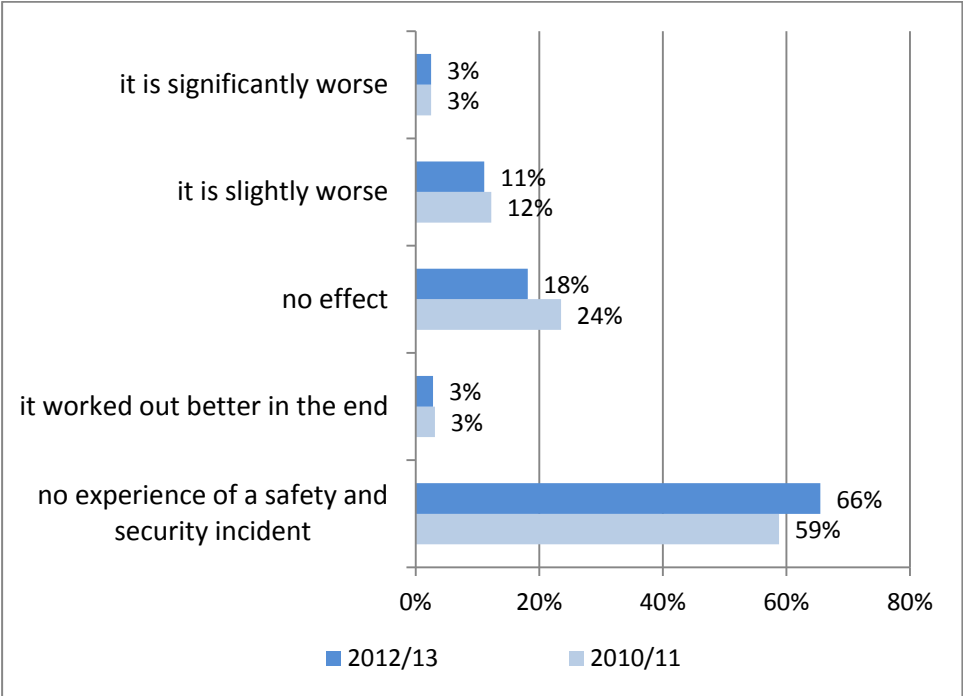
2.8.6 The overall effect of safety or security incidents

Data were amalgamated to provide an assessment of overall effects of any occurrence of crime, work accident, traffic accident or any other domestic-related accident on quality of life. If there was more than one occurrence, the most adverse outcome was recorded.

Of all respondents, a third (34%) had experienced some incident of accident or crime in the past year. Eighteen per cent had experienced some incident but there was no effect on their quality of life. Eleven per cent experienced slightly worse quality of life as a result of some incident, and for three per cent it was significantly worse. For three per cent of respondents, their quality of life turned out slightly better in the end.

Compared to the previous survey in 2010/11, a larger proportion of residents (41%) had experienced some safety or security incident, being a rise from 34 per cent. Also, a larger proportion of respondents (24% compared to 18%) had reported no effect on their quality of life. Otherwise, similar proportions reported slightly worse or significantly worse outcomes for their quality of life.⁷

Figure 27: Overall effect of any safety or security incident on quality of life



BASE: Total sample

⁷ No data is recorded for the 2008/08 survey.

2.9 Support across households

One of the key indicators of social cohesion is the extent to which people help family and relatives not living in the same household. Specific categories considered are:

- Children aged under 18 years
- Children aged 18 to 24 years
- Family or relatives aged under 18 years
- Family or relatives aged 18 to 24 years
- Family or relatives aged 25 to 64 years
- Relatives aged 65 years and over.

2.9.1 Types of support for children living elsewhere

Question: Do you or your partner have any children aged under 18 who don't live with you? Do you [you or your partner] give any of them any of these types of support?

Five per cent of respondents had children aged under 18 and not living with them (n=107).

Nearly all of them (93%) provided at least one kind of support, as follows:

- providing or paying for needed clothing (56%);
- giving them money for educational costs or text books (43%);
- paying child support (39%);
- having them stay with them some of the time (37%);
- providing or paying for groceries (36%);
- giving them pocket money or an allowance (30%);
- by providing transport on regular basis (29%);
- providing childcare or child minding (20%);
- giving them money to pay bills or debt (19%);
- giving them money for big cost items or events (e.g. car, furniture, wedding) (14%);
- giving them money to pay rent or other housing costs (12%);
- helping around the house on a regular basis such as cleaning or gardening (8%);
- providing care to children who are ill or disabled (7%);
- through other means (9%).

Question: How many of them do you give support to?

Sixty per cent of these respondents gave support to one child, a further 26 per cent to two children, nine per cent to three, and five per cent to four or more children.

Question: Do you [you or your partner] have any children aged 18 to 24 who don't live with you? Do you [you or your partner] give any of them any of these types of support?

Eight per cent of respondents had children aged 18 to 24 not living with them (n=166). Two-thirds of those respondents (68%) provided at least one kind of support, as follows:

- giving them money to pay bills or debt (30%);
- providing or paying for needed clothing (29%);
- providing or paying for groceries (28%);
- giving them spending money or an allowance (22%);
- having them stay with them some of the time (21%);
- by providing transport on regular basis (20%);
- giving them money to pay rent or other housing costs (18%);
- giving them money for educational costs or text books (18%);
- giving them money for big cost items or events (e.g. car, furniture, wedding) (13%);
- providing childcare or child minding (10%);
- helping around the house on a regular basis such as cleaning or gardening (5%);
- providing care to children who are ill or disabled (3%);
- paying child support (3%);
- through other means (3%).

Question: How many of them do you give support to?

Fifty eight per cent of these respondents support one child, a further 38 per cent support two children, three per cent support three, and one per cent support four or more children in this age group.

2.9.2 Types of support for other family or relatives living elsewhere

This section deals with other family members who don't live with the respondent. These include parents, brothers, sisters and also any other relatives such as grandparents, uncles or nieces.

Family or relatives aged under 18

Question: [Apart from children you've already told me about] do you [you or your partner] have any family or relatives aged under 18 who don't live with you? Do you [you or your partner] give any of them any of these types of support?

A large proportion of respondents (69%, n=1349) had family or relatives aged under 18 who don't live with them. Twenty seven per cent of them provided some form of support, as follows:

- providing childcare or child minding (12% of those with family or relatives aged under 18 and not living with them);
- having them stay with them some of the time (8%);
- providing or paying for needed clothing (6%);
- giving them spending money or an allowance (6%);
- by providing transport on regular basis (5%);
- giving them money for educational costs or text books (5%);
- providing or paying for groceries (4%);
- giving them money to pay bills or debt (4%);
- giving them money for big cost items or events (e.g. car, furniture, wedding) (3%);
- helping around the house on a regular basis such as cleaning or gardening (3%);
- providing care to children who are ill or disabled (2%);
- giving them money to pay rent or other housing costs (2%);
- through other means (1%).

Family or relatives aged 18 to 24

Question: [Apart from children you've already told me about] do you [you or your partner] have any family or relatives aged 18 to 24 who don't live with you? Do you [you or your partner] give any of them any of these types of support?

Sixty-two per cent of respondents had family or relatives aged 18 to 24 who were not living with them (n=1222). Eighteen per cent of them provided some form of support, as follows:

- giving them spending money (5% of those with family or relatives aged 18 to 24 years not living with them);
- having them stay with them some of the time (5%);
- by providing transport on regular basis (5%);
- providing or paying for groceries (4%);
- providing or paying for needed clothing (3%);
- providing childcare or child minding (3%);
- giving them money to pay bills or debt (3%);
- giving them money for big cost items or events (e.g. car, furniture, wedding) (3%);
- helping around the house on a regular basis such as cleaning or gardening (3%);
- giving them money for educational costs or text books (2%);
- giving them money to pay rent or other housing costs (2%);
- providing care to children who are ill or disabled (2%);
- through other means (1%).

