

Citizen Survey Report February / March 2026



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council



Economic Development Office
Dublin City Council

Report Date:
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Survey Fieldwork:
Feb / Mar 2026

Report by:



Delve Research
Survey Research & Analysis

www.delve-research.com

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Life Satisfaction

- **6.8 out of 10** is the average life satisfaction score among respondents. This is in line with the level measured in November 2025.

Feeling Safe in the City Centre

- **72%** of respondents indicated they feel safe in the city centre during the day (up from 69% in November 2025) and **40%** feel safe in the city centre at night (up from 37%).

Current Living Arrangements

- 35% of respondents own their own home with a mortgage
- 29% own their own home outright
- 18% live in private rented accommodation
- 13% live in their parents' / family home
- 5% live in accommodation rented from the local authority or housing association

Presence of Garden / Driveway

- 73% of respondents have a back garden
- 52% have a front garden
- 46% have a hard driveway (front or back)
- 17% have a permeable driveway or yard (front or back)
- 19% have none of the above

Encouraging Replacement of Hard Driveway with Permeable Material

Among those with a hard driveway:

- 55% said a grant or financial support would encourage them to replace their hard driveway with permeable material
- 35% said clear information on the benefits would encourage them
- 28% said they would be encouraged if it reduced flooding or drainage issues
- 27% indicated a need for practical guidance
- 19% said if it increased the value of their home this would encourage them

Satisfaction with Current Living Arrangements

- 77% of respondents are happy with their current living arrangements. This is up from 73% in 2022.
- Reasons for being unhappy include “Too small for my needs”, “Having to share”, “Housing costs burdensome” and “Poor quality housing”.

Housing Arrangements Next 5 Years

- 41% indicated that they hoped to change their housing arrangement in the next 5 years. This is down from 46% in 2022.
- Among those hoping for a change:
 - 39% would like to own their own home with a mortgage
 - 17% would like to own their home outright
 - 8% would like supported housing
 - 6% would like to rent private accommodation
 - 5% would like a cost rental home

Continuing to Live in Dublin

- 65% of respondents intend to live in Dublin indefinitely (up from 55% in 2022), and a further 23% see themselves living in Dublin for at least the next five years (24% in 2022). 10% expect to move away within 5 years, and 2% are actively seeking to move.
- Among reasons for intending to stay in Dublin indefinitely were:
 - “It’s home / I have put down roots / children at school”
 - “Family / friends are here”
 - “I love Dublin / positive about Dublin / neighbourhood”
- Among reasons for intending to stay in Dublin for at least 5 years were:
 - “Considering a move away from Dublin”
 - “I work here / work opportunities are here”
 - “It’s home / I have put down roots / children at school”
- Among reasons for intending to move out of Dublin within the next 5 years were:
 - “Unhappy with quality of life / culture / environment / amenities”
 - “Cost of living”
 - “Cost of housing / rent”
- Among reasons for currently seeking a move:
 - “Cost of living”
 - “Unhappy with quality of life / culture / environment / amenities”
 - “Cost of housing / rent”

Quality of Environment

- 71% of respondents rate Water Quality good or excellent (up from 61% in 2022)
- 59% rate Air Quality good or excellent (unchanged from 2022)
- 56% rate Noise Levels good or excellent (up from 44% in 2022)
- 24% rate Traffic Levels good or excellent (up from 22% in 2022)

Participation in Environmental Activities

- 84% of respondents recycle paper / plastics / tins / cans
- 69% recycle batteries
- 66% recycle electrical items
- 28% engage with refill / reuse / repair initiatives
- 22% are involved in a compost scheme
- 21% engage with a plastic reduction initiative

Sustainable Consumption

- 87% of respondents repair household items (down from 88% in 2022)
- 71% lend products to neighbours or friends (up from 65% in 2022)
- 48% pay to access / rent products or services rather than buying them (down from 57% in 2022)

Sustainable Living

- 86% of respondents cycle / walk / wheel whenever they can (88% in 2022)
- 84% use public transport whenever they can (80% in 2022)
- 58% always buy locally produced food rather than imported food when there is an option (80% in 2022)
- 57% consciously try to reduce the carbon impact of their food choices (65% in 2022)
- 35% fly less than before to reduce their carbon footprint (48% in 2022)
- 21% grow their own food (not asked in 2022)
- 17% drive an electric or hybrid car (12% in 2022)
- 12% follow a vegetarian diet (17% in 2022)
- 6% follow a pescetarian diet (not asked in 2022)
- 3% follow a vegan diet (3% in 2022)

Encouraging More Sustainable Living

- “Access to suitable space”, “More time”, “More knowledge / training” were frequently cited to encourage more people to grow their own food.
- “If it could get me to where I want to go faster than at present”, “If all elements were more integrated” and “Greater frequency” were the frequently cited to encourage more use of public transport.
- “If cycling / walking / wheeling infrastructure was better”, “Greater security”, and “If I lived closer to where I work” were frequently cited to encourage more people to cycle, walk or wheel more.

Community Involvement

- 31% of respondents are involved in Volunteering
- 29% are involved in a Sports Club or Group
- 20% are involved in a Residents’ Association

Barriers to Participating More in Sports / Hobbies / Activities for Mental Health

- 55% of respondents cited “Lack of Time” as a barrier to getting more involved
- 33% cited work commitments as a barrier
- 26% cited cost / affordability as a barrier to getting more involved in activities

Access to Support and Activities

- 79% of respondents felt they had adequate access to ways to meet friends and family
- 60% felt they had adequate access to support and services for physical health
- 56% felt they had adequate access to ways to take up new hobbies
- 54% felt they had adequate access to ways to meet new people
- 40% felt they had adequate access to community spaces
- 31% felt they had adequate access to services for mental health

Involvement in Local Decision Making

The top 3 preferred ways to get involved in local decision making were:

- Online engagement through email, social media, online surveys and / or voting, mobile apps
- Greater access to data and information related to my local area
- Plebiscites – local voting on issues, proposals, funding

Changes in Community

- 50% cited more diversity of people living there, and 50% also cited new development as the main changes observed in their local area in the last 5 years. 20% also cited more public transport options.

Diversity and Inclusion

- 25% of respondents indicated that they had personally experienced problems with accessibility in their local area, up from 23% in 2022.
- Common problems with accessibility experienced were:
 - Poor public transport services / options
 - Improper parking
 - Poor maintenance of footpaths / pedestrian infrastructure
 - Fear of traffic / cyclists / scooters / speed of traffic
 - Poor cycling infrastructure
- The top accessibility measures suggested were:
 - Clutter-free pavements
 - Improved public transport accessibility
 - Dished kerbs on footpaths
 - Accessible conveniences in restaurants / shops / pubs etc.

Feeling Accepted in Dublin

- 84% of respondents feel accepted in Dublin all of the time or most of the time (85% in 2022)

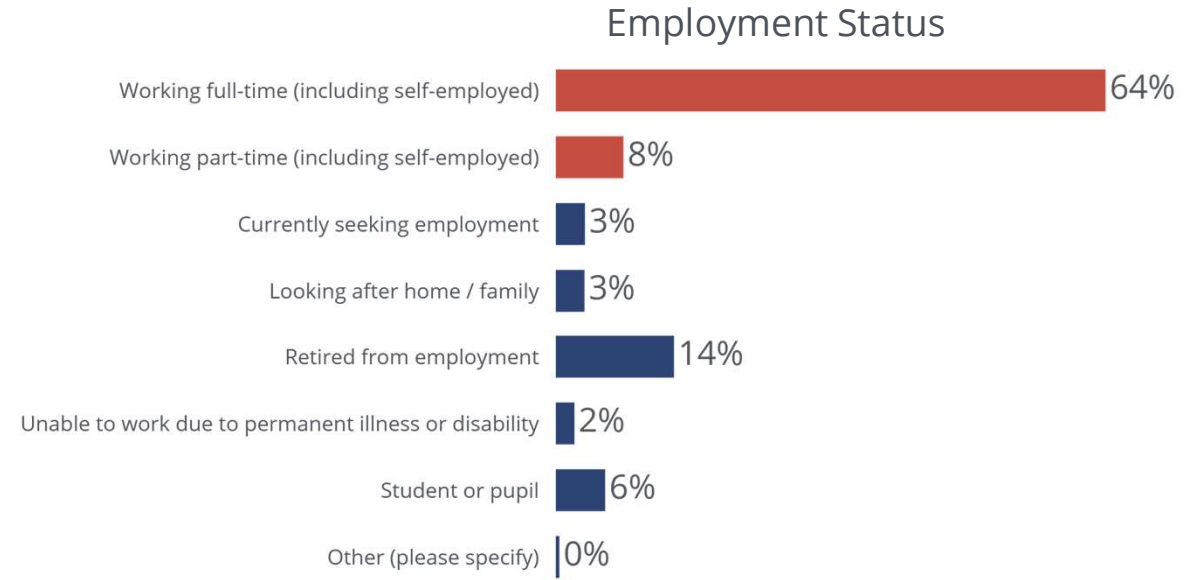
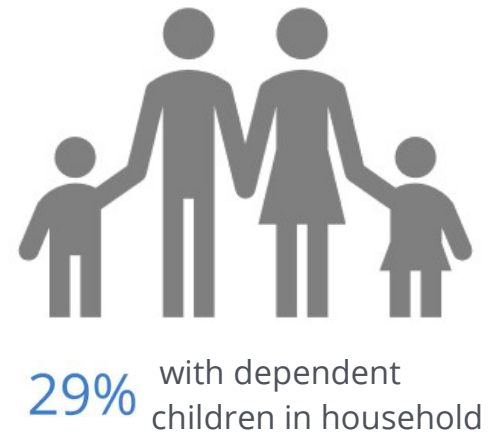
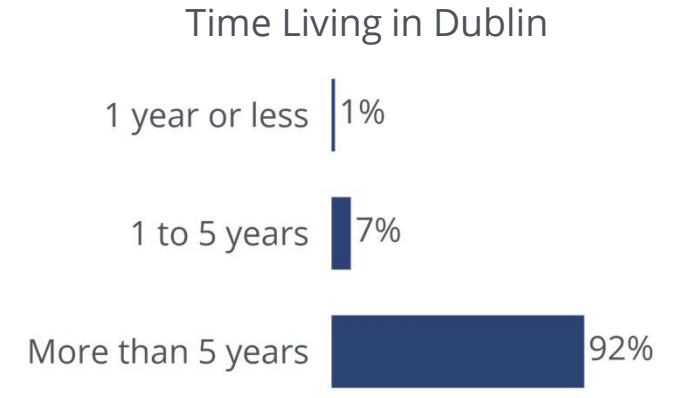
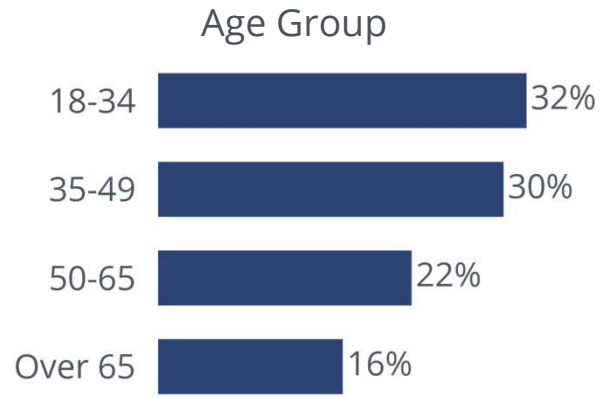
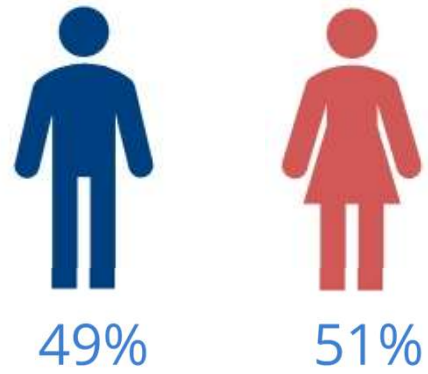
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- Online survey, 26th February - 16th March 2026
- 1,024 respondents from the "Your Dublin, Your Voice" opinion panel
- 18% response rate
- Margin of error +/- 3%
- Robust panel in existence since 2010, recruitment through various channels

Respondent Profile

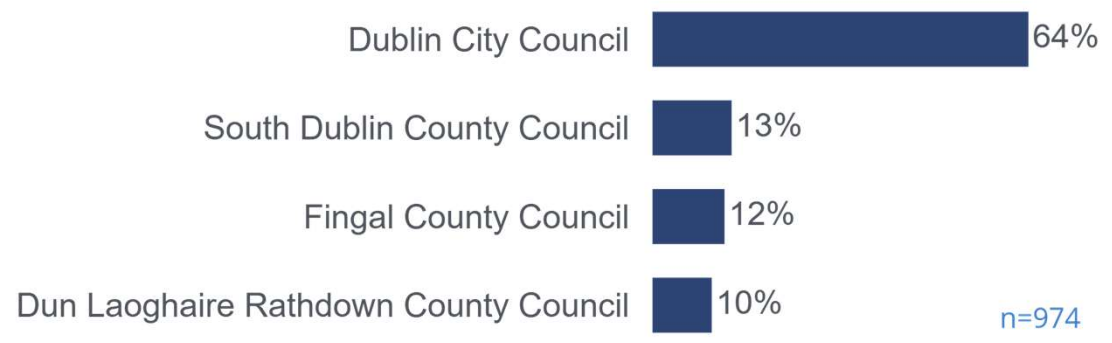


Respondent Profile

39 nationalities represented on this survey, 89% Irish



Local Authority

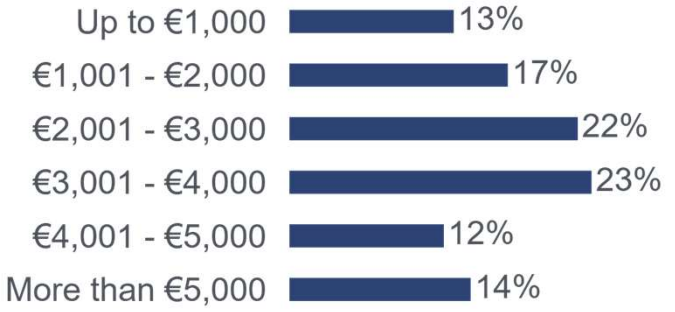


Current Area of Residence

Area	%
Outside County Dublin	4%
Dublin 1	2%
Dublin 2	1%
Dublin 3	7%
Dublin 4	3%
Dublin 5	6%
Dublin 6	3%
Dublin 6W	4%
Dublin 7	10%
Dublin 8	9%
Dublin 9	8%
Dublin 10	1%
Dublin 11	4%
Dublin 12	8%
Dublin 13	3%
Dublin 14	3%
Dublin 15	3%
Dublin 16	2%
Dublin 17	0%
Dublin 18	2%
Dublin 20	1%
Dublin 22	1%
Dublin 24	3%
County Dublin	11%
NET	100%

