

Youth Survey

Pilot Project

2015



Produced by the Corporate Consultation and Research Team

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1 Introduction

Bournemouth Borough Council and the Boscombe Regeneration Partnership conducted a youth survey in the spring of 2015. The survey was a pilot project in Boscombe with a view to conducting a full Bournemouth wide youth survey in 2016. The survey included questions used in the Bournemouth Opinion Survey (BOS).

As part of the Backing Boscombe campaign under the Boscombe Regeneration Partnership the survey results allow the regeneration team to monitor young people's views of Boscombe and the area that they live in.

1.1 Methodology

The pilot youth survey was an online survey which was completed by students in Avonbourne College (school for girls aged 11 to 16) and Harewood College (school for boys aged 11 to 16). Before producing the final version of the survey, representatives from the Council's consultation team and the Boscombe Regeneration Partnership met with a group of students from Avonbourne and Harewood to discuss a draft version of the survey and check whether they understood the questions. Following this discussion, some changes were made to survey before the final version was sent to the colleges. The survey began at the end of March and ran until the end of June 2015. A total of 372 responses were received.

1.2 Results

Respondents were asked for their postcode in order to analyse results by area. However, two thirds of respondents choose the option of 'prefer not to say' in relation to their postcode. In total, 84 respondents gave their full postcode. Of these, the largest numbers were in East Cliff and Springbourne (16), Littledown and Iford (15) and Boscombe East (11). Due to a significant amount of unknown data in relation to area, comparisons (where applicable) have been made to the Bournemouth Opinion survey 2013 rather than the Boscombe residents' survey 2014.

Figures in this report are presented as a percentage of respondents who answered the question i.e. excluding 'don't know', 'not applicable' and 'no reply'.

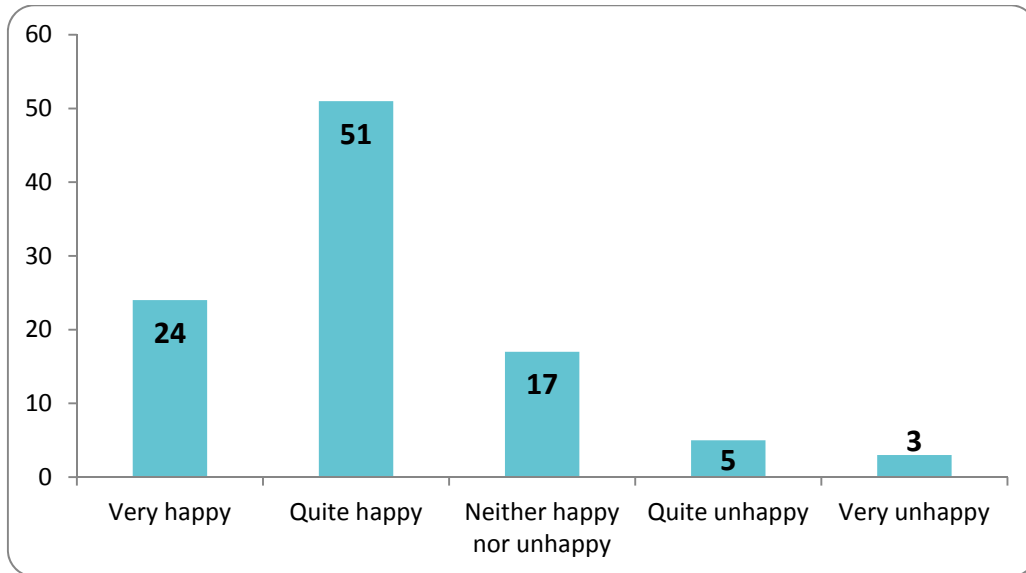
The percentages in this report will not always add up to 100% because of rounding or because respondents are allowed to select more than one response.

Caution should be used when comparing results between groups of respondents with small bases.

2 Your local area

Respondents were asked “Overall, how happy or unhappy are you with your local area as a place to live.” The local area is defined as the area within 15-20 minutes’ walk from where you live.

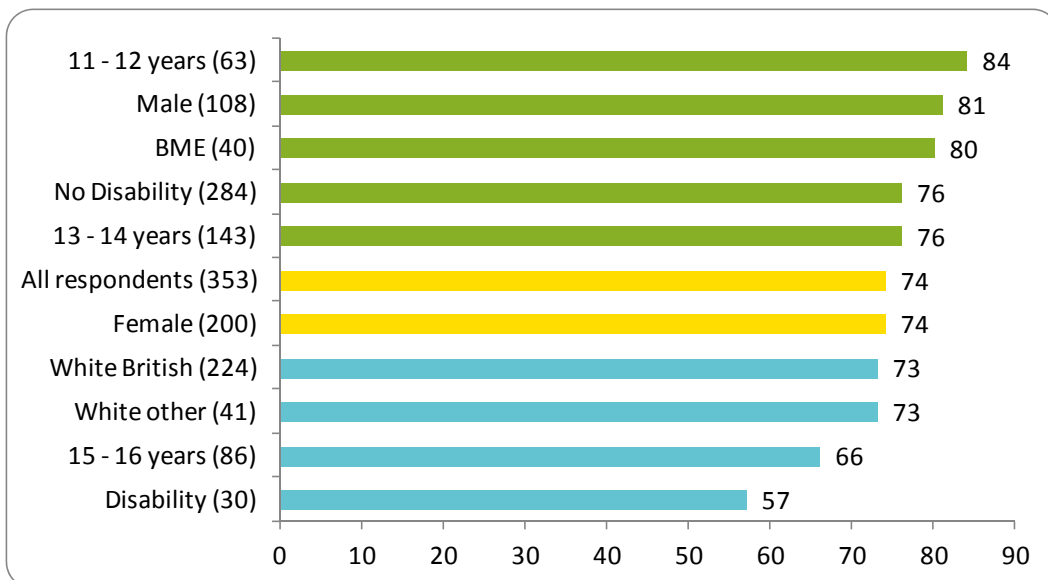
Figure 1: Overall happiness with local area (% respondents)



BASE: All respondents excluding ‘don’t know’

Just under three quarters of respondents (74%) were happy with the local area as a place to live. This compares to 81% of residents in the 2013 BOS who were satisfied with the local area as a place to live.

Figure 2: Happiness with local area (% satisfied)



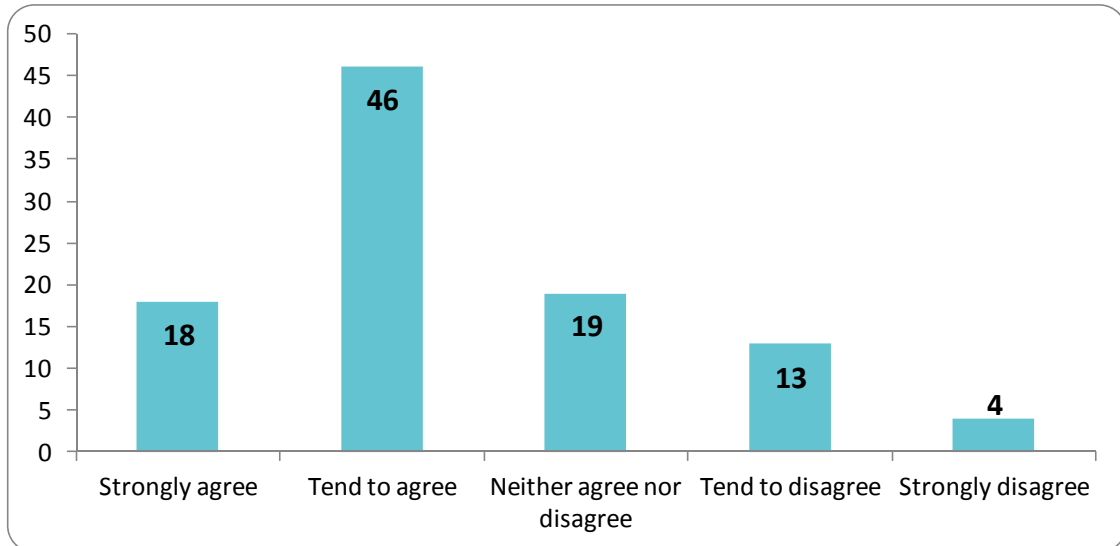
BASE: Varied as labelled

Unhappiness with the local area increased with age with those aged 11 and 12 being significantly more happy with their local area compared to those aged 15 and 16. Males were happier than females with their local area and respondents from BME backgrounds

were happier than respondents from white backgrounds. Respondents with a disability were significantly less satisfied than those without a disability.

Respondents were asked how much they agreed or disagreed that their local area is a good place for young people to live.

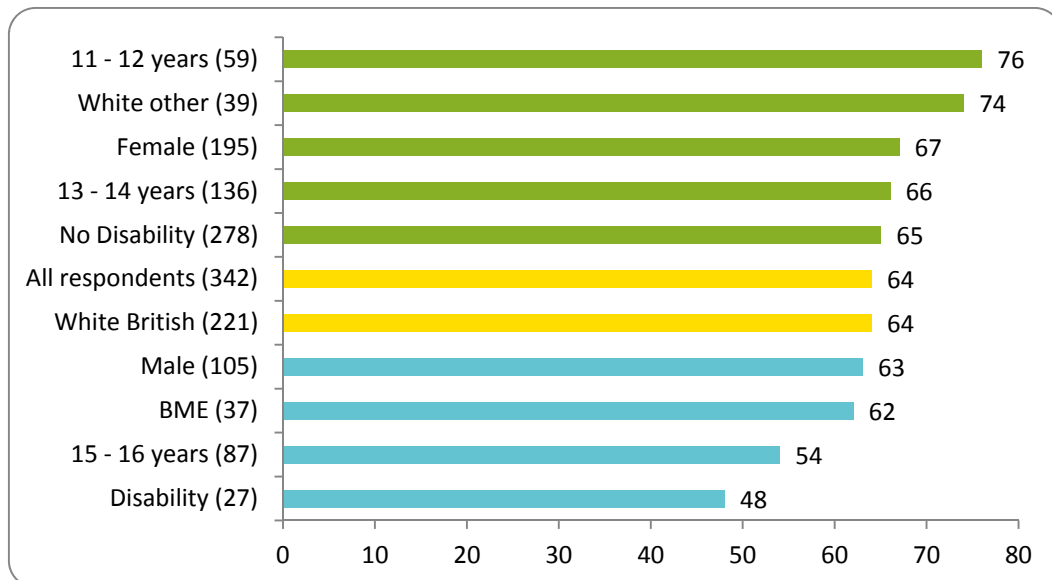
Figure 3: Local area is a good place for young people to live (% respondents)



BASE: All respondents excluding 'don't know'

Nearly two thirds of respondents (64%) agreed that their local area was a good place for young people to live.

Figure 4: Local area is a good place for young people to live (% agree)

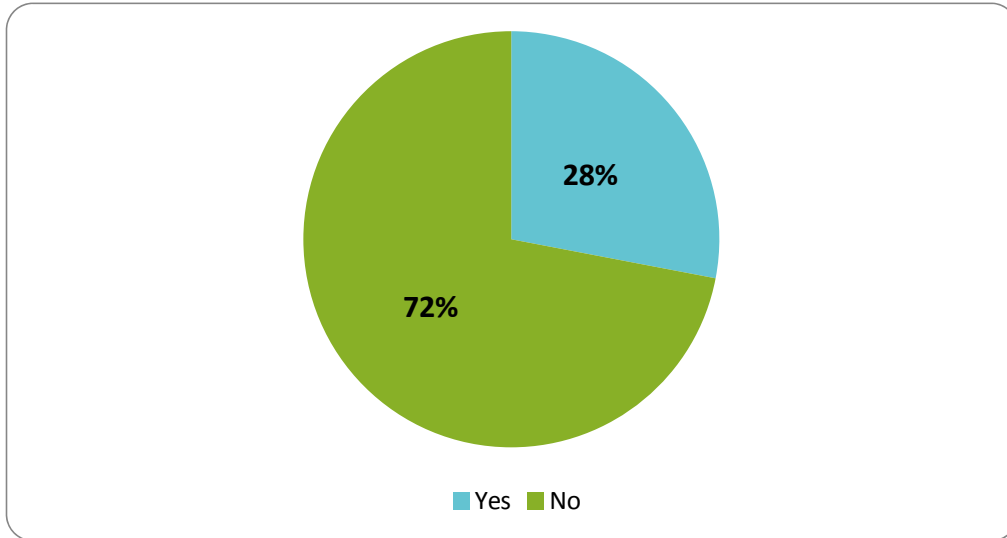


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As with happiness with the local area, respondents aged 11 and 12 were significantly more likely to agree that their local area was a good place for young people to live than those aged 15 and 16. Respondents with a disability were less likely to agree than those without a disability.