Family or relatives aged 25 to 64

Question: Do you [you or your partner] have any family or relatives aged 25 to 64 who don't live with you? Do you [you or your partner] give any of them any of these types of support?

Most respondents (88%) had family or relatives aged 25 to 64 who were not living with them (n=1742). Twenty eight per cent of these respondents had provided some form of support, as follows:

- giving them money to pay bills or debt (7% of those with family or relatives aged 25 to 64 not living with them);
- providing childcare or child minding (7%);

- helping around the house on a regular basis such as cleaning or gardening (7%);
- by providing transport on regular basis (6%);
- having them stay with them some of the time (6%);
- giving them spending money (6%);
- providing or paying for groceries (5%);
- giving them money for big cost items or events (e.g. car, furniture, wedding) (5%);
- providing care to children who are ill or disabled (5%);
- providing or paying for needed clothing (3%);
- giving them money to pay rent or other housing costs (3%);
- giving them money for educational costs or text books (2%);
- through other means (1%).

2.9.3 Types of support for relatives aged 65 and over

Support for this age group is likely to be more crucial since a large proportion of them are likely to be retired. Three-quarters of all respondents (75%) have relatives aged over 65 years. Twenty-nine per cent of these respondents provided at least one form of support, as follows:

- helping around the house on a regular basis such as cleaning or gardening (10% of respondents with relatives aged 65 and over not living with them);
- giving them spending money (9%);
- providing care to children who are ill or disabled (8%);
- by providing transport on regular basis (7%);
- giving them money to pay bills or debt (6%);
- providing or paying for groceries (5%);
- having them stay with them some of the time (4%);
- giving them money to pay rent or other housing costs (3%);
- providing or paying for needed clothing (2%);
- giving them money for big cost items or events (e.g. car, furniture, wedding) (2%);
- through other means (1%).

2.10 Social connectedness

This chapter is about how, and how often, respondents keep in touch with family, relatives and friends, and how satisfied respondents are with the levels of contact. It also looks at extent of social isolation and the reasons for this. Finally it assesses the degree of support people have in times of need, and the extent of voluntary work provided to others.

2.10.1 Extent of contact with family and relatives living elsewhere

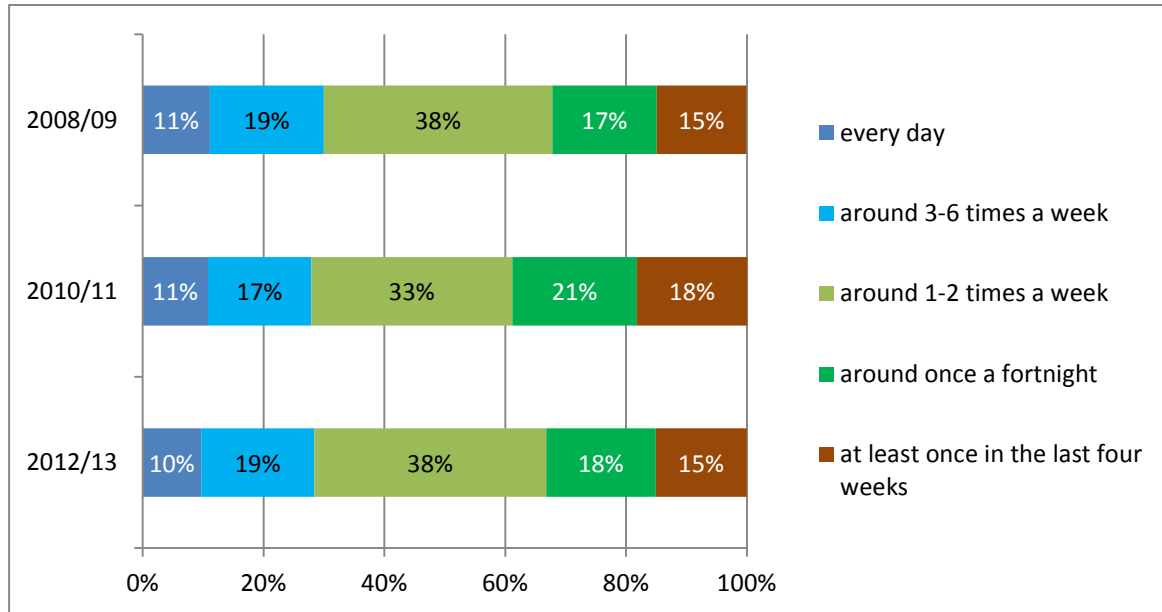
Direct contact

Question: I'm now going to ask you about face-to-face contact that you've had with family or relatives [who don't live with you]. In the last four weeks, have you seen any family or relatives [who don't live with you]? How often have you seen them?

The majority of respondents (79%) have had face-to-face contact in the last four weeks with relatives who don't live with them. This level of contact is unchanged from the levels found in the previous two surveys.

Two-thirds of those who had seen their family or relatives at all in the past four weeks (67%) had done so at least once a week. Ten per cent had seen them every day, while 57 per cent had seen them almost every day to once a week. A third (33%) had seen them less often, splitting to 18 per cent around once a fortnight and 15 per cent at least once in the previous four weeks. Frequency of contact is similar across all three surveys, except that while around 67 per cent had seen them at least once a week in 2008/09 and 2012/13, the level dropped to 61 per cent in 2010/11.

Figure 28: Frequency of direct contact with family and relatives



BASE: Those who saw family/ relatives living away in last four weeks (n=1555)

Indirect contact

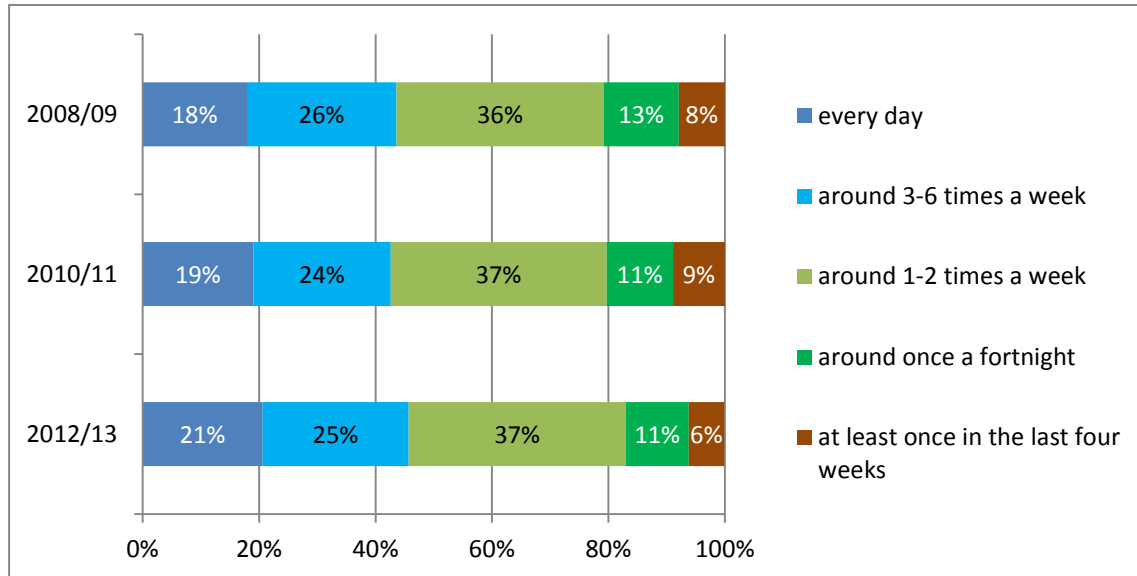
Question: [Here is a list of] types of non-face-to-face contact that people may have with family.⁸ In the last four weeks, have you had at least one of these types of contact with family or relatives [who don't live with you]? How often have you seen them?

Nearly all residents (93%) had had at least one non-face-to-face contact in the last four weeks with family or relatives not living with them (e.g. by telephone, cell phone, internet, fax, or postal mail). This is at the same levels found in the previous two surveys.

