

National Survey for Wales Well-being in 2013-14 and 2014-15

The National Survey for Wales is a face to face survey asking questions on a wide variety of topics affecting people and their local area. It has featured a number of questions on personal well-being since the survey was piloted in 2009-10.

This bulletin concentrates on results from the 2013-14 and 2014-15 surveys; a different set of well-being questions was asked in each of the two years. As well as covering findings from the well-being questions themselves, the bulletin looks at how well-being relates to other topics covered in the survey (such as household type and commuting time).

Key findings

- 45% of women recorded high levels of feeling that things done in life are worthwhile, compared with 40% of men. (Based on the 2014-15 survey)
- Two-adult households were happier than people living on their own, with married couple pensioners having the highest average rating of happiness at 8.1 (on scale of 0 to 10). (2014-15)
- 74% of men and 46% of women feel very safe walking alone after dark in rural areas compared with 51% of men and 21% of women who feel very safe walking alone after dark in urban areas. (2014-15)
- People who felt calm and peaceful all of the time had a significantly higher level of trust in other people than those who felt down-hearted and depressed all of the time – an average score of 7.4 compared with 4.8 (on scale of 0 to 10). (2013-14)
- 66% of people who were highly satisfied with their present job were also highly satisfied with their commuting time. This compares with 41% of people who had low satisfaction with their present job and also had low satisfaction with their commuting time. (2013-14)



Infographic: 2014-15 National Survey for Wales

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Introduction

The National Survey for Wales 2012-15 was an annual face-to-face survey of people across Wales. Each year, more than 14,000 people aged 16 and over were asked for their opinions on a wide range of issues affecting them and their local area. Respondents were selected at random to ensure the results are representative. An expanded version of the National Survey, beginning in 2016, will cover similar topics as well as a selection of topics from four other surveys. The first results from the new survey will be published in June 2017.

The full questionnaire and results covering the range of National Survey topics can be found on the [National Survey for Wales web pages](#). Additional tables can be accessed via [StatsWales](#). More information about the survey methodology, potential uses of the results, and definitions of terms used in the bulletin, can be found in the [Key Quality Information](#) section at the end of the bulletin. Also relevant is an [in-depth study](#) of the 2012-13 well-being findings. This looked at the role that government policy and service delivery have in raising levels of well-being and tackling inequalities which may affect the well-being of the people of Wales.

Welsh Government and well-being

The [Programme for Government](#) sets out the Welsh Government's aims, one of which is to improve the long-term well-being of people in Wales. Individual well-being includes feelings of happiness and other aspects of subjective well-being, such as feeling that the things one does in life are worthwhile, or being satisfied with personal relationships. It also includes aspects of well-being which can be measured by more objective approaches, such as people's financial situation or employment status. The [Well-being of Futures Generations \(Wales\) Act 2015](#) encompasses all aspects of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales.

Health: There is a strong association between poor health and low well-being. The [Together for Health: Public information delivery plan](#) sets out the key objectives to improve access to information, increase transparency of performance of health services and promote involvement with health services. Policies such as these may help enhance patients' well-being.

Work and finances: Unemployment and financial strain are known to influence levels of well-being. The aim of the Welsh Government's [Financial Inclusion Strategy for Wales](#) is to make financial services (e.g. benefits and debt advice, basic financial education, bank accounts and loans) available at an affordable cost to disadvantaged and low income people. The Welsh Government is keen to understand the extent of any under-provision or lack of take-up of available services; and to know what kinds of people are affected, to help ensure all people in Wales have access to the services they need.

Local area and communities: A sense of belonging to the local area, perceived safety and actual safety in the local area, all have an effect on people's feelings of well-being. The Welsh Government's [Community Cohesion Strategy](#) sets out our priorities for improving community cohesion. The term 'community cohesion' is used to mean people living alongside each other with mutual understanding and respect, where every person has the equal chance to participate and has equal access to services.

Well-being measures

In recent years many countries have recognised that economic measures alone are not sufficient to measure national success and progress. Objective measures such as employment rates and gross domestic product (GDP) are now used alongside more personal measures such as life satisfaction and happiness. Personal (or subjective) well-being can be defined in many ways, but is generally recognised as the state of being comfortable, healthy or happy. Personal well-being includes both feeling good about oneself (hedonic well-being, or 'affect'), and being able to function well in terms of getting on with other people, tasks, and having purpose in life (eudemonic well-being).

There are two main approaches to asking people about their personal well-being or quality of life. Firstly, there are questions asking people how they felt at a specific and recent point in time, whilst the second approach asks people to make a more general judgement about their level of satisfaction (overall or with a particular aspect of their life).

The [Office for National Statistics](#) (ONS) began measuring well-being in April 2011 and has continued to do so via the Annual Population Survey (APS). Constant across the years have been four questions on:

- Life satisfaction
- Feeling that things done in life are worthwhile
- Happiness yesterday
- Anxiety yesterday

ONS published their latest report on personal well-being in the UK in September 2015, it can be found [here](#).

In 2013 [Eurostat](#) introduced an ad-hoc module on subjective well-being within the statistics on income and living conditions (EU-SILC) survey questions. This module collected statistics on the subjective appreciation of life in general but also people's perceptions of quality of life. This data on subjective well-being was collected for the first time across all EU member states to the quality standards of official statistics. Eurostat published the results from this survey in June 2015, the report can be found [here](#).

Another survey collecting data across Europe is the European Social Survey (ESS). The personal and social well-being data from Round 6 of the ESS was collected through a series of hour-long, in-person interviews with people aged 15 years and over in 29 European countries, resulting in a random sample of 54,600 respondents. Headline results from this survey were published in April 2015 and can be found [here](#).

The National Survey for Wales has run for three full survey years and each year has contained questions on personal/subjective well-being. These questions have included the four well-being questions asked in the APS and in 2013-14 it included those from the EU-SILC personal well-being module. Whilst comparison of results across surveys is possible, the methodologies vary and this may have an effect on the results. The main reason for inclusion of well-being questions in the National Survey was to look at how well-being relates to other findings from the survey. This analysis captures the views and circumstances of people living in Wales and helps inform Welsh Government policy decisions.