Respondent Profile

Monthly Income After Taxes, Before Bills



Monthly Disposable Income After Bills Are Paid

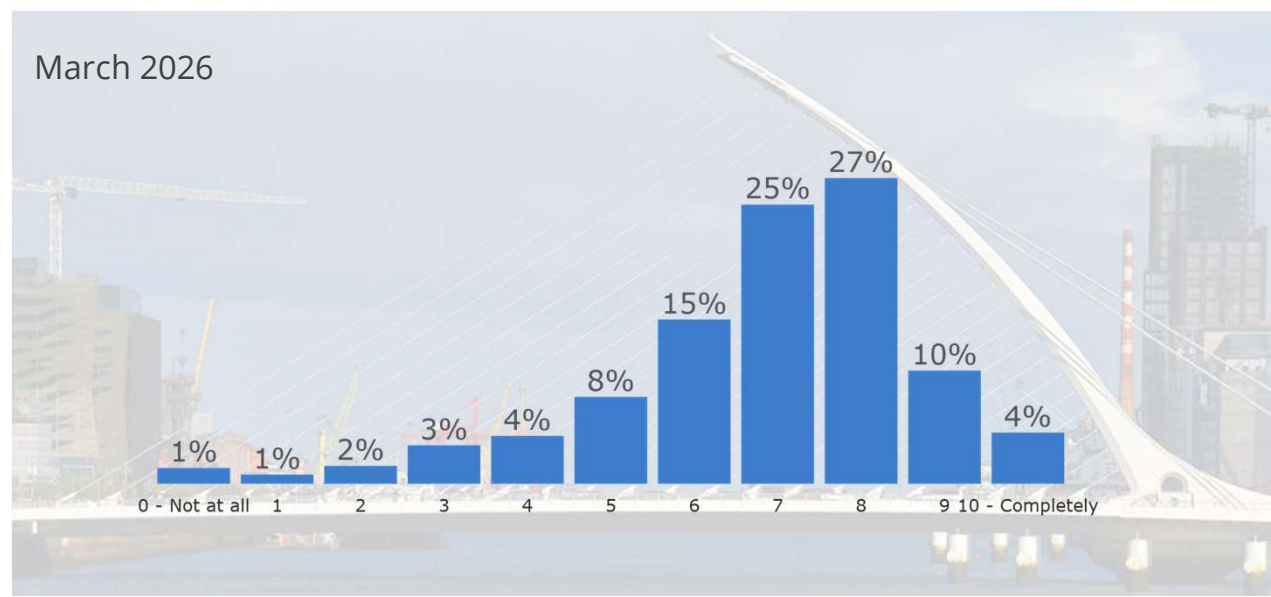


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Life Satisfaction

On a scale of 0 to 10, overall how satisfied are you with your life nowadays?



6.8
is the average life satisfaction score out of 10

This is in line with the level measured in November 2025



Base: 1024

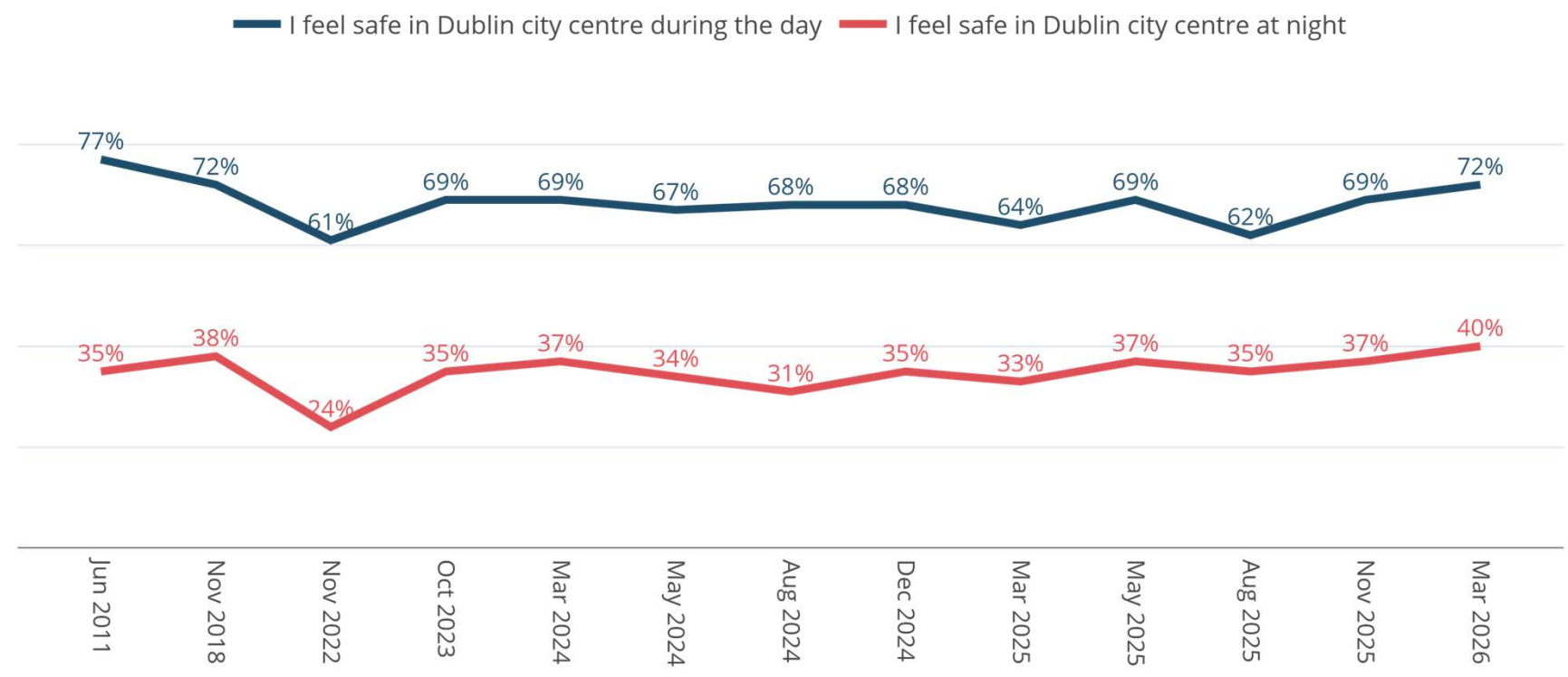
Feb 2020 Feb 2022 Aug 2022 Nov 2022 Mar 2023 May 2023 Aug 2023 Oct 2023 Mar 2024 May 2024 Sep 2024 Dec 2024 Mar 2025 May 2025 Aug 2025 Nov 2025 Mar 2026

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Feeling Safe in the City Centre - Trend

Thinking about shopping (excluding groceries) and leisure in general please indicate your level of agreement with each of the following statements:
% agree or strongly agree



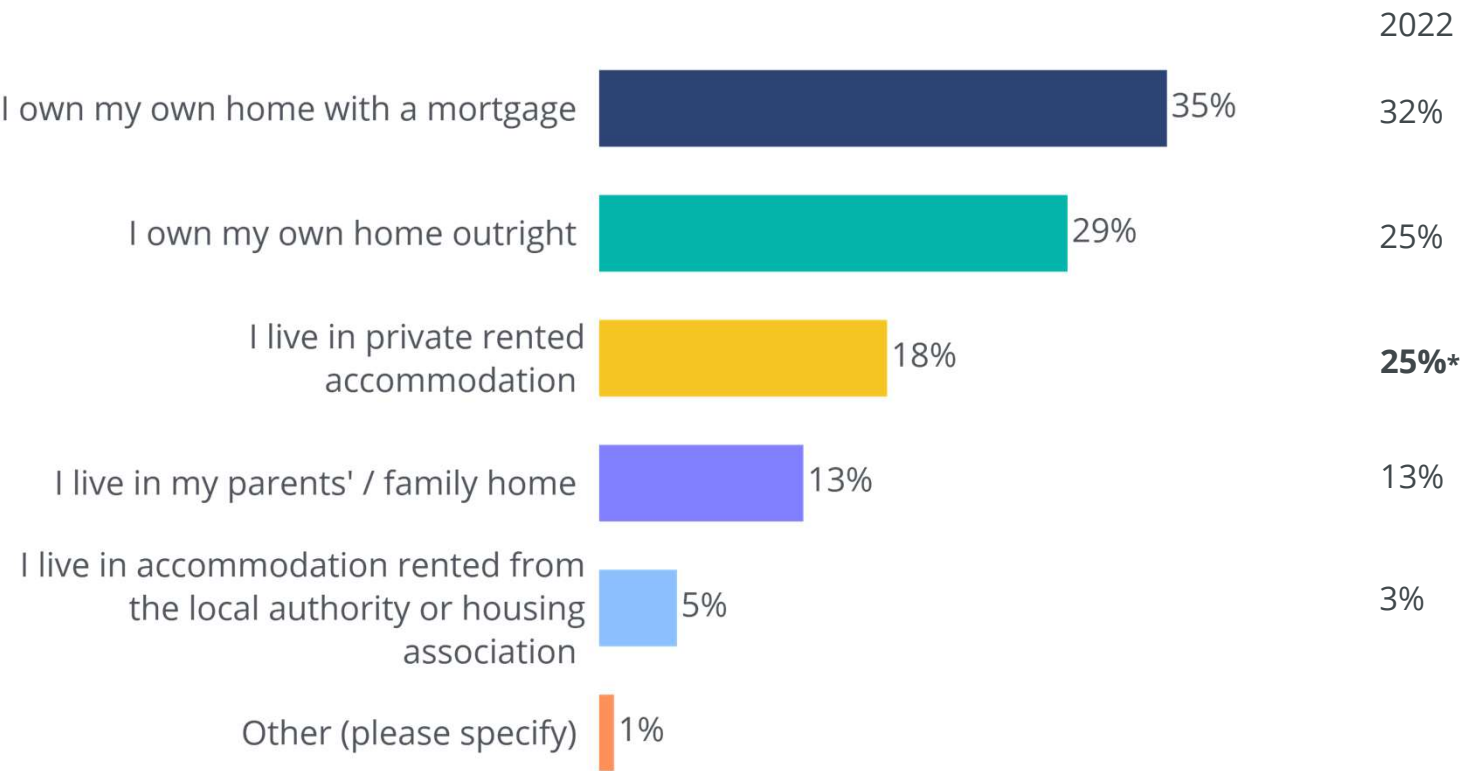
Base Mar 2026: 1023

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Current Living Arrangements

Which of the following describes your current living arrangements?
% selecting



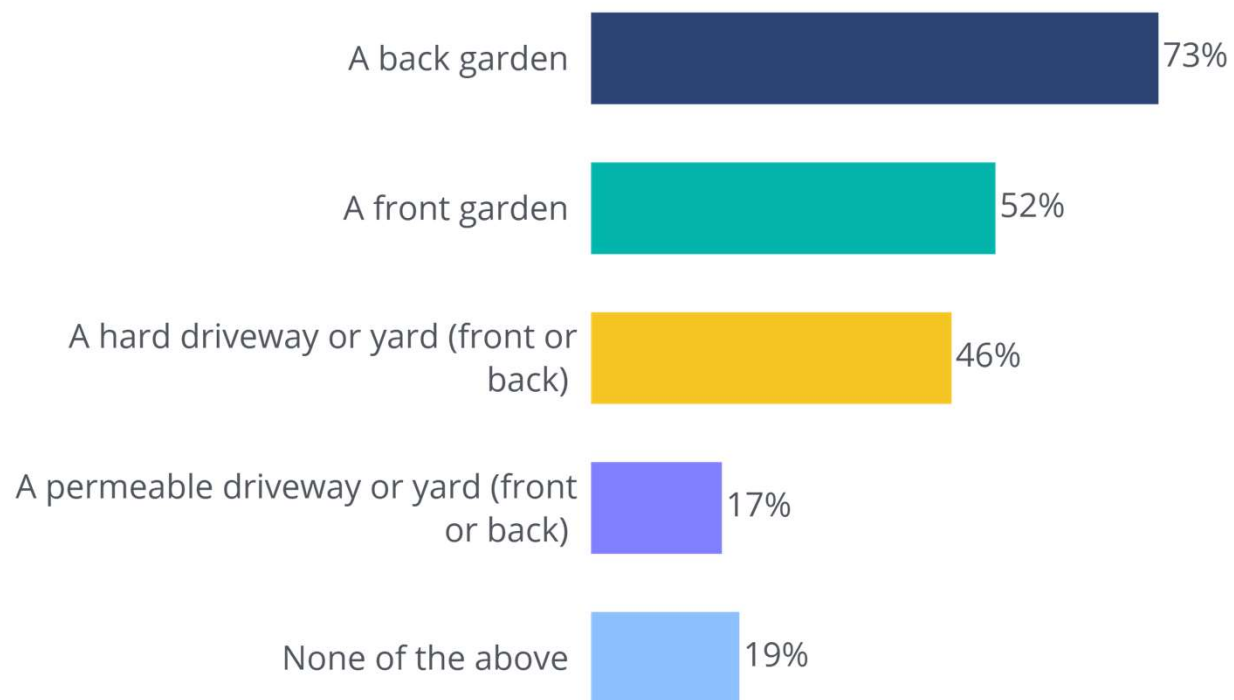
Those aged 35-49 were most likely to own their home with a mortgage, while under 35s were most likely to rent, or to live in their parents' home. Over 50s were more likely to own their home with a mortgage or outright.