Of those who had had contact (n=1833), 83 per cent had done so at least once a week. This is above the levels reported in the two earlier surveys, being 79% in 2008/09 and 80 per cent in 2010/11.

⁸ Non-face-to-face contact includes telephone, cell phone (including texting), internet (including email) postal mail, or fax.

Figure 29: Frequency of indirect contact with family and relatives



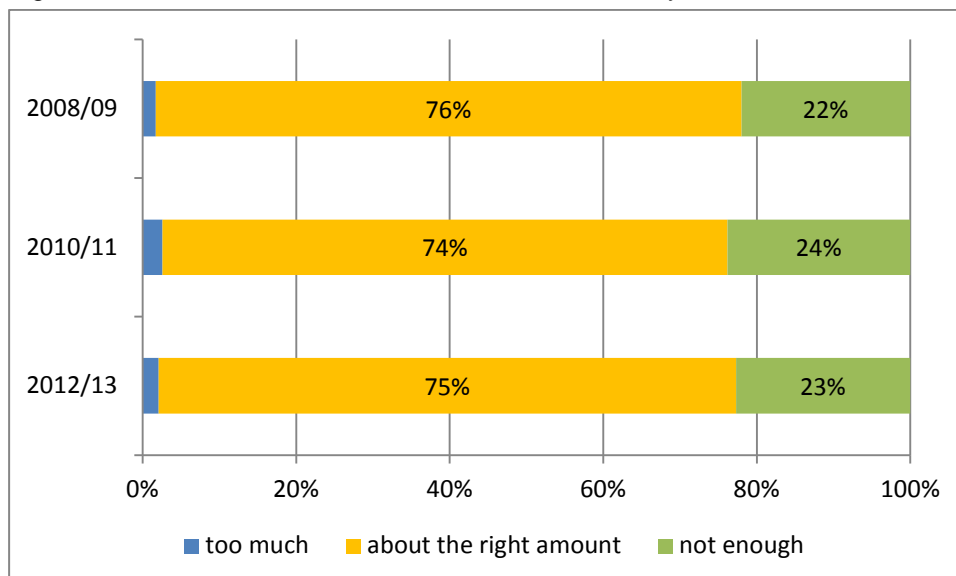
BASE: Those who had indirect contact with family/ relatives living away in last four weeks (n=1833)

Satisfaction with extent of contact

Question: Think about all the types of contact you have with family or relatives [who don't live with you]. Would you say that you have too much contact, about the right amount of contact, or not enough contact with them?

Three quarters of respondents (75%) who had had any contact with family or relatives (n=1885) said they had about the right amount of contact. A further 23 per cent said they did not have enough contact. Very few said they had too much contact (2%). This is the same pattern as in the previous two surveys.

Figure 30: Satisfaction with amount of contact with family and relatives



BASE: Those having had contact with family or relatives in the last four weeks

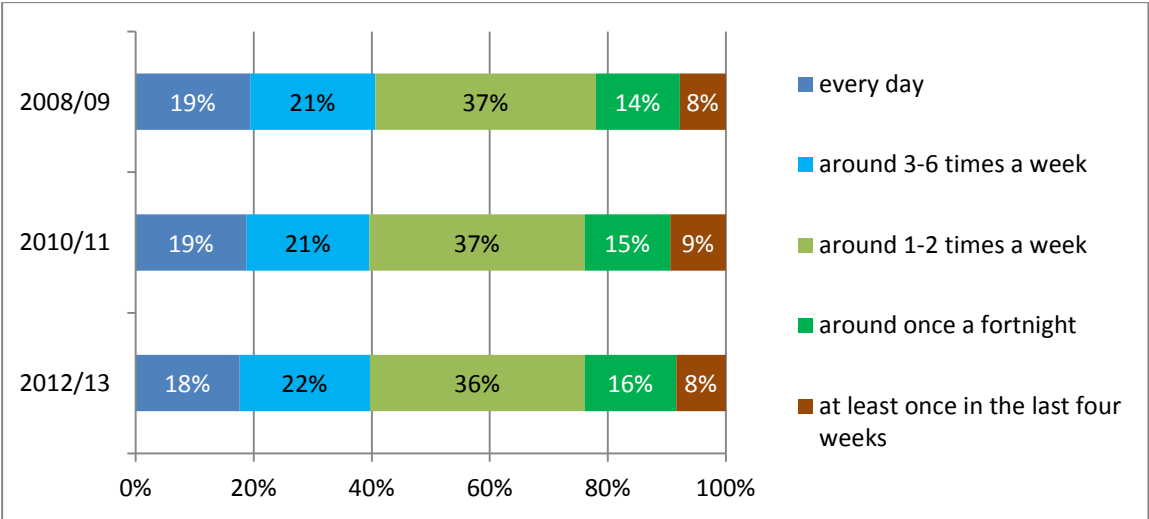
2.10.2 Extent of contact with friends

Face to face contact with friends

Question: I’m now going to ask you about face-to-face contact that you’ve had with friends [who don’t live with you]. In the last four weeks, have you seen any friends [who don’t live with you]? In the last four weeks, how often have you seen them?

Nearly all respondents (93%) had had face-to-face contact in the last four weeks with friends who don’t live with them. Three-quarters of those who had had contact (75%) had seen their friends at least once a week. This level of direct contact is the same as reported in the previous two surveys.

Figure 31: Frequency of direct contact with friends



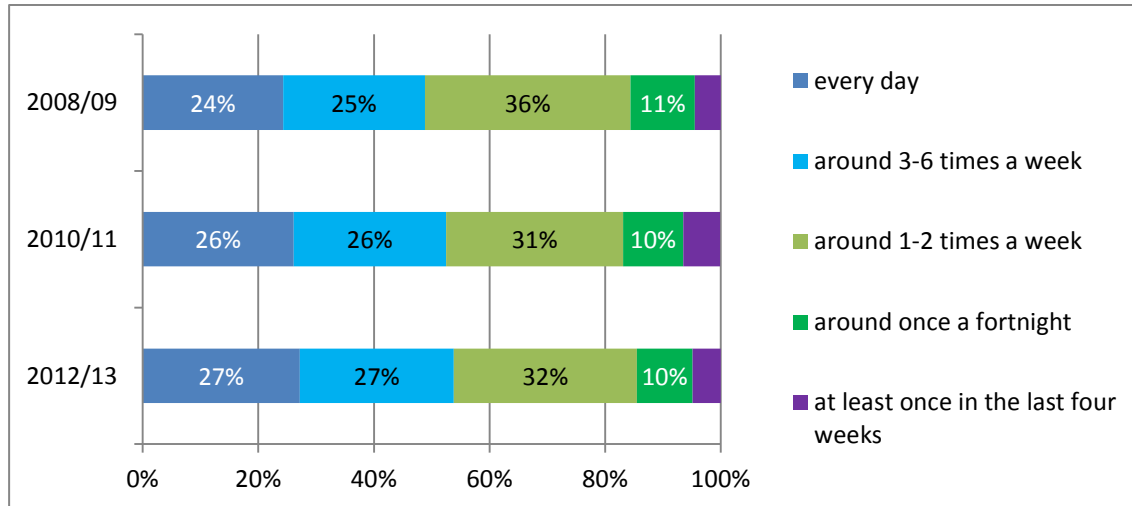
BASE: Those having had direct contact with friends in the last four weeks

Indirect contact with friends

Question: [Here is a list of] types of non-face-to-face contact that people may have with friends. In the last four weeks, have you had at least one of these types of contact with friends [who don’t live with you]? How often have you seen them?

Nearly all respondents (94%) had had at least one form of non-face-to-face contact in the last four weeks with friends who don’t live with them (e.g. by telephone, cell phone, internet, fax, or postal mail). Most of those having had indirect contact (86% of n=1845) had done so at least once a week. This level of indirect contact is the same as reported in the previous two surveys.