The 2013-14 and 2014-15 surveys contained some of the same well-being questions, but some of the questions differed from year to year. The bulletin will discuss findings from both sets of questions and see how the results relate to other survey answers from the same year.

Satisfaction with life

Subjective or personal well-being is measured by the responses to four core questions: life satisfaction, happiness yesterday, anxiety yesterday, and feelings that things done in life are worthwhile.

Life satisfaction represents how a person evaluates or appraises their life taken as a whole. The National Survey asked the question “On a scale of nought to 10, where nought is ‘not at all’ and 10 is ‘completely’, overall how satisfied are you with life nowadays?”. The average score given for satisfaction with life was 7.9 in 2014-15, an increase from 7.7 in 2013-14.

In addition to this average rating it is useful to group the answer categories into low, medium and high bands¹ of satisfaction. This helps in interpreting the drivers for change in the average rating; whether due to an increase in the proportion of people who are highly satisfied or to a decrease in the proportion with low levels of satisfaction. Combining the medium and high bands (scores 7 to 10) shows that, in 2014-15, 83% of people were satisfied with their lives.

Chart 1 shows the effect of age on life satisfaction. Satisfaction with life was highest among the youngest age group (aged 16 to 24) at 8.1, showing a significantly higher average than for those aged 25 to 44 (7.8) and 45 to 64 (7.7).

Chart 1: Life satisfaction by age group

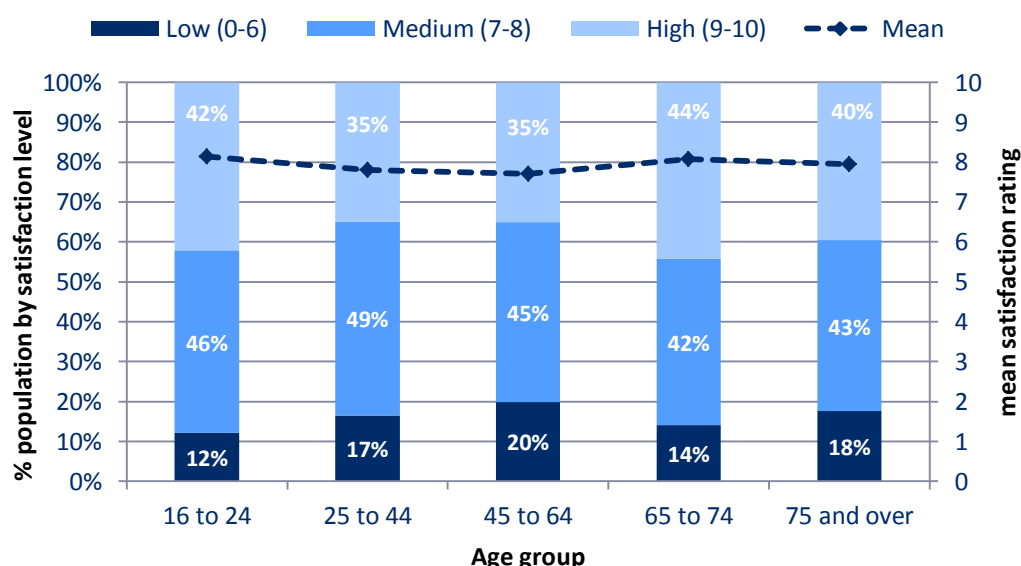


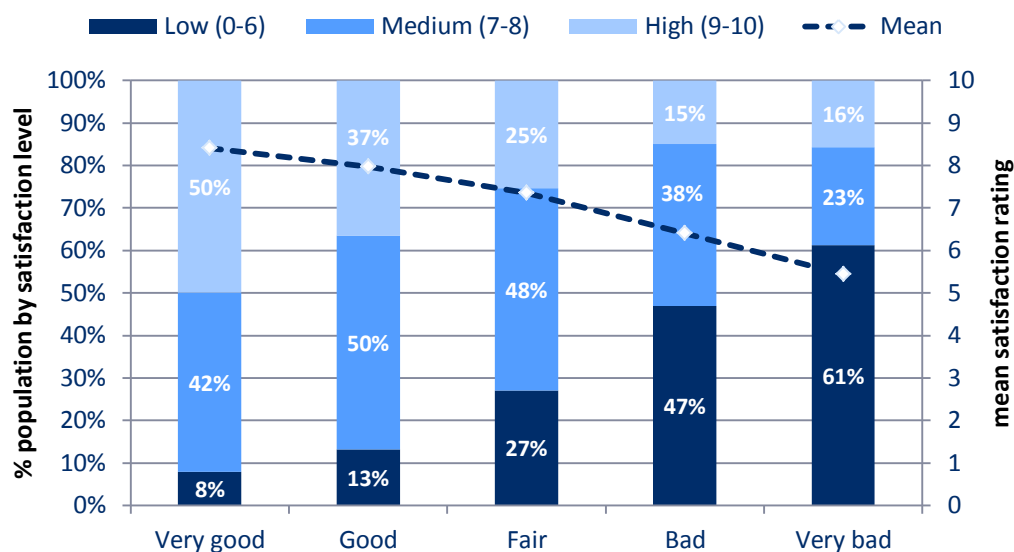
Chart 1 shows that the youngest age group has the lowest proportion of people in the ‘low satisfaction’ band compared with the other age groups, and a significantly higher proportion in the ‘high satisfaction’ band compared with the 25 to 44 and 45 to 64 age groups. The 65 to 74 age group has a similar average rating to the youngest group and this is driven by the large proportion (44%) in the ‘highest satisfaction’ band, possibly due to feelings following retirement. For those aged 75 and over it may well be that health problems, rather than age itself, is what accounts for the 18% in the ‘low satisfaction’ band. This effect of ‘bad health’ rather than age itself has been found in other research including Eurostat’s [Quality of Life](#) report.

Chart 2 illustrates how a person’s subjective assessment of their own health is a good predictor for overall life satisfaction. In the group reporting very good health, 50% showed high life satisfaction whilst there were only 16% of people with high life satisfaction in the group with very bad health. Nevertheless,

¹ See definition in the Key Quality Information at end of bulletin to see how satisfaction bands have been categorised.

this shows that despite their very bad health status some people still rate their overall satisfaction with life as high. The average score varied from 8.4 for people who said they were in very good health down to 5.4 for those who considered themselves to be in very bad health.