*statistically significant changes since 2022 are highlighted in bold

Base: 1024

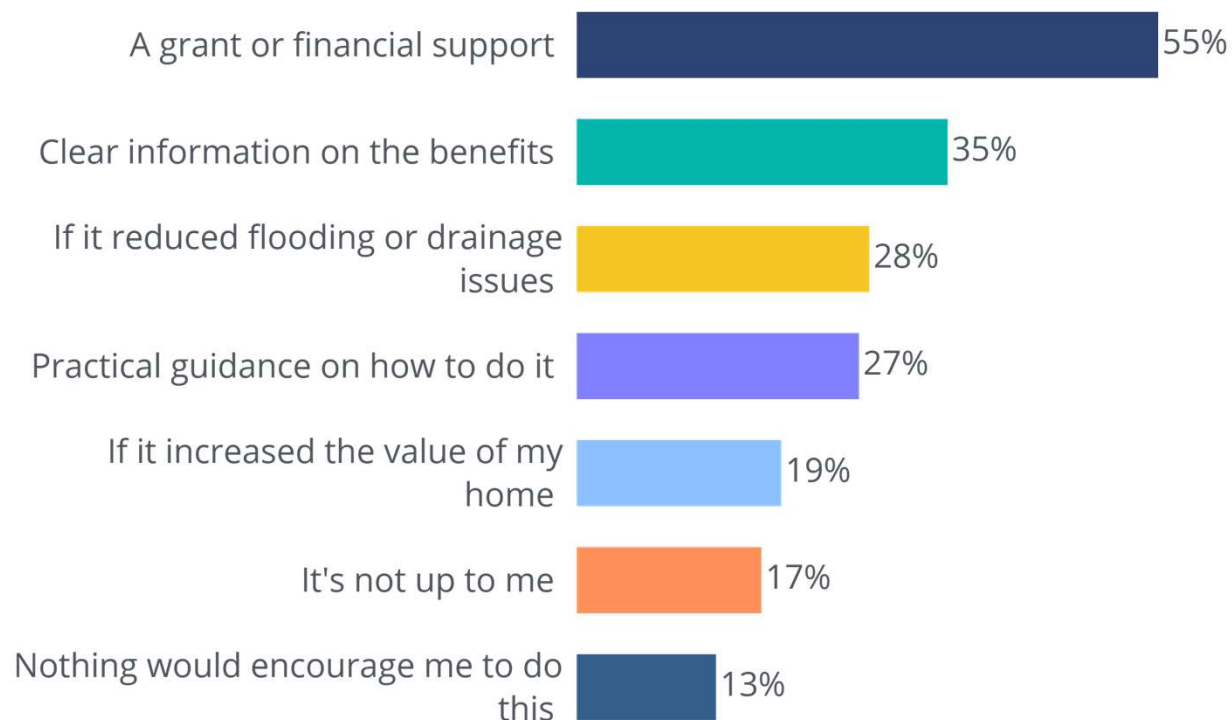
In your current living arrangements, do you have any of the following? Please select as many as apply, or "none of the above".

% selecting



Base: 1024

What, if anything, would encourage you to replace your hard driveway or yard with permeable material?
(only those with a hard driveway or yard) % selecting



Base: 484

How happy are you with your current living arrangements?

Very unhappy Somewhat unhappy No strong feelings Reasonably happy Very happy



77% are very or reasonably happy with their current living arrangements

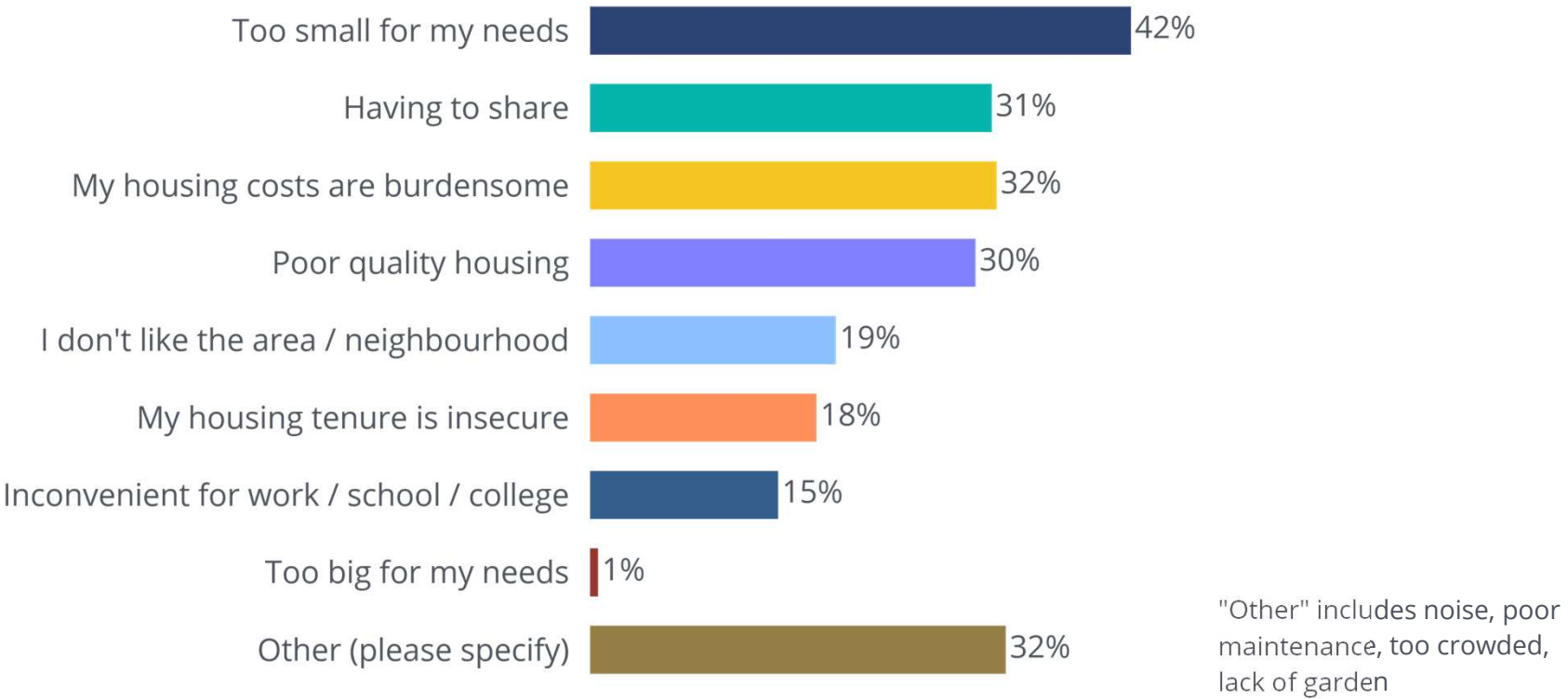
up from **73%** in 2022

Happiness with living arrangements increases among older age groups.

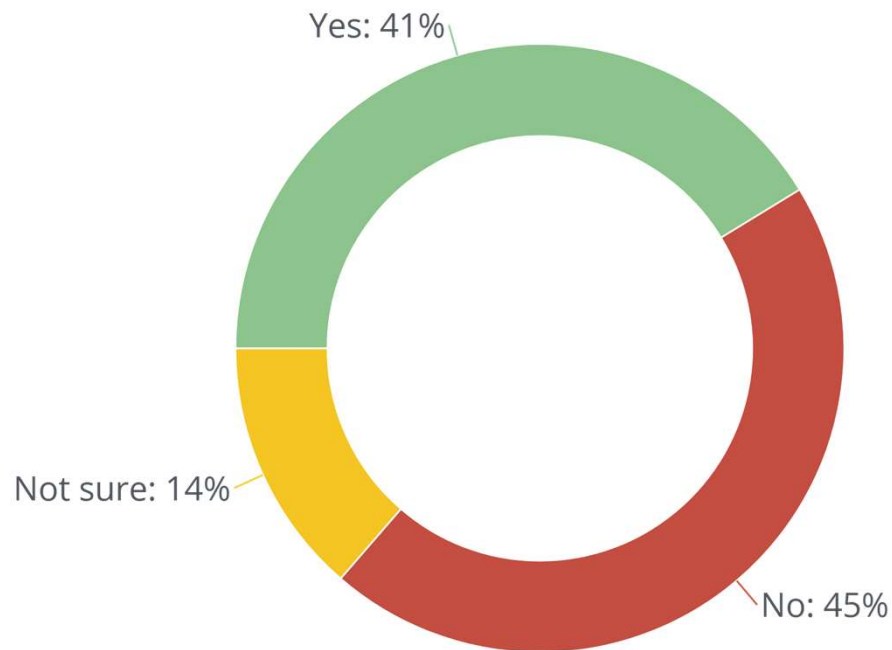
Happiness with living arrangements was higher among those owning their home with a mortgage or outright.

Reasons for Being Unhappy with Living Arrangements

What makes you unhappy with your current living arrangements?



In the next five years, do you hope to change your housing arrangement?

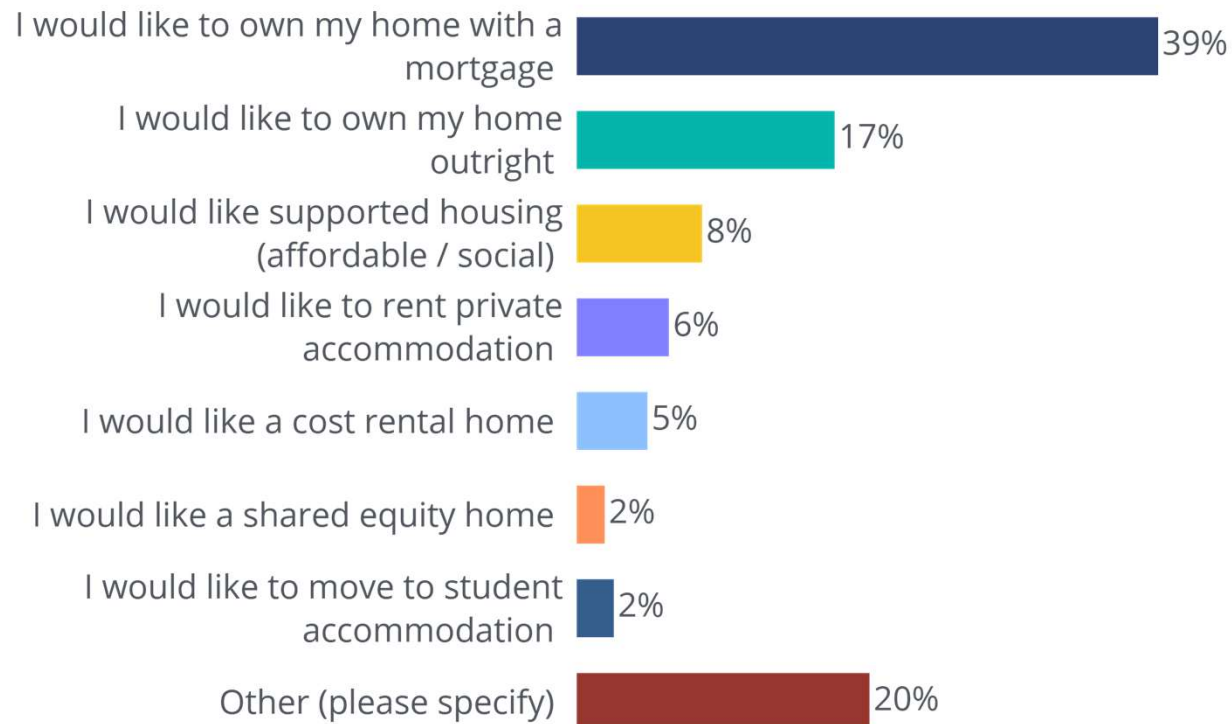


41% indicated that they hoped to change their housing arrangement in the next 5 years

Down from 46% in **2022**

76% of 18-34 year-olds hoped to change their housing arrangement in the next five years.

How do you hope to see your housing situation change in the next five years?
(those who hope for a change)

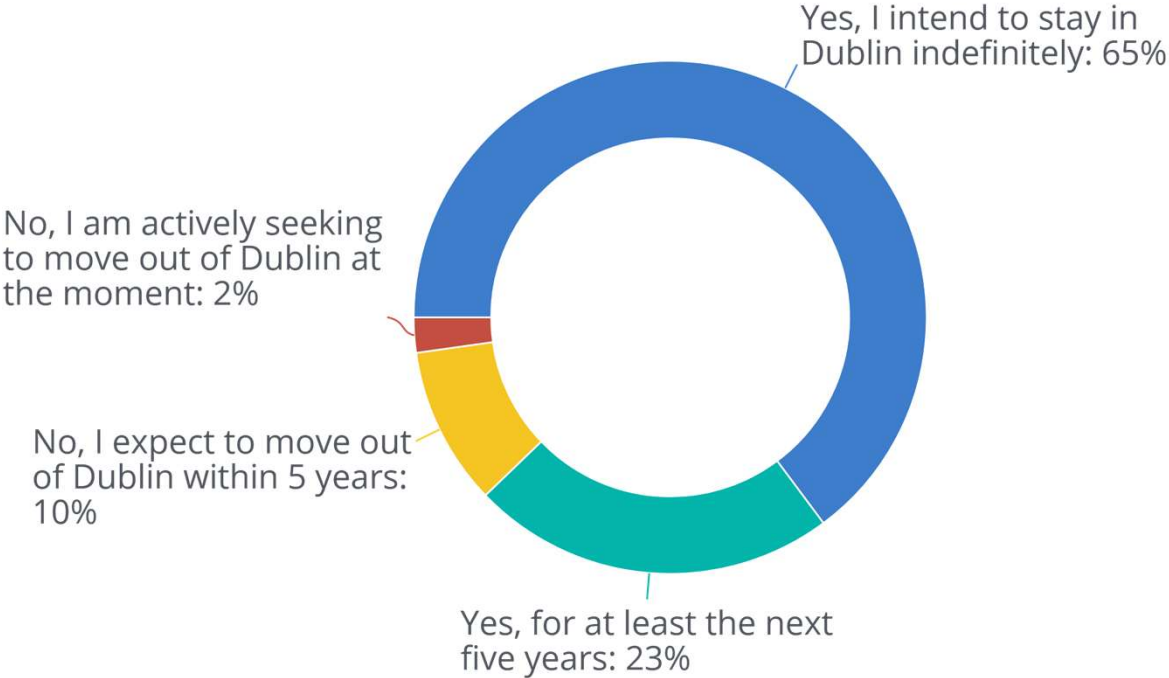


"Other" includes downsize, upsize, renovate, relocate

Base: 326

Continuing to Live in Dublin?

Do you see yourself continuing to live in Dublin?