Figure 32: Frequency of indirect contact with friends

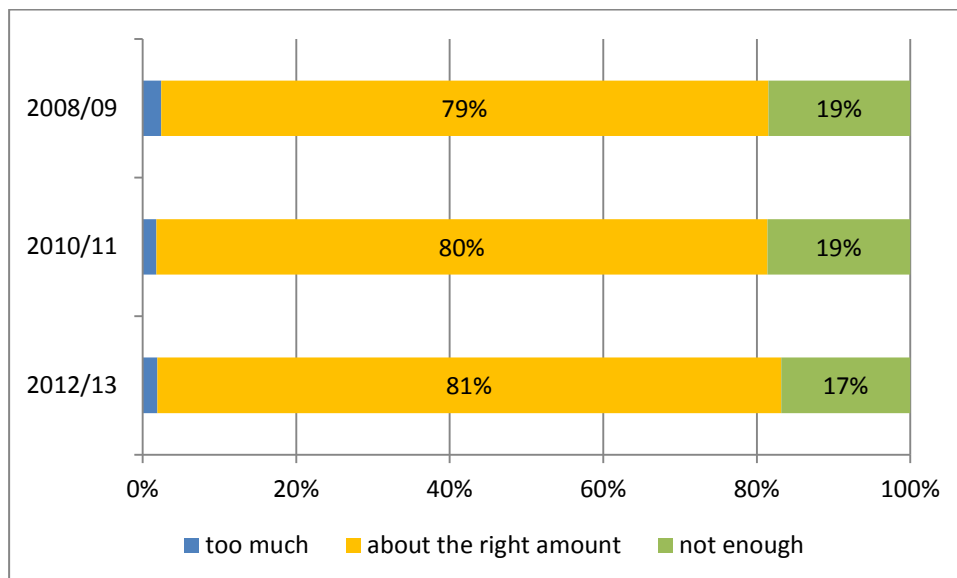


BASE: Those having had indirect contact with friends in the last four weeks

Question: Think about all the types of contact you have with friends [who don't live with you]. Would you say that you have too much contact, about the right amount of contact, or not enough contact with them?

Most respondents (81%) having had any form of contact with their friends (n=1908) said they had about the right amount of contact. A further 17 per cent said there was not enough contact. Only a few (2%) said there was too much contact. Very similar responses were given in the previous two surveys.

Figure 33: Satisfaction with amount of contact with friends



BASE: Those having had any contact with friends in the last four weeks

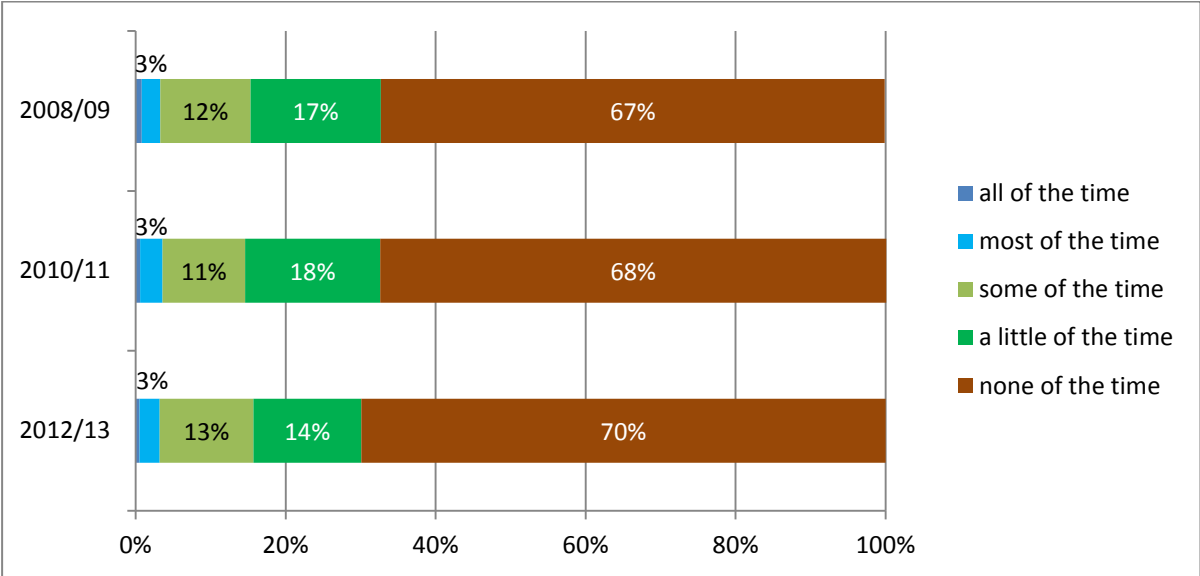
2.10.3 Social isolation

When respondents were asked about feelings of isolation they were also told that they should respond on how they felt. It was explained to them that people could feel isolated even though they might see family or friends every day.

Question: In the last four weeks, how often have you felt isolated from others?

Thirty per cent of all respondents reported at least some feeling of isolation, mostly “a little of the time” (14%) or “some of the time” (13%). However, very few (3%) said they felt isolated “all” or “most of the time”. The majority (70%) said they felt isolated none of the time. These levels compare agree closely with those found in the previous two surveys.

Figure 34: Incidence of feelings of isolation



BASE: Total sample

Question: which of these things, if any, make it hard for you to have contact with family or friends [who don't live with you]?

For those feeling isolated at least a little of the time (n=781), the following are given as barriers to social contact:

- they live in a different town, city or country (54% of those with at least some level of social isolation);
- too busy with job (31%);
- family or friends aren't available when can contact (30%);
- too busy with family (23%);

- family or friends are too busy (22%);
- can't afford to see or contact them (21%);
- too tired at times they could see or contact them (17%);
- too busy with study (10%);
- personally choose not to contact them (8%);
- no way of getting to them or contacting them (6%);
- too busy with friends (5%);
- health related reasons/ poor health (5%);
- can't get needed childcare to go out (4%);
- family or friends choose not to contact them (3%).

These reasons have similar rankings in the previous two surveys.

2.10.4 Availability of help from others

Question: [Showcard prompt] lists some examples of help that people may give to other people. [Thinking just about people who don't live with you], is there anyone who you could ask for help with these kinds of things?

- look after pets or water your garden while away from home
- collect mail or check your house while away from home
- mind a child for a brief period
- help with moving or lifting objects
- help out when you are sick with the flu or injured with a sprained ankle

Most respondents (93%) had someone they could ask for small favours. The two previous surveys show the same result.

Question: [Thinking just about people who you know who don't live with you], is there anyone who you could ask for help with these kinds of things?

- help out when you have a serious illness or injury
- help in maintaining family responsibilities
- emotional support
- provide a place to stay

In cases of more serious need such as in times of crisis, most respondents (95%) said there was someone they could ask for support. This is at the same level as the previous two surveys.

2.10.5 Incidence of voluntary work for groups or organisations

Many community groups contribute to social cohesion. Often these groups depend on the contribution of unpaid volunteers. This section explores:

- the extent of voluntary work provided to a community group or organisation (including involvement with other people)
- participation in voluntary community group activities
- voluntary assistance to other people not living with respondents, including neighbours, friends and relatives.

Question: In the last four weeks, did you do any voluntary work for a group or organisation?

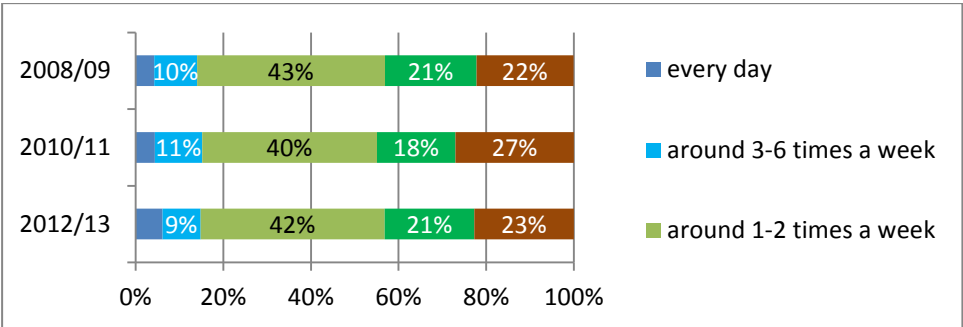
Examples of community groups or organisations include sports or exercise group, hobby, recreation, or social group, dance, music or theatre group, adult education or evening classes, group for senior citizens, group for children, young people or students, religious group (such as church), ethnic or cultural group, environmental or animal welfare group, business, professional, or union group, political or lobby group, health, welfare, or support group, local community or neighbourhood group, emergency service, and the like.