Chart 2: Life satisfaction by personal assessment of general health

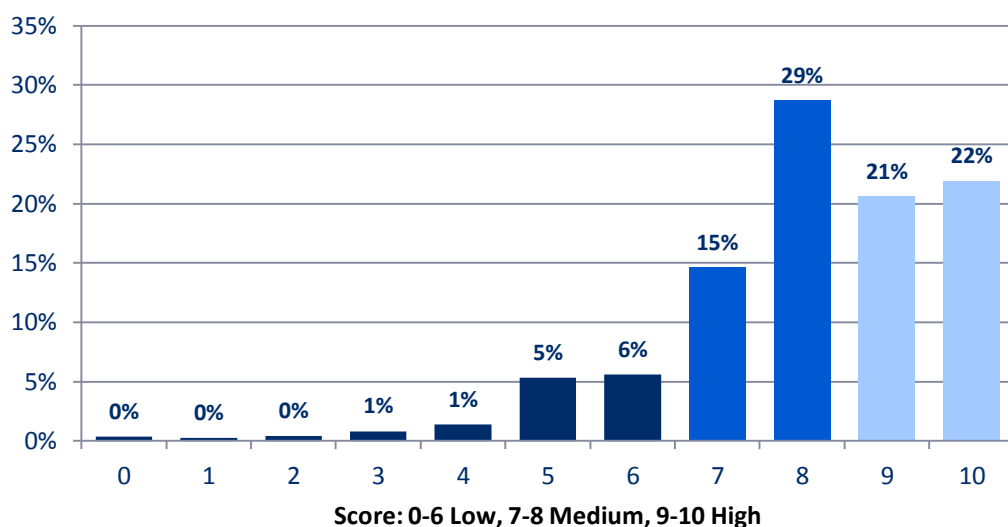


Extent of feeling that things done in life are worthwhile

Another personal well-being question asked in both 2013-14 and 2014-15 was “On a scale of nought to 10, where nought is ‘not at all worthwhile’ and 10 is ‘completely worthwhile’, overall to what extent do you feel that the things you do in life are worthwhile?”

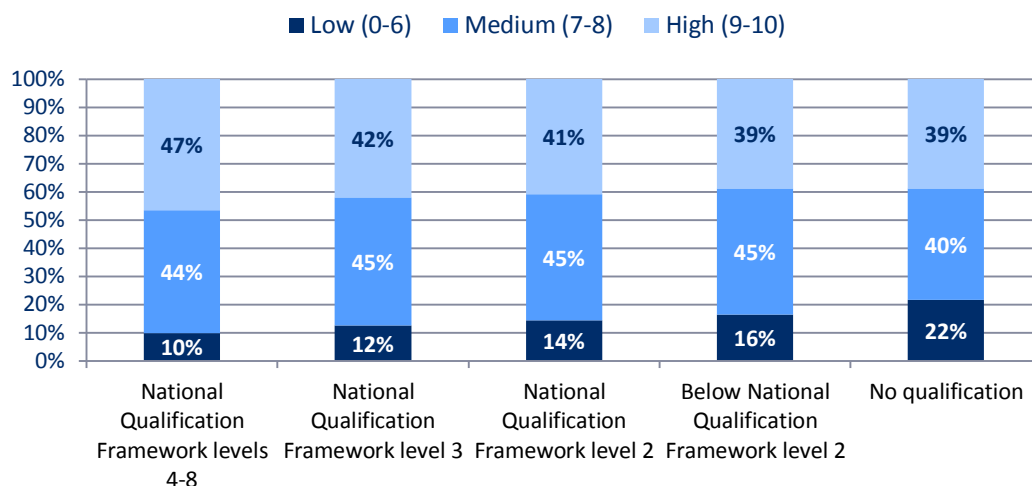
The average score given for the extent people felt that things done in life was worthwhile was 8.1 (8.0 in 2013-14). Chart 3 shows the skewed distribution of responses to this question. By grouping the scores as low, medium and high, the distribution indicates that 43% of people gave a high score, another 43% a medium score and only 14% of people gave a low score of 6 or less.

Chart 3: Extent of feeling that things done in life are worthwhile



When this measure of well-being is looked at in relation to a person's highest achieved qualification² there are some significant variations between results. Chart 4 shows that 22% of people with no qualifications gave a low score for the extent of feeling that things done in life are worthwhile. This proportion of people who gave a low score decreases as the qualification level increases; 10% of those with the highest qualifications gave a low score. The proportion of people who gave a high score increases from 39% for those with no qualifications to 47% for those who have national qualifications at level 4 and above. The same pattern of findings was true for 2013-14.

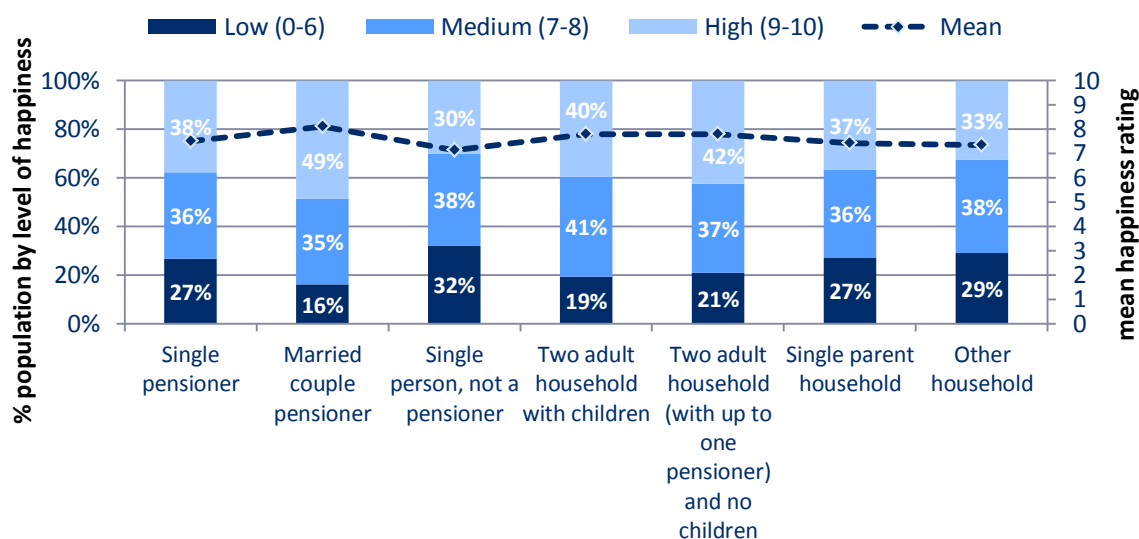
Chart 4: Feeling that things done in life are worthwhile, by highest qualification