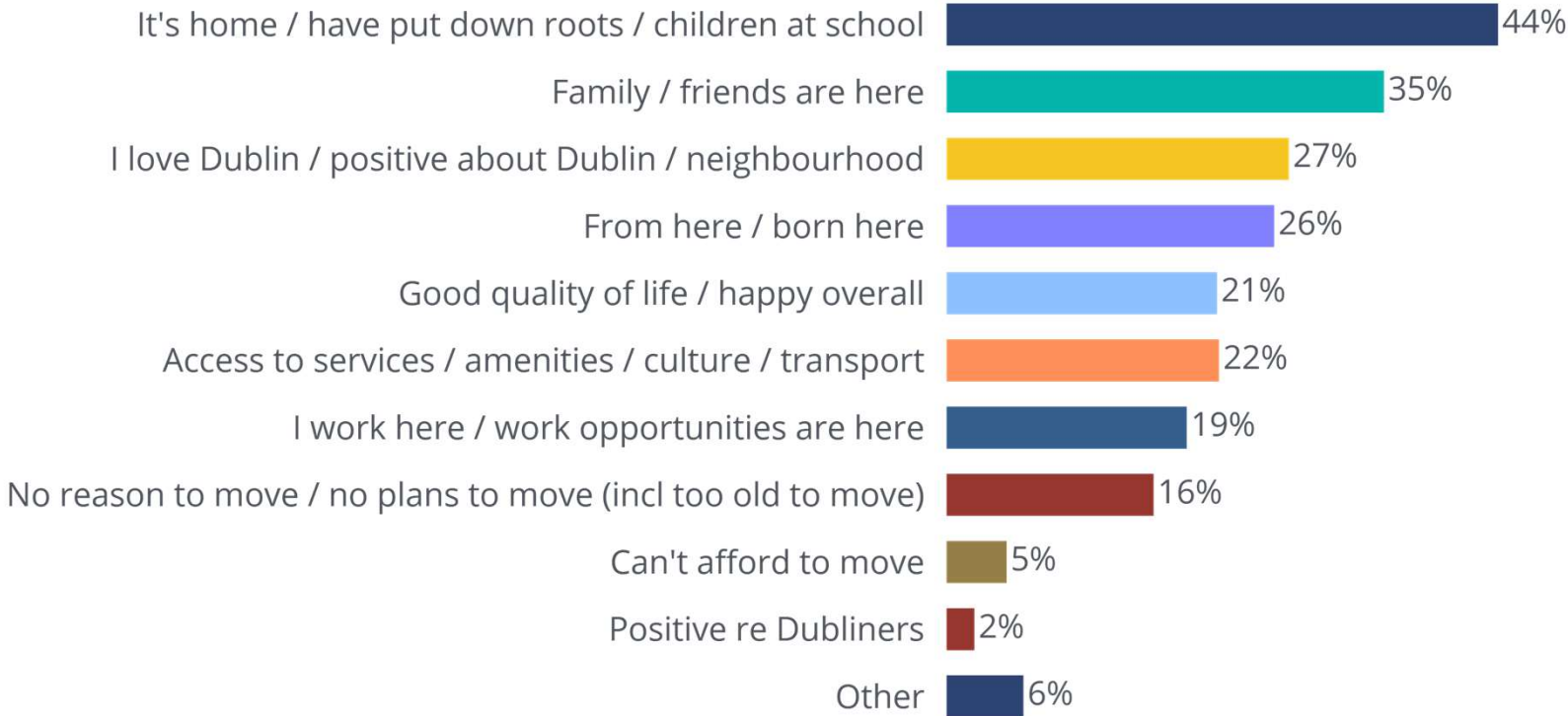


65% indicated that they intend to live in Dublin indefinitely, and a further 23% saw themselves living in Dublin for at least the next five years.

2022 55% indefinitely and 24% at least 5 years

Reasons for Intending to Stay in Dublin Indefinitely

Can you please give your reasons for saying "I intend to stay in Dublin indefinitely"?
categorisation of verbatim responses



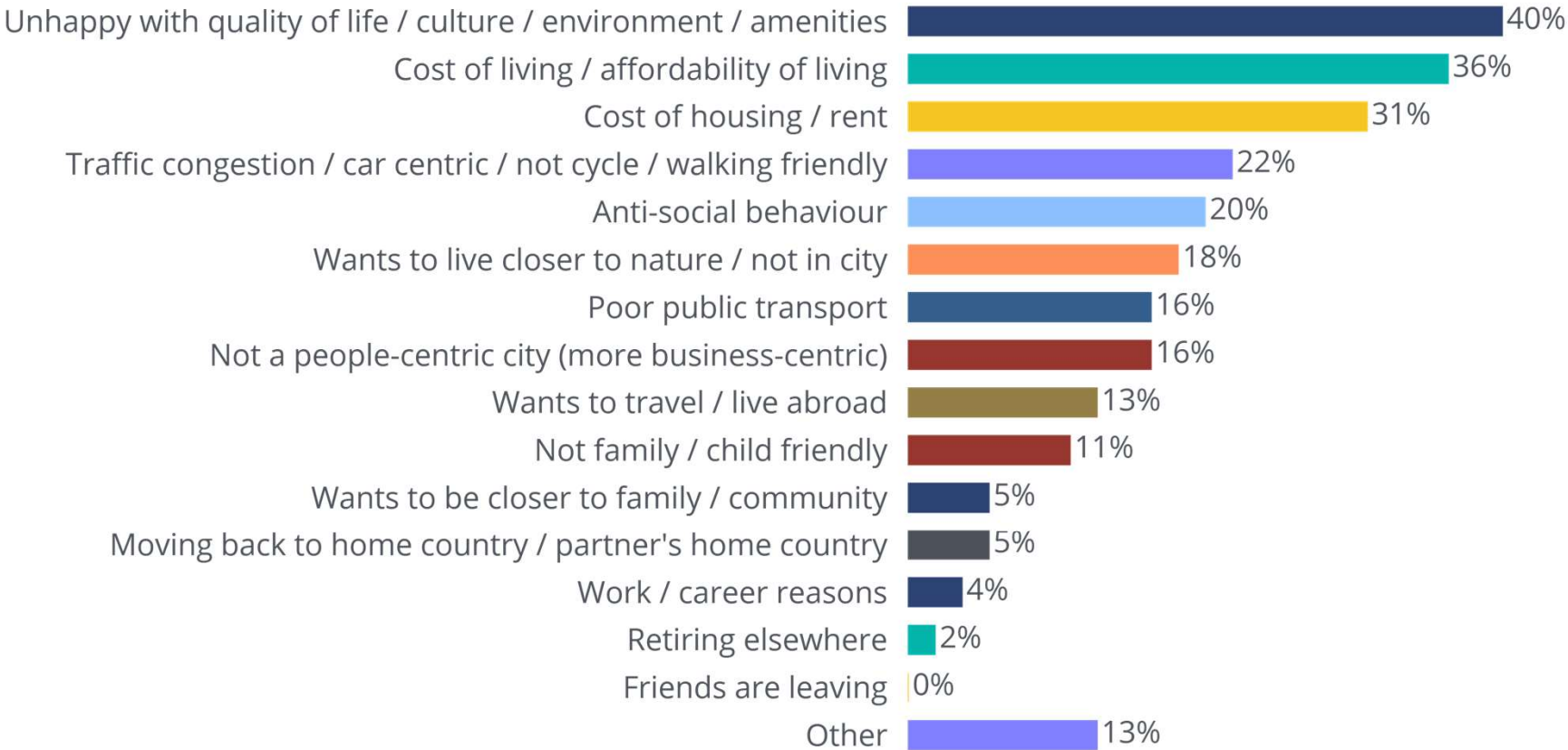
Reasons for Intending to Stay in Dublin for at Least the Next 5 Years

Can you please give your reasons for saying "I intend to stay in Dublin for at least the next 5 years"?
categorisation of verbatim responses



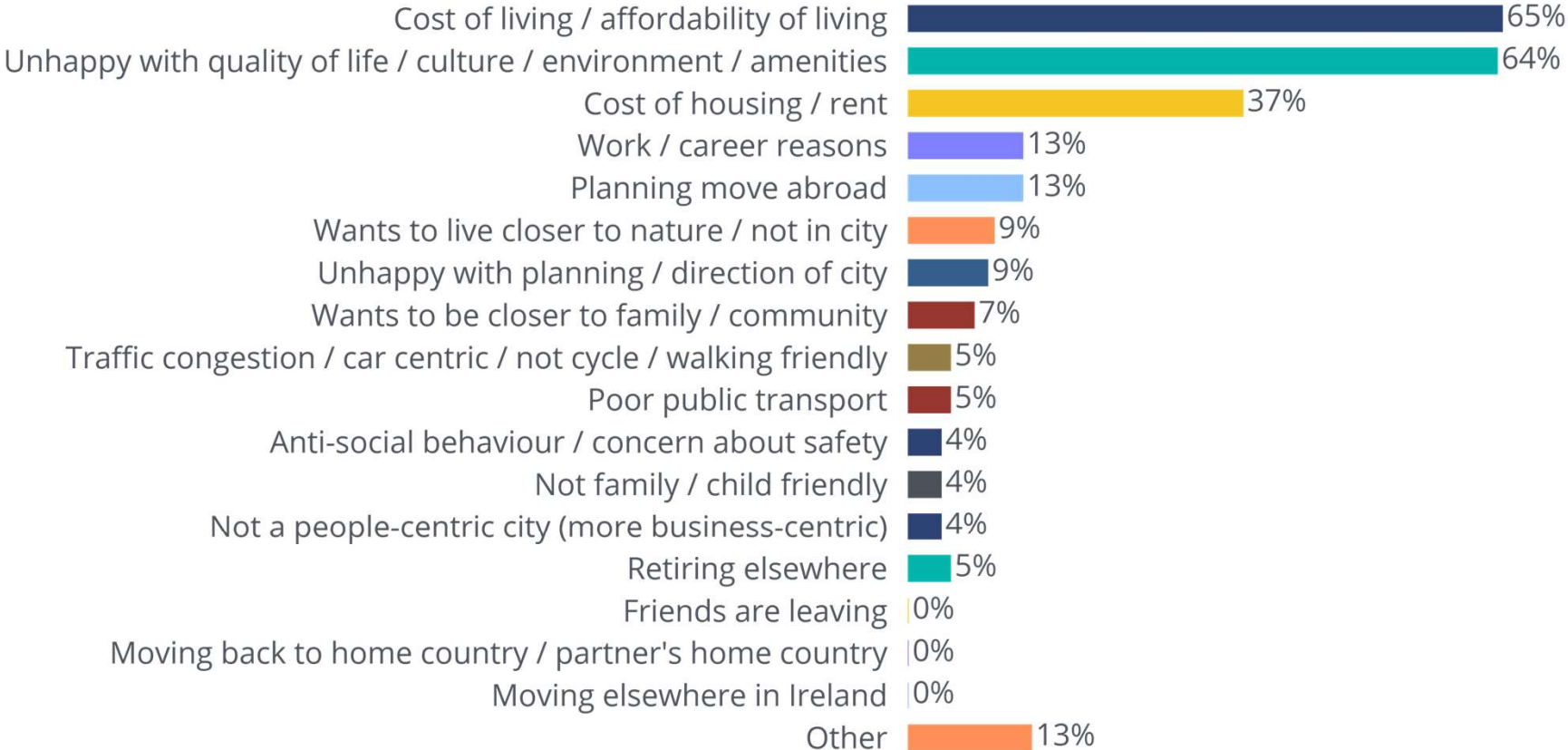
Reasons for Expecting to Move Out of Dublin within 5 Years

Can you please give your reasons for saying "I intend to move out of Dublin within the next 5 years"?
categorisation of verbatim responses



Reasons for Actively Seeking to Move Out of Dublin at the Moment

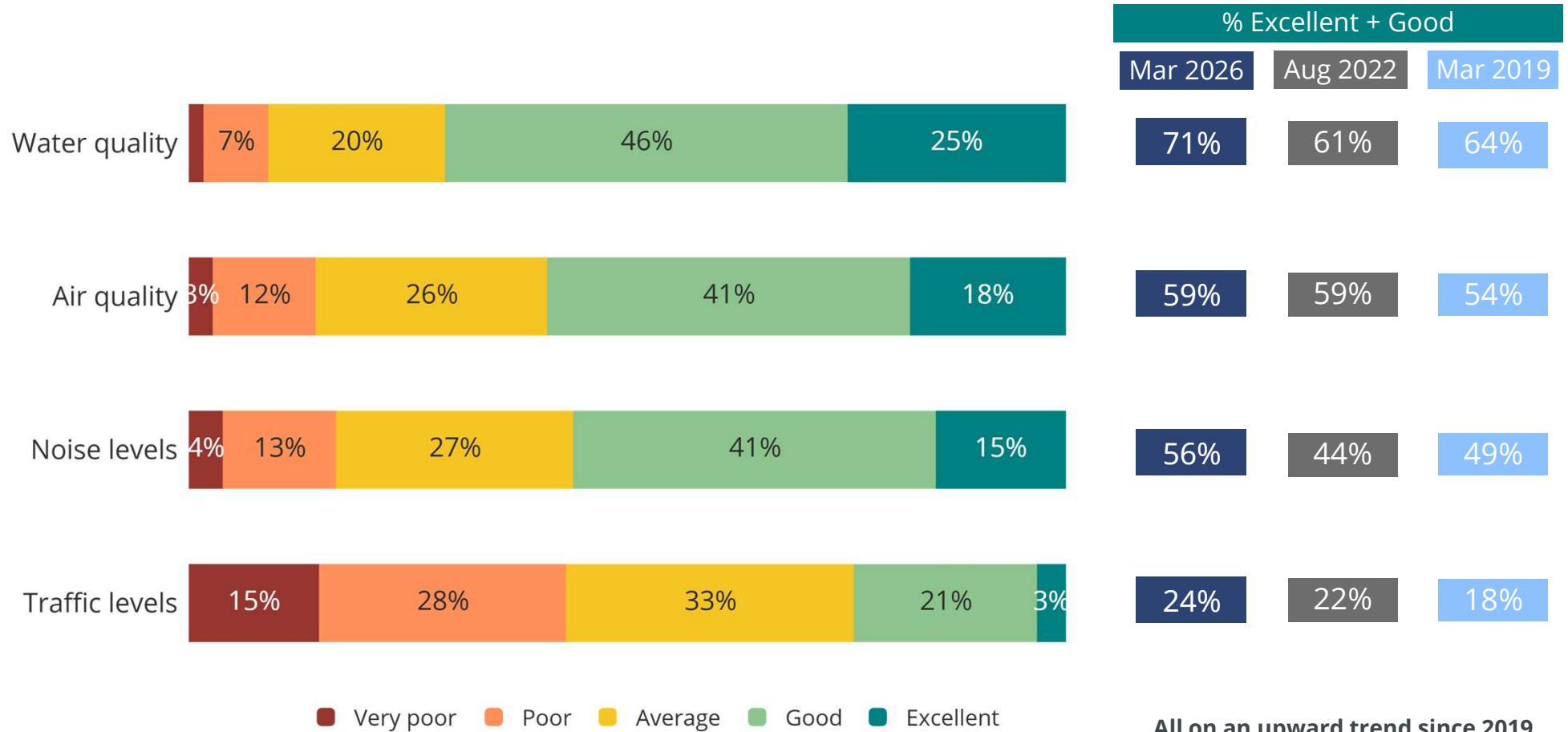
Can you please give your reasons for saying "I am actively seeking to move out of Dublin at the moment"?
categorisation of verbatim responses