Respondents were asked if they planned to live in the local area when they were an adult. Just over two fifths of respondents (42%) didn't know whether they would stay in the local area. Of those who gave a definitive answer, almost three quarters (72%) said they didn't plan to live in the local area when they were an adult.

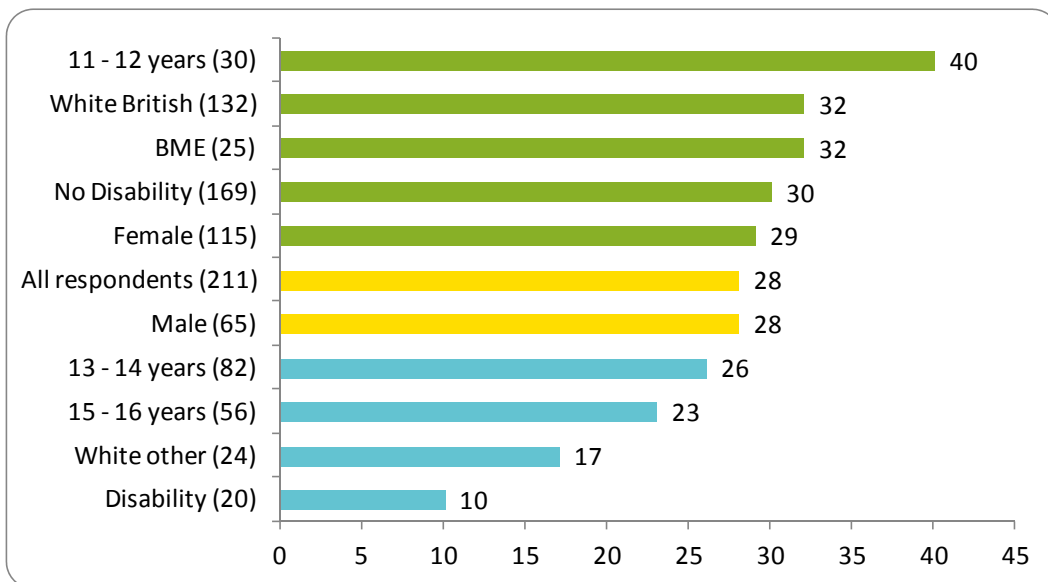
Figure 5: Do you plan to live in the local area when you are an adult? (% respondents)



BASE: All respondents excluding 'don't know'

Respondents aged 11 and 12 were most likely to say they plan to live in the local area when they are an adult whilst those with a disability were least likely.

Figure 6: Plan to live in local area when an adult (% yes)

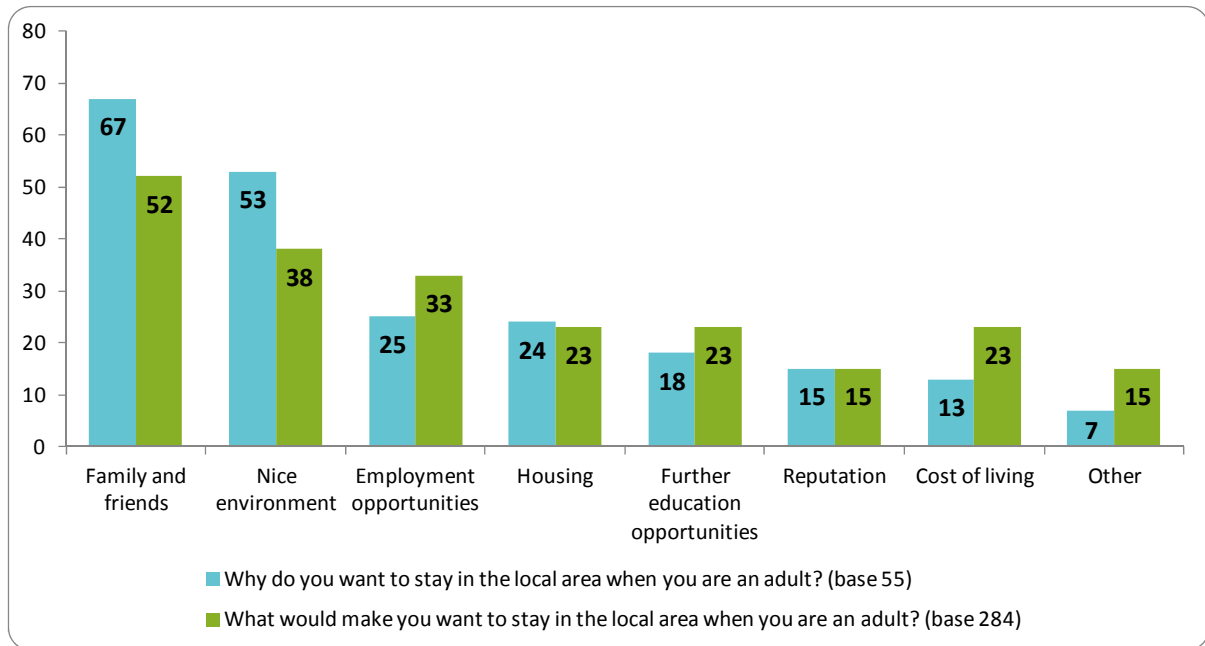


BASE: Varied as labelled

Respondents who said they planned to stay in the local area were asked why they wanted to stay. Respondents who said they didn't plan to stay in the local area or didn't know if they planned to stay were asked what would make them want to stay.

Both groups of respondents cited family and friends and a nice environment as the biggest reasons to stay or want to stay in the area. Of those who didn't plan to stay in the area, one third said employment opportunities would make them want to stay and just under one quarter (23%) cited housing, further education opportunities and cost of living as reasons that would make them want to stay.

Figure 7: Reasons to stay in the local area (%)



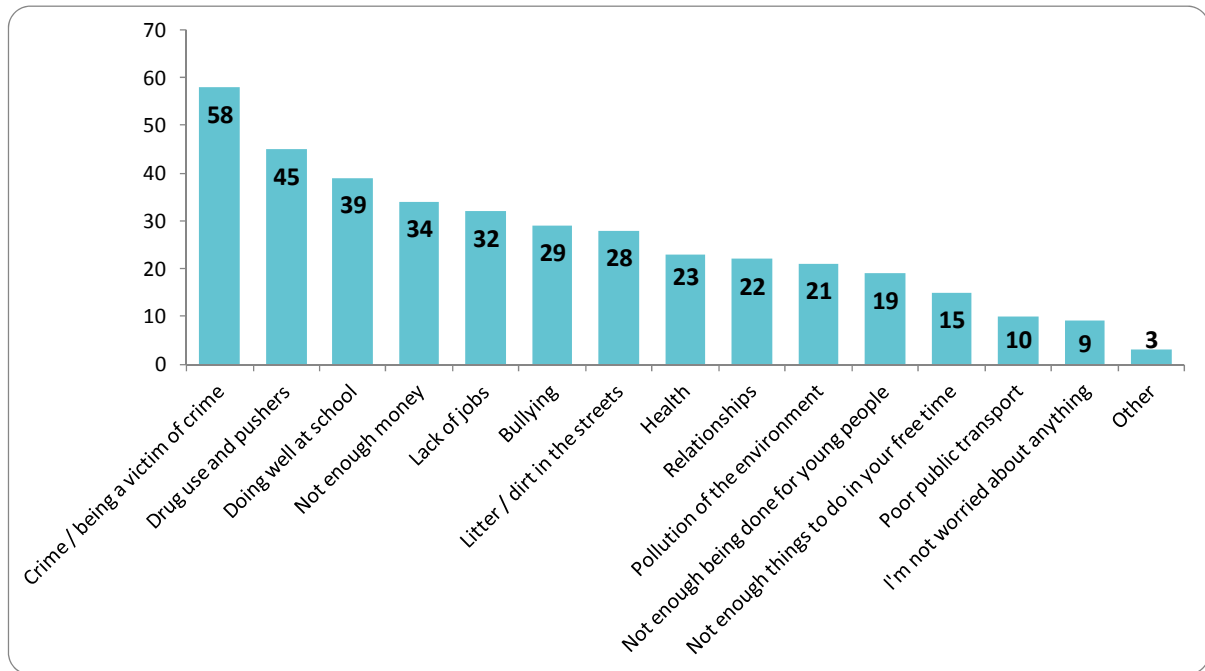
BASE: Varied as labelled

Several respondents who selected the 'other' option said that nothing would make them stay in the area. Some of the other reasons that respondents mentioned as making them want to stay in the area was if they felt safer and if there were less drug and alcohol issues.

3 You and your life in Bournemouth

Respondents were asked which things they worry most about. They were asked to identify up to five issues from a list of thirteen as well as having the option to tick an 'other' box. Almost three fifths of respondents (58%) said they worry about crime and being a victim of crime. Over two fifths of respondents (45%) were worried about drug use and pushers and just under two fifths (39%) were worried about doing well at school.

Figure 8: Things you worry most about (% selected as top 5)



BASE: All respondents excluding 'don't know'

Respondents aged 11 and 12 were significantly more likely to be worried about drug use and pushers (61%) compared to those aged 13 to 16 (43%).

Females were significantly more likely to worry about doing well at school (47%) compared to males (30%) as were those aged 13 to 16 (44%) compared to those aged 11 and 12 (27%). Males were significantly less likely to worry about lack of jobs (21%) compared to females (39%) as were those aged 11 and 12 (14%) compared to those aged 13 to 16 (35%).

Respondents aged 11 and 12 were more than twice as likely to worry about bullying (58%) than those aged 13 to 14 (27%). Respondents with a disability were almost twice as likely to worry about not enough being done for young people (34%) than those without a disability (18%).

Respondents were asked which things could make their life better. They were asked to identify up to five issues from a list of twelve as well as having the option to tick an 'other' box. The top three things that respondents said could make their life better was improving their school (48%), feeling safe in their local area (47%) and improving how their area looks (40%).

Table 1: Things that could make your life better (% selected as one of top 5)

Which of these things could make your life better?	%
Improving your school	48
Feeling safe in your local area	47
Improving how your area looks	40
Improving parks and open spaces in your local area	32
Improving shops and shopping centres	32
Improving your health and mental health	30
Better choice of sports and physical activities in your local area	23
Improving family relationships and your social life	22
Improving your household income and getting by financially	22
Improving your qualifications and/or level of training	22
Improving your housing	20
A sense of belonging in your local community	18
None of these	5
Other	5

BASE: All respondents excluding 'don't know'

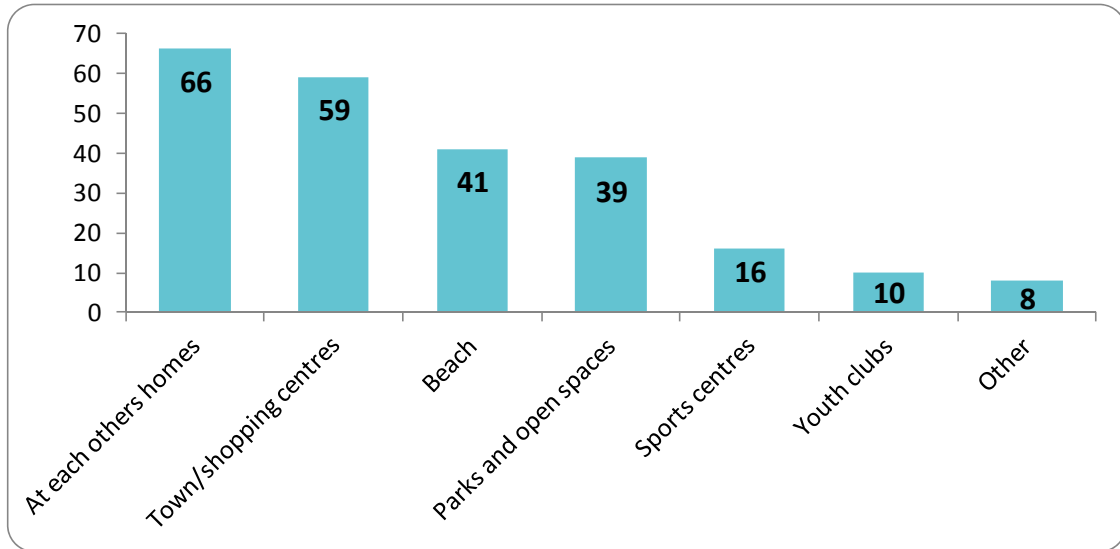
Males were significantly more likely to say that better choice of sports and physical activities could make their life better (36%) compared to females (20%). Respondents aged 11 and 12 were also significantly more likely to say that this could make their life better (36%) compared to respondents aged 13 to 16 (20%).