Happiness

The emotional aspect of well-being is measured by looking at people's day to day feelings and moods. In 2013-14 people were asked about the amount of time over the past four weeks that they had been happy. StatsWales tables showing the results from this question and other well-being questions can be found [here](#). The question in 2014-15 took a different form; people were asked "On a scale of nought to ten where 0 is 'not at all happy' and 10 is 'completely happy', overall how happy did you feel yesterday?" The average happiness rating was 7.7.

Chart 5: Levels of happiness by household type



² See definition of highest qualification levels in Terms and Definitions at end of bulletin.

Chart 5 shows that generally two-adult households were happier than people living on their own, with married couple pensioners having the highest average rating of happiness at 8.1. This is reflected in the happiness bands where 49% of married couple pensioners scored high levels of happiness. The least happy households were those occupied by a single person who was not a pensioner. Their average rating of happiness was 7.1, with 32% of people in these households scoring the lowest levels of happiness.

Table 1: Satisfaction with life and with the meaning of life, by happiness

Happy yesterday	Satisfaction with life			Feeling that things done in life are worthwhile		
	Low	Medium	High	Low	Medium	High
Low	63%	21%	7%	63%	22%	10%
Medium	28%	53%	23%	28%	53%	25%
High	9%	26%	70%	8%	25%	65%

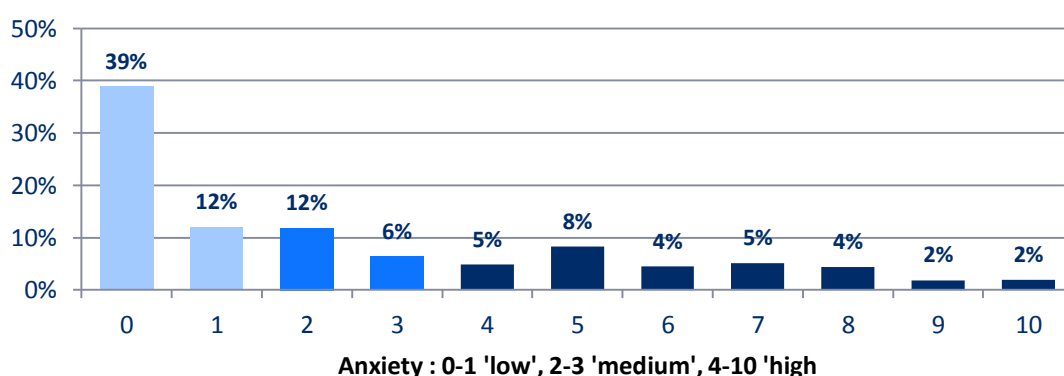
Table 1 illustrates that in general people who had a high level of happiness were also highly satisfied with life (70%) and gave a high score for feeling that things done in life being worthwhile (65%). As might be expected, half the people (53%) scored medium levels of happiness and medium level scores for the other two indicators. Less intuitively, 10% of people were highly satisfied that things done in life are worthwhile whilst also scoring a low level of happiness. This indicates that whilst there is an obvious correlation between these measures of well-being they are not necessarily interchangeable.

Investigation of these small, atypical groups was carried out in a research [report](#) on the 2012-13 well-being results published in May 2014. This research used a technique called latent class analysis³ which identified four clusters of people sharing a similar well-being profile. The report referred to these clusters as 'Typical', 'Flourishing', 'Struggling' and 'Worthwhile-Anxious'.

Anxiety

The previous well-being questions have been positive statements where a higher score indicates higher well-being. The exception is the question where people were asked "On a scale of nought to ten where 0 is 'not at all anxious' and 10 is 'completely anxious' overall, how anxious did you feel yesterday?". Here a lower score indicates less anxiety and higher well-being.⁴

Chart 6: Responses to 'anxiety yesterday' question



In addition to being scored in reverse the distribution pattern shown in Chart 6 is also quite different from that of the other three personal well-being measures (for example, see Chart 3), where there tends

³ See further information on latent class analysis in Terms and Definitions at end of bulletin

⁴ See definition in the Key Quality Information at end of bulletin to see how satisfaction bands have been categorised.

to be a skewed but approximately 'normal' distribution. The anxiety results in Chart 6 show that 39% of people stated that they had not been anxious at all the previous day, and another 12% scored 1. This gives over 50% of people recording very low anxiety scores which we can interpret as a high sense of well-being. The tendency for an inflated number of people to opt for the 'middle' option (score 5) is worth noting, this pattern was also observed when the same question was asked in 2012-13.

Time to do the things you like doing

This question aims to measure whether a person feels they make satisfactory use of their time and that it is balanced between necessary activities and spending time on things they enjoy, like socialising and hobbies. In 2014-15 the National Survey results produced an average satisfaction score of 7.0 (7.1 in 2013-14). In both years, there was an even distribution of opinion with approximately one third of people falling within each of the three satisfaction bands. This is notably different from the distribution of responses encountered in the 'life satisfaction' and 'things done in life are worthwhile' questions, where the majority of responses are in the medium and high bands.