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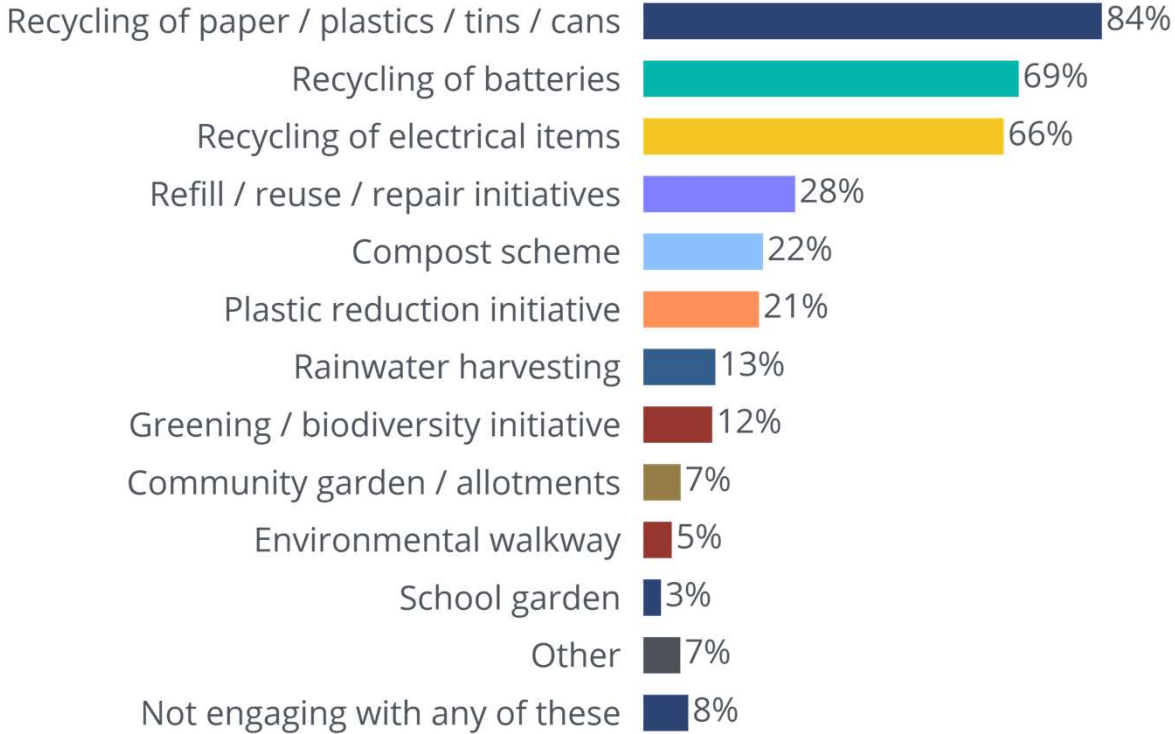
Thinking about the area where you live, please rate the general quality of the following:



Base: 1020

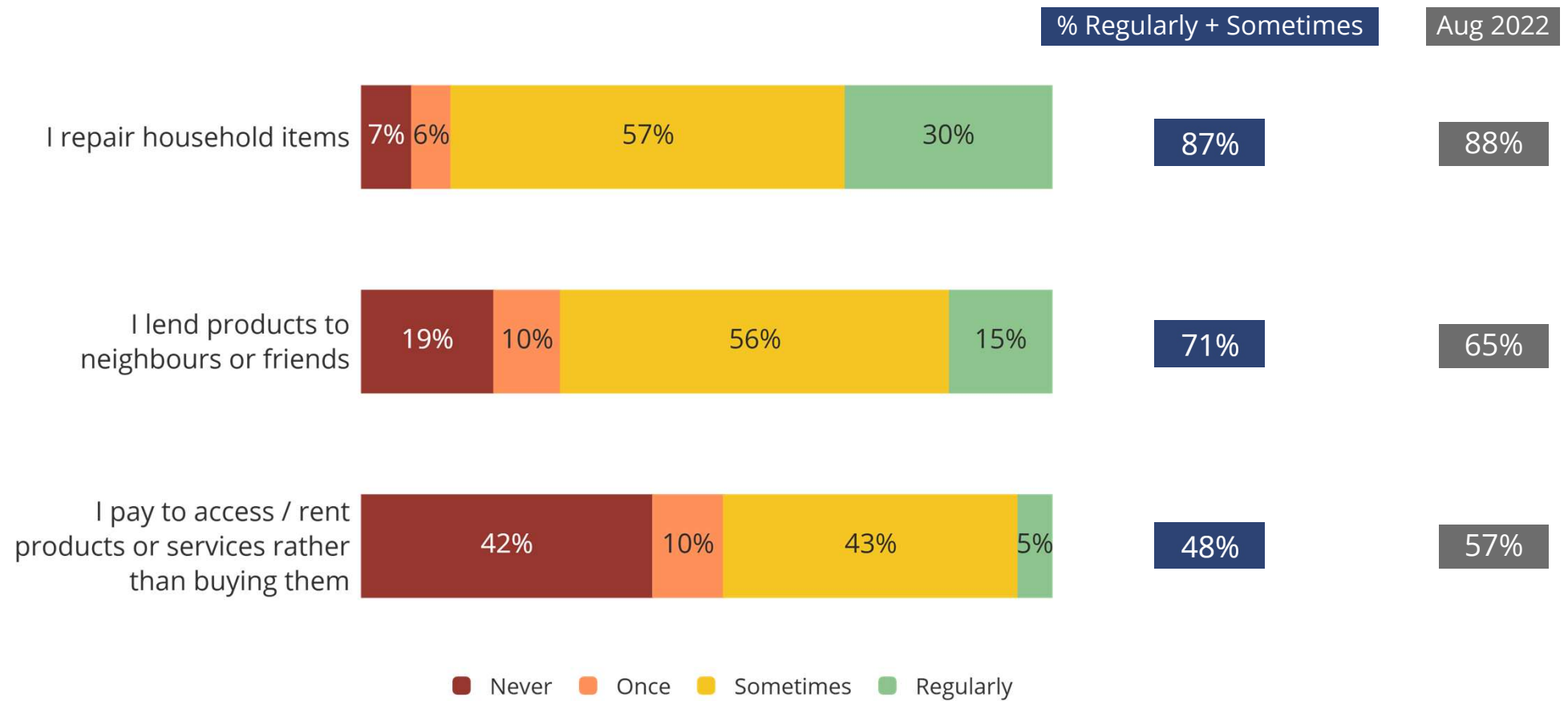
Participation in Environmental Initiatives

Do you participate in any environmental initiatives in your area? Please select as many as apply.
% selecting (new wording in 2026)

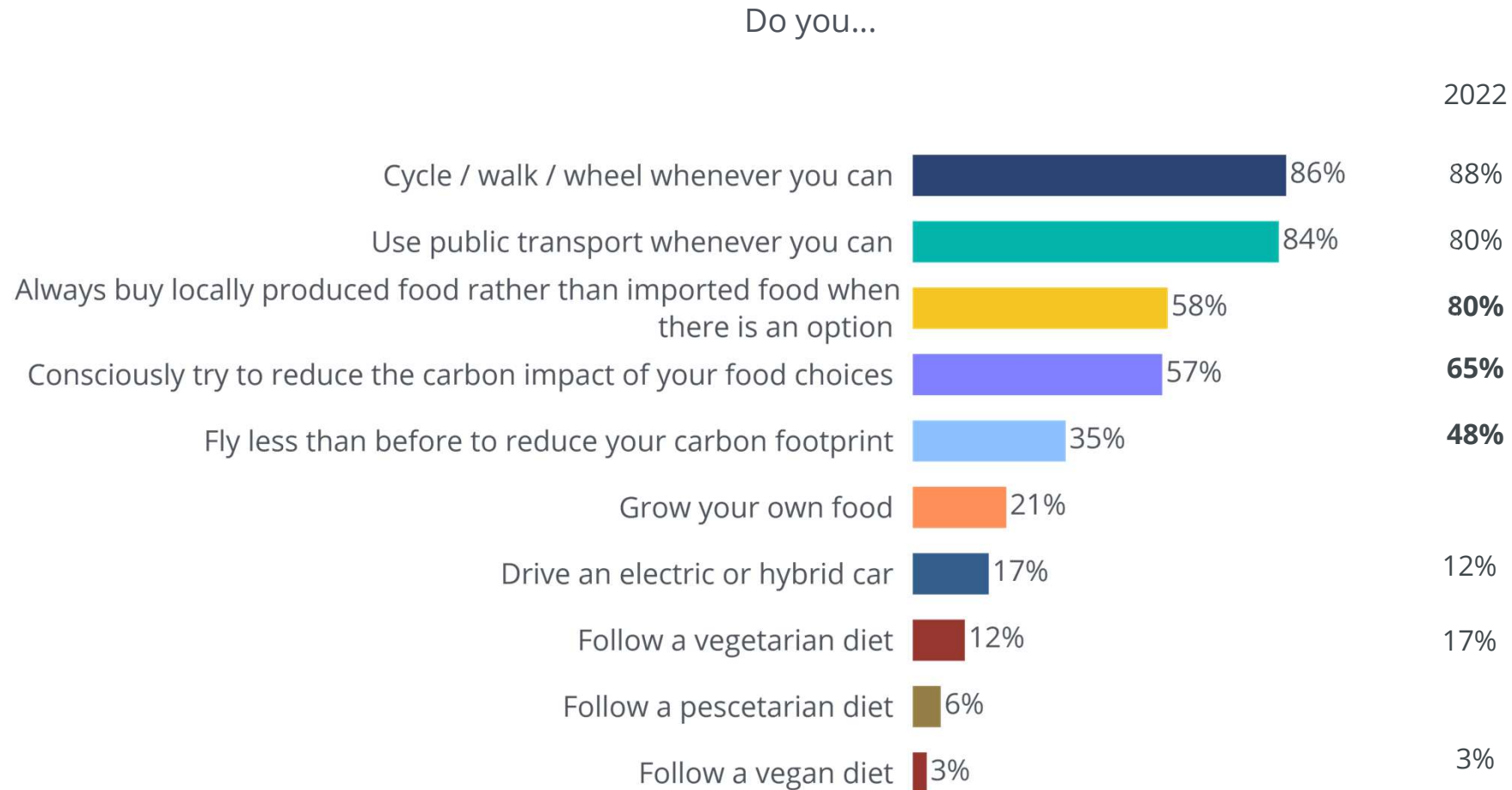


"Other" includes Community Cleanups, engagement with groups (e.g. Residents Association), tree-planting / gardening

Please indicate how often each of the following applies to you:



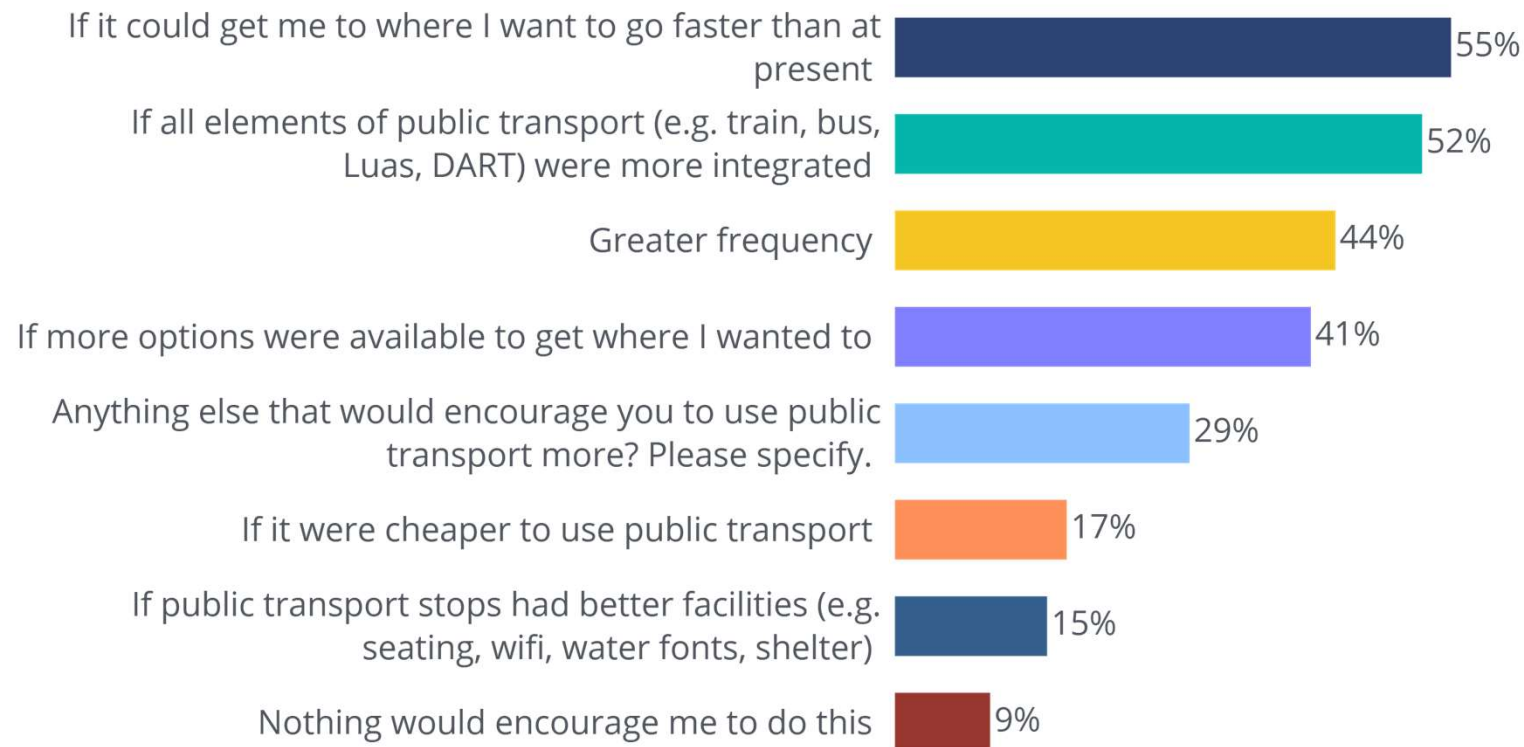
Base: 1024



What, if anything, would encourage you to grow your own food? Please select as many as apply, or "Nothing would encourage me to do this"