Twenty eight per cent of respondents had done voluntary work for a group or organisation. This is slightly down from 2010/11 (30%) and 2008/09 (31%).

Question: In the last four weeks, how often did you do voluntary work for a group or organisation? Did this usually involve face-to-face contact with other people?

Of those doing any voluntary work in the last four weeks (n=542), 57 per cent had done so once a week or more often. In nearly all cases (94%), face-to-face contact with other people was involved. These levels are consistent with those recorded in the previous two surveys.

Figure 35: Frequency of voluntary work for group or organisation



BASE: Performed voluntary work in the last four weeks

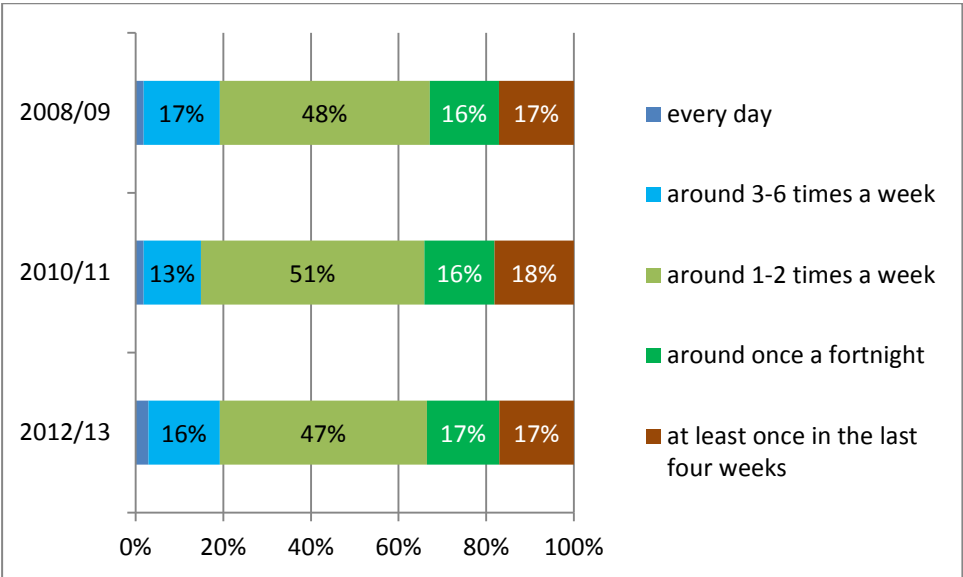
Question: In the last four weeks, did you take part in any activity (not including voluntary) organised by a group or organisation?

A third of all respondents (34%) said they had taken part in activities organised by a group or organisation. Participation incidence seems to differ by year. In 2008/09, 38 per cent of respondents had participated, whereas in 2010/11 41 per cent had.

Question: In the last four weeks, how often did you take part in those activities?

Two-thirds of respondents (67%) who had participated (n=666) did so once a week or more often, as was the case in the previous two surveys.

Figure 36: Frequency of participation in organised activities



BASE: Those who had participated in organised activities

2.10.6 Voluntary discretionary help to others

This is about types of unpaid help that people may give to others who don't live with them, such as neighbours, friends, or relatives at their personal discretion. Examples include:

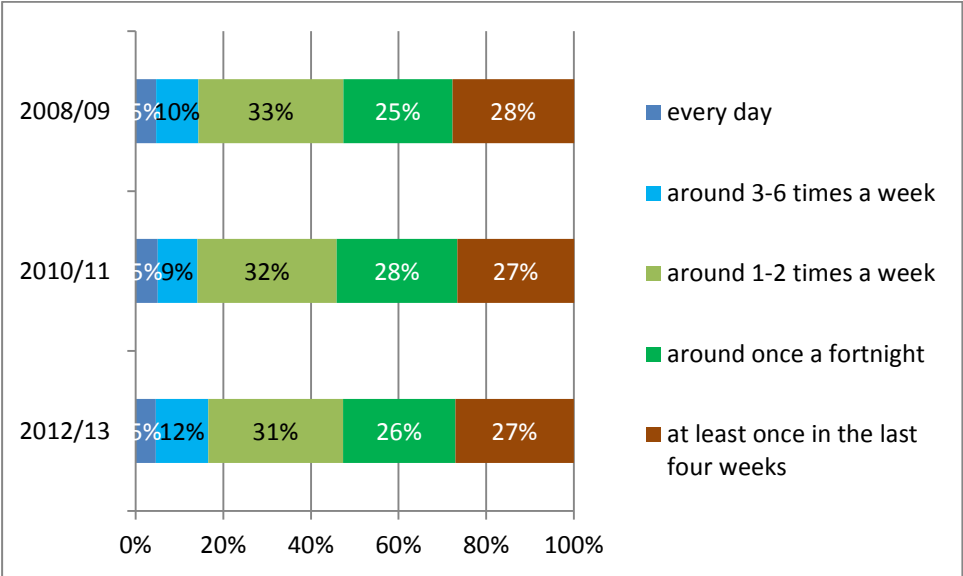
- helping someone move,
- driving places or lending transport,
- work around the house such as cooking, cleaning, or gardening,
- home repairs or car maintenance,
- childcare or child-minding,
- caring for someone who is ill, disabled, or elderly,
- tutoring.

These do not include paid or voluntary work covered earlier, or giving money.

Question: [Apart from the voluntary work that you told me about earlier], in the last four weeks did you give any help that you did not get paid for, [to people who don't live with you] anyone? How often did you give that help to them? Did this usually involve face-to-face contact with other people?

Sixty-one per cent of respondents said they had provided the kind of help described. This is at the same level as the previous two surveys. Just under half of those providing such help (47% of n=1194) had done so at least once a week or more often. In most cases (97%) this involved face-to-face contact. All three measures are at very similar levels in the past two surveys.

Figure 37: Frequency of provision of unpaid voluntary help



BASE: Those providing unpaid help

Access to support overall

An analysis of all levels of support available to respondents show that nearly all (92%) have access to support both in time of crisis and when small favours are needed. Only four per cent had no access to any support.

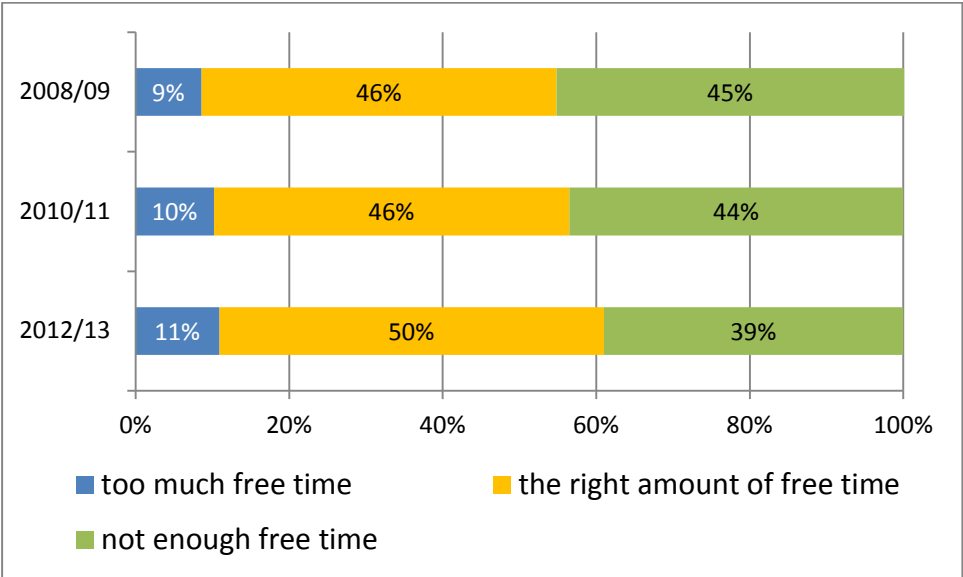
2.11 Leisure and recreation

This section is about how much discretionary free time for leisure respondents have, and whether there are any impediments to partaking in leisure activities or interests they might have. Free time activity excludes things like housework or childcare.