Chart 7: Satisfaction with the time to do the things you like doing, by household type

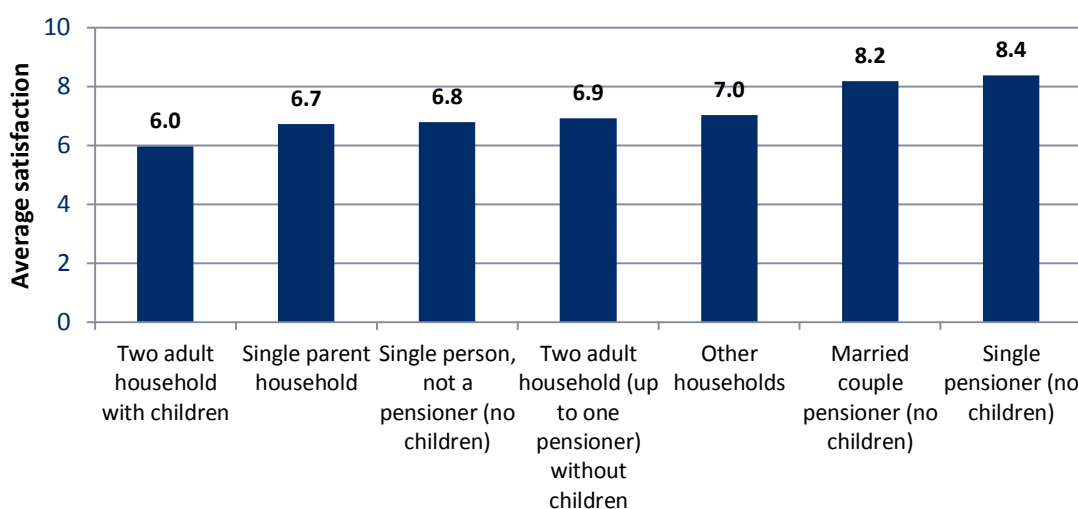


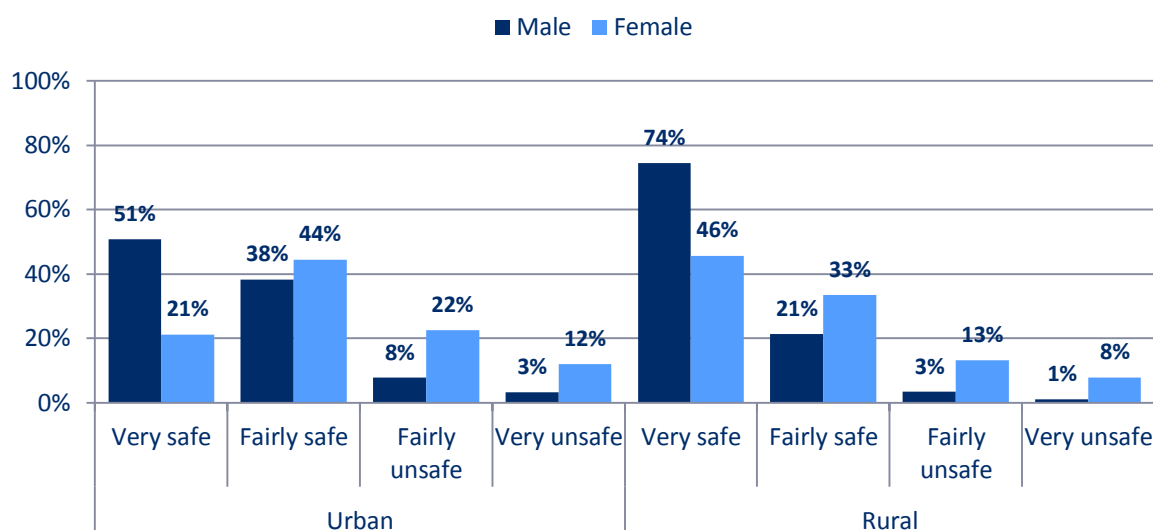
Chart 7 shows that average satisfaction with the time people have to do the things they like doing varies by household type. Two adult households with children score the lowest level of satisfaction (6.0) significantly lower than the highest scoring pensioner households, whether married couple pensioners (8.2) or single pensioners (8.4). There is also a significant difference between households with two adults and children (6.0) compared with single parent households (6.7). Interestingly, this difference remained true when additionally looking at the employment status of the household. In two parent households, where both adults were working, the average satisfaction with time to do the things they like doing was 5.8. In single parent households, where the adult was working, average satisfaction was 6.7.

Feeling safe

Another question common to both the 2013-14 and 2014-15 surveys was where people were asked "How safe do you feel walking alone in your area after dark?". The possible responses were: very safe, fairly safe, a bit unsafe, and very unsafe.

The headline results show 41% (42% in 2013-14) of people feel very safe walking alone in their area after dark and 8% (7%) feel very unsafe. However, when the results are cross-analysed, by different personal and environmental characteristics, a more varied picture emerges.

Chart 8: Feelings of safety walking in local area after dark, by gender and location



Men are significantly more likely than women to feel very safe walking alone in their area after dark. Similarly, women are more likely than men to feel very unsafe in these circumstances. Chart 8 shows that these statements hold true when location is also introduced into the analysis. In 2014-15, 74% of men and 46% of women feel very safe walking alone after dark in rural areas compared with 51% of men and 21% of women who feel very safe walking alone after dark in urban areas. These results also indicate that, irrespective of gender, people feel safer walking alone after dark if they live in rural areas compared with urban areas. A similar pattern was found in 2013-14.

The same question was asked in the 2012-13 survey but was grouped with further questions about the local area rather than as part of the well-being section. Some [additional research](#) on the 2012-13 results included looking at this particular question about walking in your local area after dark. The research discovered there were a large number of predictors of feeling unsafe in the local area. The strongest predictor of feeling unsafe was living in an area with a high number of burglaries, an urban area, being female and being older. People who have more than one of these predictors were found to have a higher probability of feeling unsafe.

Relationships

Social interaction is widely viewed as an essential element of a person's well-being. In this context relationships not only include those between family members but also those within the wider community – friends, neighbours and carers. The National Survey has included a number of different questions exploring these interactions over the years.

In 2014-15 people were asked whether they had close friends or family who they felt at ease with, who they could talk to about private matters, or call on for help. 32% of people said they had three to five close family or friends, 30% said six to ten and 24% said more than ten. 12% had either one or two close friends or family to talk to or call on for help and 1% of people said they had none.