Males were significantly less likely to say improving their housing could make their life better (13%) compared to females (24%).

Respondents with a disability were significantly more likely to say that improving their family relationships and social life could make their life better (39%) compared to those without a disability (19%).

Respondents were asked where they usually meet up with their friends in their free time. Two thirds of respondents (66%) meet up with friends in each other's homes and just under three fifths (59%) meet in town or in shopping centres.

Figure 9: Meeting up with friends (% respondents)



BASE: All respondents

There were significant differences between the genders as to where they meet up with their friends. Females were much more likely than males to meet at each other's homes and in town and shopping centres whilst males were much more likely than females to meet in parks and open spaces and at sports centres.

No respondents from BME backgrounds met up with friends at a youth club compared to 11% of white British respondents and 15% of white other respondents.

4 Your local services

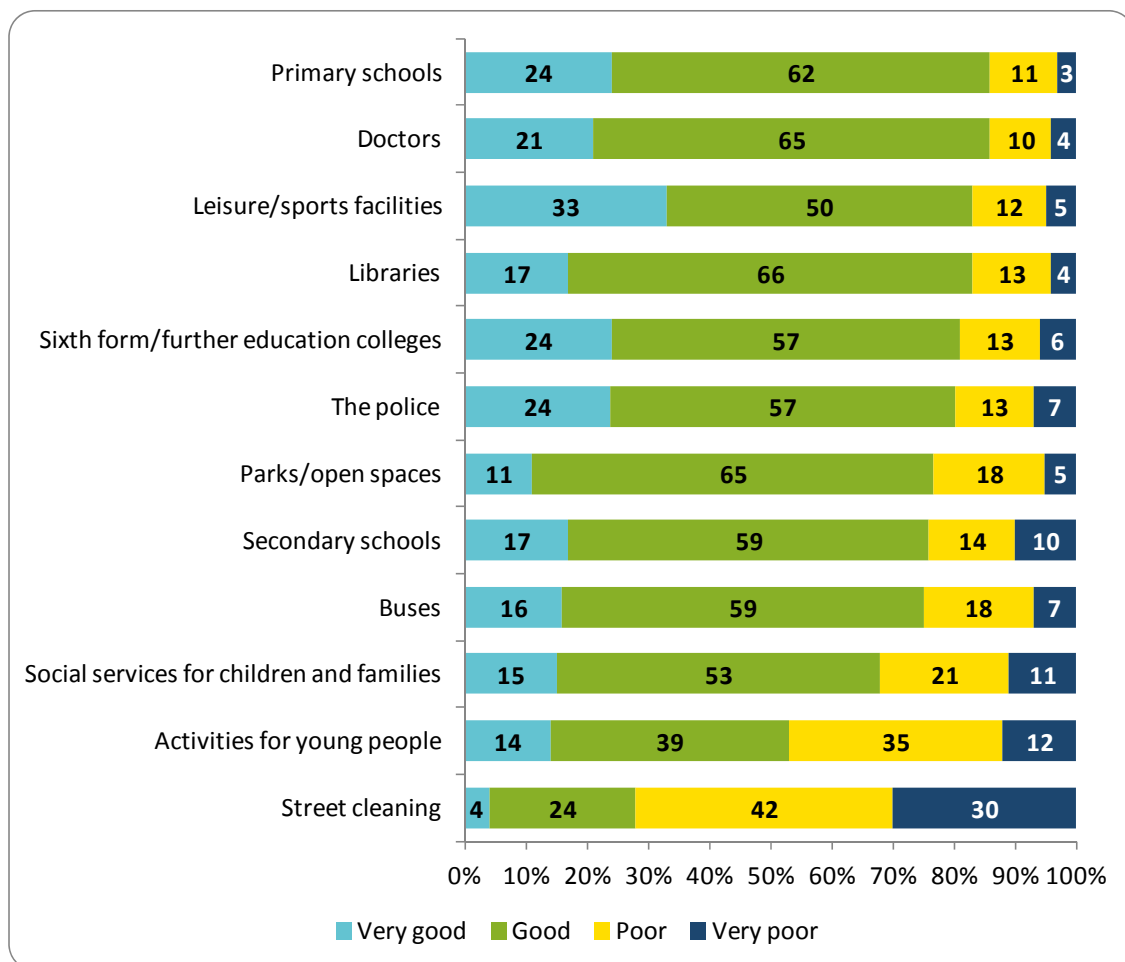
Respondents were asked what their opinion was of various services in Bournemouth. They were asked to rate services from very good to very poor. The highest rated services were primary schools and doctors (both with 86% of respondents rating these services as very good or good).

Street cleaning was by far the lowest rated service with only 28% of respondents rating this service as good or very good. This is significantly lower when compared to the results of the 2013 BOS when 70% of residents were satisfied with 'keeping public land clear of litter and refuse'.

Other comparisons that could be made with the 2013 BOS were:

- Leisure/sport activities; 83% of respondents rated leisure/sport activities as very good or good compared to 70% of residents in 2013 who were satisfied with this service.
- Libraries; 83% of respondents rated libraries as very good or good compared to 80% of residents in 2013 who were satisfied with this service.
- Parks and open spaces; 76% of respondents rated parks and open spaces as very good or good compared to 82% of residents in 2013 who were satisfied this service.
- Buses; 75% of respondents rated buses as very good or good which mirrors the 75% of residents in 2013 who were satisfied with 'local bus services'.

Figure 10: Opinion of services in Bournemouth (% respondents)



BASE: All respondents excluding 'don't know'

Youth Survey 2015

There were some significant differences between groups in their ranking of services. The most noticeable difference was in the rating of activities for young people between age groups. Just over four fifths (82%) of respondents aged 11 and 12 rated activities for young people as very good or good. However this figure almost halved to 44% amongst respondents aged 13 to 16.

Table 2: Significant differences between groups (% very good or good)

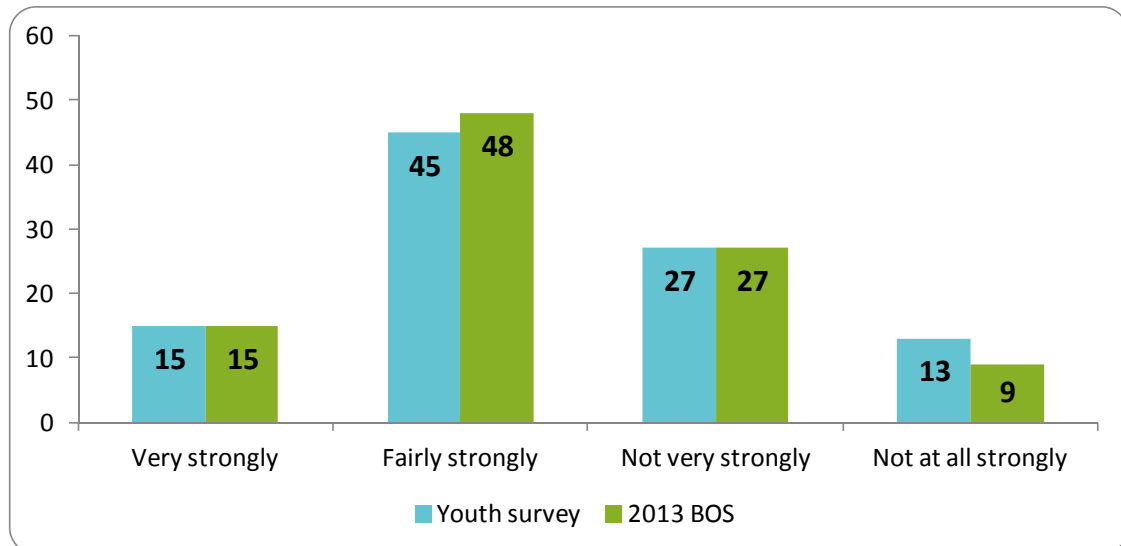
Service	Group	% Good	Group	% Good	% Difference
Leisure and sports facilities	Disability	66	No disability	85	19
Sixth form / further education colleges	Disability	60	No disability	83	23
The police	11-14 years	85	15 to 16 years	68	17
Parks and open spaces	11-12 years	91	13-16 years	70	21
Parks and open spaces	Disability	58	No disability	77	19
Secondary schools	Male	69	Female	80	11
Secondary schools	11-12 years	94	13-16 years	73	21
Secondary schools	Disability	48	No disability	77	29
Social services for children and families	11-12 years	90	13-16 years	62	28
Activities for young people	Male	64	Female	46	18
Activities for young people	11-12 years	82	13-16 years	44	38

BASE: All respondents excluding 'don't know'

5 Your community

Three fifths of respondents (60%) said that they felt they belonged to their local area. This is fairly consistent with the results of the 2013 BOS when 64% of respondents felt they belonged to their local area.

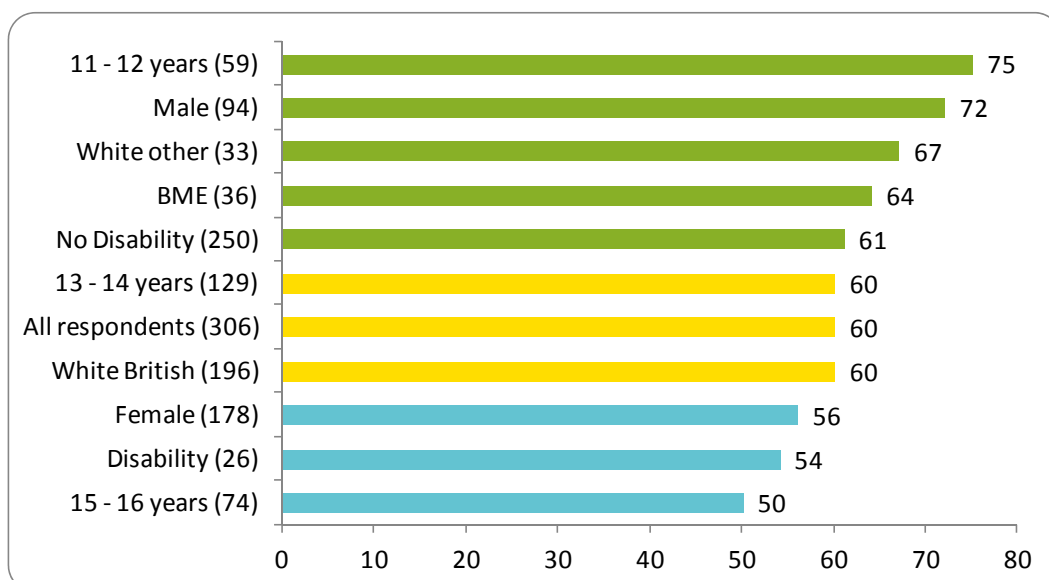
Figure 11: How strongly do you feel you belong to your local area? (% respondents)



BASE: All respondents excluding don't know

Respondents' sense of belonging decreased with age; from three quarters of respondents (75%) aged 11 and 12 to half of respondents (50%) aged 15 and 16. Male respondents were significantly more likely to feel a sense of belonging than female respondents.