Question: Thinking about your free-time in the last four weeks, do you feel that you had too much free-time, the right amount of free-time or not enough free time?

Half of respondents (50%) said they did have the right amount of free time. However, a sizeable minority (39%) said they did not have enough. In the 2008/09 and 2010/11 surveys, 45 per cent and 44 per cent respectively said they did not have enough.

Figure 38: Availability of free time



BASE: Total sample

Question: Still thinking about the last four weeks: Are there any free-time activities or interests that you would like to do but can't? Do you have any free-time activities or interests that you would like to be able to do more of?

Over half of respondents (55%) said there were activities and interests they would like to have done but could not. The previous two surveys found very similar results. Just under two-thirds of respondents (64%) said there were free-time activities that they would like to have done more of. This is down on the 2008/09 level of 70 per cent and similar to the 2010/11 level of 65 per cent.

Question: [Card prompt]: Which of these things make it difficult for you to do all the activities or interests that you would like to do in your free-time?

For those prevented from engaging in free-time activities and interests, the main impediments were:

- too busy with job (44%);
- can't afford it (36%);
- too busy with family (36%);
- too tired at the times they could do it (24%);
- too busy with other things (22%);
- health related reasons/ poor health (13%);
- too busy with study (13%);
- the place is too far away (12%);
- can't get the childcare needed (9%).

2.12 Culture and identity

This section deals with respondents' countries of origin, sense of belonging to New Zealand, the ease or difficulty of expressing their own identity, and if there is any difficulty, the perceived reasons for this.

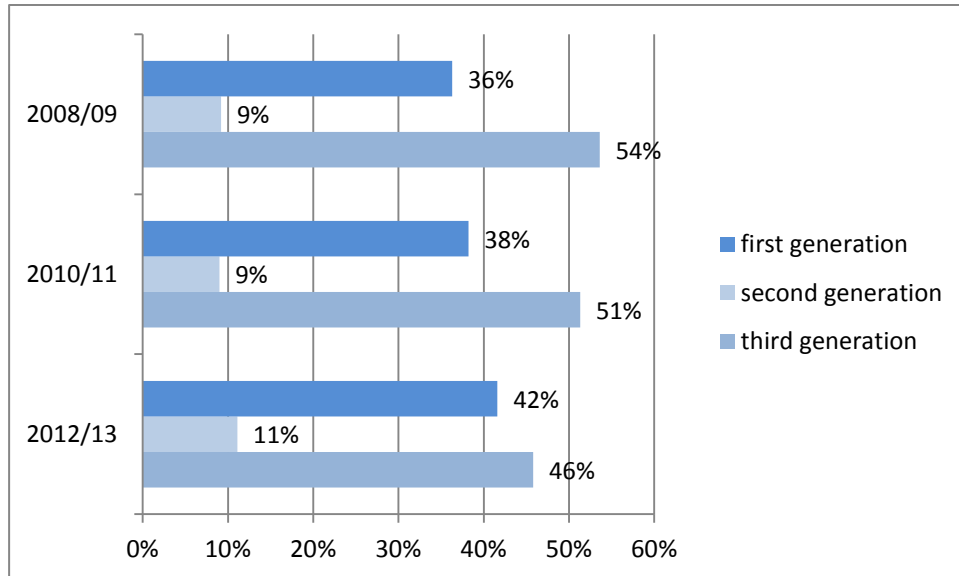
Data on number of generations in New Zealand were derived from several questions in the survey. It takes into account where the person was born and the number of parents or active guardians who were born in New Zealand.⁹ Figure 12 below shows the proportions of first, second and third generations over the period of the three surveys. This shows that the proportion of first generation, i.e. the migrant generation, is increasing. It has increased from 35 per cent in 2008/09 to 46 per cent in 2012/13.

⁹ First generation: Not born in NZ and neither parent or any active guardian born in NZ, or only one parent born in NZ.

Second generation: Born in NZ. One or none of parents born in NZ. Not born in NZ but both parents born in NZ.

Third generation: Born in NZ and both parents born in NZ.

Figure 39: Proportions of generations in New Zealand



BASE: Total samples in each of the surveys

2.12.1 Sense of belonging

Question: Most people feel that they belong to a particular country - that it is their country. Sometimes people feel that they belong to more than one country. Do you feel that you belong to New Zealand?

Most respondent (93%) said they felt they belong to New Zealand. Only six per cent disagreed. This is consistent with the findings of the previous two surveys. Note that recent immigrants, i.e. arrived in New Zealand since 2007, tend to be less likely to say that they belong to New Zealand: 79 per cent agree and 20 per cent disagree that they belong.

Question: Would you say you feel that very strongly, strongly or not very strongly?

Those who said they belong to New Zealand were asked how strongly they felt about that. Almost half (49%) said they felt that “very strongly” and most of the rest (45% of the total) said “strongly”. Again, this is consistent with the previous two surveys. Only six per cent said “not very strongly”. With recent migrants, only 12 per cent said “not very strongly”.

Question: Do you feel that you belong to any other country?

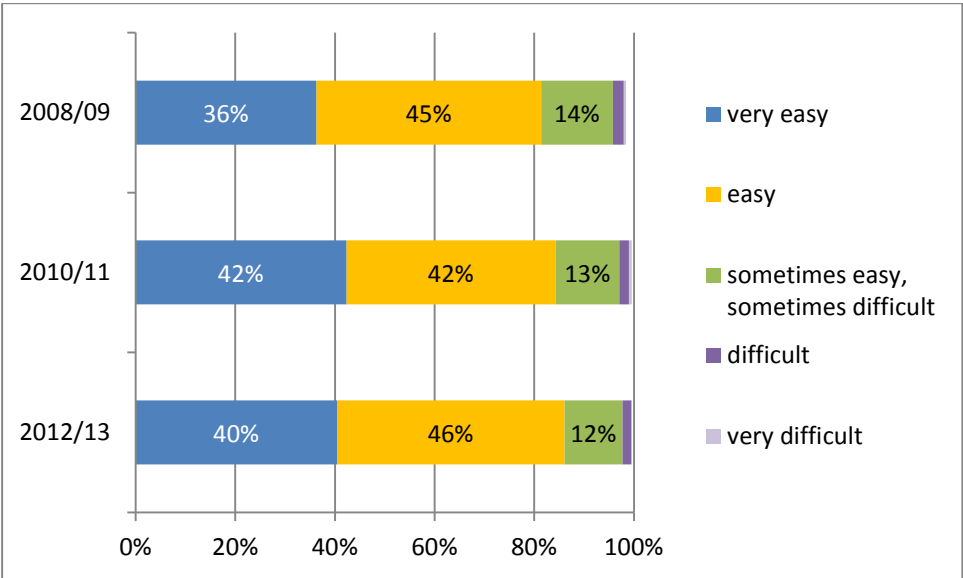
Those who said they did not belong (n=143) were asked if they felt they belonged to another country. Three-quarters (74%) of them said they did. Base numbers are too low to yield any further statistically reliable results.

2.12.2 Freedom to express one’s identity

Question: People in New Zealand have different lifestyles, cultures, and religions that express their identity. How easy or difficult is it for you to express your own identity?