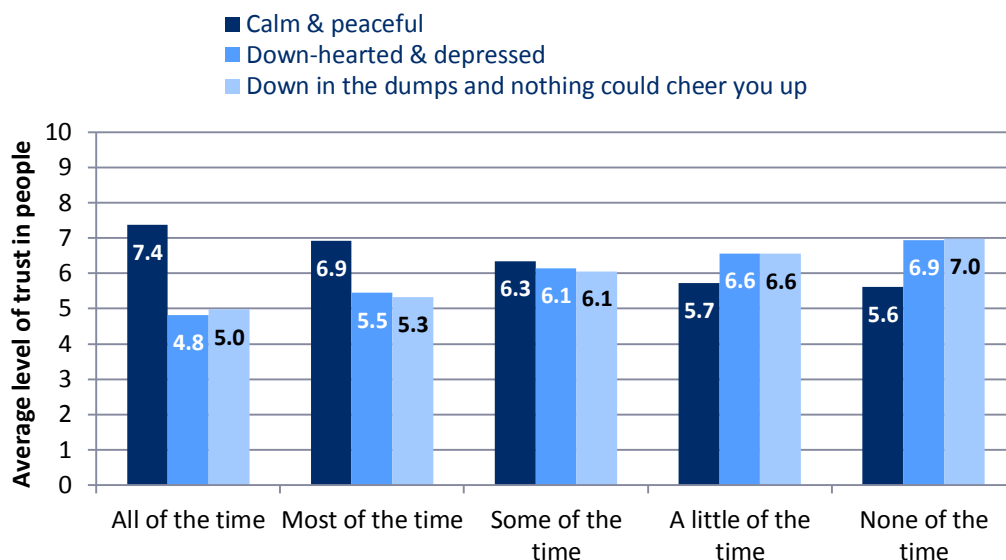
In 2013-14 the survey used the EU-SILC module of well-being questions⁵. Here, the same topic was covered by two separate questions. 95% of people said they had someone to discuss personal matters with and 5% said they had no-one. People were then asked whether they had any relatives, friends or neighbours that they could ask for help, 97% did and 3% did not. Interestingly those with no-one to ask

⁵ [EU-SILC 2013 module on Well-being](#)

for help were not necessarily the same people who had no-one to talk to about personal matters, and vice versa.

Another EU-SILC question asked only in 2013-14 was “Would you say that most people can be trusted? Answer on a scale from nought to 10 where 0 means in general you do not trust any other person, and 10 that you feel most people can be trusted.” The average score was 6.6 but Chart 9 shows that the level of trust in other people varied when looked at in relation to the respondent’s emotional well-being.

Chart 9: Average levels of trust in people, by feelings experienced in the previous four weeks (2013-14)



People were asked to say how much of the time over the past four weeks they had felt:

- calm and peaceful;
- down-hearted and depressed ; and
- so down in the dumps that nothing could cheer you up;

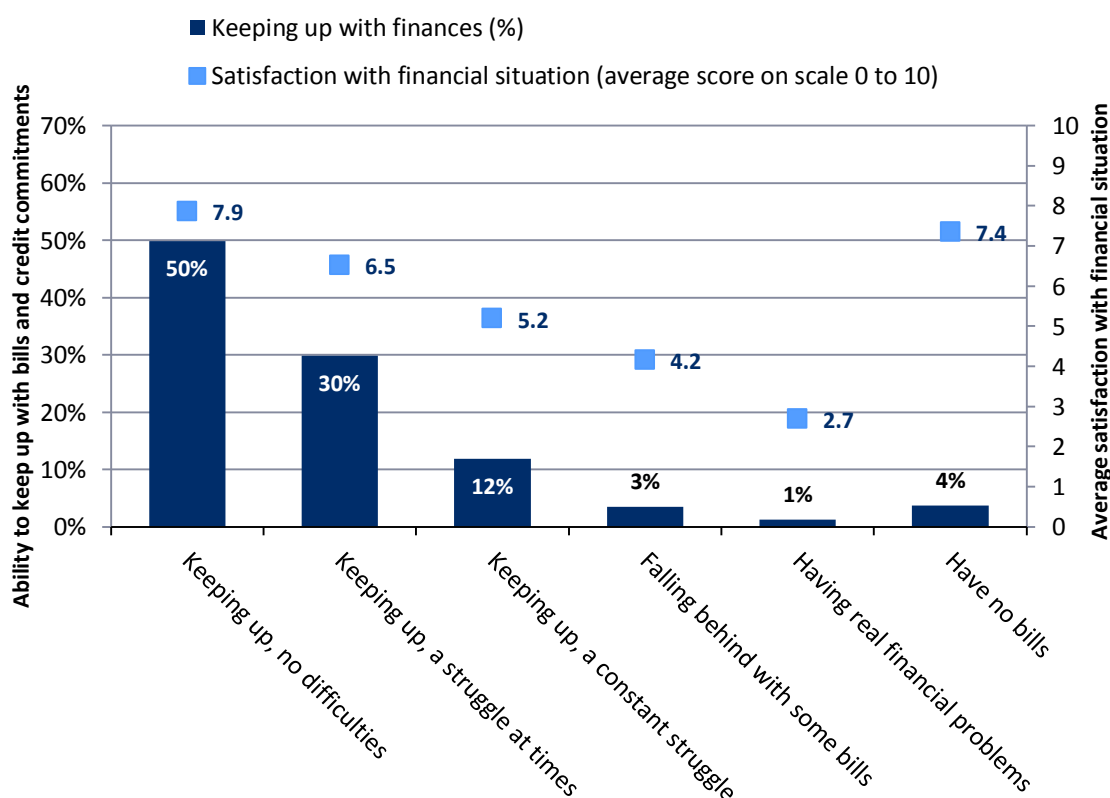
Chart 9 shows that people who felt calm and peaceful all of the time had a significantly higher average level of trust in people, than those who felt down-hearted and depressed or down in the dumps – 7.4 compared with 4.8 and 5.0 respectively. The same pattern of difference was repeated for those who had experienced the stated feelings for most of the time during the past four weeks. As with all cases where a relationship has been found between two or more factors it does not mean it is a causal relationship. Further analysis would be required to identify if one factor causes another.

Finance and employment

Unemployment and financial difficulties are often linked with low life satisfaction. In 2013-14 respondents were asked “On a scale of 0 to 10 how satisfied are you with the financial situation of your household, where 0 is ‘not at all satisfied and 10 is ‘completely satisfied’?” The score for overall average satisfaction with the financial situation of the household was 6.9, there was no significant difference between men and women’s views. When satisfaction with the financial situation of the household is cross-analysed with levels of personal satisfaction with life, a close correlation between the two measures is apparent. Those with a low life satisfaction score (0-6), gave an average score of 5.0 for their satisfaction with their financial situation, and those with high life satisfaction score (9-10) gave an average score of 8.1 for their satisfaction with their financial situation.