Figure 12: Sense of belonging to local area (% belonging)

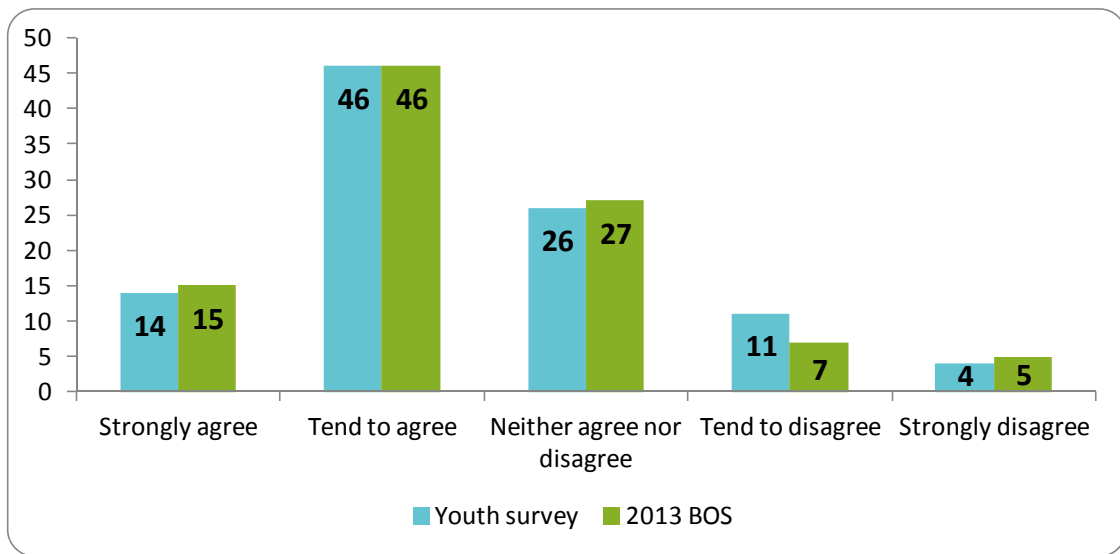


BASE: Varied as labelled

5.1 Young people from different backgrounds get on well together

Just under three fifths of respondents (59%) agreed that young people from different backgrounds get on well together in the local area which is consistent with the results of the 2013 BOS when 61% of respondents agreed that people from different ethnic backgrounds got on well together¹.

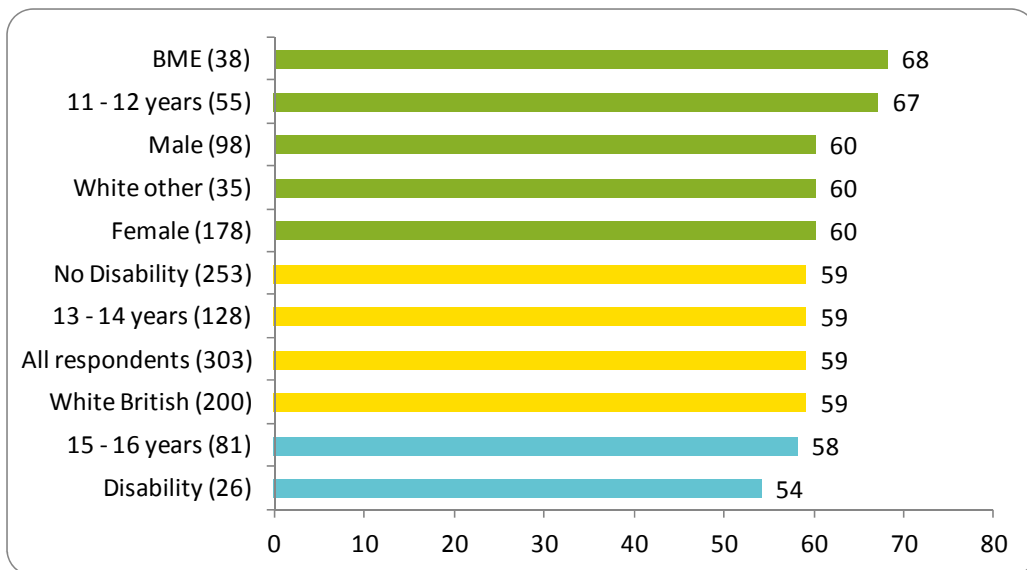
Figure 13: How much do you agree or disagree that young people from different backgrounds get on well together in the local area? (% respondents)



BASE: All respondents excluding don't know

Respondents from BME backgrounds and those aged 11 and 12 were most likely to agree that young people from different backgrounds get on well together.

Figure 14: Different backgrounds get on well together (% agree)



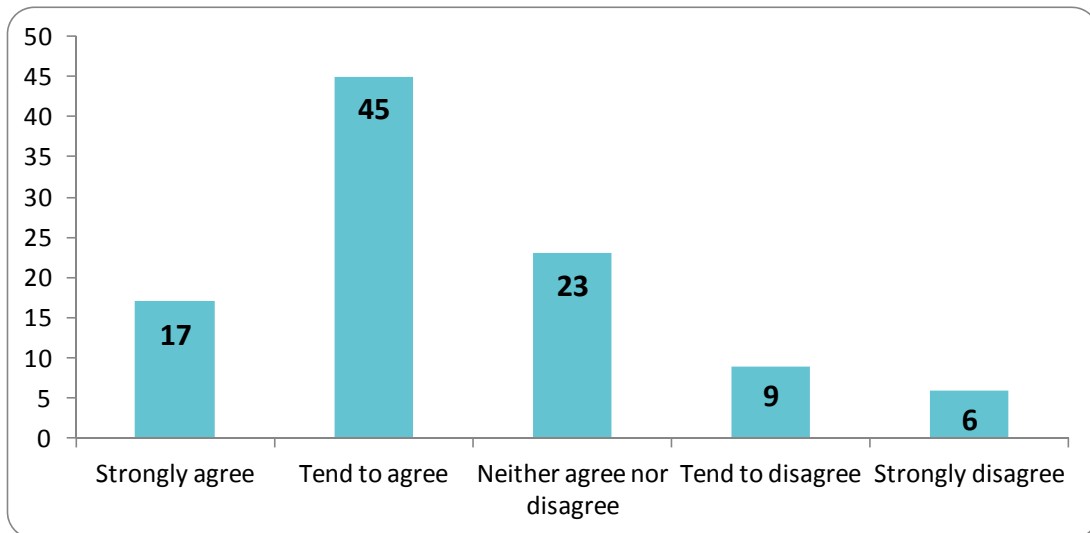
Base: Varied as labelled

¹ In the 2013 BOS this question was phrased as “To what extent do you agree or disagree that your local area is a place where people from different ethnic backgrounds get on well together?”

5.2 Young people can influence decisions

Just over three fifths of respondents (62%) agreed that young people can influence decisions affecting young people in Bournemouth.

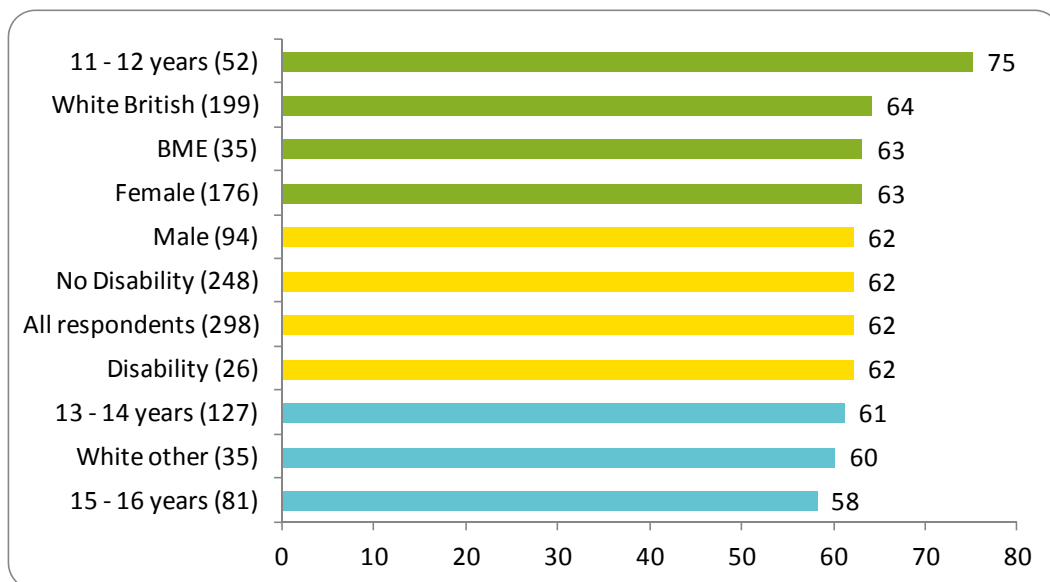
Figure 15: How much do you agree or disagree that young people can influence decisions affecting young people in Bournemouth? (% respondents)



BASE: All respondents excluding don't know

Respondents aged 11 and 12 were significantly more likely to agree that young people can influence decisions than respondents aged 13 to 16.

Figure 16: Young people can influence decisions (% agree)

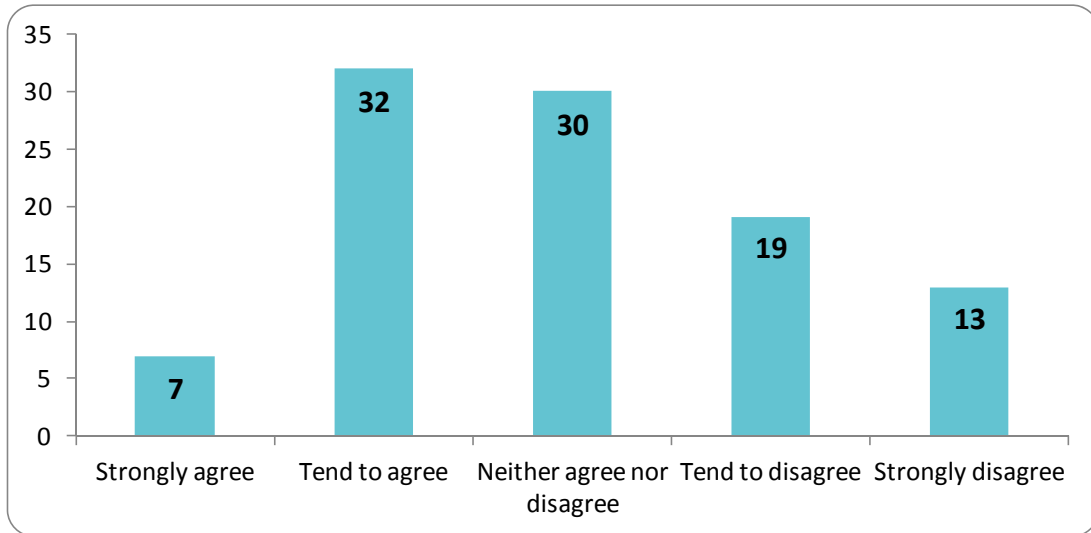


BASE: Varied as labelled

5.3 Young people are respected in their community

Just under two fifths of respondents (38%) agreed that young people in Bournemouth are respected in their community. Almost one third of respondents (31%) disagreed that young people were respected in their community.

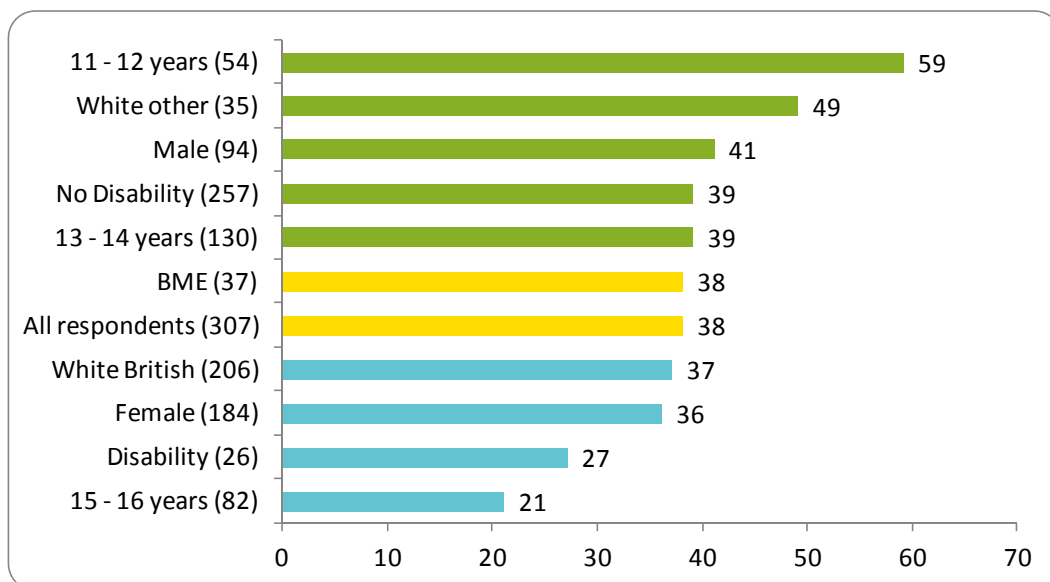
Figure 17: How much do you agree or disagree that young people in Bournemouth are respected in their community? (% respondents)



BASE: All respondents excluding don't know

Respondents' level of agreement that young people are respected in their community decreased with age, from almost three fifths of respondents (59%) aged 11 and 12 to just over one fifth of respondents (21%) aged 15 and 16.