The majority of respondents (86%) said it was “easy” or “very easy” to express their own identity. Most of the remainder (12% of the total) said they found it “sometimes easy, sometimes difficult”. Very few (less than 2%) found it “difficult” or “very difficult”. A steady improvement is noted since the 2008/09 survey, where 81 per cent found it “easy” or “very easy”, rising through 84 per cent in 2010/11 to 86 per cent most recently. Recent immigrants appear to be finding it more difficult to express their identity, where 23 per cent found it “sometimes easy, sometimes difficult”, compared to all others at 10 per cent. However, very few recent immigrants found it “difficult” or “very difficult” (2%).

Figure 40: Ease or difficulty of expressing one's identity



BASE: Total sample

Question: [CARD PROMPT] What things make it difficult for you?

Respondents who said they had experienced some difficulty in expressing themselves (n=268) were asked what made it difficult. The main constraints to expressing one's identity are perceived to be:

- worry about what people would think (49%);
- some people won't accept it (46%);
- worry about what other people might do (19%);
- there is no place to do it (7%).

2.13 Human rights

This section looks at participation in national and local body elections, including reasons for not voting. It then looks at inter-cultural relationships in terms of negative discrimination, where it occurred, and the perceived reasons for this. This theme is continued with an overview of the level of tolerance shown by various public facilities. Finally, attitudes to key aspects of multi-cultural society are measured.

2.13.1 Participation in the democratic process

Central government elections

Question: The general election is where the whole country votes to decide who will govern the country for the next three years. Did you vote in the last general election? [Card prompt] what is the reason you didn't vote?

Just over three-quarters of respondents (78%) said they had voted in the most recent general election. This is the same level as in the previous two surveys. The main reasons given by non-voters for not voting (n=416) are:

- I meant to vote but I didn't get around to it or I forgot about it (17%);
- I couldn't vote because I wasn't registered to vote (15%);
- I couldn't vote because I was overseas (11%);
- I couldn't vote because I was aged less than 18 at the time (10%);
- I couldn't vote because I hadn't been in NZ for long enough (9%).

Local government elections

Question: Local government elections also happen every three years. The last time you can remember a local government election in an area you were living in, did you vote? [Card prompt] what is the reason you didn't vote?

Sixty-two per cent of respondents said they had voted in the most recent local government elections. This is consistent with the previous two surveys. The main reasons given by non-voters for not voting (n=694) are:

- I meant to vote but I didn't get around to it or I forgot about it (19%);
- I didn't know enough about the people standing for election (13%);
- I didn't know about the election (10%).

Trends in reasons given for not voting are apparent. *Not knowing the people standing for election* was the highest mention in the 2008/09 survey (at 20% of non-voters), dropping through 17 per cent in 2010/11 to 13 per cent in 2012/13. *Meaning to vote but not getting round to it* rose from 11 per cent mention in 2008/09 through 16 per cent in 2010/11 to 19 per cent most recently.

2.13.2 Experience of discrimination

Question: In the last 12 months, have you been treated unfairly or had something nasty done to you because of the group you belong to or seem to belong to? How many times in the last 12 months would you say that has happened? Once, two or three times, or more than three times?

Nine per cent of respondents reported being treated unfairly or having something nasty done to them because of the group they were seen to belong to. Discrimination like this was reported at similar levels in the previous two surveys, being 11 per cent in 2008/09 and 12 per cent in 2010/11. For most respondents experiencing discrimination (79% of n=179) this had occurred more than once. There is a similar pattern in the previous two surveys.

Question: What situation/s you were in when you were discriminated against?

Those who felt they were discriminated against said the main situations where this occurred were:

- at work or while working (46%);
- on the street or at a public place of some kind (41%);
- when applying for (or keeping) a job or position (12%);
- when getting service buying something (11%);
- when dealing with people involved in health care (7%);

- using transport of any kind (6%).

Question: Why do you think people discriminated against you when you were in that situation/those situations?

Respondents who said they were discriminated against perceived the reasons could be:

- race or ethnic group (60% of those saying they were discriminated against);
- skin colour (31%);
- the language they speak (21%);
- the way they dress or their appearance (20%);
- their age (15%);
- their occupation (14%);
- their gender (13%);
- their religious beliefs (11%).

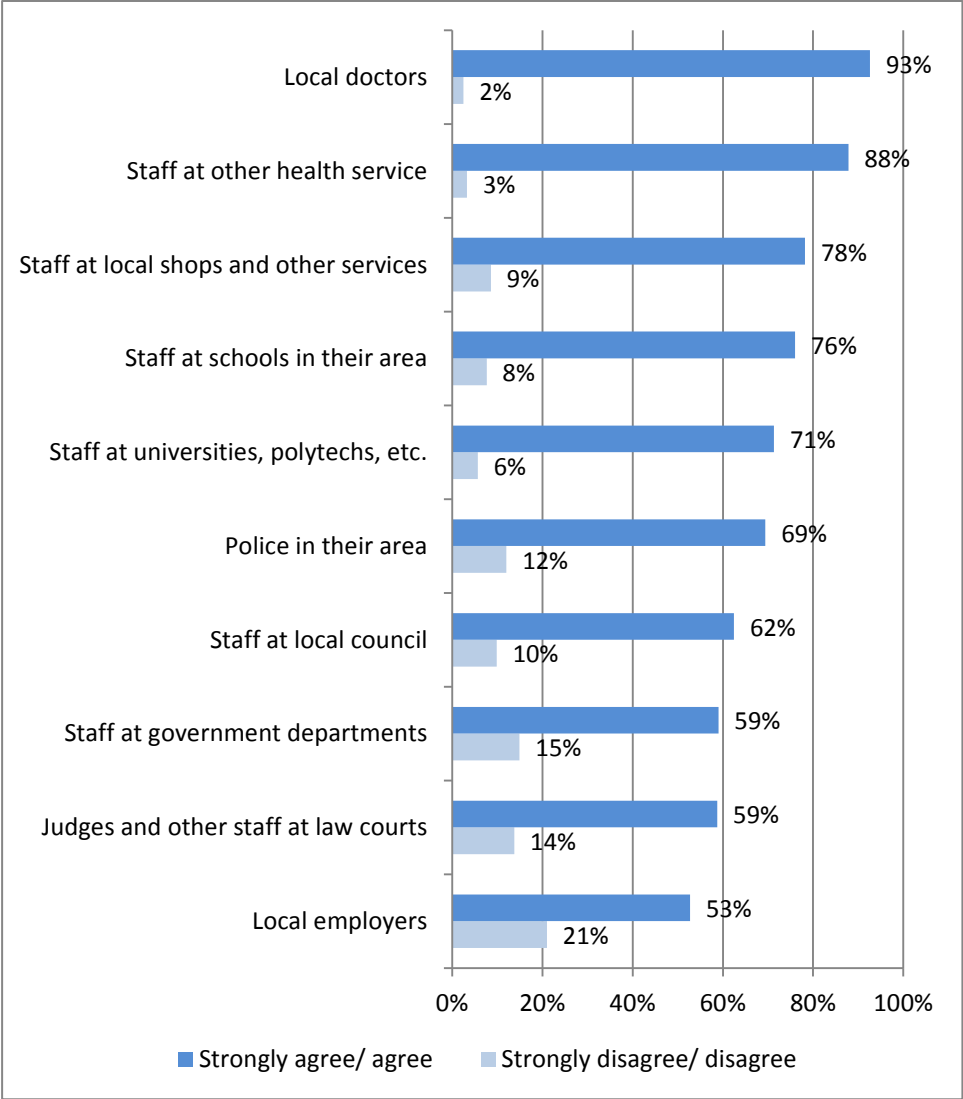
2.13.3 Fairness and tolerance by institutions and organisations

Question: This question is about whether you think staff at various organisations in New Zealand accept and tolerate different groups. [Card prompt] Please choose a response that best expresses how you feel about the following statements. (This organisation) treats everyone fairly, regardless of what group they are from.