The National Survey in 2013-14 also included some questions on financial inclusion – asking to what extent people were keeping up with their bills and credit commitments and whether they had used the services of any organisation providing advice and support for people having problems with debt. Chart 10 shows how the responses from the two measures mirror each other. 50% of people are keeping up with all bills and credit commitments without any difficulties, and this group of people gave an average score of 7.9 out of 10 in relation to satisfaction with the financial situation of the household. This figure was notably higher than the overall average of 6.9. The 3% of people who were falling behind with some bills reflected their position by giving an average satisfaction score of 4.2 whilst the 1% of people who were having real financial problems and had fallen behind with many bills and commitments had the lowest average satisfaction with their financial position, with a score of 2.7 out of 10.

Chart 10: Satisfaction with household financial situation and ability to keep up with bills and credit commitments (2013-14)

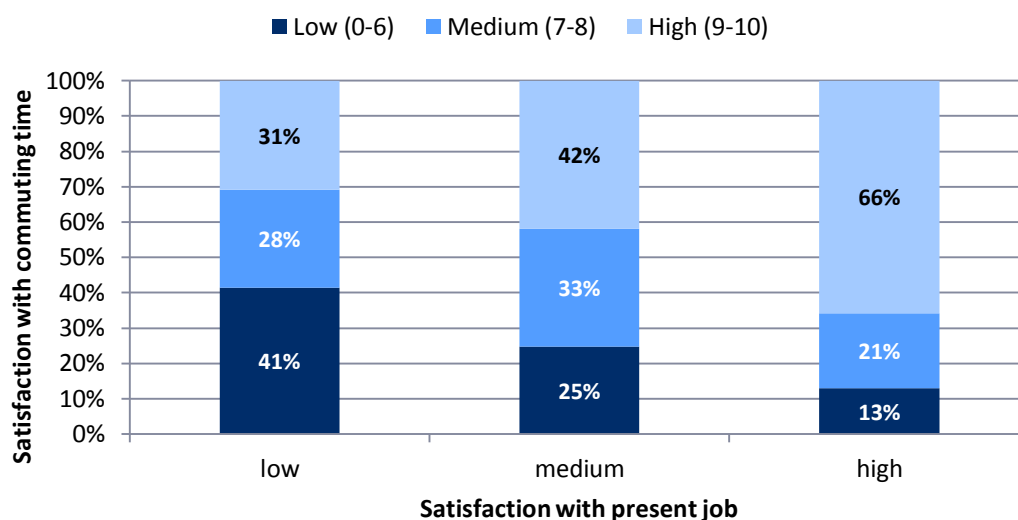


The 4% of people who said they had no bills scored 7.4 as the average satisfaction with their household's financial situation.

Another EU-SILC well-being question in 2013-14 asked how satisfied a person was with their present job. On a scale of nought to ten the average satisfaction score was 7.5. Chart 11 shows the range of scores, grouped into bands⁶, and cross-analysed against satisfaction with the time it takes to travel to and from work (commuting time).

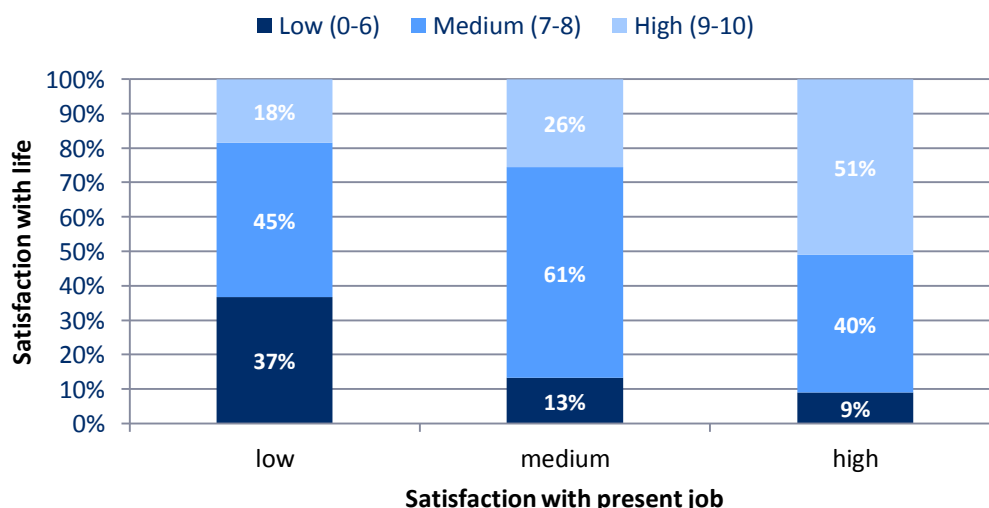
⁶ See definition in the Key Quality Information at end of bulletin to see how these bands have been categorised.

Chart 11: Satisfaction with present job, by satisfaction with commuting time



The chart shows that when looking solely at these two measures there appears to be a strong correlation between satisfaction with present job and satisfaction with commuting time. 66% of people who were highly satisfied with their present job were also highly satisfied their commuting time. The converse was also true: a large proportion (41%) who were not happy with their present job also recorded low satisfaction levels with their travelling time to and from work. Commuting is often seen as a burden and has a negative effect on aspects of personal well-being. These findings on job satisfaction and those on satisfaction with life, shown in Chart 12 seem to support this idea.

Chart 12: Satisfaction with life, by satisfaction with present job



Once again over half (51%) of people who are highly satisfied with their present job showed high levels of satisfaction with their life. However, it is too simplistic to say that low satisfaction with their present job will automatically have a negative impact on other well-being measures. Personal characteristics such as age, gender and health will always play a part but there are also instances when someone has chosen a less favourable job because it pays more or has chosen to travel a long distance to work because they feel it improves other aspects of their life e.g. they can afford a better home, have more green space around where they live. Reasons such as this may account for the 18% of people who have a low satisfaction with their present job but nevertheless exhibit high levels of satisfaction with life.