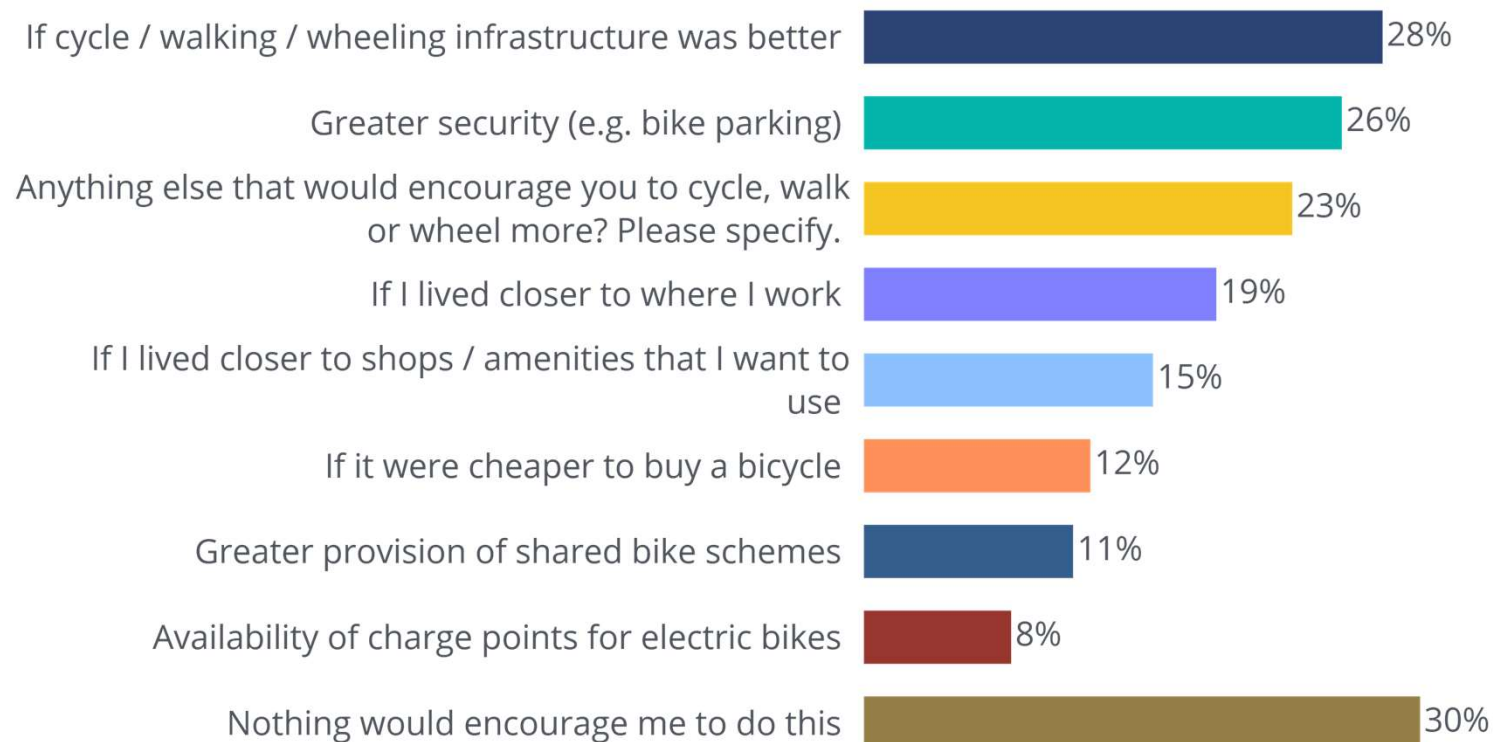


What, if anything, would encourage you to use public transport more? Please select as many as apply, or "Nothing would encourage me to do this"



"Anything else" includes better reliability / punctuality, improved safety and security on board and at stops, better route coverage

What, if anything, would encourage you to cycle, walk or wheel more? Please select as many as apply, or "Nothing would encourage me to do this"



"Anything else" includes better infrastructure, improved personal health, weather

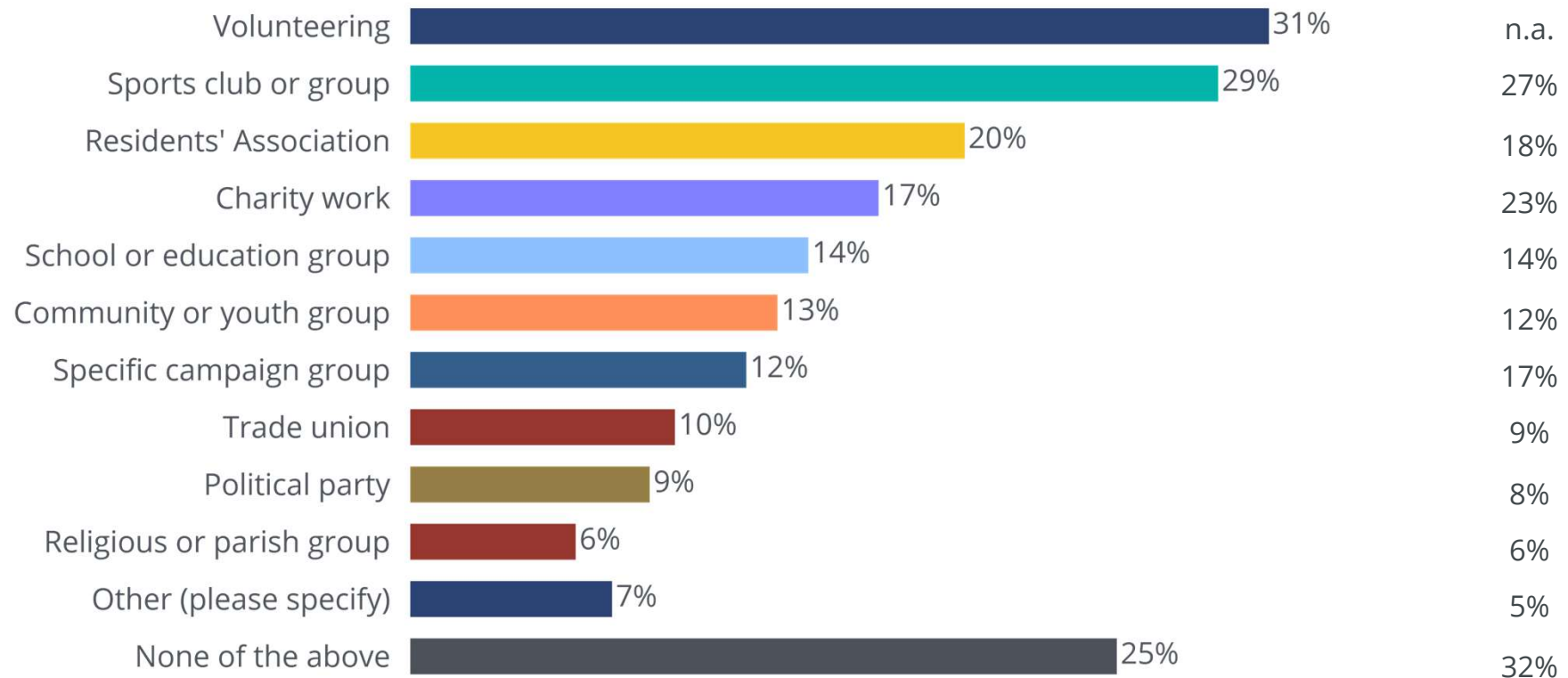
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In the last two years have you been actively involved in any of the following types of groups or activities?

% selecting

2022



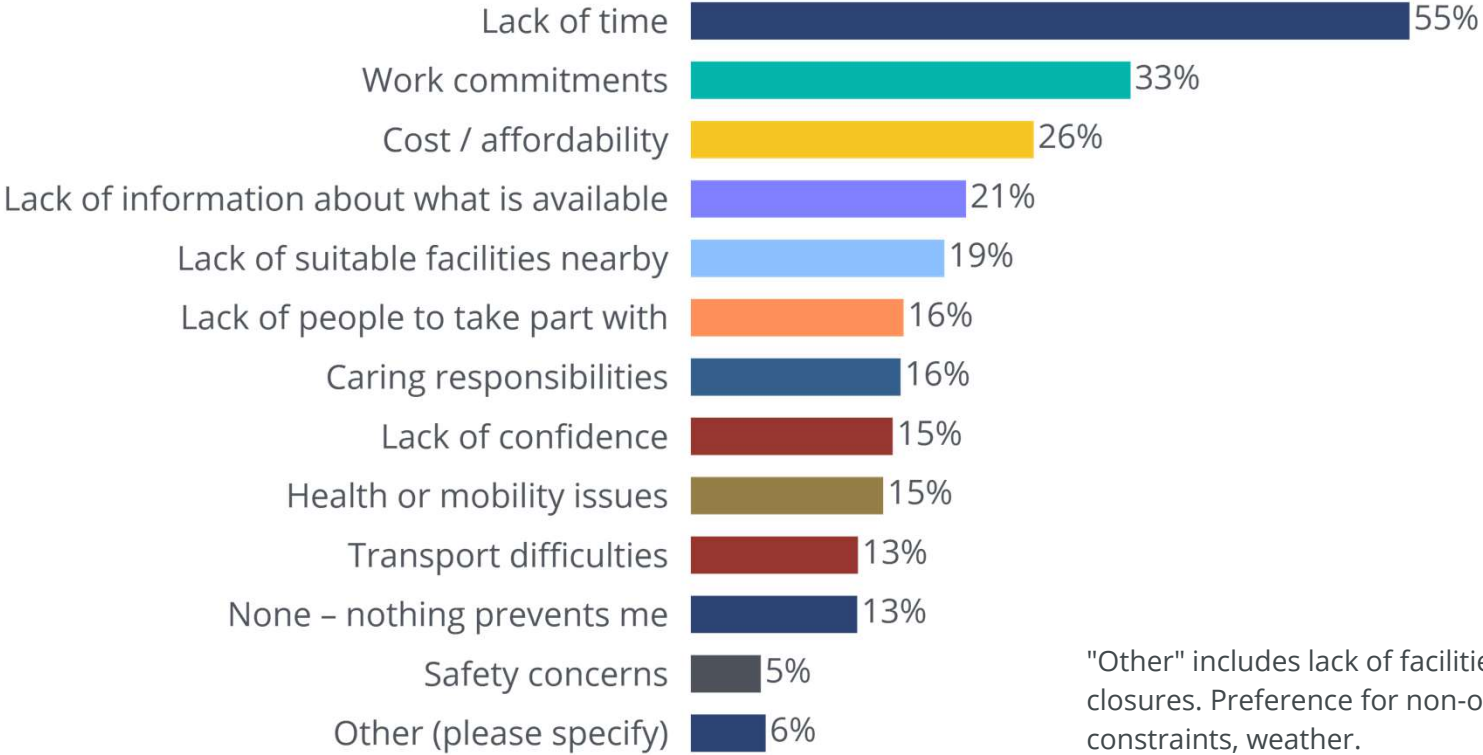
"Other" includes political / protest groups, social clubs, arts, music groups

Base: 1024

Barriers to Participating More in Activities

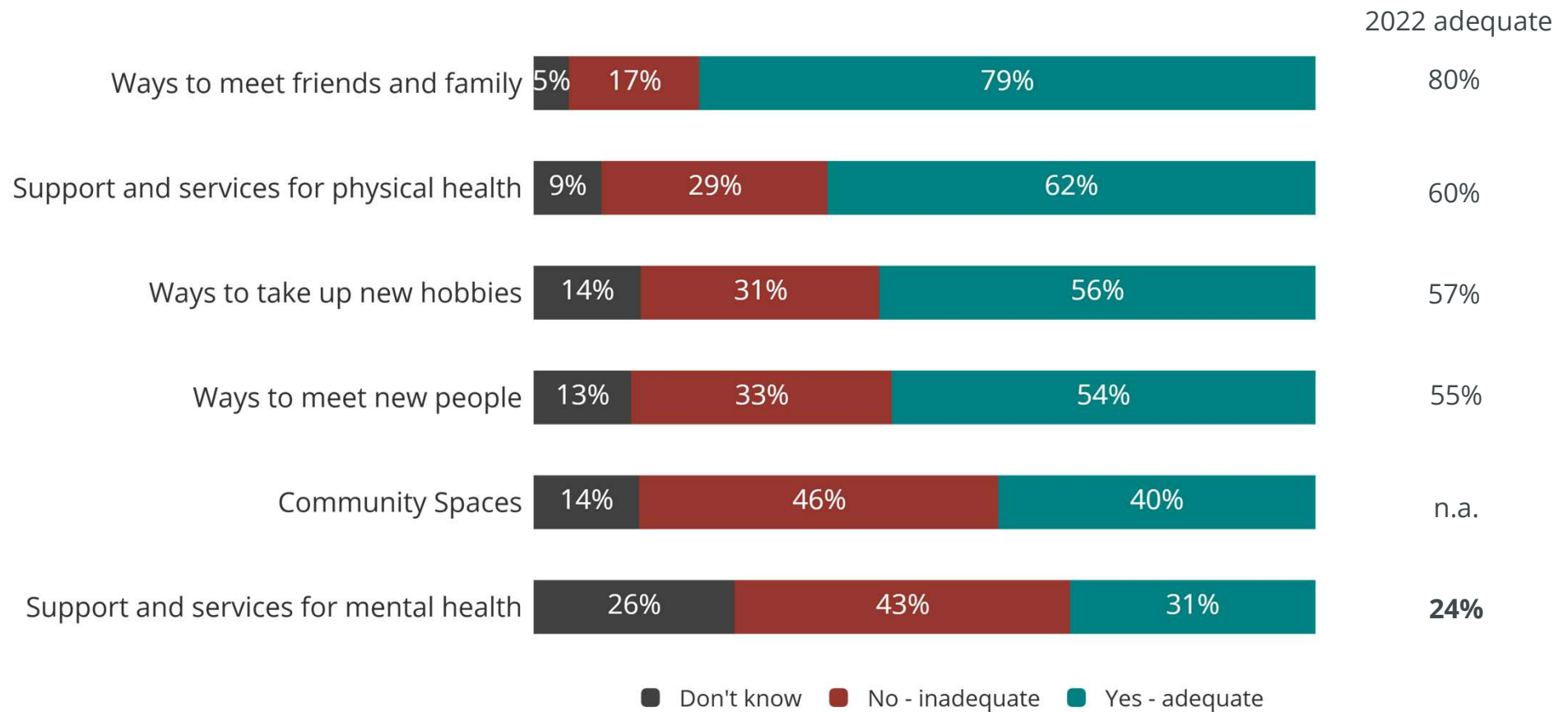
What, if any, barriers are there to you participating more in sports, hobbies or activities that support your mental wellbeing?