When asked if various organisations had treated them fairly, respondents reported their assessments of those organisations they had had experience with. The most positively regarded organisations were local doctors (with 93% agreeing that they had received fair treatment), staff at other health services (88%), staff at local shops and other services (78%) and staff at local schools in their area (76%). Least positive ratings of fair treatment were given to local employers (53% agreeing they had received fair treatment), judges and other staff at law courts (59%), staff at government departments (59%), and staff at local council (62%).

These findings are summarised in figure 41 below.

Figure 41: Fairness of treatment from organisations



Base: Those having dealings

Agreement ratings for the organisations are consistent over the period of the three surveys.

2.13.4 Attitudes towards multi-cultural society

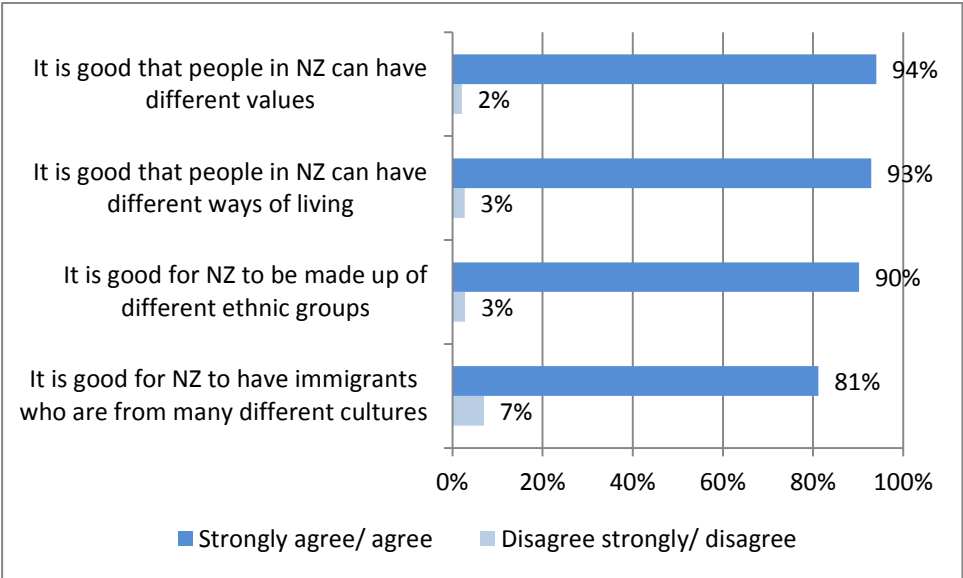
Four key aspects which describe a multicultural society were evaluated.

Question: [Card prompt] Please choose a response that best expresses how you feel about the following statements:

- It is good that people in NZ can have different values.
- It is good that people in NZ can have different ways of living.
- It is good for NZ to be made up of different ethnic groups.
- It is good for NZ to have immigrants who are from many different cultures.

Overall, positive responses far outweigh the negative. Most respondents agree that it is good for people to have different values (94%), different ways of living (93%), and having different ethnic groups in New Zealand (90%). However there is slightly lower agreement for it being good to have immigrants who are from many different cultures (81%). Levels of agreement and disagreement are summarised below.

Figure 42: Agreement with multicultural society



BASE: Total sample

These figures are consistent with the previous two surveys.

Appendix: Sample description

As stated in the introduction, the sample is treated as being representative of people aged 15 and over living in the Auckland region. The following sample description demonstrates how representative the sample actually is by comparing the proportions of the main respondent demographic categories against their proportions as shown by the 2013 Census. These values must agree closely for the sample to be considered as representative of the Auckland population, aged 15 years and over.

Three sets of figures are shown for each demographic group, raw, weighted and Census values. Raw values are the actual numbers and proportions of respondents. The weighted values are the result of statistical procedures used to adjust imbalances as a result of sampling procedures. In any random sample, variations can be expected to occur, resulting in the over-representation of some groups and under-representation of others. These imbalances are corrected for by a statistical weighting procedure.¹⁰ Census values are the actual occurrences of the various demographic categories. In a well-constructed sample, the weighted percentage values and the 2013 Census values for Auckland should agree closely.

		Unweighted		Weighted		Census Auckland 2013
Sex	male	881	44.7%	946	48.0%	48.6%
	female	1089	55.3%	1024	52.0%	51.4%
	Total	1970	100.0%	1970	100.0%	
Age	15 - 24 years	243	12.3%	371	18.8%	18.9%
	25 -39 years	548	27.8%	557	28.2%	26.3%
	40 - 64 years	804	40.8%	758	38.5%	40.3%
	65 years and over	375	19.0%	284	14.4%	14.6%
	Total	1970	100.0%	1970	100.0%	
Marital Status	partnered	1055	53.6%	1157	58.7%	59.4%
	non- partnered	915	46.4%	813	41.3%	40.6%
	Total	1970	100.0%	1970	100.0%	
Employment Status	employed	1214	61.6%	1269	64.4%	61.5%
	unemployed	95	4.8%	100	5.1%	5.4%
	not in the labour force	661	33.6%	601	30.5%	33.1%
	Total	1970	100.0%	1970	100.0%	

..continued

¹⁰ For a discussion of this procedure, refer to the Statistics New Zealand web site: http://www.stats.govt.nz/browse_for_stats/people_and_communities/Households/nzgs_HOTP2012/D ata%20Quality.aspx

		Unweighted		Weighted		Census
Occupation	Managerial/ professional	519	26.3%	533	27.0%	26.7%
	Clerical/ Service / Sales	382	19.4%	424	21.5%	19.2%
	Trades/ Technical	138	7.0%	146	7.4%	6.8%
	Labourers/ Machine Operators/ Drivers	148	7.5%	135	6.8%	7.5%
	Not in paid employment	783	39.7%	733	37.2%	39.7%
	Total	1970	100.0%	1970	100.0%	
Personal Income	\$20,000 or under	693	35.2%	737	37.4%	39.0%
	\$20,001 - \$40,000	516	26.2%	464	23.5%	22.6%
	\$40,001 - \$70,000	469	23.8%	468	23.8%	22.5%
	Over \$70,000	292	14.8%	301	15.3%	15.9%
	Total	1970	100.0%	1970	100.0%	
Household income	\$25,000 or less	290	14.7%	257	13.0%	14.1%
	\$25,001 - \$50,000	460	23.4%	406	20.6%	19.0%
	\$50,001 - \$70,000	296	15.0%	288	14.6%	13.1%
	\$70,001 - \$100,000	345	17.5%	359	18.2%	17.6%
	\$100,001 - \$150,000	329	16.7%	342	17.4%	18.6%
	Over \$150,000	250	12.7%	318	16.1%	17.6%
	Total	1970	100.0%	1970	100.0%	
Educational attainment	No qualification	309	15.7%	254	12.9%	14.9%
	High School Certificate or equivalent	581	29.5%	616	31.3%	36.6%
	Trade Certificate/ Level 4	178	9.0%	170	8.6%	7.0%
	Advanced Trade/ Technical Diploma	285	14.5%	267	13.5%	8.2%
	Bachelors Degree or equivalent	273	13.9%	293	14.9%	15.1%
	Postgraduate Diploma/ Masters/ Doctorate	214	10.9%	228	11.6%	6.8%
	Not stated	130	6.6%	142	7.2%	11.4%
	Total	1970	100.0%	1970	100.0%	

In this sample,¹¹ weighted values for Sex, Age, Marital status, Employment Status, Occupation, Personal Income and Household Income agree very closely with corresponding Census values. In terms of Educational Attainment, those with High School Certificate are slightly under-represented, and those with Advanced Trade or Technical Diplomas and those with Postgraduate Diplomas, Masters Degrees or Doctorates are slightly over-represented. Overall, it can be concluded that this is a well-constructed and therefore representative sample.

¹¹ Comparisons for ethnicity are not included because comparative Census figures were not available at the time of writing.