Figure 18: Young people are respected in their community (% agree)

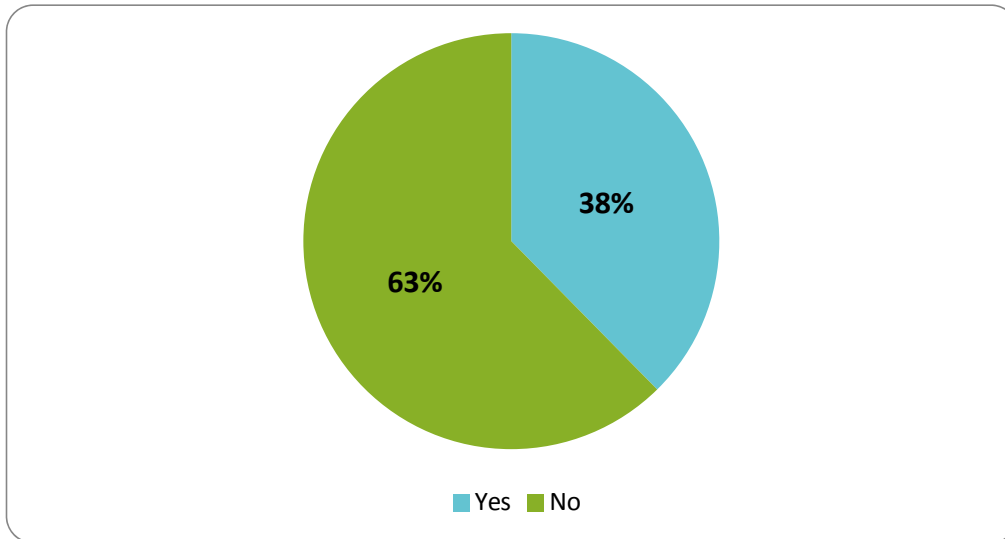


BASE: Varied as labelled

5.4 Volunteering

Just under two fifths of respondents (38%) said that they spend their free time volunteering for groups or clubs. This compares to 44% of respondents in the 2013 BOS who had given unpaid help to groups, clubs or organisations.

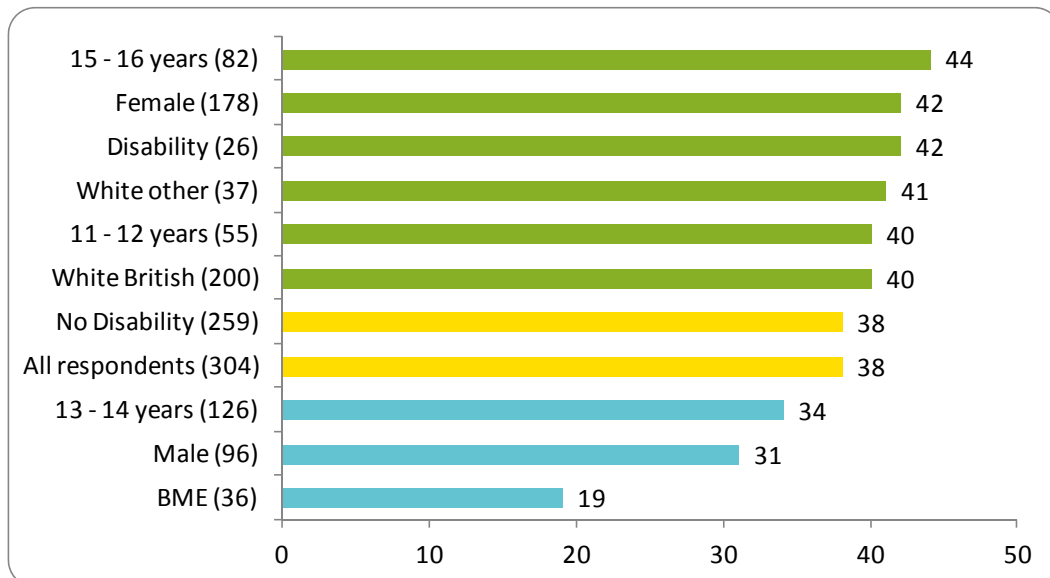
Figure 19: Do you spend any of your free time volunteering for any groups or clubs? (% respondents)



BASE: All respondents excluding don't know

Respondents from BME backgrounds were significantly less likely to volunteer than white respondents. Male respondents were less likely to volunteer than female respondents.

Figure 20: Volunteer for any groups or clubs (% yes)

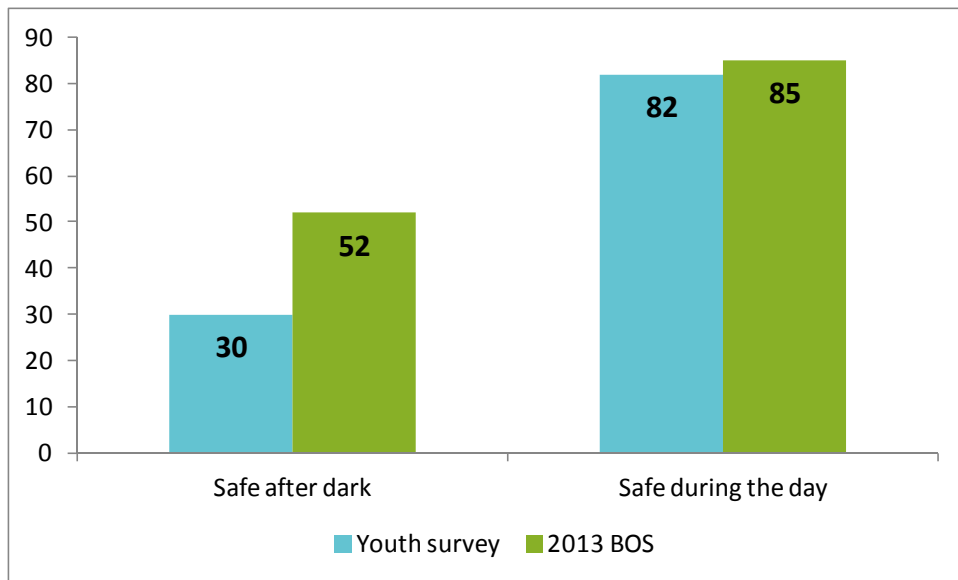


BASE: Varied as labelled

6 Your safety

Not surprisingly, respondents feel significantly safer during the day than they do after dark. Over four fifths of respondents (82%) feel safe during the day which is in line with the 2013 BOS results. However, less than one third of respondents (30%) felt safe after dark which is significantly lower than the 2013 BOS results when over half of respondents (52%) felt safe after dark.

Figure 21: Perceptions of safety (% feel safe)

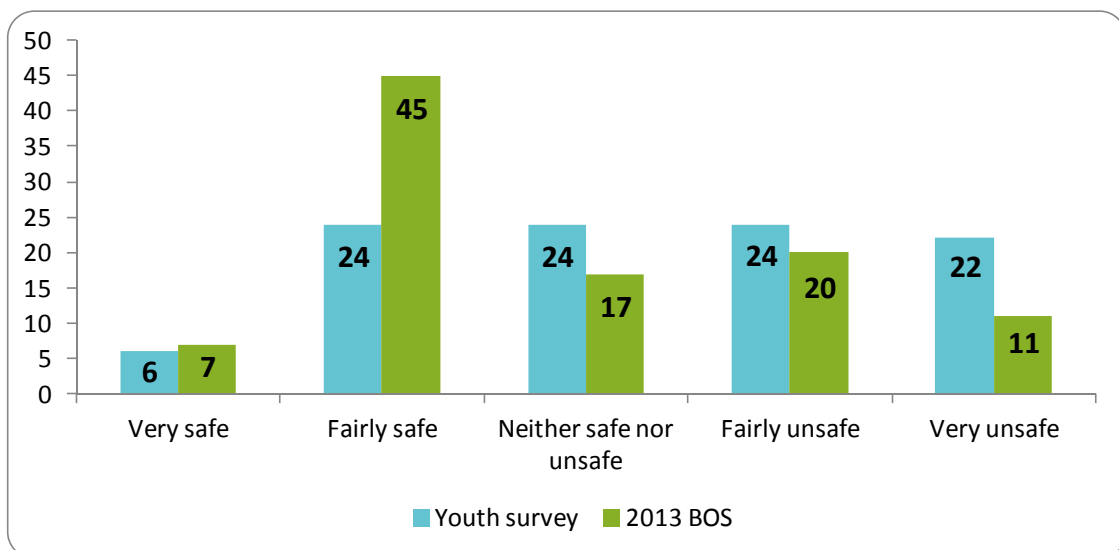


BASE: All respondents excluding don't know

6.1 Feeling safe after dark

Almost one quarter of respondents (24%) felt fairly unsafe after dark whilst a further 22% felt very unsafe. The proportion of respondents feeling very unsafe after dark is double that of the respondents to the 2013 BOS.

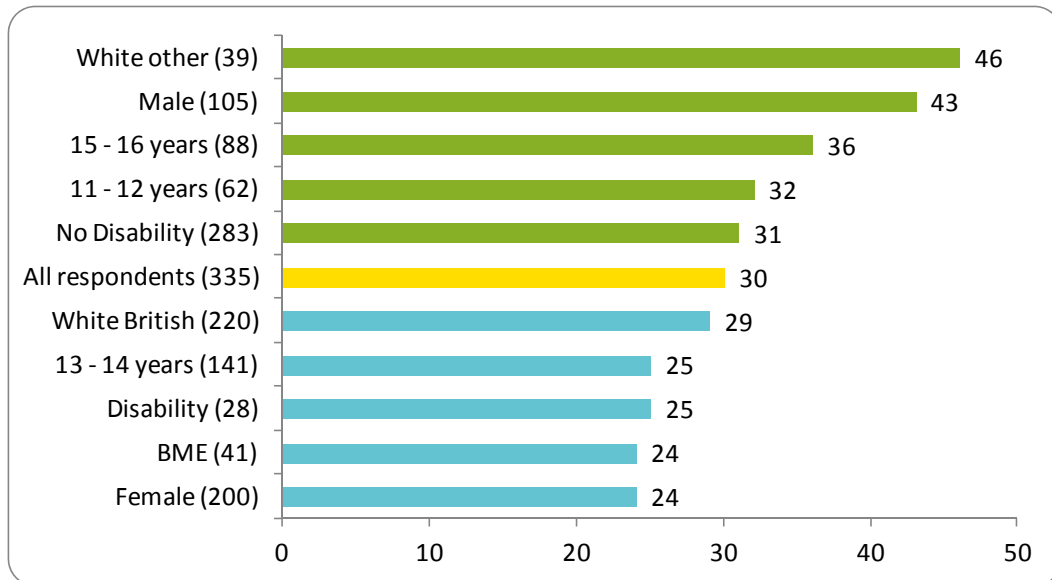
Figure 22: Feelings of safety in local area after dark (% respondents)



BASE: All respondents excluding don't know

Males are almost twice as likely as females to feel safe after dark and respondents from other white backgrounds are almost twice as likely as BME respondents to feel safe after dark.