Key quality information

Background

The National Survey was carried out by TNS-BMRB and Beaufort Research on behalf of the Welsh Government. The results reported here are based on interviews completed in the 2013-14 survey year (1st April 2013 – 31st March 2014) or in 2014-15 (1st April 2014 – 12th April 2015 (fieldwork was extended slightly beyond the one year mark, in order to increase the achieved sample size).

Each year approximately 25,000 addresses were chosen randomly from the Royal Mail's Small User Postcode Address File. Interviewers visited each address, randomly selected one adult (aged 16+) in the household, and carried out a 25-minute face-to-face interview with them. A total of 14,771 interviews were achieved in 2013-14 and 14,285 interviews in 2014-15.

Interpreting the results

Percentages quoted in this bulletin are based on only those respondents who provided an answer to the relevant question. Missing answers occur for several reasons, including refusal or an inability to answer a particular question and cases where the question is not applicable to the respondent.

Where a relationship has been found between two factors, this does not mean it is a causal relationship. More detailed analysis is required to identify whether one factor causes change in another.

Throughout this release, references are made to other sources of information. These sources have been identified by the National Survey team, through discussions with policy and analytical colleagues, and through a [comparability study](#) undertaken in early 2012. Checks are in place to ensure the quoted figures are the most up-to-date figures available at the time of publication.

The results of the National Survey are weighted to compensate for unequal selection probabilities and differential non-response (i.e. to ensure that the age and sex distribution of the final dataset matches that of the Welsh population).

Quality of the data

The [United Kingdom Statistics Authority](#) has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the [Code of Practice for Official Statistics](#).

Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:

- meet identified user needs;
- are well explained and readily accessible;
- are produced according to sound methods; and
- are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

Quality Report

A summary [Quality Report](#) is available, containing more detailed information on the quality of the survey as well as a summary of the methods used to compile the results.

Sampling variability

Estimates from the National Survey are subject to a margin of uncertainty. Part of the uncertainty comes from the fact that any randomly-selected sample of the population will give slightly different results from the results that would be obtained if the whole population was surveyed. This is known as sampling error.⁷ Confidence intervals can be used as a guide to the size of the sampling error. These intervals are calculated around a survey estimate and give a range within which the true value is likely to fall. In 95% of survey samples, the 95% confidence interval will contain the 'true' figure for the whole population (that is, the figure we would get if the survey covered the entire population). In general, the smaller the sample size the wider the confidence interval. Confidence intervals are included in the tables of survey results published on [StatsWales](#).

As with any survey, the National Survey is also subject to a range of other sources of error: for example, due to non-response; because respondents may not interpret the questions as intended or may not answer accurately; and because errors may be introduced as the survey data is processed. These kinds of error are known as non-sampling error, and are discussed further in the [quality report](#) for the survey.

Significant differences

Where the text of this release notes a difference between two National Survey results (in the same year), we have checked to ensure that the confidence intervals for the two results do not overlap. This suggests that the difference is statistically significant (but as noted above, is not as rigorous as carrying out a formal statistical test), i.e. that there is less than a 5% (1 in 20) chance of obtaining these results if there is no difference between the same two groups in the wider population.

Checking to see whether two confidence intervals overlap is less likely than a formal statistical test to lead to conclusions that there are real differences between groups. That is, it is more likely to lead to "false negatives": incorrect conclusions that there is no real difference when in fact there is a difference. It is also less likely to lead to "false positives": incorrect conclusions that there **is** a difference

⁷ Sampling error is discussed in more detail in the [Quality Report](#) for the National Survey.

when there is in fact none. Carrying out many comparisons increases the chance of finding false positives. Therefore, when many comparisons are made the conservative nature of the test is an advantage because it reduces (but does not eliminate) this chance.

Where National Survey results are compared with results from other sources, we have not checked that confidence intervals do not overlap.

Technical report

More detailed information on the survey methodology is set out in the [technical report](#) for the survey.

Revisions

More information on our revisions policy is available [here](#).

Release policy

Information about the process for releasing new results is available from the Welsh Government's [statistics web pages](#).

Availability of datasets

The data behind the charts and tables in this release are published in spreadsheets on [StatsWales](#).

An anonymised version of the annual datasets (from which some information is removed to ensure confidentiality is preserved), together with supporting documentation, has been deposited with the [UK Data Archive](#). For more information, please contact us (see below).

Further uses of the results

The results will be used extensively by Welsh Government policy teams, but they are also relevant to a wide range of other external organisations and individuals.

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<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>

Terms and definitions

Qualifications

Respondents' highest qualifications have been grouped according to the National Qualification Framework (NQF) levels, where level 1 is the lowest level of qualifications and level 8 is doctoral degree or equivalent. For the National Survey, respondents have been grouped into 5 groups, those with no qualifications are in the lowest category and respondents with qualifications at levels 4 to 8 have been grouped together in the highest qualification category. More information about the NQF levels can be found [here](#).

Household

A household is defined as one person living alone or a group of people (not necessarily related) living at the same address with common housekeeping – that is, sharing a living room or sitting room or at least one meal a day.

People

Within this bulletin, 'people' refers only to adults aged 16 and over.

Urban / rural

"Urban" includes settlements with a population of 10,000 or more and small towns and their fringes, where the wider surrounding area is less sparsely populated. "Rural" includes all other areas.

Latent Class Analysis (LCA)

Latent class analysis is a statistical method for identifying unmeasured class membership among participants using categorical and/or continuous observed variables (latent profile analysis). The aim is to group individuals into categories, each one of which contains individuals who are similar to each other and different from individuals in other categories.

The research mentioned on page 8 was undertaken by NatCen Social Research and looked at the results from the well-being questions asked in the 2012-13 National Survey. The methodologies used (including LCA) are presented and published [here](#).

Satisfaction bands

Many of the personal well-being questions used a satisfaction response scale from 0 to 10, where 0 was 'not at all' and 10 was 'completely'. To allow additional analysis of the National Survey results, the individual scores on this scale were grouped to provide bands of satisfaction. 'Low' well-being was defined as scores 0 to 6, 'medium' well-being was a score of 7 or 8 and 'high' well-being as a score of 9 or 10.