% selecting



"Other" includes lack of facilities, spaces, classes or closures. Preference for non-organised activities. Time constraints, weather.

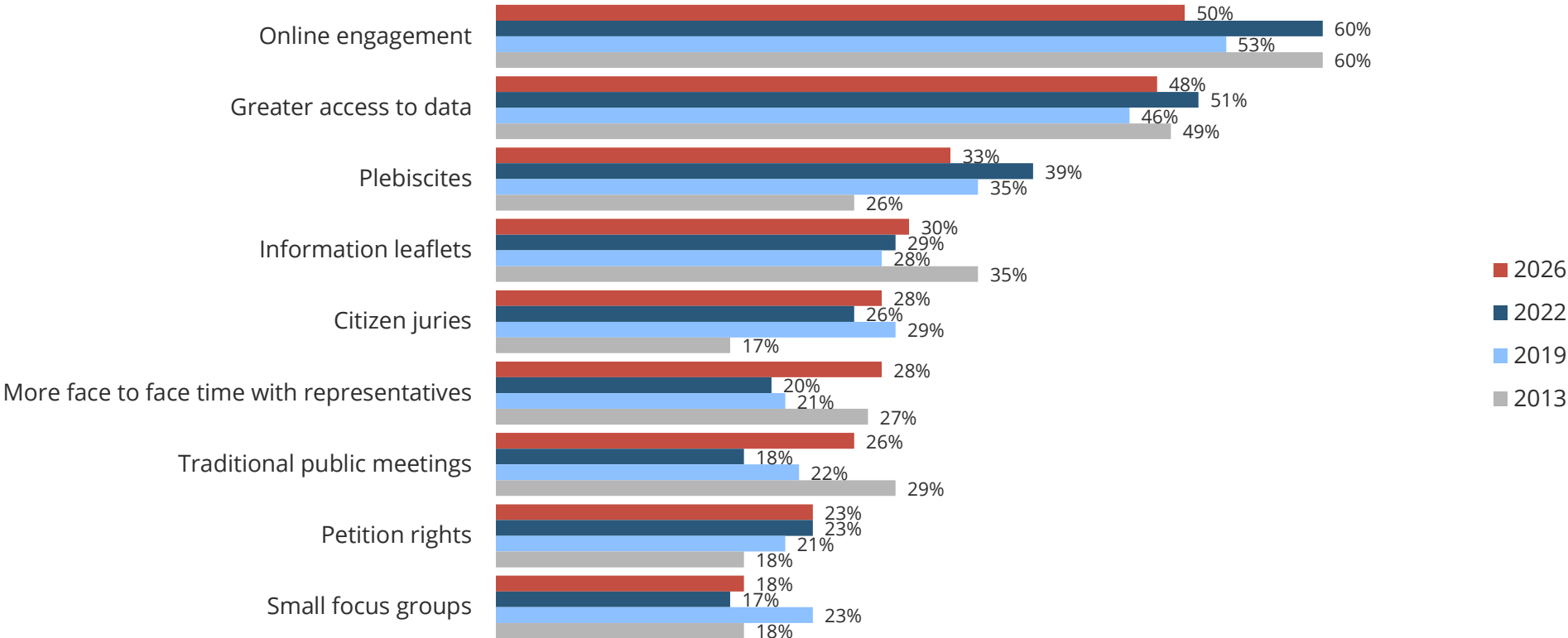
Do you feel you have adequate access to:



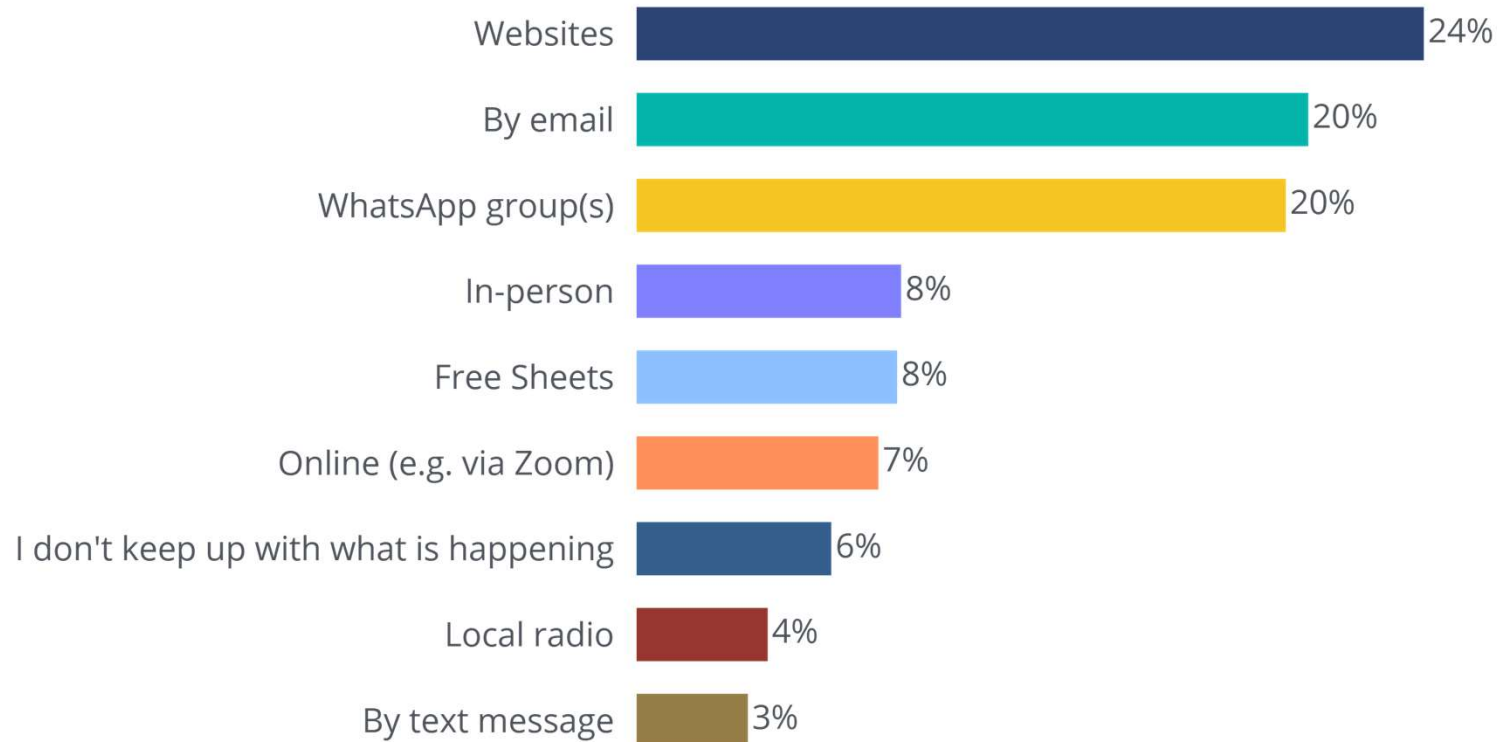
Involvement in Decision Making - Trend

There are many ways in which citizens can get involved in local decision making. Please select your top 3 preferred ways to get involved in local decision making from the following list:

% selecting

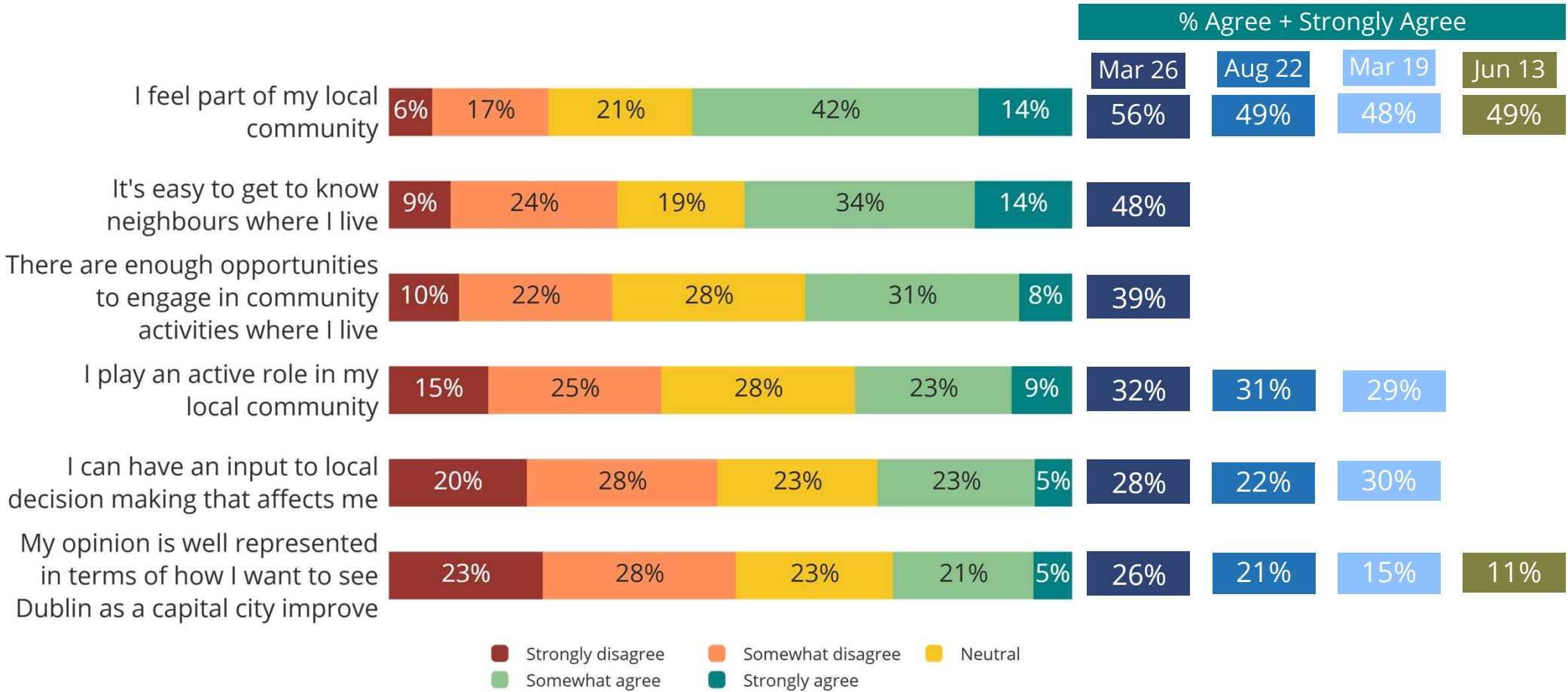


Which of the following is your preferred medium for keeping up with what is happening in your local community?
% selecting



Community and Representation

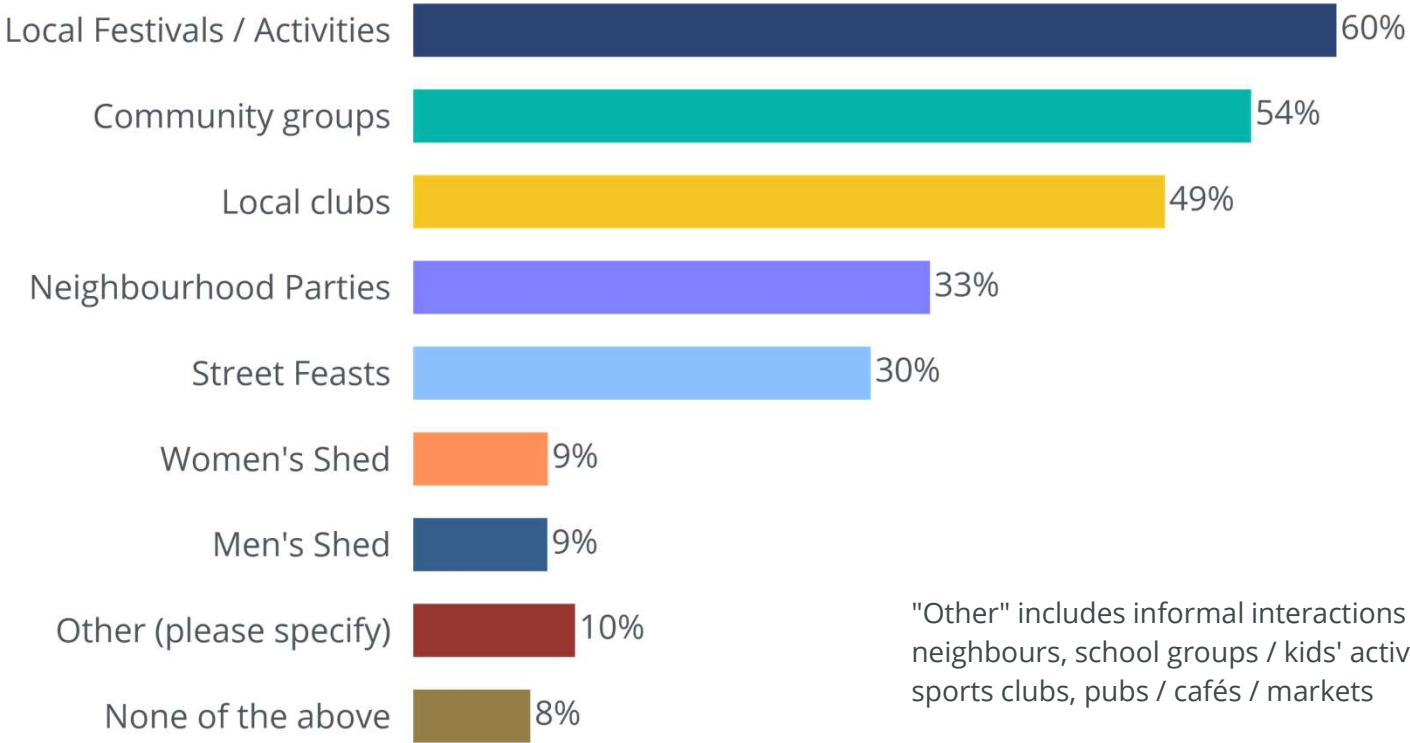
Please indicate your agreement with the following statements:



Base: 1020

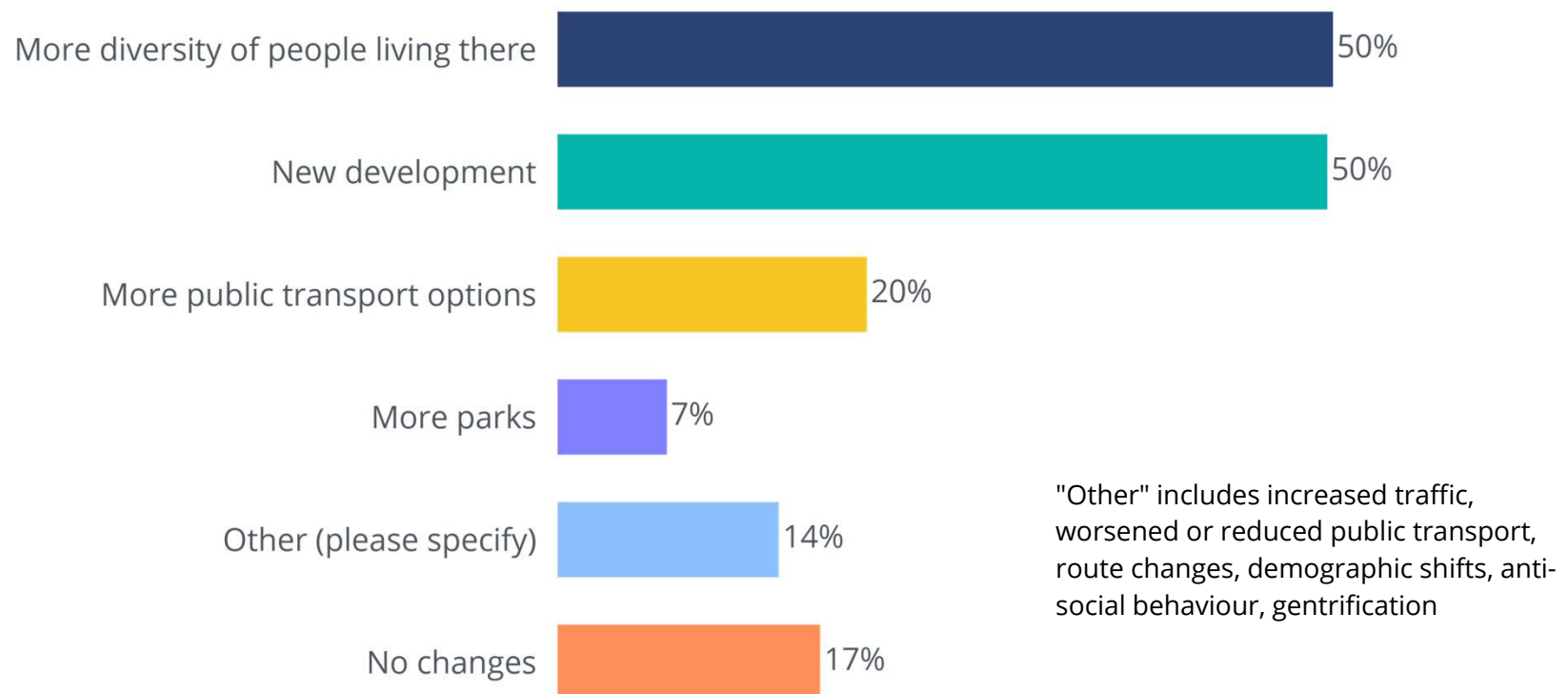
Contributors to Feeling Part of Community

Which of the following contribute to you feeling a part of your community?
(base - those indicating agree to "I feel part of my local community")
% selecting



"Other" includes informal interactions with neighbours, school groups / kids' activities, sports clubs, pubs / cafés / markets

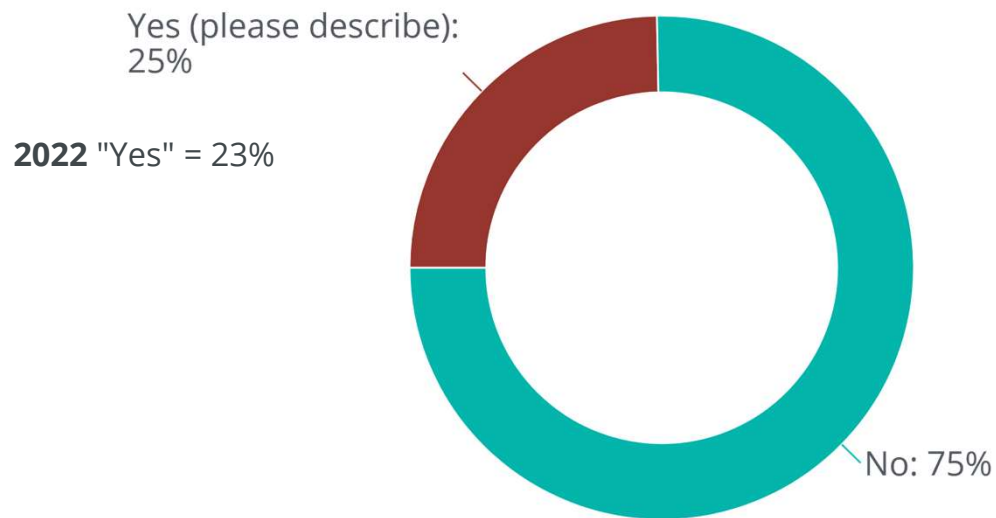
How has your local area / community changed in the last five years? Please select as many as apply, or "no changes".
% selecting



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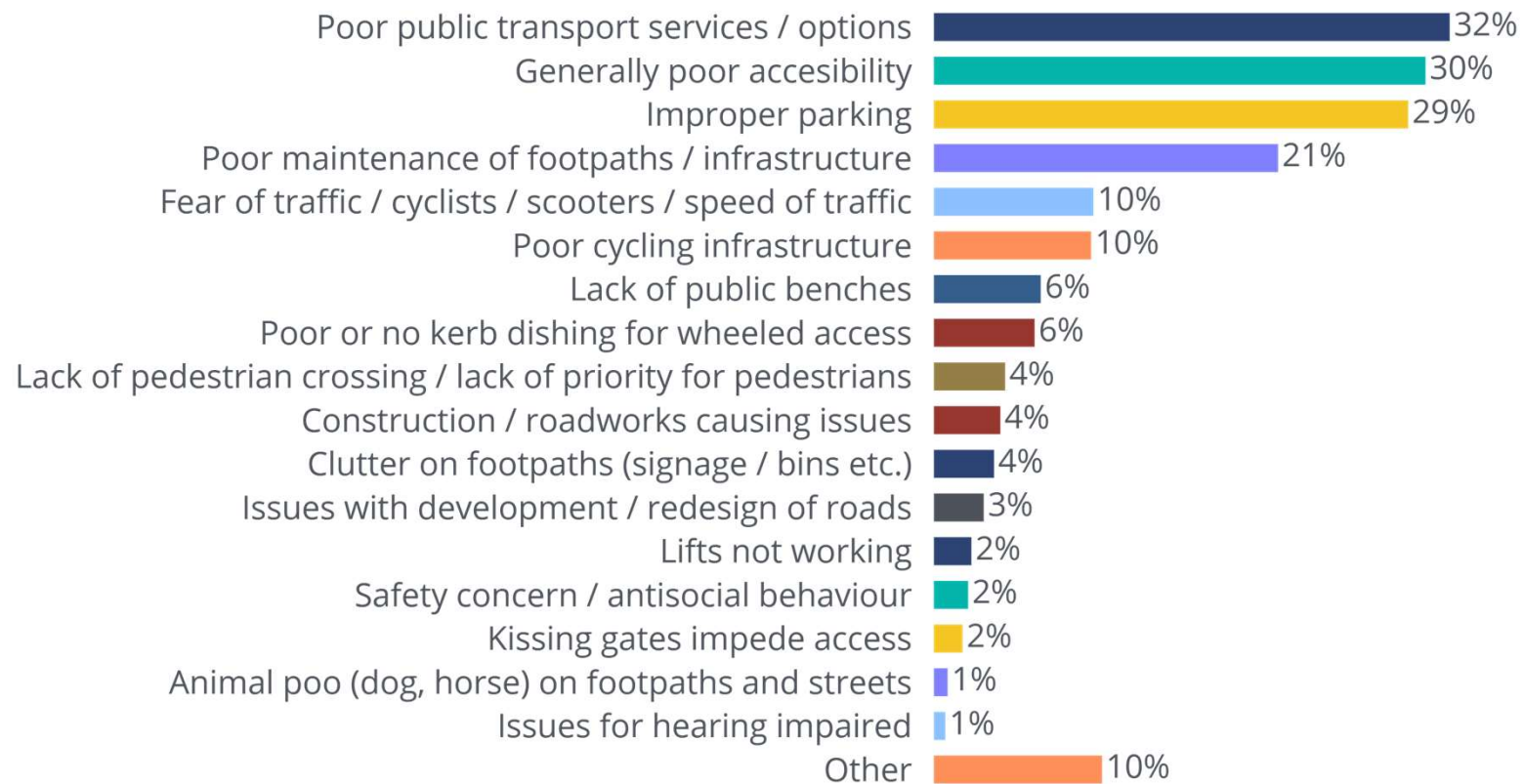
Have you personally experienced any problems with accessibility in your local area?



Experience of problems with accessibility was higher among female respondents at 30%.

Experience of problems with accessibility was higher among respondents with dependent children at 32%.

Have you personally experienced any problems with accessibility in your local area?
- problems described



From the following list please select any accessibility measures that would benefit your area. Please select up to 4 measures that you feel are most needed in your area.

% selecting

2022



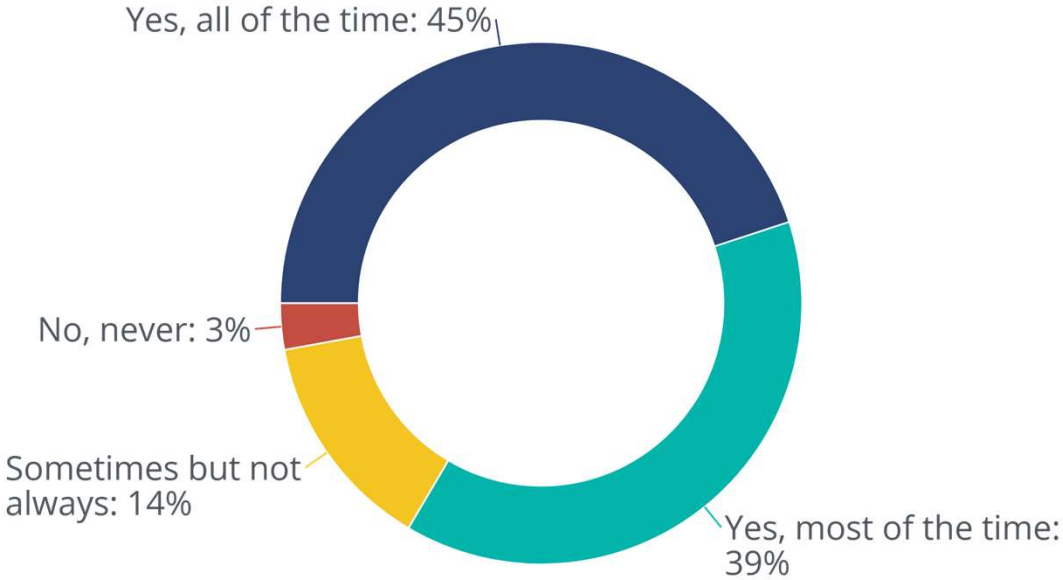
"Other" includes enforcement against illegal parking, footpath maintenance, enforcement of traffic laws (e.g. red lights)

Order identical in 2022

Base: 1019

Feeling Accepted in Dublin

Dublin strives to be a city where everyone can be comfortable being themselves, regardless of background or identity. Do you feel accepted in Dublin?




84% of respondents felt accepted in Dublin all of the time or most of the time.

(2022=85%)

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- **Life satisfaction** is stable, with some improvements noted in city centre safety since late 2025.
- High levels of **attachment to Dublin** persist, with 88% intending to stay at least five years and 65% indefinitely (up from 55% in 2022).
- Housing profile reflects a mix of ownership and rental, with **strong satisfaction (77%)** but continued **underlying pressure**, as 41% expect to change their situation within five years.
- **Younger** and **lower-income** groups are significantly more likely to **anticipate housing change**, particularly those in private rental or living in the family home.
- **Environmental quality indicators** show consistent **improvement** since 2019.
- **Sustainable behaviours are widespread** (e.g. recycling, public transport use), though conscious efforts to reduce carbon footprint and buying locally produced food have softened since 2022.
- **Community involvement is high**, with 75% participating in a group or activity (up from 68% in 2022). A minority feel they have adequate access to **community spaces** and supports for **mental health**.
- **Community experience is broadly positive**, with 84% feeling accepted, but 25% report accessibility challenges, most commonly linked to transport, infrastructure (footpaths) and parking / traffic conditions.



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