Figure 23: Feelings of safety in local area after dark (% feel safe)

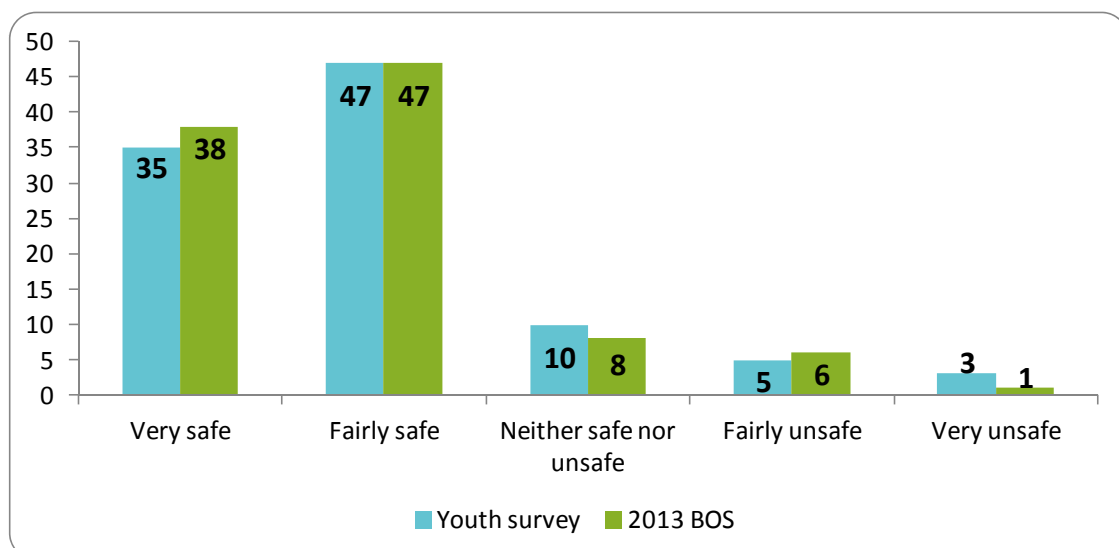


BASE: Varied as labelled

6.2 Feeling safe during the day

Less than one in ten respondents (8%) felt unsafe during the day. The results from the youth survey in regards to feelings of safety during the day are consistent with the results from the 2013 BOS.

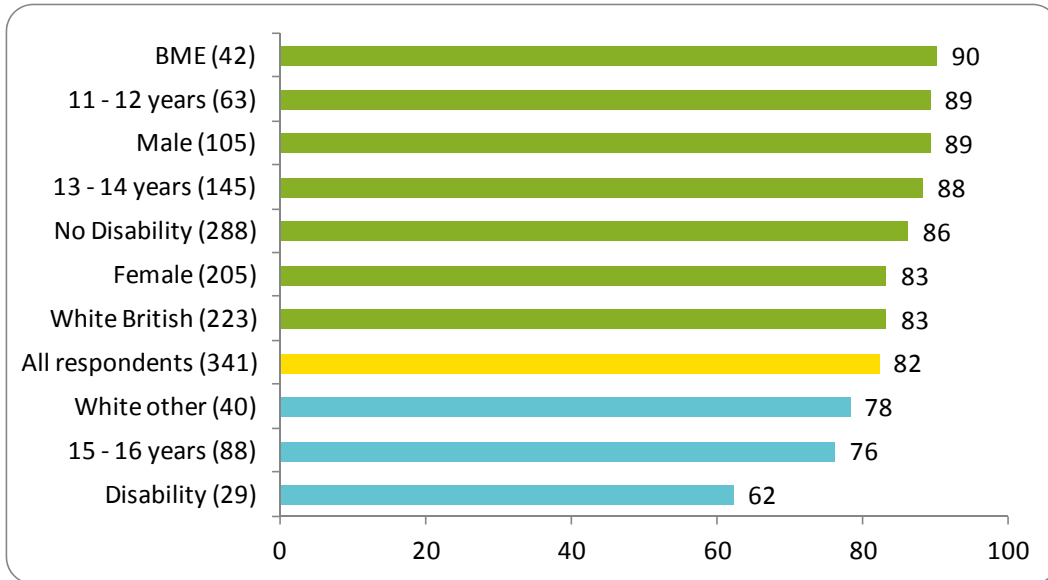
Figure 24: Feelings of safety in local area during the day (% respondents)



BASE: All respondents excluding don't know

Respondents aged 15 and 16 were significantly less likely to feel safe during the day than those aged 11 to 14. Respondents with a disability were significantly less likely to feel safe during the day than those without a disability.

Figure 25: Feelings of safety in local area during the day (% feel safe)

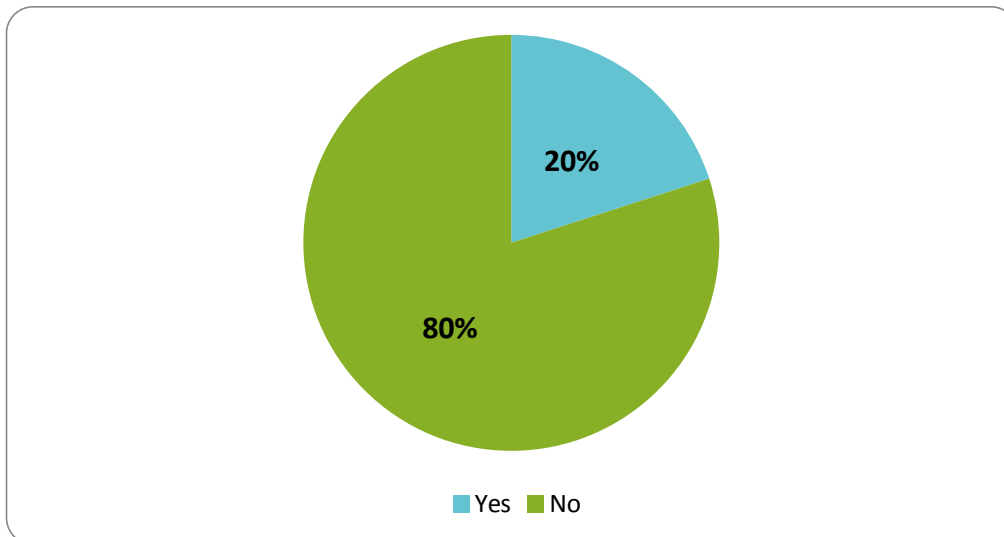


BASE: Varied as labelled

6.3 Being a victim of crime

One in five respondents (20%) had been a victim of crime in the last two years.

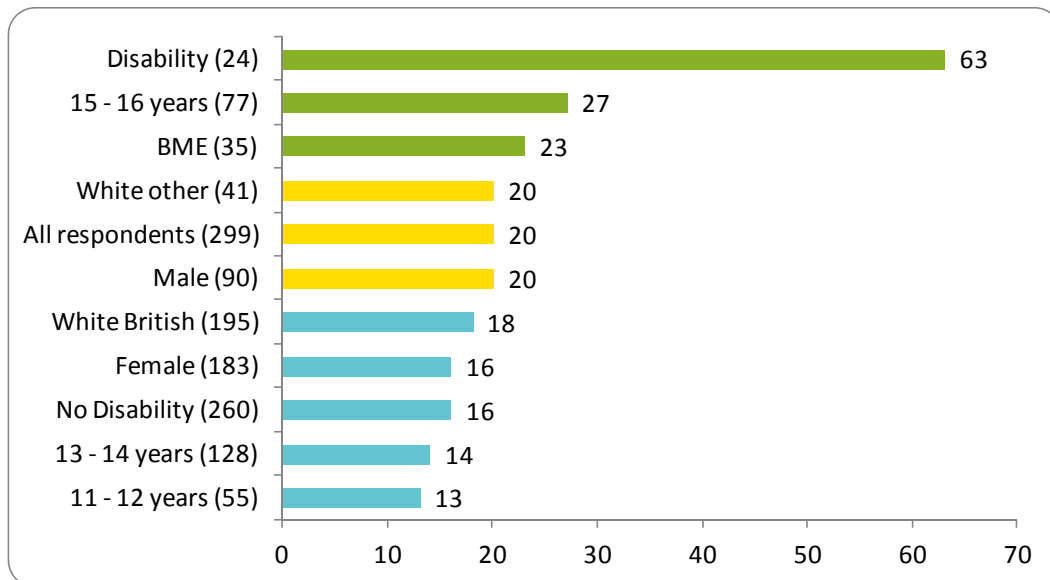
Figure 26: Have you been a victim of crime in the last 2 years? (% respondents)



BASE: All respondents excluding don't know

Respondents with a disability were significantly more likely to have been a victim of crime than those without a disability. They were almost four times as likely to have been a victim of crime than those without a disability. Respondents aged 15 and 16 were almost twice as likely to be a victim of crime than those aged 11 to 14.

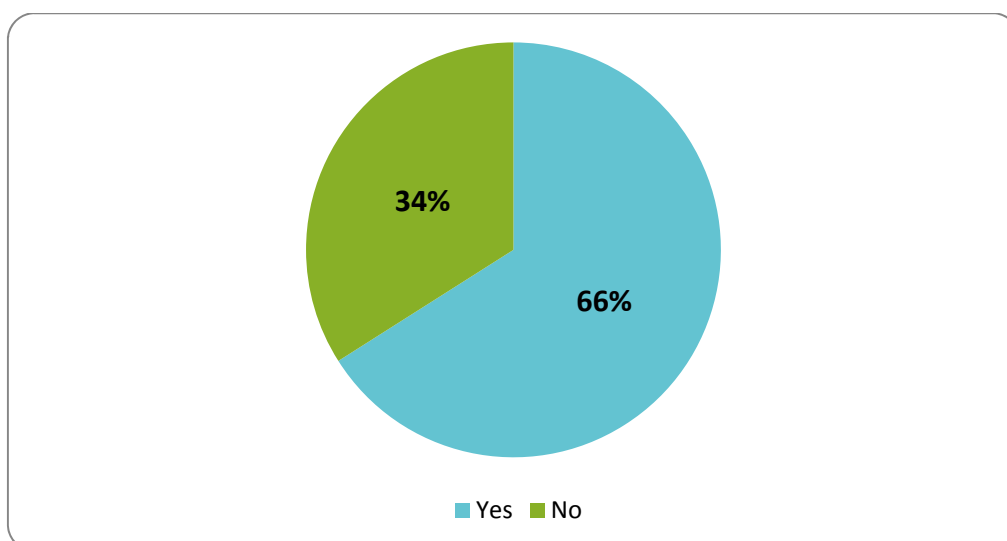
Figure 27: Victim of crime (% yes)



BASE: Varied as labelled

The respondents who said they had been a victim of crime were also asked if they had reported it to the police. Two thirds of respondents (66%) did report the crime to the police. The base for this question was too small to analyse results by demographic groups.

Figure 28: Did you report it to the police? (% respondents)



BASE: All respondents excluding don't know

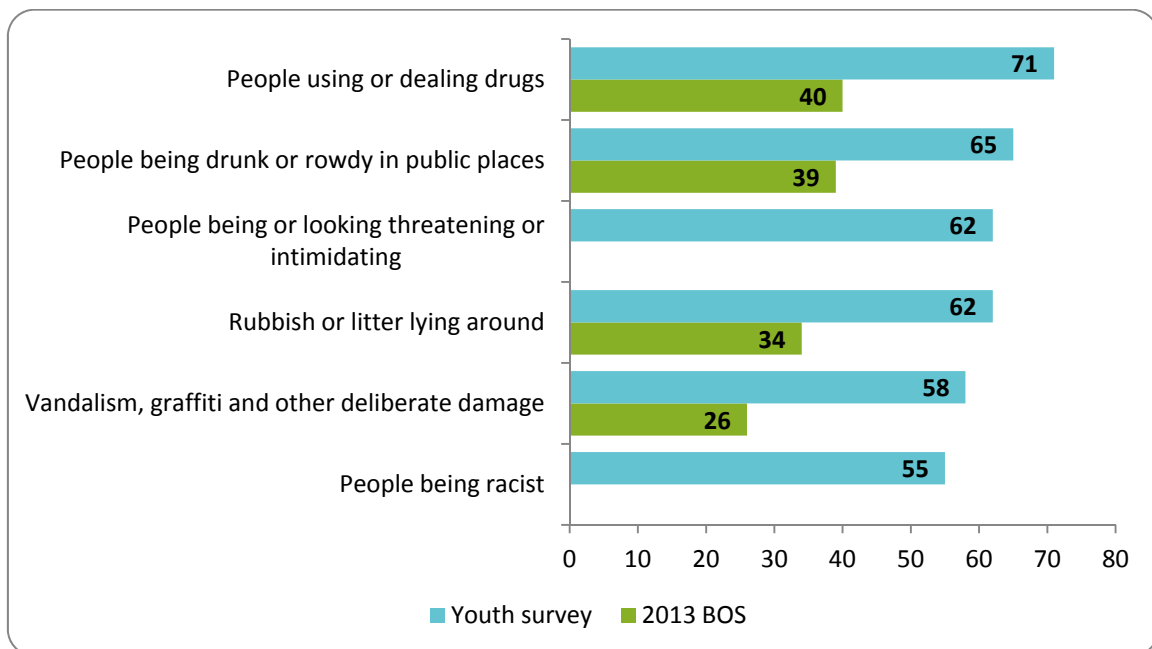
7 Anti-social behaviour

The youth survey identified six different types of anti-social behaviour and asked respondents how much of a problem each of those behaviours are in their local area. Four of the six types of anti-social behaviour were also asked about in the 2013 BOS so comparisons have been made where applicable.

7.1 Overall perceptions of anti-social behaviour

Perceptions of anti-social behaviour were significantly higher in the youth survey results than the 2013 BOS results. People using or dealing drugs was seen as the most problematic behaviour with just over seven in ten respondents (71%) identifying this as a problem. Almost two thirds of respondents (65%) identified people being drunk or rowdy in public places as a problem.

Figure 29: Perception of anti-social behaviour (% a problem)

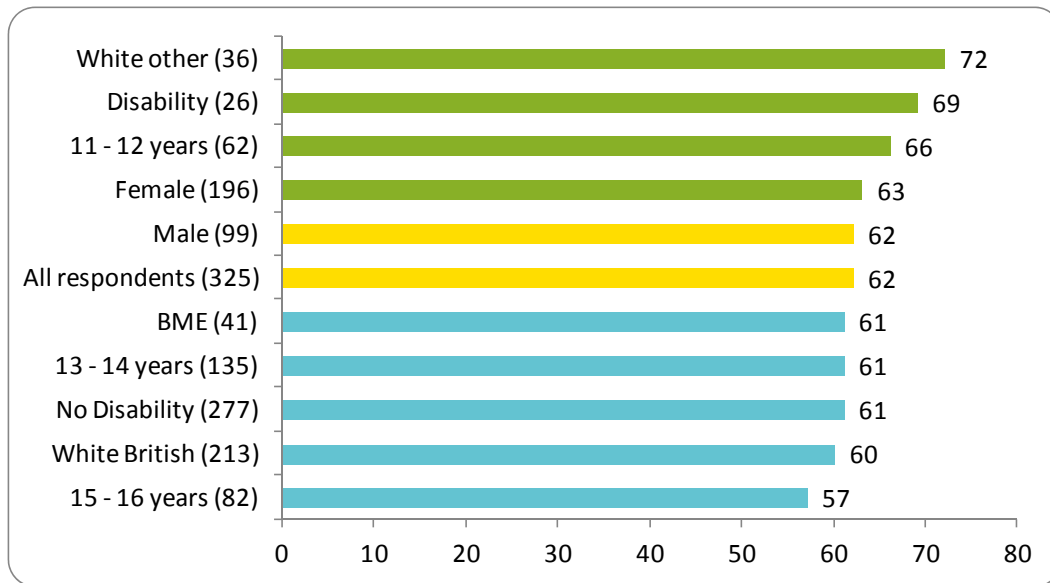


BASE: All respondents excluding don't know/no opinion

7.2 Rubbish or litter lying around

Respondents from other white backgrounds were more likely to perceive rubbish or litter as a problem than BME or white British respondents. Respondents with a disability were more likely to perceive it as a problem than those without a disability and respondents aged 11 and 12 were more likely to perceive it as a problem than those aged 13 to 16.

Figure 30: Problem with rubbish or litter lying around (% problem)

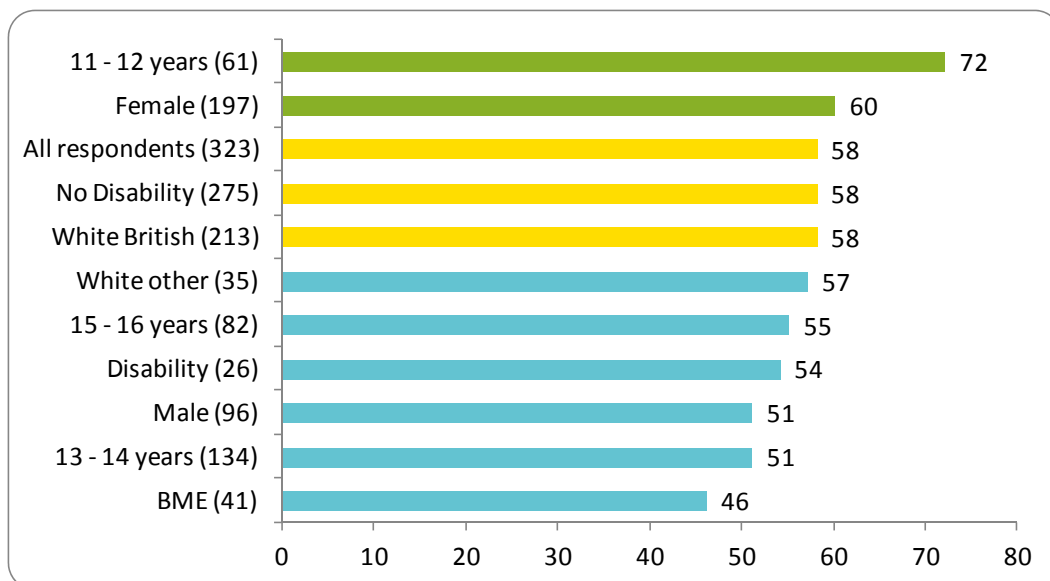


BASE: Varied as labelled

7.3 Vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate damage

Respondents aged 11 and 12 were significantly more likely to identify vandalism and graffiti as a problem than those aged 13 to 16.

Figure 31: Problem with vandalism & graffiti (% problem)

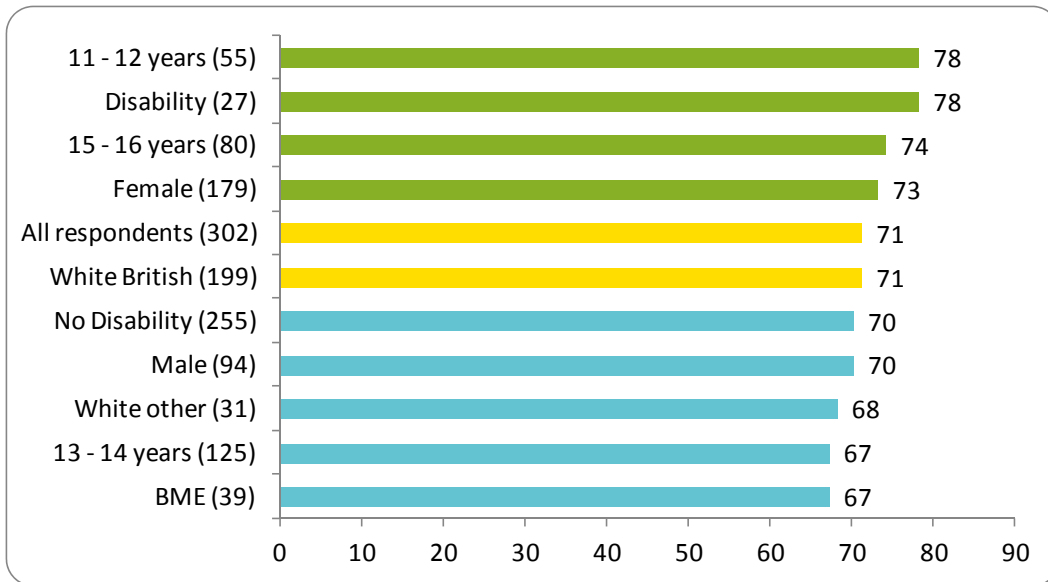


BASE: Varied as labelled

7.4 People using or dealing drugs

There wasn't a large variance between groups in their perceptions of people using or dealing drugs. Respondents aged 11 and 12 and those with a disability were most likely to perceive people using or dealing drugs as a problem.

Figure 32: Problem with people using or dealing drugs (% problem)

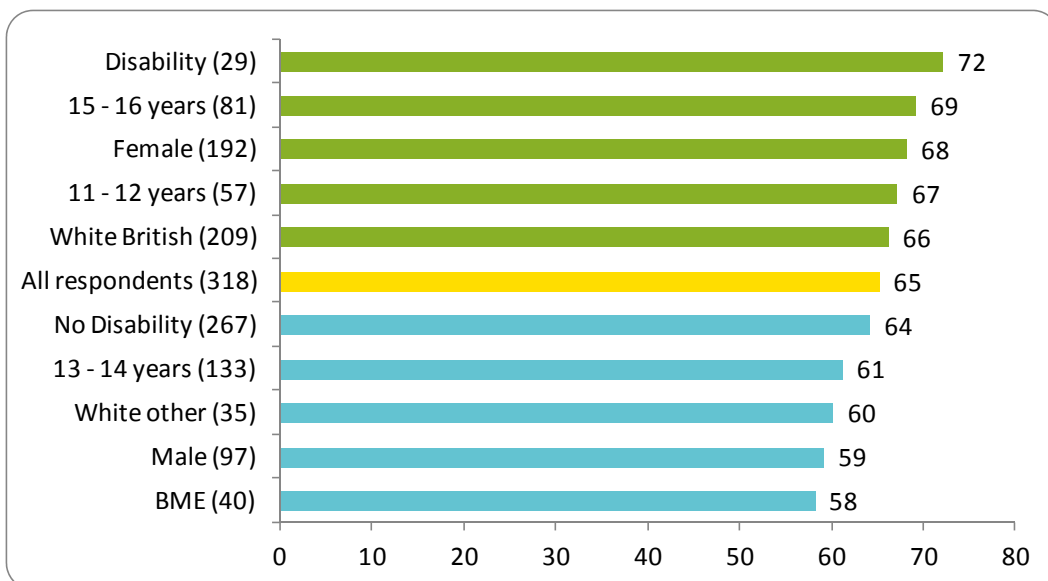


BASE: Varied as labelled

7.5 People being drunk or rowdy in public places

Respondents with a disability were more likely than those without a disability to perceive people being drunk or rowdy as a problem. Females were more likely than males to perceive this as a problem.

Figure 33: Problem with people being drunk or rowdy in public places (% problem)

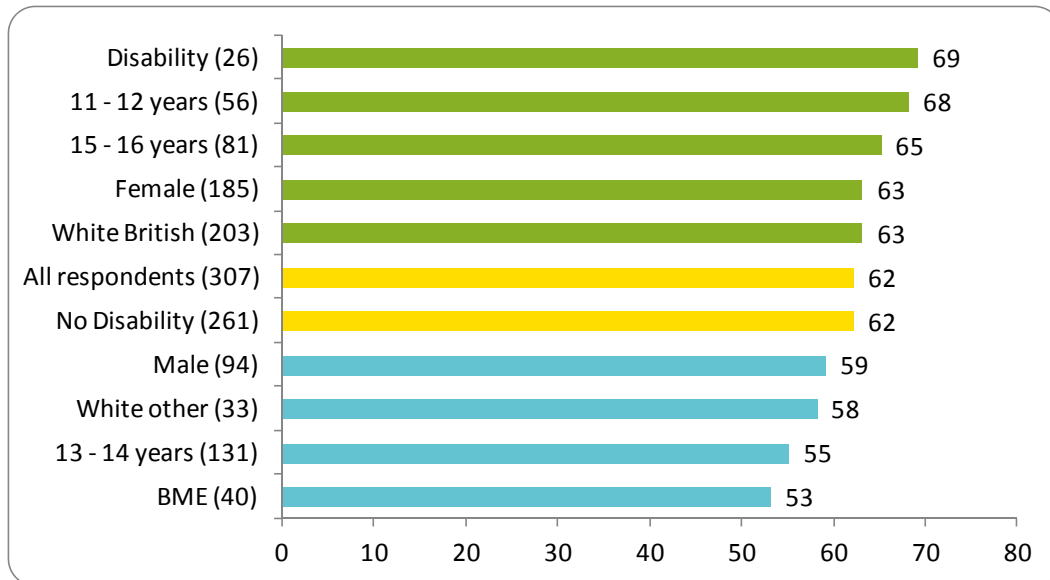


BASE: Varied as labelled

7.6 People being or looking threatening or intimidating

Respondents with a disability and those aged 11 and 12 and 15 and 16 were most likely to perceive people being or looking threatening or intimidating as a problem whilst those from BME backgrounds and those aged 13 and 14 were least likely to perceive it as a problem.

Figure 34: Problem with people being or looking threatening or intimidating (% problem)

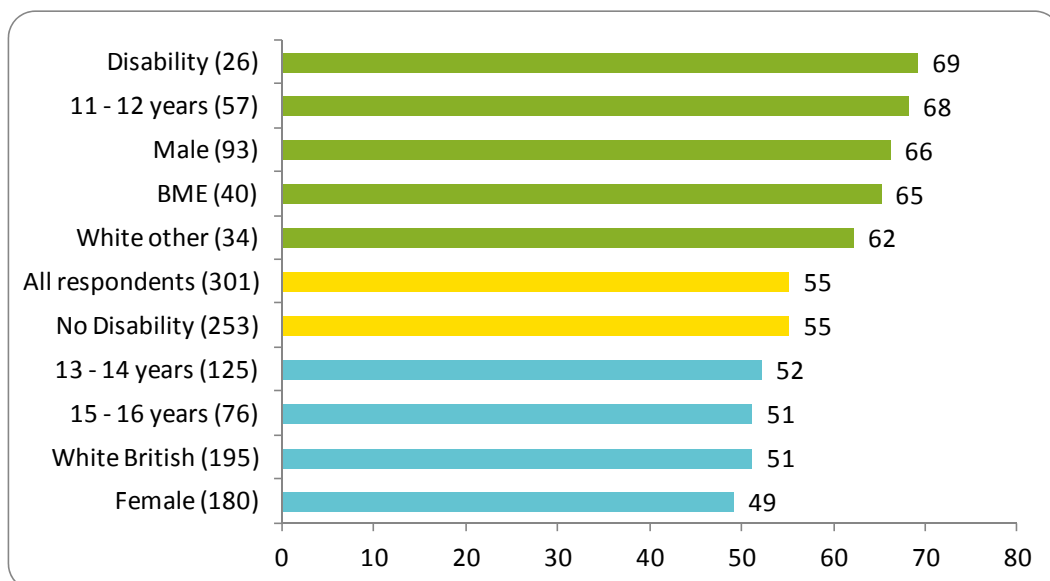


BASE: Varied as labelled

7.7 People being racist

Respondents aged 11 and 12 were significantly more likely than those aged 13 to 16 to perceive people being racist as a problem and males were significantly more likely than females to perceive it as a problem. White British respondents were less likely than non white British respondents to perceive people being racist as a problem.

Figure 35: Problem with people being racist (% problem)

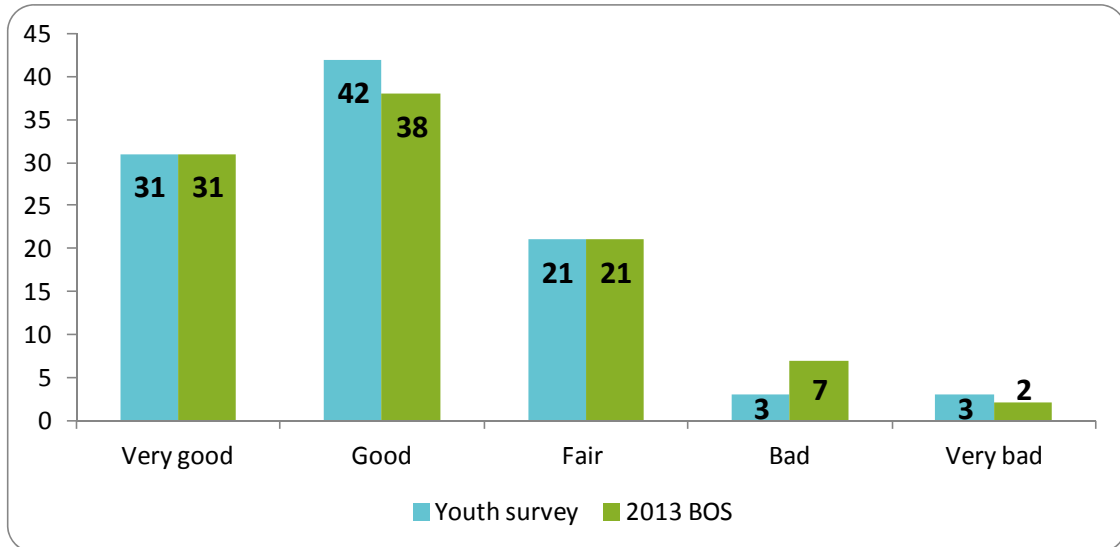


BASE: Varied as labelled

8 Your health

Almost three quarters of respondents (73%) described their health and wellbeing as 'very good' or 'good'. Just 6% of respondents described their health as 'bad' or 'very bad'. These results are broadly in line with the 2013 BOS results.

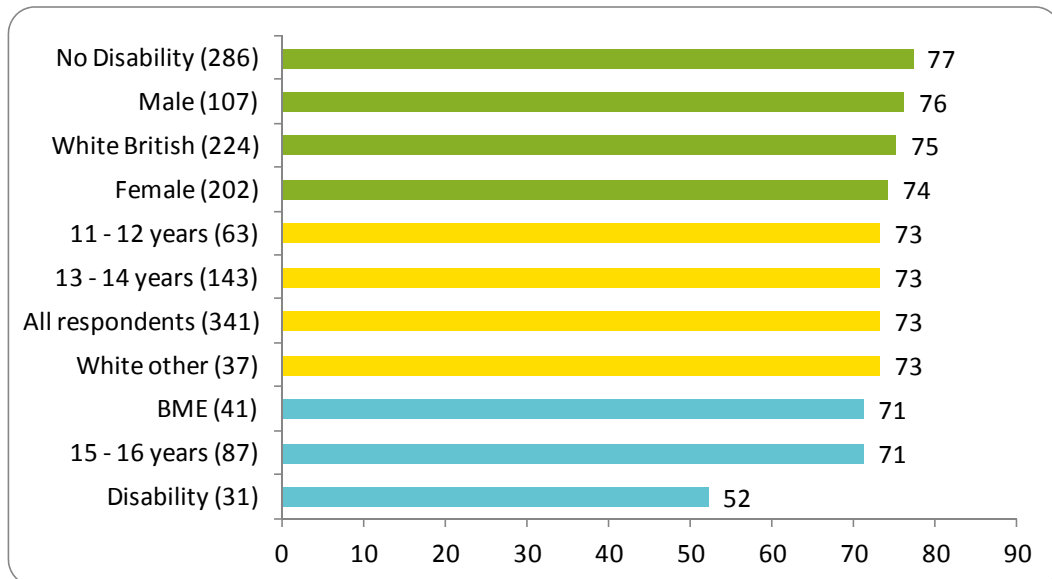
Figure 36: How is your health and wellbeing in general? (% respondents)



BASE: All respondents

Respondents with a disability were significantly less likely than those without a disability to say that their health and wellbeing was good or very good.

Figure 37: Health and wellbeing (% good/very good)

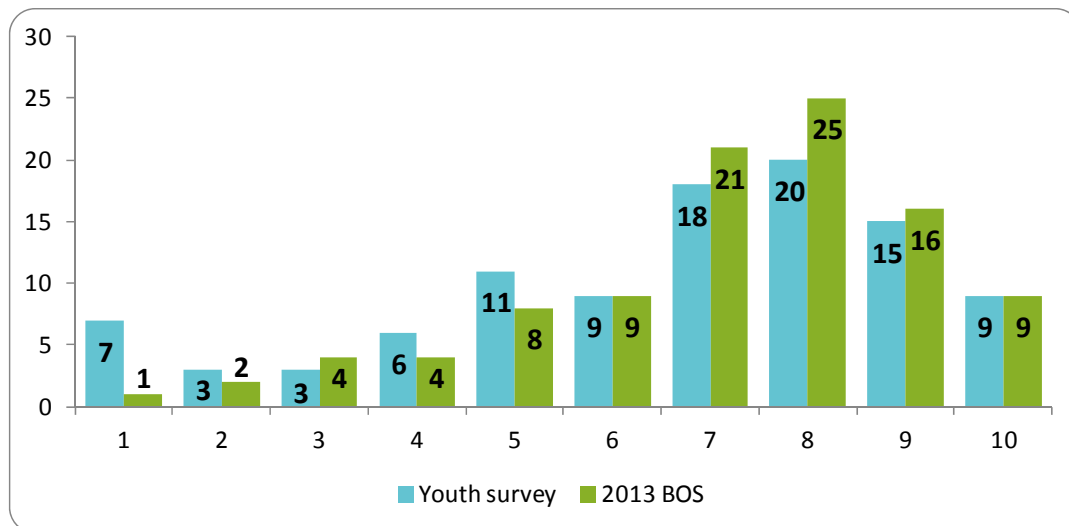


BASE: Varied as labelled

8.1 Happiness with life

Respondents were asked to rate their life on a scale of one to ten (one being not at all happy and ten being completely happy). Just under one fifth of respondents (18%) rated their life as four or less whilst just over three fifths (62%) rated their life as seven or more. Overall respondents in the youth survey rated their lives lower than respondents in the 2013 BOS; when 11% rated their lives as four or less and 71% rated their lives as seven or more².

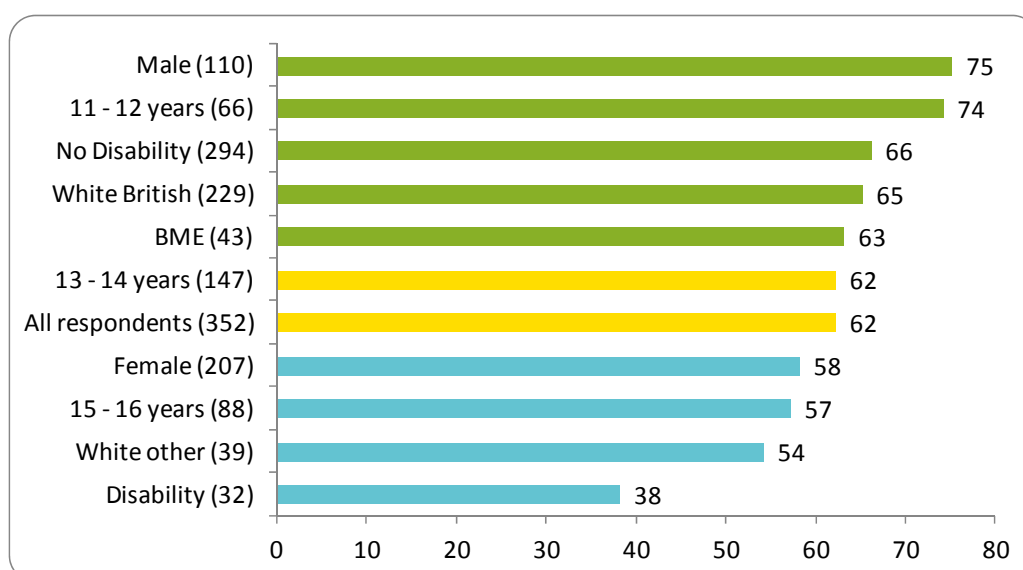
Figure 38: On a scale of 1 to 10, how happy are you overall with your life nowadays? (% respondents)



BASE: All respondents

Male respondents were significantly more likely to be happy than female respondents and happiness decreased with age. Respondents with a disability were significantly less happy than respondents without a disability.

Figure 39: Current life happiness (% 7 or more out of 10)



BASE: Varied as labelled

² In the 2013 BOS this question asked respondents how 'satisfied' they were with their life.

Appendix 1: Respondent profile

		Number	Percentage
Gender	Male	111	35%
	Female	207	65%
Age	11 – 12 years	66	22%
	13 – 14 years	148	49%
	15 – 16 years	88	29%
Year Group	Years 7 and 8	98	30%
	Years 9 and 10	229	69%
	Years 11 to 13	3	1%
Disability	Yes	32	10%
	No	295	90%
Ethnicity	White British	230	73%
	White Other	41	13%
	BME	43	14%
Religion	No religion	212	65%
	Christian	68	21%
	Other	44	14%
Sexual Orientation ³	Attracted to opposite sex	160	83%
	Attracted to same sex	7	4%
	Attracted to both sexes	19	9%
	Attracted to neither sexes	6	3%

³ This question was only asked of respondents in year 9 and above. The question was phrased as “Are you attracted to...?” and the response options were ‘Males’, ‘Females’, ‘Both males and females’, ‘Neither males nor females’, ‘Don’t know’ and ‘Prefer not to say’.

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